

# Collective Description of the Plasma

- Remind about Lecture 4 definition of distribution function

## Liouville's Theorem

Force acting on a particle =  $\vec{F} = m\vec{g} + Ze(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) = m d\vec{v}/dt$

Assume fields change sufficiently smoothly so that  $\vec{E}(\vec{r} + d\vec{r}, t) - \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \approx \text{infinitesimal}$ .

Then conservation of particles implies that  $f(\vec{r}, \vec{v}, t)$  obeys a continuity equation:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} f + \vec{\nabla}_v \cdot \frac{\vec{F}}{m} f = 0$$

where  $\vec{\nabla} \equiv \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial z}$  and  $\vec{\nabla}_v = \hat{x} \frac{\partial}{\partial v_x} + \hat{y} \frac{\partial}{\partial v_y} + \hat{z} \frac{\partial}{\partial v_z}$

$$\text{Therefore: } \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f + \frac{\vec{F}}{m} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_v f + f [ \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} + \vec{\nabla}_v \cdot \frac{\vec{F}}{m} ] = 0$$

but  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v} = 0$  (because  $\vec{v}$  and  $\vec{r}$  are independent variables)

$\vec{\nabla}_v \cdot (m\vec{g} + Ze\vec{E}) = 0$  because  $\vec{g}, \vec{E}$  do not depend on  $\vec{v}$ , and

$\vec{\nabla}_v \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) = \vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_v \times \vec{v} - \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_v \times \vec{B} = 0$  where we note that  $v_x, v_y$ , and  $v_z$  are independent variables.

$$\text{So, } \frac{df}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f + \frac{\vec{F}}{m} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_v f = 0$$

*Liouville's Theorem*

Now, back to handwritten ...

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla f + \frac{\vec{F}}{m} \cdot \nabla_v f = 0$$

Liouville's Theorem or  
~~Collisionless Boltzmann Equation~~

Another formulation of Liouville's theorem:

Let  $d^3r d^3v$  be volume in  $\vec{r} - \vec{v}$  space  
 (ie. phase space) occupied by a given set  
 of particles.

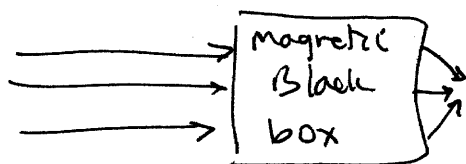
Then  $\int d^3r d^3v = \text{number of particles} = \text{constant}$   
 but  $f = \text{const. along trajectory}$

$\therefore d^3r d^3v = \text{constant following trajectory}$

$$d^3r d^3v = d^3r \frac{v}{m} dE d\Omega \quad \text{and} \quad d^3r = dA v dt$$

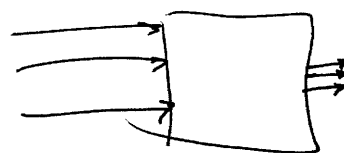
Example:

Magnetic Focusing      no electric fields  $\therefore v = \text{const}$   
 $\therefore dA d\Omega = \text{const}$



$dA$  reduced,  $\therefore d\Omega$  increased

a device which does this



is impossible  
 no matter  
 how complex  
 the fields

Example: increase energy

of all particles  $\Rightarrow \Delta E$  increases,  $\therefore d^3r$  must  
 decrease  $\rightarrow$  ie. plasma must be compressed

now Liouville  $\rightarrow$  Vlasov

If there were collisions (which cause discontinuous changes in  $\vec{v}$  and therefore make a particle "jump" from one area in phase space to another, or  $\vec{E}$ ,  $\vec{B}$  fields which vary appreciably within  $d\vec{r}$ , then continuity equation becomes

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f + \nabla_v \cdot \left( \frac{\vec{F}}{m} f \right) = \left( \frac{\delta f}{\delta t} \right)_c \quad \text{Boltzman equation}$$

$\vec{F}$  includes only the effects of smooth fields (as discussed above)

the form of  $\left( \frac{\delta f}{\delta t} \right)_c$  must be determined from a theory of the collision or other process involved.

$\left( \frac{\delta f}{\delta t} \right)_c$  may include:

- (1) binary collisions
- (2) microscopic  $\vec{E}$  and  $\vec{B}$  fluctuations
- (3) radiation by single particles
- (4) creation and annihilation
- (5) ionization, recombination and charge exchange

Neglecting these effects then  $f$  is determined by the collisionless Boltzman Equation (Vlasov Equation)

$$\left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla} f + \frac{ze}{m} (\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}) \cdot \vec{\nabla}_v f = 0 \right]$$

Now,  $E$  and  $D$  are determined by  
Maxwell's equations

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho_c}{\epsilon_0} \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

(treat all charges and currents explicitly - do NOT  
introduce  $\vec{D}$  and  $\vec{H}$ )

$$\rho_c = \text{charge density} \equiv \sum_a Z_a e \int d^3v f_a$$

$$\vec{J} = \sum_a Z_a e \int d^3v \vec{v} f_a = \text{Current Density}$$

Sum over particle species

$$Z_a = -1 \text{ for electrons}$$

$$= +1 \text{ " protons etc}$$

These equations, plus ~~Vlasov~~ Vlasov equation  
are the complete set of equations describing  
a collisionless plasma.

