



Solar cycle & Dynamo Modeling

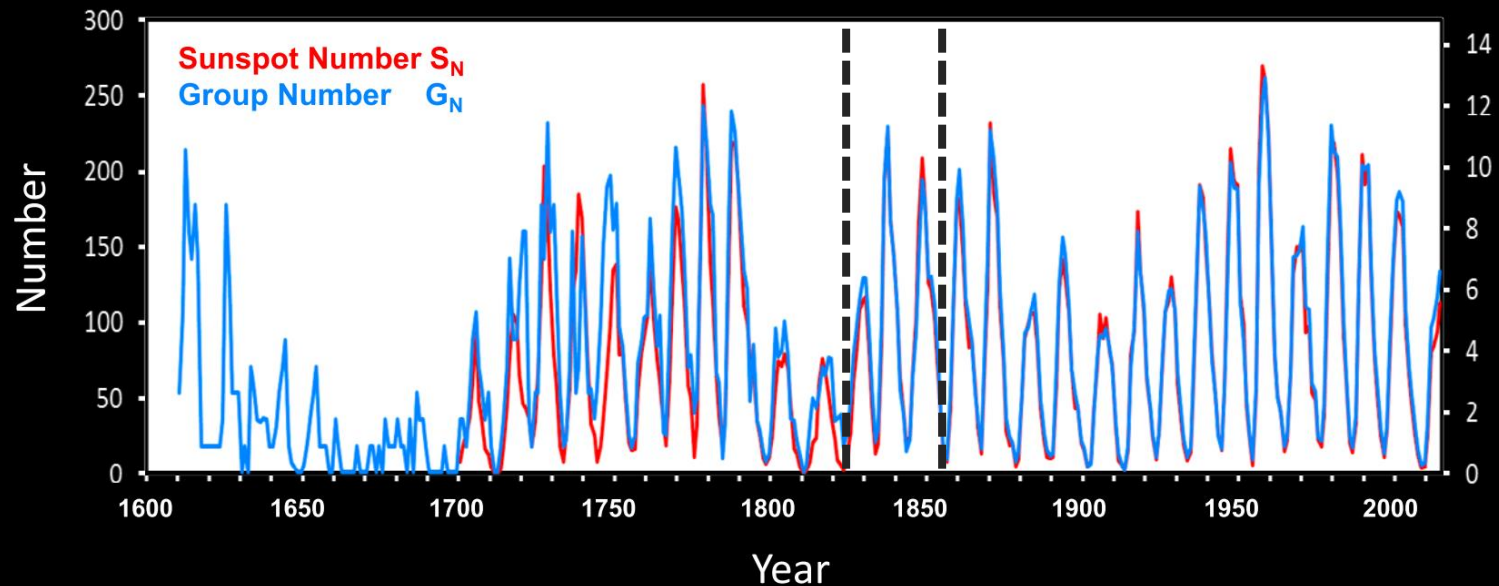
Andrés Muñoz-Jaramillo

www.solardynamo.org

Georgia State University
University of California - Berkeley
Stanford University

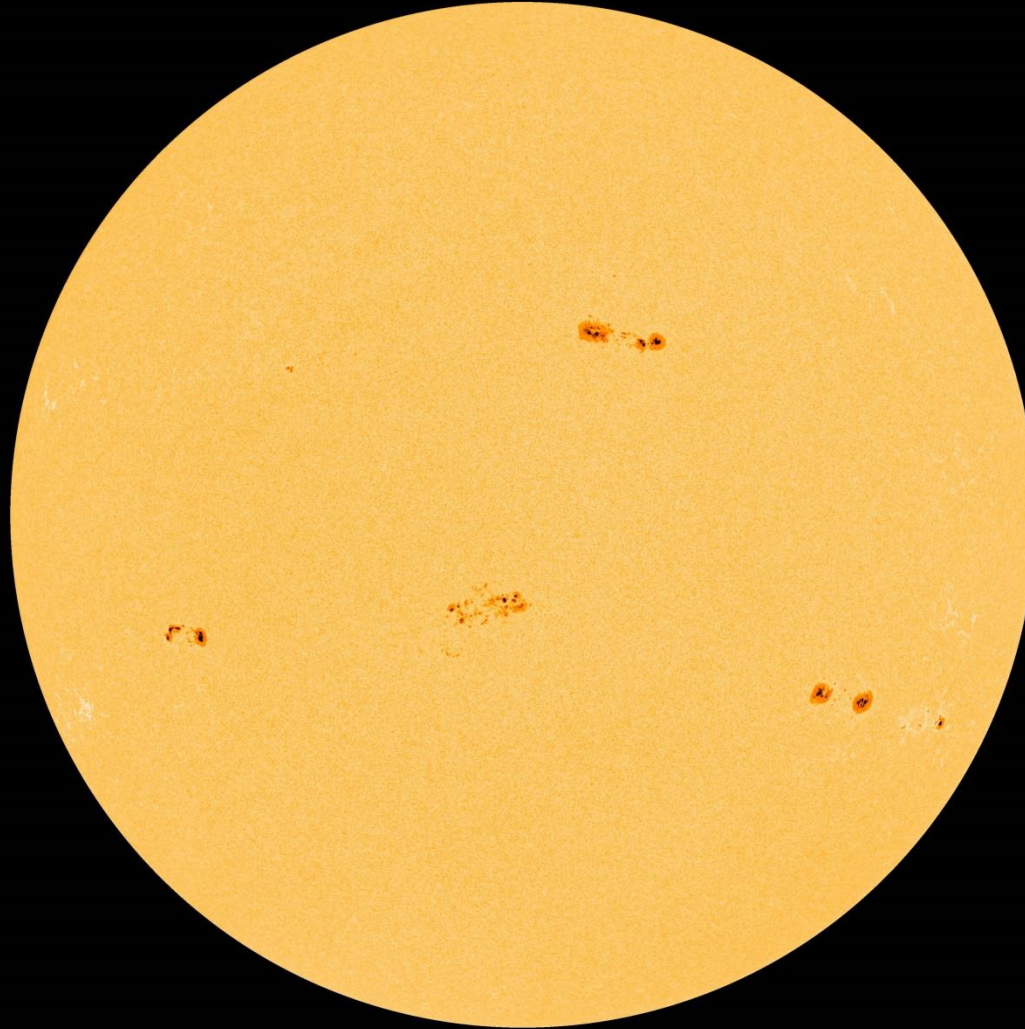
THE SOLAR CYCLE: A MAGNETIC PHENOMENON

The solar cycle was discovered by Schwabe 1843 when he found that sunspot numbers change in time



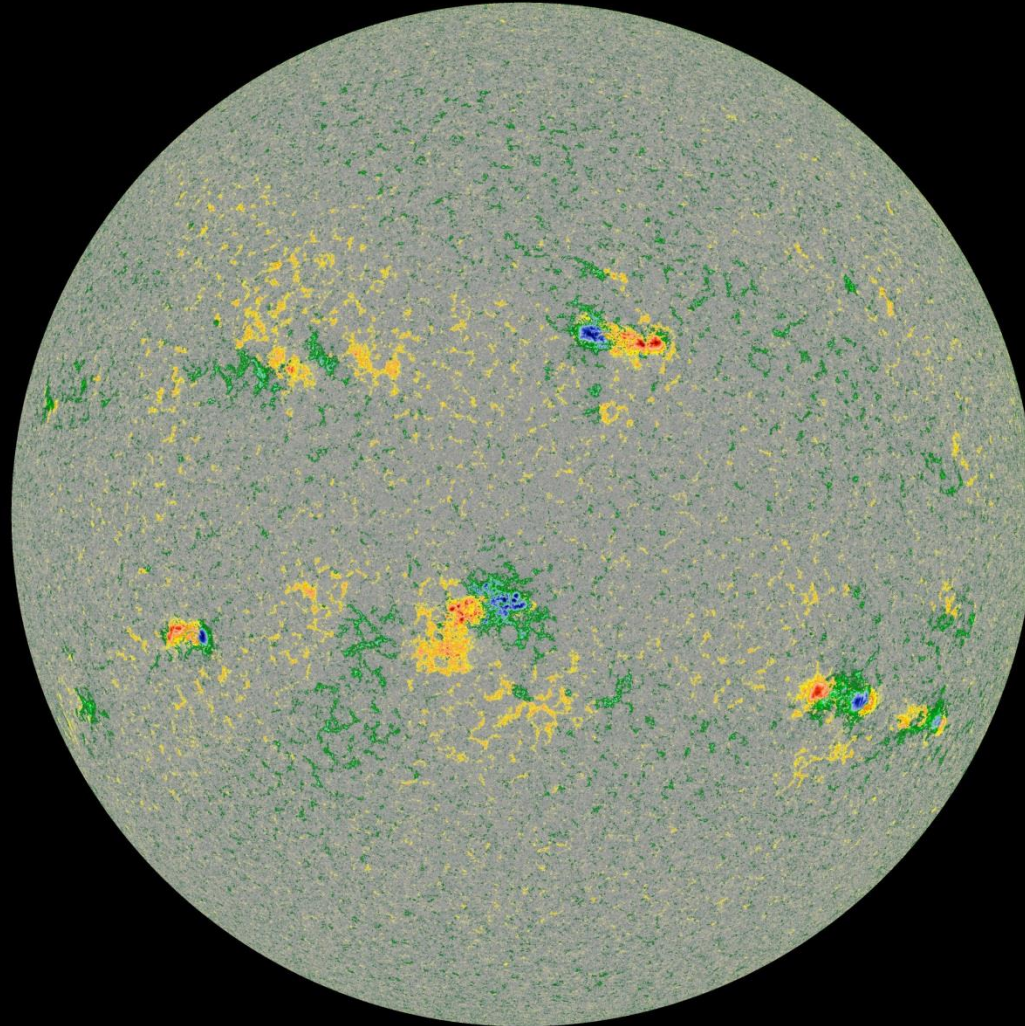
- Alternating peaks in solar activity (maxima), followed by quiet periods (minima).
- Time variation is predominantly cyclic, mean period is 11 years.

