

Generalized Fermi acceleration

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Outline:

1. A generalized view of Fermi acceleration

[M.L. 19, [arXiv:1903.05917](#)]

2. Application to particle acceleration in relativistic turbulence

[PhD work of Camilia Demidem, [Demidem+19a, b](#), in prep]



Standard lore:

→ Lorentz force:
$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = q \left(\mathbf{E} + \frac{\mathbf{v}}{c} \times \mathbf{B} \right)$$

→ recall: $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B}$ and $\mathbf{E}^2 - \mathbf{B}^2$ Lorentz scalars

Case 1: $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$ and $\mathbf{E}^2 - \mathbf{B}^2 < 0$

→ generic because it corresponds to ideal MHD assumptions...

→ \exists a frame in which $\mathbf{E}_{\perp p}$ vanishes: the plasma rest frame for ideal MHD

→ **examples: Fermi-type scenarios (turbulence, shear, shocks)**

Case 2: $\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{B} \neq 0$ or $\mathbf{E}^2 - \mathbf{B}^2 > 0$

→ acceleration can proceed unbounded along \mathbf{E} (or at least \mathbf{E}_{\parallel})...

→ **examples: reconnection, gaps**



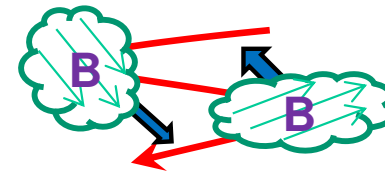
Ideal MHD:

→ E field is 'motional', i.e. if plasma moves at velocity β_p : $\mathbf{E} = -\beta_p \times \mathbf{B}$

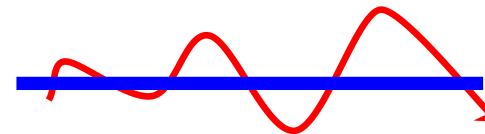
→ **need scattering to push particles across B**

⇒ t_{acc} scales with the scattering time t_{scatt} (time needed to enter random walk)

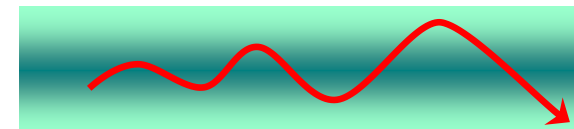
→ examples: - turbulent Fermi acceleration



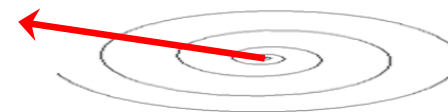
- Fermi acceleration at shock waves



- acceleration in sheared velocity fields



- magnetized rotators

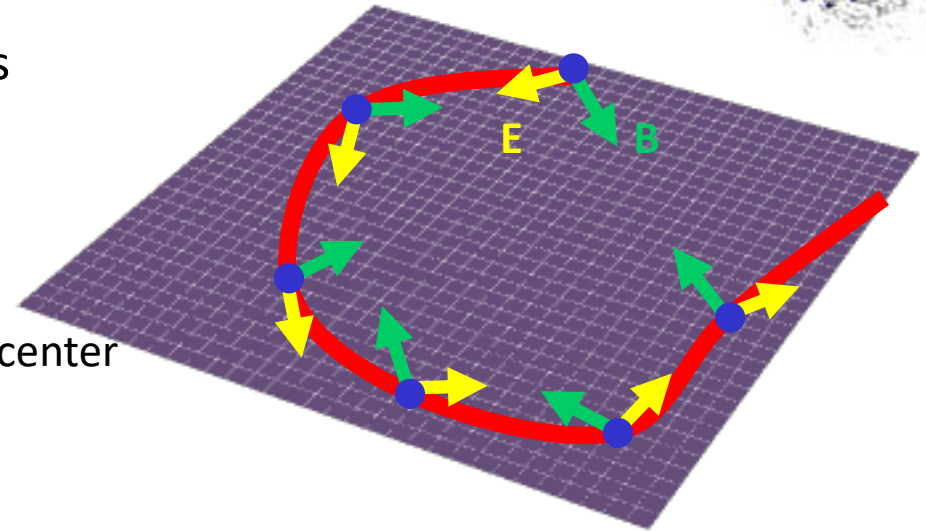




General problem: integrate trajectories of particles in a non-uniform (\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}) configuration...

→ various schemes depending on the situation...

