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Quantum plasmadynamics and quantum fluid theory

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Overview

Quantum plasmadynamics

Quantum plasma effects

Applications of QPD

Quantum fluid theory (QFT)

Quantum Zakharov equations

Discussion & conclusions

Questions

How to synthesize kinetic theory of plasmas & QED?

- ▶ both theories describe interaction of photons & electrons
- ▶ kinetic theory based on self-consistent field
cooperative effects treated classically
- ▶ QED is a single-particle theory
- ▶ includes all relativistic quantum effects

How to rewrite kinetic theory in covariant notation?

- ▶ using formalism for the vacuum polarization tensor
- ▶ use forward-scattering to calculate response tensors

How to include plasma responses using QED?

- ▶ identify relevant Lagrangians
- ▶ generalization then almost trivial

How to include magnetic field into the theory?

- ▶ replace all wavefunctions and propagators with relevant exact solutions of Dirac's equation with $\mathbf{B} \neq 0$

Classical covariant formulation

Non-covariant forms of the response

- ▶ induced current expanded in powers of electric field
 $J_i(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \sigma_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{k})E_j(\omega, \mathbf{k}) + \text{nonlinear terms}$
 $K_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \delta_{ij} + i\sigma_{ij}(\omega, \mathbf{k})/\varepsilon_0\omega$

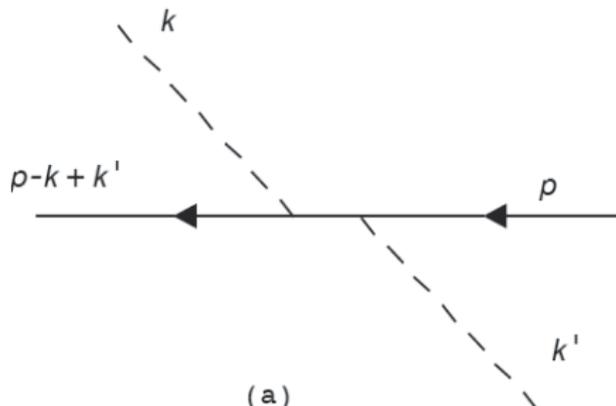
Covariant formulation of kinetic theory of plasmas

- ▶ induced 4-current is proportional to 4-potential
- ▶ linear polarization tensor: $J^\mu(k) = \Pi^{\mu\nu}(k) A_\nu(k)$
- ▶ charge-continuity & gauge-invariance:
$$k_\mu \Pi^{\mu\nu}(k) = 0 = k_\nu \Pi^{\mu\nu}(k)$$
- ▶ determines $\Pi^{\mu\nu}(k)$ in terms of response 3-tensor
D.B. Melrose (1973)
- ▶ allows covariant formulation of wave dispersion
- ▶ extension to nonlinear responses straightforward
- ▶ quadratic response $\Pi^{\mu\nu\rho}(k, k_1, k_2)$, $k^\mu = k_1^\mu + k_2^\mu$
 \implies 3-wave coupling
- ▶ effective cubic response = cubic + 2 quadratic responses
$$\Pi_{\text{eff}}^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma}(k, k_1, k_2, k_3) \implies \text{nonlinear wave equation}$$

Forward scattering method

Linear response tensor

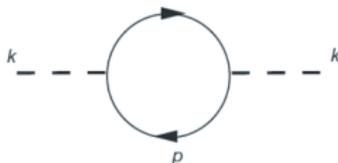
- ▶ forward scattering: $k' = k$, $p' = p$
- ▶ all particles scatter in phase \implies 4-current $J^\mu(k)$
- ▶ allows covariant derivation of linear response tensor
- ▶ straightforward generalization to nonlinear responses



Response tensors from QED

Linear response tensor

- ▶ forward scattering implicit in vacuum polarization tensor
- ▶ 'cut' diagram to include on-shell contribution Cutkovsky (1960)
- ▶ statistical averages of Feynman propagators
generalization of thermal Green's function
- ▶ linear response from statistical average of bubble diagram



Quadratic & cubic response tensors

- ▶ quadratic & cubic responses from triangle & box diagrams
- ▶ includes vacuum & plasma contributions



Three approaches to QPD

Density-matrix approach generalizes Harris' (1967) method

- ▶ evolution of density matrix for electrons
- ▶ operator-based evolution = Heisenberg picture
- ▶ no non-quantum counterpart

