# Dynamos in Planets & Stars



# OUTLINE

- 1. Intro to planetary & stellar dynamos
- 2. Dynamo theory basics
  - MHD approximation
  - Magnetic Induction Equation
  - Magnetic Reynolds #
  - Alfven Approximation
  - Self-sustained dynamos
- 3. Planetary & stellar dynamo models
  - Mean field models
  - Macroscopic models
  - Parameter regimes
  - Scaling laws
  - Surveying the models out there

My (not so) hidden agenda:

- planetary & stellar dynamos aren't so different from each other, making it surprising that researchers rarely work on both
- very similar processes, just in different parameter regimes

# 1. INTRO TO PLANETARY & STELLAR DYNAMOS

 convert mechanical energy into electromagnetic energy producing magnetic fields we can observe





#### Dynamo Ingredients



(1) electrically conducting fluid

#### (2) fluid must have complex motions

(3) motions must be vigorous enough

#### Dynamo Ingredients



(1) electrically conducting fluid

- liquid iron (terrestrial planets)
- metallic hydrogen (gas giants)
- ionized water (ice giants)
- hydrogen plasma (stars)

(2) fluid must have complex motions

- lots of twisting, helical flows
- rotation not required, but helpful in producing large-scale fields

(3) motions must be vigorous enough

- Velocity \* Size \* Conductivity must be big enough
- The "magnetic Reynolds number condition" (see later...)

## Source of Complex Motions



#### (1) Convection

- deep interiors: hot
- surfaces: cold
- if temperature difference large enough: motions transport heat

(2) Shear

- causes magnetic fields to stretch
- good for magnetic field generation

#### (3) Rotational Constraint

 rapid rotation organizes motions in larger scales

# EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD

- We can only observe the field outside the surface.
- We try to infer what goes on in the dynamo source region



http://www.es.ucsc.edu/~glatz/index.html

 field in the source region likely very complicated



 observed field at the surface very dipolar

### **OBSERVATIONS**

- Earth's field at the core-mantle boundary (CMB):
  - at least 3.5 billion years old (paleomagnetism)
  - polarity reverses chaotically
  - •variable on all time scales



### PLANETARY MAGNETIC FIELDS (ACTIVE)



& Ganymede

• there are similarities & differences which are linked to interior properties

#### PLANETARY MAGNETIC FIELDS (PAST)





Richmond & Hood (2008)

Mars @ 200km, from magnetometer Langlais et al. (2004)



#### SOLAR MAGNETIC FIELD



Fig. 6.1. Solar magnetogram showing bipolar regions, their opposite orientation north and south of the equator, and the clockwise tilt in the northern hemisphere and the counter-clockwise tilt in the southern hemisphere. Note that the field orientation has reversed orientation at the next cycle (here after 10 years). Courtesy of the National Solar Observatory.

- strong magnetic field associated with sunspots (~ 0.2 T or 2 kG)
- global field of ~10<sup>-4</sup> T or 1 G, approximately dipolar

# SOLAR MAGNETIC FIELD



- field reverses polarity every ~ 11 years ("solar cycle")
- solar cycle: sunspots appear at mid-latitudes, then region migrates toward equator. Then new group appears at mid-latitudes with flip of polarity
- sunspots have been continuously observed since time of Galileo
- Maunder minimum: time period (1647-1715) when sunspots were absent

#### **CONVECTION ZONE & TACHOCLINE**

- helioseismology tells us rotation profile in convection zone
- strong shear layer at base of convection zone may be very important for storing magnetic fields, producing cycles & spots

Fig. 2 The internal rotation of the Sun, as determined from observations by the MDI instrument on board the SOHO satellite. The solar equator is along the horizontal axis, the pole along the vertical axis. Values of  $\Omega/2\pi$  are shown, in nHz. *The dashed line* indicates the base of the convection zone, and *tick marks* are at 15° intervals in latitude (from Thompson et al. 2003)



# Stellar Magnetic Fields

Convective

Radiative

- correlations between stellar types and magnetic field properties, probably due to geometry of convection zones
- stars with outer convection zones (late-type stars) have observed magnetic fields whose strength tends to increase with their angular velocity
- Cyclic variations are known to exist only for spectral types between G0 and K7).

