

# Inertial transfer and small-scale structures in magnetohydrodynamic turbulence

Damiano Capocci<sup>1</sup>, Sean Oughton<sup>2</sup>, Perry Johnson<sup>3</sup>, Luca Biferale<sup>1</sup>, Moritz Linkmann<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics and INFN, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand

<sup>3</sup>Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, University of California, Irvine, USA

<sup>4</sup>School of Mathematics and Maxwell Institute for Mathematical Sciences, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom



UKAEA Plasma Physics Workshop  
Higgs center, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

08-10 November 2023





→ What we are interested in:

- understanding the physical processes that govern the energy cascade in MHD
- finding the length scales these processes are associated with

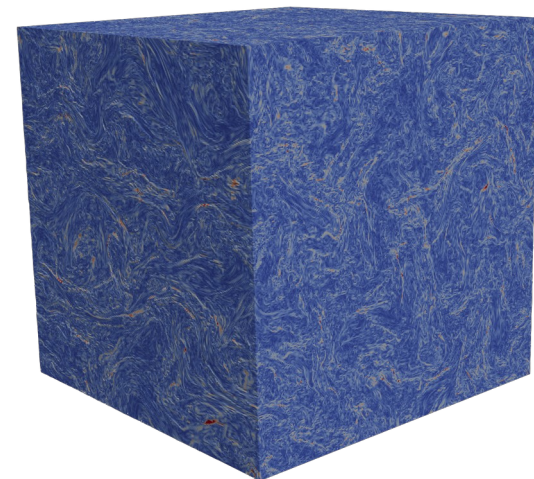
→ How we realize them:

- using a theoretical approach to construct physically interpretable observables
- disentangling the large-scale dynamics from the small-scales one

→ How we achieve that:

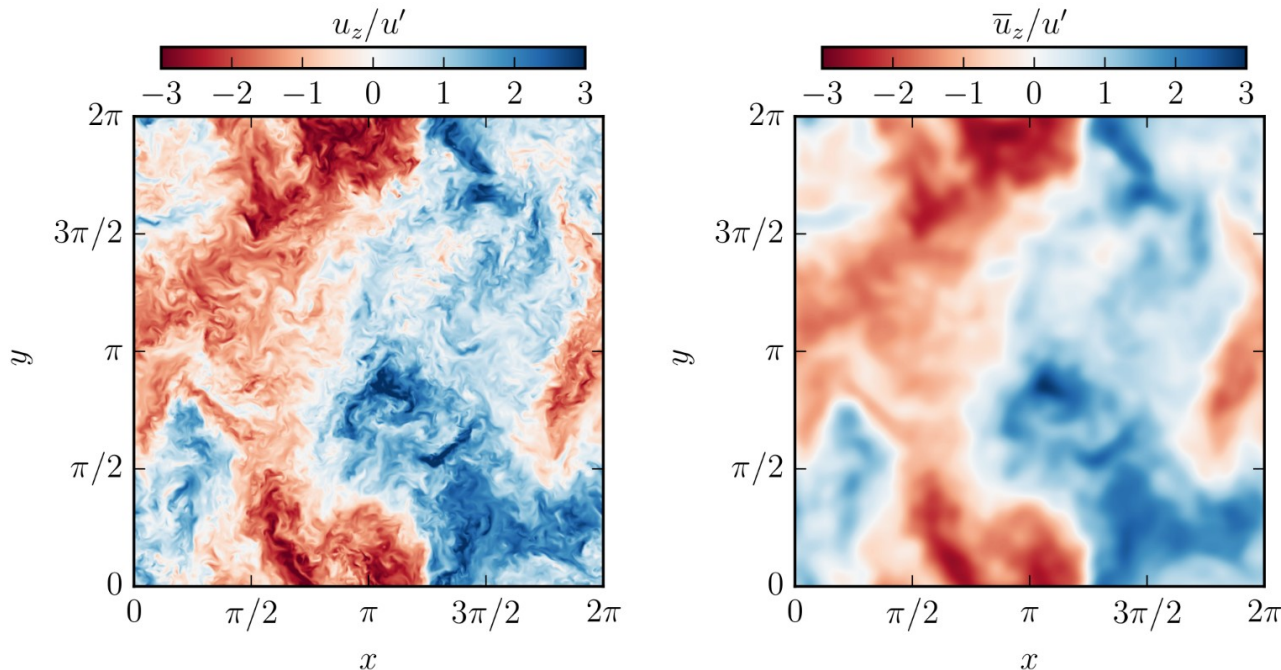
- next slides

Let us talk about hydrodynamics first



$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u_i + \partial_j (u_i u_j) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \partial_j p \delta_{ij} + \nu u_{i,jj} + f_i \\ \partial_i u_i = 0 \end{cases}$$

3D incompressible  
Navier-Stokes  
equations



The fluid velocity in the z direction  
on an xy plane in the HIT simulation  
with  $Re_\lambda = 400$  :

- (a) unfiltered
- (b) filtered using a Gaussian filter

(P. Johnson, JFM (2021) )

Separate large- and small-scale dynamics →

Filtering operation

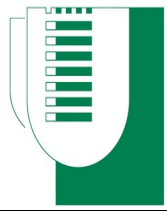
## 3D incompressible Navier-Stokes equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u_i + \partial_j (u_i u_j) = -\frac{1}{\rho} \partial_j p \delta_{ij} + \nu u_{i,jj} + f_i \\ \partial_i u_i = 0 \end{cases}$$

Separate large- and small-scale dynamics  $\longrightarrow$  Filtering operation

$$\bar{u}_i^\ell(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{r} G^\ell(\mathbf{r}) u_i(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}). \quad G^\ell(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\ell^2)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{|\mathbf{r}|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$\mathcal{F}\{\bar{u}_i^\ell\}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathcal{F}\{u_i\}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot \mathcal{F}\{G^\ell\}(\mathbf{k}) \equiv \mathcal{F}\{u_i\}(\mathbf{k}) \cdot e^{-\frac{|\mathbf{k}|^2 \ell^2}{2}}$$



Filtered momentum equations:

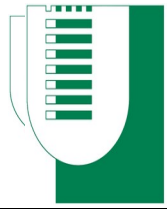
$$\partial_t \bar{u}_i^l + \partial_j (\overline{u_i u_j^l}) = -\partial_j \bar{p}^l \delta_{ij} + \nu \bar{u}_{i,jj}^l + \bar{f}_i^l$$



$$\partial_t \bar{u}_i^l + \partial_j (\overline{u_i u_j^l}) = -\partial_j \bar{p}^l \delta_{ij} + \nu \bar{u}_{i,jj}^l + \bar{f}_i^l - \partial_j \tau_{ij}^l$$

$$\tau_{ij}^l = \overline{u_i u_j^l} - \bar{u}_i^l \bar{u}_j^l$$

Sub-Grid Scale  
stress tensor



Filtered  
velocity

•

Filtered  
momentum  
equations

=

Filtered field  
energy  
equation

$$\overline{u}_i^l \cdot \left( \partial_t \overline{u}_i^l + \partial_j (\overline{u}_i^l \overline{u}_j^l) \right) = \overline{u}_i^l \cdot \left( -\partial_j \overline{p}^l \delta_{ij} + \nu \overline{u}_{i,jj}^l + \overline{f}_i^l - \partial_j \tau_{ij}^l \right)$$



$$\partial_t \left( \frac{1}{2} \overline{u}_i^l \overline{u}_i^l \right) + \partial_j (\dots) = \overline{u}_i^l \overline{f}_i^l + \overline{S}_{ij}^l \tau_{ij}^l - 2\nu \overline{S}_{ij}^l \overline{S}_{ij}^l$$



boundary  
term

vanishes in mean



input energy  
from forcing



energy flux  
across the scales



viscous  
dissipation

$$\tau_{ij}^l = \overline{u_i u_j^l} - \overline{u}_i^l \overline{u}_j^l$$

$$S_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$



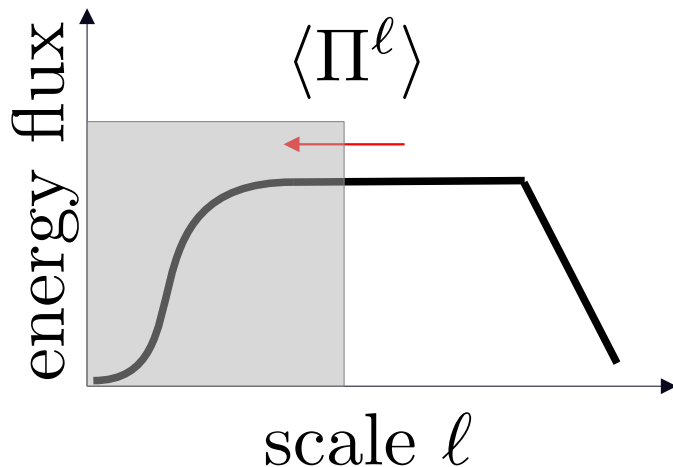
$$\partial_t \bar{u}_i^\ell + \partial_j (\bar{u}_i^\ell \bar{u}_j^\ell) = -\partial_j \bar{p}^\ell \delta_{ij} + \nu \bar{u}_{i,jj}^\ell + \bar{f}_i^\ell - \partial_j \tau_{ij}^\ell$$

$$\tau_{ij}^\ell = \overline{u_i u_j}^\ell - \bar{u}_i^\ell \bar{u}_j^\ell$$

$$\Pi^\ell = -\bar{S}_{ji}^\ell \tau_{ij}^\ell$$

$$\bar{u}_i^\ell(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\Omega} d\mathbf{r} G^\ell(\mathbf{r}) u_i(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}).$$

$$G^\ell(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\ell^2)^{3/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{|\mathbf{r}|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$



