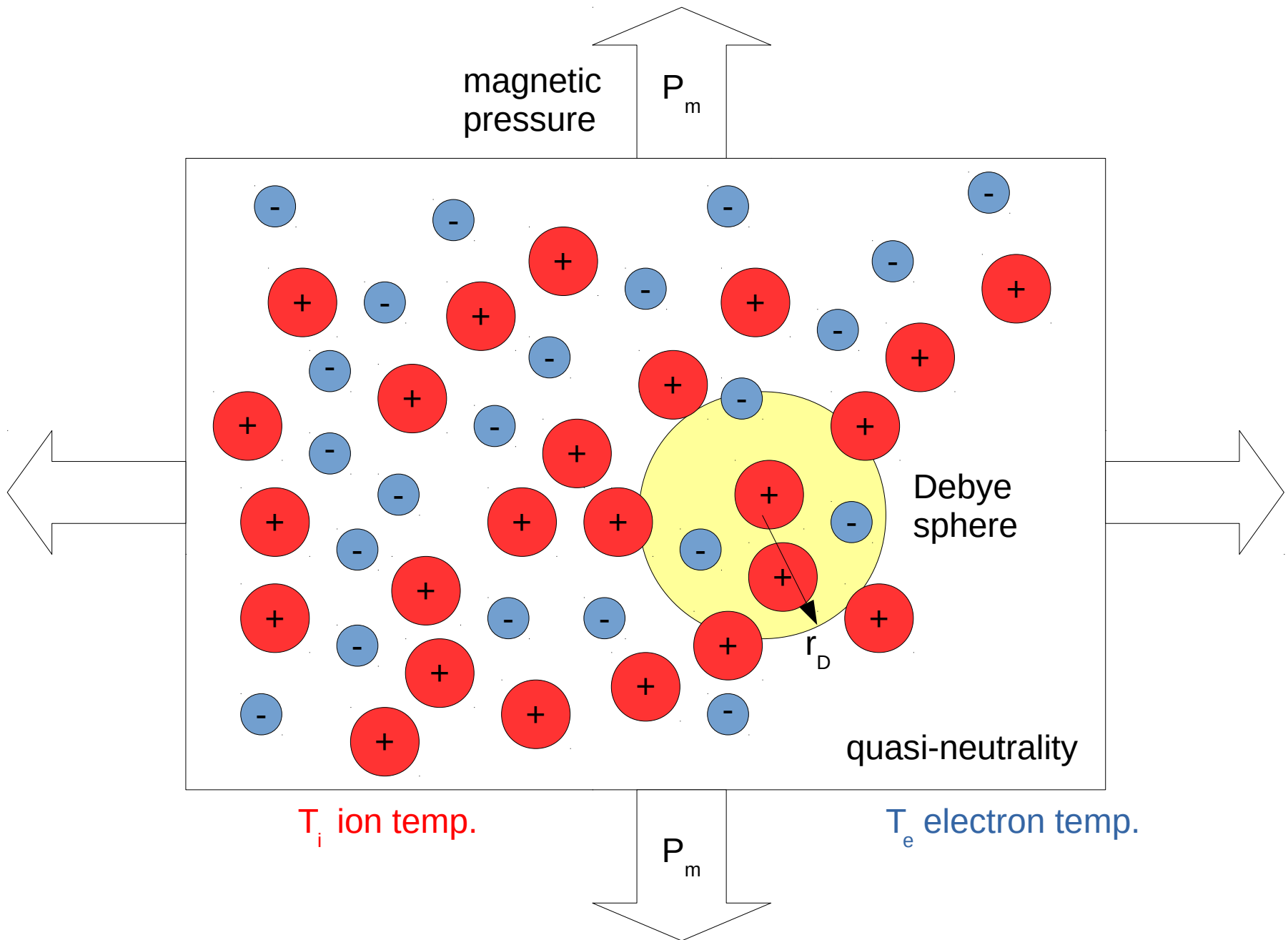


# Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD)



