

APRIL 2008

**CONVECTION, OPTIMAL TRANSPORT, COUPLED  
MONGE-AMPERE SYSTEMS AND MAGNETIC  
RELAXATION MODELS**

**YANN BRENIER**

CNRS, FR 2800, Université de Nice-Sophia-Antipolis,

Web site: <http://math1.unice.fr/~brenier>

## OUTLINE

1. NAVIER-STOKES BOUSSINESQ EQUATIONS FOR CONVECTION AND THEIR DARCY/STOKES/HYDROSTATIC SINGULAR LIMITS
2. THE ANGENENT-HAKER-TANNENBAUM (AHT) MODEL FOR OPTIMAL TRANSPORT VIEWED AS DARCY OR STOKES BOUSSINESQ SYSTEMS
3. A CONVEXITY PRINCIPLE FOR THE HYDROSTATIC BOUSSINESQ EQUATIONS LEADING TO A GLOBAL EXISTENCE THEOREM
4. SOME COUPLED MONGE-AMPERE SYSTEMS INCLUDING HOSKINS' SEMI-GEOSTROPHIC EQUATIONS AND A FULLY NONLINEAR CHEMOTAXIS MODEL
5. A STRINGY GENERALIZATION OF THE DB MODEL LEADING TO A MAGNETIC RELAXATION MODEL A LA ARNOLD-MOFFATT
6. THE CROSS-BURGERS EQUATION: A MODEL OF MAGNETIC REVERSAL

## A NAVIER-STOKES BOUSSINESQ 'NSB' MODEL

Let  $D$  be a smooth bounded domain  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  in which moves an incompressible fluid of velocity  $\mathbf{v}(t, \mathbf{x})$  at  $\mathbf{x} \in D$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , subject to:

$$\text{NSB : } \epsilon(\partial_t \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}) + \mathbf{K} \mathbf{v} + \nabla p = \mathbf{y} \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

where  $\mathbf{K} \mathbf{v} = \alpha \mathbf{v} - \nu \Delta \mathbf{v}$  with  $\alpha \geq 0$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\nu > 0$  and  $\mathbf{v} = 0$  along  $\partial D$ .

The force field  $\mathbf{y}$  is subject to the advection equation

$$\partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

where  $\mathbf{G}$  is a given smooth function with bounded derivatives.

## CONVECTION THEORY

**CLASSICAL CONVECTION THEORY** corresponds to the special case

$$\mathbf{K} = -\Delta, \quad \mathbf{G} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{y} // \mathbf{e}_3, \quad \mathbf{y} = \eta \mathbf{e}_3, \quad \eta = \eta(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathbf{R} \quad \text{namely:}$$

$$\epsilon(\partial_t \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}) - \Delta \mathbf{v} + \nabla \mathbf{p} = \eta \mathbf{e}_3, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \partial_t \eta + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \eta = \mu \Delta \eta$$

with  $\mu \geq 0$ .

For  $\mu = 0$ , global existence of weak solutions in 3D follows from Leray/Diperna-Lions theory, while global existence of smooth solutions in 2D follows from Hou-Li 2005 and Chae 2006. (See also recent work by Danchin-Paicu.)

## THREE LIMITS OF THE NS BOUSSINESQ MODEL

While keeping unchanged

$$\partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

and dropping inertia terms, we consider three possible limit regimes:

$$\text{STOKES – BOUSSINESQ SB : } \epsilon = \alpha = 0, \nu = 1 \Rightarrow -\Delta \mathbf{v} + \nabla \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}$$

(the limit  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  can be rigorously justified, YB 2007)

$$\text{DARCY – BOUSSINESQ DB : } \epsilon = \nu = 0, \alpha = 1 \Rightarrow \mathbf{v} + \nabla \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}$$

(the limit  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  can be rigorously justified, YB 2007)

$$\text{HYDROSTATIC – BOUSSINESQ HB : } \epsilon = \nu = \alpha = 0 \Rightarrow \nabla \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}$$

(here the rigorous justification of the limit  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  seems widely open!)