Sun

B Star



#### EFFECT OF ROTATION



Rotation period (d)

Figure 23: Properties of the large-scale magnetic geometries of cool stars (Donati, 2011) as a function of rotation period and stellar mass. Symbol size indicates magnetic densities with the smallest symbols corresponding to mean large-scale field strengths of 3 G and the largest symbols to 1.5 kG. Symbol shapes depict different degrees of axisymmetry of the reconstructed magnetic field (from decagons for purely axisymmetric fields to sharp stars for purely non-axisymmetric fields). Colors illustrate field configuration (dark blue for purely toroidal fields, dark red for purely poloidal fields, intermediate colors for intermediate configurations). Full, dashed, and dash-dot lines trace lines of equal Rossby number Ro = 1, 0.1, and 0.01, respectively (from Donati, 2011, reproduced by permission of Cambridge University Press).

#### STUDYING MAGNETIC FIELDS

 observations from spacecraft and telescopes





### Studying Magnetic Fields

• paleomagnetism: investigating magnetic fields frozen into rocks



Weiss et al. (2008)

#### Left: sample of Martian meteorite ALH84001

Right: Squid microscope scan of magnetic field in sample



#### Earth's dipole moment vs. time

#### STUDYING PLANETARY MAGNETIC FIELDS

• experiments: build your own dynamo!

#### Karlsruhe dynamo



#### Maryland dynamo experiment



# Studying Planetary Magnetic Fields

0.3

0.2

0.1

0

-0.1

-0.2

-0.3

computer simulations: have computers

solve the governing equations

а b • Start with the EM stuff:

#### Maxwell's equations

Law	integral form	differential form	description
Gauss' Law	$\oint \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S} = \frac{Q}{\varepsilon_0}$	$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = rac{ ho_e}{arepsilon_0}$	charged particles create
Gauss' Magnetism Law	$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{S} = 0$	$\nabla\cdot\vec{B}=0$	there are no magnetic monopoles
Faraday's Law	$\oint ec{E} \cdot dec{s} = -rac{d}{dt} \int ec{B} \cdot dec{S}$	$ abla  imes ec{E} = -rac{\partial B}{\partial t}$	a changing magnetic field creates an electric field
Ampere-Maxwell Law	$\oint \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{s} = \mu_0 I_{th} + \varepsilon_0 \mu_0 \frac{d}{dt} \int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{S}$	$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$	currents and changing electric fields create magnetic fields
Lorentz force: $\vec{F}_L = \rho_e \vec{E} + \vec{J} \times \vec{B}$ • combined electric and magnetic force/ volume			
Ohm's Law: $ec{J}=$ (simplified)	$\sigma(ec{E}+ec{u} imesec{B}) \circ  ext{homogoal}$	w charges respon oducing a current)	d (i.e. move therefore to EM forces

#### MHD APPROXIMATION

- Magneto-Hydro-Dynamic (MHD) approximation is an approximation made to Maxwell's equations when velocities << speed of light.
- The approximations are determined by considering which terms are so small that they can be neglected.
- In problem set, you will show the following results:
  - displacement current neglected in Ampere's law
  - simplifications in Lorentz transformations between reference frames
  - Electric force neglected in Lorentz force
- Summary of the MHD approximation equations:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0 & \nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{J} & \nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \frac{\rho_e}{\epsilon_0} & \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \\ \vec{E'} = \vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B} & \vec{B'} = \vec{B} & \vec{J'} = \vec{J} & \vec{J'} = \sigma \vec{E'} = \sigma (\vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B}) \\ \vec{F_L} = \vec{J} \times \vec{B} \end{array}$$

#### MAGNETIC INDUCTION EQUATION

- We don't normally work directly with all the EM equations. Instead, we use the Lorentz force in the momentum equation plus we derive an equation from the EM equations called the **Magnetic Induction Equation (MIE)**.
- Here is how:
  - Start with Ohm's law:

$$\vec{J} = \sigma \left[ \vec{E} + \vec{u} \times \vec{B} \right]$$

- Take its curl: (assuming constant conductivity)

$$\nabla\times\vec{J}=\sigma\nabla\times\vec{E}+\sigma\nabla\times(\vec{u}\times\vec{B})$$

- Take the curl of Ampere's law:

$$\nabla\times\nabla\times\vec{B}=\mu_0\nabla\times\vec{J}$$

- Plug in the expression from the curl of Ohm's law:

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \sigma \nabla \times \vec{E} + \mu_0 \sigma \nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B})$$

continued...

