



ROLE OF LAGRANGIAN VORTICES IN NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS OF RESISTIVE DRIFT-WAVE TURBULENCE IN PLASMAS

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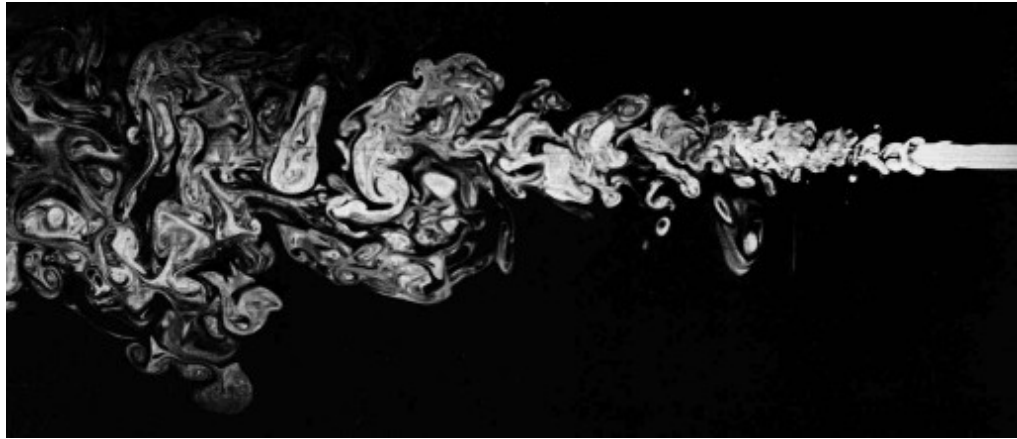
Sarah G. S. P. Costa (UnB)

Abraham C.-L. Chian (UAdel)

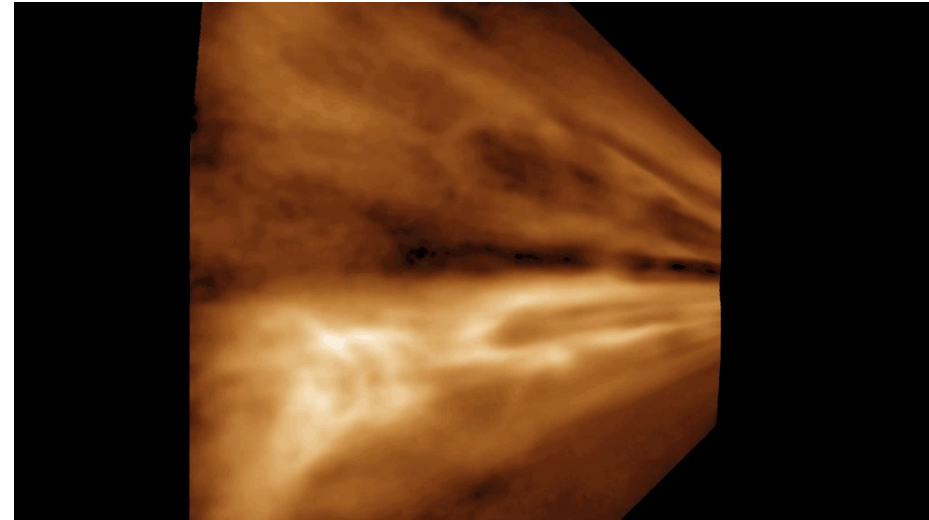
Outline

- 1) Introduction.
- 2) Lagrangian vortices in neutral fluids.
- 3) Lagrangian vortices in drift-wave plasma turbulence.
 - a) Turbulent regime.
 - b) Zonal flow regime.
- 4) Conclusions.

1: Introduction



Turbulent water jet. From Van Dyke (1982)



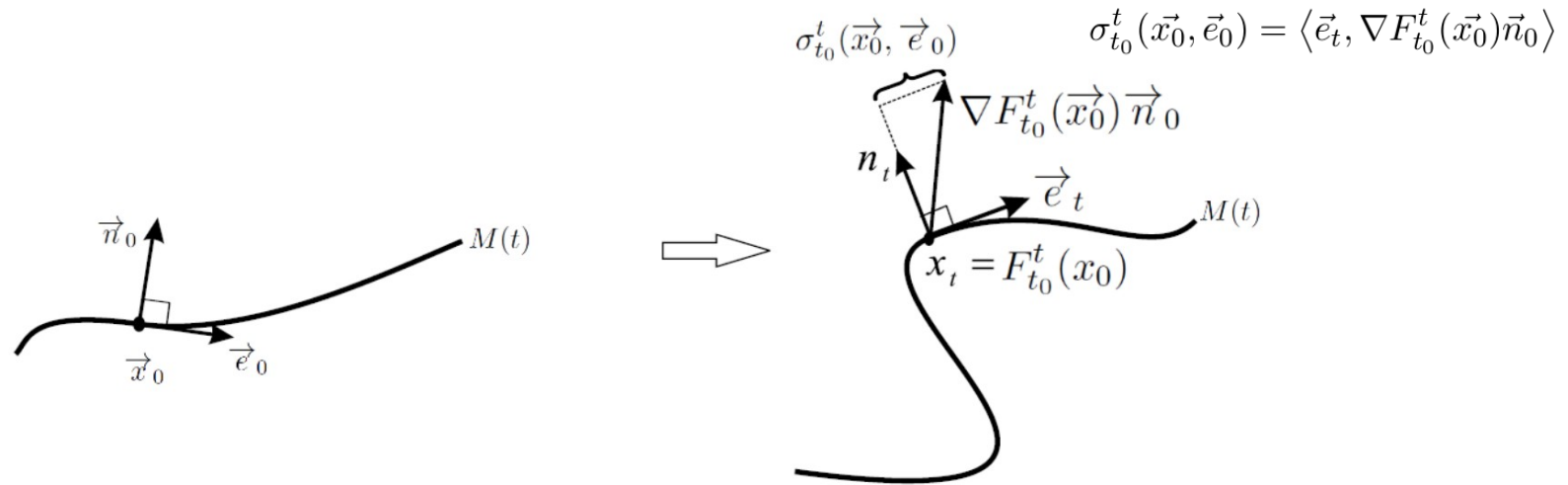
Processed STEREO data of the solar wind.
Data credit: Craig DeForest, SwRI <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/12329>

