Large-scale hydrodynamic instabilities in protoplanetary disks

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Observational motivation



Theoretical motivations

- Angular momentum transport: by vortices and non-local transport by waves
- Dust concentration by vortices \rightarrow planetesimal formation
- Modifying planet migration
- Instabilities may be naturally associated with disk structure
 e.g. planet gaps and 'dead zones' → localized radial gradients

Theoretical motivations



Toy model: axisymmetric over-dense ring



Rossby wave instability

- Kelvin-Helmholtz instability in a rotating disk (Lovelace et al., 1999)
- Thin-disk version of the Papaloizou-Pringle instability (Papaloizou & Pringle, 1985)



(Meheut et al., 2013)

Non-linear examples



ATHENA code: 3D disk in a Cartesian box

Non-linear examples



ZEUS code: 3D self-gravitating adiabatic disk

Non-linear examples

PLUTO code



3D disk with viscosity jump in radius 3D self-gravitating disk-planet simulation

[Note: global simulations plotted in a box $(r \rightarrow x, \phi \rightarrow y)$]

Application I: angular momentum transport

Lyra & Mac Low (2012): non-ideal MHD simulation with jump in resistivity to mimic the dead zone/active zone boundary \rightarrow vortex formation in DZ



Application II: planetesimal formation Meheut et al. (2012): add dust to RWI-unstable disk



Starting point: linear stability

Linear problem by Lovelace et al. (1999):

adiabatic non-self-gravitating 2D disk

Recent generalizations:

- Self-gravity 2D (Lin & Papaloizou, 2011a,b; Lovelace & Hohlfeld, 2013)
- Magnetic fields 2D (Yu & Li, 2009; Yu & Lai, 2013)
- Isothermal 3D (Meheut et al., 2012)

This talk:

• Polytropic 3D (Lin, 2012a, 2013a)

• Adiabatic 3D (Lin, 2013b)

Starting point: linear stability

After some manipulation, we have the basic equation for $\chi(=\delta p/\rho)$ as $\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left(a_{rr}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}+a_{rz}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}+b_{r}\right)+\frac{\partial}{\partial z}\left(a_{zz}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}+a_{rz}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}+b_{z}\right)+d_{r}\frac{\partial}{\partial r}+d_{z}\frac{\partial}{\partial z}+f\right]\chi=0,$

with

$$a_{rr} = \frac{\rho \sigma r}{D} \left(1 + \frac{\mu g_r^2}{DH} \right), \qquad a_{zz} = \frac{\rho r}{\sigma} \left(1 + \frac{\mu g_z^2}{\sigma^2 H} \right), \qquad a_{rz} = \frac{\mu \rho g_r g_z r}{DH\sigma},$$

$$b_r = \frac{\mu \rho g_r}{DH} \left(\sigma r - \frac{2m\Omega g_r}{D} \right) - \frac{2m\Omega \rho}{D}, \qquad b_z = \frac{\mu \rho g_z r}{\sigma H} \left(1 - \frac{2m\Omega g_r}{\sigma Dr} \right),$$

$$d_r = \frac{m\kappa^2 \rho}{2\Omega D} - \left(\sigma r - \frac{m\kappa^2 g_r}{2\Omega D}\right) \frac{\mu \rho g_r}{DH}, \qquad d_z = -\left(\sigma r - \frac{m\kappa^2 g_r}{2\Omega D}\right) \frac{\mu \rho g_z}{\sigma^2 H},$$

$$f = -\frac{m^2 \sigma \rho}{Dr} - \left(\sigma r - \frac{m\kappa^2 g_r}{2\Omega D}\right) \left(1 - \frac{2m\Omega g_r}{D\sigma r}\right) \frac{\mu \rho}{H} + \frac{(\mu + 1)\sigma r \rho}{c^2},$$

(Kojima et al., 1989)

Linear problem for 3D polytropic disks ($p \propto
ho^{1+1/n}$)

- Steady, axisymmetric, vertically hydrostatic density bump at $r = r_0$
- **2** Perturb fluid equations, e.g. $\rho \rightarrow \rho + \delta \rho(r, z) \exp i(m\phi + \sigma t)$
- Some linear equations to get equation for $W \equiv \delta p / \rho$:

$$L(r,z;\sigma)W=0.$$

•
$$W \rightarrow \text{eigenfunction}$$
; $\sigma \rightarrow \text{eigenvalue}$
• Note: σ appears through $\bar{\sigma} = \sigma + m\Omega(r)$
• RWI: $\operatorname{Re}[\bar{\sigma}(r_0)] \simeq 0$ and $\frac{d\eta}{dr}\Big|_{r_0} \simeq 0$ $(\eta = \kappa^2/2\Omega\Sigma$ is the vortensity)

Very complicated PDE even for numerical work!

