

# Slow dynamics of turbulent flows in a von Kármán experiment

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<http://fisica.unav.es/mhd/>

## Outline

[1/5] Why?

[2/5] Where? The experiment

[3/5] The very slow regime

[4/5] The slow regime

[5/5] FIONA and SHREK

[1/5] Motivation: Why?

## Why? → Turbulence

Large structures are ubiquitous in turbulent flows:



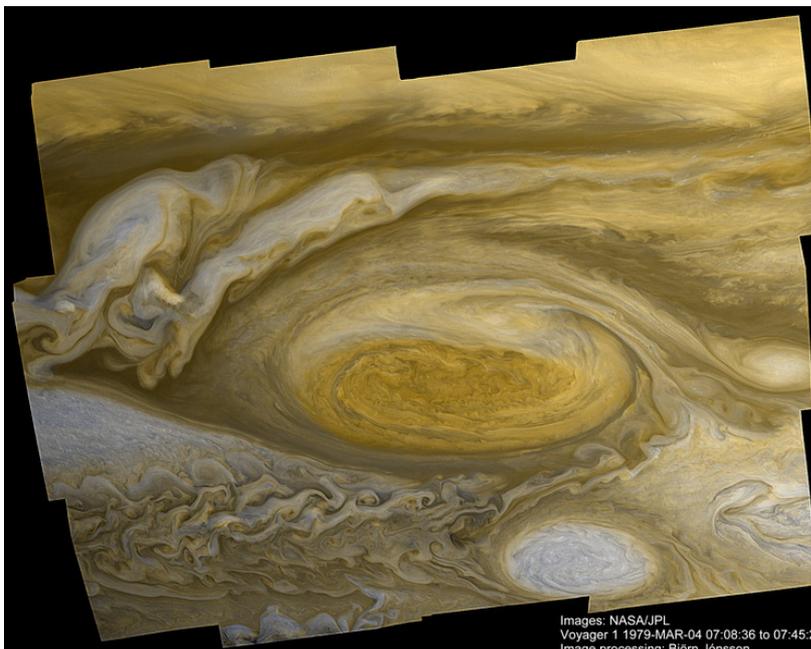
NCTR3, Les Houches, March 18th, 2014

5

[1/5] Motivation: Why?

## Why? → Turbulence

Large structures are ubiquitous in turbulent flows:



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[1/5] Motivation: Why?

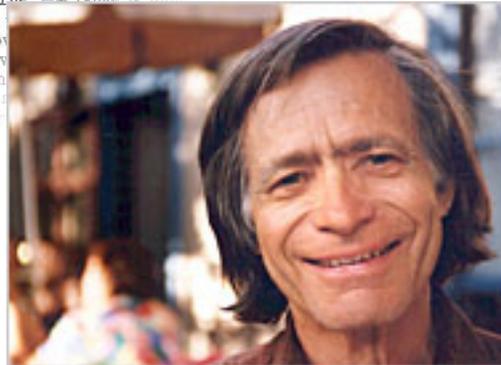
# Why? → Turbulence

Large structures are ubiquitous in turbulent flows:

## Inertial Ranges in Two-Dimensional Turbulence

ROBERT H. KRAICHNAN  
*Peterborough, New Hampshire*  
(Received 1 February 1967)

Two-dimensional turbulence has both kinetic energy and mean-square vorticity as inviscid constants of motion. Consequently it admits two formal inertial ranges,  $E(k) \sim \epsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$  and  $\overline{E}(k) \sim \eta^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$ , where  $\epsilon$  is the rate of cascade of kinetic energy per unit mass,  $\eta$  is the rate of cascade of mean-square vorticity, and the kinetic energy per unit mass is  $\int_0^\infty E(k) dk$ . The  $-5/3$  range is found in a backward energy cascade, from higher to lower wavenumbers  $k$ , and the  $-2/3$  range is found in a forward energy cascade, from lower to higher wavenumbers  $k$ . The  $-3$  range gives an upward vorticity flow and zero-energy flow, and is resolved by the irreducibly triangular nature of the elementary wave interactions. The  $-3$  range gives a nonlocal cascade and consequently must be maintained if energy is fed in at a constant rate to a band of wavenumbers  $\sim k_i$ ,  $k_f$ ,  $k_i \ll k_f$ . It is conjectured that a quasi-steady-state results with a  $-5/3$  range from  $k_i$  to  $k_f$ , and a  $-2/3$  range from  $k_f$  to  $k_c$ , up to the viscous cutoff. The total kinetic energy is conserved, and the energy dissipation by viscosity decreases to zero if kinematic viscosity is held constant and parameters unchanged.



[1/5] Motivation: Why?

# Why? → MHD

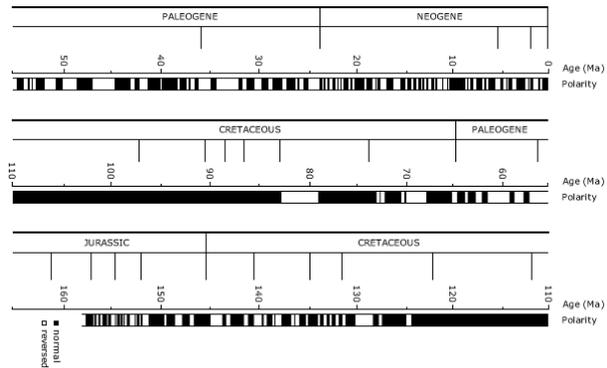
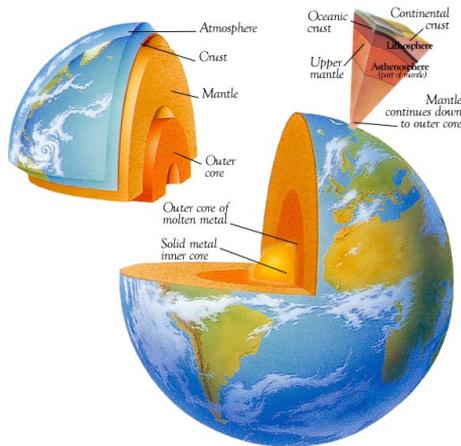
## Dynamo action:

Self-generation of a Magnetic field  
in a moving conducting fluid

Driving force: Convection, coriolis, propellers...

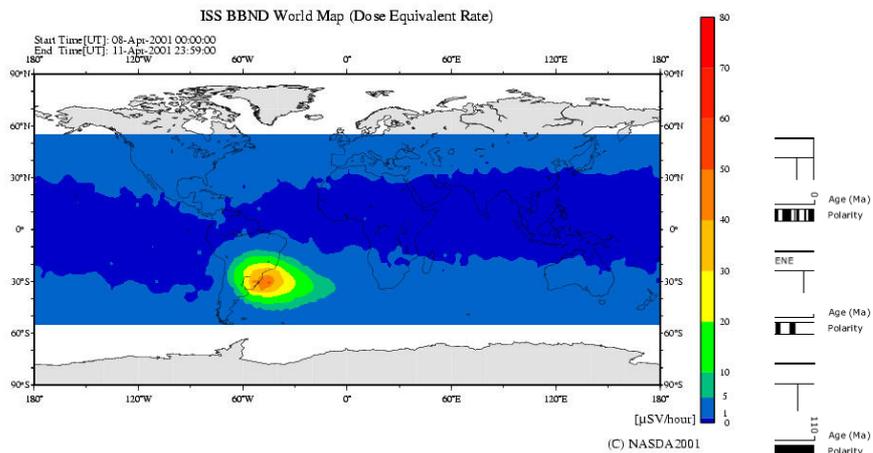
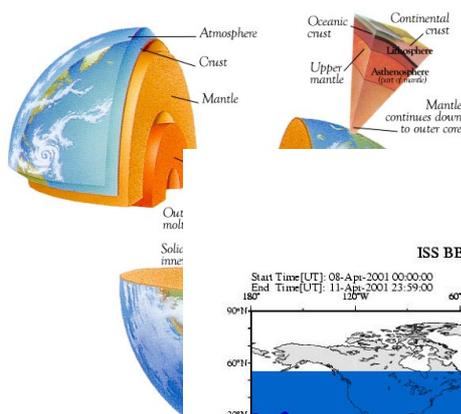
[1/5] Motivation: Why?

# Why? → Earth's magnetic field



[1/5] Motivation: Why?

# Why? → Earth's magnetic field



## Why? → The experiment

We decided to analyze these slow dynamics experimentally...

⇒ **von Kármán flow in a closed cylinder**

## Why? → The experiment

Fundamental and applied research:

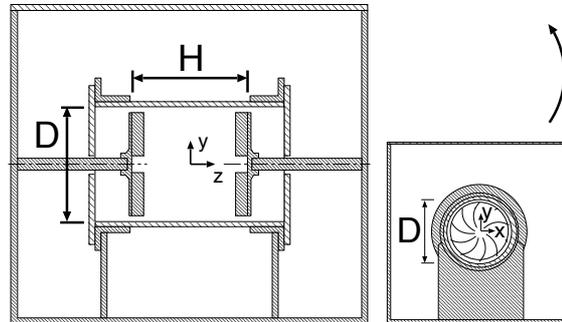
- MHD interest (Dynamo action)
- Applied research: Mixing problems.

Turbulence "test bench"

- Homogeneous / Isotropic vs. Inhomogeneous / anisotropic:
- Lagrangian vs. Eulerian statistics
- Structure functions,...

