

EXPLAINING THE COEXISTENCE OF LARGE-SCALE AND SMALL-SCALE MAGNETIC FIELDS IN FULLY CONVECTIVE STARS

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Julien Morin

Laboratoire Univers et Particules de Montpellier

*5th Bcool meeting
16th February 2016*



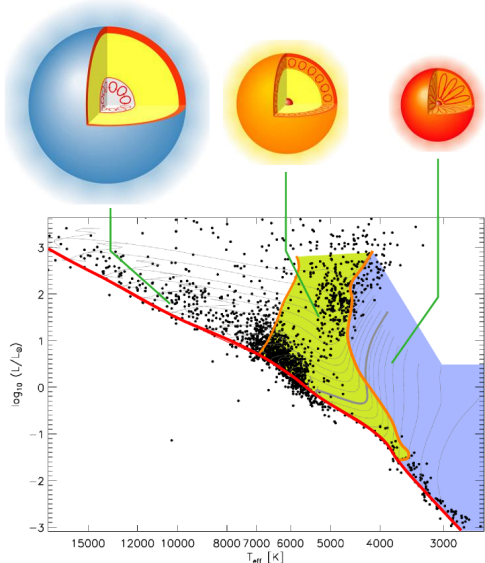
Outline

- 1 Magnetic fields of fully-convective stars
- 2 A brief overview of M dwarfs' magnetism
- 3 Numerical simulations of dynamo action in FC stars
- 4 Summary

Outline

- 1 Magnetic fields of fully-convective stars
 - The origin of stellar magnetic fields
 - What magnetic fields may help us to understand ?
- 2 A brief overview of M dwarfs' magnetism
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The origin of stellar magnetic fields



Adapted from [Reiners \(2008\)](#)
star sketches credit [J. Bennett et al.](#)

High-mass star:
Simple steady field

→ Fossil field ?

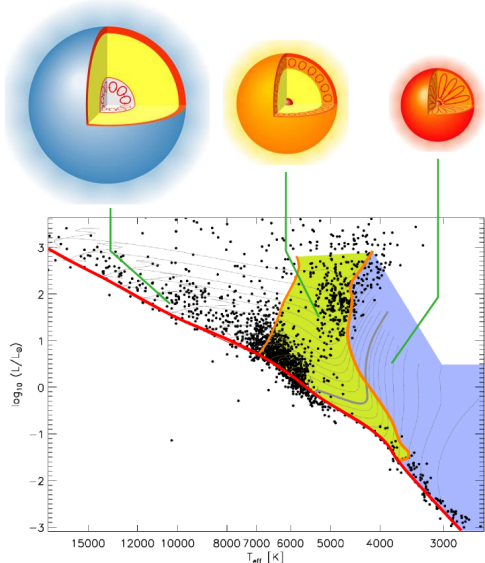
Partly convective star:
Complex **B**
temporal evolutions

