Mean-field effects in the Galloway–Proctor flow

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ABSTRACT

In the framework of mean-field electrodynamics the coefficients defining the mean electro-motive force in Galloway–Proctor flows are determined. These flows show a two-dimensional pattern and are helical. The pattern wobbles in its plane. Apart from one exception a circularly polarized Galloway–Proctor flow, i.e. a circular motion of the flow pattern is assumed. This corresponds to one of the cases considered recently by Courvoisier, Hughes & Tobias. An analytic theory of the $\alpha$ effect and related effects in this flow is developed within the second-order correlation approximation and a corresponding fourth-order approximation. In the validity range of these approximations there is an $\alpha$ effect but no $\gamma$ effect, or pumping effect. Numerical results obtained with the test-field method, which are independent of these approximations, confirm the results for $\alpha$ and show that $\gamma$ is in general non-zero. Both $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ show a complex dependency on the magnetic Reynolds number and other parameters that define the flow, that is, amplitude and frequency of the circular motion. Some results for the magnetic diffusivity $\eta_t$ and a related quantity are given, too. Finally, a result for $\alpha$ in the case of a randomly varying linearly polarized Galloway–Proctor flow, without the aforementioned circular motion, is presented. The flows investigated show quite interesting effects. There is, however, no straightforward way to relate these flows to turbulence and to use them for studying properties of the $\alpha$ effect and associated effects under realistic conditions.

Key words: hydrodynamics – magnetic fields – MHD – turbulence.

1 INTRODUCTION

In astrophysical context, turbulent flows are of interest as occurring for example in stellar convection zones, accretion discs and galaxies. They deviate in general markedly from isotropic turbulence, and the time-dependence of the flow is important. Although not much direct observational evidence for the nature of the turbulence in these objects is available, the reasons for anisotropies are compelling. They include strong density stratification and rapid rotation. Both tend to make the turbulence two-dimensional in the sense that the variation of the velocity components is negligible along the directions of the density gradient and/or the axis of rotation. Such flows are referred to as geostrophic (Liao, Zhang & Feng 2005). As for the Sun, observations of the supergranulation and local helioseismology provide direct evidence for time dependence (Švanda, Kosovichev & Zhao 2007).

Simple models of flows showing such anisotropies and time dependencies are the circularly and linearly polarized flows of Galloway & Proctor (1992). These flows are two-dimensional in the sense that they depend only on two Cartesian coordinates, e.g. $x$ and $y$. This can simplify the analysis significantly, even in dynamo problems that are inherently three-dimensional. The Galloway–Proctor (GP) flows are related to a flow considered by Roberts (1972). By contrast to the GP flows the Roberts flow\textsuperscript{1} is steady. It is an early example of a spatially periodic flow that acts as a dynamo and produces a magnetic field with a significant non-zero $xy$ average. In mean-field electrodynamics this is understood as a consequence of the $\alpha$ effect. The $\alpha$ term in the mean-field induction equation is crucial to model the generation of large-scale magnetic fields from small-scale helical fluid motions in stars and galaxies; see, for example, Moffatt (1978), Parker (1979) and Krause & Rädler (1980) for standard references.

Like the Roberts flow the GP flow has frequently been used to study dynamo action and mean-field transport coefficients. A comprehensive review of these and other aspects of the GP flow is given in the thesis of Wilkinson (2004). Particularly important has been the study of the dependence of the quenching of the $\alpha$ effect on the field strength and the value of the magnetic Reynolds number (Cattaneo & Hughes 1996). The GP flow has also been used to study the decay of a magnetic field in two dimensions as a function of field strength and magnetic Reynolds number (Silvers 2005).

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\textsuperscript{1}As usual, the term Roberts flow refers to the flow given by equation (5.1) of Roberts (1972).
The main motivation for the present paper were the results reported by Courvoisier, Hughes & Tobias (2006, hereafter CHT06) and Courvoisier (2008) on \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) effects in GP flows. They found that there is a complicated dependence of \( \alpha \) on the magnetic Reynolds number \( R_m \) and on parameters defining the flow, with sign changes and no indication of convergence with increasing \( R_m \), and ‘no clear relation between \( \alpha \) and the helicity of the flow, contrary to what is often assumed for the parametrization of mean-field dynamo models’. In addition to the \( \alpha \) effect a \( \gamma \) effect has been observed, too.

At first glance these results are surprising and very different from those for comparable cases. For the Roberts flow a smooth dependence of \( \alpha \) on \( R_m \) was found without any sign changes and with \( \alpha \) tending to zero as \( R_m \to \infty \) (Soward 1987, 1989; Rädler et al. 2002a,b). There are further recent studies in which astrophysical turbulence is modelled by random forcing. In the case of helical isotropic turbulence such investigations show that \( \alpha \) approaches a finite value as soon as \( R_m \) exceeds a value of the order of unity. This has been observed at least for Reynolds numbers up to 200 (Sur, Brandenburg & Subramanian 2008). Both examples provide no reasons to doubt the proportionality of \( \alpha \) with the helicity of the flow, and any \( \gamma \) effect can be excluded.

The purpose of the paper is to study the mean-field effects of specific GP flows in more detail. We focus attention here on the simplest case considered in CHT06 with a flow being purely periodic in time and add a few results for a simple flow with random time dependence.

The main tool of our investigations is the test-field method which allows to calculate numerically all components of the \( \alpha \) and \( \eta \) tensors defining the mean electromotive force \( \mathbf{\nabla} \) for a given flow (Schrinner et al. 2005, 2007). If, as we assume here, too, the mean magnetic field \( \mathbf{B}_m \) depends only on one of the Cartesian coordinates, say \( z \), only two \( 2 \times 2 \) tensors for \( \alpha \) and \( \eta \) are of interest. The test-field method has recently been used to calculate diagonal and off-diagonal components of \( \eta \) (Brandenburg et al. 2008a), the magnetic Reynolds number dependence of \( \alpha \) and \( \eta \) (Sur et al. 2008), as well as their scale dependence (Brandenburg, Rädler & Schrinner 2008b).

We begin by exploring general properties of the mean electromotive force in the GP flow and present analytical results for coefficients like \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \), which are crucial for the electromotive force, gained in the second-order correlation approximation (SOCA) and in a corresponding fourth-order approximation. After explaining the test-field method we give a series of numerical results for such coefficients, which are independent of approximations of that kind, and discuss them in detail.

## 2 MEAN-FIELD ELECTRODYNAMICS WITH GALLOWAY–PROCTOR FLOW

### 2.1 Definition of the problem

Consider a magnetic field \( \mathbf{B} \) in an infinitely extended homogeneous conducting fluid with constant magnetic diffusivity \( \eta \) moving with a velocity \( \mathbf{u} \). Its behaviour is governed by

\[
\partial_t \mathbf{B} - \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} - \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0.
\]

(1)

Referring to a Cartesian coordinate system \((x, y, z)\) the velocity \( \mathbf{u} \) is specified by

\[
\mathbf{u} = -\hat{z} \times \nabla \psi + \hat{z} k_H \psi
\]

with

\[
\psi = \frac{u_0}{k_H} [\cos(k_H x + \varphi_x) + \cos(k_H y + \varphi_y)].
\]

(3)

Here \( \hat{z} \) means the unit vector in the \( z \) direction, \( k_H \) is a positive constant such that \( 2 \pi/k_H \) is the length of the diagonal of a flow cell and \( \varphi_x \) and \( \varphi_y \) are functions of time to be specified later. Further we have \( u_0 = u_{max}/\sqrt{2} \). In the special case \( \varphi_x = \varphi_y = 0 \) the flow agrees with a Roberts flow. For non-zero \( \varphi_x \) or \( \varphi_y \) a properly moving frame of reference can be found in which we have again a steady Roberts flow pattern. In our original frame each point of this pattern moves with the velocity \(-k_H^2(\partial \varphi_x, \partial \varphi_y)\) in the \( xy \) plane. In (2) the ratio of the flow components in the \( xy \) plane and in \( z \) direction has been fixed such that the modulus of the average of the kinetic helicity \( \mathbf{u} \cdot (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}) \) over all \( x \) and \( y \) for given \( u_0 \) takes its maximum. With the signs chosen this average is equal to \(-2\mu_0 k_H^2 \).

