

# Imbalanced kinetic Alfvén wave turbulence

George Miloshevich, Thierry Passot, Pierre-Louis Sulem and Dimitri Laveder



Observatoire  
de la CÔTE d'AZUR

Festival de Théorie  
Aix en Provence, 2019

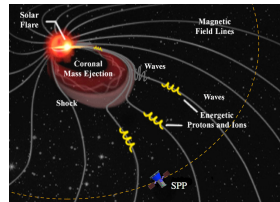
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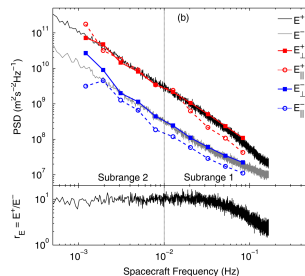


Schematics of a forward cascade to small scales

- SW is collisionless so kinetical treatment is ideal
  - Microscale dispersive **gyro-scales** play a role
  - **Imbalanced turbulence** [2] is of interest for (PSP)
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  - Recourse to gyrofluids is more feasible [3]
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## Parker Solar Probe (PSP)



Wind Data.

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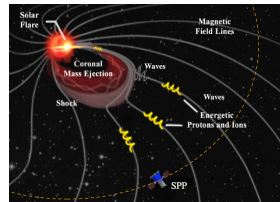
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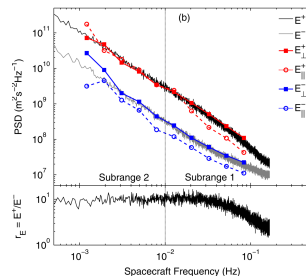


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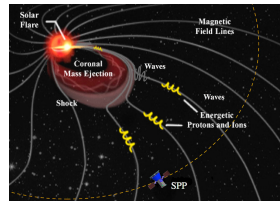
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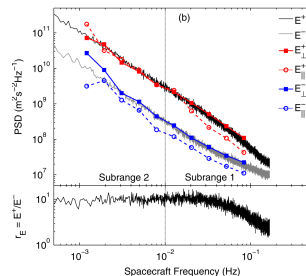


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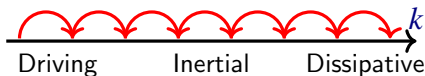


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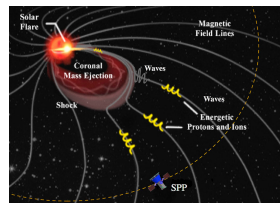
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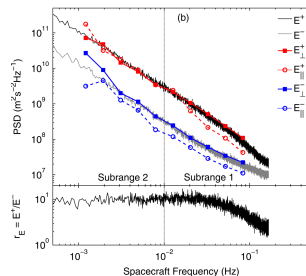


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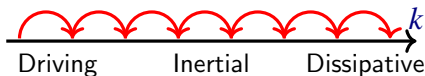


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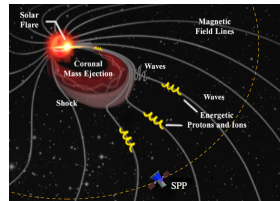
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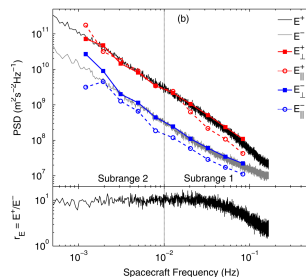
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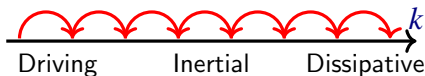
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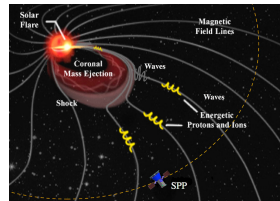
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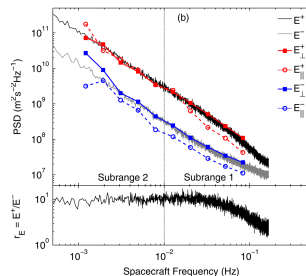
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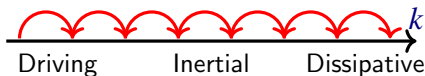
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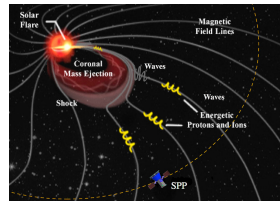
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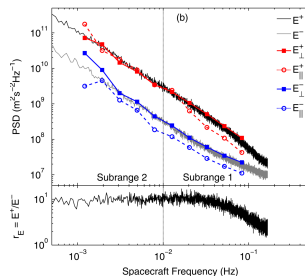
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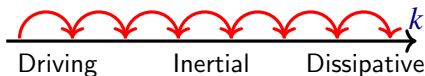


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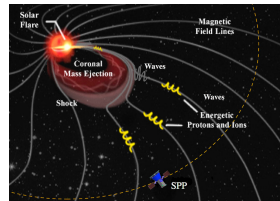
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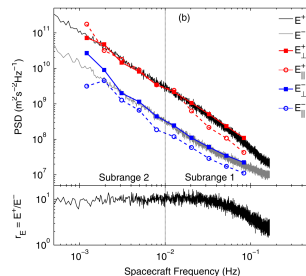
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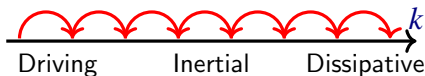
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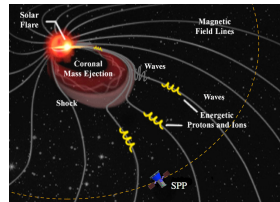
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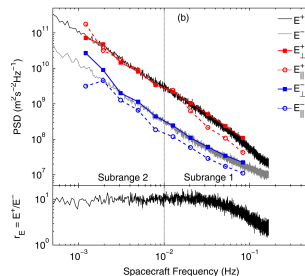
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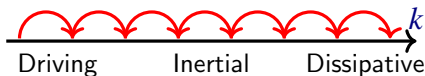
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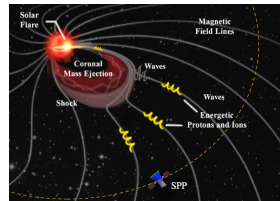
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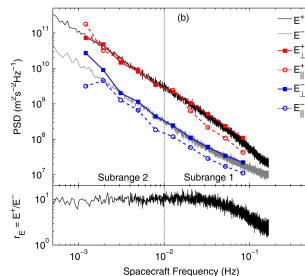
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# Weak balanced magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) turbulence