→ Solar-type dynamo

Fully convective star:
No tachocline

→ Non-solar dynamo

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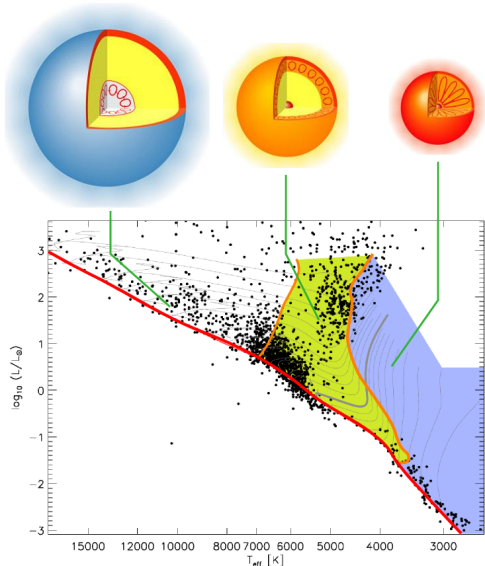
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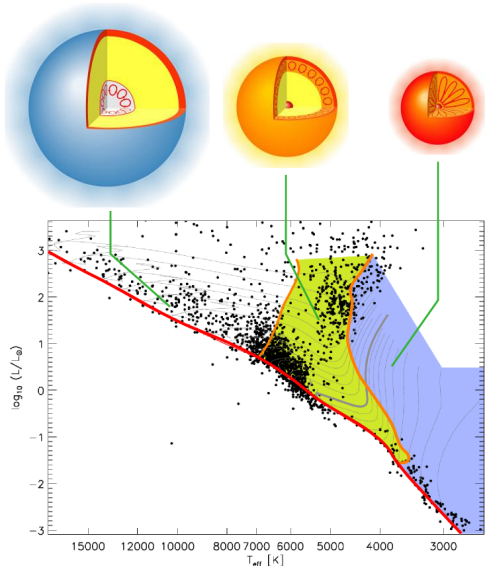
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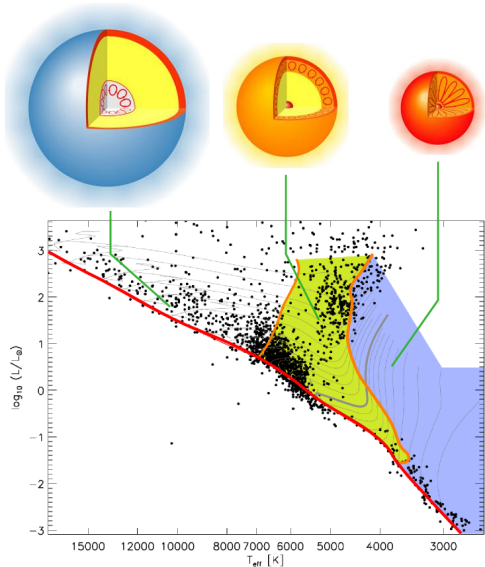
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Relation
★ parameters
↔ **B** properties?

What magnetic fields may help us to understand ?

■ Rotation

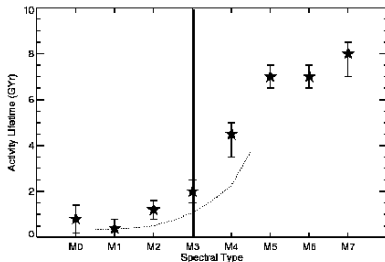
- Winds on MS
- Why mid-late M dwarfs brake less?
- *Reiners & Mohanty (2012)?*
- *Vidotto et al. (2013);*
Lang et al. (2014)

■ Activity

- FC dynamo → activity ?
- Radio – X-ray correlation
- Radio emission of VLMS and BDs

■ Planets

- SPI
- Habitability
- Prevents detection ?



West et al. (2008)

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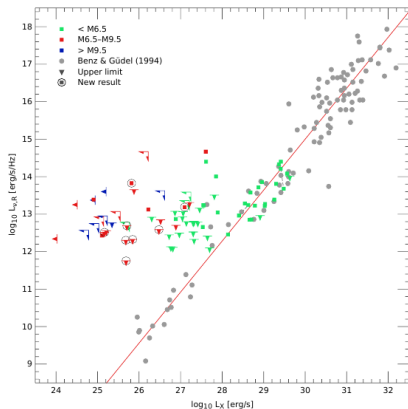
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Williams, Cook & Berger (2013)

Berger et al. (2006) +
Hallinan et al. (2008) +

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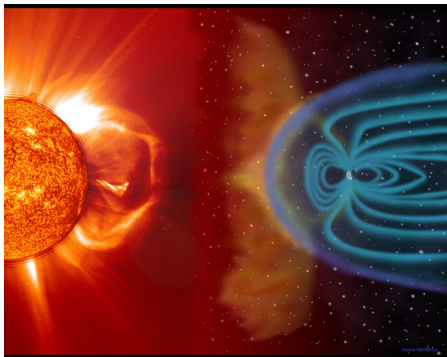
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Credit: NASA / ESA

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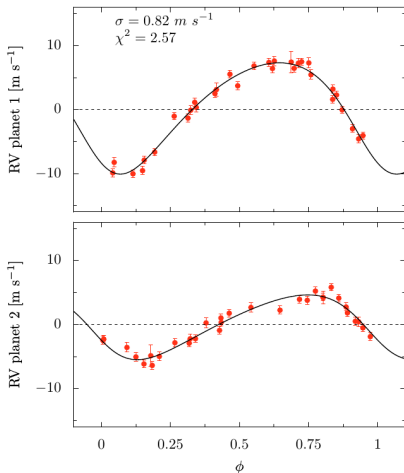
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GJ 674 *Bonfils et al. (2007)*

