Impurity in a sheared inelastic Maxwell gas

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The Boltzmann equation for inelastic Maxwell models is considered in order to investigate the dynamics of an impurity (or intruder) immersed in a granular gas driven by a uniform shear flow. The analysis is based on an exact solution of the Boltzmann equation for a granular binary mixture. It applies for conditions arbitrarily far from equilibrium (arbitrary values of the shear rate $\alpha$) and for arbitrary values of the parameters of the mixture (particle masses $m_i$, mole fractions $x_i$, and coefficients of restitution $\alpha_{ij}$). In the tracer limit where the mole fraction of the intruder species vanishes, a non equilibrium phase transition takes place. We thereby identity ordered phases where the intruder bears a finite contribution to the properties of the mixture, in a region of parameter space that is worked out in detail. These findings extend previous results obtained for ordinary Maxwell gases, and further show that dissipation leads to new ordered phases.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Inelastic hard spheres (IHS) provide a useful theoretical, computational, and experimental framework for studying granular gases [1–3]. In the simplest version, the spheres are assumed to be smooth (i.e. frictionless) and the inelasticity in collisions is specified in terms of a constant coefficient of normal restitution $\alpha \leq 1$ [1]. At a kinetic theory level, the essential information about the dynamical properties of the fluid is embedded in the one-particle velocity distribution function. For sufficiently low-densities, the conventional Boltzmann equation can be extended to IHS by changing the collision rules to account for the inelastic character of the interactions [4, 5]. However, the complex mathematical structure of the Boltzmann collision operator prevents one from obtaining exact results, so that most of the analytical progress for IHS has been achieved by using approximated methods and/or simple kinetic models [6]. For instance, the explicit forms of the Navier-Stokes transport coefficients have been approximately determined by considering the leading terms in a Sonine polynomial expansion [7].

Needless to say, the difficulties of solving the Boltzmann equation increase considerably when one considers far from equilibrium situations, such as shear flow problems. Although good estimates for nonlinear transport properties of IHS have been obtained [8], the search of exact results has stimulated the use of model interactions simpler than hard spheres. One possibility is to consider randomly chosen pairs of particles inelastically interact with a random impact direction. This assumption yields a Boltzmann equation where the collision rate is independent of the relative velocity of the two colliding particles [9]. This interaction model is usually referred to as the inelastic Maxwell model (IMM). It must be noted that in the conventional case of ordinary gases colliding elastically, Maxwell models correspond in three dimensions to particles interacting via a repulsive potential proportional to the inverse fourth power of distance [10]. Nevertheless, in the framework of the Boltzmann equation, one can introduce Maxwell models at the level of the cross section, without any reference to a specific interaction potential [11, 12]. Thanks to the simplifications introduced by IMM in the kernel of the Boltzmann collision operator, it is possible in some particular situations to find non-trivial exact solutions to the Boltzmann equation [13–18]. Apart from their academic interest, it has also been shown in some cases that the results derived from IMM [13] agree well with those obtained analytically for IHS from Grad’s method [19, 20] and by means of Monte Carlo simulations [19]. We will substantiate this point in the concluding section. In addition, even recent experiments [21] for magnetic grains with dipolar interactions are qualitatively well described by IMM. All of these results clearly show the utility of IMM as a toy model to unveil in a clean way the influence of the inelasticity of collisions in granular flows, especially in far from equilibrium situations where simple intuition is not enough.

The aim of this paper is to investigate the dynamics of an intruder or impurity immersed in an inelastic Maxwell gas subject to the simple or uniform shear flow (USF). This state is perhaps one of the most widely studied states in granular gases [22]. From a macroscopic point of view, the USF is characterized by constant par-
tial densities \( n_r \), a uniform granular temperature \( T \), and a linear velocity field \( u_x = ay \), \( a \) being the constant shear rate. Because the only hydrodynamic gradient is that of flow velocity, the mass and heat fluxes vanish by symmetry and the pressure or stress tensor \( P_{ij} \) is the only relevant flux in the problem. The knowledge of the elements of \( P_{ij} \) gives access to the rheological properties of the mixture. In the context of IMM, the above transport properties have been recently obtained \[18\] in terms of the shear rate and the parameters of the mixture. Our goal now is to consider the tracer limit. Since this case corresponds to a situation in which the mole fraction \( x_1 = n_1/(n_1 + n_2) \) of the tracers species is negligible, one expects that the properties of the excess species (granular gas) are not affected by the presence of the impurity particle. In particular, the relative contribution of the impurity to the total energy of the system, \( E_1/E \), is expected to be proportional to \( x_1 \) when \( x_1 \ll 1 \) (here, \( E \) denotes the total kinetic energy of the system and \( E_1 \) is the kinetic energy of the impurity). Consequently, the contribution of the impurity to the total energy is likely to be negligible. However, as in the elastic case \[23\], we present in this paper a violation of the above expectation, that is ascribable to a non-equilibrium phase transition. Specifically, we found that the impurity phase has a finite contribution to the total energy of the system (impurity plus granular gas) either for light impurities under conditions that depend critically on the asymmetry of collisional dissipation (impurity-gas against gas-gas collisions), or conversely, for heavy impurities provided the shear rates are not too large. This phenomenon is akin to a phase transition, where the order parameter is given by the ratio of the impurity kinetic energy over the total kinetic energy of the system. We borrow here the terminology of equilibrium phase transitions; it should nevertheless be stressed that the kind of ordering under discussion is not spatial, but refers to a specific, kinetic, order parameter \( (E_1/E) \); as such, the “ordering” scenario specifically belongs in non-equilibrium. Moreover, we found that ordering always sets in at large enough shear rates (i.e., for shear rates larger than a certain critical value), provided the impurity is sufficiently light compared to the grains of the host gas. While this feature is common to elastic \[23\] and inelastic systems, the possibility of what we refer below as heavy tracer ordering, is specific to inelastic gases. A preliminary account of part of this work has appeared in Ref. \[24\].

The plan of the paper is as follows. The Boltzmann equation for IMM is introduced in Sec. II and the collisional moments needed to get the pressure tensor are explicitly evaluated. In Sec. III, the USF problem is presented and the rheological properties are obtained in terms of the shear rate, the masses, the concentration, and the coefficients of restitution. The main results are derived in Sec. IV. Specifically, the tracer limit is considered in detail, which shows the existence of the above non-equilibrium transition. Finally, the paper is closed in Sec. V with a brief discussion.

II. THE INELASTIC MAXWELL MODEL

Let us consider a binary mixture of inelastic Maxwell gases at low density. In the absence of external forces, the set of nonlinear Boltzmann equations for the mixture reads

\[
\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \right) f_r(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}; t) = \sum_s J_{rs}[v_f(t), f_s(t)] , \tag{1}
\]

where \( f_r(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}; t) \) is the one-particle distribution function of species \( r \) \((r = 1, 2)\) and the Boltzmann collision operator \( J_{rs} [v_f, f_s] \) describing the scattering of pairs of particles is

\[
J_{rs} [v_1|f_r, f_s] = \frac{\omega_{rs}}{n_s \Omega_d} \int dv_2 \int d\hat{\sigma} \left[ \alpha_{rs}^{-1} f_r(\mathbf{r}, v_1', t) f_s(\mathbf{r}, v_2', t) - f_r(\mathbf{r}, v_1', t) f_s(\mathbf{r}, v_2', t) \right] . \tag{2}
\]

Here,

\[
n_r = \int dv f_r(\mathbf{v}) \tag{3}
\]

is the number density of species \( r \), \( \omega_{rs} \) is an effective collision frequency (to be chosen later) for collisions of type \( r-s \), \( \Omega_d = 2\pi d^2/\Gamma(d/2) \) is the total solid angle in \( d \) dimensions, and \( \alpha_{rs} \leq 1 \) refers to the constant coefficient of restitution for collisions between particles of species \( r \) with \( s \). In addition, the primes on the velocities denote the initial values \( \{v_1', v_2'\} \) that lead to \( \{v_1, v_2\} \) following a binary collision:

\[
v_1' = v_1 - \mu_{sr} (1 + \alpha_{rs}^{-1}) (\hat{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{g}_{12}) \hat{\sigma}, \tag{4}
\]

where \( \mathbf{g}_{12} = v_1 - v_2 \) is the relative velocity of the colliding pair, \( \hat{\sigma} \) is a unit vector directed along the centers of the two colliding spheres, and \( \mu_{rs} = m_r/(m_r + m_s) \). From the densities \( n_r \), we define the mole fractions \( x_r = n_r/(n_1 + n_2) \).

