

Strong non-exponential relaxation and memory effects in a fluid with non-linear drag

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We analyse the dynamical evolution of a fluid with non-linear drag, for which binary collisions are elastic, described at the kinetic level by the Enskog-Fokker-Planck equation. This model system, rooted in the theory of non-linear Brownian motion, displays a really complex behaviour when quenched to low temperatures. Its glassy response is controlled by a long-lived non-equilibrium state, independent of the degree of non-linearity and also of the Brownian-Brownian collisions rate. The latter property entails that this behaviour persists in the collisionless case, where the fluid is described by the non-linear Fokker-Planck equation. The observed response, which includes non-exponential, algebraic, relaxation and strong memory effects, presents scaling properties: the time evolution of the temperature—for both relaxation and memory effects—falls onto a master curve, regardless of the details of the experiment. To account for the observed behaviour in simulations, it is necessary to develop an extended Sonine approximation for the kinetic equation—which considers not only the fourth cumulant but also the sixth one.

I. INTRODUCTION

Glassy behaviour is typically associated with systems with many strongly interacting units, which give rise to a complex energy landscape with multiple minima separated by barriers [1–3]. The typical phenomenology of glassy systems includes, among other aspects, strongly non-exponential relaxation [4–15]. The latter facilitates the emergence of memory effects like the Kovacs hump [16–31].

In the Kovacs experiment [16, 17], the time evolution of a relevant physical quantity $P(t)$ is monitored. The system is initially equilibrated at the temperature T_i . For $0 < t < t_w$, the system is aged at a lower temperature T_1 . At $t = t_w$, the bath temperature is suddenly changed to T_w , such that the instantaneous value of P , $P(t_w)$, equals its equilibrium value for T_w . The Kovacs effect emerges when P , despite having its equilibrium value at $t = t_w$, displays a non-monotonic behaviour for $t > t_w$, i.e. a hump, before returning to equilibrium [32]. This is so because the evolution of the system does not only depend on the value of the thermodynamic (or hydrodynamic) variables but also on additional ones, the values of which are determined by the way the system has been previously aged [11, 13, 21, 33–40].

Aging is also connected with the Mpemba effect [41], which has recently been observed in spin glasses [42]. In the Mpemba effect, the initially hotter sample cools sooner and the relaxation curves thus cross at a certain time. Only very recently has it been theoretically investigated, both from a stochastic thermodynamics [43–46] and a kinetic theory [47–53] approach. The former describes the crossing in terms of the Kullback-Leibler distance to equilibrium. The latter describes the crossing

in terms of the kinetic temperature, which is closer to the experimental situation. Moreover, it has been successful in showing that the Mpemba effect comes about in very simple systems like granular gases [47–52]. Notwithstanding, the following crucial question remains unanswered: How does the system have to be aged for the Mpemba effect to emerge? This is one key question that we solve in this paper.

We analyse a very general model—rooted in the theory of non-linear Brownian motion [54]—for a fluid with non-linear drag force. From a phenomenological point of view, it can be regarded as the minimal, simplest, model for a fluid with non-linear drag [55–57]. From a more fundamental point of view, it arises when an ensemble of Brownian particles, with mass m and particle density n , is immersed in an isotropic and uniform background fluid at equilibrium with temperature T_s , the particles of which have masses m_{bf} [58, 59]. In the so-called Rayleigh limit, where $m_{bf}/m \rightarrow 0$, the drag force on the Brownian particles is linear in the velocity, $\mathbf{F}_{drag} = -m\zeta_0\mathbf{v}$, i.e. the drag coefficient ζ_0 is a constant. Still, in a real situation $m_{bf}/m \neq 0$, and it is thus relevant to consider the corrections to the Rayleigh limit. Specifically, by introducing the first order corrections thereto, i.e. by retaining linear terms in m_{bf}/m but neglecting $(m_{bf}/m)^2$ and higher-order terms, the drag force is found to be of the form,

$$\mathbf{F}_{drag} = -m\zeta(v)\mathbf{v}, \quad \zeta(v) = \zeta_0 \left(1 + \gamma \frac{mv^2}{k_B T_s} \right), \quad (1)$$

sometimes called the quasi-Rayleigh limit. The non-linear parameter γ is given as a certain integral that includes the Brownian-particle-background-particle differential cross section [58–60], and typical values are limited to $\gamma \lesssim 0.1 - 0.2$ [49].

In this way, the velocity distribution function (VDF) for the Brownian particles obeys the Fokker-Planck (FP)

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equation

$$\partial_t f(\mathbf{v}, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \cdot \left[\zeta(v) \left(\mathbf{v} + \frac{k_B T_s}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \right) f(\mathbf{v}, t) \right]. \quad (2)$$

The interaction between the Brownian and the background fluid particles gives rise to both the nonlinear drag force $\mathbf{F}_{\text{drag}} = -m\zeta(v)\mathbf{v}$ and the white-noise stochastic force \mathbf{F}_{wn} . Its correlation $\langle \mathbf{F}_{\text{wn}}(t)\mathbf{F}_{\text{wn}}(t') \rangle = 2mk_B T_s \zeta(v)\delta(t-t')$, where k_B is Boltzmann's constant, follows from the fluctuation-dissipation relation [54] and ensures that the only stationary solution of Eq. (3) is the equilibrium Maxwellian, $f_s(\mathbf{v}) = n(2\pi k_B T_s/m)^{-d/2} \exp(-mv^2/2k_B T_s)$.

The model described above can be visualised as a mixture of two fluids: a fluid of Brownian particles moving in a background fluid acting as a thermal bath, with the masses of the Brownian and the background fluid particles being comparable. In fact, this is the physical situation for the mixture of ultracold atoms in Ref. [60], in which an ensemble of ^{133}Cs atoms moves in a dilute background cloud of ^{87}Rb atoms. Despite the very low temperatures involved—in the μK range—the low density makes it possible to describe the system with the tools of classical statistical mechanics, namely the FP equation (2).

However, the FP description does not take into account Brownian-Brownian collisions. Here we consider that the Brownian particles are d -dimensional hard spheres and model their dynamics via the Enskog-Fokker-Planck (EFP) equation

$$\partial_t f(\mathbf{v}, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \cdot \left[\zeta(v) \left(\mathbf{v} + \frac{k_B T_s}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \right) f(\mathbf{v}, t) \right] + J[\mathbf{v}|f, f]. \quad (3)$$

The Enskog collision operator $J[\mathbf{v}|f, f]$ accounts for the collisions among the mutually interacting Brownian particles,

$$J[\mathbf{v}_1|f, f] \equiv \sigma^{d-1} g(\sigma) \int d\mathbf{v}_2 \int d\hat{\sigma} \Theta(\mathbf{v}_{12} \cdot \hat{\sigma}) \mathbf{v}_{12} \cdot \hat{\sigma} \\ \times [f(\mathbf{v}'_1, t) f(\mathbf{v}'_2, t) - f(\mathbf{v}_1, t) f(\mathbf{v}_2, t)]. \quad (4)$$

Above, $g(\sigma) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \sigma^+} g(r)$ is the contact value of the pair correlation function $g(r)$, Θ is the Heaviside function, $\mathbf{v}_{12} \equiv \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{v}_2$ is the relative velocity, and $\mathbf{v}'_1 = \mathbf{v}_1 - (\mathbf{v}_{12} \cdot \hat{\sigma})\hat{\sigma}$, $\mathbf{v}'_2 = \mathbf{v}_2 + (\mathbf{v}_{12} \cdot \hat{\sigma})\hat{\sigma}$ are the post-collisional velocities.

The EFP equation (3) has been previously employed for describing both molecular fluids and heated granular gases [47, 49, 61–66]. It can be considered as a reasonable model that interpolates between two limiting cases—the FP equation and the Enskog (or Boltzmann) equation. In particular, the EFP equation reduces to the FP equation (2) in the limit of vanishing (Brownian-Brownian) collision rate.

The energy landscape of the Brownian particles is very simple, its energy being only kinetic. Still, there appears

a strong non-exponential relaxation when the system is quenched to low enough temperatures. Moreover, this non-exponential relaxation is universal in the sense that, after a suitable rescaling of the variables, it does not depend on the initial and final temperatures, nor on the degree of non-linearity, nor on the relevance of the collision term. Interestingly, it is also closely linked to the existence of a long-lived non-equilibrium state (LLNES). Therein, the higher cumulants of the VDF are basically time-independent while the temperature is algebraically decaying. Besides, the LLNES rules the emergence of strong memory effects. Specifically, we investigate the Mpemba and the Kovacs effects, which are also shown to display scaling features.

The glassy behaviour described above—non-exponential relaxation and strong memory effects, linked to the LLNES—will be obtained using the framework of the EFP equation. Though, we will show that these physically appealing results also hold in absence of the collision term, i.e. for the FP equation. In this way, the relevance of the LLNES and its associated glassy behaviour is reinforced.

The paper is organised as follows. In Sec. II we put forward the evolution equations for the temperature and the cumulants in the extended Sonine framework. The quench to low temperatures is analysed in Sec. III. First, in Sec. III A, we derive the approximate system of evolution equations in this limit. Second, we show how the LLNES and the strongly non-exponential relaxation emerge in Sec. III B. Memory effects are the focus of Sec. IV, IV A for the Mpemba effect and IV B for the Kovacs effect. Section V is devoted to the study of the relevance of collisions and the Fokker-Planck limit. The main conclusions of our work and a physical discussion of our results are presented in Sec. VI. Finally, the Appendices deal with some technical aspects and complementary material, non-essential for the understanding of the results in the main text.

II. EVOLUTION EQUATIONS FOR THE TEMPERATURE AND THE CUMULANTS

In this section, we derive the evolution equations for the relevant physical variables. The kinetic temperature $T(t)$ is given by $\langle v^2 \rangle = dk_B T/m$. It is useful for our purposes to scale velocities with the thermal velocity $v_T(t)$ by defining

$$\mathbf{c} \equiv \mathbf{v}/v_T(t), \quad v_T(t) \equiv \sqrt{2k_B T(t)/m}, \quad (5)$$

which implies $\langle c^2 \rangle = d/2$. In addition, we introduce dimensionless temperature and time,

$$\theta = T/T_s, \quad t^* = \zeta_0 t, \quad (6)$$

we drop the asterisk in the following to simplify the notation. For isotropic states, the reduced VDF $\phi(\mathbf{c}, t) \equiv$

$n^{-1}v_T^d(t)f(\mathbf{v}, t)$ can be expanded in a complete set of orthogonal polynomials as

$$\phi(\mathbf{c}, t) = \pi^{-d/2} e^{-c^2} \left[1 + \sum_{l=2}^{\infty} a_l(t) L_l^{\frac{d-2}{2}}(c^2) \right], \quad (7)$$

where $L_l^{(\alpha)}$ are the generalised Laguerre (or Sonine) polynomials [67]. In the simplest—and usual—first Sonine approximation, only the fourth cumulant or excess kurtosis a_2 ,

$$a_2 \equiv -1 + \frac{4}{d(d+2)} \langle c^4 \rangle, \quad (8)$$

is retained and higher-order cumulants are neglected. Unfortunately, this approximation fails to reproduce the behaviour observed in the simulations [68], as shown in Appendix A. Then, we must consider an *extended* Sonine approximation, in which not only a_2 but also the sixth cumulant

$$a_3 \equiv 1 + 3a_2 - \frac{8}{d(d+2)(d+4)} \langle c^6 \rangle \quad (9)$$

are retained.

