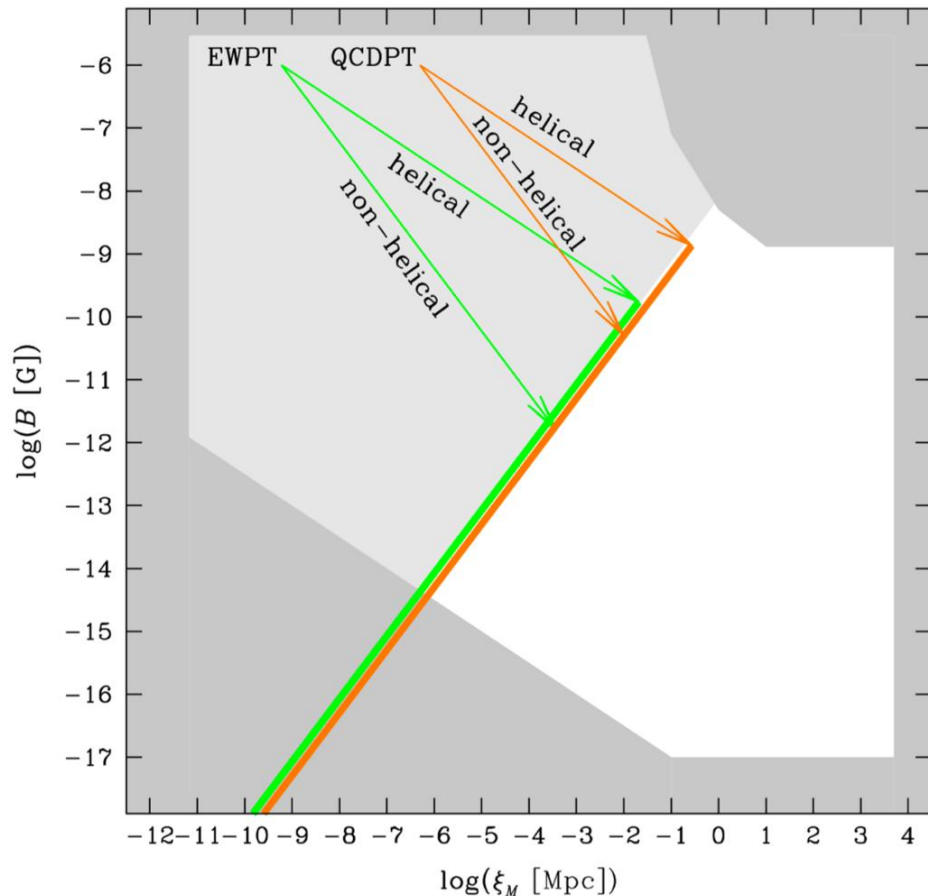


# How can we pinpoint the start- and endpoints of primordial magnetic field evolution



Axel Brandenburg (Nordita/Stockholm)

- PhD (Helsinki) in solar & galactic dynamos
- Self-sustained magneto-rotational instability
- MHD turbulence, chaos & fractals, helicity
- Inverse cascade of primordial B-field in 1996
- Pencil Code since 2001
- Relic gravitational waves from primordial MHD turbulence and inflationary fields

# Overview

- Contemporary magnetic fields: dynamo action (kinetic  $\rightarrow$  magnetic energy)
  - Works generically in turbulent flows (allows irreversible foldings of field lines)
  - In stars and galaxies: also large-scale fields (solar 11-yr cycle)
  - Typically in flows with helicity per hemisphere (EMF in direction of B-field:  $\alpha$  effect)
  - Alternatively: just small-scale dynamos: probably in galaxy clusters
- Primordial magnetic fields: best constrained in voids (GeV gamma rays)
  - But: also contamination from outflows
- MHD: when electrically conducting (displacement current unimportant)
  - Different during inflation: electromagnetic waves (destabilized at large scales?)
  - Charge-separation almost always unimportant!
- Relic gravitational waves (GWs): they don't decay
  - Direct probe of turbulence and magnetic fields at time of generation
  - GW spectrum related to turbulence spectrum
  - Circular polarization: related to kinetic and magnetic helicity

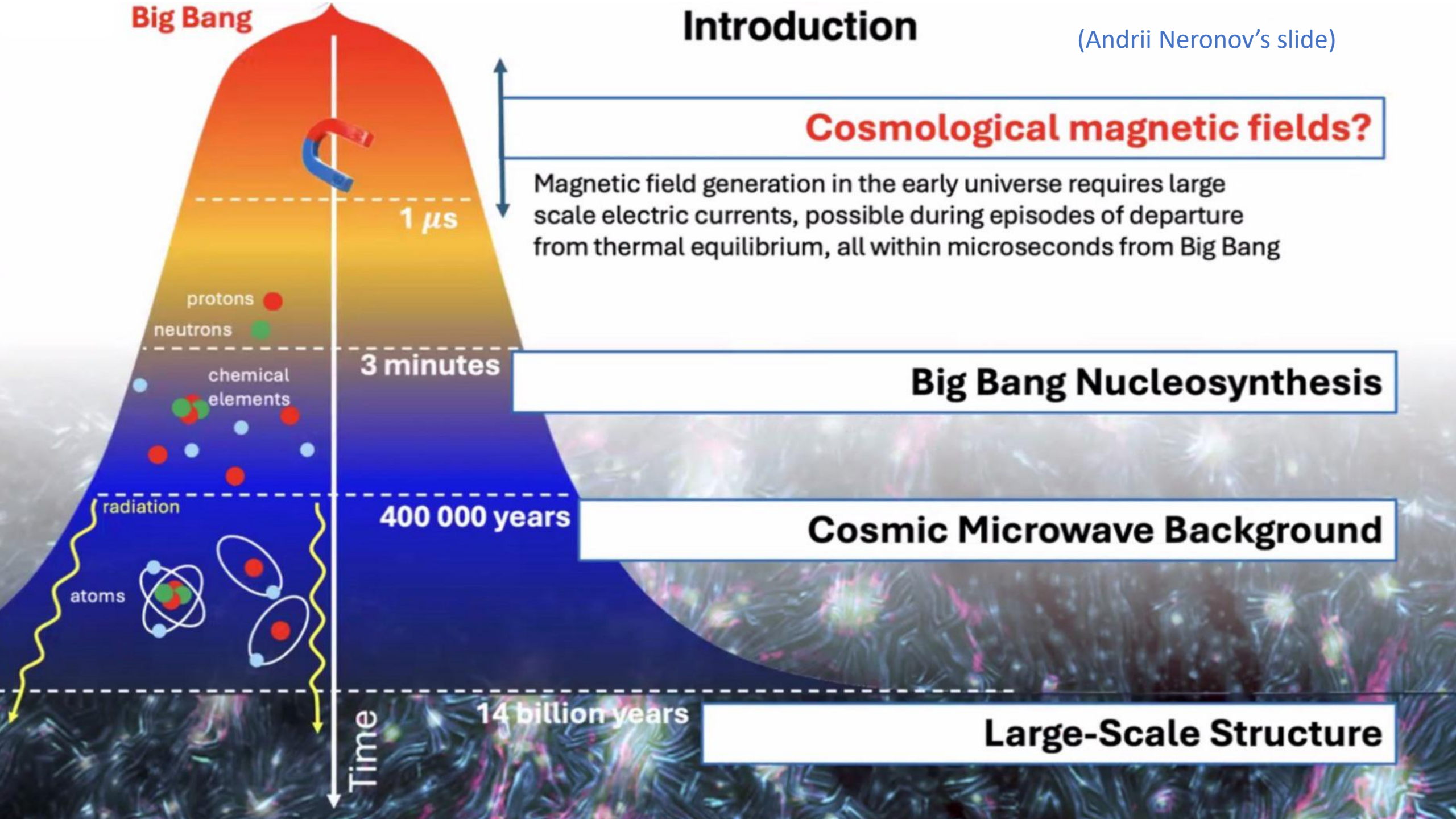
# Magnetic field evolution

- During radiation-dominated era
  - Possibilities of kinetic energy from phase transitions  $\rightarrow$  dynamo action (but need vorticity)
  - Conversion of chiral chemical potential to magnetic energy (chiral magnetic effect)
  - Higgs field
- Turbulent decay (unless always perfectly uniform)
  - Characterized by a spectral peak ( $k_{\text{peak}}$ )  $\rightarrow$  generic turbulence spectrum for higher  $k$
  - Turnover time  $(u_{\text{rms}} k_{\text{peak}})^{-1}$  and/or Alfvén time  $(v_A k_{\text{peak}})^{-1}$  govern speed of decay
  - But possibility of inverse cascade (increase of spectral energy at low  $k$ )
  - Most efficient for helical fields (also slower decay)
  - Even nonhelical decay faster than hydrodynamic decay
- Magnetic fields as a probe of the first microsecond of the universe
  - End points on a universal line  $\mathbf{B}$  vs length scale

# Big Bang

# Introduction

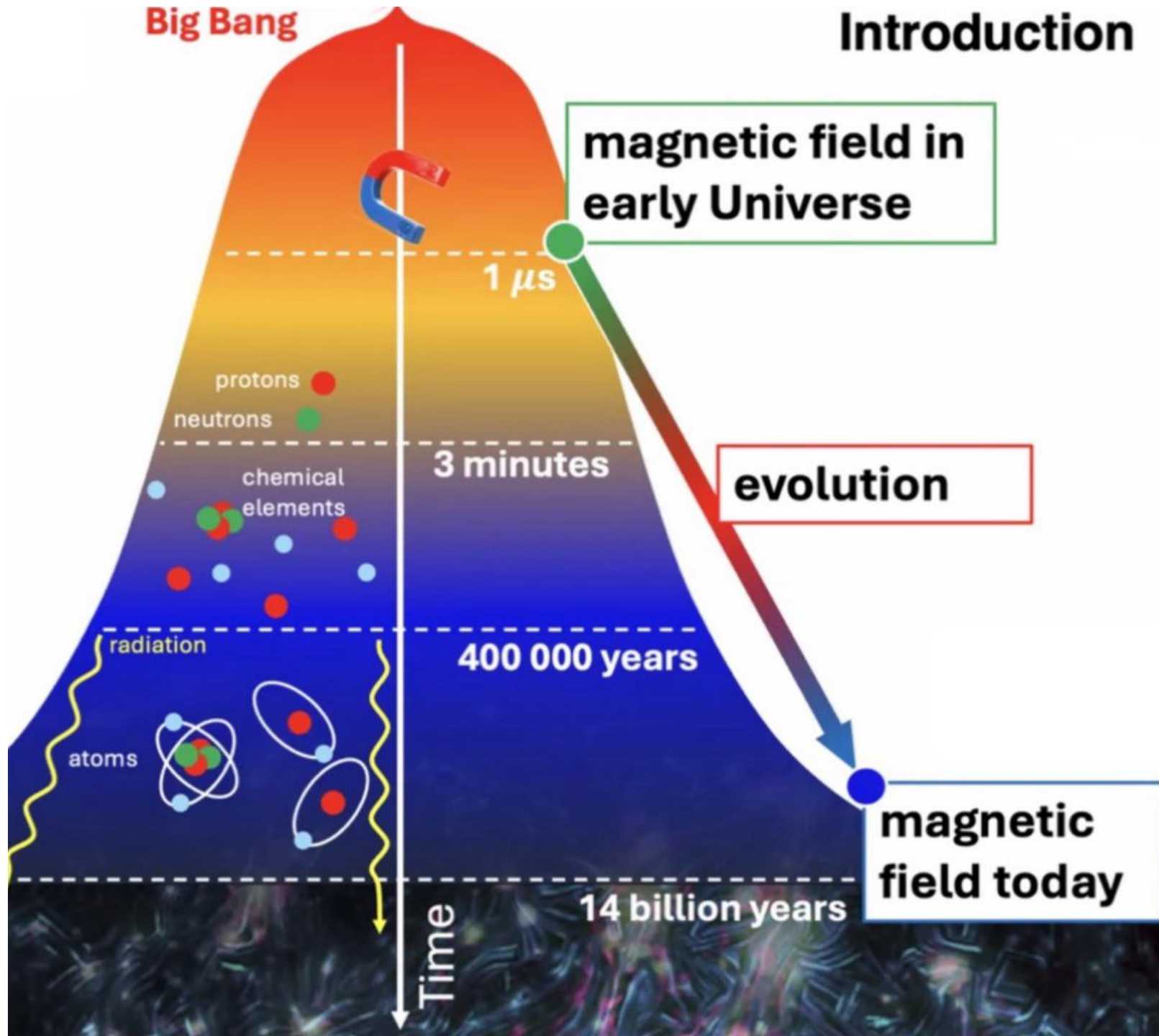
(Andrii Neronov's slide)



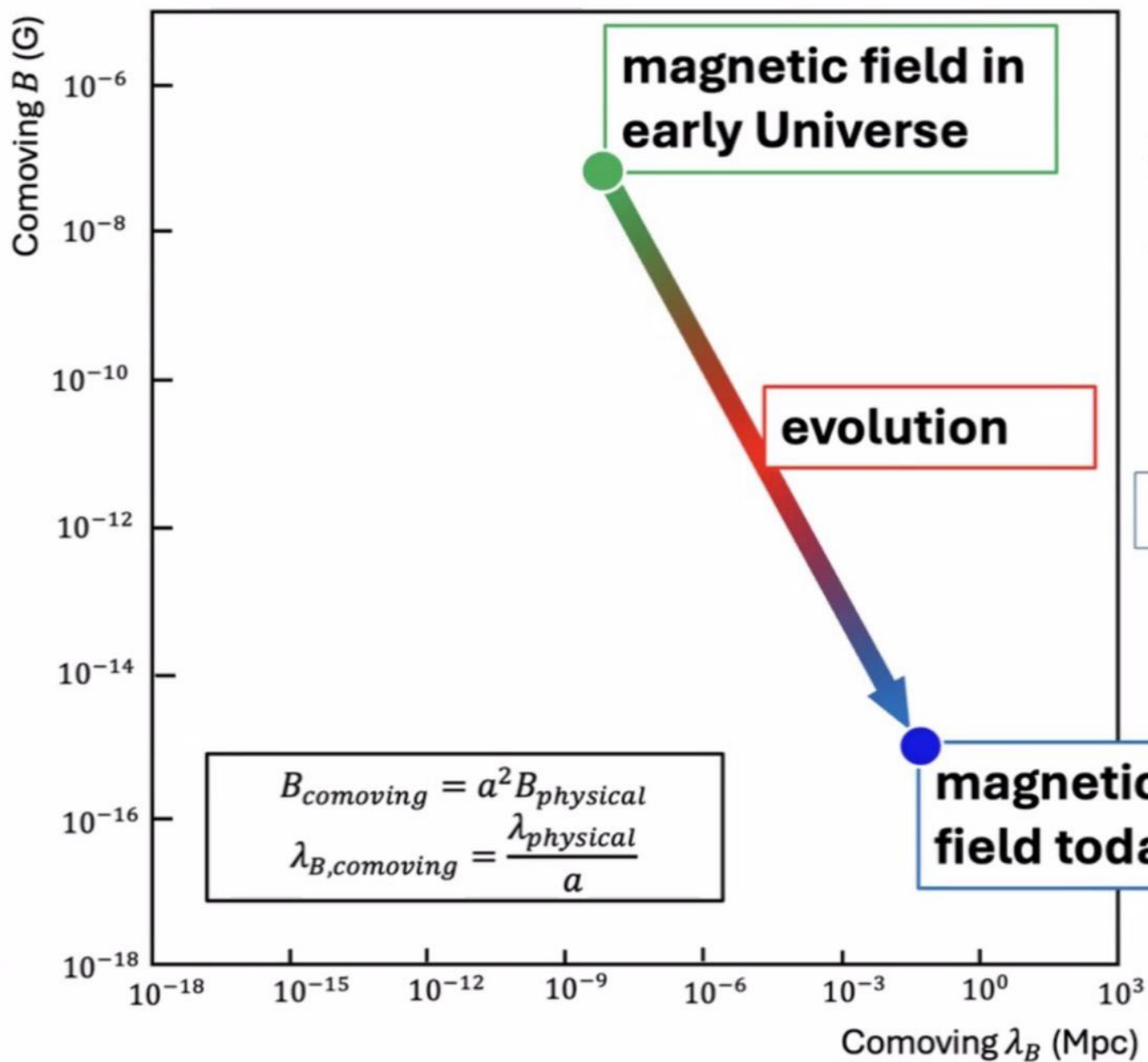


**Big Bang**

**Introduction**

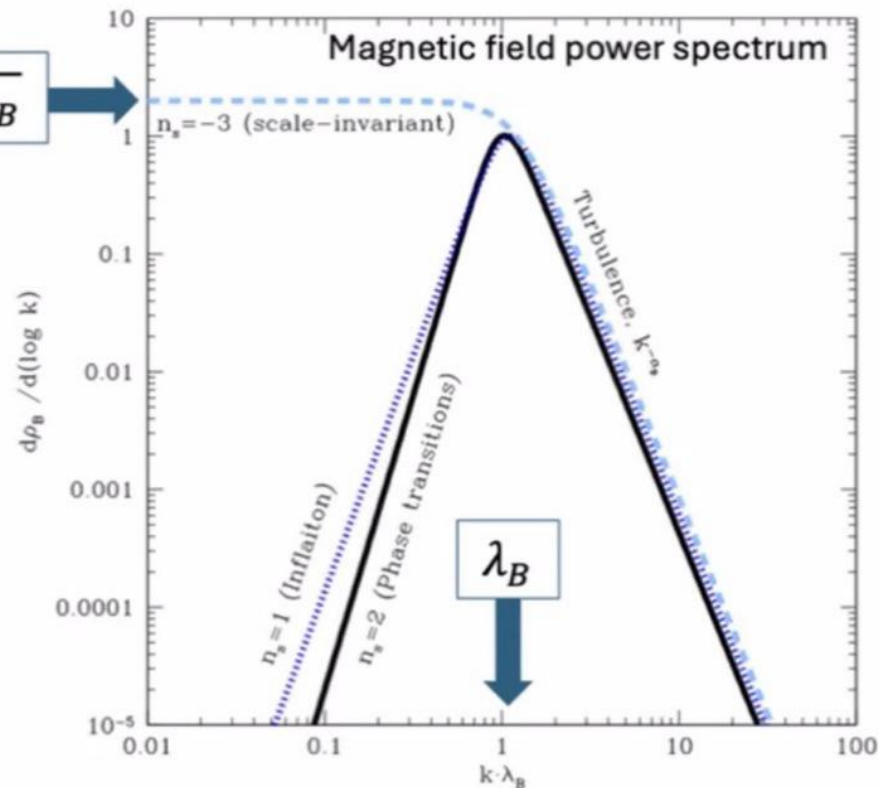


# Introduction



Present-day relic magnetic field parameters are related to the initial field characteristics. They potentially provide information on the mechanism of production of the field in the early Universe.

$$B \sim \sqrt{2\rho_B}$$



# Comoving horizon scale today

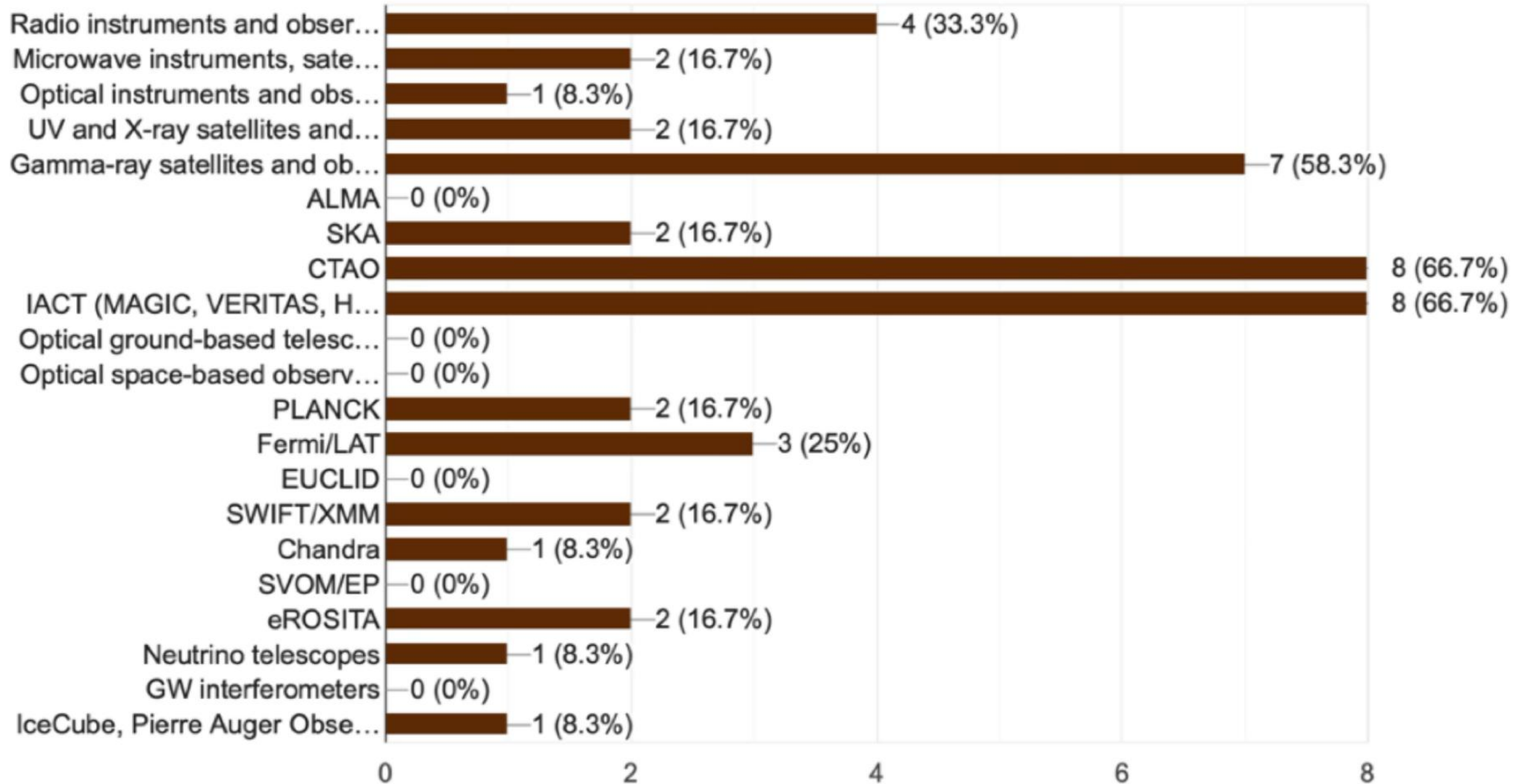
$$\lambda_{H_*} = 5.8 \times 10^{-10} \text{ Mpc} \left( \frac{100 \text{ GeV}}{T_*} \right) \left( \frac{100}{g_*} \right)^{1/6}$$