The effective collision frequencies \( \omega_{rs} \) are independent of the relative velocities of the colliding particles but depend in general on space and time through its dependence on density and temperature. In previous works on multicomponent granular systems \[13, 18, 25\], \( \omega_{rs} \) was chosen to guarantee that the cooling rate for IMM be the same as that of the IHS. With this choice ("improved
Maxwell model), the collision rates \( \omega_{rs} \) are functions of the temperature ratio \( \gamma \equiv T_1/T_2 \), that is itself a function of the (reduced) shear rate in the USF problem. A consequence of this choice is that one has to numerically solve a set of nonlinear equations in order to get the shear rate dependence of the temperature ratio [13, 18]. Since we wish to obtain in this paper analytical results for arbitrary spatial dimensions in a quite complex problem that involves a delicate tracer limit, we will consider here a simple version of IMM where \( \omega_{rs} \) is independent of the partial temperatures of each species (“plain vanilla Maxwell model”). Thus, one defines \( \omega_{rs} \) as

\[
\omega_{rs} = x_s v_0, \quad v_0 = A n,
\]

where the value of the constant \( A \) is irrelevant for our purposes. Here, \( n = \sum_r n_r \) is the total number density of the mixture. The form of \( \omega_{rs} \) is closer to the original model of Maxwell molecules for elastic mixtures. This plain vanilla model has been previously used by several authors [26–29] in some problems pertaining to granular mixtures, and we will argue in section V that it is capable of capturing the essential physical effects at work here.

At a hydrodynamic level, the relevant quantities in a binary mixture are, apart from \( n_r \), the flow velocity \( \mathbf{u} \), and the “granular” temperature \( T \). They are defined in terms of moments of the distribution \( f_r \) as

\[
\rho \mathbf{u} = \sum_r \rho_r \mathbf{u}_r = \sum_r \int d\mathbf{v} m_r \mathbf{v} f_r(\mathbf{v}),
\]

\[
n T = \sum_r n_r T_r = \sum_r \int d\mathbf{v} m_r V^2 f_r(\mathbf{v}),
\]

where \( \rho_r = n_r m_r \rho_0 \), \( \rho = \sum_r \rho_r \) is the total mass density, and \( \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u} \) is the peculiar velocity. Equations (7) and (8) also define the flow velocity \( \mathbf{u}_r \) and the partial temperature \( T_r \) of species \( r \), the latter measuring the mean kinetic energy of species \( r \). Computer simulations [30], experiments [31] and kinetic theory calculations [32, 33] indicate that the global granular temperature \( T \) is in general different from the partial temperatures \( T_r \). The mass, momentum and energy fluxes are characterized by the mass flux

\[
\mathbf{j}_r = m_r \int d\mathbf{v} \mathbf{V} f_r(\mathbf{v}),
\]

the pressure tensor

\[
P = \sum_r \int d\mathbf{v} m_r \mathbf{V V} f_r(\mathbf{v}),
\]

and the heat flux

\[
\mathbf{q} = \sum_r \int d\mathbf{v} \frac{1}{2} m_r V^2 \mathbf{V} f_r(\mathbf{v}),
\]

respectively. Finally, the rate of energy dissipated due to collisions among all species defines the cooling rate \( \zeta \) as

\[
\sum_{r,s} m_r \int d\mathbf{v} V^2 J_{rs}[\mathbf{v}] f_r(\mathbf{v}) f_s(\mathbf{v}) = -d n T \zeta.
\]

The key advantage of the Boltzmann equation for Maxwell models (both elastic and inelastic) is that the (collisional) moments of \( J_{rs}[f_r, f_s] \) can be exactly evaluated in terms of the moments of \( f_r \) and \( f_s \) without the explicit knowledge of both velocity distribution functions [34, 35]. This property has been recently exploited [36] to obtain the detailed expressions for all the second-, third- and fourth-degree collisional moments for a monodisperse gas. In the case of a binary mixture, only the first- and second-degree collisional moments have been also explicitly obtained. In particular [13],

\[
\int d\mathbf{v} m_r \mathbf{V V} J_{rs}[f_r, f_s] = \frac{\omega_{rs}}{\rho_r d} \mu_{sr}(1 + \alpha_{rs}) \left\{ \frac{2 \rho_s \mathbf{P}_r}{d^2} (\mathbf{j}_r \cdot \mathbf{j}_s) - \frac{2}{d^2} \mu_{sr}(1 + \alpha_{rs}) \right. \\
\left. \times \left[ \rho_s \mathbf{P}_r + \rho_r \mathbf{P}_s - (\mathbf{j}_r \mathbf{j}_s) + \frac{d}{2} (\rho_r \mathbf{P}_s + \rho_s \mathbf{P}_r) - \mathbf{j}_r \cdot \mathbf{j}_s \right] \right\},
\]

where

\[
\mathbf{P}_r = \int d\mathbf{v} m_r \mathbf{V V} f_r,
\]

\( p_r = n_r T_r = \text{tr} \mathbf{P}_r / d \) is the partial pressure of species \( r \), and \( \mathbf{I} \) is the \( d \times d \) unit tensor. It must be remarked that, in general beyond the linear hydrodynamic regime (Navier-Stokes order), the above property of the Boltzmann collision operator is not sufficient to exactly solve the hierarchy of moment equations, due to the free-streaming term of the Boltzmann equation. Nevertheless, there exist some particular situations (such as the simple shear flow problem) for which the above hierarchy can be recursively solved. The cooling rate \( \zeta \) defined by Eq. (12) can be easily obtained from Eq. (13) as

\[
\zeta = \frac{2}{d} \sum_{r,s} x_r \omega_{rs} \mu_{sr} (1 + \alpha_{rs}) \left[ \gamma_r - \frac{1 + \alpha_{rs}}{2} (\gamma_r \mu_{sr} + \gamma_s \mu_{rs}) + \gamma_r \frac{\mu_{sr}(1 + \alpha_{rs}) - 1}{d \rho_s p_r} \mathbf{j}_r \cdot \mathbf{j}_s \right],
\]
where $\gamma_r \equiv T_r/T$.

III. UNIFORM SHEAR FLOW

We consider a binary mixture of inelastic Maxwell gases under USF. As mentioned in the Introduction, the USF state is macroscopically defined by constant densities $n_r$, a spatially uniform temperature $T(t)$ and a linear velocity profile $u(y) = u_1(y) = u_2(y) = ay \mathbf{x}$, where $a$ is the constant shear rate. Since $n_r$ and $T$ are uniform, then $J_r = q = 0$, and the transport of momentum (measured by the pressure tensor) is the relevant phenomenon. At a microscopic level, the USF is characterized by a velocity distribution function that becomes uniform in the local Lagrangian frame, i.e., $f_r(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}; t) = f_r(\mathbf{V}, t)$. In this frame, the Boltzmann equation (1) for the distribution $f_1(\mathbf{V}, t)$ reads [35]

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f_1 - a V_y \frac{\partial}{\partial V_x} f_1 = J_{11}[f_1, f_1] + J_{12}[f_1, f_2],$$

while a similar equation holds for $f_2$. The properties of uniform temperature and constant densities and shear rate are enforced in computer simulations by applying the Lees-Edwards boundary conditions [37], regardless of the particular interaction model considered. In the case of boundary conditions representing realistic plates in relative motion, the corresponding non-equilibrium state is the so-called Couette flow, where densities, temperature and shear rate are no longer uniform [38, 39].