Outline

- 1 Magnetic fields of fully-convective stars
- 2 A brief overview of M dwarfs' magnetism
 - Activity of M dwarfs
 - Magnetic fields of M dwarfs in unpolarised light
 - The first spectropolarimetric survey
- 3 Numerical simulations of dynamo action in FC stars
- 4 Summary

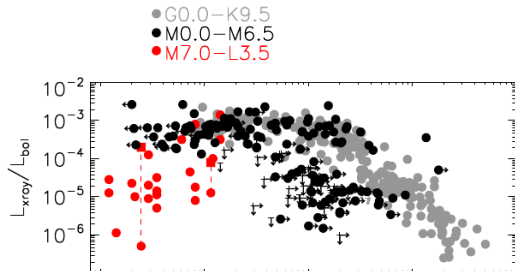
Activity of M dwarfs

■ Rotation–activity relation

- Early-mid M dwarfs: similar G-K
 - High Ro: anti-correlated
 - Low Ro: plateau
 - No break at FCL
- Late M dwarfs
 - \exists low activity at low Ro

■ Activity cycles

- Evidence for long-term variability
- Hints of cycles



McLean et al. (2011)

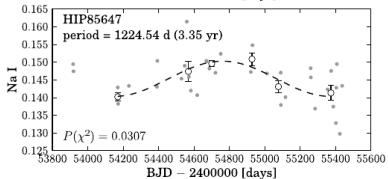
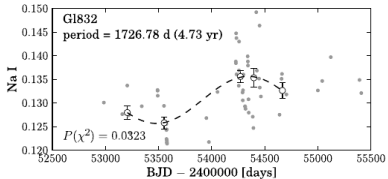
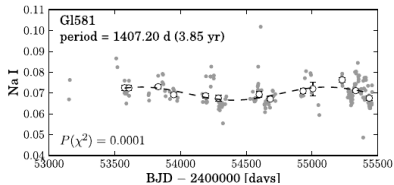
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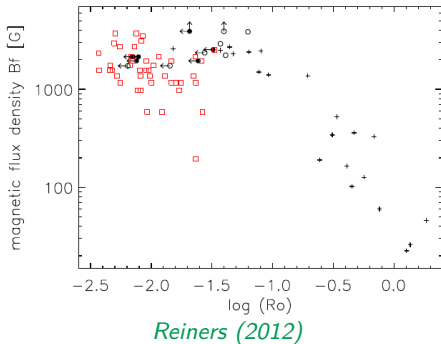


Gomes da Silva et al. (2012)

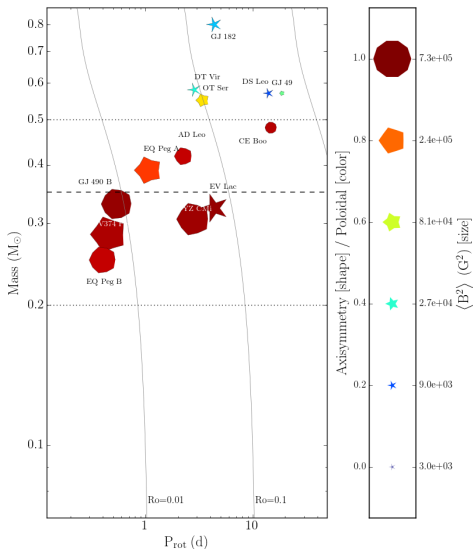
Magnetic fields of M dwarfs in unpolarised light

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Spectropolarimetric survey: fully convective stars

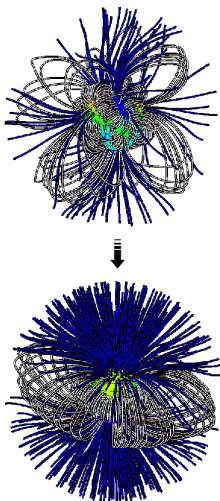


Fully convective boundary

- Sharp transition $\sim 0.5 M_{\odot}$
- Magnetic topology
- Differential rotation
- Partial agreement with DNS
Browning (2008)
- Morin et al. (2008a,b)*
Donati et al. (2008)
Phan-Bao et al. (2009)

- Similar transition among TTS
MaPP Large Program
Gregory et al. (2012)

