CONTENTS

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

PART I: MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMICS

I GENERAL PRINCIPLES

19

The equations of magnetohydrodynamics. Dimensional analysis. The electrical state of a conducting fluid in motion. The electromagnetic effects and the magnetic Reynolds number. Alfvén's theorem on the conservation of magnetic flux in a moving conducting fluid. The Law of isorotation. The magnetic and viscous stresses.

II MAGNETOHYDROSTATICS AND STATIONARY STATES 32

Magnetohydrostatic problems. Force-free magnetic fields. Pressure-balanced magnetohydrostatic configurations. The stability of magnetohydrostatic configurations. Steady laminar motion. Engineering experiments.

APPENDIX TO CHAPTER II

The vector wave equation. Toroidal and Poloidal vector fields.

III MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC WAVES

 $\mathbf{57}$

77

53

Waves in an infinitely conducting fluid. Alfvén waves. Magnetohydrodynamic waves in a compressible fluid: longitudinal magnetohydrodynamic waves. Magnetohydrodynamic waves in a non-uniform magnetic field. The reflection and refraction of Alfvén waves: propagation in a stratified medium. Dissipative effects.

IV TURBULENCE

Introduction. Transference and dissipation of energy in turbulent motion. Spectral analysis. Homogeneity and isotropy. Kolmogoroff's principle. Hydromagnetic turbulence. Inhibition of turbulence by a magnetic field.

CONTENTS

V HYDROMAGNETIC SHOCK WAVES

85

Introduction. Stationary plane shock waves in the absence of a magnetic field. Plane hydromagnetic shock waves. The structure of a hydromagnetic shock wave. The hydromagnetic bore wave.

PART II: PLASMA DYNAMICS

VI THE MOTION OF A CHARGED PARTICLE IN A MAGNETIC FIELD 101

General characteristics. The equation of motion of a charged particle in crossed electric and magnetic fields. The motion of a charged particle in a uniform magnetic field. Magnetic moment. Particle drifts in an inhomogeneous magnetic field: adiabatic invariant. Drifts produced by a field of force in the presence of a magnetic field. The motion of a charged particle in the field of a magnetic dipole. Magnetic bottles.

VII DYNAMICS OF A PLASMA

114

179

Introduction. Definitions. Mean values of functions of molecular velocities. Boltzmann's equation. The steady state. Relaxation towards the steady state. The equations of continuity and motion for a simple gas. The equations for a plasma. Approximate calculation of the collision terms. The existence of a time of relaxation. Electrical neutrality: the Debye distance. Collision interval and mean free path in a plasma. Numerical values. Approximate evaluation of the distribution function for the electrons. Electric currents in a plasma. Electrical and thermal conductivities in a plasma at rest. Modifications due to the presence of the magnetic field. Correction to the integrals J_1, J_2, J_3 . The various conductivities: dissipation of energy. The equation of diffusion. Vorticity theorems.

VIII WAVES IN A PLASMA 151

Introduction. Electrostatic waves. Electromagnetic and hydromagnetic waves. Waves in collision-free plasmas.

BIBLIOGRAPHY 169

INDEX

viii