2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids



Mount Edna blowing volcanic vortex smoke rings
<https://youtu.be/Q2cUGICVEhI>

2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids



Defining the Cauchy-Green strain tensor as $C_{t_0}^t(\vec{x}_0) = (\nabla F_{t_0}^t(\vec{x}_0))^T (\nabla F_{t_0}^t(\vec{x}_0))$ computing its eigenvalues and eigenvectors, and seeking extrema of the Lagrangian shear one can obtain

$$\vec{\eta}_{\pm} = \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{\lambda_2}}{\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2}}} \vec{\xi}_1 \pm \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{\lambda_1}}{\sqrt{\lambda_1} + \sqrt{\lambda_2}}} \vec{\xi}_2.$$

2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids

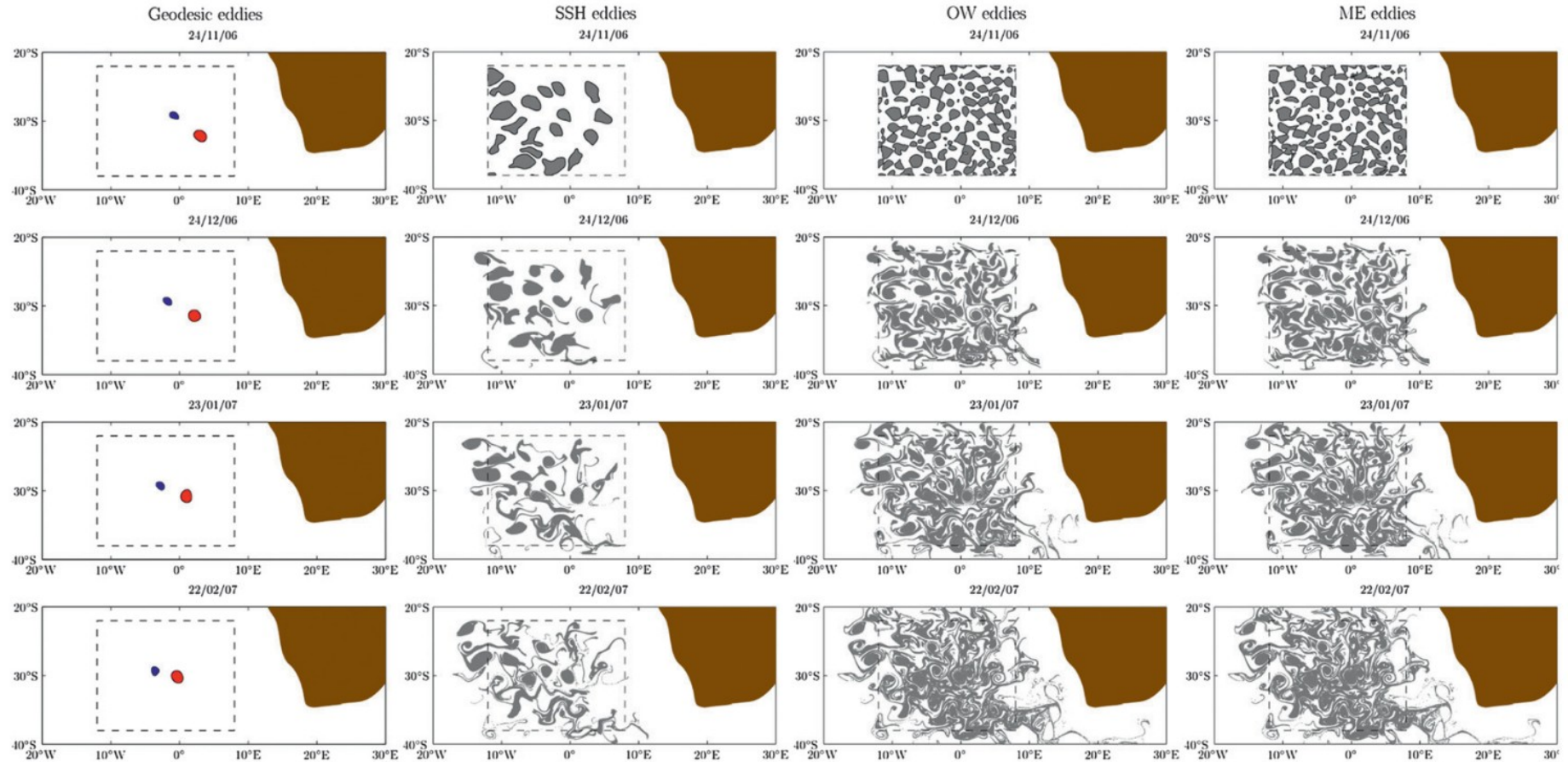


FIG. 7. (left) Selected snapshots of the 90-day evolution of fluid inside eddies identified by geodesic eddy detection; (middle left) the method of Chelton et al. (2011a) with $U/c > 1$ over at least 90 days; (middle right) the Okubo–Weiss (OW) criterion; and (right) the criterion of Mézic et al. (2010).

2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids

The Navier-Stokes equations are given by

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} &= -\nabla p + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

where \mathbf{u} represents the fluid velocity, p is the pressure, \mathbf{f} represents an external force, and Re is the Reynolds number.