- Before discussing dispersive effects we review what is known about MHD
- Using Elsässer variables  $w^\pm := v \pm b$ , MHD can be cast:

$$\partial_t w^\pm \pm V_A \partial_z w^\pm = -w^\mp \cdot \nabla w^\pm - \nabla P, \quad \nabla \cdot w^\pm = 0, \quad P = -\nabla^{-2}(\nabla w^+ : \nabla w^-) \quad (1)$$

only counter propagating waves interact

- Assuming *weak balanced* cascade<sup>[4]</sup>, many  $w_\pm$  collisions before cascading  $\tau_{nl} \gg \tau_A$

$$w_{k_\perp}^+ = w_{k_\perp}^-, \quad w_{k_\perp}^+ w_{k_\perp}^- \propto k_\perp^{-1} \Rightarrow w_{k_\perp}^\pm \propto k_\perp^{-1/2} \quad (2)$$

- Criticism of weak MHD turbulence<sup>[5]</sup>: Because AW have  $\omega_p^\pm = \pm V_A k_\parallel$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} p + q = k \\ \omega_p^\pm + \omega_q^\mp = \omega_k^\pm \Rightarrow p_\parallel - q_\parallel = k_\parallel \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow p_\parallel = k_\parallel, \quad q_\parallel = 0 \quad (3)$$

- So in MHD it involves scattering of AW off a 2D perturbation ( $q_\parallel = 0$ )
- As weak cascade proceeds eventually  $\tau_{nl} \sim k_\perp w_{k_\perp} \sim \tau_A \rightarrow$  and becomes *strong*

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only counter propagating waves interact

- Assuming *weak balanced* cascade<sup>[4]</sup>, many  $w_\pm$  collisions before cascading  $\tau_{nl} \gg \tau_A$

$$w_{k_\perp}^+ = w_{k_\perp}^-, \quad w_{k_\perp}^+ w_{k_\perp}^- \propto k_\perp^{-1} \Rightarrow w_{k_\perp}^\pm \propto k_\perp^{-1/2} \quad (2)$$

- Criticism of weak MHD turbulence<sup>[5]</sup>: Because AW have  $\omega_p^\pm = \pm V_A k_\parallel$

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- So in MHD it involves scattering of AW off a 2D perturbation ( $q_\parallel = 0$ )

- As weak cascade proceeds eventually  $\tau_{nl} \sim k_\perp w_{k_\perp} \sim \tau_A \rightarrow$  and becomes *strong*

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# Weak balanced magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) turbulence

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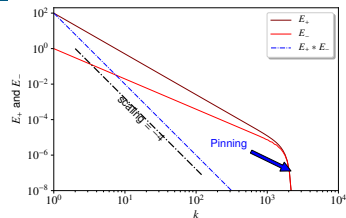
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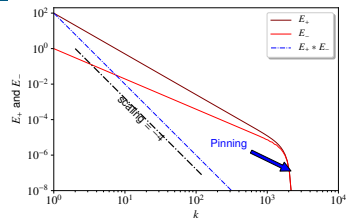
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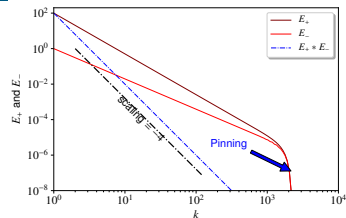
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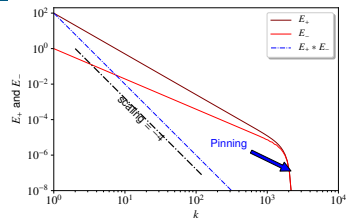
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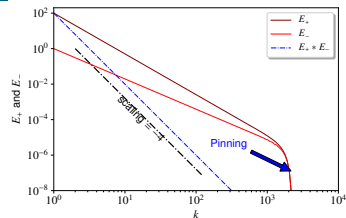
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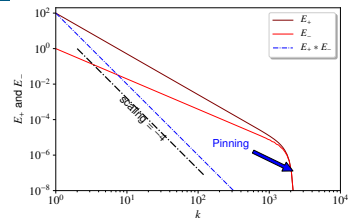
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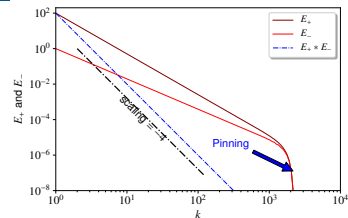
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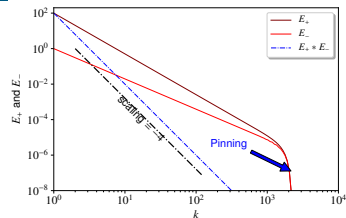
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Relative kinetic plasma modes<sup>[11]</sup>