- explicit integration of trajectories with guiding center approximations in known E, B ...
- in Fermi 1, go to local rest frame downstream, then upstream, then downstream...
- quasilinear theory: assume particles propagate on straight orbits and accumulate energy increments...
- in complex flows, derive transport equation and identify energy gain terms...



Fermi acceleration... generalized



General problem: integrate trajectories of particles in a non-uniform (\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}) configuration...

→ various schemes depending on the situation...

- explicit integration of trajectories with guiding center

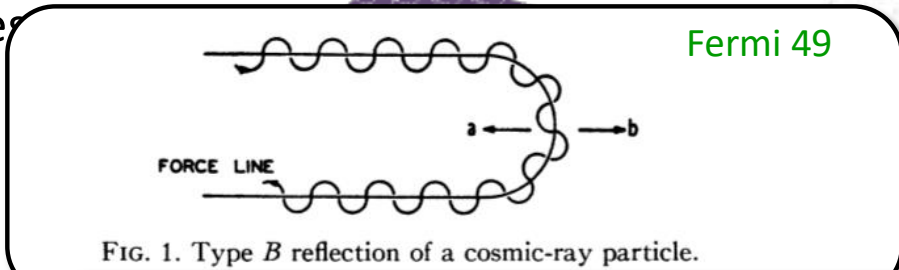
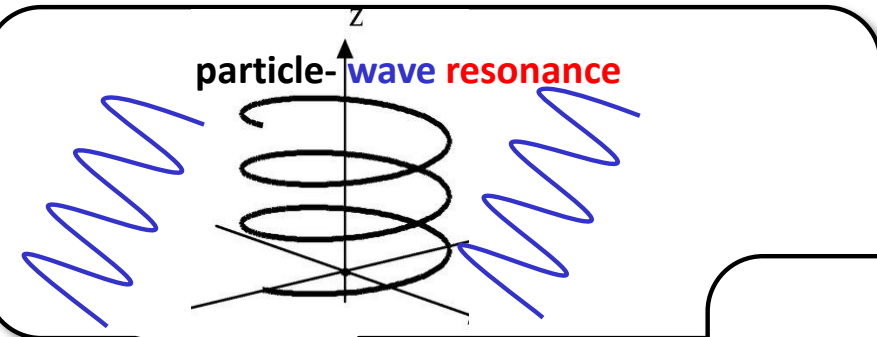
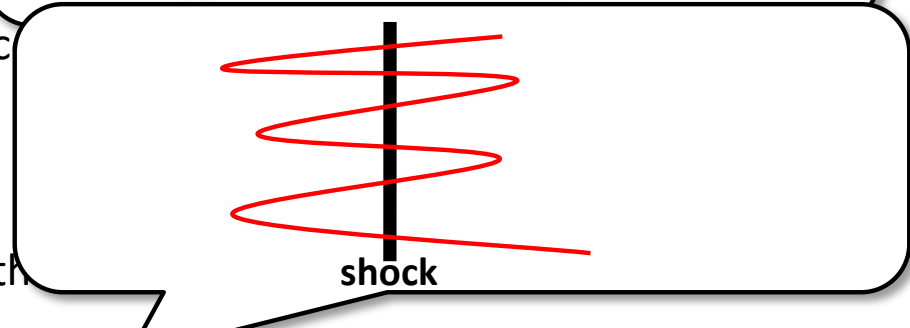


FIG. 1. Type B reflection of a cosmic-ray particle.



- quasilinear theory: assume energy increments...

downstream, the



2.1. The Transport Equation

From Webb (1989), the diffusive energetic particle transport equation for the mean scattering frame distribution $f(x^\alpha, p')$ may be written as:

$$L(f) = \nabla_\alpha (c u^\alpha f + q^\alpha) + \frac{1}{p'^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p'} \left[-\frac{1}{3} p'^3 c \nabla_\beta u^\beta f - p'(p'^0)^2 \dot{u}_\alpha q^\alpha - (\Gamma p'^4 \tau_c + p'^2 D_{pp}) \frac{\partial f}{\partial p'} \right] = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

- in complex flows, derive transport equation and identify energy gain terms...

Present scheme: at each point along the particle trajectory, define: $\beta_{\mathbf{u}} = \frac{\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}}{B^2}$

... and deboost by this velocity to go to the reference frame in which \mathbf{E} vanishes to compute the force (elastic scattering on B!), model trajectory as random walk...

... here a local transform, hence a problem of general relativity ...

Moving from a global to a local comoving inertial frame



→ GR allows to consider a curved space-time...

