

Plasma Physics 2:  
Dynamo Theory

IMPRS Lecture

Lindau, March 3-7, 2003

Manfred Schüssler

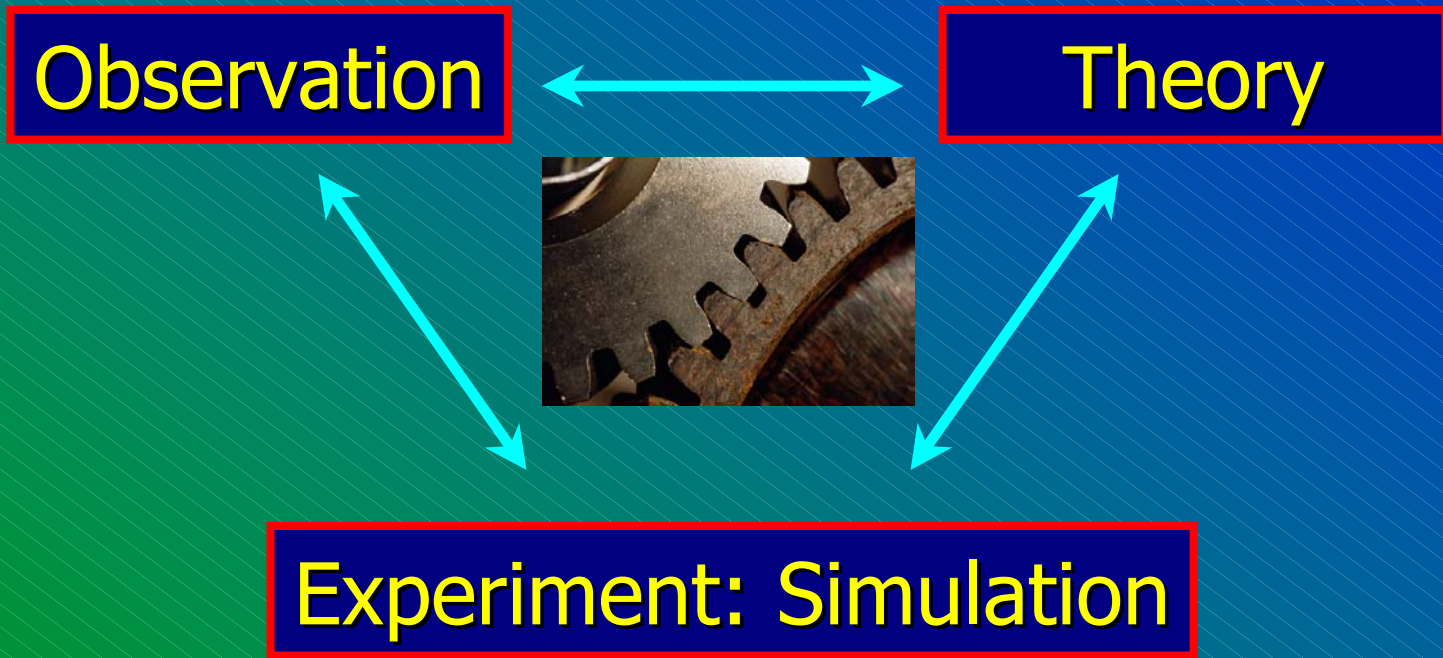
Max-Planck-Institut für Aeronomie  
Katlenburg-Lindau, Germany

**Magnetic field structure  
in a stellar convection zone**

# The plan

- 1) Formation of magnetic structure
- 2) Physics of magnetic flux tubes
- 3) Magnetic structure and the dynamo

# Branches of solar physics/astrophysics



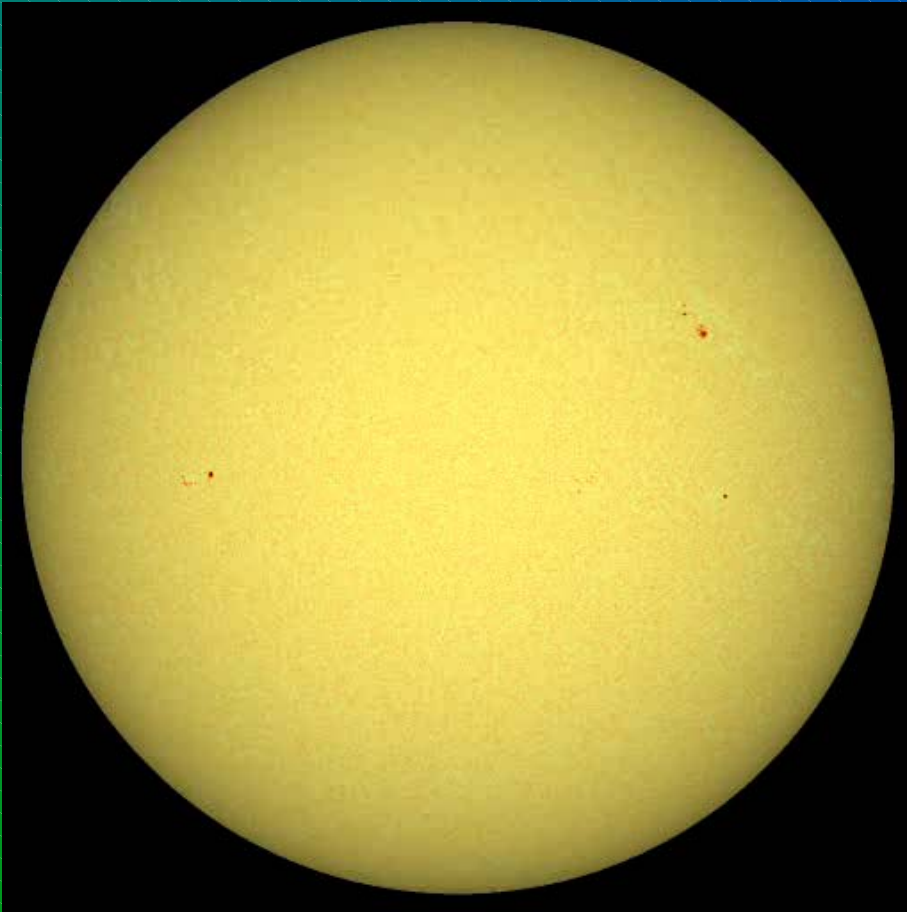
# The plan

- 1) Formation of magnetic structure
- 2) Physics of magnetic flux tubes
- 3) Magnetic structure and the dynamo

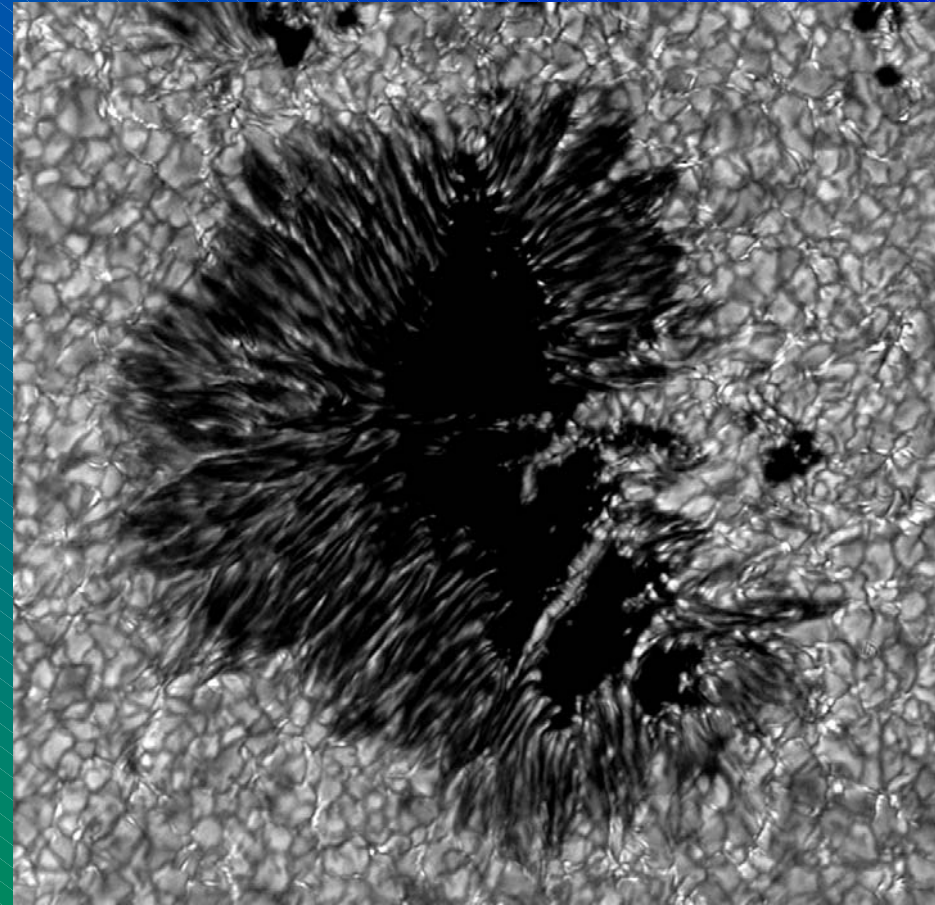


# Magnetic fields on the Sun

← ~50,000 km →



Sunspots 2001



A big sunspot

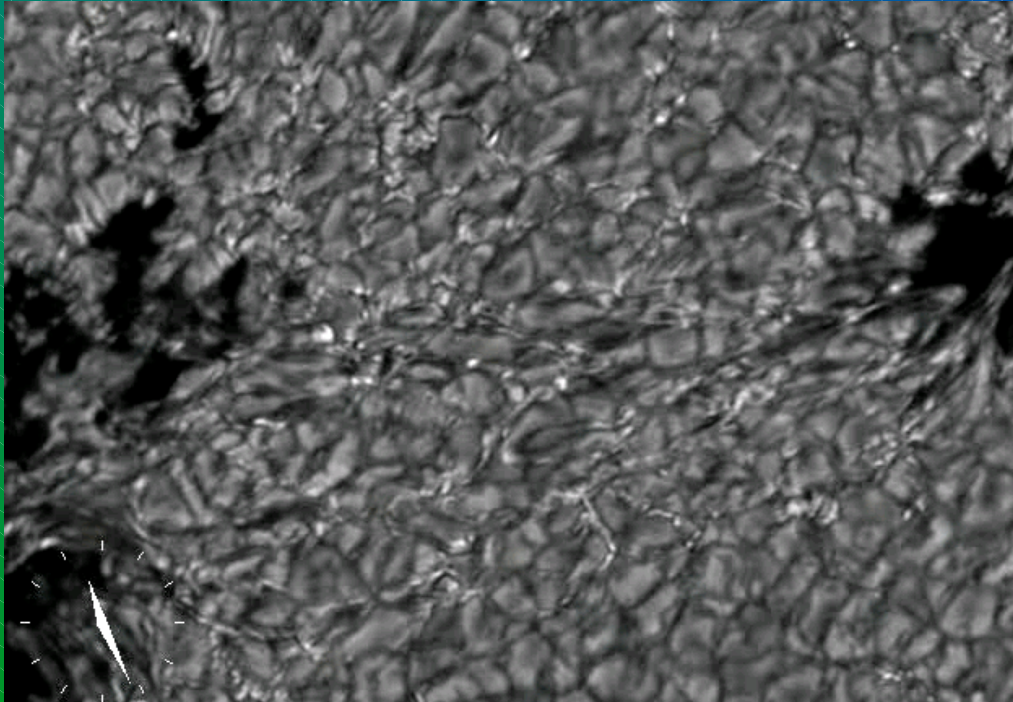
# Magnetic flux emergence



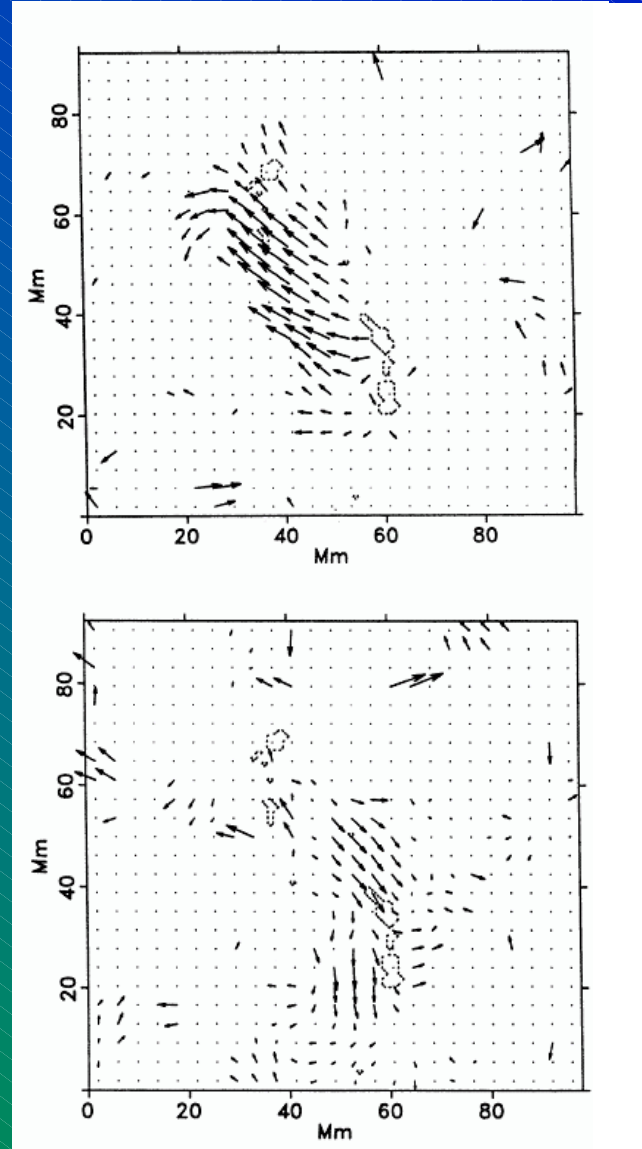
Emergence of a large sunspot group

# Magnetic flux emergence

A flux emergence region

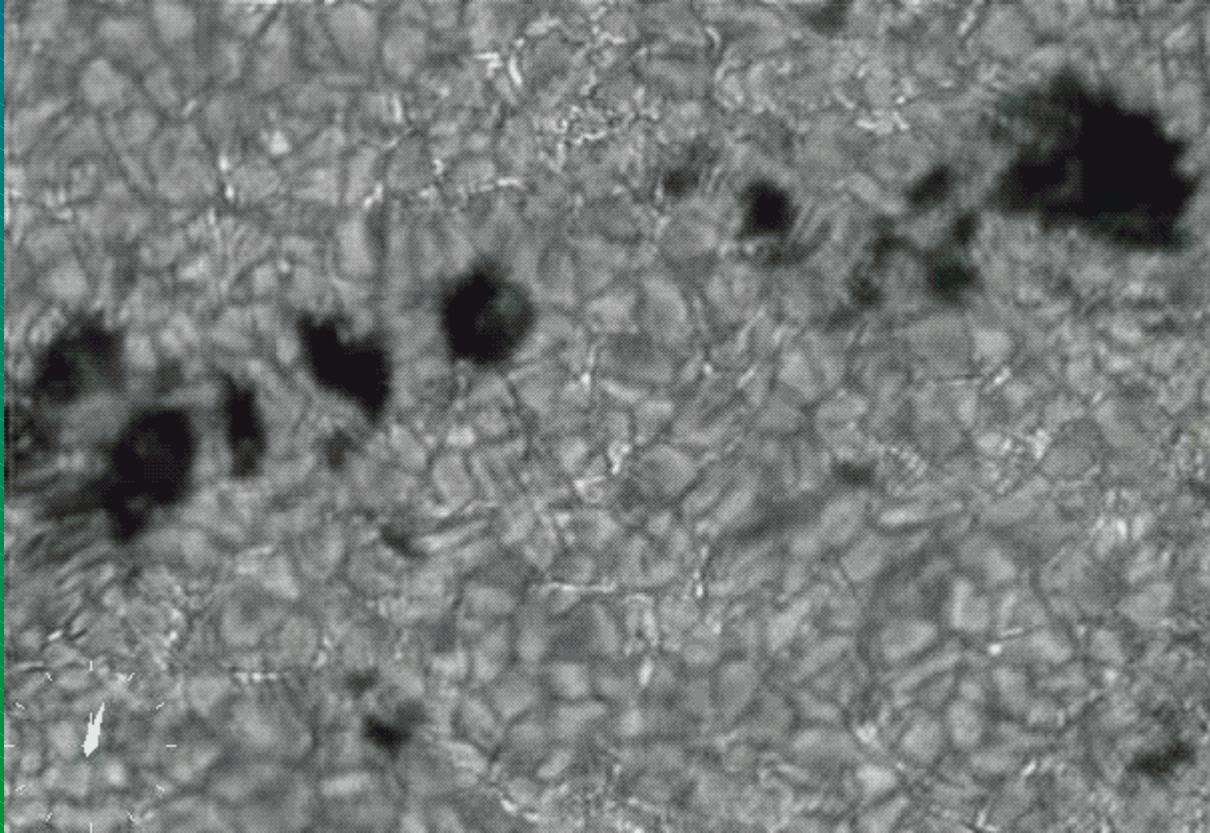


Motion of flux fragments  
of different polarity



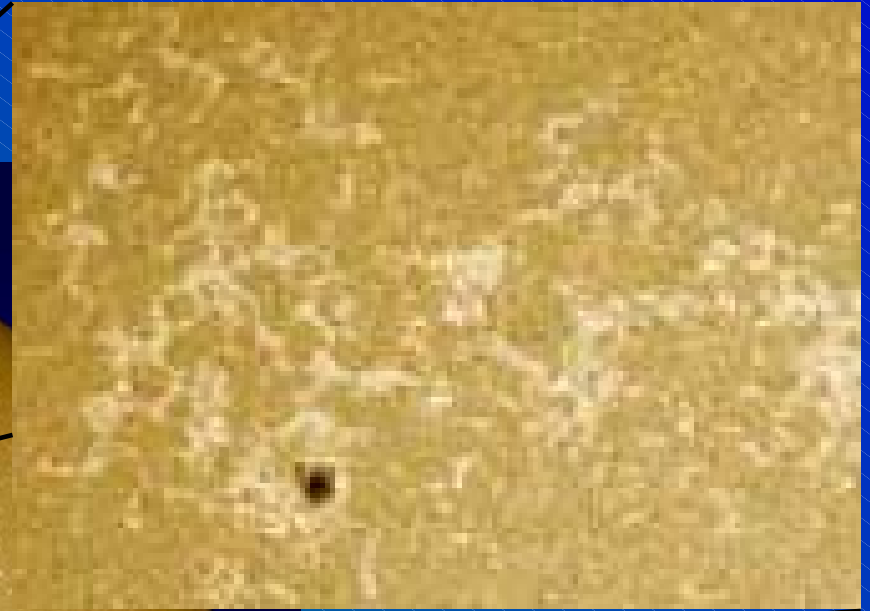
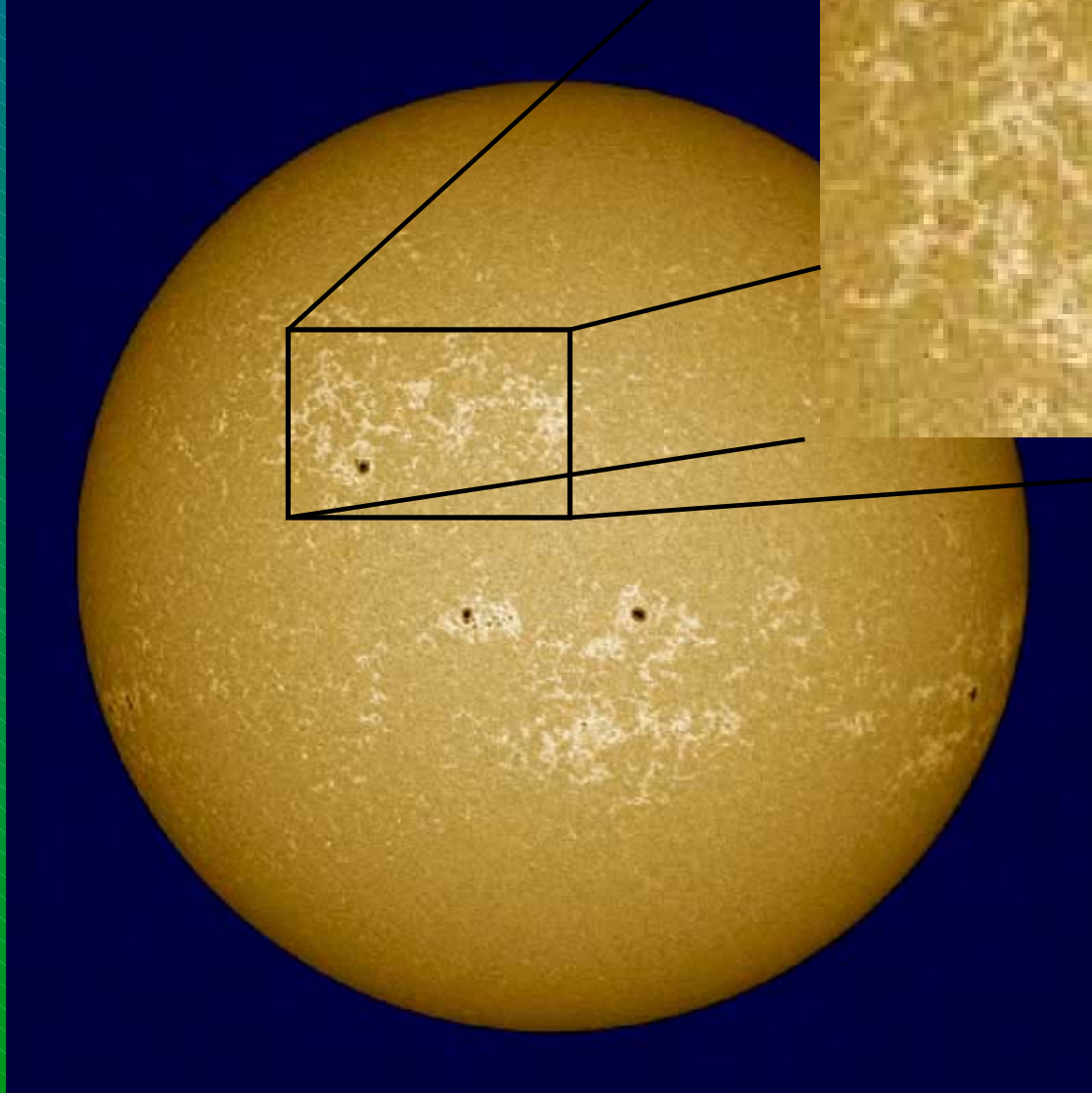


# Granulation, sunspots, & small-scale magnetic field



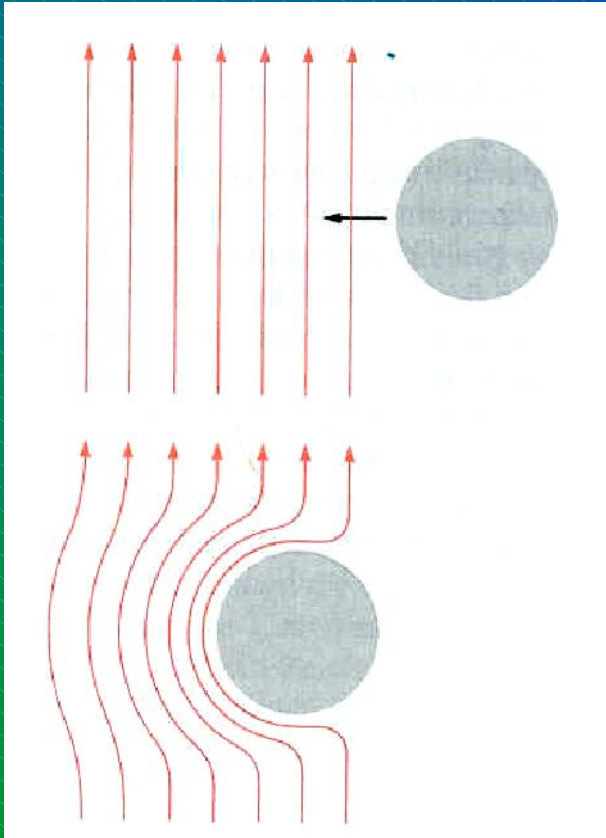


## The magnetic network

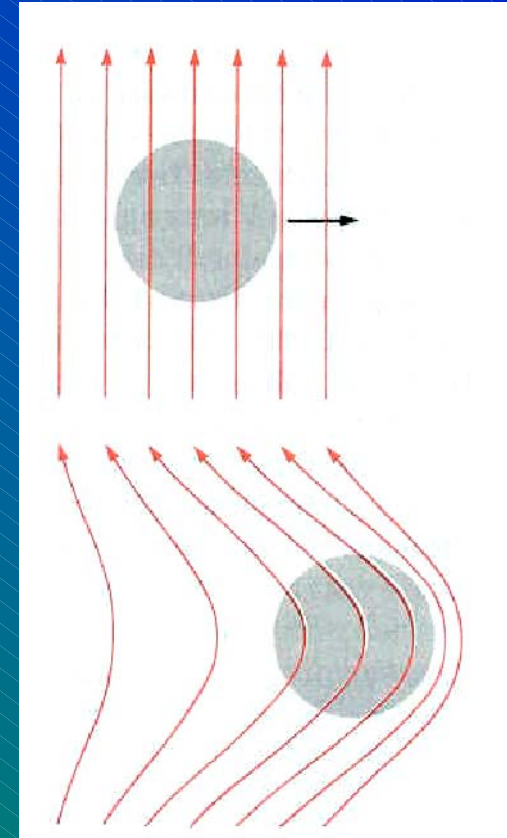


→ congruent with the  
downflow regions of the  
supergranulation flow  
pattern

# Good electrical conductors : "frozen field"



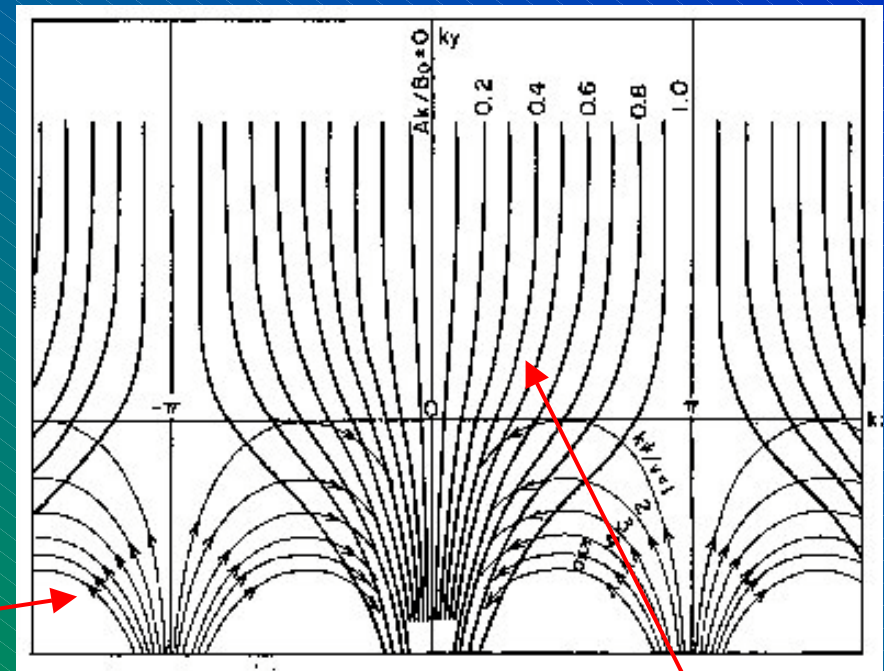
Initially field-free volumes remain field-free



Magnetic flux through a given volume remains constant

# Flux expulsion and intermittency

- Non-uniform distribution of magnetic flux in the solar photosphere
- E.N. Parker (1963):  
“... *persistent motions tend to draw the field into concentrated sheets and filaments.*”



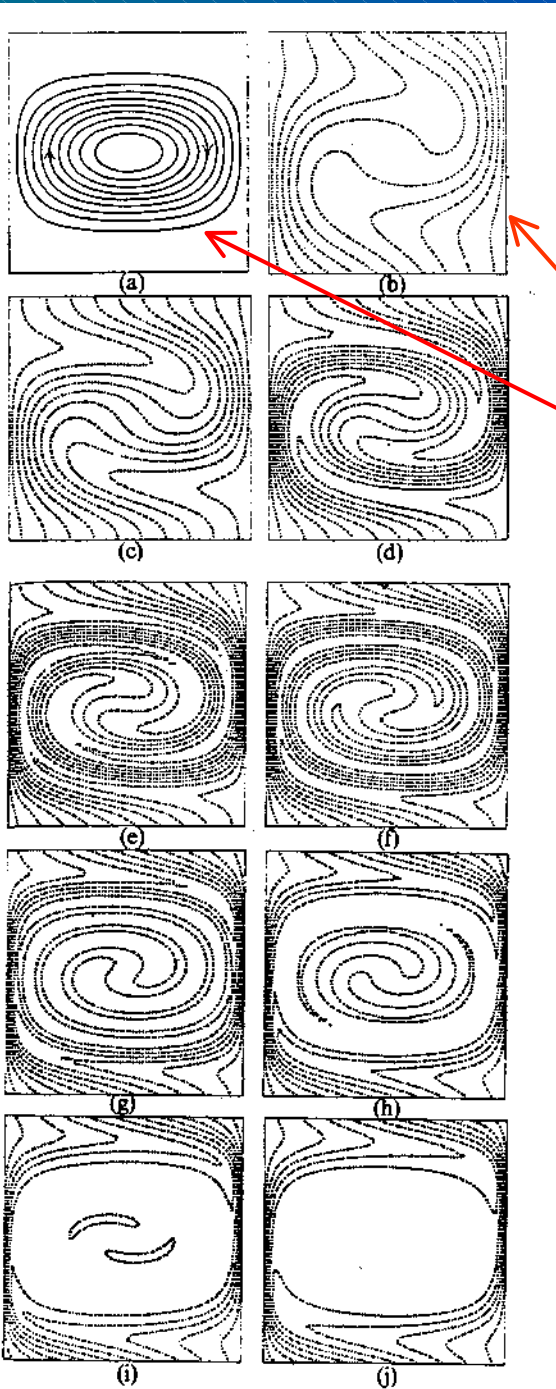
Stream lines

Field lines



# Simulation of flux expulsion

(N.O. Weiss, 1966)



b: final state for  $Re_m = 40$

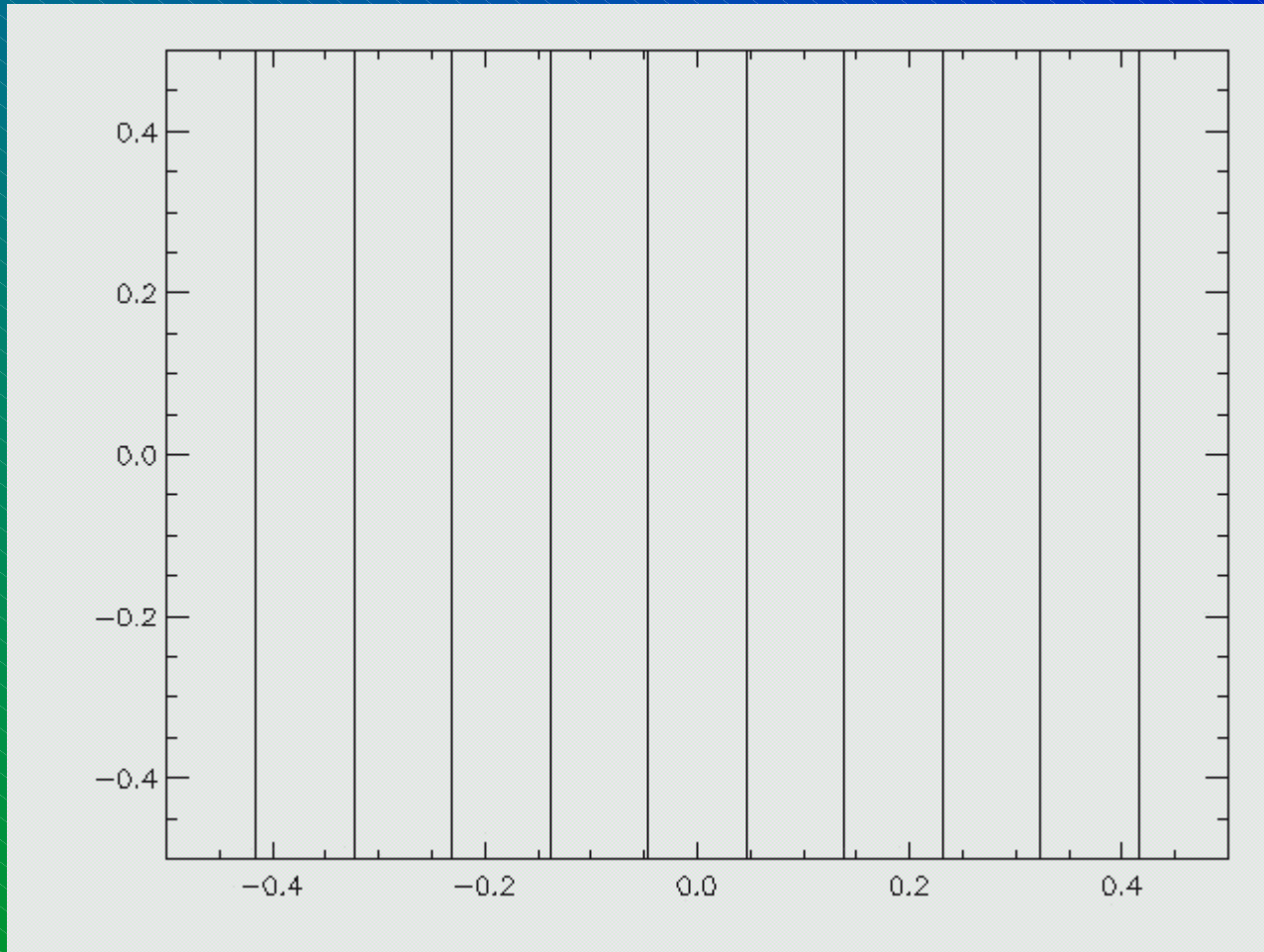
a: streamlines of the fixed velocity field

c-j: time evolution for  $Re_m = 1000$

- evolution of an initially vertical magnetic field under the influence of a fixed flow field
- kinematic, 2D
- the magnetic flux is expelled from the area of closed streamlines and concentrated in narrow sheets

# Flux expulsion and intermittency

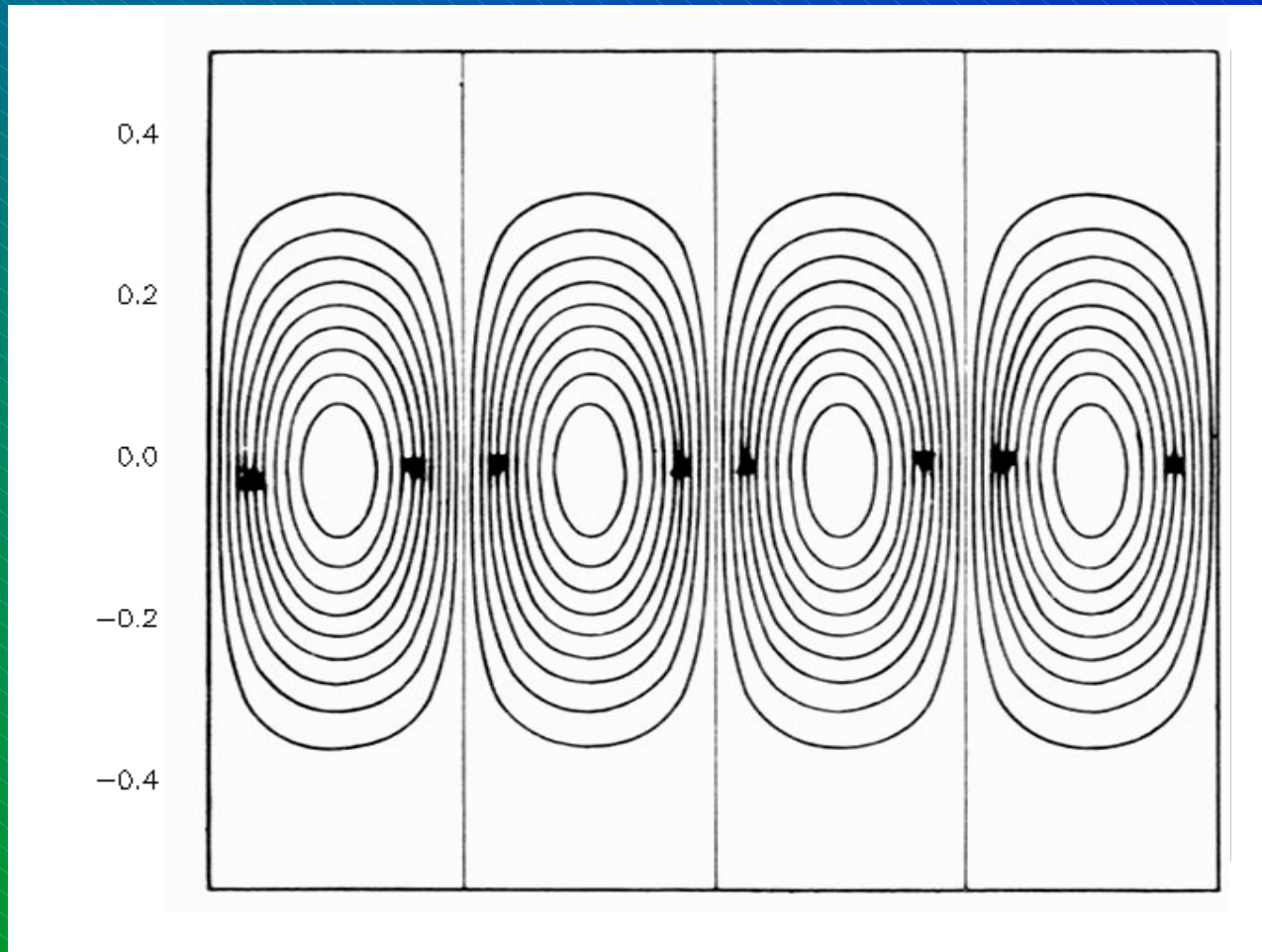
- N.O. Weiss (1964): *first simulations*



(Hupfer, 2001)

# Flux expulsion and intermittency

- N.O. Weiss (1964): *first simulations*



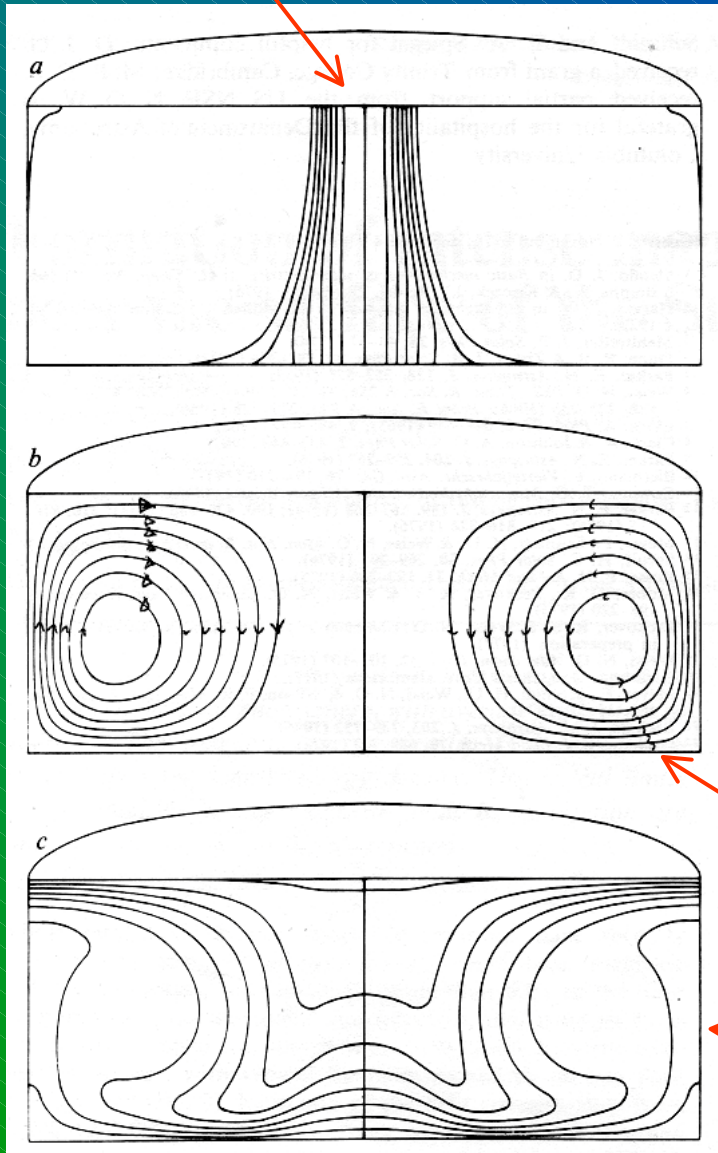
(Hupfer, 2001)



# 3D Flux expulsion

(Galloway, Proctor & Weiss, 1977)

- axisymmetric thermal convection, Boussinesq approx. , **dynamic**
- flux concentration in cool downflow regions (flux tubes)
- final field strength dependent on ratio of viscosity to magn. diffusivity



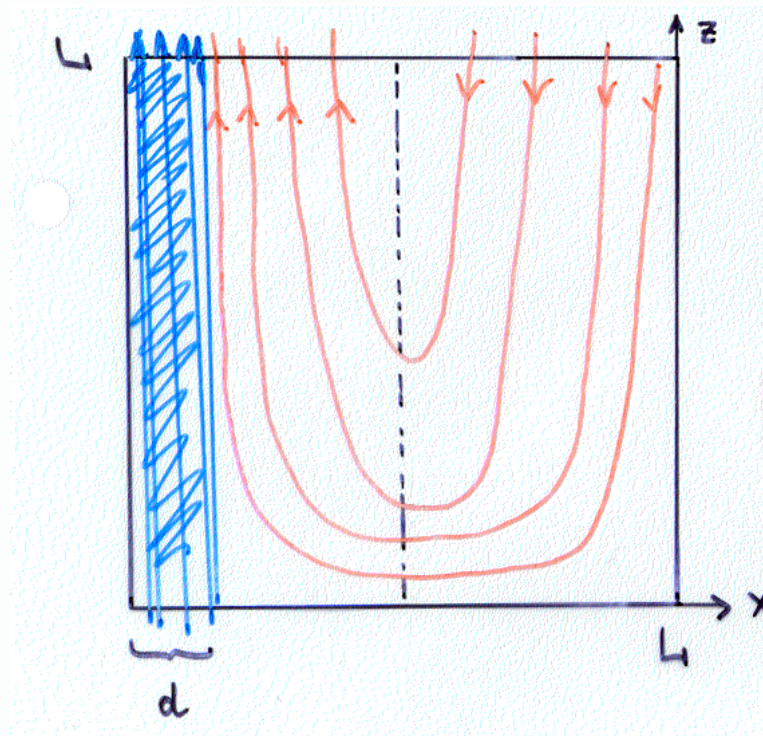
streamlines

isotherms

## Magnetic flux expulsion

Simple example: Kinematical flux expulsion

$$\mathbf{u} = U \left( -\sin \frac{\pi x}{L}, 0, \frac{\pi z}{L} \cos \frac{\pi x}{L} \right), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$



Initial magnetic field:  $\mathbf{B} = (0, 0, B_0)$

Induction equation:

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

Magnetic field is compressed into a boundary layer, whose thickness is determined by the balance between advection and diffusion:

$$\nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) + \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u_z B_x - u_x B_z) = \eta \frac{\partial^2 B_z}{\partial x^2}$$

Narrow boundary layer at  $x \simeq 0$ :  $u_x \simeq -U\pi x/L$

$\partial B_z / \partial z \simeq 0$  along the  $z$ -axis  $\rightarrow \partial B_x / \partial x \simeq 0 \rightarrow B_x \propto x^2$

$\rightarrow$  first term on l.h.s. negligible  $\rightarrow$  equation for  $B_z \equiv B(x)$ :

$$-\frac{\pi U}{L} \frac{d}{dx} (x B) = \eta \frac{d^2 B}{dx^2}$$



$$-\frac{\pi U}{L} \frac{d}{dx}(xB) = \eta \frac{d^2 B}{dx^2}$$

Integrate:

$$-\left(\frac{\pi U}{\eta L}\right) (xB) = \frac{dB}{dx} + C$$

[ $C = 0$  since  $dB/dx = 0$  for  $x = 0$ ]

Introduce *magnetic Reynolds number*:  $R_m = UL/\eta$ :

$$-\left(\frac{\pi R_m}{L^2}\right) \int x dx = \int \frac{dB}{B}$$

Integrate:

$$-\frac{\pi R_m x^2}{2L^2} = \ln \left[ \frac{B}{B_m} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Gaussian profile } B(x) = B_m \exp\left(-\frac{\pi R_m x^2}{2L^2}\right)$$

Boundary layer width:  $d \simeq L/R_m^{1/2}$ .

