

*Gyrokinetic turbulence: a nonlinear route to
dissipation through phase space*

arXiv:0806.1069

Alexander Schekochihin

Imperial College, London

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William Hesketh Lever,
1st Viscount Leverhulme
(1851-1925)

Leverhulme Trust International Network for Magnetised Plasma Turbulence

<http://www2.imperial.ac.uk/~aschekoc/acnet/acnethome.html>

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US DoE CMPD

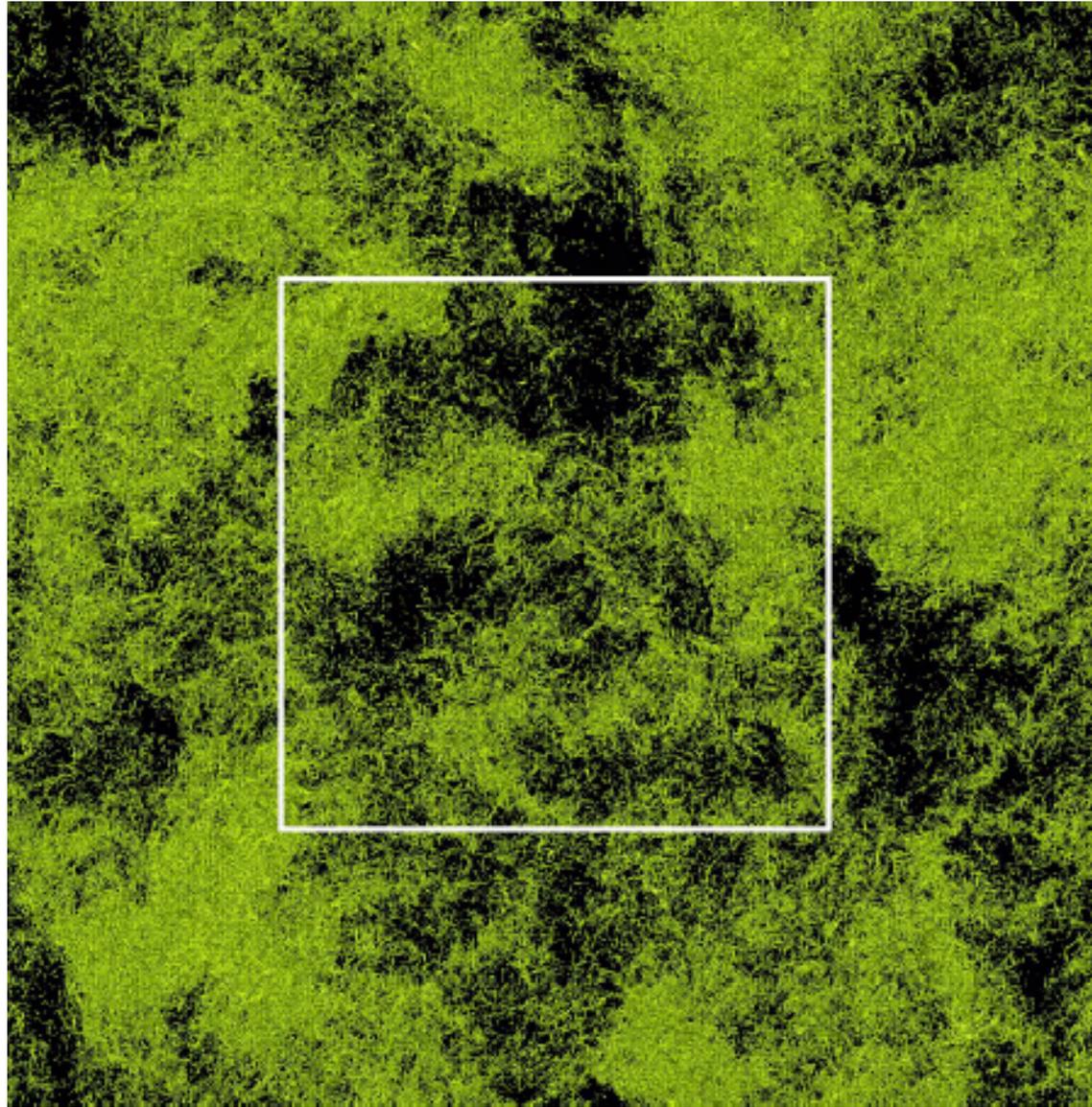


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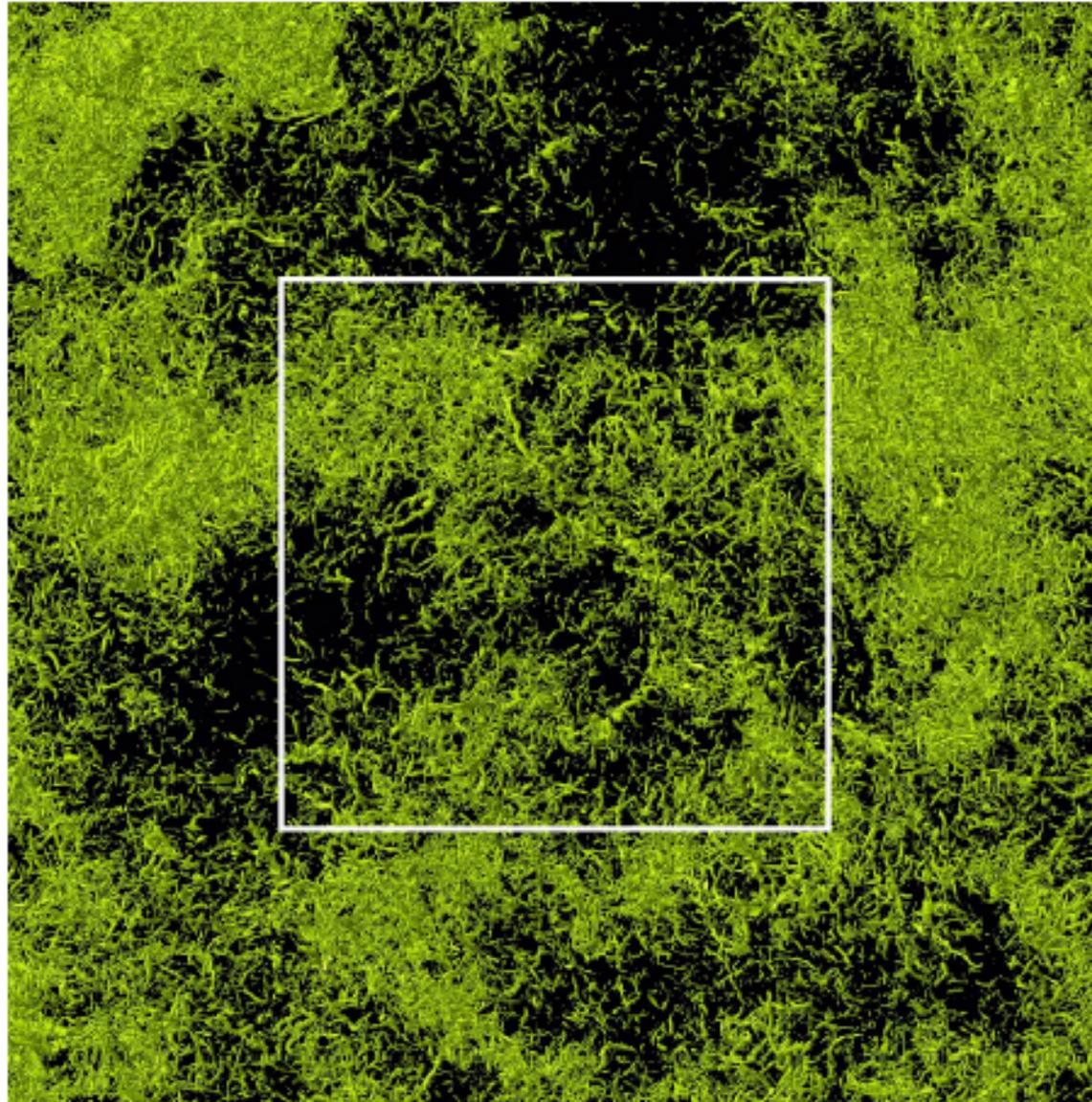
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Turbulence is Multiscale Disorder



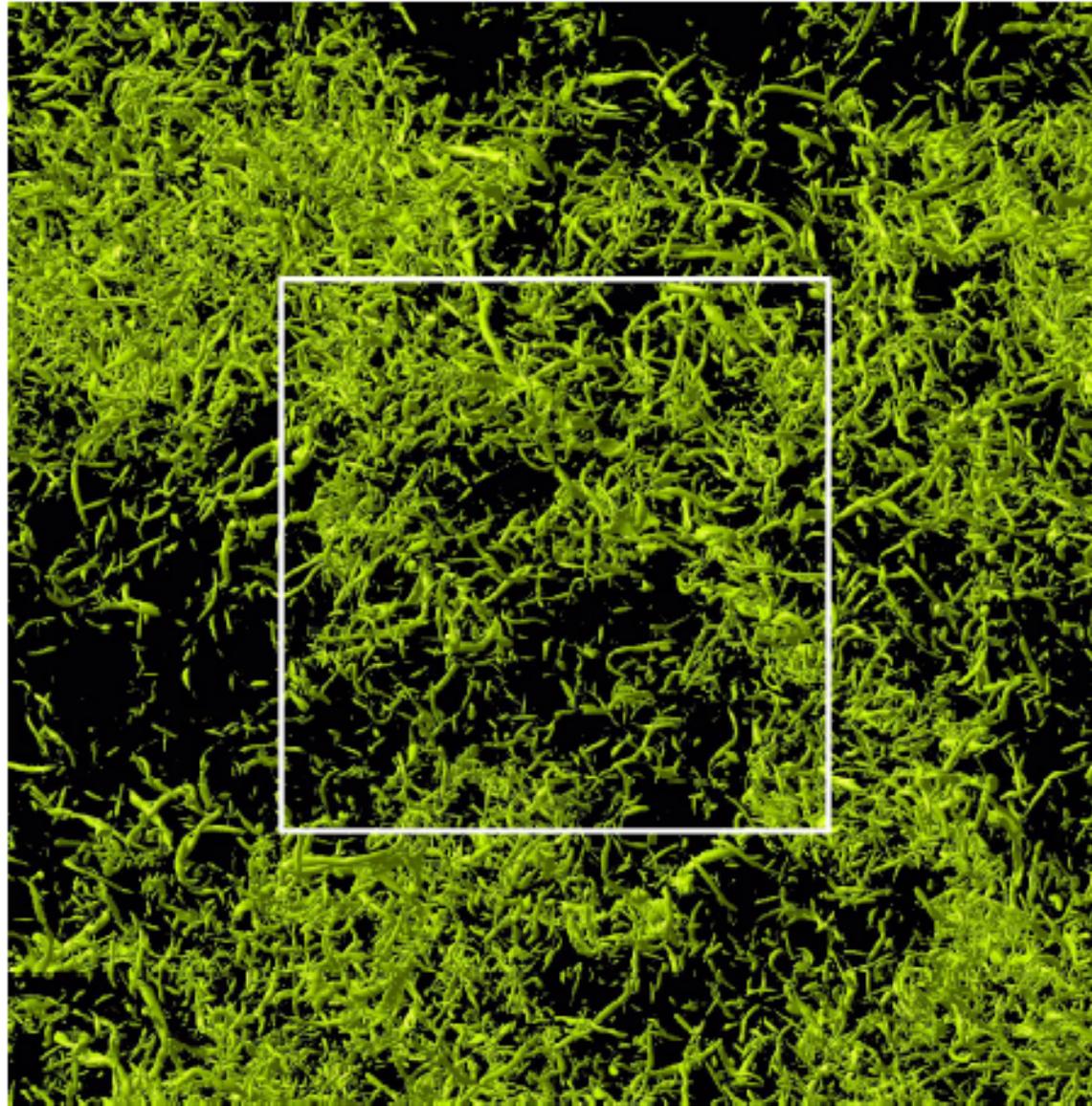
[Image: Y. Kaneda *et al.*, **Earth Simulator, isovorticity surfaces, 4096³**]

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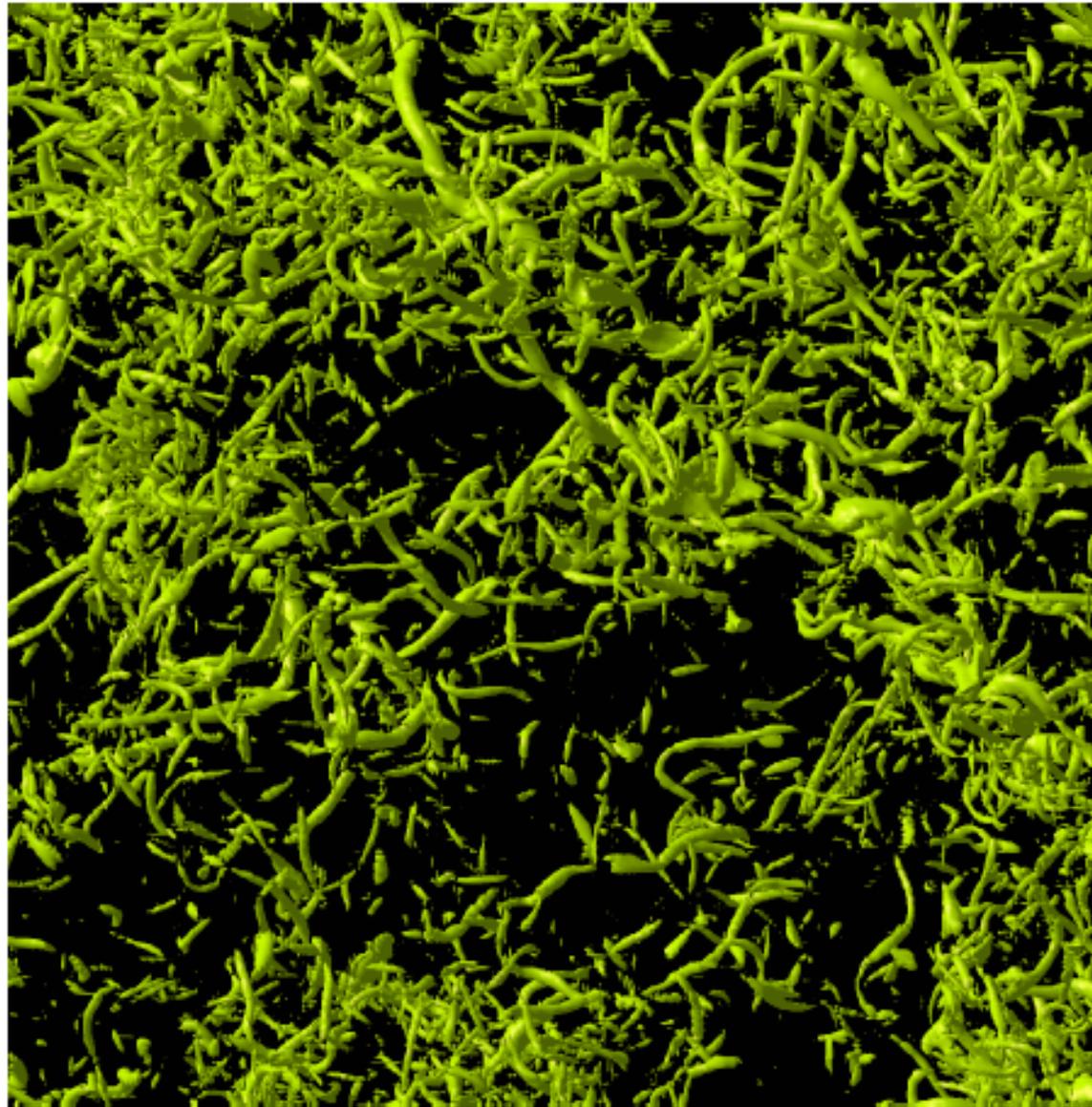
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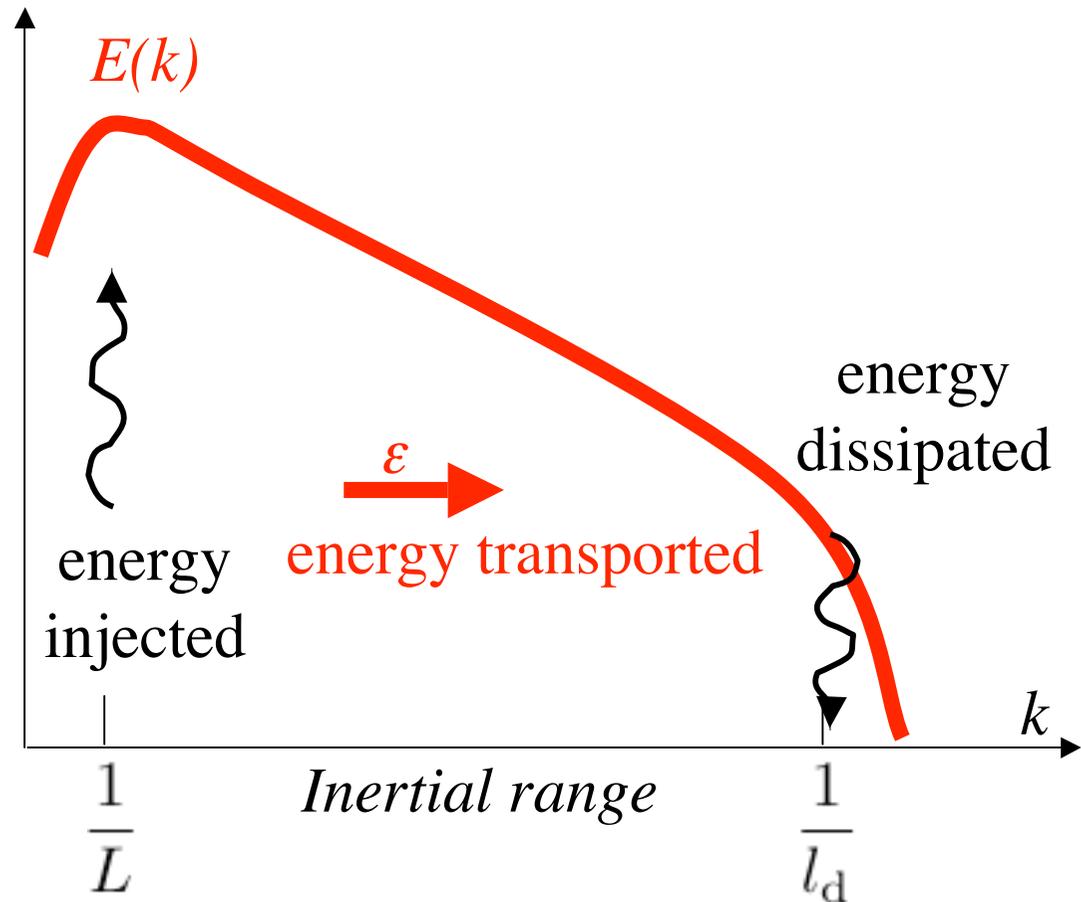
Turbulence: A Nonlinear Route to Dissipation

