

SMR 1331/34

## **AUTUMN COLLEGE ON PLASMA PHYSICS**

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# **One-Dimensional Spectral Studies in Single Fluid MHD for Stability of Fusion Plasmas**

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These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants.



One-dimensional Spectral Studies  
in Single Fluid MHD  
for Stability of Fusion Plasmas  
Autumn College on Plasma Physics @ICTP  
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4. Spectrum for Static Plasmas
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## 0. Preliminaries

Consider

$$i\partial_t\psi = \mathcal{A}\psi, \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathcal{A}$ :  $N \times N$ -matrix,  $\psi(t)$ :  $N$ -dimensional vector.

Scalar product

$$(\phi | \psi) = \phi \cdot \bar{\psi} \quad (2)$$

Eigenvalues and eigenvectors

$$\mathcal{A}\varphi_j = \lambda_j\varphi_j \quad (3)$$

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is Hermitian (selfadjoint), we can span whole vector space by orthogonal eigenvectors ( $N$  eigenvectors)

$$(\varphi_i | \varphi_j) = 0 \quad \text{for } i \neq j \quad (i, j = 1, \dots, N) \quad (4)$$

$$(\varphi_j | \varphi_j) = 1 \quad (j = 1, \dots, N) \quad (5)$$

Projection

$$\mathcal{P}_j = (\cdot | \varphi_j)\varphi_j \quad (6)$$

$$\psi = \sum_{j=1}^N (\psi | \varphi_j)\varphi_j \quad \text{for any } \psi \quad (7)$$

Spectral resolution

$$\mathcal{A} = \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j \varphi_j (\cdot | \varphi_j) \quad (8)$$

Evolution equation becomes

$$\begin{aligned} i\partial_t \psi(t) &= \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j \varphi_j (\psi(t) | \varphi_j) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^N \lambda_j a_j(t) \varphi_j \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Taking a scalar product with  $\varphi_i$ ,

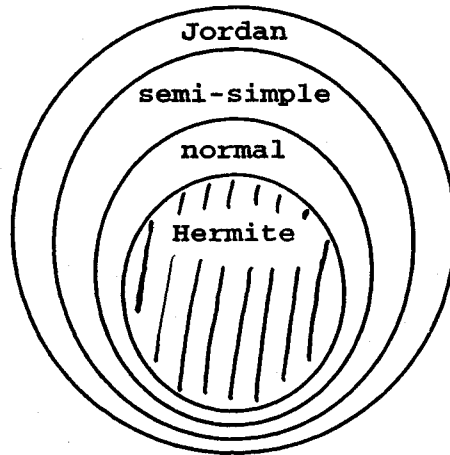
$$i\partial_t a_i(t) = \lambda_i a_i(t) \quad (10)$$

$\Downarrow$

$$a_i(t) = a_i(0) \exp(-i\lambda_i t) \quad (11)$$

Solution

$$\psi(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j(0) \exp(-i\lambda_j t) \varphi_j \quad (12)$$



## 1. MHD Equations

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0, \quad (13)$$

$$\rho(\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}) = \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} - \nabla p \ (+ \ \rho \mathbf{g}), \quad (14)$$

$$\partial_t p + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla p + \gamma p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \quad (15)$$

$$\partial_t \mathbf{B} = -\nabla \times \mathbf{E}, \quad (16)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{j}, \quad (17)$$

$$\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0}, \quad (18)$$

Comment: We can remove  $\mathbf{j}$ ,  $p$ , and  $\mathbf{E}$  from the system.

$\Rightarrow$  seven waves

## 2. Linearized MHD Equation

Linearization

$$\psi = \psi_0 + \psi_1, \quad (19)$$

where  $|\psi_1| \ll |\psi_0|$ .

Equilibrium is written by  $\partial_t = 0$  in all equations.

Displacement vector  $\xi$

$$\partial_t \xi(x, t) = v_1(x, t), \quad \xi(x, 0) = 0. \quad (20)$$

Linearized MHD equation

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t^2 \xi &= \mathcal{F} \xi \\ &= \frac{1}{\rho_0} \left[ \nabla(\gamma p_0 \nabla \cdot \xi + \xi \cdot \nabla p_0) \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\nabla \times B_0) \times [\nabla \times (\xi \times B_0)] \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{\mu_0} [\nabla \times (\nabla \times (\xi \times B_0))] \times B_0 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Hermiticity of force operator  $\mathcal{F}$

$$\langle \eta | \mathcal{F} \xi \rangle = \langle \mathcal{F} \eta | \xi \rangle, \quad (22)$$

$$\left( \langle \eta | \xi \rangle \equiv \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \underline{\underline{\rho_0}} \eta \cdot \bar{\xi} \, dV. \right)$$