Sunspots are associated with regions of very strong magnetic field (Hale 1908)



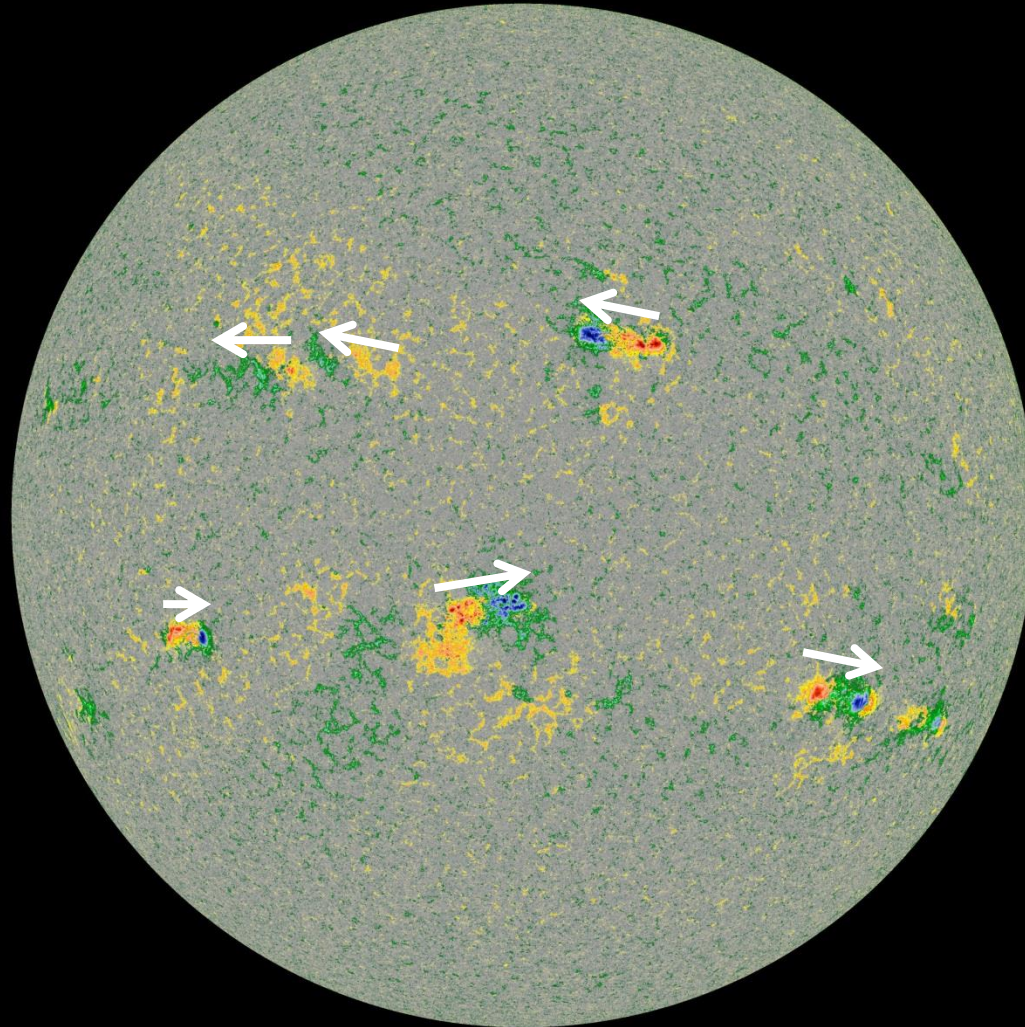
SDO/HMI Quick-Look Continuum: 20120420_193000

Sunspots are associated with regions of very strong magnetic field (Hale 1908)



Fields generally appear at the surface in the form of bipolar structures called active regions

Sunspots are associated with regions of very strong magnetic field (Hale 1908)

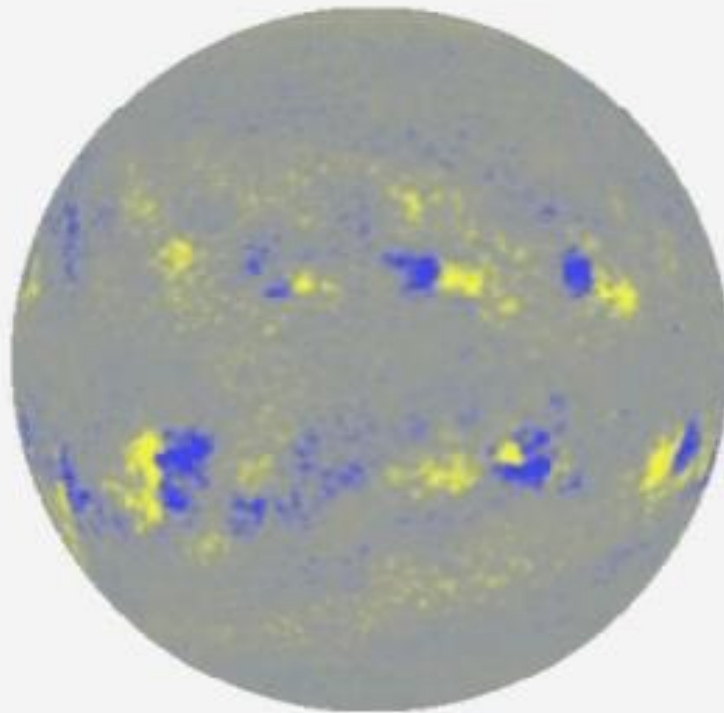


SDO/HMI Quick-Look Magnetogram: 20120420_193000

Active regions present systematic orientation and inclination

SDO/HMI

**The most visible features of the cycle are
associated with active regions**



Movie by David Hathaway

The most visible features of the cycle are associated with active regions

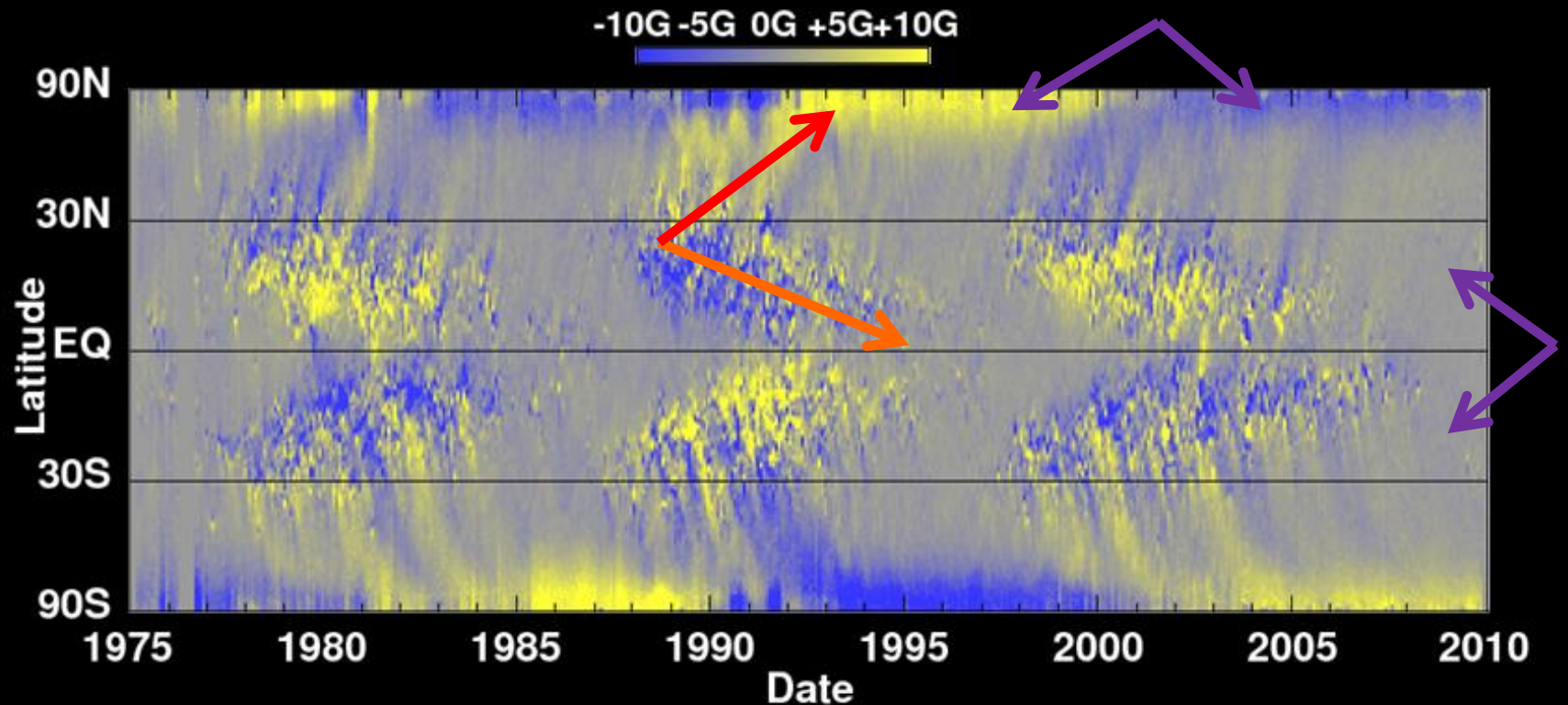


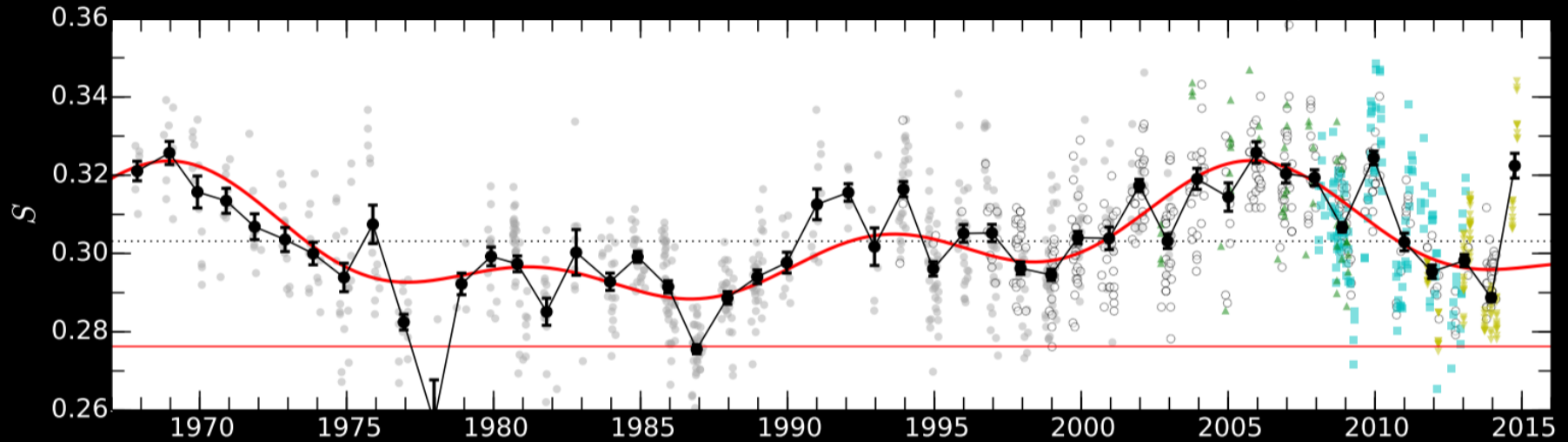
Image by David Hathaway

- Equatorward migration of active latitudes.
- Poleward migration of their decayed diffuse field
- Polar field reversal at the maximum of the cycle and across hemispheres.