$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i^\ell}{\partial (\ell^2)} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \bar{u}_i^\ell$$
$$\bar{u}_i^\ell(\mathbf{x})|_{\ell=0} = u_i(\mathbf{x})$$



$$\partial_t \bar{u}_i^\ell + \partial_j (\bar{u}_i^\ell \bar{u}_j^\ell) = -\partial_j \bar{p}^\ell \delta_{ij} + \nu \bar{u}_{i,jj}^\ell + \bar{f}_i^\ell - \partial_j \tau_{ij}^\ell$$

$$\tau_{ij}^\ell = \overline{u_i u_j}^\ell - \bar{u}_i^\ell \bar{u}_j^\ell$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i^\ell}{\partial(\ell^2)} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \bar{u}_i^\ell$$

$$\bar{u}_i^\ell(\mathbf{x})|_{\ell=0} = u_i(\mathbf{x})$$



$$\frac{\partial \tau_{ij}^\ell}{\partial(\ell^2)} = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \tau_{ij}^\ell + \partial_k \bar{u}_i^\ell \partial_k \bar{u}_j^\ell$$

$$\tau_{ij}^\ell(\mathbf{x})|_{\ell=0} = 0$$

$$\Pi^\ell = -\ell^2 \bar{S}_{ji}^\ell \partial_k \bar{u}_i^\ell \partial_k \bar{u}_j^\ell - \bar{S}_{ji}^\ell \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\partial_k \bar{u}_i \sqrt{\theta}} \partial_k \bar{u}_j \sqrt{\theta}}{\partial_k \bar{u}_i \sqrt{\theta}} \frac{\overline{\partial_k \bar{u}_j \sqrt{\theta}} \sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}{\partial_k \bar{u}_j \sqrt{\theta}} \sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}$$



single-scale



multi-scale





$$\Pi^\ell = -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell)^t \right) - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}} - \overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t \right)$$

$$\Pi^\ell = \Pi_{s,SSS}^\ell + \Pi_{m,SSS}^\ell + \Pi_{s,S\Omega\Omega}^\ell + \Pi_{m,S\Omega\Omega}^\ell + \Pi_{m,SS\Omega}^\ell$$

$$\bar{S}^\ell = (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell + (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell)^t) / 2$$

$$\bar{\Omega}^\ell = (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell - (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{u}}^\ell)^t) / 2$$

$$\Pi_{s,SSS}^\ell = -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \bar{S}^\ell (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \right)$$

single-scale strain self-amplification

$$\Pi_{s,S\Omega\Omega}^\ell = -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \bar{\Omega}^\ell (\bar{\Omega}^\ell)^t \right)$$

single-scale vortex stretching

$$\Pi_{m,SSS}^\ell = -\int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \text{tr} \left( (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \overline{\bar{S}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\bar{S}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^\phi - (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \bar{S}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \overline{(\bar{S}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^\phi \right)$$

multi-scale strain self-amplification

$$\Pi_{m,S\Omega\Omega}^\ell = -\int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \text{tr} \left( (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \overline{\bar{\Omega}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\bar{\Omega}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^\phi - (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \bar{\Omega}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \overline{(\bar{\Omega}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^\phi \right)$$

multi-scale vortex stretching

$$\Pi_{m,SS\Omega}^\ell = -\int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \text{tr} \left( (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \overline{\bar{S}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\bar{\Omega}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^\phi - (\bar{S}^\ell)^t \bar{\Omega}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \overline{(\bar{S}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^\phi \right)$$

couples resolved-scale strain rate w/  
subfilter correlation of strain rate &  
vorticity

structure of expression generic for advective nonlinearity

- can generalise to coupled advection diffusion equations → **MHD**
- can decompose kinetic, magnetic, cross-helicity fluxes

### Generalized expression

$$\Pi^\ell = -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^\ell)^t \right) \\ - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} - \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}}} \frac{\overline{(\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{(\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} \right)$$

structure of expression generic for advective nonlinearity

- can generalise to coupled advection diffusion equations → **MHD**
- can decompose kinetic, magnetic, cross-helicity fluxes

### Generalized expression

$$\Pi^\ell = -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^\ell)^t \right) - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} - \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}}} \frac{\overline{(\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{(\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} \right)$$

*J. Fluid Mech.* (2023), vol. 963, R1, doi:10.1017/jfm.2023.236



applied to  
HD helicity flux

**New exact Betchov-like relation for the helicity flux in homogeneous turbulence**

Damiano Capocci<sup>1,†</sup>, Perry L. Johnson<sup>2</sup>, Sean Oughton<sup>3</sup>, Luca Biferale<sup>1</sup> and Moritz Linkmann<sup>4,†</sup>

## MHD equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P^* - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f} \\ \partial_t \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} \end{cases} \quad P^* = P + \frac{b^2}{2}$$

## Generalized expression

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi^\ell = & -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^\ell)^t \right) \\ & - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} - \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} \right) \end{aligned}$$

MHD energy fluxes

$$\Pi^\ell = \Pi^{I,\ell} - \Pi^{M,\ell} + \Pi^{A,\ell} - \Pi^{D,\ell}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \quad \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{array}$$

momentum equation

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} \quad \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{array}$$

induction equation

## MHD equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P^* - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f} \\ \partial_t \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} \end{cases} \quad P^* = P + \frac{b^2}{2}$$

## Generalized expression

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi^\ell = & -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^\ell)^t \right) \\ & - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}} \overline{(\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

MHD energy fluxes

$$\Pi^\ell = \boxed{\Pi^{I,\ell}} - \Pi^{M,\ell} + \Pi^{A,\ell} - \Pi^{D,\ell}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \quad \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{array}$$

momentum equation

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \qquad \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} \quad \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{array}$$

induction equation



## DNS datasets

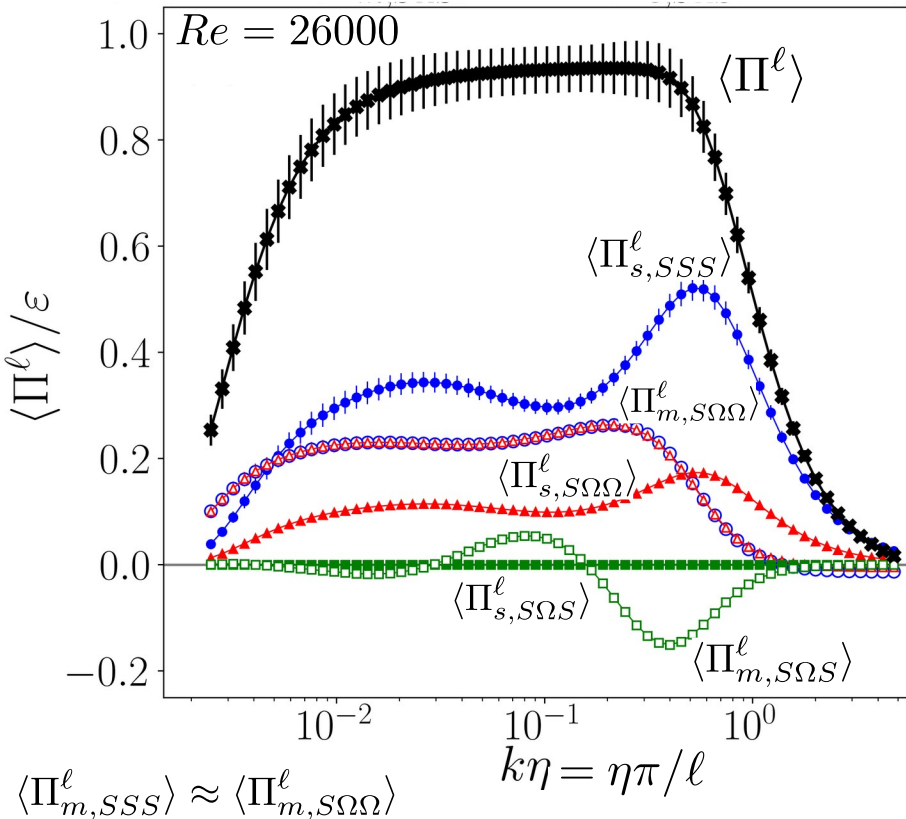
- nonlinear saturated dynamo  $Pm = 1$
- statistically stationary
- background magnetic field  $\begin{cases} B_0 = 0 \\ B_0 = 10 \end{cases}$
- Large-scale random forcing scheme  $k_f \in [3, 5]$  w/ minimal cross-helicity injection
- periodic BC on domain  $[0, 2\pi]^3 \rightarrow$  pseudo-spectral method
- viscous/hyperviscous
- $1024^3 - 2048^3$  collocation points  $\begin{aligned} k_{\max} \eta_u &= 1.38 \\ k_{\max} \eta_b &= 1.37 \end{aligned}$



