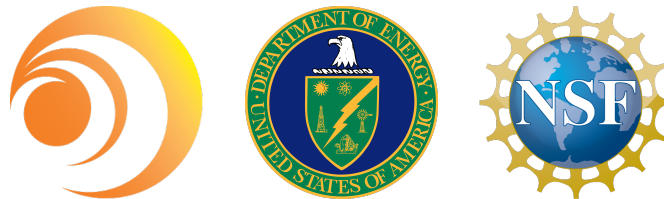



# Quasilinear theory: adding inhomogeneities and collisions from first principles

Ilya Y. Dodin

*Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory  
Princeton University*



13th Plasma Kinetics Working Meeting  
Wolfgang Pauli Institute, Vienna




## TOPICS

USEFUL PLASMA PHYSICS:

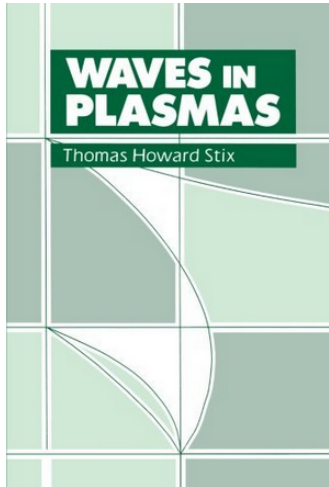
- Electromagnetic turbulence in tokamaks/high beta
- ICM turbulence/really high beta
- Sheared, bistable turbulence in tokamaks
- Imbalanced turbulence in the solar wind

USELESS PLASMA PHYSICS:

- Collisionless relaxation and phase-space turbulence
- Quasilinear theory redux



- What's wrong with the textbook theory?  
Fails to conserve the wave action, misses inhomogeneities and collisions.
- How do we fix this?  
Hmm... *Weyl calculus?! Duh!*
- Examples: grand unification  
Electrostatic turbulence, electromagnetic turbulence, relativistic gravity



- For simplicity, consider 1D Langmuir turbulence:

$$\partial_t f + v \partial_x f + (e/m) \tilde{E} \partial_v f = 0, \quad f = \bar{f} + \tilde{f}, \quad \tilde{f} \ll \bar{f}$$

- **QL approximation:** keep the nonlinearity in  $\partial_t \bar{f}$  but linearize the equation for  $\tilde{f}$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial t} + \left\langle \frac{e}{m} \tilde{E} \frac{\partial \tilde{f}}{\partial v} \right\rangle = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \tilde{f}}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial \tilde{f}}{\partial x} + \frac{e}{m} \tilde{E} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial v} + \frac{e}{m} \tilde{E} \frac{\partial \tilde{f}}{\partial v} - \left\langle \frac{e}{m} \tilde{E} \frac{\partial \tilde{f}}{\partial v} \right\rangle = 0$$

- Use global-mode decomposition  $\tilde{E} = \sum_n \tilde{E}_k e^{ikx}$ , where  $k = 2\pi n/L$ . Solve for  $\tilde{f} = \sum_n \tilde{f}_k e^{ikx}$  to the zeroth order in  $\partial_t$ , neglect the initial conditions:

$$\tilde{f}_k = \cancel{g_k} - \frac{i(e/m) \tilde{E}_k}{\omega_k - kv} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial v}, \quad \omega_k \doteq i \frac{d \ln \tilde{E}_k}{dt}$$

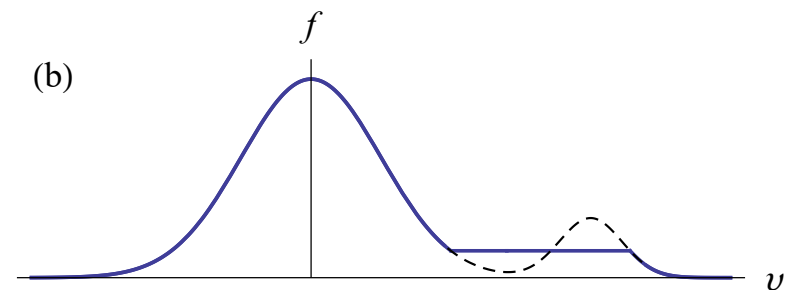
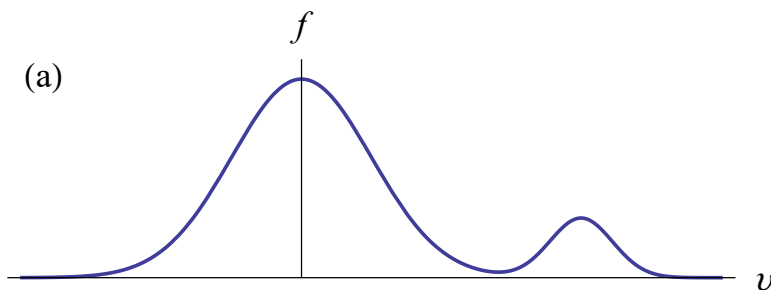
- The average distribution satisfies a diffusion equation:

$$\frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial v} \left( D(t, v) \frac{\partial \bar{f}(t, v)}{\partial v} \right), \quad D = \frac{e^2}{m^2} \int_L \frac{dk}{2\pi L i [kv - \omega_k(t)]} |\tilde{E}_k(t)|^2$$

