



This discussion paper is/has been under review for the journal Nonlinear Processes in Geophysics (NPG). Please refer to the corresponding final paper in NPG if available.

Reversal in the nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko¹ and G. M. Vodinchar^{1,2}

¹Institute of Cosmophysical Researches and Radio Wave Propagation FEB RAS, Paratunka, Russia

²Vitus Bering Kamchatka State University, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Russia

Received: 2 October 2014 – Accepted: 29 October 2014 – Published: 18 November 2014

Correspondence to: L. K. Feschenko (kruteva_lu@mail.ru)

Published by Copernicus Publications on behalf of the European Geosciences Union & the American Geophysical Union.

NPGD

1, 1715–1734, 2014

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



toroidal field (α -effect), which leads to the excitation of a new poloidal field. The theory of α -effect was developed by Steenbeck, Krause and Rädler (Steenbek et al., 1966; Steenbek and Krause, 1969). A detailed description of the mean-field theory is given in the books Krause and Rädler (1980), Moffat (1978), and Zeldovich et al. (1983).

5 Induction equation for the magnetic field in a conducting medium is the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} &= \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) + \nu_m \Delta \mathbf{B}, \\ \nabla \mathbf{B} &= 0, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{v} is the velocity field of the medium, and ν_m is the magnetic viscosity.

10 If the velocity field is defined, then the Eq. (1) is linear and defines the kinematic dynamo problem. However, the magnetic field affects the flow of a medium by the Lorentz force. The effect of this force in the equations of motion of the medium is quadratic in the magnetic field, so in the case of small magnetic fields, we can be restricted to kinematic approximation. The formal criterion of the non-applicability of the kinematic approximation is the satisfaction of the ratio $E_K \lesssim E_B$, where E_K and E_B are the kinetic energy of the moving medium and the energy of the magnetic field, respectively.

In this case, it is necessary either to solve Eq. (1) together with the equations of motion, or to enter a modeling approach, where \mathbf{v} is the given functional of \mathbf{B} . In any case the solved equations become nonlinear.

20 In the mean-field theory the expansion of fields \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{B} in the large-scale $\bar{\mathbf{U}}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ and fluctuations \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{b} are introduced. We do not assume the smallness of fluctuations. Then from the Eq. (1) we obtain the equation for the mean-field generation (Zeldovich et al., 1983):

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \bar{\mathbf{B}}}{\partial t} &= \nabla \times (\bar{\mathbf{U}} \times \bar{\mathbf{B}} + \alpha \bar{\mathbf{B}}) + \beta \Delta \bar{\mathbf{B}}, \\ \nabla \bar{\mathbf{B}} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

25

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

◀

▶

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Here α and β are, in general, second-rank tensors, depending on the velocity and magnetic field. To determine the form of these curves is the main task of mean-field theory. Convolution of $\alpha\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ determines the turbulent EMF (α -effect), and $\beta\Delta\bar{\mathbf{B}}$ gives the diffusion of the magnetic field, which consists of molecular and turbulent diffusions.

We will further consider the isotropic case of scalar α and β ; β is assumed to be the constant.

2 Equations of the large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

We suppose that the spatial structure of the mean-field is simple and confine ourselves to a single-mode approximation for the toroidal and poloidal components. Then these components may be described by the scalar functions $B^T(t)$ and $B^P(t)$, respectively. We also assume that the average flow $\bar{\mathbf{U}}$ is of differential rotation nature.

Taking into the account the above assumptions, on the basis of Eq. (2) the dynamo cycle stages may be written in the form of the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dB^T}{dt} &= GB^P - \beta L^{-2} B^T, \\ \frac{dB^P}{dt} &= L^{-1} \alpha B^T - \beta L^{-2} B^P, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where $G > 0$ is the characteristic value of the differential rotation, α is the value of the alpha-effect, L is the characteristic linear dimension of the region. The first of Eq. (3) describes the Ω -stage, and the second is for the α -stage cycle.

Note that G is not the angular velocity of the field in these equations but just a measure of differential nature of the middle course. For example, if r is the distance to the rotation axis and the Ω is the angular velocity, then $G \sim |r\partial_r\Omega|$.

