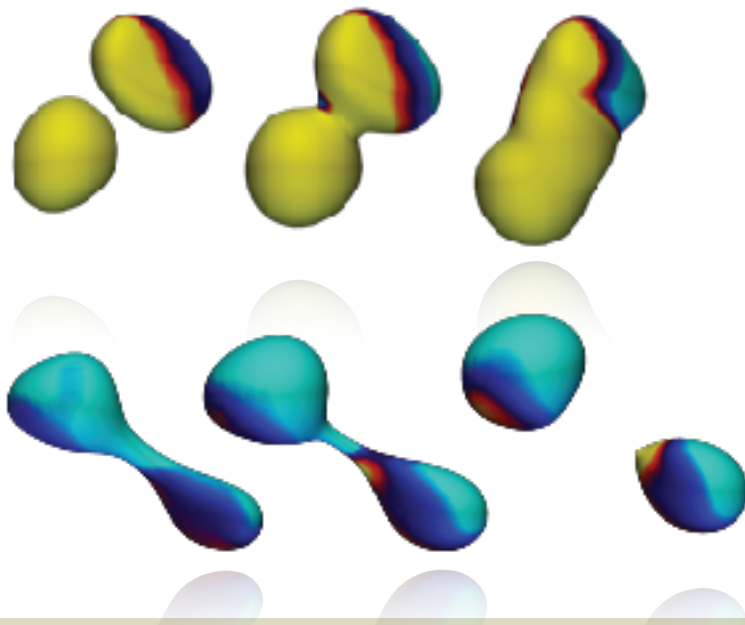


# Simulations of interfaces in Turbulent Flows with Breakage, Coalescence and Drop Size Distribution - Phase Field & DNS



**Alfredo Soldati and Francesco Zonta**

Institute of Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer, TU Wien, Austria  
(also with DPIA University of Udine, Italy)

1. Historical Perspective, modelling and computational issues
2. A short story on droplets in turbulence (influence of viscosity/density contrast)
3. A short story on oil transport
4. A short story on drop coalescence/break-up (influence of surfactant)

## Burning Fuel Jet



**We must rely on Semiempirical correlations!**

**Small drops are good for efficient energy production  
Large drops are bad (they do not burn completely and produce pollution)**

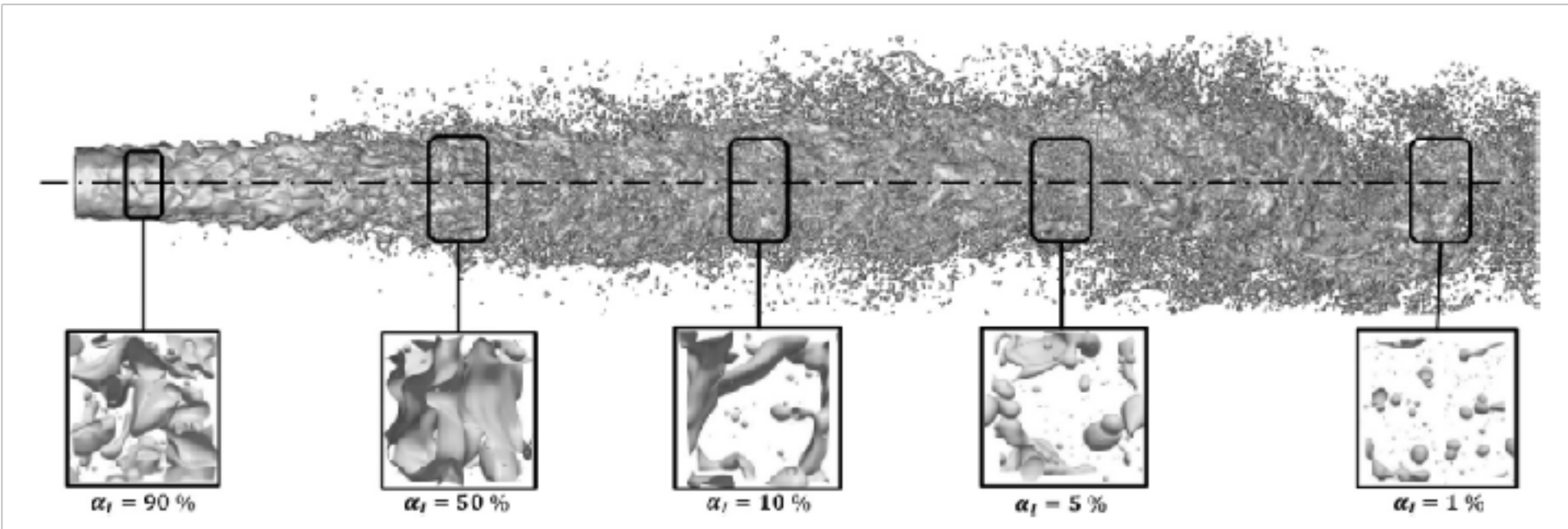
# Greenhouse effect ... many small drops influence CO<sub>2</sub> absorption by the Ocean



We must rely on Semiempirical correlations!

Alfredo Soldati and Francesco Zonta

*COMETE Training School*

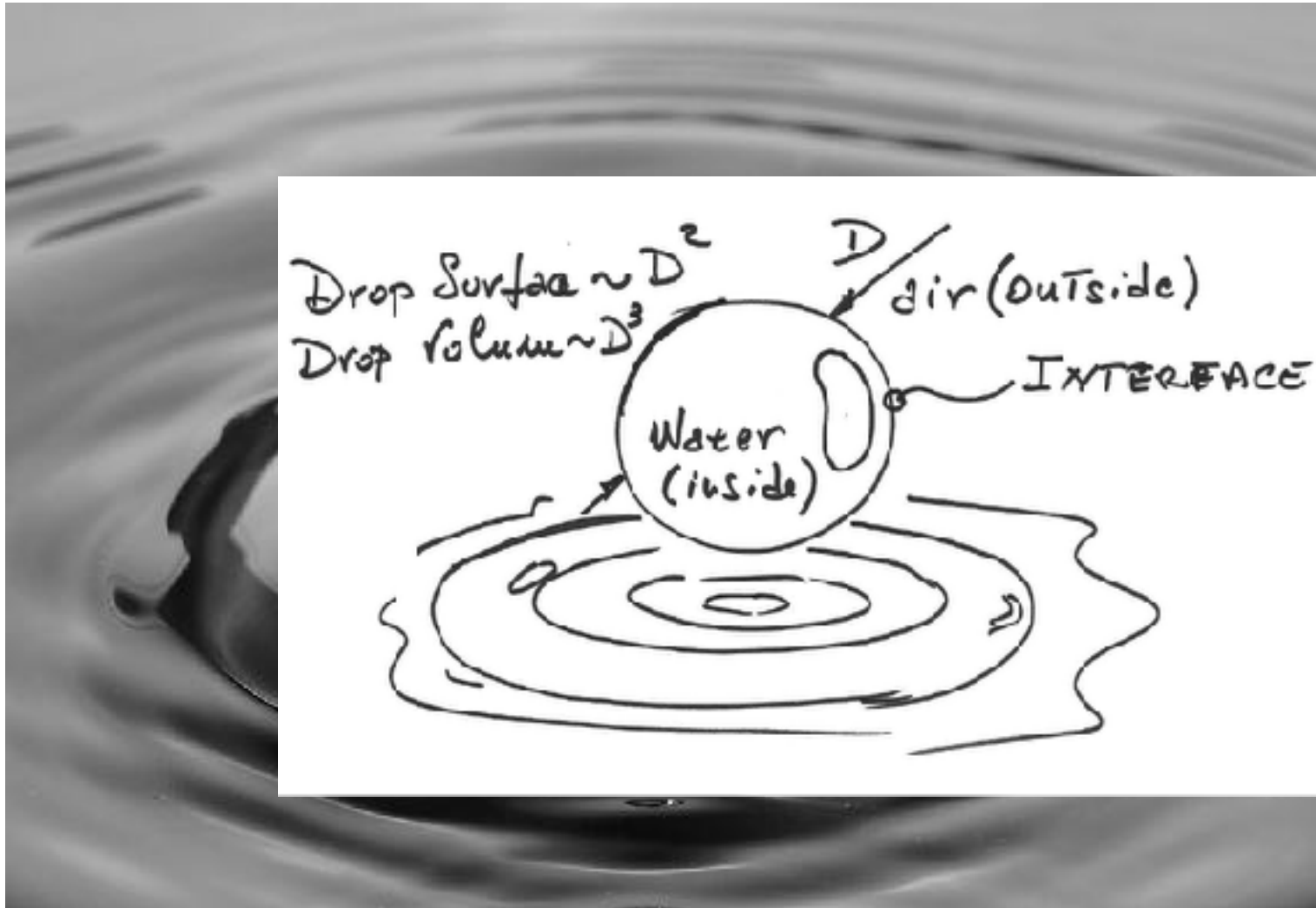


**Drops break, collide, coalesce and evolve into a drop population**

The evolution of a drop population is determined by the competition between BREAK-UP and COALESCENCE



if “Manners *makyth* man” ....  
Interface *makyth* drops ...



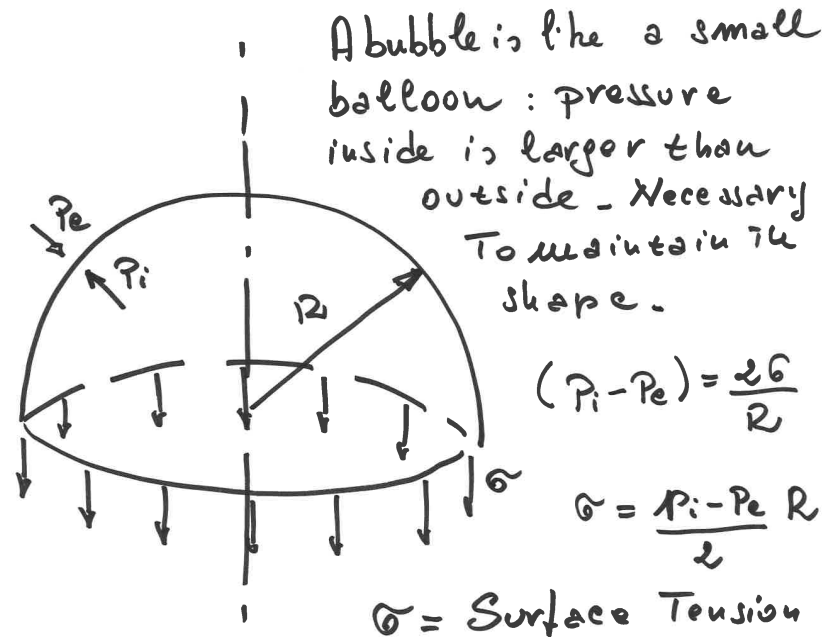
## Surface tension

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For the short story by James I*

**Surface tension** is the elastic ten possible. Surface tension allows it on a water surface.

At liquid–air interfaces, surface te (due to **cohesion**) than to the mole surface that causes the liquid to b Thus, the surface becomes under "surface tension" came from.<sup>[1]</sup> B through a web of hydrogen bonds 20 °C) compared to that of most c capillarity.





# Thickness of Interface and role of surfactants

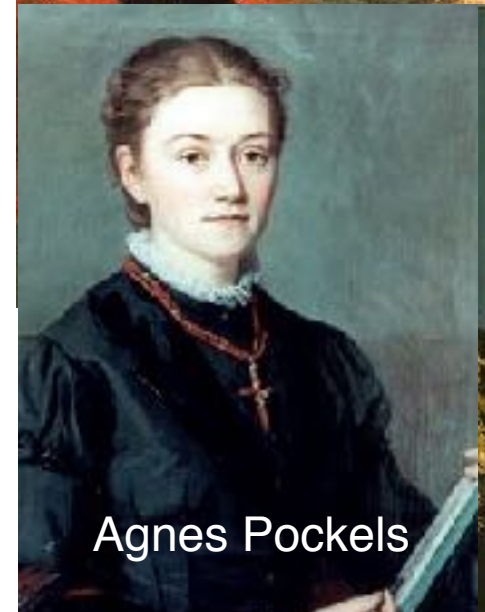
In 1757, Franklin was sent by the American House of Assembly of Philadelphia to Great Britain to petition King George II against the policies and activity of the Penn family, the proprietors of Pennsylvania. Soon after leaving New York harbour, the fleet of 96 ships encountered windy weather, sending them ferociously rocking over the waves. Franklin noticed that two of the ships in the fleet were sailing much more smoothly than the rest.



Benjamin Franklin

$1.63 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$  (Rayleigh)

$1.3 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$  (Pockels kitchen)



Agnes Pockels



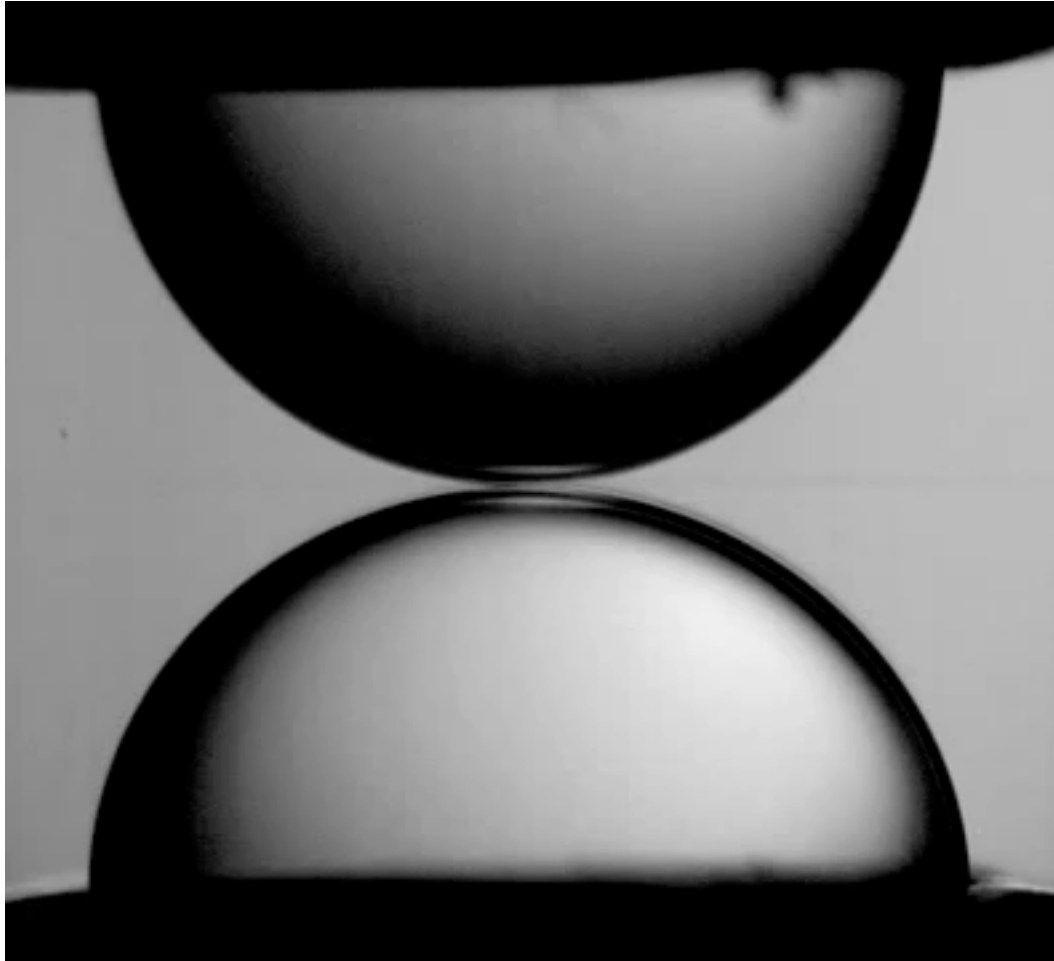
Alfredo Soldati and Francesco Zonta

**COMETE Training School**

Wang D.N. et al., Benjamin Franklin, Philadelphia's favourite son, was a membrane biophysicist, BJ (2013)  
 L. Rayleigh, Measurements of the Amount of Oil Necessary in Order to Check the Motions of Camphor upon Water, PRSL (1890)  
 A. Pockels, Surface Tension, Nature (1891)  
 A. Pockels., On the Relative Contamination of the Water-Surface by Equal Quantities of Different Substances, Nature (1892)

# Droplet interactions in controlled cases 1.

## Coalescence of two quiescent drops



Courtesy of  
Nicole Sharp, FYFD.

### Accurate Experiments

023303-12 Lycent-Brown et al. Phys. Fluids 26, 023303 (2014)

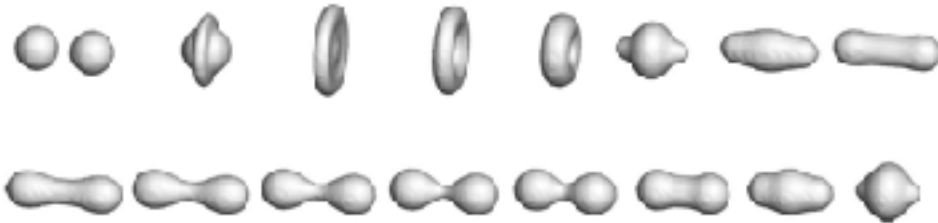


FIG. 6. Head-on coalescence of equal sized droplets.  $We = 61.5$ ,  $Re = 238$ .

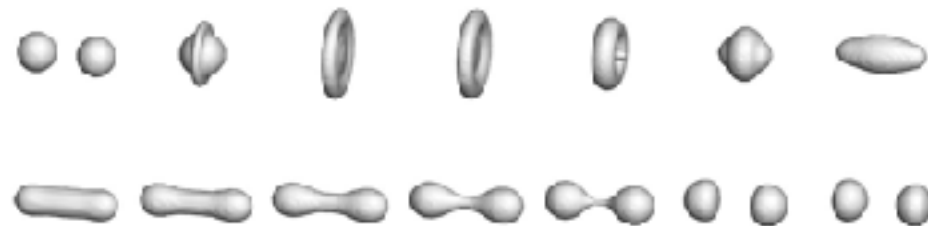


FIG. 7. Head-on separation of equal sized droplets.  $We = 83.5$ ,  $Re = 277$ .

Ashgriz and J. Y. Poo, "Coalescence and separation in binary collisions of liquid drops," J. Fluid Mech. 221, 183 1990.

Qian and C. K. Law, "Regions of coalescence and separation in droplet collision," J. Fluid Mech. 331, 59 1997.

### Accurate Simulations

08105-10 Y. Fan and K. Suga

Phys. Fluids 17, 082102 (2005)

time →



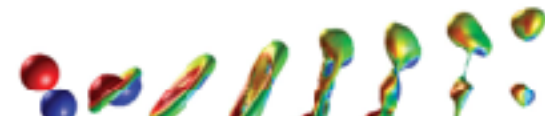
(a)  $We=20$ ,  $\chi = 0.05$



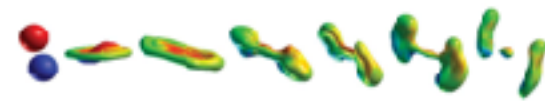
(b)  $We=30$ ,  $\chi = 0.05$



(c)  $We=40$ ,  $\chi = 0.0$

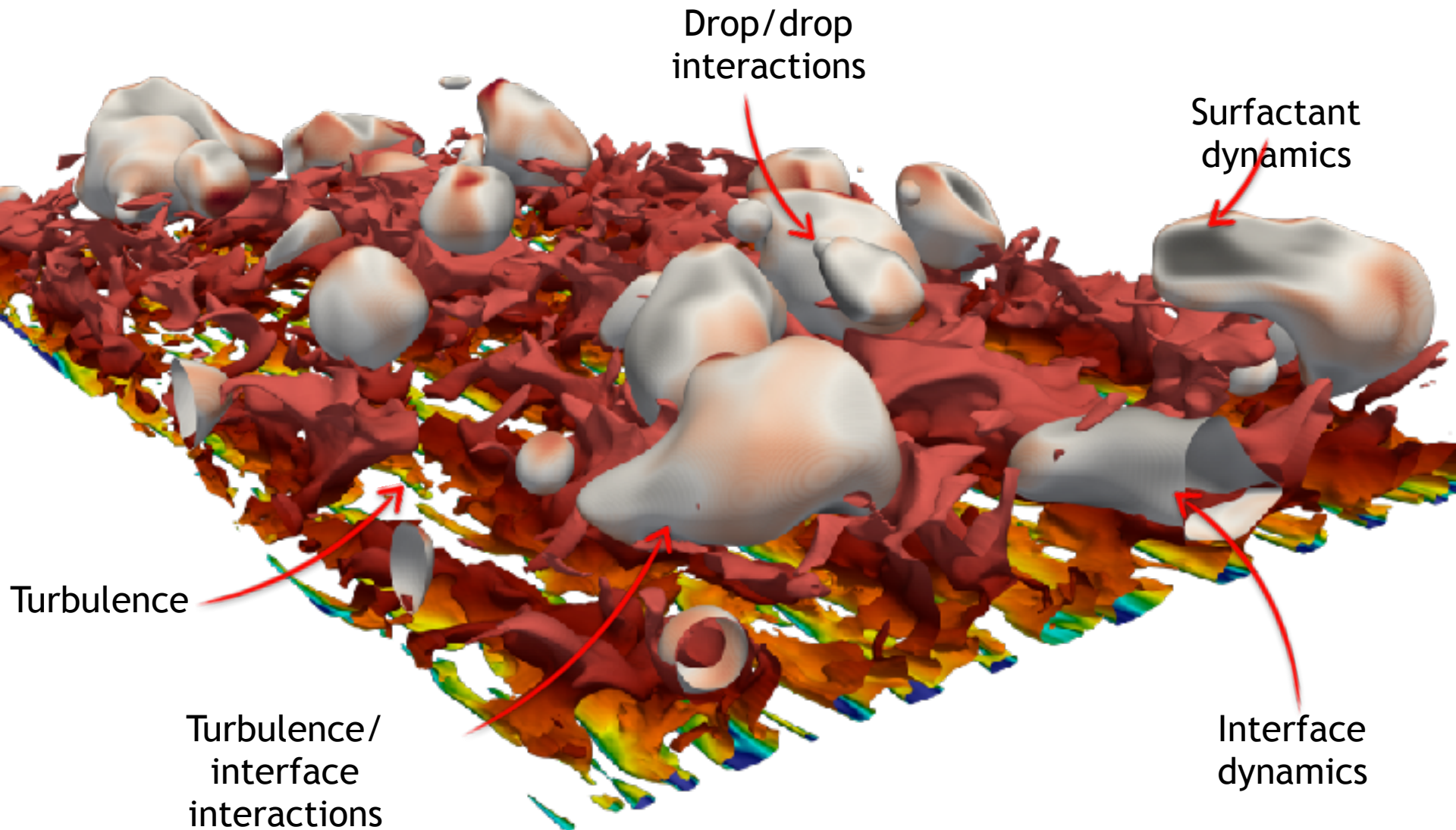


(d)  $We=80$ ,  $\chi = 0.43$

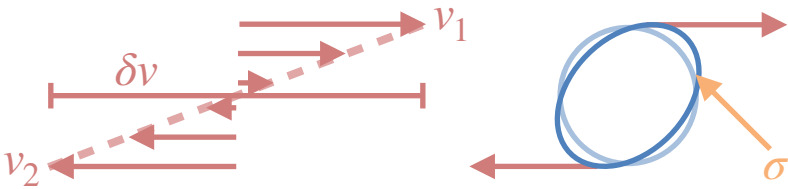


(e)  $We=100$ ,  $\chi = 0.32$

FIG. 3. (Color online) Collision process of water droplets in air at various Weber numbers and impact parameters.



Bubbles/Drops break if stresses win over restoring surface tensions



Hinze Critical radius

$$r_H \propto \left(\frac{\rho}{\sigma}\right) \varepsilon^{-2/5} \propto We^{-3/5} \varepsilon^{-2/5}$$

$$We = \rho u_z^2 h / \sigma_0$$

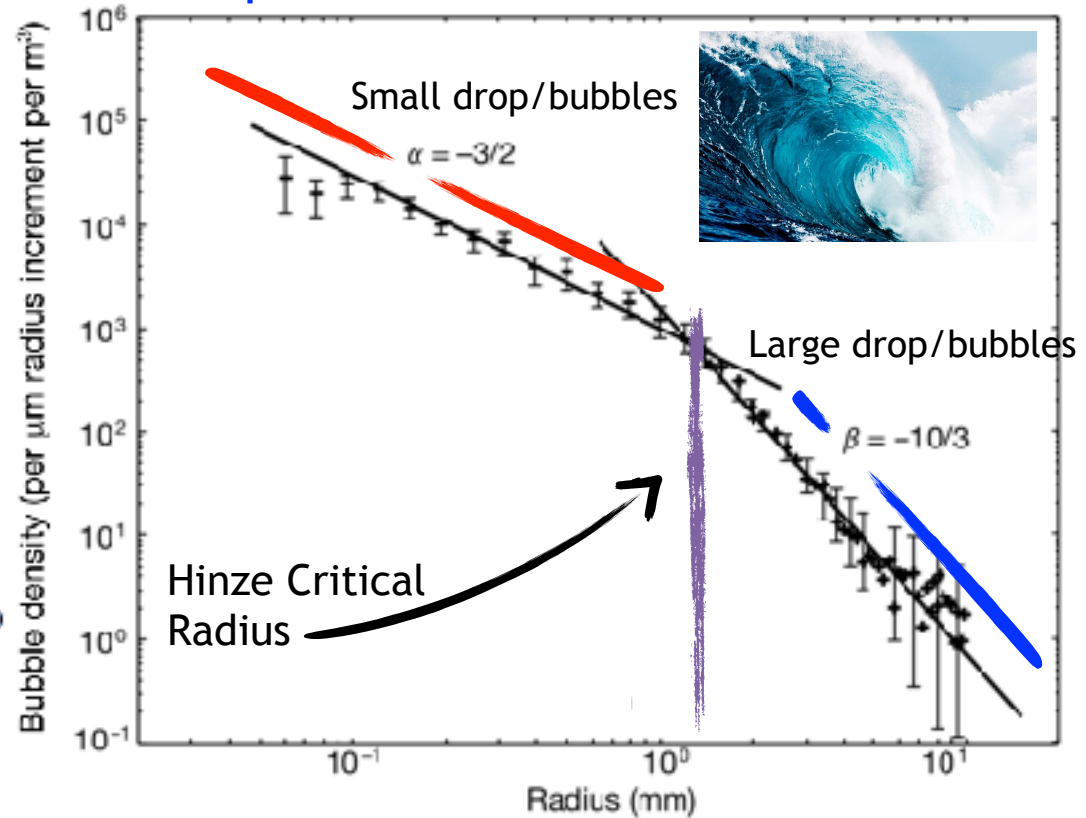
Small drops/bubbles

$$N(r) \propto Q \left(\frac{\sigma}{\rho}\right)^{-3/2} u^2 r^{-3/2}$$

Large drops/bubbles

$$N(r) \propto Q \varepsilon^{-1/3} r^{-10/3}$$

## Experiments from Deane and Stokes



$r$  : bubble radius

$\varepsilon$  : dissipation rate

$Q$  : rate of entrainment

$\sigma$  : surface tension

$u$  : flow velocity scale

$\rho$  : fluid density

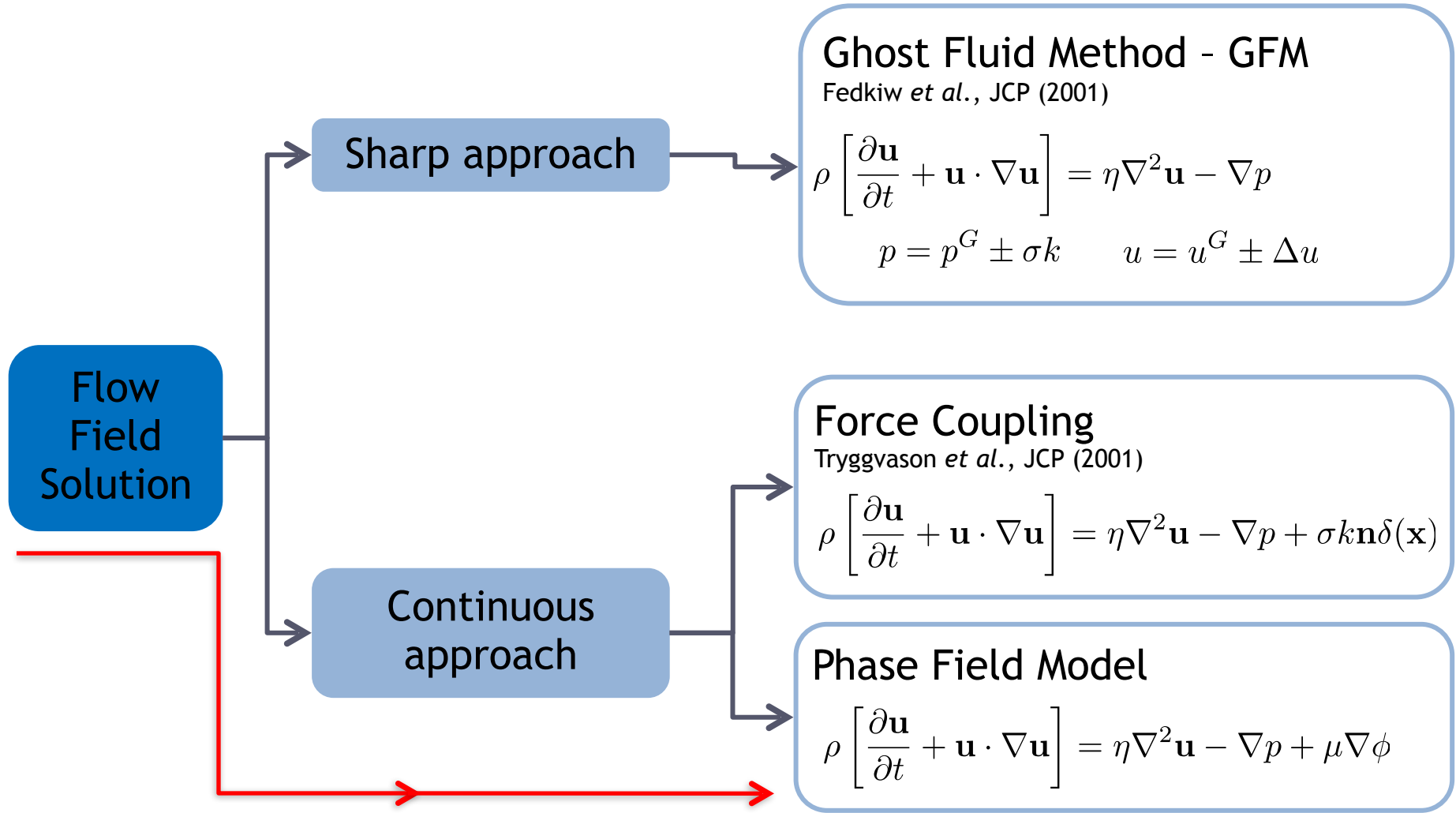
J.O. Hinze, Fundamentals of the hydrodynamic mechanism of splitting in dispersion processes, AIChE Journal (1955).