- To close the system, one assumes that the local “frequency”  $\omega_k \doteq i d_t \ln \tilde{E}_k$  satisfies the linear dispersion relation (with  $\gamma_k \doteq \text{im } \omega_k$ ):

$$1 - \frac{4\pi e^2}{mk^2} \int_L dv \frac{\partial_v \bar{f}(t, v)}{v - \omega_k(t)/k} = 0, \quad \frac{d|\tilde{E}_k|^2}{dt} = 2\gamma_k |\tilde{E}_k|^2$$

- This closed model conserves particles, momentum and energy, and accurately describes effects like broadband bump-on-tail instability... *right?*



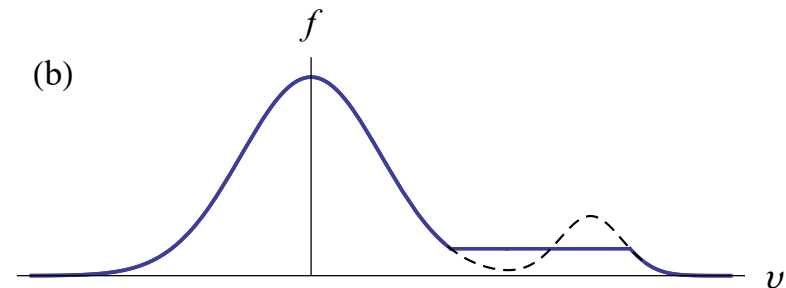
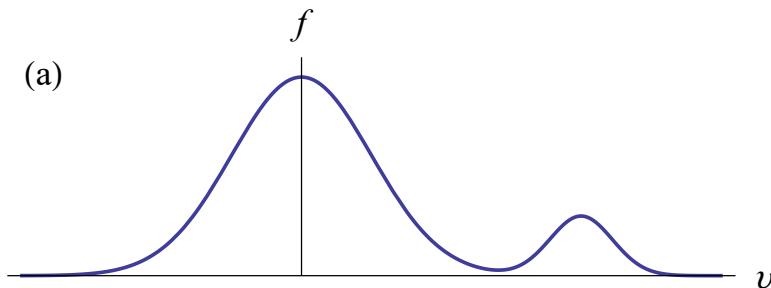
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- This closed model conserves particles, momentum and energy, and accurately describes effects like broadband bump-on-tail instability... *right?* **Not so much.**



## The traditional QL theory is conservative only accidentally.

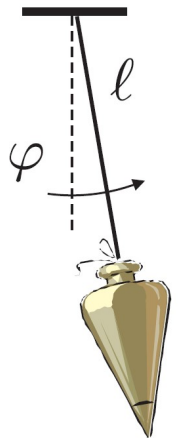
- **First error:** the correct equation for the linear-wave amplitude is the *action-conservation law* (introduced after the original QL theory,\* ignored in the canon):

$$\frac{d|\tilde{E}_k|^2}{dt} = 2\gamma_k |\tilde{E}_k|^2$$

$$\frac{d\mathcal{I}}{dt} = 2\gamma_k \mathcal{I}, \quad \mathcal{I} = |\tilde{E}_k|^2 \frac{\partial_\omega(\omega^2 \epsilon_H)}{16\pi\omega^2} \Big|_{(\omega_k, \mathbf{k})}$$

- The equations for  $\mathcal{I}$  and for  $|E_k|^2$  agree only in the cold limit.
- But then, why is the QL theory *exactly* conservative? Answer: it contains a **second error** that partly compensates the first one!

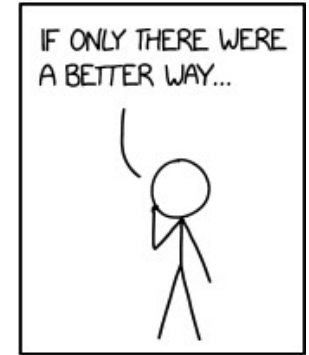
$$\tilde{f}_k = \cancel{g_k} - \frac{i(e/m)\tilde{E}_k}{\omega_k - kv} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial v} + \underbrace{\mathcal{O}(\partial_t \bar{f})}_{\text{non-negligible}} + (\text{may as well include } \partial_x)$$



- The ‘ponderomotive’ effects due to  $\mathcal{O}(\bar{\partial}_t, \bar{\partial}_x)$  determine the conservation laws. Those critically affect, for example, RF current drive and turbulence saturation.

