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INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS
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SMR.755/25

Workshop on Fluid Mechanics

(7 - 25 March 1994)

Core mantle coupling

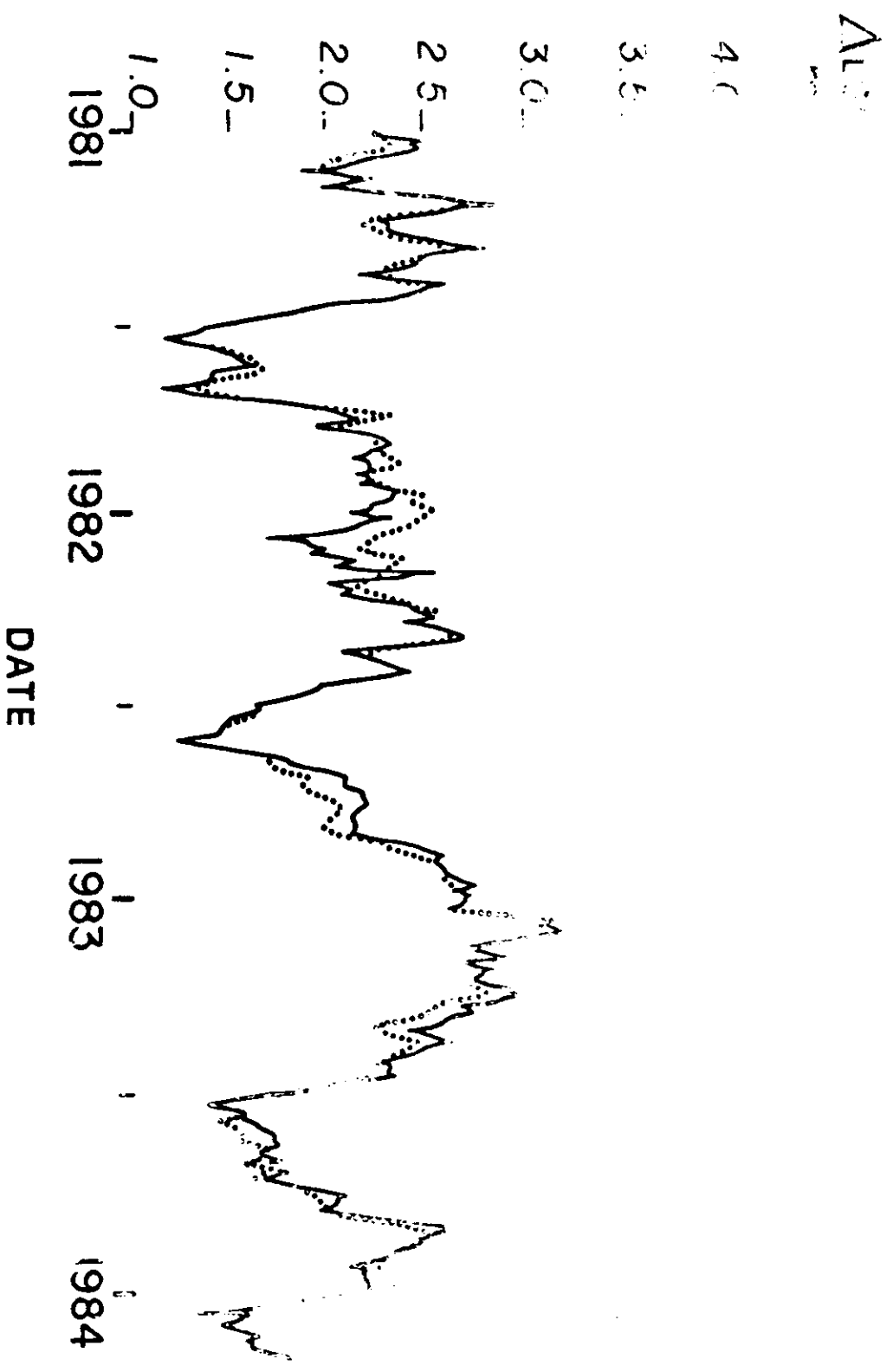
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These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants

Core-mantle interaction.

A. Observations.

- Decade variations of the length of the day.
- Decade variations of the mean pole position (Markowitz wobble)



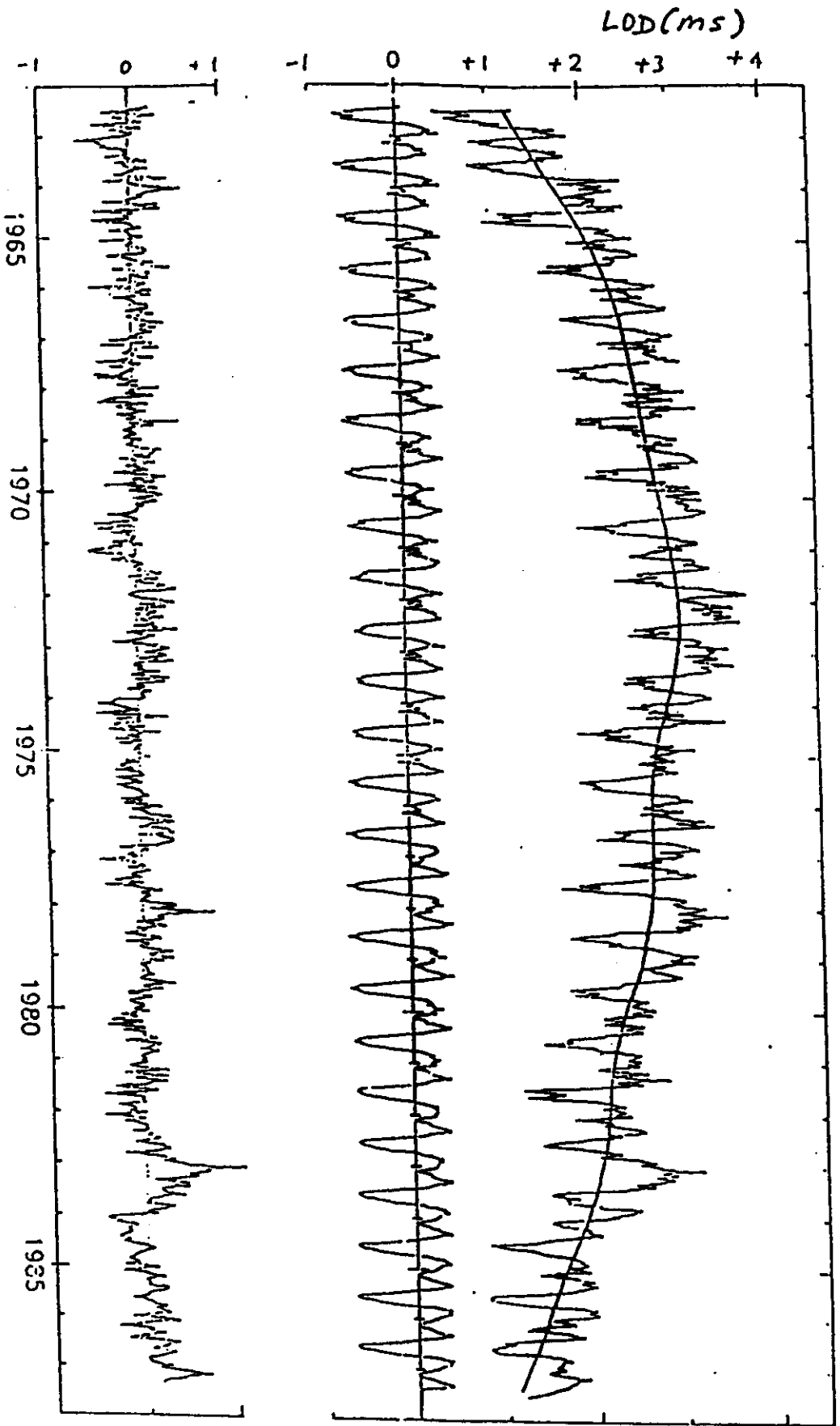
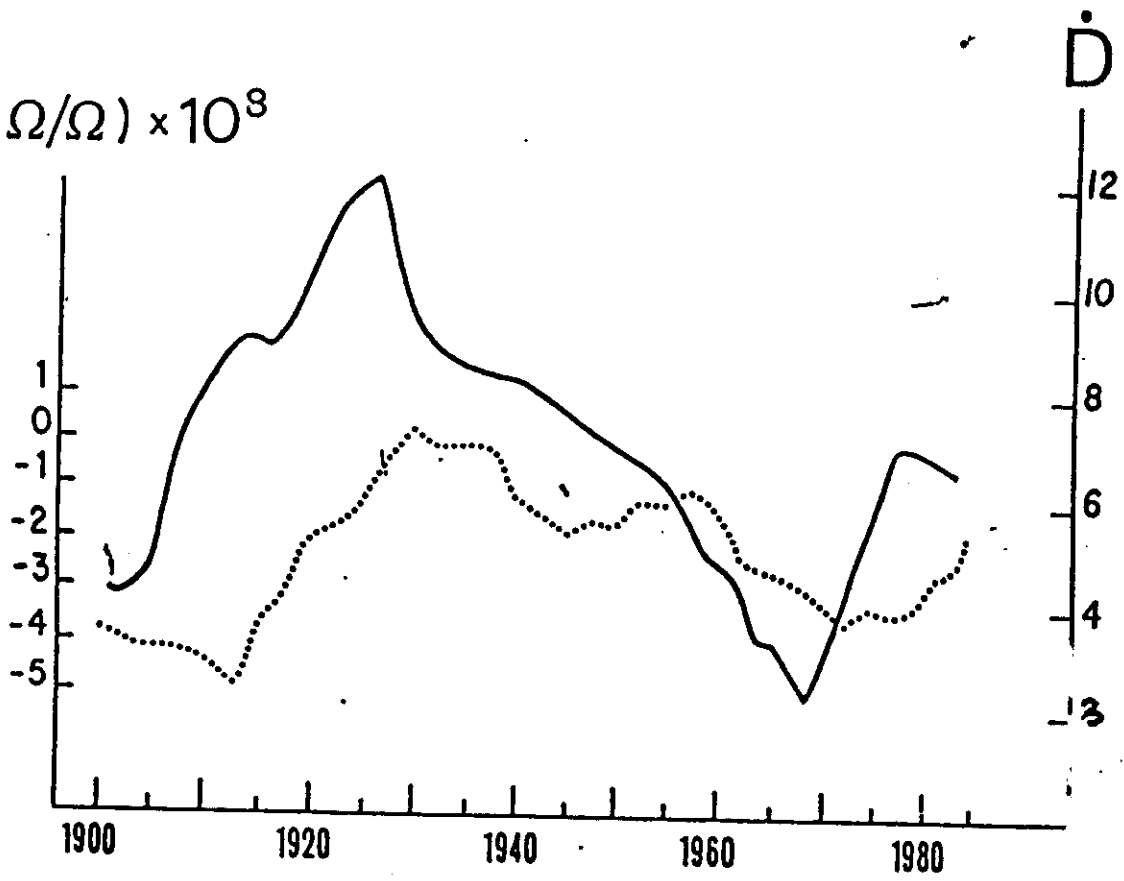
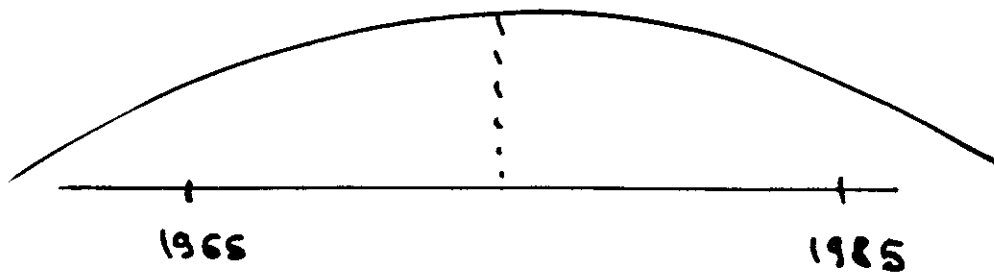