Determine  $B_m$  by considering the total magnetic flux:

$$B_0 L = B_m \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\frac{\pi R_m x^2}{2L^2}\right) dx = B_m L (2R_m)^{-1/2}$$
$$\rightarrow B_m \propto R_m^{1/2}$$

In a 3D (axisymmetric) case we have  $B_m d^2 \simeq B_0 L^2$   
and thus  $B_m \propto R_m$ .

$R_m \gg 1$ : Dynamical effects limit the growth before  $B$  reaches  $B_m$ .  
Balance between Lorentz force and inertial force:

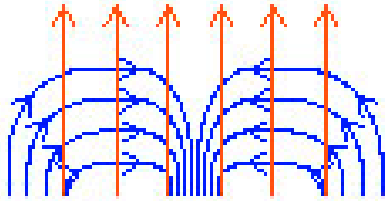
$$\frac{1}{4\pi}(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} \simeq \rho(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u})$$

$$\frac{B^2}{4\pi} \simeq \rho U^2 \rightarrow B \simeq B_{\text{eq}} \equiv U \sqrt{4\pi\rho}$$

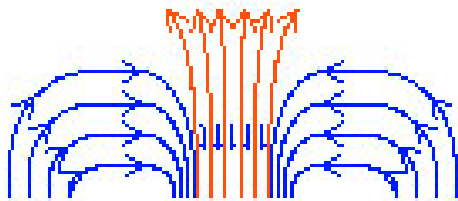
*(equipartition field strength)*

Solar photosphere:  $U \simeq 2 \text{ km/s}$ ,  $\rho \simeq 3 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ g/cm}^3 \rightarrow B_{\text{eq}} \simeq 400 \text{ G}$ .  
Observation:  $B \simeq 1500 \text{ G}$ !

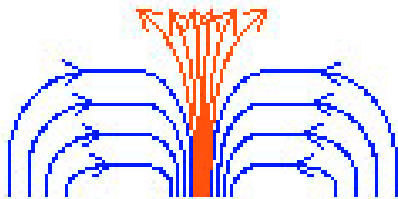
# Convective intensification



- Flux advection by horizontal flow (flux expulsion)



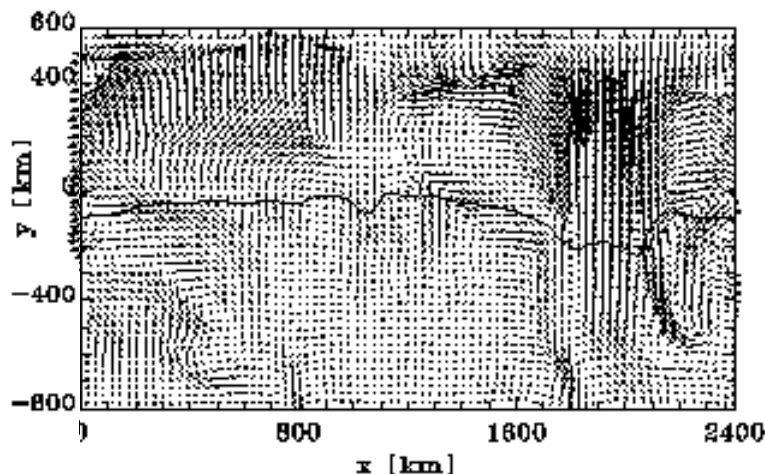
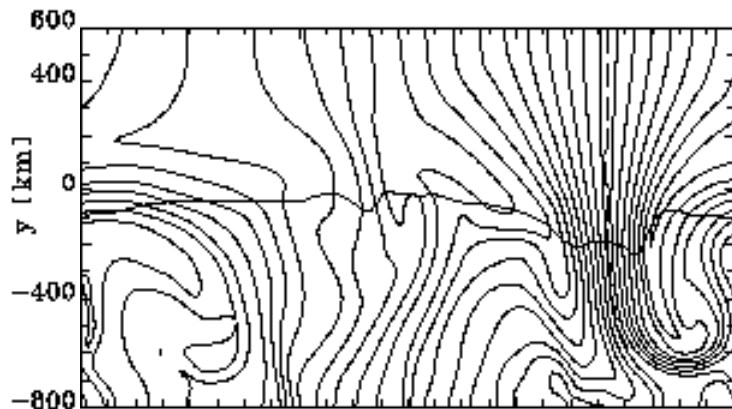
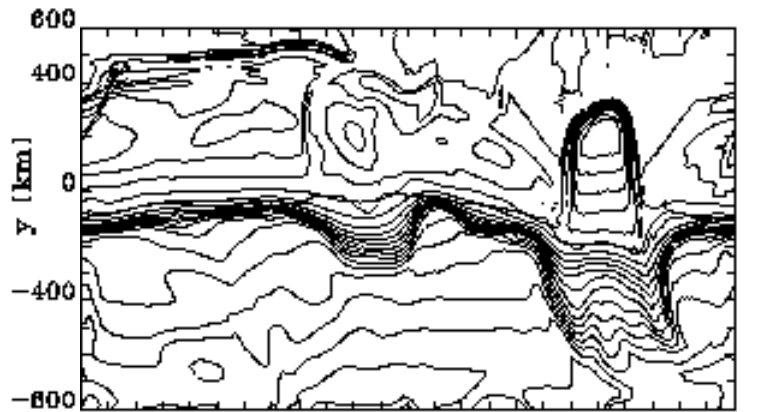
- Suppression of convection, cooling and downflow



- Evacuation, field intensification

# Convective intensification

*(Grossmann-Doerth, Sch., & Steiner, 1998)*



- 2D, compressible
- radiation, ionization
- Stokes diagnostics
- $2400 \times 1400 \text{ km}^2$
- $240 \times 140$  points (10 km hor. resol.)
- $\langle B \rangle = 100, 200, 400 \text{ G}$
- collapse + rebound

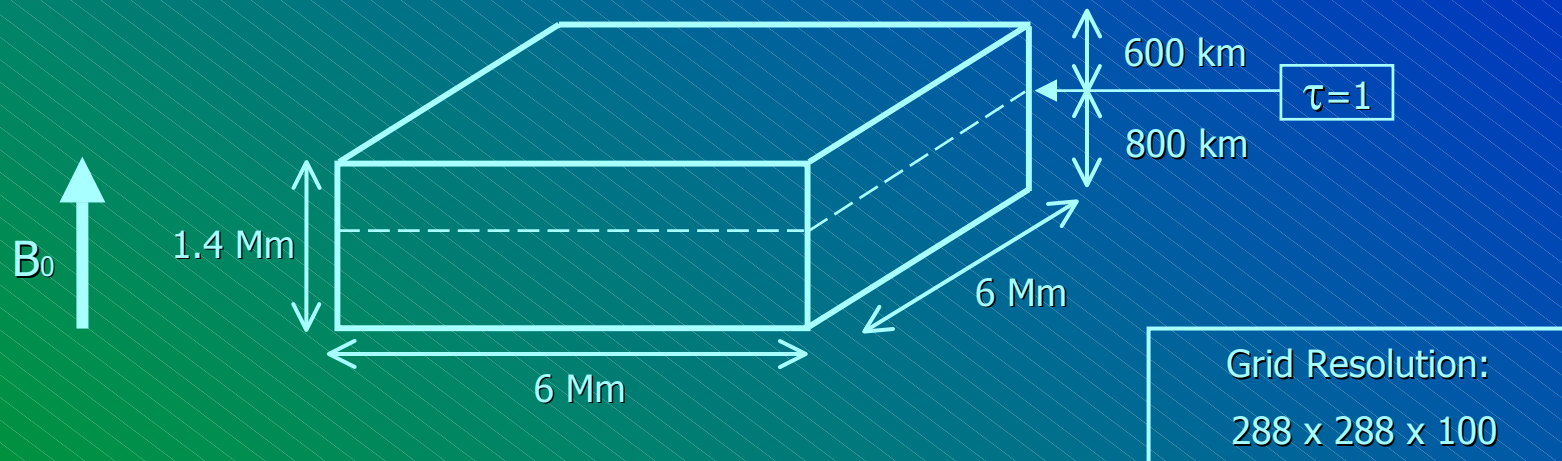
$t = 100\text{s}$





# 3D Radiation MHD simulations

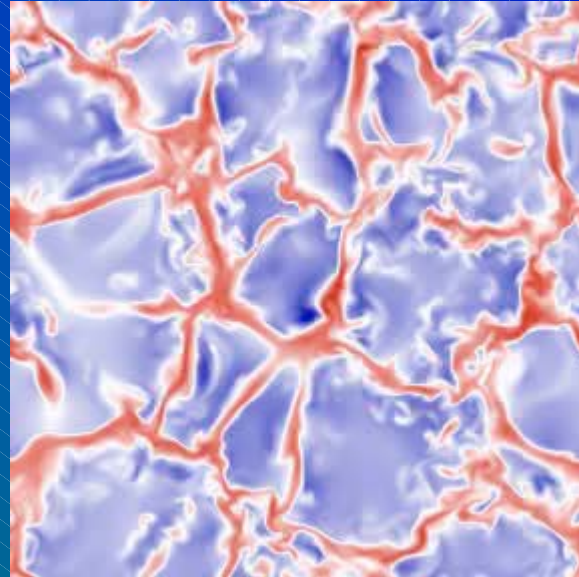
*A. Vögler et al. (2002)*



- start convection without magnetic field
- initially vertical magnetic field of  $B_0 = 200$  G introduced after convection has become quasi-stationary:

$B_z$

bright: up  
dark: down



$V_z$

blue: up  
red: down

$\langle \tau \rangle = 1$

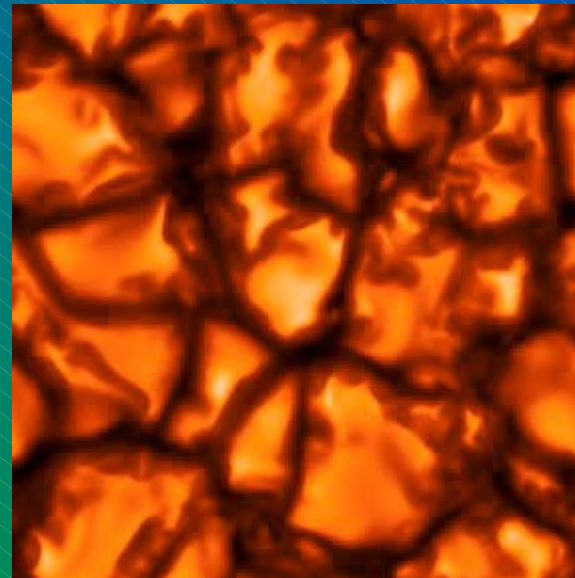
6000 km



Plage run  
 $B_0 = 200 \text{ G}$

$B_z$

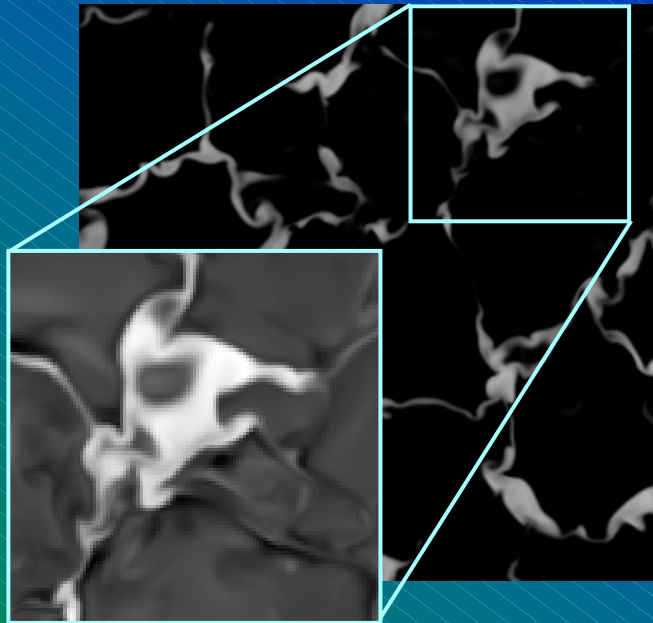
regions of  
strong-field  
colored



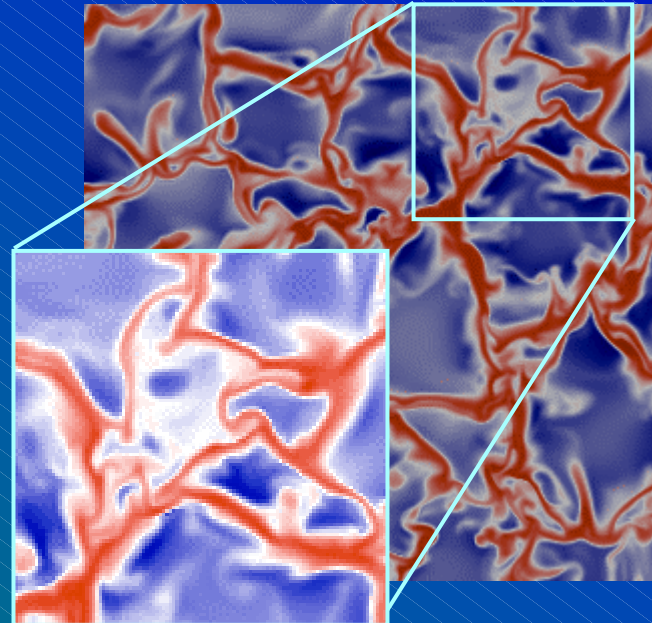
$I_c$

$B > 500 \dots 1000 \dots 1500 \text{ G}$

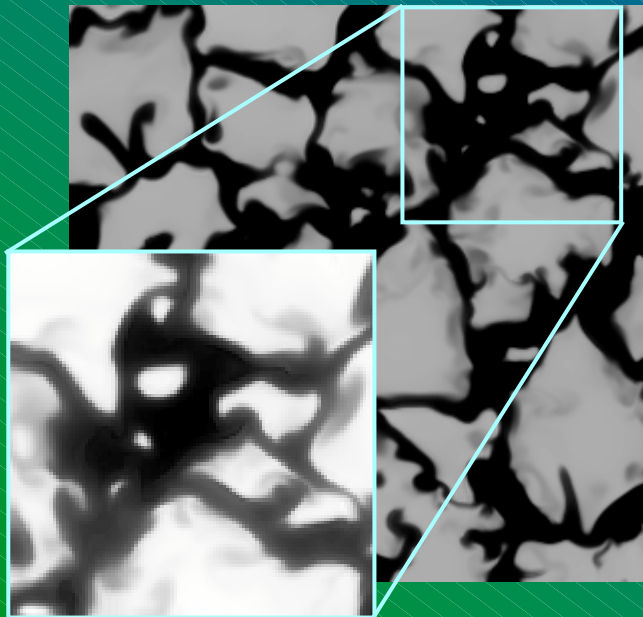
$B_z$



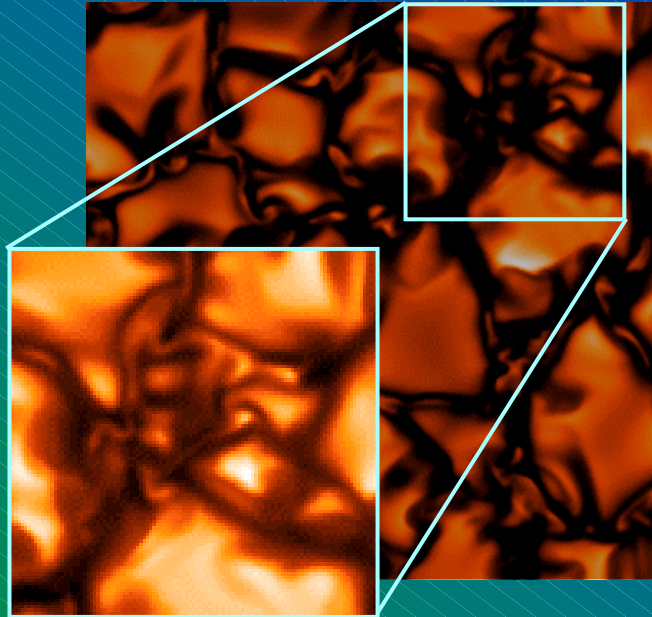
$V_z$



$T$



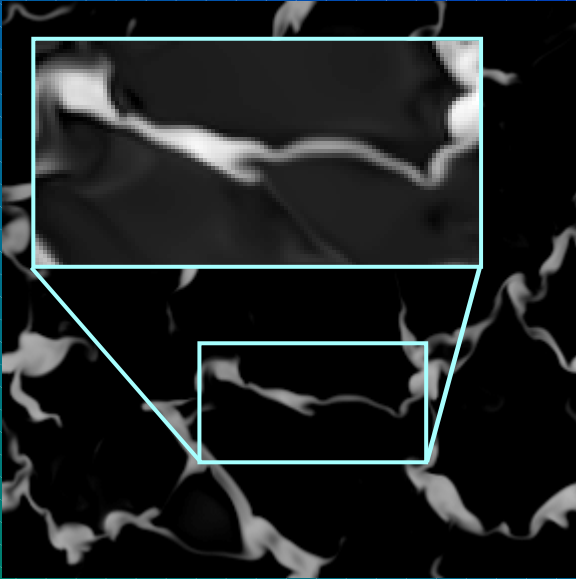
$I_C$



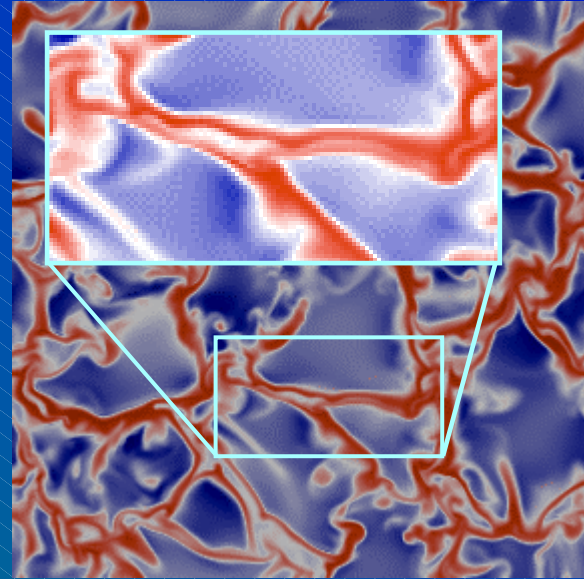
horizontal cuts near surface level



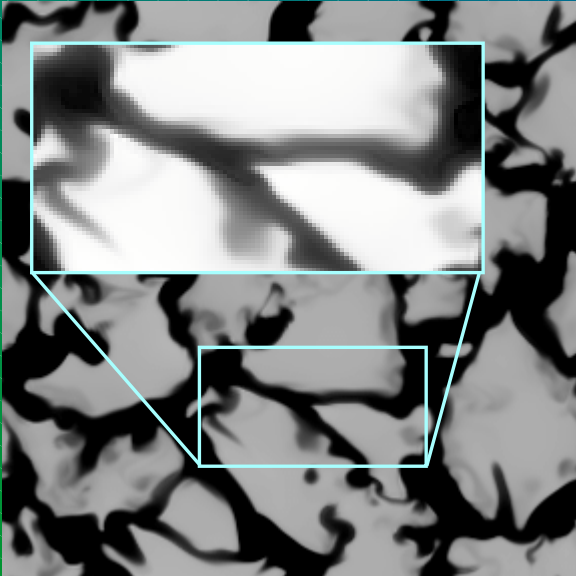
$B_z$



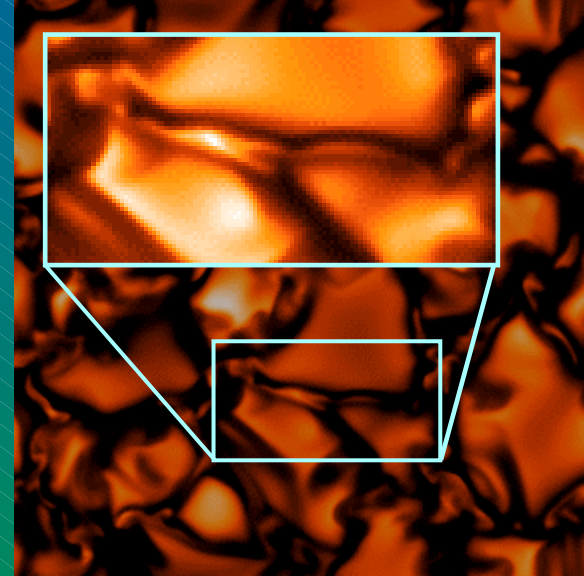
$V_z$



$T$



$I_C$

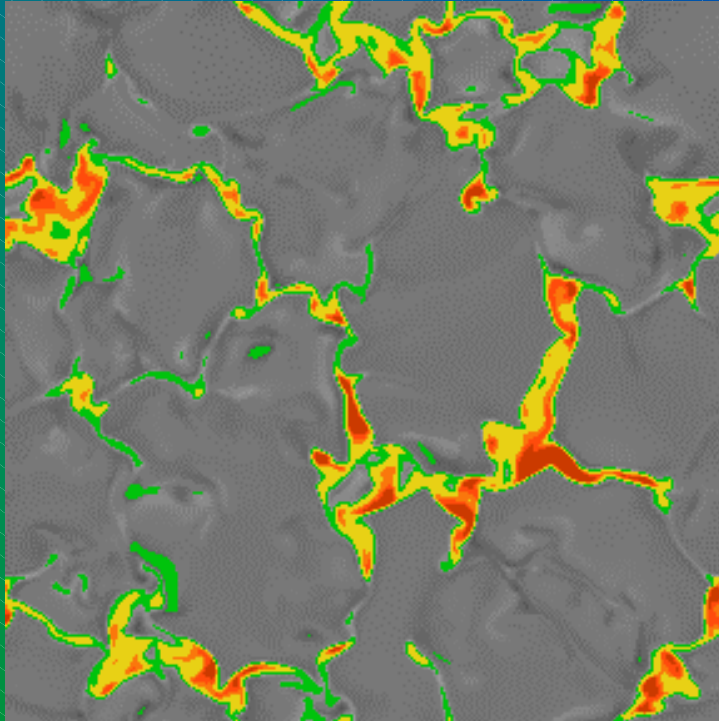


horizontal cuts near surface level



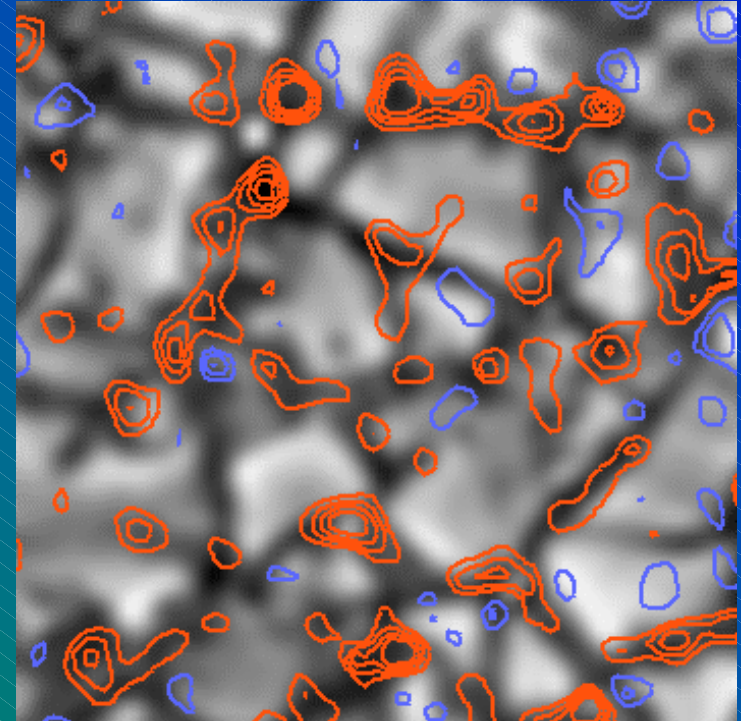


# Simulation vs. observation



Simulation (20 km resolution)

(Vögler et al.)

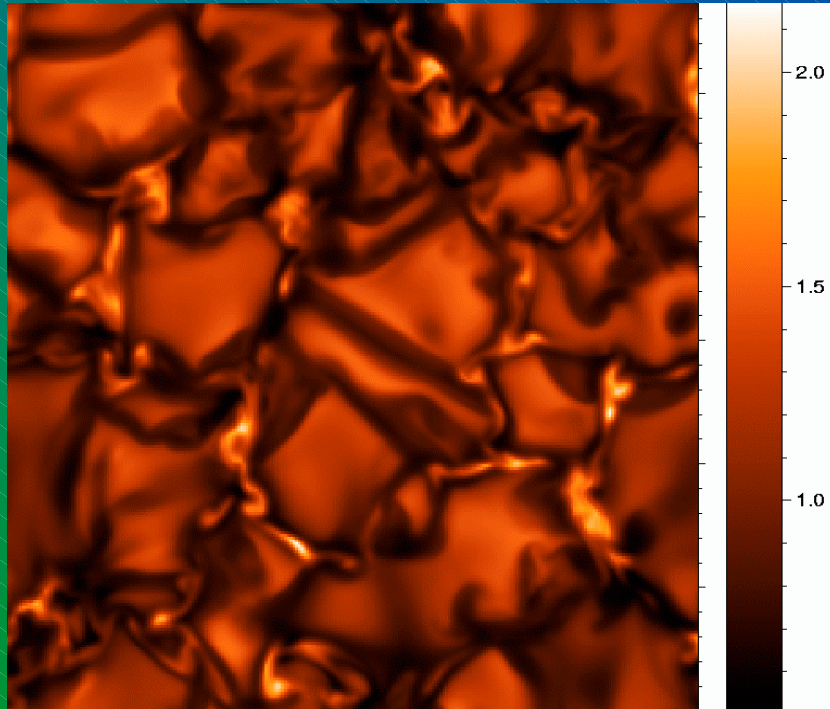


Observation ( $\sim 250$  km resolution)

German Vacuum Tower Telescope, Tenerife  
(Dominguez Cerdana et al., 2003)

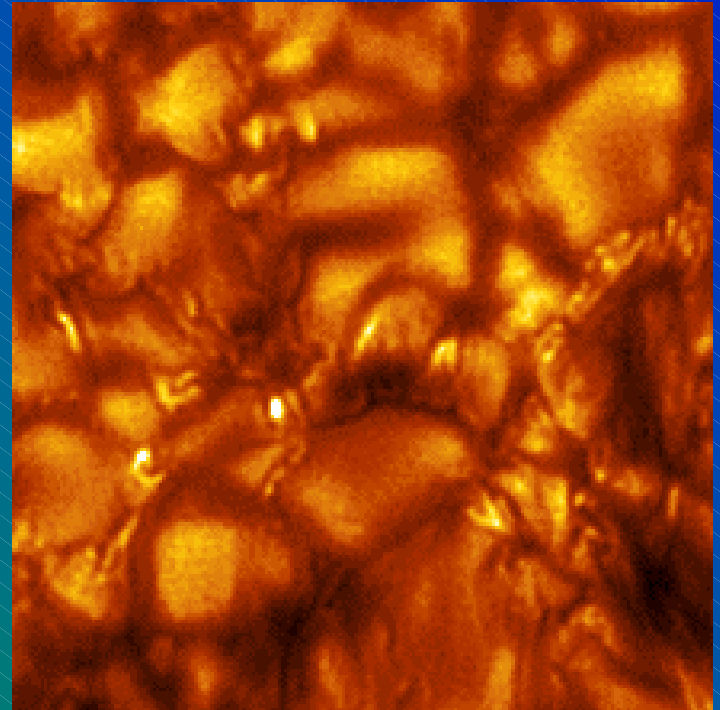
Vertical magnetic field component

# Simulation vs. observation



Simulation (20 km resolution)

(Vögler, Shelyag et al.)



Observation ( $\sim 100$  km resolution)

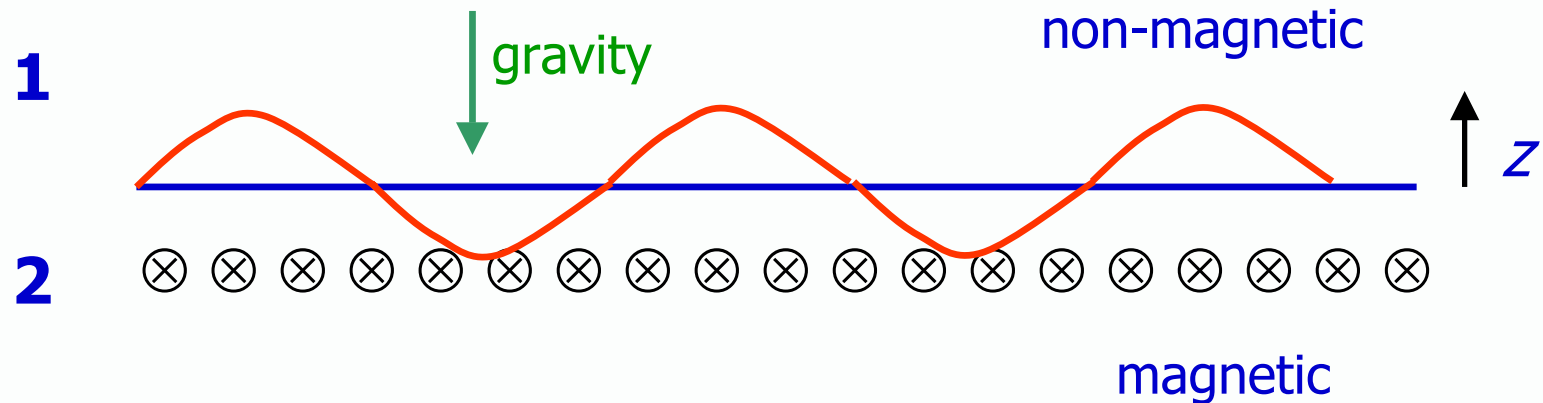
(new Swedish 1m telescope, La Palma,  
Scharmer et al. 2002)

"G band": molecular lines of CH

## Magnetic Rayleigh-Taylor instability

Rayleigh-Taylor: dense fluid over light fluid (e.g., water over oil)

Here: Magnetic layer in magnetostatic equilibrium



Force balance:

$$\frac{d}{dz} \left( p + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) = -\rho g$$

$$z = z_0 : \quad p_1 = p_2 + \frac{B^2}{8\pi}$$

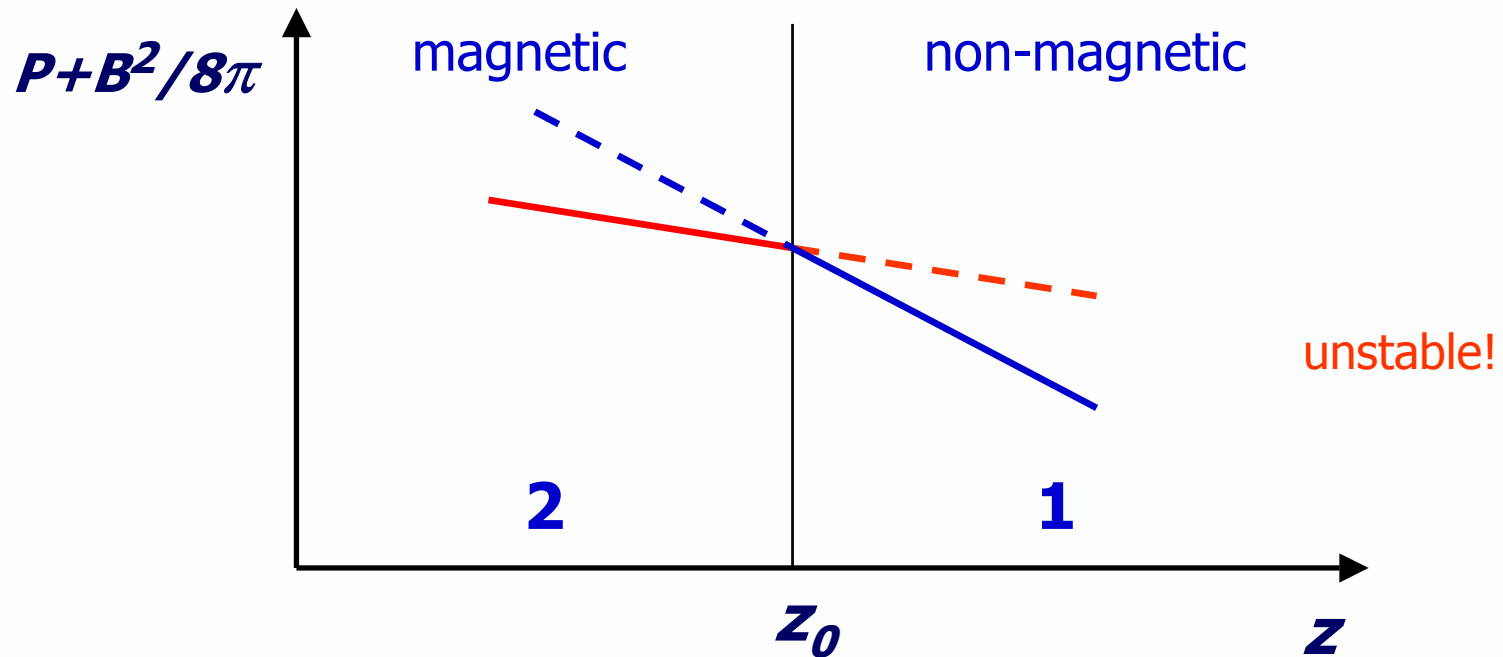
Let  $B = \text{const.}$  (except for the jump) and  $T_1 = T_2 = T = \text{const.}$

Pressure scale height:  $H_p = RT/\mu g.$

Pressure gradients at  $z = z_0$ :

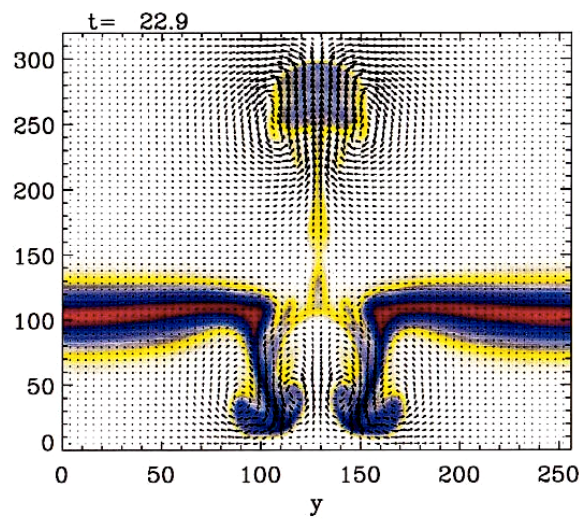
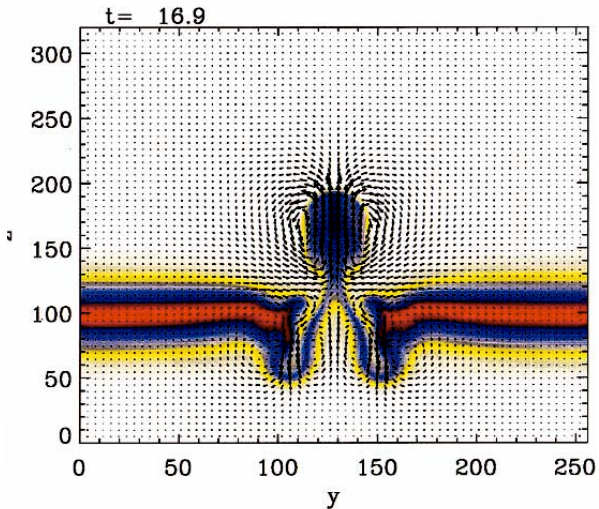
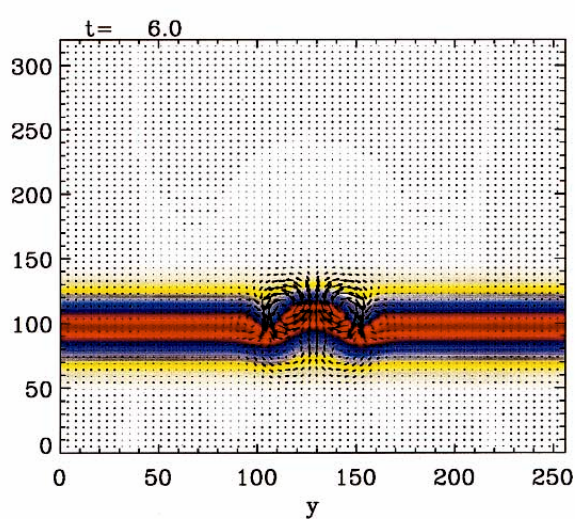
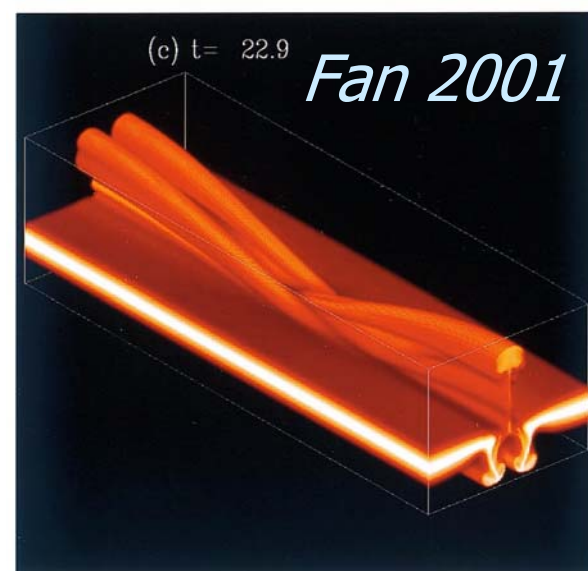
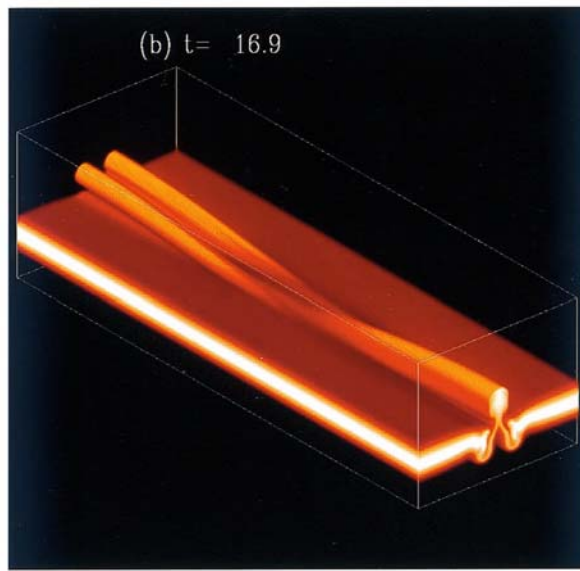
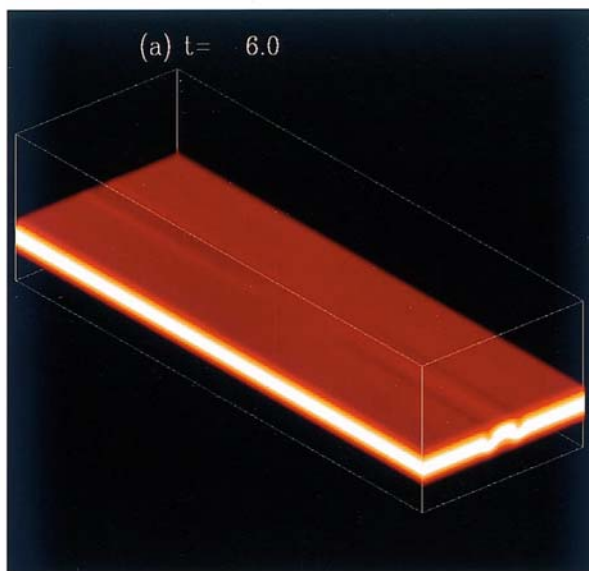
$$\frac{dp_1}{dz} = -\frac{p_1}{H_p} \quad (\text{non-magnetic region})$$

$$\frac{dp_2}{dz} = -\frac{p_2}{H_p} = -\frac{p_1}{H_p} + \frac{B^2}{8\pi H_p} > \frac{dp_1}{dz} \rightarrow \text{instability!}$$





