

PLANETARY FLUID MECHANICS IN THE LAB

TRANSPORT, WAVES, AND MAGNETIC FIELDS IN HIGH RE SPHERICAL COUETTE FLOW

Daniel S. Zimmerman

Santiago A. Triana

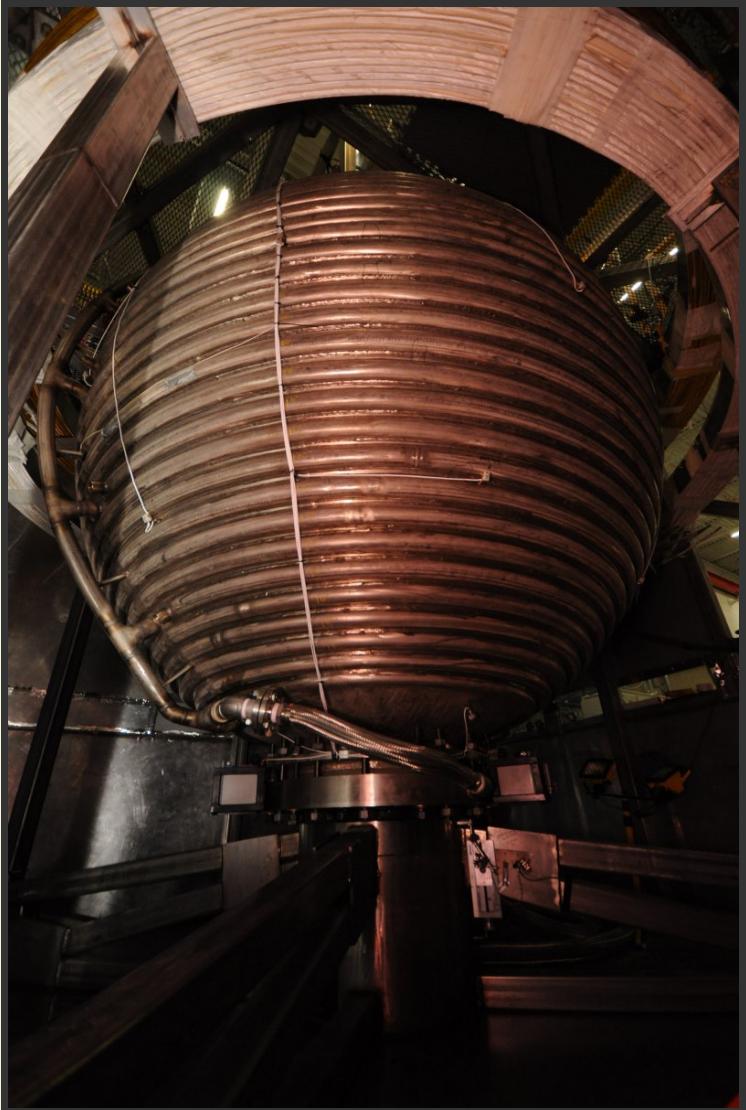
Daniel P. Lathrop

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University of Maryland
Physics/IREAP/Geology

THE EXPERIMENT



STATS:

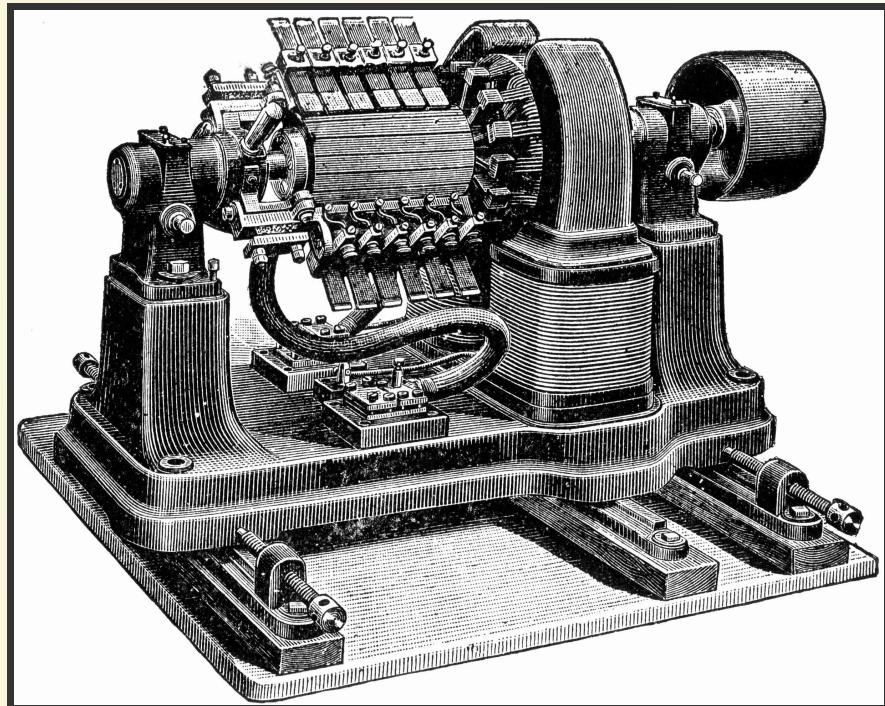
- Outer sphere maximum speed
 $\Omega/2\pi = 4\text{Hz}$
- Inner sphere maximum speed
 $\Omega_i/2\pi = \pm 20\text{Hz}$
- Total rotating mass: 20 tons
 - 7 ton, 3m diameter shell
 - 13 tons fluid (water, sodium metal)
- Two 250kW (350HP) motors
- Hot oil system: 120kW heating + 500kW cooling