Stability theory

1. Energy principle

2. Spectral analysis

## 2. Linearized MHD Equation

All eigenvalues of force operator  $\mathcal{F}$  are real.

$$\mathcal{F}\xi = \lambda\xi \quad (23)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \xi | \mathcal{F}\xi \rangle &= \bar{\lambda} \langle \xi | \xi \rangle \\ \langle \mathcal{F}\xi | \xi \rangle &= \lambda \langle \xi | \xi \rangle \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = \bar{\lambda} : \text{real}$$

Now the eigenvalue is  $\lambda = -\omega^2$  with  $\exp(-i\omega t)$ .

If we have any positive eigenvalue,

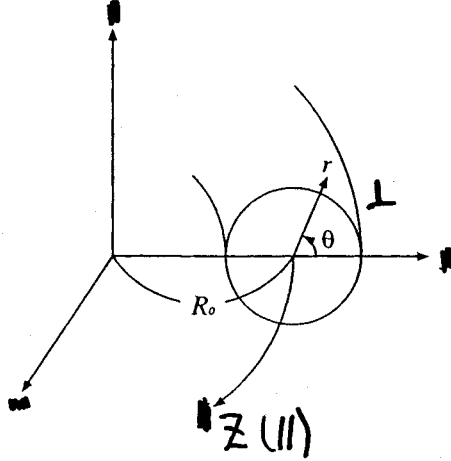
$$\begin{aligned} -\omega^2 = \lambda > 0 &\Rightarrow \omega = \pm i\sqrt{\lambda} \\ \Rightarrow \exp(\mp \sqrt{\lambda}t) &: \boxed{\text{unstable}} \end{aligned}$$

If we have all eigenvalues negative,

$$\begin{aligned} -\omega^2 = \lambda < 0 &\Rightarrow \omega = \pm \sqrt{-\lambda} \\ \Rightarrow \exp(\pm i\sqrt{-\lambda}t) &: \boxed{\text{stable}} \end{aligned}$$



### 3. Reduced MHD Equations<sup>1</sup>



Low- $\beta$  tokamak ordering ( $\epsilon = \text{minor r.}/\text{major r.}$ )

$$B_z \sim 1 + \epsilon^2, \quad \nabla_{\perp} \sim 1, \quad B_{\perp} \sim \partial_z \sim \epsilon, \\ v_{\perp} \sim \epsilon, \quad p \sim \epsilon^2, \quad \partial_t \sim \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\perp} \sim \epsilon, \quad v_z \sim 0. \quad (24)$$

Static fluid  $\mathbf{v}_0 = 0$ .      **incompressible** ( $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$ )

Stream and flux functions

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \nabla \phi \times \mathbf{e}_z, \quad \mathbf{B}_1 = \nabla \psi \times \mathbf{e}_z. \quad (25)$$

Two-fields RMHD equations (after linearization)

$$\partial_t \Delta \phi = \mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \nabla \Delta \psi + (\nabla j_0 \times \mathbf{e}_z) \cdot \nabla \psi, \quad (26)$$

$$\partial_t \psi = \mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \nabla \phi. \quad (27)$$

Boundary conditions:  $\phi = \psi = 0$  at the edge.

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<sup>1</sup>H. R. Strauss, Phys. Fluids **19**, 134 (1976).

About norm

RMHD equation for homogeneous plasma

$$\partial_t u = \mathcal{A}u, \quad (28)$$

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \Delta \\ \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \Delta^{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (29)$$

State vector  $u = {}^T(\Delta\phi, \psi)$ .

Norm should be taken with the metric

$$\boxed{\mathcal{M} = \begin{pmatrix} -\Delta^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\Delta \end{pmatrix}}, \quad (30)$$

as

$$\langle u | u^\dagger \rangle \equiv (\Delta\phi | -\Delta^{-1} | \Delta\phi^\dagger) + (\psi | -\Delta | \psi^\dagger). \quad (31)$$

where  $(\phi | \phi^\dagger) = \int \phi \bar{\phi}^\dagger dV$  denotes simple norm.

Physically, this norm corresponds to energy bilinear form

$$\langle u | u \rangle = \int \Delta \bar{\phi} (-\Delta^{-1}) \Delta \phi + \bar{\psi} (-\Delta) \psi dV \quad (32)$$

$$= \int |\nabla \phi|^2 + |\nabla \psi|^2 dV, \quad (33)$$

where  $\mathbf{v} = \nabla \phi \times \mathbf{e}_z$ ,  $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \psi \times \mathbf{e}_z$ .

