



*The Abdus Salam*  
*International Centre for Theoretical Physics*



2023-3

## **Workshop on Topics in Quantum Turbulence**

***16 - 20 March 2009***

**Between the Kolmogorov and Kelvin-wave cascades**

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ETH  
Zurich  
Switzerland

# Between the Kolmogorov and Kelvin-wave cascades

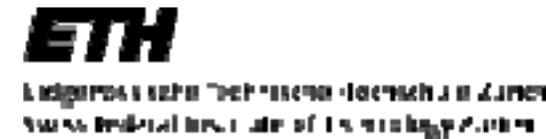
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**Evgeny Kozik (UMass, ETHZ)**

**Boris Svistunov (UMass)**



UNIVERSITY OF  
Massachusetts Amherst

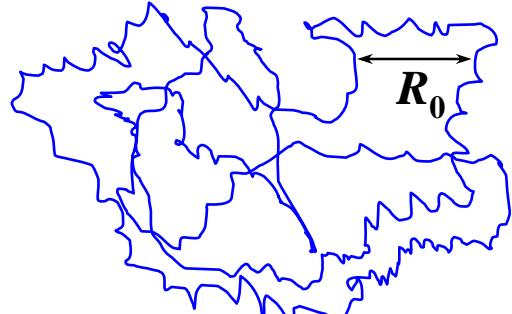


# Outline

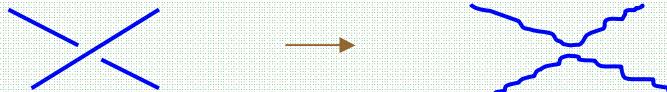
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- What do we learn from the decay of non-structured tangles?  
bottleneck-like effect, Kelvin-wave cascades
- Quasi-classical tangles in detail  
Kolmogorov vs. Kelvin-wave cascade  
bottleneck proposal  
reconnection-driven crossover regime
- Finite T effects  
Scanning the cascade by mutual friction cutoff

## Non-structured tangles at T=0: Decay Scenario overview



• Random reconnections at the largest scale  $\lambda \sim R_0$  generate energy flux  $\theta \sim \kappa^3 \ln^2(R_0 / a_0) R_0^{-2}$  :



**Generation of Kelvin Waves**

**Nonlinear KW interactions are too weak to support the flux  $\theta$  !**

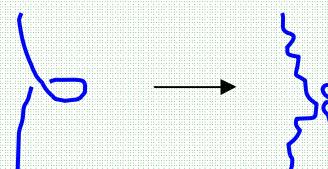
$\lambda < R_0$  : “Bottleneck” accumulation of energy...  
... until:

• Self-reconnections

large amplitudes

$$b_k k \sim 1$$

Svistunov (1995)



## Non-structured tangles at T=0: overview

length scales

$R_0$

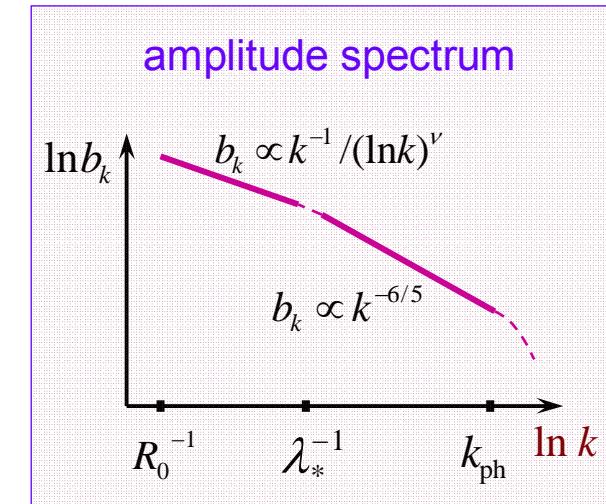
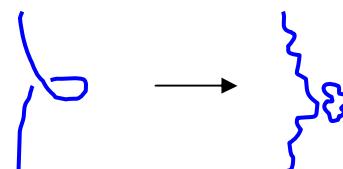
- Reconnections at  $\lambda \sim R_0$  :



- Self-reconnections at  $\lambda < R_0$ , large amplitudes:

B.V. Svistunov (1995).

$$b_k k \sim 1$$

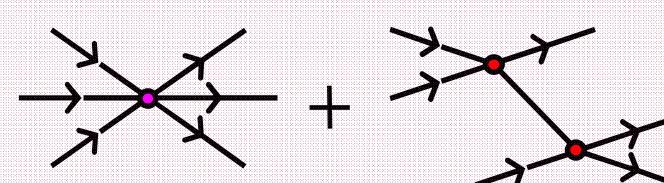
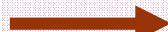


$\lambda_*$

- Purely non-linear kinetics at  $\lambda < \lambda_* \ll R_0$ , small amplitudes:

E.V. Kozik and B.V. Svistunov, Phys. Rev. Lett. 92, 035301 (2004).

$$b_k k \ll 1$$

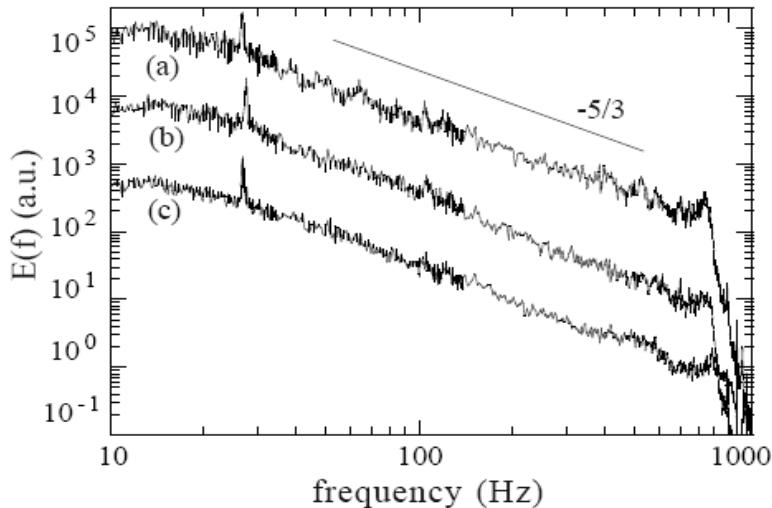


3-kelvon scattering

## Superfluid Turbulence Behaving Classically

experiments:

J. Maurer and P. Tabeling, in superfluid He-4:



Classical Kolmogorov law at large scales

$$E(k) \sim \varepsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

When turbulence is generated classically (by “stirring”)

S. R. Stalp, L. Skrbek, and R. J. Donnelly, Phys. Rev. Lett. **82**, 4831 (1999).

In simulations

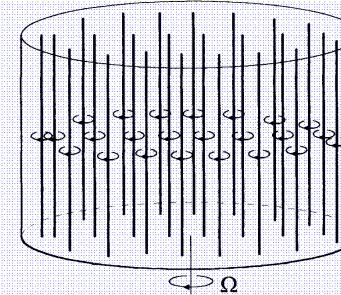
C. Nore, M. Abid, and M.E. Brachet, Phys. Rev. Lett. **78**, 3896 (1997).

T=0 :

- He-3: D. I. Bradley, D. O. Clubb, S. N. Fisher, A. M. Gue'nault, R. P. Haley, C. J. Matthews, G. R. Pickett, V. Tsepelin, and K. Zaki, Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 035301 (2006).
- He-4: P. M. Walmsley, A. I. Golov, H. E. Hall, A. A. Levchenko, and W. F. Vinen, Phys. Rev. Lett. **99**, 265302 (2007).

## Superfluid Turbulence Behaving Classically: general picture

- main parameter -- **Kolmogorov energy flux  $\mathcal{E}$**
- $\mathcal{E}$  is formed by the **largest** classical eddies
- classical eddy in a superfluid  $\leftrightarrow$  **array of vortex lines**  $\rightarrow$



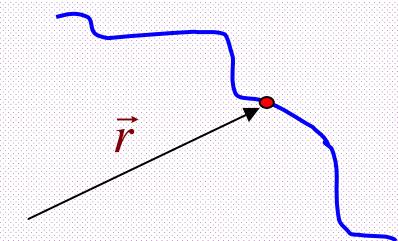
**The existence of the Richardson cascade in superfluids is not trivial !!!**

Formal proof:

Biot-Savart equation for quantized vortex lines:

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \int (\vec{r}_0 - \vec{r}) \times d\vec{l}_0 / |\vec{r}_0 - \vec{r}|^3$$

In terms of vorticity,  $\vec{\omega}_{\vec{k}} = \kappa \int e^{-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r}} d\vec{l}$ , becomes: (  **$\kappa$  drops out!!!** )

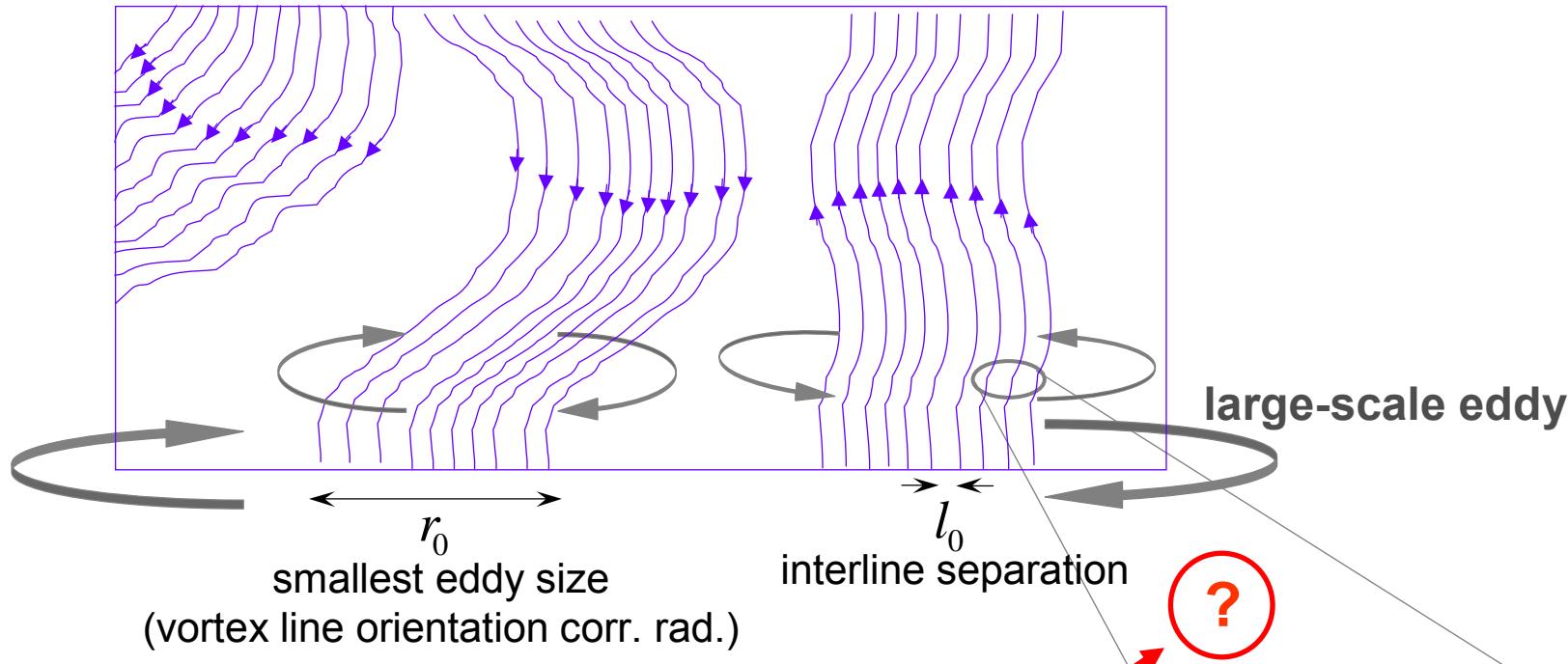


$$\frac{\partial \vec{\omega}_{\vec{k}}}{\partial t} = \vec{k} \times \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} q^{-2} \left\{ \left( \vec{k} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{\vec{k}-\vec{q}} \right) \vec{\omega}_{\vec{q}} - \left( \vec{\omega}_{\vec{q}} \cdot \vec{\omega}_{\vec{k}-\vec{q}} \right) \vec{q} \right\}$$

