



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



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**Summer College on Plasma Physics**

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**A primer on turbulence and gyrokinetics**

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# A primer on turbulence and gyrokinetics

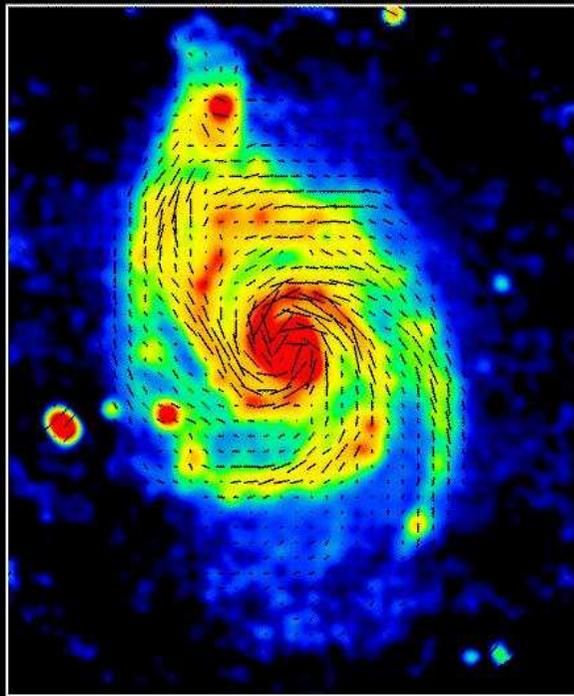
Max-Planck-Institut für Plasmaphysik, Garching  
Universität Ulm

Summer College on Plasma Physics  
ICTP, Trieste – Italy, 11 August 2009

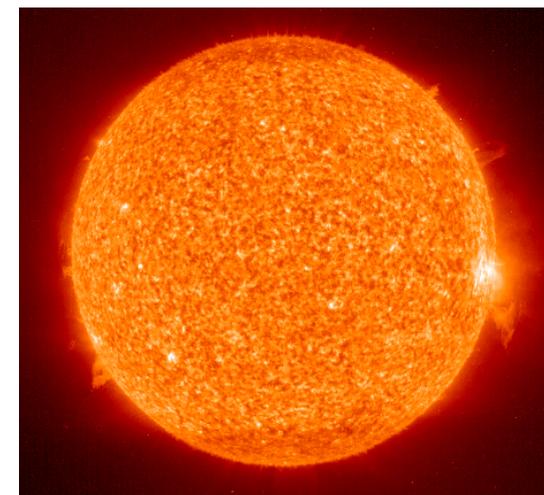
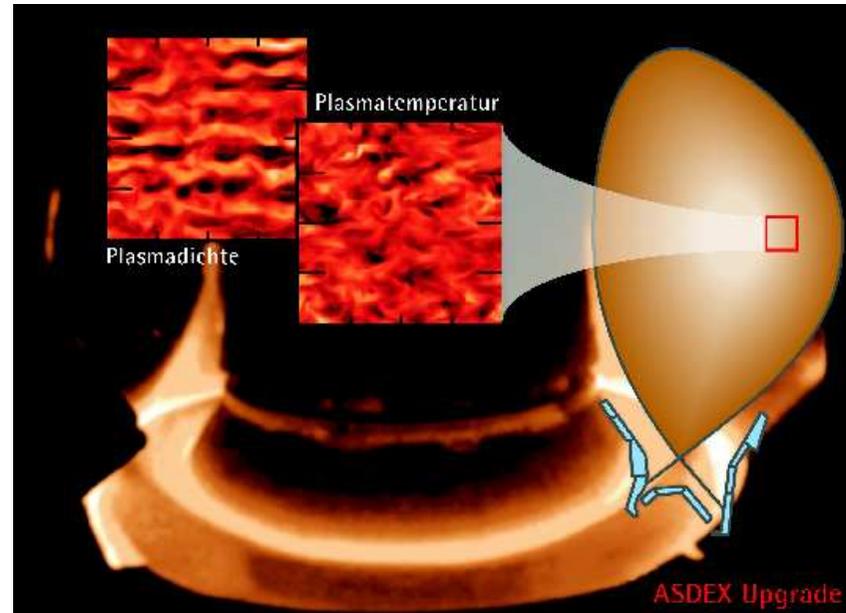
# Plasma turbulence – an ubiquitous phenomenon

> 99% of the visible universe is in the plasma state, mostly turbulent

M51 6cm Total Intensity+Magnetic Field (VLA+Effelsberg)



Copyright: MPIfR Bonn (R.Beck, C.Hovellon & N.Neuringer)

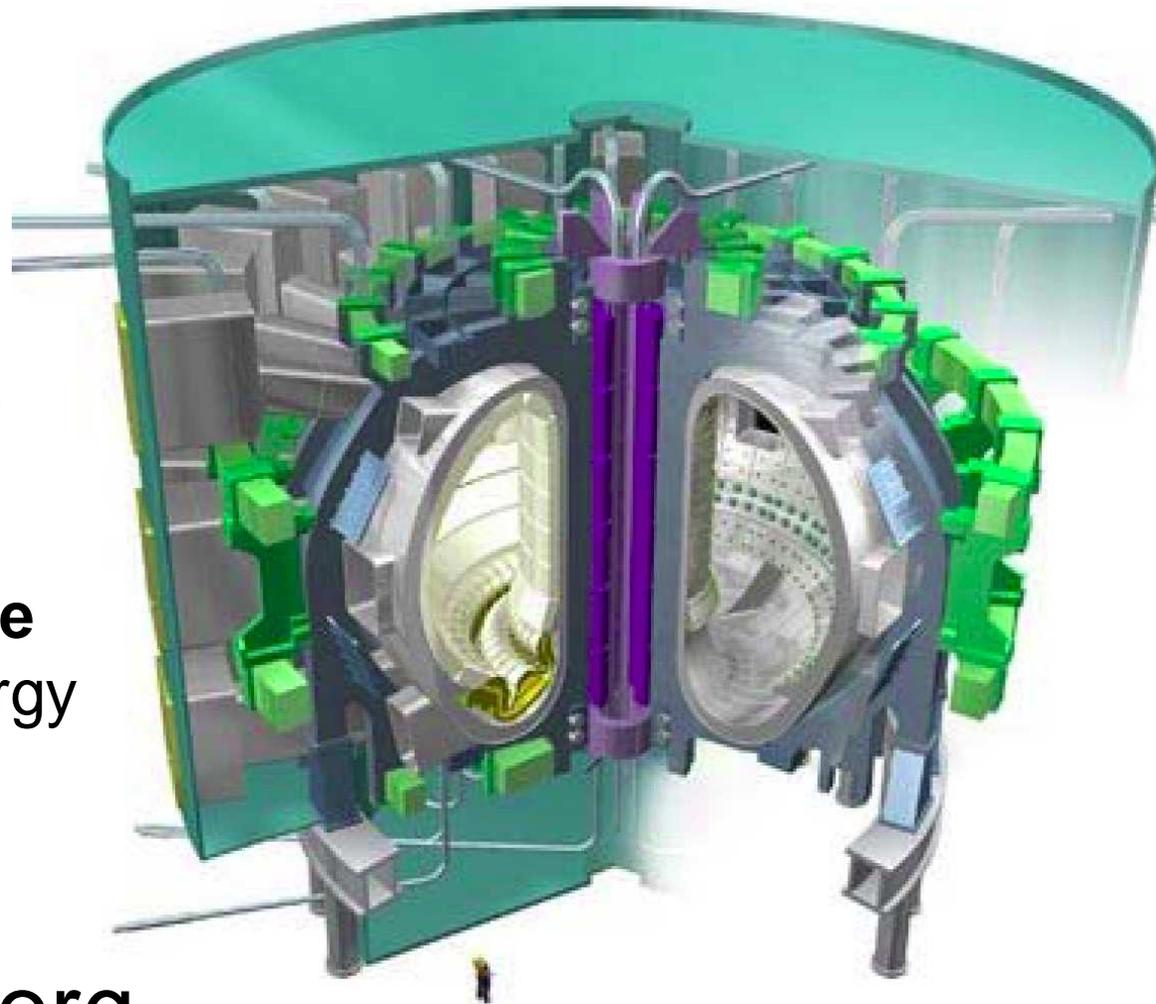


# ITER and plasma turbulence

ITER is one of the most challenging scientific projects

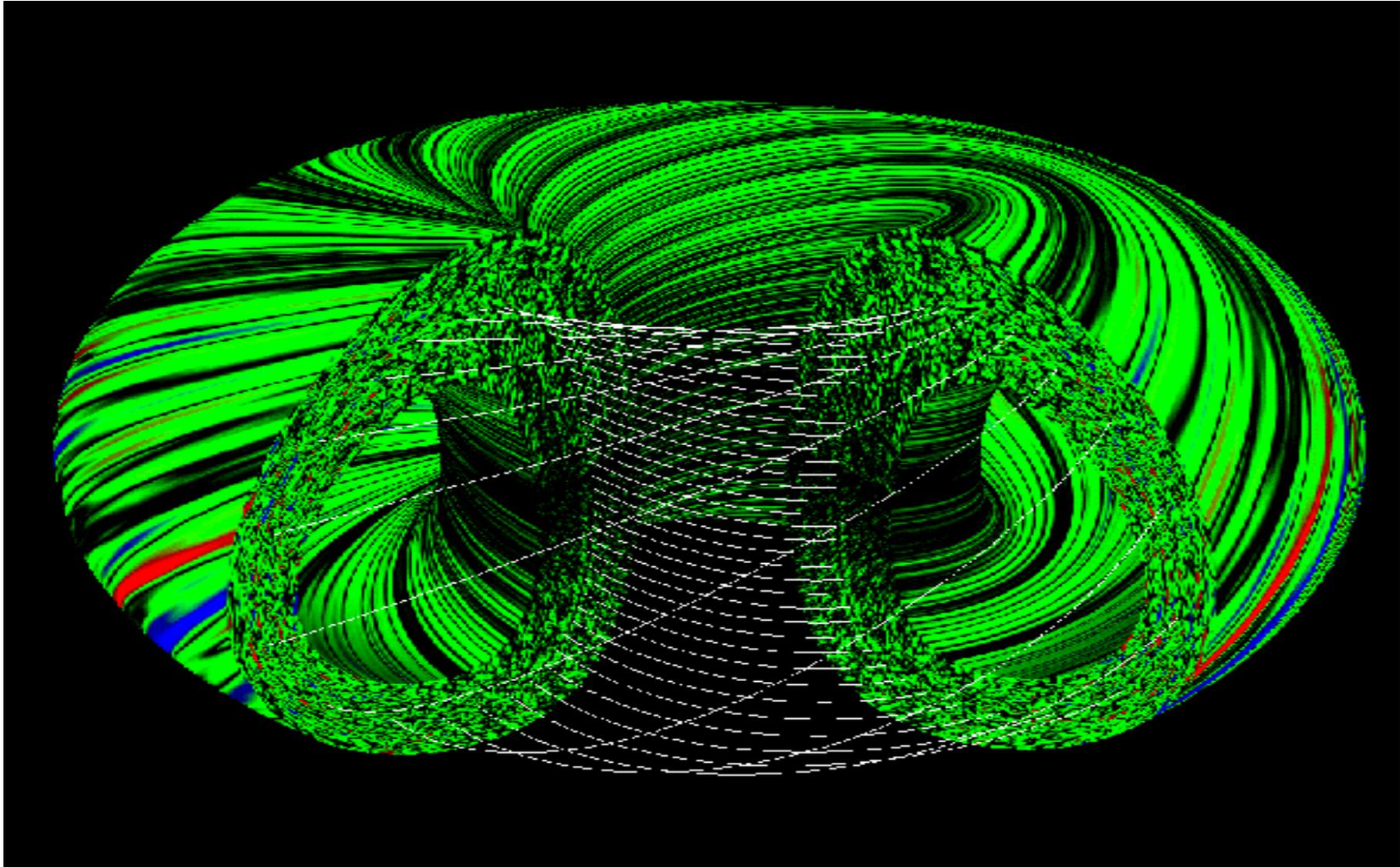
It is currently being built in Cadarache

**Plasma turbulence** determines its energy confinement time



[www.iter.org](http://www.iter.org)

