

Simulations of the Dynamics Generated by Solar Global Oscillating Eigenmodes Generated in the Solar Atmosphere

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ABSTRACT

Context. The solar atmosphere exhibits a diverse range of wave phenomena one of the earliest to be discovered was the five minute oscillation, the p-mode. The solar p modes are generated by global resonant oscillations and turbulent motions just beneath the photosphere. The resulting propagation of this wave energy into the solar atmosphere may be used as a diagnostic tool to predict some of the physical characteristics of the sun's atmospheric layers. We report a study of synthetic photospheric oscillations in both non-magnetic and magnetic field of the quiet sun.

Aims. To investigate the dynamics in the solar atmosphere which are generated by solar global eigenmodes of oscillation and to understand mechanisms of leakage of 5 min global oscillations into the atmosphere. Understand the conditions under which chromospheric dynamics evolve as a result of the 5 minute global oscillations - (spicules, waves)

Methods. We report on a series of hydrodynamics simulations modelling a realistic solar atmosphere using a driver located at 0.5Mm above the temperature minimum. With the objective of recreating atmospheric motions generated by global resonant oscillation the driver is spatially structured and is extended in a sinusoidal profile across the base of the computational model. To carry out the simulations, we employed our the MHD code SMAUG (Sheffield MHD Accelerated Using GPUs). A combination of the VALIIC and McWhirter solar atmospheres and coronal density profiles were used as the background equilibrium model in the simulations. Vertical and horizontal harmonic sources, located at the footpoint region of the open magnetic flux tube, are incorporated in the calculations, to excite oscillations in the domain of interest.

Results. Our results demonstrate the conversion of modes with a period of 30s mode with a period of 180s, demonstrating that the Chromosphere is a source of 180s modes. The results indicate a shift in frequency arising from interference between the driven waves and reflections from the transition layer.

Conclusions.

Key words. magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) – oscillations – MHD waves – solar atmosphere

1. Introduction

The solar atmosphere exhibits a diverse range of wave phenomena. The first Observations of (Leighton 1960) reported vertical motions on the solar surface with an amplitude of 300-400m/s with a period of 296s observations of Ca K band. These ubiquitous oscillations are referred to as the p-modes. The idea that these motions result from standing acoustic waves in the solar interior was proposed by Ulrich 1970 (Ulrich 1970) Reported that vertical wavelength comparable to horizontal wavelength and is only 1000-5000km. (Leibacher 1971). These modes are pressure waves, the main restoring force for these oscillations is the pressure the five minute oscillation is the main manifestation of these modes. The photosphere constantly buffeting and movement driven by periodic and random motions e.g turbulent motions in photosphere or global effects such as those induced by p modes. The solar p modes are generated by global resonant

oscillations and turbulent motions just beneath the photosphere. These resonant modes are reflected at the surface by the steep change in density. The increase of the sound speed causes refraction. The resulting propagation of this wave energy into the solar atmosphere may be used as a diagnostic tool to predict physical characteristics of the sun's atmospheric layers. We report on a series of hydrodynamical simulations modelling a realistic solar atmosphere using a driver located at 0.5Mm above the temperature minimum. The objective of recreating atmospheric motions generated by global resonant oscillation the driver is extended in a sinusoidal profile across the base of the computational model. The work presented here considers both hydrodynamic and magnetohydrodynamic scenarios. There is a significant body of work reporting on observational, theoretical and computational studies of p-mode phenomena. We briefly summarise some of this work here a detailed review was prepared by (Khomenko 2013). The upward propagating acoustic shocks in the solar chromosphere were reported by Carlson Stein 1992 (Carlsson 1992). The study used a 1D computational model with a realistic model of the so-

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lar atmosphere and a model of radiative transfer. The resulting models of the generation of CaK2V bright points from acoustic waves with periods of 30, 180, and 300 s demonstrated that a 180 s periodic driver produced results consistent with observations.

Considering the magnetohydrodynamic models we compare our results to the study undertaken by (Hindman 1996), here driven acoustic oscillations within a vertical magnetic field was considered. The study was extended by (James 2003) who demonstrated that the inclined magnetic field lines provide the favourable conditions for leakage of p-modes into the solar atmosphere and generation of spicules. Marsh (Marsh2003) provided evidence of signal propagation from the transition region to corona 3 min period band, such propagation occurred along field-lines this is also reported by (Zhukov 2002). A recurring theme in many results is the observation that 3 min oscillations at transition region are related to 5 min global p-modes. There are two main view points for considering the mode conversion behaviour. These are to consider the chromosphere as resonant cavity and the behaviour of the cut off frequency.

A. Vecchio et al 2008 (?) use SDO imaging data to identify the spatio-temporal occurrence of the acoustic shocks. We compare it with the photospheric dynamics by means of both Fourier and wavelet analysis, and study the influence of magnetic structures. Portions of the internetwork regions undergo very few shocks, as "shadowed" by the horizontal component of the magnetic field. The latter is betrayed by the presence of chromospheric fibrils, observed in the core of the CaII line as slanted structures with distinct dynamical properties. The shadow mechanism appears to operate also on the very small scales of internetwork magnetic elements, and provides for a very pervasive influence of the magnetic field even in the quietest region analyzed. The observational results of Roth et al (Roth2010) provide evidence for the excitation of solar acoustic oscillations. The observed oscillations were excited by turbulent flows in the intergranular lanes. The observations using the ImaX instrument on the Sunrise observatory the turbulent downdrafts in the dark intergranular lanes are primary targets. So-called acoustic events, which are individual sunquakes with epicenters near the solar surface and located in the intergranular lanes, are assumed to feed continuously energy into the resonant p-modes of the Sun. Roth presents wavefronts rippling near a granule and oriented along the direction of the intergranular lane. It is understood that magnetic field lines suppress the p-mode oscillations (?) Sensitivity of p-mode absorption on magnetic region properties and kernel functions This has been corroborated further by the work of (?) demonstrating that the Interaction of p mode with a collection of thin magnetic tubes (article) recently Sol et al (2012) (Konkol 2012) have demonstrated that velocity pulses result in oscillatory phenomena with a period of a few minutes. There two dimensional simulations demonstrate that the periods of the oscillations are dependent on the amplitude and vertical location of the initial pulse. There model considers such propagation in a magnetized atmosphere with a non vertical field. Observations of the sausage pinch instability in the solar corona have been made with the SDO/AIA (Srivastava 2013)

There is a large body of computational work already undertaken Among others the following (?) et al study the Oscillatory Response of the 3D Solar Atmosphere to the Leakage of Photospheric Motion results are discussed in detail: i) High-frequency waves are shown to propagate from the lower atmosphere across the transition region, experiencing relatively low reflection, and transmitting most of their energy into the corona; ii) the thin transition region becomes a wave guide for horizontally propagating

surface waves for a wide range of driver periods, and particularly at those periods that support chromospheric standing waves; iii) the magnetic field acts as a waveguide for both high- and low-frequency waves originating from the photosphere and propagating through the transition region into the solar corona.

Previous work has considered either point source drivers with a gaussian velocity distribution or work e.g. by K. Murawski, T.V. Zaqarashvili (2010) (Murawski 2010) has demonstrated that The numerical simulations show that the strong initial pulse may lead to the quasi periodic rising of chromospheric material into the solar corona in the form of spicules Khomenko and SantaMaria (Khomenko2012). The objective of the work presented here is to characterize the dynamics generated by these solar global oscillating eigenmodes generated in the solar atmosphere. These modes ARE some sort of global eigenmodes. The coherence length of eigenoscillations at the photosphere is about a few Mm, and the power peaks at around 3-5 mins. We consider the behaviour of these modes in a non magnetic atmosphere, an atmosphere with a uniform magnetic field and with magnetic flux tubes of different widths.

2. Numerical Computation Methods and Excitation Drivers

Before considering the implementation of the SMAUG application we now recall briefly the numerical solution method employed for the SAC code. The 3D numerical simulations described here were undertaken using SMAUG, the GPU implementation of the Sheffield Advanced Code (Shelyag 2008). SMAUG is a numerical MHD solver that allows the simulation of the various physical processes in magnetised plasmas. With the upper boundary of our model in the Solar Corona and the lower boundary in the photosphere the SAC code is well suited for modelling the leakage of wave energy from the photosphere, through the transition zone and into the photosphere. With open boundary conditions for the lower and upper boundaries it is possible to model wave propagation for time scales characterised by the 5 minute p-mode induced oscillations. The general system of MHD equations are

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\rho) = 0, \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial (\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\rho \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{B}) + \nabla p_t = \rho \mathbf{g}, \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}e - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}p_t) + \nabla p_t = \rho \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{v}, \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{v}) = 0. \quad (4)$$

In these equations ρ is the mass density, \mathbf{v} is the velocity, \mathbf{B} is the magnetic field, e is the energy density, p_t is the total pressure and \mathbf{g} is the gravitational acceleration vector.

