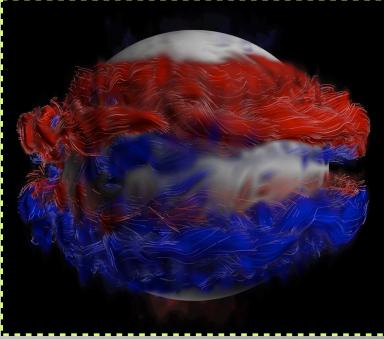


ASTR 7500: Solar & Stellar Magnetism

Hale CGEG Solar & Space Physics



Mark Miesch, Prof. Juri Toomre + HAO/NSO colleagues

Lecture 6 Thurs 7 Feb 2013

zeus.colorado.edu/astr7500-toomre

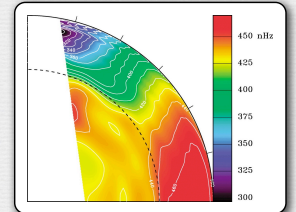
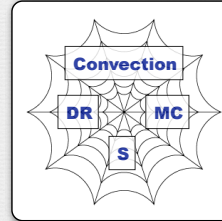
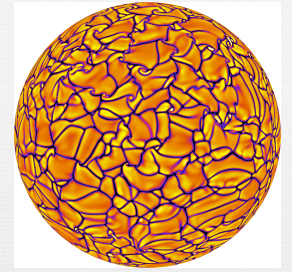
Where did we leave off?

Questions???

Largest scales of convection (giant cells) sustain mean flows

Differential Rotation (ϕ direction)

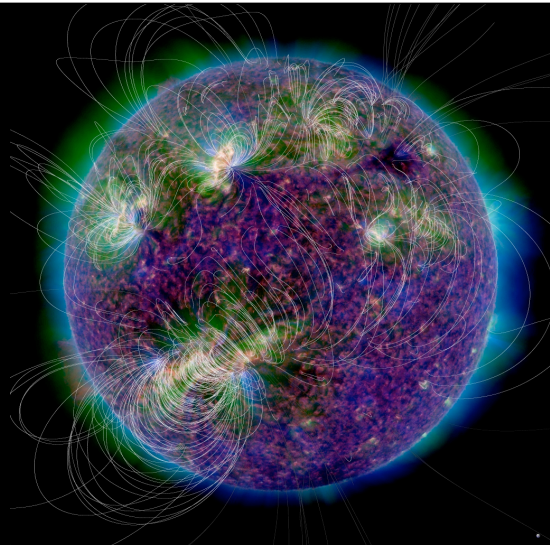
Meridional Circulation (r, θ direction)



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Today

How does convection plus the mean flows it establishes give rise to solar magnetic activity?

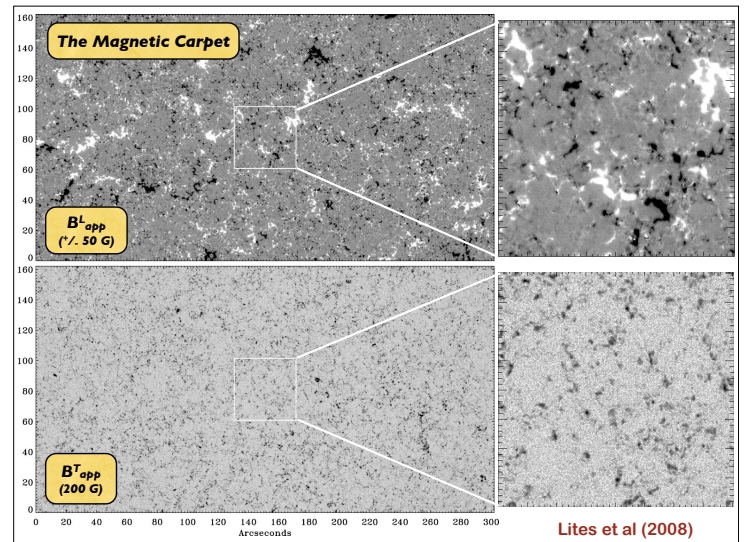
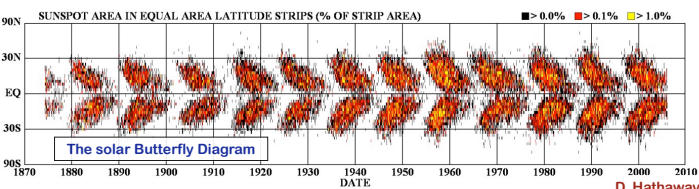
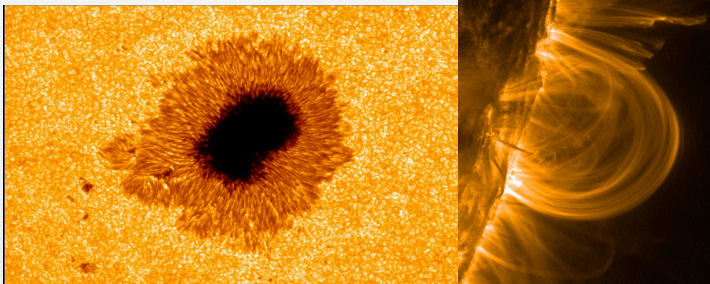


