



# Heating by transverse waves in simulated coronal loops

K. Karamelas<sup>1</sup>, T. Van Doorselaere<sup>1</sup>, P. Antolin<sup>2</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Centre for mathematical Plasma Astrophysics, Department of  
Mathematics, KU Leuven*

*Email: [kostas.karamelas@kuleuven.be](mailto:kostas.karamelas@kuleuven.be)*

*<sup>2</sup>School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of St. Andrews*

**8<sup>th</sup> Coronal Loops Workshop: many facets of  
magnetically closed corona**

27-30/5/2017

Palermo, Italy



# Outline of the presentation

## 1. Introduction

- Ubiquitous transverse waves and oscillations
- Damping and Dissipation mechanisms
- Hypothesis: Wave heating

## 2. Numerical models

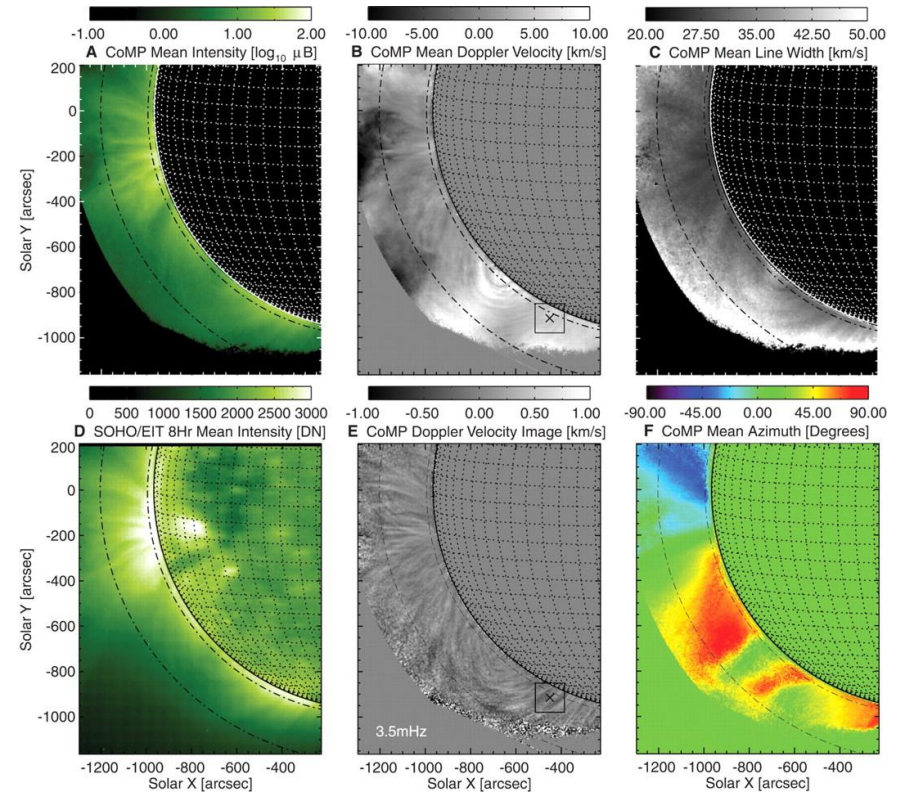
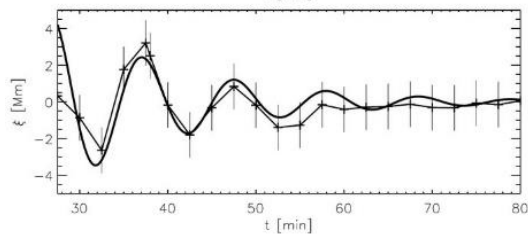
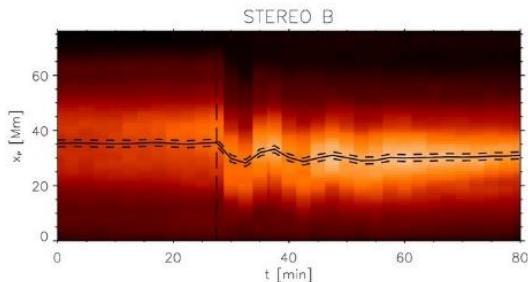
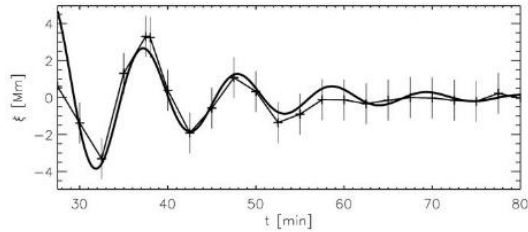
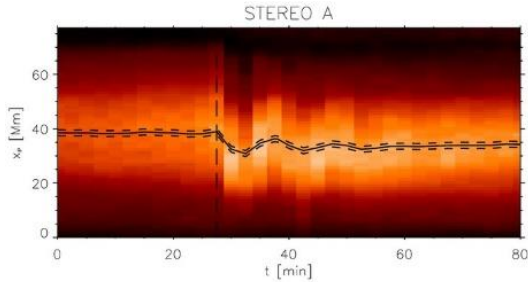
- Setup
- Density profile and driver

## 3. Results and discussion

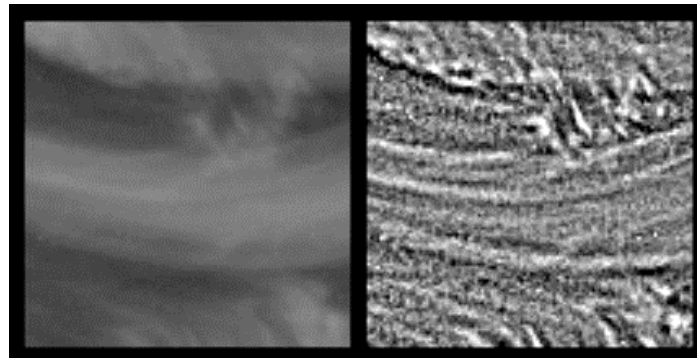
- Dynamical evolution of our models.
- Current density and vorticity
- Energy densities
- Temperature profiles

## 4. Conclusions and future work

# 1. Ubiquitous transverse oscillations: Standing and Propagating waves



Tomczyk et al., 2007



McIntosh et al., 2011

Verwichte et al. 2009

# 1. Damping of transverse oscillations

## **Resonant absorption:**

for standing modes (Ionson 1978; Goossens et al. 1992; Arregui et al. 2005; Terradas et al. 2010; Goossens et al. 2011)

## **Mode coupling:**

for propagating waves (Pascoe et al. 2010; De Moortel et al. 2016)

Energy transfer of the global transverse motion, through resonance, to local azimuthal Alfvén modes in the boundary layer at the loop edges.