The total pressure p_t is written as

$$p_t = p_k + \frac{\mathbf{B}^2}{2}, \quad (5)$$

where p_k is the kinetic pressure given by

$$p_k = (\gamma - 1)\left(e - \frac{\rho \mathbf{v}^2}{2} - \frac{\mathbf{B}^2}{2}\right). \quad (6)$$

The equations (1) to (6) are applicable to an ideal compressible plasma. The SAC code is based on perturbed versions of these equations, thus the variables ρ , e and \mathbf{B} are expressed in terms of perturbed and background quantities as

$$\rho = \tilde{\rho} + \rho_b, \quad (7)$$

$$e = \tilde{e} + e_b, \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \tilde{\mathbf{B}} + \mathbf{B}_b. \quad (9)$$

where $\tilde{\rho}$ is the perturbed density, \tilde{e} is the perturbed energy and $\tilde{\mathbf{B}}$ is the perturbed magnetic field. The background quantities with a subscript b do not change in time, as we assume a magneto-hydrostatic equilibrium of the background plasma which may have a gravitational field present, denoted by g . Hyper-diffusion and hyper-resistivity (?) are implemented to achieve numerical stability of the computed solution of the MHD equations. The full set of MHD equations, including the hyper-diffusion source terms are shown in Appendix A.

$$V_z = A \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T_s}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-(x-x_0)^2}{\Delta x^2}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-(z-z_0)^2}{\Delta z^2}\right), \quad (10)$$

$$V_z = A \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T_s}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(n+1)\pi x}{L_x}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-(z-z_0)^2}{\Delta z^2}\right), \quad (11)$$

$$V_z = A_{nm} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T_s}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(n+1)\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(m+1)\pi y}{L_y}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-(z-z_0)^2}{\Delta z^2}\right) \quad (12)$$

We undertaken simulations for different modes of oscillation where the mode is define by the index n and m in equation (12) and (11). Since we are investigating the leakage of energy into the solar atmosphere it is necessary

$$E_{nm}(z, t) = \rho A_{nm} I_{nm} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T_s}\right) \exp\left(\frac{-(z-z_0)^2}{\Delta z^2}\right), \quad (13)$$

$$I_{nm} = \int_{-L/2}^{+L/2} \int_{-L/2}^{+L/2} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi t}{T_s}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(n+1)\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sin\left(\frac{(m+1)\pi y}{L_y}\right), \quad (14)$$

$$A_{nm} = \frac{2A_{00}}{(n^2 + m^2 + 2(n+m) + 2)}, \quad (15)$$

3. Solar Atmospheric Model

In order to model the behaviour of physical processes in the Solar atmosphere a physically representative model is needed. An option is the use of a parametrisation of the tempearture of the solar atmosphere which may be a smoothed step function profile (Murawski 10). Results have demonstrated the need for observationally derived semi-emprical models of the solar atmosphere. There is much discussion about model validity and the work undertaken to demonstrate the reliability of the assumptions used to construct stic models of the solar chromosphere (Carlsson1995), (Kalkofen2012). The contention arises

from the dynamical nature of the solar chromosphere for example local dynamo action has been suggested as a mechanism of Joule heating in the solar chromosphere (Leenaarts2011). The model atmosphere employed here is an observationally derived semi-empirical representation of the quiet sun. With the fundamental assumption of hydrostatic equilibrium a model of the chromosphere in equilibrium is constructed using the VALIc model (Vernazza1981). For the region of the solar atmosphere above 2.5Mm the results of the energy balance model of solar coronal heating has been used this model also includes an acoustic contribution comparable to the hydrostatic pressure (McWhirter1975)

4. Hydrodynamic Simulations

In this section we present the result of the application of a vertical velocity driver located at the photosphere. This acoustic p-mode driver excites waves which propagate into the atmosphere. We consider drivers with a time period of 30s, 180s and 300s. The synthetic driver with period 300s used in the simulations corresponds to the dominant five minute solar global p mode. Here we extend the work of (Malins2007A) by applying a complex spatially structured driver across the lower boundary of a realistic 3D model of the Solar atmosphere and mimicing solar global oscillations. This driver may be represented as an ensemble of solar global eigenmodes. In the real Sun photospheric p-mode oscillations have a horizontal wavelength and coherence, simulations were run for three typical cases of such horizontally coherent drivers. These are a driver with a wavelength of 8 Mm applied along the middle 4 Mm of the base of the computational domain with sinusoidal horizontal amplitude dependence (a “fundamental mode”) a driver with wavelength 4 Mm applied the same way (the “first harmonic”) a second harmonic with wavelength 2Mm was also considered. (Malins2007A) the work here considered times 267s demonstrating structures evolving in the transition zone. The work presented in (Malins2007A) was applied to a 2 dimensional atmosphere. In addition to the consideration different blending of harmonics are model is 3D. The synthetic driver is given by (11) it has a coherence length L_0 of 4Mm, the width Δz is 4km and the vertical location is the temperature minimum which is 0.5Mm above the lower boundary of the model i.e. the chromosphere. The point driver described by (10) has width Δx of 4Mm, the width Δz is 4km. Due to the high gradients, partial reflection of acoustic waves at all frequencies is expected at the transition region. The transition region is the upper boundary of the chromospheric cavity, it has been previously suggested that this is the source of three-minute transition-region oscillations (Leibacher 12).

For the fundamental modes illustrated in figure 4, 5 and 6 we observe that there is no significant structure at the transition zone. However, the 30s mode is particularly interesting detailed movies demonstrate the rapid expansion of the plume as it crosses the transition zone this is accompanied with an increase in the transverse velocity this observation is true for both 180s, 30s and 300s driver scenarios. As the mode order is increased from $n = 0$, to $n = 1$ and then $n = 2$ its is observed that transition region structuring becomes apparent and is more reminiscent of the observations of (Malins2007B).

Figure 3 shows three dimensional snapshots of the evolution of V_z . This is for the fundamental mode driver with a period of 30s for the case of a nonmagnetic configuration. The figure shows profiles obtained at the times (a) $t = 112$ seconds, (b) $t = 216$ sec-

onds, (c) $t = 244$ seconds, and (d) $t = 316$ seconds. The distance-time plot in figure fig30dt_{mode0} shows a plot of the z – component of the velocity at different altitudes through the atmospheric configuration and at different time steps. The plot shows clearly the conversion of the modes.

With the objective of characterising and understanding the nature of the frequency shifts of the excited modes we consider a number of cases

5. Magnetohydrodynamic Simulations

6. Conclusions

1. The results demonstrate the mode conversion of modes with a 30s period to modes with a 180s period (?). This supports the idea that the chromosphere is a source for the 180s period oscillations.
2. Increased transition region structuring is observed for the higher order modes
3. Magnetic flux tube enhance the structuring in the transition zone

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| Label | Density Profile | Gravity Enabled | Driver |
|-------|------------------|-----------------|---|
| B | VALIIC | yes | single driver at photosphere |
| C | VALIIC | no | single driver at photosphere |
| D | constant density | yes | single driver at photosphere |
| E | constant density | no | single driver at photosphere |
| F | constant density | no | two drivers at the photosphere and transition zone. |

Table 1. Simulations Used to Characterise Oscillatory Motions Arising from the Surface Driver.

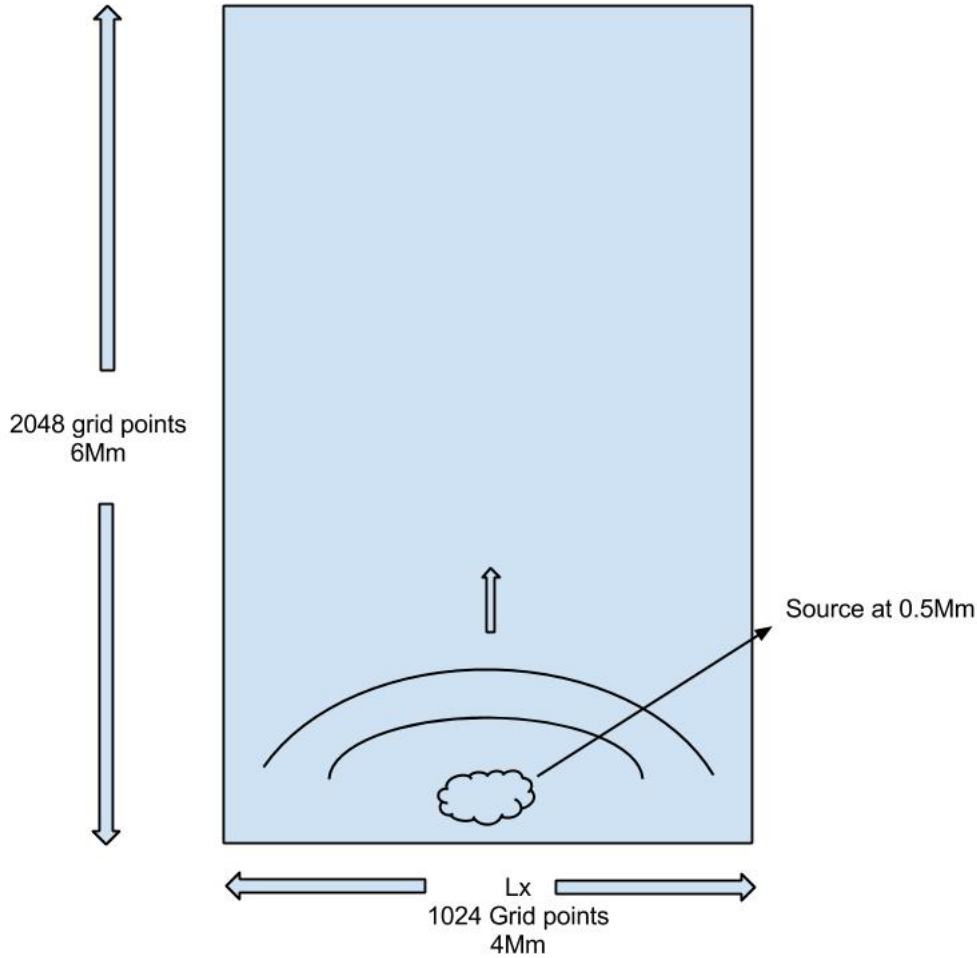


Fig. 1. Illustration highlighting the model configuration.