\* Whitham (1965); Bretherton and Garrett (1968); Dewar (1972); Dodin *et al.* (2019) . . .

- With  $\mathcal{O}(\bar{\partial}_t, \bar{\partial}_x)$  retained, the only known approach is heuristic:
  - ignore  $\mathcal{O}(\bar{\partial}_t, \bar{\partial}_x)$  near resonances separated out arbitrarily
  - OC coordinate transformation for non-resonant particles
  - *assume* the proper action equation to connect the dots



$$\frac{\partial F_0}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \langle K \rangle}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \frac{\partial F_0}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \frac{\partial \langle K \rangle}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{\partial F_0}{\partial \mathbf{p}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \left( \mathbf{D} \cdot \frac{\partial F_0}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial n_k^l}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \omega_k^l}{\partial \mathbf{k}} \cdot \frac{\partial n_k^l}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \frac{\partial \omega_k^l}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \cdot \frac{\partial n_k^l}{\partial \mathbf{k}} = 2\gamma_k^l n_k^l, \quad n_k^l \equiv \frac{\partial \epsilon_r}{\partial \omega_k^l} \frac{k^2 |\phi_k^l|^2}{8\pi L^6}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = 4\pi e^2 \sum_{k,l} (|\phi_k^l|^2 / 8\pi L^6) \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} 2\pi \delta(\omega_k^l - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{p} / m), \quad \langle K \rangle = H_0 - \sum_{k,l} \frac{4\pi e^2}{m} \frac{k^2 |\phi_k^l|^2}{8\pi L^6} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega_k^l} \frac{\Pi(\omega_k^l - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{p} / m)}{\omega_k^l - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{p} / m}$$

- Oscillation-center QL theory is not actually proven, not expressed in terms of measurable quantities, not extendable to off-shell waves and collisional plasmas.

## A first-principle approach

- Use  $\partial_t f = \{\bar{H} + \tilde{H}, f\}$ , split  $f = \bar{f} + \tilde{f}$ , and linearize the equation for fluctuations  $\tilde{f}$ :

$$\partial_t \tilde{f} - \{\bar{H}, \tilde{f}\} = \{\tilde{H}, \bar{f}\}, \quad \partial_t \bar{f} - \{\bar{H}, \bar{f}\} = \langle \{\tilde{H}, \tilde{f}\} \rangle$$

- Define phase-space velocities in general *canonical* coordinates  $\mathbf{z}$ , with  $\mathbf{J} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ :

$$v^\alpha(t, \mathbf{z}) \doteq \underbrace{J^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\beta \bar{H}(t, \mathbf{z})}_{\mathcal{O}(1)} \quad u^\alpha(t, \mathbf{z}) \doteq \underbrace{J^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\beta \tilde{H}(t, \mathbf{z})}_{\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)}$$

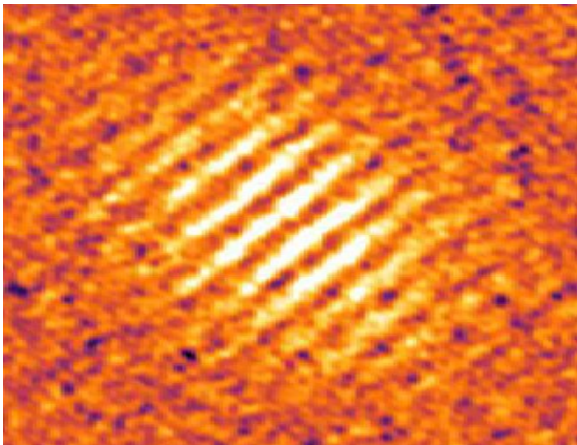
- In terms of the Green's operator  $\hat{G}$  and unperturbed microscopic fluctuations  $g$ :

$$\tilde{f} = g - \hat{G} \hat{u}^\alpha \partial_\alpha \bar{f}, \quad \hat{u}^\alpha = u^\alpha(t, \hat{\mathbf{z}}), \quad \hat{G} = \lim_{\nu \rightarrow 0^+} \int_0^\infty d\tau e^{-\nu\tau - \tau(\partial_t + \mathbf{v}^\alpha \partial_\alpha)}$$

- Define  $\hat{D}^{\alpha\beta} = \overline{\hat{u}^\alpha \hat{G} \hat{u}^\beta}$  and  $\mathfrak{F}^\alpha = \overline{u^\alpha g / \bar{f}}$ . Then,

$$\partial_t \bar{f} - \{\bar{H}, \bar{f}\} = \partial_\alpha (\hat{D}^{\alpha\beta} \partial_\beta \bar{f} - \mathfrak{F}^\alpha \bar{f})$$

- macroscopic part of  $u^\alpha \rightarrow$  **generalized QLT**
- microscopic part of  $u^\alpha \rightarrow$  **collision operator\***





