

Instabilities in liquid sodium, nitrogen, water or helium



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Experimental Observation and Characterization of the Magnetorotational Instability

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PHYSICS OF FLUIDS 19, 071701 (2007)

Inertial waves in rotating grid turbulence

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SUPERFLUID HELIUM

Visualization of quantized vortices

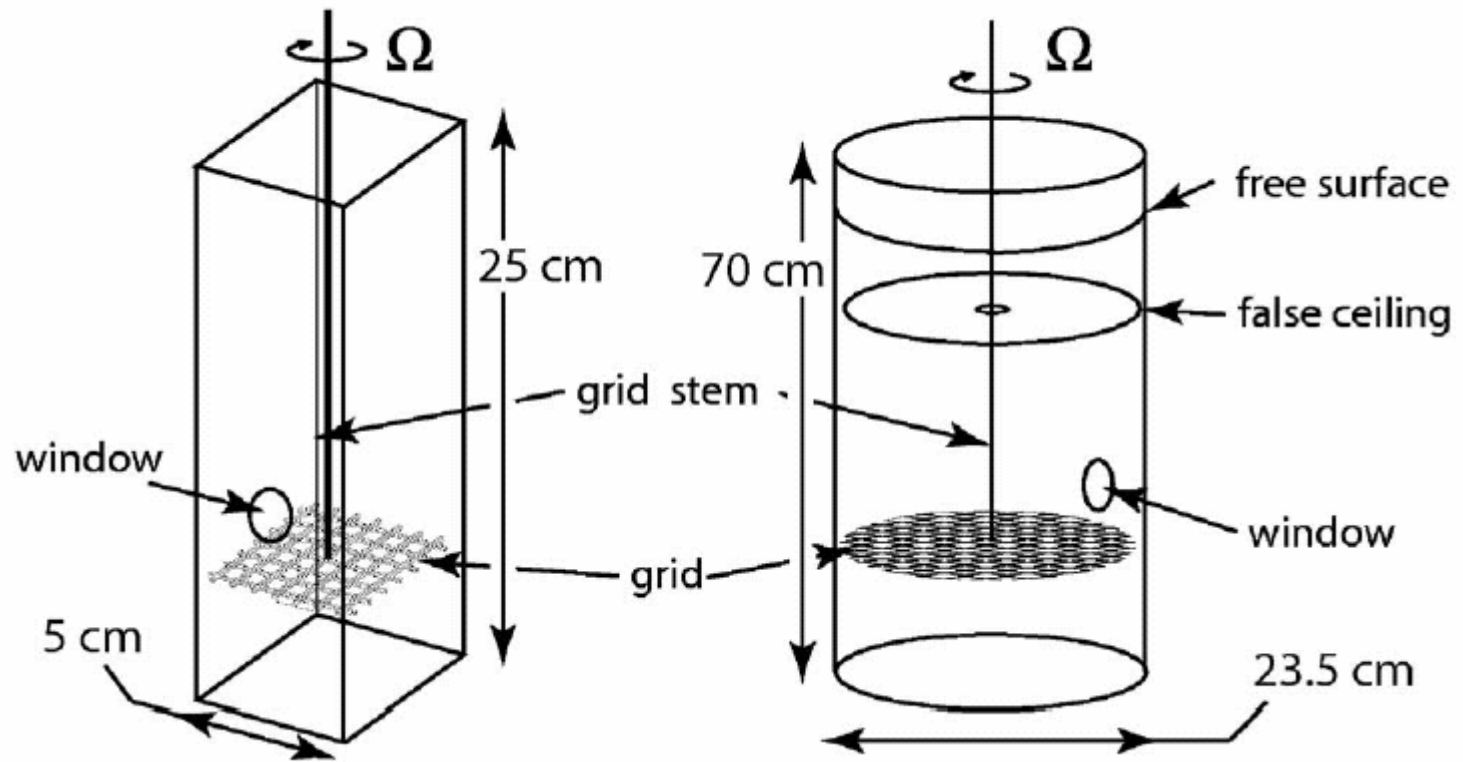
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Katepalli R. Sreenivasan*‡

Geophysical and Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics,
Vol. 101, Nos. 5–6, October–December 2007, 469–487

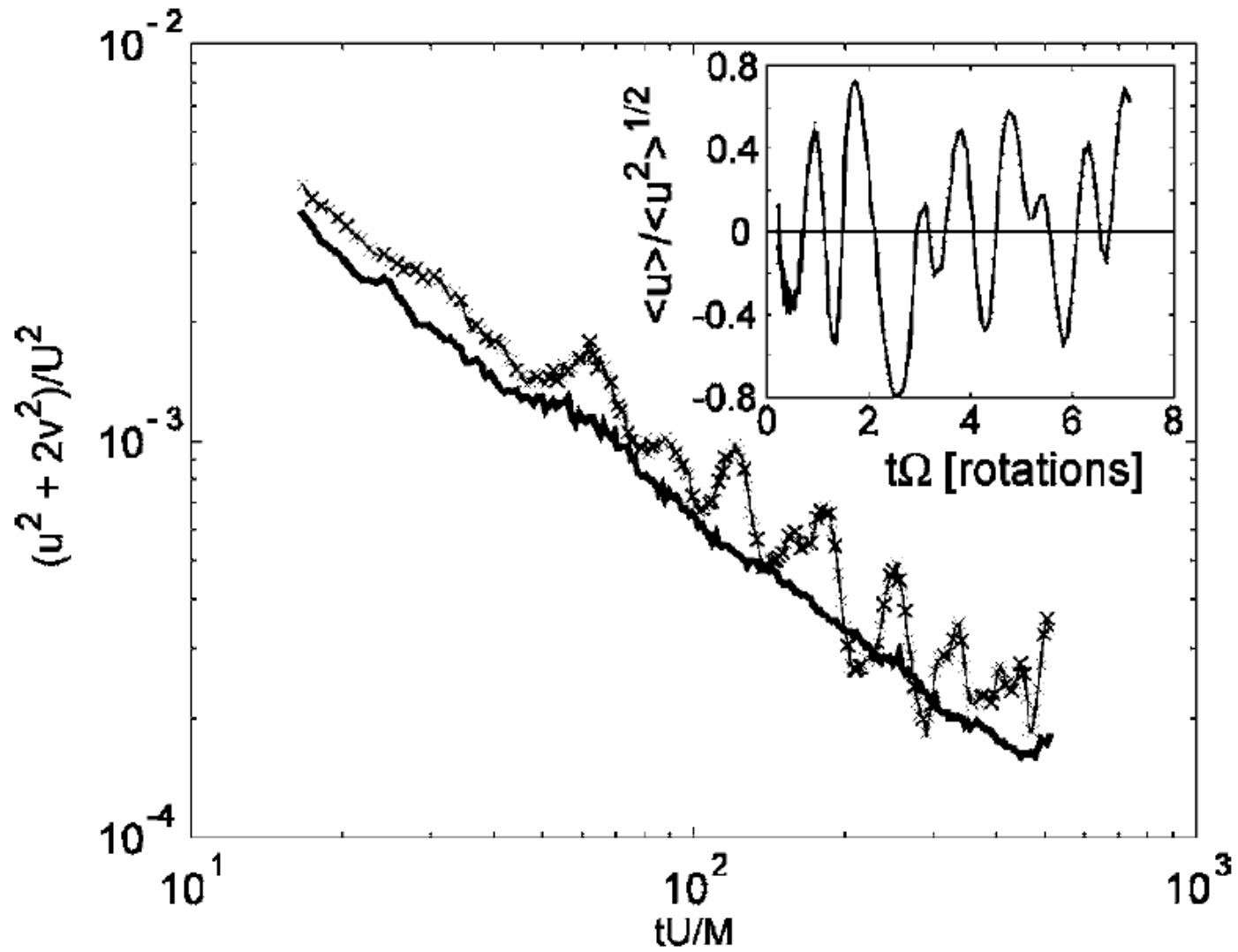
Inertial waves driven by differential rotation in a planetary geometry