About norm

Difficult for state vector  $u$  in inhomogeneous case.

Combining two equations

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t^2 \Delta\phi &= \mathcal{A}_u \Delta\phi \\ &= \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \Delta \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \Delta^{-1}(\Delta\phi) \\ &\quad + (\nabla j \times \mathbf{e}_z) \cdot \nabla \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \Delta^{-1}(\Delta\phi)\end{aligned}\quad (34)$$

Define a scalar product as

$$\langle \Delta\phi | \Delta\phi^\dagger \rangle = (\Delta\phi | -\Delta^{-1} | \Delta\phi^\dagger), \quad (35)$$

then  $\mathcal{A}_u$  becomes Hermitian. <sup>kinetic energy norm</sup>

#### 4. Spectrum for Static Plasmas ( $\mathbf{v}_0 = \mathbf{0}$ )

##### (a) Continuous spectra in slab geometry

Equilibrium magnetic field

$$\mathbf{B} = (0, B_y(x), B_z) \quad (36)$$

Alfvén equation for eigenvalue  $\omega^2$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ (\omega^2 - \omega_A^2) \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right] - k_y^2 (\omega^2 - \omega_A^2) \phi = 0, \quad (37)$$

where  $\omega_A(x) = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{B}(x) / \sqrt{\mu_0 \rho}$ .

Regular singularity appears at  $x = x_s$  when  $\omega = \omega_A(x_s)$ .

Solution is (due to Frobenius)

$$\phi(x) = a_1 g_1(x) + a_2 [g_1(x) \log |x - x_s| + g_2(x)]. \quad (38)$$

where  $g_1(x)$  and  $g_2(x)$  are analytic functions around  $x_s$ .

Note: this solution is non-square-integrable under previous norm

$$\begin{aligned} & \int (\log |x - x_s|) \Delta(\log |x - x_s|) dx \\ & \sim - \int \frac{1}{(x - x_s)^2} dx \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

There is no other solution in slab Alfvén equation.

$$\underline{\omega_A^2} = \inf_x \omega_A^2(x) : \text{ lower bound, } \quad (40)$$

Dividing the singular factor

$$\omega^2 - \omega_A^2 = (\omega^2 - \underline{\omega_A^2}) + (\underline{\omega_A^2} - \omega_A^2), \quad (41)$$

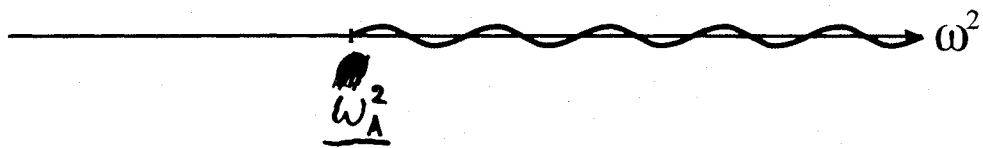
multiplying  $\bar{\phi}$ , and integrating with respect to  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} & (\omega^2 - \underline{\omega_A^2}) \int_{\Omega} \left( \left| \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|^2 + k_y^2 |\phi|^2 \right) dx \geq 0 \\ & = - \int_{\Omega} \underbrace{(\omega_A^2 - \omega_A^2)}_{\substack{\wedge \\ 0}} \underbrace{\left( \left| \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|^2 + k_y^2 |\phi|^2 \right)}_{\substack{\vee \\ 0}} dx. \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

$$\omega^2 \geq \underline{\omega_A^2} \quad (43)$$

Spectrum is

$$\sigma = \sigma_c = \{ \omega^2 \mid \min_{x \in \Omega} \omega_A^2 \leq \omega^2 \leq \max_{x \in \Omega} \omega_A^2 \}. \quad (44)$$

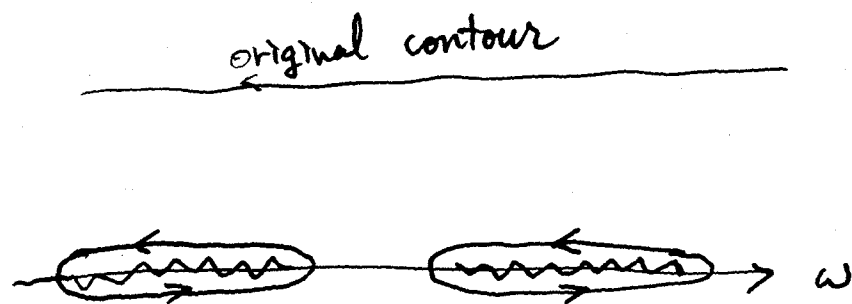


Solving by Laplace transform

$$\tilde{\phi}(\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} \phi(t) e^{i\omega t} dt, \quad (45)$$

$$\phi(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_c \tilde{\phi}(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega, \quad (46)$$

