

# AAPF outline

## 1 The need for improved modeling of rotation and magnetism on solar and stellar convection

### 1.1 Understanding stellar structure in the asteroseismic age

- The *Kepler* age has brought with it tons of data on stars, and a great byproduct of the search for exoplanets is a better understanding of stellar interiors through asteroseismology.
- Asteroseismology is really good at getting some measurements right, like mass and radius of solar-like stars. (and describe what else it does well)
- Asteroseismology is dependent on stellar structure models, but those parameterize convection, and we are learning that we really don't understand stellar convection...

### 1.2 The Solar Convective Conundrum

- Helioseismic measurements don't line up with expectations from simulations in two ways: magnitude (generally) and magnitude at large scales (giant cells).
- Two hypotheses for the lack of giant cells are entropy rain and a rotationally constrained deep CZ.
- We've investigated entropy rain a bit and it seems to actually be plausible.
- However, a simpler explanation is that the interior is rotationally constrained. Although this also runs into other problems where e.g., rotationally constrained sims get anti-solar differential rotation.
- Oh and these effects exist in a magnetized environment, too.

### 1.3 The need for an understanding of solar and stellar convection.

- Standard "we need to understand the dynamo because it can mess up our technological society."
- Also, we need to understand convection in the context of our Sun to best use the wealth of asteroseismic data becoming available continually.
- So here I propose to do some basic studies into the nature of how vector fields (rotation and magnetism) affect stellar convection and structure.

## 2 Vector transport by convection at the smallest scales

- Understanding how the smallest scales of convection transport vectors can help us to constrain which parts of physics are important across parameter space.
- By simulating smaller scales we can achieve higher resolution, less laminar flows which more accurately reflect the physics happening in the Sun and stars.
- We understand how convection transports *scalars* at small scales, even in stratified, solar-like environments.
- Vector transport is more complex, and my first studies will try to constrain how angular momentum and magnetic field are transported by convection at small scales (thermals and boxes).

### 2.1 Task A: Vector transport by individual thermals

- Thermals are regions of buoyant atmospheric fluid which fall and become buoyant vortex rings.
- The parameter space of these simulations is: Reynolds number, Prandtl number, and stratification (and Mach number).
- Adding more physics (magnetism, rotation) adds more dimensions to parameter space, so we will collapse this part of parameter space into:  $Pr = 1$ , high stratification, and laminar or turbulent.
- This will allow us to explore how angular momentum and magnetism are transported in terms of parameter spaces which are important to those phenomena.

#### 2.1.1 Task A.1: Transport of angular momentum by thermals

- The new parameters here are Rossby number and latitude.
- We'll figure out behavior in different latitude regimes (0, 45, 90)°.
- We'll figure out behavior in rotationally constrained (low Ro) and unconstrained regimes (high Ro).
- All this will be done in laminar studies, but we'll also study select simulations turbulently.

#### 2.1.2 Task A.2: Transport of magnetic fields by thermals

- The new parameters here are something like a Chandrasekhar number, magnetic Pr, and initial distribution of magnetic field.
- We'll study two magnetic field configurations (strong vertical field and a sheet of field).

- We'll study magnetic  $Pr = 1$  and magnetic  $Pr = 0.1$  or  $10$  (whichever regime stars are in, I forget).
- We'll study the regime of magnetism is important, and magnetism is unimportant.
- All this will be done in laminar studies, but we'll also study select simulations turbulently.

## **2.2 Task B: Vector transport by time-evolving convection in plane-parallel atmospheres**

- Thermals are great because they're single discrete events, but convection is an ongoing continuous process and its time-averaged statistics and evolution are important to characterize; so we'll complicate things a small amount by doing convection in a box.
- The interactions between unstable and stable layers is interesting, in particular how vector transport acts at the interface.
- The interface can be characterized by a stiffness, and we'll study high and low stiffness.
- These simulations will encompass a similar parameter space to the thermals (narrowed down by those results), and stiff and squishy interfaces.

## **3 Accelerated Vector Transport in Global Simulations**

- The work done on small scales will inform a suite of large-scale models in the regimes where magnetism and/or rotation are important.
- Stars are 3D so we need to understand convection in these geometries.
- We can use these 3D sims to better describe & constrain 1D models

### **3.1 Building the tools for accelerated global simulations**

- We know how to accelerate thermal evolution, and this can even be done through proper choice of boundary conditions.
- However large scale mean flows driven by convection often take a long time to spin up and this is essentially wasted time.
- Using the knowledge gained in small scale simulations and the results of large scale simulations, we will build a tool to accelerate this spin-up.
- We will verify that this tool works in a moderate parameter regime.
- We will use this tool to push to previously unachievable regimes.

### **3.2 Linking 3D tools to stellar structure evolution**

- Preliminary work linking stellar structure models and 3D sims has been done to great effect.
- These accelerated atmosphere tools are equivalent to taking large timesteps which superstep convective dynamics, just like stellar structure timesteps.
- If time permits, we will link global simulations with 1D MESA models in order to take large timesteps in MESA with actual convective dynamics that know about rotation and/or magnetism.

### **4 Collaborative studies at CIERA and Northwestern University**

- Description of why this will be a good place.

### **5 Teaching and Outreach**

- Outreach plans I have and how they synergize.

### **6 Summary and Perspectives**