Application of orthogonal polynomials

 $L(r, z; \sigma)$ only depends on z through $\rho(r, z)$. For thin polytropic disks:

$$\rho(r,z) = \rho_0(r) \left[1 - \frac{z^2}{H^2(r)}\right]^n.$$

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Ansatz:

$$W(r,z) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} W_l(r) C_l^{\lambda}(z/H),$$

where $C_l^{\lambda}(x)$ are Gegenbauer polynomials (generalization of Legendre and Chebyshev polynomials). Then

$$L(r,z;\sigma)W = 0 \rightarrow A_l(W_l) + B_l(W_{l-2}) + C_l(W_{l+2}) = 0,$$

where differential operators A_I , B_I and C_I only depend on r and σ

 \rightarrow vertical dependence *exactly* removed , but this is a lot of work!

Example problem

n = 1.5 polytrope with a surface density bump



Recall $\eta = \frac{1}{r\Sigma} \frac{d}{dr} (r^2 \Omega)$ is the potential vorticity (note: RWI for PV minima only)

Example solution



 $W(r,z) = W_0(r) + W_2(r)C_2^{\lambda}(z/H) + \cdots$

Growth rate $\sim 0.1 \Omega,$ same as 2D ($\mathit{I}_{\rm max} \equiv 0$). Instability is 2D.

Example solution



 $W(r,z) = W_0(r) + W_2(r)C_2^{\lambda}(z/H) + \cdots$

Note
$$\delta v_z = i \left(\partial W / \partial z \right) / \bar{\sigma}$$
 but $|\bar{\sigma}| \sim 0$ at $r \sim r_0$

Horizontal flow



Vertical motion



Vertical motion

Upward motion seen in non-linear hydrodynamic simulations of Meheut et al. (2012):



Meheut et al. (2012) \rightarrow mm dust lifted to disk surface

Back to linear problem: equation of state

Magnitude of vertical motion decreases with increasing n (more compressible)



Extension to adiabatic 3D disks

- $\mathbf{p} \propto \boldsymbol{\rho}^{\mathrm{\Gamma}}$ in basic state only
- Energy equation Ds/Dt= 0, $s\equiv p/
 ho^{\gamma}\propto
 ho^{\Gamma-\gamma}$
- $\gamma \ge \Gamma \ge 1$, density bump \rightarrow entropy dip

 $egin{aligned} V_1W + ar V_1Q &= 0 \ V_2W + ar V_2Q &= 0 \end{aligned}$

- $W = \delta p / \rho \rightarrow$ pressure perturbation
- $Q = c_s^2 \delta \rho / \rho
 ightarrow$ density perturbation
- $S \equiv W Q \rightarrow$ entropy perturbation

What should we look for?

$$\bar{S} \equiv Q - \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma}W = \left(1 - \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma}\right)W - S$$

$$W, Q \ge 0$$

What should we look for?



Expectation and reality



PDE eigenvalue problem: numerical approach

Finite-difference in r, pseudo-spectral in $Z \equiv z/H$:

$$W(r_i, z) \equiv W_i(Z) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_z} w_{ki} \psi_k(Z/Z_{\max})$$

$$[V_1 - \overline{V}_1(\overline{V}_2^{-1}V_2)]W = 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{U}(\sigma)\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$$

- $\mathbf{U} \rightarrow \text{matrix representation of PDE operator}$
- $\mathbf{w} \rightarrow$ vector to store the w_{ki}
- Vertical boundary condition: $\Delta P = 0$, $\delta v_z = 0$ or $\delta v_\perp = 0$ at $Z = Z_{max}$
- Much easier to derive and implement than previous method, and allows for different vertical b.c., but need an accurate initial guess for σ

See Lin (2013a) for method recipe.

Non-homentropic example

 $\Gamma = 1.67, \, \gamma = 2.5$



 \boldsymbol{N} is the buoyancy frequency

Non-homentropic example



M-K. Lin (CITA)

Disk instabilities

Entropy perturbation



Meridional vortical motion

 $\Gamma = 1.67, \, \gamma = 2.5, \, m = 5 \text{ along } \phi = \phi_0$



Vertical motion

Fix $\Gamma = 1.67$, vary γ , plot δv_z along (r_0, ϕ_0, z) .



Vertical motion

Kato (2001):

$$\delta v_z \sim -\frac{\nu}{N_z^2} \frac{\partial W}{\partial z} - \nu \rho \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial z}\right)^{-1} W, \quad N_z^2 \neq 0$$

at co-rotation radius, and $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ here is the growth rate. Compared to

$$\delta v_z \sim -\frac{1}{\nu} \frac{\partial W}{\partial z}, \quad N_z^2 \equiv 0.$$

Notice for $N_z^2 \neq 0$ $\frac{\text{pressure}}{\text{buoyancy}} \sim \frac{\Omega^2}{N_z^2} \frac{\partial \ln W}{\partial \ln z},$ i.e. buoyancy dominates at large z as N_z^2 increases with height.