# Water Experiment

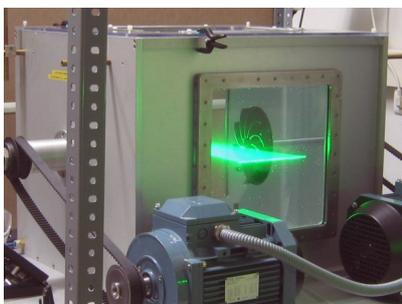
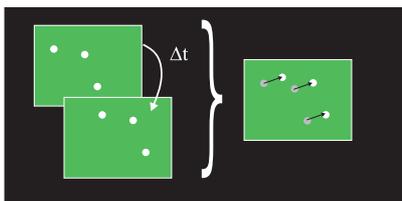
Experimental setup:



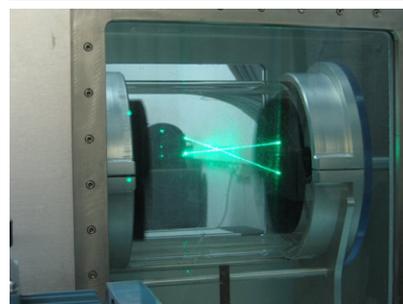
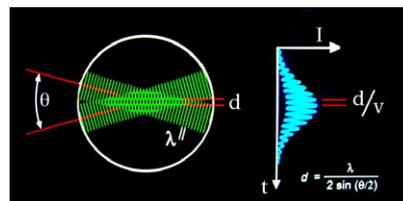
- Cylindrical volume  
 $D = 0.1 - 0.4\text{m}$ ,  $H = 0.1 - 0.5\text{m}$
- Two counter rotating impellers
- Frequency:  $f = 1 - 20\text{Hz}$  ← fluctuations below 1‰

# Water Experiment

PIV (spatial evolution)  $\Leftrightarrow$  LDA (temporal evolution)



spatial resolution  $\uparrow$   
temporal resolution  $\downarrow$

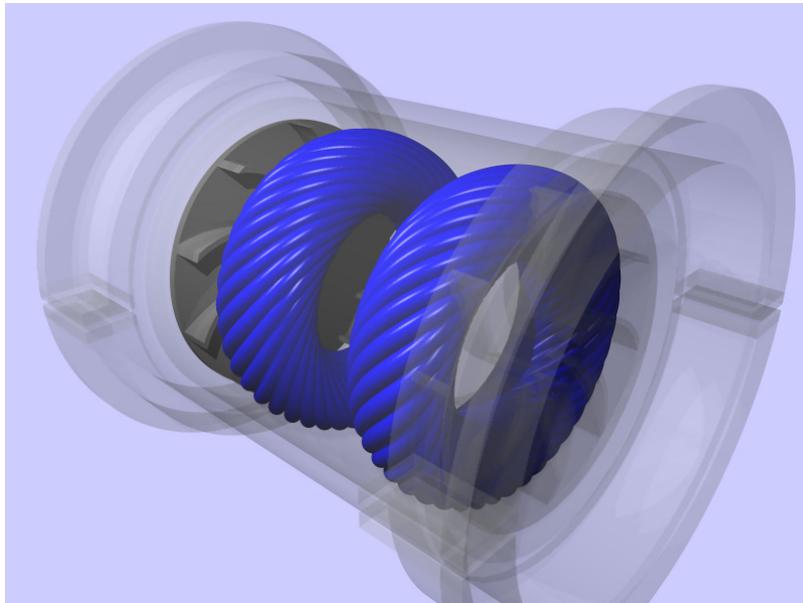


temporal resolution  $\uparrow$   
spatial resolution  $\downarrow$

[2/5] Experimental setup: Where?

## Expected flow characteristics

The mean flow recovers all the symmetries??



Anisotropic and very slow fluctuations??

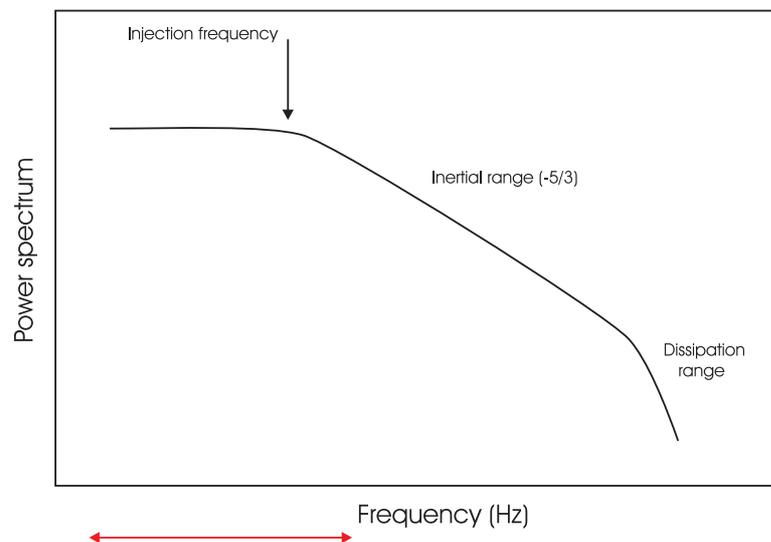
NCTR3, Les Houches, March 18th, 2014

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[2/5] Experimental setup: Where?

## Expected flow characteristics

Power spectrum??



Here we will focus on the slow behaviour

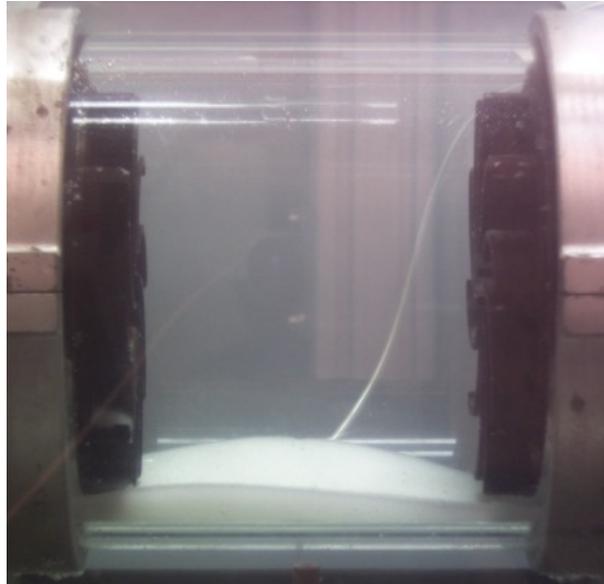
NCTR3, Les Houches, March 18th, 2014

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[2/5] Experimental setup: Where?

## Large $Re$ : Flow Visualization

$$Re = 2.5 \cdot 10^5$$



De la Torre, Burguete, PRL 99 (2007) 054101

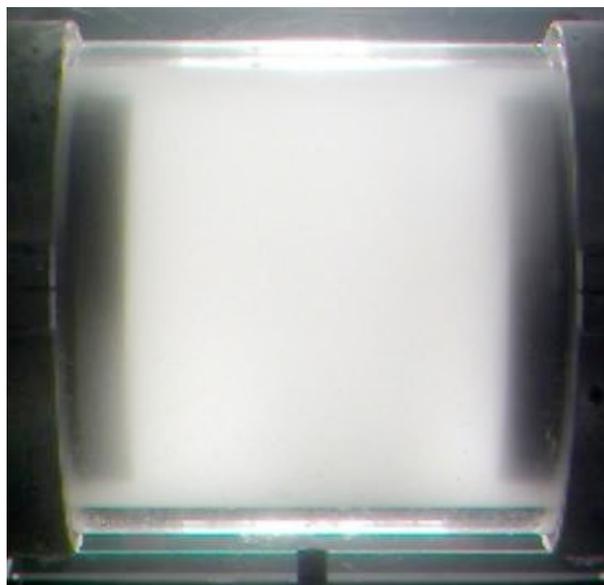
NCTR3, Les Houches, March 18th, 2014

11

[2/5] Experimental setup: Where?

## Large $Re$ : Flow Visualization

$$Re = 2.5 \cdot 10^5$$



De la Torre, Burguete, PRL 99 (2007) 054101

NCTR3, Les Houches, March 18th, 2014

11

[2/5] Experimental setup: Where?

## Large $Re$ : Flow Visualization

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De la Torre, Burguete, PRL 99 (2007) 054101

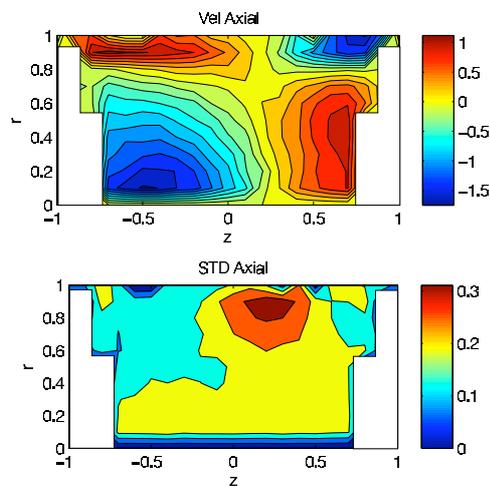
NCTR3, Les Houches, March 18th, 2014

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[2/5] Experimental setup: Where?