The parameter ζ_0 that we have employed to non-dimensionalise time marks one of the two characteristic times in this system: the time ζ_0^{-1} over which the Brownian particles feel the drag due to the background fluid, $\zeta_0^{-1} \propto T_s^{-1/2}$ [58–60]. The other characteristic time is set by the collision frequency among the Brownian particles at the steady state $\nu_s \equiv g(\sigma)n\sigma^{d-1}\sqrt{2k_B T_s/m}$ [69]. The average time between collisions at the steady state is $\tau_s \equiv \nu_s^{-1} \propto T_s^{-1/2}$ [49]. The dimensionless average time between Brownian-Brownian collisions is thus given by

$$\xi \equiv \zeta_0 \tau_s. \quad (10)$$

Equivalently, ξ^{-1} is the dimensionless Brownian-Brownian collision rate. This parameter ξ is independent of T_s —see also Appendix A.

Within the extended Sonine approximation, the following evolution equations for (θ, a_2, a_3) hold [70],

$$\dot{\theta} = 2(1 - \theta) [1 + \gamma(d+2)\theta] - 2\gamma(d+2)\theta^2 a_2, \quad (11a)$$

$$\dot{a}_2 = 8\gamma(1 - \theta) - \left[\frac{4}{\theta} - 8\gamma + 4\gamma(d+8)\theta + \frac{8(d-1)}{d(d+2)} \frac{\sqrt{\theta}}{\xi} \right] a_2 + 2 \left[2\gamma\theta(d+4) + \frac{(d-1)}{d(d+2)} \frac{\sqrt{\theta}}{\xi} \right] a_3, \quad (11b)$$

$$\dot{a}_3 = 12 \left[-4\gamma + 6\gamma\theta + \frac{(d-1)}{d(d+2)(d+4)} \frac{\sqrt{\theta}}{\xi} \right] a_2 + 6 \left[4\gamma - \frac{1}{\theta} - \gamma\theta(d+14) - \frac{(d-1)(4d+19)}{2d(d+2)(d+4)} \frac{\sqrt{\theta}}{\xi} \right] a_3, \quad (11c)$$

Substituting $\xi = \infty$ into Eq. (11) gives the evolution equations for the collisionless EFP equation, i.e. for the

FP equation (2). In other words, collisions among the Brownian particles are basically negligible when the dimensionless average time between them is very long, i.e. $\xi \gg 1$ [71]. The equilibrium solution of this system is $(\theta_s = 1, a_2^s = a_3^s = 0)$, the equilibrium VDF is Gaussian, for all values of the parameters γ and ξ .

For linear drag, $\gamma = 0$, the temperature obeys Newton's law of cooling, $\dot{\theta} = 2(1 - \theta)$. Therefore, it relaxes exponentially to equilibrium, $\theta(t) = 1 + [\theta_i - 1]e^{-2t}$, for all $\theta_i \equiv \theta(0)$. Moreover, the VDF remains Gaussian, $a_2(t) = a_3(t) = 0$. For non-linear drag, one typically has $\gamma \lesssim 0.1$ [72]. If the initial and final temperatures are of the same order, $\theta_i = O(1)$, small values of the cumulants and mild deviations from the exponential behaviour are observed, see Appendix A. Therefrom, one might guess that both the deviations from the exponential relaxation and the Gaussian VDF should always be small: we show in the following that this intuition is utterly wrong. There emerges a strong non-exponential relaxation together with quite large, time- and (γ, ξ) -independent, cumulant values when the system is quenched to a low temperature.

III. QUENCH TO LOW TEMPERATURES

A. Scaled evolution equations

Glassy behaviour, slow non-exponential relaxation functions, and their associated memory effects such as the Kovacs or Mpemba effects [16, 17, 41], usually arise for low enough temperatures. For a review, see for instance [73]. For the case of our concern, this translates into considering a quench to low temperatures, i.e. we consider the limit $\theta_i = T(0)/T_s \gg 1$ [74].

In order to look into the limit $\theta_i \gg 1$, it is convenient to define the scaled temperature

$$Y = \theta/\theta_i. \quad (12)$$

Initially $Y(0) = 1$ and Y remains of the order of unity for not too long times. In fact, this quantity gives the overall relaxation of the temperature. If one defined a normalised relaxation function in the standard way,

$$\varphi(t) \equiv \frac{T(t) - T_s}{T_i - T_s} = \frac{\theta(t) - 1}{\theta_i - 1}, \quad \varphi(0) = 1, \quad \varphi(\infty) = 0, \quad (13)$$

we have that $\varphi(t) \simeq Y(t)$ as long as $\theta(t) \gg 1$. They only differ for very long times, when θ is close to the steady state and takes order of unity values, in fact $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} Y(t) = \theta_i^{-1} \ll 1$.

Insertion of this scaling into the evolution equations

leads to

$$\dot{Y} = -2\gamma\theta_i(d+2)Y^2(1+a_2) + O(1) + O(\gamma), \quad (14a)$$

$$\dot{a}_2 = -4\gamma\theta_i Y [(d+8)(a_2 - a_2^r) - (d+4)(a_3 - a_3^r)] + O(\gamma) + O(\sqrt{\theta_i/\xi}), \quad (14b)$$

$$\dot{a}_3 = -6\gamma\theta_i Y [-12(a_2 - a_2^r) + (d+14)(a_3 - a_3^r)] + O(\gamma) + O(\sqrt{\theta_i/\xi}), \quad (14c)$$

the dominant terms on the rhs are the order of $\gamma\theta_i \gg 1$ [75]. The above system of coupled ODEs suggests that the relevant time scale is no longer t , but a new *scaled time* s given by

$$s = \gamma\theta_i t. \quad (15)$$

Retaining only the dominant terms in Eqs. (14), one gets the approximate system

$$\frac{dY}{ds} = -2(d+2)Y^2(1+a_2), \quad (16a)$$

$$\frac{da_2}{ds} = -4Y [(d+8)(a_2 - a_2^r) - (d+4)(a_3 - a_3^r)], \quad (16b)$$

$$\frac{da_3}{ds} = -6Y [-12(a_2 - a_2^r) + (d+14)(a_3 - a_3^r)], \quad (16c)$$

where

$$a_2^r \equiv -\frac{2(d+14)}{d^2+10d+64}, \quad a_3^r \equiv -\frac{24}{d^2+10d+64}, \quad (17)$$

are the pseudostationary values obtained by imposing $da_2/ds = da_3/ds = 0$. Specifically, for $d = 2$, $a_2^r \simeq -0.36$ and $a_3^r \simeq -0.27$.

Note that the right hand side of Eqs. (16) does not depend on γ ; such dependence has been absorbed into the time scale s . In addition, nor does it depend on ξ , i.e. these equations are also valid for the collisionless case $\xi = \infty$, where the FP equation (2) applies.

B. Universal non-exponential relaxation and long-lived non-equilibrium state

The relaxation of the system is universal in the following sense: all the relaxation curves of the temperature should be superimposed when $Y = \theta/\theta_i$ is plotted against $s = \gamma\theta_i t$, independently of the values of γ and ξ . This universality is checked in Fig. 1, in which several relaxation curves are shown. They have been obtained by numerically solving the kinetic equation with the Direct Simulation Monte Carlo (DSMC) method [76, 77]. Specifically, we plot $1/Y$ versus s , for values of γ and θ_i such that $50 \leq \gamma\theta_i \leq 100$, $0.01 \leq \gamma \leq 0.1$, and $1 \leq \xi \leq 2$. A clear linear behaviour arises, i.e. $Y(s)$ shows a very slow algebraic decay, basically proportional to s^{-1} or, equivalently, t^{-1} . A similar behaviour has been recently found for the relaxation dynamics of several glass-forming models to their inherent structures [15].

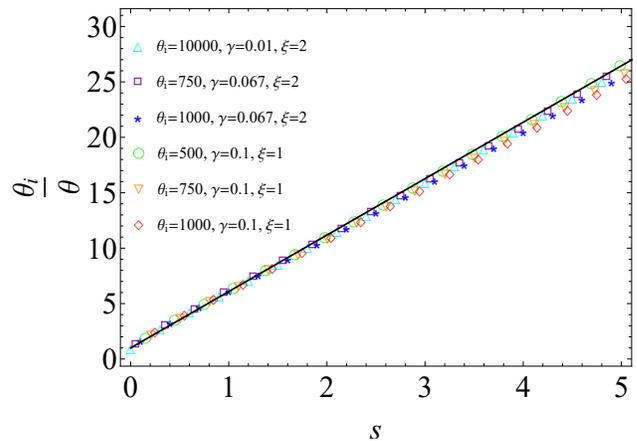


FIG. 1. Relaxation after a quench to a low temperature. Specifically, we plot $1/Y = \theta_i/\theta$ as a function of the scaled time $s = \gamma\theta_i t$. Data from DSMC correspond to parameters (θ_i, γ, ξ) , as specified in the legend, and $d = 2$. Also plotted is the theoretical prediction in Eq. (18) (solid line). The linear behaviour of $1/Y$ means that the temperature relaxes algebraically, basically as t^{-1} .

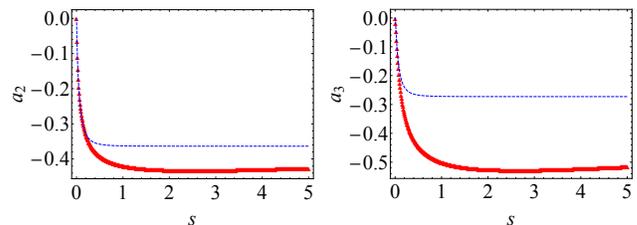


FIG. 2. Relaxation of the excess kurtosis (left panel) and the sixth cumulant (right panel). Both a_2 and a_3 decay towards their respective reference values, which characterise the LLNES. Symbols correspond to DSMC data for $\theta_i = 1000$, while the dashed lines correspond to the numerical integration of the scaled evolution equations (16). Additional employed parameters are $d = 2$, $\gamma = 0.1$ and $\xi = 1$. The actual LLNES obtained through DSMC is characterised by larger (in absolute value) values of the cumulants than those predicted by the extended theory. In particular, the extended Sonine approximation underestimates a_2^r by approximately 15 per cent.

This strongly non-exponential relaxation can be theoretically understood as follows: the cumulants rapidly tend (over the s scale) to their reference values a_2^r and a_3^r , as shown below. Setting $a_2 = a_2^r$ in Eq. (16a), we get

$$Y(s) = Y_{\text{alg}}(s) \equiv \frac{1}{1 + 2(d+2)(1+a_2^r)s}. \quad (18)$$

This theoretical prediction is also plotted in Fig. 1, where it is neatly observed that the agreement with the numerical results is excellent. Looking at Eq. (11a), one sees that $\dot{\theta}$ is basically proportional to θ^2 for $\theta \gg 1$: this is the reason why the algebraic t^{-1} relaxation emerges.

