

# Which wave system is more turbulent: strongly or weakly nonlinear?

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# Outline

## Some (accepted?) statements:

- Strong turbulence  $\Rightarrow$  High nonlinearity
- Wave turbulence  $\Rightarrow$  small amplitudes & resonant  $N$ -wave interactions (plus quasi-resonant)

## Evidence against these statements:

- Discovery of a new nonlinear transfer mechanism, stronger at **intermediate values of nonlinearity**
- Mechanism favours transfers towards **non-resonant** triads rather than quasi-resonant / resonant triads
- **Robust result**, backed up with Direct Numerical Simulations of nonlinear wave systems

# Interaction Representation

- Equations for generic finite-sized 3-wave system:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial b_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = & \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{12, \mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2)t} \\ & + \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{12, \mathbf{k}}^{(2)} \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) \overline{b_{\mathbf{k}_1}} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} + \omega_1 - \omega_2)t} \\ & + \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{12, \mathbf{k}}^{(3)} \delta(\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2) \overline{b_{\mathbf{k}_1}} \overline{b_{\mathbf{k}_2}} e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} + \omega_1 + \omega_2)t}\end{aligned}$$

# Robust Instability Mechanism (1/3)

$$\frac{\partial b_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{12, \mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2)t}$$

+ **etc ...**

- Limit of small amplitudes ( $|b_{\mathbf{k}_j}| \ll 1$ , for all  $j$ ):  
phases  $e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2)t}$  rotate faster than amplitudes  $b_{\mathbf{k}_j}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  each term in the RHS averages to zero at  
intermediate time scales

(Exception: exact resonances  $\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2 = 0$ ,  
but these are **irrelevant** for the mechanism of this talk)

# Robust Instability Mechanism (2/3)

$$\frac{\partial b_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{12, \mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2)t}$$

+ etc ...

- Increase initial amplitudes  $b_{\mathbf{k}_j}$  from infinitesimally small to finite values:

$\Rightarrow b_{\mathbf{k}_j}$ 's nonlinear oscillation frequency,  $\Gamma$ , grows proportional to the amplitudes, until **resonance** occurs:

$$\text{nonlinear} \quad \Gamma \sim \omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2 \quad \text{linear}$$

$\Rightarrow$  some terms in the RHS will contain **zero modes**

# Robust Instability Mechanism (3/3)

$$\frac{\partial b_{\mathbf{k}}}{\partial t} = \sum_{\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2 \in \mathbb{Z}^2} V_{12, \mathbf{k}}^{(1)} \delta(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2) b_{\mathbf{k}_1} b_{\mathbf{k}_2} e^{i(\omega_{\mathbf{k}} - \omega_1 - \omega_2)t} + \text{etc ...}$$

- **Zero modes** in RHS:

⇒ Some amplitudes  $b_{\mathbf{k}}$  grow linearly in time, without bound:  $b_{\mathbf{k}}(t) \sim c t$ ,  $c = \text{const.}$ , **even from zero i.c.**

⇒ Far more robust than modulational instability!!!

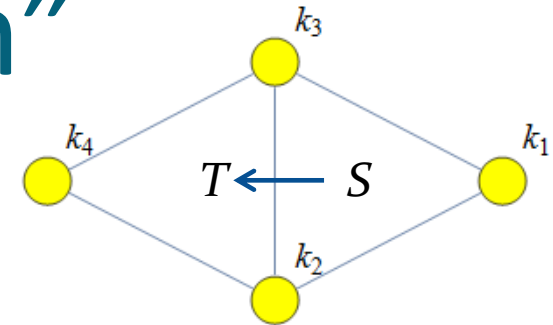
- **Can this mechanism be observed/modelled?**

# Quantitative Studies of Strong Transfer Mechanism

- Finite-dimensional ODE model:  
Two triads connected via two common modes
  - Initial conditions:  $b_k(0) = A b_k^{\text{ref}}(0)$ ,  $A$ : arbitrary const.
  - Energy flows from **source** triad to **target** triad
  - Physical mechanism and “linear-nonlinear” resonance
- Full direct numerical simulation of a PDE model
  - Initial conditions:  $b_k(0) = A b_k^{\text{ref}}(0)$ ,  $A$ : arbitrary const.
  - Study turbulent cascades & transfer efficiency as a function of  $A$

# ODE Model: The “Atom”

- Wave-vectors:  $\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{k}_3$ ,  $\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3 = \mathbf{k}_4$



- Frequency mismatches:

$$\delta_S = \omega_1 + \omega_2 - \omega_3 \quad \delta_T = \omega_2 + \omega_3 - \omega_4$$

- Take  $\delta_S = 0$  for simplicity (not essential)

- Equations of motion:

$$\dot{B}_1 = S_1 B_2^* B_3$$

$$\dot{B}_2 = S_2 B_1^* B_3 + T_1 B_3^* B_4 e^{i\delta_T t}$$

$$\dot{B}_3 = S_3 B_1 B_2 + T_2 B_2^* B_4 e^{i\delta_T t}$$

$$\dot{B}_4 = T_3 B_2 B_3 e^{-i\delta_T t}, \quad B_j(t) \in \mathbb{C}$$

- Initial Conditions:

$$B_1(0), B_2(0), B_3(0) \neq 0 \quad B_4(0) = 0$$



# ODE Model: The “Atom”

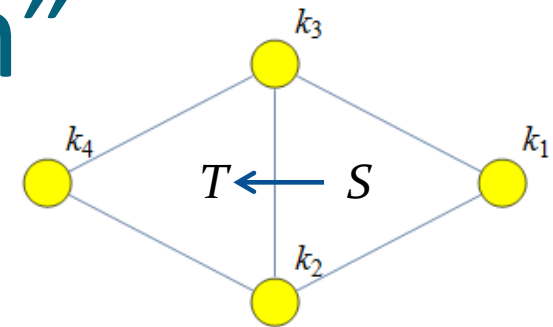
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$$B_j(t) \in \mathbb{C}$$



