

Turbulence and Transport in Elastic Systems: A Look at Some VERY Simple Examples

P. H. Diamond ^{1,2}

¹ CASS, UCSD

² Department of Physics, UCSD

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➤ Recent Collaboration:

- Xiang Fan, Luis Chacon

➤ Past Collaboration and Discussion:

- D. W. Hughes, Steve Tobias, E. Kim, D. R. Nelson, F. Cattaneo, M. R. E. Proctor, A. Gruzinov, M. Vergassola, R. Pandit...

Outline

➤ Models

-- What is an Elastic Fluid? (Pedagogic)

- Oldroyd-B ‘family’, origins
- MHD connection and Deborah number
- Other systems, esp: Spinodal Decomposition in binary mixture

➤ (Linked) Single Eddy

- Flux Expulsion – 2D MHD
 - Kinematics – two views
 - Dynamics – vortex disruption
- Cahn-Hilliard Flows and Target Patterns

Outline

➤ Turbulence

- 2D MHD – Quick Review
 - Dual cascade
 - A closer at $\langle \tilde{A}^2 \rangle$
- Cahn-Hilliard Navier-Stokes (CHNS)
 - Scales, ranges, trends
 - Cascades and power laws
 - Lessons

Outline

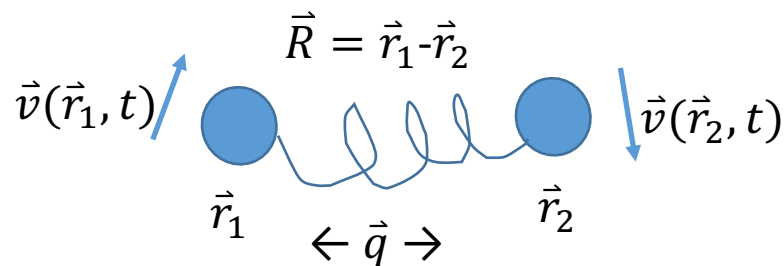
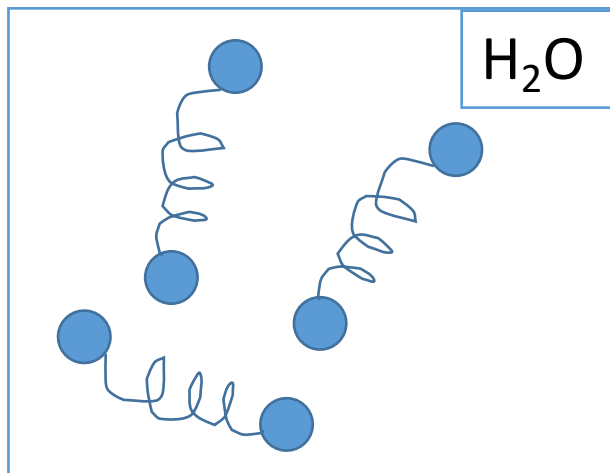
➤ Active Scalar Transport

- 2D MHD – Flux Diffusion
 - Kinematics
 - Quenching: Alfvenization for vortex disruption
 - Thoughts on transport dynamics
- CHNS -- ψ as the Active Scalar

➤ Conclusions, of Sorts

Models

Elastic Fluid -> Oldroyd-B Family Models → Solution of Dumbbells



Internal DoF
i.e. polymers

$$\gamma \left(\frac{d\vec{r}_{1,2}}{dt} - \vec{v}(\vec{r}_{1,2}, t) \right) = - \frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{r}_{1,2}} + \vec{\xi}, \text{ where } U = \frac{k}{2} (\vec{r}_1 - \vec{r}_2)^2 + \dots$$

↑ stokes drag
↑ entropic spring
↑ noise

$$\text{so } \frac{d\vec{R}}{dt} = \vec{v}(\vec{R}, t) + \vec{\xi}/\gamma, \text{ and } \frac{d\vec{q}}{dt} = \vec{q} \cdot \nabla \vec{v}(\vec{R}, t) - \frac{2}{\gamma} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{q}} + \text{noise}$$

Seek $f(\vec{q}, \vec{R}, t | \vec{v}, \dots) \rightarrow$ distribution

$$\begin{aligned} \text{➤ } \partial_t f + \partial_{\vec{R}} \cdot [\vec{v}(\vec{R}, t) f] + \partial_{\vec{q}} \cdot \left[\vec{q} \cdot \nabla \vec{v}(\vec{R}, t) f - \frac{2}{\gamma} \frac{\partial U}{\partial \vec{q}} f \right] \\ = \partial_{\vec{R}} \cdot \mathbf{D}_0 \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{R}} + \partial_{\vec{q}} \cdot \mathbf{D}_q \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{q}} \end{aligned}$$

Is F.P. valid?

➤ and moments:

$$Q_{ij}(\vec{R}, t) = \int d^3 q q_i q_j f(\vec{q}, \vec{R}, t) \rightarrow \text{electric energy field (tensor)}$$

➤ so:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t Q_{ij} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla Q_{ij} = Q_{i\gamma} \overset{\text{strain}}{\partial_\gamma v_j} + Q_{j\gamma} \overset{\text{strain}}{\partial_\gamma v_i} \\ \overset{\text{relaxation}}{\omega_z} Q_{ij} + D_0 \nabla^2 Q_{ij} + 4 \frac{k_B T}{\gamma} \delta_{ij} \end{aligned} \quad \text{and concentration equation}$$

➤ Defines Deborah number: $\nabla \vec{v} / \omega_z$

Reaction on Dynamics

$$\triangleright \rho[\partial_t v_i + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla v_i] = -\nabla_i P + \nabla_i \cdot [c_p k Q_{ij}] + \eta \nabla^2 v_i + f_i$$

elastic stress

- Classic systems; Oldroyd-B (1950).
- Extend to nonlinear springs (FENE), rods, rods + springs, networks, director fields, etc...
- Supports elastic waves and fluid dynamics, depending on Deborah number.
- Oldroyd-B \leftrightarrow active tensor field

Constitutive Relations

➤ J. C. Maxwell:

$$(\text{stress}) + \overset{\text{relaxation}}{\tau_R} \frac{d(\text{stress})}{dt} = \overset{\text{viscosity}}{\eta} \frac{d}{dt} (\text{strain})$$

➤ If $\tau_R/T = D \ll 1$, stress = $\eta \frac{d}{dt}$ (strain)

$$\mathbf{J} = -\eta \nabla \vec{v}$$

➤ If $\tau_R/T = D \gg 1$, stress $\cong \frac{\eta}{\tau_R}$ (strain)

$$\sim E (\text{strain})$$

➤ Limit of “freezing-in”: $D > 1$ is criterion.

$T \equiv$ dynamic
time scale

Relation to MHD?!

➤ Re-writing Oldroyd-B:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{T} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{T} - \mathbf{T} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} - (\nabla \vec{v})^T \cdot \mathbf{T} = \frac{1}{\tau} \left(\mathbf{T} - \frac{\mu}{\tau} \mathbf{I} \right)$$

$\mathbf{T} \equiv$ stress

➤ MHD: $\mathbf{T}_m = \frac{\vec{B}\vec{B}}{4\pi}$

$$\partial_t \vec{B} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{B} = \vec{B} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

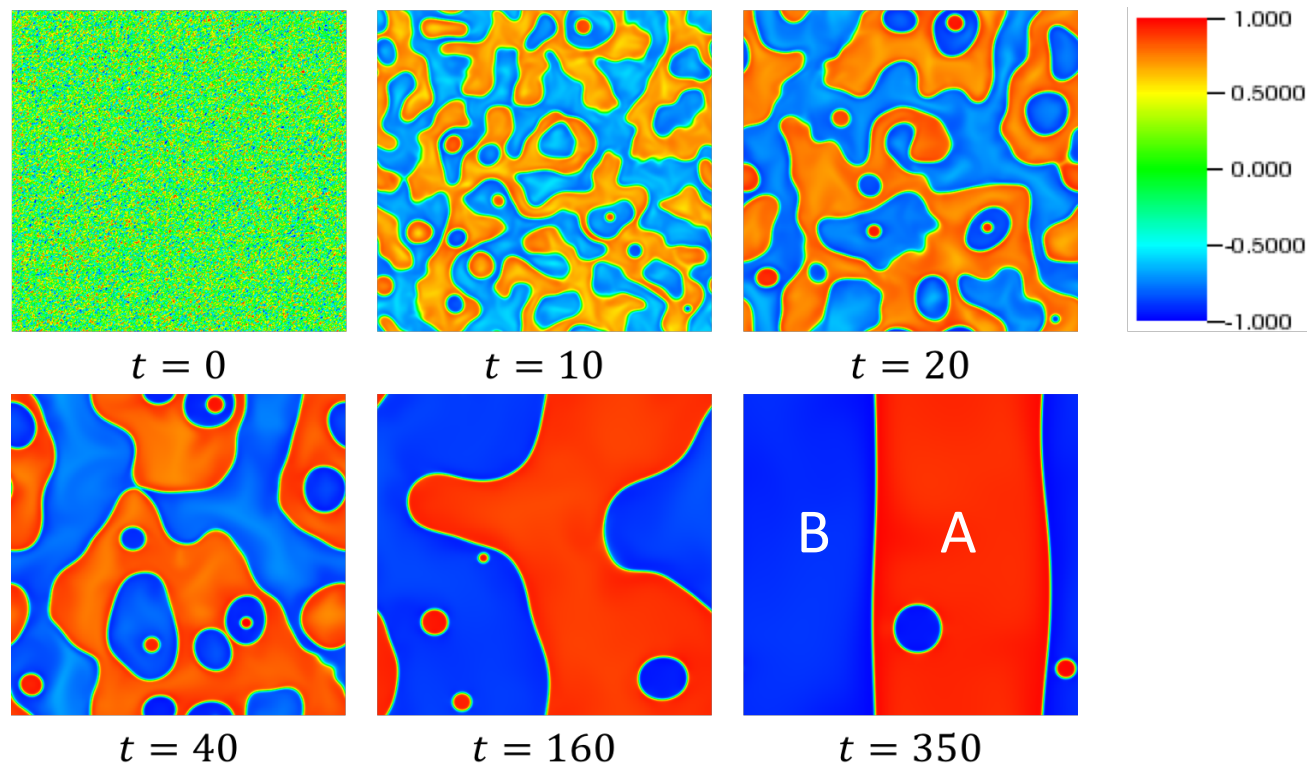
➤ So

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{T}_m + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{T}_m - \mathbf{T}_m \cdot \nabla \vec{v} - (\nabla \vec{v})^T \cdot \mathbf{T}_m = \eta [\vec{B} \nabla^2 \vec{B} + (\nabla^2 \vec{B}) \vec{B}]$$

➤ $\lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} (\text{Oldroyd-B}) \iff \lim_{R_m \rightarrow \infty} (\text{MHD})$

Elastic Media -- What Is the CHNS System

- Elastic media – Fluid with internal DoFs → “springiness”
- The Cahn-Hilliard Navier-Stokes (CHNS) system describes *phase separation* for binary fluid (i.e. *Spinodal Decomposition*)



Miscible phase
→ Immiscible phase

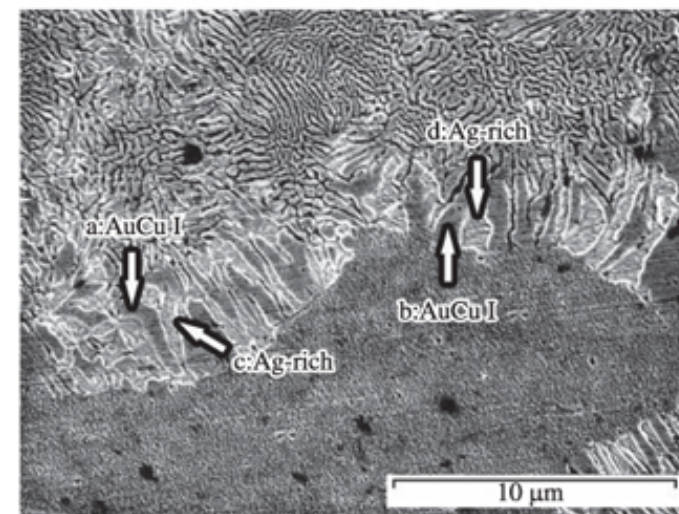


Figure 5. FE-SEM micrograph of specimen aged at 400 °C for 5000 minutes.