# To approximate an operator, approximate its Weyl symbol.

- Any operator  $\hat{A}\psi(x) = \int dx' \mathcal{A}(x, x') \psi(x')$  on “any” space  $x$  can be expressed through its *symbol* using  $\hat{x} = x$  and  $\hat{k} = -i\partial_x$ :

$$A(x, k) = \int ds \mathcal{A}(x + s/2, x - s/2) e^{-ik \cdot s}$$

$$\hat{A} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{2n}} \int dx' dk' dx'' dk'' A(x', k') e^{ik'' \cdot (x' - \hat{x}) - ix'' \cdot (k' - \hat{k})}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{1} &\Leftrightarrow 1 \\ \hat{x} &\Leftrightarrow x \\ \hat{k} &\Leftrightarrow k \\ \hat{A}^\dagger &\Leftrightarrow A^\dagger \\ \hat{A}\hat{B} &\Leftrightarrow A \star B \end{aligned}$$

- $\hat{D}$  acts on functions of 7D  $\mathbf{X} \doteq (t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p})$ , so our  $\hat{x}$  operator is  $\hat{\mathbf{X}}$ . Correspondingly, our  $\hat{k}$  operator is  $\hat{\mathbf{K}} \doteq (i\partial_t, -i\partial_{\mathbf{x}}, -i\partial_{\mathbf{p}})$ , it induces a 7D space  $\mathbf{K} \doteq (-\omega, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{r})$ .

$$D(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{K}) = \int d\mathbf{K}' \overline{W}_u(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{K}') G(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{K} - \mathbf{K}'), \quad W_u \sim \text{symb } |u\rangle\langle u|$$



- The following approximation will be enough (tough to prove!):

$$D(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{K}) \approx \underbrace{D(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{0})}_{\text{usual QLT}} + \underbrace{(\mathbf{K} \cdot \partial_{\mathbf{K}})D(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{0})}_{\text{non-negligible correction}}$$

$$G(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{K}) \approx \pi \delta(\Omega) + i \lim_{\nu \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Omega}{\Omega^2 + \nu^2}, \quad \Omega \approx \omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

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- Use\*  $|\mathbf{u}\rangle = i\mathbf{J}\hat{\mathbf{q}}|\tilde{H}\rangle$  to express  $\mathbf{W}_u \sim \text{symb } |\mathbf{u}\rangle\langle\mathbf{u}|$  through  $W_{\tilde{H}} \sim \text{symb } |\tilde{H}\rangle\langle\tilde{H}|$ :

$$W_{\tilde{H}} = (2\pi)^{-(n+1)} \int d\tau d\mathbf{s} e^{i\omega\tau - i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{s}} \overline{\tilde{H}(t + \tau/2, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}/2, \mathbf{p})} \tilde{H}(t - \tau/2, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{s}/2, \mathbf{p})$$

- For the OC distribution  $F \doteq \bar{f} + \partial_{\mathbf{p}} \cdot (\Theta \partial_{\mathbf{p}} \bar{f})$ , we get an equation that is applicable **both to on-shell and off-shell waves** and captures **ponderomotive effects**:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = \{\mathcal{H}, F\} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \left( \mathbf{D} \frac{\partial F}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right)$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \bar{H} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \int d\omega d\mathbf{k} \frac{\mathbf{k} \bar{W}_{\tilde{H}}}{2(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v})}$$

$$\Theta = \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} \int d\omega d\mathbf{k} \frac{\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k}^\dagger \bar{W}_{\tilde{H}}}{2(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \vartheta)} \Big|_{\vartheta=0}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \pi \int d\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k}^\dagger \bar{W}_{\tilde{H}}(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p})$$



- No coordinate transformations  $\rightarrow$  **no singularities**. Also, when averaging over phase-space volume  $\Delta x \Delta k \gtrsim 1$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$  is *proven* positive-semidefinite  $\rightarrow$  **H-theorem**.

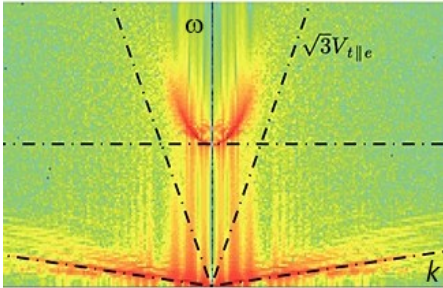
\*In the  $\mathbf{z}$ -representation,  $\hat{\mathbf{q}} = -i\partial_{\mathbf{z}}$ .