## **Kelvin-Helmholtz instability (KHI):**

for standing modes (Heyvaerts & Priest 1983; Zaqarashvili et al. 2015).

- 3D simulations in straight flux tubes for driver generated azimuthal Alfvén waves (Ofman et al. 1994; Poedts et al. 1997),
- 3D simulations in straight flux tubes standing kink modes (Terradas et al. 2008; Antolin et al. 2014; Magyar et al. 2015; Magyar & Van Doorselaere 2016, Howson et al. 2017)

**Dissipation mechanisms:** through resistivity or viscosity, resonant absorption and mode coupling can lead to heating (Poedts & Boynton 1996; Ofman et al. 1998).

# 1. Hypothesis: heating by K.H. induced turbulence

## Antolin et al., 2014:

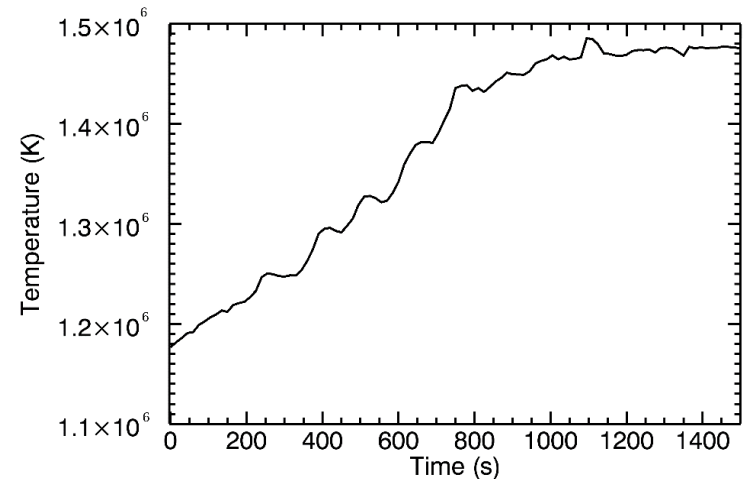
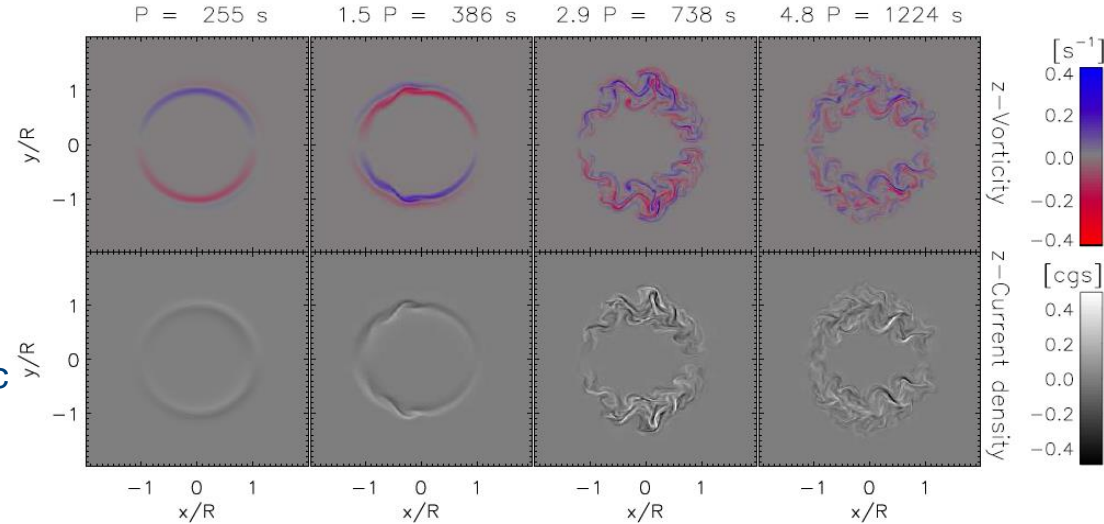
- Standing kink wave
- Transverse **W**aves Induced **K**elvin-**H**elmholtz rolls
- **TWIKH** rolls - heating due to viscous dissipation.
- Currents sheets - heating through ohmic dissipation.

## Problem with current simulations!

## Magyar & Van Doorselaere 2016:

- Damping of nonlinear kink oscillations
- Increase of average internal energy density  $\ll$  Increase of average temperature.
- Mixing between colder loop plasma and hotter coronal plasma heats up the loop.

