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Alfvenic Turbulence in Strongly Magnetized Media

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Turbulence is omnipresent in magnetized plasmas. I will briefly introduce properties of magnetized turbulence. Plasma Physics deals with various length scales and different descriptions should be used for different scales. On large scales, magnetized turbulence can be described in the framework of magnetohydrodynamics (MHD). In this regime, I will consider a fluid threaded by a very strong mean magnetic field. In the presence of a strong mean magnetic field, disturbances travel along the magnetic field line and collisions between opposite-traveling Alfven wave packets (or 'eddies') are essential for development of turbulence. In this talk, I will mostly discuss Alfvenic turbulence in non-relativistic plasmas (Goldreich & Sridhar 1995; Cho & Vishniac 2000). I will also briefly discuss relativistic Alfvenic turbulence (Thompson & Blaes 1999; Cho 2005; Cho & Lazarian 2014). On the other hand, near and below the ion gyro-scales, we should include plasma effects. In this talk, I will discuss how we can treat such small-scale magnetized turbulence and show how magnetic helicity affects spectral evolution of the small-scale turbulence (Cho & Lazarian 2004; Cho 2012; Cho & Kim 2016). When time permits, I will also discuss why magnetic reconnection should be fast in MHD turbulence.

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