**Vorticity equation for an ideal incompressible classical fluid**

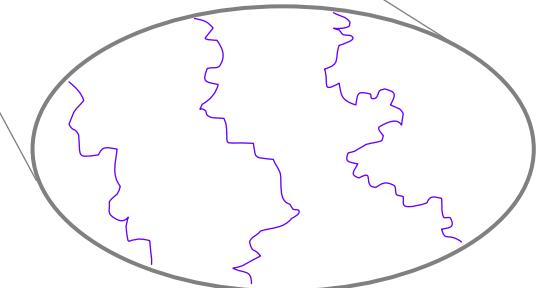
What is different at T=0?

Coupled motion at large scales: **Kolmogorov cascade**



**What lies between?**

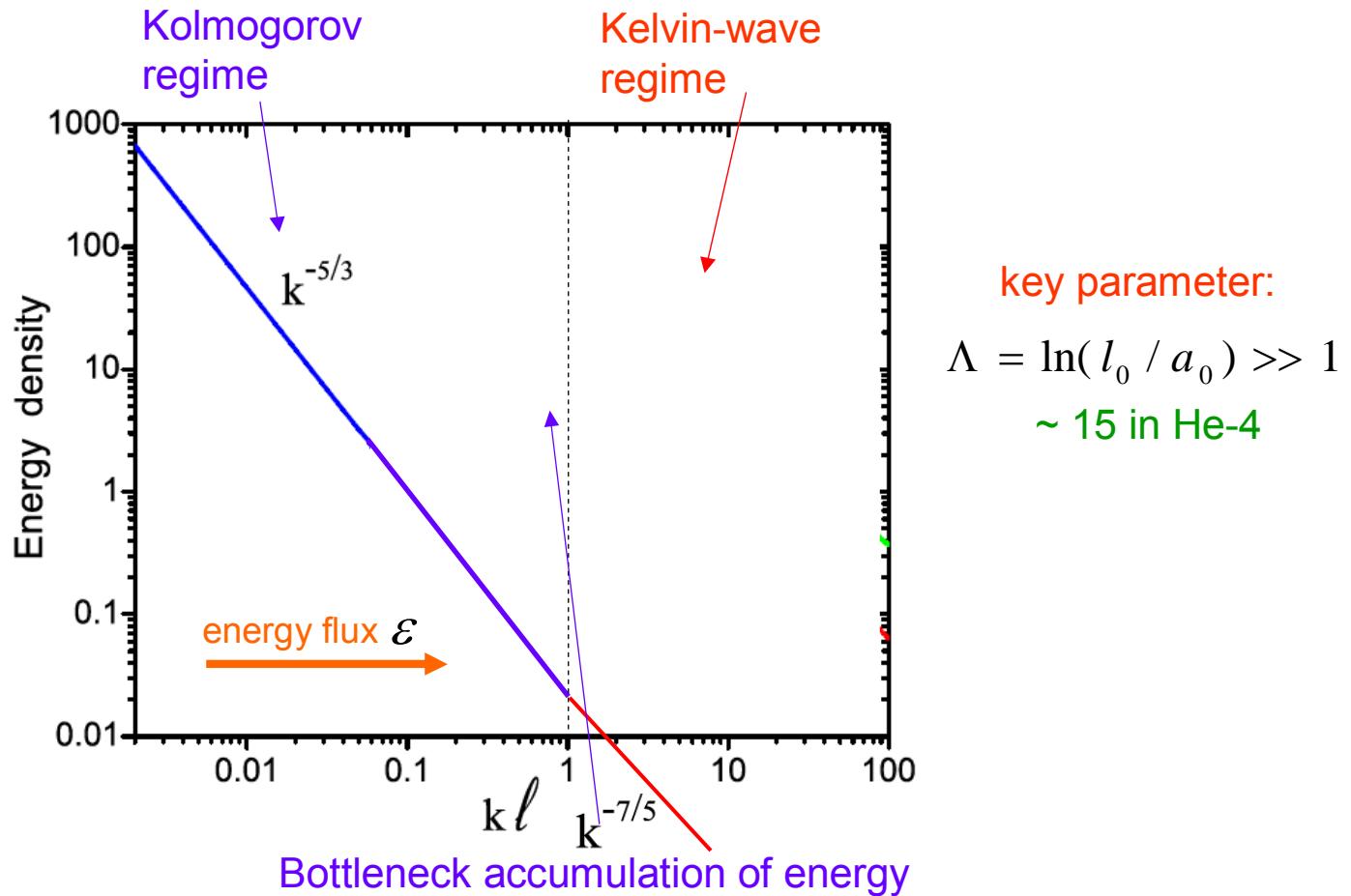
- How are the Kelvin waves generated?
- At what scales?