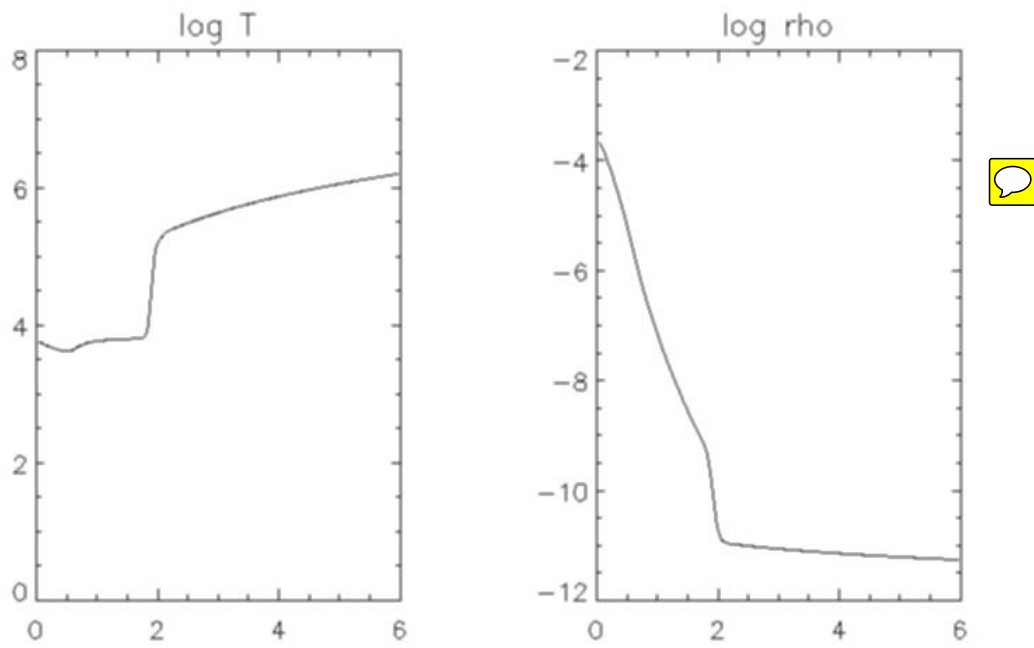


Fig. 2. Temperature and Density Profiles Used for the Model Atmosphere.

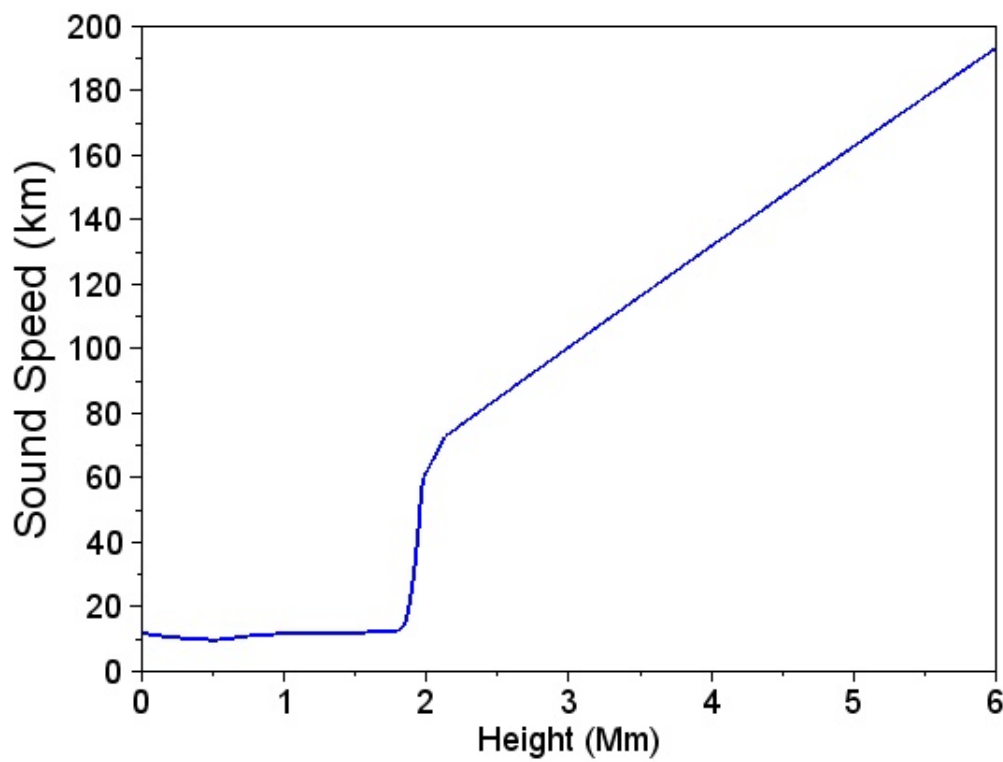


Fig. 3. Sound Speed Profile for the Model Atmosphere.

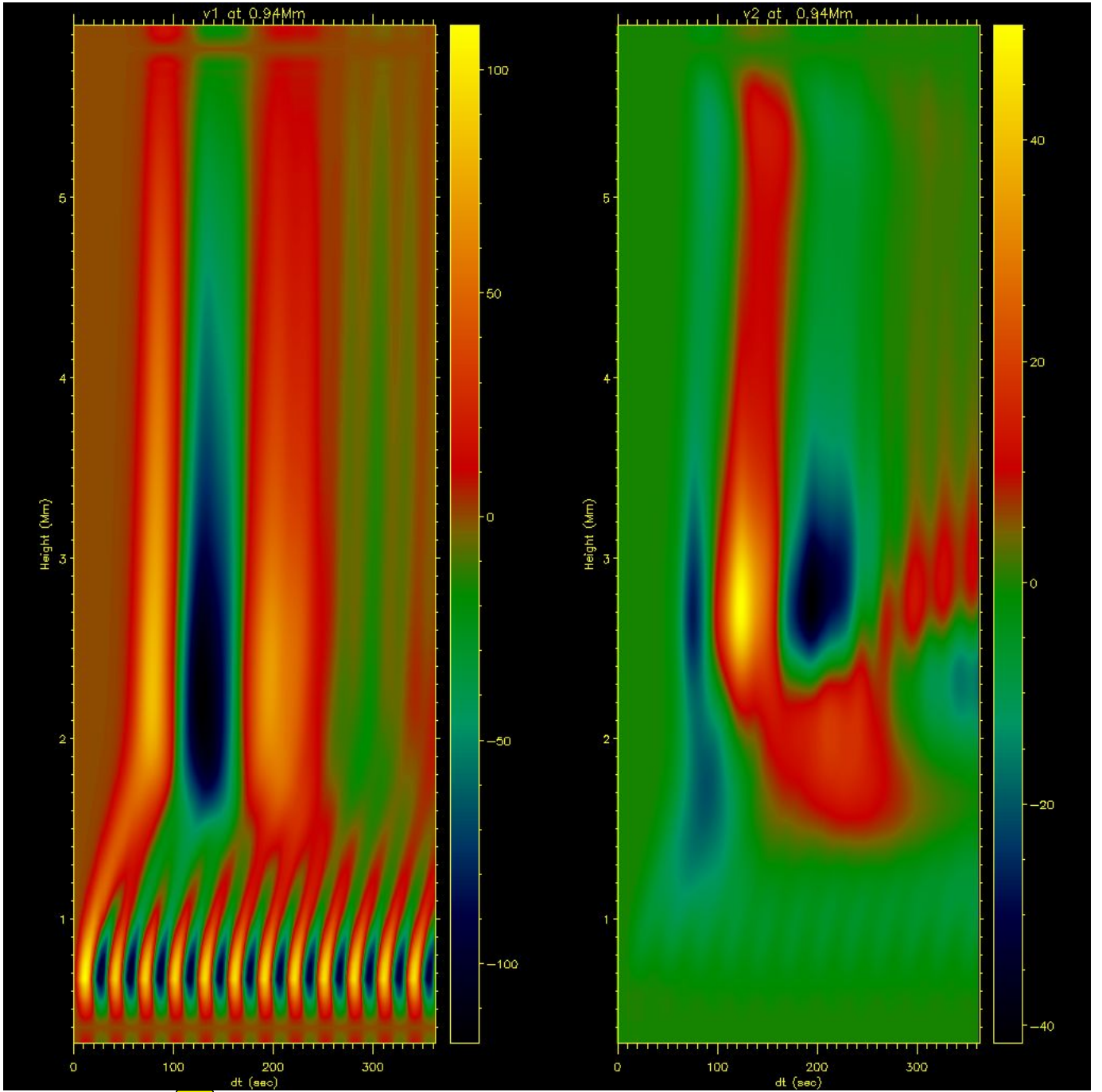


Fig. 4. Three-dimensional snapshots of the evolution of V_z showing the development of the initial perturbation in the nonmagnetic equilibrium generated by the 30-second-period driver (in ms^{-1}) at the times (a) $t = 112$ seconds, (b) $t = 216$ seconds, (c) $t = 244$ seconds, and (d) $t = 316$ seconds. The z -axis corresponds to height measured in megameters and the x and y horizontal axes are parallel to the solar surface.