- Electroweak (EW) energy scale
  - $5.8 \times 10^{-10} \text{ Mpc} \sim 100 \text{ AU}$
  - Unless inflationary field, causally generated fields always smaller
- QCD (quark confinement) energy scale ( $T_*=0.15 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $g_*=15$ )
  - $0.5 \text{ pc} \sim 100\,000 \text{ AU}$

$$f_* = \frac{a_* H_*}{a_0} \simeq (1.8 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Hz}) \left( \frac{g_*}{15} \right)^{1/6} \left( \frac{T_*}{150 \text{ MeV}} \right).$$

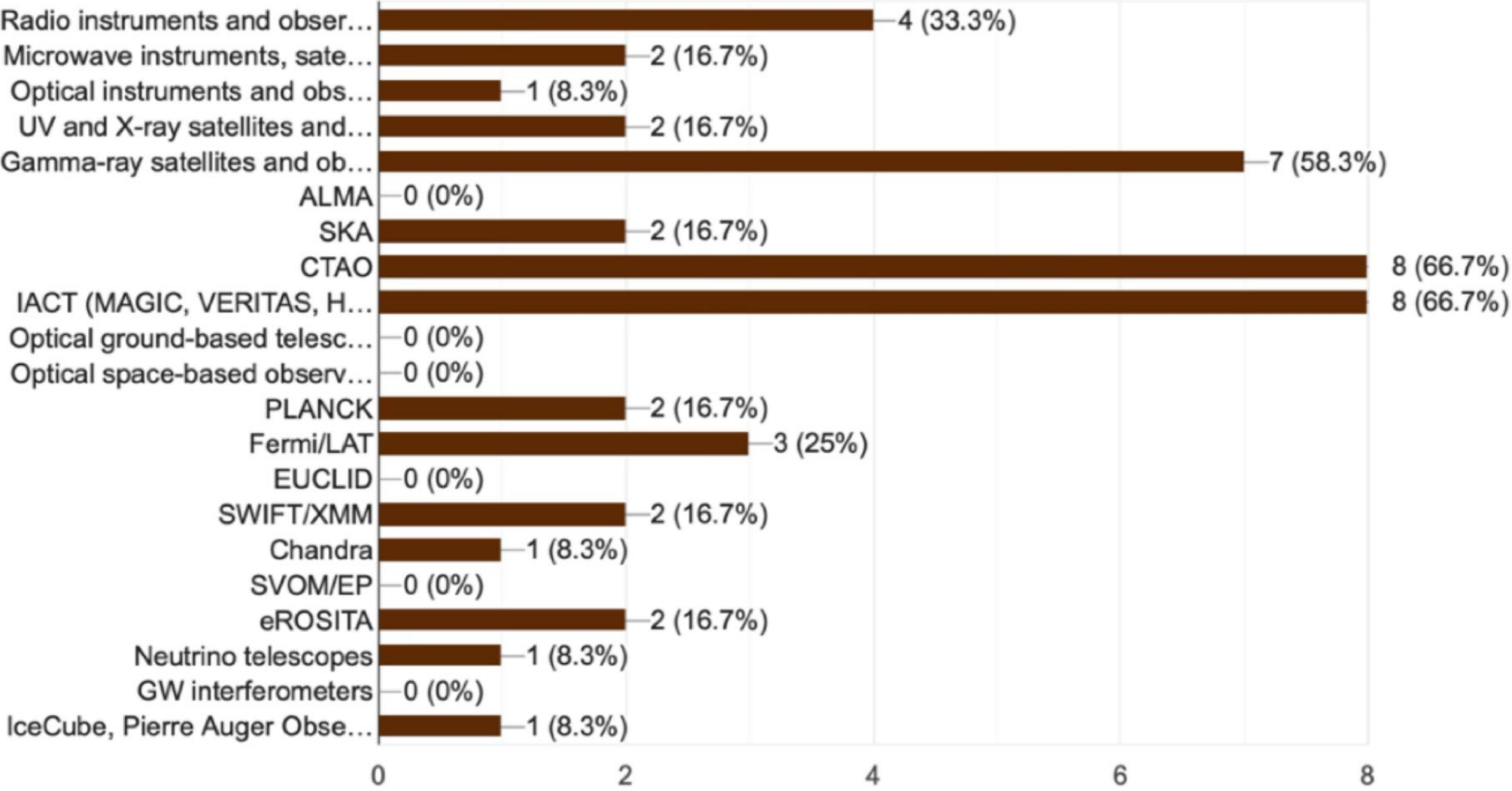
- Use GWs to pinpoint starting point of magnetic field evolution
  - End points on a universal line  $\mathbf{B}$  vs length scale
  - EW energy scale corresponds to 0.2 mHz

# To pinpoint magnetic fields at QCD scale, need to use...

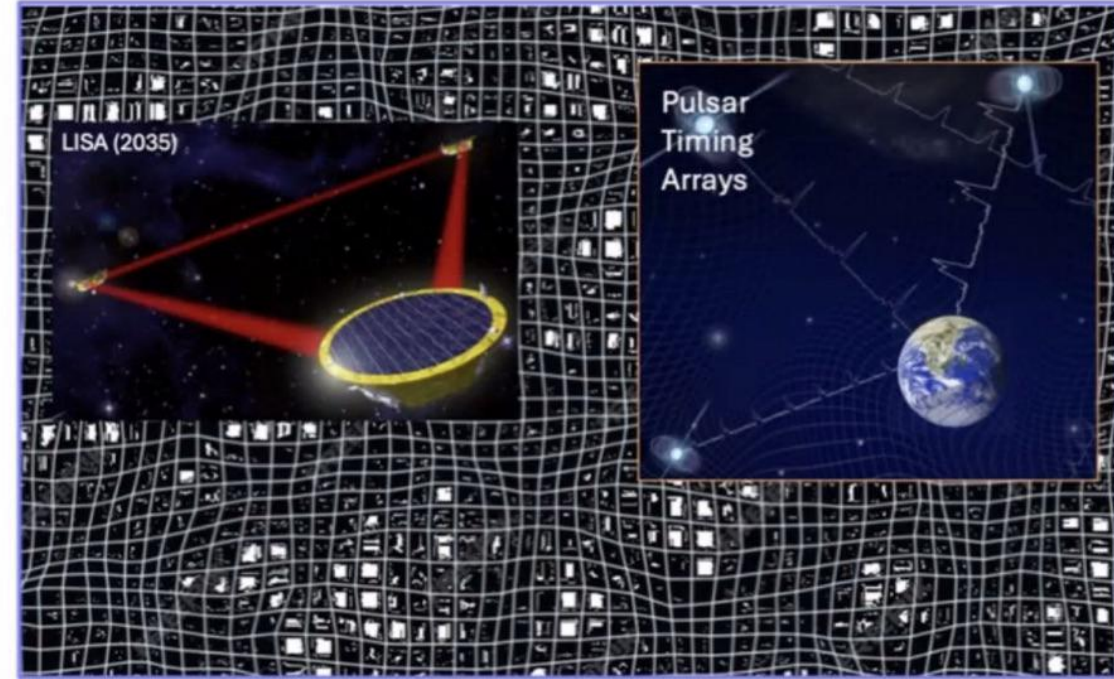
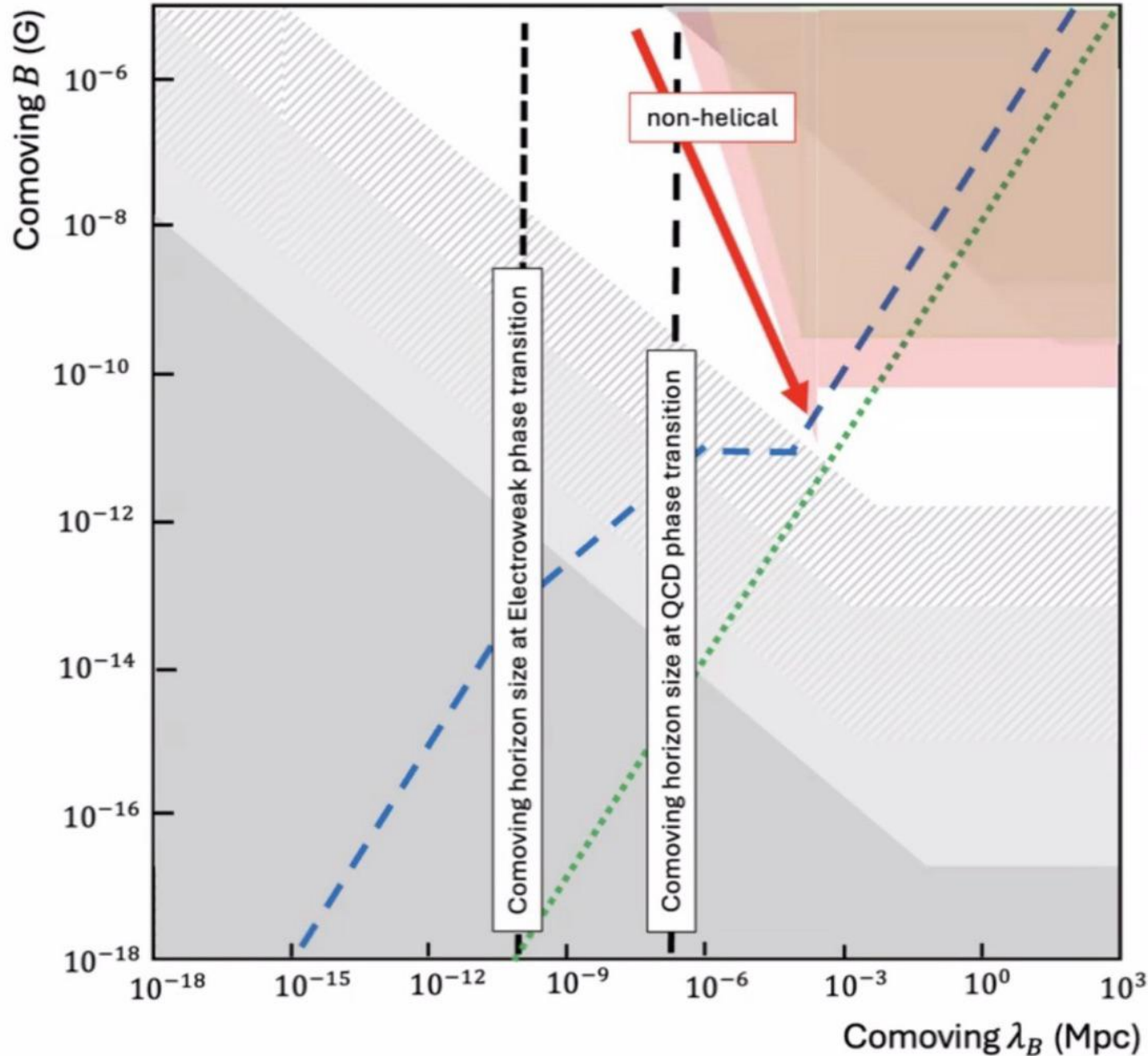




# To pinpoint magnetic fields at QCD scale, need to use PTA



# Magnetic field at the moment of generation: gravitational waves



Gravitational wave background

Magnetic field has stress-energy tensor that is a source in the gravitational wave equation.

Magnetic field generates motions of plasma that has stress-energy tensor that is also a source for the gravitational waves

Plasma motions that generate magnetic fields may also source gravitational waves.

# Gravitational waves & polarization

$$(\partial_t^2 + 3H\partial_t - c^2\nabla^2) h_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{16\pi G}{c^2} T_{ij}^{\text{TT}}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

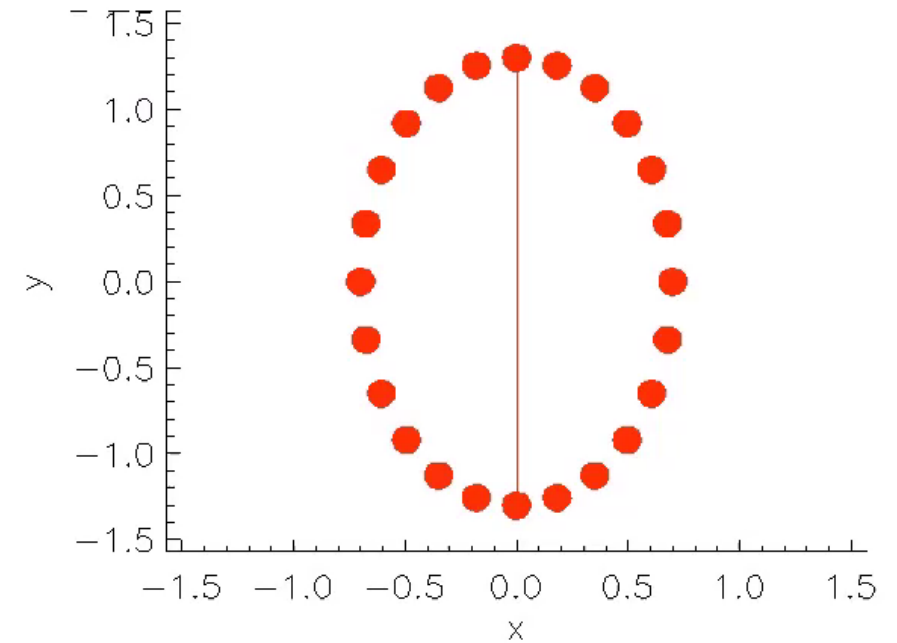
$$T_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, t) = (p/c^2 + \rho) \gamma^2 u_i u_j - B_i B_j + (\mathbf{B}^2/2 + p) \delta_{ij}$$

## Example

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sigma \sin kx \\ \cos kx \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_x \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sin kx \\ \cos kx \end{pmatrix} = k \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sin kx \\ \cos kx \end{pmatrix} = k\mathbf{B}$$

## Traceless-transverse

$$T_{ij}(x) = \mathcal{E}_M \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\cos 2kx & \sigma \sin 2kx \\ 0 & \sigma \sin 2kx & \cos 2kx \end{pmatrix}$$



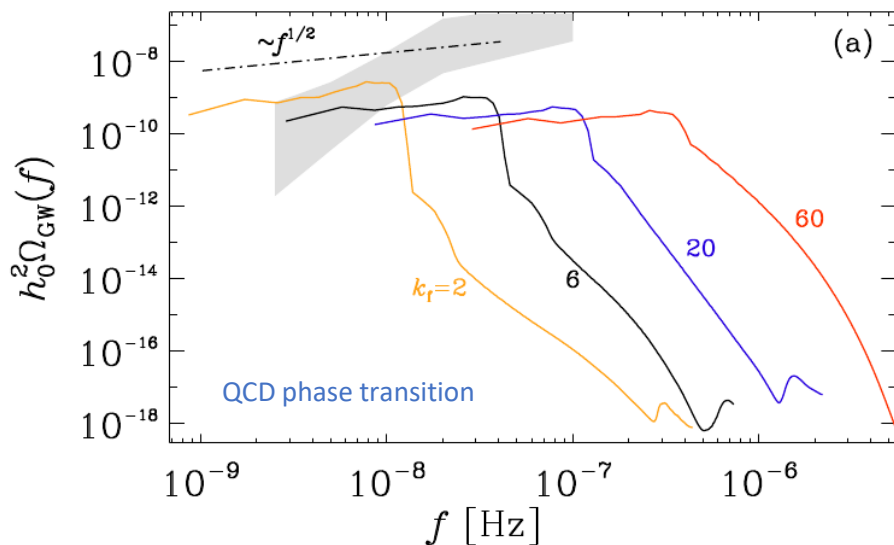
GW energy dependence on magnetic energy and wavenumber  $k_0$ .

$$\bar{\Omega}_{\text{GW}} = \frac{3H_*^2}{c^2 k_0^2} \Omega_M^2$$

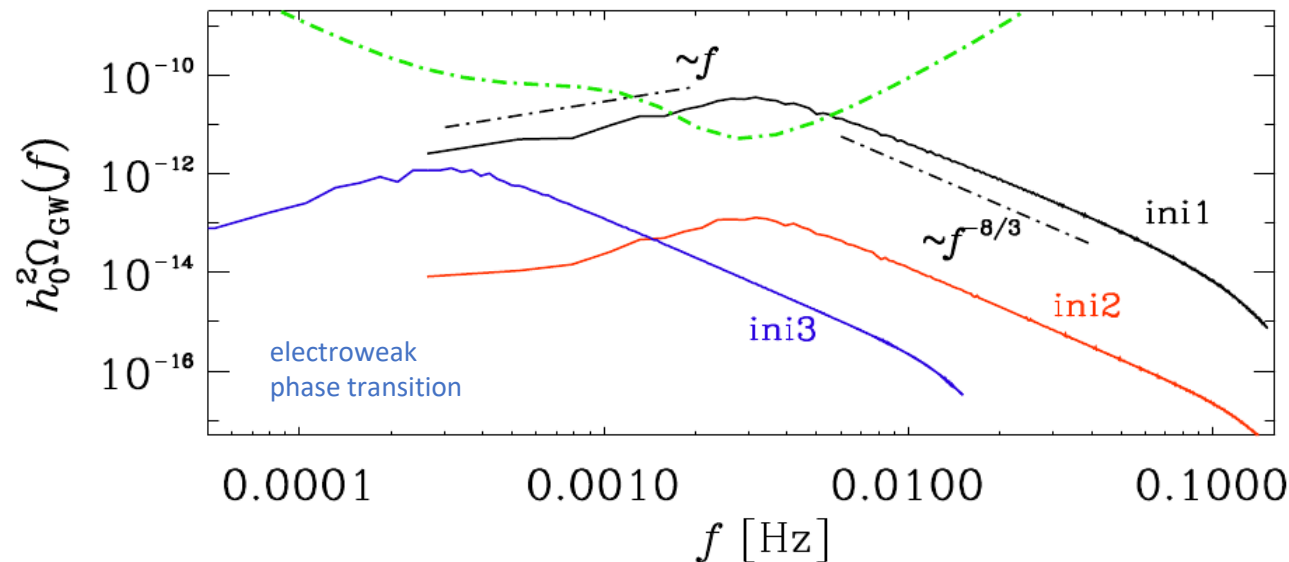
Roper Pol et al. (2020, GAFD 114, 130)

Polarization in turbulent cases:  
Kahniashvili et al. (2021, PRR 3, 013193)