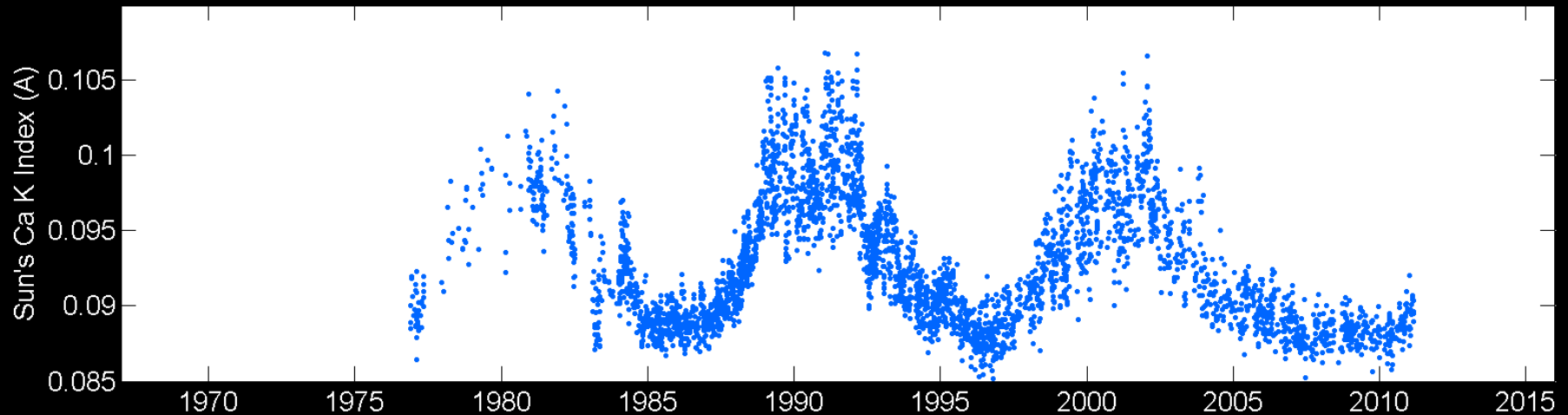
A cycle is not unique to the Sun

HD 30495

Egeland et al. (2015)



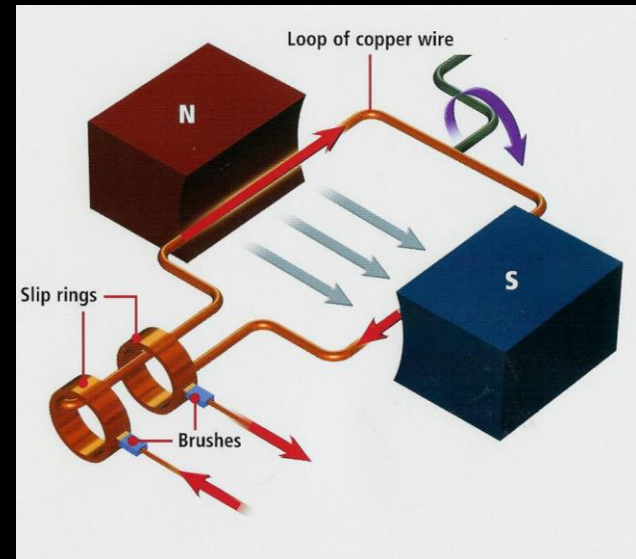
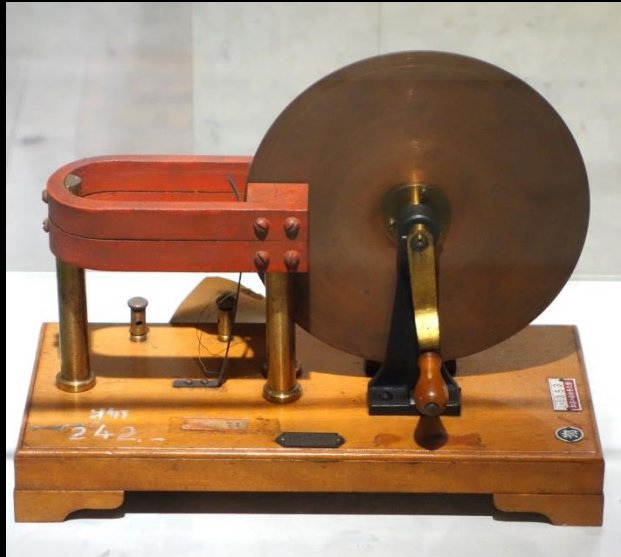
Sun



THE STELLAR DYNAMO

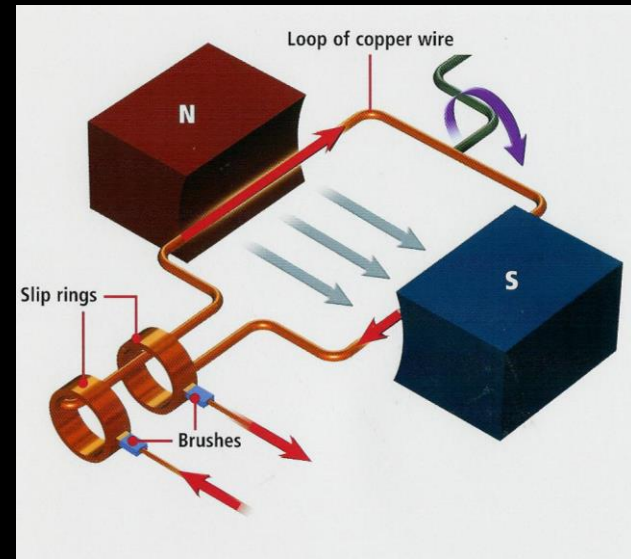
What is a Dynamo?

A machine that converts kinetic energy into electric energy by moving a conductor inside a magnetic field.



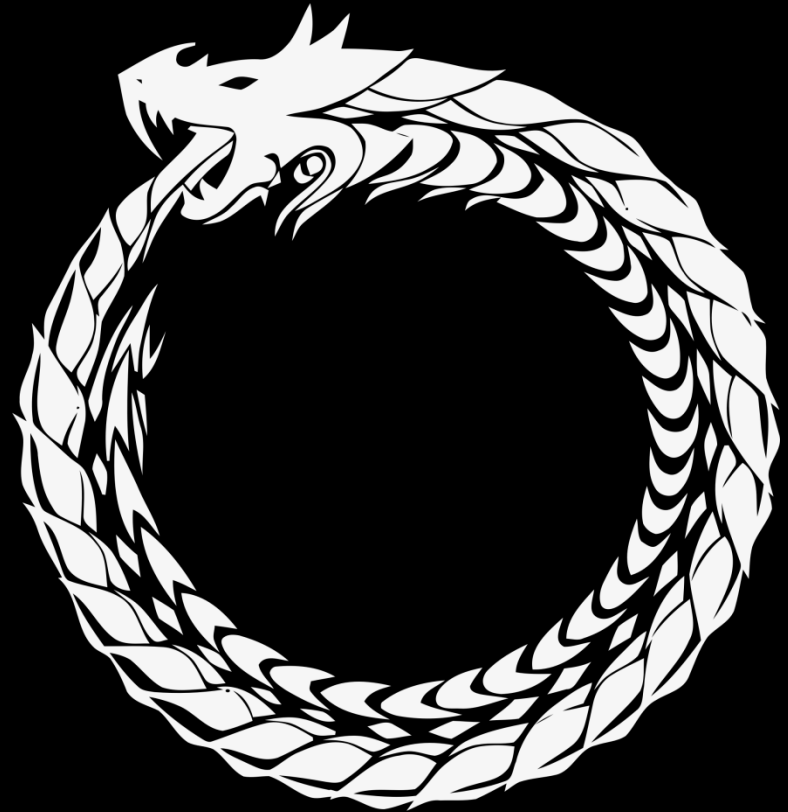
In stellar dynamos things are much more complicated

- The shape of the current loop can change freely to create very stable magnetic structures.
- The magnetic field restricts the movement of particles resulting in elastic behavior.
- The magnetic field used to induce the current is sustained by the induced current.



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BASIC NECESSARY STEPS FOR A SAFE AND FULFILLING DYNAMO EXPERIENCE



***NOT RECOMMENDED IN AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY**

Silly Putty Time!