# Debye Shielding

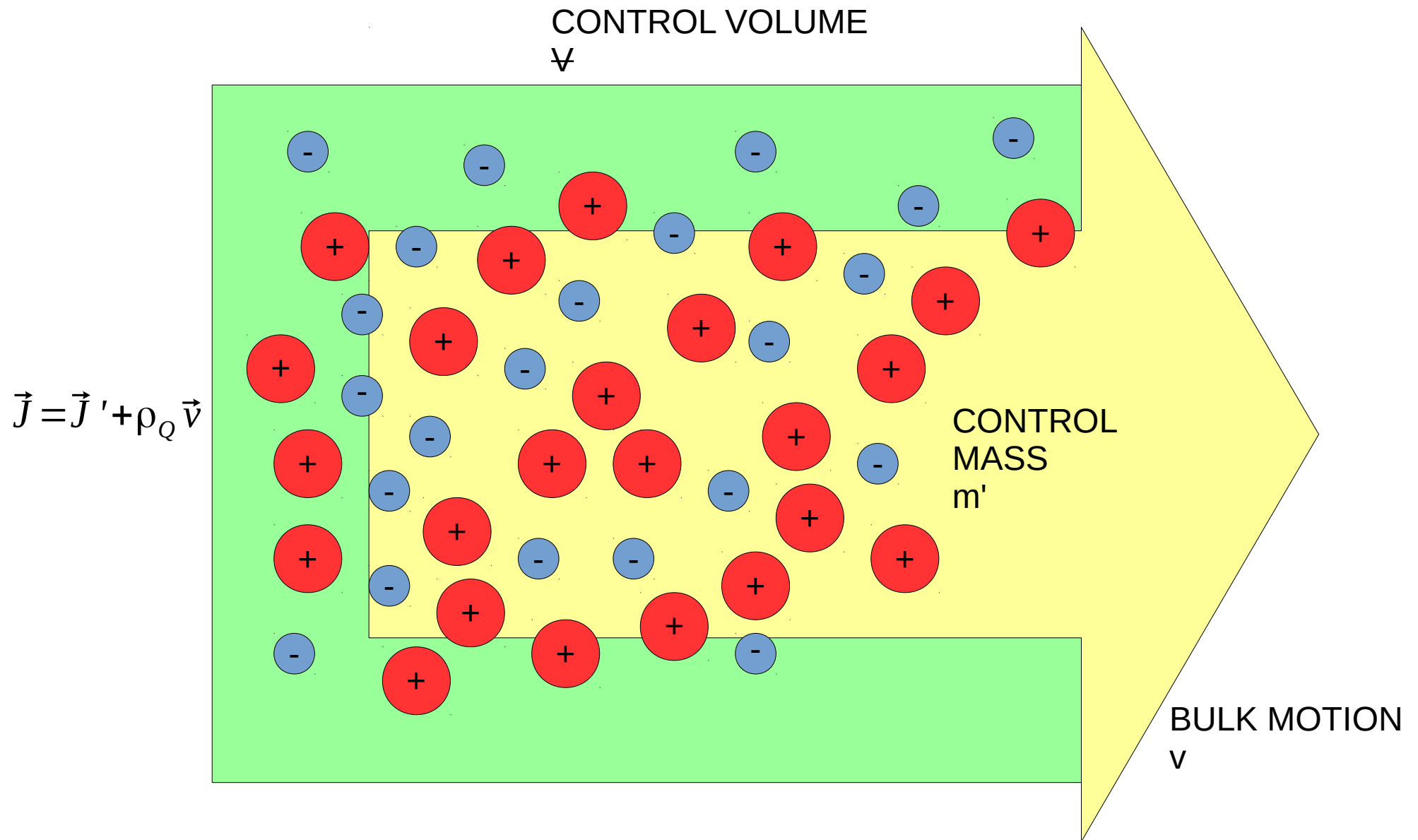
$$r_D = \frac{T_e}{q_e^2 n_e}$$

Debye radius – limit of quasi-neutrality

boundary between small-scale collisional effects and collective fluid motion

If control volume has  $R \gg r_D$  possible to neglect self electric field  
balance of electrons and ions cancels Coulomb forces