As alluded to above, the rheological properties of the mixture are obtained from the pressure tensor $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}_1 + \mathbf{P}_2$, where the partial pressure tensors $\mathbf{P}_r$ ($r = 1, 2$) are defined by Eq. (14). The elements of these tensors can be obtained by multiplying the Boltzmann equation (16) by $m_r \mathbf{VV}$ and integrating over $\mathbf{V}$. The result can be written as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} P_{1,ij} + a_{ik} P_{1, kj} + a_{jk} P_{1,ki} + B_{11} P_{1,ij} + B_{12} P_{2,ij} = (A_{11} p_1 + A_{12} p_2) \delta_{ij},$$

(17)

where use has been made of Eq. (13) (with $J_r = 0$). In Eq. (17), $a_{ij} = a \delta_{ix} \delta_{jy}$ and we have introduced the coefficients

$$A_{11} = \frac{\omega_{11}}{2(d+2)} (1 + \alpha_{11})^2 + \frac{\omega_{12}}{d+2} \mu_{21}^2 \frac{1 + \alpha_{12}}{2},$$

(18)

$$A_{12} = \frac{\omega_{12}}{d+2} \frac{\rho_{1}}{\rho_{2}} \mu_{21}^2 \frac{1 + \alpha_{12}}{2},$$

(19)

$$B_{11} = \frac{\omega_{11}}{d+2} (1 + \alpha_{11})(d + 1 - \alpha_{11}) + \frac{2\omega_{12}}{d+2} \times \mu_{21}(1 + \alpha_{12})[d + 2 - \mu_{21}(1 + \alpha_{12})],$$

(20)

$$B_{12} = -\frac{2}{d} A_{12}.$$  

(21)

Adequate change of indices ($1 \leftrightarrow 2$) provide the equations pertaining to $\mathbf{P}_2$. The evolution equation for the temperature can be obtained from Eq. (17) and reads

$$\nu_0^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \ln T = -\zeta^* - \frac{2a^*}{d} P_{s,xy}^*.$$  

(22)

Here, the following reduced quantities have been introduced: $\zeta^* = \zeta/\nu_0$, $a^* = a/\nu_0$, $P_{s,xy}^* = P_{s,xy}/p$, $p = nT$ being the hydrostatic pressure. The expression for $\zeta^*$ can be derived from Eq. (15) when one takes $J_r = 0$. The result is

$$\zeta^* = \frac{2}{d} \sum_{r,s} x_r x_s \mu_{sr} (1 + \alpha_{sr}) \left[ \gamma_r - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha_{rs}}{\gamma} (\gamma_r \mu_{sr} + \gamma_s \mu_{sr}) \right].$$  

(23)

As can be seen in Eq. (22), the temperature changes in time due the competition of two opposite mechanisms: viscous heating (shearing work) and energy dissipation in collisions. The reduced shear rate $a^*$ is the non-equilibrium relevant parameter of the USF state since it measures the distance of the system from the homogeneous cooling state [1]. In general, since $a^*$ does not depend on time, there is no steady state unless $a^*$ takes the specific value given by the steady-state condition

$$a^*_s P^*_{s,xy} = -\frac{d}{2} \zeta^*,$$  

(24)

denoting $a^*_s$ and $P^*_{s,xy}$ the steady-state values of the (reduced) shear rate and the pressure tensor. Beyond this particular case, the reduced shear rate and the coefficients of restitution can be considered as independent and so, one can analyze the combined effect of both control parameters on the rheological properties of the mixture. This is one of the main advantages of the interaction model used in this paper, in contrast to previous works [13] : our goal is to disentangle the effects of dissipation from those of forcing through shear. For comparison to a real system or with simulation data, that are generally studied in the steady state where collisional cooling and viscous heating equilibrate, one should however specifically work with an $a$-dependent (reduced) shear rate, given by the solution of Eq. (24). We shall come back to this point in Sect. V.

We are interested in obtaining the explicit forms of the scaled pressure tensors $P^*_{r,ij} = P_{r,ij}/p$ in the long-time limit. The relevant elements of these tensors are
Here, \( P^*_{r,xx} = p^* - (d - 1) P^*_{r,yy}, P^*_{r,xy}, \) and \( P^*_{r,xy} \) with \( r = 1, 2 \) [13, 18]. Here, \( p^* = p_r/p = x_r \gamma_r \). As in the monocomponent granular case [15], one can check that, after a certain kinetic regime lasting a few collision times, the scaled pressure tensors \( P^*_{r,ij} = P_{r,ij}/p \) reach well-defined stationary values (non-Newtonian hydrodynamic regime), which are non-linear functions of the (reduced) shear rate \( a^* \) and the coefficients of restitution. In terms of these scaled variables and by using matrix notation, Eq. (17) can be rewritten as

\[
\mathcal{L}\mathcal{P} = 0, \tag{25}
\]

where \( \mathcal{P} \) is the column matrix

\[
\mathcal{P} = \begin{pmatrix} P^*_{1,xx} \\ P^*_{1,yy} \\ P^*_{2,xx} \\ P^*_{2,xy} \\ P^*_{r,xx} \end{pmatrix}
\]

and \( \mathcal{L} \) is the square matrix

\[
\mathcal{L} = \begin{pmatrix}
B_{11} + \lambda - \frac{1}{d} A^*_{11} & -\frac{d}{d-1} A^*_{11} & 2a^* & 0 & 0 \\
-\frac{d-1}{d} A^*_{11} & B_{11} + \lambda - \frac{d}{d-1} A^*_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
B^*_{21} - \frac{1}{d} A^*_{21} & -\frac{d}{d-1} A^*_{21} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
-\frac{d-1}{d} A^*_{21} & B^*_{21} - \frac{d}{d-1} A^*_{21} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & B_{22} + \lambda
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

Here, \( A^*_{rs} = A_{rs}/\nu_0 \) and \( B^*_{rs} = B_{rs}/\nu_0 \). In addition, it has been taken into account that for long times the temperature \( T(t) \) behaves as

\[
T(t) = T(0)e^{\lambda_0 t}, \tag{28}
\]

where \( \lambda \) is also a nonlinear function of \( a^*, \alpha_{rs} \) and the parameters of the mixture. The (reduced) total pressure tensor \( P^*_{ij} = P_{ij}/p \) of the mixture is defined as

\[
P^*_{ij} = P^*_{1,ij} + P^*_{2,ij}. \tag{29}
\]

Equation (25) has a nontrivial solution if

\[
det \mathcal{L} = 0. \tag{30}
\]

Equation (30) is a sixth-degree polynomial equation with coefficients depending on \( a \) and \( \xi \equiv \{ x_1, \mu, \alpha_{11}, \alpha_{22}, \alpha_{12} \} \). Here, \( \mu = m_1/m_2 \) is the mass ratio. In general, this equation must be solved numerically. Figure 1 shows the real part \( \text{Re}[\lambda] \) of the roots of Eq. (30) versus \( a^* \) for hard disks \( (d = 2) \) in the case \( x_1 = 0.2, m_1/m_2 = 0.5, \) and \( \alpha_{rs} = 0.8 \). Obviously, exactly the same curves are obtained in the case \( m_1/m_2 = 2 \) and \( x_1 = 0.8 \). At a given value of the shear rate, the difference between the two largest values of \( \nu_0 \lambda \) gives the inverse of the relaxation time of the transient regime. It can be proved that this difference does not vanish if \( x_1 \neq 0 \).

According to Eq. (28), the largest root of the sixth-degree equation (30) governs the time evolution of the global temperature \( T(t) \) in the long-time limit. Thus, the upper curve in Fig. 1 gives the value of \( \lambda \) of Eq. (28) for the case \( x_1 = 0.2, m_1/m_2 = 0.5, \) and \( \alpha_{rs} = 0.8 \).

The stationary forms of \( P_1 \) and \( P_2 \) are obtained by solving the homogeneous equation (25) since \( det \mathcal{L} = 0. \)
The expressions of $p_1^*$ and $P_{rs}^*$ can be obtained from Eq. (31). In particular, the explicit form of $p_1^* = x_1 \gamma_1$ can be found in Appendix A. This quantity gives the ratio between the energy of the species 1 and the total energy of the mixture.

It is important to recall that, although the scaled pressure tensors $P_{rs}^*$ achieve stationary values, the binary mixture is not in general in a steady state since the granular temperature changes in time. In fact, since $P_{xy}^* < 0$, according to Eq. (22) the temperature $T(t)$ grows exponentially if $-2a^*P_{xy}^* > d\zeta^*$, namely, when the imposed shear rate is large enough to make the viscous heating effect dominate over the collisional cooling. The opposite occurs when $d\zeta^* > -2a^*P_{xy}^*$ and so, the temperature decreases in time.

To illustrate the non-Newtonian behavior [40] of the temperature ratio and the pressure tensor, Figs. 2 and 3 show $\gamma_1$ and $P_{rs}^*$, respectively, as functions of the (reduced) shear rate $a^*$ for an equimolar mixture ($x_1 = 0.5$) of inelastic hard spheres ($d = 3$) with $m_1/m_2 = 8$. Two different values of the (common) coefficient of restitution $\alpha_{rs} \equiv \alpha$ have been considered: $\alpha = 1$ (solid line) and $\alpha = 0.8$ (dashed-dotted line).

