Hydrodynamic states of photons in equilibrium medium

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Hydrodynamic states of photons in equilibrium plasma medium are investigated on the basis of kinetic equations for photon distribution function (DF) $f_{p}^{\alpha\alpha'}(x,t)$ obtained in papers [1,2]. In the present work state of the photon system is described by temperature T(x,t) and drift velocity $u_n(x,t)$ (variables $\xi_{\mu}(x,t)$). The consideration starts from energy and momentum conservation laws which contain sources that leads to relaxations $T \to T_0, u_n \to 0$ where T_0 is temperature of the plasma. Temperature T(x, t) and drift velocity $u_n(x, t)$ of the photon system are defined with the Plank distribution $n_p(\xi)=\left(e^{\frac{\epsilon_p-p_nu_n}{T}}-\right)$ 1)⁻¹ connecting them with energy and momentum densities. In hydrodynamic states gradients of these variables are considered as small ones. Our investigation based on the Chapman-Enskog method in the framework of which DF $f_p^{\alpha\alpha'}(x,t)$ is found in the form $f_p^{\alpha\alpha'}(x,\xi(t))$ and is a functional of variables $\xi_{\mu}(x,t)$. Standard consideration in the presence of relaxation processes [3] assumes that zero order in the gradients contribution $f_p^{\alpha\alpha'(0)}(x,\xi)$ to DF $f_p^{\alpha\alpha'}(x,\xi)$ is given by the Plank distribution $\delta_{\alpha\alpha'}n_p(\xi(x))$ (the local equilibrium assumption). Contrary to this idea, in the present work DF $f_p^{\alpha\alpha'(0)}(x,\xi)$ is calculated in a perturbation theory in $T-T_0$, u_n considered as small quantities of the same order. It was found that $f_p^{\alpha\alpha'(0)}(x,\xi) \neq \delta_{\alpha\alpha'}n_p(\xi)$ and the local equilibrium assumption is not true. This means that the above used standard definition of variables T(x), $u_n(x)$ should be changed.

On this basis equation of photon hydrodynamics have been built. It was shown that self-consistent theory can be constructed only taking into account contribution of the Compton process into photon-charged particles collision integral obtained by Kompaneets [2].

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