Elastic Media? -- What Is the CHNS System?

- How to describe the system: the concentration field
- $\psi(\vec{r}, t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\rho_A(\vec{r}, t) - \rho_B(\vec{r}, t)]/\rho$: scalar field \rightarrow density contrast
- $\psi \in [-1, 1]$
- CHNS equations (2D):

$$\partial_t \psi + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \psi = D \nabla^2 (-\psi + \psi^3 - \xi^2 \nabla^2 \psi)$$

$$\partial_t \omega + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \omega = \frac{\xi^2}{\rho} \vec{B}_\psi \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 \psi + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$$

Why Should a Plasma Physicist Care?

➤ Useful to examine familiar themes in plasma turbulence from new vantage point

➤ Some key issues in plasma turbulence:

1. Electromagnetics Turbulence

- CHNS vs 2D MHD: analogous, with interesting differences.

- Both CHNS and 2D MHD are *elastic* systems

- Most systems = 2D/Reduced MHD + many linear effects

 - Physics of dual cascades and constrained relaxation → relative importance, selective decay...

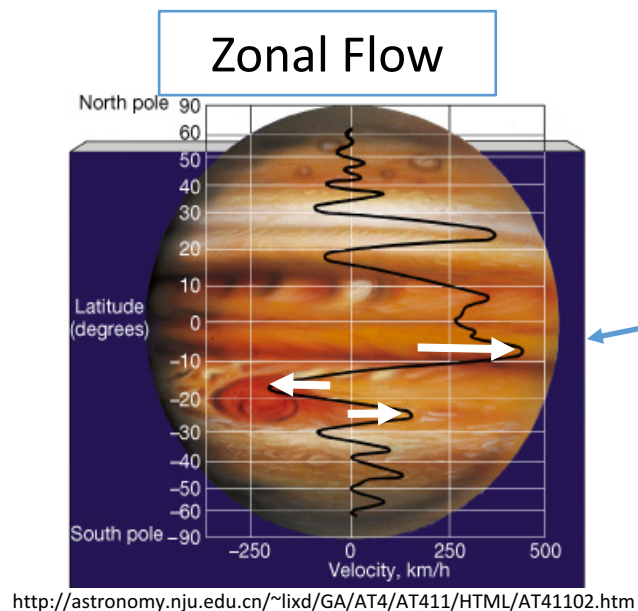
 - Physics of wave-eddy interaction effects on nonlinear transfer (i.e. Alfvén effect ↔ Kraichnan)

MHD ↔ CHNS

Why Care?

2. Zonal flow formation → negative viscosity phenomena

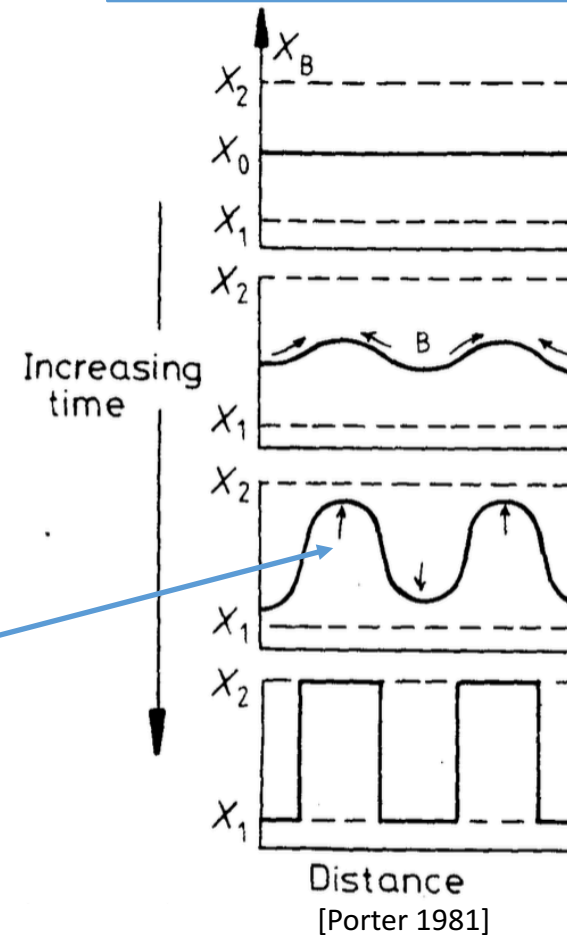
- ZF can be viewed as a “spinodal decomposition” of momentum.
- What determines scale?



<http://astronomy.nyu.edu.cn/~lixid/GA/AT4/AT411/HTML/AT41102.htm>

Arrows:
 ψ for CHNS;
flow for ZF.

Spinodal Decomposition



Why Care?

3. “Blobby Turbulence”

- CHNS is a naturally blobby system of turbulence.
- What is the role of structure in interaction?
- How to understand blob coalescence and relation to cascades?
- How to understand multiple cascades of blobs and energy?

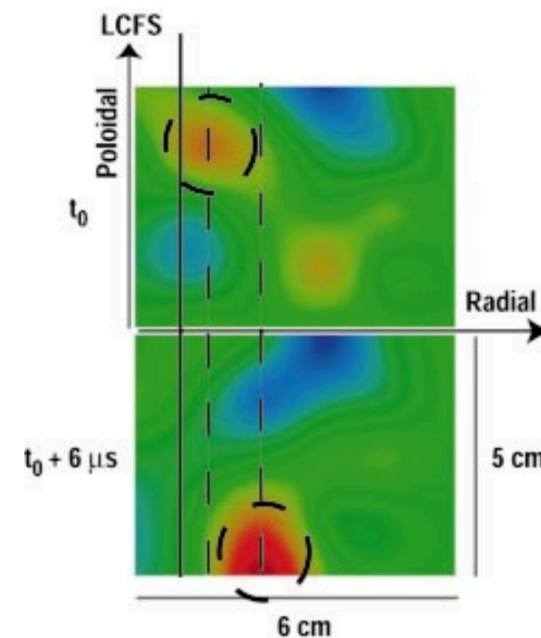


FIG. 4. (Color) Two frames from BES showing 2-D density plots. There is a time difference of $6 \mu\text{s}$ between frames. Red indicates high density and blue low density. A structure, marked with a dashed circle and shown in both frames, features poloidal and radial motion.

[J. A. Boedo et.al. 2003]

- CHNS exhibits all of the above, with many new twists

A Brief Derivation of the CHNS Model

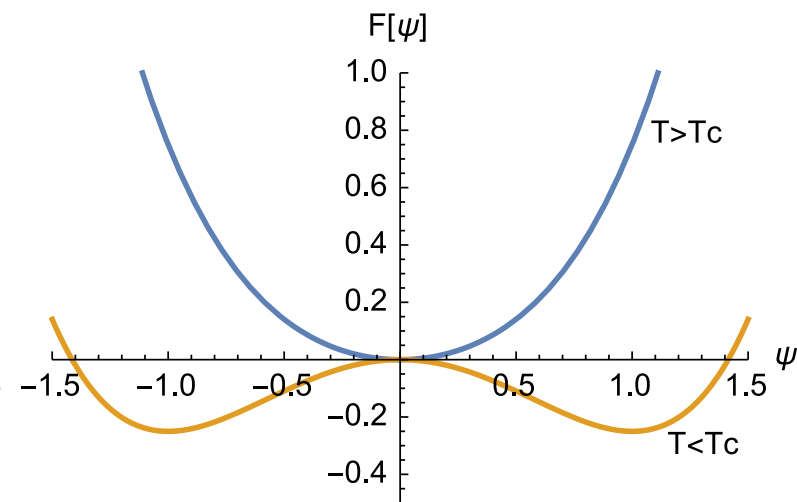
- Second order phase transition \rightarrow Landau Theory.
- Order parameter: $\psi(\vec{r}, t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} [\rho_A(\vec{r}, t) - \rho_B(\vec{r}, t)]/\rho$
- Free energy:

$$F(\psi) = \int d\vec{r} \left(\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} C_1 \psi^2 + \frac{1}{4} C_2 \psi^4}_{\text{Phase Transition}} + \underbrace{\frac{\xi^2}{2} |\nabla \psi|^2}_{\text{Gradient Penalty}} \right)$$

- $C_1(T), C_2(T)$.

- Isothermal $T < T_c$. Set $C_2 = -C_1 = 1$:

$$F(\psi) = \int d\vec{r} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \psi^2 + \frac{1}{4} \psi^4 + \frac{\xi^2}{2} |\nabla \psi|^2 \right)$$



A Brief Derivation of the CHNS Model

➤ Continuity equation: $\frac{d\psi}{dt} + \nabla \cdot \vec{J} = 0$. Fick's Law: $\vec{J} = -D\nabla\mu$.

➤ Chemical potential: $\mu = \frac{\delta F(\psi)}{\delta\psi} = -\psi + \psi^3 - \xi^2 \nabla^2 \psi$.

➤ Combining above \rightarrow Cahn Hilliard equation:

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = D\nabla^2\mu = D\nabla^2(-\psi + \psi^3 - \xi^2 \nabla^2 \psi)$$

➤ $d_t = \partial_t + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla$. Surface tension: force in Navier-Stokes equation:

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} = -\frac{\nabla p}{\rho} - \psi \nabla \mu + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{v}$$

➤ For incompressible fluid, $\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$.

2D CHNS and 2D MHD

➤ 2D CHNS Equations:

$$\partial_t \psi + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \psi = D \nabla^2 (-\psi + \psi^3 - \xi^2 \nabla^2 \psi)$$

$$\partial_t \omega + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \omega = \frac{\xi^2}{\rho} \vec{B}_\psi \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 \psi + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$$

$-\psi$: Negative diffusion term

ψ^3 : Self nonlinear term

$-\xi^2 \nabla^2 \psi$: Hyper-diffusion term

With $\vec{v} = \hat{z} \times \nabla \phi$, $\omega = \nabla^2 \phi$, $\vec{B}_\psi = \hat{z} \times \nabla \psi$, $j_\psi = \xi^2 \nabla^2 \psi$.

➤ 2D MHD Equations:

$$\partial_t A + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla A = \eta \nabla^2 A$$

$$\partial_t \omega + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \omega = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \rho} \vec{B} \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 A + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$$

A : Simple diffusion term

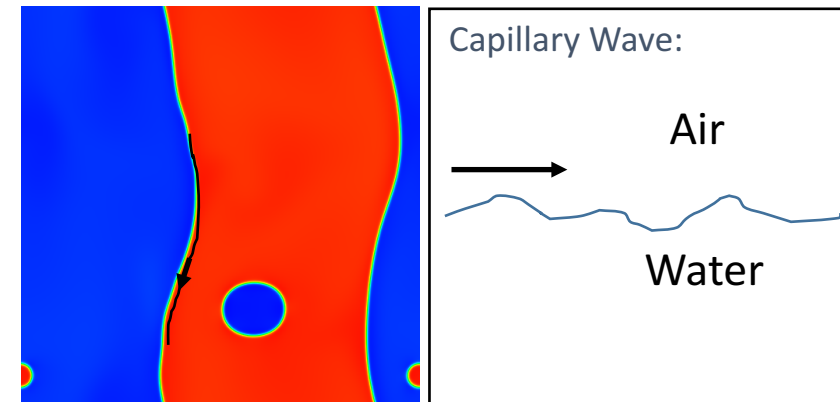
With $\vec{v} = \hat{z} \times \nabla \phi$, $\omega = \nabla^2 \phi$, $\vec{B} = \hat{z} \times \nabla A$, $j = \frac{1}{\mu_0} \nabla^2 A$.

