Influence of initial conditions on the large-scale dynamo growth rate

Kiwan Park¹
¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 14627, USA

ABSTRACT
To investigate the effect of energy and helicity on the growth of magnetic field, helical kinetic forcing was applied to the magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) system that had a specific distribution of energy and helicity as initial conditions. Simulation results show the saturation of a system is not influenced by the initial conditions, but the growth rate of large scale magnetic field is proportionally dependent on the initial large scale magnetic energy and helicity. It is already known that the helical component of small scale magnetic field (i.e., current helicity $\langle j \cdot b \rangle$) quenches the growth of large scale magnetic field. However, $\langle j \cdot b \rangle$ can also boost the growth of large scale magnetic field by changing its sign and magnitude. In addition, simulation shows the nonhelical magnetic field can suppress the velocity field through Lorentz force. Comparison of the profiles of evolving magnetic and kinetic energy indicates that kinetic energy migrates backward when the external energy flows into the three dimensional MHD system, which means the velocity field may play a preceding role in the very early MHD dynamo stage.

1 INTRODUCTION

The generation and amplification of magnetic field in astrophysical systems are ubiquitous phenomena. The origin and exact mechanism of growth of magnetic fields in stars or galaxies have been long standing problems. It has been thought that helical kinetic motion or turbulence amplifies the magnetic field ($B$ field). However, the helical component does not seem to be an absolute necessity for the amplification of large scale magnetic field. In astrophysical dynamos, for instance, the kinetic energy of some celestial objects like supernovae or galaxy clusters has low or practically zero level of helical component. The evolution of $B$ fields in these objects is thought to be dominated by small scale dynamo (SSD): the amplification of fields below the large scale eddy without helicity (Kazantsev (1968), Kulsrud & Anderson (1992), Meneguzzi et al. (1981), Haugen et al. (2003), Schekochihin et al. (2004), Mininni et al. (2005)). So, it is important to understand the detailed mechanism of dynamo in MHD equations whether or not the driving force is helical.

As of yet some problems in the MHD dynamo process are not completely understood: the role of helical or nonhelical kinetic(magnetic) field, the effects of initial conditions (ICs) such as kinetic(magnetic) energy and helicity. There were trials to see the effects of ICs on the dynamo (Haugen & Brandenburg (2004), Maron et al. (2004)). However, the trials are not yet enough; moreover, there are few analytic studies to explain the effects of initial conditions. Some statistical methods like Eddy Damped Quasi Normal Markovian approximation (EDQNM, Pouquet et al. (1976)) can be used to explain the influences of ICs on the profile of growing $B$ field qualitatively. However, it is partial and incomplete. Development and verification of the theoretical results with more detailed simulation data are necessary. Nonetheless, related simulation results still provide us many detailed phenomena that are helpful to understanding the MHD turbulence. In this paper the effects of initial magnetic energy and helicity on the large scale dynamo were investigated using simulation data and analytic methods.

2 PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED AND METHODS

The main aim of this paper is to find out the effect of initial conditions (ICs) on the growth and saturation of magnetic helicity ($H_M = 1/2 (A \cdot B)$, $B = \nabla \times A$) and magnetic energy ($E_M$). For this, the combinations of three simulations were carried out: Non Helical Magnetic Forcing (NHMF), Helical Magnetic Forcing (HMF), and Helical Kinetic Forcing (HKF). To explain simulation results, the equations derived from EDQNM and two scale mean field dynamo theory (Field & Blackman (2002)) were used.

For the simulation code, high order finite difference Pencil Code (Brandenburg (2001)) and the message passing interface (MPI) were used. The equations solved for HKF in the
code are,
\[
\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} \quad (1)
\]
\[
\frac{D\mathbf{v}}{Dt} = -c_s^2 \nabla \ln \rho + \frac{\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}}{\rho} + \nu (\nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{f} \quad (2)
\]
\[
\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} - \eta \mathbf{J} \quad (3)
\]
where \(\rho\): density; \(\mathbf{v}\): velocity; \(\mathbf{B}\): magnetic field; \(\mathbf{A}\): vector potential; \(\mathbf{J}\): current density; \(\nabla\): gradient; \(\nabla^2\): Laplacian; \(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}\): advective derivative; \(\eta\): magnetic diffusivity; \(\nu\): kinematic viscosity; \(c_s\): sound speed; \(\mathbf{f}\): forcing function (helical or nonhelical). The unit used in the code is 'cgs'. Velocities are expressed in units of \(c_s\), and magnetic fields in units of \((\rho_0 \mu_0)^{1/2} c_s\) (i.e., \(B = \sqrt{\mu_0 \rho_0 v}\), \(\mu_0\) is magnetic permeability and \(\rho_0\) is the initial density). Note that \(\rho_0 \sim \rho\) in the weakly compressible simulations. These constants \(c_s\), \(\mu_0\), and \(\rho_0\) are set to be '1'. In the simulations \(\eta = c_s^2/4\pi \sigma\), \(\sigma\): conductivity) and \(\nu\) is 0.006.

In case of the magnetically driven simulation (magnetic forcing, \(\mathbf{M}F\)), forcing function \(\mathbf{f}\) is located in the magnetic induction equation \(\partial \mathbf{A}/\partial t = \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} - \eta \mathbf{J} + \mathbf{f}\) instead of the momentum equation. As Ohm's law \(\eta \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}\) implies, \(\mathbf{f}\) symbolizes sort of the external electromagnetic force that drives the magnetic eddy (Einaudi & Velli (1999).