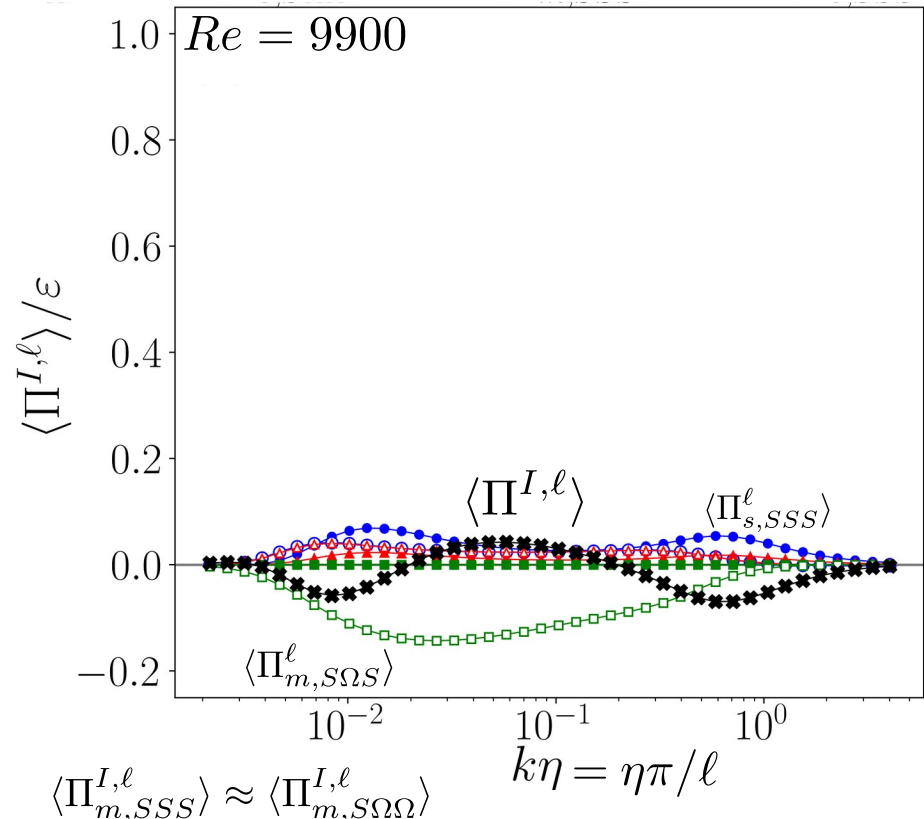
Decomposed inertial flux  $u \cdot \nabla u$

$$\Pi^{I,\ell} = \Pi_{s,SSS}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{m,SSS}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{s,S\Omega\Omega}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{m,S\Omega\Omega}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{m,S\Omega S}^{I,\ell}$$

Navier-Stokes



MHD with  $B_0 = 0$



## MHD equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P^* - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f} \\ \partial_t \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} \end{cases} \quad P^* = P + \frac{b^2}{2}$$

## Generalized expression

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi^\ell = & -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^\ell)^t \right) \\ & - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} \right) \end{aligned}$$

MHD energy fluxes

$$\Pi^\ell = \Pi^{I,\ell} - \Pi^{M,\ell} + \Pi^{A,\ell} - \Pi^{D,\ell}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ & \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} & & \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} & & \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \\ & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & \\ & \text{momentum equation} & & & & \text{induction equation} & \end{array}$$

momentum equation

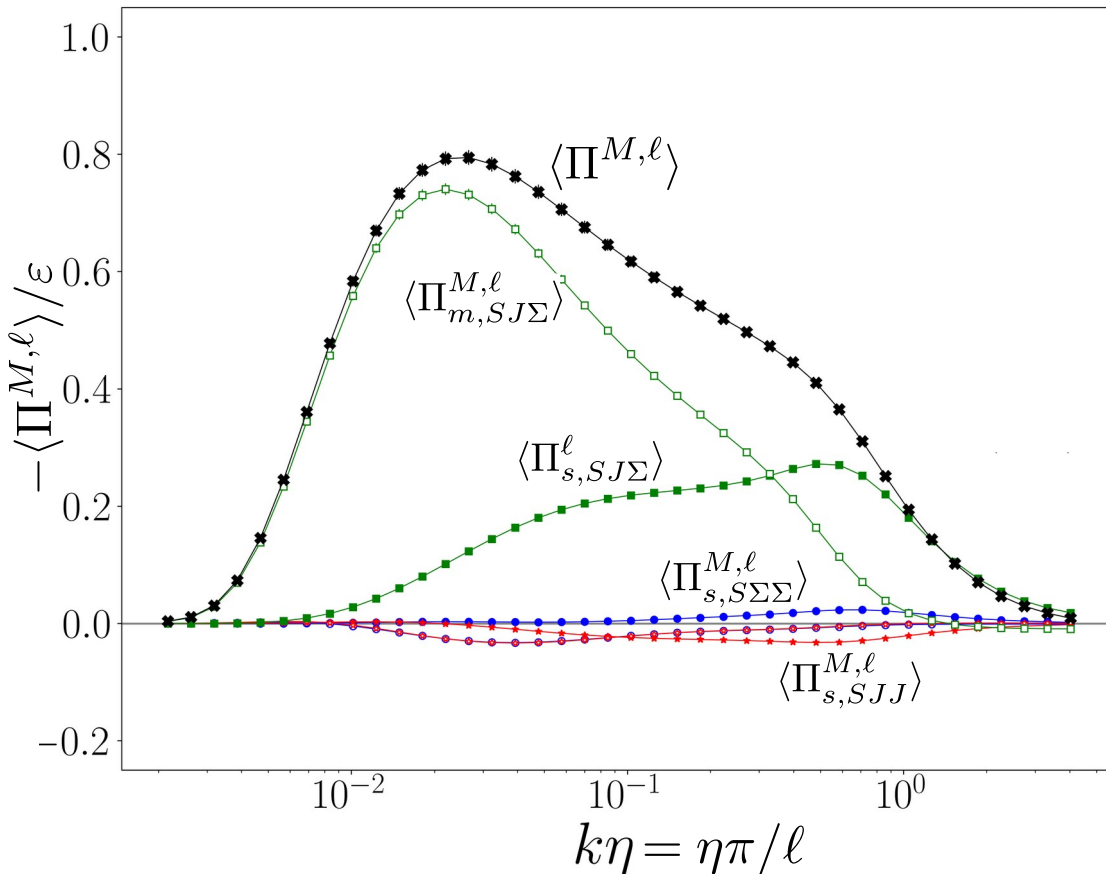
induction equation





## Decomposed Maxwell flux $\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b}$

$$\Pi^{M,\ell} = \Pi_{s,S\Sigma\Sigma}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{m,S\Sigma\Sigma}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{s,SJJ}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{m,SJJ}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{s,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{m,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell}$$



$$\bar{\Sigma}^{\ell} = \left( \nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^{\ell} + (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^{\ell})^t \right) / 2$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\ell} = \left( \nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^{\ell} - (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^{\ell})^t \right) / 2$$

Energy transfer almost exclusively from:

$$\Pi_{m,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell} =$$

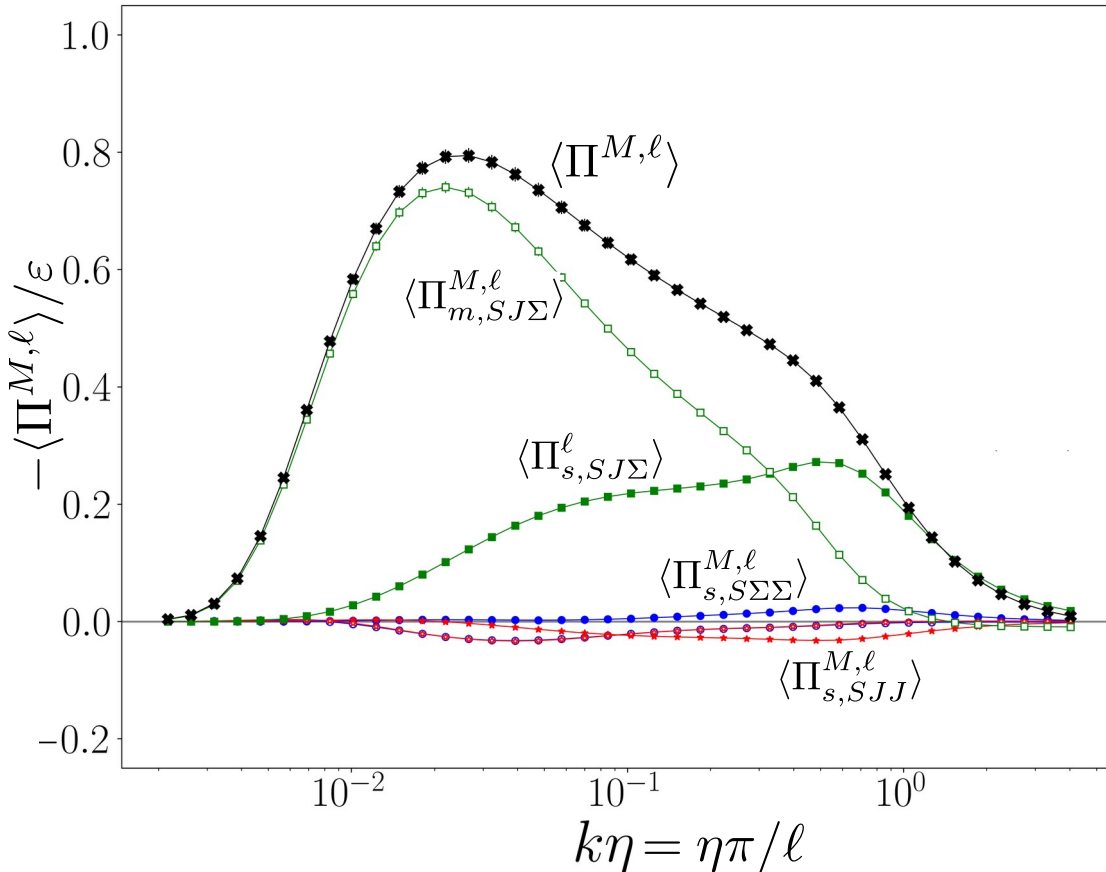
$$-\int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \operatorname{tr} \left( \bar{S}^{\ell} \left( \overline{\bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\ell} \bar{\Sigma}^{\ell} \phi} - \overline{\bar{\Sigma}^{\ell} \bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\ell} \phi} \right) \right)$$

$$\Pi_{s,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell} \equiv -\ell^2 \operatorname{tr} \left( \bar{S}^{\ell} (\bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\ell} \bar{\Sigma}^{\ell} - \bar{\Sigma}^{\ell} \bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\ell}) \right)$$



