

HOMEWORK 2

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PROBLEM 1

Begin by considering the case where we have a perpendicular gradient in the field strength, B . For simplicity let us assume that B is in the z direction, and varies only with y :

$$\mathbf{B} = B_{gc,i} \hat{z} + (y - y_{gc,i}) \frac{dB}{dy} \hat{z}.$$

Derive the orbit of a charged particle.

Solution:

The equation of motion in most general form under the effect of the magnetic field can be given as:

$$(1) \quad m \dot{\mathbf{v}} = q \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}.$$

Since we have magnetic field only in \hat{z} direction, it only causes an acceleration in \hat{x} and \hat{y} directions, therefore the equations of motion can be given as:

$$(2) \quad \dot{v}_x = q v_y B / m,$$

$$(3) \quad \dot{v}_y = -q v_x B / m.$$

Note that $B_{gc,i} \gg (y - y_{gc,i}) dB/dy$, therefore the velocity field can be decomposed so that the leading order term is dominated by $B_{gc,i}$ and the effect of the varying magnetic field is felt in $O(\epsilon)$ term. As a result of this scaling of magnetic field, the velocity field can be given as:

$$(4) \quad \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}^0 + \epsilon \mathbf{v}^1.$$

Note that $\epsilon \ll 1$ serves as small parameter. After replacing the velocity field 4 into equation 2 and equation 3 along with the full terms of the magnetic field. The governing equation can be obtained as:

$$(5) \quad \dot{v}_x^0 + \epsilon \dot{v}_x^1 = q(v_y^0 + \epsilon v_y^1)(B_{gc,i} + (y - y_{gc,i}) \frac{dB}{dy}) / m,$$

and

$$(6) \quad \dot{v}_y^0 + \epsilon \dot{v}_y^1 = -q(v_x^0 + \epsilon v_x^1)(B_{gc,i} + (y - y_{gc,i}) \frac{dB}{dy}) / m.$$

At the leading order, equation 5 and equation 6 can be simplified to the following set of equations:

$$(7) \quad \dot{v}_x^0 = qv_y^0 B_{gc,i}/m,$$

and

$$(8) \quad \dot{v}_y^0 = -qv_x^0 B_{gc,i}/m.$$

Equation 7 and equation 8 can be combined by taking derivative of equation 7 and replacing equation 8 into it. The resultant equation can be obtained as:

$$(9) \quad \ddot{v}_x^0 = -\left(\frac{qB_{gc,i}}{m}\right)^2 v_x^0.$$

The solution to equation 9 can be found as:

$$(10) \quad v_x^0 = c_1 \cos \alpha t + c_2 \sin \alpha t.$$

where $\alpha = qB_{gc,i}/m$. By using replacing v_x^0 into equation 7, the velocity in y direction can also be found as:

$$(11) \quad v_y^0 = -c_1 \sin \alpha t + c_2 \cos \alpha t.$$

This is the leading order solution, the coefficient c_1 and c_2 can be found to satisfy the initial condition. Similarly, the orbit of the particle can be given as:

$$(12) \quad \int_0^t \mathbf{v} dt = \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^0 + \epsilon \mathbf{x}^1.$$

The leading order path can be found as:

$$(13) \quad x^0(t) = \frac{c_1}{\alpha} \sin \alpha t - \frac{c_2}{\alpha} \cos \alpha t,$$

and

$$(14) \quad y^0(t) = \frac{c_1}{\alpha} \cos \alpha t + \frac{c_2}{\alpha} \sin \alpha t.$$

Moreover, these results are used to find a $O(\epsilon)$ solution to equation 5 and 6. If $O(\epsilon)$ terms are grouped together, the following equations can be obtained:

$$(15) \quad \epsilon \dot{v}_x^1 = \epsilon q v_y^1 B_{gc,i}/m + q v_y^0 (y - y_{gc,i}) \frac{dB}{dy}/m,$$

$$(16) \quad \epsilon \dot{v}_y^1 = -\epsilon q v_x^1 B_{gc,i}/m + q v_x^0 (y - y_{gc,i}) \frac{dB}{dy}/m.$$

Equation 15 and equation 16 can also be combined into single equation by taking the derivative of equation 15 and replacing equation 16. As a result, the following second order equation is obtained:

$$(17) \quad \ddot{v}_x^1 = -\alpha^2 v_x^1 + \frac{q}{\epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy} ((v_y^0)^2 + (\dot{v}_y^0 + \alpha v_x^0)(y - y_{gc,i})).$$

