Electric field in MHD => two major components

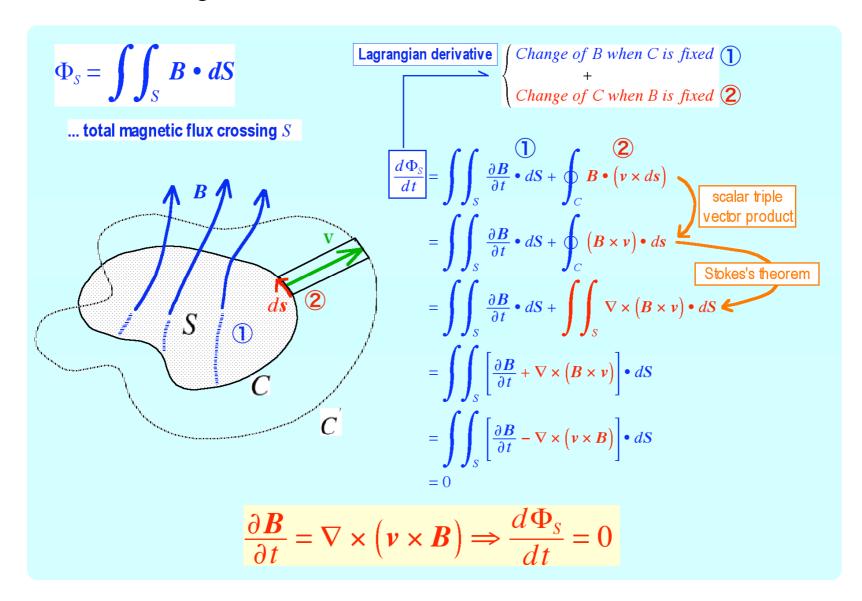
• Convective term: $-\nabla \times \boldsymbol{E}_{conv} = \nabla \times (\boldsymbol{v} \times \boldsymbol{B})$

it drives evolution of magnetic field via macroscale motion (convection) of fluid elements.

• Diffusion term: $-\nabla \times \pmb{E}_{resis} = -\nabla \times \left(\eta_{\textit{diff}} \nabla \times \pmb{B}\right)$

it drives evolution of magnetic field via microscale motion (collision) of particles.

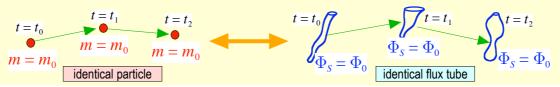
Evolution of magnetic field via $E_{conv} = -v \times B$:

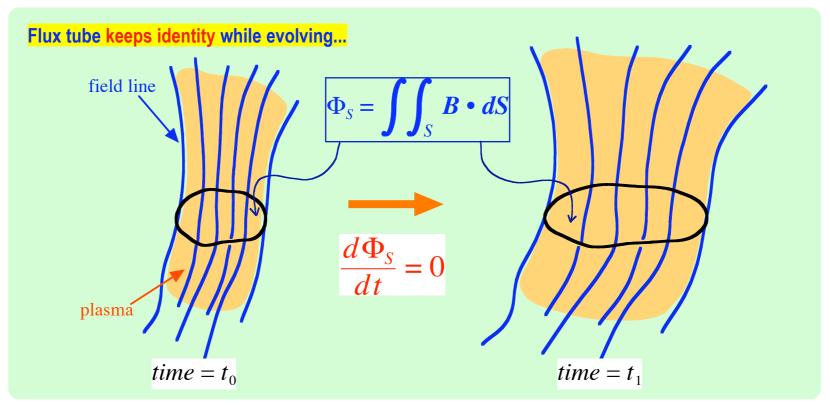


Physical meaning of $\frac{d\Phi_s}{dt} = 0$ => Frozen-in evolution

The number of magnetic field lines passing through the area bounded by any closed curve moving together with a plasma does not change with time.

We can determine an identical flux tube in which magnetic field lines are frozen into the plasma.





Evolution of magnetic field via $E_{resis} \equiv \eta_{diff} \ \nabla \times B$:

When η_{diff} is constant, $\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = -\nabla \times (\eta_{diff} \nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \eta_{diff} \nabla^2 \mathbf{B}$

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} = \eta_{diff} \nabla^2 q \quad ... \quad \text{diffusion equation}$$

$$q = T, j_x, B_y, ...$$

Time scale of diffusion: $au_{\it diff}$

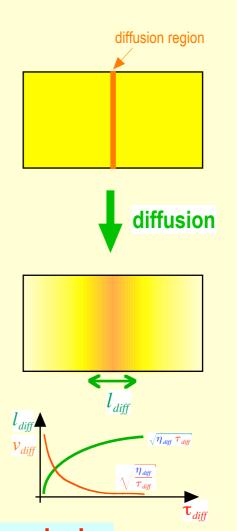
$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} = \eta_{\textit{diff}} \nabla^2 q \Rightarrow \frac{q}{\tau_{\textit{diff}}} \sim \eta_{\textit{diff}} \frac{q}{l_{\textit{diff}}^2} \longrightarrow \tau_{\textit{diff}} \sim \frac{l_{\textit{diff}}^2}{\eta_{\textit{diff}}}$$

 l_{diff} : width of diffusion region

Length scale of diffusion: $l_{\it diff} \sim \sqrt{\eta_{\it diff} \, au_{\it diff}}$

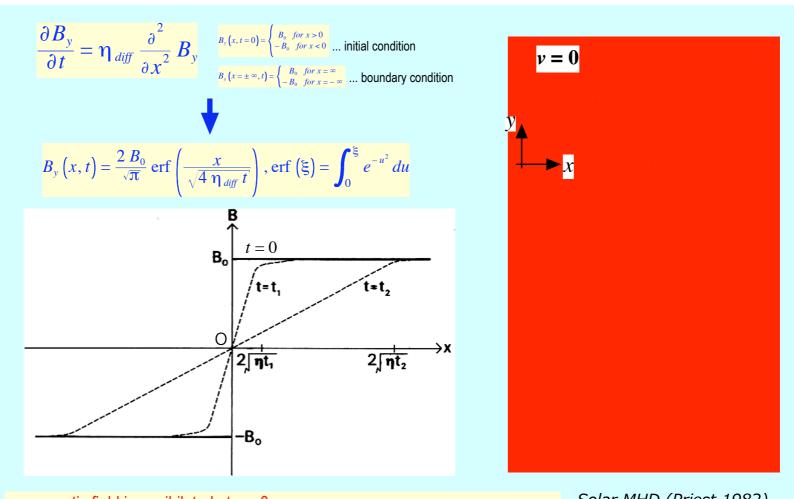
Velocity scale of diffusion: v_{diff}

$$v_{ extit{diff}} \sim rac{l_{ extit{diff}}}{ au_{ extit{diff}}} = rac{\sqrt{\eta_{ extit{diff}}} au_{ extit{diff}}}{ au_{ extit{diff}}} = \sqrt{rac{\eta_{ extit{diff}}}{ au_{ extit{diff}}}}$$



Diffusion proceeds fast at the beginning and then slowly.

Diffusion of an antiparallel magnetic field (annihilation)



- magnetic field is annihilated at x = 0
- magnetic field diffuses through a plasma => violates frozen-in evolution

Solar MHD (Priest 1982)