Branch cuts appear on  $\omega = \omega_A$



$\Downarrow$

Continuum damping

$$\phi \propto \frac{1}{t} \exp[i\omega_A(x)t] + \frac{1}{t} \exp[-i\omega_A(x)t] \quad (47)$$

no stationary oscillation

(b) Instability in cylindrical geometry

Equilibrium magnetic field

$$\mathbf{B} = (0, B_\theta(r), B_z) \quad (48)$$

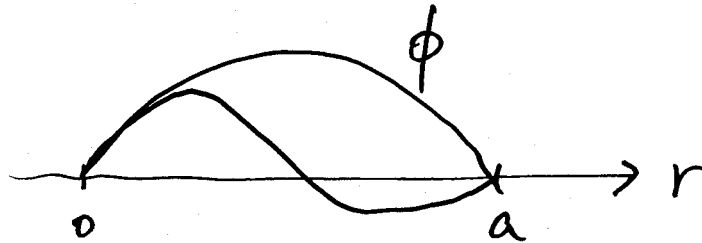
Alfvén equation for eigenvalue  $\omega^2$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \left[ r(\omega^2 - \omega_A^2) \frac{d\phi}{dr} \right] - \frac{m^2}{r^2} (\omega^2 - \omega_A^2) \phi + \underbrace{\frac{2}{r} \frac{dF}{dr} F \phi}_{\text{extra}} = 0, \quad (49)$$

Point spectra (kink modes) appear due to extra term.

Boundary conditions for  $m \geq 1$  are

$$\phi = 0 \quad \text{at } r = 0, a \quad (50)$$



Simple ODEs

$$u'' - (-1)u = 0, \quad v'' - (-4)v = 0 \quad (51)$$
$$(-1 > -4)$$

have solutions

$$u \sim \sin x, \quad v \sim \sin 2x, \quad (52)$$

slow

rapid

$\Downarrow$  generalize

### Oscillation theorem (Sturm)

For the ODE in the real domain

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left[ K_1(r, \omega) \frac{du}{dr} \right] - G_1(r, \omega)u = 0 \quad (53)$$

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left[ K_2(r, \omega) \frac{dv}{dr} \right] - G_2(r, \omega)v = 0 \quad (54)$$

If  $K_1 > K_2 > 0$  and  $G_1 > G_2$  for any  $r$ , then  $v$  oscillates more rapidly than  $u$ .



some more considerations...

Forget about the boundary condition at  $r = a$ !

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left[ \underbrace{r(\omega_A^2(x) - \omega^2)}_{K > 0} \frac{d\phi}{dr} \right] - \underbrace{\frac{m^2}{r}(\omega_A^2(x) - \omega^2)\phi - \frac{2}{r} \frac{dF}{dr} F \phi}_{G\phi} = 0, \quad (55)$$

Suppose two neighboring solutions

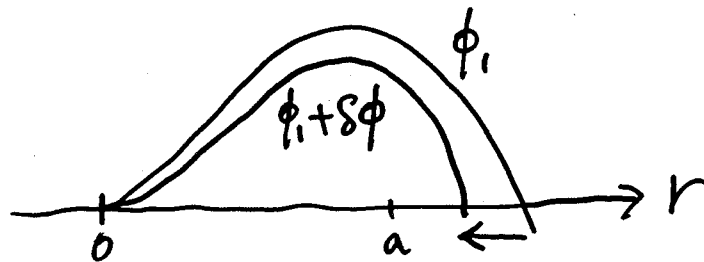
$\phi_1$ :	solution for $\omega_1^2$	with $\phi_1(0) = 0$
$\phi_1 + \delta\phi$ :	solution for $\omega_1^2 + \delta\omega^2$	with $\phi_1 + \delta\phi(0) = 0$

If  $\delta\omega^2 > 0$ , then

$$K(\omega_1^2) > K(\omega_1^2 + \delta\omega^2), \quad G(\omega_1^2) > G(\omega_1^2 + \delta\omega^2) \quad (56)$$

$\Downarrow$

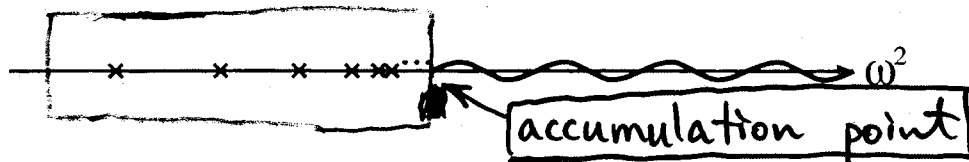
$\phi_1 + \delta\phi$  oscillates more rapidly than  $\phi_1$ .



