

Differential Rotation and Emerging Flux in a Solar Convective Dynamo Simulation

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• Cyclic dynamo in a global implicit large-eddy anelastic MHD simulation of the solar convective envelope (Ghizaru et al 2010, Racine et al. 2011)





- Solar-like differential rotation with a shear tachocline layer.
- A strong and cyclic large-scale axisymmetric magnetic component undergoing regular polarity reversals at a period of 30 years
- Behaves like an $\alpha^2 \Omega$ dynamo
- Convection maintained by an entropy gradient imposed by a Newtonian cooling term in the entropy equation.



Global MHD simulations of turbulent dynamo in a fast rotating young sun with ASH *Nelson et al. (2011, 2013)*





- Attains a differential rotation created by the interplay of convection, rotation and stratification.
- Produces large-scale toroidal magnetic structures that undergo cycles and reversals of global polarity.
- Forms buoyant magnetic loops from the strongest portions (>35kG) of the toroidal structures which rise from the base of the convection zone to above 0.9 R_s

• Regular magnetic cycles with equator-ward-propagating mean toroidal field in compressible MHD simulations of convective dynamo (Käpylä et al. 2012): $Co = 2\Omega/(u_{rms}2\pi/\Delta r) = 7.6$



• Regular magnetic cycles with equator-ward-propagating mean toroidal field and grand minima in a rapidly rotating young sun (3 times solar rotation rate) from ASH global simulations (Augustson et al. 2013)



• Finite-difference Spherical Anelastic MHD (FSAM) code solves the following anelastic MHD equations in a partial spherical shell domain:

$$\nabla \cdot (\rho_0 \mathbf{v}) = 0,$$

$$\rho_0 \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} \right] = 2\rho_0 \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{\Omega} - \nabla p_1 + \rho_1 \mathbf{g} + \frac{1}{4\pi} (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} + \nabla \cdot \mathcal{D}$$
$$\rho_0 T_0 \left[\frac{\partial s_1}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) (s_0 + s_1) \right] = \nabla \cdot (K\rho_0 T_0 \nabla s_1) - (\mathcal{D} \cdot \nabla) \cdot \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{4\pi} \eta (\nabla \times \mathbf{B})^2 - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_{rad}$$
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} &= \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) - \nabla \times (\eta \nabla \times \mathbf{B}), \\ \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} &= \frac{p_1}{p_0} - \frac{T_1}{T_0}, \\ \frac{s_1}{c_p} &= \frac{T_1}{T_0} - \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma} \frac{p_1}{p_0}, \end{split}$$

where D is the viscous stress tensor, and \mathbf{F}_{rad} is the radiative diffusive heat flux :

$$\mathbf{F}_{\rm rad} = \frac{16\sigma_s T_0^{\ 3}}{3\kappa\rho_0} \nabla T_0,$$

A convective dynamo simulation

(Fan and Fang 2014, ApJ, 789, 35)

- Simulation domain $r \in (0.722R_s, 0.971R_s), \ \theta \in (\pi/2 \pi/3, \pi/2 + \pi/3), \ \phi \in (0, 2\pi)$
- Grid: $96 \times 512 \times 768$, horizontal res. at top boundary 2.8 Mm to 5.5 Mm, vertical res. 1.8 Mm
- $K = 3 \times 10^{13} \ cm^2 s^{-1}$, $\nu = 10^{12} \ cm^2 s^{-1}$, $\eta = 10^{12} \ cm^2 s^{-1}$, at top and all decrease with depth as $1/\sqrt{\rho}$
- Convection is driven by the radiative diffusive heat flux as a source term in the entropy equation: $(1 2^{3})^{1.0}$

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{F}_{rad}) = \nabla \cdot \left(\frac{16\sigma_s T_0^3}{3\kappa\rho_0} \nabla T_0\right)$$

• The boundary condition for s_1 :
at the bottom $\frac{\partial s_1}{\partial r} = 0$, and a latitudinal gradient is imposed: $\left(\frac{\partial s_1}{\partial \theta}\right) = \frac{ds_i(\theta)}{d\theta}$ where $s_i(\theta) = -\Delta s_i \cos\left(\frac{\theta - \pi/2}{\Delta \theta}\pi\right)$
at the top s_1 is held fixed, and s_1 is symmetric at the θ - boundaries

- The velocity boundary condition is non-penetrating and stress free at the and the top, bottom and θ -bondaries
- For the magnetic field: perfect conducting walls for the bottom and the θ -boundaries; radial field at the top boundary
- Angular rotation rate for the reference frame $\Omega = 2.7 \times 10^{-6}$ rad/s, net angular momentum relative to the reference frame is zero.





Consistent with Model S of JCD: the entropy gradient at $0.97R_s$ is $\sim 10^{-5}$ erg g⁻¹ K⁻¹ cm⁻¹



Re = $u_{rms}/vk_f \approx 130$ to 50 from bottom to top $Co = 2\Omega/u_{rms,all}k_f \approx 1.3$, where $k_f = 2\pi/(r_o - r_i)$ $Ro = u_{rms,all}/\Omega l \approx 0.74$, where $l = H_p$ at bottom Compared to Kapyla et al. (2012): Re = 36 Co = 7.6

Our dynamo is in a much less rotationally constrained regime compared to Kapyla et al.(2012), Nelson et al. (2013), Augustson et al. (2013).

Compared to Ghizaru et al. (2010): downflow speed 25 m/s vs. our 300 m/s at 0.954 R_s







• Transition between solar-like and anti-solar differential rotation takes place at Ro ~ 1:

Gastine et al. (2014)



• Presence of the magnetic field suppresses convection, making the flow more rotationally constrained, and changes the Reynolds stress transport of angular momentum:



$$Ro = u_{rms,all} / \Omega H_p$$









HD







Examples of strong flux emergence events









• Tilt angles of super-equipartition flux emergence areas at 0.957 R_s :



Conform to Hale's rule by 2.4 to 1 in area
Statistically significant mean tilt angle: 7.5° ± 1.6°





• Simulation with further reduced magnetic diffusivity and viscosity, but the same thermal diffusion: $K = 3 \times 10^{13} \ cm^2 s^{-1}$ at top and decrease with depth as $1/\sqrt{\rho}$, $\eta = 0$, v = 0.





Summary

- A 3D convective dynamo in the rotating solar convective envelope driven by the radiative heat flux produces a large-scale mean magnetic field that exhibits irregular cyclic behavior with oscillation time scales ranging from about 5 to 15 years and undergoes irregular polarity reversals. This result seems to be robust with further reduced magnetic diffusivity and viscosity
- The mean axisymmetric toroidal magnetic field peaks at the bottom of the convection zone, reaching a value of about 7000 G. Including the fluctuating component, individual channels of strong field reaching 30kG are present.
- The presence of the magnetic fields plays an important role in the self-consistent maintenance of the solar-like differential rotation. In several ways acts like an enhanced viscosity:
 - Suppress large scale convection (more suppression of v_r), make it more rotationally constrained \rightarrow outward transport of angular momentum by the Reynolds stress.
 - Take up the main role of balancing the Reynolds stress transport with the Maxwell stress transport.
 - Reduce the downward kinetic energy energy flux
- In the midst of magneto-convection, we found occasional emergence of strong superequipartition toroidal flux bundles near the surface, exhibiting properties that are similar to emerging solar active regions. They are not rising in isolation from the bottom of the CZ, but are product of continued reconnection and shear amplification by local flows in the bulk of CZ.