



# Aspects of magnetic growth & the turbulent dynamo

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$$L \sim \mathcal{O}(\text{kpc})$$

M82 (Cigar Galaxy)

M51 (Whirlpool Galaxy)

**small scale, disordered magnetic fields**

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{kin}} \sim \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}}$$

Beck (2015)

$$\mathbf{B} = \langle \mathbf{B} \rangle + \mathbf{b}$$

**large scale dynamo theory**

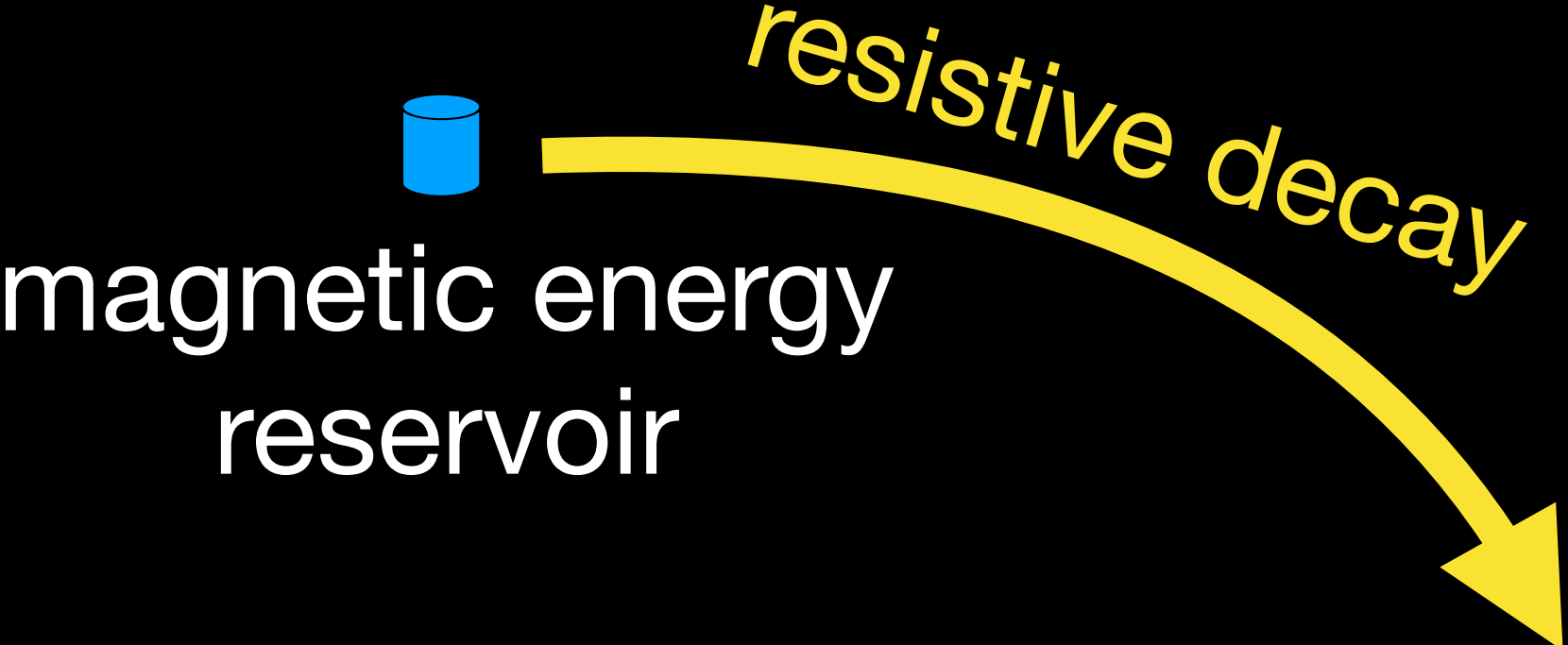
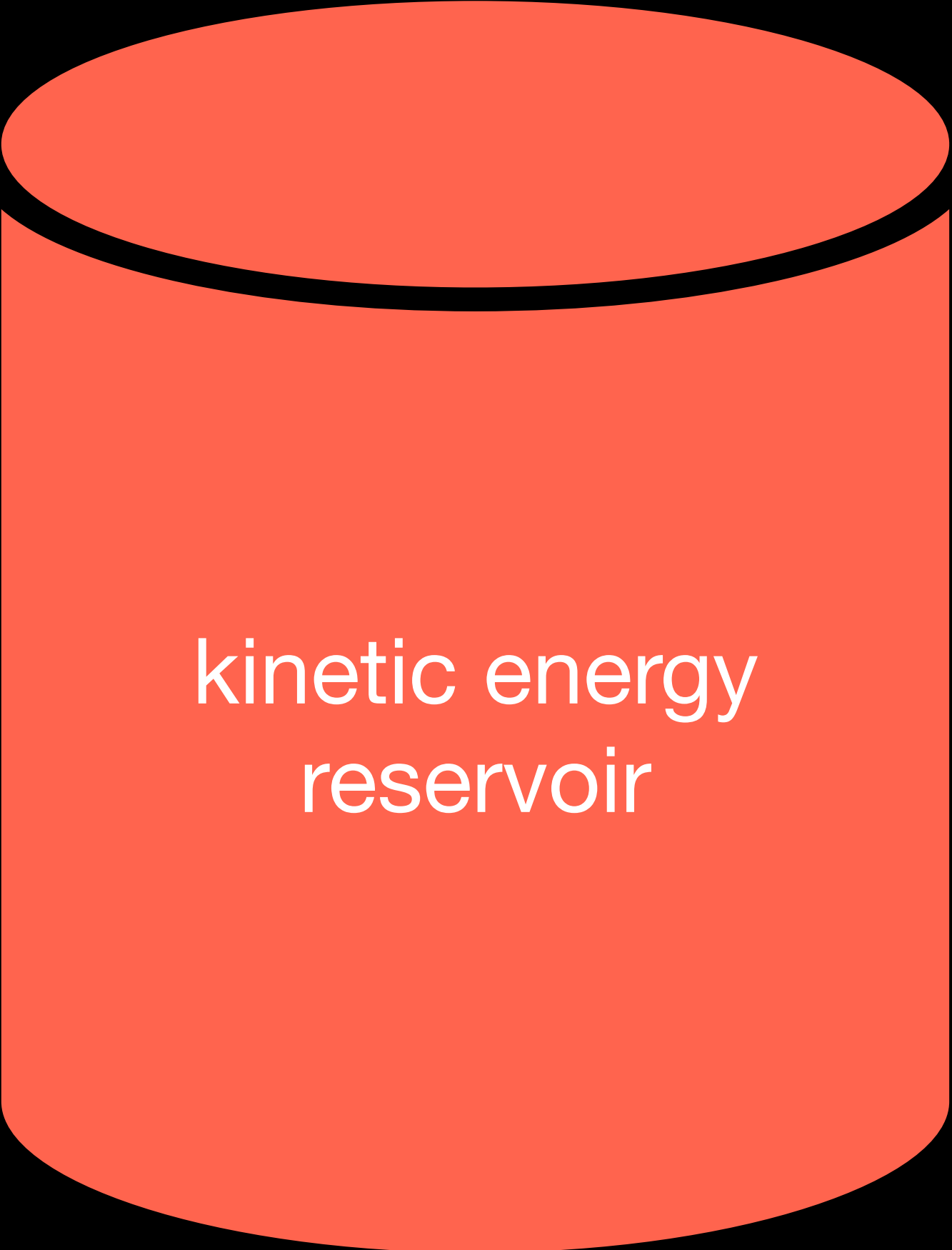
**small scale dynamo theory**

**large scale, ordered magnetic fields**

Lopez-Rodriguez + (2021)

Credit: NASA, the SOFIA science team, A. Borlaff; NASA, ESA, S. Beckwith (STScI) and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

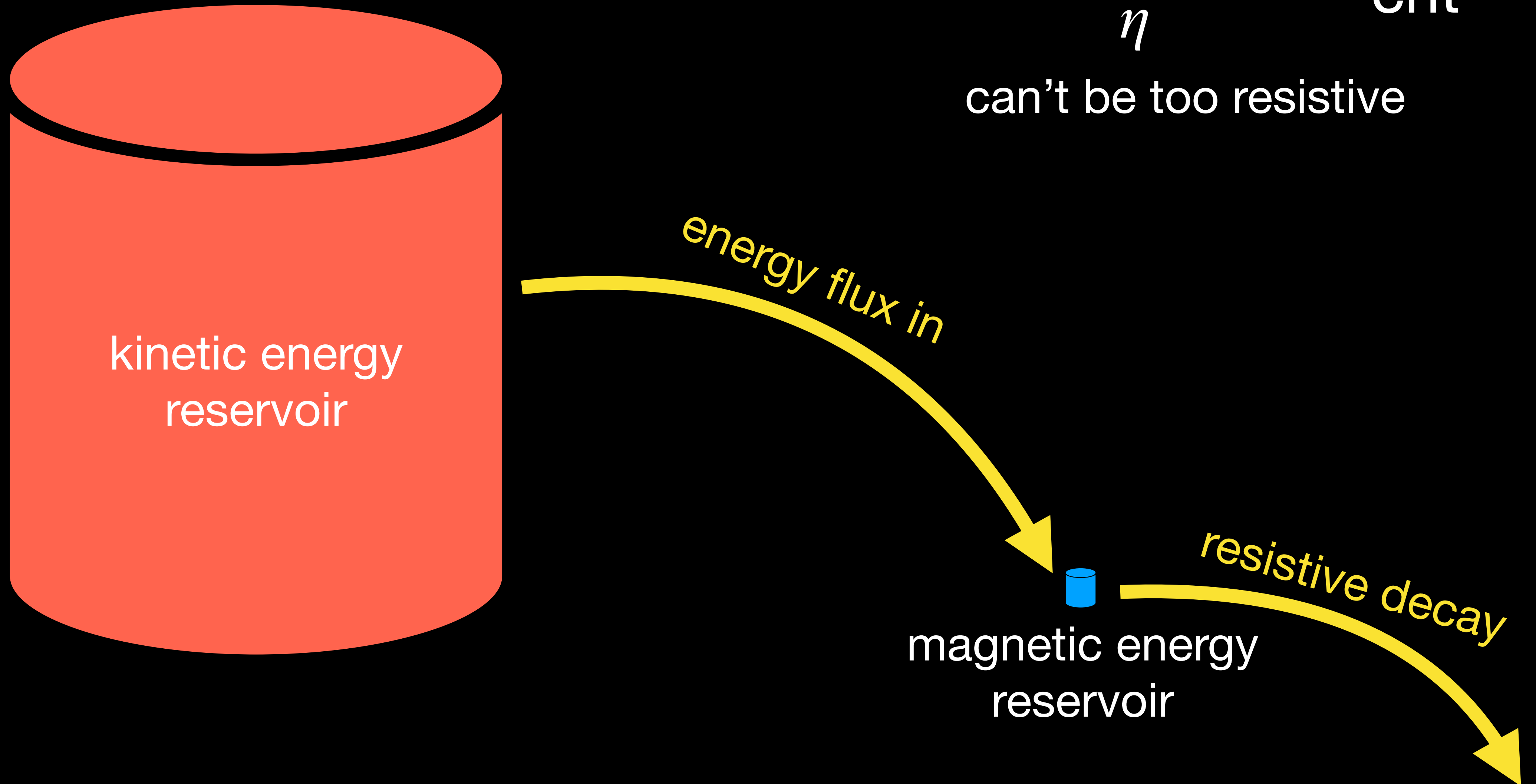
# What is a magnetic dynamo? Starting with a weak seed magnetic field