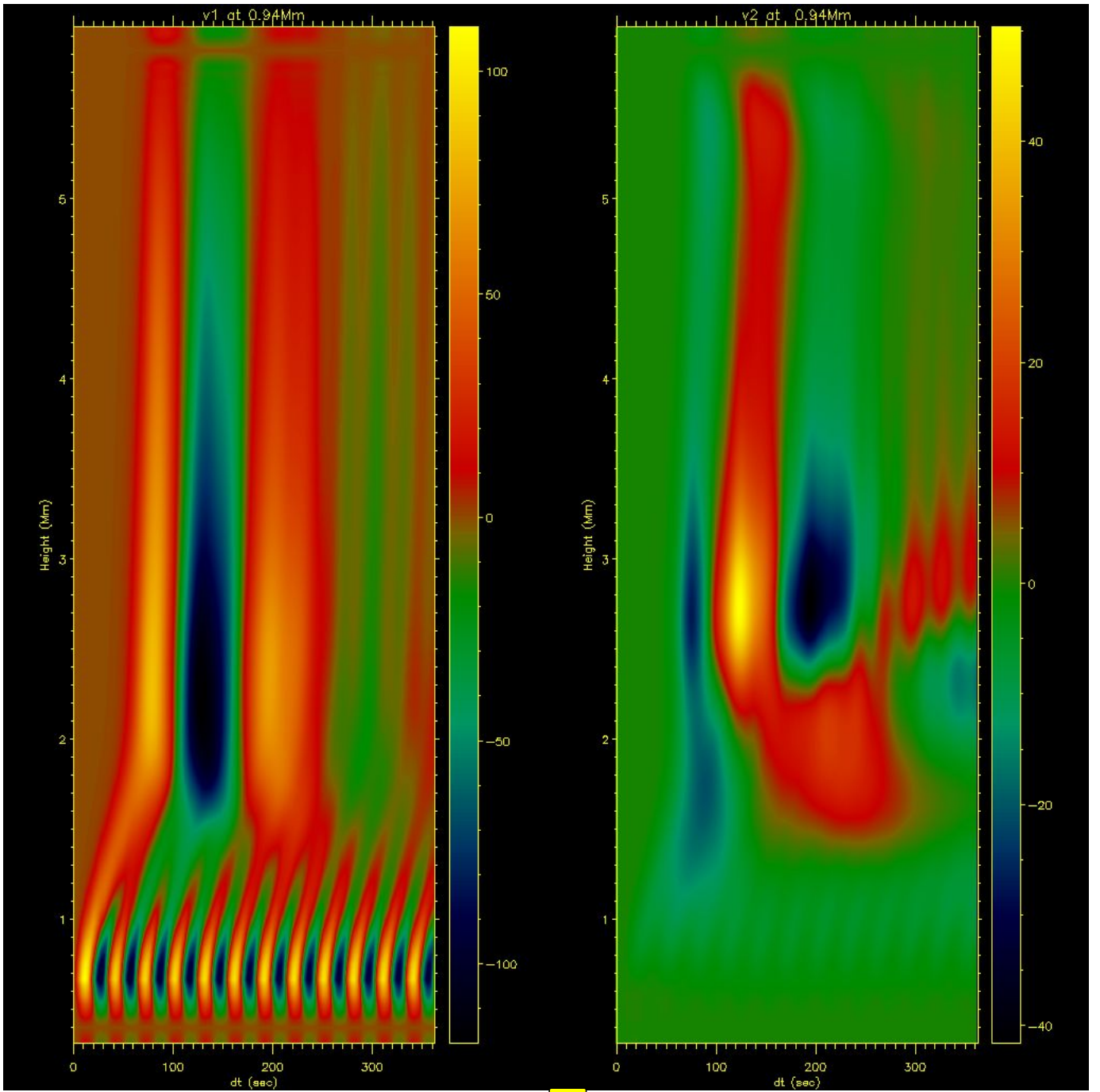


Fig. 5. Distance-time plot for fundamental model with 30s period for the x and y component of the velocity. The section is taken at 0.94Mm across the box.

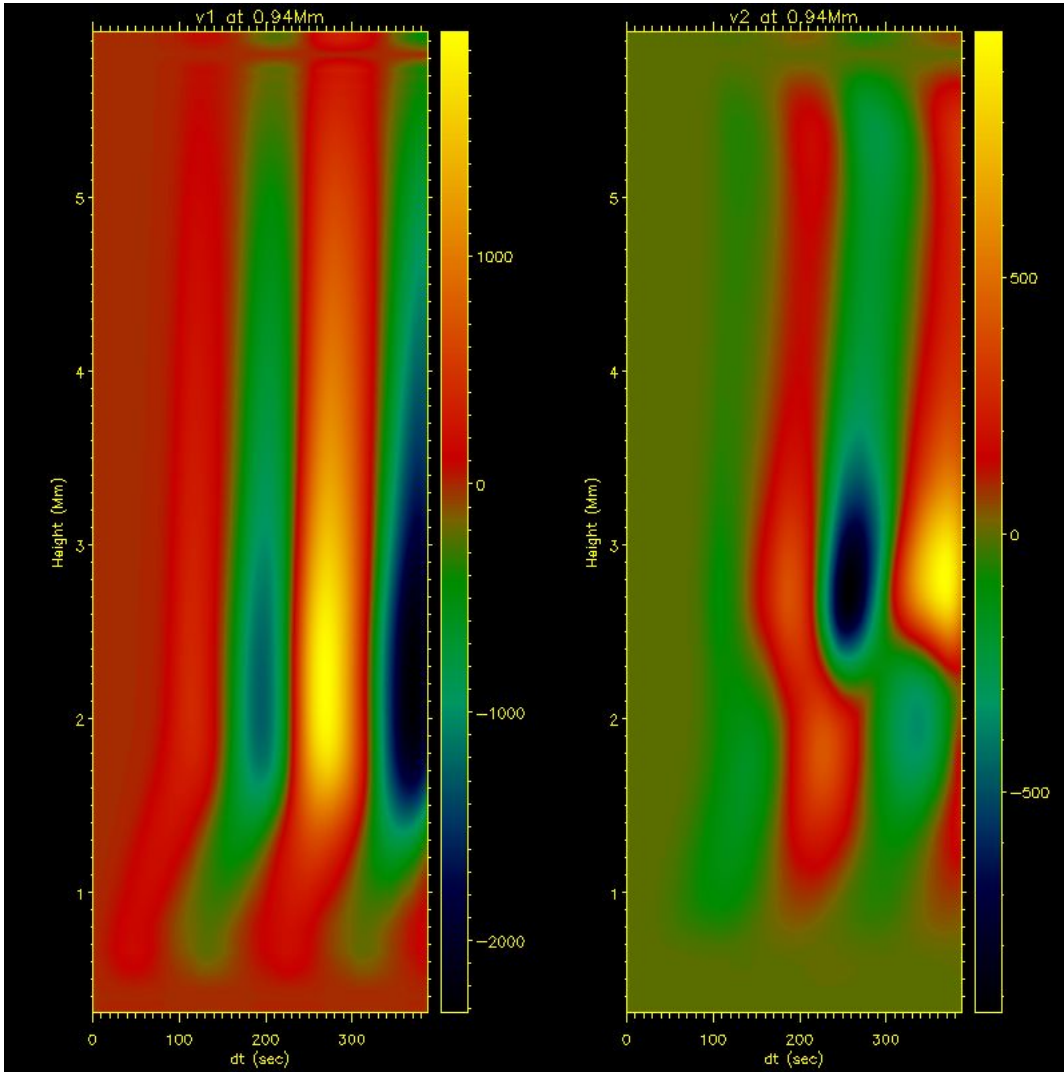


Fig. 6. Distance time plot for fundamental model with 180s period for the z and y component of the velocity. The section is taken at 0.94Mm across the box.

