

Variational Methods in Modeling Plasma Waves: Basic Physics and Applications

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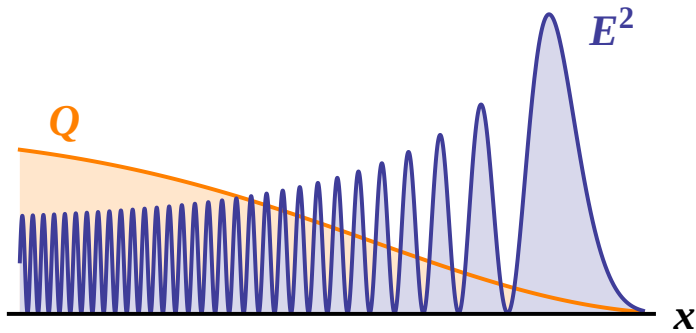


Research & Review Seminar

PPPL, 2014

Wave theory has been neglected but is still full of challenges

- Suppose an RF wave in stationary homogeneous plasma with $k^2 = Q(\omega, \mathcal{N})$. Then suppose slow $\mathcal{N}(x)$. Replacing $k \rightarrow -i\partial_x$ leads to a WKB solution.

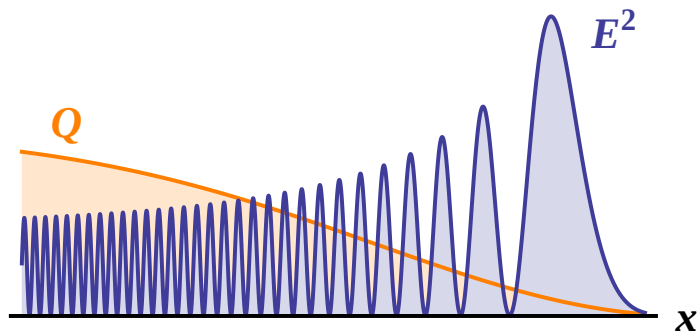


$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} + Q(x)E = 0$$

$$E \propto \frac{1}{Q(x)^{1/4}} \exp \left(i \int^x Q(\tilde{x})^{1/2} d\tilde{x} \right)$$

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1. The substitution $k \rightarrow -i\partial_x$ can lead to wrong results. More severe and complex manifestations: at mode conversion in tokamaks, waves in nonstationary plasmas.

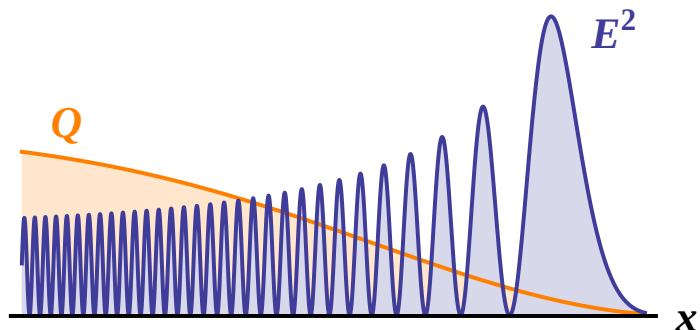


$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x^2} + 2\alpha \frac{Q'(x)}{Q(x)} \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} + Q(x)E = 0$$

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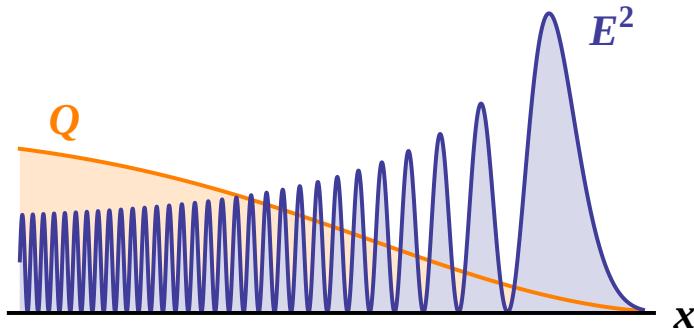
$$E \propto \frac{1}{Q(x)^{\alpha+1/4}} \exp \left(i \int^x Q(\tilde{x})^{1/2} d\tilde{x} \right)$$

2. Now consider nonlinear waves. Typically, the dispersion is calculated by assuming a stationary wave, $E(t, x) = \mathcal{E}(\omega t - kx)$, and some $f_0(v)$ with $V = 0$; that gives

$$\omega(k, \mathcal{E}) = \omega_0(k) + \delta\omega_{\text{NL}}(k, \mathcal{E})$$

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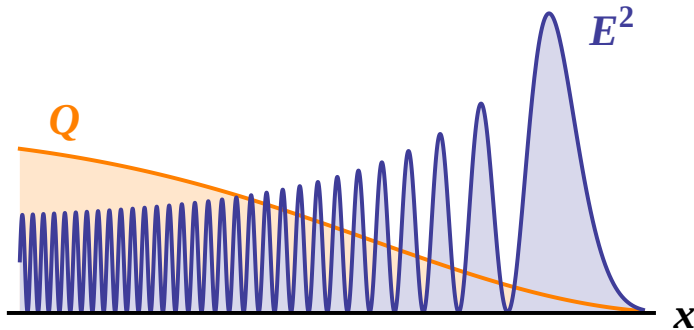
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Increasing amplitude accelerates plasma $\rightarrow$ new $f_0(v) \rightarrow$ Doppler shift. To find it, a nonstationary wave must be considered $\rightarrow$ much more complicated PDEs.

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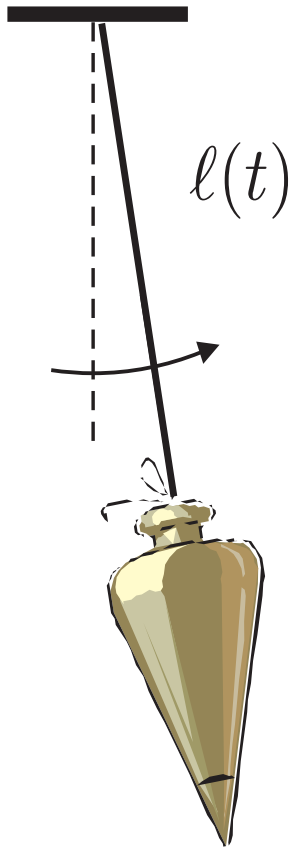
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3. What is the wave energy-momentum? No (unambiguous) answer in Maxwell's eqs. Do electrostatic waves have momentum?.. nonlinear forces on the medium?..