# What is a magnetic dynamo? Growth

$$Rm \sim \frac{U_0 L}{\eta} > Rm_{\text{crit}}$$

can't be too resistive

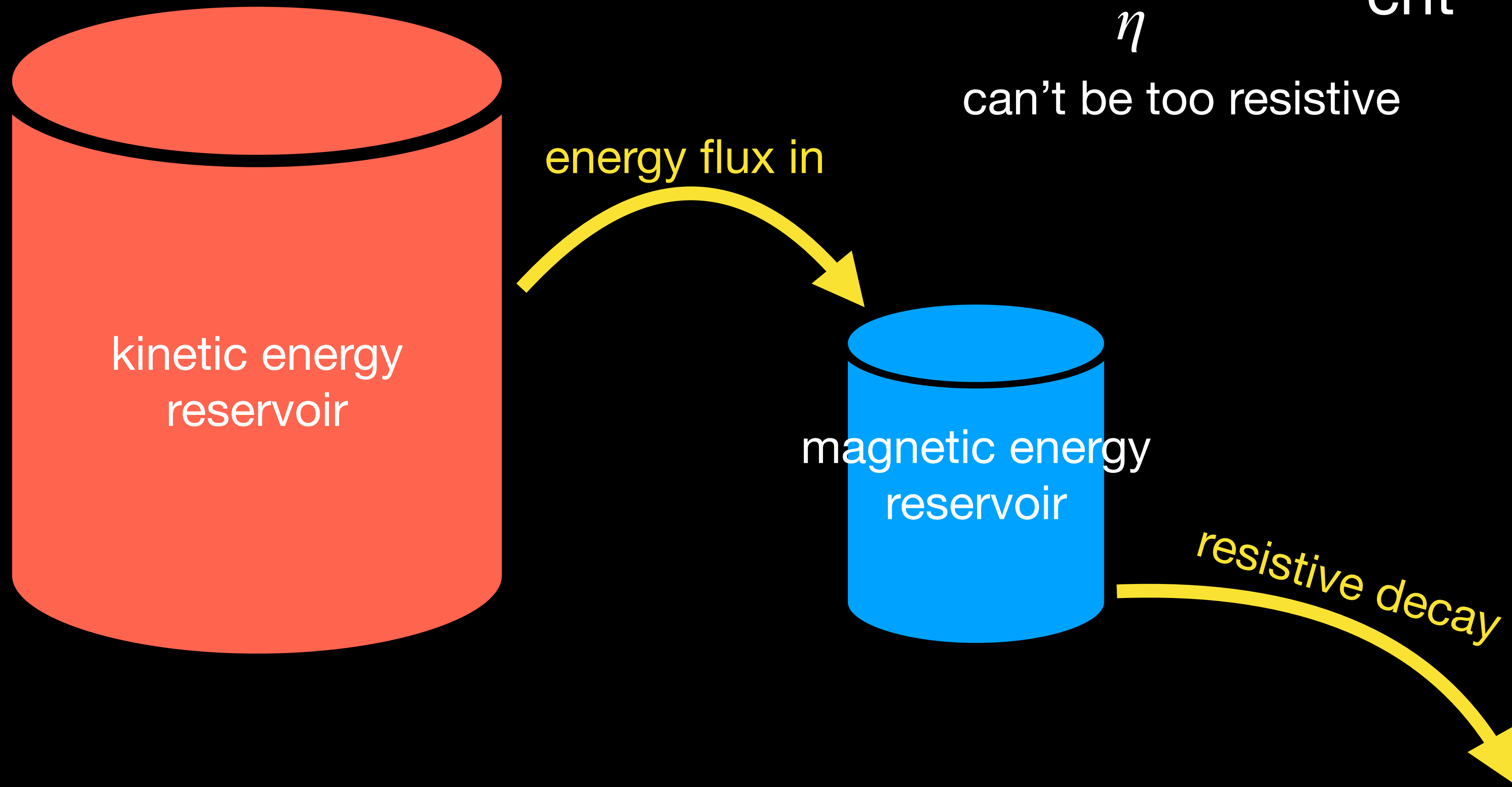


# What is a magnetic dynamo?

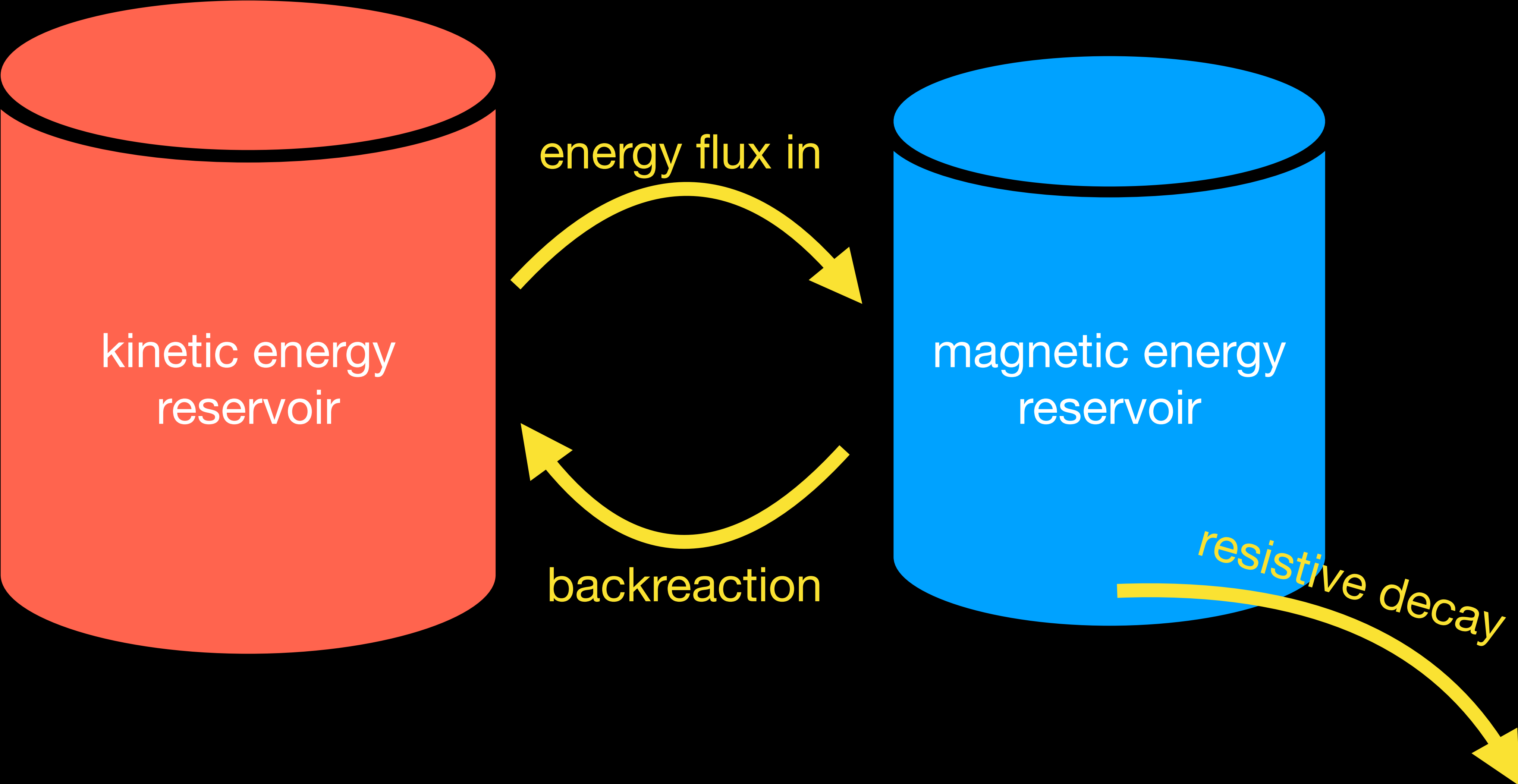
## Growth

$$Rm \sim \frac{U_0 L}{\eta} > Rm_{crit}$$

can't be too resistive



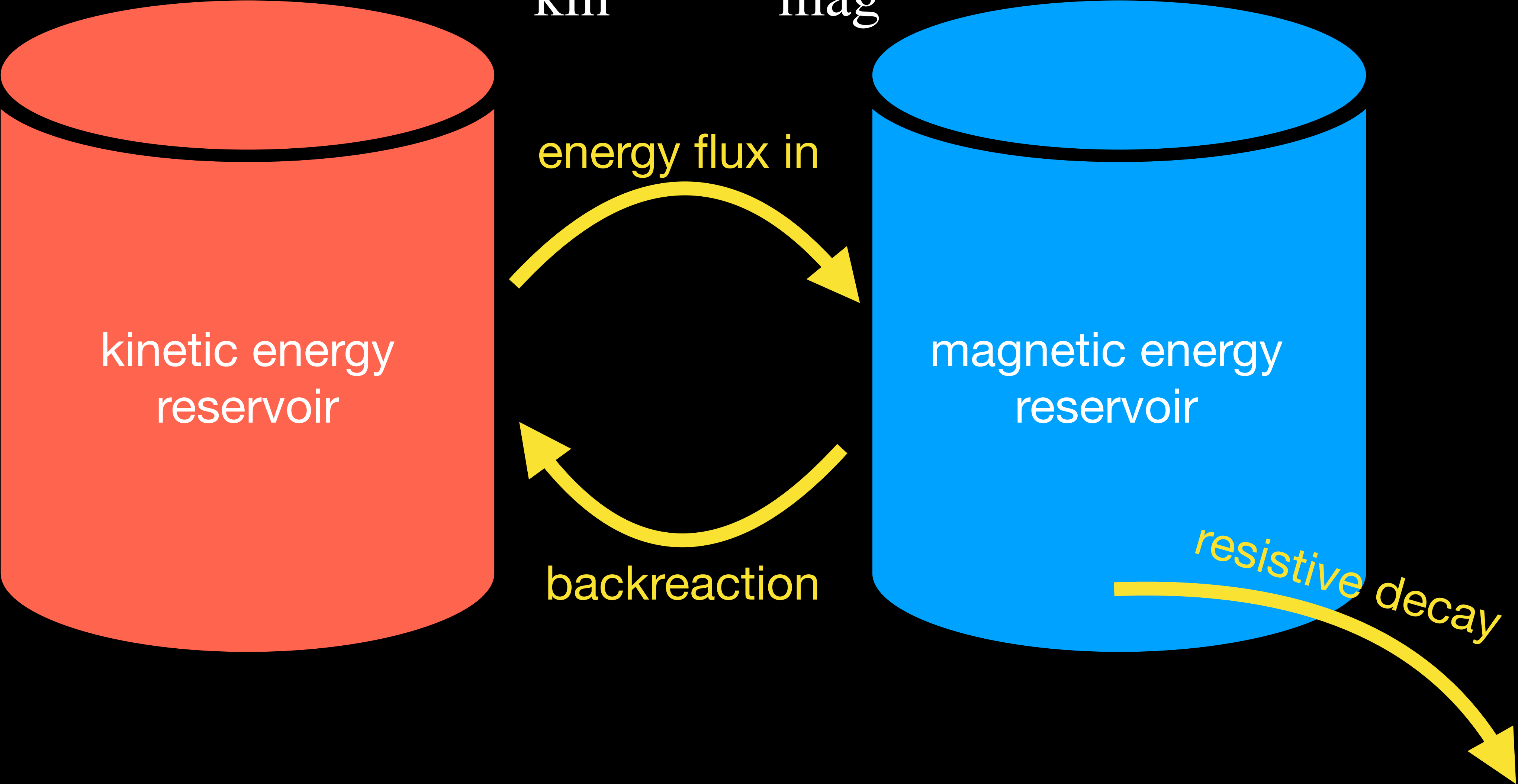
# What is a magnetic dynamo? Nonlinearities and backreaction



# What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Saturation

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{kin}} \sim \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}}$$