# Plasma turbulence – a Grand Challenge



# Turbulent mixing in a tokamak

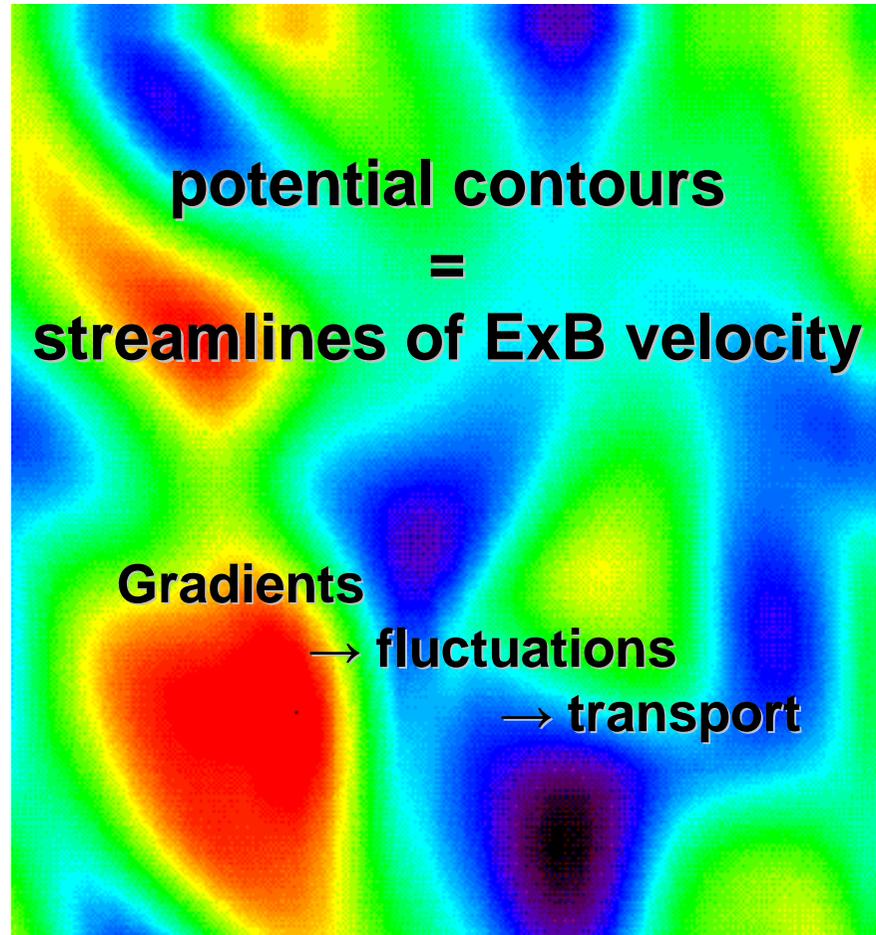
ExB drift velocity

$$\tilde{v}_E = \frac{c}{B^2} \mathbf{B} \times \nabla \tilde{\phi}$$

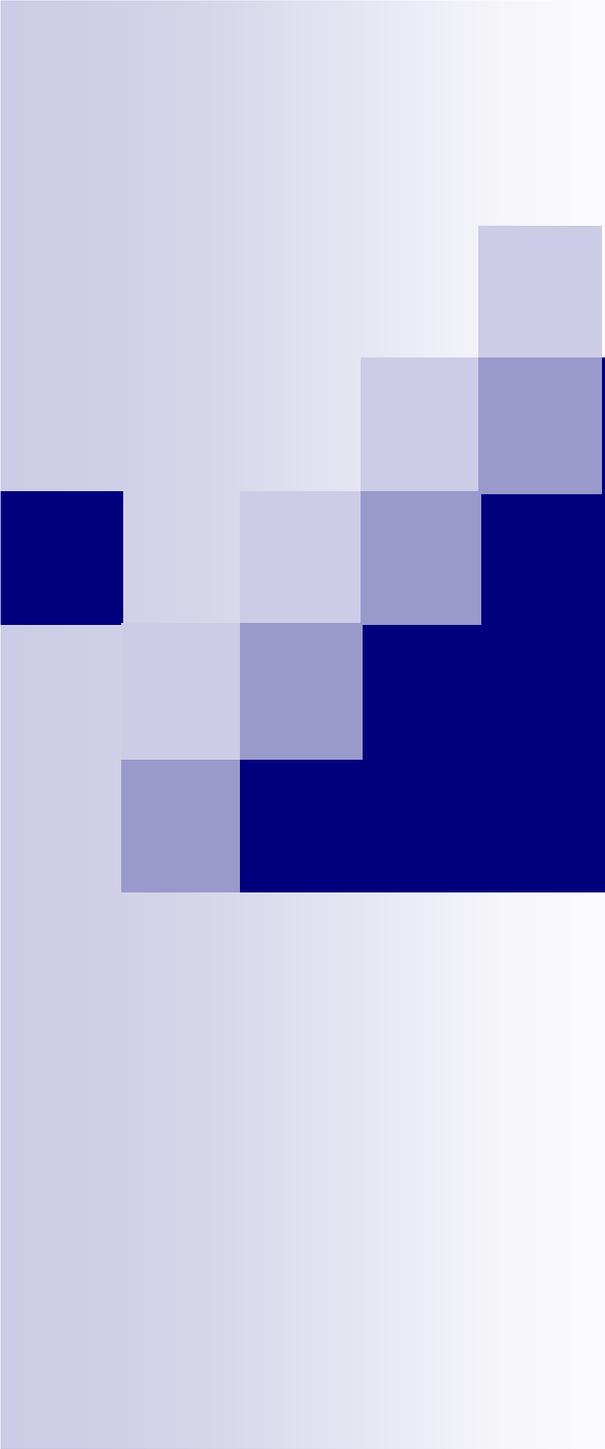
$$Q \equiv \frac{3}{2} \langle \tilde{p} \tilde{v}_E \rangle = -n\chi \nabla T$$

$$\chi \sim \frac{(\delta x)^2}{\delta t} \sim \frac{\rho^2 v_t}{L_T}$$

(random walk/mixing length estimates)



Typical heat and particle diffusivities are of the order of 1 m<sup>2</sup>/s.



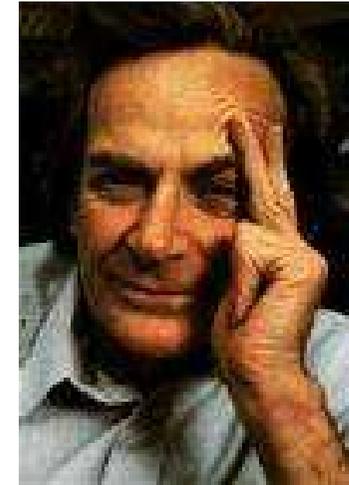
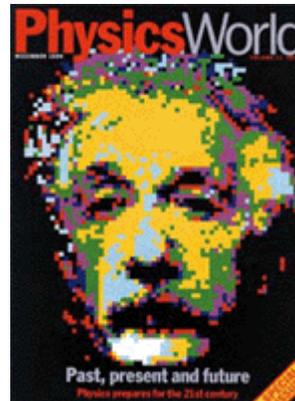
# Hydrodynamic and MHD turbulence

# Turbulence – one of the most important unsolved problems in physics

According to a famous statement by Richard Feynman...

...and a survey by the British “Institute of Physics” among many of the leading physicists world-wide...

“Millennium Issue”  
(December 1999)



## **TURBULENCE:**

A challenging topic for both basic and applied research

# What is turbulence?

Turbulence...

- is a nonlinear phenomenon
- occurs (only) in open systems
- involves many degrees of freedom
- is highly irregular (chaotic) in space and time
- often leads to a (statistically) quasi-stationary state far from thermodynamic equilibrium

Leonardo  
da Vinci  
(1529)



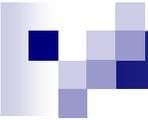
# How to approach turbulence?

Many physicists – including Heisenberg, von Weizsäcker, Onsager, Feynman, and many others – have attempted to tackle turbulence **purely analytically** but with only **very limited success**.

Today, **supercomputers** help to unravel the “mysteries” of turbulence in the spirit of **John von Neumann**:



*„There might be some hope to 'break the deadlock' by extensive, but well-planned, computational efforts...“*



# The Navier-Stokes equation

The NSE in its 'classical' form:

$$(\partial_t + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} = -\nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{v} \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

Expressed in terms of vorticity  $\vec{\Omega} = \nabla \times \vec{v}$  :

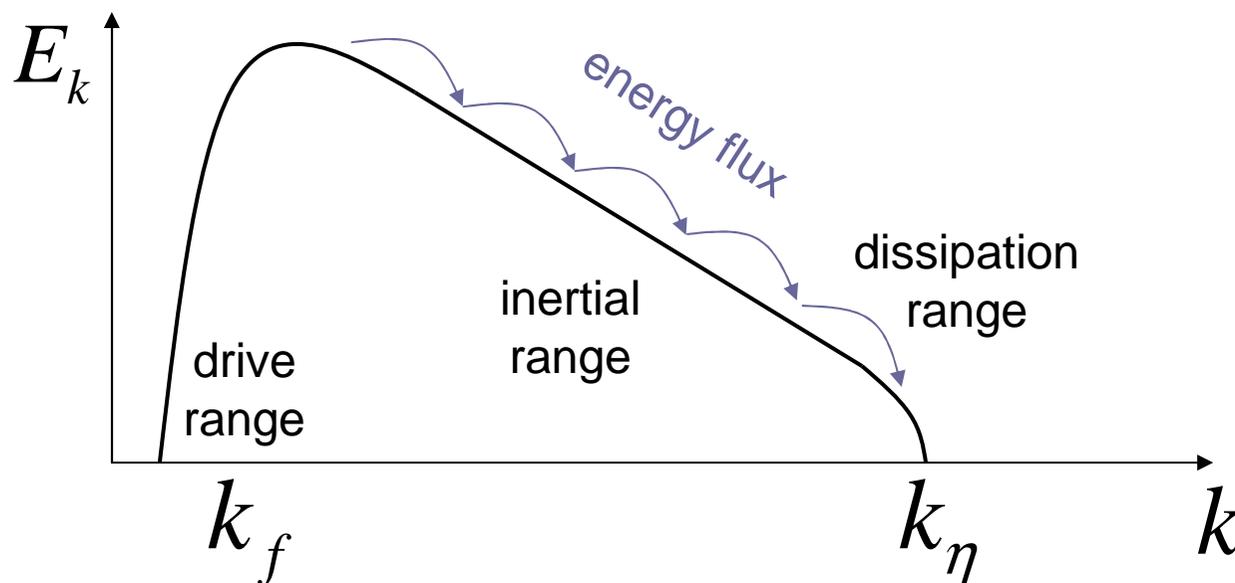
$$(\partial_t + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{\Omega} = (\vec{\Omega} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} + \text{Re}^{-1} \nabla^2 \vec{\Omega}$$

Reynolds number as single dimensionless parameter:

$$\text{Re} = \frac{LU}{\nu}$$

# The Richardson cascade

Turbulence as a **local cascade** in wave number space...



$$\frac{k_\eta}{k_f} \sim Re^{3/4}$$

Computational effort  $\sim Re^3$

*„Big whorls have little whorls, little whorls have smaller whorls that feed on their velocity, and so on to viscosity“*

Much turbulence research addresses the **cascade** problem.

# Kolmogorov's theory from 1941

K41 is based merely on intuition and dimensional analysis – it is *not* derived rigorously from the Navier-Stokes equation

Key assumptions:

- Scale invariance – like, e.g., in critical phenomena
- Central quantity: energy flux  $\varepsilon$

$$E = \frac{1}{2V} \int v^2 d^3x = \int_0^{\infty} E(k) dk$$

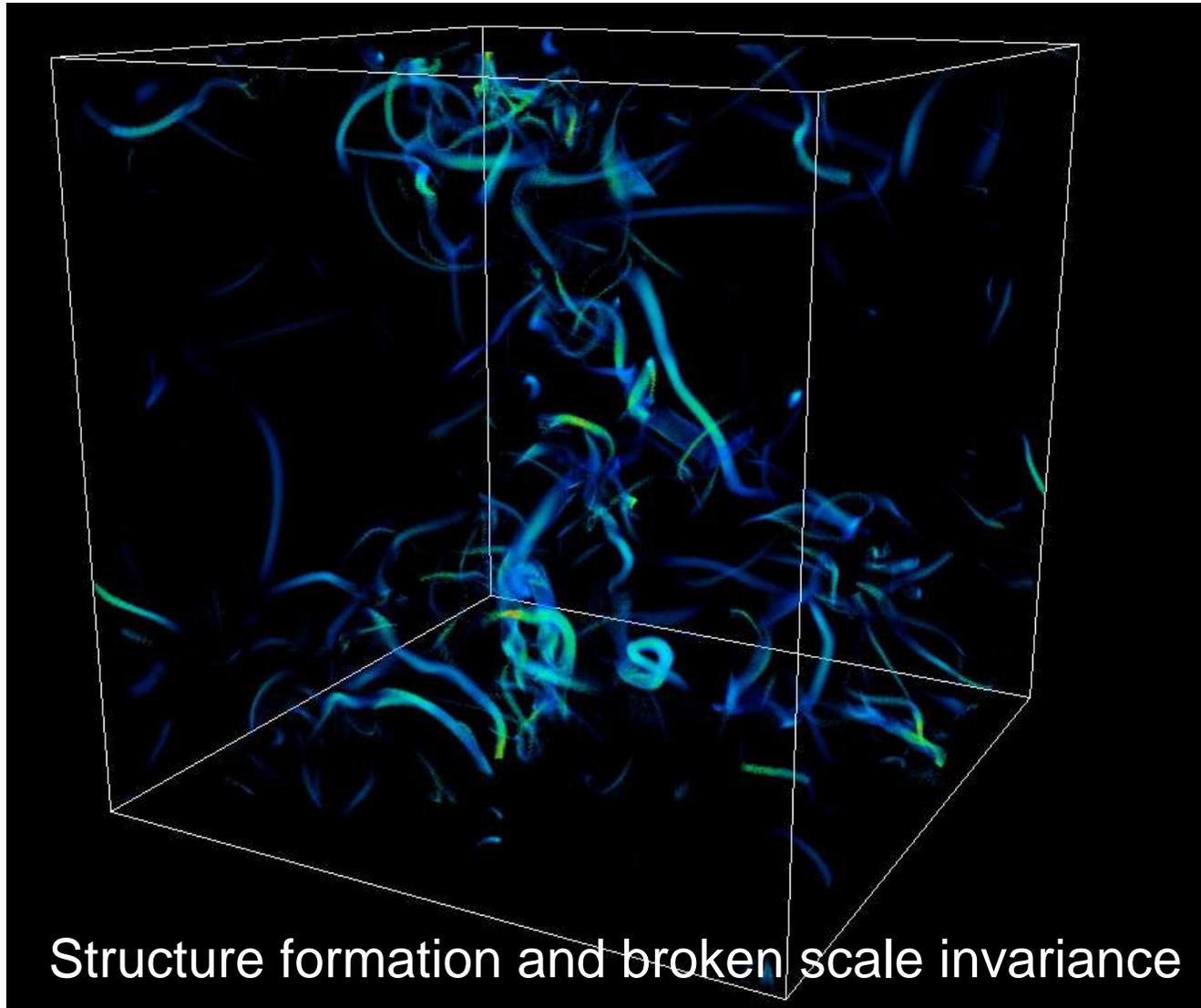
$$E(k) = C \varepsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

Quantity	Dimension
Wave number	1/length
Energy per unit mass	length <sup>2</sup> /time <sup>2</sup>
Energy spectrum $\mathcal{E}(k)$	length <sup>3</sup> /time <sup>2</sup>
Energy flux $\varepsilon$	energy/time $\sim$ length <sup>2</sup> /time <sup>3</sup>

This is the most famous turbulence result: the “-5/3” law.