We employ a cube like periodic box of spatial volume \((2\pi)^3\) with mesh size of 256\(^3\) for runs. The forcing function \(\mathbf{f}\) (http://pencil-code.nordita.org) used in the simulations is either fully helical (in fourier space, \(\nabla \times \mathbf{f} = k_f \mathbf{f}\), \(k_f\): wave number) or non-helical (\(\nabla \times \mathbf{f} \neq k_f \mathbf{f}\)). \(\mathbf{f}(x, t)\) is represented by \(N \mathbf{f}_k(t) \exp[i(k \mathbf{e}_k(t) \cdot \mathbf{x} + i\phi_k(t))]\) \((N:\) normalization factor, \(k\mathbf{e}_k(t)\): forcing wave number). And to prevent the shock phenomenon, forcing magnitude \(\mathbf{f}_k\) is 0.07 for \(KF\) and 0.01 for \(MF\) (note that \(\nabla \times \mathbf{f} = k_f \mathbf{f}\) for the helical forcing). This makes mach number (=\(v/c_s\)) less than 0.3.

### 3 SIMULATION RESULT 1

Fig. 1 includes the early time profiles of large scale \(|H_M|\) (solid line) and \(E_M\) (dotted line). In Fig 1(a), top line group includes \(|H_M|\) and \(E_M\) for the case of \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\): after Non Helical Magnetic Forcing (as a precursor simulation, \(k_f = 30\) \(t \leq 10.6\)) Helical Kinetic Forcing \((k_f = 5, t > 10.6)\) was done over this preliminary simulation. The middle lines are \(|H_M|\) and \(E_M\) for \(\mathbf{H}M\mathbf{F} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\): Helical Magnetic Forcing \((k_f = 30, t \leq 13.0)\) \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) \((k_f = 5, t > 13.0)\). The lowest lines are \(|H_M|\) and \(E_M\) for \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) system at \(k_f = 5\) as a reference simulation. The spectra show \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) is the most efficient in the growth of large scale \(H_M\) and \(E_M\) in the early time regime. \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) of which energy transfer chiefly depends on \(\alpha\) effect appears to be the least efficient in energy transfer. In case of \(\mathbf{H}M\mathbf{F} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\), the efficiency is between \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F} \rightarrow \mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) and \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\). And during \(\mathbf{H}M\mathbf{F}\), the features of \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F}\) and \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) due to the helical and nonhelical field are observed.

The spectrum of magnetic energy \(E_M\) is always positive, but the sign of \(H_M\) is influenced by the external driving

![Figure 1](http://pencil-code.nordita.org) Seed energy and helicity in each case are the same. Precursor simulation \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F}\) changes the given seed field into the specific energy distribution, which is used as new initial conditions for the consecutive main simulation \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\). (a) Preliminary simulation \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F}\) \((f = 0.01\) at \(k_f = 30\)) finishes at \(t = 10.6\). During this time regime, \(H_M\) is negative. In contrast, \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) \((f = 0.01\) at \(k_f = 30\) for \(t \leq 13.0\)) generates positive \(H_M\). \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) \((f = 0.07\) at \(k_f = 5\)) follows these preliminary simulations. And \(\mathbf{H}K\mathbf{F}\) without a precursor simulation was done separately as a reference. (b) Except \(\mathbf{N}HM\mathbf{F}\), the magnetic fields in the other cases are indistinguishably small. (c) The left line group shows the influence of ICs. The difference in the onset positions is mainly decided by large scale \(E_{M,0}\) and \(H_{M,0}\) generated by the precursor simulations. And right line group includes the shifted \(E_M\) and \(H_M\) of each case for the comparison.
Influence of initial conditions on the large-scale dynamo growth rate

(a) $E_{\text{kin}} (\text{NHMF} \rightarrow \text{HKF})$

(b) $E_{\text{mag}} (\text{NHMF} \rightarrow \text{HKF})$

(c) $E_{\text{kin}}$ and $E_{\text{mag}}$

Figure 2. \textit{NHMF}($f_{h_{m}} = 0, f_{0} = 0.01, k_{f} = 30$) finishes at $t = 10.6$, and then \textit{HKF}($f_{h_{k}} = 1, f_{0} = 0.07, k_{f} = 5$) begins. Initially, only tiny $E_{M}$ is given ($E_{\text{kin}}$ is zero). But $E_{\text{kin}}$ grows quickly, catches up with $E_{M}$ till $t \sim 0.2$, and outweighs it. (a) $E_{\text{kin}}$ which is transferred from magnetic eddy through Lorentz force migrates backward and forward. (b) The diffusion of energy among magnetic eddies without $\alpha$ effect in \textit{NHMF} is tiny. Except the forced eddy, the energy in magnetic eddies seems to be mostly from kinetic eddies. After the precursor simulation, the peak of $E_{M}$ (nonhelical) at $k = 30$ disappears within a few time steps. (c) Comparison of $E_{\text{kin}}$ and $E_{M}$.

