



The physics of star formation

12-23 Feb 2024 Les Houches (France)

Fundamentals of MHD Turbulence (Part 2)

Sébastien Galtier



Laboratoire de Physique des Plasmas

Les Houches, February 2024



ÉCOLE DE
PHYSIQUE DES HOUCHES



université
PARIS-SACLAY



MHD spectra

Kolmogorov spectrum

'Strong' or 'eddy' HD turbulence

Two-point correlation

$$R_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\ell}) \equiv \langle u_i(\mathbf{x})u_j(\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\ell}) \rangle$$

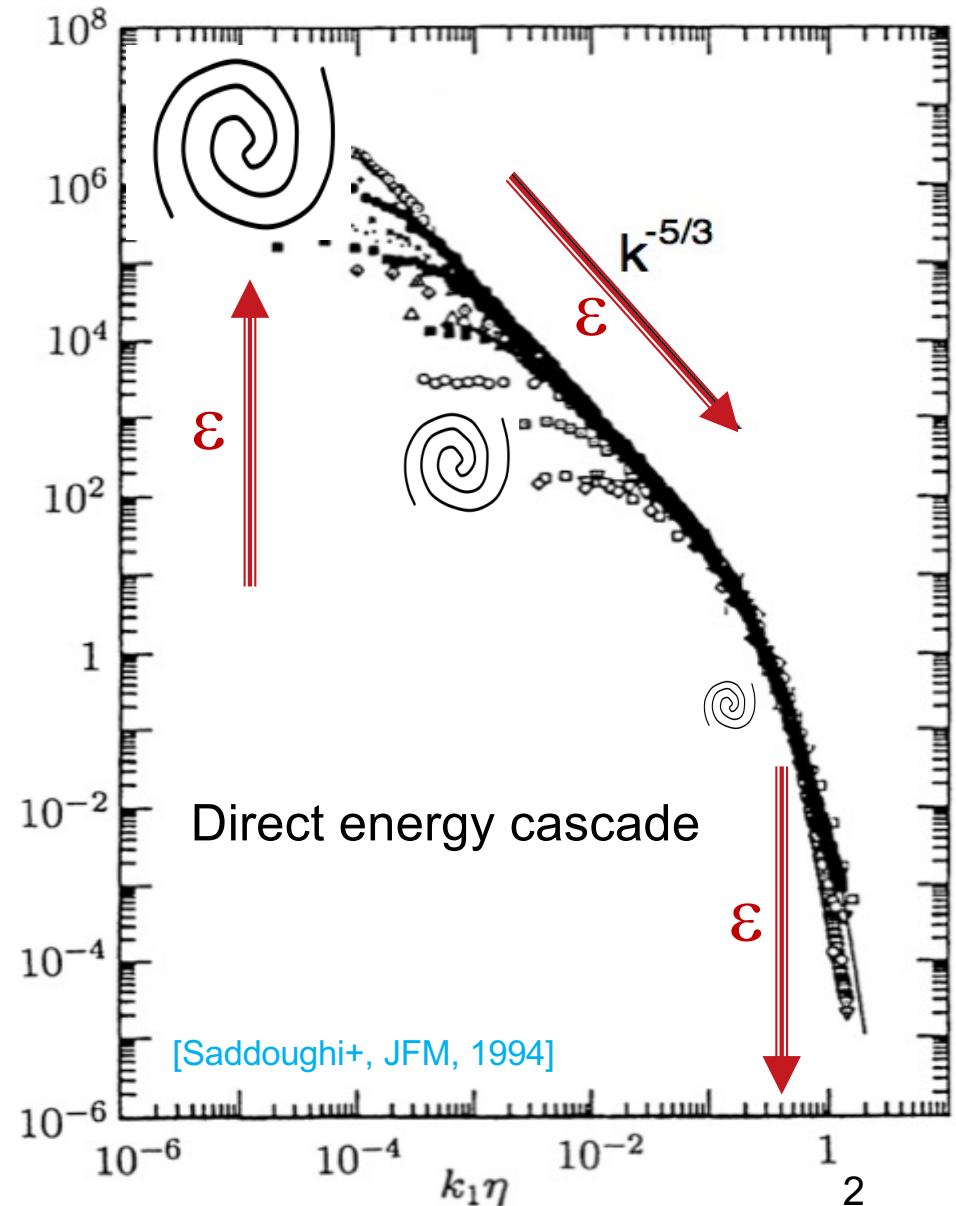
homogeneous turbulence

$$\Phi_{ij}(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} R_{ij}(\boldsymbol{\ell}) e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\boldsymbol{\ell}} d\boldsymbol{\ell}$$

$$E(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \Phi_{ii}(\mathbf{k})$$

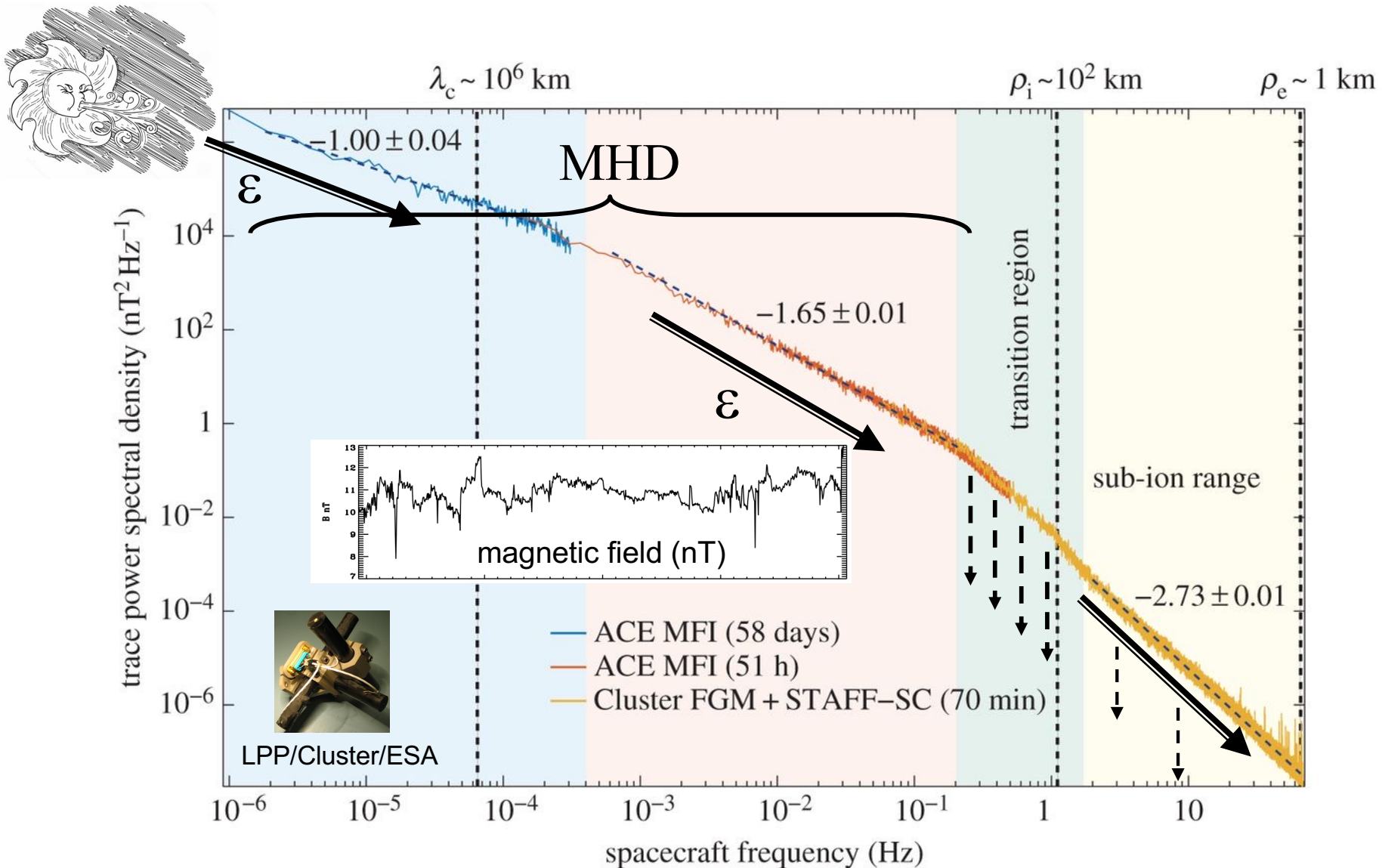
1D energy spectrum

$$E(k) = \iint E(\mathbf{k}) dS(\mathbf{k})$$



Solar wind turbulence

At 1 AU

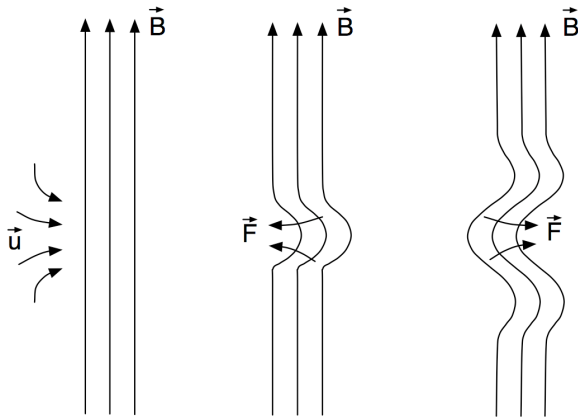


[Kiyani+, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A, 2015]

Collisions of Alfvén waves

$\mathbf{z}^\pm \equiv \mathbf{u} \pm \mathbf{b}$ Elsässer fields

Alfvén waves



$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^\pm}{\partial t} \mp \mathbf{b}_0 \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}^\pm + \underbrace{\mathbf{z}^\mp \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}^\pm}_{\text{collision}} = -\nabla P_* \quad (\text{no dissipation})$$



Linear solution:

$$\omega_k^2 = (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{b}_0)^2$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{B} / \sqrt{\mu_0 \rho_0}$$

Incompressible MHD turbulence is the result of collisions between counterpropagating Alfvén waves

Iroshnikov-Kraichnan spectrum

Phenomenology of Alfvén wave turbulence

$$z^+ \sim z^- \sim z, \quad \text{balanced turbulence}$$

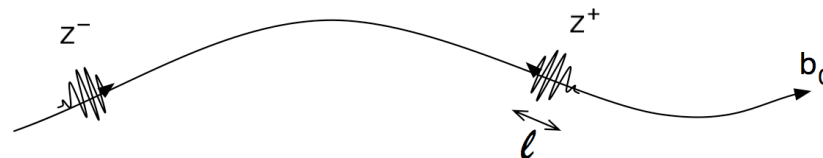
$$\tau_A \sim \ell/b_0 \quad \tau_{NL} \sim \ell/z_\ell \quad \varepsilon \sim \frac{z_\ell^2}{\omega \tau_{NL}^2} \sim \frac{z_\ell^4}{\ell b_0} \sim \frac{E^2(k)k^3}{b_0}, \quad (\text{3-wave interactions})$$

hence the one-dimensional **isotropic** Iroshnikov–Kraichnan (IK) spectrum of wave turbulence:

$$E(k) = C_{IK} \sqrt{\varepsilon b_0} k^{-3/2},$$

[Iroshnikov, SA, 1964; Kraichnan, PoF, 1965]

However, in presence of a uniform magnetic field \mathbf{b}_0 incompressible MHD turbulence is **anisotropic**



Resonance condition

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^s}{\partial t} - s \mathbf{b}_0 \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}^s = -\mathbf{z}^{-s} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}^s - \nabla P_*, \quad z_j^s(\mathbf{x}, t) \equiv \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} A_j^s(\mathbf{k}, t) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{k},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{z}^s = 0. \quad s = \pm \quad A_j^s(\mathbf{k}, t) \equiv \epsilon a_j^s(\mathbf{k}, t) e^{-is\omega_k t},$$

$$\frac{\partial a_j^s(\mathbf{k})}{\partial t} = -i\epsilon k_m P_{jn} \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} a_m^{-s}(\mathbf{q}) a_n^s(\mathbf{p}) e^{is(\omega_k - \omega_p + \omega_q)t} \underbrace{\delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q})}_{\text{Triadic interactions}} dpdq$$

where $P_{jn}(k) \equiv \delta_{jn} - k_j k_n / k^2$

Resonance condition: $\omega_k \equiv k_{\parallel} b_0$ Alfvén wave turbulence

$$\begin{cases} \omega_k = \omega_p - \omega_q, \\ \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}, \end{cases} \implies q_{\parallel} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad k_{\parallel} = p_{\parallel}$$

this means **no cascade** along \mathbf{b}_0

[Montgomery & Turner, PoF, 1981; Shebalin+, JPP, 1983]

Gives an explanation to observations of anisotropy (in B-confinement)

[Robinson & Rusbridge, PoF, 1971; Zweben+, PRL, 1979]

Iroshnikov-Kraichnan spectrum revisited

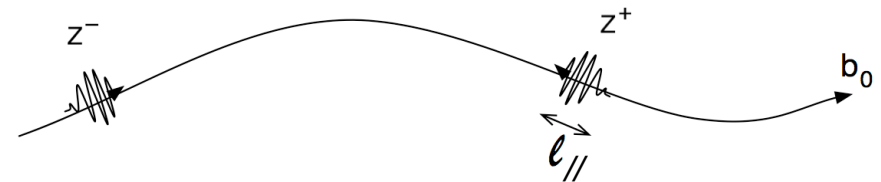
Phenomenology

$$\tau_{NL} \sim \ell_{\perp}/z_{\ell}$$

$$\tau_A \sim \ell_{\parallel}/b_0$$

$z^+ \sim z^- \sim z$, balanced turbulence

$$\tau_{tr} \sim \omega \tau_{NL}^2 \sim \frac{(\ell_{\perp}/z_{\ell})^2}{\ell_{\parallel}/b_0} \sim \frac{k_{\parallel} b_0}{k_{\perp}^2 z_{\ell}^2}.$$



We deduce from this:

$$\varepsilon \sim \frac{z_{\ell}^2}{\tau_{tr}} \sim \frac{k_{\perp}^2 z_{\ell}^4}{k_{\parallel} b_0} \sim \frac{k_{\perp}^2 (E(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel}) k_{\perp} k_{\parallel})^2}{k_{\parallel} b_0} \sim \frac{k_{\perp}^4 k_{\parallel} E^2(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel})}{b_0},$$

hence the two-dimensional **anisotropic** (axisymmetric) spectrum:

[Ng & Bhattacharjee, PoP, 1997]

$$E(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel}) \sim \sqrt{\varepsilon b_0} k_{\perp}^{-2} k_{\parallel}^{-1/2}.$$

Can be treated **analytically** (Alfvén wave turbulence) !