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DANIEL S. ZIMMERMAN†, ANDREAS TILGNER‡ and
DANIEL P. LATHROP*§

Rotating grid turbulence



Decay of local kinetic energy



Rapidly Rotating -- Coriolis Large

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P + \nu \nabla^2 \vec{v}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P$$

$$2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P$$

$$(\vec{\Omega} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} = 0 \quad \text{Taylor-Proudman theorem}$$

$$\partial_t \vec{v} + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{v} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P$$

$$\partial_t \vec{\omega} = 2(\vec{\Omega} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} = 2\Omega_0 \partial_z \vec{v}$$

Plane wave solutions

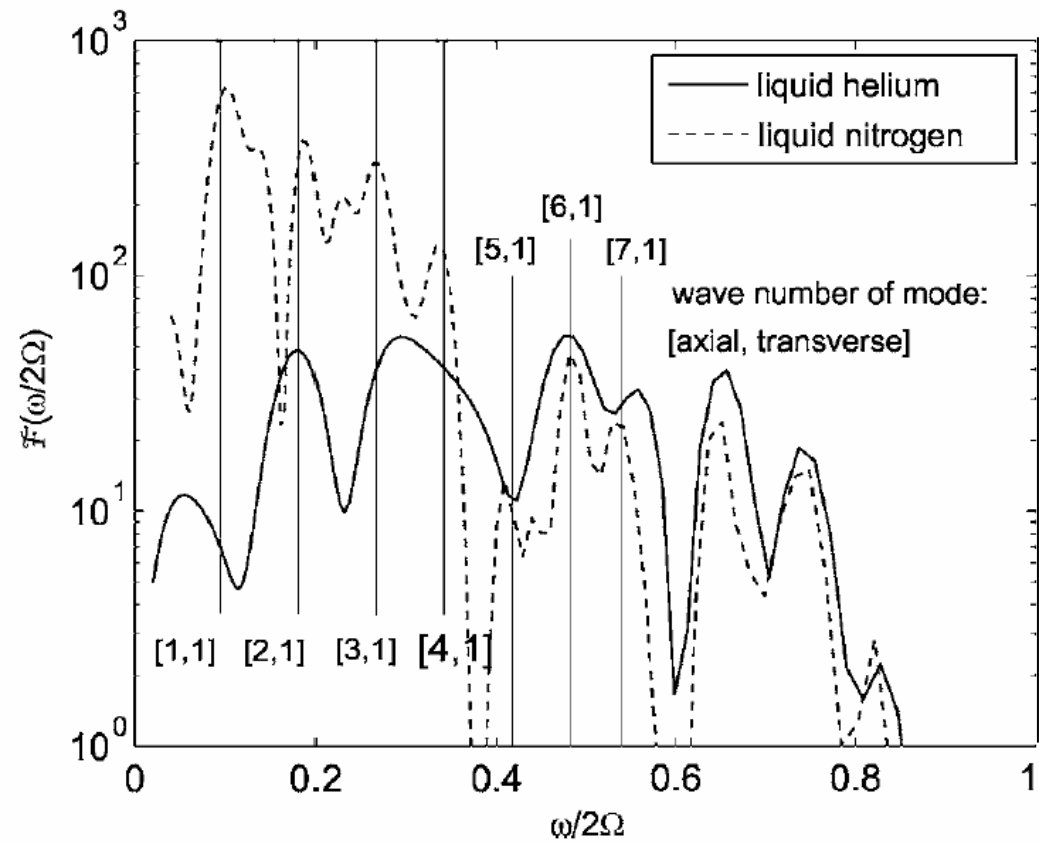
$$\vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

$$\omega = \pm 2\Omega_0 \frac{k_z}{k}$$

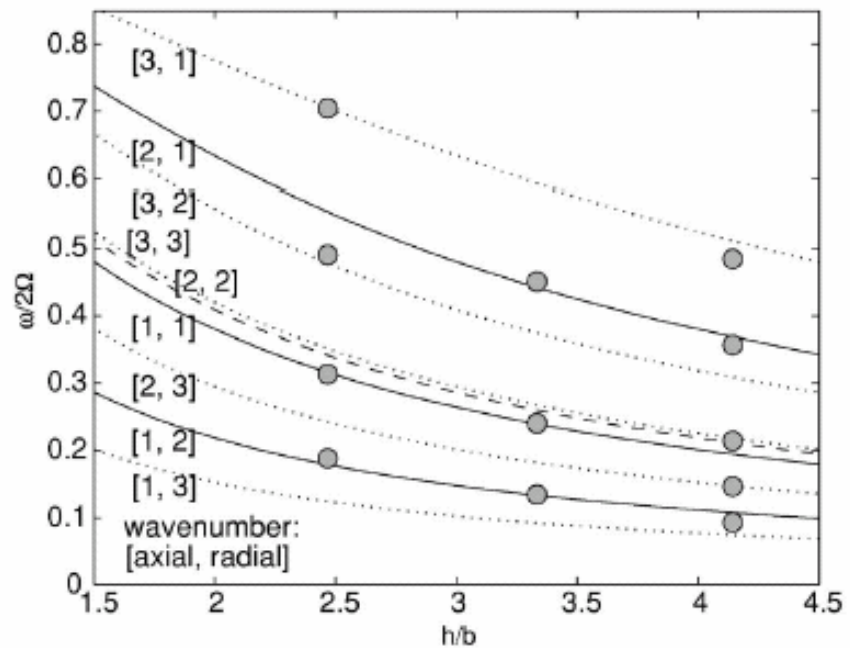
$$0 < |\omega| < 2\Omega_0$$

Modes of Containers

$$Q \sim E^{-1/2} = (\nu/2\Omega l^2)^{-1/2}$$

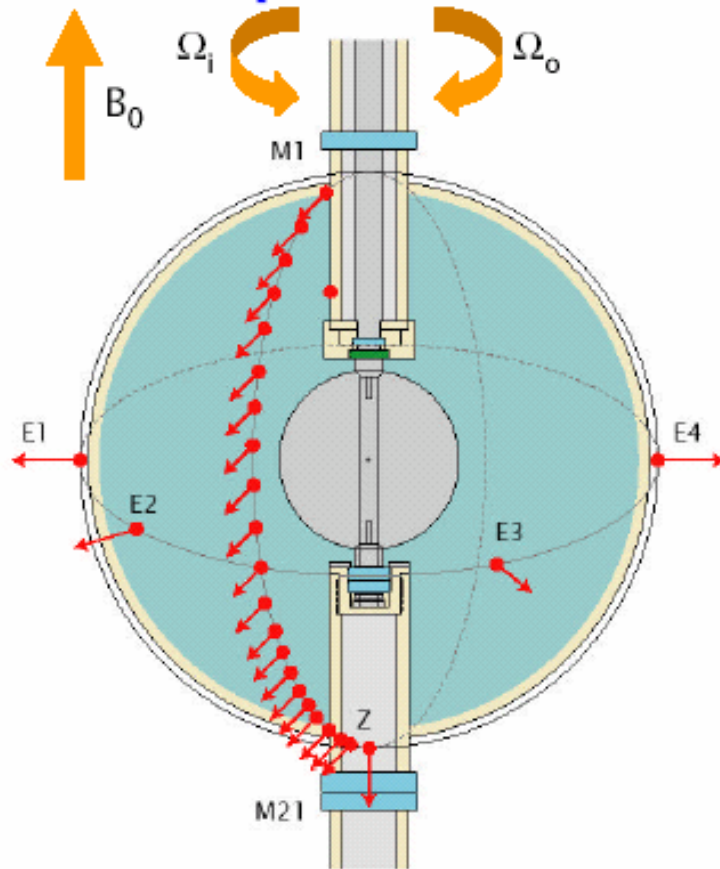


(theory L. Maas)