# An unstable magnetic layer forming arched flux tubes



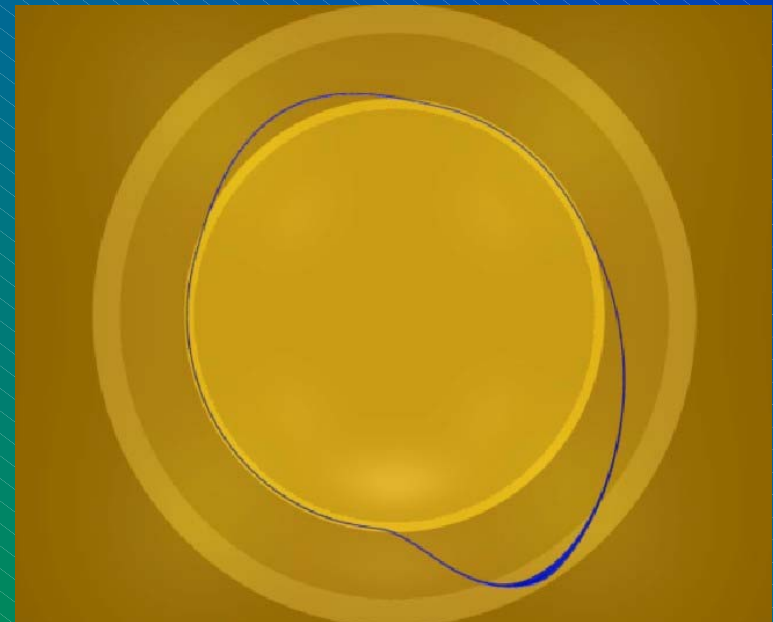
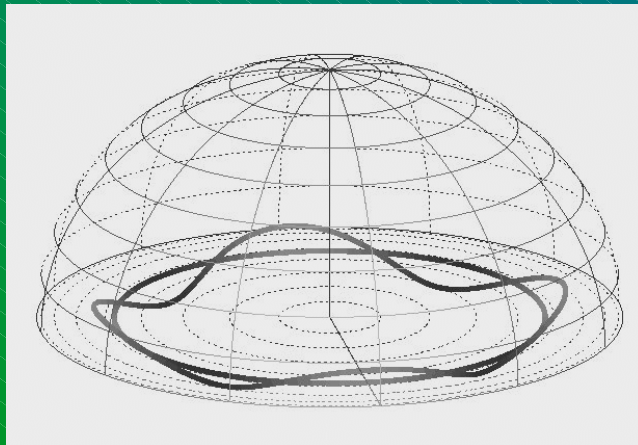
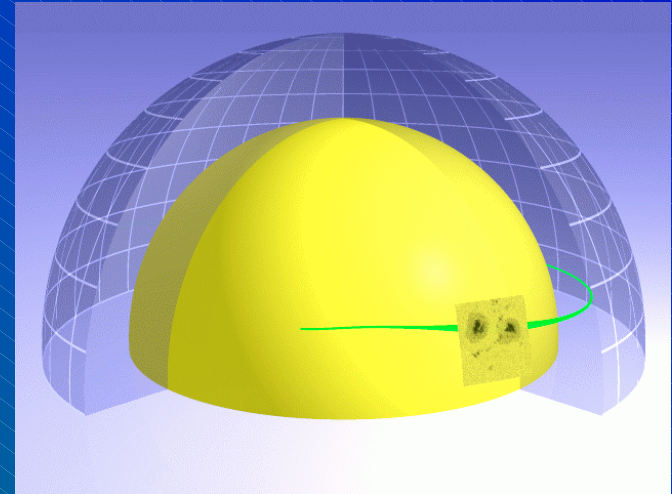
# The plan

- 1) Formation of magnetic structure
- 2) Physics of magnetic flux tubes
- 3) Magnetic structure and the dynamo



# Thin flux tube approximation

- All scales along field  $\gg$  tube diameter
- Expansion perpend. to tube axis
- Truncate: neglect 2nd higher orders
- Quasi-1D approximation:  
String of mass elements  
moving in a 3D environment



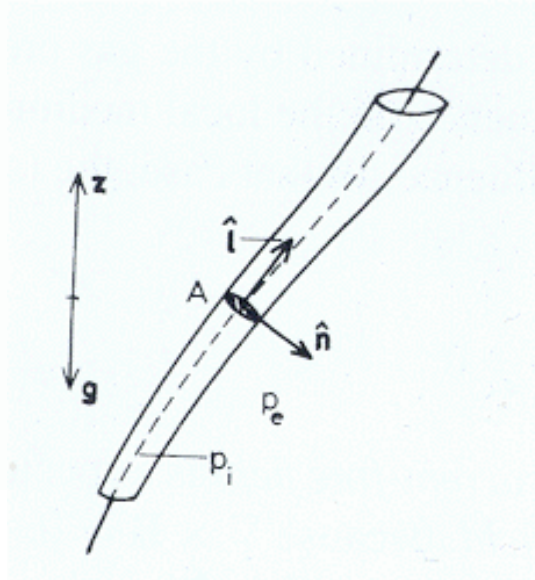
## The Thin Flux Tube Approximation

Isolated magnetic flux tube: Bundle of magnetic field lines separated from the non-magnetic surrounding plasma by a tangential discontinuity (current sheet).

Thin magnetic flux tube: An isolated flux tube whose diameter is small compared to all other length scales of the system (scale heights, radius of curvature, wavelengths...)

→ Describe the flux tube by the values of the various physical quantities on the tube axis [space curve  $\mathbf{r}(l)$ ,  $l$ : arc length].

→ zeroth/first order of an expansion perpendicular to the axis





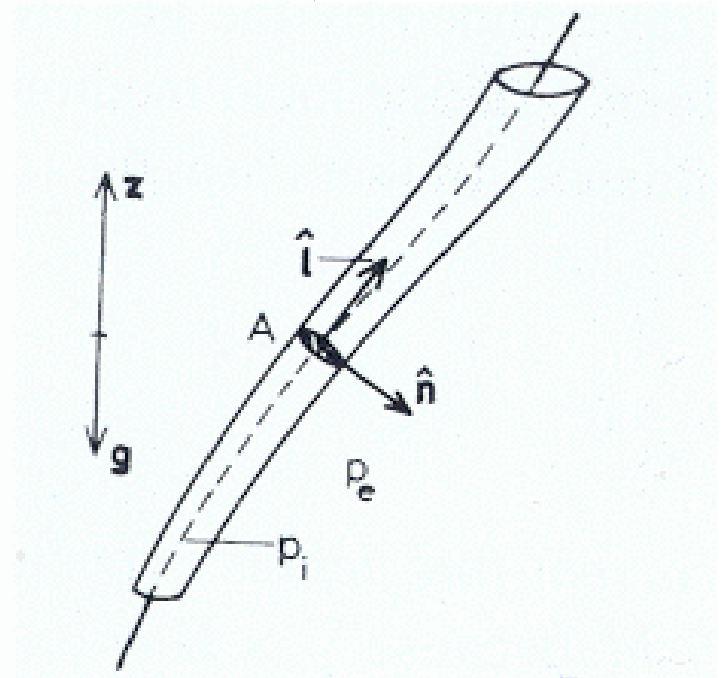
$$\hat{\mathbf{i}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}}{\partial l} \quad \text{unit tangent vector}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} = R \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{i}}}{\partial l} \quad \text{unit normal vector}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{b}} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \times \hat{\mathbf{n}} \quad \text{unit binormal vector}$$

$$R = \left| \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{i}}}{\partial l} \right|^{-1} \quad \text{radius of curvature}$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{b}}}{\partial l} = \hat{\mathbf{i}} \times \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{n}}}{\partial l} = R_t^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \quad \text{radius of torsion}$$



Consider the *Walén equation* (combined induction equation and equation of continuity → exercise!) and the equation of motion:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\rho} \right) = \left( \frac{\mathbf{B}}{\rho} \cdot \nabla \right) \mathbf{u}$$

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -\nabla p + \rho \mathbf{g} + \frac{1}{4\pi} (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{F}_D$$

With  $\mathbf{B}(l) = B(l) \hat{\mathbf{l}}$  along the axis:

$$\frac{B d\hat{\mathbf{l}}}{\rho dt} + \hat{\mathbf{l}} \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{B}{\rho} \right) = \frac{B}{\rho} (\hat{\mathbf{l}} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} \equiv \frac{B \partial \mathbf{u}}{\rho \partial l}$$

By scalar multiplication with  $\hat{\mathbf{l}}$  and noting that a unit vector is perpendicular to its derivative we find:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{B}{\rho} \right) = \frac{B}{\rho} \hat{\mathbf{l}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial l} = \frac{B}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{u} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{l}}}{\partial l} - \mathbf{u} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{l}}}{\partial l} \right)$$

With  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{l}} \equiv u_l$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} \equiv u_n$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{B}{\rho} \right) = \frac{B}{\rho} \left( \frac{\partial u_l}{\partial l} - \frac{u_n}{R} \right)$$

→ Walén equation in thin flux tube approximation.

Multiply with  $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{b}} \rightarrow$  normal/binormal components of the time derivative of the tangent  $\rightarrow$  change of the flux tube path in time:

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{l}}}{dt} = \frac{\partial u_n}{\partial l} + \frac{u_l}{R} + \frac{u_b}{R_t}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \frac{d\hat{\mathbf{l}}}{dt} = \frac{\partial u_b}{\partial l} - \frac{u_n}{R_t}$$

(with  $\hat{\mathbf{n}} = -\hat{\mathbf{l}} \times \hat{\mathbf{b}}$  and  $\mathbf{u} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} \equiv u_b$ ).

Lorentz force on the tube axis:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{4\pi}(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} &= \frac{1}{4\pi}[(\nabla B) \times \hat{\mathbf{l}} + B \nabla \times \hat{\mathbf{l}}] \times B \hat{\mathbf{l}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi}[B(\nabla B \times \hat{\mathbf{l}}) \times \hat{\mathbf{l}} + B^2(\nabla \times \hat{\mathbf{l}}) \times \hat{\mathbf{l}}] \end{aligned}$$

Using  $(\nabla \times \hat{\mathbf{l}}) \times \hat{\mathbf{l}} = R^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{n}}$  and

$$(\nabla B \times \hat{\mathbf{l}}) \times \hat{\mathbf{l}} = -\nabla B + \hat{\mathbf{l}}(\hat{\mathbf{l}} \cdot \nabla B) \equiv -(\nabla B)_\perp$$

$(\nabla B)_\perp$ : projection of the gradient on the plane perpendicular to the tangential direction (the cross section of the tube).

$$\mathbf{F}_L \equiv \frac{1}{4\pi}(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} = - \left[ \nabla \left( \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) \right]_{\perp} + \frac{B^2}{4\pi R} \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

Projections of  $\mathbf{F}_L$  on the triad of unit vectors:

$$\mathbf{F}_L \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{F}_L \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left( \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) + \frac{B^2}{4\pi R}$$

$$\mathbf{F}_L \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \left( \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right)$$

( $\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \nabla \equiv \partial/\partial n$ ,  $\hat{\mathbf{b}} \cdot \nabla \equiv \partial/\partial b$ ).

→ equation of motion:

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}} = - \frac{\partial p}{\partial l} + \rho \mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}}$$

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left( p + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) + \rho \mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} + \frac{B^2}{4\pi R} + \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial b} \left( p + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) + \rho \mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} + \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}}$$



Continuity of normal stress at the interface between flux tube and its environment:

$$p + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} = p_e$$

Thin tube: consider only the first derivatives in normal/binormal direction  $\rightarrow$  already fixed by continuity condition above.

External hydrostatic equilibrium:

$$\nabla p_e = \rho_e \mathbf{g}$$

Resulting eqs. of motion:

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{l}} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial l} + \rho \mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{l}}$$

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = (\rho - \rho_e) \mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} + \frac{B^2}{4\pi R} + \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

$$\rho \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} = (\rho - \rho_e) \mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}} + \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \hat{\mathbf{b}}$$

Perpendicular directions:

buoyancy force, curvature force & aerodynamic drag force.

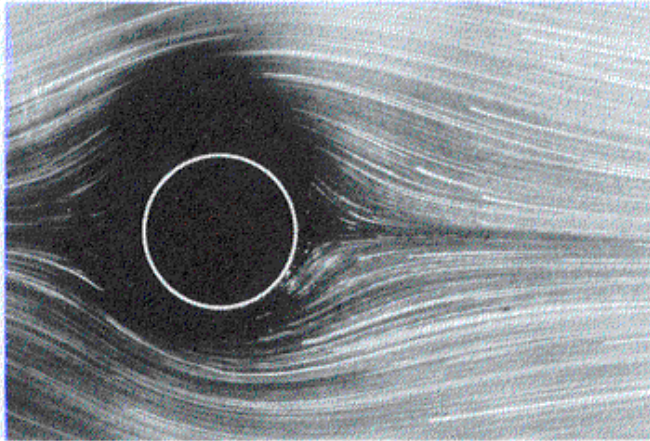
## Thin flux tube equations with rotation

$$\rho_i \frac{DU}{Dt} \cdot \mathbf{l} = -\frac{\partial p_i}{\partial l} + \rho_i (\mathbf{g} - R\Omega^2 \mathbf{e}_R) \cdot \mathbf{l} + 2\rho_i (\mathbf{U} \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}) \cdot \mathbf{l}$$

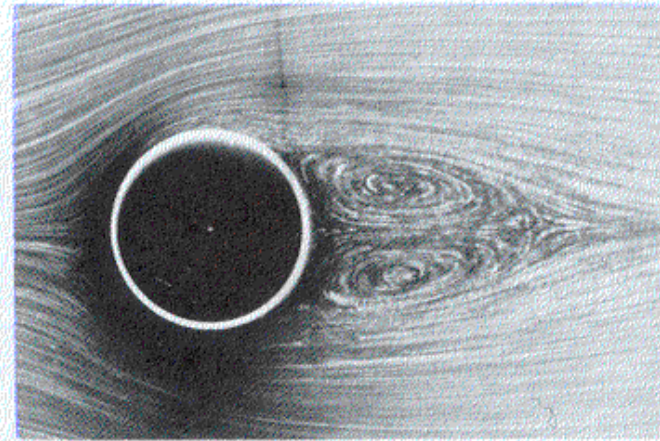
$$\begin{aligned} \rho_i \frac{DU}{Dt} \cdot \mathbf{n} &= \frac{B^2}{4\pi R_e} + (\rho_i - \rho_e) (\mathbf{g} - R\Omega_e^2 \mathbf{e}_R) \cdot \mathbf{n} + \\ &+ \rho_i R (\Omega_e^2 - \Omega^2) \mathbf{e}_R \cdot \mathbf{n} + 2\rho_i (\mathbf{U} \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}) \cdot \mathbf{n} + \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \mathbf{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_i \frac{DU}{Dt} \cdot \mathbf{b} &= (\rho_i - \rho_e) (\mathbf{g} - R\Omega_e^2 \mathbf{e}_R) \cdot \mathbf{b} + \\ &+ \rho_i R (\Omega_e^2 - \Omega^2) \mathbf{e}_R \cdot \mathbf{b} + 2\rho_i (\mathbf{U} \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}) \cdot \mathbf{b} + \mathbf{F}_D \cdot \mathbf{b} \end{aligned}$$

Aerodynamic drag force → pressure disturbance due to relative motion of the (locally cylindric) flux tube w.r.t. its environment:



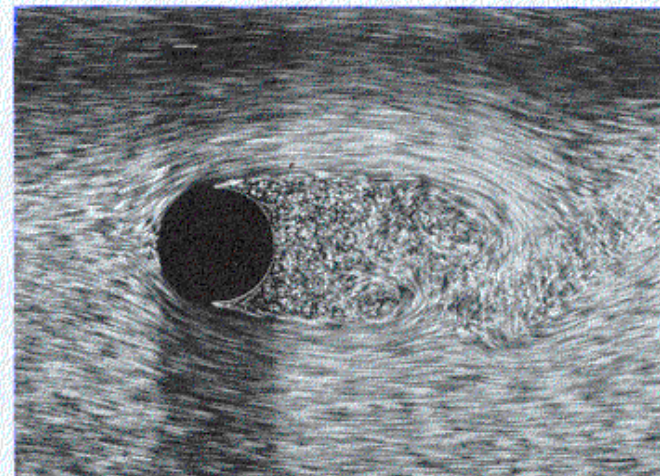
(a)



(b)



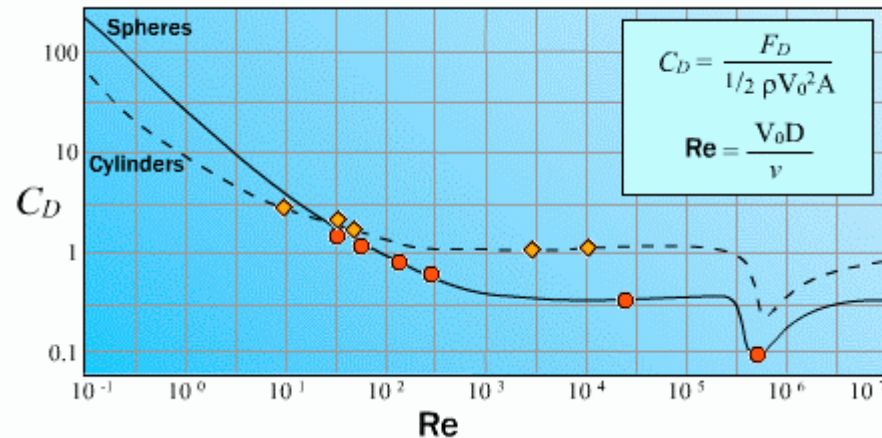
(c)



(d)



Aerodynamic drag force → pressure disturbance due to relative motion of the (locally cylindric) flux tube w.r.t. its environment:



$$(\pi a^2) \mathbf{F}_D = C_D \rho_e a v_{\perp}^2 \hat{\mathbf{k}}$$

$C_D$ : drag coefficient,  $a$ : tube radius, and

$$v_{\perp}^2 = (\mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}})^2 = [\mathbf{v} - \hat{\mathbf{l}}(\mathbf{v} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{l}})]^2$$

$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_e - \mathbf{u}$ : relative velocity between the flux tube and the surrounding fluid moving with velocity  $\mathbf{v}_e$ .  $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ : unit vector in the direction of the component of  $\mathbf{v}$  perpendicular to the tube axis.



Transversal forces per unit length of an tube in thermal equilibrium:

$$F_C = \frac{B^2}{4\pi R} \cdot \pi a^2 = \frac{B^2 a^2}{4R}$$

$$F_B = (\rho - \rho_e)g \cdot \pi a^2 = \frac{p_e - p}{H_p} \cdot \pi a^2 = \frac{B^2 a^2}{8H_p}$$

$$F_D = C_D \rho_e v_{\perp}^2 a$$

With  $B_{\text{eq}}^2 = 4\pi \rho_e v_c^2$ :

$$\frac{F_B}{F_D} \simeq \left(\frac{a}{H_p}\right) \left(\frac{B}{B_{\text{eq}}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{v_c}{v_{\perp}}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{F_C}{F_D} \simeq \left(\frac{a}{R}\right) \left(\frac{B}{B_{\text{eq}}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{v_c}{v_{\perp}}\right)^2$$

→ drag force dominates for sufficiently thin flux tubes

Buoyant rise of a horizontal flux tube:  $\mathbf{g} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} = g$ ,  $R \rightarrow \infty$

$T = T_e$  &  $p < p_e \rightarrow \rho < \rho_e \rightarrow$  upward buoyancy force!

Stationary state: buoyancy = drag

$$(\rho - \rho_e)g \cdot \pi a^2 + C_D \rho_e v^2 a = 0$$

$$v^2 = \left( \frac{p_e - p}{p_e} \right) \left( \frac{g \pi a}{C_D} \right) = \left( \frac{\pi}{C_D} \right) \left( \frac{B^2}{8\pi \rho_e} \right) \left( \frac{a}{H_p} \right)$$

$$\left( \frac{v}{v_A} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{\pi}{2C_D} \right) \left( \frac{a}{H_p} \right)$$

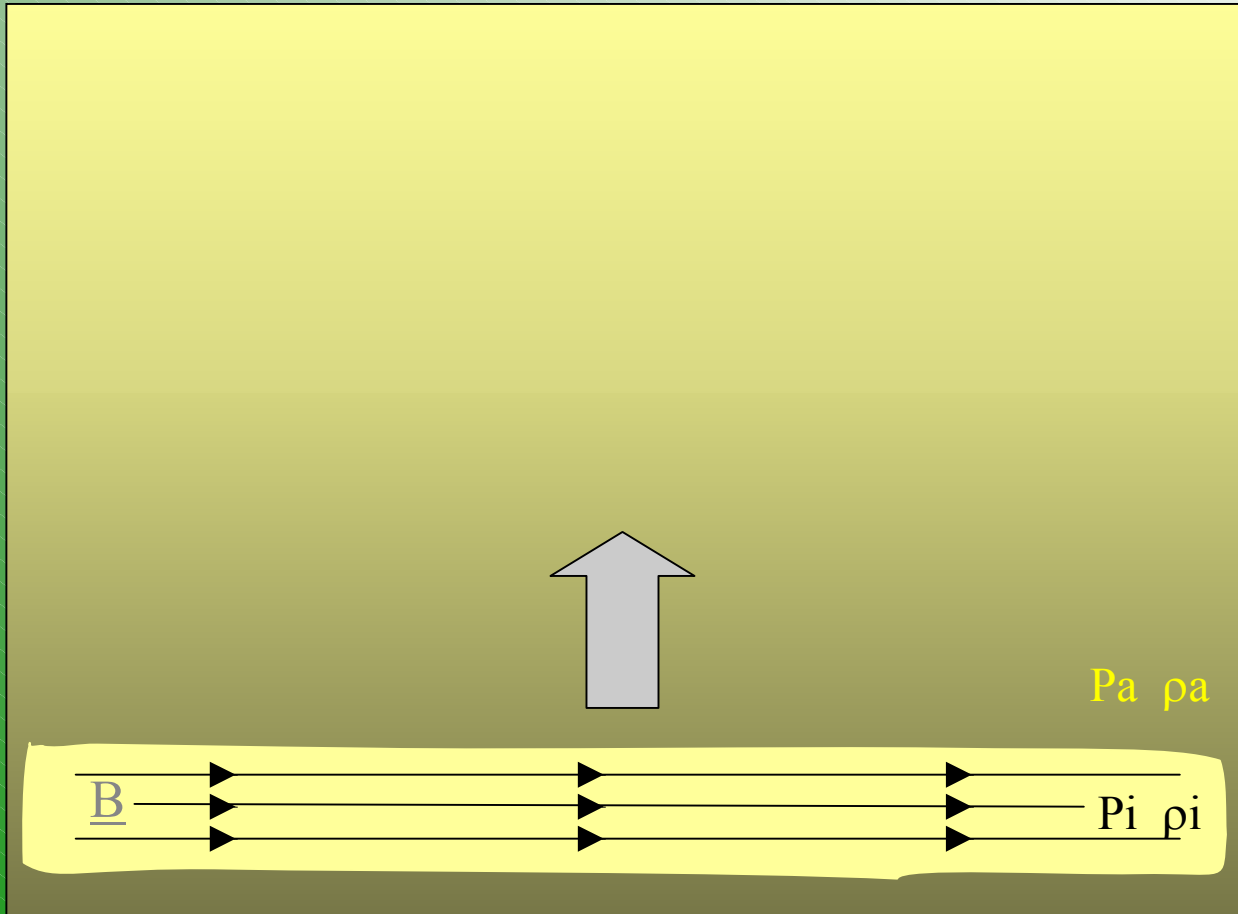
Equipartition field:  $v_A = v_c \simeq 100$  m/s

$H_p \simeq 6 \cdot 10^4$  km,  $a \simeq 6 \cdot 10^3$  km ( $\Phi_m = 10^{22}$  Mx)

$\rightarrow v \simeq 30$  m/s  $\rightarrow$  rise time through the convection zone  
(200,000 km) is about 2 months  $\ll$  11 years

$\rightarrow$  *magnetic flux storage problem*

# Magnetic buoyancy of a flux tube



Pressure equilibrium

$$P_a = P_i + B^2/8\pi$$

$$B \neq 0 \Rightarrow P_i < P_a$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_i < \rho_a$$

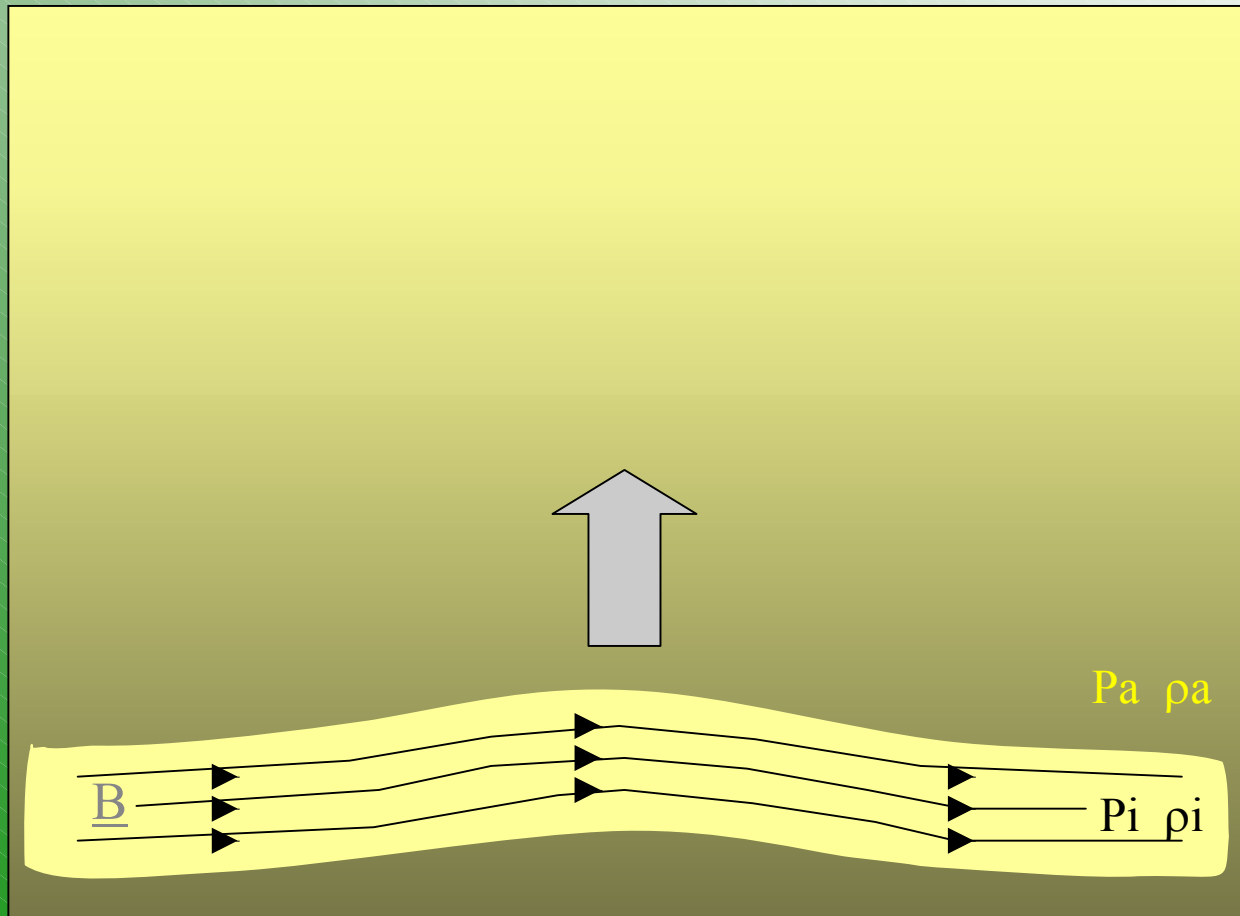
$\Rightarrow$  buoyancy

$P_a, \rho_a$  external pressure, density

$P_i, \rho_i$  internal pressure, density

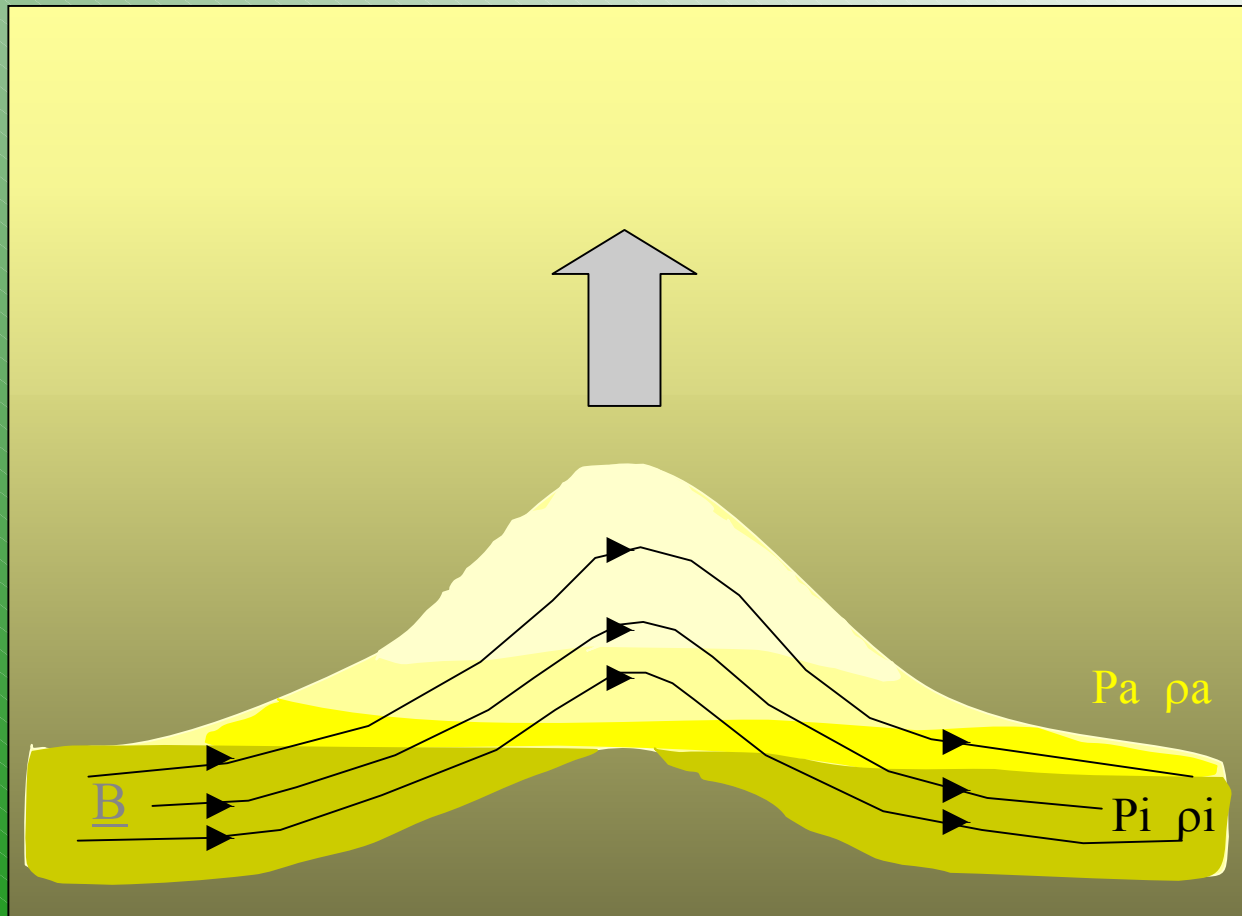
Parker instability

# Magnetic buoyancy of a flux tube

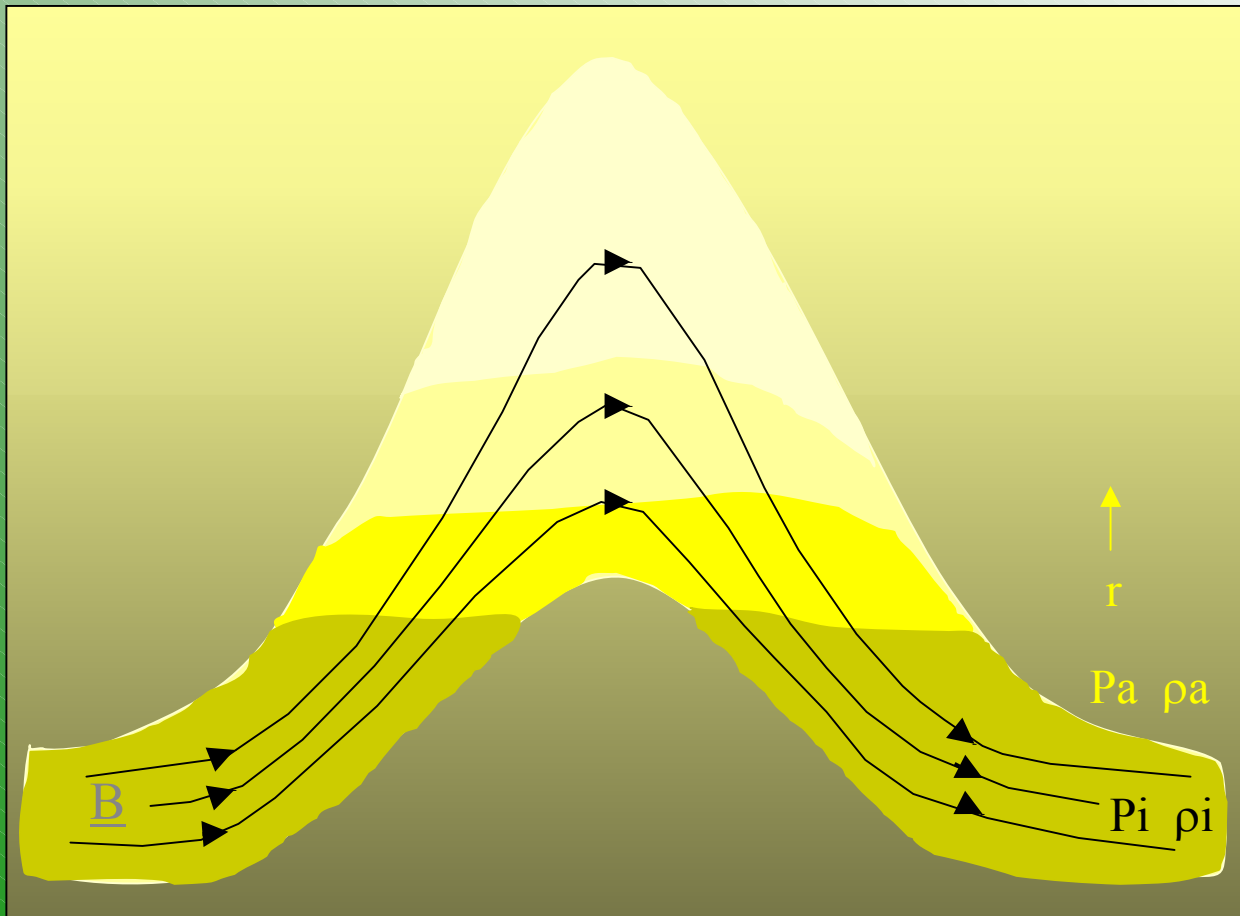




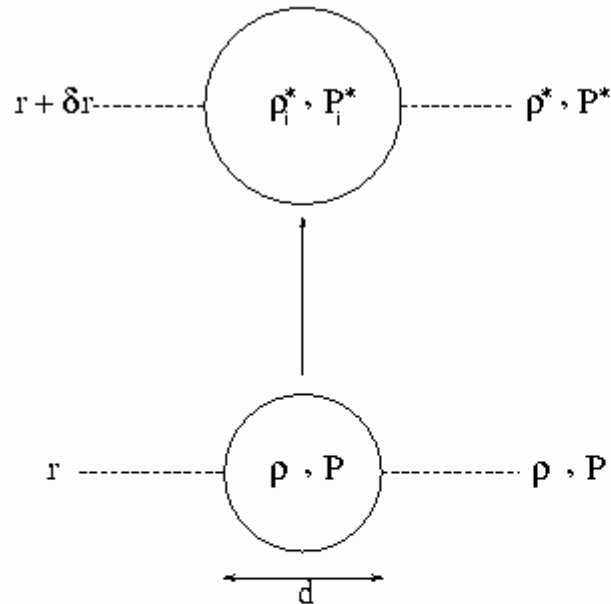
# Magnetic buoyancy of a flux tube



# Magnetic buoyancy of a flux tube



# Convective instability



Instabilität:  $\rho_i^* < \rho^*$

$$\rho_i^* - \rho^* = \left[ \left( \frac{d\rho}{dr} \right)_{\text{ad}} - \frac{d\rho}{dr} \right] \delta r < 0$$

$$p_i^* = p^* \rightarrow \frac{dT}{dr} < \left( \frac{dT}{dr} \right)_{\text{ad}} \rightarrow \nabla > \nabla_{\text{ad}} \text{ with } \nabla = \frac{d \ln T}{d \ln p}$$

## Stellar stratification

$$\nabla \equiv \frac{d \ln T}{d \ln p} \quad \text{logarithmic temperature gradient}$$

$$\text{adiabatic stratification :} \quad \nabla = \nabla_{\text{ad}} = \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma}$$

$$\text{super/subadiabatic :} \quad \nabla = \nabla_{\text{ad}} + \delta$$

$\delta > 0$  : convectively unstable

$\delta < 0$  : convectively stable

$$\text{hydrostatic equilibrium :} \quad \frac{dp}{dz} = -\rho g \equiv -\frac{p}{H_p}$$

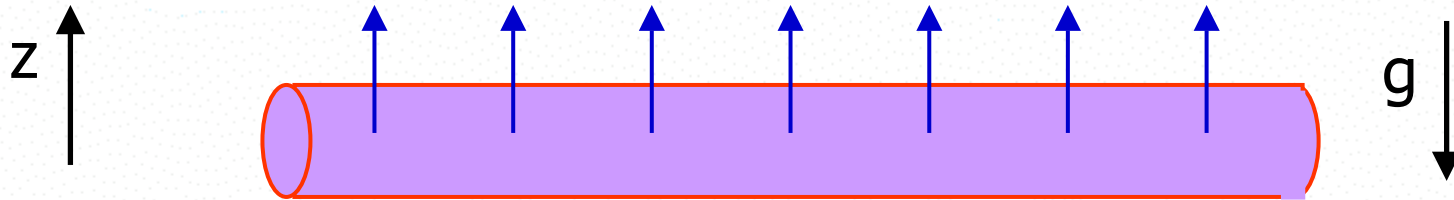
$$\text{pressure scale height :} \quad H_p = \frac{p}{\rho g} = \frac{RT}{\mu g}$$

$$\frac{1}{H_\rho} \equiv \frac{d \ln \rho}{dz} = \frac{d \ln p}{dz} \cdot \frac{d \ln \rho}{d \ln p} = \frac{1}{H_p} \left( 1 - \frac{d \ln T}{d \ln p} \right) = \frac{1 - \nabla}{H_p}$$



## Stability of a horizontal flux tube

Equilibrium:  $\rho_0 = \rho_{e0}$ ;  $p_{e0} = p_0 + B_0^2/8\pi$



$z_1$ : constant vertical displacement

external pressure at the new position:  $p_{e0} + p_{e1}$

$$p_{e1} = -\frac{p_{e0} z_1}{H_{pe}}$$

external density at the new position:  $\rho_{e0} + \rho_{e1}$

$$\rho_{e1} = -\frac{\rho_{e0} z_1 (1 - \nabla)}{H_{pe}}$$

total pressure perturbation :  $p_{e1} = \frac{B_0 B_1}{4\pi} + p_1$

Mass & magnetic flux conservation:

$$\frac{B}{\varrho} = \text{const.} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{B_1}{B_0} = \frac{\varrho_1}{\varrho_0}$$

Insert into equation for total pressure perturbation:

$$\gamma \frac{\varrho_1}{\varrho_0} = \frac{p_1}{p_0} = -\frac{p_{e0}}{p_0} \frac{z_1}{H_{pe}} - \frac{B_0^2}{4\pi p_0} \frac{\varrho_1}{\varrho_0}$$

With  $\beta \equiv 8\pi p_0/B_0^2$  we have:

$$\frac{\varrho_1}{\varrho_0} \left( \gamma + \frac{2}{\beta} \right) = -\frac{(p_0 + B_0^2/8\pi)}{p_0} \frac{z_1}{H_{pe}} = -\left( 1 + \frac{1}{\beta} \right)$$

$\beta \gg 1$  in the deep solar convection zone  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{\varrho_1}{\varrho_0} = -\left( \frac{1 + 1/\beta}{\gamma + 2/\beta} \right) \frac{z_1}{H_{pe}} \simeq \left[ \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{\beta\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) + O(\beta^{-2}) \right] \frac{z_1}{H_{pe}}$$

Perturbation of the buoyancy force:

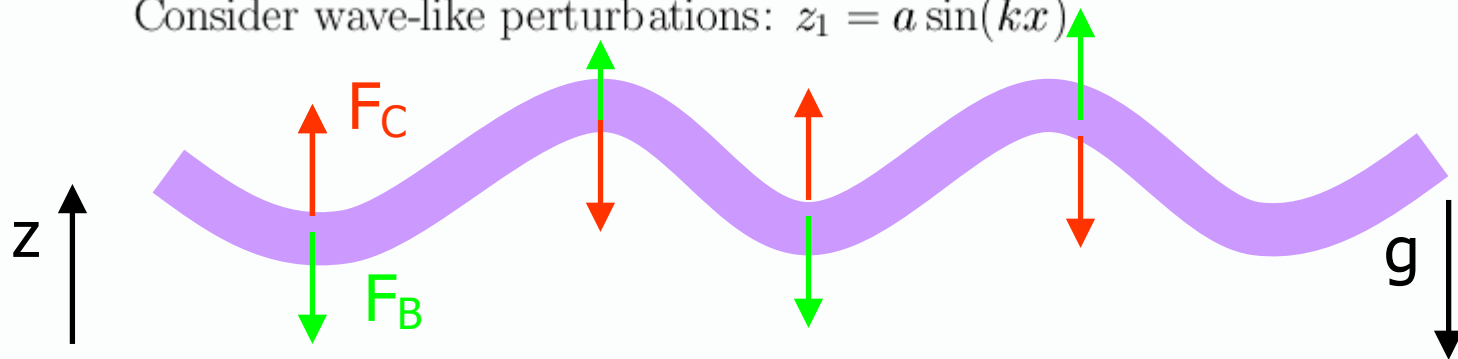
$$\begin{aligned} F_{B1} &= (\varrho_{e1} - \varrho_1)g = \left\{ -\varrho_{e0}(1 - \nabla) + \varrho_0 \left[ \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{\beta\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) \right] \right\} \frac{gz_1}{H_{pe}} \\ &= \left[ -1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma} + \delta + \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{\beta\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) \right] \frac{\varrho_0 g z_1}{H_{pe}} \\ &= \left[ \beta\delta + \frac{1}{\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) \right] \frac{z_1}{H_{p0} H_{pe}} (\varrho_0 g H_{p0}) \frac{B_0^2}{8\pi p_0} \\ &= \left[ \beta\delta + \frac{1}{\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) \right] \frac{B_0^2 z_1}{8\pi H_{p0} H_{pe}} \end{aligned}$$

For stability: [...] < 0 →

$$\begin{aligned} \beta\delta &< -\frac{1}{\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) \rightarrow \\ \beta\delta &< 0.12 \quad \text{for } \gamma = 5/3 \end{aligned}$$

→ Strong fields (smaller  $\beta$ ) stable in a superadiabatic layer ( $\delta > 0$ )!?

