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Research Interests

Collisionless Plasma, Magnetic reconnection; Plasma Turbulence (Astrophysical, Laboratory); Kinetic simulations (particle-in-cell (PIC)); Magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) simulations, Space Observations and Data Analysis.

Key Skills

1. Python, Fortran, IDL (basic) programming
2. Kinetic particle-in-cell (PIC) simulations (2D)
3. Magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) simulations (2D, 3D)
4. Experience of remote high-performance computing (Cheyenne/Casper at NCAR/UCAR, Cori/Perlmutter at NERSC)

Education

Ph.D. (Physics) Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Delaware (UD)
Dissertation: Interplay Between Magnetic Reconnection and Turbulence 2017-2022
Advisor: Prof. Michael A. Shay

M.S. (Physics) Central Department of Physics, Tribhuvan University
Thesis: A Study of Geodesics in Schwarzschild De-Sitter Spacetime 2011-2013
Advisor: Prof. Udayraj Khanal

B.S. (Physics and Mathematics) St. Xavier's College, Tribhuvan University
First Rank with Distinction among all B.S. and B. Tech. graduates 2007-2010

Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher, WVU 08/29/2022 - Present
Perform kinetic PIC simulations of magnetic reconnection, turbulence using VPIC.
Mentor graduate students
Assist with the grant application and surveys

Graduate Research Assistant, UD 06/01/2019 - 08/28/2022
Perform kinetic PIC simulations of magnetic reconnection (2D), MHD simulations of turbulence (2D, 3D)
Analyze data from kinetic and MHD simulations and compile results for publications
Assist with the grant application and surveys

Graduate Teaching Assistant, UD 08/29/2017 - 05/31/2019
Taught Physics for undergraduate students majoring life sciences, physical sciences, and engineering
Received an Instructor rating of 4.768 out of 5.0 (Source: Course Evaluation)
Nominated for the Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award

Publications

1. "Statistics of Pressure in Turbulent Kinetic Plasmas", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay, T. N. Parashar, W. H. Matthaeus, and P. A. Cassak (2023), *In preparation*.
2. "Effect of a guide field on the turbulence like properties of magnetic reconnection", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay, T. N. Parashar, W. H. Matthaeus, P. S. Pyakurel, J. E. Stawarz, and J. P. Eastwood (2023), *In preparation*.
3. "Using direct laboratory measurements of electron temperature anisotropy to identify the heating mechanism in electron-only magnetic reconnection", P. Shi, E. E. Scime, M. H. Barbhuiya, P. A. Cassak, **S. Adhikari**, M. Swisdak, and J. E. Stawarz (2023), *In preparation*.
4. "Turbulent Energy Transfer and Proton-Electron Heating in Collisionless Plasmas", S. Roy, R. Bandyopadhyay, Y. Yang, T. N. Parashar, W. H. Matthaeus, **S. Adhikari**, A. Chasapis, Hui Li, D. J. Gershman, B. L. Giles, and J. L. Burch (2022), *The Astrophysical Journal*, **941** 137, doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/aca479](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aca479).
5. "Strategies for determining the cascade rate in MHD turbulence: isotropy, anisotropy, and spacecraft sampling", Y. Wang, R. Chhiber, **S. Adhikari**, Y. Yang, R. Bandyopadhyay, M. A. Shay, S. Oughton, W. H. Matthaeus, and M. E. Cuesta (2022), *The Astrophysical Journal*, **937** 76, doi:[10.3847/1538-4357/ac8f90](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ac8f90).
6. "Energy Transfer in Reconnection and Turbulence", **S. Adhikari**, T. N. Parashar, M. A. Shay, W. H. Matthaeus, P. Sharma Pyakurel, S. Fordin, J. E. Stawarz, J. P. Eastwood (2021), *Physical Review E*, **104**, 065206, doi:[10.1103/PhysRevE.104.065206](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.104.065206).
7. "Reconnection from a turbulence perspective", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay, T. N. Parashar, P. Sharma Pyakurel, W. H. Matthaeus, D. Godzieba, J. E. Stawarz, J. P. Eastwood, J. T. Dahlin (2020), *Physics of Plasmas*, **27**, 042305, doi:[10.1063/1.5128376](https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5128376).

Presentations

(Invited talks in bold)