	2D MHD	2D CHNS
Magnetic Potential	A	ψ
Magnetic Field	\mathbf{B}	\mathbf{B}_ψ
Current	j	j_ψ
Diffusivity	η	D
Interaction strength	$\frac{1}{\mu_0}$	ξ^2

Linear Wave

- CHNS supports linear “elastic” wave:

$$\omega(k) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\xi^2}{\rho} |\vec{k} \times \vec{B}_{\psi_0}|} - \frac{1}{2} i(CD + \nu)k^2$$



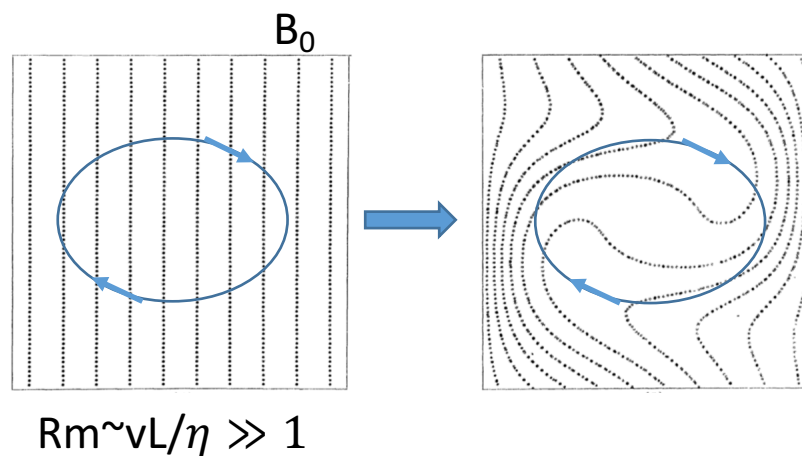
Where $C \equiv [-1 - 6\psi_0 \nabla^2 \psi_0 / k^2 - 6(\nabla \psi_0)^2 / k^2 - 6\psi_0 \nabla \psi_0 \cdot i\mathbf{k} / k^2 + 3\psi_0^2 + \xi^2 k^2]$

- Akin to capillary wave at phase interface. Propagates **only** along the interface of the two fluids, where $|\vec{B}_{\psi}| = |\nabla \psi| \neq 0$.
- Analogue of Alfvén wave.
- Important differences:
 - \vec{B}_{ψ} in CHNS is large only in the interfacial regions.
 - Elastic wave activity does not fill space.

(Linked) Single Eddy

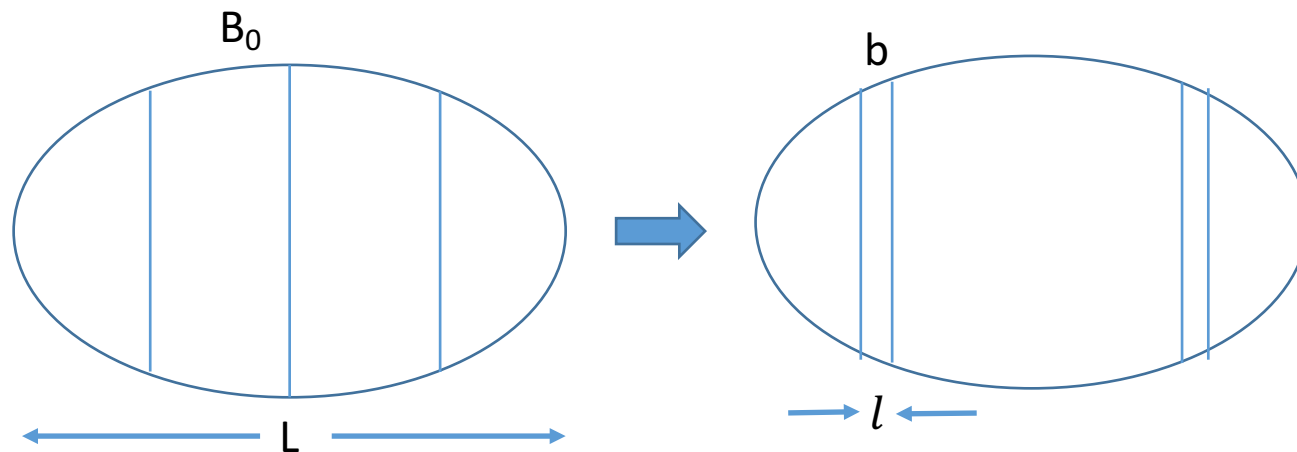
Flux Expulsion

- Simplest dynamical problem in MHD (Weiss '66, et. seq.)
- Closely related to “PV Homogenization”



- Field wound-up, “expelled” from eddy
- For large Rm , field concentrated in boundary layer of eddy
- Ultimately, back-reaction asserts itself for sufficient B_0

How to Describe?



after n turns:
 $nl=L$

- Flux conservation: $B_0 L \sim b l$ Wind up: $b = n B_0$ (field stretched)
- Rate balance: wind-up \sim dissipation

$$\frac{v}{L} B_0 \sim \frac{\eta}{l^2} b \cdot \tau_{expulsion} \sim \left(\frac{L}{v_0} \right) Rm^{1/3}.$$

$$l \sim \delta_{BL} \sim L / Rm^{1/3} \cdot b \sim Rm^{1/3} B_0.$$

N.B. differs from Sweet-Parker!

What's the Physics?

- Shear dispersion! (Moffatt, Kamkar '82)

$$\partial_t A + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla A = \eta \nabla^2 A \quad (\text{Shearing coordinates})$$

$$v_y = v_y(x) = v_{y0} + x v_y' + \dots$$

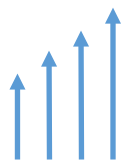
$$\frac{dk_x}{dt} = -k_y v_y', \quad \frac{dk_y}{dt} = 0$$

$$\partial_t A + x v_y' \partial_y A - \eta (\partial_x^2 + \partial_y^2) A = 0$$

$$A = A(t) \exp i(\vec{k}(t) \cdot \vec{x})$$

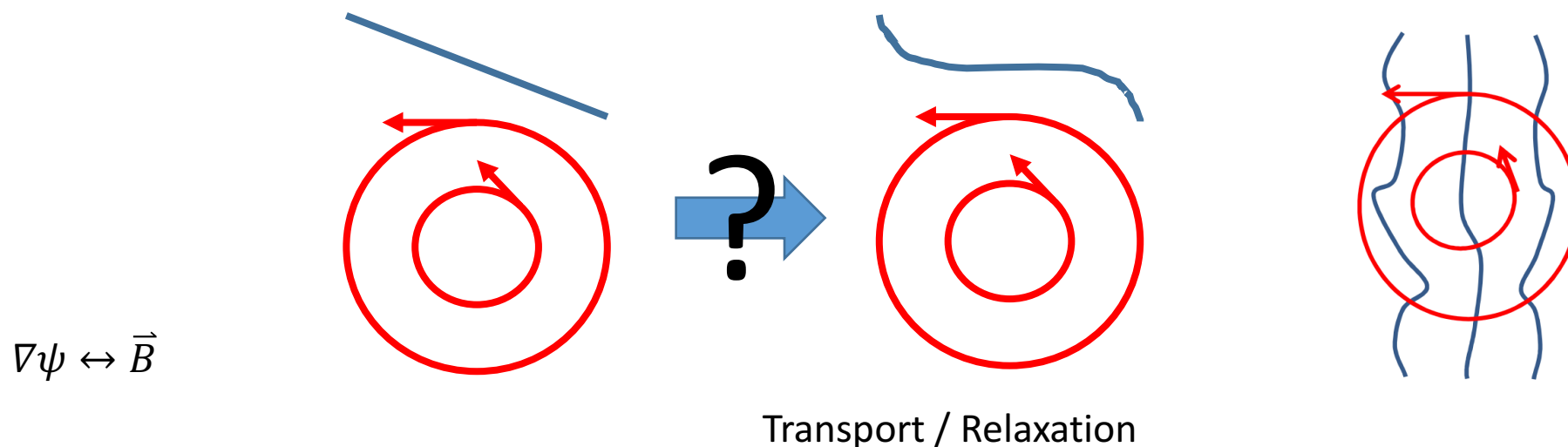
(Shear enhanced dissipation annihilates interior field)

- So $\tau_{mix} \cong \tau_{shear} Rm^{1/3} = (v_y'^{-1}) Rm^{1/3}$



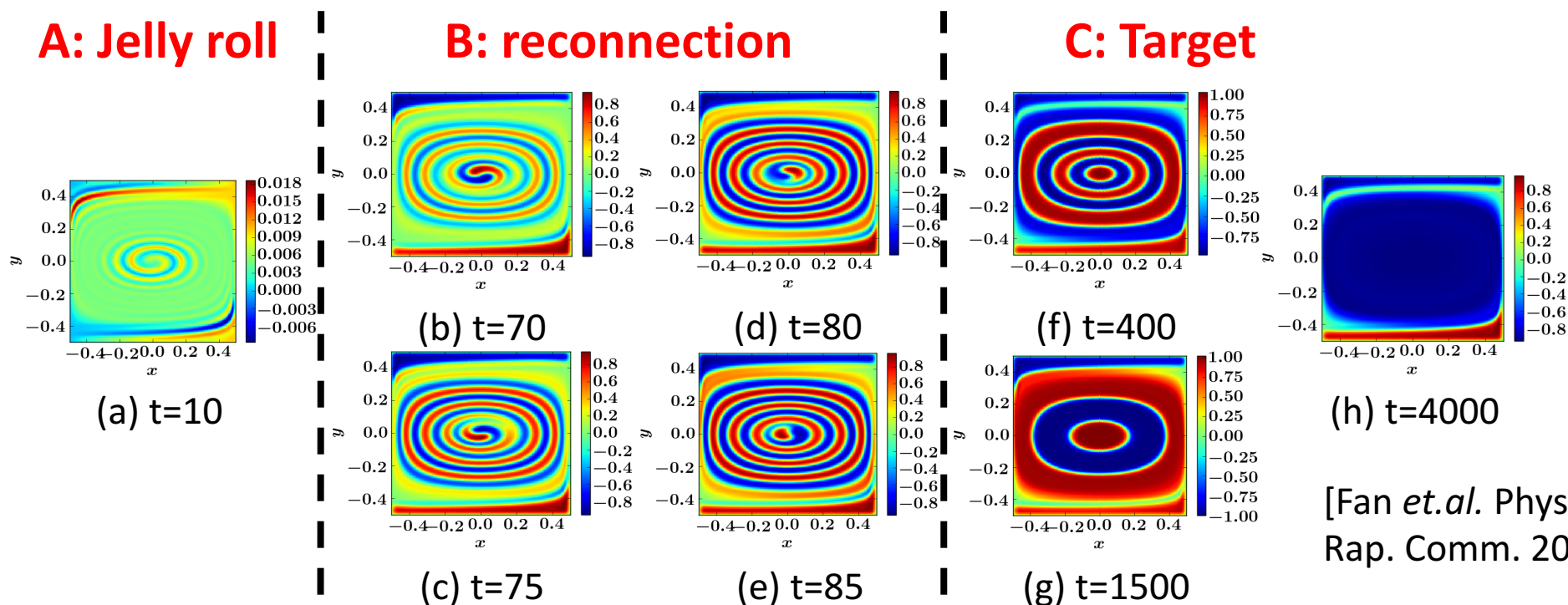
Single Eddy Mixing -- Cahn-Hilliard

- Structures are the key → need understand how a single eddy interacts with ψ field
- Mixing of $\nabla\psi$ by a single eddy → characteristic time scales?
- Evolution of structure?
- Analogous to flux expulsion in MHD (Weiss, '66)



Single Eddy Mixing -- Cahn-Hilliard

- 3 stages: (A) the "jelly roll" stage, (B) the *topological evolution* stage, and (C) the *target pattern* stage.
- ψ ultimately homogenized in slow time scale, but metastable target patterns formed and merge.