The results derived in the preceding section have shown that the time dependent solution for the second-degree velocity moments is given in terms of the roots of the sixth-degree polynomial equation (30). For long times, the dominant behavior is described by the two real roots, $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$. In particular, the energy ratio $E_1/E = x_1 \gamma_1$ can be written as

$$\frac{E_1}{E} = \frac{Ap_1^*(\lambda_2, a, \xi) + Bp_1^*(\lambda_1, a, \xi)e^{-(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)\nu(t)}}{A + Be^{-(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)\nu(t)}},$$

where $A$ and $B$ are constants depending on the initial conditions and the explicit expression of $p_1^*$ is given by Eq. (A1). After a relaxation time of the order of $|x_1 - \lambda_1|\nu^{-1}$, the energy ratio $E_1/E$ reaches a steady state value $p_1^*(\lambda_{\text{max}}, a, \xi)$ where $\lambda_{\text{max}} = \max(\lambda_2, \lambda_1)$. As long as $x_1 \neq 0$, one has $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ for any value of the shear rate and $\xi$.

Let us assume now that the mole fraction of one of the species (say for instance, species 1) becomes negligible. In the tracer limit ($x_1 \to 0$), the sixth-degree equation (30) for $\lambda$ factorizes into two cubic equations (see appendix B, where the quantities used below are defined), with the following largest roots:

$$\lambda_2^{(0)} = 2F(a^*/A_{22}^{(0)})A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{22}^{(0)} - A_{22}^{(0)}$$

$$= \frac{(1 + \sigma_{22})^2}{d + 2F(\bar{u}) - 1 - \sigma_{22}^2},$$

where

$$F(x) = \frac{2}{3} \sinh^2 \left[ \frac{1}{6} \cosh^{-1} \left( 1 + \frac{27}{d} x^2 \right) \right].$$

IV. TRACER LIMIT ($x_1 \to 0$)

The results derived in the preceding section have shown that the time dependent solution for the second-degree velocity moments is given in terms of the roots of the
where the dependence on \( \mu, \alpha_{11}, \alpha_{22}, \) and \( \alpha_{12} \) is implicitly assumed on the right-hand side. The general expressions of \( D, \Delta_0, \) and \( \Delta_1 \) can be found in Appendix C.

Equation (40) holds for both \( \lambda = \lambda_2 \) and \( \lambda = \lambda_1 \). These two possibilities turn out to differ in that \( \lambda_1^{(0)} \) (the value of \( \lambda_1 \) at \( x_1 = 0 \)) is a root of \( \Delta_0 \). It is then important to keep track of the finite \( x_1 \) correction to \( \lambda_1^{(0)} \) that is present in \( \lambda_1 \). To first order in \( x_1 \), we have

\[
\lambda_1(a^*, x_1) \approx \lambda_1^{(0)}(a^*) + \lambda_1^{(1)}(a^*) x_1 \tag{41}
\]

and

\[
\lambda_2(a^*, x_1) \approx \lambda_2^{(0)}(a^*) + \lambda_2^{(1)}(a^*) x_1, \tag{42}
\]

where \( \lambda_2^{(0)} \) and \( \lambda_1^{(0)} \) are given by Eqs. (36) and (39), respectively. The expressions of \( \lambda_2^{(1)} \) and \( \lambda_1^{(1)} \) can be obtained from the general sixth-degree polynomial equation (30); they are given in Appendix C. It can be checked that if \( \lambda = \lambda_2^{(0)} \) in Eq. (40), then [according to Eqs. (C1) and (C2)] \( D(\lambda_2^{(0)}) \neq 0, \Delta_0(\lambda_2^{(0)}) \neq 0, \) and so the energy ratio \( E_1/E \) vanishes when \( x_1 \to 0 \), as may have been expected. However, if \( \lambda = \lambda_1^{(0)} \) in Eq. (40), \( \Delta_0(\lambda_1^{(0)}) = 0 \) which implies that \( E_1/E \neq 0 \). Therefore, by taking the tracer limit in Eq. (40), one gets

\[
\lim_{x_1 \to 0} \frac{1}{x_1} p_1^*(\lambda_2(a^*, x_1), a^*, x_1) = \frac{D(\lambda_2^{(0)}(a^*), a^*)}{\Delta_0(\lambda_2^{(0)}(a^*), a^*)} \tag{43}
\]

\[
\lim_{x_1 \to 0} p_1^*(\lambda_1(a^*, x_1), a^*, x_1) = \frac{D(\lambda_1^{(0)}(a^*), a^*)}{\Delta_0(\lambda_1^{(0)}(a^*), a^*)} \neq 0, \tag{44}
\]

where

\[
\Delta_0(a^*) = \left( \frac{\partial \Delta_0(\lambda, a^*)}{\partial \lambda} \right)_{\lambda = \lambda_1^{(0)}(a^*)} \lambda_1^{(1)}(a^*). \tag{45}
\]

Equation (43), where \( \lambda_2 \) is the argument of \( p_1^* \), is relevant for the case \( \lambda_2^{(0)} > \lambda_1^{(0)} \) while conversely, Eq. (44) applies when \( \lambda_2^{(0)} < \lambda_1^{(0)} \). In Eq. (44), use has been made of the fact that \( \Delta_0(\lambda_1^{(0)}, a^*) = 0 \).

In conclusion, if \( \lambda_{\text{max}} = \lambda_1^{(0)} \), the right-hand side of Eq. (43) is the temperature ratio \( T_1/T \) and so, the energy ratio \( E_1/E = 0 \). On the other hand, if \( \lambda_{\text{max}} = \lambda_2^{(0)} \), the temperature ratio diverges to infinity and the energy ratio becomes finite. The change from one behavior to the other is akin to a non-equilibrium transition between disordered (\( E_1/E = 0 \), finite temperature ratio) and ordered (\( E_1/E \neq 0 \), diverging temperature ratio) phases [23]. The task now boils down to identifying the regions of parameter space where \( \lambda_1^{(0)} = \lambda_2^{(0)} \), from which the domains of existence of the ordered and disordered phases can be obtained. It is important to note here that although our procedure leads to tracer limit quantities that \( \text{a priori} \) depend on the intruder-intruder coefficient of restitution \( \alpha_{11} \), such a parameter turns out to disappear from the final expressions, which is intuitively expected. We could not analytically show this property (the computer package of symbolic calculations (MATHEMATICA) used was not able to provide a manageable expression), that is nevertheless a systematic numerical observation. We will henceforth drop \( \alpha_{11} \) from the relevant parameters in the tracer limit.
A. Absence of shear rate (homogeneous cooling state)

Before analyzing the physical consequences of the above mathematical treatment in the shear flow problem ($a \neq 0$), it is instructive to consider the particular case of vanishing shear rates. This state is referred to as the homogeneous cooling state (HCS). Such a situation has been analyzed in detail in a recent work [41]. Here, for the sake of completeness, we summarize the most relevant results in the HCS.

When $a^* = 0$, the roots $\lambda_2^{(0)}$ and $\lambda_1^{(0)}$ simply reduce to

$$\lambda_2^{(0)} = -\frac{1 - \alpha_2^2}{2}$$  \hspace{1cm} (46)

$$\lambda_1^{(0)} = -\frac{2}{d} \mu_21(1+\alpha_{12}) \left[1 - \frac{\mu_21}{2}(1+\alpha_{12}) \right].$$  \hspace{1cm} (47)

It is apparent that, even in the HCS, there are two different regimes of behavior depending if $\lambda_2^{(0)}$ is smaller or larger than $\lambda_1^{(0)}$. Equating $\lambda_2^{(0)}$ and $\lambda_1^{(0)}$ leads to two critical mass ratios

$$\mu_{HCS}^{(-)} = \frac{\alpha_{12} - \sqrt{1 + \alpha_{22}^2}}{1 + \sqrt{1 + \alpha_{22}^2}}$$  \hspace{1cm} and  \hspace{1cm} $\mu_{HCS}^{(+)} = \frac{\alpha_{12} + \sqrt{1 + \alpha_{22}^2}}{1 - \sqrt{1 + \alpha_{22}^2}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (48)

with $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)} < \mu_{HCS}^{(+)}$. When $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)} < \mu < \mu_{HCS}^{(+)}$, we have $\lambda_2^{(0)} > \lambda_1^{(0)}$ and the temperature ratio $T_1/T$ remains finite (disordered phase). It is given by [41]

$$T_1 = \frac{2\mu_{12}\mu_{21}(1+\alpha_{12})}{4\mu_{21}(1+\alpha_{12}) \left[1 - \frac{\mu_{21}}{2}(1+\alpha_{12}) \right]} - 1 + \alpha_{22}^2.$$  \hspace{1cm} (49)