Definition

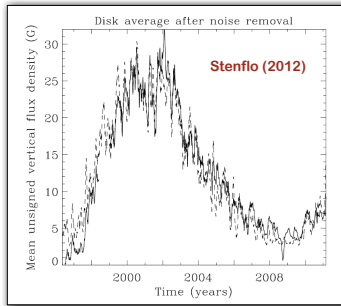
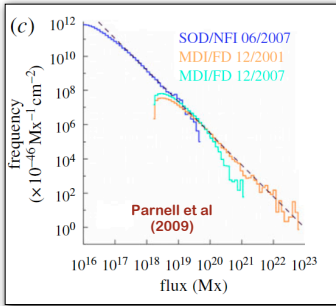
Hydromagnetic Dynamo

A physical object or system that converts the kinetic energy of fluid motions into magnetic energy and sustains that magnetic energy indefinitely against ohmic decay (magnetic diffusion)

The Solar Dynamo



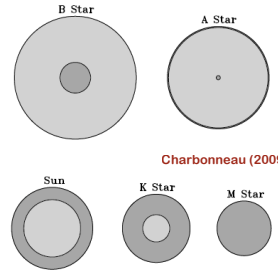
Large and Small Scales are Linked!



Continuous, apparently self-similar distribution of flux from the largest sunspots to the smallest resolved scales

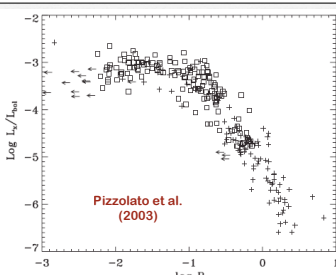
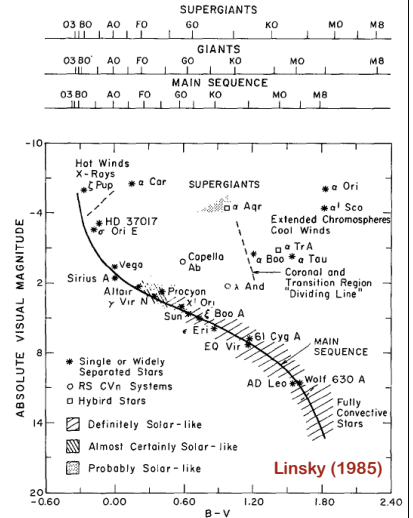
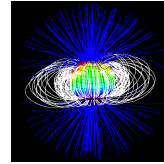
Magnetic flux on scales 2000 → 0.2 Mm Tracks the solar Activity cycle

Convection Breeds Magnetism



Charbonneau (2009)

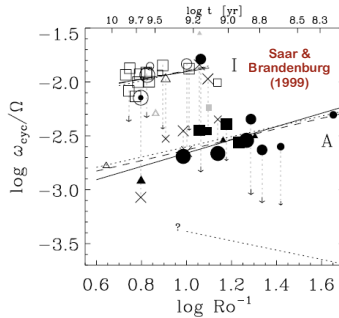
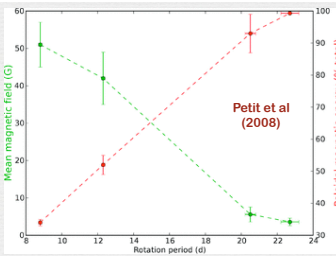
Donati et al (2006)