## THE ANGENENT-HAKER-TANNENBAUM MODEL

As  $G = 0$ , the Darcy-Boussinesq and Stokes-Boussinesq models coincide with the Angenent-Haker-Tannenbaum model

$$\text{AHT : } \quad \partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = 0, \quad \mathbf{K} \mathbf{v} + \nabla \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

We (formally) get

$$\int_{\mathbf{D}} |\mathbf{y}(t, \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}|^2 d\mathbf{x} + 2 \int_0^t \int_{\mathbf{D}} (\mathbf{K} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v})(\theta, \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} d\theta = \int_{\mathbf{D}} |\mathbf{y}(0, \mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}|^2 d\mathbf{x}$$

So, we expect, as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$ ,  $\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$ ,  $(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{p}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{y}^\infty, \mathbf{p}^\infty)$ , so that

$$\mathbf{y}^\infty = \nabla \mathbf{p}^\infty$$

is a curl-free 'rearrangement' of the given initial vector field  $\mathbf{y}(t = 0, \cdot)$ .

**This was the original goal of the AHT model, in order to solve the polar factorization problem arising in optimal transport theory (cf. Y.B. CPAM 1991).**

Existence of local or global smooth solutions is proven by Angenent-Haker-Tannenbaum in SIAM J. Math. Analysis 2003.

## THE HYDROSTATIC BOUSSINESQ (HB) EQUATIONS

### 1) A CONVEXITY PRINCIPLE

The Hydrostatic Boussinesq 'HB' system

$$\mathbf{HB} : \quad \partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \quad \nabla \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}$$

looks strange since there is no direct equation for  $\mathbf{v}$ .

Let us consider, for simplicity, the case of 2 space variables  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)$  and write  $\mathbf{v} = (-\partial_1 \theta, \partial_2 \theta)$ , where  $\theta(t, x_1, x_2)$  is a 'stream function' for  $\mathbf{v}$ . Taking the 2D curl of the evolution equation in  $\mathbf{y} = (\partial_1 \mathbf{p}, \partial_2 \mathbf{p})$ , we find:

$$\partial_{11} \mathbf{p} \partial_{22} \theta + \partial_{22} \mathbf{p} \partial_{11} \theta - 2 \partial_{12} \mathbf{p} \partial_{12} \theta = \partial_1 (\mathbf{G}_2(\mathbf{x}, \nabla \mathbf{p})) - \partial_2 (\mathbf{G}_1(\mathbf{x}, \nabla \mathbf{p}))$$

which is a well posed

$$\text{LINEAR ELLIPTIC EQUATION IN } \theta \text{ WHEN } D_{\mathbf{x}}^2 \mathbf{p}(t, \mathbf{x}) > 0$$

So, a natural **SOLVABILITY CONDITION FOR THE HB SYSTEM** is

$$\mathbf{p}(t, \mathbf{x}) \text{ is a CONVEX function of } \mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{D}.$$

## THE HYDROSTATIC BOUSSINESQ (HB) EQUATIONS 2) EVOLUTION OF 'OBSERVABLES' IN BOUSSINESQ SYSTEMS

For each suitable test function  $f$ , we define the 'observable'

$$t \rightarrow \rho_f(t) = \int_D f(y(t, \mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x}$$

where  $y$  is solution to one of the Boussinesq systems **NSB,SB,DB,HB**

Since  $\partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  where  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0, \quad \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$  on  $\partial D$ ,

we always get, for each suitable test function  $f$ ,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_D f(y(t, \mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x} = \int_D (\nabla f)(y(t, \mathbf{x})) \cdot \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, y(t, \mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x}$$



## THE HYDROSTATIC BOUSSINESQ (HB) EQUATIONS

### 3) 'OBSERVABLES' AND THE CONVEXITY PRINCIPLE

The Hydrostatic Boussinesq 'HB' model  
requires the field  $y$  to be a gradient  $y = \nabla p$