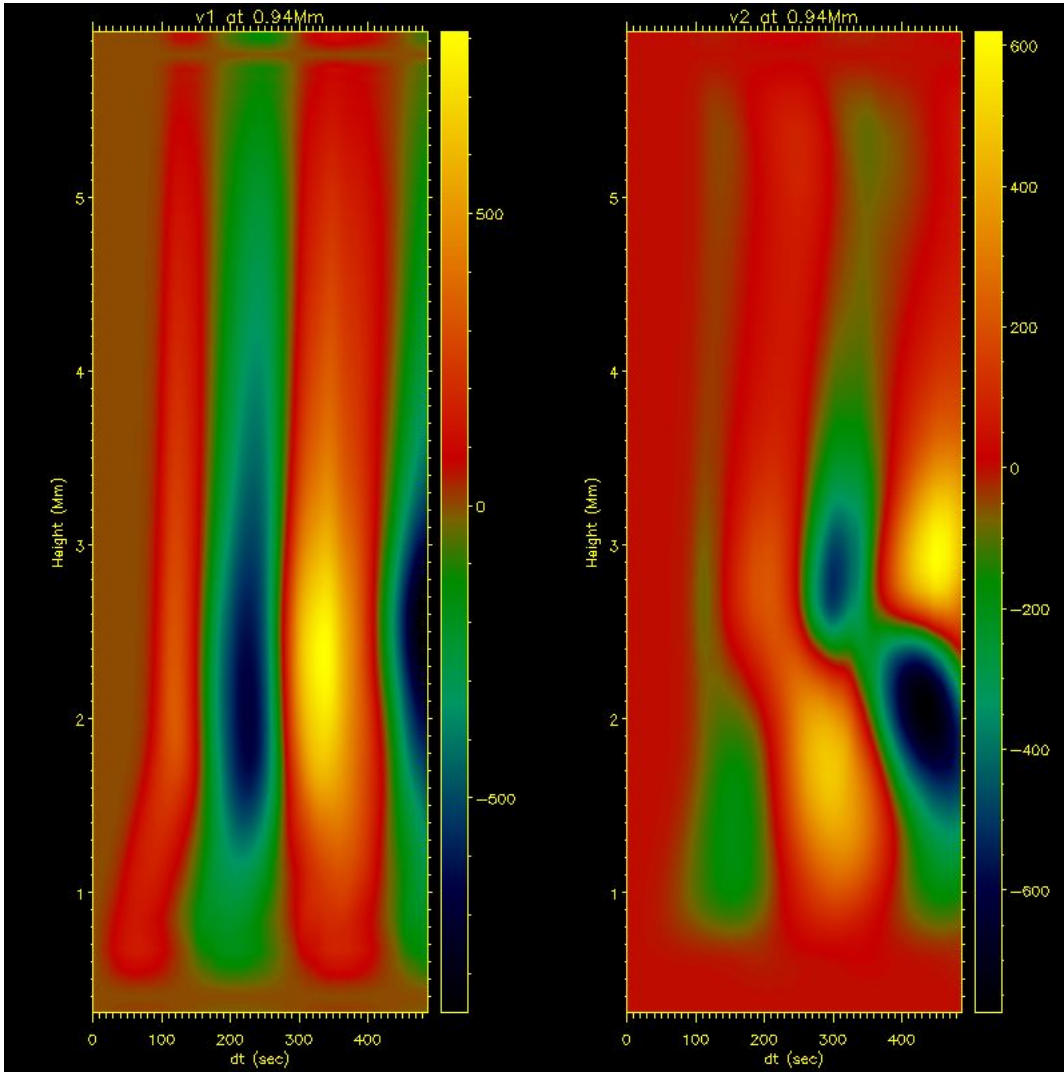
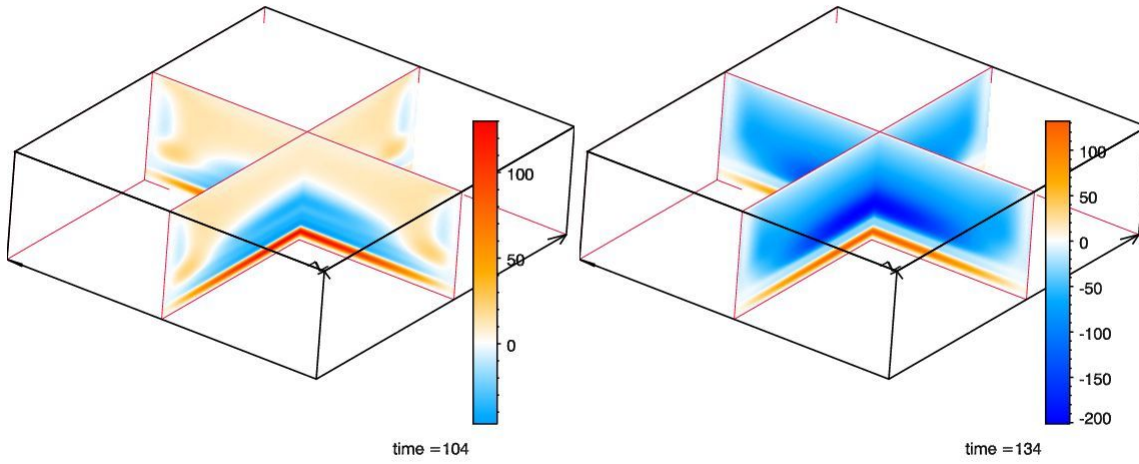


Fig. 7. Distance time plot for fundamental model with 300s period for the z and y component of the velocity. The section is taken at 0.94Mm across the box.

4b0_3840999eps

4b0_134000.eps



4b0_3880999eps

4b0_149000.eps

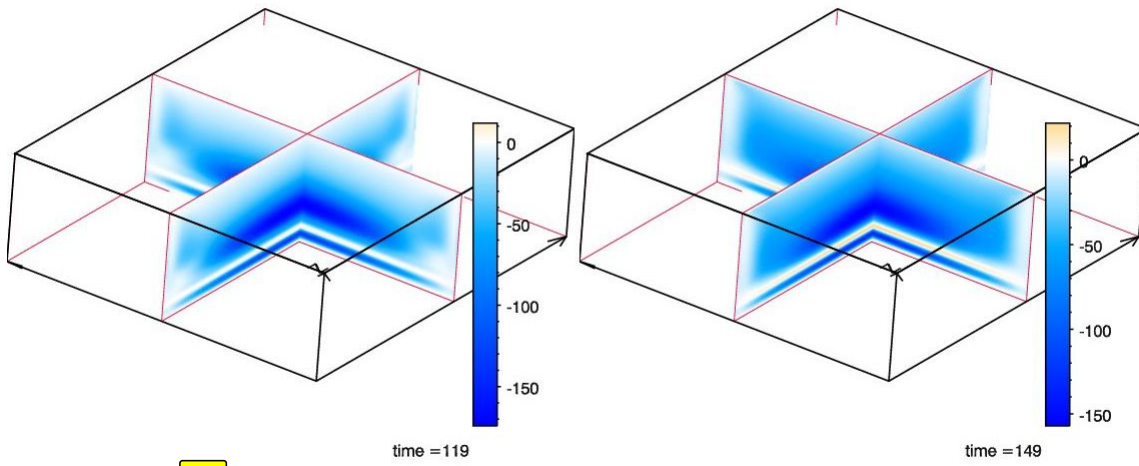
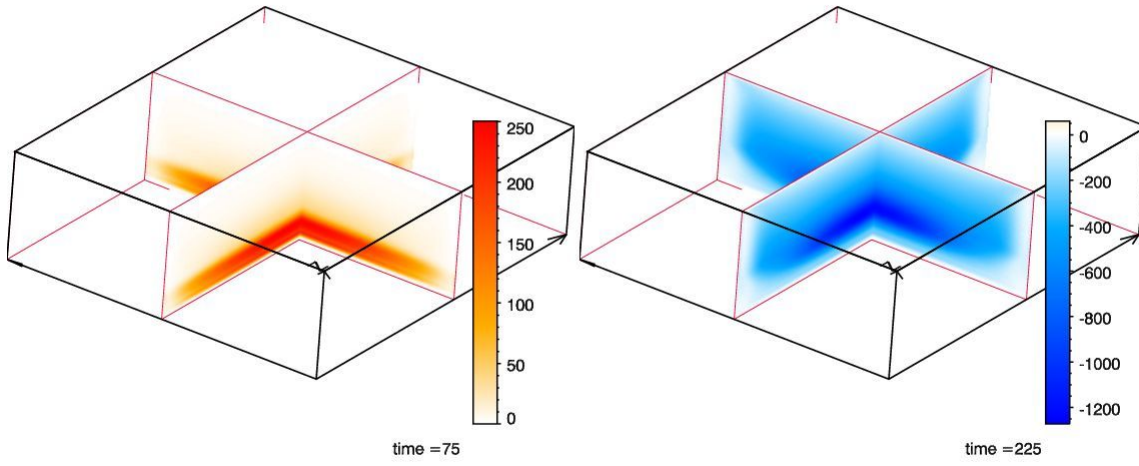


Fig. 8. A three dimensional snapshot showing the vertical component of the velocity for the 30s driver for $t = 104s$, $t = 119s$, $t = 134s$ and $t = 149s$.