Rotation Promotes Magnetism

$$\frac{L_x}{L_{bol}} \propto (\Omega \tau_c)^2 \propto Ro^{-2}$$

Saturation at large Ω
 P_{cyc} vs P_{rot} less clear



Generation of Magnetic Fields: The MHD Magnetic Induction Equation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} - \eta \nabla \times \mathbf{B})$$

$$R_m = \frac{UL}{\eta}$$

Follows from Faraday's Law of Induction

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

And Ohm's Law (with a Galilean transformation)

$$\mathbf{J} = \sigma(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

MHD assumptions

- Highly ionized, Quasi-neutral
- High collision frequency/short mean-free paths (high density, temperature)
- sub-relativistic bulk velocity

Lesson #1 in Solar Dynamo Theory: If the velocity is specified (kinematic) the induction equation is

Note: this is the definition of

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

Profound implications (immediate)

Asking whether or not a given (steady) velocity field is a dynamo then reduces to a linear algebra problem

Solutions are a linear superposition of different modes, each with its own (complex) eigenvalue and eigenfunction

Real part of eigenvalue indicates whether the solution exponentially grows or exponentially decays

Imaginary part determines whether or not the solution is oscillatory (cyclic)

Note one important implication in particular:

Kinematic dynamo models can be used to predict cycle period but not cycle amplitude

Amplitude requires an additional ingredient that you dial in: nonlinear quenching

Exception: Data assimilation (Dikpati & Gilman 2006)

Lesson #2 in Solar Dynamo Theory: No real dynamo in nature is kinematic

Profound pain in the neck (...or opportunity, depending on your perspective)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{B}$$

This suggests two classes of dynamos:

Essentially kinematic:

Small seed field that is initially kinematic (too weak to induce a significant Lorentz force) grows exponentially until it becomes big enough to modify the velocity field

This brings up the crucial issue of: **Dynamo Saturation**

Essentially Nonlinear:

The velocity field that gives rise to the dynamo mechanism depends on the existence of the field

The focus then shifts toward: **Dynamo Excitation**

Lagrangian Chaos

Chaotic fluid trajectories amplify magnetic fields

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} - \eta \nabla \times \mathbf{B})$$

(provided that chaotic stretching wins the battle against ohmic diffusion)

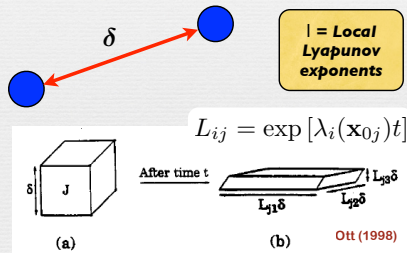
$$\frac{D\mathbf{B}}{Dt} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{B} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) - \nabla \times (\eta \nabla \times \mathbf{B})$$

If $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \eta = 0$ then

$$\frac{D\mathbf{B}}{Dt} = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}$$

$$\frac{d\delta}{dt} = (\delta \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}$$

$$\frac{d\delta_i(\mathbf{x}_0, t)}{dt} = J_{ij}(\mathbf{x}_0, t) \delta_j(\mathbf{x}_0, t)$$



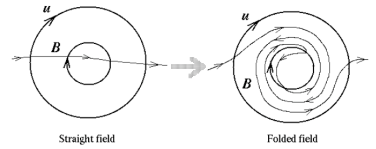
λ = Local Lyapunov exponents

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 0$$

Spatially smooth, temporally chaotic flows work best

$$R_m = \frac{UL}{\eta}$$

$$P_m = \frac{\nu}{\eta}$$

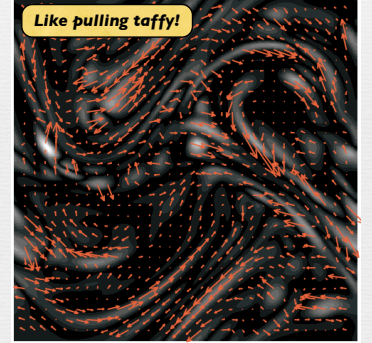
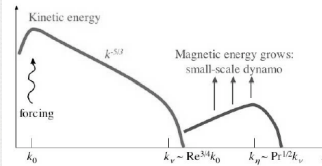


Schekochihin et al (2004)

If $P_m > 1$ then turbulent dynamos build fields on sub-viscous scales

Magnetic energy peaks near resistive scale

Turbulent flows beget turbulent fields!