→ define:

(1) coordinate basis in lab frame \mathcal{R}_L with line element:

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu}(x) dx^\mu dx^\nu$$

(2) a locally inertial frame $\overline{\mathcal{R}}_L$ at each space-time point, set up by the vierbein:

$$e_L^{\overline{a}}{}_\mu(x) : \eta_{\overline{a}\overline{b}} e_L^{\overline{a}}{}_\mu e_L^{\overline{b}}{}_\nu = g_{\mu\nu}$$

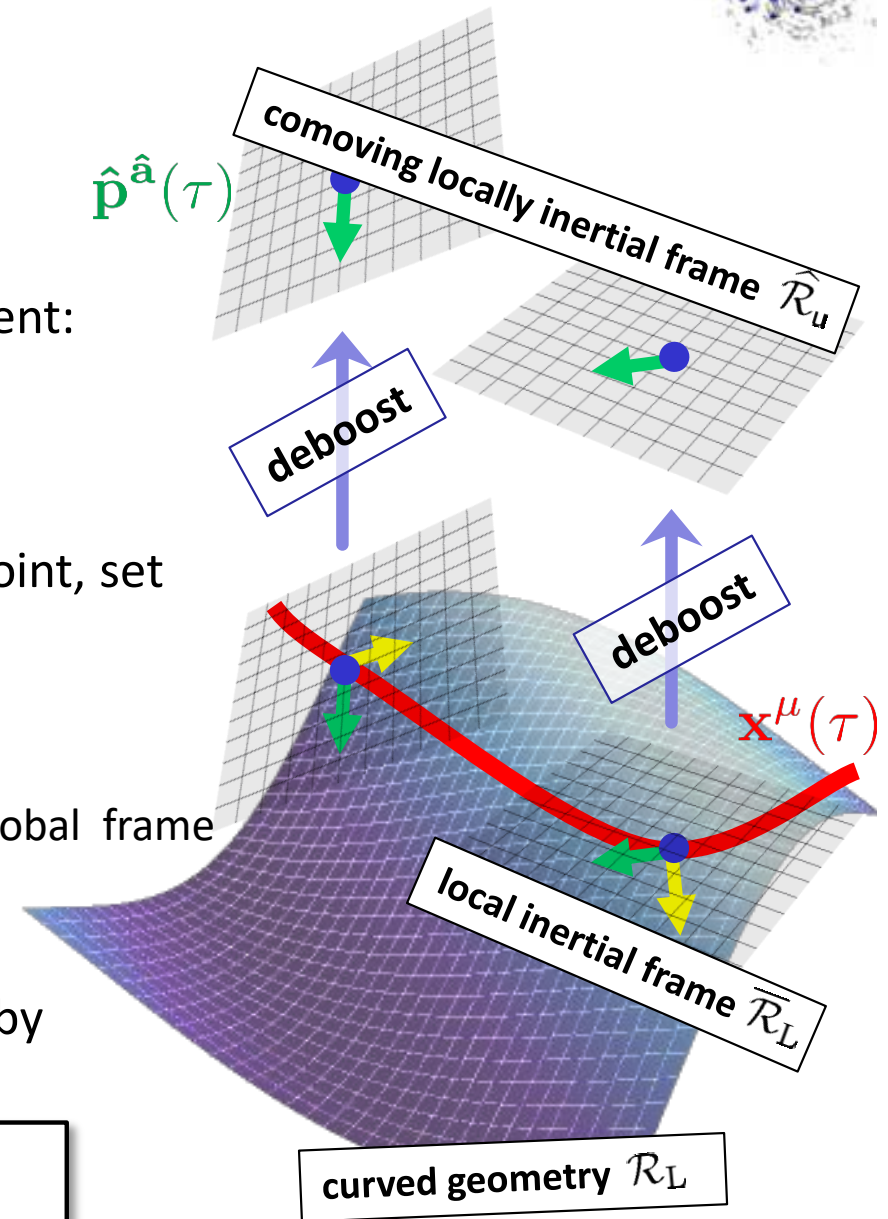
4-velocity in local frame $u^{\overline{a}} = e_L^{\overline{a}}{}_\mu u^\mu$ 4-velocity in global frame