Within  $R < r_D$  must include all 2 particle Coulomb interactions



# MHD Assumptions

one component fluid  $\rho_Q = 0$

neglect displacement current  $\frac{\partial D}{\partial t} = 0$

very high conductivity

scale much larger than Debye radius  $R \gg r_D$

scale much larger than collisional scale

– thermal plasma  $T_e = T_i = T$

# Fluid Equations

continuity  $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = 0$

Cauchy equation

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \right) \vec{v} = \underbrace{\vec{J} \times \vec{B} - \nabla P + F_v + \rho \vec{g}}_{\text{sum of body forces}}$$

rate of change in momentum density

convective derivative

Lorentz force

pressure gradient

viscosity

gravity

**also need an equation of state, such as the ideal gas law**

# Maxwell's Equations

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \nabla \times E + \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} &= 0 \\ \nabla \cdot D &= \rho_Q \\ \nabla \times H &= J + \frac{\partial D}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \cdot B &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

magnetic  
transport  
equation

$$\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) + \frac{1}{\mu \sigma} \nabla^2 B$$

$$\vec{J} \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{B} - \nabla \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{\vec{B}^2}{\mu} \right)$$

magnetic tension

magnetic pressure

# Magnetic Diffusion

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\sigma \mu} \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

transport eqn.  
with no flow

magnetic  
viscosity



$$\tau = \mu \sigma L^2$$

An initial field,  $B$ , diffuses in a decay time,  $\tau$   
Characteristic length,  $L$ , found from problem geometry

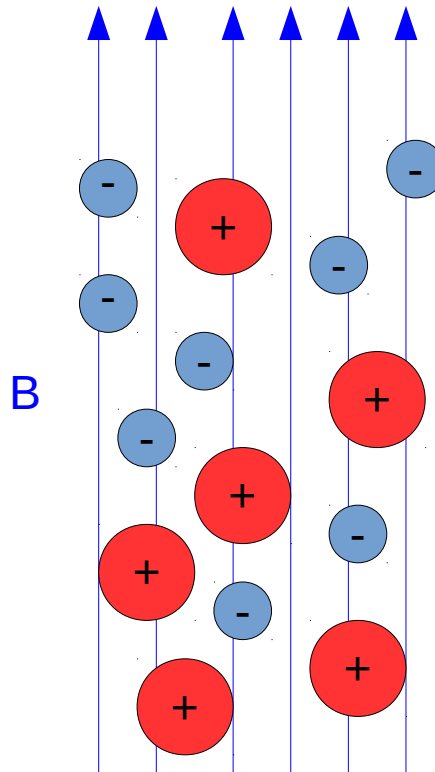


# Frozen Field Lines

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

advection

transport equation for  
 $t \ll \tau$  or  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$



magnetic lines  
 “frozen” to the fluid

as fluid moves lines of  
 magnetic force are  
 “pulled” along

$\vec{B}$  is caused by current  
 fluid motion changes  
 current locally and  
 results in shift of  
 overall field

# Dimensionless Numbers

$$Ha = B L \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{\rho \nu}}$$

Hartmann number – ratio of Lorentz to viscous forces

$$Re = \frac{v L}{\nu}$$

Reynold's number – ratio of inertial to viscous forces

$$Re_m = B L \sigma \sqrt{\frac{\mu_0}{\rho}}$$

magnetic Reynold's number – ratio of advection to diffusion  
can be written in same form as Re using phase velocity  
and magnetic viscosity

