

# Solution to problem set # 5

1. The relevant eq's are

$$-\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times \vec{E}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\vec{J} = -ne \vec{u}_e$$

$$nm_e \frac{\partial \vec{u}_e}{\partial t} + nm_e \vec{u}_e \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_e = -en \vec{E}$$

note that the displacement current is needed because this is an EM wave. The ions are assumed to be immobile.

Consider small-amplitude perturbation

$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}'$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}'$$

$$\vec{u}_e = \vec{u}_e'$$

$$n = n_0 + n'$$

insert into above eq's, retain only 1<sup>st</sup>-order, to give



$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}'}{\partial t} = -c \nabla \times \vec{E}'$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B}' = \frac{4\pi}{c} (-ne \vec{u}'_e) + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}'}{\partial t}$$

$$n_0 m_e \frac{\partial \vec{u}'_e}{\partial t} = -en_0 \vec{E}'$$

take  $\partial/\partial t$  of the second equation and substitute from the other two to give

$$\nabla \times \frac{\partial \vec{B}'}{\partial t} = -\frac{4\pi ne}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{u}'_e}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}'}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow -c \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E}' = -\frac{4\pi ne}{c} \left[ -\frac{e}{m_e} \vec{E}' \right] + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}'}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}'}{\partial t^2} + c^2 \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E}' = -\frac{4\pi n_0 e^2}{m_e} \vec{E}'$$

$$= \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E}$$

but  $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$  since  $\vec{E}$  is transverse to wave propagation direction.

Assume plane-wave solution, to give

$$-\omega^2 + c^2 k^2 = \frac{4\pi n_0 e^2}{m_e} = -\omega_e^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\omega^2 = \omega_e^2 + c^2 k^2}$$



#2 a. Taking

$$\delta \underline{v} = v_g \cos \omega t (\hat{x} \cos kx \sin ky - \hat{y} \sin kx \cos ky)$$

we note

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \delta \underline{v} &= v_g \cos \omega t [-k \sin kx \sin ky + k \sin kx \sin ky] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the continuity equation gives

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \delta \underline{v}) = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho \cancel{\nabla \cdot \delta \underline{v}} + \delta \underline{v} \cdot \nabla \rho = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{D}{Dt} \rho = 0$$

$\rho = \text{constant}$  along flow streamlines

But all streamlines start at base, and at the base,  $\rho = \text{const.}$  Thus,  $\rho$  must be constant everywhere.

b. The momentum equation gives

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_0 \frac{\partial \delta \underline{v}}{\partial t} + \rho_0 \cancel{\delta \underline{v} \cdot \nabla \delta \underline{v}} &= \frac{1}{c} \underline{\tilde{J}} \times \underline{\tilde{B}} \\ (\text{second-order}) &= \frac{1}{4\pi} (\nabla \times \delta \underline{B}) \times \underline{B}_0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\rho_0 \frac{\partial \delta \underline{v}}{\partial t} = \frac{\dot{\underline{B}}_0}{4\pi} \frac{\partial \delta \underline{B}}{\partial z}}$$

(1)



The induction equation gives

$$\frac{\partial \underline{\delta B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\underline{\delta v} \times \underline{B}_0)$$

⋮

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial \underline{\delta B}}{\partial t} = B_0 \frac{\partial \underline{\delta v}}{\partial z}} \quad (2)$$

Taking  $\partial/\partial t$  (1) and subst. from (2) gives

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial^2 \underline{\delta v}}{\partial t^2} = v_A^2 \frac{\partial^2 \underline{\delta v}}{\partial z^2} \quad ; \quad v_A^2 = \frac{B_0^2}{4\pi \rho_0}}$$

These are Shear Alfvén waves

c. Assume plane-wave solution of the form

$$\underline{\delta v} = \underline{\delta v}' \cos(\omega t - kz) \quad (\text{only upward moving})$$

$$\text{@ } z=0 \quad \underline{\delta v} = v_g \cos \omega t (\cos kx \sin ky \hat{x} - \sin kx \cos ky \hat{y})$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\delta v}' = v_g \cos \omega t (\cos kx \sin ky \hat{x} - \sin kx \cos ky \hat{y})$$

$$\therefore \boxed{\underline{\delta v} = v_g \cos(\omega t - kz) (\cos kx \sin ky \hat{x} - \sin kx \cos ky \hat{y})}$$



Also, because these are shear Alfvén waves

$$\vec{S}_B = -B_0 \frac{\delta \vec{v}}{v_A}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{S}_B = -B_0 \frac{v_g}{v_A} \cos(\omega t - kz) (\cos kx \sin ky \hat{x} - \sin kx \cos ky \hat{y})}$$

d. The wave kinetic energy is

$$U_w = \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 \langle \delta v^2 \rangle$$

$$\delta v^2 = \delta \vec{v} \cdot \delta \vec{v}$$

$\langle \rangle \Rightarrow$  over one period

$$= \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 v_g^2 \alpha^2 \langle \cos^2(\omega t - kz) \rangle$$