Folded Field Structure

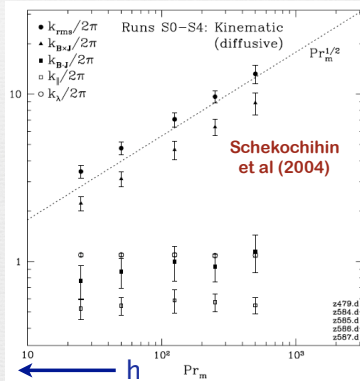
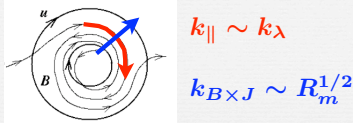
$$k_{||} = \left(\frac{\langle |(\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B}|^2 \rangle}{\langle B^4 \rangle} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$k_{\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{J}} = \left(\frac{\langle |\mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{J}|^2 \rangle}{\langle B^4 \rangle} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$k_{\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{J}} = \left(\frac{\langle |\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{J}|^2 \rangle}{\langle B^4 \rangle} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$k_{\text{rms}} = \left(\frac{\langle |(\nabla \mathbf{B})|^2 \rangle}{\langle B^2 \rangle} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$k_\lambda = \left(\frac{\langle |(\nabla \mathbf{v})|^2 \rangle}{\langle v^2 \rangle} \right)^{1/2}$$



But Stars have $P_m < 1$!

Now chaotic stretching must overcome ohmic diffusion and turbulent diffusion

Still, the dynamo prevails if R_m is large enough

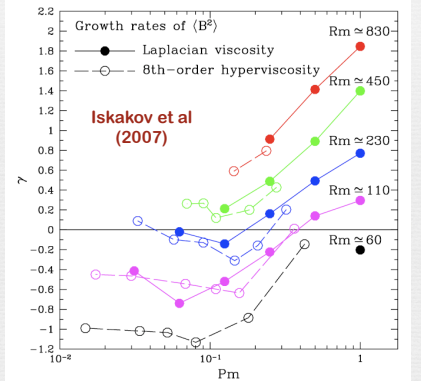
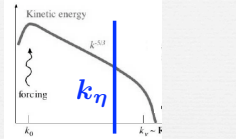
$$E_k \sim k^{-p}$$

$$\gamma \sim k v_k \sim k^{(3-p)/2}$$

Rough velocity fields ($p < 3$)
Smallest eddies are best at amplifying field because they have the fastest turnover time

Magnetic energy still peaks near the resistive scale, at least in the kinematic regime

Small-scale Fields!



Local Dynamo Action in the Sun and Stars

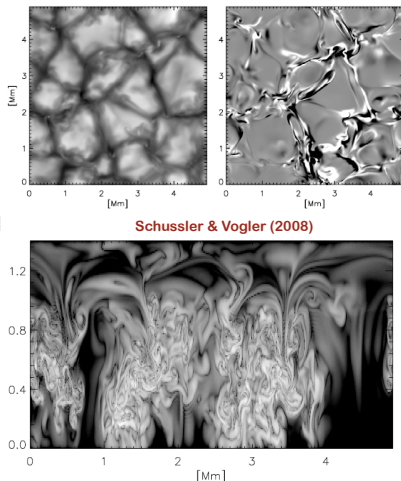
Granulation: $t \sim 10-15$ min
Giant Cells: $t \sim$ days - months

Granulation may generate field locally by chaotic stretching with little regard for the deeper convection zone

Flux expulsion and reconnection produce strong horizontal fields near photosphere

Magnetic pumping of flux through lower boundary can inhibit the surface dynamo in simulations

In the Sun the local dynamo is likely intimately coupled to the global dynamo



Types of Dynamos

define
Small-scale dynamo

Generates magnetic fields on scales smaller than the velocity field

$$\ell_B \leq \ell_v$$

Are local solar/stellar dynamos small-scale dynamos?