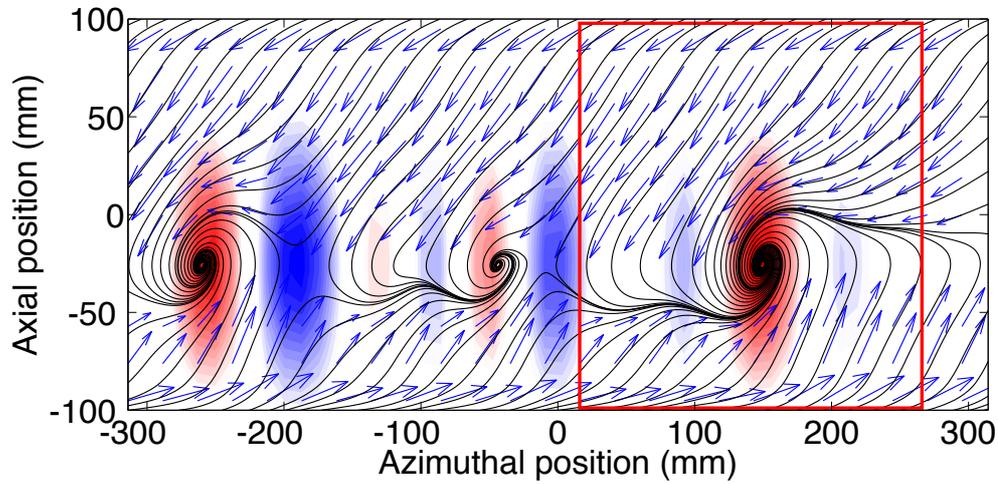
## Large $Re$ : Flow Visualization

$$Re = 2.5 \cdot 10^5$$



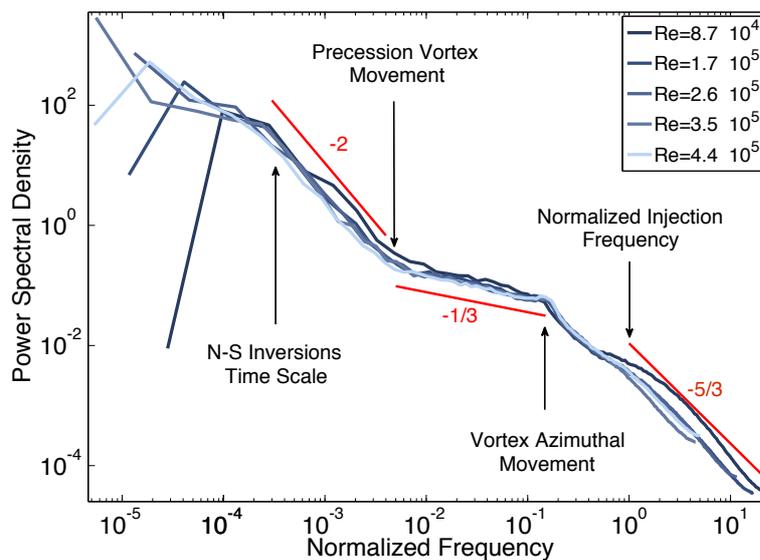
# Large $Re$ : Flow Visualization

$$Re = 2.5 \cdot 10^5$$



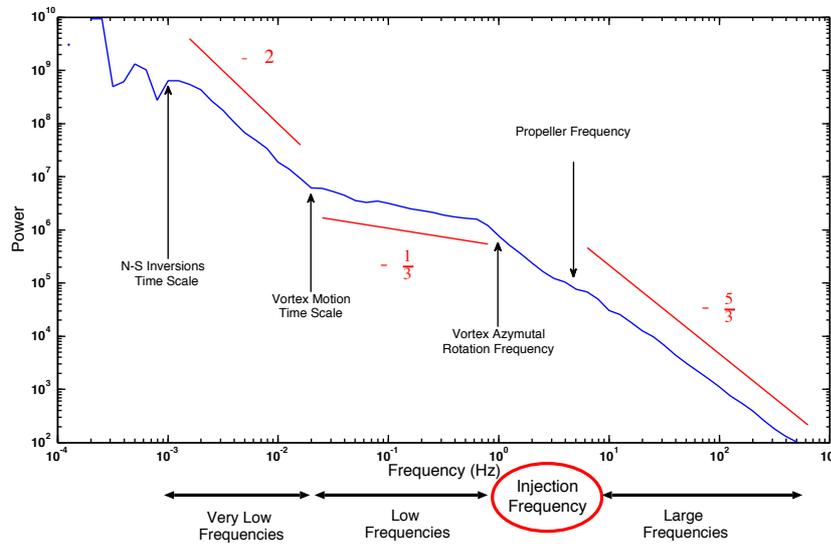
# Power spectrum

Many different time scales below the injection scale.



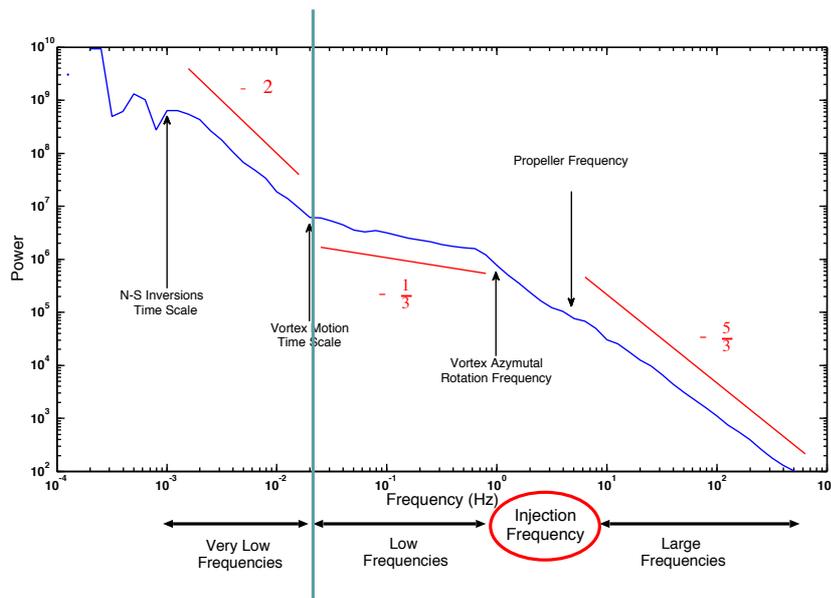
# Power spectrum

We can establish three different ranges:



# Power spectrum

We will start with the range of very low frequencies:



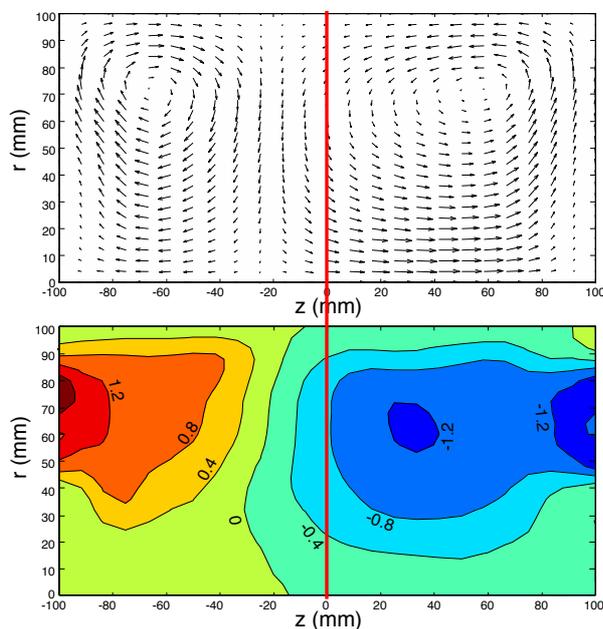
# [3/5] Very Slow Regime Reversals and Mean Flow Dynamics

[3/5] Very Slow Regime

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

**Measured velocity flow** ( $Re = 3 \cdot 10^5$ )

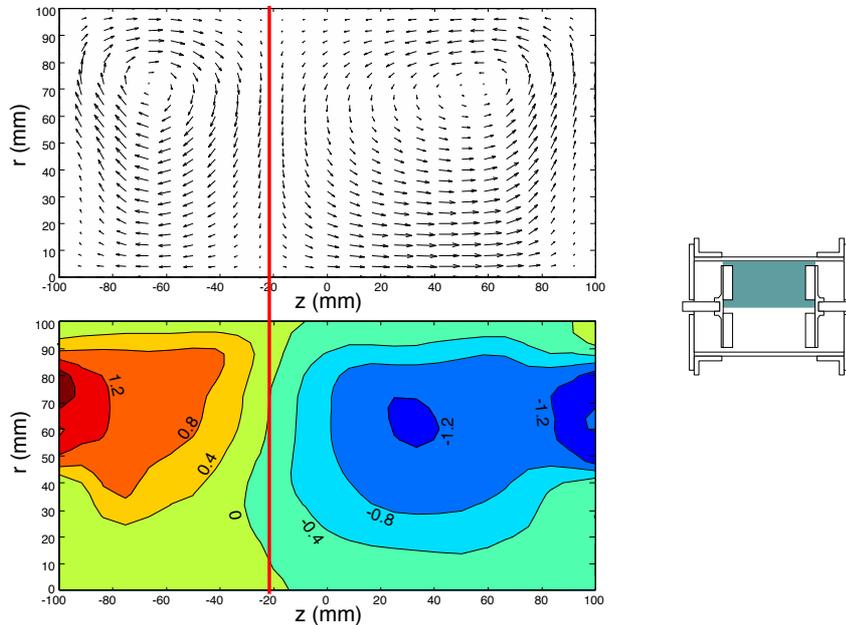
Time averaged  $\rightarrow$  Not symmetric around  $z = 0$ !



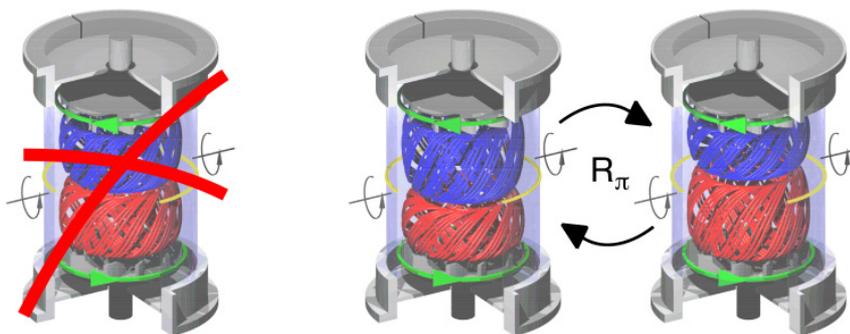
## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

Measured velocity flow ( $Re = 3 \cdot 10^5$ )

Time averaged  $\rightarrow$  Here, the shear layer is around  $z = -20$ !



## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions



This behavior appears **only** if the stability is better than 0.1 %.