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3 r}{V} \frac{u^2}{2} = \varepsilon - \nu \int \frac{d^3 r}{V} |\nabla \mathbf{u}|^2$$

$$l_\nu \sim (\nu^3 / \varepsilon)^{1/4} \sim L \text{Re}^{-3/4}$$

$$\varepsilon = (1/V) \int d^3 r \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{f}$$



Turbulence: A Nonlinear Route to Dissipation

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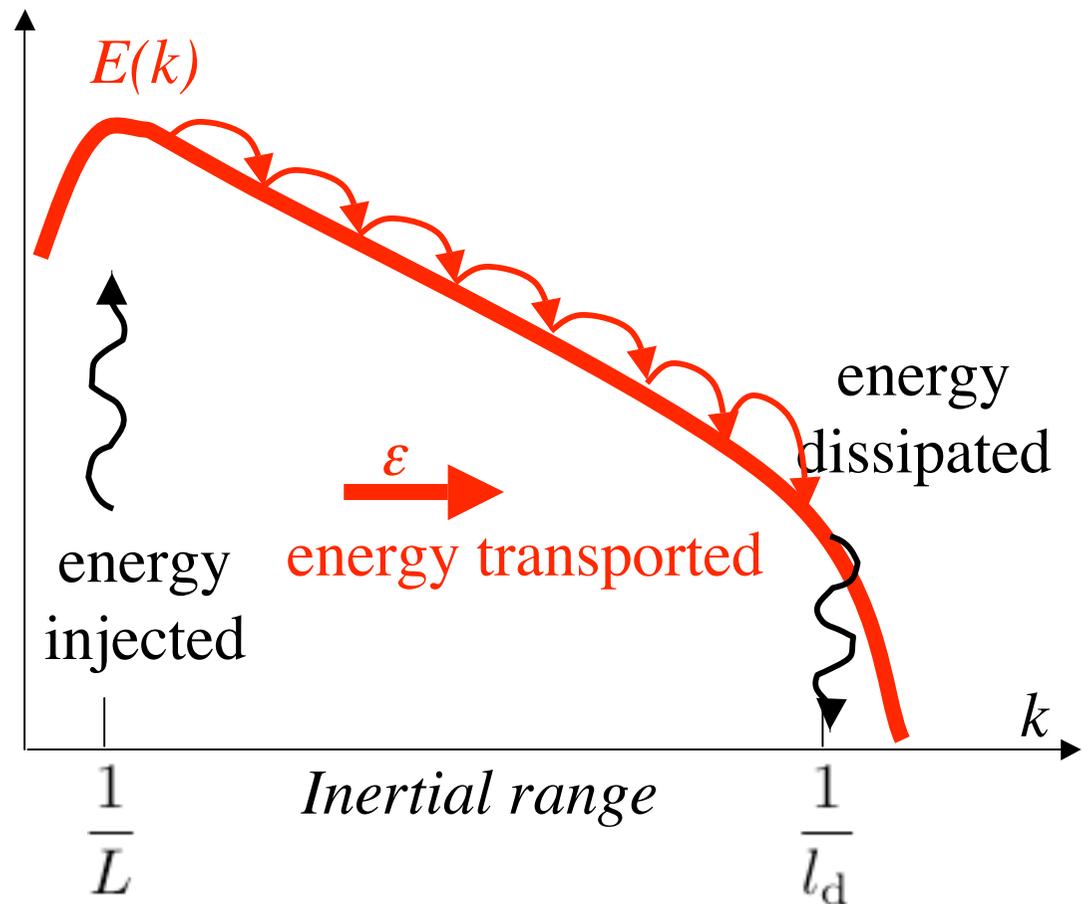
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**If cascade is local,
intermediate scales
fill up**

*Big whorls have little whorls
That feed on their velocity,
And little whorls have lesser whorls
And so on to viscosity.*

L. F. Richardson 1922



Turbulence: A Nonlinear Route to Dissipation

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0,$$

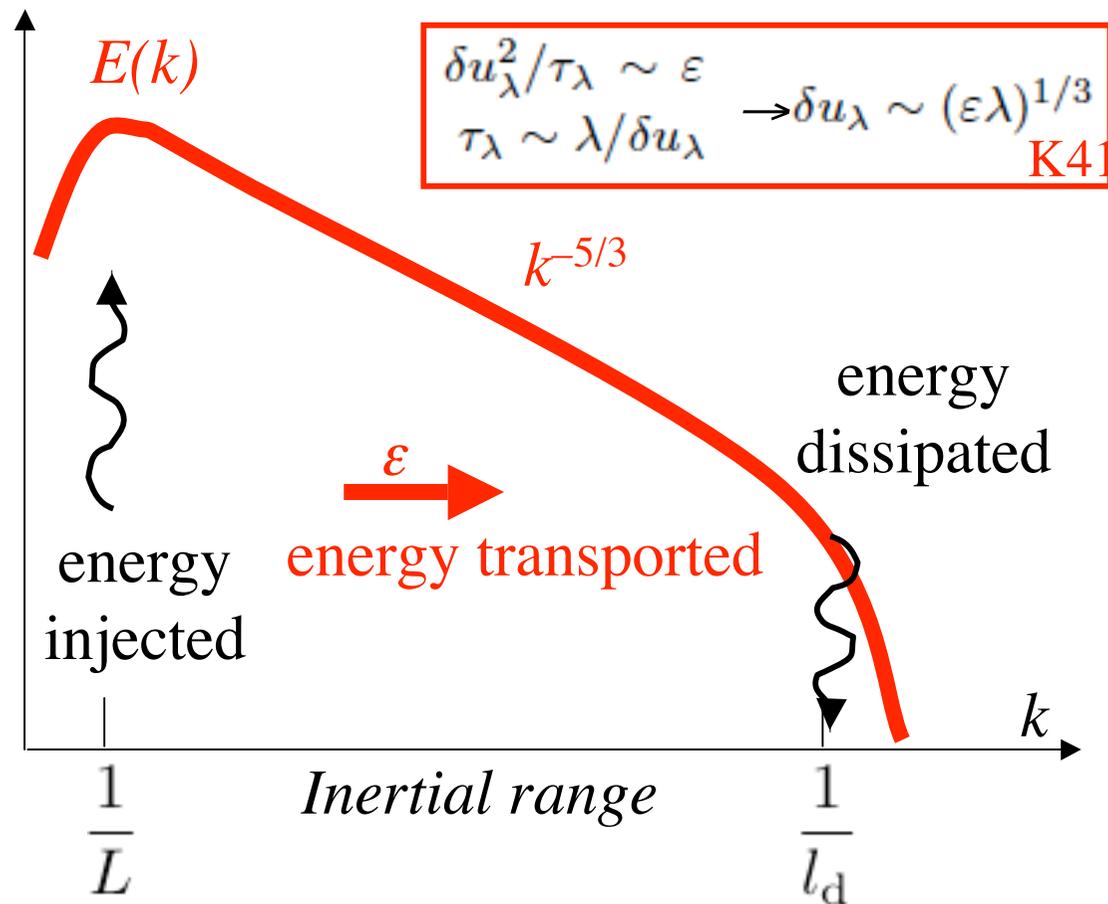
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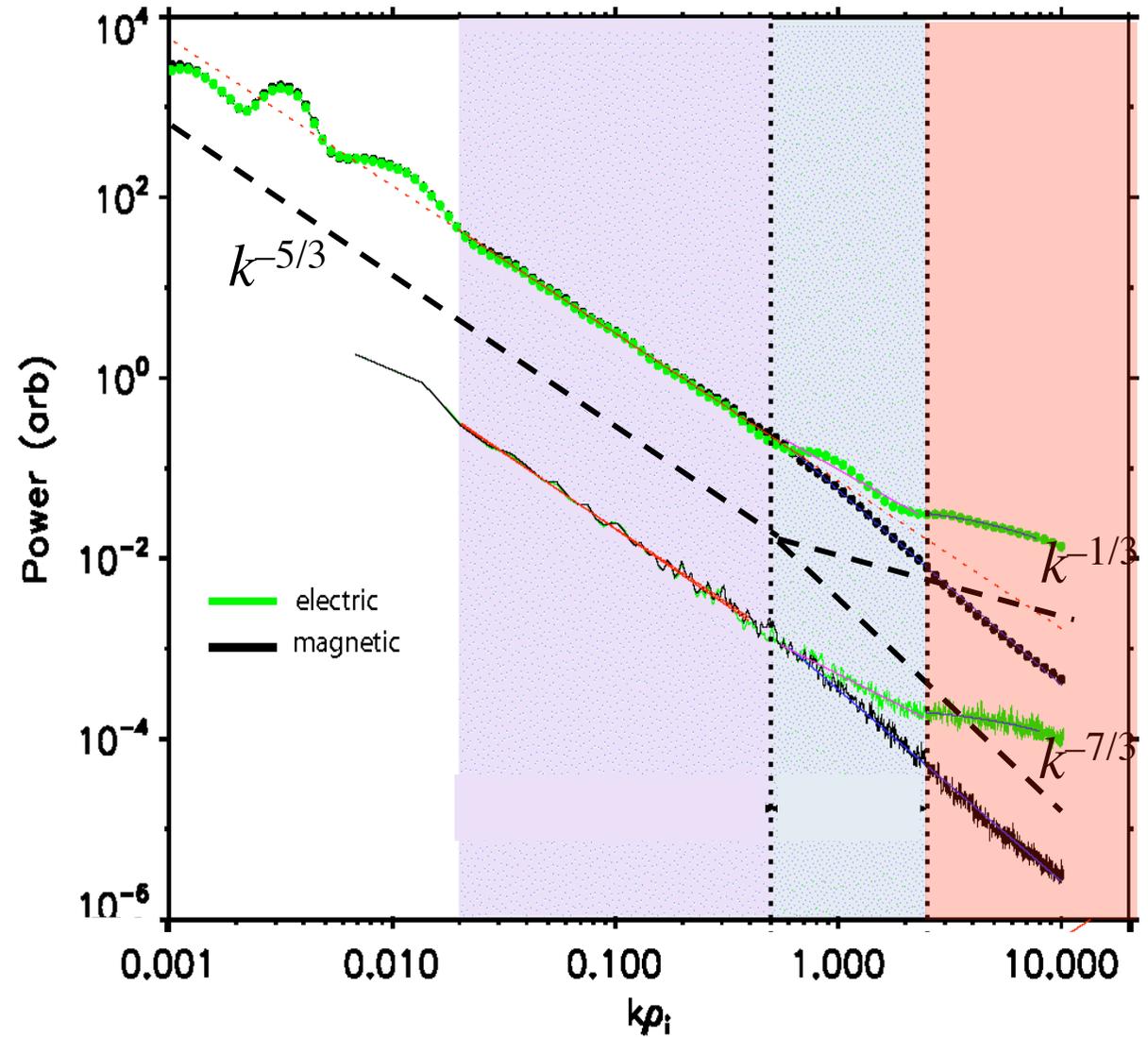
L. F. Richardson 1922



Plasma Turbulence: Analogous?