**We can not distinguish between wave heating and the effects of mixing!**



## 2. Numerical Models

From **Karamelas et al. 2017 (accepted)**:

- 3D density enhanced, straight flux tube
- $B_z$  magnetic field
- Numerical resistivity
- Spatially constant total pressure
- Setup with spatially changing temperature profile (...-diffT model)
- Setup with uniform temperature (...-equalT model)

**Density profile (from Antolin et al. 2014) :**

$$\rho(x, y) = \rho_e + (\rho_i - \rho_e) \zeta(x, y)$$

$$\zeta(x, y) = 0.5 \left( 1 - \tanh \left( \left( \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} / R - 1 \right) 20 \right) \right)$$

**Loop length:**  $L = 100 M$

**Loop Radius:**  $R = 1 Mm$

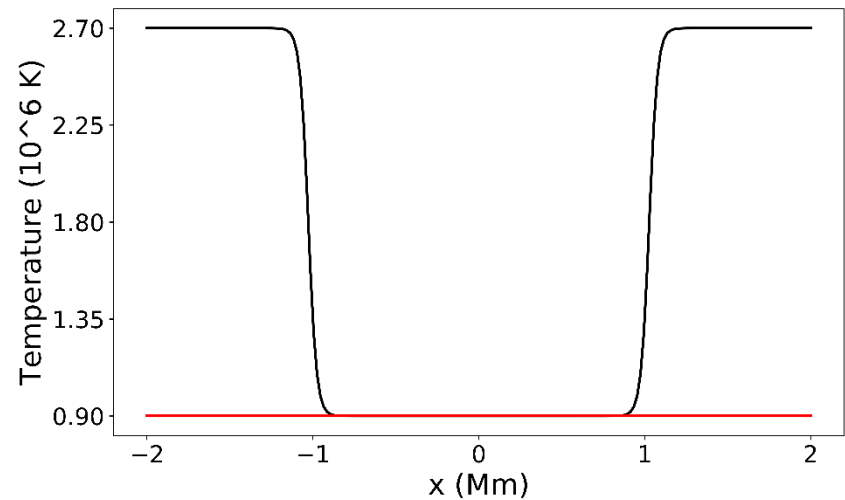
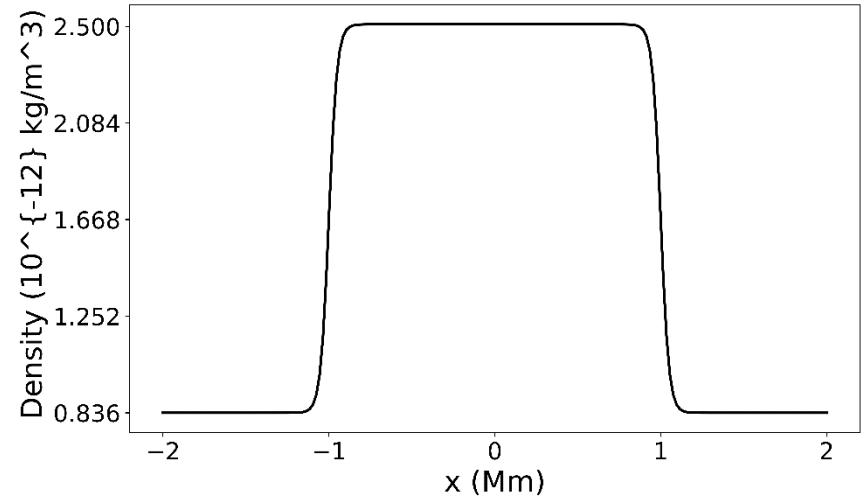
**Plasma beta:**  $\beta = 0,018$

**Numerical domain:**  $(x, y, z) = (16,8,100) Mm$

**Maximum resolution:**

$$(\delta x, \delta y, \delta z) = (31.5, 31.5, 1526.5) km$$

**Lundquist number:**  $S \sim 10^4$



## 2. Density profile and driver

### Two types of models:

1. **Stand-equalT** model (initial velocity perturbation):

$$V_{x0} = \left(25 \frac{km}{s}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi Z}{L}\right) \zeta(x, y)$$

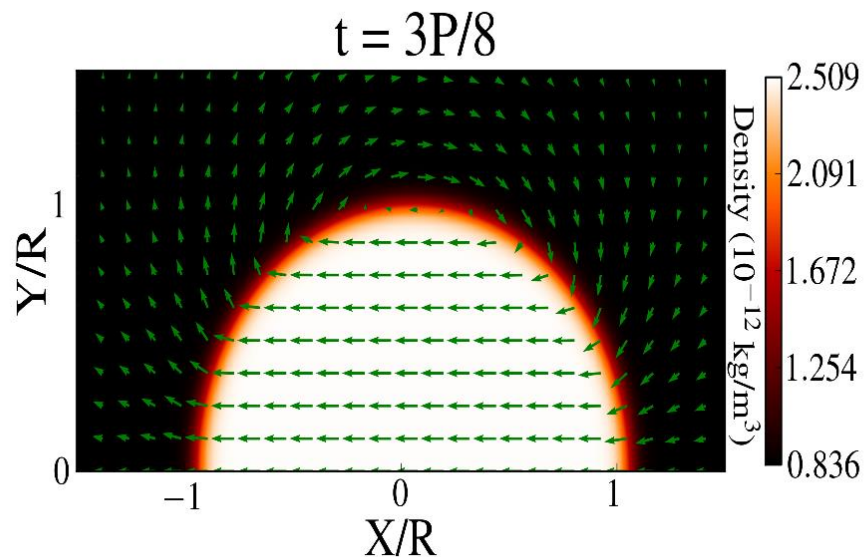
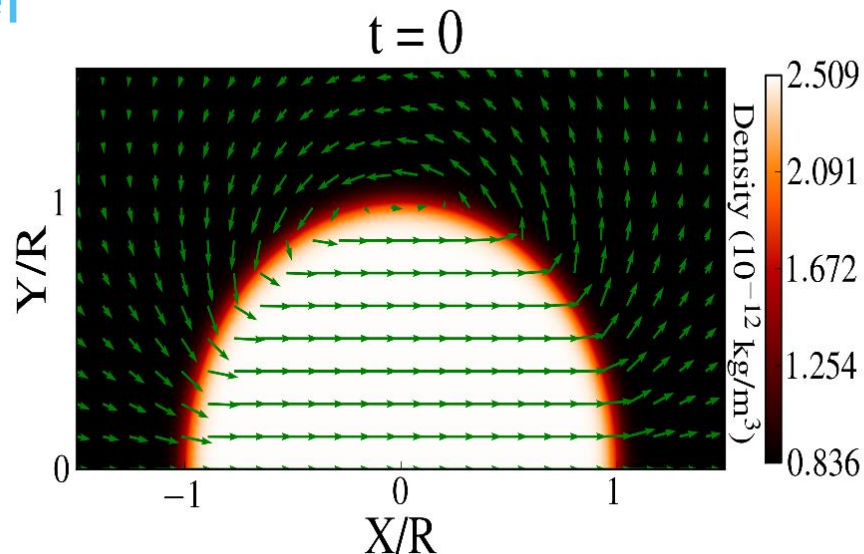
2. **Driven-equalT** and **Driven-diffT** models (Footpoint driver (from **Pascoe et al., 2010**):

