

# DISSIPATIVE PROPERTY OF THE VLASOV-MAXWELL-BOLTZMANN SYSTEM WITH A UNIFORM IONIC BACKGROUND

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we discuss the dissipative property of near-equilibrium classical solutions to the Cauchy problem of the Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann System in the whole space  $\mathbb{R}^3$  when the positive charged ion flow provides a spatially uniform background. The most key point of studying this coupled degenerately dissipative system here is to establish the dissipation of the electromagnetic field which turns out to be of the regularity-loss type. Precisely, for the linearized non-homogeneous system, some  $L^2$  energy functionals and  $L^2$  time-frequency functionals which are equivalent with the naturally existing ones are designed to capture the optimal dissipation rate of the system, which in turn yields the optimal  $L^p$ - $L^q$  type time-decay estimates of the corresponding linearized solution operator. These results show a special feature of the one-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system different from the case of two-species, that is, the dissipation of the magnetic field in one-species is strictly weaker than the one in two-species. As a by-product, the global existence of solutions to the nonlinear Cauchy problem is also proved by constructing some similar energy functionals but the time-decay rates of the obtained solution still remain open.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

**1.1. Main results.** The Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system is an important model for plasma physics to describe the time evolution of dilute charged particles (e.g., electrons and ions in the case of two-species) under the influence of the self-consistent internally generated Lorentz forces [16]. In physical situations the ion mass is usually much larger than the electron mass so that the electrons move much faster than the ions. Thus, the ions are often described by a fixed ion background

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$n_b(x)$  and only the electrons move. For such simple case, the Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system takes the form of

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t f + \xi \cdot \nabla_x f + (E + \xi \times B) \cdot \nabla_\xi f = Q(f, f), \\ \partial_t E - \nabla_x \times B = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi f d\xi, \\ \partial_t B + \nabla_x \times E = 0, \\ \nabla \cdot E = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} f d\xi - n_b, \quad \nabla_x \cdot B = 0. \end{cases}$$

Here, the unknowns are  $f = f(t, x, \xi) : (0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^3 \times \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ ,  $E = E(t, x) : (0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  and  $B = B(t, x) : (0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ , with  $f(t, x, \xi)$  standing for the number distribution function of one-species of particles (e.g., electrons) which have position  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  and velocity  $\xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3)$  at time  $t$ , and  $E(t, x)$  and  $B(t, x)$  denoting the electromagnetic field in terms of the time-space variable  $(t, x)$ . The initial data of the system at  $t = 0$  is given by

$$(1.2) \quad f(0, x, \xi) = f_0(x, \xi), \quad E(0, x) = E_0(x), \quad B(0, x) = B_0(x).$$

$Q$  is the bilinear Boltzmann collision operator [1] for the hard-sphere model defined by

$$\begin{aligned} Q(f, g) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^2} (f'g'_* - fg_*) |(\xi - \xi_*) \cdot \omega| d\omega d\xi_*, \\ f &= f(t, x, \xi), \quad f' = f(t, x, \xi'), \quad g_* = g(t, x, \xi_*), \quad g'_* = g(t, x, \xi'_*), \\ \xi' &= \xi - [(\xi - \xi_*) \cdot \omega]\omega, \quad \xi'_* = \xi_* + [(\xi - \xi_*) \cdot \omega]\omega, \quad \omega \in S^2. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that system (1.1) in general contains physical constants such as the charge and mass of electrons and the speed of light, cf. [11]. Since our purpose in this paper is to investigate the dissipative property of solutions near global Maxwellians, those physical constants in system (1.1) have been normalized to be one for notational simplicity. Through this paper,  $n_b(x)$  is assumed to be a positive constant denoting the spatially uniform density of the ionic background, and we also set  $n_b = 1$  without loss of generality.

We are interested in the solution to the Cauchy problem for the case when the number distribution function  $f(t, x, \xi)$  is near an equilibrium state  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $E(t, x)$  and  $B(t, x)$  have small amplitudes, where  $\mathbf{M}$  denotes the normalized Maxwellian

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{M}(\xi) = (2\pi)^{-3/2} e^{-|\xi|^2/2}.$$

For that, set the perturbation  $u$  by

$$f(t, x, \xi) = \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u(t, x, \xi).$$

Then, the Cauchy problem (1.1), (1.2) can be reformulated as

$$(1.3) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \xi \cdot \nabla_x u + (E + \xi \times B) \cdot \nabla_\xi u - \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \cdot E \\ \hspace{15em} = \mathbf{L}u + \Gamma(u, u) + \frac{1}{2} \xi \cdot E u, \\ \partial_t E - \nabla_x \times B = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi, \\ \partial_t B + \nabla_x \times E = 0, \\ \nabla \cdot E = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi, \quad \nabla_x \cdot B = 0, \end{cases}$$

with initial data

$$(1.4) \quad u(0, x, \xi) = u_0(x, \xi), \quad E(0, x) = E_0(x), \quad B(0, x) = B_0(x).$$

Here, the linear term  $\mathbf{L}u$  and the nonlinear term  $\Gamma(u, u)$  are defined in (2.1) and (2.2) later on. The problems to be considered are (i) *whether or not any small amplitude solution*

$$[u(t), E(t), B(t)] : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow X = H^N(\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_\xi^3) \times H^N(\mathbb{R}_x^3) \times H^N(\mathbb{R}_x^3)$$

with a properly large  $N$  for the above reformulated Cauchy problem uniquely exists for all  $t > 0$  if initial data  $[u_0, E_0, B_0] \in X$  is sufficiently small; (ii) if so, does the solution decay in time with some explicit rate? We shall give in this paper a satisfactory answer to the first question and a partial answer to the second one only in the linearized level. Since these two issues have been extensively studied in different contents such as the Boltzmann equation [4, 3], the Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system [7, 6] and the Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system for two-species [5], our emphasize here will be put on the study of the weakly dissipative property of the electromagnetic field and its resulting slow time-decay rate of solutions, which are even different from the case of two-species. All details for their discussions are left to the next subsection.

Let us begin with the Cauchy problem on the linearized non-homogeneous Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system, in the form of

$$(1.5) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \xi \cdot \nabla_x u - \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \cdot E = \mathbf{L}u + h, \\ \partial_t E - \nabla_x \times B = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u \, d\xi, \\ \partial_t B + \nabla_x \times E = 0, \\ \nabla \cdot E = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u \, d\xi, \quad \nabla_x \cdot B = 0, \end{cases}$$

with

$$(1.6) \quad u(0, x, \xi) = u_0(x, \xi), \quad E(0, x) = E_0(x), \quad B(0, x) = B_0(x),$$

where  $h = h(t, x, \xi)$  denotes a given non-homogeneous source term. For simplicity, we write

$$U = [u, E, B], \quad U_0 = [u_0, E_0, B_0].$$

Moreover,  $U_0 = [u_0, E_0, B_0]$  is always supposed to satisfy the last equation of (1.5) for  $t = 0$ . The first result, concerning the naturally existing energy functional and its optimal dissipation rate, is stated as follows. Here and hereafter,  $\nu = \nu(\xi)$  and  $\mathbf{P}$  are defined in (2.3) and (2.5), respectively; see Subsection 1.3 for more notations used in this paper.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $N \geq 3$ . Assume  $\nu^{-1/2}h \in L_\xi^2(H_x^N)$  with  $\mathbf{P}h(t, x, \xi) = 0$ . Define the temporal  $L^2$ -energy functional  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  and its dissipation rate  $\mathcal{D}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  by*

$$(1.7) \quad \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) \sim \|u(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^N)}^2 + \|[E(t), B(t)]\|_{H_x^N}^2,$$

$$(1.8) \quad \mathcal{D}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) = \|\nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^N)}^2 + \|\nabla_x \mathbf{P}u(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^{N-1})}^2 \\ + \|\nabla_x E(t)\|_{H_x^{N-2}}^2 + \|\nabla_x^2 B(t)\|_{H_x^{N-3}}^2.$$

*Then, for any smooth solution  $U = [u, E, B]$  of the Cauchy problem (1.5)-(1.6) belonging to  $L_\xi^2(H_x^N) \times H_x^N \times H_x^N$ , there exists a continuous functional  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  given in (3.12) such that*

$$(1.9) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) + \lambda \mathcal{D}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) \leq C \|\nu^{-1/2}h(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^N)}^2$$

for any  $t \geq 0$ .

**Remark 1.1.** *The above theorem shows the precise dissipative property of the naturally existing  $L^2$ -energy functional*

$$\|u(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^N)}^2 + \|[E(t), B(t)]\|_{H_x^N}^2$$

for a properly large  $N$ . The construction of the equivalent energy functional  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  is used to capture the optimal dissipation rate  $\mathcal{D}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$ , which will also be revisited in Corollary 1.2. This is different from the case of the two-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system as in [5], where the dissipation rate is a little stronger due to a cancelation phenomenon between two species which was firstly observed in [17]. Specifically, if it is here supposed that  $h = 0$  and  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U_0)$  is finite, then not only all macroscopic quantities  $\mathbf{P}u$ ,  $E$ ,  $B$  and the highest-order derivative  $\nabla_x^N[E, B]$  of the electromagnetic field lose their time-space integrability, but also the same thing happens to the second-order derivative  $\nabla_x^2 B$  of the magnetic field. On the other hand, for the energy space with  $m$ -order spatial regularity for any integer  $m \geq 0$ , its optimal dissipation rate can be described by  $\mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  once again from Corollary 1.2. Finally, as seen from Theorem 1.3 later on, this kind of weaker dissipation property leads to some slower time-decay rates of solutions.