However, K41 is fundamentally wrong: scale invariance is broken!

# Direct numerical simulations



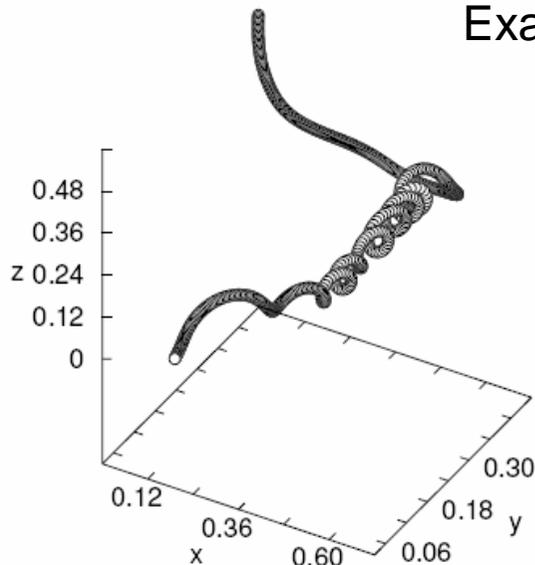
Wilczek et al. 2008

# Key open issues: Inertial range

- Is the inertial range physics universal (for  $Re \rightarrow \infty$ )?
- If so, can one derive a rigorous IR theory from the NSE?
- How should one, in general, handle the interplay between randomness and coherence?

Example: Trapping of tracers in vortex filaments

Biferale et al. 2005



Note:

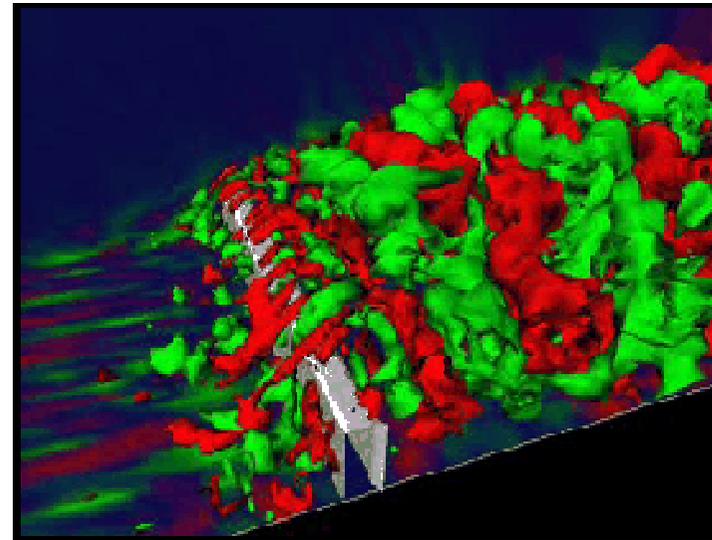
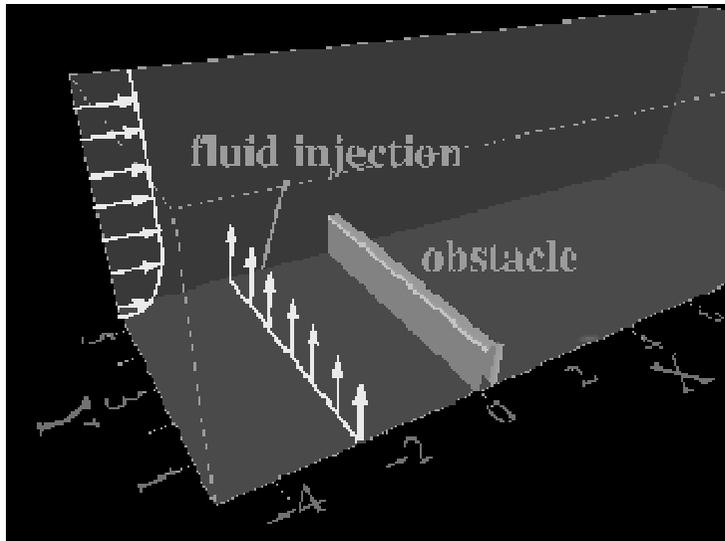
The observed deviations from self-similarity can be reproduced qualitatively by relatively simple vortex models.

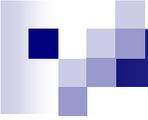
Wilczek, Jenko, and Friedrichs 2008

# Key open issues: Drive range

- Often, one is interested mainly in the *large* scales. Here, one encounters an interesting interplay between linear (drive) and nonlinear (damping) physics. – **Is it possible to remove the small scales?**
- Yes: LES, Dynamical Systems Approach etc.

Orellano & Wengle, JT 2001





# Magneto-hydrodynamics

A combination of hydrodynamics and non-rel. electrodynamics:

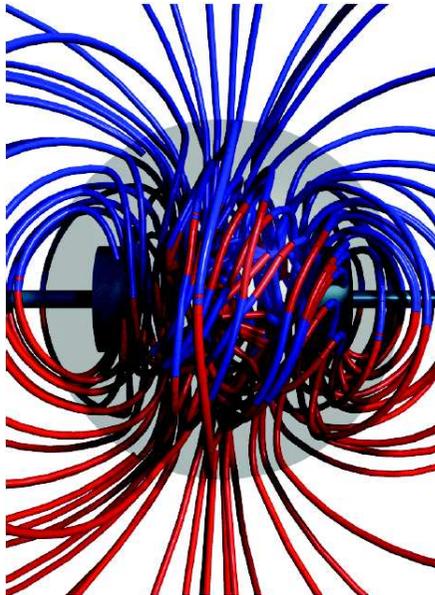
$$\partial_t \vec{\Omega} = \nabla \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{\Omega}) + \nabla \times (\vec{J} \times \vec{B}) + \text{Re}^{-1} \nabla^2 \vec{\Omega}$$

$$\partial_t \vec{B} = \nabla \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) + \text{Rm}^{-1} \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

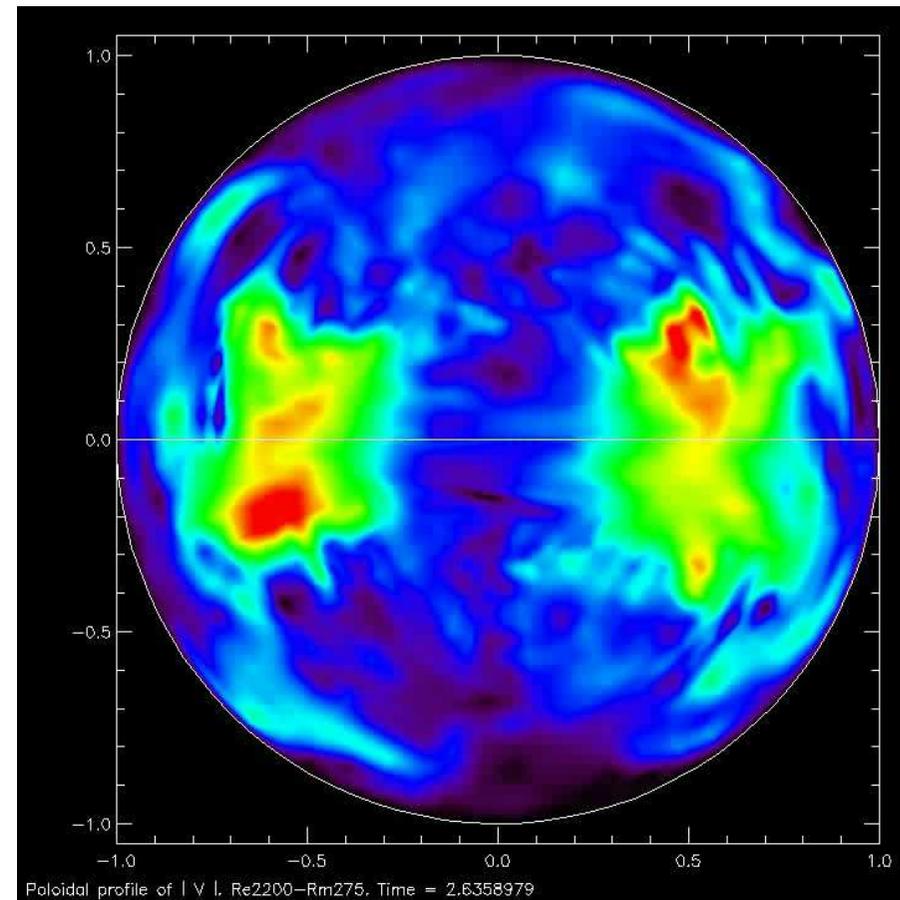
Two dimensionless parameters (Rm = magn. Reynolds number):

