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Lectures on MHD, Turbulence and Application to Solar Wind

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Models starting from kinetic theory

N.B. can also start from macroscopic conservation laws (c.f. Batchelor. Landau and Lifshitz Fluid Mech.)

- Kinetic theory
 - With collisions (Chapman Enskog, e.g., Huang textbook)
 - Without collisions (unmagnetized, e.g., Montgomery + Tidman; Montgomery texts; magnetized....???)
- MHD
 - Is "always correct" at large scales, low frequencies...
 but you can add important additional effects
- Plasma physics! Hall effect, FLR, Two fluid, Vlasov, Boltzmann, PIC. Hybrid...

Turbulence: Navier Stokes Equations

Incompressible model: Velocity $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t)$, density $\rho = constant$, $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$, pressure p

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$$

Fourier representation

 $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x},t) = \int d^3k \ e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{x}} \ \tilde{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbf{k},t)$ Energy spectrum $S(\mathbf{k}) \sim \langle |\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{k})|^2 \rangle$

Large, energy-containing eddies, wavelength $\lambda \sim 1/|\mathbf{k}| \approx \lambda_c$ correlation scale. Small scale fluctuations $|\mathbf{k}| >> 1/\lambda_c$.

Some properties of the NS equation (incompressible)

- $\nabla \cdot v = 0$ preserves constant density
- Pressure is a constraint
- Formal theory of approach to incompressibility exists (Klainerman and Majda 1980)
- With $\nu = 0$ (ideal), and Vn = 0 or periodic BCs,

the energy $< |\boldsymbol{v}| \hat{1} > = \text{constant}$

- Ignore nonlinearity \rightarrow linear viscous decay
- Reynolds number $\operatorname{Re} = \mathcal{V}L/\mathcal{V}$ is a measure of the strength of nonlinear vs. linear terms

A simple model to show that quadratic nonlinearities seek equipartition** **(unless there are extra conservation laws)



· A NUMber of quantities (Pis Magnetic field) evolve according to equations That contain terms like This is often called a "line stretching" perm. a Let us review a proof That line elements That follow fluid elements ("material line elements") are streched by Turbulence, I.e. Their length inducies In time, on a working average. i) equation alized by material line element: points more with third at velocity & (x) 7 - (xB) XA = XA + U(XA) At (A) $X_B = X_B + \mathcal{U}(X_B) \wedge t$ = $X_B + \mathcal{U}(X_A) + \mathcal{L} \cdot \mathcal{P} \mathcal{U} \int \Delta t$ XA line element lit = XO-XA lit+ATI = XO-XA

$$\Delta l = l(t; \Delta t) - l(t) = \chi_{0}^{\prime} - \chi_{0}^{\prime} - (\chi_{0} - \chi_{A})$$

$$= \chi_{0}^{\prime} + \frac{u(\chi_{0})\phi + + l(\psi_{A})\phi + + l(\psi_{A})\phi + + l(\psi_{A})\phi + - \frac{u(\chi_{A})\phi + - \frac$$





turbulence

- Line elements stretch
- Nonlinearities seek equipartition
- Similarity decay of energy (von Karman-Howarth
- Self similarity at high Re (Kol41)
- Intermittency and higher order statistics (Kol62)

Von Karman-Howarth and similarity decay of energy

$$du2/dt = \alpha u t 3/L = \alpha u 2/\tau n l$$

$$dL/dt = \beta \ u = \mathbb{K}L/\tau nl$$

$$\tau nl = L/u$$

Turbulence: nonlinearity and cascade

 $\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \sim V \cdot \nabla V \qquad \overrightarrow{Fourier} \qquad \frac{\partial V(\underline{k})}{\partial t} \sim \sum_{\underline{\Gamma} + \underline{P} = \underline{k}} V_{\underline{p}}(\underline{r}) V_{\underline{r}}(\underline{P})$ "Triad INTERACTION" ORDER - CHAOS ergodicity, MIXING CHAOS -= ORDER coherent structures INTErmitteney CHARACTERISTIC PROCESSES line stretching, vortex coalescence, reconnection

Energy decay in turbulence

Wind tunnel measurements of energy vs. distance (time) Batchelor and Townsend, 1949



Von Karman-Taylor constant for a group of MHD simulations (from dZ-/dt equation)



Spectra vs time for MHD simulation



The Kolmogorov 1941 spectrum

- Well separated in scale from sources and dissipation, the distribution of energy over scale (omnidirectional spectrum) should depend only on
 - ε the rate of driving=supply=transfer through scale
 - k the wavenumber (inverse scale)
- Therefore by dimensional analysis

$$E(k) \sim M \alpha k\beta$$

$$\rightarrow \qquad E(k) = Ck \ \epsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

Broadband self-similar spectra are a signature of cascade

"Powerlaws everywhere"→



Coronal scintillation results (Harmon and Coles)



Turbulent fluctuations have structure!