## Collective Description of Plasma cont'd

$f_a(\vec{r}, \vec{v}, t)$  distribution function of species  $a$   
 $m_a$  mass of particle of species  $a$   
 $z_a e$  charge .. ..  
 $(z = -1 \text{ for electrons})$

Then

$$n_a = \int d^3v f_a \quad \text{number density of species } a$$

$$n_a \vec{V}_a = \int d^3v \vec{v} f_a \quad \text{number flux density}$$

where  $\vec{V}_a$  bulk velocity, or center-of-mass velocity of species  $a$

> Mass density of plasma as a whole:

$$\rho = \sum_a m_a n_a = \sum_a m_a \int d^3v f_a$$

(note we will use  $\rho_e$  for charge den

> momentum density of plasma: (mass flux density)

$$\rho \vec{V} = \sum_a m_a n_a \vec{V}_a = \sum_a m_a \int d^3v \vec{v} f_a$$

$\vec{V}$  = bulk velocity or center-of-mass velocity of entire plasma (in general not coincident with any of the  $\vec{V}_a$ )

> Electric current density

$$\vec{J} = \sum_a z_a e n_a \vec{V}_a = \sum_a z_a e \int d^3v \vec{v} f_a$$

Kinetic Tensor  $\overleftrightarrow{K}_a = \int d^3v f_a \vec{p} \vec{v} = \int d^3v f_a m_a \vec{v} \vec{v}$

$\vec{p} \vec{v}$  is the direct product (NOT the dot product) of the two vectors

$\overleftrightarrow{K}$  represents set of 9 quantities

$$\begin{pmatrix} K_{xx} & K_{xy} & K_{xz} \\ K_{yx} & K_{yy} & K_{yz} \\ K_{zx} & K_{zy} & K_{zz} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{notation: } K_{\text{row column}}$$

where  $K_{xx} = \int d^3v f p_x v_x$ ,  $K_{xy} = \int d^3v f p_x v_y$  etc ...

$\overleftrightarrow{K}$  can also be written  $K_{ij} = \int d^3v f p_i v_j$   $\begin{matrix} i=1,2,3 \\ j=1,2,3 \end{matrix}$   
(or also  $i=x,y,z$   $j=x,y,z$ )

Note only 6 of the 9 components are independent  
since  $K_{ij} = K_{ji}$  ( $\overleftrightarrow{K}$  is a symmetric tensor)

unit tensor  $\overleftrightarrow{I} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \delta_{ij}$

where  $\delta_{ij} = 1$  for  $i=j$  (Kronecker delta)

Physical significance of Kinetic Tensor:

Let  $\hat{n}$  = normal to some surface  
then the vector  $\overleftrightarrow{K}_a \hat{n} = \int d^3v f_a \vec{p} (\vec{v} \cdot \hat{n})$

Continued  $\rightarrow$

$\vec{K} \cdot \hat{n}$  then represents the flux density  
of momentum crossing the surface  
 Thus, in particular with  $\hat{n} = \hat{x}$

$K_{xx}$  = flux density of x component of momentum  
 through a surface normal to the  $\hat{x}$  axis

$K_{yy}$  = flux density of y component of momentum  
 through a surface normal to the  $\hat{x}$  axis  
 etc ...

Note that if  $\vec{T}$  is some tensor (not necessarily  
 symmetric) and  $\vec{u}$  some vector, then

$$\vec{T} \cdot \vec{u} = (T_{xx}u_x + T_{xy}u_y + T_{xz}u_z)\hat{x} + \\ + (T_{yx}u_x + T_{yy}u_y + T_{yz}u_z)\hat{y} + (T_{zx}u_x + T_{zy}u_y + T_{zz}u_z)\hat{z}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{T} = (T_{xx}u_x + T_{yx}u_y + T_{zx}u_z)\hat{x} + \\ (T_{xy}u_x + T_{yy}u_y + T_{zy}u_z)\hat{y} + (T_{xz}u_x + T_{yz}u_y + T_{zz}u_z)\hat{z}$$

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{T} \neq \vec{T} \cdot \vec{u} \quad \text{if } T \text{ is not symmetric}$$