Plasma wave theory needs qualitatively new approaches

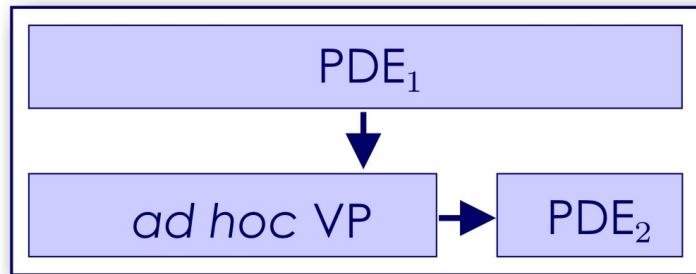


$$\mathcal{E}/\omega = \text{inv}$$

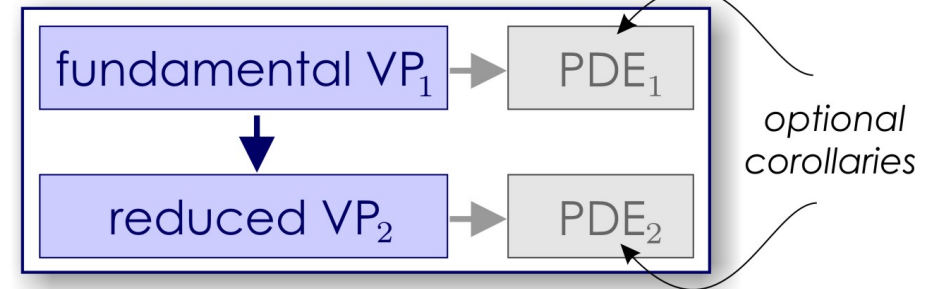
- Conventional theories of plasma waves ignore special symmetries (adiabatic invariants) that nondissipative linear and nonlinear waves have as dynamic objects.
 - ↳ Dissipation can be added as a perturbation, but the local symmetries can, nevertheless, be critical.
 - ↳ Building on these symmetries can help modernize wave theory and find new physics.
- Investments in modernizing foundations today is an opportunity to lead wave theory in the future.
- It also helps continue the tradition of innovation that PPPL has had in wave physics and Hamiltonian dynamics:
 - current drive for waves in all frequency regimes;
 - alpha channeling for tokamaks and mirror machines;
 - classic research by Stix, Dewar, Kruskal, Bernstein, Greene...

The way to deal with symmetries is to develop a field theory

common variational theories:



first-principle variational theory:



- Dealing with *given* variational principles (VP) is understood, especially for linear nondissipative waves. Recent book: *Tracy, Brizard, Richardson, & Kaufman (2014)*.

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + u_i \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}\right)^2 \tilde{n} + \omega_p^2 \tilde{n} - C_{j\ell} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{n}}{\partial x_j \partial x_\ell} + \frac{2k_\ell}{k^2} \left(\frac{\partial \tilde{n}}{\partial t} + u_i \frac{\partial \tilde{n}}{\partial x_i}\right) \left(\frac{\Omega}{\omega_p} \frac{\partial \omega_p}{\partial x_\ell} + k_j \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_\ell}\right) - \left(\delta_{js} + \frac{k_j k_s}{k^2}\right) \frac{\partial C_{s\ell}}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \tilde{n}}{\partial x_\ell} = 0$$

- But, except in simplest cases, VPs are hard to guess *ad hoc*[†].
 - general linear waves in inhomogeneous nonstationary plasma; e.g., Langmuir ↑
 - nonlinear, dissipative, and non-eikonal waves are even worse. . .

Goal: replace ad hoc VPs with more general and unified first-principle VPs

[†] Dodin et al., *PoP* (2009); Dodin and Fisch, *PRD* (2010). . .

Waves as oscillations on (unbounded) manifolds: Lagrangians

- Any wave has a “photon wave function” ψ and a Hermitian H such that

$$\mathcal{L} = (i/2)[\psi^\dagger(\partial_t\psi) - (\partial_t\psi^\dagger)\psi] - \psi^\dagger H(t, \mathbf{x}, -i\nabla)\psi + \text{parametric/nonlinear}$$

$$i\partial_t\psi = H(t, \mathbf{x}, -i\nabla)\psi, \quad \psi^\dagger\psi = \text{action operator}$$

- Quantum mechanics emerges as a special case $\rightarrow$ can treat particles and waves on *precisely* the same footing.

Everything has a unified interface, $\mathcal{L}$. What remains is to describe the coupling through this unified interface.

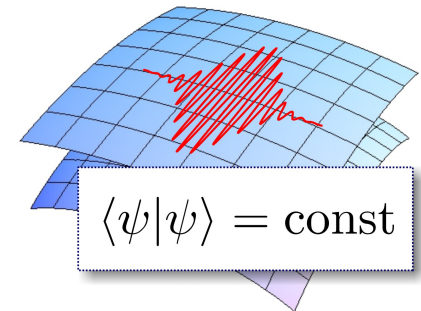
- Sufficient semiclassical ($\equiv$ cold-fluid) approximation:

$$\psi = e^{i\theta}\sqrt{\mathcal{I}} \xrightarrow{\text{GO}} \mathcal{L}[\theta, \mathcal{I}] = -[\partial_t\theta + H(t, \mathbf{x}, \nabla\theta)]\mathcal{I}$$

Classical limit *is redundant* yet subsumed too: $\mathcal{I} = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}(t))$,

$$\int \mathcal{L} d^3x = \mathbf{P} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{X}} - H(t, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{P}), \quad \mathbf{P} \doteq \nabla\theta(t, \mathbf{X})$$

Dodin, PLA (2014); cf. Hayes (1973); Whitham (1974)...



traditional wave theory:

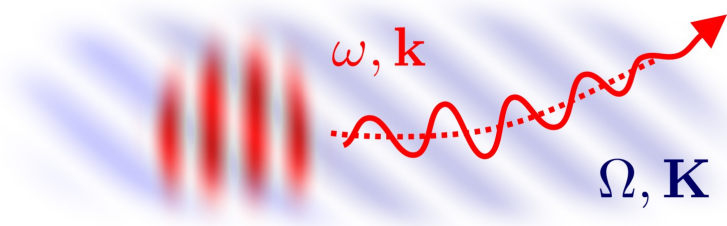
wave equations	
wave	
Maxwell's eqs. EM field	Newton's eqs. particles

first-principle variational theory:

$\mathcal{L}_3 = \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_2$	
wave	
$\mathcal{L}_1$ wave	$\mathcal{L}_2$ wave

Test wave experiencing cross-phase modulation (XPM)

- Scalar waves, geometrical-optics limit: $\mathcal{L}[\theta, \mathcal{I}] = -[\partial_t \theta + H(t, \mathbf{x}, \nabla \theta)] \mathcal{I}$
 - $\delta_\theta \mathcal{L} = 0 \rightarrow$ action conservation theorem: $\partial_t \mathcal{I} + \nabla \cdot (\mathcal{I} \mathbf{v}_g) = 0$
 - $\delta_{\mathcal{I}} \mathcal{L} = 0 \rightarrow$ Hamilton-Jacobi/dispersion: $\underbrace{\partial_t \theta}_{-\omega} + H(t, \mathbf{x}, \underbrace{\nabla \theta}_{\mathbf{k}}) = 0$



