# Hydrodynamical Instabilities in protoplanetary disks: a synthesis.





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#### **Computational Facilities**



#### Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific

#### INVITED REVIEW

## The Initial Conditions for Planet Formation: Turbulence Driven by Hydrodynamical Instabilities in Disks around Young Stars

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#### + Article information

#### Abstract

This review examines recent theoretical developments in our understanding of turbulence in cold, non-magnetically active, planetesimal-forming regions of protoplanetary disks that we refer to throughout as "Ohmic zones." We give a brief background introduction to the subject of disk turbulence followed by a terse pedagogical review of the phenomenology of hydrodynamic turbulence. The equations governing the dynamics of cold astrophysical disks are given and basic



## **Dead zones**





## **Rossby wave instability**



#### Magnetized inner disk + resistive outer disk

Lyra & Mac Low (2012)

## **Hydrodynamical Instabilities**



## **Hydrodynamical Instabilities**



#### **Vertical shear instability**

Angular velocity not constant in cylinders: unstable

1

0.5

0

-0.5

-1



#### **Vertical shear instability**

$$ho_{
m mid} = 
ho_0 \left(rac{R}{R_0}
ight)^p,$$
 $c_{
m s}^2 = c_0^2 \left(rac{R}{R_0}
ight)^q,$ 

$$\Omega = \Omega_{\rm K} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{H}{R} \right)^2 \left( p + q + \frac{q}{2} \frac{Z^2}{H^2} \right) \right]$$

Solberg-Hoiland Criteria



Halvor Solberg





Buoyancy stabilizes! Einar Hoiland The most unstable mode is **isothermal** 

$$d\Omega/dz != 0 \implies dL^2/dz < 0$$
$$ds/dz = 0$$

3<sup>rd</sup> criterion violated

#### **Convective Overstability (née "Subcritic Baroclinic Instability")**

Sketch of the Subcritic Baroclinic Instability



Lesur & Papaloizou (2010)



Armitage (2010)

#### **Convective Overstability (née "Subcritic Baroclinic Instability")**

Sketch of the Subcritic Baroclinic Instability



#### **Convective Overstability**

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



Lyra (2014)

#### **Convective Overstability**

Cooling renders the 2<sup>nd</sup> Solberg-Hoiland criterion irrelevant

$$k_{\rm eq}^2 + N_R^2 > 0,$$





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.

#### Prevalence of Convective Overstability in actual disks



#### **Zombie Vortex Instability**

 $\infty_z$  at x-y plane z=0.40431 t=0



#### Cascade of baroclinic critical layers

Marcus et al. (2015, 2016)

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **Zombie Vortex Instability**

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Cascade of baroclinic critical layers

Marcus et al. (2015, 2016)

#### **Zombie Vortex Instability**

Reproduced with hyperviscosity, But not with Laplacian viscosity (needs 2048<sup>3</sup>, Re  $\sim 10^7$ )

![](_page_18_Figure_2.jpeg)

**Figure 1.** Vertical vorticity  $\omega_z$  in a x-z cut of our fiducial simulation with  $\text{Re}_6 = \text{Pe}_6 = 5 \times 10^5$  at t = 500. Similarly to Marcus et al. 2013, we observe the formation and replication of anticyclonic vortices on a fixed lattice.

The critical layer should have width  $\sim 10^{-4}H$ . Buoyancy (near-adiabatic conditions) needs to be maintained over long times at that length.

![](_page_18_Figure_5.jpeg)

**Figure 5.** Photon mean free path  $\ell_{\rm ph}$  compared to the disc scale height *H* in a  $0.01 M_{\odot}$  disk model. Shortest mean free paths are found close to the midplane in the innermost parts of the disc.

## Only in the very inner disk, that may be MRI-unstable anyway

Lesur & Latter (2016)

## **Hydrodynamical Instabilities**

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Omega \tau << 1 & \Omega \tau \sim 1 & \Omega \tau >> 1 \\ (\kappa < 1 \ cm^2/g \ ) & (\kappa \sim 1-50 \ cm^2/g \ ) & (\kappa > 50 \ cm^2/g \ ) \end{array}$$

#### **Synthesis**

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

Malygin et al. 2017, Lyra & Umurhan 2019, Pfeil & Klahr 2019

### **MHD regimes**

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

Decouple ions and electrons.

![](_page_21_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Figure_6.jpeg)

### **MHD regimes**

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

Electron

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

Neutrals dominate. Decouple ions and electrons.

![](_page_22_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_5.jpeg)

#### Magnetocentrifugal wind

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

Bai & Stone (2013)

Bhétune et al. (2017)

### **MHD regimes**

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_2.jpeg)

Neutrals dominate. Decouple ions and electrons.

![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Figure_6.jpeg)

### Hall MHD

Self-organization

![](_page_25_Picture_2.jpeg)

## A butcher diagram for disk instabilities and structure

![](_page_26_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Height

#### Saturation – vortices and $\alpha$ between 10<sup>-4</sup> and 10<sup>-3</sup>

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### ZVI saturates into vortices

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### COV saturates into vortices

Lesur & Papaloizou (2010)

![](_page_28_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_3.jpeg)

## What sets the size of a vortex? Not shocks....

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

TABLE 2 Hydrodynamical instabilities summary characteristics.

Instability	Violation of	Mechanism Type	Linear growth	Length scale	Opacity	Thermal	ac
	Rayleigh criterion		rate	of linear growth	$\kappa \left(\frac{cm^2}{g}\right)$	time $(\Omega \tau)$	
Vertical Shear	$d\Omega/dz \neq 0$	Angular momentum exchange	$\sqrt{m} q h\Omega/4$	$\pi  q  hH$	< 1	$\ll 1$	$10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$
		between adjacent elements.					
Convective	$N_{R}^{2} < 0$	Buoyant amplification	$ N^2 /4\Omega$	$\sqrt{\chi/\Omega}$	1 - 50	$\sim 1$	$10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$
		of epicyclic oscillations.					
Zombie Vortex	$N_{z}^{2} > 0$	Resonance between Rossby	-	-	> 50	$\gg 1$	$10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$
		and buoyancy frequency.					

#### **Outstanding issues**

	ZVI	COV	VSI
Global model	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$	$\bigcirc$
Vertical Stratification	$\checkmark$	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$
Boundaries with other instabilities	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$
Interaction with dust	$\bigotimes$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Observational Validation/Rule out	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$
Planet Forming Properties	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$	$\bigotimes$

#### **Dust in Vertical-Shear turbulence**

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Synergy with streaming instability?

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

Carrera et al. (2015)

### Conclusions

- Three dynamical instabilities in the Ohmic dead zone
  - Vertical Shear Instability
    - Vertical violation of Solberg-Hoiland criterion
  - Convective Overstability
    - *Amplification of epicyclic motion by buoyancy*
  - Zombie Vortex Instability
    - *Resonance between epicyclic and buyoancy frequency*
  - Different regimes of opacity, operate in different regions
  - Saturate into vortices,  $\alpha \sim 10^{-4} 10^{-3}$
  - Issues:
    - Are they responsible for the observed crescents?
    - Overlap unclear
    - Global model of COV needed
    - Relevance of ZVI unclear/unlikely.
    - Planet formation properties / Synergy with streaming instability