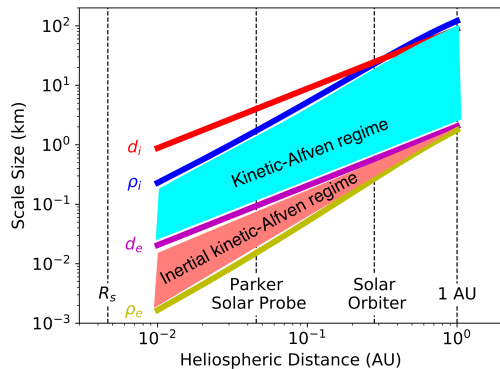
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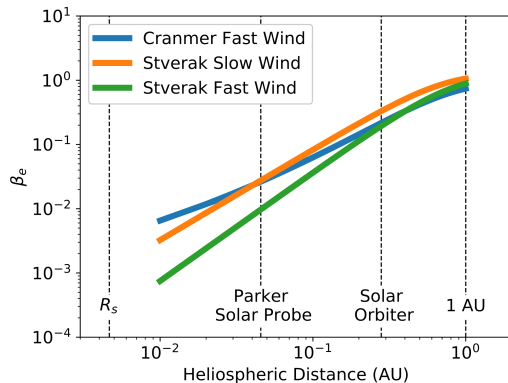
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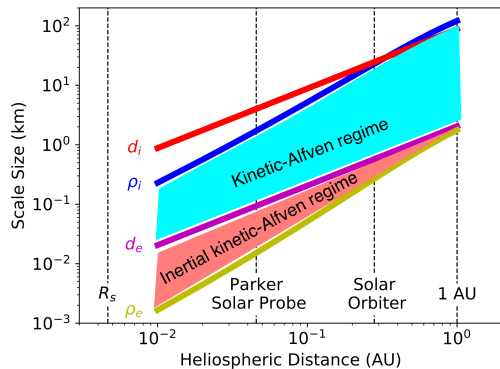
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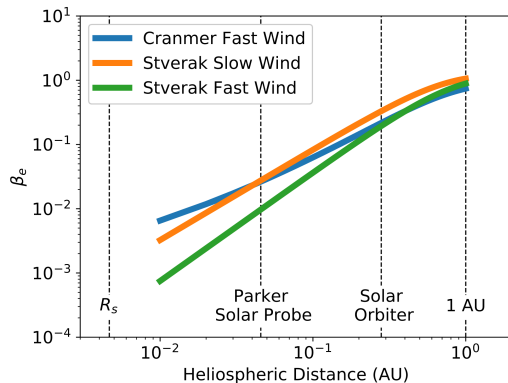


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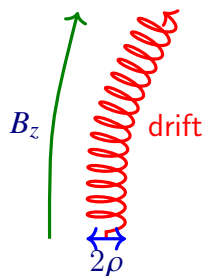


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# Hamiltonian reduced gyrofluid model (GYRO)

- In order to understand **gyroscale physics** gyrokinetics <sup>[12]</sup>(5D) is often employed
- Numerical solutions of developed spectra are too costly even for this model
- Therefore, it is desirable to find some closure for a 3D gyrofluid model
- A Hamiltonian closure of this kind has been found recently <sup>[13]</sup>.
- Omitting effects of *electron inertia*  $m_e/m_i = 0$  the simplified equations read:



gyrocenter density

$$\partial_t N_e + V_A^2 \nabla_{\parallel} \Delta_{\perp} A_{\parallel} = \nabla(B_z - \varphi) \times \nabla N_e \cdot \hat{z} \quad (5)$$

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$$\nabla_{\parallel} f := \partial f / \partial z + \nabla(A_{\parallel}) \times \nabla f \cdot \hat{z} \quad (7)$$

electrostatic pot.

magnetic potential

$$B_z = \hat{M}_1(\tau \Delta_{\perp})[\varphi] \quad N_e = -\hat{M}_2(\tau \Delta_{\perp})[\varphi] \quad (8)$$

Here  $\hat{M}_{1,2}$  are operators related to modified Bessel functions

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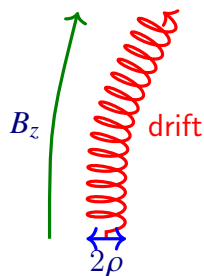
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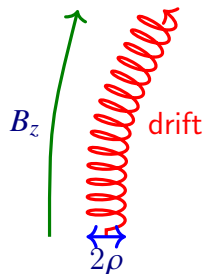
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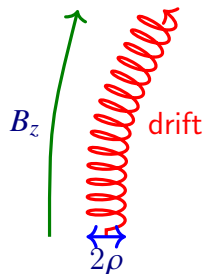
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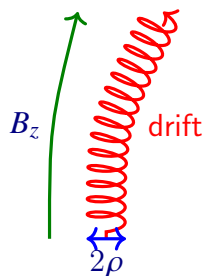
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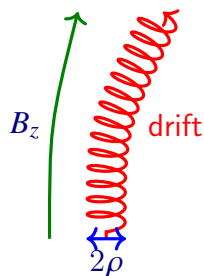
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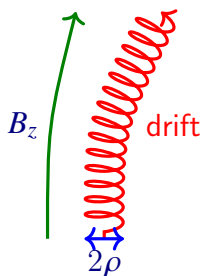
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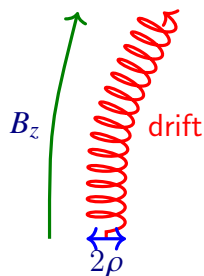
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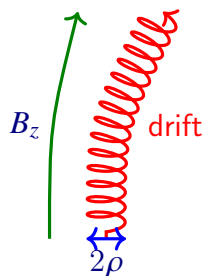
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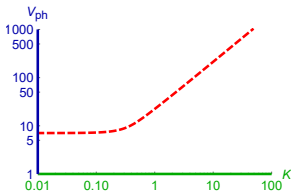
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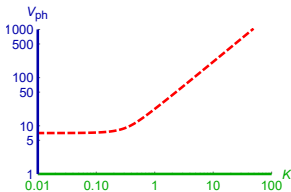
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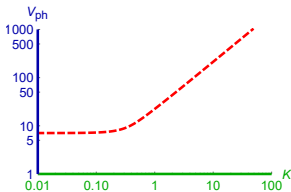
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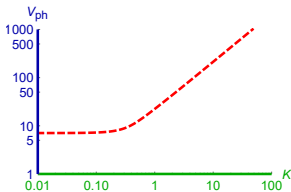
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- 2 Influence of the dispersive range
  - Nonlinear diffusion equation
  - Landau damping
  - Inverse Cascade
- 3 Conclusion
  - Comparisons with 3D gyrofluid simulations
  - Future Work

