

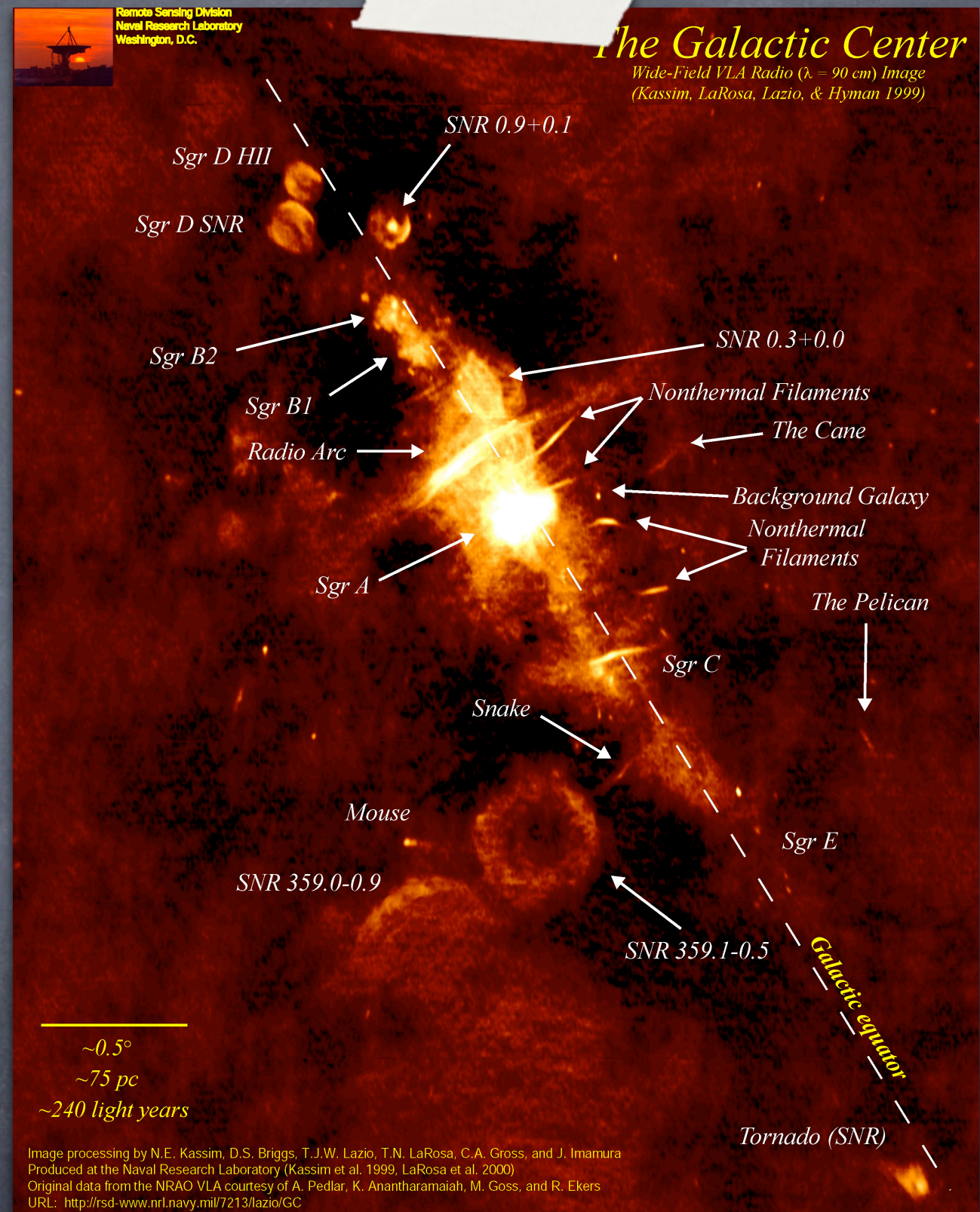
A Multi-Scale Approach to MHD Turbulence in Accretion Disks

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Thank: D. Psaltis (Arizona), M. Pessah (IAS);
R. Narayan (CfA), R. Shcherbakov (CfA); S. Succi (CNR)

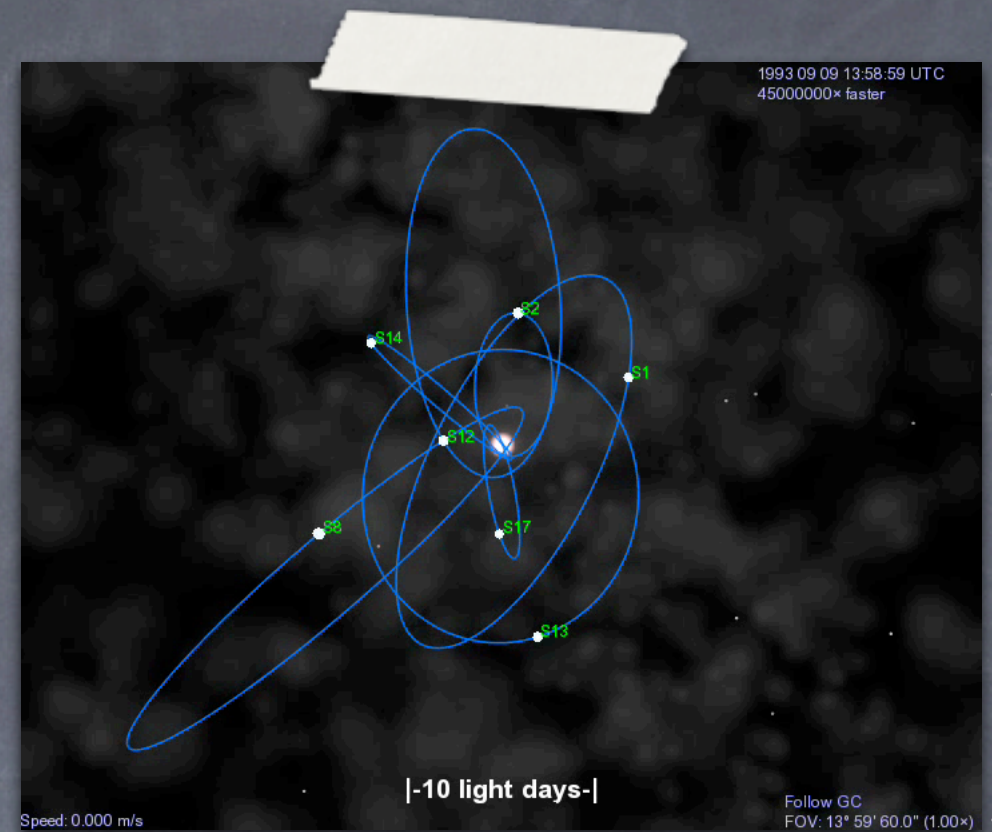
Case Study: Galactic Center

Chan, Liu, Fryer, Psaltis,
Ozel, Rockefeller, Melia
(2008)

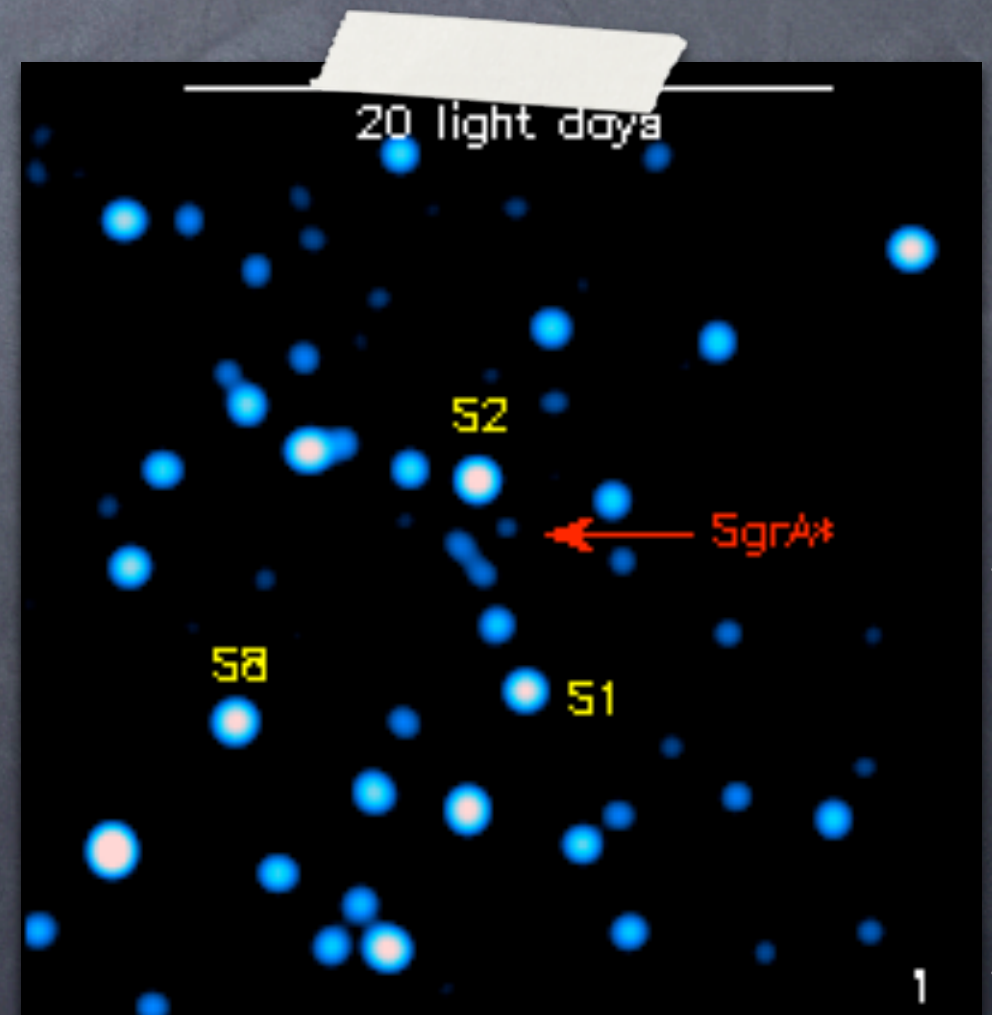


Wide-Field VLA Radio Image (Kassim, LaRosa, Lazio, & Hyman 1999) <http://rsd-www.nrl.navy.mil/7213/lazio/GC>

- Supermassive black hole
- Radiatively inefficient accretion disk
- Flares seen once a day
- Quasi-periodic signals observed during flares

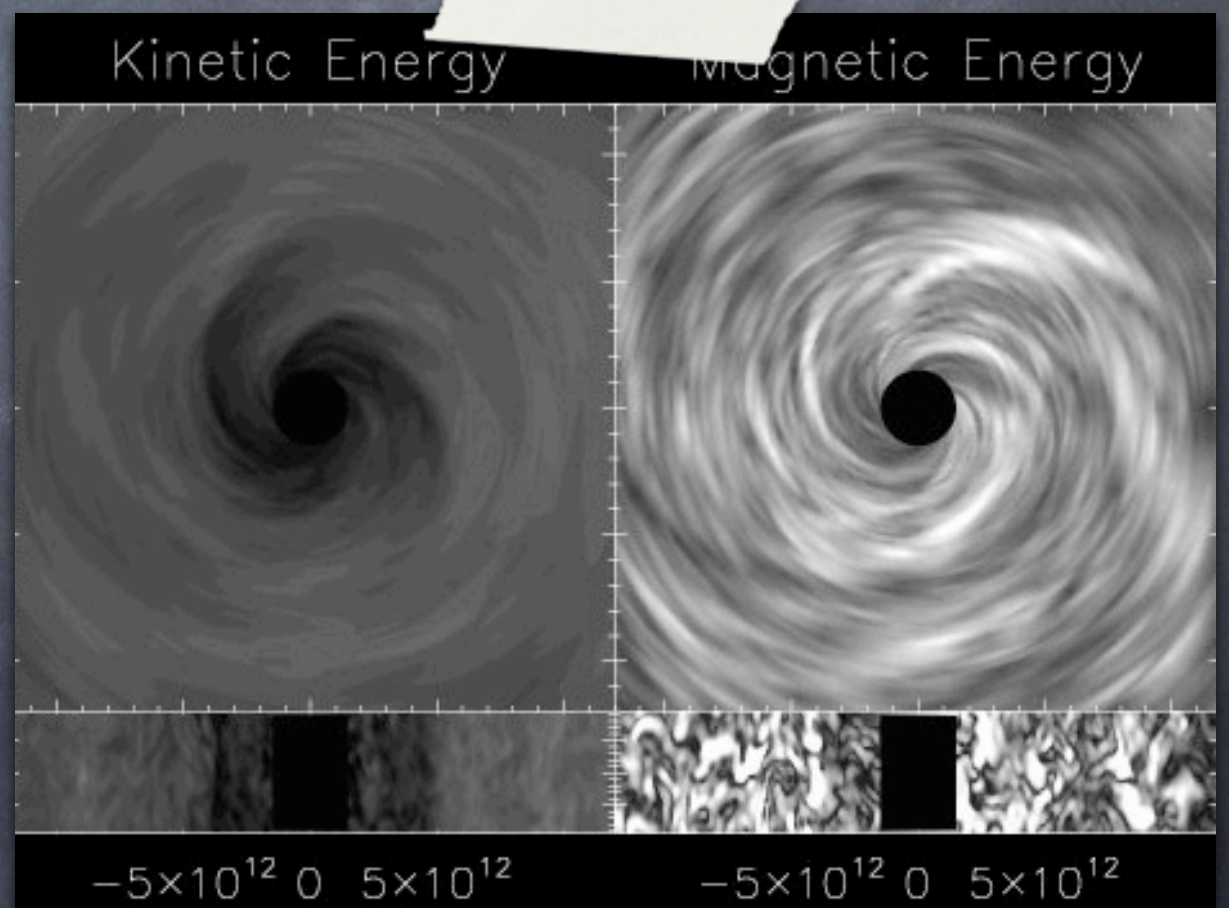
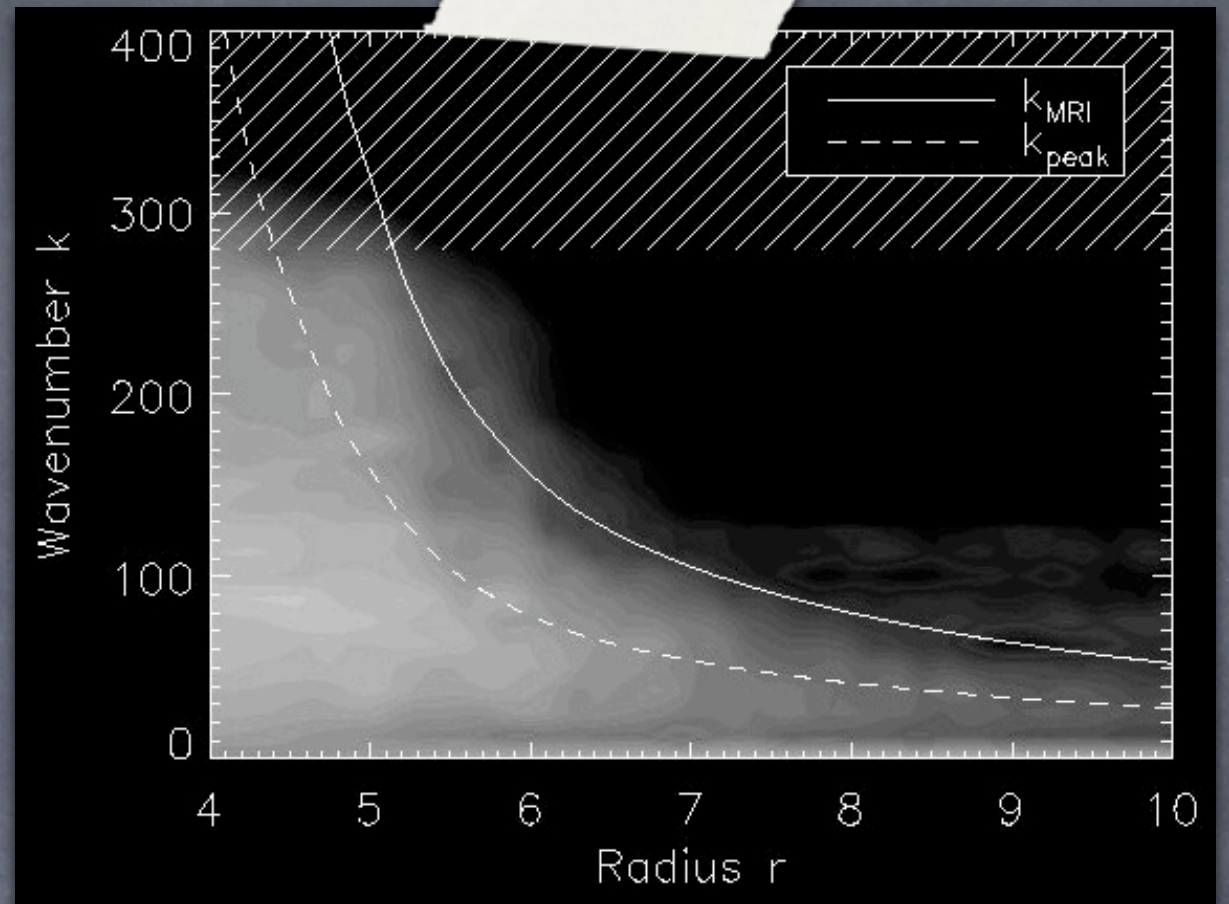