Figure 1: écart à 86400s de la longueur du jour, corrigé de l'effet des marées zonales; décomposition en une tendance et des termes saisonniers et irréguliers (Feissel et Gavoret, 1987).

$(\Delta\Omega/\Omega) \times 10^8$



Order of magnitude of the axial torque



$$T = T(1973) - 10^{-2} (t - 1973)^2$$

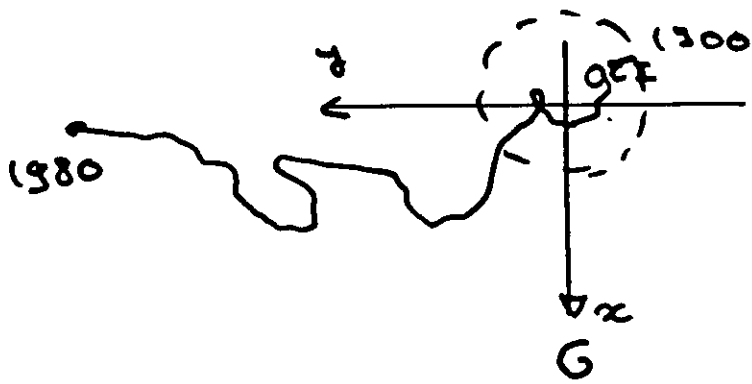
$$T \quad \text{ms}$$
$$t \quad \text{years}$$

$$\Gamma_{ax} = C^m \frac{d\Omega}{dt} = - C^m \frac{2\Omega}{T^2} \frac{dT}{dt}$$
$$\sim 4 \cdot 10^{16} (t - 1972) \text{ N.m}$$

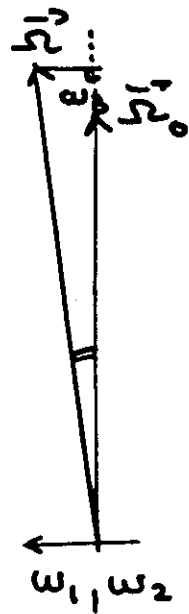
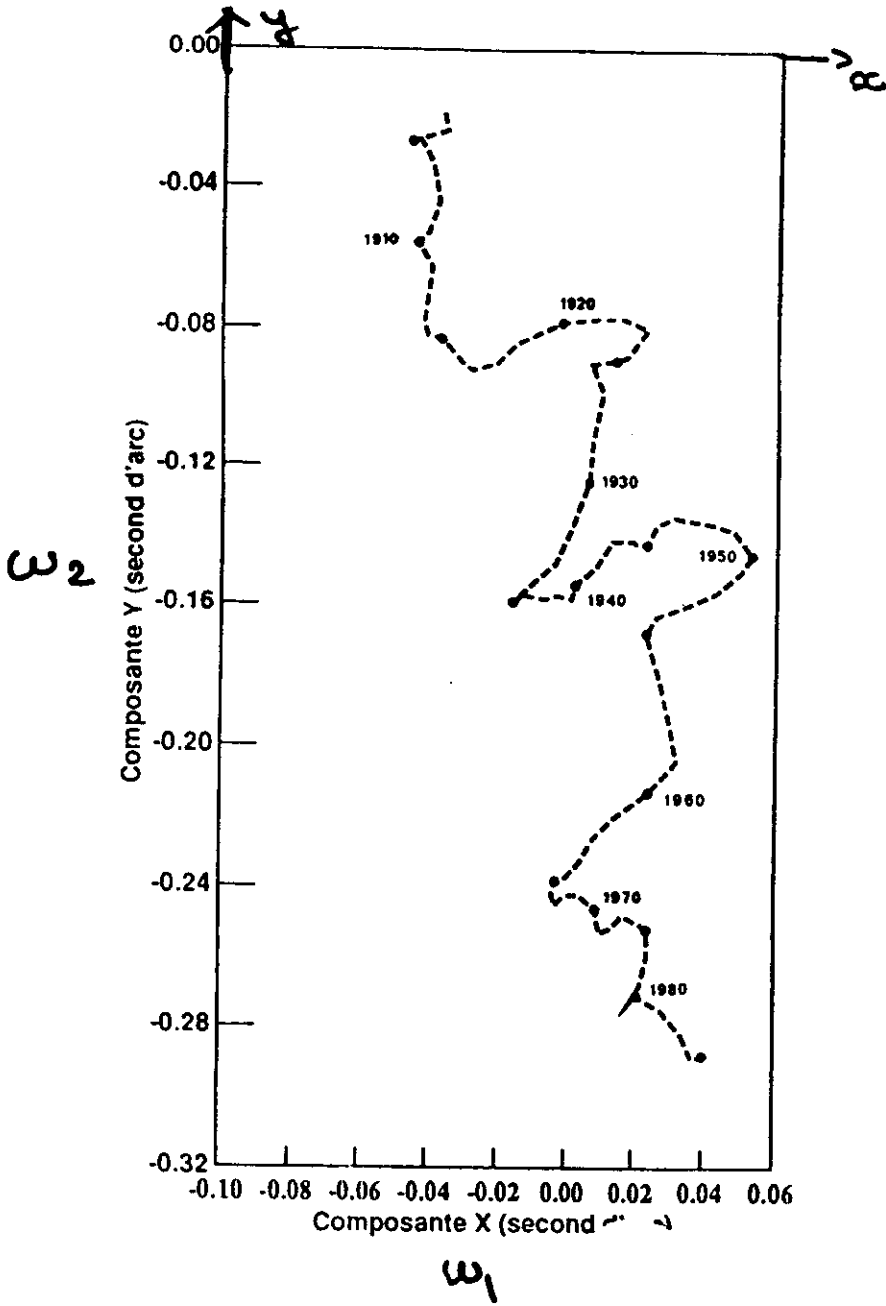
Γ is increasing of $4 \cdot 10^{16}$ N.m per year
since 1972