The expressions of $\mu_{HCS}^{(\pm)}$ and $T_1/T$ coincide with the ones previously derived by Ben-Naim and Krapivsky [28] in their analysis on the velocity statistics of an impurity immersed in a uniform granular fluid. When $\mu > \mu_{HCS}^{(+)}$ or $\mu < \mu_{HCS}^{(-)}$, $\lambda_2^{(0)} < \lambda_1^{(0)}$, so that $T_1/T \rightarrow \infty$ but the energy ratio $E_1/E$ is finite. This is a new result together with the identification of the bound $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)}$. The explicit expression of $E_1/E$ is then [41]

$$E_1 = \frac{\alpha_{22}^2 - 1 + 4\mu_{21}(1+\alpha_{12}) \left[1 - \frac{\mu_{21}}{2}(1+\alpha_{12}) \right]}{\alpha_{22}^2 - 1 + 2\mu_{21}(1 - \alpha_{22}^2)}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (50)

Three remarks are in order here:

- a similar extreme breakdown of the energy equipartition has been found [42] for inelastic hard spheres since, in the ordered phase ($T_1/T \rightarrow \infty$), the ratio of the mean square velocities for the impurity and gas particles $m_2 T_1/m_1 T$ becomes finite for an extremely heavy impurity particle ($m_1/m_2 \rightarrow \infty$). Our Maxwell approach hence captures robust effects, but at the same time exaggerates the trend of more refined models.

- in the present unforced situation, the results are independent of the space dimension $d$.

B. Nonzero shear rate

We now wish to assess the influence of the shear rate on the transition observed in the absence of shear (HCS). When $a^* = 0$, we have seen that an ordered phase exists for heavy impurities, while asymmetric dissipation may open a window for a light impurity ordered phase, provided $\alpha_{12} > \sqrt{(1 + \alpha_{22}^2)/2}$. On the other hand, it is known for elastic systems that an ordered phase sets in for $\mu < \sqrt{2} - 1$ [43] (which can be seen as a light impurity condition), provided the shear rate $a^*$ is larger than a certain critical value $a^*_c(\mu)$. To see how these two limiting cases are connected, we first show in Fig. 4 how the shear rate affects the HCS scenario, and how collisional dissipation modifies the results obtained for ordinary gases ($\alpha_{rs} = 1$) [23]. Since we have chosen symmetric dissipation parameters ($\alpha_{12} = \alpha_{22}$) in Fig. 4, the
light tracer ordered phase is precluded on the $a^* = 0$ axis. It can be seen that this phase exists, in the shear rate versus mass ratio plane, provided $a^* > a^*_s$ and $\mu < \mu_{th}^{(-)}$, which defines a domain that is rather insensitive to the value of the coefficient of restitution. On the other hand, the heavy tracer ordered phase is much more sensitive to collisional dissipation. At variance with the light tracer phase, it has an enhanced domain of existence for more dissipative systems, and disappears in the elastic limit, as suggested by Fig. 4 (see the dashed line corresponding to $\alpha_{12} = \alpha_{22} = 0.99$, squeezed in the lower right corner of the graph). We also note that the heavy impurity ordered phase is destroyed by a sufficiently vigorous shear rate, see below.

The characteristic features seen in Figure 4— with two distinct ordering pockets— may be rationalized by further analytical results. In particular, the threshold $\mu_{th}^{(-)}$ may be obtained by the condition $\lambda_2^{(0)} = \lambda_1^{(0)}$ when $a^* \to \infty$. Following that route, we find

$$\mu_{th}^{(-)} = \sqrt{2\frac{1 + \alpha_{12}}{1 + \alpha_{22}}} - 1,$$

(51)

that does not depend on space dimension, as the thresholds pertaining to the HCS. As expected, we recover the threshold value $\mu_{th}^{(-)} = \sqrt{2} - 1$ for elastic systems. Likewise, the upper shear rate $a^{(+)}$ beyond which the heavy impurity ordered phase disappears may be derived from enforcing the limit $\mu \to \infty$ in the equality $\lambda_2^{(0)} = \lambda_1^{(0)}$. Since $\mu_{21} \to 0$, then $\lambda_1^{(0)} \to 0$ so that $\lambda_2^{(0)} = 0$. This implies [see Eq. (36)]

$$F(\tilde{a}) = \frac{d + 2 - \alpha_{22}^2}{2d + 1 + \alpha_{22}^2}.$$  

(52)

Equation (52) yields

$$a^{(+)} = \frac{1 + d - \alpha_{22}}{d} \frac{1 - \alpha_{22}^2}{2(d + 2)},$$

(53)

where use has been made of the relation

$$F(1 + 2F)^2 = \frac{x^2}{d},$$

(54)

where $F(x)$ is given by Eq. (37). The identity (54) allows for a convenient expression of $\tilde{a}$ [and hence $a^*$ through Eq. (38)], once $\lambda$ [and hence $F(\tilde{a})$] is known. Since the value of $a^{(+)}$ has been obtained from the condition $\lambda_2^{(0)} = 0$ (constant temperature in the ordered phase), the expression (53) also gives the $\alpha$-dependence of the shear rate in the steady USF state [18].

The quantities $\mu_{th}^{(-)}$ and $a^{(+)}$ are indicated by arrows in Fig. 4. Consistent with the disappearance of the heavy impurity ordered phase for elastic systems, is the vanishing of $a^{(+)}$ when $\alpha_{22} \to 1$. It can also be noted that $a^{(+)}$ is only a host property, and does not depend on $\alpha_{12}$. Finally, Fig. 5 shows that the behavior in two and three dimensions are similar.

We now turn to asymmetric collisional dissipation cases, so that the light impurity ordered phase may exist even for vanishing shear rates. Such a scenario is illustrated in Fig. 6, that corroborates the analytical predictions. The boundary of the light impurity ordered phase in a shear-mass ratio phase diagram is non trivial, and indicates the existence of an interval of $\mu$ values, below $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)}$, with a re-entrance feature. Indeed, starting from the ordered phase at $a^* = 0$, and increasing $a^*$ at fixed $\mu$, one first meets a transition from order to disorder, followed by a subsequent ordering transition. Similarly, and again for $\alpha_{12} > \sqrt{(1 + \alpha_{22}^2)/2}$, the following series order → disorder → order occurs when $\mu$ is increased at fixed reduced shear rate, provided $a^* < a^{(+)}$. 

---

**FIG. 5.** Same as Fig. 4, for hard disks ($d = 2$). Here, $\alpha_{12} = \alpha_{22} = 0.9$.

**FIG. 6.** Tracer limit phase diagram, in three dimensions. The values of $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)}$ and $\mu_{HCS}^{(+)}$ predicted by Eq. (48) are shown by the arrows. For $\alpha_{12} = 0.9$ as chosen here, the constraint $\alpha_{12} > \sqrt{(1 + \alpha_{22}^2)/2}$ for the existence of a light impurity ordering at vanishing shear, reads $\alpha_{12} < 0.787$. The dashed line therefore does not reveal any light impurity ordered phase at zero shear rate (this was also the case in Fig. 4).
To substantiate the phase diagram reported above, we show in Fig. 7 the shear rate dependence of the order parameter $E_1/E$, for different values of the (common) coefficient of restitution and mass ratios. The light impurity ordering is seen to be enhanced by increasing the shear rate, while the reverse behavior is in general observed for heavy impurities (see the inset). The critical thresholds observed in Fig. 7 are fully compatible with those appearing in Fig. 4. Focussing next on the light impurity ordered phase, we report the order parameter variation in cases of asymmetric collisional dissipation. To this end, we return to the set $\alpha_{12} = 0.9$ and $\alpha_{22} = 0.55$ addressed in Fig. 7. For such quantities, one has $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)} \simeq 0.051$.

As can be seen in Fig. 8, when $\mu < \mu_{HCS}^{(-)}$, the order parameter is non vanishing at small shear rates, while when $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)} < \mu < \mu_{th}^{(-)}$, ordering sets in only beyond a critical shear rate (note that $\mu_{HCS}^{(-)} \simeq 0.733$, so that the light impurity ordered phase does exist in some shear domain, for all the mass ratios used in Fig. 8). The figure clearly shows the re-entrance of order alluded to above (see the curves for $\mu = 10^{-2}$ and $\mu = 3 \times 10^{-2}$, where an intermediate interval of $a^*$ values leads to a disordered phase with $E_1/E = 0$. For $\mu = 10^{-3}$ (dashed-dotted line), all shear rates lead to phase ordering ($E_1/E \neq 0$), but there is a fingerprint of the reentrant behavior in the non monotonicity of the order parameter with $a^*$.

