

Derivation of Klimontovich equation

Chen Shi

October 27, 2017

For one species (mass m and charge q), the status of the system can be written as:

$$G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \quad (1)$$

If we take time derivative of G , we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial G}{\partial t} &= \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{x}_i} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{x}_i}{dt} + \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{v}_i} \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{v}_i}{dt} \right] \\ &= - \left[\delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{v}_i, t)}{m} \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where we have used the relation:

$$\frac{\partial \delta(a - b)}{\partial a} = - \frac{\partial \delta(a - b)}{\partial b}$$

Then we use another relation:

$$f(a) \delta(a - b) = f(b) \delta(a - b)$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \mathbf{v}_i \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{x}} &= \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \mathbf{v} \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \\ &= \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} [\delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t))] \\ &= \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} G \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{v}_i, t)}{m} \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{v}} &= \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_i, t)}{m} \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \\ &= \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \left[\frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_i, t)}{m} \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \right] \\ &= \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \left[\frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)}{m} \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{x}, t) + q\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

so

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \cdot \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = 0$$

which means

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{v}_i, t)}{m} \cdot \frac{\partial \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t))}{\partial \mathbf{v}} &= \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i(t)) \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)}{m} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} \delta(\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_i(t)) \\ &= \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)}{m} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} G \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we get the equation

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} G + \frac{\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t)}{m} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} G = 0 \quad (3)$$