$$\{v_x, v_y\} = \{v(t), 0\} = \left\{ \left(2 \frac{km}{s}\right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi t}{P}\right), 0 \right\}$$

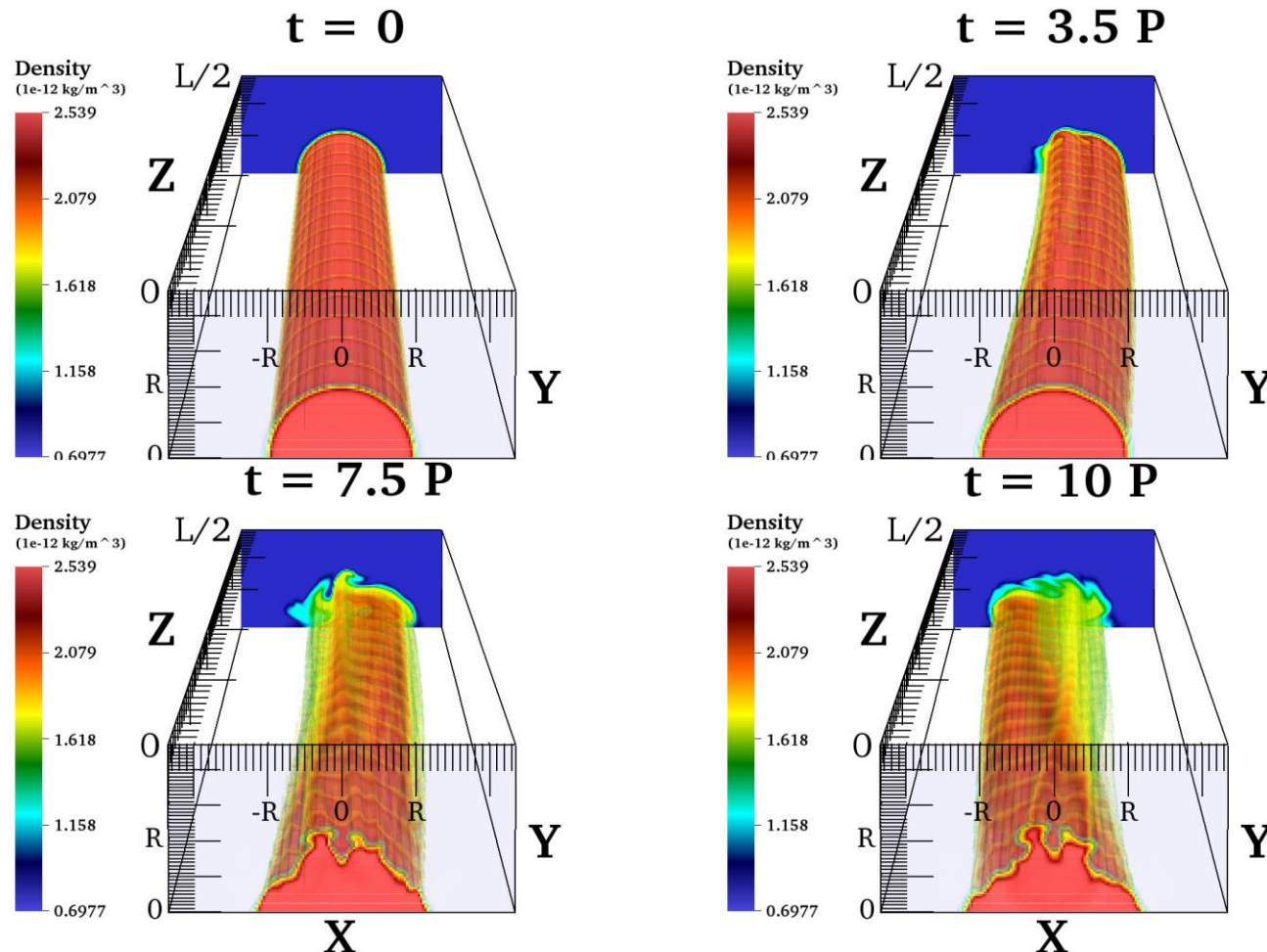
$$\{v_x, v_y\} = v(t)R^2 \left\{ \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, \frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \right\}$$

$P = 254$  s is the driver period, and is equal to the period of the fundamental standing kink mode (Edwin & Roberts 1983).

We use the **MPI-AMRVAC** code (Porth et al. 2014), with the Powell's scheme for the solenoidal constraint on the magnetic field.



