

# Stable MHD–Equilibria in Young Neutron Stars Magnetars or Radio–Pulsars

M. Rheinhardt & U. Geppert

March 3, 2006

# Rôle of $B$ “around” a NS’s birth

## Tightly Connected Phases

- SN–Progenitor
- Core–Collapse
- Proto–Neutron Star (X)
- Young Neutron Star (X)

## $B(t)$

- all phases “short”
- $B(t)$ : strongly dependent on initial conditions
- state at the end of each phase  
=  
initial conditions of the next

## Necessity & Conditions

To understand the observed  $\mathbf{B}$  of neutron stars:

- $\mathbf{B}$  to be amplified during transition from SN-Progenitor to Neutron Star
- vigorous convection + high conductivity
- **DYNAMO !**
- $\mathbf{v}_{\text{convection}}(\mathbf{r}, t)$  available (Janka, Fryer)

# Proto-Neutron Star Dynamo

## A semi-realistic PNS-dynamo

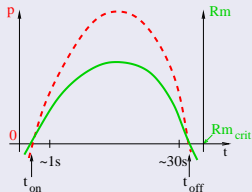
- Flow pattern from Keil 97,  $Rm = VL/\eta$  very large
- $\dot{\mathbf{B}} = \Delta \mathbf{B} + Rm \text{curl}(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$
- solution numerically resolvable for  $Rm \lesssim 10^4$   
but: real  $Rm \sim 10^{19}$
- judging the **flow geometry** for dynamo capability
- determination of critical  $Rm$  (for which  $\dot{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{0}$ )
- $\sim$  of growth rates for  $Rm \gtrsim Rm_{\text{crit}}$

## Viability & Impediments

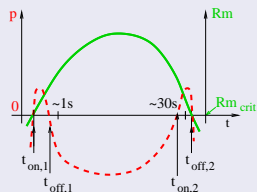
- $Rm_{\text{crit}} \approx 5000 \dots 10000$
- flow not dynamo-friendly
- $Rm_{\text{crit}} \ll \ll Rm$
- **no monotonous relation**  
**growth rate  $p$  of  $\mathbf{B}$  vs.  $Rm$**
- typically:  $p$  first grows with  $Rm$ ,  
→ maximum →  $p \leq 0$   
↪ dynamo ability lost for high  $Rm$
- reason: flux expulsion from convective cells

# PNS-dynamo: Basic scenarios

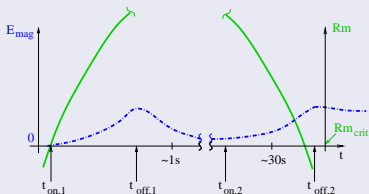
• fast dynamo:  $p \rightarrow > 0$  if  $Rm \rightarrow \infty$



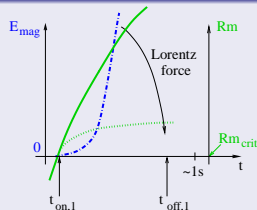
• slow dynamo:  $p \rightarrow \leq 0$  if  $Rm \rightarrow \infty$



• slow  $B$  growth:  $\rho_{conv} > \rho_B$



• rapid  $B$  growth:  $\rho_B > \rho_{conv}$



## Birth of Neutron Stars in Supernovae

- NSs born with  $B \sim 10^{15}\text{G}$
- few of them seen as magnetars (AXP, SGR)
- $E_{\text{mag}} \sim E_{\text{rot}}, E_{\text{therm}}$ , released in GRBs
- How does the establishment of  $B_{\text{Magnetar}}$  proceed?