## Let's make the fields self-consistent (but not necessarily on-shell).

- Use a generic linear-wave action for vacuum and a generic particle Hamiltonian. Then  $\tilde{\Psi}$  satisfies a linear equation with initial conditions  $g_s$  as sources.

$$S_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int \tilde{\Psi}^\dagger \hat{\Xi}_0 \tilde{\Psi} dt d\mathbf{x}, \quad H_s \approx H_{0s} + \hat{\alpha}_s^\dagger \tilde{\Psi} + \frac{1}{2} (\hat{L}_s \tilde{\Psi})^\dagger (\hat{R}_s \tilde{\Psi}) \quad \rightarrow \quad \hat{\Xi} \tilde{\Psi} = \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \hat{\alpha}_s g_s$$

$$\hat{\Xi}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \approx \hat{\Xi}_0(\omega, \mathbf{k}) - \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} (L_s^\dagger R_s)_H(\omega, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p}) F_s(\mathbf{p}) + \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \frac{\alpha_s(\omega, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p}) \alpha_s^\dagger(\omega, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p})}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s + i0} \mathbf{k} \cdot \frac{\partial F_s(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \mathbf{p}}$$



- The general solution is  $\tilde{\Psi} = \tilde{\Psi}^{(\text{macro})} + \tilde{\Psi}^{(\text{micro})}$ . The corresponding Wigner tensors are  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{S}/(2\pi)^{n+1}$ .

$$\hat{\Xi} \tilde{\Psi}^{(\text{macro})} = 0, \quad \tilde{\Psi}^{(\text{micro})} = \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \hat{\Xi}^{-1} \hat{\alpha}_s g_s$$

$$\mathbf{U}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \int \frac{d\tau}{2\pi} \frac{d\mathbf{s}}{(2\pi)^n} \langle \tilde{\Psi}^{(\text{macro})}(t + \tau/2, \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{s}/2) \tilde{\Psi}^{(\text{macro})\dagger}(t - \tau/2, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{s}/2) \rangle e^{i\omega\tau - i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{s}}$$

$$\mathbf{S}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 2\pi \sum_{s'} \int d\mathbf{p}' \delta(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}'_{s'}) F_{s'}(\mathbf{p}') \hat{\Xi}^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) (\alpha_{s'} \alpha_{s'}^\dagger)(\omega, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p}') \hat{\Xi}^{-\dagger}(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

**Fluctuation-dissipation theorem:**  $\mathbf{S}_{\text{eq}} = -2T/\omega (\hat{\Xi}^{-1})_A$

- In a self-consistent field, a collision operator emerges:

$$\frac{\partial F_s}{\partial t} = \{\mathcal{H}_s, F_s\} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \left( \mathbf{D}_s \frac{\partial F_s}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right) + \mathcal{C}_s$$

- $\mathcal{C}_s$  has a Balescu–Lenard form, satisfies **H-theorem**, conserves particles and energy–momentum.



$$\mathcal{C}_s = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \sum_{s'} \int \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^n} d\mathbf{p}' \pi \delta(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}'_{s'}) |\alpha_s^\dagger(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p}) \Xi^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \alpha_{s'}(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}'_{s'}, \mathbf{k}; \mathbf{p}')|^2 \times \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \cdot \left( \frac{\partial F_s(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \mathbf{p}} F_{s'}(\mathbf{p}') - F_s(\mathbf{p}) \frac{\partial F_{s'}(\mathbf{p}')}{\partial \mathbf{p}'} \right)$$

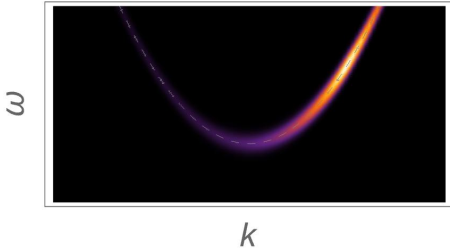


- K–χ theorem\*** for the ponderomotive energy  $\Delta_s \doteq \mathcal{H}_s - H_{0s}$ :

$$\Delta_s = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\delta}{\delta F_s} \int \Xi_H : \mathbf{U} d\omega d\mathbf{k}$$

$$\Delta_s = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \int \mathbf{k} \frac{(\alpha_s^\dagger \mathbf{U} \alpha_s)}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s} d\omega d\mathbf{k} + \frac{1}{2} \int \mathbf{U} : (\mathbf{L}_s^\dagger \mathbf{R}_s)_H d\omega d\mathbf{k}$$

\*e.g. in Kaufman (1987)



- Wave kinetic equation (WKE) for a complexified wave field:\*

$$\hat{\Xi} |\tilde{\Psi}_c\rangle = |0\rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad \hat{\Xi} |\tilde{\Psi}_c\rangle \langle \tilde{\Psi}_c| = \hat{0} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{tr} \int d\omega \Xi \star \mathbf{U}_c = 0$$