Wigner-matrix approach developed by Hakim & Sivak

- ▶ Wigner-Moyal function in Schrödinger theory
- ▶ generalize to Wigner matrix in Dirac theory
- ▶ wave-function-based evolution = Schrödinger picture
- ▶ counterpart of non-quantum Vlasov approach

Green's function approach Tsytovich (1961)

- ▶ S -matrix approach = interaction picture
- ▶ statistically averaged propagators (Green's functions)
- ▶ 'photon' propagator includes all plasma wave modes
- ▶ particles & waves described by occupation numbers
- ▶ closely analogous method from quark-gluon-plasma approach

Quantum plasma effects

Degeneracy

- ▶ included in early theories of solid state plasmas

Quantum recoil

- ▶ classical resonance condition $\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$
- ▶ conservation of energy & momentum in emission
- ▶ $\varepsilon \rightarrow \varepsilon' = \varepsilon - \hbar\omega$, $\mathbf{p} \rightarrow \mathbf{p}' = \mathbf{p} - \hbar\mathbf{k}$
- ▶ $(m^2c^4 + |\mathbf{p} - \hbar\mathbf{k}|^2c^2)^{1/2} = (m^2c^4 + \mathbf{p}^2c^2)^{1/2} - \hbar\omega$
- ▶ \implies quantum recoil term in resonance condition

$$\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \frac{\hbar(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2c^2)}{2\varepsilon} = 0$$

Nonrelativistic derivation of recoil

- ▶ $\varepsilon \rightarrow mc^2 + \mathbf{p}^2/2m \implies |\mathbf{p} - \hbar\mathbf{k}|^2/2m = \mathbf{p}^2/2m - \hbar\omega$
- ▶ \implies quantum recoil term in resonance condition

$$\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \frac{\hbar\mathbf{k}^2}{2m} = 0 \quad (\text{no } \omega^2\text{-term!})$$

- ▶ nonrelativistic treatment valid only for $\omega^2 \ll \mathbf{k}^2c^2$

Spin

- ▶ spin-polarized electrons modifies linear response to order \hbar
- ▶ unpolarized electrons \implies average over spins
- ▶ different from spin-0 particles (boson plasma)

Vacuum polarization & critical fields

- ▶ vacuum birefringent for $B/B_c \neq 0$
- ▶ vacuum quadratic nonlinear response for $B/B_c \neq 0$

One-photon pair creation (PC)

- ▶ PC included in vacuum polarization tensor: $\text{Im} \Pi^{\mu\nu}(k)$
- ▶ electron gas partially suppresses PC (Pauli exclusion)
- ▶ PC introduces an additional source of dispersion in RQ plasma
- ▶ \implies existence intrinsically RQ 'pair' modes

Quantum diffusion & tunneling

- ▶ quantum phenomena in (t, \mathbf{x})
- ▶ must be included in ω, \mathbf{k} description
- ▶ where specifically?

Applications of QPD

Neutrino emission from compact stars

- ▶ neutrino losses: cooling mechanism for compact stars
- ▶ ‘plasma process’—plasmons decay into neutrino pairs
- ▶ dispersion of plasmons in relativistic, degenerate plasmas
- ▶ inclusion of B/B_c in dispersion theory

Early Universe

- ▶ dispersion in hot dense plasma
- ▶ is one-photon pair creation possible?
- ▶ what role do pair modes play?

Pulsars and magnetars

- ▶ wave dispersion in pulsar magnetosphere
- ▶ interpretation of polarization of pulsar emission
- ▶ dispersion for $B \gg B_c$ relevant for magnetars

Dispersion in RQ plasmas

Known results in relativistic degenerate plasma

- ▶ Friedel oscillations in relativistic degenerate plasma due to Kohn singularity in $K^L(0, \mathbf{k})$, at $|\mathbf{k}| = 2\rho_F$
 - ▶ Pauli spin paramagnetism : Landau diamagnetism = 3 : -1
- A.A. Rudkadze, V.P. Silin (1960)