It is convenient to make the system dimensionless on the characteristic time of the magnetic diffusivity $L^2\beta^{-1}$ and the characteristic value of the field B_0 . As a result, we

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



obtain the following system of dimensionless variables:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dB^T}{dt} &= R_\Omega B^P - B^T, \\ \frac{dB^P}{dt} &= R_\alpha B^T - B^P.\end{aligned}\quad (4)$$

Dimensionless characteristics of the stages of the dynamo cycle R_Ω and R_α are GL^2/β and $\alpha L/\beta$, respectively.

In the assumption of the constancy of R_Ω and R_α , field generation, i.e. the growth of small fluctuations of $B = \sqrt{|B^T|^2 + |B^P|^2}$ occurs at $R_\alpha > R_\Omega^{-1}$. The field increases indefinitely at an exponential rate. If $R_\alpha < R_\Omega^{-1}$, the field is attenuated. Limited-largest nonvanishing solution can occur only if $R_\alpha R_\Omega = 1$. Thus, $D = R_\alpha R_\Omega$ is the dynamo-number. When $D = 1$, except for the zero steady-state solution, a lot of stationary regimes of the form $B^T = R_\Omega B^P$ appear in the system (Eq. 4), forming a straight line in an asymptotically stable phase plane.

Limited nonvanishing solutions of Eq. (2) are obtained by taking into account the feedback that is the change of the turbulent flow characteristics by the magnetic field in the result of the Lorentz force. In the models of Eq. (4) type this mechanism is implemented in the form of the prescribed dependence R_α on B . In the simplest case, functional dependencies of the form $R_\alpha = f(B(t))$ are introduced. Such type models are known as algebraic quenching models and the α -effect value depends on the field current value, i.e. a response to the changes in the field of turbulence instant. The simplest version of this dependence is given in Zeldovich et al. (1983). More complex variants, based on the representation of α as the differences between the kinetic helicity and corrent helicity, were studied, for example, in Field and Blackman (2002) and Brandenburg and Sandin (2004).

It is more realistic, however, that the restructuring of turbulence takes some time. Thus, it is interesting to note the results of Frick et al. (2006), the authors of which

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



investigated the multiscale model dynamo. In this model, the equations of large-scale dynamo and the equations of shell-model of MHD turbulence were integrated. In the large-scale part of the model, the authors used the α^2 -dynamo when a toroidal field is generated from a poloidal one by α -effect. The α -effect values were calculated by the variables of shell-model.

Having calculated the cross-correlation between the model variations of B and R_α , the authors of Frick et al. (2006) found that simultaneous values of B and R_α are uncorrelated. Moreover, if the response of B to the change of R_α is fast, the inverse response occurs with a noticeable delay, and the corresponding to the response cross-correlation decline is slow. As a result, the authors came to the conclusion that the response of R_α to B is essentially dynamic in nature and may not be described in terms of algebraic quenching.

This behavior indicates the presence of “memory” (heredity) or nonlocality in time. We can consider two ways to introduce nonlocality in the model (Eq. 4). In the first case, R_α is not a function, but a functional of B , i.e. α -effect value depends not only on the current state of the field, but also on all its previous states. In the second case, R_α is a function of B and a non-Markovian randomly process $\xi(t)$. Physically, this process may be comprehended as a contribution to the α -effect of discarded modes of mean-fields $\bar{\mathbf{U}}$ and $\bar{\mathbf{B}}$. The dependence of R_α on previous values B will be implemented through the “memory” of the process $\xi(t)$. These two variants of nonlocality will be further called the dynamic and randomly nonlocalities, respectively. Of course, combination of these two types of nonlocalities is also possible.

Further, the simplest variant of the algebraic quenching will be used as the original form of the feedback

$$R_\alpha(t) = R_\Omega^{-1} \left[1 + \varepsilon \left(1 - B^2(t) \right) \right], \quad (5)$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$ is the model parameter, which determines the efficiency of the feedback. A similar form of the dependence was considered in Zeldovich et al. (1983).

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



particular, the critical value of A , separating the cases $A = 4.2$ and $A = 10$ from Fig. 1 is 4.455 ± 0.005 .

We also see that for the chosen value of $\varepsilon = 0.5$ the time of t_B field transfer to a steady state is about 30 units. In general, as the numerical experiments showed, this dependence has a power law $t_B \sim \varepsilon^{-0.9}$.

