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22.616 Plasma Transport Theory

Problem #2 Solutions

1. Equilibrium: Find in textbook:

$$\mathcal{V}_S^{ab}(v) = \widehat{\mathcal{V}}_{ab} \frac{2T_a}{T_b} \left(1 + \frac{m_b}{m_a}\right) \frac{G(X_b)}{X_a}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab}(v) = 2 \widehat{\mathcal{V}}_{ab} \frac{G(X_b)}{X_a^3}$$

$$\text{where } X_a = \frac{v}{v_{Ta}}, \quad X_b = \frac{v}{v_{Tb}}, \quad v_{Ta} = \sqrt{\frac{2T_a}{m_a}}$$

For like particles, $a=b$, let $\chi = \frac{v}{v_T}$. $v_T \equiv v_a = v_{Ta} = v_{Tb}$

Then $T_a = T_{bb} \equiv T$, we can easily find

$$\frac{\mathcal{V}_S^{ab}(v)}{\mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab}(v)} = \left(1 + \frac{m_b}{m_a}\right) \chi_a^2 = 2 \chi^2 = 2 \frac{v^2}{v_T^2}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{\mathcal{V}_S^{ab}(v)}{v \mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab}(v)} = 2 \frac{v}{v_T^2}$$

From Eq.(3.40), we find the velocity magnitude part of the collisional operator:

$$C_v = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left(v^3 \frac{m_a b}{m_a + m_b} \mathcal{V}_S^{ab} f_a + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab} v \frac{\partial f_a}{\partial v} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left(v^4 \mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab} \left(\frac{\mathcal{V}_S^{ab}}{v \mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab}} f_a + \frac{\partial f_a}{\partial v} \right) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2v^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left(v^4 \mathcal{V}_{||}^{ab} \left(2 \frac{v}{v_T^2} f + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \right) \right] \quad (f \equiv f_a)$$

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$$\text{Therefore } \mathcal{D}_{II}(v) = \mathcal{D}_{II}^{ab}(v)$$

$$= 2 \hat{\mathcal{D}}_{aa} \frac{G(x_a)}{x_a^3} = 2 \hat{\mathcal{D}}_{aa} v_T^2 \frac{G(x)}{v^3}$$

when $G_v \rightarrow 0$

$$v^4 \mathcal{D}_{II}(v) \left(2 \frac{v}{v_T^2} f + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \right) = \text{const}$$

Notice $v^4 \mathcal{D}_{II}(v) \propto G(x)v$ & $G(0) = 0$

so when $v \rightarrow 0$, $v^4 \mathcal{D}_{II}(v) = 0$, then $\text{const} = 0$, i.e

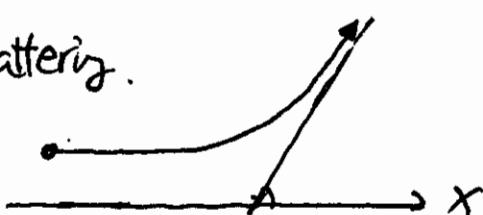
$$2 \frac{v}{v_T} f + \frac{\partial f}{\partial v} = 0$$

Solve it we get: $f = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} v_T^2} e^{-\frac{v^2}{v_T^2}}}_{} = f_M$

2. Fokker-Planck equation accuracy

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot A f + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial v \partial v} = D f + \frac{\partial^3}{\partial v^3} = I f$$

Use the notation in the textbook; In an orthogonal coordinate system (x, y, z) , with x in the direct of the incident velocity of test particle. For small angle scattering.



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$$\Delta V_x = - \left(1 + \frac{m_a}{m_b}\right) \left(\frac{e_a e_b}{2\pi\epsilon_0 m_a}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2r^2 u^3}$$

$$\Delta V_y \approx \frac{e_a e_b}{2\pi\epsilon_0 m_a} \frac{\cos\phi}{ur}$$

$$\Delta V_z \approx \frac{e_a e_b}{2\pi\epsilon_0 m_a} \frac{\sin\phi}{ur}$$

with $u = |\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}'|$

First consider tensor \mathbb{T} .

$$\mathbb{T}_{ijk} = \left\langle \frac{\Delta V_i \Delta V_j \Delta V_k}{\Delta t} \right\rangle \frac{1}{6}, \quad i, j, k = x, y, z$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} \int d^3 r' dr' d\phi f_b(r') u \Delta V_i \Delta V_j \Delta V_k$$