Goldreich-Sridhar spectrum

Phenomenology

Conjecture: scale-by-scale balance between τ_A and τ_{NL}

$$\tau_A \sim \tau_{NL}$$

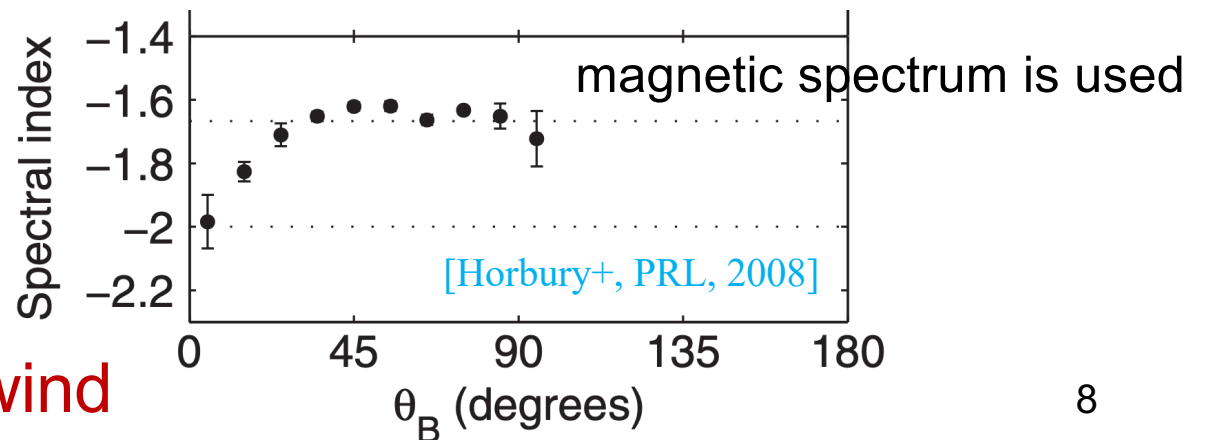
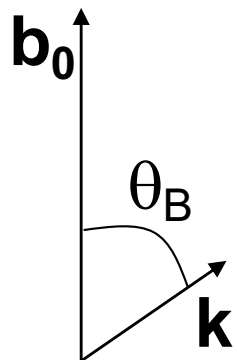
[Higdon, ApJ, 1984; Goldreich & Sridhar, ApJ, 1995]

Anisotropic cascade

$$E(k_{\perp}) \sim k_{\perp}^{-5/3}$$

$$E(k_{\parallel}) \sim k_{\parallel}^{-2}$$

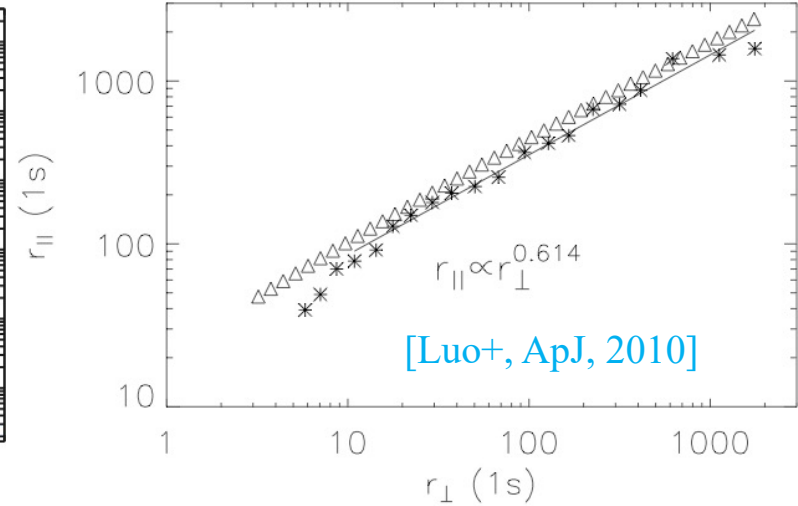
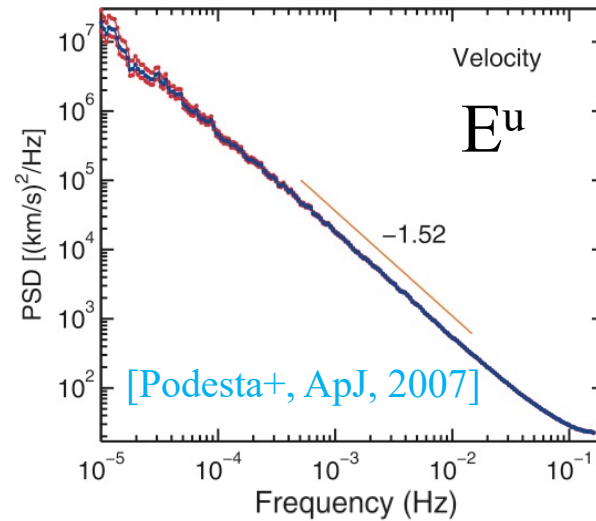
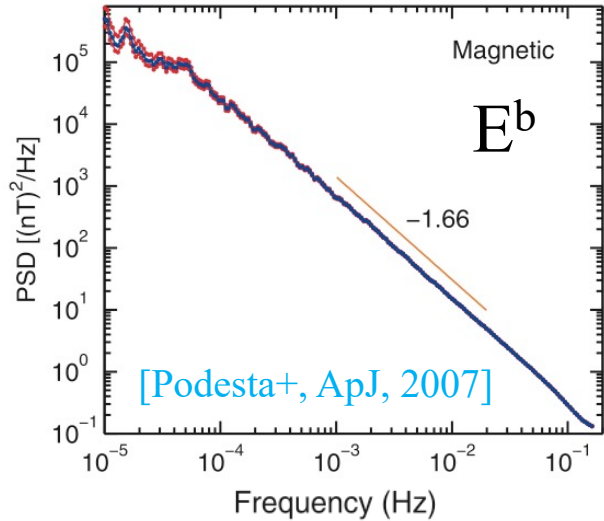
$$k_{\parallel} \sim k_{\perp}^{2/3}$$



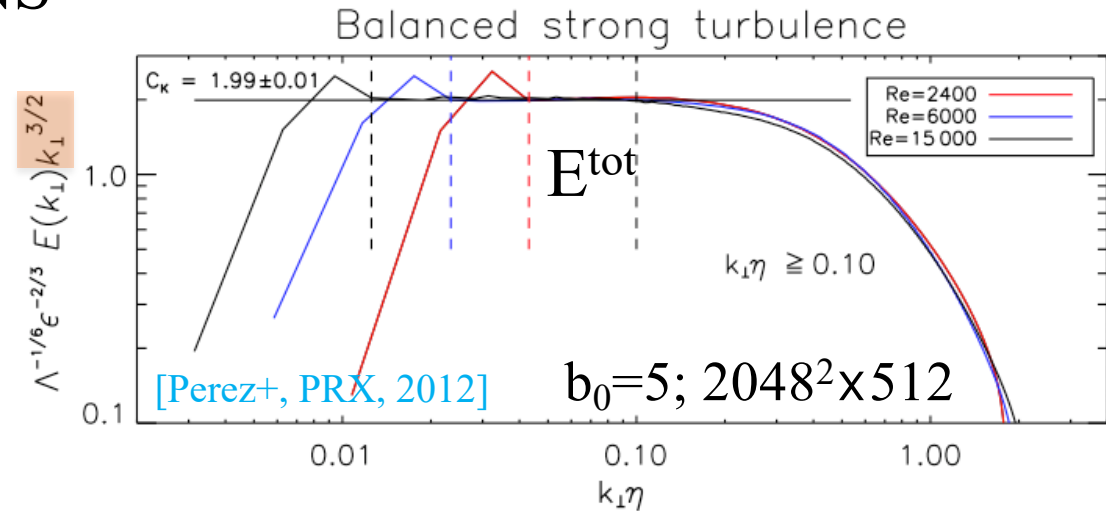
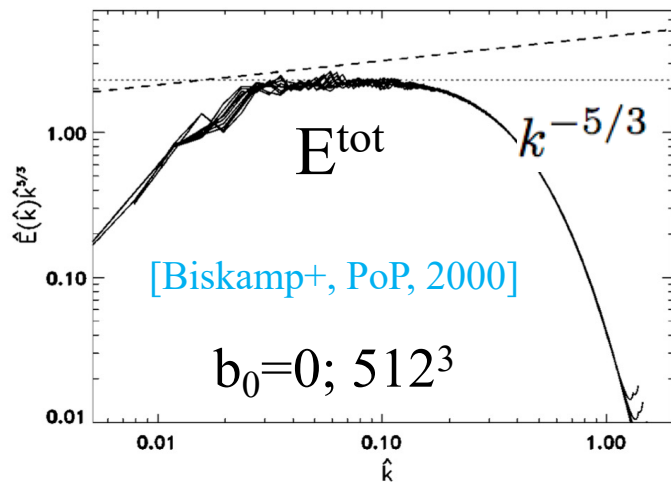
Solar wind

Comparison with data

Solar wind data

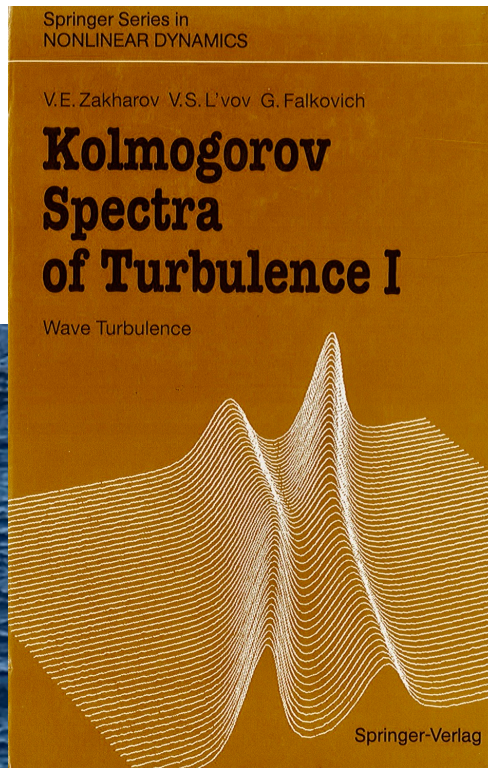


DNS

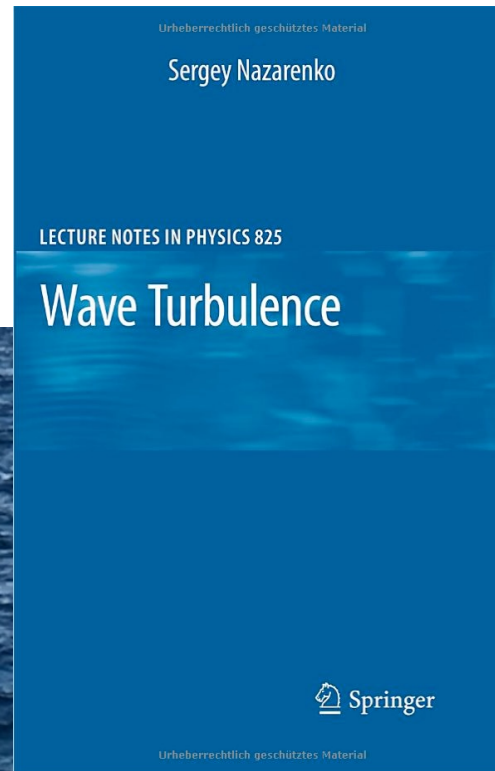


(Alfvén) wave turbulence

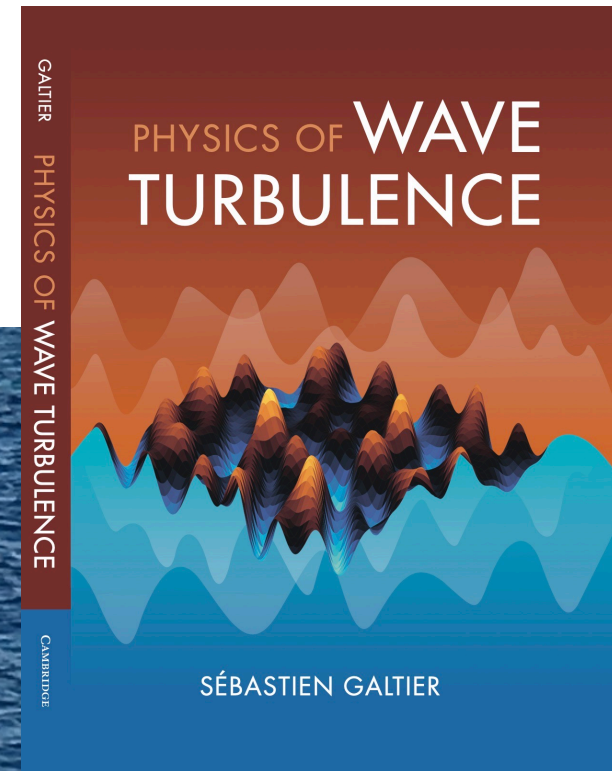
1992



2011



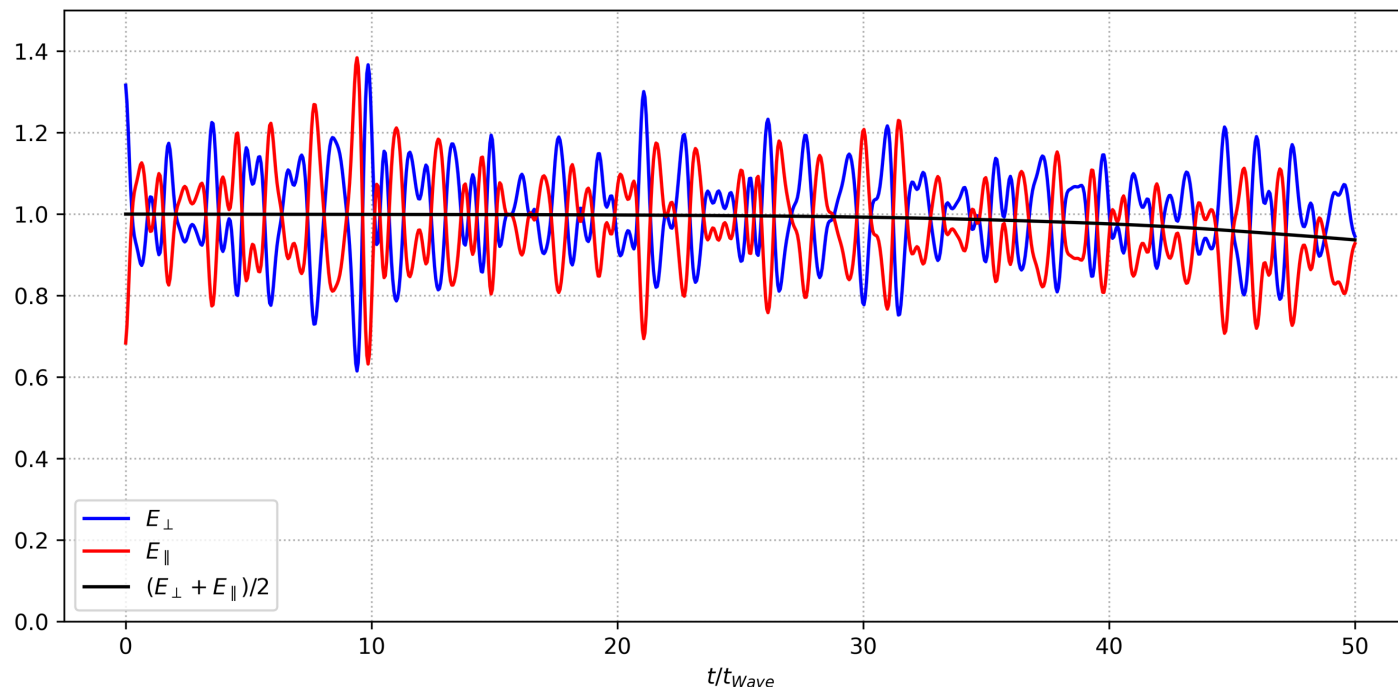
01/2023



What is wave turbulence?

Wave turbulence is the study of the long time statistical behaviour of equations describing a set of weakly nonlinear interacting waves

It is a **multiple time scale** problem



What is wave turbulence?

