CONTENTS

Contributors **xiv**

List of Tables **xvii**

List of Notations **xix**

Preface **xxi**

I Foundations of dynamo theory 1

1 Introduction to self-excited dynamo action **3**

1.1. Governing equations 4
1.1.1. Magnetic induction 4
1.1.2. Thermodynamic equations 8
1.1.3. Navier-Stokes equation 9
1.1.4. Boundary conditions 17
1.2. Homogeneous dynamos 18
1.2.1. Disc dynamo 18
1.2.2. Chirality and geometry 20
1.2.3. Basic mechanisms of dynamo action 20
1.2.4. Fast and slow dynamos 22
1.3. Necessary conditions for dynamo action 24
1.3.1. Definitions of dynamo action 24
1.3.2. Non-normality of the induction equation 24
1.3.3. Flow velocity bounds 25
1.3.4. Geometrical constraints 26

1.4. Steady and time-dependent velocities 31
1.4.1. Two simple examples 31
1.4.2. Pulsed flows 32
1.5. Two–scale dynamos 34
1.5.1. The two–scale concept and Parker's model 34
1.5.2. Mean Field Electrodynamics 35
1.5.3. Mean Field Models 38
1.6. Large magnetic Reynolds numbers 41
1.6.1. Slow dynamos in flows 42
1.6.2. The stretch–twist–fold picture 47
1.6.3. Fast dynamos in smooth flows 49
1.6.4. Fast dynamos in mappings 50
1.6.5. The stretch–fold–shear model 54

2 Nonlinearities and saturation 59
2.1. General considerations 59
2.2. Saturation of a dynamo generated by a periodic flow 62
2.2.1. Scale separation 63
2.2.2. The G.O. Roberts dynamo 64
2.2.3. Saturation of dynamos driven by the α–effect 65
2.3. Saturation in the low Re limit in the vicinity of the dynamo threshold 67
2.3.1. A Ponomarenko type dynamo as a tractable problem without scale separation 67
2.3.2. Structure of the perturbation analysis 68
2.3.3. The laminar scaling 69
2.4. Saturation in the high Re limit in the vicinity of the dynamo threshold 70
2.4.1. Dimensional arguments 70
2.4.2. High Re dynamos close to the bifurcation threshold 71
2.5. Effect of rotation 72
2.5.1. Weak and strong field regimes of the geodynamo 72
2.5.2. Further comments on weak and strong field regimes 73
2.5.3. Scalings of magnetic energy using dimensional considerations 75
2.6. Scaling laws in the limit of large Rm and Re 75
2.6.1. Effect of turbulence on the dynamo threshold 76

2.6.2. Batchelor's predictions for turbulent dynamo threshold and saturation . . . 77
2.6.3. A Kolmogorov type scaling in the limit $\mathrm{Re} \gg \mathrm{Rm} \gg \mathrm{Rm}_c$. 78
2.7. Nonlinear effects in mean field dynamo theory . . . 80
2.7.1. Nonlinear effects in the mean field formalism . . . 81
2.7.2. MHD turbulence theories . . . 88
2.7.3. Direct numerical simulations . . . 92
2.8. Physically-realistic Faraday-disc self-excited dynamos . . . 97
2.8.1. Historical survey . . . 98
2.8.2. Characteristics of self-excited dynamos . . . 100
2.8.3. Governing equations in dimensional form . . . 101
2.8.4. Energetics and equilibrium solutions. . . . 103
2.8.5. Dimensionless equations . . . 104
2.8.6. Generic solutions . . . 107
2.8.7. Survey of behaviour . . . 108
2.8.8. Some numerical integrations . . . 111