1



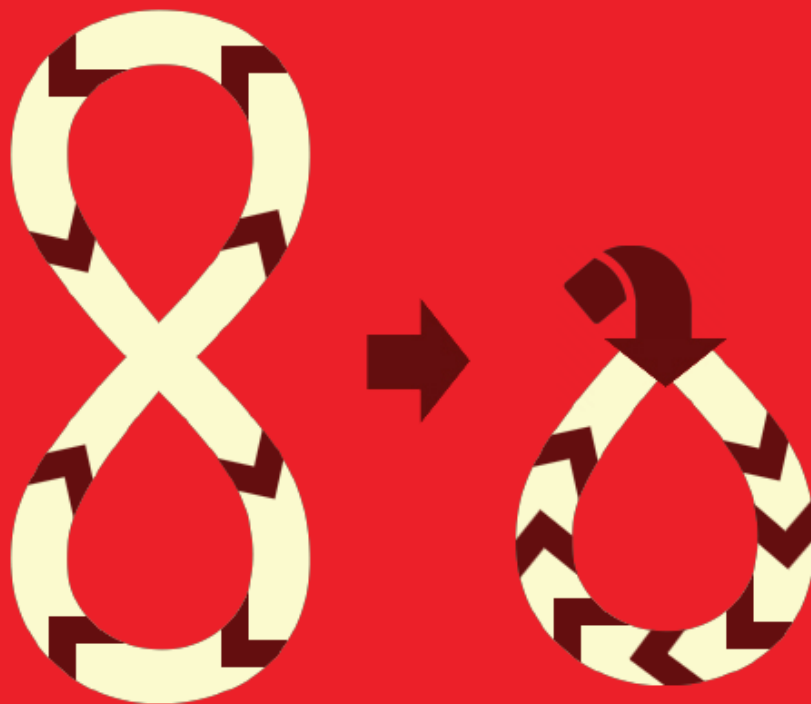
STRETCH!

2



TWIST!

3



FOLD!

1



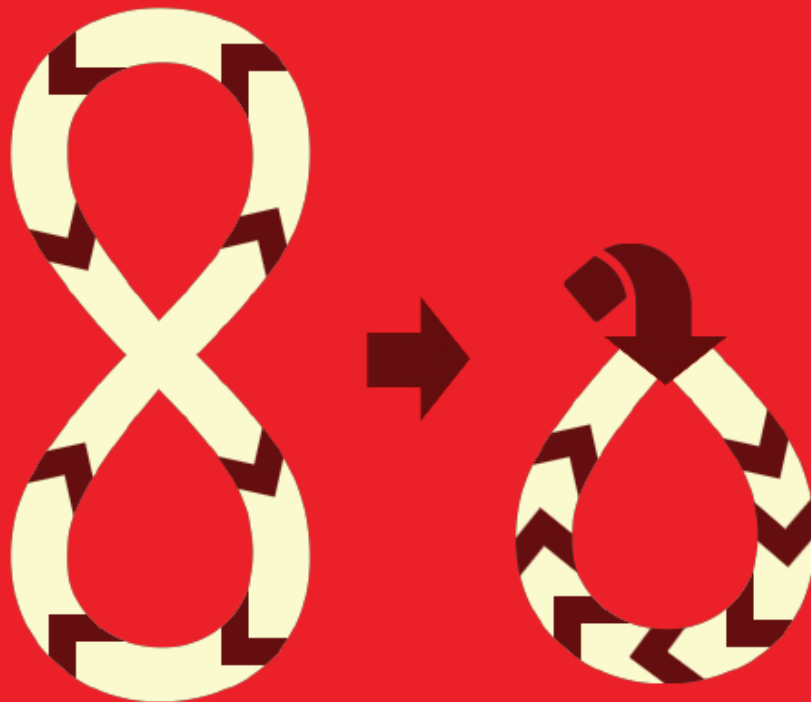
STRETCH!

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FOLD!

1



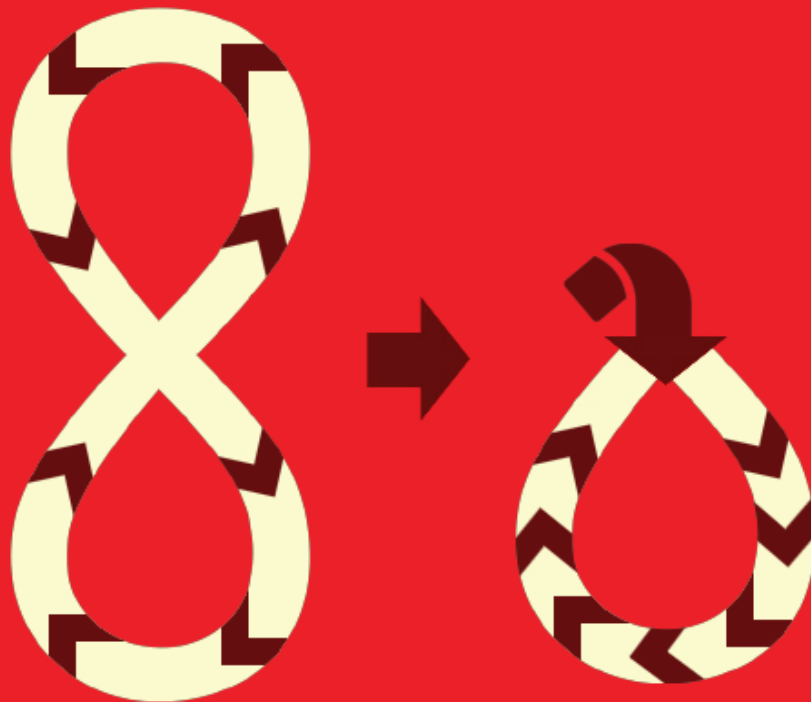
STRETCH!

2



TWIST!

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FOLD!

4



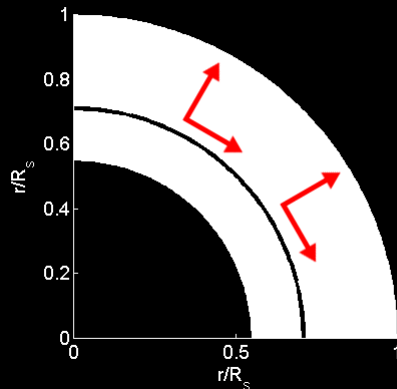
SELFIE!