Usually, the system is non-isolated having both sources and sinks (of energy or other conserved quantities)

We want to understand eg. the transport properties and how energy might propagate through the **k**-space

But in turbulence, we are faced with the **closure problem**

Wave turbulence is a solved problem

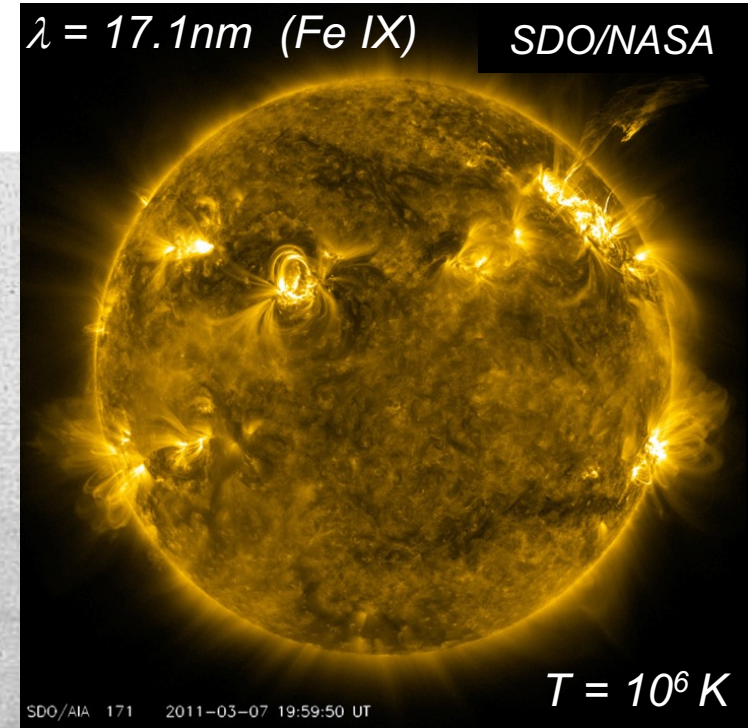
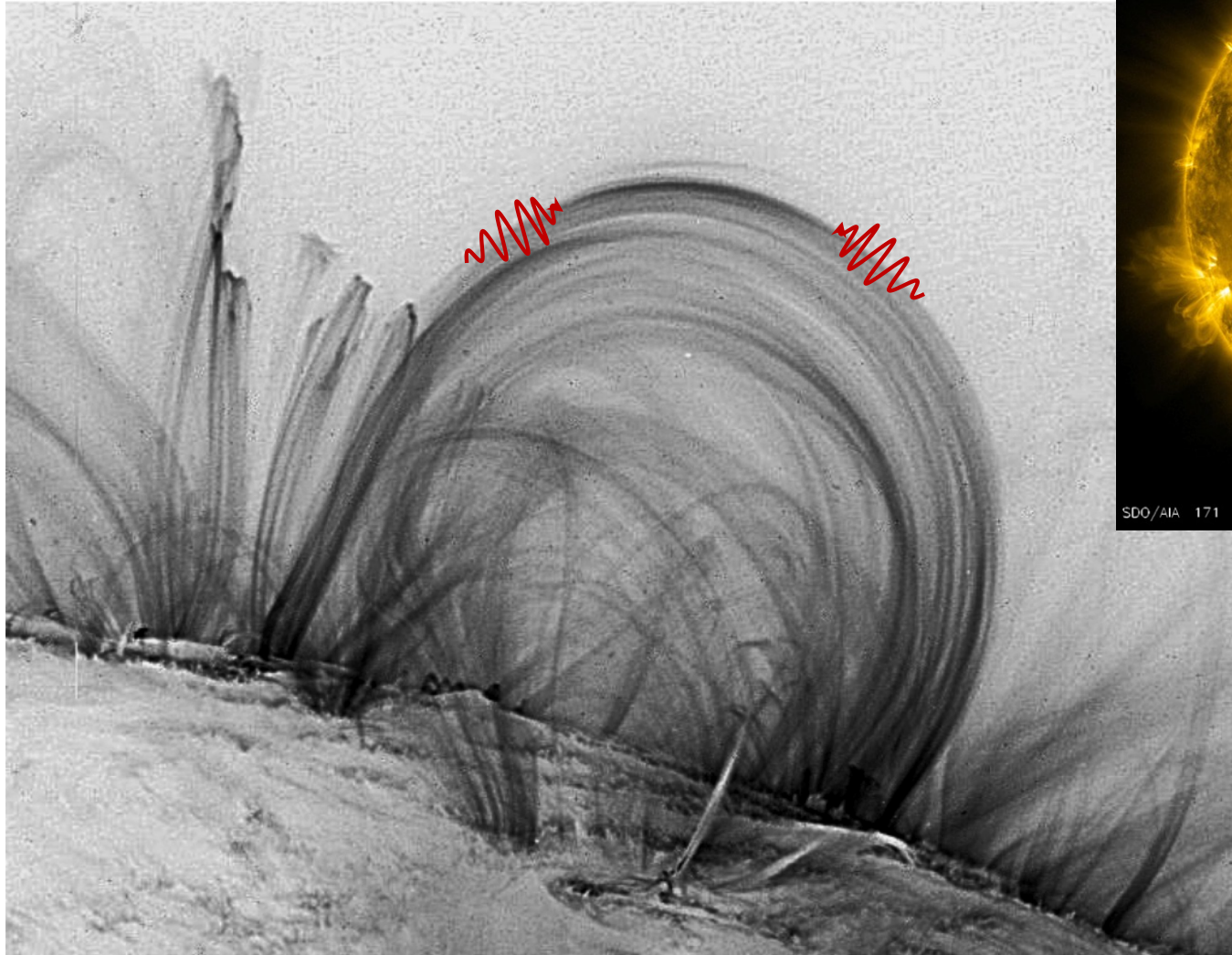
There is a **natural asymptotic closure** [Benney & Saffman, PRSLA, 1966]

A closed 'kinetic equation' can be derived for some second-order (spectral) cumulants (two-point correlation)

The kinetic equation has **exact finite flux** solutions (called Kolmogorov-Zakharov spectra) which capture the flow of conserved quantities (energy) from sources to sinks

Alfvén wave turbulence

[Rappazzo+, ApJL, 2007; Bigot+, A&A, 2008;
Saur+, A&A, 2002]



TRACE/NASA space telescope (17.1nm); June 1999

Alfvén wave turbulence

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^s}{\partial t} - s \mathbf{b}_0 \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}^s = -\mathbf{z}^{-s} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}^s - \nabla P_*, \quad z_j^s(\mathbf{x}, t) \equiv \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} A_j^s(\mathbf{k}, t) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}} d\mathbf{k},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{z}^s = 0. \quad s = \pm \quad A_j^s(\mathbf{k}, t) \equiv \epsilon a_j^s(\mathbf{k}, t) e^{-is\omega_k t},$$

$$\frac{\partial a_j^s(\mathbf{k})}{\partial t} = -i\epsilon k_m P_{jn} \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} a_m^{-s}(\mathbf{q}) a_n^s(\mathbf{p}) e^{is(\omega_k - \omega_p + \omega_q)t} \underbrace{\delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q})}_{\text{Triadic interactions}} dpdq$$

where $P_{jn}(k) \equiv \delta_{jn} - k_j k_n / k^2$

Alfvén wave turbulence

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} \rangle &= q_{kk'}^{ss'}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}'), \\
 \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} a_{k''}^{s''} \rangle &= q_{kk'k''}^{ss's''}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}'') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}' + \mathbf{k}''), \\
 \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} a_{k''}^{s''} a_{k'''}^{s'''} \rangle &= q_{kk'k''k'''}^{ss's''s'''}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}'', \mathbf{k}''') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}' + \mathbf{k}'' + \mathbf{k}''') \\
 &+ q_{kk'}^{ss'}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}') q_{k''k'''}^{s''s'''}(\mathbf{k}'', \mathbf{k}''') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}') \delta(\mathbf{k}'' + \mathbf{k}''') \\
 &+ q_{kk''}^{ss''}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}'') q_{k'k'''}^{s's'''}(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}''') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}'') \delta(\mathbf{k}' + \mathbf{k}''') \\
 &+ q_{kk'''}^{ss'''}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}''') q_{k'k''}^{s's''}(\mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}'') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}''') \delta(\mathbf{k}' + \mathbf{k}'')
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} \rangle}{\partial t} &= \left\langle \frac{\partial a_k^s}{\partial t} a_{k'}^{s'} \right\rangle + \left\langle a_k^s \frac{\partial a_{k'}^{s'}}{\partial t} \right\rangle \\
 &= i\epsilon \int \sum_{sp^sq} L_{-kpq}^{-ssp^sq} \langle a_{k'}^{s'} a_p^{sp} a_q^{sq} \rangle e^{i\Omega_{k,pq}t} \delta_{k,pq} d\mathbf{p}d\mathbf{q} \\
 &+ i\epsilon \int \sum_{sp^sq} L_{-k'pq}^{-s'sp^sq} \langle a_k^s a_p^{sp} a_q^{sq} \rangle e^{i\Omega_{k',pq}t} \delta_{k',pq} d\mathbf{p}d\mathbf{q}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Asymptotic closure:
only resonance terms survive

$$\langle A_k^s A_{k'}^{s'} \rangle = \epsilon^2 \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} \rangle \exp(-i(s\omega_k + s'\omega_{k'})t)$$

$$\Delta(\Omega_{kk'k''}) = \int_0^{t \gg 1/\omega} e^{i\Omega_{kk'k''}t'} dt' = \frac{e^{i\Omega_{kk'k''}t} - 1}{i\Omega_{kk'k''}}$$

$$\Delta(x) \rightarrow \pi\delta(x) + i\mathcal{P}(1/x)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} a_{k''}^{s''} \rangle}{\partial t} &= \left\langle \frac{\partial a_k^s}{\partial t} a_{k'}^{s'} a_{k''}^{s''} \right\rangle + \left\langle a_k^s \frac{\partial a_{k'}^{s'}}{\partial t} a_{k''}^{s''} \right\rangle + \left\langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} \frac{\partial a_{k''}^{s''}}{\partial t} \right\rangle \\
 &= i\epsilon \int \sum_{sp^sq} L_{-kpq}^{-ssp^sq} \langle a_{k'}^{s'} a_{k''}^{s''} a_p^{sp} a_q^{sq} \rangle e^{i\Omega_{k,pq}t} \delta_{k,pq} d\mathbf{p}d\mathbf{q} \\
 &+ i\epsilon \int \sum_{sp^sq} L_{-k'pq}^{-s'sp^sq} \langle a_k^s a_{k''}^{s''} a_p^{sp} a_q^{sq} \rangle e^{i\Omega_{k',pq}t} \delta_{k',pq} d\mathbf{p}d\mathbf{q} \\
 &+ i\epsilon \int \sum_{sp^sq} L_{-k''pq}^{-s''sp^sq} \langle a_k^s a_{k'}^{s'} a_p^{sp} a_q^{sq} \rangle e^{i\Omega_{k'',pq}t} \delta_{k'',pq} d\mathbf{p}d\mathbf{q}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$q_{kk'k''}^{ss's''}(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{k}', \mathbf{k}'') \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}' + \mathbf{k}'') = i\epsilon \Delta(\Omega_{kk'k''}) \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}' + \mathbf{k}'')$$

$$\left\{ \left[L_{-k-k'-k''}^{-s-s'-s''} + L_{-k-k''-k'}^{-s-s''-s'} \right] q_{k''-k''}^{s''-s''}(\mathbf{k}'', -\mathbf{k}'') q_{k'-k'}^{s'-s'}(\mathbf{k}', -\mathbf{k}') \right.$$

$$+ \left[L_{-k'-k-k''}^{-s'-s-s''} + L_{-k'-k''-k}^{-s'-s''-s} \right] q_{k''-k''}^{s''-s''}(\mathbf{k}'', -\mathbf{k}'') q_{k-k}^{s-s}(\mathbf{k}, -\mathbf{k})$$

$$+ \left. \left[L_{-k''-k'-k}^{-s''-s'-s} + L_{-k''-k-k'}^{-s''-s-s'} \right] q_{k-k}^{s-s}(\mathbf{k}, -\mathbf{k}) q_{k'-k'}^{s'-s'}(\mathbf{k}', -\mathbf{k}') \right\}$$

Multiple time scale problem

[SG, CUP, 2023]

Alfvén wave turbulence

3-wave interactions

$$\frac{\partial e^s(\mathbf{k})}{\partial t} = \frac{\pi\epsilon^2}{b_0} \int_{\mathbb{R}^6} \frac{(\mathbf{k}_\perp \cdot \mathbf{p}_\perp)^2 (\mathbf{k} \times \mathbf{q})_\parallel^2}{k_\perp^2 p_\perp^2 q_\perp^2} e^{-s}(\mathbf{q}) [e^s(\mathbf{p}) - e^s(\mathbf{k})] \delta(q_\parallel) \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{q}) d\mathbf{p}d\mathbf{q}$$

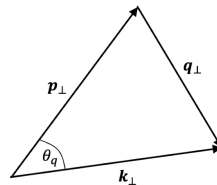
where $e^s(\mathbf{k})$ is the energy spectrum associated with shear-Alfvén waves.

$$s = \pm \quad \mathbf{A}^s(\mathbf{k}) = i\mathbf{k} \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}_\parallel \hat{\psi}^s(\mathbf{k}) - \mathbf{k}_\perp k_\parallel \hat{\phi}^s(\mathbf{k}) + \hat{\mathbf{e}}_\parallel k_\perp^2 \hat{\phi}^s(\mathbf{k}).$$

Axisymmetric + perpendicular cascade: $2\pi k_\perp e^s(\mathbf{k}) \equiv E^s(k_\perp) f(k_\parallel)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial E^s(k_\perp)}{\partial t} = \frac{\epsilon^2 f(0)}{2b_0} \int_{\Delta_\perp} \frac{k_\perp}{q_\perp} (\cos \theta_q)^2 \sin \theta_p E^{-s}(q_\perp) [k_\perp E^s(p_\perp) - p_\perp E^s(k_\perp)] dp_\perp dq_\perp$$

kinetic equation



Alfvén wave turbulence depends on the slow mode ($k_\parallel = 0$)

Kinetic equation: exact solutions

$$E^\pm(k_\perp) \sim k_\perp^{n_\pm} \implies \boxed{n_+ + n_- = -4} \quad \text{locality condition } -3 < n_\pm < -1$$

For **balanced** turbulence:

$$n_+ = n_-$$

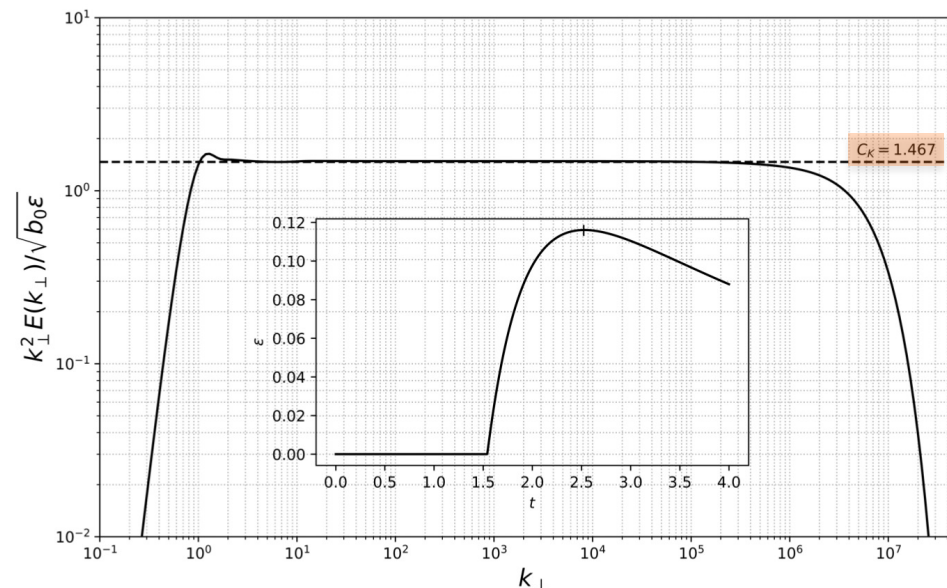
$$\boxed{E(k_\perp) = C_K \sqrt{b_0 \varepsilon} k_\perp^{-2}}$$

Kolmogorov-Zakharov spectrum

$$C_K \simeq 1.467$$

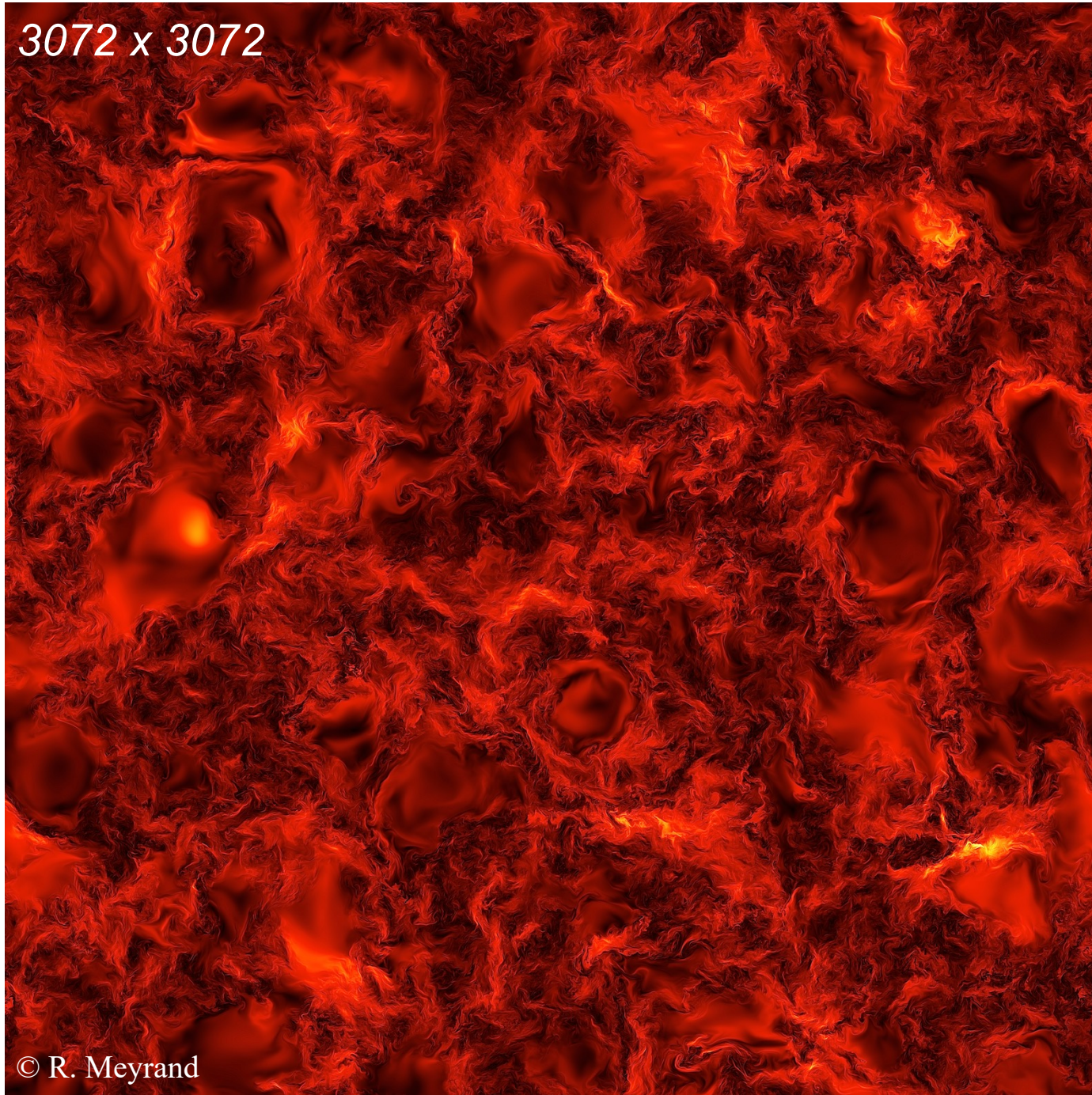
[SG+, JPP, 2000]