### 3. Dynamical evolution of our models.

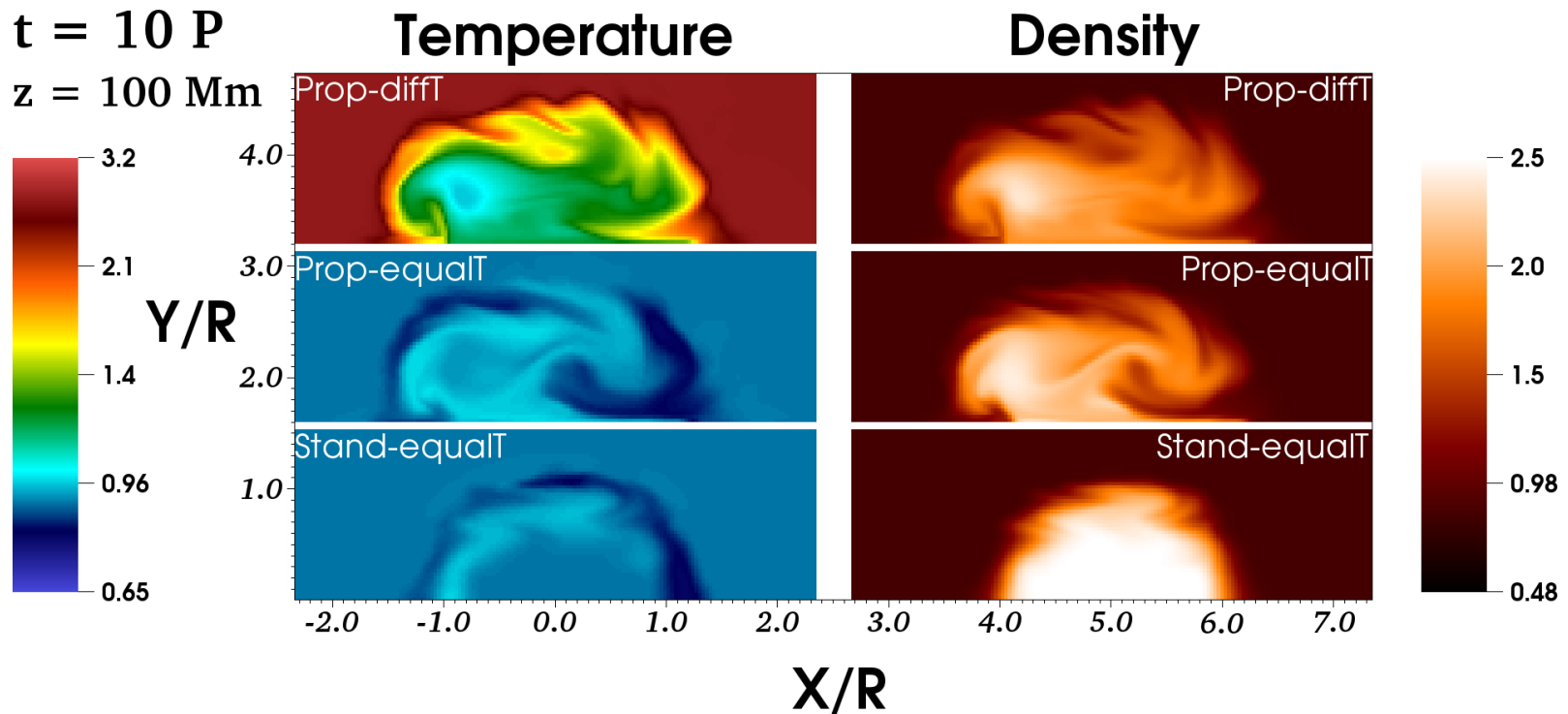


Snapshots (movies in the .pptx) of a driven standing wave at different times:

- For the **Driven** models, the propagating waves superpose creating a standing mode. This mode resembles the fundamental kink oscillation.
- **Bonus observation:** The creation of elongated density structures (“apparent strands”) along the loop length (see also Antolin et al. 2014, 2016).



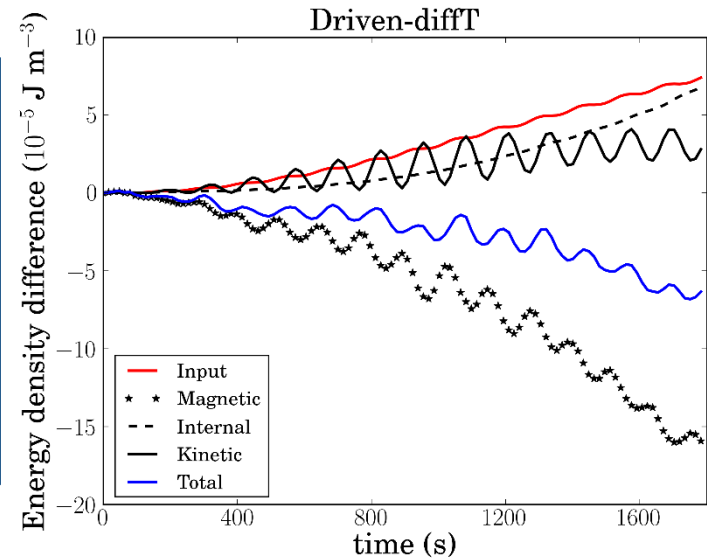
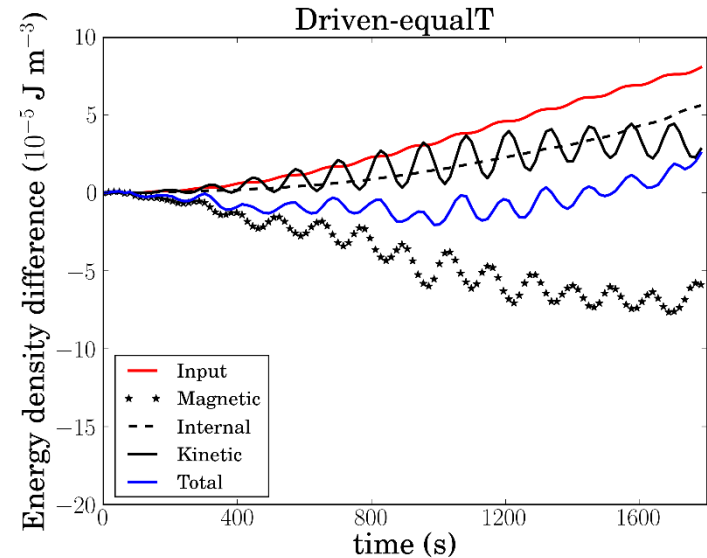
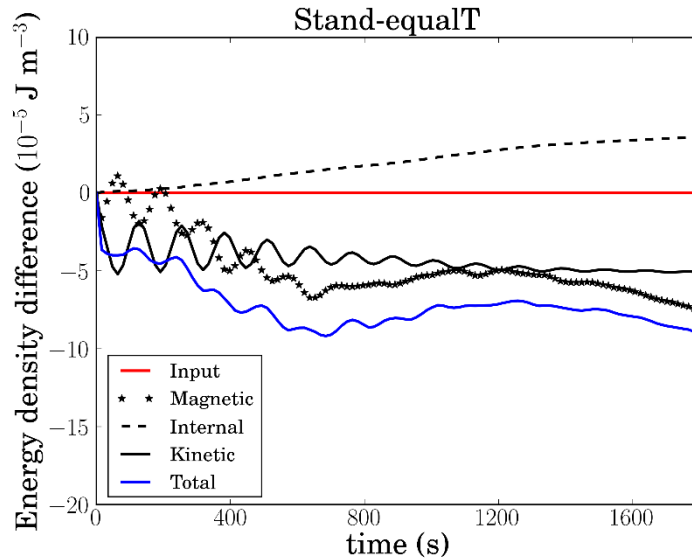
### 3. Dynamical evolution of our models.