3D STELLAR DYNAMO SIMULATION

Poloidal and Toroidal Fields

Poloidal

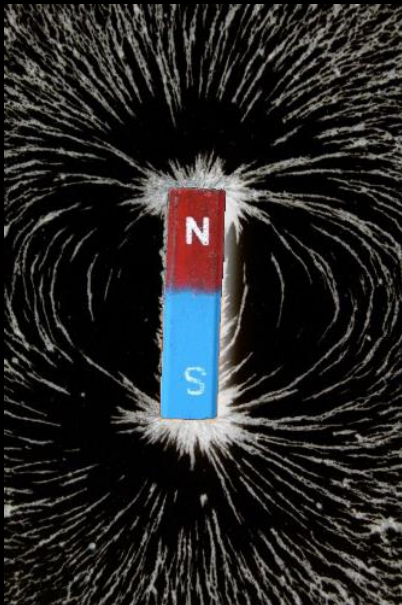
$r - \theta$



Poloidal and Toroidal Fields

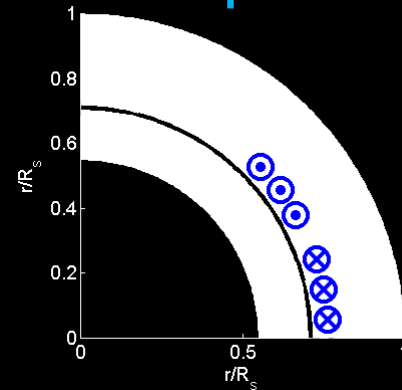
Poloidal

$r - \theta$



Toroidal

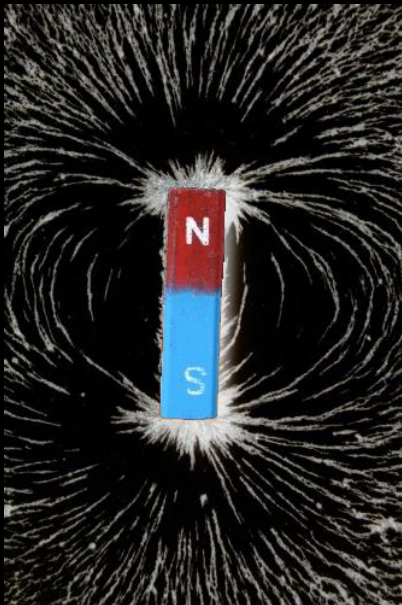
ϕ



Current understanding of the solar cycle

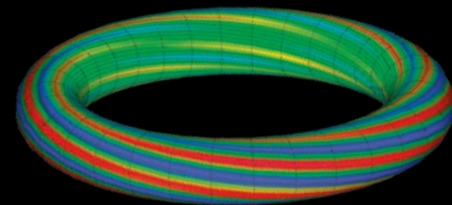
Poloidal

$r - \theta$

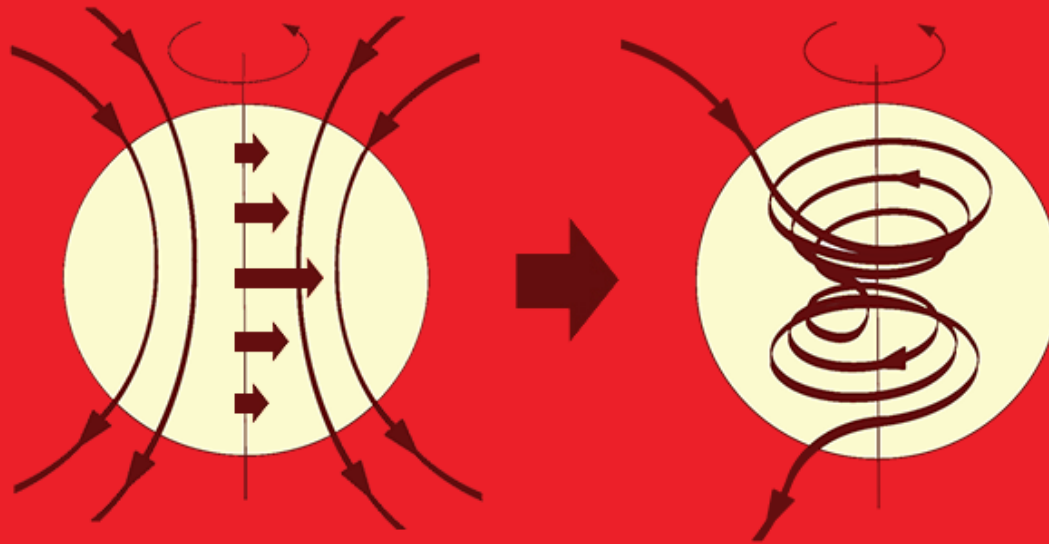


Toroidal

ϕ

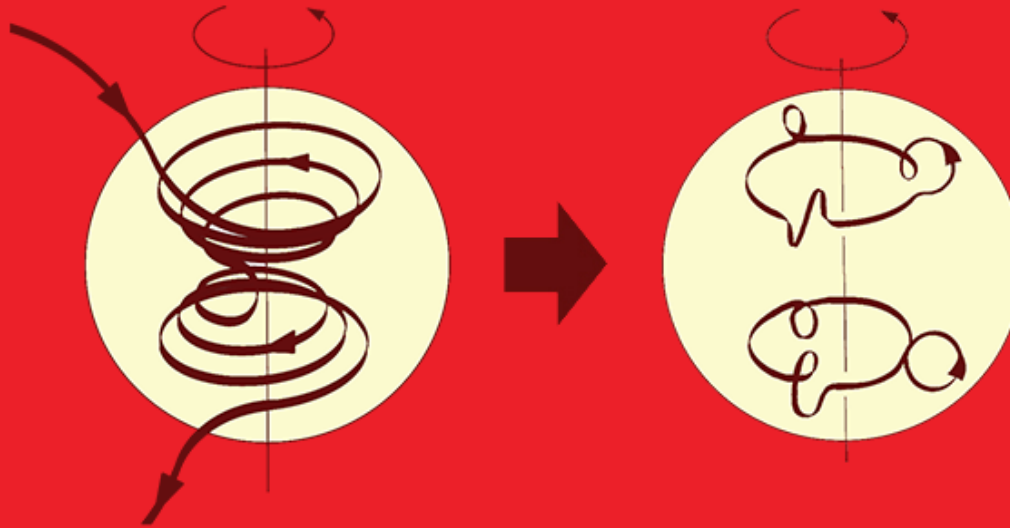


1



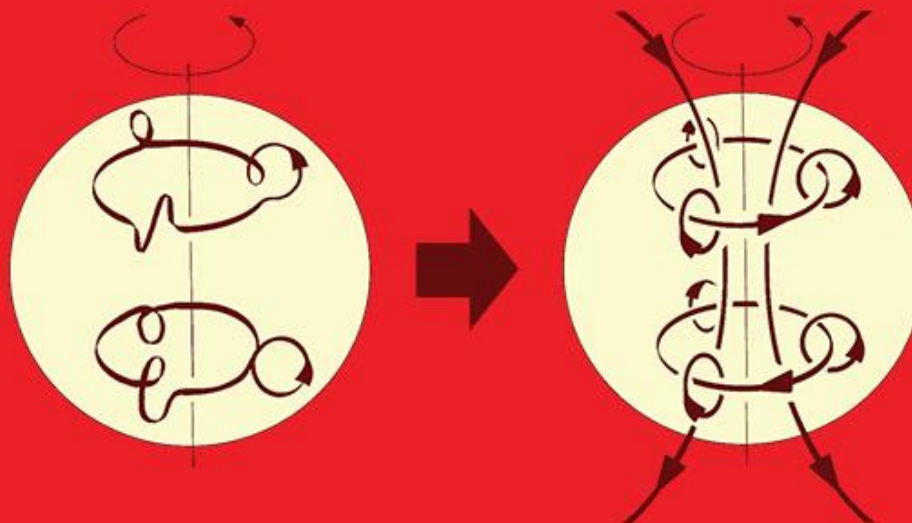
STRETCH!

2



TWIST!

3



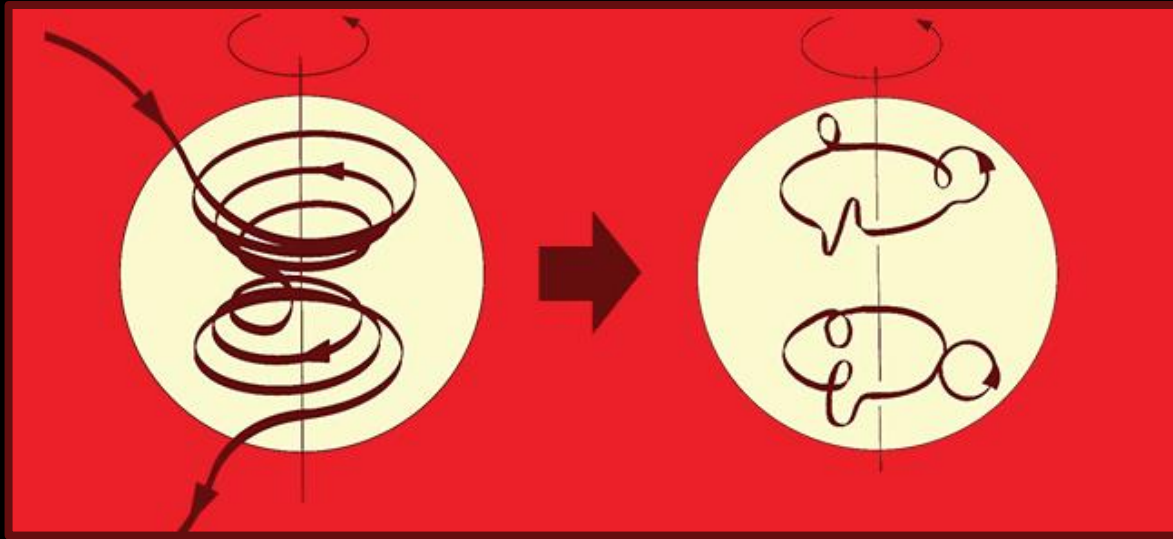
RECONNECT!
FOLD!

4



SELFIE!

Small-scale vs. Large-scale “Twist”



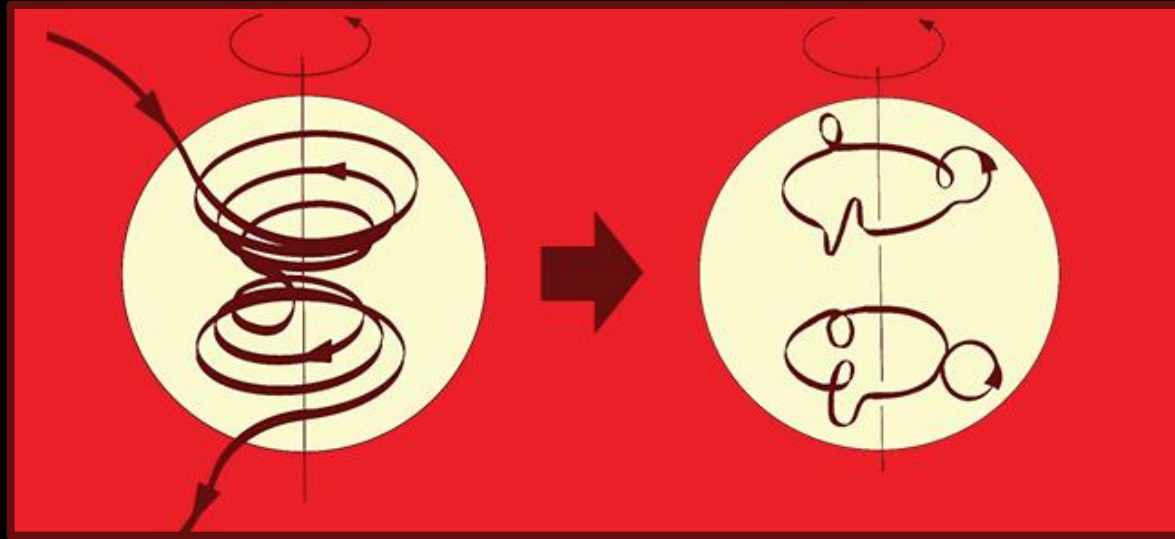
Small-Scale and Local

- Helical convection acting on the magnetic field.
- Also known as α -effect.
- Limited by the relative amount of energy available in convection.

Large-Scale and Global

- Coriolis force acting on rising flux-tubes.
- Also known as Babcock-Leighton effect.
- Limited to strong flux-tubes.

Small-scale vs. Large-scale “Twist”



Small-Scale and Local

Large-Scale and Global

$\alpha\Omega$ Dynamo

Babcock-Leighton
Dynamo

BALANCE AND COUNTERBALANCE OF COMPETING EFFECTS

DYNAMO FIGHTER II™

LICENSED BY

Nintendo®



CAPCOM®
USA



SUPER NINTENDO®
ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM

DYNAMO FIGHTER™ II

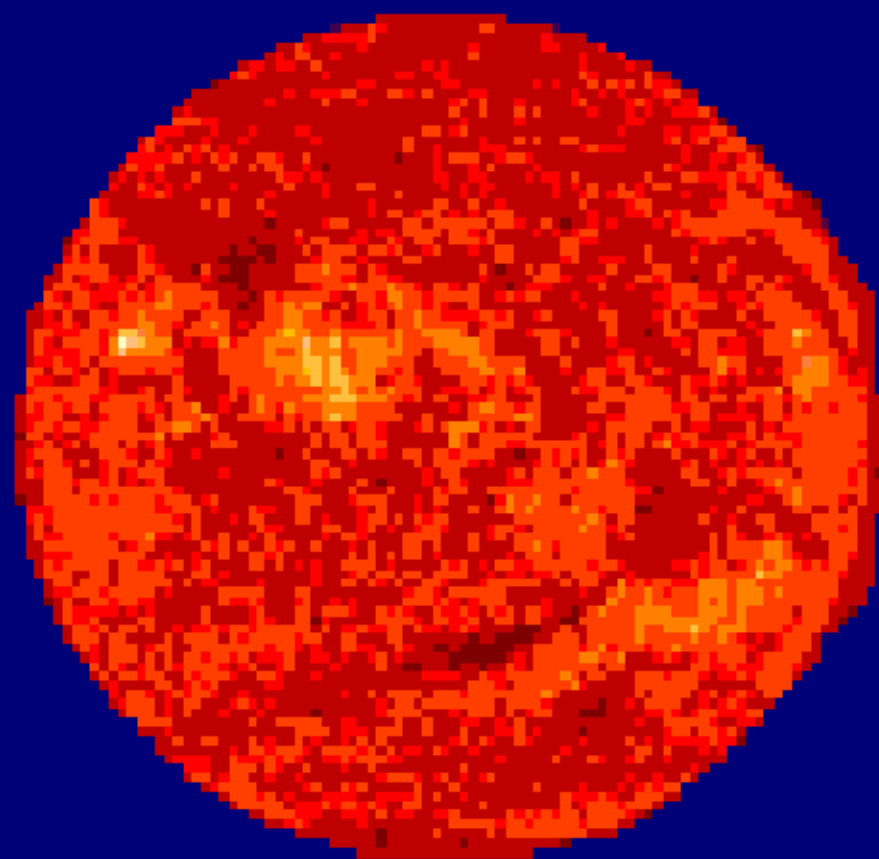
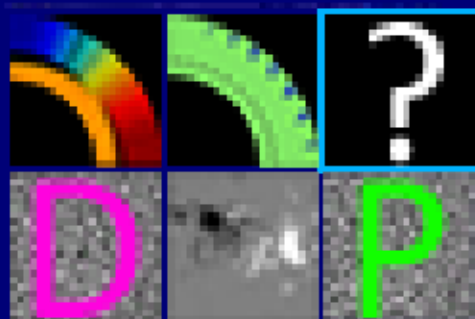
THE WORLD WARRIOR