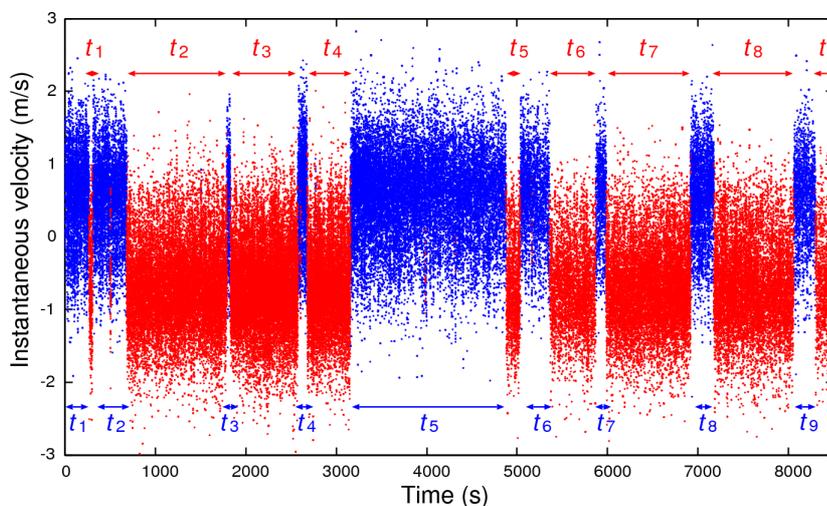
With a random fluctuation of 1-2%, a fast dynamics appears between both solutions and a “symmetric” flow is recovered!!

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

Reversals also present in Rayleigh Bénard convection:

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

$$Re = 2.5 \cdot 10^5; f_{N,S} = \pm 7.76 \text{ Hz}; \Delta = \frac{f_N - f_S}{f_N + f_S} = 0$$

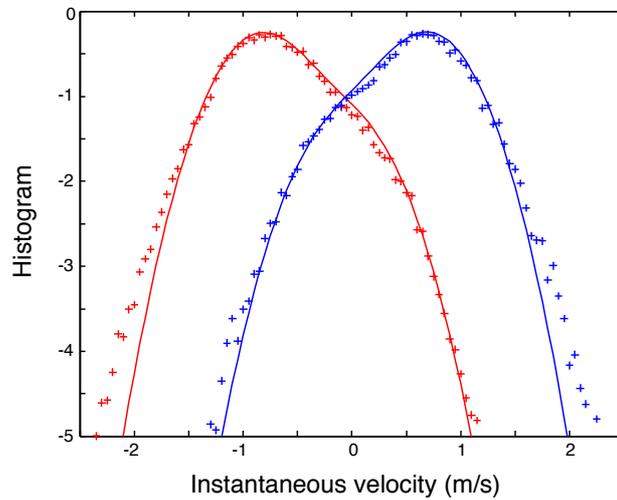


“Symmetric behaviour”, both states are visited  
Turbulence rate  $\simeq 100\%$

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

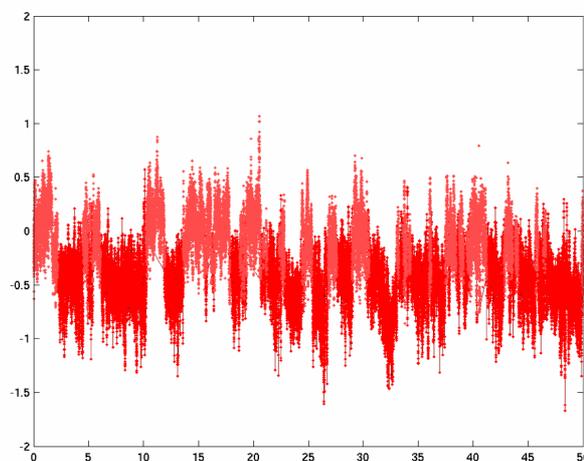
Histograms:

Same shape for both states



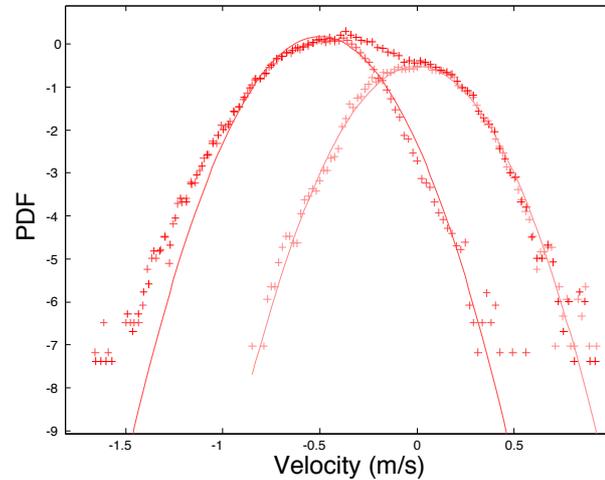
## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

Actually, this shape is due to another dynamics with another time-scaling,...



## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

...and two gaussians are distinguished inside each state.

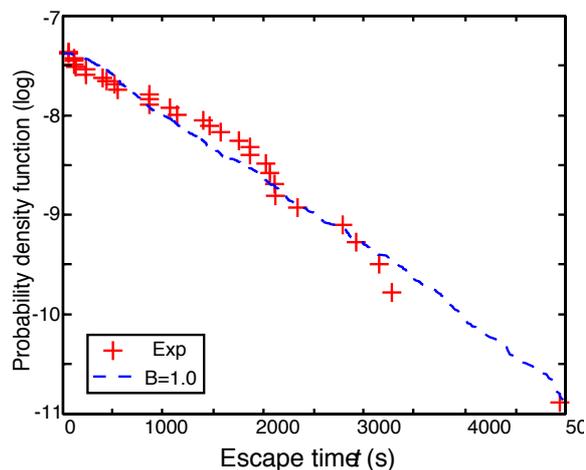


$$p_{N,S}(u_\theta) = \frac{A_0}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0} \exp\left(-\frac{u_\theta^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right) + \frac{A_{N,S}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{N,S}} \exp\left(-\frac{(u_\theta - u_{N,S})^2}{2\sigma_{N,S}^2}\right)$$

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

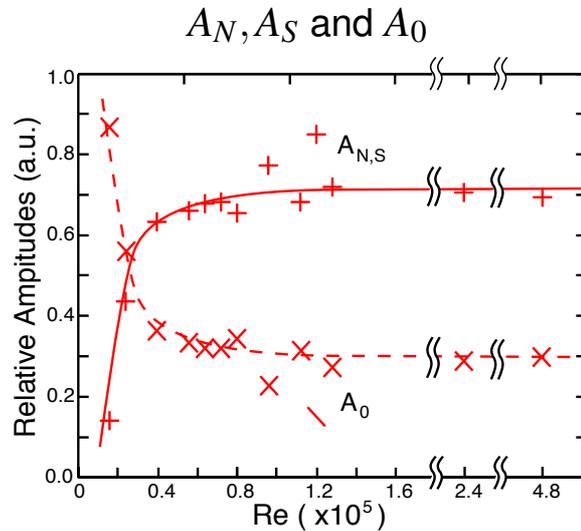
Escape times (Kramer's escape rate):

$$\rho(t) = \frac{1}{T_0} \exp\left(-\frac{t}{T_0}\right)$$



## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

Experimental Amplitudes:



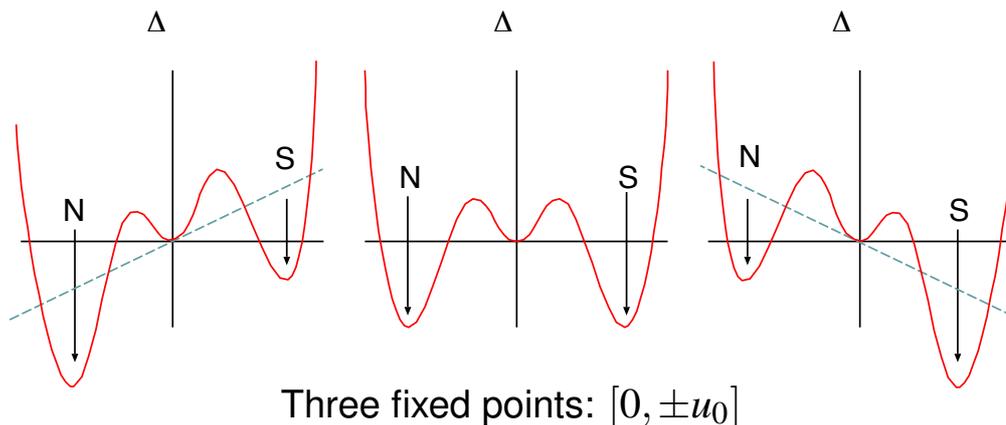
De la Torre, Burguete, PRL 99 (2007) 054101

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

Toy model: three well potential with additive noise

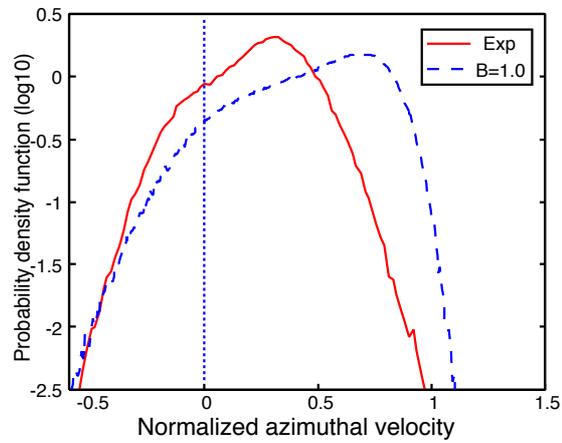
$$\dot{u}_\theta = \varepsilon u_\theta + g u_\theta^3 - u_\theta^5 + \kappa \Delta + \sqrt{2B} \xi(t)$$

where  $B$  is the noise level (“turbulence rate”) and  $\chi(t)$  is a noise distribution



## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

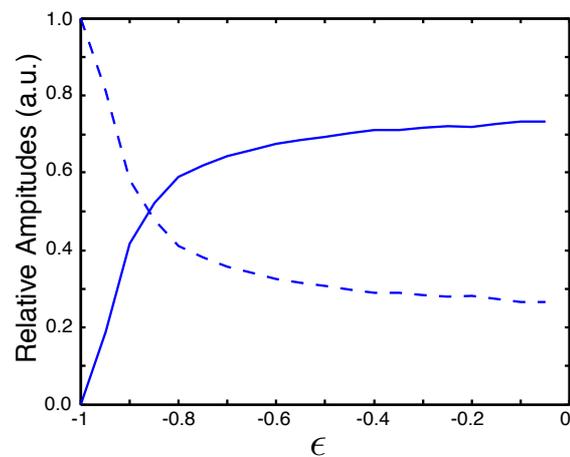
Model results:



De la Torre, Burguete, PRL 99 (2007) 054101

## Large $Re$ : Two possible solutions

Model results:



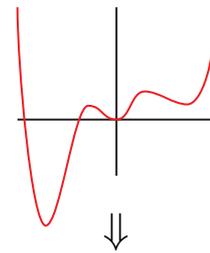
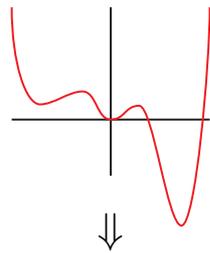
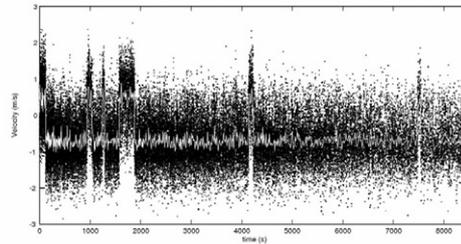
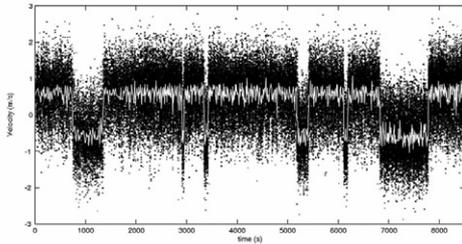
De la Torre, Burguete, PRL 99 (2007) 054101

# Hysteresis

Predicts hysteresis  $\Rightarrow$  recovered on the experiment!

$$\Delta = \frac{f_N - f_S}{f_N + f_S} = +0.0017$$

$$\Delta = \frac{f_N - f_S}{f_N + f_S} = -0.0017$$



**South state wins!!**

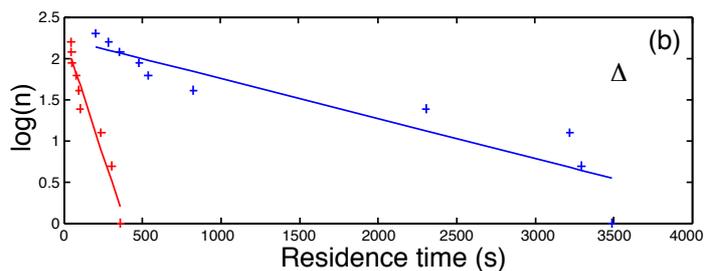
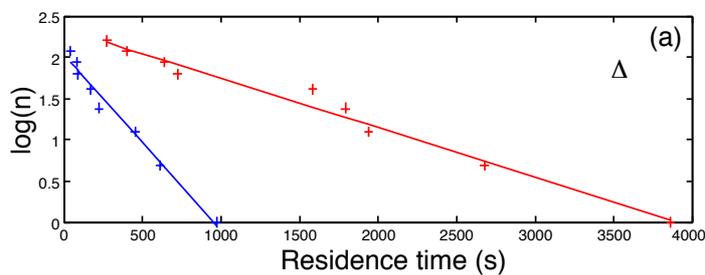
Burguete and de la Torre, IJBC 19 (2009) 2695

**North State wins!!**

# Hysteresis

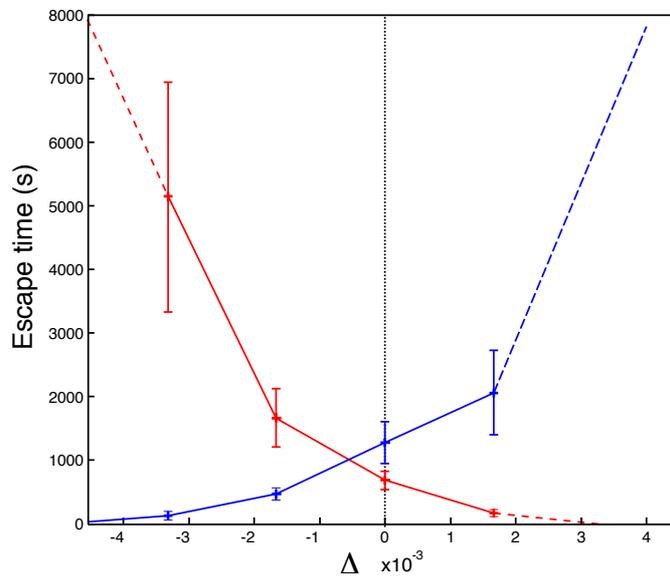
Escape time vs.  $\Delta$

(North and South states have different residence times)



# Hysteresis

Escape time vs.  $\Delta$   
 (North and South states have different residence times)



# Coloured Noise

Two wells + Colour noise  $\rightarrow$  3 states

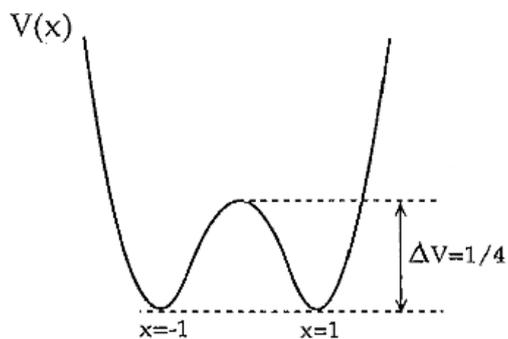
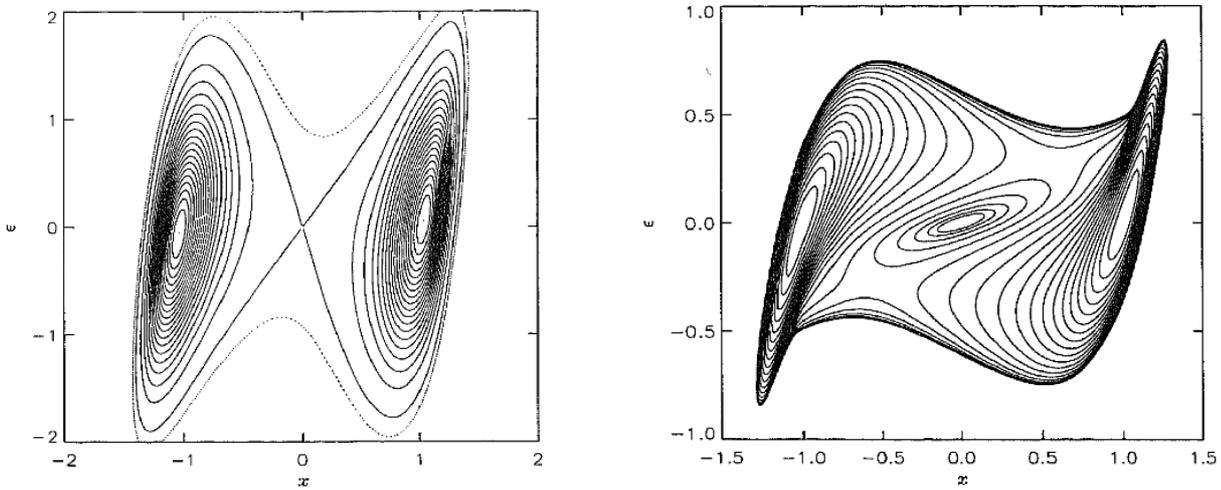


Figure 6.1. The double-well potential [Eq. (6.3)] is shown in normalized coordinates.

P. Hanggi, P. Jung, Adv. Chem. Phys. Volume LXXXIX, John Wiley & Sons (1995).

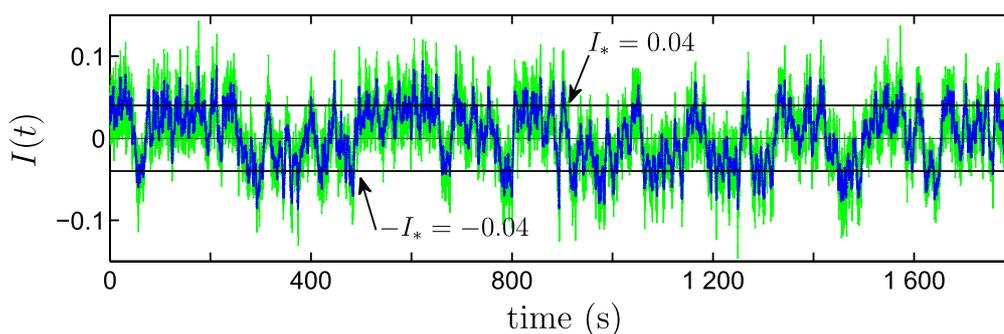
## Coloured Noise

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## Susceptibility to Symmetry breaking

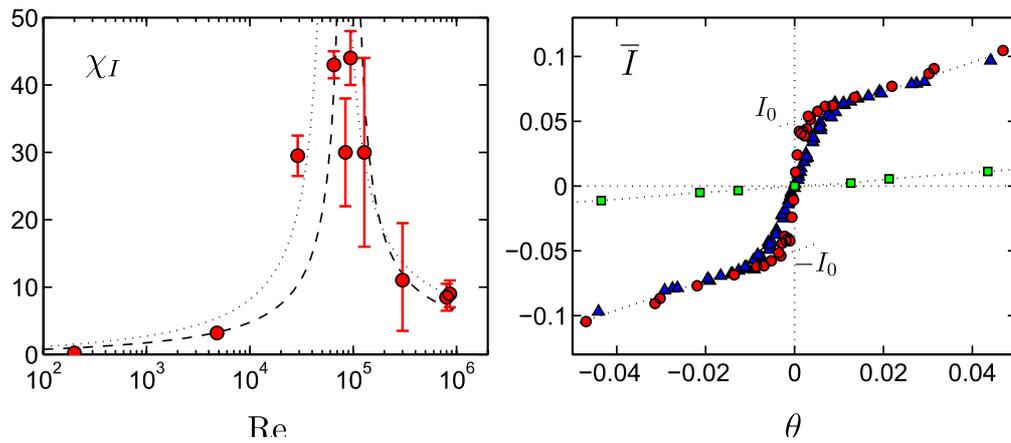


$$I(t) = \frac{1}{V} \int_V \frac{ru_\theta(t)}{\pi R^2 f} dv$$

$$\chi = \left. \frac{\partial \bar{I}}{\partial \Delta} \right|_{\Delta=0}$$

P.-P. Cortet, A. Chiffaudel, F. Daviaud, and B. Dubrulle, Phys Rev Lett 105 (2010) 214501