C. Garrett, M. Li, D. Farmer, The connection between bubble size spectra and energy dissipation rates in the upper ocean, J. Phys. Oceanogr. (2000).

G. B. Deane and M. Dale Stokes, Scale dependence of bubble creation mechanisms in breaking waves, Nature (2002)

# Multiphase Flow Simulation .3

## Approaches to Model the Interface ?



### Ghost Fluid Method - GFM

Fedkiw *et al.*, JCP (2001)

$$\rho \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right] = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p$$

$$p = p^G \pm \sigma k \quad u = u^G \pm \Delta u$$

### Force Coupling

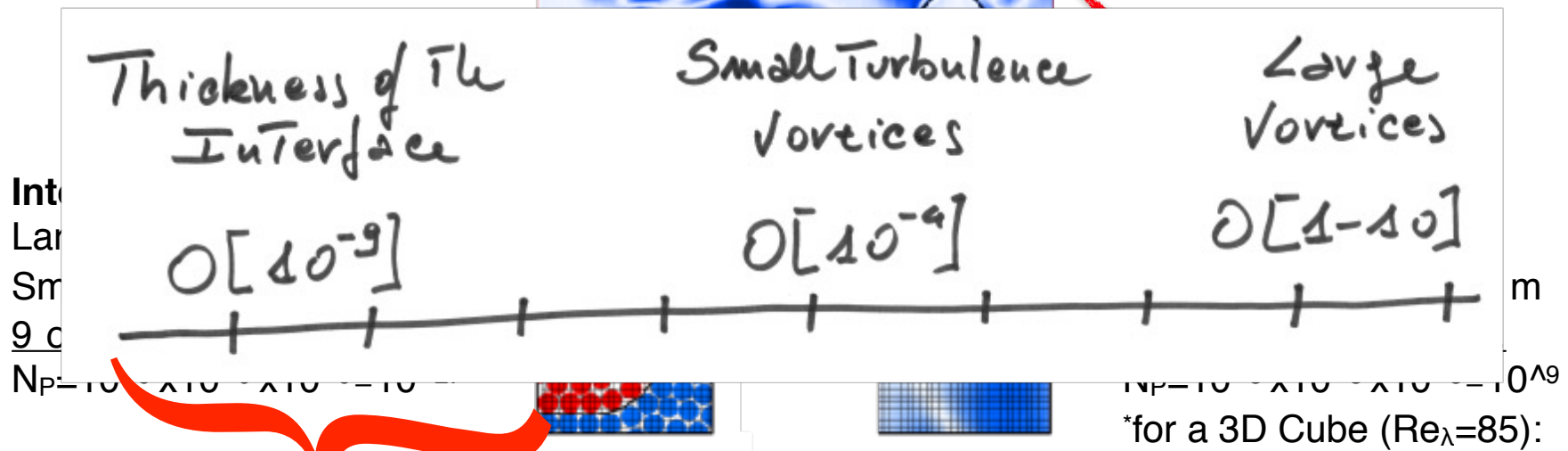
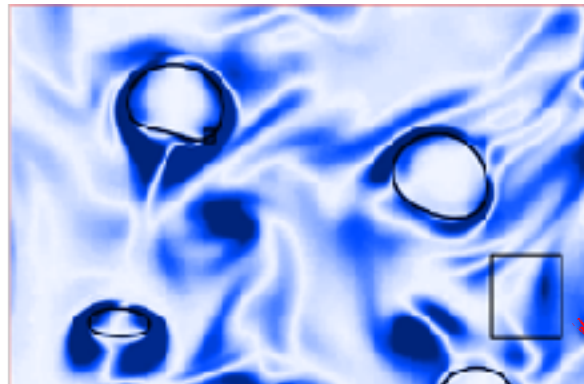
Tryggvason *et al.*, JCP (2001)

$$\rho \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right] = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \sigma k \mathbf{n} \delta(\mathbf{x})$$

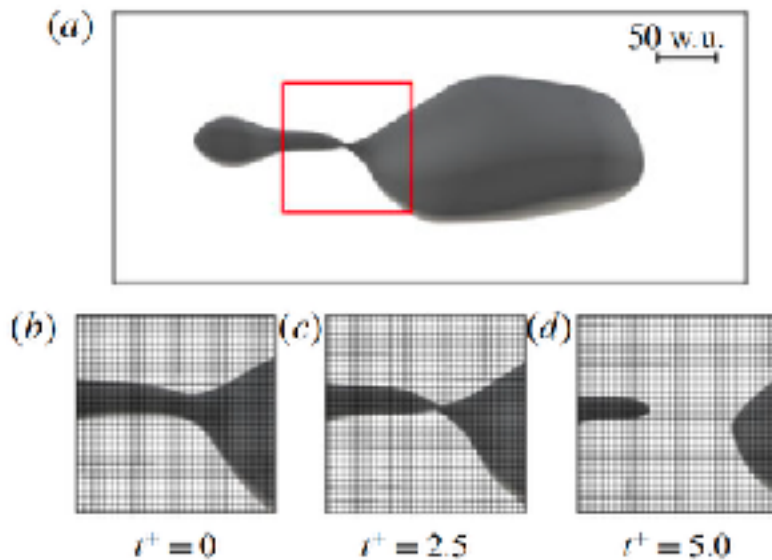
### Phase Field Model

$$\rho \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right] = \eta \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \mu \nabla \phi$$

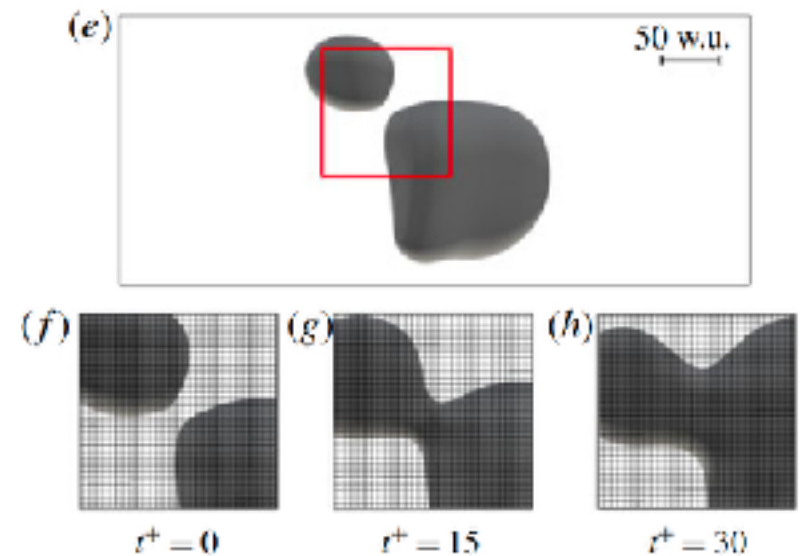
# we have an issue with the Resolution



3-4 Orders of magnitude  
 with Largest Supercomputers



**Breakage event:** the thin thread becomes progressively thinner (b,c) and subsequently breaks (e).

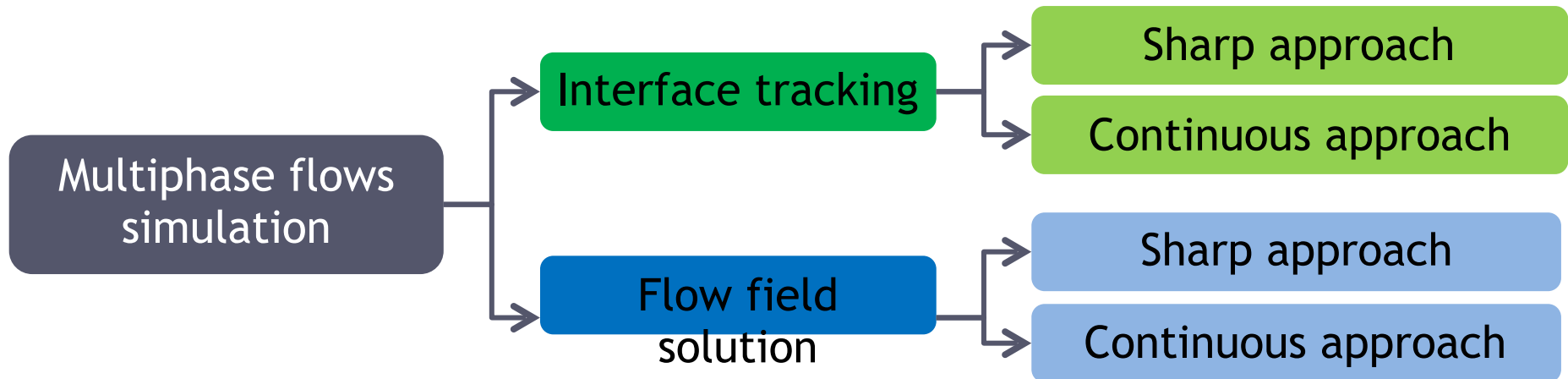
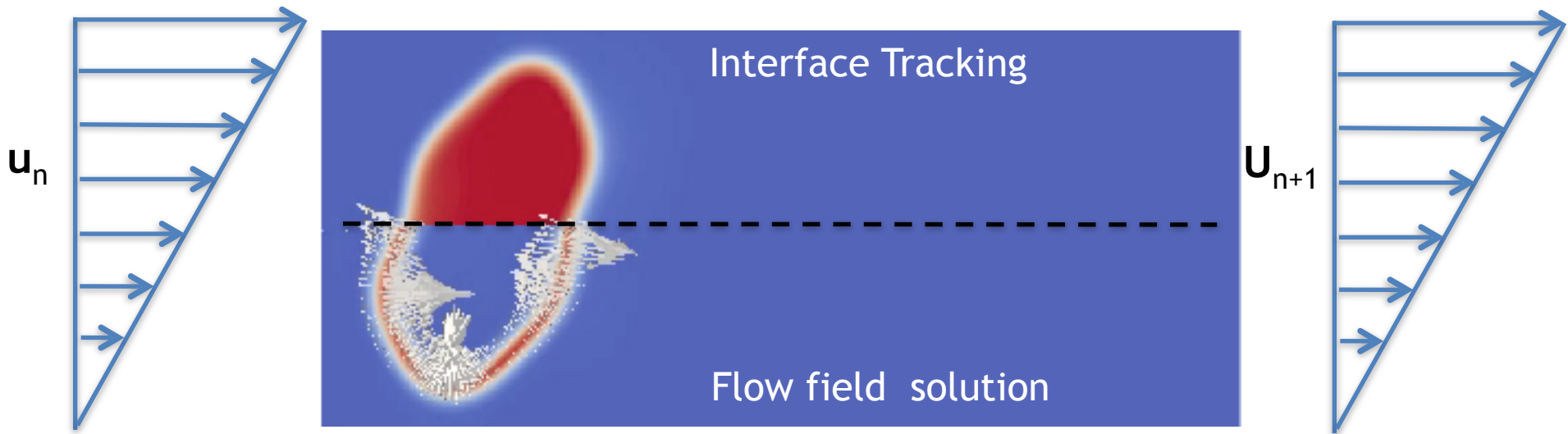


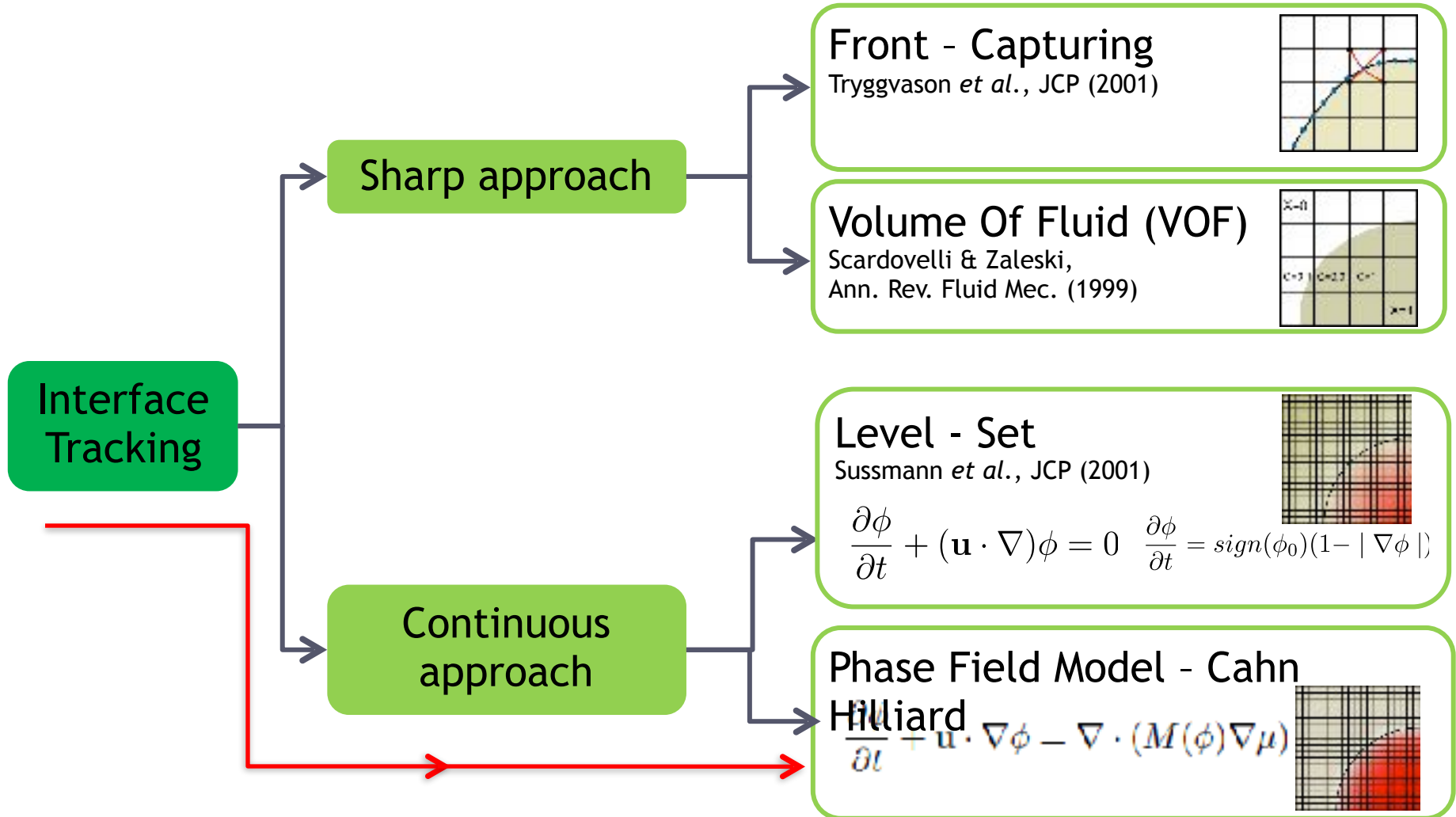
**Coalescence event:** after the initial approach ( f ), the thin liquid film drains, a bridge is formed and the two droplets merge (g); finally surface tension forces reshape the droplet (h).



# Multiphase Flow Simulation .1

## Approaches to Model the Interface ?





**Sharp Interface Approach:** We prescribe the interface and we assign properties to it. Properties are models

**Phase Field Approach:** We prescribe the properties of the two fluids and we define the interface to be in a conventional place. Properties of the two fluids at contact are prescribed according to physico-chemical laws.

Surface Tension =  $\sigma$

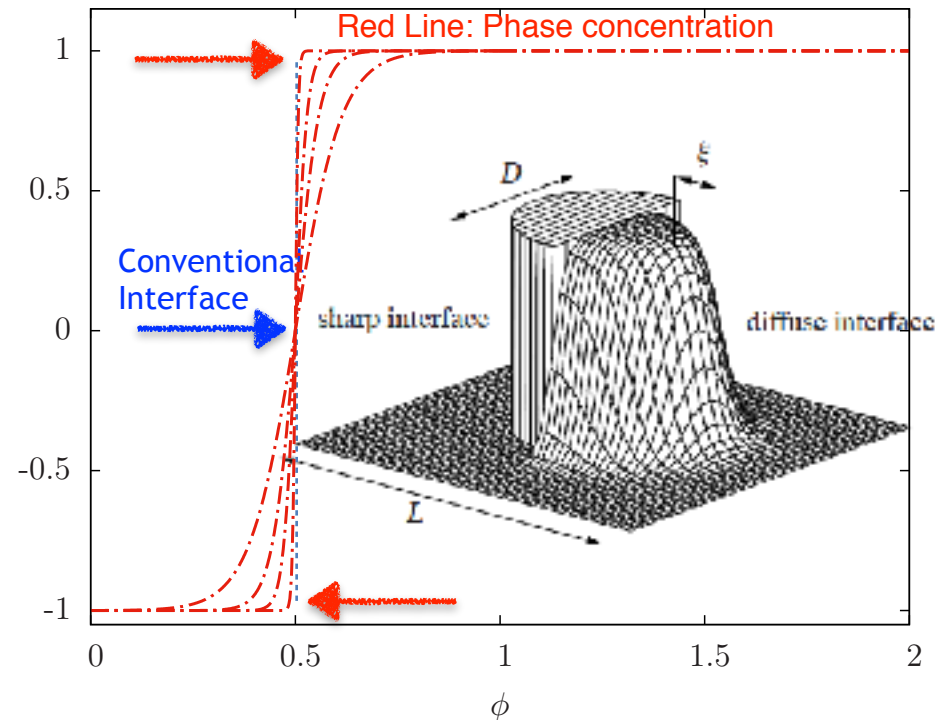
Interface =  $\xi \ll H$

Mobility =  $M$

$$Ch = \frac{\xi}{H} \quad Pe = \frac{u_\tau H}{M\beta}$$

$$Ch = \mathcal{O}(10^{-9}) \quad Pe = \mathcal{O}(10^9)$$

**To reduce the computational effort, the interface must be fictitiously enlarged!!  
How much? To the point that it becomes computationally tractable**



### Assumptions:

- Matched density
- Matched viscosity
- Constant surface tension

### Flow:

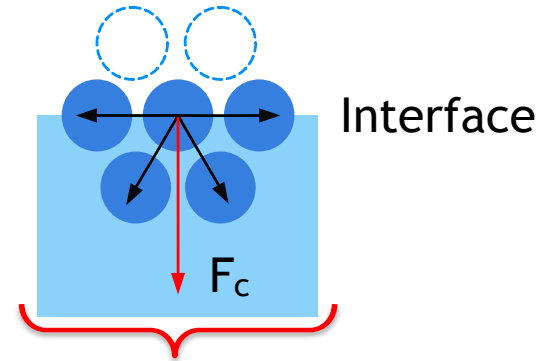
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{Ch}{We} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_c$$

### Interface:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi = \frac{1}{Pe_\phi} \nabla^2 \mu_\phi$$

### Surface tension forces:



1. Historical Perspective, modelling and computational issues
2. A short story on droplets in turbulence (influence of viscosity/density contrast)
3. A short story on oil transport
4. A short story on drop coalescence/break-up (influence of surfactant)

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla P + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{1}{WeCh} \mu \nabla \phi$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi = + \frac{1}{Pe} \nabla^2 \mu$$

$$\mu = \phi^3 - \phi - Ch^2 \nabla^2 \phi$$

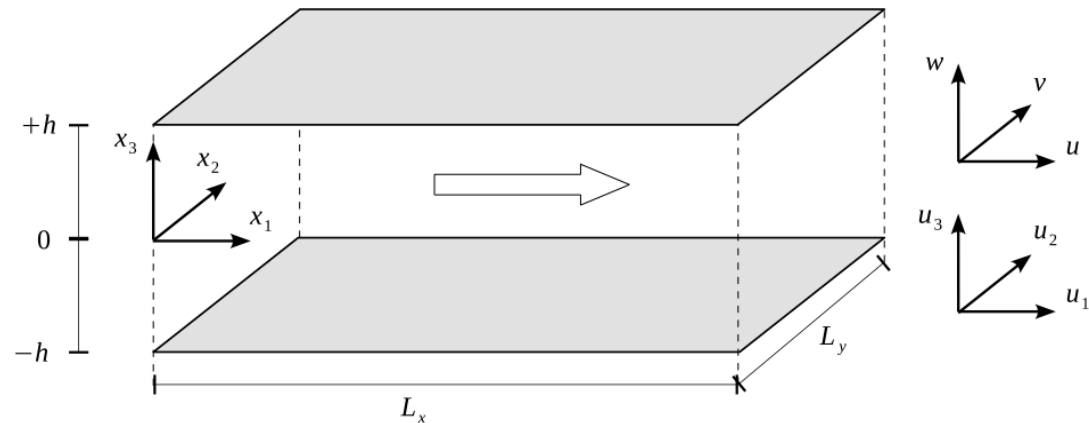
Vorticity-Velocity formulation  
(curl+twice curl of NS+Vectorial identity)

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} = -\nabla \times \mathbf{S} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \omega$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{u}) = \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) - \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

$$\frac{\partial (\nabla^2 \mathbf{u})}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{S} - \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^4 \mathbf{u}$$

$$\left( \mathbf{S} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - \delta_{1,j} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{1}{WeCh} \mu \nabla \phi \right)$$



This leads to the following system

$$\frac{\partial \omega_3}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial S_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial S_1}{\partial x_2} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \omega_3$$

$$\frac{\partial (\nabla^2 \mathbf{u}_3)}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{S}_3 - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \frac{\partial S_j}{\partial x_j} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^4 \mathbf{u}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_2}{\partial x_2} = - \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_3}{\partial x_3}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_2}{\partial x_1} - \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_1}{\partial x_2} = \omega_3$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = S_\phi + \frac{s}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{Ch^2}{Pe} \nabla^4 \phi$$

$$\left( \mathbf{S} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - \delta_{1,j} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{1}{WeCh} \mu \nabla \phi \right)$$

$$\left( \mathbf{S}_\phi = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi + \frac{1}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi^3 - \frac{1+s}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi; s = \sqrt{\frac{4PeCh^2}{\Delta t}} \right)$$

## Methods to discretize differential operators

- Idea: approximate a function (unknown, which satisfy PDE+BC), using a linear combination of test functions
- This tests functions are global

$$u(x) \simeq \tilde{u}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^N c_k \phi_k(x)$$

Common to Finite difference/  
Finite elements methods

For spectral methods: global  
functions are defined  
in each node and are not zero

This brings some advantages for the representation of the derivatives



Discrete geometry

$$x(i) = (i - 1) \frac{L_x}{N_x - 1} \rightarrow i = 1, \dots, N_x$$

$$y(j) = (j - 1) \frac{L_y}{N_y - 1} \rightarrow j = 1, \dots, N_y$$

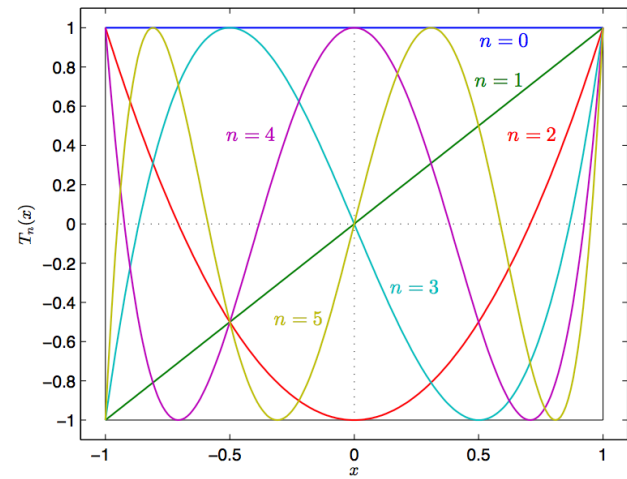
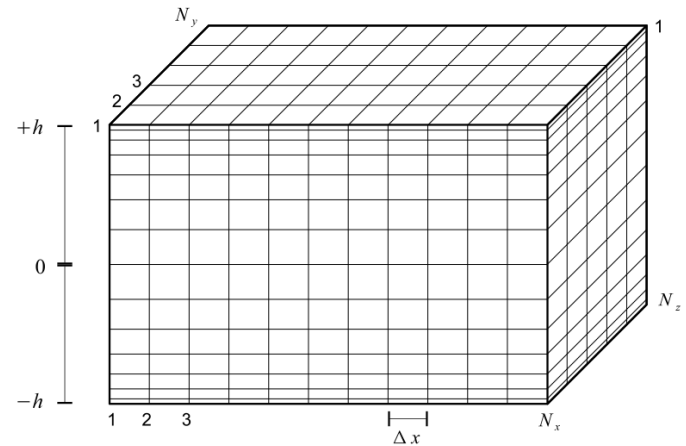
$$z(k) = \cos \left( \frac{k - 1}{N_z - 1} \pi \right) \rightarrow k = 1, \dots, N_z$$

Spatial discretization of the solution (Fourier+Chebyshev)  
Idea: approximate a function as the linear combination of test functions (which in this case are global)

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \sum_{n_1} \sum_{n_2} \sum_{n_3} \hat{f}(k_1, k_2, n_3) T_{n_3} e^{i(k_1 x_1 + k_2 x_2)}$$

$$k_1 = \frac{2\pi n_1}{L_x}; k_2 = \frac{2\pi n_2}{L_y} \quad k^2 = k_1^2 + k_2^2$$

$$T_{n_3}(x_3) = \cos \left[ n_3 \cos^{-1} (x_3/h) \right]$$



$$ik_1\hat{u}_1 + ik_2\hat{u}_2 + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}\hat{u}_3 = 0$$

$$\hat{\omega}_3 = ik_1\hat{u}_2 - ik_2\hat{u}_1$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\omega}_3}{\partial t} = ik_1\hat{S}_2 - ik_2\hat{S}_1 + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} - k^2 \right) \hat{\omega}_3$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \hat{u}_3}{\partial x_3^2} - k^2 \hat{u}_3 \right) = -k^2 \hat{S}_3 - ik_1 \frac{\partial \hat{S}_1}{\partial x_3} - ik_2 \frac{\partial \hat{S}_2}{\partial x_3} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \left( k^4 \hat{u}_3 + \frac{\partial^4 \hat{u}_3}{\partial x_3^4} - 2k^2 \frac{\partial^2 \hat{u}_3}{\partial x_3^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\phi}}{\partial t} = \hat{S}_\phi + \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - k^2 \right) \left[ \frac{s}{Pe} - \frac{Ch^2}{Pe} \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} - k^2 \right) \right] \hat{\phi}$$

Introducing the “historical” terms H (lump together known functions);

Time splitting: viscous/diffusive term, Crank-Nicolson; convective term: Adams-Bashfort

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} - \beta^2 \right) \hat{\omega}_3^{n+1} = - \frac{ik_1 H_2^n - ik_2 H_1^n}{\gamma}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{\Delta t}{2Re_\tau}; \beta^2 = \frac{1 + \gamma k^2}{\gamma}$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} - \beta^2 \right) \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} - k^2 \right) \hat{u}_3^{n+1} = \frac{\hat{H}^n}{\gamma}$$

Helmholtz equations, solved by a Chebyshev-Tau method;  
Influence matrix method to solve the 4 order equations

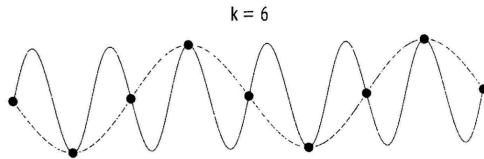
$$ik_1 \hat{u}_1 + ik_2 \hat{u}_2 + \frac{\partial \hat{u}_3}{\partial x_3} = 0$$

$$\hat{\omega}_3 = ik_1 \hat{u}_2 - ik_2 \hat{u}_1$$

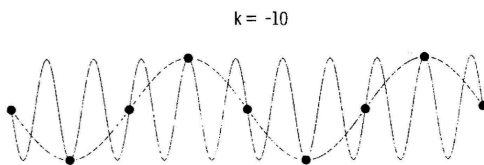
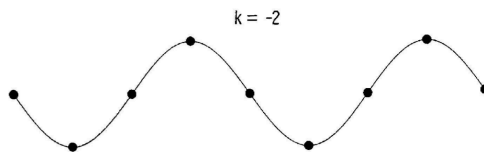
$$\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} - k^2 - \frac{s}{2Ch} \right) \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} - k^2 - \frac{s}{2Ch} \right) \hat{\phi}^{n+1} = \frac{\hat{H}_\phi^n}{\gamma}$$

## Why pseudo-spectral?

- Performing products in modal space,  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
- Transform into physical, multiply, back to modal,  $\mathcal{O}(N \log_2 N)$
- Aliasing error (2/3 rule)



