Abstract Submitted
for the DFD12 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Burning invariant manifolds and pinning of reaction fronts in spatially-disordered fluid flows[1] TOM SOLOMON, MAYA NAJARIAN[2], Bucknell University — We present experiments that test the ideas of *burning invariant manifolds* (BIMs) for propagating fronts in spatially-disordered fluid flows with an imposesd wind. The disordered flow is driven by a magnetohydrodynamic forcing technique, and there is a uniform wind imposed on the flow with the use of a translation stage. Reaction fronts are produced using the excitable Belousov-Zhabotinsky chemical reaction. For a wide range of wind speeds, a complicated stationary front forms, pinned to the underlying vortex flow, neither propagating forward against the wind nor being blown backwards. The shape of the front depends significantly on the magnitude of the imposed wind. We test the hypothesis that the shape of the stationary front is determined by a collection of overlapping BIMs that act as barriers against forward movement of the reaction front. The location of the BIMs are predicted by integrating a three-dimensional set of ordinary differential equations[3] that describes the dynamics of an element of an evolving reaction front in the fluid flow.

[1]Supported by NSF Grants DMR-0703635, DMR-1004744, and PHY-1156964.
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[3]J. Mahoney, D. Bargteil, M. Kingsbury, K. Mitchell and T. Solomon, Europhys. Lett. **98**, 44005 (2012).

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Date submitted: 07 Aug 2012 Electronic form version 1.4