OUTER SPHERE AT TWO REVOLUTIONS/SECOND

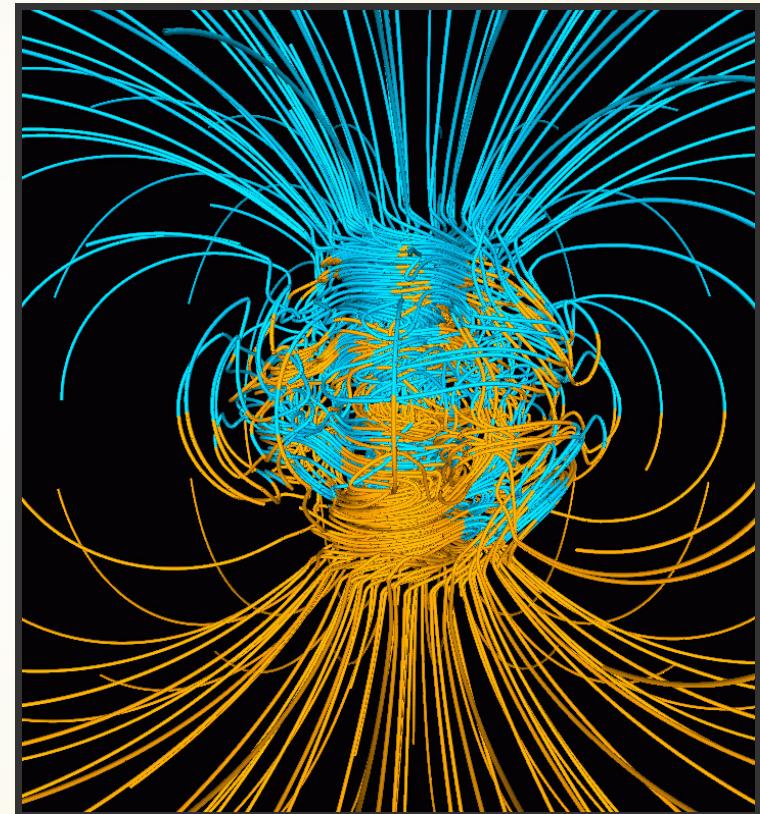


DYNAMOS

WESTINGHOUSE

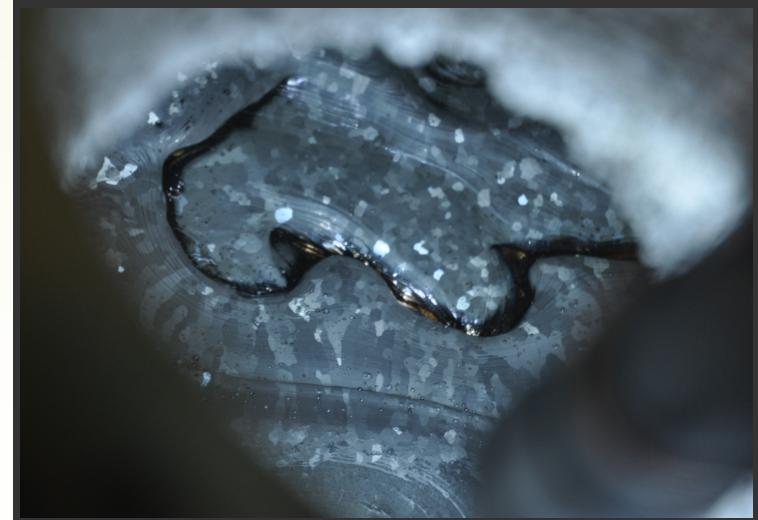


HOMOGENEOUS



Glatzmaier and Roberts Reversing Dynamo
Simulation 1995

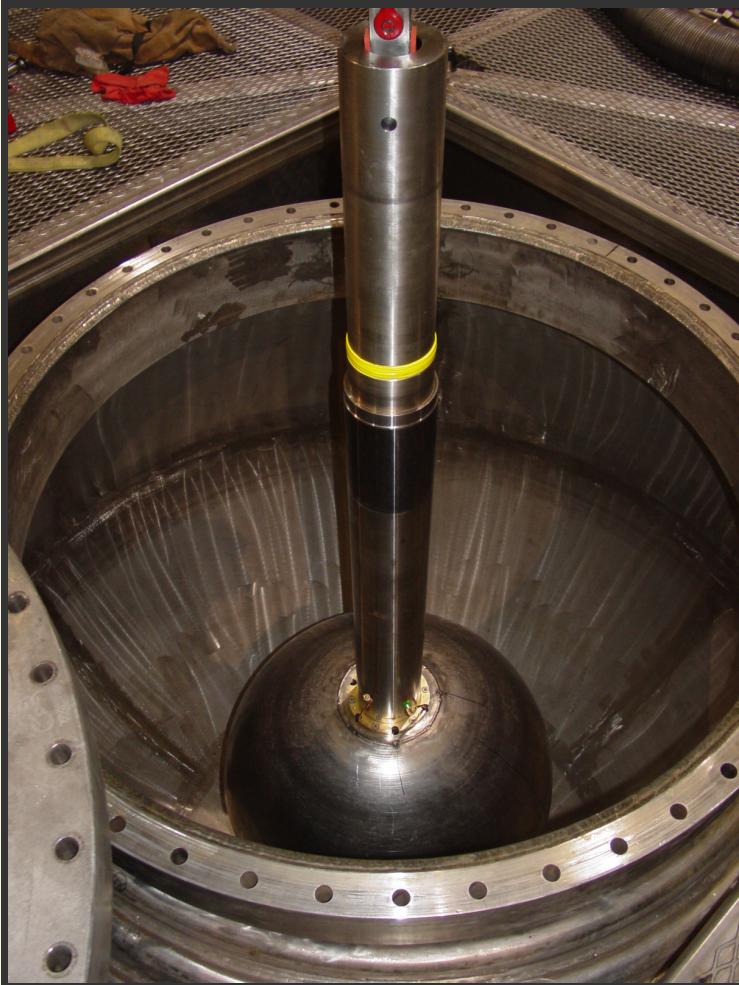
WHY 13 TONS OF SPINNING SODIUM?



- Sodium best chance for liquid metal dynamo.
- Fast rotation is very important in planetary dynamo.

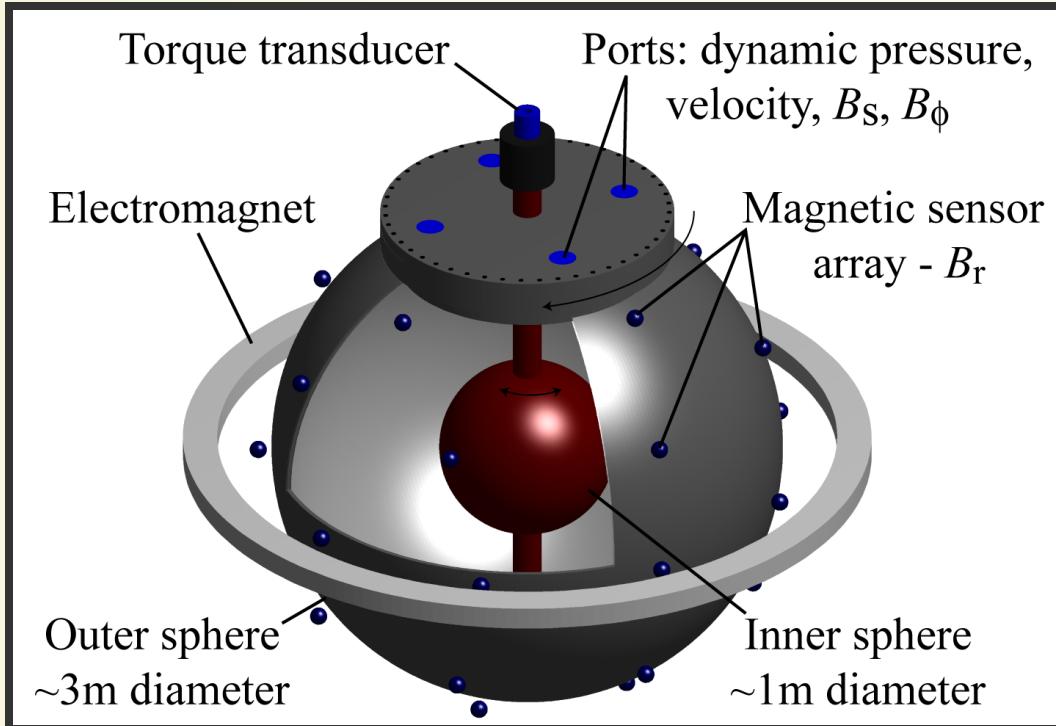
GEOMETRY & FORCING

DESIGN:



- Geometrically similar to Earth's core:
$$\Gamma = r_i/r_o = 0.35$$
- Differential rotation to provide stirring in rotating frame.
- Simple geometry amenable to simulation
- Common features with planetary core, not a scale model.