- Consider a **test** wave modulated weakly at some $\Omega \doteq -\partial_t \Theta$ and $\mathbf{K} \doteq \nabla \Theta$:

$$\omega = \bar{\omega} + \text{Re} [\tilde{\omega}_c(t, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{k}) e^{-i\Theta(t, \mathbf{x})}]$$

- Averaging over Θ gives a “dressed” Lagrangian, $\bar{\mathcal{L}} = -[\partial_t \bar{\theta} + \mathcal{H}(t, \mathbf{x}, \nabla \bar{\theta})] \bar{\mathcal{I}}$. Instantaneous Kerr effect: now conservative & through the *linear* $\omega(\mathbf{k})$.

$$\mathcal{H} = \bar{\omega} + \frac{\mathbf{K}}{4} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\mathbf{k}}} \left(\frac{|\tilde{\omega}_c|^2}{\Omega - \mathbf{K} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{v}}_g} \right)$$

$$d_t \bar{\mathbf{x}} = \partial_{\bar{\mathbf{k}}} \mathcal{H}, \quad d_t \bar{\mathbf{k}} = -\partial_{\bar{\mathbf{x}}} \mathcal{H}$$

Ponderomotive forces on rays and particles. Asymmetric barriers

- Photons/plasmons, $\omega_0 = (\omega_p^2 + k^2 c^2)^{1/2}$

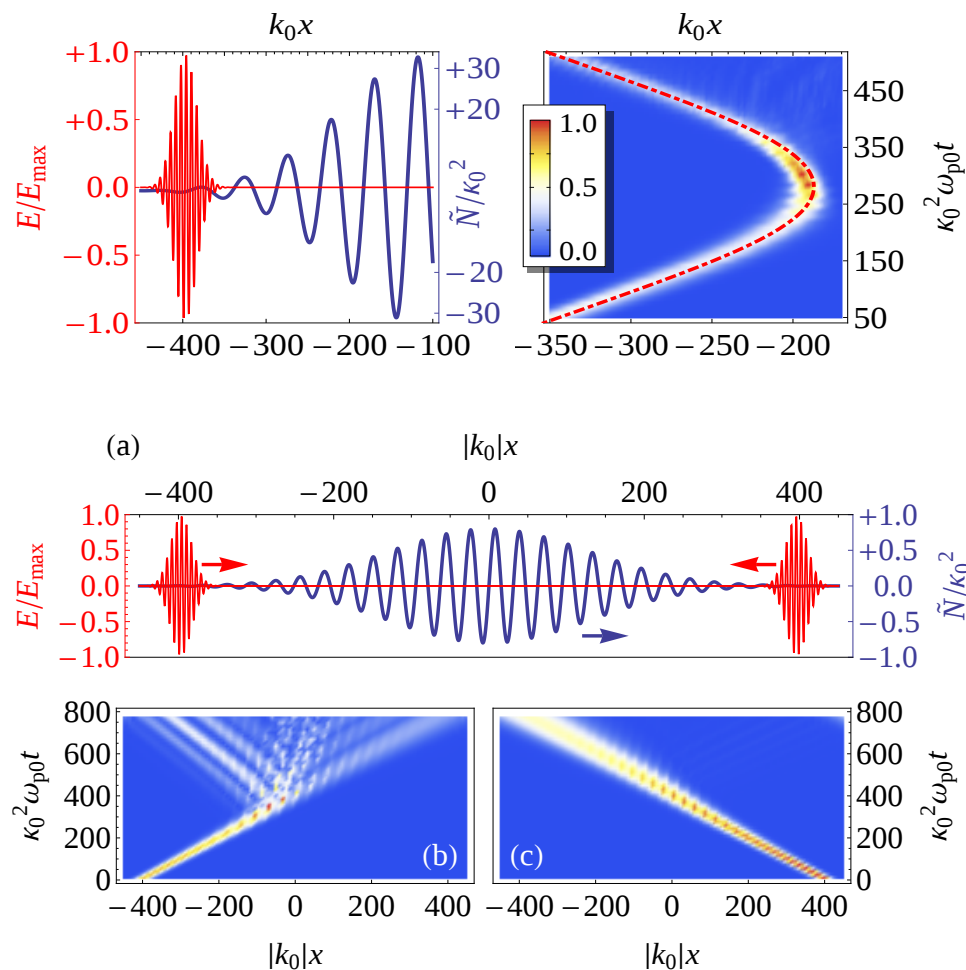
$$\mathcal{H} = \omega_0 \left[1 - \underbrace{\left(\frac{\omega_p^2}{4\omega_0^2} \frac{\tilde{n}}{n_0} \right)^2 \frac{(\Omega^2 - K^2 c^2)}{(\Omega - \mathbf{K} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{v}}_g)^2}}_{\text{Kerr (ponderomotive) term, } \lesssim 0} \right]$$

Nonreciprocal propagation due to the “group resonance” at $\Omega = \mathbf{K} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{v}}_g$.

- Electrons, $\hbar\omega_0 = \hbar^2 k^2 / 2m + e\tilde{\varphi}$

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{P^2}{2m} + \frac{e^2 |\tilde{E}|^2 / 4m}{(\Omega - \mathbf{K} \cdot \mathbf{V})^2 - \underbrace{(\hbar K^2 / 2m)^2}_{\text{beyond GO}}}$$

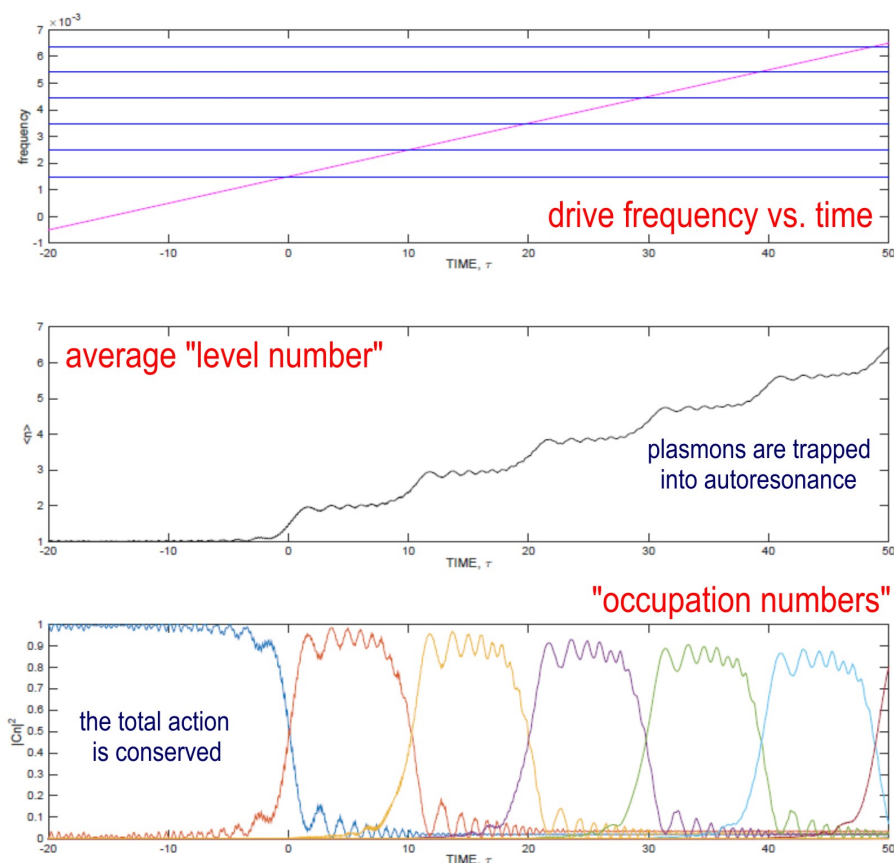
- Quantumlike derivations are often simpler, since equations are kept linear.
- EM waves may be better modeled with *vector rays*. “Spin” effects at ray tracing?