Substituting a_2 with its pseudo-stationary, reference, value a_2^r is justified by looking into the time evolution, over the s scale, of the cumulants—see also Appendix B.

This is done in Fig. 2, which shows the same time window $0 \leq s \leq 5$ of Fig. 1. Both data from DSMC simulations and the numerical integration of the approximate system (16) are plotted. It is neatly seen that both cumulants, a_2 and a_3 , rapidly become negative and quite large, being roughly constant for $s \geq 1$. Note that, on the other hand, the temperature is reduced by a factor of 25 from its initial value θ_i in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 2, there appear some discrepancies between the DSMC data and the prediction from the extended Sonine approximation for the cumulants. These discrepancies mainly stem from the truncation done in the latter—i.e. our neglecting of a_n for $n \geq 4$ [78]. Still, we must keep in mind that the—rather slight—discrepancy in the reference value of a_2 has very little impact on the predicted behaviour of the kinetic temperature.

The above analysis means that the system remains in a LLNES for most of the relaxation in the low-temperature quench. Over the LLNES, the cumulants a_2 and a_3 equal their reference values (17), whereas the temperature decays algebraically following Eq. (18). This state only breaks for very long times, for which $1/Y$ does not diverge but saturates to its equilibrium value [79].

IV. MEMORY EFFECTS

The just described non-exponential relaxation opens the door to the emergence of strong memory effects. We have shown that there exists a regime, $\theta_i \gg 1$ or, in other words, a quench to low enough temperatures, for which the system moves over the far-from-equilibrium LLNES state. The strength of possible memory effects roughly depends on the values of the cumulants, which measure the deviations from equilibrium. If their value is small (large), the VDF is close to (far from) the Gaussian shape and weak (strong) memory effects appear. Therefore, if we age the system to the LLNES, strong memory effects are expected. In the following, we analyse the Mpemba and Kovacs effects separately.

A. Mpemba effect

We start the analysis with the Mpemba effect. In the Mpemba effect, the initially hotter fluid sample (A, initial temperature $\theta_{i,A}$) cools sooner than the one initially cooler (B, initial temperature $\theta_{i,B}$). Therefore, the “cooling rate” of the hotter system should be larger: since the cooling rate increases with the excess kurtosis a_2 , as follows from Eq. (11) [80], the Mpemba effect is maximised when the hotter (cooler) sample has the largest (smallest) possible value of a_2 . In such a way, the hotter (colder) samples cools as fast (slow) as possible.

Here, not only do we show that for large enough difference $\Delta a_{2i} \equiv a_{2i,A} - a_{2i,B}$ the Mpemba effect emerges, but (i) how to maximise the effect and (ii) how the system

has to be previously *aged* to get such an initial preparation of the samples. As stated above, $a_{2i,A}$ ($a_{2i,B}$) must take its largest (smallest) possible value to optimise the Mpemba effect. A rigorous mathematical derivation of the extrema (maximum and minimum) values of a_2 compatible with the fluid dynamics makes it necessary to employ the tools of optimal control theory [81, 82]. The quite lengthy calculation is outside the scope of this paper and thus will be published elsewhere [83]. However, the result is physically appealing and compatible with the more intuitive analysis performed in Appendix C.

On the one hand, the minimum value $a_2^{\min} = a_2^r$ of the excess kurtosis is obtained for a quench to a very low temperature, i.e. when $\theta_i \gg 1$ and the system is cooled to the (γ, ξ) -independent LLNES described in the previous section. On the other hand, the maximum value of a_2 is obtained for the somehow “opposite process”, i.e. for $\theta_i \ll 1$ that corresponds to a heating to a much higher temperature. In Appendix C, we show that a_2^{\max} is proportional to γ and much smaller than $|a_2^{\min}|$. For example, in the case ($\gamma = 0.1, d = 2, \xi = 1$) we have that $a_2^{\max} \simeq 0.04$ whereas $a_2^r = -0.36$. An even larger absolute value of a_2^r is found in DSMC simulations, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

For maximising the Mpemba effect, then one should age the samples in the following way. The hot sample A must be aged by heating from a much lower temperature, so that a_2 takes its maximum value and the sample has the largest possible cooling rate. The cold sample B must be aged by cooling from a much higher temperature, so that a_2 takes its minimum, reference, value over the LLNES and the sample has the smallest possible cooling rate. Still, since a_2^{\max} is quite small, a practical and very close to optimal procedure is to take the hot sample A at equilibrium, for which $a_2 = 0$. In this way, the difference $\Delta a_2 \equiv a_{2i,A} - a_{2i,B}$ is around 90 per cent of the optimal value $a_2^{\max} - a_2^{\min}$. This is the initial preparation that we employ throughout this work.

These samples A and B are put in contact with a common thermal reservoir at a much lower temperature, so Eqs. (16) govern the evolution of our system for a long time and, in particular, are capable of describing the *universal* Mpemba effect observed. The initially hotter sample cools with a_2 decreasing from zero towards a_2^r , i.e.

$$Y_A(s_A) = \frac{\theta_A(s_A)}{\theta_{i,A}} = f(s_A), \quad s_A = \gamma\theta_{i,A}t, \quad (19)$$

where f is a certain function, independent of $\theta_{i,A}$, the exact form of which is irrelevant for our discussion. The initially colder sample cools following Eq. (18), i.e.

$$Y_B(s_B) = \frac{\theta_B(s_B)}{\theta_{i,B}} = Y_{\text{alg}}(s_B), \quad s_B = \gamma\theta_{i,B}t. \quad (20)$$

The Mpemba effect takes place when $\theta_A = \theta_B$ for some crossing time t_\times .

Figure 3 shows the large Mpemba effect we observe. Since both the Y and s variables depend on the initial

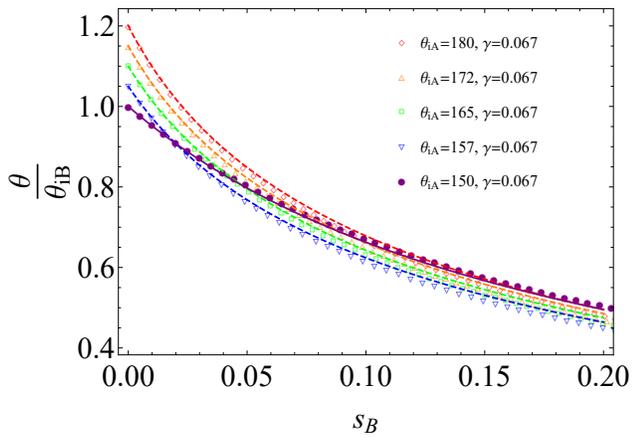


FIG. 3. Mpemba effect for different initial temperature ratios R_{AB} . Specifically, we consider four values of R_{AB} , $R_{AB} = 1.05, 1.1, 1.15$ and 1.2 . Additional parameters employed are $d = 2$ and $\xi = 1$. We plot $\theta/\theta_{i,B}$ as a function of s_B , from the DSMC simulation and the theoretical prediction stemming from Eq. (16). The relaxation curve of the cold sample B (circles DSMC, solid line theory), starting from $\theta_{i,B} = 100$ with $a_{2i,B} = a_2^2$, is crossed by the curves for the hot samples A (empty symbols DSMC, dashed lines theory), which start from $\theta_{i,A} = R_{AB}\theta_{i,B}$ with $a_{2i,A} = 0$ (i.e. at equilibrium).

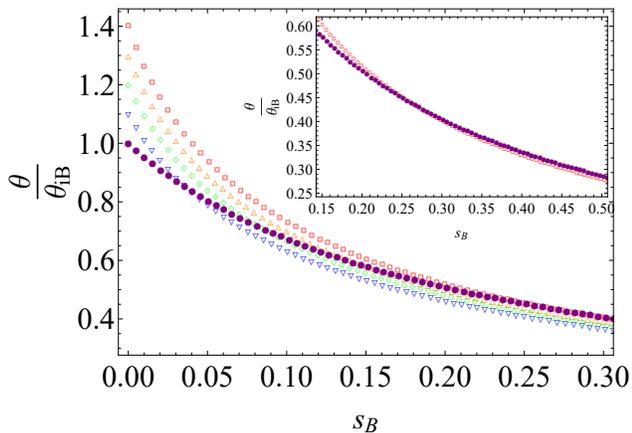


FIG. 4. Same as in Fig. 3, but for larger temperature ratios. The curves correspond to $R_{AB} = 1.1$ (down-triangles), 1.2 (circles), 1.3 (up-triangles), and 1.4 (squares). Within the figure, an inset has been plot in order to appreciate the Mpemba effect for $R_{AB} = 1.4$ (40% initial temperature difference).

conditions, we plot $Y_B = \theta/\theta_{i,B}$ vs. $s_B = \gamma\theta_{i,B}t$. After defining the initial temperature ratio $R_{AB} \equiv \theta_{i,A}/\theta_{i,B} > 1$, $Y_A = Y_B/R_{AB}$ and $s_A = R_{AB}s_B$. Specifically, we consider one B sample, with $\theta_{i,B} = 100$, and four different A samples, with $R_{AB} = 1.05, 1.1, 1.15, 1.2$. Symbols correspond to DSMC simulations of the system and lines to the theoretical prediction stemming from Eqs. (16). The temperature curves cross at a certain time $s_{B,\times}$, which corresponds to t_\times in the original time scale, $s_{B,\times} = \gamma\theta_{i,B}t_\times$. For $s_B > s_{B,\times}$, the curve for the initially hotter sample lies below that of the initially

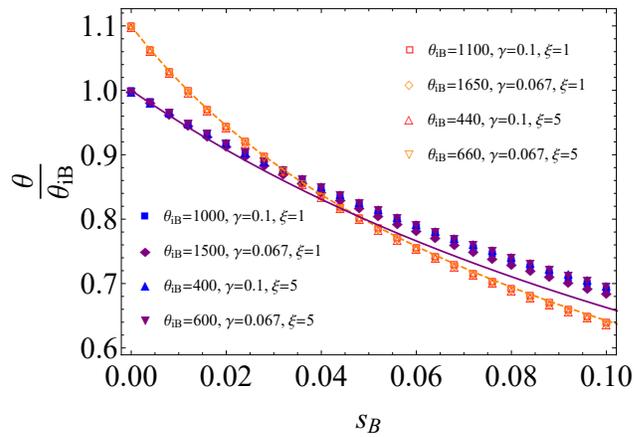


FIG. 5. Universal Mpemba effect for different initial preparations and parameters (γ, ξ). In particular, we plot $\theta/\theta_{i,B}$, i.e. the temperature in units of the initial temperature of the colder sample, as a function of the scaled time s_B for the colder sample, defined in Eq. (20). For a fixed value of the initial temperature ratio R_{AB} , all the curves corresponding to different sets of $(\theta_{i,B}, \gamma, \xi)$ superimpose, both for the hotter (A) (open symbols) and colder (B) samples (filled symbols). There are eight simulation curves: four corresponding to hot samples with $R_{AB} = 1.1$ and the corresponding four curves for the cold samples. Dashed and full curves are the solutions of Eq. (16) for $(a_{2i}, a_{3i}) = (0, 0)$ and (a_2^2, a_3^2) , respectively.

colder. The Mpemba effect is even neatly observed for $R_{AB} = 1.2$ (i.e. 20 per cent initial temperature difference). In fact, it is still present up to 40 per cent initial temperature difference, i.e. $R_{AB} = 1.4$, as illustrated by Fig. 4.