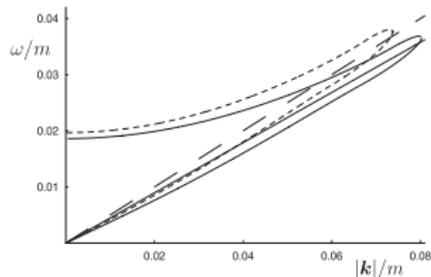
Dispersion of plasmons in completely degenerate plasma

- ▶ approximate dispersion relation known since the 1950s:

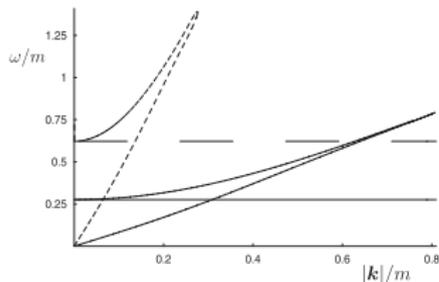
$$\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + \frac{3}{5}v_F^2 + \hbar k^4/4m_e^2$$

- ▶ high-frequency turnover exists V.S. Krivitskii, S.V. Vladimirov (1991)
- ▶ relativistic case: Jancovici (solid) Lindhard (dashed):

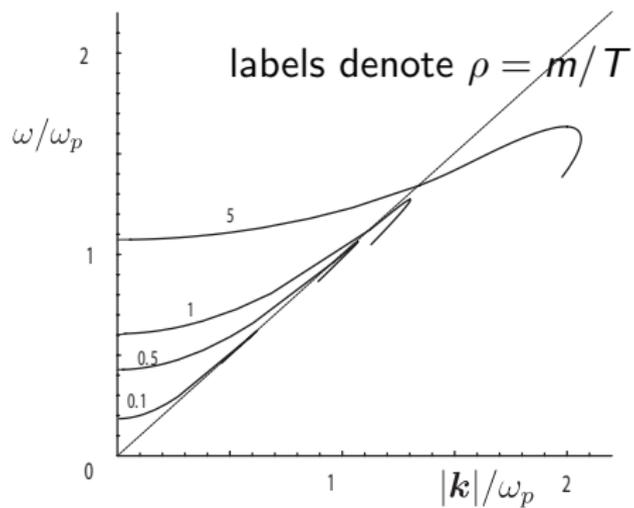
$$\rho_F/m = 0.5$$



$$\rho_F/m = 5$$



Dispersion of L-waves in relativistic thermal plasmas



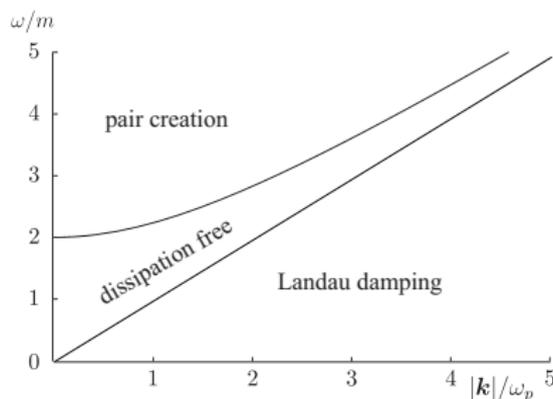
Superdense plasmas

Cutoff frequency

- ▶ cutoff frequency, ω_c : same for L & T waves

$$\omega_c^2 = \frac{4\mu_0 e^2}{3\pi^2} \int d\varepsilon |\mathbf{p}| \bar{n}(\varepsilon) \frac{3\varepsilon^2 - |\mathbf{p}|^2 - 3\omega_c^2/4}{4\varepsilon^2 - \omega_c^2}$$

- ▶ superdense plasmas $\omega_p \gg m$: cutoff above PC threshold?
- ▶ relevant to the early Universe when $\omega_p \gg 2m$?
- ▶ effect of macroscopic mass renormalization?



Pair modes

Pair modes ($\mathbf{B} = 0$)

- ▶ pair modes have $\omega \gtrsim 2m$
- ▶ exist in degenerate spin 0 & spin 1 plasma V. Kowalenko, N.E. Frankel, K.C. Hines (1985); D.B Melrose, D.R.M.Williams (1989)
- ▶ do not exist in degenerate electron gas
- ▶ exist for transverse mode in spin 1 plasma

Pair modes ($\mathbf{B} \neq 0$)

- ▶ pair modes exist in magnetized electron gas
- ▶ associated with thresholds for pair creation
- ▶ Landau quantum numbers n, n' for e^\pm P. Pulsifer, G. Kalman (1992)
- ▶ like gyromagnetic modes associated with singularities response

Interpretation & implication of pair modes

- ▶ analogy with Cooper pairs? No
- ▶ physical implications of pair modes?