## Susceptibility to Symmetry breaking

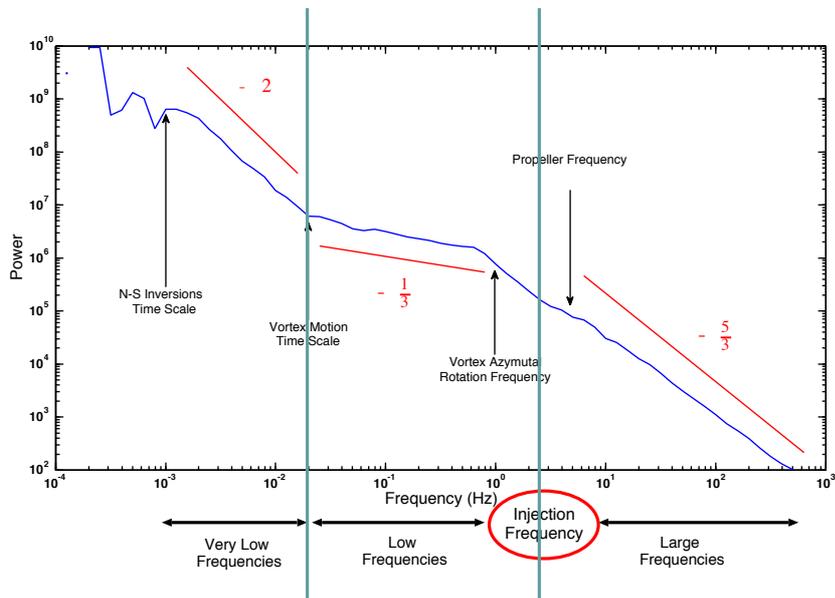


P.-P. Cortet, A. Chiffaudel, F. Daviaud, and B. Dubrulle, Phys Rev Lett 105 (2010) 214501

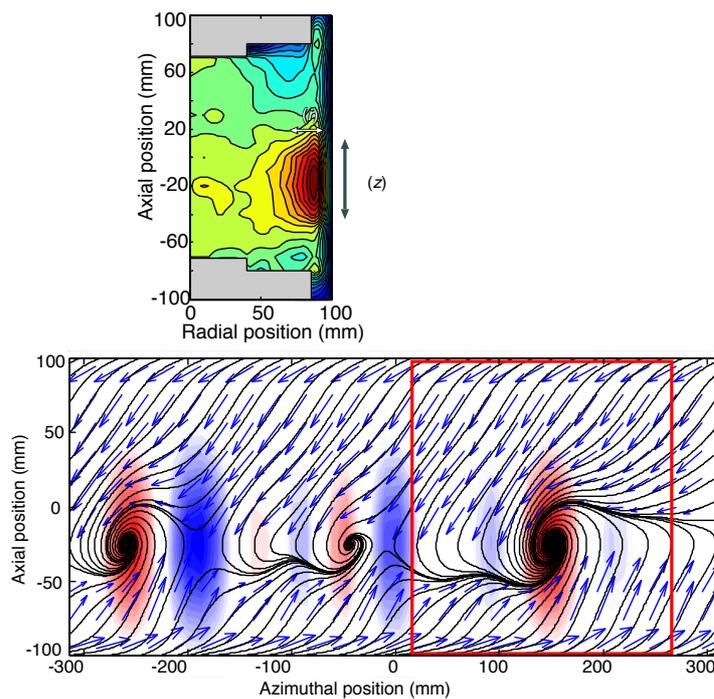
## [4/5] Slow Regime Torque transmission

# Power spectrum

Now we move into the **intermediate range**:

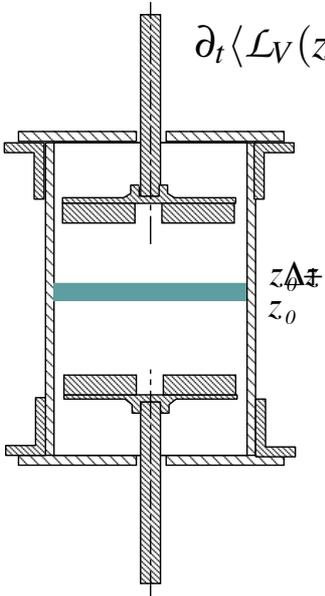


# Large $Re$ : Equatorial Vortices



# Mean flow destabilization

Torque transmission:

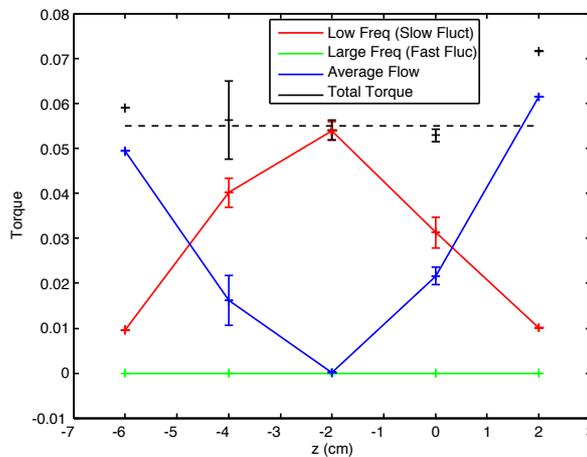
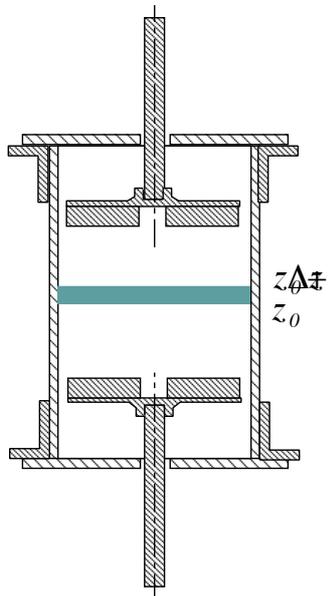


$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \langle \mathcal{L}_V(z_0) \rangle &= \left[ \int_V \partial_t \langle \mathcal{L} \rangle dV \right] = \left[ \int_V \rho \langle r v_z \partial_z v_\theta \rangle dV \right]_{z_0} = \\ &= \left[ \int_A \rho \langle r u_\theta u_z \rangle dA + \int_A \rho r U_\theta U_z dA \right]_{z_0 + \Delta z/2} - \\ &\quad - \left[ \int_A \rho \langle r u_\theta u_z \rangle dA + \int_A \rho r U_\theta U_z dA \right]_{z_0 - \Delta z/2} \end{aligned}$$

# Mean flow destabilization

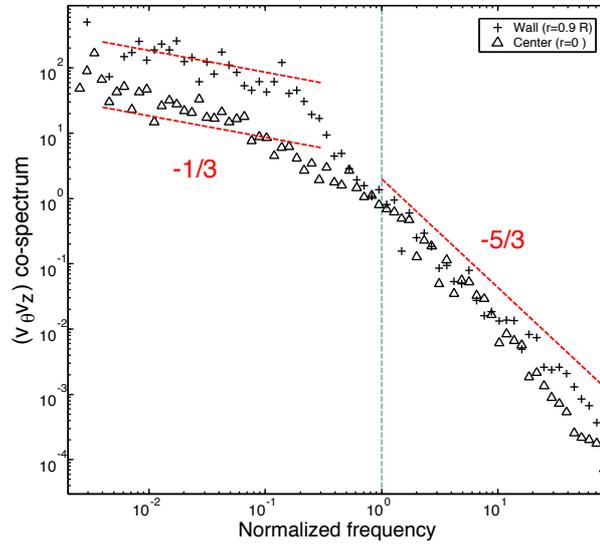
Torque transmission:

Contributions from **mean flow** and **fast** and **low** frequencies



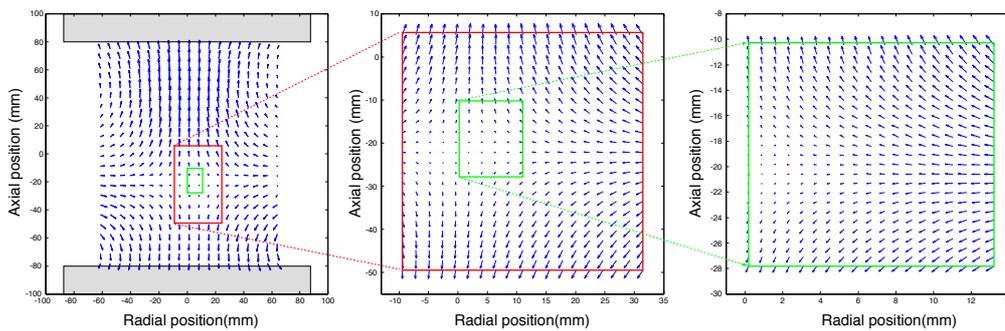
# Mean flow destabilization

Co-spectrum  $\rightarrow u_\theta u_z$



# Mean flow destabilization

And the spatial behaviour?  $\rightarrow$  PIV



# Mean flow destabilization

Dimensional analysis:

$$\partial_t \mathcal{L}_V^2 \sim \int_V 2r^2 v_\theta v_z \partial_z v_\theta dV$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \epsilon_L \propto L^2(L^3/T^3)/L = L^4/T^3$$

$$\mathcal{L}_V^2 = \int \mathcal{L}_F^2(k) dk$$

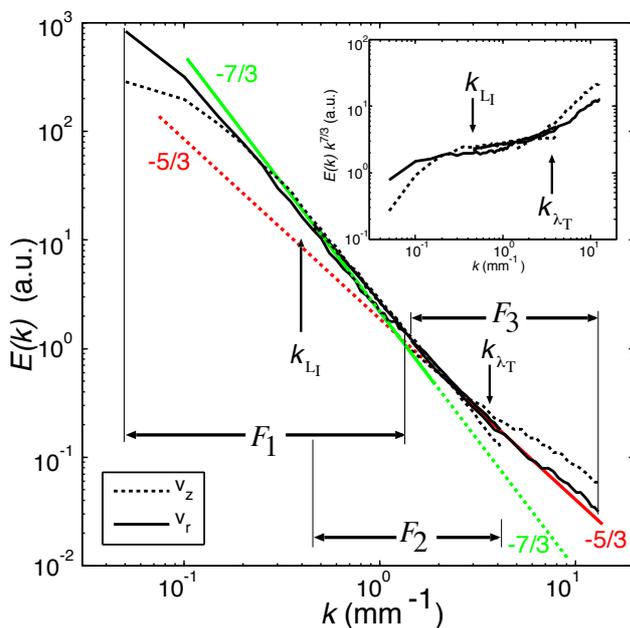
$$\Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{L}_F^2(k) \propto \epsilon_L^{2/3} k^{-7/3}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_V = \mathcal{L}_V^2 / I_V$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \mathcal{E}(k) \propto \mathcal{R}^{-2} \epsilon_L^{2/3} k^{-7/3}$$