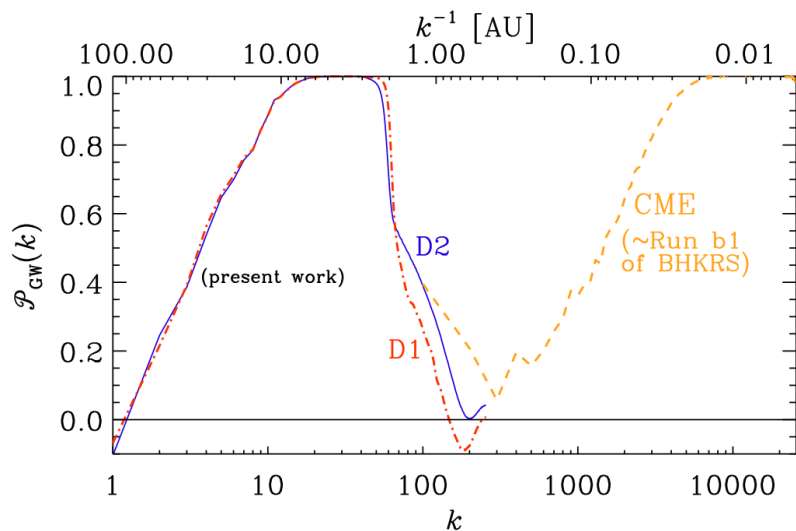
# Observability of relic GWs



NANOGrav = North American nHz Obs for GWs



LISA = Laser Interferometer Space Antenna  
Roper Pol et al. (2020, PRD 102, 083512)



$$\mathcal{P}(k) = \int 2 \text{Im} \tilde{h}_+ \tilde{h}_\times^* k^2 d\Omega_k / \int (|\tilde{h}_+|^2 + |\tilde{h}_\times|^2) k^2 d\Omega_k$$

- GWs driven by magnetic stress,  $B \sim 1 \mu\text{G}$ 
  - $1 \mu\text{G}$  would have decayed to  $0.3 \text{ nG}$  at  $30 \text{ kpc}$
- Lower limits from Fermi LAT (Large Area Telesc)
  - $10^{-15} \text{ G}$  at  $1 \text{ Mpc}$  (Neronov & Vovk 2010)
  - Already well above chiral B-field limit of  $10^{-18} \text{ G}$
- B-fields driven at hoc (no magnetogenesis)



# Nonhelical & helical magnetic fields at the QCD energy scale

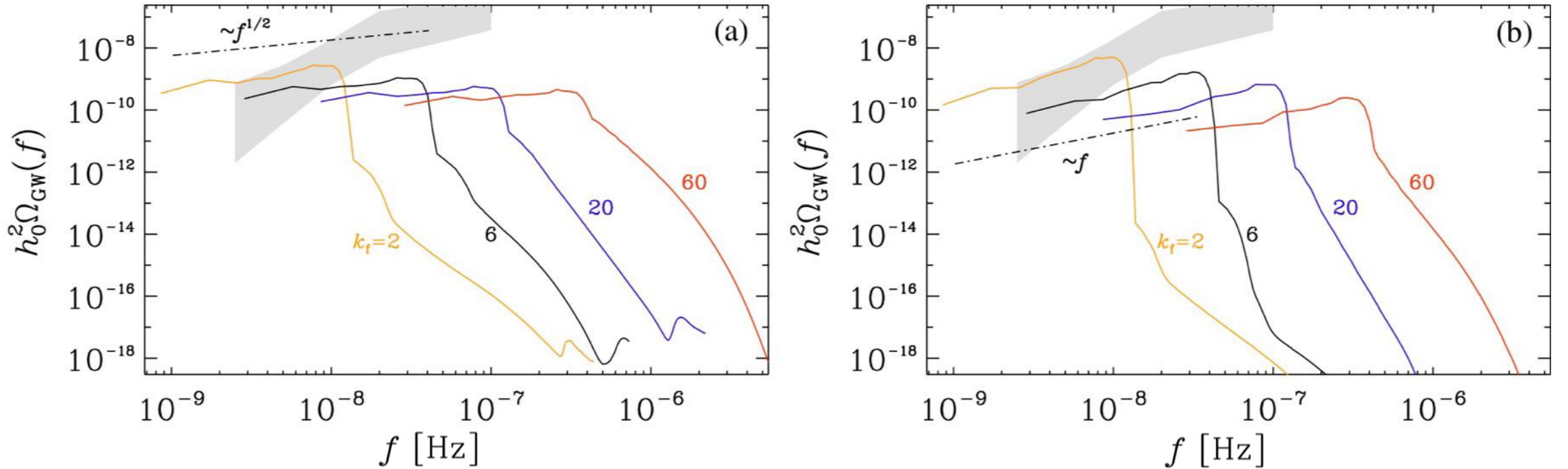


TABLE I. Summary of runs with nonhelical turbulence.

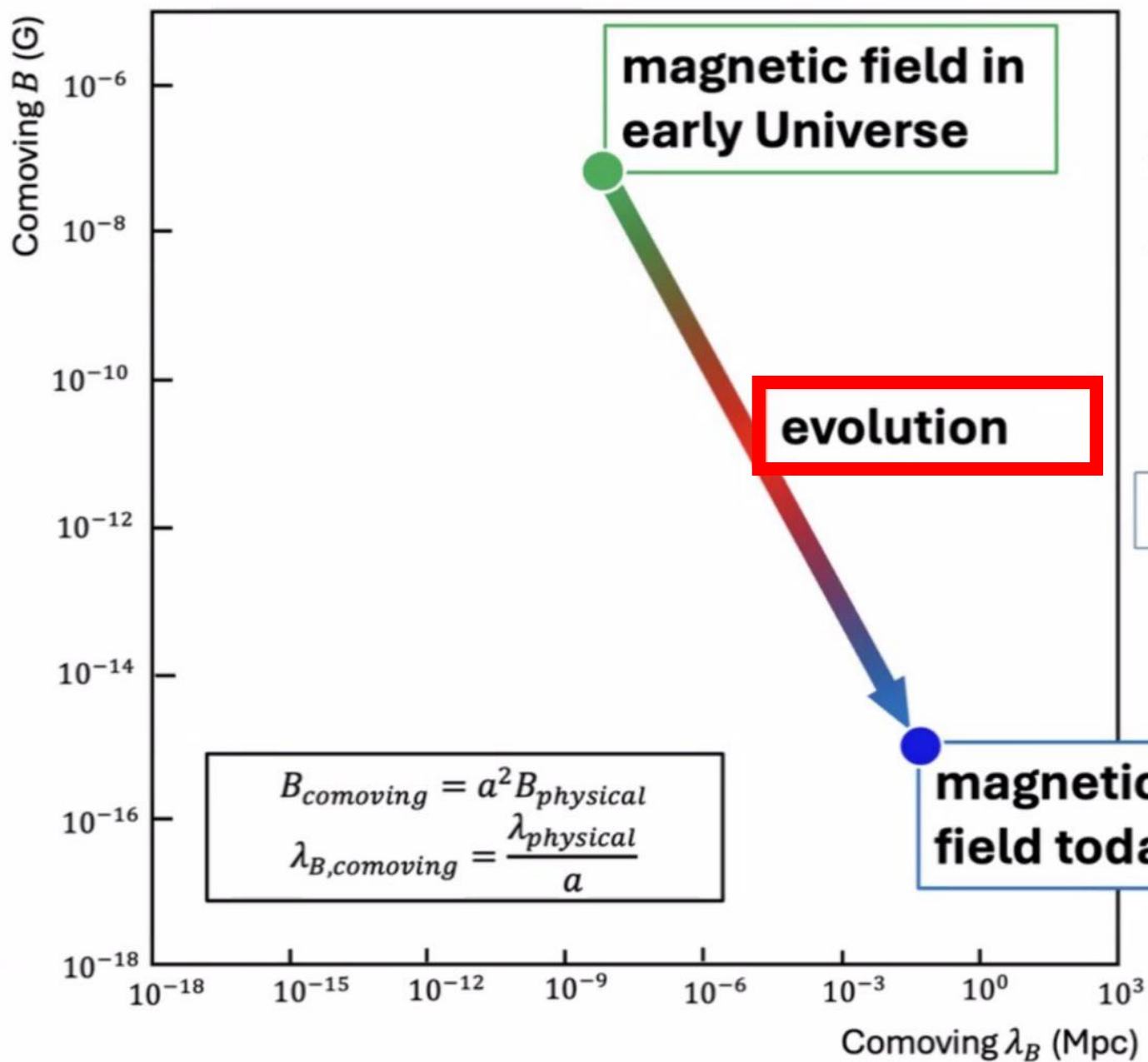
Run	$k_f$	$k_1$	$f_0$	$p$	$\tau$	$\mathcal{E}_M^{\text{max}}$	$\mathcal{E}_{\text{GW}}^{\text{sat}}$	$h_{\text{rms}}^{\text{sat}}$	$B$ [ $\mu\text{G}$ ]	$h_0^2 \Omega_{\text{GW}}(f)$	$h_c$
noh1	2	0.3	$1.9 \times 10^{-1}$	1.0	16	$3.83 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.53 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.83 \times 10^{-2}$	0.78	$1.09 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.83 \times 10^{-14}$
noh2	6	1	$6.0 \times 10^{-2}$	1.0	4.5	$3.75 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.61 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.06 \times 10^{-3}$	0.78	$1.73 \times 10^{-9}$	$7.07 \times 10^{-15}$
noh3	20	3	$2.3 \times 10^{-2}$	1.3	2.0	$3.81 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.11 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.15 \times 10^{-3}$	0.78	$3.44 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.15 \times 10^{-15}$
noh4	60	10	$1.0 \times 10^{-2}$	1.4	0.43	$3.93 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.62 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-4}$	0.79	$8.10 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.65 \times 10^{-16}$
noh5	2	0.3	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	...	...	$1.06 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.70 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.40 \times 10^{-2}$	0.41	$8.37 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.40 \times 10^{-14}$
noh6	2	0.3	$3.0 \times 10^{-1}$	...	...	$9.48 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.08 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.02 \times 10^{-1}$	1.2	$6.42 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.02 \times 10^{-13}$
noh7	6	1	$2.0 \times 10^{-2}$	...	...	$4.63 \times 10^{-3}$	$6.56 \times 10^{-7}$	$8.10 \times 10^{-4}$	0.27	$2.03 \times 10^{-11}$	$8.11 \times 10^{-16}$
noh8	6	1	$1.0 \times 10^{-1}$	...	...	$8.90 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.89 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.67 \times 10^{-2}$	1.2	$1.20 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.67 \times 10^{-14}$

Helical fields produce steeper spectra and a sharper cutoff

cutoff due to short to turnover time

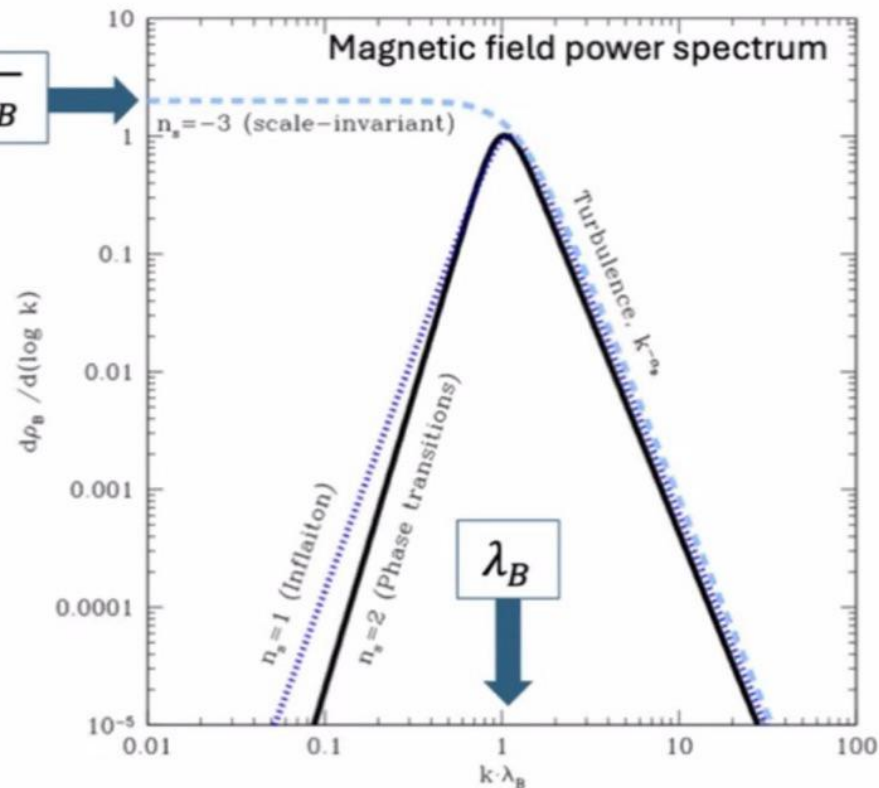


# Introduction

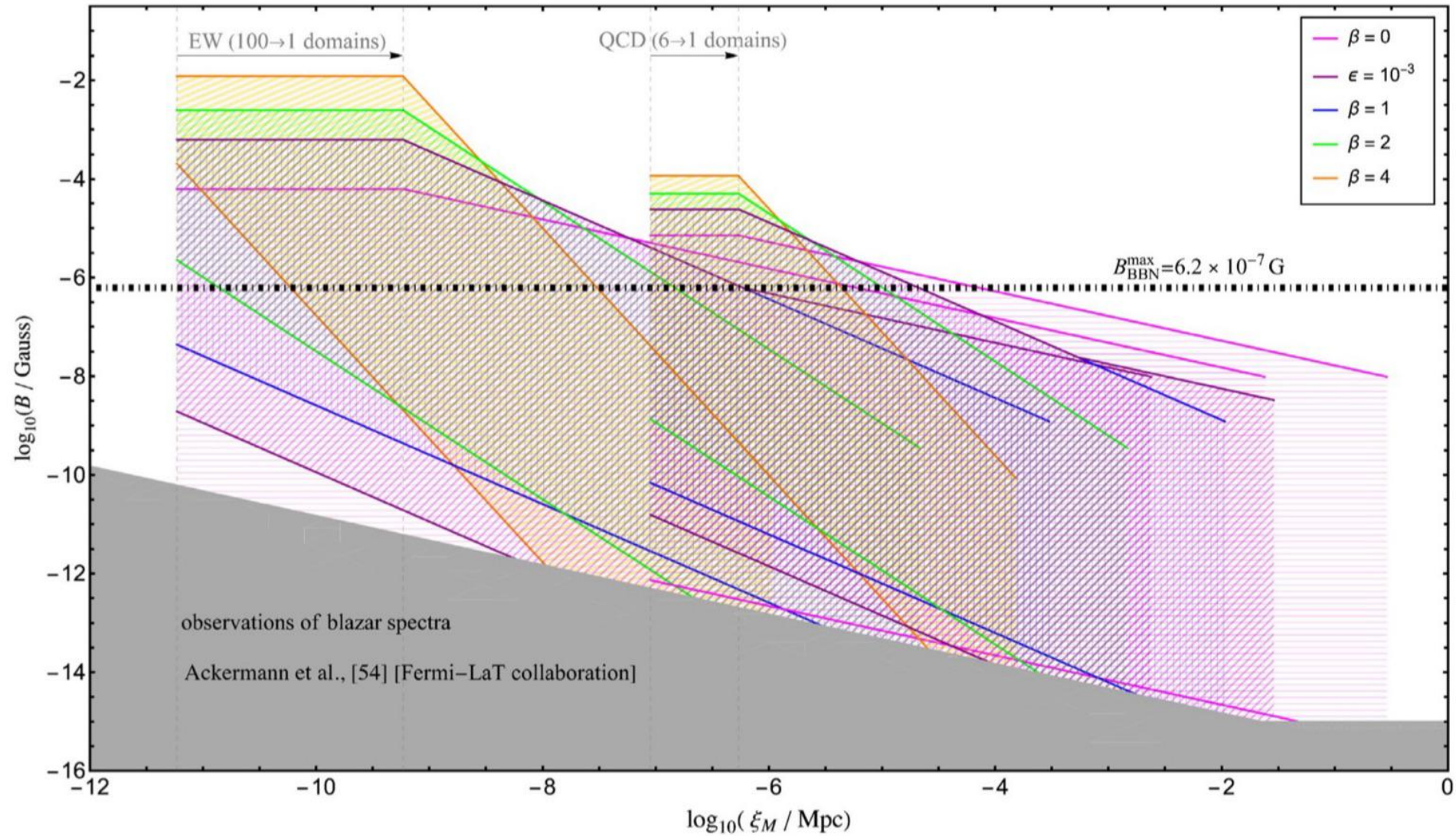


Present-day relic magnetic field parameters are related to the initial field characteristics. They potentially provide information on the mechanism of production of the field in the early Universe.

$$B \sim \sqrt{2\rho_B}$$



# Big Band Nucleosynthesis (BBN) bound relaxed



# Two examples of magnetogenesis in cosmology

## (i) Chiral magnetic effect

(electroweak epoch)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} = \frac{c^2}{\sigma} (\mu_5 \mathbf{B} - \nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$\mu_5 = 24 \alpha_{\text{em}} (n_L - n_R) (\hbar c / k_B T)^2$$

“Battery” still needed

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} = \frac{c}{qn_e} \nabla p_e,$$

## (ii) Conformal invariance breaking

(during inflation)

$$f^2 F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}}'' + \left( \mathbf{k}^2 - \frac{f''}{f} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{A}} = 0$$

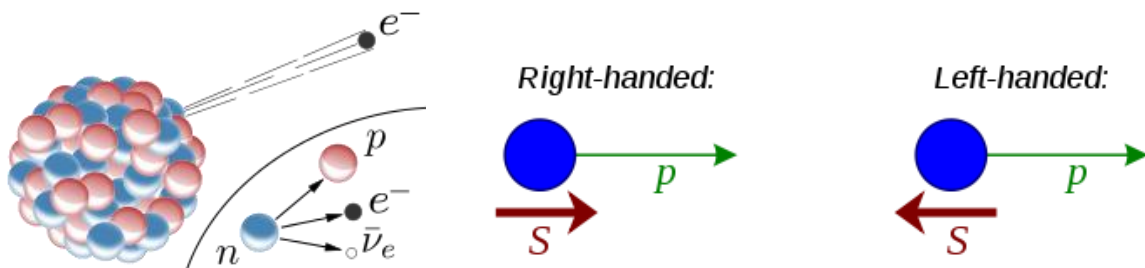
$$f(a) = a^{-\beta}, \quad \text{where } a = (\eta + 1)^2 / 4$$

Quantum fluctuation

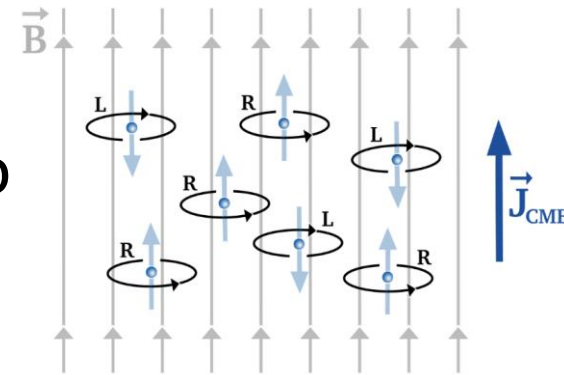
# (i) Chiral magnetic effect: introduces pseudoscalar

- Mathematically identical to  $\alpha$  effect in mean-field dynamos
- Comes from chiral chemical potential  $\mu$  (or  $\mu_5$ )
- Number differences of left- & right-handed fermions

$$\mu_5 = 24 \alpha_{\text{em}} (n_L - n_R) (\hbar c / k_B T)^2,$$



- In the presence of a magnetic field, particles of opposite charge have momenta
- $\rightarrow$  electric current
- Self-excited dynamo
- But depletes  $\mu$



$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} = \eta(\mu \mathbf{B} - \nabla \times \mathbf{B}) + \mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{B}$$

$$\sigma = |\mu k| - \eta k^2$$

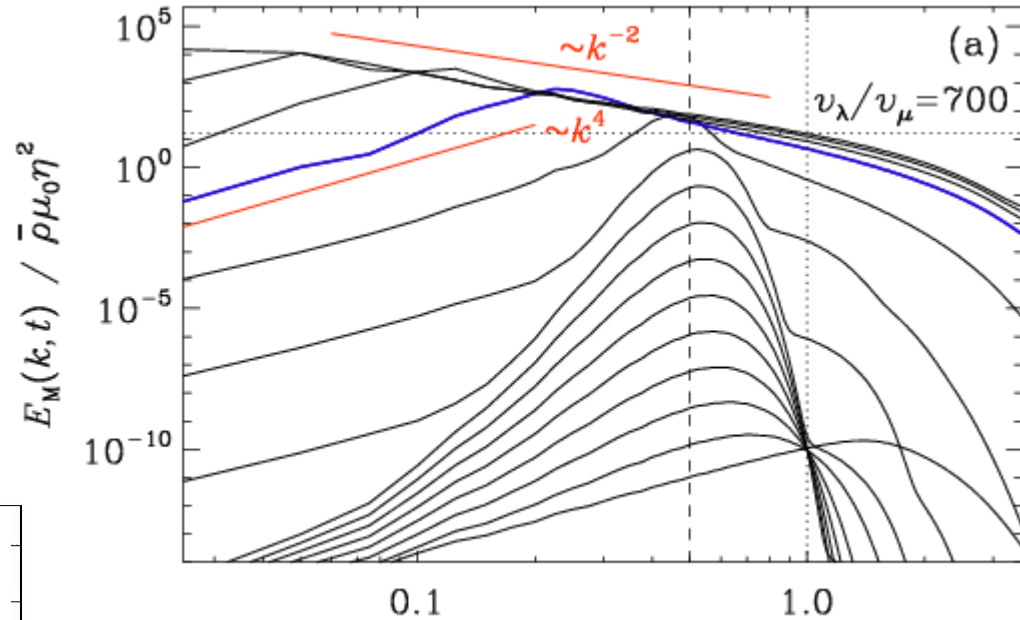
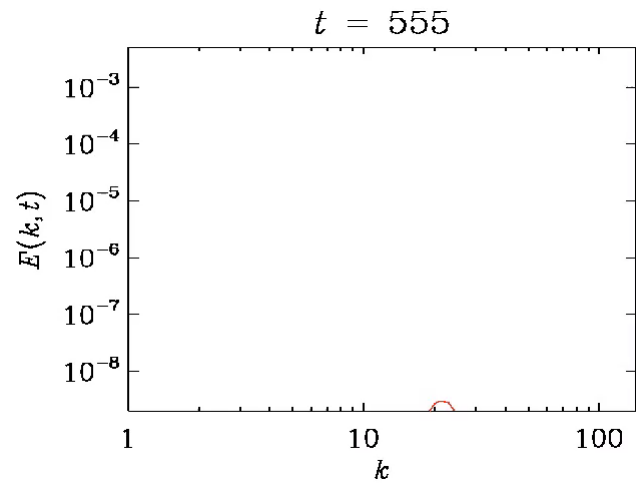
$$\mathbf{B} = \text{curl} \mathbf{A}$$

