

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Short Course in Thermal Physics and Statistical Mechanics . . . . .</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Introduction . . . . .	1
1.2	Ideal Gas . . . . .	5
1.3	Bose–Einstein Distribution Function . . . . .	7
1.4	Fermi–Dirac Distribution Function . . . . .	14
1.4.1	The Grand Partition Function and Other Thermodynamic Functions . . . . .	15
1.4.2	The Fermi–Dirac Distribution Function . . . . .	18
1.5	Ideal Fermi Gas . . . . .	26
1.6	Ideal Dense Plasma . . . . .	39
1.6.1	Thermodynamic Relations . . . . .	40
1.6.2	Ideal Gas and Saha Ionization . . . . .	41
1.7	Thomas–Fermi Theory . . . . .	44
1.7.1	Basic Thomas–Fermi Equations . . . . .	54
	References . . . . .	58
<b>2</b>	<b>Essential Physics of Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) . . . . .</b>	<b>61</b>
2.1	Introduction . . . . .	61
2.2	General Concept of Electromagnetisms and Electrostatics . . . . .	62
2.2.1	The Coulomb’s Law . . . . .	63
2.2.2	The Electric Field . . . . .	66
2.2.3	The Gauss’s Law . . . . .	67
2.3	Solution of Electrostatic Problems . . . . .	69
2.3.1	Poisson’s Equation . . . . .	69
2.3.2	Laplace’s Equation . . . . .	70
2.4	Electrostatic Energy . . . . .	71
2.4.1	Potential Energy of a Group of Point Charges . . . . .	71
2.4.2	Electrostatic Energy of a Charge Distribution . . . . .	72
2.4.3	Forces and Torques . . . . .	74
2.5	Maxwell’s Equations . . . . .	78

2.6	Debye Length . . . . .	80	4.4	A Path Toward Inertial Fusion Energy . . . . .	208
2.7	Physics of Plasmas . . . . .	82	4.4.1	Direct-Drive Fusion . . . . .	210
2.8	Fluid Description of Plasma . . . . .	92	4.4.2	Indirect-Drive Fusion (The Hohlraum) . . . . .	214
2.9	Magneto-Hydrodynamics (MHD) . . . . .	95	4.4.3	Single Beam Driver as Ignitor Concept (Fast Ignition) . . . . .	217
2.10	Physics of Dimensional Analysis Application in Inertial Confinement Fusion ICF . . . . .	97	4.5	Inertial Fusion Confinement Implosion and Explosion Process . . . . .	218
2.10.1	Dimensional Analysis and Scaling Concept . . . . .	102	4.5.1	Linear Compression Concept . . . . .	224
2.10.2	Similarity and Estimating . . . . .	103	4.5.2	Cylindrical Compression Concept . . . . .	224
2.10.3	Self-Similarity . . . . .	105	4.5.3	Spherical Compression Concept . . . . .	225
2.10.4	General Results of Similarity . . . . .	108	4.6	Basic Consideration for Fusion Target Design . . . . .	226
2.10.5	Principles of Similarity . . . . .	108	4.7	Targets for Direct-Drive Laser Inertial Fusion Energy . . . . .	235
2.10.6	Self-Similarity Solutions of the First and Second Kind . . . . .	109	4.8	Z-Pinch Target . . . . .	236
2.11	Physics of Implosion and Explosion in ICF: Self-Similarity Methods . . . . .	114	4.9	Target Fabrication . . . . .	236
2.12	Self-Similarity and Sedov–Taylor Problem . . . . .	118	4.10	Conclusion . . . . .	237
2.13	Self-Similarity and Guderley Problem . . . . .	124	References . . . . .	237	
References . . . . .	129				
<b>3</b>	<b>Physics of Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF)</b> . . . . .	133	<b>Appendix A: Schrödinger Wave Equation</b> . . . . .	239	
3.1	Introduction . . . . .	133	<b>Appendix B: The Stirling Formula</b> . . . . .	255	
3.2	Rates of Thermonuclear Reactions . . . . .	134	<b>Appendix C: Table of Fermi—Dirac Functions</b> . . . . .	259	
3.3	Critical Ignition Temperature for Fusion . . . . .	144	<b>Appendix D: Tables of Thomas–Fermi Corrected Equation of State</b> . . . . .	267	
3.4	Controlled Thermonuclear Ideal Ignition Temperature . . . . .	146	<b>Appendix E: Lagrangian and Eulerian Coordinate Systems</b> . . . . .	281	
3.5	Lawson Criterion . . . . .	149	<b>Appendix F: Angular Plasma Frequency and High Power Laser</b> . . . . .	289	
3.5.1	Inertial Confinement and Lawson Criterion . . . . .	154	<b>Appendix G: A Soliton Wave</b> . . . . .	299	
3.6	Bremsstrahlung Radiation . . . . .	155	<b>References</b> . . . . .	309	
3.6.1	Bremsstrahlung Plasma Radiation Losses . . . . .	161	<b>Index</b> . . . . .	311	
3.6.2	Bremsstrahlung Emission Rate . . . . .	163			
3.6.3	Additional Radiation Losses . . . . .	168			
3.6.4	Inverse Bremsstrahlung Radiation in Inertial Confinement Fusion . . . . .	170			
3.7	Rayleigh–Taylor Instability in Inertial Confinement Fusion . . . . .	176			
3.8	Richtmyer–Meshkov Instability in Inertial Confinement Fusion . . . . .	186			
3.9	Filamentation Instability in Inertial Confinement Fusion . . . . .	187			
3.10	Kelvin–Helmholtz Instability . . . . .	188			
References . . . . .	190				
<b>4</b>	<b>Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF)</b> . . . . .	193			
4.1	Introduction . . . . .	193			
4.2	Overview of Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) . . . . .	201			
4.3	Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) Process Steps . . . . .	203			