Under the A PRIORI CONVEXITY ASSUMPTION

$p(t, x)$  is a CONVEX function of  $x \in D$  ( $D$  being supposed to be convex),

the field  $y$  is **COMPLETELY DETERMINED**

by the knowledge of all observables  $t \rightarrow \rho_f(t) = \int_D f(y(t, x)) dx$

**NB: This is a typical result of OPTIMAL TRANSPORT THEORY**

YB, CRAS Paris 1987 and CPAM 1991, Smith and Knott, JOTA 1987, cf. Villani, Topics in optimal transportation, AMS, 2003, see also papers, lecture notes and books by Rachev-Rüschendorf, Evans, Caffarelli, Urbas, Gangbo-McCann, Otto, Ambrosio-Savaré, Villani, Trudinger-Wang and many others contributions...

## THE HYDROSTATIC BOUSSINESQ (HB) EQUATIONS

### 4) A GLOBAL EXISTENCE RESULT

YB 2007, inspired by G. Loeper, SIAM J. Math. Anal. 2006

## THEOREM

Assume  $G(x, y)$  to be a smooth function with bounded first derivatives.

Let  $C$  be the convex cone of all maps  $y \in L^2(D, \mathbb{R}^3)$  such that  $y(x) = \nabla p(x)$  a.e. in  $D$  for some **CONVEX** convex lsc function  $p$ .

Then, for each  $y_0 \in C$ , there is  $(t \rightarrow y(t, \cdot)) \in C^0(\mathbb{R}_+, L^2(D, \mathbb{R}^3))$  valued in the cone  $C$  such that  $y(t=0, \cdot) = y_0$  and

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_D f(y(t, x)) dx = \int_D (\nabla f)(y(t, x)) \cdot G(x, y(t, x)) dx,$$

(for all test functions  $f$ ) which we call a  
**SOLUTION WITH CONVEX POTENTIAL TO THE HB SYSTEM**

$$\partial_t y + (v \cdot \nabla) y = G(x, y), \quad \nabla \cdot v = 0, \quad y = \nabla p$$

## SOME COUPLED MONGE-AMPERE SYSTEMS

### 1) DERIVATION FROM THE HB SYSTEM

Under the **POTENTIAL CONVEXITY** assumption, the HB system

$$\mathbf{HB} : \partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{y} = \nabla \mathbf{p}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

is (formally) equivalent to the coupled Monge-Ampère system

$$\mathbf{CMA} : \partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{w}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{G}(\nabla \mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}), \quad \rho = \det(\mathbf{D}^2 \mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x}))$$

where  $\mathbf{p}^*$  is the **LEGENDRE-FENCHEL** transform

$$\mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x}) = \sup_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}} \in \mathbf{D}} \mathbf{x} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{p}(t, \tilde{\mathbf{x}})$$

Indeed, using the change of variable  $\mathbf{x} = \nabla \mathbf{p}(t, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}) \iff \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \nabla \mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \int \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \det(\mathbf{D}^2 \mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x})) dx - \int \nabla \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{G}(\nabla \mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x}) \det(\mathbf{D}^2 \mathbf{p}^*(t, \mathbf{x})) dx \\ = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{\mathbf{D}} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}(t, \tilde{\mathbf{x}})) d\tilde{\mathbf{x}} - \int_{\mathbf{D}} (\nabla \mathbf{f})(\mathbf{y}(t, \tilde{\mathbf{x}})) \cdot \mathbf{G}(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{y}(t, \tilde{\mathbf{x}})) d\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

## SOME COUPLED MONGE-AMPERE SYSTEMS

### 2) TWO EXAMPLES

Example 1: Setting  $G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (\mathbf{y}_2 - \mathbf{x}_2, \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{y}_1, 0)$  we recover Hoskins' **SEMI-GEOSTROPHIC** equations.

Then, the **CONVEXITY PRINCIPLE** for the **HB** system **EXACTLY** corresponds to the **CULLEN-PURSER PRINCIPLE**.

cf. Cullen-Norbury-Purser 1991, Benamou-Brenier 1998,  
Cullen-Gangbo 2001, Loeper 2006.