# Steps to derive wave kinetic equation: Ask me later?

- Using Fourier decomposition,  $a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma k} := e^{i\omega_k^{\sigma k} t} k \mu_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma k}$ ,  $\tau_{NL} \gg \omega^{-1}$ ,  $\sigma = \pm$  and  $\Omega_{\mathbf{k};pq}^{\sigma_k \sigma_p \sigma_q} = \omega_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma_k} - \omega_{\mathbf{p}}^{\sigma_p} - \omega_{\mathbf{q}}^{\sigma_q} = \sigma_k v_{ph}(k_{\perp}) k_{\parallel} - \sigma_p v_{ph}(p_{\perp}) p_{\parallel} - \sigma_q v_{ph}(q_{\perp}) q_{\parallel}$ . (13)

resonance condition one obtains **wave kinetic equation**:

$$\partial_t Q_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma} = 4\pi \int \sum_{\sigma_p, \sigma_q} \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) \delta(\Omega_{\mathbf{k}pq}^{\sigma \sigma_p \sigma_q}) V_{\mathbf{k}pq}^{\sigma \sigma_p \sigma_q} \left\{ \left( V_{\mathbf{p}qk}^{\sigma_p \sigma_q \sigma} Q_{\mathbf{q}}^{\sigma_q} + V_{\mathbf{q}pk}^{\sigma_q \sigma_p \sigma} Q_{\mathbf{p}}^{\sigma_p} \right) Q_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma} + V_{\mathbf{k}pq}^{\sigma \sigma_p \sigma_q} Q_{\mathbf{p}}^{\sigma_p} Q_{\mathbf{q}}^{\sigma_q} \right\} dp dq, \quad (14)$$

where

$$\langle a_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma k} a_{\mathbf{k}'}^{\sigma k'} \rangle =: Q_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma k \sigma k'} \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}') \Leftrightarrow Q_{\mathbf{k}}^{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\pi k_{\perp}} \left( E(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel}) + \sigma v_{ph}(k_{\perp}) E_C(k_{\perp}, k_{\parallel}) \right). \quad (15)$$

and introducing notation  $\xi := V_A/V_{ph}$ , the **vertex** is defined as

$$V_{\mathbf{k}pq}^{\sigma_k \sigma_p \sigma_q} := \frac{\widehat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{q})}{8 \xi(k_{\perp})} \left( \frac{\sigma_p}{\xi(p_{\perp})} - \frac{\sigma_q}{\xi(q_{\perp})} \right) \frac{\sigma_p \sigma_q}{k_{\perp} p_{\perp} q_{\perp}} \left( \sigma_k k_{\perp}^2 \xi(k_{\perp}) + \underset{p.q.k}{\cup} \right) \quad (16)$$

# Nonlinear diffusion equations (NDE) for weak turbulence

- Assuming isotropy in the transverse plane we can collapse

$$\int dpdq\delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) \rightarrow 2\pi \int dp_{\parallel}dq_{\parallel}\delta(k_{\parallel} + p_{\parallel} + q_{\parallel}) \int_{\Delta_{k_{\perp}}} (1/\sin\alpha)dp_{\perp}dq_{\perp} \quad (17)$$

- In addition, assuming local interactions  $k_{\perp} \approx p_{\perp} \approx q_{\perp}$  and  $k_{\parallel} \approx p_{\parallel} \approx q_{\parallel}$

$$E^{\pm} = (E \pm V_{ph}E_C)/2$$

- Under these assumptions nonlinear diffusion equation for energy and cross-helicity has been derived<sup>[14]</sup>

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left\{ k_{\perp}^6 V_{ph} \sum_{r=\pm 1} E^{(-r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left( \frac{E^{(r)}}{k_{\perp}} \right) \right\} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{\partial E_C}{\partial t} \frac{1}{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left\{ k_{\perp}^6 \sum_{r=\pm 1} (-1)^r E^{(-r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left( \frac{E^{(r)}}{k_{\perp}} \right) \right\} \quad (19)$$

[14] T. Passot and P. L. Sulem, JPP 85, 905850301 (2019)

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$$\int dpdq\delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{q}) \rightarrow 2\pi \int dp_{\parallel}dq_{\parallel}\delta(k_{\parallel} + p_{\parallel} + q_{\parallel}) \int_{\Delta_{k_{\perp}}} (1/\sin\alpha)dp_{\perp}dq_{\perp} \quad (17)$$

- In addition, assuming local interactions  $k_{\perp} \approx p_{\perp} \approx q_{\perp}$  and  $k_{\parallel} \approx p_{\parallel} \approx q_{\parallel}$

$$E^{\pm} = (E \pm V_{ph}E_C)/2$$

- Under these assumptions nonlinear diffusion equation for energy and cross-helicity has been derived<sup>[14]</sup>

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \frac{E}{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left\{ k_{\perp}^6 V_{ph} \sum_{r=\pm 1} E^{(-r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left( \frac{E^{(r)}}{k_{\perp}} \right) \right\} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{\partial E_C}{\partial t} \frac{E_C}{2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left\{ k_{\perp}^6 \sum_{r=\pm 1} (-1)^r E^{(-r)} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left( \frac{E^{(r)}}{k_{\perp}} \right) \right\} \quad (19)$$

[14] T. Passot and P. L. Sulem, JPP 85, 905850301 (2019)

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# Phenomenological extension to strong turbulence

- As turbulence proceeds to small scales it ceases to be weak:  $\tau_{NL} \sim \tau_L$
- In strong turbulence **parallel transfer** is non-negligible  $\tilde{k}_{\parallel} \neq \text{const}$
- In weak turbulence the transfer time is:  $\tau_{tr,w}^{\pm} = (k_{\perp}^3 V_{ph} E^{\mp})^{-1}$ ,  $\omega_L := V_{ph} \tilde{k}_{\parallel}$
- In strong turbulence transfer time is modified consistently with *critical balance*