We now define the random process $\xi(t)$ by the following formula

$$\xi(t) = \sum_{\theta_k \leq t} \eta_k \exp\{-\lambda(t - \theta_k)\}. \quad (8)$$

Here θ_k is the increasing sequence of random instants of exponential pulses, η_k is random pulse amplitude, the constant $\lambda^{-1} > 0$ determines the pulse width.

We assume that the time intervals between pulses $\tau_k = \theta_k - \theta_{k-1}$ are independent and identically distributed with the probability density function (pdf) $p_\tau(t)$. Amplitudes η_k are assumed to be Gaussian random variables that are independent between each other and with the times of the pulses having zero mean and variance σ^2 .

The important element of this model is the law of distribution of $p_\tau(t)$. If it is exponential, the pulse sequence forms a Poisson processes of events, and the process $\xi(t)$ turns to be a Markov one. Any other kind of law $p_\tau(t)$ leads to the fact, that the waiting time of the next pulse will depend on the time from the previous pulse. Thus, $\xi(t)$ will turn to be a non-Markov process.

We assume that the law $p_\tau(t)$ has a power asymptotic dependence $\sim 1/t^\gamma, \gamma > 1$. We will give a number of arguments in favor of this assumption.

Random intervals τ_k may be considered as the result of the joint effect of a large number of independent factors. If we suppose the additive character of the joint effect, than, according to the generalized central limit theorem, $p_\tau(t)$ should refer to the class of stable laws (Samorodnitsky and Taqqu, 1994). All such laws, except for the Gaussian one, have the power asymptotic dependence. Note, that for stable power laws $1 < \gamma < 3$.

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



related to the γ . The coefficients of this linear relation depend on the effectiveness of the feedback in α -effect.

It is shown that the model scale of geomagnetic polarity is a fractal set with Hausdorff dimension of $\gtrsim 0.7$. It is consistent with the actual Hausdorff dimension of geomagnetic scale according to the paper Pechersky et al. (1997).

Thus, it was established that the proposed large-scale dynamo model allows us to reproduce the main features of the process of geomagnetic field reversals.

References

- Anufriev, A. and Sokoloff, D.: Fractal properties of geodynamo models, *Geophys. Astro. Fluid*, 74, 207–223, doi:10.1080/03091929408203639, 1994. 1717
- Brandenburg, A. and Sandin, C.: Catastrophic alpha quenching alleviated by helicity flux and shear, *Astron. Astrophys.*, 427, 13–21, doi:10.1051/0004-6361:20047086, 2004. 1720
- Ermushev, A. V., Rusmaikin, A. A., and Sokoloff, D. D.: Fractal nature of the sequence of reversals of the geomagnetic field, *Magnetyhydrodynamics*, 4, 326–330, 1992. 1716
- Field, G. B. and Blackman, E. G.: Quenching of the α^2 Dynamo, *Astrophys. J.*, 572, 685–692, 2002. 1720
- Frick, P., Sokoloff, D., and Stepanov, R.: Large-small scale interactions and quenching in α^2 -dynamo, *Phys. Rev. E*, 74, 066310, doi:10.1103/PhysRevE.74.066310, 2006. 1720, 1721
- Gaffin, S.: Analysis of scaling in the geomagnetic polarity reversal record, *Phys. Earth Planet. In.*, 57, 284–290, doi:10.1016/0031-9201(89)90117-9, 1989. 1716
- Hejda, P. and Anufriev, A. P.: A new numerical scheme in the solution of the geodynamo Z-model, in: *The Cosmic Dynamo: Proceedings of the 157th Symposium of the IAU*, 7–11 September 1992, Potsdam, Germany, 441–446, 1993. 1717
- Hollerbach, R., Barenghi, C., and Lones, C.: Taylor's constraint in a spherical $\alpha\omega$ -dynamo, *Geophys. Astro. Fluid*, 67, 3–25, doi:10.1080/03091929208201834, 1992. 1717
- Ivanov, S. S.: Samopodobie posledovatelnosti inversiy geomagnitnigi polya, *Geomagn. Aeron.*, 33, 181–186, 1993. 1716
- Krause, F. and Rädler, K.-H.: *Mean-field magnetohydrodynamics and dynamo theory*, Academic-Verlag, Berlin, 1980. 1718