In view of the first example treated in CHT06 we specify the flow generally defined by (2) and (3) further to be a circularly polarized GP flow and put

\[
\varphi_x = \epsilon \cos \omega t, \quad \varphi_y = \epsilon \sin \omega t,
\]

(4)

where \( \epsilon \) and \( \omega \) are considered as non-negative constants. We label \( \varphi_x \) and \( \varphi_y \) with the helicity of the flow, and any \( \eta \) effect has to obey \( \eta < 0 \). In the SOCA framework, we label \( \varphi_x \) and \( \varphi_y \) with the helicity of the flow, and any \( \eta \) effect has to obey \( \eta < 0 \).

To come closer to a turbulent situation CHT06 added a random function of time to the arguments \( \varphi \) in (4). We do not follow this line here but consider briefly a linearly polarized random GP flow, interpreting \( \varphi_x \) and \( \varphi_y \) as independent random functions. (The plane of polarization is therefore also random.) More precisely we put

\[
\varphi_x = \epsilon \phi_x(\tau_x), \quad \varphi_y = \epsilon \phi_y(\tau_y),
\]

(5)

where \( \epsilon \) is again a constant, \( \phi_x \) and \( \phi_y \) are two independent but statistically equivalent random functions, which take positive and negative values between \(-1\) and \(1\) and tend to zero with growing moduli of the argument, and \( \tau_x \) is some correlation time. We label this random flow by (ii).

### 2.2 Mean-field concept

Adopting the mean-field concept, we denote mean fields by an overbar and define them as averages over all \( x \) and \( y \). We have then \( \overline{\mathbf{B}} = 0 \). Taking the average of (1) we find

\[
\partial_t \overline{\mathbf{B}} - \eta \nabla^2 \overline{\mathbf{B}} - \nabla \times \overline{\mathbf{E}} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \nabla \cdot \overline{\mathbf{B}} = 0,
\]

(6)

with the mean electromotive force

\[
\overline{\mathbf{E}} = \overline{\mathbf{u}} \times \overline{\mathbf{B}},
\]

(7)

where \( \overline{\mathbf{b}} = \overline{\mathbf{B}} - \overline{\mathbf{B}} \). From (1) and (6) we conclude that \( \overline{\mathbf{b}} \) has to obey

\[
(\partial_t - \eta \nabla^2) \overline{\mathbf{b}} = (\overline{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \nabla) \overline{\mathbf{u}} - (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \overline{\mathbf{B}} + \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{b}) - \overline{\mathbf{b}}, \quad \nabla \cdot \overline{\mathbf{b}} = 0.
\]

(8)

We adopt here the assumption that the mean electromotive force \( \overline{\mathbf{E}} \) is, apart from \( \mathbf{u} \) and \( \eta \), completely determined by \( \overline{\mathbf{B}} \) and its first spatial derivatives. (This assumption will be relaxed in Section 4.) This implies that there is no small-scale dynamo and that sufficient time has elapsed since the initial instant so that \( \overline{\mathbf{E}} \) no longer depends on any initial conditions. Since \( \overline{\mathbf{B}} \) is by definition independent of \( x \) and \( y \) its spatial derivatives can be represented by \( \nabla \times \overline{\mathbf{B}} \). We write simply \( \overline{\mathbf{J}} \) instead of \( \nabla \times \overline{\mathbf{B}} \), being aware that the mean electric current density is really \( \nabla \times \overline{\mathbf{B}}/\mu \) (rather than \( \overline{\mathbf{J}} \)), where \( \mu \) is magnetic permeability of the conducting fluid. Clearly, we have now \( \overline{\mathbf{J}} = (-\partial \overline{\mathbf{B}}/\partial z, \partial \overline{\mathbf{B}}/\partial z, 0) \). For the sake of simplicity we further assume that \( \overline{\mathbf{B}} \) is steady. In the so defined framework we may write

\[
\overline{\mathbf{E}} = \alpha_{ij} \overline{\mathbf{B}}_j - \eta_j \overline{\mathbf{J}}_j
\]

(9)
with tensors $\alpha_i$ and $\eta_j$ determined by $u$ and $\eta$ only. Both $\alpha_i$ and $\eta_j$, and so $\mathbf{E}$, too, depend in general on time.

We see from (8) that, if $\mathbf{F}$ is a uniform field, $\mathbf{b}$ and therefore $\mathbf{E}$ are independent of $\mathbf{F}$. Hence we have $\alpha_3 = 0$. Furthermore, since $\mathcal{T}_z = 0$, clearly $\eta_3$ is without interest, and we put $\eta_3 = 0$.

### 2.3 Mean electromotive force in case (i)

For a more detailed investigation of $\mathbf{E}$ we focus on the fluid flow of type (i). In this case $\alpha_i$ and $\eta_j$ are periodic in time with a basic period equal to that of $u$, that is $2\pi/\omega$, or (as we will see below) a fraction of it.

Remarkably the velocity field $u = u(x, y, t)$ defined by (2), (3) and (4) is invariant under a 90° rotation about the $z$-axis and a simultaneous retarding by $\pi/2\omega$ (that is, $\omega t \rightarrow \omega t - \pi/2$). Consequently the $\alpha_i$ in the correspondingly rotated coordinate system, which we denote by $\alpha_i'$, have to satisfy the relation

$$\alpha_i'(t - \pi/2\omega) = \alpha_i(t).$$

If we consider for a moment the change of the spatial coordinate system only and ignore any time dependence we have $\alpha_1' = \alpha_2, \alpha_2' = -\alpha_2, \alpha_3' = -\alpha_3$. From (10) we provides us with

$$\begin{align*}
\alpha_1(t) &= +\alpha_2(t - \pi/2\omega), \\
\alpha_2(t) &= +\alpha_1(t - \pi/2\omega), \\
\alpha_3(t) &= -\alpha_2(t - \pi/2\omega), \\
\alpha_4(t) &= +\alpha_3(t - \pi/2\omega).
\end{align*}$$

From the first two lines we conclude first that $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ and $\alpha_4$ have as functions of time a basic period of $\pi/\omega$ (not $2\pi/\omega$) and that $\alpha_2(t) = \alpha_1(t \pm \pi/2\omega)$ and $\alpha_3(t) = -\alpha_2(t \pm \pi/2\omega)$. The last line of (11) tells us that the averages of $\alpha_1$ and $\alpha_2$ over the period $2\pi/\omega$ vanish so that $\alpha_1$ and $\alpha_2$ are simply oscillations around zero, and that they change their signs under time shifts by $\pi/\omega$. Our reasoning for $\alpha_3$ applies analogously to $\eta_j$.

We write down the result of these considerations in the form

$$\begin{align*}
\alpha_1(t) &= \tilde{\alpha}(t), \\
\alpha_2(t) &= \tilde{\alpha}(t - \pi/2\omega), \\
\alpha_3(t) &= \tilde{\alpha}(t - \pi/2\omega), \\
\alpha_4(t) &= \tilde{\alpha}(t - \pi/2\omega).
\end{align*}$$

Here $\tilde{\alpha}, \tilde{\gamma}, \tilde{\delta}$ and $\tilde{\beta}$ are in general periodic functions of time with the basic period $\pi/\omega$, but $\tilde{\alpha}$ and $\tilde{\beta}$ are periodic functions with period $2\pi/\omega$, which show sign changes under any time shift by $\pi/\omega$ and vanish under averaging over the period $2\pi/\omega$.

From (9) and (12) we conclude

$$\mathbf{E} = \tilde{\alpha}(\hat{x} \cdot \mathbf{b})\hat{y} + \tilde{\alpha}(\hat{y} \cdot \mathbf{b})\hat{y}$$

and

$$\tilde{\gamma}(\hat{x} \cdot \mathbf{F})\hat{k} + \tilde{\gamma}(\hat{y} \cdot \mathbf{F})\hat{k}$$

between $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{F}$. Hence we have $\alpha_3 = 0$. Furthermore, since $\mathcal{T}_z = 0$, clearly $\eta_3$ is without interest, and we put $\eta_3 = 0$.

In view of the signs of $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ we deviate here from representations as given, e.g. in Rüdler et al. (2002a), but follow CHT06.
is \((2\pi^2/\eta_k^2)\), and the wobble period \(2\pi/\omega\) of the flow pattern. In the case of small \(q\) the magnetic field follows the fluid motion immediately, but for large \(q\) it does so only with large delay. These two cases are sometimes labelled as ‘low-conductivity limit’ and ‘high-conductivity limit’, respectively.