Discovered originally by Vilenkin (1980); application to magnetogenesis in early Universe by Joyce & Shaposhnikov (1997)

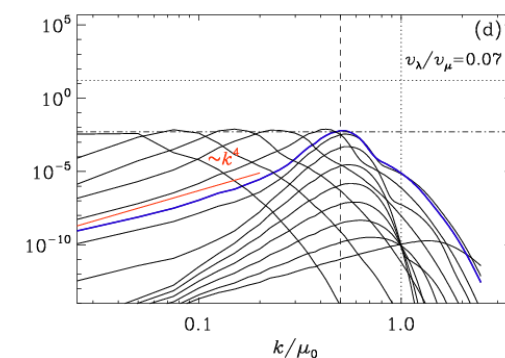
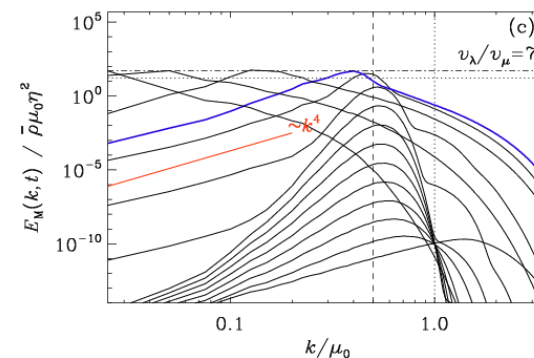
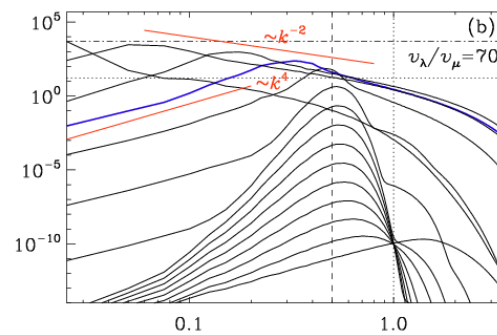
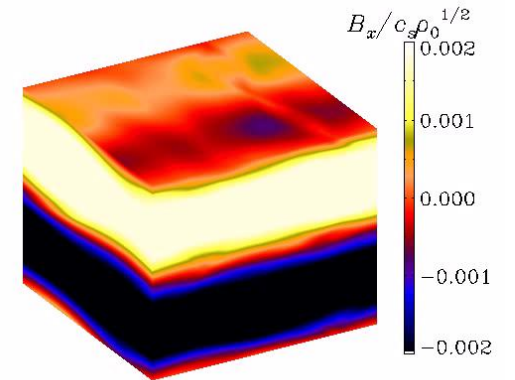


# Time dependence from chiral magnetic effect (CME)

- Exponential growth at one  $k$
- Subsequent inverse cascade
- Always fully helical

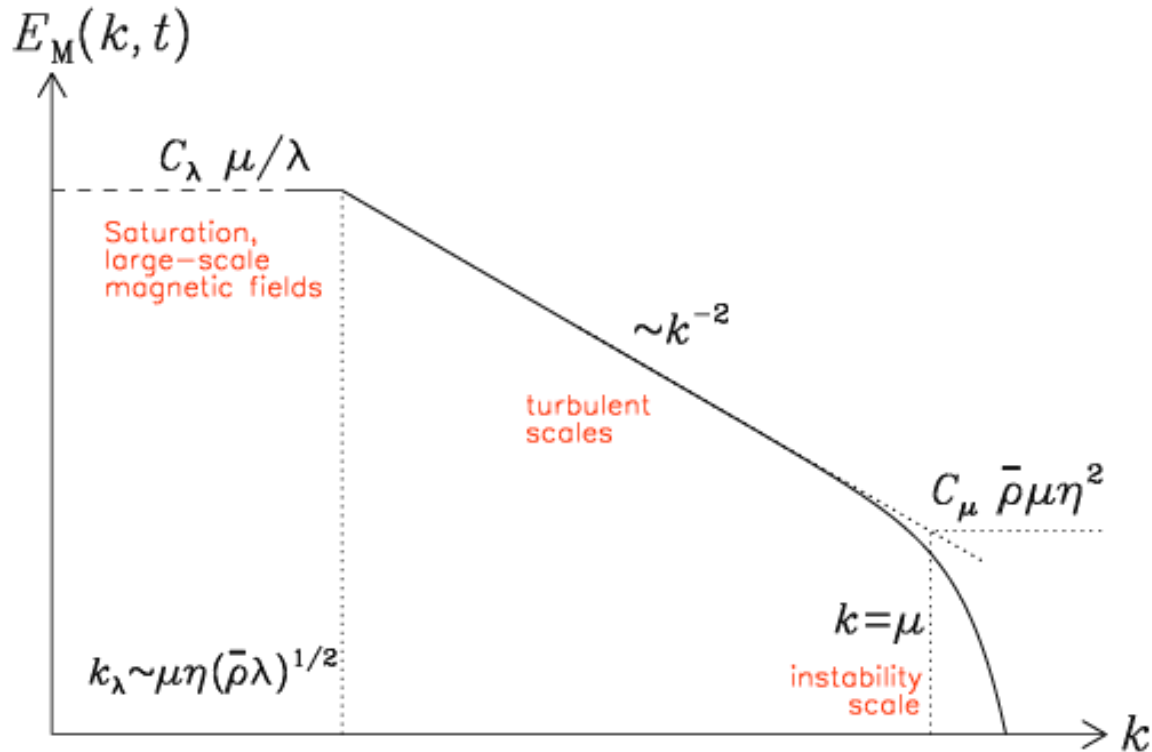


Growth at one wavenumber  
Then: saturation caused by  
initial chemical potential





# Many details are known by now



- Instability just  $\eta$  dependant
- Saturation governed by  $\lambda$

- Regime I is when turbulent subrange is long
- In regime II, just inverse cascading

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times [\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B} + \eta(\mu_5 \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{J})], \quad \mathbf{J} = \nabla \times \mathbf{B},$$

$$\frac{D\mu_5}{Dt} = -\lambda \eta (\mu_5 \mathbf{B} - \mathbf{J}) \cdot \mathbf{B} + D_5 \nabla^2 \mu_5 - \Gamma_f \mu_5,$$

$$v_\lambda = \mu_{50} / \lambda^{1/2}, \quad v_\mu = \mu_{50} \eta. \quad (6)$$

We recall that we have used here dimensionless quantities. We can identify two regimes of interest:

$$\eta k_1 < v_\mu < v_\lambda \quad (\text{regime I}), \quad (7)$$

$$\eta k_1 < v_\lambda < v_\mu \quad (\text{regime II}), \quad (8)$$

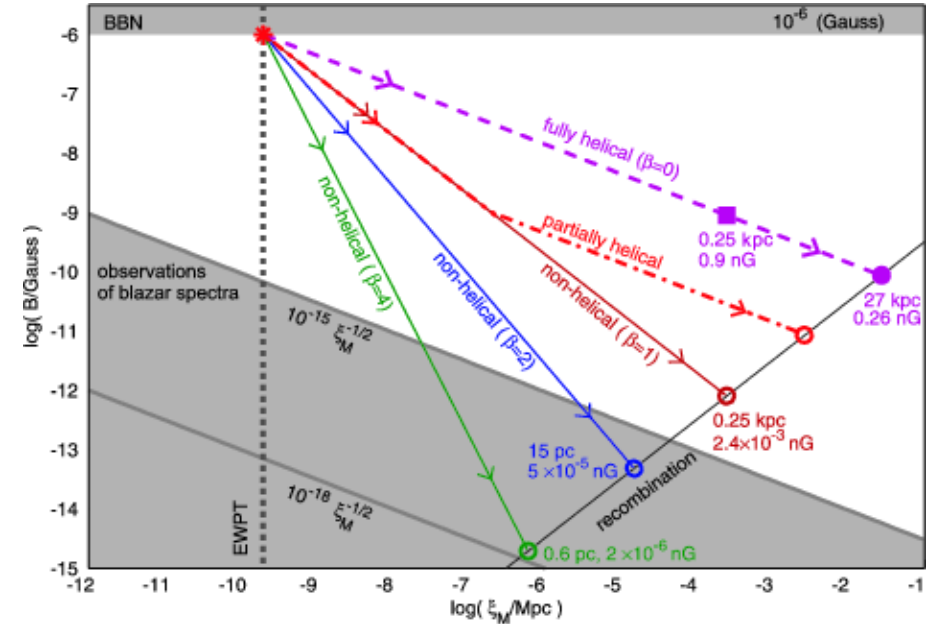
# Strength of chiral magnetic effect

- Inverse turbulent cascade
  - $\langle \mathbf{B}^2 \rangle \sim t^{-2/3}$  length scale:  $\xi_M \sim t^{+2/3}$
- Dimensional arguments give

$$\langle \mathbf{B}^2 \rangle \xi_M = \epsilon (k_B T_0)^3 (\hbar c)^{-2},$$

- Inserting  $T=3\text{K}$  gives  $10^{-18} \text{ G}$  on 1 Mpc
- Consequence of conservation law

$$(n_L - n_R) + \frac{4\alpha_{\text{em}}}{\hbar c} \langle \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle = \text{const.}$$



- But starting length scale very small  $\rightarrow 12 \text{ cm}$
- Compared with horizon scale at that time (electroweak) of  $\sim 1 \text{ AU}$
- Other dimensional argument:

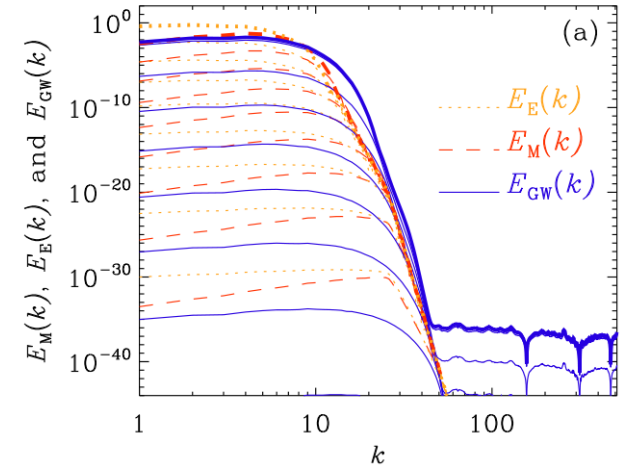
$$\langle \mathbf{B}^2 \rangle \xi_M \lesssim \epsilon_3 (a_*/a_0)^3 G^{-3/2} \hbar^{-1/2} c^{11/2},$$

## (ii) Inflationary magnetogenesis

- Early Universe Turbulence
  - Source of gravitational waves
  - Information from young universe
- Magnetogenesis
  - Inflation/reheating
  - No particles yet, no conductivity
  - Coupling with electromagn field
  - $f^2 F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$
  - Breaking of conformal invariance
  - Quantum fluct  $\rightarrow$  field stretched

$$\tilde{\mathbf{A}}'' + \left( \mathbf{k}^2 - \frac{f''}{f} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{A}} = 0,$$

$$\tilde{h}''_{+/\times} + \left( \mathbf{k}^2 - \frac{a''}{a} \right) \tilde{h}_{+/\times} = \frac{6}{a} \tilde{T}_{+/\times},$$



$\iota f^2 F_{\mu\nu} * F^{\mu\nu}$  Coupling to pseudo-scalar (axion)

$$f(a) = a^{-\beta}, \quad \text{where } a = (\eta + 1)^2/4$$

$$\tilde{A}''_{\pm} + \left( k^2 \pm 2\iota k \frac{f'}{f} - \frac{f''}{f} \right) \tilde{A}_{\pm} = 0,$$

$$\frac{f'}{f} = -\frac{2\beta}{\eta + 1}, \quad \frac{f''}{f} = \frac{2\beta(2\beta + 1)}{(\eta + 1)^2}.$$

# Large-scale magnetic fields from hydromagnetic turbulence in the very early universe

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*Nordita, Blegdamsvej 17, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark*

Kari Enqvist<sup>†</sup>

*Department of Physics, P.O. Box 9, FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland*

Poul Olesen<sup>‡</sup>

*The Niels Bohr Institute, Blegdamsvej 17, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark*

(Received 1 February 1996)

We investigate hydromagnetic turbulence of primordial magnetic fields using magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) in an expanding universe. We present the basic, covariant MHD equations, find solutions for MHD waves in the early universe, and investigate the equations numerically for random magnetic fields in two spatial dimensions. We find the formation of magnetic structures at larger and larger scales as time goes on. In three dimensions we use a cascade (shell) model that has been rather successful in the study of certain aspects of hydrodynamic turbulence. Using such a model we find that after  $\sim 10^9$  times the initial time the scale of the magnetic field fluctuation (in the comoving frame) has increased by 4–5 orders of magnitude as a consequence of an inverse cascade effect (i.e., transfer of energy from smaller to larger scales). Thus *at large scales* primordial magnetic fields are considerably stronger than expected from considerations which do not take into account the effects of MHD turbulence. [S0556-2821(96)02712-9]

# Inverse cascade since the 1970s (*driven* turbulence)

*J. Fluid Mech.* (1975), vol. 68, part 4, pp. 769–778

769

*Printed in Great Britain*

## Possibility of an inverse cascade of magnetic helicity in magnetohydrodynamic turbulence

By U. FRISCH, A. POUQUET,

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Observatoire de Nice, France

J. LÉORAT AND A. MAZURE

Université Paris VII, Observatoire de Meudon, France

*J. Fluid Mech.* (1976), vol. 77, part 2, pp. 321–354

321

*Printed in Great Britain*

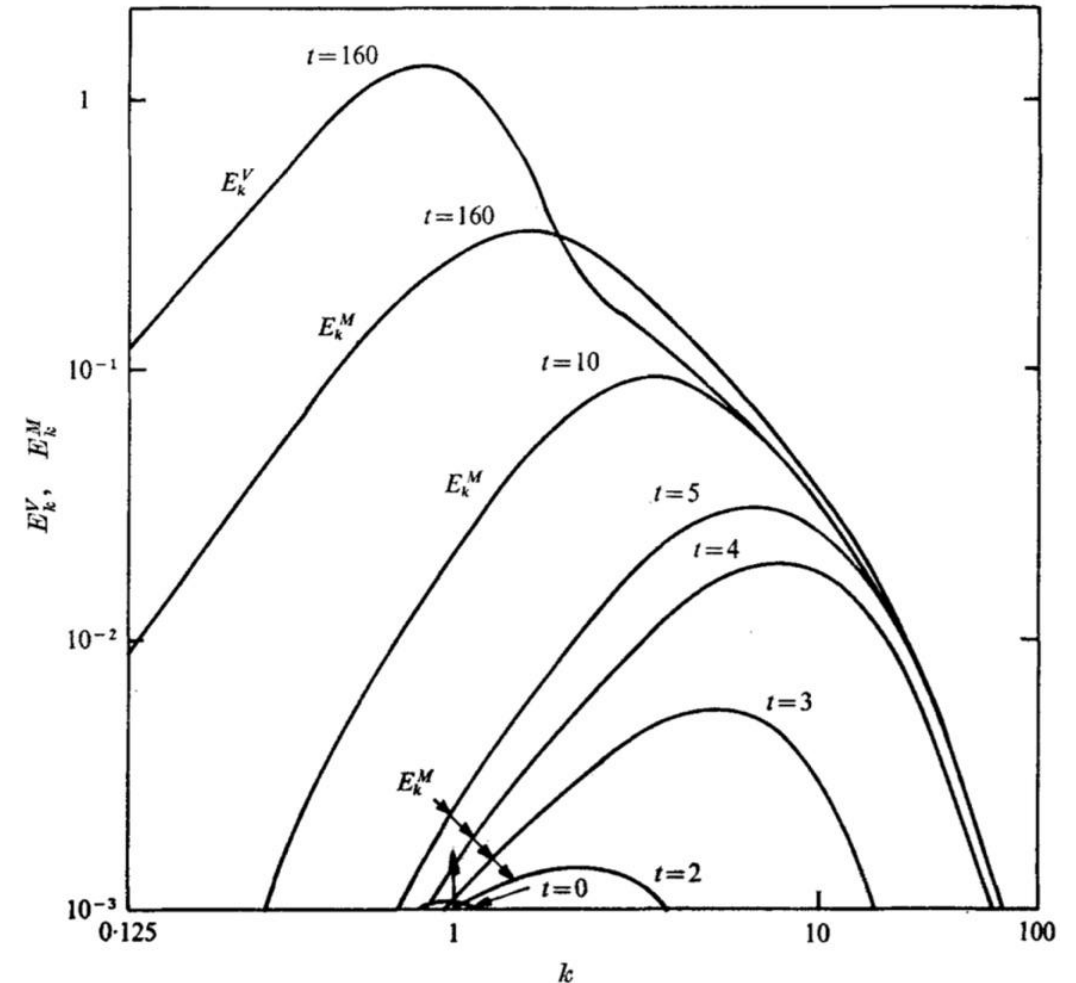
## Strong MHD helical turbulence and the nonlinear dynamo effect

By A. POUQUET, U. FRISCH

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique,  
Observatoire de Nice, France

AND J. LÉORAT

Université Paris VII, Observatoire de Meudon, France





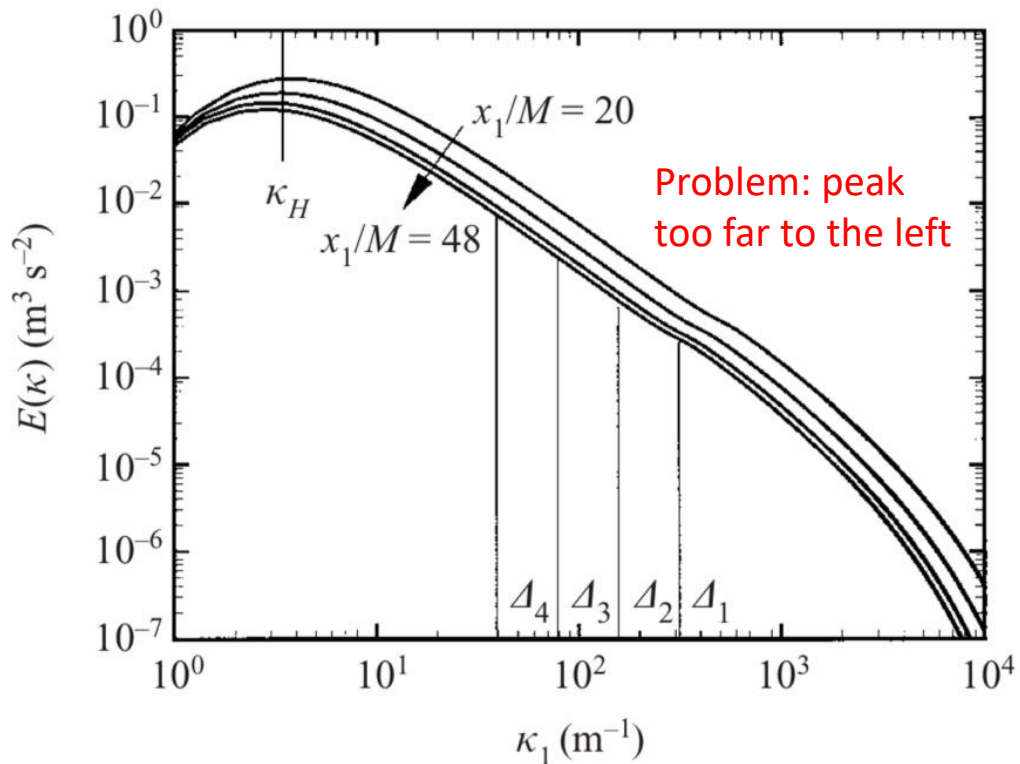
# Turbulent decay: early results & expectations

