

# Mode coupling in non-axisymmetric solar dynamo models

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Basic Processes of Turbulent Plasmas Chalkidiki, Greece.

#### The Sun and the Sunspot Cycle



• At the beginning of any new cycle, sunspots appear at latitudes between 30 and 45 degrees. and subsequently migrate equatorwards, concentrating within the 30° latitude belt.









## Longitudinal structure: preferred longitudes

- Magnetic features appear at particular longitudes.
- Cycle 22: sol min (1996)
- Five major active regions emerge all at the **same** Carrington longitude of about 250°. (mid April - late July). DeToma, White & Harvey, 2000
- Persistence of active longitudes has been calculated up to 120 years. Berdyugina & Usoskin, 2003
- Threshold mechanism in the presence of an underlying mean-field component ? Ruzmaikin 1999





#### Preferred longitudes in the Solar Wind

- The poloidal field of the Sun opens into the interplanetary space carried by the solar wind.
- Non-axisymmetric components of the poloidal field appear as rotating patterns in the interplanetary field.
- In interplanetary field, magnetic field patterns have been found to have a period of 27.03 days (428nHz), through several solar cycles. Neugebauer, Smith, Feynman, Ruzmaikin, 2000.

- KEYWORDS:
  - Persistence
  - Clustering





#### Coherent Structures in MHD turbulence.

- Analysis of turbulence at moderate Reynolds number Brandenburg, Jennings, Nordlund, Rieutord, Stein, Tuominen 1995
- Structures in vorticity and in magnetic field do not coincide.

Bigazzi,Brandenburg,Moss , Phys.Plasmas 6 72-80 (99)



#### Coupling of the dynamo azimuthal m-modes



• Observations suggest, that modes are coupled.

Ruzmaikin, Feynman, Neugebauer, & Smith, 2001



#### Where is the solar dynamo?





#### What is this telling us about the dynamo

- Presence of a non-axisymmetric mean-field which
  - 1. Is concentrated at low latitudes
  - 2. (possibly) maximum close to the tachocline
  - 3. Rotates with a frequency close to 27 days
  - 4. Is modulated with the solar cycle period.



#### Turbulence and the $\alpha$ -effect: mean field dynamo.

• Take the induction equation

 $\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{B}}{\partial t} = \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times (\boldsymbol{u} \times \boldsymbol{B}) + \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \eta \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \boldsymbol{B}$ 

• and separate out the mean from the fluctuating part.

$$oldsymbol{B}=\overline{oldsymbol{B}}+oldsymbol{B}' \hspace{1cm}oldsymbol{u}=\overline{oldsymbol{u}}+oldsymbol{u}$$

• You get an equation for the mean field.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\overline{\boldsymbol{B}} = \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times (\overline{\boldsymbol{u}} \times \overline{\boldsymbol{B}}) + \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \overline{\boldsymbol{u}' \times \boldsymbol{B}'} + \eta \nabla^2 \overline{\boldsymbol{B}}$$

• An electric field proportional to the mean field and its derivative results.

$$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}}_{i} = \overline{\boldsymbol{u}' \times \boldsymbol{B}'}_{i} = \alpha \delta_{ij} \overline{\boldsymbol{B}}_{j} + \beta \epsilon_{ijk} \overline{\boldsymbol{B}}_{j,k}$$

• You have a source and a diffusion term coming from your underlying turbulence.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\overline{B} = \underbrace{\nabla \times (\overline{u} \times \overline{B})}_{\Omega - \text{effect} + \text{merid circ}} + \underbrace{\nabla \times \alpha \overline{B}}_{\alpha - \text{effect}} + \underbrace{(\eta + \beta)}_{\text{Turb diff}} \nabla^2 \overline{B}$$



Toroidal and poloidal potentials

• Two variables: T, P:

$$\boldsymbol{B}_T = \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \mathbf{r} T$$
$$\boldsymbol{B}_P = \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \mathbf{r} P$$

• Two coupled equations:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \partial_t T &=& R_\Omega V_\Omega + R_\alpha V_\alpha + R_M V_M \\ &+& \eta \nabla^2 T + \partial_r \eta \cdot \frac{1}{r} \partial_r (rT), \\ \partial_t S &=& R_\Omega U_\Omega + R_\alpha U_\alpha + R_M U_M \\ &+& \eta \nabla^2 S \end{array}$$

• Non-dmensional numbers:

$$R_{\Omega} = \frac{\Omega_0 R_{\odot}^2}{\eta_0}, \quad R_{\alpha} = \frac{\alpha_0 R_{\odot}}{\eta_0}, \quad R_M = \frac{u_M R_{\odot}}{\eta_0}.$$



## Toroidal and poloidal potentials

$$\partial_t T = R_{\Omega} V_{\Omega} + R_{\alpha} V_{\alpha} + R_M V_M + \eta \nabla^2 T + \partial_r \eta \cdot \frac{1}{r} \partial_r (rT), \partial_t S = R_{\Omega} U_{\Omega} + R_{\alpha} U_{\alpha} + R_M U_M + \eta \nabla^2 S$$

• Relation between the scalars U, V and the sources.