**pure Kelvin-Wave cascade**

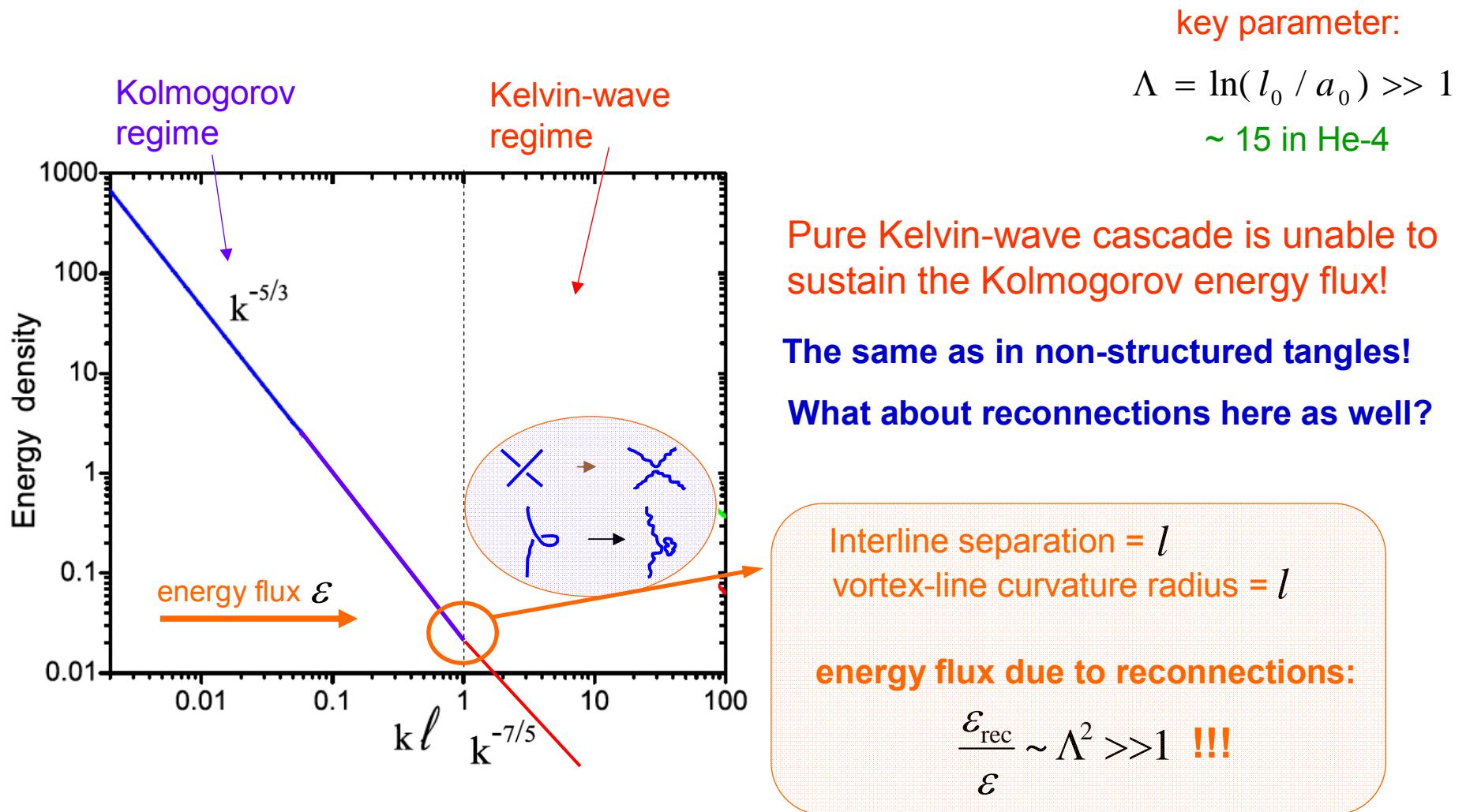
## Energy Bottleneck idea

L'vov, Nazaranko, Rudenko, PRB **76**, 024520 (2007).



Pure Kelvin-wave cascade is unable to sustain the Kolmogorov energy flux!

One step back...



Anti-bottleneck???

Something must be happening before we reach the scale  $l$  !!!

## Superfluid Turbulence Behaving Classically: Classical to Quantized crossover

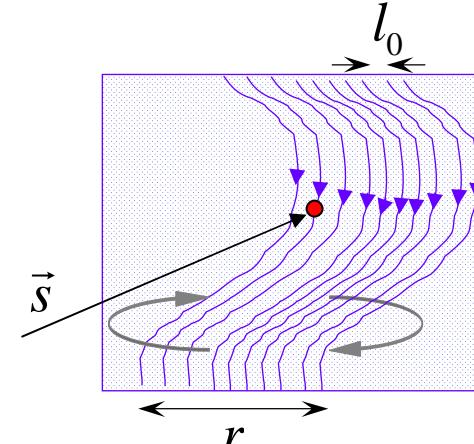
Kozik and Svistunov, 2007

T=0, only degrees of freedom --- vortex lines:

$$\dot{\vec{s}} = \vec{v}(\vec{s}), \quad \vec{v}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\kappa}{4\pi} \int \frac{(\vec{s}_0 - \vec{r}) \times d\vec{s}_0}{|\vec{s}_0 - \vec{r}|^3}$$

$$\vec{v}(\vec{s}) = \vec{v}^{\text{SI}}(\vec{s}) + \vec{v}^{\text{I}}(\vec{s})$$

$\int \dots$  containing  $\vec{s}$        $\int \dots$  the rest  
 (self-induced)      (induced by other lines)



controlling parameter

$$\Lambda = \ln(l_0 / a_0) \gg 1$$

$\sim 15$  in He-4

Kolmogorov vs. quantized regime:

Competition between  $v^{\text{SI}}$  and  $v^{\text{I}}$  !