Since $\Delta V_x \propto \frac{1}{r^2}$, $\Delta V_y, \Delta V_{yz} \propto \frac{1}{r}$. So the $\Delta V_i \Delta V_j \Delta V_k$ at least gives $\frac{1}{r^3}$, then the integral $\int_{r_{\min}}^{r_{\max}} \frac{1}{r^3} r dr \approx \frac{1}{r_{\min}}$

Also, we notice $\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \sin\phi = 0$, $\int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \cos\phi = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \sin^3\phi = \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \cos^3\phi = 0$. Then only $\Delta V_x \Delta V_y^2$

$\Delta V_x \Delta V_z^2, \Delta V_x^3$ give non-vanishing terms. These terms at least give $\frac{1}{r^4}$. So there is no divergent term in λ in

the tensor of T_{ijk} . For the same reasoning, this is true for even higher order terms than $\underline{\underline{T}}$.

From this point of view, the Fokker-Planck equation has an inherent error of $\frac{1}{\ln \lambda} \sim 3\%$ for Fusion Plasma.

3. Collision Operator Properties:

$$C_{ab}(f_a, f_b) = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma^{ab} \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \int d^3v' U(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{m_b}{m_a} \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_a(v) f_b(v')$$

With $\Gamma^{ab} = \frac{4\pi z_a^2 z_b^2 e^4 \ln \lambda}{m_a^2}$

Define $\Gamma \equiv \frac{4\pi z_a^2 z_b^2 e^4 \ln \lambda}{m_a m_b}$, we first prove the two-species case, then use the two-species result, write down the single-species result directly.

Two species - Case

I⁰: particle conservation

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$$\int C_{ei} (f_e, f_i) d^3v = \frac{1}{2} \Gamma^{ei} \int d^3v \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{U}(v - v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{me}{m_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

Gauss' law

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Gamma^{ei} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_e d\vec{s} \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{U}(v - v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{me}{m_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

Because $f_e(v), f_i(v')$, $\frac{\partial}{\partial v} f_e, \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} f_i$ vanishes at infinity

$$\underbrace{\int C_{ei} (f_e, f_i) d^3v = 0}$$

For the same reason $\int C_{ie} (f_i, f_e) d^3v = 0$

$$\int C_{ee} (f_e, f_e) d^3v = 0, \quad \int C_{ii} (f_i, f_i) d^3v = 0$$

2° Momentum Conservation.

$\int f_e$: The momentum increase [†] of electron due to colliding

With Ions

$$\int C_{ei} (f_e, f_i) \cancel{+} mev d^3v$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Gamma^{ei} \int d^3v m_e v \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{U}(v - v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{me}{m_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

Integrate by parts

$$= -\frac{me}{2} \Gamma^{ei} \int d^3v d^3v' \underline{U}(v - v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{me}{m_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_{ei}(v')$$

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$$= \frac{1}{2} \int d^3v d^3v' \underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') \cdot (m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v_i} - m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v'_i}) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

Similarly

$$\int C_{ie}(f_i, f_e) m_e v d^3v \\ = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3v d^3v' \underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') \cdot (m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v_i} - m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v'_i}) f_i(v) f_e(v')$$

Change of variables, $v \rightleftarrows v'$, Note $\underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') = \underline{\underline{U}}(v'-v)$

$$\int C_{ie}(f_i, f_e) m_e v d^3v \\ = - \frac{1}{2} \int d^3v d^3v' \underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') \cdot (m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v_i} - m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v'_i}) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

Therefore

$$\int d^3v (C_{ei}(f_e, f_i) m_e v + C_{ie}(f_i, f_e) m_i v) = 0$$

i.e. ~~the net transfer of momentum between electrons & ions is zero~~

~~Zero, momentum is conserved.~~

i.e. All the momentum electron (lost (gain)) is equal to the momentum ions gain (lost), Momentum is conserved.

②

3. Energy Conservation

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int C_{ie}(f_e, f_i) \frac{m_e v^2}{2} d^3v \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \Gamma^{ei} \int d^3v m_e v^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{\underline{(v-v')}} \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{m_e}{m_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v') \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \Gamma \int d^3v v^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{\underline{(v-v')}} \cdot \left(m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v} - m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v') \\
 &\text{Integrate by parts} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \Gamma \int d^3v d^3v' v \cdot \underline{\underline{(v-v')}} \cdot \left(m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} - m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v')
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int C_{ei}(f_i, f_e) \frac{m_i v^2}{2} d^3v \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \Gamma \int d^3v d^3v' v \cdot \underline{\underline{(v-v')}} \cdot \left(m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v} - m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_i(v) f_e(v')
 \end{aligned}$$

