

# Turbulence effects on particle dispersion in a free-surface flow

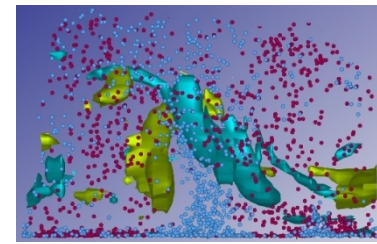
Salvatore Lovecchio, Cristian Marchioli, Alfredo Soldati

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Dipartimento di Ingegneria Elettrica Gestionale e Meccanica

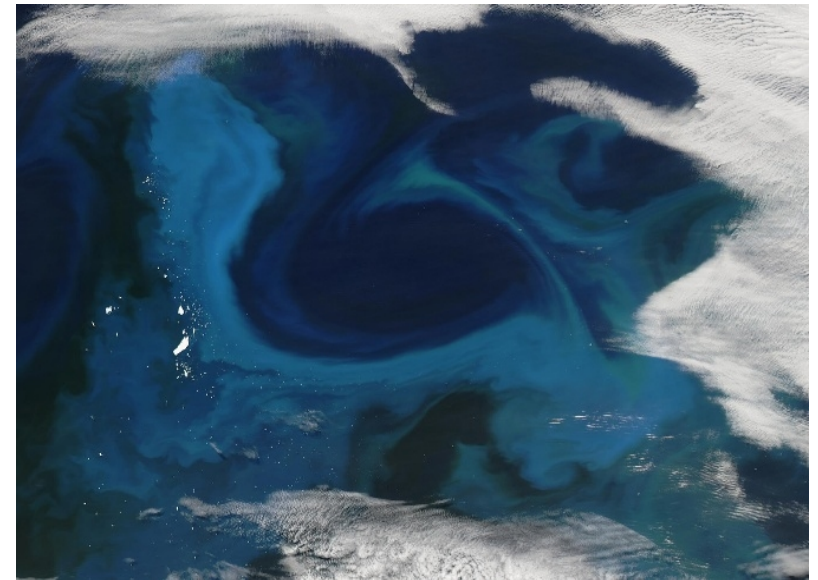
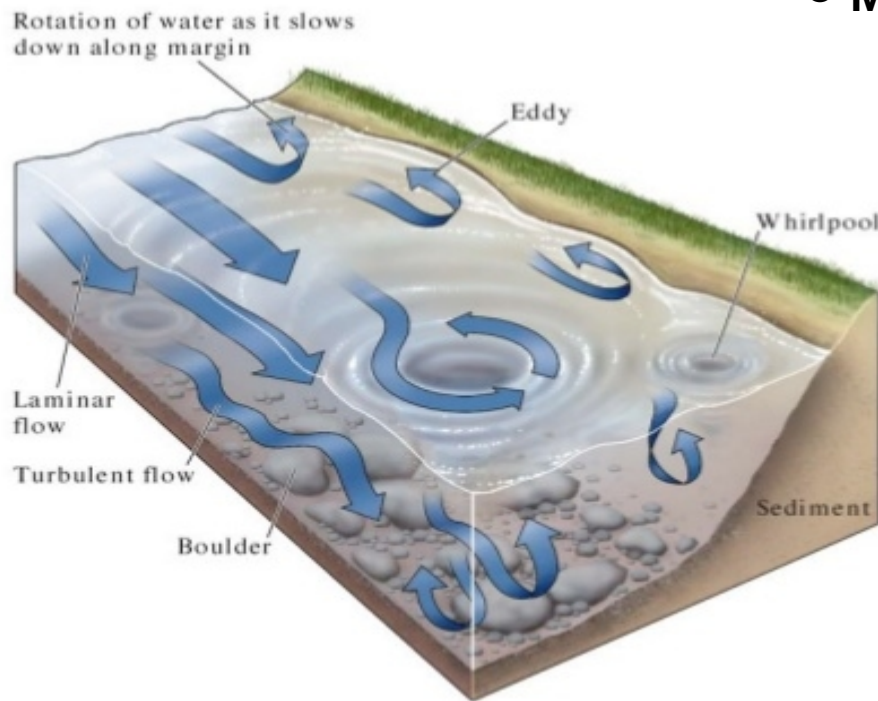