Consider wave-like perturbations:  $z_1 = a \sin(kx)$



Simplified treatment ( $\rightarrow$  correct stability result):  
hydrostatic equilibrium along the loop  $\rightarrow$

$$\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{p_1}{p_0} = -\frac{z_1}{\gamma H_{p0}}$$

Perturbation of the buoyancy force:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{B1} &= (\rho_{e1} - \rho_1)g = \left[ -\frac{\rho_{e0}(1 - \nabla)}{H_{pe}} + \frac{\rho_0}{\gamma H_{p0}} \right] g z_1 \\ &= \dots \\ &= \left( \beta \delta + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \frac{B_0^2 z_1}{8\pi H_{p0}^2} \end{aligned}$$



Magnetic curvature force:

$$\frac{B^2}{4\pi R} = \frac{B^2}{4\pi} \frac{z_1''}{(1 + z_1'^2)^{3/2}}$$

At loop maximum ( $x = \pi/2k$ ):

$$z_1'(x) = ka \cos(kx) = 0$$
$$z_1''(x) = -k^2 a \sin(kx) = -k^2 a$$

Sum of buoyancy force and curvature force:

$$F_{B1} + F_{C1} = \left[ \left( \beta\delta + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) \frac{B_0^2}{8\pi H_{p0}^2} - \frac{B_0^2 k^2}{4\pi} \right] a$$
$$= \left[ \left( \beta\delta + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) - 2(k H_{p0})^2 \right] \frac{a B_0^2}{8\pi H_{p0}^2}$$

$k=0$ :

For stability: [...] < 0 →

$$\beta\delta < -\frac{1}{\gamma} + 2(k H_{p0})^2$$

$$\beta\delta < -\frac{1}{\gamma} \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\gamma} \right) \rightarrow$$
$$\beta\delta < 0.12 \quad \text{for } \gamma = 5/3$$

for  $k \rightarrow 0$  (long wavelength):  $\beta\delta < -1/\gamma = -0.6$

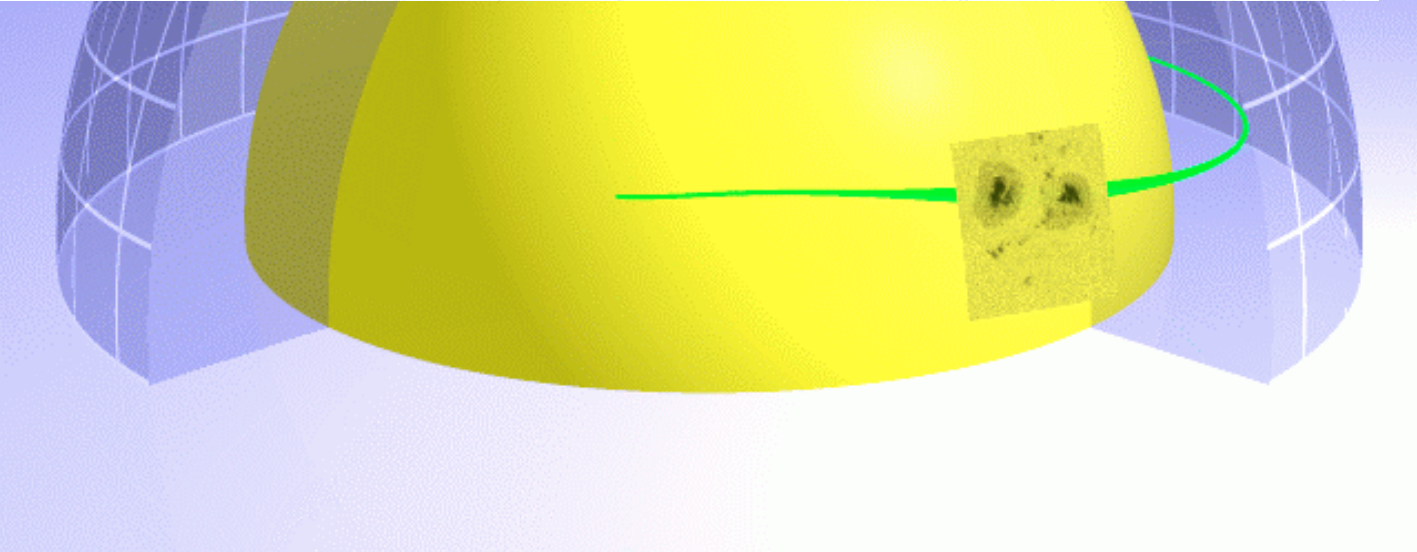
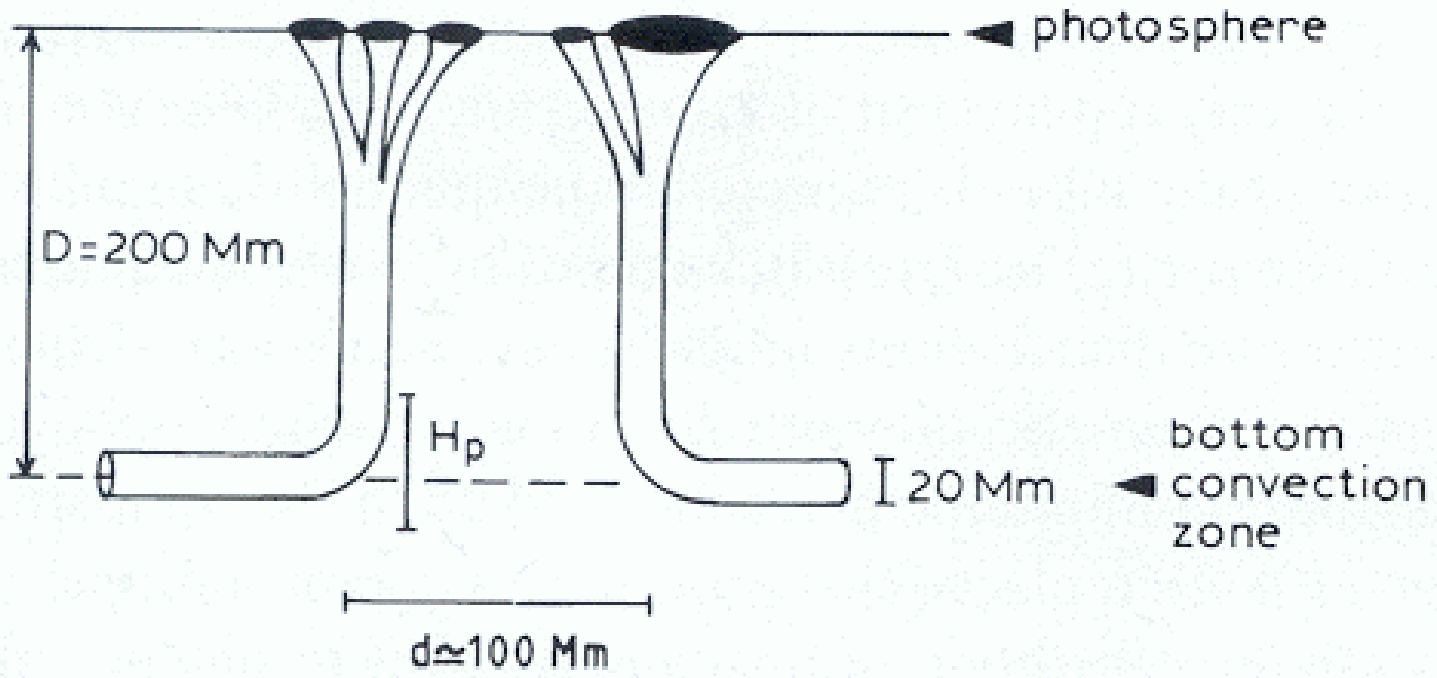
All flux tubes are unstable in a superadiabatic layer ( $\delta > 0$ )!!

# The plan

- 1) Formation of magnetic structure
- 2) Physics of magnetic flux tubes

■ 3) Magnetic structure and the dynamo

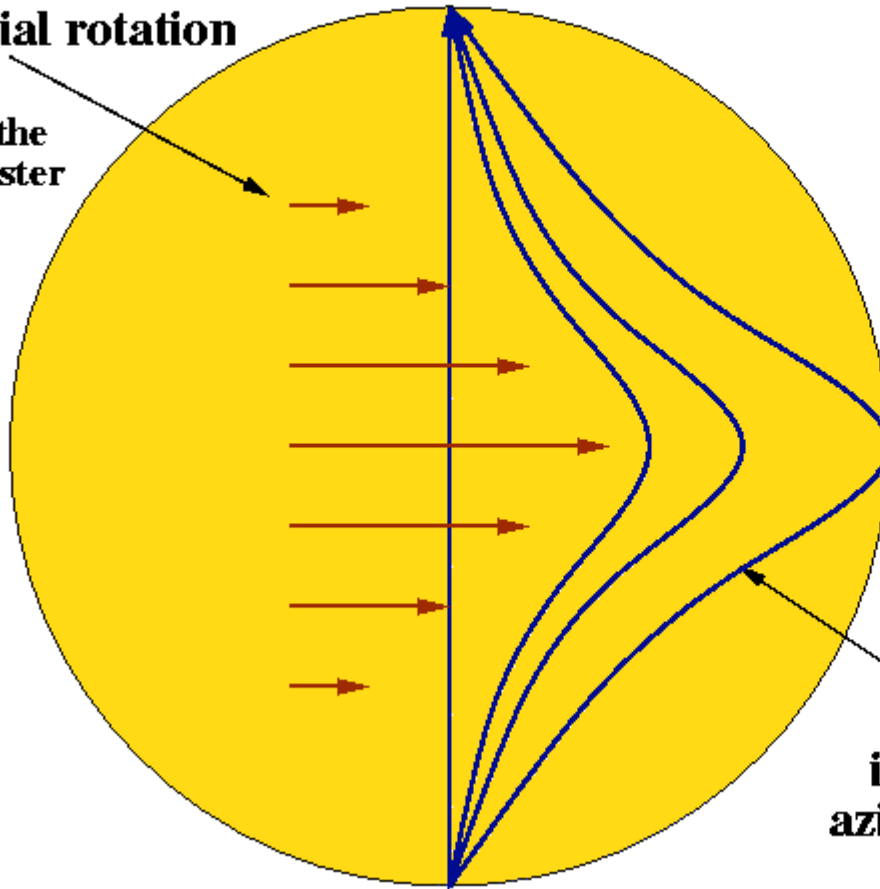
rom?



# Differential rotation generates azimuthal (toroidal) magnetic field

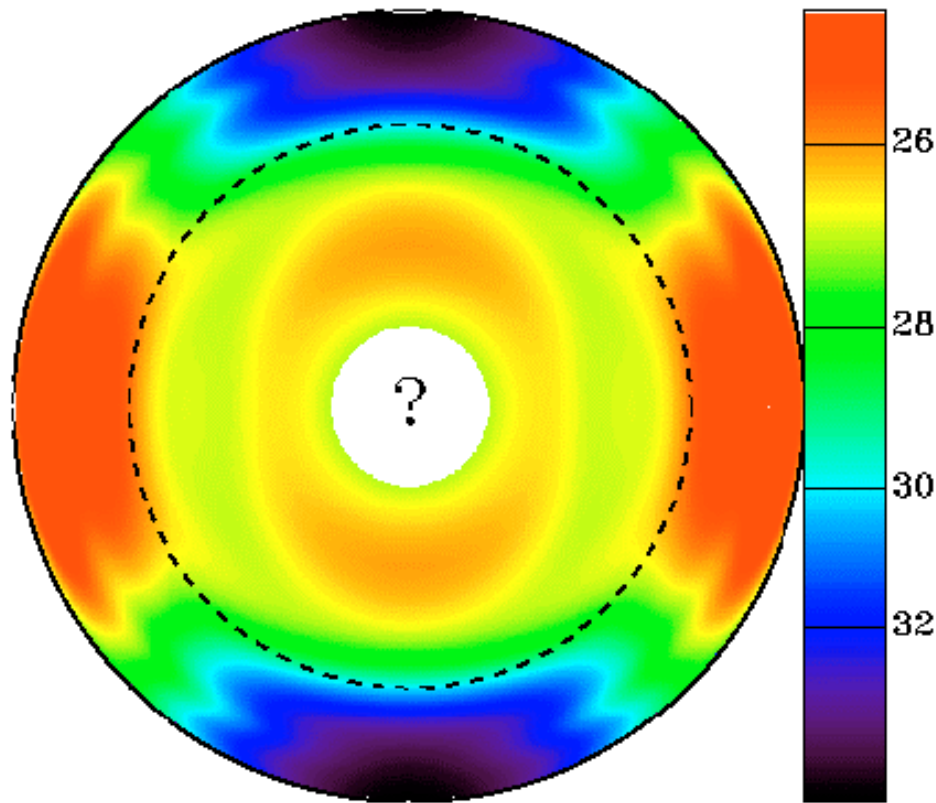
**Azimuthal flow  
of differential rotation**

The longer the  
arrow the faster  
the flow



**Meridional  
magnetic field  
is transformed into  
azimuthal magnetic field**

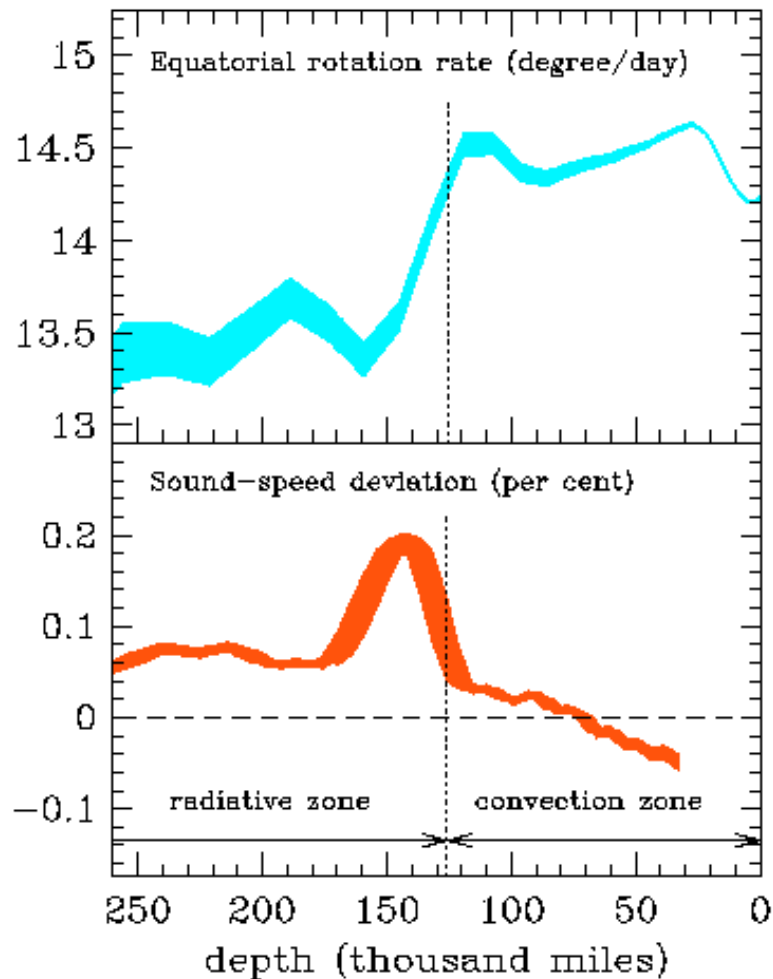
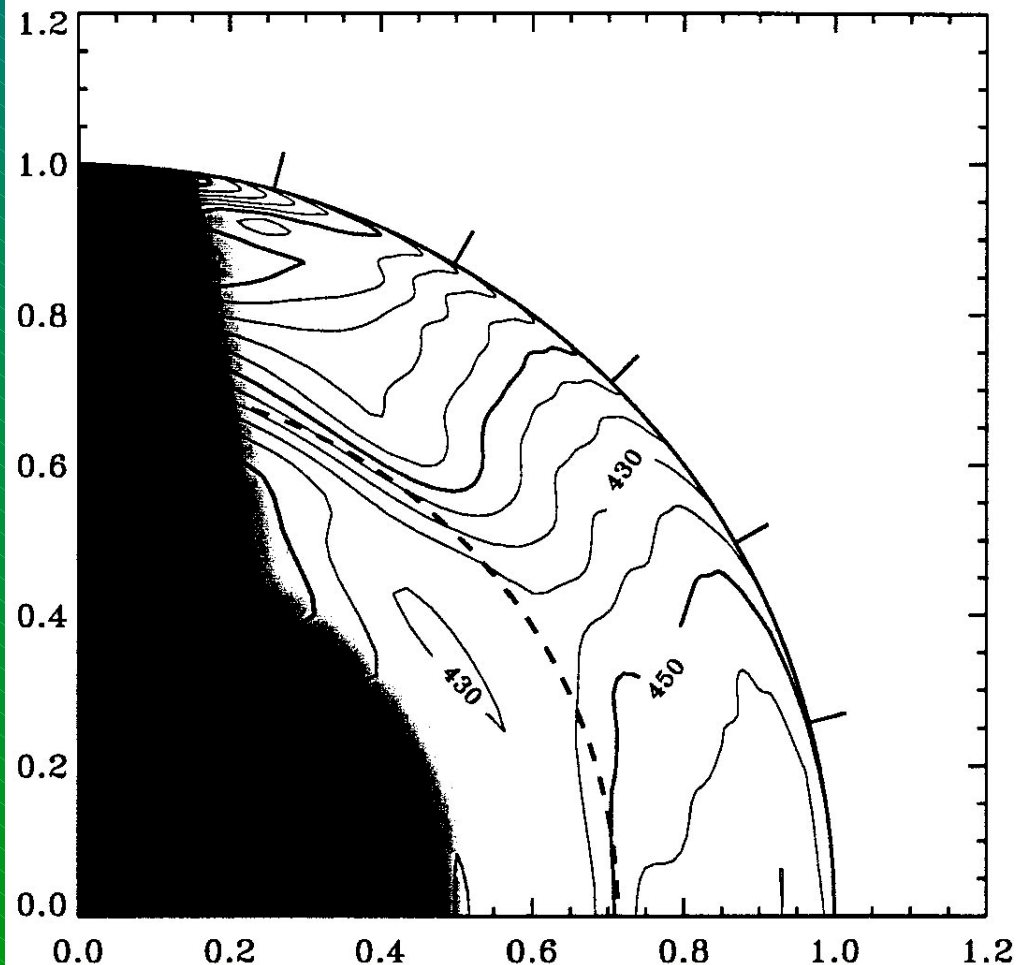
# Internal rotation of the Sun as determined by helioseismology



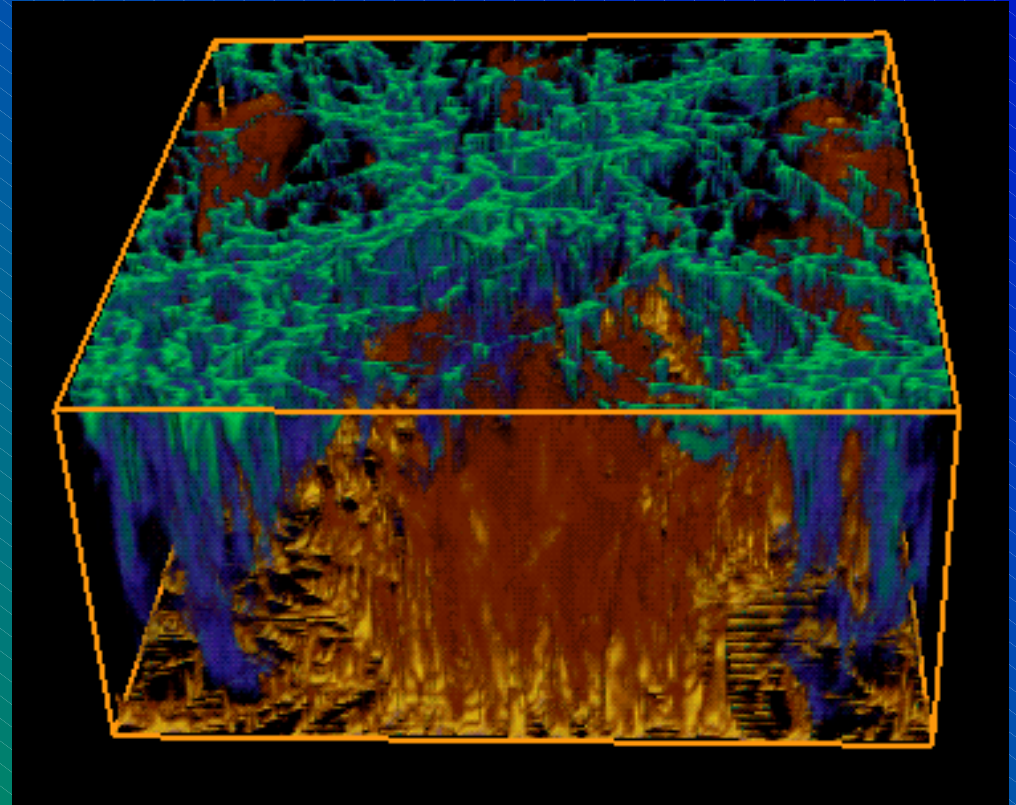
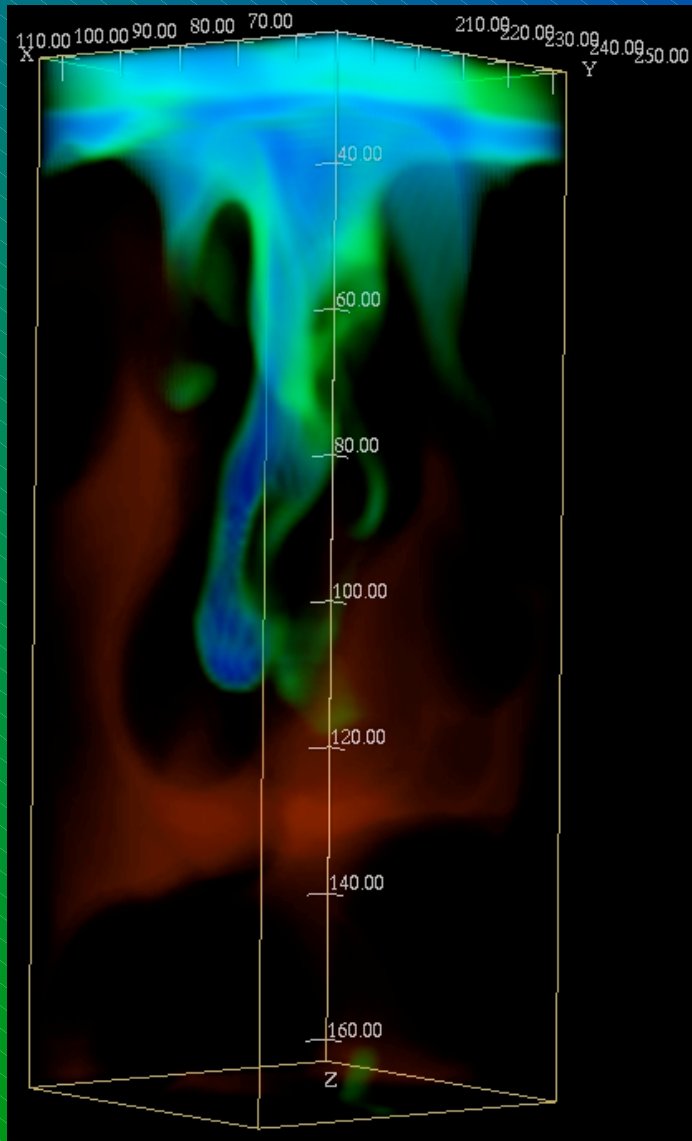
- Convection zone rotates similar to surface
- Core rotates nearly rigidly
- Steep transition at the bottom of the convection zone; width  $\sim 2\% R_{\text{sun}}$
- Region of strongest shear  $\rightarrow$  Dynamo!



# Internal rotation of the Sun as determined by helioseismology



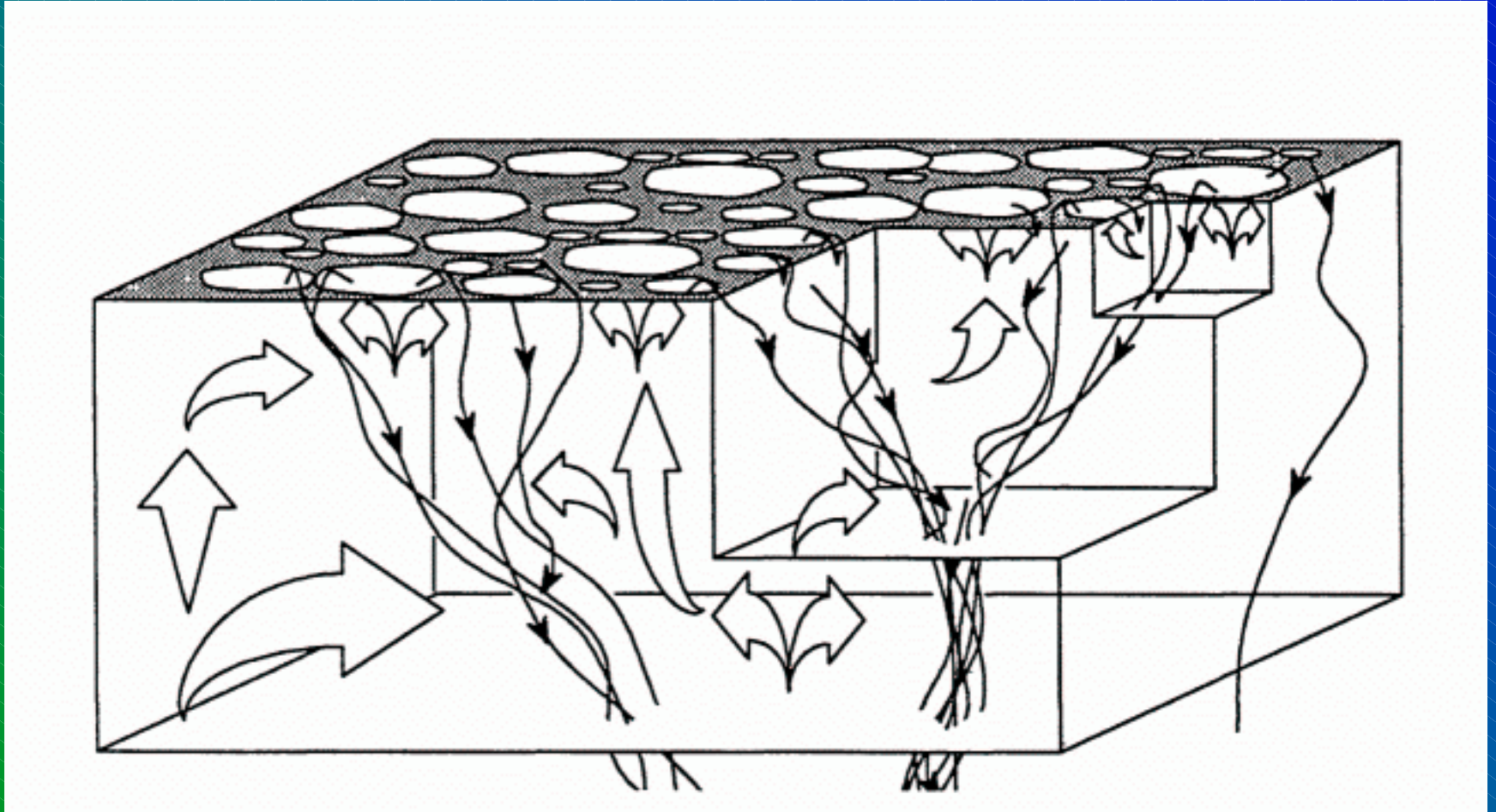
# Plumes: coherent structures in high-Ra convection



*Kerr 1996*

*Nordlund & Stein 1998*

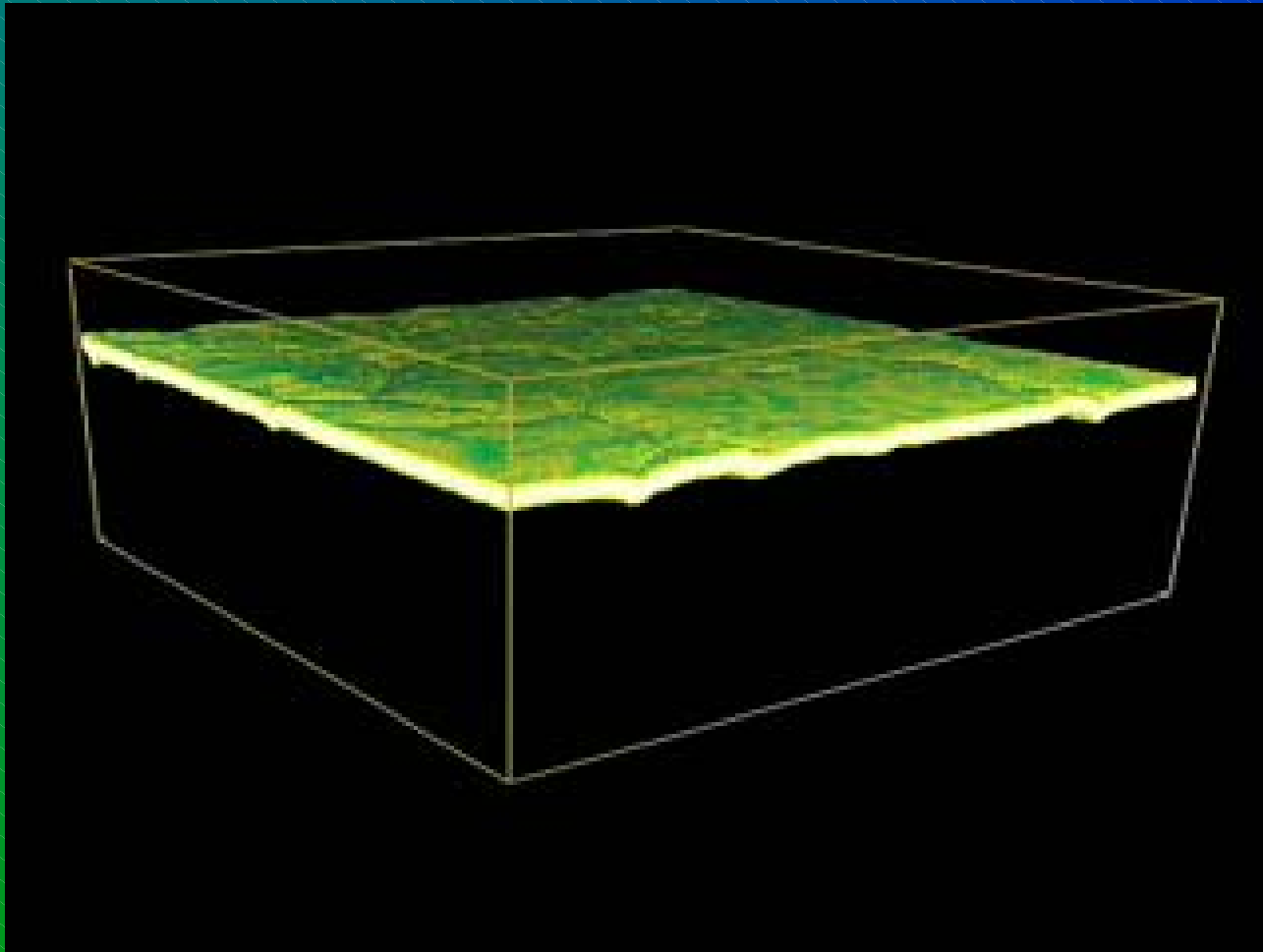
# Hierarchical downflow structure in solar convection



*Spruit et. al. 1990*

# Downward “pumping” of magnetic flux by convection

(*Brummell 2001*)



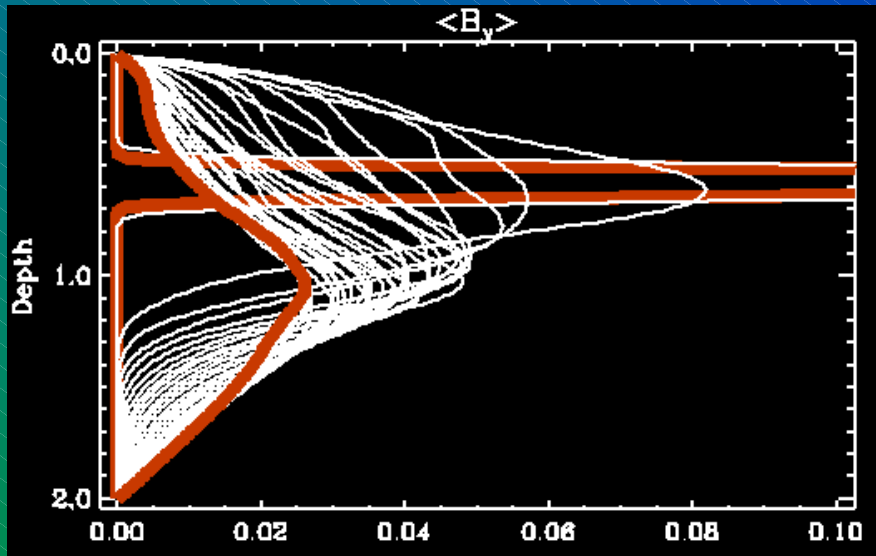
Yellow - white:  
*strong field*

green - blue:  
*weak field*



# Downward "pumping" of magnetic flux by convection

*(Tobias et al. 2001)*

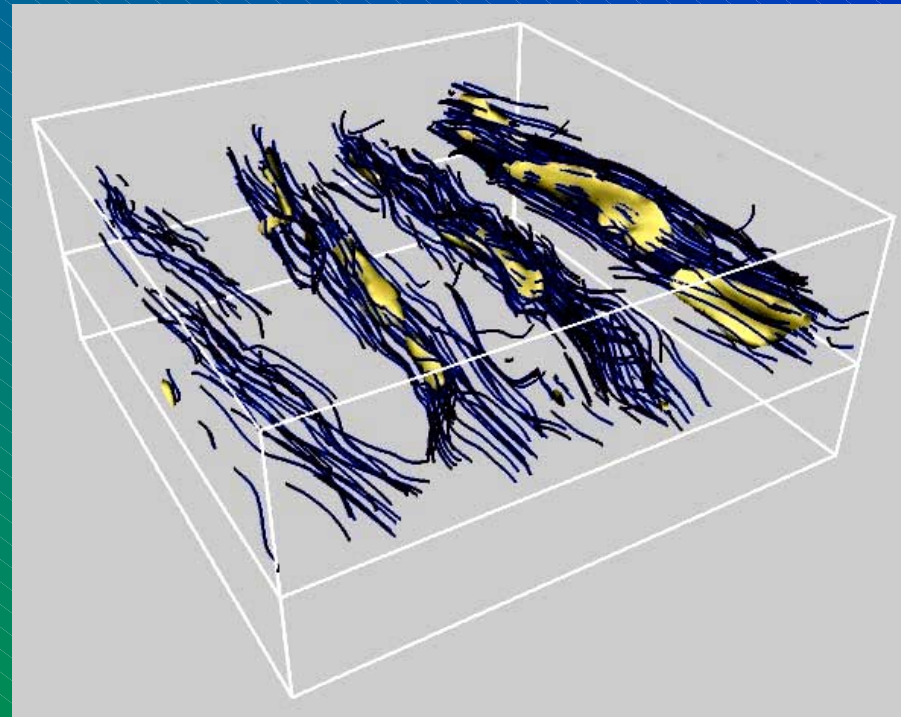


convectively  
unstable

stable layer

Strands of toroidal field  
generated by downward pumping  
and differential rotation