$$\underline{\Gamma_{1960} \sim 10^{17} \text{ N.m}}$$

Since 1840 $\underline{\Gamma < 10^{18} \text{ N.m}}$



Polhodie 1903 - 1985



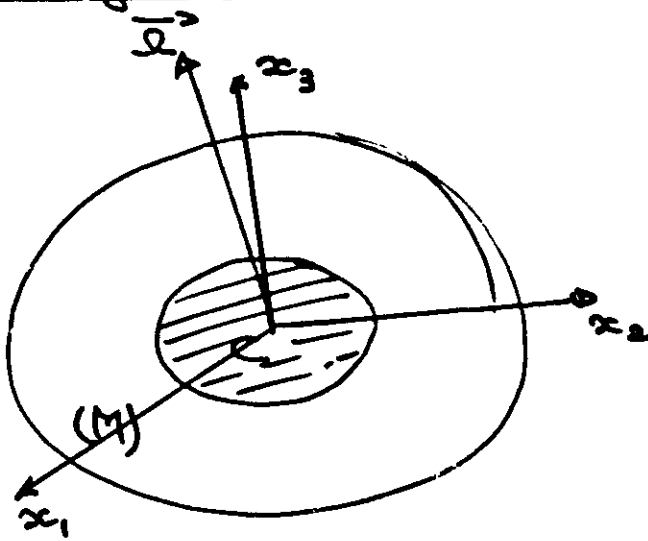
$$\begin{cases} \omega_1, \omega_2 \\ \sim 10^{-6} \Omega_0 \end{cases}$$

$$\omega_3 < \sim 10^{-7} \Omega_0$$

ω_1, ω_2 measured
in arcsec.

$$1 \text{ arcsec} \sim 5 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ rad.}$$

Torque budget



We will first suppose the mantle rigid.

Ox_1, x_2, x_3 : principal axes of the mantle

$$\vec{C} = \begin{vmatrix} A^m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A^m & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C^m \end{vmatrix} + C_{ij}$$

$\vec{\Omega}$: mantle rotation $\Omega \sim 7 \cdot 10^{-5}$

- No motion in the core $\vec{\Omega} = \vec{\Omega}_0 = \Omega_0 \hat{x}_1 = \Omega_0 \frac{x_1}{r_3}$

- Rotations in the core:

$$\vec{\Omega} = \vec{\Omega}_0 + \vec{\omega} \quad \begin{cases} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \Omega_0 + \omega_3 \end{cases} \quad \vec{\omega}(t)$$

$$\omega \ll \Omega_0, \quad \omega \sim 10^{-6} \Omega_0$$

1) Navier - Stokes equation.

$$\rho \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \vec{F} - 2\rho \vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{u} - \rho \dot{\vec{\omega}} \wedge \vec{r} - \rho (\vec{\Omega} \wedge (\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{r})) \quad (1)$$

In the absence of motion ($\vec{u} = 0, \dot{\vec{\omega}} = 0$) we get the hydrostatic solution in the core:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{\nabla} P_R &= \rho_R \vec{\nabla} U_R - \rho_R (\vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge (\vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge \vec{r})) \\ &= \rho_R \vec{\nabla} (U_R + \psi_0) \quad \psi_0 = \frac{\Omega^2}{2} r^2 \sin^2 \theta \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Linearizing (1)-(2), Boussinesq approximation:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} &= \vec{F}_a + \vec{F}_v + \rho_R \vec{\nabla} (U_f + \psi_f) + \rho_f \vec{\nabla} (U_R + \psi_0) \\ &\quad - \vec{\nabla} P_f - 2\rho_R (\vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge \vec{u}) - \rho_R \dot{\vec{\omega}} \wedge \vec{r} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

$$\rho_f \sim 10^{-3} \rho_R$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \nabla^2 U_f &= -4\pi G \rho_f \\ \vec{\nabla} \psi_f &= \vec{\Omega} \wedge (\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{r}) - \vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge (\vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge \vec{r}) \end{aligned} \right.$$

Slow motions.

$$T \gg 1 \text{ day}$$

$$\vec{\nabla} P_f + 2\rho \vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge \vec{u} = F_{a,v} + \rho_R \vec{\nabla} (U_f + \psi_f) + \rho_f \vec{\nabla} (U_R + \psi_0)$$

At the core surface.

$$F_{cl} \sim 0$$

$$F_{cr} \sim 0$$

(main stream)

$$\rho_R \vec{\nabla} (U_g + \psi_g) + \rho_g \vec{\nabla} (U_R + \psi_R)$$

$$= \vec{\nabla} (\rho_R (U_g + \psi_g) + \rho_g \vec{\nabla} (U_R + \psi_R) - (U_g + \psi_g) \vec{\nabla} \rho_R)$$

\sim radial

horizontal part of
the order of $\rho_g (\hat{n} \cdot \hat{r})$

$$= O(\epsilon^2)$$

It comes

$$\nabla P_g + 2\rho \Omega_0 \wedge u - \nabla P_R (U_g + \psi_g) = A \hat{e}_r$$

$$\nabla (P_g - P_R (U_g + \psi_g)) + 2(\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{u}) = A \hat{e}_r \quad (5)$$

Comparing with the former equation (3)

$$\vec{\nabla} P_{geo} + 2\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{u} = -\rho_i g \hat{n}$$

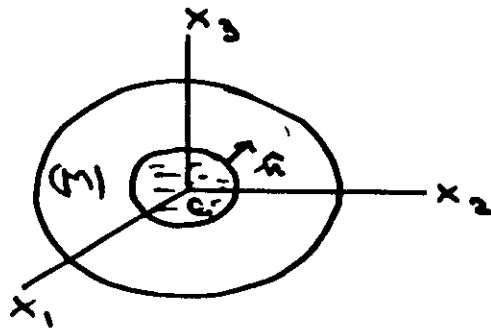
$$\hat{n} = -\hat{e}_r$$

in this approximation

It comes that the pressure determined at the core surface, P_{geo} , when inverting S.V. data, is not P_g but:

$$P_{geo} = P_g - \rho (U_g + \psi_g) \quad (6)$$

2) Expression of the acting torques.



$$\vec{\Gamma}_M = \vec{\Gamma}_R + \vec{\Gamma}_g = \iint_{\text{core}} \rho_f (\vec{r} \wedge \vec{n}) dS + \iiint_{(M)} \vec{r} \wedge \rho_R \vec{\nabla} U_g dV$$

→ (from (5)):

$$\vec{\Gamma}_M = \vec{\Gamma}_{g00} + \iiint_{\text{Terre}} \vec{r} \wedge \rho_f \vec{\nabla} U_f dV + \iiint_{\text{core}} \vec{r} \wedge \rho_R \vec{\nabla} \psi_f dV$$

$$+ \iiint_{\text{core}} (U_f + \psi_f) \vec{r} \wedge \vec{\nabla} \rho_R dV$$

Action and reaction principle →

$$\iiint_{\text{Earth}} \vec{r} \wedge (\rho_R \vec{\nabla} U_g + \rho_f \vec{\nabla} U_R) dV = 0$$

$\rho_f = 0$ in (M)

→

$$\vec{\Gamma}_M = \vec{\Gamma}_{g00} + \iiint_{\text{core}} \vec{r} \wedge ((U_f + \psi_f) \vec{\nabla} \rho_R - \rho_f \vec{\nabla} U_R) dV$$

$$+ \iiint_{\text{core}} \vec{r} \wedge \rho_R \vec{\nabla} \psi_g dV$$

$$\vec{\Gamma}_M = \vec{\Gamma}_{\text{geo}} + \iiint_{\text{core}} \rho_R \vec{r} \wedge \nabla \psi_f dV + \vec{\Gamma}_{\text{rest}} \quad (7)$$

3) Angular momentum equation.

$$\vec{H}^m = \bar{C} \vec{\Omega} \quad \bar{C} = \begin{vmatrix} A & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\left(\frac{d\vec{H}^m}{dt} \right)_r + \vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{H}^m = \vec{\Gamma}_M$$

$$\bar{C} \dot{\vec{\omega}} + (C^m - A^m) \vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{\omega} = \vec{\Gamma}_M$$

But, in (7):

$$\iiint_{\text{core}} (\vec{r} \wedge \rho_R \nabla \psi_f) dV = (C^c - A^c) \vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{\omega}$$

Finally:

$$\boxed{\bar{C}^m \dot{\vec{\omega}} - (C - A) \vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{\omega} = \vec{\Gamma}_{\text{geo}} + \vec{\Gamma}_{\text{rest}} \quad (8)}$$

