

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	1
1.1	Brief History of Intense Lasers	3
1.1.1	Invention of Laser	3
1.1.2	High-Power Lasers for Nuclear Fusion	5
1.1.3	Ultra-Intense and Ultra-Short Lasers	8
1.2	What Is Plasma?	9
1.2.1	Ionization	9
1.2.2	High-Density Plasmas	10
1.2.3	Magnetic Fusion	12
1.3	Basic Equations	13
1.3.1	Maxwell Equations	13
1.3.2	Electron Motion in Laser Field	14
1.3.3	Normalized Laser Strength	15
1.4	Non-relativistic Laser-Plasma Interaction	16
1.4.1	Collisional Absorption	16
1.4.2	Collisionless Absorption and Ponderomotive Force	18
1.5	Relativistic Laser-Plasma Interaction	20
1.5.1	Relativistic Electron Oscillation	20
1.5.2	Relativistic Laser and Solid Interaction	21
1.5.3	Theory of Chaotic and Stochastic Heating	21
1.6	PIC Simulations	23
	References	25

## Part I Non-relativistic Lasers

<b>2</b>	<b>Laser Absorption by Coulomb Collision</b>	29
2.1	Plasma Generation by Lasers	29
2.1.1	Field-Induced Electron Emission	29
2.1.2	Ionization by Multiphoton Absorption	32
2.1.3	Tunneling and Over-Threshold Ionizations	34
2.1.4	Experimental Data	37

2.2	Laser as Electromagnetic Waves . . . . .	39
2.2.1	Maxwell Equations . . . . .	40
2.2.2	Electromagnetic Waves in Vacuum . . . . .	43
2.2.3	Lasers as Coherent Electromagnetic Waves . . . . .	44
2.3	Electron Current Induced by Laser Fields . . . . .	45
2.3.1	Antenna and Thomson Scattering . . . . .	48
2.3.2	Electron Current in Matters . . . . .	50
2.4	Electron Coulomb Collision by Ions in Plasma . . . . .	53
2.4.1	Debye Shielding . . . . .	56
2.4.2	Yukawa Potential . . . . .	57
2.4.3	Coulomb Logarithm (Log) . . . . .	58
2.4.4	Collision Frequency and Electrical Resistivity . . . . .	61
2.4.5	Relaxation Time to Thermal Equilibrium . . . . .	62
2.5	Lasers in Plasmas . . . . .	65
2.5.1	Classical Absorption of Laser Energy . . . . .	69
2.6	Laser Absorption in Plasma . . . . .	72
2.6.1	Physical Image of Classical Absorption . . . . .	72
2.6.2	Simple Diffusion Model . . . . .	73
2.6.3	Kinetic Derivation by Dawson and Oberman . . . . .	75
2.6.4	Quasi-Linear Model of Absorption . . . . .	78
2.7	Bremsstrahlung and Collisional Absorption . . . . .	79
	References . . . . .	80
<b>3</b>	<b>Ultra-Short Pulse and Collisionless Absorption . . . . .</b>	<b>81</b>
3.1	Ultra-Short Pulse in Non-relativistic Intensity . . . . .	81
3.2	Self-Consistent Analysis of Short Pulse Absorption . . . . .	88
3.3	Quantum Theory of Electric Conductivity in Dense Plasmas . . . . .	95
3.4	Nonlinear Inverse Bremsstrahlung (IB) Absorption ( $v_e < v_{os}$ ) . . . . .	99
3.5	Electron Plasma Waves and Collisionless Absorption . . . . .	104
3.6	Resonance Absorption . . . . .	107
3.6.1	Collisional Absorption Model . . . . .	110
3.6.2	Singular Point Integral Model . . . . .	111
3.7	Resonance in Pendulum . . . . .	112
3.8	Linear Mode Conversion in Resonance Absorption . . . . .	115
3.8.1	Absorption Rate and Pump Depletion . . . . .	117
3.9	Large Amplitude Electron Plasma Waves . . . . .	118
3.9.1	Wave-Breaking . . . . .	119
3.10	Vacuum Heating . . . . .	123
3.10.1	Physical Image and Absorption Rate . . . . .	126
3.10.2	Skin Depth at Sharp Boundary . . . . .	129
	References . . . . .	130
<b>4</b>	<b>Nonlinear Physics of Laser-Plasma Interaction . . . . .</b>	<b>131</b>
4.1	Ponderomotive (PM) Force . . . . .	131
4.2	Nonlinear Schrodinger Equation . . . . .	133