*(Dorch & Nordlund 2001)*



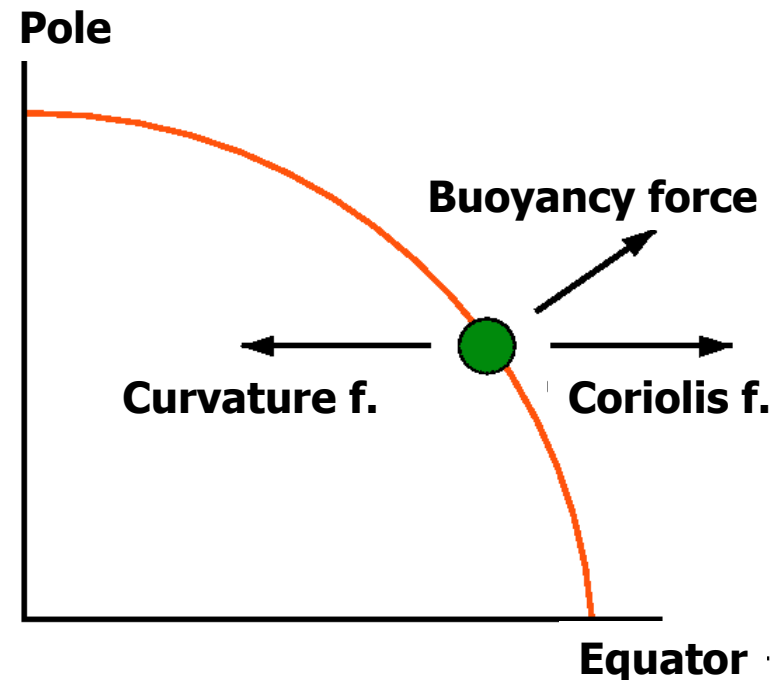


- Assume magnetic flux to be stored within the overshoot layer in form of individual toroidal flux tubes
- Storage requires *mechanical equilibrium*

Buoyancy force :  $\mathbf{F}_B = \Delta\rho \mathbf{g}$

Magnetic force :  $\mathbf{F}_M = -\frac{B^2}{4\pi\varpi} \mathbf{e}_\varpi$

Rotational force :  $\mathbf{F}_\Omega = \rho_i\varpi(\Omega_i^2 - \Omega_e^2) \mathbf{e}_\varpi$



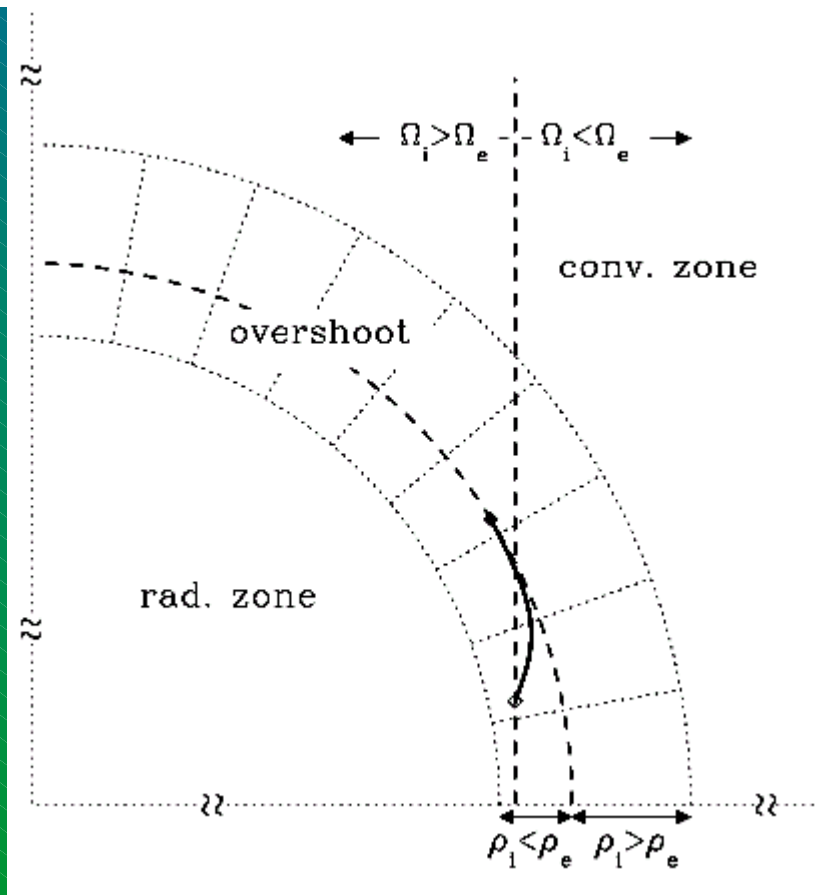
- Outside equatorial plane:

$$- \mathbf{F}_B = \mathbf{0} \quad \rightarrow \quad \Delta\rho = 0, \quad T_i < T_e$$

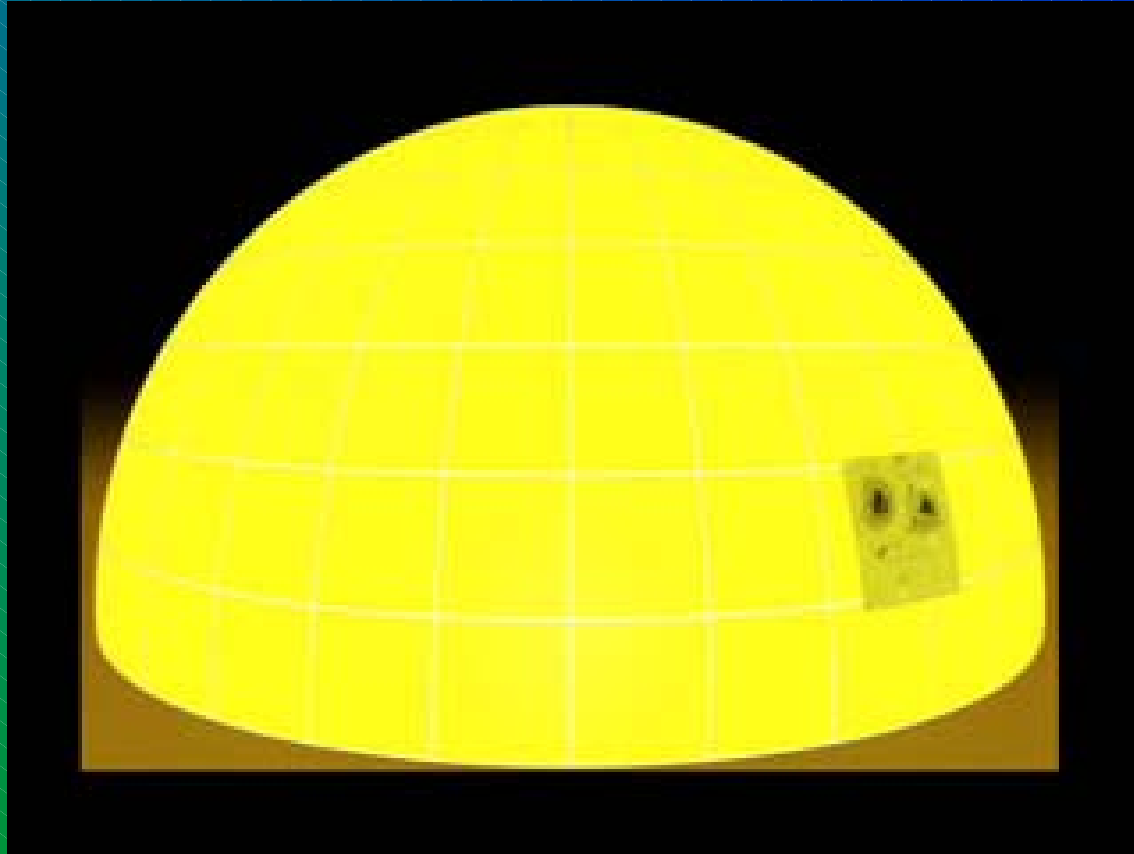
$$- \mathbf{F}_M + \mathbf{F}_\Omega = \mathbf{0} \quad \rightarrow \quad \Omega_i^2 = \Omega_e^2 + v_A^2/\varpi^2$$

⇒ No equilibrium without rotation !

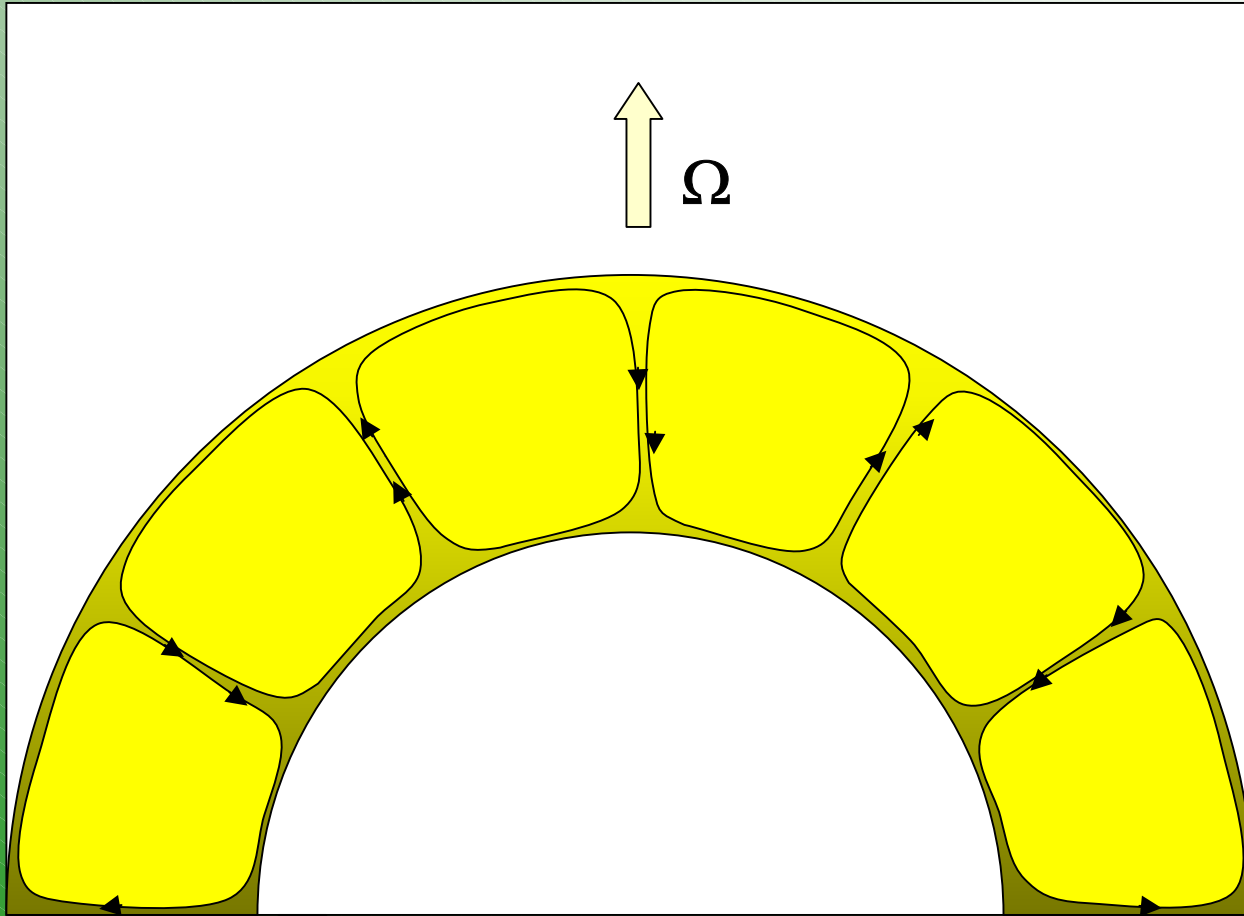
- Flux tubes created with  $T_i = T_e$  and  $\Omega_i = \Omega_e$ :
- approach equilibrium position via damped buoyancy and inertial oscillations



How does the magnetic field  
come to the surface?