In agreement with the general findings summarized in (12), the function \(\chi^{(2)}\) is periodic in time with a basic period \(\pi/\omega\). Whereas \(\tilde{\alpha}\) and \(\tilde{\eta}\) differ by a phase shift of \(\pi/2\), \(\eta\) and \(\alpha\) coincide. \(\chi^{(2)}\) satisfies \(|\chi^{(2)}| \leq 1\). It must be positive as long as \(\epsilon \leq \pi/4\) but may otherwise take negative values, too. If \(\epsilon = 0\), or \(\epsilon \neq 0\) and \(q = 0\) (what corresponds to the low-conductivity limit), \(\chi^{(2)}\) is independent of time and equal to unity. In Appendix B some numerically determined values of \(\chi^{(2)}\) are given. We note further that

\[
\chi^{(2)}(t) = 1 - (\epsilon q)^2 \sin^2 \omega t \quad \text{if} \quad \epsilon q \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad q \ll 1
\]

(21)

and

\[
\chi^{(2)}(t) \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad q \to \infty.
\]

(22)

For time-averaged mean fields we have again (14), now with

\[
\alpha = u_0 R_{\alpha,0} \text{ and } \eta = u_0 R_{\eta,0}^{-1} R_{\alpha,0}, \quad \gamma = \delta = 0.
\]

(23)

where \(\chi^{(2)}\) means the time average of \(\chi^{(2)}\) over the period \(\pi/\omega\). We point out that the time average of a function of \(\omega t\), say \(f(\omega t)\), over an interval of the length \(\pi/\omega\) is independent of \(\omega\). This is obvious from \((\omega/\pi) \int_0^\pi f(\omega t) \, dt = (1/\pi) \int_0^\pi f(\phi) \, d\phi\). Hence \(\chi^{(2)}\) does not explicitly, but only in an indirect way via \(q\), depend on \(\omega\).

If \(\epsilon = 0\), or \(\epsilon \neq 0\) and \(q = 0\), we have \(\chi^{(2)} = 1\). For \(\epsilon = 0\) we fall back to the Roberts flow. Indeed, the result (23) with \(\chi^{(2)} = 1\) agrees with earlier results for this flow; see Appendix A. In view of (23) we note further

\[
\chi^{(2)} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(\epsilon q)^2 \quad \text{if} \quad \epsilon q \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad q \ll 1
\]

(24)

and

\[
\chi^{(2)} \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad q \to \infty.
\]

(25)

The last statement implies \(\alpha/u_0 R_{\alpha,0} \to 0\) as \(q \to \infty\).

As we know from general considerations on SOCA (e.g. Krause & Rädler 1980) the range of applicability of SOCA depends on \(q\). For small \(q\) a sufficient condition for its validity reads \(R_{\alpha,0} \ll 1\). For large \(q\) such a condition is \(R_{\alpha,0}/q \ll 1\).

### 2.3.2 Higher order approximations

Going now beyond SOCA we start again with equation (8) for \(b\) and put

\[
b = b^{(1)} + b^{(2)} + b^{(3)} + \cdots
\]

(26)

with \(b^{(n)}\) being of the order \(n\) in \(u\), and correspondingly

\[
\overline{b} = \overline{b}^{(2)} + \overline{b}^{(3)} + \overline{b}^{(4)} + \cdots, \quad \overline{\epsilon^{(n)}} = \langle b^{(n)} \rangle, \quad n \geq 1.
\]

(27)

In that sense \(b\) in (15) and the corresponding \(\overline{b}\) have to be interpreted as \(b^{(1)}\) and \(\overline{b}^{(2)}\), respectively.

From (8) and (26) we obtain, apart from (15) with \(b^{(1)}\) instead of \(b\),

\[
(\partial_t - \eta \nabla^2)b^{(n+1)} = (b^{(n)} \cdot \nabla)u - (u \cdot \nabla)b^{(n)} - \nabla \times (u \times b^{(n)}),
\]

\[
\nabla \cdot b^{(n+1)} = 0, \quad n \geq 1.
\]

(28)

Using our result for \(b^{(1)}\) and (28) we have calculated \(b^{(2)}\). It turns out that the average of \(u \times b^{(2)}\) vanishes, that is \(\overline{b}^{(3)} = 0\). In the same way we may calculate \(b^{(3)}\) and \(\overline{b}^{(4)}\). However, these calculations are rather tedious. For the sake of simplicity we have ignored all contributions to \(\overline{b}^{(4)}\) resulting from derivatives of \(\overline{b}\), that is, the terms with \(\eta, \delta\) and \(\lambda\) in (13). Some details of the calculations are explained in Appendix C.

Considering the results of all approximations up to the fourth order and referring again to (13) we have now

\[
a = u_0 R_m \left[ \chi^{(2)}(t) - \frac{1}{2} R_m^2 \chi^{(4)}(t) \right],
\]

\[
\tilde{\varphi} = 1 - \frac{2}{u_0 R_m^2} \chi^{(4)}(t), \quad \kappa = 0.
\]

(29)

The functions \(\chi^{(4)}\) and \(\chi^{(4)}\) are given by

\[
\chi^{(4)} = 2 \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \Pi (\omega t, \omega t - q(\tau' + \tau' + \tau'')) \times \exp[-(\tau' + 2\tau' + \tau'')] \, d\tau' \, d\tau' \, d\tau' \, d\tau'\]

\[
\chi^{(4)} = 2 \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \Pi (\omega t, \omega t - q(\tau' + \tau'')) \times \exp[-(\tau' + 2\tau' + \tau'')] \, d\tau' \, d\tau' \, d\tau' \, d\tau'\]

(30)

with CC as defined by (19) and analogously defined quantities CS, SC and SS.

\[
CS(a, b) = \cos(\epsilon q(a - \sin b)),
\]

\[
SC(a, b) = \sin(\epsilon q(a - \cos b)),
\]

\[
SS(a, b) = \sin(\epsilon q(a - \sin b)).
\]

(31)

Note that CC and CS are symmetric but SC and SS antisymmetric in the two arguments.

Like \(\chi^{(2)}\) both \(\chi^{(4)}\) and \(\chi^{(4)}\) oscillate with a basic period \(\pi/\omega\). They satisfy \(|\chi^{(4)}| \leq 1\) and \(|\chi^{(4)}| \leq 1\). Further \(\chi^{(4)}\) is positive as long as \(\epsilon q < \pi/4\). In contrast to \(\chi^{(4)}\), however, the time average of \(\chi^{(4)}\) over a period \(\pi/\omega\) is equal to zero. Whereas \(\chi^{(4)}\) is even, \(\chi^{(4)}\) is odd in \(\omega\). We have further

\[
\chi^{(4)} = 1 - \frac{1}{4}(\epsilon q)^2(1 + 16 \sin^2 \omega t),
\]

\[
\chi^{(4)} = \frac{5}{2}(\epsilon q)^2 \sin \omega t \cos \omega t \quad \text{if} \quad \epsilon q \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad q \ll 1
\]

(32)

and

\[
\chi^{(4)} \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad q \to \infty.
\]

(33)

For time-averaged mean fields again relation (14) applies, now with

\[
\alpha = u_0 R_m \left[ \chi^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} R_m^2 \chi^{(4)} \right], \quad \gamma = 0,
\]

(34)

where \(\chi^{(2)}\) is the time average of \(\chi^{(4)}\). Like \(\chi^{(2)}\) also \(\chi^{(4)}\) does not explicitly depend on \(\omega\). The \(\eta\), \(\delta\) and \(\lambda\) have not been calculated. It turns out that

\[
\chi^{(4)} = 1 - \frac{9}{4}(\epsilon q)^2, \quad \chi^{(4)} = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \epsilon q \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad q \ll 1
\]

(35)

and

\[
\chi^{(4)} \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad q \to \infty.
\]

(36)

With (34) we find then

\[
\alpha = u_0 R_m \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2}(\epsilon q)^2 - \frac{1}{2} R_m^2 \left[ 1 - \frac{9}{4}(\epsilon q)^2 \right] \right], \quad \text{if} \quad \epsilon q \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad q \ll 1.
\]

(37)
Results of higher approximations are very desirable but require heavy efforts. We suspect that in the approximation of sixth order in $u$ the time average of $\hat{y}$ and so $\gamma$ no longer vanish. This presumption is supported by numerical results (see below).

2.4 Mean electromotive force in case (ii)

Modifying the considerations on case (i) properly we may conclude that relation (14), again considered for time-averaged fields, applies for the fluid flow of type (ii) with $\gamma = \delta = 0$. By contrast to case (i) the correlation between velocity components at different times vanishes if the time difference becomes very large.