$$\text{Re} = \frac{LU}{\nu} \quad \text{Rm} = \frac{LU}{\eta}$$

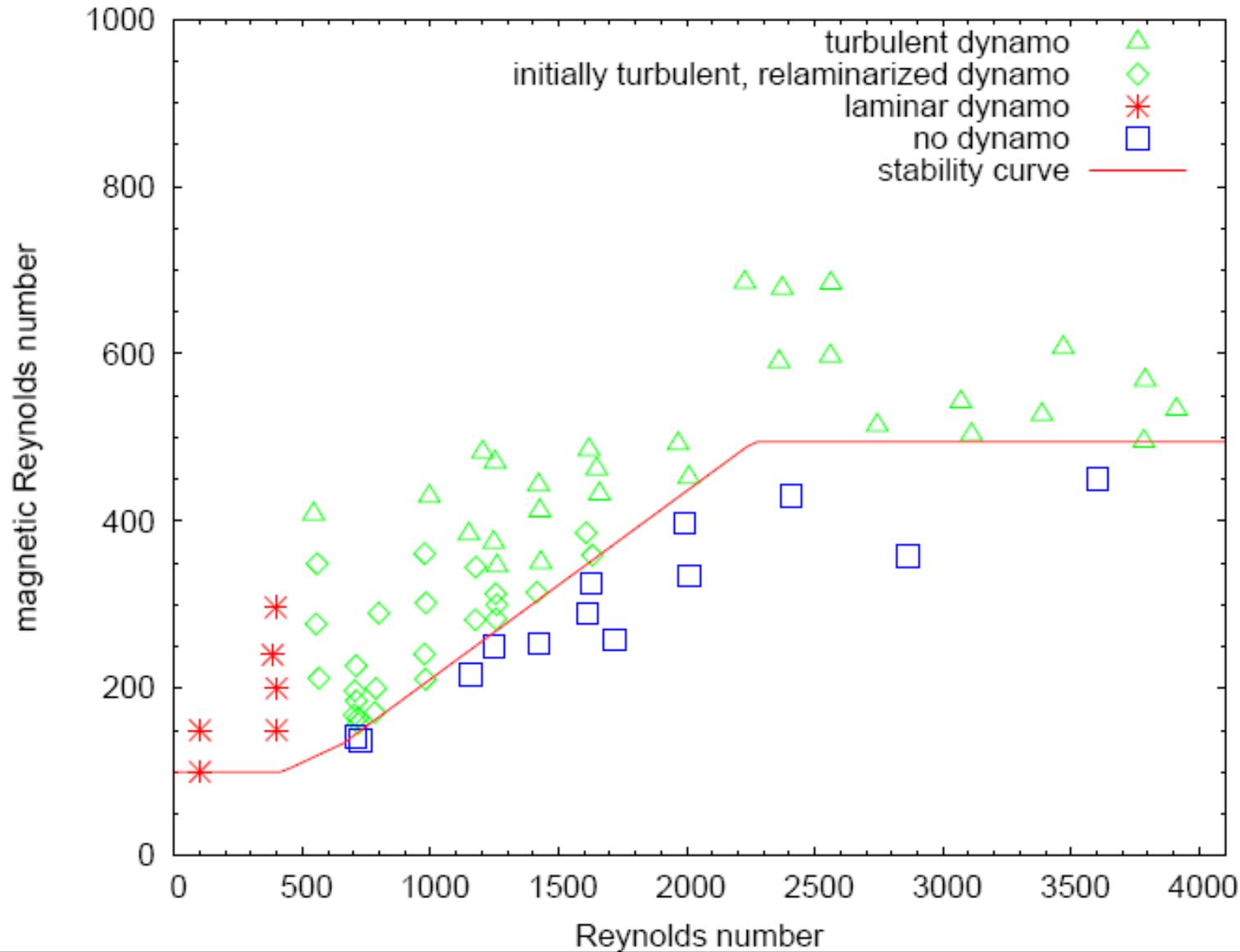
# Experiment and simulation



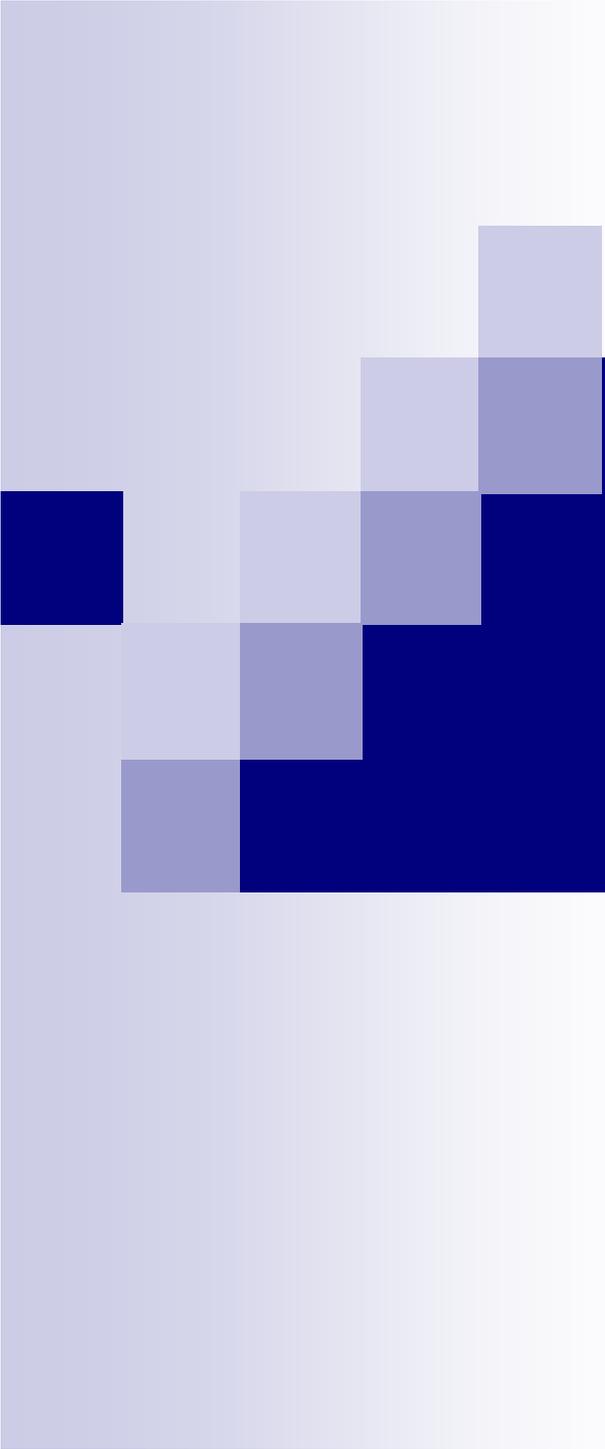
## Madison Dynamo Experiment and DYNAMO simulations



# Laminar and turbulent dynamos



Reuter & Jenko 2008



# An introduction to gyrokinetics

# What is gyrokinetic theory?

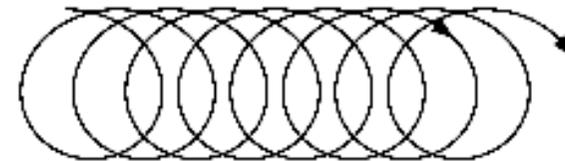
Dilute and/or hot plasmas are **almost collisionless**.

Thus, if kinetic effects (finite Larmor radius, Landau damping, magnetic trapping etc.) play a role, **MHD is not applicable, and one has to use a kinetic description!**

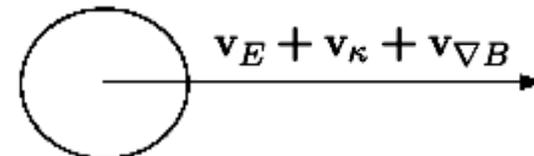
Vlasov-Maxwell equations 
$$\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \frac{q}{m} \left( \mathbf{E} + \frac{\mathbf{v}}{c} \times \mathbf{B} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{v}} \right] f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) = 0$$

Removing the fast gyromotion leads to a dramatic speed-up

$$\omega \ll \Omega$$



Charged rings as quasiparticles; gyrocenter coordinates; keep kinetic effects





# The gyrokinetic ordering

- The gyrokinetic model is a [Vlasov-Maxwell](#) on which the [GK ordering](#) is imposed:

⇒ Slow time variation as compared to the gyro-motion time scale:

$$\omega/\Omega_i \sim \epsilon_g \ll 1$$

⇒ Spatial equilibrium scale much larger than the Larmor radius:

$$\rho/L_n \sim \rho/L_T \equiv \epsilon_g \ll 1$$

⇒ Strong anisotropy, i.e. only perpendicular gradients of the fluctuating quantities can be large ( $k_\perp \rho \sim 1$ ,  $k_\parallel \rho \sim \epsilon_g$ ):

$$k_\parallel/k_\perp \sim \epsilon_g \ll 1$$

⇒ Small amplitude perturbations, i.e. energy of perturbation much smaller than the thermal energy:

$$e\phi/T_e \sim \epsilon_g \ll 1$$

# A brief historical review

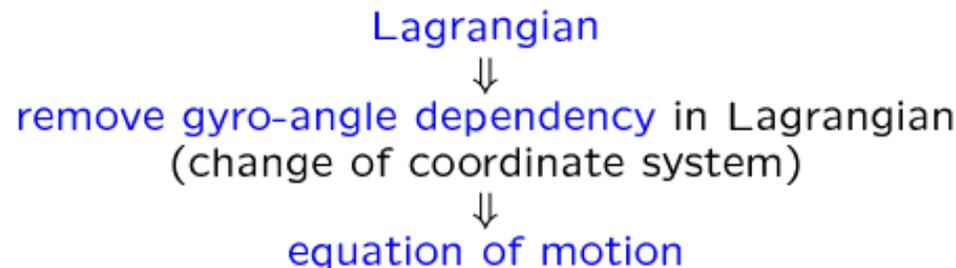
- The word “Gyrokinetic” appeared in the literature in the late sixties.  
Rutherford and Frieman, Taylor and Hastie [1968].

Goal: Provide an adequate formalism for the linear study of kinetic drift-waves in general magnetic configurations, including finite Larmor radius effects.

- First nonlinear set of equations for the perturbed distribution function  $\delta F$ .  
Frieman and Liu Chen [1982].  
→ Gyrokinetic ordering.
- Littlejohn [1979], Dubin [1983], Hahm [1988], Brizard [1989], ...

Firm and more transparent theoretical foundation for GK:

GK equations based on Hamiltonian or Lagrangian variation methods.



# A Lagrangian approach

If the Lagrangian of a dynamical system is known...

Example: charged particle motion, in non canonical coordinates  $(\vec{x}, \vec{v})$ :

$$L = \left( \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{x}, t) + m\vec{v} \right) \cdot \dot{\vec{x}} - H(\vec{x}, \vec{v})$$
$$H = \frac{m}{2} v^2 + e\phi(\vec{x}, t)$$

with  $\vec{B} = \nabla \times \vec{A}$  and  $\vec{E} = -\nabla\phi - \partial_t \vec{A}/c$ .

...the equation of motion are given by the Lagrange equations:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = 0 \quad \text{with } i = 1, \dots, 6$$

Lagrange equation of motion for a charged particle:

$$\vec{v} \Rightarrow -\frac{\partial L}{\partial \vec{v}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \dot{\vec{x}} = \vec{v}$$
$$\vec{x} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\vec{v}}} - \frac{\partial L}{\partial \vec{v}} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \dot{\vec{v}} = \frac{e}{m} \left( \vec{E} + \frac{\vec{v}}{c} \times \vec{B} \right)$$

# Deriving the driftkinetic equations

GK ordering, but  $k_{\perp}\rho \simeq 1 \Rightarrow k_{\perp}\rho \ll 1$   
 $\Rightarrow \vec{B}(\vec{x})$ , static magnetic field.

- Single particle Lagrangian:

$$L = \left( \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{x}) + m\vec{v} \right) \cdot \dot{\vec{x}} - \frac{m}{2} v^2 + e\phi(\vec{x}, t)$$

- Change of coordinates:

particle coordinates  $(\vec{x}, \vec{v}) \Rightarrow$  guiding center coordinates  $(\vec{R}, v_{\parallel}, \mu, \varphi)$

$$\vec{x} = \vec{R} + \vec{\rho} \equiv \vec{R} + \frac{v_{\perp}}{\Omega} \hat{a}(\vec{R}, \varphi)$$

$$\mu = v_{\perp}^2 / 2B(\vec{R})$$

$$v_{\parallel} = \vec{v} \cdot \vec{b}$$

$$\varphi = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_1}{\vec{v} \cdot \vec{e}_2} \right)$$

$\vec{R}$  guiding center position;  $\Omega \equiv eB/mc$  gyrofrequency.

$\hat{a} \equiv \cos(\varphi) \vec{e}_1 + \sin(\varphi) \vec{e}_2$

$\vec{e}_1(\vec{R}, \varphi), \vec{e}_2(\vec{R}, \varphi)$  orthogonal unity vectors in the plane perpendicular to  $\vec{b} \equiv \vec{B}/B$ .

# Driftkinetic equations (cont'd)

- Single particle Lagrangian:

$$L = \left( \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{x}) + m\vec{v} \right) \cdot \dot{\vec{x}} - \frac{m}{2} v^2 + e\phi(\vec{x}, t)$$

- $\Rightarrow$  Expand  $\vec{A}(\vec{x}) \simeq \vec{A}(\vec{R}) + (\vec{\rho} \cdot \nabla) \vec{A}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Replace  $(\vec{x}, \vec{v})$  with the guiding center variables:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{A}(\vec{x}) \cdot \dot{\vec{x}} &\simeq \vec{A}(\vec{R}) \cdot \dot{\vec{R}} + (\vec{\rho} \cdot \nabla) \vec{A} \cdot \dot{\vec{R}} + \vec{A}(\vec{R}) \cdot \dot{\vec{\rho}} + (\vec{\rho} \cdot \nabla) \vec{A} \cdot \dot{\vec{\rho}} \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

- On each term in the Lagrangian,  $\langle \rangle$  average over the gyro-angle  $\varphi$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \vec{A}(\vec{R}) \cdot \dot{\vec{R}} \rangle &= \vec{A}(\vec{R}) \cdot \dot{\vec{R}} \\ \langle (\vec{\rho} \cdot \nabla) \vec{A} \cdot \dot{\vec{R}} \rangle &= 0 \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

- The electrostatic potential?

The GK ordering,  $\phi$  is a small perturbation:  $\phi(\vec{x}) \simeq \phi(\vec{R}) + (\vec{\rho} \cdot \nabla) \phi = \phi(\vec{R}) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_g^2)$ .

# Driftkinetic equations (cont'd)

$$L_{DK} = \left( m v_{\parallel} \vec{b} + \frac{e}{c} \vec{A}(\vec{R}) \right) \cdot \dot{\vec{R}} + \frac{\mu B}{\Omega} \dot{\phi} - H_{DK}$$

$$H_{DK} = \frac{m}{2} v_{\parallel}^2 + \mu B + q \phi(\vec{R})$$

- Lagrange equations:

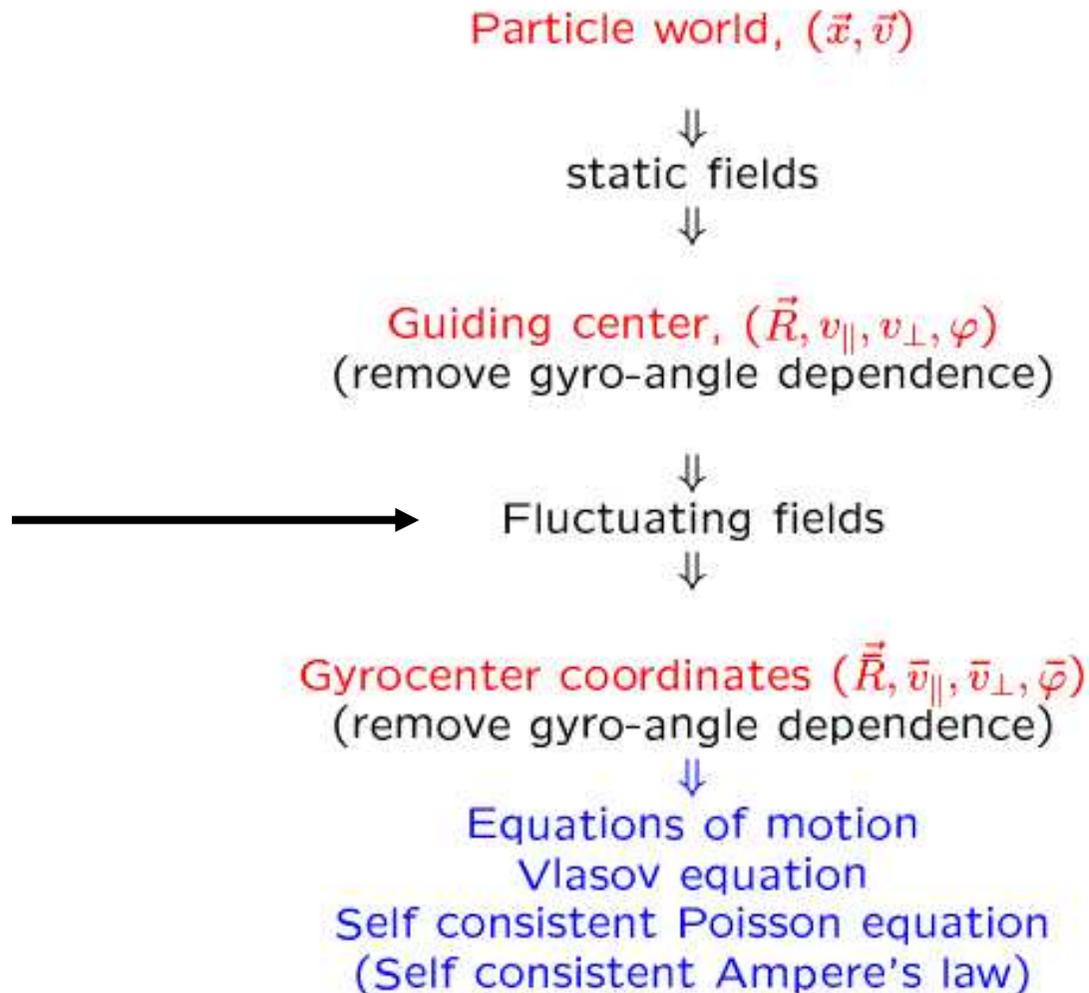
$$\dot{\vec{R}} = v_{\parallel} \vec{b} + \frac{B}{B_{\parallel}^*} (\vec{v}_{E \times B} + \vec{v}_{\nabla B} + \vec{v}_C)$$

$$v_{\parallel} = \left( -\mu \nabla B + e \vec{E} \right) \cdot \frac{\dot{\vec{R}}}{m v_{\parallel}} \quad ; \quad \dot{\mu} = 0 \quad ; \quad \dot{\phi} = \Omega$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{v}_{E \times B} &\equiv \frac{c}{B^2} \vec{E} \times \vec{B} && E \times B \text{ drift} \\ \vec{v}_{\nabla B} &\equiv \frac{\mu}{m \Omega} \vec{b} \times \nabla B && \nabla B \text{ drift} \\ \vec{v}_C &\equiv \frac{v_{\parallel}^2}{\Omega} \vec{b} \times (\vec{b} \cdot \nabla) \vec{b} && \text{Curvature drift} \end{aligned}$$

with  $\vec{B}^* \equiv \vec{B} + (mc/e)v_{\parallel} \nabla \times \vec{b} = B(1 + \mathcal{O}(\rho_{\parallel}/L_B))$ .

# Including fluctuating fields



# Gyroaveraged potentials/fields

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Drift-kinetic:} & \quad \phi(\vec{x}, t) \Rightarrow \phi(\vec{R}, t) \\ \text{Gyrokinetic:} & \quad \phi(\vec{x}, t) \Rightarrow \langle \phi \rangle(\vec{R}, \mu, t) \end{aligned}$$

Formally:

$$\langle \phi \rangle(\vec{R}, \mu, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} d\varphi \int \phi(\vec{x}, t) \delta(\vec{R} + \vec{\rho} - \vec{x}) d\vec{x}$$

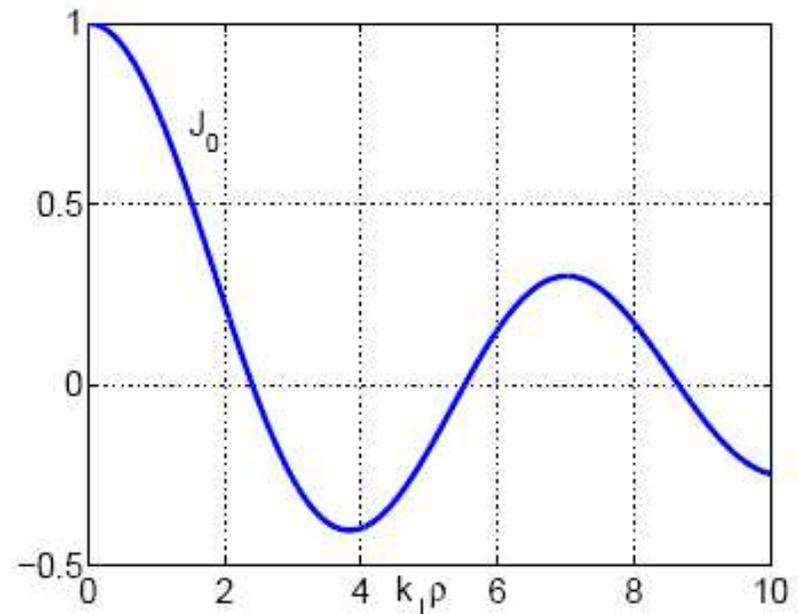
Drift-kinetic :  $\vec{E}(\vec{R}, t)$ .

Gyro-kinetic :  $\langle \vec{E} \rangle$

→ result of an average procedure,  
i.e. is “smoother” in space.

→ Fourier representation:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \phi \rangle(\vec{k}) &= \phi(\vec{k}) J_0(k_{\perp} \rho) \\ &\simeq \phi(\vec{k}) \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{4} (k_{\perp} \rho)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$



# The nonlinear gyrokinetic equations

$$f = f(\mathbf{X}, v_{\parallel}, \mu; t)$$

Advection/Conservation equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \dot{\mathbf{X}} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{X}} + \dot{v}_{\parallel} \frac{\partial f}{\partial v_{\parallel}} = 0$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{X}} = v_{\parallel} \mathbf{b} + \frac{B}{B_{\parallel}^*} \left( \frac{v_{\parallel}}{B} \bar{\mathbf{B}}_{1\perp} + \mathbf{v}_{\perp} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\perp} \equiv \frac{c}{B^2} \bar{\mathbf{E}}_1 \times \mathbf{B} + \frac{\mu}{m\Omega} \mathbf{b} \times \nabla(B + \bar{B}_{1\parallel}) + \frac{v_{\parallel}^2}{\Omega} (\nabla \times \mathbf{b})_{\perp}$$

$$\dot{v}_{\parallel} = \frac{\dot{\mathbf{X}}}{mv_{\parallel}} \cdot (e\bar{\mathbf{E}}_1 - \mu \nabla(B + \bar{B}_{1\parallel}))$$

$\mathbf{X}$  = gyrocenter position

$v_{\parallel}$  = parallel velocity

$\mu$  = magnetic moment

Appropriate field equations

$$\frac{n_1}{n_0} = \frac{\bar{n}_1}{n_0} - (1 - \|I_0^2\|) \frac{e\phi_1}{T} + \|xI_0I_1\| \frac{B_{1\parallel}}{B}$$

$$\nabla_{\perp}^2 A_{1\parallel} = -\frac{4\pi}{c} \sum \bar{J}_{1\parallel}$$

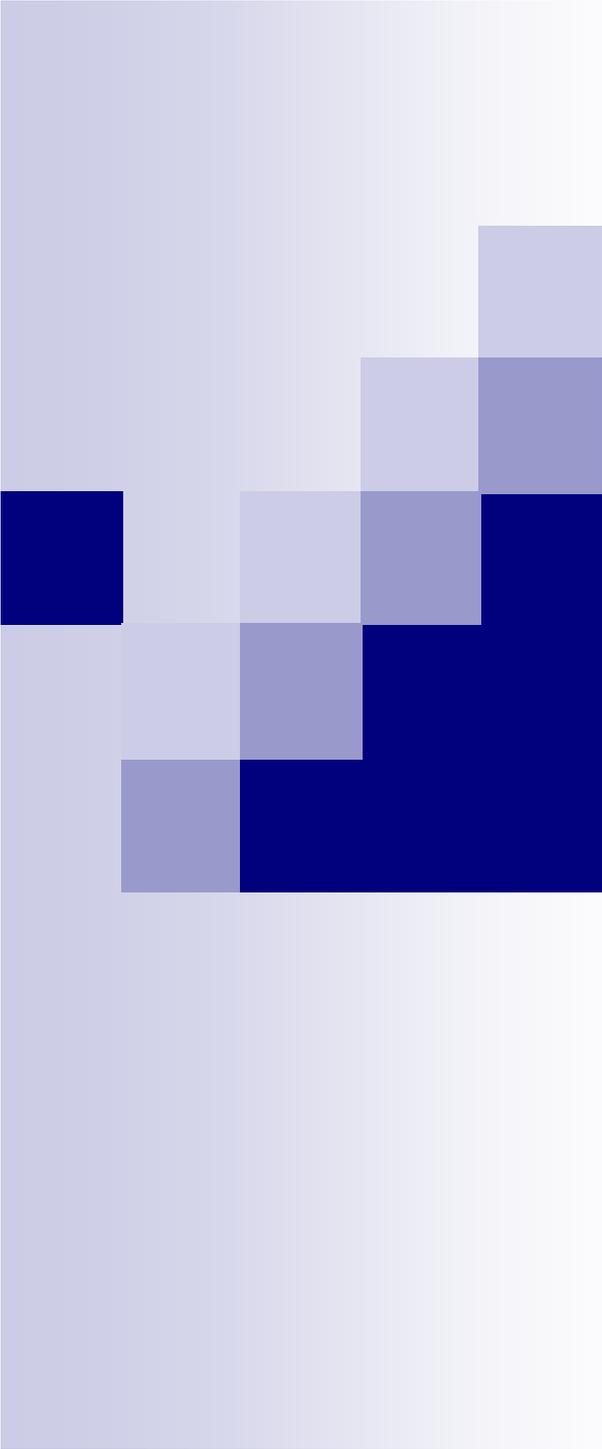
$$\frac{B_{1\parallel}}{B} = -\sum \epsilon_{\beta} \left( \frac{\bar{p}_{1\perp}}{n_0 T} + \|xI_1I_0\| \frac{e\phi_1}{T} + \|x^2I_1^2\| \frac{B_{1\parallel}}{B} \right)$$

Nonlinear integro-differential equations in **5 dimensions...**

# Major theoretical speedups

relative to original Vlasov/pre-Maxwell system on a naïve grid, for ITER  $1/\rho_* = a/\rho \sim 1000$

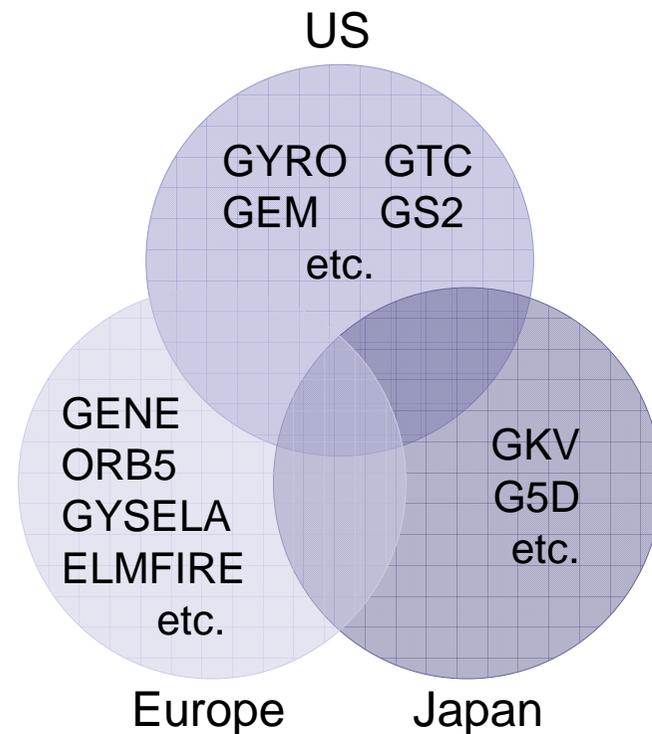
- Nonlinear gyrokinetic equations
  - eliminate plasma frequency:  $\omega_{pe}/\Omega_i \sim m_i/m_e$  x10<sup>3</sup>
  - eliminate Debye length scale:  $(\rho_i/\lambda_{De})^3 \sim (m_i/m_e)^{3/2}$  x10<sup>5</sup>
  - average over fast ion gyration:  $\Omega_i/\omega \sim 1/\rho_*$  x10<sup>3</sup>
  
- Field-aligned coordinates
  - adapt to elongated structure of turbulent eddies:  $\Delta_{||}/\Delta_{\perp} \sim 1/\rho_*$  x10<sup>3</sup>
  
- Reduced simulation volume
  - reduce toroidal mode numbers (i.e., 1/15 of toroidal direction) x15
  - $L_r \sim a/6 \sim 160 \rho \sim 10$  correlation lengths x6
  
- Total speedup x10<sup>16</sup>
  
- For comparison: Massively parallel computers (1984-2009) x10<sup>7</sup>



# Nonlinear gyrokinetic simulations

# Status quo in gyrokinetic simulation

- over the last decade or so, GK has emerged as the standard approach to plasma turbulence
- a variety of nonlinear GK codes is being used and (further) developed
- these codes differ in their numerical schemes (Euler, Lagrange, semi-Lagrange) and physics contents