4.3	Filament Instability of Lasers . . . . .	136
4.4	Ion Fluid and Ion Acoustic Waves . . . . .	139
4.4.1	Charge Neutral Plasma Fluids . . . . .	140
4.4.2	Ion Sound Waves . . . . .	141
4.5	Density Profile Modification . . . . .	144
4.6	Principle of Parametric Instabilities . . . . .	146
4.6.1	Coupled Oscillator Model-1 . . . . .	149
4.6.2	Thermal Noise of Electrostatic Fluctuations . . . . .	150
4.6.3	Coupled Oscillator Model-2 . . . . .	151
4.7	Stimulated Raman and Brillouin Scattering . . . . .	152
4.8	Decay-Type Parametric Instabilities . . . . .	154
4.9	Experimental Data for SRS . . . . .	156
4.10	Physics of Saturation of SRS Instability . . . . .	157
4.10.1	Effect of Inhomogeneity . . . . .	159
4.10.2	Nonlinear Saturation of SRS . . . . .	160
4.11	Broadband Effect . . . . .	161
	References . . . . .	163
<b>Part II Relativistic Lasers</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Relativistic Laser-Electron Interactions . . . . .</b>	<b>167</b>
5.1	Introduction . . . . .	167
5.2	Special Relativity for Electron Motion . . . . .	167
5.2.1	Equation of Relativistic Electron Motion . . . . .	169
5.2.2	Lorentz Transformation of Time and Space . . . . .	172
5.2.3	Lorentz Transformation of Velocities . . . . .	174
5.2.4	Lorentz Transformation of Fields . . . . .	175
5.2.5	Plane Electromagnetic Waves in Vacuum . . . . .	177
5.3	Electron Motion in a Relativistic Strong Field . . . . .	179
5.3.1	Constant of Motion in Vacuum . . . . .	180
5.3.2	Normalizations . . . . .	181
5.3.3	Electron Motion in Vacuum . . . . .	182
5.3.4	Free Electron Orbit . . . . .	183
5.3.5	Electrons in Plasmas . . . . .	186
5.3.6	Linear Polarization . . . . .	187
5.3.7	Circular Polarization . . . . .	188
5.4	Nonlinear Radiation Scattering . . . . .	188
5.4.1	Linear Thomson Scatterings . . . . .	189
5.4.2	Compton and Inverse Compton Scatterings . . . . .	191
5.4.3	Nonlinear Thomson Scattering . . . . .	194
5.4.4	Relativistic Beaming Effect and Doppler Shift . . . . .	197
5.4.5	Nonlinear Compton Scattering . . . . .	199
	References . . . . .	201

<b>6 Relativistic Laser Plasma Interactions . . . . .</b>	203
6.1 Charge Separation in Low-Density Plasma . . . . .	203
6.1.1 Charge Separation by Photon Force . . . . .	203
6.1.2 Wake Field Generation and Energy Deposition . . . . .	205
6.2 Laser Propagation in Plasmas . . . . .	207
6.2.1 Relativistic Transparency . . . . .	207
6.2.2 Higher Harmonic Generation (HHG) . . . . .	209
6.2.3 Electrostatic Field Excitation by $v \times B$ Force . . . . .	212
6.2.4 Density Bunching Current . . . . .	213
6.2.5 Simulation for $a_0 = 10$ in Low Density . . . . .	214
6.3 Ponderomotive Force in Relativistic Field . . . . .	217
6.3.1 PM Force by Electrostatic Wave . . . . .	219
6.3.2 Validity of Electrons in Plasmas Assumption . . . . .	219
6.4 Relativistic Raman Scattering . . . . .	220
6.5 Relativistic Self-Focusing . . . . .	221
6.5.1 Self-Focusing Condition . . . . .	223
6.5.2 Strong Laser Limit . . . . .	224
6.5.3 Difference of 2D and 3D Focusing . . . . .	225
6.5.4 Frequency Shifts . . . . .	226
6.5.5 Filamentation Instability . . . . .	226
6.6 Relativistic Skin Depth . . . . .	229
6.7 $J \times B$ Force and Heating . . . . .	231
6.8 Moving Mirror Model and Higher Harmonic Generation from Solid Surface . . . . .	234
References . . . . .	238
<b>7 Relativistic Laser and Solid Target Interactions . . . . .</b>	239
7.1 Pre-formed Plasma in Laser-Solid Interaction . . . . .	239
7.1.1 Pedestal of Laser Pulse . . . . .	239
7.1.2 Model Experiments with Controlled Pre-formed Plasmas . . . . .	241
7.2 Laser Absorption at Solid Targets . . . . .	244
7.3 Absorption Enhancement by Hot Electron Re-circulation . . . . .	248
7.4 Hole Boring by Ponderomotive Force . . . . .	252
7.4.1 Density Dependence of Hole Boring . . . . .	254
7.5 Laser Interaction in Long Pre-formed Plasmas . . . . .	255
7.6 Absorption Efficiency Based on Conservation Laws . . . . .	260
7.7 Enhanced Coupling with Foam Layered Targets . . . . .	263
7.7.1 Experimental Result . . . . .	271
7.8 Efficient Absorption in Structured Targets . . . . .	273
7.8.1 Micro-pillar Array Targets . . . . .	273
7.8.2 Nano-pillar Array Target . . . . .	275
7.8.3 Micro-tube Plasma Lenses . . . . .	277
7.8.4 Common Rule of Better Coupling . . . . .	279