*J. Fluid Mech.* (2003), vol. 480, pp. 129–160. © 2003 Cambridge University Press  
DOI: 10.1017/S0022112002003579 Printed in the United Kingdom

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## Decaying turbulence in an active-grid-generated flow and comparisons with large-eddy simulation

By HYUNG SUK KANG<sup>1</sup>, STUART CHESTER<sup>1</sup>  
AND CHARLES MENEVEAU<sup>1,2</sup>

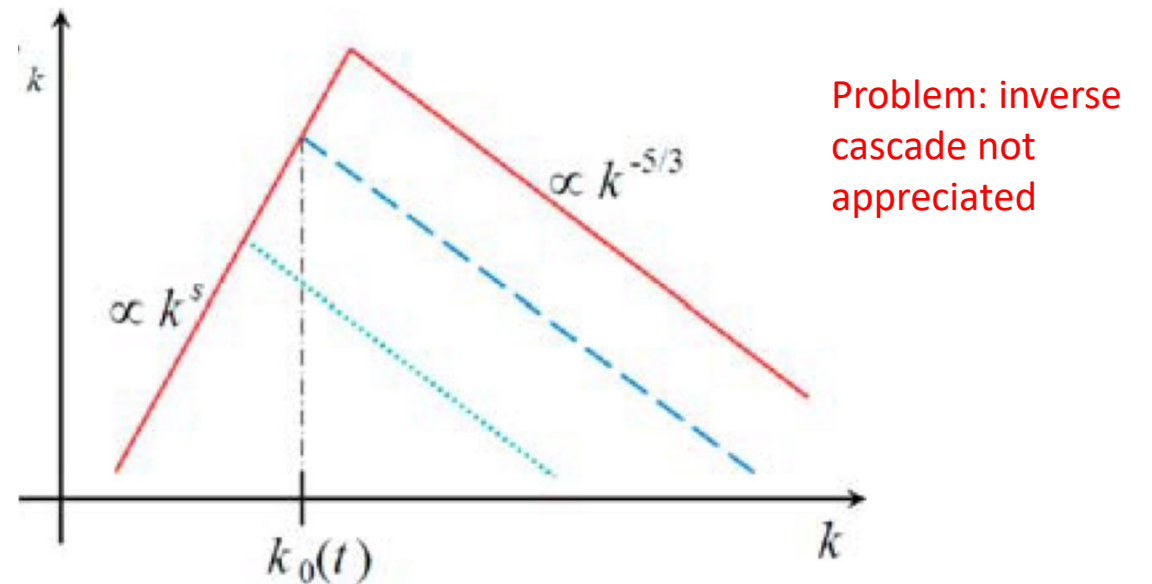


*Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc.* **366**, 1437–1454 (2006)

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2966.2006.09918.x

## Evolving turbulence and magnetic fields in galaxy clusters

Kandaswamy Subramanian,<sup>1,4\*</sup> Anvar Shukurov<sup>1,2,4\*</sup> and Nils Erland L. Haugen<sup>3,5\*</sup>



# Increase at small wavenumbers already in 2000

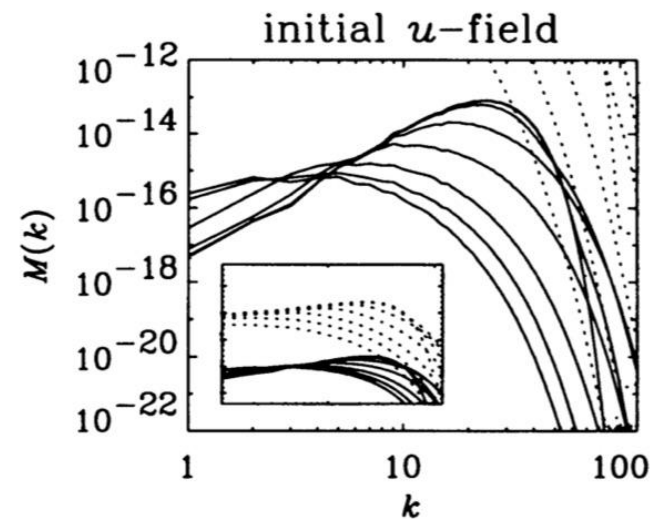
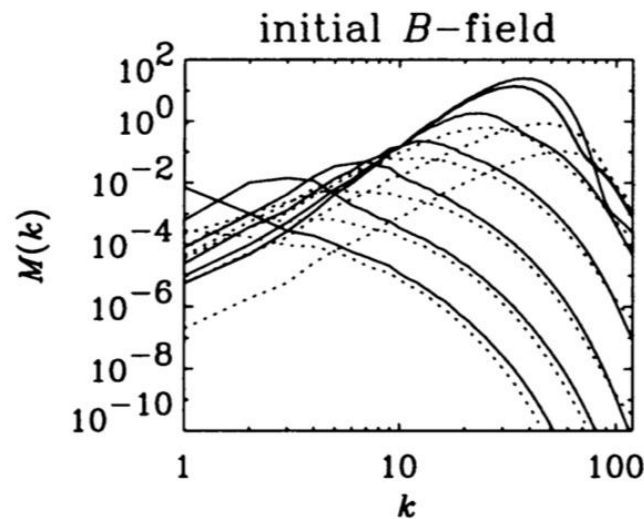
Need large scale separation: peak far to the right

## THE DYNAMO EFFECT IN STARS

Axel Brandenburg

*NORDITA, Blegdamsvej 17, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark; and*

*Department of Mathematics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU, UK*



- Magnetically dominated
  - Started from random vector potential
  - $k^4$  spectrum for magnetic energy
  - Kinetic energy (dotted) similar, but without the peak
- Kinetically dominated
  - Very similar inverse transfer
  - But kinetic energy much larger

# 3-D decay simulations with & without helicity

Initial slope

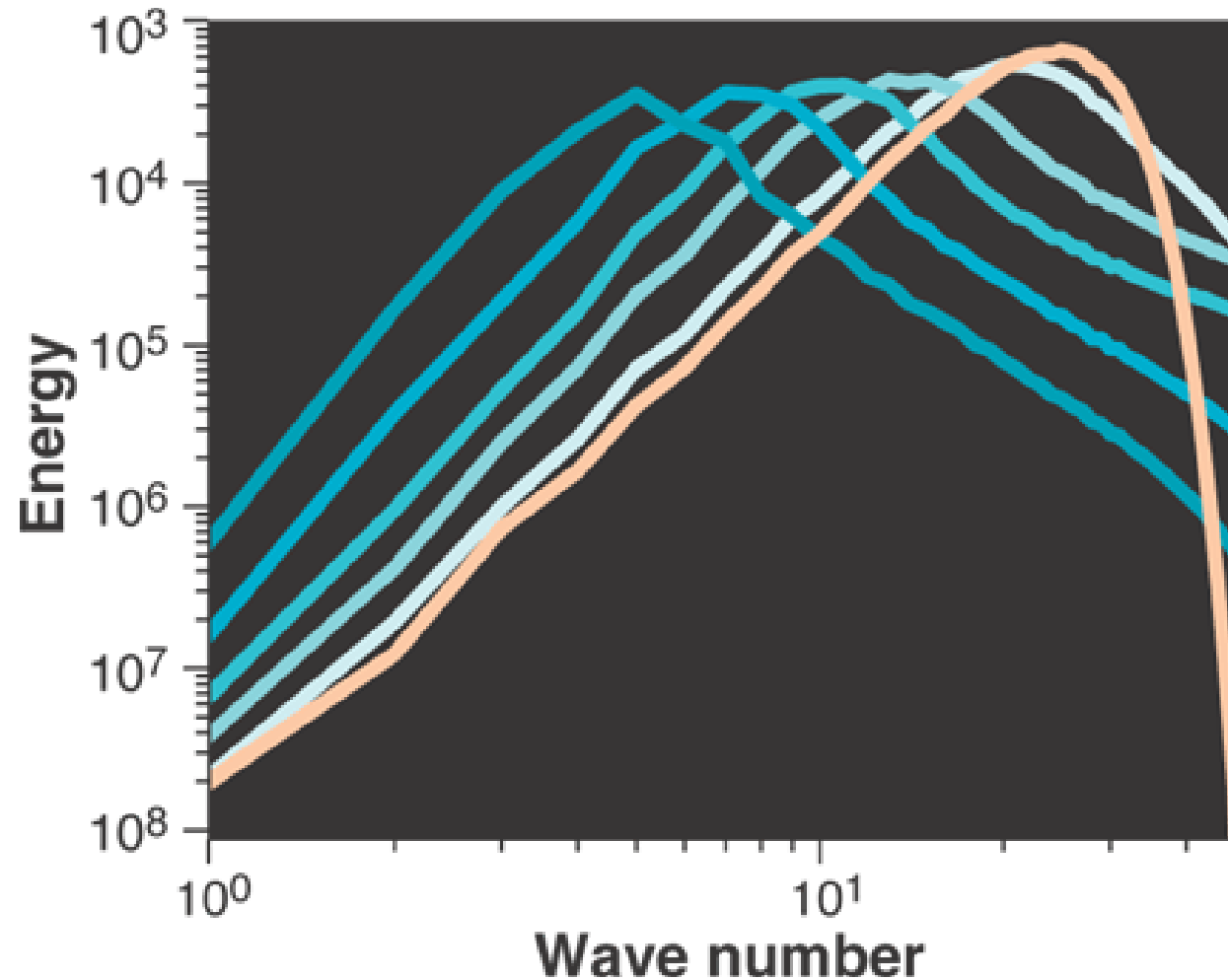
$$E \sim k^4$$

Causality (Durrer & Caprini 2003)  
shell-integrated spectra  
 $\delta$ -correlated vector potential

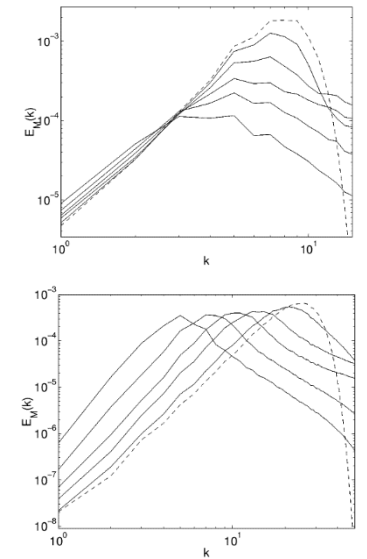
$$E_M(k) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_- < |k| \leq k_+} |\tilde{\mathbf{B}}(k)|^2,$$

$$H_M(k) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_- < |k| \leq k_+} (\tilde{\mathbf{A}} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{B}}^* + \tilde{\mathbf{A}}^* \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{B}}),$$

$k_{\pm} = k \pm \delta k/2$  and  $\delta k = 2\pi/L$  is the

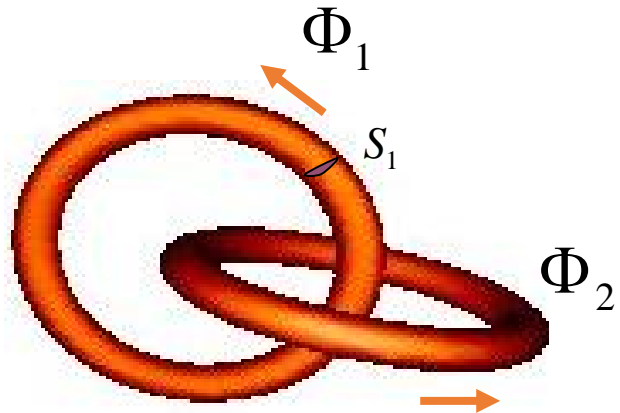


helical vs  
nonhelical



Christensson et al.  
(2001, PRE 64, 056405)

# Magnetic helicity



$$H = \int_V \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} dV$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

$$H = \pm 2\Phi_1\Phi_2$$

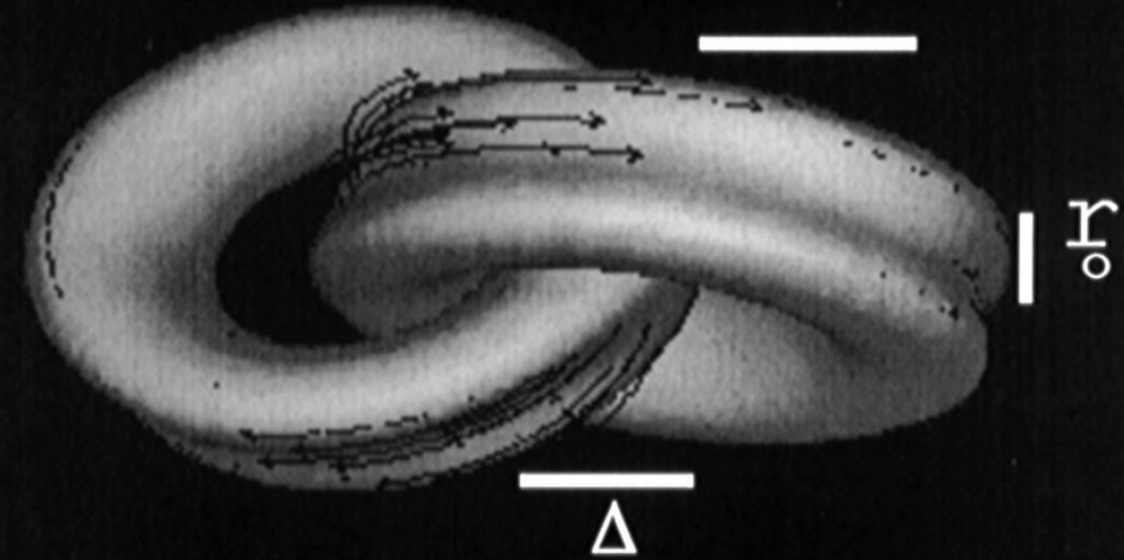
*Therefore the unit is  
Maxwell squared*

$$H_1 = \int_{L_1} \mathbf{A} \cdot d\ell \int_{S_1} \mathbf{B} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

$$= \int_{S_2} \nabla \times \mathbf{A} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \Phi_2 \quad = \Phi_1$$

Kerr & Brandenburg (1999)

t=2



t=3



# Considerations

- Difficulties in seeing (nonhelical) inverse cascade
  - Must have:  $k_{\text{peak}} \gg k_{\text{min}}$  (enough  $k$ -range to the left of the peak)
  - Causal spectrum  $E_M(k) \sim k^4$  (must be steep enough)
- Not seen for velocity spectrum
  - Even if incompressible
  - $\rightarrow$  long-range interactions immediately driven by **B**-field
- Tools
  - $pq$  diagram
  - conservation laws
  - study resistive effects

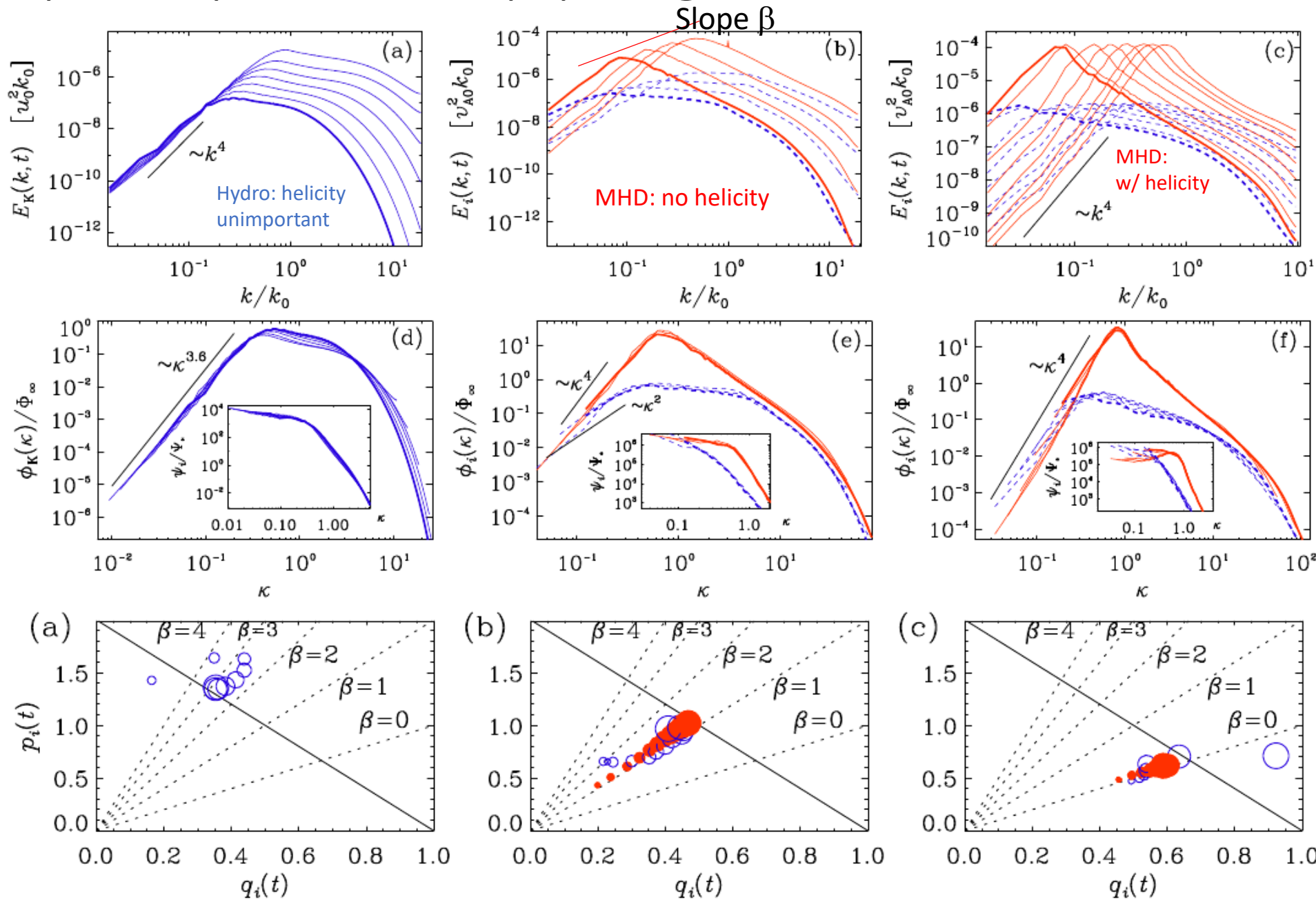


# Different approaches to decays laws

- Initial slope matters
  - “selective decay”
- Olesen (1997)
  - Initial slope  $k^\alpha$
  - Invariance under rescaling:  
 $x \rightarrow x \ell, t \rightarrow t \ell^{1/q}$
  - $\rightarrow q=2/(3+\alpha)$
- Inverse cascade criterion
  - $q>0$ , so  $\alpha > -3$
- Self-similarity matters
  - Measure empirically  $\beta$
  - $\rightarrow q=2/(3+\beta)$
- Inverse cascade criterion
  - $\alpha-\beta > 0$ , so
  - $\alpha > \beta$  cc
- Hosking integral:
  - $\beta = 3/2$
- Conservation law matters
  - Just dimensional arguments
  - Get nondim. prefactors from simulations

# Collapsed spectra and $pq$ diagrams

$$-p_i(t) = d \ln \mathcal{E}_i / d \ln t, \quad q_i(t) = d \ln \xi_i / d \ln t,$$



Explanations  
for slope  $\beta$   
Exponents  $p, q$   
(Hosking &  
Schekochihin  
2021+2023)

# Conservation laws

$$\xi_M \sim \langle \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle t^{2/3}$$

$$\text{cm} \sim (\text{cm}^3/\text{s}^2) \text{s}^{2/3}$$

Magnetic helicity  
Anastrophy (2-D)