- $B_1(0), B_2(0), B_3(0) \neq 0$        $B_4(0) = 0$
- 8-dimensional phase space
- 2 quadratic conservation laws & 2 slave variables  
⇒ Effectively **4 degrees of freedom**
- **Boundedness:**  $\exists$  positive-definite conservation law

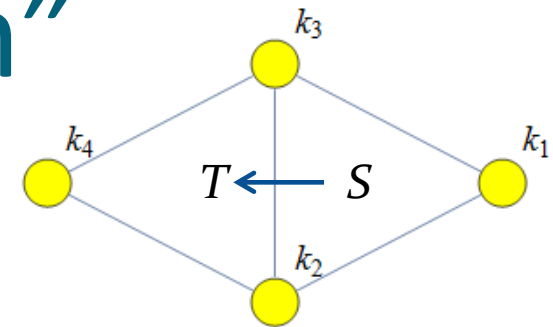
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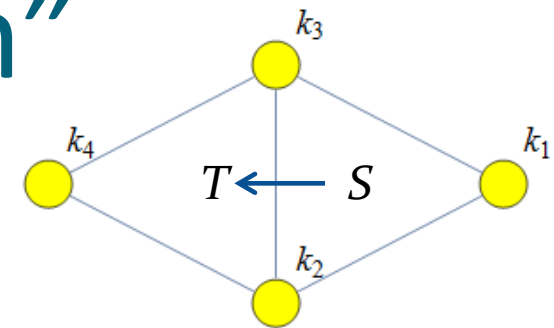


- Initially  $B_4(0) = 0$ ,  $B_1(0), B_2(0), B_3(0) \neq 0$
- Assume  $|B_4(t)|$  remains small for all times  
 $\Rightarrow$  system is further approximated by:

$$\dot{B}_1 = S_1 B_2^* B_3 \quad \dot{B}_2 = S_2 B_1^* B_3 \quad \dot{B}_3 = S_3 B_1 B_2$$

$$\dot{B}_4 = T_3 B_2 B_3 e^{-i\delta_T t}$$

# ODE Model: The “Atom”



- Assume  $B_4(t)$  is small:

$$\dot{B}_1 = S_1 B_2^* B_3 \quad \dot{B}_2 = S_2 B_1^* B_3 \quad \dot{B}_3 = S_3 B_1 B_2$$

$$\dot{B}_4 = T_3 B_2 B_3 e^{-i\delta_T t}$$

- $B_1, B_2, B_3$  satisfy the usual integrable triad equations
- $B_4(t)$  obtained by quadratures after  $B_2, B_3$  are known
- Triad: Jacobi Elliptic functions  
⇒ **bounded**, quasi-periodic motion

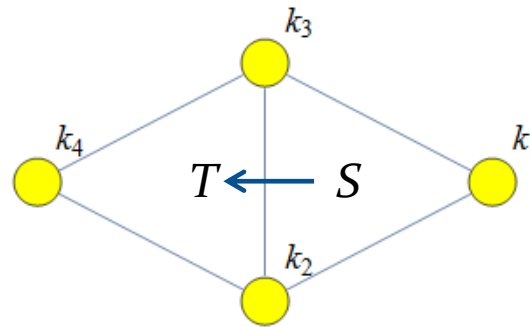
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- Amplitude-Phase representation:

$$B_j(t) = |B_j(t)| e^{i\varphi_j(t)}$$

- $|B_1(t)|, |B_2(t)|, |B_3(t)|, \varphi(t) = \varphi_1(t) + \varphi_2(t) - \varphi_3(t)$  are periodic functions with nonlinear frequency

$$\Gamma = \Gamma(|B_1(0)|, |B_2(0)|, |B_3(0)|; \varphi(0))$$

- Homogeneity:  $\Gamma(Ax, Ay, Az; \alpha) = A \Gamma(x, y, z; \alpha)$

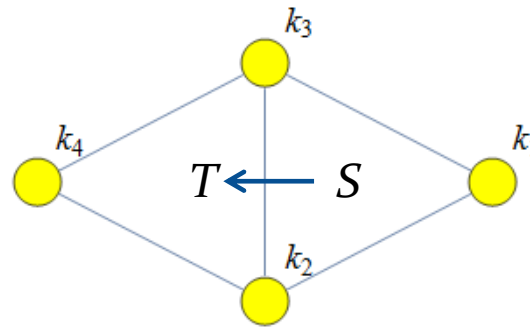
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- $B_2(t) = |B_2(t)| e^{i(\varphi_2^{\text{per}}(t) + \Omega_2 t)}$   
 $B_3(t) = |B_3(t)| e^{i(\varphi_3^{\text{per}}(t) + \Omega_3 t)}$  (exact triad solutions)
- $|B_2(t)|, |B_3(t)|, \varphi_2^{\text{per}}(t), \varphi_3^{\text{per}}(t)$  are periodic:  
 nonlinear frequency  $\Gamma \sim$  amplitudes (homogeneity)
- $\Omega_2, \Omega_3$ : precession frequencies, also  $\sim$  amplitudes