Probably - but intimately coupled to deep CZ

define
Large-scale dynamo

Generates magnetic fields on scales larger than the velocity field

$$\ell_B \gg \ell_v$$

Are global solar/stellar dynamos large-scale dynamos?

Probably - but $\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ correlations induced by large-scale convective modes or instabilities may contribute to global field generation

Recipe for Building Large-Scale Fields



Lagrangian Chaos

- Builds magnetic energy

Rotational Shear

- Builds large-scale toroidal flux (W-effect)
- Enhances dissipation of small-scale fields
- Promotes magnetic helicity flux

Helicity

- Rotation and stratification generate kinetic helicity
- Kinetic helicity generates magnetic helicity
- Upscale spectral transfer of magnetic helicity generates large-scale fields

- Local transfer: inverse cascade of magnetic helicity
- Nonlocal transfer: α -effect

Specific manifestations of a more general (and more profound) phenomenon

$$H_k = \langle \omega \cdot v \rangle$$

$$H_m = \langle A \cdot B \rangle$$

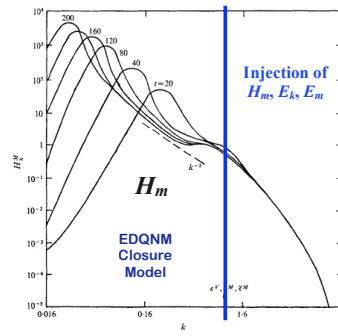
$$H_c = \langle J \cdot B \rangle$$

$$\omega = \nabla \times v$$

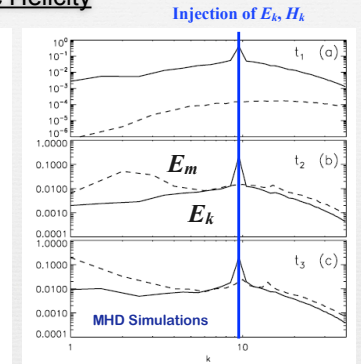
$$B = \nabla \times A$$

$$J = \frac{c}{4\pi} \nabla \times B$$

Inverse Cascade of Magnetic Helicity



Pouquet, Frisch & Leorat (1976)



Alexakis, Mininni & Pouquet (2006)

Magnetic Helicity is conserved in the limit $\eta \rightarrow 0$

Provides an essential link between large and small scales

If you twist the field on small scales, large scales will respond

Large Scale Dynamos: The Mean Induction Equation

Go back to our basic induction equation

$$\frac{\partial B}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (v \times B) + \eta \nabla^2 B$$

Now just average over longitude and rearrange a bit (other averages are possible but we'll stick to this for simplicity)

The equation for the mean field comes out to be

$$\frac{\partial \bar{B}}{\partial t} = \lambda \bar{B}_p \cdot \nabla \Omega \hat{\phi} + \nabla \times (\bar{v}_m \times \bar{B}) + \eta \nabla^2 \bar{B} + \nabla \times \mathcal{E}$$

* -effect
 Meridional circulation
 Diffusion (molecular)
 Fluctuating emf

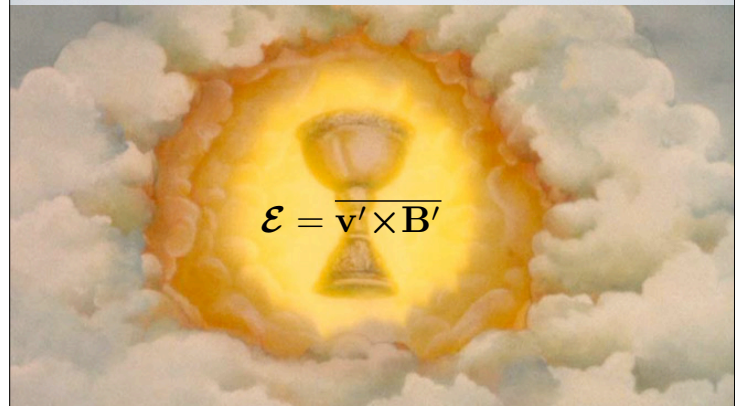
$$\lambda = r \sin \theta$$

No assumptions made up to this point beyond the basic MHD induction equation

Straightforward to show that if $\mathcal{E} = 0$, the dynamo dies (Cowling's theorem)