C, A : whole Earth

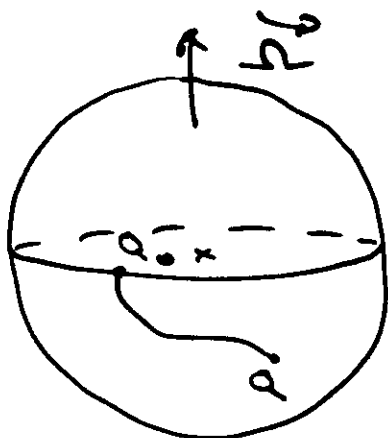
$$\vec{\Gamma}_{\text{rest}} = \iiint_{\text{core}} \vec{r} \wedge [(\rho_f + \psi_f) \vec{\nabla} \rho_R - \rho_f \vec{\nabla} \rho_R] dV \quad (9)$$

$$O \left[\rho \times (\hat{n} - \hat{r}) \right]$$

4) Computation of Γ_{geo}

Formula (9) of part I:

$$\vec{\nabla}_H r = -2\rho(\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{u})_H \quad (10)$$



\vec{u} known

$r = \text{cte}$ on the equator : $(\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{u})_H = 0$

we can take $r(\varphi, \frac{\pi}{2}) = 0$

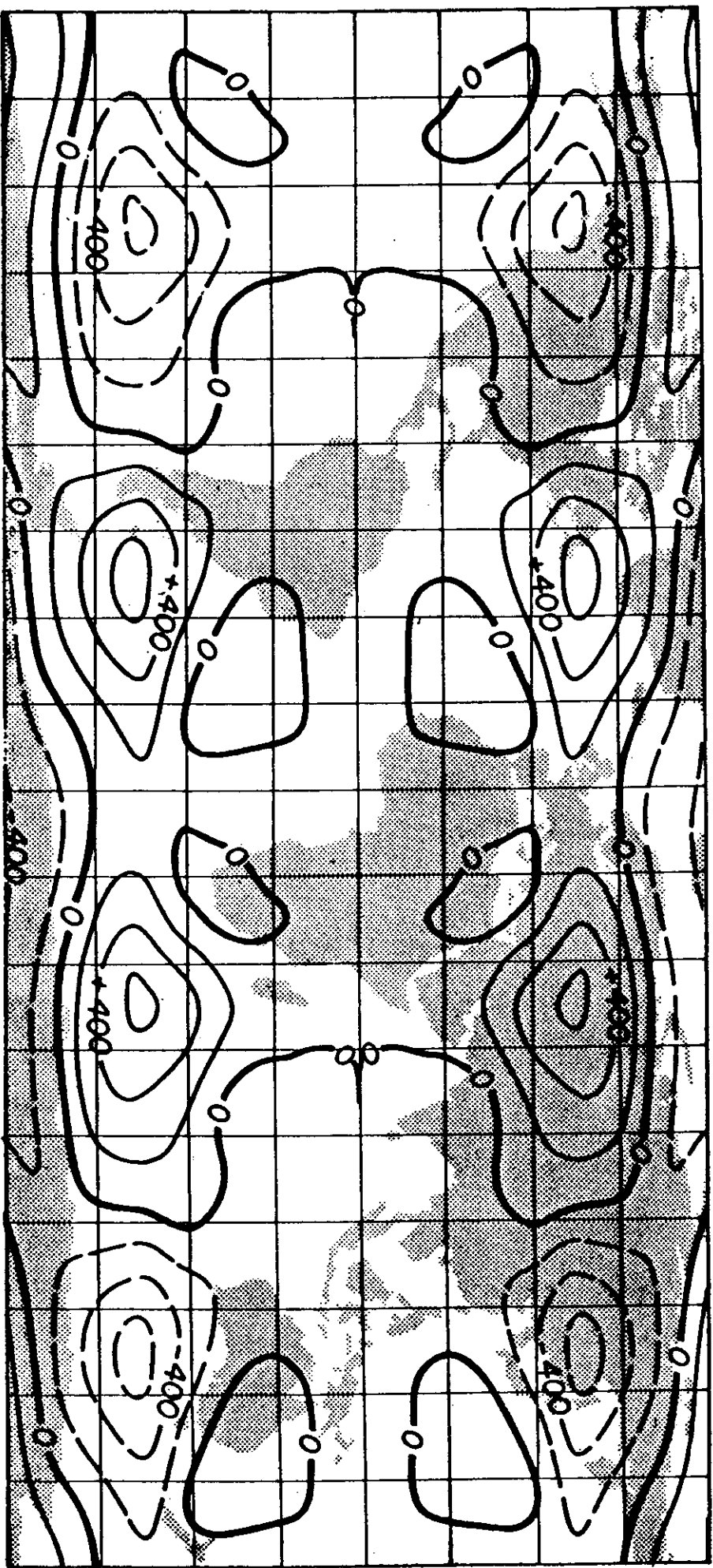
Then (10) gives

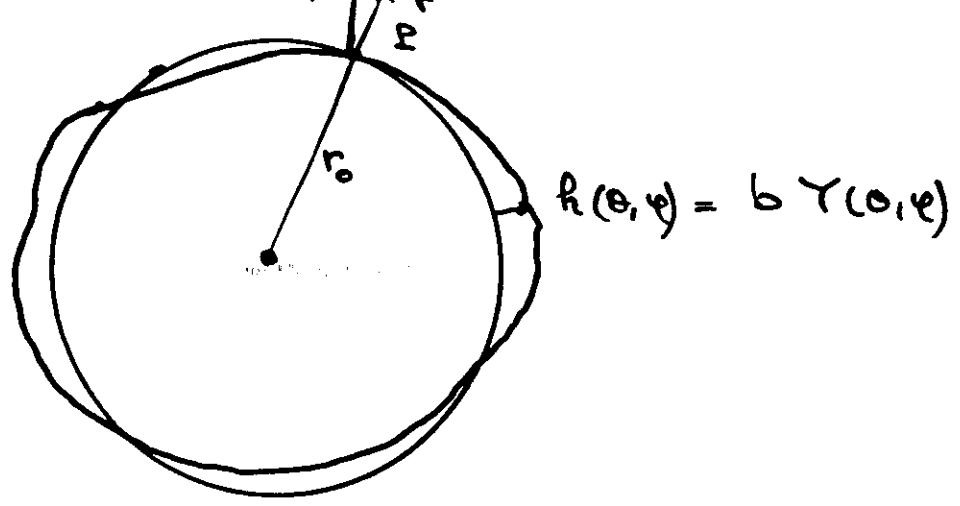
$$\boxed{r(\alpha) = - \int_{\alpha_0}^{\alpha} 2\rho(\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{u})_H \cdot \vec{de}} \quad (11)$$

$$r \equiv P_{geo} = \sum_{n,m} [r_n^m Y_n^{nc}(\theta, \varphi) + q_n^m Y_n^{ns}(\theta, \varphi)]$$

$$\Gamma_{geo} = \iint_{CMB} \vec{r} \wedge r \hat{n} dS$$

Contours interval 200 Pa





1) The CMB is axisymmetric elliptical (hydrostatic figure)

$$\hat{n} = \hat{r} - \alpha_c \sin 2\theta \hat{\theta}$$

α_c : geometrical ellipticity $\sim 1/400$

2) The CMB is bumpy

$$h(\theta, \varphi) = b Y(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$Y(\theta, \varphi) = \sum_{n,m} a_{nm} Y_n^{mc}(\theta, \varphi) + b_{nm} Y_n^{ms}(\theta, \varphi)$$

$$\hat{n} = \hat{r} - \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} - \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \varphi} \hat{\varphi}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mu \\ Y \end{array} \right.$ known from magnetic data
 from seismology?

→

Γ_{geo}

$$\vec{r}_\lambda \mu \hat{n} dS = b \mu \left[\frac{\partial Y}{\sin \theta \partial \varphi} \hat{\theta} - \frac{\partial Y}{\partial \theta} \hat{\varphi} \right] dS$$

$$\vec{\Gamma}_{geo} = \iint_{CMB} r \left(\frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} \hat{\theta} - \frac{\partial h}{\partial \phi} \hat{\phi} \right) dS$$

Orthogonality relationships \rightarrow numerous interaction terms cancel

If the figure of the CMB is hydrostatic, only the term

$$P = \pi_2^{1c} + i \pi_2^{2s}$$

is efficient

C. Comparison with observations.

c.1. Decade variations of the mean pole position.