Shorter notation  $\vec{T} \cdot \vec{u} \rightarrow T_{ij}u_j$  (repeated  
 indices summed over,  
 Einstein convention)

$$\vec{u} \cdot \vec{T} \rightarrow T_{ji}u_j$$

if  $\vec{v}$  is another vector then the scalar

$$\vec{v} \cdot \vec{T} \cdot \vec{u} = v_i T_{ij} u_j \quad (\text{summed over } i \text{ and } j \text{ understood})$$

also  $\bar{\mathbf{U}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{T}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{v}} = U_i T_{ij} v_j$   
 in general  $\bar{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{T}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{u}} \neq \bar{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{T}} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{v}}$

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Kinetic tensor is defined in some frame of reference.  $\leftarrow$

The particular  $\mathbf{K}_a$  defined in the frame of reference moving with the center-of-mass velocity of the whole plasma is called

the PRESSURE Tensor

$$\bar{\mathbf{P}}_a = \int d^3v f_a \bar{\mathbf{p}}^* \bar{\mathbf{v}}^* \quad \text{where}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{p}}^* = \bar{\mathbf{p}} - m_a \bar{\mathbf{V}}$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{v}}^* = \bar{\mathbf{v}} - \bar{\mathbf{V}}$$

( $\bar{\mathbf{V}}$  defined on page 1)

(from now on \* will designate quantities referenced to the plasma center-of-mass frame of reference)

$\bar{\mathbf{P}}_a$  . partial pressure of species a

$$\bar{\mathbf{P}} = \sum_a \bar{\mathbf{P}}_a = \sum_a m_a \int d^3v f_a \bar{\mathbf{v}}^* \bar{\mathbf{v}}^*$$

pressure tensor of whole plasma



Note that partial pressure  $\vec{P}_a$  is defined with respect to the center-of-mass frame of the entire plasma, not the center-of-mass frame of species  $a$ .

It is possible to define a pressure tensor for species  $a$  with respect to the center of mass frame of species  $a$ ; but then the different  $\vec{P}_a$  are defined WRT different frames and cannot be added to get pressure tensor of entire plasma.

## EXAMPLES of special pressure tensors

(A) If  $f(\vec{r}, \vec{v}, t)$  is isotropic (i.e.  $f(\vec{r}, \vec{v}, t) = f(\vec{r}, v, t)$ )

$$\text{then } m \int d^3v f v_x^2 = m \int d^3v f v_y^2 = m \int d^3v f v_z^2 \equiv P$$

$$\int d^3v f v_x v_y = 0 \quad \int d^3v f v_x v_z = 0 \quad \text{etc}$$

$$\text{then } \vec{P} = \begin{pmatrix} P & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & P \end{pmatrix} = P \vec{1}$$

where  $P$  is a scalar or isotropic pressure  
(corresponding to the ordinary notion of pressure)

(B) If  $f_a$  has axial symmetry about  
(say) the magnetic field direction  $\hat{B}$   
and if  $\hat{B} = \hat{z}$

$$m \int d^3v f v_x^2 = m \int d^3v f v_y^2 \equiv P_{\perp}$$

$$m \int d^3v f v_z^2 \equiv P_{\parallel} \quad \text{in general } P_{\parallel} \neq P_{\perp}$$

$$\int d^3v f v_x v_y = 0 \quad \text{etc}$$

$$\text{then } \vec{P} = \begin{pmatrix} P_{\perp} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P_{\perp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & P_{\parallel} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{to write this in}$$

any coordinate system ( $\vec{B}$  not necessarily along  $\hat{z}$ )  
rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{P} &= \begin{pmatrix} P_{\perp} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & P_{\perp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & P_{\parallel} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & P_{\parallel} - P_{\perp} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= P_{\perp} \hat{1} + (P_{\parallel} - P_{\perp}) \frac{\vec{B} \vec{B}}{B^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{or } P_{ij} = P_{\perp} \delta_{ij} + (P_{\parallel} - P_{\perp}) \frac{B_i B_j}{B^2} \quad \text{in any coordinate system}$$

note  $P_{\perp} v_{\perp} = p_x v_x + p_y v_y$  if  $\hat{B} = \hat{z}$

$$\text{but } P_{\perp} = \int d^3v f p_x v_x = \int d^3v f p_y v_y$$

$$\therefore P_{\perp} = \int d^3v f \frac{1}{2} p_{\perp} v_{\perp} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} P_{\perp} = \text{perpendicular pressure} \\ P_{\parallel} = \text{parallel pressure} \end{array}$$

(C) for a Maxwellian distribution

$$\vec{P} = n k T \vec{1}$$

Next: Summation of single particle  
guiding center motions to obtain  
electrical current.