Spectra are

$$\sigma = \sigma_c \oplus \sigma_p \quad (57)$$

$\downarrow$  infinite numbers



<sup>1</sup>Goedbloed and Sakanaka, Phys. Fluids 17, 908 (1974).

### (c) Interchange Instability in Stellarators<sup>2</sup>

Stellarator ordering

$$\mathbf{B} \sim \mathbf{B}_z + \epsilon^{1/2} \underline{\nabla \eta} + \epsilon$$

$$\rho \sim \epsilon \quad \text{helical field}$$

RMHD equations for stellarators

$$\partial_t \psi = \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla \phi, \quad (58)$$

$$\rho \frac{d\Delta\phi}{dt} = -\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla j_z + \boxed{\nabla \kappa \times \nabla p \cdot \mathbf{e}_z}, \quad (59)$$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = 0, \quad \text{drive} \quad (60)$$

where

$$\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla = B_0 \partial_z + \nabla \psi \times \mathbf{e}_z \cdot \nabla, \quad (61)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} = \partial_t + \nabla \phi \times \mathbf{e}_z \cdot \nabla, \quad (62)$$

$$\kappa = \frac{2r \cos \theta}{R_0} + \boxed{\frac{(\nabla \eta)^2}{B_0^2}}, \quad (63)$$

$$j_z = -\Delta A_z, \quad \text{helical curvature} \quad (64)$$

$$A_z = \psi + \frac{1}{2B_0} \overline{\nabla \langle \eta \rangle \times \nabla \eta \cdot \mathbf{e}_z}. \quad (65)$$

<sup>2</sup>Tatsuno, *et al.*, Nucl. Fusion **39**, 1391 (1999).

Carreras *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas **8**, 990 (2001).

Eigenvalue equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2\phi}{dr^2} + \left[ \frac{1}{r} - \frac{2m\iota'(n - m\iota)}{\gamma^2 + (n - m\iota)^2} \right] \frac{d\phi}{dr} \\ - \left\{ \frac{m^2}{r^2} + \frac{1}{\gamma^2 + (n - m\iota)^2} \right. \\ \left. \times \left[ \left( \frac{m\iota'}{r} + m\iota'' \right) (n - m\iota) - \frac{D_s m^2}{r^2} \right] \right\} \phi = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$m(n)$ : poloidal(toroidal) mode numbers,

$\iota$ : Rotational transform,

$$D_s = -\frac{1}{2}\beta_0 N p'(4r\iota + r^2\iota'):$$

Instability drive,

$\beta_0$ : central toroidal beta,

$N$ : toroidal period number of the helical coils.

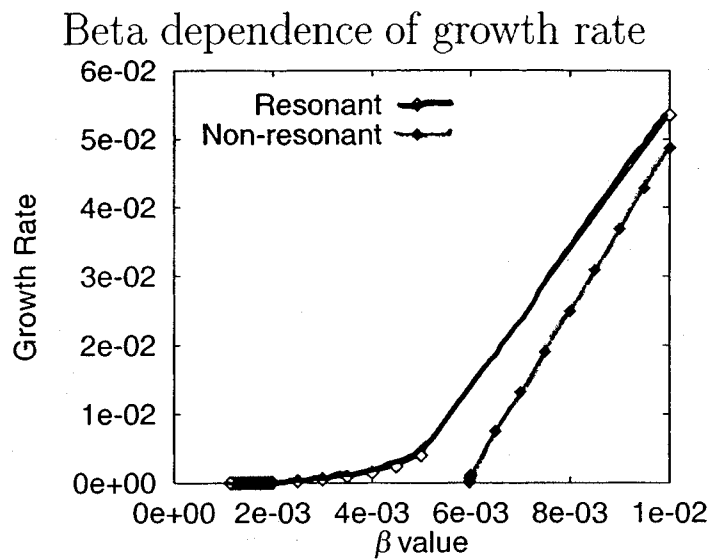
Numerical solution for the  $(m, n) = (2, 1)$  mode.