Turbulence in the solar wind

[Bale et al. 2005, *PRL* **94**, 215002]

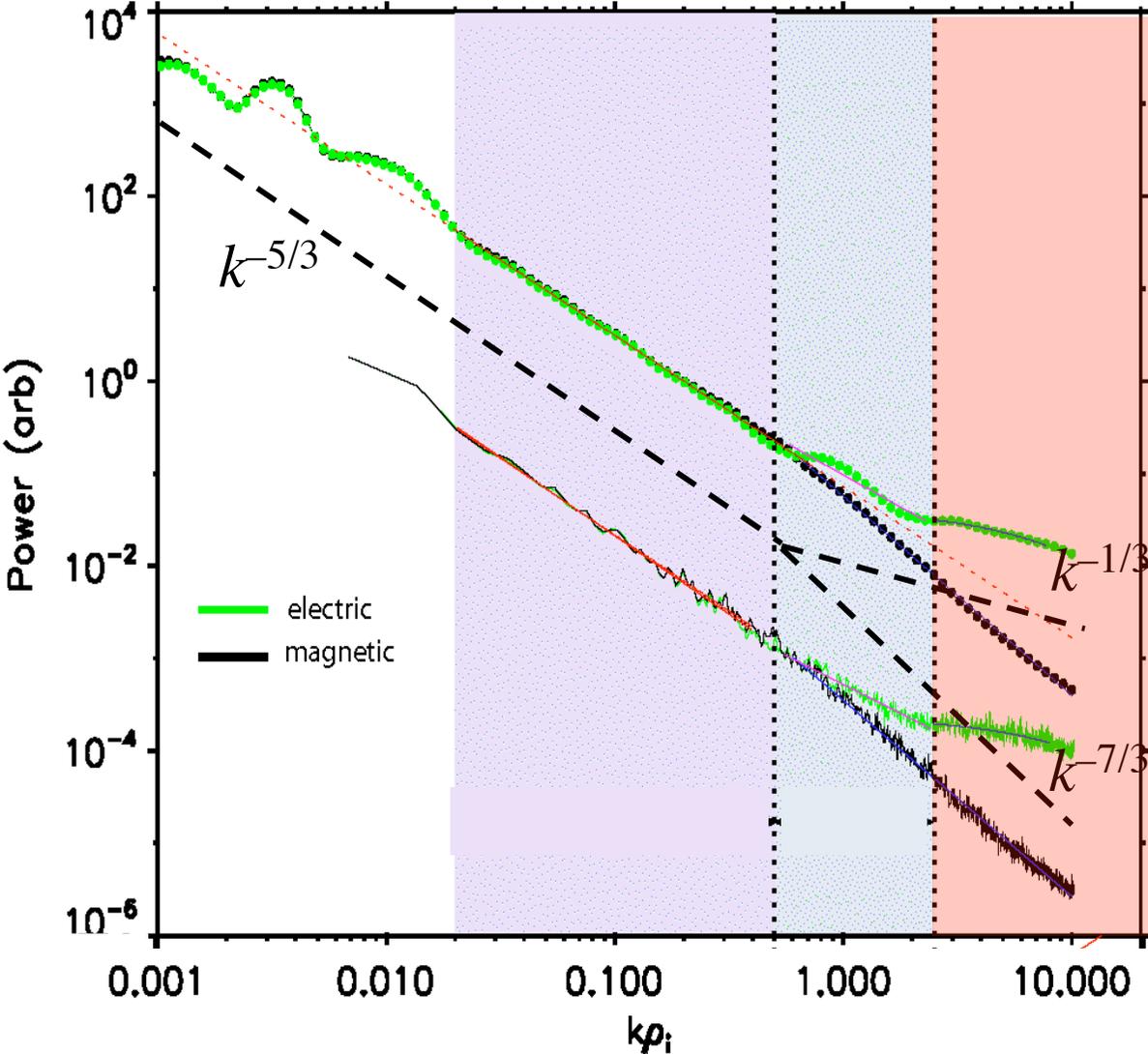


Plasma Turbulence Extends to Collisionless Scales

Turbulence in the solar wind

[Bale et al. 2005, *PRL* **94**, 215002]

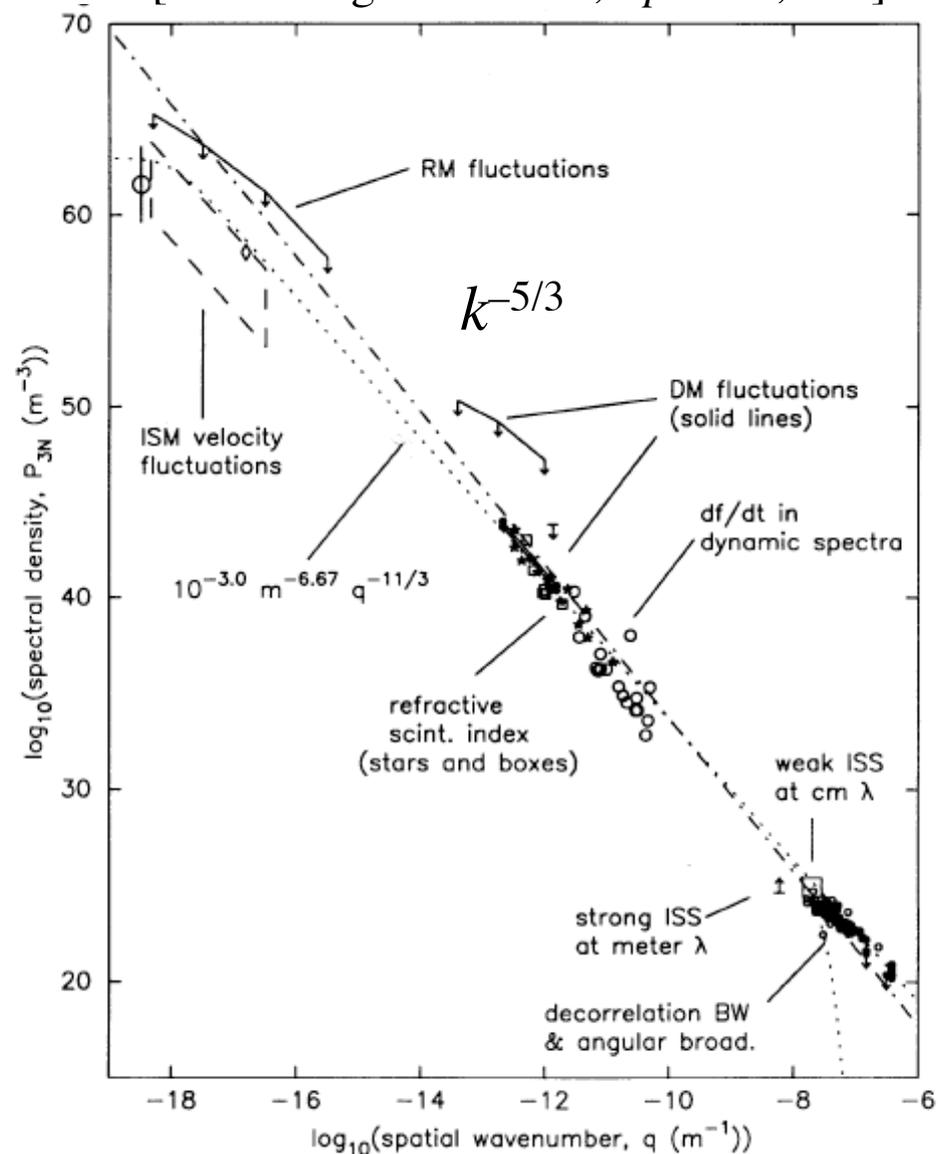
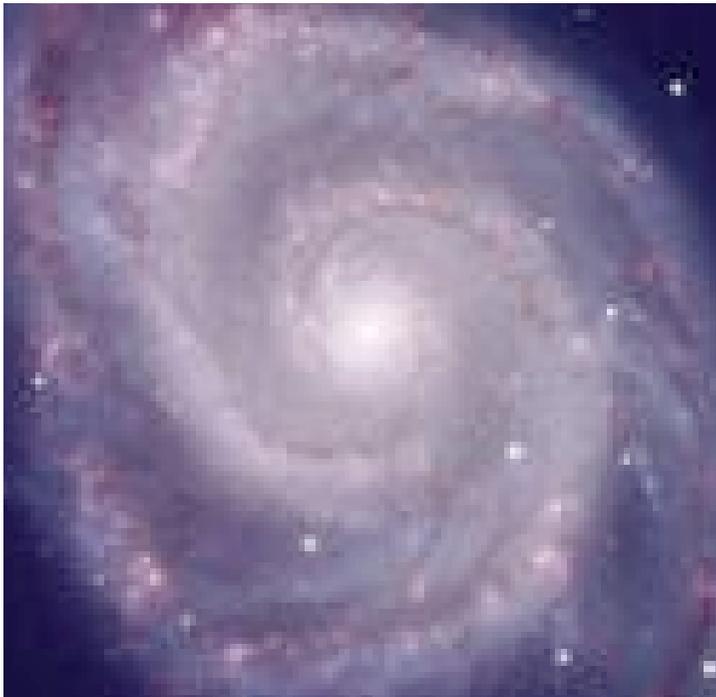
$\lambda_{\text{mfp}} \sim 10^8 \text{ km}$ ($\sim 1 \text{ AU}$)
 $\rho_i \sim 10^2 \text{ km}$



Plasma Turbulence Extends to Collisionless Scales

Interstellar medium: “Great Power Law in the Sky”
[Armstrong *et al.* 1995, *ApJ* 443, 209]

$L \sim 10^{13}$ km (~ 100 pc)
 $\lambda_{\text{mfp}} \sim 10^7$ km
 $\rho_i \sim 10^4$ km



Plasma Turbulence Extends to Collisionless Scales

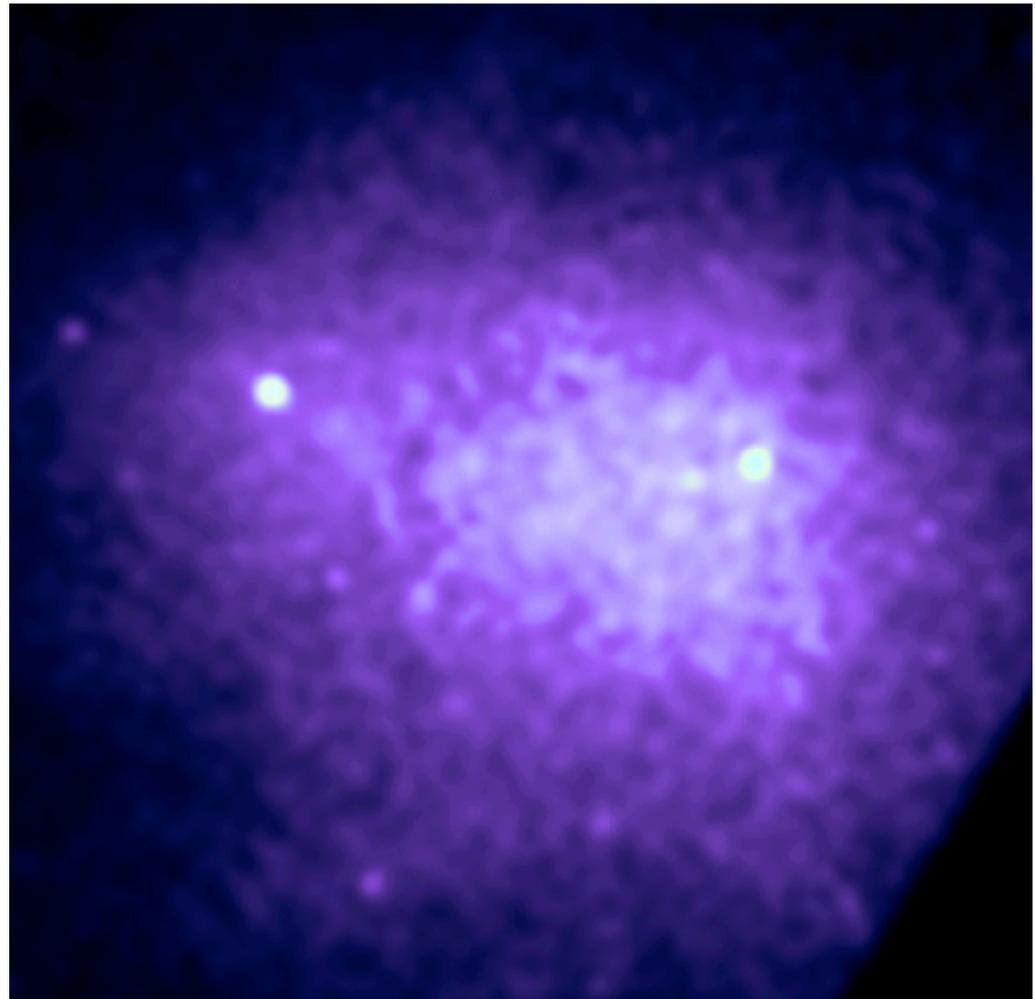
Intracluster (intergalactic) medium

[Coma cluster: Chandra X-ray,
A. Vikhlinin *et al.*/NASA/CXC/SAO]

$L \sim 10^{19}$ km (~ 1 Mpc)

$\lambda_{\text{mfp}} \sim 10^{16}$ km (~ 1 kpc)

$\rho_i \sim 10^4$ km

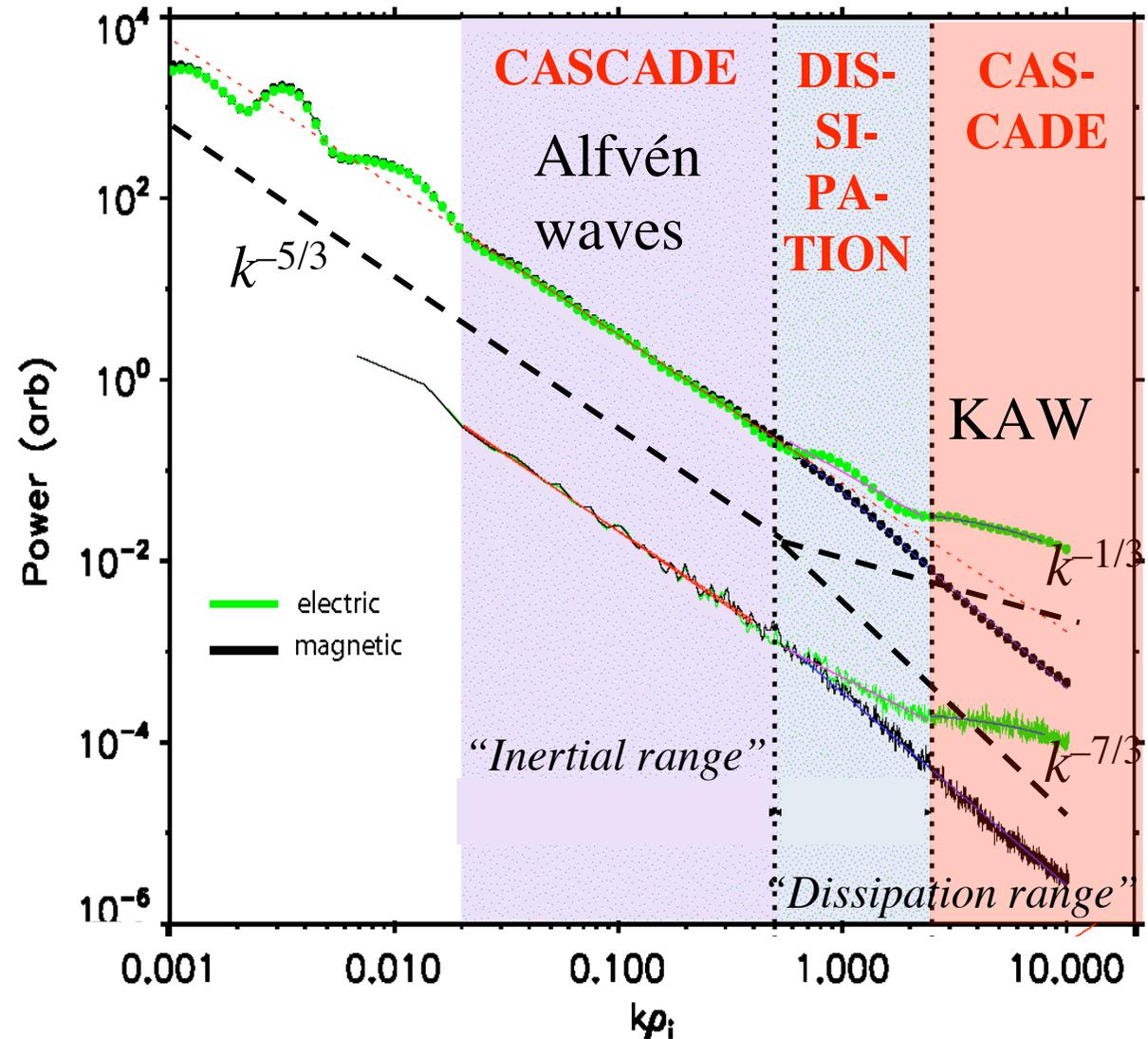


Plasma Turbulence Is Kinetic

Turbulence in the solar wind

[Bale et al. 2005, *PRL* 94, 215002]

- What is cascading in kinetic turbulence? (What is conserved?)
- Dissipation is “collisionless” (via Landau damping) How does that heat particles? (ions, electrons, minority ions)



Plasma Turbulence *Ab Initio*

$$\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla f_s + \frac{q_s}{m_s} \left(\mathbf{E} + \frac{\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}}{c} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial f_s}{\partial \mathbf{v}} = \left(\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= 4\pi \sum_s q_s n_s, & n_s &= \int d^3\mathbf{v} f_s, \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} &= \frac{4\pi}{c} (\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{j}_{\text{ext}}), & \mathbf{j} &= \sum_s q_s \int d^3\mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} f_s, \\ \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} &= -c \nabla \times \mathbf{E}, & \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Plasma Turbulence *Ab Initio*

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{m_s v^2}{2} f_s = \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \varepsilon - \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi}$$

Work done

$$\varepsilon = -(1/V) \int d^3r \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{j}_{\text{ext}}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 4\pi \sum_s q_s n_s,$$

$$n_s = \int d^3v f_s,$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} = \frac{4\pi}{c} (\mathbf{j} + \mathbf{j}_{\text{ext}}),$$

$$\mathbf{j} = \sum_s q_s \int d^3v \mathbf{v} f_s,$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = -c \nabla \times \mathbf{E}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0.$$