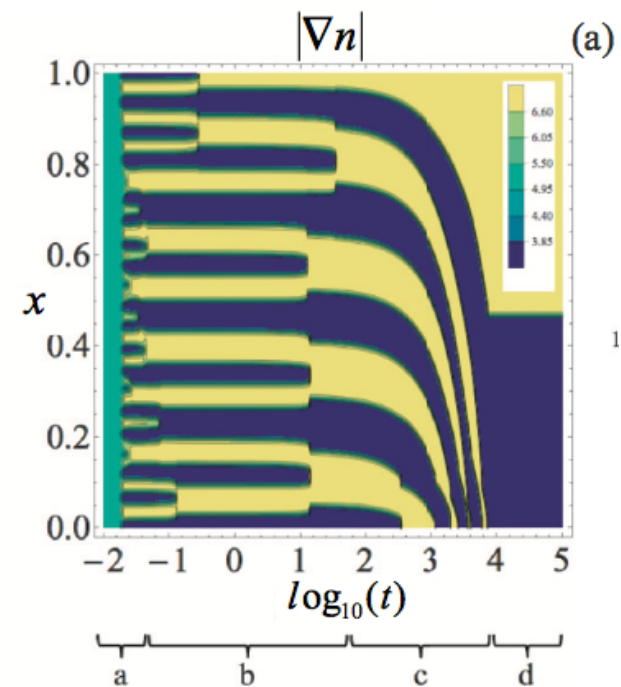
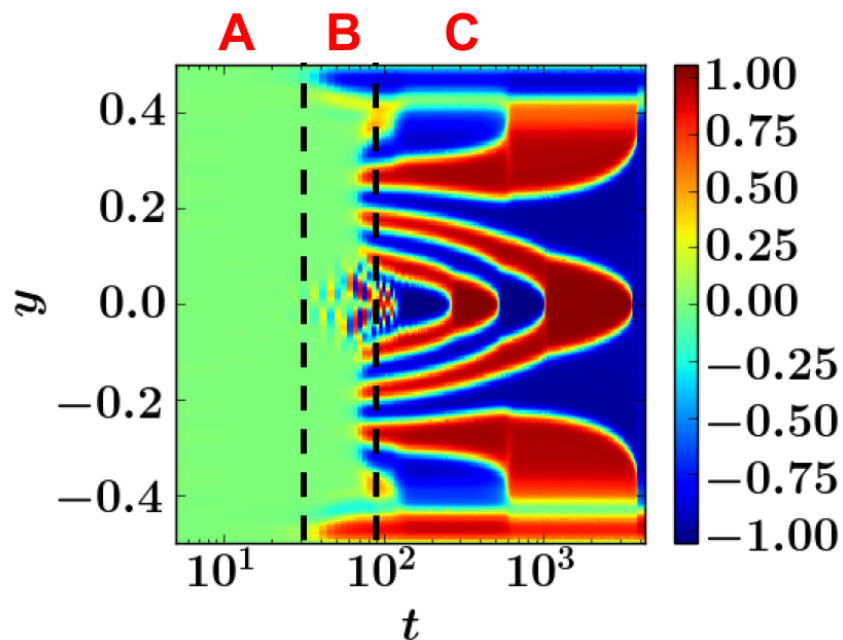
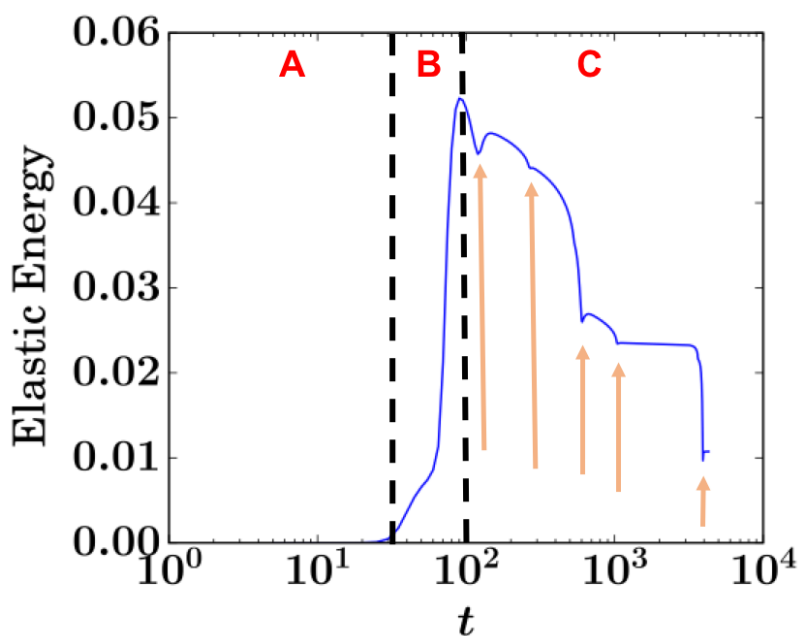


[Fan *et.al.* Phys. Rev. E Rap. Comm. 2017]

- Additional mixing time emerges.

Single Eddy Mixing

- The bands merge on a time scale long relative to eddy turnover time.
- The 3 stages are reflected in the elastic energy plot.
- The target bands mergers are related to the dips in the target pattern stage.
- The band merger process is similar to the step merger in drift-ZF staircases.



Episodic relaxation-coarsening Cahn-Hilliard dynamics

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[Ashourvan *et al.* 2016]

Back Reaction – Vortex Disruption

➤ (MHD only) (A. Gilbert et.al. '16; J. Mak et.al. '17)

➤ Demise of kinematic expulsion?

- Magnetic *tension* grows to react on vorticity evolution!

➤ Recall: $b \sim B_0 (Rm)^{1/3}$

- B.L. field stretched!

➤ and $\vec{B} \cdot \nabla \vec{B} = -\frac{|B|^2}{r_c} \hat{n} + \frac{d}{ds} \left(\frac{|B|^2}{2} \right) \hat{t}$

➤ $|\vec{B} \cdot \nabla \vec{B}| \cong b^2 / L_0$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} r_c \sim L_0 \\ \frac{d}{ds} \sim L_0^{-1} \end{array} \right\} \text{vortex scale}$$

Back Reaction – Vortex Disruption

➤ So $\rho \frac{d\omega}{dt} = \hat{z} \cdot [\nabla \times (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla \vec{B})]$

$$v_{A0}^2 = B_0^2 / 4\pi\rho$$

→ $\rho u \cdot \nabla \omega \sim b^2 / lL_0$

↑
small BL scale enters

➤ Feedback → 1 for: $Rm \left(\frac{v_{A0}}{u}\right)^2 \sim 1$

Remember this!

➤ Critical value to disrupt vortex, end kinematics

➤ Related Alfvén wave emission.

➤ Note for $Rm \gg 1 \rightarrow$ strong field not required

➤ Will re-appear...

Turbulence

MHD Turbulence – Quick Primer

- (Weak magnetization / 2D)
- Enstrophy conservation broken
- Alfvénic in B_{rms} field – “magneto-elastic” (E. Fermi ‘49)

$$\epsilon = \frac{\langle \tilde{v}^2 \rangle^2}{l^2} \frac{l}{B_{rms}} \implies E(k) = (\epsilon B_{rms})^{1/2} k^{-3/2} \text{ (I-K)}$$

- Dual cascade: $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Forward in energy} \\ \text{Inverse in } \langle A^2 \rangle \sim k^{-7/3} \end{array} \right.$

- What is dominant (A. Pouquet)?
 - conventional wisdom focuses on energy
 - yet $\langle A^2 \rangle$ conservation – freezing-in law!?

Ideal Quadratic Conserved Quantities

• 2D MHD

1. Energy

$$E = E^K + E^B = \int \left(\frac{v^2}{2} + \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} \right) d^2x$$

2. Mean Square Magnetic Potential

$$H^A = \int A^2 d^2x$$

3. Cross Helicity

$$H^C = \int \vec{v} \cdot \vec{B} d^2x$$

• 2D CHNS

1. Energy

$$E = E^K + E^B = \int \left(\frac{v^2}{2} + \frac{\xi^2 B_\psi^2}{2} \right) d^2x$$

2. Mean Square Concentration

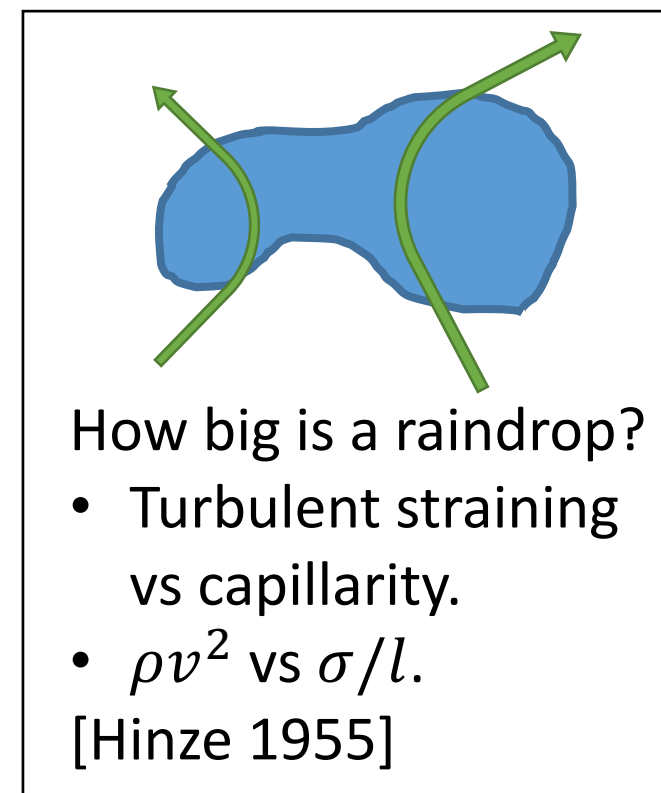
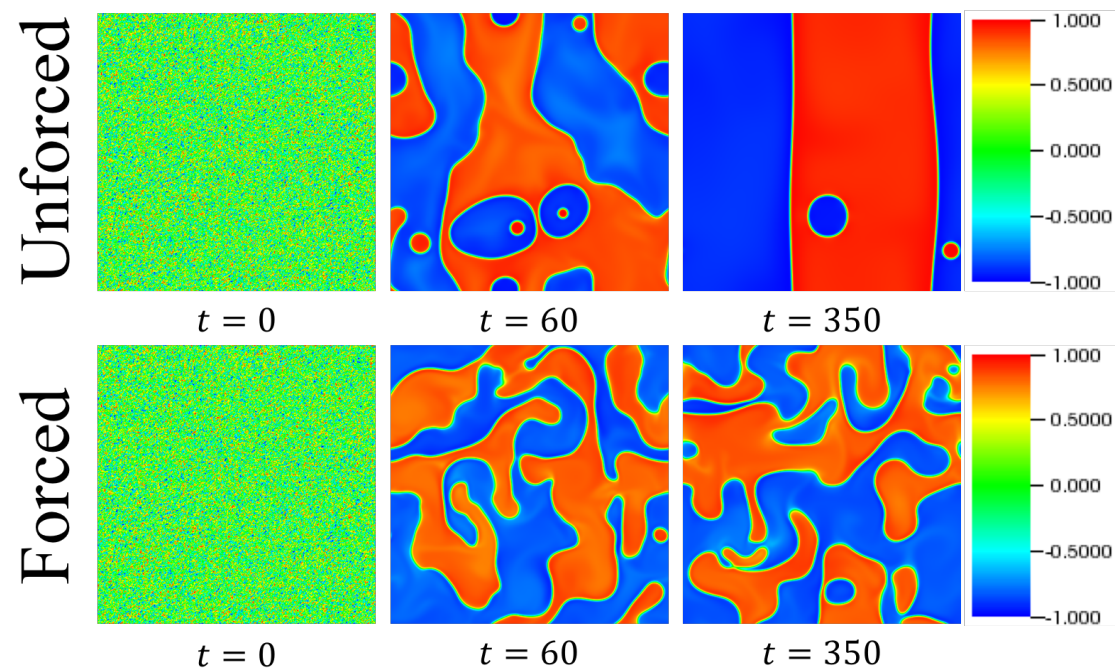
$$H^\psi = \int \psi^2 d^2x$$

3. Cross Helicity

$$H^C = \int \vec{v} \cdot \vec{B}_\psi d^2x$$

Dual cascade expected!