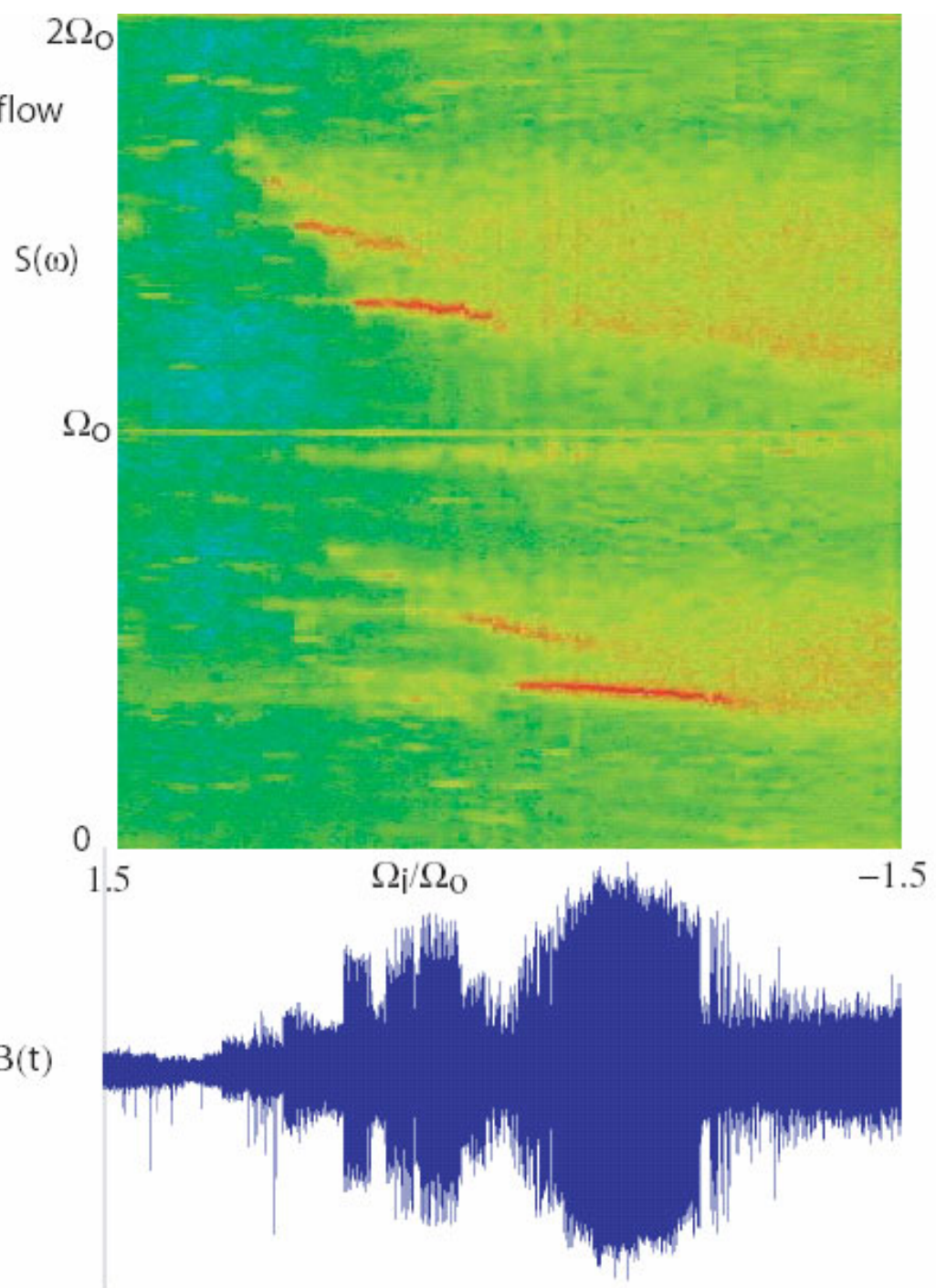
Na spherical Couette flow

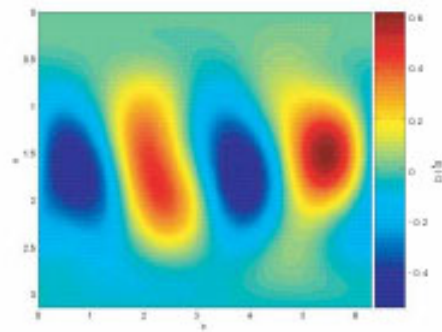
60 cm experiment



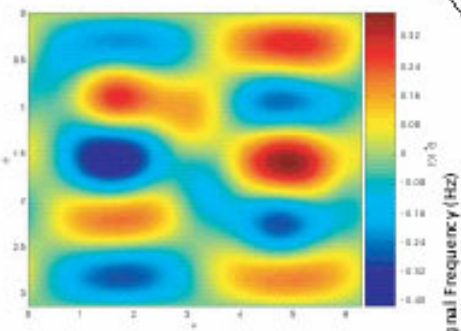
Modes in spherical Couette flow

$\Omega_O = 30$ Hz

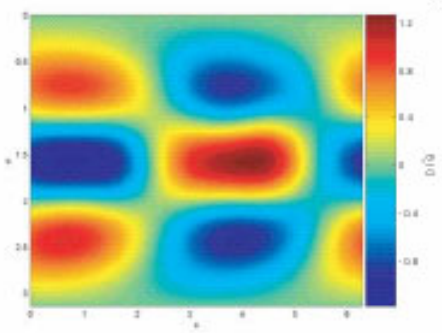




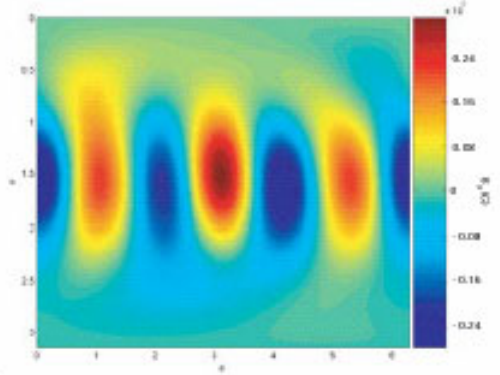
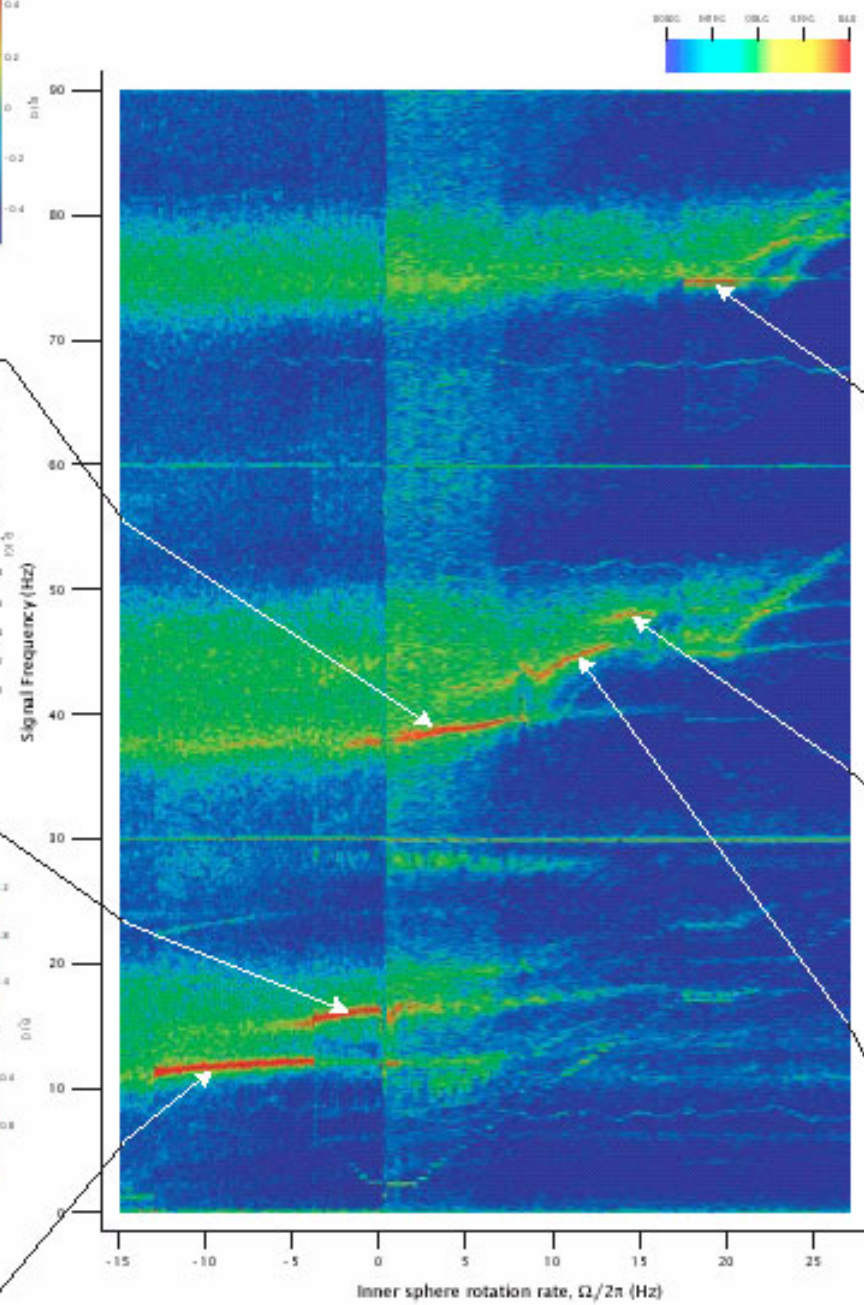
Y_2^2 dominant