Plasma Turbulence *Ab Initio*

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Entropy produced:

$$\frac{dS_s}{dt} \equiv \frac{d}{dt} \left[- \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \int d^3v f_s \ln f_s \right] = - \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \int d^3v \ln f_s \left(\frac{\partial f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c \geq 0$$

Boltzmann 1872

Plasma Turbulence *Ab Initio*

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{m_s v^2}{2} f_s = \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \varepsilon - \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi}$$

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Entropy produced:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{0s} \frac{dS_s}{dt} &= \frac{d}{dt} \left[\int \frac{d^3r}{V} \int d^3v \frac{m_s v^2}{2} (F_{0s} + \delta f_s) - \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} \right] \\ &= - \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c - n_{0s} \nu_E^{ss'} (T_{0s} - T_{0s'}) \end{aligned}$$

$$f_s = F_{0s} + \delta f_s$$

$$F_{0s} = n_{0s} (\pi v_{\text{ths}}^2)^{-3/2} \exp(-v^2/v_{\text{ths}}^2)$$

$$v_{\text{ths}} = (2T_{0s}/m_s)^{1/2}$$

Plasma Turbulence *Ab Initio*

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{m_s v^2}{2} f_s = \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{j} = \varepsilon - \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi} \right] \\ = \varepsilon + \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c \end{aligned}$$

Plasma Turbulence *Ab Initio*

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Work done

$$\varepsilon = -(1/V) \int d^3r \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{j}_{\text{ext}}$$

Heating:

$$\frac{3}{2} n_{0s} \frac{dT_{0s}}{dt} = - \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c - n_{0s} \nu_E^{ss'} (T_{0s} - T_{0s'})$$

Fluctuation energy budget:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi} \right] \\ = \varepsilon + \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c \end{aligned}$$

$-T\delta S$
energy
heating

Plasma Turbulence: Generalised Energy Cascade

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi} \right] = \varepsilon + \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

Labels in the original image:
- $\frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}}$ is labeled $-T\delta S$
- $\frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi}$ is labeled *energy*
- $\left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$ is labeled *heating*

Generalised energy = free energy of the particles + fields

Fowler 1968

Krommes & Hu 1994

Krommes 1999

Sugama et al. 1996

Hallatchek 2004

Howes et al. 2006

Schekochihin et al. 2007

Scott 2007

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$-T\delta S$
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Scott 2007

Landau damping is a redistribution between e-m fluctuation energy and (negative) perturbed entropy (free energy). It was pointed out already by Landau 1946 that δf_s does not decay: “ballistic response” $\delta f_s \propto e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{v}t}$

Plasma Turbulence: Analogous to Fluid, But...

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi} \right]$$

-TδS
energy
heating

$$= \varepsilon + \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

*small scales in 6D
phase space*

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \frac{u^2}{2} = \varepsilon - \nu \int \frac{d^3r}{V} |\nabla \mathbf{u}|^2$$

*small scales in 3D
physical space*

Plasma Turbulence: Analogous to Fluid, But...

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi} \right]$$

$-T\delta S$
energy

$$= \varepsilon + \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

heating

*small scales in 6D
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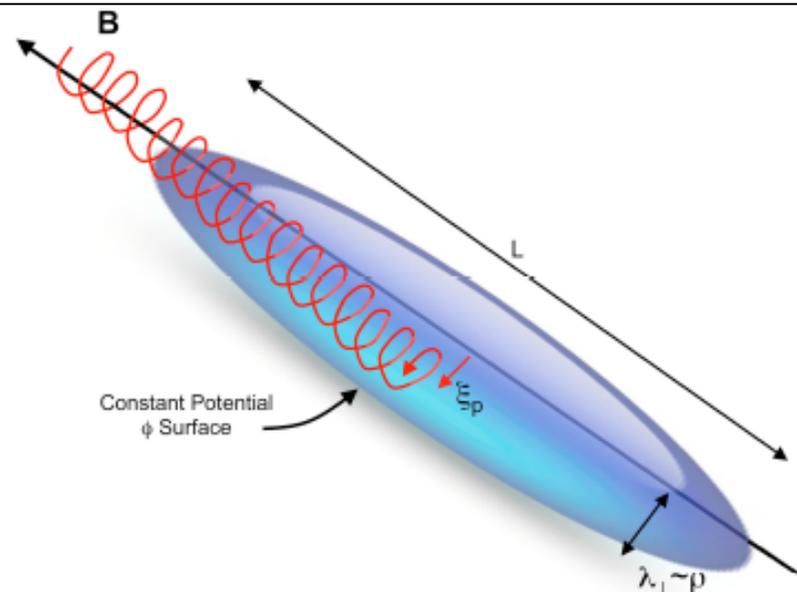
$$\nu_{ii} v_{thi}^2 \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial v} \right)^2 \sim \omega \Rightarrow \frac{\delta v}{v_{thi}} \sim \left(\frac{\nu_{ii}}{\omega} \right)^{1/2} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_{\parallel} \lambda_{mfp}}} \ll 1$$

In gyrokinetic turbulence, the velocity-space and x-space cascades are intertwined, giving rise to a single phase-space cascade

Gyrokinetics: Kinetics of Larmor Rings

$$\epsilon \sim \frac{k_{\parallel}}{k_{\perp}} \sim \frac{\omega}{\Omega_i} \sim \frac{\delta f_s}{F_{0s}}, \quad k_{\perp} \rho_i \sim 1$$

- Anisotropy
- Low frequency
- Small fluctuations
- FLR



$$\delta f_s = -q_s \varphi F_{0s} / T_{0s} + h_s(t, \mathbf{R}_s, v_{\perp}, v_{\parallel}) \quad \mathbf{R}_s = \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{v}_{\perp} \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} / \Omega_s$$

$$\frac{\partial h_s}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_s}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \chi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_s}, h_s \} = \frac{q_s F_{0s}}{T_{0s}} \frac{\partial \langle \chi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_s}}{\partial t} + \left(\frac{\partial h_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

$$\chi = \varphi - \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{A} / c, \quad \mathbf{B} = B_0 \hat{\mathbf{z}} + \delta \mathbf{B}, \quad \delta \mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$\sum_s \frac{q_s^2 \varphi}{T_{0s}} n_{0s} = \sum_s q_s \int d^3 v \langle h_s \rangle_{\mathbf{r}}$$

+ Ampère's law

Taylor & Hastie 1968
 Rutherford & Frieman 1968
 Frieman & Chen 1982

Generalised Energy in Gyrokinetics

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{E^2 + B^2}{8\pi} \right]$$

-TδS energy

$$= \varepsilon + \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \sum_s \int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial \delta f_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

heating

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Taylor & Hastie 1968

Rutherford & Frieman 1968

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+ Ampère's law

Generalised Energy in Gyrokinetics

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \int \frac{d^3r}{V} \left[\sum_s \left(\int d^3v \frac{T_{0s} \langle h_s^2 \rangle_r}{2F_{0s}} - \frac{q_s^2 \varphi^2 n_{0s}}{2T_{0s}} \right) + \frac{|\delta B|^2}{8\pi} \right]$$

-TδS energy

$$= \varepsilon + \sum_s \int d^3v \int \frac{d^3R_s}{V} \frac{T_{0s} h_s}{F_{0s}} \left(\frac{\partial h_s}{\partial t} \right)_c$$

arXiv:0704.0044

$$\delta f_s = -q_s \varphi F_{0s} / T_{0s} + h_s(t, \mathbf{R}_s, v_\perp, v_\parallel) \quad \mathbf{R}_s = \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{v}_\perp \times \hat{\mathbf{z}} / \Omega_s$$

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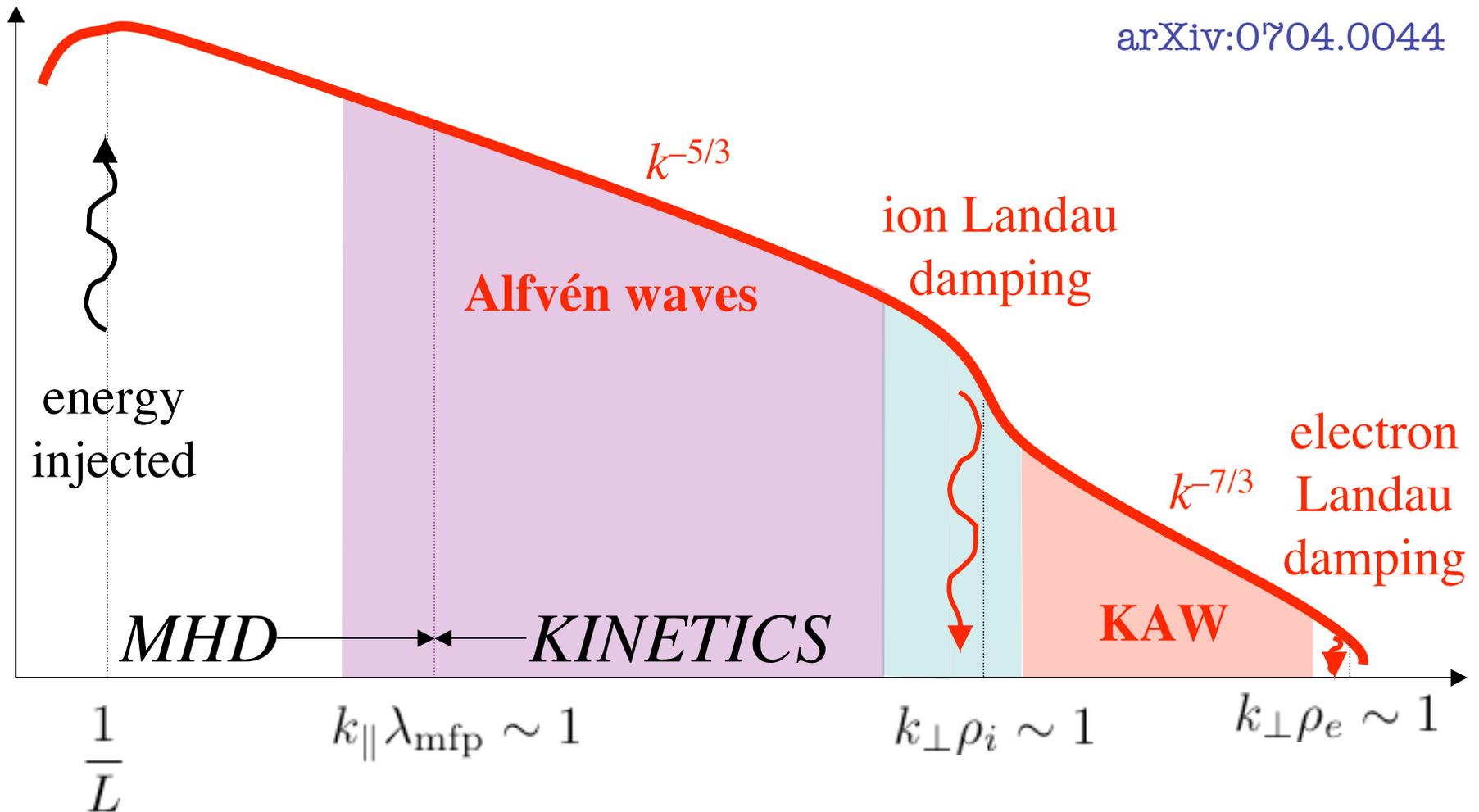
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+ Ampère's law

The Grand Kinetic Cascade

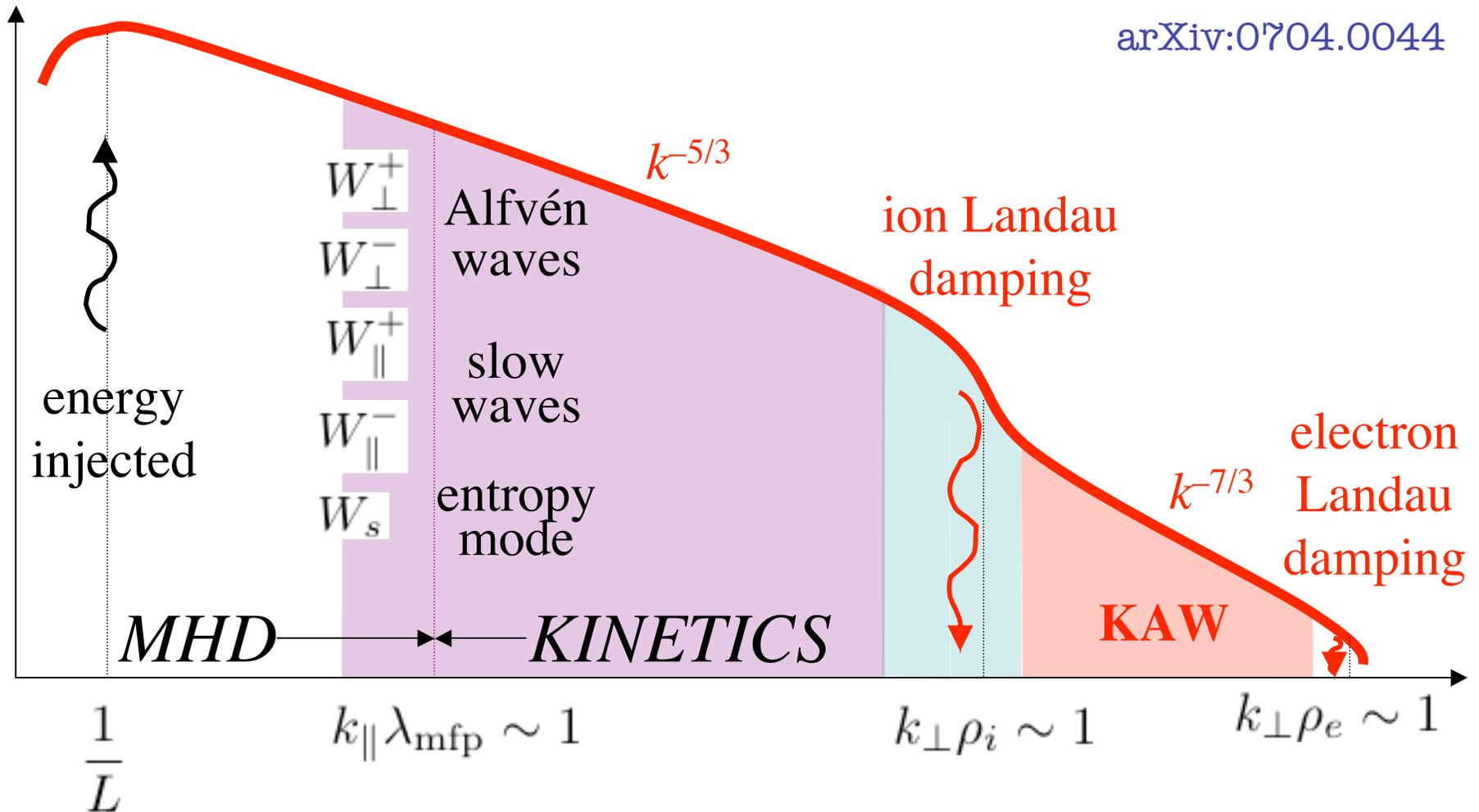
arXiv:0704.0044



$$W = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left(\sum_s \int d^3\mathbf{v} \frac{T_{0s} \delta f_s^2}{2F_{0s}} + \frac{|\delta\mathbf{B}|^2}{8\pi} \right)$$