Aliasing of  $\sin(-2x)$  by  $\sin(6x)$  wave

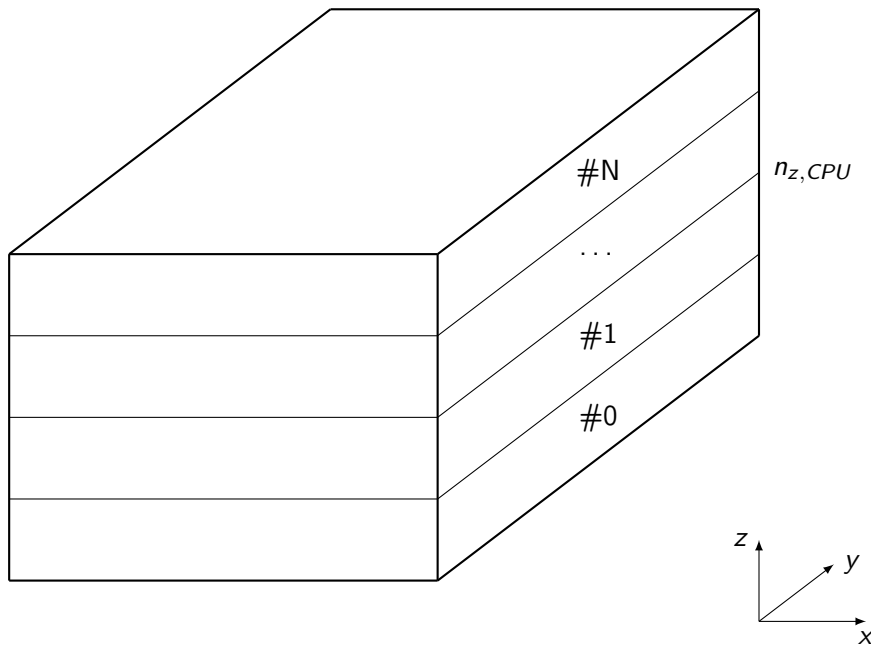


Aliasing of  $\sin(-2x)$  by  $\sin(10x)$  wave [Canuto et al. (1988)]

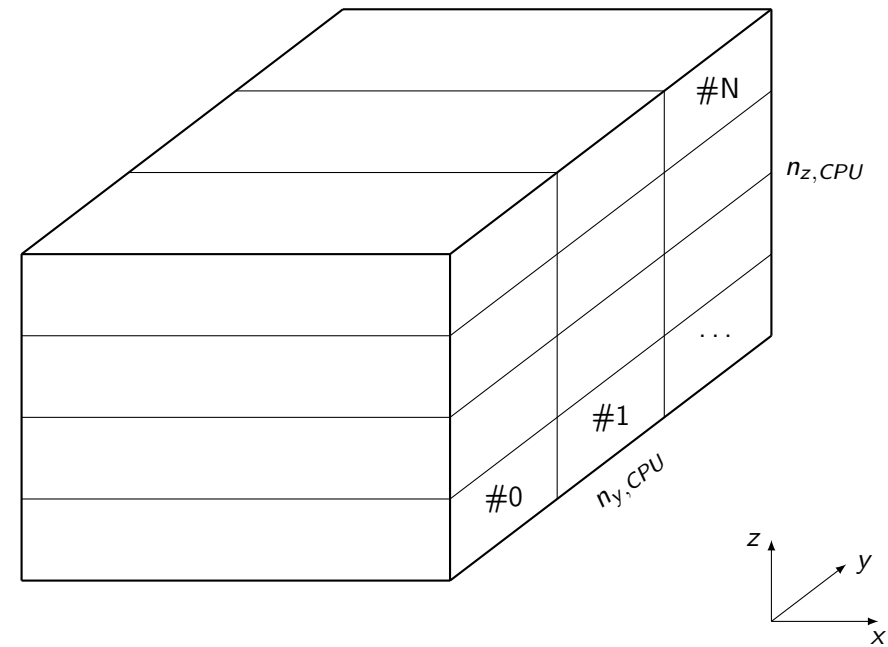
Pros & cons: Accuracy/Convergence; Good performances (FFTW)  
Not easy to code; Less flexible

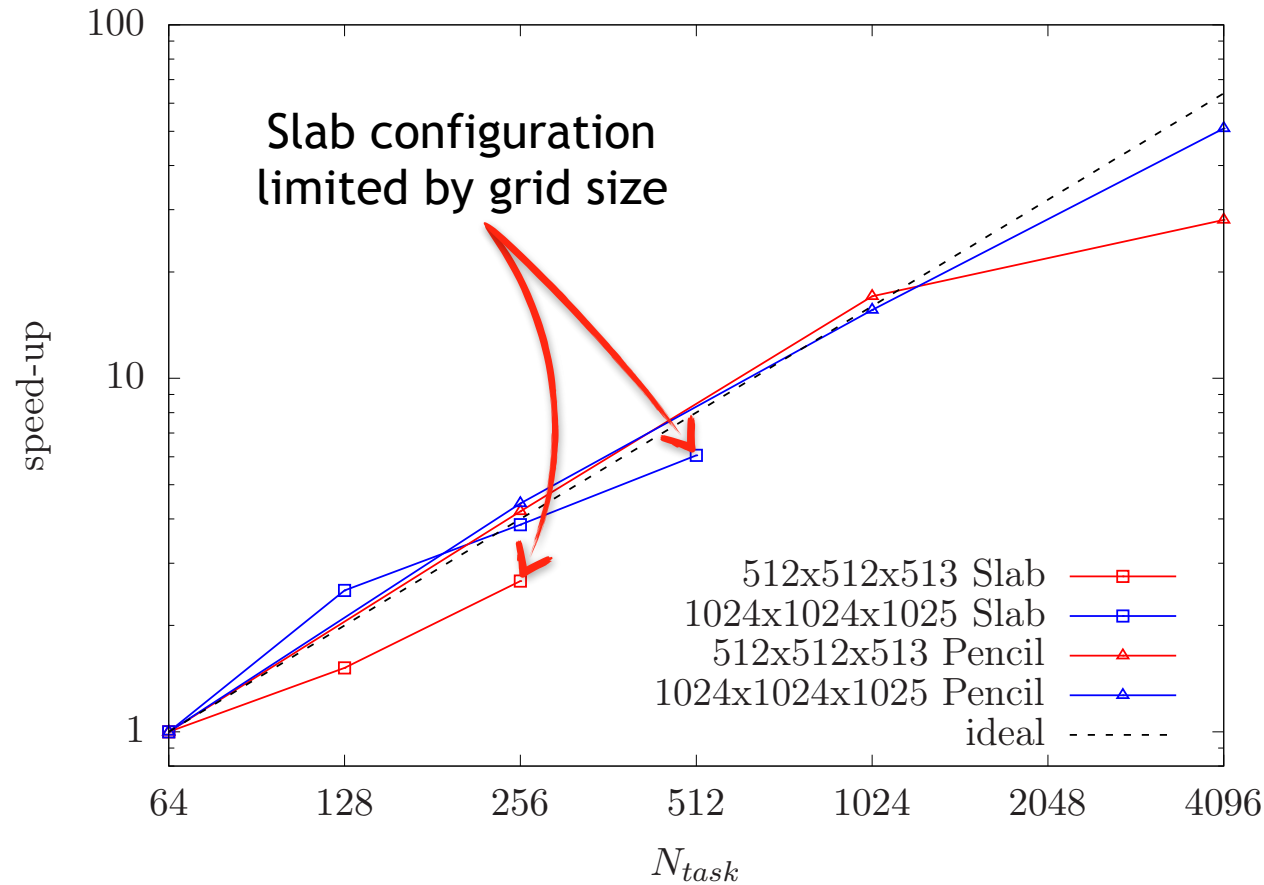
| Machine     | Centre                     | Processors                         | Frequency [GHz] | RAM/node [GB]             |
|-------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Marconi BDW | CINECA<br>(Bologna, Italy) | 2x18 cores Intel Xeon              | 2,3             | 128                       |
| Marconi KNL | CINECA<br>(Bologna, Italy) | 1x68 cores Intel Xeon Phi          | 1,4             | 16 MCDRAM<br>+<br>96 DDR4 |
| Vesta       | ANL<br>(Chicago, USA)      | 1x16 IBM PowerPC A2                | 1,6             | 16                        |
| VSC 3       | VSC<br>(Vienna, Austria)   | 2x16 Intel Xeon<br>2x20 Intel Xeon | 2.6<br>2.2      | 64/128/256<br>64          |

## 1D domain decomposition “Slab”

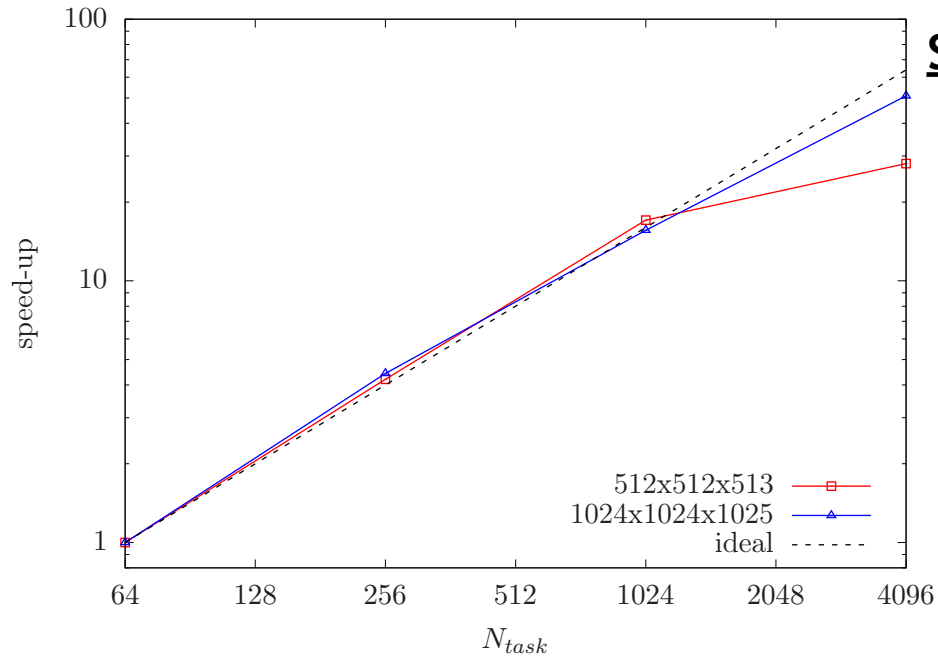


## 2D domain decomposition “Pencil”

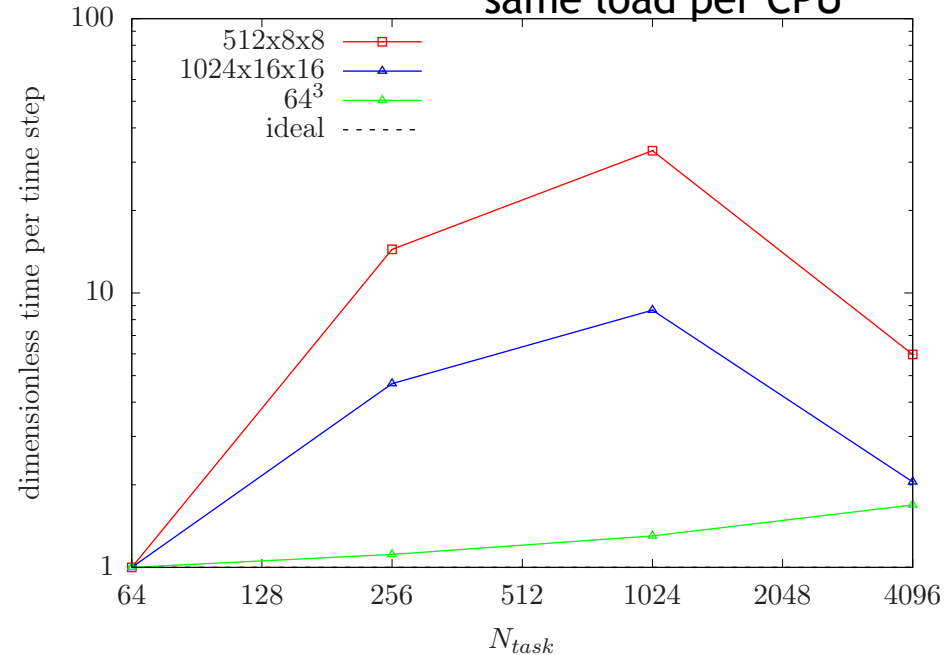




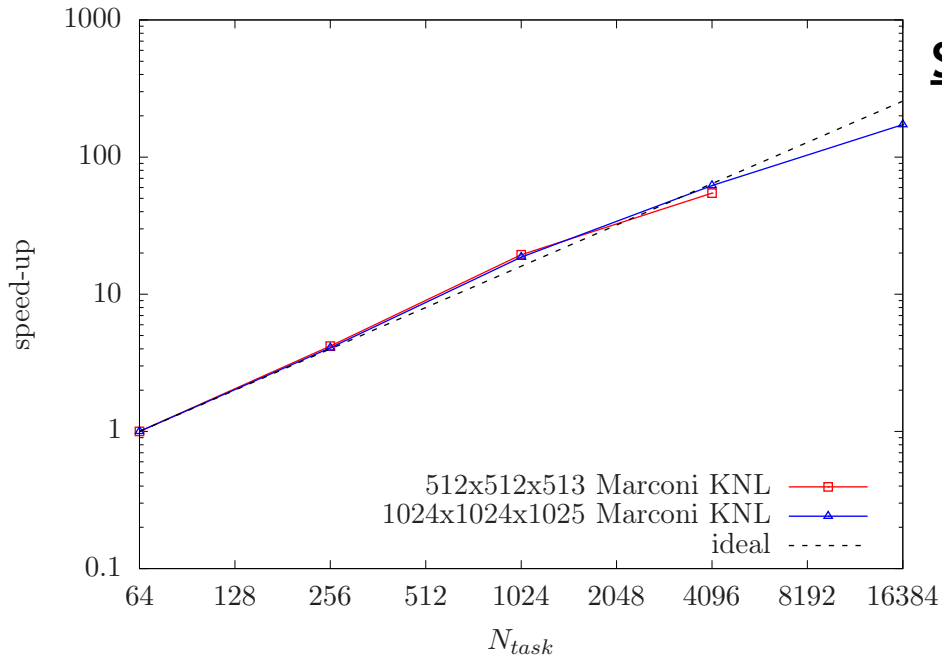
Comparison Slab vs Pencil  
on Marconi BDW



**Weak scaling**



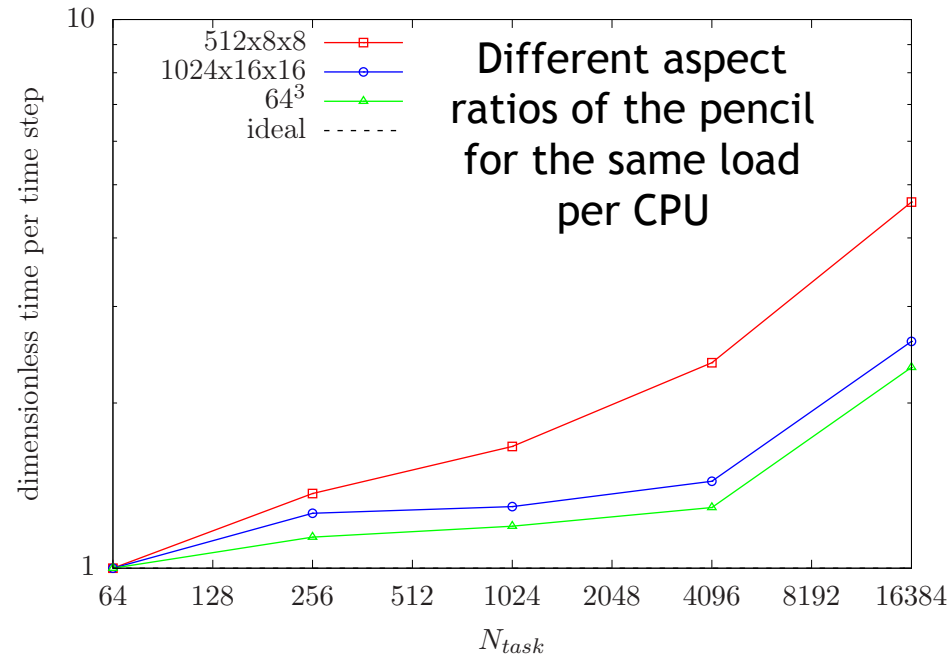




## Strong scaling

Marconi KNL

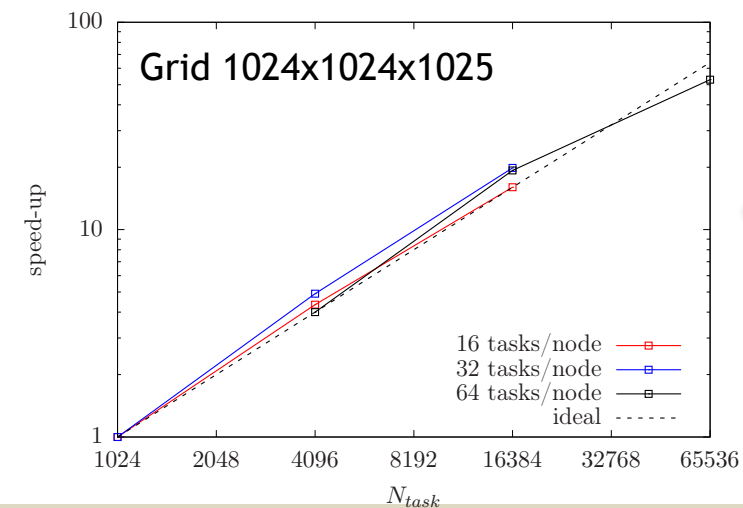
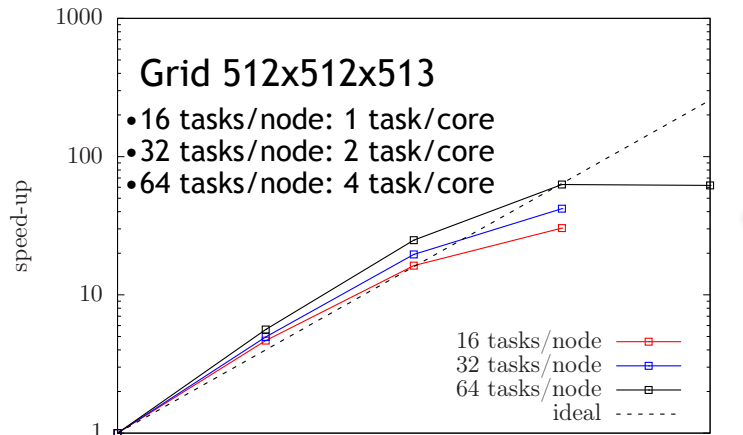
## Weak scaling



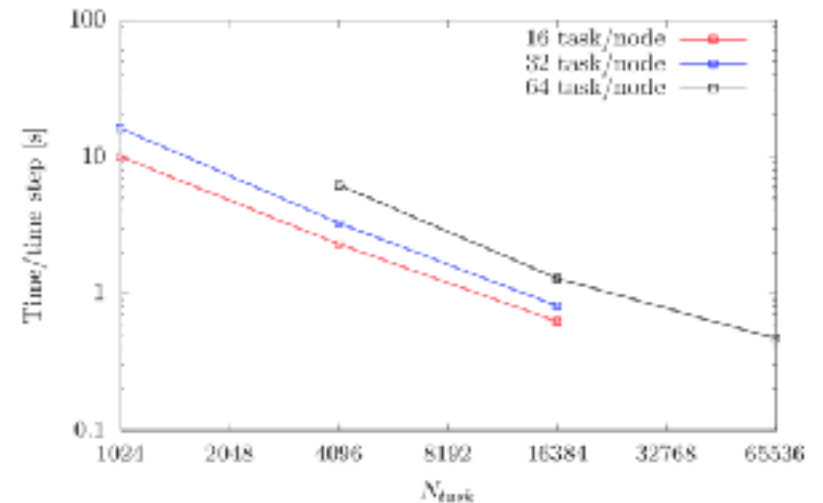
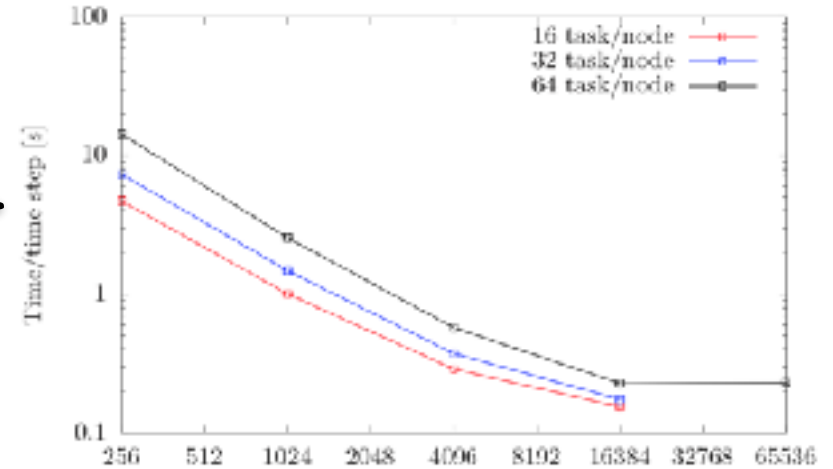
Different aspect ratios of the pencil for the same load per CPU

## Strong scaling

Vesta (ANL, Argonne)

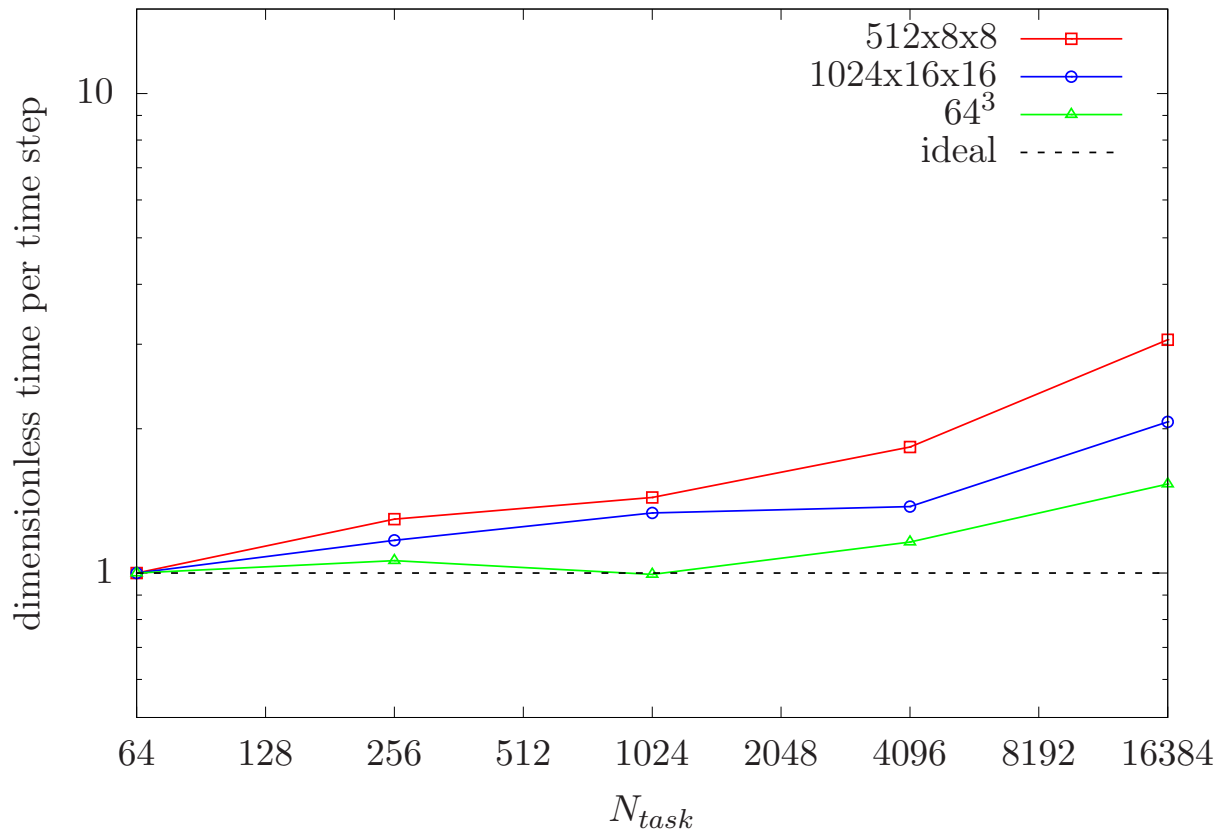


## Different multithreading option



Vesta (ANL, Argonne)

## Weak scaling



Testing different pencil aspect ratios for the same load per CPU

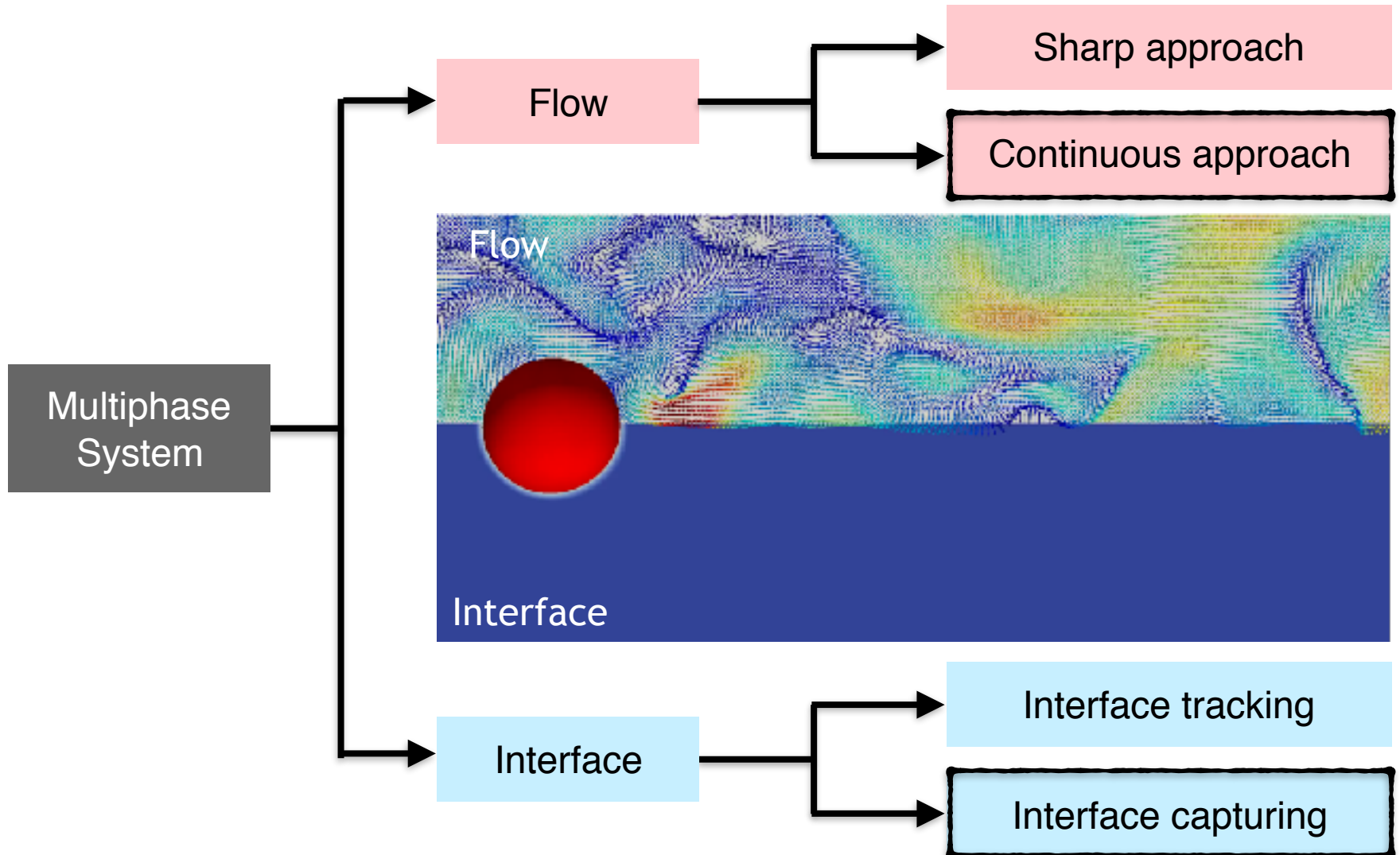
In the present example we refer to Pseudo-Spectral Method, where Computational effort is directly linked with the number of FFT and iFFT needed for each time step:

SP=Single Phase Flow  
MP=Multiphase Flow  
MPS=Multiphase Flow with surfactant

Comp. Effort/Comp. Effort(SP)



For MP and MPS cases, the efforts depends also on the density and viscosity ratio, lower when density and viscosity are matched, higher vice-versa.