The second result about some time-frequency functional and its optimal dissipation rate is stated as follows.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Assume  $\nu^{-1/2}\hat{h} \in L_\xi^2$  for  $t \geq 0$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\mathbf{P}h = 0$ . Define the  $L^2$  time-frequency functional  $\mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k))$  and its dissipation rate  $\mathcal{D}(\hat{U}(t, k))$  by*

$$(1.10) \quad \mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k)) \sim \|\hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + |[\hat{E}, \hat{B}]|^2,$$

$$(1.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}(\hat{U}(t, k)) = & \|\nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}\hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + |k \cdot \hat{E}|^2 + \frac{|k|^2}{1 + |k|^2} |[\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}]|^2 \\ & + \frac{|k|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^2} |\hat{E}|^2 + \frac{|k|^4}{(1 + |k|^2)^3} |\hat{B}|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Then, for any solution  $U = [u, E, B]$  of the Cauchy problem (1.5) and (1.6) satisfying that  $\|\hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + |[\hat{E}, \hat{B}]|^2$  is finite for  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , there indeed exists a time-frequency functional  $\mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k))$  given in (3.30) such that

$$(1.12) \quad \partial_t \mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k)) + \lambda \mathcal{D}(\hat{U}(t, k)) \leq C \|\nu^{-1/2}\hat{h}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2$$

for any  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Corollary 1.1.** *Under Theorem 1.2,  $\mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k))$  further satisfies*

$$(1.13) \quad \partial_t \mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k)) + \frac{\lambda |k|^4}{(1 + |k|^2)^3} \mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k)) \leq C \|\nu^{-1/2}\hat{h}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2$$

for any  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Remark 1.2.** *Theorem 1.2 and Corollary 1.1 show that the magnetic field  $B$  bears the weakest dissipation property among all quantities  $\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u$ ,  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $E$  and  $B$ , and even the dissipation of  $B$  here is much weaker than that in the case of two-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system as in [5]. This is also consistent with what has been mentioned in Remark 1.1.*

**Corollary 1.2.** *Let  $m \geq 0$  be an integer. Assume  $\nu^{-1/2}\nabla_x^m h \in L^2_{x,\xi}$  with  $\mathbf{P}h(t, x, \xi) = 0$ . Define the  $L^2$  energy functional  $\mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  and its dissipation rate  $\mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  by*

$$(1.14) \quad \mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) \sim \|\nabla_x^m u(t)\|^2 + \|\nabla_x^m [E(t), B(t)]\|^2,$$

$$(1.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) &= \|\nu^{1/2}\nabla_x^m \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u(t)\|^2 \\ &\quad + \|\nabla_x^m a\|^2 + \|\nabla_x^{1+m}\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-1}[a, b, c]\|^2 \\ &\quad + \|\nabla_x^{1+m}\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-2}E\|^2 + \|\nabla_x^{2+m}\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-3}B\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Then, for any smooth solution  $U = [u, E, B]$  of the Cauchy problem (1.5) and (1.6) whose  $m$ -order spatial derivative belongs to  $L^2_{x,\xi} \times L^2 \times L^2$ , there indeed exists a continuous functional  $\mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  given in (3.31) such that

$$(1.16) \quad \frac{d}{dt}\mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) + \lambda\mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) \leq C\|\nu^{-1/2}\nabla_x^m h(t)\|^2$$

for any  $t \geq 0$ .

**Remark 1.3.** *It is straightforward to observe that Corollary 1.2 implies Theorem 1.1 by defining*

$$\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) = \sum_{m=0}^N \mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t)), \quad \mathcal{D}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) = \sum_{m=0}^N \mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t)),$$

and using

$$\sum_{m=0}^N |\nabla_x|^{1+m}\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-1} = |\nabla_x|\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^N |\nabla_x|^m \sim |\nabla_x|\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{N-1},$$

and likewise

$$\sum_{m=0}^N |\nabla_x|^{1+m}\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-2} \sim |\nabla_x|\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{N-2}, \quad \sum_{m=0}^N |\nabla_x|^{2+m}\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{-3} \sim |\nabla_x|^2\langle \nabla_x \rangle^{N-3}.$$

Notice that the above identities and equivalent relations can be verified with respect to the frequency variable under the Fourier transform. On the other hand, it is also interesting to see that even when  $0 \leq m < N$ ,  $\mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  can capture the optimal dissipation rate of the naturally existing  $m$ -order energy functional  $\mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$ . For instance, when  $m = 0$ , the direct energy estimate on system (1.5) produces the only dissipation of the microscopic component  $\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u$ , which is partially contained in the optimal form  $\mathcal{D}_0^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$ .

Furthermore, we can obtain the large-time behavior of solutions to the linearized non-homogeneous Cauchy problem. Formally, the solution to the Cauchy problem (1.5) and (1.6) is denoted by the summation of two parts,

$$(1.17) \quad U(t) = U^I(t) + U^{II}(t),$$

$$(1.18) \quad U^I(t) = \mathbb{A}(t)U_0, \quad U^I = [u^I, E^I, B^I],$$

$$(1.19) \quad U^{II}(t) = \int_0^t \mathbb{A}(t-s)[h(s), 0, 0]ds, \quad U^{II} = [u^{II}, E^{II}, B^{II}],$$

where  $\mathbb{A}(t)$  is the linear solution operator for the Cauchy problem on the linearized homogeneous system corresponding to (1.5) with  $h = 0$ . Notice that  $U^{II}(t)$  is well-defined because  $[h(s), 0, 0]$  for any  $0 \leq s \leq t$  satisfies the last equation of (1.5) due to the fact that  $\mathbf{P}h(s) = 0$  and hence

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2}h(s)d\xi = 0.$$

For brevity, we introduce the norms  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{H}^m}$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r}$  with  $m \geq 0$  and  $r \geq 1$  given by

$$\|U\|_{\mathcal{H}^m}^2 = \|u\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^m)}^2 + \|[E, B]\|_{H_x^m}^2, \quad \|U\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r} = \|u\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r} + \|[E, B]\|_{L_x^r},$$

for  $U = [u, E, B]$ , and note  $\mathcal{Z}_2 = \mathcal{H}^0$ . Then, the third result to describe the time-decay property of the linearized solution is stated as follows.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $1 \leq p, r \leq 2 \leq q \leq \infty$ ,  $\sigma \geq 0$ , and let  $m \geq 0$  be an integer. Suppose  $\mathbf{P}h = 0$ . Let  $U$  be defined in (1.17), (1.18) and (1.19) as the solution to the Cauchy problem (1.5)-(1.6). Then, the first part  $U^I$  corresponding to the solution of the linearized homogeneous system satisfies*

$$(1.20) \quad \|\nabla_x^m U^I(t)\|_{\mathcal{Z}_q} \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{4}(\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{q})-\frac{m}{4}} \|U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_p} + C(1+t)^{-\frac{\sigma}{2}} \|\nabla_x^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r},$$

for any  $t \geq 0$ , and the second part  $U^{II}$  corresponding to the solution of the linearized nonhomogeneous system with vanishing initial data satisfies

$$(1.21) \quad \|\nabla_x^m U^{II}(t)\|_{\mathcal{Z}_2}^2 \leq C \int_0^t (1+t-s)^{-\frac{3}{2}(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{2})-m} \|\nu^{-1/2} h(s)\|_{\mathcal{Z}_p}^2 ds \\ + C \int_0^t (1+t-s)^{-\sigma} \|\nu^{-1/2} \nabla_x^{m+[\sigma]_+} h(s)\|^2 ds,$$

for any  $t \geq 0$ . Here,  $[\cdot]_+$  is defined by

$$(1.22) \quad \left[\sigma + 3\left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{q}\right)\right]_+ = \begin{cases} \sigma & \text{if } \sigma \text{ is integer and } r = q = 2, \\ \left[\sigma + 3\left(\frac{1}{r} - \frac{1}{q}\right)\right] + 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $[\cdot]$  means the integer part of the nonnegative argument.

Finally, let us go back to the Cauchy problem on the nonlinear Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system. The global existence and uniqueness of solutions are stated as follows.

**Theorem 1.4.** *Let  $N \geq 4$ . Define  $L^2$  energy functional  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  and its dissipation rate  $\mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$  by*

$$(1.23) \quad \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) \sim \|u(t)\|_{H_{x,\xi}^N}^2 + \|[E(t), B(t)]\|_{H_x^N}^2,$$

$$(1.24) \quad \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)) = \|\nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u(t)\|_{H_{x,\xi}^N}^2 + \|\nu^{1/2}\nabla_x u(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^{N-1})}^2 \\ + \|\nabla_x E(t)\|_{H_x^{N-2}}^2 + \|\nabla_x^2 B(t)\|_{H_x^{N-3}}^2.$$

Suppose  $f_0 = \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{M}^{1/2}u_0 \geq 0$ . There indeed exists a continuous functional  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  given in (4.7) or (4.8) such that if initial data  $U_0 = [u_0, E_0, B_0]$  satisfies (1.3)<sub>4</sub> for  $t = 0$  and  $\mathcal{E}_N(U_0)$  is sufficiently small, then the nonlinear Cauchy problem (1.3)-(1.4) admits a global solution  $U = [u, E, B]$  satisfying

$$f(t, x, \xi) = \mathbf{M} + \mathbf{M}^{1/2}u(t, x, \xi) \geq 0, \\ [u(t), E(t), B(t)] \in C([0, \infty); H_{x,\xi}^N \times H_x^N \times H_x^N),$$

and

$$\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) + \lambda \int_0^t \mathcal{D}_N(U(s)) ds \leq \mathcal{E}_N(U_0)$$

for any  $t \geq 0$ .

The decay rate of the solution obtained in Theorem 1.4 remains open. We shall discuss at the end of this paper the main difficulty of extending the linear decay property in Theorem 1.3 to the time-decay of the nonlinear system.

**1.2. Related work and key points in the proof.** As mentioned before, the method of constructing energy functionals or time-frequency functionals to deal with the global existence and time-decay estimates presented in this paper has been also extensively applied in [4, 7, 6, 3, 5]. Specifically, [4] is a starting point of these series of work. In [4], some interactive energy functionals were constructed to consider the dissipation of the macroscopic part of the solution and also the global existence of solutions without any initial layer was proved. Later, the same thing was done in [7] for the one-species Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system, where the additional efforts are made to take care of the coupling effect from the self-consistent potential force through the Poisson equation. In order to investigate the optimal rate of convergence for the one-species Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system, a new method on the basis of the linearized Fourier analysis was developed in [6] to study the time-decay property of the linear solution operator, where the key point is again to construct some proper time-frequency functionals so as to capture the optimal dissipation rate of the system. At the same time, [3] provided another method to study the exponential time-decay for the linear Boltzmann equation with a confining force by using the operator calculations instead of the Fourier analysis.