Snapshots (movies in the .pptx) of the cross-section of the models, at the apex. The maximum centre of mass velocity for the **Stand-equalT** model is  $25 \text{ km/s}$ , while the peak centre of mass velocity for the **Driven**-models is  $\sim 13 \text{ km/s}$ .

- Development of **Transverse Waves Induced Kelvin-Helmholtz rolls (TWIKH)** rolls
- Spatially extended TWIKH rolls for the Driven-models.
- Plasma mixing and deforming of the initial density (and temperature) profile – **Turbulent Loops** (Karampelas and Van. Doorselaere, in prep.).

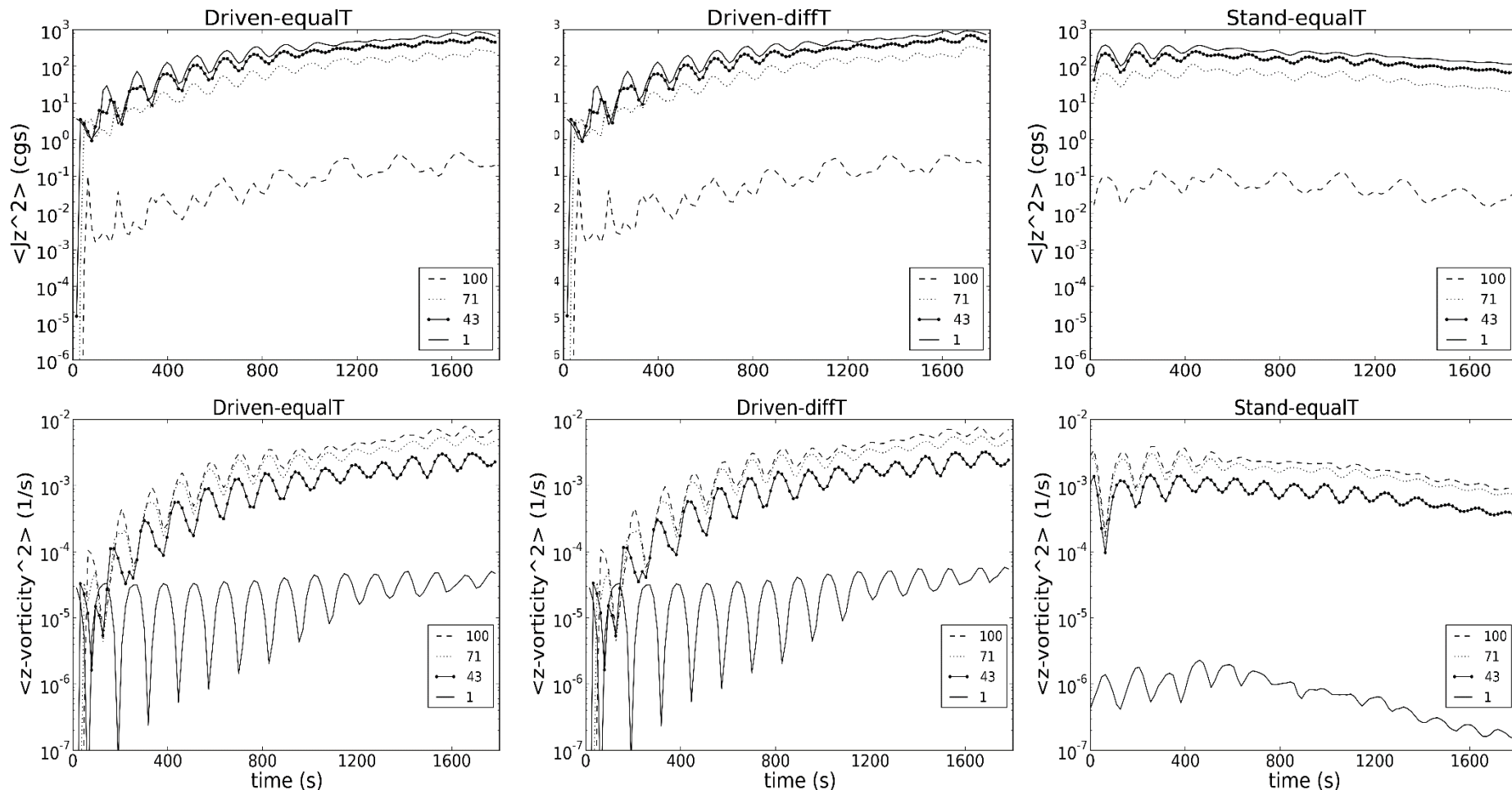
# 3. Energy densities



Internal (**I**) and magnetic (**M**) energy density variations relative to the initial state.  
Kinetic (**K**) energy density.  
Total (**T=M+I+K**) energy density.  
Energy (density) provided by the driver (**Input**).