(a) $E_{\text{kin}} (\text{HM}F \rightarrow \text{HKF})$

(b) $E_{\text{mag}} (\text{HM}F \rightarrow \text{HKF})$

(c) $E_{\text{kin}}$ and $E_{\text{mag}}$

Figure 3. \textit{HM}F($f_{h_{m}} = 1, f_{0} = 0.01, k_{f} = 30$) finishes at $t = 13.0$, and then \textit{HKF}($f_{h_{k}} = 1, f_{0} = 0.07, k_{f} = 5$) begins. (a) $E_{\text{kin}}$ of \textit{HM}F is smaller than that of \textit{NHMF}. (b) $E_{\text{mag}}$ of \textit{HM}F is also smaller than that of \textit{NHMF}. The second small peak around $k = 9, 10$ is the inversely cascaded energy due to $\alpha$ effect. This peak moves backward to be merged into the new forcing peak($k = 5$) when \textit{HKF} begins. The peak of $E_{M}$ at $k_{f} = 30$ also disappears within a few time steps.

function ‘$f$’ and forcing method. For example, in case of $\textit{HM}F$, $H_{M}$ and ‘$f$’ have the same sign (middle lines, $t \leq 13.0$), but in case of $\textit{HKF}$, $H_{M}$ has opposite sign of ‘$f$’. The cusp in this group ($t \sim 13$) is the rapid change of $H_{M}$ from positive($\textit{HM}F$, $f_{h_{m}} = \langle k \cdot a \rangle / \langle b \rangle = +1$, full helical) to negative($\textit{HKF}$, $f_{h_{k}} = \langle v \cdot \omega \rangle / \langle k v \rangle = +1$, full helical). The
Figure 4. (a), (b) are the preliminary simulation before HKF. (c) This plot is the same as that of (a), but the forced eddy is \( k_f = 5 \), closer to the large scale. It shows basic profile of \( E_{kin} \) does not so much depend on the position of forced eddy. Also linear and uniform kinetic energy distribution implies the energy transfer is more local and contiguous rather than nonlocal.

reasons of reversed or equal sign of large scale magnetic helicity in HKF and HMF were partially explained in Park & Blackman (2012a), Park & Blackman (2012b). In contrast, the magnitude of \( |H_M| \) tends to be continuous, which implies the relation between \( H_M \) and \( E_M \). This will be discussed again. On the contrary, the direction and magnitude of \( H_M \) in \( NHMF \) are irregular because of the fluctuating ‘f’. During \( NHMF(t \leq 10.6) \) the actual sign of \( H_M \) is negative. However, if \( NHMF \) keeps going on, \( H_M \) will change the sign slowly and irregularly.

Fig 1(b) includes the linearly scaled plots in Fig 1(a). All simulations started with the same seed field. However, as the plots show, the system driven by \( NHMF \) has the largest and fastest growing \( E_M \) and \( H_M \) in the early time regime. In addition, during HKF after the preliminary \( NHMF \), \( E_M \) and \( H_M \) still grow fastest, and maintain the largest values until they get close to the saturation. This shows the effects of ICs and forcing method clearly.

Fig 1(c) is to compare directly the onset and saturation of \( E_M \) and \( |H_M| \). The group of three lines in the left part has the original data plots, and the lines in the right group are their shifted plots for comparison. The onset point of \( NHMF \rightarrow HKF \) is the earliest, followed by \( HMF \rightarrow HKF \), and then \( HKF \). The order of onset position is closely related to the different amount of magnetic energy and helicity generated during the preliminary simulation. However, as Table 1 shows, \( H_{M,L,L} \) is large scale, \( E_{M,L,L} \), \( E_{kin,L,L} \), and \( E_{kin,s} \) (s: small scale) in each case are of similar values at their onset positions in spite of the different ICs. They are sort of critical values for the onset, and the time to reach this critical point is inversely proportional to the magnitude of ICs. Since the forcing method after the preliminary simulation is the same (HKF), ICs are determinants of the onset time. However, the saturation of turbulence dynamo is independent of ICs. Rather the saturation is decided by the external forcing ‘f’ and intrinsic properties of system like viscosity \( \nu \) (dimension), or magnetic diffusivity \( \eta \) (inverse of \( Re_M^{-1} \)). Magnetic Reynolds number \( Re_M = V_{rms} L/\eta \). All three simulations have the same saturated \( Re_M \sim 30 \). Those features of critical values and saturation imply there is no long lasting memory effect in turbulence. This validates Markovianization in MHD equations for closure.

Fig 2(a), 2(c) are the spectra of \( E_{kin} \) and \( E_M \) of \( NHMF \rightarrow HKF \). During the preliminary \( NHMF \) at \( k_f = 30 \), most \( E_M \) is localized at the forced eddy (Fig 2(b)). But \( E_{kin} \) which is larger than \( E_M \) in most range spreads over from large to small scale (Fig 2(a), 2(c)). This relatively linear profile of \( E_{kin} \) spectrum indicates the pressure that makes the system homogeneous transporting the energy forward and backward is dominant in the very early time regime. On the other hand, these figures, especially Fig 2(c) imply the relation between \( E_{kin} \) and \( E_M \). Initially only tiny seed \( E_{kin} \) was given to the system. However, once \( NHMF \) started, \( E_{kin} \) caught up with \( E_M \) by \( t \sim 0.2 \) and outweighed it. Soon, larger \( E_{kin} \) gets to induce \( E_M \) which is the source of \( H_M \). That \( E_{kin} \) is one of the sources of \( E_M \) is coincident with the result of EDQNM approximation (Pouquet et al. (1976)). On the other hand, the backward transfer of kinetic energy seems to contradict the accepted theorem that inverse cascade in three dimensional magnetohydrodynamic turbulence is not possible. However, when the energy or vorticity is not conserved, \( E_{kin} \) can be inversely cascaded. We will come back to this problem later.