Generalization of QPD to $B \neq 0$

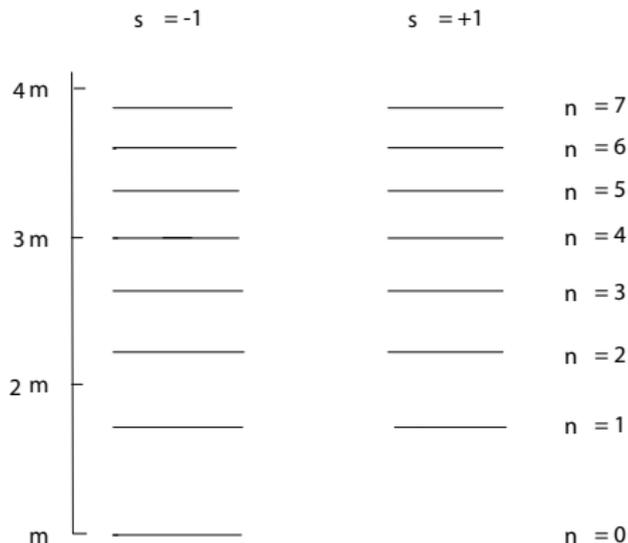
Dirac electron for $B \neq 0$

- ▶ discrete Landau levels with energy

$$\varepsilon_n(p_z) = (m^2 + p_z^2 + 2neB)^{1/2}$$

- ▶ critical field $B_c = mc^2/\hbar e = 4.4 \times 10^9$ T

energy diagram for $p_z = 0$, $B/B_c = 1$



Choice of gauge and spin operator

- ▶ general forms for the response tensor long been available
D.B. Melrose, A.J. Parle (1983)
- ▶ depends on choice of gauge (for \mathbf{B}) & spin operator
- ▶ relevant spin operator identified by A.A. Sokolov, I.M. Ternov (1968)
- ▶ gauge & spin independent result using method of Ritus
V.I. Ritus (1970); A.J. Parle (1985)

Simplified form for pulsar magnetospheres

- ▶ Gyromagnetic losses $\implies n = 0$ for all electrons
- ▶ highly relativistic, streaming, 1D, pair plasma with $B \sim 0.1B_c$
- ▶ relevant response tensor used to derive wave properties
- ▶ polarization properties of particular interest

Quantum fluid theory (QFT)

QFT approach F. Haas, G. Manfredi, M. Feix (2000)

- ▶ derive fluid model incorporating quantum effects
- ▶ quantum effects included in Bohm potential
- ▶ QFT used to include quantum terms in linear waves
- ▶ QFT used to derive 1D quantum Zakharov equations

Comparison QFT & QPD

- ▶ QPD derivation establishes limits of QFT approach
- ▶ provides new physical insight
- ▶ QPD allows various generalizations

QPD approach

- ▶ derive relevant approximations for $\Pi^{\mu\nu}(k)$
- ▶ apply to 1D longitudinal case
- ▶ compare with QFT
- ▶ derive quantum Zakharov equations

1D Wigner-Poisson system

- ▶ 1D Schrödinger equation

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \psi(x, t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2 \psi(x, t)}{\partial x^2} - e\phi(x, t) \psi(x, t) = 0$$

- ▶ 1D Wigner function defined by

$$f(x, p, t) = \int dy \psi^*(x - \frac{1}{2}y, t) \psi(x + \frac{1}{2}y, t) \exp\left(\frac{-ipy}{\hbar}\right)$$

- ▶ 1D Poisson equation

$$\frac{d^2 \phi(x, t)}{dx^2} = \frac{e}{\epsilon_0} \left[\int \frac{dp}{2\pi\hbar} f(x, p, t) - n_e \right]$$

- ▶ 1D Vlasov-like equation G. Manfredi, F. Haas (2001)

$$\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{p}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] f(x, p, t) - \frac{ie}{\hbar} \int \frac{dp' dy'}{2\pi\hbar} [\phi(x - \frac{1}{2}y', t) - \phi(x + \frac{1}{2}y', t)] \exp\left(\frac{i(p-p')y'}{\hbar}\right) f(x, p', t) = 0$$

