

ERG 2026

Exact Renormalization Group

1-5 Sep 2026

University of Sussex, UK



Wave interactions in Astrophysical* Plasmas



Olivier Coquand
4th September 2026



**Université
Perpignan**
Via Domitia

CRÉATRICE D'AVENIRS DEPUIS 1350

Why plasmas?

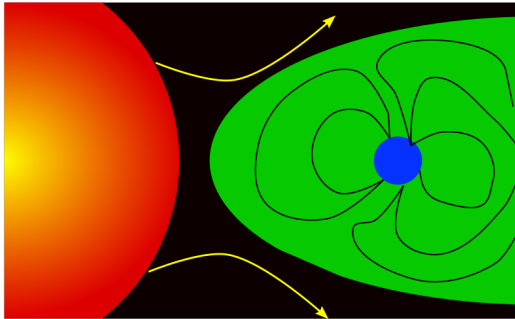
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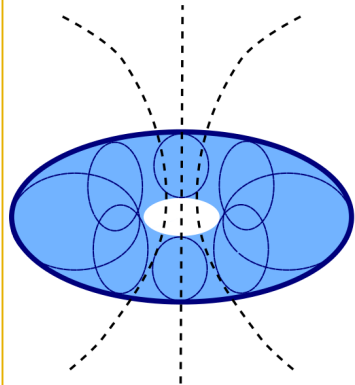
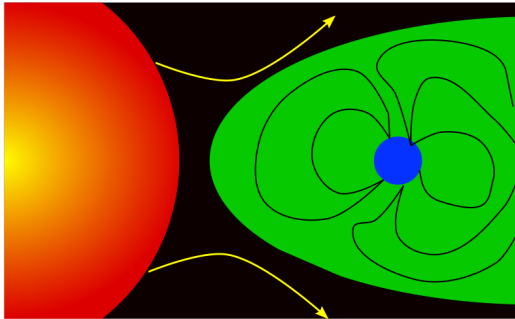
Astrophysics



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Astrophysics



Fusion plasmas

Large scale modes -- The basics

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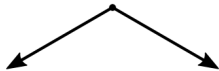
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ferromagnet antiferromagnet

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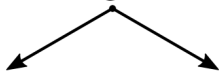
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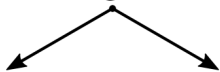
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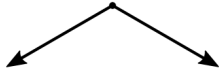
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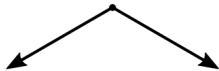
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Anisotropy

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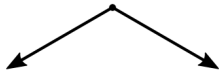
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Anisotropy

ex4: Balescu's model

8 types of modes

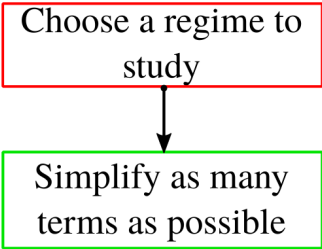
In practice

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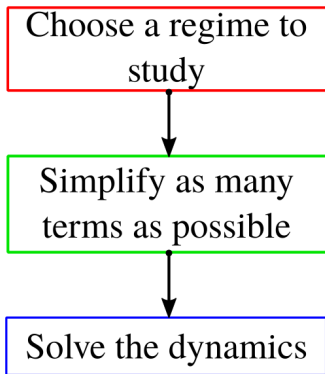
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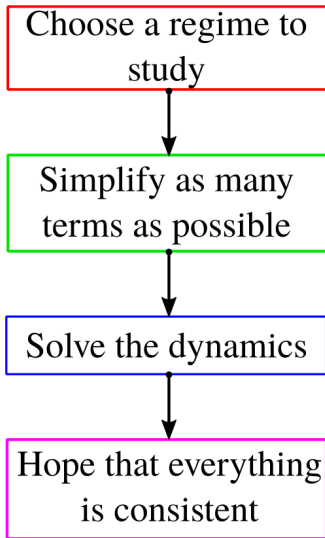
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graph TD; A[Choose a regime to study] --> B[Simplify as many terms as possible]
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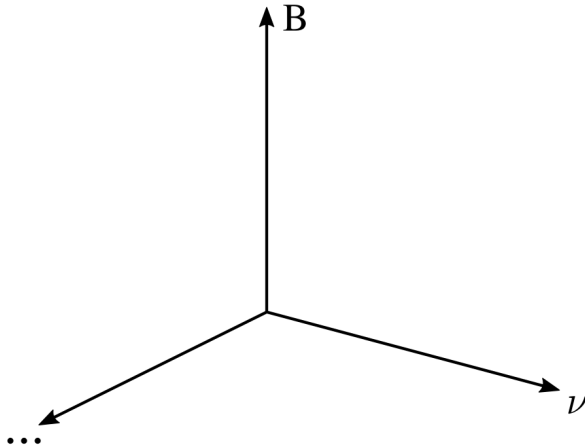