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



- Merril, R. T., McElhinny, M. W., and McFadden, P. L.: The Magnetic Field of the Earth: Paleomagnetism, the Core, and the Deep Mantle, Academic Press, London, 1996. 1716, 1723
- Moffat, H. K.: Magnetic Field Generation in Electrically Conducting Fluids, Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1978. 1718
- 5 Parker, E. N.: Hydromagnetic dynamo models, *Astrophys. J.*, 122, 293–314, 1955. 1717
- Pechersky, D. M.: Nekotorye charakteristiki geomagnitnogo polya za 1700 mln. let, *Physica Zemli*, 2, 132–142, 1997. 1725
- Pechersky, D. M., Reshetnyak, M. Yu., and Sokoloff, D. D.: Fractalny analiz vremennoy shkali geomagnitnoy poluarnosty, *Geomagn. Aeron.*, 37, 132–142, 1997. 1716, 1726, 1727, 1728
- 10 Rikitake, T.: *Electromagnetism and the Earth's Interior*, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1965. 1717
- Samorodnitsky, G. and Taqqu, M. S.: *Stable Non-Gaussian Random Processes*, New York, 1994. 1724
- Sornette, D.: *Critical Phenomena in Natural Sciences*, Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, 2006. 1717
- 15 Steenbek, M. and Krause, F.: Zur Dynamotheorie stellarer und planetarer Magnetfelder. I. Berechnung sonnenähnlicher Wechselfeldgeneratoren, *Astron. Nachr.*, 291, 49–84, doi:10.1002/asna.19692910201, 1969. 1718
- Steenbek, M. Krause, F., and Rädler, K.-H.: Berechnung der mittlerer Lorentz–FieldStarke $\overline{v \times \mathcal{B}}$ für ein elektrisch leitendes Medium in turbulenter, durch Coriolis-Kräfte beeinflusster Bewegung, *Z. Naturforsch.*, 21, 369–376, 1966. 1718
- 20 Stix, M.: *The Sun. An Introduction*, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, Heidelberg, New York, 1989. 1716
- Zeldovich, Y. B., Rusmaikin, A. A., and Sokoloff, D. D.: *Magnetic Fields in Astrophysics. The Fluid Mechanics of Astrophysics and Geophysics*, Gordon and Breach, New York, 1983. 1716, 1718, 1720, 1721

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Table 1. Power in the distribution of polarity intervals.

γ	ε			
	0.1	0.5	1.0	5.0
2.1	1.05	0.97	1.04	1.12
2.3	1.11	1.28	1.36	1.49
2.5	1.53	1.63	1.5	1.93
2.7	1.93	1.67	1.91	2.04
2.9	2.22	2.12	1.94	3.53