Kolmogorov '41

gorov '41
$$\varepsilon$$
: dissipation rate
 $\bigvee V \gamma$: velocity increment
 $\bigvee V \gamma \sim (\varepsilon r)^{1/3}$
 $\rightarrow \langle \bigvee V \gamma^{p} \rangle = \text{const. } \varepsilon^{p/3} r^{p/3}$

But this is NOT observed!

Why? Spatial fluctuations of dissipation are very large – gradients Are not uniformly distributed; the cascade produces intermittency

Kolmogorov '62

$$\varepsilon_r = r^{-3}$$
 $\mathcal{V}_{random} \mathcal{T} d^3 x' \varepsilon(x')$

$$\overrightarrow{V} \sim (\varepsilon_{r} r)^{1/3}$$

$$\overrightarrow{}_{3} < \overrightarrow{V} \sim (\varepsilon_{r} r)^{1/3}$$

$$= const. \quad \langle \varepsilon_{r} r^{p/3} \rangle r^{p/3} + \xi(p)$$

hydrodynamic flow around a sphere:





(Oubukhov '62) \rightarrow multifractal theory etc, comes from this!

Turbulence (in its various forms) produces coherent structures as an integral part of the cascade process

Reduced MHD turbulent coronal heating

from a pseudospectral RMHD eqs. simulation

Rm = Re = 1250, resolution = 512 x 512 x 17

time between frames = 0.2 eddy turnover times

in an open magnetic region with parallel

Alfven speed gradients

total time = 10

Description: a movie of a cross section of the current density j(x,y

Decaying 2D hydro turbulence

Description: a movie of the vorticity field w(x,y) from a pseudospectral 2D Navier–Stokes eqs. simulation starting from an initial random broadband spectrum condition initial Re = 12500, resolution = 512x512 time between frames = 0.5 eddy turnover times, total time = 50 values are color coded between -2 stdev(w), +2 stdev(w) Starring keywords: vortex coalescence, decaying turbulence 2D hydro, inverse cascade Directed by Pablo Dmitruk Filmed at Bartol UD using local PCs Apr 2002

2D hydrodynamics: Vorticity sheets and maximum entropy "cores" values are color coded between -2 stdev(j), +2 stdev(j) Starring keywords: coronal heating, wave driven turbulence, RMHD, perpendicular cascade Directed by Pablo Dmitruk Filmed at Bartol UD using a local PC beowulf cluster Apr 2002

> 2D magnetohyrdodynamics: current sheets and flux tube cores

Alternative views of origin of "flux tubes" and discontinuities/ current sheets in SW



Spaghetti models:

e.g.,. Bruno et al. [2004]



Figure 1. A sketch of the flux tube texture of the solar-wind plasma. Each flux tube contains a different plasma and the flux tubes move independently. A depiction (left) looking at the sides of the tubes indicates that the tubes are tangled about the direction of the Parker spiral. An end view (right) depicts the cross sections of the network of tubes. The scale sizes of the flux tubes correspond to the scale sizes of granules on the solar surface. The median diameter of a flux tube at 1 AU is 5.5 × 10⁵ km.

Passive flux tubes with boundaries
 Borovsky 2008

In turbulence: expect structure from outer scale to dissipation range

Current and Magnetic field in 2D MHD simulation





3D *MHD* compressible simulation with mean B_0

Spatially structured turbulence is expected to have transport or "trapping" boundaries



Boundaries are observed: "dropouts" of Solar energetic particles



H-FE ions vs arrival time For 9 Jan 1999 SEP event From Mazur et al, ApJ (2000)

Temporarily trapped Particles-- Tooprakai et al, 2007

Two-dimensional turbulence



512² spectral method

simulation







2D NS turbulence, Re=14,000, visualization of vorticity

Montgomery et al, 1990

Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD), etc

Distinctive effects in MHD

• Two fields and multiplicity of length scales

The incompressible MHD model, in terms of the fluid velocity \mathbf{u} and the magnetic field \mathbf{B} , involves the momentum equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \frac{1}{4\pi\rho} (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} \quad (1)$$

and the magnetic induction equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{B}.$$
 (2)

• Anistropy/propagation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}_{\pm}}{\partial t} \mp \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{A}} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}_{\pm} = -\mathbf{z}_{\mp} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{z}_{\pm} - \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{z}_{\pm},$$

- Multiple ideal invariants/direct/inverse cascades (see also "quasiinvariants")
- Dimensionless parameters

There are numerous reasons to doubt that MHD turbulence admits the same sort of "universality" that hydro does.

Solar wind: indications of both turbulence and wave-like properties:



• Theory

K41 & I-Kr65

- Simulation \rightarrow
- Solar wind observation





MHD spectra are highly variable!

- Lee at al (PRE, 2010) showed that initial conditions with same E, Hc and Hm, and same initial spectra can evolve very differently →
- The reason for this is not agreed upon
- May point to role of the structure of 4th order moments (Wan et al JFM 2011, submitted); if these are nonuniversal then MHD is not universal.
- NB: B0 and 4th order correlations do not enter third order law, so anisotropy at 3rd and 4th order may be very important



In simulations AND solar wind









Cross sections $\Delta B/B_0 = 1/10$



Jz and Bz in an x-z plane

Jz and Bx, By in an x-y plane



Turbulence Geometry

<u>Slab Geometry</u>: Wavevectors k parallel to mean field B_0 . Fluctuating field δB perpendicular to B_0 .