Stellar Orbits (Schödel et al 2003)

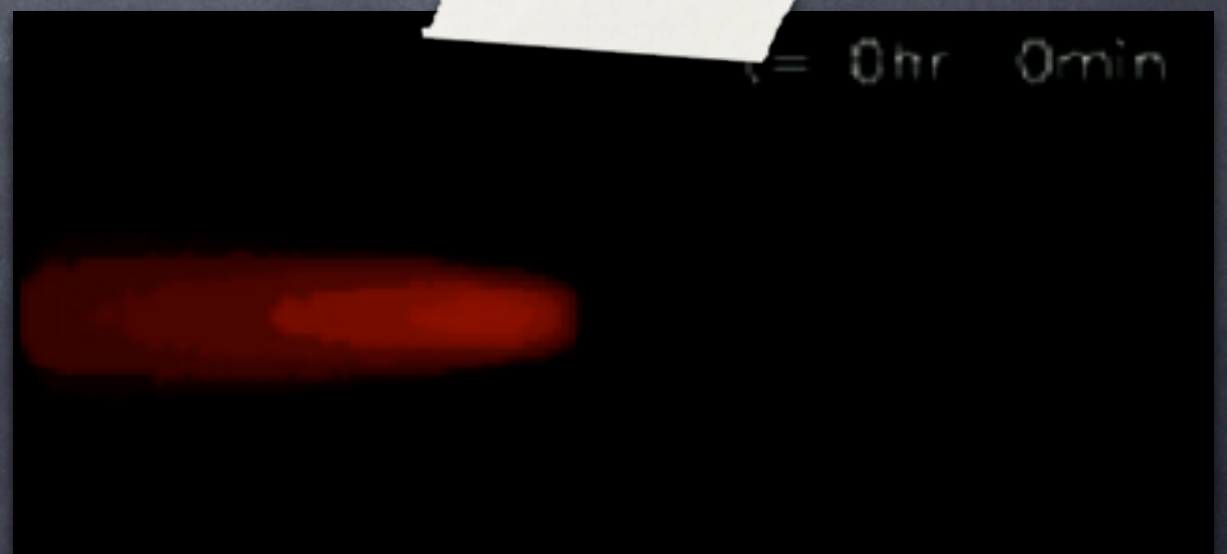
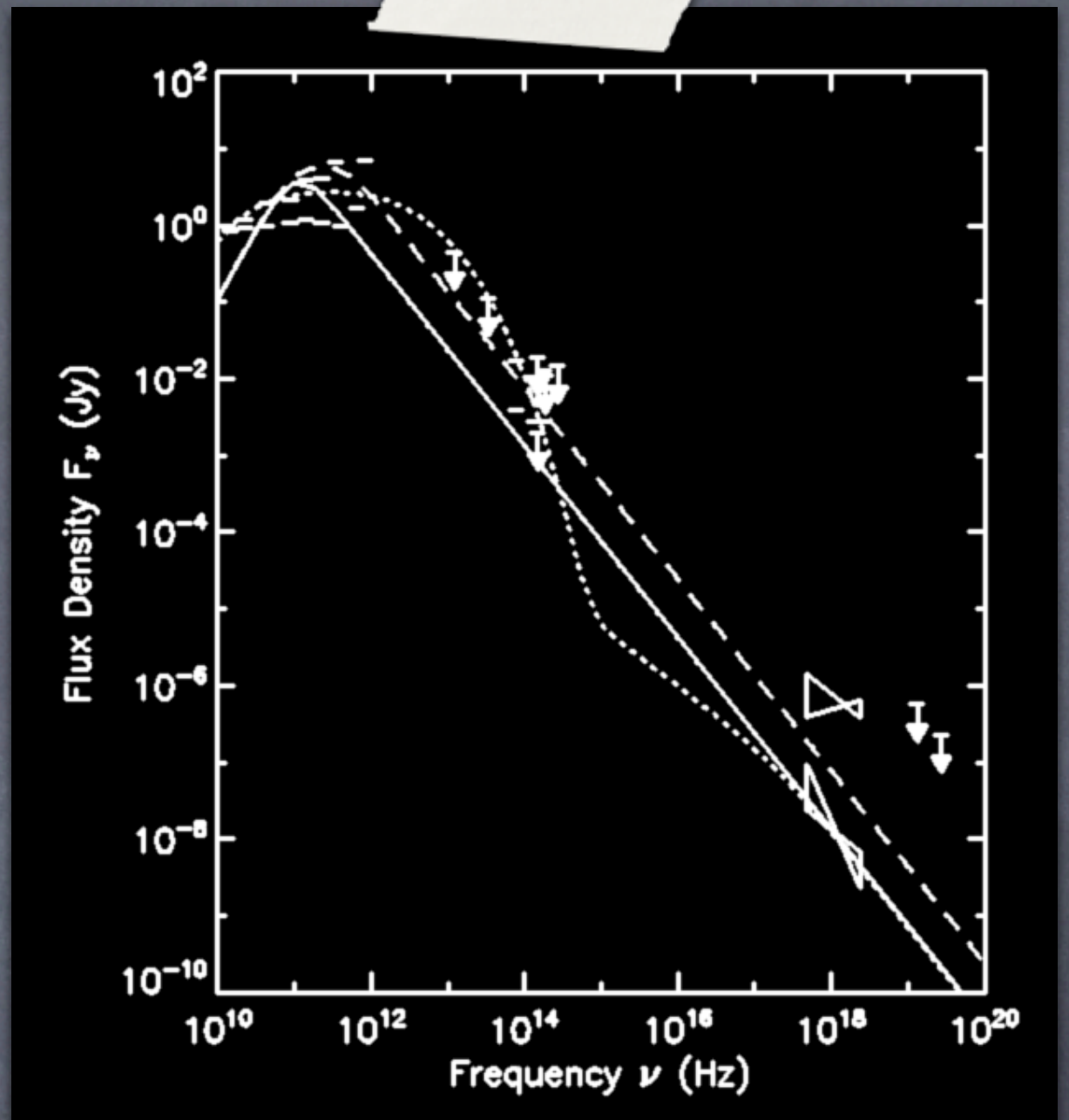


Near-Infrared Flare (Genzel et al 2003)

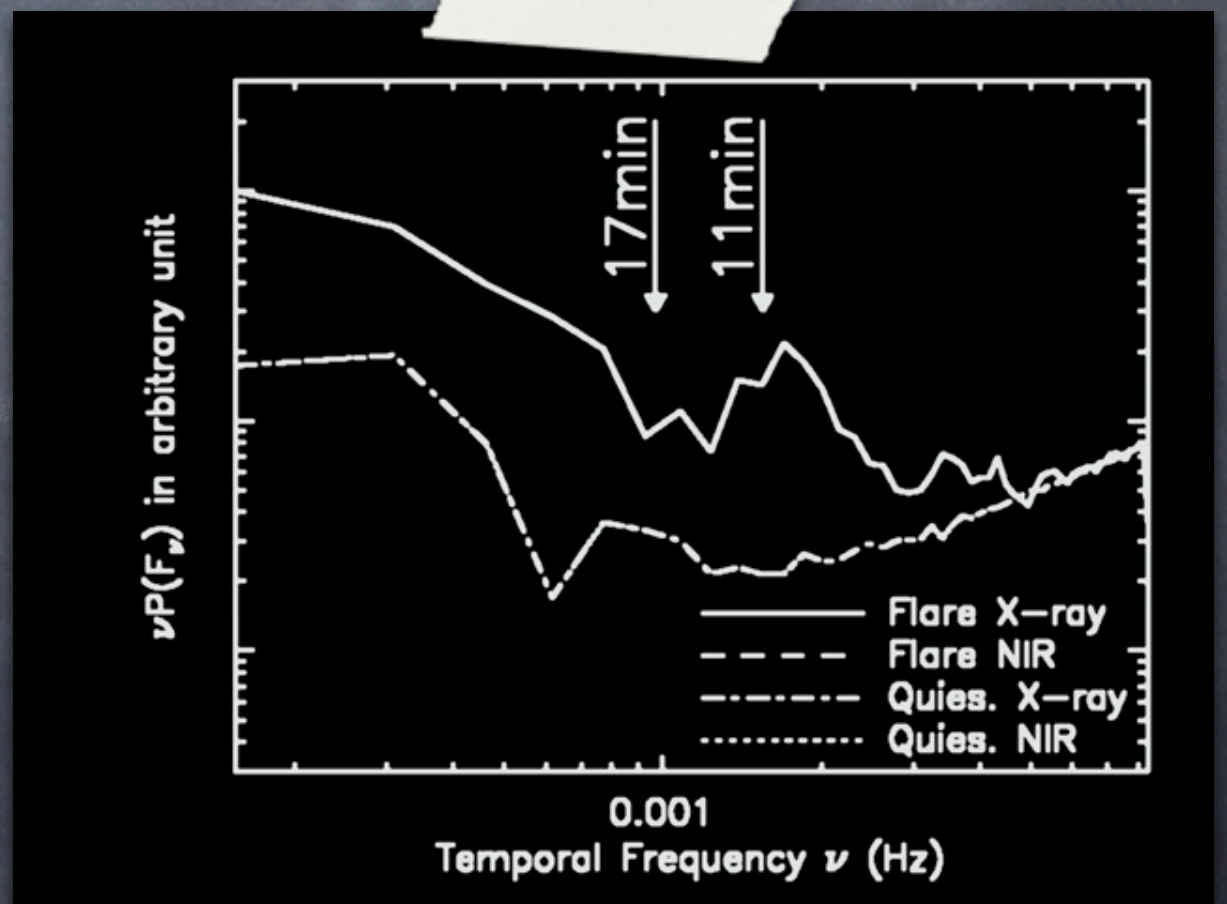
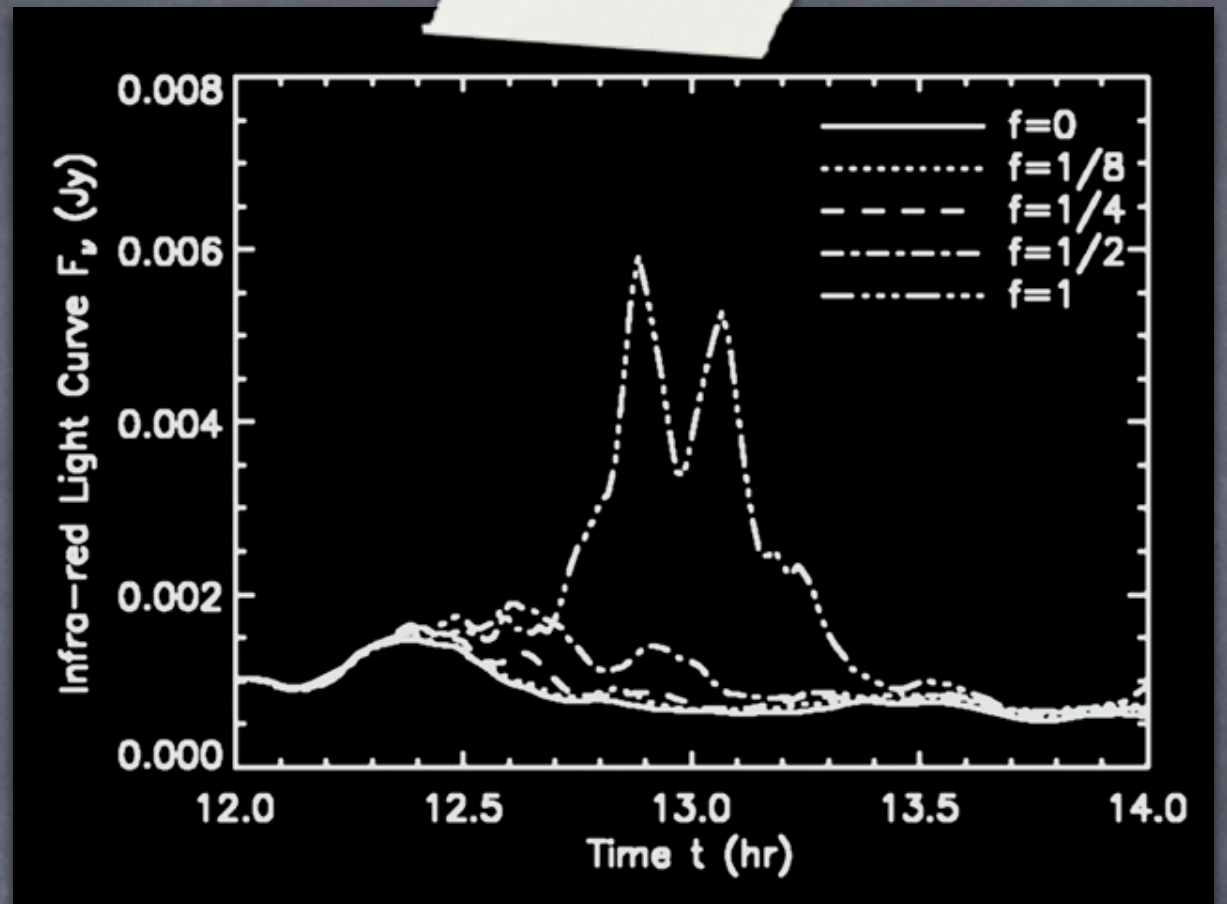
- Pseudo-spectral code with super-vanish viscosity
- Vector potential for magnetic field
- Pseudo-Newtonian gravity
- Properties of linear growth agrees with the MRI



- No radiation feedback
- Synchrotron radiation as post-process
- Assume hybrid thermal-nonthermal electron distribution (Ozel & Narayan 2000)
- Use quiescent spectrum to fit electron distribution
- Study flares



- Parameter study of clumpy material falling onto the Galactic black hole
- Flares depend very nonlinearly of the perturbation
- Quasi-periodic oscillations associate with magneto-sonic point at $2.4 r_s$ instead of ISCO ($3 r_s$)