Direct cascade can be proved (positive energy flux ε)



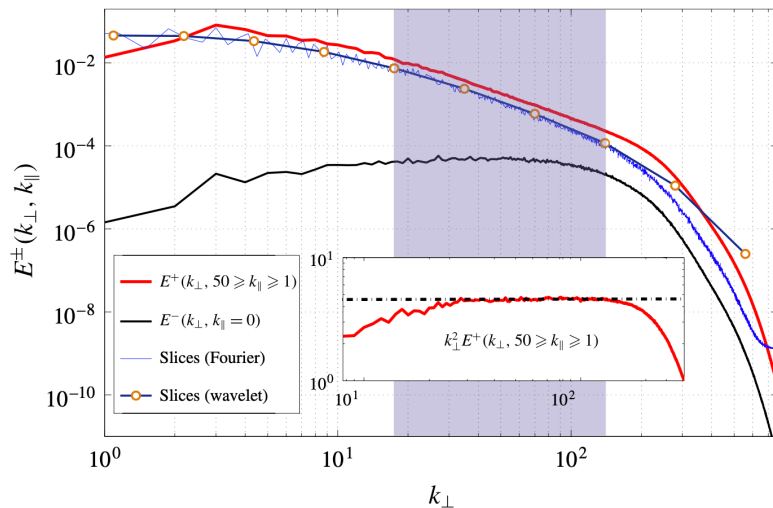
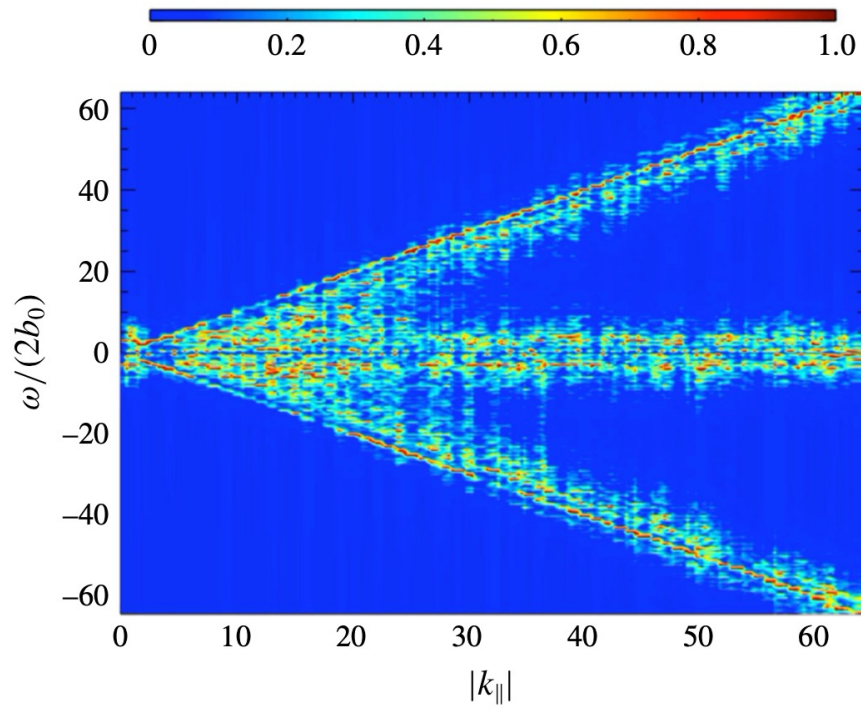
Simulation of the kinetic equation

DNS of Alfvén wave turbulence



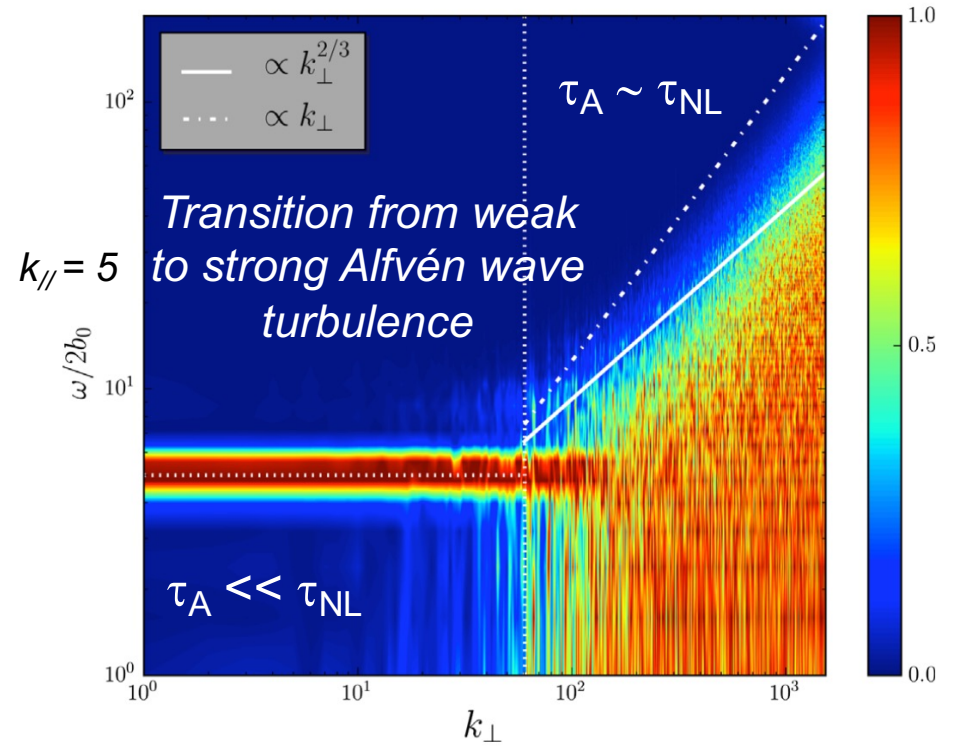
DNS of Alfvén wave turbulence

[Meyrand+, JFMR, 2015]



$\omega - k$ energy spectra

[Meyrand+, PRL, 2016]



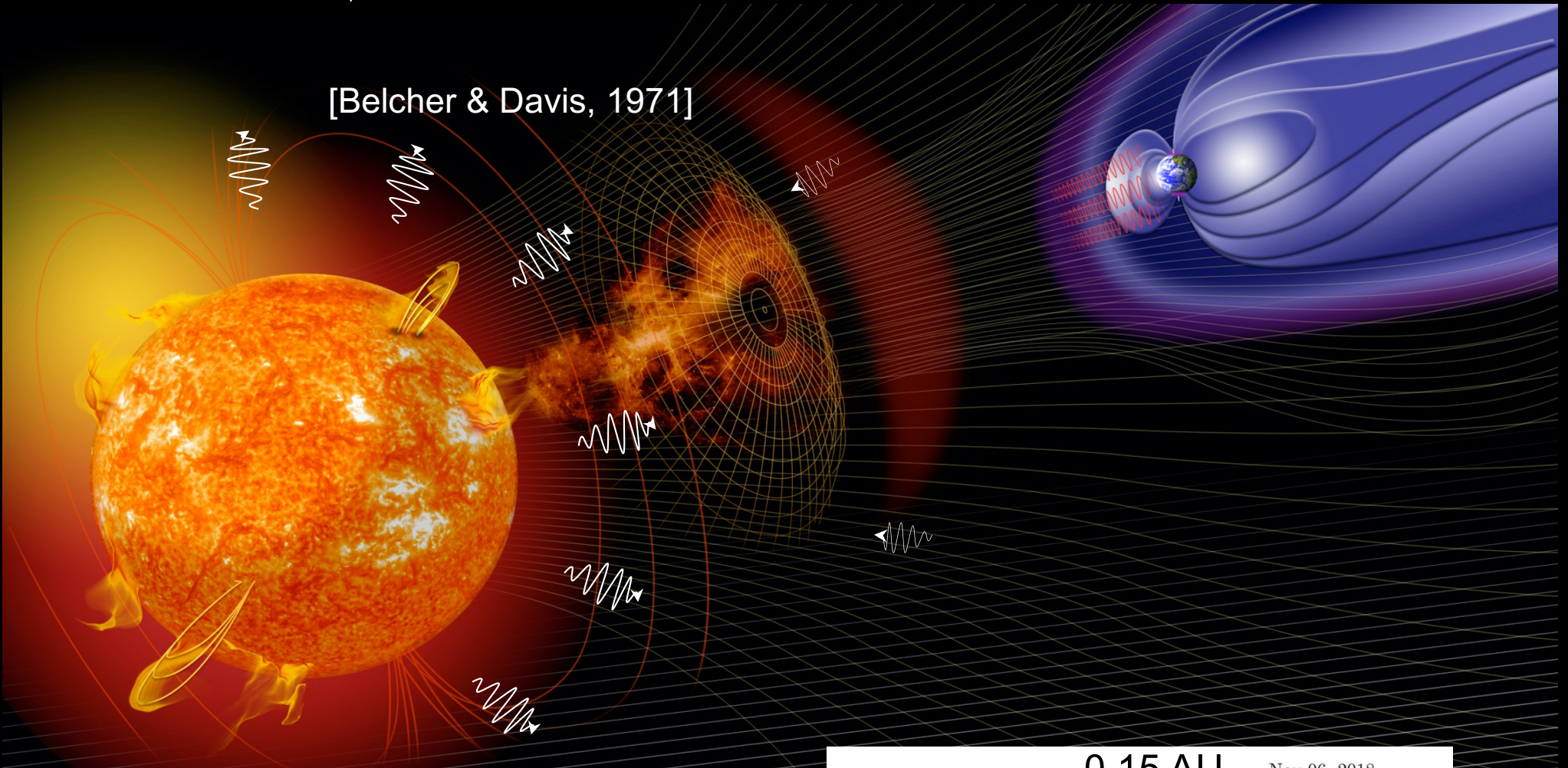
Direct evidence of Alfvén wave turbulence

Below MHD scales

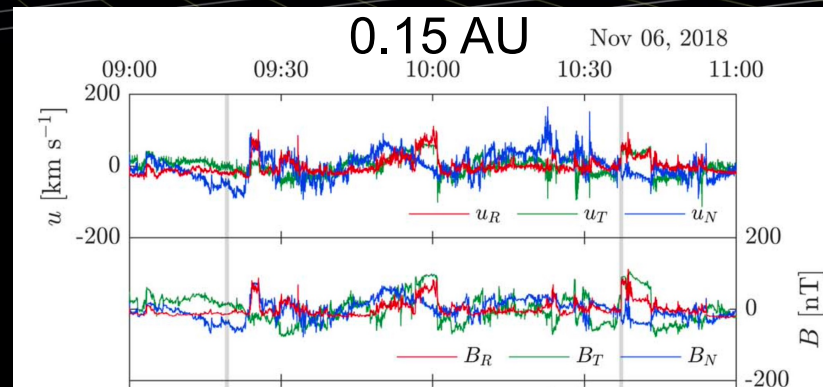
[Parker, 1958]

Solar wind, turbulence and waves

[Belcher & Davis, 1971]

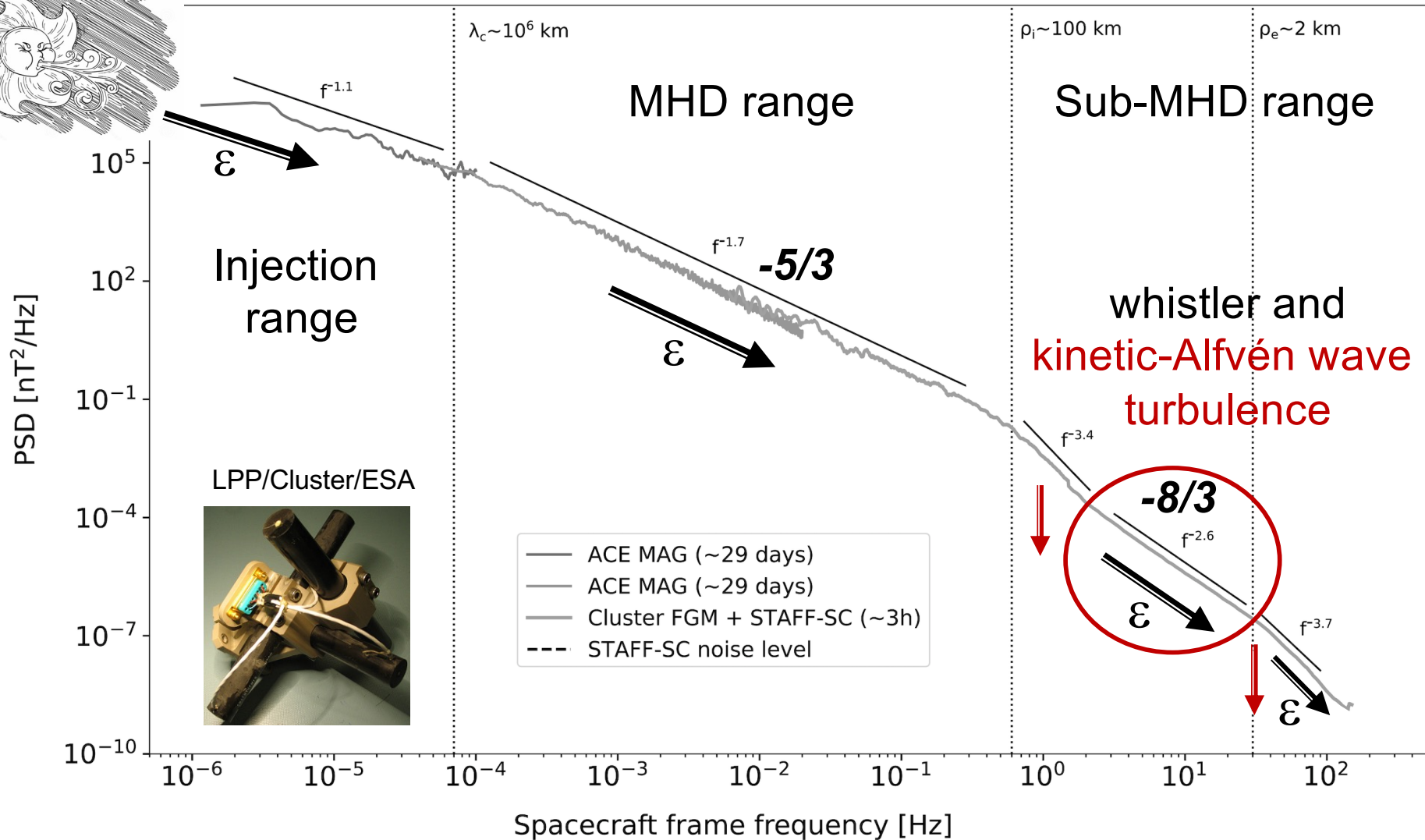
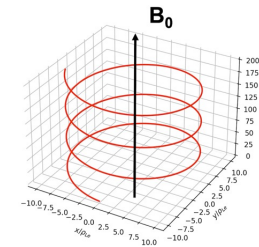