Example 2: With  $G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}}{\beta}$  where  $\beta > 0$  is a constant, Setting

$$\nabla \mathbf{p}^*(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} - \beta \nabla \psi(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}) \quad \text{we get}$$

$$\mathbf{CMA} : \partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{w}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{w} = \nabla \psi(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}), \quad \rho = \det(\mathbf{I} - \beta \mathbf{D}^2 \psi(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}))$$

## SOME COUPLED MONGE-AMPERE SYSTEMS

### 3) FULLY NONLINEAR CHEMOTAXIS

The resulting system can be seen as a **FULLY NON-LINEAR CHEMOTAXIS** model.

Indeed, Assuming  $|\beta| \ll 1$ , the MONGE-AMPERE becomes

$$\rho = \det(\mathbf{I} - \beta \mathbf{D}^2 \psi(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x})) = 1 - \beta \Delta \psi + \mathbf{O}(\beta^2)$$

which approximates the **CHEMOTAXIS** model (without viscosity) considered by Jäger and Luckhaus Trans. AMS 1992:

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{w}) = 0, \quad \mathbf{w} = \nabla \psi(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}), \quad \rho = 1 - \beta \Delta \psi(\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x})$$

## SOME COUPLED MONGE-AMPERE SYSTEMS

### 4) CONVEXITY PRINCIPLE AND ENTROPY CONDITION

In one space variable the approximation is exact:

$$\partial_t \rho + \partial_x(\rho w) = 0, \quad \rho = 1 - \beta \partial_x w$$

In that case, the system can be reduced to the inviscid **BURGERS** equation

$$\partial_t w + \partial_x(w^2/2) = \frac{w}{\beta}$$

and the Kruzhkov-Oleinik **ENTROPY CONDITION** condition **EXACTLY** fits with the **CONVEXITY PRINCIPLE** we used for the **HB** system.

## A STRINGY DARCY-BOUSSINESQ MODEL:

### 1) THE DB SYSTEM IN LAGRANGIAN COORDINATES

The Darcy-Boussinesq **DB** system reads

$$\partial_t \mathbf{y} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}), \quad \mathbf{v} + \nabla \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

Let us introduce the time dependent volume preserving map

$$\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{D} \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a}) \in \mathbf{D} \quad \text{defined by} \quad \partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{v}(t, \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a})), \quad \mathbf{X}(t=0, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{a}$$

Setting  $\mathbf{Y}(t, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{y}(t, \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a}))$ , we get

$$\partial_t \mathbf{Y}(t, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a}), \mathbf{Y}(t, \mathbf{a})), \quad \partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a}) + (\nabla \mathbf{p})(t, \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a})) = \mathbf{Y}(t, \mathbf{a})$$

## A STRINGY DARCY-BOUSSINESQ MODEL: 2) THE DB/AHT SYSTEM AS A GRADIENT FLOW

In the special case  $G = 0$ , the **DB** system can be interpreted also as a **Angenent-Haker-Tannenbaum AHT** model. In Lagrangian coordinates, we get  $Y(t, \mathbf{a}) = Y(t = 0, \mathbf{a}) = Y_0(\mathbf{a})$  (since  $G = 0$ ) and, therefore,

$$\partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a}) + (\nabla \mathbf{p})(t, \mathbf{X}(t, \mathbf{a})) = Y_0(\mathbf{a})$$

Following Angenent-Haker-Tannenbaum, this model should be understood as the **GRADIENT FLOW** of the functional

$$\mathbf{X} \in \text{VPM}(\mathbf{D}) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbf{D}} |\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{a}) - Y_0(\mathbf{a})|^2 d\mathbf{a}$$

where **VPM(D)** is the set of all **VOLUME PRESERVING MAPS** of **D** embedded in the Hilbert space  $L^2(\mathbf{D}, \mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\mathbf{p}$  is the Lagrange multiplier of the volume preserving constraint.