# Motivation



## Environmental applications

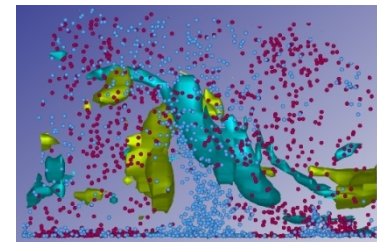
- Dispersion of drifters or floaters
- Motion of phytoplankton



- Settling of organic and inorganic matter



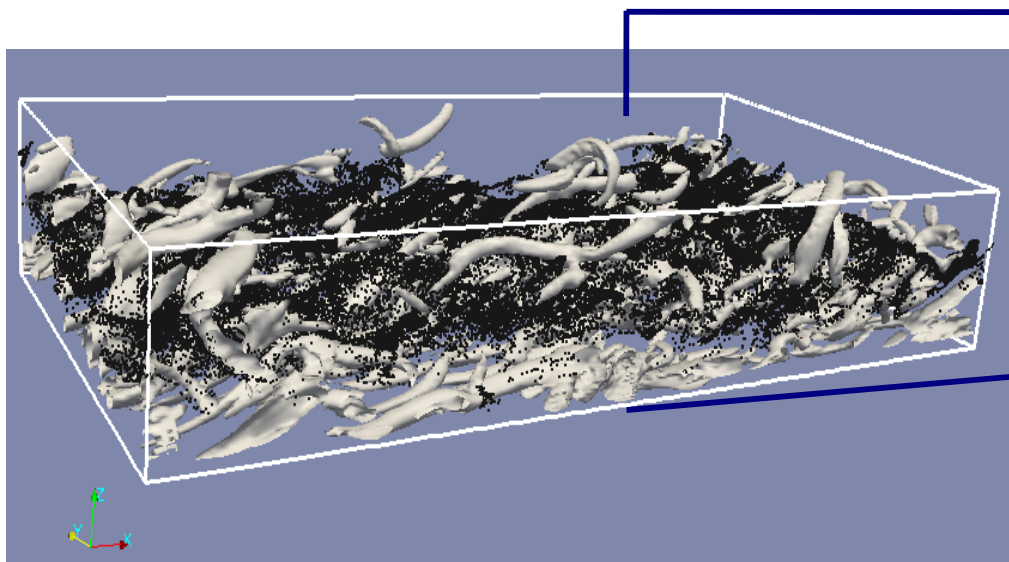
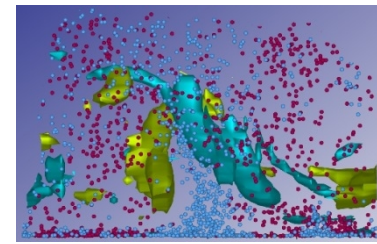
# Outline of the Presentation



- **Physical Problem and Modelling Approach**
- **Part 1: Flow at surface**
  - **1.1 Energy spectra**
  - **1.2 Spectral flux energy**
- **Part 2: Particles segregation**
  - **2.1 Source-sink dynamic**
  - **2.2 Intermittency in clustering**
- **Conclusions and future developments**