Modifying also the SOCA calculations described above and in Appendix B correspondingly we find again (23), but with $\chi_0$ being the time average of

$$\chi_0^{(2)}(t) = \int_0^\infty \cos[e(t/\tau_c) - \phi_k(t/\tau_c - q\tau)] e^{-t/\tau} \, dt, \quad (38)$$

where $q$ is now defined by

$$q = (\tau_c \eta k^2_{\|})^{-1}. \quad (39)$$

We have here again $\chi_0^{(2)} = 1$ for $q = 0$, and $\chi_0^{(2)} \to 0$ as $q \to \infty$. Like $\chi_0^{(2)}$ also $\chi_0^{(2)}$ depends on $\epsilon$ and $q$ but no longer explicitly on $\tau_c$. We have calculated $\chi_0^{(2)}$ on the basis of equation (38) under the assumption that $\phi_k$ is always constant over time intervals of a given length. Fig. 1 shows dependencies on $\epsilon$ and $q$.

3 TEST-FIELD METHOD

We will determine numerically the elements of the tensors $\alpha_{ij}$ and $\eta_{ij}$ introduced with (9), employing the test-field method of Schrinner et al. (2005, 2007). By reasons indicated above we restrict ourselves to $1 \leq i, j \leq 2$ only.

We will calculate $\mathcal{E} = \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{b}$ from numerical solutions $\mathbf{b}$ of (8), with $\mathbf{B}$ replaced by one out of four test fields $\mathbf{B}^{\text{test}}$,

\begin{align*}
\mathbf{B}^{\text{FC}} &= B \cos k z, 0, 0), \\
\mathbf{B}^{\text{SC}} &= B (0, \cos k z, 0), \\
\mathbf{B}^{\text{IS}} &= B (\sin k z, 0, 0), \\
\mathbf{B}^{\text{IS}} &= B (0, \sin k z, 0), \\
\end{align*}

where $B$ and $k$ are constants. Repeating this for all test fields, denoting the $\mathcal{E}$ that belongs to a given $\mathbf{B}^{\text{test}}$ by $\mathcal{E}^{\text{test}}$, and using (9) we find

\begin{align*}
\mathcal{E}^{\text{FC}}(z) &= B \left( \alpha_{ij} \cos k z - \eta_{ij} k \sin k z \right), \\
\mathcal{E}^{\text{SC}}(z) &= B \left( \alpha_{ij} \sin k z + \eta_{ij} k \cos k z \right) \quad (41)
\end{align*}

for $1 \leq i, j \leq 2$, where

$$\eta_{ij} = \eta_{i} \epsilon_{i} \epsilon_{j} = \left( \begin{array}{cc} -\eta_{12} & \eta_{11} \\ -\eta_{22} & \eta_{21} \end{array} \right). \quad (42)$$

From this we conclude

$$\alpha_{ij} = B^{-1} \left[ \mathcal{E}^{\text{FC}}(z) \cos k z + \mathcal{E}^{\text{SC}}(z) \sin k z \right],$$

$$\eta_{ij} = -k B^{-1} \left[ \mathcal{E}^{\text{FC}}(z) \sin k z - \mathcal{E}^{\text{SC}}(z) \cos k z \right] \quad (43)$$

again for $1 \leq i, j \leq 2$.

We point out that, although the $\mathcal{E}^{\text{test}}$ depend on $z$, the $\alpha_{ij}$ and $\eta_{ij}$ have to be independent of $z$. We further note that relation (9), on which these considerations are based, can only be justified under the assumption that all higher than first-order spatial derivatives of $\mathbf{B}$ are negligible. The derivatives of order $n$ of our test fields $\mathbf{B}^{\text{test}}$ are proportional to $k^n$. For this reason the results (43) apply in a strict sense only in the limit $k \to 0$ (cf. Brandenburg et al. 2008b).

Let us focus here on case (i). After having calculated the $\alpha_{ij}$ and $\eta_{ij}$ in the way indicated above we may determine the $\bar{\alpha}$, $\bar{\gamma}$, $\bar{\eta}_t$ and $\bar{\delta}$ according to (12), that is,

$$\bar{\alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \alpha_{11}(t) + \alpha_{22}(t) + \pi/2\omega \right),$$

$$\bar{\gamma} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \alpha_{12}(t) - \alpha_{21}(t) + \pi/2\omega \right),$$

$$\bar{\eta}_t = \frac{1}{2} \left( \eta_{11}(t) + \eta_{22}(t) + \pi/2\omega \right),$$

$$\bar{\delta} = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \eta_{12}(t) - \eta_{21}(t) + \pi/2\omega \right). \quad (44)$$

We are, however, mainly interested in the time-independent coefficients $\alpha$, $\gamma$, $\eta$ and $\delta$ that are relevant for time-averaged mean fields as addressed in (14). They are just time averages of the $\bar{\alpha}$, $\bar{\gamma}$, $\bar{\eta}_t$ and $\bar{\delta}$, that is,

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} (\alpha_{11} + \alpha_{22}), \quad \gamma = -\frac{1}{2} (\alpha_{12} - \alpha_{21}),$$

$$\eta_t = \frac{1}{2} (\eta_{11} + \eta_{22}), \quad \delta = -\frac{1}{2} (\eta_{12} - \eta_{21}). \quad (45)$$

where $(\cdots)$ means averaging over a time interval of length $\pi/\omega$. In case (ii) the relations (45) apply with $(\cdots)$ interpreted as averaging over a sufficiently long time.

4 A GENERALIZATION

So far we have assumed that the mean electromotive force $\mathcal{E}$ in a given point is completely determined by $\mathbf{B}$ and its first spatial derivatives in this point. If we relax this assumption, but continue to ignore any variation of $\mathbf{B}$ in time, we may proceed as in Brandenburg et al. (2008b). In that sense we may replace (9), applied to time-averaged mean fields, by

$$\mathcal{E}_t(z) = \int \left[ \tilde{\alpha}_{ij}(z) \mathbf{B}_{ij}(z - \zeta) - \tilde{\eta}_{ij}(z) \mathbf{J}_{ij}(z - \zeta) \right] d\zeta \quad (46)$$

with kernels $\tilde{\alpha}_{ij}$ and $\tilde{\eta}_{ij}$. When using a Fourier transformation $Q(z) = \int \tilde{Q} \exp(i k \zeta) d\zeta$, this turns into

$$\tilde{\mathcal{E}}_t(k) = \tilde{\alpha}_{ij}(k) \tilde{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}(k) - \tilde{\eta}_{ij}(k) \tilde{\mathbf{J}}_{ij}(k), \quad (47)$$

where

$$\tilde{\alpha}_{ij}(k) = \int \tilde{\alpha}_{ij}(\zeta) \cos k \zeta \, d\zeta, \quad \tilde{\eta}_{ij}(k) = \int \tilde{\eta}_{ij}(\zeta) \cos k \zeta \, d\zeta. \quad (48)$$
In this understanding the relations (41)–(43) apply with $\alpha_{ij}$ and $\eta_{ij}$ being replaced by $\tilde{\alpha}_{ij}$ and $\tilde{\eta}_{ij}$, which have a well-defined meaning for all $k$ (not only in the limit $k \to 0$).

5 RESULTS

5.1 Units and dimensionless parameters

It is appropriate to give $\tilde{\alpha}$ and $\tilde{\gamma}$ as well as $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ in units of $\omega_0$, and $\tilde{\eta}_i$, $\delta$, $\eta$, and $\delta$ in units of $\omega_0/k_H$. The remaining dimensionless parts of these coefficients are then, apart from the time dependencies of $\tilde{\alpha}$, $\tilde{\gamma}$, $\tilde{\eta}_i$ and $\delta$, functions of the dimensionless parameters $R_m, \epsilon$ and $q$ introduced through (17), (4) and either (20) or (39). Instead of $q$ we may also use the dimensionless quantity $\tilde{\omega}$ defined by

$$\tilde{\omega} = q/R_m.$$  \hspace{1cm} (49)

In case (i) we have so $\tilde{\omega} = \omega/\omega_0 k_H$, which is the ratio of the turnover time ($\omega_0 k_H/2\pi)^{-1}$ to the wobble period $2\pi/\omega$. In case (ii) applies $\tilde{\omega} = (\tau_c, \omega_0 k_H)^{-1}$, and this is, apart from a factor $2\pi$, the ratio of that turnover time to the time $\tau_c$ introduced with the random flow.