$$v^{\text{SI}} \sim \Lambda \kappa / r$$

$$N_r -$$

$$v^{\text{I}} \sim N_r \kappa / r$$

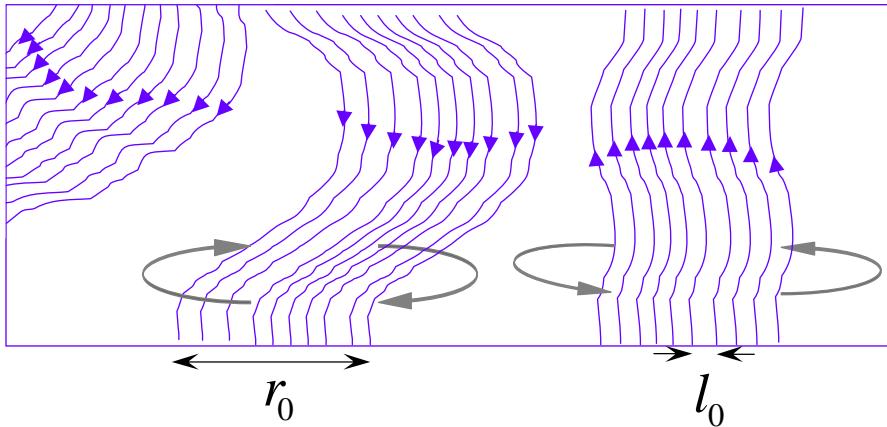
number of lines in  
eddy of size  $r$

Crossover scale:

$$r_0 \sim \Lambda^{1/2} l_0$$

## The crossover scale $r_0$

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**Kolmogorov regime (  $v_r \sim (\varepsilon r)^{1/3}$  ):**

**number of lines** in an eddy of size  $r$

$$N_r \sim \varepsilon^{1/3} r^{4/3} / \kappa$$

competes with the **L.I.A. parameter**

$$\Lambda_r = \ln(r/a_0) \sim \Lambda = \ln(l_0/a_0)$$

$N_r \gg \Lambda$  - quasi-classical regime

$N_r \ll \Lambda$  - quantized regime

crossover scale  $r_0 \sim \Lambda^{1/2} l_0$

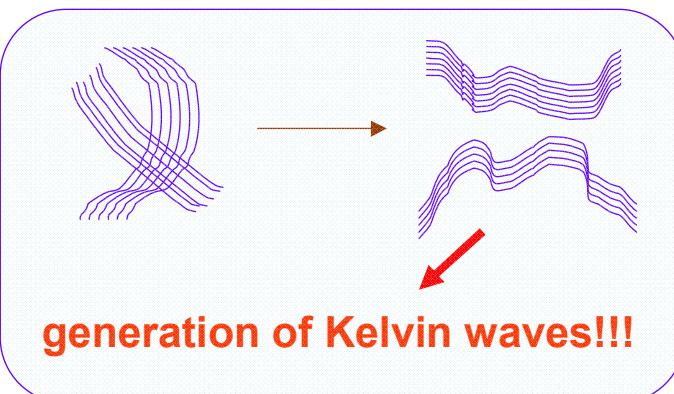
interline separation  $l_0 \sim (\Lambda \kappa^3 / \varepsilon)^{1/4}$

At the scale  $r_0$  :

- vortex lines are moving independently
- bundle decoherence time > vortex-line turnover time



reconnections of bundles



**generation of Kelvin waves!!!**

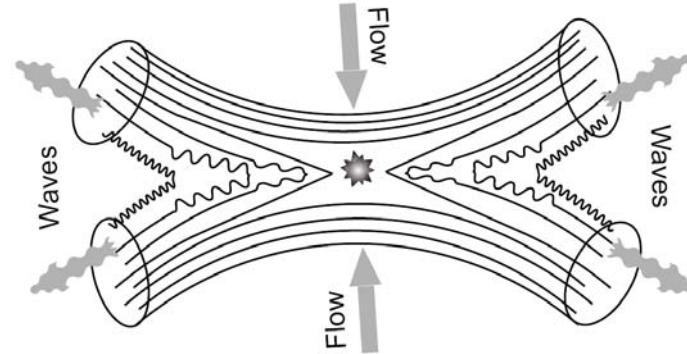
## The controversy!

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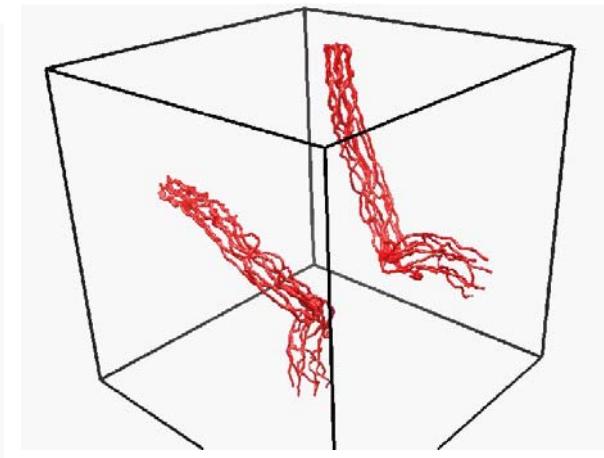
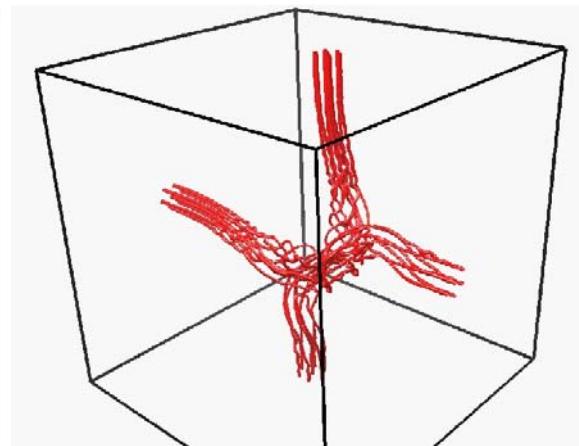
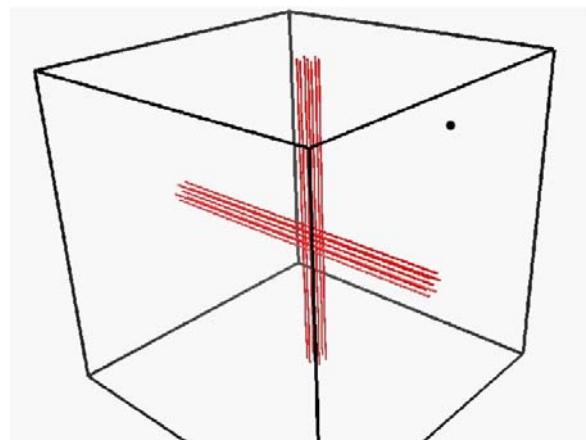
An objection by L'vov, Nazaranko, and Rudenko:

PRB **76**, 024520 (2007)

Bundle reconnections as seen by L'vov, *et al.*:



However, in simulations:

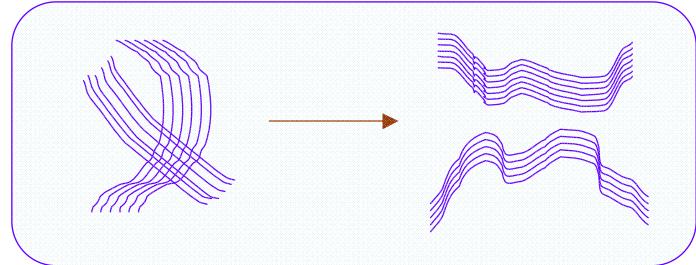


Alamri, Youd, and Barenghi, 2008

## Scales below $r_0$

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Reconnections of vortex-line bundles:



continues self-similarly with the spectrum

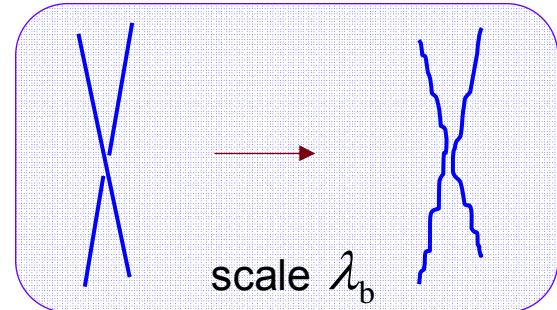
$$b_k \sim r_0^{-1} k^{-2}$$

in the range of scales

$$\lambda_b \sim \Lambda^{1/4} l_0 \ll \lambda \ll r_0$$

At the scale  $\lambda_b \sim \Lambda^{1/4} l_0$ ,  $b_k \sim l_0 \rightarrow$  the notion of bundles loses meaning

Reconnections of nearest-neighbor lines at small angles:



- Bottleneck-like regime!
- Not a true cascade!

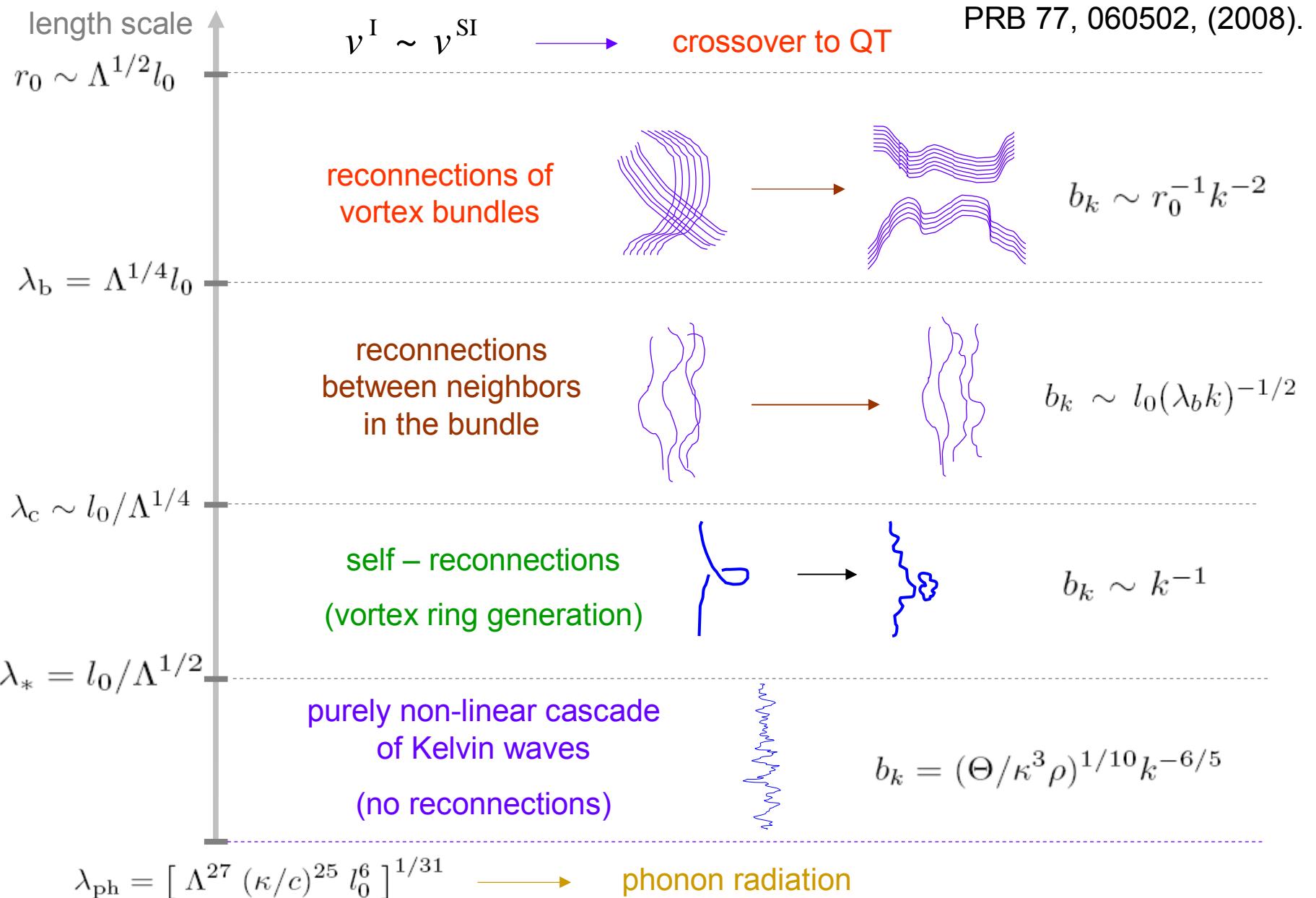
Reconnections at  $\lambda_b$  lead to energy build up with the spectrum