3 Dynamics of rotating fluids 119
3.1. Boundary and shear layers in rotating flows . . . 120
3.1.1. Ekman layers . . . 121
3.1.2. Sidewall $\mathrm{E}^{1/3}$–layers . . . 124
3.1.3. Sidewall $\mathrm{E}^{1/4}$–layers . . . 127
3.1.4. Differentially rotating spheres: The Proudman–Stewartson problem . . . 131
3.2. Boundary and shear layers in rotating MHD flows . . . 136
3.2.1. The Hartmann layer . . . 137
3.2.2. Differentially rotating spheres . . . 139
3.2.3. The Ekman–Hartmann layer . . . 142
3.2.4. Rotating MHD free shear layers; $\Lambda \ll 1$ . . . 145
3.3. Waves . . . 151
3.3.1. Inertial waves . . . 151
3.3.2. Alfvén waves . . . 159
3.3.3. MHD waves in rotating fluids . . . 160
3.3.4. Stratified rotating MHD waves . . . 165
3.4. Convection in rotating spherical fluid shells . . . 168
3.4.1. Physical motivations . . . 168

3.4.2. Convection in the rotating cylindrical annulus 169
3.4.3. Mathematical formulation of the problem of convection in rotating spherical shells 177
3.4.4. The onset of convection in rotating spherical shells 179
3.4.5. Onset of inertial convection at low Prandtl numbers 183
3.4.6. Evolution of convection columns at moderate Prandtl numbers 184
3.4.7. Finite amplitude convection at higher Prandtl numbers . . . 190
3.4.8. Finite amplitude inertial convection 193
3.4.9. Penetrative and compositional convection 195
3.4.10. Concluding remarks on convection 197

II Natural dynamos and models 199

4 The geodynamo 201
4.1. The Earth and its magnetic field 201
4.1.1. A brief history 201
4.1.2. Structure of the Earth 202
4.1.3. The geomagnetic field 204
4.1.4. Energy sources 207
4.2. Governing equations and parameters 209
4.3. Fundamental theoretical results 212
4.3.1. Taylor's Constraint 212
4.3.2. The "arbitrary" geostrophic flow $u_G(s)$ 214
4.3.3. Ekman states, Taylor states and model-Z: determination of the geostrophic flow u_G 215
4.3.4. The role of inertia 217
4.4. Parameter Constraints 219
4.4.1. The Ekman number 220
4.4.2. The magnetic Reynolds number 221
4.4.3. The Roberts number 222
4.4.4. The Rayleigh number 222
4.4.5. The magnetic Ekman number 223
4.5. Numerical models 223
4.5.1. Nonlinear α^2 and $\alpha\omega$ models 224
4.5.2. 2.5D models 224

4.5.3. 3D models . . . 225
4.6. Turbulence in the Earth's core: the ends justify the means? . . . 229
4.7. Preliminary considerations on turbulence . . . 231
4.7.1. The energy source . . . 231
4.7.2. Orders of magnitude . . . 232
4.7.3. Basic equations and their averages . . . 234
4.7.4. Qualitative descriptions of turbulence . . . 235
4.8. The traditional approach to turbulence . . . 239
4.8.1. A three-step program . . . 239
4.8.2. Linearised modes of a simple model . . . 240
4.8.3. The most easily excited mode . . . 242
4.8.4. More complicated and less complicated models . . . 244
4.8.5. Finite amplitudes . . . 246
4.8.6. An alternative application: DNS . . . 248
4.9. The engineering approach to turbulence . . . 249
4.9.1. Filtering . . . 249
4.9.2. Similarity and dynamical similarity . . . 250
4.9.3. Related methods. . . . 252
4.10. Where are we now, and the future . . . 253
4.10.1. The geodynamo . . . 253
4.10.2. A critical summary of turbulence . . . 254

5 Planetary dynamos 257
5.1. Observations of planetary magnetic fields . . . 257
5.2. Some outstanding problems in planetary dynamo theory . . . 263
5.3. Conditions needed for dynamo action in planets . . . 265
5.4. Energy sources for planetary dynamos . . . 267
5.5. Internal structure of the planets . . . 269
5.5.1. Giant planets . . . 272
5.5.2. Ice giants . . . 273
5.6. Dynamics of planetary interiors . . . 273
5.6.1. Typical velocity and field estimates . . . 276
5.7. Numerical dynamo models for the planets . . . 278