Scales, Ranges, Trends



- Fluid forcing → Fluid straining vs Blob coalescence
- Straining vs coalescence is fundamental struggle of CHNS turbulence
- Scale where turbulent straining \sim elastic restoring force (due surface tension):
Hinze Scale

$$L_H \sim \left(\frac{\rho}{\zeta}\right)^{-1/3} \epsilon_{\Omega}^{-2/9}$$

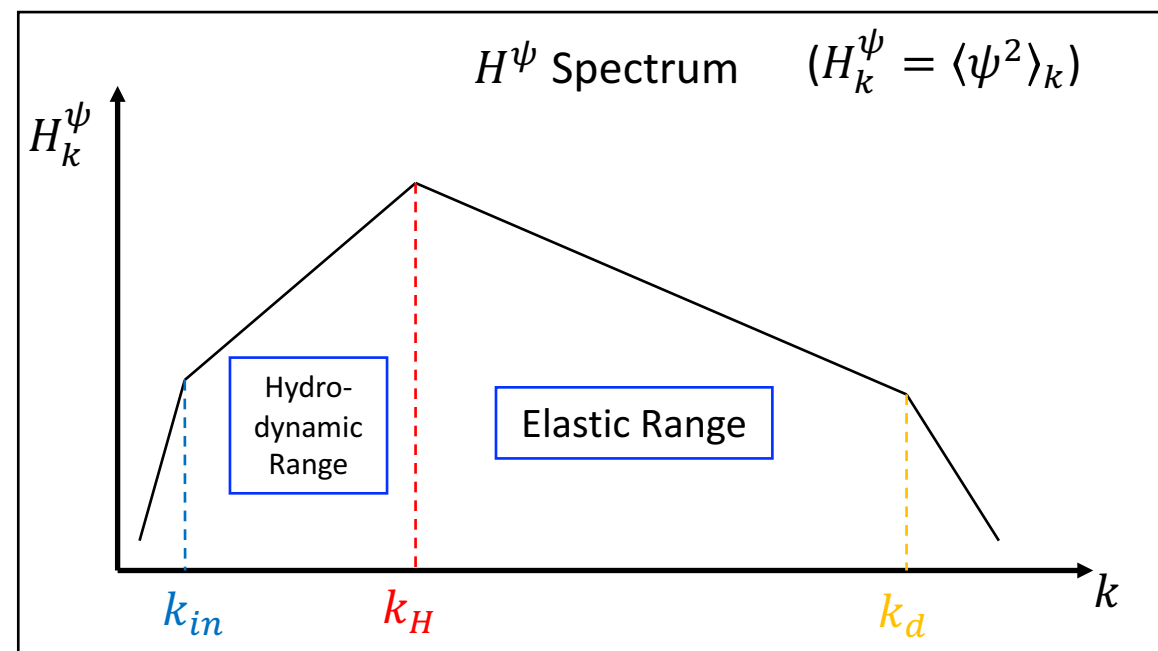
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Scales, Ranges, Trends

➤ Elastic range: $L_H < l < L_d$: where elastic effects matter.

➤ $L_H/L_d \sim \left(\frac{\rho}{\xi}\right)^{-1/3} \nu^{-1/2} \epsilon_{\Omega}^{-1/18} \rightarrow$ Extent of the elastic range

➤ $L_H \gg L_d$ required for large elastic range \rightarrow case of interest

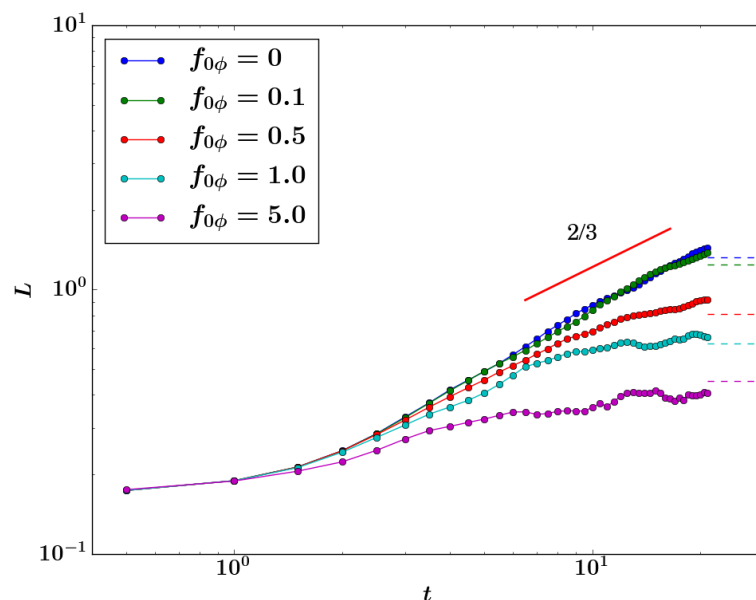
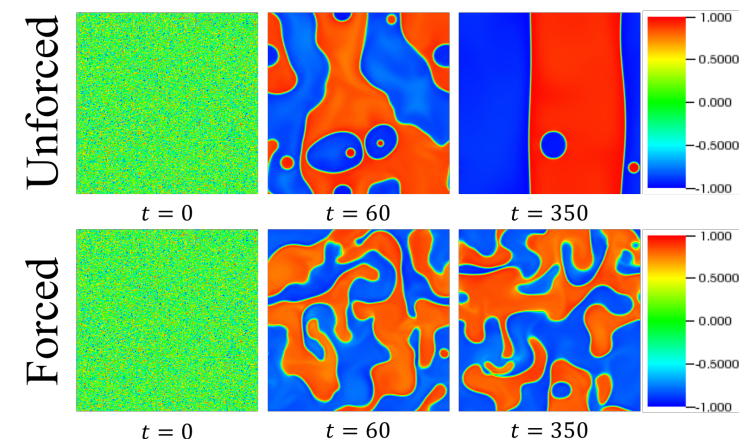


Scales, Ranges, Trends

- Key elastic range physics: **Blob coalescence**
- Unforced case: $L(t) \sim t^{2/3}$.

$$\text{(Derivation: } \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \vec{v} \sim \frac{\xi^2}{\rho} \nabla^2 \psi \nabla \psi \Rightarrow \frac{\dot{L}^2}{L} \sim \frac{\sigma}{\rho} \frac{1}{L^2}\text{)}$$

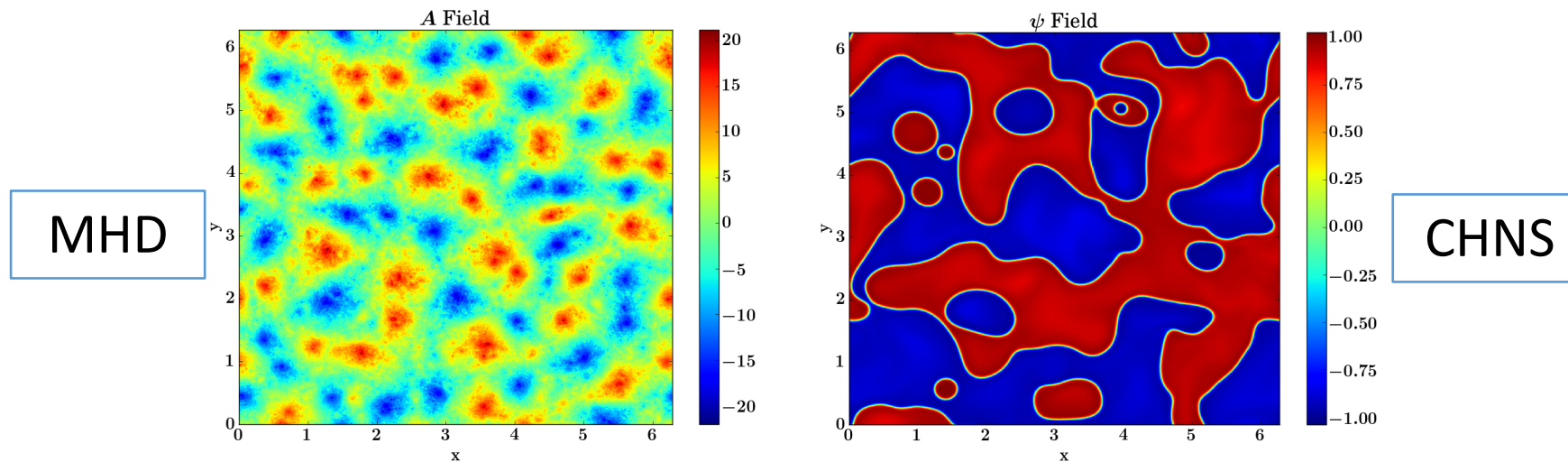
- Forced case: blob coalescence arrested at Hinze scale L_H .



- $L(t) \sim t^{2/3}$ recovered
- Blob growth arrest observed
- Blob growth saturation scale tracks Hinze scale (dashed lines)

- Blob coalescence suggests inverse cascade is fundamental here.

Cascades: Comparing the Systems



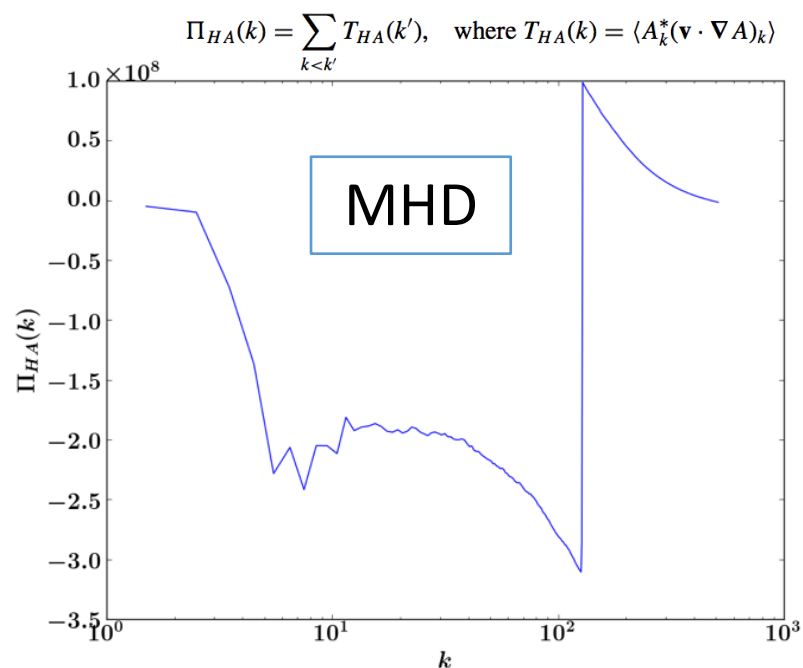
- Blob coalescence in the elastic range of CHNS is analogous to flux coalescence in MHD.
- Suggests *inverse cascade* of $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$ in CHNS.
- Supported by statistical mechanics studies (absolute equilibrium distributions).
- Arrested by straining.

Cascades

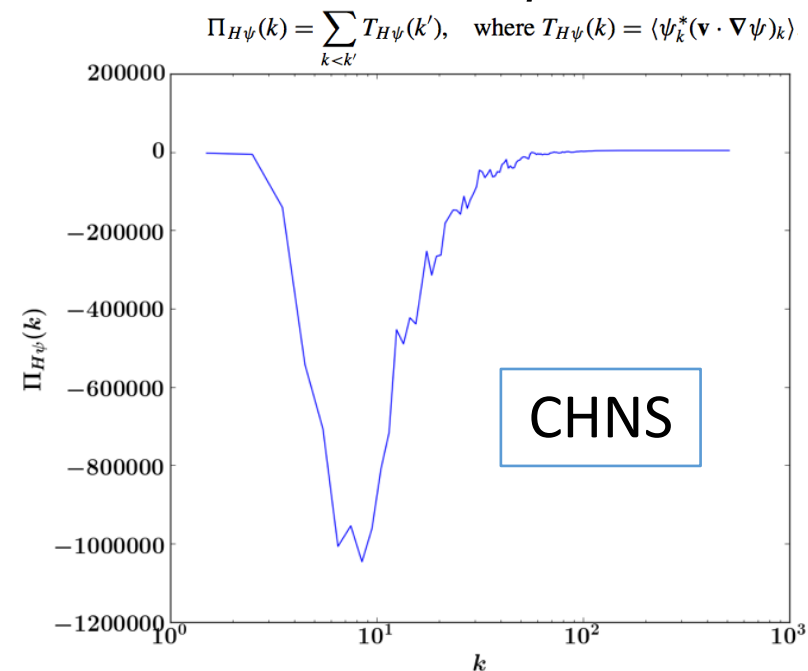
- So, dual cascade:
 - Inverse cascade of $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$
 - Forward cascade of E
- Inverse cascade of $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$ is formal expression of blob coalescence process → generate larger scale structures till limited by straining
- Forward cascade of E as usual, as elastic force breaks enstrophy conservation
- Forward cascade of energy is analogous to counterpart in 2D MHD

Cascades

➤ Spectral flux of $\langle A^2 \rangle$:



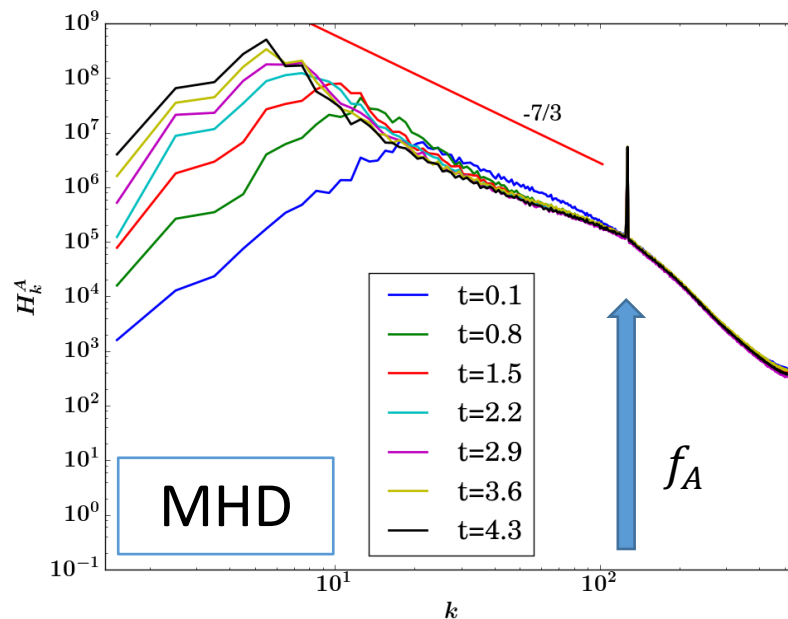
Spectral flux of $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$:



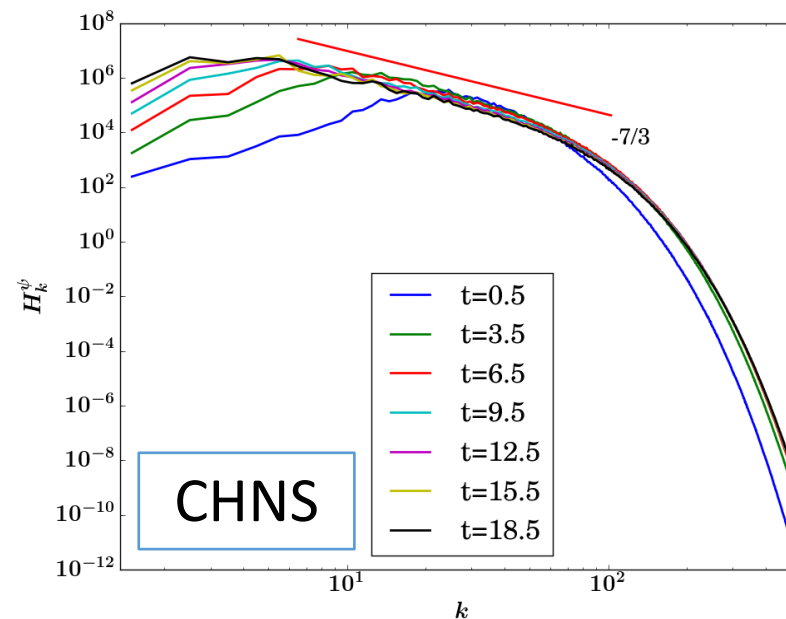
- MHD: weak small scale forcing on A drives inverse cascade
- CHNS: ψ is unforced \rightarrow aggregates *naturally* \Leftrightarrow structure of free energy
- Both fluxes ***negative*** \rightarrow ***inverse*** cascades

Power Laws

➤ $\langle A^2 \rangle$ spectrum:



$\langle \psi^2 \rangle$ spectrum:



➤ Both systems exhibit $k^{-7/3}$ spectra.

➤ Inverse cascade of $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$ exhibits same power law scaling, so long as $L_H \gg L_d$, maintaining elastic range: Robust process.

Power Laws

➤ Derivation of -7/3 power law:

➤ For MHD, key assumptions:

- Alfvénic equipartition ($\rho \langle v^2 \rangle \sim \frac{1}{\mu_0} \langle B^2 \rangle$)

- Constant mean square magnetic potential dissipation rate ϵ_{HA} , so

$$\epsilon_{HA} \sim \frac{H^A}{\tau} \sim (H_k^A)^{\frac{3}{2}} k^{\frac{7}{2}}.$$

➤ Similarly, assume the following for CHNS:

- Elastic equipartition ($\rho \langle v^2 \rangle \sim \xi^2 \langle B_\psi^2 \rangle$)

- Constant mean square magnetic potential dissipation rate $\epsilon_{H\psi}$, so

$$\epsilon_{H\psi} \sim \frac{H^\psi}{\tau} \sim (H_k^\psi)^{\frac{3}{2}} k^{\frac{7}{2}}.$$

More Power Laws

➤ Kinetic energy spectrum (**Surprise!**):

➤ 2D CHNS: $E_k^K \sim k^{-3}$;

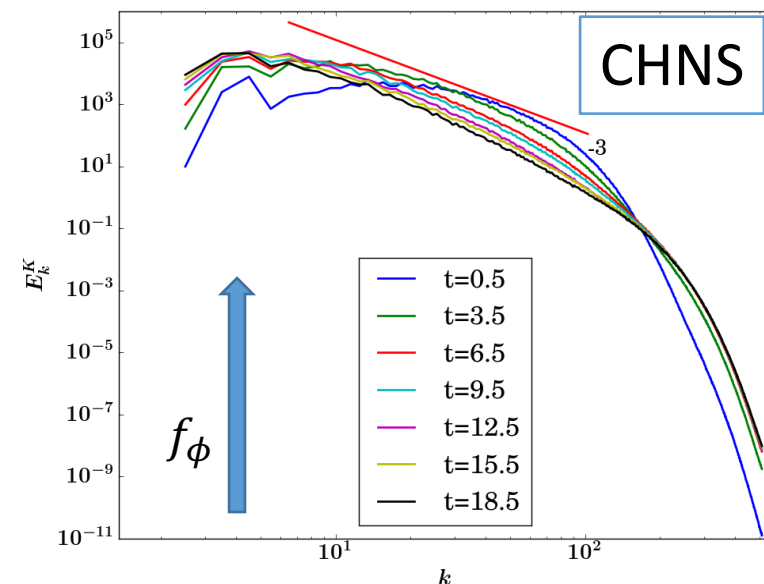
➤ 2D MHD: $E_k^K \sim k^{-3/2}$.

➤ The -3 power law:

- Closer to enstrophy cascade range scaling, in 2D Hydro turbulence.
- Remarkable departure from expected -3/2 for MHD. **Why?**

➤ Why does CHNS \leftrightarrow MHD correspondence hold well for $\langle \psi^2 \rangle_k \sim \langle A^2 \rangle_k \sim k^{-7/3}$, yet break down drastically for energy???

➤ **What physics** underpins this surprise??

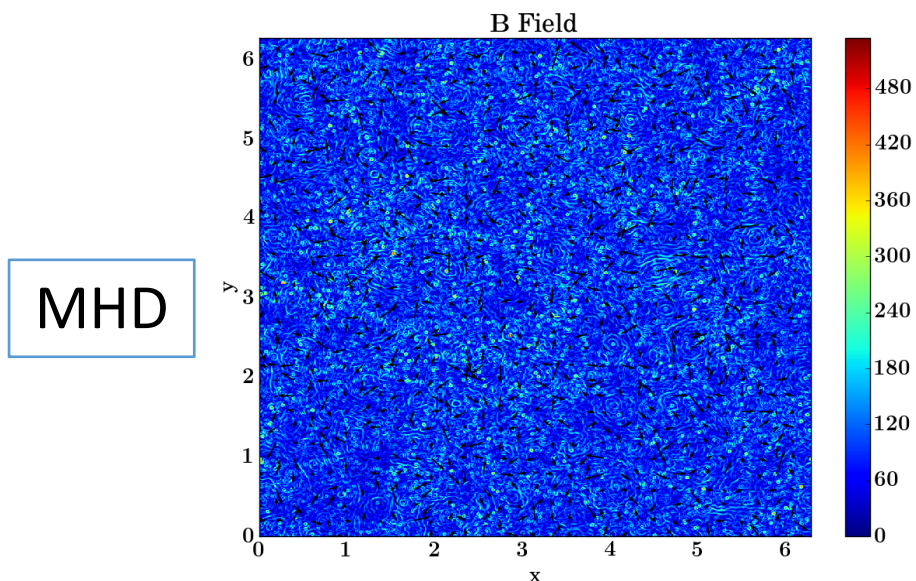


Interface Packing Matters! – Pattern!

- Need to understand *differences*, as well as similarities, between CHNS and MHD problems.

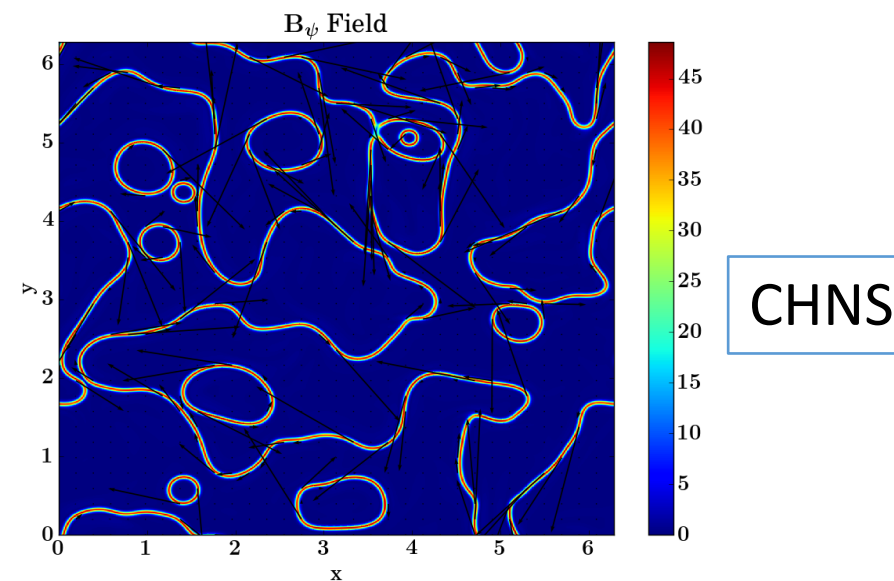
2D MHD:

- Fields pervade system.



2D CHNS:

- Elastic back-reaction is limited to regions of density contrast i.e. $|\vec{B}_\psi| = |\nabla\psi| \neq 0$.
- As blobs coalesce, interfacial region diminished. ‘Active region’ of elasticity decays.



Interface Packing Matters!

- Define the interface packing fraction P :

$$P = \frac{\text{\# of grid points where } |\vec{B}_\psi| > B_\psi^{rms}}{\text{\# of total grid points}}$$

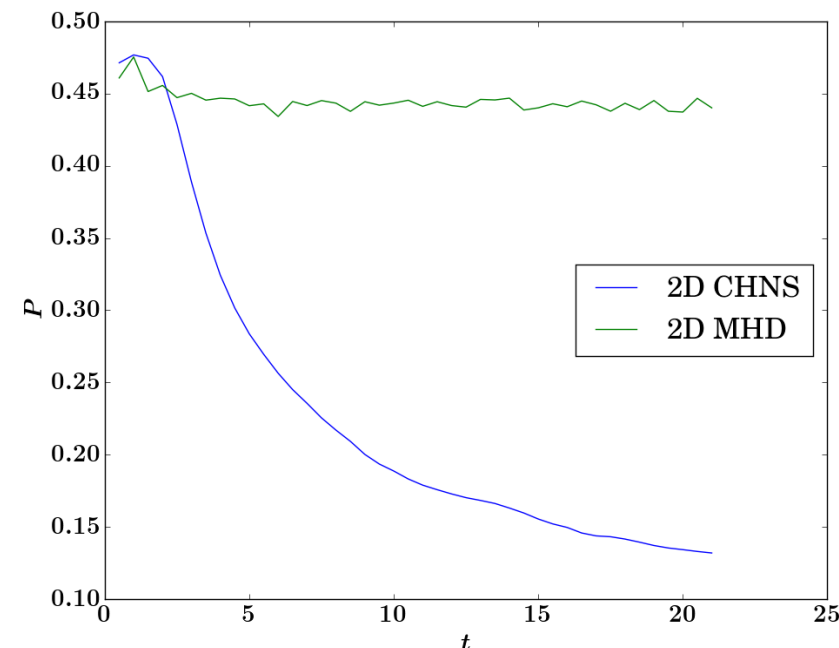
- P for CHNS decays;

- P for MHD stationary!