DYNAMO FIGHTER™ II IS A REGISTERED
TRADEMARK OF CAPCOM USA INC

1 PLAYER OR 2 PLAYERS ?

PLAYER SELECT

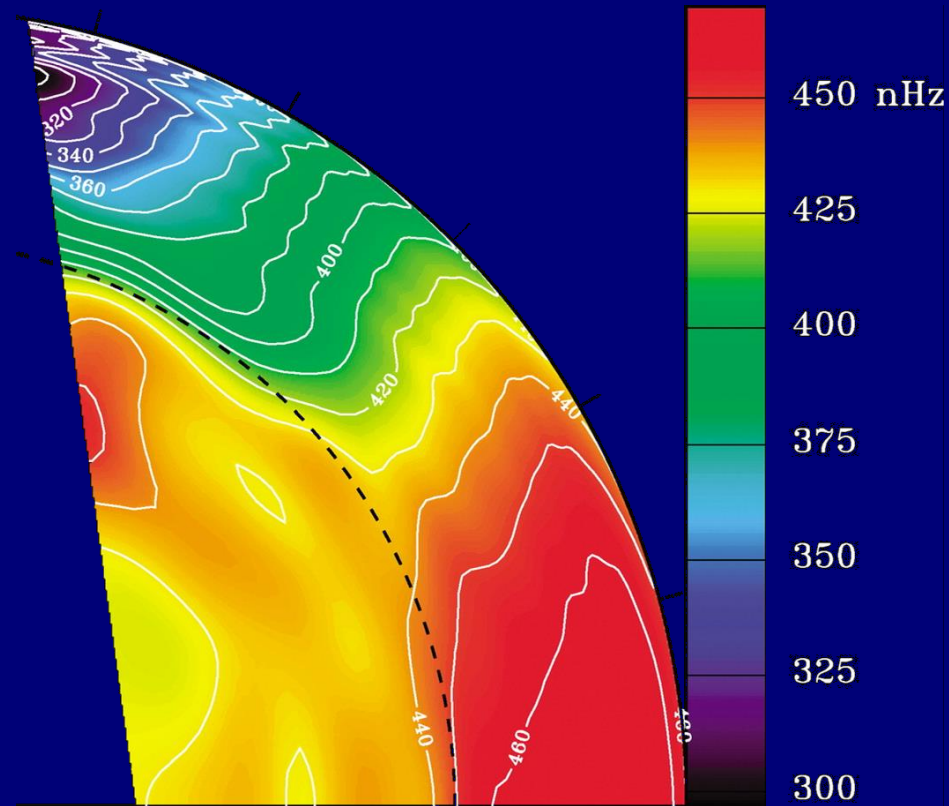
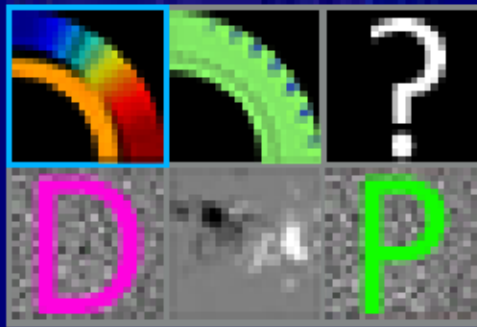
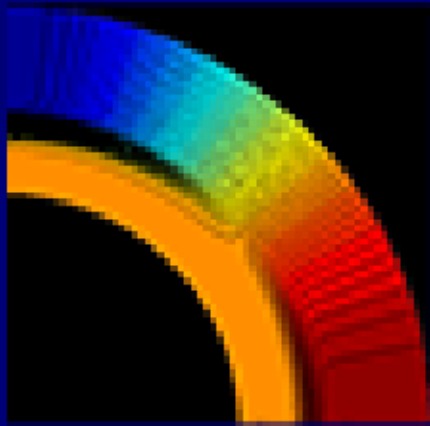
1P
?



Differential Rotation

PLAYER SELECT

1P

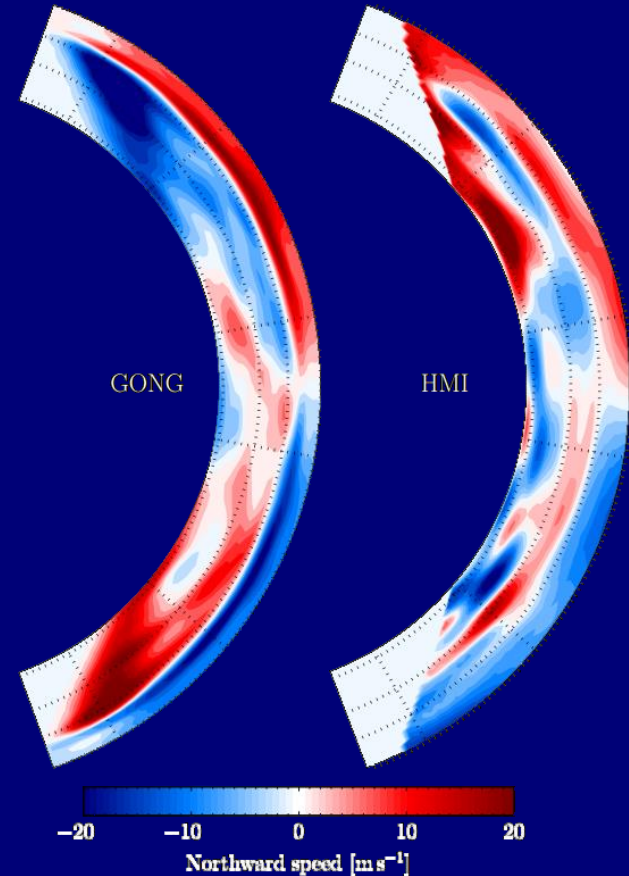
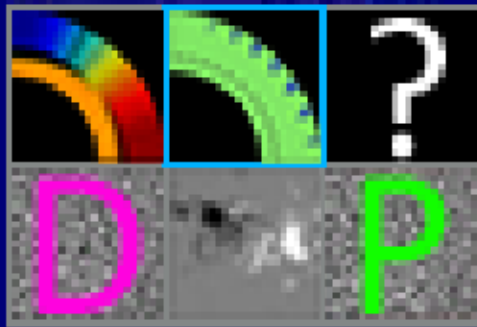
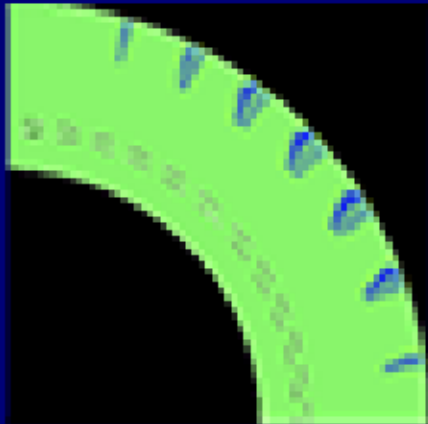


Stretches poloidal fields. Main source of energy for the dynamo.

Meridional Flow

PLAYER SELECT

1P



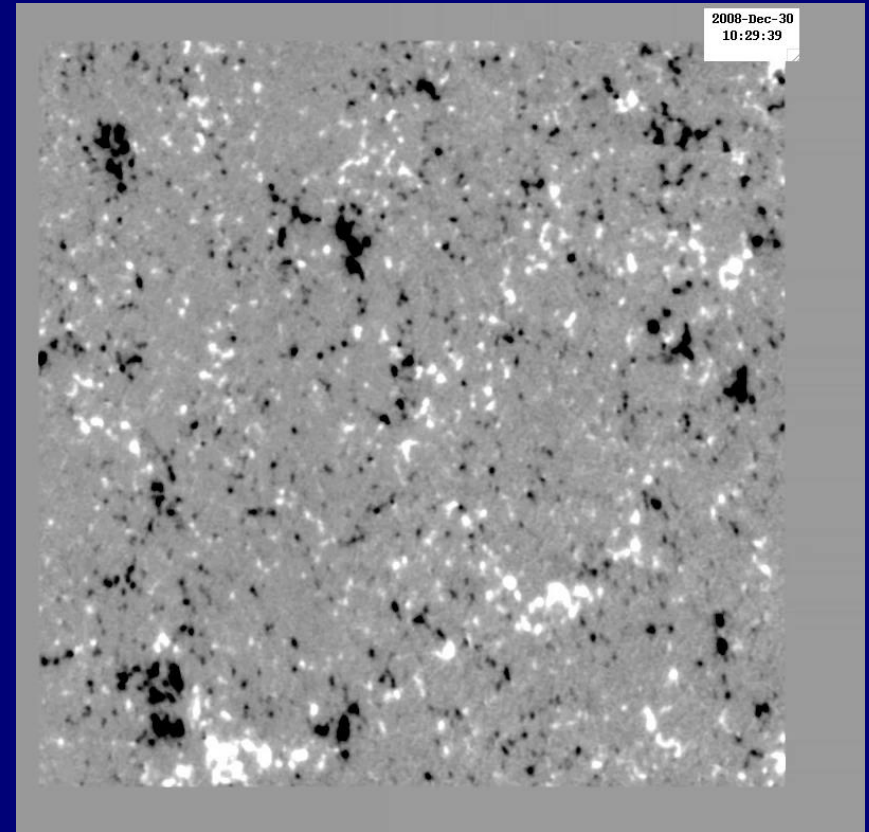
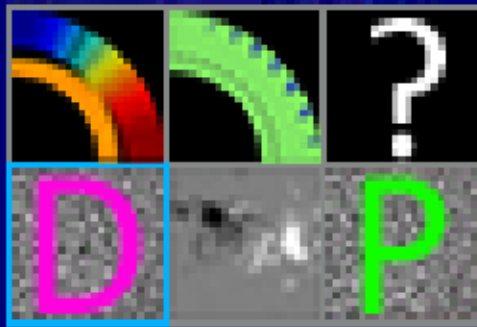
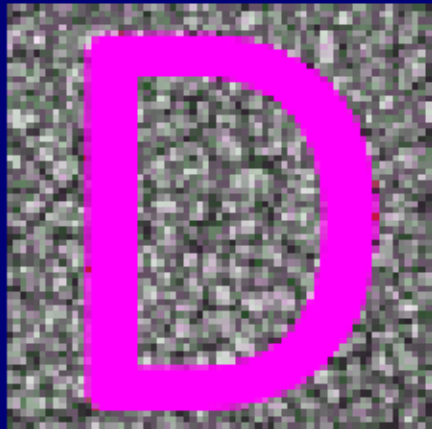
Jackiewicz et al. (2015)

Connects different layers in the convection zone and drives period.