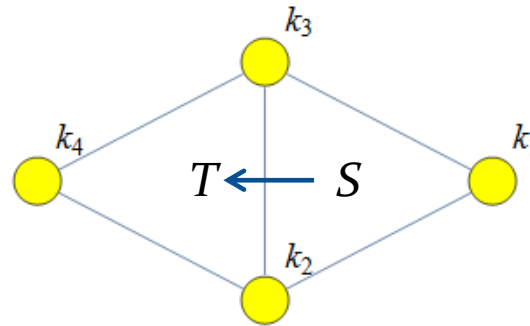
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- Solving by quadratures:
- $B_4(t) = T_3 \int_0^t f^{\text{per}}(\tau) e^{i(\Omega_2 + \Omega_3 - \delta_T)\tau} d\tau$
- $f^{\text{per}}(t) \in \mathbb{C}$ : periodic, nonlinear frequency  $\Gamma$

⇒ Unbounded growth if resonance occurs:

$$n \Gamma + \Omega_2 + \Omega_3 - \delta_T = 0, \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

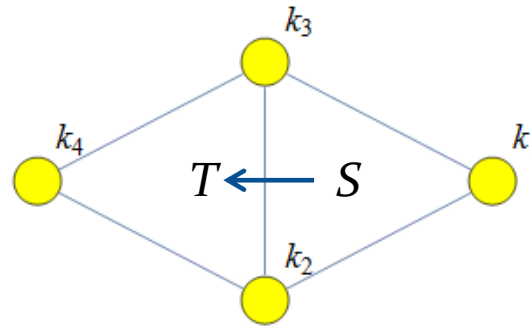
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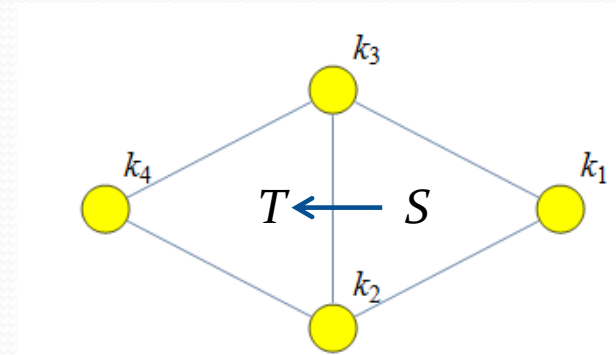
- Fine-tuning initial conditions via simple re-scaling:

$$|B_j(0)| \rightarrow A |B_j(0)|$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Instability if } A = A_n \left( \equiv \frac{\delta_T}{n \Gamma^{\text{ref}} + \Omega_2^{\text{ref}} + \Omega_3^{\text{ref}}} \right), \text{ for some } n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

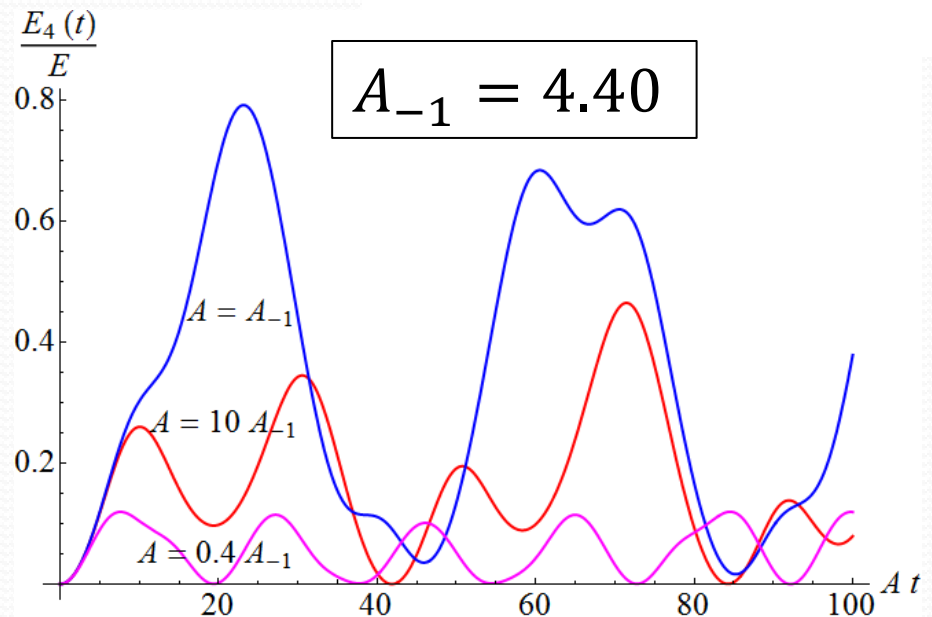
# ODE Model: Numerical Study

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{B}_1 &= S_1 B_2^* B_3 \\ \dot{B}_2 &= S_2 B_1^* B_3 + T_1 B_3^* B_4 e^{i\delta_T t} \\ \dot{B}_3 &= S_3 B_1 B_2 + T_2 B_2^* B_4 e^{i\delta_T t} \\ \dot{B}_4 &= T_3 B_2 B_3 e^{-i\delta_T t}\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\delta_T &= -\frac{8}{9}, \\ S_1 &= 1, S_2 = 9, S_3 = -8 \\ T_1 &= -1, T_2 = \frac{8}{3}, T_3 = -\frac{9}{5}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}B_1(0) &= 0.007772 A \\ B_2(0) &= 0.038582 A \\ B_3(0) &= -0.0358876 i A \\ B_4(0) &= 0\end{aligned}$$