6 Stellar dynamos 281
6.1. Stellar magnetic activity . . . 281

6.2. Linear $\alpha\omega$–dynamos for the solar cycle 284
6.2.1. Dynamo Waves 285
6.2.2. Spherical Models 287
6.2.3. The ω–effect 287
6.2.4. The α–effect 288
6.2.5. Magnetic pumping 289
6.2.6. Meridional circulation 291
6.3. Nonlinear quenching mechanisms 291
6.4. Interface dynamos 293
6.4.1. Spherical Interface Models 294
6.4.2. Zonal shear flows 295
6.5. Modulation of cyclic activity 297
6.5.1. Deterministic Modulation 299
6.5.2. Low-order models 304
6.5.3. On–off and in-out intermittency 307
6.6. Rapidly rotating stars 308
6.7. The future 311

7 Galactic dynamos **313**
7.1. Introduction 313
7.2. Interstellar medium in spiral galaxies 316
7.2.1. Turbulence and multi-phase structure 316
7.2.2. Galactic rotation 319
7.3. Magnetic fields observed in galaxies 321
7.4. The origin of galactic magnetic fields 324
7.4.1. Mean-field models of the galactic dynamo 325
7.4.2. The fluctuation dynamo and small-scale magnetic fields . . 335
7.4.3. Magnetic helicity balance in the galactic disc 338
7.5. Observational evidence for the origin of galactic magnetic fields . . 342
7.5.1. Magnetic pitch angle 342
7.5.2. The even (quadrupole) symmetry of magnetic field in the Milky Way 344
7.5.3. The azimuthal structure 346
7.5.4. A composite magnetic structure in M51 and magnetic reversals in the Milky Way 348
7.5.5. The radial magnetic structure in M31 350

7.5.6. Strength of the regular magnetic field 352
7.6. Elliptical galaxies 353
7.6.1. Turbulent interstellar gas in elliptical galaxies 354
7.6.2. The fluctuation dynamo in elliptical galaxies 354
7.7. Accretion discs 355
7.8. Conclusions 358

8 Survey of experimental results 361
8.1. Introduction 361
8.2. Description of the experiments 364
8.2.1. A rapidly rotating disc in a cylinder of sodium 365
8.2.2. A dynamo with two solid rotating cylinders 365
8.2.3. The α–box experiment 366
8.2.4. A precessing experiment in liquid sodium 368
8.2.5. The first Ponomarenko type experiment 369
8.2.6. The vortices of gallium 370
8.2.7. The Riga dynamo 372
8.2.8. The Karlsruhe dynamo 374
8.2.9. The College Park experiments 376
8.2.10. Von Kármán Sodium experiments 377
8.2.11. Derviche Tourneur Sodium project 378
8.2.12. The Madison project 379
8.2.13. The Perm project 379
8.2.14. The Socorro project 380
8.2.15. A new precessing project in sodium 380
8.2.16. Technology and measurements in dynamo experiments . . . 380
8.3. What have we learnt from the experimental approach? 384
8.3.1. The ω–effect 384
8.3.2. Magnetic field expulsion 385
8.3.3. The α–effect 386
8.3.4. Quenching effects 388
8.3.5. The experimental approach to a kinematic dynamo 389
8.3.6. The onset of dynamo action 394
8.3.7. The effect of turbulence 396
8.3.8. Spectra 399
8.3.9. The β–effect and turbulent viscosity 403

8.3.10. Saturation of the dynamo 404
8.4. Conclusions 405

9 Prospects **409**

A Vectors and coordinates **413**

B Poloidal–Toroidal decomposition **417**

C Taylor's constraint **419**

D Units **425**

E Abbreviations **427**

Reference Index **473**

Subject Index **481**