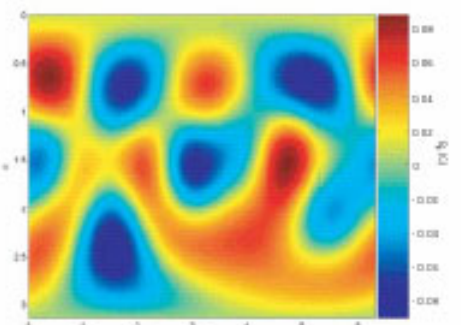
Y_1^5 dominant



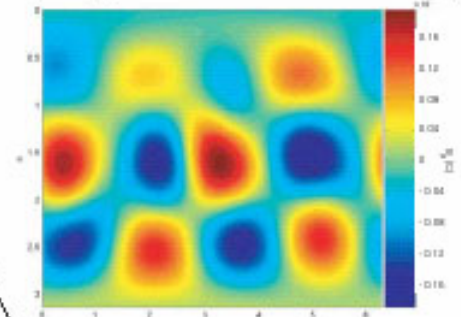
Y_1^3 dominant



Y_3^3 dominant



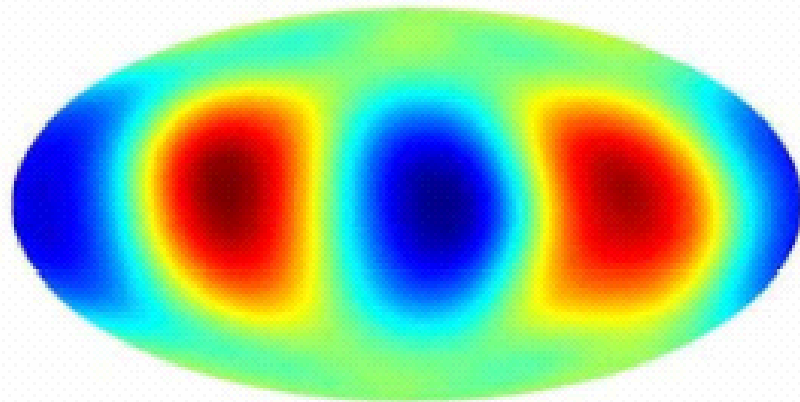
Y_2^4 dominant



Y_2^4 dominant

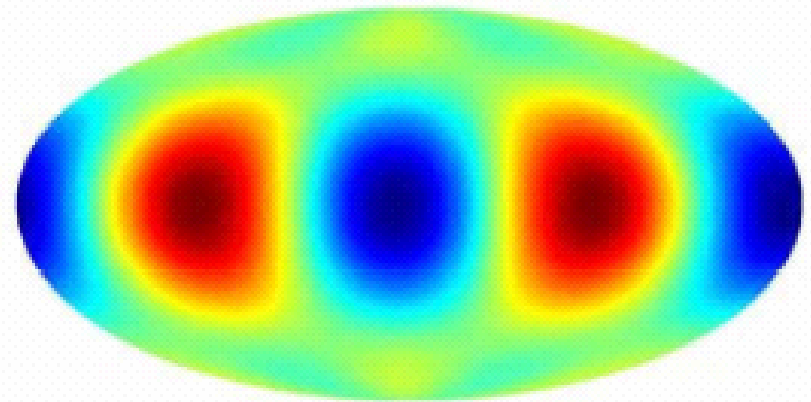
Induced magnetic field

Experiment

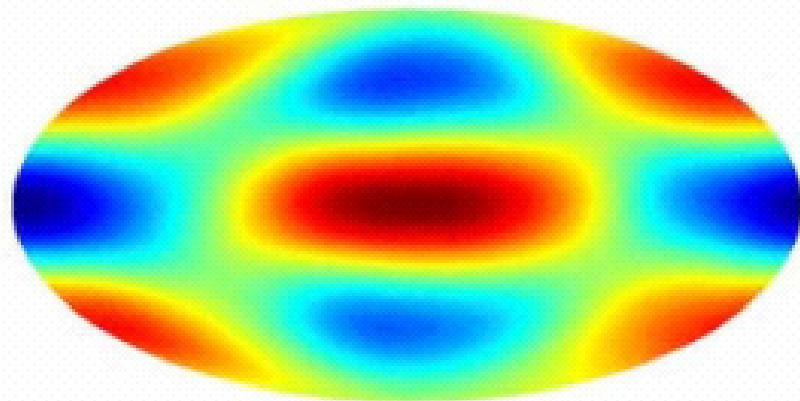


(a) $\omega_{lab}/\Omega_o = 1.30$, $\Omega_i = 5.7$ Hz

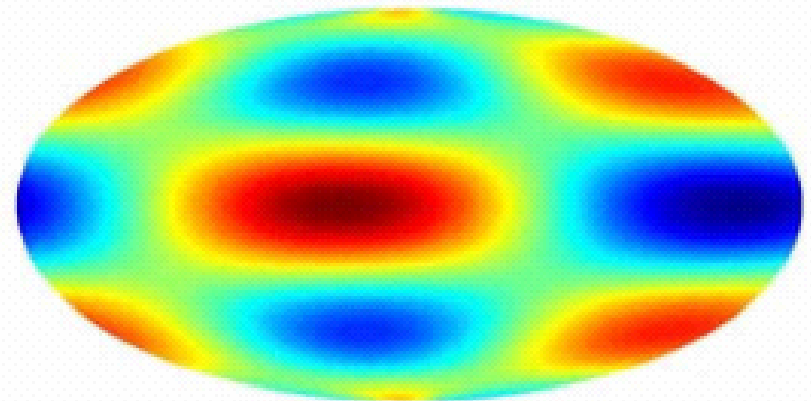
Theory (Tilgner)