The Mpemba effect is moreover universal in the following sense. Let us consider a fixed value of the ratio R_{AB} , but different values of the the initial temperatures $\theta_{i,A}$ and $\theta_{i,B}$, the non-linearity parameter γ , and the average time between collisions ξ . If we plot $\theta/\theta_{i,B}$ vs. s_B , all the curves corresponding to the colder temperatures superimpose, as Fig. 5 shows. Besides, also the curves corresponding to the hotter temperatures superimpose, because $s_A = R_{AB}s_B$ and Eq. (19) entails $\theta_A(s_B) = \theta_{i,A}f(R_{AB}s_B)$, i.e. $\theta_A(s_B)/\theta_{i,B} = R_{AB}f(R_{AB}s_B)$. This is neatly shown in Fig. 5, where we have plotted relaxation curves for $R_{AB} = 1.1$ and different values of $(\theta_{i,B}, \gamma, \xi)$, as detailed in the legend. The analytical prediction from Eq. (16) for the colder sample is slightly under the DSMC data, because of our underestimating the excess kurtosis over the LLNES.

In order to quantify the strength of the Mpemba effect, we introduce the parameter Mp defined in Ref. [48], which corresponds to the maximum difference between the relaxation curves once they have crossed each other. We have computed the numerical values of Mp from the DSMC simulation. Since the strength of the Mpemba effect is proportional to $\theta_{i,B}$, we have specifically computed $\text{Mp}/\theta_{i,B}$. For the curves shown in Fig. 4, the values are $\text{Mp}/\theta_{i,B} = 0.059, 0.045, 0.034$ and 0.026 for initial tem-

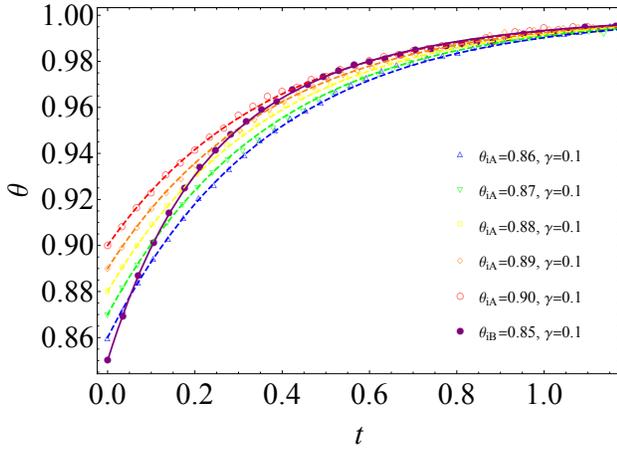


FIG. 6. Inverse Mpemba effect for different initial temperatures for the hotter sample. Specifically, we consider hotter samples with temperatures $\theta_{i,A} = 0.86, 0.87, 0.88, 0.89$ and 0.90 , while the colder sample departs from a temperature of $\theta_{i,B} = 0.85$. Additional employed parameters are $\xi = 1$ and $d = 2$. Empty (filled) symbols correspond to DSMC data for the hotter (colder) samples, while the dashed (full) lines correspond to the numerical integration of the evolution equations Eqs.(11) for the hotter (colder) samples.

perature ratios $R_{AB} = \theta_{i,A}/\theta_{i,B} = 1.1, 1.2, 1.3$ and 1.4 , respectively. As expected, Mp decreases with the initial temperature difference $\theta_{i,A} - \theta_{i,B}$ —or, equivalently, with R_{AB} . Since $\theta_{i,B} \gg 1$, the actual values of Mp for the this system are typically larger than unity. In the figure, $\theta_{i,B} = 100$, so Mp ranges from 2.6 to 5.9, values that are indeed higher than those for the large Mpemba-like effect reported in Ref. [48] for a rough granular gas.

It is also interesting to study the inverse Mpemba effect, in which the initially colder sample heats sooner than the initially hotter one, which has also been observed in a wide variety of systems [43–45, 47–53]. Now, samples *A* (initially hotter) and *B* (initially colder) are put in contact with a thermal reservoir at a larger temperature. If sample *A* heats more slowly than sample *B*, the inverse Mpemba effect emerges. But heating more slowly is basically equivalent to cooling faster: in both cases, we want to have θ as large as possible. Therefore, we would like again to have the initially hotter sample with the maximum possible value of a_2 and the initially colder one with the minimum possible value, exactly the same preparation as for the normal case.

Following the reasoning in the previous paragraph, we study the inverse Mpemba effect when the initially cooler sample departs from the LLNES while the hotter one departs from equilibrium [84] In Fig. 6 we may observe that the initial temperature differences are smaller than those for the normal Mpemba effect. Here, the maximum value of the parameter R_{AB} is 1.06, i.e. a 6% maximum initial temperature difference, whereas in the normal case it was 40%. Consistently, the strength of the inverse Mpemba effect is smaller than that of the normal one:

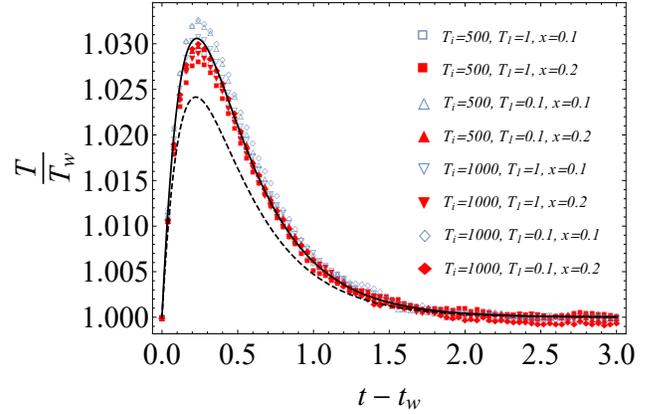


FIG. 7. Evolution of the temperature in the Kovacs protocol. Parameter values are $\gamma = 0.1$, $d = 2$, and $\xi = 1$. Eight simulation curves are shown for different combinations of the initial (T_i), aging (T_1), and final temperature (T_w). Writing the aging temperature as $T_w = T_1 + x(T_i - T_1)$, the data shown correspond to $x = 0.2$ (filled symbols) and 0.1 (open symbols). Curves for smaller values of x are basically superimposed with those for $x = 0.1$. The dashed (solid) line corresponds to the numerical integration of Eqs. (11) with the theoretical (simulation) values for the cumulants over the LLNES.

the values of the Mp parameter range between 0.001 and 0.013 in this case.

B. Kovacs effect

Next, we look into the Kovacs effect. In our system, the relevant physical quantity is the kinetic temperature. The Kovacs hump will come about if the cumulants are non-zero at the waiting time t_w . Therefore, to maximise the effect the (absolute) value of a_2 and a_3 have to be in turn maximised. This entails that the optimal aging protocol is a quench to a much lower temperature, i.e. $T_1 \ll T_i$, over which the system reaches the LLNES. Equations (11) govern the time evolution of the system for $t > t_w$, with $\theta = T/T_w$ and initial conditions $\theta(t_w) = 1$, $a_2(t_w) = a_2^r$, $a_3(t_w) = a_3^r$.

The resulting Kovacs response also has scaling properties, although somehow weaker than those of the temperature relaxation and the Mpemba effect. The initial conditions and, therefore, the subsequent Kovacs hump do not depend on (T_i, T_w, T_1) . Yet, it does depend on γ and ξ . Figure 7 illustrates the scaled Kovacs hump, we plot $\theta = T/T_w$ as a function of $t - t_w$, for $t > t_w$. Indeed, the triplet (T_i, T_w, T_1) does not affect the Kovacs hump measured in DSMC simulations. Here, for the sake of simplicity, we have taken one of the aging temperatures as unity [85]. Moreover, our theory quantitatively describes the numerical results: the agreement is very good, especially when the simulation value of a_2^r is employed [86].

To further study the Kovacs effect, a perturbative anal-

ysis can be carried out—see Appendix D for details. It gives that

$$K(t) \equiv \theta(t) - 1 = -\gamma a_2^r \frac{2(d+2)}{\lambda_+ - \lambda_-} \left[\frac{M_{11} + M_{12} + |\lambda_-|}{|\lambda_+| - \alpha} \left(e^{-\alpha(t-t_w)} - e^{-|\lambda_+|(t-t_w)} \right) - \frac{M_{11} + M_{12} + |\lambda_+|}{|\lambda_-| - \alpha} \left(e^{-\alpha(t-t_w)} - e^{-|\lambda_-|(t-t_w)} \right) \right] + O((\gamma a_2^r)^2). \quad (21)$$

where $\alpha = 2[1 + \gamma(d+2)]$, M_{ij} are the elements of a 2×2 matrix \mathbf{M} ,

$$M_{11} = -4 \left[1 + \gamma(d+6) + \frac{2(d-1)}{d(d+2)\xi} \right], \quad M_{12} = 2 \frac{a_3^r}{a_2^r} \left[2\gamma(d+4) + \frac{d-1}{d(d+2)\xi} \right], \quad (22a)$$

$$M_{21} = 12 \frac{a_2^r}{a_3^r} \left[2\gamma + \frac{d-1}{d(d+2)(d+4)\xi} \right], \quad M_{22} = -6 \left[\gamma(d+10) + 1 + \frac{(d-1)(4d+19)}{2d(d+2)(d+4)\xi} \right]. \quad (22b)$$

and λ_{\pm} are the eigenvalues of the matrix \mathbf{M} ,

$$\lambda_{\pm} = \frac{\text{Tr } \mathbf{M} \pm \sqrt{(\text{Tr } \mathbf{M})^2 - 4 \det \mathbf{M}}}{2} < 0. \quad (23)$$

The Kovacs effect is always normal, as it must be in a molecular system [24], since $a_2^r < 0$. Note that M_{12} , as defined by Eq. (22), depends on the cumulants, in particular on the ratio a_3^r/a_2^r . Had we aged the system in a different manner, a_2^r and a_3^r would have been substituted with $a_2(t_w)$ and $a_3(t_w)$ [87].