PSP/NASA



Solar wind turbulence

At 1 AU



In Lecture 1

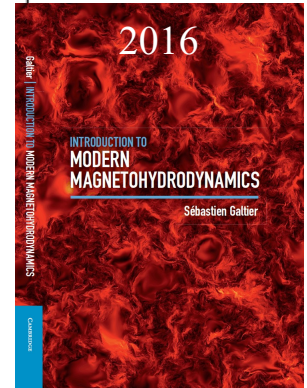
- **Hall** MHD equations:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0, \quad P = \text{Kn}^\gamma$$

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right) = -\nabla P + \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} + \tilde{\nu} \Delta \mathbf{u} + \frac{\tilde{\nu}}{3} \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}),$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B})}_{\text{ideal standard MHD}} - \underbrace{\nabla \times \left(\frac{(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B}}{\mu_0 n e} \right)}_{\text{Hall effect}} + \underbrace{\eta \Delta \mathbf{B}}_{\text{collisions}},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0.$$



$\tilde{\nu}$ is the dynamic viscosity

η is the **magnetic diffusivity**

$$P_* \equiv P/\rho_0 + b^2/2$$

Incompressible case

$$\omega_{pi} = \sqrt{\frac{n_i e^2}{m_i \epsilon_0}}$$

$$d_i = c/\omega_{pi}$$



$$\mathbf{b} \equiv \mathbf{B}/\sqrt{\mu_0 \rho_0} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P_* + \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u},$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - d_i \nabla \times ((\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{b}) + \eta \Delta \mathbf{b},$$

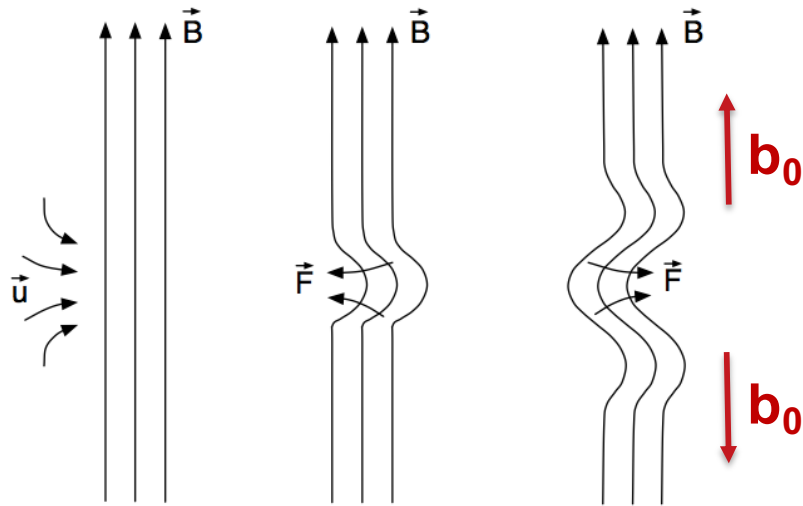
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0,$$

Hall effect

ion inertial length

$d_i \approx 100 \text{ km}$ in the solar wind ($f > 1 \text{ Hz}$) at 1 AU

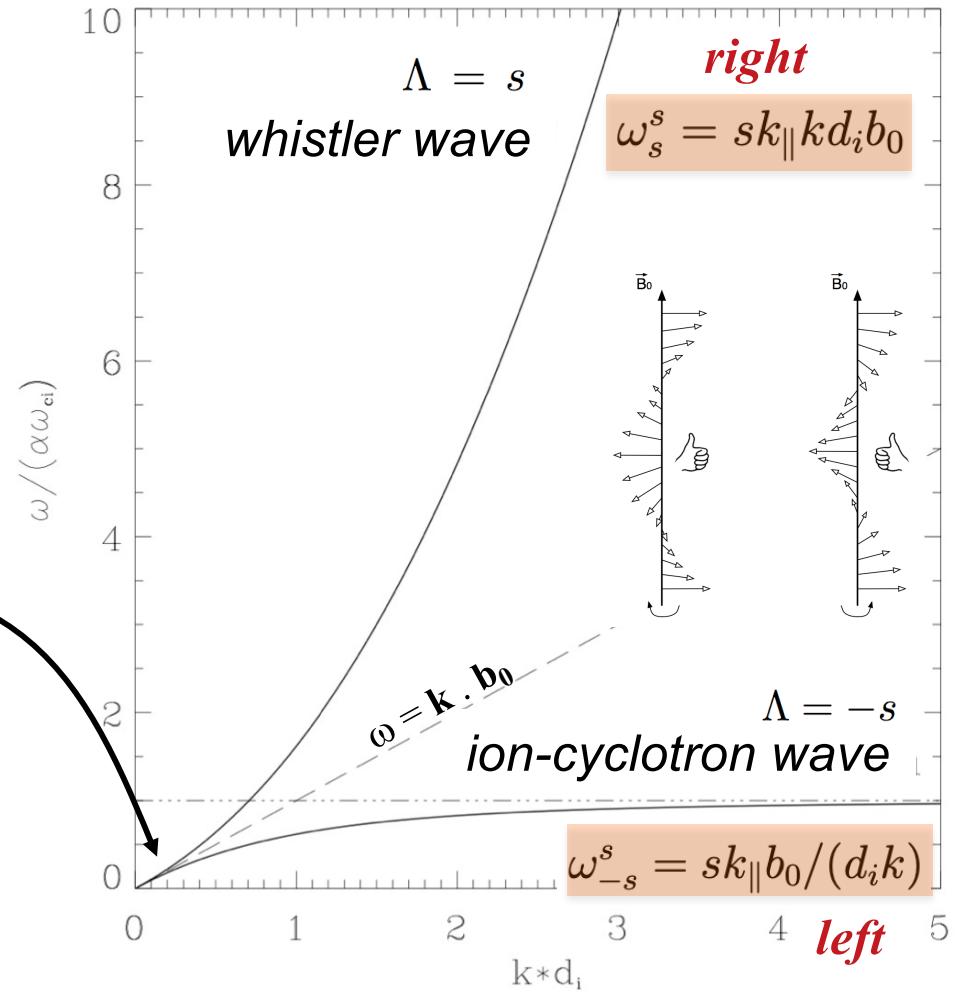
Incompressible Hall MHD waves



Alfvén wave

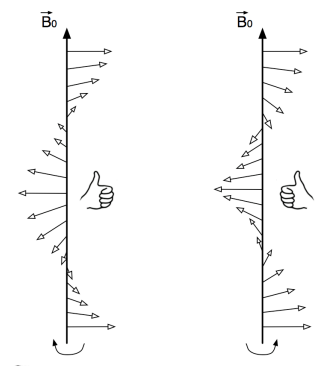
$$\omega^2 = (b_0 k_{\parallel})^2 = (\mathbf{b}_0 \cdot \mathbf{k})^2.$$

$$\omega_{ci} \equiv b_0/d_i \quad \alpha \equiv k_{\parallel}/k$$



$\Lambda = s$
whistler wave

right
 $\omega_s^s = s k_{\parallel} k d_i b_0$

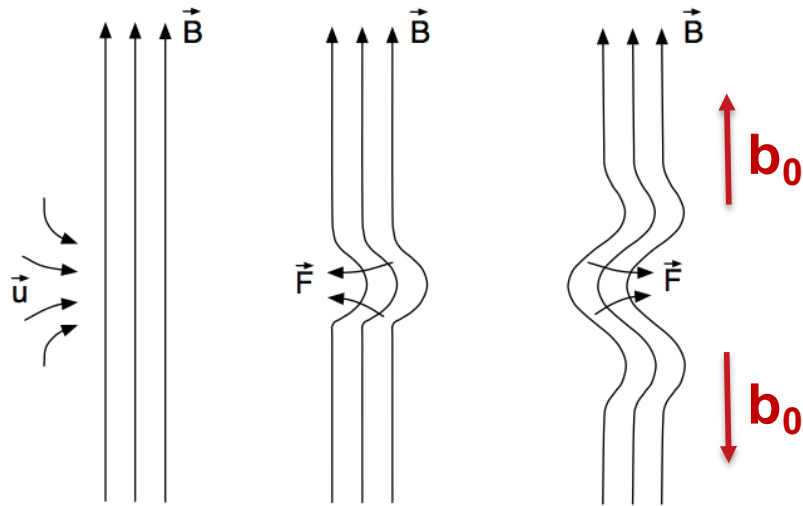


$\Lambda = -s$
ion-cyclotron wave

$\omega_{-s}^s = s k_{\parallel} b_0 / (d_i k)$
left

$$\omega_{\Lambda}^s = \frac{s k_{\parallel} k d_i b_0}{2} \left(s \Lambda + \sqrt{1 + \frac{4}{d_i^2 k^2}} \right), \quad s = \pm 1 \text{ and } \Lambda = \pm 1$$

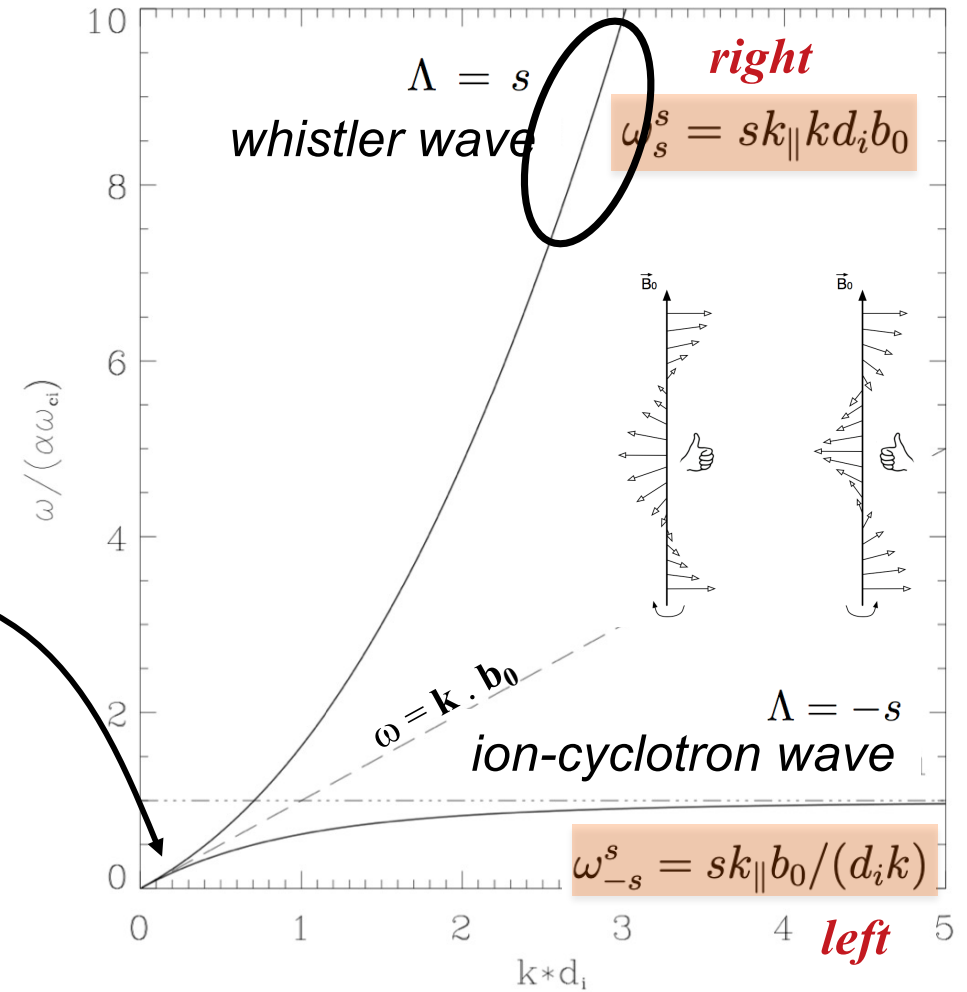
Incompressible Hall MHD waves



Alfvén wave

$$\omega^2 = (b_0 k_{\parallel})^2 = (\mathbf{b}_0 \cdot \mathbf{k})^2.$$

$$\omega_{ci} \equiv b_0/d_i \quad \alpha \equiv k_{\parallel}/k$$



$$\omega_{\Lambda}^s = \frac{s k_{\parallel} k d_i b_0}{2} \left(s \Lambda + \sqrt{1 + \frac{4}{d_i^2 k^2}} \right), \quad s = \pm 1 \text{ and } \Lambda = \pm 1$$

Electron MHD (EMHD)

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} &= -\nabla P_* + \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}, \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - d_i \nabla \times ((\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{b}) + \eta \Delta \mathbf{b}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} &= 0,\end{aligned}$$



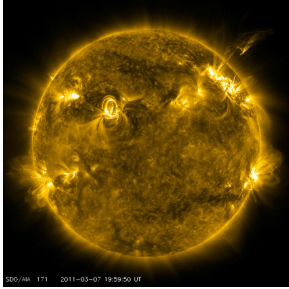
Small-scale limit $\ell \ll d_i$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial t} = -d_i \nabla \times ((\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{b}) + \eta \Delta \mathbf{b}$$

- Ions are too heavy to follow electrons ($\mathbf{u} \approx \mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{0}$)
- Two ideal invariants: E^b **direct** cascade of energy
 H^b **inverse** cascade of helicity

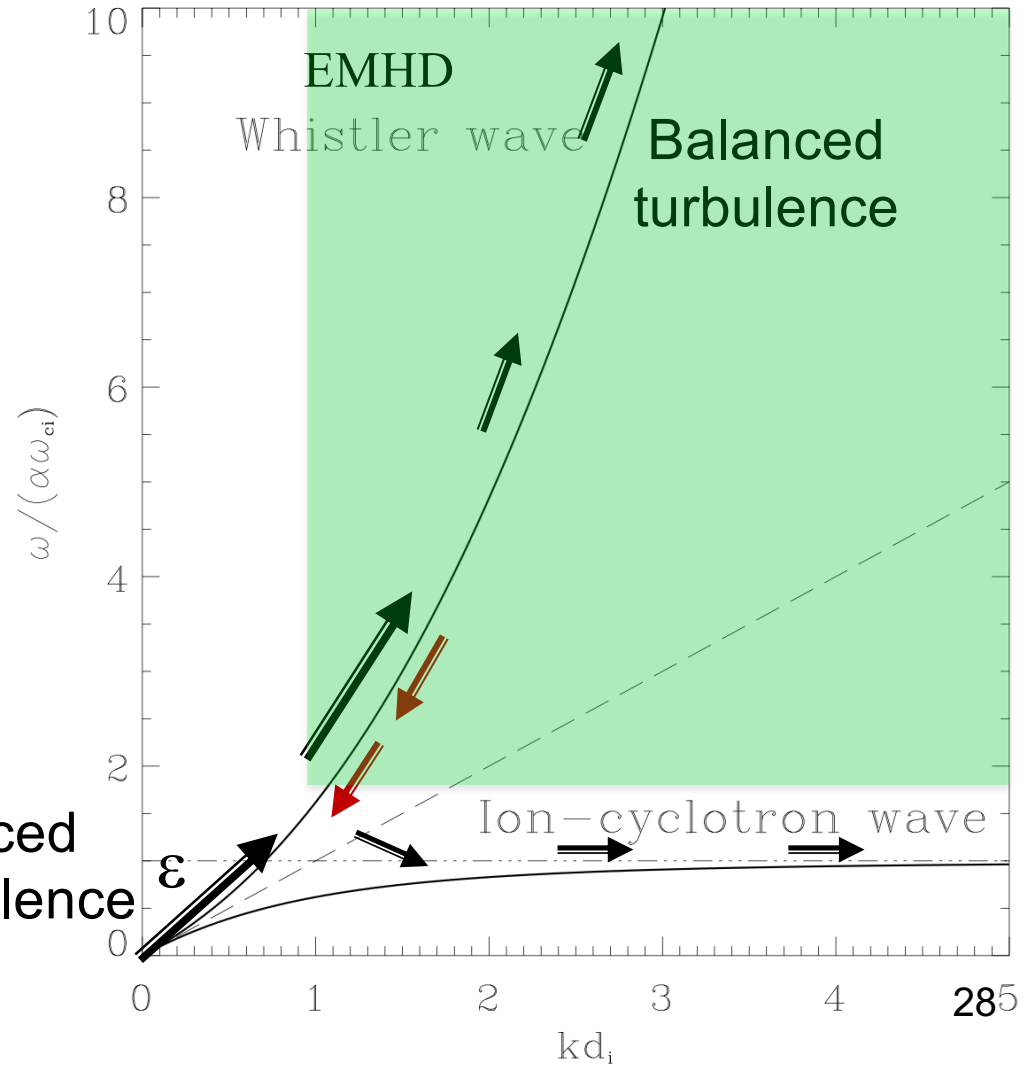
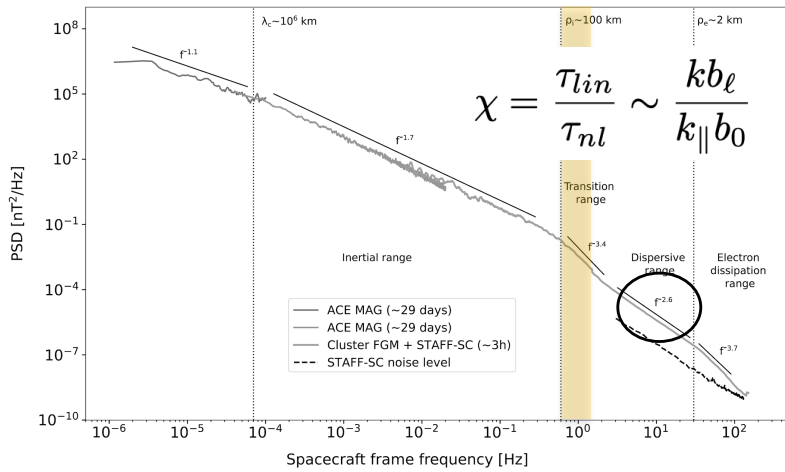
Helicity barrier