# Mean flow destabilization

Dimensional analysis:  $\mathcal{E}(k) \sim I^{-1} \epsilon_L^{2/3} k^{-7/3}$



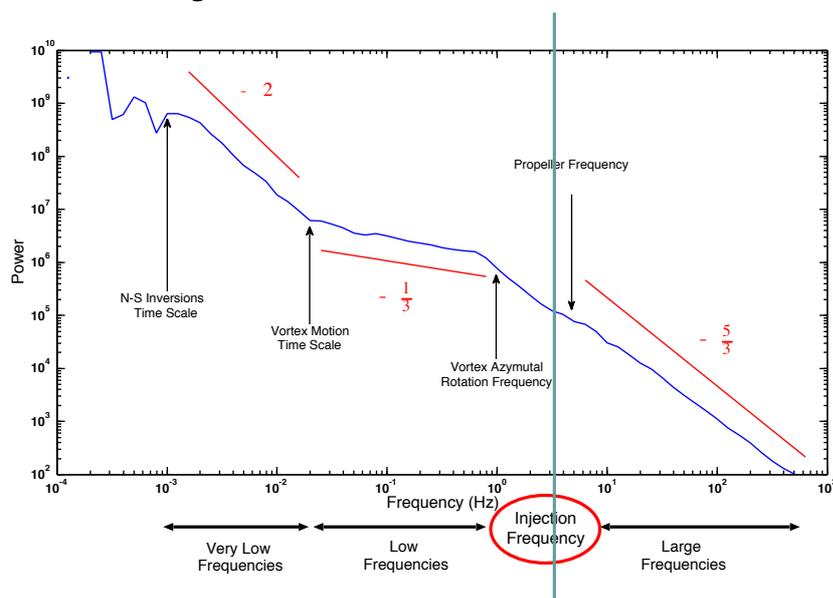
Spatial spectra

↓  
two cascades

M. Lopez-Caballero, J. Burguete,  
PRL 110, 124501 (2013)

# Power spectrum

...and the inertial range:



... and the Inertial Range!!

## Inertial range

From PIV measurements of the velocity flow we can determine:

For a  $Re = 1.75 \cdot 10^5$

- Integral scale  $L_I = 15$  mm  
→ on the order of the interblade spacing
- Dissipative scale  $\eta = 30 \mu\text{m}$
- Energy dissipation rate  $\varepsilon = 1.1$  W/kg
- Taylor microscale = 1.8 mm
- $Re_\lambda = 900$

...and many other characteristics of the turbulent fluctuations

## [5/5] A cute couple: FIONA and SHREK

[5/5] Fiona and Shrek

### To infinity and beyond!! .... $Re = 10^8!$

Flow Instability Observation using Anemometers

on the

Superfluid High REynolds  
von Kármán facility



at SBT / CEA-Grenoble / France

SHREK facility was developed as a joint effort by:

SBT, CEA-Grenoble; Intitut Néel, CNRS, Grenoble;  
SPEC, CEA-Saclay; ENS-Lyon, Lyon;  
LEGI, U. Joseph Fourier, Grenoble;

France

# To infinity and beyond!! .... $Re = 10^8!$

Flow Instability Observation using Anemometers

on the

Superfluid High REynolds  
von Kármán facility

at SBT / CEA-Grenoble / France

FIONA & SHREK



# To infinity and beyond!! .... $Re = 10^8!$

Some numbers...

Temperature [K]	2.3	1.9
Kinematic viscosity [ $m^2/s$ ]	$2 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$9.43 \cdot 10^{-9}$
Frequency [Hz]	2	1
Velocity (prop rim) [m/s]	4.8	2.4
Reynolds number $Re$	$9.6 \cdot 10^7$	$10^8$

## To infinity and beyond!! .... $Re = 10^8$ !

2000 l of fluid He (normal or superfluid) experiment: 1.8  $\leftrightarrow$  3K



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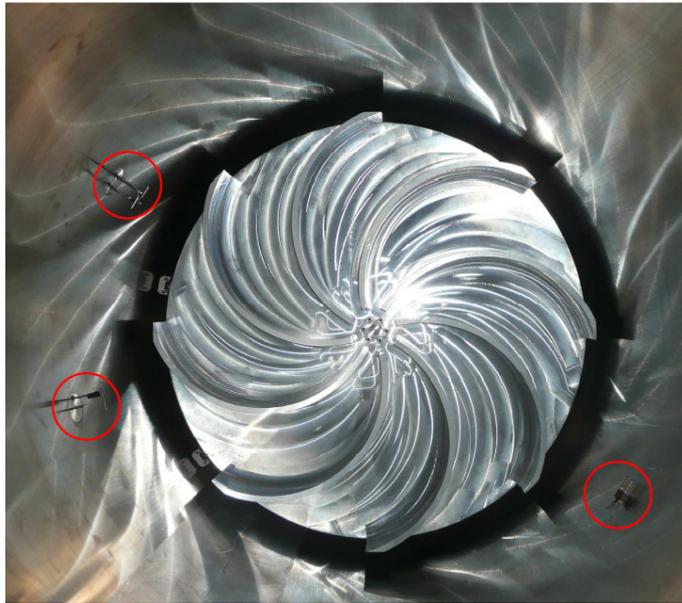
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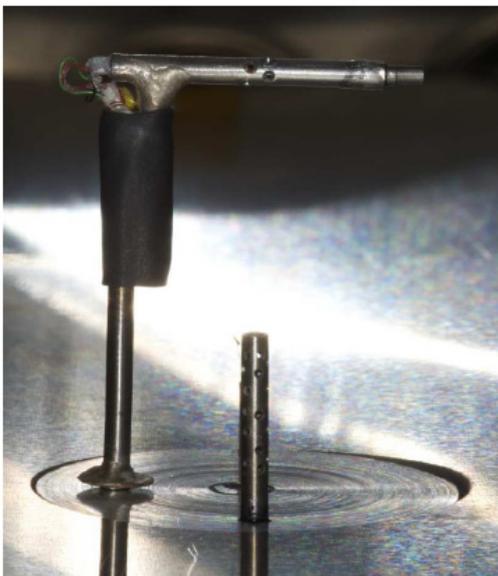
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# To infinity and beyond!! .... $Re = 10^8!$

2000 l of fluid He (normal or superfluid) experiment:  $1.8 \leftrightarrow 3K$



## **[BONUS] MHD** **Effects on the Dynamo Action**

## Problem formulation

Governing Equations (MHD approx.):

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} + (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{B} = (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u} + \frac{1}{\rho \mu_0} (\nabla \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{B} + \vec{F}_{ext}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$$

Adimensional numbers:

$$Rm = \frac{UL}{\eta} = UL\mu_0\sigma \quad Re = \frac{UL}{\nu} \quad Pm = \frac{Rm}{Re}$$

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Adimensional numbers:

But,  $\nu \ll \eta$  for most neutral conducting fluids  $\Rightarrow Re \gg Rm$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Fully developed turbulence !

Typically,  $\nu \sim 10^{-5}\eta$ , so for a  $Rm = 100$  we need a  $Re = 10^7$ !

# Dynamo Experiments

Homogeneous dynamos:

- von Kármán Sodium (Cylindrical geometry)  
(CEA Saclay + CEA Cadarache + ENS Paris + ENS Lyon)  
→ Successful!! PRL **98** (2007) 044502 (Iron propellers)  
→ Unsuccessful with stainless steel propellers
- University of Wisconsin (Spherical geometry)
- University of Maryland (Spherical geometry)
- University of Perm (Toroidal geometry)
- New Mexico (TC dynamo)
- Others

## Our approach

### 1st Step:

Below the dynamo threshold ( $\vec{B} = 0$ ), the conducting fluid is equivalent to any other fluid with similar hydrodynamic properties

⇒ We use a water experiment to determine  $\vec{u}$ :

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u} + \frac{1}{\rho \mu_0} (\nabla \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{B} + \vec{F}_{ext}$$

### 2nd Step:

We analyze the effect of this flow numerically in a kinematic code:

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}) + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

## Kinematic dynamo

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}) + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

The usual “weak” approximation:

- Axisymmetric, stationary flow  
(preserving the equatorial symmetry).

## Kinematic dynamo

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}) + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

The usual “weak” approximation:

- Axisymmetric, stationary flow  
(preserving the equatorial symmetry).