Equatorial component of (8):

$$A^m \frac{d\vec{\omega}_{eq}}{dt} - (C-A) \vec{\Omega}_0 \wedge \vec{\omega}_{eq} = \vec{\Gamma}_{geo} e_{eq} \quad (9)$$

$\vec{\Gamma}_{rest}$ being neglected

$$A^m \dot{\omega}_1 + \Omega_0 (C-A) \omega_2 = \Gamma_{geo1}$$

$$A^m \dot{\omega}_2 - \Omega_0 (C-A) \omega_1 = \Gamma_{geo2}$$

$$A^m \dot{\omega} - i(C-A)\Omega_0 \omega = \Gamma \quad (10)$$

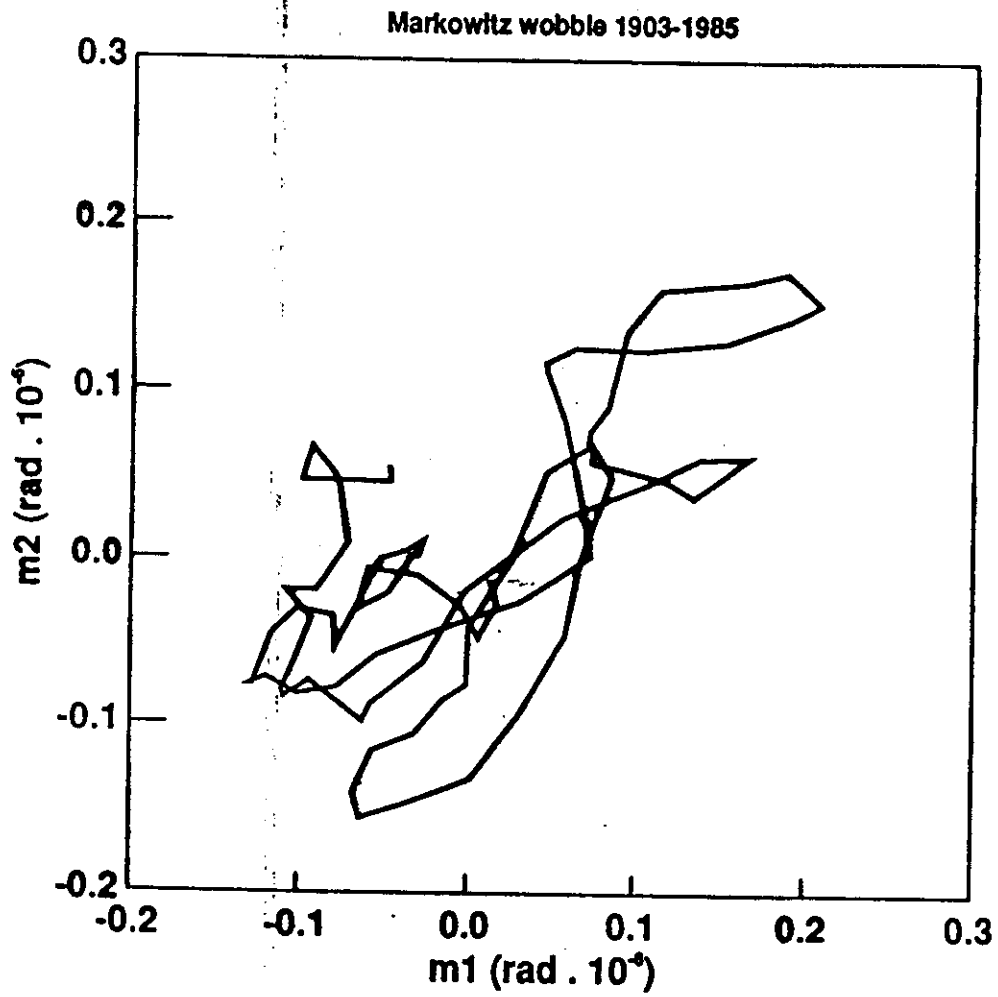
$$\omega = \omega_1 + i\omega_2$$

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_{geo1} + i\Gamma_{geo2}$$

$$A^m \sim .33 M a^2 \sim 7.2 \cdot 10^{37} \text{ kg m}^2$$

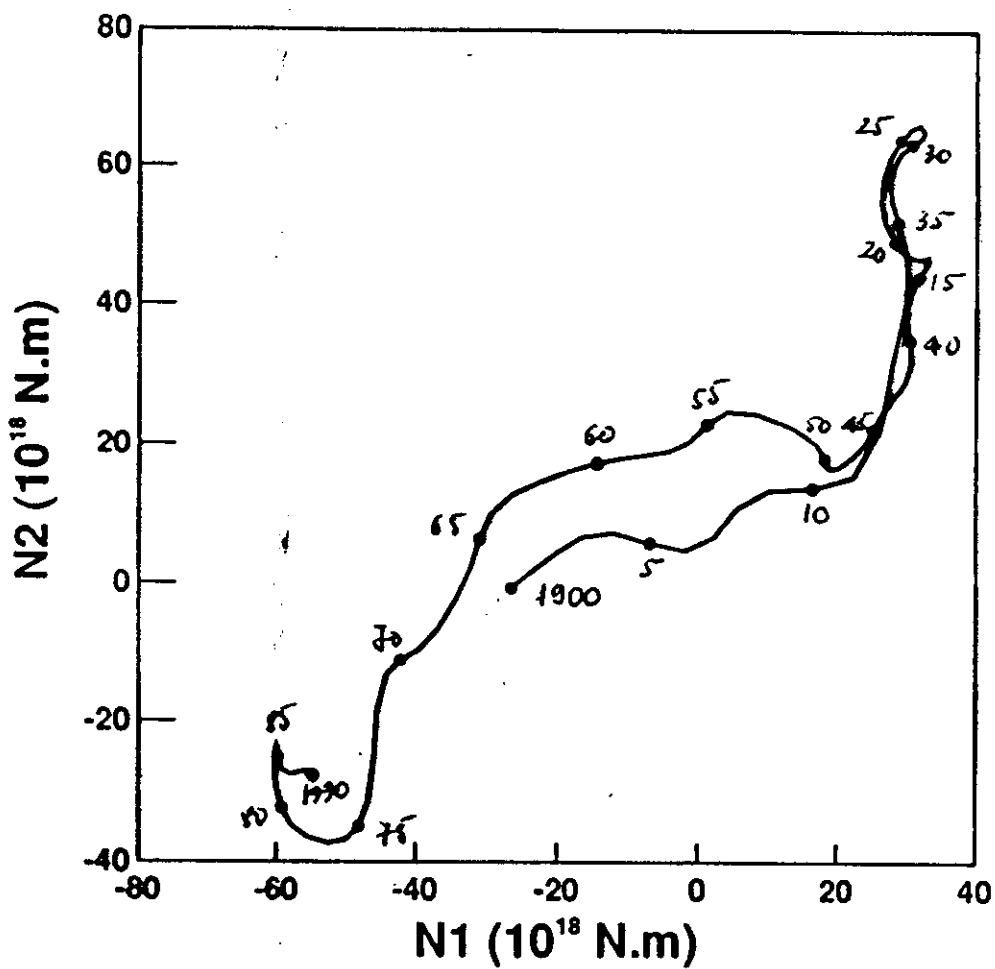
$$(C-A) \sim 2.4 \cdot 10^{35} \text{ kg m}^2$$

$$\Omega_0 \sim 7.3 \cdot 10^{-5}$$



linear trend removed

Couple de Pression. (somme) 1900-1990



Axial rotation. Decade length of the day variation

Component of (3) along the Ox_3 axis:

$$C^m \frac{d}{dt} (\Omega_0 + \omega_3) = \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\Gamma}_{\text{geo}} \quad (13)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\Gamma}_{\text{geo}} &= \iint_{\text{CMO}} \left(r \frac{\partial h}{\sin \theta \partial \varphi} \hat{\theta} - \frac{\partial h}{\partial \varphi} \hat{\varphi} \right) dS \cdot \vec{k} \\ &= \iint_{\text{CMO}} r \frac{\partial h}{\sin \theta \partial \varphi} \hat{\theta} \cdot \vec{k} dS = - \iint_{\text{CMO}} r \frac{\partial h}{\partial \varphi} dS \end{aligned}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{geo}3} = \iint_{\text{CMO}} r \frac{\partial r}{\partial \varphi} dS \quad (14)$$

$$r = r_{\text{geo}}$$

Remark. The pressure associated to the zonal (axisymmetric) toroidal part of \vec{u} gives no contribution to the torque.

If $h \sim$ a few km (Morelli and Djewowski)
 $p \sim$ a few 10^2 Pa

$\Gamma_{\text{geo axial}}$ is 10 to 10^2 too large, i.e. larger than allowed by observations.

In fact $\Gamma_{\text{geo axial}} \sim 10^{19}$ Nm

One interpretation:

$$\int R \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} ds \ll \langle h \rangle \langle \rho \rangle$$

As a consequence the flow is locked with respect to the mantle.

No hope to compute Γ_{axial}

but:

Variations of the angular momentum of the core.