(3) a comoving locally inertial frame $\widehat{\mathcal{R}}_u$, obtained by (Lorentz) deboosting from the former by $u^{\overline{a}}$:

$$e^{\hat{a}}{}_\mu(x) : \eta_{\hat{a}\hat{b}} e^{\hat{a}}{}_\mu e^{\hat{b}}{}_\nu = g_{\mu\nu}$$

$$u^{\hat{a}} = \{1, 0, 0, 0\} = e^{\hat{a}}{}_\mu u^\mu$$

$p^{\hat{a}} = e^{\hat{a}}{}_\mu p^\mu$ momentum $p^{\hat{a}}$ lives in the comoving locally inertial frame



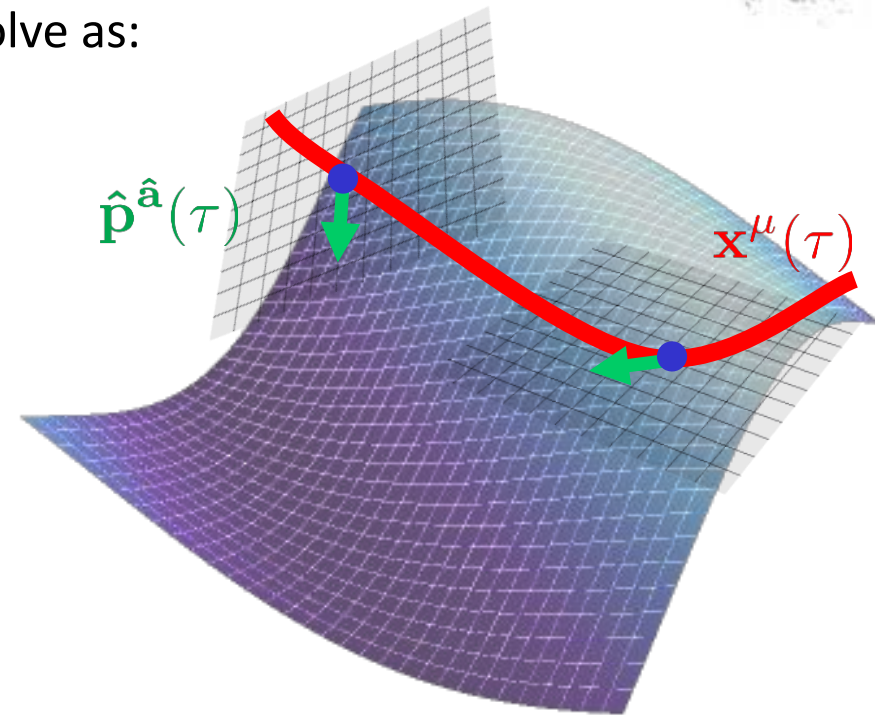


→ in the comoving locally inertial frame, momenta evolve as:

$$\frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{a}}}{d\tau} = \frac{q}{m} \hat{F}^{\hat{a}}_{\hat{b}} \hat{p}^{\hat{b}} - \hat{\Gamma}^{\hat{a}}_{\hat{b}\hat{c}} \frac{\hat{p}^{\hat{b}} \hat{p}^{\hat{c}}}{m}$$

Lorentz force

inertial correction



→ in particular:

$$\frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau} = e^{\beta}_{\hat{b}} e^{\gamma}_{\hat{c}} \nabla_{\gamma} e^{\hat{0}}_{\beta} \frac{\hat{p}^{\hat{b}} \hat{p}^{\hat{c}}}{m}$$

... and the vierbein $\approx u^{\mu}$: spacetime dependence of u is essential for Fermi acceleration... E and B have disappeared from the calculation...

→ calculation scheme:

- follow spatial coordinates in global frame, momenta in comoving frame...
- Lorentz force acts on angular part of momentum in comoving frame, not on energy, eventually leading to spatial diffusion with typical scattering time t_s .
- integrate over typical trajectory to obtain $\langle \Delta p^{\alpha} / \Delta t \rangle$ and $\langle \Delta p^{\alpha} \Delta p^{\beta} / \Delta t \rangle$, e.g.