Equilibrium profiles are

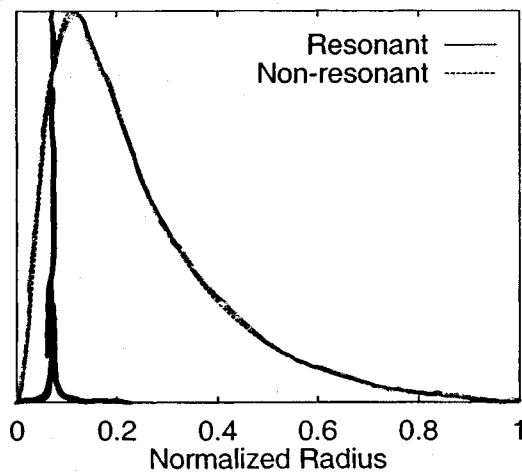
$\iota = 0.499 + 0.2r^2$  (resonant),  $\leftarrow$  rational surface  $r \sim 0.07$

$\iota = 0.501 + 0.2r^2$  (non-resonant),  $\leftarrow$  no rational surface

$p = p_0(1 - r^4)$  (for both).



Eigenfunction near the beta limit



## 5. Spectral Studies for Shear Flow Plasmas

### (a) Linear Shear Flow Profile and Kelvin's Method<sup>3</sup>

Consider linear shear flow profile in a slab plasma

$$\mathbf{v}_0 = (0, \underline{\sigma x}, 0) \quad \sigma = \text{const.} \quad (66)$$

Non-Hermiticity only enters from  $\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla$  operator

$$\partial_t u + \mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla u = \mathcal{A}u \quad (67)$$

coordinate transform

spectral resolution

$\mathcal{A}$ : Hermitian (selfadjoint) operator

Suppose we have a set of 'shearing modes' satisfying two conditions

- Characteristic equation

$$\partial_t \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x) + \mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x) = 0. \quad (68)$$

- Eigenequation

$$\mathcal{A} \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x) = \lambda_k(t) \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x). \quad (69)$$

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<sup>3</sup>Volponi, Yoshida, & Tatsuno, Phys. Plasmas **7**, 2314 (2000).  
Tatsuno, Volponi, & Yoshida, Phys. Plasmas **8**, 399 (2001).

We can decompose any function as

$$u = \int \hat{u}_k(t) \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x) dk. \quad (70)$$

Plugging this expression into eq. (67),

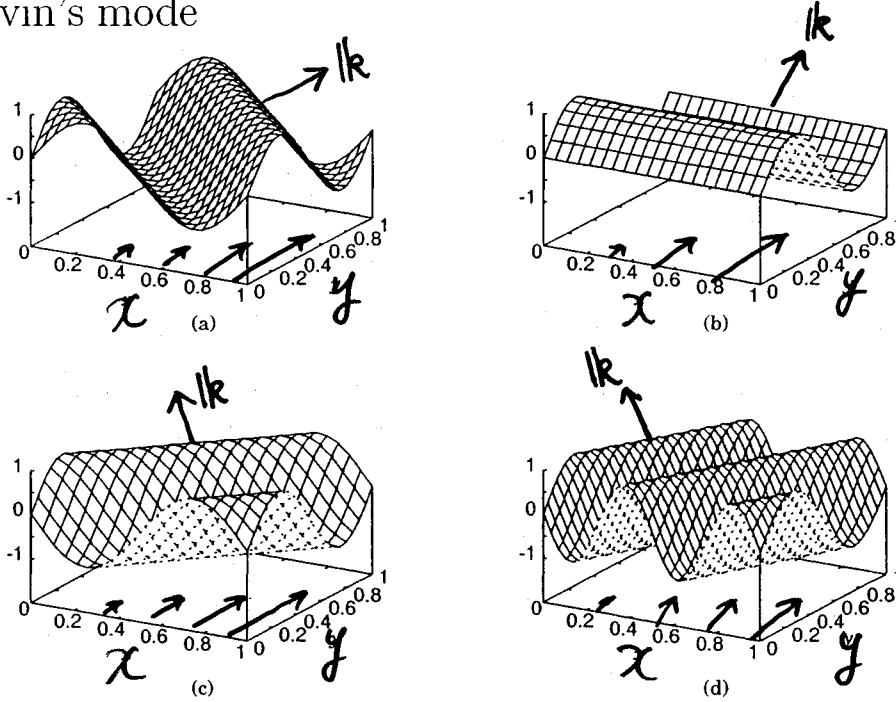
$$\int [\partial_t \hat{u}_k(t)] \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x) dk = \int \hat{u}_k(t) \lambda_k(t) \tilde{\varphi}(t; k, x) dk, \quad (71)$$

we can obtain the following ODE on time for each mode due to the orthogonality of the eigenvectors;