Hamiltonian dynamics of multiple coherent waves. Mode conversion

- Example: Langmuir waves coupled via low-frequency drive $\sim \eta(t) \cos(k_N x)$

$$i\dot{\psi}_n = \sum_m H_{nm}(t) \psi_m = \omega_n \psi_n + \eta(t) (\psi_{n-N} + \psi_{n+N})$$



- Plasma mode conversion $\equiv$ quantum Landau-Zener problem. The total action is conserved manifestly:

$$\sum_n |\psi|^2 = \text{const}$$

- Autoresonant trapping of plasmons at

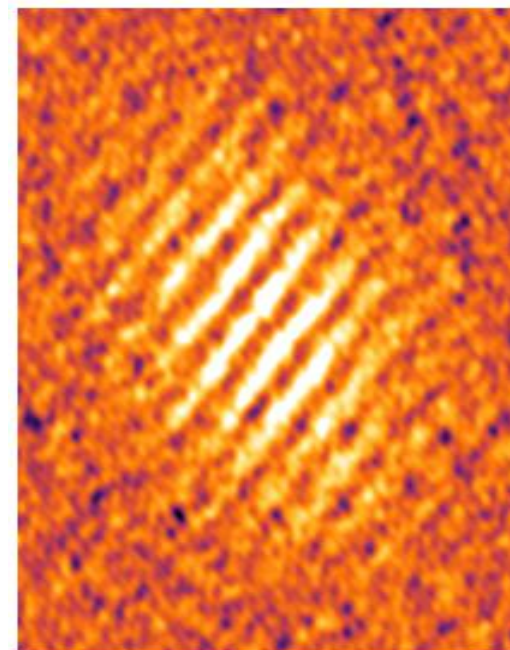
$$\Omega \approx K v_g$$

- Quantum-ladder-climbing emulation in a classical system. BGK waves made of plasmons/quantum particles

Self-consistent dynamics and dispersion. Photons are polarizable

- Low-frequency wave $(\Theta, \mathcal{J})$ interacts with many high-frequency waves $(\theta_n, \mathcal{I}_n)$:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= -[\partial_t \Theta + \Omega_0] \mathcal{J} - \sum_n [\partial_t \bar{\theta}_n + \underbrace{(\omega_n + \beta_n \mathcal{J})}_{\text{ponderomotive effect}}] \bar{\mathcal{I}}_n \\ &= -[\partial_t \Theta + \underbrace{(\Omega_0 + \sum_n \beta_n \bar{\mathcal{I}}_n)}_{\text{self-consistent frequency, } \Omega}] \mathcal{J} - \underbrace{\sum_n (\cancel{\partial_t \bar{\theta}_n}) \bar{\mathcal{I}}_n}_{\text{independent of } (\Theta, \mathcal{J})}\end{aligned}$$



- EM wave interacting with particles and HF waves:

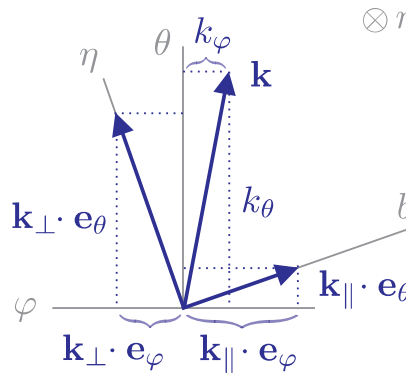
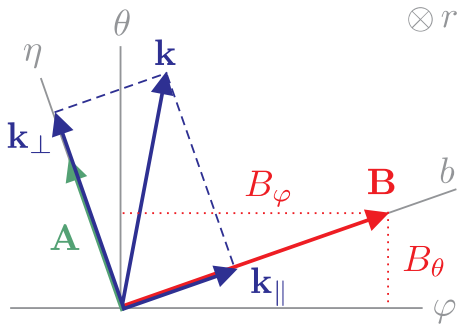
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{16\pi} \tilde{\mathbf{E}}^* \cdot \left(\underbrace{1 + \hat{\chi}_{\text{particles}}}_{\text{standard } \hat{\epsilon}} + \underbrace{\hat{\chi}_{\text{waves}}}_{\text{"anomalous"}} \right) \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{E}} - \frac{|\tilde{\mathbf{B}}|^2}{16\pi}$$

- Wave quanta contribute to linear $\hat{\epsilon}$ just like electrons and ions. An improved formula for a *Langmuir wave in a photon bath*: extra term + evolution allowed.

$$\Omega(\mathbf{K}) \approx \Omega_0(\mathbf{K}) - \frac{K^2 \omega_{p0}^4}{8m_e n_0 \Omega} \int \frac{\nabla_{\bar{\mathbf{k}}} \cdot [\mathbf{K} f_0(\bar{\mathbf{k}})]}{(\Omega - \mathbf{K} \cdot \bar{\mathbf{v}}_g) \omega_0^2} d^3 \bar{\mathbf{k}} - \frac{K^2 \omega_{p0}^4}{8m_e n_0 \Omega} \int \frac{f_0(\bar{\mathbf{k}})}{\omega_0^3} d^3 \bar{\mathbf{k}}.$$

Wave energy and momentum. Effect of $k_{\perp}$ on RF-driven rotation

- The variational approach is the *only* unambiguous and reliable way to define the wave energy-momentum, both “canonical” and “kinetic”.
- Example: The effect of $k_{\perp}$ has been unclear, since $k_{\perp}$ does not cause resonant acceleration along $\mathbf{B}_0$.