For completeness, we now show how the tracer limit is approached. For $\mu < \mu_{th}^{(-)}$ and $\alpha_{12} = \alpha_{22}$, ordering occurs when the system is driven sufficiently far from equilibrium ($a^* > a_*^t$). To illustrate how the abrupt transition observed in the tracer limit is blurred by finite concentration, Fig. 9 shows $E_1/E$ versus the (reduced) shear rate $a^*$ for $d = 3$, $m_1/m_2 = 0.2$, $\alpha_{11} = \alpha_{22} = \alpha_{12} = 0.9$ and $x_1 = 10^{-1}$, $10^{-2}$ and 0. It is apparent that the curves tend to collapse to the exact tracer limit result as the mole fraction $x_1$ vanishes. This is indicative of the consistency of the analytical results derived at $x_1 = 0$. Moreover, since the impurity particle is sufficiently lighter than the particles of the gas ($\mu = 0.2 < \mu_{th}^{(-)} \simeq 0.414$), the energy ratio $E_1/E$ is non vanishing in the tracer limit if $a^* > a_*^t \simeq 7.557$ in the present case (see the figure). It can also be noted that at finite $x_1$, the energy ratio for small shear rates is of the order of $x_1$, since the temperature ratio is quite close to unity in that limit (see e.g. Fig. 2).

Although we have focused our attention on the energy ratio, it is clear that similar features can be analyzed when considering other quantities. An interesting candi-
FIG. 10. Shear rate dependence of the intrinsic viscosity \( \eta^* \) for hard spheres \( (d = 3) \) in the case \( m_1/m_2 = 0.1 \). Three different values of the (common) coefficient of restitution \( \alpha \equiv \alpha_{12} = \alpha_{22} \) have been considered: \( \alpha = 0.5 \) (solid line), \( \alpha = 0.7 \) (dashed line), and \( \alpha = 1 \) (dotted line).

date the non-linear shear viscosity \( \eta^* \) defined as

\[
\eta^*(a^*) = -\frac{P_{xy}^*}{a^*},
\]

where the shear stress \( P_{xy}^* = P_{1,xy}^* + P_{2,xy}^* \). The rheological function \( \eta^* \) characterizes the nonlinear response of the system to the action of strong shearing. In terms of \( p_1^* \) and for finite values of \( x_1 \), the expressions of \( P_{1,xy}^* \) and \( P_{2,xy}^* \) are given by Eqs. (A6) and (A7), respectively.

As expected, in the tracer limit \( (x_1 \to 0) \) and in the disordered phase, the total shear viscosity \( \eta^* \) of the mixture coincides with that of the solvent gas \( \eta^* \), where \( \eta^* \) is given by Eq. (C18). However, in the ordered phase, there is a finite contribution to the total shear viscosity coming from the tracer particles (see Eq. (C19)). To illustrate it, Fig. 10 shows the shear rate dependence of the intrinsic shear viscosity \( [\eta^*] = \lim_{x_1 \to 0} (\eta^* - \eta^*)/\eta^* \) for the mass ratio \( m_1/m_2 = 0.1 \) (light impurity) and different values of the (common) coefficient of restitution. We observe that the intrinsic viscosity \( [\eta^*] \) is clearly different from zero for shear rates larger than its corresponding critical value. On the other hand, its magnitude is smaller than the one obtained for the order parameter \( E_1/E \) (see Fig. 7).

V. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In this paper we have analyzed the dynamics of an impurity immersed in a granular gas subject to USF. The study has been performed in two successive steps. First, the pressure tensor of a granular binary mixture of inelastic Maxwell gases under USF has been obtained from an exact solution of the Boltzmann equation. This solution applies for arbitrary values of the shear rate \( a^* \) and the parameters of the mixture, namely, the mole fraction \( x_1 = n_1/n \), the mass ratio \( \mu \equiv m_1/m_2 \) and the coefficients of restitution \( \alpha_{11}, \alpha_{22} \) and \( \alpha_{12}. \) Then, the tracer limit \( (x_1 \to 0) \) of the above solution has been carefully considered, showing that the relative contribution of the tracer species to the total properties of the mixture does not necessarily vanish as \( x_1 \to 0 \). This surprising result extends to inelastic gases some results derived some time ago for ordinary gases [23]. The above phenomenon can be seen as a non-equilibrium phase transition, where the relative contribution of the impurity to the total kinetic energy \( E_1/E \) plays the role of an order parameter [45].

The transition problem addressed here has been analyzed in the framework of the Boltzmann equation with Maxwell kernel. The key advantage of inelastic Maxwell models, in comparison with the more realistic inelastic hard sphere model, is that the collisional moments of the Boltzmann collision operators \( J_{rs}[f_r, f_s] \) can be exactly evaluated in terms of the velocity moments of \( f_r \) and \( f_s \), without the explicit knowledge of these velocity distribution functions. Here, we have explicitly determined the collisional moments associated with the second-degree velocity moments to get the pressure tensor of the mixture. In addition, the collision rates \( \omega_{rs} \) appearing in the operators \( J_{rs}[f_r, f_s] \) have been chosen to be time independent so that the interaction model allows to disentangle the effects of collisional dissipation (accounted for by the coefficients of restitution) from those of boundary conditions (embodied in the reduced shear rate \( a^* \) defined as \( a^* = a/\nu_0, \nu_0 \) being a characteristic collision frequency). Consequently, within this model, collisional dissipation and viscous heating generally do not compensate, so that the granular temperature increases (decreases) with time if viscous heating is larger (smaller) than collisional cooling.

In our system, the temperature \( T_2 \) of the gas particles \( (T_2 \simeq T \) in the disordered phase when \( x_1 \to 0 \) changes in time due to two competing effects: the viscous heating term \( -aP_{xy} \) and the inelastic cooling term \( \zeta T_2 \). In fact, for long times, \( T_2(t) \approx \exp[\lambda_2^{(0)}\lambda_0]\) where \( \lambda_2^{(0)} = -\zeta - (2a^*/d)P_{xy} \) (here, \( \zeta = \zeta/\nu_0 \) and \( P_{xy} = P_{xy}/p \)). Since \( P_{xy} < 0 \), the cooling rate \( \zeta^* \) can be interpreted as the ”thermostat” parameter needed to get a stationary value for the temperature \( T_2 \) of the gas particles. At a given value of the shear rate, the cooling rate increases with dissipation and so, \( T_2 \) decreases as \( \alpha_{rs} \) decreases. The tracer particles are also subject to two antagonistic mechanisms. On the one hand, \( T_1 \to \infty \) due to viscous heating and on the other hand, collisions with the gas particles tend to “thermalize” \( T_1 \) to \( T_2 \). Both effects are accounted for by the root \( \lambda_1^{(0)} \) that governs the behavior of \( T_1 \) for long times, i.e., \( T_1(t) \sim \exp[\lambda_1^{(0)}\lambda_0] \). When \( \lambda_1^{(0)} > \lambda_2^{(0)} \), the temperature ratio \( T_1/T_2 \) grows without bounds. The parameter ranges where such a requirement is met define the ordered “pockets” of the phase diagram, and where the energy ratio \( E_1/E \) explicitly worked out here– reaches a finite value. We have found that two different families of ordered phase can be encountered.
• a light impurity phase, provided that the mass ratio \( \mu \) does not exceed the threshold \( \mu_{\text{th}}(\alpha) \) given by Eq. (51). Such a phase always exists for shear rates larger than a certain critical value, but can also be observed at vanishing shear in cases of asymmetric collisional dissipation, whenever gas-gas collisions are sufficiently more dissipative that intruder-gas collisions \( (\alpha_{12} > \sqrt{(1 + \alpha_{22})/2}) \).

• a heavy impurity phase, that unlike the light impurity phase—cannot accommodate large shear, and requires \( a^* < a^*(\pm) \), where the threshold \( a^*(\pm) \) is given by Eq. (53).