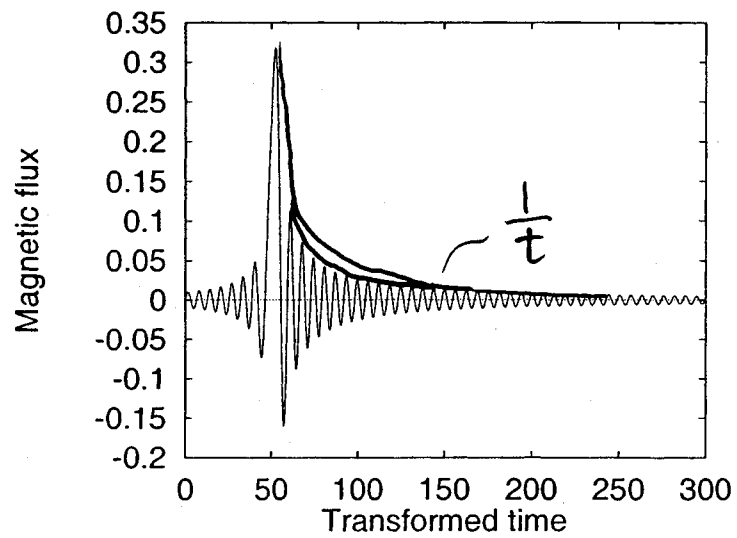
$$d_t \hat{u}_k(t) = \lambda_k(t) \hat{u}_k(t). \quad (72)$$

This is no longer a simple exponential evolution.

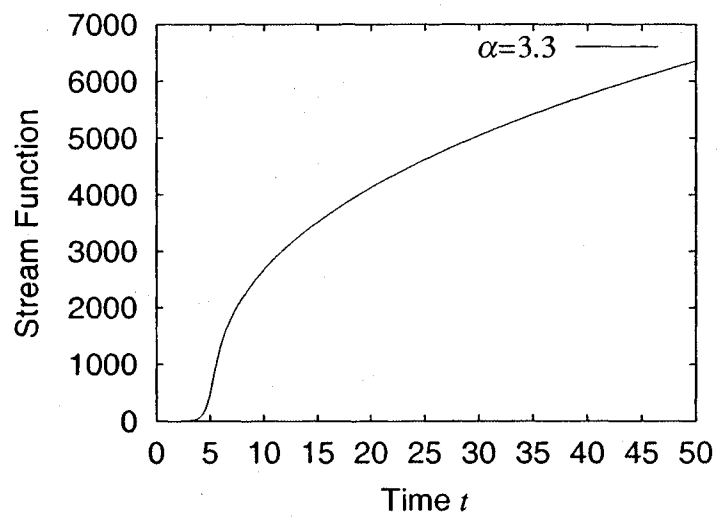
Kelvin's mode



## Transients and Secularities of Kelvin's modes



$$\psi \sim e^{i\omega t} / t$$

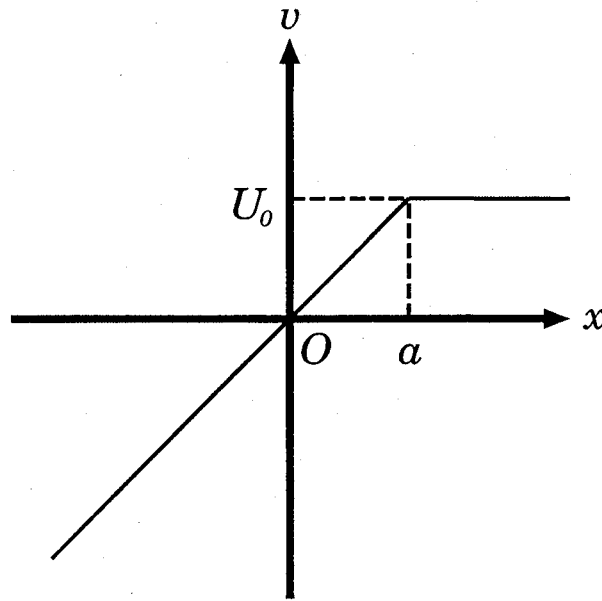


$$\phi \sim t^{0.35}$$

## (b) Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability with Surface Wave Model

Consider 2-D Euler fluid

$$\mathbf{v}_0 = (0, v(x)) \quad (73)$$



Generalized Rayleigh equation

$$i\partial_t \Psi = kv(x)\Psi + kw(x)\mathcal{K}\Psi. \quad (74)$$

$$(\mathcal{K}f)(x) = -\Delta^{-1} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{e^{-k|x-\xi|}}{2k} f(\xi) d\xi. \quad (75)$$

with  $\Psi = -\Delta\phi$ : vorticity.

$w(x) = v''(x)$  gives ordinary Rayleigh equation.