- Quasilinear calculation: [Lee, Parra, Parker, and Bonoli, PPCF (2012)]. But detailed dynamics is unimportant. The symmetry of $\mathcal{L}$ already gives

$$\Delta P_{\perp} = k_{\perp} \Delta \mathcal{E} / \omega \rightarrow \Delta r_{gc} = ck_{\perp} \Delta \mathcal{E} / (eB_0 \omega)$$

→ charge separation → Poynting momentum

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fluctuated distribution function f_k (8):

$$P_{\theta}^{\perp} = ZeR \sum_k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_{\parallel} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta \int_0^{\infty} d\hat{r} (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) \times \left\{ E_{k\perp}^2 \left(1 - \frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\omega} \cos(\alpha - \beta) \right) + E_{k\perp}^2 \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} \right\} f_k$$

$$= \frac{Ze^2 R}{m} \sum_k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_{\parallel} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta \int_0^{\infty} d\hat{r} e^{i(\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega)} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) \times \sum_n e^{in(\eta - \eta_0)} \left(\left(1 - \frac{n\Omega}{\omega} \right) J_n E_{k\perp}^2 + \frac{n J_n k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} (E_{k+}^2 + E_{k-}^2) + J_n' \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \right) \times \sum_l e^{-i(l\eta - l\eta_0)} \left(E_{k\perp}^2 \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial v_{\parallel}} I_l + \frac{l J_l}{\lambda} ((E_{k+} + E_{k-})U - E_{k\perp} V) + (E_{k+} - E_{k-})U J_l' \right)$$

The phase $i(\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega)\tau$ is averaged out in the τ integration except where $\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega = 0$. Using the Dirac-delta function to express this resonance condition, the momentum transfer becomes

$$P_{\theta}^{\perp} = \frac{\pi Z^2 e^2 R}{m} \sum_k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_{\parallel} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta \int_0^{\infty} d\hat{r} \delta(\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega) (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) \times \left(\left(1 - \frac{n\Omega}{\omega} \right) J_n E_{k\perp}^2 + \frac{n J_n k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} (E_{k+}^2 + E_{k-}^2) + J_n' \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \right) \times \left(E_{k\perp}^2 \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial v_{\parallel}} I_n + \frac{n J_n}{\lambda} ((E_{k+} + E_{k-})U - E_{k\perp} V) + (E_{k+} - E_{k-})U J_n' \right)$$

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$$= \sum_k \frac{k_{\perp}^2}{\omega} P_{\text{abs},k} R (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) = \sum_k \frac{n J_n}{c} P_{\text{abs},k} R (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi})$$

where the resonance condition $\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega = 0$, the Bessel function identities $n J_n / \lambda = (J_{n+1} + J_{n-1})/2$ and $J_n' = (J_{n-1} - J_{n+1})/2$, and $\chi_{k,n} = E_{k\perp}^2 \frac{n}{v_{\perp}^2} + E_{k+} J_{n-1} + E_{k-} J_{n+1}$ are used from (B.1) to (B.2).

The rest of the toroidal momentum transfer in (16) can be obtained by inserting the perturbed fluctuated distribution

function f_k (8). Before doing so, we rewrite (16) as

$$\Delta P_{\theta}^{\perp} + \Delta P_{\theta}^{\parallel} = ZeR \sum_k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_{\parallel} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta \int_0^{\infty} d\hat{r} 2\pi v_{\perp} \int_0^{2\pi} d\hat{\phi} \times \left\{ E_{k\perp}^2 \frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\omega} (\cos \beta (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) + \sin \beta (\hat{y} \cdot \hat{\phi})) + \left(1 - \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} \right) ((E_{k+}^2 + E_{k-}^2) \cos \beta - (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \sin \beta) (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) + ((E_{k+}^2 + E_{k-}^2) \sin \beta + (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \cos \beta) (\hat{y} \cdot \hat{\phi}) + \left(\frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\omega} \right) (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \times (\sin \eta \cos \beta + \cos \eta \sin \beta) (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) - (\cos \eta \cos \beta - \sin \eta \sin \beta) (\hat{y} \cdot \hat{\phi}) \right\} f_k$$

Using (8) for f_k and the Dirac-delta function for the resonance condition gives

$$\Delta P_{\theta}^{\perp} + \Delta P_{\theta}^{\parallel} = -\frac{\pi Z^2 e^2 R}{m} \sum_k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_{\parallel} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta \int_0^{\infty} d\hat{r} \delta(\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega) \left[(\cos \beta (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) + \sin \beta (\hat{y} \cdot \hat{\phi})) \times \left\{ \frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\omega} J_n E_{k\perp}^2 + \left(1 - \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} \right) J_n (E_{k+}^2 + E_{k-}^2) + J_n' \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \right\} - (\sin \beta (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) - \cos \beta (\hat{y} \cdot \hat{\phi})) \times \left\{ \left(1 - \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} \right) J_n (E_{k+}^2 + E_{k-}^2) + J_n' \frac{k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel}}{\omega} (E_{k+}^2 - E_{k-}^2) \right\} \right] \times \chi_{k,n} v_{\perp} L(f_0)$$

$$= -\frac{\pi Z^2 e^2 R}{m} \sum_k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dv_{\parallel} \int_0^{2\pi} d\eta \int_0^{\infty} d\hat{r} \delta(\omega - k_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} - n\Omega) \times \left(\cos \beta (\hat{z} \cdot \hat{\phi}) + \sin \beta (\hat{y} \cdot \hat{\phi}) \right) \frac{k_{\perp}^2 v_{\perp}^2}{\omega} (\chi_{k,n})^2 L(f_0)$$

$$= \sum_k \frac{k_{\perp}^2}{\omega} P_{\text{abs},k} R = \sum_k \frac{n J_n}{c} P_{\text{abs},k} R$$

From step (B.5) to (B.6), the resonance condition and the Bessel function identities $n J_n / \lambda = (J_{n+1} + J_{n-1})/2$ and $J_n' = (J_{n-1} - J_{n+1})/2$ are used.

Appendix C. Bounce averaging and flux-surface averaging

The bounce average is defined as

$$\langle X \rangle_b = \frac{1}{\tau_b} \int_0^{\tau_b} d\tau \frac{dX}{d\tau} = \frac{1}{\tau_b} \int_0^{\tau_b} d\tau \frac{dX}{d\tau} \frac{d\tau}{d\theta}$$