1D quantum fluid equations

- ▶ zeroth and first moments \implies
- ▶ continuity: $\partial n_e / \partial t + \partial(n_e u_e) / \partial x = 0$
- ▶ equation of fluid motion for electrons

$$\frac{du_e}{dt} = -\frac{e}{m_e} E - \frac{1}{n_e m_e} \frac{\partial P_e}{\partial x} + \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{n_e}} \frac{\partial^2 \sqrt{n_e}}{\partial x^2} \right]$$

- ▶ $P_e = n_e m_e V_e^2$ 'classical' pressure term
- ▶ 'quantum' pressure term is the Bohm term

Role of Bohm potential

- ▶ linearizing and Fourier transforming (k is 1D wavenumber)
- ▶ Langmuir: $\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + k^2 V_e^2 + \hbar^2 k^4 / 4m_e^2$
- ▶ ion sound: $\omega^2 = k^2 v_s^2 + \hbar^2 k^4 / 4m_e m_i$
- ▶ Bohm term corresponds to quantum recoil

Linear response tensor in QPD

Derivation of recoil terms from exact theory

- ▶ QPD form for $\Pi^{\mu\nu}(k)$:

$$\Pi^{\mu\nu}(k) = -2e^2 \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{p}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{\bar{n}(\mathbf{p})}{\varepsilon} \frac{(ku)^2}{(ku)^2 - (k^2/2m)^2} a^{\mu\nu}(k, u),$$

$$a^{\mu\nu}(k, u) = g^{\mu\nu} - \frac{k^\mu u^\nu + k^\nu u^\mu}{ku} + \frac{k^2 u^\mu u^\nu}{(ku)^2}.$$

- ▶ differs from relativistic classical form by

$$\frac{1}{\gamma^2(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\gamma^2(\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2 - \hbar^2(\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 c^2)^2/4m^2 c^4}$$

- ▶ nonrelativistic approximation: $\gamma \rightarrow 1$
- ▶ "strictly" nonrelativistic approximation: $c \rightarrow \infty$
 \implies denominator $\rightarrow (\omega - \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{v})^2 - \hbar^2 \mathbf{k}^4/4m^2$

Nonrelativistic thermal quantum plasma

Quantum recoil in Langmuir

- ▶ including quantum recoil, susceptibilities become

$$\chi^L(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{\omega_p^2}{\sqrt{2}|\mathbf{k}|V} \frac{1}{2\Delta} \left[\frac{\phi(y_-)}{y_-} - \frac{\phi(y_+)}{y_+} \right],$$

$$y_{\pm} = (\omega \pm \Delta)/\sqrt{2}|\mathbf{k}|V, \quad \Delta = \hbar(\mathbf{k}^2 - \omega^2/c^2)/2m$$

- ▶ for $y^2 \gg 1$, $\phi(y) \approx 1 + 1/2y^2$

$$\chi^L(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = -\frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2 - \Delta^2} \left[1 + \frac{(3\omega^2 + \Delta^2) \mathbf{k}^2 V^2}{(\omega^2 - \Delta^2)^2} \right]$$

- ▶ \implies Langmuir waves with quantum recoil

$$\omega^2 \rightarrow \omega_L^2(\mathbf{k}) + \Delta_e^2 + \dots,$$

- ▶ Landau damping ($H_e = \hbar\omega_L(k)/4m_e V_e^2$)

$$\gamma_L(k) \simeq \omega_L(k) \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left(\frac{\omega_L(k)}{|\mathbf{k}| V_e} \right)^3 \frac{\sinh H_e}{H_e} \exp\left(-\frac{\omega_L^2(k) + \Delta_e^2}{2|\mathbf{k}|^2 V_e^2} \right).$$

Quantum recoil in ion sound waves

- ▶ for $y_{\pm}^2 \ll 1$, $\phi(y_{\pm}) \approx 2y_{\pm}^2 - 4y_{\pm}^4/3$

$$\chi^L(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = \frac{\omega_p^2}{\mathbf{k}^2 V^2} \left[1 - \frac{3\omega^2 + \Delta^2}{3\mathbf{k}^2 V^2} \right],$$