## A STRINGY DARCY-BOUSSINESQ MODEL: 3) STRINGY GENERALIZATION OF THE DB MODEL

A natural generalization of the **DB** model amounts to consider the set of 'strings' of volume preserving maps

$$\mathbf{X} : s \in [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{X}(s, \cdot) \in \mathbf{VPM}(\mathbf{D})$$

and the corresponding gradient flow for the Dirichlet functional

$$\mathbf{J}[\mathbf{X}] = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \int_{\mathbf{D}} |\partial_s \mathbf{X}(s, \mathbf{a})|^2 d\mathbf{a} ds$$

The resulting equation reads

$$\partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a}) + (\nabla \mathbf{p})(t, s, \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})) = \partial_{ss} \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})$$

where  $\mathbf{p}$  is a Lagrange multiplier for the incompressibility constraint.

The (formal) energy balance is:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 \int_{\mathbf{D}} |\partial_s \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})|^2 d\mathbf{a} ds = -2 \int_0^1 \int_{\mathbf{D}} |\partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})|^2 d\mathbf{a} ds$$

## A STRINGY DB MODEL

### 4) EQUATIONS WRITTEN IN EULERIAN COORDINATES

Going back to Eulerian coordinates by setting

$$\partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{v}(t, s, \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})), \quad \partial_s \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{b}(t, s, \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})),$$

we get two differential constraints (since  $\mathbf{X}(t, s, \cdot)$  is volume preserving) and a compatibility condition (using  $\partial_t \partial_s \mathbf{X} = \partial_s \partial_t \mathbf{X}$ ):

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0, \quad \partial_t \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} = \partial_s \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}$$

Then, the equation  $\partial_t \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a}) + (\nabla p)(t, s, \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})) = \partial_{ss} \mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a})$

reads, in Eulerian coordinates,  $\mathbf{v} + \nabla p = \partial_s \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b}$

## A STRINGY DB MODEL

### 5) INTERPRETATION AS A MAGNETIC RELAXATION MODEL

We can see the stringy DB model, written in Eulerian coordinates,

$$\mathbf{v} + \nabla p = \partial_s \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b}, \quad \partial_t \mathbf{b} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{b} = \partial_s \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = \nabla \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$$

as a **MAGNETIC RELAXATION MODEL A LA ARNOLD-MOFFATT**  
 (see Arnold-Khesin, Springer 1998, Moffatt JFM 1985)

The **EQUILIBRIUM STATES** formally obtained as  $t \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\mathbf{v}(t = \infty, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{b}(t = \infty, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}), \quad p(t = \infty, \mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{x})$$

are indeed solutions to the **EULER EQUATIONS**

$$\nabla P = \partial_s \mathbf{B} + (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

## THE CROSS-BURGERS EQUATION

### 1) DERIVATION FROM THE STRINGY DB MODEL

In the special case when  $D$  is the unit ball of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , we find special solutions of the stringy DB model of form  $\mathbf{X}(t, s, \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{U}(t, s)\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{a} \in D$  where  $\mathbf{U}(t, s)$  is valued in **THE ORTHOGONAL GROUP  $O(3)$**  and subject to:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{U}(t, s) + \mathbf{S}(t, s)\mathbf{U}(t, s) = \partial_{ss} \mathbf{U}(t, s)$$

where each  $\mathbf{S}(t, s)$  is a real symmetric  $3 \times 3$  matrix.