# Stability of $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t)$ in a Conducting Fluid

## Early Work

- Prendergast '56:  $\mathbf{B}^{tor} \sim \mathbf{B}^{pol}$
- Tayler et al. '73:  $\mathbf{B}^{tor}$  always unstable with respect to  $m = 1$  perturbations,  $\rho \sim 1/\tau_A$
- Pitts & Tayler '85:  
 $\mathbf{B}^{tor} + \text{uniform } \mathbf{B}^{pol}$ : rotation may stabilize AND destabilize  
 $\implies$  "rotation is unlikely to stabilize general  $\mathbf{B}$ "

## Recent Work

- Braithwaite & Nordlund, ~ & Spruit '05:  $\mathbf{B}$  in Ap-stars generally unstable
- Braithwaite & Spruit '05:  $\mathbf{B}^{tor} \sim \mathbf{B}^{pol}$  torus-like configuration may be stable if concentrated in a very small inner core region of the NS

The effect of rotation on the stability of poloidal/toroidal field configurations has not yet been considered.

# Stable MHD–Equilibria in Young Neutron Stars

## What Does “Young” Mean?

- Immediately after PNS–phase
- Whole NS liquid,  $T \gtrsim 10^{10}$
- $\tau_{\text{cryst}} \sim \tau_{\text{SF}} \sim 1000$  sec,

... let's take Thompson & Duncan '93 seriously:

- Rapid rotation:  
 $P = 0.6 \dots 60$  ms
- Highly magnetized:  
 $B \gtrsim 10^{15}$  G

## Model Assumptions

- Rigid rotation: Ott et al. '05: viscous ( $\mathbf{B}$ ) dissipation in PNS:  $\Omega(r) \implies \Omega_{\text{rigid}}$
- Incompressibility:  
 $v_{\text{flow}} \ll c_s = 8 \cdot 10^8 \dots \lesssim c,$   
 $\tau_s \ll \tau_{\text{flow}}$
- Constant density (?): flow concentrated within the core  $\implies$  anelastic approximation



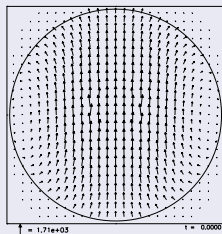
# Stable MHD–Equilibria in Young Neutron Stars

## Timescales

- Rotation:  $P \sim$  millisecond
- Ohmic decay:  
 $\sigma \approx 10^{24} \text{s}^{-1}$ ,  $R \approx 10^6 \text{cm}$   
 $\Rightarrow \tau_{\text{Ohm}} \sim 1.4 \cdot 10^{17} \text{s} \approx 4.4 \cdot 10^8 \text{yrs} \Leftrightarrow$  problem of extremely large  $Rm$
- Viscous dissipation:  
 $\tau_{\text{visc}} = R^2/\nu \lesssim \tau_{\text{Ohm}}$
- MHD waves:  
 $\tau_A = \sqrt{4\pi\rho}R/B \approx 0.05 \text{s}$   
( $\rho = 2 \cdot 10^{14} \text{g cm}^{-3}$ )  
 $\Rightarrow \tau_A \sim 10^{-25} \tau_{\text{Ohm,visc}}$ : will help to get reliable results for stability!

## $\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{r}, t = 0)$

- a) Poloidal magnetostatic equilibrium



- b) internal uniform, external potential (Flowers & Rudermann '77)
- different angles  $\alpha(\mathbf{B}, \boldsymbol{\Omega})$ ,  
 $6 \text{ ms} \leq P \leq 0.6 \text{s}$

# Mathematical model

## Equations (dimensionless)

induction equation + “BC”

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \Delta \mathbf{B} + \text{curl}(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) \quad \text{in } V'$$

$$\text{rot } \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{in } V \setminus V'$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad \text{in } V$$

$$[\mathbf{B}] = \mathbf{0} \quad \text{on } \partial V'$$

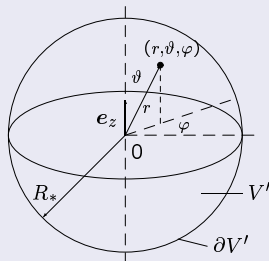
momentum equation + BC

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = -\nabla p - (\mathbf{u} \nabla) \mathbf{u} + Pm \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ - 2\Omega \mathbf{e}_z \times \mathbf{u} + \text{rot } \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{u} = 0 \quad \text{in } V'$$