The fact that \( a^* \) and \( \alpha_{rs} \) are independent parameters (unless \( a^* \) takes the specific value \( a^*_1 \) given by the steady state condition (24)) allows one to carry out a clean analytical study of the combined effect of both control parameters on the properties of the impurity particle. It is however important to bring to the fore the precise coupling between shear and collisional dissipation that the steady state condition Eq. (24) implies. The answer depends on the phase considered, ordered or disordered and the energy balance embodied in Eq (24) can be expediently expressed as \( \max(\lambda_1^{(0)}, \lambda_2^{(0)}) = 0 \). In other words, \( a^*_s \) follows from enforcing \( \lambda_2^{(0)} = 0 \) in the disordered state, and likewise \( \lambda_1^{(0)} = 0 \) in the ordered regime. The solution \( a^*_1 \) of the first equation has already been displayed in Eq. (53) : \( a^*_1 = a^*(\pm) \). On the other hand, the solution \( a^*_1 \) to \( \lambda_1^{(0)} = 0 \) can be obtained along similar lines and reads

\[
a^*_1 = \beta^{3/2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{2} \beta_{12} \left(1 + \frac{d + 2}{d} \left( \frac{2}{\beta_{12}} - 1 \right) \right)}
\]

where we have introduced the notation \( \beta_{12} \equiv \mu_{21}(1 + \alpha_{12}) \). Finally, the steady state condition implies \( a^* = a^*(\pm) \) (resp. \( a^* = a^*_1 \)) in the disordered (resp ordered) case. The corresponding line in the shear versus mass ratio plane is shown in Fig. 11, for a given set of dissipation parameters that corresponds to one of the situations analyzed in Fig. 6. It appears that remaining on the steady state line shown by the thick curve, one spans the three possible regimes: light tracer ordering at small \( \mu \), disordered phase at intermediate values, and heavy tracer order at larger \( \mu \). We conclude here that the scenario uncovered in our analysis is not an artifact of having decoupled shear from dissipation, and we emphasize that from a practical point of view, studying the transient regime (before the steady state occurs) anyway offers the possibility to enforce the above decoupling.

In addition, we would like to stress here that, in spite of the approximate nature of our plain vanilla Maxwell model, the results obtained for binary mixtures under steady USF [13] compare quite well with Monte Carlo simulations of inelastic hard spheres [19]. This can be seen in Fig. 12 for the (reduced) elements of the pressure tensor \( P_{ij}^* \) in the steady shear flow state defined by the condition (24). Therefore, we expect that the transition found in this paper is not artefactual and can be detected in the case of hard spheres interaction.

It is quite natural—when analyzing the dynamics of an impurity immersed in a background of mechanically different particles—to invoke two assumptions. First, that the state of the solvent (excess component 2) is not affected by the presence of the tracer (solute) particles 1. Second, that the effect on the state of the solute due to collisions among the tracer particles themselves can be neglected. We have seen that the second expectation is correct (the coefficient of restitution \( \alpha_{11} \) is immaterial in the tracer limit, a property that is not obvious from the cumbersome analytical formulas reported here), but the first expectation is invalid in the regions where the ordered phase sets in. Consequently, the seemingly natural “Boltzmann-Lorentz” point of view—with the one-particle velocity distribution function \( f_2 \) of the granular gas obeying a (closed) nonlinear Boltzmann kinetic equation while the one-particle velocity distribution function \( f_1 \) of the impurity particle obeys a linear Boltzmann-Lorentz kinetic equation—breaks down. Our results show that collisions of type 2-1 affect \( f_2 \), despite being much less frequent than collisions of type 2-2. We conclude here that, rather unexpectedly, the tracer problem is as complex as the general case of a binary mixture at arbitrary mole fractions.
inelastic hard spheres enjoy a steady state for a precise value of the reduced shear rate, that depends on the coefficient of restitution \( \mu \) and \( \alpha \). It can be written as

\[
\rho^*_\alpha = \frac{K_\alpha \lambda^2 + L_\alpha}{Ra_\alpha^2 + S},
\]

where

\[
K = -2A_{12}^* \lambda^2 + 4(A_{22}^* B_{12}^* - A_{12}^* B_{22}^*) \lambda + 2A_{12}^* B_{12}^* \times (B_{11}^* + B_{22}^*) - 2A_{12}^* (B_{12}^* B_{21}^* + B_{22}^*),
\]

\[
L = d(B_{12}^* - A_{12}^*) \left[ \lambda^2 + (B_{11}^* + B_{22}^*) \lambda + B_{11}^* B_{22}^* - B_{12}^* B_{21}^* \right]^2,
\]

\[
R = 2(A_{11}^* - A_{12}^*) \lambda^2 - 4[B_{12}^* (A_{22}^* - A_{12}^*) + B_{22}^* (A_{12}^* - A_{11}^*)] \lambda + 2B_{12}^* (B_{11}^* + B_{22}^*) \times (A_{22}^* - A_{12}^*) + 2(A_{11}^* - A_{12}^*) (B_{12}^* B_{21}^* + B_{22}^*),
\]

\[
S = d(A_{11}^* - A_{12}^* - B_{11}^* + B_{12}^* - \lambda) \times \left[ \lambda^2 + (B_{11}^* + B_{22}^*) \lambda + B_{11}^* B_{22}^* - B_{12}^* B_{21}^* \right]^2.
\]

Once the energy ratio is known, the remaining relevant elements of the pressure tensor can be easily obtained from Eqs. (31)–(34). In particular, the shear stress \( P_{xy}^* \) is given by

\[
P_{xy}^* = \frac{d[A_{12}^* - B_{12}^* - (B_{11}^* + \lambda - A_{11}^* + A_{12}^* - B_{12}^*) p_1^*]}{2a^*},
\]

\[
P_{2,xy}^* = \frac{d[A_{21}^* - B_{21}^* - (B_{22}^* + \lambda - A_{22}^* + A_{21}^* - B_{21}^*) (1 - p_1^*)]}{2a^*}.
\]

### Appendix B: Derivation of \( \lambda_1^{(0)} \) and \( \lambda_2^{(0)} \)

When \( x_1 \to 0 \), the sixth-degree equation (30) for the rates \( \lambda \) factorizes into two cubic equations given by

\[
2a^* A_{22}^{(0)} + d(A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{22}^{(0)} - \lambda)(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2 = 0,
\]

\[
2a^* A_{11}^{(0)} + d(A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda)(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2 = 0,
\]

where \( A_{rs}^{(0)} \) and \( B_{rs}^{(0)} \) denote the zeroth-order contributions to the expansion of \( A_{rs}^{*} = A_{rs}/\nu_0 \) and \( B_{rs}^{*} = B_{rs}/\nu_0 \), respectively, in powers of \( x_1 \). They are given by

\[
A_{22}^{(0)} = \frac{(1 + \alpha_{22})^2}{2(d + 2)},
\]

\[
B_{22}^{(0)} = \frac{(1 + \alpha_{22})(d + 1 - \alpha_{22})}{d(d + 2)},
\]

\[
A_{11}^{(0)} = \frac{\mu_{21}^2}{d + 2}(1 + \alpha_{12})^2,
\]

\[
B_{11}^{(0)} = \frac{2}{d(d + 2)} \mu_{21}^2 (1 + \alpha_{12}) [d + 2 - \mu_{21}(1 + \alpha_{12})].
\]

Equation (B1) is associated with the time evolution of the excess component. Its largest root is given by Eq. (36). On the other hand, Eq. (B2) gives the transient behavior of the impurity. Its largest root is given by Eq. (39).