# The simulation code GENE

- GENE is physically comprehensive and computationally efficient CFD-like code with applications to both tokamaks and stellarators
- two main goals: deeper understanding of fundamental physics issues and direct comparisons with experiments (interfaces to MHD codes)
- the differential operators are discretized via a combination of spectral, finite difference, finite element, and finite volume methods; the time stepping is done via a (non-standard) explicit Runge-Kutta method
- GENE is part of the European DEISA benchmark suite and the EU-Japanese IFERC benchmark suite
- GENE is developed cooperatively by an international team, and it is publicly available ([www.ipp.mpg.de/~fsj/gene](http://www.ipp.mpg.de/~fsj/gene))

*Gyrok*inetic *Electromagnetic Numerical Experiment*

# Parallelization of GENE

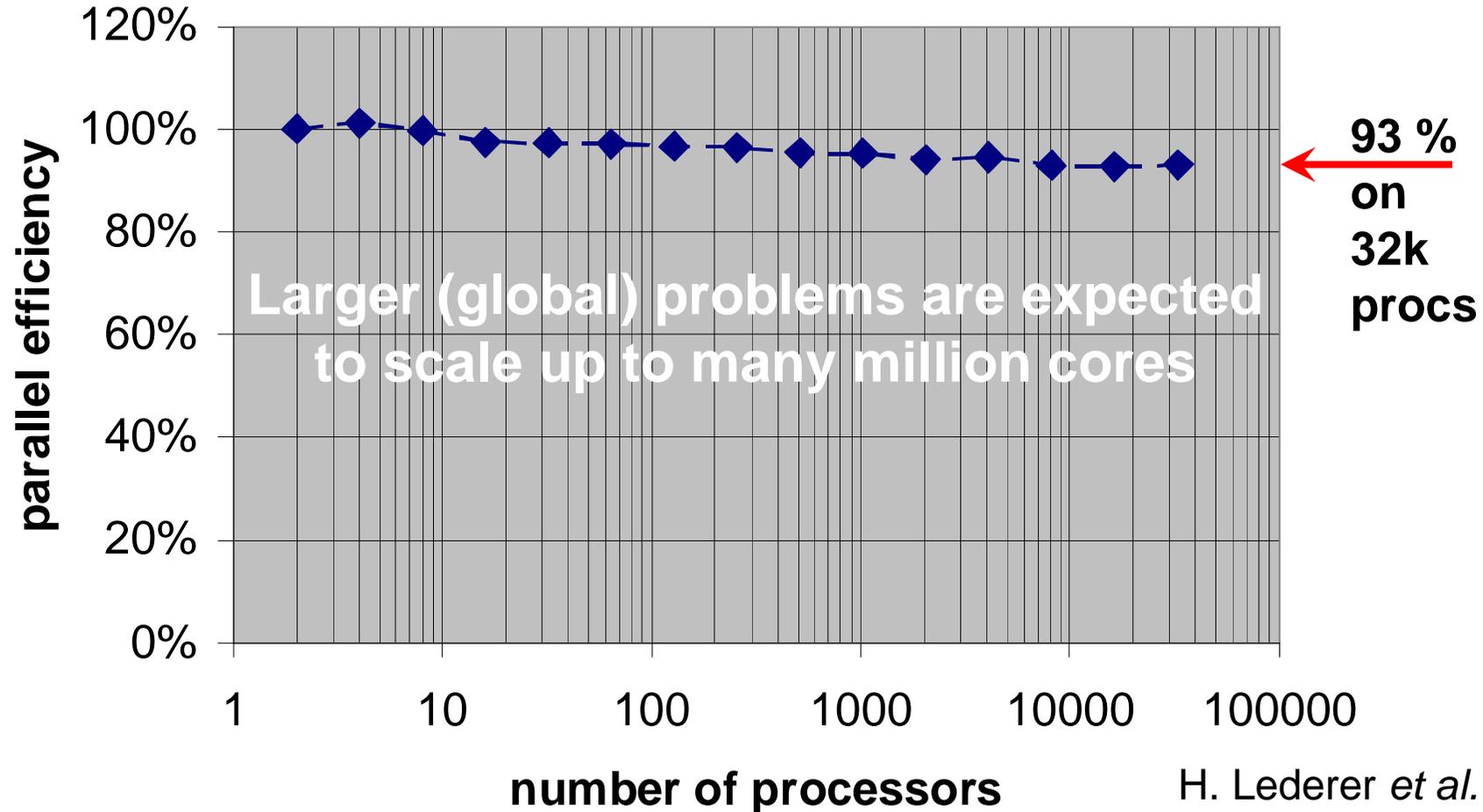


- Parallelization due to high-dimensional domain decomposition (either pure MPI or mixed MPI/OpenMP paradigm)
- GENE runs very efficiently on a large number of parallel platforms (including IBM BlueGene, IBM Power6, Cray XT4, SGI Altix etc.), on various Linux Clusters, as well as (linearly) on laptops

# GENE code on BG/L (weak scaling)

BG/L at Rochester, Minnesota: 2 – 2k procs

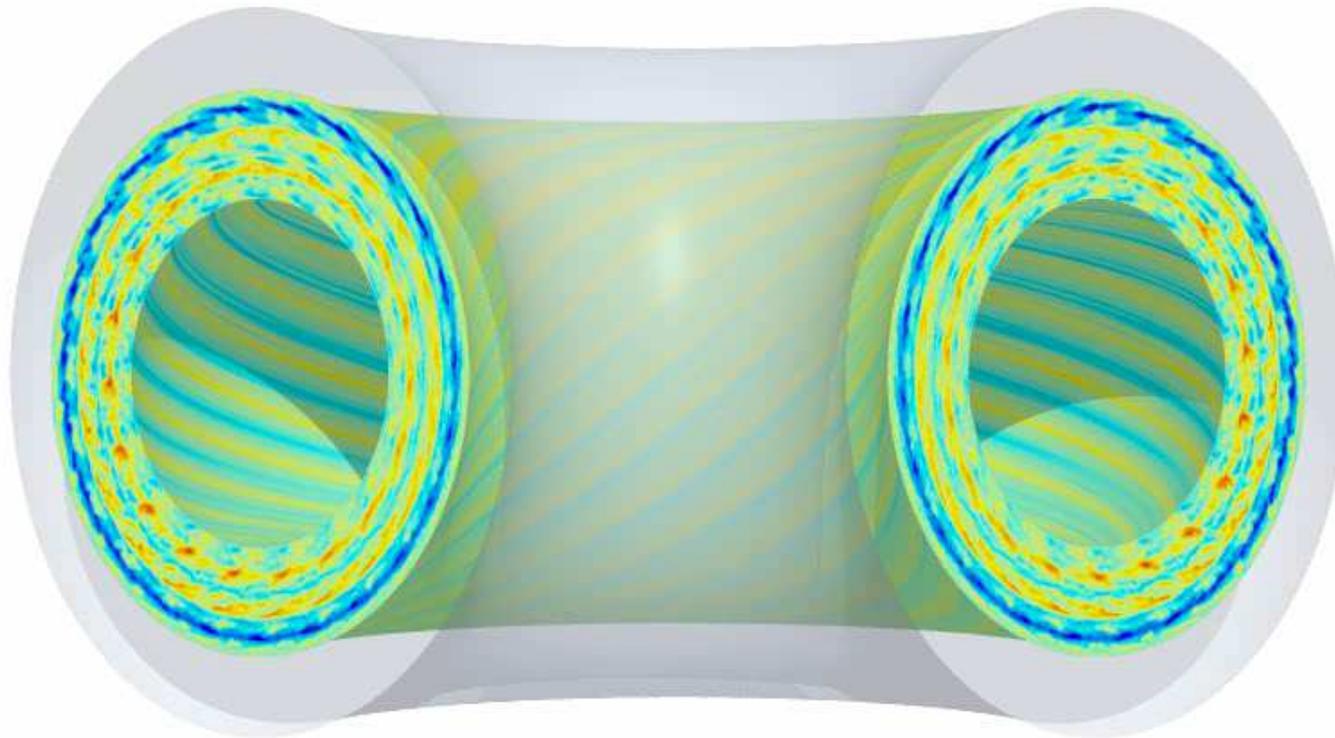
BG/L at Watson Research C., NY: 2k – 32k procs



**Weak scaling of GENE** (15 points covering 4 orders of magnitude)

(problem ~200 MB/proc; measurements in virtual node mode, **normalized to 2 processors**)