5b0_788099eps

5b0_225000.eps



5b0_1480999eps

5b0_300000.eps

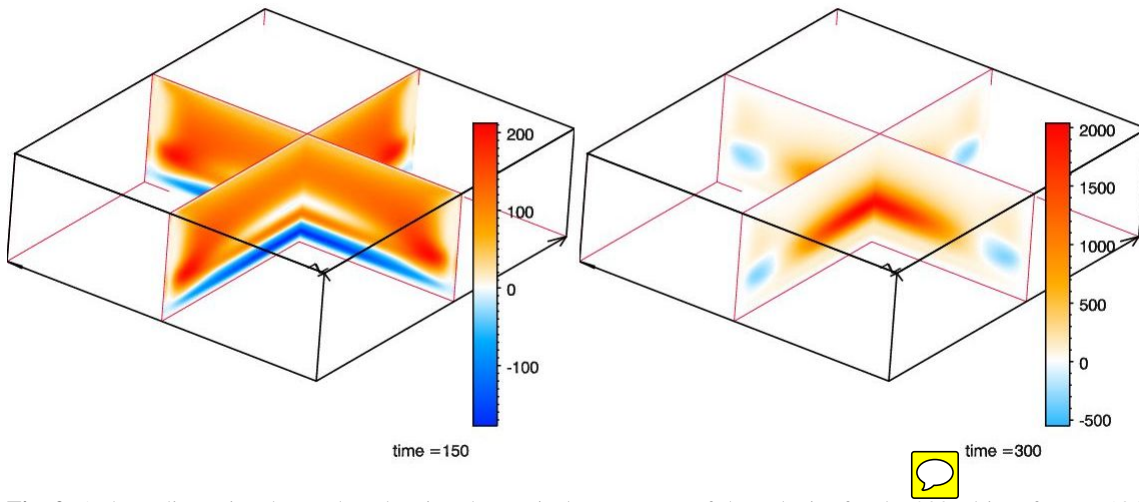
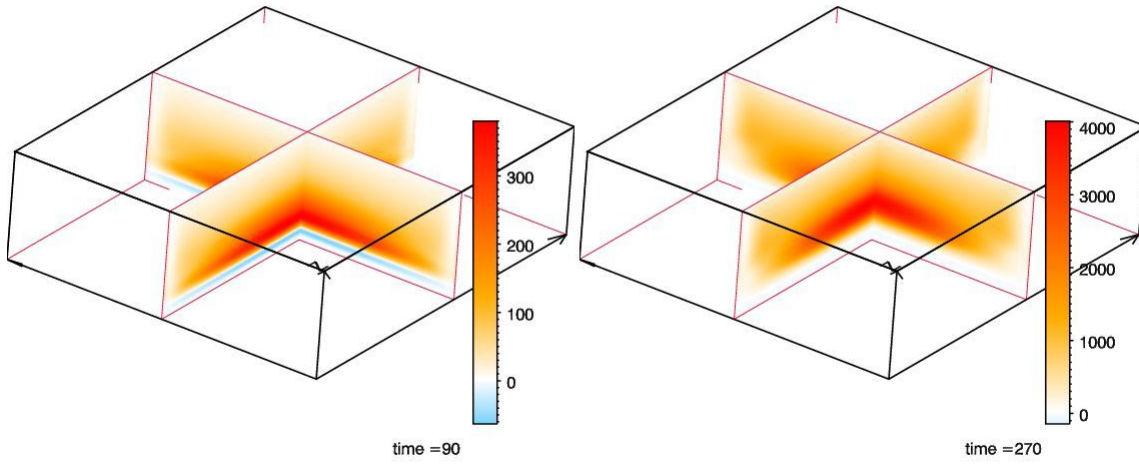


Fig. 9. A three dimensional snapshot showing the vertical component of the velocity for the 300s driver for $t = 104s$, $t = 119s$, $t = 134s$ and $t = 149s$.

6b0_988099eps

6b0_270000.eps



6b0_388099eps

6b0_360000.eps

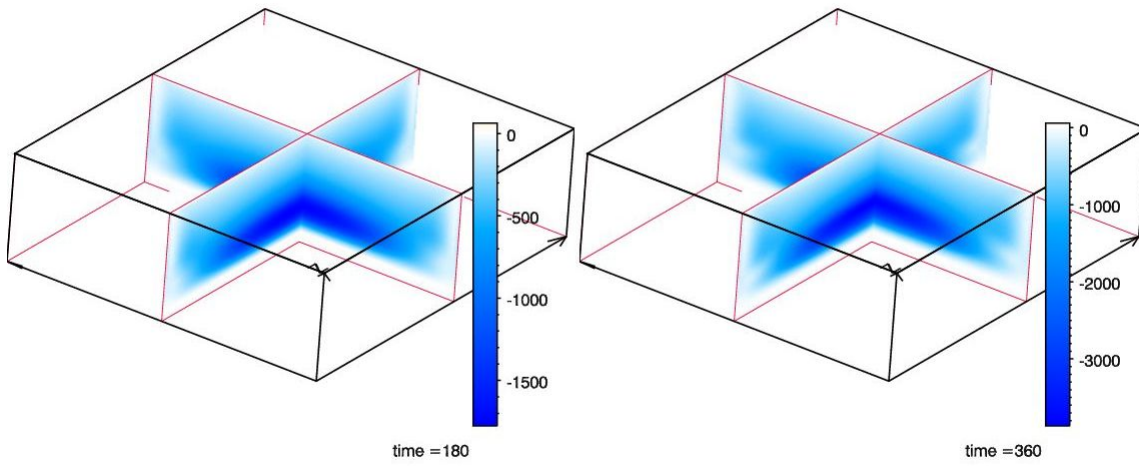


Fig. 10. A three dimensional snapshot showing the vertical component of the velocity for the 180s driver for $t = 104s$, $t = 119s$, $t = 134s$ and $t = 149s$.

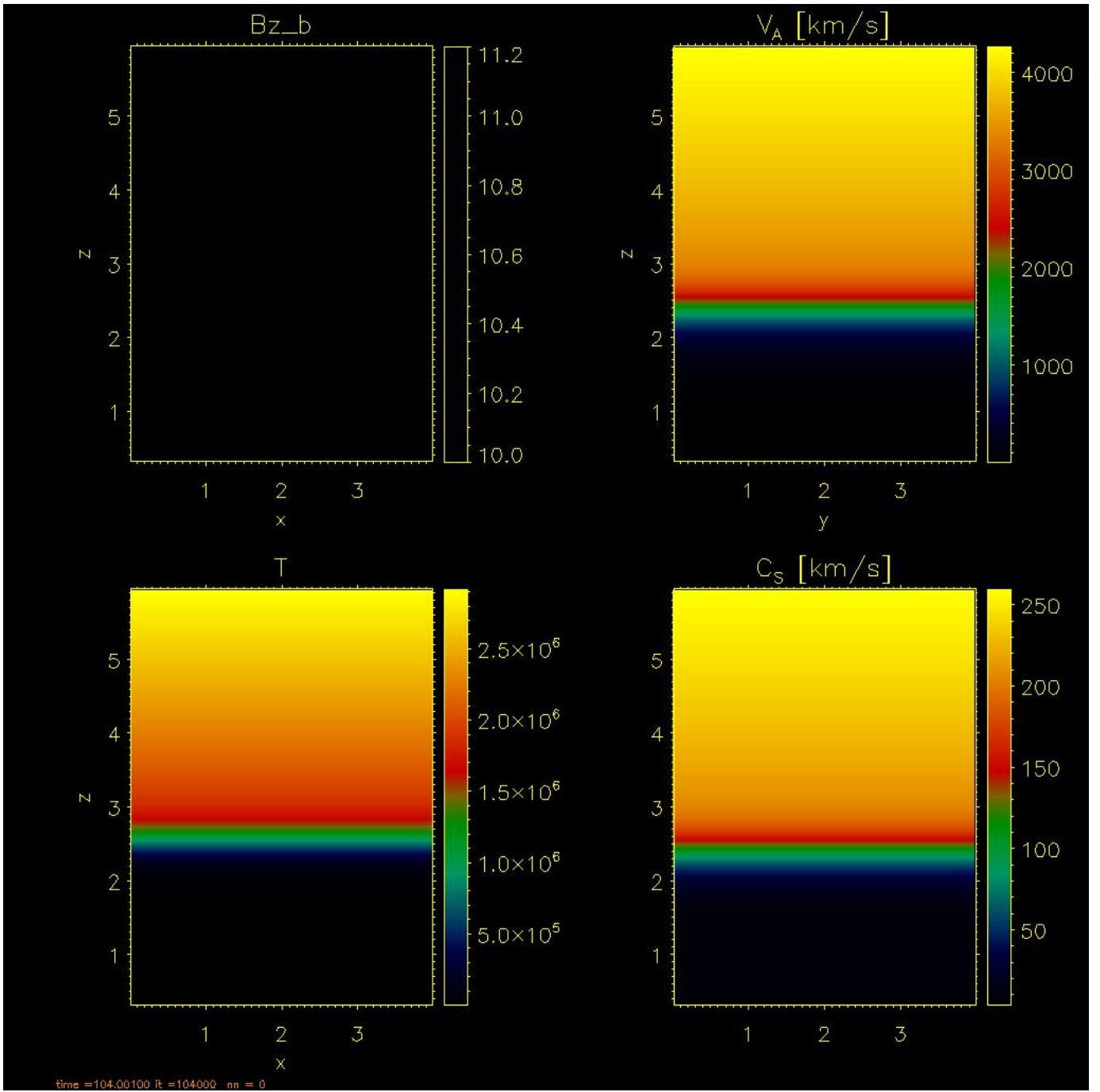


Fig. 11. Magnetic Field Configuration, Alfvén Speed, Sound Speed and Temperature Profile for model with constant vertical 10G Magnetic Field.