## Decomposed Maxwell flux $\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b}$

$$\Pi^{M,\ell} = \underbrace{\Pi_{s,S\Sigma\Sigma}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{m,S\Sigma\Sigma}^{M,\ell}}_{\text{extensional/restoring effect of magnetic field}} + \underbrace{\Pi_{s,SJJ}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{m,SJJ}^{M,\ell}}_{\text{magnetic field bending}} + \underbrace{\Pi_{s,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell} + \Pi_{m,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell}}_{\text{magnetic field twisting}}$$



$$\bar{\Sigma}^\ell = \left( \nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell + (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell)^t \right) / 2$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{J}}^\ell = \left( \nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell - (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell)^t \right) / 2$$

Energy transfer almost exclusively from:

$$\Pi_{m,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell} =$$

$$-\int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \operatorname{tr} \left( \bar{S}^\ell \left( \overline{\bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \bar{\Sigma}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi} - \overline{\bar{\Sigma}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \bar{\mathcal{J}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi} \right) \right)$$

$$\Pi_{s,SJ\Sigma}^{M,\ell} \equiv -\ell^2 \operatorname{tr} \left( \bar{S}^\ell (\bar{\mathcal{J}}^\ell \bar{\Sigma}^\ell - \bar{\Sigma}^\ell \bar{\mathcal{J}}^\ell) \right)$$

## MHD equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P^* - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f} \\ \partial_t \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} \end{cases} \quad P^* = P + \frac{b^2}{2}$$

## Generalized expression

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi^\ell = & -\ell^2 \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^\ell (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^\ell)^t \right) \\ & - \text{tr} \left( (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{A}}^\ell)^t \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \frac{\overline{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t}^{\sqrt{\ell^2 - \theta}}}{\nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}}^{\sqrt{\theta}} (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{C}}^{\sqrt{\theta}})^t} \right) \end{aligned}$$

MHD energy fluxes

$$\Pi^\ell = \Pi^{I,\ell} - \Pi^{M,\ell} + \boxed{\Pi^{A,\ell} - \Pi^{D,\ell}}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} & \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} & \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b} \quad \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \\ \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} & & \underbrace{\hspace{10em}} \end{array}$$

momentum equation

induction equation

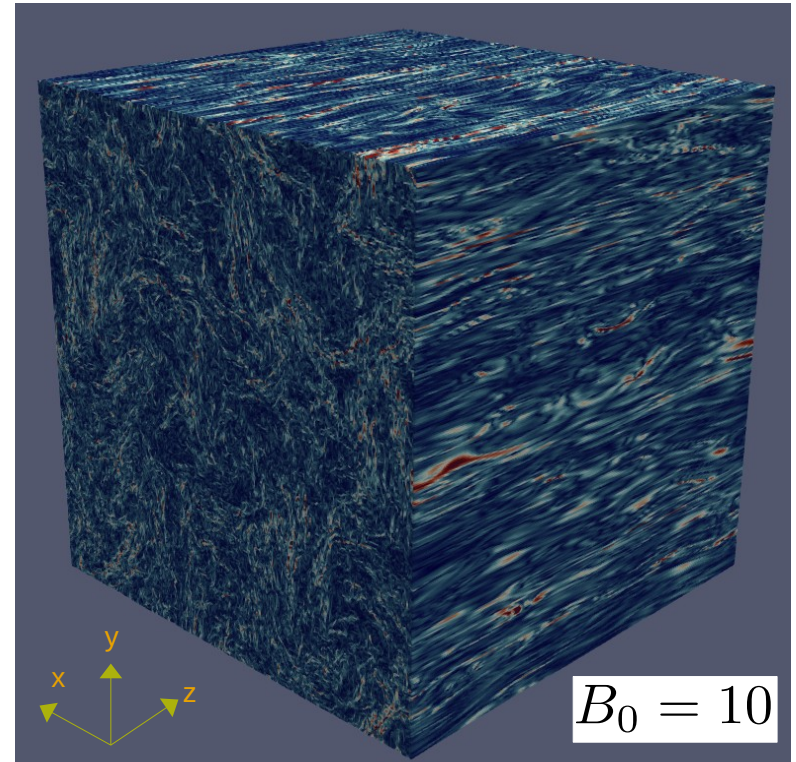
MHD equations with  $B_0 \neq 0 \implies$  Anisotropy

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P^* - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f} \\ \partial_t \mathbf{b} = -(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{B}_0 \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} \end{cases} \quad P^* = P + \frac{b^2}{2}$$

$$\mathbf{B}_0 = (0, 0, B_0)$$

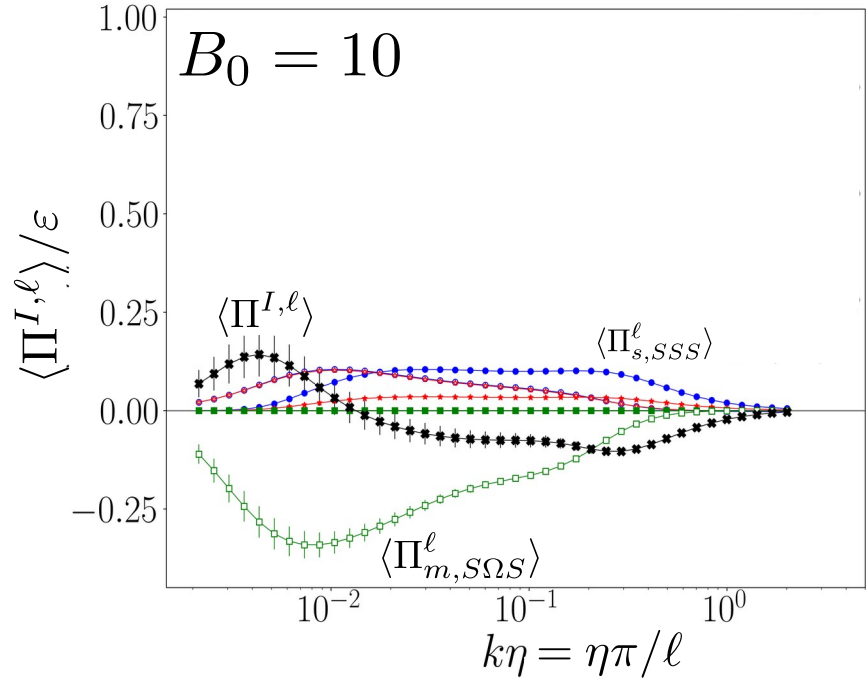
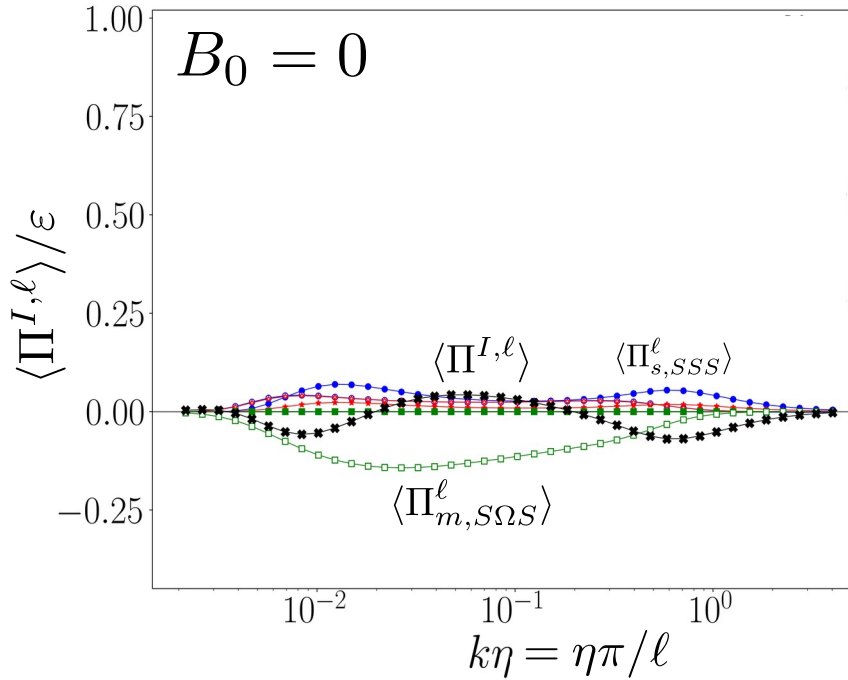
We apply the same decomposition of the SGS tensor setting:

$$b_z + B_0 \rightarrow b_z$$



$$\mathbf{j} = \nabla \times \mathbf{b}$$

magnitude  
of current

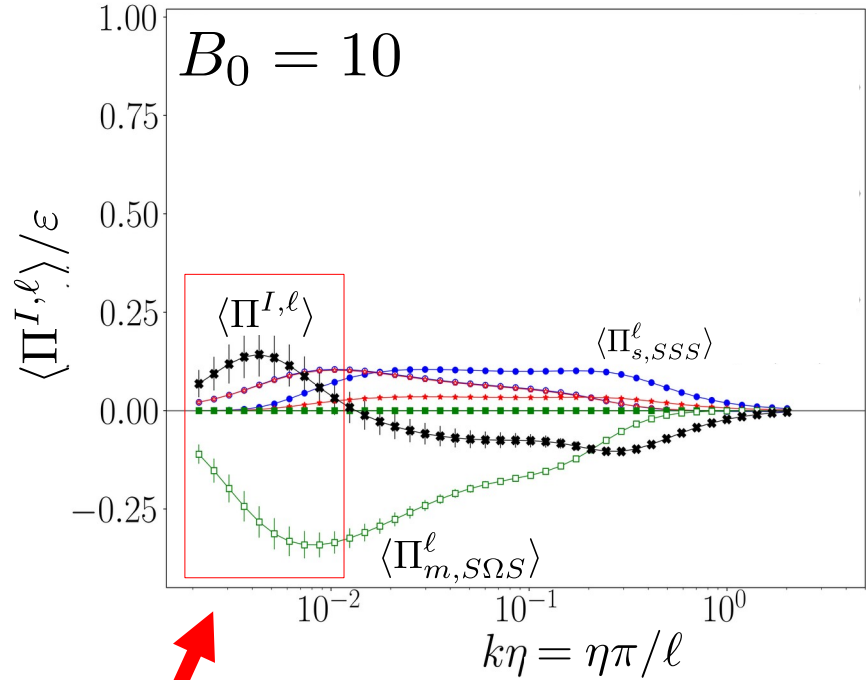
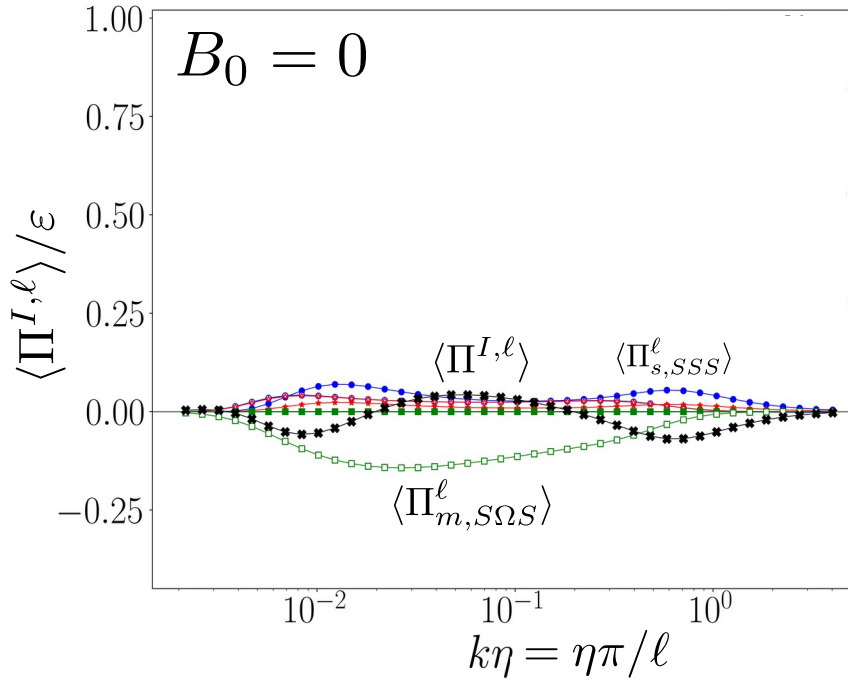


→ 2-dimensionalization:  $\Pi_{m,SSS}^\ell$  the only inertial component surviving in 2D

→ Enhanced inverse transfer of kinetic energy

$$\rightarrow \Pi_{m,SSS}^\ell = - \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \operatorname{tr} \left( \overline{S}^\ell \left( \overline{S^{\sqrt{\theta}} \Omega^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi} - \overline{\Omega^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi S^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi} \right) \right)$$

→ The system is still accumulating energy in the large scales  $\implies$  Larger errorbars for  $k\eta \leq 10^{-2}$



→ 2-dimensionalization:  $\Pi_{m,S\Omega S}^\ell$  the only inertial component surviving in 2D

→ Enhanced inverse transfer of kinetic energy

$$\Pi_{m,S\Omega S}^\ell = - \int_0^{\ell^2} d\theta \operatorname{tr} \left( \overline{S}^\ell \left( \overline{S^{\sqrt{\theta}} \Omega^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi} - \overline{\Omega^{\sqrt{\theta}} S^{\sqrt{\theta}} \phi} \right) \right)$$

→ The system is still accumulating energy in the large scales

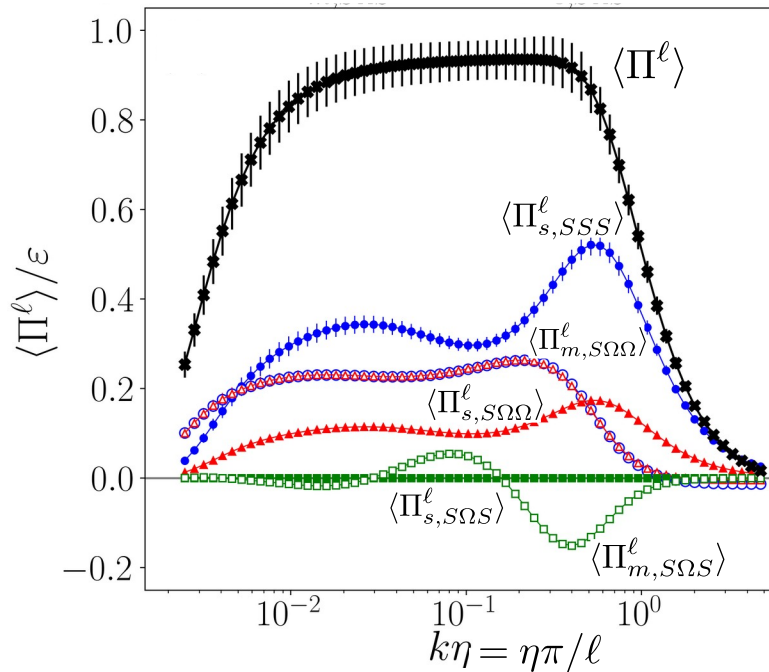
⇒ Larger errorbars for  $k\eta \leq 10^{-2}$



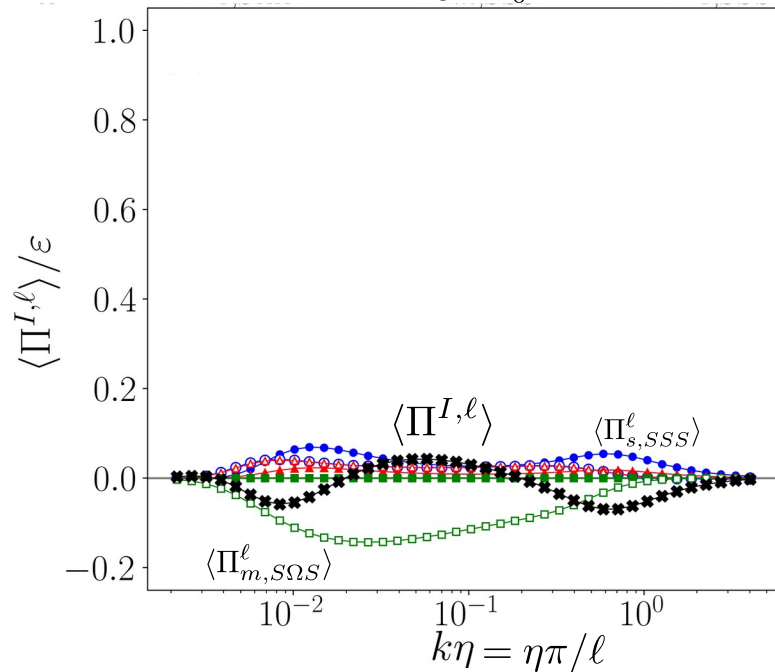
Decomposed inertial flux  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}$

$$\Pi^{I,\ell} = \Pi_{s,SSS}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{m,SSS}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{s,S\Omega\Omega}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{m,S\Omega\Omega}^{I,\ell} + \Pi_{m,S\Omega S}^{I,\ell}$$