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta p^t}{\Delta t} \right\rangle = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left\langle e^t_{\hat{a}}(\Delta\tau) \int_0^{\Delta\tau} d\tau_1 \frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{a}}}{d\tau_1} \right\rangle + \dots$$



Example: stochastic unipolar induction

→ wind in spherical geometry: $u^\mu(r, \theta) = [u^t(r, \theta), u^r(r, \theta), 0, 0]$

→ connection coefficients: $\hat{\Gamma}_{\hat{1}\hat{0}}^{\hat{0}} = \frac{u^r u^r_{,r}}{u^t}, \hat{\Gamma}_{\hat{1}\hat{1}}^{\hat{0}} = u^r_{,r}, \hat{\Gamma}_{\hat{1}\hat{2}}^{\hat{0}} = \frac{u^r_{,\theta}}{r u^t}, \hat{\Gamma}_{\hat{2}\hat{2}}^{\hat{0}} = \hat{\Gamma}_{\hat{3}\hat{3}}^{\hat{0}} = \frac{u^r}{r}$

→ evolution of energy in comoving frame: $\frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau} = -\hat{\Gamma}_{\hat{b}\hat{c}}^{\hat{0}} \frac{\hat{p}^{\hat{b}} \hat{p}^{\hat{c}}}{m}$

→ mean drift (1st order moment):

$$\left\langle \frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau} \right\rangle = -\frac{1}{3} \frac{\hat{p}^2}{m} \langle \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \rangle \quad \text{describing cooling through expansion...}$$

→ stochastic term (2nd order moment):

$$\frac{1}{2\Delta\hat{t}} \int d\tau_1 d\tau_2 \left\langle \frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau_1} \frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau_2} \right\rangle - \left\langle \frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau_1} \right\rangle \left\langle \frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau_2} \right\rangle = \frac{\hat{p}^2 \hat{t}_{\text{scatt}}}{18r^2} \left[4u^{r2} + 2(r u^r_{,r})^2 + \frac{u^{r,\theta2}}{u^{t2}} + 6 \frac{(r u^r_{,r})^2}{u^{t2}} \right]$$

describing heating/acceleration through shear and acceleration terms...

$\mathbf{E} = 0$



$$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}$$

Example: acceleration in black hole environments...



Stochastic gravito-centrifugo-shear acceleration near a (Schwarzschild) BH:

→ circular flow at angular velocity $\Omega(r)$: $u^\mu = \gamma_u(r) [1, 0, \Omega(r), 0]$

→ flow carries turbulence, which provides a source of scattering...
acceleration takes place through interaction with sheared flow...
(e.g. Rieger+Mannheim 02)

→ global frame: \mathcal{R}_L = frame in which central object at rest..

→ at the equator,

$$D_{\hat{p}\hat{p}} = \hat{p}^2 \frac{\hat{t}_{\text{scatt}}}{3r^2 \left[1 + \left(1 - \frac{r_H}{r}\right) \ell^2 / r^2\right]^2} \times \left\{ \left[\left(1 - \frac{r_H}{r}\right)^{3/2} \frac{\ell^2}{r^2} - \left(1 - \frac{r_H}{r}\right)^{-1/2} \frac{r_H}{r} \right]^2 + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{6} r^4 \Omega_{,r}^2 \right\}$$

centrifugal term

$$\ell = \frac{r^2 \Omega}{1 - \frac{r_H}{r}}$$

gravitational term

shear term

Turbulent acceleration



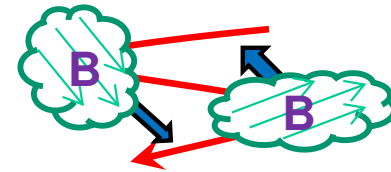
(e.g. Bykov, Chandran, Jokipii, Lazarian, Matthaeus, Petrosian, Ptuskin, Schlickeiser, and coworkers...)

Fermi model for acceleration:

- ... particle interaction with random moving scattering centers...
- ... acceleration becomes stochastic with diffusion coefficient:

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta p^t \Delta p^t}{2\Delta t} \right\rangle \sim \beta_u^2 \frac{p^2}{t_{\text{int}}}$$

... what is t_{int} ? β_u ?