- $\partial_t \omega + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla \omega = \frac{\xi^2}{\rho} \vec{B}_\psi \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 \psi + \nu \nabla^2 \omega$: small $P \rightarrow$ local back reaction is weak.

- Weak back reaction \rightarrow reduce to 2D hydro \rightarrow k-spectra

- Blob coalescence coarsens interface network



What Are the Lessons?

- Avoid power law tunnel vision!
- ***Real space*** realization of the flow is necessary to understand key dynamics. Track interfaces and packing fraction P .
- One player in dual cascade (i.e. $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$) can modify or constrain the dynamics of the other (i.e. E).
- Against conventional wisdom, $\langle \psi^2 \rangle$ inverse cascade due to blob coalescence is the robust nonlinear transfer process in CHNS turbulence.
- Begs more attention to magnetic helicity in 3D MHD.

Transport

Active Scalar Transport

- Magnetic diffusion, ψ transport are cases of active scalar transport
- (Focus: 2D MHD) (Cattaneo, Vainshtein '92, Gruzinov, P. D. '94, '95)

scalar mixing – the usual

$$\partial_t A + \nabla \phi \times \hat{z} \cdot \nabla A = \eta \nabla^2 A$$

$$\partial_t \nabla^2 \phi + \nabla \phi \times \hat{z} \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 \phi = \nabla A \times \hat{z} \cdot \nabla \nabla^2 A + \nu \nabla^2 \nabla^2 \phi$$

back-reaction

turbulent resistivity

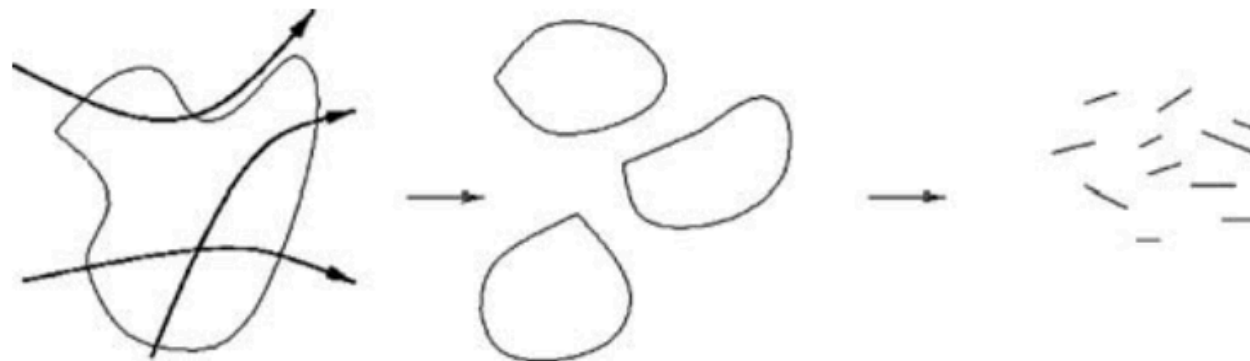
$$\text{➤ Seek } \langle v_x A \rangle = -D_T \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x} - \eta \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x}$$

$$\text{➤ Point: } D_T \neq \sum_{\vec{k}} |\mathbf{v}_{\vec{k}}|^2 \tau_{\vec{k}}^E, \text{ often substantially less}$$

➤ Why: Memory! \leftrightarrow Freezing-in

Origin of Memory?

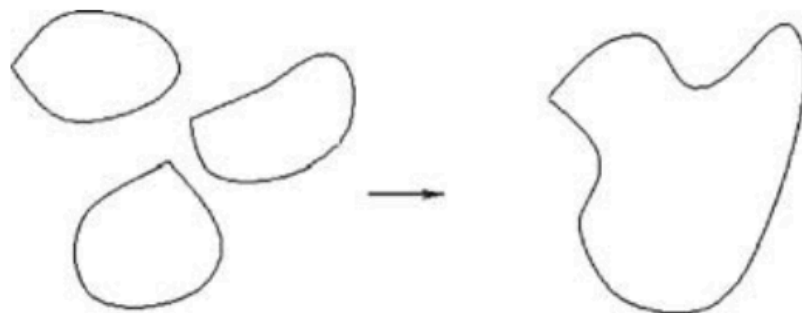
- (a) flux advection vs flux coalescence
 - intrinsic to 2D MHD (and CHNS)
 - rooted in inverse cascade of $\langle A^2 \rangle$
- (b) tendency of (even weak) mean magnetic field to “Alfvenize” turbulence [cf: vortex disruption feedback threshold!]
- Re (a): Basic physics of 2D MHD



Forward transfer: fluid eddies chop up scalar A .

Memory Cont'd

➤ v.s.



Inverse transfer: current filaments and A-blobs attract and coagulate.

➤ Obvious analogy: straining vs coalescence; CHNS

➤ Upshot: closure calculation yields:

$$\Gamma_A = - \sum_{\vec{k}'} [\tau_c^\phi \langle v^2 \rangle_{\vec{k}'} - \tau_c^A \langle B^2 \rangle_{\vec{k}'}] \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x} + \dots$$

flux of potential

competition

scalar advection vs. coalescence (“negative resistivity”)

(+)

(-)

Zeldovich and Alfvenization

- Re (b): Competition winner? → Alfvenization!
- Alfvenization is a natural consequence of stronger $\langle B \rangle$, ala' vortex disruption
- fluid stretches $\langle B \rangle$, ala' $B_0 \rightarrow b$ in flux expulsion
- How to quantify: Zeldovich Theorem

$$H_A = \int d^2x H_A = \int d^2x \langle A^2 \rangle$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial H_A}{\partial t} = -\Gamma_A \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x} - \eta \langle B^2 \rangle$$

↑
↑
 production dissipation

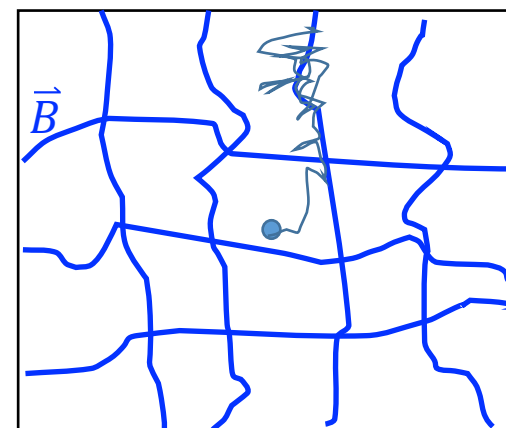
Zeldovich and Alfvenization, Cont'd

➤ So $\langle B^2 \rangle \cong -\frac{\Gamma_A}{\eta} \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x} \cong \frac{D_T}{\eta} \left(\frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x} \right)^2$ (meta-stationary state)

$$\langle B^2 \rangle \cong \frac{D_T}{\eta} \langle B \rangle^2$$

↑
O(Rm)

- Strong RMS field generated from modest $\langle B \rangle$
- Reflects the effect of small scale B-field amplification (i.e. $B_0 \rightarrow b$)
- Ultimately, η asserts itself (Cowling)
- Best think $\langle B^2 \rangle \leftrightarrow T_m$ (elastic energy)



Small scale
field as elastic
network

Bottom Line

➤ Eliminate $\langle B^2 \rangle$ in Γ_A using Zeldovich

➤ So: $D_T = D_K / \left[1 + Rm \frac{v_{A0}^2}{\langle v^2 \rangle} \right]$

[Implications for α , dynamo, etc.]

(Well-established numerically)

➤ where:

- D_K is usual kinematic diffusivity
- $Rm \frac{v_{A0}^2}{\langle v^2 \rangle} \sim 1$ identical to vortex disruption threshold
- Weak $\langle B \rangle$ “quenches” flux diffusion for large Rm

➤ Physics is memory enforced by strong, small scale field.

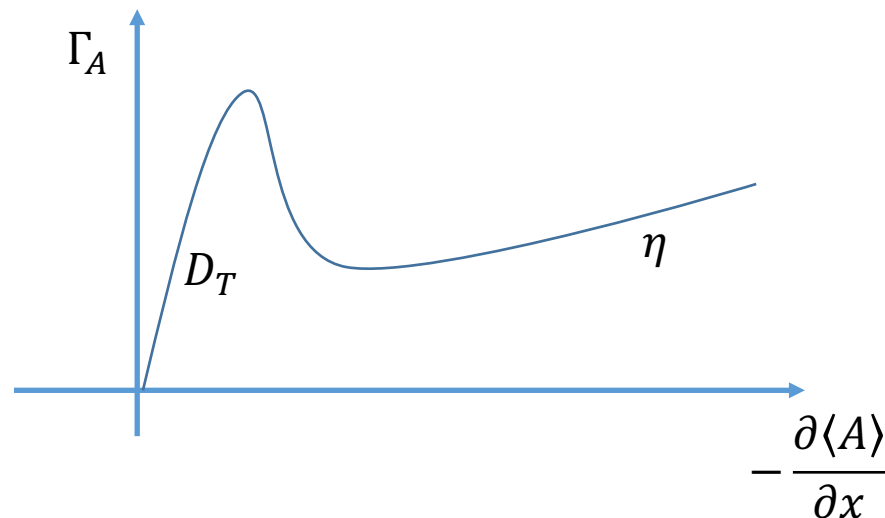
Bottom Line, Cont'd

➤ Active scalar transport bifurcation!

$$\Gamma_A = - \frac{D_K \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x}}{\left[1 + \frac{Rm}{\rho \langle v^2 \rangle} \left(\frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right]} - \eta \frac{\partial \langle A \rangle}{\partial x}$$

(Standard form)

i.e.



Spatio-temporal dynamics
largely unexplored

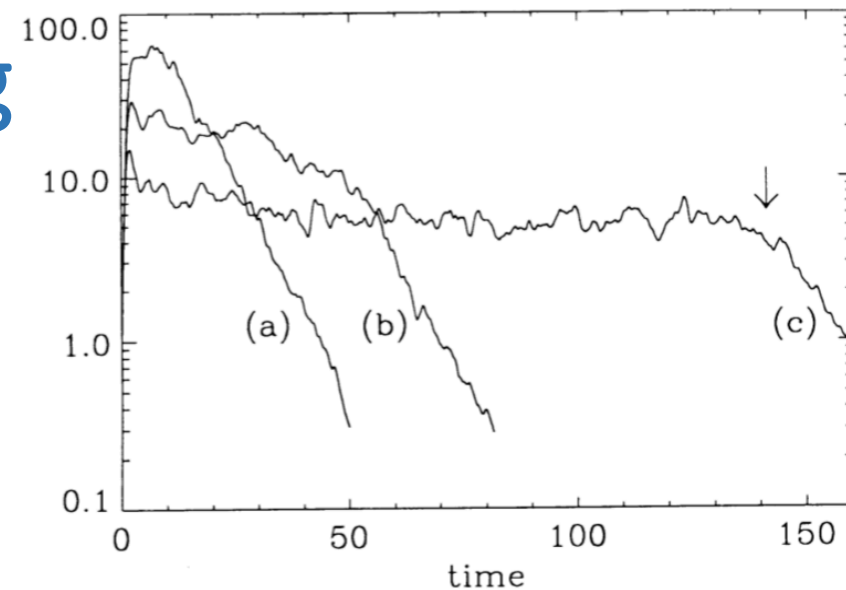
- bi-stable system
- fronts, barriers, domains