Navier-Stokes



MHD with  $B_0 = 0$



$\langle \Pi_{s,SSS}^{I,\ell} \rangle = 3 \langle \Pi_{s,S\Omega\Omega}^{I,\ell} \rangle$  because of the Betchov relation:  $-\langle \text{tr}(\overline{S}^\ell \overline{S}^\ell \overline{S}^\ell) \rangle = 3 \langle \text{tr}(\overline{S}^\ell \overline{\Omega}^\ell \overline{\Omega}^\ell) \rangle$

strain self  
amplification

vortex  
stretching

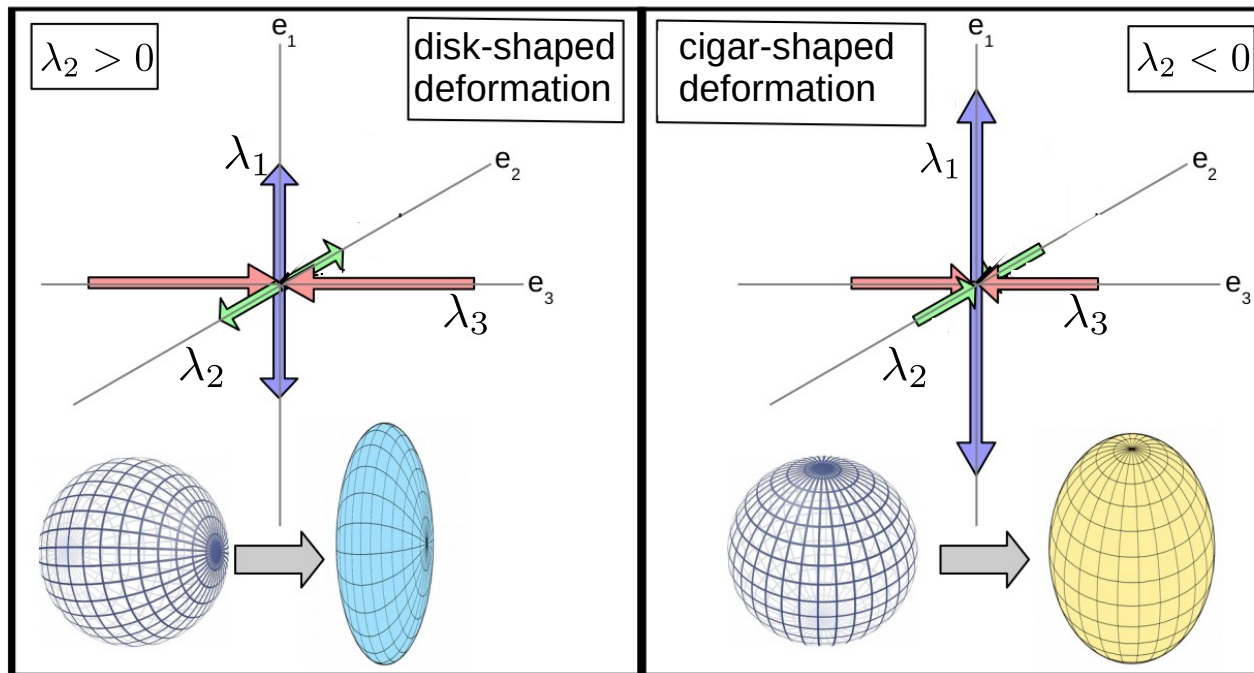
→  $\text{tr}(SSS) = 3\lambda_1\lambda_2\lambda_3$  in the reference frame where  $S_{ij}$  is diagonal

→ Fluid sphere deformation: contractile/extensional directions along the eigenvectors

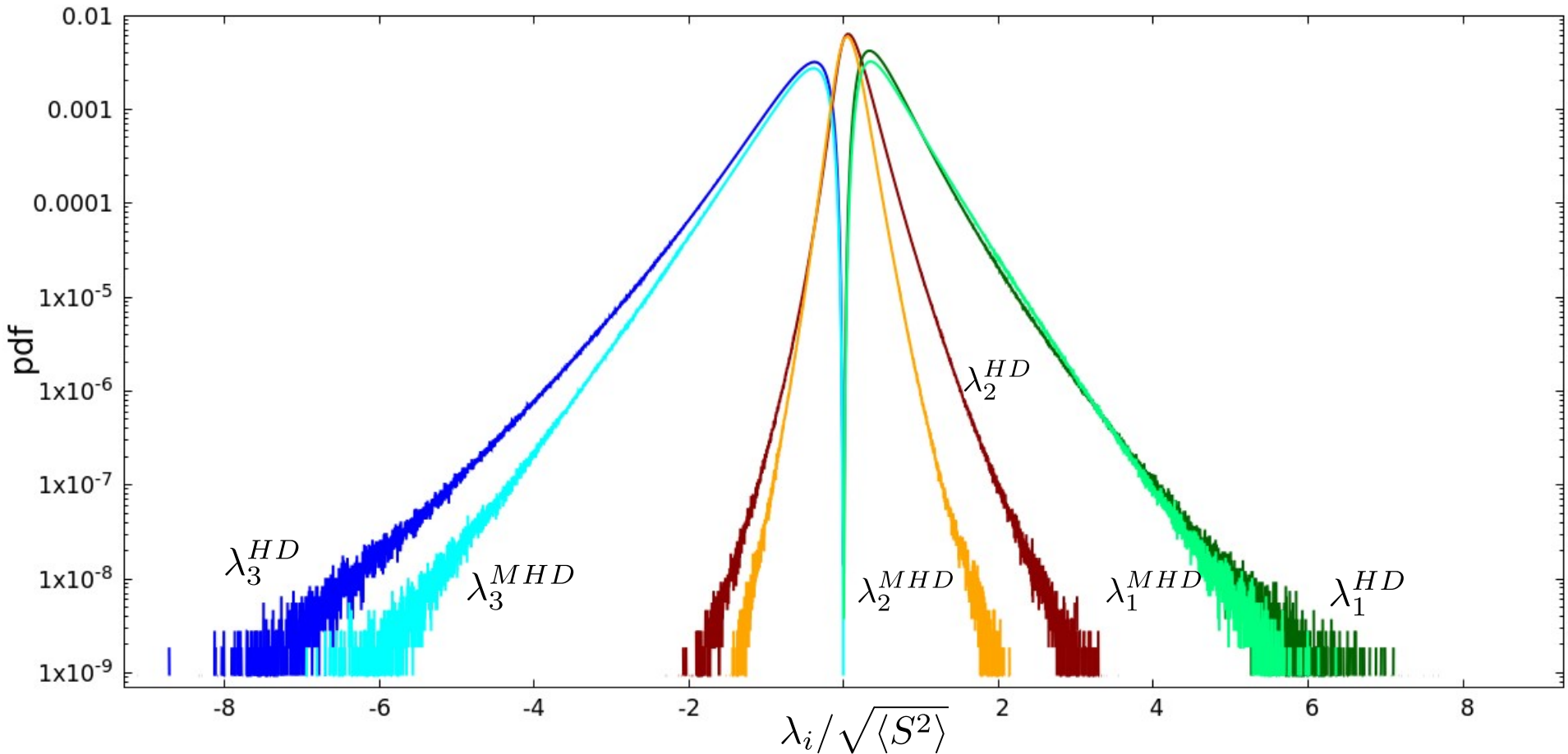
→ Incompressibility i.e.  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$  provides  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 0$

→  $\lambda_1 \geq 0, \lambda_3 \leq 0$  but  $\lambda_2 \begin{matrix} \leq \\ \geq \end{matrix} 0$  : 2 possible configurations