The accuracy of our perturbative expansion is checked by comparing Eq. (21) for the Kovacs hump to DSMC data. This is done in Fig. 8, where we plot the function $K(t)$ for three different values of γ , namely $\gamma = 0.1$, $\gamma = 0.05$, and $\gamma = 0.025$. Again, we write $T_w = T_1 + x(T_i - T_1)$ and the data shown correspond to $x = 0.1$. We compare the DSMC data with Eq. (21), both employing the theoretical predictions for a_2^r and a_3^r (dashed line) and their simulation values (solid line). The mild discrepancies basically stem from the difference between the theoretical and DSMC value of the excess kurtosis, as illustrated by the very good agreement observed for the solid lines.

Let us analyse the position and the height of the maximum, which we denote by t_M and $K_M \equiv K(t_M)$, respectively. The values of t_M and K_M corresponding to the curves in Fig. 8 are given in Table I. Specifically, we give their values stemming from the theoretical expression (21), again both employing the theoretical predictions for a_2^r and a_3^r and their simulation values. The agreement between the theory and the simulation is very good, especially when the DSMC values of the cumulants are inserted into the theoretical expression. The maximum position t_M depends very weakly on γ , whereas its height K_M is roughly proportional to it.

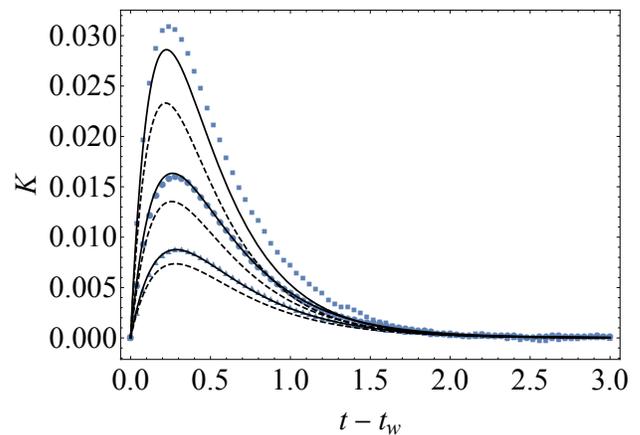


FIG. 8. Dependence of the Kovacs hump on the non-linearity parameter γ . Three sets of data are plotted: both correspond to the triplet ($T_i = 1000, T_1 = 0.1, x = 0.1$) for three different values of γ , specifically $\gamma = 0.1$ (squares), 0.05 (circles) and 0.025 (up triangles). Additional parameter values are $d = 2$ and $\xi = 1$. The dashed (solid) lines correspond to the first order perturbative expression (21) with the theoretical (DSMC) values of a_2^r and a_3^r .

V. RELEVANCE OF COLLISIONS AND THE FOKKER-PLANCK LIMIT

The relevance of the Enskog collision term in the EFP equation is modulated by the dimensionless average time between Brownian-Brownian collisions ξ . In previous sections, we have typically considered order of unity values of ξ , for which the drag force and collisions act over the same time scale. As already stated below the evolution equations (11), the limit $\xi = \infty$ corresponds to the collisionless case, in which the EFP equation simplifies to the FP equation. Now, motivated by recent work in binary mixtures of ultracold atoms [60], we investigate how the

| | Eq. (21) (a_2^r, a_3^r from Sonine) | Eq. (21) (a_2^r, a_3^r from DSMC) | DSMC data |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| $\gamma = 0.025$ | (0.281,0.007) | (0.286,0.009) | (0.280,0.009) |
| $\gamma = 0.05$ | (0.257,0.014) | (0.262,0.016) | (0.280,0.016) |
| $\gamma = 0.1$ | (0.219,0.023) | (0.225,0.029) | (0.240,0.031) |

TABLE I. Values of the maximum coordinates (t_M, K_M) for the Kovacs hump. Specifically, the reported values correspond to the curves plotted in Fig. 8.

existence of the LLNES and the associated slow algebraic relaxation is affected in the limit as $\xi \gg 1$.

In Ref. [60], the behaviour of a binary mixture of Cs and Rb atoms is investigated. Quantum effects are negligible—despite temperatures being in the μK range, due to the low densities of both the Brownian (Cs atoms) and background (Rb atoms) fluids. Therefore, the motion of the Cs atoms is described by means of a Langevin equation—or the equivalent non-linear FP equation (2)—with non-linear drag force, because the masses of the Cs (m_{Cs}) and Rb (m_{Rb}) atoms are comparable. For the mixture of Cs and Rb atoms, the parameters for our EFP equation framework are $\gamma = m_{\text{Rb}}/(10m_{\text{Cs}}) \approx 0.067$ and the dimensionless characteristic time $\xi = 674.17$ —see Appendix A.

We show below that the high value of the dimensionless average time between collisions ξ in Ref. [60] entails that the predictions for the EFP equation and the FP equation are basically equivalent. In other words, collisions are so infrequent that the Enskog collision term can be completely disregarded in that case. Also, we show that the existence of the LLNES and thus of a wide time window over which the temperature relaxes algebraically—for a quench to low temperatures—is independent of the value of ξ ; systems with $\xi = 1$, $\xi = 674$ and $\xi = \infty$ display exactly the same behaviour in the time scale s .

We present the results for the relaxation of the temperature in Fig. 9. Symbols correspond to (i) the numerical simulations for the EFP equation for two different values of the characteristic time ξ , $\xi = 1$ and $\xi = 674$, and (ii) the FP equation ($\xi = \infty$). The line corresponds to the algebraic relaxation (18), with the theoretical value $a_2^r = -0.33$ for $d = 3$. It is neatly observed that all the curves are basically superimposed. Specifically, there is no difference between the simulation results for the EFP equation with $\xi = 674$ and the FP equation. Also, the agreement between these two simulation curves and the theoretical prediction (18) is better than that of the case $\xi = 1$, which is already very good. In fact, the terms involving ξ in Eq. (14)—which have been neglected when writing (16)—vanish for $\xi = \infty$, so Eq. (16) was expected to give a better description for the collisionless case.

The inset in Fig. 9 shows the relaxation of the temperature for longer times. Therein, we clearly observe that the LLNES persists for a longer time when collisions are infrequent ($\xi = 674$) or inexistent ($\xi = \infty$). This is reasonable from a physical point of view. The collision term does not directly affect the time evolution of the temperature, because collisions are elastic and kinetic energy

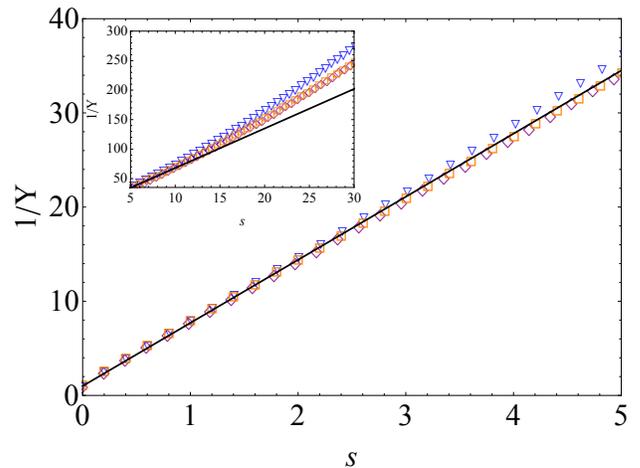


FIG. 9. Dependence of the LLNES on the collision rate. DSMC data for the relaxation of after a quench to a low temperature, specifically with $\theta_i = 1000$, are plotted: $\xi = 1$ (down triangles), $\xi = 674$ (diamonds), and $\xi = \infty$ (squares)—the first two correspond to the EFP equation, whereas the latter correspond to the FP equation. The simulation data are compared with our theoretical prediction for the LLNES, Eq. (18) (solid line). The agreement theory-simulation is very good for all curves but especially for the cases $\xi = 674$ and $\xi = \infty$, which are basically superimposed. The inset shows the relaxation curves for longer times, $5 \leq s \leq 30$, whereas in the main panel $0 \leq s \leq 5$. Therein, it is observed how the system starts to depart from the LLNES: the smaller the collision rate ξ^{-1} , the smaller the separation from the LLNES.

is conserved. However, collisions indeed affect the time evolution of of the VDF through higher-order cumulants like a_2 and a_3 : they favour the “mixing” of velocities and thus make the relaxation to equilibrium faster. Accordingly, the relaxation curve of $1/Y$ for $\xi = 1$ is always above than those for $\xi = 674$ and $\xi = \infty$.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

The molecular fluid with non-linear drag shows a very complex relaxation behaviour. The leading role is played by the LLNES reached by the system when quenched to a low temperature. Over it, the temperature displays a very slow, algebraic, decay and the VDF neatly separates from the Maxwellian shape. The strong non-Gaussianities are characterised by large (absolute) values

of the fourth and sixth cumulants, which we have termed their “reference” values a_2^r and a_3^r .

Both the own existence of the LLNES and the physical properties over it—algebraic decay of the temperature and reference values of the cumulants—do not depend on the degree of non-linearity, as measured by γ , nor on the Brownian-Brownian collision rate, as measured by ξ . It must be remarked that, in particular, the LLNES survives in the limit $\xi = \infty$, when the Enskog collision term is not present and the velocity VDF for the Brownian particles obey the FP equation (2) with non-linear drag.

This LLNES also rules the emergence of large memory effects, both Mpemba-like and Kovacs-like. On the one hand, not only have we shown that a large Mpemba effect—present for temperature differences up to 40 per cent—comes about but also how the hot and cold samples have to be prepared. The identification of the aging procedure is important for the experimental reproducibility of the Mpemba effect: here, the hot sample starts from equilibrium whereas the cold sample starts from the LLNES. The strongly non-exponential relaxation associated with the Mpemba effect is quite unique, since the relaxation is basically exponential in the majority of systems in which the Mpemba effect has been studied. On the other hand, it is the relaxation following the quench to a low temperature that has to be interrupted to maximise the Kovacs effect, once the system has reached the LLNES. The reported Kovacs hump, of the order of 3 per cent in Fig. 7, is quite large as compared to typical values. For example, it is one of order of magnitude larger the original observation by Kovacs [16, 17], 2–3 times larger than its value in a Lennard-Jones fluid [21], and of the same order of magnitude of the recently reported results in a disordered protein construct [28].

Both the non-exponential relaxation and the memory effects present scaling features. When properly scaled, all relaxation curves corresponding to the quench to a low temperature superimpose. Not only does the relaxation in scaled variables not depend on the initial temperature θ_i but also is independent of the degree of non-linearity γ and the average time ξ between Brownian-Brownian collisions. This is why we employ the term universal to refer to the observed relaxation of the temperature.

For the Mpemba effect, a similar scaling entails that all curves corresponding to a given initial temperature ratio also superimpose, independently of the value of other parameters: initial temperatures of the hot and cold samples and also (γ, ξ) . In this sense, we also speak about a universal Mpemba effect. The Kovacs effect also displays scaling properties, although weaker: the hump depends on (γ, ξ) but not on the initial, final, and aging temperatures.