In our models, we observe a drop in the magnetic energy density, as well as an increase in the internal energy.

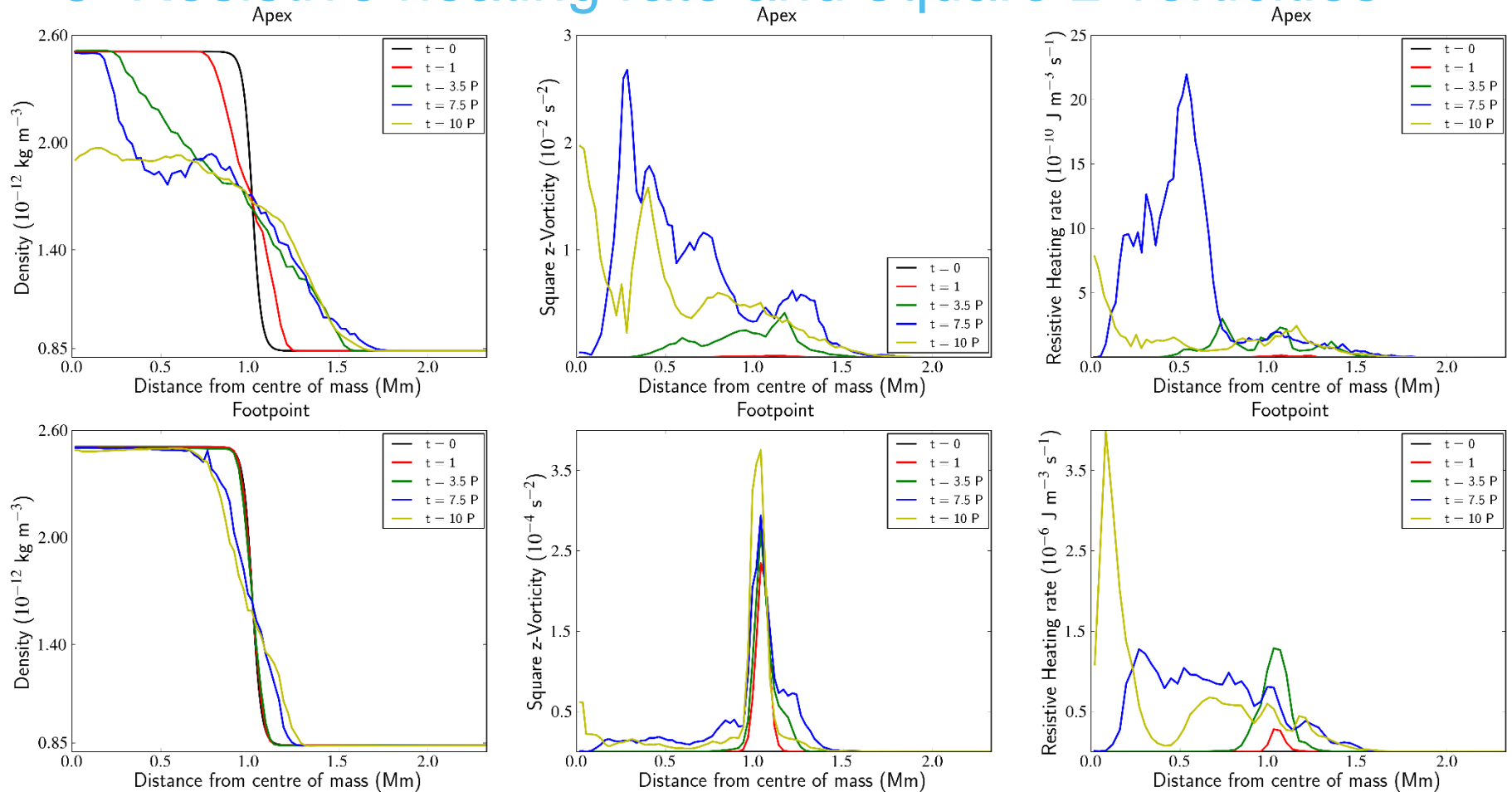
# 3. Square z-current densities and square z-vorticities



## For all three models:

- Profiles of the average: square z-current densities ( $J_z^2$ ) (**top**) and square z-vorticity ( $\omega_z^2$ ) (**bottom**).
- Higher values of  $J_z^2$  ||  $\omega_z^2$  near the footpoint || apex hint towards ohmic || viscous dissipation as a potential heating mechanism.