After replacing the leading order terms and trigonometric manipulation, equation 17 can be given as:

$$(18) \quad \ddot{v}_x^1 = -\alpha^2 v_x^1 + \frac{q}{\epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy} \left(\frac{c_1^2 + c_2^2}{2} - \frac{c_1^2 - c_2^2}{2} \cos 2\alpha t - \frac{c_1 c_2}{2} \sin 2\alpha t \right).$$

In $O(\epsilon)$ solution, we are only interested in the non-homogeneous part of the solution which can be solved by method of undetermined coefficients. The right hand side of the equation 18 is composed of polynomial and cosine and sine functions therefore the non-homogeneous solution can be obtained as a combination of them. The polynomial part can be given as $at + b$ if it is replaced into equation 18, it leads to the following equality:

$$(19) \quad \alpha^2(at + b) = \frac{q(c_1^2 + c_2^2)}{2\epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy}.$$

As a result, the time dependent part cancels out, therefore

$$(20) \quad b = \frac{q(c_1^2 + c_2^2)}{2\alpha^2 \epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy}.$$

Non-homogeneous solution to the polynomial part is found, however sine and cosine part is not solved. This part has a solution in form of $a_1 \cos 2\alpha t + a_2 \sin 2\alpha t$, if it is replaced into equation 18, it leads to the following equality:

$$(21) \quad -3\alpha^2 a_1 \cos 2\alpha t + 5\alpha^2 a_2 \sin 2\alpha t = \frac{-q}{\epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy} \left(\frac{c_1^2 - c_2^2}{2} \cos 2\alpha t + \frac{c_1 c_2}{2} \sin 2\alpha t \right).$$

The relation above is satisfied with the following coefficients:

$$(22) \quad a_1 = \frac{q(c_1^2 - c_2^2)}{6\alpha^2 \epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy},$$

and

$$(23) \quad a_2 = \frac{-q c_1 c_2}{10\alpha^2 \epsilon m} \frac{dB}{dy}.$$

After obtaining v_x^1 , v_y^1 can also be found by replacing it into equation 15:

$$(24) \quad v_y^1 = (-2a_1 \sin 2\alpha t + 2a_2 \cos 2\alpha t) - \frac{q}{\epsilon \alpha m} \frac{dB}{dy} v_y^0 (y - y_{gc,i}).$$

I am deliberately leaving equation 24 in the form above, it will make it easier to represent the time integral. Moreover, $O(\epsilon)$ correction to the velocity field leads to $O(\epsilon)$ correction to the orbit of the particle. Therefore,

$$(25) \quad \epsilon \int_0^t \mathbf{v}^1 dt = \epsilon \mathbf{x}^1.$$

Explicitly, these can be given as:

$$(26) \quad x^1(t) = \frac{a_1}{2\alpha} \sin 2\alpha t - \frac{a_2}{2\alpha} \cos 2\alpha t + bt,$$

and

$$(27) \quad y^1(t) = \left(\frac{a_1}{\alpha} \cos 2\alpha t + \frac{a_2}{\alpha} \sin 2\alpha t\right) - \frac{q}{\epsilon\alpha m} \frac{dB}{dy} \left(\frac{(y^0)^2}{2} - y_{gc,i} y^0\right).$$

As a result, the orbit of the particle is computed as:

$$(28) \quad x(t) = x^0(t) + \epsilon x^1(t),$$

$$(29) \quad y(t) = y^0(t) + \epsilon y^1(t).$$

These analysis show that the particle drifts along x direction, the rest of the motion is oscillatory, therefore on one period, the particle returns to its initial point but it drifts ϵbT where $T = 2\pi/\alpha$ along x direction in every period.

PROBLEM 2

Derive the average of the combined **grad-B** and curvature guiding-center drifts for the particles in a vacuum magnetic field for non-isotropic and isotropic plasmas.

Solution:

To derive any arbitrary drift motion due to the presence of a magnetic field \mathbf{B} , let's write the equation of motion:

$$(30) \quad m\dot{\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{F} + q\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}.$$

Under these condition, the velocity can be decomposed into two components, one of which is parallel to the magnetic field \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} and one of which is perpendicular to the magnetic field \mathbf{v}_{\perp} . The purpose of this formulation is to write out the motion in one direction purely under effect of the magnetic field and in the other direction purely under the other force which may be gravity, electric field but in our case which is centrifugal force. :

$$(31) \quad \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v} - (\mathbf{F} \times \mathbf{B})/qB^2.$$