- ▶ assume $y_{e\pm}^2 \ll 1$, $y_{i\pm}^2 \gg 1$

$$K^L(\omega, \mathbf{k}) = 1 + \frac{1}{\mathbf{k}^2 \lambda_{De}^2} \left[1 - \frac{3\omega^2 + \Delta_e^2}{3\mathbf{k}^2 V_e^2} \right] - \frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega^2 - \Delta_i^2}$$

- ▶ \implies ion sound waves with quantum recoil

$$\omega^2 \rightarrow \omega_s^2(\mathbf{k}) \left[1 + \frac{\Delta_e^2}{3\mathbf{k}^2 V_e^2 (1 + \mathbf{k}^2 \lambda_{De}^2)} \right] + \Delta_i^2,$$

- ▶ for $\mathbf{k}^2 \lambda_{De}^2 \ll 1$ simplifies to

$$\omega^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{k}^2 v_s^2 + \frac{\Delta_{ei}^2}{3}, \quad \Delta_{ei}^2 = \frac{\hbar^2 (\mathbf{k}^2 - \omega^2/c^2)^2}{4m_e m_i}$$

Zakharov equations (standard form)

Nonlinear correction to Langmuir waves (V. Zakharov 1972)

- ▶ fluctuation $\delta n_e(t, \mathbf{x})$ in electron density modifies ω_p
- ▶ correction to dispersion relation for Langmuir waves

$$\omega = \omega_p + \frac{3\mathbf{k}^2 V_e^2}{2\omega_p} + \frac{\delta n_e}{2n_e} \omega_p - i \frac{\gamma_L}{2}$$

- ▶ slowly varying envelope for Langmuir turbulence

$$\mathbf{E}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(t, \mathbf{x}) e^{-i\omega_p t} + \tilde{\mathbf{E}}^*(t, \mathbf{x}) e^{i\omega_p t}$$

- ▶ equation for the envelope

$$\left[i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{3V_e^2}{2\omega_p} \nabla^2 + i \frac{\gamma_L}{2} \right] \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\omega_p \delta n_e(t, \mathbf{x})}{2n_e} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(t, \mathbf{x})$$

Evolution of density fluctuations

- ▶ δn_e assumed ion-sound like ($\omega^2 - \mathbf{k}^2 v_s^2 + i\omega\gamma_s = 0$)

$$\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - v_s^2 \nabla^2 + \gamma_s \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right] \delta n_e(t, \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\varepsilon_0}{m_i} \nabla^2 |\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(t, \mathbf{x})|^2$$

- ▶ driver = ponderomotive force due to Langmuir turbulence

Zakharov equations from kinetic theory

Nonlinear wave equation

- ▶ nonlinear wave equation involves effective cubic response
- ▶ QPD form for $\Pi_{\text{eff}}^L(k, k_1, k_2, k_3)$ simplifies if beat at $k - k_1 = k_2 + k_3$ slow and longitudinal
- ▶ $\Pi_{\text{eff}}^L(k, k_1, k_2, k_3)$ depends only on linear responses
- ▶ quantum recoil terms included in linear responses
- ▶ nonlinear wave equation becomes

$$K^L(k)\mathbf{E}(k) = \frac{e^2}{m_e^2\omega_p^4} \int d\lambda^{(3)} |\mathbf{k}-\mathbf{k}_1|^2 \mathcal{D}^{-1}(k-k_1)\mathbf{E}(k_1) \mathbf{E}(k_2) \cdot \mathbf{E}(k_3)$$

$$\mathcal{D}^{-1}(k - k_1) = \frac{1 + \chi_e^L(k - k_1) + \chi_i^L(k - k_1)}{\chi_e^L(k - k_1)[1 + \chi_i^L(k - k_1)]}$$

Factorization of nonlinear wave equation

- ▶ nonlinear wave equation becomes

$$K^L(k)\mathbf{E}(k) = \frac{e^2}{\epsilon_0 m_e \omega_p^2} \int d\lambda^{(2)} \delta n_e(k_1) \mathbf{E}(k_2)$$

- ▶ with the identification

$$\delta n_e(k) = \frac{\epsilon_0}{m_e \omega_p^2} \mathcal{D}(k) \mathbf{k}^2 \int d\lambda^{(2)} \mathbf{E}(k_1) \cdot \mathbf{E}(k_2)$$