The Grand Kinetic Cascade

arXiv:0704.0044

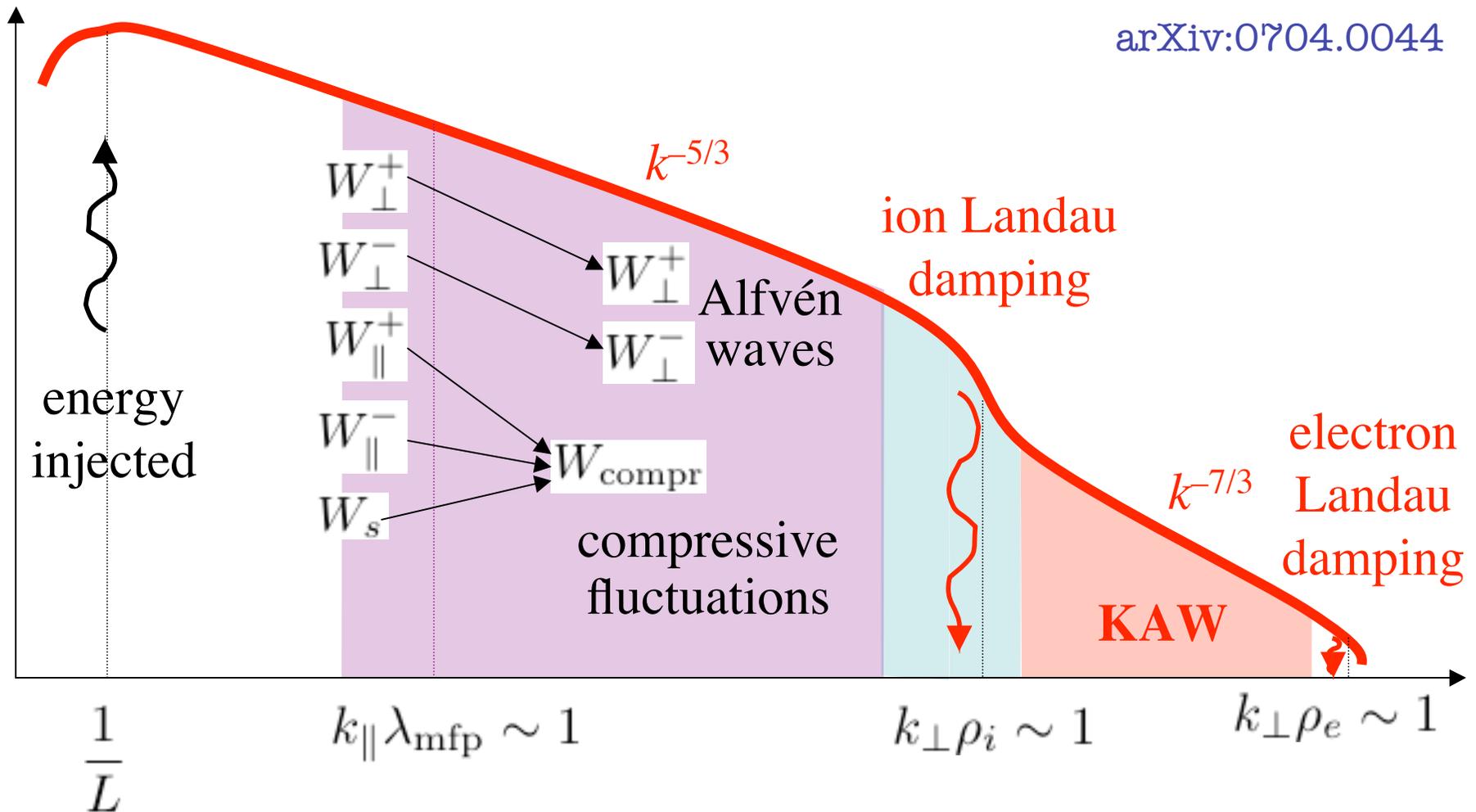


$$W = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left[\frac{m_i n_{0i}}{2} (|\nabla \zeta^+|^2 + |\nabla \zeta^-|^2) + \frac{m_i n_{0i}}{2} (|z_{\parallel}^+|^2 + |z_{\parallel}^-|^2) + \frac{3}{4} n_{0i} T_{0i} \frac{1 + Z/\tau}{5/3 + Z/\tau} \frac{\delta s^2}{s_0^2} \right]$$

Alfvén waves
slow waves
entropy fluctuations

The Grand Kinetic Cascade

arXiv:0704.0044

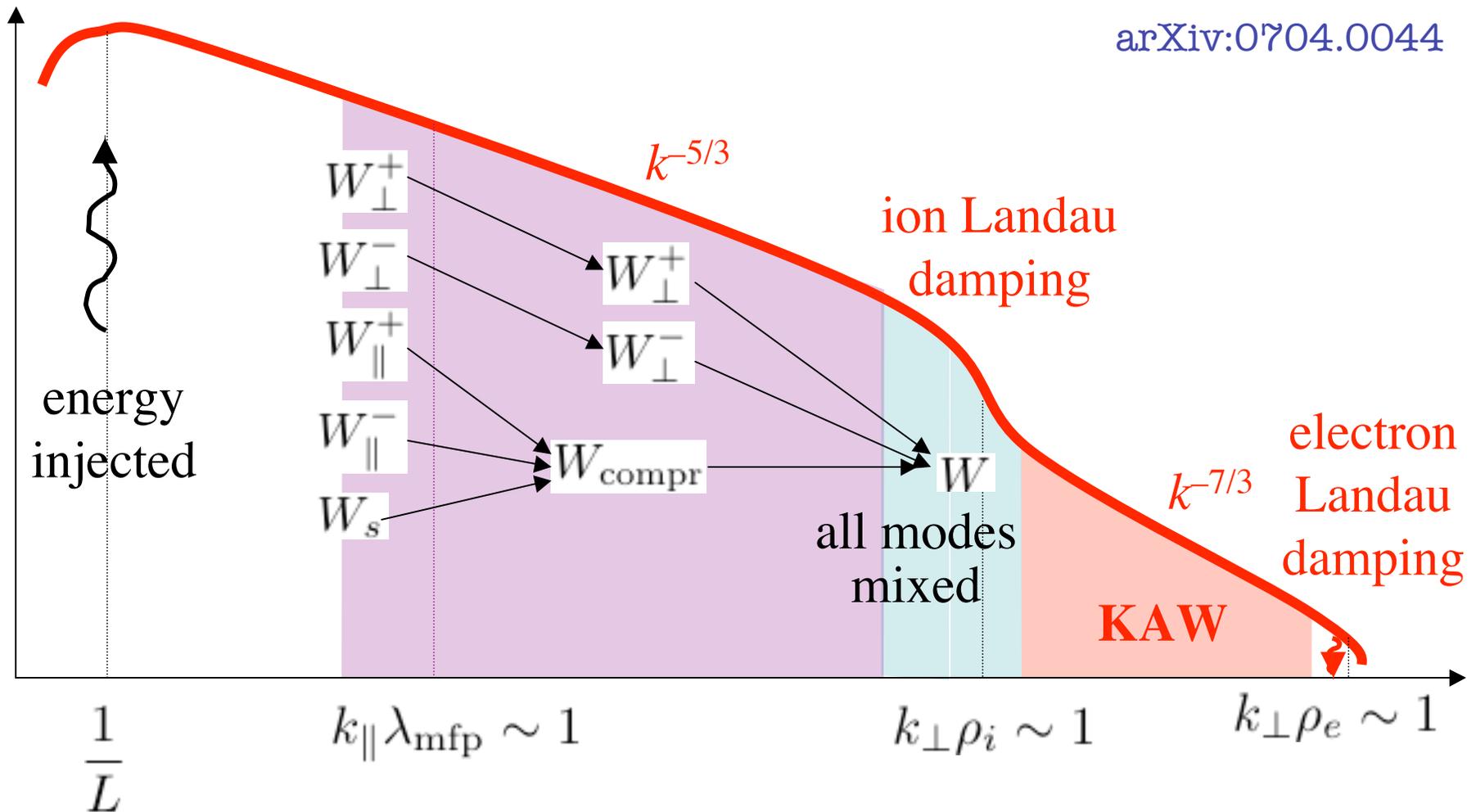


$$W = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left[\frac{m_i n_{0i}}{2} (|\nabla \zeta^+|^2 + |\nabla \zeta^-|^2) + \frac{n_{0i} T_{0i}}{2} \left(\frac{Z}{\tau} \frac{\delta n_e^2}{n_{0e}^2} + \frac{2}{\beta_i} \frac{\delta B_{\parallel}^2}{B_0^2} + \frac{1}{n_{0i}} \int d^3\mathbf{v} \frac{T_{0i} \delta \tilde{f}_i^2}{2F_{0i}} \right) \right]$$

Alfvén waves
compressive fluctuations

The Grand Kinetic Cascade

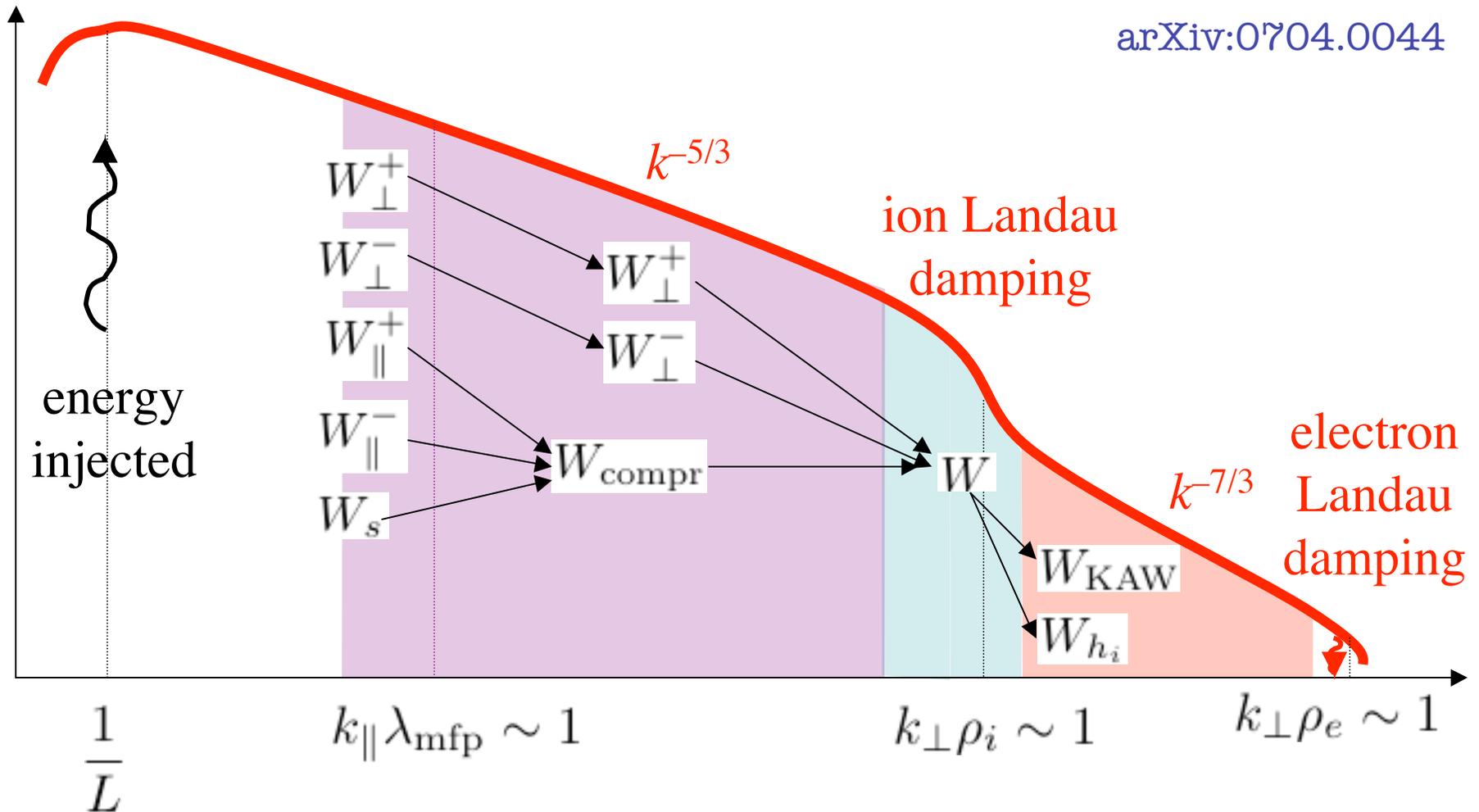
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$$W = \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \left(\int d^3 \mathbf{v} \frac{T_{0i} \delta f_i^2}{2F_{0i}} + \frac{n_{0e} T_{0e}}{2} \frac{\delta n_e^2}{n_{0e}^2} + \frac{|\delta \mathbf{B}|^2}{8\pi} \right)$$

The Grand Kinetic Cascade

arXiv:0704.0044



$$W = \int d^3\mathbf{r} \int d^3\mathbf{v} \frac{T_{0i} h_i^2}{2F_{0i}} + \int d^3\mathbf{r} \left\{ \frac{\delta B_{\perp}^2}{8\pi} + \frac{n_{0i} T_{0i}}{2} \left(1 + \frac{Z}{\tau} \right) \left[1 + \frac{\beta_i}{2} \left(1 + \frac{Z}{\tau} \right) \right] \left(\frac{Ze\phi}{T_{0i}} \right)^2 \right\}$$

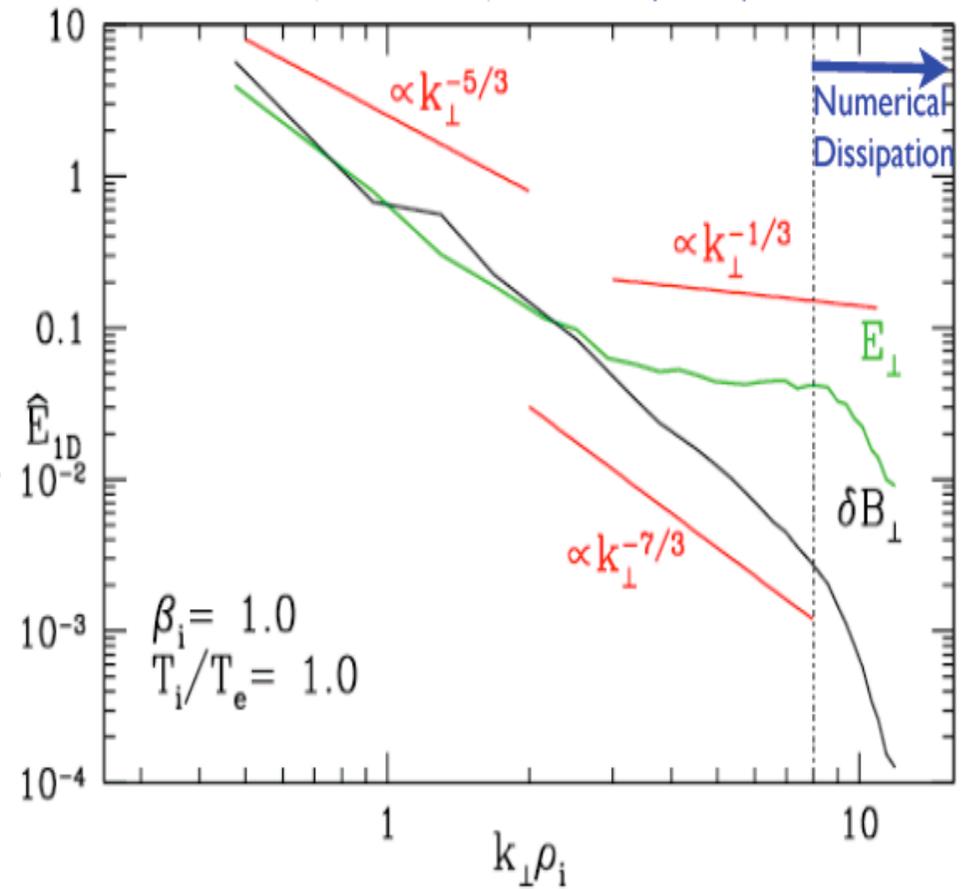
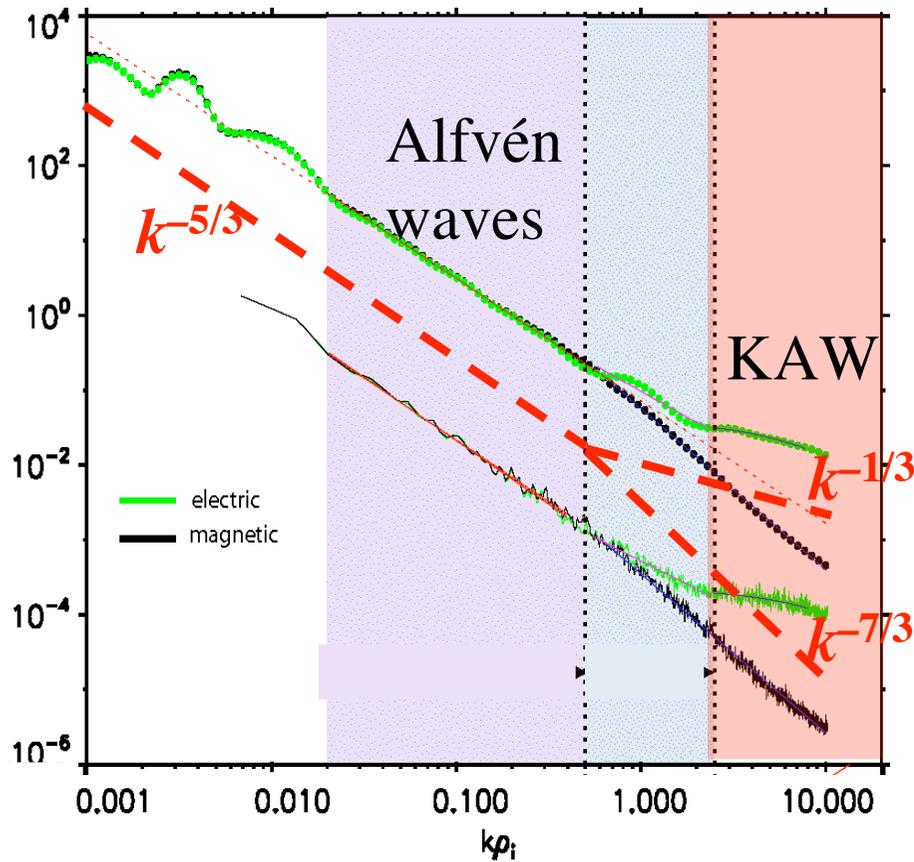
ENTROPY CASCADE

kinetic Alfvén waves

Alfvén-Wave Turbulence: GK DNS by **G. Howes**

Alfvén-wave turbulence in the solar wind
[by Bale et al. 2005, *PRL* 94, 215002]