After replacing the velocity \mathbf{u} in equation 31, the equation of motion can be reformulated as:

$$(32) \quad m\dot{\mathbf{u}} = \hat{b}(\mathbf{F} \cdot \hat{b}) + q\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}.$$

where \hat{b} is the unit normal of the magnetic field. If we take the dot product of \hat{b} equation 32, the equation of motion along the magnetic field can be given as:

$$(33) \quad m\dot{\mathbf{u}}_{\parallel} = \mathbf{F} \cdot \hat{b}$$

Therefore, the velocity parallel to the magnetic field can be given as:

$$(34) \quad \mathbf{u}_{\parallel} = \frac{\mathbf{F} \cdot \hat{b}}{m} t.$$

with addition of the drift total velocity parallel to the magnetic field is given as:

$$(35) \quad \mathbf{v}_{\parallel} = \frac{\mathbf{F} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}}}{m} t + \frac{\mathbf{F} \times \mathbf{B}}{qB^2}.$$

Therefore, the drift due to external force \mathbf{F} is found as $(\mathbf{F} \times \mathbf{B})/qB^2$. In the case of rotational motion, this external force is centrifugal force under the assumption that magnetic field is locally constant and along the angular direction $\hat{\theta}$. Taking these into account, the centrifugal force can be given as:

$$(36) \quad \mathbf{F}_{cf} = \frac{mv_{\parallel}^2}{R_c^2} \mathbf{R}_c.$$

If we replace it into equation 35, the drift due to centrifugal force can be computed as:

$$(37) \quad \mathbf{v}_{curv} = \frac{mv_{\parallel}^2}{qB^2} \frac{\mathbf{R}_c \times \mathbf{B}}{R_c^2} = \frac{2W_{\parallel}}{qB^2} \frac{\mathbf{R}_c \times \mathbf{B}}{R_c^2}.$$

where $W_{\parallel} = m \langle v_{\parallel}^2 \rangle / 2$. However, In the case of circular magnetic field, other than the centrifugal force, there exists a external forcing due to the gradient of the magnetic field ∇B . Therefore, the drift due to the gradient of the magnetic field can be given as:

$$(38) \quad \mathbf{v}_{grad} = \frac{v_{\perp}^2}{\omega_c} \frac{\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B}{B^2} = \frac{2W_{\perp}}{q} \frac{\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B}{B^3}.$$

where $W_{\perp} = m \langle v_{\perp}^2 \rangle / 2$. Therefore, the total drift can be given as:

$$(39) \quad \mathbf{v}_{curv} + \mathbf{v}_{grad} = \frac{mv_{\parallel}^2}{qB^2} \frac{\mathbf{R}_c \times \mathbf{B}}{R_c^2} + \frac{v_{\perp}^2}{\omega_c} \frac{\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B}{B^2}.$$

Note that

$$\frac{\mathbf{R}_c}{R_c^2} = -(\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla) \hat{\mathbf{b}},$$

Alternatively,

$$(40) \quad \mathbf{v}_{curv} + \mathbf{v}_{grad} = \frac{2(W_{\perp} + W_{\parallel})}{q} \frac{\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B}{B^3}.$$

In case of isotropic plasma, $W_{\perp} = W_{\parallel}$, therefore the drift in equation 41 can be given as:

$$(41) \quad \mathbf{v}_{curv} + \mathbf{v}_{grad} = \frac{4W_{\perp}}{q} \frac{\mathbf{B} \times \nabla B}{B^3}.$$

PROBLEM 3

Show that the momentum gained by electrons due to collisions with ions, \mathbf{R}_{ei} , may now be expressed in terms of the resistivity η and the current density \mathbf{j} as;

$$\mathbf{R}_{ei} = -m_e n_e \langle v_{ei} \rangle (\vec{u}_e - \vec{u}_i) = -\eta n_e^2 e^2 (\vec{u}_e - \vec{u}_i) = \eta n_e e \mathbf{j}.$$

Solution:

As given in the question, the momentum exchange between ions and electrons is modelled as:

$$(42) \quad \mathbf{R}_{ei} = -m_e n_e \langle v_{ei} \rangle (\vec{u}_e - \vec{u}_i).$$

At the same time, the plasma resistivity is given as:

$$(43) \quad \eta = \frac{m_e \langle v_{ei} \rangle}{n_e e^2}.$$

Note that $\langle v_{ei} \rangle$ is the average frequency of collision between ions and electrons. If the plasma resistivity defined in equation 43 is replaced in equation 42, the momentum exchange can be alternatively given as:

$$(44) \quad \mathbf{R}_{ei} = -\eta n_e^2 e^2 (\vec{u}_e - \vec{u}_i).$$

Moreover, the electric current is defined as:

$$(45) \quad \mathbf{j} = n_e e (\vec{u}_e - \vec{u}_i).$$

After replacing the current into equation 44, the momentum exchange terms can be re-expressed as:

$$(46) \quad \mathbf{R}_{ei} = \eta n_e e \mathbf{j}.$$