# ODE Model: Numerical Study

Introduce an  $\varepsilon$ -family of systems:

$$\dot{B}_1 = S_1 B_2^* B_3$$

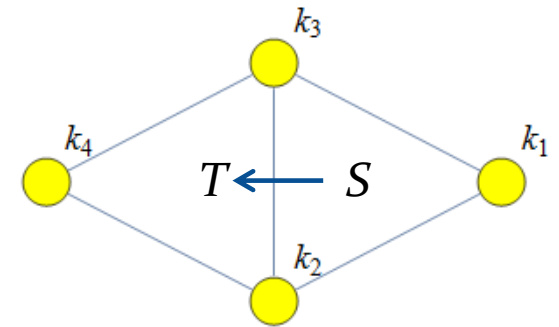
$$\dot{B}_2 = S_2 B_1^* B_3 + \varepsilon T_1 B_3^* B_4 e^{i\delta_T t}$$

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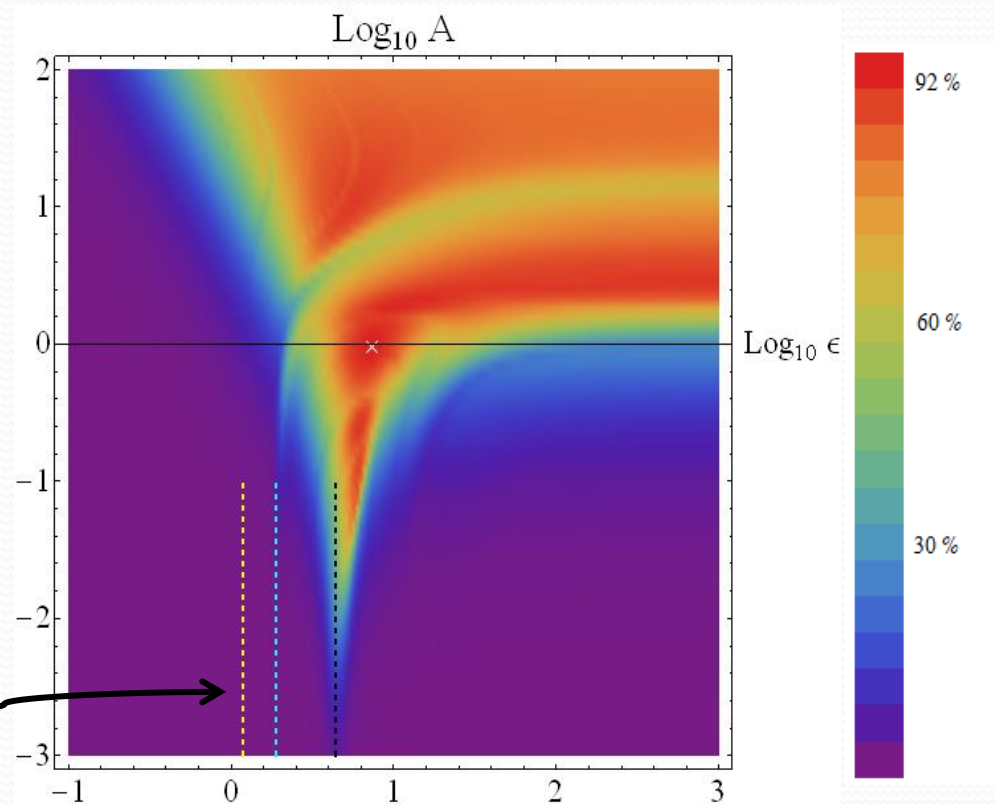
where  $0 \leq \varepsilon \leq 1$

- $\varepsilon = 0$ : Integrable system, with new resonant instability
- $\varepsilon = 1$ : Full original system
- Study transfer efficiency as function of  $A$  &  $\varepsilon$



# ODE Model: Analysis of Results

- Transfer Efficiency as function of  $A$  &  $\epsilon$



$$A_n = \frac{\delta_T}{n \Gamma^{\text{ref}} + \Omega_2^{\text{ref}} + \Omega_3^{\text{ref}}}$$