Recently, following a combination of [6] and [17], the optimal large-time behavior of the two-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system was analyzed in [5]. The main finding in [5] is that although the non-homogeneous Maxwell system conserves the energy of the electromagnetic field, the coupling of the Boltzmann equation with the Maxwell system can generate some weak dissipation of the electromagnetic field which is actually of the regularity-loss type. It should be pointed out that even though the form of two-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system looks more complicated than that of the case of one-species, the study of global existence and time-decay rate is much more delicate in the case of one-species because the coupling term in the source of the Maxwell system

$$-\int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u(t, x, \xi) d\xi = -b(t, x)$$

corresponds to the momentum component of the macroscopic part of the solution which is degenerate with respect to the linearized operator  $\mathbf{L}$ . Essentially, it is this kind of the macroscopic coupling feature that leads to some different dissipation properties between two-species and one-species for the Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system.

For the convenience of readers, let us list a table below to present in a clear way similarity and difference of the dissipative and time-decay properties for three models: Boltzmann equation (BE), Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system (VPB) and Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system (VMB). In Table 1, 1-s means one-species and 2-s two-species. Corresponding to different models,  $\mathcal{E}(t, k)$  stands for some time-frequency functional equivalent with the naturally existing one and  $\mathcal{D}(t, k)$  denotes the optimal dissipation rate of  $\mathcal{E}(t, k)$  satisfying

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}(t, k) + \lambda \mathcal{D}(t, k) \leq 0$$

for all  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . All estimates are written for the linearized homogeneous equation or system. For more details and proof of other models in the above table, interested readers can refer to [3, 6, 5]. Notice that the 1-s VMB system decays faster than the 1-s VPB system due to the choice of initial data, that is,  $E_0 \in L_x^1$  is assumed in the case of 1-s VMB system, whereas in the case of 1-s VPB system, the electric field  $E_0 = -\nabla_x \phi_0$  with the potential force  $\phi_0$  satisfying the Poisson equation  $-\Delta_x \phi_0 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u_0 d\xi$  may not belong to  $L_x^1$  under the assumption of  $u_0 \in Z_1 \cap L^2$ . We remark that the decay rate  $(1+t)^{-1/4}$  for the 1-s VPB system can be improved to be  $(1+t)^{-3/4}$  provided that  $\nabla_x \phi_0 \in L_x^1$  is additionally supposed. Finally, it should also be pointed out that the method developed in [3, 6, 5] and this paper could provide a good tool to

deal with similar studies for other physical models with the structure involving not only the free transport operator but also the degenerately dissipative operator; see also [20].

	$\mathcal{E}(t, k) \sim$	$\mathcal{D}(t, k) =$	$\ u(t)\ _{L^2} \leq$
BE	$\ \hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}^2$	$\ \nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}\hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}^2$ $+\frac{ k ^2}{1+ k ^2} [\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}] ^2$	$C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{4}}\ u_0\ _{Z_1 \cap L^2}$
1-s VPB	$\ \hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}^2 + \frac{ \hat{a} ^2}{ k ^2}$	$\ \nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}\hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}^2$ $+\frac{ k ^2}{1+ k ^2} [\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}] ^2 +  \hat{a} ^2$	$C(1+t)^{-\frac{1}{4}}\ u_0\ _{Z_1 \cap L^2}$
1-s VMB	$\ \hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}^2 +  [\hat{E}, \hat{B}] ^2$	$\ \nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}\hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}$ $+\frac{ k ^2}{1+ k ^2} [\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}] ^2 +  k \cdot \hat{E} ^2$ $+\frac{ k ^2}{(1+ k ^2)^2} \hat{E} ^2 + \frac{ k ^4}{(1+ k ^2)^3} \hat{B} ^2$	$C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{8}}$ $\times (\ U_0\ _{Z_1} + \ \nabla_x U_0\ _{Z_2})$
2-s VMB	$\ \hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}^2 +  [\hat{E}, \hat{B}] ^2$	$\ \nu^{1/2}\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}\hat{u}\ _{L_\xi^2}$ $+\frac{ k ^2}{1+ k ^2} [\hat{a}_\pm, \hat{b}, \hat{c}] ^2 +  k \cdot \hat{E} ^2$ $+\frac{ k ^2}{(1+ k ^2)^2}( \hat{E} ^2 +  \hat{B} ^2)$	$C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{4}}$ $\times (\ U_0\ _{Z_1} + \ \nabla_x^2 U_0\ _{Z_2})$

TABLE 1. Dissipative and time-decay properties of different models

Since the current work is a further development in the study of the Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system as in [5], we omit the detailed literature review for brevity, and readers can refer to [5] and reference therein. Here, we only mention some of them. The spectral analysis and global existence for the Boltzmann equation with near-equilibrium initial data was given by [19]. For the same topic, thirteen moments method and global existence was found by [13]. The energy method of the Boltzmann equation was developed independently in [9, 10, 11] and [15, 14, 21] by using the different macro-micro decomposition. The almost exponential rate of convergence of the Boltzmann equation on torus for large initial data was obtained in [2] under some additional regularity assumption. [18] provided a very simple proof of [2] in the framework of small perturbation. The diffusive limit of the two-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system over the torus was studied in [8]. It could be interesting to consider the same issue as in [8] for the one-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system because of its weaker dissipation property.

In what follows, let us explain some new technical points in the proof of our main results which are different from previous work. The first one is about the dissipation estimate on the momentum component  $b(t, x)$  in the macroscopic part  $\mathbf{P}u$  in Theorem 1.1. Recall that in the previous work [7] and [3], the dissipation estimate of  $b(t, x)$  was based on (2.7)<sub>1</sub> and (2.6)<sub>2</sub>. This fails in the case of one-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system because it is impossible to control a term such as

$$\sum_{ij} \delta_{ij} \int c(\partial_i E_j + \partial_j E_i) dx.$$

Instead, the right way is to make estimates on (2.9)<sub>4</sub>. Therefore, one can get the macroscopic dissipation estimate (3.8) with the dissipation of  $E$  multiplied by a small constant on the right-hand side. The second key point is about the dissipation of the electromagnetic field. Different



from [5], although there is no cancelation in the case of one-species, one can still design some interactive energy functional  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t))$  to capture the weaker dissipation rate

$$\sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha E\|^2 + \sum_{2 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha B\|^2.$$

The third key point is about the time-decay estimate on the linearized solution operator. In fact, for a general frequency function  $\phi(k)$  which is of the regularity-loss type as in Lemma 3.1, one can repeatedly apply the Minkowski inequality to make interchanges between frequency and space variables so that the more general  $L^p$ - $L^q$  type time-decay than in Theorem 1.3 can be obtained. The last key point is about the estimate on the nonlinear term  $\xi \cdot Eu$  in the proof of Lemma 4.1 concerning the a priori estimates of solutions. In particular, it is impossible to bound  $\iint \xi \cdot E(\mathbf{P}u)^2 dx d\xi$  by using  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} \mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$  up to a constant since both  $E$  and  $\mathbf{P}u$  do not enter into the dissipation rate  $\mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$  given in (1.24). Instead, we first take the velocity integration and then use the macroscopic balance laws (2.6) so as to obtain an estimate as

$$\iint \xi \cdot E(\mathbf{P}u)^2 dx d\xi \leq \frac{d}{dt} \int |b|^2 (a + 2c) dx + C \left[ \mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} + \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) \right] \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)).$$

We remark that this also has been observed in [7] in the study of the one-species Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system.

**1.3. Notations.** Throughout this paper,  $C$  denotes some positive (generally large) constant and  $\lambda$  denotes some positive (generally small) constant, where both  $C$  and  $\lambda$  may take different values in different places. In addition,  $A \sim B$  means  $\lambda A \leq B \leq \frac{1}{\lambda} A$  for a generic constant  $0 < \lambda < 1$ . For any integer  $m \geq 0$ , we use  $H_{x,\xi}^m$ ,  $H_x^m$ ,  $H_\xi^m$  to denote the usual Hilbert spaces  $H^m(\mathbb{R}_x^3 \times \mathbb{R}_\xi^3)$ ,  $H^m(\mathbb{R}_x^3)$ ,  $H^m(\mathbb{R}_\xi^3)$ , respectively, and  $L^2$ ,  $L_x^2$ ,  $L_\xi^2$  are used for the case when  $m = 0$ . When without confusion, we use  $H^m$  to denote  $H_x^m$  and use  $L^2$  to denote  $L_x^2$  or  $L_{x,\xi}^2$ . For a Banach space  $X$ ,  $\|\cdot\|_X$  denotes the corresponding norm, while  $\|\cdot\|$  always denotes the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{L^2}$  for simplicity. For  $r \geq 1$ , we also define the standard time-space mixed Lebesgue space  $Z_r = L_\xi^2(L_x^r) = L^2(\mathbb{R}_\xi^3; L^r(\mathbb{R}_x^3))$  with the norm

$$\|g\|_{Z_r} = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |g(x, \xi)|^r dx \right)^{2/r} d\xi \right)^{1/2}, \quad g = g(x, \xi) \in Z_r.$$

For multi-indices  $\alpha = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3]$  and  $\beta = [\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3]$ , we denote

$$\partial_\beta^\alpha = \partial_{x_1}^{\alpha_1} \partial_{x_2}^{\alpha_2} \partial_{x_3}^{\alpha_3} \partial_{\xi_1}^{\beta_1} \partial_{\xi_2}^{\beta_2} \partial_{\xi_3}^{\beta_3}.$$

The length of  $\alpha$  is  $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$  and the length of  $\beta$  is  $|\beta| = \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3$ . For simplicity, we also use  $\partial_j$  to denote  $\partial_{x_j}$  for each  $j = 1, 2, 3$ . For an integrable function  $g : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , its Fourier transform is defined by

$$\widehat{g}(k) = \mathcal{F}g(k) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} e^{-2\pi i x \cdot k} g(x) dx, \quad x \cdot k := \sum_{j=1}^3 x_j k_j, \quad k \in \mathbb{R}^3,$$

where  $i = \sqrt{-1} \in \mathbb{C}$  is the imaginary unit. For two complex vectors  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}^3$ ,  $(a | b)$  denotes the dot product of  $a$  with the complex conjugate of  $b$  over the complex field.  $\langle \nabla_x \rangle = (1 + |\nabla_x|^2)^{1/2}$  is defined in terms of the Fourier transform.