MHD requires  $Re_m \gg 1$

**Characteristic length scales found from force balance**

# Alfven Velocity

characteristic velocity  
in  $\text{Re}_m$  related to  $v_A$

$$v = \frac{c}{n} \propto v_a$$

for  $v_A \ll c$

$$n \approx c, v \approx v_A$$

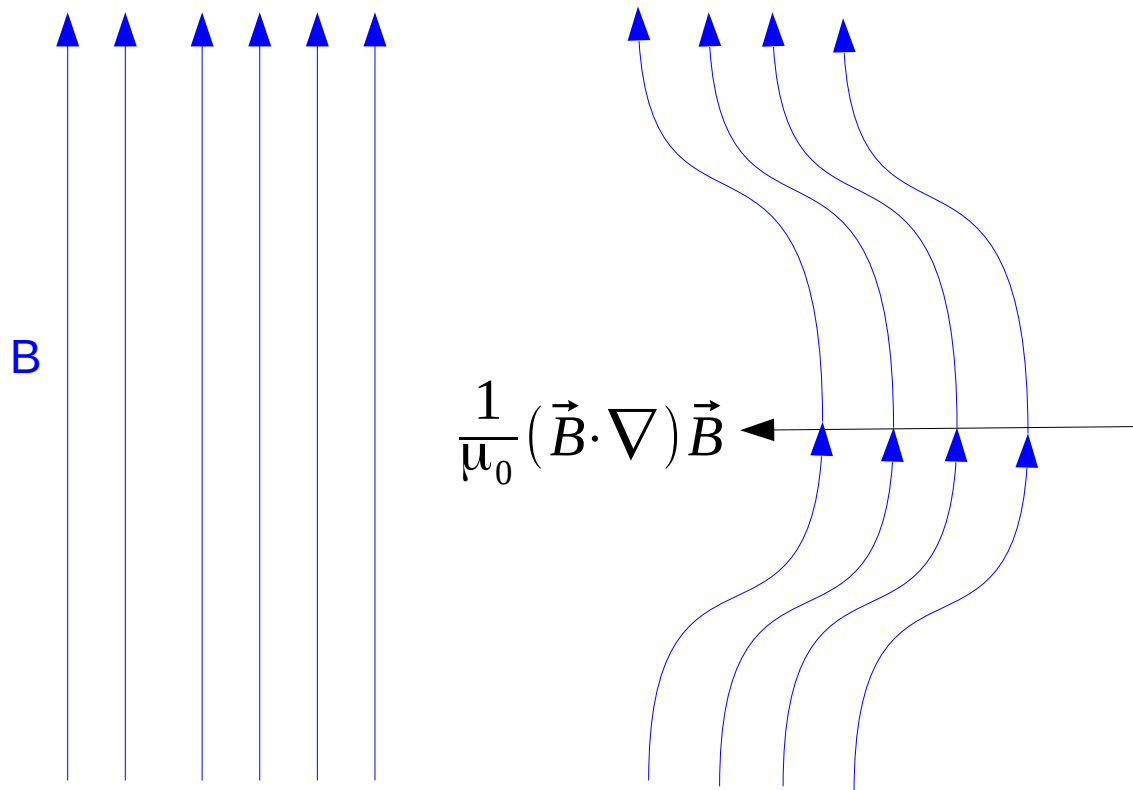
index of refraction in  
a single fluid plasma

$$n^2 = 1 + \left( \frac{c}{v_A} \right)^2$$

$$\vec{v}_A = \frac{\vec{B}}{\sqrt{\rho \mu_0}}$$

Alfven velocity – analogous to speed of sound

# Alfven Waves



If fluid is displaced  
magnetic tension  
establishes restoring force

Inertia causes overshoot  
and fluid oscillates with  
plasma frequency

$$\omega_p^2 = \frac{q_e^2 n_e}{\epsilon_0 m_e}$$

transverse wave travels along field lines with velocity  $v_A$

# Force Balance

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{B} - \nabla \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{B^2}{\mu} + P \right) + F_v + \rho \vec{g} = 0$$

Cauch eqn.  
for static fluid

0 for 1-component  
B field

total pressure

$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}_{\text{ind}} + \vec{B}_{\text{ext}}$$

induced B field from current  
external B field applied

# References

- (1) Jackson, J. *Classical Electrodynamics* John Wiley and Sons, New York, 1962.
- (2) Davidson, P. *An Introduction to Magnetohydrodynamics* Cambridge University Press, New York, 2001.
- (3) Fridman, A. *Plasma Chemistry* Cambridge University Press, New York, 2012.
- (4) Carroll, B. Ostlie D. *An Introduction to Modern Astrophysics* Pearson, San Francisco, 2007.
- (5) Lorain, P. Lorrain, F. Houle, S. *Magneto-Fluid Dynamics* Springer, New York, 2006.
- (6) [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

Questions?