Defining a concentration  $\phi$  :

$$\phi = \frac{n_A - n_B}{n_A + n_B}$$

$\phi = +1$  Phase A  
 $\phi = 0$  Interface  
 $\phi = -1$  Phase B

Cahn-Hilliard equation:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi = \frac{1}{Pe_\phi} \nabla^2 \mu_\phi$$

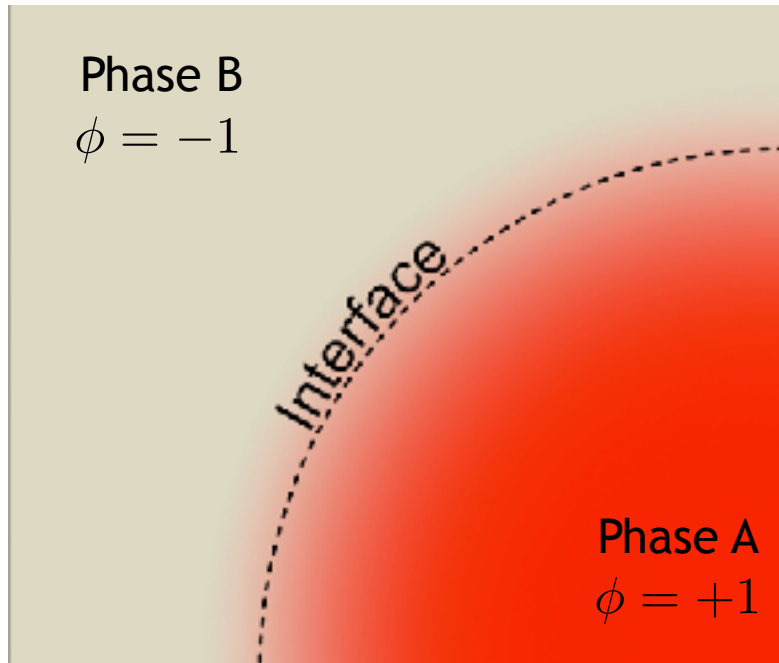
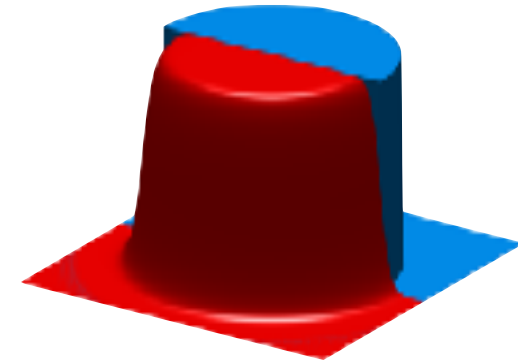
Chemical potential:

$$\mu_\phi = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \phi} = \phi^3 - \phi - Ch^2 \nabla^2 \phi$$

At the equilibrium:

$$\mu_\phi = \mu_\phi^{eq}$$

$$\phi = \tanh\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}Ch}\right)$$

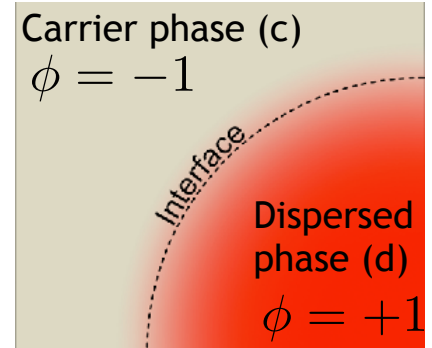


## Assumptions:

- Different density
- Different viscosity
- Constant surface tension

Density ratio:  $\gamma = \frac{\rho_d}{\rho_c}$

Viscosity ratio:  $\lambda = \frac{\eta_d}{\eta_c}$



## Flow:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

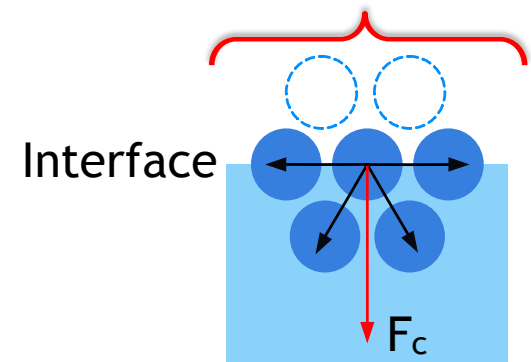


$$\underbrace{\rho(\phi)}_{\rho(\phi) = 1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2}(\phi + 1)} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right] = -\nabla p + \underbrace{\frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla \cdot [\eta(\phi)(\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)]}_{\eta(\phi) = 1 + \frac{\lambda - 1}{2}(\phi + 1)} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{Ch}{We} \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}_c$$

## Interface:

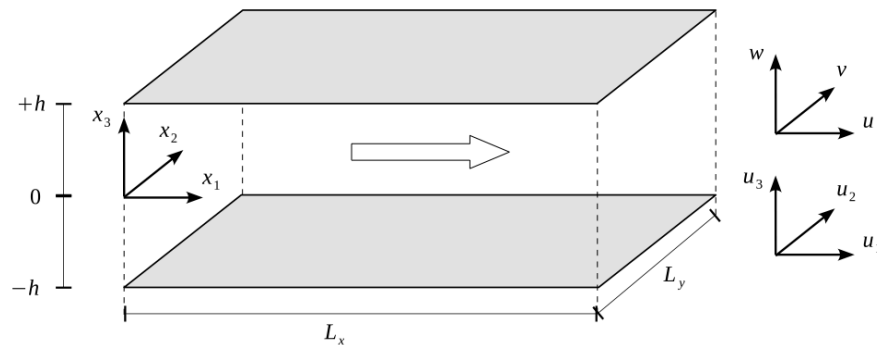


$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi = \frac{1}{Pe_\phi} \nabla^2 \mu_\phi$$



**Method:** Direct Numerical Solution (DNS) of NS and CH equations, no models used.

## Computational Domain



### Space Discretization:

- X Periodic direction (Fourier)
- Y Periodic direction (Fourier)
- Z Wall-normal (Chebychev-Tau)

### Time Discretization:

- N-S: Crank-Nicolson/Adams-Bashforth scheme
- C-H: Crank-Nicolson/Euler scheme

### Solver NS (Vorticity-Velocity Formulation):

Curl of NS (Vorticity)

$$\frac{\partial \omega_z}{\partial t} = \nabla \times \mathbf{S} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \omega_z$$

Twice Curl of NS

$$\frac{\partial \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{S} - \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^4 \mathbf{u}$$

CH:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = S_\phi + \frac{sCh^2}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{Ch^2}{Pe} \nabla^4 \phi$$



$$\frac{\partial \omega_z}{\partial t} = \nabla \times \mathbf{S} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \omega_z$$

- Solve for the 3rd component of vorticity
- 2nd order PDE
- Single Helmotz solver

$$\frac{\partial \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{S} - \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^4 \mathbf{u}$$

- Solve for the 3rd component of velocity
- 4th order PDE
- Double Helmotz solver, Influence Matrix Method

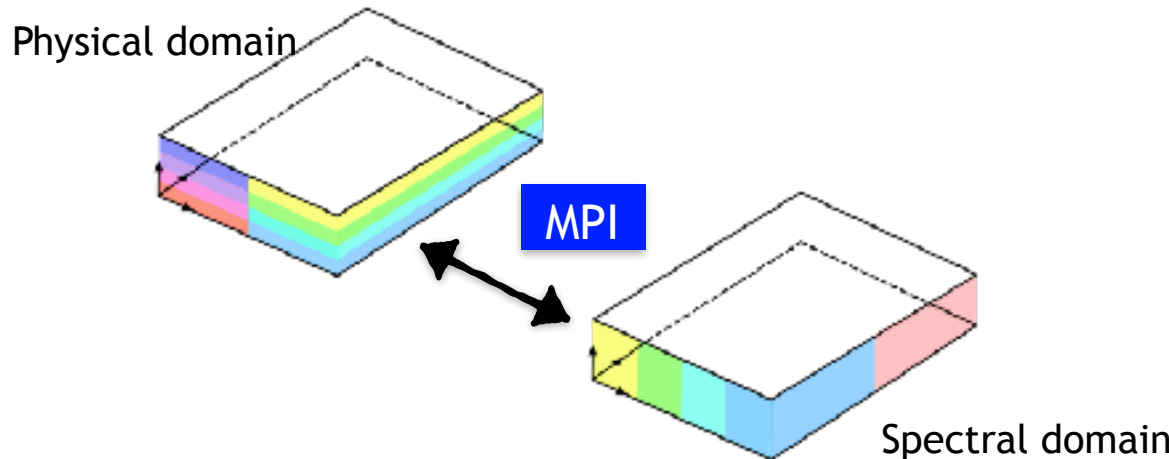
$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = S_\phi + \frac{sCh^2}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{Ch^2}{Pe} \nabla^4 \phi$$

- Solve for phi
- 4th order PDE
- Double Helmotz solver

With no-flux BC  $\phi$  is conserved.

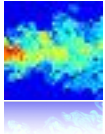
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\Omega} \phi d\Omega = 0$$

- MPI Paradigm, 2D Domain decomposition



## Boundary Conditions:

FLOW FIELD



PHASE FIELD



NO SLIP AT THE WALLS

$$u_i(\pm h) = 0$$

90° CONTACT ANGLE

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}(\pm h) = \frac{\partial^3 \phi}{\partial z^3}(\pm h) = 0$$

PERIODICITY ALONG X and Y

$$v_i(0) = v_i(L_x)$$

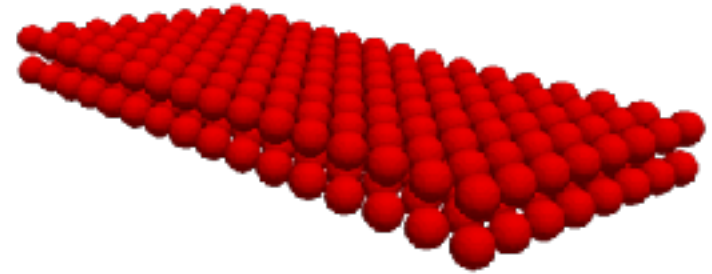
$$\phi(0) = \phi(L_x)$$

$$u_i(0) = u_i(L_y)$$

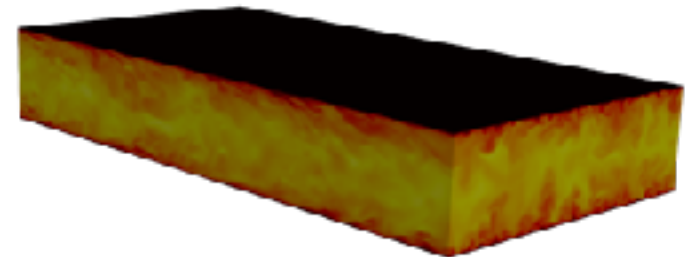
$$\phi(0) = \phi(L_y)$$

## Initial Conditions:

- Phase Field
  - 256 spherical drops



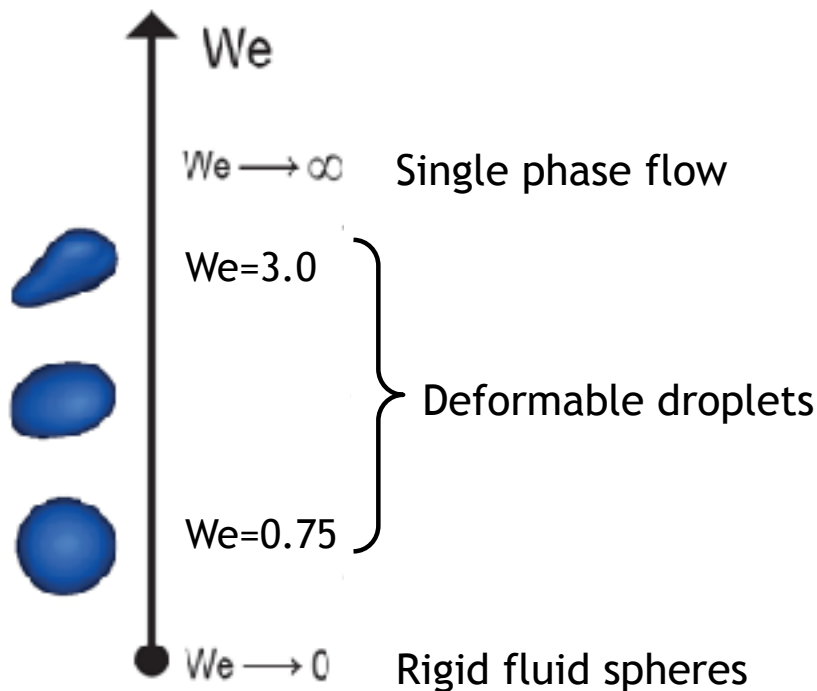
- Flow Field
  - Single Phase Flow Re=150.



### Effect of Surface Tension and Viscosity (matched density)

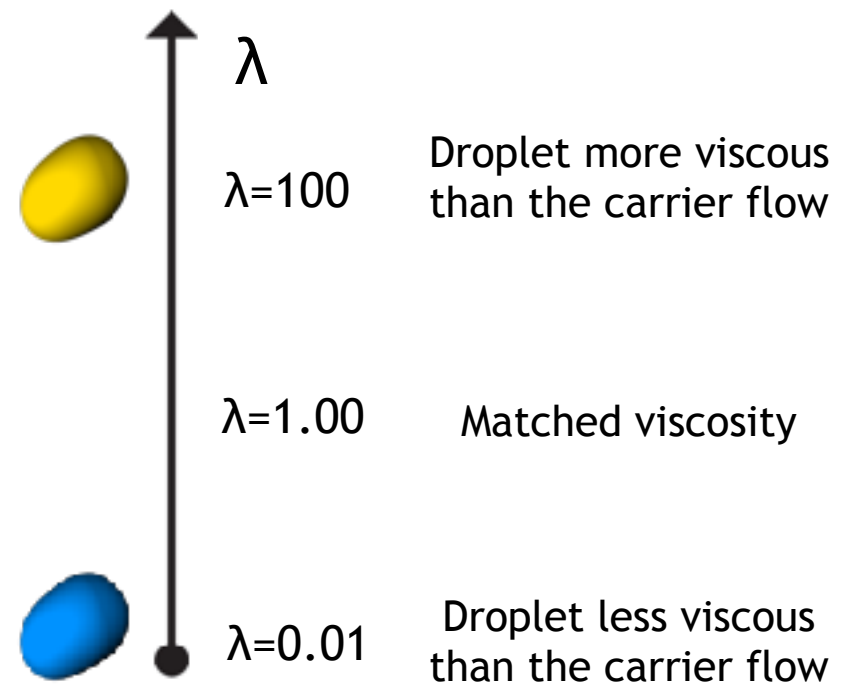
Weber number:

$$We = \frac{\rho u_{\tau}^2 h}{\sigma} = \frac{\text{Inertial Forces}}{\text{Surface Tension Forces}}$$



Viscosity Ratio:

$$\lambda = \frac{\eta_d}{\eta_c} = \frac{\text{Droplet Viscosity}}{\text{Carrier Viscosity}}$$

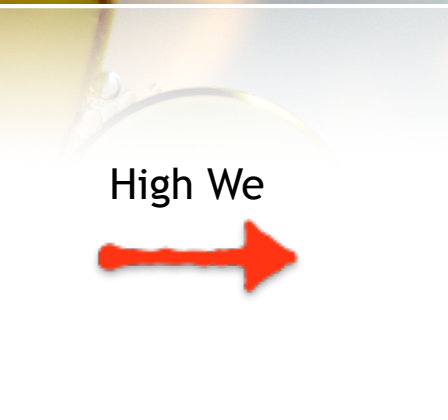


Weber Number ( $We$ ):

$$We = \frac{\rho u_{\tau}^2 h}{\sigma} = \frac{\text{Inertial Forces}}{\text{Surface Tension Forces}}$$



Low  $We$



High  $We$

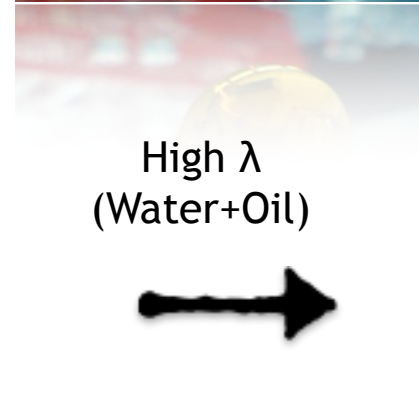


Viscosity Ratio ( $\lambda$ ):

$$\lambda = \frac{\eta_d}{\eta_c} = \frac{\text{Drop Viscosity}}{\text{Continuous Viscosity}}$$



Low  $\lambda$   
(Water+Hexane)



High  $\lambda$   
(Water+Oil)



## Fixed Parameters:

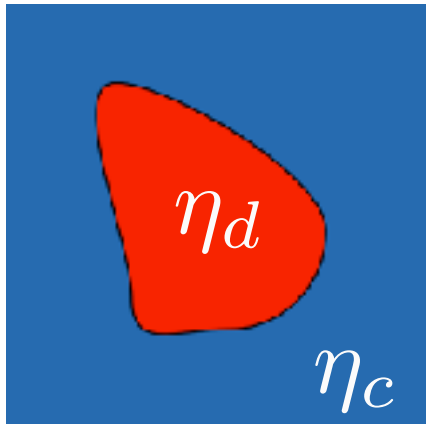
Reynolds number  $Re_\tau=150$

Pe and Ch numerical parameters based on the grid resolution:

- Ch=0.0185
- Pe=162.20

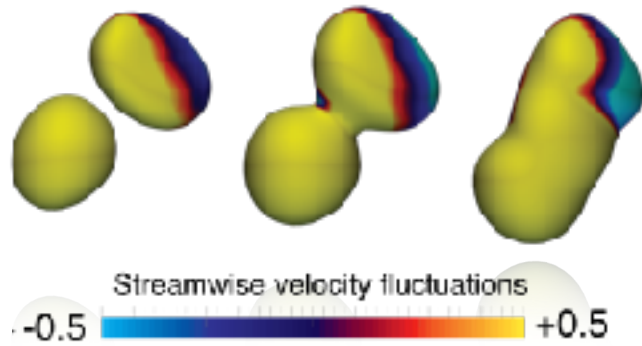
Grid: up to 512 x 512 x 513 ( $N_x-N_y-N_z$ )

Size:  $4\pi H \times 2\pi H \times 2H$  ( $L_x-L_y-L_z$ )



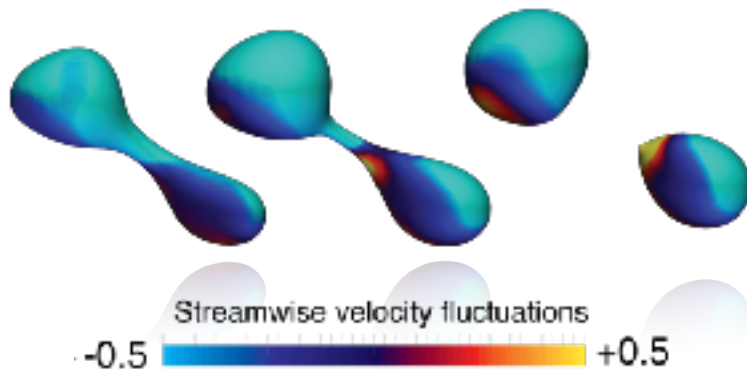
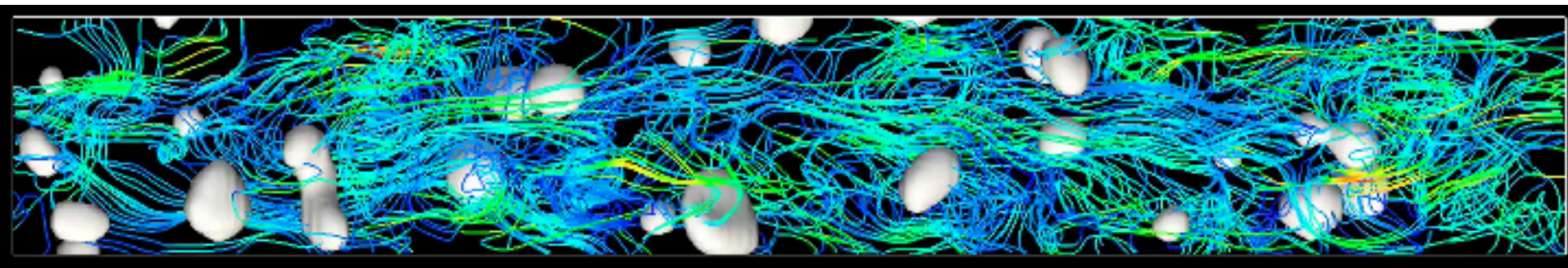
$$\lambda = \frac{\eta_d}{\eta_c}$$

| #   | We   | $\lambda$ |
|-----|------|-----------|
| S1  | 0.75 | 0.01      |
| S2  |      | 0.1       |
| S3  |      | 1         |
| S4  |      | 10        |
| S5  |      | 100       |
| S6  | 1.50 | 0.01      |
| S7  |      | 0.1       |
| S8  |      | 1         |
| S9  |      | 10        |
| S10 |      | 100       |
| S11 | 3.00 | 0.01      |
| S12 |      | 0.1       |
| S13 |      | 1         |
| S14 |      | 10        |
| S15 |      | 100       |



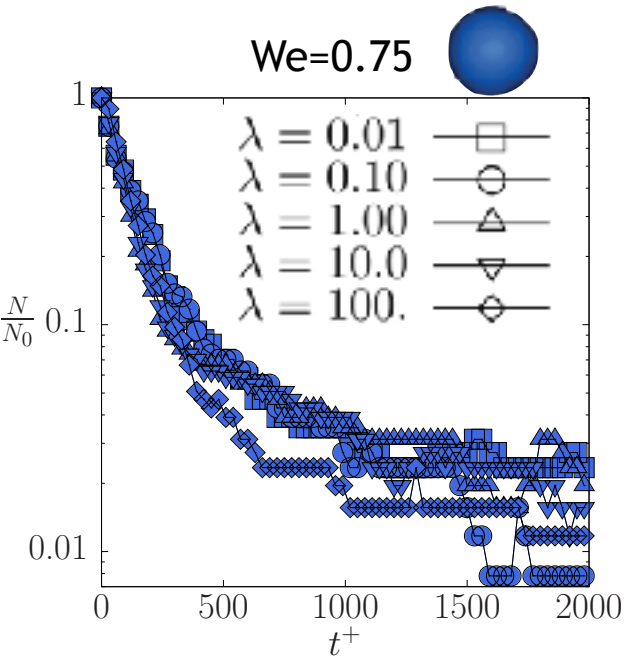
## COALESCENCE

Two droplets come close and collide due to turbulence fluctuations. During the collision, a small bridge is initially formed; later, surface tension (which tends to reshape the droplet) comes into the picture and complete the coalescence process.

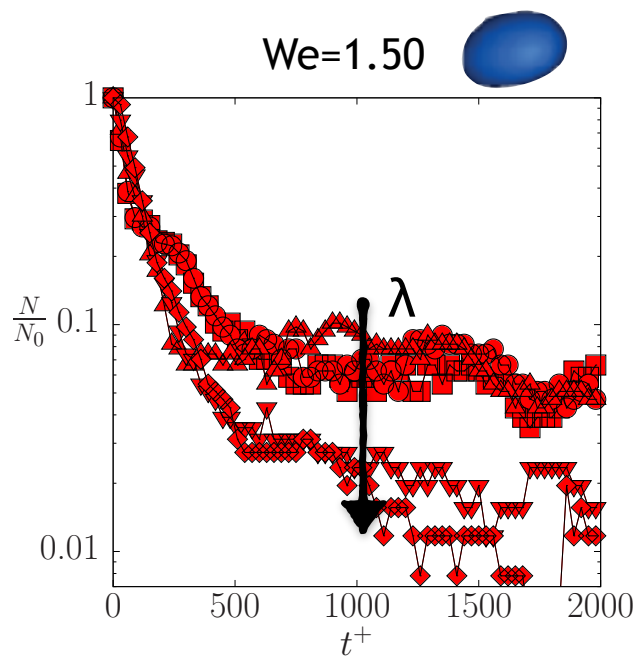


## BREAK-UP

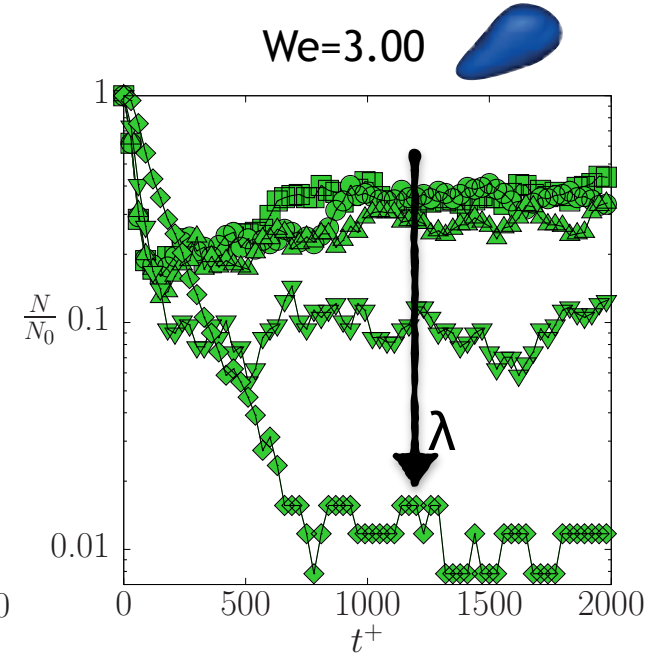
A droplet is subjected to a sufficient shear stress, such that it is deformed and stretched until the emerging thin liquid bridge is broken (due to surface tension that acts minimizing the energy stored at the interface).



Coalescence Regime for every  $\lambda$

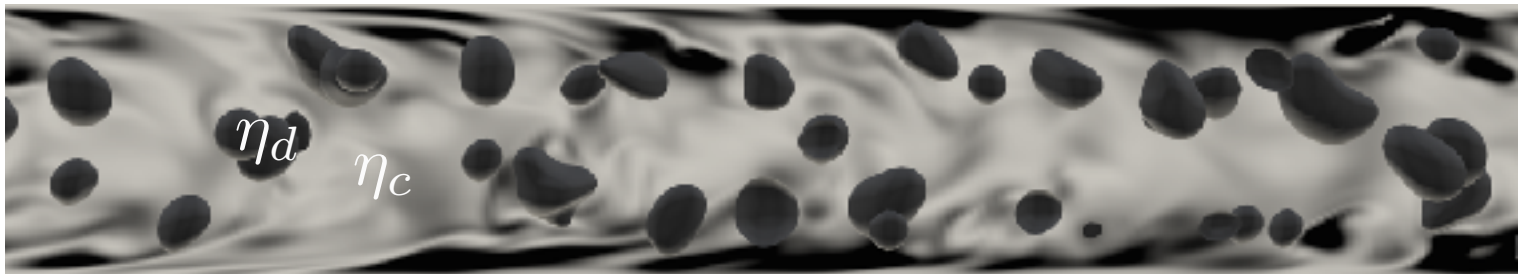


Coalescence Regime for  $\lambda > 1$   
Break-up Regime for  $\lambda < 1$



Coalescence Regime for  $\lambda > 1$   
Break-up Regime for  $\lambda < 1$

$$\lambda = \frac{\eta_d}{\eta_c}$$



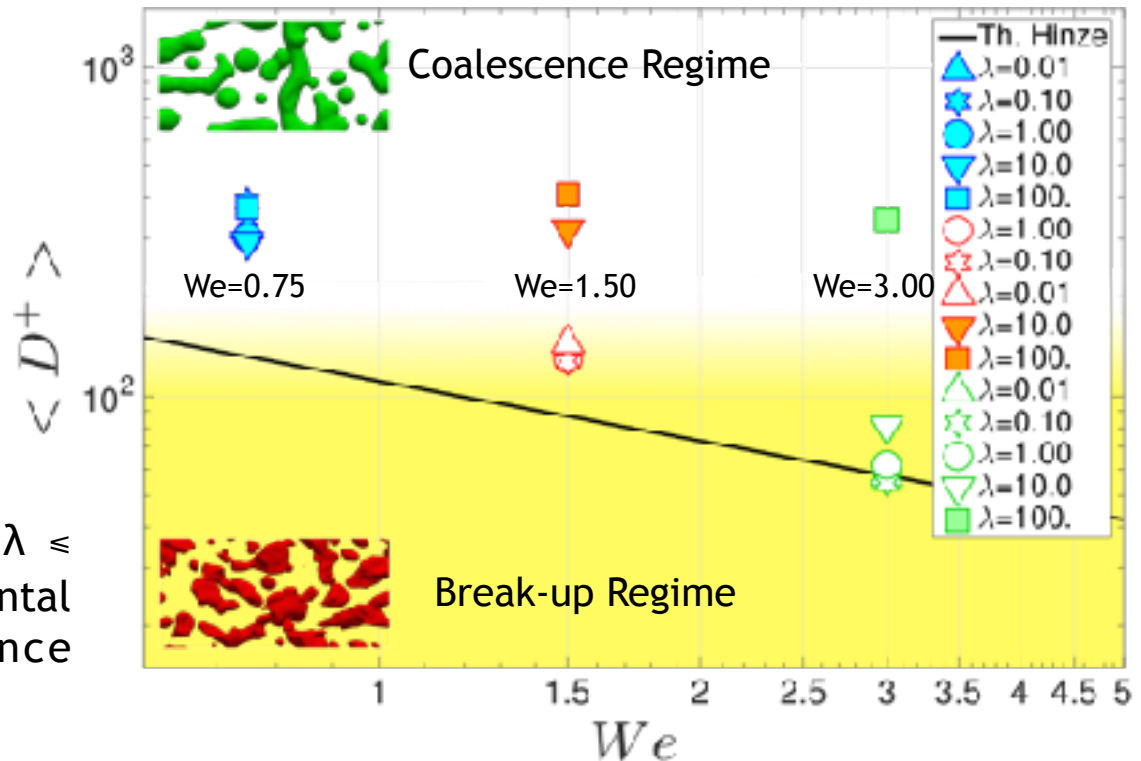
Comparison with maximum stable droplet dimension theory by Hinze (coalescence is neglected; correlates well exp. data). In turbulence, where breakups and coalescences are both important, we can replace  $D_{max}$  with  $\langle D \rangle$ .

$$D_{max} = 0.725 \left( \frac{\rho}{\sigma} \right)^{-3/5} \epsilon^{-2/5}$$



$$\langle D^+ \rangle = 0.725 \left( \frac{We}{Re_\tau} \right)^{-3/5} \epsilon^{-2/5}$$

When a Breakups dominate (and  $\lambda \ll 1$ ), fair agreement with experimental results. Otherwise, coalescence cannot be neglected