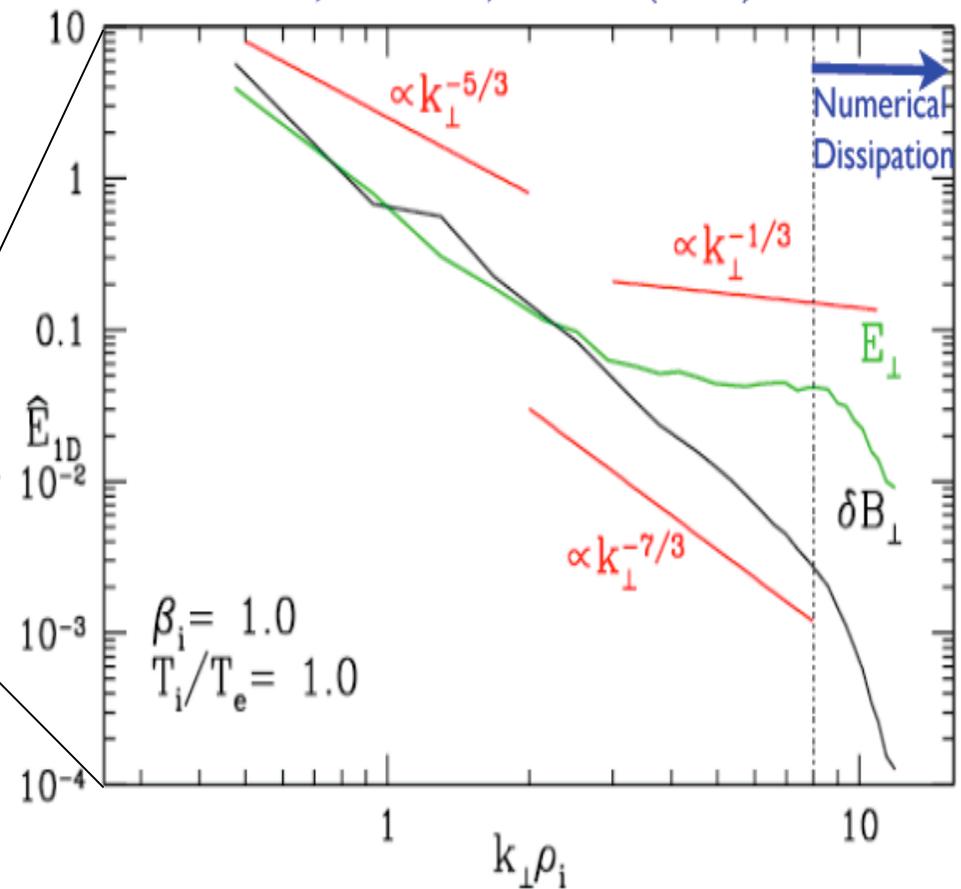
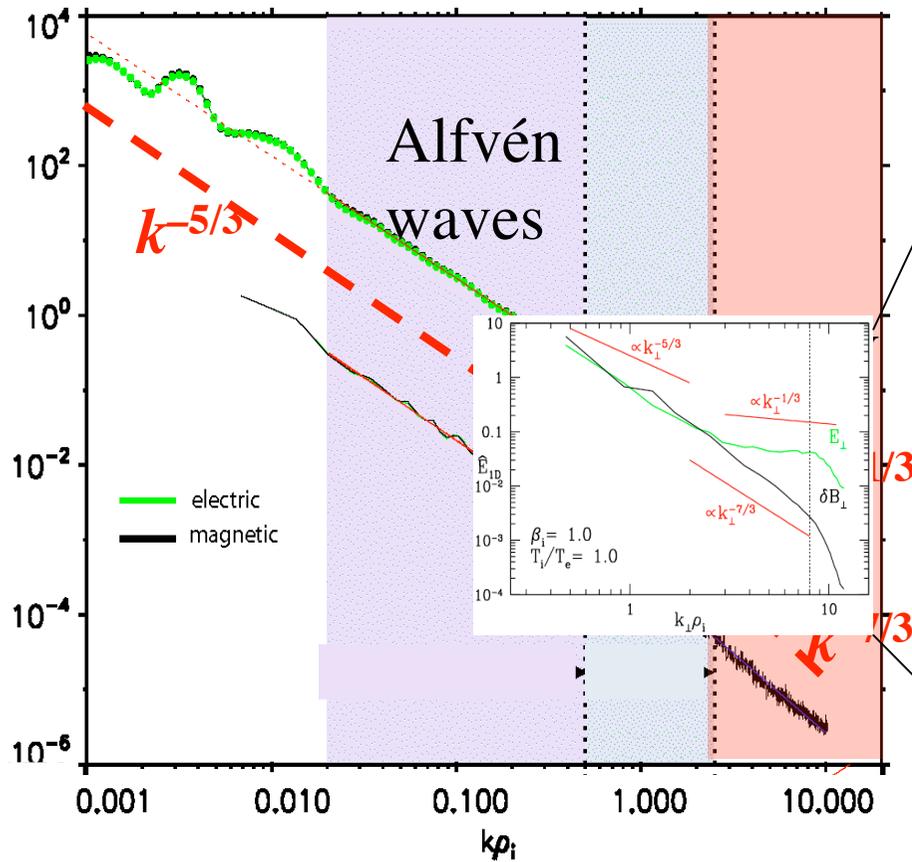
Alfvén-wave turbulence using GS2
[by Howes et al. 2008, *PRL* 100, 065004]



Alfvén-Wave Turbulence: GK DNS by **G. Howes**

Alfvén-wave turbulence in the SW
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Alfvén-wave turbulence using GS2
 [by Howes et al. 2008, *PRL* **100**, 065004]



Nonlinear Perpendicular Phase Mixing

$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}, h_i \} - \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} \right)_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{Ze \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}}{T_{0i}} F_{0i}$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{\tau}{Z} \right) \frac{Ze \varphi}{T_{0i}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \frac{1}{n_{0i}} \int d^3 \mathbf{v} J_0 \left(\frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\Omega_i} \right) h_i(\mathbf{k})$$

*Low-frequency
electrostatic
fluctuations*

↑
This comes from
gyroaveraging

NB: In fluid models (like EMHD) these fluctuations are invisible

Nonlinear Perpendicular Phase Mixing

$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}, h_i \} - \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} \right)_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{Ze \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}}{T_{0i}} F_{0i}$$

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Low-frequency electrostatic fluctuations

- Potential mixes h_i via this term, so h_i develops small (perpendicular) scales in the gyrocenter space: $k_{\perp} \rho_i \gg 1$

Nonlinear Perpendicular Phase Mixing

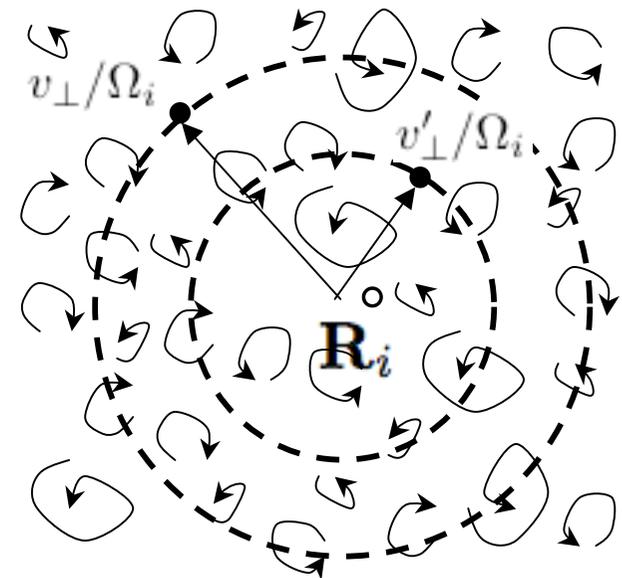
$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}, h_i \} - \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} \right)_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{Ze \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}}{T_{0i}} F_{0i}$$

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*Low-frequency
electrostatic
fluctuations*

- Potential mixes h_s via this term, so h_s develops small (perpendicular) scales in the gyrocenter space: $k_{\perp} \rho_i \gg 1$
- Two values of the gyroaveraged potential $\langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}(\mathbf{v})$ and $\langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}(\mathbf{v}')$ come from spatially decorrelated fluctuations if

$$\frac{v_{\perp}}{\Omega_i} - \frac{v'_{\perp}}{\Omega_i} \sim \frac{1}{k_{\perp}} \Rightarrow \frac{\delta v_{\perp}}{v_{\text{th}i}} \sim \frac{1}{k_{\perp} \rho_i}$$



[The perpendicular nonlinear phase-mixing mechanism was anticipated in the work of Dorland & Hammett 1993]

Entropy Cascade

$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}, h_i \} - \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} \right)_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{Ze \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}}{T_{0i}} F_{0i}$$

Low-frequency electrostatic fluctuations

$$\left(1 + \frac{\tau}{Z} \right) \frac{Ze \varphi}{T_{0i}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \frac{1}{n_{0i}} \int d^3 \mathbf{v} J_0 \left(\frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\Omega_i} \right) h_i(\mathbf{k})$$

- Electrostatic fluctuations come from ion-entropy fluctuations:

$$\frac{Ze \varphi(\mathbf{k})}{T_{0i}} \sim \frac{v_{\text{thi}}^3}{n_{0i}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_{\perp} \rho_i}} \left(\frac{\delta v_{\perp}}{v_{\text{thi}}} \right)^{1/2} h_i(\mathbf{k}) \sim \frac{v_{\text{thi}}^3}{n_{0i}} \frac{h_i(\mathbf{k})}{k_{\perp} \rho_i}$$

- Entropy is conserved, so use **const-flux argument**:

$$\frac{m_i v_{\text{thi}}^8}{n_{0i}} \frac{h_{i\lambda}^2}{\tau_{\lambda}} \sim \varepsilon$$

- Nonlinear decorrelation time:

$$\tau_{\lambda} \sim \left(\frac{\rho_i}{\lambda} \right)^{1/2} \frac{\lambda^2}{c \varphi_{\lambda} / B_0}$$

Entropy Cascade

$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}, h_i \} - \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} \right)_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{Ze \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}}{T_{0i}} F_{0i}$$

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$$\left(1 + \frac{\tau}{Z} \right) \frac{Ze \varphi}{T_{0i}} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \frac{1}{n_{0i}} \int d^3 \mathbf{v} J_0 \left(\frac{k_{\perp} v_{\perp}}{\Omega_i} \right) h_i(\mathbf{k})$$

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$$c \varphi_{\lambda} / B_0 \sim v_{\text{thi}}^4 h_{i\lambda} \lambda / n_{0i}$$

- Nonlinear decorrelation time:

$$\tau_{\lambda} \sim \left(\frac{\rho_i}{\lambda} \right)^{1/2} \frac{\lambda^2}{c \varphi_{\lambda} / B_0} \sim \frac{\rho_i^{1/2} \lambda^{1/2} n_{0i}}{v_{\text{thi}}^4 h_{i\lambda}}$$

Entropy Cascade

$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \frac{c}{B_0} \{ \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}, h_i \} - \left(\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} \right)_c = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{Ze \langle \varphi \rangle_{\mathbf{R}_i}}{T_{0i}} F_{0i}$$

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*Low-frequency
electrostatic
fluctuations*

We get the following set of scaling relations:

$$\frac{Ze \varphi_{\lambda}}{T_{0i}} \sim \frac{\lambda^{7/6}}{\rho_i^{5/6} l_0^{1/3}} \quad l_0 = m_i n_{0i} v_{\text{thi}}^3 / \varepsilon$$

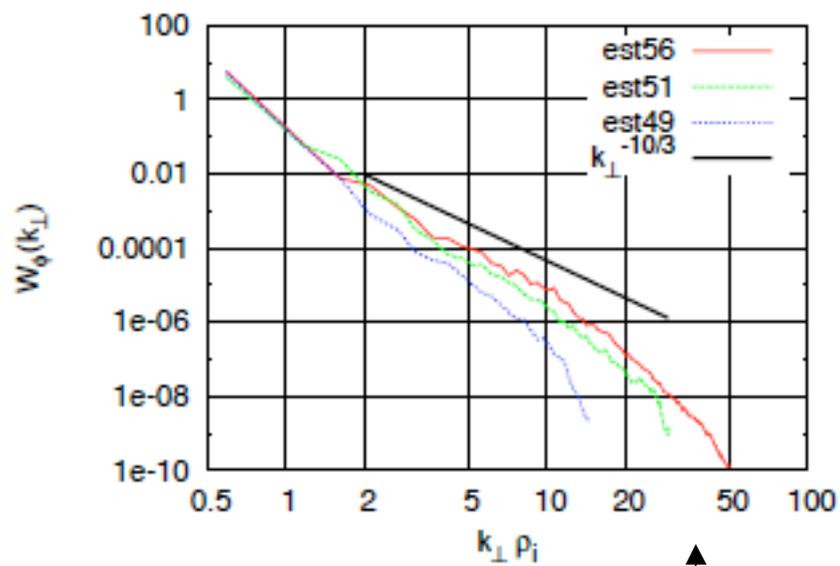
$$\Rightarrow \text{spectrum} \sim k_{\perp}^{-10/3}$$

$$h_{i\lambda} \sim \frac{n_{0i} \rho_i^{1/6} \lambda^{1/6}}{v_{\text{thi}}^3 l_0^{1/3}}$$