(b) $l_{mag} = 2$, $l = 3$, $m = 2$, $\omega/\Omega = 0.667$



(c) $\omega_{lab}/\Omega_o = 0.39$, $\Omega_i = -12.2$ Hz



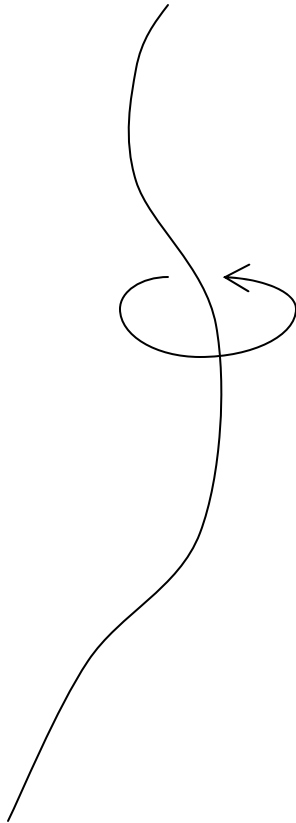
(d) $l_{mag} = 3$, $l = 4$, $m = 1$, $\omega/\Omega = 0.612$

Superfluid ^4He as model system for high R_m dynamics:

Quantum vortices \leftrightarrow Magnetic field lines

Normal fluid flow \leftrightarrow Conducting fluid or plasma flow

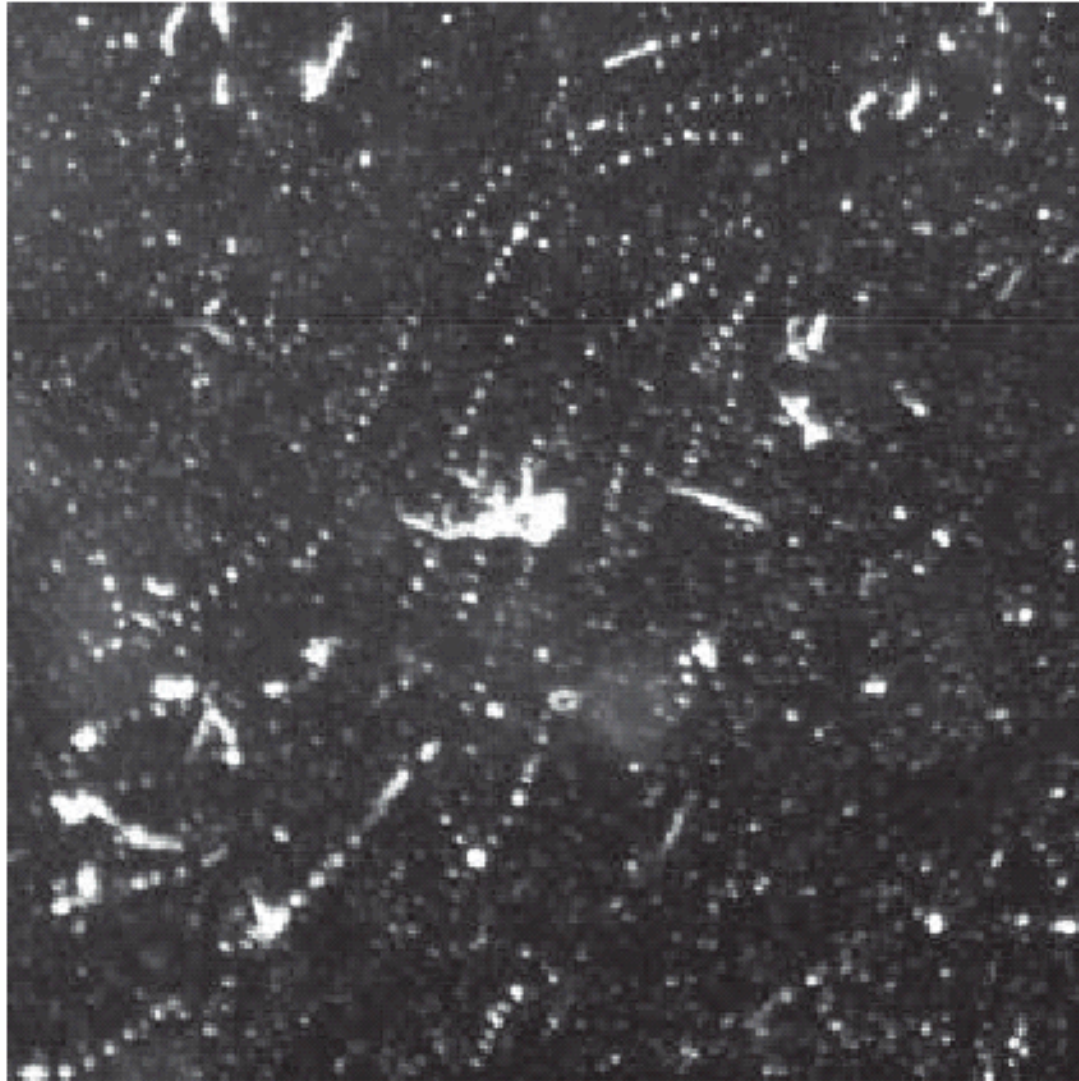
Q. vortex stretching \leftrightarrow Induction



$$\Psi = f e^{i\phi}$$

visualize by decorating with hydrogen ice particles

Spaced particles, "dotted lines"



$\langle l \rangle \sim 130 \mu\text{m}$

$d \sim 10 \mu\text{m}$

← 3 mm →

vortex reconnection

Theoretical work

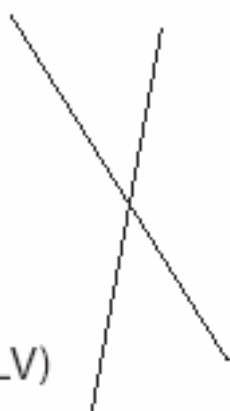
Schwarz, PRB 1985 (LV)

de Waele and Aarts, PRL 1994 (LV)

Koplik and Levine, PRL 1993 (NLSE)

Tsubota and Maekawa, JPSJ 1992 (LV)

Nazarenko and West 2003 (NLSE)