# Physical Problem/Modelling Approach: Neutrally-buoyant turbulence



Free-slip wall

SHEAR FREE SURFACE:  
No surface waves

No-slip wall

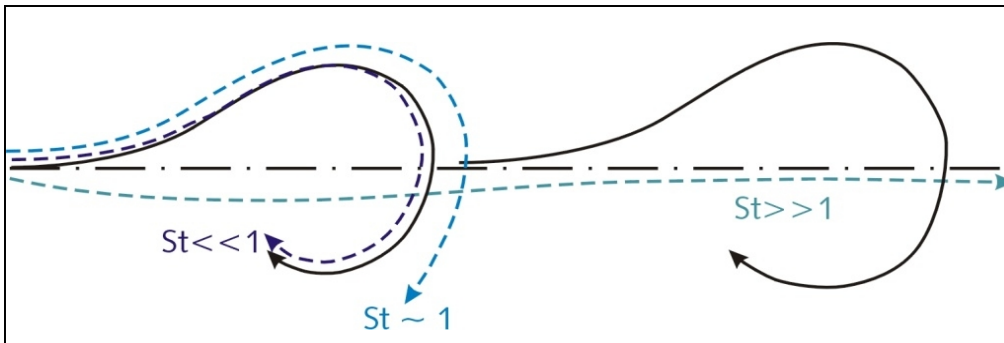
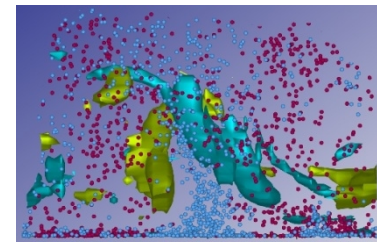
Flow solver:

$$\begin{aligned} & \bullet \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} = 0 \\ & \bullet \rho \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \right) = - \frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} + \mu \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_j^2} \end{aligned}$$

- 3D turbulent water flow field at shear Reynolds number:  $Re_\tau = \mathbf{171, 509}$
- Channel size:  $\mathbf{L_x \times L_y \times L_z = 4 \pi h \times 2 \pi h \times 2h}$
- Pseudo-spectral DNS: Fourier modes (1D FFT) in the homogeneous directions (x and y), Chebyshev coefficients in the wall-normal direction (z)
- Time intergration: Adams-Bashforth (convective terms), Crank-Nicolson (viscous terms)



# Physical Problem/Modelling Approach: Neutrally-buoyant turbulence



- One-way coupling
- Particle wall-collisions: fully elastic
- Time-integration: 4<sup>th</sup>-order Runge-Kutta scheme
- Fluid velocity interpolation: 6<sup>th</sup>-order Lagrange polynomials

## Influence of Inertia:

Particle Time Scale,  $\tau_p = d_p^2 \tau_p / 18 \mu$

Flow Time Scale,  $\tau_f = L/U = \nu/u_\tau^2$

Particle Stokes number,  $St = \tau_p / \tau_f$

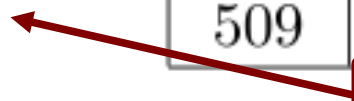
Lagrangian particle tracking: •  $\frac{dx_i}{dt} = v_i$

$$\bullet \frac{dv_i}{dt} = \left(1 - \frac{\rho_f}{\rho_p}\right) g_i + \frac{u_i - v_i}{\tau_p} (1 + 0.15 Re_p^{0.687})$$

Density ratio:

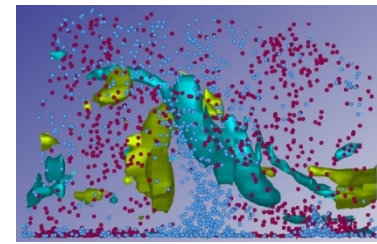
$$S = \frac{\rho_p}{\rho_f}$$

$Re_\tau$	$St = \tau_p \cdot \nu / u_\tau^2$		
171	0.064	0.114	0.121
509	0.562	1.013	1.069
	S=0.5	0.9	0.95