We solve the 2D Navier-Stokes equations using a spectral code available at

<https://gitlab.com/rmiracer/jade>

2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids

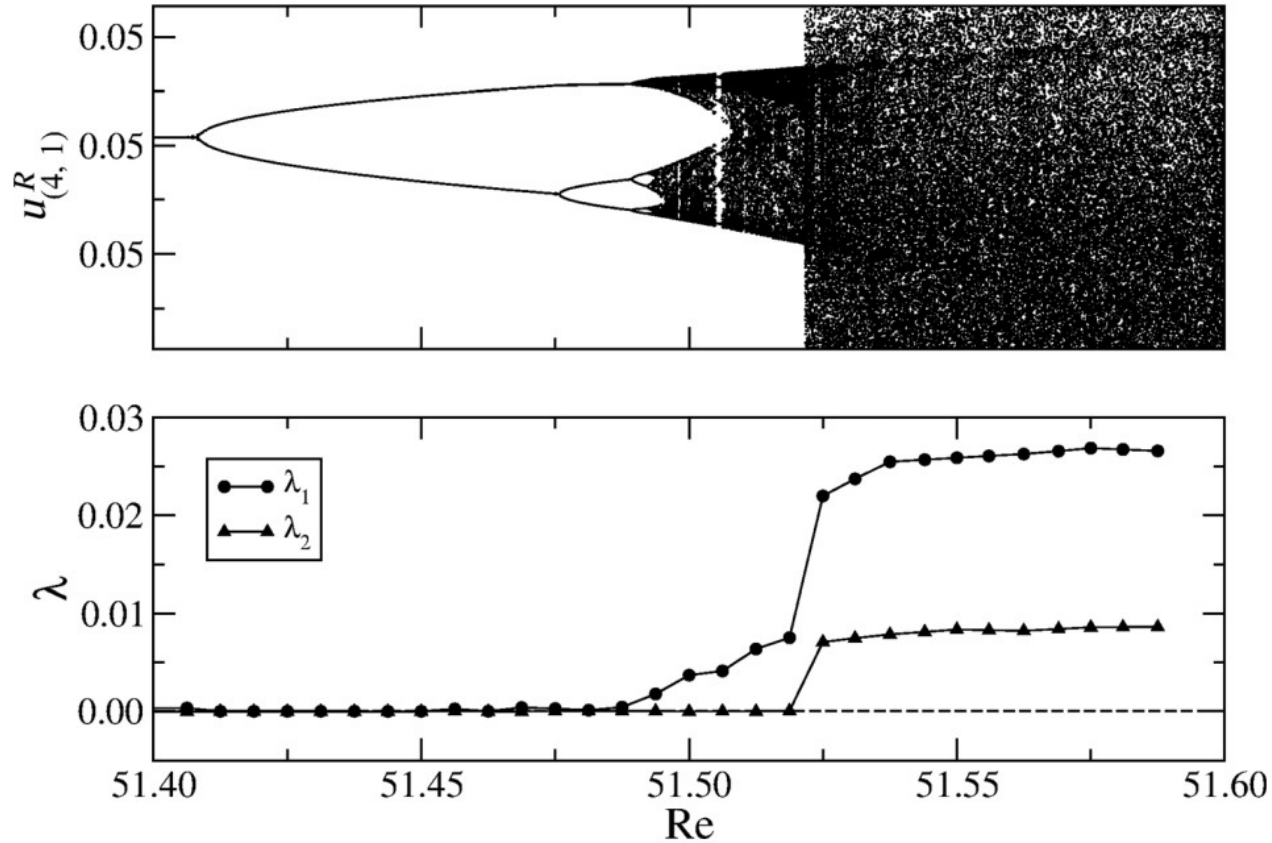
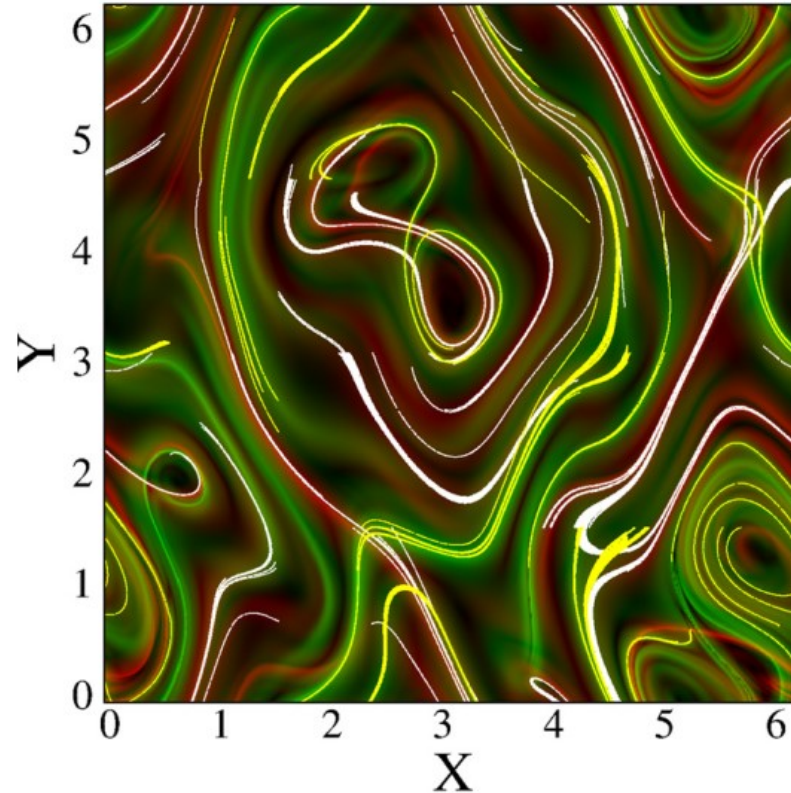


FIG. 2. Upper panel: bifurcation diagram of $u_{(4,1)}^R$ as a function of the Reynolds number Re for A_1 . Lower panel: the two largest Lyapunov exponents as a function of Re .

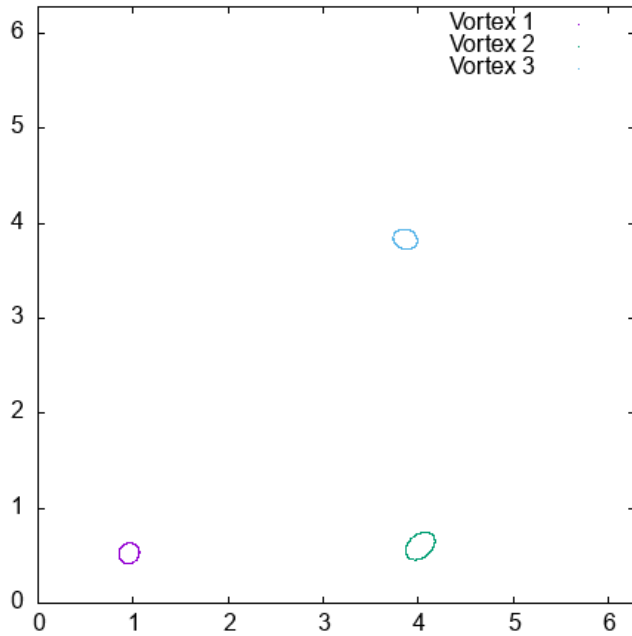
2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids



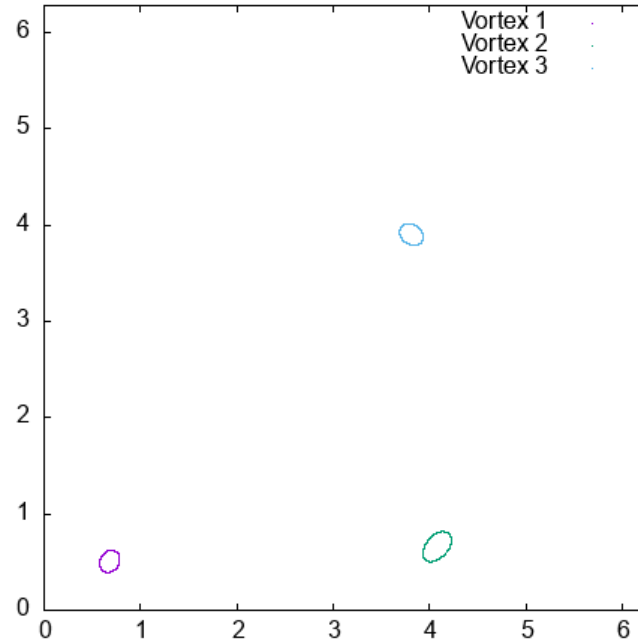
Spatiotemporal patterns in the 2D Navier-Stokes equations for $Re = 51.52$ (chaotic regime)