The rest of this paper is arranged as follows. In Section 2 we present some basic property of the linearized collision operator and derive some macroscopic moment equations. In Section 3 we study the linearized non-homogeneous Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system in order to prove Theorem 1.1, Theorem 1.2 and Theorem 1.3. Finally, we prove in Section 4 Theorem 1.4 for the global existence of solutions to the nonlinear Cauchy problem.

## 2. MOMENT EQUATIONS

It is easy to see that  $\mathbf{L}u$  and  $\Gamma(u, u)$  are given by

$$(2.1) \quad \mathbf{L}u = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathbf{M}}} \left[ Q(\mathbf{M}, \sqrt{\mathbf{M}}u) + Q(\sqrt{\mathbf{M}}u, \mathbf{M}) \right],$$

$$(2.2) \quad \Gamma(u, u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathbf{M}}} Q(\sqrt{\mathbf{M}}u, \sqrt{\mathbf{M}}u).$$

For the linearized collision operator  $\mathbf{L}$ , one has the following standard facts [1].  $\mathbf{L}$  can be split as  $\mathbf{L}u = -\nu(\xi)u + Ku$ , where the collision frequency is given by

$$(2.3) \quad \nu(\xi) = \iint_{\mathbb{R}^3 \times S^2} |(\xi - \xi_*) \cdot \omega| \mathbf{M}(\xi_*) d\omega d\xi_*.$$

Notice that  $\nu(\xi) \sim (1 + |\xi|^2)^{1/2}$ . The null space of  $\mathbf{L}$  is given by

$$\mathcal{N} = \text{span} \left\{ \mathbf{M}^{1/2}, \xi_i \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \ (1 \leq i \leq 3), |\xi|^2 \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \right\}.$$

The linearized collision operator  $\mathbf{L}$  is non-positive and further  $-\mathbf{L}$  is known to be locally coercive in the sense that there is a constant  $\lambda_0 > 0$  such that [1]:

$$(2.4) \quad - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} u \mathbf{L}u d\xi \geq \lambda_0 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nu(\xi) |\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u|^2 d\xi,$$

where, for fixed  $(t, x)$ ,  $\mathbf{P}$  denotes the orthogonal projection from  $L_\xi^2$  to  $\mathcal{N}$ . Given any  $u(t, x, \xi)$ , one can write  $\mathbf{P}$  in (2.4) as

$$(2.5) \quad \mathbf{P}u = \{a(t, x) + b(t, x) \cdot \xi + c(t, x)(|\xi|^2 - 3)\} \mathbf{M}^{1/2}.$$

Since  $\mathbf{P}$  is a projection, the coefficient functions  $a(t, x)$ ,  $b(t, x) \equiv [b_1(t, x), b_2(t, x), b_3(t, x)]$  and  $c(t, x)$  depend on  $u(t, x, \xi)$  in terms of

$$\begin{cases} a = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \mathbf{P}u d\xi, \\ b_i = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi_i \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi_i \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \mathbf{P}u d\xi, \quad 1 \leq i \leq 3, \\ c = \frac{1}{6} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (|\xi|^2 - 3) \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi = \frac{1}{6} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (|\xi|^2 - 3) \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \mathbf{P}u d\xi. \end{cases}$$

To derive evolution equations of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ , we start from the local balance laws of the original system (1.1) to obtain

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} f d\xi + \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi f d\xi = 0, \\ \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi f d\xi + \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi \otimes \xi f d\xi - E \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} f d\xi - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi f d\xi \times B = 0, \\ \partial_t \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{2} |\xi|^2 f d\xi + \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{2} |\xi|^2 \xi f d\xi - E \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi f d\xi = 0. \end{cases}$$

The above system implies

$$(2.6) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t a + \nabla_x \cdot b = 0, \\ \partial_t b + \nabla_x(a + 2c) + \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi \otimes \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u d\xi - E(1 + a) - b \times B = 0, \\ \partial_t c + \frac{1}{3} \nabla_x \cdot b + \frac{1}{6} \nabla_x \cdot \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\xi|^2 \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u d\xi - \frac{1}{3} E \cdot b = 0. \end{cases}$$

As in [6], define

$$\Theta_{ij}(u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\xi_i \xi_j - 1) \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi, \quad \Lambda_i(u) = \frac{1}{10} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (|\xi|^2 - 5) \xi_i \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi$$

for  $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$ . Applying them to the first equation of (1.3), one has

$$(2.7) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t [\Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + 2c\delta_{ij}] + \partial_i b_j + \partial_j b_i = \Theta_{ij}(\ell + g), \\ \partial_t \Lambda_i(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + \partial_i c = \Lambda_i(\ell + g), \end{cases}$$

where  $\delta_{ij}$  means Kronecker delta, and

$$(2.8) \quad \begin{cases} \ell = -\xi \cdot \nabla_x \cdot \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u + \mathbf{L}u, \\ g = \frac{1}{2} \xi \cdot E u - (E + \xi \times B) \cdot \nabla_\xi u + \Gamma(u, u). \end{cases}$$

One can replace  $\partial_t c$  in (2.7)<sub>1</sub> by using (2.6)<sub>3</sub> so that

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + \partial_i b_j + \partial_j b_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla_x \cdot b \\ - \frac{10}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla_x \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) = \Theta_{ij}(\ell + g) - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} E \cdot b. \end{aligned}$$

In a summary, we obtained the following moment system

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t a + \nabla_x \cdot b = 0, \\ \partial_t b + \nabla_x(a + 2c) + \nabla_x \cdot \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) - E = Ea + b \times B, \\ \partial_t c + \frac{1}{3} \nabla_x \cdot b + \frac{5}{3} \nabla_x \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) = \frac{1}{3} E \cdot b, \\ \partial_t \Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + \partial_i b_j + \partial_j b_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla_x \cdot b - \frac{10}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla_x \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) \\ = \Theta_{ij}(\ell + g) - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} E \cdot b, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq 3, \\ \partial_t \Lambda_i(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + \partial_i c = \Lambda_i(\ell + g), \quad 1 \leq i \leq 3. \end{cases}$$

On the other hand, the Maxwell system in (1.4) is equivalent with

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t E - \nabla_x \times B = -b, \\ \partial_t B + \nabla_x \times E = 0, \\ \nabla_x \cdot E = 0, \quad \nabla_x \cdot B = 0. \end{cases}$$

Finally, we should point out that the key analysis of all results in this paper is based on the above moment equations coupled with the Maxwell system.

### 3. LINEAR NON-HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEM

In this section we consider the Cauchy problem (1.5) and (1.6) on the linearized Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system. For convenience of readers, recall it by

$$(3.1) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t u + \xi \cdot \nabla_x u - \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \cdot E = \mathbf{L}u + h, \\ \partial_t E - \nabla_x \times B = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi, \\ \partial_t B + \nabla_x \times E = 0, \\ \nabla \cdot E = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathbf{M}^{1/2} u d\xi, \quad \nabla_x \cdot B = 0, \end{cases}$$

with

$$(3.2) \quad u(0, x, \xi) = u_0(x, \xi), \quad E(0, x) = E_0(x), \quad B(0, x) = B_0(x).$$

Here,  $h = h(t, x, \xi)$  is a given non-homogenous source term, satisfying  $\mathbf{P}h = 0$ .

**3.1.  $L^2$  energy functional and its optimal dissipation rate.** In this subsection we shall prove Theorem 1.1. Before that, similar to obtain (2.9), one can also derive the following moment equations corresponding to the linear equation (3.1):

$$(3.3) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t a + \nabla_x \cdot b = 0, \\ \partial_t b + \nabla_x(a + 2c) + \nabla_x \cdot \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) - E = 0, \\ \partial_t c + \frac{1}{3}\nabla_x \cdot b + \frac{5}{3}\nabla_x \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) = 0, \\ \partial_t \Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + \partial_i b_j + \partial_j b_i - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{ij}\nabla_x \cdot b - \frac{10}{3}\delta_{ij}\nabla_x \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) = \Theta_{ij}(\ell + h), \\ \partial_t \Lambda_i(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) + \partial_i c = \Lambda_i(\ell + h), \end{cases}$$

where  $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$ , and as in (2.8),  $\ell$  still denotes

$$\ell = -\xi \cdot \nabla_x \cdot \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u + \mathbf{L}u.$$

The Maxwell system also takes the form of

$$(3.4) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t E - \nabla_x \times B = -b, \\ \partial_t B + \nabla_x \times E = 0, \\ \nabla_x \cdot E = 0, \quad \nabla_x \cdot B = 0. \end{cases}$$

**Proof of Theorem 1.1:** Let  $N \geq 3$ . First of all, a usual energy estimate on (3.1) gives

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{1}{2} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \frac{d}{dt} (\|\partial^\alpha u\|^2 + \|\partial^\alpha [E, B]\|^2) + \lambda \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\nu^{1/2} \partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u\|^2 \leq C \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\nu^{-1/2} \partial^\alpha g\|^2.$$