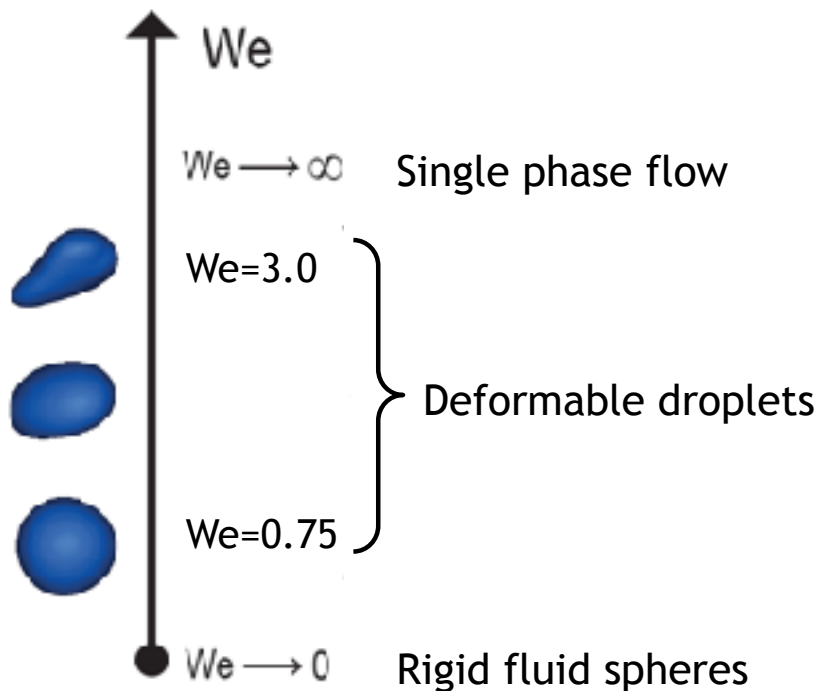




### Effect of Density and Surface Tension (matched viscosity)

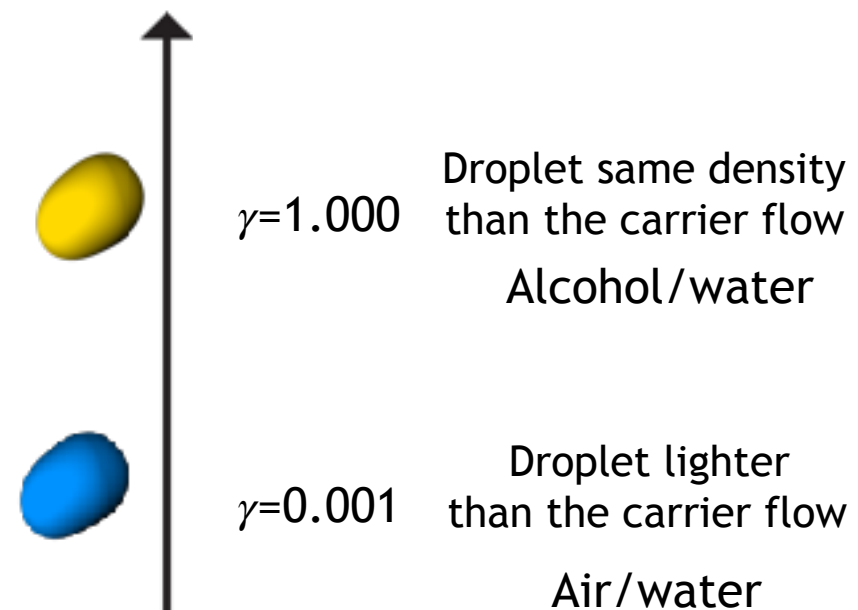
Weber number:

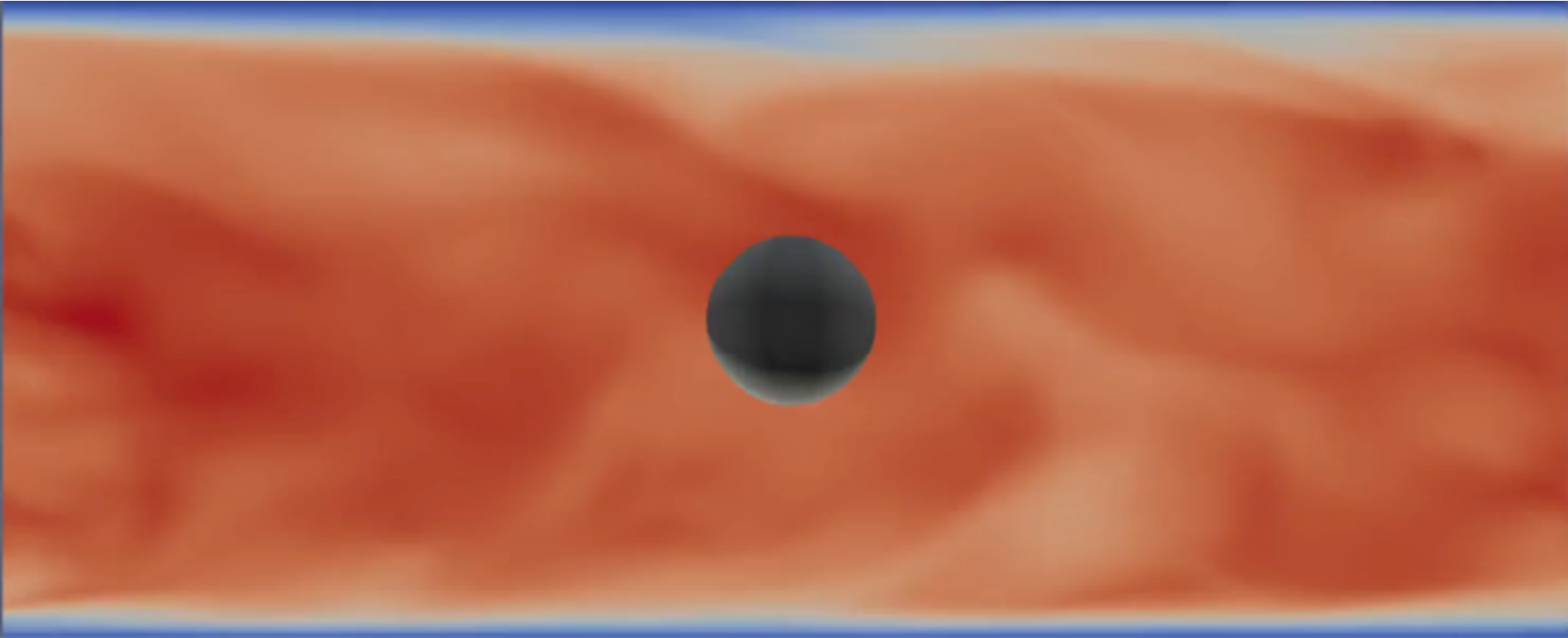
$$We = \frac{\rho u_{\tau}^2 h}{\sigma} = \frac{\text{Inertial Forces}}{\text{Surface Tension Forces}}$$

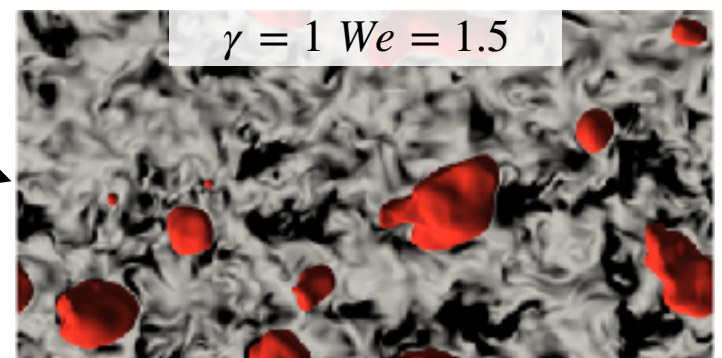
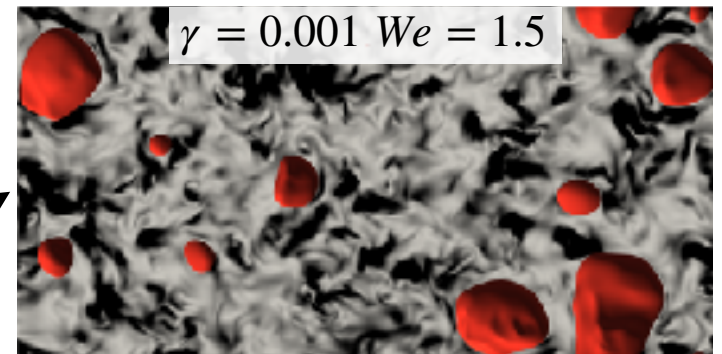
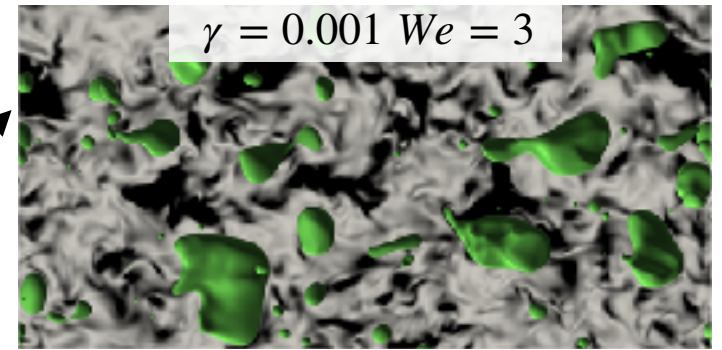
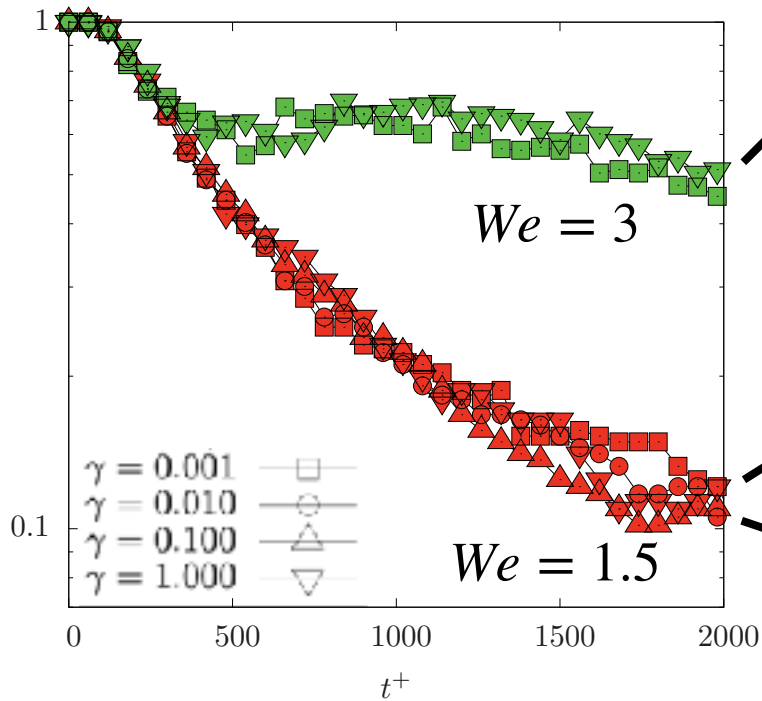


Density Ratio:

$$\gamma = \frac{\rho_d}{\rho_c} = \frac{\text{Droplet density}}{\text{Carrier density}}$$







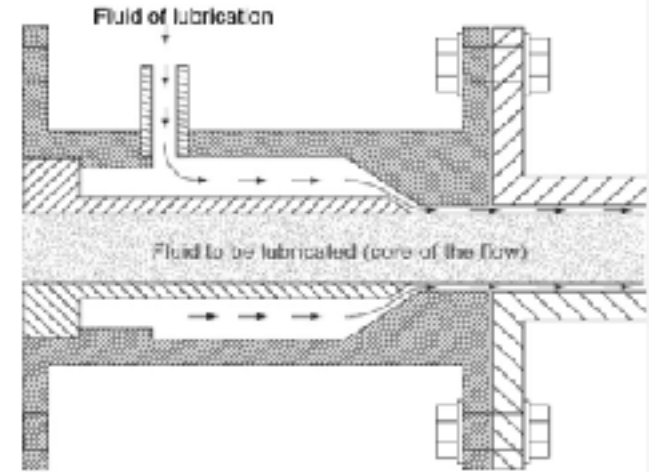
1. Historical Perspective, modelling and computational issues
2. A short story on droplets in turbulence (influence of viscosity/density contrast)
3. A short story on oil transport
4. A short story on drop coalescence/break-up (influence of surfactant)

Method and apparatus for measuring characteristics of core-annular flow

**US PATENT 20050033545 A1**

Abstract

An apparatus and method are disclosed [...] core-annular flow (CAF) in a pipe [...] the CAF may be developed from a lubricating fluid, such as water, and a fluid to be transported, such as oil, where the fluid to be transported forms the core region and the lubricating fluid forms the annular region.



Credit: ALFA Research Group

“There is a strong tendency for two fluids to arrange themselves so that the low-viscosity constituent is in the region of high shear.

This gives rise to a kind of a gift of nature in which the lubricated flows are stable, and it opens up very interesting possibilities for technological applications in which one fluid is used to lubricate another “

## Hypothesis:

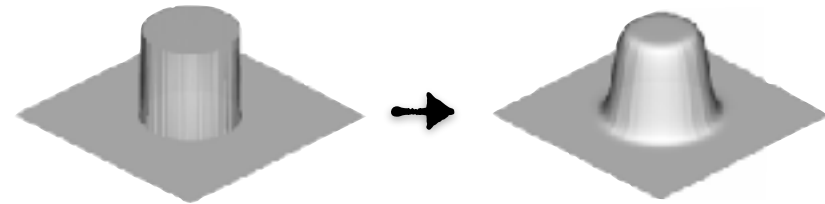
- Matched density and incompressible flow.
- Different viscosity of the two phases.

## Phase Field Method (PFM)

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi = \frac{1}{Pe} \nabla^2 (\phi^3 - \phi - Ch^2 \nabla^2 \phi)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

Flow driven by a constant mean pressure gradient



$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = -\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - \nabla p' + \Pi + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla \cdot (\tau(\phi, \lambda)(\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)) + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{Ch}{We} \nabla \cdot \tau_c$$

↑  
Viscosity Contrast

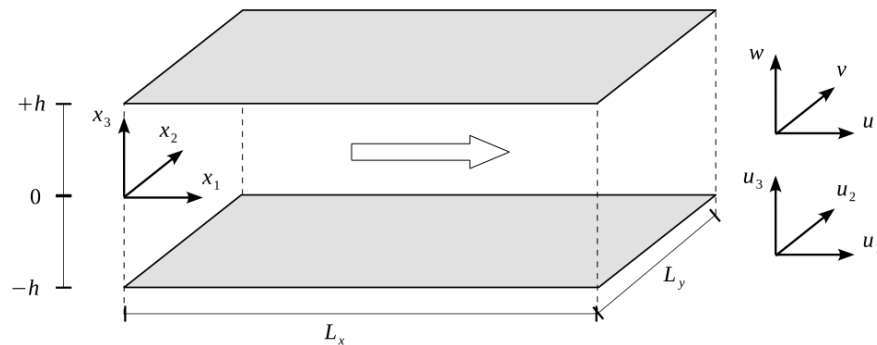
↑  
Surface tension forces



Exchange of momentum between the phases

**Method:** Direct Numerical Solution (DNS) of NS and CH equations, no models used.

## Computational Domain



### Space Discretization:

- X Periodic direction (Fourier)
- Y Periodic direction (Fourier)
- Z Wall-normal (Chebychev-Tau)

### Time Discretization:

- N-S: Crank-Nicolson/Adams-Bashforth scheme
- C-H: Crank-Nicolson/Euler scheme

### Solver NS (Vorticity-Velocity Formulation):

Curl of NS (Vorticity)

$$\frac{\partial \omega_z}{\partial t} = \nabla \times \mathbf{S} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \omega_z$$

Twice Curl of NS

$$\frac{\partial \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{S} - \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^4 \mathbf{u}$$

CH:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = S_\phi + \frac{sCh^2}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{Ch^2}{Pe} \nabla^4 \phi$$

$$\frac{\partial \omega_z}{\partial t} = \nabla \times \mathbf{S} + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \omega_z$$

- Solve for the 3rd component of vorticity
- 2nd order PDE
- Single Helmotz solver

$$\frac{\partial \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 \mathbf{S} - \nabla(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{S}) + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^4 \mathbf{u}$$

- Solve for the 3rd component of velocity
- 4th order PDE
- Double Helmotz solver, Influence Matrix Method

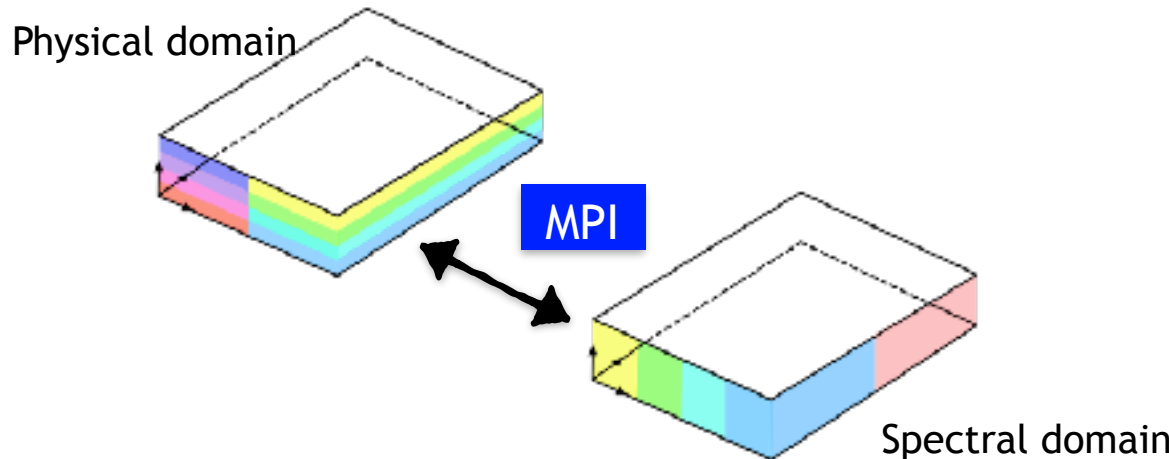
$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = S_\phi + \frac{sCh^2}{Pe} \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{Ch^2}{Pe} \nabla^4 \phi$$

- Solve for phi
- 4th order PDE
- Double Helmotz solver

With no-flux BC  $\phi$  is conserved.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{\Omega} \phi d\Omega = 0$$

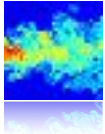
- MPI Paradigm, 2D Domain decomposition





## Boundary Conditions:

FLOW FIELD



PHASE FIELD



NO SLIP AT THE WALLS

$$u_i(\pm h) = 0$$

90° CONTACT ANGLE

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial z}(\pm h) = \frac{\partial^3 \phi}{\partial z^3}(\pm h) = 0$$

PERIODICITY ALONG X and Y

$$v_i(0) = v_i(L_x)$$

$$\phi(0) = \phi(L_x)$$

$$v_i(0) = v_i(L_y)$$

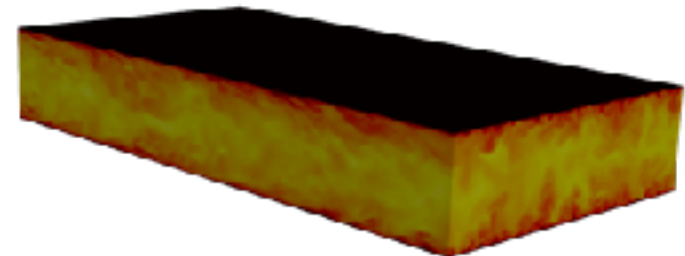
$$\phi(0) = \phi(L_y)$$

## Initial Conditions:

- Phase Field
  - Flat Interface
  - Layer Thickness 45 w.u.
  - Total height 600 w.u.



- Flow Field
  - Single Phase Flow Re=300.



## Flow parameters:

- Weber Number, inertia over interfacial tension, considering oil/water:

$$We = \frac{\rho u_{\tau}^2 h}{\sigma} = 0.5$$

- Reference shear Reynolds number (oil):

$$Re_{\tau} = \frac{\rho u_{\tau} h}{\eta_o} = 300$$

## Phase field parameters:

- Peclet number (interface relaxation time):

$$Pe = 150$$

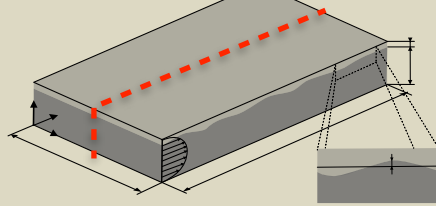
- Cahn number (interfacial layer thickness):

$$Ch = 0.02$$

We consider 3 different viscosity ratio  $\lambda$  :  
(ratio between the viscosity of the two phases)

$$\lambda = \frac{\eta_w}{\eta_o} = \frac{\text{Water Viscosity}}{\text{Oil Viscosity}}$$

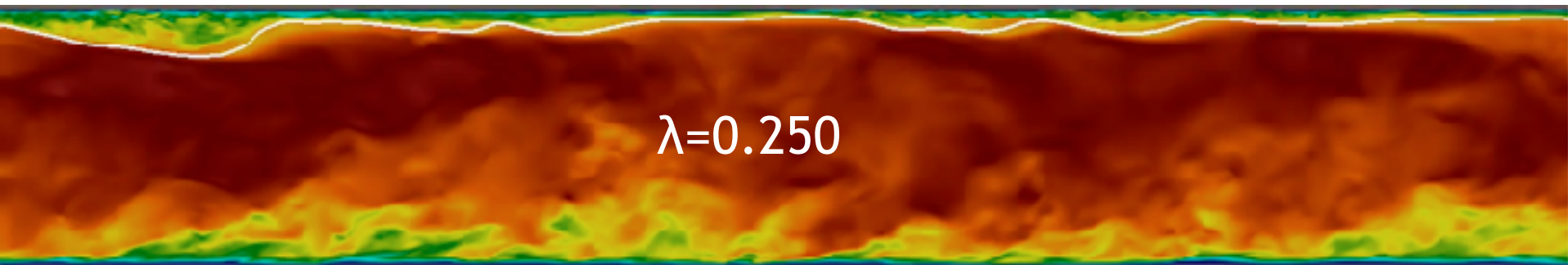
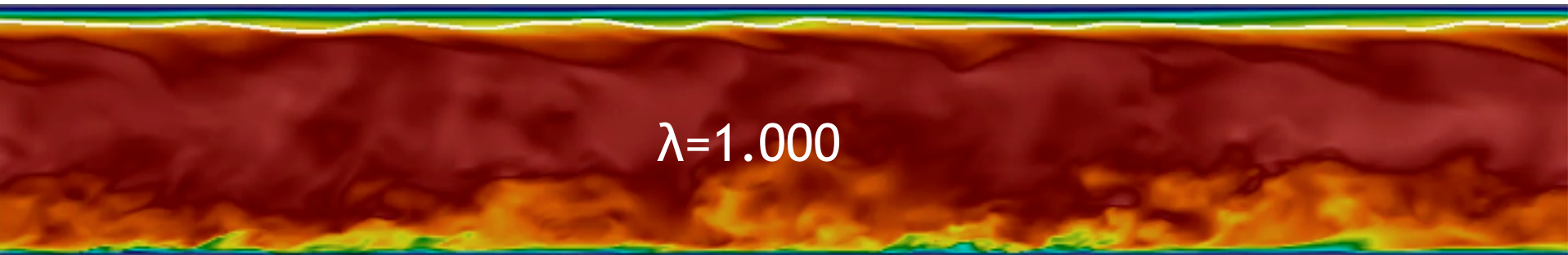
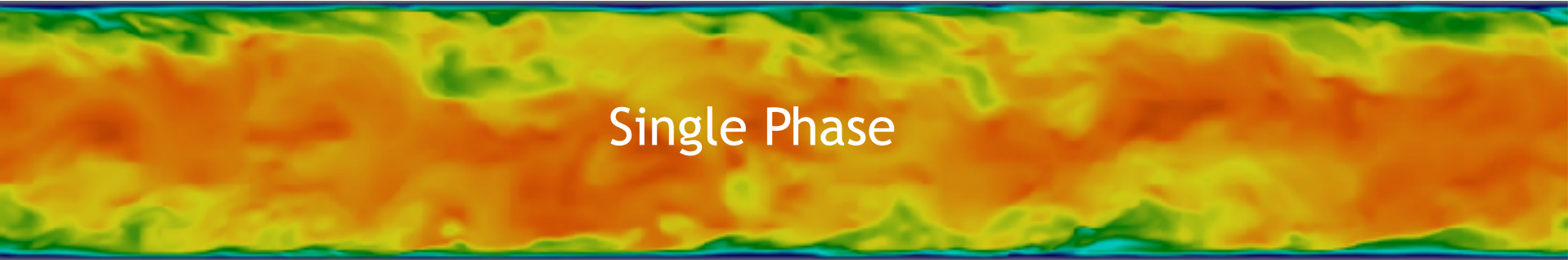
| #  | $\lambda$ | Grid ( $N_x \times N_y \times N_z$ ) |
|----|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| SP | -         | 512 x 256 x 257                      |
| S1 | 1,000     | 512 x 256 x 257                      |
| S3 | 0,500     | 512 x 256 x 513                      |
| S4 | 0,250     | 1024 x 512 x 513                     |

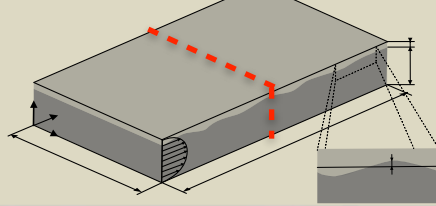


0

$U_x$

30

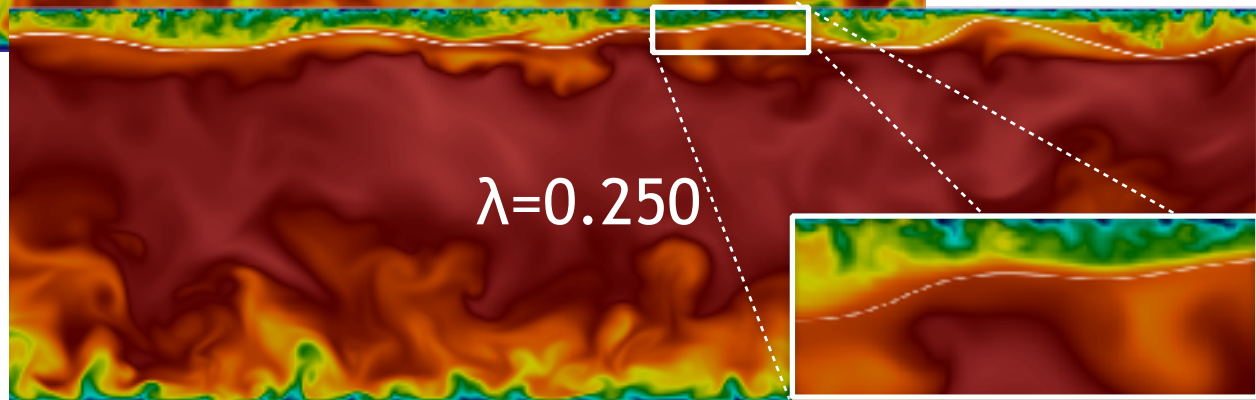
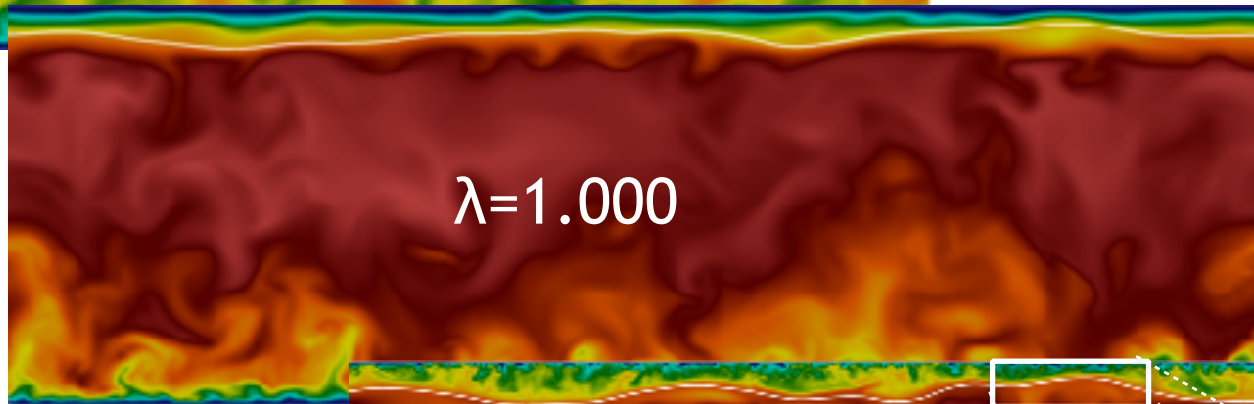
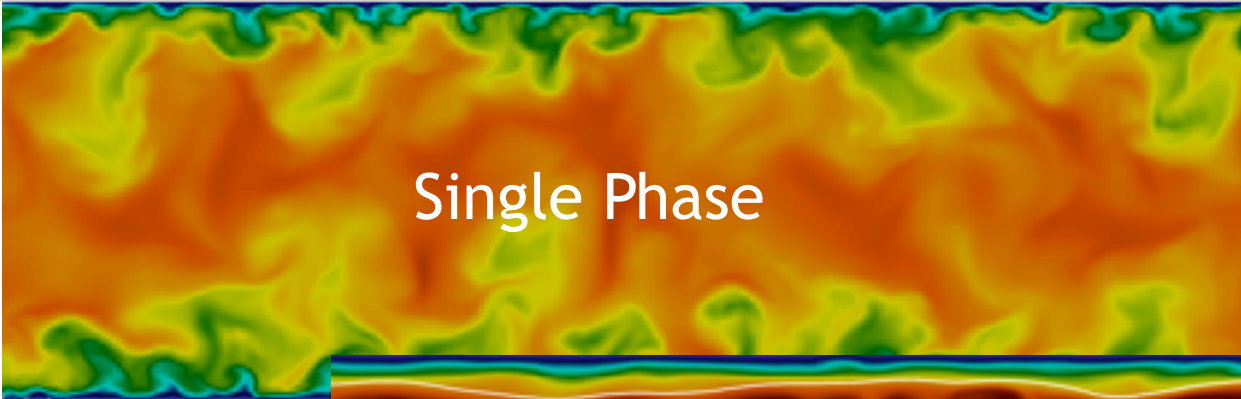