- Substitute using Faraday's law:

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{B} = -\mu_0 \sigma \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} + \mu_0 \sigma \nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B})$$

– Use the following standard vector identity along with Gauss' law for magnetism:

$$\nabla\times\nabla\times\vec{B}=\nabla(\nabla\cdot\vec{B})-\nabla^{2}\vec{B}=-\nabla^{2}\vec{B}$$

- Combining the last 2 equations gives the magnetic induction equation:

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

where  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \sigma}$  is called the 'magnetic diffusivity'. Similar to other diffusivities, it has units of  $m^2 s^{-1}$ 

 Notice that the equation has the form of a source/diffusion equation. The growth or decay of B (LHS) is governed by its creation through induction processes (1<sup>st</sup> term on RHS) and diffusion processes (2<sup>nd</sup> term on RHS)

#### WORKING WITH THE MIE

- Is a dynamo mechanism necessary for planets and stars?
- e.g. could Earth's field today just be a remnant field created during formation?
- If the field is remnant, there is no regeneration process  $\rightarrow u = 0$ . Plug into the MIE:

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \lambda \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

• How long does it take for a given field to decay? (i.e. the "magnetic diffusion time")

$$\frac{B}{\tau_B} = \lambda \frac{B}{L^2} \Rightarrow \tau_B = L^2 / \lambda$$

- What do we use for L? For planetary cores, L is sometimes taken to be the radius of the core "R". Other times (the more appropriate choice), L is taken to be the length scale of the slowest decaying eigenmode which is:  $L = R/\pi$ .
- Using:  $R = 3 \times 10^6$ ,  $\sigma = 3 \times 10^5$  mho/m gives  $\lambda = 2m^2/s$ .  $\rightarrow \tau_B = (3 \times 10^6/\pi)^2/2 = 5 \times 10^{12} s \approx 15000$  yrs.
- if the Earth's field was remnant, its e-folding time would be 15000 yrs, but paleomag tells us B ~ constant for past 3.5 billion years → not a remnant field
- (for stars: 10<sup>9</sup> years, so its not so easy to dismiss a remnant field hypothesis)

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

• Using standard vector identity, can rearrange as:

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla)\vec{u} - (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla)\vec{B} - \vec{B}(\nabla \cdot \vec{u}) + \vec{u}(\nabla \cdot \vec{B}) + \lambda \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

• Using Gauss' magnetism law and a bit of rearranging then gives:

$$\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \right] \vec{B} = (\vec{B} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} - \vec{B} (\nabla \cdot \vec{u}) + \lambda \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$

- This has a nice physical interpretation:
  - LHS: Rate of change of field moving with the fluid parcel (i.e the Lagrangian derivative)
  - RHS:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> term: stretching of field lines due to gradients in velocity
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> term: change in field due to compression/dilatation of fluid parcels
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> term: diffusion

# MIE: THE MAGNETIC REYNOLDS NUMBER

 In order to generate a dynamo the driving force must be larger than the dissipative force

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}) + \lambda \nabla^2 \vec{B}$$
  
driving force dissipative force

• The ratio of these two terms is called the magnetic Reynolds number:

$$Re_m = \frac{\nabla \times (\vec{u} \times \vec{B})}{\lambda \nabla^2 \vec{B}} \approx \frac{UB/L}{\lambda B/L^2} \approx \frac{UL}{\lambda} \qquad \qquad \lambda = \frac{1}{\mu_0 \sigma}$$

- Notice that it increases with increasing U and L and as the conductivity increases.
- Re<sub>m</sub> must be larger than a critical value (~10) for dynamo action to occur

object	$\lambda ~({ m m/s})$	L(m)	u (m/s)	$Re_m$
Earth's core	2	$3 \times 10^6$	$3 \times 10^{-4}$	450
Star	0.5	$10^{9}$	1	$2 \times 10^9$
Cu sphere	0.15	1	1	6

 Its very hard to generate laboratory dynamos b/c length scales so small. Its easy in very large bodies.