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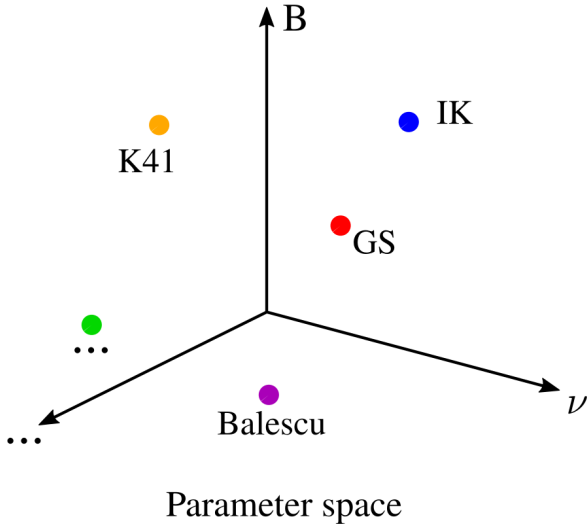
The bigger picture

The bigger picture



Parameter space

The bigger picture



How to build a dynamical model
compatible with the various regimes?

The MHD equations

The MHD equations

$$\rho(\partial_t u_\alpha + u_\beta \partial_\beta u_\alpha) + \partial_\alpha P - \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} j_\beta B_\gamma - \nu \Delta u_\alpha = 0$$

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$$\partial_t B_\alpha - \epsilon_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \epsilon_{\beta\theta\zeta} \partial_\gamma (u_\theta B_\zeta) - \eta \Delta B_\alpha = 0$$

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Maxwell

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Maximal degree of symmetry

Contracting the equations

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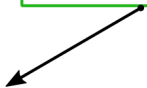
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Advection

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The diagram shows the equation $(\partial_t + (\Sigma_1 \cdot \Phi)_\beta \partial_\beta) \Phi_\alpha - \nu_+ \partial^2 \Phi_\alpha - \nu_- \partial^2 (\Sigma_1 \cdot \Phi)_\alpha + \partial_\alpha P = 0$ enclosed in a red box. Three sub-terms are highlighted with colored boxes: a green box around $(\partial_t + (\Sigma_1 \cdot \Phi)_\beta \partial_\beta) \Phi_\alpha$, a blue box around $-\nu_+ \partial^2 \Phi_\alpha - \nu_- \partial^2 (\Sigma_1 \cdot \Phi)_\alpha$, and a yellow box around $+\partial_\alpha P$. Arrows point from these boxes to the labels "Advection", "Viscosity", and "Pressure" respectively.

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Advection Viscosity Pressure

$$\partial_\alpha \Phi_\alpha = 0$$

A little bit of generalisation...

$$(\partial_t + (\Sigma_1 \cdot \Phi)_\beta \partial_\beta) \Phi_\alpha + (\Psi_0)_\beta \partial_\beta (\Sigma_3 \cdot \Phi)_\alpha - \nu_+ \partial^2 \Phi_\alpha - \nu_- \partial^2 (\Sigma_1 \cdot \Phi)_\alpha + \partial_\alpha P = f_\alpha$$

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Application both to astrophysics and fusion
plasmas

How multiple scaling regimes can be generated?

What about scaling? (power counting)

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The only possible scaling is K41

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- ▶ Diagonal in the large Ψ_0 limit
- ▶ Double Navier-Stokes structure when
 $\nu_- \rightarrow 0, \Psi_0 \rightarrow 0$