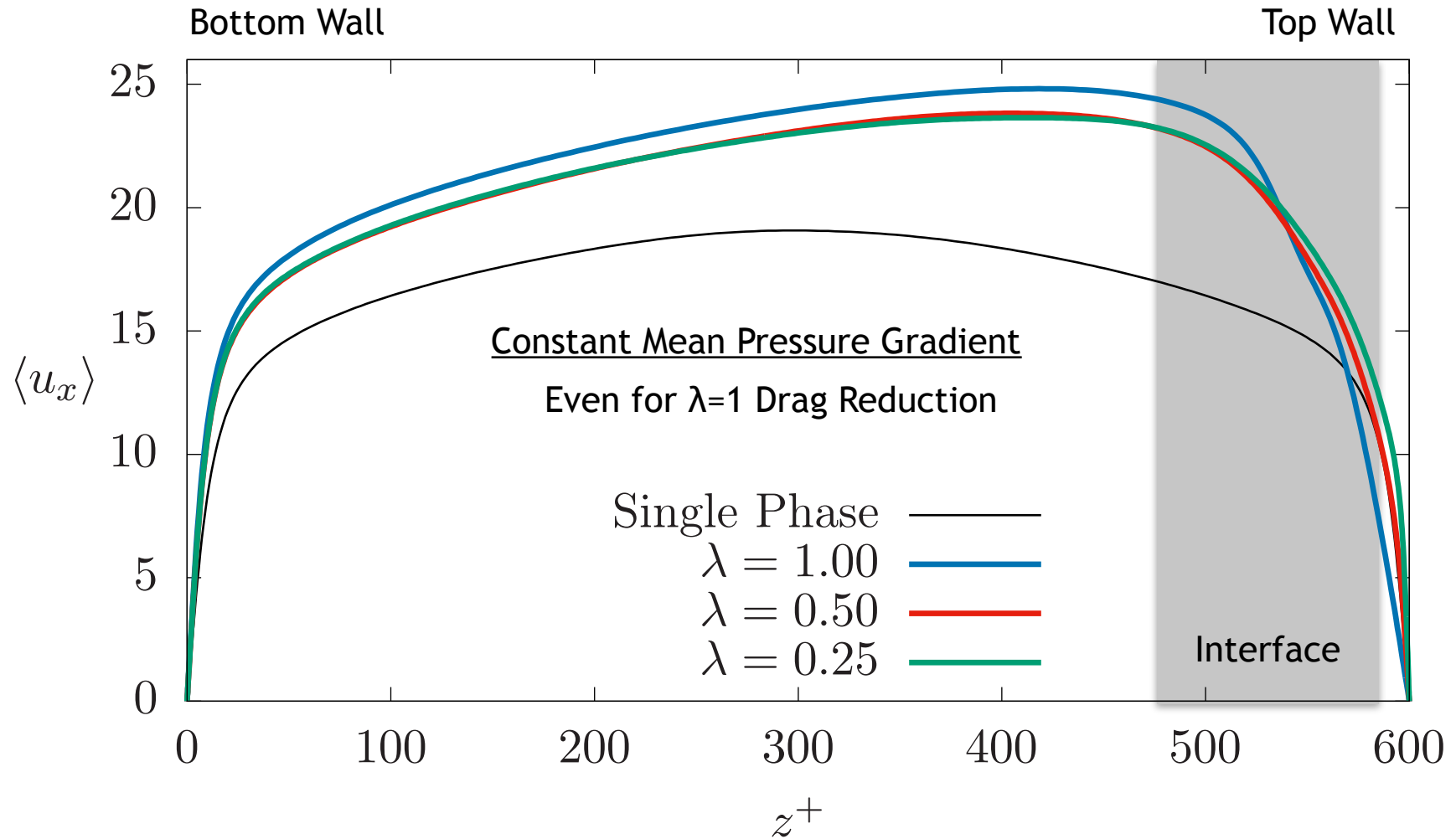


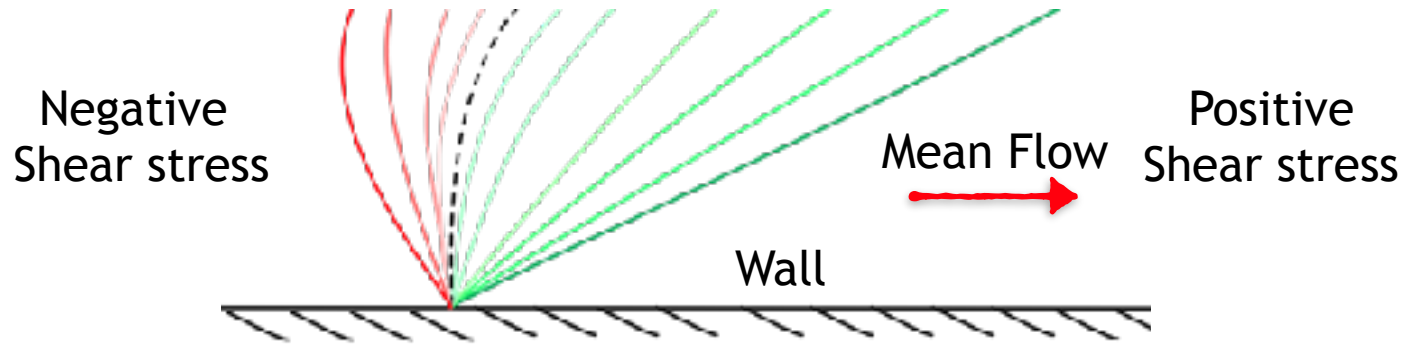
0

$U_x$

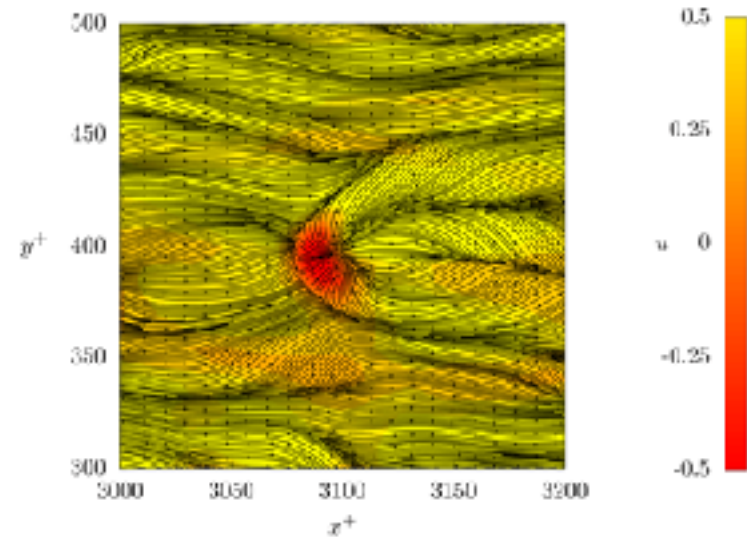
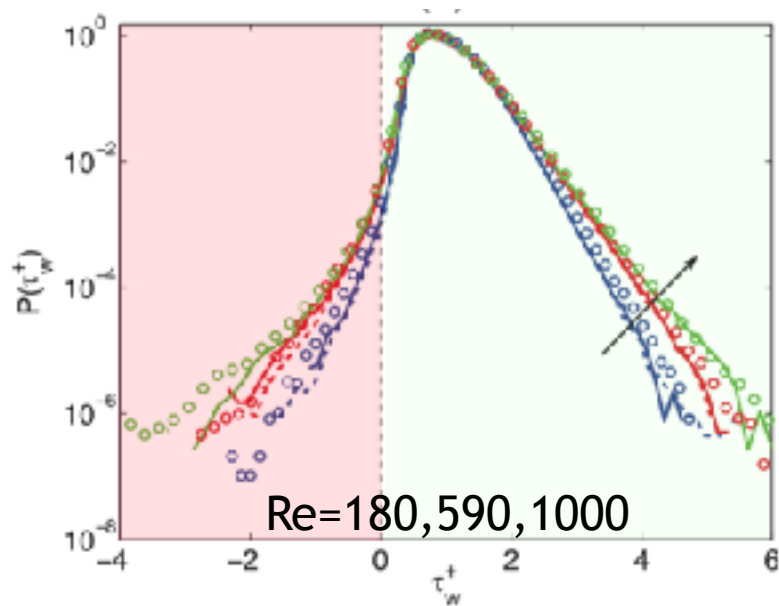
30







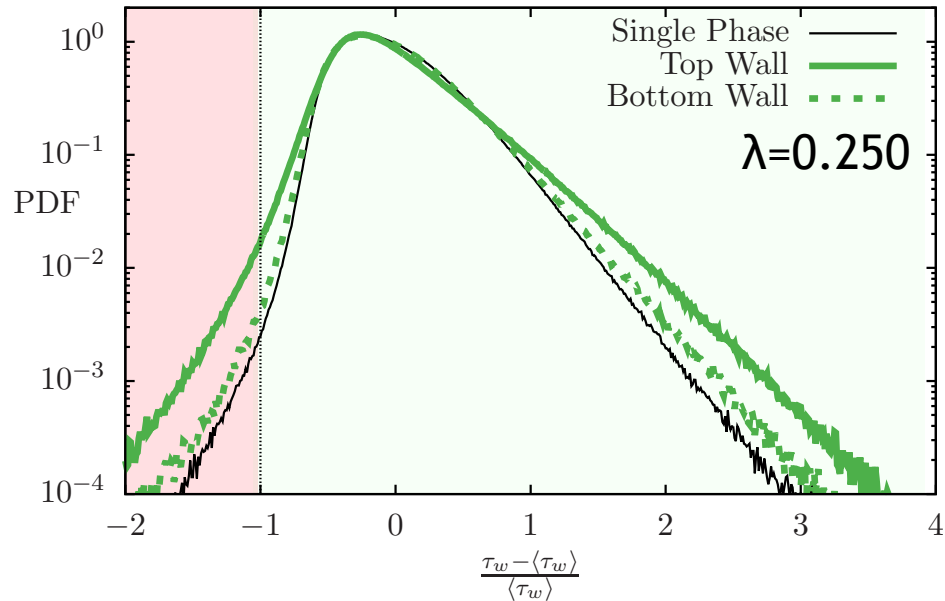
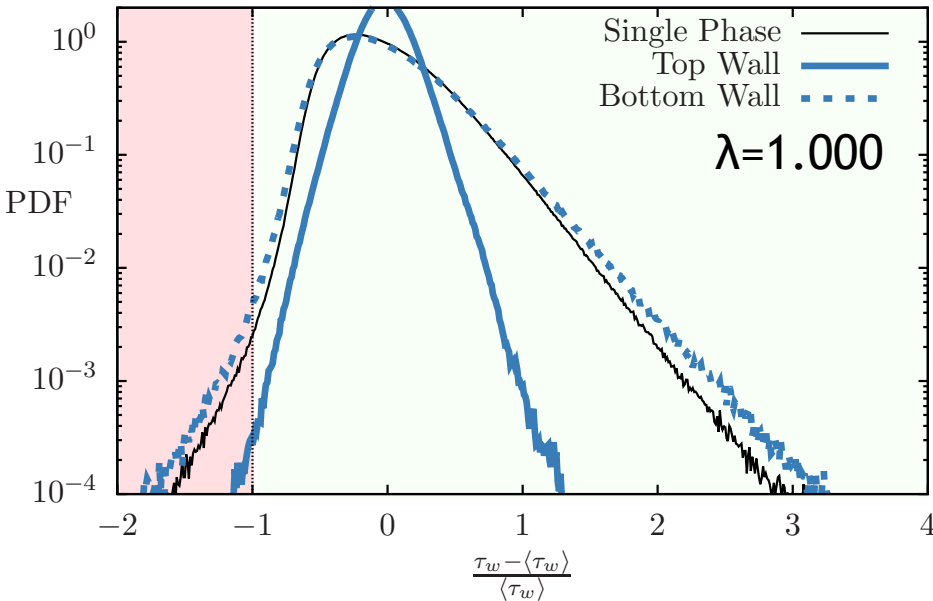
Considering a single phase-flow, from literature:



Consider the viscosity-stratified case and the wall shear stress fluctuations  $\tau_w'$  :

$$\tau_w' = \frac{\tau_w - \langle \tau_w \rangle}{\langle \tau_w \rangle}$$

$\tau_w' < -1$   $\longrightarrow$  **Back-Flow Event**



Top: Shape is modified, fluctuations reduced.  
Bottom: Slight increase of the fluctuations.

Top: Increase of the fluctuations..  
Bottom: Slight increase of the fluctuations.

### Simulations of turbulent channel flow

Common used approaches:

- Constant Flow Rate (CFR)
- Constant Pressure Gradient (CPG)

Study of DR with CFR and CPG might lead to some problems and influence the results:

- Different power injected
- Comparison is difficult.

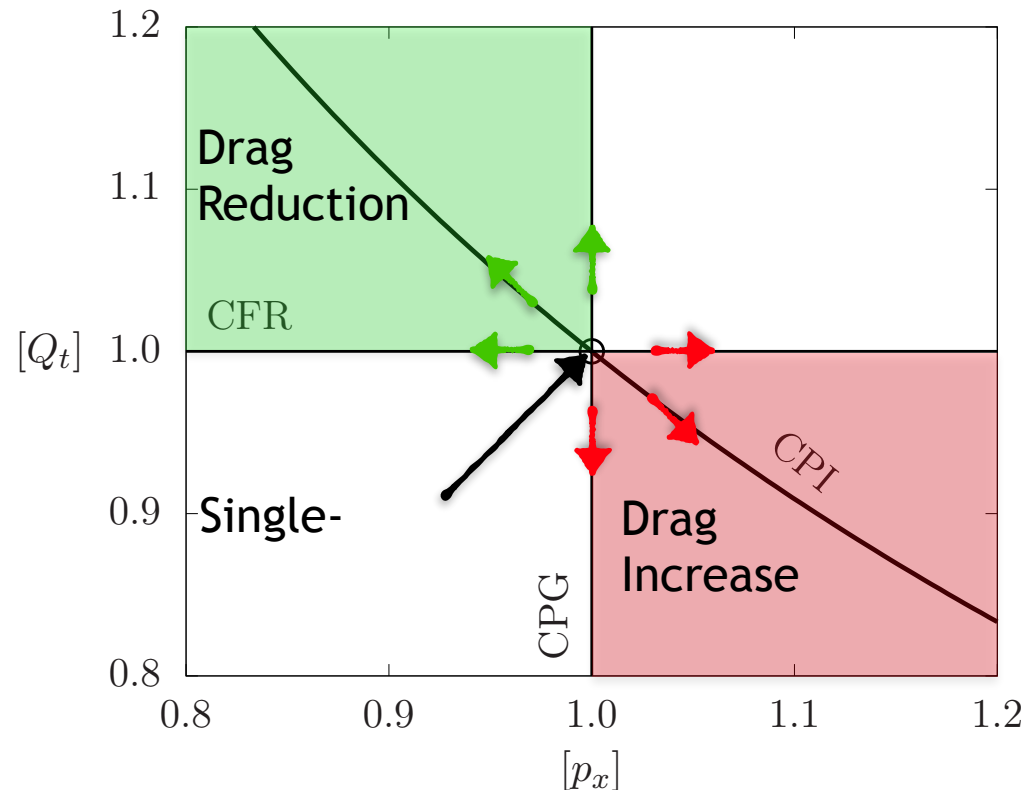
Third possible approach:

- Constant power input (CPI)

Power injected is kept constant adapting the mean pressure gradient to the flow-rate:

$$-p_x^{n+1} = \frac{3}{Re_{\Pi} u_b^n},$$

Mean pressure gradient    Bulk velocity (Flow-rate)





Characteristic velocity based on the power injected in the system:

$$u_{\Pi} = \sqrt{\frac{\Pi_m h}{3\mu_2}}$$

Flow parameters:

Reynolds number (inertia/viscous)

$$Re_{\Pi} = \frac{\rho u_{\Pi} h}{\mu_2} = 12220$$

Weber number (inertia/interfacial)

$$We_{\Pi} = \frac{\rho u_{\Pi}^2 h}{\sigma} = 830$$

Phase field parameters:

$$Pc_{\Pi} = \frac{u_{\Pi} h}{M\beta} = 830 \quad Ch = \frac{\xi}{h} = 0.01$$

\*Roughly corresponding to a shear  $Re=300$  (SP).

We consider 5 different viscosity ratios  $\lambda$  :

(ratio between the viscosity of the thin lubricating layer over the main layer)

$$\lambda = \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_2} = \frac{\text{Thin Layer}}{\text{Main layer}}$$

| #  | $\lambda$ |
|----|-----------|
| SP | -         |
| S1 | 0,25      |
| S2 | 0,50      |
| S3 | 1,00      |
| S4 | 2,00      |
| S5 | 4,00      |

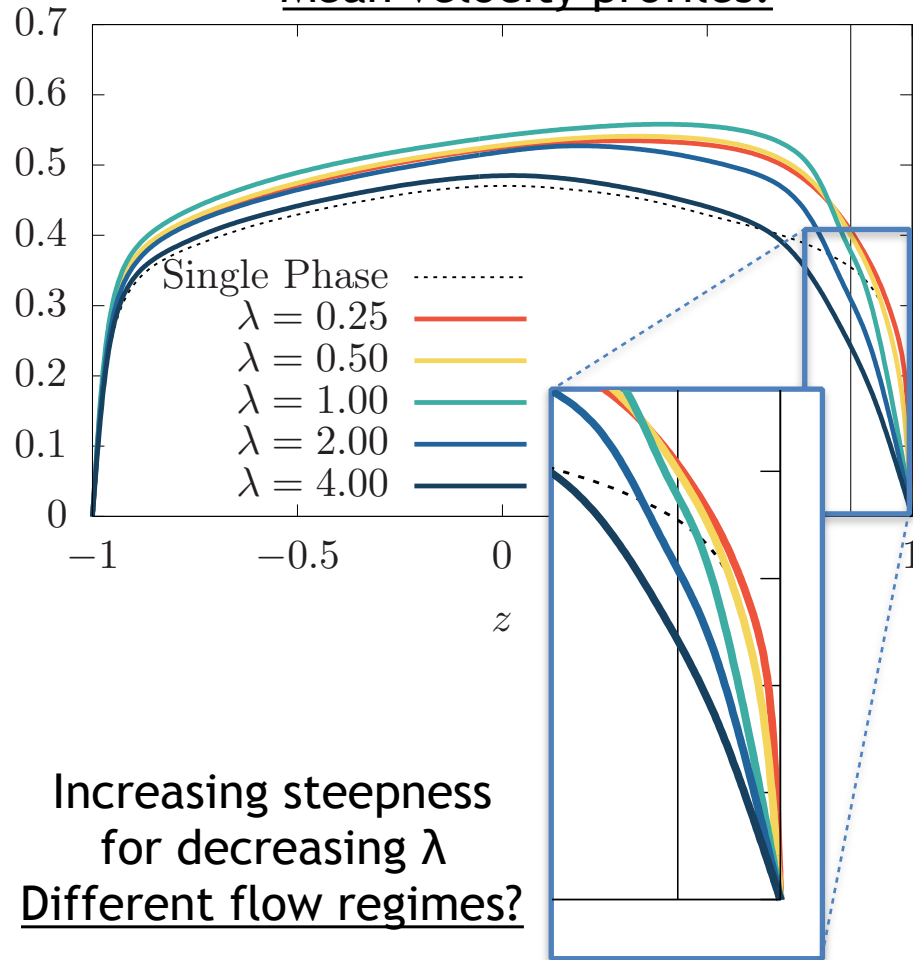
Grid resolution:

512 x 256 x 257 (Single-phase)

1024 x 512 x 513 (Stratified cases)

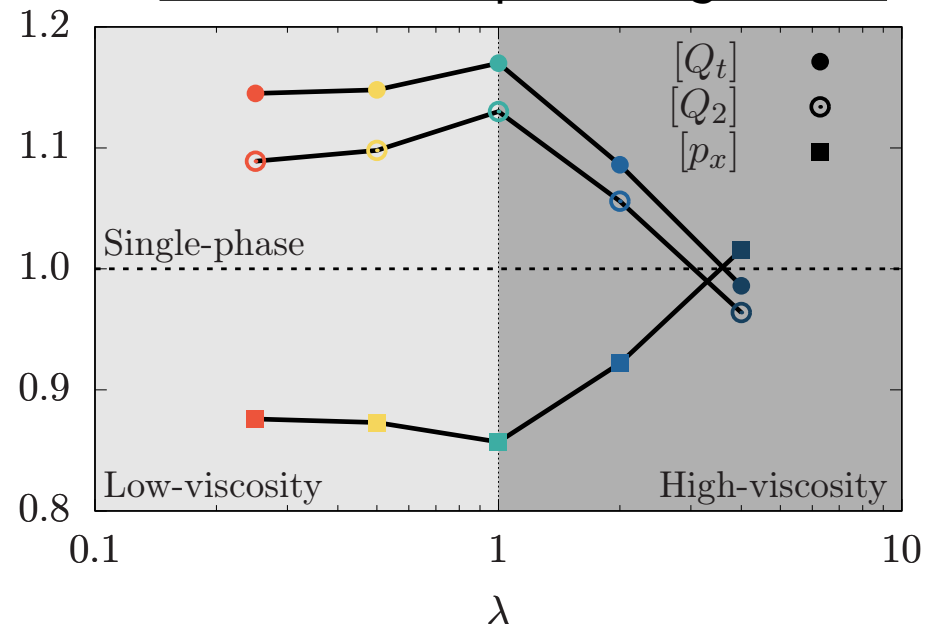
# Macroscopic parameters (FR and PG)

## Mean velocity profiles:



Drag reduction (CPI approach):  
 Flow-rate increases and at the same  
 time the mean pressure gradient  
 decreases.

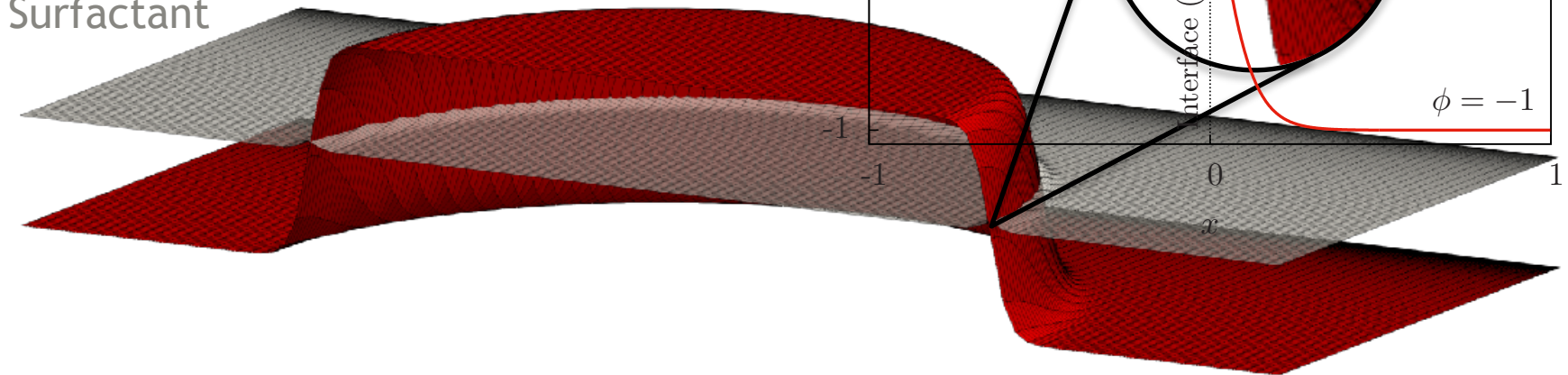
## Flow-rates and pressure gradient:



1. Historical Perspective, modelling and computational issues
2. A short story on droplets in turbulence (influence of viscosity/density contrast)
3. A short story on oil transport
4. A short story on drop coalescence/break-up (influence of surfactant)

Phase field  $\phi = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{Dispersed phase} \\ 0 & \text{Interface} \\ -1 & \text{Carrier phase} \end{cases}$

Surfactant  $\psi \in [0, 1]$  Phase Field



Taking the variation of the Ginzburg-Landau energy functional with respect to  $\Phi$  and  $\psi$  we can compute the expression of the two chemical potentials:

$$\mu_\phi = \frac{\delta F(\phi, \nabla\phi, \psi)}{\delta\phi} = \phi^3 - \phi - Ch^2\nabla^2\phi$$

For  $\Phi$  we neglect the coupling with  $\psi$  (Kim. 2012)

$$\mu_\psi = \frac{\delta F(\phi, \nabla\phi, \psi)}{\delta\psi} = Pi \log\left(\frac{\psi}{1-\psi}\right) - \frac{1}{2}(1-\phi^2)^2 + \frac{1}{2Ex}\phi^2$$

... Final point is the two Advection Diffusion Equations for phase and surfactant!

$$\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla\phi = \frac{1}{Pe_\phi} \nabla^2(\phi^3 - \phi - Ch^2\nabla^2\phi)$$

$$\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla\psi = \frac{Pi}{Pe_\psi} \nabla^2\psi + \frac{1}{Pe_\psi} \nabla \cdot \psi(1-\psi) \nabla \left( -\frac{1}{2}(1-\phi^2)^2 + \frac{\phi^2}{2Ex} \right)$$

### Assumptions:

- Matched density
- Matched viscosity
- Non-uniform surface tension

### Equation of state for surface tension:

$$f_\sigma(\psi) = \frac{\sigma(\psi)}{\sigma_0} = 1 + \beta_s \log(1 - \psi)$$

### Flow:

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

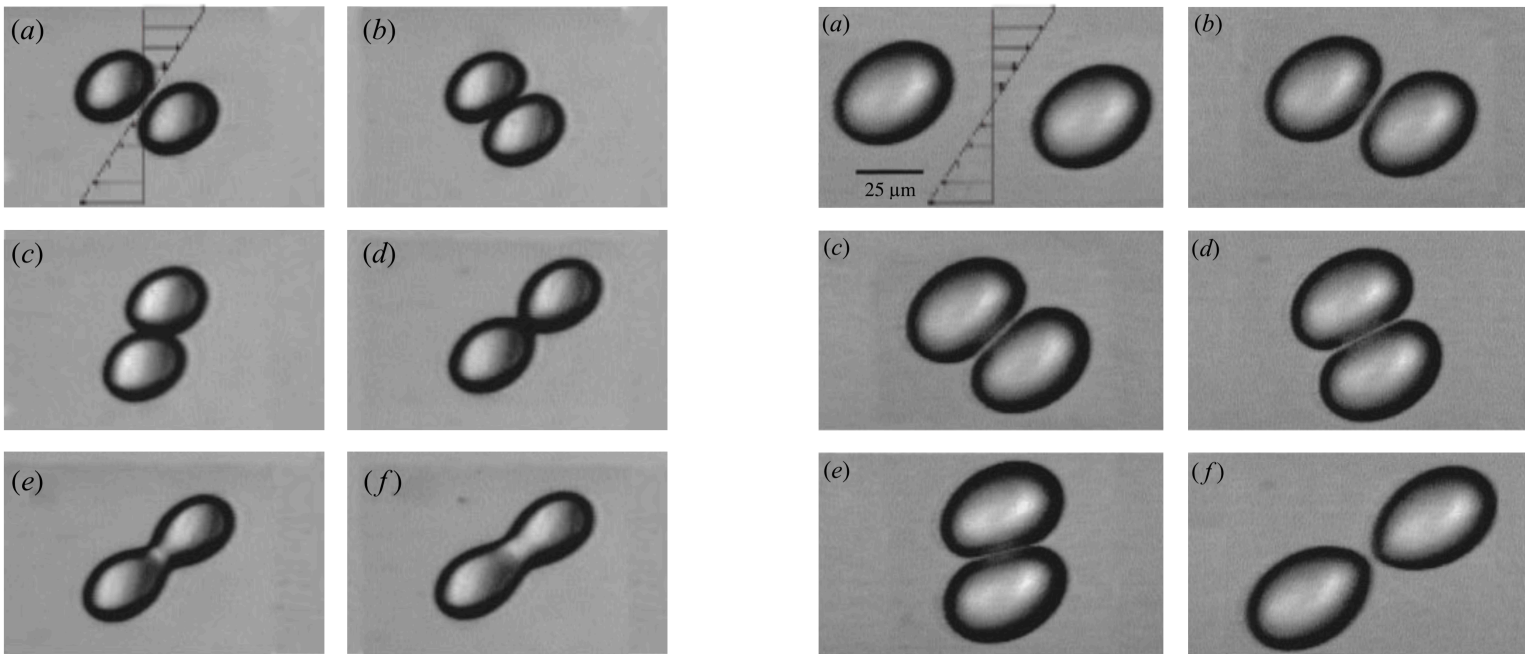
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{Re_\tau} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \frac{3}{\sqrt{8}} \frac{Ch}{We} \nabla \cdot [\tau_c f_\sigma(\psi)]$$

### Interface:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \phi = \frac{1}{Pe_\phi} \nabla^2 \mu_\phi \quad \mu_\phi = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \phi}$$

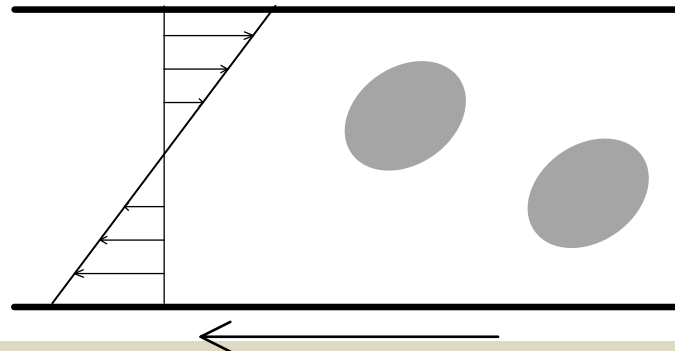
### Surfactant:

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \psi = \frac{1}{Pe_\psi} \nabla \cdot (\mathcal{M}_\psi(\psi) \nabla \mu_\psi) \quad \mu_\psi = \frac{\delta \mathcal{F}}{\delta \psi}$$