7.9 Magnetic Field Generation . . . . .	279
7.10 Multi-dimensional Physics in Pre-formed Plasmas . . . . .	282
References . . . . .	285
<b>8 Chaos due to Relativistic Effect . . . . .</b>	287
8.1 Basic Relation of an Electron in Relativistic Laser Field . . . . .	287
8.2 Laser Direct Acceleration . . . . .	292
8.2.1 Acceleration (1) . . . . .	293
8.2.2 Acceleration (2) . . . . .	294
8.2.3 PIC Simulations . . . . .	294
8.3 Direct Acceleration after Interaction with Longitudinal Field . . . . .	297
8.3.1 PIC Simulation . . . . .	301
8.4 Chaotic Motion due to External Force . . . . .	305
8.4.1 Simple Example [1] (Random Force) . . . . .	305
8.4.2 Simple Example [2] (Periodic Force) . . . . .	307
8.4.3 Chaos in Propagating Relativistic Wave . . . . .	309
8.5 Electron Heating by Laser Field and Induced Plasma Waves . . . . .	313
8.5.1 Modeling PIC Simulation . . . . .	314
8.5.2 Quasi-linear Diffusion . . . . .	315
8.6 Hot Electron Generation . . . . .	316
8.6.1 Hot Electrons by Femtosecond Lasers . . . . .	317
8.6.2 Hot Electrons by Picosecond Lasers . . . . .	318
8.6.3 Sheath Potential Effect . . . . .	319
8.6.4 Multi-dimensional Effects . . . . .	320
8.7 Electron Motion in Two Counter-Propagating Relativistic Lasers . . . . .	322
8.7.1 Counter-Propagating Two Laser Systems . . . . .	324
8.7.2 One-Electron Orbit . . . . .	325
8.7.3 Lyapunov Exponent . . . . .	327
8.7.4 Hot Electron Temperature Scaling . . . . .	329
References . . . . .	330
<b>9 Theory of Stochasticity and Chaos of Electrons in Relativistic Lasers . . . . .</b>	331
9.1 Vlasov-Fokker-Planck Equations . . . . .	331
9.1.1 Stochastic Diffusion Equation . . . . .	332
9.1.2 Vlasov-Fokker-Planck Equation . . . . .	334
9.2 Stochastic Heating by Laser Filamentation . . . . .	334
9.2.1 Numerical Calculation of Test Particles . . . . .	337
9.2.2 PIC Simulation of Stochastic Diffusion . . . . .	339
9.3 Nonlocal Jump in Energy Space . . . . .	340
9.3.1 Levy's Flights . . . . .	340
9.3.2 Integral Form of Random Walk . . . . .	342
9.3.3 Fokker-Planck Diffusion Model . . . . .	342
9.3.4 Fractional Fokker-Planck Model . . . . .	343

9.4	Time Evolution of Distribution and Fractal Index $\alpha$ . . . . .	345
9.4.1	Application to Hot Electron Scaling . . . . .	347
9.4.2	Local and Nonlocal: Gaussian and Lorentzian . . . . .	349
9.4.3	Evaluation of Fractional Index $\alpha$ from Experimental Data . . . . .	351
9.5	Model Experiment of Cosmic Ray Physics in the Universe . . . . .	354
9.5.1	Relativistic EM Wave Generation by Relativistic Shocks . . . . .	355
9.5.2	Model Experiments with Relativistic Lasers . . . . .	357
9.6	Fractal Index $\alpha = 0.8$ in Big Tokamak Transports . . . . .	358
9.7	Chaos in Standard Map Model . . . . .	360
9.8	Analytical Mechanics of Electron Motions . . . . .	362
9.8.1	One Laser Relation . . . . .	362
9.8.2	Adiabatic Constant . . . . .	363
9.8.3	Numerical Solution for Counter Beam Interaction . . . . .	365
9.8.4	Perturbation Method in Hamilton Equation . . . . .	367
9.8.5	Adiabatic Approximation . . . . .	369
9.8.6	Further Discussion . . . . .	370
	References . . . . .	371
	<b>Appendices . . . . .</b>	<b>373</b>
	Appendix-1: Rutherford Scatterings . . . . .	373
	Appendix-2: Adiabatic and Nonadiabatic . . . . .	375
	Periodic Motion . . . . .	375
	Derivation of Adiabatic Constants . . . . .	377
	Nonadiabatic Case . . . . .	378
	Appendix-3: PIC Simulation . . . . .	379
	Particles in Computer . . . . .	379
	Maxwell Equations in Computer . . . . .	380
	Surprising Progress of Computing . . . . .	381
	References . . . . .	382
	Appendix 4: Tsallis Statistics at Maximum Entropy . . . . .	383
	Reference . . . . .	384