**Predicted Resonances**

$$A_{-3}, A_{-2}, A_{-1}$$

# ODE Model: Analysis of Results

- Transfer Efficiency as function of  $A$  &  $\epsilon$

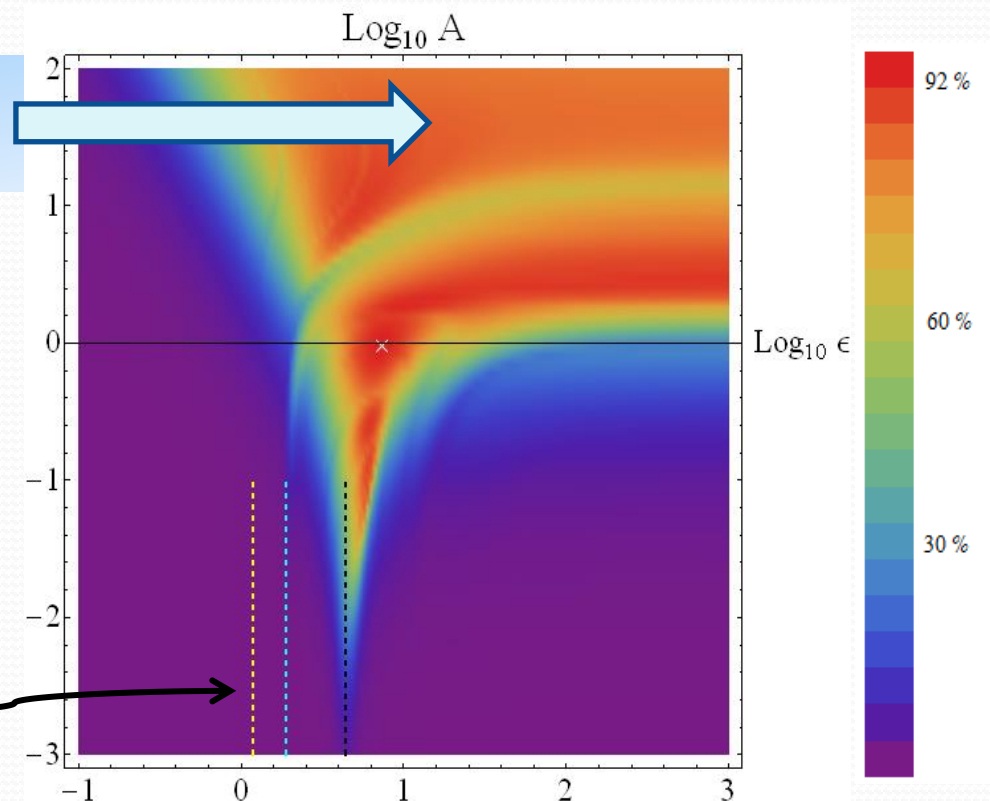
**Efficiency Plateau:**

$$|\omega_2 + \omega_3 - \omega_4| \leq \Gamma, \quad \epsilon \gg 1$$

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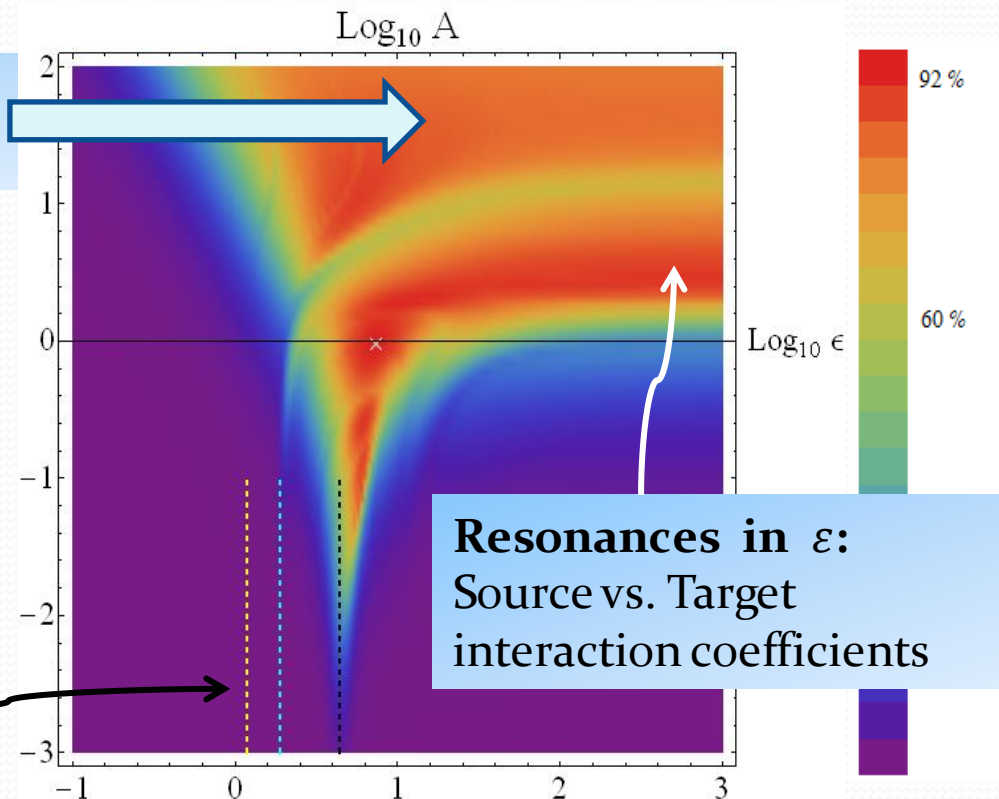
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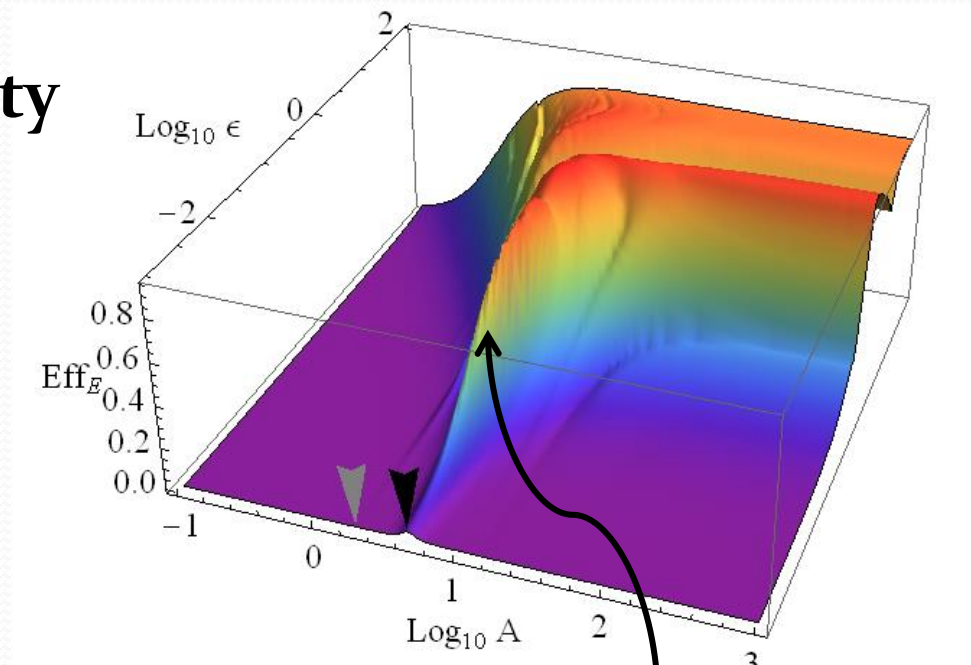
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# ODE Model: Analysis of Results