2: Lagrangian coherent structures in fluids

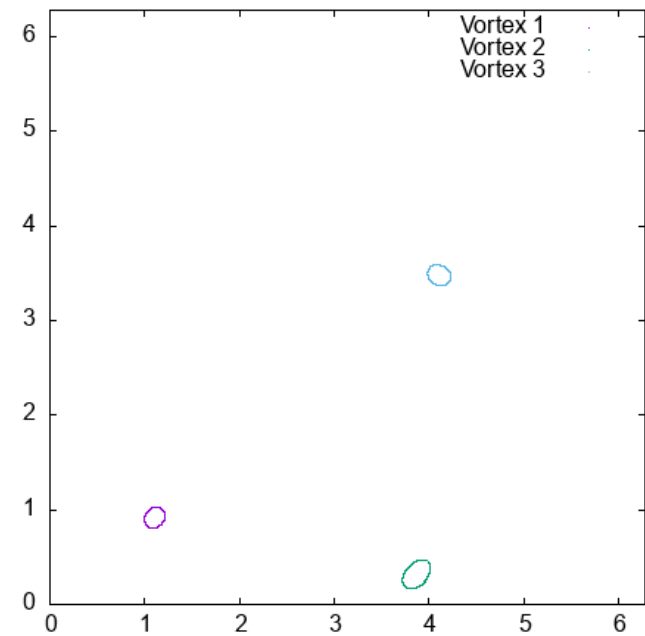
t = 0.00



t = 50.00



t = 100.00



Spatiotemporal dynamics of Lagrangian vortices in a chaotic regime of the Navier-Stokes equations.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in plasmas

Let us define the physical setting of the model in a constant magnetic field equilibrium $B = B_0 \nabla z$, and a nonuniform density $n_0 = n_0(x)$ in the edge region. The modified Hasegawa-Wakatani equations are given by

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \zeta + \{\varphi, \zeta\} = \alpha (\tilde{\varphi} - \tilde{n}) - D \nabla^4 \zeta, \quad (2.11)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} n + \{\varphi, \zeta\} = \alpha (\tilde{\varphi} - \tilde{n}) - \kappa \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} - \nabla^4 n, \quad (2.12)$$

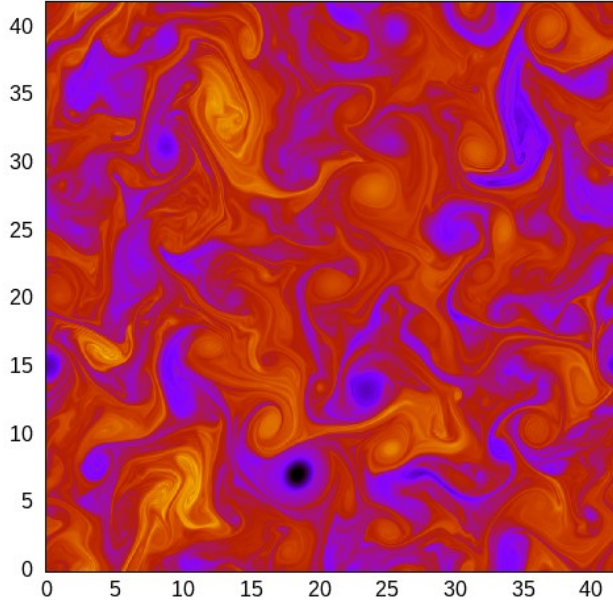
where the zonal component of a variable a is given by

$$\tilde{a} = a - \langle a \rangle, \quad \langle a \rangle = \frac{1}{L} \int a dy \quad (2.13)$$

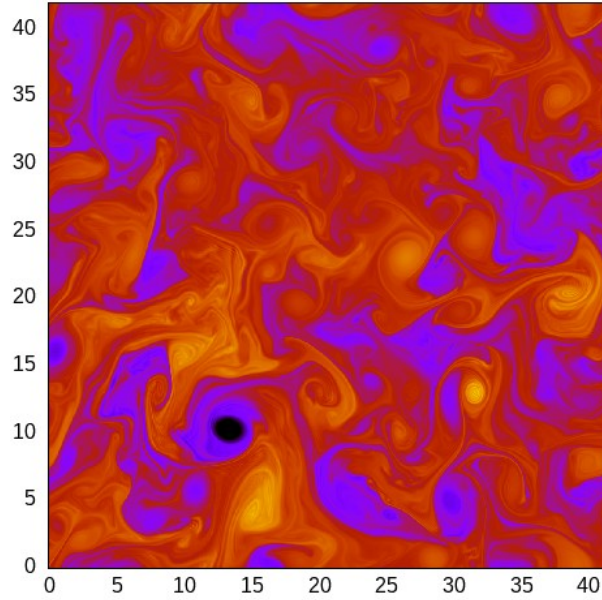
n is the density fluctuation, φ is the electrostatic potential, and the ion vorticity $\zeta \equiv \nabla^2 \varphi$. Symbols $\{a, b\}$ denote the Poisson bracket, \cdot . The background density $\kappa \equiv (\partial / \partial x) \ln n_0$ has a constant exponential profile, and D represents the dissipation coefficient. We set the adiabaticity operator $\alpha = 0.01$ (turbulent regime) and $\alpha = 0.018$ (zonal flow regime).