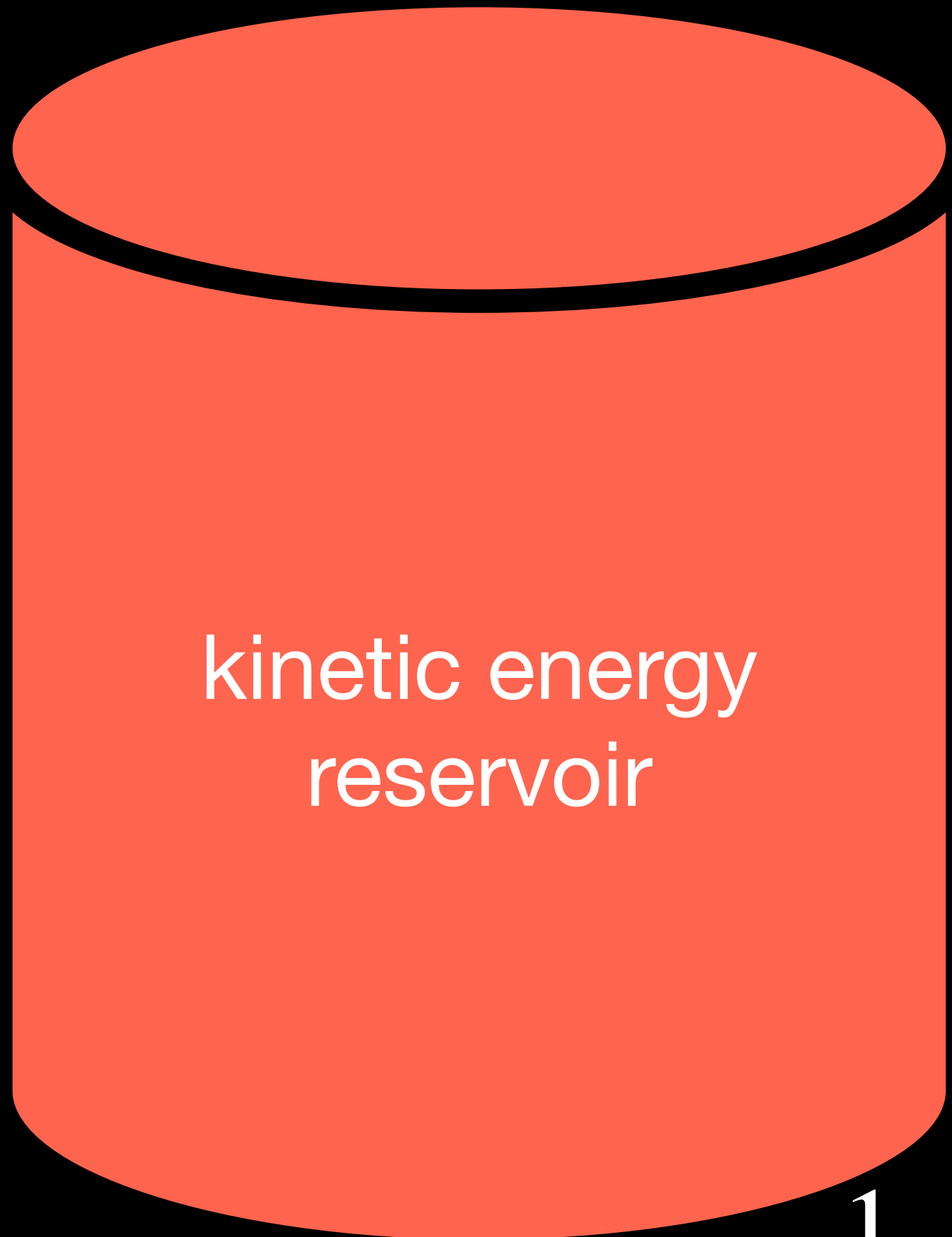


# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

Starting with a weak seed magnetic field

$$\text{Rm} \sim \frac{u_0 \ell_0}{\eta}$$

$$\text{Re} \sim \frac{u_0 \ell_0}{\nu}$$

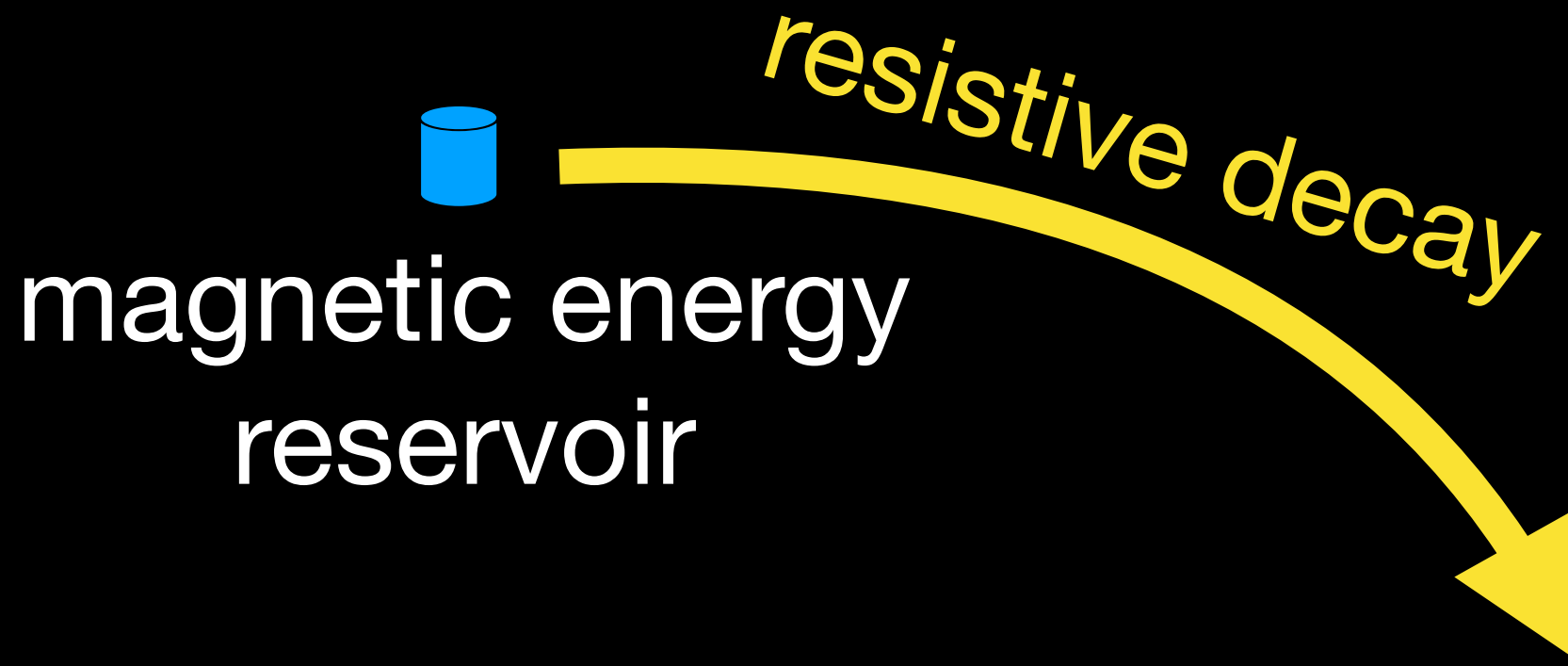


kinetic energy reservoir

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \partial_t \mathbf{b} = \partial_t \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} = \frac{1}{\text{Rm}} \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbb{D}_\eta(\mathbf{b})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{f}_{\text{turb}} \rangle_t = \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \langle \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbb{D}_\nu(\mathbf{u}) \rangle_t$$

$\mathcal{E}_{\text{in}} = \mathcal{E}_{\text{out}}$

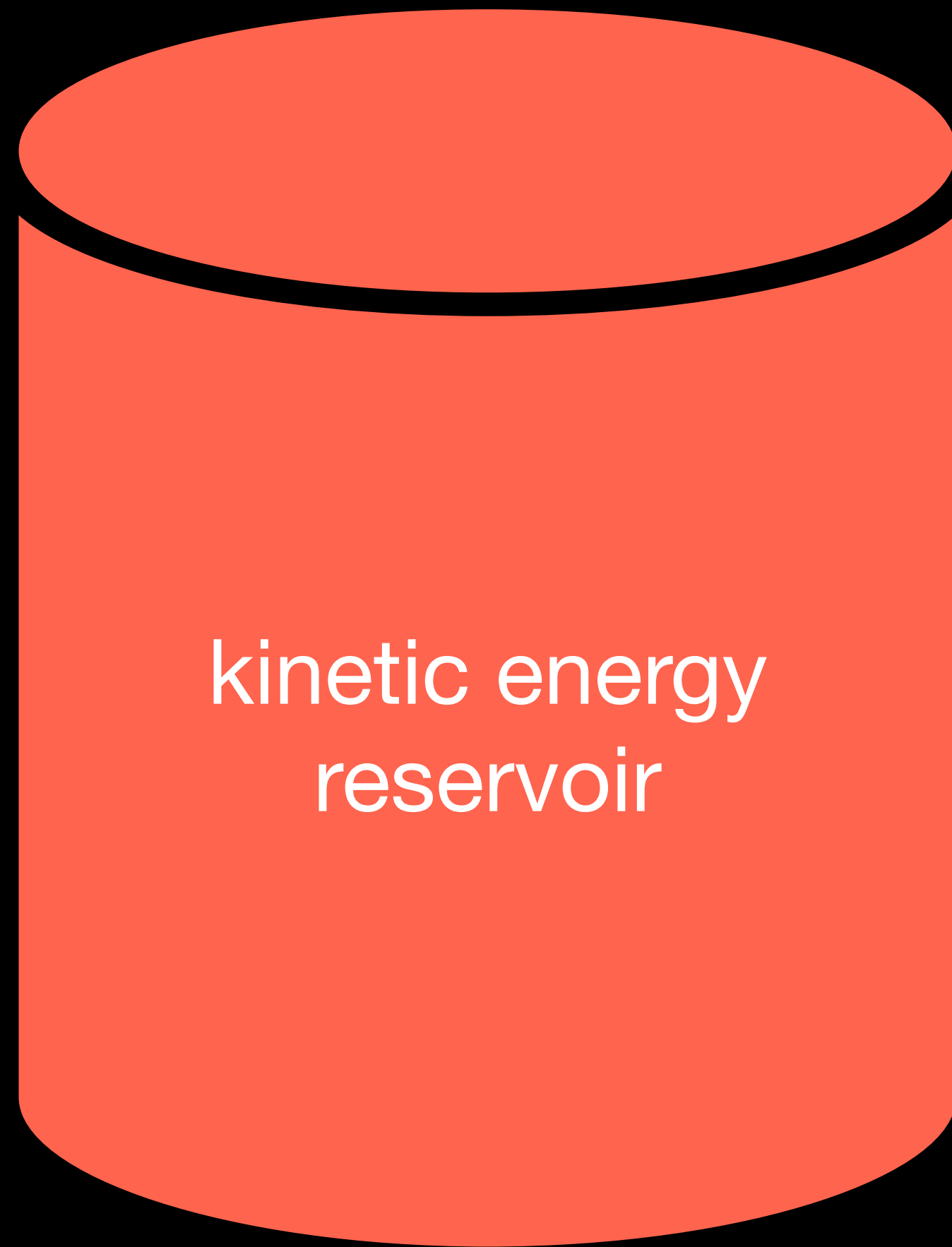


magnetic energy reservoir



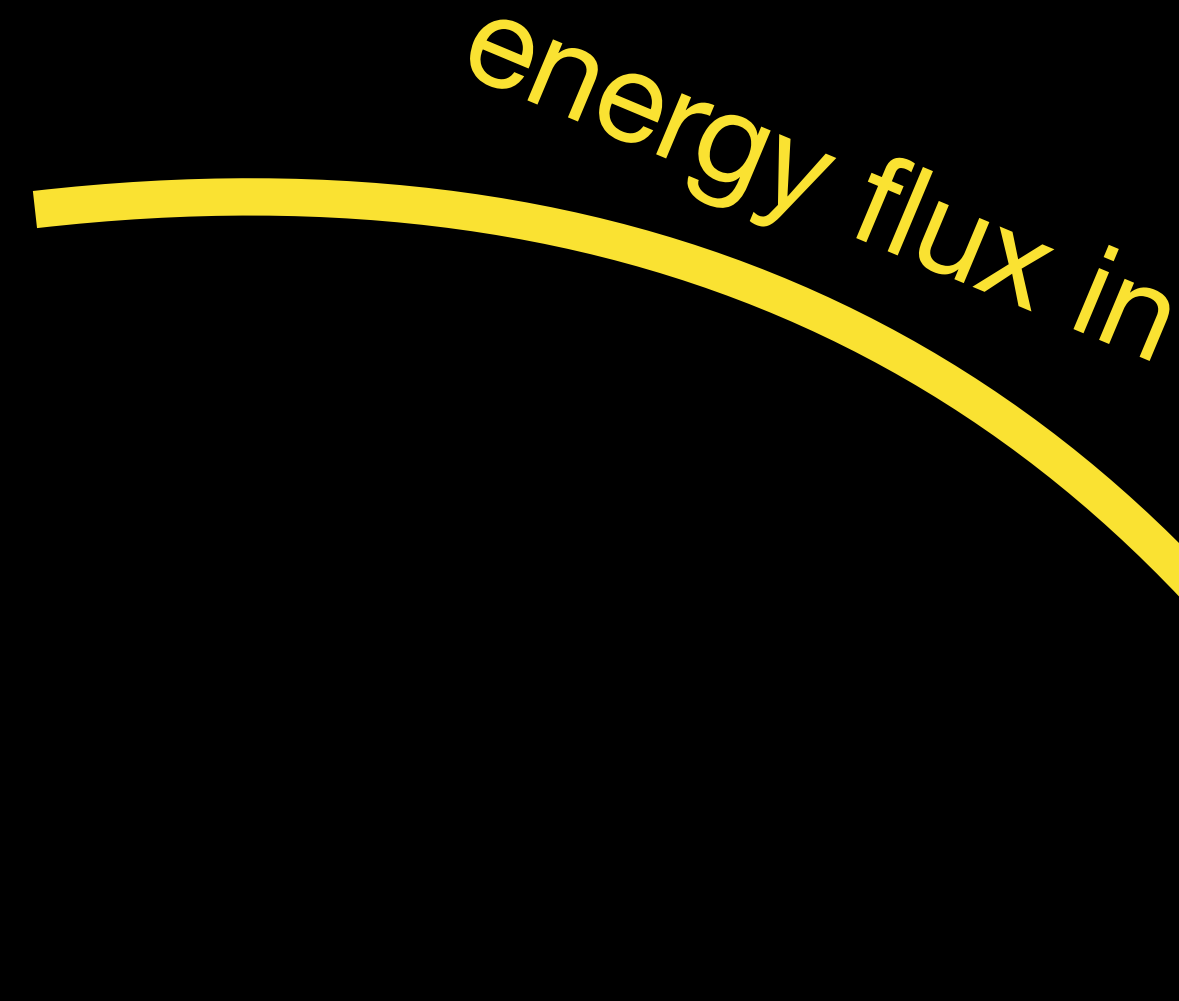
# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Growth



$$Rm = \frac{|\nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}}|}{|\mathbb{D}_{\eta}(\mathbf{b})|} > Rm_{\text{crit}}$$

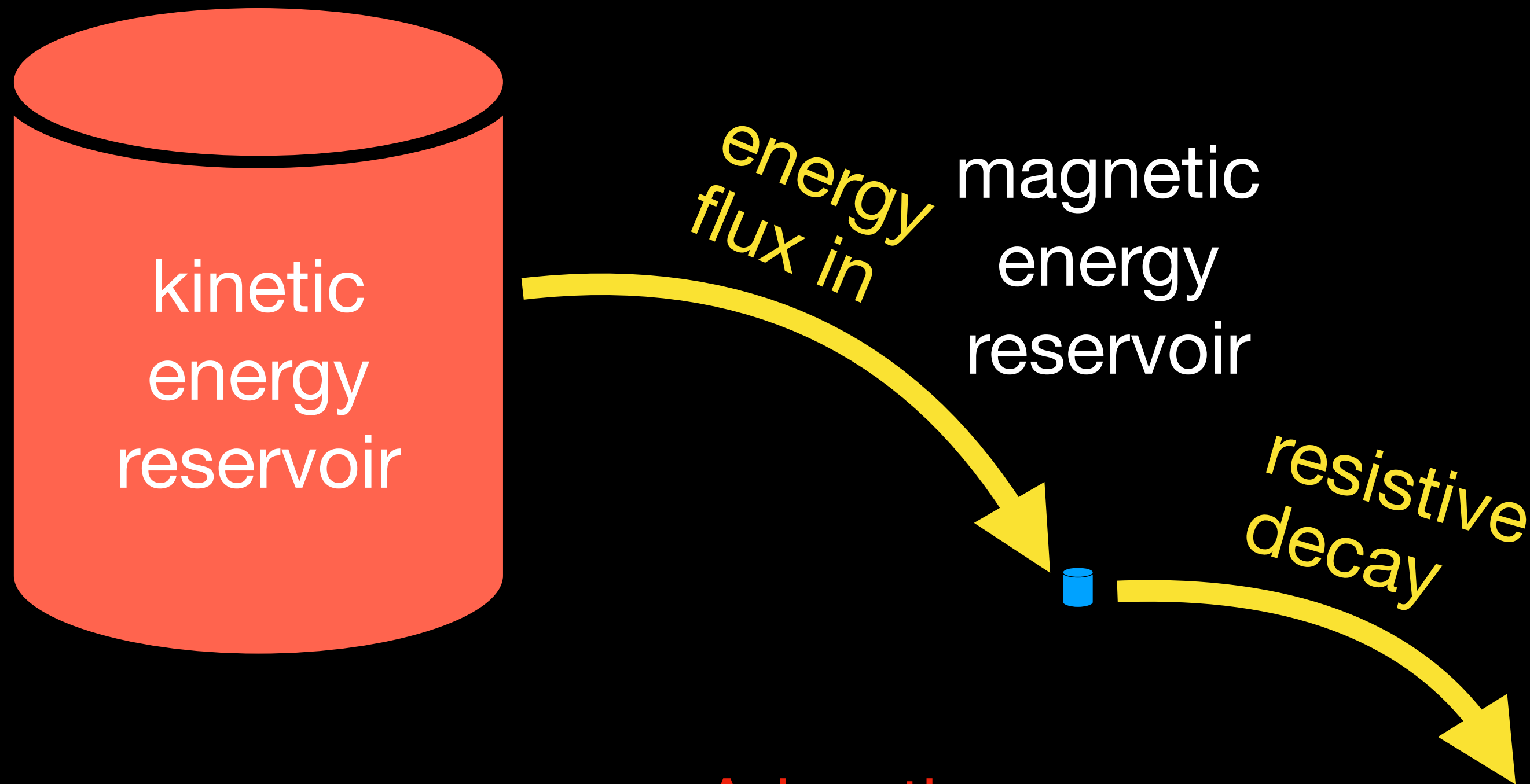
can't be too resistive



$$\partial_t \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} + \mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}} = \frac{1}{Rm} \mathbf{b} \cdot \mathbb{D}_{\eta}(\mathbf{b})$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Flux terms



$$Rm = \frac{|\nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_b|}{|\mathbb{D}_\eta(\mathbf{b})|} > Rm_{crit}$$

can't be too resistive

$$\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} = u_j u_i \partial_i u_j$$