- On-shell waves have  $\mathbf{U}_c \approx \delta(\Lambda) J(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}) \eta \eta^\dagger$ .  
In terms of the action density  $J$ , the WKE is

$$\partial_t J + \mathbf{v}_g \cdot \partial_{\mathbf{x}} J - \partial_{\mathbf{x}} \omega \cdot \partial_{\mathbf{k}} J = 2\gamma J$$

conserves the sign of  $J$

$\int d\mathbf{p} \bar{H}_s F_s$	OC energy density
$\int d\mathbf{p} \mathbf{p} F_s$	OC momentum density
$\int d\mathbf{k} \omega J$	wave energy density
$\int d\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} J$	wave momentum density

- Combined together, the equations for  $F_s$  and  $J$  conserve the energy–momentum:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \bar{H}_s F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} \omega J \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left( \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} (\bar{H}_s + \Delta_s) v_s^i F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} \omega v_g^i J \right) = + \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \frac{\partial \bar{H}_s}{\partial t} F_s$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} p_l F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} k_l J \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \left( \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} (p_l v_s^i + \Delta_s \delta_l^i) F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} k_l v_g^i J \right) = - \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \frac{\partial \bar{H}_s}{\partial x^l} F_s$$

- $F_s$  and  $J$  are fundamental objects, the oscillating fields *per se* are not needed.

# So how does one apply all this stuff?

- Need to represent the vacuum-field action and the particle Hamiltonians in the form

$$S_0 = \frac{1}{2} \int \tilde{\Psi}^\dagger \hat{\Xi}_0 \tilde{\Psi} dt d\mathbf{x}, \quad H_s \approx H_{0s} + \hat{\alpha}_s^\dagger \tilde{\Psi} + \frac{1}{2} (\hat{L}_s \tilde{\Psi})^\dagger (\hat{R}_s \tilde{\Psi})$$

- Non-relativistic electrostatic interactions:** Dewar's theory, Balescu–Lenard theory, and the formulas for electrostatic fluctuations are subsumed (*see paper*).

$$S_0 = \int \frac{(\nabla \tilde{\varphi})^2}{8\pi} dt d\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2} \int \tilde{\varphi} \frac{(-\nabla^2)}{4\pi} \tilde{\varphi} dt d\mathbf{x}, \quad H_s = \frac{p^2}{2m_s} + e_s \bar{\varphi} + e_s \tilde{\varphi}$$

$$\Xi_0(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = k^2/4\pi, \quad \alpha_s(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = e_s, \quad L_s(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = R_s(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 0$$

- The 'dressing'  $F - \bar{f} = \partial_{\mathbf{p}} \cdot (\Theta \partial_{\mathbf{p}} \bar{f})$  carries energy–momentum:

$$\sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} H_{0s} F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} \omega J = \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} H_{0s} \bar{f}_s + \frac{1}{8\pi} \overline{E^2}$$

$$\sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \mathbf{p} F_s + \underbrace{\int d\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} J}_{\text{non-negligible}} = \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \mathbf{p} \bar{f}_s$$

non-negligible



- Let's adopt  $\tilde{\mathbf{E}} = i\hat{\omega}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}/c$  as the interaction field (Weyl gauge) and  $\tilde{\mathbf{B}} = (c\hat{\mathbf{k}}/\hat{\omega}) \times \tilde{\mathbf{E}}$ :

$$S_0 = \int \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{E}}^2 - \tilde{\mathbf{B}}^2}{8\pi} dt d\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{2} \int \tilde{\mathbf{E}}^\dagger \underbrace{\frac{1}{4\pi} \left[ \mathbf{1} + \frac{c^2}{\hat{\omega}^2} (\hat{\mathbf{k}}\hat{\mathbf{k}}^\dagger - \mathbf{1}\hat{k}^2) \right]}_{\hat{\Xi}_0} \tilde{\mathbf{E}} dt d\mathbf{x},$$

- Relativistic-particle Hamiltonian can be Taylor-expanded and expressed through  $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_s &= \sqrt{m_s^2 c^4 + (\mathbf{p}c - e_s \bar{\mathbf{A}} - e_s \tilde{\mathbf{A}})^2} + e_s \bar{\varphi} + e_s \varphi \\
 &= H_{0s} + \underbrace{\frac{ie_s}{\hat{\omega}} \bar{\mathbf{v}}_s^\dagger}_{\hat{\alpha}_s} \tilde{\mathbf{E}} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \underbrace{\frac{e_s^2}{\hat{\omega}} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}}_{\hat{L}_s \tilde{\mathbf{E}}} \right)^\dagger \left( \underbrace{\frac{\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{v}_s \mathbf{v}_s^\dagger / c^2}{m_s \gamma_s} \frac{1}{\hat{\omega}} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}}_{\hat{R}_s \tilde{\mathbf{E}}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