- **Nature of the Instability**

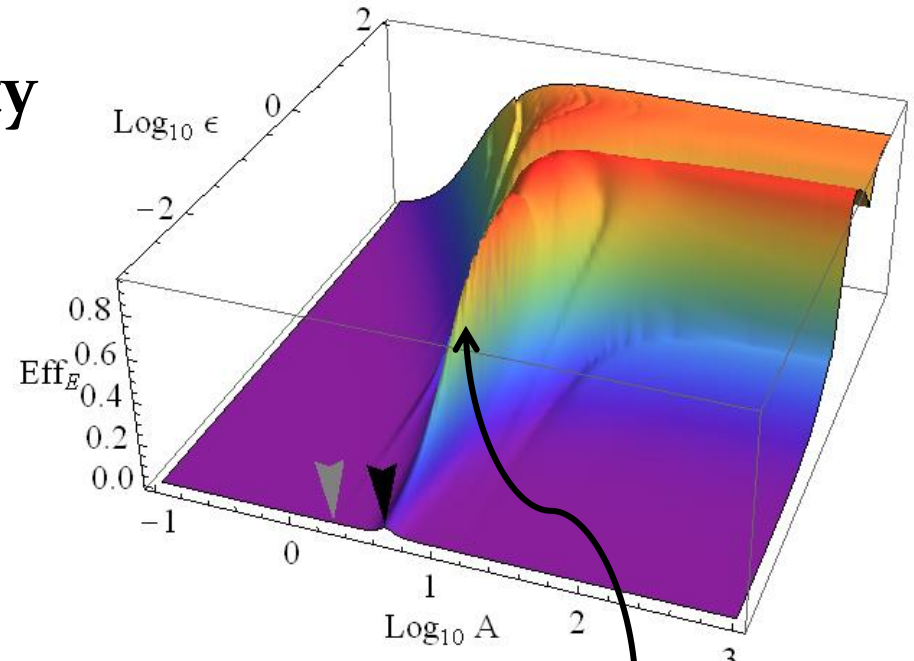
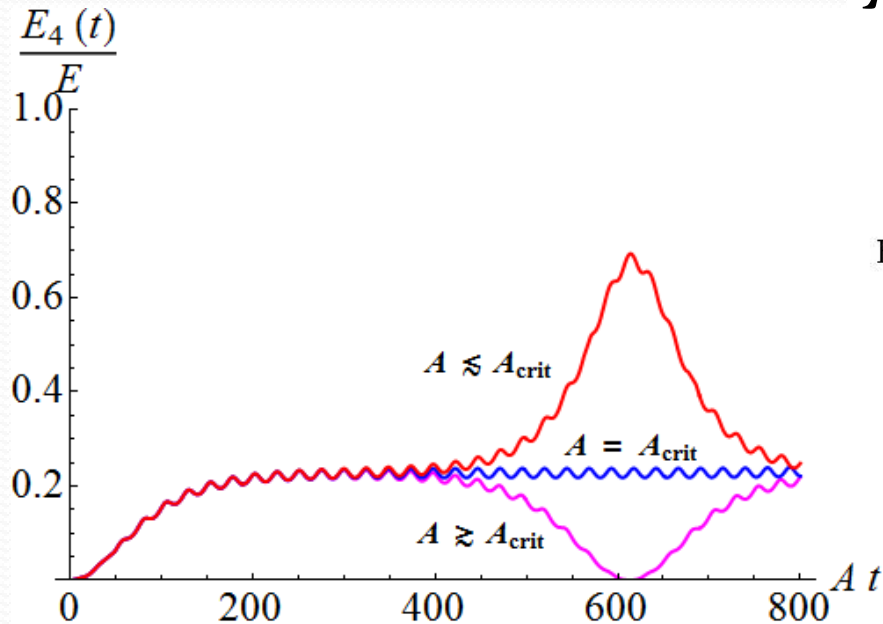