INSTRUMENTATION



DIMENSIONLESS NUMBERS

$$Ro = \frac{\Delta\Omega}{\Omega}, |Ro| < 100$$

$$Re = \frac{\Delta\Omega(r_o - r_i)^2}{\nu}, Re \sim 10^8$$

$$Rm = \frac{\Delta\Omega(r_o - r_i)^2}{\eta}, Rm \sim 10^3$$

$$Pm = \frac{\nu}{\eta} = \frac{Rm}{Re} \sim 10^{-5}$$

$$S = \frac{B_0 L}{\eta \sqrt{\rho \mu_0}}, S \sim 6$$

$$\Lambda = \frac{B_0^2}{\rho \mu_0 \eta \Omega}, \Lambda \sim 15$$

$$Ha = \frac{B_0 L}{\sqrt{\rho \mu_0 \eta \nu}}, Ha \sim 2 \times 10^3$$

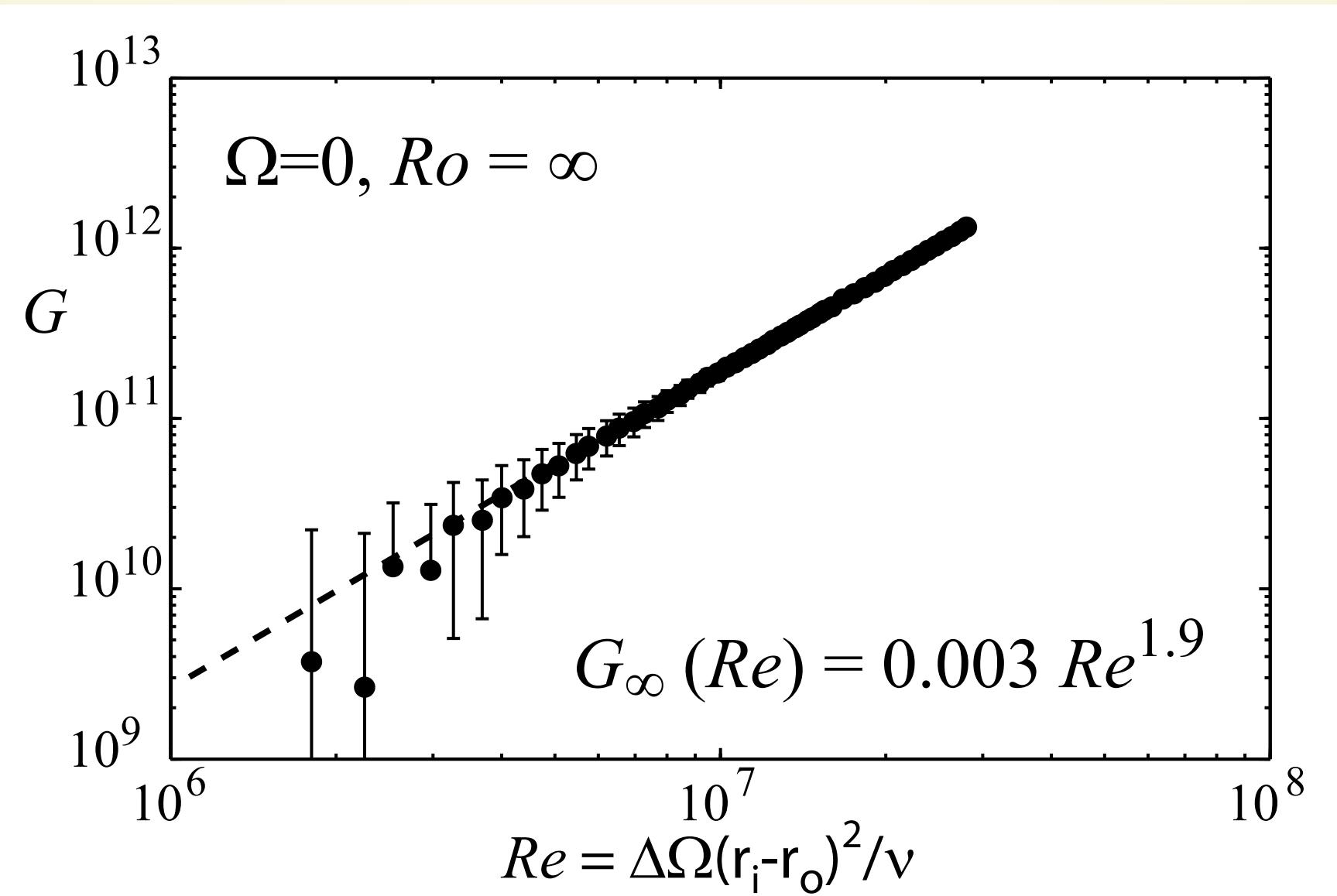
HYDRODYNAMIC PREVIEW

- Torque, G : common turbulent scaling with Re
- State changes: dozens of states depending on Ro
- Turbulent rotating shear flow torque:

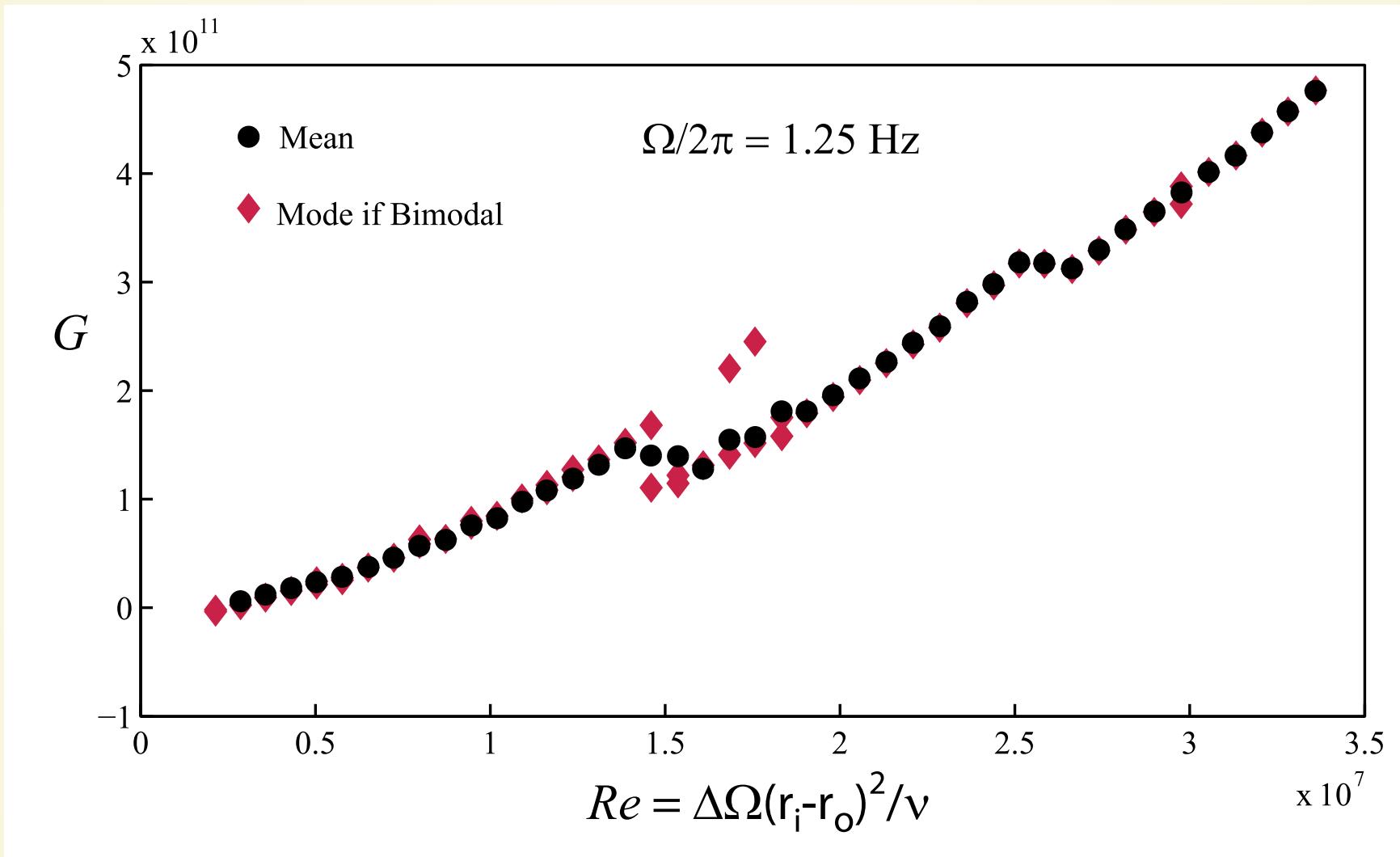
$$G(Re, Ro) = f(Ro)g(Re)$$

$$g(Re) = C_f Re^2, Re \rightarrow \infty$$

TORQUE VS. REYNOLDS NUMBER, OUTER STATIONARY



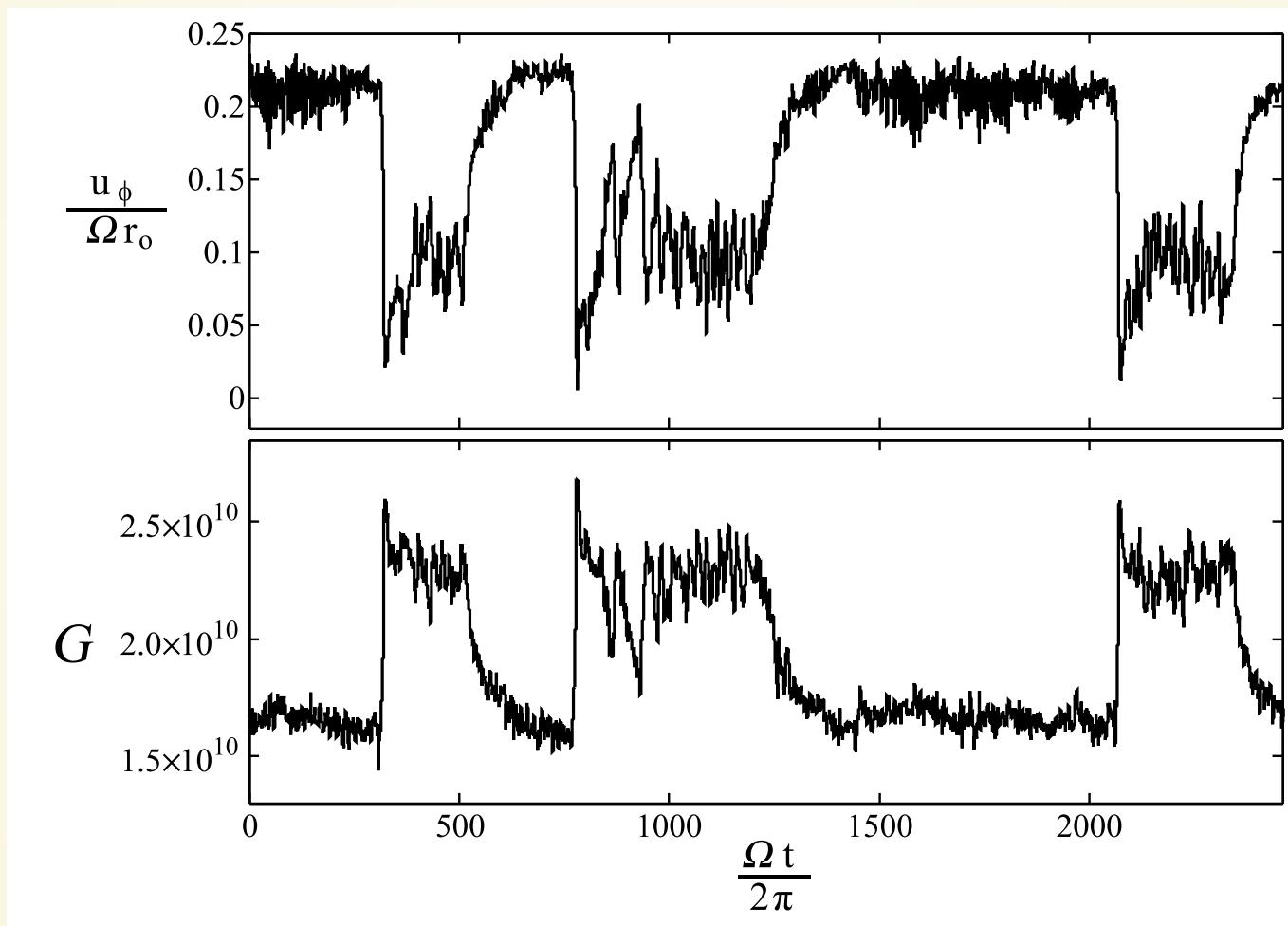
TORQUE VS. REYNOLDS NUMBER, OUTER 1.25Hz



- $Ro = \Delta\Omega/\Omega$

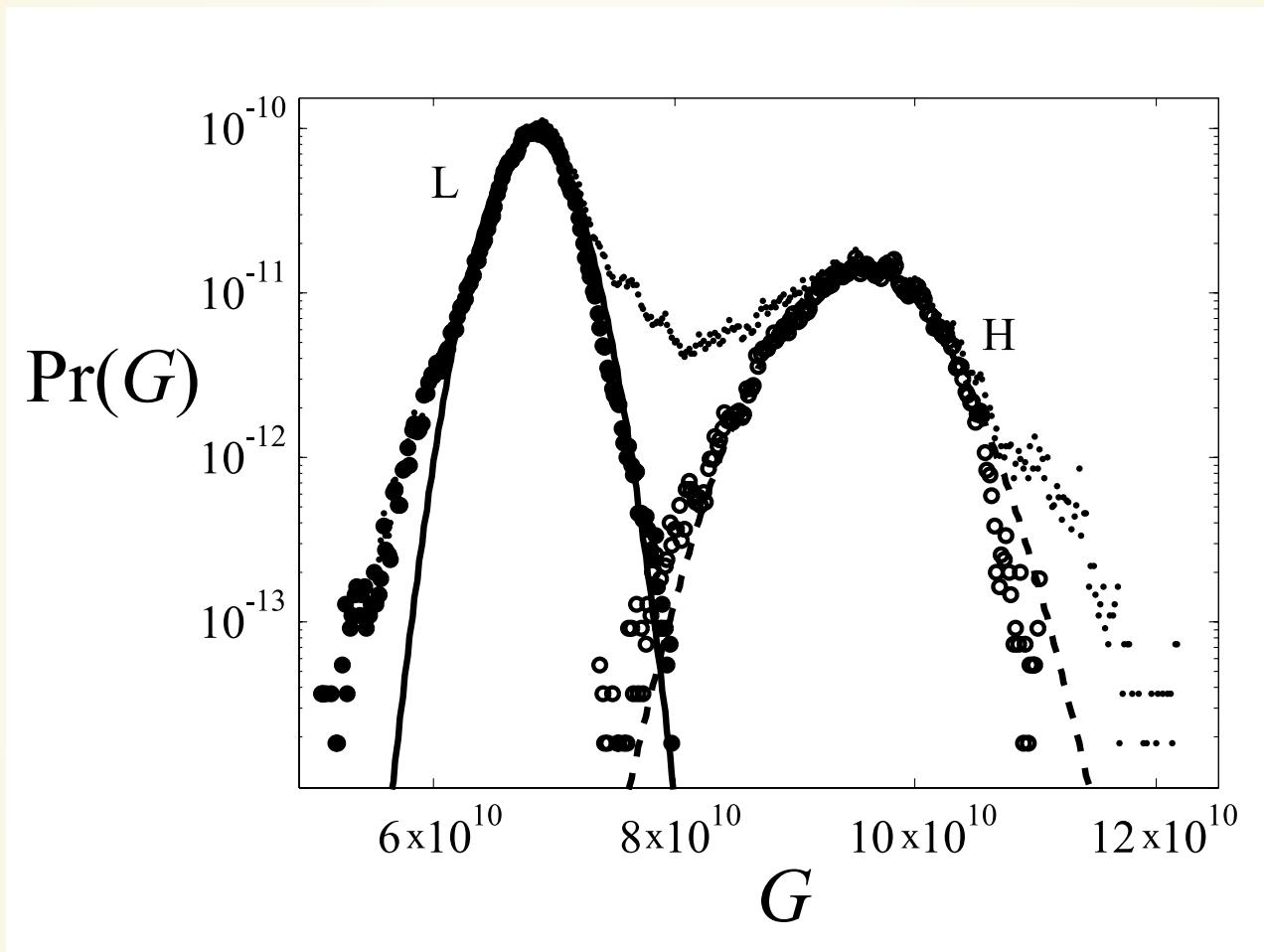
TORQUE AND AZIMUTHAL VELOCITY - STATE CHANGES