HMF is the source of
Influence of initial conditions on the large-scale dynamo growth rate

The difference between Fig.4(a) NHMF and Fig.4(b) HKF is just magnetic helicity ratio($f_{hm} = 0, f_{hm} = 1$). Fig.4(a) and Fig.4(c) NHMF have the same helicity ratio $f_{hm} = 0$ but different forced eddies($k_f = 30, k_f = 5$). These clearly show kinetic energy migration and the basic profile of field evolution do not depend on the position of forced eddy so much.

The difference in the range $612.0x792.0$ of nonlocal transport of $E_M$ and local transport of $E_{kin}$. The former is caused by helical field (affect), and the latter is caused by the pressure. In Fig.4(a) backward migration of $E_{kin}$ indicates the role of pressure. And the increase of $E_M$ in large scale implies the direct energy transfer from kinetic eddy (Fig.4(b) 4(c)). Furthermore, the helical driving source generates current helicity ($\langle \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{b} \rangle = (k^2 \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{b})$) and kinetic helicity ($\langle \nu \cdot \omega \rangle$, which forms a effect in the system. This effect generates the second peak of $H_M$ around $k \sim 10$ (Fig.4(b). It keeps moving backward and merges into the main peak when HKF begins at $k_f = 5$.

The difference between Fig.5(a) NHMF and Fig.5(b) HKF is just magnetic helicity ratio ($f_{hm} = 0, f_{hm} = 1$). Fig.5(a) and Fig.5(c) NHMF have the same helicity ratio $f_{hm} = 0$ but different forced eddies($k_f = 30, k_f = 5$). These clearly show kinetic energy migration and the basic profile of field evolution do not depend on the position of forced eddy so much.

4 THEORETICAL MODEL

There is no theoretical method that can completely explain the influence of ICs like $E_{kin}, E_M$, or $H_M$ on MHD dynamo yet. However, some approximation like $EDQN$ ($\text{Pouquet et al.} 1976$), $\text{Field} \& \text{Blackman} 2002$, $\text{Blackman} \& \text{Field} 2002$). However, $E_{M,s}$ is closely related to the conservation of magnetic helicity in the system and constraining velocity field. We will discuss about this again.

\[ \frac{\partial H_M}{\partial t} \equiv \left( (\Gamma / k)(H_e - k^2 H_M) + \tilde{\Gamma} E_v \right) + \alpha^R E_M - 2\nu_e k^2 H_M \]
\[ \approx \alpha^R E_M - 2\nu_e k^2 H_M, \]
(4)

\[ \frac{\partial E_M}{\partial t} \equiv \left( k\Gamma (E_v - E_M) + \tilde{\Gamma} E_v \right) + \alpha^R k^2 H_M - 2\nu_e k^2 E_M \]
\[ \approx \alpha^R k^2 H_M - 2\nu_e k^2 E_M \]
(5)

The coefficients are,
\[ \alpha^R = -\frac{4}{3} \int_{k/a}^{\infty} \theta_{kpq}(t) \left( H_e(q) - q^2 H_M(q) \right) dq, \quad (\alpha < 1) \]
\[ \nu_e = \frac{2}{3} \int_{k/a}^{\infty} \theta_{kpq}(t) E_v(q) dq, \quad \theta_{kpq}(t) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\mu_{kpq}t)}{\mu_{kpq}} \]
\[ \mu_k = C_\nu \left[ \int_{0}^{k} q^2 (E_v(q) + E_M(q)) dq \right]^{1/2} \]
\[ + (1/\sqrt{3})k \left[ 2 \int_{0}^{k} E_M(q) dq \right]^{1/2} + (\nu + \eta)k^2, \]
\[ \Gamma = \frac{4}{3} k \int_{0}^{ak} \theta_{kpq}(t) E_M(q) dq, \]
\[ \tilde{\Gamma} = \frac{4}{3} \int_{0}^{ak} \theta_{kpq}(t) H_M(q) dq. \]
(6)

$H_e$ is kinetic helicity ($=1/2(\nu \cdot \omega)$), $H_M$ is magnetic helicity ($=1/2(A \cdot B)$), please note the coefficient), and $\nu_e$ is kinetic eddy diffusivity. $\alpha^R$ that transfers $H_M$ and $E_M$ to larger scale is composed of the residual helicity ($q^2 H_M(q)$) and triad relaxation time $\theta_{kpq}$.

\[ \theta_{kpq} = \mu_k + \mu_p + \mu_q, \]
and connects smaller scale eddies and larger scale eddies.

The influence of Alfvén terms($k = 0$) on the large scale($k = 1$) is physically meaningless. Ignoring Alfvén terms($k = 0$), we find those coupled equations have two normal coordinates: $E_M + H_M$ and $E_M - H_M$.

\[ \frac{\partial (E_M + H_M)}{\partial t} = (\alpha^R - 2\nu_e)(E_M + H_M), \]
(7)

\[ \frac{\partial (E_M - H_M)}{\partial t} = -(\alpha^R + 2\nu_e)(E_M - H_M). \]
(8)