# MIE: ALFVEN'S THEOREM

- planets and stars have large magnetic Reynolds number:  $Re_m = \frac{UL}{\lambda}$
- In order to understand properties of MHD in high Re\_m flows, look at extreme case: The limit as  $Re_m \to \infty$
- This limit can be interpreted as the perfectly conducting limit since as:

$$\sigma \to \infty, Re_m \to \infty$$

- In this case, the magnetic diffusivity  $\lambda \rightarrow$  0 so we can ignore the diffusion term in the MIE
- Alfven's theorem results in the following 3 facts about magnetic fields in this limit:
  - 1. magnetic flux through a surface moving with the fluid is constant
  - 2. magnetic flux tubes move with the fluid
  - 3. if 2 material particles are on the same field line at time 0, then they remain on that field line for all time t>0.
- For a fluid that is not perfectly conducting, the effects of diffusion permit the field to slip through the fluid.
- Alfven's theorem can also be used for dynamo processes whose time scales are much shorter than the magnetic diffusion time at that length scale

### MIE: ALFVEN'S THEOREM EXAMPLE

- Consider a perfect conductor and a constant vertical magnetic field:  $ec{B}=B_0\hat{z}$  and a simple horizontal shear flow:  $ec{u}=Uz\hat{x}$  .
- Can solve for B from the MIE: (prove on problem set):  $\vec{B} = \frac{UtB_0}{L}\hat{x} + B_0\hat{z}$
- Notice in this example, that the action of the flow on the original field generates new field (in the x direction). BUT, we don't regenerate the original field. This is not a "self sustaining dynamo" (i.e. after we've started, if we remove the original field, the total field decays).





# MIE: Self Sustaining Dynamo Example

- Consider a good, but not perfect conductor, so Re<sub>m</sub> is large but finite.
- Diffusion is most effective where the gradients of B are large.
- In the following example, large gradients only occur in small regions, elsewhere, Alfven's theorem holds well.
- This example is known as the "Vainshtein-Zel'dovich rope dynamo":







- Left with twice as much field
- Could remove initial 'seed' field and the flow would continue to regenerate it →





diffuse.

Self-sustained dynamo

#### FLUID FLOWS IN DYNAMOS

- force balances determine the fluid motions in dynamo regions
- notice that in the previous heuristic examples, the flows were all fairly simple
- in stars & planets, the flow is very turbulent (i.e. lots of length and velocity scales, large amount of disorganization)
- Usually we are interested in how these flows generate the large scale magnetic fields that we see.
- 2 possible ways to proceed:
  - 1. attempt to parameterize the effects of the small scale turbulence on the large scales ("**mean field models**")
  - 2. ignore the small scales, only investigate the effects of the larger scale flows on the dynamo ("macroscopic models")
- Both of these methods are used and provide us with useful information.

# 3. Planetary & Stellar Dynamo Models

- MEAN FIELD MODELS: Work described here mostly done by Steenbeck, Krause & Radler (1966, etc) and Parker (1955).
- Setup: Assume turbulent velocity field of characteristic length scale  $I_0$  which is much smaller than the length scale *L* associated with the mean magnetic field  $B_0$
- Only consider statistical properties of the turbulent velocity and magnetic fields (e.g. the mean of the flow or field)
- Define "mean" of flow or field as average of quantity over a box of size a where  $l_0 << a << L$ : 3

$$< f >= \frac{3}{4\pi a^3} \int_a f dV$$



• Write the magnetic field and velocity as the sum of the mean and perturbations about the mean:

(For now assume mean velocity is 0

- $$\begin{split} \vec{B}_0(\vec{r},t) = &< \vec{B}(\vec{r},t) > & \text{and flow is incompressible}) \\ \vec{B}(\vec{r},t) = &\vec{B}_0(\vec{r},t) + \vec{b}(\vec{r},t) & <\vec{u} > = 0 \\ &< \vec{b}(\vec{r},t) > = 0 \end{split}$$
- Plug these forms of B and u into the magnetic induction equation:

$$\frac{\partial(\vec{B}_0 + \vec{b})}{\partial t} = \nabla \times [\vec{u} \times (\vec{B}_0 + \vec{b})] + \lambda \nabla^2 (\vec{B}_0 + \vec{b})$$

• Take the average of this equation over the box of length a to get the mean magnetic induction equation... (will do on problem set). Result...