$$Ro = 2.33$$

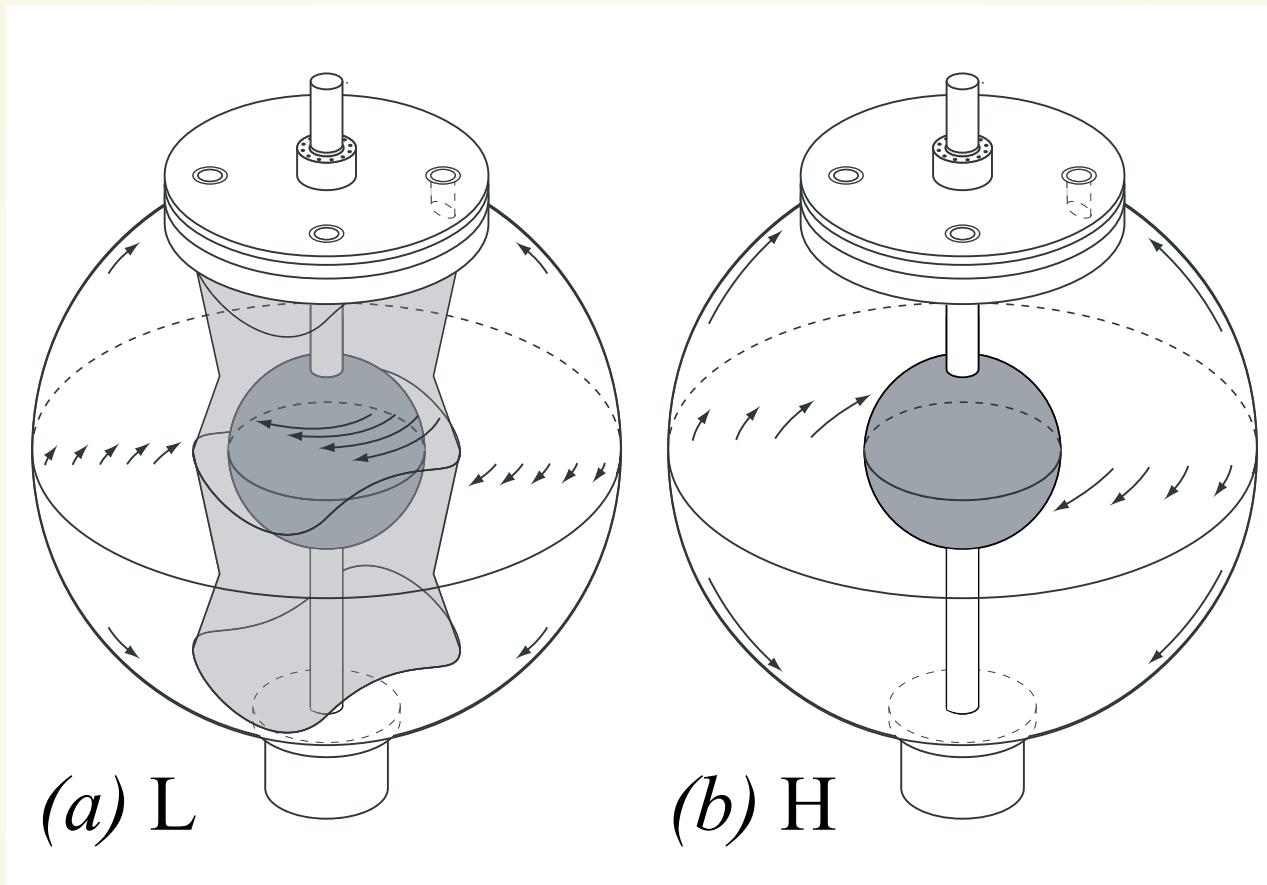


PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION OF TORQUE

$Ro = 2.13$

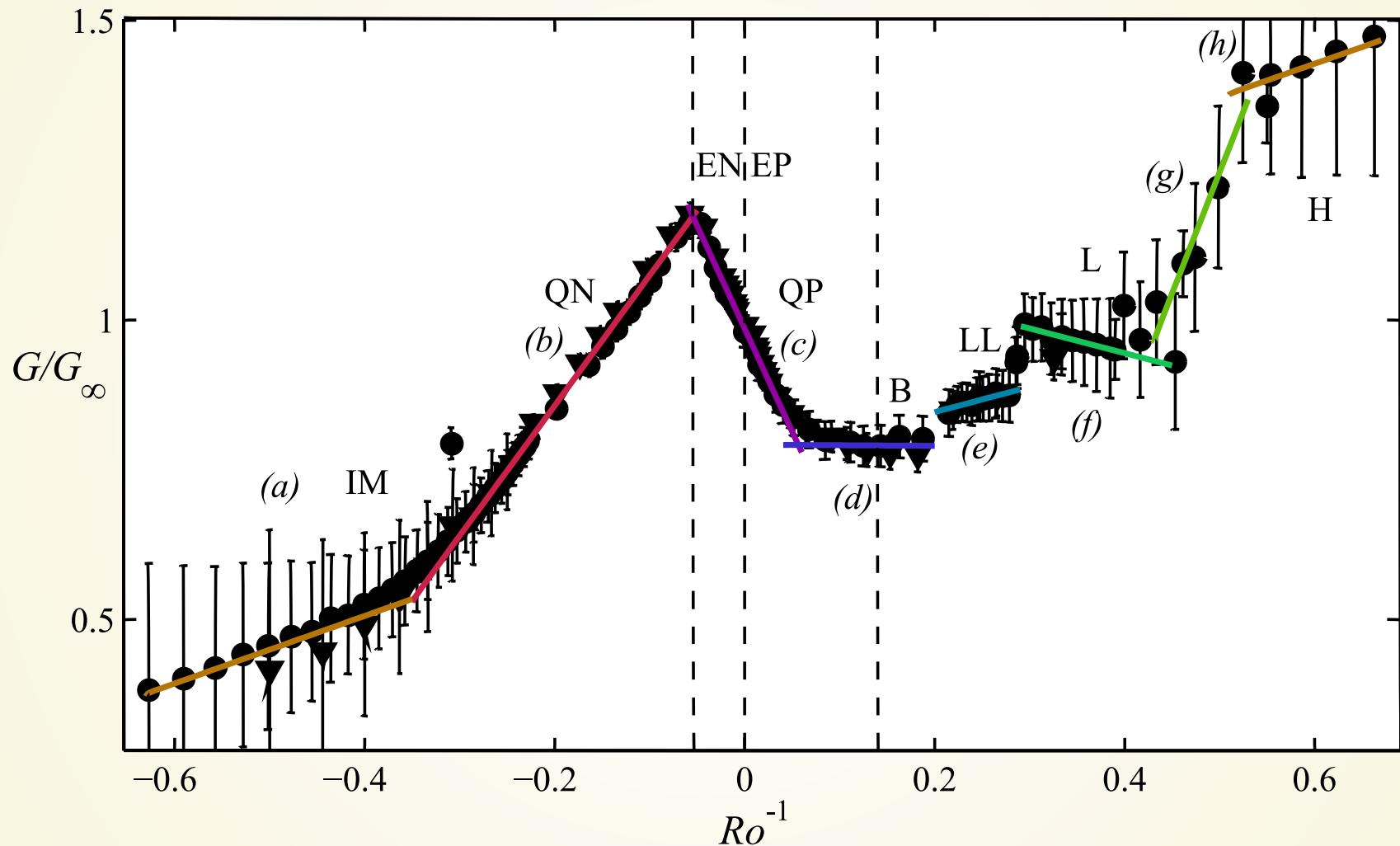


DIFFERENT LARGE-SCALE FLOW STATES



Phys. Fluids 23, 065104 (2011) - <http://arxiv.org/abs/1107.5082>

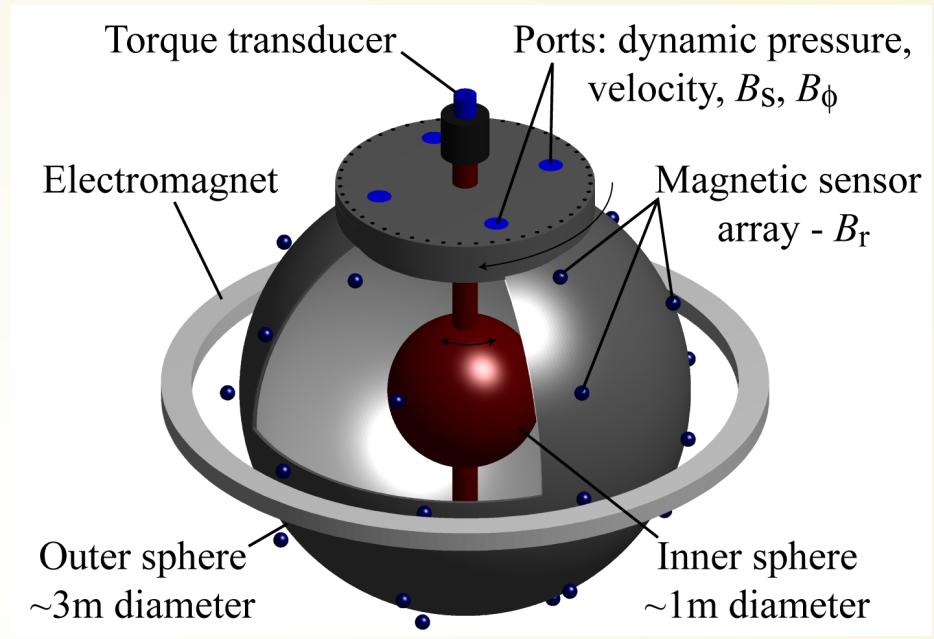
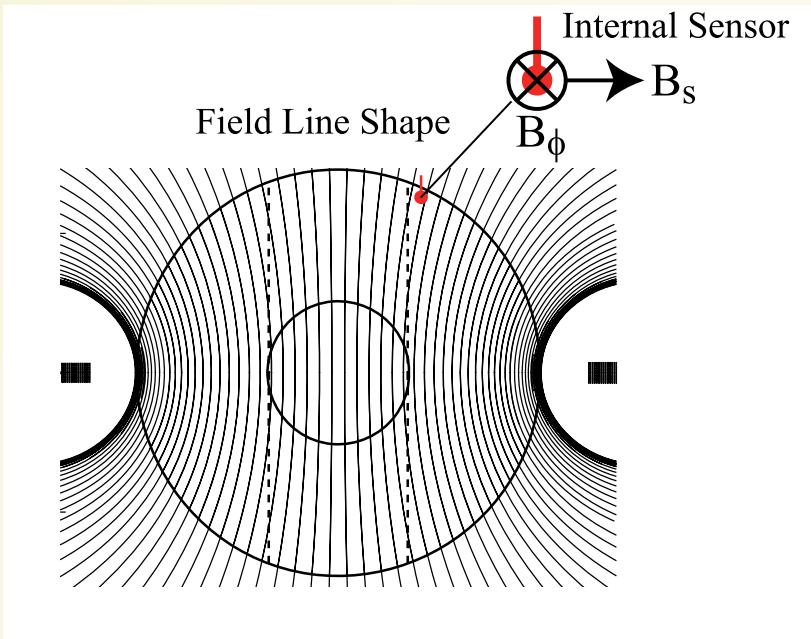
TURBULENT TORQUE ROSSBY DEPENDENCE



MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC PREVIEW