Assuming $\int_{0}^{t} (\alpha^R - 2\nu_e) dt \equiv (\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu} t)$, the solution is

\[ H_M(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{H_M e^{-(\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu})t}}{e^{-(\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu})t}} \right] + E_M \left( e^{-(\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu})t} - e^{-(\alpha + 2\tilde{\nu})t} \right), \]
(9)

\[ E_M(t) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{E_M e^{-(\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu})t}}{e^{-(\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu})t}} \right] + H_M \left( e^{-(\alpha - 2\tilde{\nu})t} - e^{-(\alpha + 2\tilde{\nu})t} \right), \]
(10)
These solutions show how \( H_M \) and \( E_M \) are generated. For example, in case of \( H_M(t) \) both \( H_{M0} \) and \( E_{M0} \) are sources of \( H_M(t) \), but \( E_{M0} \) produces \( H_M(t) \) like an auxiliary source\((\sim\text{Sinh})\). In the early time regime the effect of \( E_{M0} \) on \( H_M(t) \) is tiny, but finally becomes on a level with \( H_{M0} \). \( H_{M,\text{sat}} \) converges to \( E_{M,\text{sat}} \) \((\text{Fig. 1(c)})\) as \( t \to \infty \). This solution shows that as long as \( \alpha \) is larger than dissipation \( 2\nu \), large scale magnetic field eventually becomes fully helical by \( \alpha \) effect. \cite{Stribling & Matthaeus (1991), Biskamp (2008)}

On the other hand, one of our interests is how long the effects of initial values last in turbulence. In \cite{Maron et al. (2004)}, the influence of imposed large scale magnetic energy on the system was tested\( (\text{nonhelical kinetic forcing}) \). The strong magnetic field in the large scale was expected to suppress the formation of small scale fields. However, the effect of imposed magnetic energy disappeared soon, and the system eventually followed the external forcing source. Like an oscillator driven by an external driving source, the effect of \( ICs \) exist only in the early transient mode. In turbulence smaller eddy loses the information faster than large eddy does.

To see how long the effect of \( ICs \) lasts, the formal solution of Eq. \((4)\) may be useful:

\[
H_M(t_n) = e^{-\int^n_0 \nu_n(\tau)\,d\tau} \left[ \int_0^n e^{\int_0^\tau \nu_n(\tau')\,d\tau'} R(\tau)E_M(\tau)\,d\tau + H_M(0) \right].
\]

Using the trapezoidal method for the integration part with the assumption of \( \int^n_0 \nu_n(\tau)\,d\tau \equiv 2V(t_n) \) and \( t_n \equiv n\Delta t \), we find the approximate solution:

\[
H_M(t_n) \sim \left[ e^{2V(0)} - 2V(t_n) x^{R(0)}E_M(0)\Delta t + e^{-2V(t_n)}H_M(0) \right] + \left[ e^{2V(t_1)} - 2V(t_n) x^{R(t_1)}E_M(t_1) + e^{-2V(t_n)}H_M(t_2) \right] + \ldots + \left[ e^{2V(t_{n-1})} - 2V(t_n) x^{R(t_{n-1})}E_M(t_{n-1}) \right] \Delta t.
\]

These show all previous results affect the current magnetic helicity in principle. However the influence decreases exponentially, which is coincident with the simulation results. The decaying speed depends on the several factors: energy, helicity, \( \nu \), and \( \eta \). Of course the actual \( \nu_n \) varies with time. But, since \( \nu_n(\sim V) \) changes rather smoothly and saturates to a constant, this inference is qualitatively reasonable.

5 SIMULATION RESULT 2

Table.1 provides information on the energy distributions of the evolving variables at each stage. When \( E_M \) or \( H_M \) is about to rise, most \( E_{\text{kin}} \) is located in the forcing scale regime\( (k = 2 \sim 6) \) regardless of its initial distribution. The ratio of smaller scale \( E_{\text{kin}}(k = 7 \sim k_{\text{max}}) \) to \( E_{\text{kin}} \) of the whole small scale regime\( (k = 2 \sim k_{\text{max}}) \) is about 1%. After the onset, as large scale \( E_M \) or \( H_M \) grows, kinetic energy migrates towards the smaller scale. At this time the saturated ratio elevates up to \( 8 \sim 10\% \). When large scale eddy needs more \( H_M \) or \( E_M \)\( (\text{onset position}) \), more \( \text{(helical)} \) kinetic energy is located in the forcing scale. And if the inverse cascade of \( H_M \) is less required, \( E_{\text{kin}} \) in the
Influence of initial conditions on the large-scale dynamo growth rate

Figure 6. (a) Growth ratio proportionally depends on the ICs. The area between the line and time axis is $H_M$. (b) The profile of evolving growth ratio of $HKF$ is slightly different from that of others. It seems to be caused by the turbulent effect. Each growth ratio is the average of 50 nearby points.

Figure 7. The direction of magnetic helicity is decided according to the conservation of total magnetic helicity in the system. The minimum ($t \sim 250$) and turning point ($t \sim 280$) of magnetic helicity in (b) can be compared with the change in growth of large scale $H_M$ in Fig. 5(c).

forcing scale decreases and moves toward the smaller scale which has less helical effect but more dissipative effect. $E_{\text{kin},s}$, more exactly $\langle v \cdot \omega \rangle$ plays the role of balancing the growth of large scale magnetic field. However, the evolution of $E_{\text{kin},L}$ shows rather an irregular feature. In the early time regime $E_{\text{kin},L}$ leads the growth of $E_{M,L}$, which generates $H_M$ (Fig. 1, 2, and 3). According to EDQNM approximation, the role of $E_{\text{kin},L}$ with $E_{M,L}$ is related to the self distortion effect (the eddy damping rate $\mu_k$, Eq. (2)). Smaller magnitude of $E_{\text{kin},L}$ decreases $\mu_k$, which increases $\alpha$ effect and dissipation at the same time. However, more detailed simulation is necessary to check these theoretical inference.