#### Mean Field Models



• the induction term is usually referred to as an **emf**:  $\varepsilon = < \vec{u} \times \vec{b} >$ 

• now for the parameterization: on the problem set you will show that with certain assumptions, the emf can be written in terms of the mean field  $B_0$ :

$$\varepsilon_i = \alpha_{ij} B_{0j} + \beta_{ijk} \frac{\partial B_{0j}}{\partial x_k} + \gamma_{ijkl} \frac{\partial^2 B_{0j}}{\partial x_k \partial x_l} + \dots$$

- all of the info about the small scale stuff is parameterized by the choice of tensor coefficients.
- various theories, wanted behavior can be implemented in the coefficients.

#### MACROSCOPIC MODELS

- numerically solve the equations for the fluid motions, BUT, work with modest parameter values such that the fluid motions are not very turbulent and hence can be resolved directly
- this is probably a "better" approach for planets than for stars because of the physical properties of the dynamo regions, i.e. planets have Re<sub>m</sub> that can be reached in models
- to solve for the velocity and magnetic fields self-consistently, need equations for:
  - conservation of momentum
  - conservation of mass
  - conservation of energy
  - MIE

• Magnetic induction equation:

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

• Conservation of mass:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{u}) = 0$$

• Conservation of momentum:

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \bullet \nabla\right) \vec{u} + 2\vec{\Omega} \times \vec{u} = -\nabla P + \frac{\delta\rho}{\rho}\vec{g} + \nu\nabla^{2}\vec{u} + \frac{1}{3}\nu\nabla(\nabla\cdot\vec{u}) + \frac{1}{\rho\mu_{0}}\left(\nabla\times\vec{B}\right) \times \vec{B}$$

$\vec{u}$ : velocity	$\vec{g}$ : gravity	$\sigma$ : electrical conductivity
$\vec{\Omega}$ : rotation vector	$\vec{v}$ : coefficient of viscosity	$\mu_0$ : magnetic permeability
<i>P</i> : modified pressure	B: magnetic field	ho: density

 Driving force (buoyancy due to gravity) due to thermal effects → need an equation of state and an energy equation to complete the system: • Equation of state (EOS):

Planets: (linear relation)

 $\delta\rho(T) = -\rho_0\alpha_T(T-T_0)$ 

Stars: (linearized ideal-gas)

$$\frac{\rho}{\bar{\rho}} = \frac{P}{\bar{P}} - \frac{T}{\bar{T}}$$

• Conservation of energy:

(Notes: could also be written in terms of entropy S using thermodynamic relations, I've also assume constant thermal conductivity)

$$\rho C_P \left( \frac{DT}{Dt} - \frac{\alpha_T T}{\rho C_P} \frac{DP}{Dt} \right) = \frac{J^2}{\sigma} + \vec{\vec{\tau}} : \nabla \vec{u} + H + k \nabla^2 T$$

 $C_p$ : specific heat

- $lpha_{T}$ : coefficient of thermal expansion
- H : internal heat sources

- T : temperature
- $ec{ au}$  : deviatoric stress tensor

 $\vec{J}$  : current density

k: thermal conductivity

#### Non-Dimensional Equations

- common in planetary dynamo models to non-dimensionalize the equations.
- e.g.: using "Boussinesq" approximation:
  - Momentum:  $EP^{-1}{}_{m}(\partial_{t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla)\vec{v} + \hat{z} \times \vec{v} = -\nabla P + \vec{J} \times \vec{B} + RaT\vec{r} + E\nabla^{2}\vec{v}$
  - Magnetic Induction:

$$(\partial_t - \nabla^2)\vec{B} = \nabla \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

 $\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$ 

- Energy:  $(\partial_t P_m P_r^{-1} \nabla^2) T = -\vec{v} \cdot \nabla T + Q$
- Mass:

#### Non-dimensional Numbers:

Rayleigh #: 
$$Ra = \frac{\alpha g_0 \Delta T r_0}{2\Omega \eta}$$
 Prandtl #:  $P_r = \frac{v}{\kappa}$   
Ekman #:  $E = \frac{v}{2\Omega r_0^2}$  Magnetic Prandtl #:  $P_m = \frac{v}{\eta}$ 