$$b_k \sim l_0 (\lambda_b k)^{-1/2} \quad b_k k \propto k^{1/2}$$

within the range  $\lambda_c \sim l_0 / \Lambda^{1/4} \ll \lambda \ll \lambda_b$

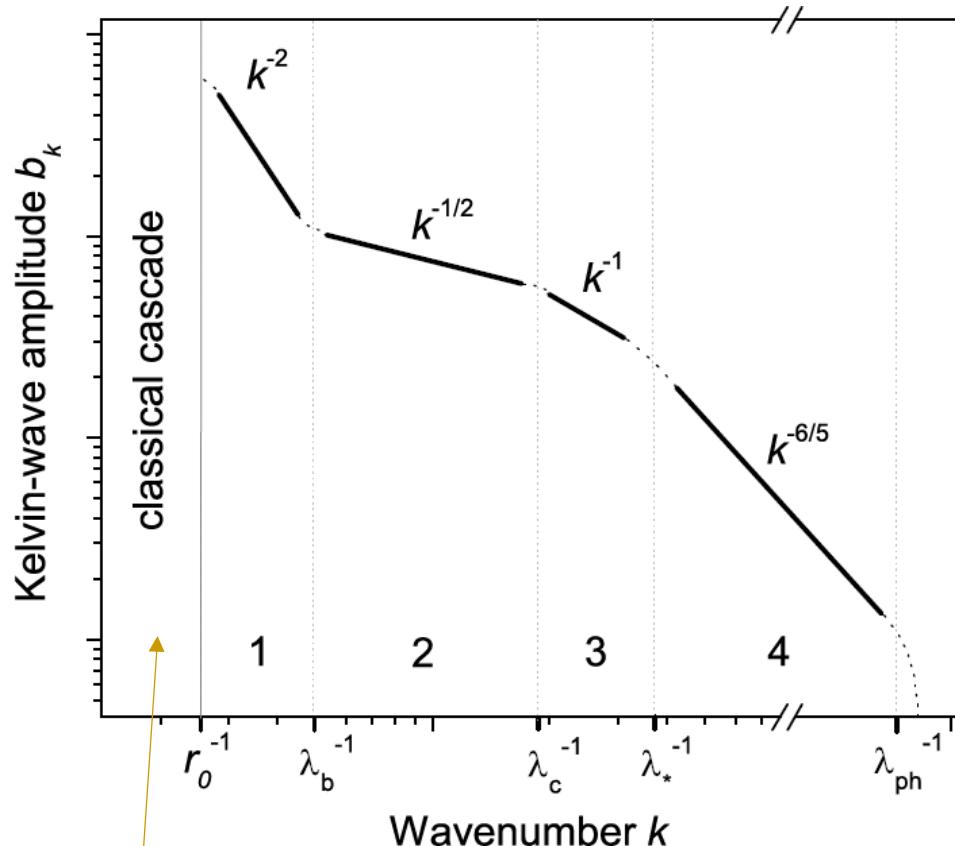
At the scale  $\lambda_c$ ,  $b_k \sim \lambda_c \rightarrow$  self-reconnections take over the energy flux

From Kolmogorov to Kelvin-wave cascade ( large parameter  $\Lambda = \ln(l_0 / a_0) \gg 1$  )



## From Kolmogorov to Kelvin-wave cascade at T=0

Spectrum of Kelvin waves in the quantized regime:



$$E(k) \sim \varepsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

1. reconnections of bundles
2. neighbor reconnections in the bundles
3. self-reconnections on single lines with vortex ring emission
4. non-linear Kelvin-wave cascade on single lines without reconnections

## What happens if T is finite?

( EK and B. Svistunov, 2008 )

Key parameter – mutual friction coefficient  $\alpha = \alpha(T) \propto T^5$ ,  $T \rightarrow 0$

Kelvin waves decay due to the mutual friction:

$$\dot{b}_k \sim -\alpha \omega_k b_k \quad \omega_k = (\kappa/4\pi)\Lambda k^2$$

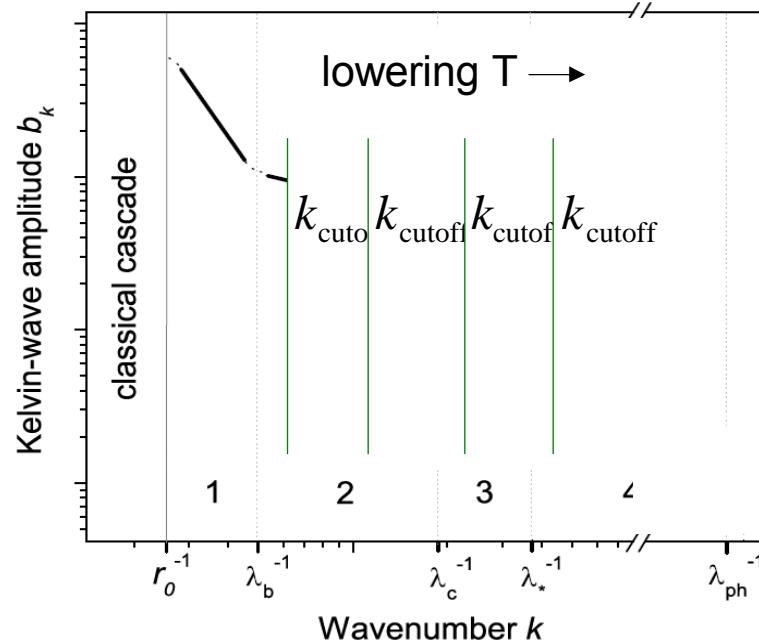
Dissipative energy flux (per unit line length):

$$\Pi(k) \sim \alpha \kappa \rho \omega_k^2 b_k^2 \longrightarrow k_{\text{cutoff}} [\alpha(T)]$$