As in [3, 7] or [5], one can further deduce from (3.3) the dissipation of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ . In fact, let  $\epsilon_1 > 0$ ,  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  be arbitrary constants to be chosen later. From (3.3)<sub>5</sub> and (3.3)<sub>3</sub>, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla_x \partial^\alpha c \cdot \Lambda(\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) dx + \lambda \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha c\|^2 \\ & \leq \epsilon_1 \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha b\|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_1} \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u\|^2 + \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nu^{-1/2} \partial^\alpha g\|^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

(3.3)<sub>4</sub> and (3.3)<sub>2</sub> imply

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \sum_{ij=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\partial_i \partial^\alpha b_j + \partial_j \partial^\alpha b_i - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{ij}\nabla_x \cdot \partial^\alpha b) \Theta_{ij}(\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) dx \\ & + \lambda \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha b\|^2 \leq \epsilon_2 \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha [a, c]\|^2 + \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha E\|^2 \right) \\ & + \frac{C}{\epsilon_2} \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u\|^2 + \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nu^{-1/2} \partial^\alpha g\|^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

It holds from (3.3)<sub>2</sub> and (3.3)<sub>1</sub> that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla_x \partial^\alpha a \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx + \lambda \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\partial^\alpha a\|^2 \\ \leq C \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha [b, c]\|^2 + C \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},1}(U(t)) &= \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla_x \partial^\alpha c \cdot \Lambda(\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u) dx \\ (3.6) \quad &+ \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \sum_{ij=1}^3 \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\partial_i \partial^\alpha b_j + \partial_j \partial^\alpha b_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla_x \cdot \partial^\alpha b) \Theta_{ij}(\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u) dx \\ &+ \kappa_1 \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla_x \partial^\alpha a \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx, \end{aligned}$$

for some small constant  $\kappa_1 > 0$ . Therefore, by taking  $\kappa_1 > 0$  small enough and then letting  $\epsilon_1 > 0$  and  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  be small enough, the dissipation of  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  can be obtained by the following inequality

$$\begin{aligned} (3.7) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},1}(U(t)) + \lambda \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha [a, b, c]\|^2 + \|a\|^2 \\ \leq \epsilon_2 \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha E\|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_2} \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} \|\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2 + \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nu^{-1/2} \partial^\alpha g\|^2 \right), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  is still left to be chosen later on.

The key part is to estimate the dissipation of  $E$  and  $B$ . We claim that

$$\begin{aligned} (3.8) \quad - \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx + \lambda \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha E\|^2 \\ \leq \epsilon_3 \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B\|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_3} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha b\|^2 \\ + C \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} (\|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha [a, c]\|^2 + \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2), \end{aligned}$$

with  $\epsilon_3 > 0$  to be chosen, and

$$\begin{aligned} (3.9) \quad - \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx + \lambda \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B\|^2 \\ \leq \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times E\|^2 + C \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\partial^\alpha b\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

For this time, suppose that (3.8) and (3.9) hold true. Define

$$(3.10) \quad \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t)) = - \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx - \kappa_2 \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx$$

for some constant  $\kappa_2 > 0$ . Then, by taking  $\kappa_2 > 0$  and further  $\epsilon_3 > 0$  both small enough, it follows from (3.8) and (3.9) that

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t)) + \lambda \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha E\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{2 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha B\|^2 \\ \leq C \|\nabla_x b\|^2 + C \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} (\|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha [a, b, c]\|^2 + \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2), \end{aligned}$$

which is the desired dissipation estimate of the electromagnetic field  $E$  and  $B$ . Now, define

$$(3.12) \quad \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} (\|\partial^\alpha u\|^2 + \|\partial^\alpha [E, B]\|^2) + \kappa_4 \left( \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},1}(U(t)) + \kappa_3 \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t)) \right)$$

with constants  $\kappa_3 > 0$  and  $\kappa_4 > 0$ , where  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},1}(U(t))$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t))$  are defined in (3.6) and (3.10). In the same way as before, by taking properly small constants  $\kappa_3 > 0$ ,  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  and  $\kappa_4 > 0$  in turn, (1.9) follows from the linear combination of (3.5), (3.7) and (3.11). Moreover, it is easy to verify that  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  is the desired  $L^2$  energy functional satisfying (1.7) and  $\mathcal{D}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$  is given by (1.8). Here, one has to check

$$(3.13) \quad \sum_{2 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha B\|^2 \leq C \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B\|^2.$$

In fact, by taking  $\alpha$  with  $2 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1$  and using  $B = -\Delta_x^{-1} \nabla_x \times \nabla_x \times B$  due to  $\nabla_x \cdot B = 0$ , it holds

$$\partial^\alpha B = -\partial^\alpha \Delta_x^{-1} \nabla_x \times \nabla_x \times B = -\partial^{\alpha-\gamma_i} \partial_i \Delta_x^{-1} \nabla_x \times \nabla_x \times B,$$

for some  $\gamma_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 3$ ) with  $|\gamma_i| = 1$ . Since  $\partial_i \Delta_x^{-1} \partial_j$  for any  $1 \leq i, j \leq 3$  is a bounded operator from  $L^p$  to itself with  $1 < p < \infty$ ,

$$\|\partial^\alpha B\| \leq C \|\partial^{\alpha-\gamma_i} \nabla_x \times B\|.$$

Hence, (3.13) follows from taking summation of the above inequality over  $2 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1$ .

Now, the rest is to prove (3.8) and (3.9). Take  $\alpha$  with  $1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1$ . By using (3.3)<sub>2</sub> to replace  $E$  and then using (3.4)<sub>1</sub> to replace  $\partial_t E$ , one can compute

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \|\partial^\alpha E\|^2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha [\partial_t b + \nabla_x(a+2c) + \nabla_x \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u)] dx \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \partial_t E \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha [\nabla_x(a+2c) + \nabla_x \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u)] dx \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha (b - \nabla_x \times B) \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha [\nabla_x(a+2c) + \nabla_x \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u)] dx. \end{aligned}$$

Then, (3.8) follows from the above identity after taking summation over  $1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1$  and further applying the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and integration by parts. In fact, it suffices to

consider the second term on the r.h.s. of (3.14). It can be estimated by

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha (b - \nabla_x \times B) \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx &= \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha b\|^2 \\ &\quad - \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx + \sum_{|\alpha|=N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^{\alpha-\gamma_i} \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^{\alpha+\gamma_i} b dx \\ &\leq \epsilon_3 \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B\|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_3} \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \|\nabla_x \partial^\alpha b\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

where as before  $0 < \epsilon_3 \leq 1$  is small to be chosen, and  $\gamma_i$  denotes a multi-index with  $|\gamma_i| = 1$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq 3$ . To prove (3.9), take  $\alpha$  with  $1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2$ . By using (3.4)<sub>1</sub> to replace  $\nabla_x \times B$  and then using (3.4)<sub>2</sub> to replace  $\partial_t B$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B\|^2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha (\partial_t E + b) dx \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx - \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times \partial_t B \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times \nabla_x \times E \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx. \end{aligned}$$

Then, (3.9) follows by applying integration by part to the right-hand second term of the above identity, using the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality and then taking summation over  $1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2$ . The proof of Theorem 1.1 is complete.  $\square$

**3.2.  $L^2$  time-frequency functional and its optimal dissipation rate.** In this subsection we shall prove Theorem 1.2 as well as Corollary 1.1 and Corollary 1.2. For that, we need to consider the solution  $U = [u, E, B]$  to the Cauchy problem (3.1)-(3.2) in the Fourier space  $\mathbb{R}_k^3$ . By taking the Fourier transform in  $x$  from (3.1)<sub>1</sub>, (3.3) and (3.4), one has

$$(3.15) \quad \partial_t \hat{u} + i\xi \cdot k \hat{u} - \xi \mathbf{M}^{1/2} \cdot \hat{E} = \mathbf{L} \hat{u} + \hat{h},$$

$$(3.16) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t \hat{a} + ik \cdot \hat{b} = 0, \\ \partial_t \hat{b} + ik(\hat{a} + 2\hat{c}) + ik \cdot \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}) - \hat{E} = 0, \\ \partial_t \hat{c} + \frac{1}{3} ik \cdot \hat{b} + \frac{5}{3} ik \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}) = 0, \\ \partial_t \Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}) + ik_j \hat{b}_j + ik_j \hat{b}_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} ik \cdot \hat{b} - \frac{10}{3} \delta_{ij} ik \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}) = \Theta_{ij}(\hat{\ell} + \hat{h}), \\ \partial_t \Lambda_i(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}) + ik_i \hat{c} = \Lambda_i(\hat{\ell} + \hat{h}), \end{cases}$$

and

$$(3.17) \quad \begin{cases} \partial_t \hat{E} - ik \times \hat{B} = -\hat{b}, \\ \partial_t \hat{B} + ik \times \hat{E} = 0, \\ ik \cdot \hat{E} = \hat{a}, \quad ik \cdot \hat{B} = 0, \end{cases}$$

where  $\hat{\ell}$  is given by

$$\hat{\ell} = -ik \cdot \xi \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u} + \mathbf{L} \hat{u}.$$

These equations above are ones to be used through this subsection.