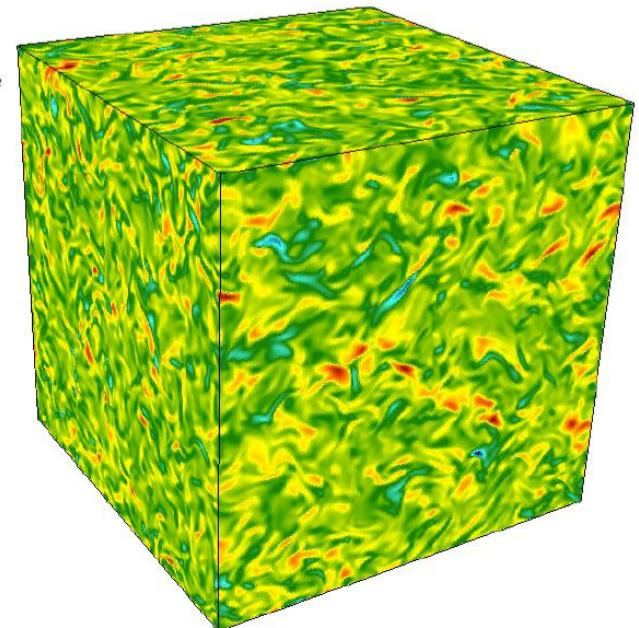
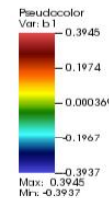
Wave picture: particles diffuse and gain energy through *resonant interactions* with the waves of the plasma (e.g. Alfvén, magnetosonic), $t_{\text{int}} \sim t_{\text{scatt}}$ and $\beta_u \sim \beta_A \dots$

Current questions:

... do resonances exist in realistic (GS) turbulence theories (Chandran 00, Yan+Lazarian 02) ... ??

... do waves provide a faithful representation of (strong) turbulence?

... in relativistic (high β_A) regime??



B_x in relativistic MHD turbulence (256^3)

© C. Demidem

Non-resonant acceleration in strong turbulence



Non-perturbative description: follow transport of particle in momentum space in a continuous sequence of (non-inertial) local plasma rest frames, where the electric field vanishes at each point... (M.L. 19)

... evolution of energy in local plasma rest frame

$$\frac{d\hat{p}^{\hat{0}}}{d\tau} = e^{\beta}_{\hat{b}} e^{\gamma}_{\hat{c}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^{\gamma}} e^{\hat{0}}_{\beta} \frac{\hat{p}^{\hat{b}} \hat{p}^{\hat{c}}}{m}$$

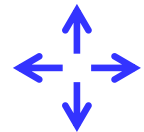
with $e^{\hat{a}}_{\mu}$ vierbein to comoving plasma frame

... specify the statistics of the velocity field (\rightarrow statistics of the vierbein):

$$U^i = \langle \cancel{U^i} \rangle + u^i \quad u^i : \text{here, of fixed magnitude, random orientation with coherence length and time } k^{-1}$$

$$\frac{\partial u^i}{\partial x^{\alpha}} = u^i_{,\alpha} = \frac{1}{3} \theta \delta^i_{\alpha} + \sigma^i_{\alpha} + \omega^i_{\alpha} + a^i_{\alpha}$$

θ : expansion scalar



σ : shear tensor



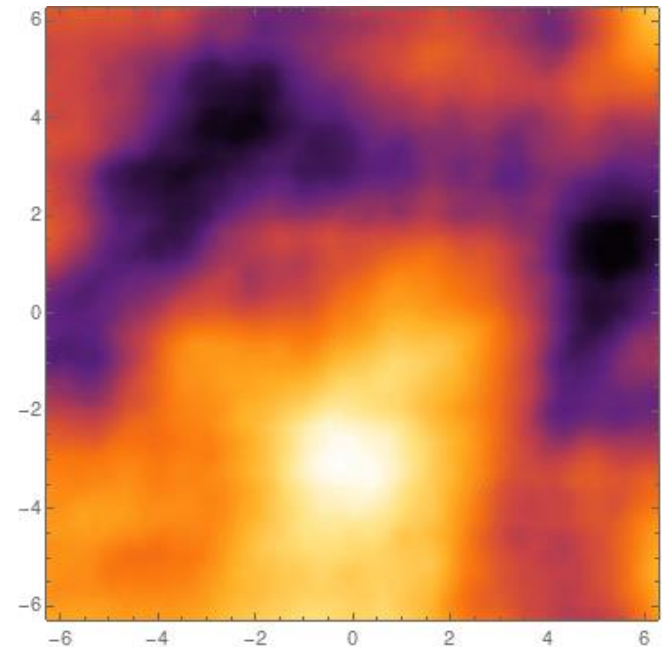
ω : vorticity tensor



a : acceleration term



... each defined by a power spectrum of fluctuations





For a near-monochromatic spectrum with length scale k_{\min}^{-1} ...