Turbulent Diffusion

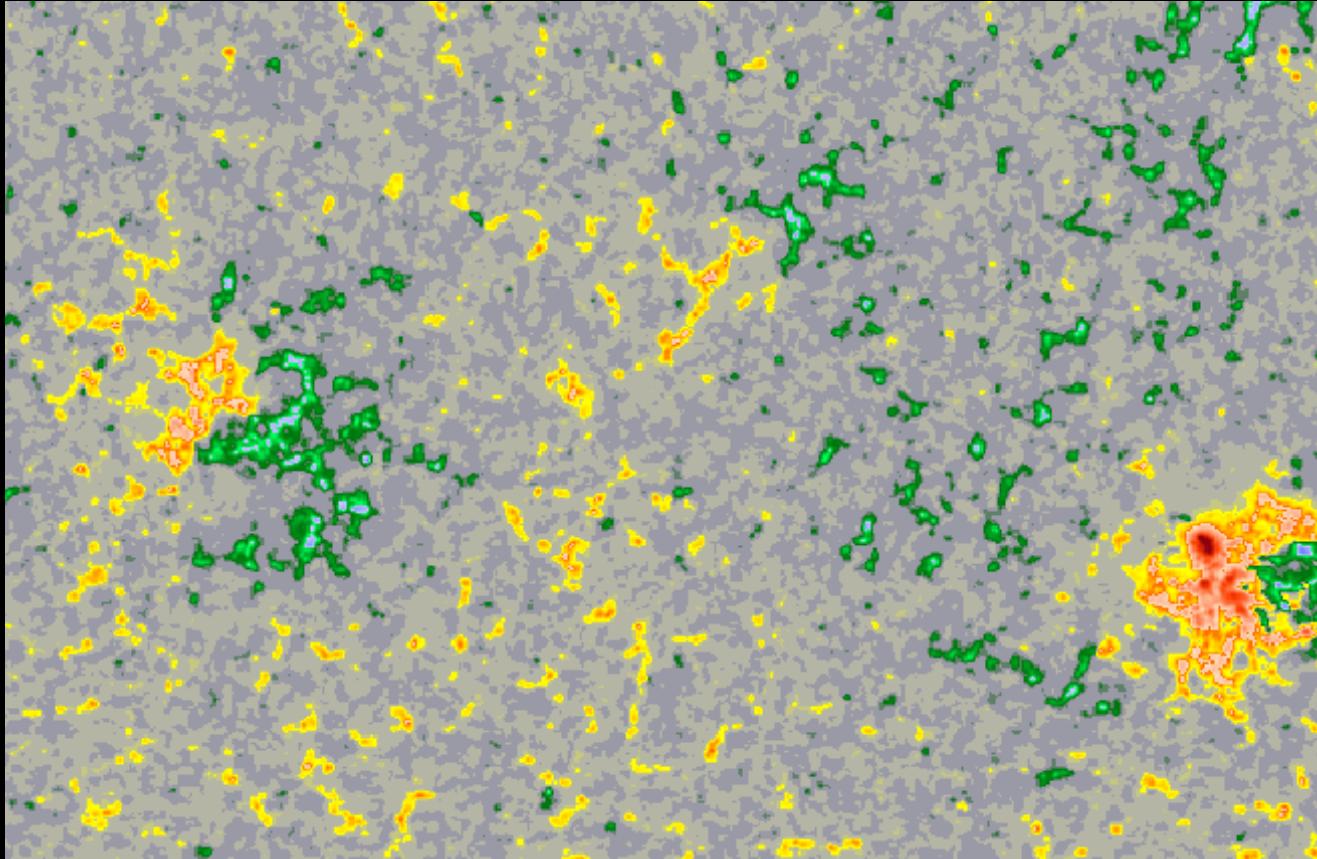
PLAYER SELECT

1P



Spreads magnetic flux, but also leads to flux cancellation.

Turbulent Diffusion



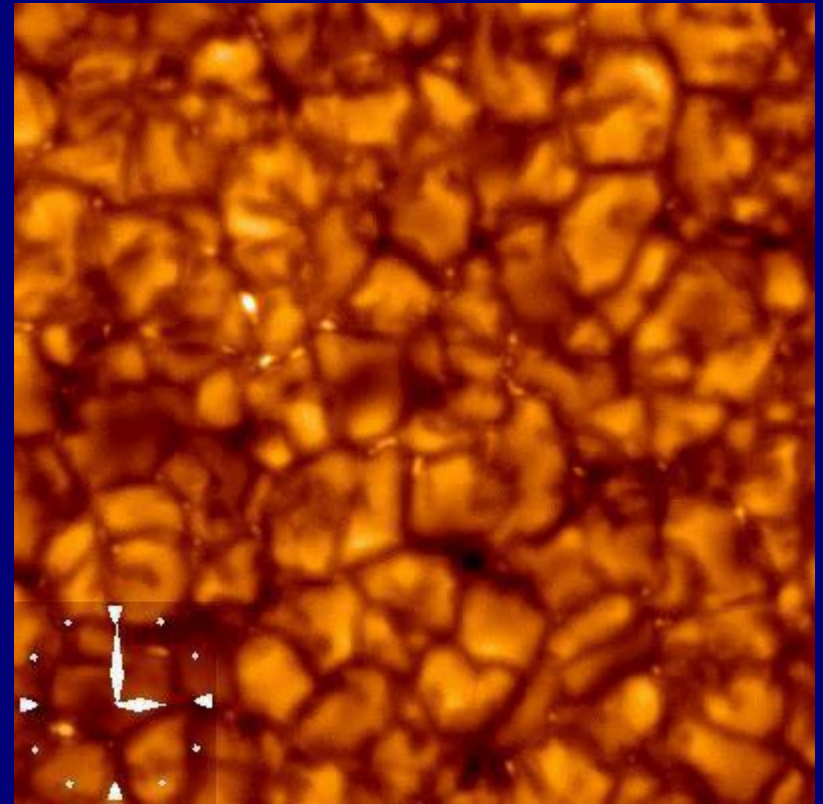
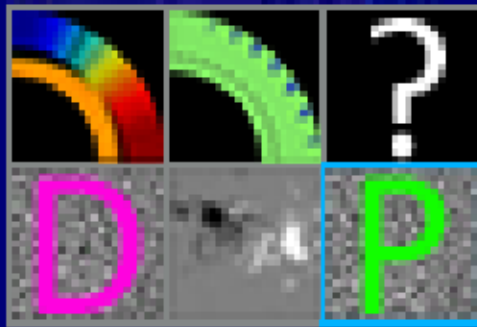
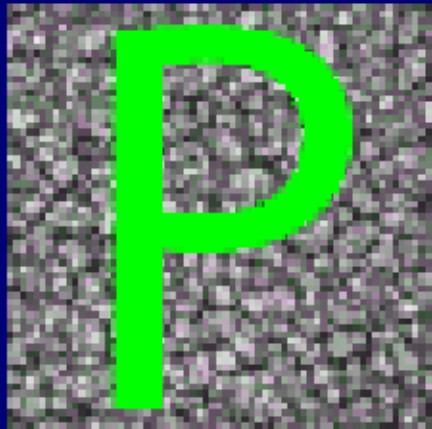
SDO/HMI

Spreads magnetic flux, but also leads to flux cancellation.