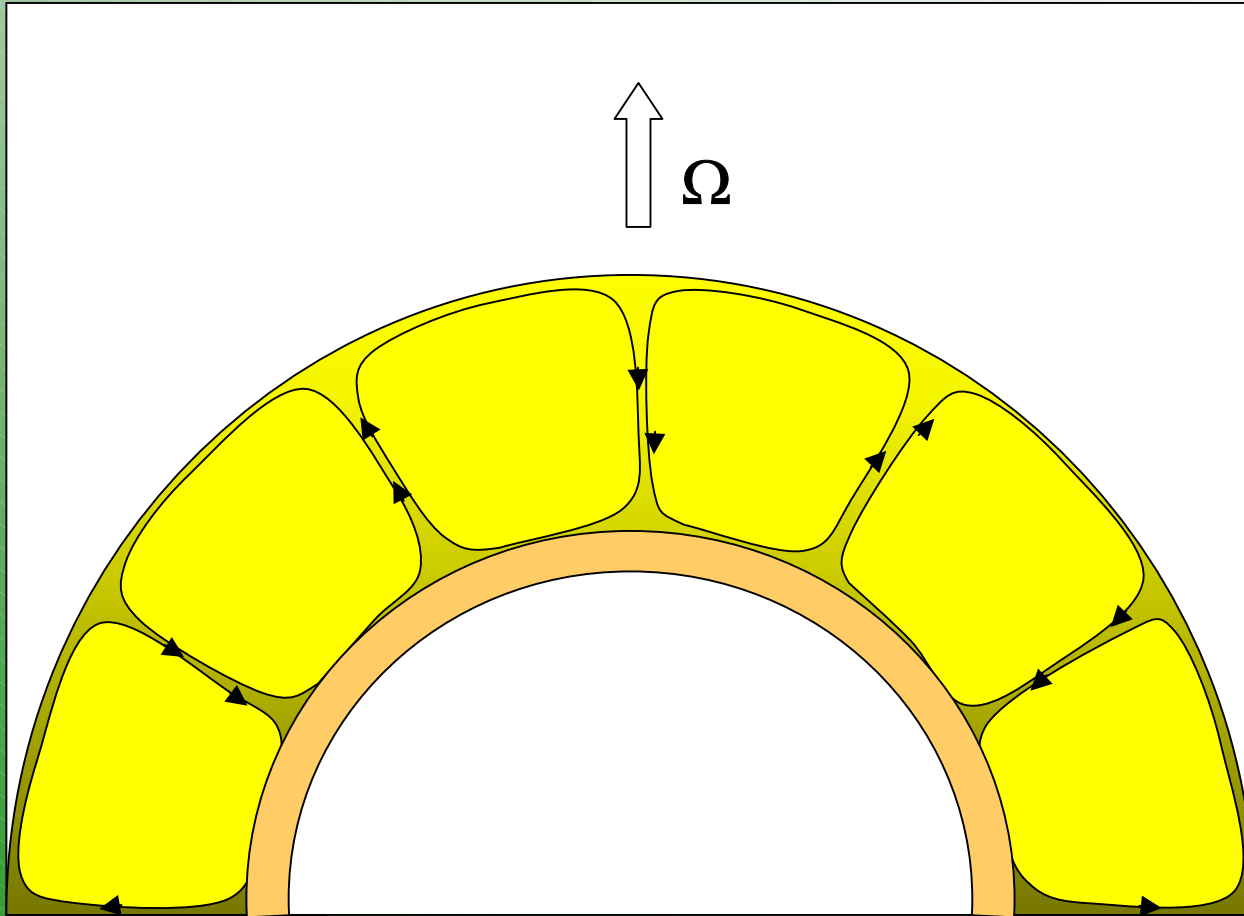
# Origin of sunspots



1

•Convection zone

# Origin of sunspots



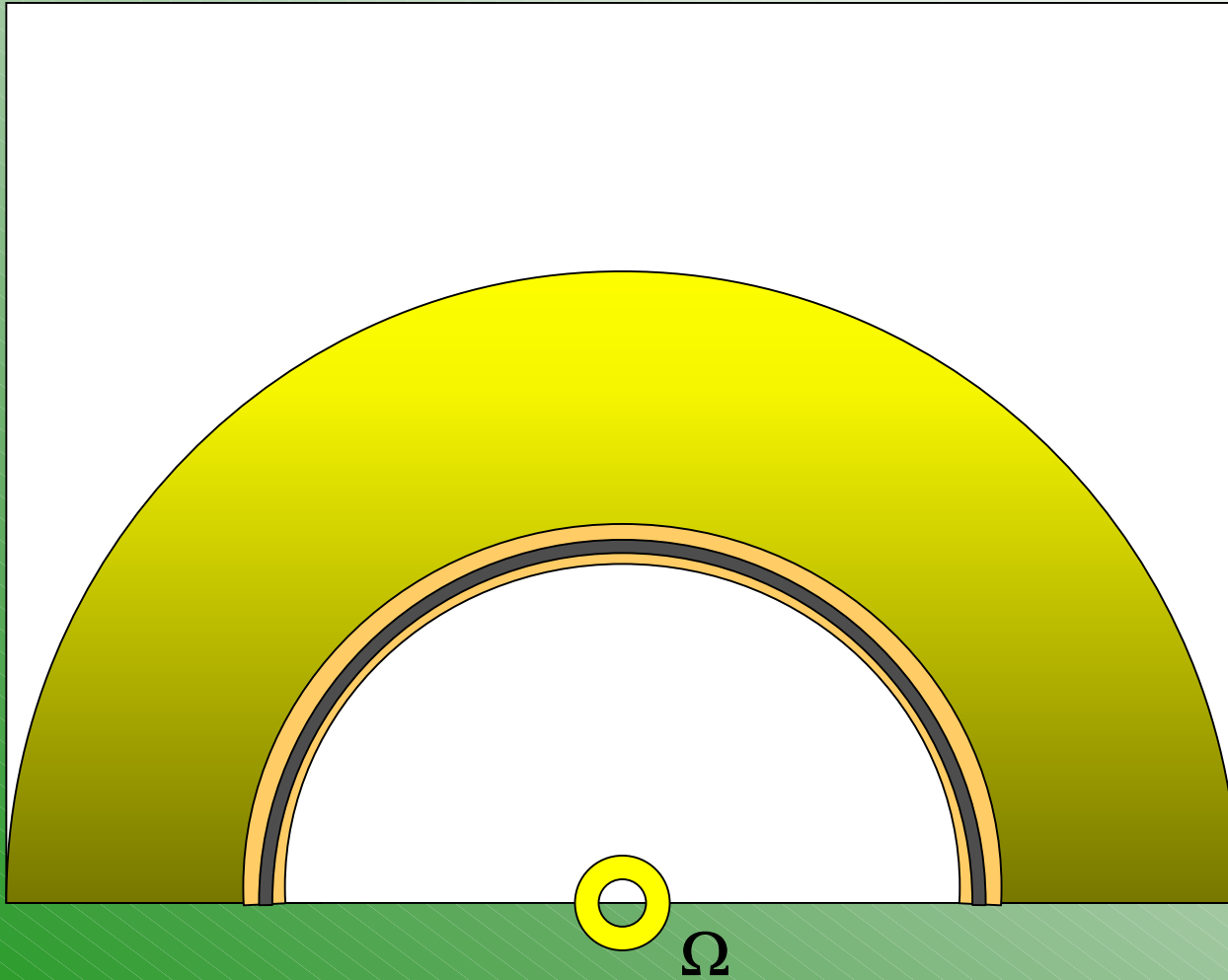
2

•Overshoot layer



# Origin of sunspots

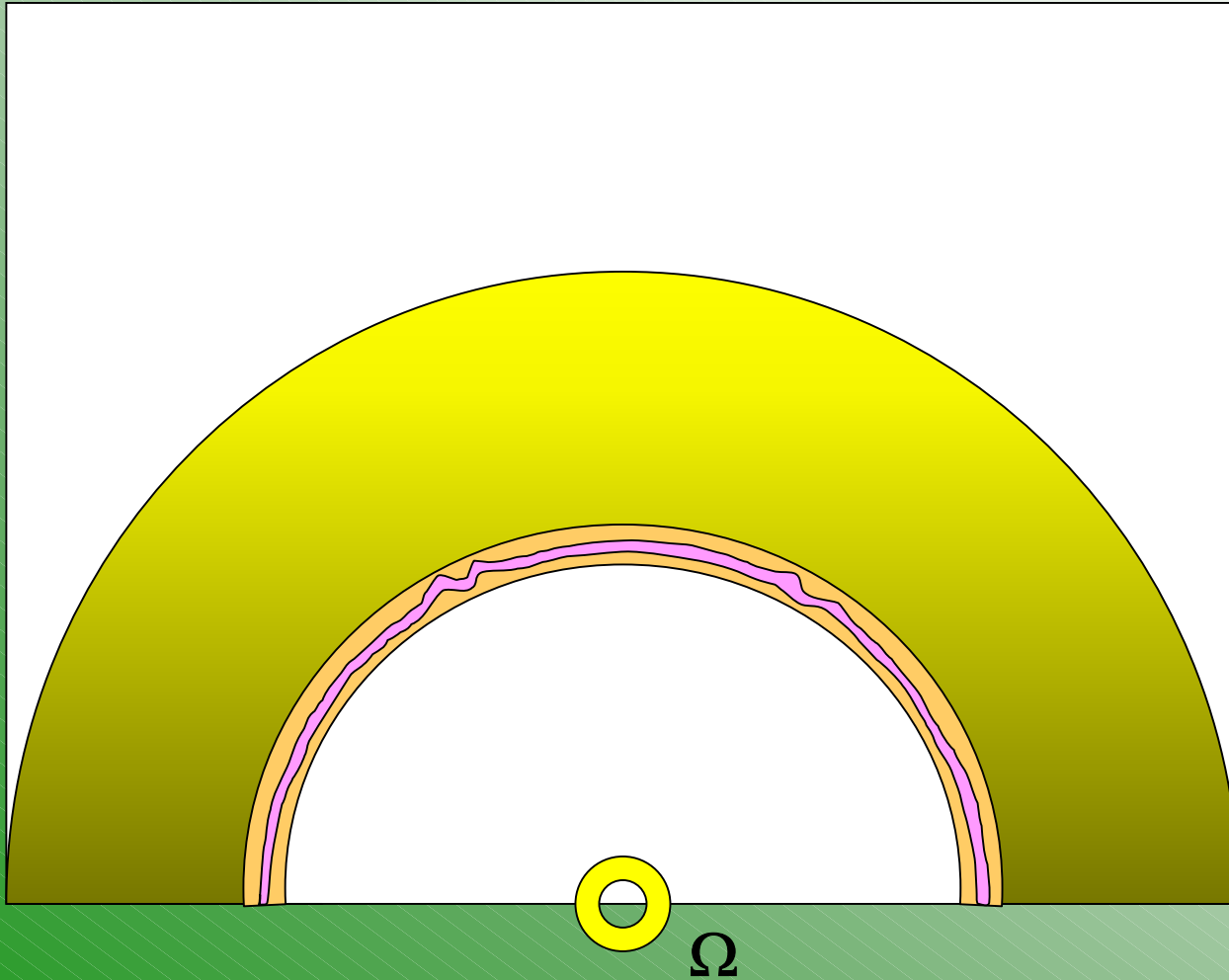
3



•Magnetic flux tube

# Origin of sunspots

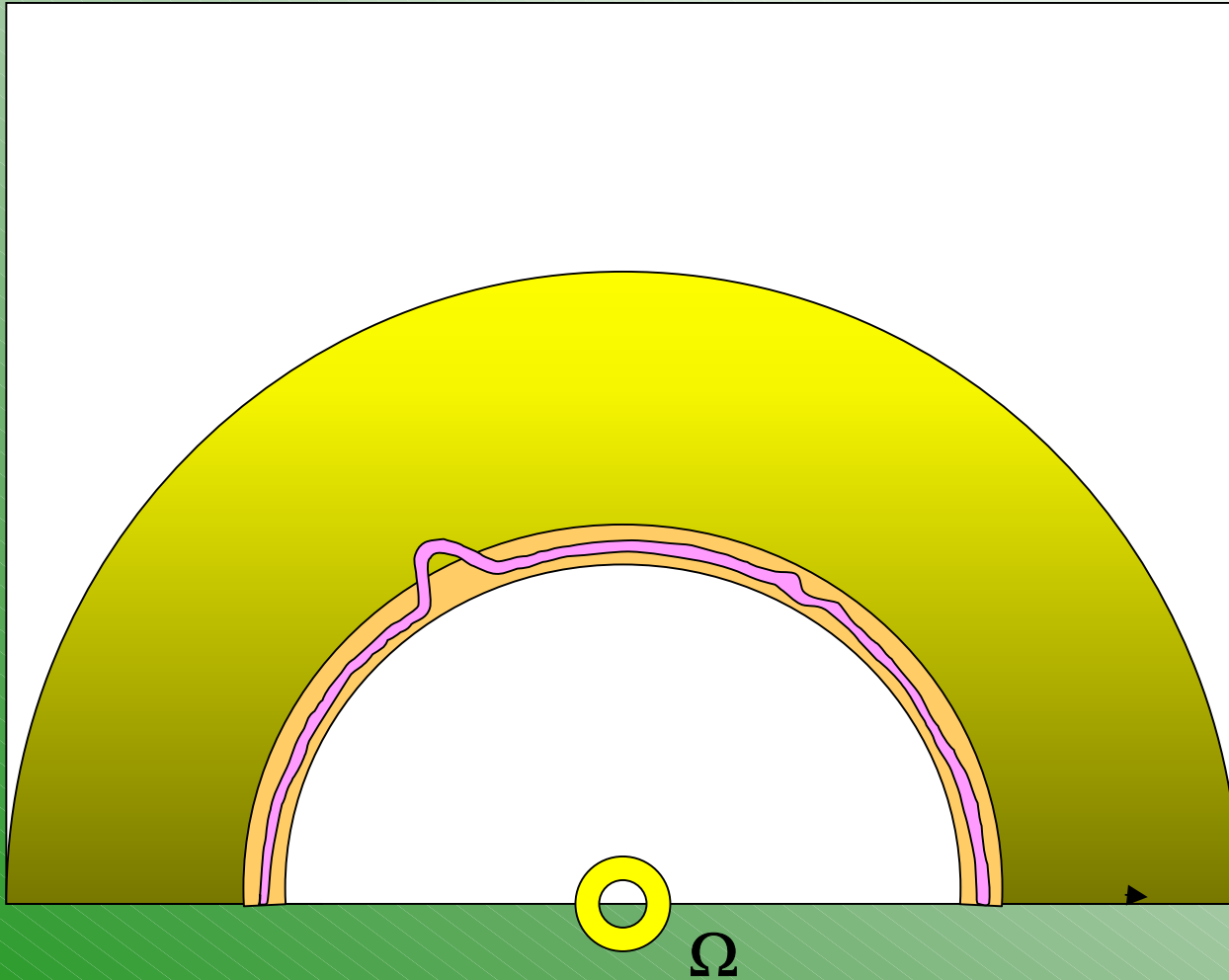
4



•Parker instability

# Origin of sunspots

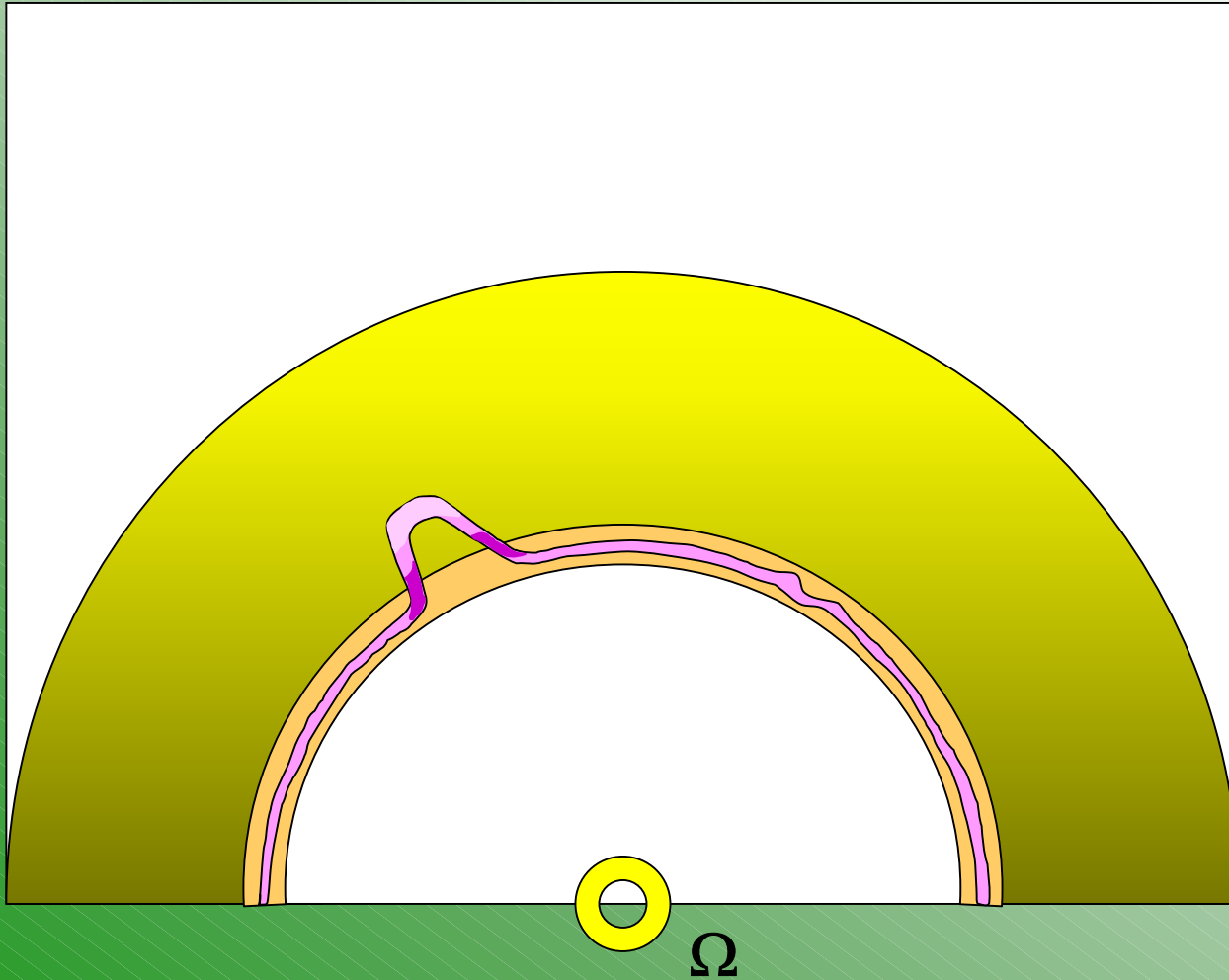
5



•Magnetic buoyancy

# Origin of sunspots

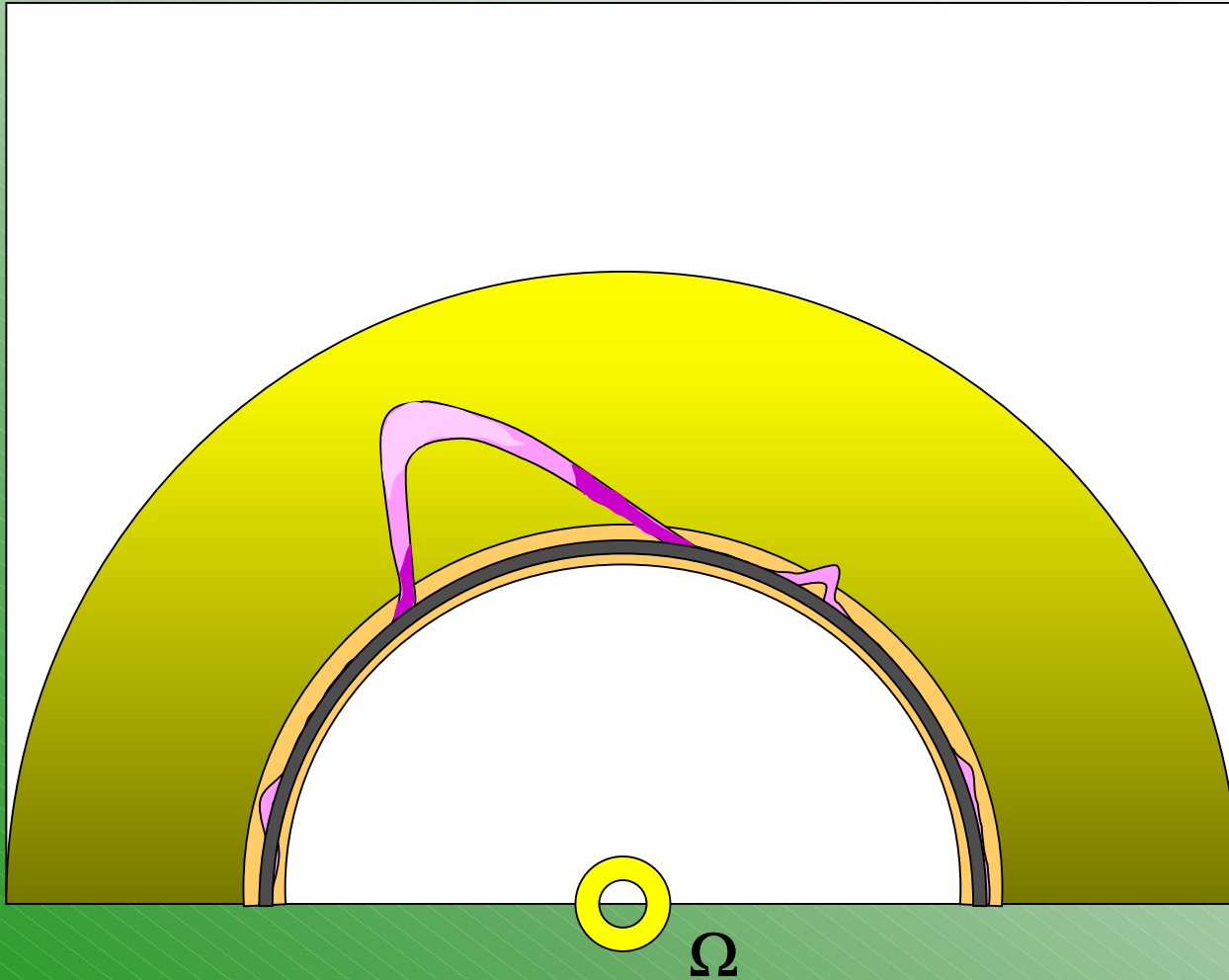
6



•Magnetic buoyancy

# Origin of sunspots

7

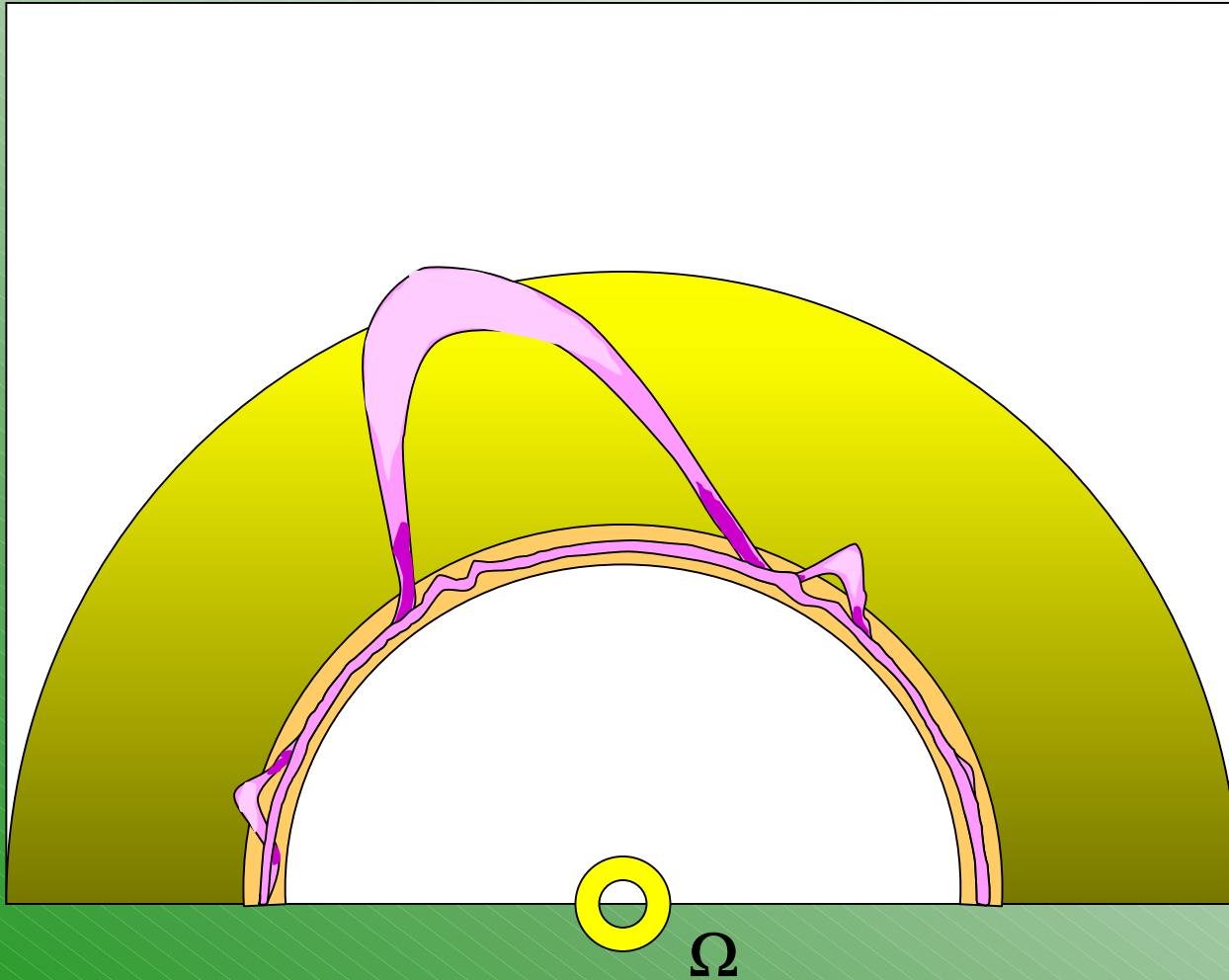


- Tube expansion and decreasing field strength



# Origin of sunspots

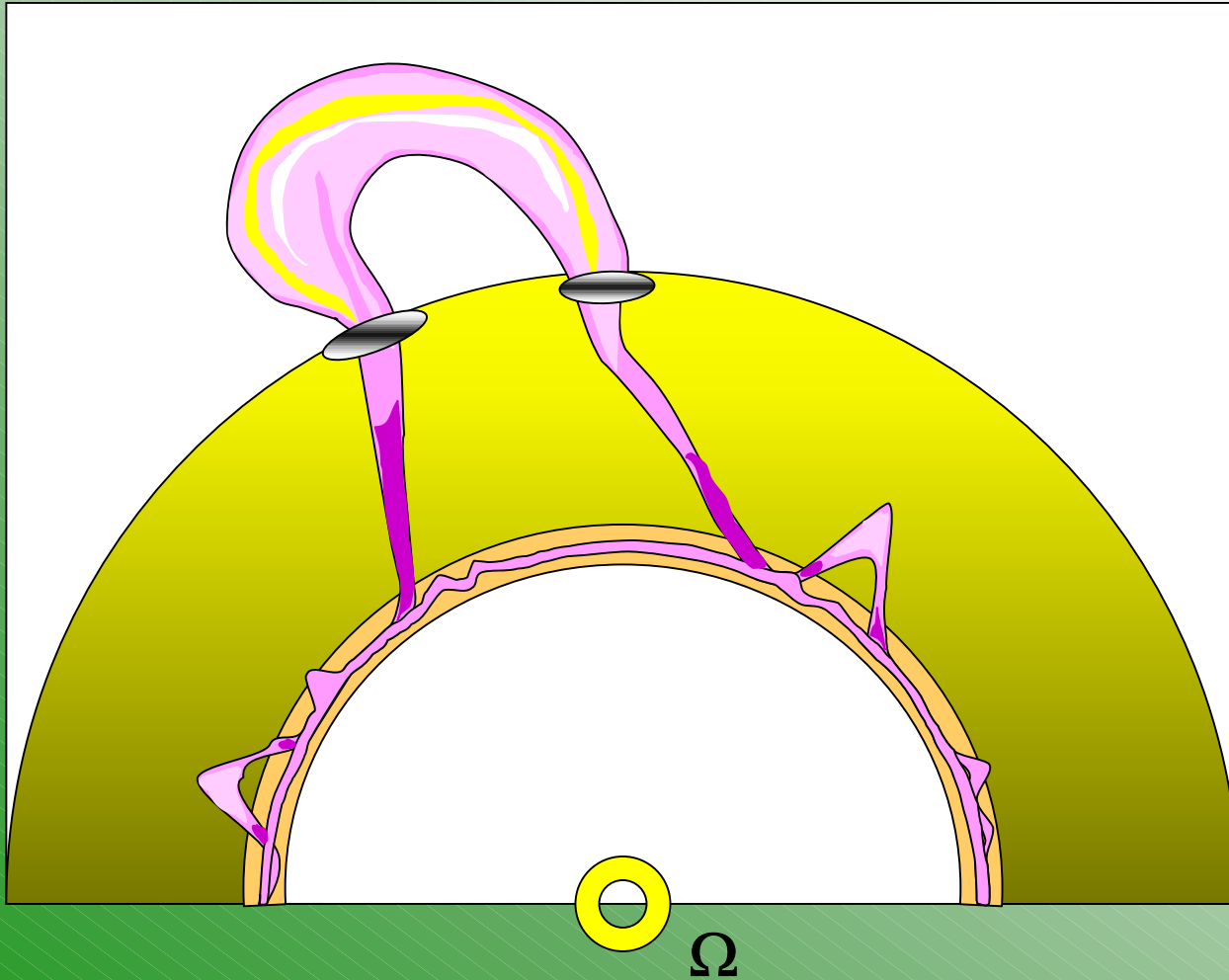
8



•Eruption at the solar surface

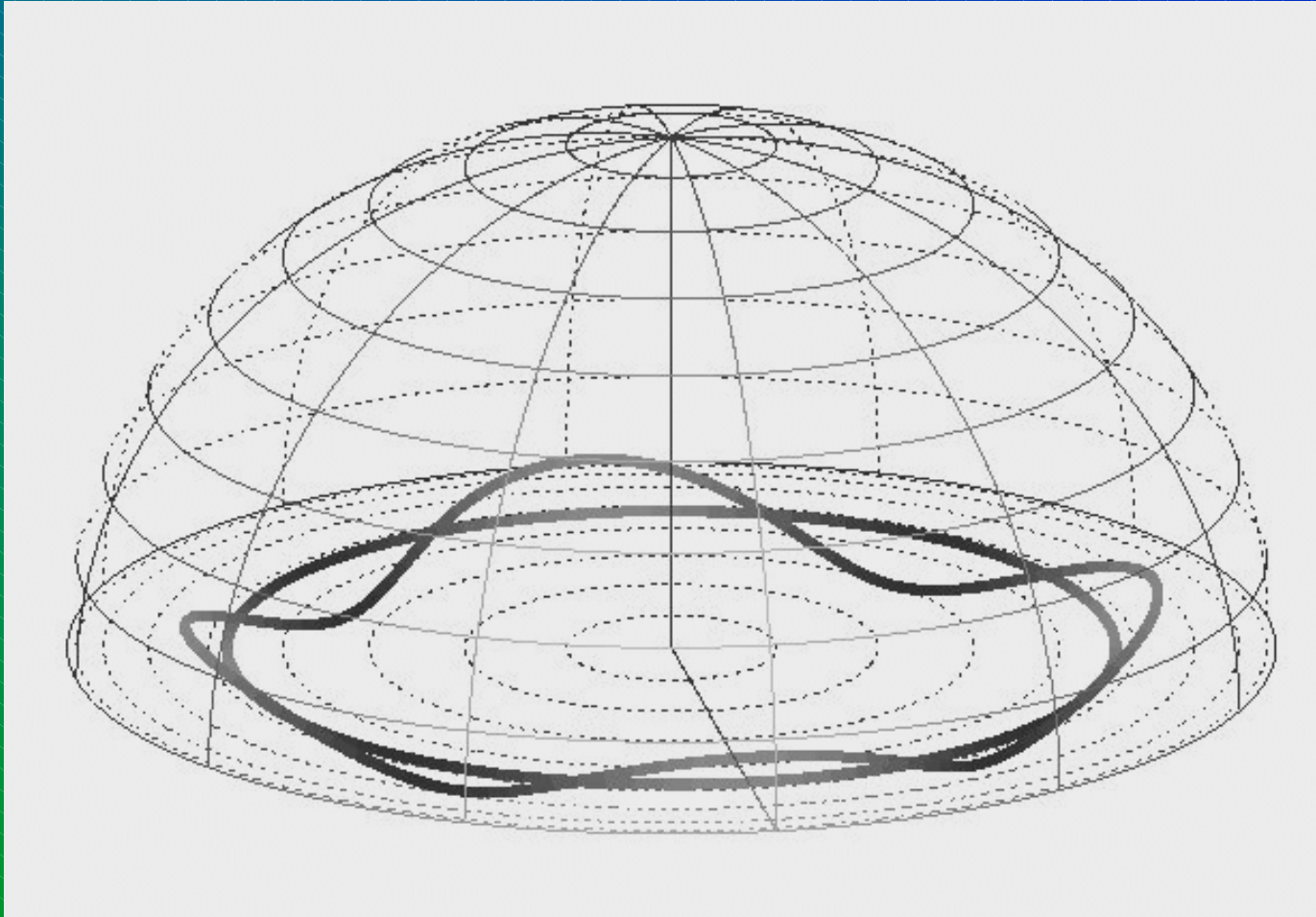
# Origin of sunspots

9

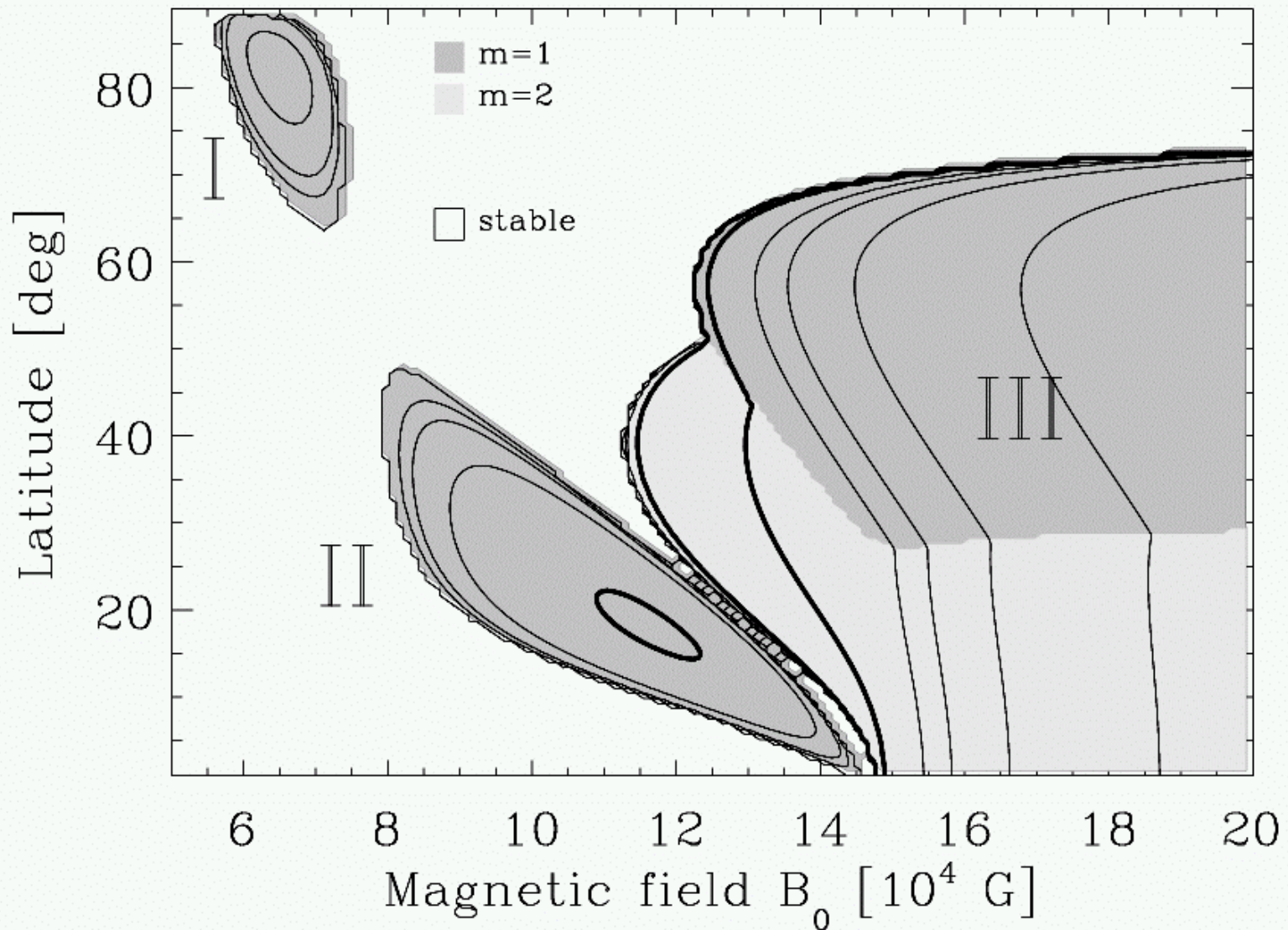


•Formation of a bipolar sunspot pair/group

# Undulatory instability in spherical geometry



# Undulatory instability in spherical geometry



# Emergence of thin flux tubes

- Toroidal flux tube stored in the subadiabatic overshoot layer
- Undular (Parker) instability
- Rise of one or two flux loops through

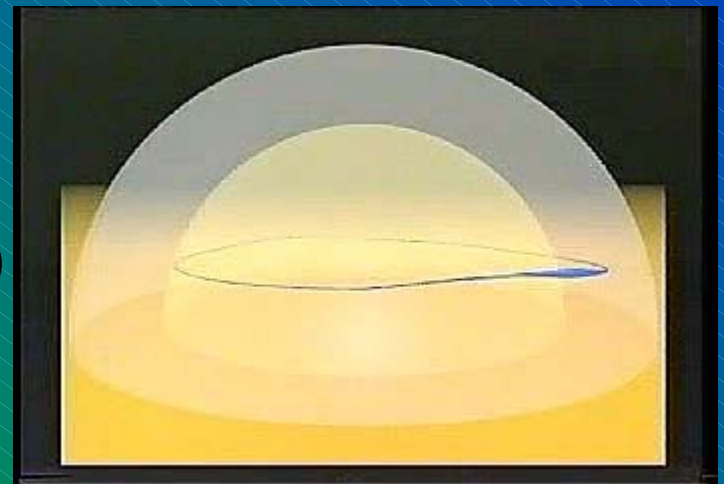


- Simulation of the emergence of a flux tube (coherent structure, ...)

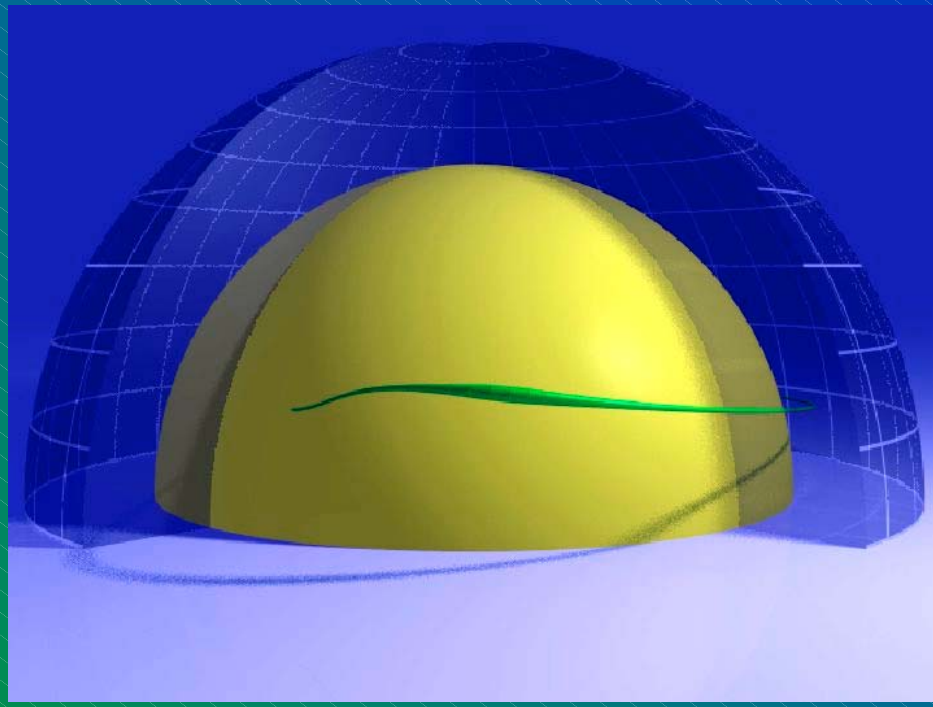
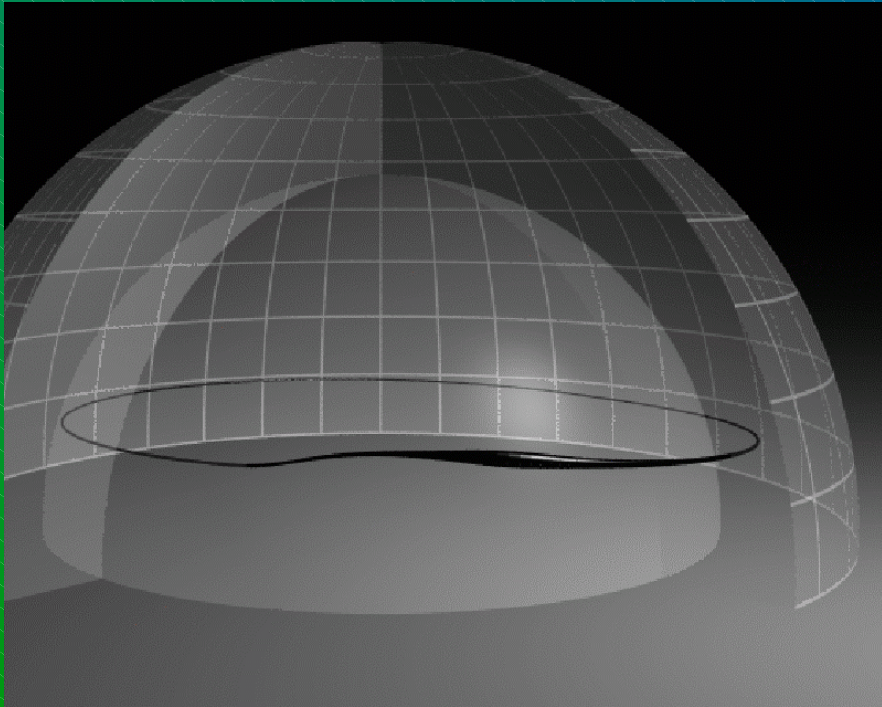
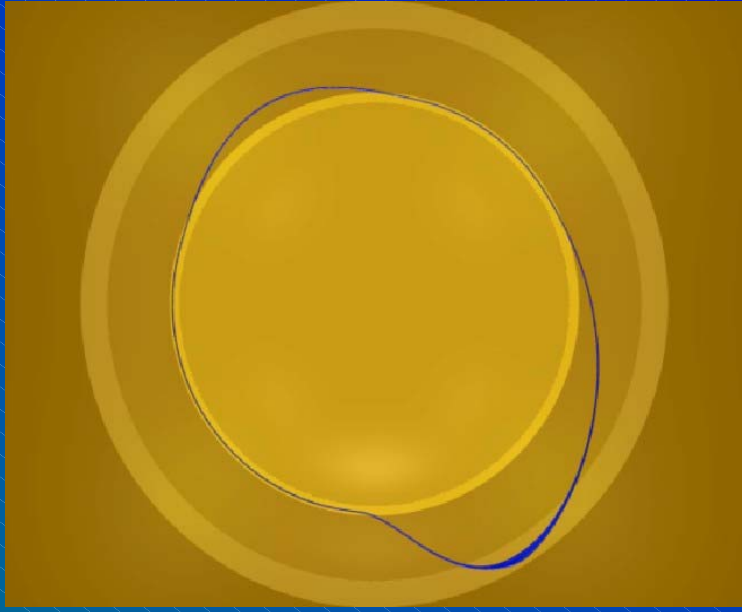
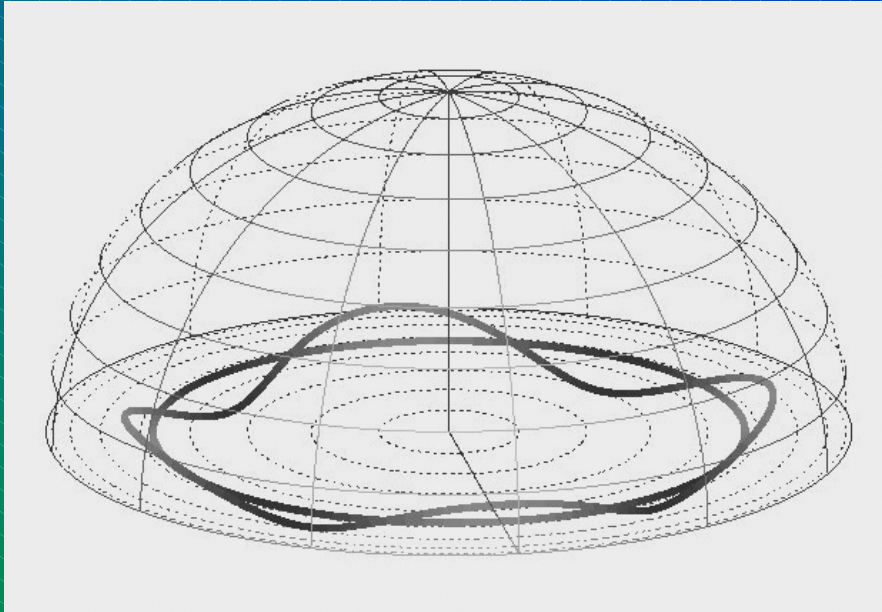
**provided that the initial field is  $\sim 10^5$  G**



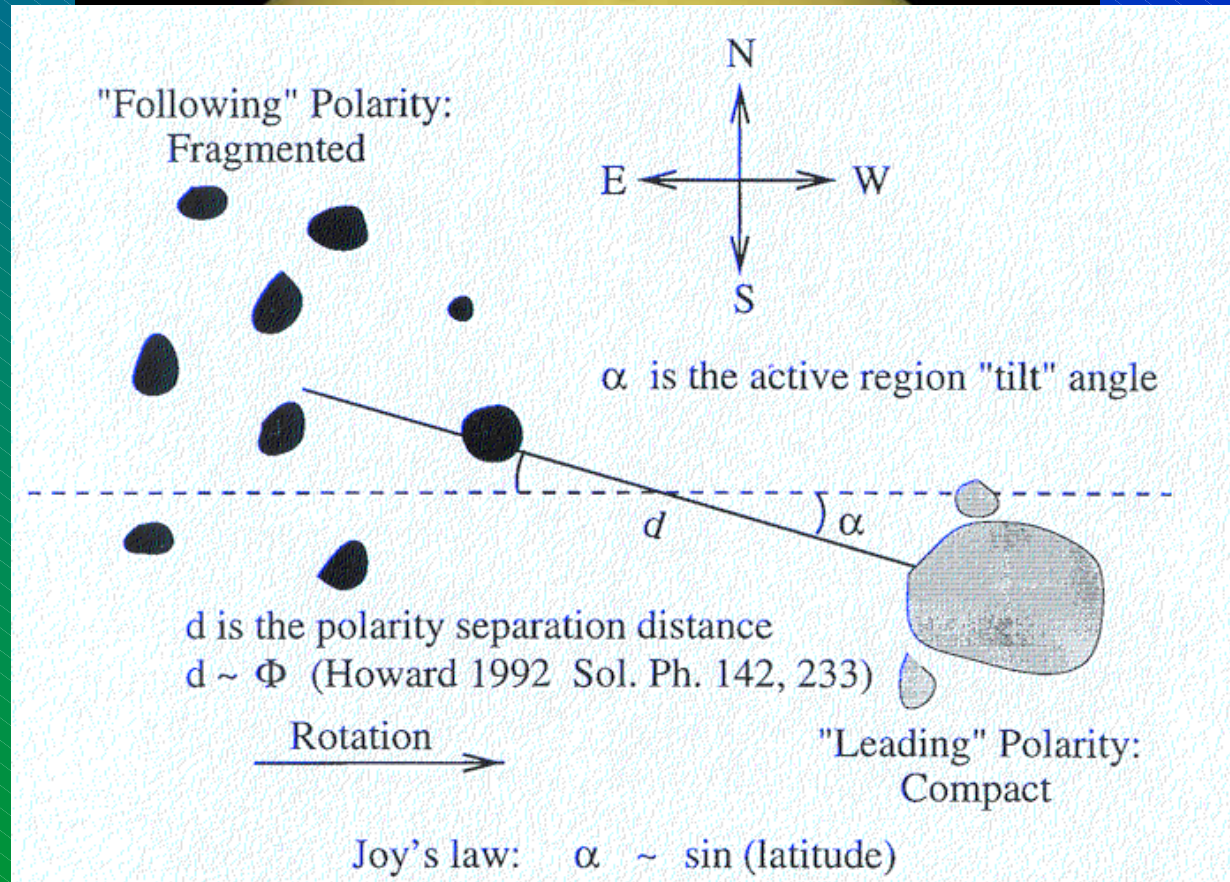
Caligari et al. (1995)





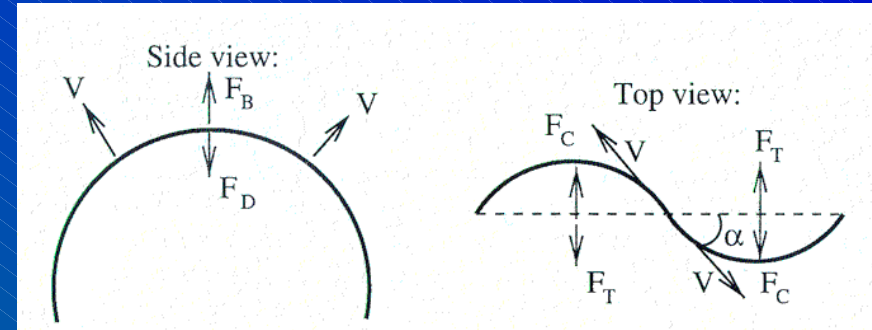


# Tilt angle of sunspot groups

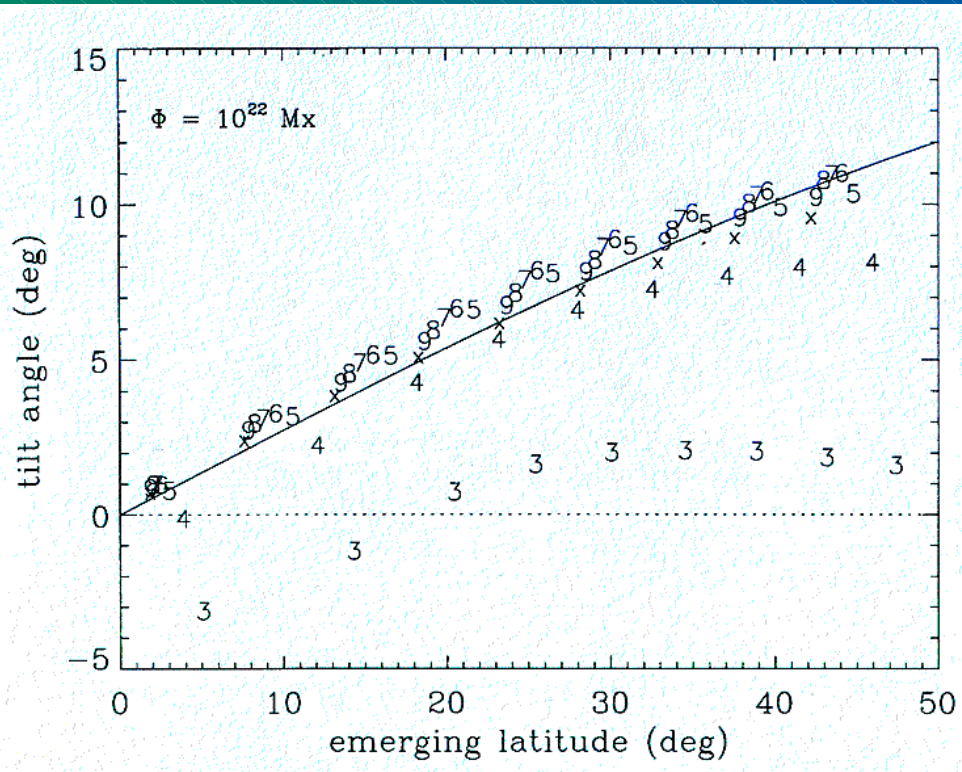




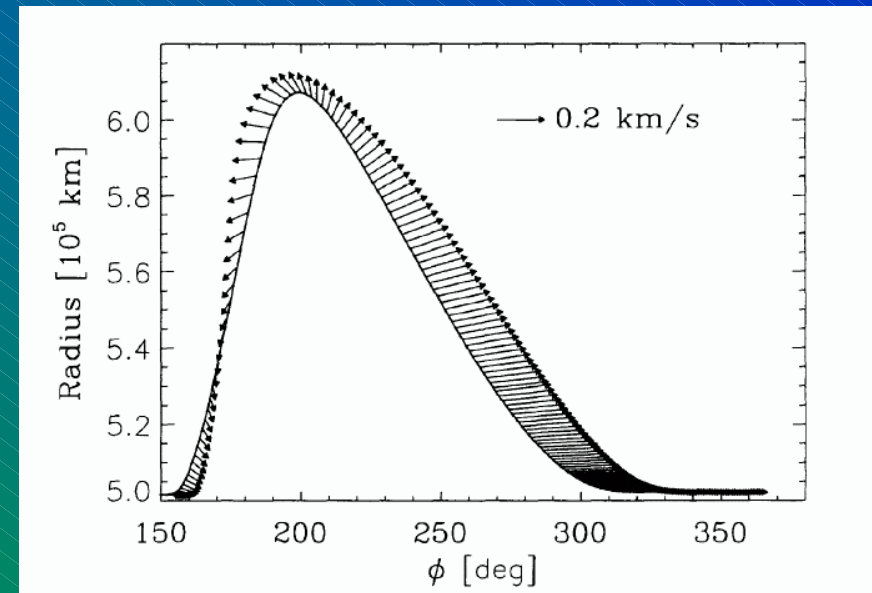
# Origin of the tilt angle and numerical simulation results



Coriolis force

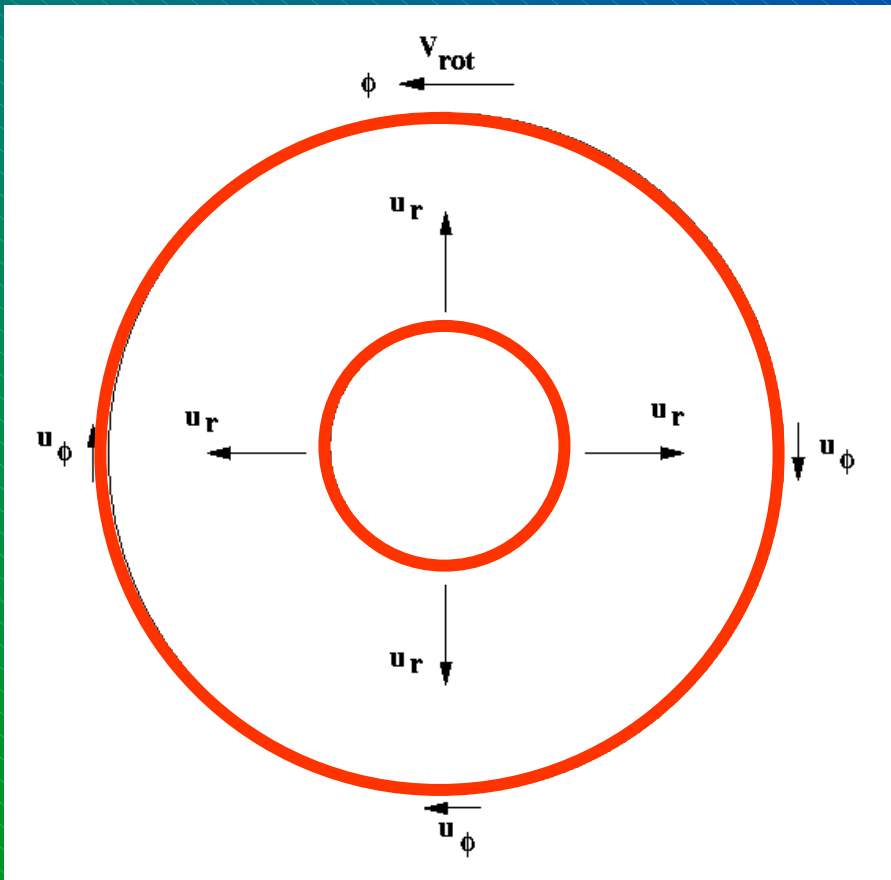
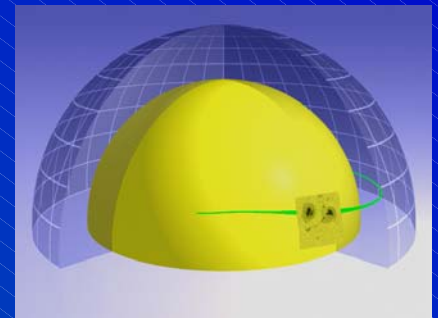


Tilt angle as  $f(\text{latitude})$   
initial field strength:  $n$  Tesla



Expanding motion

# The effect of rotation



Buoyantly expanding flux ring

$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{Coriolis}} = 2\rho\Omega (u_\phi, -u_R, 0)$$

→ restoring force

$$\dot{u}_\phi = -2\Omega u_R$$

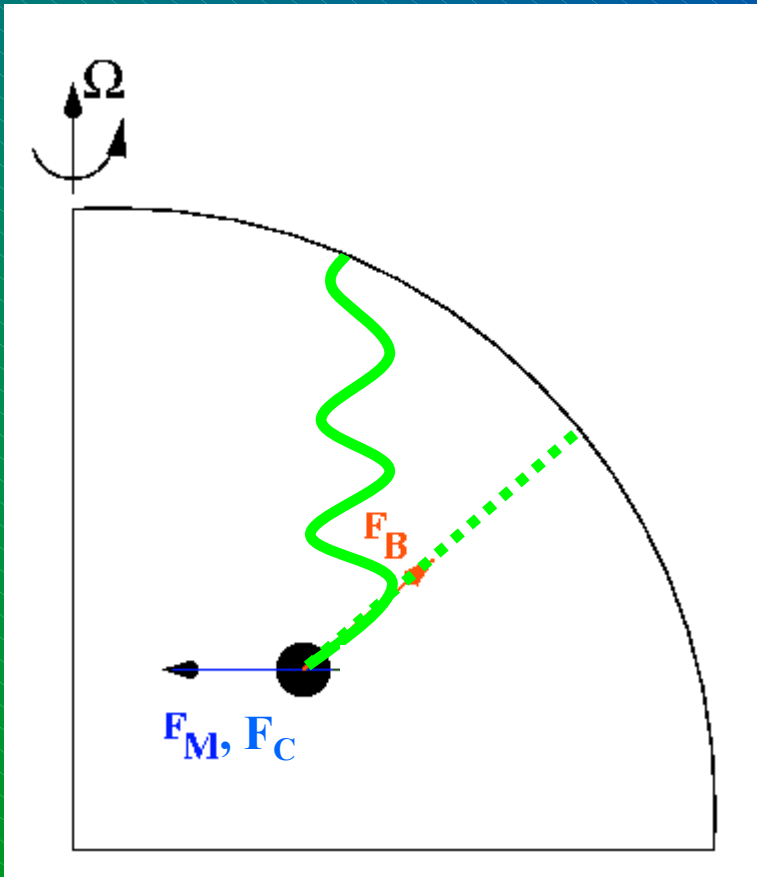
$$\dot{u}_R = 2\Omega u_\phi$$

$$\rightarrow u_R, u_\phi \propto \sin(2\Omega t)$$

→ inertial oscillations perpendicular to the axis of rotation

→ amplitude depends on the strength of the buoyancy force

# The effect of rotation



→ component of buoyancy force parallel to rotation axis unbalanced

$$\frac{|\mathbf{F}_C|}{|\mathbf{F}_B|} = \frac{2\rho v_{\text{rise}} \Omega}{B^2 / (8\pi H_p)} \propto \frac{2\Omega H_p}{v_A}$$

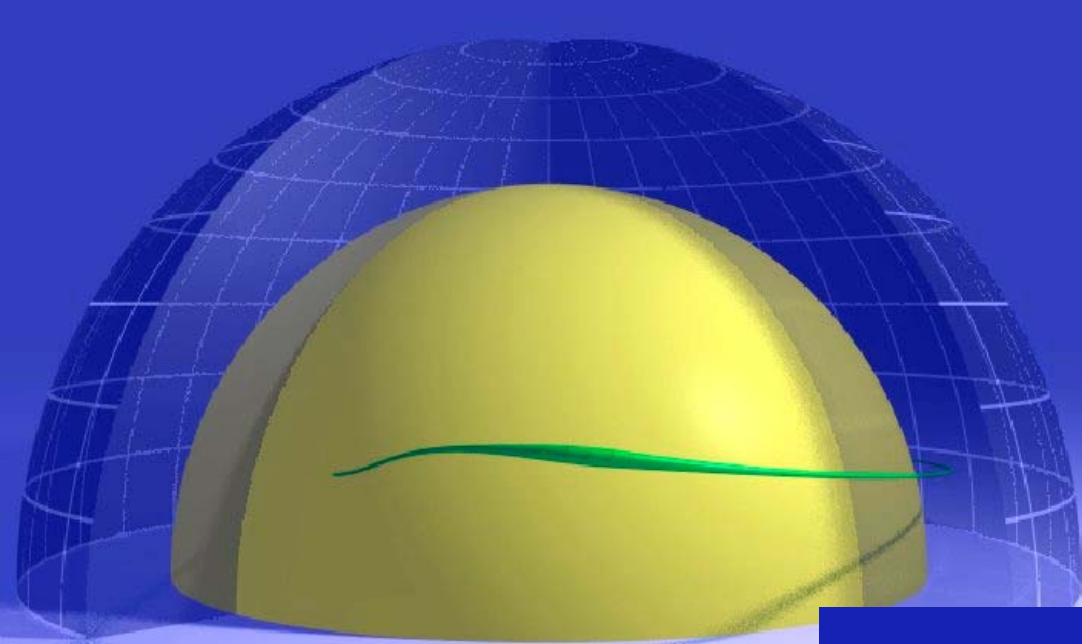
→ 1 / “magnetic Rossby number”  
(Schüssler & Solanki, 1992)

→ loop deflected to higher latitudes if rise time  $> 1/\Omega$

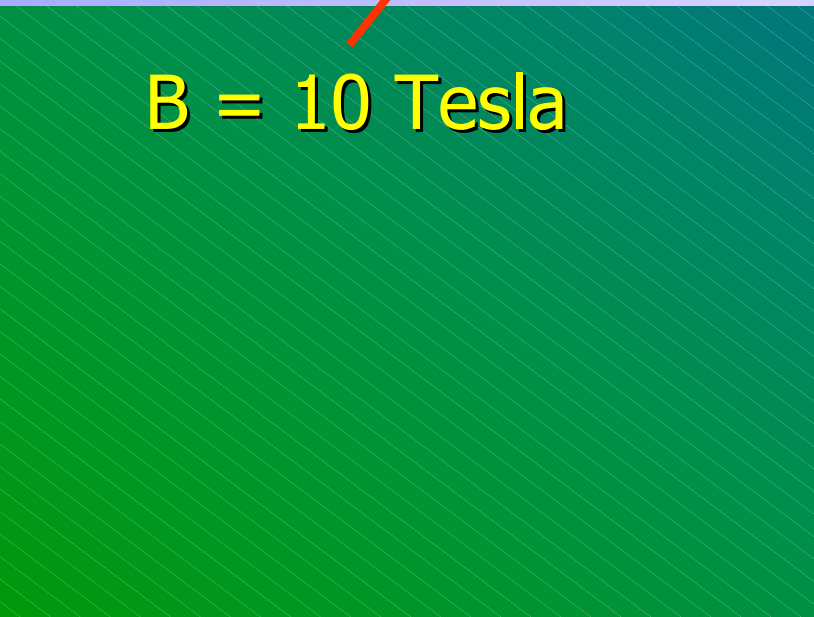
Forces on a rising magnetic flux tube: cut through a meridional plane

→ Sun: buoyancy dominates for  $B > 10^5$  G

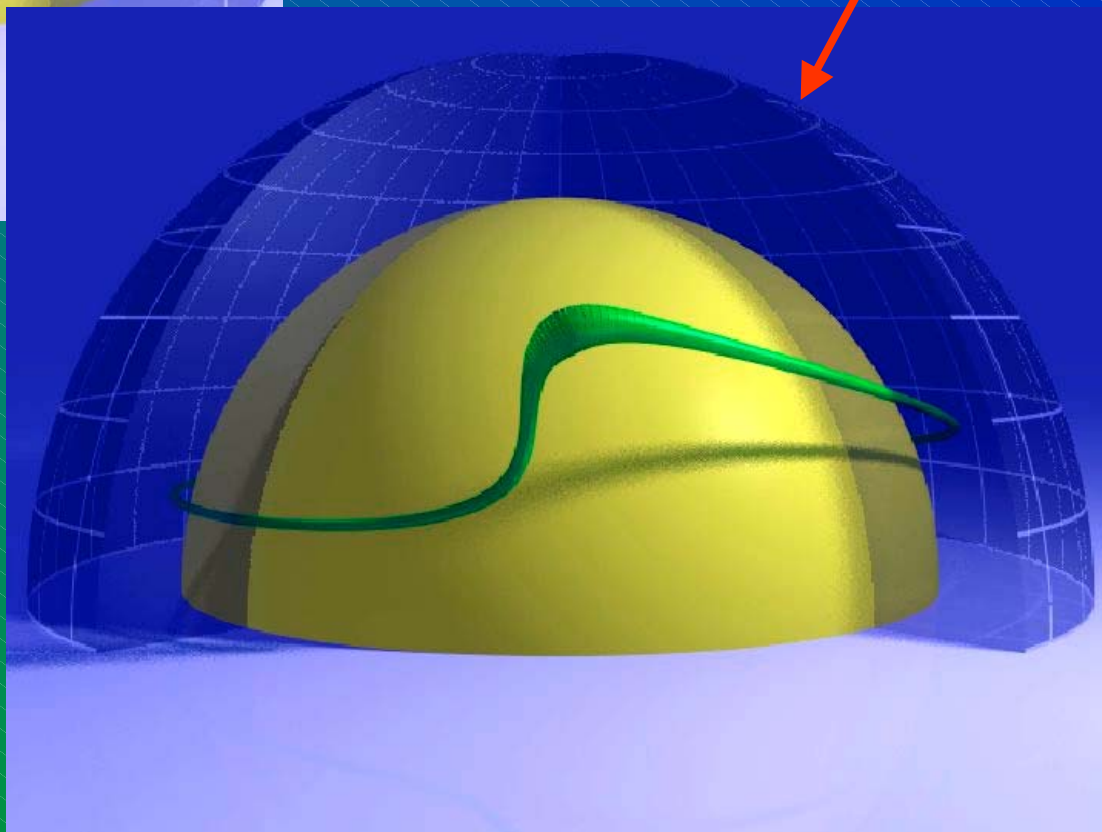




$B = 1$  Tesla

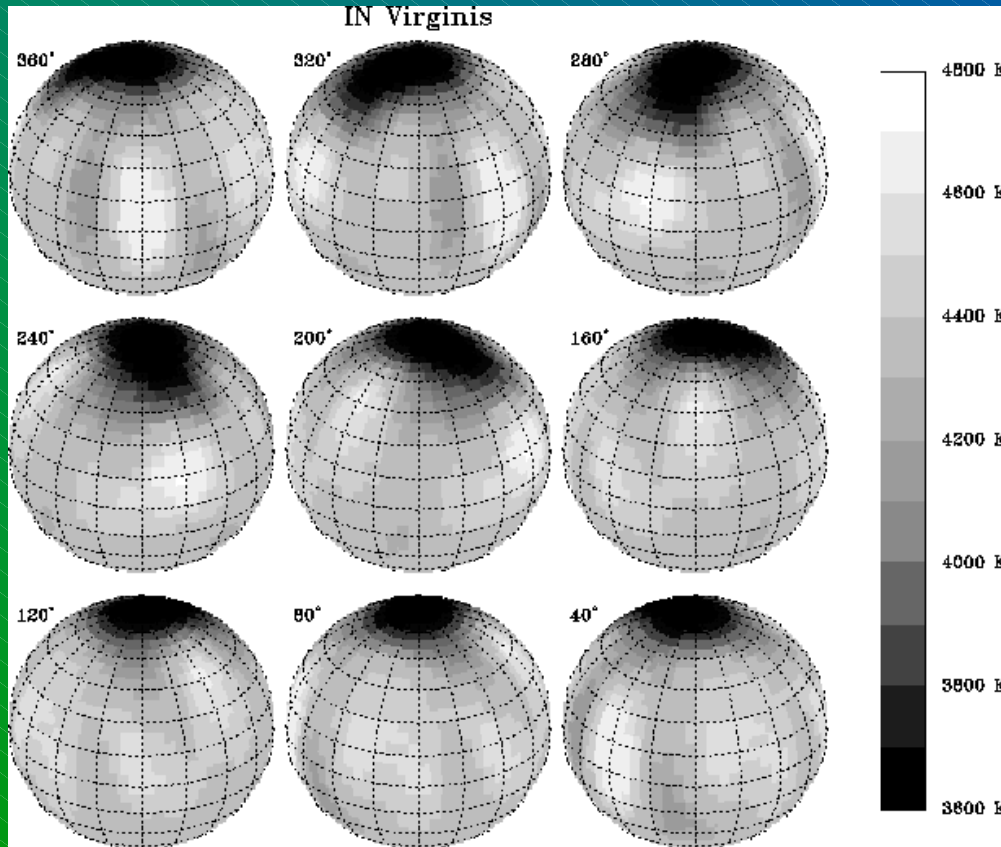
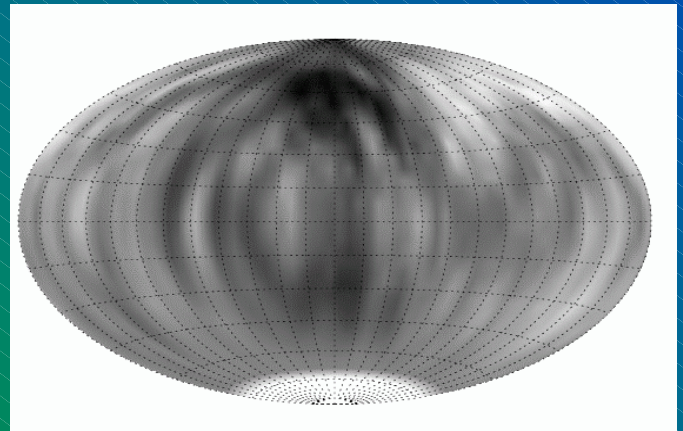
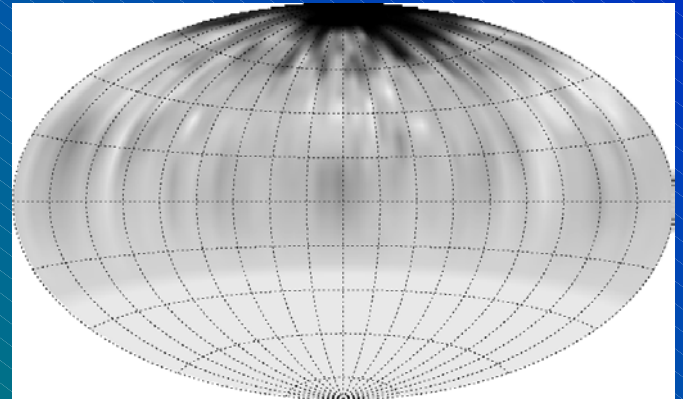
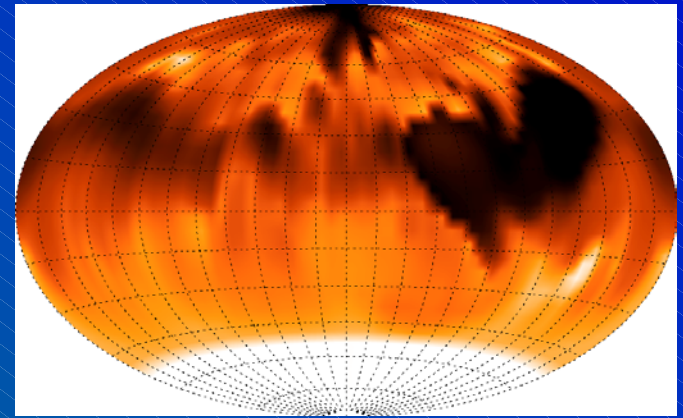