5.2 Case (i)

5.2.1 Comparison with CHT06

We show first that our method reproduces results by CHT06. We suppose that our $R_m$ is related to the magnetic Reynolds number, say $R_m^{\text{CHT}}$, used but not explicitly defined there, by $R_m = \sqrt{3/2} R_m^{\text{CHT}}$.

While in CHT06 dependencies of the results on $R_m$ and $\epsilon$ are considered, no values of $q$ or $\tilde{\omega}$ are given. We suppose that the calculations have actually been carried out with $\tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{3/2}$. Finally, we suppose that the unit of $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ used by CHT06 is $\omega/k_H$.

With a view to fig. 1 of CHT06 we have carried out calculations with $R_m = \sqrt{3/2} \times 64 \approx 78$, $\epsilon = 3/4$ and $\tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{3/2}$. Our results for the $\alpha_{ij}$ obtained with these parameters and given in this particular case in units of $\omega/k_H$ are presented in our Fig. 2. We see in particular that $\alpha_{11}$ and $\alpha_{22}$ vary between $-6$ and $-1$ with a period $\pi/\omega$. As far as $\alpha_{11}$ is concerned this agrees with the result for $\langle u \times b \rangle_0$, shown in fig. 1 of CHT06. Also the initial evolution of $\alpha_{11}$, which is not shown here, agrees with this figure. Furthermore, in our Fig. 2 the phase shift by $\pi/2$ between $\alpha_{11}$ and $\alpha_{22}$ discussed in Section 2.2 is clearly visible. Our results for $\alpha_{12}$ and $\alpha_{21}$ lead to a value of $\gamma$, which agrees in modulus but differs in sign from that of CHT06. (To obtain their sign we need to replace $\alpha_{i1}$ and $\alpha_{i2}$ by $\alpha_{i2}$ and $\alpha_{i1}$.) With the above values of $R_m$ and $\tilde{\omega}$ but $\epsilon = 1$ we find again a sign of $\gamma$ opposite to that of CHT06. \hspace{1cm} 3

5.2.2 Time-averaged mean fields

Switching now to time-averaged mean fields we start with Fig. 3, which shows results for $\alpha$ at $R_m = 0.1$ in dependence on $\epsilon q$. They were found with the help of numerical integrations of the test-field version of (8) in its complete form or after reducing it to SOCA. It turned out that SOCA is sufficient for their calculation. Some of these results were also confirmed by evaluating (23) with (24). As long as $\epsilon q$ is small $\alpha$ depends, in agreement with (23) and (24), and also with (34) and (35) or (37), only via this product on $\epsilon$ and $q$. For larger $\epsilon q$ it depends, however, in a more complex way on $\epsilon$ and $q$. Furthermore, $\alpha$ remains finite if $\epsilon = 1$ and $q$ grows, and it tends to zero if $q = 0.1$ and $\epsilon$ grows. Since $R_m$ is small the validity of SOCA is plausible in the case $q = 0.1$, but it is remarkable in the case with $\epsilon = 1$, in which $q$ may grow up to 10.

Next, we consider the dependence of $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ on $R_m$, in Fig. 4 shown for $\epsilon = 1$ and $\tilde{\omega} = 1$ (i.e. $q = R_m$). For small $R_m$ we expect that SOCA applies and so $\alpha/u_0$ is linear in $R_m$ but $\gamma$ vanishes. Indeed $\alpha/u_0$ shows this linearity up to $R_m \approx 1$. In agreement with the results of CHT06 $\gamma$ is negative and its modulus remains small for $R_m < 1$. Remarkably the values of $\alpha/u_0$ calculated from (23) and (24) (dotted line), or (37) (dashed line), which have been derived for $q \ll 1$ and $\epsilon q \ll 1$, deviate for $R_m > 1$ drastically from both the

3 The authors of CHT06 confirm a sign error in their calculation of $\gamma$ (private communication).
Mean-field effects in Galloway–Proctor flow

Figure 4. Dependence of \( \alpha/u_0 \) and \(-\gamma/u_0\) on \( R_m \) for \( \epsilon = 1 \) and \( \tilde{\omega} = 1 \) (i.e. \( q = R_m \)). Solid lines show results obtained without any approximation. The dash–dotted line gives \( \alpha/u_0 \) as obtained numerically using SOCA. The dotted and the dashed line give results calculated with (23) and (24), or (37), respectively. The small dots on the solid lines indicate the values of \( R_m \) for which simulations have been carried out.

Figure 5. Dependence of \( \alpha/u_0 \) and \(-\gamma/u_0\) on \( \epsilon \) for \( R_m = 100 \) and \( \tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{2}/3 \) (the value considered by CHT06). The small dots on the solid line indicate the values of \( \epsilon \) for which simulations have been carried out.

Figure 6. Dependence of \( \alpha/u_0 \) and \(-\gamma/u_0\) on \( \epsilon \) for \( R_m = 100 \) and \( \tilde{\omega} = 1 \). The small dots on the solid line indicate the values of \( \epsilon \) for which simulations have been carried out.

Figure 7. Dependence of \( \alpha/u_0 \) and \(-\gamma/u_0\) on \( \tilde{\omega} \) for \( R_m = 100 \) and \( \epsilon = 1 \). The small dots on the solid line indicate the values of \( \tilde{\omega} \) for which simulations have been carried out.

Numerical obtained SOCA results (dash–dotted line) and those obtained without any approximation of that kind (solid line). The proportionality of \( \gamma/u_0 \) with \( R_m^5 \) confirms the presumption made at the end of Section 2.3 that non-zero values of \( \gamma \) occur only in sixth-order and higher approximations with respect to \( u_0 \).

Simple arguments (as given in Section 6) suggest that \( \alpha \) is never negative. However, CHT06 found that not only the moduli but also the signs of both \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) depend for each given \( R_m \) sensitively on \( \epsilon \). In our Fig. 5, which applies for \( R_m = 100 \) and \( \tilde{\omega} = \sqrt{2}/3 \), both \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) vary strongly with \( \epsilon \), too. The represented results confirm, apart from the sign of \( \gamma \), the corresponding ones in fig. 2 of CHT06.

Both \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) change their signs with \( \epsilon \). As Fig. 6 shows, in the situation with the same \( R_m \) but \( \tilde{\omega} = 1 \), only \( \gamma \) changes its sign, which indicates a considerable effect of changing \( \tilde{\omega} \). In both of the cases considered in Figs 5 and 6, \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) diminish for small as well as large values of \( \epsilon \).

In Figs 7 and 8 we see that \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) depend, at least for \( R_m = 100 \) and \( \epsilon = 1 \), also sensitively on the parameter \( \tilde{\omega} \), or \( q \), that is, on the frequency with which the velocity pattern wobbles. There are, however, simple asymptotic behaviours for small and for large \( \tilde{\omega} \), clearly visible for \( \tilde{\omega} < 0.1 \) and \( \tilde{\omega} > 3 \). Similar results (not shown here) have been found for \( R_m = 10 \) and \( \epsilon = 1 \). In this case, however, \( \alpha \) stays positive for all values of \( \tilde{\omega} \), and only one sign reversal of \( \gamma \) occurs.

The values of \( \alpha \) indicated in Figs 5 and 6 for \( \epsilon = 0 \) agree, as it should be, with that for the Roberts flow. The same applies to Figs 7 and 8 and \( \tilde{\omega} = 0 \). At \( R_m = 100 \), the value chosen in all these cases, we have \( \alpha/u_0 \approx 0.074 \); see Appendix A. Remarkably enough, the moduli of \( \alpha \) at non-zero \( \epsilon \) and \( \tilde{\omega} \) reach values which are by factors up to about 100 larger. The fact that, for the Roberts flow, \( \alpha \) asymptotically tends to zero with growing \( R_m \), can be explained by magnetic flux expulsion from the inner parts of the cells of the steady flow pattern; see Radler et al. (2002a). In the GP flow the motion of the flow pattern hampers such flux expulsion.

We see from CHT06 that there is a rich dependence of \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \) on \( R_m \) for values of \( \tilde{\omega} \) and \( \epsilon \) of order unity. In Fig. 9 we show results for an example with \( \tilde{\omega} = 0.5 \) and \( \epsilon = 1 \). Reversals of \( \alpha \) are then possible for rather small values of \( R_m \) of the order of 10. However, as Fig. 10 shows, such behaviour disappears for \( \tilde{\omega} = 10 \), in which case \( \alpha \) stays always positive and \( \gamma \) always negative. In fact, there is
an asymptotic scaling \( \alpha/u_0 \sim R_m^{-1/2} \) as \( R_m \to \infty \), and \( \gamma \) approaches a constant finite value as \( R_m \to \infty \).