For the time constants considered here - from a few years to a few tens of years -, the changes in the pressure field induce a time varying geostrophic flow organized in cylindrical annulus (propagation)

Reason (partial)

$$2\rho \vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{v} + \vec{\nabla} p = 0$$

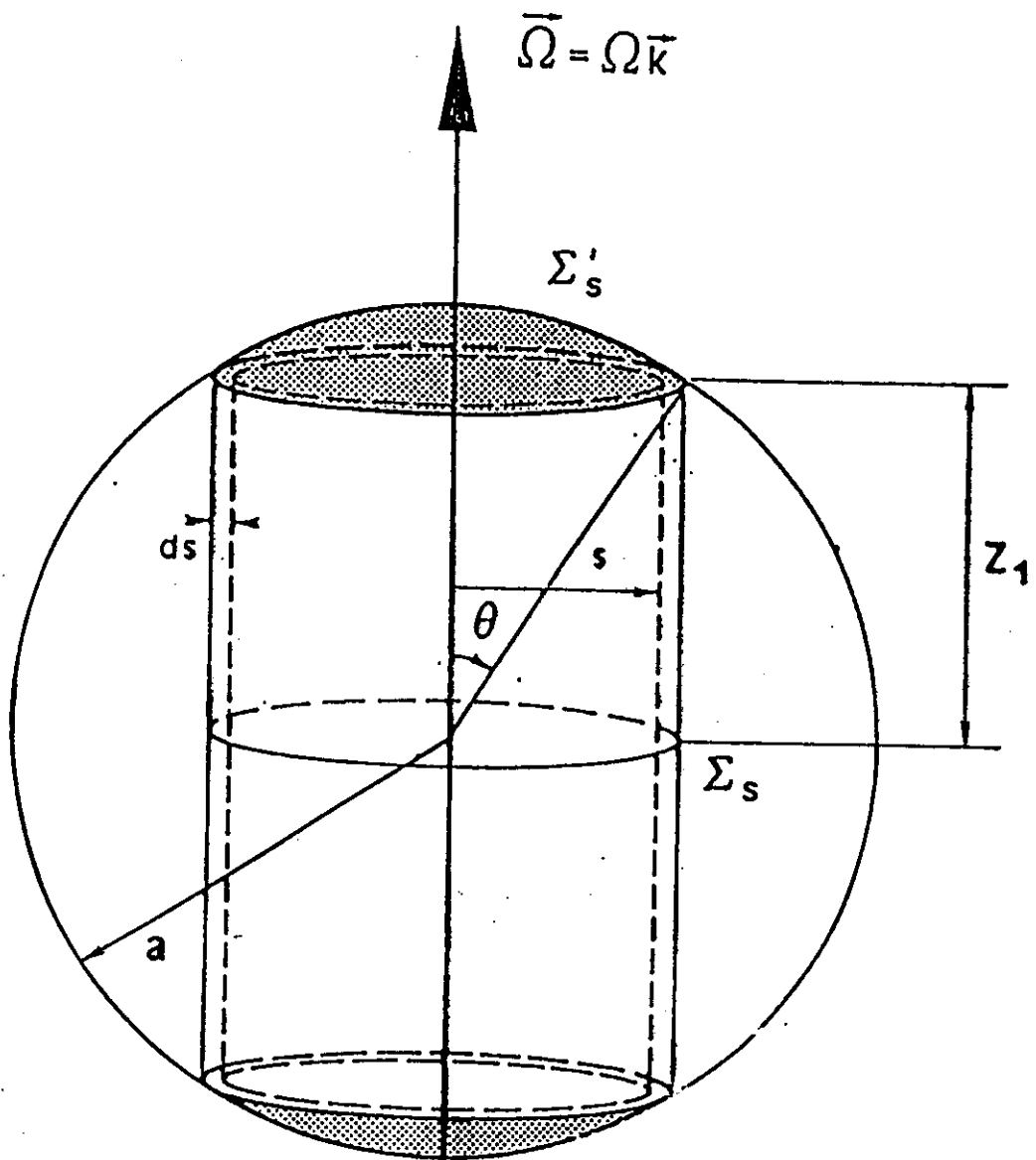
$$\rightarrow \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{\Omega} \wedge \vec{v}) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} = 0}$$

Proudman-Taylor

C. f. dynamo lectures

Only $v(\cdot) \hat{\varphi}$



angular rotation of $C(s)$: $\beta(s)$
linear velocity : $v(s)$

Angular momentum equation

$$C(\lambda) : I(\lambda) \left(\frac{d\beta}{dt} + \frac{d\omega_3}{dt} \right) = b^2 \sin \theta \int_0, \pi-\theta h \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \varphi} d\varphi d\theta$$

$$I(\lambda) = 4\pi \rho b^5 \cos^2 \theta \sin^3 \theta d\theta$$



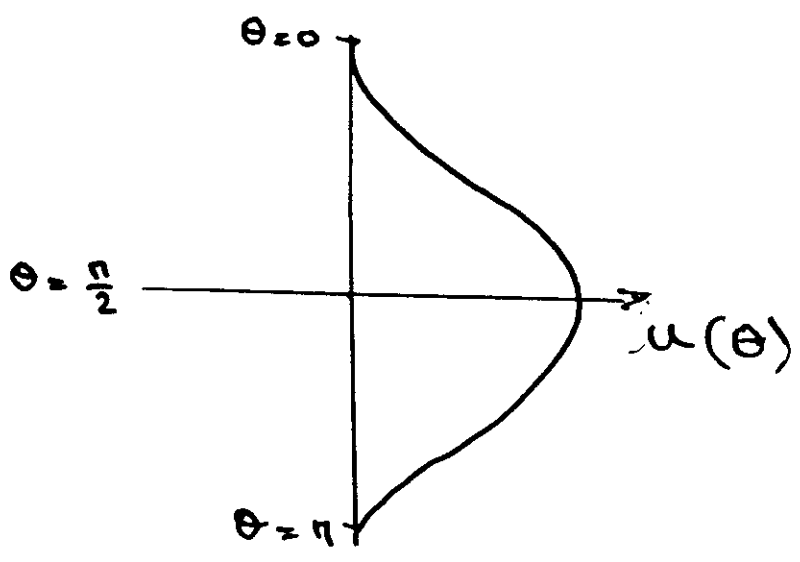
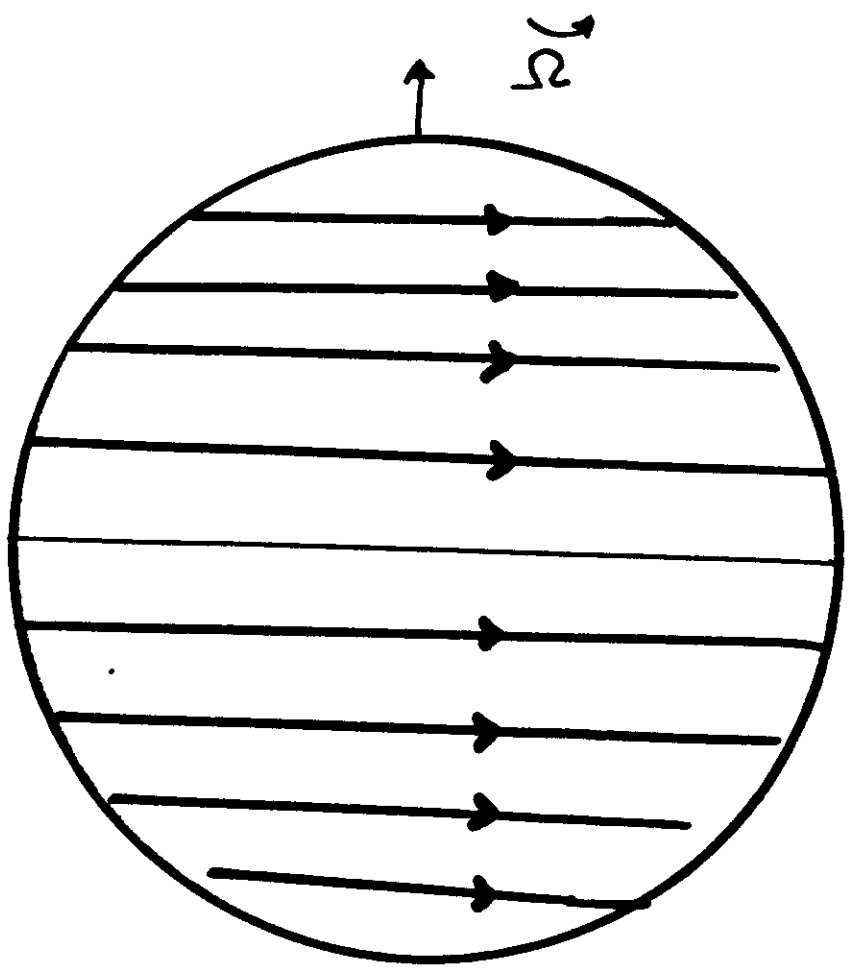
$$\frac{d\beta}{dt} + \frac{d\omega_3}{dt} = \frac{1}{4\pi \rho b^3 \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \theta} \int_0, \pi-\theta h \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \varphi} d\varphi$$

Same practical difficulty to compute the torque.

