

§7 MHD Equilibrium.

Suppose everything is stationary and there are no flows ( $\vec{u}=0$ ).

Then  $\boxed{-\nabla p + \frac{1}{c} \vec{j} \times \vec{B} = 0}$  + all other forces and  $\vec{j} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \nabla \times \vec{B}$

↑ pressure      ↑ Lorentz

$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0$

- NB:  $\vec{B} \cdot \nabla p = 0$       mag. surfaces = surfaces of const pressure
- $\vec{j} \cdot \nabla p = 0$       current flows along these surfaces
- if field lines stochastic (fill the volume), then  $p = \text{const.}$

Magnetic forces:

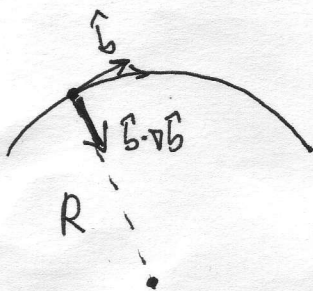
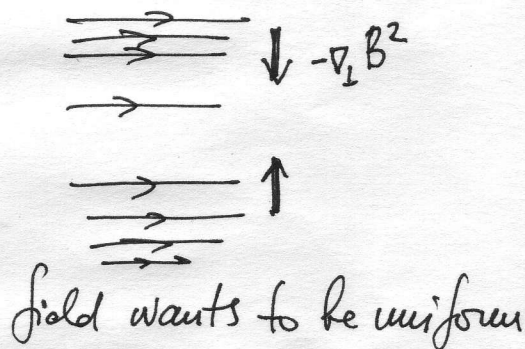
$$\frac{1}{c} \vec{j} \times \vec{B} = \frac{(\nabla \times \vec{B}) \times \vec{B}}{4\pi} = \frac{\vec{B} \cdot \nabla \vec{B}}{4\pi} - \nabla \frac{B^2}{8\pi} =$$

mag. tension      mag. pressure

$B \hat{b} \cdot \nabla B \hat{b} = B^2 \hat{b} \cdot \nabla \hat{b} + \hat{b} \nabla_{\parallel} \frac{B^2}{2}$

$$= \frac{B^2}{4\pi} \hat{b} \cdot \nabla \hat{b} - \nabla_{\perp} \frac{B^2}{8\pi}$$

curvature force      mag. pressure



$\hat{b} \cdot \nabla \hat{b} \perp \hat{b}$

field lines want to straighten

Magnetic field is hard to compress and to bend.

• Equilibrium in cylindrical geometry  $(r, \theta, z)$

Assume cyl. symmetry:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} = 0$   $\frac{\partial}{\partial z} = 0$

(1D)

1)  $\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r B_r = 0 \Rightarrow r B_r = \text{const} \Rightarrow B_r = 0$

2)  $\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{j} \Rightarrow \vec{j}_r = 0$

$j_\theta = -\frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial r}$

$j_z = \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r B_\theta$

3)  $\nabla p = \frac{1}{c} \vec{j} \times \vec{B} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} = \frac{1}{c} (j_\theta B_z - j_z B_\theta) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( -B_z \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial r} - \frac{B_\theta}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r B_\theta \right)$

$= -\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \frac{B_z^2}{8\pi} - \frac{B_\theta^2}{4\pi r} - \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \frac{B_\theta^2}{8\pi}$

So  $\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( p + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) = -\frac{B_\theta^2}{4\pi r}$  [general screw pinch]

↑ mag. pressure      ↑ curvature force.

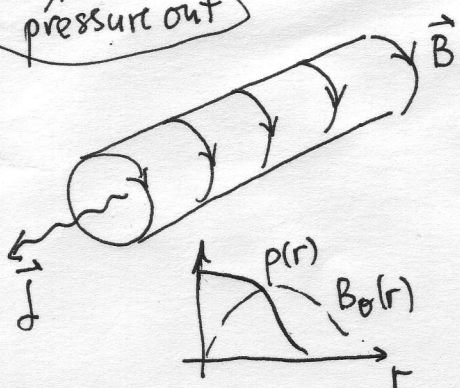
z pinch:  $B_z = 0$ ,  $j_\theta = 0$  current  $j_z = \frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r B_\theta$

$B_\theta = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int_0^r dr' r' j_z(r')$

$\frac{\partial p}{\partial r} = -\frac{1}{c} j_z B_\theta = -\frac{4\pi}{c^2} \frac{j_z(r)}{r} \int_0^r dr' r' j_z(r')$

↑ pressure out

↑ pinch in



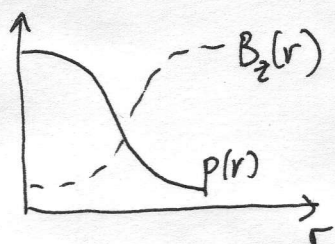
you can think of the pinch effect as coming from attraction of like currents or from the curvature force of mag. loops.

NB: experiments at IC, Sandia

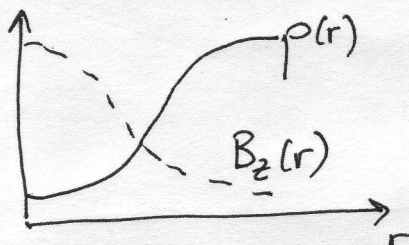
0 pinch.  $B_\theta = 0$ ,  $j_z = 0$  current  $j_\theta = -\frac{c}{4\pi} \frac{\partial B_z}{\partial r}$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( p + \frac{B_z^2}{8\pi} \right) = \text{const} = 0$$

pressure confined:

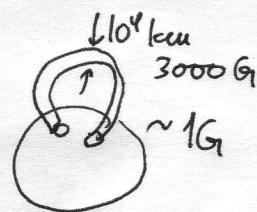
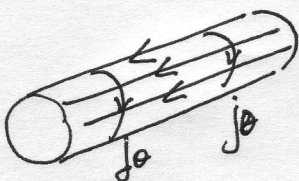


flux confined:



This is what happens with flux tubes in the sun:

flux emergence, sunspots (buoyant)



(2D): Assume axial symmetry only  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} = 0$ .  
 Derive Grad-Shafranov equation (ES1) #9