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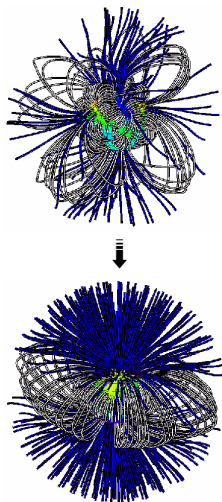


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Coronal extrapolations by M. Jardine from surface magnetic fields reconstructed by *Donati et al. (2008)*, *Morin et al. (2008a)*

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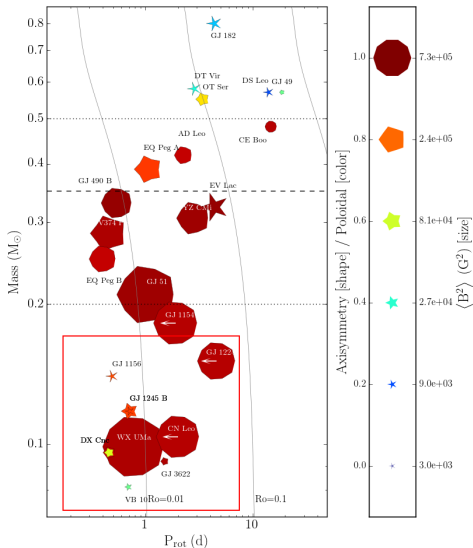
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Spectropolarimetric survey: very low mass stars



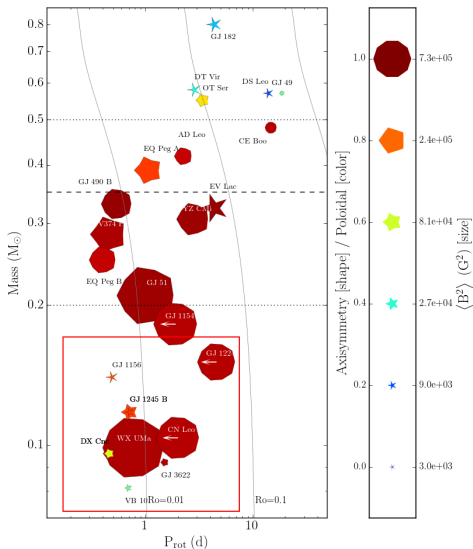
VLM rapidly rotating stars

- 2 groups of stars $\lesssim 0.2 M_{\odot}$
- Similar stellar params
- Radically \neq magnetisms
- Morin et al. (2010)*

Explanation

- Variability / cycles?
- No switch in 3 yr
- Effect of age?
- Dynamo bistability?
- Morin et al. (2011)*
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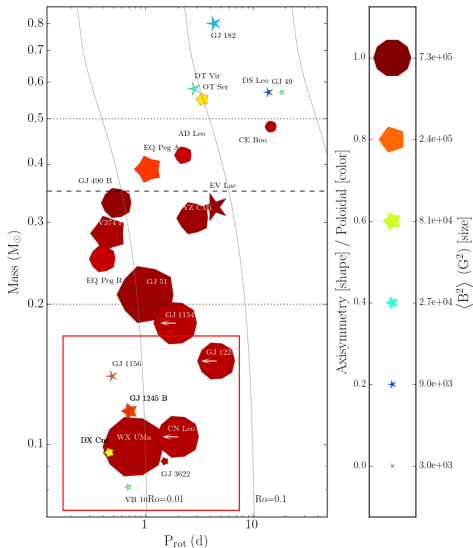
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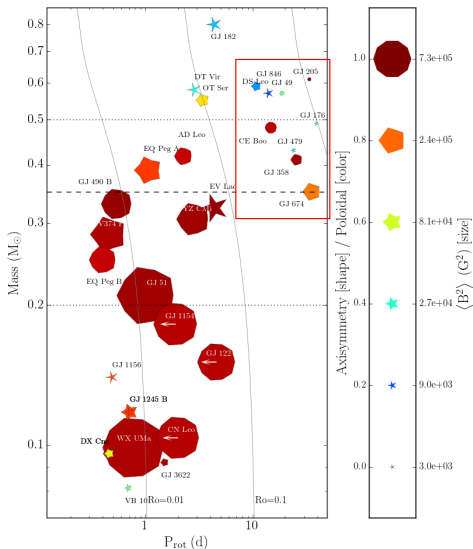
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Spectropolarimetric survey: latest developments



