

Contents

1	AIM AND SCOPE	1
1.1	Basic Aspects, 1	
1.2	Limitations, 3	
1.3	Lasers, 4	
1.4	Review of Phenomena and Results, 8	
2	ELEMENTS OF THE MICROSCOPIC PLASMA THEORY	20
2.1	Plasma Frequency and Debye Length, 22	
2.2	Plasmons, 25	
2.3	Polarization Shift of H-like Lines in Plasmas, 28	
2.4	Cyclotron Frequency, 31	
2.5	Collisions, 33	
3	KINETIC THEORY	38
3.1	Distribution Functions, 38	
3.2	Loss of Information, 42	
3.3	Derivation of Macroscopic Equations, 44	
3.4	Landau Damping, 48	

4	HYDRODYNAMICS	51
4.1	Euler's Equation of Motion,	51
4.2	Bernoulli's Stationary Solution,	52
4.3	Equation of Continuity,	53
4.4	Compressibility,	54
4.5	Acoustic Waves,	55
4.6	Equation of Energy,	57
5	SELF-SIMILARITY MODEL	58
5.1	Hydrodynamic Derivation,	59
5.2	Laser Irradiation with Varying Pellet Radius,	63
5.3	Numerical Example,	66
5.4	Application to Foils,	67
6	PLASMA DYNAMICS AND LORENTZ THEORY	72
6.1	The Two-Fluid Equation of Motion,	72
6.2	The Diffusion Equation (Ohm's Law),	73
6.3	Electrodynamic Equations,	74
6.4	Refractive Index of Plasma and its Relation to Absorption,	78
6.5	Nonlinear and Relativistic Absorption,	85
7	WAVES IN INHOMOGENEOUS PLASMA	90
7.1	WKB Approximation for Perpendicular Incidence,	91
7.2	Oblique Incidence and WKB Solution,	94
7.3	The Rayleigh Profile,	98
7.4	The Airy Profiles,	106

8	EQUATION OF MOTION	108
8.1	Equivalence to Maxwellian Stress Tensor,	110
8.2	Obliquely Incident Plane Waves,	115
8.3	Nonponderomotive Collisional Term of the Nonlinear Force,	118
8.4	Additional Third-Order Terms for Perpendicular Incidence,	125
8.5	Summary,	127
9	TRANSFER OF MOMENTUM, AND CREATION OF INSTABILITIES BY THE NONLINEAR FORCES	129
9.1	Range of Predominance of the Nonlinear Force,	130
9.2	Momentum Transfer to the Plasma Corona and Compression,	133
9.3	Energy Transfer by Integration of the Nonlinear Force,	135
9.4	Photon Momentum in Plasma (Abraham-Minkowski Problem),	138
9.5	Parametric Instabilities,	145
9.6	Summary,	152
10	NUMERICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL EXAMPLES SOLITONS	154
10.1	Thermokinetic Forces,	154
10.2	Static Case with Nonlinear Forces,	159
10.3	Approximative Dynamic Cases,	162
10.4	Experimental Examples,	172
10.5	Acceleration of Thick Blocks,	175
10.6	Solitons,	181

11	STRIATED MOTION AND RESONANCE ABSORPTION	190
11.1	Striated Motion, 191	
11.2	Resonance Absorption, 203	
12	LASER BEAMS IN PLASMA	215
12.1	Nonlinear Force (Ponderomotive) Self-Focusing, 216	
12.2	Relativistic Self-Focusing, 220	
12.3	Tenuous Plasmas, Exact Beams, and Free Electron Lasers, 227	
12.4	Spontaneous Magnetic Fields—Alfvén Waves, 235	
12.5	Conclusions for Medium Laser Intensities, 238	
12.6	Conclusion for Very High Laser Intensities, 239	
13	LASER COMPRESSION OF PLASMA FOR NUCLEAR FUSION	244
13.1	Energy from Nuclear Fusion, 245	
13.2	Inertial Fusion Gain Calculations, 247	
13.3	Results of Laser Fusion, 255	
13.4	Thermokinetic and Nonlinear-Force Compression, 257	
13.5	Conclusions for Laser Fusion, 261	
	APPENDIX A The Effective Mass	263
	APPENDIX B The Maxwell–Boltzmann Distribution	267
	APPENDIX C Derivation of the General Two-Fluid Equation	271
	LIST OF SYMBOLS	279
	REFERENCES	284
	AUTHOR INDEX	299
	SUBJECT INDEX	311