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{r} = (\underline{D}(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \mathbf{r})_{\vartheta, \varphi} = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial V$$

## Geometry



## Parameters

$Pm = \nu/\eta$  – magnetic Prandtl number

$\Omega$  – normalized angular velocity

$q_P = P/\tau_A$  – relative rotation period

# Solution characteristics

## Symmetries

- with resp. to equatorial plane:

“S”:  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\rho$  symmetric

“A”:  $\begin{cases} \mathbf{B} & \text{antisymmetric} \\ \mathbf{u}, \rho & \text{symmetric} \end{cases}$

- about an axis:  
expansion in Fourier series

$$\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \dots e^{im\varphi}$$

axisymmetric  
if only  $m = 0$  term

## characterizing quantities

“parity”  $\Pi = \frac{E^{\text{sym}} - E^{\text{anti}}}{E^{\text{sym}} + E^{\text{anti}}}$

“non-axisymmetry”  $M = 1 - \frac{E^{\text{ax}}}{E}$

→ for poloidal equilibrium:

$$\Pi = -1, M = 0$$

“ohmic reference energy”  $E_{\text{mag}}^{\text{Ohm}}$

## denormalization with

$$R = 10^6 \text{ cm}, \rho = 2 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ g cm}^{-3},$$

$$B(0) = 10^{15} \text{ G}$$

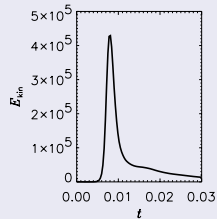
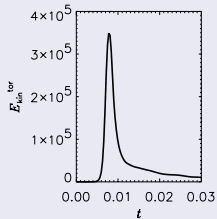
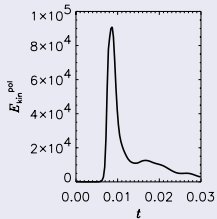
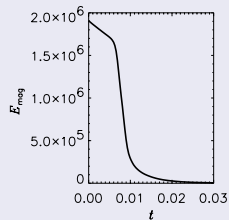
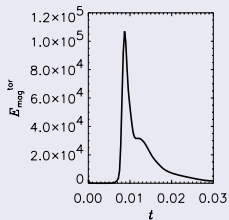
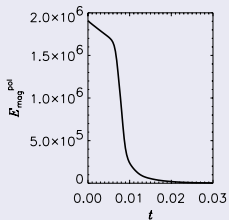
# Results for dipolar magnetostatic equilibrium:

for  $t = \tau_{\text{decay}}$ :

$\alpha$	$q_P$	$E_{\text{mag}}/E_{\text{mag}}^{\text{Ohm}}$	$E_{\text{kin}}/E_{\text{mag}}$	$\Pi_{\text{mag}}$	$M_{\text{mag}}$	symmetry
0	$\infty$	0.00018	4.67	-0.06	0.4	mixed
	12	0.00035	6.6	-0.5	0.2	mixed
	1.2	0.076	0.00065	-0.99	0.06	mixed
	0.12	0.98	0.00003	-1	0	A0
45	1.2	0.075	0.001	-0.46	0.27	mixed
	0.12	0.82	0.00005	-0.24	0.38	mixed
90	12.	0.0033	0.64	0.5	0.77	mixed
	1.2	0.043	0.003	0.88	0.81	mixed
	0.12	0.14	0.00014	1	1	S1

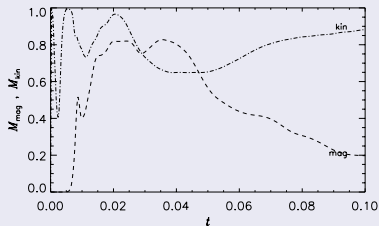
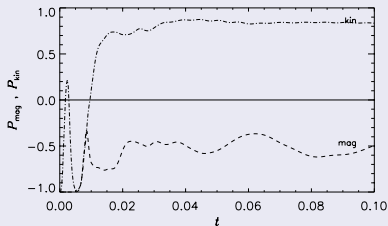
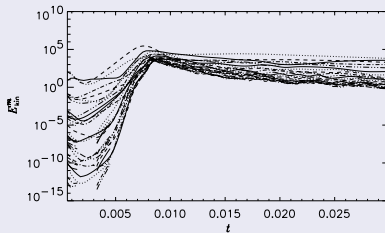
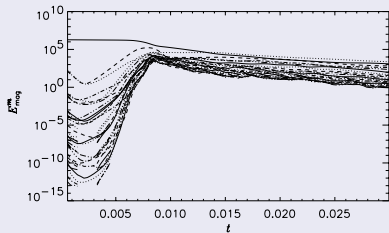
# Unstable decay: $P = 0.6$ s, $\alpha = 0$

