

Abstract Submitted
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Don't worry. Lagrangian drift kinetics is OK¹ JOSHUA BURBY,
Princeton University — I show that standard Lagrangian (i.e. variational) drift
kinetics with $u_{E \times B} \propto v_{\text{th}}$ and $H_{\text{gc}} = H_0 + \epsilon H_1 + \epsilon^2 H_2$ has an unphysically-large
phase space; where a valid initial condition ought to consist of $(F, \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B})$ specified
at $t = 0$, Lagrangian drift kinetics requires initial time derivatives of the electro-
magnetic field to be specified as well. This phenomenon occurs because the guiding
center coordinate transformation depends on time derivatives of the electromagnetic
field, and this leads to the appearance of a time derivative of \mathbf{E} in H_2 . I also show
how to “renormalize” the Lagrangian approach to drift kinetics in a way that mani-
festly preserves the correct structure of the initial value problem. Starting from this
modified Lagrangian procedure, I derive the drift kinetic system’s Poisson bracket.

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