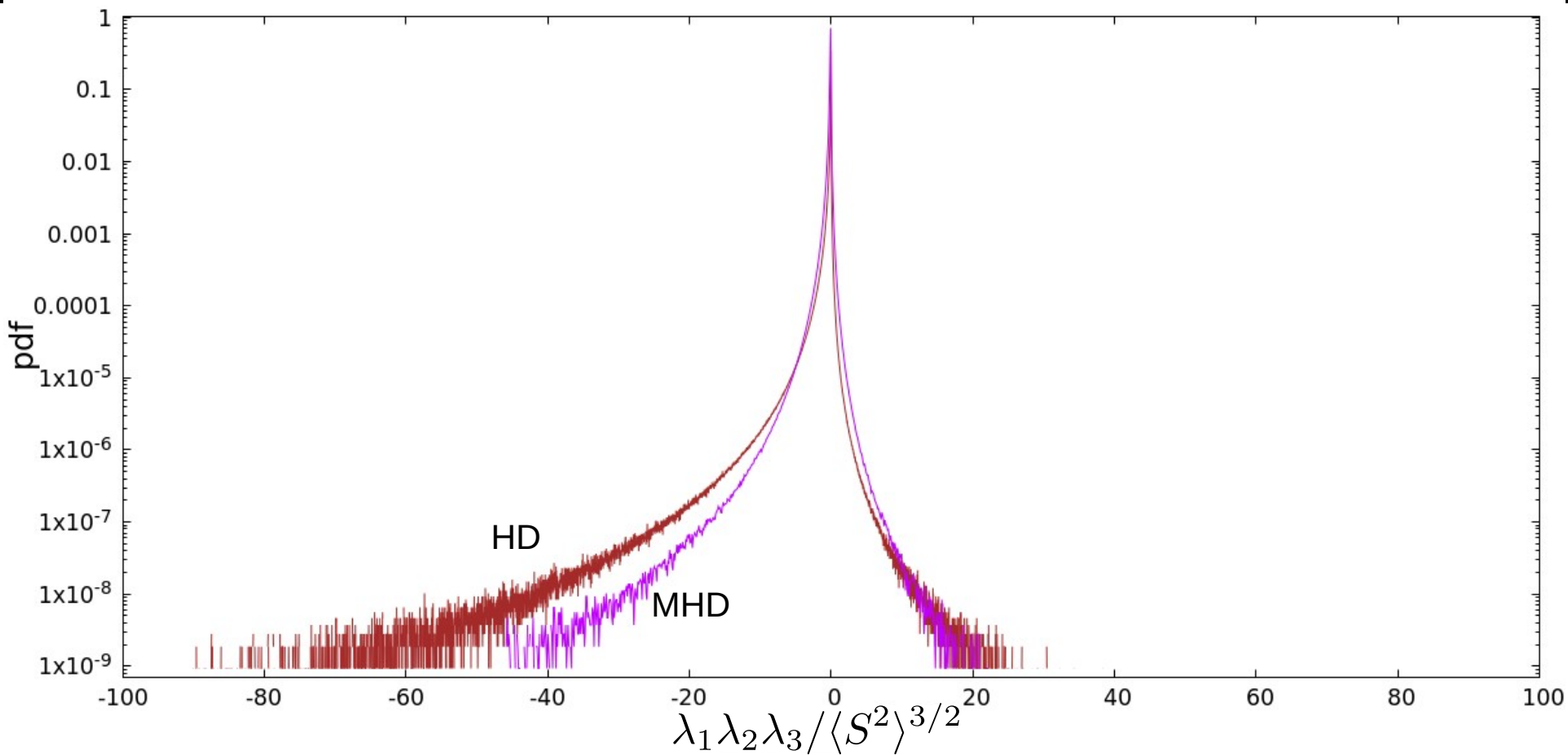
$$S_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

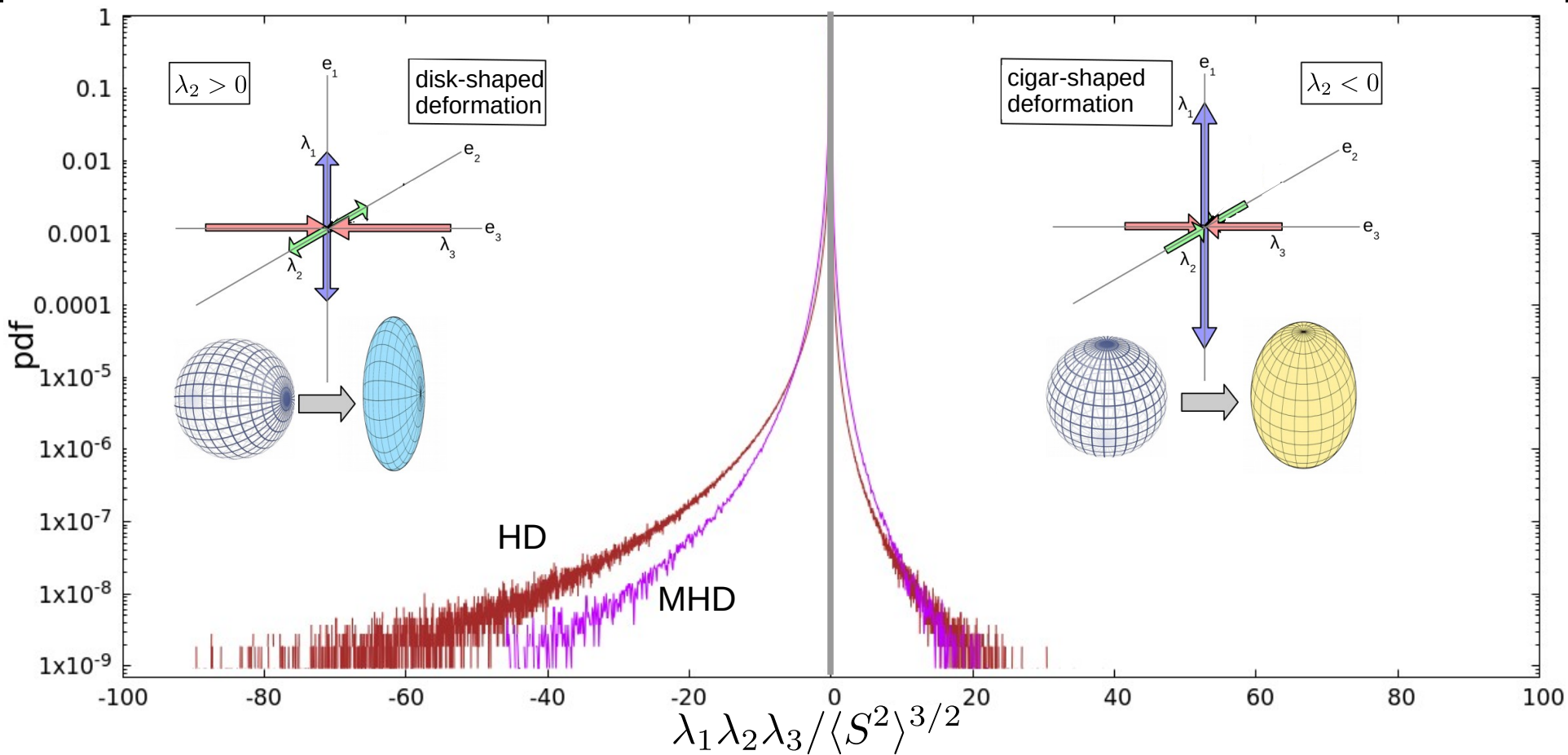






→ In MHD  $P(\lambda_2^{MHD})$  is more symmetric than  $P(\lambda_2^{HD})$







## Summary

- exact decomposition of flux terms in coupled advection-diffusion equations
  - kinetic, cross & magnetic helicity fluxes can be also decomposed
- application to the energy fluxes in MHD turbulence
  - depletion of vortex stretching compared to Navier-Stokes
  - The Lorentz force provides the leading contribution to the MHD kinetic energy flux
  - 2-dimensionalisation in MHD leads to increased inverse transfer of kinetic energy
- HD and MHD have different small-scale flow structures
  - the strain-rate tensor eigenvalues distributions are more symmetric in MHD than in HD
  - in HD there is a clear prevalence for disk-shaped deformation of flow structures
  - in MHD there is less difference in likelihood of disk-shaped and cigar-shaped deformation
- guidance for SGS modelling



TOR VERGATA  
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI ROMA

---

Thank you for your attention

---

## Decomposed advection $\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{b}$ and dynamo $\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}$ fluxes

→ They are electric field energy subfluxes

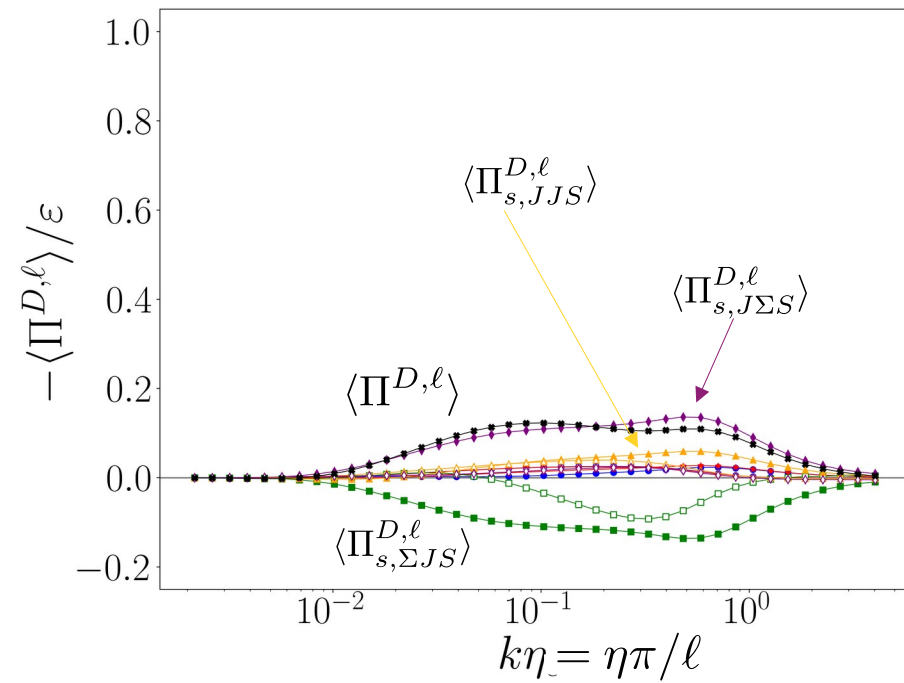
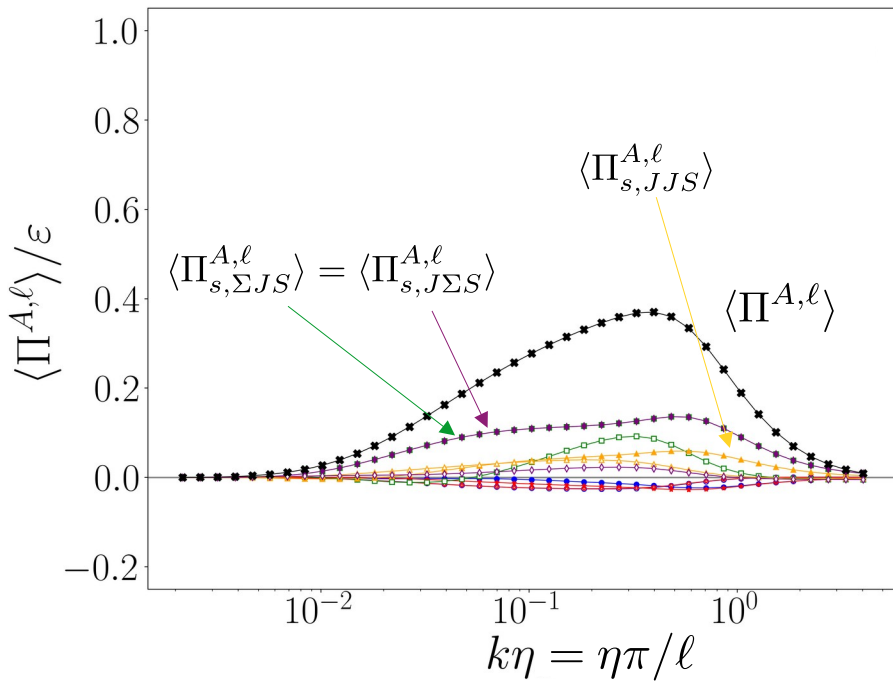
→ common physical origin