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- The + wave affects the correlation length of – so

$$\tilde{k}_{\parallel}^{(r)} = (k_{\perp}^3 E^{(r)})^{1/2} \left( \frac{E^{+}}{E^{-}} \right)^{\chi - r \chi / 4}, \quad r = \pm 1 \quad (21)$$

- When  $\chi = 0$  both  $E_{+}$  and  $E_{-}$  cascades are strong.
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- DNS MHD simulations [16] are consistent with  $\chi \sim 1/4$

The effect of  $\chi$  in MHD

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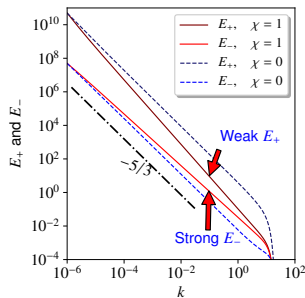
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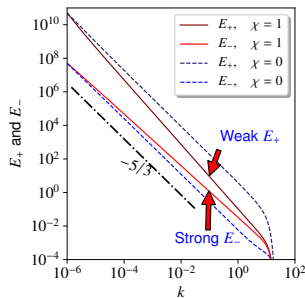
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# Numerical scheme for NDE - Ask me later?

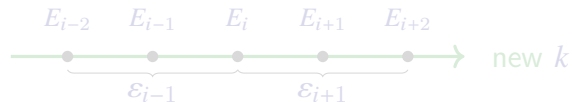
$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} E \\ E_C \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left\{ k_{\perp}^6 \begin{pmatrix} V_{ph} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \sum_{r=\pm 1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ (-1)^r \end{pmatrix} \frac{E^{(-r)}}{\tilde{k}_{\parallel}^{\pm}} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \left( \frac{E^{(r)}}{k_{\perp}} \right) \right\} =: \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp}} \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon \\ \eta \end{pmatrix} \quad (22)$$

- We are modeling coupled nonlinear diffusion equations of **Leith** type.

- Code for Gravitational wave turbulence <sup>[17]</sup> was used with modified the scheme

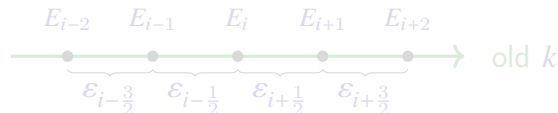
Fields are evaluated on the expanding grid.

$$k_i = k_0 \cdot \lambda^i \quad (23)$$



Changes that were made:

- 1 Modification of the finite differencing
- 2 The addition for dispersive effects
- 3 Support for strong turbulence
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Coupling the grid using interpolated values

[17] S. Galtier et al., Phys. D: Nonl. Phen. **390**, 84–88 (2019)

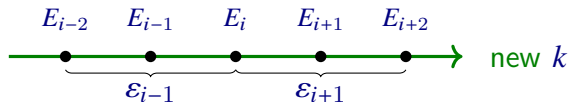
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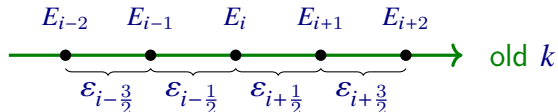
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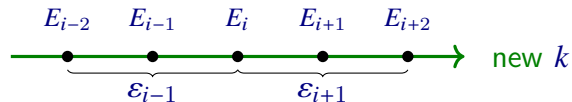
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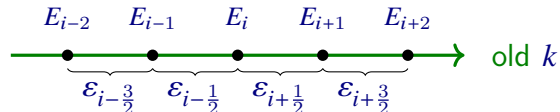
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# Value of the correlation coefficient in the dispersive case?

We can rewrite the stationary weak diffusive equations using

$$E^\pm(k_\perp) =: \frac{1}{2} k_\perp \rho(k_\perp) e^{\pm\phi(k_\perp)}. \quad (24)$$

so that  $|E_C(k_\perp)| \leq E(k_\perp)/v_{ph}(k_\perp)$ . NDE rewrites

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k_\perp} \rho^2(k_\perp) = -\frac{2\varepsilon}{C k_\perp^7 v_{ph}(k_\perp)} \quad (25)$$

$$\rho^2(k_\perp) \frac{\partial}{\partial k_\perp} \phi(k_\perp) = -\frac{\eta}{C k_\perp^7}. \quad (26)$$

Weak turbulence  
analytics

- $v_{ph}(k_\perp) \rightarrow k_\perp \Rightarrow \rho^2(k_\perp) \sim \varepsilon k_\perp^{-7} \Rightarrow \phi(k_\perp) \sim a + b k_\perp$  where  $0 > b \propto \eta/\varepsilon \Rightarrow E^\pm(k_\perp) \sim k_\perp^{-5/2} e^{\pm b k_\perp}$

Strong turbulence  
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- So one solutions exponentially diverge, unless we make modifications (confirmed in strong NDE simulation)
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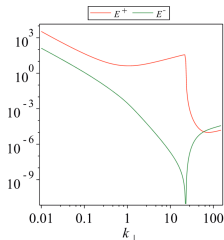
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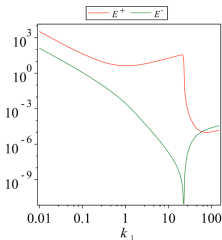
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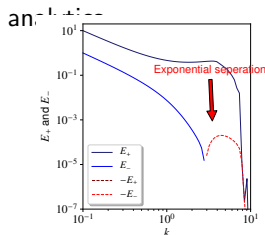
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- When we choose  $\chi = 1$  this problem is cured.