#### PLANETARY PARAMETER REGIME

	Control Parameters				
	$Ra^*/Ra_c^*$	E	Pm	Pr	
Earth's core	≈5000	$10^{-15} - 10^{-14}$	$10^{-6} - 10^{-5}$	0.1-1	
Models	1-100	$10^{-3} - 10^{-6}$	0.1–10 <sup>3</sup>	0.1-10 <sup>3</sup>	
	Diagnostic numbers				
	Rm	Re	Ro	Λ	
Earth's core	$\approx 10^3$	10 <sup>8</sup> -10 <sup>9</sup>	$\approx 10^{-6}$	0.1–10	
Models	50–10 <sup>3</sup>	<2000	$3 \times 10^{-4} - 10^{-2}$	0.1-100	

Christensen et al. 2008

#### What can't we do right:

- viscosity & thermal diffusivity too large compared to magnetic diffusivity
- rotation too slow, much less turbulent

Hope that if we are getting the force balances right, then models might be telling us something about core dynamics

• scaling laws suggest this is happening (e.g. Christensen 2010)

### SOLAR PARAMETER REGIME

		Base of convection zone	Photosphere
Rayleigh number	$Ra = g\alpha\beta L^4 \rho / \kappa \mu$	10 <sup>20</sup>	10 <sup>16</sup>
Reynolds number	Re = UL/v	10 <sup>13</sup>	10 <sup>12</sup>
Magnetic Reynolds number	$Rm = UL/\eta$	10 <sup>10</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>
Prandtl number	$Pr = v/\kappa$	10 <sup>-7</sup>	$10^{-7}$
Magnetic Prandtl number	$Pm = \nu/\eta$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-6}$
Rossby number	$Ro = U/2\Omega L$	0.1–1	$10^{-3}$ -0.4
Ekman number	$Ek = v/2\Omega L^2$	$10^{-14}$	$10^{-15} - 10^{-13}$

- much larger Reynolds number than planetary dynamos  $\rightarrow$  extremely turbulent
- much larger magnetic Reynolds number than planetary dynamos → magnetic field generation on extremely small scales
- Rossby number larger (rotation less important)

Aside from the fact that we can't numerically simulation the right parameter regime...

#### Positives:

#### <u>Planet models:</u>

- magnetic Reynolds #: ~1000, can get to these values in models without mean field parameterizations
- rotation acts to organize flow which promotes large scale fields
- solid rocks at surface record past fields (at least some info like pole location and intensity). This is how we know reversal timescales

#### Solar/stellar models:

- can study reversals in human lifetime
- have observations of flows in convection zone from helioseismology
- dynamo region is near the surface so we see smaller scales

#### Negatives:

#### Planet models:

- reversal timescale ~ 500,000 years, time for reversals to occur ~ 1000 years → can't observe reversals in a human life span
- can't observe flows in dynamo region
- dynamo regions far removed from surface

#### Solar/stellar models:

- Re<sub>m</sub> ~ 10<sup>9</sup>, cannot get these values without mean field parameterizations
- flow more turbulent
- physical properties vary significantly over convection zone

#### Scaling Laws

- although we don't work in the appropriate parameter regime, can we use models to determine scaling laws and hence properties of planetary & stellar dynamos
- e.g.: magnetic energy scales with power available to drive dynamo:



• scaling laws derived from numerical models seem to work well for observations



• e.g.: field dipolarity depends on rotation/inertia balance:



Christensen (2010)

### MACROSCOPIC EARTH MODELS



- Able to reproduce main field characteristics even though not working in Earth-like parameter regime:
  - axial-dipole dominance
  - surface field intensity
  - •reversals
  - secular variation
  - core surface flow

#### PLANETARY MACROSCOPIC MODELS

- Can't work at parameters for other planets either, but there are some planetary features that we can get right, e.g.:
  - core geometry
  - force balances
  - buoyancy sources
  - external influences
- Explaining major differences between planetary magnetic fields is possible by appealing to differences in these features



# MERCURY

Observables a model should explain:

(1) WEAK intensity of the field

 $g_1^0 = -195 \pm 10 \text{ nT}$ 

(2) LARGE quadrupole

 $g_2^0/g_1^0 = 0.38$ 

(3) SMALL tilt

dipole tilt < 1°



(Anderson et al. 2011)

### CONTESTANTS FOR MERCURY DYNAMO MODEL



•Why is the crustal field concentrated in the southern hemisphere and correlated with the crustal dichotomy?