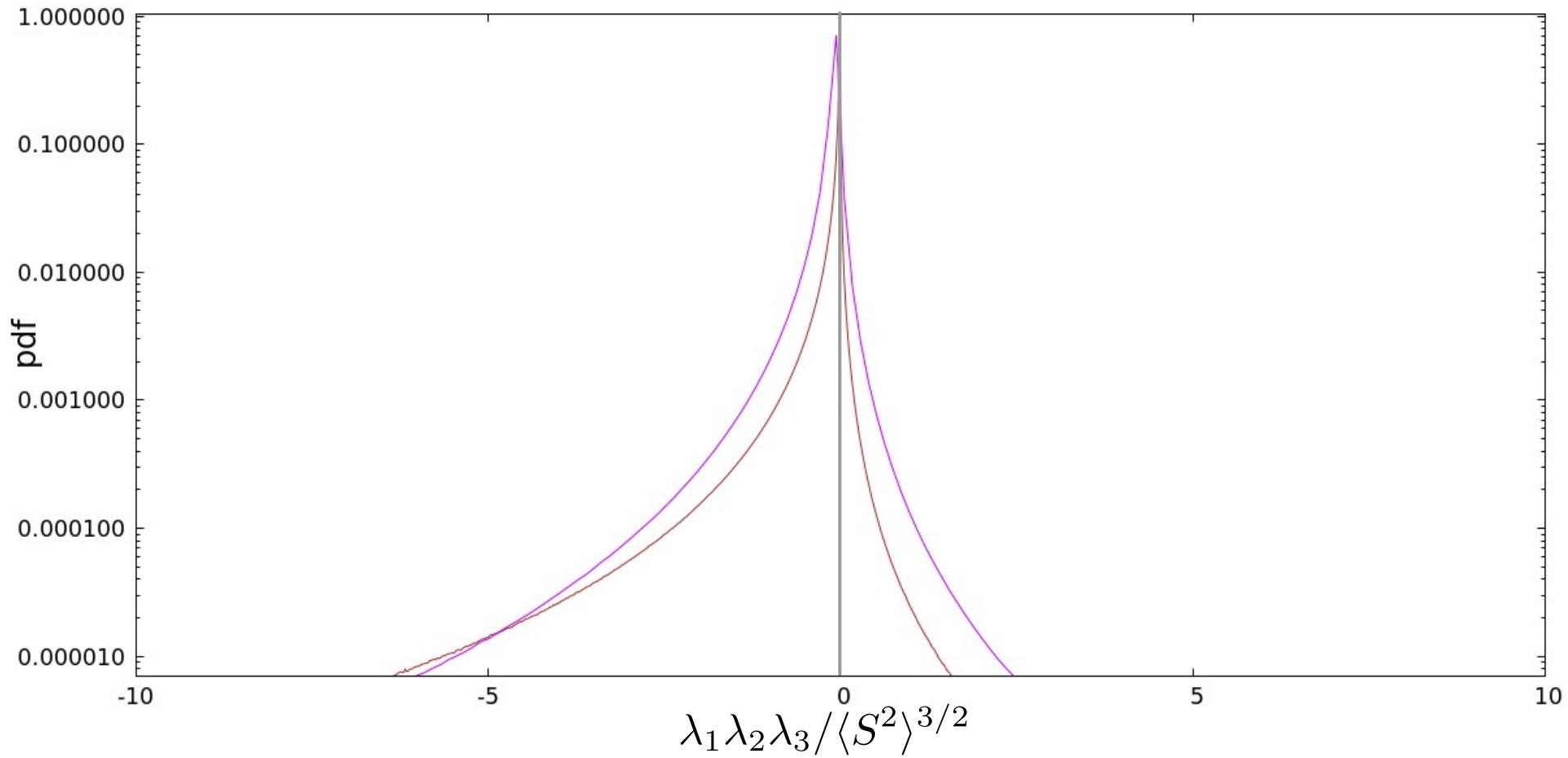
$$\bar{\Sigma}^\ell = (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell + (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell)^t) / 2$$

$$\bar{\mathcal{J}}^\ell = (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell - (\nabla \bar{\mathbf{b}}^\ell)^t) / 2$$

$$\underline{\Pi}^{A,\ell} = \Pi_{s,\Sigma\Sigma S}^{A,\ell} + \Pi_{m,\Sigma\Sigma S}^{A,\ell} - \Pi_{s,J\Sigma S}^{A,\ell} - \Pi_{m,J\Sigma S}^{A,\ell} - \Pi_{s,JJS}^{A,\ell} - \Pi_{m,JJS}^{A,\ell} + \Pi_{m,\Sigma J\Omega}^{A,\ell} + \Pi_{m,J\Sigma\Omega}^{A,\ell}$$

$$\Pi^{D,\ell} = \underline{\Pi}^{A,\ell} + 2\Pi_{s,J\Sigma S}^{A,\ell} + 2\Pi_{m,J\Sigma S}^{A,\ell} - 2\Pi_{m,\Sigma J\Omega}^{A,\ell} - 2\Pi_{m,J\Sigma\Omega}^{A,\ell}$$







$$\langle \Pi^{I,\ell} \rangle - \langle \Pi^{M,\ell} \rangle$$

$\mathcal{W}^\ell$

$$\langle \Pi^{A,\ell} \rangle - \langle \Pi^{D,\ell} \rangle$$

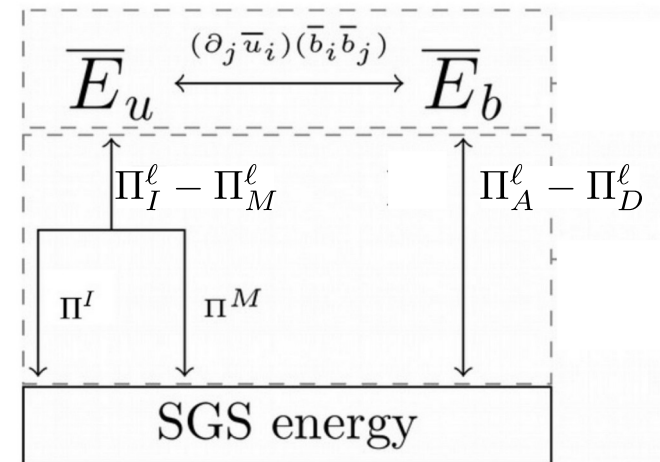
■

■

---



$$\Pi^\ell = \underbrace{\Pi_I^\ell - \Pi_M^\ell}_{\text{momentum equation}} + \underbrace{\Pi_A^\ell - \Pi_D^\ell}_{\text{induction equation}}$$



$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i^\ell u_i^\ell} + \partial_j(\dots) = -\Pi_I^\ell + \Pi_M^\ell - \Pi_{conv}^\ell + \epsilon_{in}^\ell - 2\nu \overline{S_{ij}^\ell S_{ij}^\ell} \\ \partial_t \frac{1}{2} \overline{b_i^\ell b_i^\ell} + \partial_j(\dots) = -\Pi_A^\ell + \Pi_D^\ell + \Pi_{conv}^\ell - 2\eta \overline{\Sigma_{ij}^\ell \Sigma_{ij}^\ell} \end{cases}$$

$$\Pi_{conv}^\ell = (\partial_j \overline{u_i^\ell}) \overline{b_i^\ell b_j^\ell}$$

resolved scale  
conversion term



## Computational costs per configuration

$1024^3$  collocation points

—→ Direct numerical simulation:

—→ Resources: 32 nodes

—→ Run time: 145 h

—→ Data analysis:

—→ Resources: 32 nodes

—→ Run time: 60 h



## Why hyperviscosity?

hyperviscous

viscous



## Computational costs

2048<sup>3</sup> collocation points

—→ Direct numerical simulation:

—→ Resources: 64 nodes

—→ Run time: 360 h

—→ Data analysis:

—→ Resources: 64 nodes

—→ Run time: 230 h