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in drift-wave turbulence

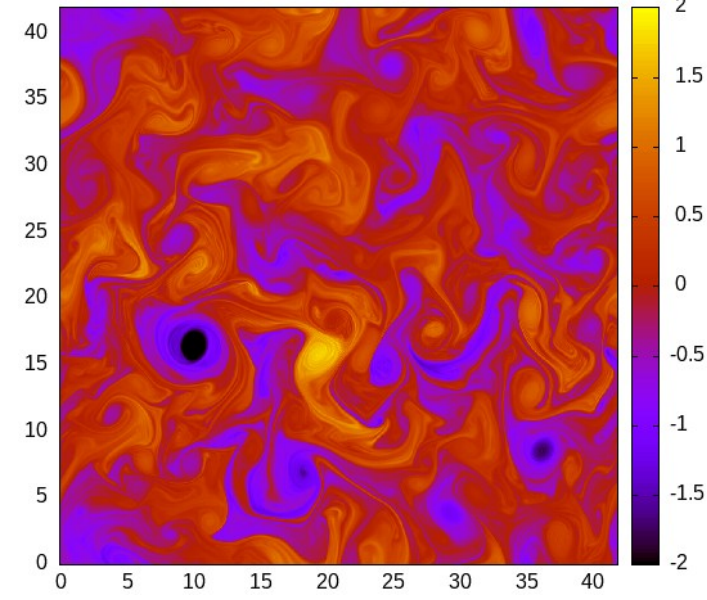
$t = 0$



$t = 50$

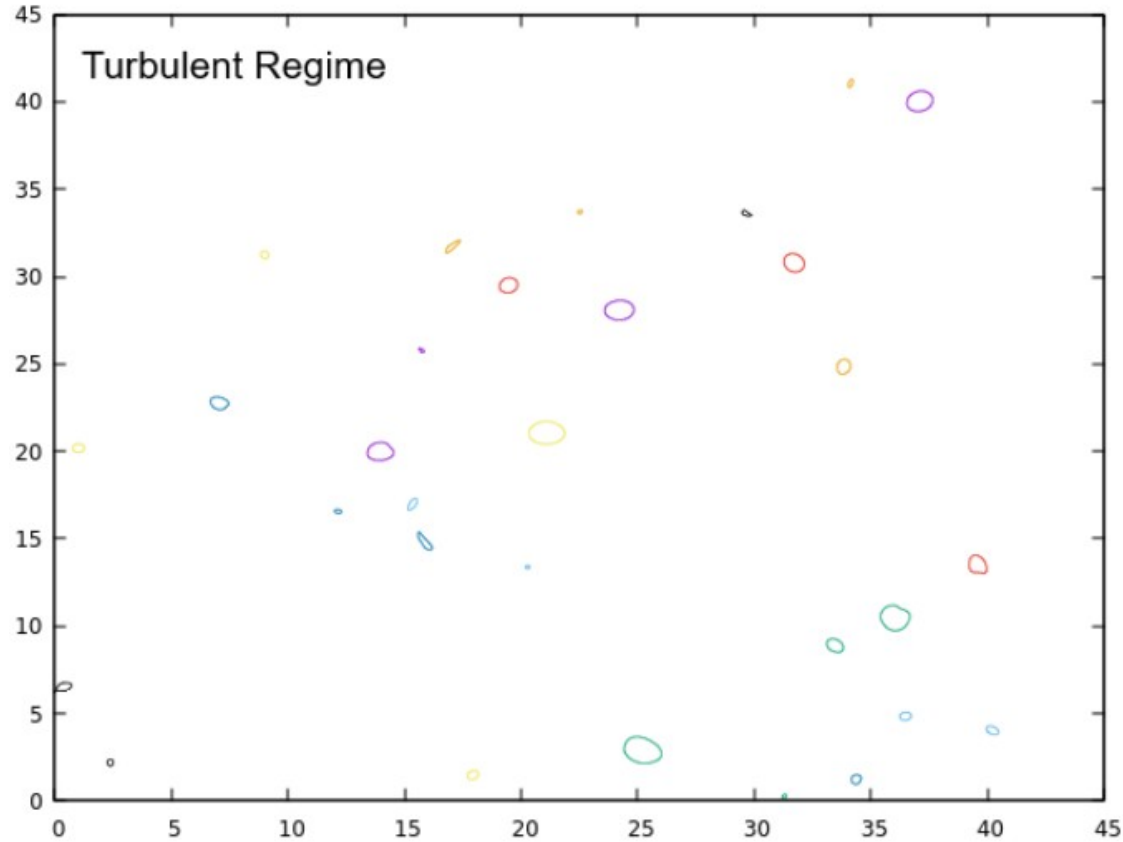


$t = 100$



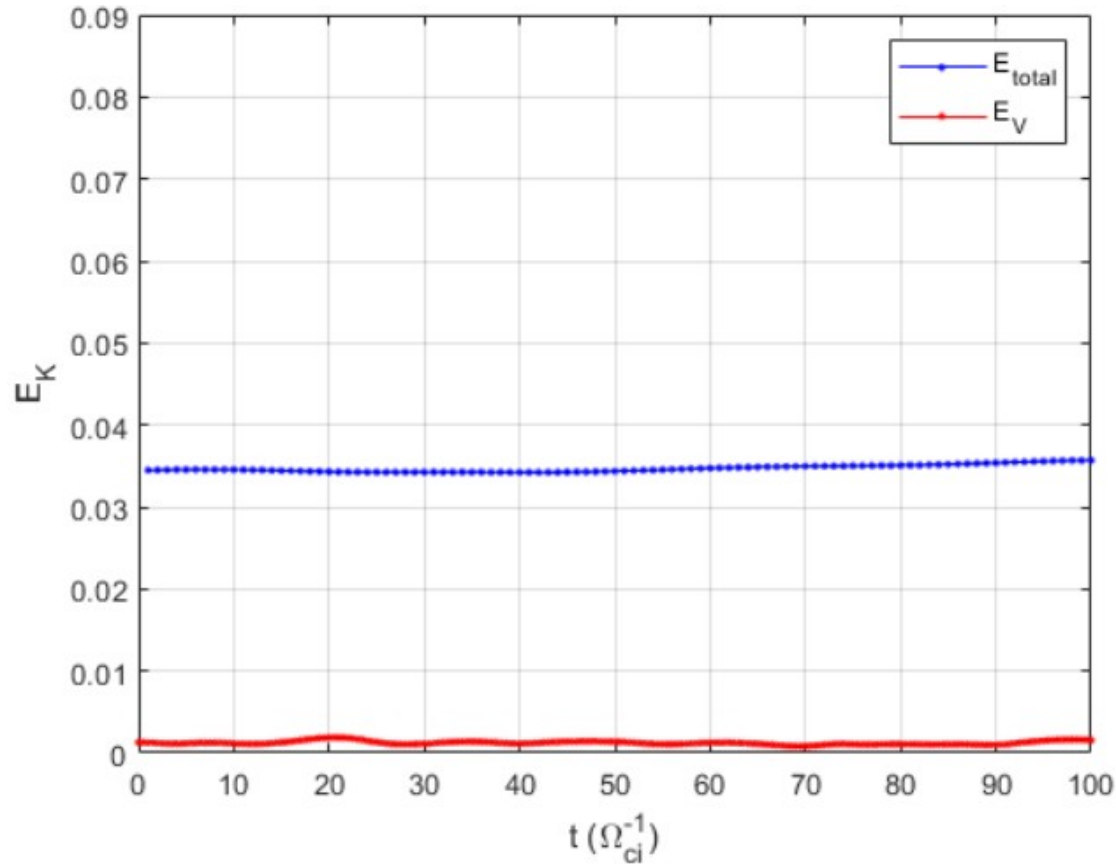
Spatiotemporal dynamics of the perturbed plasma density, in the turbulent regime.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in drift-wave turbulence