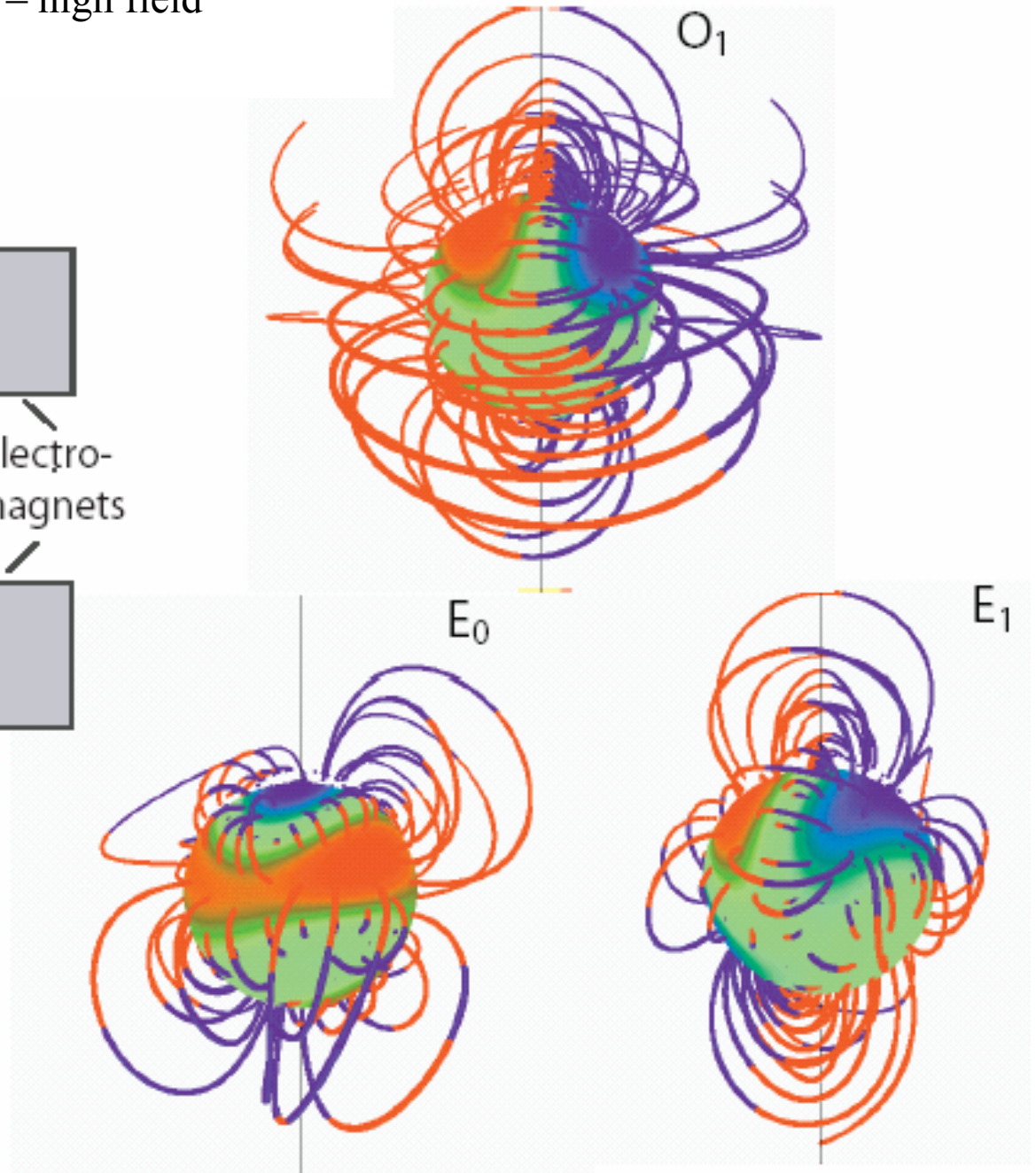
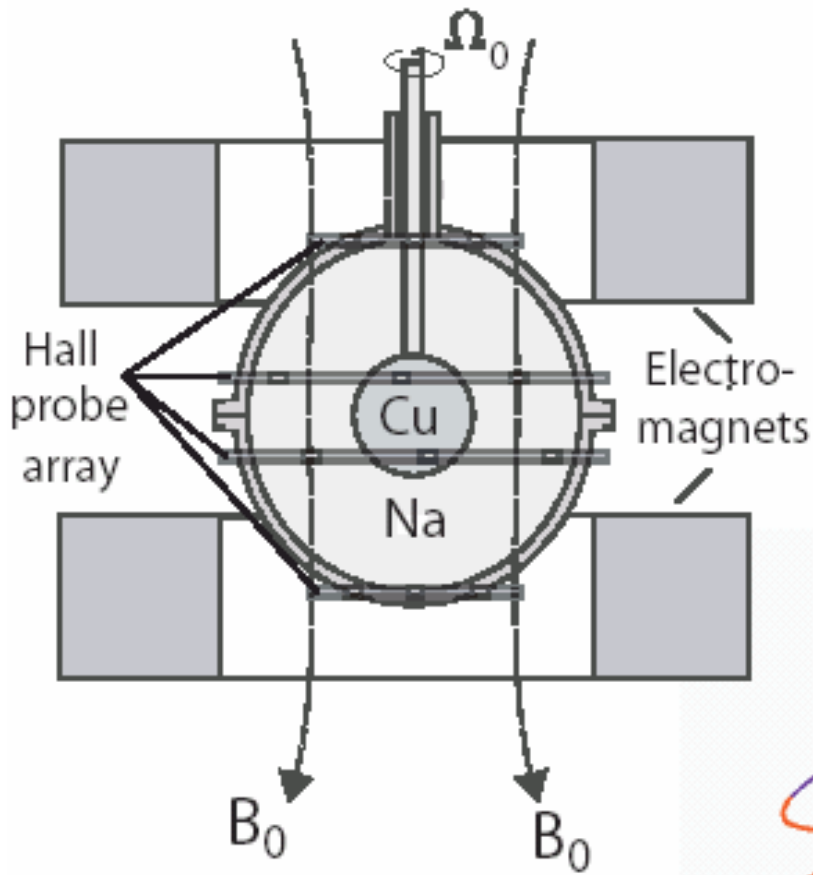


$$\delta \sim \kappa^{1/2}(t_0 - t)^{1/2}$$

$$\delta \sim \kappa^{1/2}(t - t_0)^{1/2}$$



Spherical Couette flow in Na – high field



Velikhov (magnetorotational) instability

Sisan et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 114502 (2004).

Similarities with linear theory

Stability boundary

Angular velocity profile (of mean field)

Centrifugal and Lorentz forces relevant

Increased angular momentum

Differences with linear theory

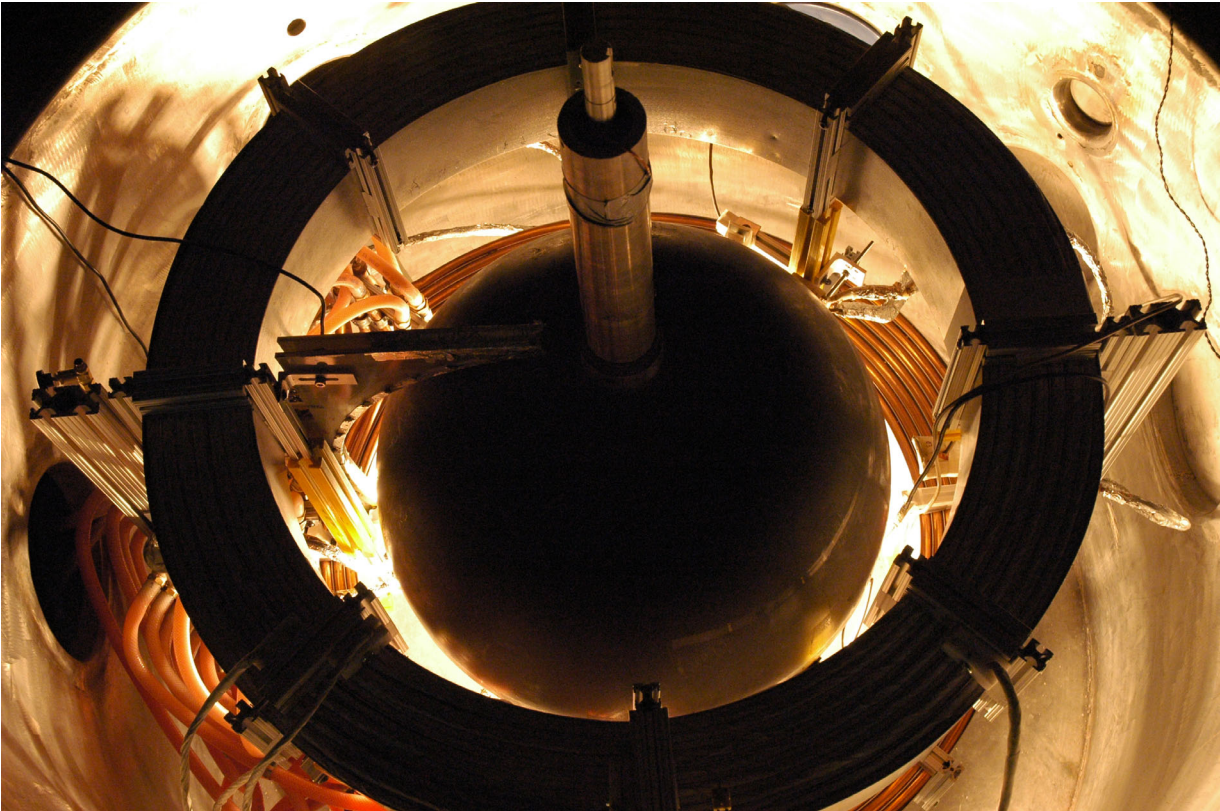
Base state turbulent (15-25% fluctuations)