[Meyrand+, JPP, 2021; Squire+, Nat. Astron., 2022]



Imbalanced turbulence $\Rightarrow H^b \neq 0$

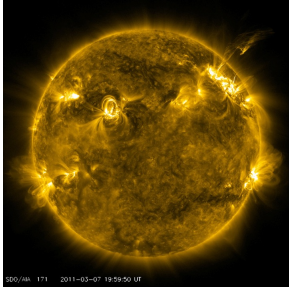
(for balanced turbulence, $H^b = 0$)



Imbalanced
MHD turbulence

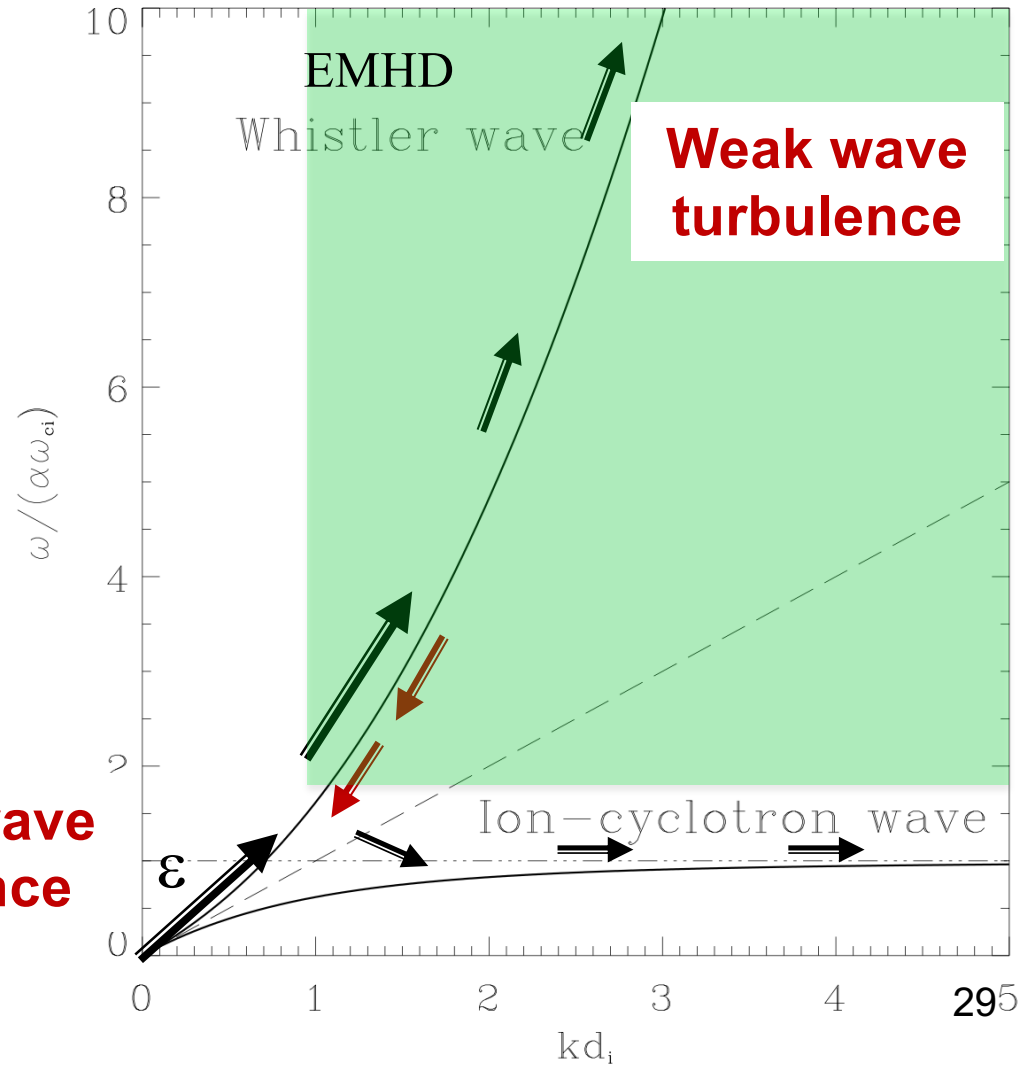
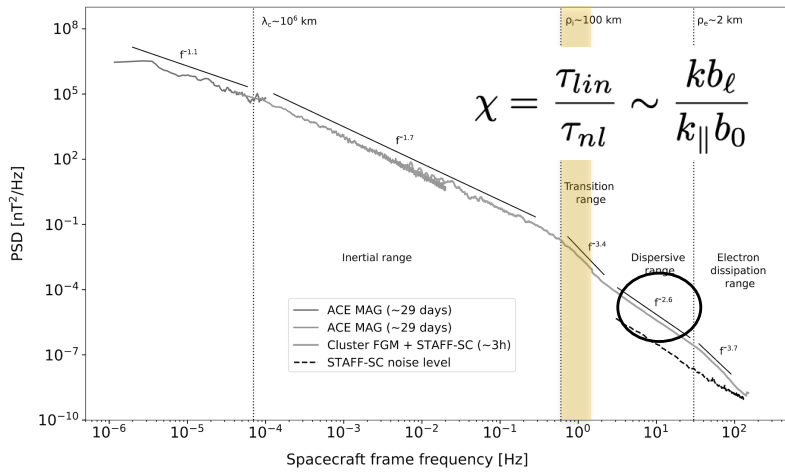
Helicity barrier

[Meyrand+, JPP, 2021; Squire+, Nat. Astron., 2022]



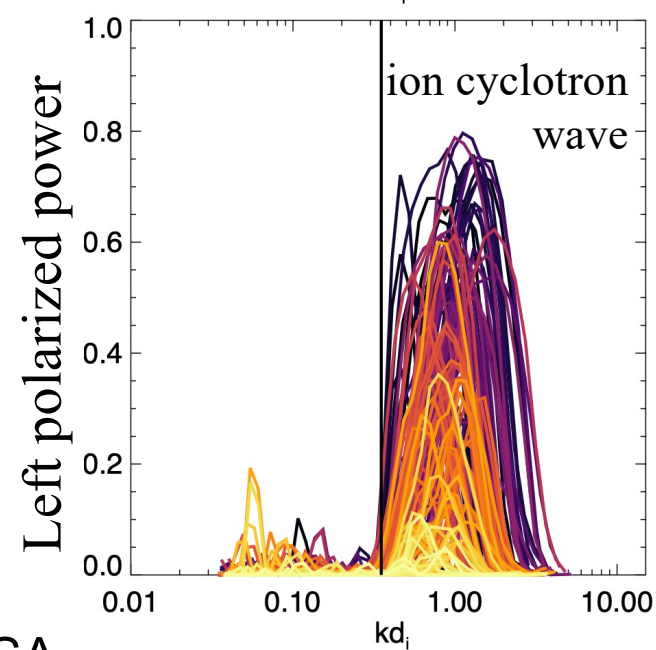
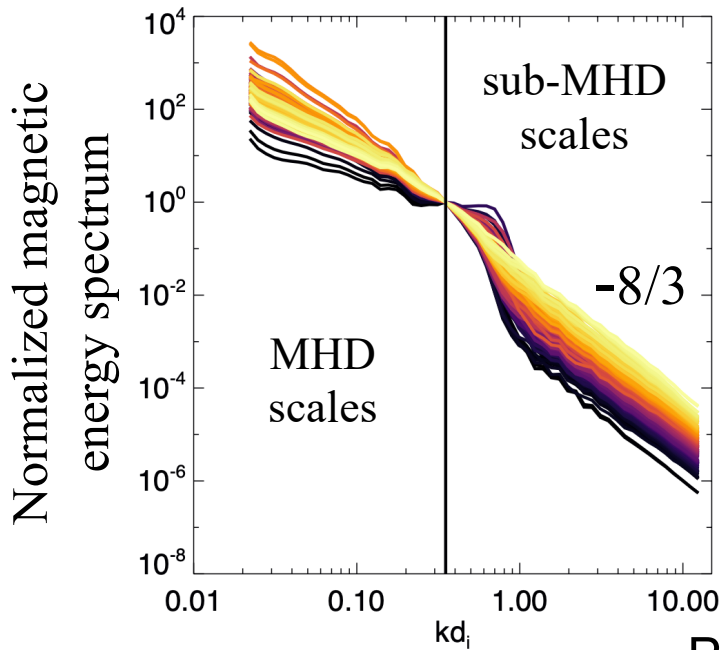
Imbalanced turbulence $\Rightarrow H^b \neq 0$

(for balanced turbulence, $H^b = 0$)



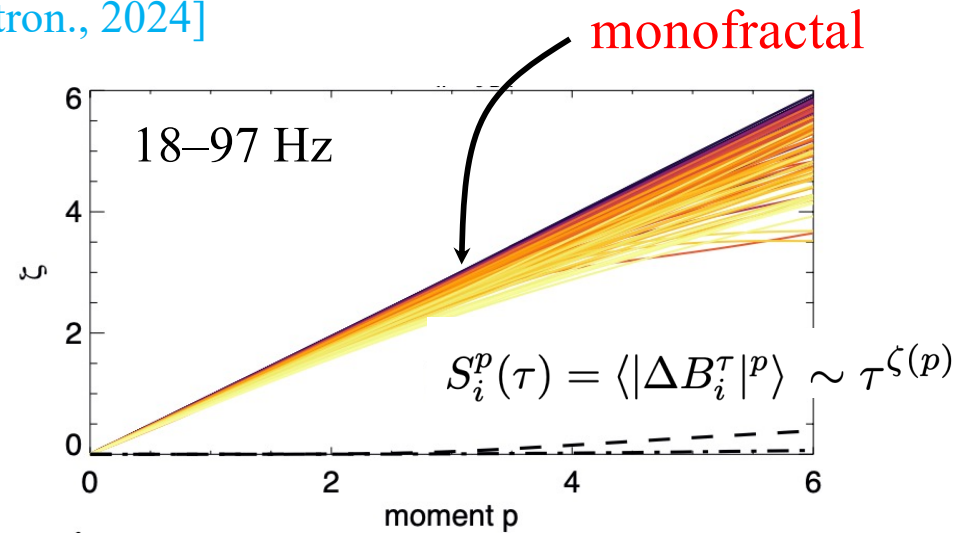
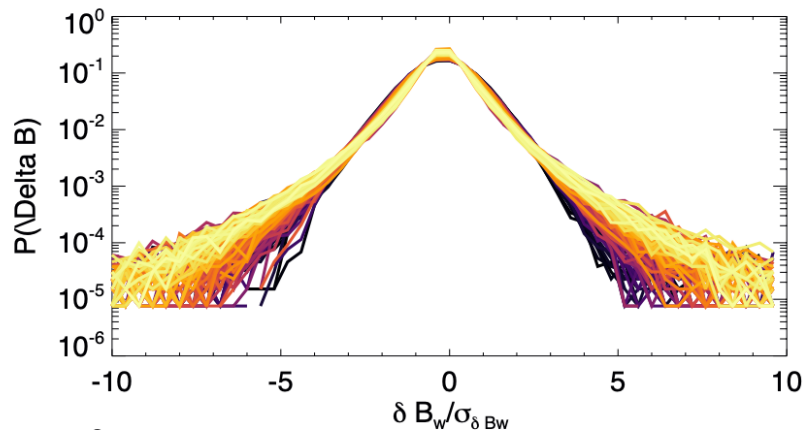
Strong wave turbulence

Wave turbulence in the solar wind



PSP/NASA

[Bowen+, Nat. Astron., 2024]



$$\Delta B_i^\tau = B_i(t) - B_i(t + \tau) \quad 30$$

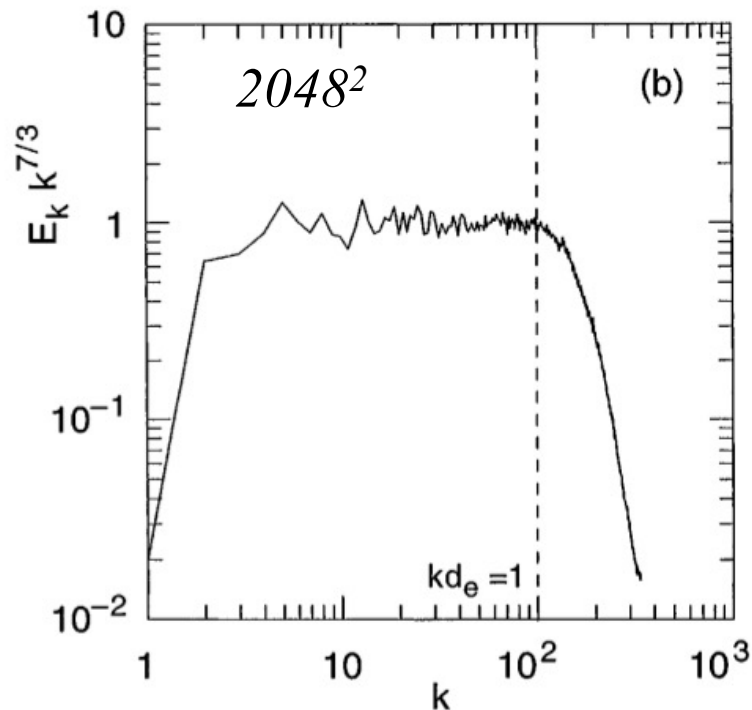
Strong EMHD turbulence

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial t} = -d_i \nabla \times ((\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{b}) + \eta \Delta \mathbf{b} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0,$$

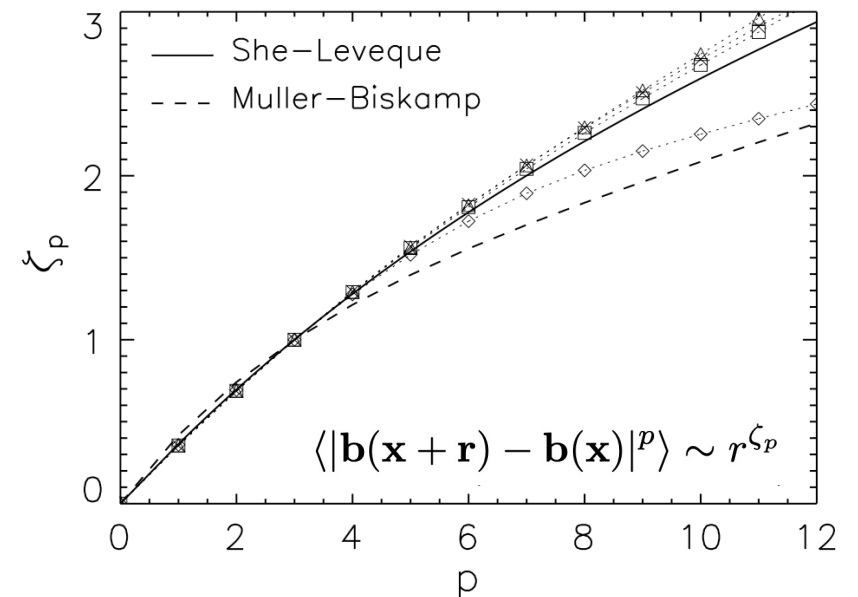
Phenomenology: $\tau_{nl} \sim \ell^2 / (d_i b_\ell)$ $\varepsilon \sim \frac{E(k)k}{\tau_{tr}} \sim d_i k^{7/2} E^{3/2}(k)$