Turbulent Pumping

PLAYER SELECT

1P



Turbulent Pumping

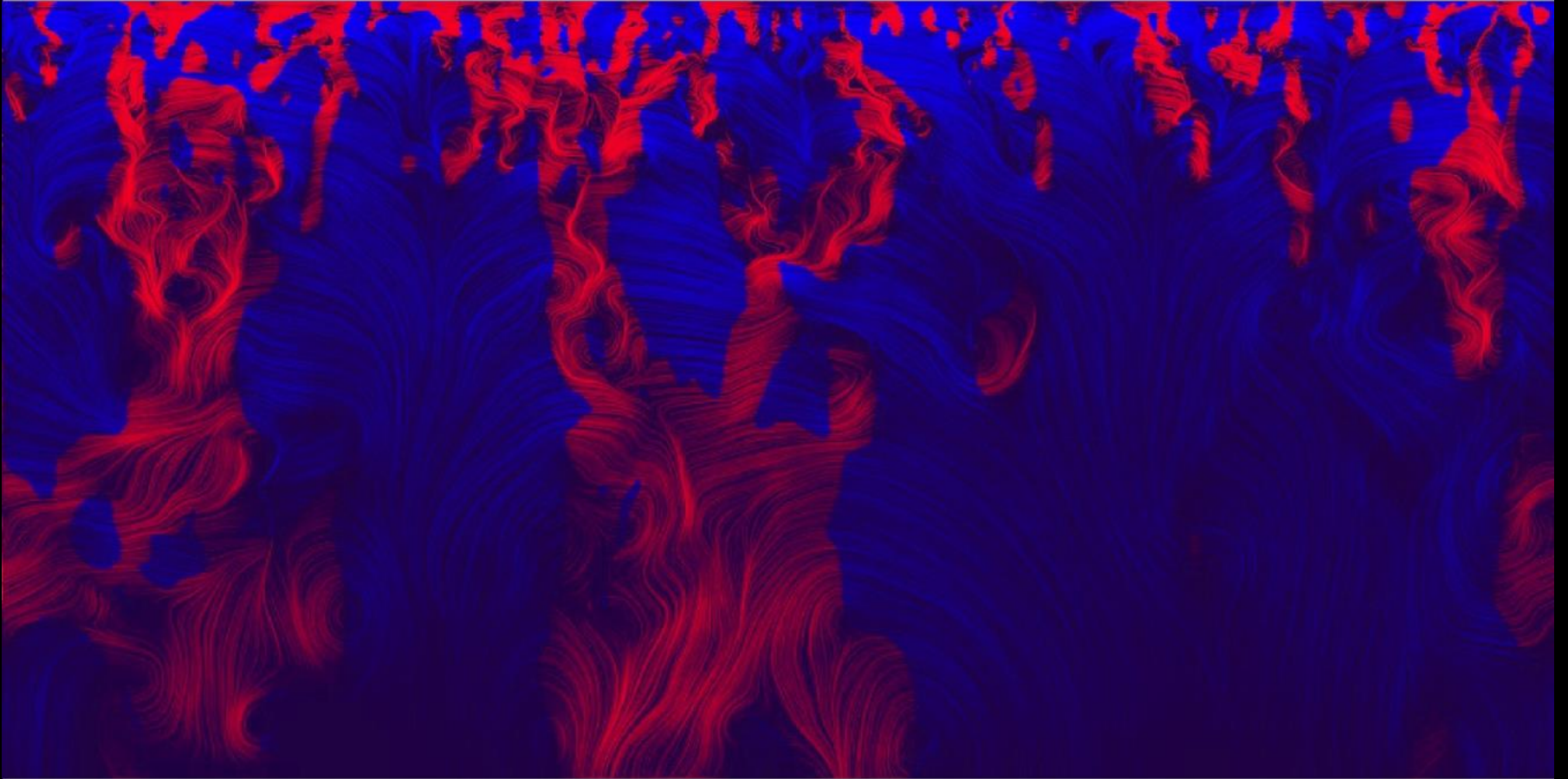


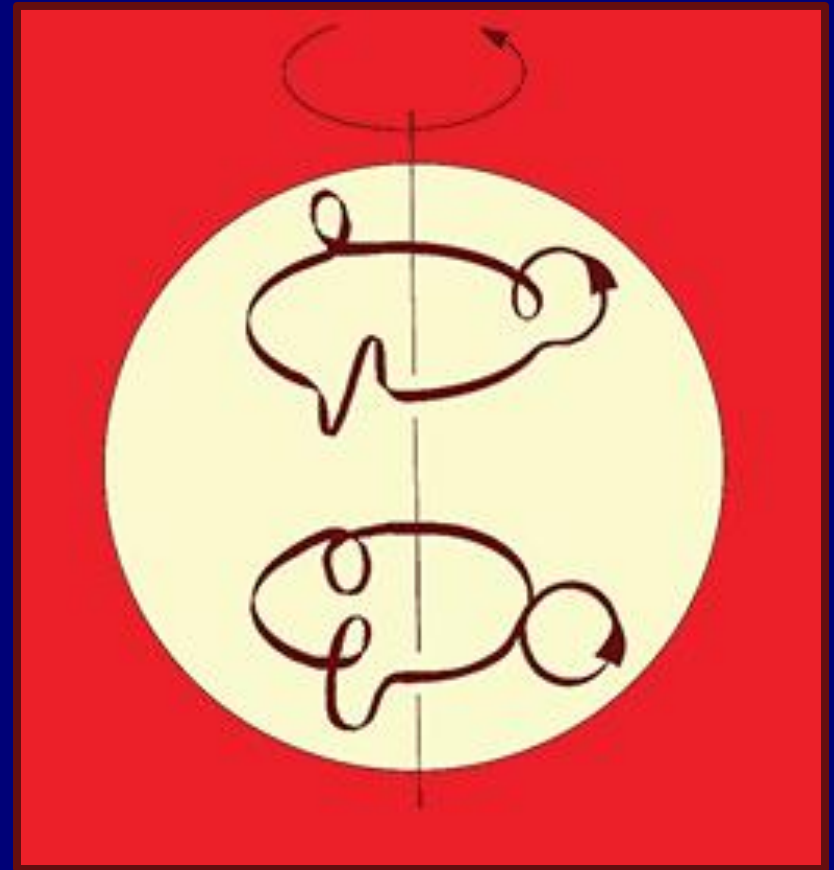
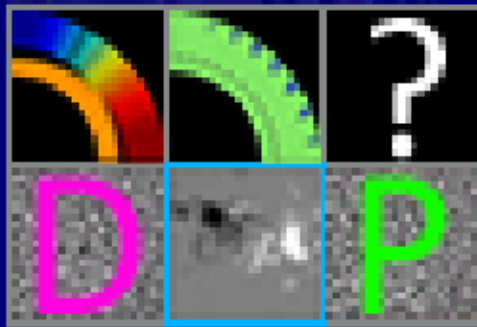
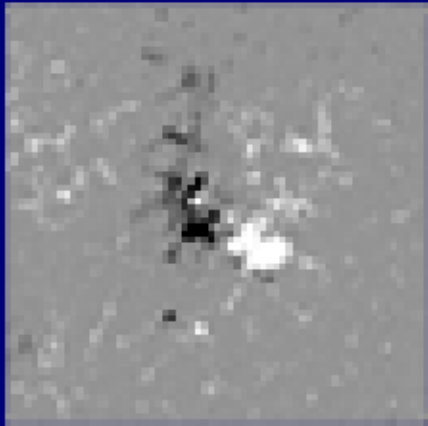
Image by Bob Stein

Fast downflows and slow upflows result in net downward magnetic transport.

Poloidal Sources

PLAYER SELECT

1P



Closes the solar cycle and sets the stage for the next one

BALANCE AND COUNTERBALANCE OF COMPETING EFFECTS

PLAYER SELECT



1P



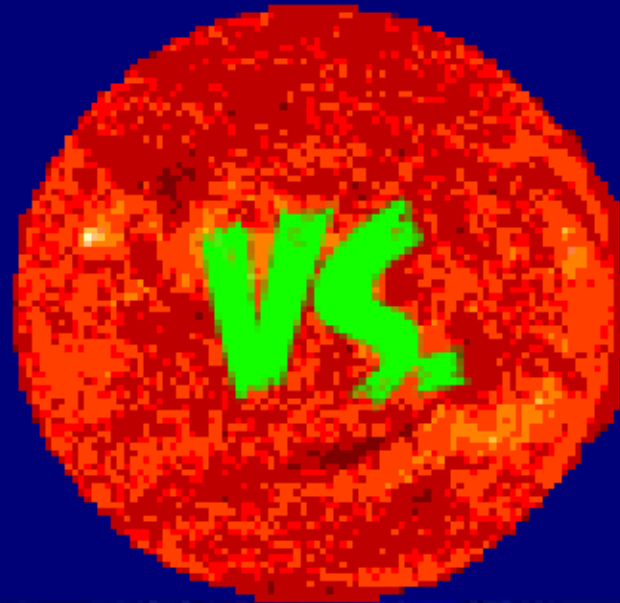
VS

2P



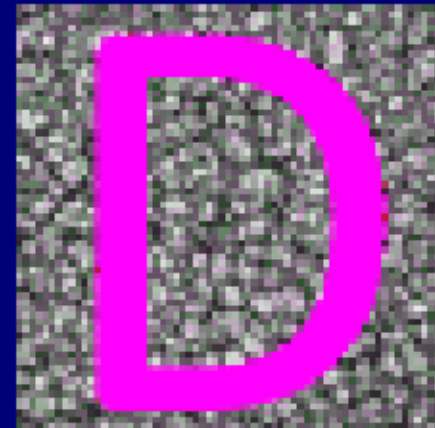
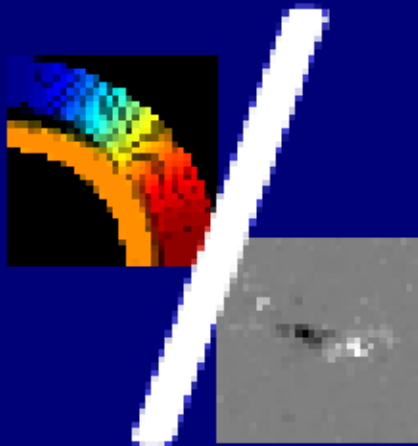
Magnetic Sources vs. Decay

PLAYER SELECT



1P

2P



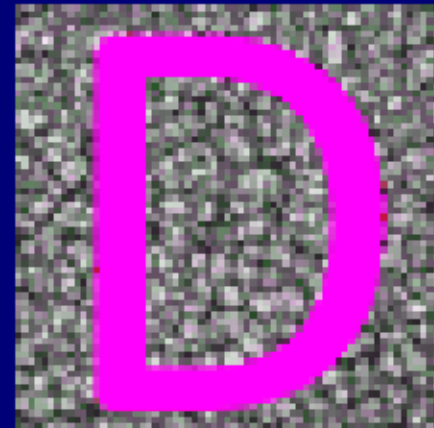
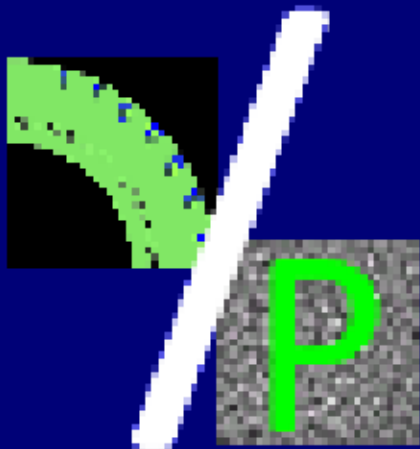
Advective vs. Diffuse Transport

PLAYER SELECT



1P

2P



100%

Summary

- Solar and Stellar cycles are magnetic in nature and are powered by a dynamo mechanism.
- Differential rotation, helical turbulence, and the twist of emergent flux-tubes by Coriolis are main mechanisms that keep stellar cycles going.
- The relative importance of the different mechanisms involved in magnetic field generation and transport determine the properties of each dynamo.