Lagrangian vortices detected using geodesic theory

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in drift-wave turbulence



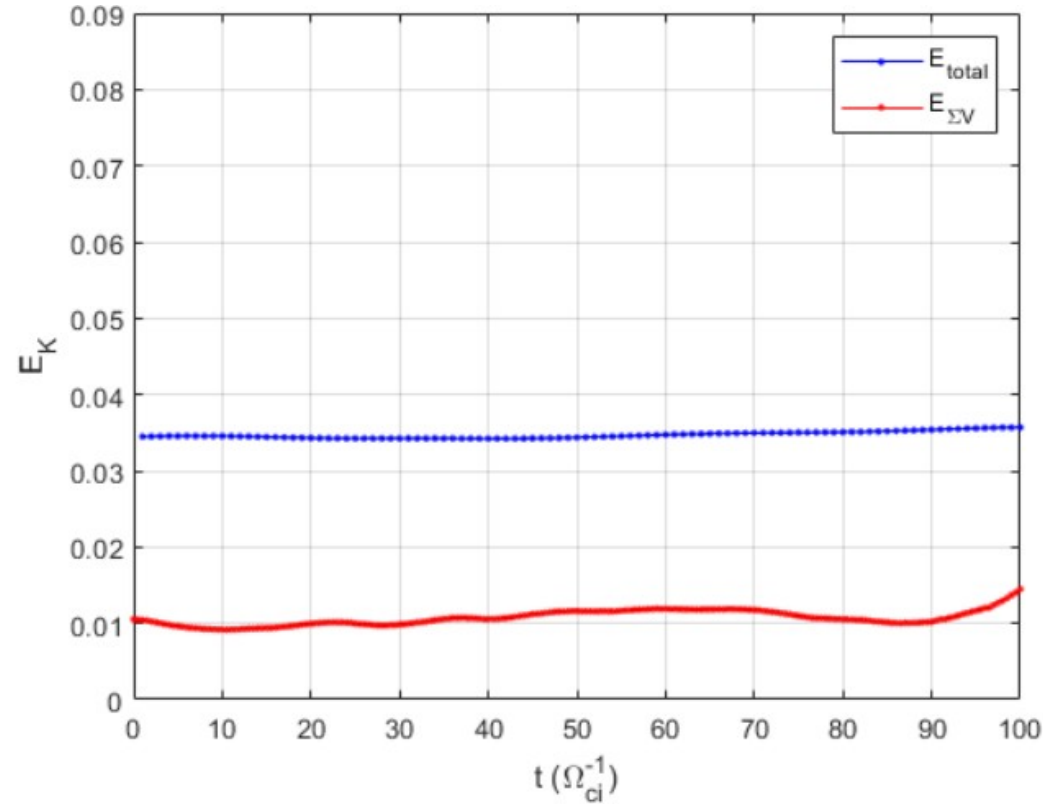
The total kinetic energy E_{total} and the kinetic energy contained in one selected vortex E_V , from $t = 0$ to $t = 100$.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in drift-wave turbulence

Time (Ω_{ci}^{-1})	Turbulent Regime		
	E_{total}	E_V	$\frac{E_V}{E_{total}}$ (%)
$t = 0$ to $t = 100$	0.0347	0.0012	3.46

Numerical values of the E_{total} and E_V

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in drift-wave turbulence



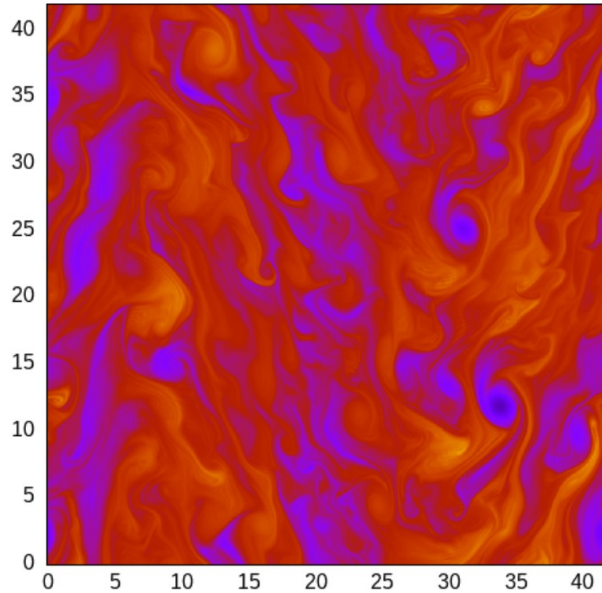
The total kinetic energy E_{total} and the total kinetic energy contained in all vortices $E_{\Sigma V}$, from $t = 0$ to $t = 100$.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in drift-wave turbulence

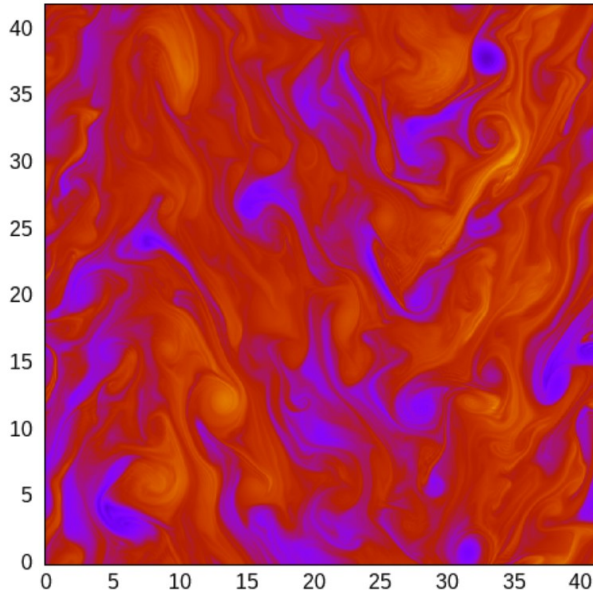
Time (Ω_{ci}^{-1})	Turbulent Regime		
	E_{total}	$E_{\Sigma V}$	$\frac{E_{\Sigma V}}{E_{total}}$ (%)
$t = 0$ to $t = 100$	0.0347	0.0107	30.84
$t = 100$ to $t = 200$	0.0361	0.0117	32.41
$t = 200$ to $t = 300$	0.0372	0.0191	51.34
$t = 300$ to $t = 400$	0.0350	0.0140	40.00
$t = 400$ to $t = 500$	0.0330	0.0039	11.81