$B = 10$  Tesla



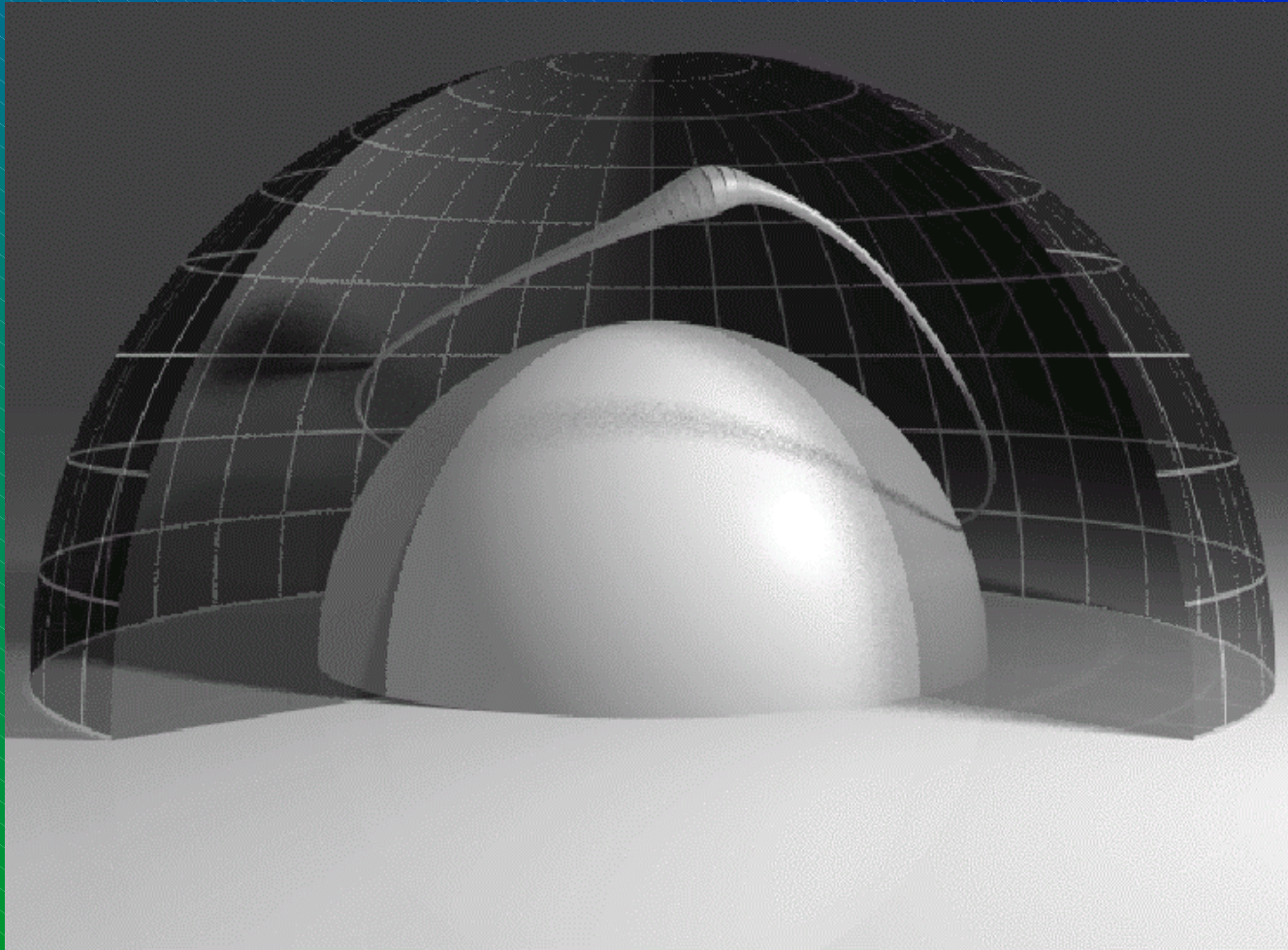
# Doppler imaging: "starspot" maps

Rapidly rotating stars show spots at high latitudes, often polar spots

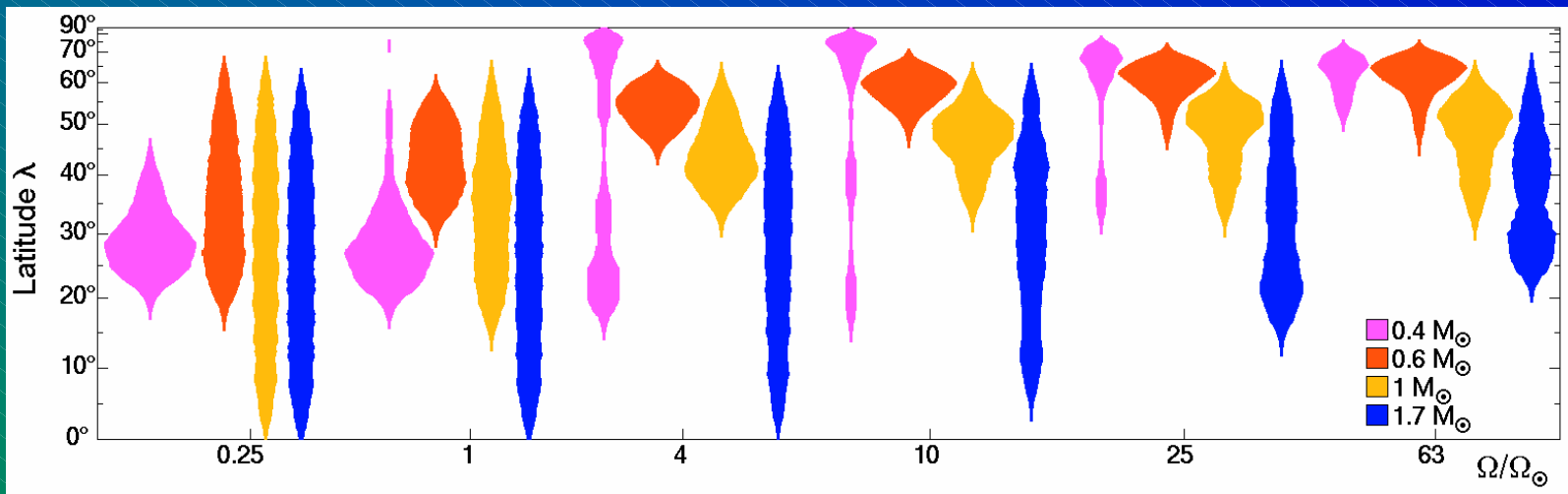




# Emerging flux tube in a rapidly rotating subgiant

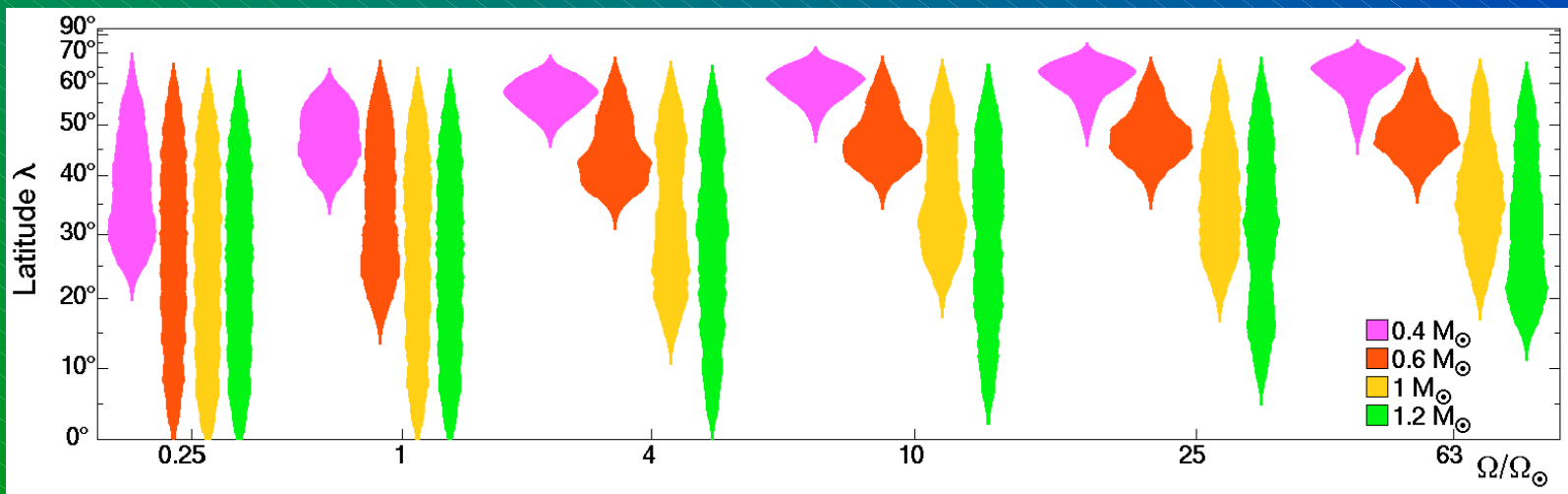


# Simulation results for various stellar models & rotation rates



Young (pre-main-sequence) stars  $\uparrow$

$\downarrow$  Main-sequence stars

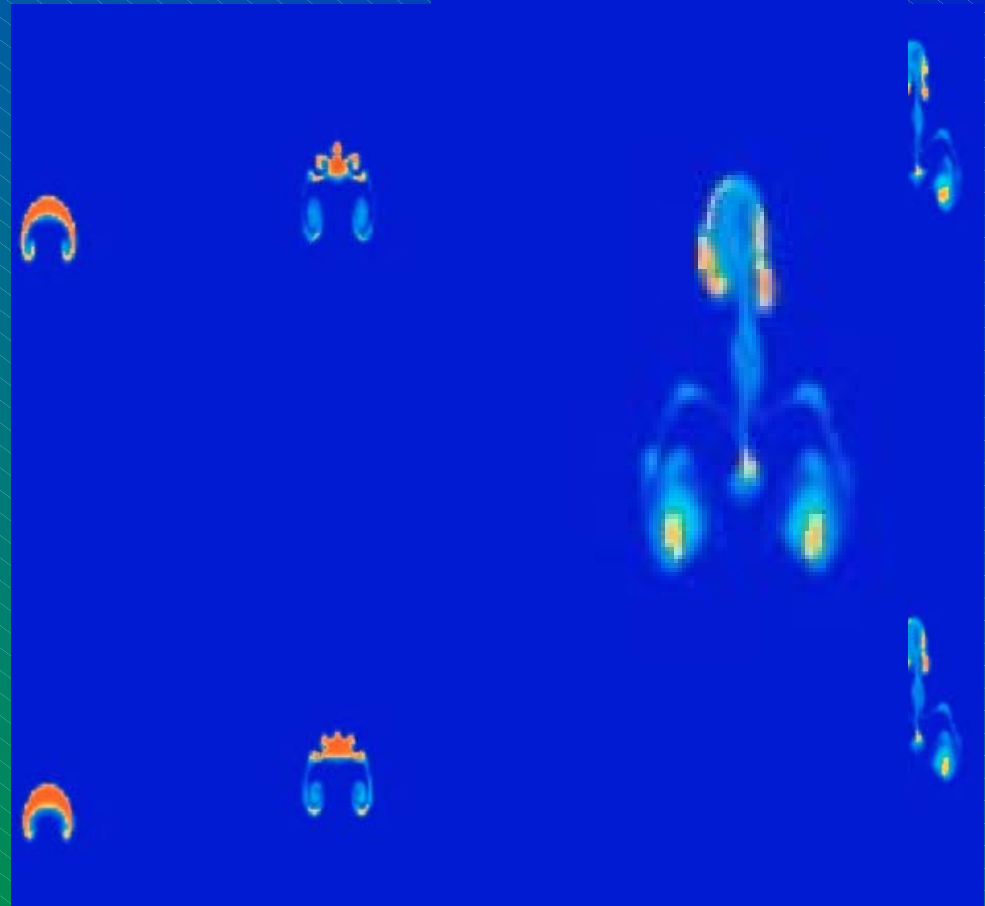
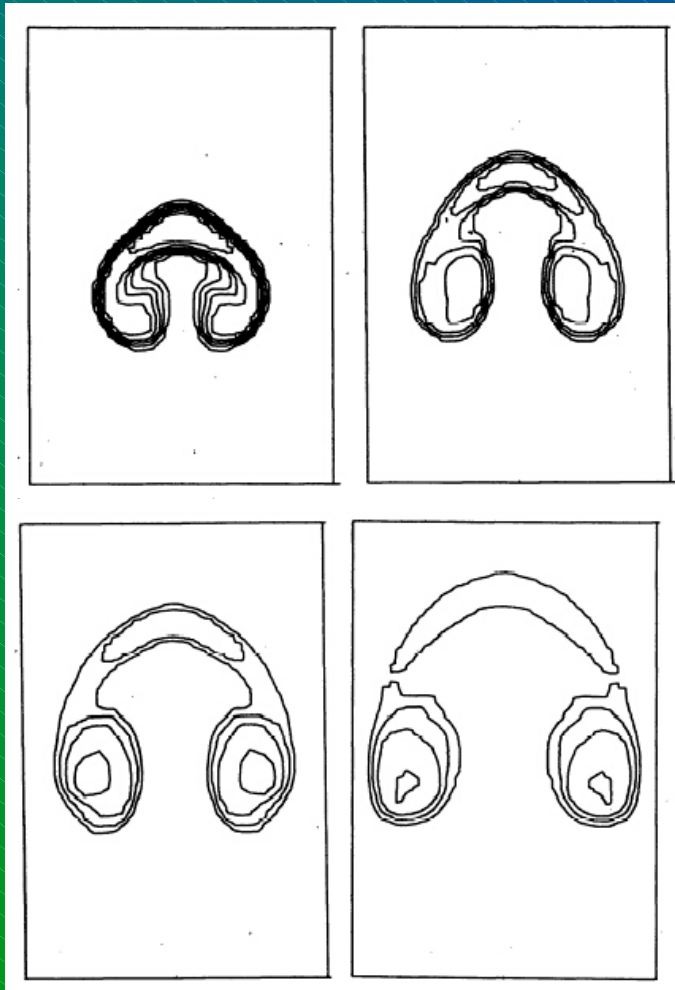


Latitude distributions of emerging flux tubes

# 2D: Fragmentation... avoided by twist

- Dynamical fragmentation / vortex dynamics

*Sch. (1979)*



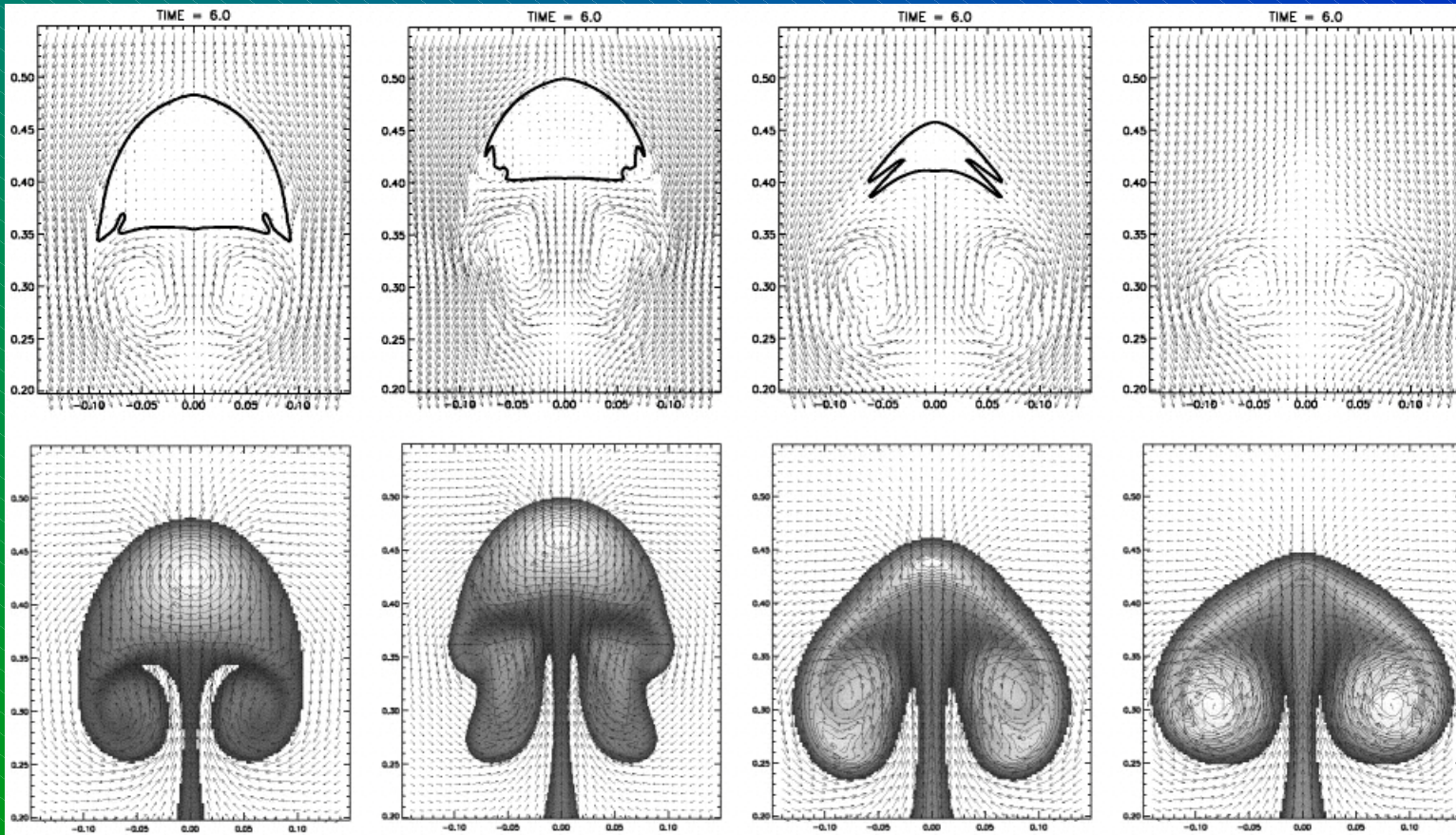
*Dorch & Nordlund (1998)*



# 2D: Fragmentation avoided by twist

- A sufficiently twisted field maintains the coherence of the tube

← Increasing twist

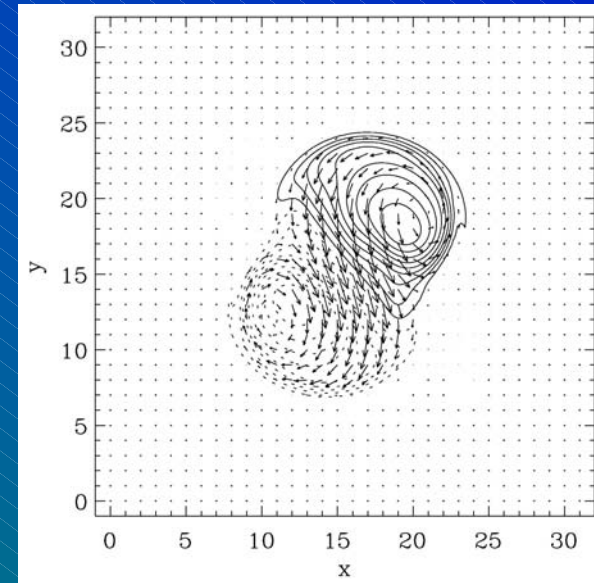
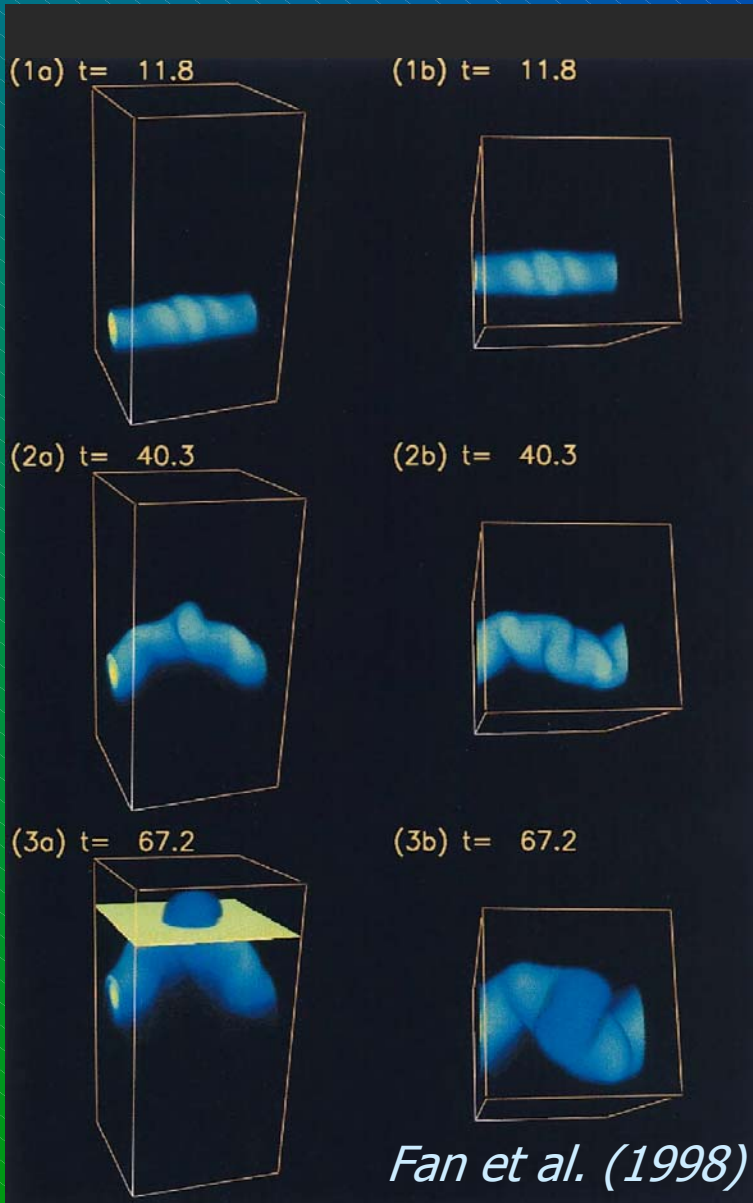


Equipartition  
line

Field  
strength

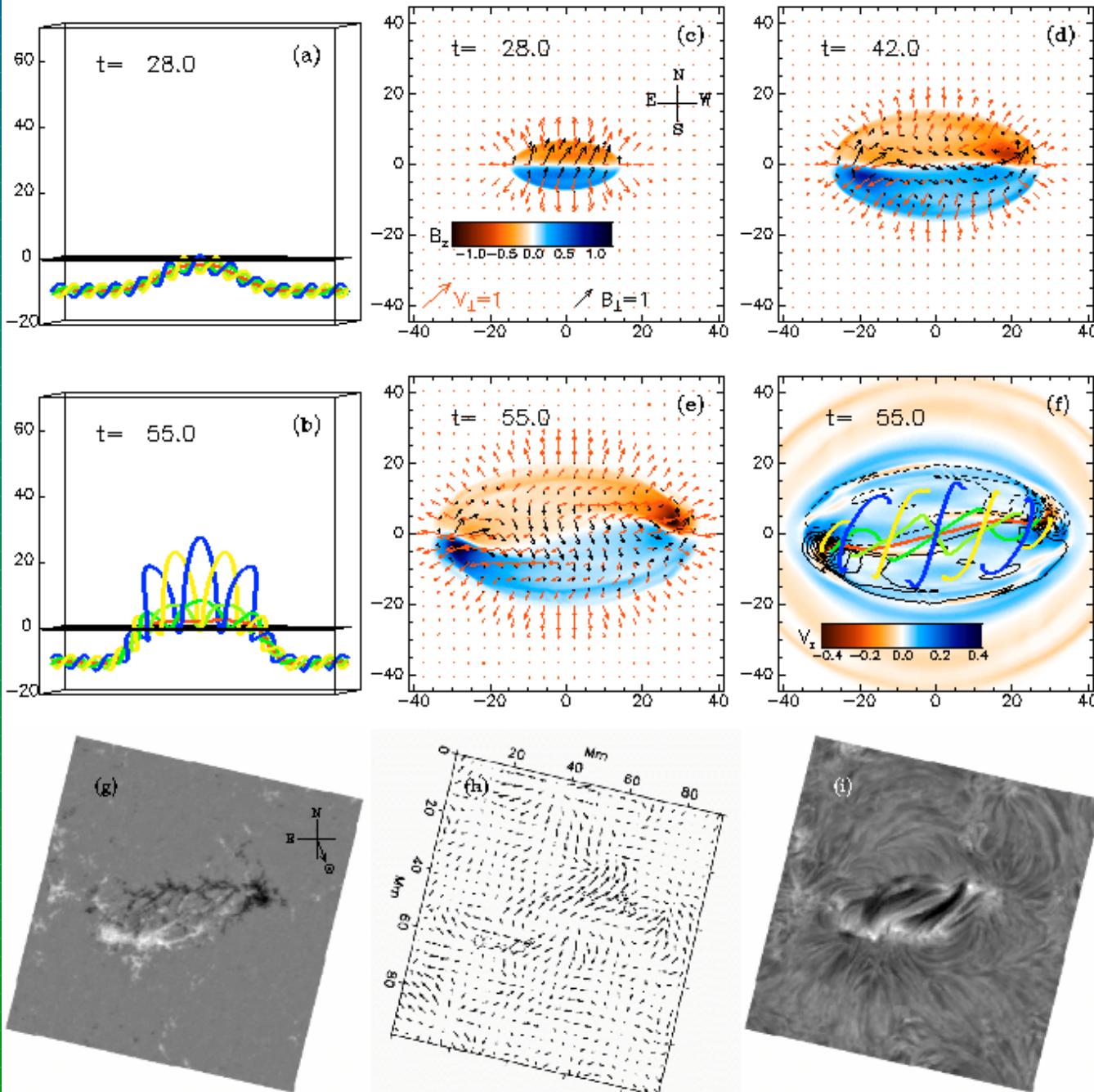
# 3D: kink instability

"Sigmoid" shape after emergence



X-ray picture (from Yohkoh satellite)

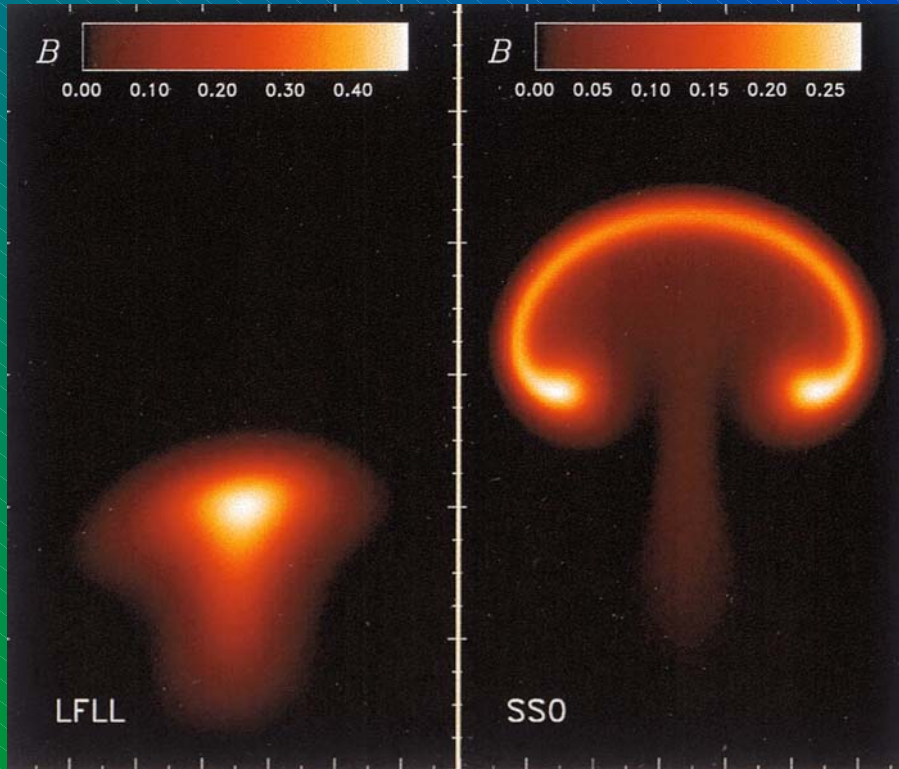
# 3D: kink instability



*Fan et al. (2001)*



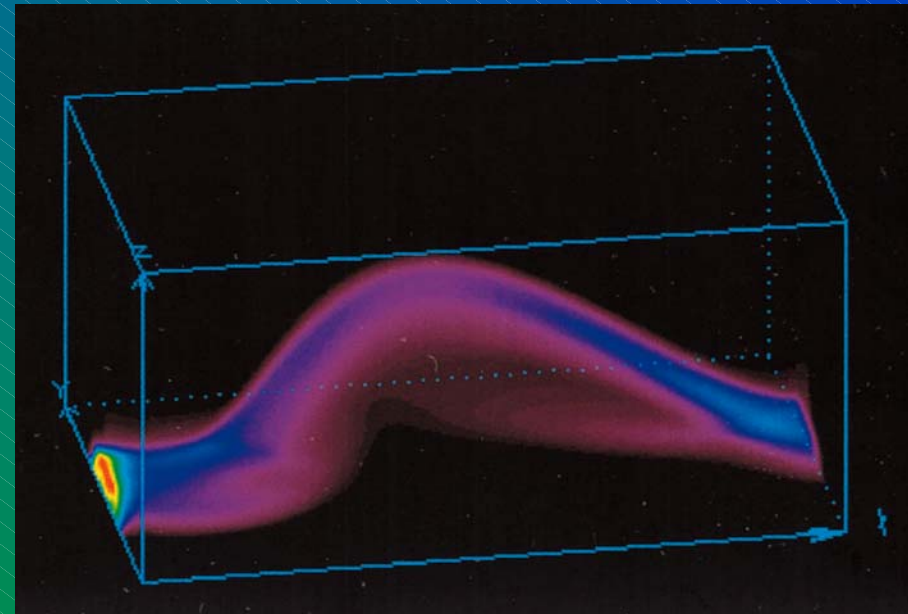
# 3D: rotation stabilizes, even without twist



Characteristic asymmetry  
due to the Coriolis force

With rotation

Non-rotating



*Abett et al. (2001)*

# A case for strong fields

- Dynamics of rising flux tubes:  
agreement with the properties of sunspots requires:
  - criterion for Parker instability satisfied ( $B > B_{\text{crit}}$ )
  - flux tubes remains coherent while rising through c.z.
  - low-latitude eruption
  - correct tilt angle of sunspot groups
  - ...
- Only satisfied if the field strength is  $\sim 10 \text{ T}$  ( $10^5 \text{ G}$ )  
in the dynamo region at the bottom of the conv. zone



# How can a field of 10 Tesla ( $10^5$ G) be generated ?

- Convective motions are too weak:

$$\frac{e_{\text{mag}}}{e_{\text{kin}}} = \frac{B^2/8\pi}{\rho v_t^2/2} \simeq 100$$

- The energy of the differential rotation in the shear layer is too small by a factor 10
- With both effects only about 1 Tesla can be reached
- What remains: potential energy of the stratification!

# Origin of the $10^5$ G (10 Tesla) field

Stretching by differential rotation:

$$\tau \approx \frac{\Delta B}{B} \cdot \frac{d}{\Delta v} \cong \frac{10^5}{10^2} \cdot \frac{10^4 \text{ km}}{0.1 \text{ km/s}} \cong 3 \text{ yr}$$

Dynamical considerations:

Flux tubes: drag force vs. magnetic tension force  
→ tube radius < 100 km

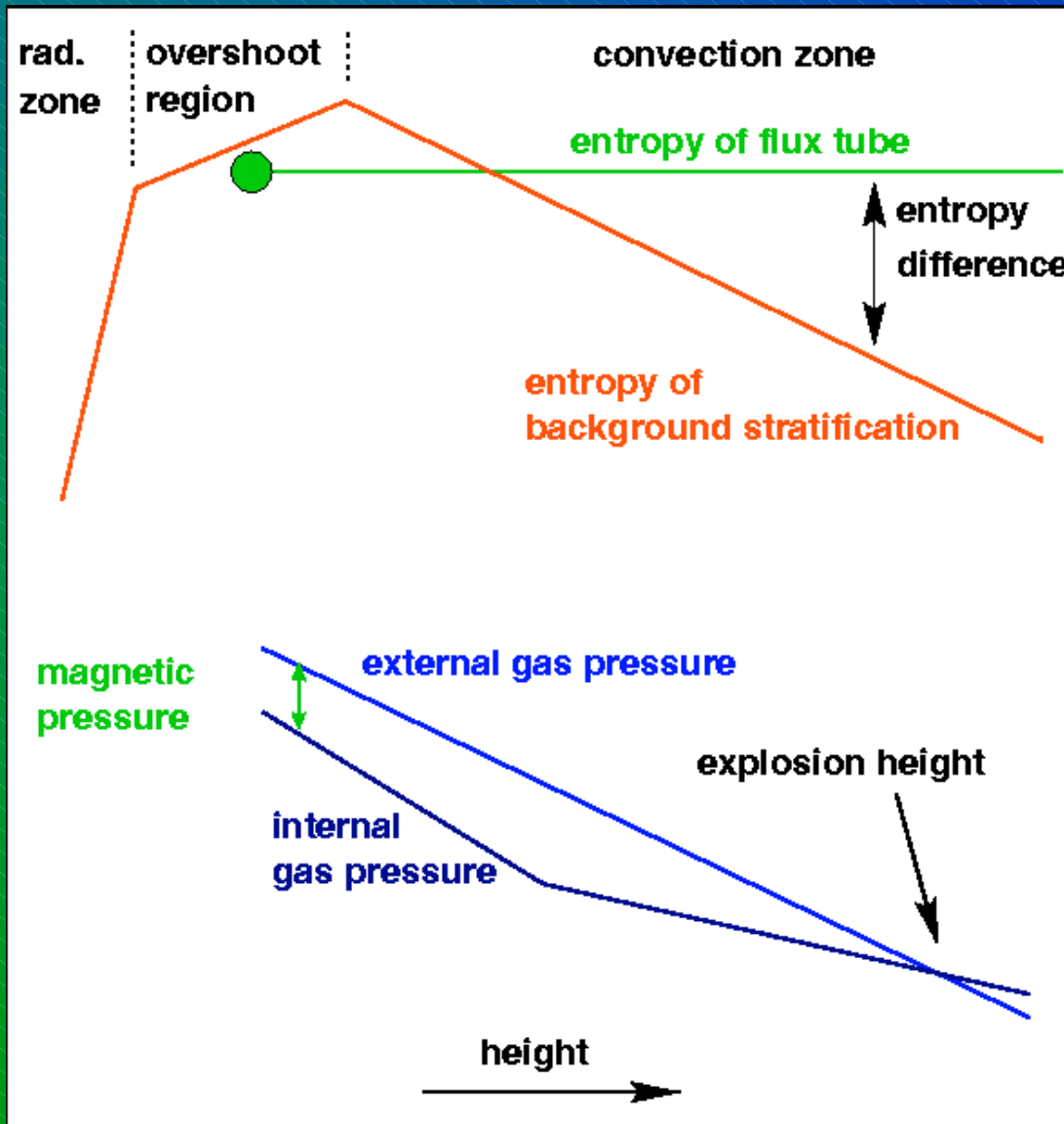
Energetics:

$10^{24}$  Mx magnetic flux at  $10^5$  G field strength :  $E_{\text{mag}} \sim 10^{39}$  erg

100 m/s diff. Rotation over  $10^4$  km shear layer:  $E_{\text{kin}} \sim 10^{38}$  erg