Analytic equation like EQDNM or mean field dynamo theory does not explicitly explain the role of magnetic energy in the small scale. But simulation results provide some clues to the influence of $E_{M,s}$ on the dynamo. The ratio of smaller scale $E_M$ to that of the whole small scale is consistently regular, i.e., from onset: $\sim 30\%$ to saturation: $\sim 20\%$. The distribution of $E_{M,s}$, more exactly $\langle j \cdot b \rangle$, is related with the inverse cascade of $H_M$ (or $E_M$) and balancing the growth rate of large scale magnetic field. $\langle j \cdot b \rangle$ in $\alpha$ coefficient does not always quench the large scale magnetic field. As Fig. 7(a), 7(b) show, when the necessity of inverse cascade of magnetic energy is large, forcing scale $H_M$ is negative so that $\alpha$ effect is enhanced (the kinetic helicity in $\alpha$ coefficient keeps positive). As the large scale field saturates, the sign of forcing scale magnetic helicity grows to be positive, i.e., lowering $\alpha$ effect.

With more detailed plots we can investigate the dynamic properties of small scale regime with respect to the large scale B field growth. Fig. 8(a) shows the evolution of small scale $E_{M,s}(= \sum_{k=k_{\text{max}}} E_M(k))$ and nonhelical $E_{M,s} - k H_{M,s}$, thin line). To remove the preliminary simulation, $NHMF \rightarrow HKF$ (1st simulation from now on) was shifted by -10.6 time unit using $t' \equiv t - 10.6$ and $HMF \rightarrow HKF$ (2nd simulation) was shifted by -13.0
The magnetic helicity is the topological linking number of the field. In addition, the origin of helical magnetic field can be inferred from Fig. 8(a) and 8(b) also show large scale $E_{\text{kin}}$ is independent of $E_M$ when the magnetic energy is not significantly different. In addition, Fig. 8(d) and 8(e) clearly show that $E_{\text{kin}}$ drops when large scale $E_M$ begins to rise, i.e., onset position. At the onset point of the 1st simulation, $t \sim 70$, $E_{\text{kin}}$ of this simulation begins to drop. And around $t \sim 120$, onset position of the 2nd simulation, $E_{\text{kin}}$ of this simulation also begins to drop. They meet again each other when large $E_M$ of each simulation gets saturated.

In Navier Stokes equation (Eq. 2), Lorentz force ($J \times B$) can be decomposed into magnetic tension ($B \nabla B$) and pressure ($-\nabla B^2/2$). The force parallel to B-field from magnetic tension and pressure is canceled out. Only the force perpendicular to the magnetic field line like ($B^2/R_c - \nabla (B^2/2)\hat{n}$, $R_c$: radius of curvature, Priest (2003)) exists, as the definition of Lorentz force implies.

When the growth of $E_M$ accelerates near the onset point, the compressive force ($-\nabla B^2/2$) normal to B-field grows so that the net effect of Lorentz force becomes negative. This presses the plasma and causes the geometrical changes of magnetic fields. The kinetic motion of plasma slows down.

Figure 8(c) and 8(f) also show there is a time regime($t < 7 \sim 10$) where the profile of evolving $E_{\text{kin}}$ is independent of the initial values. This occurs when Lorentz force is still weak, and looks like the corresponding concept of the kinematic regime.

Fig.9(a) and 9(f) include kinetic and current helicity. Kinetic helicity profiles shown in Fig. 9(a) are very similar to those of kinetic energy. In addition, Fig. 9(b) shows the clear migration of kinetic helicity toward the smaller scale regime. Fig. 9(c) and 9(d) are the current helicity in small scale regime. Especially the profile of evluing current helicity in Fig. 9(d) suggests that the evolution of $E_M$ in small scale be determined by the growth of large scale magnetic energy (helicity). As mentioned, small scale $E_{M_0}$ of the 1st and 2nd simulation are almost the same. We know the different large scale $E_{M_0}$ or $H_{M_0}$ causes the different growth rates $|\partial B/\partial t| \sim (v \cdot \omega) |B|$. The fast growth of negative $H_M$ in the large scale requires the fast growth of positive $H_M$ in small scale to conserve $H_M$ in the system.
Influence of initial conditions on the large-scale dynamo growth rate

Figure 8. Preliminary simulation effect is removed by shifting the time unit (1st simulation: -10.6, 2nd simulation: -13.0). (a) $E_{M0,s}$: $5.6 \times 10^{-2}$ (1st), $5.5 \times 10^{-2}$ (2nd), $1.7 \times 10^{-8}$ (3rd). (c), (f) In the very early time regime, all $E_{kin,s}$ evolve in the same way being independent of the initial values. (d) $E_{kin}$ of smaller scale eddy branches off earlier. Sign with the sequent fast growth of small scale $(\mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{b})$ of the 1st simulation and the fast decay of small scale $E_M$ of the second simulation support this fact very well.

Fig.9(e), 9(f) show how residual helicity evolves. In the very early time regime the residual helicity does not depend on the initial conditions. This phenomenon is an inevitable consequence for the kinetically driven MHD dynamo.