➤ Expect analogue in CHNS, modulo density gradient

Something Old: Quenching

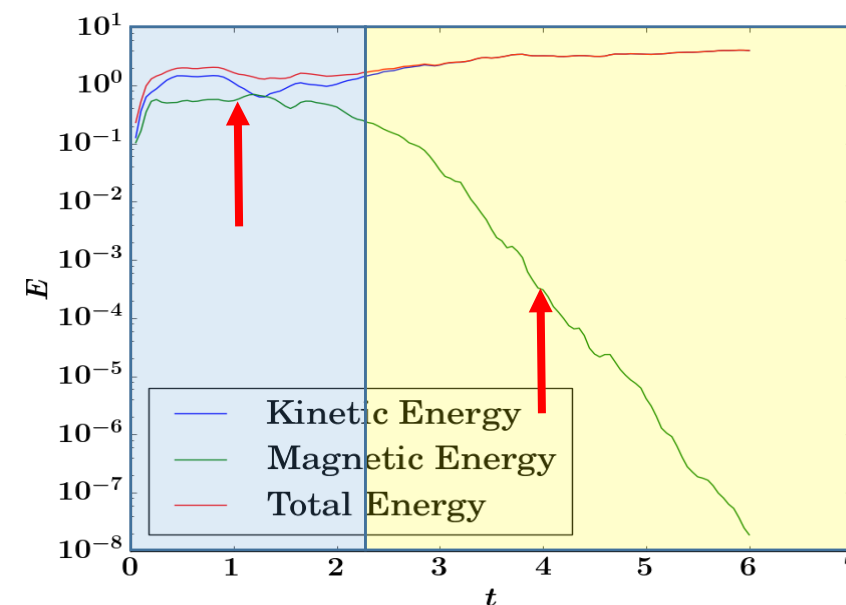
- $M^2 = \langle \tilde{v}^2 \rangle / v_{A0}^2$
- Higher $v_{A0}^2 / \langle \tilde{v}^2 \rangle \rightarrow$ lower $D_T \rightarrow$ longer E_m persistence
- Ultimately η asserts itself

- Blue: $\langle B \rangle$ sufficient for suppression
- Yellow: Ohmic decay phase



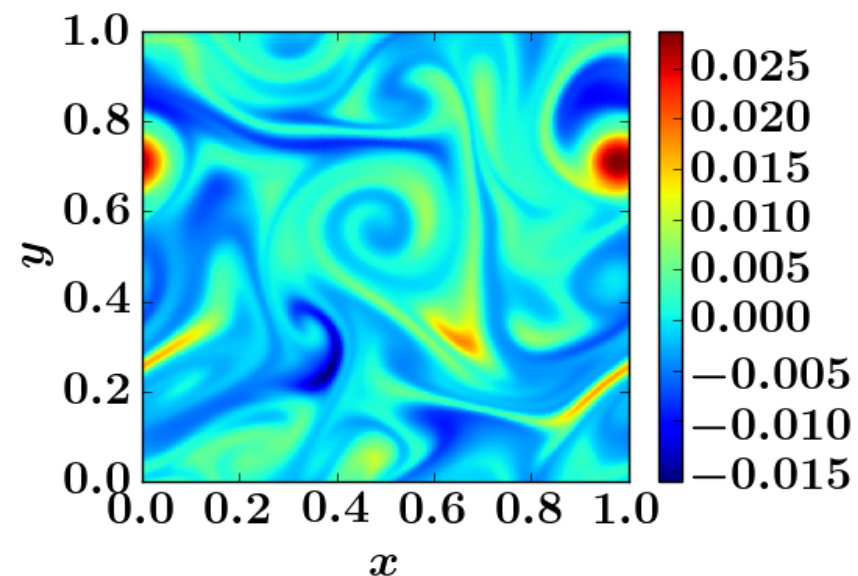
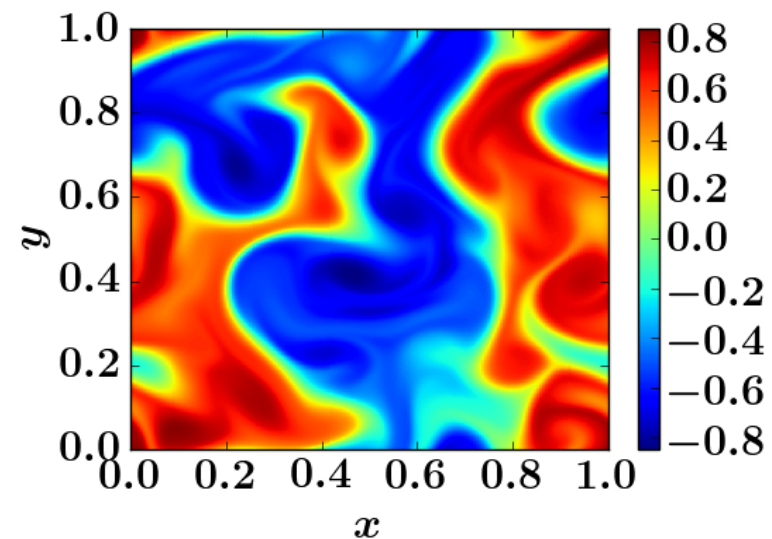
[Cattaneo and Vainshtein '91]

FIG. 3.—Magnetic energy density. Time histories of the total magnetic energy (normalized). The values of M^2 are ∞ for (a), 100 for (b), and 30 for (c).



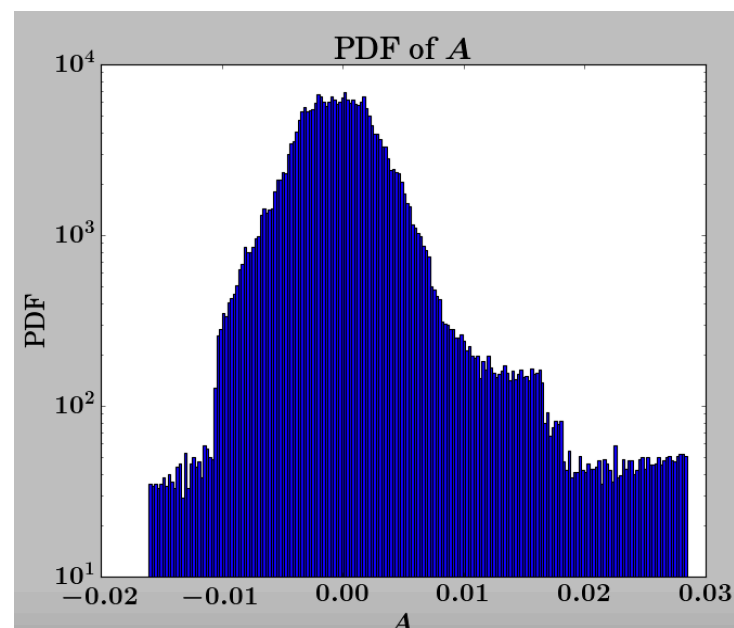
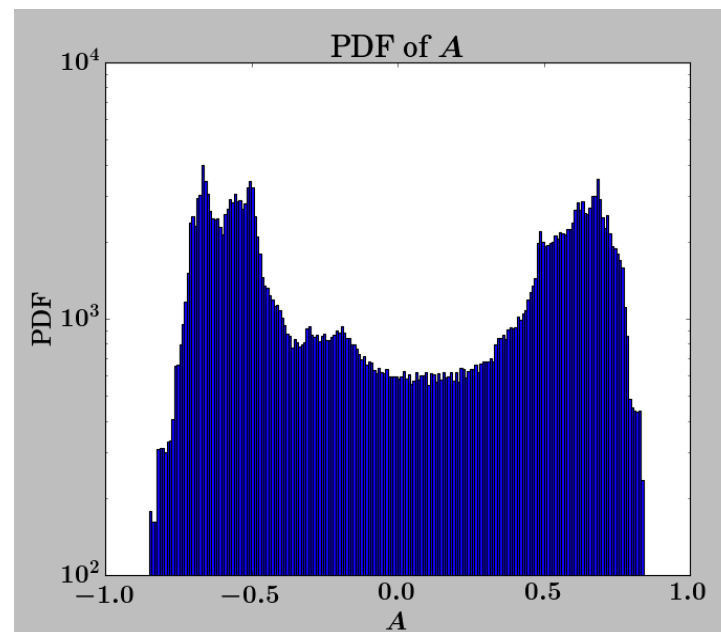
Spatial Structure (Preliminary)

- Initial condition: $\cos(x)$ for A
- Shorter time (suppression phase)
 - Domains, and domain boundaries evident, resembles CHNS
 - A transport barriers?!
- Longer time (Ohmic decay phase)
 - Well mixed
 - No evidence nontrivial structure



Something New, Cont'd

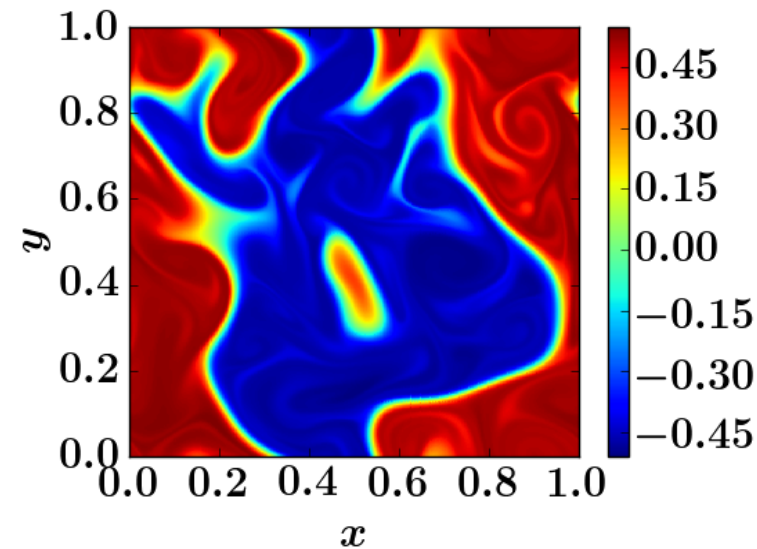
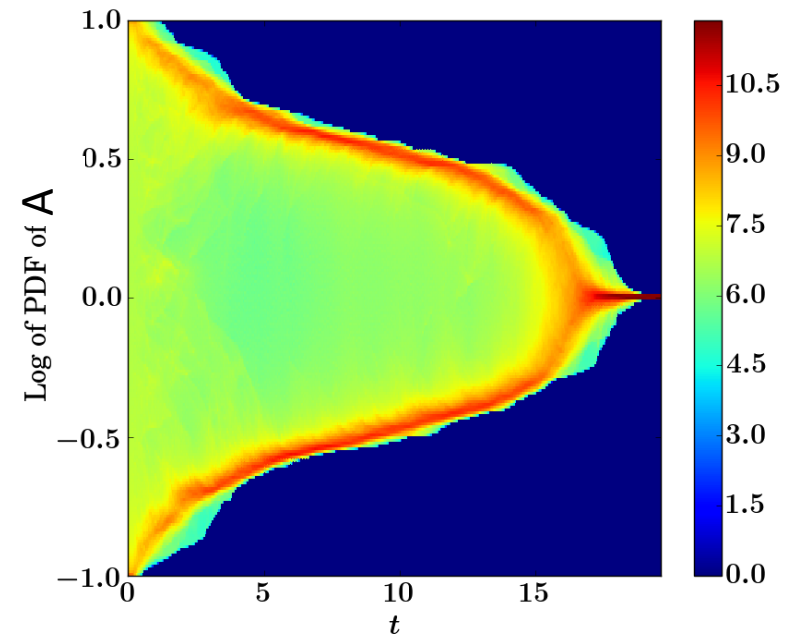
- For analysis: pdf of A
- Suppression phase:
 - quenched diffusion
 - bi-modal distribution
 - quenching prevents fill-in
 - consequence i.c.
- Ohmic decay phase:
 - uni-modal distribution returns



Higher Pm (Lower η_T)

- Bi-modal pdf of A structure persists longer
- Barrier resists Ohmic decay

- A field exhibits strikingly sharp domain structure
- Transition layer (barrier) evident
- Clear example of decoupling of transport, intensity.



What of CHNS?

- So far much the same, without Ohmic decay phase
- CH structure feeds elastic energy \leftrightarrow resembles forcing in B-field in MHD
- Ongoing

Conclusion

Conclusion, of Sorts

- Elastic fluids ubiquitous, interestingly similar and different. Comparison/contrast is useful approach.
- Simple problems, like flux expulsion (50+ years), reveal a lot about basic feedback dynamics.
- CHNS is interesting example of elastic turbulence where energy cascade is *not* fundamental or dominant.
- Spatio-temporal dynamics of (bi-stable) active scalar transport is a promising direction. Pattern formation in this system is terra novo.
- Revisiting polymer drag reduction would be interesting.