

Derivation of Alfvén wave from non-ideal MHD

(1)

$$\mu = \frac{1}{\sigma} \quad \mu \vec{j} = \vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = -\text{rot } \vec{E} = \text{curl}(\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) - \text{curl}(\mu \vec{j})$$

$$\text{curl } \vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{j}$$

$$\rho_0 \left(\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} \right) = -\nabla p + \vec{j} \times \vec{B}$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \text{div}(\rho \vec{v}) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{B} &= B_0 \hat{z} + B_1 \hat{x} & \vec{k} &= (0, 0, k) \\ \vec{v} &= \vec{0} + v_1 \hat{x} & \vec{j} &= \vec{0} + j_1 \hat{y} \\ \vec{v} \perp z &\Rightarrow \rho = \rho_0 & \text{isothermal} &\rightarrow \nabla p = 0 \end{aligned}$$

linearization

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}_1}{\partial t} = \text{curl}(\vec{v}_1 \times B_0) - \mu \text{curl } j_1$$

$$\text{curl } \vec{B}_1 = \mu_0 j_1$$

$$\rho_0 \frac{\partial \vec{v}_1}{\partial t} = \vec{j}_1 \times B_0$$

⇒

$$\frac{\partial B_1}{\partial t} = B_0 \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial z} + \mu \frac{\partial j_1}{\partial z}$$

$$\frac{\partial B_1}{\partial z} = \mu_0 j_1$$

$$g_0 \frac{\partial v_1}{\partial t} = j_1 B_0$$

Solution $e^{ikz - i\omega t}$

$$-i\omega B_1 = ik B_0 v_1 + ik \mu j_1$$

$$ik B_1 = \mu_0 j_1$$

$$-i\omega g_0 v_1 = j_1 B_0$$

$$-\omega B_1 = +k \left[\frac{i}{\omega g_0} \right] j_1 B_0^2 + k \mu j_1$$

$$\omega B_1 = -k \left[\frac{i B_0^2}{\omega g_0} + \mu \right] \frac{ik B_1}{\mu_0}$$

dispersion equation

$$\omega^2 = k^2 \left[\frac{B_0^2}{\mu_0 g_0} - i\omega \mu \right]$$

$\mu = 0 \Rightarrow \omega^2 = k^2 v_A^2$ Alfvén wave

$\mu > 0 \text{ Re}(\omega) > 0 \text{ Im}(\omega) < 0$ damping

for small resistivity $k\mu \ll v_A$

$$\omega = |k| v_A - \frac{i\mu k^2}{2} \left(1 \pm \frac{i}{2} \frac{\omega \mu}{v_A} \right)$$

Solution $\approx A e^{ikz - ik|k|v_A t - \frac{\mu k^2}{2} t}$
 for real ω $k = \pm \frac{\omega}{v_A \sqrt{1 \pm \frac{i\omega\mu}{v_A}}} \approx \pm \frac{\omega}{v_A \sqrt{1 \pm \frac{i\omega\mu}{v_A}}}$