- Energy-momentum conservation, with  $f_s^{(\text{kin})}(\mathbf{p}) \doteq f_s(\mathbf{p} + e_s \tilde{\mathbf{A}}/c)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} H_{0s} F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} \omega J &= \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} H_{0s} \overline{f_s^{(\text{kin})}} + \frac{1}{8\pi} \overline{(\tilde{\mathbf{E}}^\dagger \tilde{\mathbf{E}} + \tilde{\mathbf{B}}^\dagger \tilde{\mathbf{B}})} \\
 \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \mathbf{p} F_s + \int d\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} J &= \sum_s \int d\mathbf{p} \mathbf{p} \overline{f_s^{(\text{kin})}} + \frac{\tilde{\mathbf{E}} \times \tilde{\mathbf{B}}}{4\pi c}
 \end{aligned}$$



- Relativistic nonlinear potentials ( $\mathbf{U}$  is the average Wigner tensor of  $\tilde{\mathbf{E}}$ ):

$$\mathbf{D}_s = \pi e_s^2 \int d\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \frac{\mathbf{v}_s^\dagger \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s, \mathbf{k}) \mathbf{v}_s}{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s)^2}$$

$$\Theta_s = e_s^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} \int d\omega d\mathbf{k} \frac{\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k}}{\omega^2} \frac{(\mathbf{v}_s^\dagger \mathbf{U} \mathbf{v}_s)}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s + \vartheta} \Big|_{\vartheta=0}$$

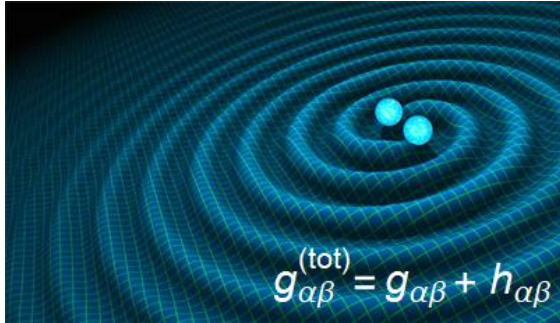
$$\Delta_s = \frac{e_s^2}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \int d\omega d\mathbf{k} \frac{\mathbf{k}}{\omega^2} \frac{(\mathbf{v}_s^\dagger \mathbf{U} \mathbf{v}_s)}{\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s} + \frac{e_s^2}{2} \int d\omega d\mathbf{k} \frac{\text{tr}(\mathbf{U} \boldsymbol{\mu}_s^{-1})}{\omega^2}$$

- Fluctuation spectrum and collision operator\* ( $\epsilon$  is the dielectric tensor):

$$\mathbf{S}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 2\pi \sum_s \left( \frac{4\pi e_s}{\omega} \right)^2 \int d\mathbf{p} \delta(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s) F_s(\mathbf{p}) \epsilon^{-1}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) \mathbf{v}_s \mathbf{v}_s^\dagger \epsilon^{-\dagger}(\omega, \mathbf{k})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{C}_s = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \sum_{s'} 2e_s^2 e_{s'}^2 \int \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^3} d\mathbf{p}' \frac{|\mathbf{v}_s^\dagger \epsilon^{-1}(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s, \mathbf{k}) \mathbf{v}'_{s'}|^2}{(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s)^4} \delta(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}_s - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v}'_{s'}) \\ \times \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \cdot \left( \frac{\partial F_s(\mathbf{p})}{\partial \mathbf{p}} F_{s'}(\mathbf{p}') - F_s(\mathbf{p}) \frac{\partial F_{s'}(\mathbf{p}')}{\partial \mathbf{p}'} \right) \end{aligned}$$

\*cf. Hizanidis *et al.* (1983); Silin (1961)



- The same formalism can be readily applied to particle interactions with gravitational waves.

$$H(x, p) = m^2 + g^{\alpha\beta}(x)p_\alpha p_\beta, \quad g_{\alpha\beta} = \bar{g}_{\alpha\beta} + \tilde{g}_{\alpha\beta}$$

- The QL coefficients are explicitly found in terms of  $\mathfrak{E} \doteq p_\alpha p_\beta p_\gamma p_\delta U^{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$ . QL diffusion is gauge-invariant.