## Energies:



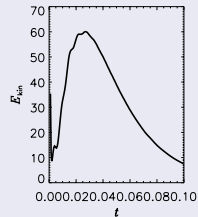
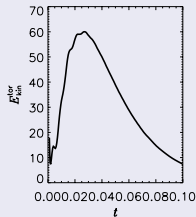
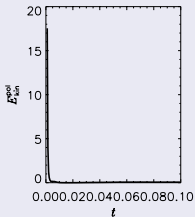
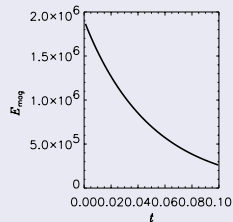
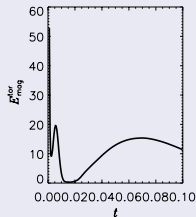
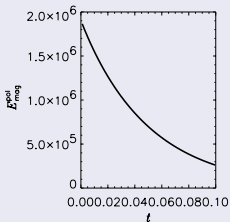
# Unstable decay: $P = 0.6$ s, $\alpha = 0$

## Spectra, parities, non-axisymmetries:



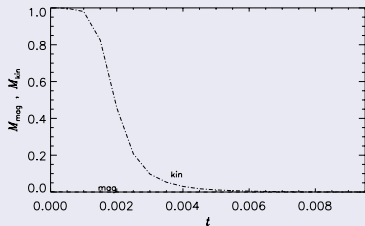
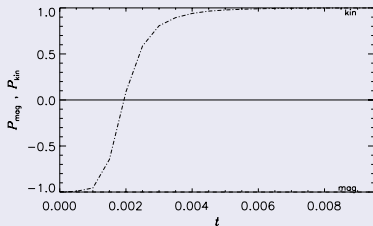
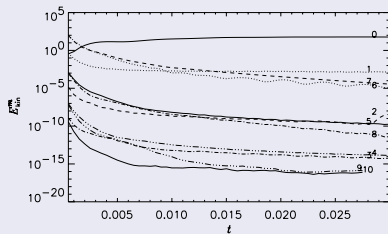
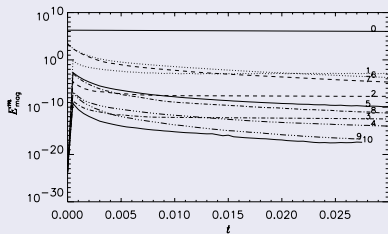
# Rotation-stabilized decay: $P = 6$ ms, $\alpha = 0$

## Energies:



# Rotation-stabilized decay: $P = 6$ ms, $\alpha = 0$

## Spectra, parities, non-axisymmetries:





## Conclusions

- neutron stars born with  $B \gtrsim 10^{15}\text{G}$ :
  - those with  $P \lesssim 5\text{ ms}$  AND  $\alpha \lesssim 45^\circ \Rightarrow$  magnetars
  - those with  $P \gtrsim 10\text{ ms}$  AND/OR  $\alpha \gtrsim 45^\circ \Rightarrow$  standard pulsars
  - No other stabilizing effect  
(torus–like  $\mathbf{B}$  configuration, density stratification),  
only **RAPID ROTATION** can maintain magnetar field!
- neutron stars born with  $B \sim 10^{12} \dots 10^{13}\text{G}$ ,  $P \leq 60\text{ ms}$ :  
always stabilized!