→ strong cyclic variation of shear layer, unless rapidly replenished

# “Explosion” of magnetic flux tubes:



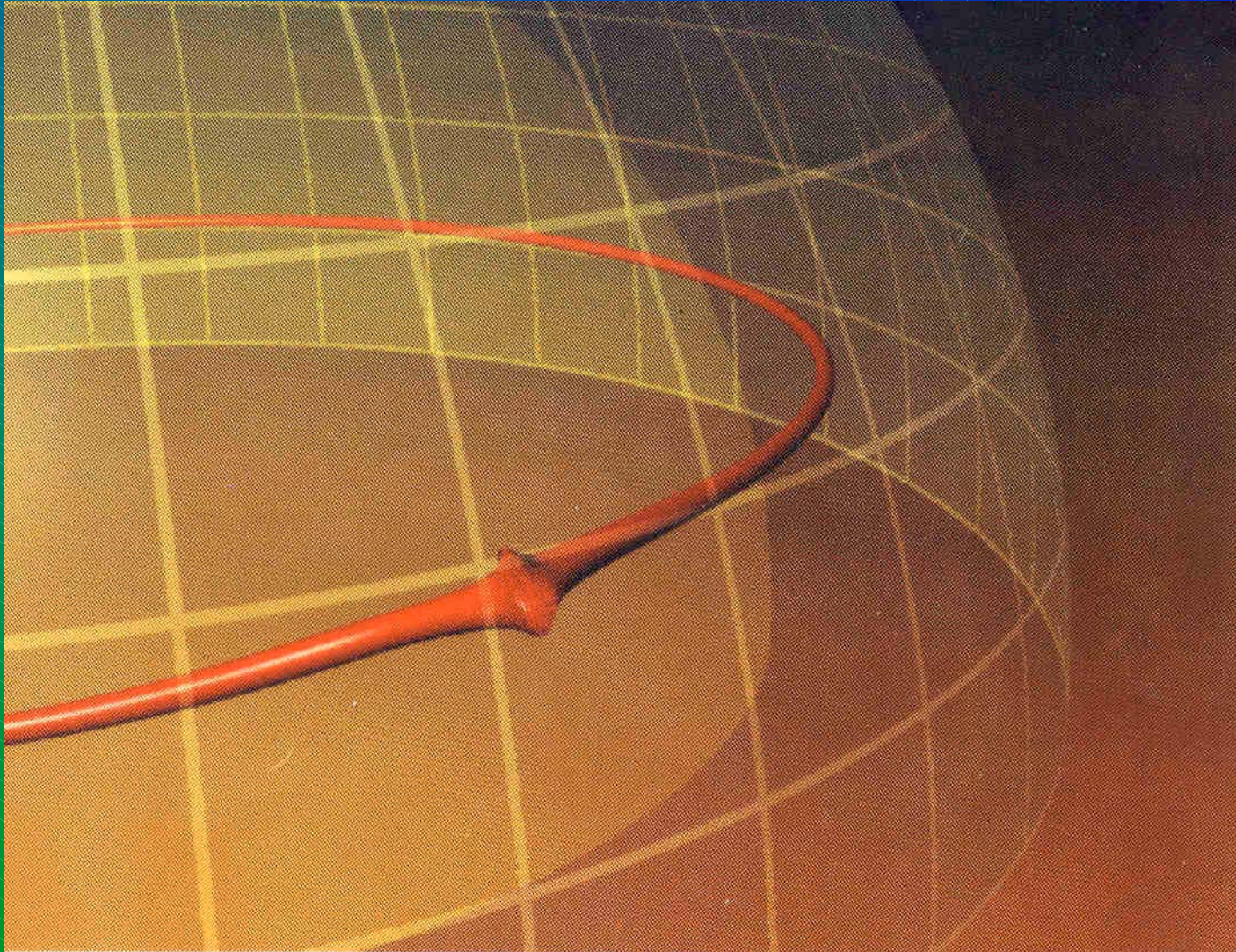
- isentropic flux tube
- rise in superadiabatic convection zone
- hydrostatics along field lines
- violation of pressure equilibrium

$$\frac{B^2}{8\pi} + p_i = p_e$$

- sudden decrease of field strength near summit

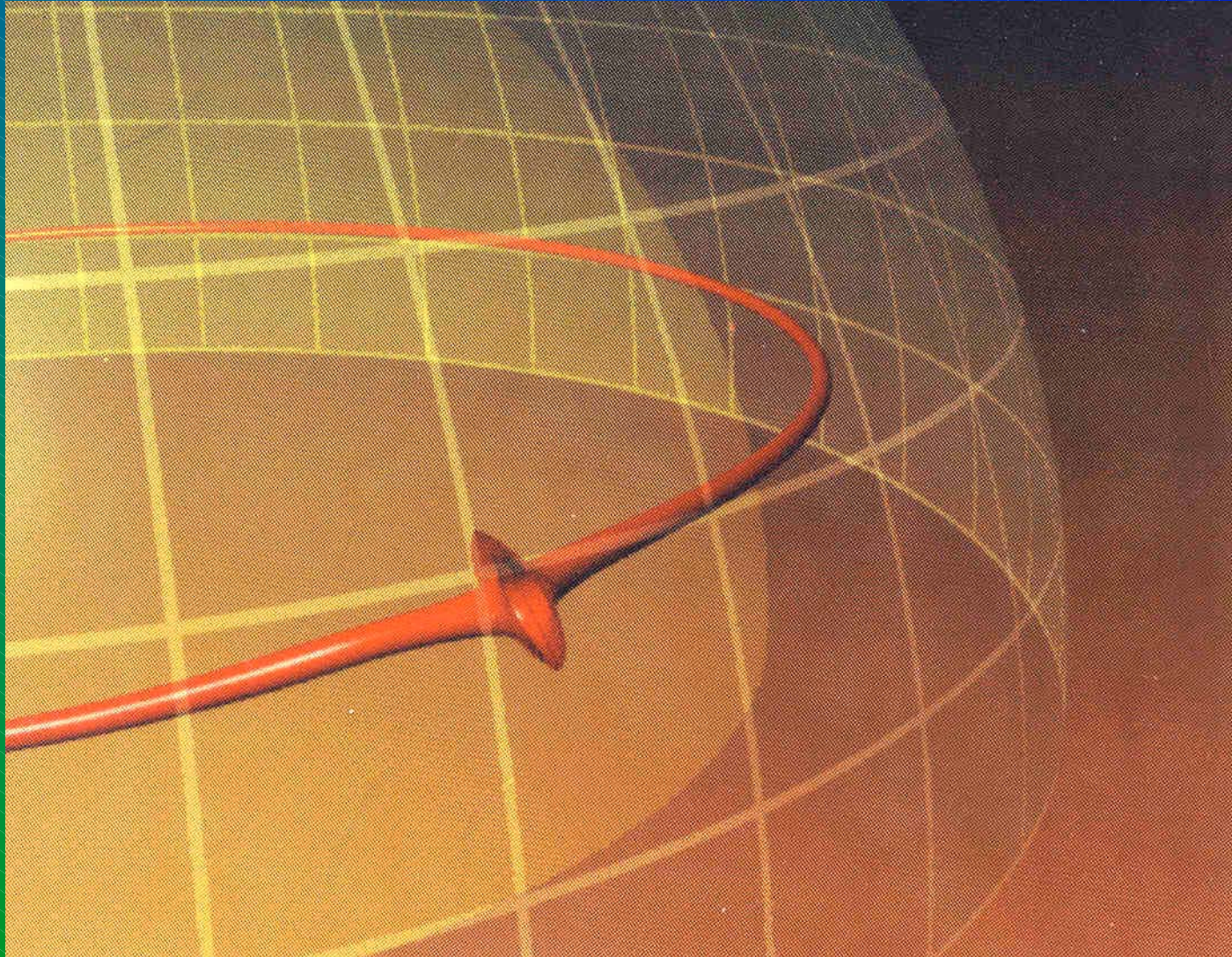


# "Explosion" of a thin flux tube



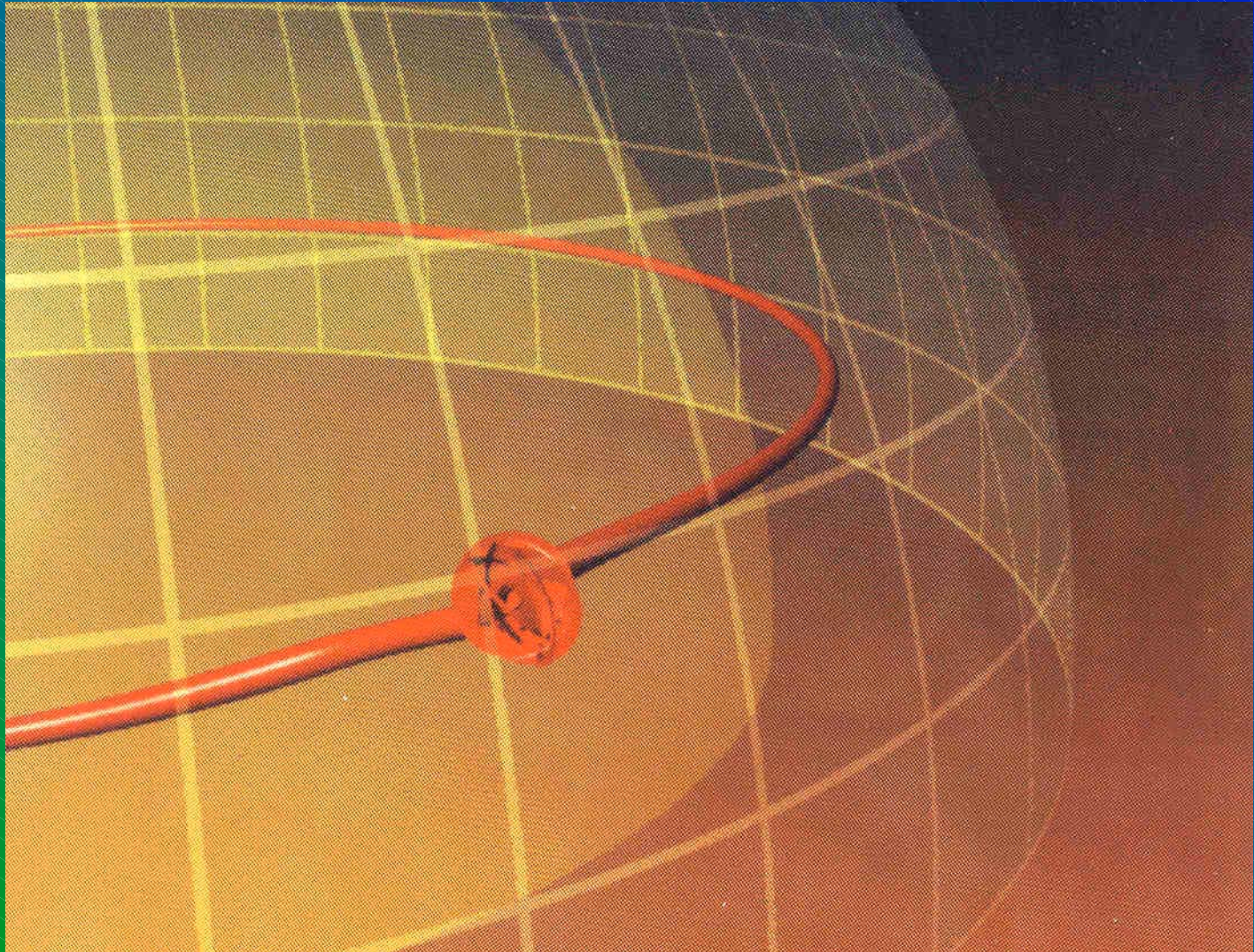


# "Explosion" of a thin flux tube



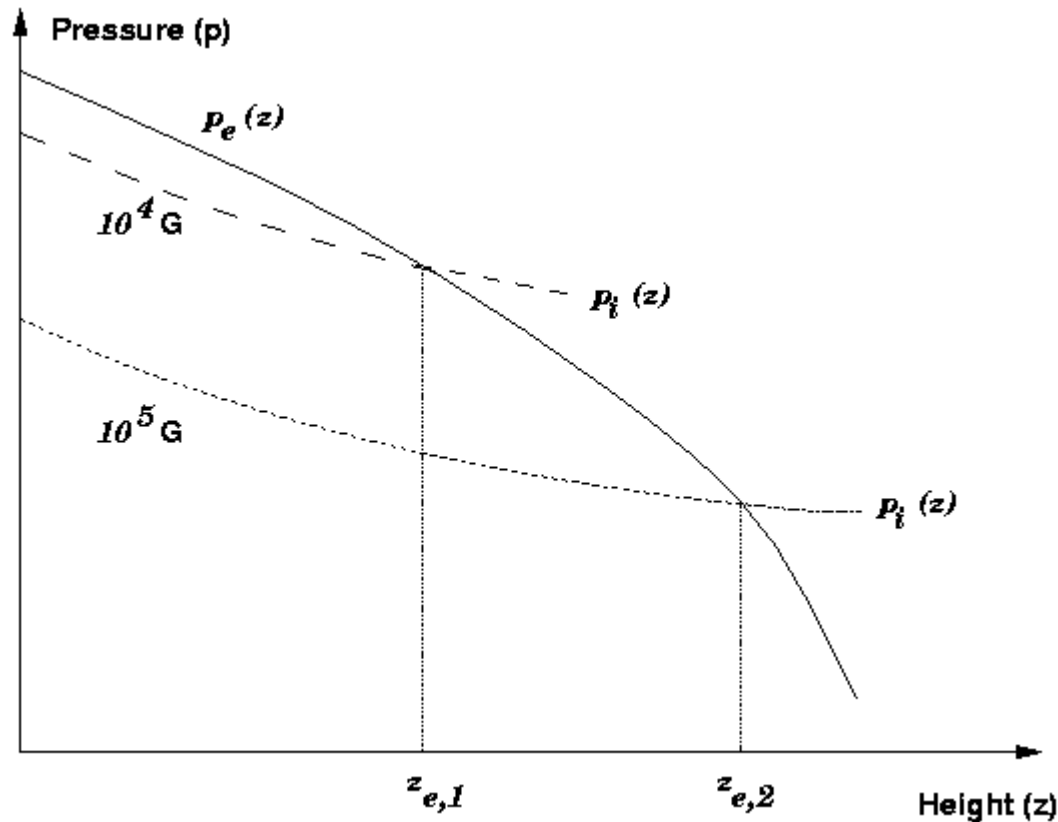


# "Explosion" of a thin flux tube





# “Explosion” of magnetic flux tubes:



$$p_i(z) = p_{i,0} \left( 1 - \frac{\nabla_{\text{ad}} z}{H_{i,0}} \right)^{1/\nabla_{\text{ad}}}$$

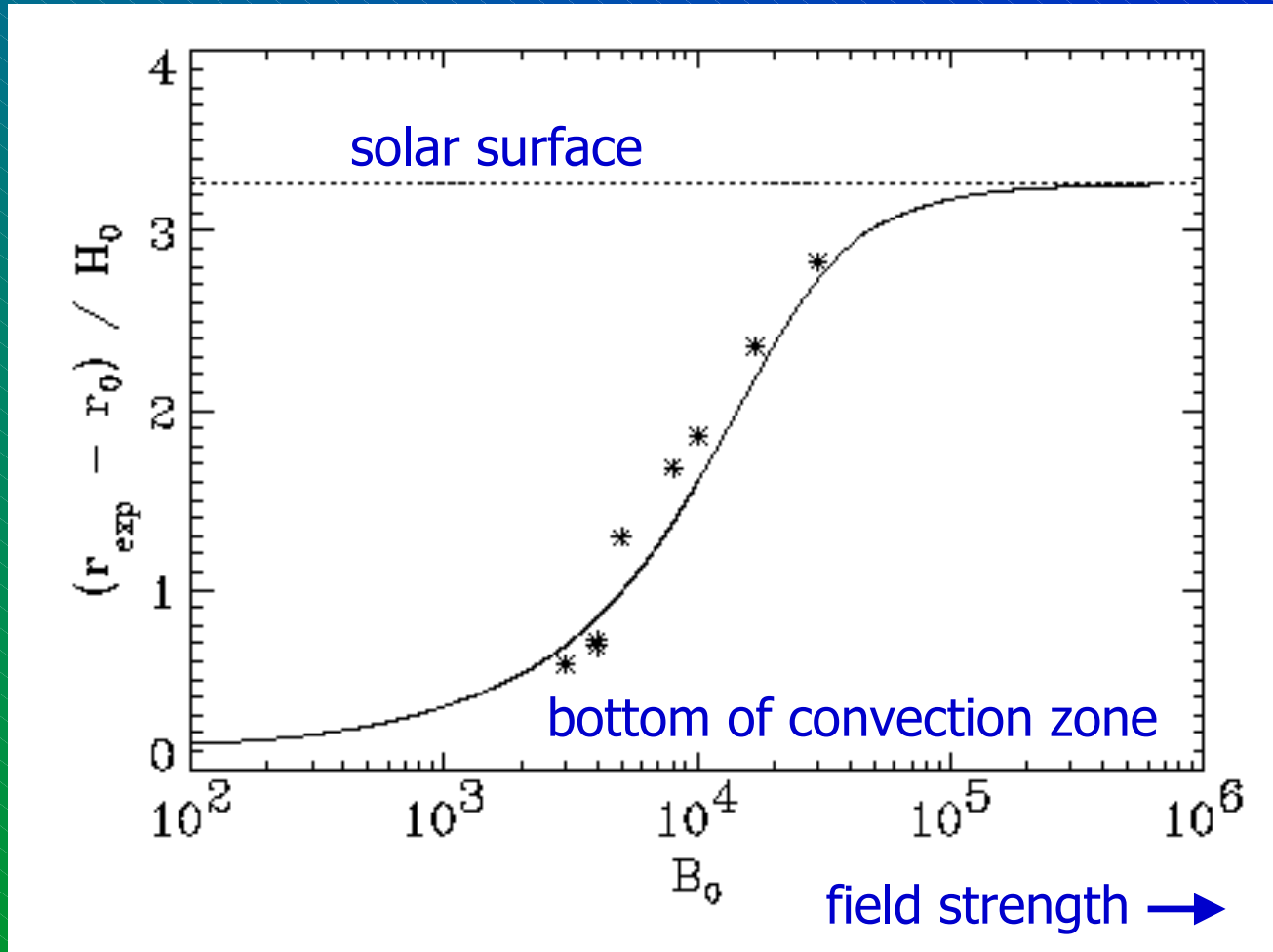
$$p_e(z) = p_{e,0} \left( 1 - \frac{\nabla z}{H_{e,0}} \right)^{1/\nabla}$$

$$p + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} = p_e$$

$$\Delta T \equiv T_i - T_e = T_{i,0} - T_{e,0} + \frac{\mu g}{\mathcal{R}} (\nabla - \nabla_{\text{ad}}) z$$

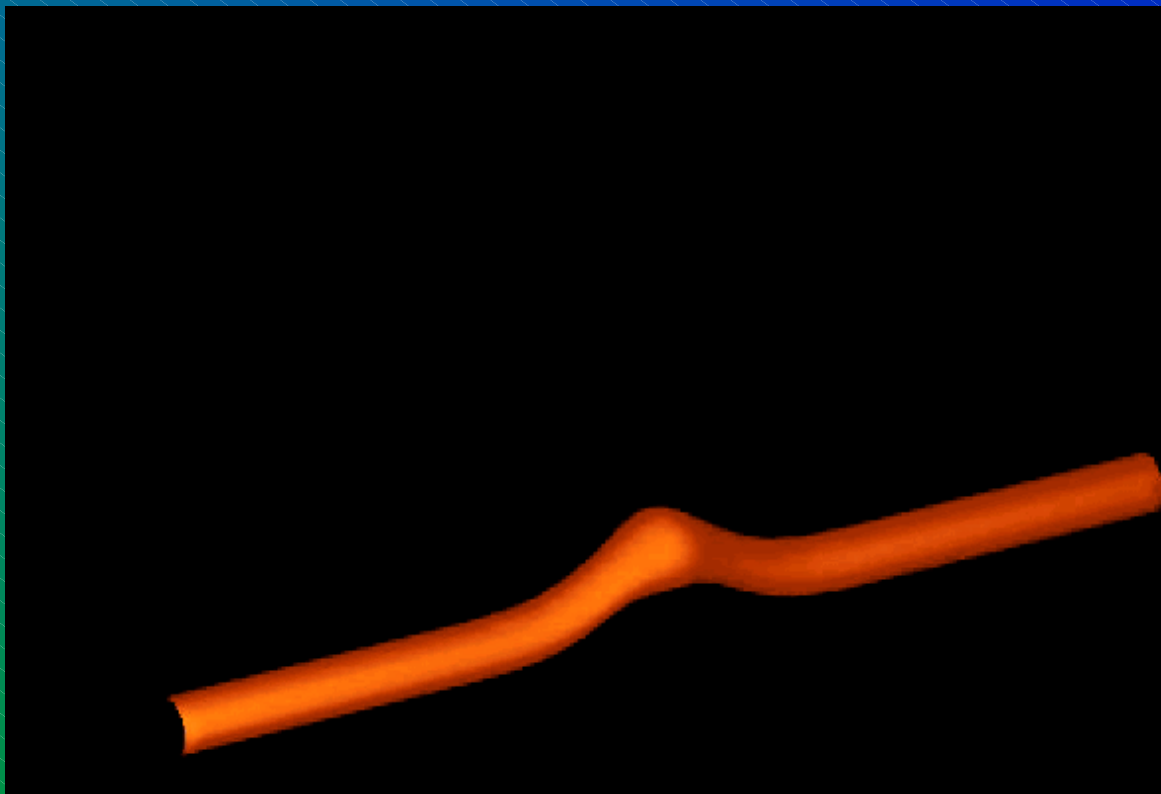
- sudden decrease of field strength near tube summit

# Explosion height as f(initial field strength)



solid line: analytical prediction  
asterisks: numerical simulation

## Explosions also occur in 3D simulations

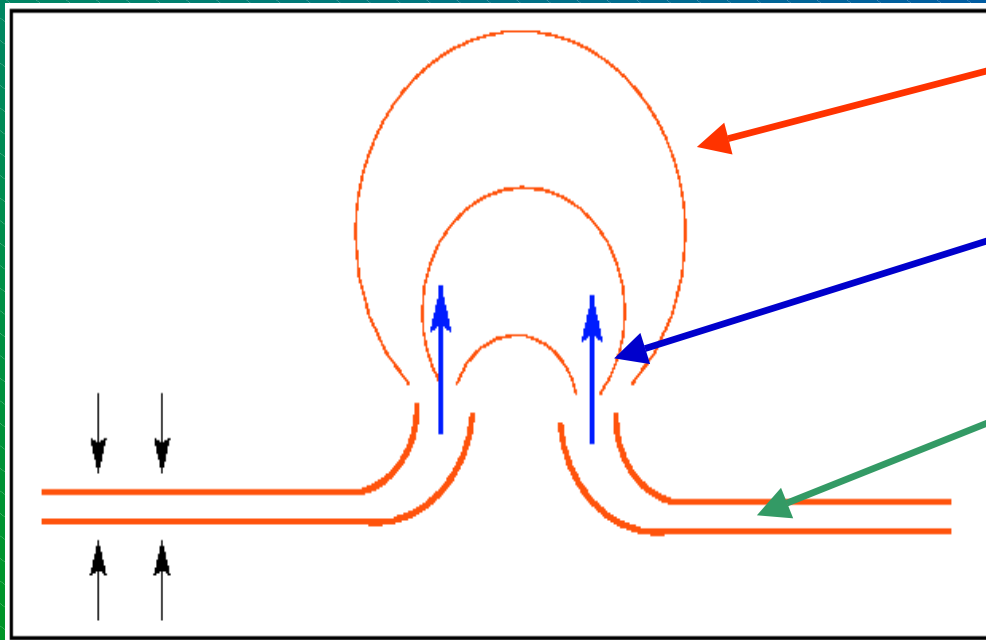


Resolution:  $120 \times 240 \times 120$   
(Rempel, 2001)



# Relevance of the explosion process: Field amplification by conversion of potential energy

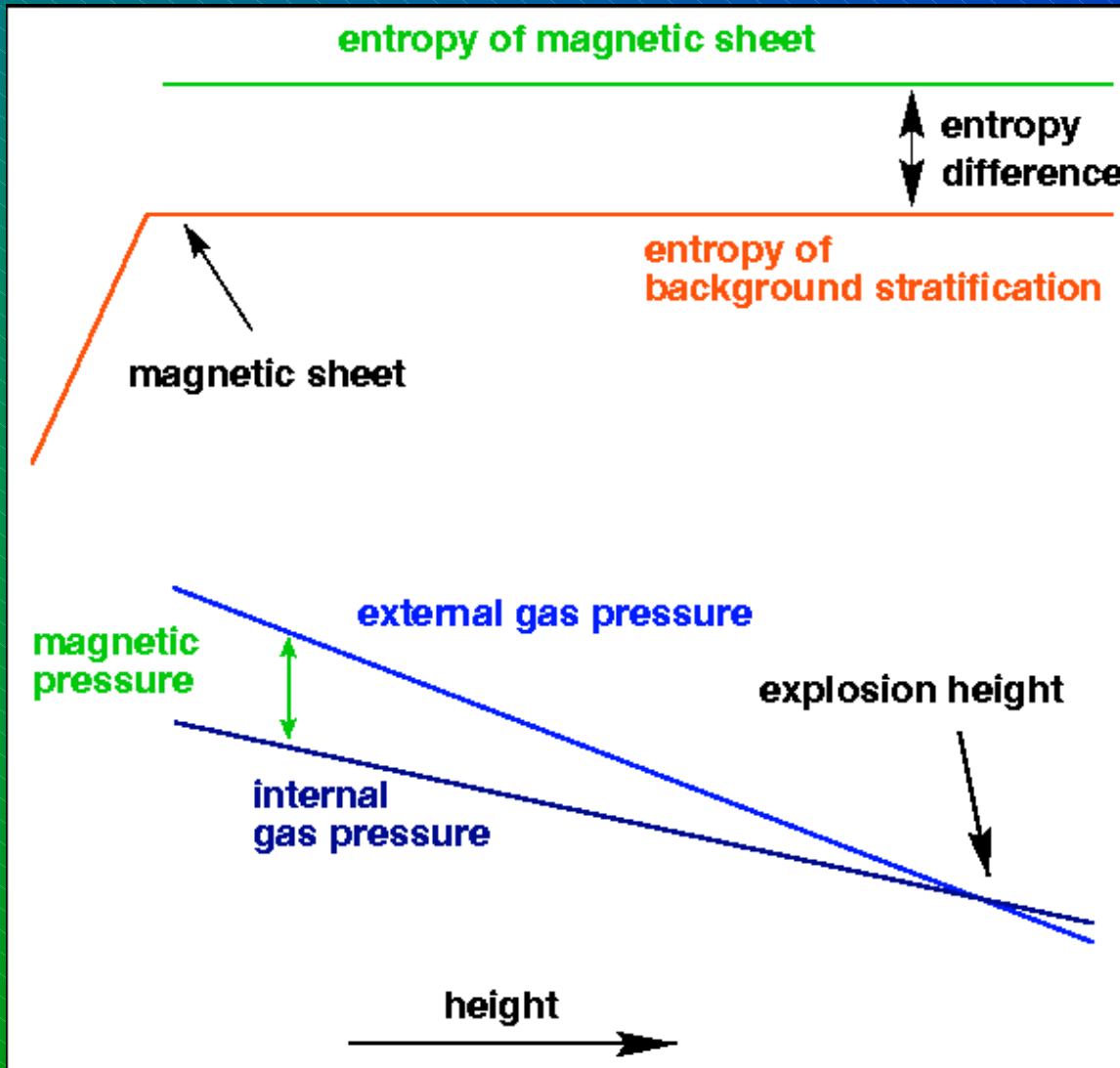
- source of weak field within convection zone
- field amplification at base of convection zone:



- exploded part no longer dynamically relevant
- outflow of buoyant high-entropy plasma
- decrease of gas pressure in the non-exploded part of flux tube
- magnetic field intensification

numerical simulations required

# Numerical model



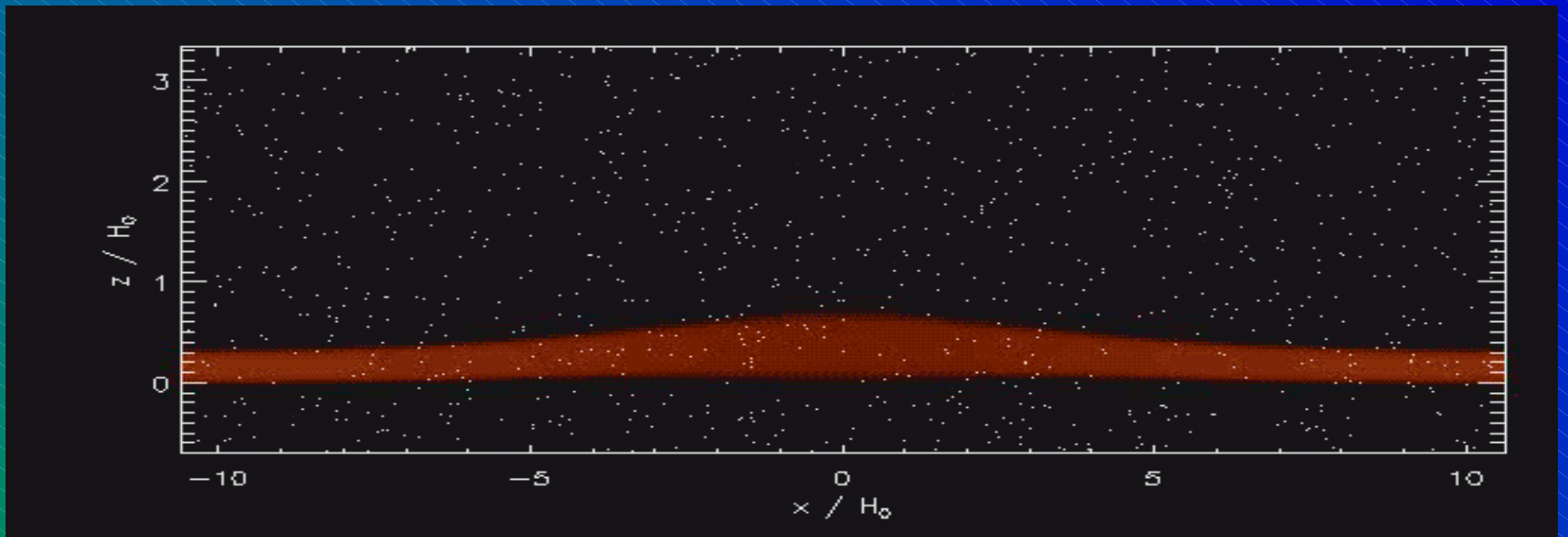
- 2D magnetic sheet
- adiabatic background stratification
- $\beta \approx 100 - 1000$

## basic characteristics:

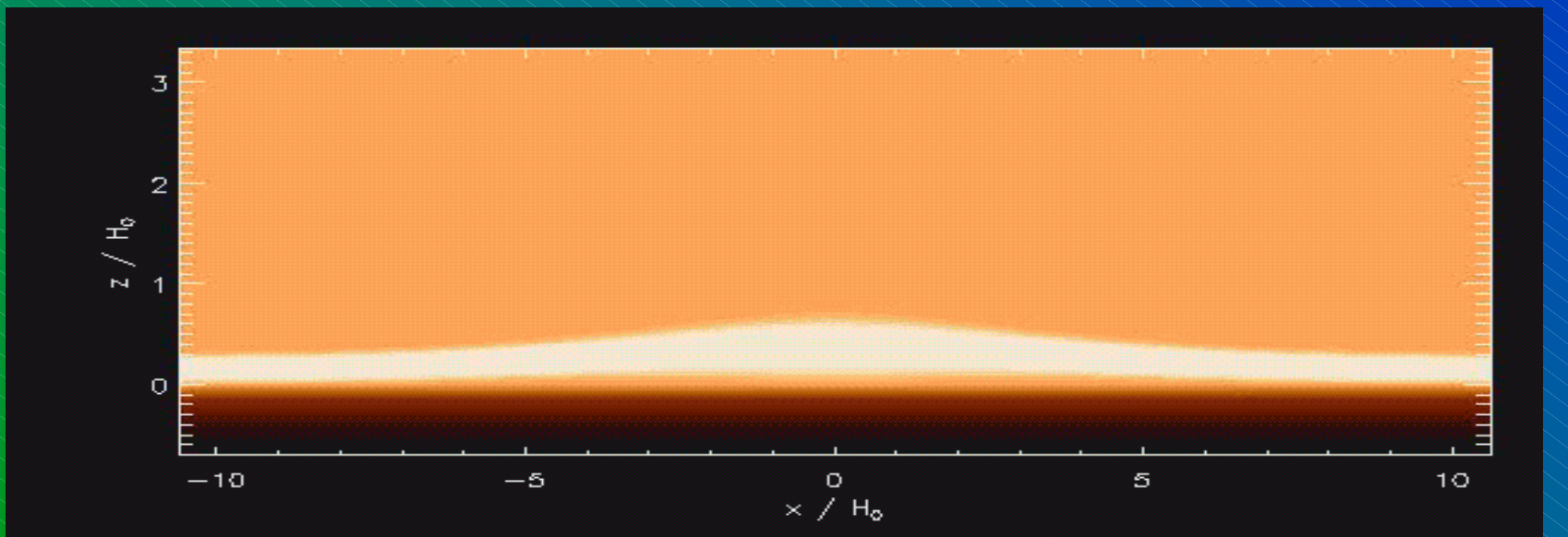
- entropy difference
- stable storage of magnetic sheet

## numerics (VAC-Code):

- Riemann-solver
- resolution up to  $512^2$
- hydrostatic correction



magnetic field strength and velocity

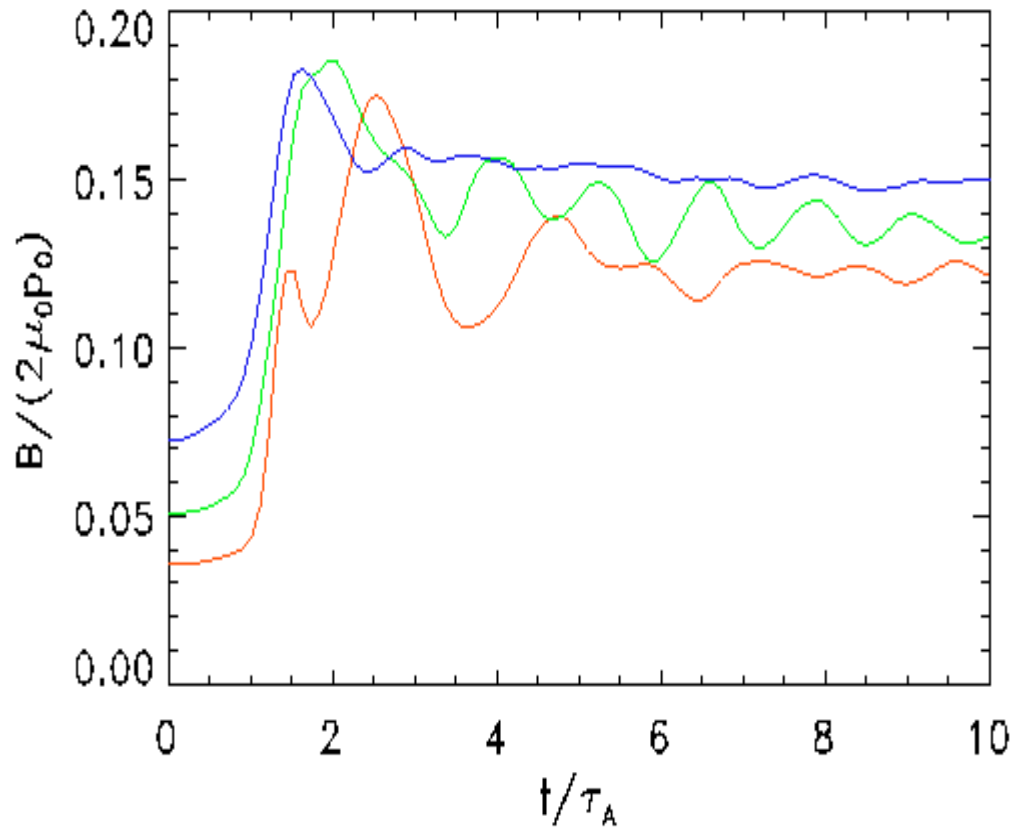


entropy

*(Rempel & Sch., 2001)*

512 × 512

# Time evolution of magnetic field strength



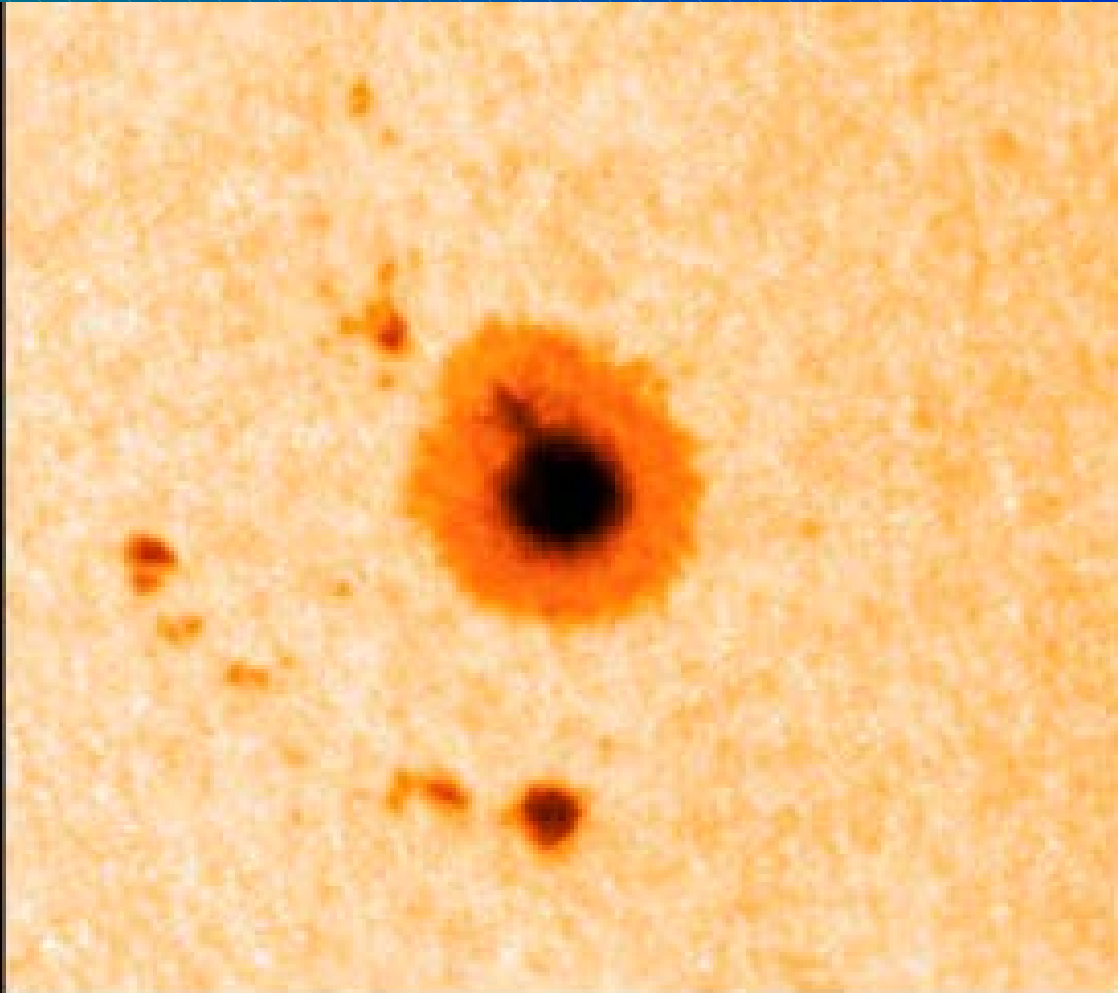
- formation of “stumps”:  $t < \tau_A$
- amplification:  $\tau_A < t < 2 \tau_A$
- saturation:  $2 \tau_A < t$
- asymptotic field strength determined by entropy difference

$\tau_A = L / v_A$ : horizontal Alfvén travel time

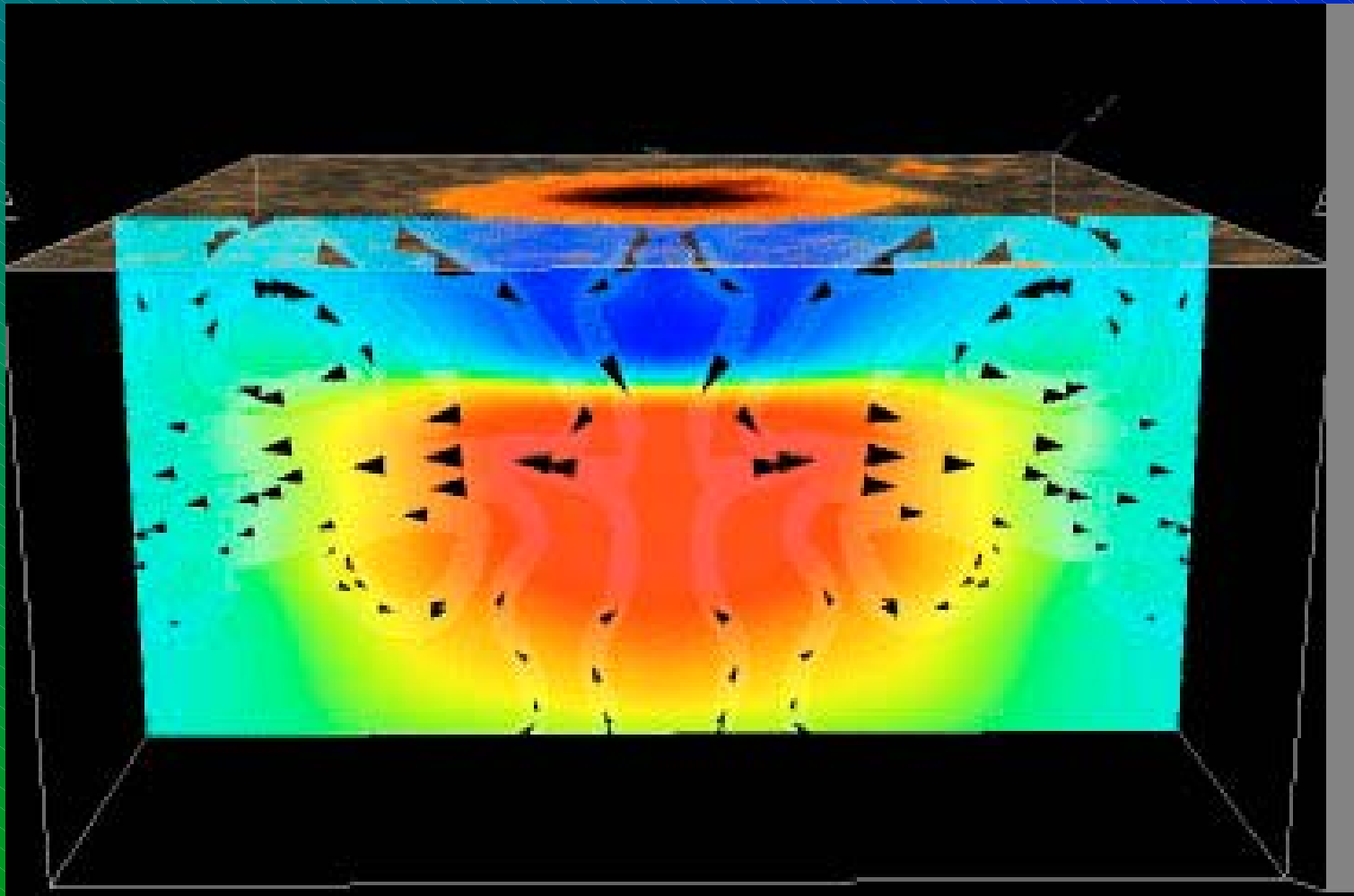
Scaling to solar parameters:  
→ amplification to  $10^5$  G (10 T)  
possible within  $\sim 6$  months



# Temperature and flows below a sunspot



# Temperature and flows below a sunspot



The end...