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_b = \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}}_{\text{Advection}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}}_{\text{coupling to velocity gradients}} - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})}_{\text{compression}}$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Gradient coupling

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}}_{\text{advection}} - \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}}_{\text{coupling to velocity gradients}} + \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})}_{\text{compression}}$$

$$\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} = \mathbb{A} + \mathbb{S} + \mathbb{B}$$

$$\mathbb{S} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i \right) - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \partial_k u_k \quad \mathbb{A}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \partial_i u_j - \partial_j u_i \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ijk} \omega_k$$

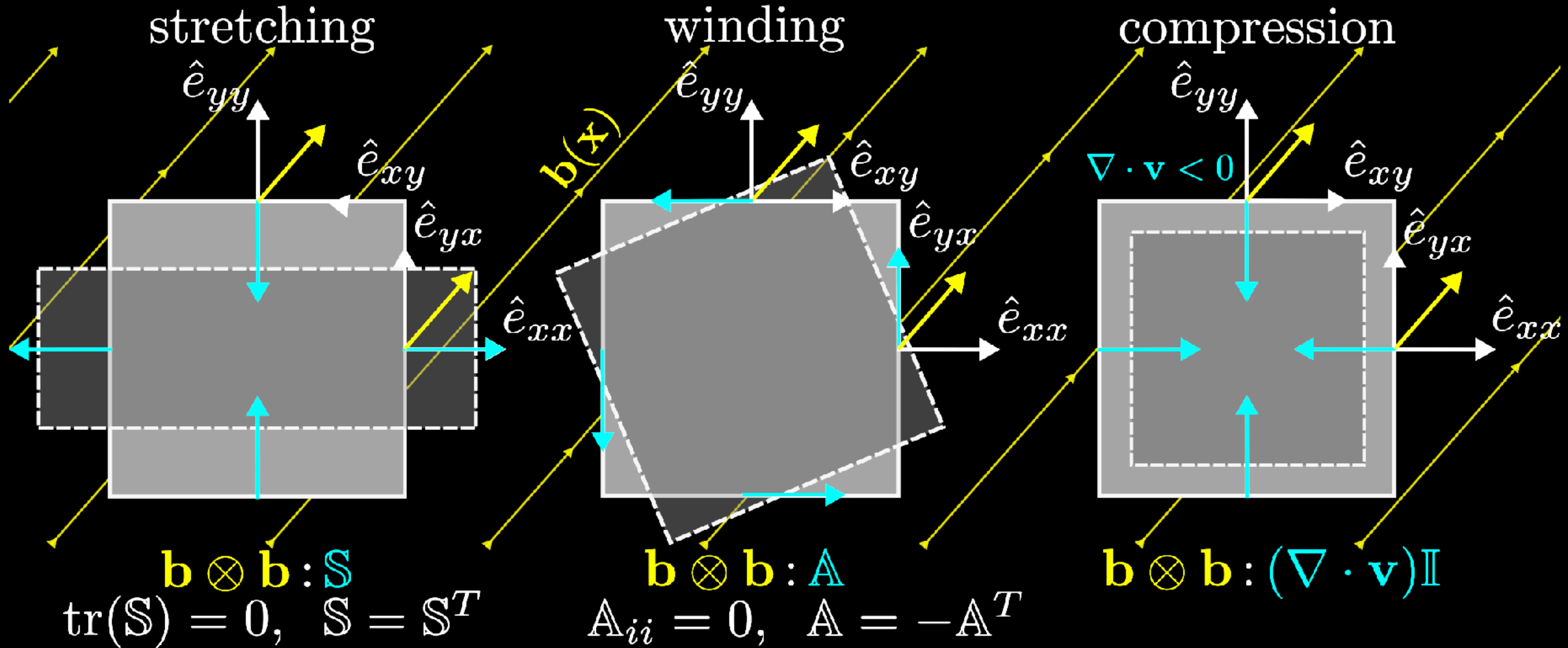
volume preserving

volume preserving

$$\mathbb{B}_{ij} = \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij} \partial_k u_k$$

volume changing

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo? Gradient tensor decomp.



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Gradient tensor decomp.

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}} = \overbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}}^{\text{advection}} - \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \mathbb{S}(\mathbf{u})}_{\text{stretching}} - \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \mathbb{A}(\mathbf{u})}_{\text{rotation}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{6} \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})}_{\text{compression}}$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo? Gradient tensor decomp.

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}$$

$$-\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \mathbb{S}(\mathbf{u}) - \underbrace{\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \mathbb{A}(\mathbf{u})}_{\text{rotation}} + \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \mathbb{I}$$

rotation ( $\mathbb{A}$  is actually a representation of  $\mathfrak{SO}(3)$ )

symmetric

antisymmetric

$$\mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \mathbb{A} = 0$$

Always exactly orthogonal! You can never grow magnetic field flux with rotation operator!

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Energy flux

### Remaining terms

$$\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : \mathbb{S}(\mathbf{u}) + \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{b} : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \mathbb{I}$$

Each term could potentially describe an interaction between three difference modes (triad interactions)...

e.g.,  $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{k}')$ ,  $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{k}'')$ ,  $\mathbf{b}(\mathbf{k}''')$ ,  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{k}')$ , ...

$$[\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}}] \sim U^3/L \quad \text{energy flux density}$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Cascade versus dynamo

Momentum conservation:

antisymmetry property:  
(giveth = - taketh)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{doner} \\ \mathbf{k}' \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{receiver} \\ \mathbf{k}'' \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{mediator} \\ \mathbf{k}''' \end{array} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{doner} \\ \mathbf{k}' \end{array} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \begin{array}{c} \text{receiver} \\ \mathbf{k}''' \end{array} = - \begin{array}{c} \text{mediator} \\ \mathbf{k}''' \end{array} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \begin{array}{c} \text{doner} \\ \mathbf{k}' \end{array}$$

Can extract these interactions directly from stochastic magnetic fields by constructing filtered vector fields

$$\mathbf{b}' = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{r}') = \int \delta^3(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{k}') \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{k}) \exp \{ 2\pi i \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r} \}$$



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Cascade versus dynamo

$$\mathbf{k}' \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \mathbf{k}'''$$

Rewrite magnetic energy equation in terms of triad interactions:

$$\mathbf{b}''' \cdot \partial_t \mathbf{b}' = \partial_t \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} = -\mathbf{b}''' \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}'} + \frac{1}{\text{Rm}} \mathbf{b}''' \cdot \mathbb{D}_\eta(\mathbf{b}')$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{b}''' \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}'} &= \mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{u}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}' \\ &\quad - \mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}' \otimes \mathbf{b}''' : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}'') \end{aligned}$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Cascade versus dynamo

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$$\mathbf{k}' \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \mathbf{k}'''$$

Rewrite magnetic energy equation in terms of triad interactions:

$$\mathbf{b}''' \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}_{\mathbf{b}'} = \mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{u}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}' - \mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}' \otimes \mathbf{b}''' : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}'') \mathbb{I}$$

magnetic cascade terms

$$= \mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{u}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}' \otimes \mathbf{b}''' : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}'') \mathbb{I}$$

$$- \underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}'}_{\text{kinetic to magnetic energy transfer}}$$

looks like flux generation via compression... it's not

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

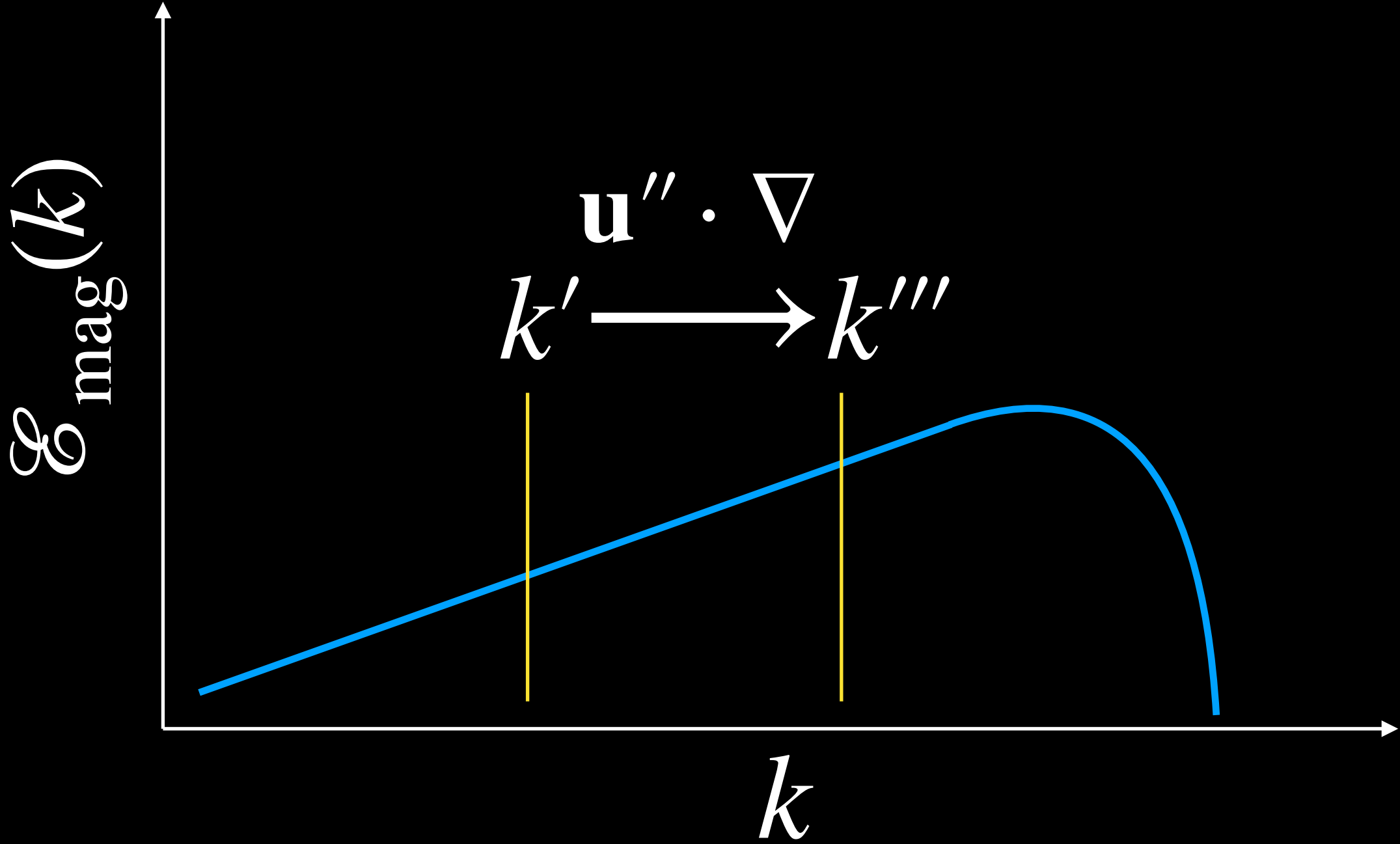
## Growth

$$\mathbf{k}' \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \mathbf{k}'''$$

Rewrite magnetic energy equation in terms of triad interactions:

$$= \overbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{u}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}' \otimes \mathbf{b}''' : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}'')}^{\text{magnetic cascade terms}}$$

$$- \underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}'}_{\text{kinetic to magnetic energy transfer}}$$



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Cascade versus dynamo

$$\mathbf{k}' \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \mathbf{k}'''$$

Rewrite magnetic energy equation in terms of triad interactions:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underbrace{= \mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{u}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{b}' \otimes \mathbf{b}''' : (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}'')}_{\text{magnetic cascade terms}} \mathcal{E}_{\text{kin}}(k) \\
 & - \underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}'}_{\text{kinetic to magnetic energy transfer}}
 \end{aligned}$$

The diagram illustrates the relationship between magnetic and kinetic energy spectra. The main plot shows the magnetic energy spectrum  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}}(k)$  versus wavenumber  $k$ . A blue curve represents the magnetic energy, which increases with  $k$  and peaks at  $k'''$ . A vertical yellow line is drawn at  $k'''$ . An arrow labeled  $\mathbf{b}'' \cdot \nabla$  points from this line to a smaller plot. The smaller plot shows the kinetic energy spectrum  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{kin}}(k)$  versus wavenumber  $k$ . A red curve represents the kinetic energy, which peaks at  $k'$ . A vertical yellow line is drawn at  $k'$ . This indicates that the magnetic energy at  $k'''$  is transferred to kinetic energy at  $k'$ .