1. Poster: "Mechanical and Total Pressure Statistics in Vlasov-Maxwell Plasmas", **S. Adhikari**, P. A. Cassak, T. N. Parashar, W. H. Matthaeus, and M. A. Shay, European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly, Vienna, Austria, April 23-28, 2023 (Upcoming).
2. Poster: "Statistics of Total Pressure in Kinetic Plasma Turbulence", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay, T. N. Parashar, W. H. Matthaeus, and P. A. Cassak, AGU Fall Meeting, Chicago, December 12-16, 2022.
3. Poster: "Guide field dependence of energy spectrum and energy transfer in reconnection", **S. Adhikari** et al., Solar Heliospheric and Interplanetary Environment (SHINE), Honolulu, Hawaii, June 2022.
4. Oral: "**Analyzing Reconnection From a Turbulence Standpoint**", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay, T. N. Parashar, W. H. Matthaeus, P. S. Pyakurel, J. E. Stawarz, and J. P. Eastwood, 44th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), July 16-24, 2022.
5. Poster: "Guide field dependence of energy spectrum and energy transfer in reconnection", **S. Adhikari** et al., Solar Heliospheric and Interplanetary Environment (SHINE), Honolulu, Hawaii, June 2022.
6. Poster: "Effect of a guide field on the turbulence-like properties of magnetic reconnection", **S. Adhikari** et al., Geospace Environment Modeling (GEM), Honolulu, Hawaii, June 2022.
7. Oral: "**A Fundamental Connection Between Reconnection and Turbulence**", Magnetospheric Online Seminar Series, May 23, 2022.
8. Oral: "Reconnection and Turbulence: A Qualitative Approach to their Relationship", **S. Adhikari**, et. al., European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly, Vienna, Austria, May 23-27, 2022.
9. Oral: "**Reconnection as a Cascade**", **S. Adhikari**, et. al., US-Japan Workshop on Magnetic Reconnection 2022 (MR2022), Monterey, CA, May 16-20, 2022.
10. Oral: "Von Kármán Analysis of Standard Reconnection using Particle-In-Cell (PIC) Simulation", **S. Adhikari**, et. al., Magnetospheric Multiscale Mission (MMS) Science Working Team (SWT) Tag-Up (Virtual), January 11, 2022.
11. Poster: "Beta Dependence of Kinetic Plasma Turbulence and Reconnection Across Scales", **S. Adhikari**, et. al., AGU Fall Meeting, New Orleans, December 13-17, 2021.
12. Poster: "Shear in Hall-MHD Turbulence: A Third-Order Analysis", **S. Adhikari**, et. al., Virtual Geospace Environment Modelling, July 25-30, 2021.
13. Oral: "Reconnection as a Turbulence Process", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay et. al., MMS Spring 2021 SWT Meeting, April 25-9, 2021.
14. Oral: "Reconnection as an Energy Cascade", **S. Adhikari**, M. A. Shay, W. H. Matthaeus, T.N. Parashar, AGU Fall Meeting (Online Everywhere), December 1-17, 2020.
15. Oral: "**Energy Cascade in Reconnection: 3rd Order Dynamics**", **S. Adhikari**, et al., virtual MMS Fall 2020 Science Working Team Meeting, October 6-8, 2020.
16. Oral: "Is Reconnection a Cascade Process?", **S. Adhikari**, et al., virtual Geospace Environment Modelling (vGEM), July 20-23, 2020.
17. Poster: "Is Reconnection an Energy Cascade?", **S. Adhikari**, et al., virtual Geospace Environment Modelling (vGEM),

July 20-23,2020.

18. Oral: "**Interplay Between Magnetic Reconnection and Turbulence**", **S. Adhikari**, et al., Laboratory of Atmospheric and Space Physics (LASP) Turbulence Bi-weekly Meeting (Online), July 20, 2020.
19. Poster: "Reconnection from a turbulence perspective", **S. Adhikari**, et al., Delaware Data Science DARWIN Computing Symposium, University of Delaware (Newark, Delaware, USA), February 12, 2020.
20. Poster: "Magnetic Reconnection from a Turbulence Perspective", **S. Adhikari**, M.A. Shay, T. Parashar, P. Sharma, W.H. Matthaeus, D. Godzeiba. J. Dahlin, AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, USA, December 2019.
21. Oral: "**Reconnection from a Turbulence Perspective**", **S. Adhikari**, et al. NASA Monday Science Telecon, August 26, 2019.
22. Oral: "Reconnection from a Turbulence Perspective", **S. Adhikari**, M.A. Shay, T. Parashar, P. Sharma, W.H. Matthaeus, D. Godzeiba. J. Dahlin, Geospace Environment Modeling (GEM), Santa Fe, USA, June 2019.
23. Poster: "Is laminar reconnection a turbulent process?", **S. Adhikari**, M.A. Shay, T. Parashar, P. Sharma, W.H. Matthaeus, D. Godzeiba. J. Dahlin, Geospace Environment Modeling (GEM), Santa Fe, USA, June 2019.

Awards and Achievements

1. *Graduate Student Travel Award*, Graduate College, University of Delaware, October 2021.
2. *Best Global System Modelling Poster*, Geospace Environment Modeling (GEM), Santa Fe, USA, June 2019.
3. *Professional Development Award*, Office of Graduate and Professional Studies, University of Delaware, May 2019.
4. *M.S. Thesis Grant*, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of Nepal, 2013.
5. *M.S. Fellowship*, Central Department of Physics, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2011-2013.
6. *Nepal Bidyabhusan Padak*, "GA" awarded by the President of Nepal Dr. Ram Baran Yadav, 2011.
7. *Excellence Award for Highest Marks in B.Sc.*, St. Xavier's College, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2010.

Professional Membership

1. Member, American Physical Society (APS)
2. Member, American Geophysical Union (AGU)
3. Member, European Geosciences (EGU)
4. Member, Committee on Space Research (COSPAR)

Last updated on February 5, 2023.