

## CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
1.1 Nuclear Fusion	2
1.2 Laser-Produced Nuclear Fusion	3
2. Lasers	6
2.1 Laser Condition	6
2.2 Operation of Lasers	9
2.3 Available Lasers	12
3. Early Measurements and Gas Breakdown	15
3.1 Gas Breakdown	15
3.2 Plasmas Produced from Solids in Vacuum (Linlor Effect)	18
4. Microscopic Properties of Plasma	22
4.1 Debye Length	23
4.2 Plasma Frequency	24
4.3 Collisions	26
5. Macroscopic Plasma Physics	29
5.1 Ohm's Law and Electromagnetic Waves	29
5.2 Equation of Motion and Equations of Conservation	31
5.3 Homogeneous Heating	36
6. Refractive Index and Absorption	39
6.1 Linear Properties	40
6.2 Nonlinear Absorption	45
6.3 Relativistic Absorption	47
6.4 Anomalous Absorption and Instabilities	50
7. Dielectric Nonlinear Forces and Dynamic Absorption	52
7.1 Basic Properties of the Dielectric Nonlinear Force	52
7.2 Transferred Momentum and Ion Energies	55
7.3 Predominance of the Nonlinear Force	58
7.4 Self-Focusing of Laser Beams in Plasma	61

7.5	Numerical Examples of Nonlinear Acceleration	64
8.	Theory of Laser-Induced Nuclear Fusion	73
8.1	Inertial Confinement	73
8.2	Gas-Dynamic Compression	77
8.3	Direct and More Efficient Transfer of Laser Energy into Mechanical Compression	81
8.4	New Concepts and Nuclear Fission	84
9.	Experiments for Laser-Induced Nuclear Fusion	87
9.1	Irradiation of Spherical Targets	87
9.2	Neutron Generation	88
9.3	Anomalous Experimental Results	90
10.	Conclusions	96
11.	References	99
12.	Appendix. List of Reprinted Papers	110
	N. G. Basov and O. N. Krokhin, "The Conditions of Plasma Heating by the Optical Quantum Generator."	113
	N. G. Basov, P. G. Kryukov, S. D. Zakharov, Yu. V. Senatskiy, and S. V. Chekalin, "Experiments on the Observation of Neutron Emission at the Focus of High-power Laser Radiation on a Lithium Deuteride Surface."	119
	W. I. Linlor, "Ion Energies Produced by Laser Giant Pulse."	123
	R. Papoular, "The Initial Stage of the Laser-induced Gas Breakdown."	125
	A. J. Alcock, "Experiments on Self-focusing in Laser-produced Plasmas."	143
	G. Siller, K. Büchl, and H. Hora, "Intense Electron Emission from Laser-produced Plasmas."	165
	H. Hora, "Experimental Result of Free Targets."	183
	J. M. Dawson, "On the Production of a Plasma by Giant Laser Pulses."	199
	H. Hora, "Some Results of the Self-similarity Model."	207
	P. Mulser, "Hydrogen Plasma Production by Giant Pulse Lasers."	225
	H. Hora and H. Wilhelm, "Optical Constants of Fully-ionized Hydrogen Plasma for Laser Radiation."	239
	D. F. DuBois, "Laser-Induced Instabilities and Anomalous Absorption in Dense Plasmas."	249
	H. Hora, "Nonlinear Confining and Deconfining Forces Associated with the Interaction of Laser Radiation with a Plasma."	273
	J. D. Lindl and P. Kaw, "Ponderomotive Forces on Laser-produced Plasmas."	283
	H. Hora, "Nonlinear Forces in Laser-produced Plasmas."	291
	F. F. Chen, "Physical Mechanisms for Laser-Plasma Parametric Instabilities."	317
	J. H. Nuckolls, "Laser-Induced Implosion and Thermonuclear Burn."	341

	L. L. Lengyel, "Exact Steady-state Analogy of Transient Gas Compression by Coalescing Waves."	369
	J. S. Clarke, H. N. Fisher, and R. J. Mason, "Laser-driven Implosion of Spherical DT Targets to Thermonuclear Burn Conditions."	377
	F. Floux, D. Cognard, L. G. Denoed, G. Piar, D. Parisot, J. L. Bobin, F. Delobbeau, and C. Fauquignon, "Nuclear Fusion Reactions in Laser-produced Solid Deuterium Plasmas."	383
	N. G. Basov, O. N. Krokhin, and G. V. Sklizkov, "Heating of Laser Plasmas for Thermonuclear Fusion."	387
	N. G. Basov, Yu. S. Ivanov, O. N. Krokhin, Yu. A. Mikhaylov, G. V. Sklizkov, and S. I. Feodotov, "Neutron Generation in Spherical Irradiation of a Target by High-power Laser Radiation."	407
	C. Yamanaka, T. Yamanaka, T. Sasaki, K. Yoshida, M. Waki, and H. B. Kang, "Anomalous Heating of a Plasma by Lasers."	409
	G. F. McCall, F. Young, A. W. Ehler, J. F. Kephart, and R. P. Godwin, "Neutron Emission from Laser-produced Plasmas."	417
	M. Goldman, J. Soures, and M. J. Lubin, "Saturation of Stimulated Back-scattered Radiation in Laser Plasmas."	421
	J. W. Shearer, J. Garrison, J. Wong, and J. E. Swain, "Pair Production by Relativistic Electrons from an Intense Laser Focus."	425
13.	Subject Index	445