Hosking integral

Saffman integral

Loitsyansky integral

$$\langle \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle$$

$$\text{cm}^3 \text{s}^{-2}$$

$$\xi_M(t) \propto \langle \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle^{1/3} t^{2/3}$$

$$\langle A_z^2 \rangle$$

$$\text{cm}^4 \text{s}^{-2}$$

$$\xi_M(t) \propto \langle A_z^2 \rangle^{1/4} t^{1/2}$$

$$I_H$$

$$\text{cm}^9 \text{s}^{-4}$$

$$\xi_M(t) \propto I_H^{1/9} t^{4/9}$$

$$I_S$$

$$\text{cm}^5 \text{s}^{-2}$$

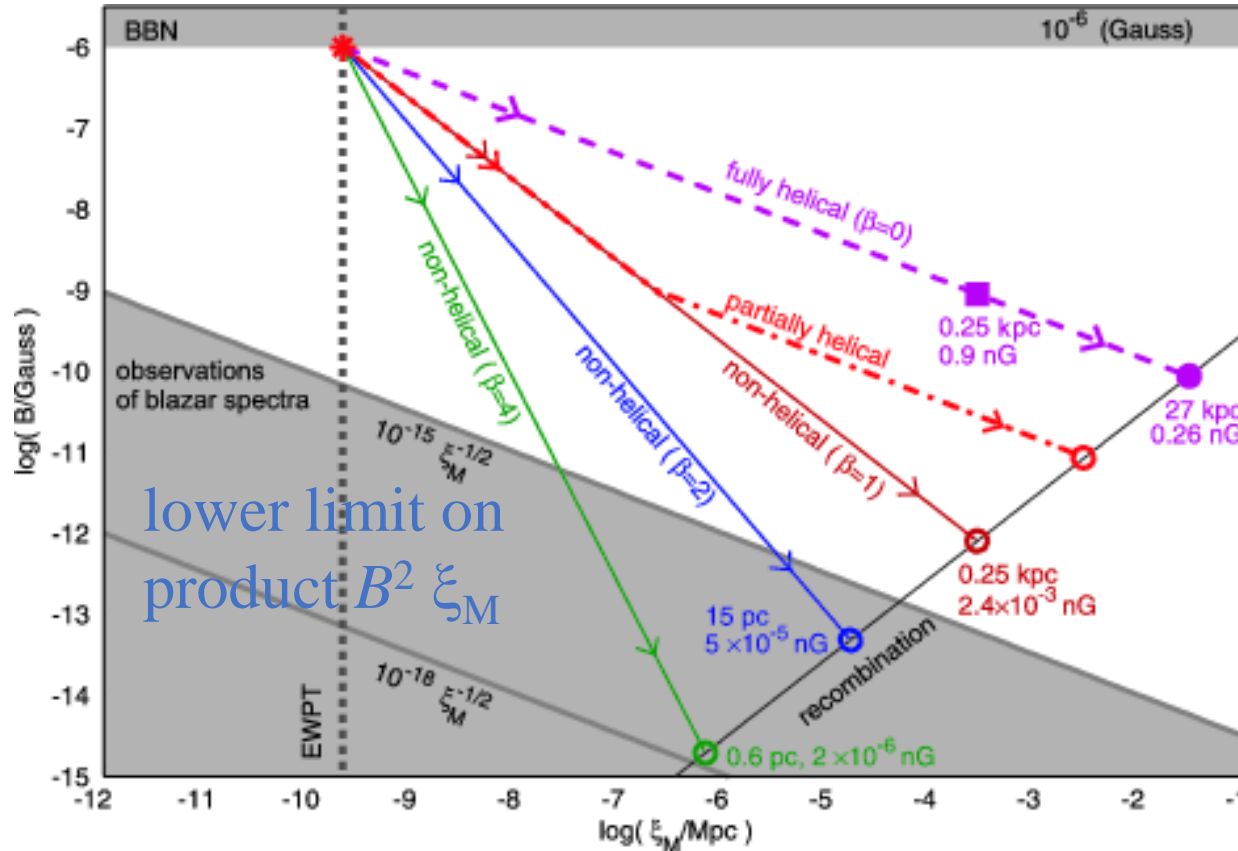
$$\xi_M(t) \propto I_S^{1/5} t^{2/5}$$

$$I_L$$

$$\text{cm}^7 \text{s}^{-2}$$

$$\xi_M(t) \propto I_S^{1/7} t^{2/7}$$

AB, Kahnashvili, ..., Vachaspati (2017)



Magnetic energy dependence  
Parametric representation

magnetic energy

$$\kappa = p/2q$$

$$\mathcal{E}_M(t) \propto \langle \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \rangle^{2/3} t^{-2/3} \propto \xi_M^{-1/2}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_M(t) \propto \langle A_z^2 \rangle^{1/2} t^{-1} \propto \xi_M^{-1}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_M(t) \propto I_H^{2/9} t^{-10/9} \propto \xi_M^{-5/4}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_M(t) \propto I_S^{2/5} t^{-6/5} \propto \xi_M^{-3/2}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_M(t) \propto I_S^{2/7} t^{-10/7} \propto \xi_M^{-5/2}$$

# Nonhelical decay: mag helicity in patches conserved

$h(x) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$

$$\mathcal{I}_H(R \ll \xi_M) \simeq \int_{V_n} d^3r \langle h(\mathbf{x})h(\mathbf{x}) \rangle \propto R^3$$

Hosking  
integral

$$\mathcal{I}_H(R) = \int_0^\infty dk w_{\text{sph}}^{\text{BC}}(k) \text{Sp}(h)$$

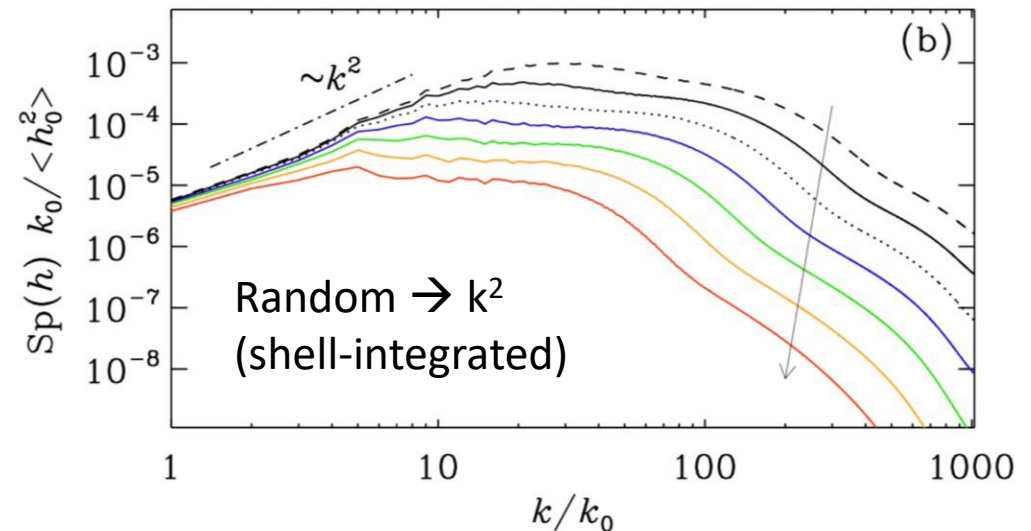
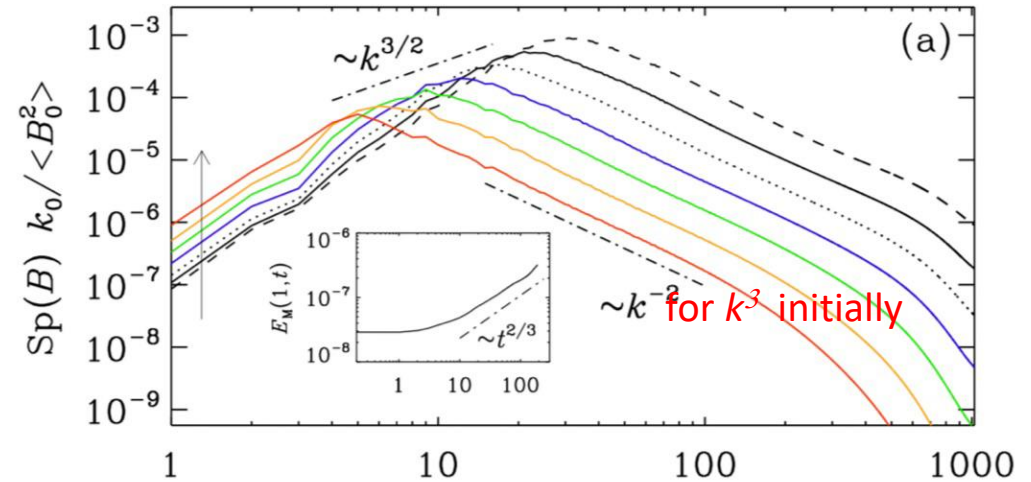
$$\text{Sp}(h) = \frac{1}{V} \frac{k^2}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{|k|=k} d\Omega_k \tilde{h}^*(\mathbf{k}) \tilde{h}(\mathbf{k})$$

$$\text{Sp}(h) = \frac{I_H}{2\pi^2} k^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^4)$$

$$[I_H] = \text{cm}^9 \text{s}^{-4}$$

$$\xi_M = I_H^a t^b$$

$$a=1/9, b=4/9$$



AB, Sharma, Vachaspati (2023)

$$\xi_M(t) \approx 0.12 I_H^{1/9} t^{4/9}, \quad \mathcal{E}_M(t) \approx 3.7 I_H^{2/9} t^{-10/9}, \quad E_M(k, t) \lesssim 0.025 I_H^{1/2} (k/k_0)^{3/2}$$

# Universal coefficients?

$$\xi_M(t) \approx 0.12 I_H^{1/9} t^{4/9}, \quad \mathcal{E}_M(t) \approx 3.7 I_H^{2/9} t^{-10/9}, \quad E_M(k, t) \lesssim 0.025 I_H^{1/2} (k/k_0)^{3/2}$$

If so, it would be in conflict with simple relationships of the form:

$$\frac{\xi_M}{\lambda_0} = \left( \frac{T}{T_\star} \right)^{-n_\xi},$$

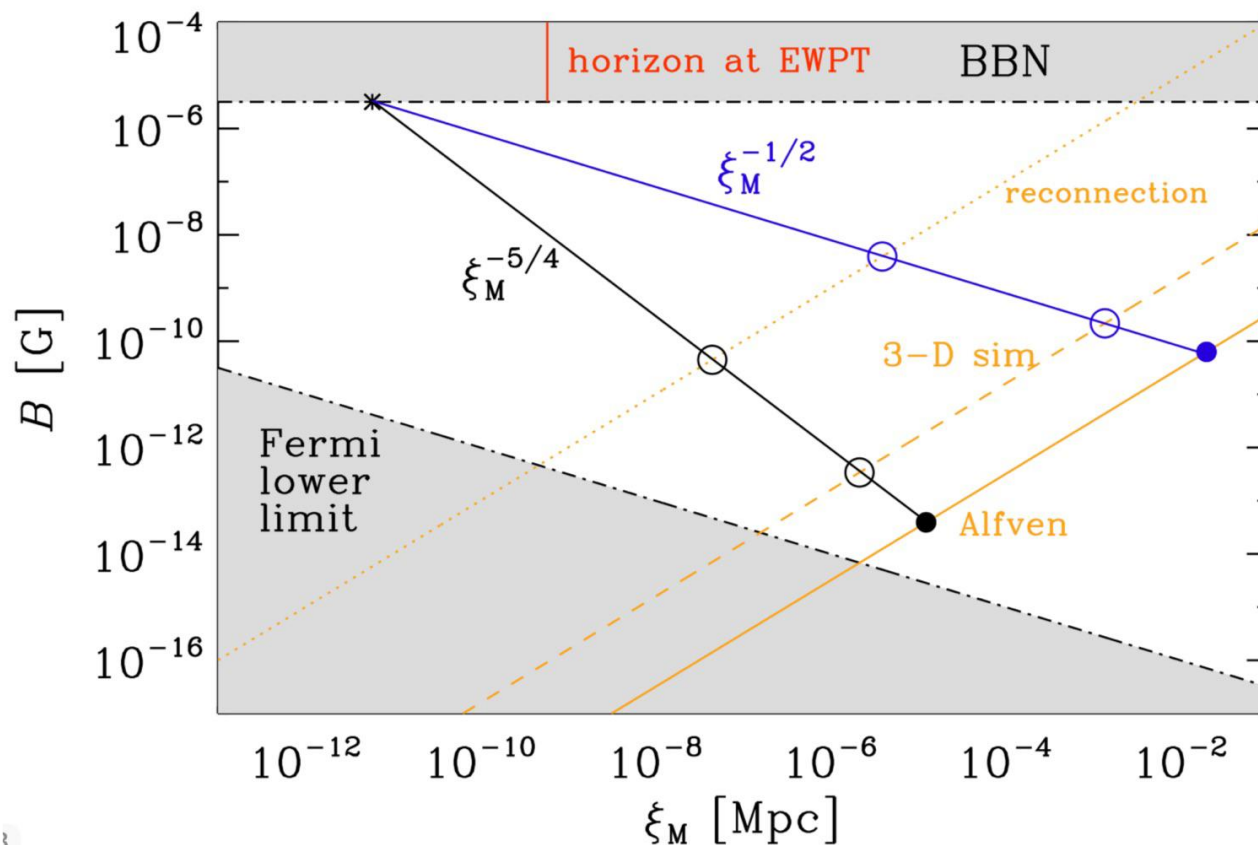
$$\frac{B^{(\text{eff})}}{B_\star} = \left( \frac{T}{T_\star} \right)^{-n_E},$$

Which suggests that  $\xi_M$  and  $B^{(\text{eff})}$  can be chosen freely and independently from each other!



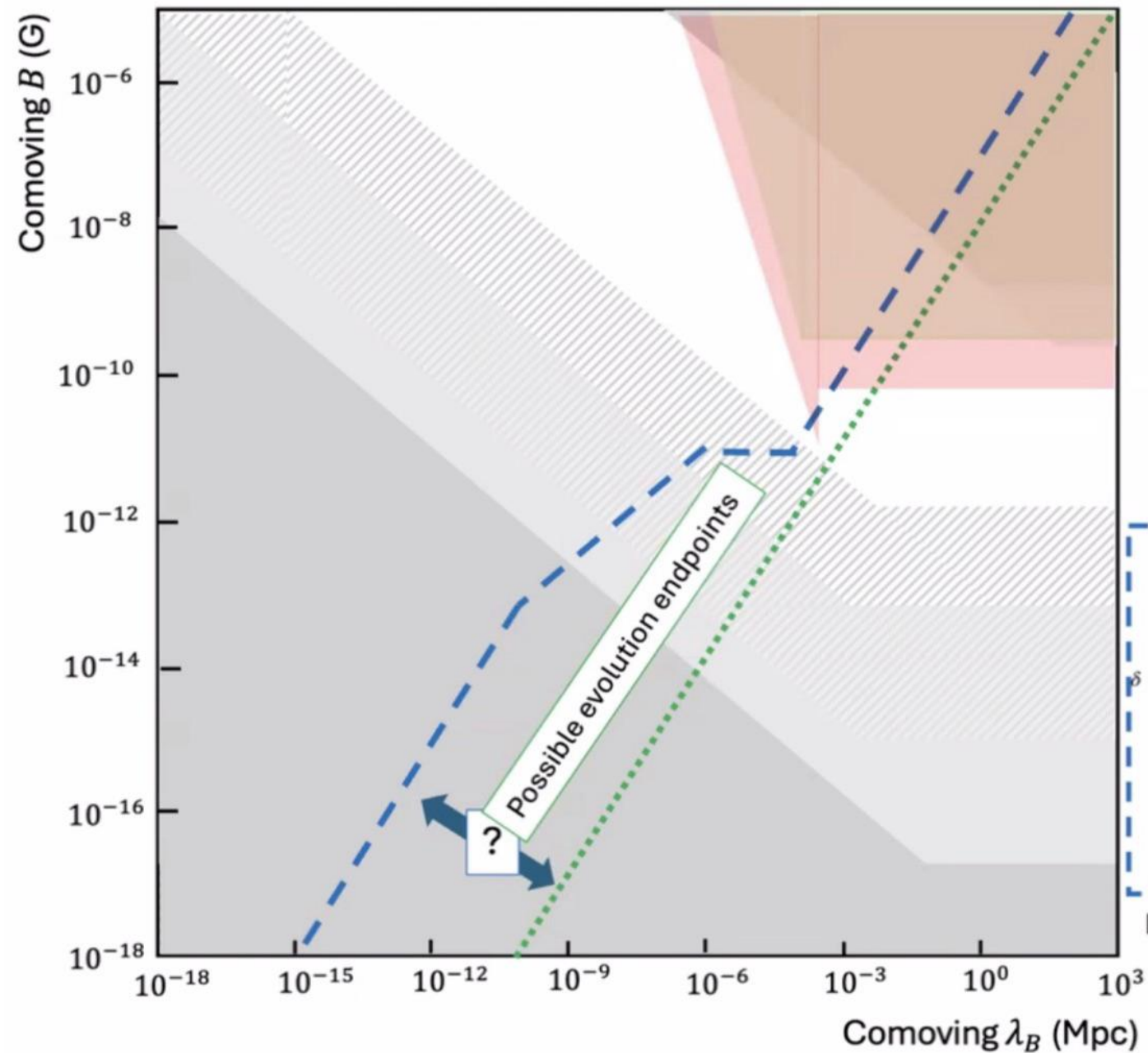
# Resistively controlled primordial magnetic turbulence decay

A. Brandenburg<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup> , A. Neronov<sup>6,7</sup> , and F. Vazza<sup>8,9,10</sup> 

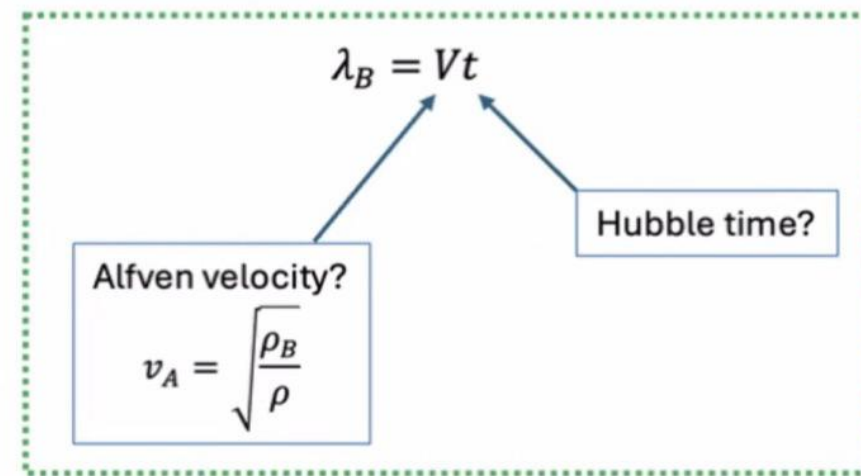


- Endpoints under assumption that decay time = Alfven time
- Use: decay time = recombination time
- Possibility: decay time  $\gg$  Alfven time
- $\rightarrow$  Premature endpoint of evolution

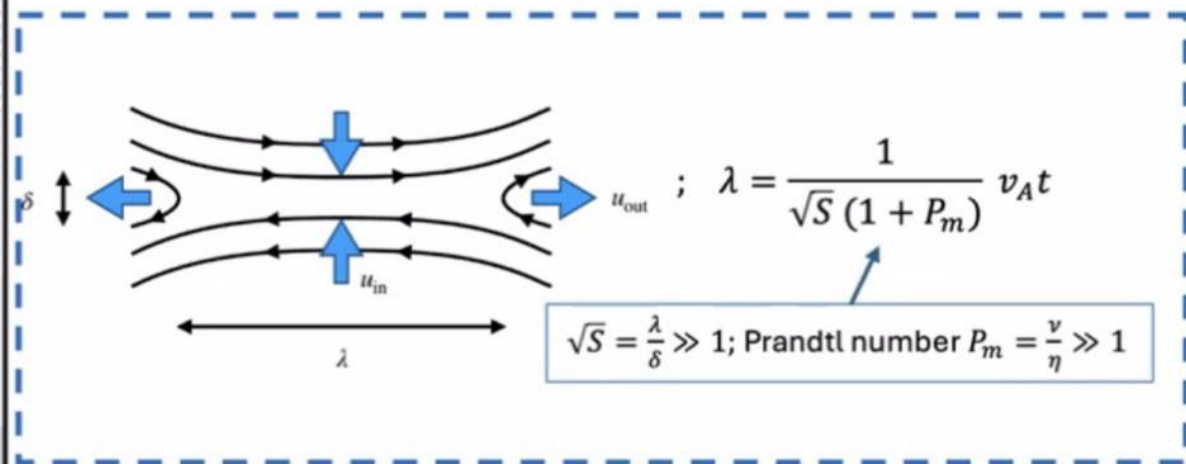
# Backtracing of magnetic field evolution



“Largest processed turbulent eddy” concept:



Banerjee, Jedamzik, astro-ph/0410032



Hosking, Schekochihin, 2203.03573



# Resistively controlled primordial magnetic turbulence decay

A. Brandenburg<sup>1,2,3,4,5</sup>, A. Neronov<sup>6,7</sup>, and F. Vazza<sup>8,9,10</sup>

Relation between decay time

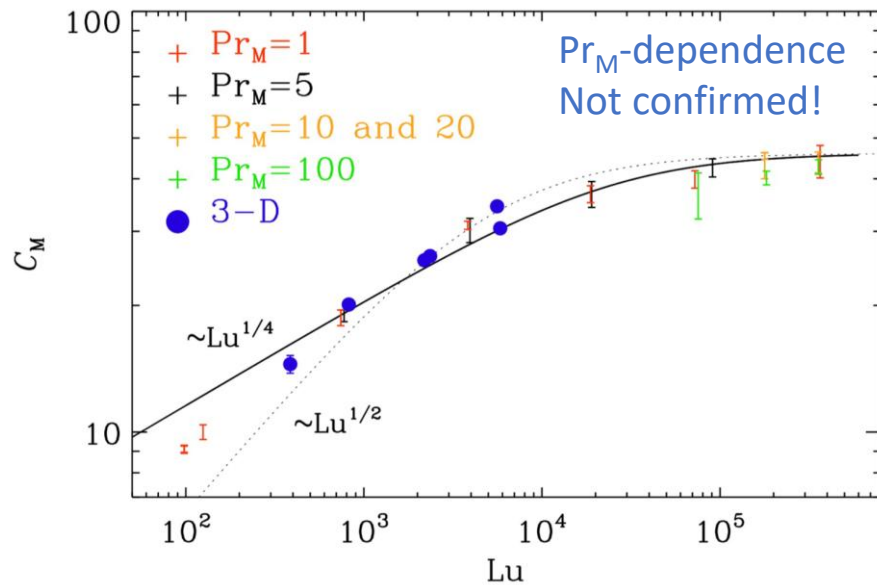
$$\tau^{-1} = -d \ln \mathcal{E}_M / dt$$

and Alfvén time

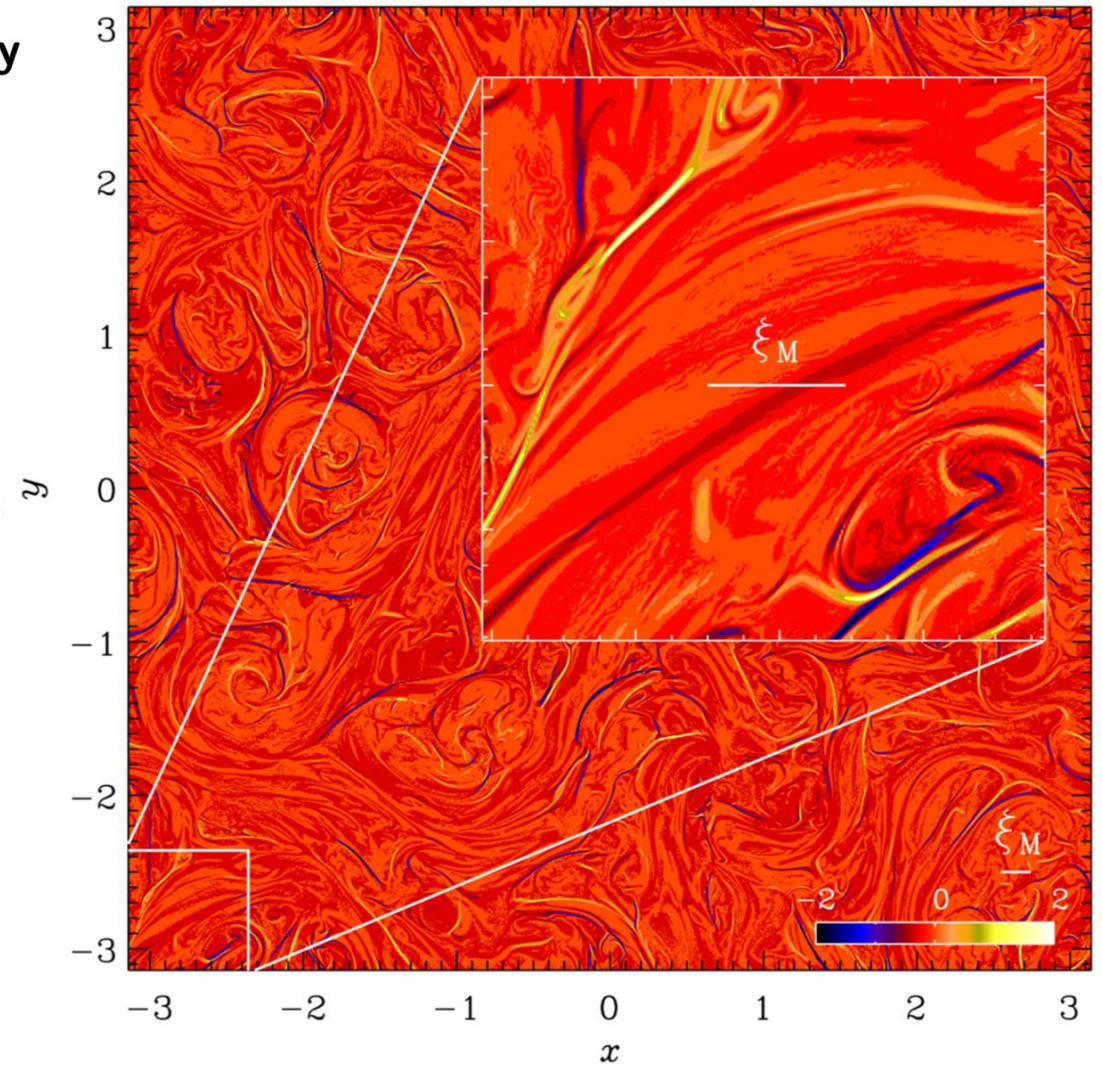
$$\tau_A = \xi_M / v_A \quad \mathcal{E}_M = B_{\text{rms}}^2 / 2\mu_0 = \rho v_A^2 / 2$$

Determine  $C_M$  in relation:

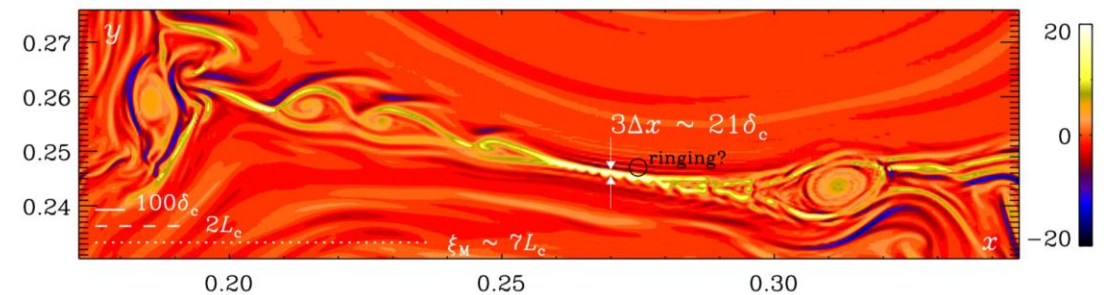
$$\tau = C_M \xi_M / v_A$$



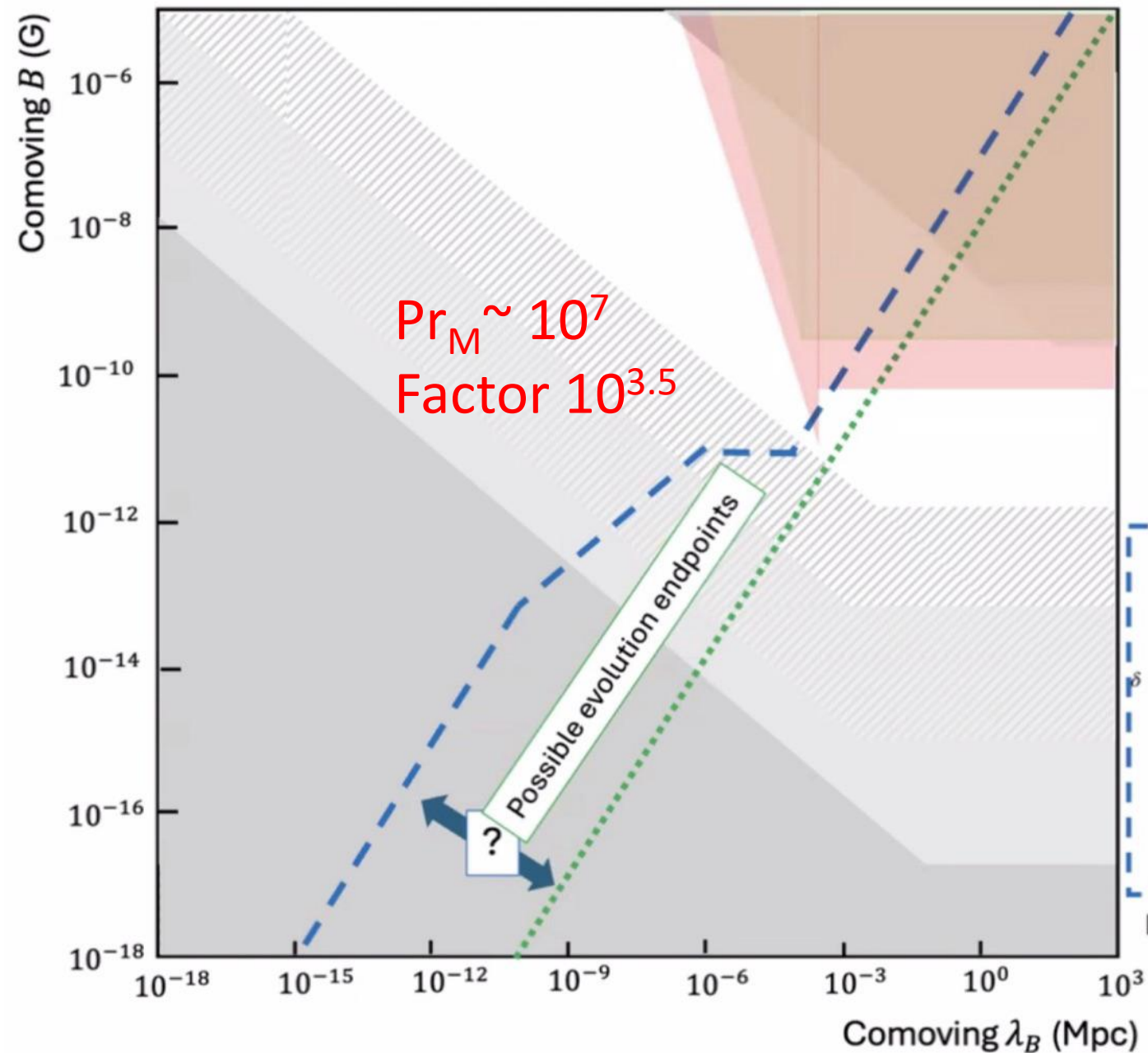
3-D



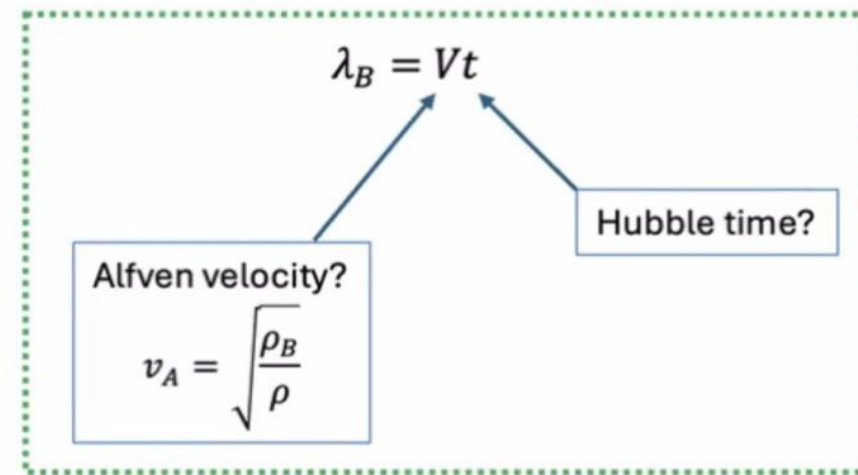
2-D



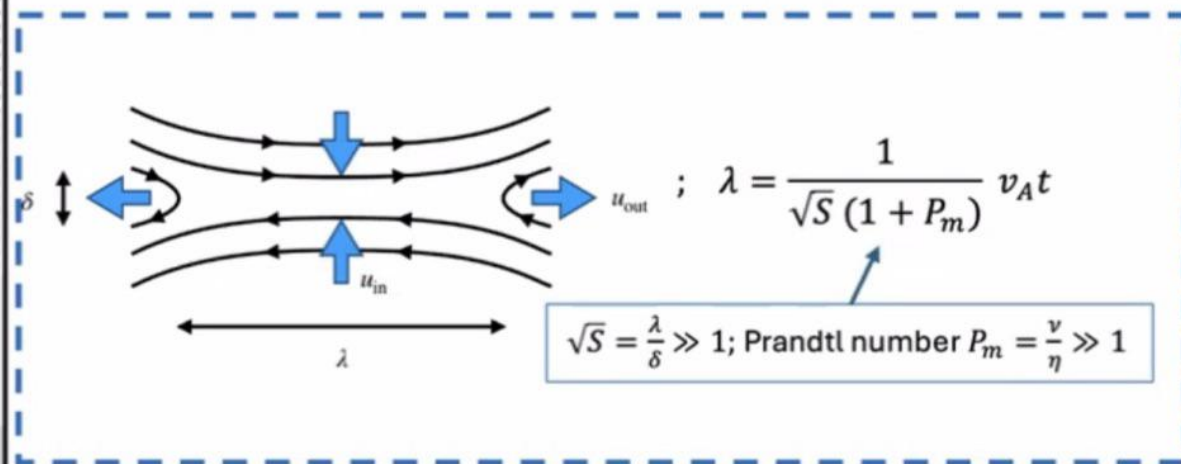
# Backtracing of magnetic field evolution



“Largest processed turbulent eddy” concept:



Banerjee, Jedamzik, astro-ph/0410032



Hosking, Schekochihin, 2203.03573

Structures highly dynamical:  
outflow not opposed by viscosity



# Summary:

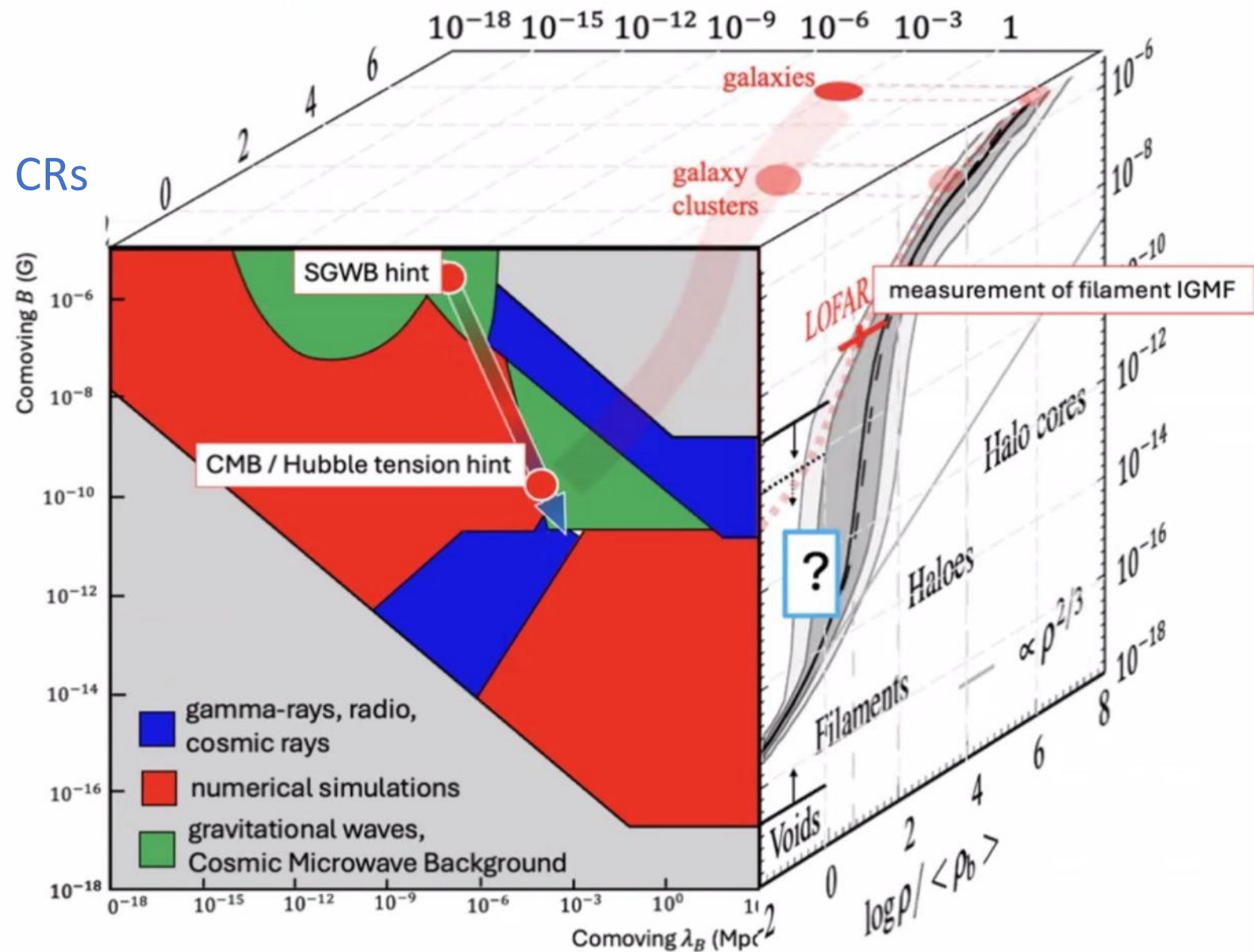
tools are available to explore “full” intergalactic / cosmological magnetic fields parameter space, from the moment of creation to recombination and throughout structure formation up to  $z = 0$

Interplay:

Gamma-ray, radio, CRs

GWs, CMB

simulations





# Conclusions (so far)

- Selfsimilar decay
  - Magnetic helicity plays a role even when it vanishes on average!
  - Hosking integral conserved relevant for early universe
  - Perhaps also for galaxy clusters (after mergers)
- Universe as a whole → primordial (non-astrophysical) fields
  - Decay till recombination:  $< 0.1$  nG fields, 1 kpc scales at best (phase transitions)
  - Larger scales from reheating scenarios
  - If nonhelical: Hosking integral conserved
  - Also applies to fully helical, if balanced by fermion chirality
- Inflationary: large scales, often helical
  - Electric energy → kinetic energy
  - Circularly polarized waves
- What next?
  - Reconnection
  - $R_m$  dependence
  - magnetic helicity fluxes



# Note on the Pencil Code

- 2001 started at Summer School
- 2004 First User Meeting
  - Annually since then
- 2016 Steering Committee
- 2020 Special Issue in GAFD
- 2020 Newsletter
  - Good references to code updates
- 2020 Office hours
  - Second Thursday of the month
- JOSS=Journal for Open Source Software: code rather than paper

Open code: will one be scooped?  
Negative press? Mistakes traced back..