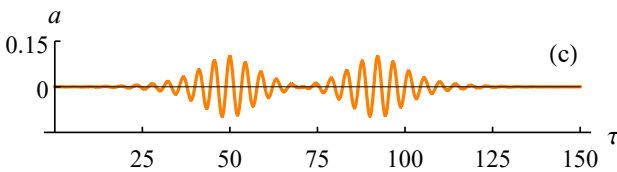
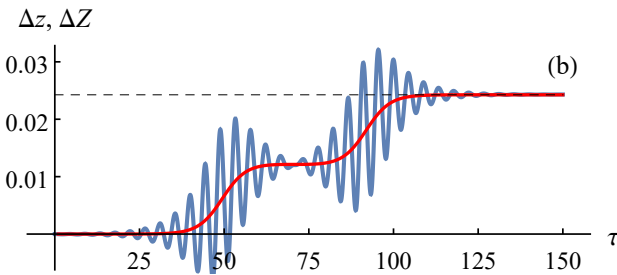
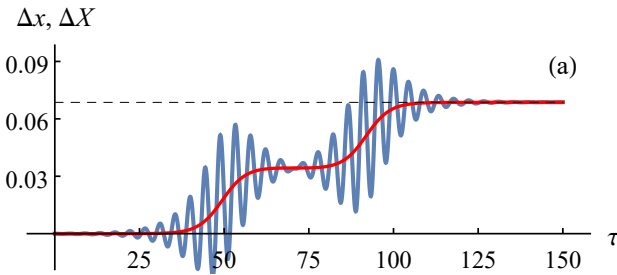
$$\mathbf{D} = \frac{\pi}{4P^0} \int dk \mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \mathfrak{E} \delta(k^\rho p_\rho)$$

$$\Theta = \frac{1}{4P^0} \frac{\partial}{\partial \vartheta} \int dk \frac{\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k} \mathfrak{E}}{\vartheta P^0 - k^\rho p_\rho} \Big|_{\vartheta=0}$$

$$\Delta = \frac{p_\alpha p_\beta}{2P^0} \int dk U^{\alpha\gamma\gamma\beta} - \frac{1}{8P^0} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_\lambda} \int dk \frac{k_\lambda \mathfrak{E}}{k^\rho p_\rho}$$

- Vacuum GWs:\* effective ‘ponderomotive’ metric

$$\mathcal{H}' = m^2 + g_{\text{eff}}^{\alpha\beta} p_\alpha p_\beta, \quad g_{\text{eff}}^{\alpha\beta} \doteq \bar{g}^{\alpha\beta} + \int dk U^{\alpha\gamma\gamma\beta}.$$



- The *canonical*  $W_{\tilde{H}}$  cannot be expanded in  $L^{-1}$  because  $\bar{A}$  (as opposed to  $\bar{B}$ ) depends on  $x$  rapidly. In *non-canonical* variables, the derivation is too cumbersome.
- **Fix #1 (boring)**: find *global* angle–action coordinates  $(\phi, \mathbf{J})$ , Fourier-expand in  $\phi$ , treat each  $\tilde{f}_n$  as a separate  $\tilde{f}$ . Since  $\tilde{f}_n$  are  $\phi$ -independent, there is no problem left.

$$\tilde{f} = \sum_n \tilde{f}_n(\mathbf{J}) e^{in \cdot \phi}$$

- **Fix #2 (fun)**: find *local* canonical coordinates in which the theory works.
  - Homogeneous field:  $(Q_3, P_3) = (\theta, \mu)$ ,  $(Q_2, P_2) = (z, p_z)$ ,  $(Q_1, P_1) = (x, y)$ .
  - Inhomogeneous field: similar coordinates with  $\dot{P}_1 \ll \dot{Q}_1 = v_{\text{drift}}$  and  $\dot{P}_2 \ll \dot{Q}_2$ .\*
  - Fourier-expand in  $\theta$  but retain weak dependence on the local  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$ :

$$\tilde{f} = \sum_n \tilde{f}_n(Q_1, Q_2, P_1, P_2; \mu) e^{in\theta}$$

- $\mathbf{D}$ ,  $\Theta$ , and  $\Delta$  are needed only to the zeroth order. Thus, they are the same as in a homogeneous field except  $\mathbf{v}$  includes  $\mathbf{v}_{\text{drift}}$ .
- This agrees with and generalizes the findings of Catto *et al.* (2017).

\* Wong (2000); cf. Kennel and Engelmann (1966)

- **Result:** QL theory is corrected and derived from first principles as a *local theory*.  
Wigner tensors vs. global-mode decomposition

- general Hamiltonian, any interaction field;
- inhomogeneity, collisions and off-shell waves;
- $H$ -theorem for inhomogeneous plasma;
- generalized conservative Balescu–Lenard collision operator;
- conservation of the action, energy, and momentum for on-shell fields;
- many known results are subsumed as special cases.

- **Take-home message:**  $\mathcal{O}(\bar{\partial}_t, \bar{\partial}_x)$  is non-negligible on  $t \gg \omega^{-1}$  and  $\ell \gg k^{-1}$ . Calculations ignoring this are unreliable. Weyl calculus is *the* way to get things right.

$$\tilde{f}_k = -\frac{i(e/m)\tilde{E}_k}{\omega_k - kv} \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial v} + \mathcal{O}(\partial_t \bar{f}, \partial_x \bar{f}), \quad F - \bar{f} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \cdot \left( \ominus \frac{\partial \bar{f}}{\partial \mathbf{p}} \right) = \mathcal{O}(\tilde{E}^2)$$

- **Potential applications:** RF current drive, models of turbulence saturation

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