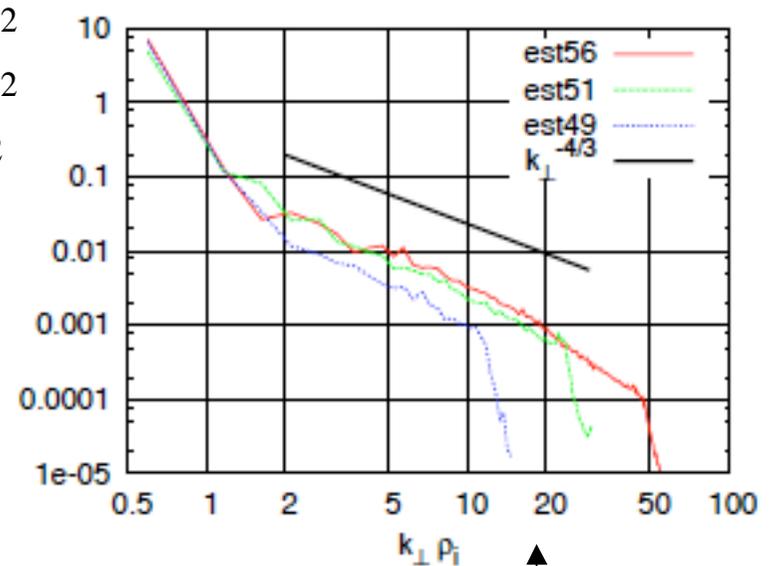
$$\Rightarrow \text{spectrum} \sim k_{\perp}^{-4/3}$$

$$\tau_{\lambda} \sim \frac{l_0^{1/3} \rho_i^{1/3} \lambda^{1/3}}{v_{\text{thi}}}$$

Entropy Cascade: GK 4D DNS by **T. Tatsuno**



256²×64²
 128²×32²
 64²×16²



$$\frac{Ze\varphi_\lambda}{T_{0i}} \sim \frac{\lambda^{7/6}}{\rho_i^{5/6} l_0^{1/3}} \quad l_0 = m_i n_{0i} v_{thi}^3 / \varepsilon$$

$$h_{i\lambda} \sim \frac{n_{0i} \rho_i^{1/6} \lambda^{1/6}}{v_{thi}^3 l_0^{1/3}}$$

$$\tau_\lambda \sim \frac{l_0^{1/3} \rho_i^{1/3} \lambda^{1/3}}{v_{thi}}$$

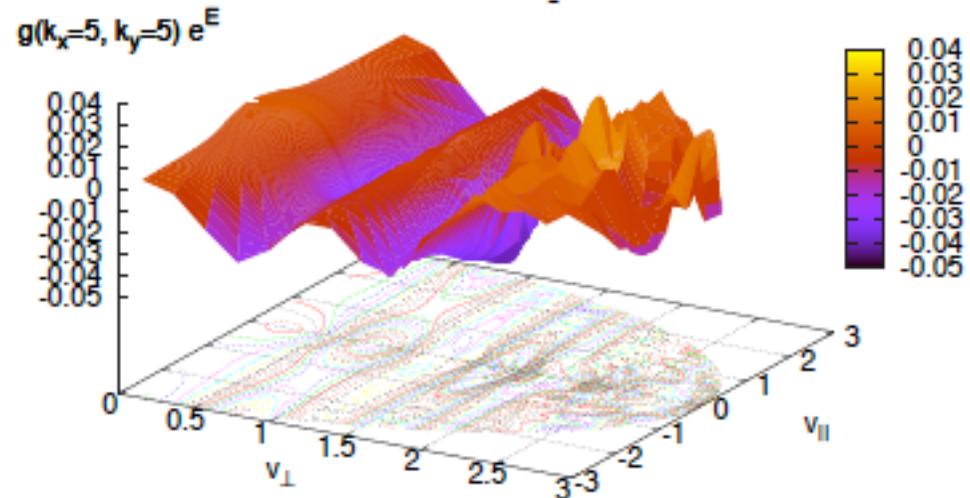
⇒ spectrum $\sim k_\perp^{-10/3}$

⇒ spectrum $\sim k_\perp^{-4/3}$

Entropy Cascade: GK 4D DNS by **T. Tatsuno**

Distribution function develops small-scale structure in velocity space

(**G. Plunk** has developed v -space spectral formalism to diagnose that: work in progress)



$$\frac{Ze\varphi_{\lambda}}{T_{0i}} \sim \frac{\lambda^{7/6}}{\rho_i^{5/6} l_0^{1/3}} \quad l_0 = m_i n_{0i} v_{thi}^3 / \varepsilon$$

$$h_{i\lambda} \sim \frac{n_{0i} \rho_i^{1/6} \lambda^{1/6}}{v_{thi}^3 l_0^{1/3}}$$

$$\tau_{\lambda} \sim \frac{l_0^{1/3} \rho_i^{1/3} \lambda^{1/3}}{v_{thi}}$$

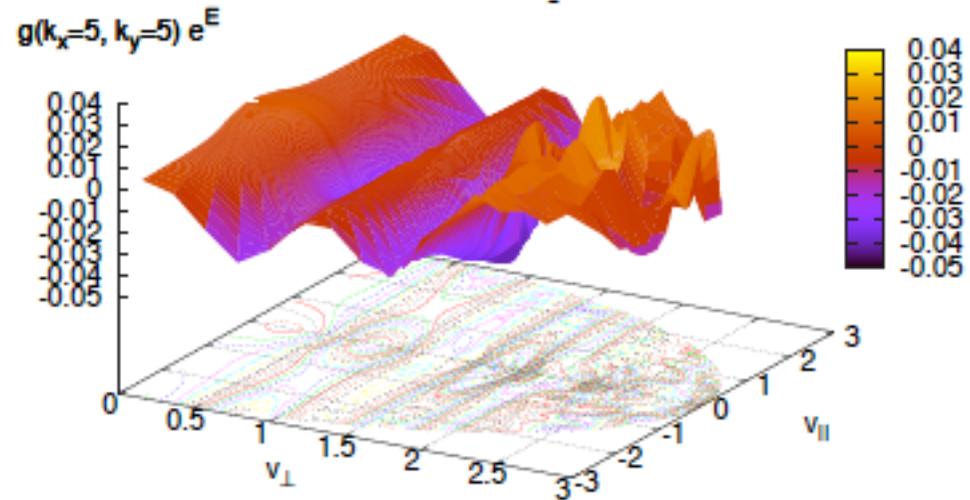
$$\Rightarrow \text{spectrum} \sim k_{\perp}^{-10/3}$$

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Phase-Space Cutoff

Distribution function develops small-scale structure in velocity space

(G. Plunk has developed v -space spectral formalism to diagnose that: work in progress)



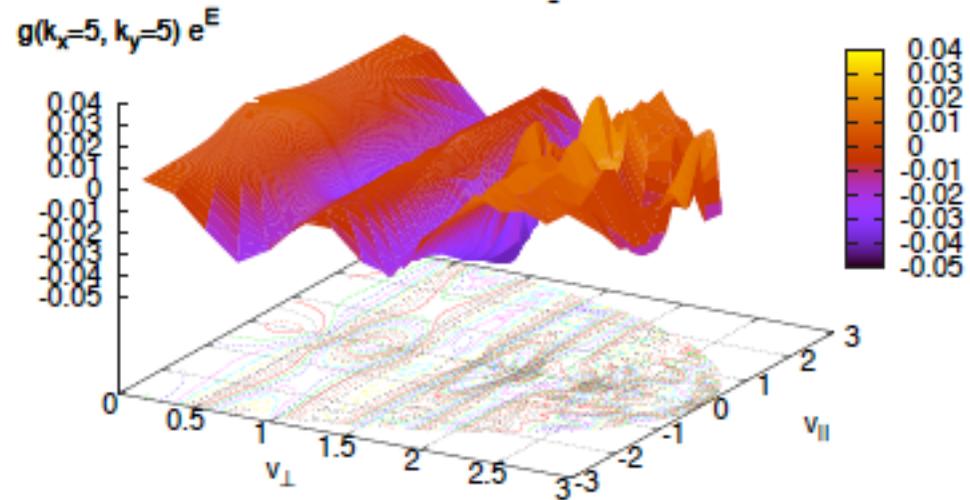
$$\frac{\delta v_{\perp}}{v_{thi}} \sim \left(\frac{v_{ii}}{\omega} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\tau_{\lambda} \sim \frac{l_0^{1/3} \rho_i^{1/3} \lambda^{1/3}}{v_{thi}}$$

Phase-Space Cutoff

Distribution function develops small-scale structure in velocity space

(G. Plunk has developed v -space spectral formalism to diagnose that: work in progress)



$$\frac{\delta v_{\perp c}}{v_{thi}} \sim \frac{1}{k_{\perp c} \rho_i} \sim (v_{ii} \tau_{\rho_i})^{3/5} \sim \frac{l_0^{1/5} \rho_i^{2/5}}{\lambda_{mfp}^{3/5}}$$

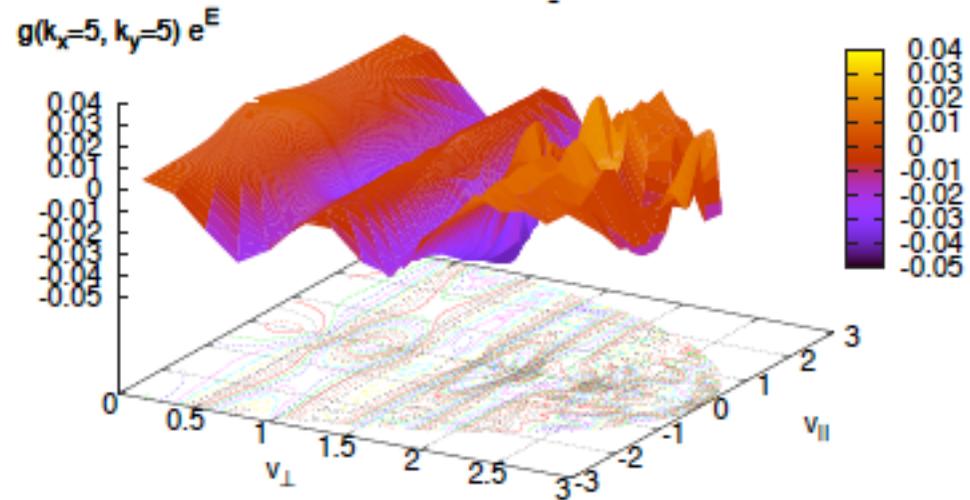
$\tau_{\rho_i} \sim (m_i n_{0i} \rho_i^2 / \varepsilon)^{1/3}$ characteristic time at the ion gyroscale

$$l_0 = m_i n_{0i} v_{thi}^3 / \varepsilon$$

Phase-Space Cutoff

Distribution function develops small-scale structure in velocity space

(G. Plunk has developed v -space spectral formalism to diagnose that: work in progress)



$$\frac{\delta v_{\perp c}}{v_{thi}} \sim \frac{1}{k_{\perp c} \rho_i} \sim \mathbf{Do}^{3/5}$$

x - and v -space resolution are related

$$Do = \nu_{ii} \tau_{\rho_i} \quad \tau_{\rho_i} \sim (m_i n_{0i} \rho_i^2 / \varepsilon)^{1/3} \quad \text{characteristic time at the ion gyroscale}$$

Dorland Number

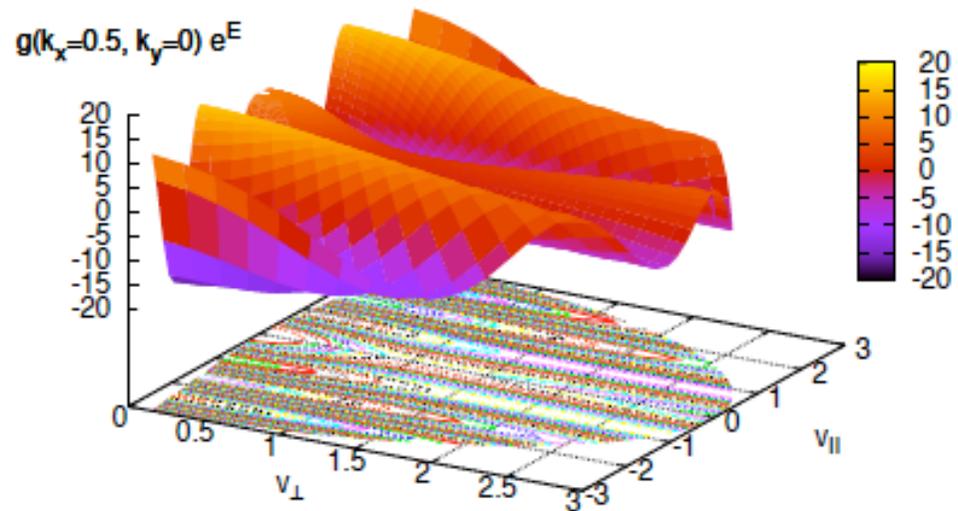
cf. $k_c L \sim Re^{3/4}$ in Kolmogorov fluid turbulence

Linear Parallel Phase Mixing

Parallel phase mixing is due to the “ballistic response”:

$$\frac{\partial h_i}{\partial t} + v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial z} + \dots = 0$$

$$h_i \propto e^{ik_{\parallel} v_{\parallel} t}$$



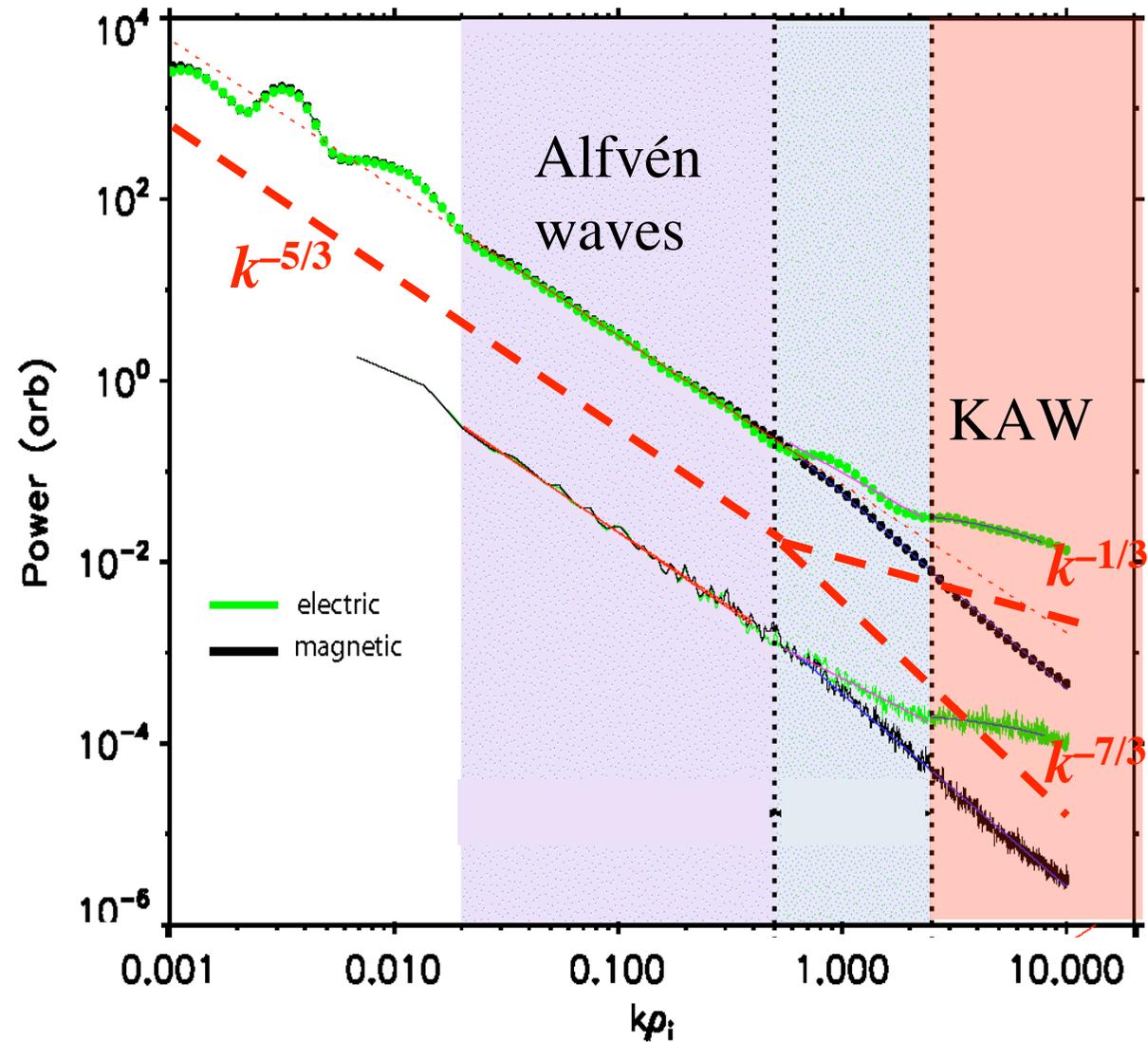
$$\frac{\delta v_{\parallel}}{v_{thi}} \sim \frac{1}{k_{\parallel} v_{thi} t} \sim 1$$

after $t \sim \tau_{\lambda}$

if linear propagation time \sim nonlinear decorrelation time
 (“critical balance”)