Change of variables $v \leftrightarrow v'$

$$= \rho \frac{\Gamma}{2} \int d^3v d^3v' v' \cdot \underline{\underline{(v-v')}} \cdot \left(m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v} - m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

$$\text{Then } \int (C_{ie}(f_i, f_e) \frac{m_e v^2}{2} + C_{ei}(f_e, f_i) \frac{m_i v^2}{2}) d^3v$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma}{2} \int d^3v d^3v' (v-v') \cdot \underline{\underline{(v-v')}} \cdot \left(m_e \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} - m_i \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right) f_e(v) f_i(v')$$

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Because $(\underline{v} - \underline{v}') \cdot \underline{U} (\underline{v} - \underline{v}') = 0$, so

$$\int d^3v \left(C_{ei}(f_e, f_i) \frac{m_e \underline{v}^2}{2} + C_{ie}(f_i, f_e) \frac{m_i \underline{v}^2}{2} \right) = 0$$

This means, ~~the~~ energy is conserved.

Single species case:

1° Particle conservation: proved in the two-species case.

2° Momentum Conservation = use the result from two-species case

$$\begin{aligned} & \int C_{aa}(f_a, f_a) m_a \underline{v} d^3v \\ &= -m \frac{\Gamma}{2} \int \underline{U} (\underline{v} - \underline{v}') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}'} \right) f_a(\underline{v}) f_a(\underline{v}') d^3v' d^3v \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{v} \Leftrightarrow \underline{v}'$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -m \frac{\Gamma}{2} \int \underline{U} (\underline{v} - \underline{v}') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}'} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}} \right) f_a(\underline{v}) f_a(\underline{v}') d^3v' d^3v \\ &= - \int C_{aa}(f_a, f_a) m_a \underline{v} d^3v \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \int C_{aa}(f_a, f_a) m_a \underline{v} d^3v = 0$$

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3°. Energy Conservation: Use the intermediate result from two-species case

$$\int C_{aa}(f_a, f_a) \frac{1}{2} m_a v_a^2 d^3 v$$

$$= \frac{m_a}{2} \Gamma \int d^3 v d^3 v' \underline{U} \cdot \underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v'} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right) f_a(v) f_a(v') \quad (1)$$

$$\stackrel{v \leftrightarrow v'}{=} \frac{m_a}{2} \Gamma \int d^3 v d^3 v' \underline{U} \cdot \underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f_a(v) f_a(v') \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{(1)+(2)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{m_a}{q} \Gamma \int d^3 v d^3 v' (v-v') \cdot \underline{\underline{U}}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v'} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right) f_a(v) f_a(v')$$

$$= 0$$

4. H-Theorem: (single species)

$$S = -f \ln f$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{dS}{dt} = - \frac{d}{dt} \int d^3 v f \ln f$$

$$= - \int d^3 v \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \ln f + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \right)$$

$$= - \int d^3 v C(f, f) \ln f + - \int d^3 v C(f, f)$$

$$= - \int d^3 v \ln f C(f, f) \quad \begin{matrix} || \\ 0 \end{matrix} \text{ particle conserving}$$

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Plug into the Landau Collisional Operator

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -\frac{1}{2} \nabla \int d^3v \ln f \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{U}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f f'$$

Integrate by parts

~~$$= \frac{1}{2} \nabla \int d^3v \cancel{f} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f \right) \cdot \int d^3v' \underline{U}$$~~

$$= \frac{1}{2} \nabla \int d^3v d^3v' \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f \right) \cdot \underline{U}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f f' \quad (1)$$

$$\underline{U} \leftrightarrow \underline{U}'$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \nabla \int d^3v d^3v' \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f' \right) \cdot \underline{U}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f f' \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{(1)+(2)}{2} = \frac{1}{4} \nabla \int d^3v d^3v' \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f' \right) \cdot \underline{U}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} - \frac{\partial}{\partial v'} \right) f f'$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \nabla \int d^3v d^3v' f f' \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f' \right) \cdot \underline{U}(v-v') \cdot \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f - \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \ln f' \right)$$

where

$$\underline{U}(v) = \frac{u^2 I - u \underline{u}}{u^3}$$

$$\text{So } \underline{C} \cdot \underline{U} \cdot \underline{C} = \frac{u^2 C^2 - (C \cdot \underline{u})^2}{u^3}$$

$$\text{But } \frac{(\underline{u} \times \underline{C})^2}{u^3} = \frac{1}{u^3} (\underline{u} \times \underline{C}) \cdot (\underline{u} \times \underline{C}) = \frac{1}{u^3} (\underline{C} \times (\underline{u} \times \underline{C})) \cdot \underline{u}$$

$$= \frac{1}{u^3} (\underline{u} \cdot \underline{C}^2 - \underline{C} \cdot \underline{u} \cdot \underline{u}) \cdot \underline{u} = \frac{1}{u^3} (u^2 C^2 (C \cdot \underline{u})^2) = \underline{C} \cdot \underline{U} \cdot \underline{C}$$