**Proof of Theorem 1.2:** It is similar to the proof of Theorem 1.1. The difference is that all calculations are made in the Fourier space. Thus, some details in the following proof will be omitted for simplicity. First of all, as in [3], on one hand, from (3.15) and (3.17), one has

$$(3.18) \quad \frac{1}{2} \partial_t (\|\hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + \|\hat{E}, \hat{B}\|^2) + \lambda \|\nu^{1/2} \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 \leq C \|\nu^{-1/2} \hat{g}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2,$$

and on the other hand, from (3.16), the following three estimates hold true:

$$(3.19) \quad \partial_t \Re(ik\hat{c} \mid \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u})) + \lambda |k|^2 |\hat{c}|^2 \\ \leq \epsilon_1 \|k \cdot \hat{b}\|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_1} (1 + |k|^2) \|\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + C \|\nu^{-1/2} \hat{g}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2,$$

$$(3.20) \quad \partial_t \Re \sum_{ij=1}^3 (ik_i \hat{b}_j + ik_j \hat{b}_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} ik \cdot \hat{b} \mid \Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u})) + \lambda |k|^2 |\hat{b}|^2 \\ \leq \epsilon_2 |k|^2 |\hat{a}, \hat{c}|^2 + \epsilon_2 \frac{|k|^2}{1 + |k|^2} |\hat{E}|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_2} (1 + |k|^2) \|\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + C \|\nu^{-1/2} \hat{g}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2,$$

and

$$(3.21) \quad \partial_t \Re(ik\hat{a} \mid \hat{b}) + \lambda (1 + |k|^2) |\hat{a}|^2 \leq |k \cdot \hat{b}|^2 + C |k|^2 |\hat{c}|^2 + C |k|^2 \|\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2,$$

where constants  $0 < \epsilon_1, \epsilon_2 \leq 1$  are to be chosen. Define

$$(3.22) \quad \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},1}(\hat{U}(t)) = \frac{1}{1 + |k|^2} \Re\{(ik\hat{c} \mid \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u})) \\ + \sum_{ij=1}^3 (ik_i \hat{b}_j + ik_j \hat{b}_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} ik \cdot \hat{b} \mid \Theta_{ij}(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u})) + \kappa_1 (ik\hat{a} \mid \hat{b})\}$$

for a constant  $\kappa_1 > 0$ . One can take  $\kappa_1$  and then  $\epsilon_1$  both small enough such that the sum of (3.19), (3.20) and  $\kappa_1 \times (3.21)$  gives

$$(3.23) \quad \partial_t \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},1}(\hat{U}(t)) + \lambda \frac{|k|^2}{1 + |k|^2} |\hat{a}, \hat{b}, \hat{c}|^2 + |\hat{a}|^2 \\ \leq \epsilon_2 \frac{|k|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^2} |\hat{E}|^2 + \frac{C}{\epsilon_2} \left( \|\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + \|\nu^{-1/2} \hat{g}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 \right).$$

For estimates on the dissipation of  $\hat{E}$  and  $\hat{B}$ , it is straightforward to deduce from (3.15)<sub>2</sub> and (3.16) the following two identities

$$(3.24) \quad -\partial_t (k \times \hat{E} \mid k \times \hat{b}) + |k \times \hat{E}|^2 = |k \times \hat{b}|^2 - (ik \times k \times \hat{B} \mid k \times \hat{b}) \\ + (k \times \hat{E} \mid ik \times (k \cdot \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}))),$$

and

$$(3.25) \quad -\partial_t (ik \times \hat{B} \mid \hat{E}) + |k \times \hat{B}|^2 = |k \times \hat{E}|^2 + (ik \times \hat{B} \mid \hat{b}).$$

By applying the Cauchy-Schwarz to (3.25) and then multiplying it by  $|k|^2/(1 + |k|^2)^3$ , one has

$$-\partial_t \frac{|k|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^3} \Re(ik \times \hat{B} \mid \hat{E}) + \lambda \frac{|k|^2 |k \times \hat{B}|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^3} \leq \frac{|k|^2 |k \times \hat{E}|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^3} + C \frac{|k|^2 |\hat{b}|^2}{(1 + |k|^2)^3},$$



which implies

$$(3.26) \quad -\partial_t \frac{|k|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^3} \Re(ik \times \hat{B} | \hat{E}) + \lambda \frac{|k|^2 |k \times \hat{B}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^3} \leq \frac{|k \times \hat{E}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^2} + C \frac{|k|^2 |\hat{b}|^2}{1+|k|^2}.$$

Similarly, after dividing (3.24) by  $(1+|k|^2)^2$  and then using Cauchy-Schwarz,

$$(3.27) \quad \begin{aligned} & -\frac{\partial_t \Re(k \times \hat{E} | k \times \hat{b})}{(1+|k|^2)^2} + \lambda \frac{|k \times \hat{E}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^2} \\ & \leq \frac{|k \times \hat{b}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^2} + \frac{|k \times k \times \hat{B}| \cdot |k \times \hat{b}|}{(1+|k|^2)^2} + C \frac{|k|^4 |\Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u})|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^2} \\ & \leq \epsilon_3 \frac{|k|^2 |k \times \hat{B}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^3} + \frac{C}{\epsilon_3} \frac{|k|^2}{1+|k|^2} |\hat{b}|^2 + C \|\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the inequality

$$\frac{|k \times k \times \hat{B}| \cdot |k \times \hat{b}|}{(1+|k|^2)^2} \leq \epsilon_3 \frac{|k \times k \times \hat{B}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^3} + \frac{C}{\epsilon_3} \frac{|k \times \hat{b}|^2}{1+|k|^2}$$

for an arbitrary constant  $0 < \epsilon_3 \leq 1$ . Then, in terms of (3.26) and (3.27), let us define

$$(3.28) \quad \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},2}(\hat{U}(t)) = -\frac{\Re(k \times \hat{E} | k \times \hat{b})}{(1+|k|^2)^2} - \kappa_2 \frac{|k|^2 \Re(ik \times \hat{B} | \hat{E})}{(1+|k|^2)^3},$$

where  $\kappa_2 > 0$  is chosen small enough such that

$$(3.29) \quad \partial_t \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},2}(\hat{U}(t)) + \lambda \frac{|k \times \hat{E}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^2} + \lambda \frac{|k|^4 |\hat{B}|^2}{(1+|k|^2)^3} \leq C \frac{|k|^2 |\hat{b}|^2}{1+|k|^2} + C \|\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} \hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2.$$

Here, we used  $|k \times \hat{B}| = |k| \cdot |k \times \hat{B}|$  due to  $k \cdot \hat{B} = 0$ .

Now, in terms of (3.18), (3.23) with  $0 < \epsilon_2 \leq 1$  and (3.29), we define

$$(3.30) \quad \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin}}(\hat{U}(t)) = \|\hat{u}\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 + \|[\hat{E}, \hat{B}]\|^2 + \kappa_4 \left( \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},1}(\hat{U}(t)) + \kappa_3 \mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},2}(\hat{U}(t)) \right),$$

where  $\mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},1}(\hat{U}(t))$ ,  $\mathcal{E}^{\text{lin},2}(\hat{U}(t))$  are denoted by (3.22) and (3.28), and  $\kappa_3 > 0$ ,  $\epsilon_2 > 0$  and  $\kappa_4 > 0$  are chosen in turn small enough such that (1.10) and (1.12) hold true and  $\mathcal{D}^{\text{lin}}(\hat{U}(t))$  is given by (1.11). Here, notice that we used

$$|k|^2 |\hat{E}|^2 = |k \cdot \hat{E}|^2 + |k \times \hat{E}|^2 = |\hat{a}|^2 + |k \times \hat{E}|^2.$$

The proof of Theorem 1.2 is complete.  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 1.1 and Corollary 1.2:** First, (1.13) in Corollary 1.1 immediately results from (1.12) by noticing

$$\mathcal{D}(\hat{U}(t, k)) \geq \lambda \frac{|k|^4}{(1+|k|^2)^3} \mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k))$$

due to the definitions (1.10), (1.11) of  $\mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k))$ ,  $\mathcal{D}(\hat{U}(t, k))$ . For Corollary 1.2, it suffices to define

$$(3.31) \quad \mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(\hat{U}(t, k)) = \sum_{|\alpha|=m} \mathcal{E}(\widehat{\nabla_x^k U}(t, k)) = \sum_{|\alpha|=m} \mathcal{E}((ik)^\alpha \hat{U}(t, k)).$$

Since the system (3.1) satisfied by  $U = [u, E, B]$  is linear, it is easy to see from Theorem 1.2 that  $\mathcal{E}_m^{\text{lin}}(\hat{U}(t, k))$  satisfies (1.14) and (1.16) with  $\mathcal{D}_m^{\text{lin}}(\hat{U}(t, k))$  given by (1.15). This hence completes the proof of Corollary 1.2.  $\square$

**3.3. Time-decay estimates.** In this subsection we turn to the proof of Theorem 1.3. Theorem 1.3 actually follows from (1.13) in Corollary 1.1. However, we would rather provide a similar much more general result. Recall the definition of  $\mathbb{A}(t)$  as in (1.18). In what follows, for the Fourier transform  $\hat{U}(t, k)$  of  $U = [u, E, B]$ , we set

$$(3.32) \quad |\hat{U}(t, k)| = \|\hat{u}\|_{L^2_\xi} + |[\hat{E}, \hat{B}]|$$

for simplicity.

**Lemma 3.1.** *Assume that for any initial data  $U_0$ , the linear homogeneous solution  $U(t) = \mathbb{A}(t)U_0$  obeys the pointwise estimate*

$$(3.33) \quad |\hat{U}(t, k)| \leq C e^{-\phi(k)t} |\hat{U}_0(k)|$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , where  $\phi(k)$  is a strictly positive, continuous and real-valued function over  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$  and satisfies

$$(3.34) \quad \phi(k) \rightarrow \begin{cases} O(1)|k|^{\sigma_+} & \text{as } |k| \rightarrow 0, \\ O(1)|k|^{-\sigma_-} & \text{as } |k| \rightarrow \infty, \end{cases}$$

for two constants  $\sigma_- > \sigma_+ > 0$ . Let  $m \geq 0$  be an integer,  $1 \leq p, r \leq 2 \leq q \leq \infty$  and  $\sigma \geq 0$ . Then,  $U(t) = \mathbb{A}(t)U_0$  obeys the time-decay estimate

$$(3.35) \quad \|\nabla_x^m U(t)\|_{\mathcal{Z}_q} \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{\sigma_+}(\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{q})-\frac{m}{\sigma_+}} \|U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_p} + C(1+t)^{-\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_-}} \|\nabla_x^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r},$$

for any  $t \geq 0$ , where  $[\cdot]_+$  is defined in (1.22).