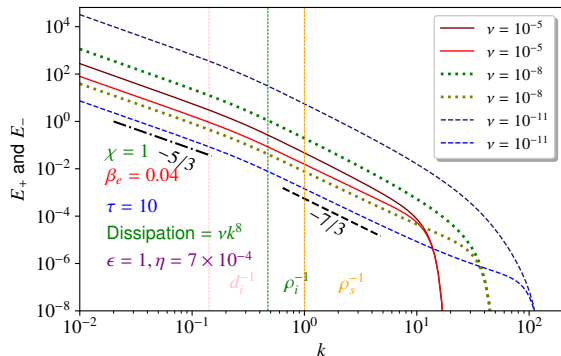


Weak turbulence

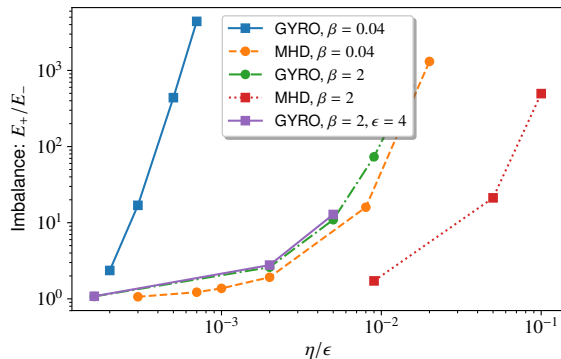


Strong turbulence simulation

# Presence of dispersion range increases imbalance



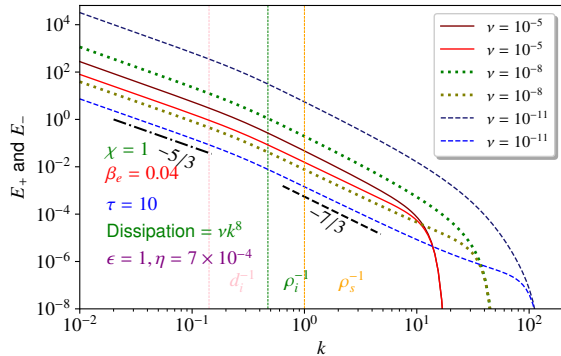
Dispersive case,  $k_d = k_d(\nu)$



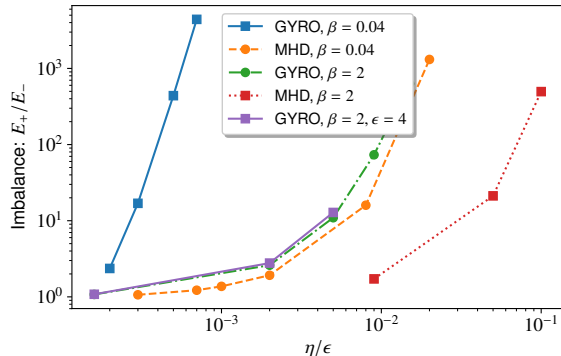
Imbalance vs. cross-helicity to energy flux ratio.

- The size of the dispersive range is determined by  $k_d$ , which is set by  $\nu$
- This size has significant impact on the size of imbalance:  $E_+/E_-!$
- It appears that imbalance strongly depends on the cross-helicity flux  $\eta$
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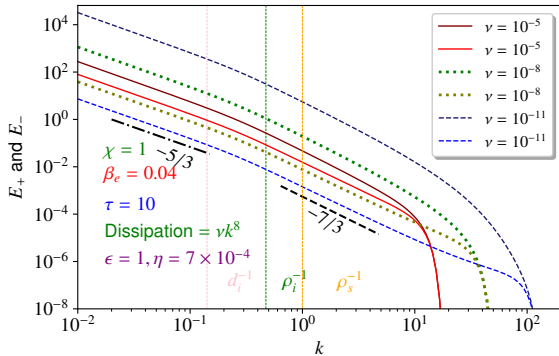


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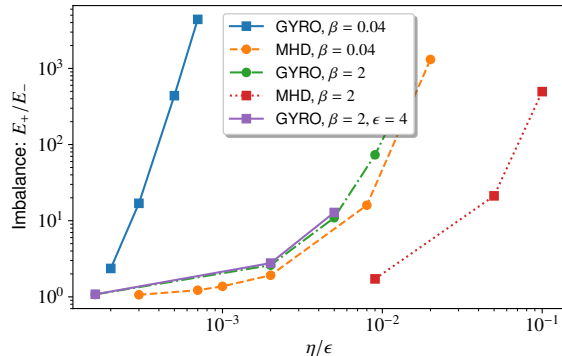
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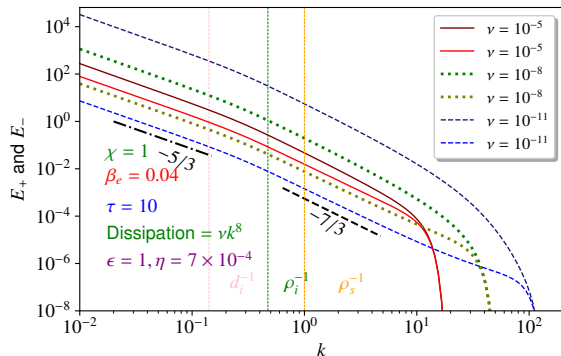
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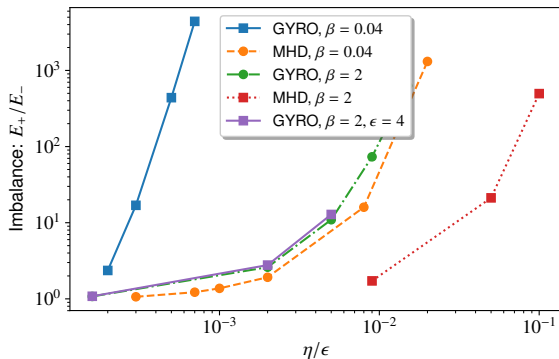
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# Landau Damping as a turbulence sink

- In solar wind plasmas are collisionless so (hyper)dissipation is unphysical
- We confirm that in case of low beta  $\beta_e = 0.04$  electron contribution is stronger
- Terms  $-2\gamma E$  and  $-2\gamma E_C$  are introduced in spectral equations
- The expression for damping<sup>[18]</sup> is derived from **linearized gyrokinetics**

$$\gamma = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{\delta}{\beta_e} \frac{1}{1 + 4(1 + \tau)^{-2} \beta_e^{-2}} \tilde{k}_{\parallel} k_{\perp}^2, \quad (27)$$

Wave-particle resonance

- Transfer time is also modified however the contribution is negligible.