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Dynamo and compression

$$\mathbf{k}' \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \mathbf{k}'''$$

Kinetic to magnetic energy flux

$$\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}' = \overbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathcal{S}(\mathbf{u}')}^{\text{dynamo}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{u}')}_{\text{flux compression}}$$

antisymmetric property

$$\overbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathcal{S}(u')}^{\text{dynamo}} = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathcal{S}(b') = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \underbrace{\nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}'}_{\text{magnetic tension}}$$

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{B}(u')}_{\text{flux compression}} = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}''' \cdot \underbrace{\nabla \otimes (\mathbf{b}' \cdot \mathbf{b}'')}_{\text{magnetic pressure}}$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Dynamo and compression

$$\mathbf{k}' \xrightarrow{\mathbf{k}''} \mathbf{k}'''$$

Kinetic to magnetic energy flux

$$\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u}' = \overbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{S}(\mathbf{u}')}^{\text{dynamo}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{u}')}_{\text{flux compression}}$$

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$$\overbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{S}(\mathbf{u}')}^{\text{dynamo}} = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{S}(\mathbf{b}') = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}'$$

We learn:

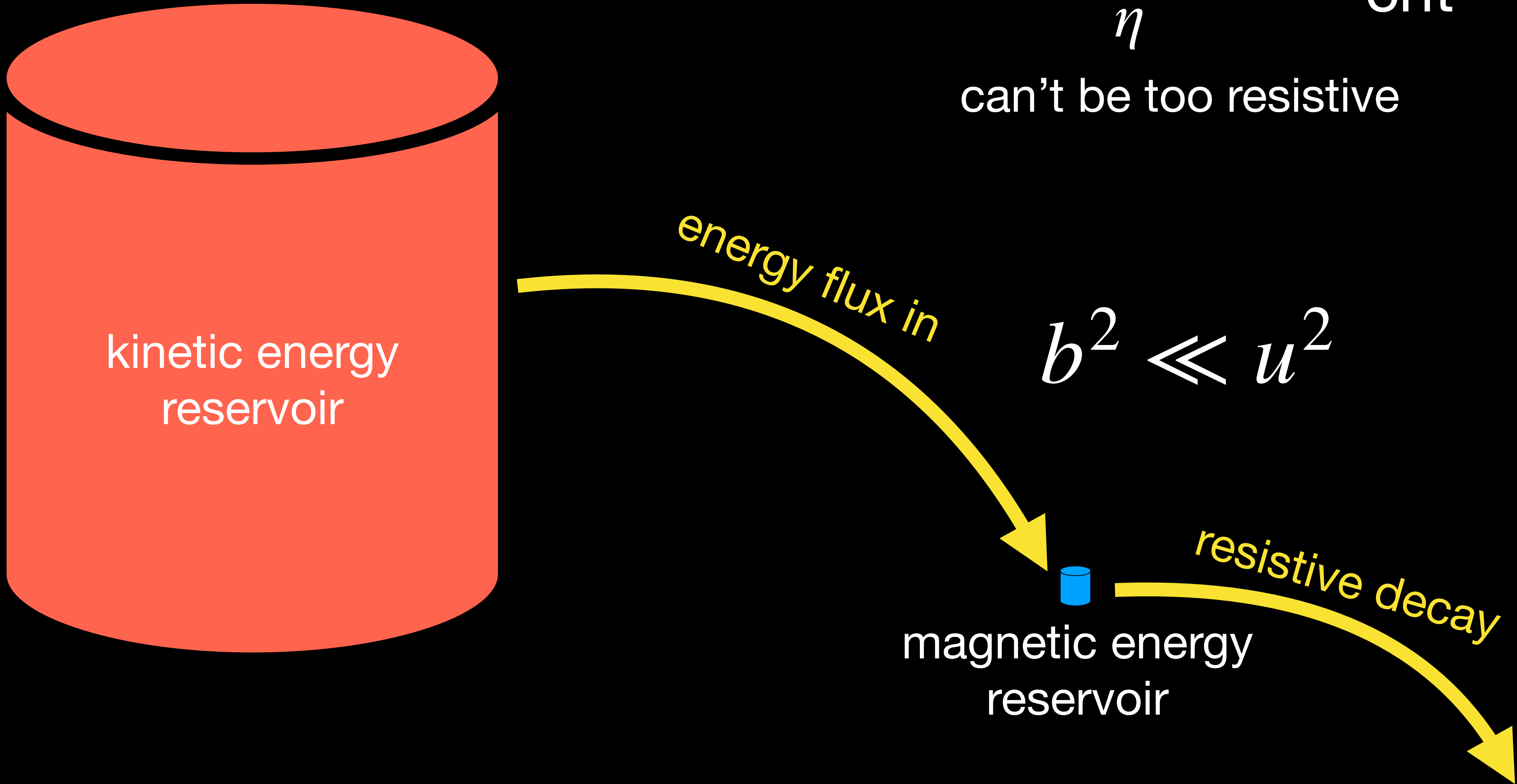
- which term gives rise to dynamo (cascade, flux compression)
- tension always balances with stretching from dynamo, magnetic tension
- and pressure always balances flux compression + flux freezing flux compression      magnetic pressure

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

Fast growth stage

$$Rm \sim \frac{U_0 L}{\eta} > Rm_{\text{crit}}$$

can't be too resistive



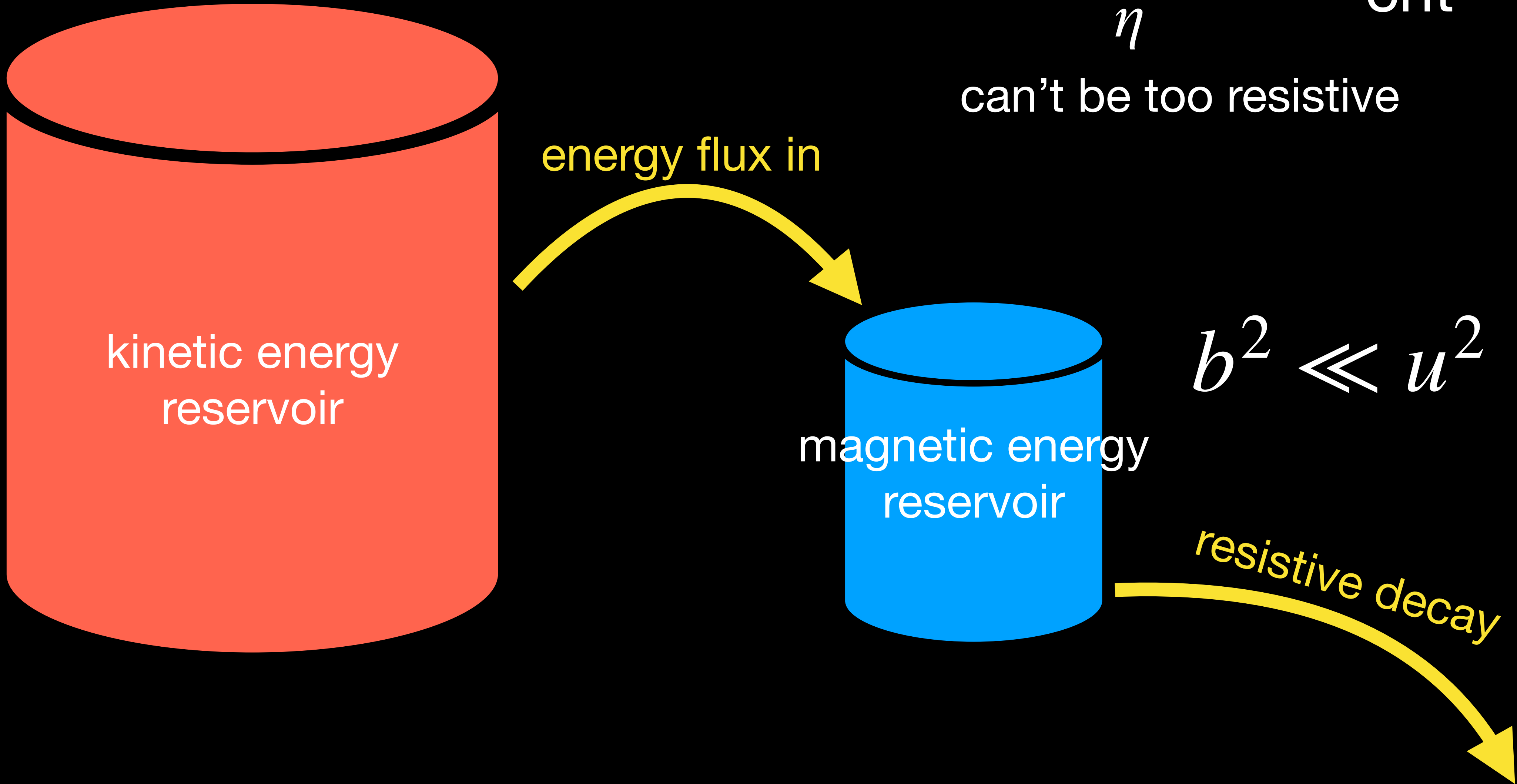


# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

Fast growth stage

$$Rm \sim \frac{U_0 L}{\eta} > Rm_{crit}$$

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# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Fast growth stage

dynamo

antisymmetric property

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathcal{S}(u')}_{\text{flux compression}} = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathcal{S}(b') = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \underbrace{\mathbf{b}'' : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}'}_{\text{magnetic tension}}$$

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{B}(u')}_{\text{flux compression}} = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}''' \cdot \underbrace{\nabla \otimes (\mathbf{b}' \cdot \mathbf{b}'')}_{\text{magnetic pressure}}$$

magnetic tension

magnetic pressure

- $\mathbf{b}$  coupled to  $\mathbf{u}$  via  $\sim b^2/\ell$  in momentum equation
- For  $b^2 \ll u^2$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  only a very weak function of  $\mathbf{b}$

No  $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{b})$   
back  
reaction!

$$\partial_t \mathbf{b} + \nabla \cdot (\underbrace{\mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u}}_{\text{linear in } \mathbf{b}}) = \frac{1}{\text{Rm}} \mathbb{D}_\eta(\mathbf{b})$$

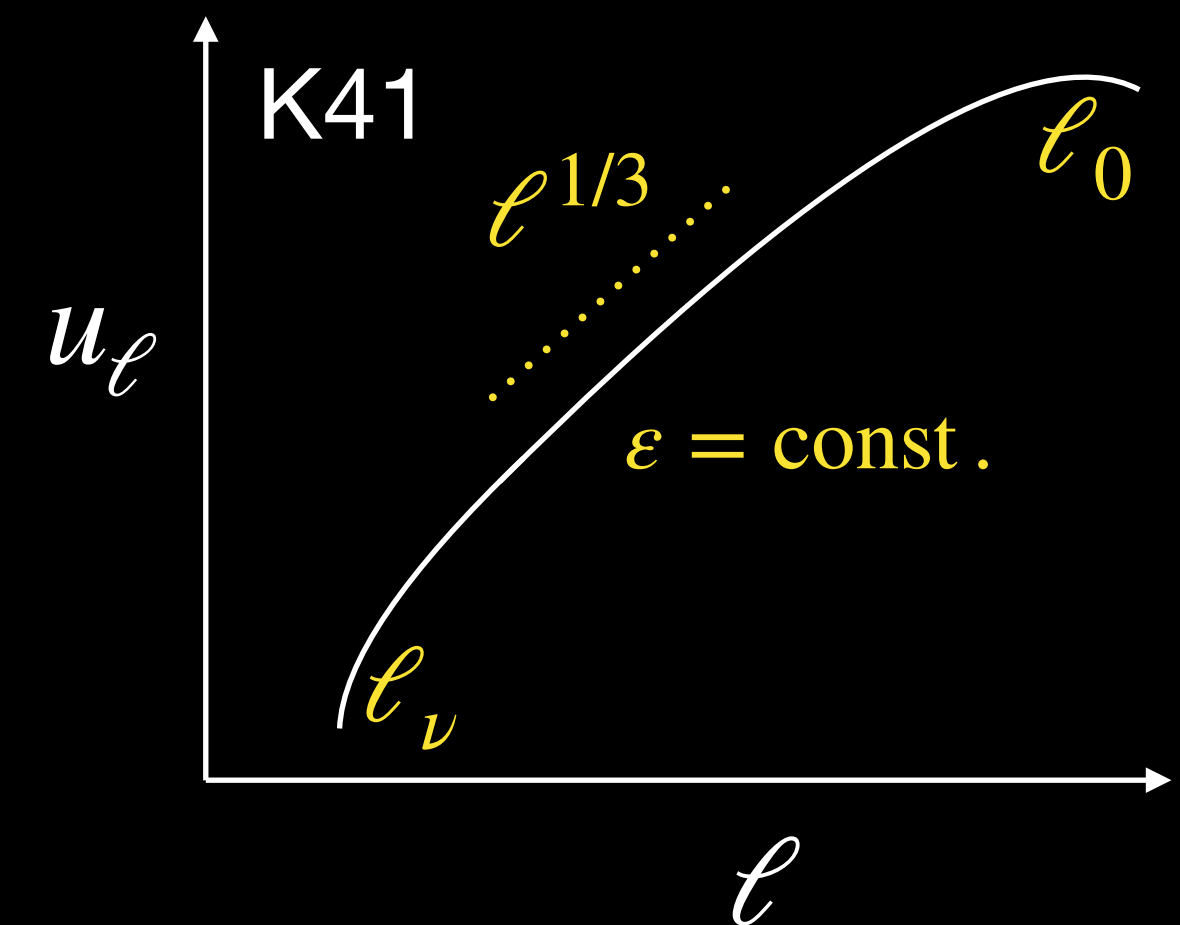
independent of  $\mathbf{b}$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Fast growth stage — integral energy

Rewrite magnetic energy eq. and take 1<sup>st</sup> moments

$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle = 2 (\gamma - \eta k_{\text{rms}}^2) \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle$$



where

$$\gamma = \langle \hat{\mathbf{b}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \rangle, \quad k_{\text{rms}}^2 = \langle \nabla \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} : \nabla \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} \rangle$$

Growth sourced via  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \dots$  which comes from the (hydro) turbulence

$$\ell_\nu \sim \text{Re}^{-3/4} \ell_0, \quad u_\ell \sim (\epsilon \ell)^{1/3}, \quad \epsilon \sim u^3 / \ell$$

cascade

velocity scaling

constant energy flux

\*assuming homogenous, isotropic, incompressible Kolmogorov-type turbulence

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

Fast growth stage — dynamo engine is the viscous scale

Growth sourced via  $\nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \dots$  which comes from the (hydro) turbulence

$$u_\ell / \ell \sim \varepsilon^{1/3} \ell^{-2/3}, \quad t_\ell \sim \ell^{2/3}.$$

velocity gradients strongest at  
small scales

Dynamical timescales smallest at  
small scales

hence growth rate dominated by the smallest possible scales of  
the flow gradients

$$\gamma = \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{b}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \right\rangle \sim u_\nu / \ell_\nu \sim 1/t_\nu$$

i.e., the viscous eddy scale  $\ell_\nu$  (on  $\ell < \ell_\nu$  flow is diffusive).