The LLNES naturally emerges when the system is quenched from a very high temperature $\theta_i \gg 1$, and thus the temperature $\theta \gg 1$ over a—quite wide—time window. Would the LLNES still be relevant for other, more general, protocols, in which the temperature of the bath followed a certain program $T_s(t)$? Looking back

at the evolution equations (11) in the second Sonine approximation, Eqs. (11b) and (11c) would remain unchanged whereas (11a) would have an additional term $-\theta d \ln T_s(t)/dt$ on its rhs. This implies that, as long as $\theta(t) \equiv T(t)/T_s(t) \gg 1$, Eqs. (11b) and (11c) for the time evolution of the cumulants are still valid and the cumulants would tend to their reference values, characteristic of the LLNES, in this more general situation. As for the temperature, Eq. (11a) would have an additional term $-Y d \ln T_s/ds$ making, quite logically, the time evolution of θ depend on the considered program. The analysis of the behaviour of the fluid with non-linear drag under such a time-dependent program for the bath temperature is an interesting perspective for future work.

Another relevant question is the robustness of the LLNES for other, more general forms, of the non-linear drag. The results derived in this paper are specific for the quadratic non-linearity in Eq. (1) but, what about higher-order non-linearities? For instance, let us think of the next correction in the systematic expansion in powers of the mass ratio m_{bf}/m introduced in Refs. [58, 59], which incorporates a quartic, proportional to v^4 , term. Incorporating it would result in the coupling of the time evolution of the temperature not only with $\langle v^4 \rangle$, which gives rise to the term proportional to $\theta^2 a_2$, but also with $\langle v^6 \rangle$, which would give rise to a new term proportional to $\theta^3 a_3$ —dominant for a quench to low temperatures, where $\theta \gg 1$. This entails that the third-order Sonine approximation would be necessary to describe the evolution of the temperature, since so is quantitatively predicting a_3 . Still, a LLNES would appear in which a_2 , a_3 , and a_4 would tend to *pseudostationary* reference values a_2^r , a_3^r , and a_4^r . The temperature would also have an algebraic decay but with a different exponent, since we would have $\dot{\theta} \propto -\theta^3$ (instead of $-\theta^2$) for $\theta \gg 1$ and therefore $\theta \propto t^{-1/2}$ (instead of t^{-1}).

In this work, we have employed the extended—or second—Sonine approximation, retaining not only the excess kurtosis a_2 but also the sixth cumulant a_3 . This stems from the evolution equation of the temperature θ being directly coupled with a_2 , whereas a_3 only appears in the evolution equation of a_2 . In our study, the n -th-order Sonine approximation—i.e. retaining $(\theta, a_2, \dots, a_{n+1})$ —allows for quantitatively describing the behaviour up to the second to last kept cumulant a_n as the initial temperature is increased. The discrepancies between the theory and the DSMC simulations slightly increase with the order of the cumulant—i.e. when one goes from θ to a_n . However, it “only” gives a qualitative account of the behaviour of the last kept cumulant a_{n+1} . This makes it necessary to consider the extended, second-order, Sonine approximation when considering a quench to low temperatures, because an accurate prediction for the time evolution of the excess kurtosis is needed.

The most rigorous approach to analyse the mixture of Brownian and background fluids would be writing down the Boltzmann (or Enskog) equation for the two species. Comparing the results of this framework with those

from the EFP equation—for order of unity Brownian-Brownian collision rate ξ —is an interesting perspective for future work. It is worth recalling that both frameworks give rise to the FP equation in the limit $\xi \rightarrow \infty$, in which we have shown that the glassy behaviour found for the EFP equation persists.

Our work opens the door to investigating aging phenomena and glassy behaviour in ultracold atoms. A key result of this work is the role played by the quench to a much lower temperature that leads the system to the LLNES, which controls the emergence of non-exponential relaxation and the associated memory effects (both Mpemba- and Kovacs-like). Since the model employed here describes mixtures of ultracold atoms, like that in Ref. [60], the central role of the LLNES may be checked in real experiments.

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Appendix A: Sonine expansion

Here we summarise the main features of the so-called Sonine expansion of the VDF, which makes it possible to—by introducing suitable approximations—truncate the infinite hierarchy of equations for the cumulants. Also, we compare the theoretical predictions of the first Sonine approximation and the extended Sonine approximation with DSMC simulations of the EFP equation (3).

For the scaled VDF introduced in Eq. (7), the EFP equation becomes [49]

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \tilde{\phi}(\mathbf{c}, t) &= \frac{1}{\xi} \sqrt{\theta} I[\mathbf{c}|\phi, \phi] \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{c}} \cdot \left[\frac{\dot{\theta}}{2\theta} \mathbf{c} + (1 + 2\gamma\theta c^2) \cdot \left(\mathbf{c} + \frac{1}{2\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{c}} \right) \right] \phi(\mathbf{c}, t), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A1})$$

where θ and t are the dimensionless temperature and time defined in Eq. (6)—recall that we have dropped the asterisk to simplify the notation,

$$\begin{aligned} I[\mathbf{c}_1|\phi, \phi] &= \int d\mathbf{c}_2 \int d\hat{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} \Theta(\mathbf{c}_{12} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\sigma}}) \mathbf{c}_{12} \cdot \hat{\boldsymbol{\sigma}} \\ &\times [\phi(\mathbf{c}'_1)\phi(\mathbf{c}'_2) - \phi(\mathbf{c}_1)\phi(\mathbf{c}_2)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A2})$$

is the dimensionless Enskog collision operator, and ξ is the parameter defined in Eq. (10).

The parameter ξ measures the relative relevance of the nonlinear drag force—i.e. collisions between the background fluid particles and the Brownian ones—and the Brownian-Brownian collisions. The regime $\xi \gg 1$ implies that collisions act over a much longer time scale than the drag force. When the background fluid is also composed of hard-spheres—therefore, $d = 3$ —of density n_{bf} and diameter σ_{bf} , it has been shown that [49, 60]

$$\xi = \frac{2n_{\text{bf}}}{3n} \left(1 + \frac{\sigma_{\text{bf}}}{\sigma} \right)^2 \frac{\sqrt{5}\gamma}{1 + 10\gamma}. \quad (\text{A3})$$

In the case of self-diffusion, $m_{\text{bf}} = m$, $n_{\text{bf}} = n$, and $\sigma_{\text{bf}} = \sigma$, we have that $\xi = 0.9428$ for $\gamma = 0.1$, i.e. very close to unity. This is the reason why we have often chosen $\xi = 1$ in this work.

For isotropic states, the reduced VDF $\phi(\mathbf{c}, t)$ is expanded in Sonine polynomials, as given by Eq. (7). The coefficients with $l = 2$ and $l = 3$ correspond to the cumulants a_2 and a_3 , respectively. The n -th order Sonine approximation consists in retaining up to the $(n + 1)$ -th cumulant in the above expansion and neglecting higher order ones, for these are assumed to be small. Moreover, nonlinear combinations of the cumulants are also usually dropped, because of their smallness. In this Appendix, we consider two possibilities: the first and the second—or extended—Sonine approximations.

Under the first Sonine approximation, a closed set of differential equations for the variables θ and a_2 is obtained, since a_3 and higher-order cumulants are neglected (also nonlinear terms in a_2). From Eq. (A1), the following evolution equations are derived [49],

$$\dot{\theta} = 2(1 - \theta)[1 + \gamma(d + 2)\theta] - 2\gamma(d + 2)\theta^2 a_2, \quad (\text{A4a})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{a}_2 &= 8\gamma(1 - \theta) \\ &- \left[\frac{4}{\theta} - 8\gamma + 4\gamma(d + 8)\theta + \frac{8(d - 1)}{d(d + 2)} \frac{\sqrt{\theta}}{\xi} \right] a_2, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4b})$$

which are linear in a_2 but nonlinear in θ . Under the second (or extended) Sonine approximation, the sixth cumulant a_3 is incorporated to the picture. Therein, we obtain a closed set of differential equations for the variables θ , a_2 and a_3 , where higher order cumulants—i.e. from a_4 on—and non-linear combinations of a_2 and a_3 are neglected. The result is the system in Eq. (11) of the main text.

In what follows, we test the validity of the evolution equations provided by the first and the extended Sonine approximations, Eq. (A4) and Eq. (11), respectively. We compare the numerical integration thereof with DSMC simulations of the EFP equation, which numerically solve it. Specifically, we have considered a two-dimensional system (i.e. hard-discs) with $\gamma = 0.1$ and $\xi = 1$, which is initially prepared at the equilibrium state corresponding to different values of θ_i , ranging from 2 to 100.

Figure 10 presents the time evolution of the kinetic temperature. As we may observe, discrepancies between

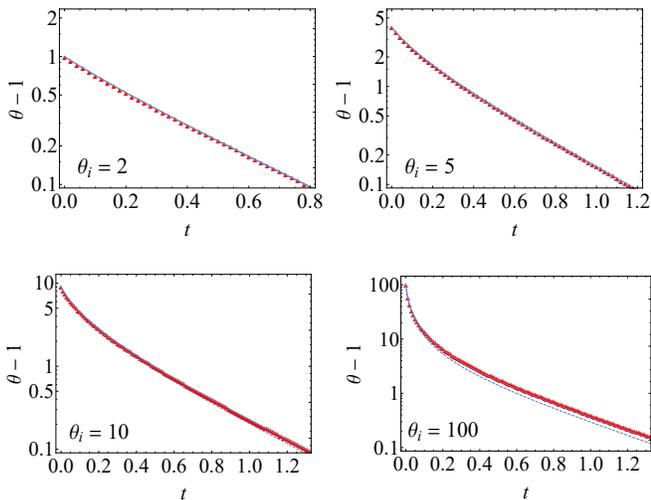


FIG. 10. Time evolution of the dimensionless temperature for different values of the initial dimensionless temperature. Specifically, we present a logarithmic plot of $\theta - 1$, so that a straight line corresponds to an exponential decay to the steady state value $\theta_s = 1$. Additional employed parameters are $d = 2$, $\xi = 1$ and $\gamma = 0.1$. Symbols correspond to DSMC data. Dashed lines represent the numerical integration of Eqs.(A4), for the first Sonine approximation, whereas the full lines correspond to the numerical integration of Eqs.(11), for the extended Sonine approximation.

DSMC data and the first Sonine approximation emerge for high enough temperatures. Specifically, they become noticeable over the scale of the figure for $\theta_i = 100$, for which the extended Sonine approximation is clearly superior. As we show in the following, this is due to the cumulants value increasing with θ_i . Also, it is neatly observed that the relaxation of the temperature changes from being basically exponential for $\theta_i = 2$ and 5 to strongly non-exponential behaviour for $\theta_i = 100$. We investigate this point in more depth in Appendix B.

The differences between the first and second Sonine approximations are even clearer in Fig. 11, in which we show the time evolution of a_2 . For the lowest initial temperature, $\theta_i = 2$, both Sonine approximations give quite close results, although it is already observed that the extended Sonine approximation describes the behaviour of the excess kurtosis in a more accurate, quantitative, way. As the initial temperature is increased, the difference between both approaches becomes larger, with the extended Sonine approximation giving always the better description of the actual behaviour of the system.