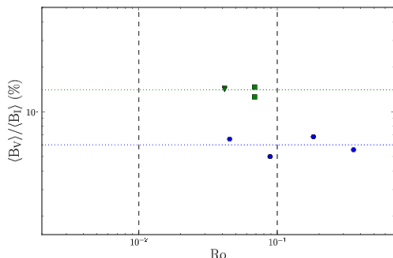
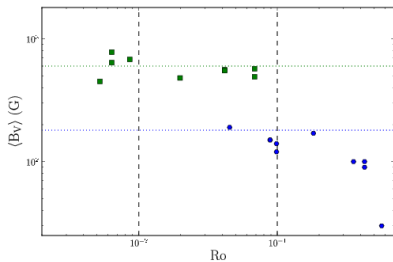
Moderately active M dwarfs

- dipole-dominated $Ro > 1$
- similar to Sun-like
- Dipole-dominated $0.1 < Ro < 1$
- similar to more active FC
- Multipolar+toroidal $0.1 < Ro < 1$
- bistability?
- *É. Hébrard et al. in prep.*

Reconciling Stokes I and V?

- $\langle B_V \rangle = 2 - 30\% \langle B_I \rangle$
- Apparent jump FC/PC
- Large spread for VLMS
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Spectropolarimetric survey: latest developments



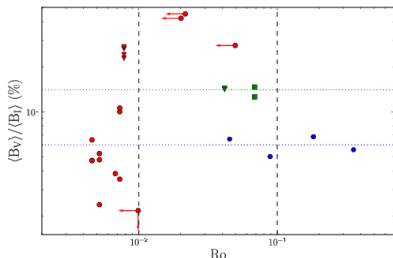
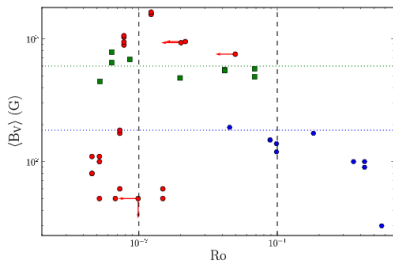
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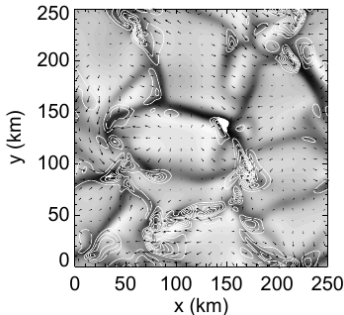
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- 1 Magnetic fields of fully-convective stars
- 2 A brief overview of M dwarfs' magnetism
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 - Earlier studies
 - Explaining the coexistence of large- and small-scale fields
- 4 Summary

Earlier studies

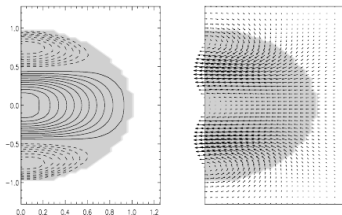
- Small-scale field generation
 - *Durney et al. (1993), Dorch & Ludwig (2002)*
 - Mean Field models
 - α^2 model, no DR
 - *Küker & Rüdiger (1999), Chabrier & Küker (2006)*
 - Global DNS
 - Partly-consistent with observations
 - *Dobler et al. (2006), Browning (2008), Schrunner et al. (2012), Gastine et al. (2012)*
 - Bistability idea
 - *Gastine et al. (2013)*
- Small- vs large-scale **B** discrepancy



Dorch & Ludwig (2002)

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Chabrier & Küker (2006)

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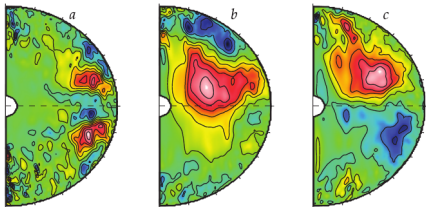
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Browning (2008)