Introducing for each  $(t, s)$  the unique vector  $\mathbf{B}(t, s) \in \mathbb{R}^3$  such that

$$\partial_s \mathbf{U}(t, s)\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{B}(t, s) \times (\mathbf{U}(t, s)\mathbf{a}), \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \in D$$

we get for  $\mathbf{B}(t, s)$  what we call **THE CROSS-BURGERS EQUATION**

$$\partial_t \mathbf{B}(t, s) + \mathbf{B}(t, s) \times \partial_s \mathbf{B}(t, s) = \partial_{ss} \mathbf{B}(t, s)$$

## THE CROSS-BURGERS EQUATION

### 2) A MAGNETIC REVERSAL PHENOMENON 1

Special solutions of the **CROSS-BURGERS EQUATION** read

$$\mathbf{B}(t, s) = (f(t)\cos(2\pi s), f(t)\sin(2\pi s), g(t))$$

where

$$\frac{df}{dt} = 2\pi(g - 2\pi)f, \quad \frac{dg}{dt} = -2\pi f^2$$

For  $g(t=0) > 4\pi$ ,  $f(t=0) \neq 0$ , we can check that  
 $g(t=+\infty) = 4\pi - g(0) < 0$ ,  $f(t=+\infty) = 0$ , even when  $|f(t=0)| \ll 1$ .

**This looks like a magnetic reversal**

## THE CROSS-BURGERS EQUATION

### 3) A MAGNETIC REVERSAL PHENOMENON 2

$$g(0) = 36.2830925, \quad f(0) = 0.075, \quad g(+\infty) = -23.7167$$

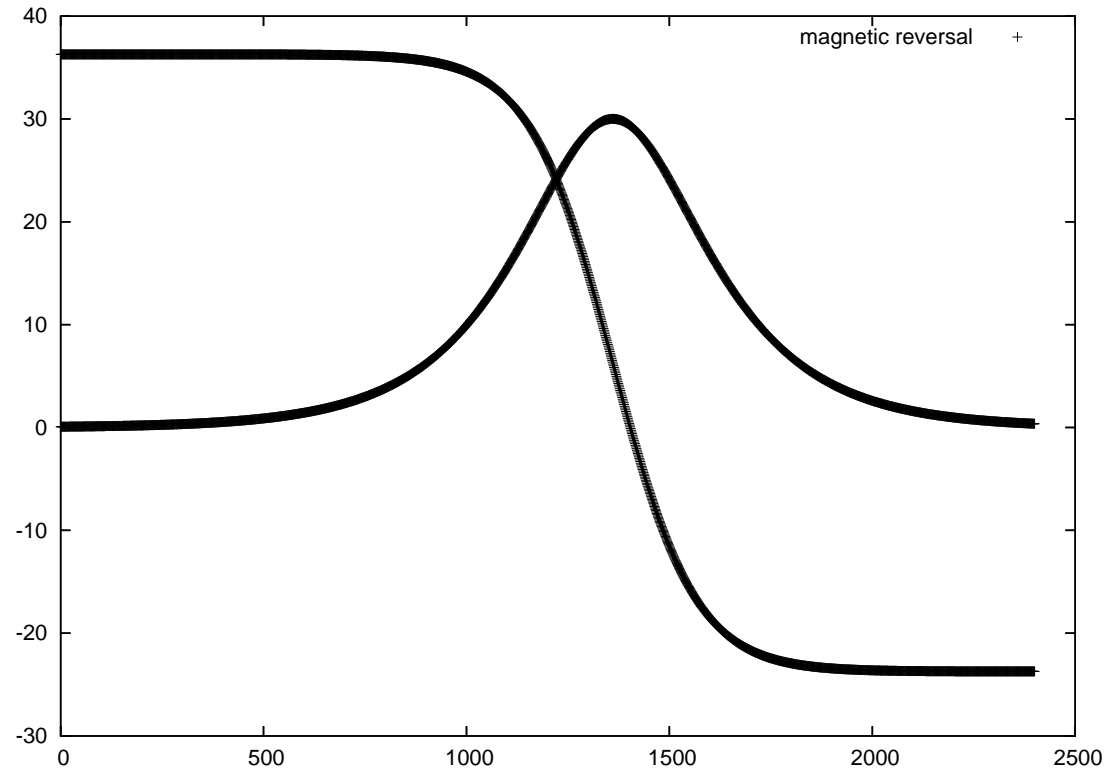


Figure 1:  $g(t)$  and  $f(t)$  versus  $t$