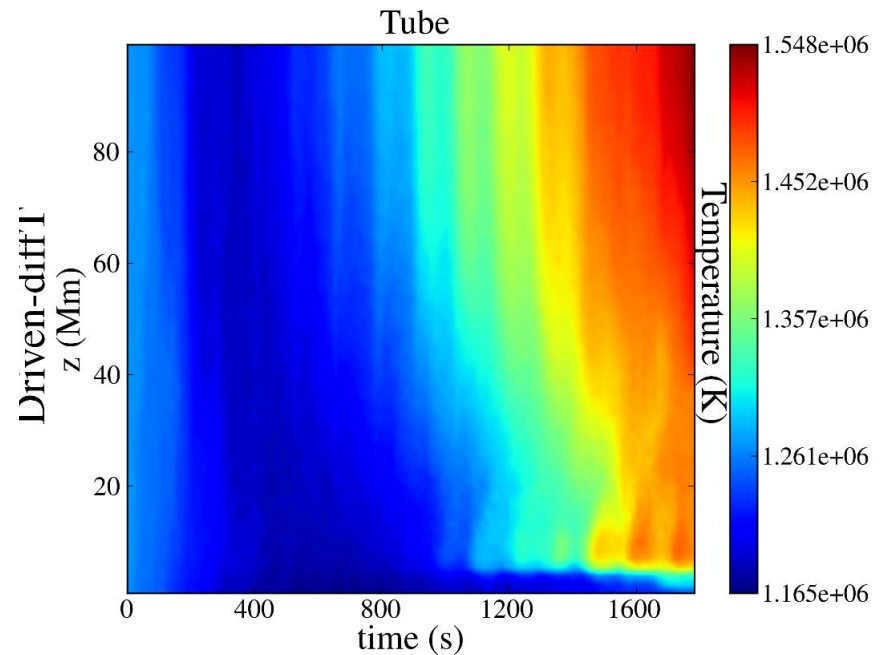
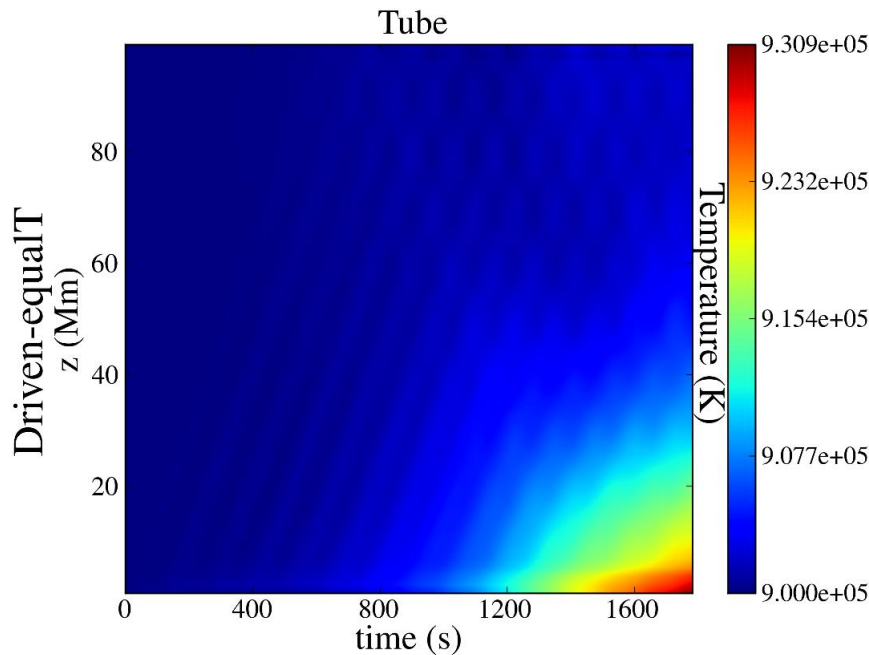
# 3. Resistive heating rate and square z-vorticities



## Driven-diffT model (Karampelas and Van. Doorselaere, in prep.):

- Profiles of the average density, square z-vorticity ( $\omega_z^2$ ) and resistive heating rate ( $H_r$ ).
- Higher values of  $H_r \parallel \omega_z^2$  near the footpoint  $\parallel$  apex hint towards ohmic  $\parallel$  viscous dissipation as a potential heating mechanism.

# 3. Temperature profiles



Time – height plot for the average temperature for the two models with the footpoint driver. We focus only on the flux tube (for density  $\rho \geq 0.335 \rho_i$ ).

- The larger final temperatures near the footpoint for the **Driven-equalT** model, point towards ohmic over viscous dissipation as the main heating mechanism.
- For the **Driven-diffT** model, the larger final temperatures near the apex, are the result of mixing between the cold loop and the warmer corona (**apparent heating**, see also Magyar & Van Doorselaere 2016).

# Summary – Next steps...

## Flux tube dynamics:

- Driver induced propagating waves superpose, forming a standing mode.
- Emergence of Kelvin - Helmholtz instability (K.H.I) at magnetic field node (apex).
- The development of TWIKH rolls leads to the appearance of strands-like structures in our loop.

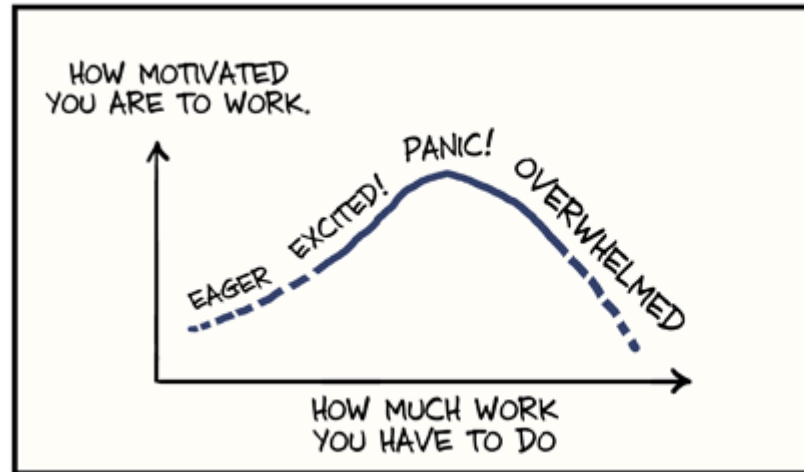
## Flux tube energetics:

- Increase of internal energy, decrease of magnetic energy.
- K.H. vortices lead to extensive mixing of plasma between different layers, causing the apparent heating of the loop.
- Strong currents develop at the loop footpoints, leading to ohmic (actual) heating, in presence of (effective) numerical resistivity.

## Future steps:

- Effects of physical resistivity and thermal conduction?
- Gravity.
- Use of a realistic atmosphere.

# Thank you



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM



99 little bugs in the code.  
99 little bugs.  
Take one down, patch it around.  
127 little bugs in the code...