Limitations

- Need General Relativity
- Need Vertical Structure
- Need Plasma Physics

Limitations

$\log E_k$

General Relativity

$1/R$

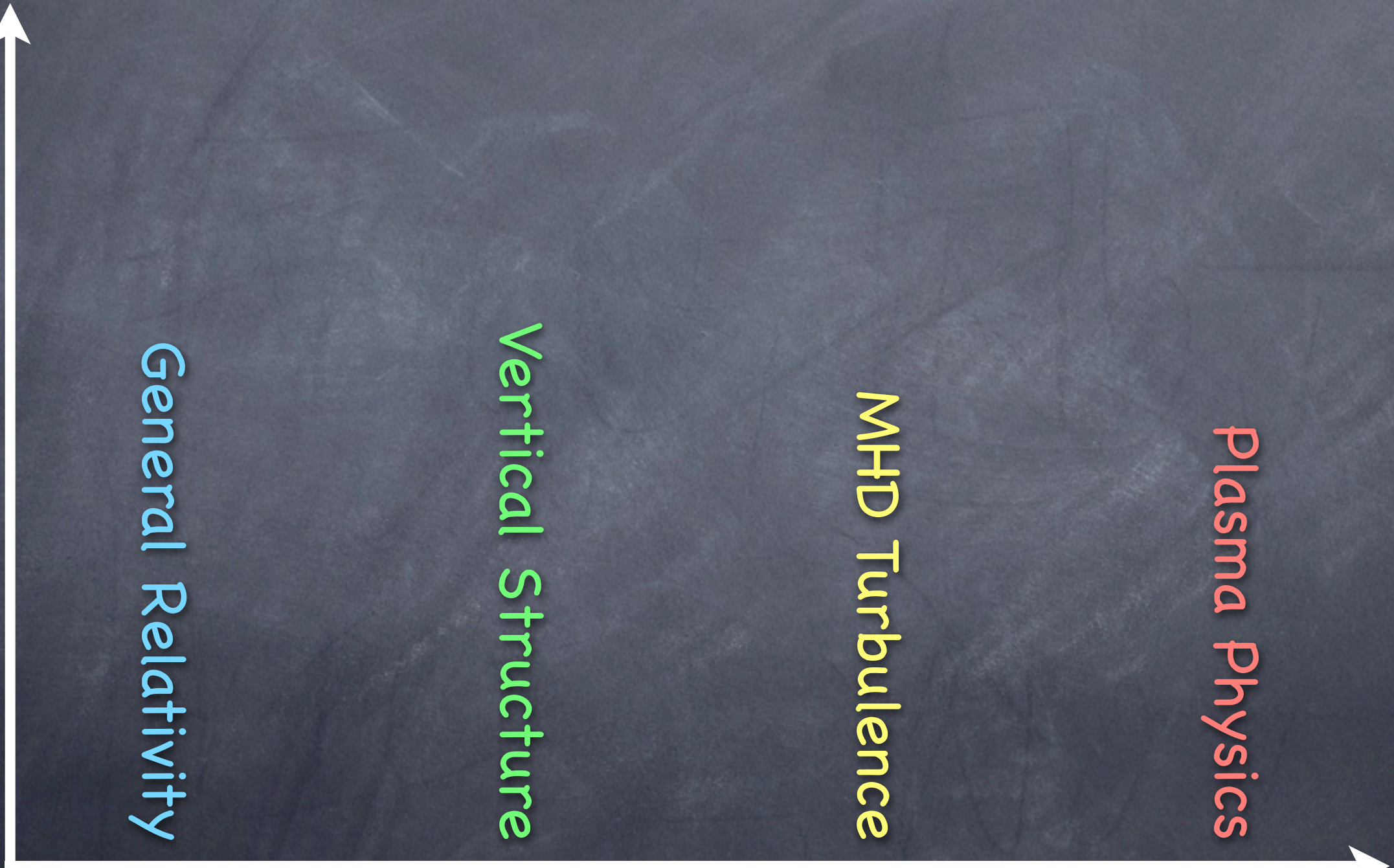
Vertical Structure

$1/H$

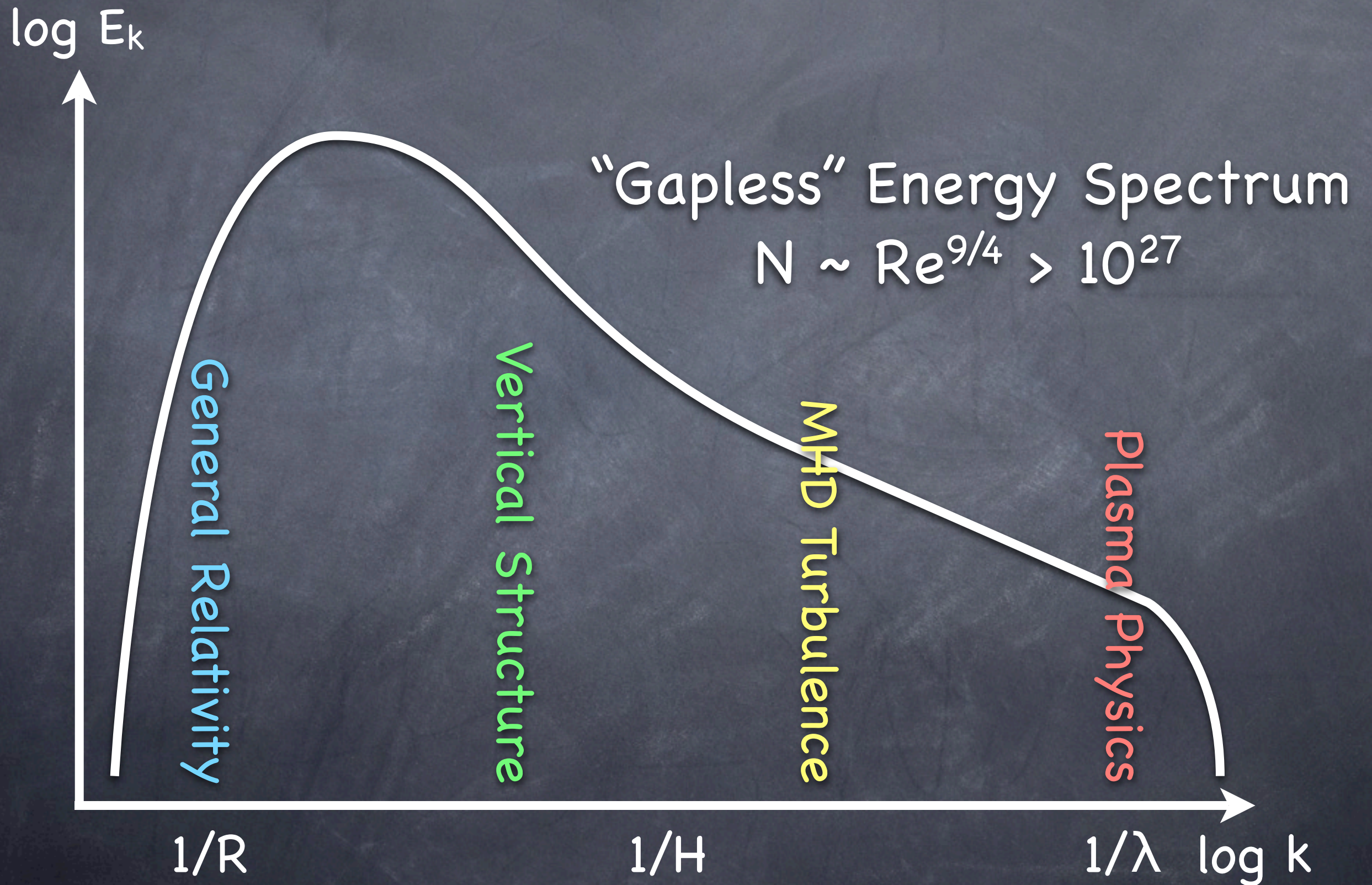
MHD Turbulence

Plasma Physics

$1/\lambda$ $\log k$



Multi-Scale Problem



$\log E_k$

General Relativity

Critical Structure

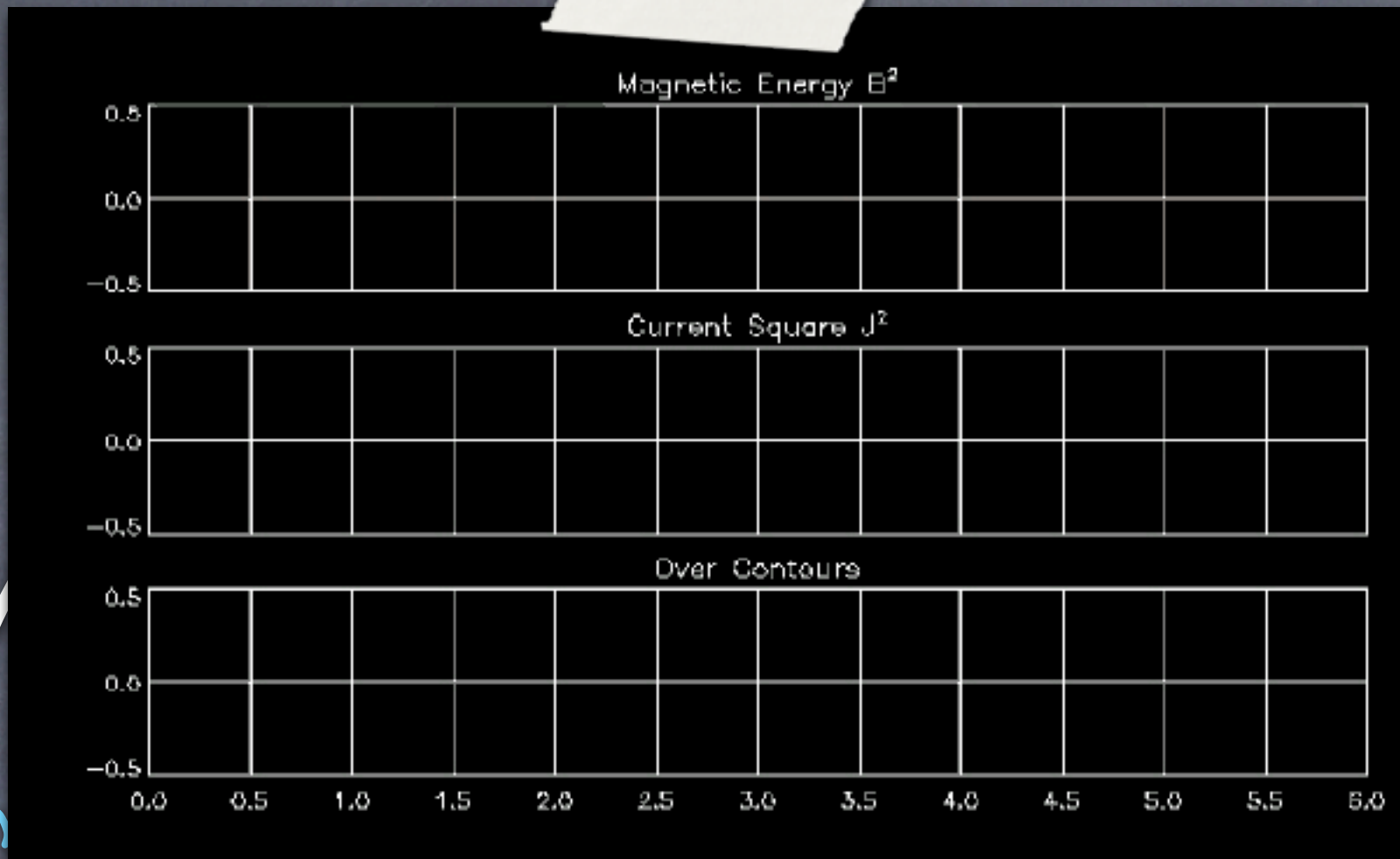
Plasma Physics

Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2008

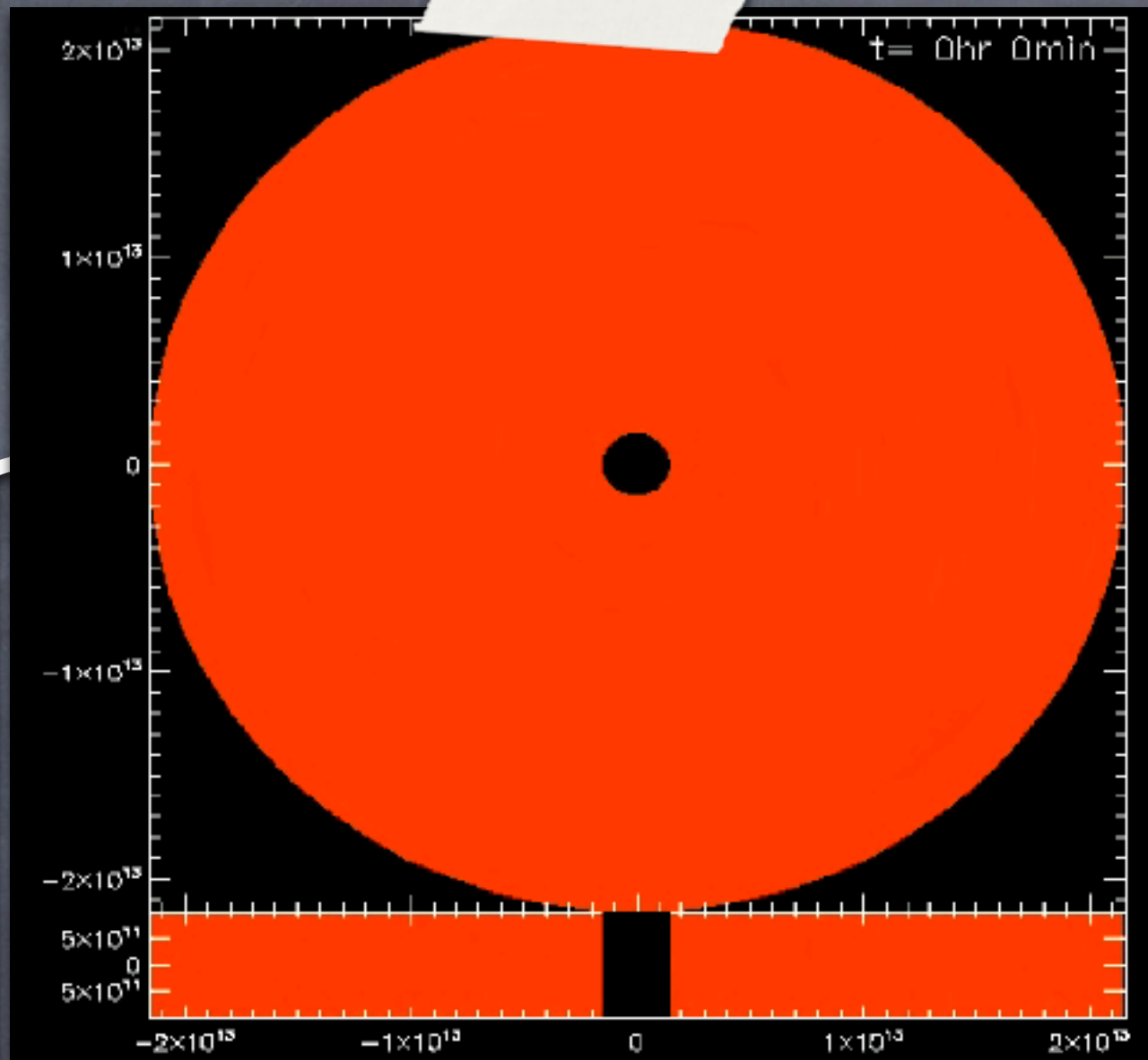
$1/R$

$1/H$

$1/\lambda$ $\log k$



$\log E_k$



Chan, Liu, Fryer, Psaltis, Ozel, Rockefeller, Melia 2008

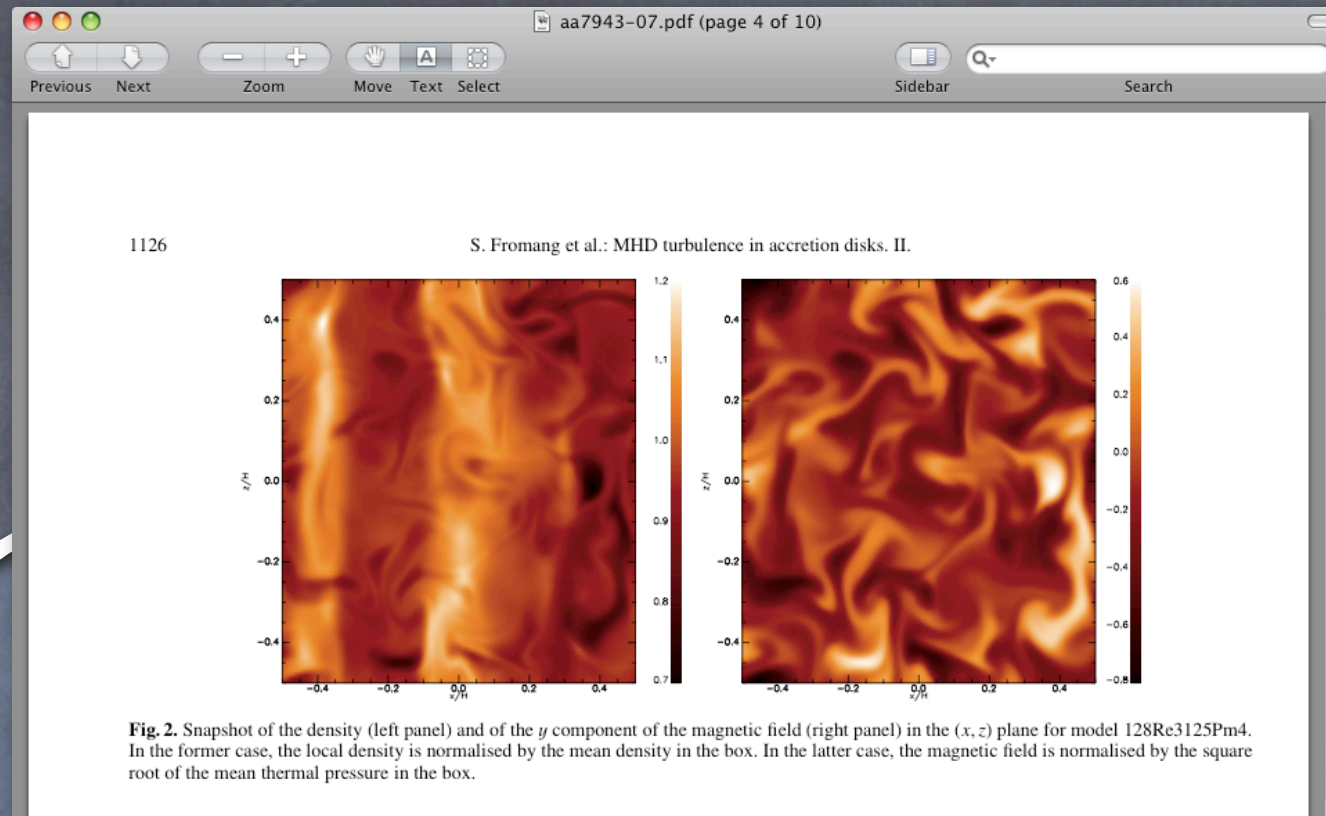
Structure

Plasma Physics

$1/R$

