What

Clusters of galaxies

~100s-1000s of Mpc away ~ few Mpc virial radius

~ 1e-1 to 1e-4 cm^-3 ~ 10s of pc to kpc mean free path

~ 10^7-10^8 K ~thousands of km/s sound speed

~ B-field several µG ~ nanoparsec Larmor radii

fully dissociated plasma (mostly) in collisional ionization equilibrium (although mfp is large!) (mostly) optically thin but often approximated as ideal fluid (so far...)

Why

Open questions

~ average level of turbulent to thermal pressure support vs. radius, mass, time

~ is turbulence in the ICM actually responsible for (re)accelerating cosmic ray component of these objects?

~ importance of turbulence for magnetic field amplification

~ how much heat is actually generated by dissipating turbulent motions?

~ what is the role of turbulence in regulating feedback from supermassive black holes?

~ role of turbulence for spreading chemical elements throughout cluster volume

~ what is the effective viscosity of the ICM? What does that imply for the physics on nanoparsec scales that cannot be resolved (or even physics below the mfp)?

Why

Open questions

~ average level of turbulent to thermal pressure support vs. radius, mass, time, etc [how wrong is the hydrostatic equilibrium assumption used to infer cluster masses for cosmology?]

~ how much heat is actually generated by dissipating turbulent motions?

~ what is the role of turbulence in regulating feedback from supermassive black holes?

~ is turbulence in the ICM actually responsible for (re)accelerating cosmic ray component of these objects?





Nelson et al. 2014

Shi et al. 2015



Why

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~ average level of turbulent to thermal pressure support vs. radius, mass, time, etc [how wrong is the hydrostatic equilibrium assumption used to infer cluster masses for cosmology?]

~ how much heat is actually generated by dissipating turbulent motions?

~ what is the role of turbulence in regulating feedback from supermassive black holes? [see notes by Mateusz]

~ is turbulence in the ICM actually responsible for (re)accelerating cosmic ray component of these objects?

How to measure the gas velocity

~ X-ray surface brightness fluctuations

$$\frac{\delta\rho_k}{\rho_0} = \eta_1 \frac{V_{1,k}}{c_s}$$

~ Doppler shifts and widths of X-ray lines (both of order eV)

$$\Delta E = E_{\text{line}} \times v_{\text{bulk}}/c \qquad W_{\text{therm}} = \frac{\nu_0}{c} \sqrt{\frac{k_B T}{Am_p}} \qquad W_{\text{turb}} = \frac{\nu_0}{c} \sigma_{v||}$$

~ Resonant scattering

$$\tau = \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\sqrt{2\pi} h r_e cf}{\sigma} n_p Z \delta_i dr$$

~ kinematic SZ (sub-dominant to thermal SZ unless v reaches ~ thousands of km/s)

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} = -\sigma_{\rm T} \int n_e \beta d\ell$$

~ use optical line emitting nebulae as tracers of hot phase?



Ogorzalek et al. 2017

Perseus





Perseus direct vs. indirect velocity measurements







The fine print

Drivers of turbulence in the intracluster medium

integrated history of large-scale structure growth
recent accretion and mergers
feedback from supermassive black holes
motions of member galaxies through ICM

All of these are at play and all are predicted to drive turbulence at the ~few 100 km/s level

+we are necessarily integrating along the line of sight and over a pretty large region of space!

How do we distinguish what is the contribution from each physical mechanism?

Perseus, spatially resolved (kind of)



Turbulence higher in regions that have AGN bubbles. What does that imply for the physics of AGN feedback? [further discussion by Mateusz]