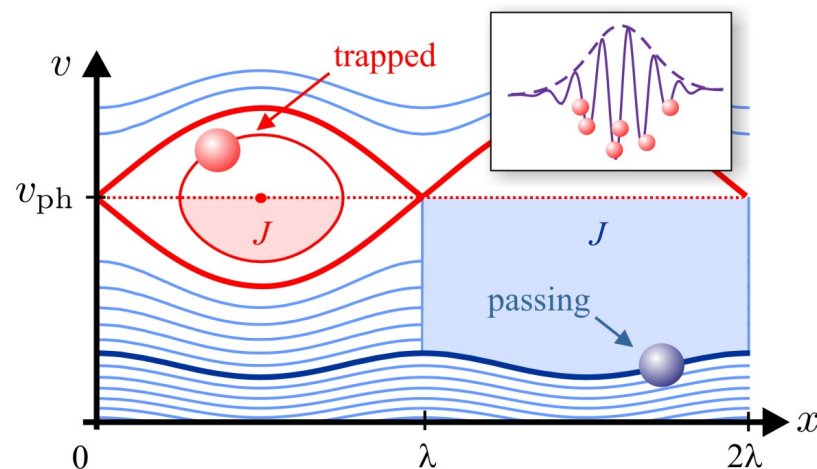
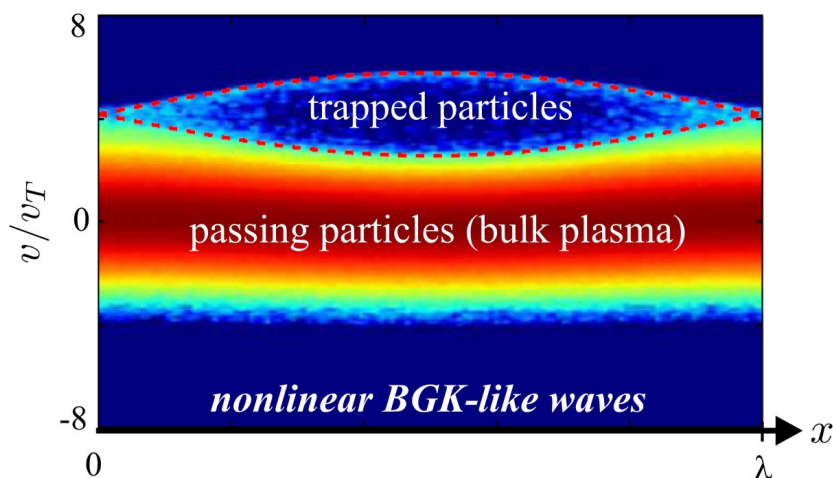
Same ideas apply to nonlinear waves, where $\mathcal{H}$ is more complicated

- Klein-Gordon Hamiltonian $\rightarrow$ Chen-Sudan Lagrangian, Akhiezer-Polovin waves

$$\omega^2 \approx k^2 c^2 + \omega_p^2 [1 + \langle (e\mathbf{A}/mc^2)^2 \rangle]^{-1/2} \quad (\text{same in the Dirac model})$$

Ruiz and Dodin, in preparation

- Advanced kinetic nonlinearities: waves with autoresonant trapped particles



$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{\langle E^2 \rangle}{8\pi} - \left[n_p \underbrace{\langle \varepsilon_p(J) \pm \omega J + mv_{ph}^2/2 \rangle}_{\text{generalized ponderomotive potential}} + n_t \underbrace{\langle \varepsilon_t(J) \rangle}_{\text{bouncing}} \right] + \underbrace{n_t mv_{ph}^2/2}_{\text{t.p. inertia}}$$

Dodin, Fusion Sci. Tech. (2014); Dodin and Fisch, PRL (2011), PoP (2012a,b,c); Schmit et al., PRL (2013)

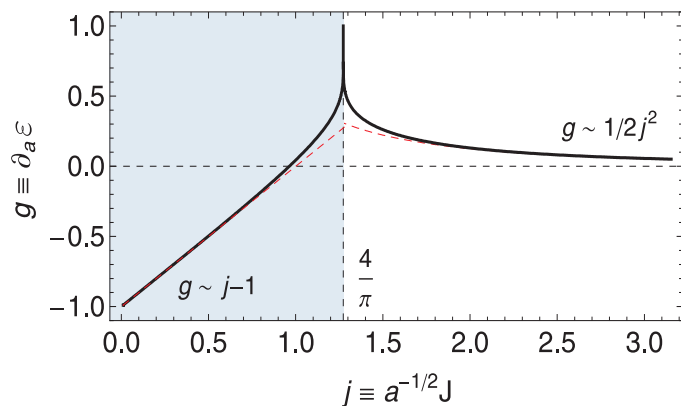
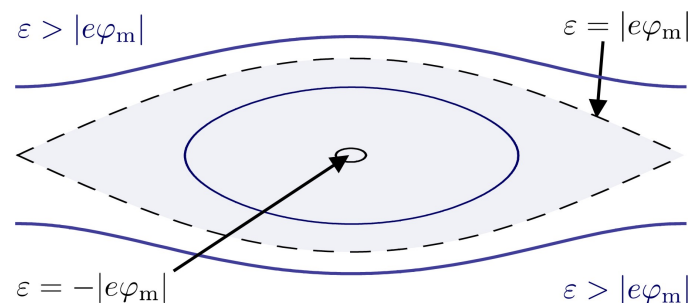
Example: BGK wave dispersion in the limit when $E \sim e^{ikx}$

$$\mathcal{L}(a, \omega, k) = E_m^2/16\pi - [n_p \langle \varepsilon_p \rangle + \cancel{n_p \langle mv_{ph}^2/2 \pm \omega J \rangle} + n_t \langle \varepsilon_t \rangle] + \cancel{n_t mv_{ph}^2/2}$$

$a \equiv keE_m/(m\omega^2)$, ε is the single-particle energy in the wave rest frame

$$0 = \partial_a \mathcal{L} = \partial_a [E_m^2/16\pi - n \langle \varepsilon \rangle]$$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{2\omega_p^2}{a} \int_0^\infty \underbrace{g(J) F(J) dJ}_{\text{ensemble averaging}}$$