$$((\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{r}) \times \boldsymbol{B})_T = -\mathbf{r} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} U_{\Omega},$$
  
$$\boldsymbol{\nabla} \times ((\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{r}) \times \boldsymbol{B})_P = -\mathbf{r} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} V_{\Omega},$$
  
$$(\boldsymbol{u}_M \times \boldsymbol{B})_T = -\mathbf{r} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} U_M,$$
  
$$\boldsymbol{\nabla} \times (\boldsymbol{u}_M \times \boldsymbol{B})_P = -\mathbf{r} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} V_M,$$
  
$$(\alpha \boldsymbol{B})_T = -\mathbf{r} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} U_{\alpha},$$
  
$$\boldsymbol{\nabla} \times (\alpha \boldsymbol{B})_P = -\mathbf{r} \times \boldsymbol{\nabla} V_{\alpha}.$$

• Those relations can be solved numerically



## Longitudinal m-modes.

• Expansion in longitudinal m-modes as:

$$T(r,\theta,\phi) = \sum_{m=0}^{N} T^m(r,\theta) e^{im\phi} + cc, \dots$$

• Theorem: when  $\overline{u}$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\eta$  are axisymmetric, the equation decompose into an independent set per each m-mode.

$$\partial_t T^m = L^m(T^m, S^m) \partial_t S^m = G^m(T^m, S^m)$$

- Modes are decoupled.
- Non-axisymmetric  $\alpha$  naturally couples the modes.

$$(\alpha \boldsymbol{B})^m = \sum_{j=-N}^N \alpha^j(r,\theta) \boldsymbol{B}^{m-j}(r,\theta)$$

Consider the lowest modes m = 0, m = 1.

$$(\alpha \boldsymbol{B})^1 = \alpha^0 \boldsymbol{B}^1 + \epsilon \alpha^1 \boldsymbol{B}^0$$



## Our dynamo model: numerical setup.

- $\bullet$  Non-spectral
  - Legendre transform is numerically expensive
  - No fast algorithm like FFT exists
  - Ease of parallelization
- Regular grid in r,  $\theta,$  typically 80 x 160 grid points.
- Solves for m = 0 and the first non-axisymmetric mode m = 1
- Outer boundary conditions: potential.





- We include the rotation curve of the Sun
- Coupling is introduced through the non-axisymmetric  $\alpha$
- A variable profile of turbulent diffusivity  $\eta(r)$  defines the core boundary.
- We consider three different models for the distributions of  $\alpha$ , see figure above.



#### Localization of the field.



- $\bullet\,$  In latitude: the non-axisymmetric mode concentrates around  $30^\circ\,$
- In radius: the field maximises close to the Tachocline
- Surface  $\alpha$ : No field at the tachocline.





#### Localization: solar differential rotation



- The radial gradient of angular velocity is close to null at  $30^\circ$
- That is where the non-axisymmetric (toroidal) field concentrates (when  $\alpha$  overlaps with the shear layer, tachocline, at  $0.6R_{\odot}$ ).
- The angular velocity distribution is reconstructed from helioseismic data Thompson, M.J. 2000



#### Cycle period and phase relations

• The m = 1 mode has the same cycle period as the m = 0 mode.



- The phases between S and T potentials, modes m = 0 and m = 1, are consistent with observations (case  $\alpha_1$  is displayed):
  - $S_1$  is max at  $T_0$  min.
  - $S_1$  is max after  $S_0$  min.



#### **Rotation rate of the** m = 1 mode



- The radial (poloidal) field at surface rotates with a rate of 442nHz (core rotation), M1 and M3, and 433nHz, M2.
- In interplanetary field a rotation of 27.03 days (428nHz) has been found. Neugebauer, Smith, Feynman, Ruzmaikin, 2000.
- Fast Ulysses scan at solar max, 2000-2001 (CR1970-CR1981): 432  $\div$  437nHz rotation rate of the m = 1 mode (tachocline rate). Jones, Balogh & Smith, 2003



## Conclusions

- The coupling of dynamo modes due to a non-axisymmetric  $\alpha\text{-}$  effect, is responsible for
  - The latitudinal localization around  $30^\circ$  of the non-axisymmetric mode due to the solar rotation curve.
  - The 11 yr cycle for both the m = 0 and m = 1 components.
  - Preferred Longitudes:
    - Longitudinal localization of the fields due to the m-modes of the dynamo-generated fields.
    - Rate of rotation of surface fields determined by the global evolution of magnetic fields rather than from pure surface phenomena.
- How a non-axisymmetric  $\alpha$  is produced?
  - Magnetic and/or hydro instabilities
  - Other mechanisms?

Bigazzi & Ruzmaikin 2003, ApJ, submitted





## Meridional circulation



• Shallow and deep meridional circulation:

- Diffusivity decreased, below the tachocline, to 1/200 the convection zone value.
- Velocity close to the surface of order  $20\mathrm{m/s}$
- Velocity at the bottom 1/10 of surface velocity.
- Distribution is not radically changed.

- m=1 mode still concentrated at 30° latitude.

• Cycle period and symmetry are more sensitive.





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• Ulysses data support a  $432 \div 437$ nHz rotation rate of the m = 1 mode, which correlates with the rotation rate of the tachocline.