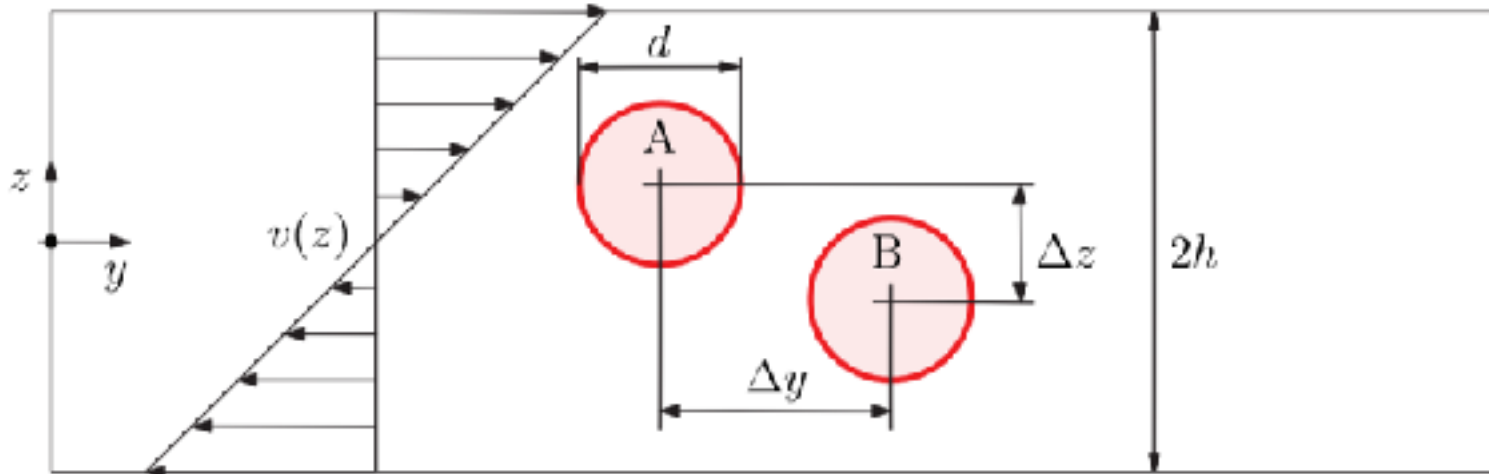
Coalescing droplets

Non-coalescing droplets



## Replica of the Guido&Simeone experiment

Setup considered:



Two droplets with diameter:

$$d = 0.7h$$

Separated by a distance:

$$\Delta y = h$$

$$\Delta z = 0.5h$$

Laminar shear flow

- Shear Reynolds number:

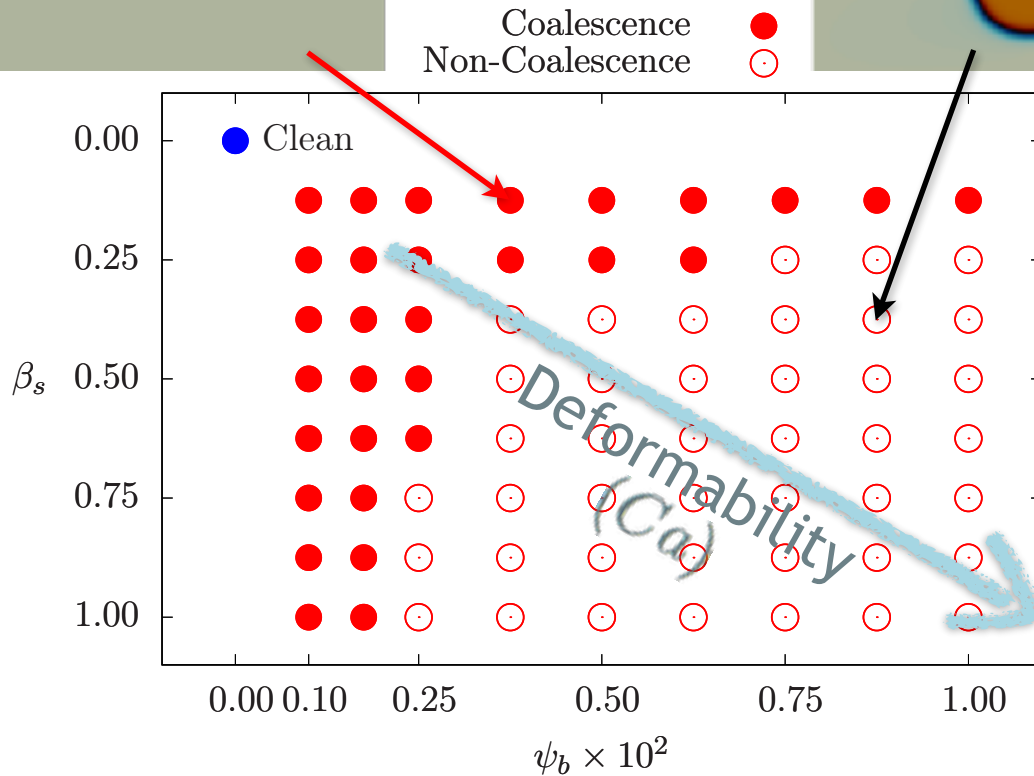
$$Re_\tau = \frac{\rho u_\tau h}{\eta} = 0.5$$

- Capillary number:

$$Ca = \frac{We}{Re} \frac{d}{2h} = \frac{\text{Viscous Forces}}{\text{Surface Tension Forces}} = 0.10$$



# Coalescence vs non-coalescence: Explore the parameters range

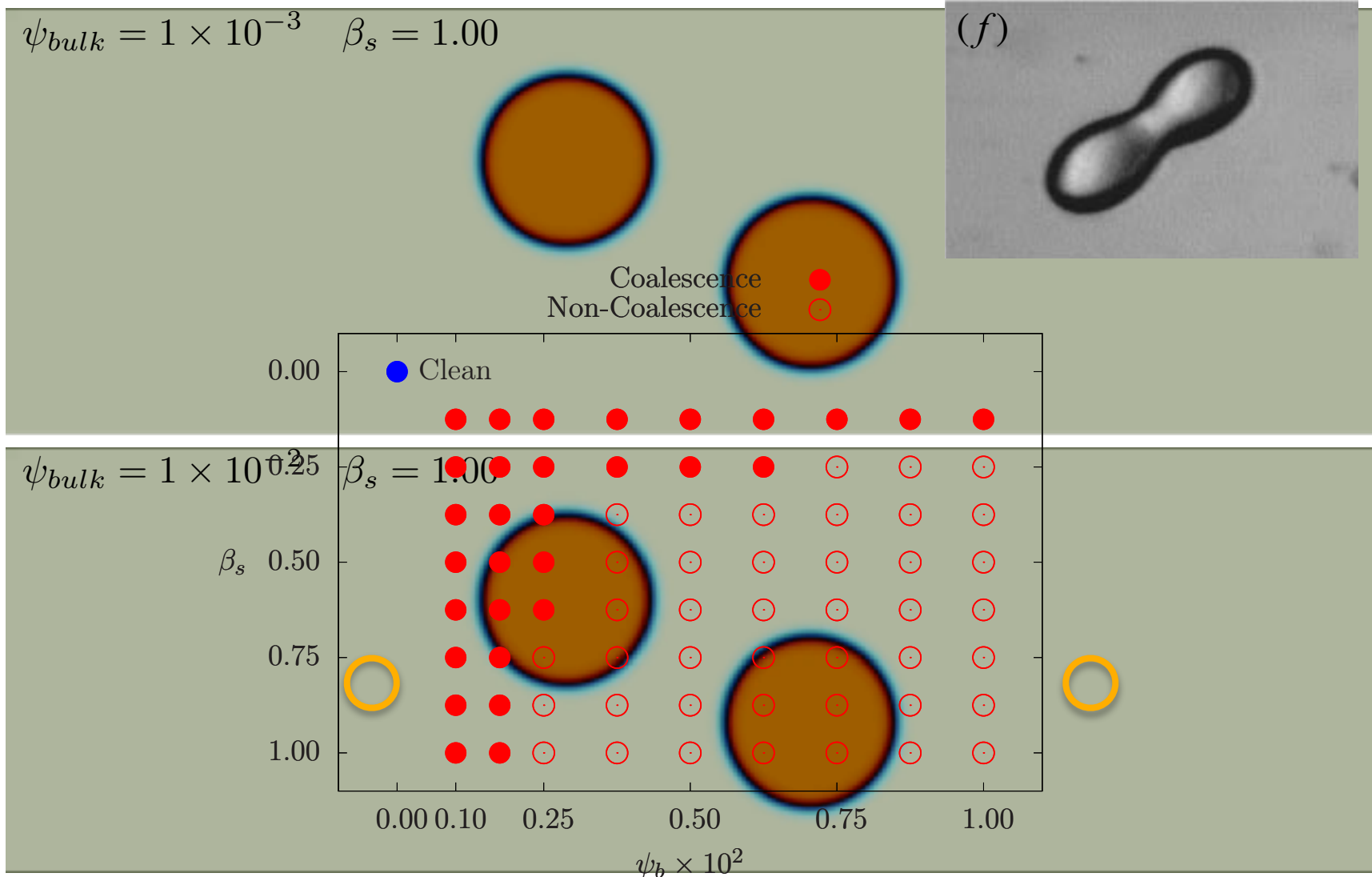


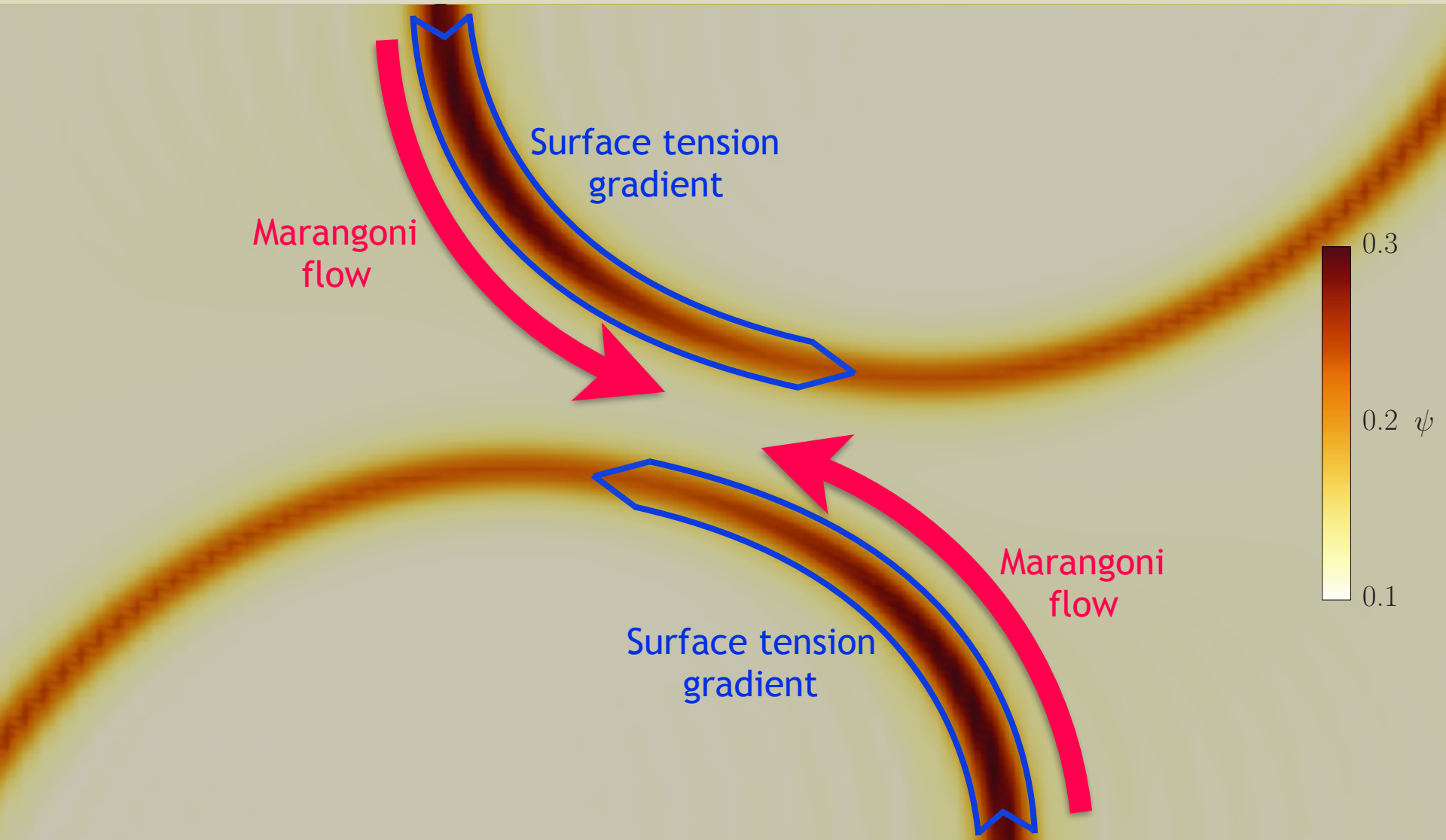
Capillary  
number

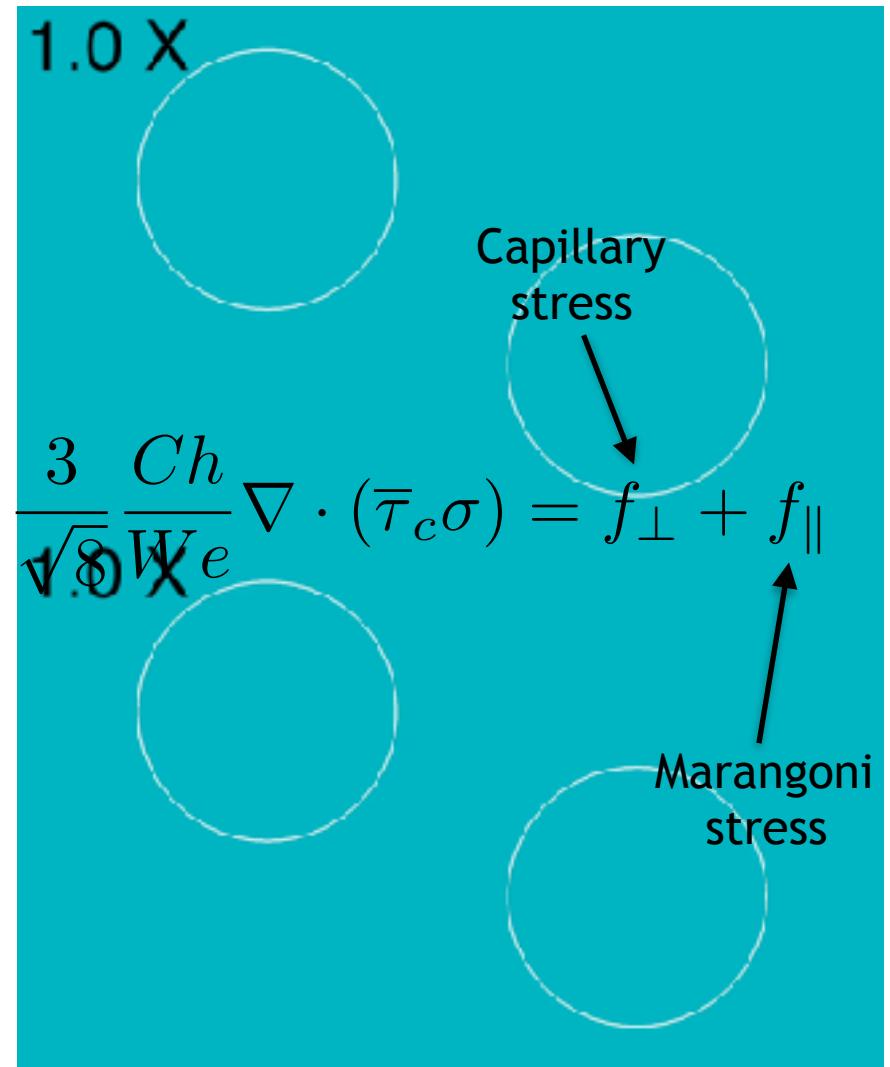
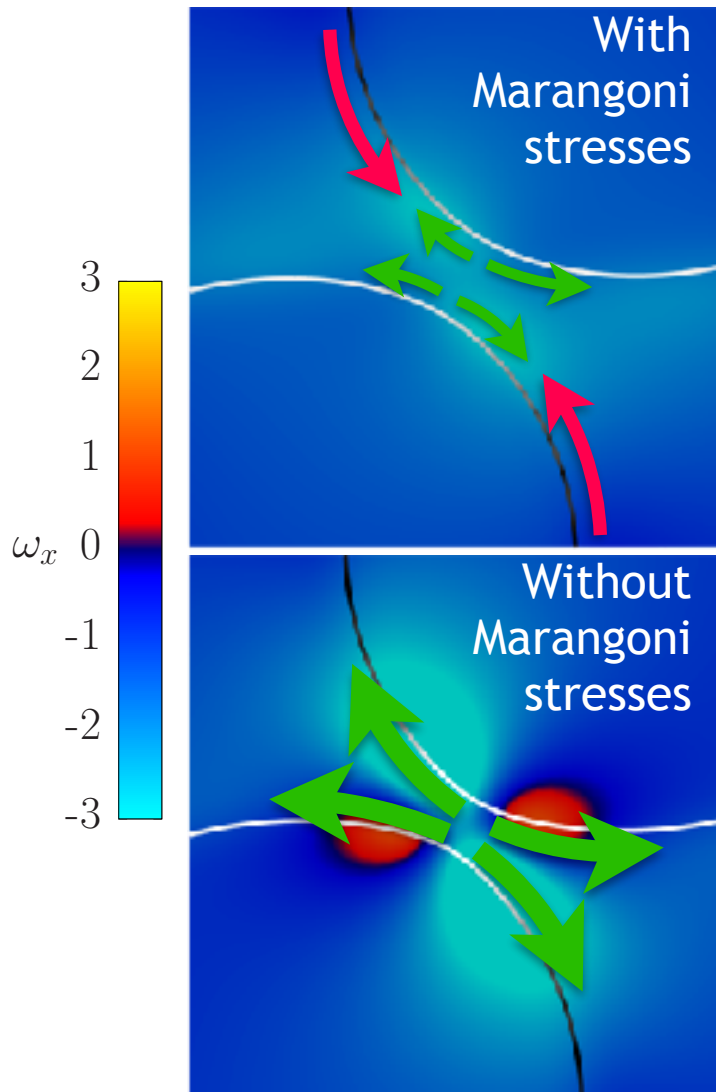
$$Ca = \frac{\eta u_w}{\sigma}$$

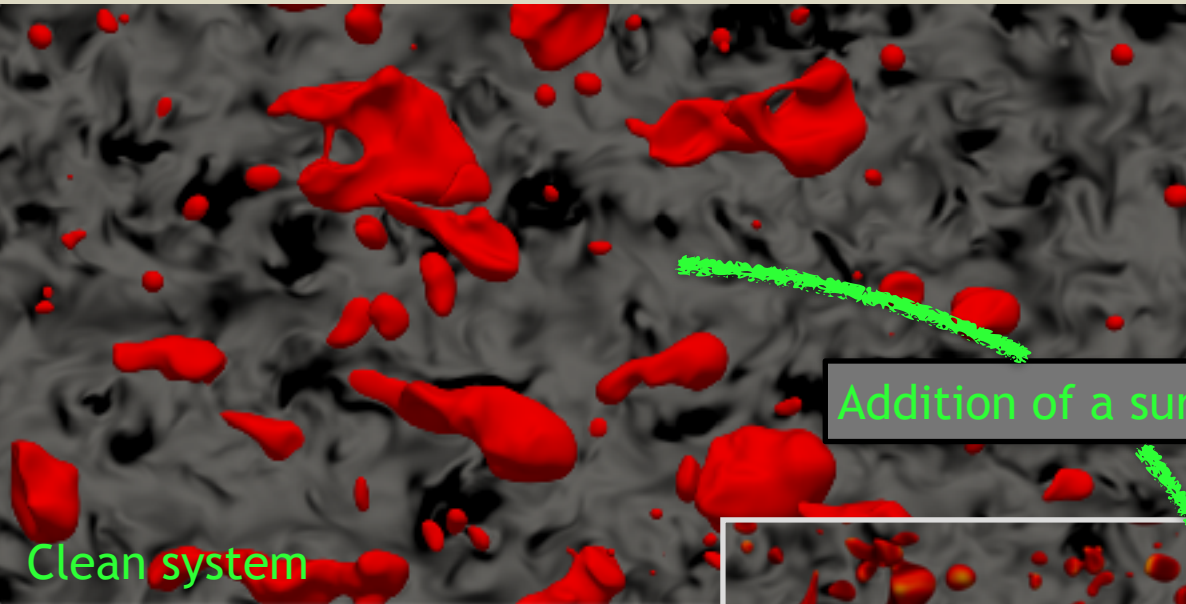
# Coalescence vs non-coalescence

## Explore the parameters range



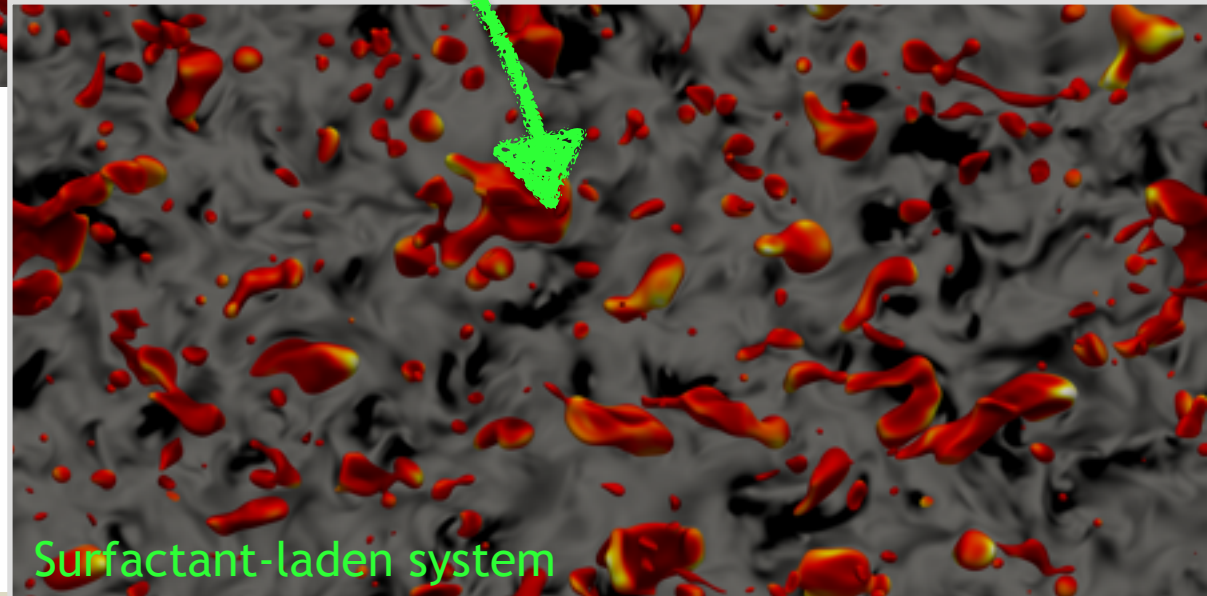






Clean system

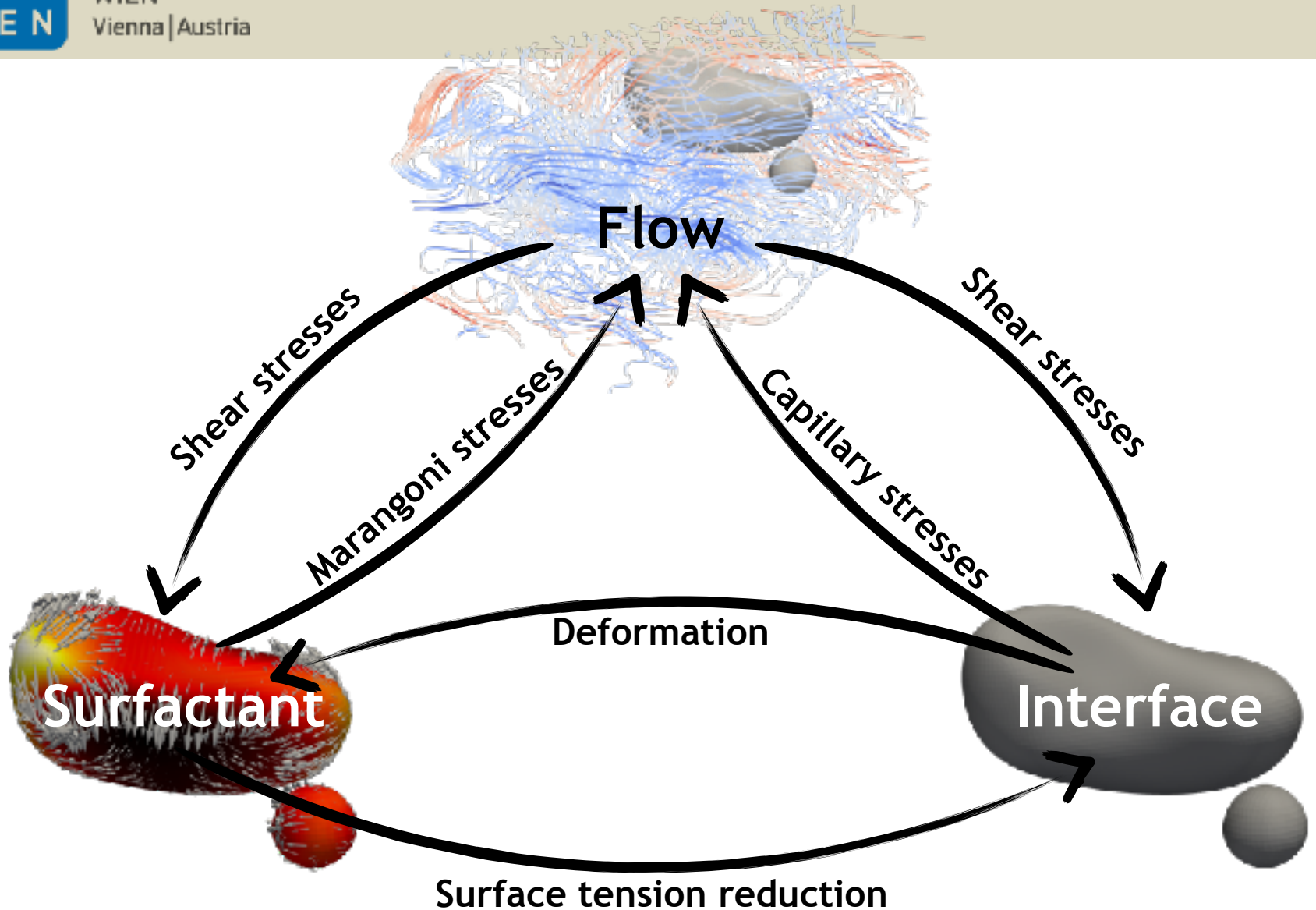
Addition of a surfactant



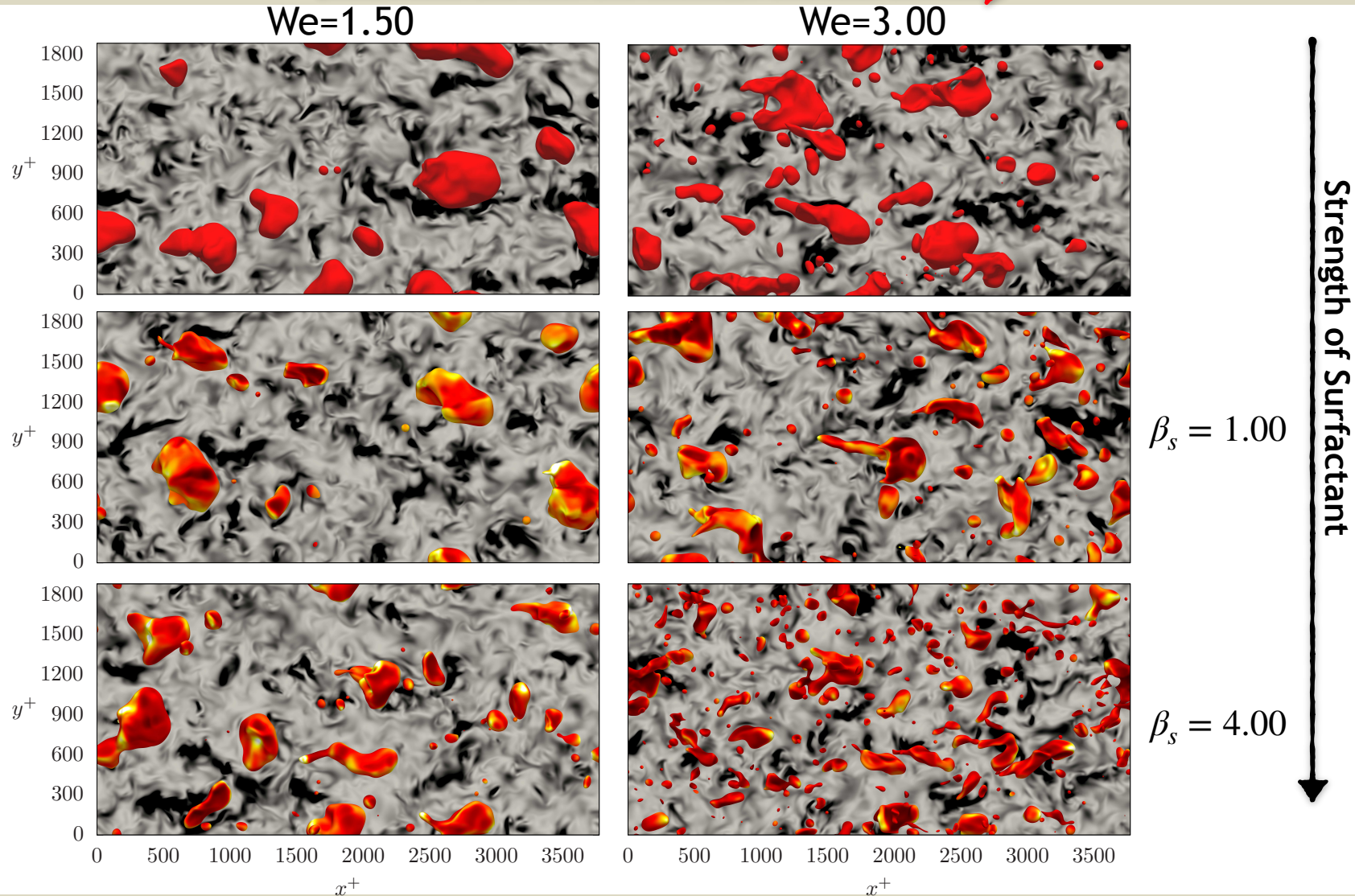
Surfactant-laden system

Effects of the surfactant:

- Dispersed phase morphology?
- Droplet size distribution?
- Surfactant distribution?
- Turbulence modifications?