Norm again

In enstrophy norm

$$\begin{aligned}\langle\langle\Psi | kv\Psi^\dagger\rangle\rangle &= \int kv\bar{\Psi}\Psi^\dagger dx \\ &= \langle\langle kv\Psi | \Psi^\dagger\rangle\rangle,\end{aligned}\quad (76)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle\langle\Psi | kw\Delta^{-1}\Psi^\dagger\rangle\rangle &= \langle\langle\Delta^{-1}kw\Psi | \Psi^\dagger\rangle\rangle \\ &\neq \langle\langle kw\Delta^{-1}\Psi | \Psi^\dagger\rangle\rangle.\end{aligned}\quad (77)$$

opeartor $kv(x)$	Hermitian
operator $kw(x)\mathcal{K}$	non-Hermitian

In energy norm

$$\begin{aligned}\langle\Psi | kv\Psi^\dagger\rangle &= - \int \bar{\Psi} \Delta^{-1}(kv\Psi^\dagger) dV \\ &= - \int (kv\Delta^{-1}\bar{\Psi}) \Delta\Delta^{-1}\Psi^\dagger dx \\ &= - \int (\Delta kv\Delta^{-1}\bar{\Psi}) \Delta^{-1}\Psi^\dagger dx \\ &= \langle\Delta kv\Delta^{-1}\Psi | \Psi^\dagger\rangle.\end{aligned}\quad (78)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle\Psi | kw\Delta^{-1}\Psi^\dagger\rangle &= - \int \bar{\Psi} \Delta^{-1}(kw\Delta^{-1}\Psi^\dagger) dx \\ &= - \int (kw\Delta^{-1}\bar{\Psi}) \Delta^{-1}\Psi^\dagger dx \\ &= \langle kw\Delta^{-1}\Psi | \Psi^\dagger\rangle,\end{aligned}\quad (79)$$

operator $kv(x)$	non-Hermitian
operator $kw(x)\mathcal{K}$	Hermitian

Dividing vorticity field as

$$\boxed{\Psi = \alpha(t)\delta(x - a) + \tilde{\Psi}(x, t)} \quad (80)$$

Evolution equation

$$i\frac{d}{dt}\alpha(t) = \frac{U}{2a}(2ka - 1)\alpha(t) - \frac{U}{2a} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-k|a-\xi|} \tilde{\Psi}(\xi, t) d\xi, \quad (81)$$

$$i\partial_t \tilde{\Psi}(x, t) = kv(x)\tilde{\Psi}(x, t). \quad (82)$$

Eigenvalue problem

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda\varphi(x) &= \mathcal{A}\varphi(x) \\ &= kv(x)\varphi(x) \\ &\quad - \frac{U}{2a}\delta(x - a) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-k|x-\xi|} \varphi(\xi) d\xi. \end{aligned} \quad (83)$$

Two kinds of eigenmodes exist

	eigenvalue	eigenfunction
point	$\lambda_1 = kU - U/2a$	$\varphi_1 = \delta(x - a)$
continuum	$\lambda_\mu = kU\mu/a$	$\varphi_\mu = \delta(x - \mu) + \frac{e^{-k(a-\mu)}}{2k(a - \mu) - 1}\delta(x - a)$
	where $\mu < a \wedge \underline{\mu \neq a - 1/2k}$ .	

When  $\mu = a - 1/2k$ , frequencies overlap ( $kU\mu/a = \lambda_1$ ).

Eigenfunction in a wider sense:  $\varphi_2 = \delta(x - \mu_0)$

$$(\lambda_1 - \overset{A}{\cancel{0}})\varphi_2 = \frac{U}{2a}e^{-k(a-\mu_0)}\varphi_1, \quad (84)$$

$$(\lambda_1 - \overset{A}{\cancel{0}})^2\varphi_2 = 0. \quad (85)$$

Taking basis vector by  $\delta(x - a)$  and  $\delta(x - \mu)$ ,

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \boxed{kU - \frac{U}{2a}} & -\frac{U}{2a}e^{-k(a-\mu)} \\ 0 & \boxed{kU\frac{\mu}{a}} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (86)$$

Including  $\boxed{\mu = a - 1/2k}$ .

frequencies overlap  
when  $\mu = a - 1/2k$

$\Downarrow$

For an initial condition  $\Psi(0) = \varphi_2$ ,

$$\Psi(t) = i\frac{U}{2a\sqrt{e}}\boxed{t}\varphi_2 \cdot e^{ikU\mu \cdot t/a} \quad (87)$$

secularity

# Linear Stability Theory

(from the viewpoint of spectral analysis)

to show instability — rather simple

you can show by finding one growing solution

to show stability — rather difficult

you must know all spectral properties

including exponential growth

secular

⋮

non-Hermiticity