⇒ $E^b(k) \sim (\varepsilon/d_i)^{2/3} k^{-7/3}$ 1D isotropic spectrum

[Biskamp+, PRL, 1996]



[Cho & Lazarian, ApJ, 2009; SG, PRE, 2008]



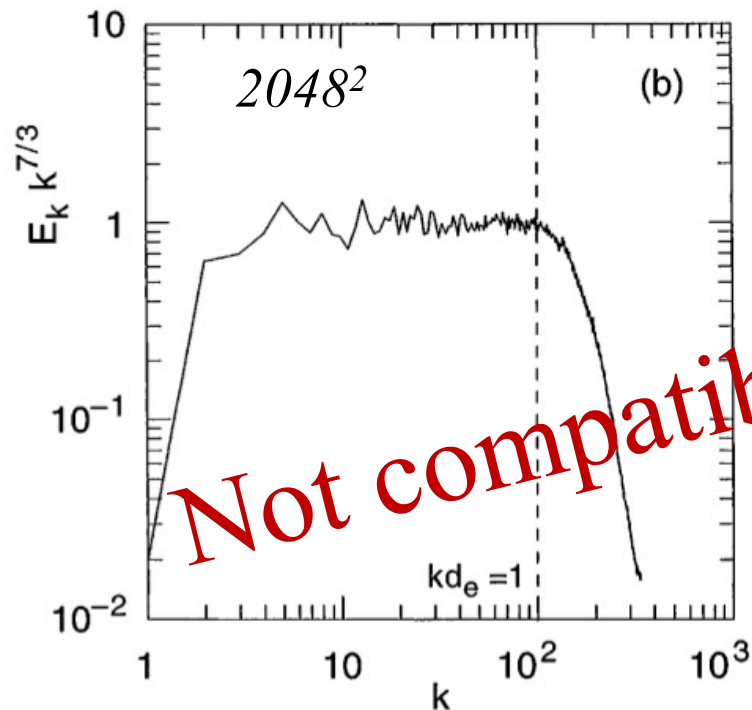
Strong EMHD turbulence

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial t} = -d_i \nabla \times ((\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{b}) + \eta \Delta \mathbf{b} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0,$$

Phenomenology: $\tau_{nl} \sim \ell^2 / (d_i b_\ell)$ $\varepsilon \sim \frac{E(k)k}{\tau_{tr}} \sim d_i k^{7/2} E^{3/2}(k)$

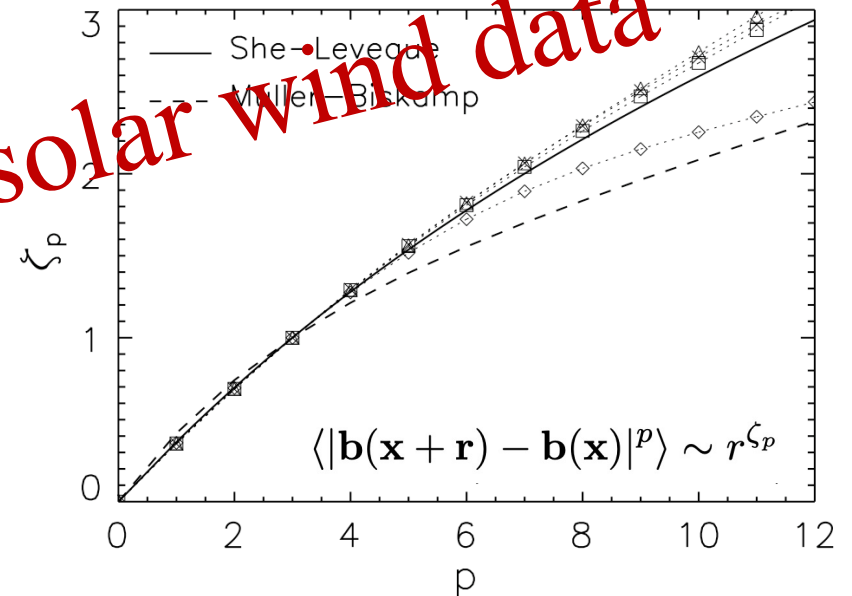
⇒ $E^b(k) \sim (\varepsilon/d_i)^{2/3} k^{-7/3}$ 1D isotropic spectrum

[Biskamp+, PRL, 1996]



Not compatible with solar wind data

[Cho & Lazarian, ApJ, 2009; SG, PRE, 2008]



Weak EMHD turbulence

$$\partial_t \mathbf{b} + d_i b_0 \partial_{\parallel} (\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) = -d_i \nabla \times [(\nabla \times \mathbf{b}) \times \mathbf{b}], \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0,$$

$$|\mathbf{b}| \ll |b_0|$$

- Fourier transform

- Use a complex **helicity** basis: $\mathbf{h}^s(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s = (\hat{\mathbf{e}}_k \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\parallel}) \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}_k + is(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_k \times \hat{\mathbf{e}}_{\parallel}),$

$$is(\hat{\mathbf{e}}_k \times \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s) = \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s, \quad \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s = 0, \quad \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s \cdot \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s = 0$$

$$\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{k}} = \sum_s a^s(\mathbf{k}) e^{-is\omega_k t} \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s \equiv \sum_s a_{\mathbf{k}}^s e^{-is\omega_k t} \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s,$$

Linear solution: $\omega = d_i b_0 k_{\parallel} k$ (helical wave)

$$\Rightarrow \partial_t a_{\mathbf{k}}^s = \sum_{s_p s_q} \int L_{-\mathbf{k}p\mathbf{q}}^{ss_p s_q} a_{\mathbf{p}}^{s_p} a_{\mathbf{q}}^{s_q} e^{ig_{k,pq} t} \delta_{\mathbf{k},p\mathbf{q}} d_{pq},$$

three-wave interactions

$$L_{\mathbf{k}p\mathbf{q}}^{ss_p s_q} = \left(\frac{isk^3}{2k_{\perp}^2} \right) [(\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s)(\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{p}}^{s_p} \cdot \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{q}}^{s_q}) - (\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{p}}^{s_p})(\mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{k}}^s \cdot \mathbf{h}_{\mathbf{q}}^{s_q})].$$

$$g_{k,pq} = s\omega_k - s_p\omega_p - s_q\omega_q$$

Wave turbulence in EMHD

$$k_{\perp} \gg |k_{\parallel}| > 0$$

E_k, H_k : axisymmetric spectra

$$\partial_t \begin{Bmatrix} E_k \\ H_k \end{Bmatrix} = \frac{\epsilon^2}{16} \sum_{s_p s_q} \int \frac{s_p p_{\perp} k_{\parallel} p_{\parallel}}{q_{\perp}} \left(\frac{s_q q_{\perp} - s_p p_{\perp}}{k_{\parallel}} \right)^2 (s k_{\perp} + s_p p_{\perp} + s_q q_{\perp})^2 \sin \theta_q$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} s k_{\perp} [E_q(p_{\perp} E_k - k_{\perp} E_p)/(k_{\perp} p_{\perp} q_{\perp}) + s_q H_q (s H_k - s_p H_p)] \\ E_q (s H_k - s_p H_p)/q_{\perp} + s_q H_q (p_{\perp} E_k - k_{\perp} E_p)/(k_{\perp} p_{\perp}) \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\delta(k_{\parallel} + p_{\parallel} + q_{\parallel}) \delta(s k_{\perp} k_{\parallel} + s_p p_{\perp} p_{\parallel} + s_q q_{\perp} q_{\parallel}) dp_{\perp} dq_{\perp} dp_{\parallel} dq_{\parallel}.$$

[SG & Batthacharjee, PoP, 2003]

$$H_k = 0$$

$$E_k \sim k_{\perp}^n |k_{\parallel}|^m$$

Zakharov-Kuznetsov
transformation

Kolmogorov-Zakharov spectrum

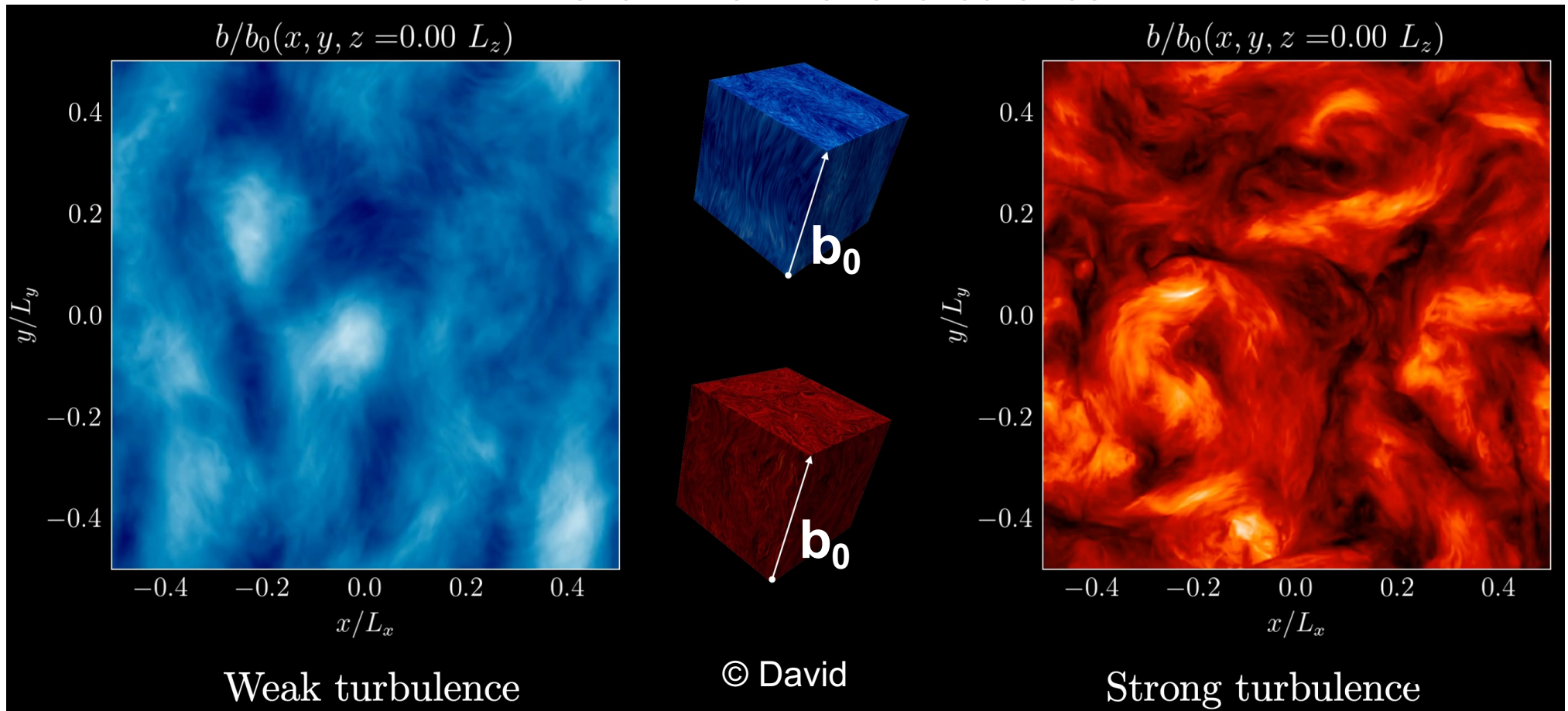
$$n = -5/2, m = -1/2$$

Direct cascade of energy

Direct numerical simulation

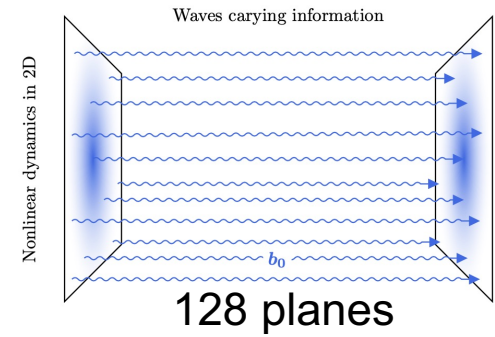
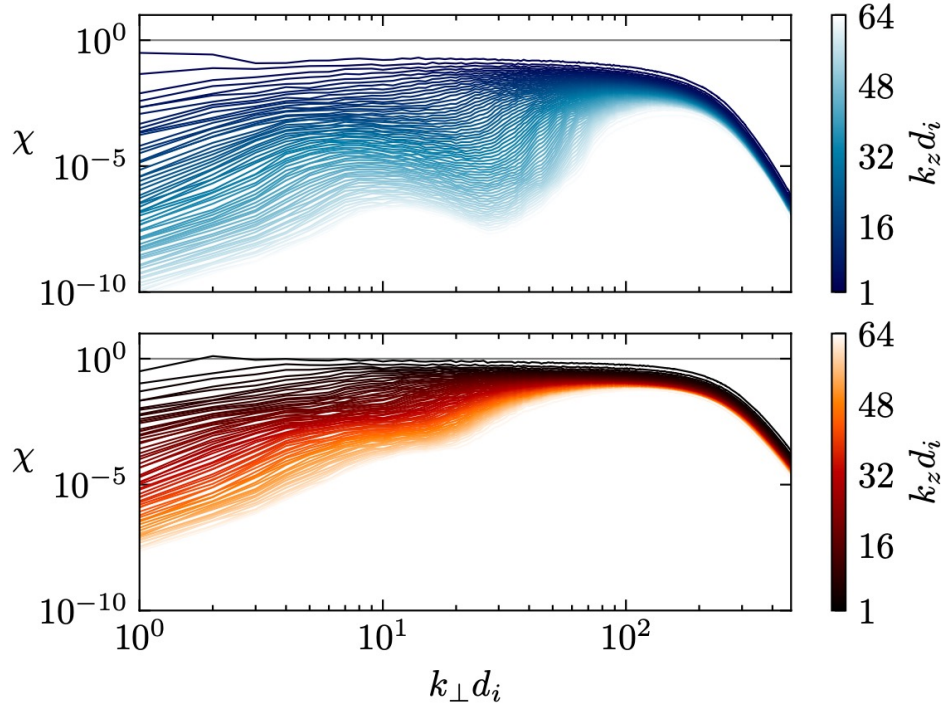
- **AsteriX** (pseudo-spectral) code – © Meyrand
- Resolution: $1024 \times 1024 \times 128$; $b_0=1$
- Hyperdissipation; forcing at $1.5 < k_{\perp} < 2.5$ $|k_z| = 1$
- No magnetic helicity injection