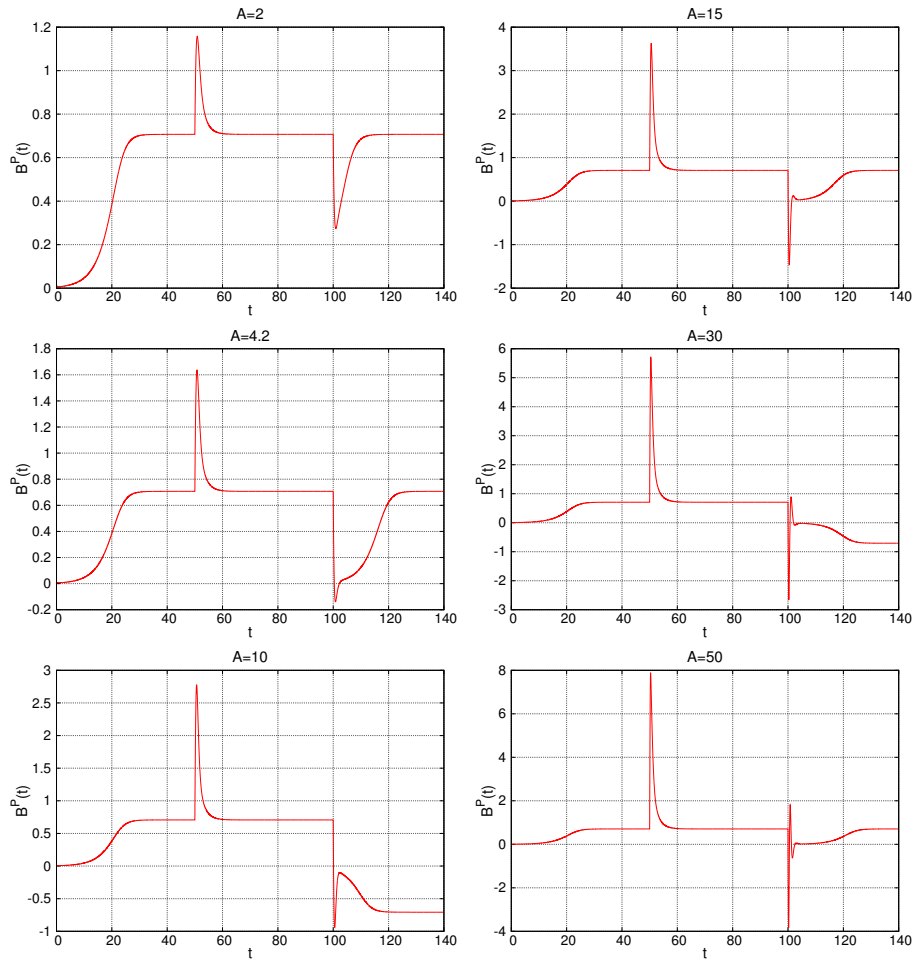


Figure 1. The response of the poloidal component $B^P(t)$ on the regular sequence of alternating pulses with different amplitudes A .

Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

Title Page

Abstract	Introduction
Conclusions	References
Tables	Figures

⏪ ⏩
◀ ▶
 Back Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

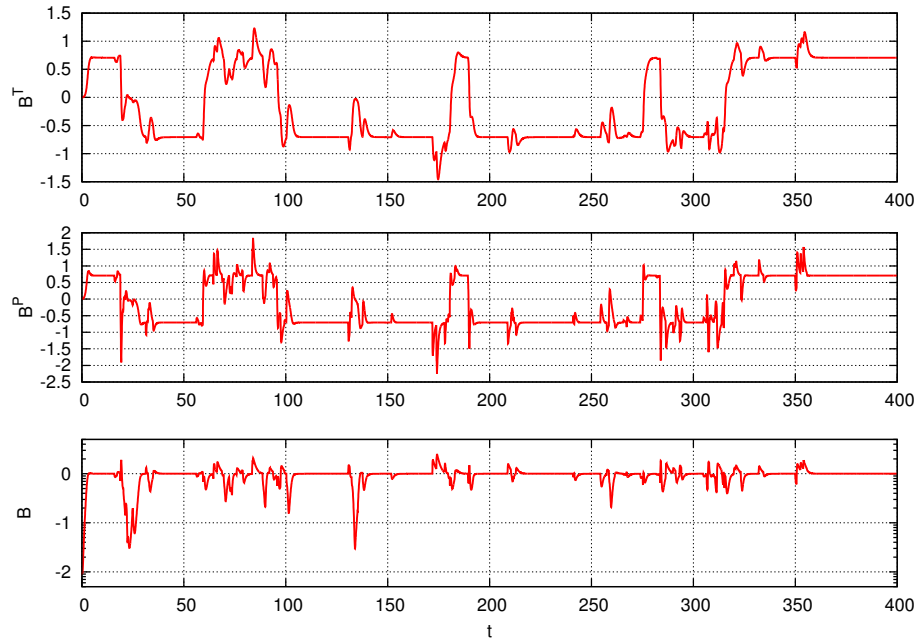


Figure 2. The segment of the magnetic field realization for $\varepsilon = 5$, $\gamma = 2.5$: the toroidal component of B^T , the poloidal component of B^P , field value of $B = \sqrt{|B^T|^2 + |B^P|^2}$.

