

Lectures on Turbulence Theory and Application to Space and Astrophysical Plasmas  
 Prof. W. H. Matthaeus

**Características del curso**

Tiene una duración total de 40 hs, organizadas de la siguiente manera: 18 hs en clases teóricas, 12 hs en trabajos numéricos en la Sala de Computadoras, y 10 hs en actividades de discusión. Los trabajos prácticos se aprueban mediante la entrega de una carpeta de ejercicios, y el examen final consiste en la entrega de un trabajo especial en un tema a convenir con el profesor.

**Programa del curso**

Theoretical subjects (18 hs)

1. Introduction. Turbulence examples. Incompressible NS equations. Other hydro/gas models. Derivation of equations for MHD/plasmas.
2. Elementary properties of random processes and fluid turbulence. Ergodic theorems; line stretching, averages, a simple stochastic process with memory; correlation function; simple dynamical model. Normal/Gaussian distribution, higher order statistics, fourth order geometrical interpretation; skewness, multivariate Gaussian, lognormal distribution.
3. Properties of the Navier Stokes equations. Fourier transform. Pressure. Viscosity. Conservation laws. Vorticity theorems. Singularities. Global and point-wise invariants. Energy conservation revisited. Energy decay. Helicity. Properties of incompressible MHD equations. Alfvén invariants. Decay and exchange of energy. Alfvén waves. Linear and nonlinear couplings. Examples from simulations.
4. Homogenous turbulence I: Weak homogeneity. Correlation functions. General structure of 2<sup>nd</sup> order correlations. Hydro and MHD. Homogenous turbulence II: Fourier/periodic representation and limits. Loitsiansky and k-expansion. Rugged and non-rugged invariants. Spatial scales: correlation scale, Taylor scale, Kolmogorov scale. Time scales: large scale turnover time scale dependent eddy time, dissipation time. MHD: more scales. Space-time structure. Double Fourier transform. Scale dependent correlation function Gamma(k,t). Observational issues, Taylor hypothesis. Examples from ocean, atmosphere, wind tunnel, solar wind.
5. MHD. Mean field and anisotropy. Spectral/correlation anisotropy vs variance/polarization anisotropy.
6. Dynamics, Similarity and Decay: Von Karman-Howarth self preservation and decay laws. MHD case. Nonuniversality? Cascade and self-similarity: self-similarity, inertial range, dimensional analysis and Kolmogorov 1941. MHD case and its ambiguity.
7. More complex cascades: Rugged invariants and cascades in various models: 2D/3D HD/MHD. Examples from simulations.
8. Statistical mechanics approach: Liouville and basis of statistical mechanics. Absolute equilibrium Gibbs ensemble. Condensation, modified thermodynamic limit, inference of direction of cascade. Conectino with nonlocality and 1/f noise.
9. Third order law: Hydro, MHD, solar wind, effects of shear and expansion. Higher order statistics and intermittency. Kolmogorov 63. Nonuniformity of dissipation. Examples.

Numerical analysis and Methods (12 hs)

1. Spectral Methods I: Galerkin and PS methods, General characteristics and Fourier, 2D examples.
2. Spectral Methods II: Theory, convergence, comparison to FD and examples.

3. 2D hydro in some detail. Selective decay. K^3 spectra coherent structures, vortex merger
4. Max entropy theories. Coherent structures. Point vortex model. Self organization, sinh-Poisson equation.

Discussion and applications (10 hs)

1. Solar wind primer: Large scale wind and MHD turbulence, kinematics, dynamical processes and observations. Heliosphere observations and connections with theory.
2. Relation of MHD to Vlasov/kinetic models and dissipation. Solar wind studies
3. Solar wind: Large scale evolution and turbulence effects. Heating. Pickup Ions. Solar modulation of Galactic Crs
4. Coronal heating: RMHD. Open and closed field line regions. What controls turbulence. Timescale inequalities.
5. Transport of charged energetic particles. Diffusion and transport. General formulation of "nonlinear" diffusion (beyond QLT) Field lines. Shredding. Nonlinear diffusion. Trapping and suppressed diffusive escape. Summary and other applications (ISM etc). Directions for future studies.