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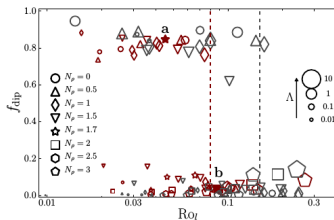
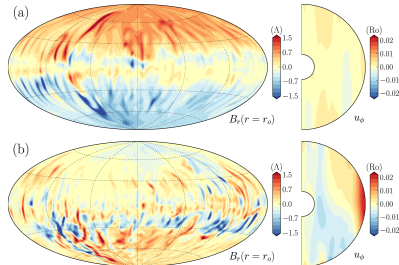
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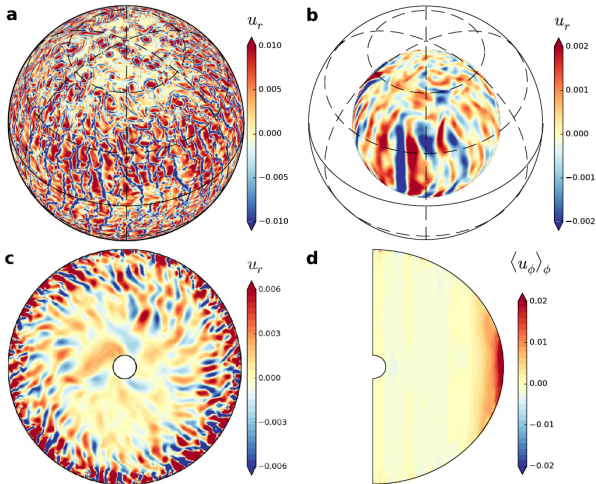
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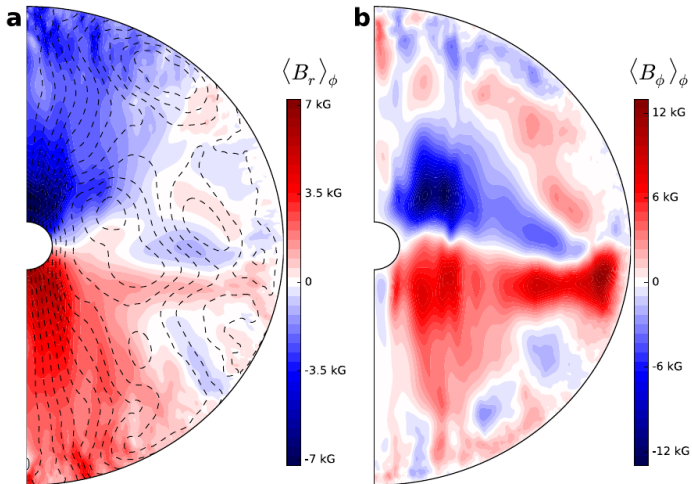
Coexistence of large- and small-scale fields



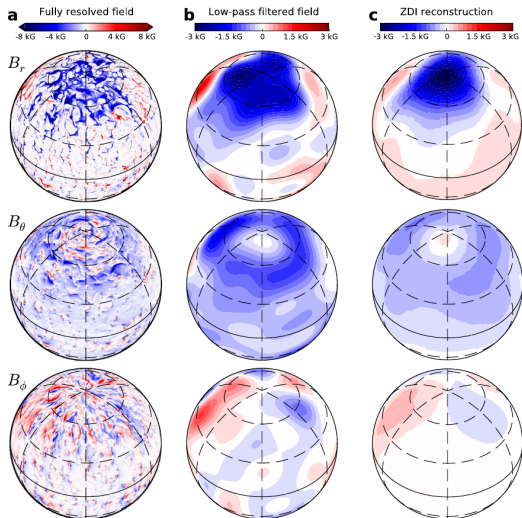
→ GPL-licensed MagIC code: <https://github.com/magic-sph/magic>



Coexistence of large- and small-scale fields



Coexistence of large- and small-scale fields



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Summary

■ Magnetic fields

- Crucial for stellar physics and for planetary systems

■ Spectropolarimetry

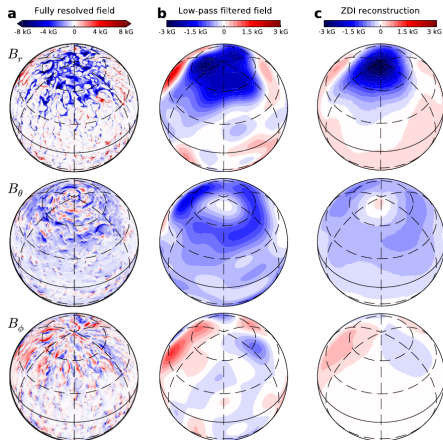
- Important developments
- Base for further modelling

■ New numerical simulations

- reconcile Stokes I/V meas

■ Future instruments

- CFHT/SPIRou
- TBL/NeoNARVAL+SPIP
- CRIRES+
- UVMag



Yadav et al. (2015)