But $\vec{T}_n^o(\theta, t) = -b t_n^o(t) \vec{n} \wedge \vec{\nabla}_H^o P_n(\cos \theta)$

known from S.V data inversion. Let us assume that the toroidal zonal part of the computed tangentially geostrophic flow is the surface expression of the geostrophic flow $\beta(\lambda)$. Then $\beta(\lambda)$ is known. The geostrophic volume flow organized in cylindrical annuli is known.

\vec{t}



In fact the angular momentum (axial) of this flow can be shown to be:

$$H_c = C^c \left(\omega_3 + \frac{1}{b} \left(t_1^0 + \frac{12}{7} t_3^0 \right) \right)$$

Rather:

$$\frac{dH_c}{dt} = C^c \left[\frac{d\omega_3}{dt} + \frac{1}{b} \left(\frac{dt_1^0}{dt} + \frac{12}{7} \frac{dt_3^0}{dt} \right) \right]$$

The whole Earth is isolated.

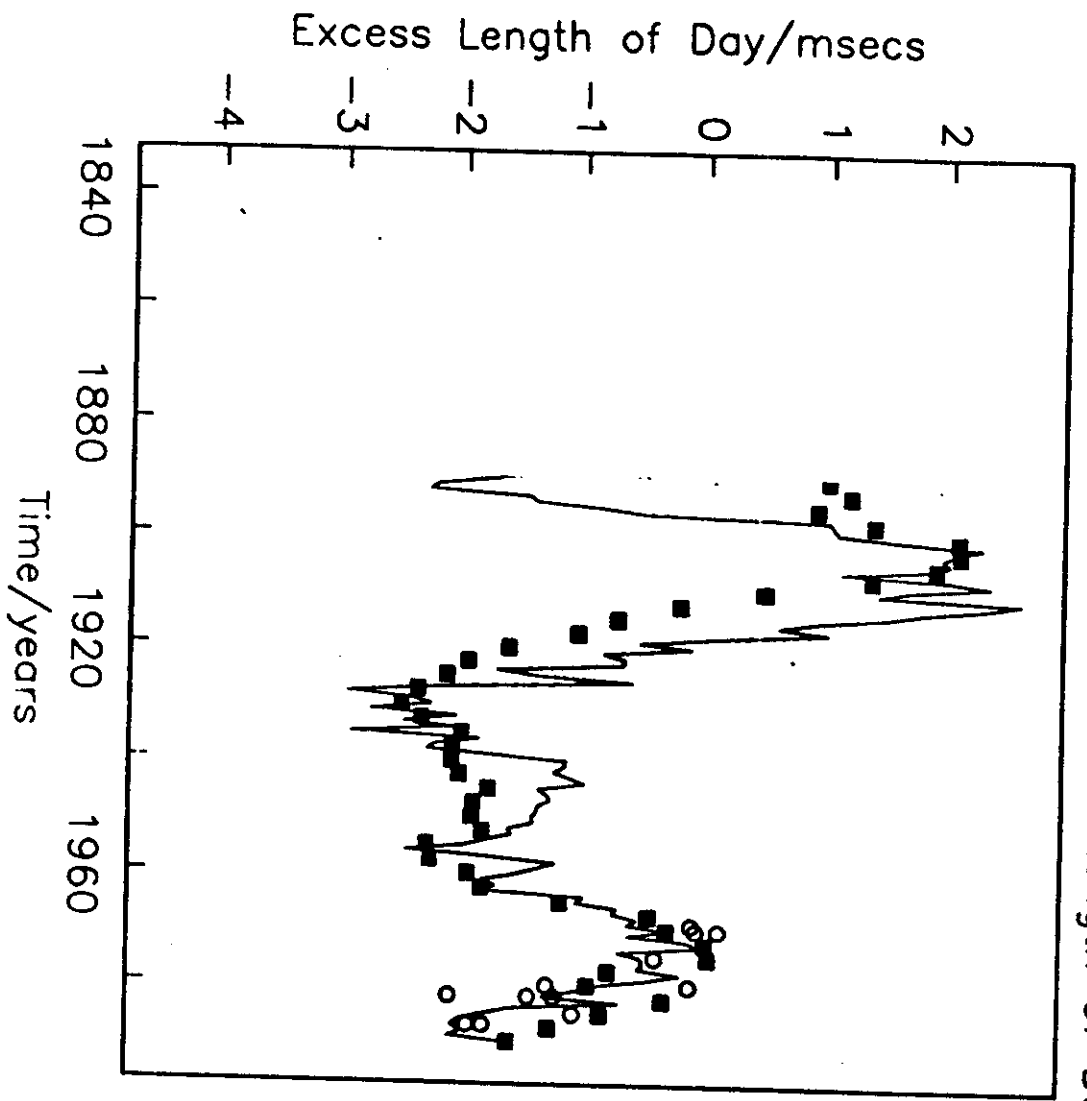
$$\frac{dH_m}{dt} + \frac{dH_c}{dt} = 0$$

$$(C^c + C^m) \frac{d\omega_3}{dt} + C^c \frac{1}{b} \left(\frac{dt_1^0}{dt} + \frac{12}{7} \frac{dt_3^0}{dt} \right)$$

↑
l.o.d data

↑
magnetic data

Observed and Predicted Excess Length of Day

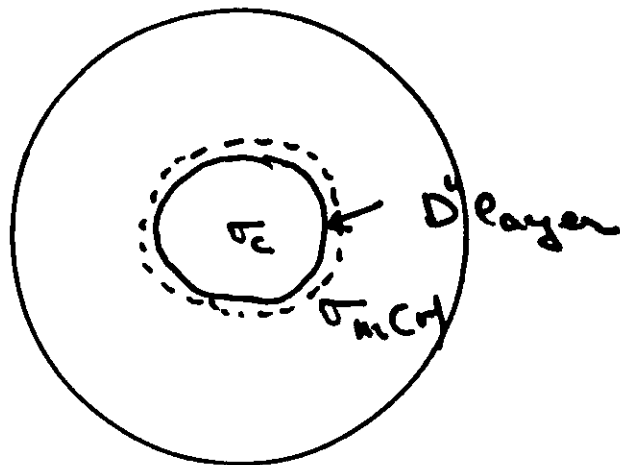


○ Jault, Gire & Lemouel (1988)

■ This study
(Bloxham, Jackson, Gershwin)

D. Electromagnetic coupling.

26 (10)



$$\int \sigma_m(r) dr = \sigma_m L_m$$

1) Experimental results

$$\sigma_m L_m \sim 10^6 \Omega + (\sigma L) D_e^4$$

2) Analysis of short events of secular variation

$$\tau_e \sim \mu \sigma_m L_m^2 < 1 \text{ year}$$

$$\sigma_m L_m = \frac{\tau_e}{\mu L_m}$$

τ_e given
 L_m is, $\sigma_m L_m \nearrow$

It is the quantity $\sigma_m L_m$ which is relevant in the computation of the electromagnetic torque.

$$\Gamma_{el} \sim A \sigma_M L_M \frac{t_0}{b} \quad (15)$$

To get the observed accelerations, taken into account the estimated value of t_0 , one needs

$$\sigma_M L_M \sim 3 \cdot 10^8 \text{ S}$$

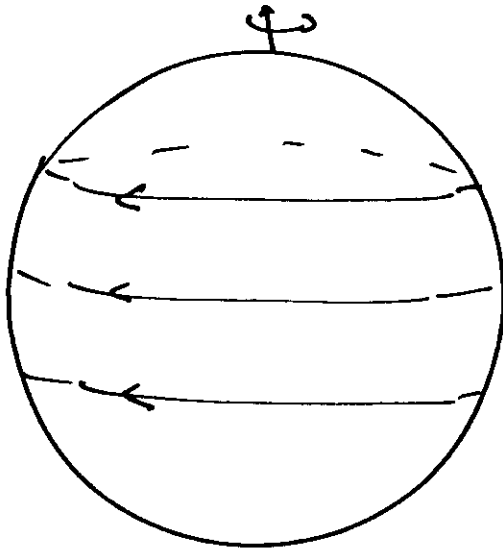
$$D'' : \underline{200 \text{ km} \times 1000 (\Omega m)^{-1}} \quad ?$$

Contamination of oxides by iron from the mantle ?
 (Poirier and Goffard, 199)

Furthermore, for the last decades, the magnetic torque (15) seems to act the wrong way.

28

MHD interaction between a bumpy interface
and a flow over it.