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Fast growth stage — integral energy

hence growth rate dominated by the smallest possible scales of the flow gradients

$$\gamma = \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{b}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \right\rangle \sim u_\nu / \ell_\nu \sim 1/t_\nu,$$

put in units of outer scale turnover time  $t_0 = \ell_0 / u_0$

$$t_0 \gamma \sim t_0 / t_\nu, \quad t_0 / t_\nu \sim (\ell_0 / \ell_\nu)^{2/3} \sim (\text{Re}^{3/4})^{2/3} \sim \text{Re}^{1/2},$$

and to summarise,

$$\gamma = \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{b}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \right\rangle \sim 1/t_\nu \sim \text{Re}^{1/2} / t_0.$$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

Fast growth stage — integral energy

$$\gamma = \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{b}} \otimes \hat{\mathbf{b}} : \nabla \otimes \mathbf{u} \right\rangle \sim 1/t_\nu \sim \text{Re}^{1/2}/t_0.$$

Consider the cold neutral medium in ISM.  $T = 80$  K.

$$\text{Re} \sim 4 \times 10^{10}, \quad t_0 \sim 3 \text{ Myr}, \quad t_0/\text{Re}^{1/2} \sim 10 \text{ years}.$$

Every 10 years the cold phase of the Galaxy can increase its field by a factor of  $e \approx 3$ . This is a diffusion-free turbulent dynamo because we assumed

$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle = 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle, \quad \gamma_{\text{eff}} = \gamma - \eta k_{\text{rms}}^2, \quad \eta k_{\text{rms}}^2 \longrightarrow 0$$

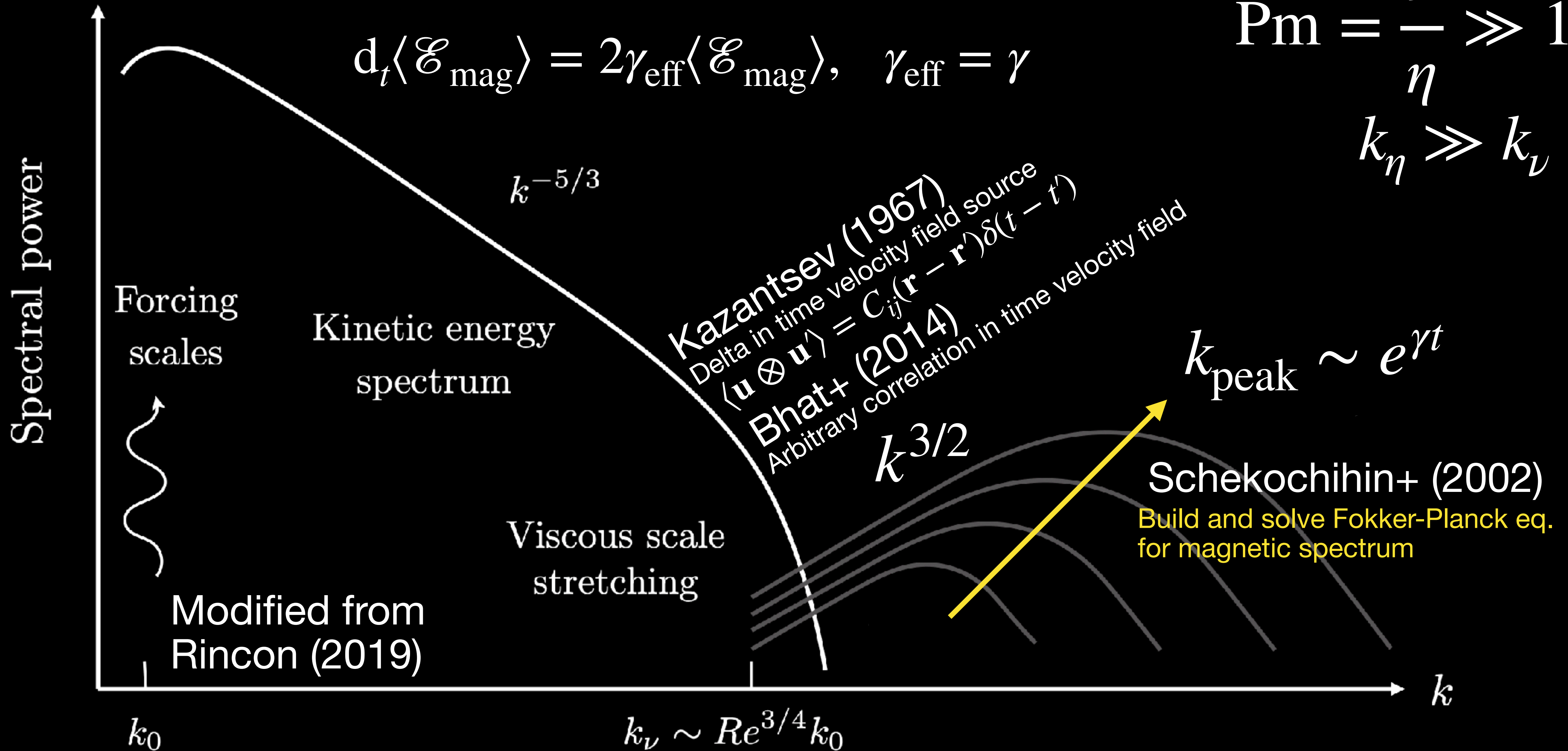
# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## First growth stage: diffusion-free regime

$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle = 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle, \quad \gamma_{\text{eff}} = \gamma$$

$$\text{Pm} = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$



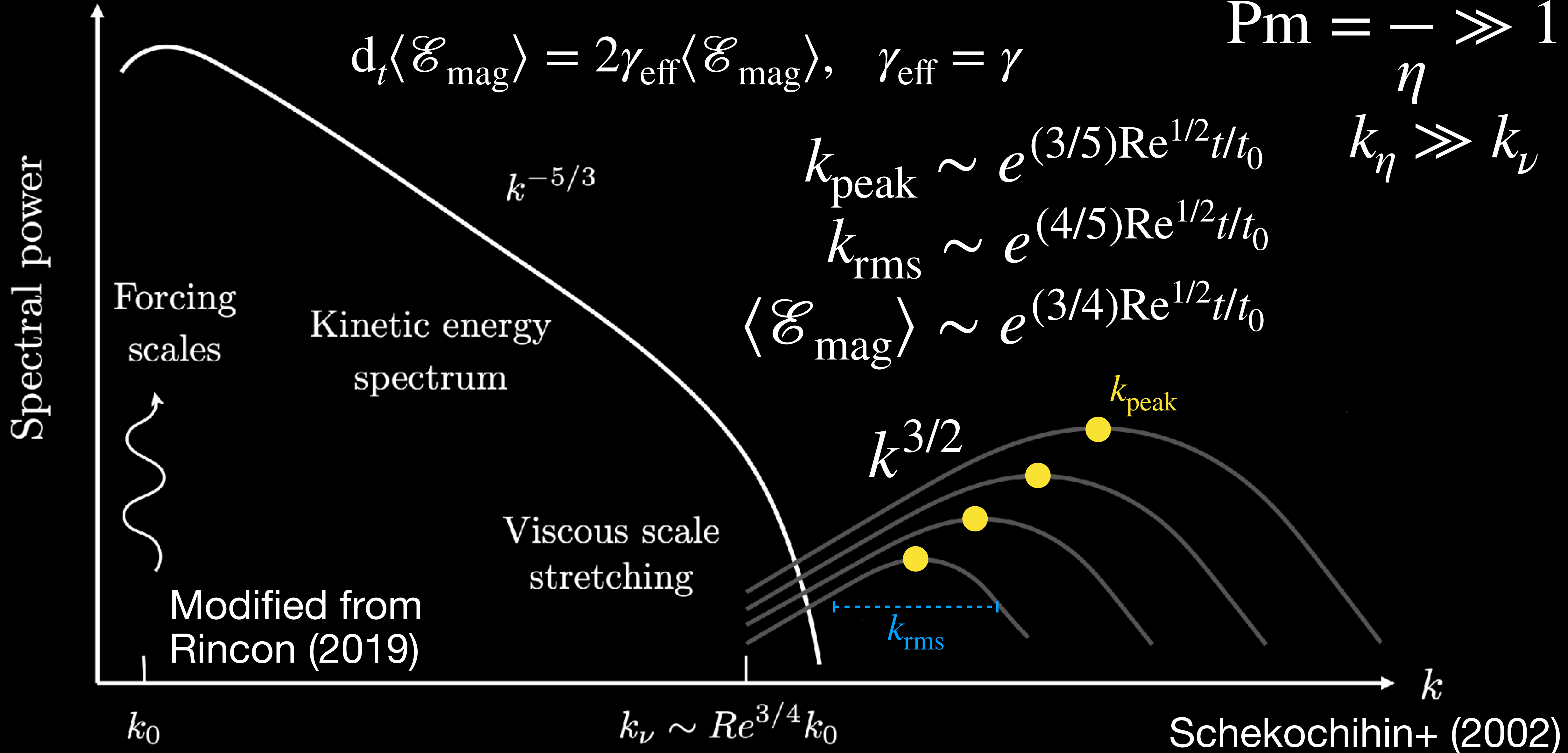
# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

First growth stage: diffusion-free regime

$$\text{Pm} = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle = 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle, \quad \gamma_{\text{eff}} = \gamma$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$





# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Second growth stage: kinematic regime

$$Pm = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$

stretching at the viscous scale

$$\frac{u_\nu}{\ell_\nu} \sim \frac{\eta}{\ell_\eta^2}$$

$$k^{-5/3}$$

dissipation at the resistive scale

Second fastest growing stage

Spectral power

$$\ell_\eta \sim \left( \frac{\ell_\nu \eta}{u_\nu} \right)^{1/2} \sim \left( \frac{\nu \ell_\nu}{u_\nu} \right)^{1/2} Pm^{-1/2} \sim \ell_\nu Pm^{-1/2}$$

$$k^{3/2}$$

independent of cascade

Prediction from Schekochihin+ 2002,04

Modified from Rincon (2019)

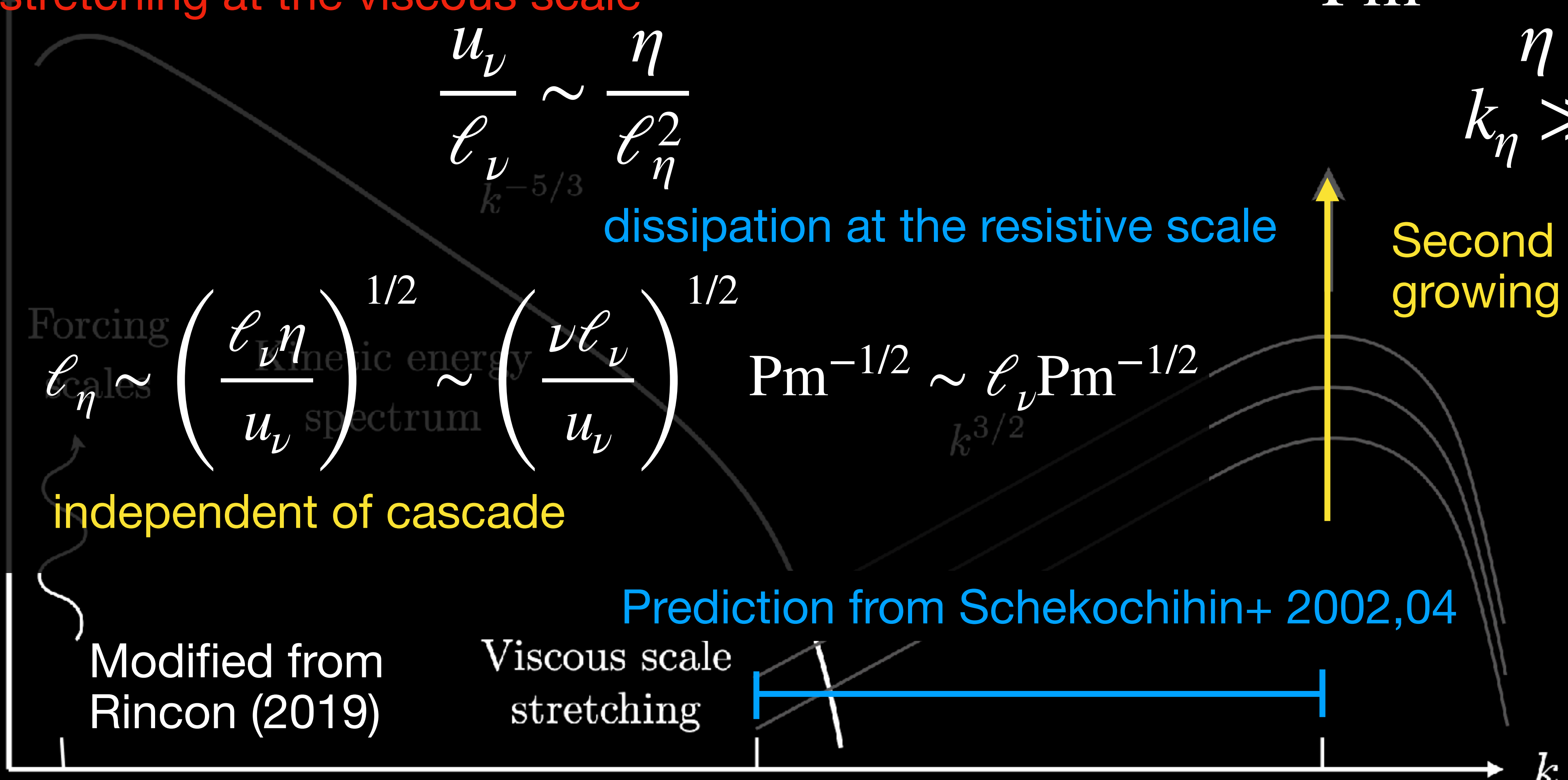
Viscous scale stretching

$k_0$

$k_\nu \sim Re^{3/4} k_0$

$k_\eta \sim Pm^{1/2} k_\nu$

$k$



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Second growth stage: kinematic regime

