

Contents

I	Foundations	1
1	Introduction to Part I	3
1.1	Aim of these lecture notes	3
1.2	Reading material for Part I	4
1.3	Brief literature survey	5
1.4	Experiment and theory	8
2	Basic Concepts	13
2.1	Configuration and velocity space	13
2.2	Phase space, general kinetic equation	19
3	Boltzmann Collision Integral	23
3.1	Classical collision dynamics	23
3.2	Differential cross section	25
3.3	Boltzmann collision integral	30
3.4	Simple gas, summational invariants, H-theorem	33
3.5	Fokker-Planck collision term	36
4	Dilute Charged Particles in Gases	39
4.1	Swarms vs plasma	39
4.2	The linear Boltzmann equation	41
4.3	Charge exchange, BGK relaxation time model	42
4.4	Collision operator for extremes of mass ratio	44
4.4.1	Fractional energy exchange	44
4.4.2	Heavy ions, Rayleigh limit	46
4.4.3	Light charge particles, Lorentz gas	48
4.5	Inelastic collision operator	54

II	Macroscopic Transport Theory	57
5	Introduction to Part II	59
5.1	Models of interaction	60
5.1.1	Polarization potential, constant collision frequency model	60
5.1.2	Realistic interaction potentials	62
6	Moment Equations: Elastic Collisions	65
6.1	General moment equation	65
6.1.1	Equation of continuity	66
6.1.2	Momentum balance equation	66
6.1.3	Energy balance equation	69
6.1.4	Notation: g vs ϵ -dependence	70
6.2	Moment equations for constant collision frequency	70
6.3	Momentum transfer approximation	71
6.4	Stationary, spatially uniform case	72
6.4.1	Drift velocity, Wannier relation	72
6.4.2	The mobility coefficient	74
6.4.3	Sample calculations	74
6.4.4	Higher order moments	76
6.4.5	Simplifications for very light particles	78
6.4.6	A short note on tensor representation	79
6.5	Spatial variations and diffusion coefficients	79
6.5.1	Linearized moment equations, Fick's law and the generalized Einstein relations	79
6.5.2	Sample calculation for light particles	82
6.6	Hydrodynamic regime, Fick's law, and the diffusion equation	82
6.7	Experimental considerations	84
6.7.1	Interfacing experiment and theory	86
6.7.2	Solution of the diffusion equation for the time of flight experiment	86
7	Moment Equations: Inelastic Collisions	91
7.1	General moment equation	91
7.1.1	Equation of continuity	92

7.1.2	Momentum balance	92
7.1.3	Energy balance equation	94
7.2	Approximate representation of the average collision frequencies	97
7.3	Hydrodynamic regime	100
7.4	Negative Differential Conductivity	100
8	Moment Equations: Reactive Effects	105
8.1	General moment equation including non-conservative ("reactive") collisions	105
8.2	Approximation of reactive terms	106
8.3	Spatially uniform conditions	108
8.3.1	Hot atom chemistry; reaction heating and cooling effects	108
8.3.2	Very light charged particle swarms	110
8.4	Reactive effects and spatial gradients: hydrodynamic regime	111
8.4.1	Diffusion equation and the two types of transport coefficients	112
8.4.2	Estimation of the bulk drift velocity for light swarm particles	113
III	Solutions of the Kinetic Equations	115
9	Introduction to Part III	117
9.1	Getting started	117
9.2	Weak fields, Chapman-Enskog approximation scheme .	120
9.3	Beyond weak fields	120
9.4	Benchmark models	121
10	Electrons in finite geometry, variational technique	125
10.1	Boundary conditions	125
10.2	Diffusion cooling	127
10.3	Boltzmann's equation for the energy distribution . . .	128
10.4	Eigenvalues and asymptotic solution	130
10.5	Solution of the energy eigenvalue equation	131
10.5.1	Dimensionless variables	131

10.5.2	Variational principle	132
11	An Exactly Solvable Model	137
11.1	Relaxation time model kinetic equation	137
11.2	Weak gradient solutions and the diffusion equation . .	138
11.2.1	Chapman-Enskog procedure	138
11.2.2	Weak gradient, arbitrary field - density gradient expansion	139
11.2.3	Solution of diffusion equation	140
11.3	Exact solution of the kinetic equation	140
11.4	Asymptotic expressions	143
11.5	Macroscopically observable quantities	144
11.6	Reconciliation of the diffusion equation with the exact solution	146
12	Numerical Solution of Boltzmann's Equation	149
12.1	The Burnett function representation	149
12.2	Summary of solution procedure	156
12.3	Example of convergence	156
A	Approximate Calculation of Averages	159
B	Derivation of Equation (11.17)	161
	Exercises	163