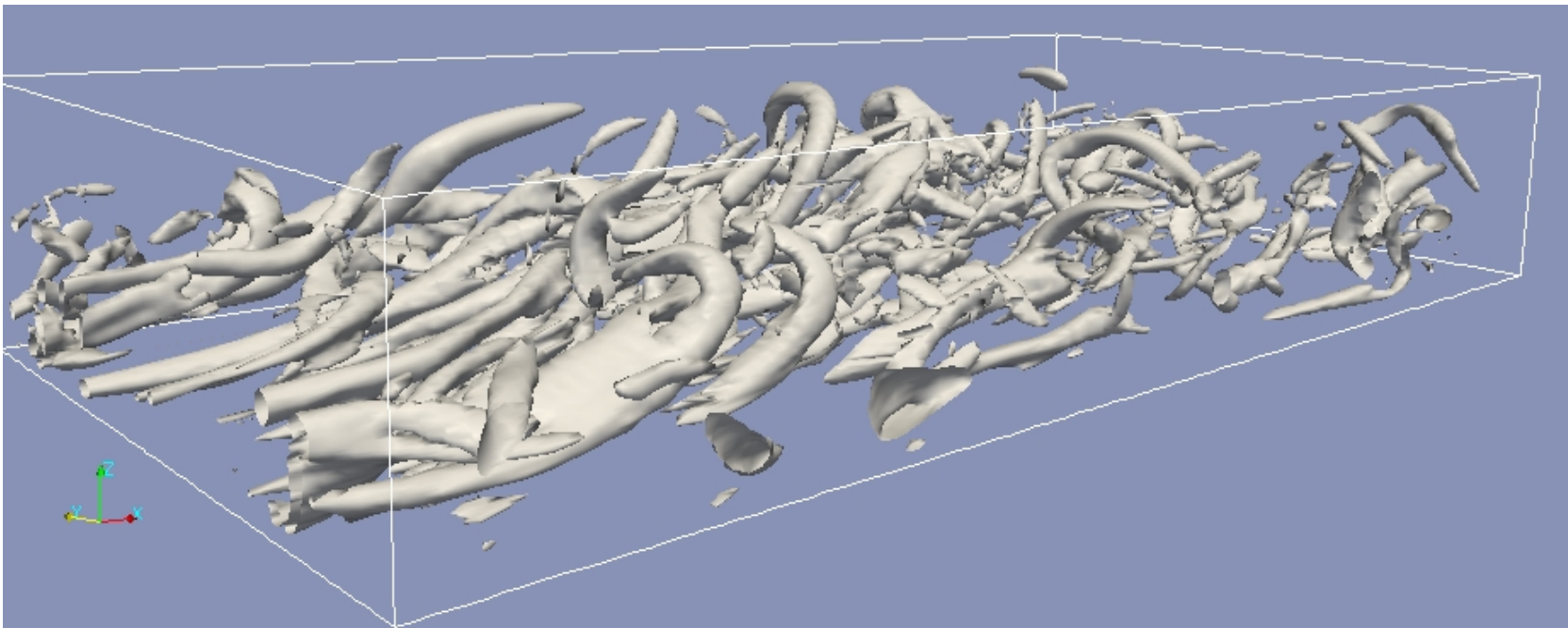
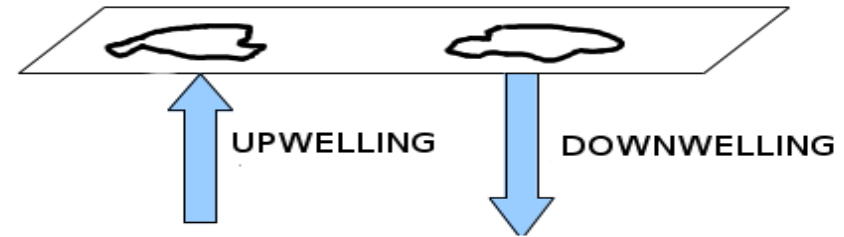


# 1. Flow at surface



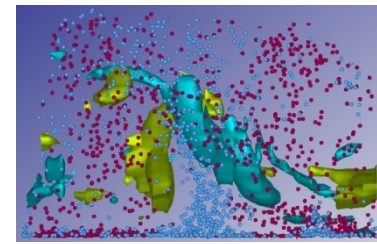
Surface divergence:

$$\nabla_{2D} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$$





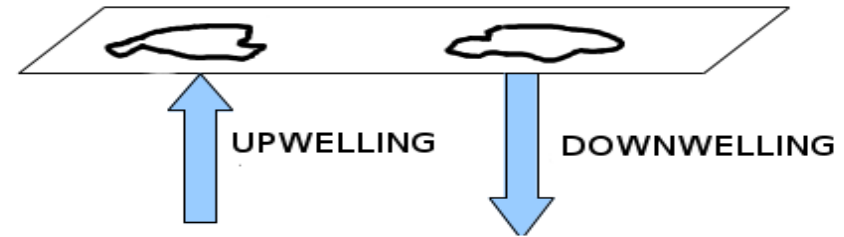
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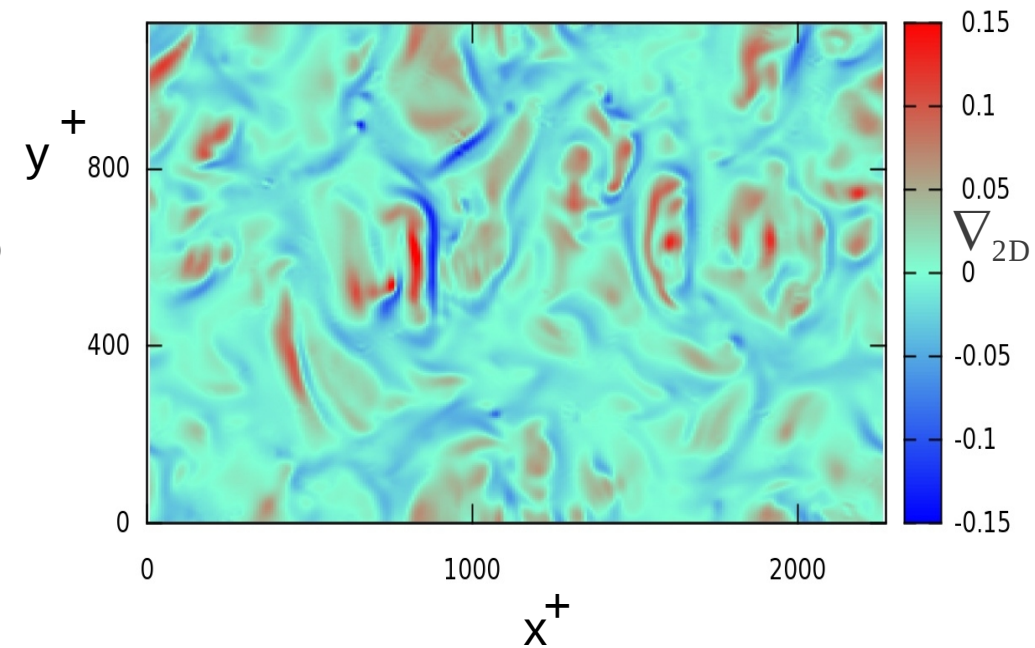
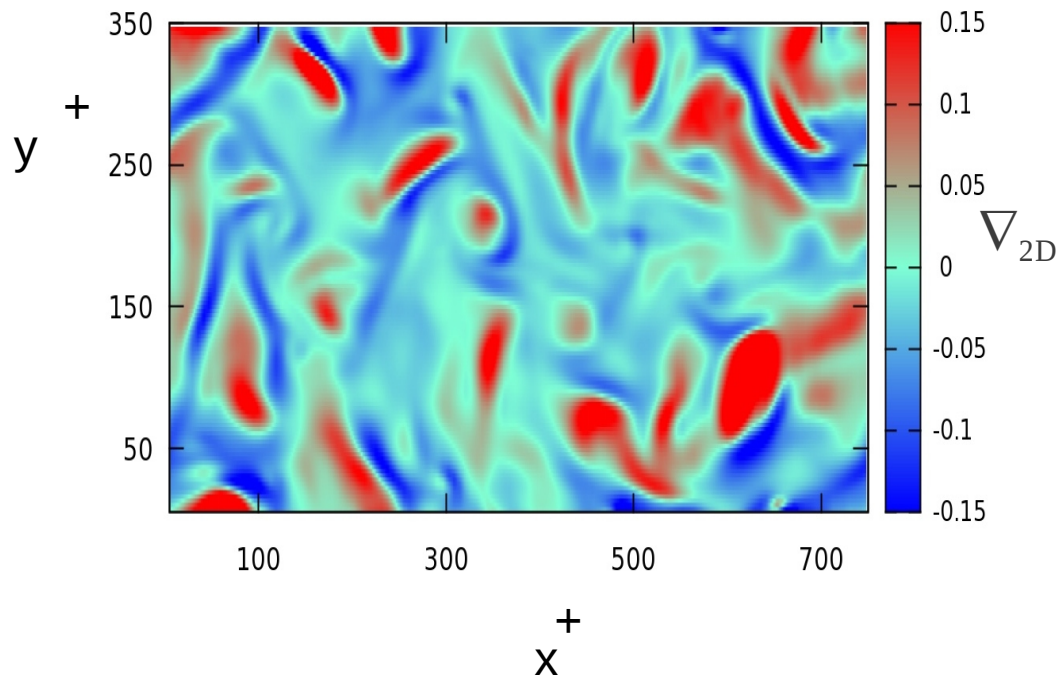
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$$Re_{\tau} = 171$$