If \vec{u}_0 is zonal toroidal

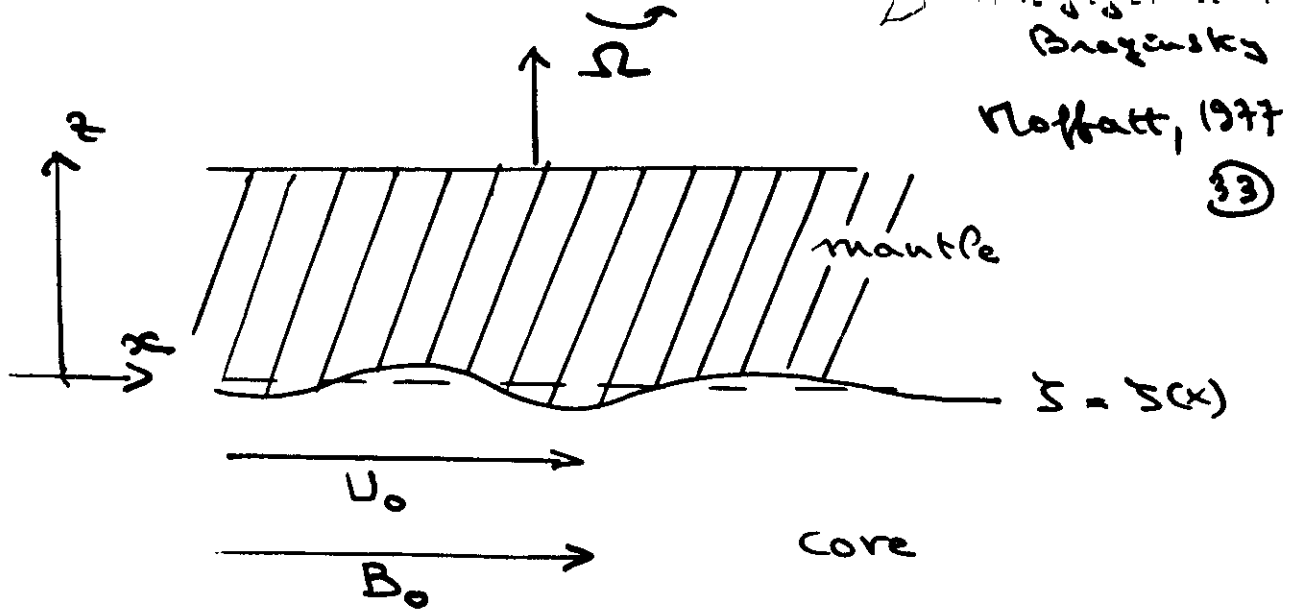
$$g(\psi) = 0, \quad \Gamma_{\psi} \equiv 0$$

But considering the full MHD problem

(Anufriev and Braginsky, Moffatt, Moffatt and Dillon, El Tayeb and Hassan, Hassan and El Tayeb)

$$F_D \sim C_T \Omega \rho U_0 r \quad (\text{Hide, 1977})$$

↓
drag coefficient



$$z(x) = \text{Re}(\hat{z} e^{ikx})$$

$$H_0 = (\mu_0 \rho_c)^{-1/2} B_0$$

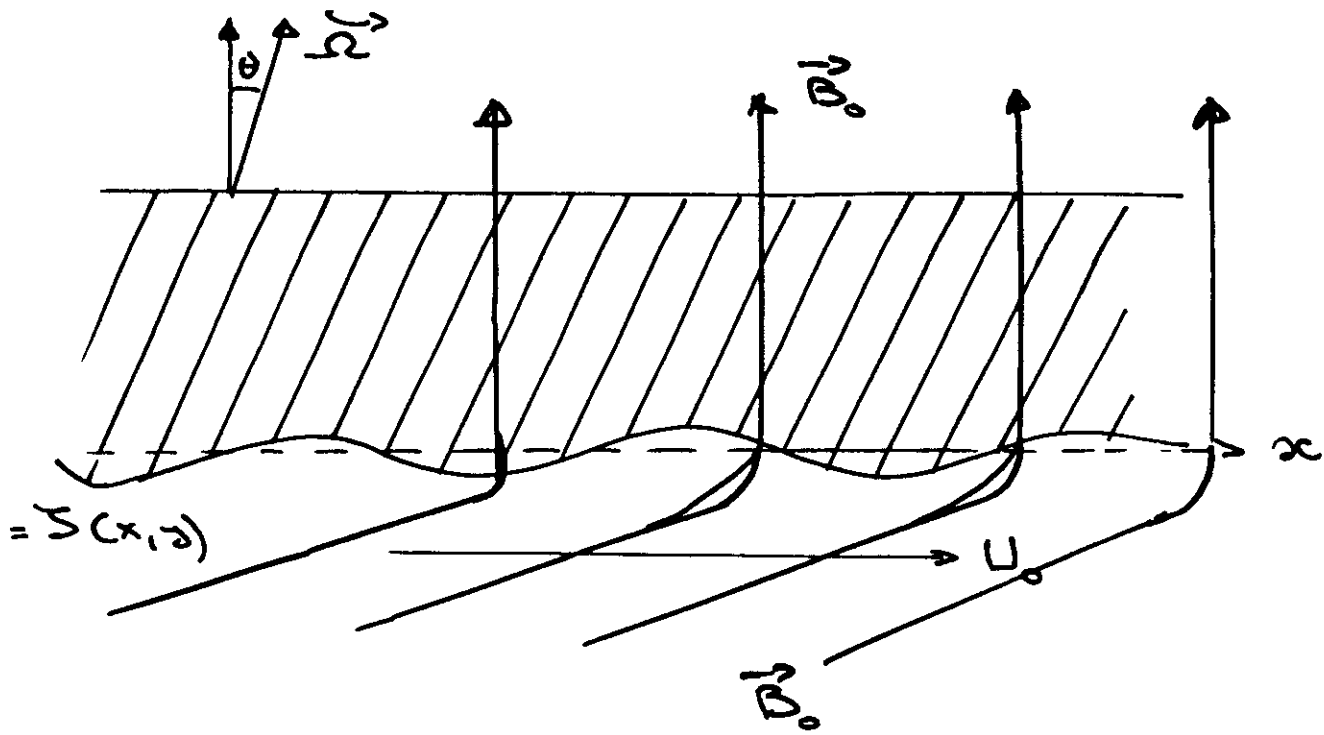
Alfvén velocity

→

$$F_c \sim \rho_c H_0^2 k^2 |\hat{z}|^2$$

can indeed reach $10^{-2} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}^2$

($U_0 \sim 10^{-4} \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$)



$$\rightarrow F_t \sim |\xi|^2 f(k_0)$$

$$k_0 = \frac{B_T}{B_P}$$

get $F_t \sim 10^{-2} \text{ N m}^{-2}$

Difficulty to transpose to the spherical case:

$$\frac{d\sigma_r}{dt} = - (I_m + I_e) \frac{dR}{dt} = \vec{k}^2 \cdot \int_{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho \vec{u}) dr$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} \equiv 0 \rightarrow \frac{dR}{dt} = 0 \text{ or } \Gamma_e = 0$$

Lorentz force.

$$I(\dot{\alpha}) \frac{\partial \omega(\dot{\alpha})}{\partial \dot{\alpha}} = \Gamma_p(\dot{\alpha}) + \Gamma_g(\dot{\alpha}) + \Gamma_L(\dot{\alpha})$$

$$\Gamma_L(\dot{\alpha}) = \frac{2\pi}{\mu} \int_{-\alpha_1}^{\alpha_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} (\langle \alpha^2 B_x B_y \rangle) d\alpha$$

with

$$\langle B_x B_y \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} B_x B_y d\varphi$$

$$\frac{\partial B_y}{\partial \alpha} = \alpha B_x \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial \alpha}$$

→ string problem

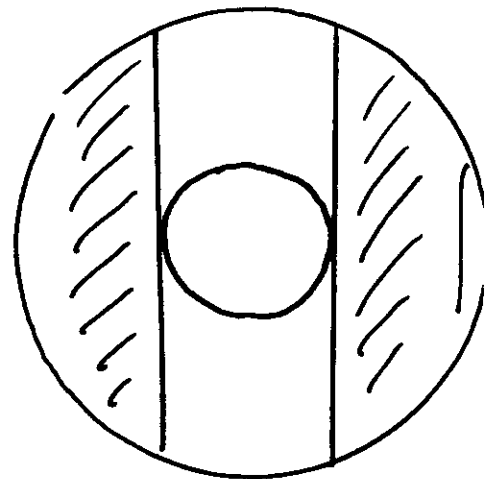
elasticity $\sim B_x^2$

Period of oscillation

$$\sim \frac{1}{b}$$

~ 60 years

for $b = \sqrt{B_x^2} \sim 2$ Gauss



But: is there any evidence of this

period in

p.o.d. data

magnetic data

?

Conclusion:

34

More studies of the CMB, of
the D⁺ layer: SEDI

More magnetic observations
(INTERMAGNET)

and data analysis