*Proof.* Take a constant  $R > 0$ . From the assumptions on  $\phi(k)$ , it is easy to see

$$\phi(k) \geq \begin{cases} \lambda|k|^{\sigma_+} & \text{if } |k| \leq R, \\ \lambda|k|^{-\sigma_-} & \text{if } |k| \geq R. \end{cases}$$

Take  $2 \leq q \leq \infty$  and an integer  $m \geq 0$ . From Hausdorff-Young inequality,

$$(3.36) \quad \begin{aligned} \|\nabla_x^m U(t)\|_{\mathcal{Z}_q} &\leq C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\phi(k)t} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}} \\ &\leq C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}(|k| \leq R)} + C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{-\sigma_-}t} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}(|k| \geq R)} := I_1 + I_2, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\frac{1}{q} + \frac{1}{q'} = 1$ . For  $I_1$ , by the definition of the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}}$ ,

$$I_1 = C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} \hat{u}_0 \right\|_{L^2_\xi(L^{q'}(|k| \leq R))} + C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} [\hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{q'}(|k| \leq R)}.$$

Here, note that since  $1 \leq q' \leq 2$ , from the Minkowski inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} \hat{u}_0 \right\|_{L^2_\xi(L^{q'}(|k| \leq R))} &\leq \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} \hat{u}_0 \right\|_{L^{q'}(|k| \leq R; L^2_\xi)} \\ &= \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} \hat{u}_0 \right\|_{L^{q'}(|k| \leq R)}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we arrive at

$$I_1 \leq C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} [\|\hat{u}_0\|_{L^2_\xi}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{q'}(|k| \leq R)}.$$

Take  $1 \leq p \leq 2$ . Further using the Hölder inequality for  $\frac{1}{q} = \frac{p'-q'}{p'q'} + \frac{1}{p'}$  with  $p'$  given by  $\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{p'} = 1$ ,

$$I_1 \leq C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma_+}t} \right\|_{L^{\frac{p'q'}{p'-q'}}(|k| \leq R)} \left\| [\|\hat{u}_0\|_{L^2_\xi}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{p'}(|k| \leq R)}$$

Here, the right-hand first term can be estimated in a standard way [12] as

$$\left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{\sigma+t}} \right\|_{L^{\frac{p'q'}{p'-q'}}(|k|\leq R)} \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{\sigma_+}(\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{q})-\frac{m}{\sigma_+}}$$

by using change of variable  $kt^{\frac{1}{\sigma_+}} \rightarrow k$ , and the right-hand second term is estimated by Minkowski and Hausdorff-Young inequalities as

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| [|\hat{u}_0|_{L_\xi^2}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{p'}(|k|\leq R)} &= \|\hat{u}_0\|_{L^{p'}(|k|\leq R; L_\xi^2)} + \left\| [\hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{p'}(|k|\leq R)} \\ &\leq \|\hat{u}_0\|_{L_\xi^2(L^{p'}(|k|\leq R))} + \left\| [\hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{p'}(|k|\leq R)} \\ &\leq C(\|u_0\|_{L_\xi^2(L_x^p)} + \|[E_0, B_0]\|_{L^p}) = C\|U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_p}, \end{aligned}$$

where the Minkowski inequality was validly used due to  $p' \geq 2$ . Therefore, for  $I_1$ , one has

$$I_1 \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{3}{\sigma_+}(\frac{1}{p}-\frac{1}{q})-\frac{m}{\sigma_+}} \|U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_p}.$$

To estimate  $I_2$ , take a constant  $\sigma \geq 0$  so that

$$I_2 = C \left\| |k|^m e^{-\lambda|k|^{-\sigma-t}} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}(|k|\geq R)} \leq C \sup_{|k|\geq R} |k|^{-\sigma} e^{-\lambda|k|^{-\sigma-t}} \left\| |k|^{m+\sigma} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}(|k|\geq R)}.$$

Here, the right-hand first term decays in time as

$$\sup_{|k|\geq R} |k|^{-\sigma} e^{-\lambda|k|^{-\sigma-t}} \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_-}}.$$

We estimate the right-hand second term as follows. Take  $1 \leq r \leq 2$  with  $\frac{1}{r} + \frac{1}{r'} = 1$  and take a constant  $\epsilon > 0$  small enough. Then, similarly as before, from Minkowski and Hölder inequalities for  $\frac{1}{q'} = \frac{r'-q'}{r'q'} + \frac{1}{r'}$ , one has

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| |k|^{m+\sigma} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}(|k|\geq R)} &\leq \left\| |k|^{m+\sigma} [|\hat{u}_0|_{L_\xi^2}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{q'}(|k|\geq R)} \\ &\leq \left\| |k|^{-3(1+\epsilon)\frac{r'-q'}{r'q'}} \right\|_{L^{\frac{r'q'}{r'-q'}}(|k|\geq R)} \left\| |k|^{m+\sigma+3(1+\epsilon)\frac{r'-q'}{r'q'}} [|\hat{u}_0|_{L_\xi^2}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{r'}(|k|\geq R)} \\ &\leq C_\epsilon \left\| |k|^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} [|\hat{u}_0|_{L_\xi^2}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{r'}(|k|\geq R)}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, by Minkowski inequality due to  $q' \geq 2$  once again and further by Hausdorff-Young inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| |k|^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} [|\hat{u}_0|_{L_\xi^2}, \hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{r'}(|k|\geq R)} \\ \leq \left\| |k|^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} \hat{u}_0 \right\|_{L_\xi^2(L^{r'}(|k|\geq R))} + \left\| |k|^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} [\hat{E}_0, \hat{B}_0] \right\|_{L^{r'}(|k|\geq R)} \\ \leq C \|\nabla_x^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, it follows that

$$\left\| |k|^{m+\sigma} \hat{U}_0 \right\|_{\mathcal{Z}_{q'}(|k|\geq R)} \leq C \|\nabla_x^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r}.$$

Thus,  $I_2$  is estimated by

$$I_2 \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_-}} \|\nabla_x^{m+[\sigma+3(\frac{1}{r}-\frac{1}{q})]_+} U_0\|_{\mathcal{Z}_r}.$$

Now, (3.35) follows by plugging the estimates of  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  into (3.36). This completes the proof of Lemma 3.1.  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.3:** To prove (1.20), by letting  $h = 0$  and using Corollary 1.1,

$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k)) \leq e^{-\frac{\lambda|k|^4}{2(1+|k|^2)^3}t} \mathcal{E}(\hat{U}_0(k))$$

for any  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , where we have set  $U = U^I$  for simplicity. Due to (1.10) and (3.32),  $\mathcal{E}(\hat{U}(t, k)) \sim |\hat{U}(t, k)|^2$  holds so that

$$|\hat{U}(t, k)| \leq C e^{-\frac{\lambda|k|^4}{2(1+|k|^2)^3}t} |\hat{U}_0(k)|$$

for any  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . This shows that corresponding to (3.33) and (3.34) of Lemma 3.1, one has the special situation

$$\phi(k) = \frac{\lambda|k|^4}{2(1+|k|^2)^3}$$

with  $\sigma_+ = 4$ ,  $\sigma_- = 2$ . Thus, one can apply Lemma 3.1 to obtain (1.20) from (3.35).

To prove (1.21), we let  $U_0 = 0$ , and also set  $U = U^{II}$  for simplicity. Note that (1.13) implies

$$|\hat{U}(t, k)|^2 \leq C \int_0^t e^{-\frac{\lambda|k|^4}{2(1+|k|^2)^3}(t-s)} \|\nu^{-1/2} \hat{h}(s)\|_{L_\xi^2}^2 ds$$

for any  $t \geq 0$  and  $k \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . One can again apply Lemma 3.1 with  $q = r = 2$  so that (1.21) follows. The proof of Theorem 1.3 is complete.  $\square$

#### 4. NONLINEAR SYSTEM

In this section we are concerned with the global existence of solutions to the Cauchy problem (1.3)-(1.4) of the reformulated nonlinear Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system. We first devote ourselves to the proof of some uniform-in-time a priori estimates on the solution. In what follows,  $U = [u, E, B]$  is supposed to be smooth in all arguments and satisfy the system (1.3) over  $0 \leq t \leq T$  for some  $0 < T \leq \infty$ .

**Lemma 4.1.** *Under the assumption that  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|(a + 2c)(t)\|_{L^\infty}$  is small enough, there is  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  satisfying (1.23) such that*

$$(4.1) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) + \lambda \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)) \leq C(\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)))^{1/2} + \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) \mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$$

for any  $0 \leq t \leq T$ , where  $\mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$  is defined in (1.24).

*Proof.* First, the zero-order energy estimate implies

$$(4.2) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\|u\|^2 + \|[E, B]\|^2 - \int |b|^2 (a + 2c) dx + \lambda \|\nu^{1/2} \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2) \leq C(\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)))^{1/2} + \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)).$$

Here and hereafter, when  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  occurs in the right-hand terms of inequalities, it means an equivalent energy functional satisfying (1.23) and its explicit representation will be determined later on. In fact, from the system (1.3),

$$(4.3) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} (\|u\|^2 + \|[E, B]\|^2) + \lambda \|\nu^{1/2} \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2 \leq \iint u \Gamma(u, u) dx d\xi + \frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E u^2 dx d\xi.$$

Here, for the first term on the r.h.s. of (4.3), it is a standard fact as in [9] or [10] that it is bounded by  $C\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} \mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$ . Since all estimates on terms involving the nonlinear term  $\Gamma(u, u)$  in

the following can be handled in the similar way, we shall omit the details of their proof for brevity. The right-hand second term of (4.3) can be estimated as in [7, Lemma 4.4]:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E u^2 dx d\xi &= \frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E |\mathbf{P}u|^2 dx d\xi + \iint \xi \cdot E \mathbf{P}u \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u dx d\xi \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u^2 dx d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

Here, it is easy to see

$$\begin{aligned} \iint \xi \cdot E \mathbf{P}u \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u dx d\xi + \frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u^2 dx d\xi \\ \leq C \|E\|_{H^2} (\|\nabla_x [a, b, c]\|^2 + \|\nu^{1/2} \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2) \leq C \mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)). \end{aligned}$$