### Appendix C: Some explicit expressions in the tracer limit
In this Appendix, we provide some of the expressions used along the text in the tracer limit. First, the quantities $D$, $\Delta_0$ and $\Delta_1$ appearing in Eq. (40) are given by

$$D(\lambda) = d(B_{12}^{(1)} - A_{12}^{(1)})(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2 + 2a^2 B_{22}^{(0)} B_{11}^{(0)} + 2\lambda) - A_{12}^{(1)}(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2,$$  \hspace{1cm} (C1)

$$\Delta_0(\lambda) = (B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2 \left[ 2a^2 A_{11}^{(0)} + d(A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda)(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda)^2 \right],$$  \hspace{1cm} (C2)

$$\Delta_1 = d(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda)(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda) \left\{ (A_{11}^{(1)} - A_{12}^{(1)} - B_{11}^{(0)} + B_{12}^{(0)}) \right. \right.$$  

$$\left. \times (B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda)(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda) + 2(A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda) \right. \right.$$  

$$\left. \times \left[ B_{22}^{(1)}(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda) + B_{11}^{(1)}(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda) - B_{22}^{(0)} B_{12}^{(1)} \right] \right\}$$  

$$+ 2a^2 \left\{ (A_{12}^{(0)} - A_{12}^{(1)}) B_{12}^{(1)}(B_{11}^{(0)} + B_{22}^{(0)} + 2\lambda) \right. \right.$$  

$$+ (B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda) \left[ (B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda)(A_{11}^{(1)} - A_{12}^{(1)}) + 2A_{11}^{(0)} B_{22}^{(1)} \right] + A_{11}^{(0)} B_{21}^{(0)} B_{12}^{(1)} \right\}. \hspace{1cm} (C3)$$

In these equations, $A_{11}^{(0)}$ and $B_{12}^{(0)}$ are given by Eqs. (B3)-(B6) and

$$A_{21}^{(0)} = A_{12}^{(1)} \frac{\mu_{12} \mu_{21}}{(d + 2)}(1 + \alpha_{12})^2, \quad B_{21}^{(0)} = B_{12}^{(1)} = -\frac{2}{d} A_{21}^{(0)}, \hspace{1cm} (C4)$$

$$A_{11}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{2(d + 2)}(1 + \alpha_{11})^2, \hspace{1cm} (C5)$$

$$B_{11}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{d(d + 2)}(1 + \alpha_{11})(d + 1 - \alpha_{11}), \hspace{1cm} (C6)$$

$$B_{22}^{(1)} = \frac{2}{d(d + 2)}(1 + \alpha_{12}) [d + 2 - \mu_{12}(1 + \alpha_{12})]. \hspace{1cm} (C7)$$

The expressions of the coefficients $\lambda_i^{(1)}(a)$ can be written as

$$\lambda_i^{(1)} = \frac{X_i(\lambda_i^{(0)})}{Y_i(\lambda_i^{(0)})}, \hspace{1cm} (C8)$$

where

$$X_i(\lambda_i^{(0)}) = 4X_i^{(4)} a^{*4} + 2dX_i^{(2)} a^{*2} + d^2 (B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)})(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)})X_i^{(0)}, \hspace{1cm} (C9)$$

$$Y_i(\lambda_i^{(0)}) = d(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)}) \left[ 2a^2 A_{11}^{(0)} d(A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda_i^{(0)})(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)})^2 \right] \left[ 2A_{11}^{(0)} - 3(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)}) \right]$$  

$$+ d(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)}) \left[ 2a^2 A_{22}^{(0)} + d(A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{22}^{(0)} - \lambda_i^{(0)})(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)})^2 \right] \left[ 2A_{11}^{(0)} - 3(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i^{(0)}) \right]. \hspace{1cm} (C10)$$

Here, we have introduced the quantities

$$X_i^{(4)} = A_{12}^{(1)} A_{21}^{(0)} - A_{11}^{(1)} A_{22}^{(0)} - A_{22}^{(1)} A_{11}^{(0)}, \hspace{1cm} (C11)$$
\[ X_i^{(2)} = B_{11}{^0} \left[ A_{22}(0) \right] + 3B_{12}(0)A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{12}A_{21}^{(0)} + 2B_{12}^{(1)}A_{22}^{(0)} \]

\[-B_{12}^{(1)}B_{22}^{(0)} \left[ A_{22}(0) + B_{11}^{(0)} \right] + A_{22}^{(0)}B_{22}^{(0)} + A_{11}(0)B_{22}^{(0)} \left[ B_{22}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} \right] \]

\[ + A_{11}^{(0)}B_{12}^{(0)}(B_{11}^{(0)} + B_{22}^{(0)}) - A_{22}^{(1)}B_{11}^{(0)} + B_{22}^{(0)} + 3B_{22}^{(0)}B_{11}^{(0)} \]

\[-2A_{22}^{(0)}B_{11}^{(0)}(B_{11}^{(0)} + B_{22}^{(0)}) \]

\[-B_{12}^{(0)} \left[ A_{22}(0) + B_{11}^{(0)} \right] + 3\lambda_i(0) + B_{22}^{(0)} + 3\lambda_i(0)^2 \]

\[-B_{21}^{(0)}(B_{11}^{(0)} + 2\lambda_i(0) + B_{22}^{(0)} + 2\lambda_i(0)B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0)) \]

\[+ \lambda_i(0) \left[ 3B_{11}^{(0)}A_{22}^{(1)}B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) + 2A_{22}^{(0)}B_{21}^{(0)} - B_{12}A_{21}^{(0)} \right] \]

\[-3B_{21}^{(0)}A_{22}^{(0)}B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) - A_{22}^{(0)}B_{21}^{(0)} + 3A_{22}^{(0)}B_{11}^{(0)} + A_{22}^{(1)}A_{22}^{(0)} \]

\[+ A_{11}^{(0)} \left[ 3B_{12}^{(0)}B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) + \lambda_i(0)^2 - 2A_{22}^{(0)}B_{11}^{(0)} + B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) \right] \]

\[+ A_{11}^{(0)} \left[ 3B_{22}^{(0)}B_{12}^{(0)} - 2A_{22}^{(0)}B_{11}^{(0)} + 2B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) + 3B_{22}^{(1)}B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) \right] \]

\[X_i^{(0)} = 2(A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda_i(0))(A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{22}^{(0)} - \lambda_i(0)) \left[ B_{21}^{(0)}B_{12}^{(0)} - B_{12}^{(1)}B_{21}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) - B_{11}^{(0)}B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0) \right] \]

\[+(B_{11}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0))(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0)) \left[ (A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{22}^{(0)})(A_{12}^{(0)} - B_{12}^{(0)}) + (B_{12}^{(0)} - A_{12}^{(0)})(A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda_i(0)) \right] \]

\[+ (A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)})(B_{22}^{(0)} - A_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_i(0)) \]

where

\[ A_{22}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{d + 2}\mu_i^{12}(1 + \alpha_{12})^2. \]

With respect to the shear stress \( P_{xy}^* \), in the disordered phase (\( \lambda_2^{(0)} > \lambda_1^{(0)} \) and so, \( p_1^* = 0 \)) one has \( P_{1,xy}^* = 0 \) while \( P_{2,xy}^* \) is given by (see Eq. (A7))

\[ P_{2,xy}^* = -\frac{A_{22}^{(0)}}{(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_2^{(0)})^2}a^*. \]

In the ordered phase (\( \lambda_1^{(0)} > \lambda_2^{(0)} \) and so, \( p_1^* = \text{finite} \)), Eqs. (A6) and (A7) yield, respectively,

\[ P_{1,xy}^* = \frac{d}{2a^*} \left( A_{11}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} - \lambda_1^{(0)} \right) p_1^*. \]

\[ P_{2,xy}^* = \frac{d}{2a^*} \left[ A_{21}^{(0)} - B_{21}^{(0)} - (B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_1^{(0)} - A_{22}^{(0)}) + A_{21}^{(0)} - B_{21}^{(0)} \right](1 - p_1^*), \]

where \( p_1^* \) is given by Eq. (44). Consequently, according to Eq. (55), the non-linear shear viscosity \( \eta^* \) in the disordered phase is

\[ \eta^* = \frac{A_{22}^{(0)}}{(B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_2^{(0)})^2}, \]

while in the ordered phase the result is

\[ \eta^* = \frac{d}{2a^*} \left\{ B_{22}^{(0)} + \lambda_1^{(0)} - A_{22}^{(0)} - \left[ \frac{d + 2}{d}A_{21}^{(0)} \right] - d(B_{22}^{(0)} - A_{22}^{(0)} - B_{11}^{(0)} + A_{11}^{(0)}) \right\} p_1^*. \]

[1] N. Brilliantov and T. Pöschel, *Kinetic Theory of Granular Gases* (Clarendon Press, Oxford, 2004).

[2] A. Barrat, E. Trizac and M.H. Ernst, J. Phys.: Condens. Matt. 17 S2429 (2005).
ture, the energy ratio $E_1/E$ plays the role of the magnetization, and the mole fraction $x_1$ plays the role of the external magnetic field. One can then wonder what is the symmetry broken for our system, to which the order parameter would be associated. Given that near equilibrium $E_1/E \propto x_1$, then $x_1^{-1} E_1/E$ is invariant under the change $x_1 \to \beta x_1$, where $\beta$ is an arbitrary constant. This invariance is broken in the ordered phase since the mean kinetic energy of the impurity is very much larger than the one corresponding to the excess particles.

[46] H. Stanley, *Introduction to Phase Transition and Critical Phenomena* (Oxford University Press, Oxford) 1971.