In Fig.10(a)–10(f) the onset positions of 2nd and 3rd simulation were shifted by $t \rightarrow t - (120 - 70)$ and $t \rightarrow t - (186 - 70)$ to compare the behaviors of field profiles after the onset. Except some minor differences due to the turbulence, all three simulations have the same field profiles. This indicates the saturation of MHD dynamo is independent of the initial conditions.

On the other hand in Fig.4(a)–4(c) we pointed out the
cascade of kinetic energy toward larger scale. This looks to contradict the established theory that the inverse cascade occurs with the strong rotation effect or in the ideal (quasi) two dimensional hydrodynamic system. This conclusion is based on the conservation of physical quantities like energy and enstrophy. The modified expression of $\langle k \rangle$ Davidson (2004) is,
Figure 10. The plots of 2nd and 3rd are shifted by -50 and -116 for the comparison with 1st simulation after the onset.

\[
\frac{d\langle k \rangle}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\int_0^\infty k E_v(k, t) \, dk}{\int_0^\infty E_v(k, t) \, dk} \right)
\]

\[
= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \int_0^\infty (k - k_c)^2 E_v(k, t) \, dk \right]
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \int_0^\infty (k^2 + k_c^2) E_v(k, t) \, dk \right]
\]

\[
- \left( \frac{\int_0^\infty k E_v(k, t) \, dk}{\int_0^\infty E_v(k, t) \, dk} \right) \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^\infty E_v(k, t) \, dk.
\]

\[
\langle k \rangle = \frac{\int k E_v(k, t) \, dk}{\int E_v(k, t) \, dk}
\]

If total energy \( \int_0^\infty E_v(k, t) \, dk \) and entropy \( \int_0^\infty k^2 E_v(k, t) \, dk \) are conserved, the first term in the right hand side determines \( \langle k \rangle \). Since the usual spreading \( E_v(k, t) \) in turbulent flow makes \( \int_0^\infty (k - k_c)^2 E_v(k, t) \, dk \) grow, \( \langle k \rangle \) decreases (inverse cascade). However, if enstrophy or energy is not conserved (by the external source), \( \langle k \rangle \) can grow or decrease according to \( \dot{E}_w \) and \( \dot{\omega}_2 / 2 \).

Biferale et al. (2012) showed that the reverse cascade of
hydrodynamic energy occurs when the mirror symmetry is broken (helicity). In addition, there were another trials to explain the forward cascade of $E_{\text{kin}}$ using the canonical ensemble average [Biskamp (2008), Frisch et al. (1973)]. If $E_{\text{tot}}$, $H_M$, and $H_s(=\langle u \cdot b \rangle)$ are conserved quantities (ideal three dimensional MHD system), the form of $E_{\text{kin}}(\sim \langle u_i u_i \rangle)$ calculated using the canonical partition function $Z^{-1}\exp(-\alpha E_{\text{tot}} - \beta H_M - \gamma H_C)$ ($Z$: a normalization factor) shows forward cascade. However, if $E_{\text{tot}}(= E_M + E_{\text{kin}})$ is not conserved because of the external forcing or some other sources, another term should be added to $E_{\text{tot}}$ in the partition function; this changes the averaged $E_{\text{kin}}$ into a new form that allows the backward cascade.

6 CONCLUSION

Based on simulation and theory, we have investigated the influence of ICs, the role of (non)helical field with the pressure in the energy transfer.

The growth rate of large scale magnetic field is chiefly proportional to the large scale initial values. In contrast, its saturation depends on the external driving source and the intrinsic properties like $\eta$ or $\nu$ instead of ICs.

Comparing the simulation results, we have seen how the helical and nonhelical magnetic field constrain MHD dynamo. The helical magnetic field in the small scale has been thought to quench the growth of large scale magnetic field. As $\langle A \cdot B \rangle$ increases the opposite sign of small scale $\langle a \cdot b \rangle$ also grows. So the amplification of large scale magnetic field slows down and saturates. However, in the early time regime $(A \cdot B)$ and large scale $H_M$ have the same sign; thus, $(A \cdot B)$ boosts the growth of large scale magnetic field.

On the other hand, growing nonhelical magnetic field presses the plasma through Lorentz force (magnetic pressure) and slows down the motion, which constrains the magnetic fields eventually. Of course, the evolution of small scale fields is also influenced by the large scale ICs and the evolving large scale field.

Besides, it is observed kinetic energy migrates backward when the external energy flows into the three dimensional MHD system. And the velocity field in the early time regime seems to play a preceding role in the MHD dynamo.

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Kiwan Park acknowledges support from US NSF grants PHY0903797, AST1109285, and a Horton Fellowship from the Laboratory for Laser Energetics at the University of Rochester.

APPENDIX A: EDDY DAMPED QUASI NORMAL MARKOVIANIZATION

A1 Two point closure

Navier Stokes equation for the incompressible fluid is

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \nu \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \tau^2} \right) u_i(k) = -i k_m p_j(k) \sum_{p+q=k} u_j(p) u_m(q) \sim \langle uu \rangle. \quad (A1)$$

This equation requires information on the second order correlation equation. Then we need to solve another differential equation:

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \nu (k^2 + p^2 + q^2) \right) \langle u(k) u(p) u(q) \rangle \sim \langle uu \rangle. \quad (A2)$$

We can derive the third order correlation term, which needs the fourth order correlation:

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \nu (k^2 + p^2 + q^2 + \mu_{pq}) \right) \langle u(k) u(p) u(q) \rangle = \sum \langle uu \rangle. \quad (A3)$$

It is known that the probability distribution of turbulent velocity is not far from the normal distribution. Then, the fourth order correlation term can be decomposed into the combination of the second order correlation terms (Quasi Normal approximation, Proudman & Reid (1954), Tatsumi (1957)).

$$\langle u(k) u(p) u(q) \rangle \sim \sum \langle uu \rangle. \quad (A4)$$

A2 Eddy damping coefficient

However, Ogura (1963) pointed out that Quasi Normal approximation could make the energy spectrum negative. Later Orszag (1970) found that the decomposed value became too large when the fourth correlation was decomposed of the combination of second correlation terms. Orszag introduced eddy damping coefficient $\mu_{pq}(\sim 1/\tau)$.