[Title Page](#)
[Abstract](#)
[Introduction](#)
[Conclusions](#)
[References](#)
[Tables](#)
[Figures](#)
[◀](#)
[▶](#)
[◀](#)
[▶](#)
[Back](#)
[Close](#)
[Full Screen / Esc](#)
[Printer-friendly Version](#)
[Interactive Discussion](#)


Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

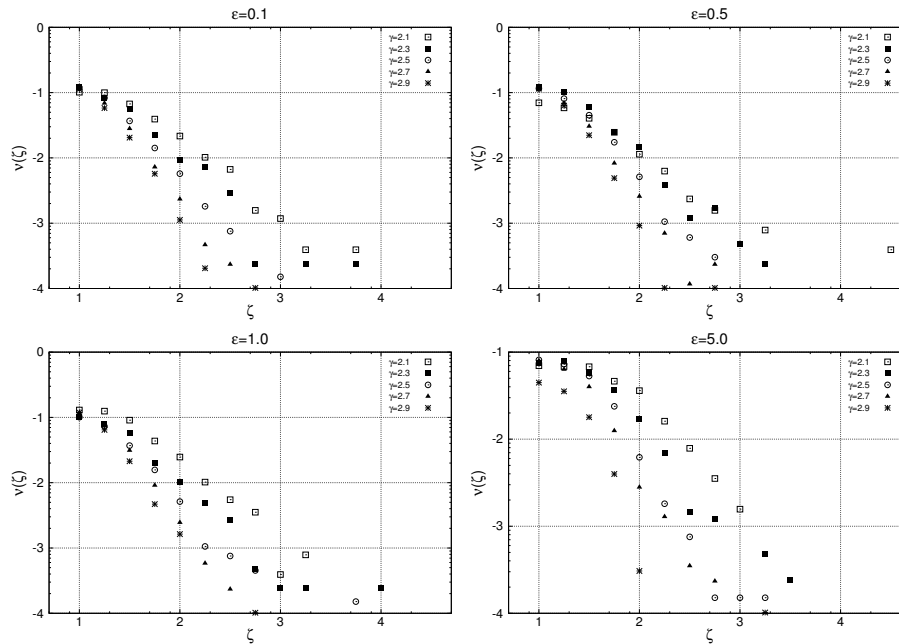


Figure 3. Distribution of relative frequencies ν of polarity intervals with the length ζ .

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures



Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion



Reversal in nonlocal large-scale $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo

L. K. Feschenko and
G. M. Vodinchar

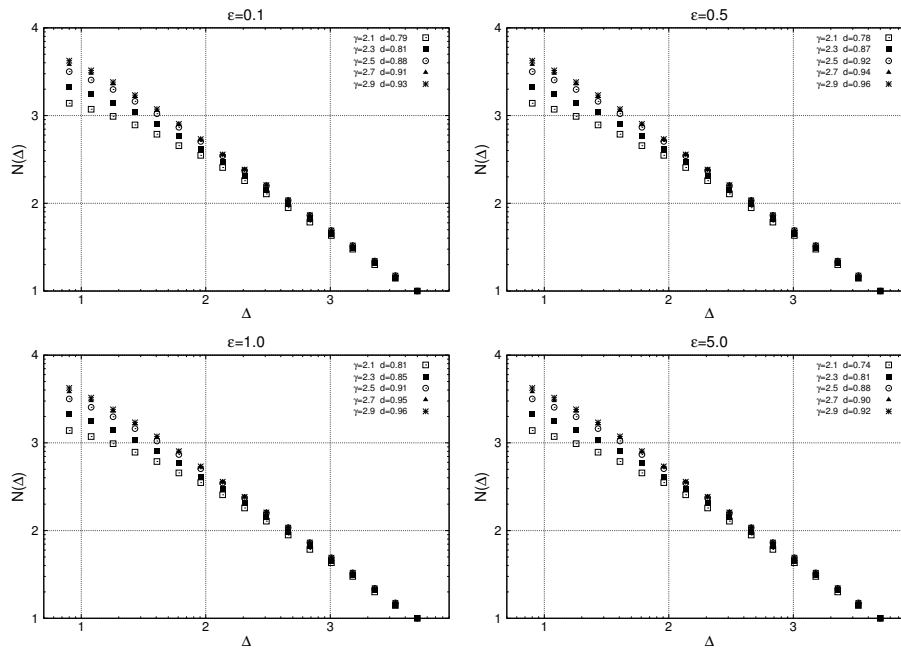


Figure 4. Number of $N(\Delta)$ intervals of Δ length, which contain at least one inversion.

Title Page

Abstract

Introduction

Conclusions

References

Tables

Figures

⏪

⏩

◀

▶

Back

Close

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