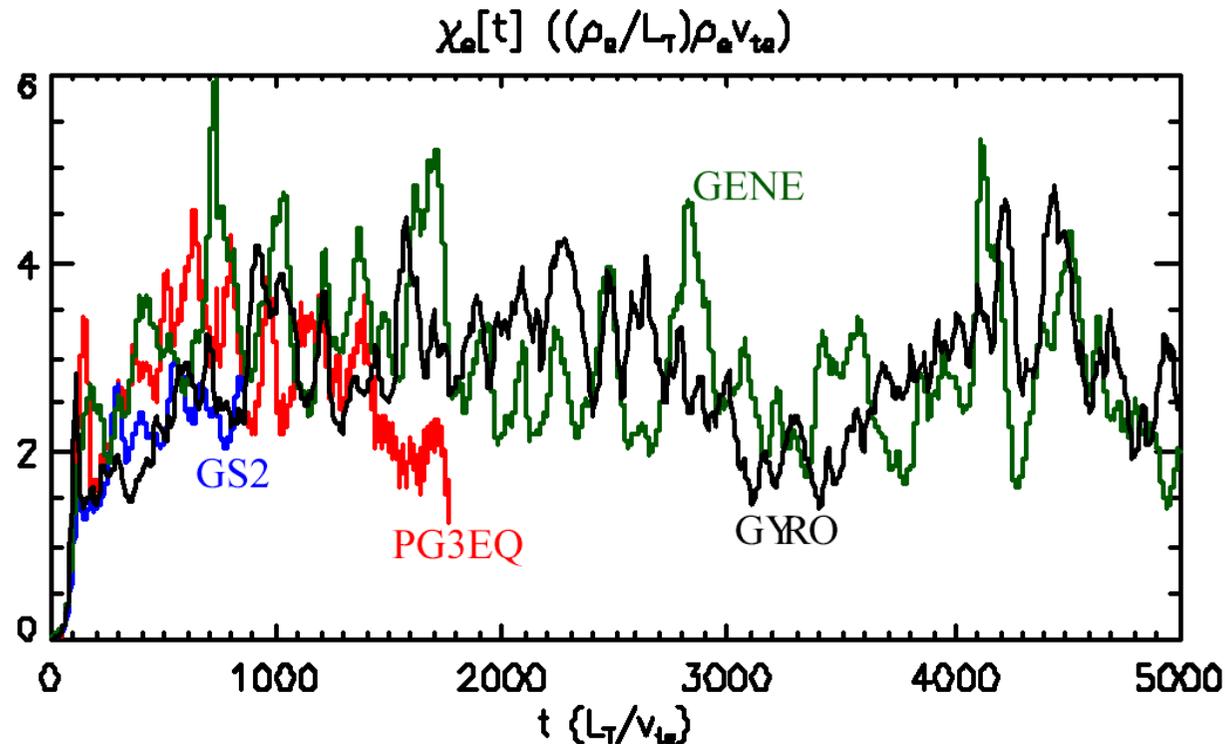
# Plasma turbulence: GENE simulations



gene@ipp.mpg.de

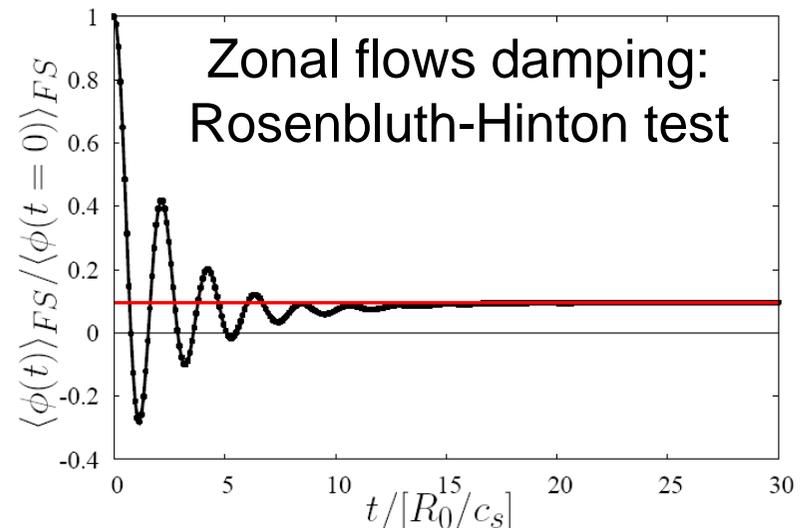
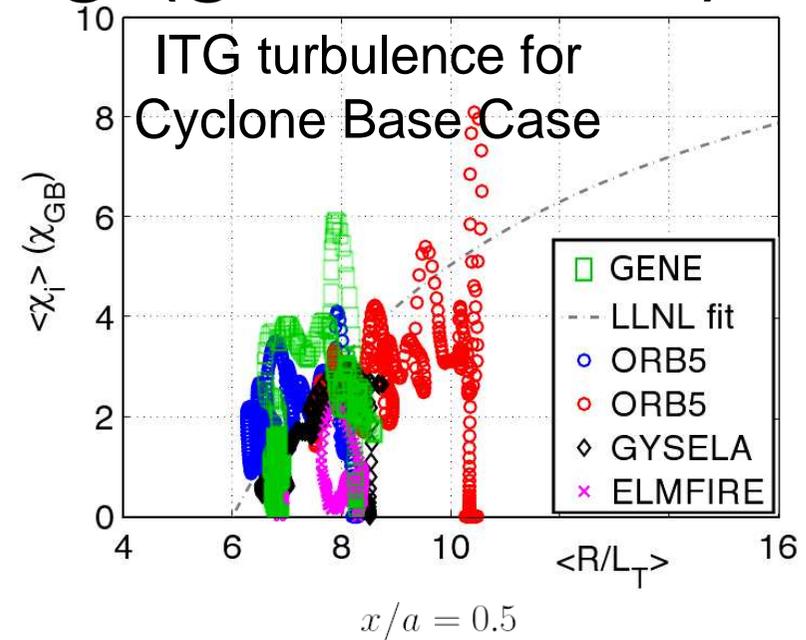
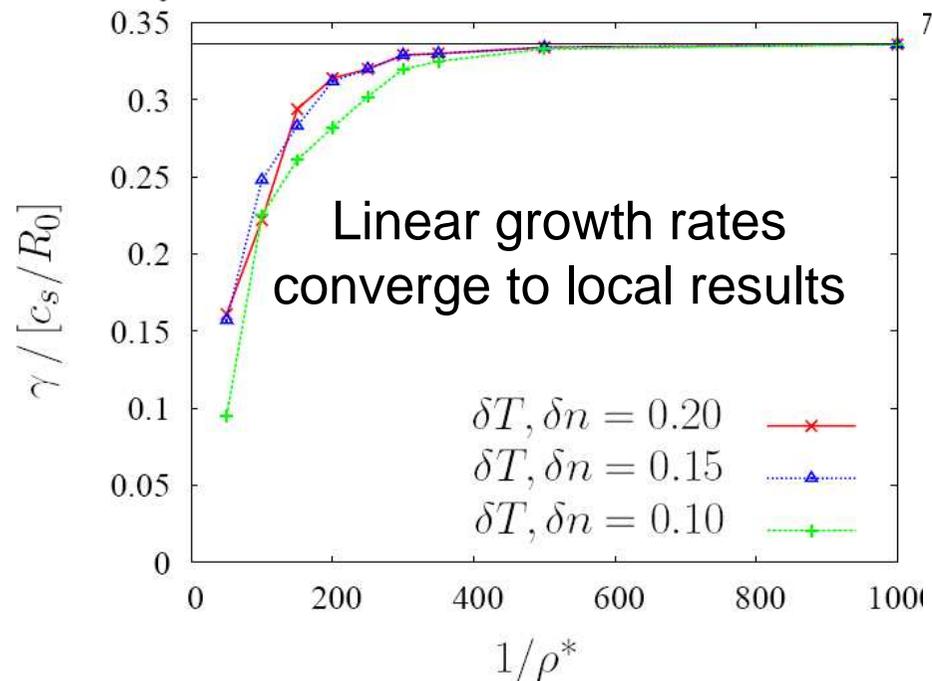
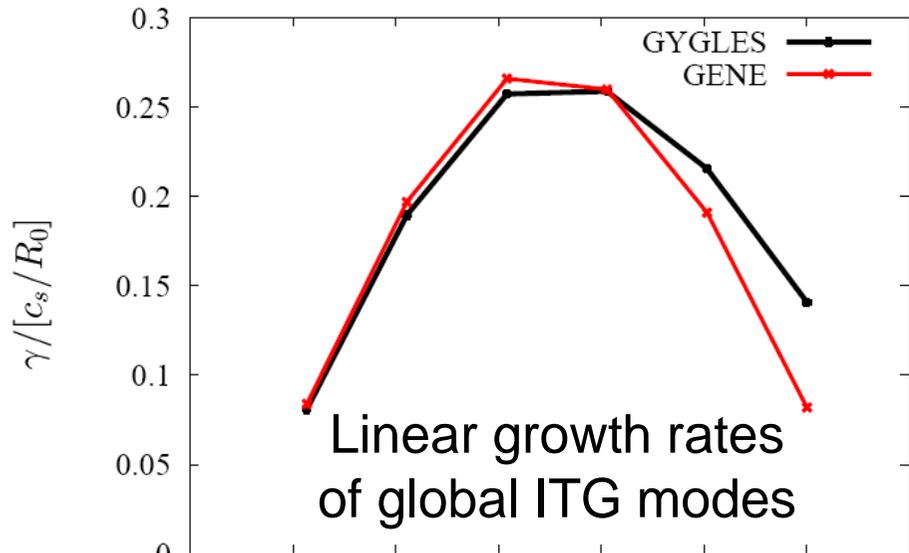
[www.ipp.mpg.de/~fsj/gene](http://www.ipp.mpg.de/~fsj/gene)

# Code benchmarking (local, ETG)

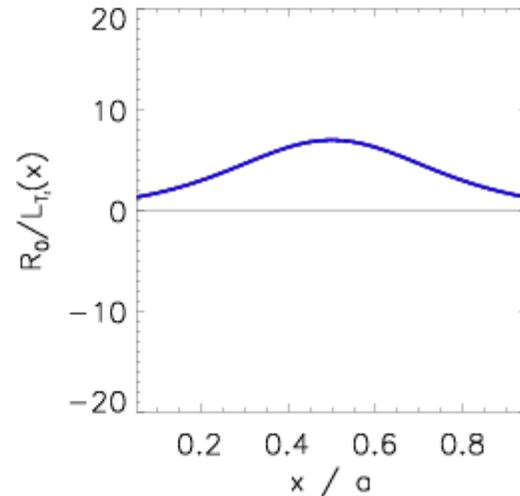
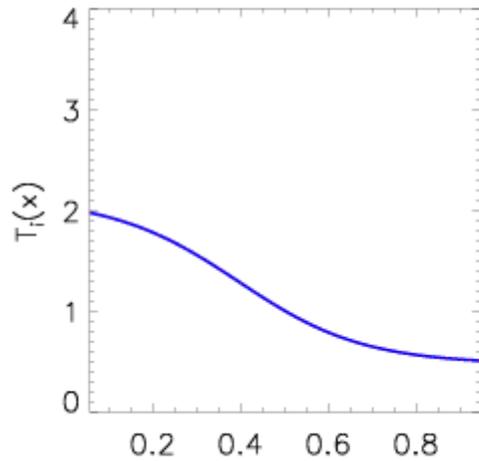


- Are we solving the equations right?
- Yes, according to a recent comparison between 4 codes (GENE, GYRO, GS2, PG3EQ)
- Such efforts are (sometimes) a bit painful but necessary

# Code benchmarking (global, ITG)



# Global GENE results: Avalanches



Flux-driven  
ITG turbulence

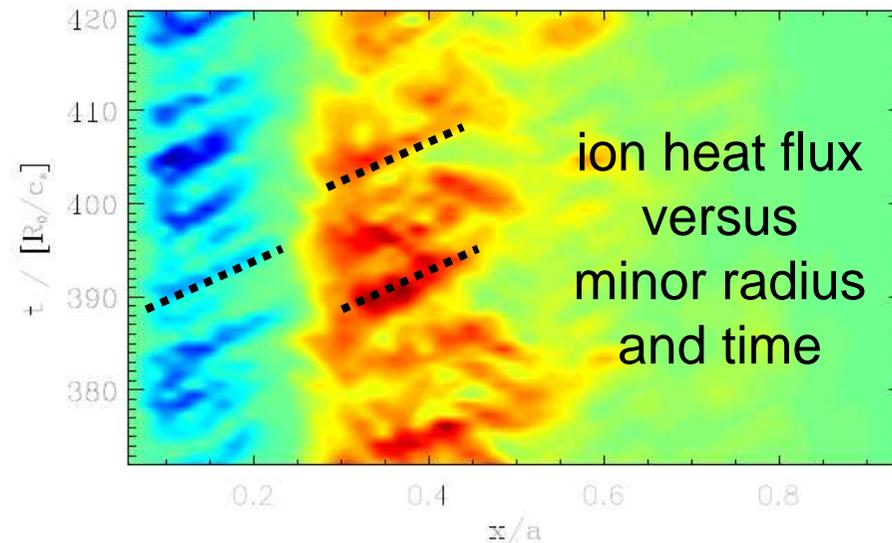
temperature  
profiles  
&  
temperature  
gradient  
profiles

$t = 0.00 L_{ret}/v_{ti}$

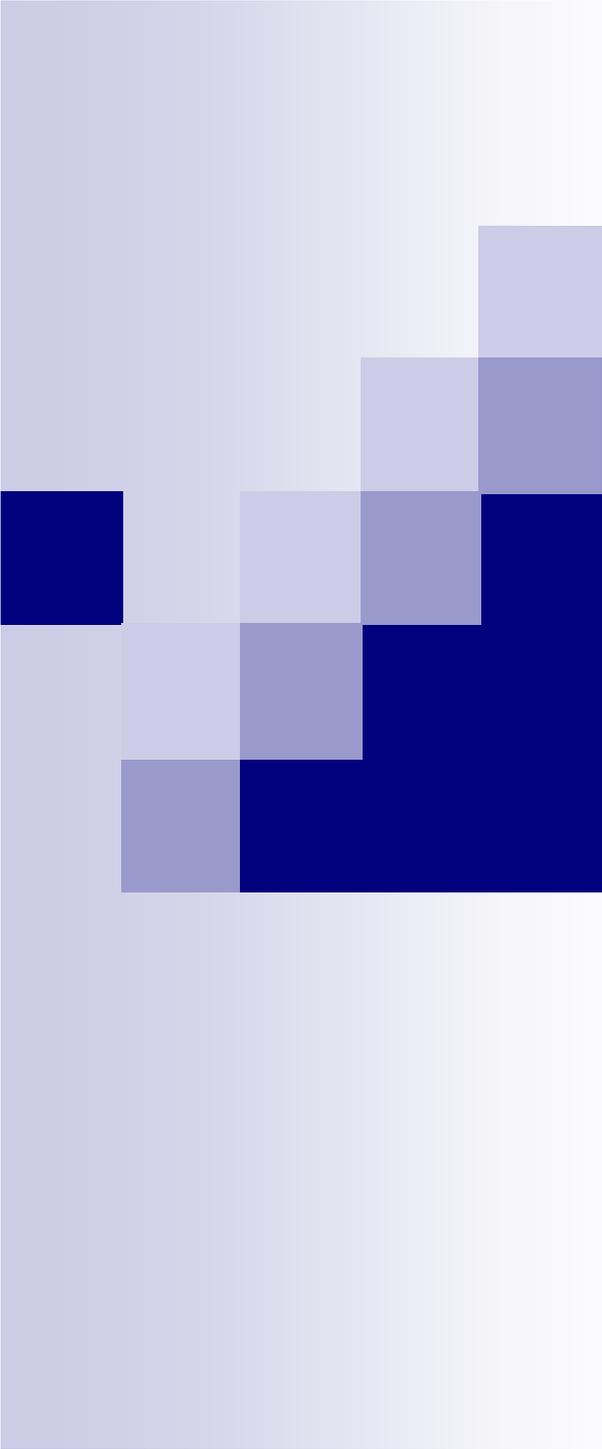
T. Görler et al.

Heat pulses (avalanches)  
propagate in the radial direction  
with constant speed

Detailed investigations are underway



ion heat flux  
versus  
minor radius  
and time



# Gyrokinetics in space and astrophysics



# Various multiscale challenges in space and astrophysics

Many phenomena involve fluid, ion, electron scales, e.g.:

- magnetic reconnection
- shock waves
- turbulence
- cross-field transport

Simulations are challenged to address these issues.

Fruitful interaction with new generation of experiments like Cross-Scale or Magnetospheric Multiscale to be expected.



# Current numerical approaches

**MHD** (including multi-fluid extensions)

...the workhorse...