$1/H$

$1/\lambda$ $\log k$



Fromang, Papaloizou, Lesur, Heinemann 2007

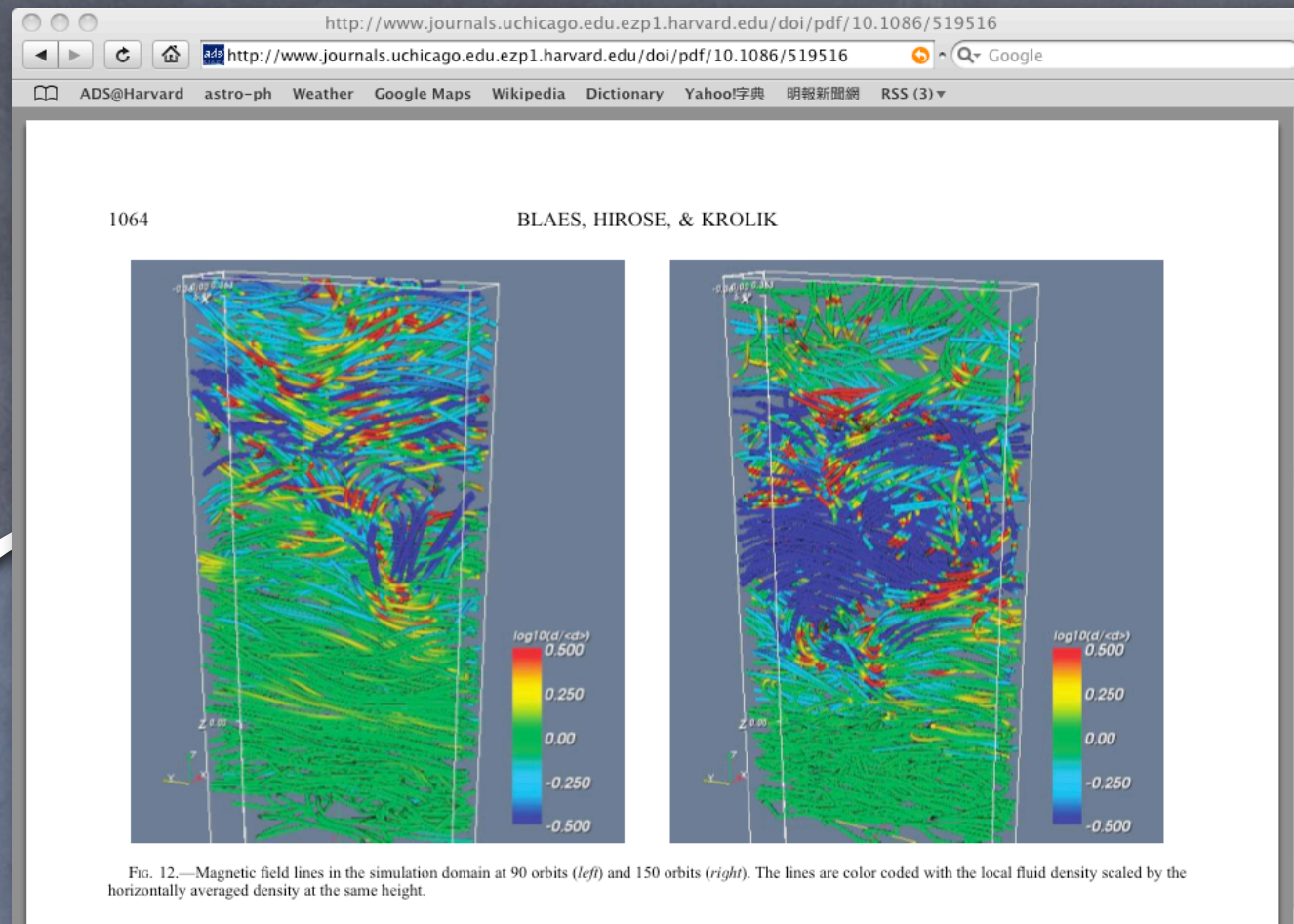
Vertical Structure

$\log E_k$

$1/R$

$1/H$

$1/\lambda$ $\log k$



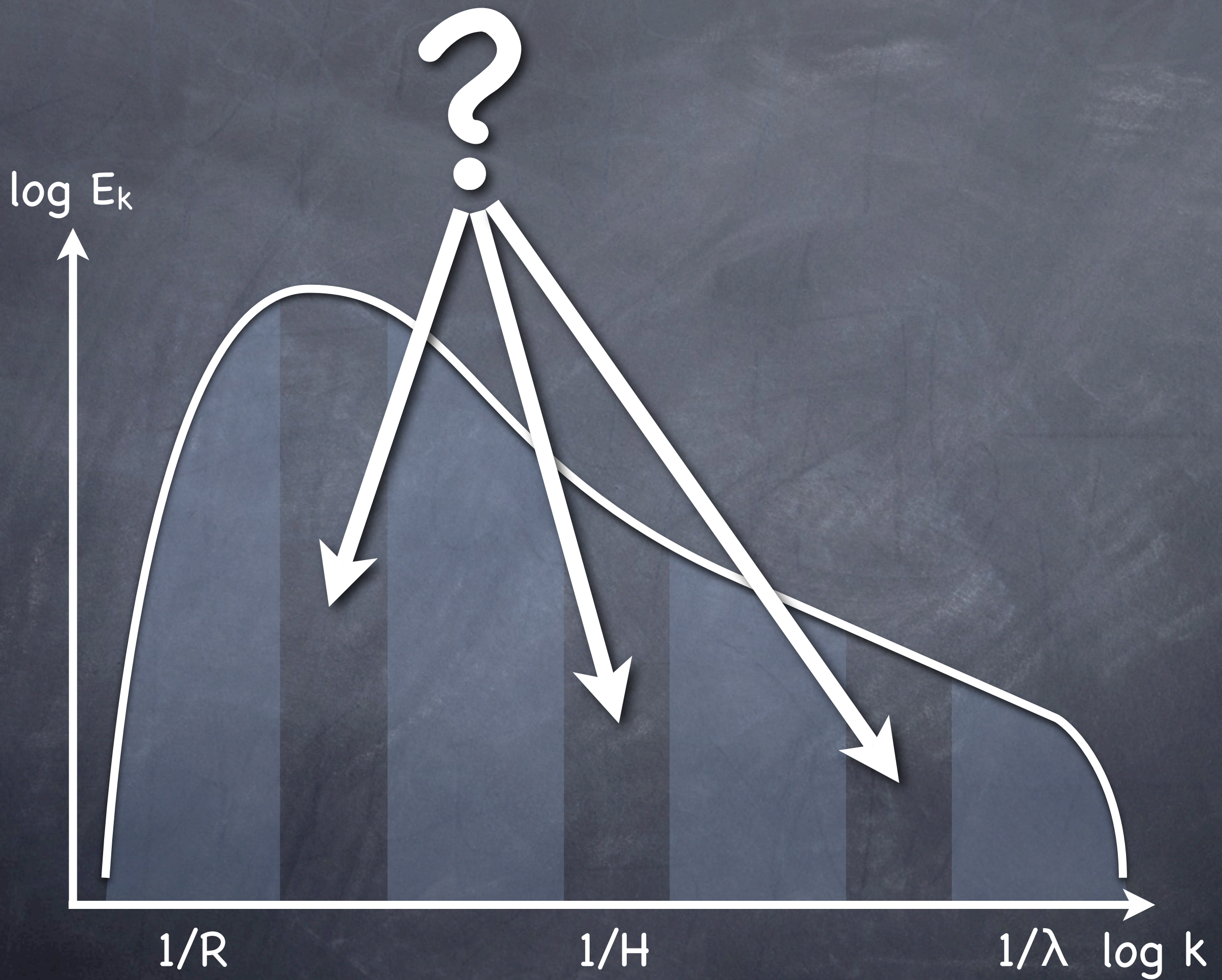
Blaes, Hirose, Krolik 2007

$\log E_k$

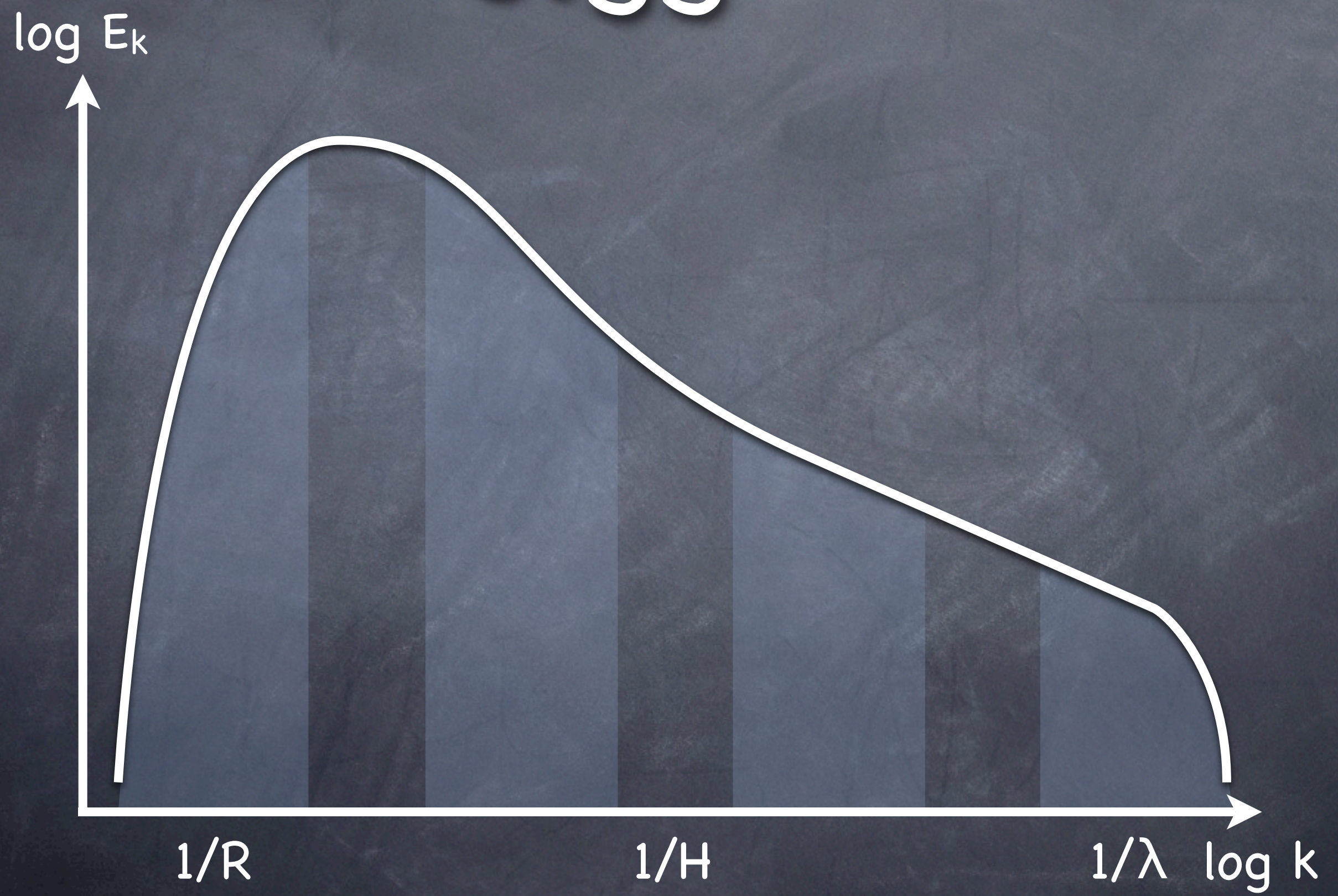
$1/R$

$1/H$

$1/\lambda$ $\log k$



$$\alpha_{SS} \sim T_{xy}/P$$



$$\alpha_{SS} \sim \int b_x b_y^* d^3k / P$$

$\log E_k$



We **knew** α_{SS} is a scale dependent "constant"

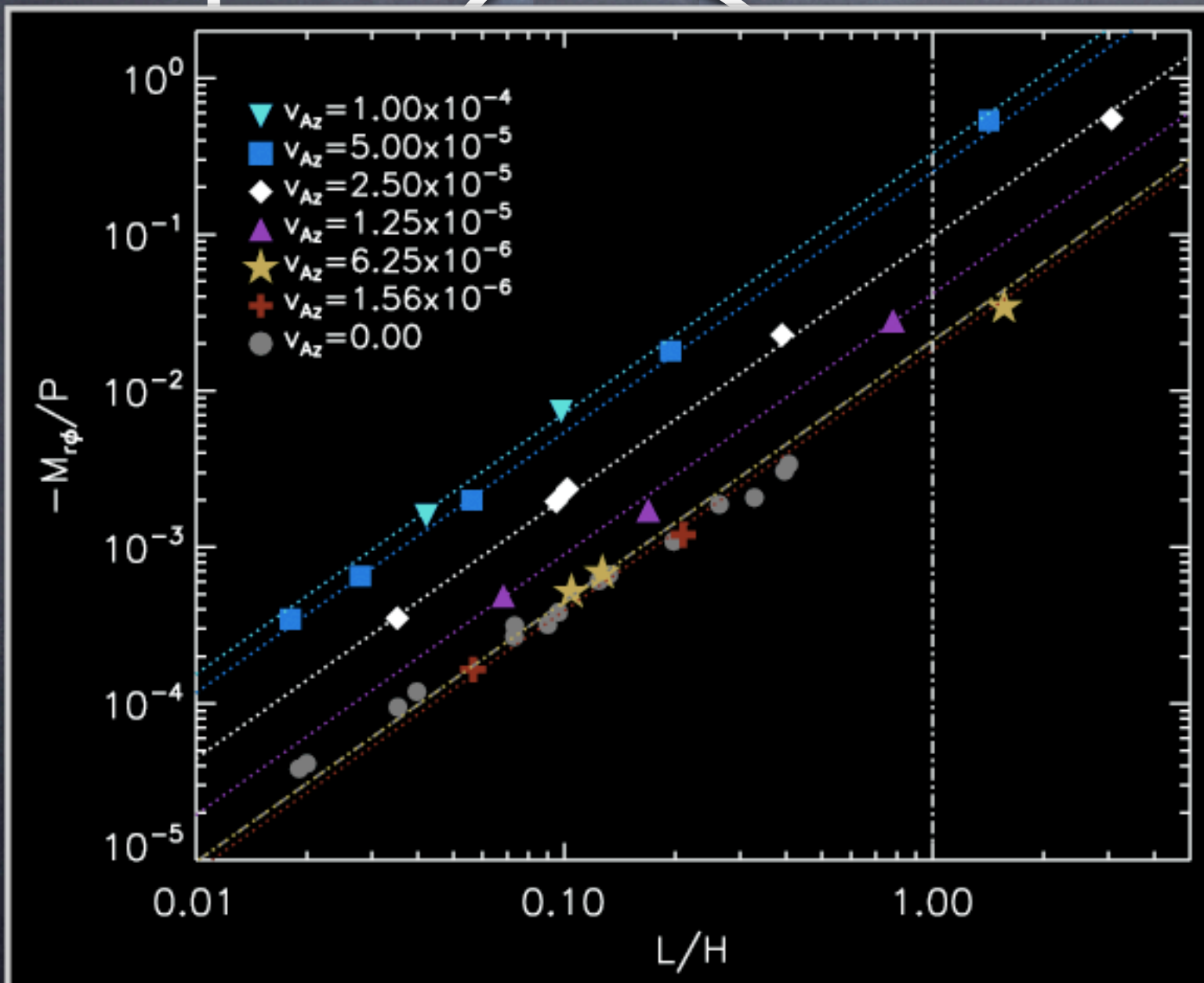
$1/R$

$1/H$

$1/\lambda$ $\log k$

$$\alpha_{SS} \sim \int b_x b_y^* d^3k / P$$

log E_k

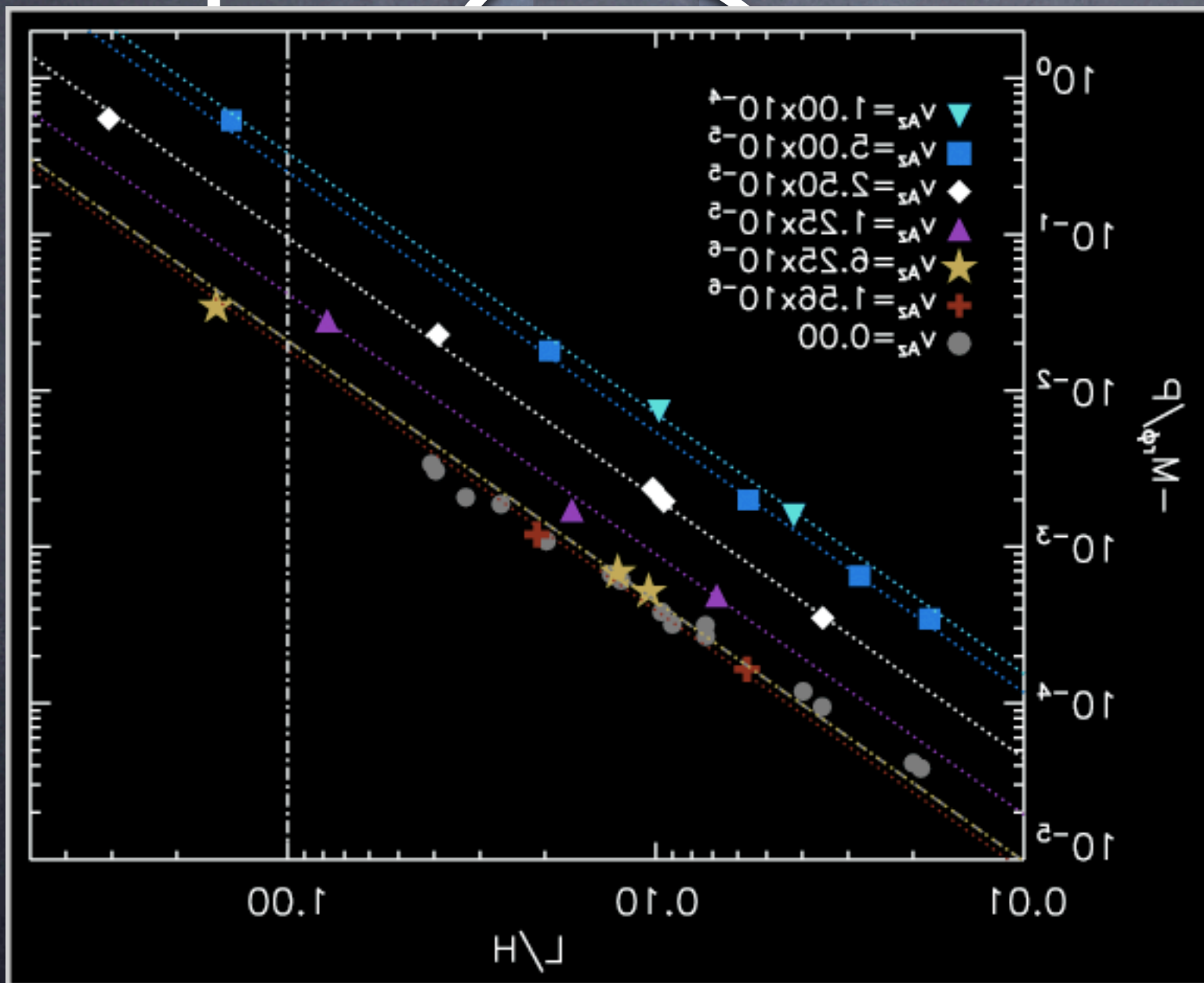


We **knew** α_{SS} is a scale dependent "constant"