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \nu (k^2 + p^2 + q^2 + \mu_{pq}) \right) \langle u(k) u(p) u(q) \rangle = \sum \langle uu \rangle. \quad (A5)$$

Orszag suggested

$$\mu_{pq} = \mu_k + \mu_p + \mu_q, \quad \mu_k \sim [k^3 E(k)]^{1/2}. \quad (A6)$$

($\mu_{pq}$ used in Eq.(8) is a little different from Orszag’s one.) However, if energy drops faster than $k^{-3}$, eddy damping term ($\sim \tau^{-1}$) decreases with $k$. This means the damping time of a smaller eddy can be larger than that of a larger eddy. To solve this problem, another modified representation was suggested by Lesieur & Schertzer (1978):

$$\mu_k \sim \left[ \int_0^k E(p, t) dp \right]^{1/2}. \quad (A7)$$

This is ‘Eddy Damped Quasi Normal’ approximation. Then we have,

$$\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + 2 \nu k^2 \rangle u_i u_j \rangle_{k, t} = \int_0^t d\tau \int_{k+|p+q|=0} e^{-[\mu_{pq} + \nu (k^2 + p^2 + q^2)](t-\tau)} \langle uu \rangle \langle uu \rangle dp dq. \quad (A8)$$
If time scale of $\sum \langle uu \rangle \langle uu \rangle$ is much larger than $[\mu_{kpq} + \nu(k^2+p^2+q^2)^{-1}]^{-1}$, markovianization makes the equation much simpler.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + 2\nu k^2 \langle u_i u_j \rangle_{k,t} = \int_{k+p+q=0} \theta_{kpq} \sum \langle uu \rangle \langle uu \rangle dp dq \tag{A9}$$

$$\theta_{kpq} = \int_0^t d\tau e^{-[\mu_{kpq} + \nu(k^2+p^2+q^2)](t-\tau)} \tag{A10}$$

This is called 'Eddy Damped Quasi Normal Markovian approximation' (EDQNM, Pouquet et al. (1976), Davidson (2001), Lesieur (2008)).

REFERENCES

Biferale L., Musacchio S., Toschi F., 2012, Physical Review Letters, 108, 164501
Biskamp D., 2008, Magnetohydrodynamic Turbulence
Blackman E. G., Field G. B., 2002, Physical Review Letters, 89, 265007
Blackman E. G., Field G. B., 2004, Physics of Plasmas, 11, 3264
Brandenburg A., 2001, ApJ, 550, 824
Davidson P. A., 2001, An Introduction to Magnetohydrodynamics
Davidson P. A., 2004, Turbulence: an introduction for scientists and engineers
Einaudi G., Velli M., 1999, Physics of Plasmas, 6, 4146
Field G. B., Blackman E. G., 2002, ApJ, 572, 685
Frisch U., Pouquet A., Leorat J., Mazure A., 1975, Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 68, 769
Haugen N. E. L., Brandenburg A., 2004, PhysRevE, 70, 036408
Haugen N. E. L., Brandenburg A., Dobler W., 2003, ApJL, 597, L141
Kazantsev A. P., 1968, Soviet Journal of Experimental and Theoretical Physics, 26, 1031
Kulsrud R. M., Anderson S. W., 1992, ApJ, 396, 606
Lesieur M., 2008, Turbulence in Fluids
Lesieur M., Schertzer D., 1978, Journal de Mecanique, 17, 609
Maron J., Cowley S., McWilliams J., 2004, ApJ, 603, 569
Meneguzzi M., Frisch U., Pouquet A., 1981, Physical Review Letters, 47, 1060
Mininni P. D., Ponty Y., Montgomery D. C., Pinton J.-F., Politano H., Pouquet A., 2005, ApJ, 626, 853
Ogura Y., 1963, Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 16, 33
Orszag S. A., 1970, Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 41, 363
Park K., Blackman E. G., 2012a, MNRAS, 419, 913
Park K., Blackman E. G., 2012b, MNRAS, 423, 2120
Pouquet A., Frisch U., Leorat J., 1976, Journal of Fluid Mechanics, 77, 321
Priest E. R., 2003, Solar magnetohydrodynamics
Proudman I., Reid W. H., 1954, Royal Society of London Philosophical Transactions Series A, 247, 163
Schekochihin A. A., Cowley S. C., Taylor S. F., Maron J. L., McWilliams J. C., 2004, ApJ, 612, 276
Stribling T., Matthaeus W. H., 1991, Physics of Fluids B, 3, 1848
Tatsumi T., 1957, Royal Society of London Proceedings Series A, 239, 16

Yoshizawa A., 2011, Hydrodynamic and Magnetohydrodynamic Turbulent Flows: Modelling and Statistical Theory (Fluid Mechanics and Its Applications), London: Springer