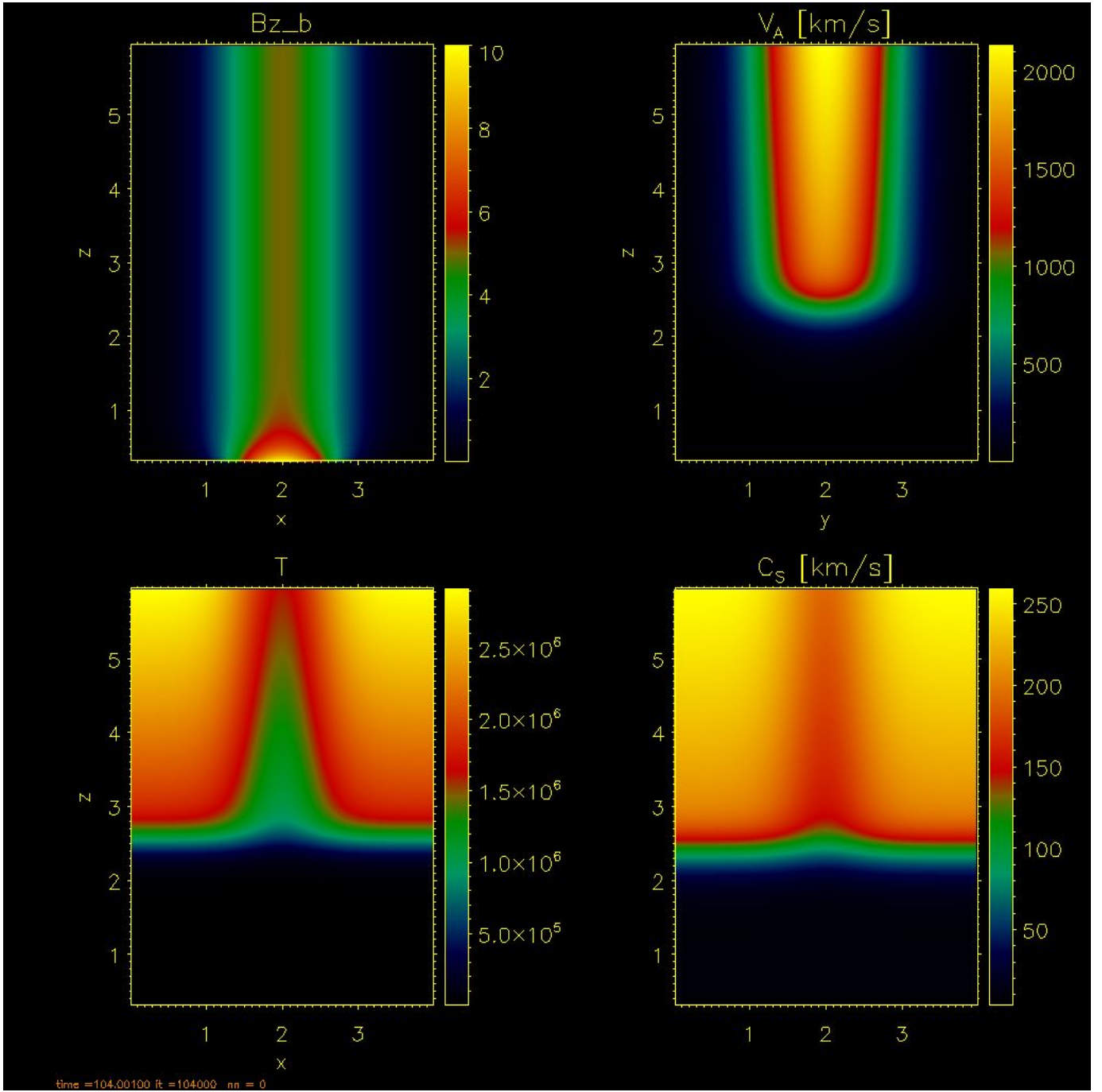


Fig. 12. Magnetic Field Configuration, Alfven Speed, Sound Speed and Temperature Profile for model with 1Mm width Flux Tube.



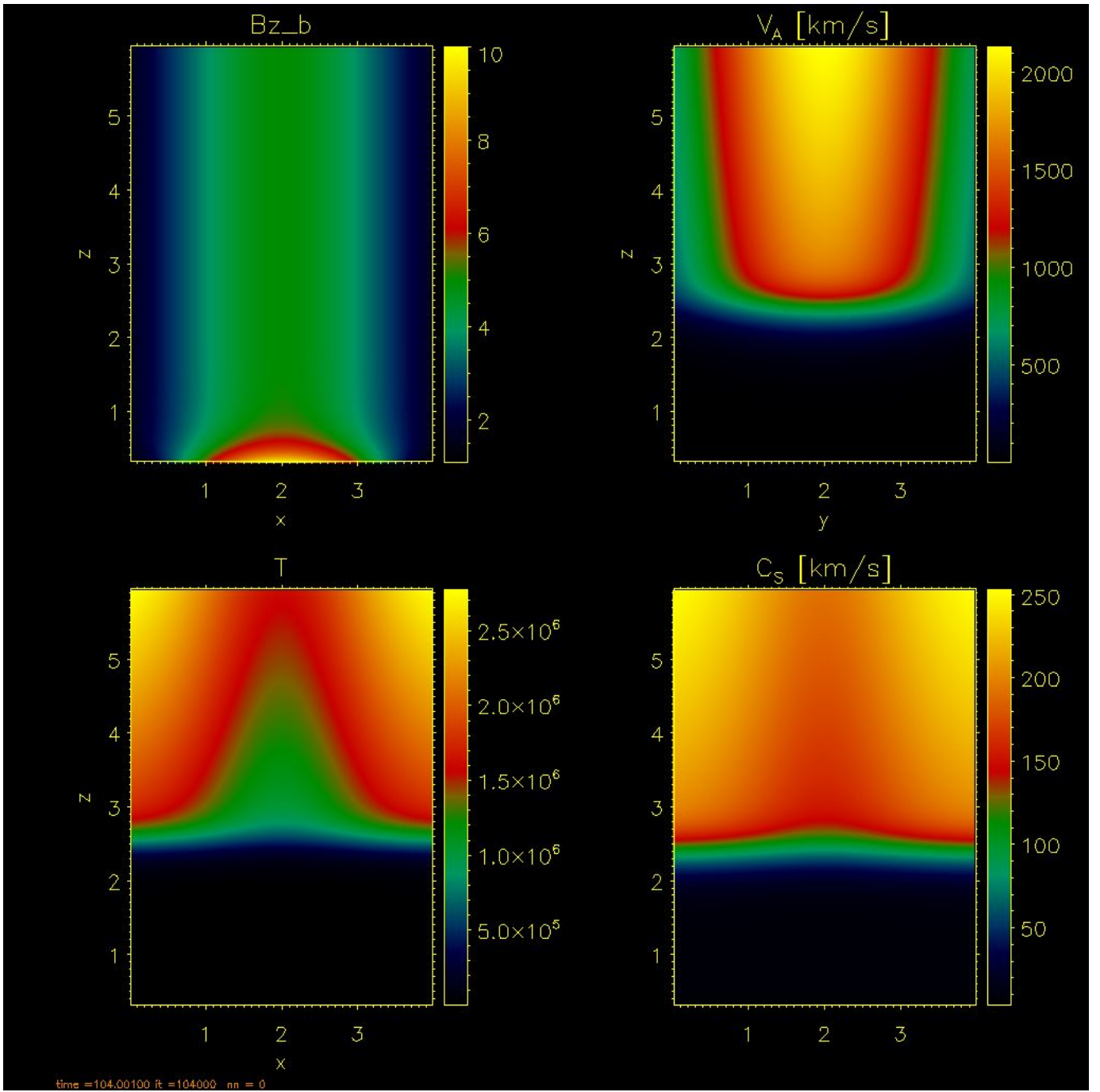
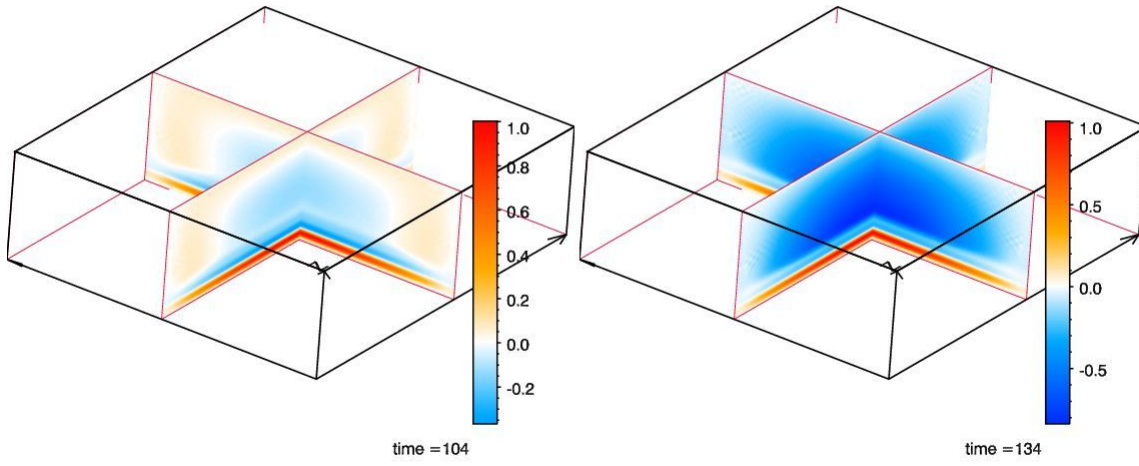


Fig. 13. Magnetic Field Configuration, Alfvén Speed, Sound Speed and Temperature Profile for model with 2Mm width Flux Tube.