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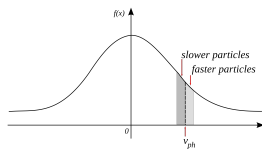
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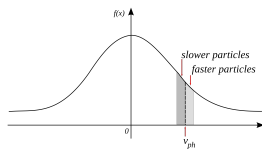
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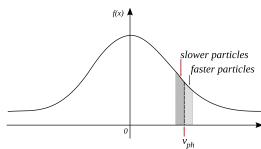
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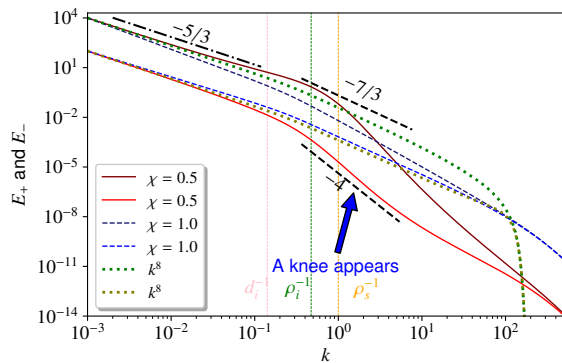
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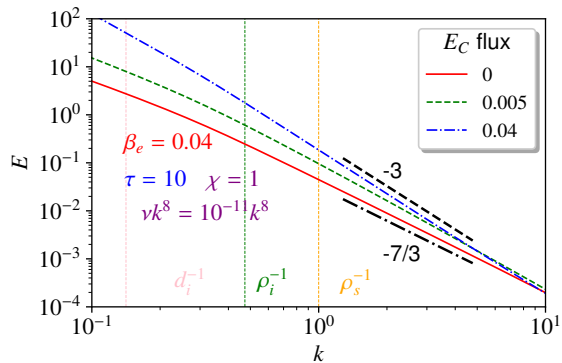
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# Landau damping effects



Different models of dissipation



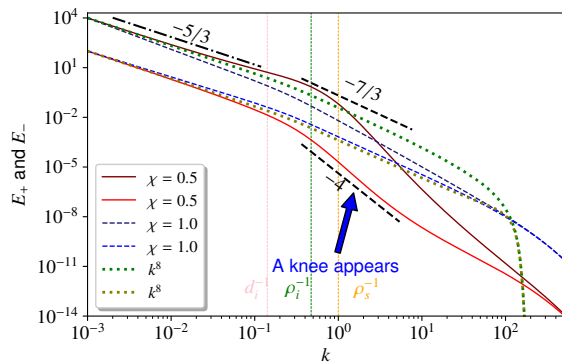
Steepening of the energy spectra vs  $\eta$ .

## Results

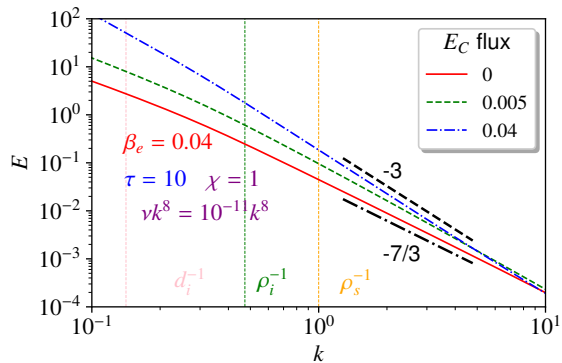
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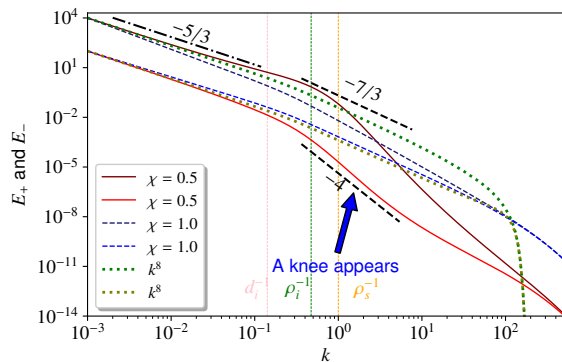


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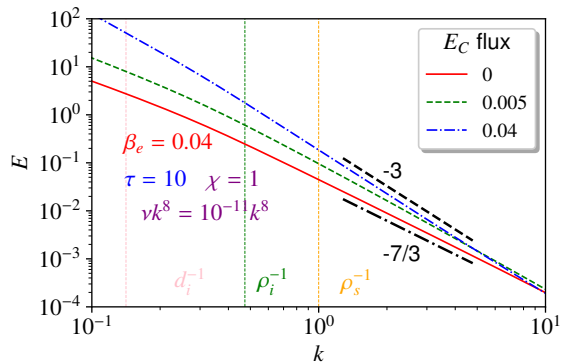
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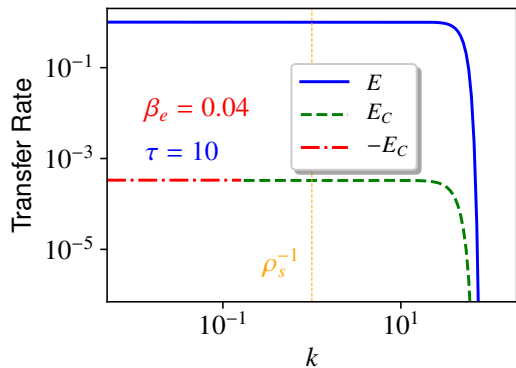