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in zonal flows

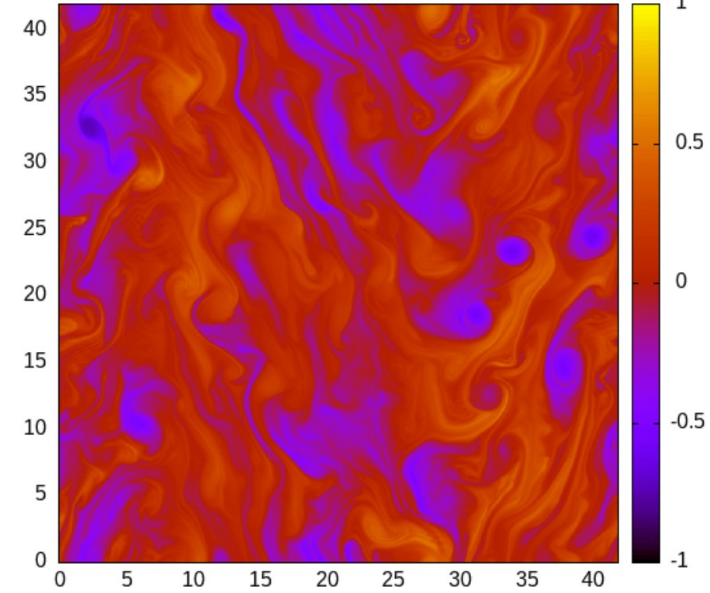
$t = 0$



$t = 50$

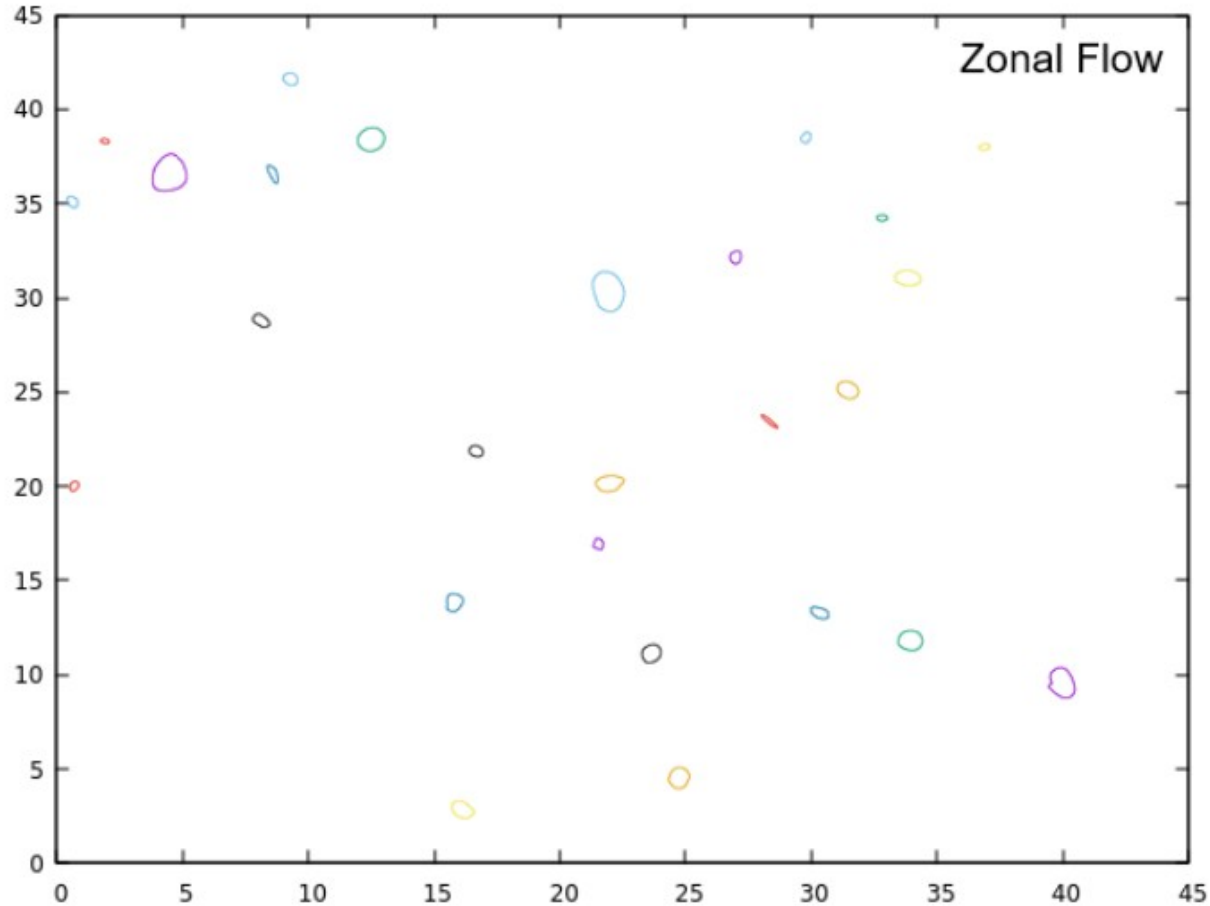


$t = 100$



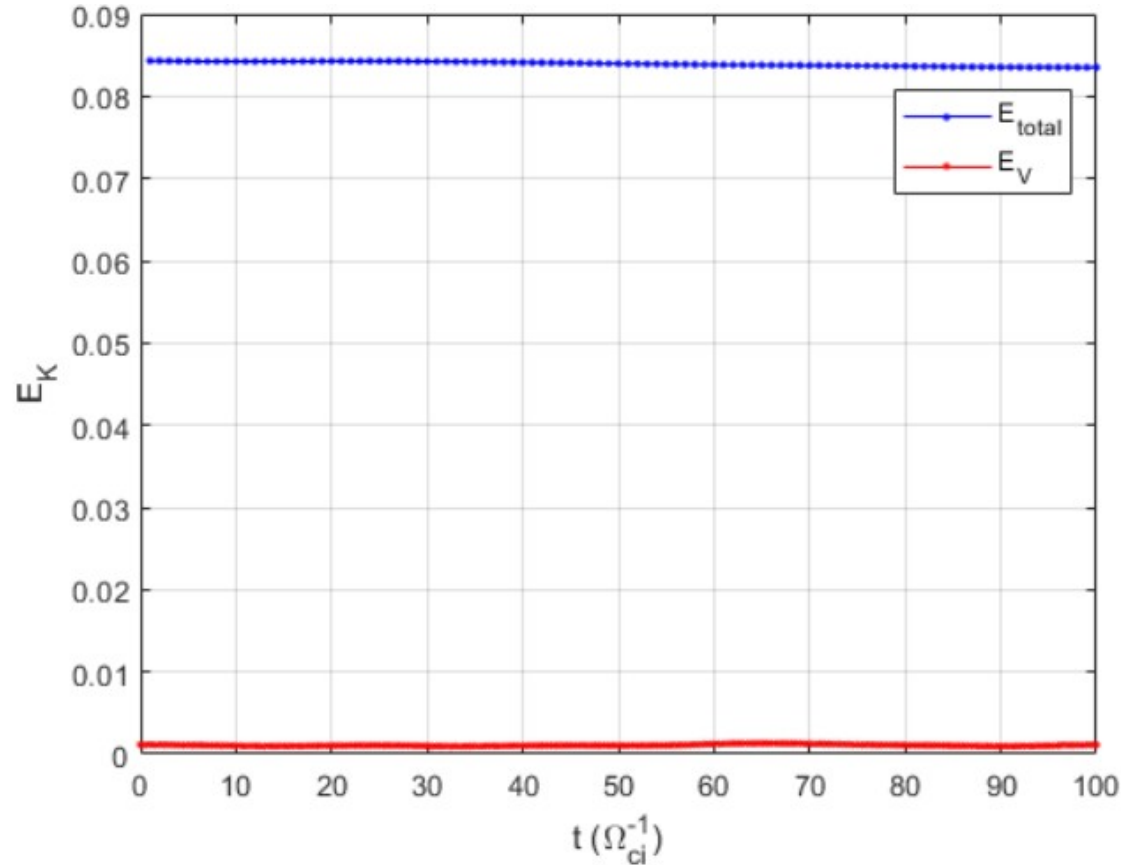
Spatiotemporal dynamics of the perturbed plasma density, in the zonal flow regime.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in zonal flows



Lagrangian vortices detected using geodesic theory

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in zonal flows



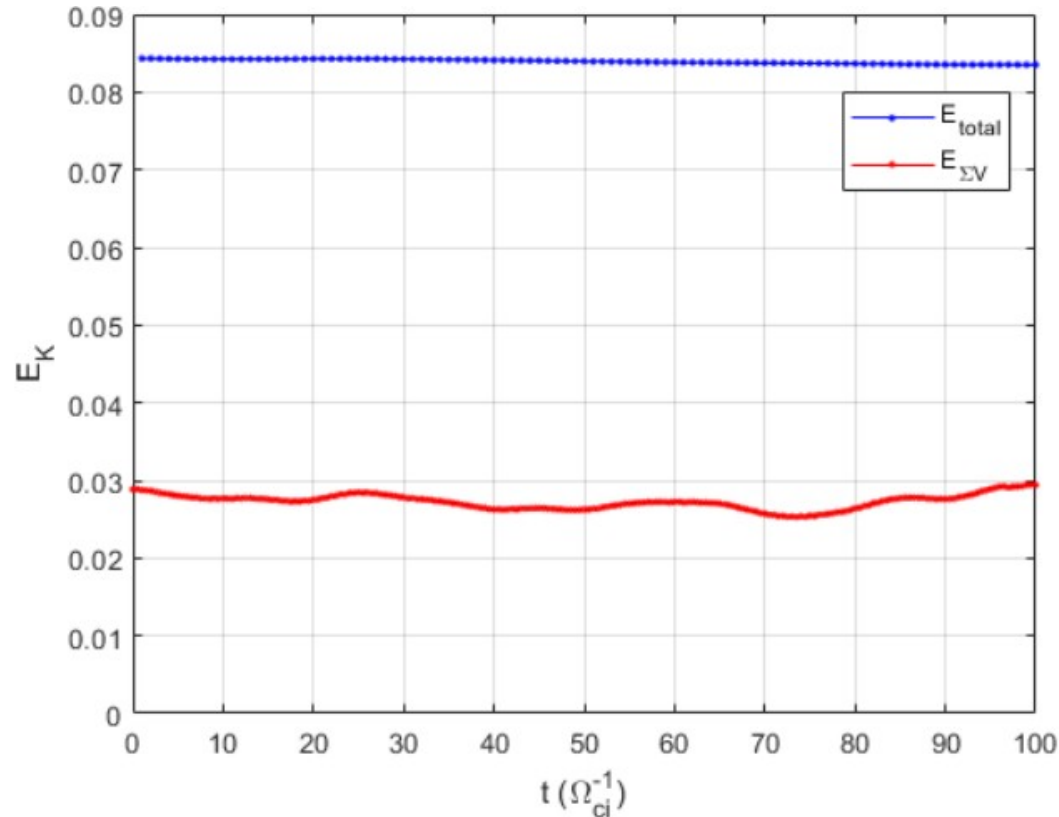
The total kinetic energy E_{total} and the kinetic energy contained in one selected vortex E_V , from $t = 0$ to $t = 100$.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in zonal flows

Time (Ω_{ci}^{-1})	Turbulent Regime			Zonal Flow		
	E_{total}	E_V	$\frac{E_V}{E_{total}}$ (%)	E_{total}	E_V	$\frac{E_V}{E_{total}}$ (%)
$t = 0$ to $t = 100$	0.0347	0.0012	3.46	0.0839	0.0011	1.31

Numerical values of the E_{total} and E_V

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in zonal flows



