# **Physics of Accretion Disks**



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# **Dead zones**



# Observational Evidence Oph IRS 48





# Other "asymmetries"



#### "Asymmetries" everywhere



### Vortices – an ubiquitous fluid mechanics phenomenon







### Von Kármán vortex street







Lyra et al. (2008b, 2009a); See also Varniere & Tagger (2006)

radius

Rossby wave instability (or... Kelvin-Helmholtz in differentially rotating disks)











#### Inner (0.1 AU) active/dead zone boundary





Magnetized inner disk + resistive outer disk Lyra & Mac Low (2012)

#### Active/dead zone boundary



Magnetized inner disk + resistive outer disk Lyra & Mac Low (2012)

### **Outer Dead/Active zone transition: 3D MHD**



Resistive inner disk + magnetized outer disk Lyra, Turner, & McNally (2015)

### **Outer Dead/Active zone transition KHI**



Resistive inner disk + magnetized outer disk Lyra, Turner, & McNally (2015)

### **Dust Trapping: The Tea-Leaf Effect**



Grains do not feel the pressure gradient.

They sink towards the center, where they accumulate.

# **Drag-Diffusion Equilibrium**



Trapped particle

# **Drag-Diffusion Equilibrium**



#### Analytical solution for dust trapping



Solution  

$$\rho_d(a) = \rho_{d\max} \exp\left(-\frac{a^2}{2H_V^2}\right),$$

$$H_V = \frac{H}{f(\chi)} \sqrt{\frac{1}{S+1}}$$

$$S = \frac{St}{\delta}$$
$$\delta = v_{\rm rms}^2 / c_{\rm s}^2$$

a = vortex semi-minor axis H = disk scale height (temperature)  $\chi = \text{vortex aspect ratio}$   $\delta = \text{diffusion parameter}$  St = Stokes number (particle size) $f(\chi) = \text{model-dependent scale function}$ 

#### **Analytical vs Numerical**

-0.2



Lyra & Lin (2013)

#### **Derived quantities**



H = disk scale height (temperature)St = Stokes number (particle size) $\chi = \text{vortex aspect ratio}$  $f(\chi) = \text{model-dependent scale function}$  $\delta = \text{diffusion parameter}$  $\epsilon = \text{dust-to-gas ratio}$ 



Lyra & Lin (2013)



asymmetric mm dust at 63 AU

Gas detection: Keplerian rotation

Micron-sized dust follows gas

### **Turbulence in vortex cores**



Lesur & Papaloizou (2010)

2 -0.1 0.0 0.1 x

 $u_z l c_s$ 0.0

-0.1

0.1

0.2

Lyra & Klahr (2011)

Turbulence in vortex cores:

max at ~10% of sound speed rms at ~3% of sound speed

### Vortices in the bulk of the dead zone



Lyra & Klahr (2011)



#### **Convective Overstability**

Klahr & Hubbard (2014), Lyra (2014), Latter (2015)









Lyra (2014)

#### **Convective Overstability**



Figure 2. Four panels indicating the convective overstability mechanism. In panel (a) a fluid blob is embedded in a radial entropy gradient. In panel (b) it undergoes half an epicycle and returns to its original radius with a smaller entropy than when it begun  $S_1 < S_0$ . It hence feels a buoyancy acceleration inwards and the epicycle is amplified. The process occurs in reverse once the epicycle is complete, shown in panel (c), where now  $S_2 > S_0$ . The oscillations hence grow larger and larger.

#### Convection

#### Sketch of Convection



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Armitage (2010)
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Lesur & Papaloizou (2010)

## **Zombie Vortex Instability**



Like playing guitar. If the same note exists in two different strings, if you pluck one of the strings, the other one moves too, in resonance.

The same may happen. In (a), an initial perturbation has an epicyclic frequency associated with it. This frequency will find resonance with the buoyancy frequency elsewhere in the disk (b). The process repeats.

Difficult to maintain the 1<sup>st</sup> perturbation. The process may not exist in real disks.

# **Thermal Instabilities**



| $\alpha \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$                | $\alpha \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$                        | $\alpha < \sim 10^{-3}$                           |
|--|--|---|
| $\Omega \tau << 1$ (κ < 1 cm <sup>2</sup> /g ) | $\Omega \tau \sim 1$<br>(κ ~ 1–50 cm <sup>2</sup> /g ) | $\Omega \tau >> 1$<br>(κ > 50 cm <sup>2</sup> /g) |

**Opacity** 

Resonance with buoyancy



### Non-ideal MHD: Ohmic, Hall, Ambipolar terms



### Ambipolar diffusion



**Figure 6.** Poloidal field line geometry in our fiducial run OA-b5 (blue solid line). Overplotted are the unit vectors of the poloidal gas velocity (red arrows). The location of the wind launching point, the plasma  $\beta = 1$  point, the FUV ionization front, and the Alfvén point are indicated (black dash-dotted). Also marked is the location at the base of the wind (green dashed).

### Global Ambipolar + Ohmic



