Uncovering the cloak of invincibility: the draping of cluster magnetic fields over bullets

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# Draping of solar wind field around Earth

- Happens very quickly (figure to right -- 600 s)
- Can induce magnetic field in even a neutral atmosphere
- Earth Magnetic Field reversals may not be catastrophic to life



# Draping of Saturn's field over Titan

Observable with CassiniEmission from draped field



# Comets in solar wind

• Draping occurs and can distort velocity, magnetic fields in wind over significant distances



# Applications to galaxy clusters

- Radio Bubbles, seen as voids in X-rays, are observed out to large distances and have very sharp interfaces
- Hydrodynamic instabilities should disrupt them, conduction should dissipate the interfaces in ~10<sup>8</sup> yrs
- Could bubble motions sweep up enough field to suppress instabilities and conduction?



NASA/IoA/A.Fabian et al.

# Magnetic draping at work

- Rising radio bubbles in a hot atmosphere
- shown is the log of the density for the non-draping versus draping case
- hydrodynamical instabilities are suppressed





Ruszkowski et al. 2007

# Mergers of galaxy clusters

- Minor mergers involve smaller cluster falling into more massive ones
- Stripping of small-mass ICM
- When/where does this occur?
- Consequences for enrichment, cold fronts, ...



M. Bruggen, Bremen

# Pulsar wind nebulae?



# Previous work: Lyutikov 2004

Analytics

• Particularly along stagnation line

$$\frac{B}{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{R_0^3}{r^3}}} \left(\frac{B}{\rho}\right)_0; \qquad l \approx \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}_A^2} R_0$$



# Asai et al (2004,5,6..)

- Numerics
- 2d, 3d
- `Kitchen sink' turbulent magnetic field, conduction,...
- Can draping effect conduction? Yes



Asai et al (2004...)

# Linear theory analysis

- Can such a thin layer have interesting dynamic effects?
- Three layers; velocity +/- U, magnetized layer of some thickness/ strength

Top layer	perturbations ~ $e^{-kz}$	$ ho_{top}$	← U <sub>top</sub>
Magnetized layer	perturbations ~ $e^{kz}$ , $e^{+kz}$	$ ho_{top}$	H U <sub>top</sub>
Bottom layer	perturbations ~ $e^{+kz}$	$\rho_{_{bot}}$	Ubot

#### Dursi 2007

#### Rayleigh-Taylor

#### Kelvin-Helmholtz



If  $V_A$  is a few times relevant velocity, can stabilize against wavelengths an order of magnitude longer than thickness of layer



#### $V_{A} = 0.2 U$

 $V_{A} = 1.25 U$ 

#### Excellent agreement between theory and simulation!



# Our Contributions

- 3D, AMR numerical experiments of draping of uniform magnetic fields in context relevant to galaxy clusters
- More careful analytic calculation in potential flow approximation to understand dynamics
- Analytic understanding of field strength in the draping layer, opening angle, deceleration due to magnetic tension, vorticity generation, instabilities in the perpendicular plane

# 3D simulations using FLASH

- AMR very useful for focusing resolution in near draped layer
- Large dynamic range between size of traversed region and thickness of layer
- Magnetic dynamics relatively straightforward



#### Sometimes, 2D just isn't enough...



#### Magnetic energy density in 2D



Not only slingshots back the bullet, but squishes it, too...

# Foreshadowed earlier

- Asai et al 2004, 2005 saw strong growth of magnetic field in 2d, but only commented on it
- Simulation was not run long enough to see that there is no steady state





 $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{e}_r \left( \frac{R^3}{r^3} - 1 \right) u \cos \theta + \mathbf{e}_\theta \left( \frac{R^3}{2r^3} + 1 \right) u \sin \theta$ 

Potential flow around solid sphere

> 3d AMR results



#### Exact MHD solution: kinetic approximation

#### $\operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{0} \qquad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$

•given our potential flow solution it, looks straightforward to solve the usual Maxwell's equations for the B-field...