For the highest temperature considered in panel (d), $\theta_i = 100$, the minimum value for the excess kurtosis in the first Sonine approximation is roughly one-half of that in DSMC, whereas the deviation of the theoretical prediction from the DSMC value decreases to $\simeq 10\%$ in the extended Sonine approximation. Looking back at panel (d) of Fig. 10, we note that this slight underestimation

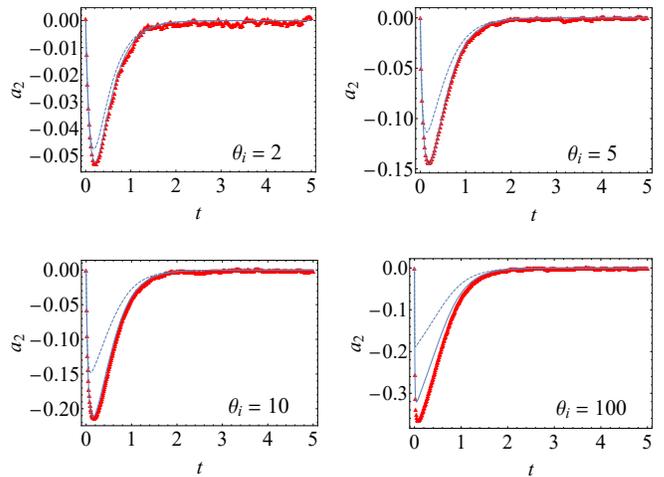


FIG. 11. Time evolution of the excess kurtosis for different values of the initial dimensionless temperature. The panels correspond to the same cases shown in Fig. 10 for the temperature, with the same codes for the lines and symbols. It is clearly observed that the extended Sonine approximation (solid line) gives a better description of simulation data (symbols) than the first Sonine approximation (dashed line).

of a_2 does not impinge on the theoretical prediction for the time evolution of the kinetic temperature, which is the focus of our work.

Finally, we show the prediction for a_3 in Fig. 12, which makes only sense in the extended Sonine approximation. The discrepancies between the DSMC data and the numerical integration of the evolution equations become more important than for a_2 , especially as the temperature is increased and the absolute value of a_3 also increases. Notwithstanding, the extended Sonine approximation, Eq. (11), provides the correct qualitative picture.

Note that, since the temperature is directly coupled to a_2 but not to a_3 , the discrepancies in the sixth cumulant observed in Fig. 12 are not relevant for the investigation of the dynamical evolution of the temperature. To diminish the discrepancies in a_3 observed in the second-order Sonine approximation, one could consider a third-order Sonine approximation by introducing the eighth cumulant a_4 . Within this third-order Sonine approximation, one would expect a qualitative description of a_4 and a quantitative account of a_2 , a_3 , and the temperature. More specifically, the discrepancies in a_3 observed in the second Sonine approximation would be “transferred” to a_4 in the third Sonine approximation (and those in a_2 to a_3 , those in θ to a_2).

Appendix B: Fast relaxation to the LLNES

Here, we show that the cumulants decay to their reference values over a time scale that is shorter than that of the relaxation of the temperature, after a quench to a low

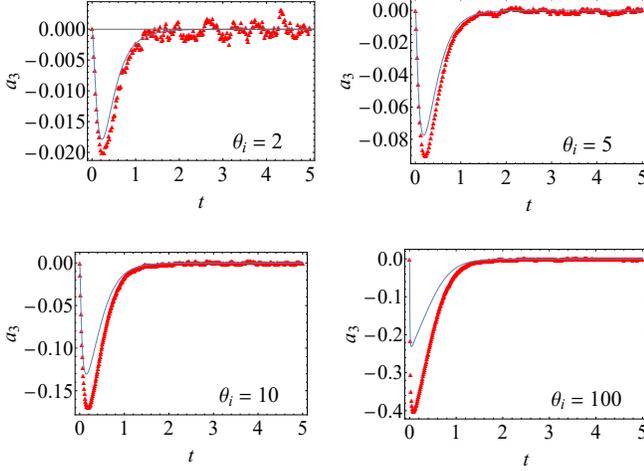


FIG. 12. Time evolution of the sixth cumulant for different values of the initial dimensionless temperature. The panels correspond to the same cases shown in Fig. 10 for the temperature, with the same codes for the lines and symbols.

temperature. Therefore, the system quickly reaches the LLNES described in the main text, over which the cumulants are basically constant and equal to their reference values and the temperature relaxes algebraically.

According to the approximate evolution equations in the s scale (16), both $Y(s)$ and the cumulants $a_2(s)$ and $a_3(s)$ tend to stationary values for long enough times. On the one hand, $Y \rightarrow 0$, which seems counterintuitive at first glance, but we must not forget that the approximate system of ODEs only remains valid for high enough temperatures, i.e. $Y = O(1)$. On the other hand, the cumulants tend to their respective reference values a_2^r and a_3^r . For longer times, i.e. when $Y \ll 1$, Eq. (16) ceases to be valid, and the whole extended Sonine framework, as described by Eqs. (11) has to be used. It is only over this very long time scale that the temperature actually relaxes towards its stationary value $\theta_s = 1$, and all the cumulants tend to zero—for the equilibrium VDF is Gaussian.

Here we show that the main part of the relaxation of the temperature takes place over the s scale. Moreover, we show that the cumulants quickly relax to their reference values, as given by Eq. (17), while the temperature relaxes in a much slower way. To do so, it is useful to start by considering the evolution equations in the s scale in the first Sonine approximation, i.e. when a_3 is neglected. Therein, we have the system

$$\frac{dY}{ds} \approx -2(d+2)Y^2(1+a_2), \quad (\text{B1a})$$

$$\frac{da_2}{ds} \approx -4Y(d+8)(a_2 - a_2^r), \quad (\text{B1b})$$

in which $a_2^r = -2/(d+8)$ is the reference value for the excess kurtosis in the first Sonine approximation. This system of equations can be solved in parametric form,

since

$$\frac{da_2}{dY} = \frac{2(d+8)}{Y(d+2)} \frac{a_2 - a_2^r}{1+a_2}, \quad (\text{B2})$$

is a separable first order ODE with solution

$$Y(a_2) = \left[\frac{d+8}{2} (a_2 - a_2^r) \right]^\alpha \exp \left[\frac{(d+2)a_2}{2(d+8)} \right], \quad (\text{B3})$$

where $\alpha = (d+2)(d+6)/[2(d+8)^2]$. Equation (B3) implies that a_2 reaches its reference value when the temperature is still relaxing. Let us prove this statement by considering a small perturbation in a_2 around its reference value, $a_2 = a_2^r + \delta$, $\delta \ll 1$, and inserting it into (B3),

$$\begin{aligned} Y &\approx \left[\frac{d+8}{2} \right]^\alpha \exp \left[-\frac{d+2}{(d+8)^2} \right] \delta^\alpha \\ \implies \delta &= \frac{2}{d+8} Y^{1/\alpha} \exp \left(\frac{2}{d+6} \right). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B4})$$

Thus, for $Y = 1/2$, we get $\delta \approx 3.37 \times 10^{-3}$ (for $d = 2$), which gives a relative error for the excess kurtosis $\delta/|a_2^r| \approx 0.02$.

The general picture outlined above is illustrated in Fig. 13. Therein, we plot the parametric solution (B3) (dashed line). It is clearly observed that a_2 is very close to its reference value a_2^r for $Y \leq 1/2$. Also plotted is the corresponding parametric curve for the extended Sonine approximation (solid line), which has been obtained from the numerical integration of Eq. (16). The same qualitative picture applies, although the values of Y for which a_2 is very close to its reference value a_2^r become smaller, $Y \leq 0.2$.

Appendix C: Extrema for the cumulants

In this Appendix, we look into the extreme values—minimum and maximum—of the cumulants a_2 and a_3 . Again, it is instructive to start by considering the first Sonine approximation. Let us focus on (A4b): at the time such that a_2 reaches one of its extrema, we have that $\dot{a}_2 = 0$, i.e. the corresponding value of the excess kurtosis must verify

$$a_2^{\text{ext}} = \frac{8\gamma(1-\theta)}{\frac{4}{\theta} - 8\gamma + 4\gamma(d+8)\theta + \frac{8(d-1)\sqrt{\theta}}{d(d+2)\xi}}. \quad (\text{C1})$$

For a given value of ξ , a_2^{ext} is a function of θ . In fact, the asymptotic behaviour of a_2^{ext} is independent of the average inter-collision time ξ both in the limits $\theta \rightarrow 0^+$ and $\theta \rightarrow +\infty$,

$$\begin{aligned} a_2^{\text{ext}} &\sim 2\gamma\theta, \quad \theta \rightarrow 0^+, \\ a_2^{\text{ext}} &\rightarrow a_2^{\text{min}} = -\frac{2}{d+8}, \quad \theta \rightarrow +\infty. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C2})$$

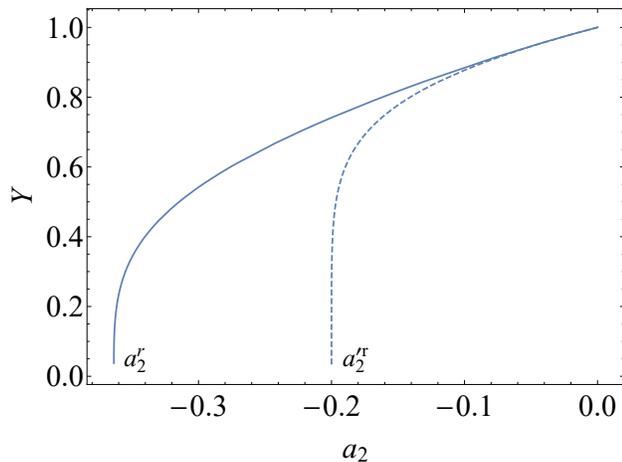


FIG. 13. Plot of the parametric curves $Y = Y(a_2)$. The curves for both the first (dashed line) and the extended (solid line) Sonine approximations are plotted, for $d = 2$. The former is given by Eq. (B3), while the latter follows from the numerical integration of Eqs. (16). Also marked are the reference values for the excess kurtosis in both frameworks, a_2^r and a_2^r .

Moreover, $a_2^{\text{ext}} = 0$ for $\theta = 1, \forall \xi$. This means that the general qualitative picture of a_2^{ext} is the following, $\forall \xi$: it vanishes at $\theta = 0$, has a maximum in the interval $\theta \in (0, 1)$, and decreases to its minimum value a_2^{min} for $\theta > 1$. The specific case $\xi = 1$ is presented in panel (a) of Fig. 14 (dashed line). Note that a_2^{min} is also independent of γ , in fact it equals the reference value a_2^r in the first Sonine approximation. On the other hand, a_2^{max} is roughly proportional to γ and thus quite small: in the case $\xi = \infty$ (FP limit), to the lowest order in γ one has $a_2^{\text{ext}} \approx 2\gamma\theta(1 - \theta)$ and $a_2^{\text{max}} \approx \gamma/2$.