In a few cases \( \eta_t \) and \( \delta \) have been determined in addition to \( \alpha \) and \( \gamma \). Results on the dependence of these quantities with \( \epsilon = 1 \) and \( \omega = 0.7 \) on \( R_m \) are shown in Fig. 11. They have however been calculated with \( k = k_H \), not as limit \( k \to 0 \), and are therefore at most approximations of the mentioned quantities.

A correct interpretation of these results requires a look on the explanations of Section 4 on the non-local connection between \( \Sigma \), \( B \) and \( \overline{J} \) as defined by (46). In that sense the \( \alpha, \gamma, \eta_t \) and \( \delta \) in Fig. 11 may be understood as values of the functions \( \tilde{\alpha}(k) \), \( \tilde{\gamma}(k) \), \( \tilde{\eta}_t(k) \) and \( \tilde{\delta}(k) \) at \( k = k_H \). In the following, when writing \( \alpha(k) \) or \( \eta_t(k) \), for example, we always mean \( \tilde{\alpha}(k) \) or \( \tilde{\eta}_t(k) \). In an earlier investigation with the Roberts flow under SOCA and with isotropic turbulence independent of SOCA (Brandenburg et al. 2008b) it was found that \( \alpha(k) \) and \( \eta_t(k) \) vary with \( k \) in a Lorentzian fashion like \( (1 + k^2/k_H^2)^{-1} \). However, for the GP flow Courvoisier (2008) found that \( \alpha(k) \) at small \( k \) is extremely sensitive to the value of \( R_m \).

Fig. 12 shows that \( \alpha(k) \) and \( \gamma(k) \) for \( R_m = 30 \), \( \omega = 0.5 \) and \( \epsilon = 1 \) approach the values given in Fig. 9 as \( k \to 0 \). However, the magnitudes of \( \eta_t(k) \) and \( \delta(k) \) become rather large as \( k \to 0 \). It turns out that \( \alpha(k) \) changes sign at \( k/k_H \approx 0.4 \) and \( \gamma(k) \) becomes smaller with increasing \( k/k_H \). Remarkably, \( \eta_t(k) \) is negative for \( k/k_H < 1 \), suggesting that magnetic field generation might be
Possible via a negative magnetic diffusion instability; see e.g. Lanotte et al. (1999).

In order to check this possibility we have calculated the linear growth rates

$$\lambda_\pm(k) = -[\eta + \eta_k(k)]k^2 \pm \alpha(k)k.$$  (50)

Fig. 13 shows that $\lambda_\pm$ is almost entirely given by $\pm\alpha(k)k$. A negative diffusivity instability does not occur. It is important to realize that most of the small wavenumber modes, especially those with negative values of $\eta_k(k)$, would never be realized. This is because in a system of given size, only the corresponding harmonics will have a chance to be excited, and of those only the ones with the largest growth rates will dominate. We should point out that the detailed variations of $\lambda_\pm$ shown in Fig. 13 may not be accurate. In fact, this figure shows a maximum at $k/k_H \approx 0.75$, but direct simulations suggest that the fastest growth occurs for $k/k_H \approx 0.5$ with a growth rate of $\lambda \approx 0.23 u_{\text{rms}} k$.

Nevertheless, this value is still compatible with Fig. 13.

5.3 Case (ii)

As for case (ii) we have calculated $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ under the assumptions on $\phi_0$ and $\phi_1$ introduced in Section 2.4. Fig. 14 shows results for $R_m$ ranging from 0.1 to 100 and $\epsilon = \pi$ as functions of $\omega_\alpha$. In the limit of small $\omega$ the flow can be considered as stationary, that is, as a Roberts flow. Indeed in this limit the values of $\alpha$ agree well with those obtained for the Roberts flow; see Appendix A. For large values of $\omega$ the values of $\alpha$ vanish for all $R_m$. For not too small $\omega$ and $R_m$ there is no longer a noticeable variation of $\alpha$ with $R_m$, and $\alpha$ reaches a maximum at $\omega \approx 0.3$. In the range $0.3 < \omega < 1$ continuous flow renewal removes the tendency for $\alpha$ to diminish with growing $R_m$. For $\omega < 0.2$ the value of $\alpha$ remains strongly dependent on $R_m$ and can still change sign. We have also calculated $\alpha$ with $\epsilon = 1$ and $R_m = 100$ as a function of $\omega_\alpha$ and found a qualitatively similar behaviour as for $\epsilon = \pi$. In this case it remains positive and is up to 50 per cent smaller than for $\epsilon = \pi$ when $\omega < 1$ and somewhat larger when $\omega > 1$. In all cases we found, as expected, $\gamma = 0$ within error margins.

6 DISCUSSION

Our results for the flow of type (i) confirm the finding of CHT06 that both the $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ coefficients depend sensitively on $R_m$ and also on $\epsilon$, and that even the signs of these coefficients may vary with these parameters. We have to add that $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ depend also on $\omega_\alpha$, or $q = \omega R_m$, that is, on parameters connected with the frequency of the wobbling motion, which CHT06 tacitly fixed in a special way, and that they show similar variations with these parameters. We found however rather regular behaviours of $\alpha$ and $\gamma$ for small and for large values of $\epsilon$ and $\omega_\alpha$.

It is sometimes taken as granted that the sign of $\alpha$ is opposite to that of the mean kinetic helicity of the fluid flow and its modulus is proportional to that of the mean helicity. There is however no general reason for that kind of relation between $\alpha$ and the kinetic helicity. We see only two limiting cases which allow simple statements on the sign of $\alpha$. The following formulations of these statements apply...
to flows like isotropic turbulence for which $\vec{E} = a\vec{B} + \cdots$ can be justified as well as such covered by our relation (14).

First, in the framework of SOCA it turns out that in the low-conductivity limit $q \to 0$ the sign of $\alpha$ is always opposite to that of $\vec{\psi} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{\psi})$, where $\vec{u} = \nabla \cdot \vec{\psi}$, $\nabla \cdot \vec{\psi} = 0$; see e.g. Krause & Rädler (1980) and Rädler & Brandenburg (2003). For both types of flows, (i) and (ii), we have $\vec{\psi} = \vec{\psi}(\vec{u} - \vec{\psi}, \psi)$, where $\vec{u} = -\kappa_0(\partial \vec{\psi}/\partial x + \partial \vec{\psi}/\partial y)$ and therefore $\vec{\psi} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{\psi}) = -2\kappa_0^2/\kappa_H$. This implies that $\alpha$ is positive. Indeed, only positive $\alpha$ have been observed for small $q$, even beyond SOCA.

Secondly, it was found in SOCA in the high-conductivity limit $q \to \infty$, that the sign of $\alpha$ for a flow with finite correlation time is opposite to that of $\int u(x, t) \cdot (\nabla \times u(x, t - \tau)) \, d\tau$; see e.g. again Krause & Rädler (1980). A relation of that kind between $\alpha$ and this integral can indeed be formally derived from the general relation (29) of Rädler & Rheinhardt (2007) and applied to our specific situation. In case (i) the correlation time is however infinite and this integral does not converge. Although we know that $\vec{u} \cdot (\nabla \times \vec{u}) = -2\kappa_0^2/\kappa_H$, we do not see how reliable conclusions could be drawn concerning the sign of $\alpha$. In case (ii) the integral is positive, and indeed only positive $\alpha$ have been observed.

Beyond the low- and high-conductivity limits, that is, for not too small or not too large values of $q$, even SOCA offers no simple general statements on the sign of $\alpha$. In general $\alpha$ may take both positive and negative values. The results of CHT06, as well as those presented in this paper, show that in addition to positive also negative $\alpha$ are well possible.

One motivation for looking at GP flows was the hope that their time dependence helps to model some features of turbulence and that in this way some properties of the coefficients $\alpha$ and $\eta$, in turbulent flows could be studied. As we have seen, however, the mean-field effects in GP flows can hardly be compared in a meaningful way with such effects in real turbulence. This applies in particular to the circularly polarized GP flow, i.e. the flow of type (i). We see no straightforward way to relate the circular motion of the flow pattern and the parameters $\epsilon$ and $\omega$ to real turbulence. There is no natural interpretation for this motion and the so-called $\gamma$ and $\delta$ effects. The linearly polarized flow, i.e. the flow of type (ii), exhibits no such motion. Nevertheless, it remains hard to interpret the parameter $\epsilon$. For these reasons we do not think that the results on mean-field effects in GP flows as reported in CHT06 and here, for example the variations of $\alpha$ with $R_n$, $\epsilon$ and $\omega$, reflect phenomena to be expected in a turbulent astrophysical plasma.