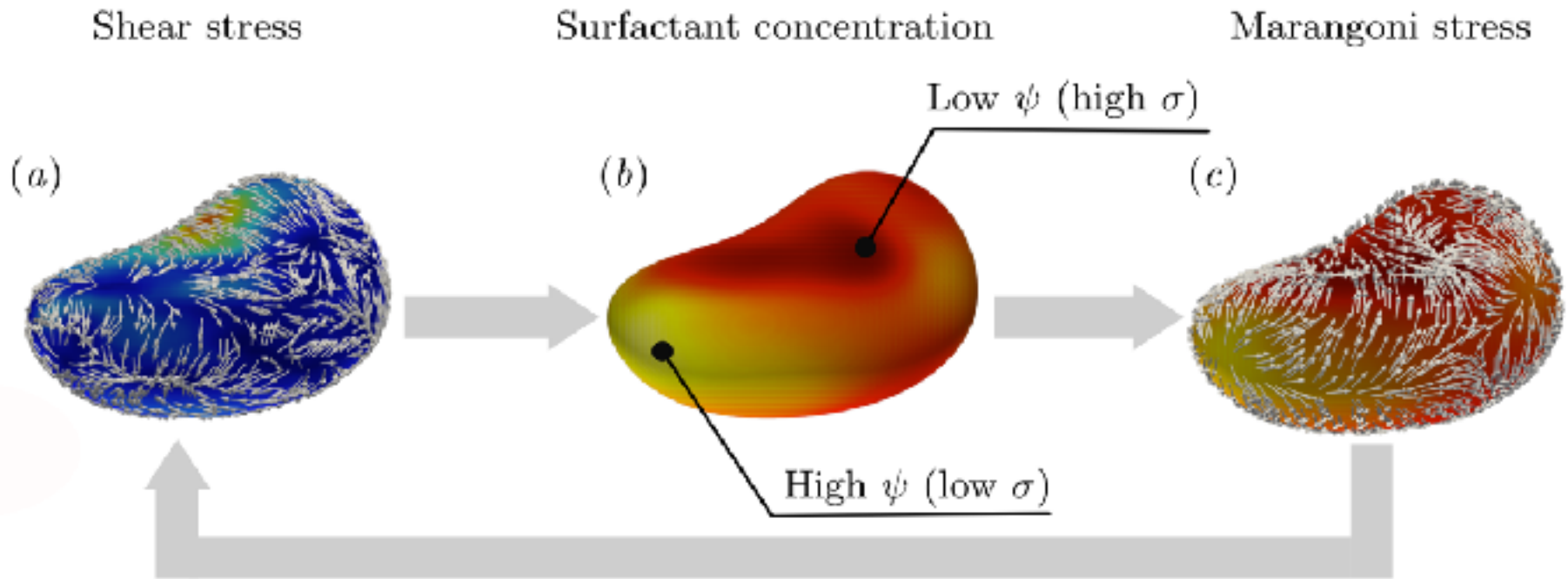


Drop deformability (Surface Tension) →

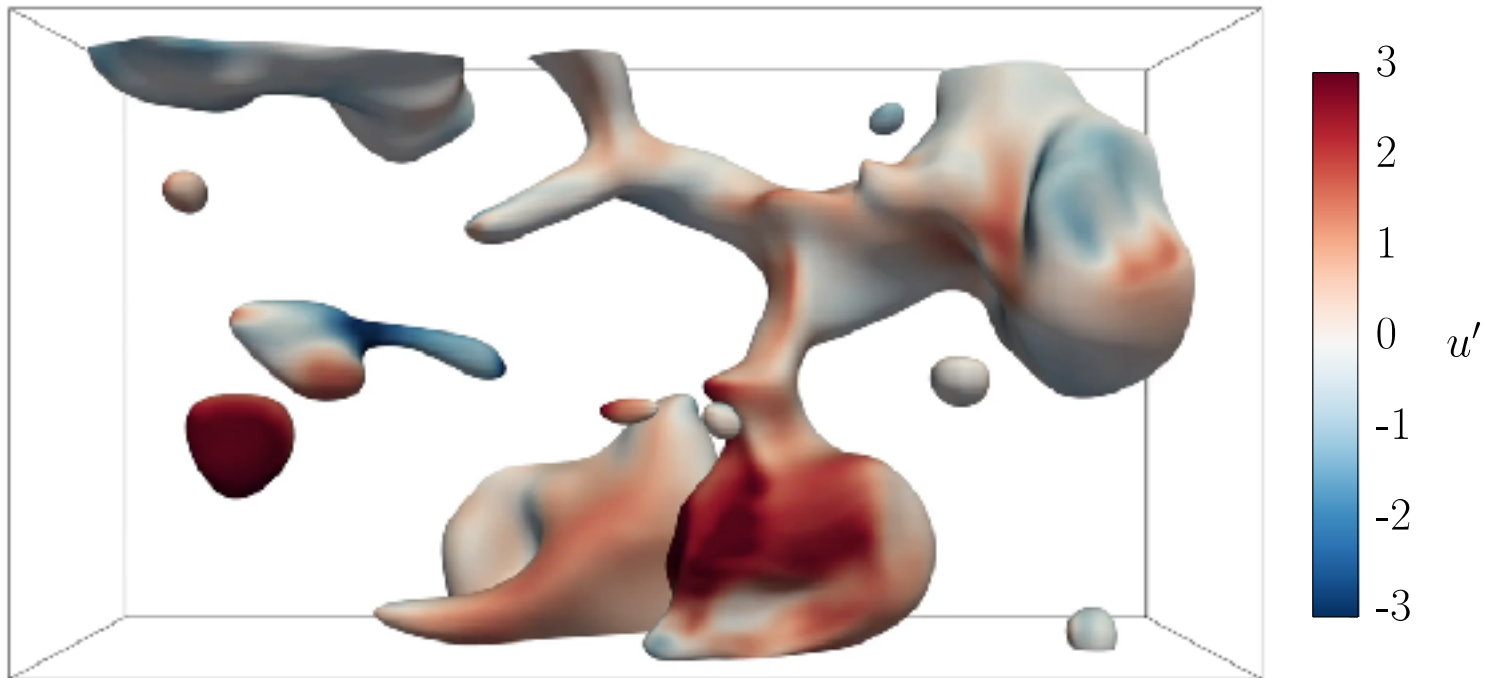


Alfredo Soldati and Francesco Zonta

*COMETE Training School*







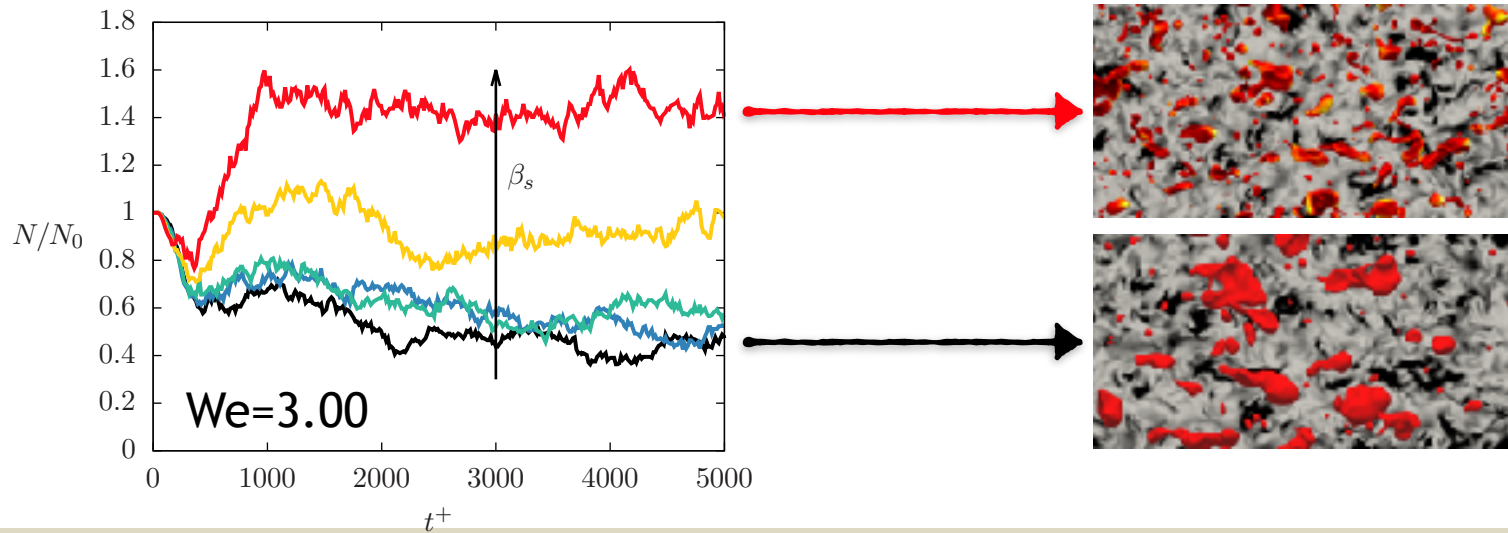
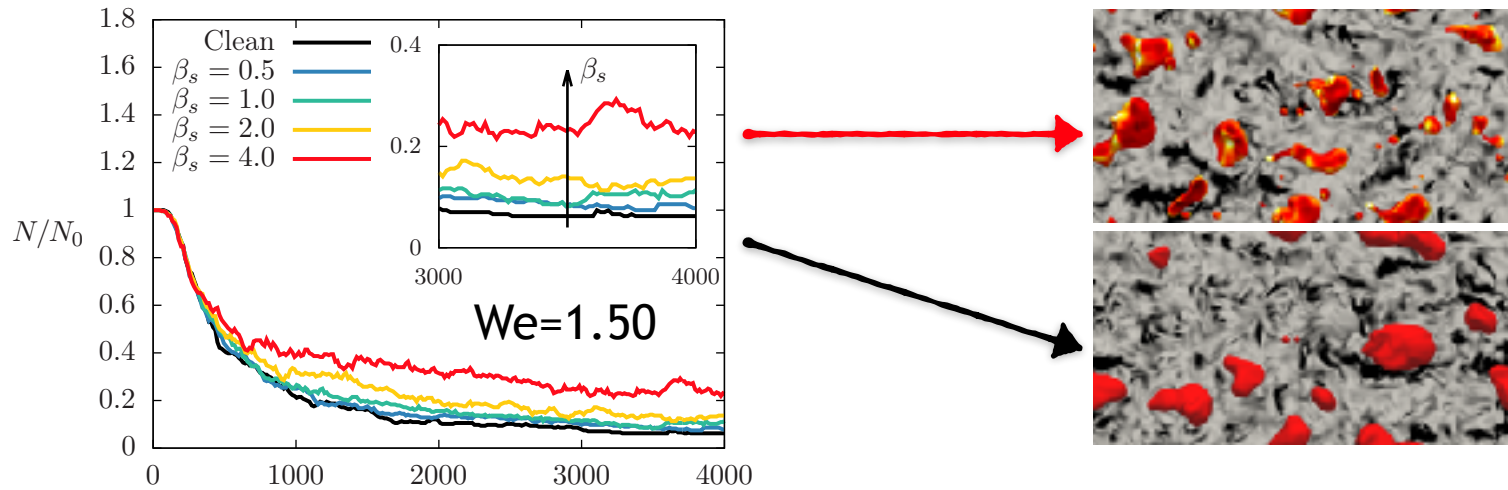
## COALESCENCE

Turbulent fluctuations make two droplets collide. Upon collision, a small bridge can form between two droplets. Surface energy minimization tends to restore a spherical shape for the newly formed droplet.

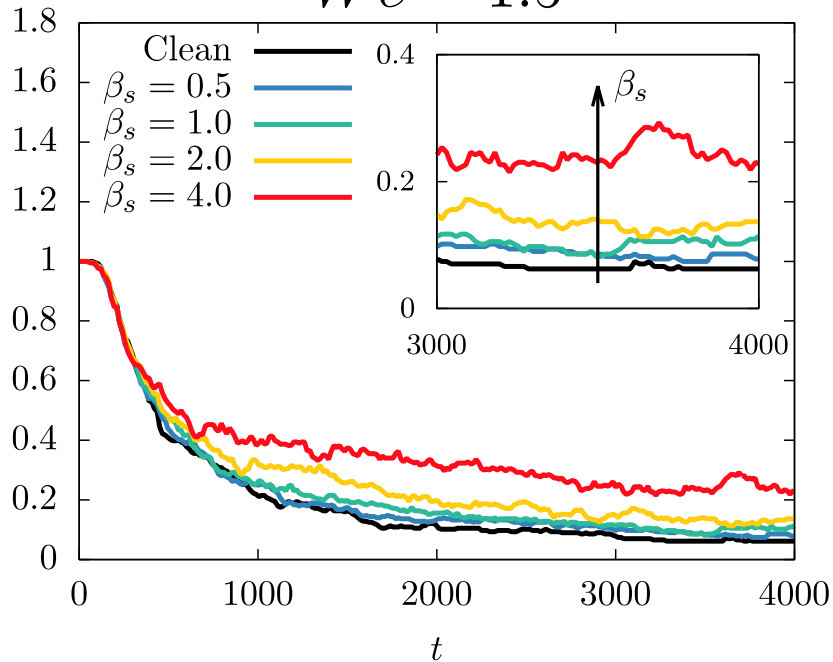
## BREAKUP

Shear stresses acting at the interface overcome surface tension force, leading to the formation and breakage of a thin liquid bridge. After the breakup surface tension restores the shape of the newly formed droplets.

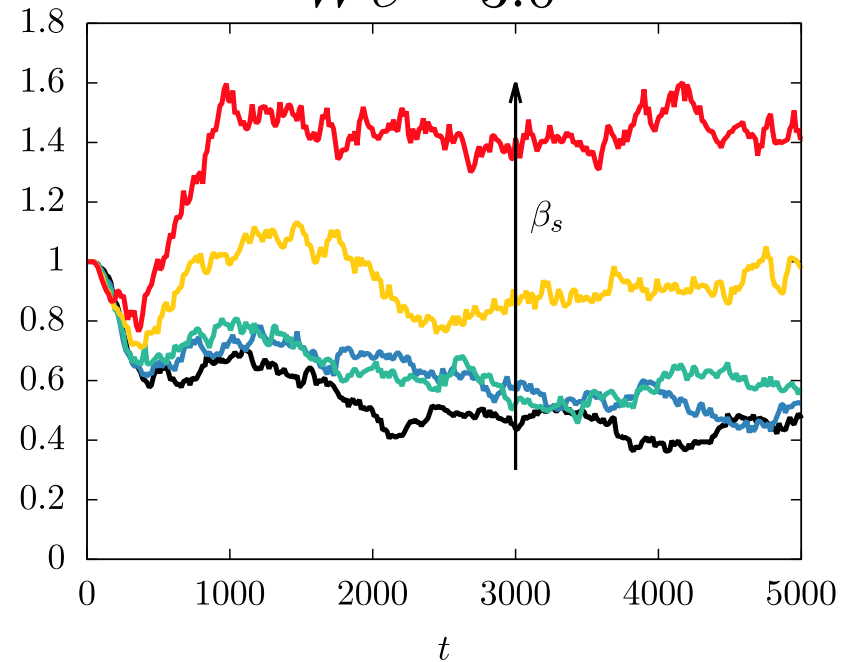
Number of droplets over time, initial number of droplets  $N_0=256$



$We = 1.5$

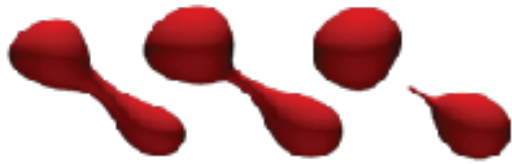


$We = 3.0$



|                 | $We = 1.5$ |          | $We = 3.0$ |          |
|-----------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|
| $\beta_s = 0.0$ | 18.7       |          | 115.8      |          |
| $\beta_s = 1.0$ | 28.3       | +51.1 %  | 147.8      | +27.6 %  |
| $\beta_s = 4.0$ | 63.3       | +238.5 % | 366.0      | +216.1 % |

Steady-state number of droplets

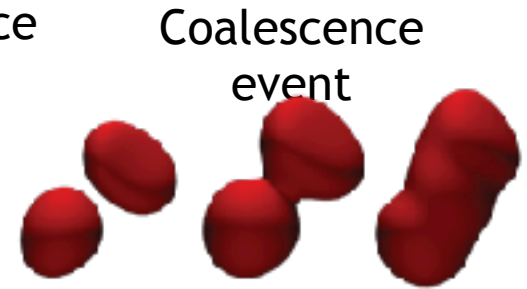


Breakup event

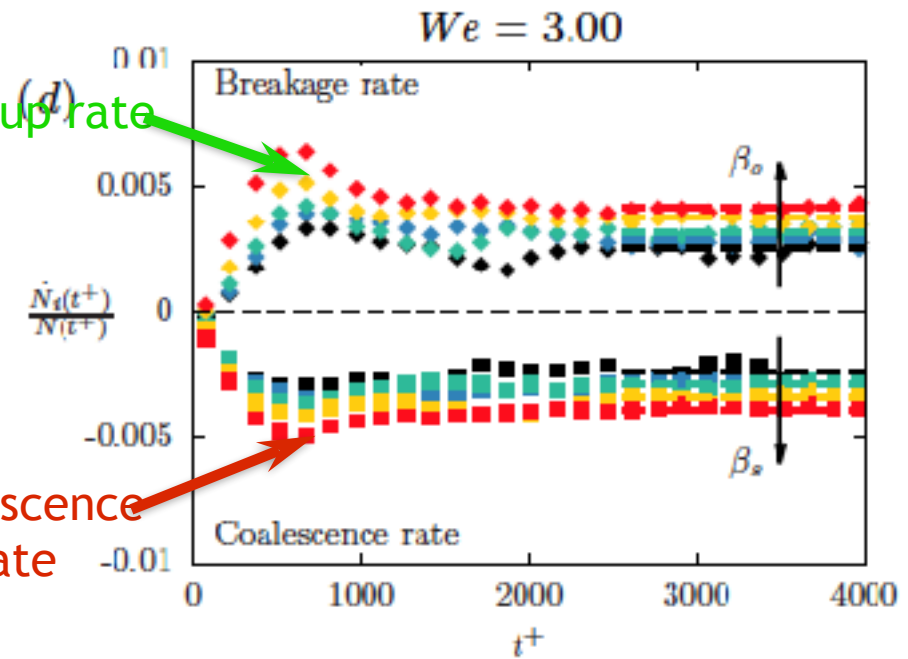
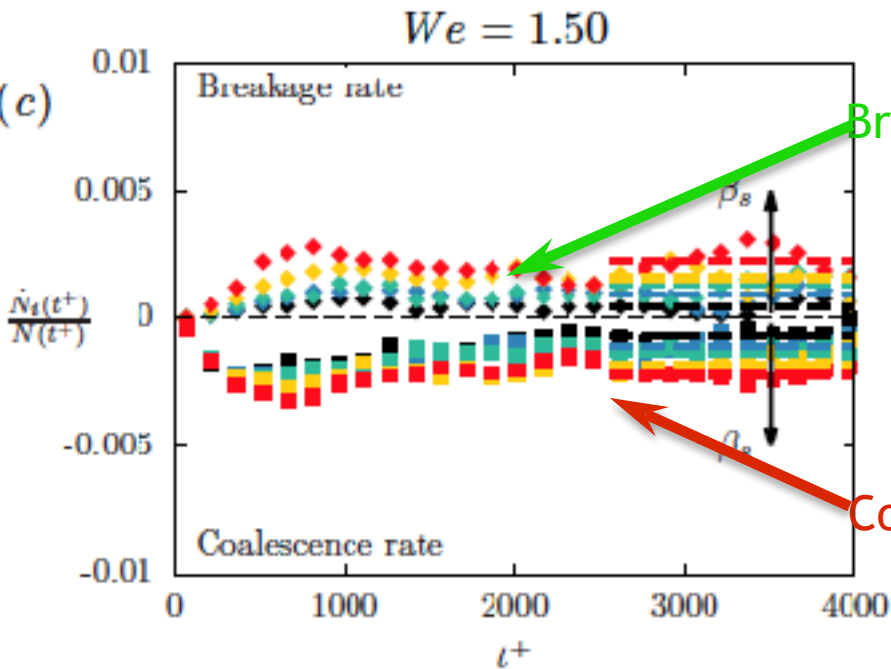
Breakup  
rate

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial t} = b(t) - c(t)$$

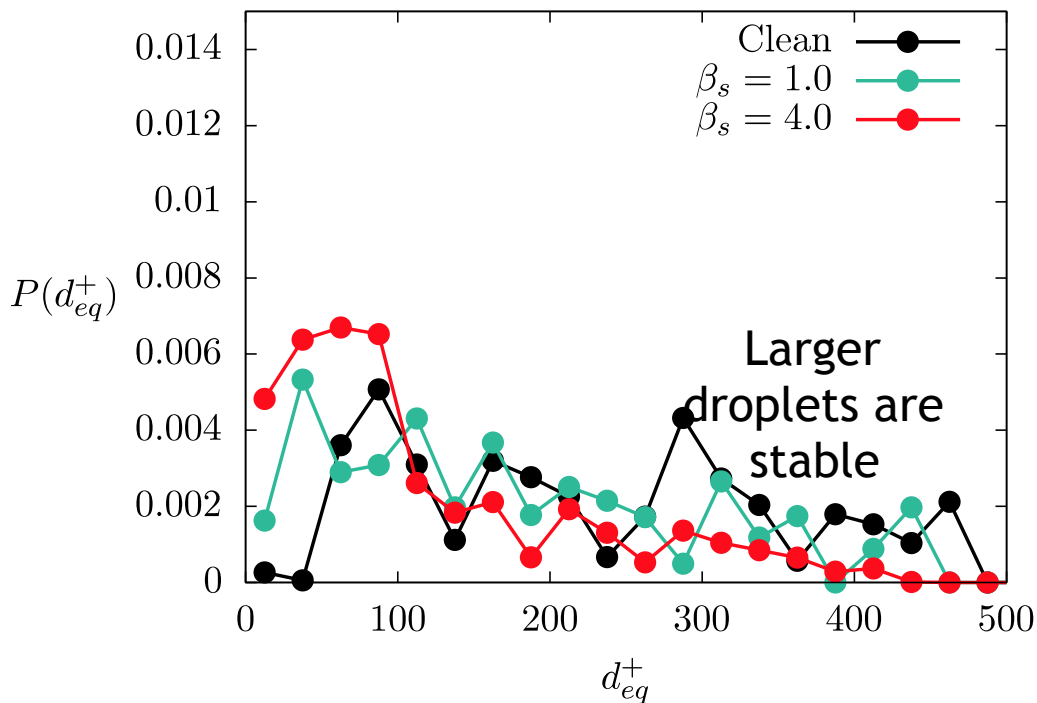
Coalescence  
rate



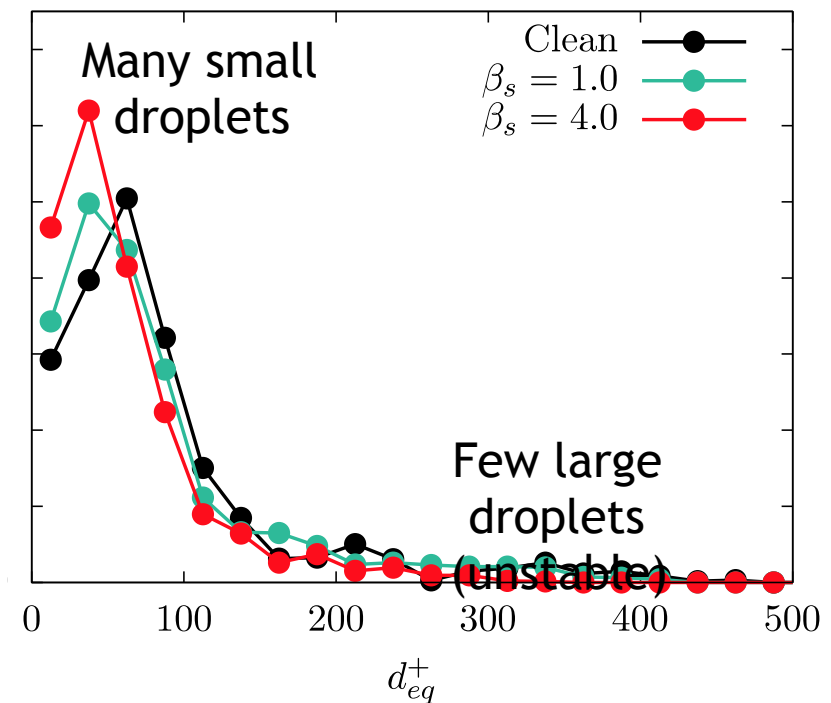
Coalescence  
event

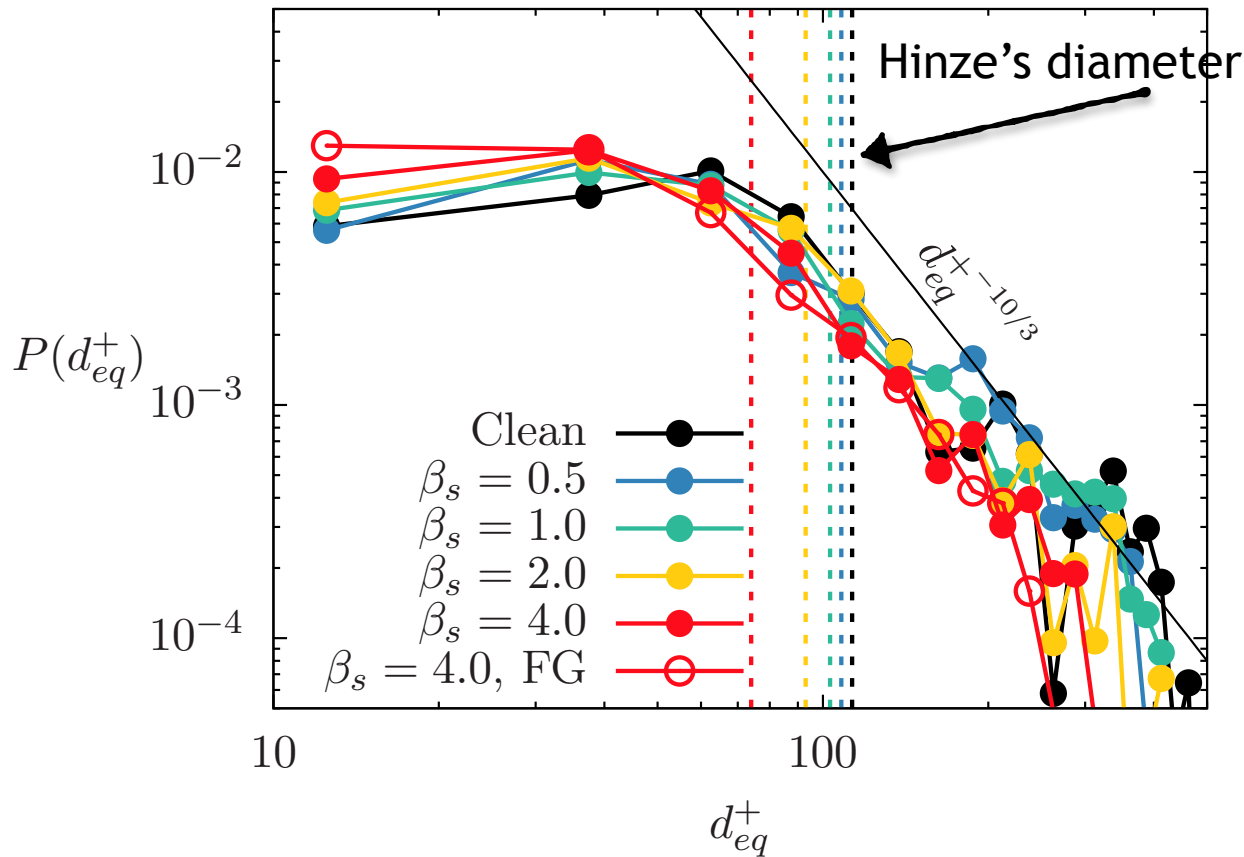


$We = 1.50$



$We = 3.00$





Garrett et al. (2000)

$$P(d_{eq}^+) \propto d_{eq}^{+ -10/3}$$

Experimental scaling valid  
for droplets larger than  
Hinze inviscid scale

Deike et al. (2016) report  
A scaling of -1/3

$\beta_s = 4.0, FG$  —○—

$N_x \times N_y \times N_z = 2048 \times 1024 \times 1025$

[1] C. Garrett, M. Li & D. Farmer (2000) *J. Phys. Oceanogr.*

[1] Deike, Melville & S. Popinet (2016) *J. Fluid Mech.*



## **MIUR-PRIN Project**

Advanced Computations and Experiments for  
anisotropic particle transport in turbulent



## **PRACE project SURFER**

32M hours on Marconi KNL