$1/\lambda$ log k

$$\alpha_{SS} \sim \int b_x b_y^* d^3k / P$$

log E_k



We **knew** α_{SS} is a scale dependent "constant"



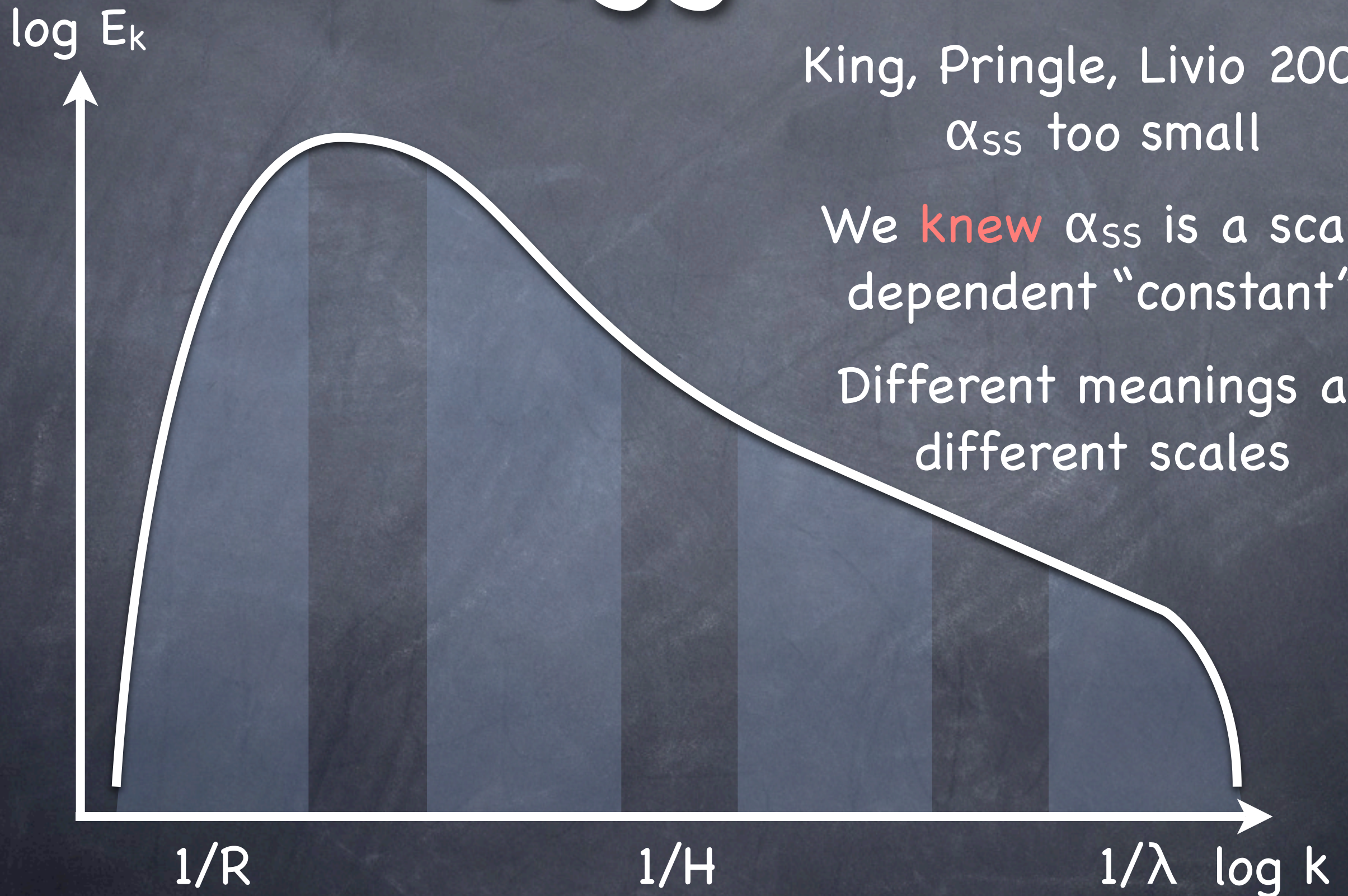
$1/\lambda \log k$

$$\alpha_{SS} \sim \int b_x b_y^* d^3k / P$$

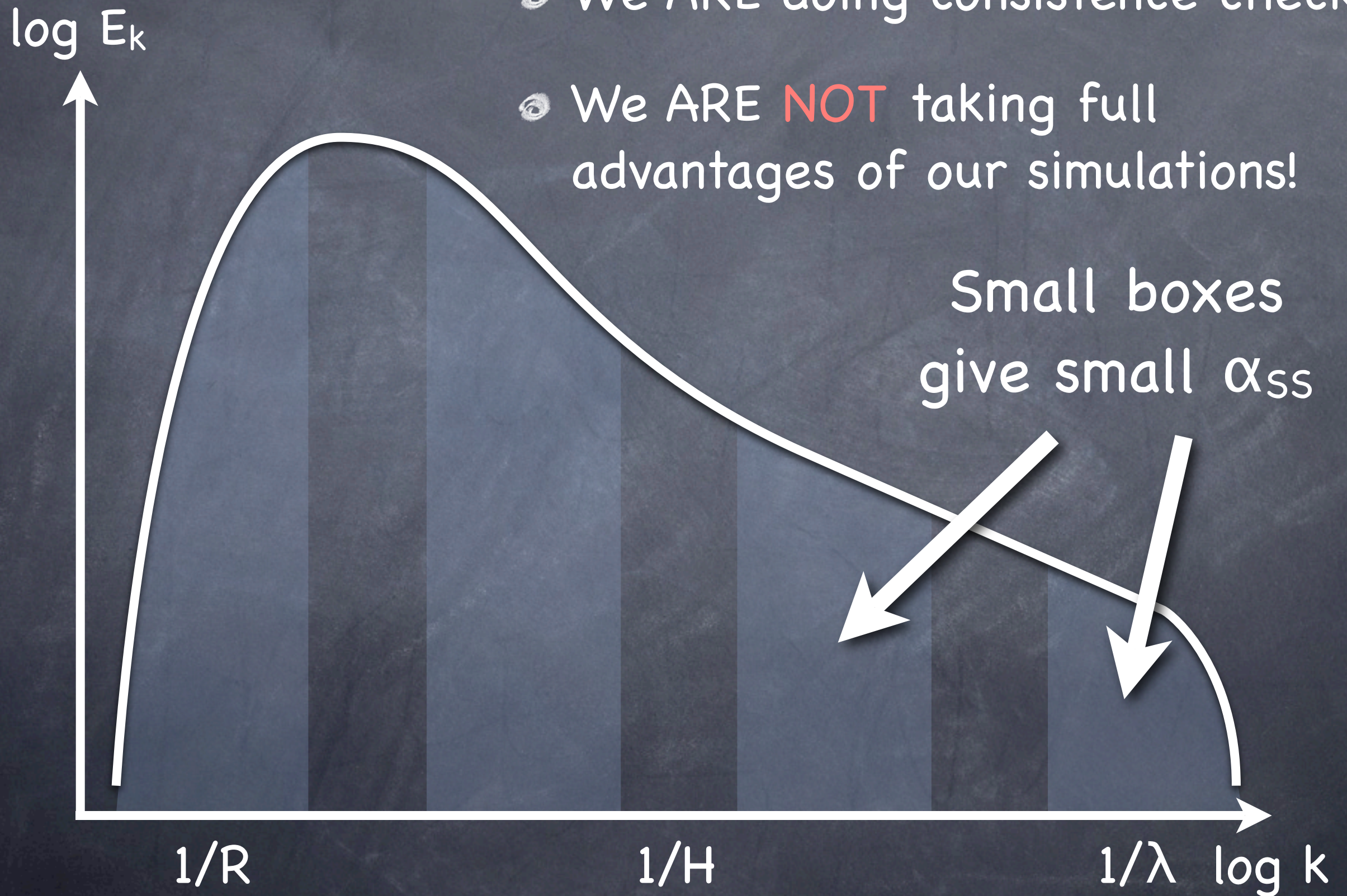
King, Pringle, Livio 2007:
 α_{SS} too small

We **knew** α_{SS} is a scale
dependent "constant"

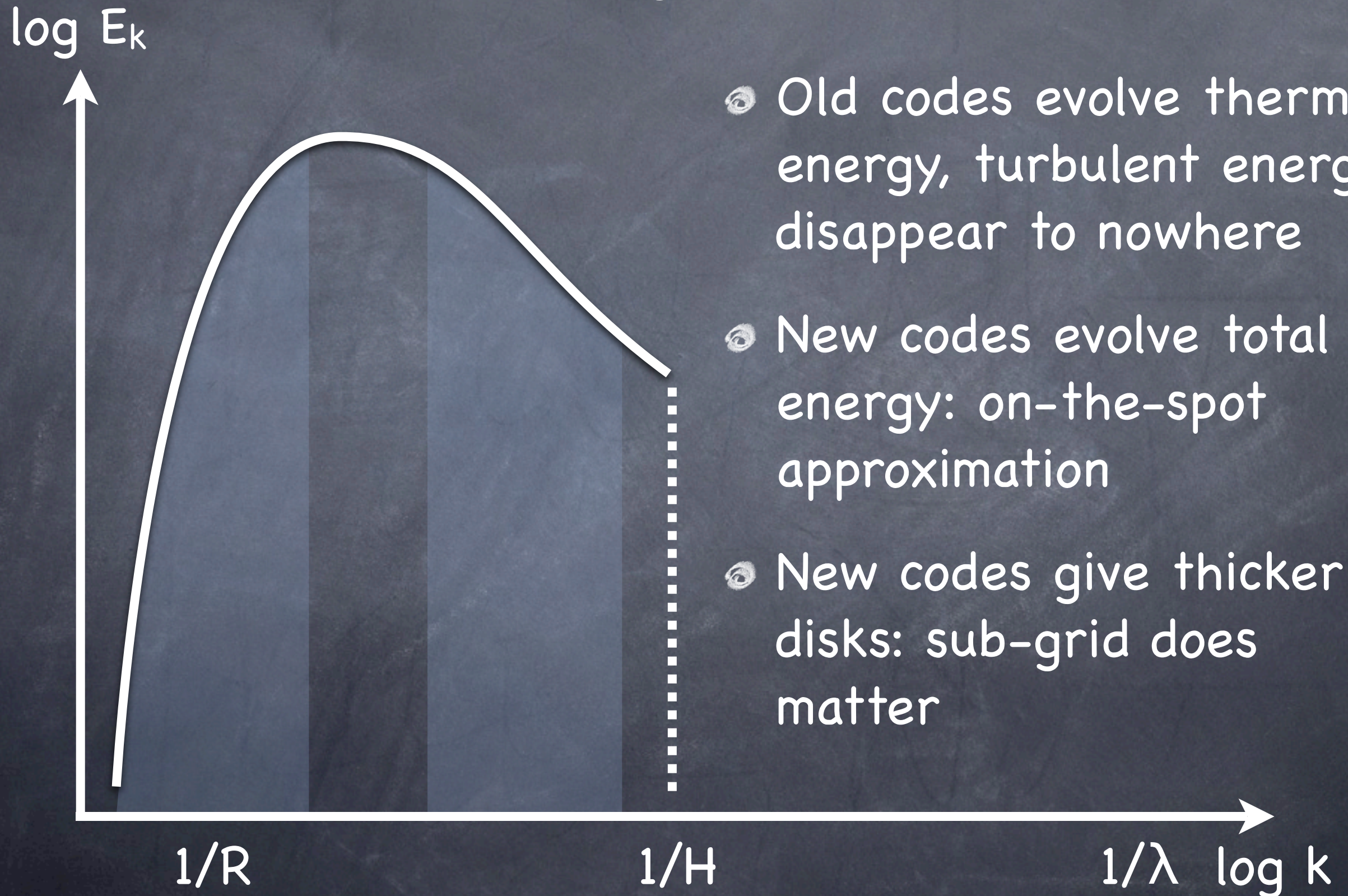
Different meanings at
different scales



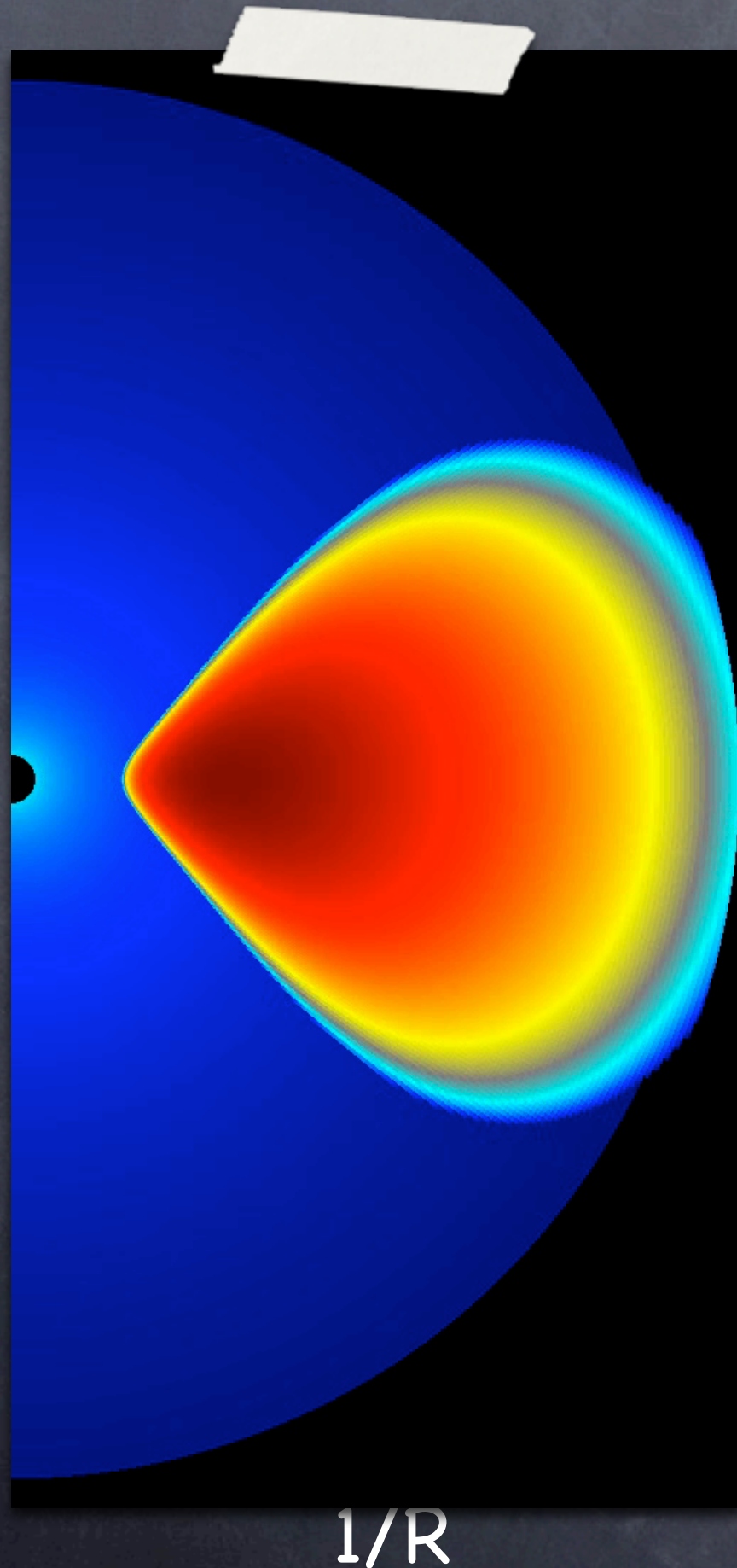
- We ARE doing multi-scale studies
- We ARE doing consistence check
- We ARE **NOT** taking full advantages of our simulations!