Recently Tilgnier (2008) pointed out that a time-dependent flow of a conducting fluid can act as a dynamo even when steady flows, which coincide with it at any particular time, cannot. He demonstrated this with a Roberts flow modified by a drift of its pattern so that the velocity $\vec{u}$ satisfies relations like (2) and (3) with $\psi_x = -k_0 v_d$ and $\psi_{x,0} = 0$, where $v_d$ is a constant drift velocity. Even if the intensity of the flow is too weak so that in the case $v_d = 0$ no growing solutions of the induction equation with a given period in the $z$ direction exist, such solutions may occur in an interval of some finite $v_d$. Although this flow considered by Tilgnier is in a sense simpler than the flows in our paper, it shows no longer the symmetries with respect to the $\zeta$-axis which we have utilized above to justify the relations (13) and (14) between the mean electromagnetic force $\vec{E}$ and the mean magnetic field $\vec{B}$. As a consequence the relation between these quantities is more complex. Nevertheless, the question arises whether the effect of the time dependence of flows observed by Tilgnier occurs also in the experiments investigated here. In case (i) the parameter $\omega$ could play the role of $v_d$. The fact that the magnitude of $\alpha$ is larger for some finite $\omega$ than for $\omega = 0$, which can be seen in Figs 7 and 8, points in this direction.

Astrophysical flows can often be described neither by isotropic turbulence nor by wobbling two-dimensional flow patterns, but they are likely to contain aspects of both extremes. However, the present work highlights another aspect that may be of more general significance and concerns the turbulent transport properties in the presence of high-frequency time variability. This is not just a peripheral aspect of turbulence, but it is an additional property whose effects need to be understood more thoroughly. The situation is reminiscent of the modifications of mixing length theory in the presence of stellar pulsations (see e.g. Gough 1977). In dynamo theory the issue of high-frequency time variability has only recently been addressed. One example concerns the non-linear $\alpha$ effect where its time dependence has a striking effect on the behaviour of the mean field. In that example the temporal behaviour of the forcing function $\delta$ (correlated or steady) determines the non-linear asymptotic scaling behaviour of the quenching function $\alpha(B)$ at low $R_n$. The early results of Moffatt (1972) and Rüdiger (1974) suggested a $|\alpha| \sim |B|^{-3}$ behaviour, but in more recent years Field, Blackman & Chou (1999) and Rogachevskii & Kleeroen (2000) found instead a $|\alpha| \sim |B|^{-2}$ behaviour, which seemed in conflict with the earlier results. However, the work of Sur, Subramanian & Brandenburg (2007) now shows that this is not just an artefact related to different approximations, for example, but it depends on whether or not the flow is time dependent. They found that the $|\alpha| \sim |B|^{-3}$ behaviour is reproduced if the flow is steady, while the $|\alpha| \sim |B|^{-2}$ behaviour is obtained in the time-dependent case using a forcing function that is $\delta$ correlated in time. Again, it is not clear which types of flows are astrophysically more relevant, but it is now clear that the detailed time dependence of the turbulent flows can affect its transport properties in rather unexpected ways.

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REFERENCES


APPENDIX A: ROBERTS FLOW

In the special case \( \varphi_x = \varphi_y = 0 \) the flow defined by (2) and (3), turns into the Roberts flow. Our SOCA results for this special case agree with results for the Roberts flow reported in Brandenburg et al. (2008b) and in Rädler et al. (2002a), referred to as BRS08 and R02a, respectively.

In BRS08 instead of our coordinate system \((x, y, z)\) another one, say \((x', y', z)\), is used, which is obtained by a 45° rotation of our system about the \(z\)-axis, that is,

\[
x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(x' - y'), \quad y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(x' + y').
\]

(A1)

Under this transformation relation (3) with \( \varphi_x = \varphi_y = 0 \) turns into

\[
\psi = \frac{2\pi}{k_H} \cos(k_H x'/\sqrt{2}) \cos(k_H y'/\sqrt{2}).
\]

(A2)

Together with (2) we find so, referring to the system \((x', y', z)\),

\[
u = \sqrt{2} \mu_0 \begin{pmatrix}
-\cos(k_H x'/\sqrt{2}) \sin(k_H y'/\sqrt{2}) \\
+ \sin(k_H x'/\sqrt{2}) \cos(k_H y'/\sqrt{2}) \\
-\sqrt{2} \cos(k_H x'/\sqrt{2}) \cos(k_H y'/\sqrt{2})
\end{pmatrix}.
\]

(A3)

Comparing this first with (BRS08 25) and ignoring the opposite sign of \( \alpha \), we find

\[
\alpha^{\text{BRS}} = \sqrt{2} \mu_0, \quad k_o = k_H/\sqrt{2} = k_H/\sqrt{2}.
\]

(A4)

The only consequence of inverting the sign of \( \alpha \) is a sign change of \( \alpha \). Taking then the SOCA results (BRS08 30) for \( \alpha \) and \( \eta_j \), with \( \alpha^{\text{BRS}} \) in place of \( \alpha \), and considering (A4) and the remark on the sign of \( \alpha \) we can easily reproduce our results (23) with \( \chi_0 = 1 \).

This applies analogously to R02a if, in addition to the transformation (A1), \( x' \) is replaced by \( x' - \pi/\sqrt{2}k_H \) and \( y' \) by \( y' + \pi/\sqrt{2}k_H \). Comparing the corresponding modification of (A3) with (R02a 15) we find

\[
u_x = (2\sqrt{2}/\pi)\mu_0, \quad \nu_y = (8/\pi^2)\mu_0, \quad \alpha = \sqrt{2}/k_H.
\]

The only consequence of inverting the sign of \( \alpha \) is a sign change of \( \alpha \). Taking then the SOCA results (R02a 30) for \( \alpha \) and \( \eta_j \), with \( \alpha^{\text{BRS}} \) in place of \( \alpha \), and considering (A4) and the remark on the sign of \( \alpha \) as determined by its right-hand side, \( \mathbf{R} \), and has again the form of \( \mathbf{R} \) as given by (B4). Since \( \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} = -k_o^2 \mathbf{b} \) we have

\[
\mathbf{b}(t) = \int_0^t \mathbf{R}(t - t') \exp \left[ -\eta k^2 t' \right] dt'.
\]

(B5)

Going beyond SOCA we note that according to (BRS08 25), or also according to (R02a 20),

\[
\alpha = \mu_0 R_m \phi(2R_m)
\]

with a function \( \phi \) satisfying \( \phi(0) = 1 \) and vanishing like \( R_m^{3/2} \) with growing \( R_m \). It has been calculated numerically and is plotted, e.g. in R02a. In Fig. A1 \( \alpha/\mu_0 \) according to (A6) is depicted as function of \( R_m \).

APPENDIX B: SECOND-ORDER CALCULATIONS

For the calculation of the \( \alpha_{ij} \) and \( \eta_{ij} \), \( 1 \leq i, j \leq 2 \), under SOCA we start with (15). Introducing there \( \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{Re}(\mathbf{b} \exp ik\mathbf{z}) \) and \( \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{Re}(\mathbf{B} \exp ik\mathbf{z}) \) we obtain

\[
[\partial_t - \eta(\nabla^2 - k^2)] \mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} - ik\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}.
\]

(B1)

For our purposes it is useful to represent \( \mathbf{u} \) in the form

\[
u_x = -u_0[\cos(k_H x) \sin(t) + \sin(k_H y) \cos(t)], \quad u_y = u_0[\cos(k_H x) \cos(t) + \sin(k_H y) \sin(t)], \quad u_z = -u_0[\cos(k_H x) \cos(t) - \sin(k_H y) \sin(t)]
\]

(B2)

where

\[
\sin(t) = \sin(\epsilon \sin t \omega t), \quad \cos(t) = \cos(\epsilon \sin t \omega t), \quad \text{etc.}
\]

(B3)

Then the right-hand side of (B1), say \( \mathbf{R} \), takes the form

\[
\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}^{\omega t} \cos k_H x + \mathbf{R}^{\omega t} \sin k_H y
\]

+ \( \mathbf{R}^{\omega t} \cos k_H y + \mathbf{R}^{\omega t} \sin k_H y
\]

(B4)

with \( \mathbf{R}^{\omega t}, \mathbf{R}^{\omega t} \ldots \) depending on time.