$$Pm = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$

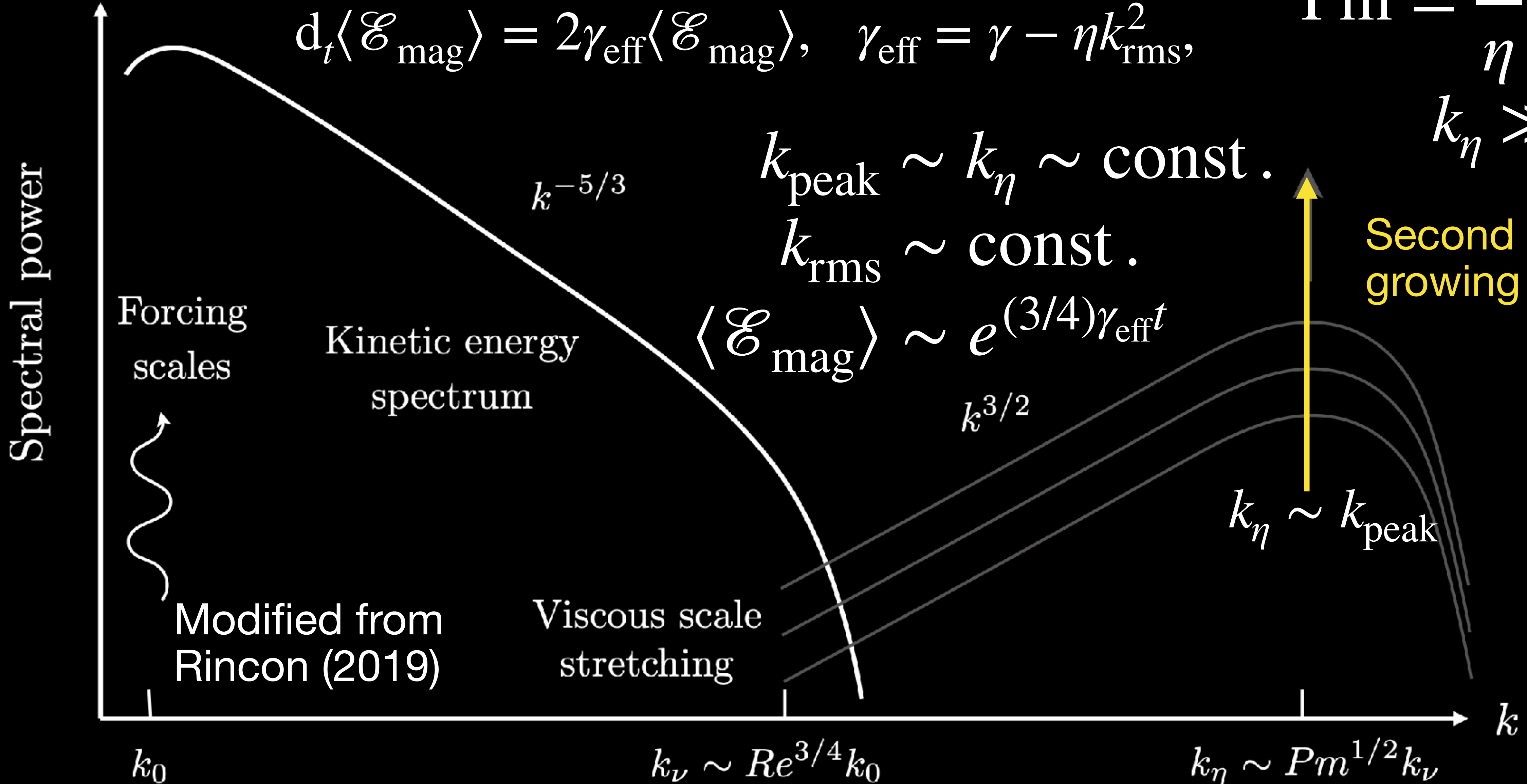
$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle = 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle, \quad \gamma_{\text{eff}} = \gamma - \eta k_{\text{rms}}^2$$

$$k_{\text{peak}} \sim k_\eta \sim \text{const.}$$

$$k_{\text{rms}} \sim \text{const.}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle \sim e^{(3/4)\gamma_{\text{eff}} t}$$

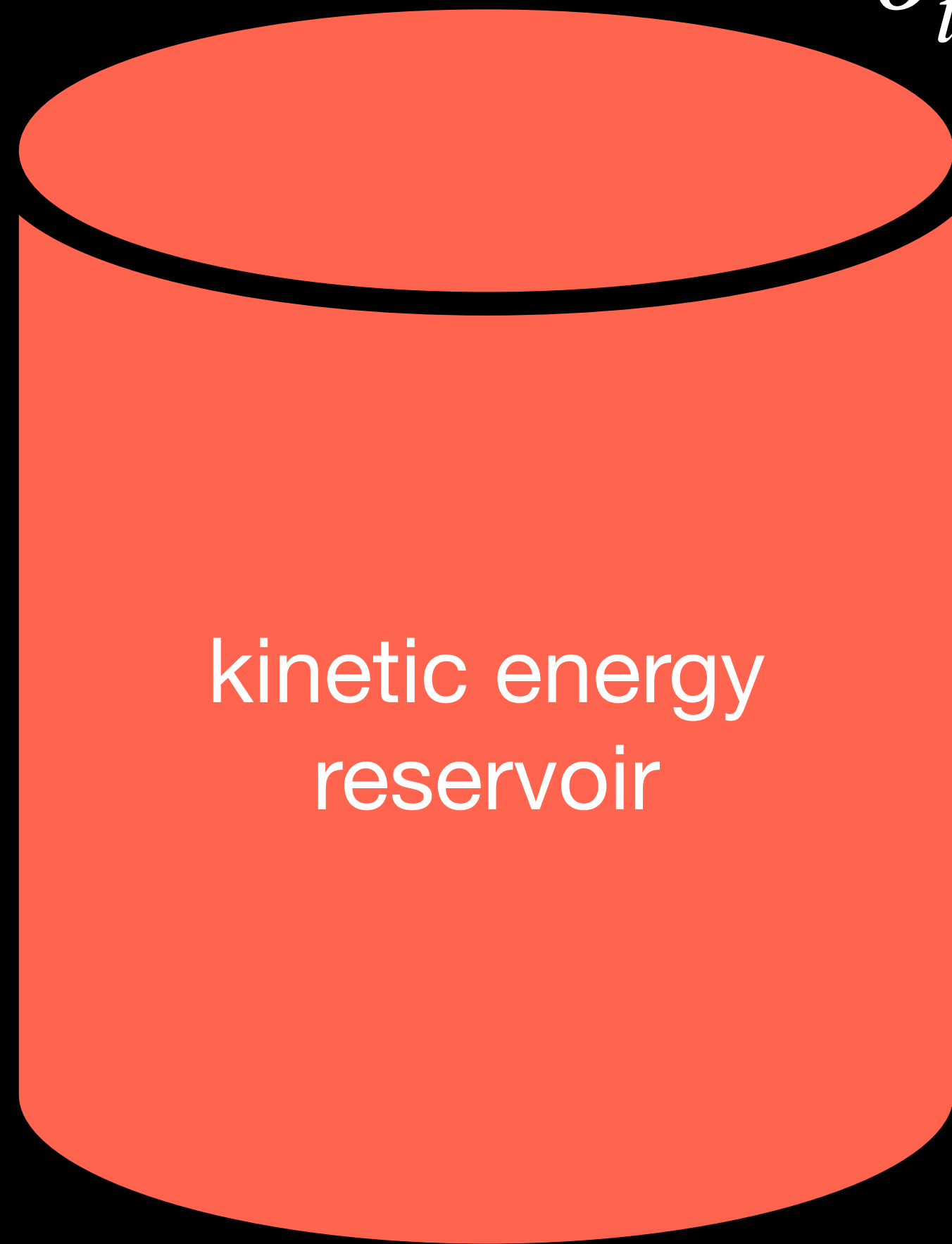
Second fastest growing stage



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Linear growth and backreaction

$$\partial_t \mathcal{E}_{\text{kin}} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \cdot \mathbb{F}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{b}, p) = \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbb{D}_\nu(\mathbf{u})$$



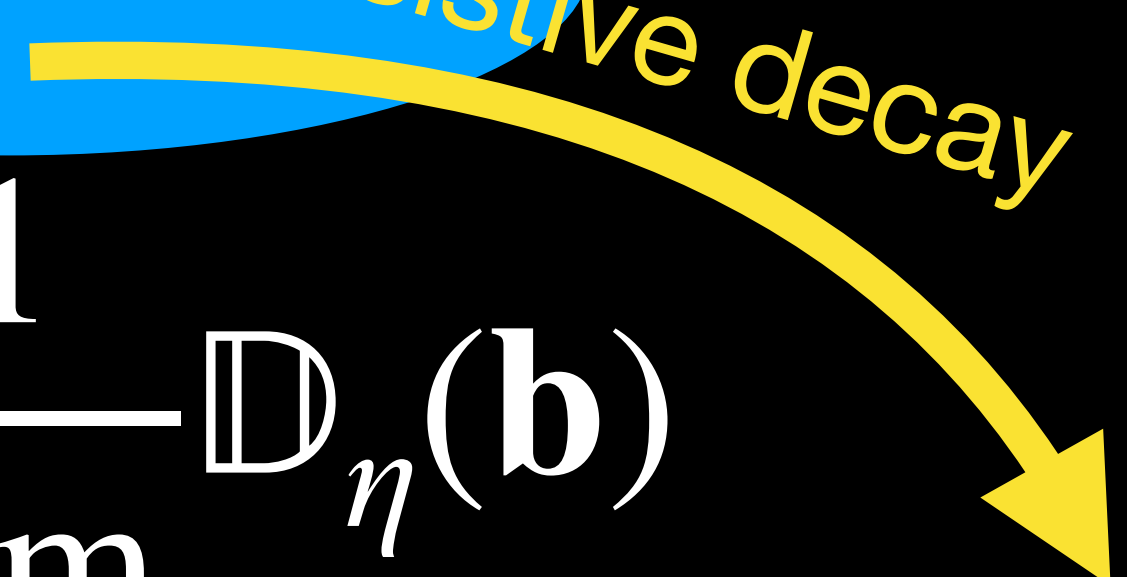
energy flux in



backreaction



resistive decay



$$\partial_t \mathbf{b} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{b}) \otimes \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{b} \otimes \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{b})) = \frac{1}{\text{Rm}} \mathbb{D}_\eta(\mathbf{b})$$

induction equation now nonlinear in  $\mathbf{b}$

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Linear growth and backreaction

The backreaction is directly encoded in the antisymmetric property

$\overbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{S}(u')}^{\text{dynamo}}$ $\underbrace{\mathbf{b}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{B}(u')}_{\text{flux compression}}$	=	$-\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \mathbb{S}(b') = -\mathbf{u}''' \otimes \mathbf{b}'' : \underbrace{\nabla \otimes \mathbf{b}'}_{\text{magnetic tension}}$ $-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}''' \cdot \underbrace{\nabla \otimes (\mathbf{b}' \cdot \mathbf{b}'')}_{\text{magnetic pressure}}$
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$$\mathcal{T}_{ub}(k', k'', k''')$$

$$-\mathcal{T}_{bu}(k', k'', k''')$$

Energy flux from  
kinetic to magnetic energy densities

Energy flux from  
magnetic to kinetic energy densities

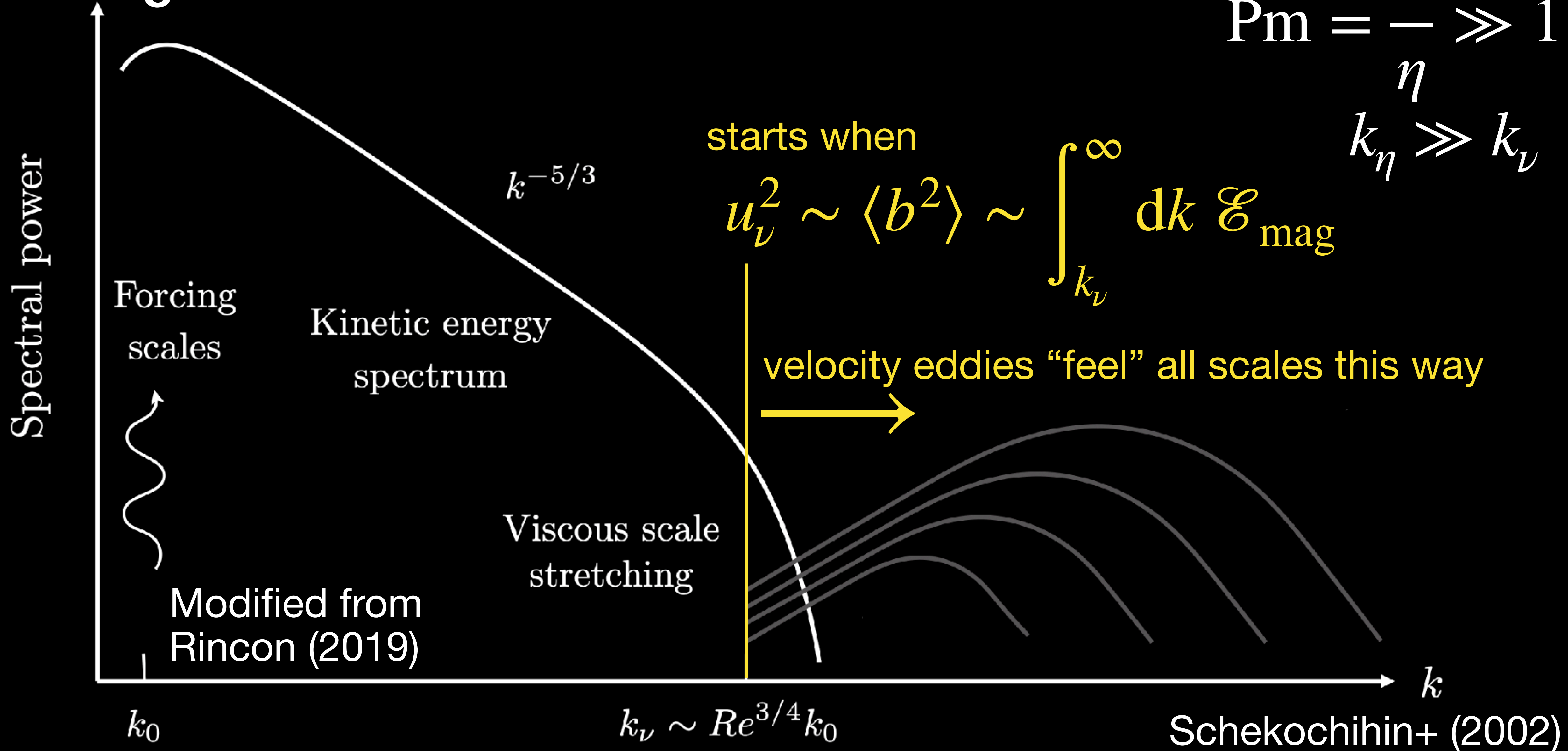
Always present, always balancing  $\mathcal{T}_{ub}$ , but now non-negligible.

# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Linear growth and backreaction

$$Pm = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$



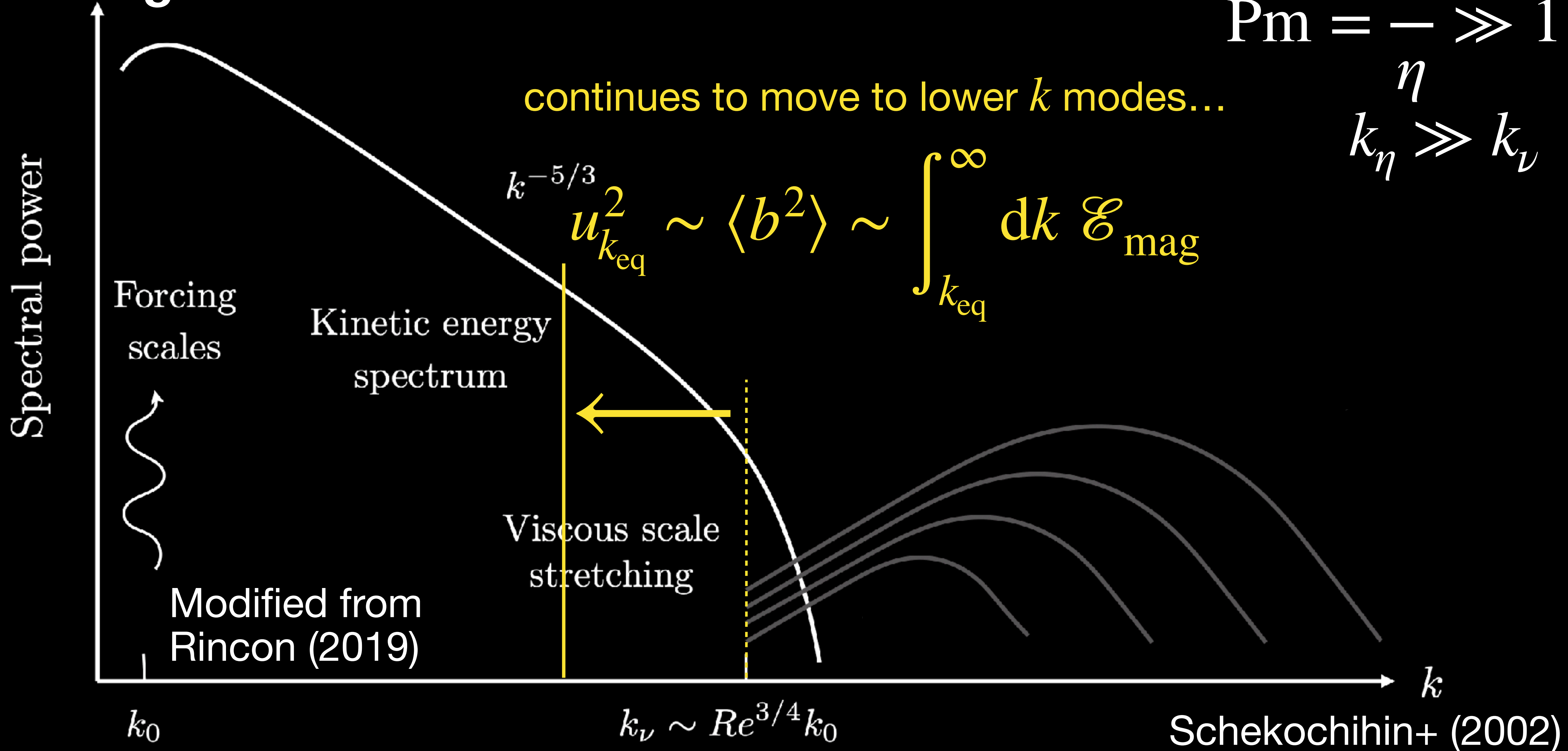
# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Linear growth and backreaction

$$Pm = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$

continues to move to lower  $k$  modes...

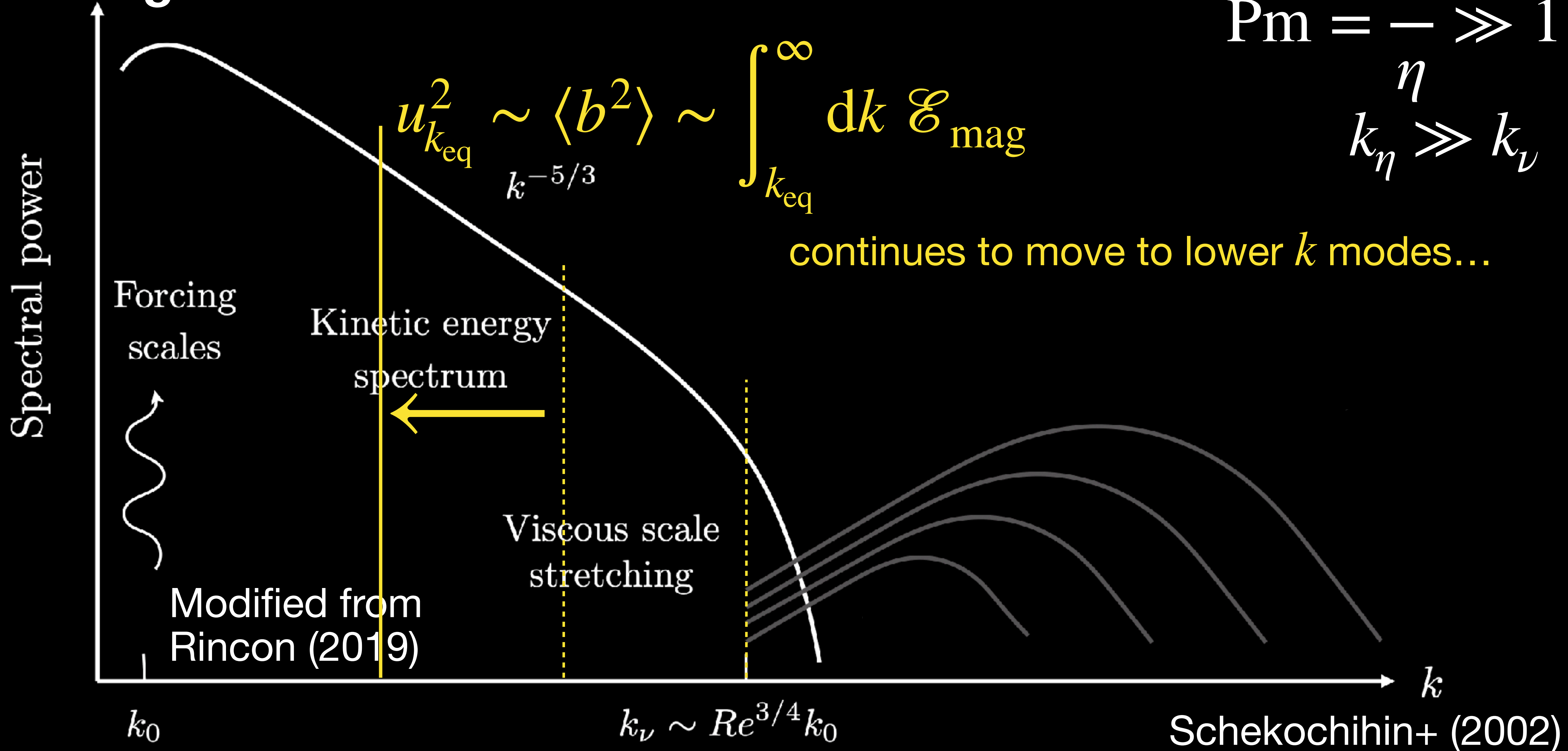


# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Linear growth and backreaction

$$Pm = \frac{\nu}{\eta} \gg 1$$

$$k_\eta \gg k_\nu$$



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo?

## Linear growth and backreaction

Stretching has to move to larger scales, i.e.,

$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle = 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle, \quad \gamma_{\text{eff}} \sim \frac{u_{\ell_{\text{eq}}}}{\ell_{\text{eq}}},$$

hence,

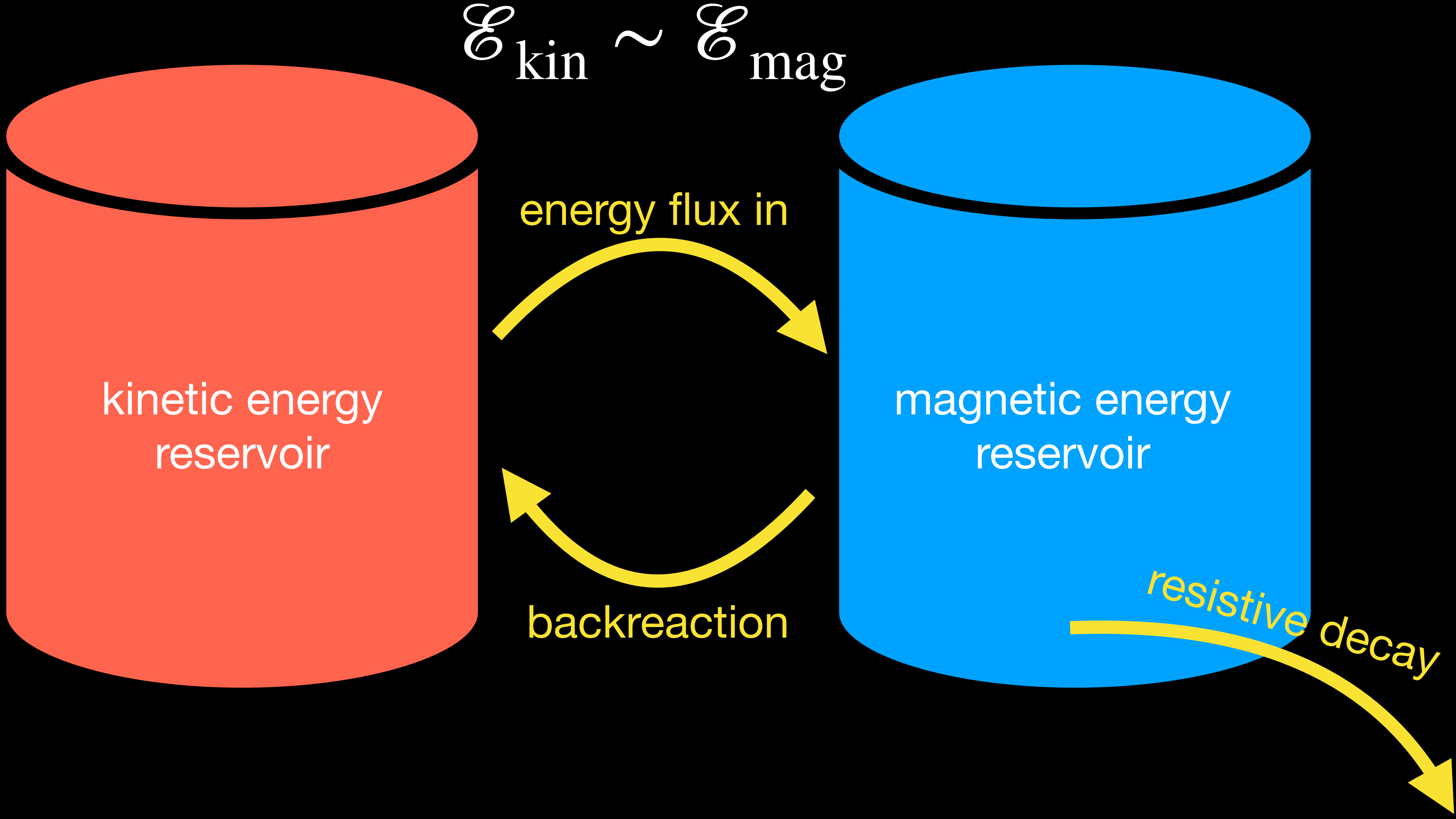
$$d_t \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle \sim \frac{u_{\ell_{\text{eq}}}}{\ell_{\text{eq}}} \langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle \sim \frac{u_{\ell_{\text{eq}}}}{\ell_{\text{eq}}} u_{\ell_{\text{eq}}}^2 \sim \varepsilon_{\text{eq}} \sim \varepsilon,$$

Using simply  $\langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle \sim u_{\ell_{\text{eq}}}^2$ , by definition, and  $\varepsilon$  is constant everywhere in the cascade

$$\langle \mathcal{E}_{\text{mag}} \rangle \sim \varepsilon t.$$



# Again more quantitative: What is a magnetic dynamo? Saturation



More soon.....