- Maybe study large scales only?
Forget about small scales?



- Old codes evolve thermal energy, turbulent energy disappear to nowhere
- New codes evolve total energy: on-the-spot approximation
- New codes give thicker disks: sub-grid does matter



McKinney & Gammie (2004)

- Maybe study large scales only?
Forget about small scales?

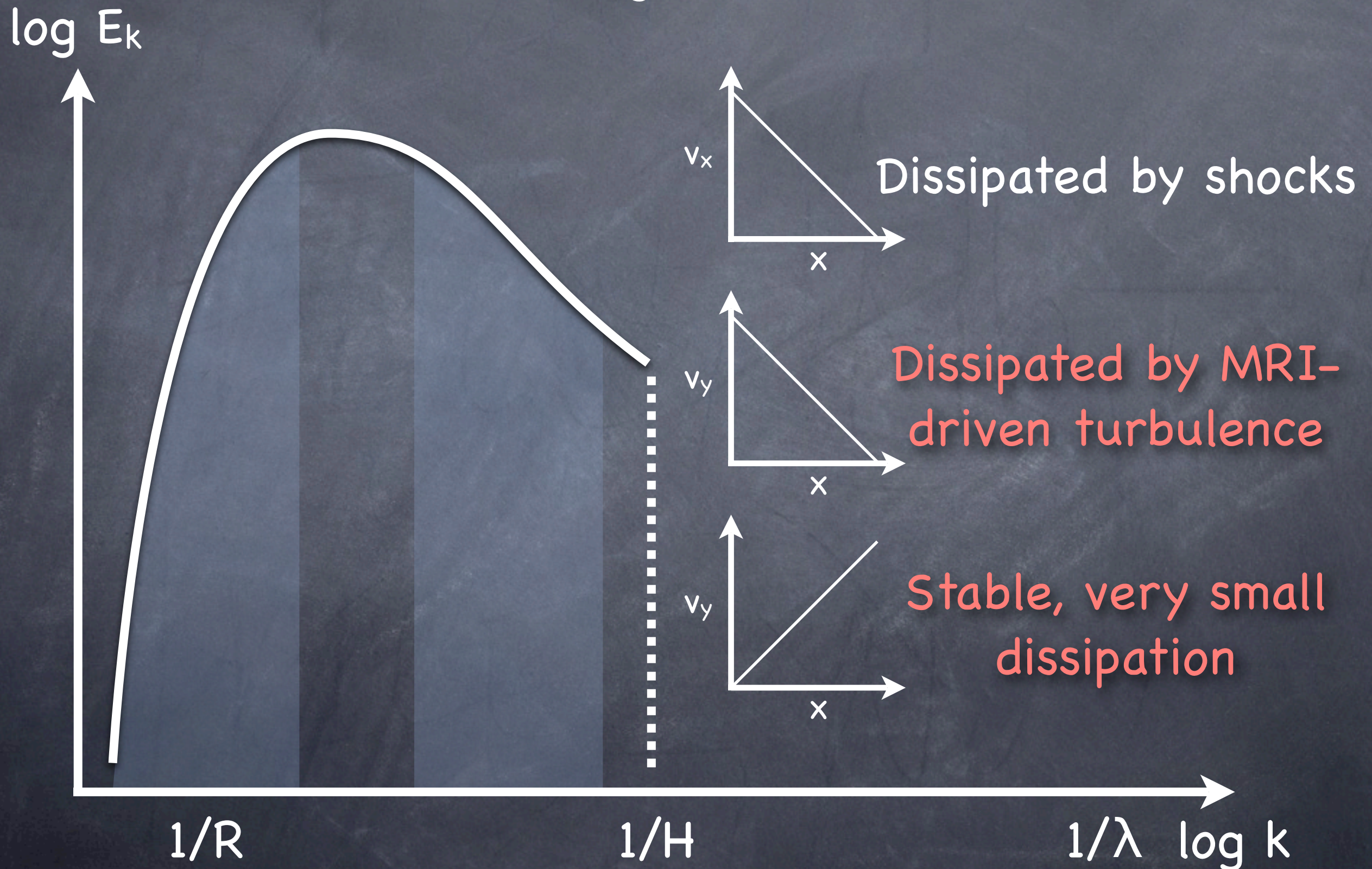
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$1/R$

$1/H$

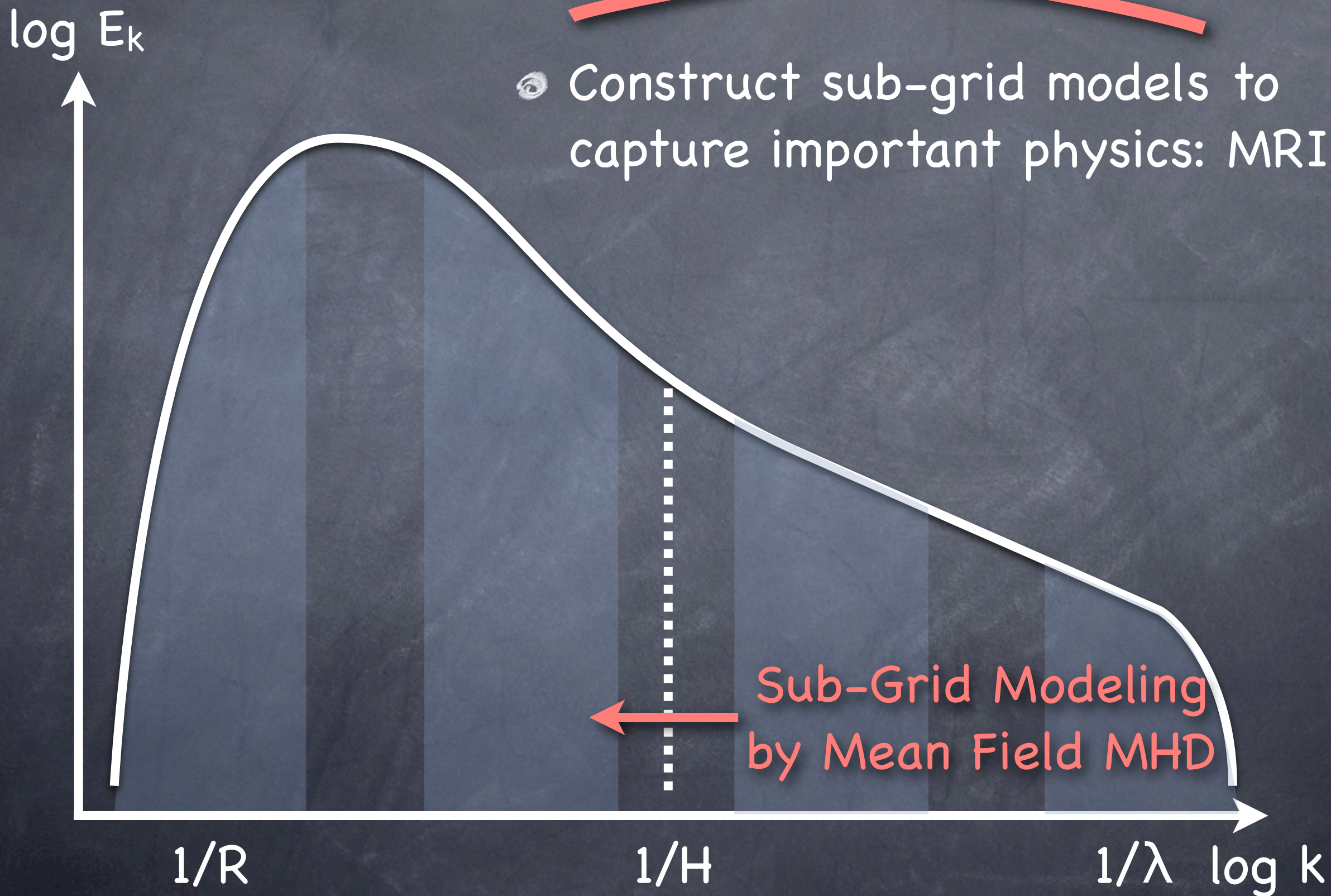
$1/\lambda$ $\log k$

- Maybe study large scales only?
Forget about small scales?



• ~~Maybe study large scales only?
Forget about small scales?~~

• Construct sub-grid models to capture important physics: MRI



- Sub-grid modeling by mean field MHD: average over MHD equations

- Mean turbulent stress:

$$T_{ij} \equiv R_{ij} - M_{ij} \equiv \langle v'_i v'_j \rangle - \langle b'_i b'_j \rangle$$

- Mean turbulent EMF:

$$\mathcal{E}_i \equiv \langle u' \times b' \rangle_i$$

- Ideally, measure T_{ij} and \mathcal{E}_i from simulations, find transport coefficients, feed them back to simulations!

Dynamo people
care about this

Engineers
care about this

Accretion people
care about this

A Model for MRI-Driven Turb.

- Use our knowledge of MRI to construct a minimal turbulence model (Pessah, Chan, & Psaltis 2006)
- Minimal equations containing MRI

$$\partial_t \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ b_x \\ b_y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & ik & 0 \\ -(2-q) & 0 & 0 & ik \\ ik & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & ik & -q & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \\ b_x \\ b_y \end{bmatrix}$$

- Derive dynamic equations for 2nd order correlations

$$\frac{1}{2} \partial_t \langle b_x b_x \rangle = \langle i k b_x v_x \rangle$$

- How to model $\langle i k b_x v_x \rangle$?

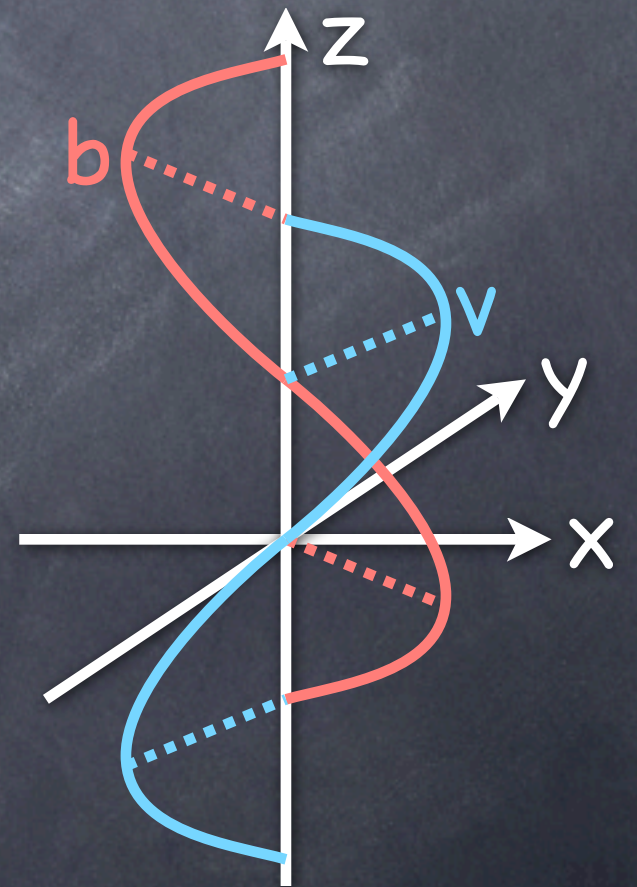
$$\langle i k b_x v_x \rangle \equiv i K \langle b_x v_x \rangle$$

- Won't work, because (unstable) fluctuations are out of phase, $\langle b_i v_j \rangle$ always small!

- Define

$$W_{xy} \equiv - \langle i k b_x v_x \rangle \equiv \langle b_x \omega_y \rangle$$

- Treat it as new dynamic variable, closure at "second moment" in ik



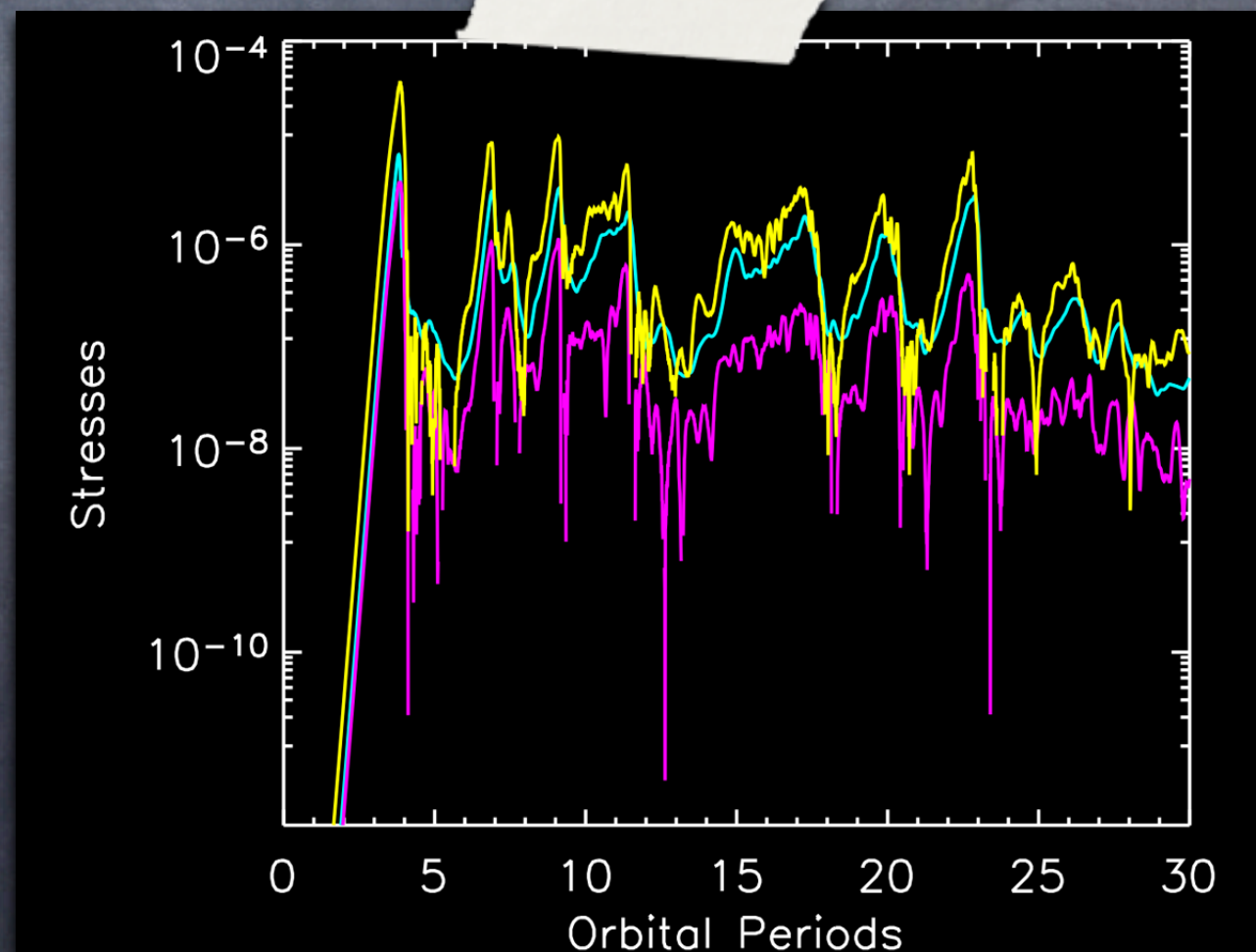
• R_{ij} , M_{ij} , and W_{ij} , 12 dynamic equations, e.g.,

$$\partial_t R_{xx} = 4R_{xy} + 2W_{xy}$$

$$\partial_t W_{xy} = 2W_{yy} - K^2 R_{xx} + K^2 M_{xx}$$

$$\partial_t M_{xx} = -2W_{xy}$$

• $K^2 \equiv \langle k^2 v_i v_j \rangle / R_{ij} \approx \langle k^2 b_i b_j \rangle / M_{ij}$