**Kinetic** (PIC or Vlasov, including  $\delta f$  versions)

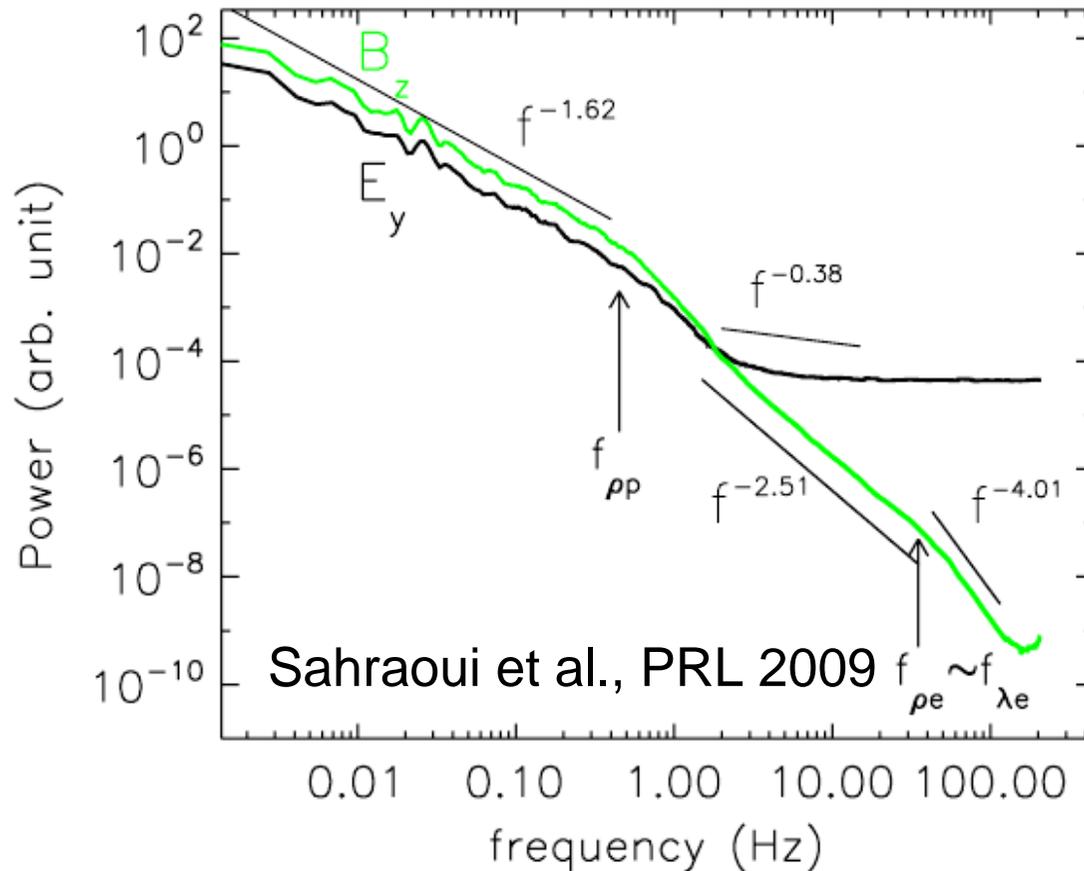
...the microphysics laboratory...

Bridging spatio-temporal scales:

- **large-scale kinetics** (test particle approach)
- **hybrid codes** (e.g. kinetic ions & fluid electrons)

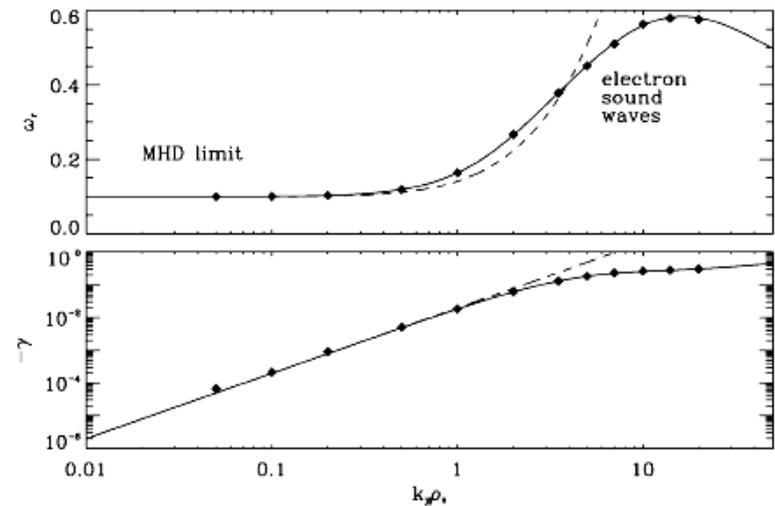
Another option: Gyrokinetics...

# Solar wind turbulence: Dissipation?



Collisionless damping of  
(shear) Alfvén waves

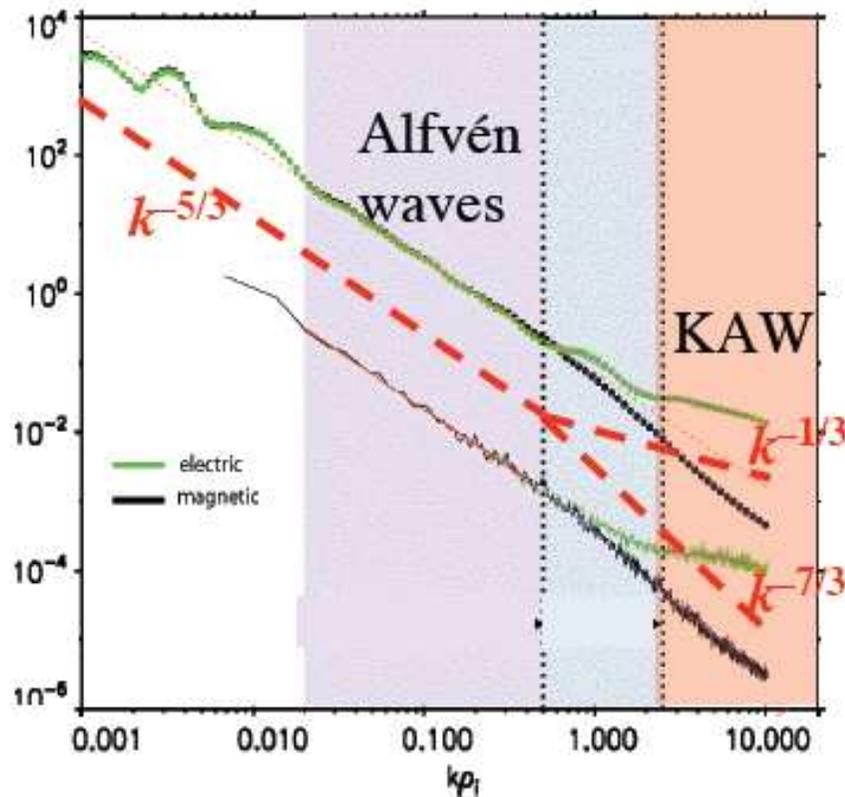
Dannert & Jenko, CPC 2004



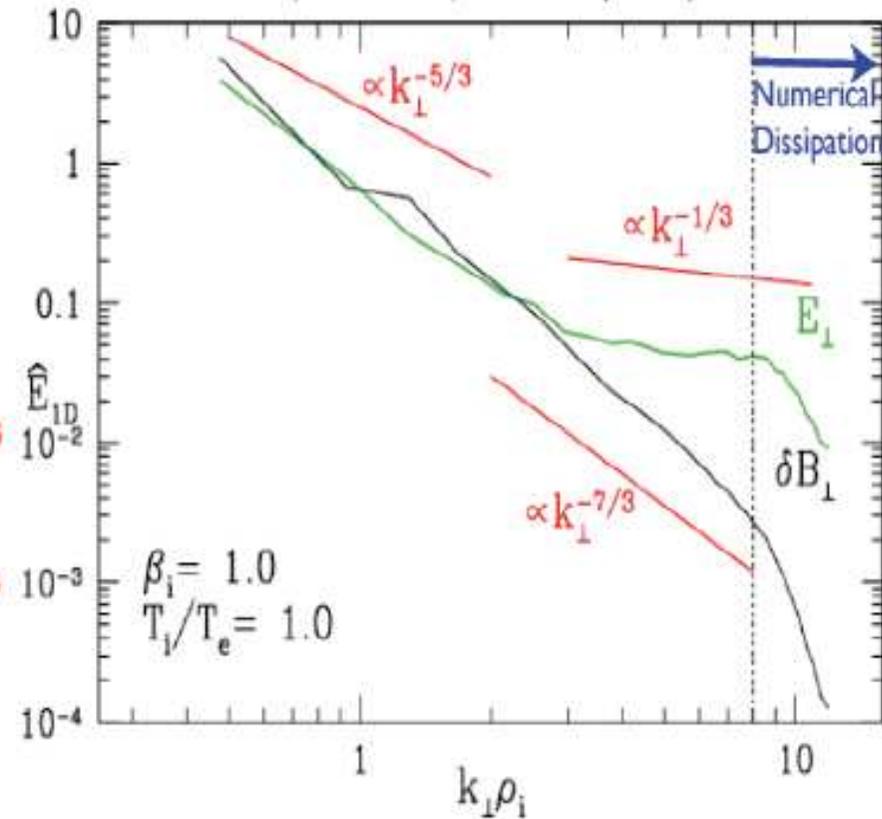
High- $k$  MHD turbulence satisfies the gyrokinetic ordering!

# High-k Alfvén wave turbulence: Observations versus simulations

AW turbulence in the solar wind  
Bale et al., PRL 2005



GK simulation of AW turbulence  
Howes et al., PRL 2008



# Broad-line regions in AGNs

Measured electromagnetic spectra from AGNs suggest the existence of...

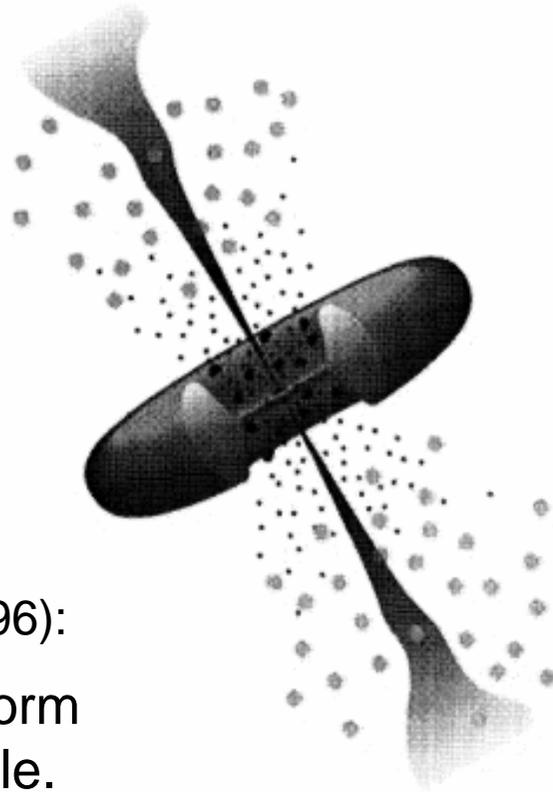
...cold, dense clouds in a hot, dilute, magnetized medium in the central region of AGNs.

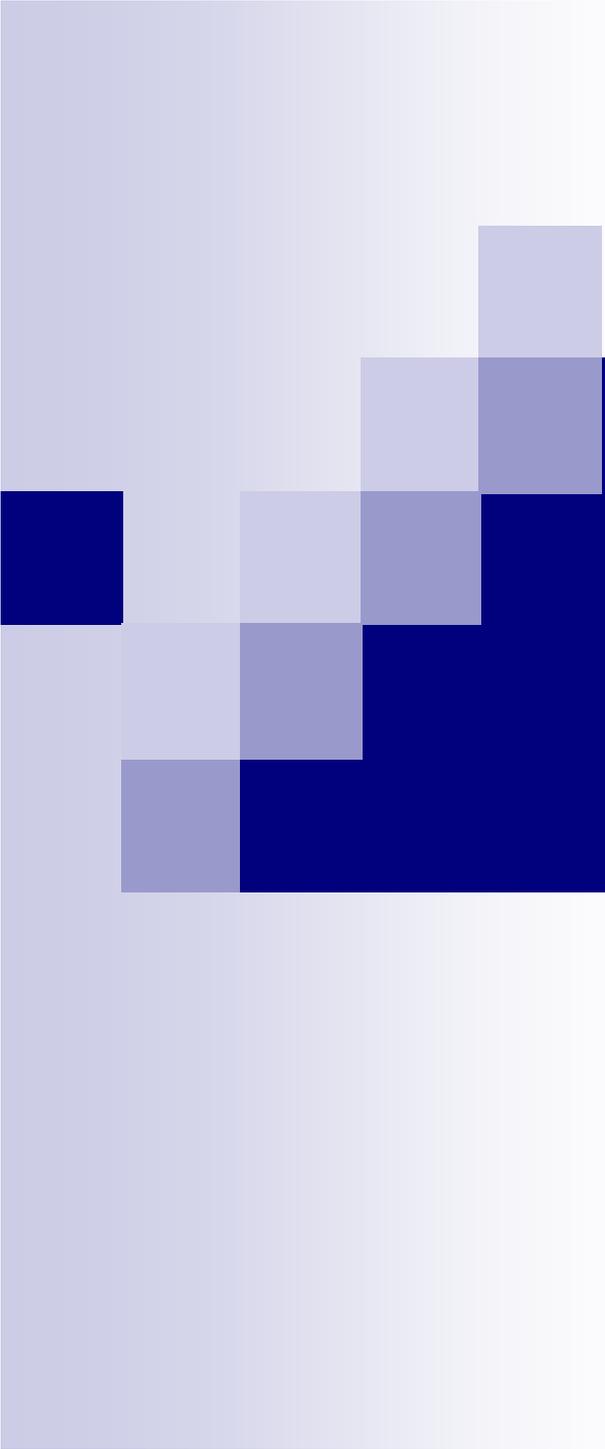
How can those cold clouds survive?

Standard model (e.g. Kuncic et al., MNRAS 1996):

Cold clouds are magnetically confined and form filaments; perpendicular transport is negligible.

Gyrokinetic turbulence sets lower limit on cloud size!





# Conclusions



# Gyrokinetic theory and simulation

- Gyrokinetics is a theory adapted to anisotropic, gyroradius-scale, low-frequency turbulence in magnetized plasmas
- Compared to a (brute-force) fully kinetic approach, it helps to save many orders of magnitude in effort
- Computational gyrokinetics has become a standard tool for theoretical investigations of plasma turbulence
- Some surprising findings from simulations of tokamak and stellarator turbulence will be shown in my second talk