So the nonlinear perpendicular phase mixing dominates

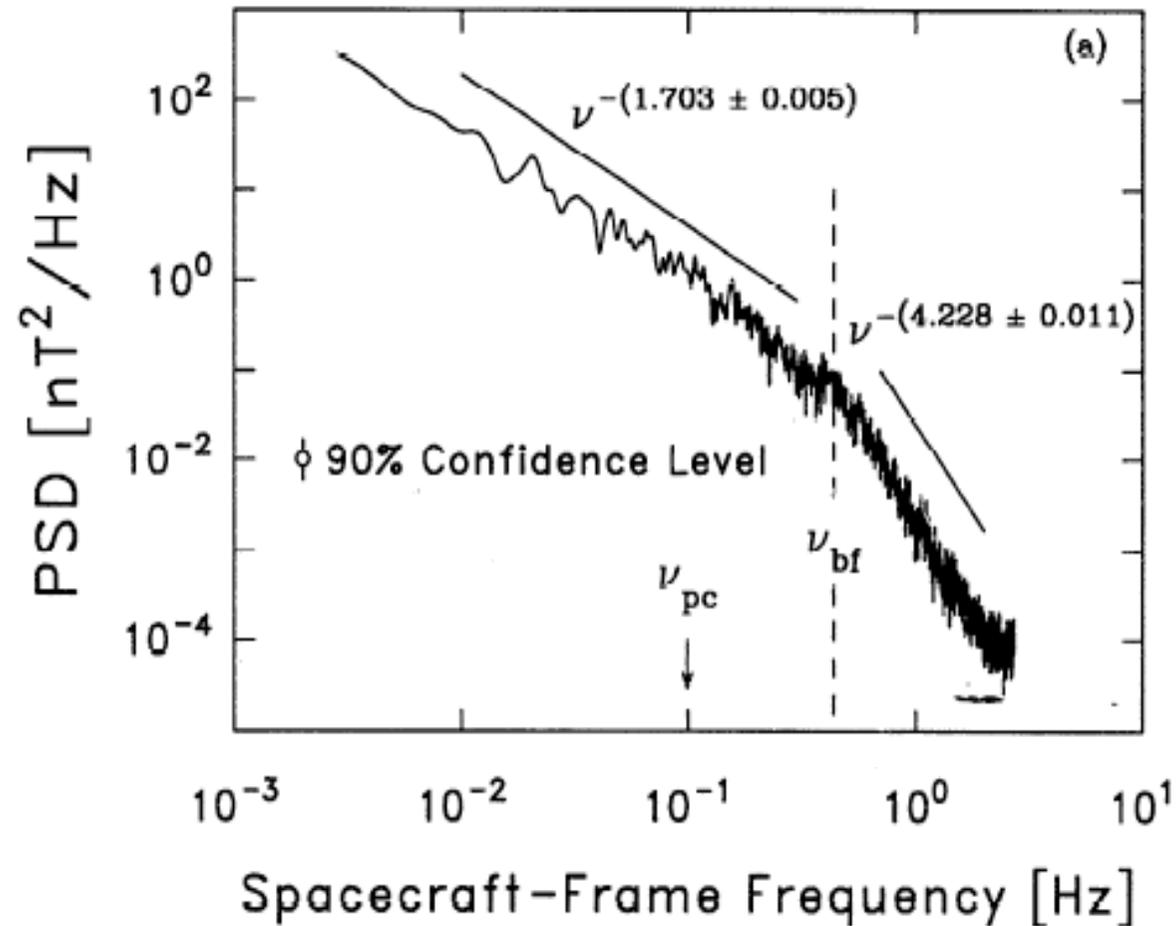
Dissipation Range of the SW: KAW?



Magnetic- and electric-field fluctuations in the solar wind at ~ 1 AU (19 Feb. 2002)

[Bale *et al.* 2005, *PRL* **94**, 215002]

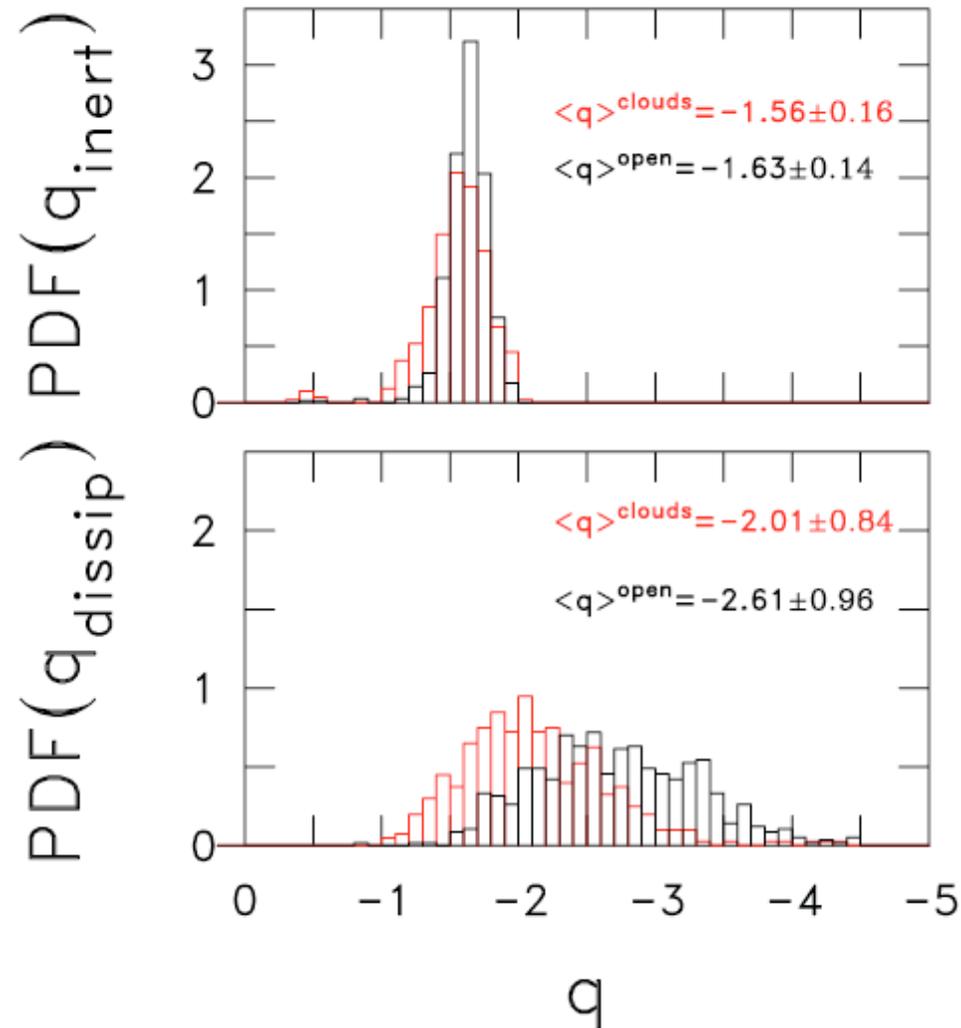
Dissipation Range of the SW: No KAW?



Magnetic-field fluctuations in the solar wind at ~ 1 AU (19 Feb. 2002)

[Leamon *et al.* 1998, *JGR* 103, 4775]

Dissipation Range of the SW: ???



Spectral indices in the inertial and dissipation ranges

[Smith *et al.* 2006, *ApJ* **645**, L85]

Dissipation Range With and Without KAW

With KAW

$$E_E(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-1/3}$$

$$E_B(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-7/3}$$

$$E_n(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-7/3}$$

High-frequency,
electromagnetic,
fluid-like
(EMHD)

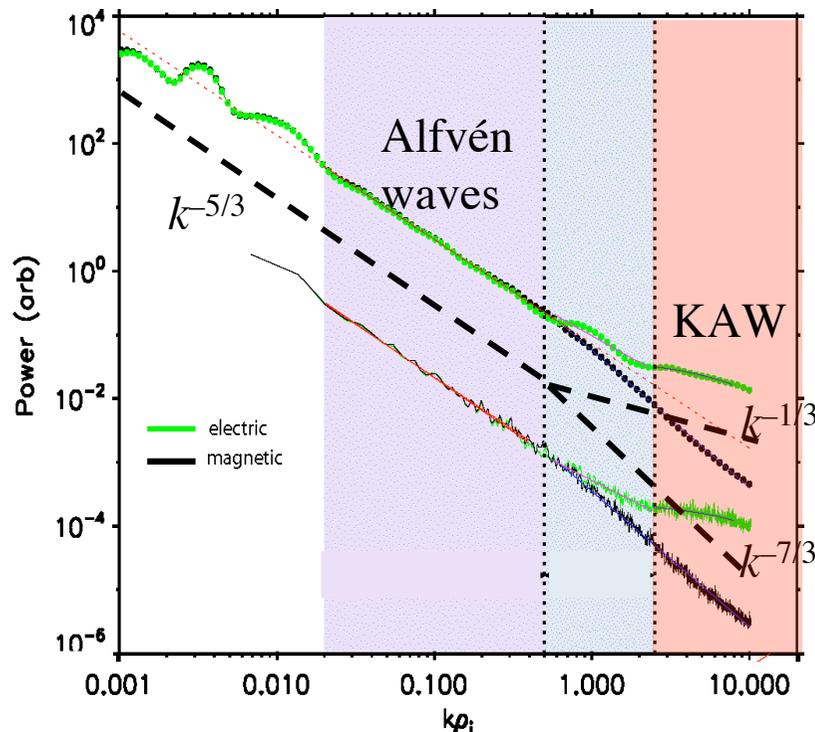
Without KAW

$$E_E(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-4/3}$$

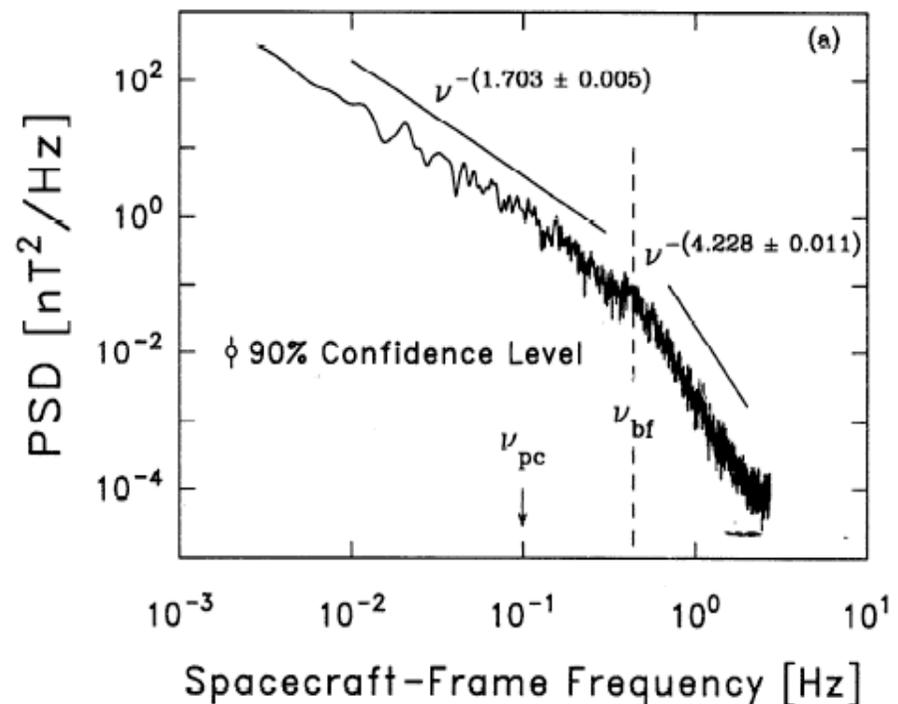
$$E_B(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-16/3}$$

$$E_n(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-10/3}$$

Low-frequency,
electrostatic,
purely kinetic
(GK ions)



[Bale *et al.* 2005, *PRL* **94**, 215002]



[Leamon *et al.* 1998, *JGR* **103**, 4775]

Dissipation Range With and Without KAW

With KAW

$$E_E(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-1/3}$$

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High-frequency,
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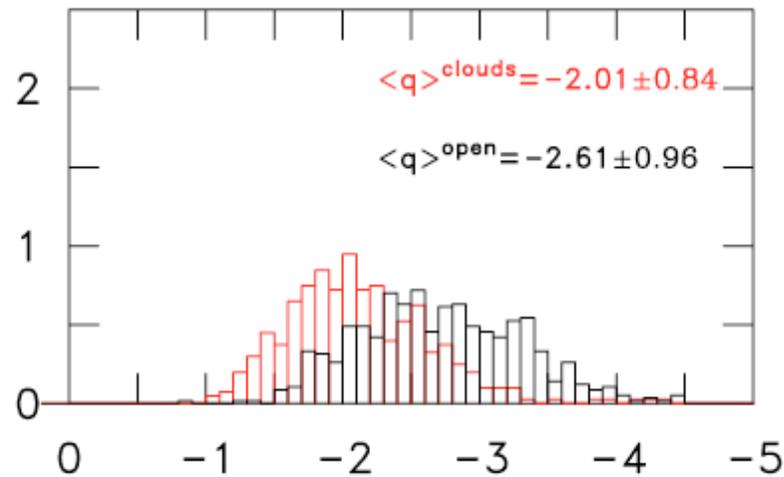
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Dissipation Range of the Solar Wind

With KAW

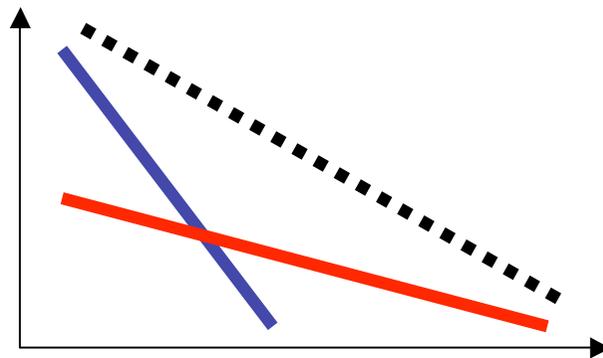
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$$E_n(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-7/3}$$



[Smith *et al.* 2006, *ApJ* **645**, L85]

Without KAW

$$E_E(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-4/3}$$
$$E_B(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-16/3}$$
$$E_n(k_{\perp}) \propto k_{\perp}^{-10/3}$$



Variable spectral index in the dissipation range may be due to superposition of KAW and no KAW cascades

Conclusions

- **Kinetic turbulence is a generalised energy cascade in phase space towards collisional scales**
- In gyrokinetic turbulence, a fast **nonlinear perpendicular phase-mixing mechanism** allows small scale structure to emerge simultaneously in physical and velocity space
- This takes the form an **entropy cascade**, giving rise to power law spectra of electrostatic fluctuations and fluctuations of the distribution function
- This cascade has **observable signatures** — e.g., in the dissipation range of the solar wind turbulence

Details are in these preprints: [arXiv:0704.0044](https://arxiv.org/abs/0704.0044), [0806.1069](https://arxiv.org/abs/0806.1069)

Conclusions

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- In gyrokinetic turbulence, a fast nonlinear perpendicular phase-mixing mechanism allows small scale structure to emerge simultaneously in physical and velocity space
- This takes the form an entropy cascade, giving rise to power law spectra of electrostatic fluctuations and fluctuations of the distribution function
- This cascade has observable signatures — e.g., in the dissipation range of the solar wind turbulence
- **Annoying practical lessons for kinetic turbulence simulations:**
 - pay attention to **velocity-space resolution!**
 - need physical model for **collisions!**

[see poster by Ian Abel & Michael Barnes]

Details are in these preprints: [arXiv:0704.0044](https://arxiv.org/abs/0704.0044), [0806.1069](https://arxiv.org/abs/0806.1069)