# Supplemental Slides

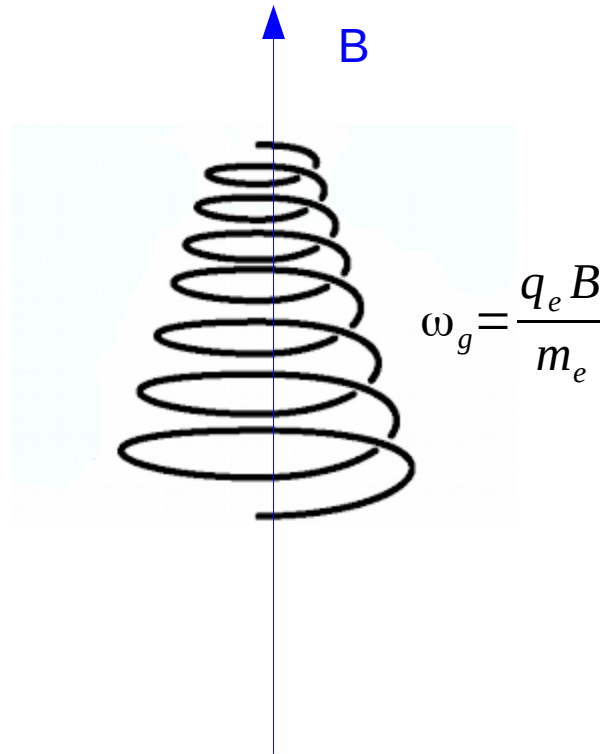


# Gyroradius

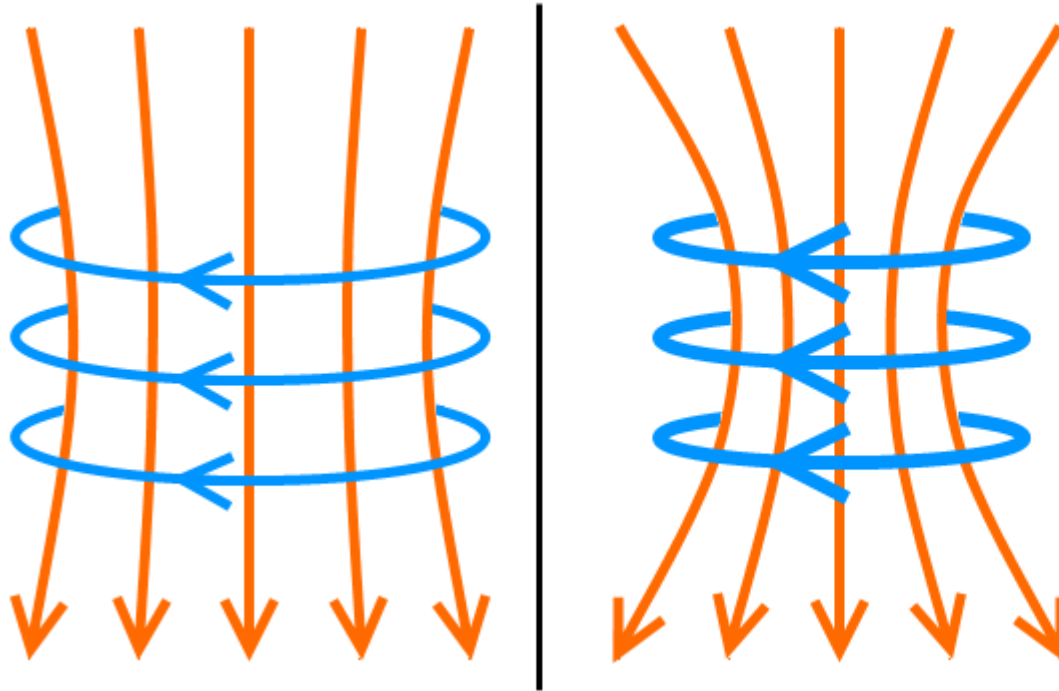
motion of light particles  
around magnetic field  
lines

MHD requires scale  
much larger than  
gyroradius

$$r_g = \frac{v_{\perp}}{\omega_g}$$



# Pinch Effect



Plasma is contained by its own self-induced magnetic field.