- Differential rotation generates strong internal azimuthal field (strong ω -effect)- important for dynamo.
- Large Ro -dependence from hydrodynamic state changes: ω -effect peaks at $Ro=+6$.
- Strong applied field: new states, reduced ω -effect, field bursting with a "dynamo-like" feedback loop.

INTERNAL FIELD AND EXTERNAL GAUSS COEFFICIENTS

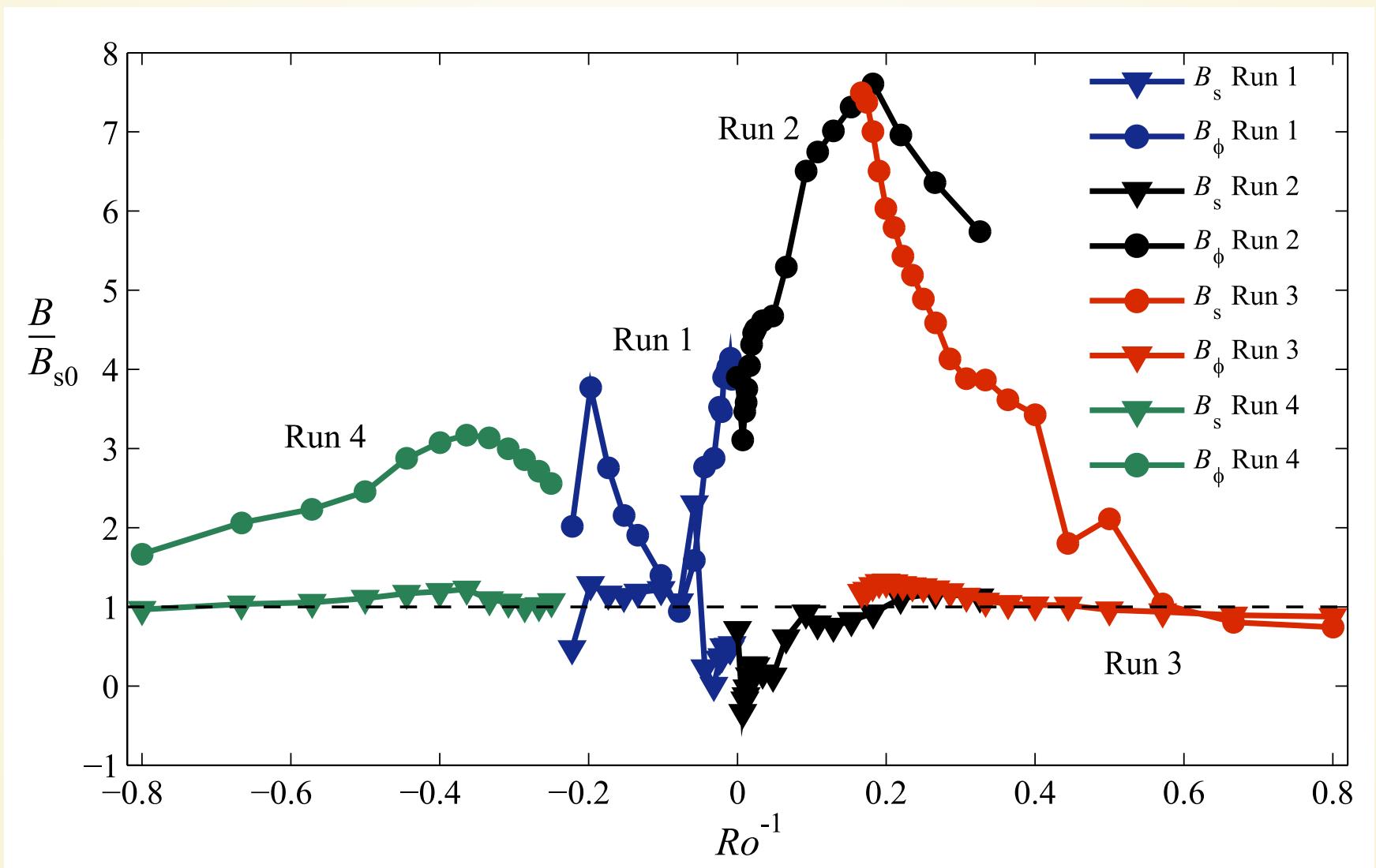


$$B_r(r, \theta, \phi) = \sum_{l=0}^{l=4} \sum_{m=0}^{m=4} l(l+1) \left(\frac{r_o}{r} \right)^{l+2} P_l^m(\cos \theta) (g_l^{m,s} \sin \phi + g_l^{m,c} \cos \phi)$$