... then, to lowest order in u^2 (sub- to mildly-relativistic flow):

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left\langle \frac{\Delta p^t \Delta p^t}{2\Delta t} \right\rangle = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} p^2 t_{\text{scatt}} \left[\langle \theta^2 \rangle + \frac{3}{5} \langle \sigma^2 \rangle + \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \langle a^2 \rangle \right] \quad (t_{\text{scatt}} \lesssim k_{\min}^{-1} c^{-1}) \\ \left\langle \frac{\Delta p^t \Delta p^t}{2\Delta t} \right\rangle = \frac{4}{\pi} \frac{p^2}{k_{\min}^2 t_{\text{scatt}}} \left[\langle \theta^2 \rangle + \frac{3}{5} \langle \sigma^2 \rangle + \frac{3}{2} \langle a^2 \rangle \right] \quad (t_{\text{scatt}} \gtrsim k_{\min}^{-1} c^{-1}) \end{array} \right.$$

Interpretation: $\langle \theta^2 \rangle \sim \langle (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})^2 \rangle \sim k_{\min}^2 \delta u_{\text{comp}}^2.$

\Rightarrow for $t_{\text{scatt}} \ll k_{\min}^{-1}$, it takes a time $\sim k_{\min}^{-2} / t_{\text{scatt}}$ to travel diffusively across a decorrelation length k_{\min}^{-1} of the turbulence and gain energy $\sim \delta u^2 p \dots$

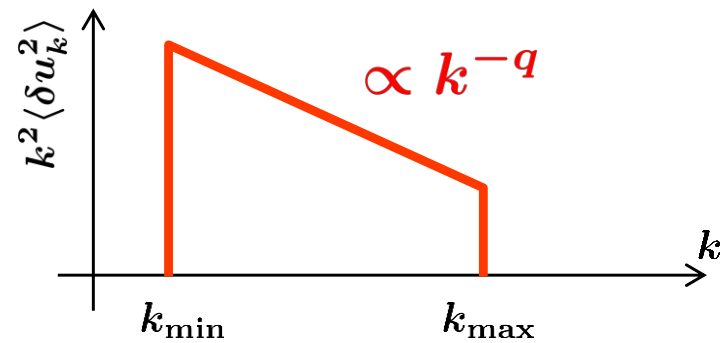
\Rightarrow for $t_{\text{scatt}} \gg k_{\min}^{-1}$, it takes a time $\sim t_{\text{scatt}}$ to decorrelate the trajectory and gain an energy $\sim \delta u^2 p \dots$

Non-resonant acceleration in relativistic turbulence



Generalisation to broadband turbulent spectrum:

→ particle sees large-scale modes ($t_{\text{scatt}} \ll k^{-1}$),
and small-scale modes ($t_{\text{scatt}} \gg k^{-1}$) ...



$$D_{pp}^{\text{non-res.}} \simeq p^2 \langle \delta u^2 \rangle \begin{cases} k_{\min} (t_{\text{scatt}} k_{\min})^{q-2} & (k_{\max}^{-1} \lesssim t_{\text{scatt}} \lesssim k_{\min}^{-1}) \\ t_{\text{scatt}}^{-1} & (k_{\min}^{-1} \lesssim t_{\text{scatt}}) \end{cases}$$

[here, δu symbolizes the compressive/shear/vorticity/acceleration combination]

Demidem, ML, Casse 19

Hints for the scattering timescale:

→ line wandering implies $\delta\theta \sim \pm \delta B/B$ over a coherence cell k_{\min}^{-1} , so :

$$t_{\text{scatt}} \sim k_{\min}^{-1} \quad \text{at } \delta B \sim B$$

→ at low turbulence amplitudes, hints from quasilinear theory ...

(must include realistic account of turbulence anisotropy, resonance broadening etc.)

A generalized scheme for Fermi acceleration:

→ follow the particle trajectory in mixed phase space coordinates:

$\mathbf{x}^\mu(\tau)$ lives in the lab (global) reference frame

$\hat{\mathbf{p}}^{\hat{\mathbf{a}}}(\tau)$ lives in a locally inertial frame that is comoving with the electromagnetic structure, so that \mathbf{E} vanishes there...

→ non-perturbative calculation of energy gain as a function of scattering time t_{scatt} ... in possibly non-trivial flow structures / non-trivial geometries...

→ **and its application to relativistic turbulence:**

- **full characterization of non-resonant effects (compressive / shear / vorticity ...)**
- **non-resonant acceleration timescale**

$$t_{\text{acc}} \sim p^\epsilon \langle \delta u^2 \rangle^{-1} \eta^{-1} (k_{\text{min}} c)^{-1}$$