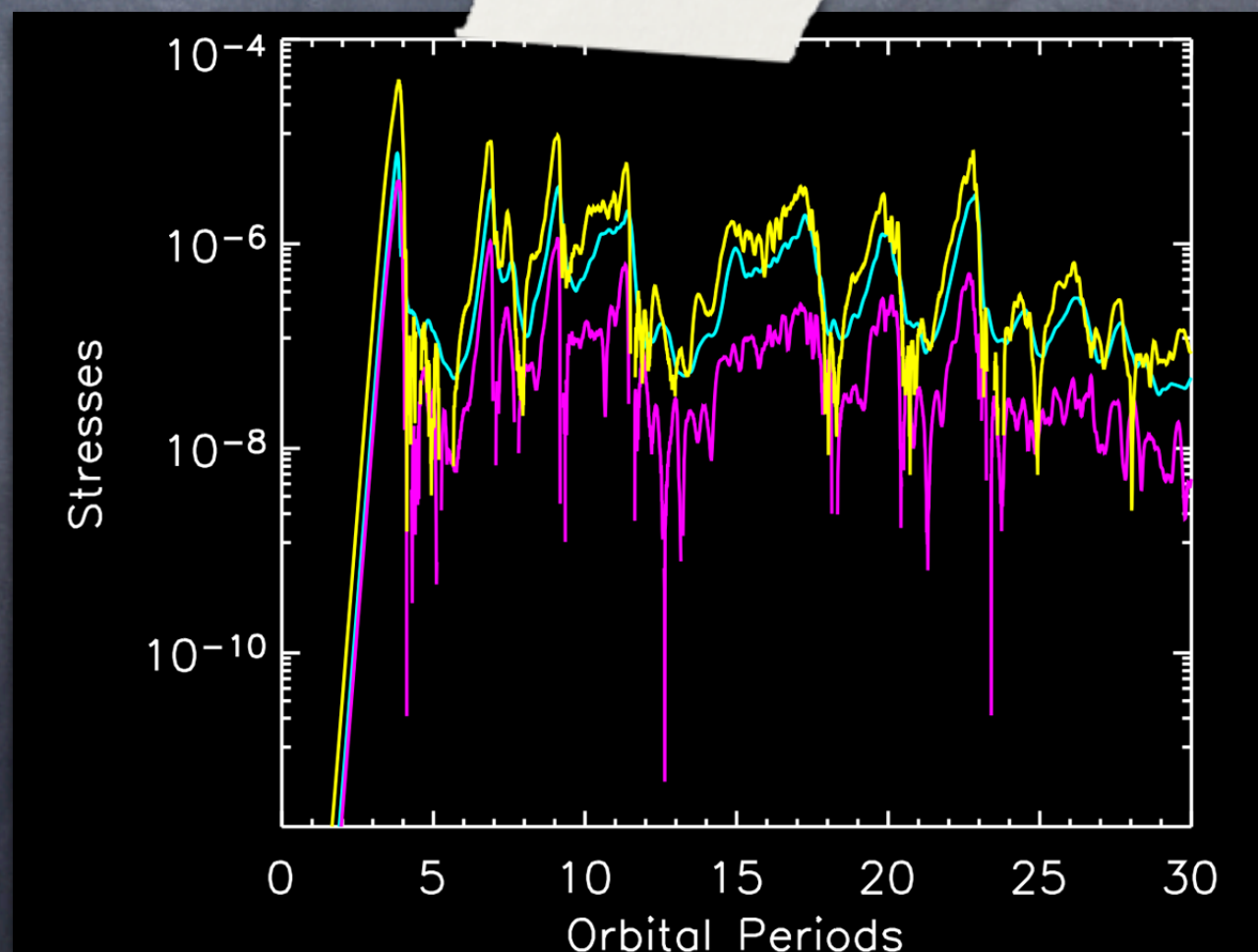
- Very simple nonlinear saturation term

$$\partial_t R_{xx} = 4R_{xy} + 2W_{xy} - \sqrt{M/M_0} R_{xx}$$

$$\partial_t W_{xy} = 2W_{yy} - K^2 R_{xx} + K^2 M_{xx} - \sqrt{M/M_0} W_{xy}$$

$$\partial_t M_{xx} = -2W_{xy} - \sqrt{M/M_0} M_{xx}$$

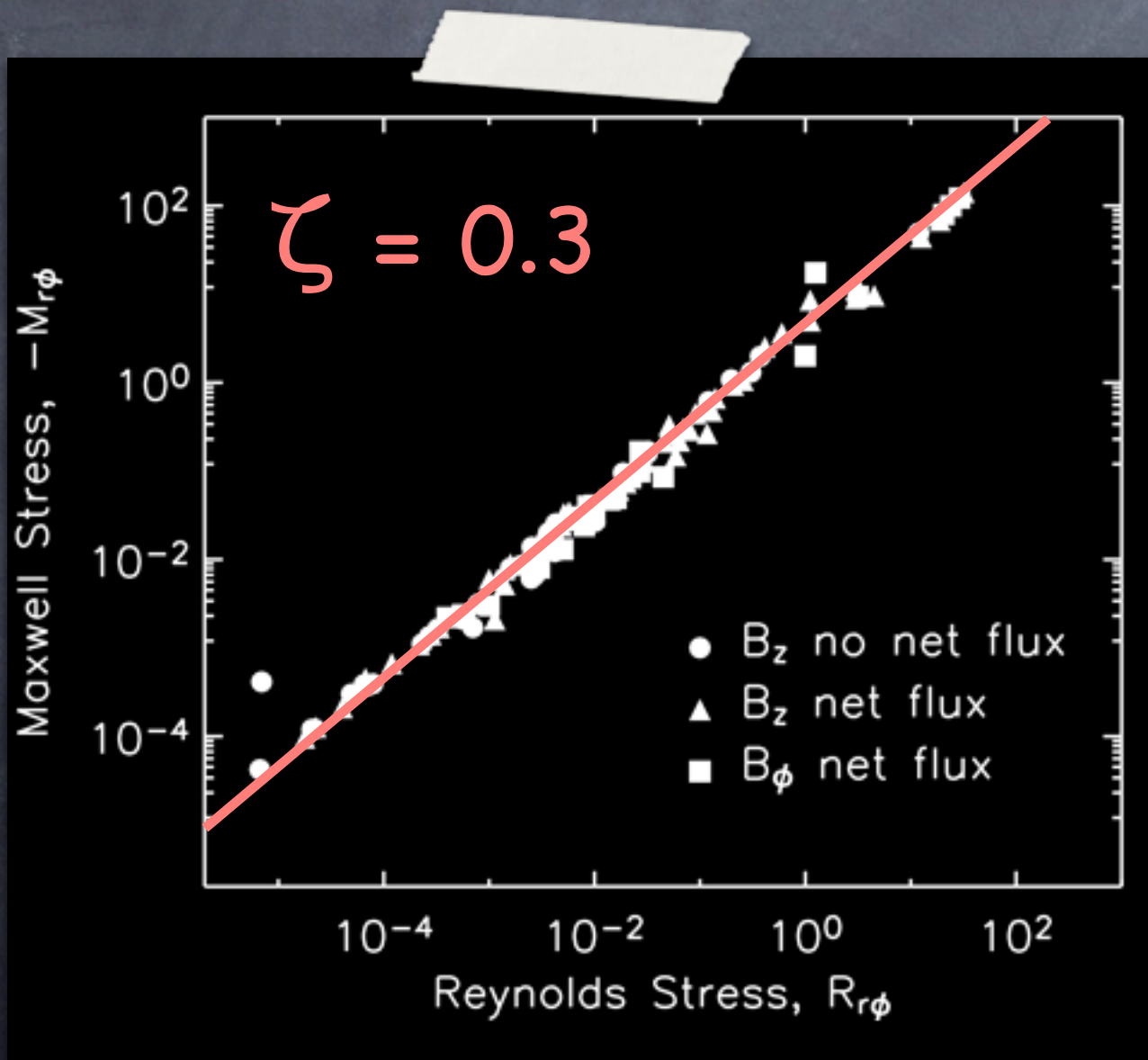
- $M \equiv M_{xx} + M_{yy}$, $M_0/2 =$ saturated magnetic energy



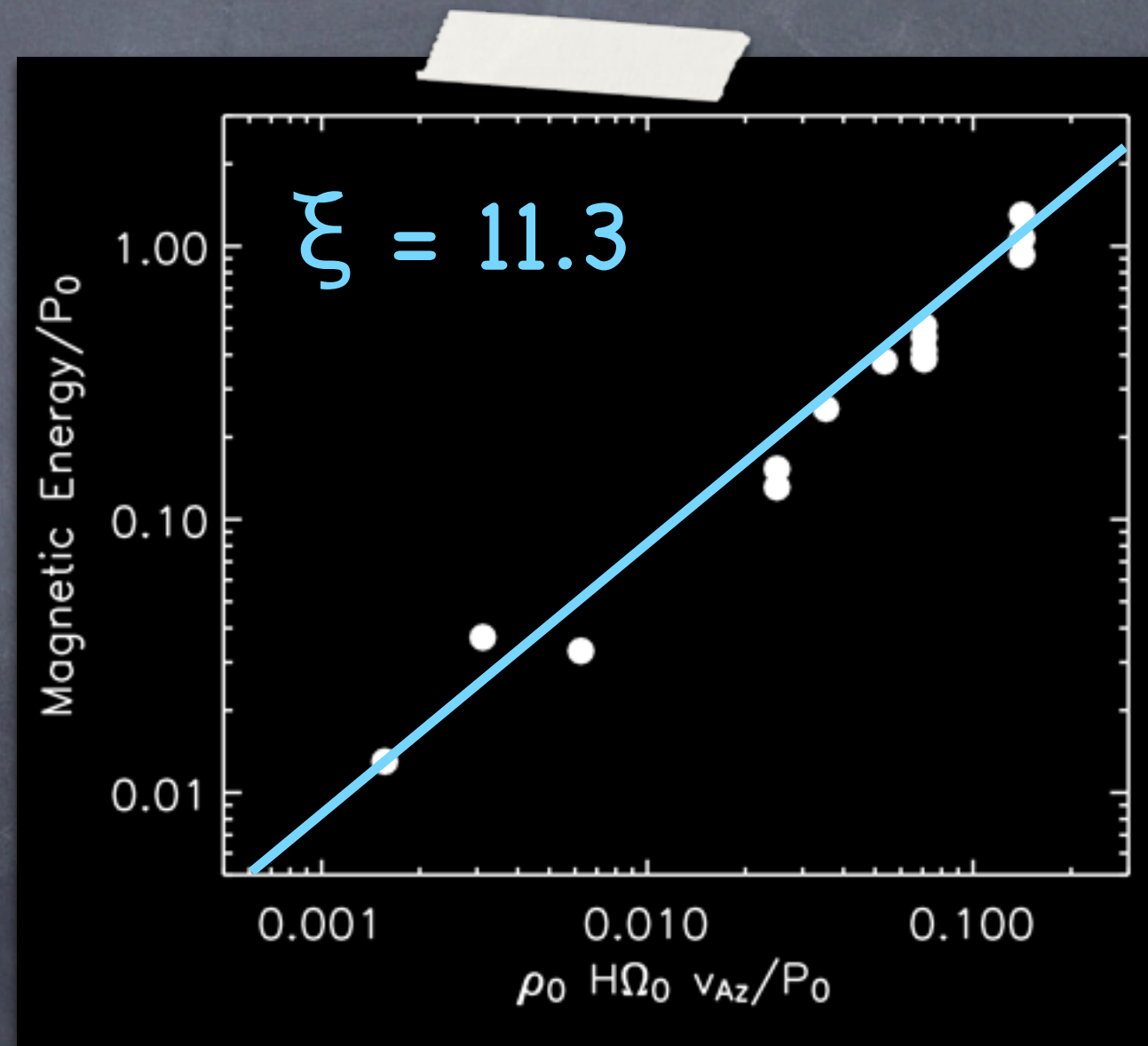
Two parameters ζ and ξ :

$K = \zeta k_{\max}$

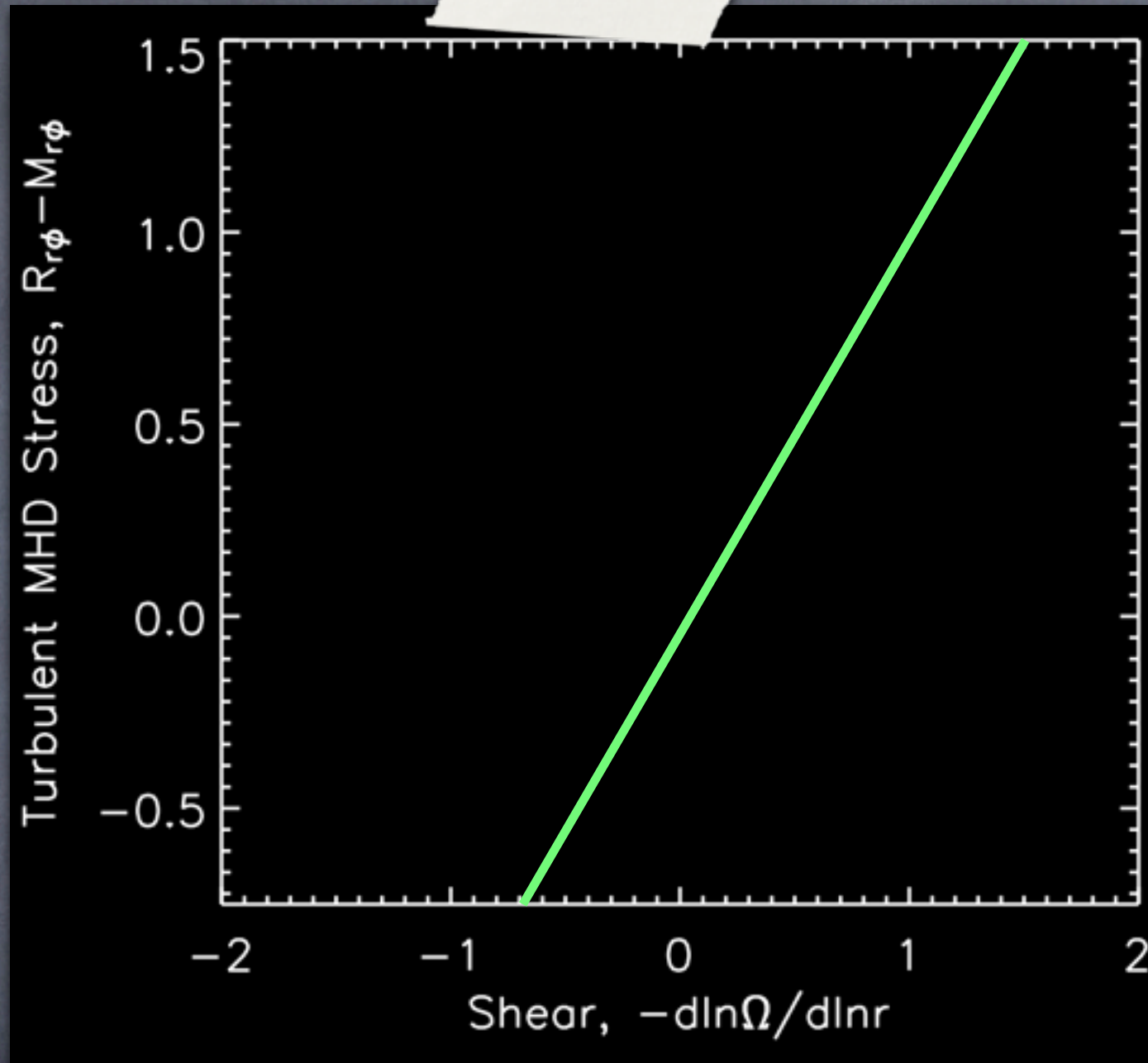
$M_0 = 2\xi\rho_0H\Omega_0b_z$



Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2006a

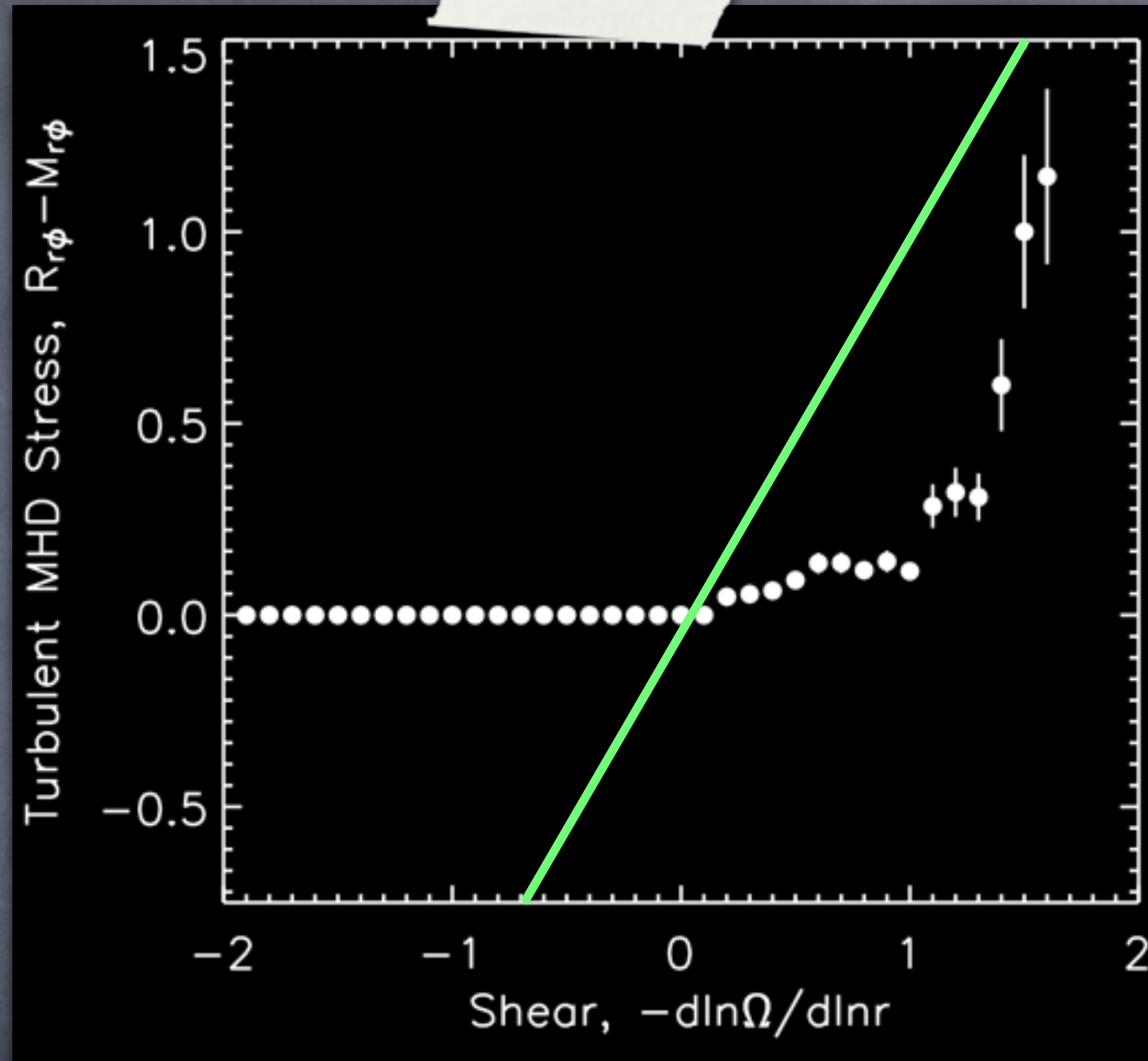


Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2006b, data from Hawley et al 1995