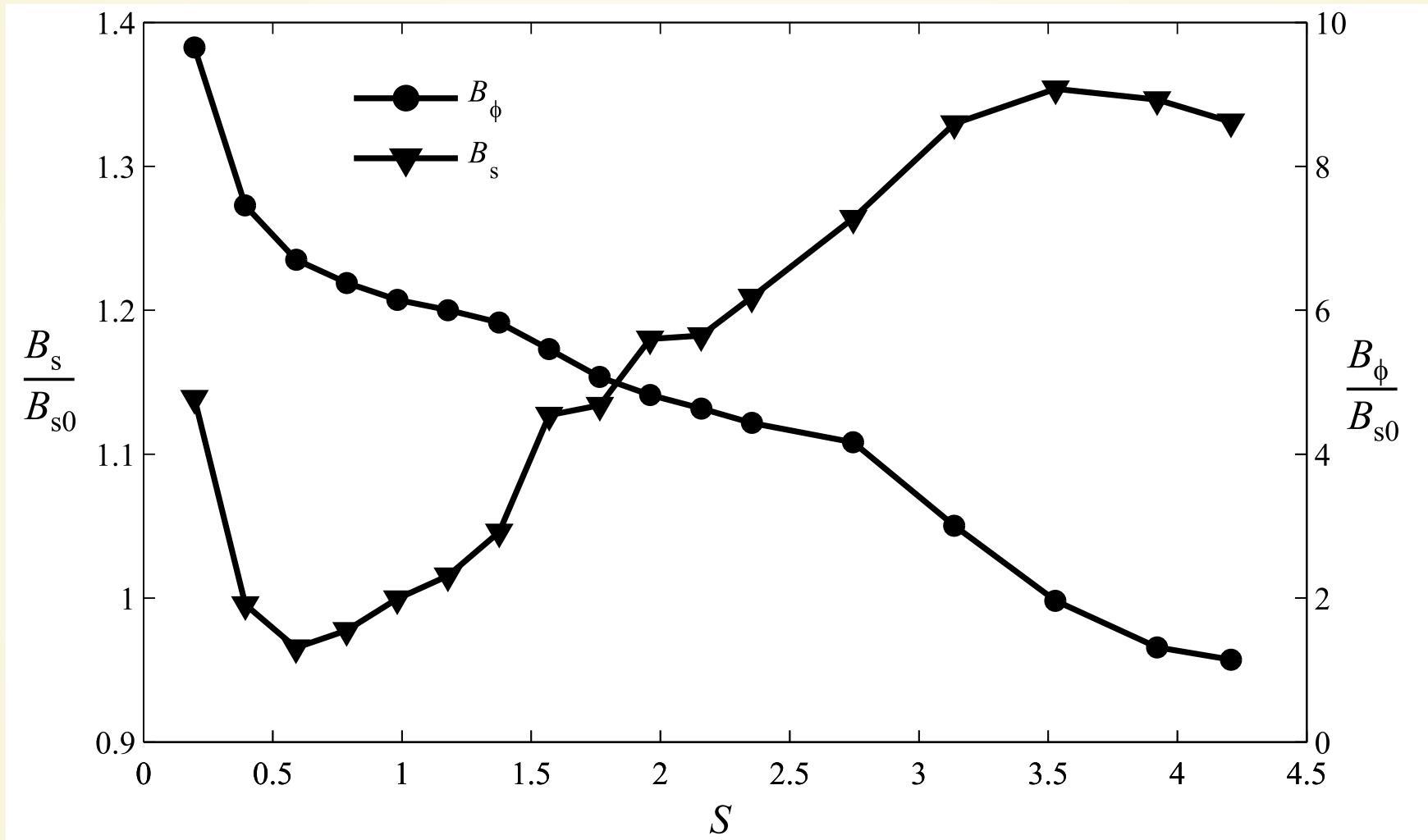
$$B_l^m = l(l+1)g_l^m$$

INTERNAL MAGNETIC FIELD, 'WEAK' APPLIED FIELD

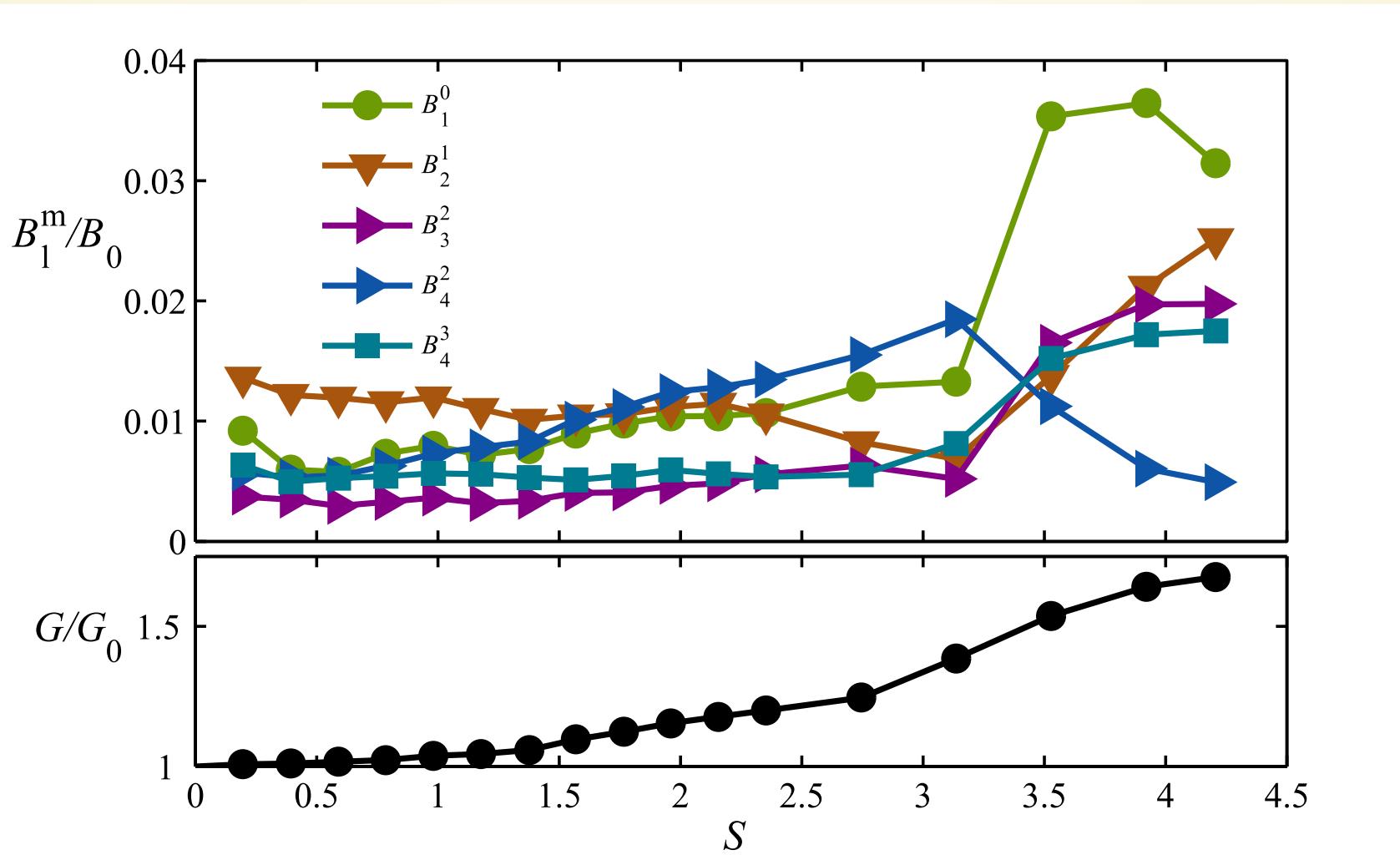
$$S = 0.39$$



INTERNAL MAGNETIC FIELD VS. APPLIED FIELD

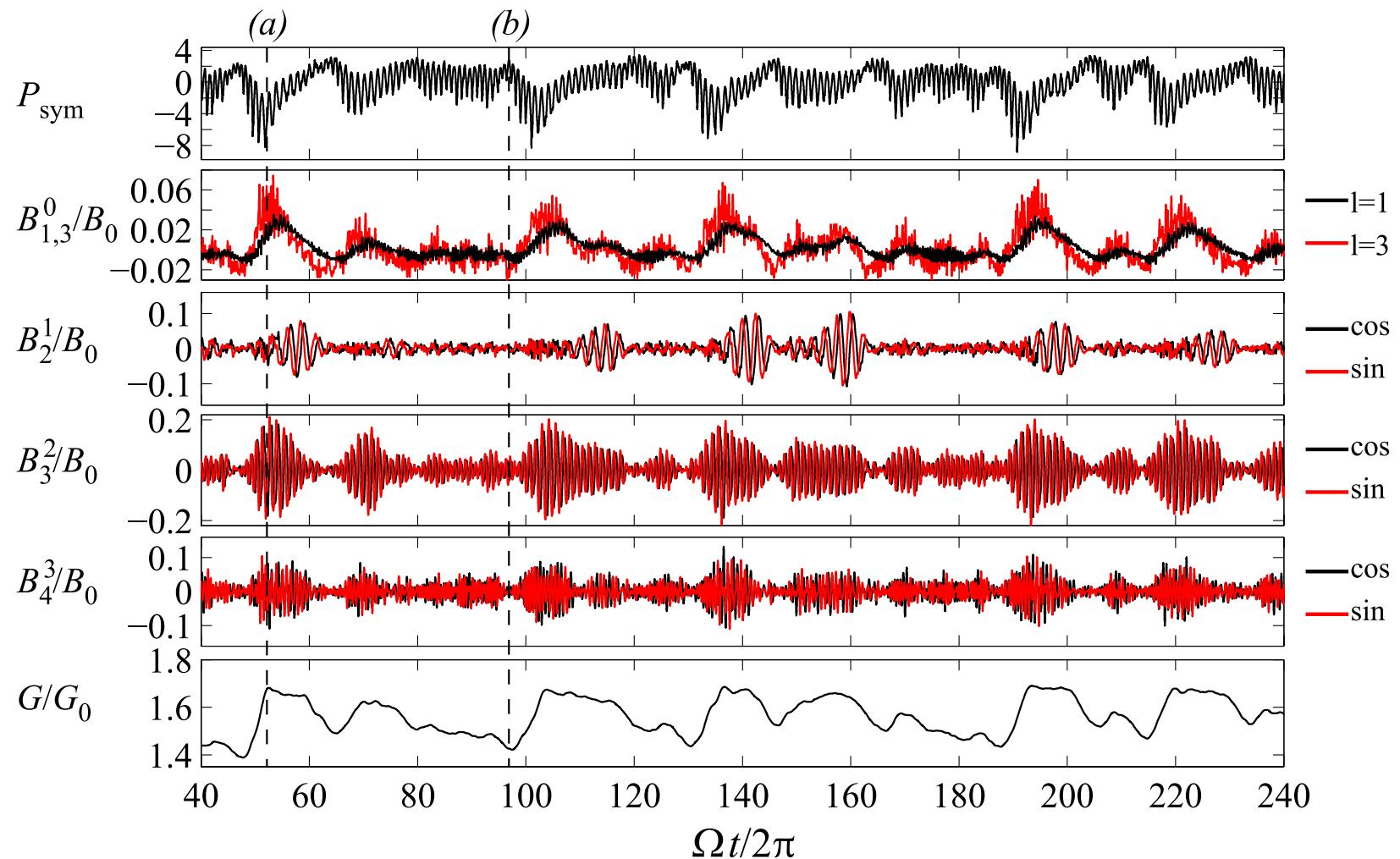


STATE CHANGES AT STRONG FIELD

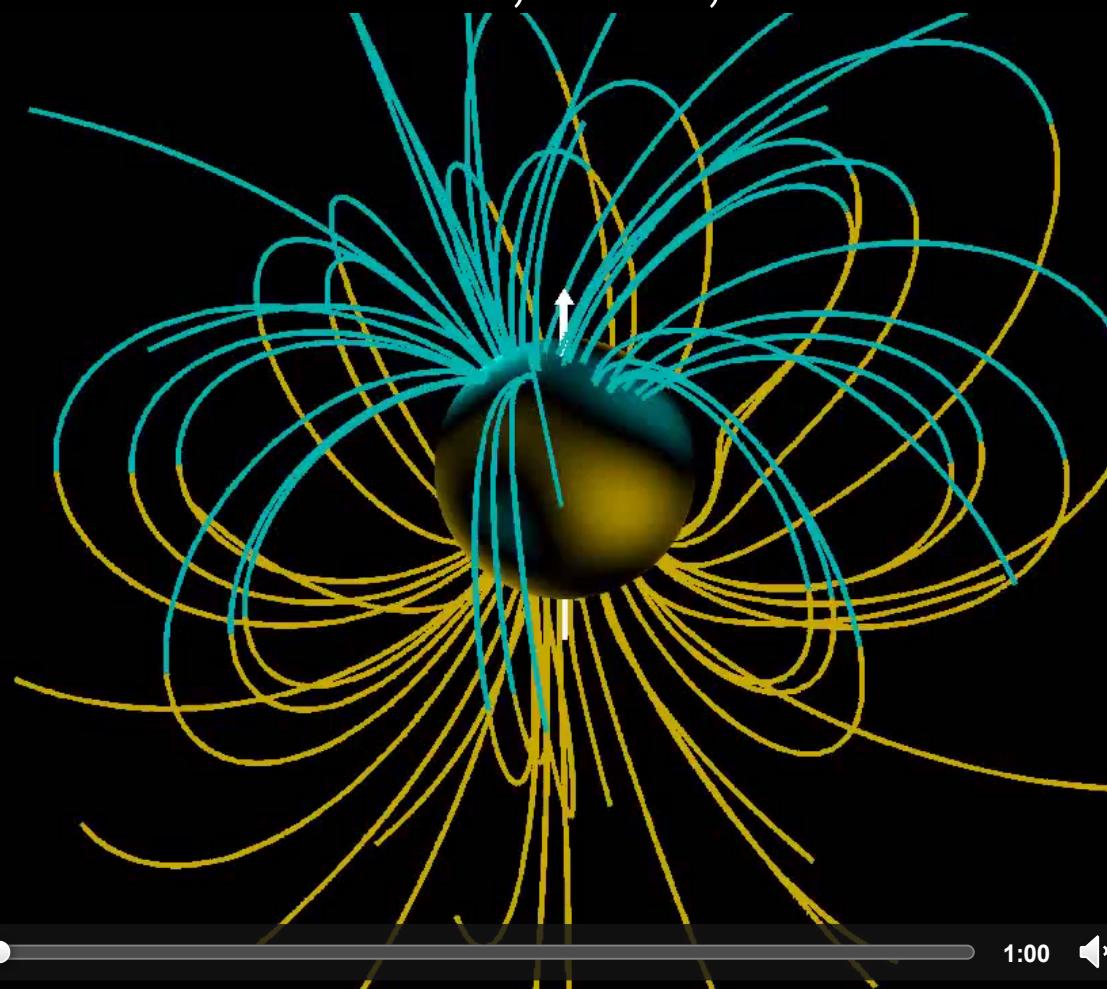


FIELD BURSTS

$S = 3.5, Ro = +6, Rm = 477$



$Ro=+6.0, S=3.5, Rm=477$



SUMMARY

- Torque, G : common turbulent scaling with Re
- Dozens of turbulent flow states depending on Ro
- Turbulent rotating shear flow torque:

$$G(Re, Ro) = f(Ro)g(Re)$$

$$g(Re) = C_f Re^2, Re \rightarrow \infty$$

- Differential rotation gives strong ω -effect- important for dynamo.
- Large Ro -dependence of ω -effect due to hydrodynamic state changes.
- Strong applied field: new states, reduced ω -effect, field bursting ($Ro=+6$) with a "dynamo-like" feedback loop.
- Opportunities for good quantitative tests for spherical turbulent codes (fluid Rossby relatively small!)