The total kinetic energy E_{total} and the total kinetic energy contained in all vortices $E_{\Sigma V}$, from $t = 0$ to $t = 100$.

3: Lagrangian coherent structures in zonal flows

Time (Ω_{ci}^{-1})	Turbulent Regime			Zonal Flow		
	E_{total}	$E_{\Sigma V}$	$\frac{E_{\Sigma V}}{E_{total}}$ (%)	E_{total}	$E_{\Sigma V}$	$\frac{E_{\Sigma V}}{E_{total}}$ (%)
$t = 0$ to $t = 100$	0.0347	0.0107	30.84	0.0839	0.0273	32.54
$t = 100$ to $t = 200$	0.0361	0.0117	32.41	0.0835	0.0200	23.95
$t = 200$ to $t = 300$	0.0372	0.0191	51.34	0.0831	0.0191	22.98
$t = 300$ to $t = 400$	0.0350	0.0140	40.00	0.0828	0.0170	20.53
$t = 400$ to $t = 500$	0.0330	0.0039	11.81	0.0822	0.0264	32.12

4: Conclusions

- Robust vortices using geodesic theory were detected in numerical simulations of electrostatic drift-wave turbulence.
- Lagrangian vortices contain $\sim 50\%$ or less of the total kinetic energy in drift-wave turbulence in plasmas.



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Numerical codes available at
<https://gitlab.com/rmiracer>



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