And, as in [7, Lemma 4.4], one can compute

$$\frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E |\mathbf{P}u|^2 dx d\xi = \int E \cdot b(a + 2c) dx,$$

where by replacing  $E$  by equation (2.9)<sub>2</sub>, using integration by part in  $t$  and then replacing  $\partial_t(a + 2c)$  by equations (2.9)<sub>1</sub> and (2.9)<sub>3</sub>, gives

$$\begin{aligned} \int E \cdot b(a + 2c) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |b|^2(a + 2c) dx \\ &\quad + \int |b|^2 \left[ \frac{5}{6} \nabla_x \cdot b + \frac{1}{6} \nabla_x \cdot \Lambda(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) - \frac{1}{3} E \cdot b \right] dx \\ &\quad + \int [\nabla_x(a + 2c) + \nabla_x \Theta(\{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u)] \cdot b(a + 2c) dx \\ &\quad - \int E a \cdot b(a + 2c) dx - \int b \times B \cdot b(a + 2c) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Note  $b \times B \cdot b = 0$ . Hence, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} \iint \xi \cdot E |\mathbf{P}u|^2 dx d\xi &\leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |b|^2(a + 2c) dx \\ &\quad + C \|[a, b, c, E]\|_{H^1} (\|\nabla_x [a, b, c]\|^2 + \|\nabla_x \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2) + C \|E\| \|\nabla_x a\| \|\nabla_x [a, b, c]\|^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int |b|^2(a + 2c) dx + C (\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} + \mathcal{E}_N(U(t))) \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)). \end{aligned}$$

Collecting the above estimates and putting them into (4.3) proves (4.2).

Next, for the estimates on all derivatives including the pure spatial derivatives and space-velocity mixed derivatives, one has

$$\begin{aligned} (4.4) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N} (\|\partial^\alpha u\|^2 + \|\partial^\alpha [E, B]\|^2) + \lambda \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N} \|\nu^{1/2} \partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2 \\ \leq C \mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.5) \quad & \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{k=1}^N C_k \sum_{\substack{|\beta|=k \\ |\alpha+|\beta|\leq N}} \|\partial_\beta^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{\substack{|\beta|\geq 1 \\ |\alpha+|\beta|\leq N}} \|\nu^{1/2} \partial_\beta^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2 \\
& \leq C \mathcal{E}_N(U(t))^{1/2} \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)) + C \sum_{|\alpha|\leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha \nabla_x [a, b, c]\|^2 + C \sum_{|\alpha|\leq N} \|\nu^{1/2} \partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2,
\end{aligned}$$

where  $C_k$  ( $1 \leq k \leq N$ ) are strictly positive constants. Since the nonlinear term  $g$  takes the form as in (2.8), the proof of (4.4) and (4.5) is almost the same as in [7] for the case of the Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system and thus details are omitted for brevity.

Finally, the key step is to obtain the macroscopic dissipation of  $a, b, c$  and  $E, B$  for the nonlinear system (1.3). This is similar to the proof of Theorem 1.1 in Subsection 3.1 for the linearized system. Here, the additional efforts should be made to take care of all quadratically nonlinear terms in  $g$  defined by (2.8). But, these nonlinear estimates once again are almost the same as in [7] for the case of the Vlasov-Poisson-Boltzmann system so we omit details for brevity. Thus, we have the following estimates. Recall the definitions (3.6) and (3.10) of two interactive functionals  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},1}(U(t))$  and  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t))$ , where  $\kappa_1 > 0$ ,  $\kappa_2 > 0$  in (3.6) and (3.10) are sufficiently small. It turns out that

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.6) \quad & \frac{d}{dt} \left( \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},1}(U(t)) + \kappa_3 \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin},2}(U(t)) \right) + \lambda \sum_{|\alpha|\leq N} \|\partial^\alpha a\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{1\leq|\alpha|\leq N} \|\partial^\alpha [b, c]\|^2 \\
& + \lambda \sum_{1\leq|\alpha|\leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha E\|^2 + \lambda \sum_{2\leq|\alpha|\leq N-1} \|\partial^\alpha B\|^2 \\
& \leq C \sum_{|\alpha|\leq N} \|\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2 + C \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) \mathcal{D}_N(U(t)),
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\kappa_3 > 0$  is small enough. This is the desired estimate on the macroscopic dissipation.

Now, we are in a position to prove (4.1). Let  $\kappa_4 > 0$  be taken as in (3.12). Define

$$(4.7) \quad \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) = \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) - \int |b|^2 (a + 2c) dx + \kappa_5 \sum_{k=1}^N C_k \sum_{\substack{|\beta|=k \\ |\alpha+|\beta|\leq N}} \|\partial_\beta^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\} u\|^2,$$

where  $\kappa_5 > 0$  is a constant to be chosen. Here, notice that by recalling the definition (3.12) of  $\mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t))$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.8) \quad \mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) &= \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N} (\|\partial^\alpha u\|^2 + \|\partial^\alpha [E, B]\|^2) - \int |b|^2 (a + 2c) dx \\
&+ \kappa_4 \left\{ \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla_x \partial^\alpha c \cdot \Lambda(\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) dx \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i, j \leq 3 \\ |\alpha| \leq N-1}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (\partial_i \partial^\alpha b_j + \partial_j \partial^\alpha b_i - \frac{2}{3} \delta_{ij} \nabla_x \cdot \partial^\alpha b) \Theta_{ij}(\partial^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u) dx \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \kappa_1 \sum_{|\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \nabla_x \partial^\alpha a \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx \right\} \\
&+ \kappa_4 \kappa_3 \left\{ - \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-1} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha E \cdot \partial^\alpha b dx - \kappa_2 \sum_{1 \leq |\alpha| \leq N-2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \partial^\alpha \nabla_x \times B \cdot \partial^\alpha E dx \right\} \\
&+ \kappa_5 \sum_{k=1}^N C_k \sum_{\substack{|\beta|=k \\ |\alpha|+|\beta| \leq N}} \|\partial_\beta^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Due to smallness of  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|(a + 2c)(t)\|_{L^\infty}$  by the assumption, from (4.7) and (1.7), it is easy to see

$$\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) \sim \mathcal{E}_N^{\text{lin}}(U(t)) + \sum_{k=1}^N C_k \sum_{\substack{|\beta|=k \\ |\alpha|+|\beta| \leq N}} \|\partial_\beta^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u\|^2,$$

which further implies

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) &\sim \|u(t)\|_{L_\xi^2(H_x^N)}^2 + \|[E(t), B(t)]\|_{H^N}^2 + \sum_{k=1}^N C_k \sum_{\substack{|\beta|=k \\ |\alpha|+|\beta| \leq N}} \|\partial_\beta^\alpha \{\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{P}\}u\|^2 \\
&\sim \|u(t)\|_{H_{x,\xi}^N}^2 + \|[E(t), B(t)]\|_{H^N}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  satisfies (1.23) for any  $\kappa_5 > 0$ . Moreover, by taking  $\kappa_5 > 0$  small enough, the summation of (4.2), (4.4),  $\kappa_4 \times (4.6)$  and then  $\kappa_5 \times (4.6)$  leads to (4.1) with  $\mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$  defined in (1.24). This completes the proof of Lemma 4.1.  $\square$

**Proof of Theorem 1.4:** Let us consider the uniform-in-time a priori estimates of solutions under the smallness assumption that

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \left( \|u(t)\|_{H_{x,\xi}^N}^2 + \|[E(t), B(t)]\|_{H^N}^2 \right) \leq \delta$$

for a sufficiently small constant  $\delta > 0$ . This smallness assumption also implies that  $\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|(a + 2c)(t)\|_{L^\infty}$  is small enough since  $N \geq 4$ . Thus, it follows from Lemma 4.1 that there are  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$ ,

$\mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$  defined in (4.8) and (1.24) such that (1.23) holds true for  $\mathcal{E}_N(U(t))$  and

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) + \lambda\mathcal{D}_N(U(t)) \leq C(\delta^{1/2} + \delta)\mathcal{D}_N(U(t))$$

for any  $0 \leq t \leq T$ , that is

$$\mathcal{E}_N(U(t)) + \lambda \int_0^t \mathcal{D}_N(U(s))ds \leq \mathcal{E}_N(U_0)$$

for any  $0 \leq t \leq T$ , since  $\delta > 0$  is small enough. Now, the rest proof follows from the standard process by combining the above uniform-in-time a priori estimates with the local existence as well as the continuity argument as in [11] or [7] under the assumption that  $\mathcal{E}_N(U_0)$  is sufficiently small, and details are omitted for simplicity. The proof of Theorem 1.4 is complete.  $\square$

We conclude this paper with a discussion about the large-time behavior of solutions to the nonlinear system. Although Theorem 1.4 shows the global existence of close-to-equilibrium solutions to the Cauchy problem (1.3)-(1.4) of the nonlinear Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system, the decay rate of the obtained solution remains open. This issue has been studied in [5] for the case of two-species. However, the approach of [5] by applying the linear decay property together with the Duhamel's principle to the nonlinear system can not be applied to the case of one-species here. Let us explain a little the key difficulty in a formal way. In fact, the linear system in one-species decays as  $(1+t)^{-3/8}$  which is slower than  $(1+t)^{-3/4}$  in two-species as pointed out in Table 1. Thus, in one-species case, the quadratic nonlinear source decays as at most  $(1+t)^{-3/4}$ , and if the Duhamel's principle was used, the time-integral term generated from the nonhomogeneous source decays as

$$\int_0^t (1+t-s)^{-\frac{3}{8}}(1+s)^{-\frac{3}{4}} ds \leq C(1+t)^{-\frac{1}{8}}.$$

Thus, the bootstrap argument breaks down and one can not expect the solution to decay as  $(1+t)^{-3/8}$  in the nonlinear case. Therefore, the study of the large-time behavior for the one-species Vlasov-Maxwell-Boltzmann system becomes much more difficult than for the two-species case as in [5].

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