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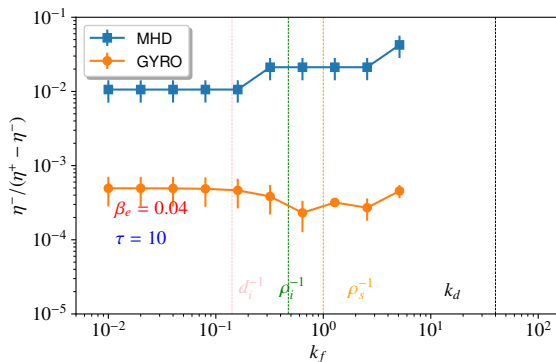
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Dispersive case: Fluxes for  $k_f \sim 0.016$

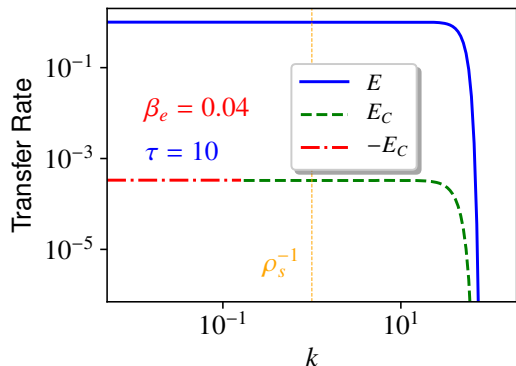
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Small scale to large scale cross-helicity injection ratio needed to drive the inverse cascade

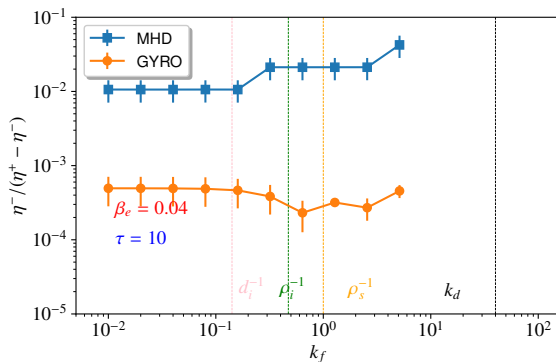
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  - MHD Turbulence
  - Hamiltonian gyrofluid model
- 2 Influence of the dispersive range
  - Nonlinear diffusion equation
  - Landau damping
  - Inverse Cascade
- 3 Conclusion
  - Comparisons with 3D gyrofluid simulations
  - Future Work

# Comparison with direct 3D gyrofluid simulations

- We have analysed consequences of NDEs that describe imbalanced KAW turbulence
- We conclude that **dispersive range** significantly affects the **imbalance**
- The dissipation mechanism is important, e.g. Landau damping

Preliminary results from 3D DNS are supporting some of the claims

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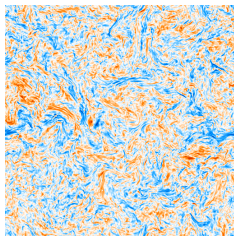


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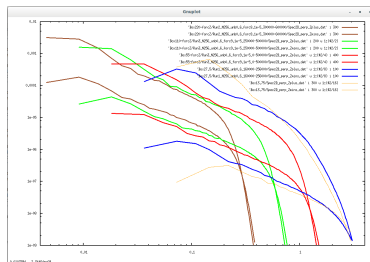
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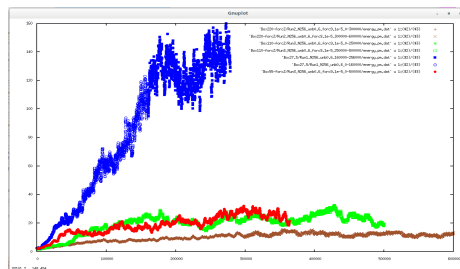
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Turbulent current  $j_z$



Spectra  $E_{\pm}$  for different box sizes



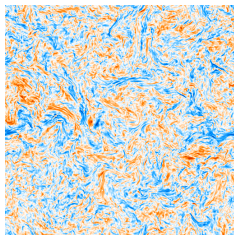
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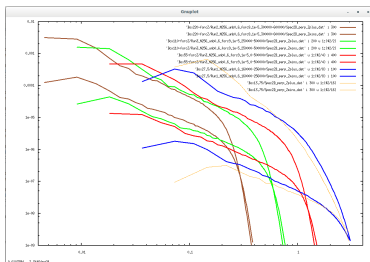
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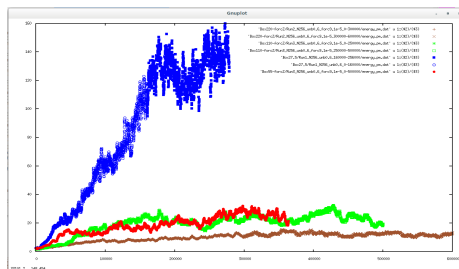
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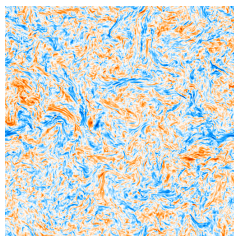
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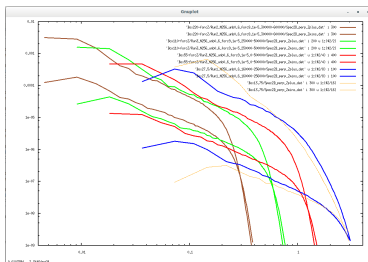
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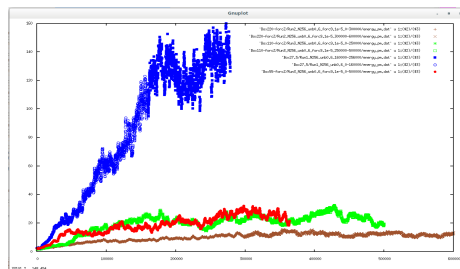
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