→ Deeply trapped particles: $\omega^2 \approx \omega_L^2 - 2\omega_t^2 a^{-1}$

→ Flat-top beam: $\omega^2 \approx \omega_L^2 - \beta a^{-1/2}$

→ Smooth distribution: $\omega_{NL} \approx C_1 a^{1/2} + C_2 \ln a$

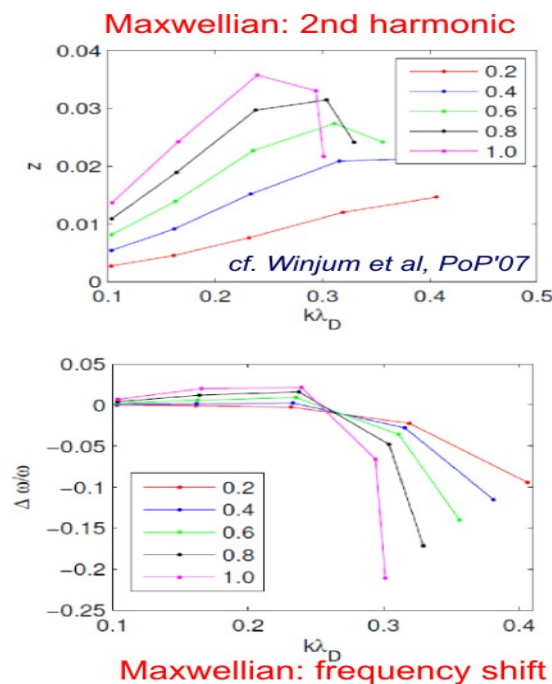
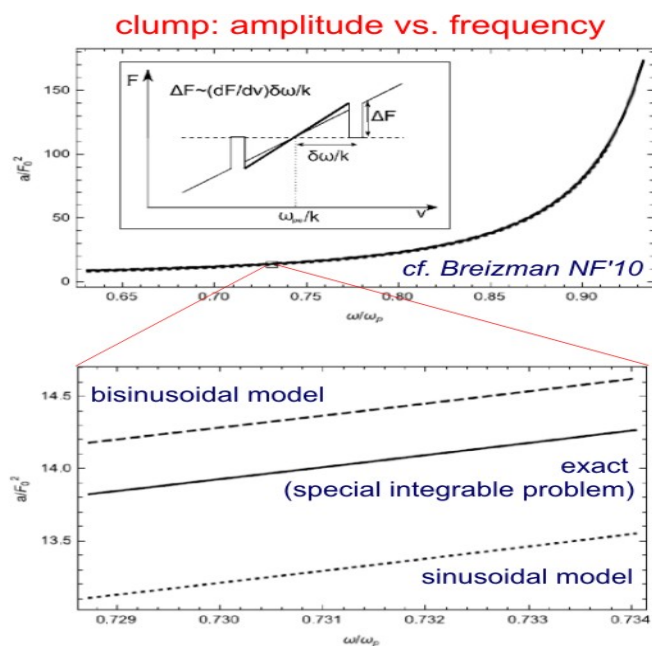
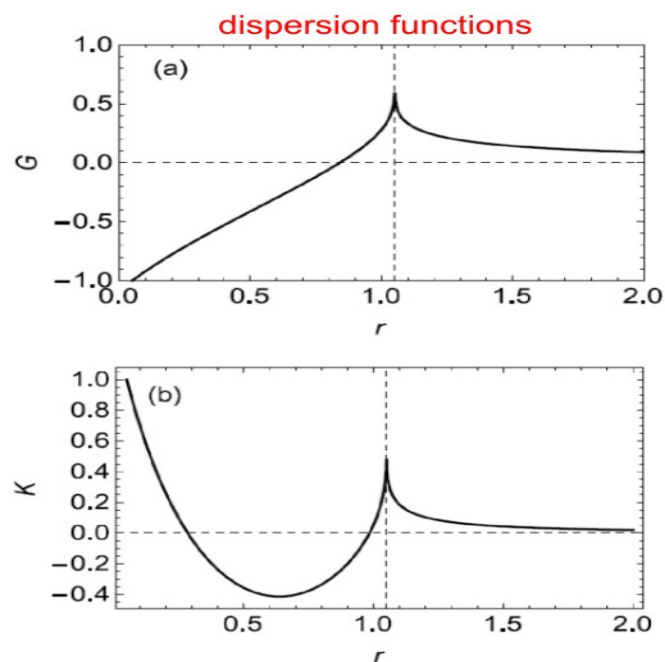
cf. Goldman and Berk (1971); Manheimer and Flynn (1971); Dewar (1972); Rose and Russell (2001); Khain and Friedland (2007); Krasovsky (2007). . .

- There are 3-4 communities working on this and largely ignoring each other.

Anharmonic waves: clumps & holes, Maxwellian distribution

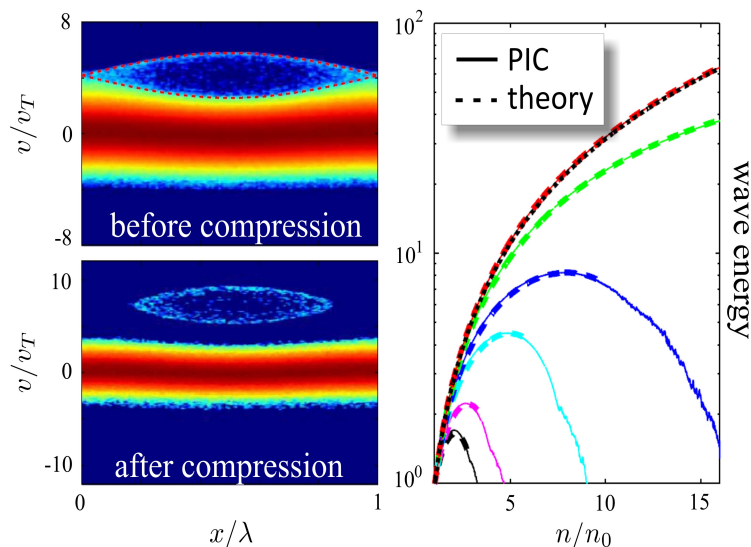
- Bisinusoidal-wave model: $\phi = a_1 \cos \theta + a_2 \cos 2\theta$, two independent amplitudes

$$\frac{\omega^2}{\omega_p^2} = \frac{2}{a_1} \int_0^\infty G(J, a_1, a_2) F(J) dJ = \frac{1}{2a_2} \int_0^\infty K(J, a_1, a_2) F(J) dJ$$



- Indistinguishable from Breizman's exact solution for a clump. Automatically accounts for both fluid and kinetic nonlinearities, unlike in *ad hoc* models.

Adiabatic dynamics of BGK-like waves



- Wave action ($\sim$ momentum) conservation in compressing plasma: e.g., $k = \text{const}$

$$v_{ph} = \omega/k \approx \omega_p(t)/k \sim \sqrt{n(t)}$$

$$\text{inv} = \int \partial_\omega \mathcal{L} dx \sim E_m^2 \partial_\omega \epsilon / (16\pi) + n_t m v_{ph} / k$$

Schmit et al., PRL (2013); Dodin and Fisch, PoP (2012a,b,c)

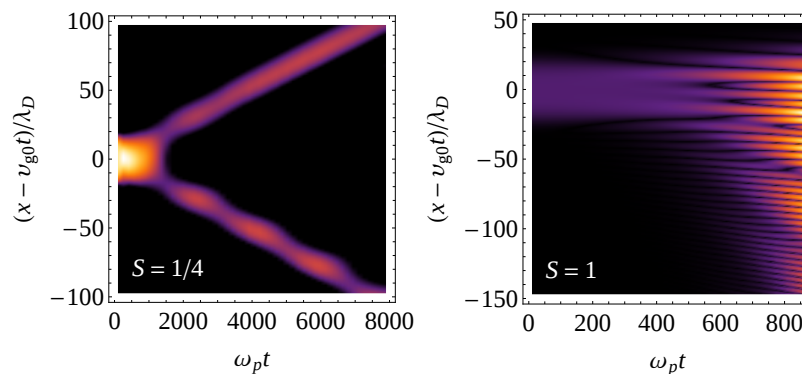
- Self-action is *not* described by the NLSE

$$i(\partial_t \psi + v_{g0} \partial_x \psi) + \frac{1}{2} v'_{g0} \partial_{xx}^2 \psi \neq \omega_{NL} \psi$$

- The modulational instability is revised:

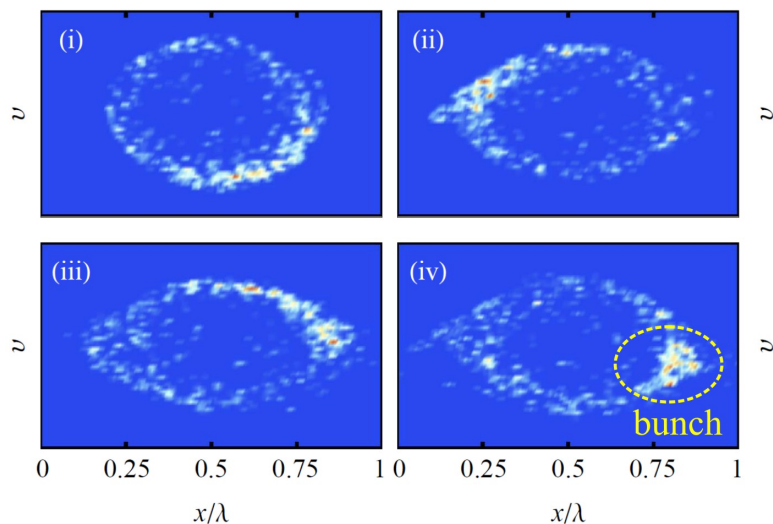
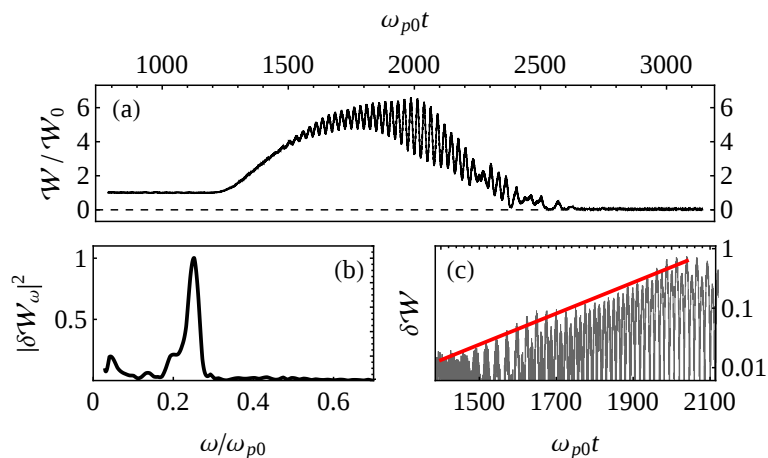
$$\gamma \approx v_{g0} \Delta k \sqrt{\left(\frac{e E_m k}{m \omega_p^2} \right) \frac{S}{2} (2S - 1)}$$

cf. Dewar et al. (1972); Rose (2005). . .



$$S = \frac{\text{trapped-}e \text{ energy flux}}{\text{passing-}e \text{ energy flux}}$$

Nonadiabatic dynamics. Negative-mass instability (NMI)



cf. Smith and Pereira (1978); Adam et al. (1981);
Tennyson et al. (1994); Herrera et al. (2013)...

- New instability is identified for BGK waves: trapped particle *bunching* due to $\Omega'(J) < 0$
cf. Kruer et al. (1969); Goldman and Berk (1971); Liu (1972). . .

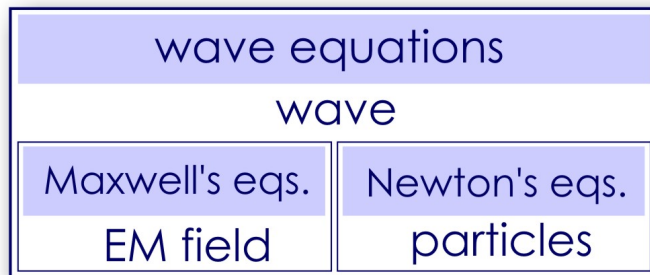
$$1 = \frac{\omega_t^2}{\epsilon_{\text{eff}}} \int_0^{J_*} \frac{J F'_t(J)}{\Omega^2(J) - (\tilde{\omega} - \tilde{k} v_{\text{ph}})^2} dJ$$

$$1/\epsilon_{\text{eff}} \equiv 1/\epsilon(\tilde{\omega} + \omega, \tilde{k} + k) + 1/\epsilon(\tilde{\omega} - \omega, \tilde{k} - k)$$

- Applies also to aperiodic waves. Akin to the NMI in accelerators, FELs, ion traps. . .
Kolomenskii and Lebedev (1959); Strasser et al. (2002). . .
- Follow-up studies by other groups
Brunner et al. (2014); Hara et al, submitted (2014)
- Connection with KEEN waves
Dodin and Fisch, PoP (2014)

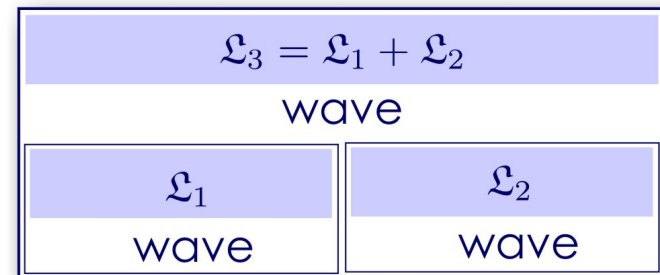
- New “object-oriented” approach to linear and nonlinear plasma waves is being developed that blends variational methods of fluid and quantum theories.
 - Every object is a wave, every interaction is ponderomotive, every equation roots in a VP.
 - Lagrangians are unified and serve as building blocks to model multiple-wave coupling.

traditional wave theory:



vs.

first-principle variational theory:



- Immediate advantages:
 - Unified and manifestly conservative equations, even beyond geometrical optics.
 - Lowest-order wave-wave coupling gives *linear* dispersion, “photons are polarizable”.
 - Energy-momentum is well defined, even dissipation enters naturally.
- Applications to nonlinear waves (e.g., BGK-like) and quantum plasmas

- Present: developing robust understanding of variational principles (VPs) for waves
 - VPs for dissipative waves; photon polarization & Landau damping (*with A. I. Zhmoginov, UCB*)
 - Origin and limitations of reduced VPs explored through quantum parallels (*with D. E. Ruiz*)
 - Resonant ponderomotive effect on photons: BGK modes comprised of plasmons (*with I. Barth*)
 - Nonlinear dispersion of anharmonic nonlinear waves, including BGK modes (*with C. Liu*)
 - KEEN waves as the NMI-saturated modes (*with A. H. Hakkin and U. Verma*)
 - Reduced analytic model for nonlinear dissipation of BGK-like waves through separatrix crossing...
- Future: improving robustness of modeling linear RF waves in fusion and other plasmas; synergistic nonlinear physics of energetic-particle modes and LPI
 - Manifestly conservative analytical framework for modeling linear RF waves in realistic settings
 - Symplectic algorithms for modeling linear RF waves (quantum methods?), test simulations
 - Nonlinear waves: manifestly conservative reduced nonlinear models + trapped particles
 - Working on synergistic applications in RF physics (as in the case of RF-driven plasma rotation)
- Teaching: updating the “waves” course [cf. Tracy, Brizard, Richardson, & Kaufman, *Ray tracing and beyond: phase space methods in plasma wave theory* (2014)]

The work follows the recently approved 5-year plan for the BPPG effort in modernizing RF basic theory. Synergies with campus grants and teaching provide 50% of funding.

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