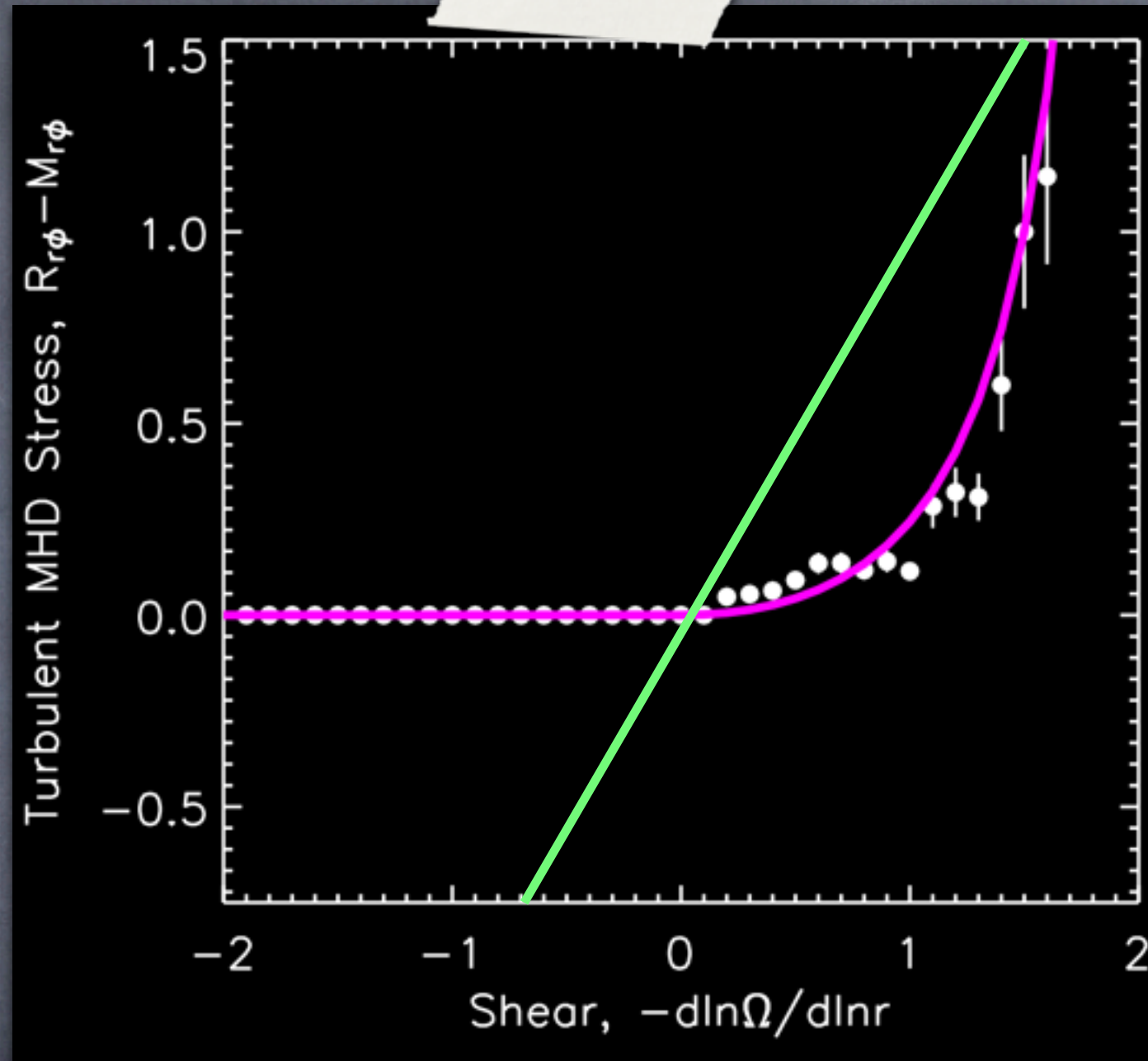
Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2006b

α_{SS} -model is Newtonian



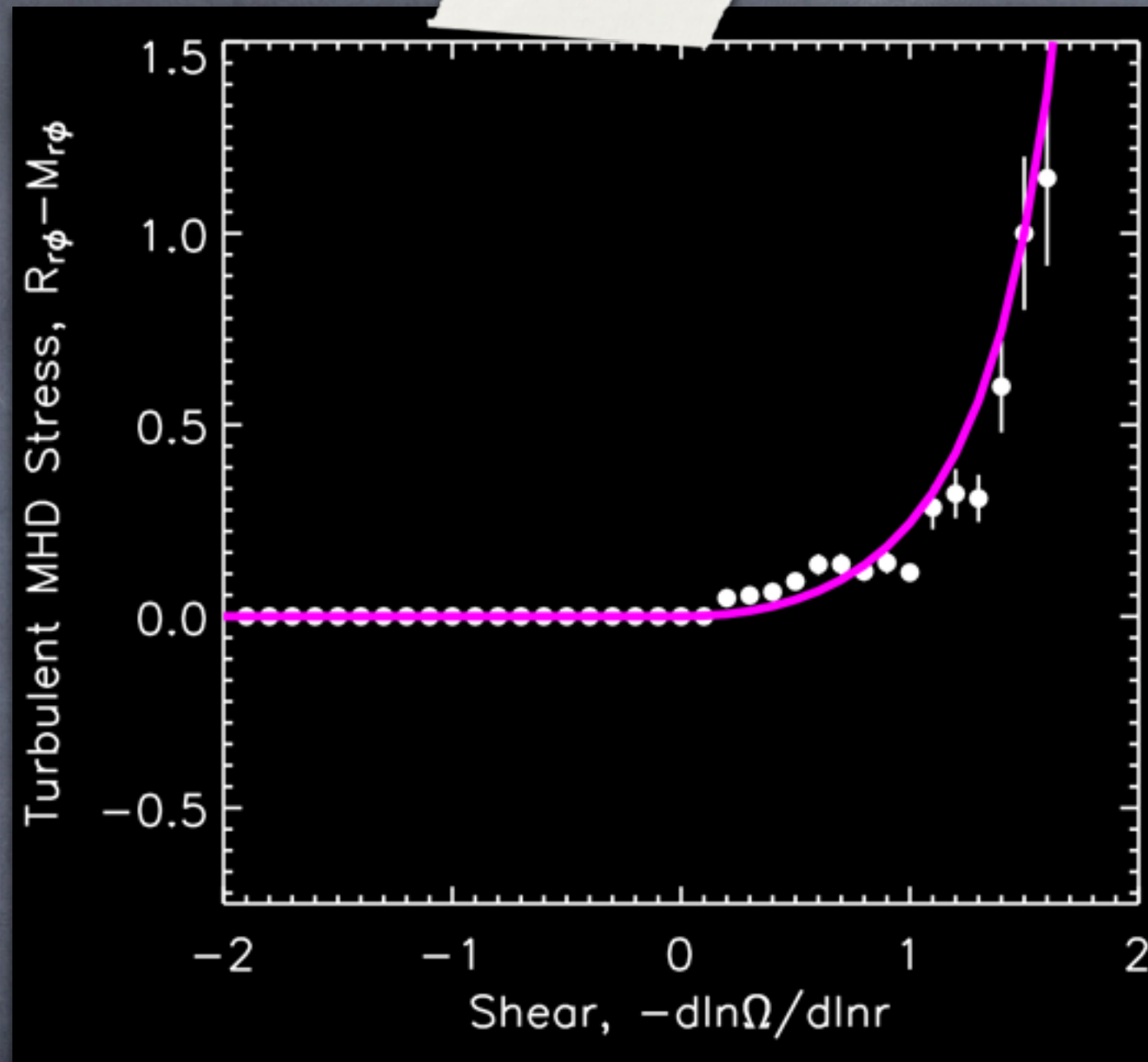
Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2006b

MRI-driven turbulent stress from shearing boxes



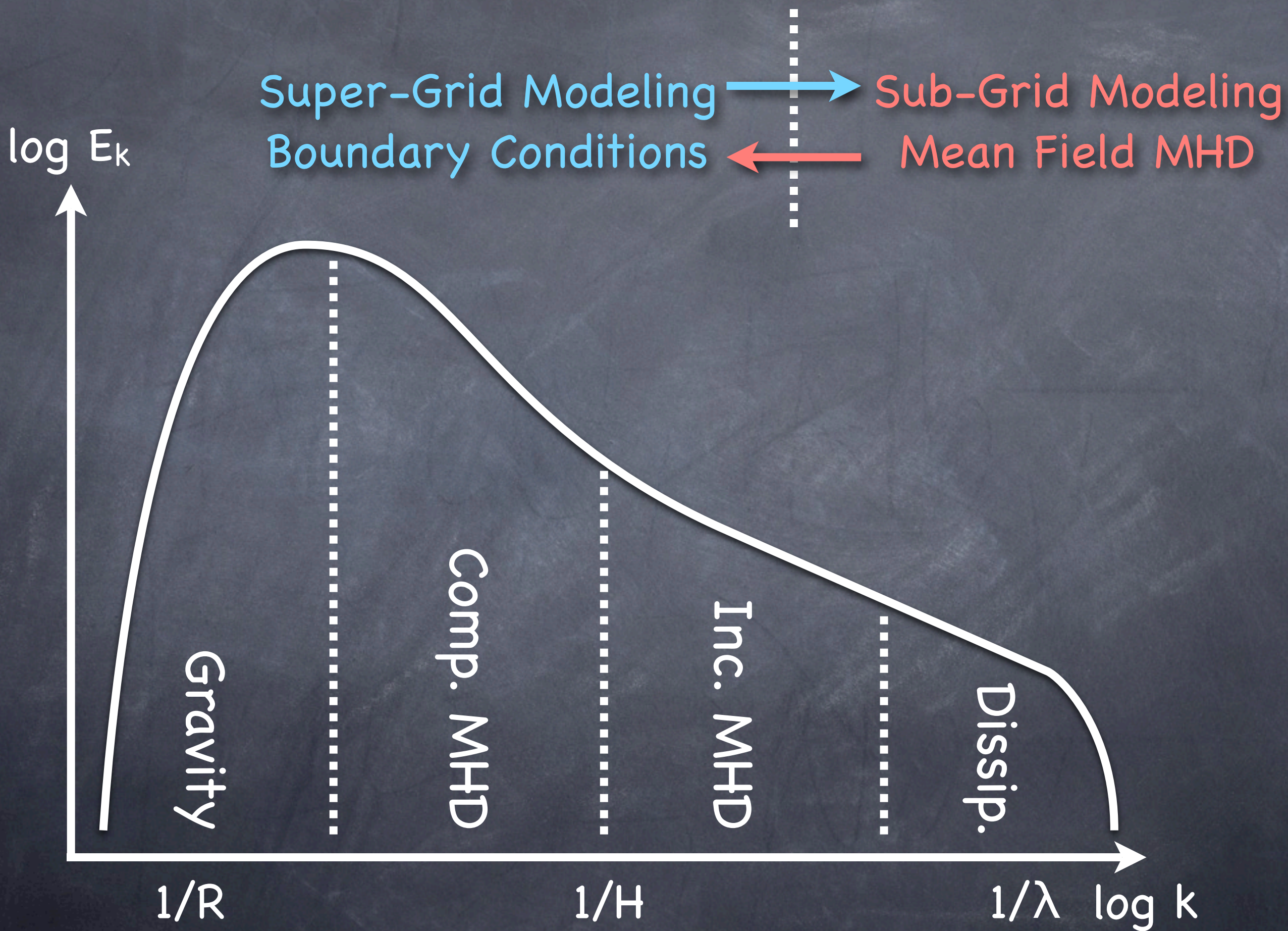
Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2006b

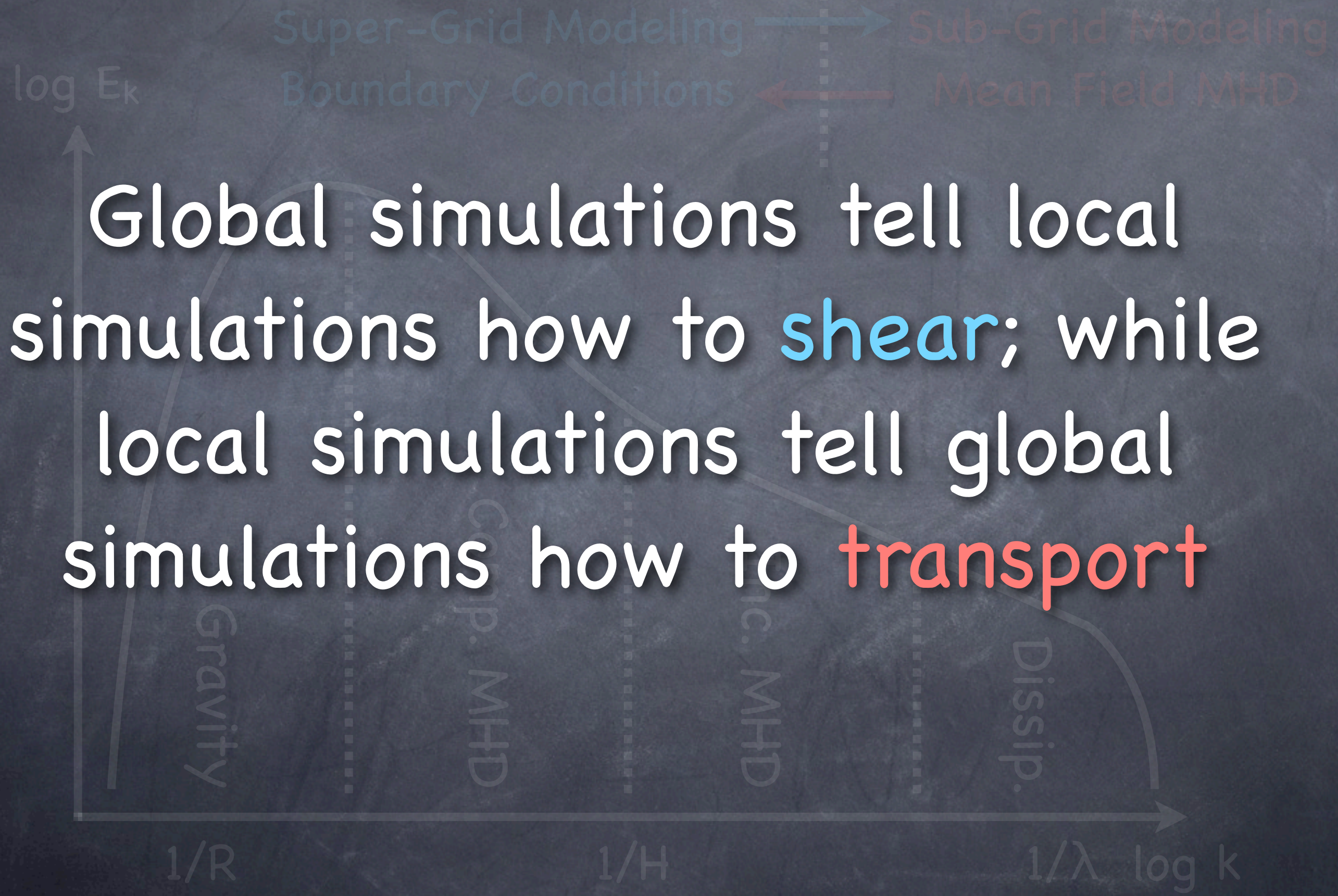
Parameters fit by Keplerian shearing boxes



Pessah, Chan, Psaltis 2006b

A simple turbulence model that can capture MRI





Global simulations tell local simulations how to **shear**; while local simulations tell global simulations how to **transport**