First instability nonaxisymmetric

Most (but not all) linear theories done in cylindrical geometries

60 cm diameter system – high field

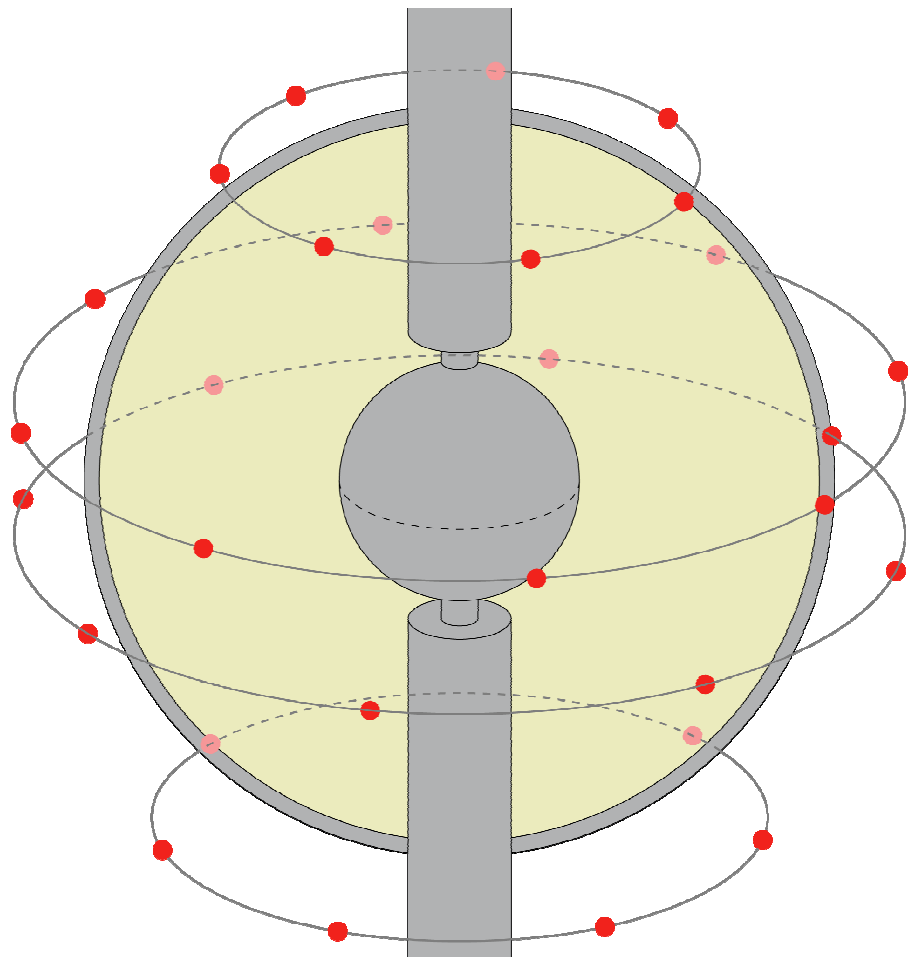
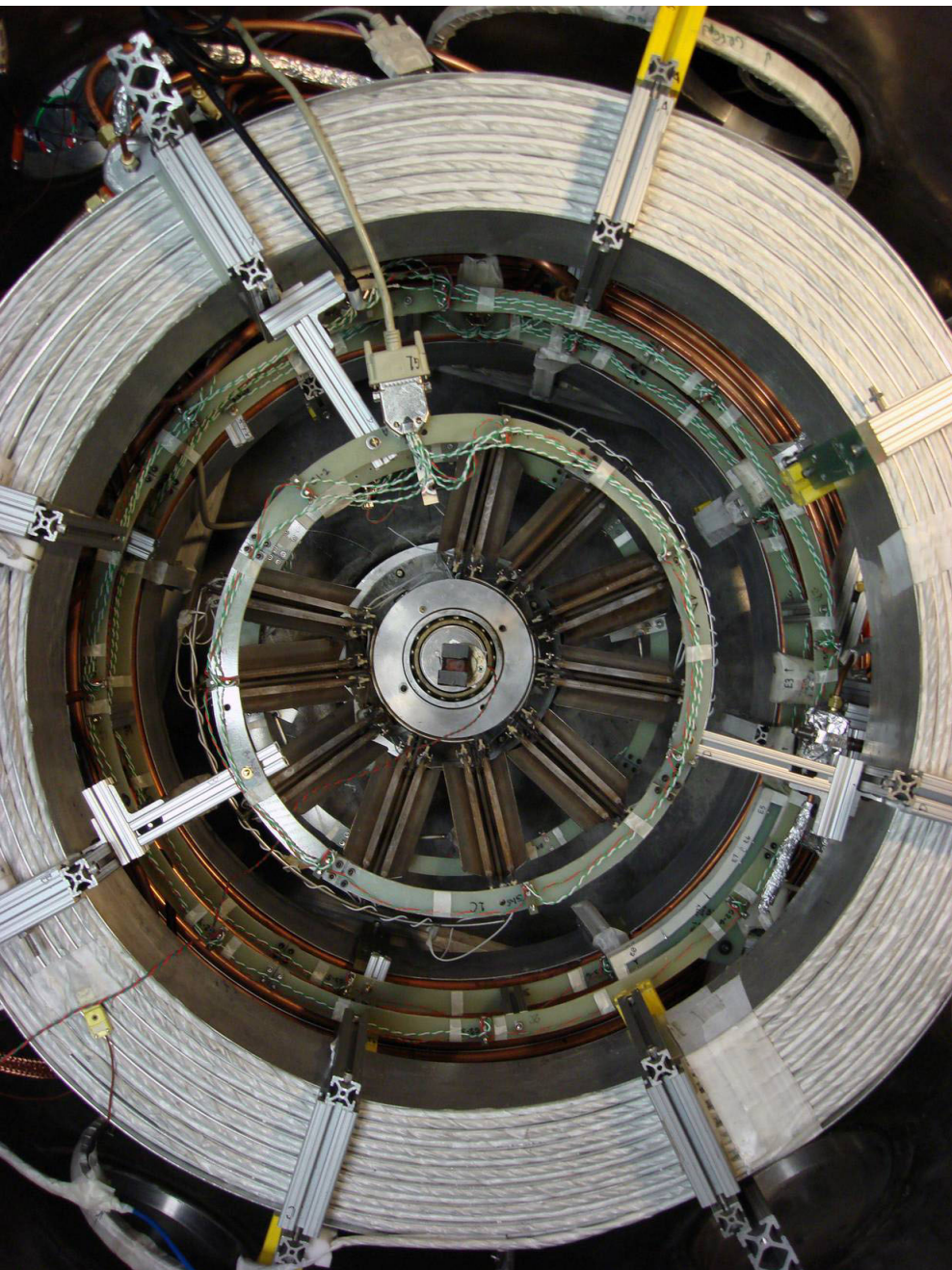
Outer sphere