4b0_b1_384099eps

4b0_b1_134000.eps



4b0_b13885.png

4b0_b1_149000.eps

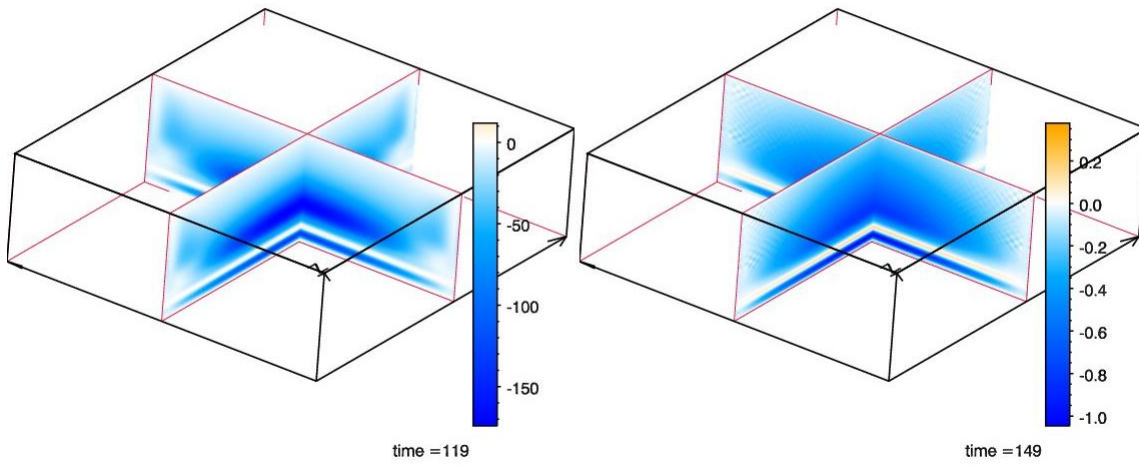
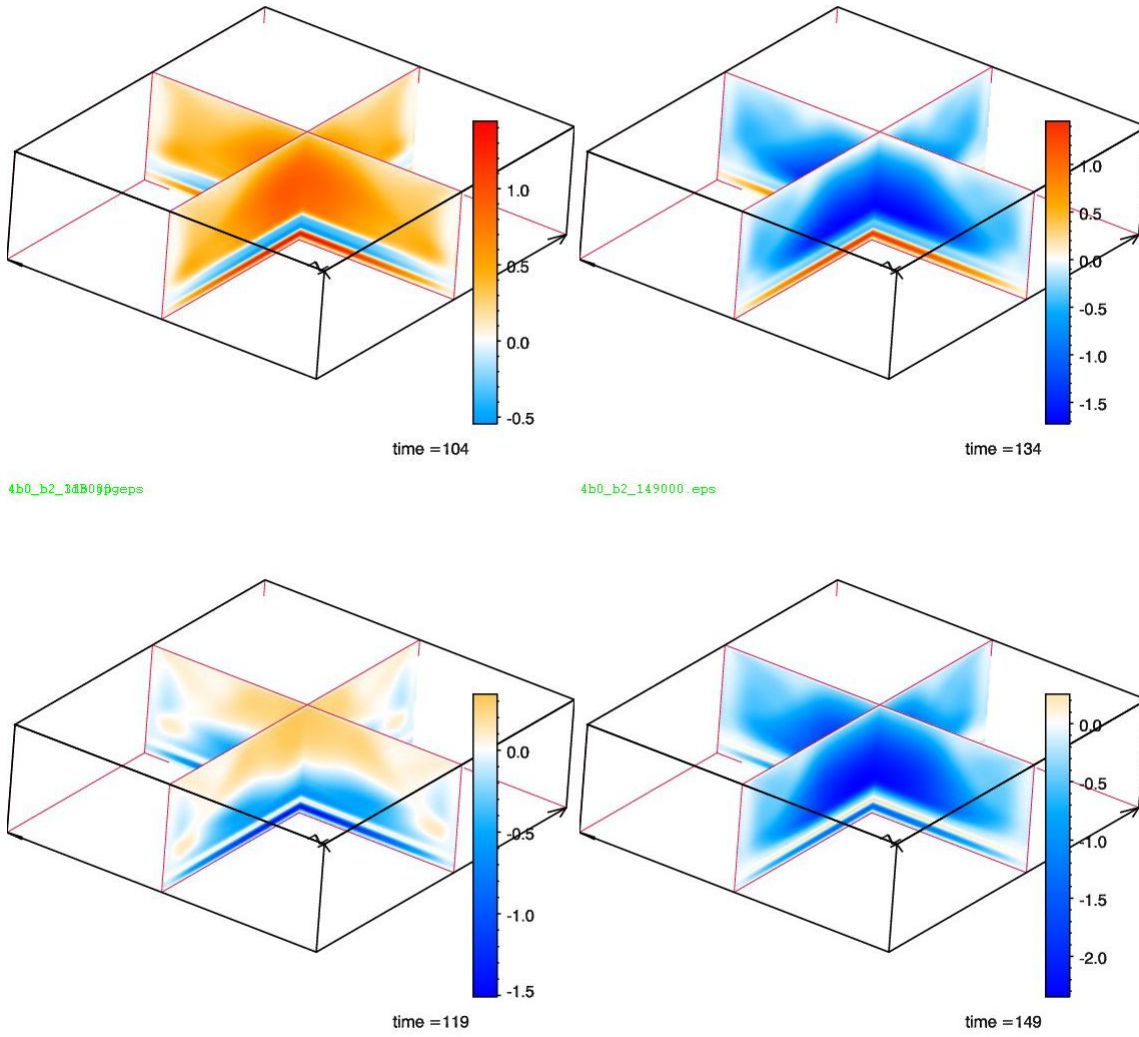


Fig. 14. A three dimensional snapshot showing the vertical component of the velocity for the 30s driver with uniform vertical 10G Magnetic Field for $t = 104s$, $t = 119s$, $t = 134s$ and $t = 149s$.

4b0_b2_3d4099eps

4b0_b2_134000.eps



4b0_b2_3d5099eps

4b0_b2_149000.eps

Fig. 15. A three dimensional snapshot showing the vertical component of the velocity for the 30s driver with 1Mm width 10G Magnetic flux tube for $t = 104s$, $t = 119s$, $t = 134s$ and $t = 149s$.

4b0_b4_3d4099eps

4b0_b4_134000.eps

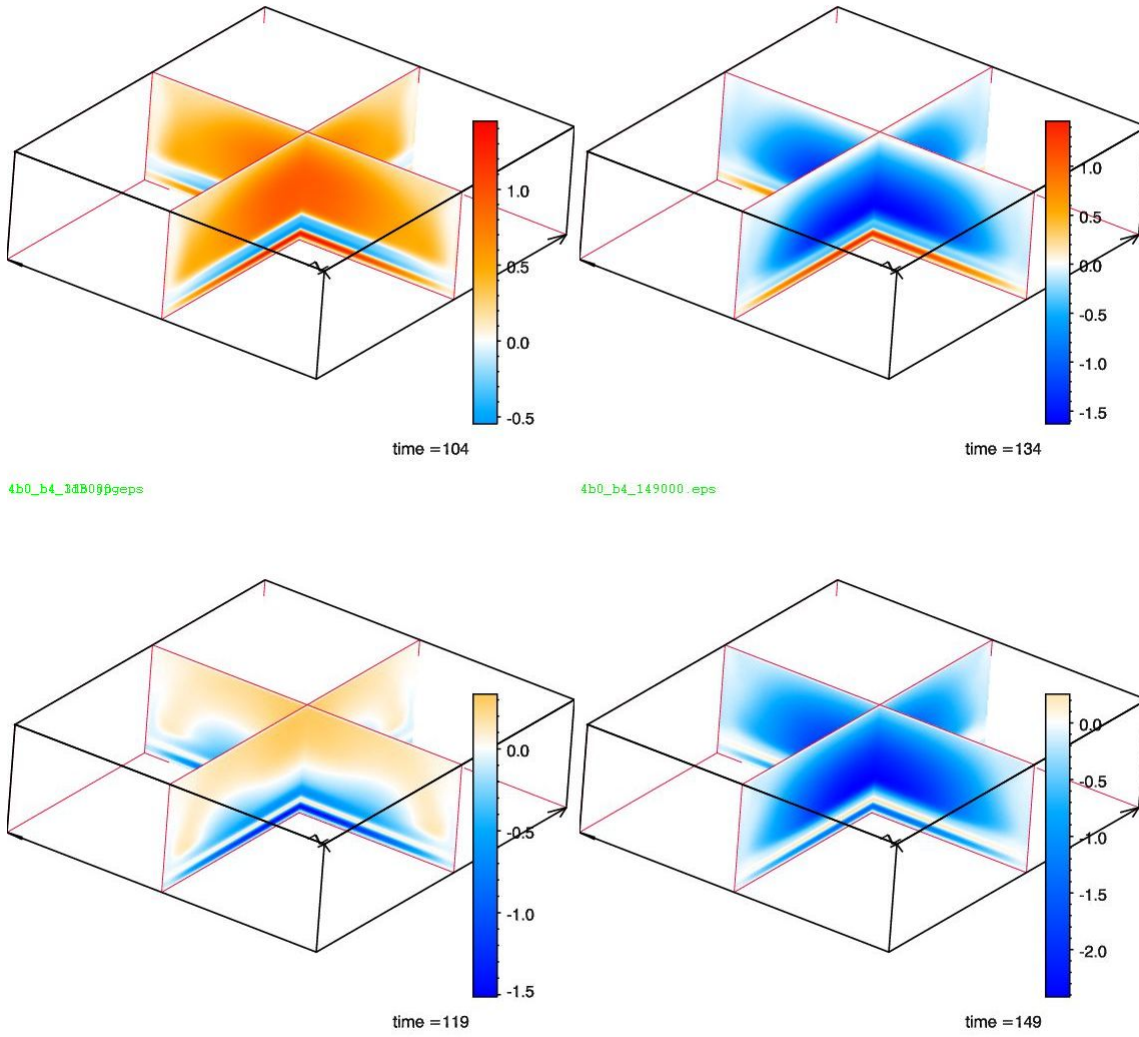


Fig. 16. A three dimensional snapshot showing the vertical component of the velocity for the 30s driver with 2Mm width 10G Magnetic flux tube for $t = 104s$, $t = 119s$, $t = 134s$ and $t = 149s$.