Clearly, (B1) poses an initial value problem. As for the initial time \( t_0 \) we let \( t_0 \to -\infty \). Then the solution \( \mathbf{b}(t) \) of (B1) is completely determined by its right-hand side, \( \mathbf{R} \), and has again the form of \( \mathbf{R} \) as given by (B4). Since \( \nabla^2 \mathbf{b} = -k_o^2 \mathbf{b} \) we have

\[
\mathbf{b}(t) = \int_0^t \mathbf{R}(t - t') \exp \left[ -\eta k^2 t' \right] dt'.
\]
Table B1. Some values of $\chi^{(2)}$ for case (i) defined in equation (18).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$a_{ij}$</th>
<th>$\epsilon = 0.1$</th>
<th>$\epsilon = 0.1$</th>
<th>$\epsilon = 1$</th>
<th>$\epsilon = 10$</th>
<th>$\epsilon = 10$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$k_{ij}$</td>
<td>0.9970</td>
<td>0.7558</td>
<td>0.4204</td>
<td>0.3017</td>
<td>0.2073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 1$</td>
<td>0.9982</td>
<td>0.8521</td>
<td>0.4882</td>
<td>0.5246</td>
<td>0.2667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 10$</td>
<td>0.9990</td>
<td>0.9123</td>
<td>0.6165</td>
<td>$-0.1882$</td>
<td>$-0.1816$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 1$</td>
<td>0.9989</td>
<td>0.8963</td>
<td>0.7341</td>
<td>0.1567</td>
<td>0.1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 10$</td>
<td>0.9980</td>
<td>0.8115</td>
<td>0.7658</td>
<td>$-0.1558$</td>
<td>$-0.2448$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 1$</td>
<td>0.9968</td>
<td>0.7121</td>
<td>0.6889</td>
<td>0.1196</td>
<td>0.1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 10$</td>
<td>0.9960</td>
<td>0.6586</td>
<td>0.6550</td>
<td>$-0.0836$</td>
<td>$-0.1637$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 1$</td>
<td>0.9961</td>
<td>0.6775</td>
<td>0.4465</td>
<td>0.1317</td>
<td>0.2189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$q = 10$</td>
<td>0.9970</td>
<td>0.7558</td>
<td>0.4204</td>
<td>0.3017</td>
<td>0.2073</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After determining the $\hat{R}^x$, $\hat{R}^y$, $\ldots$ we find for the analogously defined $\hat{b}^x$, $\hat{b}^y$, $\ldots$

$$b^x_i = iu_0 k \hat{B} \Gamma(sc), \quad b^y_i = -iu_0 (k_i \hat{B} - ik \hat{J} \Gamma(sc)),$$

$$b^y_i = u_0 (k_i \hat{B} - ik \hat{J} \Gamma(sc)), \quad b^x_i = u_0 (k_i \hat{B} + ik \hat{J} \Gamma(sc)).$$

We may apply some modification of the procedure used in Appendix B for solving the equation (B1) for $\hat{b}$ to the equations (C1) for $\hat{b}(2)$ and $\hat{b}(3)$.

The right-hand side of the equation for $\hat{b}(2)$, which we call $\hat{R}(2)$, is a linear combination of products $\psi(x)\psi(y)$, where $\psi(x)$ stands for $\cos k_i x$ or $\sin k_i x$, and $\psi(y)$ for $\cos k_i y$ or $\sin k_i y$. Clearly $\hat{b}(2)$ has the same form as $\hat{R}(2)$ and satisfies $\nabla^2 \hat{b}(2) = -2k^2 \hat{b}(2)$. Therefore (B5) applies after replacing $\hat{b}$ and $\hat{R}$ by $\hat{b}(2)$ and $\hat{R}(2)$, respectively, and $k_0$ by $2k_0$, and putting $k = 0$. As a consequence of the described structure of $\hat{b}(2)$ we have $\hat{u} \times \hat{b}(2) = 0$.

The right-hand side of the equation for $\hat{b}(3)$, which we call $\hat{R}(3)$, is a linear combination of products $\psi_1(x)\psi_2(x)\psi_3(x)$ or $\psi_1(x)\psi_2(x)\psi_3(y)$, where the indices 1 and 2 may refer to the same function or to different functions, e.g. $\psi_1(x) = \psi_2(x) = \cos k_i x$ or $\psi_1(x) = \cos k_i x$ and $\psi_2(x) = \sin k_i x$. In the first case we utilize $\cos^2 k_i x = (1 + \cos 2k_i x)$ and split, e.g. $\cos k_i x \pm \sin k_i y$ into the two parts $1/2 \sin k_i y$ and $1/2 \cos 2k_i x \sin k_i y$. In this way we may split $\hat{R}(3)$ into two parts, $\hat{R}(3)^{a}$ and $\hat{R}(3)^{b}$, where $(\hat{R}(3)^{a})$ contains only contributions $\psi_1(x)\psi_2(x)\psi_3(x)$ and $\psi(x)\psi_1(y)\psi_2(y)$ with three different factors, and contributions of the types $\psi(x)\psi_2(2y)$ and $\psi(x)\psi_2(y)$, and $\hat{R}(3)^{b}$ only contributions of the types $\psi(x)\psi(x)\psi(y)$ and $\psi(x)\psi(x)\psi(y)$. There are two corresponding parts of $\hat{b}(3)$, that is $\hat{b}(3)^{a}$ and $\hat{b}(3)^{b}$ which satisfy $\nabla^2 \hat{b}(3) = -5k_0^2 \hat{b}(3)^{a}$ and $\hat{b}(3)^{b} = -k_0^2 \hat{b}(3)^{b}$ and equations of type of (B5). The structure of $\hat{b}(3)^{a}$ implies $\hat{u} \times \hat{b}(3)^{a} = 0$. Only $\hat{b}(3)^{b}$, for which (B5) applies with $\hat{b}$ and $\hat{R}$ replaced by $\hat{b}(3)^{b}$ and $\hat{R}(3)^{b}$, respectively, and $k = 0$, contributes to $\hat{u} \times \hat{b}(3)^{b}$.

Detailed calculations along these lines deliver us

$$\hat{e}^{(i)} = \hat{u} \cdot \hat{b}^{(i)} - \hat{u} \cdot \hat{b}^{(i)T} = u_0 R_{b}^{(i)}(a_{i} \hat{b} + a_{j} \hat{b}),$$

$$\hat{v}^{(i)} = u_0 R_{b}^{(i)}(a_{i} \hat{b} + a_{j} \hat{b}),$$

$$\hat{e}^{(i)} = u_0 R_{b}^{(i)}(a_{i} \hat{b} + a_{j} \hat{b}),$$

$$\hat{v}^{(i)} = a_{i} \hat{b} + a_{j} \hat{b} = 0.$$ (C2)

The combination of trigonometric functions on the right-hand side of the relation for $a_{i}$ is easily expressed by the function CC defined in (19). The same applies to $a_{i}$, and the function CS defined in (31).

The result given by (B8) and (B9) is valid for arbitrary $k$. This applies of course also if it is written in the alternative form with CC and CS. In that sense it is of some interest in view of the non-local connection between $\hat{e}$ and $\hat{b}$ studied in the paper by BRS08. In the main part of the present paper we consider however the limit $k \rightarrow 0$ only. In this limit (B7) applies with $k = 0$. Then (B8) and (B9) agree just with (16) and (18). Table B1 shows some values of the function $\chi^{(2)}(t)$ that occurs in (16) and (18).

**APPENDIX C: HIGHER ORDER CALCULATIONS**

For the sake of simplicity we assume now, beyond SOCA, that $\vec{B}$ is a uniform field, that is, has no spatial derivatives. Then $\vec{u} \times \vec{B}$ is independent of space coordinates and (28) turns into

$$\partial_t - \eta \nabla^2 \vec{b}^{(n+1)} = (\vec{b}^{(n)} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} - (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{b}^{(n)}, \quad n \geq 1.$$ (C1)

We may apply some modification of the procedure used in Appendix B for solving the equation (B1) for $\hat{b}$ to the equations (C1) for $\hat{b}(2)$ and $\hat{b}(3)$.
where
\[
\Gamma(f, g, h) = \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty f(t - t') g(t - t' - t'') h(t - t' - t'' - t''') \times \exp[-\eta k^2_0 (t' + 2t'' + t''')] \, dt' \, dt'' \, dt'''.
\]
(C4)

The combinations of trigonometric functions in (C3) can be expressed by the CC, CS, SC and SS defined in (19) and (31). In this way we arrive at the results (29) and (30).

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