#### Single Hemisphere Dynamo

• Crustal Dichotomy formation mechanism  $\rightarrow$  thermal variations at CMB



- subcritical dynamos: Kuang et al. (2008)
- impacts: Arkani-Hamed & Olson (2010)

### GAS GIANTS



variable properties can be important

#### SURFACE ZONAL FLOWS

 $\sigma$  (r) & ho (r)

# Glatzmaier 2005, reviewed in Stanley & Glatzmaier 2010)

Surface longitudinal winds







Guervilly et al. 2011 instabilities of narrow zonal jets results in axiallydipolar fields

#### Cao et al. 2011: dipole tilt < 0.06 degrees



# CONTESTANTS FOR SATURN DYNAMO MODEL

- Thick stably-stratified layer ~ 0.4 core radii
- Average dipole tilt: 1.5 degrees



(Christensen & Wicht 2008)

- Thin stably-stratified layer
   ~ 0.1 core radii +bdy
   thermal variations
- Average dipole tilt: 0.8 degrees



# ICE GIANTS



# ICE GIANTS



#### Gomez-Perez & Heimpel 2007

• zonal flow dynamos



#### Guervilly et al. 2011

- instabilities of wide zonal jets results in non-dipolar non-axisymmetric fields
- width of jets controls topology of magnetic field (explains difference of Jupiter & Neptune)

#### EXTRASOLAR PLANET DYNAMOS

- **Gas giants:** magnetic fields in ionized atmospheric layers can affect flows (Batygin et al., 2010, 2011, 2013, Perna et al. 2010, Rauscher & Menou, 2012, 2013)
- Ocean planets: small variations in interior properties can lead to large changes in magnetic field (Tian & Stanley, 2013)
- Rocky planets: metallic mantles can shield strong fields from reaching surfaces (Vilim et al., 2013)



#### Terrestrial planet structure

#### Solar Dynamo Models

- 1. Mean field models: (velocity imposed):
  - use differential rotation profile from helioseismology
  - meridional (N-S) transport model
  - mean field parameterization for small scales
- 2. Interface models:
  - same as 1. plus also include tachocline (shear layer at base of convection zone)
- 3. Flux Transport models:
  - same as 2. plus include large scale meridional (N-S) circulation to transport fields from tachocline to surface



### SOLAR DYNAMO MODELS:

- 4. Macroscopic models:
  - e.g.: Anelastic Spherical Harmonic (ASH) code:
    - uses realistic values for solar radius, luminosity and mean rotation rate
    - reference state is based on 1D solar structure models
    - upper boundary placed below photosphere (0.96-0.98 R<sub>s</sub>)
    - lower boundary: base of convection zone, but some simulations allow penetration into the radiative interior
  - This model tries to simulate solar convection properly and see what magnetic fields you get out of it. Reproduces solar differential rotation profile





#### MAGNETIC FIELDS IN MACROSCOPIC MODELS



# Spots & Cycles in Macroscopic Models

- models don't produce a tachocline region, but one can be added artificially
- recent models starting to produce cycles:



#### STELLAR DYNAMO MODELS

• Convection zone geometry likely plays an important role



- In cooler stars, the convective envelope deepens as the surface temperature/mass decreases
- In hotter stars, the convective envelope disappears, but a convective core builds up as the surface temperature mass/effective temperature increases

# FULLY CONVECTIVE STARS

- dynamos may be fundamentally different than solar-type stars
- no tachocline to store fields resulting in interface dynamos
- many fully convective stars observed to have strong chromospheric H-alpha emission & FeH line ratios, indicative of strong magnetic fields
- unclear how dynamos in fully convective stars depend on rotation rate
- Doppler imaging of rapidly rotating M-dwarfs reveals dark patterns at low and moderate latitudes (star spots) (Barnes et al. 2001).



#### EARLY-TYPE STARS



- lots of variety in planetary and stellar dynamos, but the fundamental principles, mechanisms and problems are similar (i.e. they are not so different)
- models and observations suggest that magnetic fields depend strongly on dynamo region geometry, stratification, rotation and other properties
- models seem to be on the right track, but we should be careful and vigilant because of the vast distance between model and planet/star parameters