**Bibliografía del curso**

- Monin, A. S. and Yaglom, A. M., Statistical Fluid Mechanics, Vols. 1 and 2, MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass. (1971)
- Batchelor, G. K., The Theory of Homogeneous Turbulence, Cambridge U. Press (1970 and earlier editions)
- Batchelor, G. K., An Introduction to Fluid Dynamics, Cambridge U. Press (1967)
- Orszag, S. A., Lectures on the Statistical Theory of Turbulence. In "Fluid Dynamics" ed by Balian, R. and Peube, J-L., Page 235, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1977 [Les Houches Summer School, 1973]
- Gottlieb, D. and S. Orszag, Numerical analysis of spectral methods: theory and applications, SIAM, Philadelphia (1977)
- Orszag, S. A., Analytical theories of turbulence, J. Fluid Mech, 41, 363 (1970)
- Kraichnan, R. H. and Montgomery, D. C., 2D Turbulence, Rep. Prog. Phys., 43, 547, (1980)
- U. Frisch, Turbulence, Cambridge U. Press (1995)
- D. Biskamp. "Magnetohydrodynamic Turbulence", "Nonlinear Magnetohydrodynamics", "Magnetic Reconnection in Plasmas" (3 books) Cambridge U. Press
- Y. Zhou , W. Matthaeus and P. Dmitruk, Magnetohydrodynamic turbulence and time scales in astrophysical and space plasmas. Rev. Mod. Phys., 76, 1015 (2004)



Universidad de Buenos Aires  
Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales

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Buenos Aires, 07 OCT 2013

VISTO:

la nota 29/07/2013 presentada por el Dr. Pablo Mininni, Director del Departamento de Física en la que se eleva información y programa del curso de posgrado: **Lectures on turbulence theory and application to space and astrophysical plasmas**, que dictarán los Dres. W.H. Matthaeus y Daniel Gómez en el 2do. Cuatrimestre de 2013

el CV de William H. Matthaeus

CONSIDERANDO:

lo actuado en la Comisión de Doctorado de la FCEN el 30/09/2013,  
lo actuado en la Comisión de Enseñanza, Programas, Planes de Estudio y Posgrado,  
lo actuado por este cuerpo en Sesión Ordinaria realizada en el día de la fecha,  
en uso de las atribuciones que le confiere el Artículo N° 113 del Estatuto Universitario,

EL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO DE LA FACULTAD DE  
CIENCIAS EXACTAS Y NATURALES  
RESUELVE

**Artículo 1º:** Autorizar el dictado del curso de posgrado **Lectures on turbulence theory and application to space and astrophysical plasmas** de 40 hs de duración.

**Artículo 2º:** Aprobar el programa del curso de posgrado **Lectures on turbulence theory and application to space and astrophysical plasmas** obrante a fs 4 y 5 del expediente de la referencia.

**Artículo 3º:** Aprobar un puntaje máximo de DOS (2) puntos para la Carrera del Doctorado.

**Artículo 4º:** Aprobar un arancel de 20 módulos. Disponer que los montos recaudados serán utilizados conforme a lo dispuesto por Resolución CD N° 072/03.

**Artículo 5º:** Comuníquese a la Dirección del Departamento de Física, a la Biblioteca de la FCEN y a la Subsecretaría de Postgrado (con fotocopia del programa incluida fs 4y 5). Comuníquese a la Dirección de Alumnos sin fotocopia del Programa. Cumplido archívese.

RESOLUCION CD N°  
SP/med 30/09/2013

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*J*

DR. JAVIER LÓPEZ DE CASENAVE  
SECRETARIO ACADÉMICO

JAVIER ALZACA  
DECANO