Motivations: Parallel propagating Alfvén waves. Computational simplicity. <u>2D Geometry:</u> k and δB both perpendicular to B_0 .

Motivations: "Structures." Turbulence theory. Laboratory experiments.



3D MHD compressible simulation with mean B₀



current structures can form complex boundaries



Slice & blowup



1536³ 3D MHD

Mininni et al NJP 2008

Figure 10. Same as in figure 9, but showing only the current intensity. The associated movie (available from stacks.iop.org/NJP/10/125007/mmedia) shows the temporal evolution.

<u>Solar Wind</u> <u>Dissipation</u>

- steepening near 1 Hz (at 1 AU) -- breakpoint scales best with ion inertial scale
- Helicity signature → proton gyroresonant contributions ~50%
- Appears inconsistent with solely parallel resonances
- K_{par} and K_{perp} (to B₀) are both involved
- Consistent with dissipation
 in oblique current sheets



Observed heating in the solar wind: can fluid turbulence and kinetic response explain this?



Coherent structures are associated with enhanced heating

Each of the heating diagnostics is conditionally sampled so that the values associated with each of the three regions can be plotted as a separate PDF.



Red pdfs have PVI $\geq 4 \leftarrow \rightarrow$ Region 3

 $PVI = |\Delta B(x, s)| / < |M| B(x, s)|^2 > 1/2$

Evidence that coherent structure are sites of enhanced heating: Solar wind proton temperature distribution conditioned on





Possible extensions to the Kolmogorov Refined Similarity Hypothesis?

 KRSH is the basis of multifractal scalings, etc, but has not been fully discussed in the context of MHD – and not for plasmas (see Merrifield et al, PoP 2005)

For plasma, we do NOT know ε , the local dissipation rate !



Strength of electric current density in shear-driven kinetic plasma (PIC) simulation (V. Roytershtein, H. Karimabadi, et al)



Thinnest sheets seen are comparable to electron inertial length. Sheets are clustered At about the ion inertial length \rightarrow heirarchy of coherent, dissipative structures at kinetic scales

Hall magnetic field near X-point: SSX experiment (Swarthmore, M. Brown, PI)



cascades

System	Ideal invariants	Direct cascade	Inverse cascade	Large structure	Small structure
3D hydro	$E, (H_v)$	Ε	none	backscatter	$\vec{\omega}$ -sheets/threads
2D hydro	E, Ω	Ω	E	MAX-S eddies	ω cores/sheets
2D GCP	E, Ω_n	Ω_n	Ε	MAX-S potential	ho cores/sheets
3D MHD	E, H_c, H_m	E, H_c	$H_m \left[H_c \right]$	helical B	J, <i>ൽ</i> (???)
2D MHD	E, A, H_c	E, H_c	Α	magnetic islands	j/ω -cores/sheets
3D Hall MHD	E, H_m, H_g	E, H_g	$H_m, [H_g]$	helical structures	$\mathbf{J}, \vec{\omega}, \mathbf{v}$ (???)



time

Cartoon of trajectories: 3D MHD



Gibbs statistical mechanics for Galerkin approximations of turbulence

2D hydro Gibbs ensemble

From Seyler, 1975

Gibbs prediction agrees well with time averaged spectrum

Streamlines show "self-organization", that is maximization of entropy gives rise to large scale spatial structure Time \rightarrow





2D hydro Gibbs is a robust result



Start with almost all the energy in ONE MODE, plus a little broad band noise.

After some time, the averaged spectrum Agrees well with the Gibbs prediction Gibbs ensemble average spectra for 3D incompressible (Galerkin) ideal MHD

$$\langle E_{v}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle = \frac{2}{\beta} \left(1 + \frac{\gamma^{2}}{4} \frac{(\beta^{2} - \frac{1}{4}\gamma^{2})k^{2}}{d(k)} \right),$$

$$\langle E_{b}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle = 2\beta (\beta^{2} - \frac{1}{4}\gamma^{2})k^{2}/d(k),$$

$$\langle E(\mathbf{k}) \rangle = 2\beta \left[2(\beta^{2} - \frac{1}{4}\gamma^{2})k^{2} - \theta^{2} \right]/d(k),$$

$$\langle H_{c}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle = -\gamma (\beta^{2} - \frac{1}{4}\gamma^{2})k^{2}/d(k),$$

$$\langle H_{m}(\mathbf{k}) \rangle = -2\theta \beta^{2}/d(k),$$

$$d(k) = (\beta^{2} - \frac{1}{4}\gamma^{2})^{2}k^{2} - \theta^{2}\beta^{2}.$$

Condensation in 3D MHD Gibbs ensemble





time