## Stiff Ridge:

- Persistence of invariant manifold
- Unstable periodic orbit

# ODE Model: Analysis of Results

## • Nature of the Instability

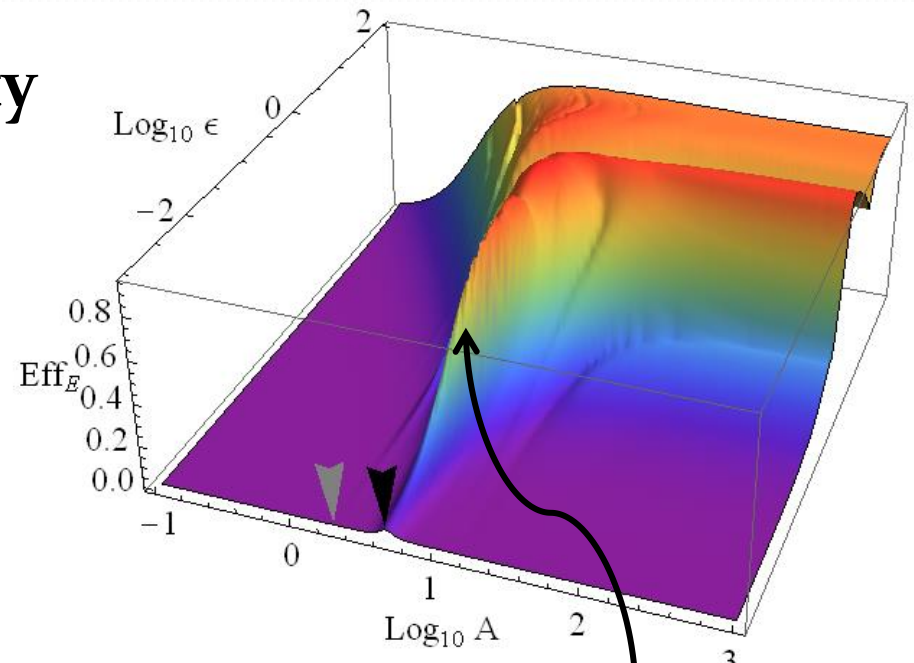
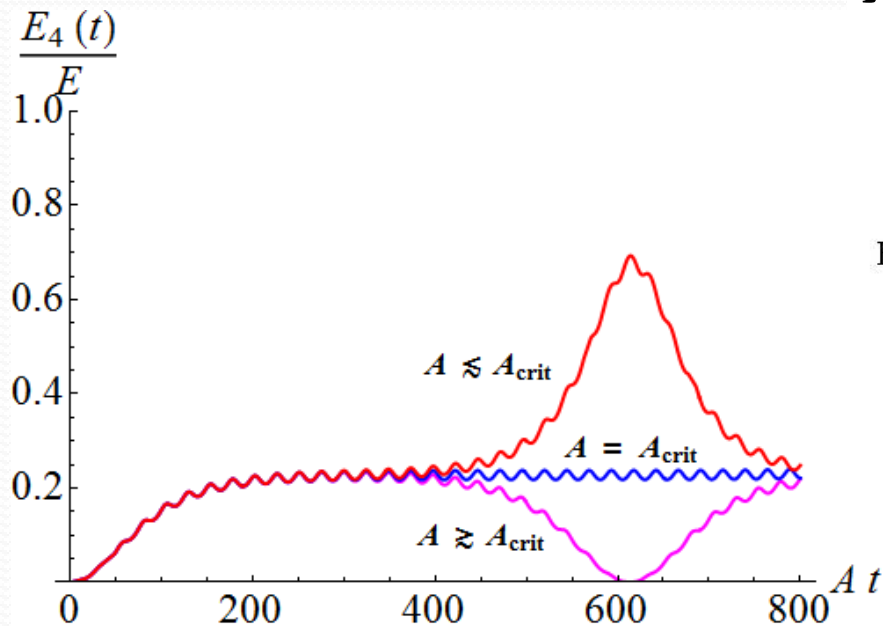


### Stiff Ridge:

- Persistence of invariant manifold
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# ODE Model: Analysis of Results

## • Nature of the Instability



### Stiff Ridge:

- Persistence of invariant manifold
- Unstable periodic orbit

• Three Lyapunov exponents

• Ratios  $(-1):(-2):(3)$



# Barotropic Vorticity Equation

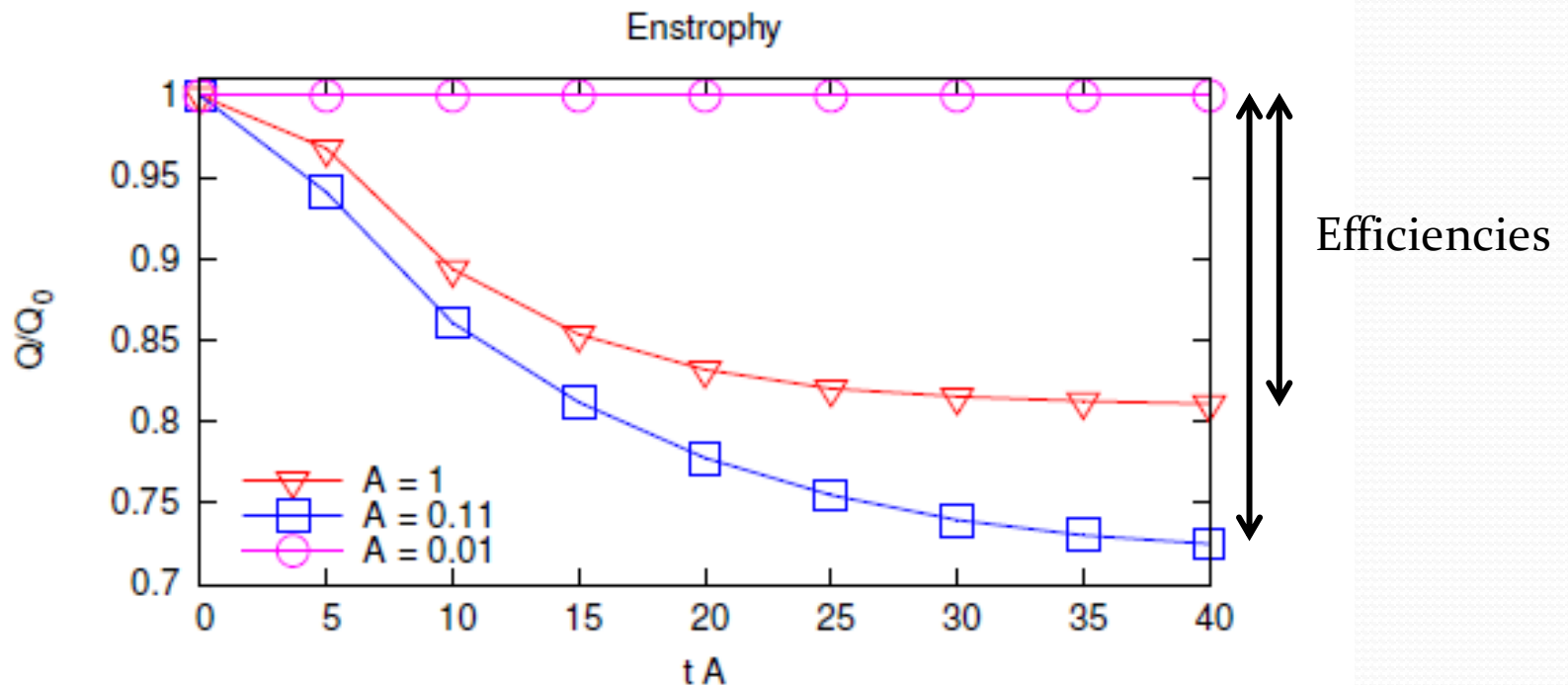
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}(\Delta\psi - \alpha^2\psi) - \beta\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x}\frac{\partial\Delta\psi}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y}\frac{\partial\Delta\psi}{\partial x} = 0$$