DOI: [10.21105/joss.02807](https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.02807)

Software

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Published: 21 February 2021

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The Pencil Code, a modular MPI code for partial differential equations and particles: multipurpose and multiuser-maintained

The [Pencil Code Collaboration](#)<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>, [Axel Brandenburg](#)<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>, [Anders Johansen](#)<sup>4</sup>, [Philippe A. Bourdin](#)<sup>5, 6</sup>, [Wolfgang Dobler](#)<sup>7</sup>, [Wladimir Lyra](#)<sup>8</sup>, [Matthias Rheinhardt](#)<sup>9</sup>, [Sven Bingert](#)<sup>10</sup>, [Nils Eerland L. Haugen](#)<sup>11, 12, 1</sup>, [Antony Mee](#)<sup>13</sup>, [Frederick Gent](#)<sup>9, 14</sup>, [Natalia Babkovskaia](#)<sup>15</sup>, [Chao-Chin Yang](#)<sup>16</sup>, [Tobias Heinemann](#)<sup>17</sup>, [Boris Dintrans](#)<sup>18</sup>, [Dhrubaditya Mitra](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Simon Candelaresi](#)<sup>19</sup>, [Jörn Warnecke](#)<sup>20</sup>, [Petri J. Käpylä](#)<sup>21</sup>, [Andreas Schreiber](#)<sup>15</sup>, [Piyali Chatterjee](#)<sup>22</sup>, [Maarit J. Käpylä](#)<sup>9, 20</sup>, [Xiang-Yu Li](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Jonas Krüger](#)<sup>11, 12</sup>, [Jørgen R. Aarnes](#)<sup>12</sup>, [Graeme R. Sarson](#)<sup>14</sup>, [Jeffrey S. Oishi](#)<sup>23</sup>, [Jennifer Schober](#)<sup>24</sup>, [Raphaël Plasson](#)<sup>25</sup>, [Christer Sandin](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Ewa Karchniwy](#)<sup>12, 26</sup>, [Luiz Felipe S. Rodrigues](#)<sup>14, 27</sup>, [Alexander Hubbard](#)<sup>28</sup>, [Gustavo Guerrero](#)<sup>29</sup>, [Andrew Snodin](#)<sup>4</sup>, [Illa R. Losada](#)<sup>1</sup>, [Johannes Pekkila](#)<sup>9</sup>, and [Chengeng Qian](#)<sup>30</sup>

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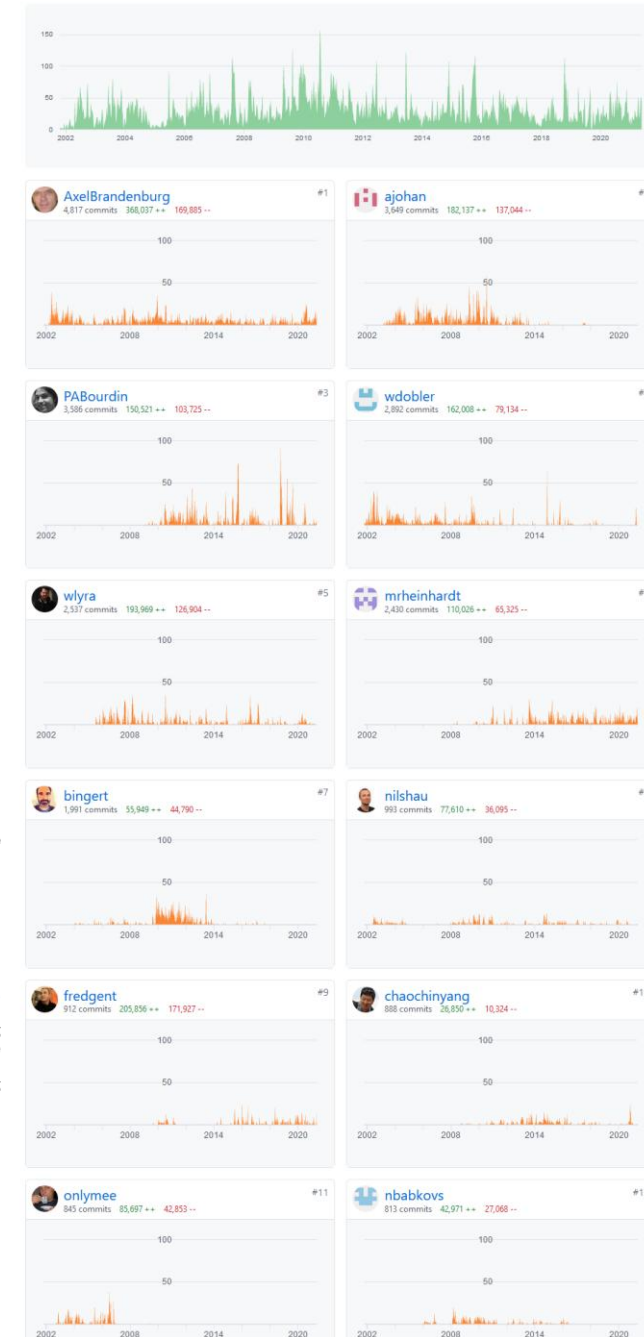
## Summary

The Pencil Code is a highly modular physics-oriented simulation code that can be adapted to a wide range of applications. It is primarily designed to solve partial differential equations (PDEs) of compressible hydrodynamics and has lots of add-ons ranging from astrophysical magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) ([A. Brandenburg & Dobler, 2010](#)) to meteorological cloud microphysics ([Li et al., 2017](#)) and engineering applications in combustion ([Babkovskaia et al., 2011](#)). Nevertheless, the framework is general and can also be applied to situations not related to hydrodynamics or even PDEs, for example when just the message passing interface or input/output strategies of the code are to be used. The code can also evolve Lagrangian (inertial and noninertial) particles, their coagulation and condensation, as well as their interaction with the fluid. A related module has also been adapted to perform ray tracing

H=37 people have done > 37 commits

Oct 28, 2001 – May 28, 2021

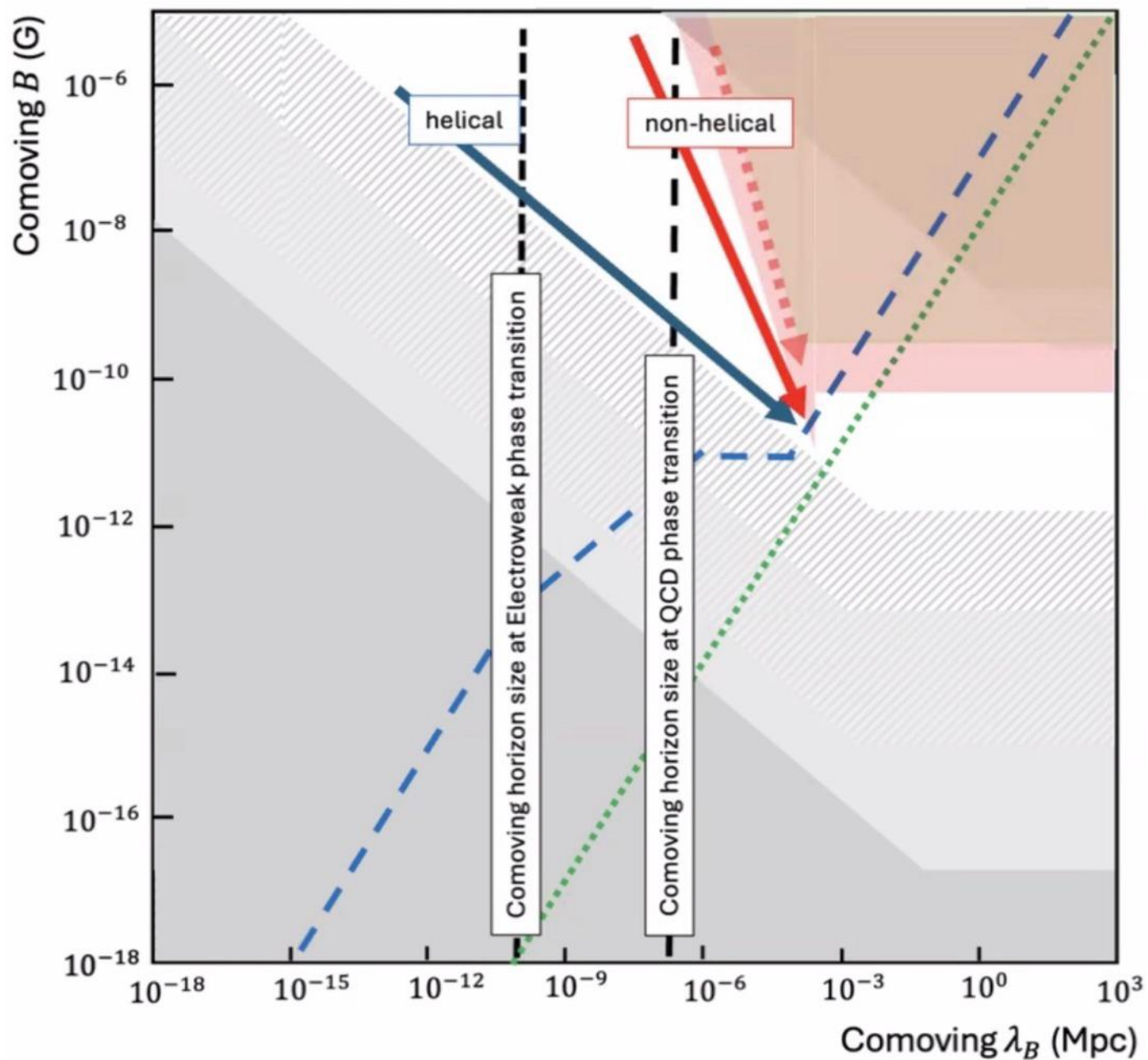
Contributions to master, excluding merge commits and bot accounts



# Further todos

- Ionization evolution during recombination
  - How important is departure from equilibrium?
  - Can we use Saha equation?
- How are the endpoints affected by this
  - Positive or negative shift?
- Clumping factor
  - Affects sound horizon
  - Hubble tension
- Including dark Matter evolution
  - Selfgravity and particles already in the Pencil Code
  - But nobody used it yet for dark matter modeling

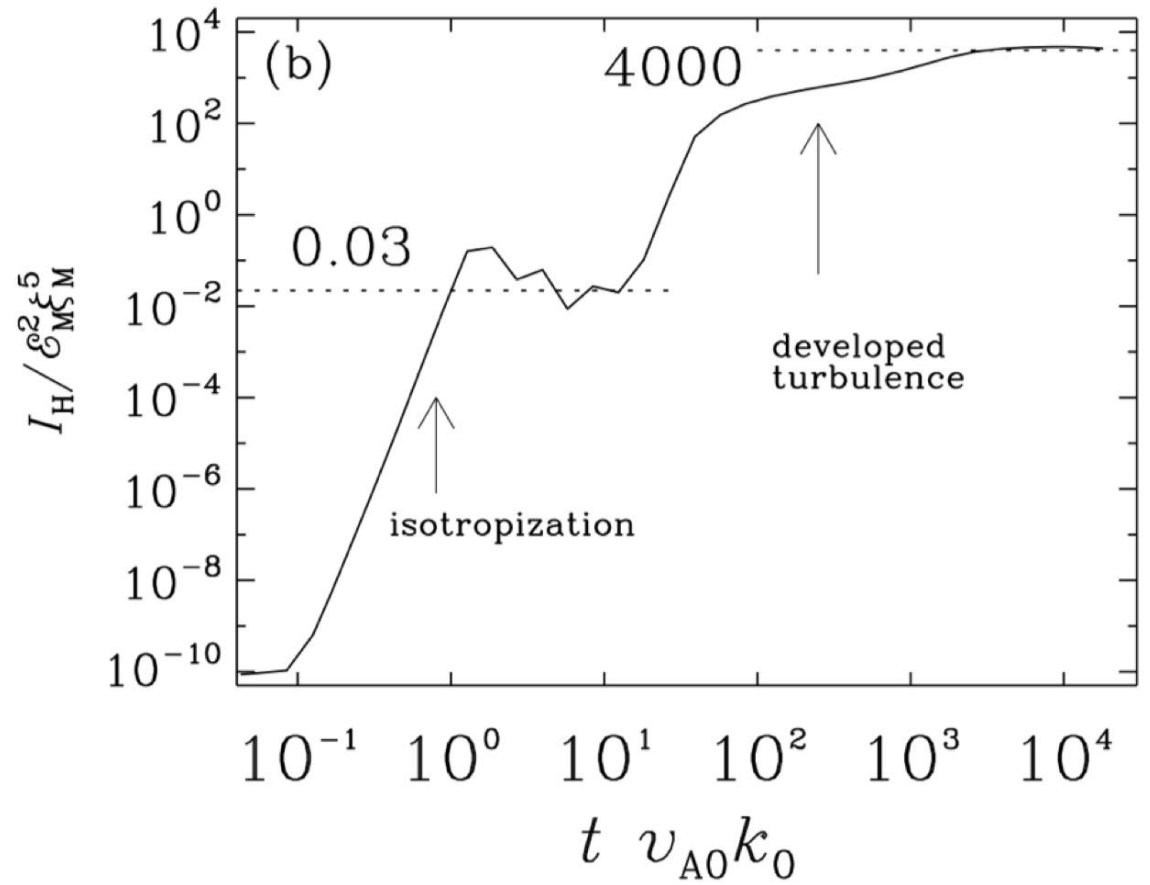
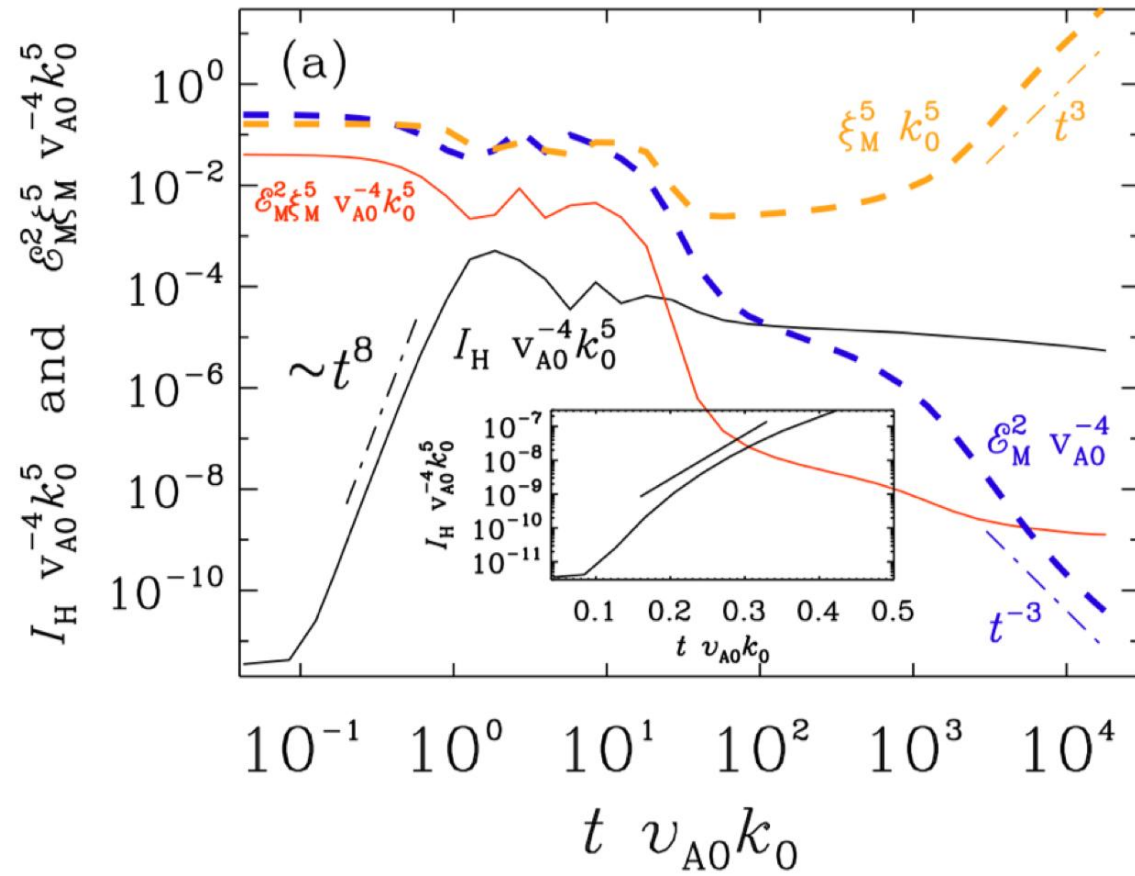
# Magnetic field at the moment of generation



Backtracing the magnetic field trajectory we can guess from which epoch does magnetic field originate.

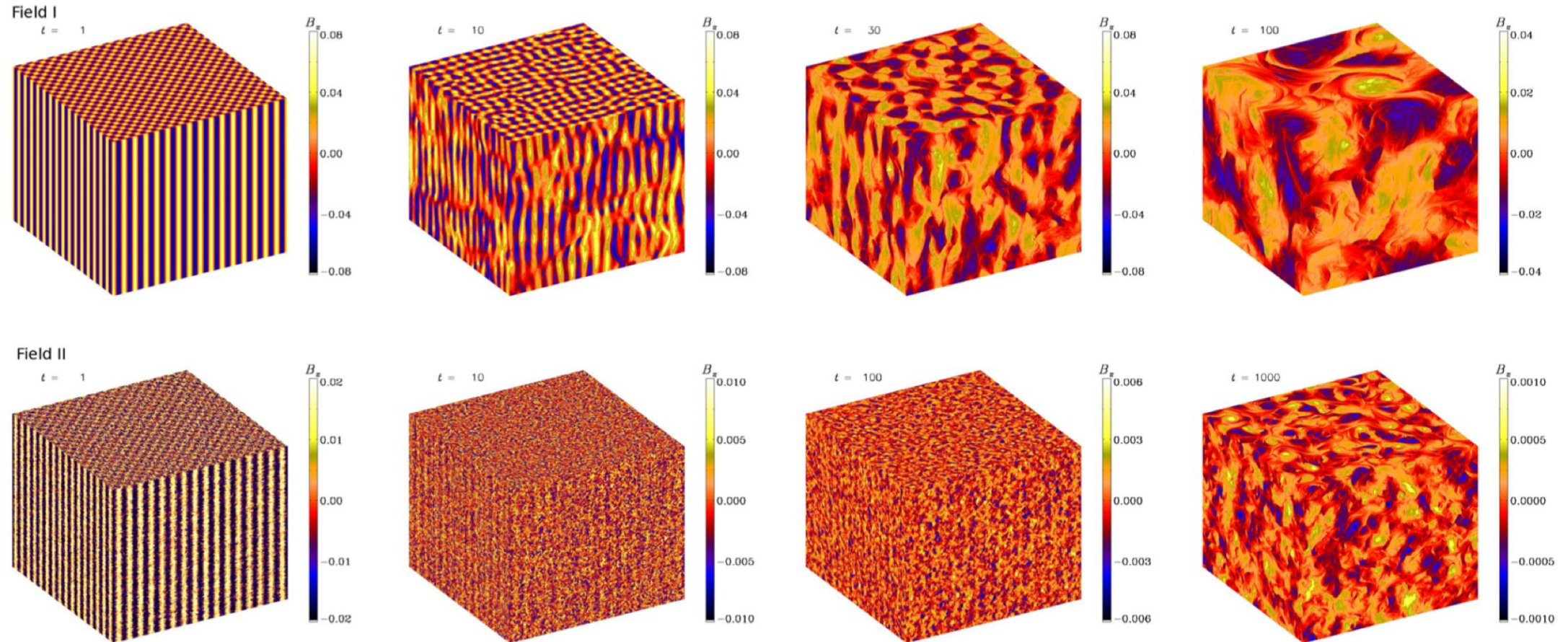
Example: non-helical magnetic field consistent with the CMB / Hubble tension hint has to originate from the QCD epoch.

# Piecewise nonhelical initial field





# Columnar initial fields



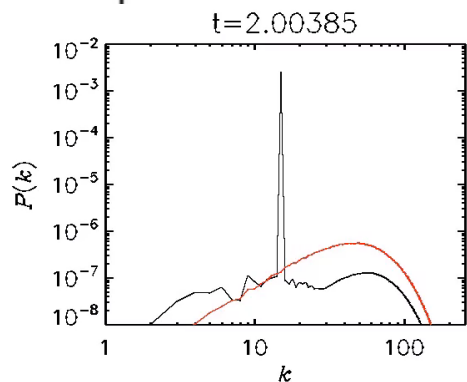
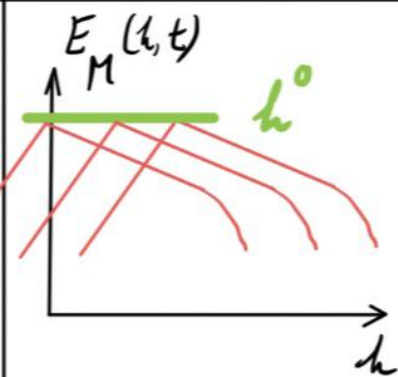
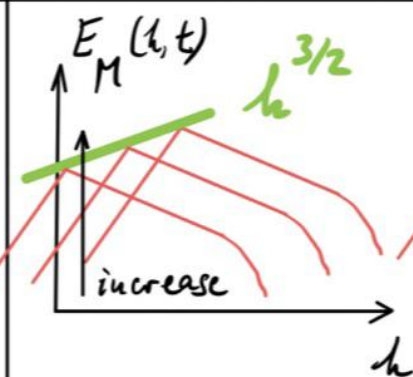
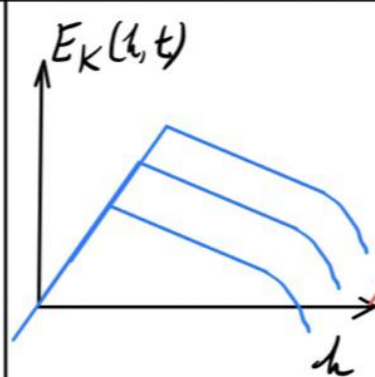
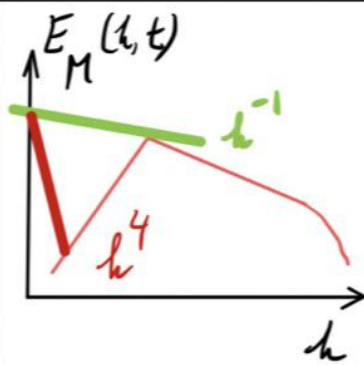
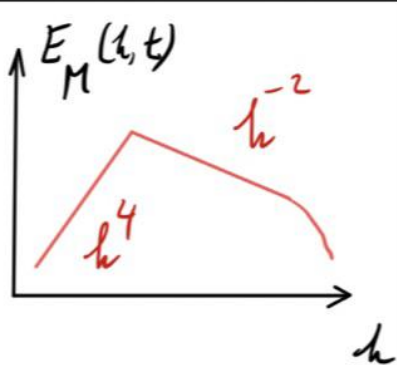
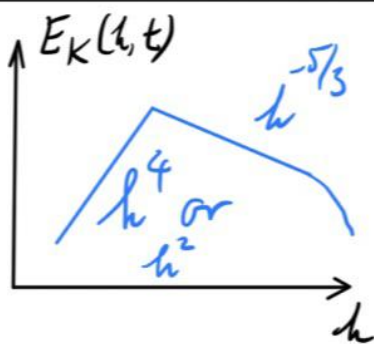
# Cascades (periodic box)

forced turbulence

decaying turbulence

MHD nonhel MHD hel

MHD nonhel MHD hel



$$E_n(k, t) \sim t^{(\alpha - \beta) \eta}$$