- ▶ assume slowly varying envelope of Langmuir turbulence
 $\mathbf{E}(x) = \frac{1}{2} [\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(x) e^{-i\omega_p t} + \tilde{\mathbf{E}}^*(x) e^{i\omega_p t}]$
- ▶ invert Fourier transforms, introducing operators
- ▶ high frequency ($\omega \approx \omega_p$): $K^L(k) \rightarrow \hat{O}_h^L(x)$

$$\hat{O}_h^L(x) \approx \frac{1}{2\omega_p} \left[i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{3V_e^2}{2\omega_p} \nabla^2 + i \frac{\gamma_L}{2} - \frac{\text{QRT}_e}{2\omega_p} \right]$$

- ▶ $\text{QRT}_e =$ quantum recoil term for electrons

Ion sound approximation

- ▶ with $k' = k - k_1$, assuming $|\mathbf{k}'|V_i \ll \omega' \ll |\mathbf{k}'|V_e \implies$

$$\chi_e^L(k') \approx \frac{1}{\mathbf{k}'^2 \lambda_{De}^2}, \quad \chi_i^L(k') \approx -\frac{\omega_{pi}^2}{\omega'^2}$$

- ▶ ion-sound dispersion relation

$$\omega_s^2(\mathbf{k}') = \frac{\mathbf{k}'^2 v_s^2}{1 + \mathbf{k}'^2 \lambda_{De}^2}, \quad v_s = \omega_{pi} \lambda_{De}$$

- ▶ beat is ion-sound-like disturbance

$$1 + \chi_e^L(k') + \chi_i^L(k') \approx \frac{1 + \mathbf{k}'^2 \lambda_{De}^2}{\mathbf{k}'^2 \lambda_{De}^2 \omega'^2} [\omega'^2 - \omega_s^2(\mathbf{k}')]]$$

- ▶ low frequency ($\omega' \ll \omega_{pi}$, $\mathbf{k}'^2 \lambda_{De}^2 \ll 1$): $\mathcal{D}(k') \rightarrow -\hat{\mathcal{O}}_i^L(x)$

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}_i^L \approx \frac{1}{\omega_{pi}^2} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - v_s^2 \nabla^2 + \gamma_s \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \text{QRT}_{ei} \right]$$

- ▶ QRT_{ei} = quantum recoil correction for ion sound waves

Quantum Zakharov equations

- ▶ nonlinear equations become

$$\left[i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{3V_e^2}{2\omega_p} \nabla^2 + i \frac{\gamma_L}{2} - \frac{\text{QRT}_e}{2\omega_p} \right] \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(x) = \omega_p \frac{\delta n_e(x)}{n_e} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}(x)$$

$$\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - v_s^2 \nabla^2 + \gamma_s \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \text{QRT}_i \right] \delta n_e(x) = \frac{\epsilon_0 \omega_{pi}^2}{4m_e \omega_p^2} \nabla^2 |\tilde{\mathbf{E}}(x)|^2$$

- ▶ quantum Zakharov equations includes recoil terms

$$\text{QRT}_e = \frac{\hbar^2}{4m_e^2} \left(\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \right)^2 \quad \text{QRT}_{ei} = \frac{m_e}{3m_i} \text{QRT}_e$$

- ▶ $(1/c^2)(\partial^2/\partial t^2)$ absent in strictly nonrelativistic theory
- ▶ factors of 3 not correct in QFT counterpart

Discussion & conclusions

Discussion of QPD

- ▶ QPD synthesizes QED and plasma response theory
- ▶ provides a basis for treating all quantum plasma effects

Applications of QPD

- ▶ interiors of compact stars
- ▶ early Universe
- ▶ pulsar & magnetar magnetospheres

Application to QFT

- ▶ Bohm potential equivalent to quantum recoil for $\mathbf{k}^2 \gg \omega^2/c^2$
Bohm potential wrong for $\omega^2 \gtrsim \mathbf{k}^2 c^2$
- ▶ quantum Zakharov equations in QFT?
derived from nonlinear wave equation in QPD

Further development of QPD

- ▶ inclusion macroscopic mass renormalization
- ▶ 'self-consistent' Dirac field
- ▶ different masses for electrons & positrons
- ▶ do new solutions ('plasmino') exist?