$$\text{where } \alpha^2 = \cos^2 kx \sin^2 ky + \sin^2 kx \cos^2 ky$$

and the magnetic energy is

$$U_B = \frac{\langle \delta B^2 \rangle}{8\pi}$$

$$\delta B^2 = \delta \vec{B} \cdot \delta \vec{B}$$

$$= B_0^2 \frac{1}{8\pi v_A^2} v_g^2 \alpha^2 \langle \cos^2(\omega t - kz) \rangle$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \rho_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 v_g^2 \alpha^2 \langle \cos^2(\omega t - kz) \rangle = U_w$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 e. \quad \vec{F}_w &= \frac{c}{4\pi} \vec{\delta E} \times \vec{\delta B} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{4\pi} (\vec{\delta v} \times \vec{B}_0) \times \vec{\delta B} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{4\pi} (\vec{\delta v} \cdot \vec{\delta B}) B_0 \hat{z}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow |\vec{F}_w| &= \frac{B_0}{4\pi} \langle \vec{\delta v} \cdot \vec{\delta B} \rangle \\
 &= \frac{B_0}{4\pi} v_g^2 B_0 \frac{1}{V_A} \alpha^2 \underbrace{\langle \cos^2(\omega t - kz) \rangle}_{1/2} \\
 &= \frac{B_0^2}{8\pi V_A} v_g^2 \alpha^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|\vec{F}_w| = \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 V_A v_g^2 \alpha^2$$

f. using #'s, we find (take  $\alpha = 1 \rightarrow$  max value)

$$V_A = \frac{B_0}{(4\pi\rho_0)^{1/2}} = \frac{100}{(4\pi \times 10^{-15})^{1/2}} \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}} = 8.92 \times 10^8 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{s}}$$

$$\Rightarrow |\vec{F}_w| = \frac{1}{2} (10^{-15}) (8.92 \times 10^8) (6 \times 10^4)^2 (1) \frac{\text{erg}}{\text{cm}^2 \cdot \text{s}}$$

$$|\vec{F}_w| = 1.6 \times 10^7 \text{ erg/cm}^2 \cdot \text{s} < 1\% \text{ of total outward flux}$$



# 3.

a) The problem states we are only dealing with waves along  $B_0$ , and we have a cold plasma. Thus, perturbation in  $B$  and  $E$  will be transverse to  $B_0$  and, hence, transverse to  $\hat{z}$ . Thus,  $\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0$ ! Thus, the density remains constant. Thus, the relevant equations are

$$m_e n_0 \frac{\partial \vec{u}_e}{\partial t} + m_e n_0 \vec{u}_e \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_e = -en_0 \vec{E} - \frac{en_0}{c} \vec{u}_e \times \vec{B}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = -\frac{4\pi ne}{c} \vec{u}_e + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$

the last one assumes  $\vec{J} = n_0 e (\vec{u}_i^0 - \vec{u}_e) = -n_0 e \vec{u}_e$

perturb with

$$\vec{u}_e = \vec{u}_e'$$

$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}' + \vec{B}_0$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}'$$

and we obtain



$$m_e n_0 \frac{\partial \underline{u}_e'}{\partial t} = -e n_0 \underline{\tilde{E}}' - \frac{e n_0}{c} \underline{u}_e' \times \underline{B}_0$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{\tilde{E}}' = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \underline{B}'}{\partial t}$$

$$\nabla \times \underline{B}' = -\frac{4\pi n_0 e}{c} \underline{u}_e' + \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \underline{\tilde{E}}'}{\partial t}$$

b). Assume plane wave solution to give

$$-i\omega m_e n_0 \underline{u}_e' = -e n_0 \underline{\tilde{E}}' - \frac{e n_0}{c} \underline{u}_e' \times \underline{B}_0$$

$$i \underline{k} \times \underline{\tilde{E}}' = \frac{1}{c} i\omega \underline{B}'$$

$$i \underline{k} \times \underline{B}' = -\frac{4\pi n_0 e}{c} \underline{u}_e' - \frac{i\omega}{c} \underline{\tilde{E}}'$$

c)  $\underline{k} = k \hat{z}, \underline{B}_0 = B_0 \hat{z}$

and, since there is no component of  $\underline{\tilde{E}}'$  along  $\underline{B}_0$

we have  $u_{ez}' = 0, E_z' = 0$

This leaves



$$-i\omega m_e n_0 u'_{ex} = -en_0 E'_x - \frac{e}{c} n_0 u'_{ey} B_0$$

$$-i\omega m_e n_0 u'_{ey} = -en_0 E'_y + \frac{e}{c} n_0 u'_{ex} B_0$$

$$-ik E'_y = i\frac{\omega}{c} B'_x$$

$$ik E'_x = i\frac{\omega}{c} B'_y$$

$$-ik B'_y = -\frac{4\pi n_0 e}{c} u'_{ex} - i\frac{\omega}{c} E'_x$$

$$ik E'_x = -\frac{4\pi n_0 e}{c} u'_{ey} - i\frac{\omega}{c} E'_y$$

d.) See my solutions on these waves contained in the set of notes for this class, the dispersion relation turns out to be

$$\frac{\omega^2 - k^2 c^2}{\omega_e^2} \left( 1 \mp \frac{\Omega_e}{\omega} \right) = 1$$

(See also eq. 12.96 in Kivelson & Russell)