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$$\text{So we have } \underline{S} \cdot \underline{U} \cdot \underline{S} = \frac{(\underline{U} \cdot \underline{S})^2}{\underline{U}^3} \geq 0$$

$$\text{Here } \underline{S} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}} \ln f - \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}'} \ln f'$$

Because of its positivity (we'll prove later in Problem 5), $f \geq 0$

$$f' \geq 0.$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} P \int d^3v d^3v' f(v) f(v') \frac{(\underline{U} \cdot \underline{S})^2}{\underline{U}^3} \geq 0.$$

When $\frac{dS}{dt} = 0$, then entropy reaches its maximum.

we require $\underline{U} \cdot \underline{S} = 0$, i.e. $\underline{U} \parallel \underline{S}$. So

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}} \ln f - \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}'} \ln f = C_0 (\underline{U} - \underline{V})$$

$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{v}} \ln f = C_0 (\underline{v} - \underline{V})$, where C_0 & \underline{V} are arbitrary constants,

Integrate above, we obtain

$$f = G e^{-\frac{C_0}{2}(\underline{v} - \underline{V})^2} \quad G \text{ another constant}$$

Let $\frac{C_0}{2} = \frac{1}{v_T^2}$, $G = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi v_T^2}}$, then

$$f = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi v_T^2}} e^{-\frac{(\underline{v} - \underline{V})^2}{v_T^2}} \quad (\text{drift Maxwellian})$$

5. Positivity of f .

Consider a 1-D case. f satisfy the Fokker-Planck Equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial v}(Af) + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial v^2}(Df)$$

$$= -\frac{\partial A}{\partial v}f - A\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial v^2}f + \frac{\partial D}{\partial v}\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} + \frac{1}{2}D\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial v^2}$$

At $t=0$, $f > 0$, As shown in figure 1



Then f change continuously according to the Fokker-Planck Eqn's

Assume some time to later, f reaches to zero for the first time at $v=v_0$, i.e. $f(v_0, t_0) = 0$, see fig 2.

Because of the continuity of f , $\frac{\partial f}{\partial v}(v_0, t_0)$ must be a minimum at t_0 . i.e.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial v} \Big|_{v_0, t_0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial v^2} \Big|_{v_0, t_0} > 0$$

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Therefore. According to Fokker-Planck Equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \Big|_{t_0, v_0} = \frac{1}{2} D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial v^2} \Big|_{t_0, v_0} > 0.$$

So At a little later $t_0 + \Delta t$

$$f(t_0 + \Delta t, v_0) = \frac{1}{2} D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial v^2} \Big|_{v_0, t_0} \Delta t > 0, \Delta t \rightarrow 0.$$

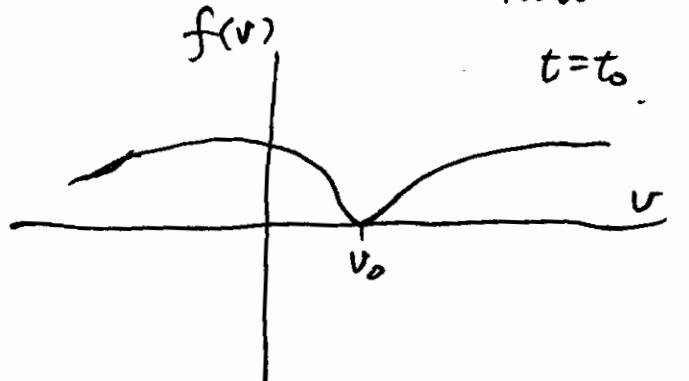


fig. 2

i.e. The diffusion factor try to smooth the distribution curve.

f try to keep above zero.

So if $f > 0$ at $t = 0$, f evolves according to Fokker-Planck

then
Qustion. $\int f > 0$ for all times $t > 0$.