*Scanning the cascade:*

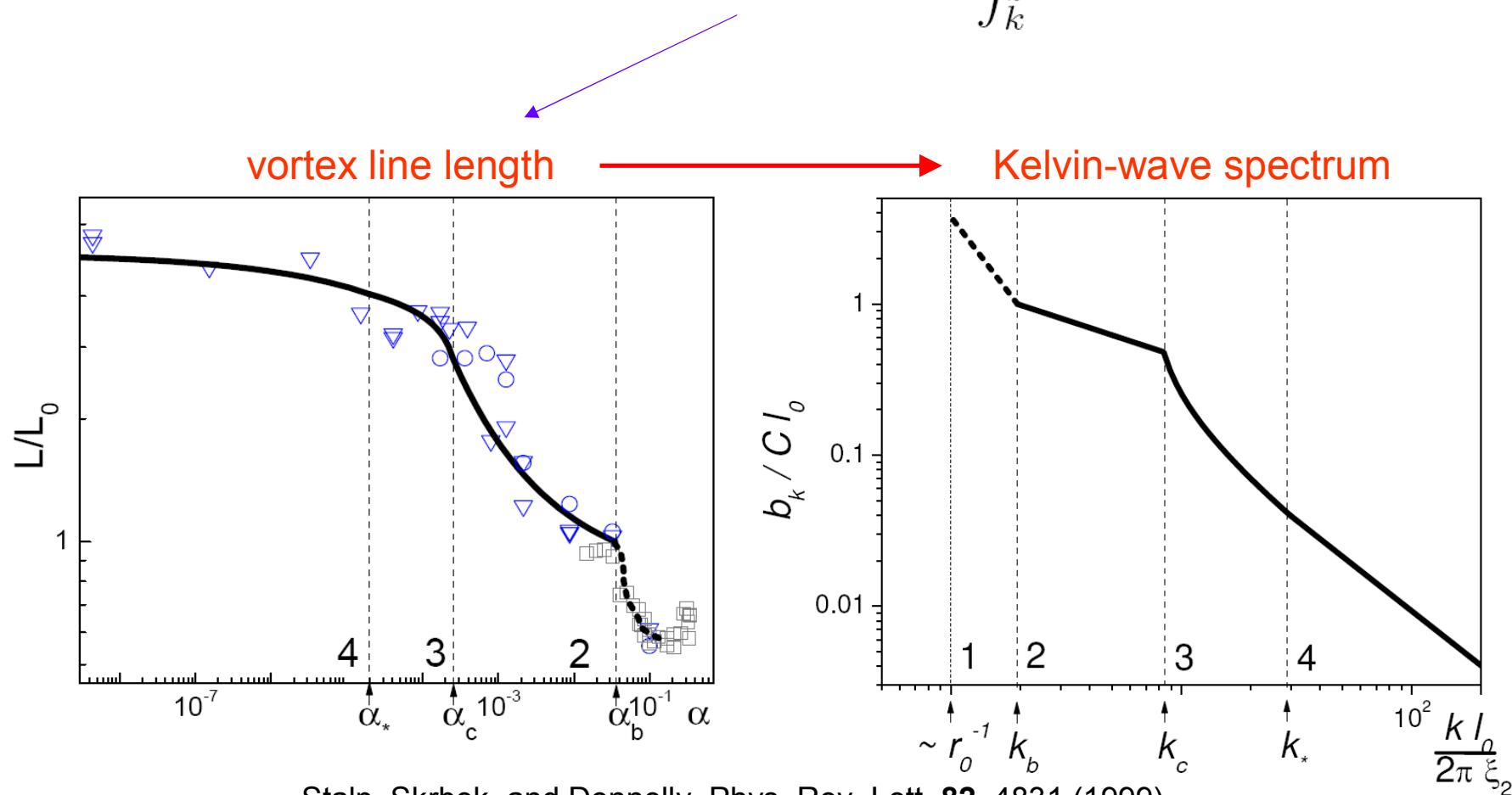
$$\ln [L(\alpha)/L_0] = \int_{\tilde{k}}^{k_{\text{cutoff}}(\alpha)} (b_k k)^2 dk/k$$

Vortex line length increase



## Fitting experimental data, extracting the Kelvin-Wave spectrum

Vortex line length increase:  $\ln [L(\alpha)/L_0] = \int_{\tilde{k}}^{k_{\text{cutoff}}(\alpha)} (b_k k)^2 dk/k$



Stalp, Skrbek, and Donnelly, Phys. Rev. Lett. **82**, 4831 (1999).

**Experiment:** Walmsley, Golov, Hall, Levchenko, Vinen, PRL **99**, 265302 (2007)

Walmsley and Golov, Phys. Rev. Lett. **100**, 245301 (2008)

## Conclusions

- A theoretical picture of the decay of Quasi-classical turbulence seems to emerge.
- The qualitative agreement between the theory and experiments is very promising
- Next steps: numerics (!), dissipation in  $^3\text{He}$ , rotating turbulence, calorimetry, (plausibly) Kelvin-wave spectroscopy, etc.