Kinetic-Alfvén wave turbulence

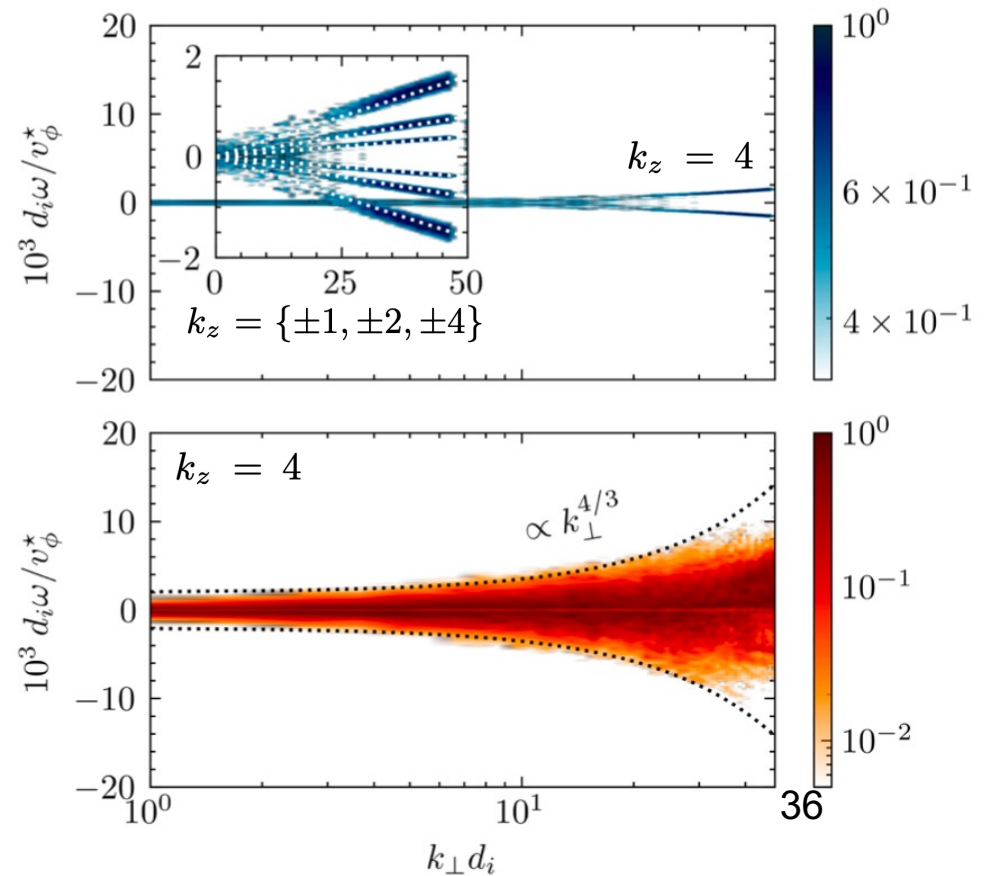


Direct numerical simulation

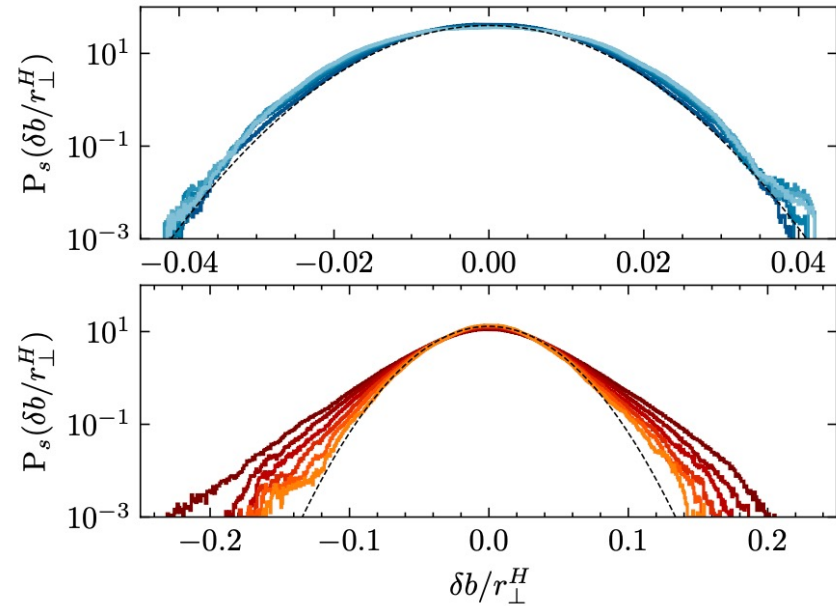
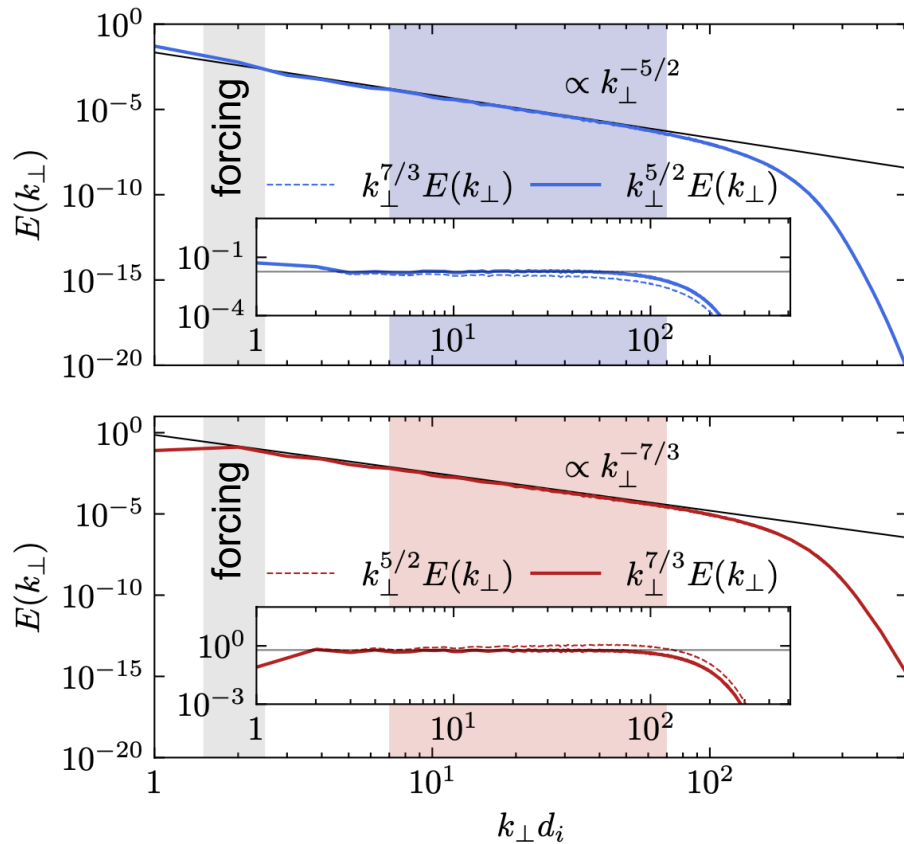
[David+, PRL, Wednesday]



$$\chi(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel}) \equiv \frac{\tau_{\text{lin}}}{\tau_{\text{nl}}} \simeq \sqrt{\frac{2k_{\perp}^3 E(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel})}{k_{\parallel} b_0^2}},$$



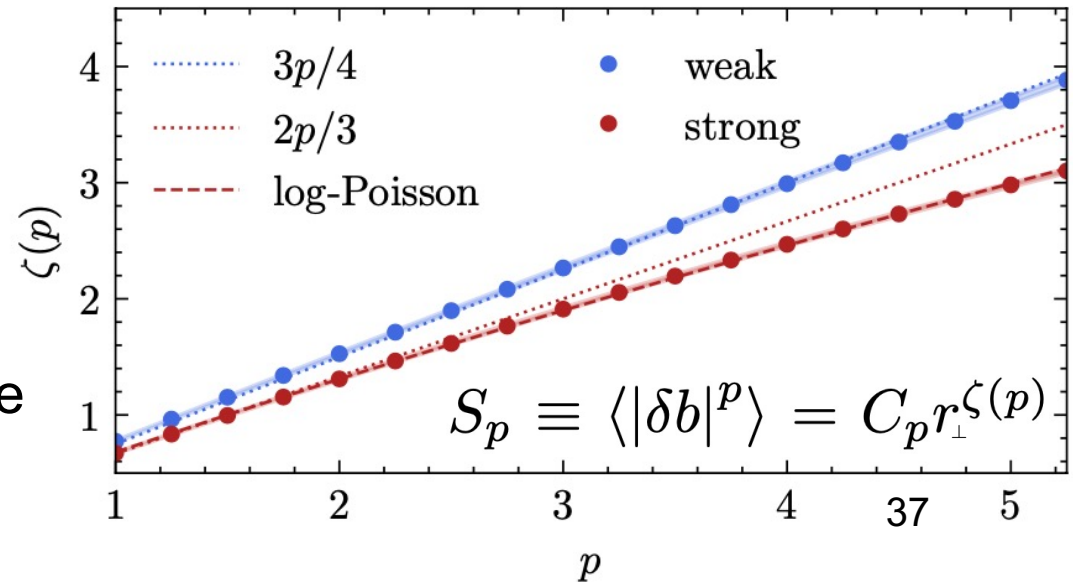
Direct numerical simulation



[David+, PRL, Wednesday]

Weak Kinetic-Alfvén wave turbulence
is **monofractal**

$$\zeta(p) = 3p/4$$



Super-local wave turbulence

$$0 < \epsilon_p \sim \epsilon_q \ll 1$$

$$p_{\perp} = k_{\perp}(1 + \epsilon_p)$$

$$q_{\perp} = k_{\perp}(1 + \epsilon_q)$$

Kinetic equation

Taylor expansion \rightarrow

nonlinear diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial E(k_{\perp})}{\partial t} = C \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left[k_{\perp}^7 E(k_{\perp}) \frac{\partial (E(k_{\perp}) / k_{\perp})}{\partial k_{\perp}} \right] - \eta k_{\perp}^6 \dot{E}(k_{\perp})$$

Kinetic Alfvén wave turbulence

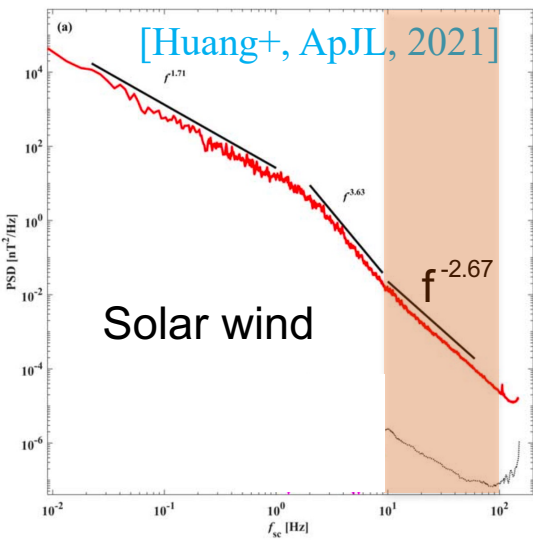
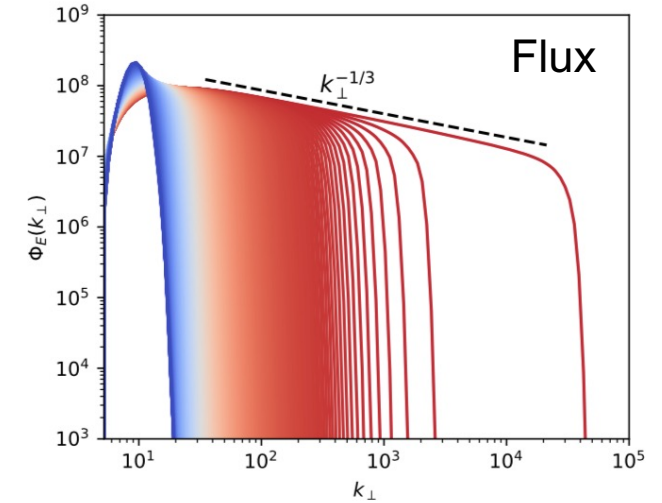
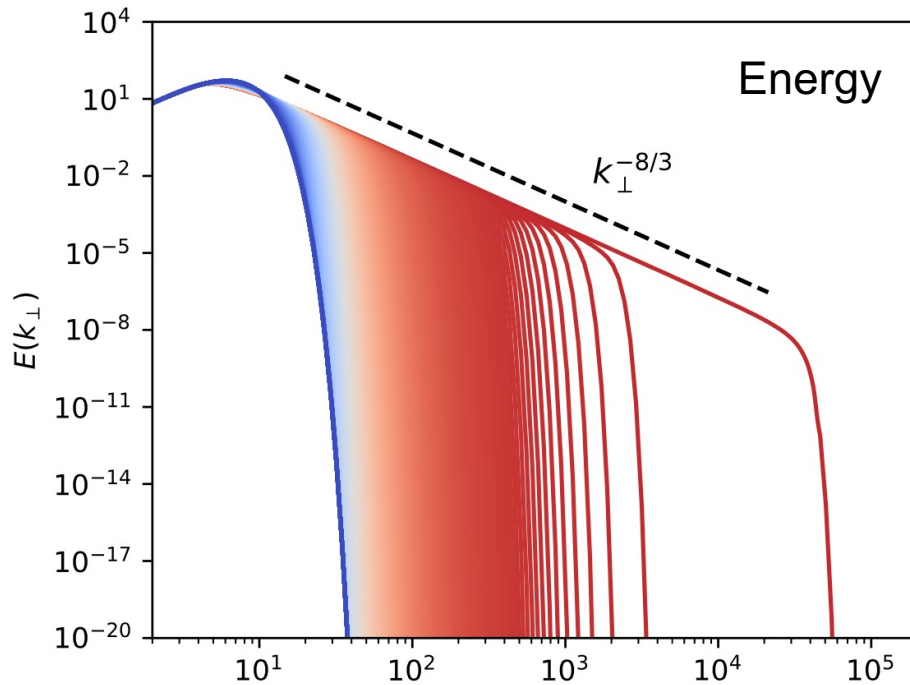
Super-local kinetic-Alfvén wave turbulence

$$\frac{\partial E(k_{\perp})}{\partial t} = C \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left[k_{\perp}^7 E(k_{\perp}) \frac{\partial (E(k_{\perp})/k_{\perp})}{\partial k_{\perp}} \right] - \eta k_{\perp}^6 E(k_{\perp})$$

$$\eta = 10^{-16}$$

$$k_{\perp i} = 2^{i/8}$$

[David+, ApJL, 2019]

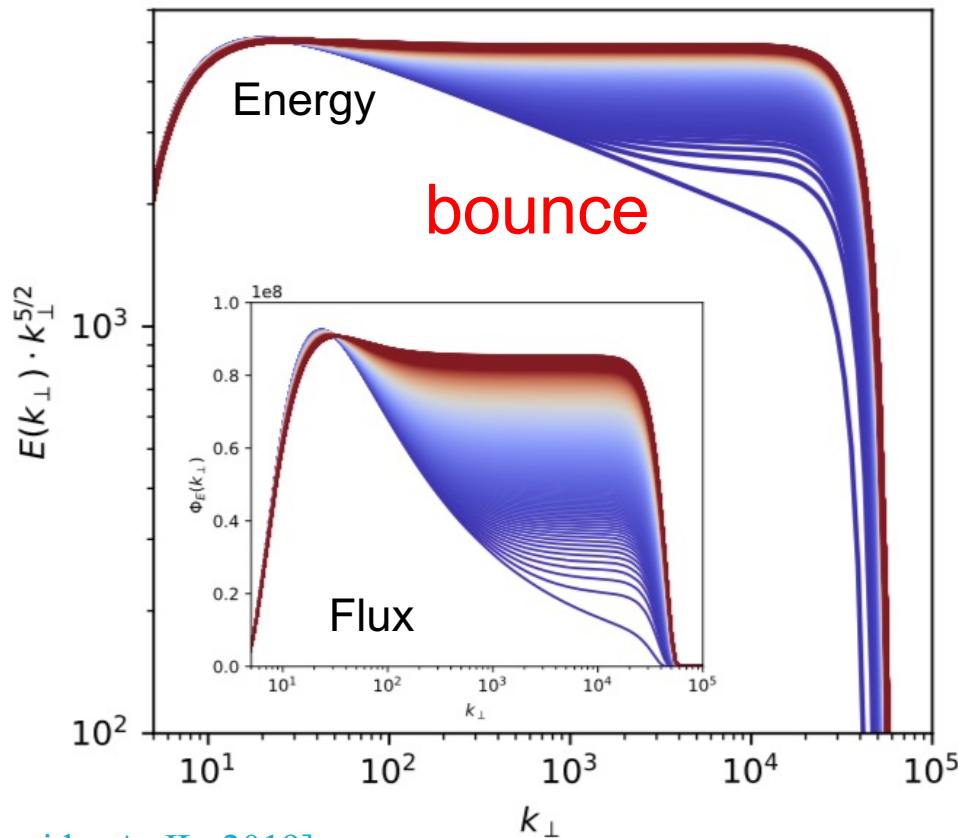


$\approx -8/3$ emerges as a non-stationary solution !

It is a collisionless solution

Collisionless wave turbulence

The exact stationary solution (-2.5) is reached for $t > t_*$



Viscous effects affect the entire inertial range

but solar wind is free and non-viscous

⇒ $\approx -8/3$ can be the solution

[David+, ApJL, 2019]

Thank you !