Here, we will consider:

- (a) Axisymmetric, but with two symmetric solutions  
and “periodic” reversals (very low frequencies)
- (b) Non-axisymmetric flows, without reversals  
(low frequencies)

# Kinematic dynamo

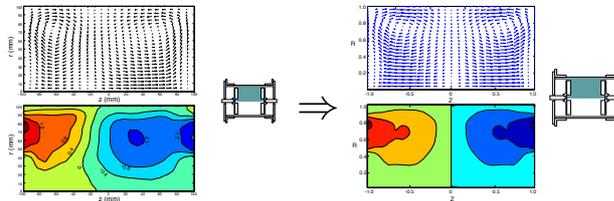
- Pseudo-spectral code:  
Finite differences in  $r$  and Fourier in  $\theta, z$

$$\vec{B}(\vec{s}, t) = \sum_{n,m} \vec{b}_{n,m}(r) \exp [i(m\theta + n2\pi z/H)]$$

- Rm definition:  $Rm = \max \{U(r, \theta, z)\} R/\eta$
- Magnetic energy growth rates:

$$E_{m,n} = e^{\sigma_{m,n} t}$$

- We only consider the symmetric part:



# Effect on the dynamo threshold

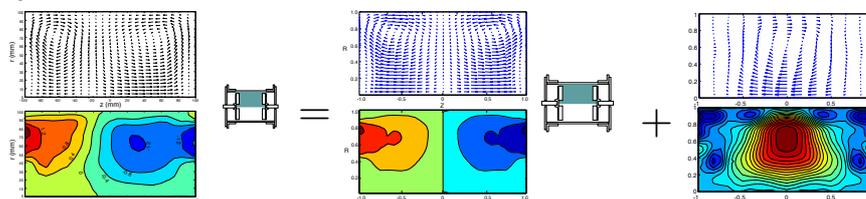
(a) Equatorial symmetry broken:

- Slowly evolving axisymmetric flows:

$$\vec{V}_\omega(t) = \vec{V}_S + \mathcal{A}_{mod} \vec{V}_D \cos(\omega t) = \frac{\vec{V}_N + \vec{V}_S}{2} + \mathcal{A}_{mod} \frac{\vec{V}_N - \vec{V}_S}{2} \cos(\omega t)$$

$V_N$  and  $V_S$  are the velocity fields where the  $N$  or  $S$  side dominates. (In the following,  $\mathcal{A}_{mod} = 1$ )

For example, for  $t = 0$ :



## Effect on the dynamo threshold

- Rm definition used:

$$Rm = \max_{0 \leq t < T} \{V_{\omega}(t)\} R/\eta$$

- Magnetic energy growth rates:

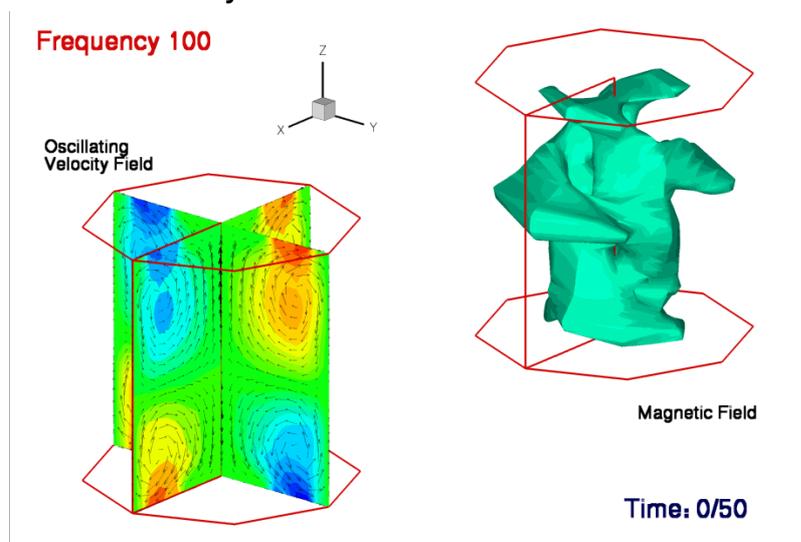
$$E_{m,n} = e^{\sigma_{n,m}(t)t}$$

⇓

$$\langle \sigma_{n,m} \rangle = \frac{1}{T} \int_{T=\frac{2\pi}{\omega}} \sigma_{n,m}(t) dt > 0$$

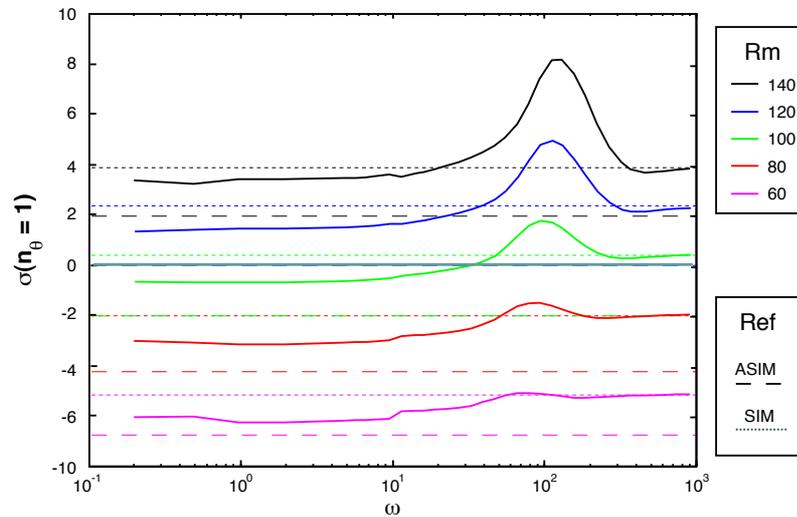
## Effect on the dynamo threshold

Time-dependent velocity field:



## Effect on the dynamo threshold

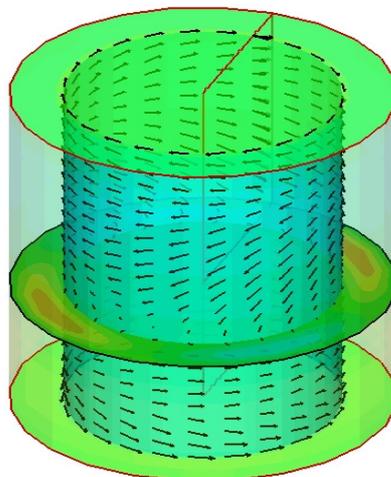
Growth rates vs. the frequency



## Effect on the dynamo threshold

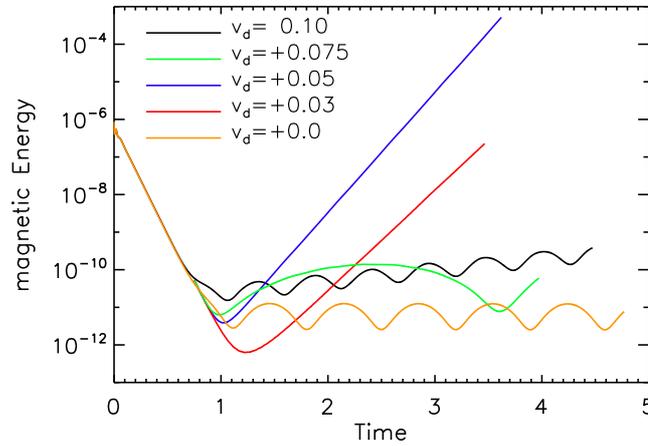
(b) MHD analysis of real 3D flows (equatorial vortices):

- Large scales can be very important → vortices



# Effect on the dynamo threshold

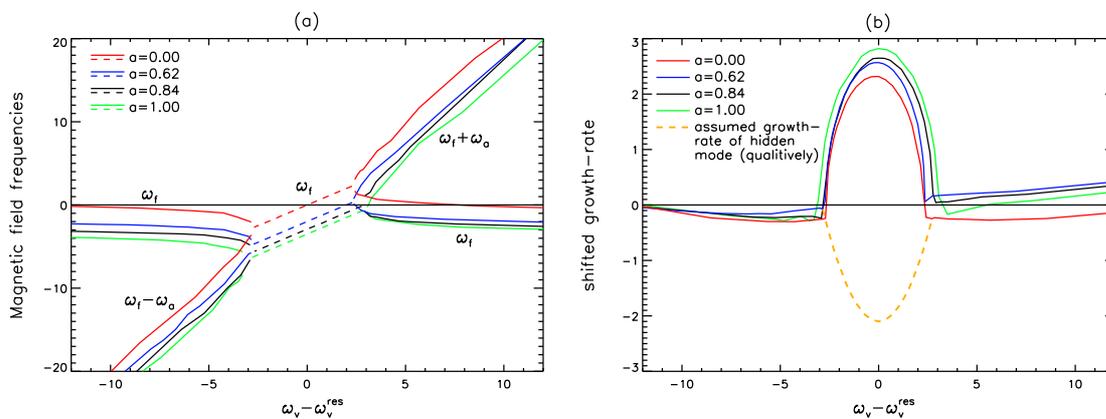
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(3D kinematic dynamo)



PRE 87 (2013) (accepted) A. Giesecke, F. Stefani, J. Burguete

# Effect on the dynamo threshold

(b) MHD analysis of real 3D flows (equatorial vortices):  
(3D kinematic dynamo)



$$\ddot{x} + \omega_0^2(1 + 2\epsilon \cos(\tilde{\omega}t))x = 0$$

# Conclusions

Main characteristics of this flow:

- $Re \simeq 10^{5-6}$
- Turbulence rate: 50-100%
- Broken symmetries: Non-stationary,  
Non axisymmetric (actually,  $m \geq 2$ )  
Equatorial symmetry is broken (two mirrored states)
- Random reversals
- Inverse cascade due to angular momentum transport

Different Time scales:

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| ■ Dissipation                      | $\sim 10^{-5}\text{s}$ |
| ■ Injection                        | $\sim 0.1\text{s}$     |
| ■ Vortex motion                    | $\sim 10\text{s}$      |
| ■ North – South inversion dynamics | $\sim 10^3\text{s}$    |

# Conclusions

These turbulent flows have **very slow** dynamics

- Symmetry breakings (equatorial and axisymmetry),
- Vortices
- Random inversions → simple model
- many involved time-scales...

The dynamo threshold is **very sensitive** to the fluid flow  
(kinematic approach)

- Strong resonances appear for small windows of  $U_{pol}/U_{tor}$ .
- Equatorial vortices and reversals can help or destroy the dynamo depending on their respective time-scales.