Origin of δv_z is different between homentropic and non-homentropic flow

Comparison with hydrodynamic simulations

• Isothermal disk, adiabatic evolution (Г \equiv 1, γ = 1.4)

ZEUS simulation



Linear code



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Comparison with hydrodynamic simulations

• Isothermal disk, adiabatic evolution ($\Gamma \equiv 1, \gamma = 1.4$)



Vortex-formation in layered-accretion disks?

PLUTO disk-planet experiments





[Lin and Umurhan (in preparation)]

Vortex-formation in layered-accretion disks?

PLUTO disk-planet experiments



[Lin and Umurhan (in preparation)]

Vortex-formation in layered-accretion disks?

PLUTO disk-planet experiments

 $\alpha \sim 10^{-4}$ in bulk of the disk, $\alpha \sim 10^{-2}$ in atmosphere



[Lin and Umurhan (in preparation)]

Self-gravity

- Vortices are over-dense blobs
- Vortensity η and Toomre Q_T are related: $Q_T = (c_s/\pi G) \sqrt{2\Omega \eta/\Sigma}$
- *Stabilization* of low *m* vortex modes, see Lin & Papaloizou (2011a) for formal proof and linear calculations

The 2D linear problem with self-gravity:

$$L(S) = \delta \Sigma, \quad S = c_s^2 \delta \Sigma / \Sigma + \delta \Phi.$$

$$\int r S^* L(S) dr = \int r S^* \delta \Sigma dr = \text{energy}.$$

For modes associated with vortensity extrema:

$$\underbrace{\int \frac{m|S|^2}{\bar{\sigma}} \frac{d}{dr} \left(\frac{1}{\eta}\right) dr}_{0 \text{ for } \min(\eta) \text{ at } r = r_c \text{ (RWI)}} \sim \underbrace{\int rc_s^2 \frac{|\delta\Sigma|^2}{\Sigma} dr}_{\text{thermal energy} > 0} + \underbrace{\int r\delta\Phi^*\delta\Sigma dr}_{\text{gravitational energy} < 0}$$

Balance does not work for strong SG (RHS < 0, gravitational disturbance)

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Self-gravity in 3D $[min(Q_T) = 8]$:



(Global 3D ZEUS simulations, Lin, 2012b). What about massive disks?

Gravitational edge instabilities

GI associated with gaps or edges even when Toomre stability criterion satisfied $(Q_T>1 \text{ everywhere})$

- Lovelace & Hohlfeld (1978); Sellwood & Kahn (1991): galactic/stellar disks
- Meschiari & Laughlin (2008): gaps in gaseous protoplanetary disks
- Lin & Papaloizou (2011b): confirmation of GEI for planet gaps (PV max.)



Gravitational edge instabilities

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A necessary condition is

$$\Lambda = \beta \times \left| \frac{d^2}{dr^2} \underbrace{\left(\frac{\Omega \Sigma}{\kappa^2} \right)}_{\sim Q^{-1}} \right|_{\text{edge}} > 1$$

 \rightarrow Don't need small $Q_{\rm edge}.$ See Lin & Papaloizou (2011b) for details.

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Influence of GEI on disk-planet torques

Spirals supply material to execute horseshoe turns ahead of planet



 \rightarrow positive co-orbital torques

Influence of GEI on disk-planet torques

Spirals supply material to execute horseshoe turns ahead of planet



(Lin & Papaloizou, 2012)

Outward migration induced by an unstable gap



 $Q_o = 1.5$ and $Q_o = 1.7$ have GEI, $Q_o = 2.0$ does not (Lin & Papaloizou, 2012)

Dependency on planet mass

Instability \leftrightarrow gap structure \leftrightarrow planet mass \leftrightarrow orbital migration

[2012 CITA summer student project (Cloutier and Lin, 2013, submitted)]



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Torque balance?

Can positive torques counter-act inward type II migration \rightarrow no migration?



Cloutier and Lin (2013, submitted)

Torque balance?

Can positive torque counter act inward type II migration \rightarrow no migration?



Cloutier and Lin (2013, submitted)

Type III migration triggered by the unstable gap



Wide-orbit giant planet formation by disk fragmentation



- E.g. HR 8799bcd, Fomalhault b (?)
 - Zhu et al. (2012); Vorobyov (2013): most clumps fall in, but occasionally can survive by opening gaps
 - $\bullet~\mbox{Our simulations} \to \mbox{gap stability may be another issue}$
 - Zhu et al.: additional clump formation along edge of a gap opened by a previous clump; Vorobyov: clump migrates outward
- On the other hand:
 - Move planets to large distances by inducing outward type III migration?

Future

• Gap formation/stability in non-isothermal disks (Lin and Cloutier, in preparation)

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- Dead zone boundary GI (global transport)



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Magneto-gravitational instabilities

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