•but sometimes things only look simple

#### Exact MHD solution: kinetic approximation

$$\operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{0} \qquad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$B_{\phi} = \frac{B_0 \cos \phi}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{R^3}{r^3}}}$$

$$B_r = \frac{r^3 - R^3}{r^3} \cos \theta \left[ C_1 \mp B_0 \sin \phi \int_{\xi}^r \frac{p(r, \theta) r'^4 \, \mathrm{d}r'}{(r'^3 - R^3 - p(r, \theta)^2 r')^{3/2} \sqrt{r'^3 - R^3}} \right]$$

$$B_{\theta} = \frac{2r^3 + R^3}{r^{5/2}\sqrt{r^3 - R^3}} \left| C_2 \pm 2B_0 \sin\phi \int_{\xi}^{r} \frac{r'^3 (r'^3 + 2R^3)\sqrt{r'^3 - R^3} \, \mathrm{d}r'}{(2r'^3 + R^3)^2 \sqrt{r'^3 - R^3} - p(r,\theta)^2 \, r'} \right|$$

#### Approximate MHD solution near the sphere

 $\operatorname{curl}(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{0} \qquad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$ 

$$B_r = \frac{2}{3}B_0 \sin \phi \frac{\sin \theta}{1 + \cos \theta} \sqrt{\frac{3s}{R}}$$
$$B_\theta = B_0 \sin \phi \sqrt{\frac{R}{3s}}$$

$$B_{\phi} = B_0 \cos \phi \sqrt{\frac{R}{3s}}$$

and 
$$s = r - R$$

#### $B_x$ , $B_y$ , $B_z$ in the plane of the initial B-field

Potential flow around solid sphere

> 3d AMR results



#### $B_x$ , $B_y$ , $B_z$ in the plane transverse to the initial B-field

Potential flow around solid sphere

> 3d AMR results



#### Agreement with potential flow calculations



$$\frac{B}{\rho} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{R_0^3}{r^3}}} \left(\frac{B}{\rho}\right)_0; \qquad l \approx \frac{1}{\mathcal{M}_A^2} R_0$$



# Magnetic field strength in draped layer

To first order, depends only on ram pressure
Maximum magnetic field strength ~ 2 x ram pressure



# Deceleration due to mag. tension

- Magnetic layer is strong enough (and curved enough) that it dominates deceleration
- Even in 3D case!
- ~ 4x stronger than viscous/ turbulent drag



$$\dot{u}_{T}=-rac{3}{8}rac{
ho n^{2}}{\langle
ho^{c}
angle K}C^{d}$$

### Opening angle of drape

- Comparison with 9 3D simulation
- Correlation a little rattier than other quantities --
- Largest scales in simulations, some effects of boundary conditions



#### Opening angle $\sim v_A/U$

Vil.

0.045 0.040 0.035 (0.030 0.025 0.025 0.020 0.015 0.010 0.005 0.000



0.00

0.12

#### Opening angle $\sim v_A/U$

0.225 0.200 (175 0.175 0.150 0.125 0.100 0.075 0.050 0.025 0.000

### Vorticity generation

$$\rho \, \frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{v}}{\mathrm{d}t} = -\nabla P + \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} = -\nabla \left( P + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) + \frac{1}{4\pi} (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \, \mathbf{B}$$

equilibrium: balance between magnetic tension and magnetic + thermal pressure

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \left(\frac{\omega}{\rho}\right) = \left(\frac{\omega}{\rho} \cdot \nabla\right) \mathbf{v} + \frac{1}{4\pi \rho^2} \nabla \times (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} + \frac{1}{\rho^3} \nabla \rho \times \left[\nabla \left(P + \frac{B^2}{8\pi}\right) - \frac{1}{4\pi} (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B}\right]$$

vorticity is frozen into the flow if source terms negligible

# Generation of Vorticity

- Magnetic contact layer induces vorticity in fluid elements which cross it
- Operates primarily in plane along field lines
- Much less vorticity generation in other plane



#### Instabilities in transverse plane



Material is stripped off the object,
flow accelerated there due to Bernouli effect

#### Instabilities in transverse plane

$$\omega_{\rm RT}^2 = \frac{\langle \rho_{\rm c} \rangle - \rho_0}{\langle \rho_{\rm c} \rangle + \rho_0} \, \dot{u}_{\rm T} \, k \qquad \omega_{\rm KH} = \frac{\sqrt{\langle \rho_{\rm c} \rangle \rho_0}}{\langle \rho_{\rm c} \rangle + \rho_0} \, \Delta u \, k$$



Kelvin-Helmholtz instability is responsible for disintegration of the core

### Long-term behavior

- Evolution of core after it has swept past roughly its own mass
- Mixed material `fills up' drape
- Highly constrained in other plane!



# Conclusions

- Very quickly drape strong magnetized layer
- Even thin layer can have interesting effects protecting object (bubble or bullet) against indignities of shearing into environment
- Pushing forward analytics, guided by simple numerical experiments
- Rich astrophysical applications