In the extended Sonine approximation, we impose $\dot{a}_2 = \dot{a}_3 = 0$ in Eqs. (16) to get the extrema of a_2 and a_3 , a_2^{ext} and a_3^{ext} . The explicit expressions of a_2^{ext} and a_3^{ext} as a function of θ and ξ are quite complicated and not particularly illuminating, so we do not write them here. Yet, the qualitative behaviour of a_2^{ext} and a_3^{ext} is similar to the one found for the excess kurtosis in the first Sonine approximation. Both a_2^{ext} and a_3^{ext} vanish at $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = 1$, and tend to their minimum (negative) values a_2^{min} and a_3^{min} for $\theta \rightarrow +\infty$, independently of the value of ξ . Also, both minima a_2^{min} and a_3^{min} do not depend on γ and coincide with their pseudo-stationary, reference, values a_2^r and a_3^r , respectively. A particular case, again for $\xi = 1$, is presented in Fig. 14 (solid lines), a_2 (a_3) in its left (right) panel. The maximum values of both cumulants are again basically proportional to γ and thus much lower (in absolute value) than their respective minima.

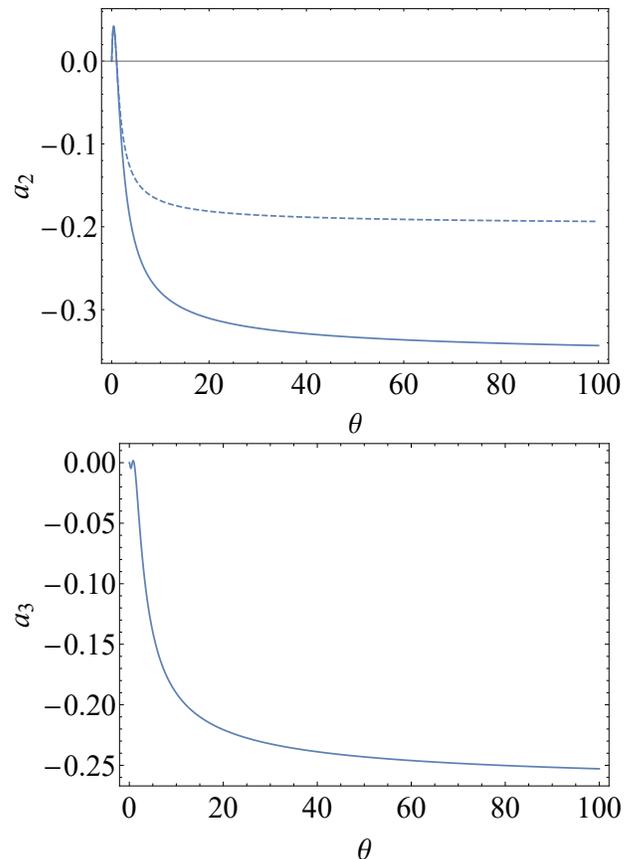


FIG. 14. Parametric solutions of the extrema for the cumulants as functions of the dimensionless temperature. Specifically, we plot the extremum for the excess kurtosis a_2 (top panel) and the sixth cumulant a_3 (bottom panel). In the extended Sonine approximation, they are obtained by imposing $\dot{a}_2 = \dot{a}_3 = 0$ in Eqs. (16) (solid lines). In the first Sonine approximation, only the curve for the excess kurtosis can be plotted (dashed line on panel (a)), which is given by Eq. (C1). Additional employed parameters are $d = 2$, $\xi = 1$, and $\gamma = 0.1$.

Appendix D: Perturbative approach to the Kovacs effect

Now we consider the Kovacs effect described in the main text. In the aging time window $0 \leq t \leq t_w$, the system relaxes towards the LLNES and therefore the cumulants take their reference values at the end of this stage, $a_2(t_w) = a_2^r$, $a_3(t_w) = a_3^r$. Here, we derive an analytical expression for the non-monotonic behaviour of the temperature, i.e. the Kovacs hump, that arises when the system is put in contact with a thermal bath at temperature $T = T(t_w)$ for $t > t_w$.

The evolution equations (11) cannot be exactly solved, but we may resort to a perturbative expansion to get an approximate expression for the time evolution of the temperature. The initial conditions for the Kovacs ex-

periment are

$$T(t_w) = T_s, \quad a_2(t_w) = a_2^r, \quad a_3(t_w) = a_3^r. \quad (\text{D1})$$

A perturbation theory in the cumulants is not expected to give good results, since a_2^r and a_3^r are quite large, as we have already discussed. However, bringing to bear that $\gamma \leq 0.1$, we can develop a perturbative theory in the product γa_0 , where a_0 is of the same order as the reference values for the cumulants, i.e. a_2^r/a_0 and a_3^r/a_0

are both of the order of unity. Then we write

$$\theta(t) = \theta^{(0)}(t) + \gamma a_0 \theta^{(1)}(t) + O((\gamma a_0)^2), \quad (\text{D2a})$$

$$A_2(t) = A_2^{(0)}(t) + \gamma a_0 A_2^{(1)}(t) + O((\gamma a_0)^2), \quad (\text{D2b})$$

$$A_3(t) = A_3^{(0)}(t) + \gamma a_0 A_3^{(1)}(t) + O((\gamma a_0)^2), \quad (\text{D2c})$$

in which we have defined

$$A_2(t) \equiv \frac{a_2(t)}{a_2^r}, \quad A_3(t) \equiv \frac{a_3(t)}{a_3^r}, \quad (\text{D3})$$

which also are of the order of unity. The above expansions lead to the following hierarchy: to the lowest, $O(1)$, order we have

$$\dot{\theta}^{(0)} = 2(1 - \theta^{(0)}) \left[1 + \gamma(d+2)\theta^{(0)} \right], \quad (\text{D4a})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{A}_2^{(0)} = & \frac{8\gamma}{a_2^r} (1 - \theta^{(0)}) - \left[\frac{4}{\theta^{(0)}} - 8\gamma + 4\gamma(d+8)\theta^{(0)} + \frac{8(d-1)}{d(d+2)} \frac{\sqrt{\theta^{(0)}}}{\zeta_0^*} \right] A_2^{(0)} \\ & + 2 \left[2\gamma\theta^{(0)}(d+4) + \frac{(d-1)\sqrt{\theta^{(0)}}}{d(d+2)\xi} \right] \frac{a_3^r}{a_2^r} A_3^{(0)}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D4b})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{A}_3^{(0)} = & 12 \left[-4\gamma + 6\gamma\theta^{(0)} + \frac{(d-1)\sqrt{\theta^{(0)}}}{d(d+2)(d+4)\xi} \right] \frac{a_2^r}{a_3^r} A_2^{(0)} \\ & + 6 \left[4\gamma - \frac{1}{\theta^{(0)}} - \gamma\theta^{(0)}(d+14) - \frac{(d-1)(4d+19)\sqrt{\theta^{(0)}}}{2d(d+2)(d+4)\xi} \right] A_3^{(0)}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D4c})$$

and to the first, $O(\gamma a_0)$, order

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\theta}^{(1)} = & -2\theta^{(1)} \left[1 + \gamma(d+2)\theta^{(0)} \right] + 2\gamma(d+2)\theta^{(1)}[1 - \theta^{(0)}] \\ & - 2(d+2)\frac{a_2^r}{a_0} \left(\theta^{(0)} \right)^2 A_2^{(0)}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D5})$$

We do not write the equations for $A_2^{(1)}$ and $A_3^{(1)}$ because they are not necessary for the calculation of the temperature to the first order, which is our goal here.

In the scaled variables, the initial conditions are $\theta(t_w) = A_2(t_w) = A_3(t_w) = 1$. This means that, in the perturbative series, $\theta^{(0)}(t_w) = A_2^{(0)}(t_w) = A_3^{(0)}(t_w) = 1$ whereas $\theta^{(j)}(t_w) = A_2^{(j)}(t_w) = A_3^{(j)}(t_w) = 0$, $\forall j \geq 1$. Let us focus first on the lowest order. We have that $\theta^{(0)}(t) = 1$, i.e. there is no Kovacs effect if $\gamma a_0 = 0$. This is logical, since this condition is fulfilled if either $\gamma = 0$, i.e. linear drag, or $a_0 = 0$, i.e. the system is at equilibrium for $t = t_w$. Neither of these situations allows

for the emergence of the Kovacs effect. Second, $A_2^{(0)}$ and $A_3^{(0)}$ are obtained by solving

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{A}^{(0)} = \mathbf{M} \cdot \mathbf{A}^{(0)}, \quad (\text{D6})$$

where the vector $\mathbf{A}^{(0)}$ and the matrix \mathbf{M} are defined as

$$\mathbf{A}^{(0)} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} A_2^{(0)} \\ A_3^{(0)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{M} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (\text{D7})$$

where M_{ij} has been given in Eq. (22) of the main text. The eigenvalues λ_{\pm} of the matrix \mathbf{M} have been defined in Eq. (23), and their corresponding eigenvectors are

$$\mathbf{u}_{\pm} = \begin{pmatrix} M_{12} \\ \lambda_{\pm} - M_{11} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (\text{D8})$$

The solution is thus given by

$$\mathbf{A}^{(0)}(t) = c_+ \mathbf{u}_+ e^{\lambda_+(t-t_w)} + c_- \mathbf{u}_- e^{\lambda_-(t-t_w)}, \quad (\text{D9})$$

where c_+ and c_- are determined by imposing the initial conditions, which results in

$$c_+ = \frac{M_{11} + M_{12} - \lambda_-}{(\lambda_+ - \lambda_-)M_{12}}, \quad c_- = \frac{\lambda_+ - M_{11} - M_{12}}{(\lambda_+ - \lambda_-)M_{12}}. \quad (\text{D10})$$

Once the lowest order is completed, we make use of Eq. (D5) to compute $\theta^{(1)}(t)$, which gives the simplest theoretical prediction for the Kovacs hump. Recall that $\theta^{(0)}(t) = 1$ to the lowest order, so Eq. (D5) simplifies to

$$\dot{\theta}^{(1)} = -2\theta^{(1)} [1 + \gamma(d+2)] - 2(d+2) \frac{a_2^r}{a_0} A_2^{(0)}. \quad (\text{D11})$$

Taking into account the initial condition $\theta^{(1)}(t_w) = 0$,

one gets

$$\theta^{(1)}(t) = -2(d+2) \frac{a_2^r}{a_0} e^{-\alpha t} \int_{t_w}^t e^{\alpha u} A_2^{(0)}(u) du, \quad (\text{D12})$$

in which $\alpha \equiv 2[1 + \gamma(d+2)]$, and

$$A_2^{(0)}(t) = \frac{1}{\lambda_+ - \lambda_-} \left[(M_{11} + M_{12} - \lambda_-) e^{\lambda_+(t-t_w)} + (\lambda_+ - M_{11} - M_{12}) e^{\lambda_-(t-t_w)} \right]. \quad (\text{D13})$$

As a consequence, the Kovacs hump is given by Eq. (21) of the main text in this perturbative scheme.

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