Note:
The B field in the Sun is clearly not axisymmetric. Still, the solar cycle clearly has an axisymmetric component so that's a good place to start

The Fluctuating emf



How can a non-axisymmetric flow across magnetic field lines produce an axisymmetric field?

$$v' = v - \bar{v}$$

$$B' = B - \bar{B}$$

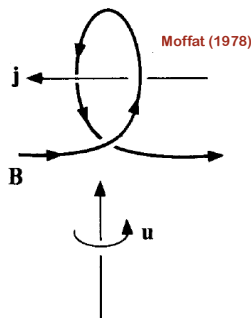
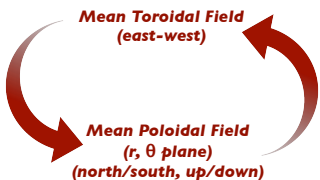
The α -effect

Helical motions (lift, twist) can induce an emf that is parallel to the mean field

$$\mathcal{E} = \overline{v' \times B'} = \alpha \bar{B}$$

This creates mean poloidal (r, θ) field from toroidal (ϕ) field

which closes the **Dynamo Loop**



Linked to kinetic, magnetic helicity

Linked to large-scale dynamo action

Illustrates the 3D nature of dynamos

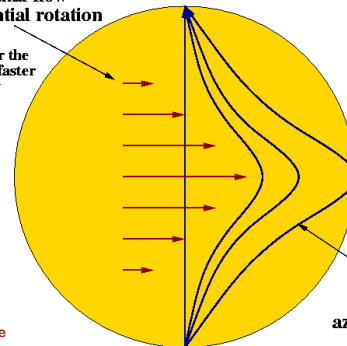
The \ast -effect

Converts **poloidal** to **toroidal** field and amplifies it

...by tapping the kinetic energy of the differential rotation

Azimuthal flow of differential rotation

The longer the arrow the faster the flow

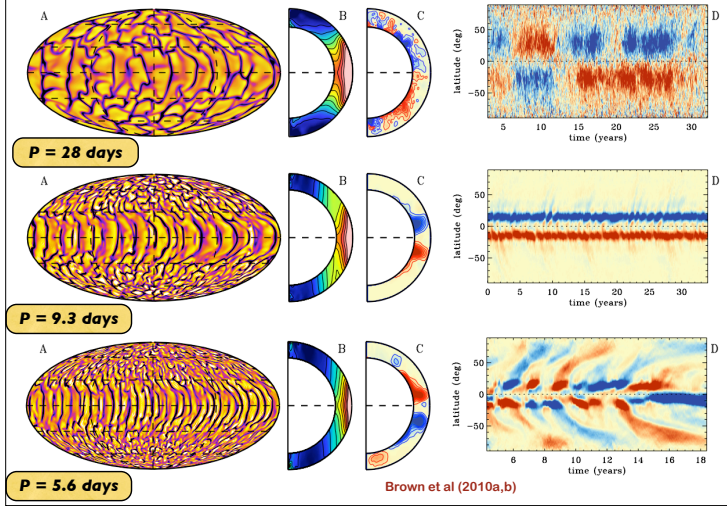


(more theoretically justified and robust than the α -effect)

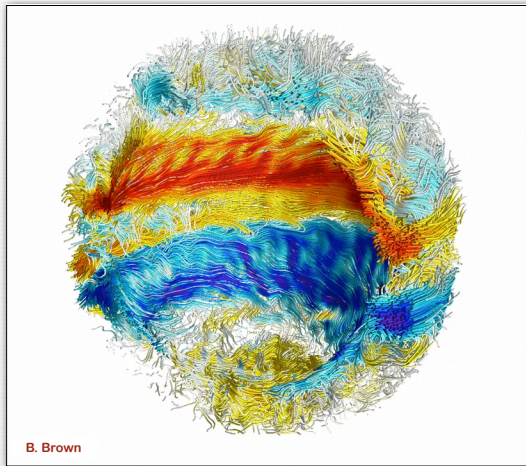
Meridional magnetic field is transformed into azimuthal magnetic field

J. Werne

Rotation promotes magnetic self-organization



Magnetic Cycles in a Convective Dynamo



"Magnetic Wreathes"

B. Brown