- **Direct Numerical Simulations**
  - Pseudospectral
  - Resolution 128 x 128
  - Initial conditions at large scales, with an overall re-scaling factor  $A$  in front
  - Dissipation at small scales: ENSTROPY direct cascade



# Barotropic Vorticity Equation

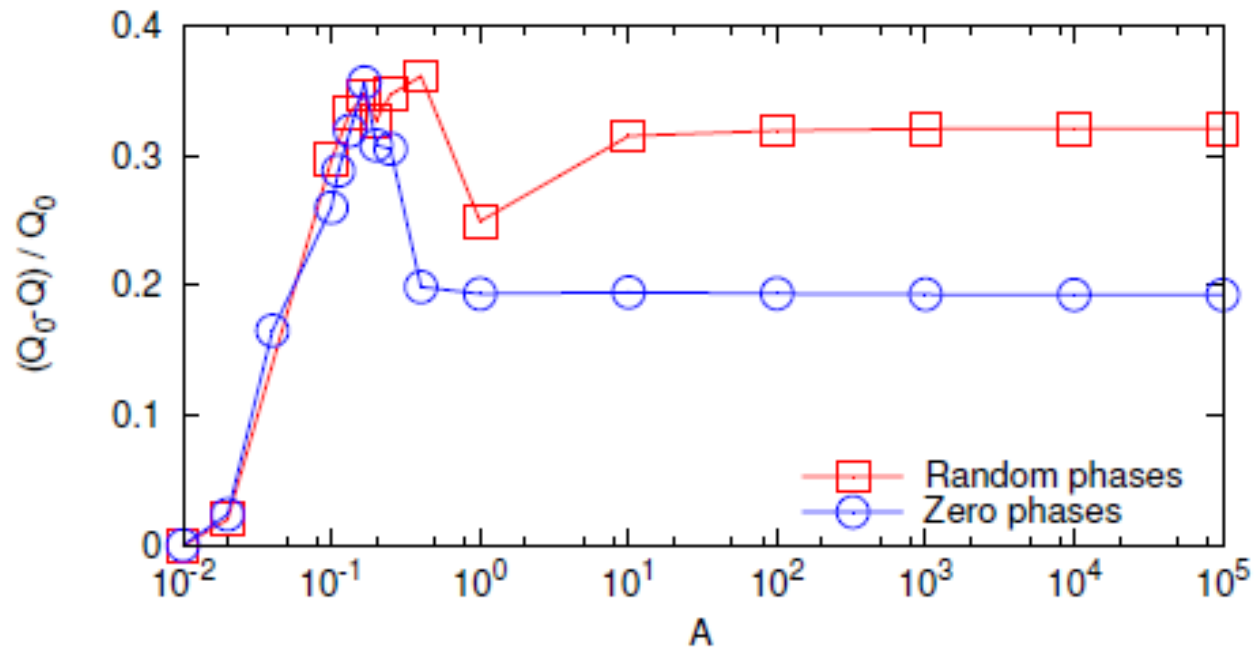
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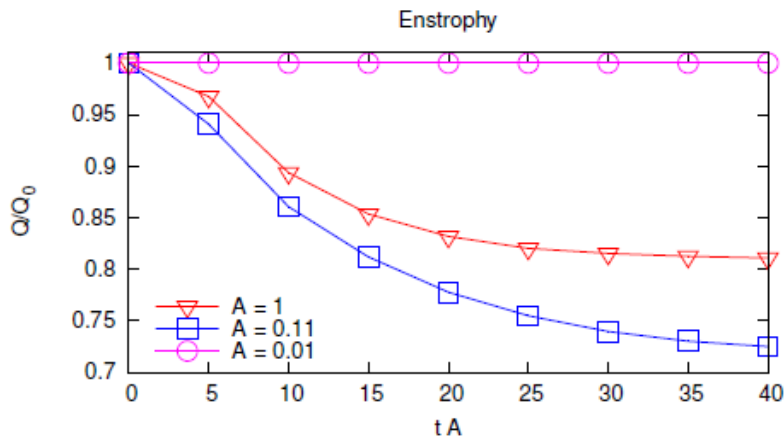
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Efficiency as a function of  $A$



# Barotropic Vorticity Equation

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# VIDEOS

# Conclusions

- Robust energy transfer mechanism towards non-resonant triads
- Analytically derived and verified numerically:
  - ODE “Atom” model
  - Direct numerical simulations of a full PDE model
- Implications of this mechanism:
  - Understanding turbulent cascades as a natural selection mechanism of triads
  - Yet another mechanism of rogue wave generation (triggered either by forcing or dissipation)
  - New paradigm for a complete theory of wave turbulence

# Thank You!

- This Paper: ArXiv version <http://arxiv.org/abs/1305.5517>

## References:

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- [9] M. D. Bustamante and U. Hayat, *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simulat.* **18**, 2402 (2013).