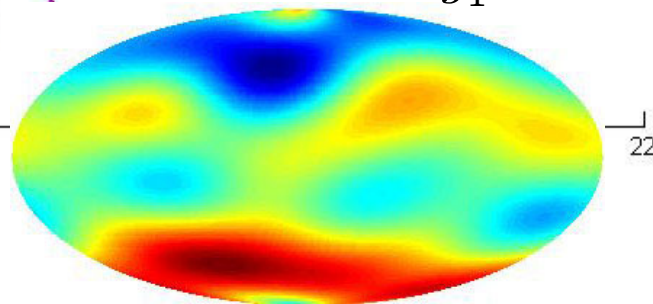
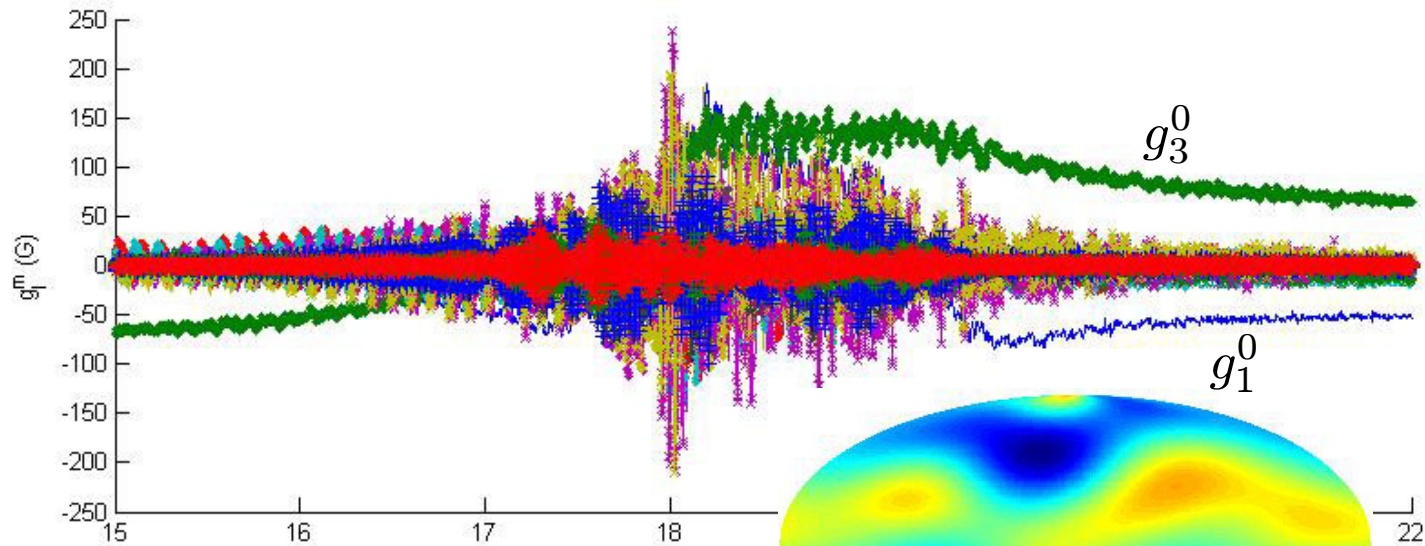
Inner sphere
Cu or Fe



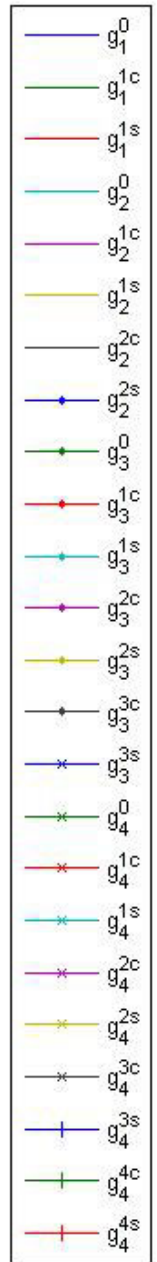
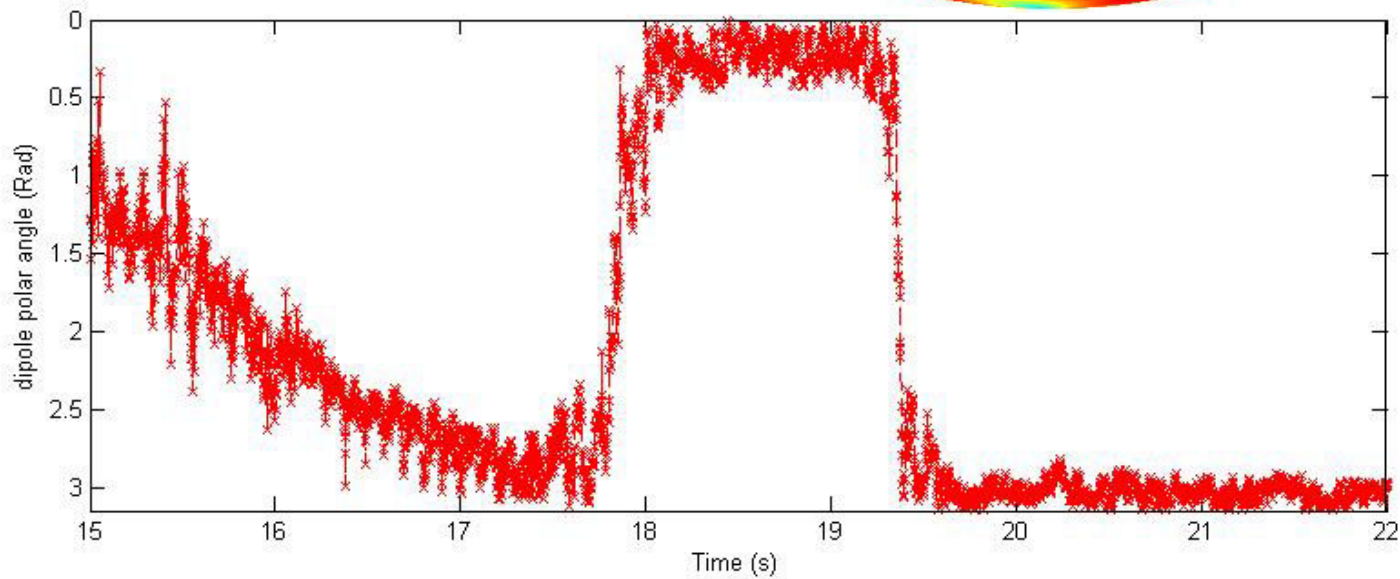
60 cm system Gauss array (to $\ell=4$)



Gauss coefficient time series



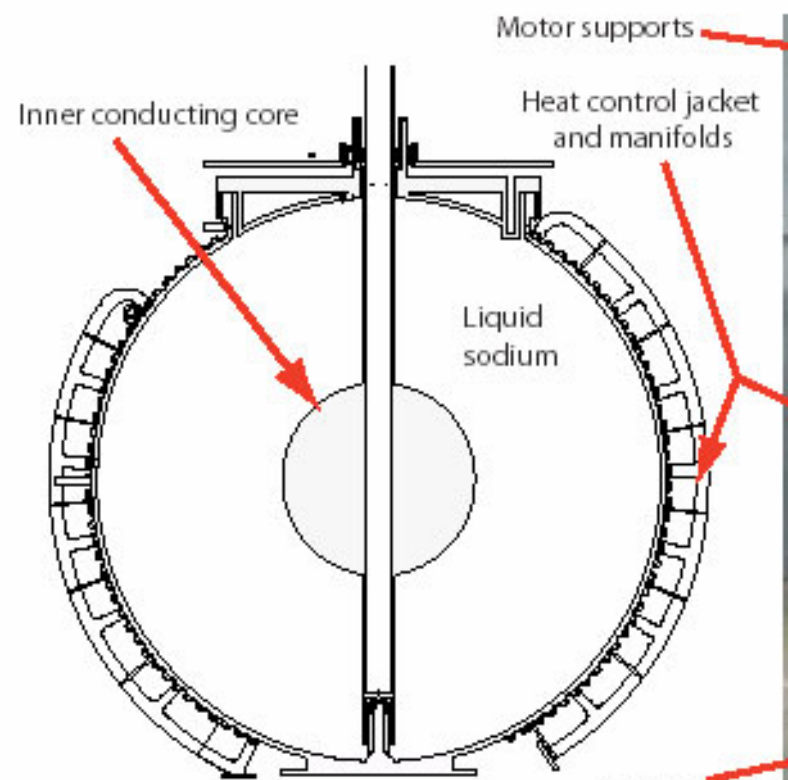
Dipole polar angle



Summary hypotheses

- 1 Systems with $E < 10^{-6}$ are oscillatory
power law scalings gone – structured wave spectra instead
consequences to dynamos
- 2 high R_m limit states determined by competition of
generation and reconnection
- 3 Velikhov and shear instabilities are not exclusive
MRI instability can be finite onset (hysteretic)

<http://complex.umd.edu>



Inner conducting core

Heat control jacket and manifolds

Liquid sodium

Motor supports

Electromagnet coils

Lower third of outer containment frame