For constant axial current a radial magnetic pressure is created inwards.

$$\langle P \rangle = \frac{I^2}{2\pi R^2 c^2} \quad P(r) = 2\langle P \rangle \left(1 - \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^2\right)$$

assuming steady-state quasi-static behavior

# MHD Waves

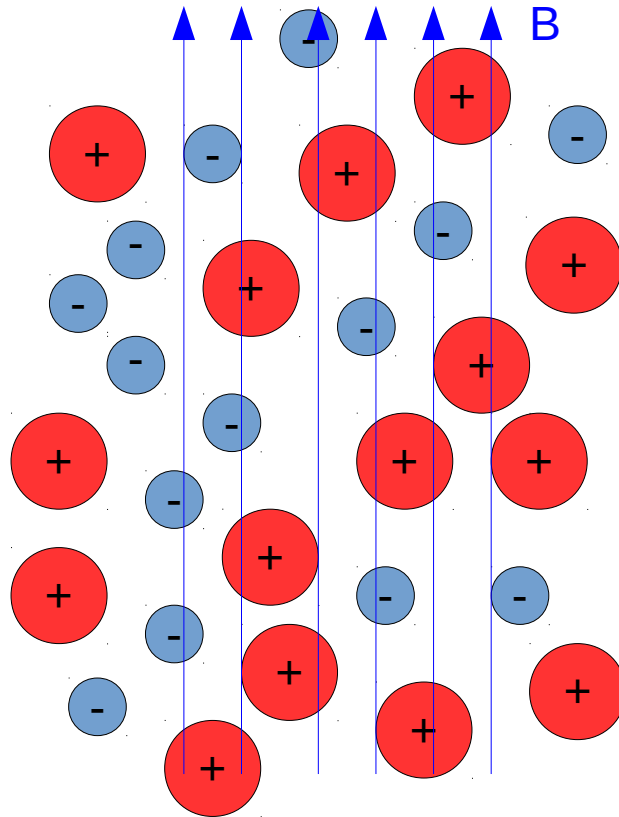
assuming equilibrium values  
with some small perturbation

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= \vec{B}_0 + \vec{B}_1(\vec{x}, t) \\ \rho &= \rho_0 + \rho_1(\vec{x}, t) \\ \vec{v} &= \vec{v}_1(\vec{x}, t) \end{aligned} \right\} -\omega^2 \vec{v}_1 + (v_s^2 + v_A^2)(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}_1) \vec{k} + \vec{v}_A \cdot \vec{k} [(\vec{v}_A \cdot \vec{k}) \vec{v}_1 - (\vec{v}_A \cdot \vec{v}_1) \vec{k} - (\vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}_1) \vec{v}_A] = 0$$

allows ordinary longitudinal waves parallel to  $\vec{v}_A$   $(k^2 v_A^2 - \omega^2) \vec{v}_1 + \left[ \left( \frac{v_s}{v_A} \right)^2 - 1 \right] k^2 (\vec{v}_A \cdot \vec{v}_1) \vec{v}_A = 0$

also allows transverse waves perpendicular to  $\vec{v}_A$   $\vec{v}_A \cdot \vec{v}_1 = 0$

# Two Fluid Model



$T_i$  ion temp.

$T_e$  electron temp.

quasi-neutrality

Similar to single fluid model, however electrons and ions treated as two separate fluids occupying same volume.

ions and electrons have different pressures, temperatures, and energies.

$$\vec{J} = q_e n_e (\vec{v}_e - \vec{v}_i)$$

$$\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{v}_e \times \vec{B})$$

field lines frozen in electron gas