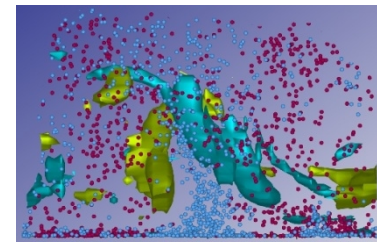


$$Re_{\tau} = 510$$



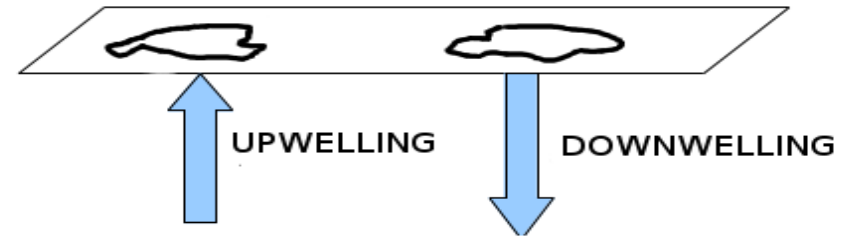


# 1. Flow at surface: Energy spectra

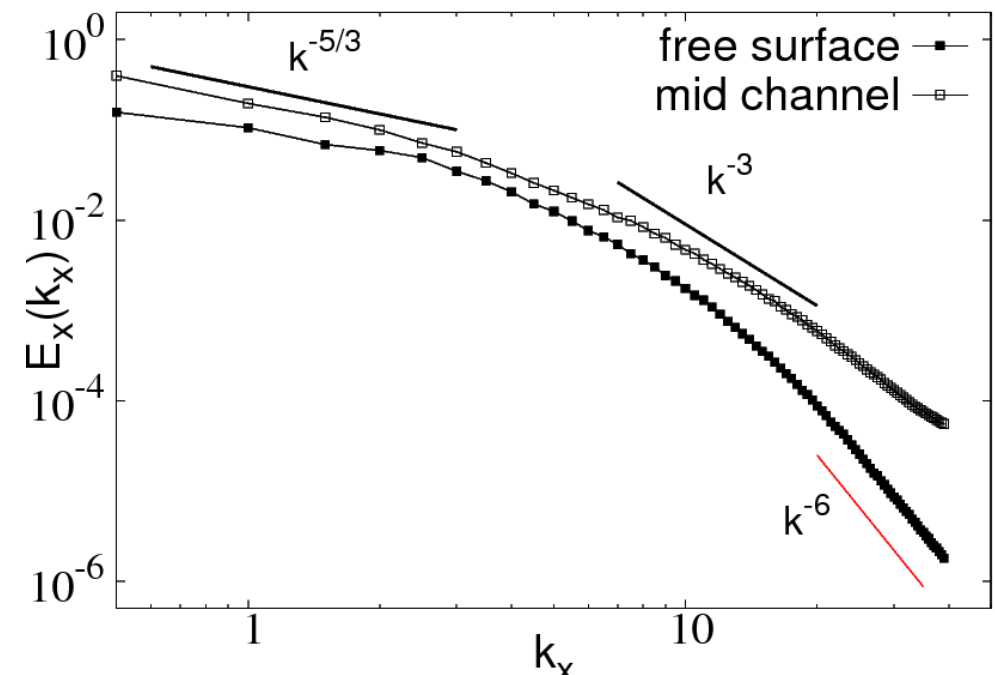
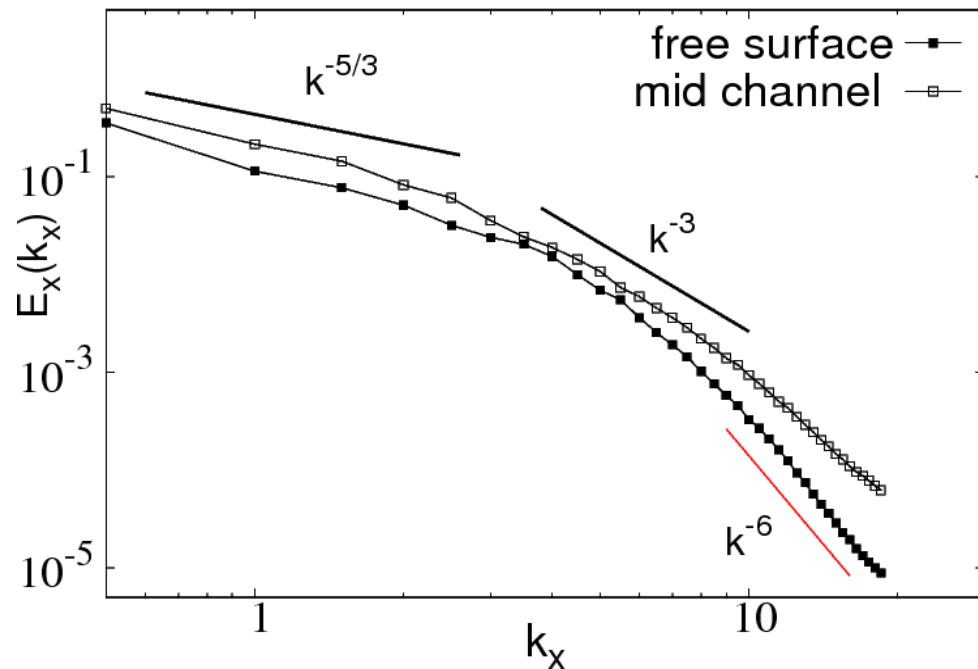


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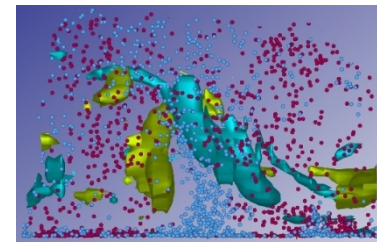
Streamwise energy spectrum of the streamwise velocity  
 $Re_\tau = 171$   $Re_\tau = 510$





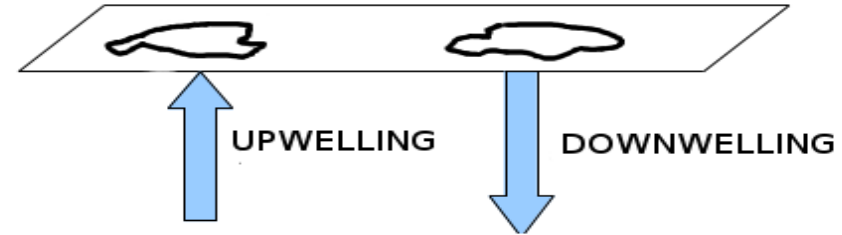


# 1. Flow at surface: Energy spectra



Surface divergence:

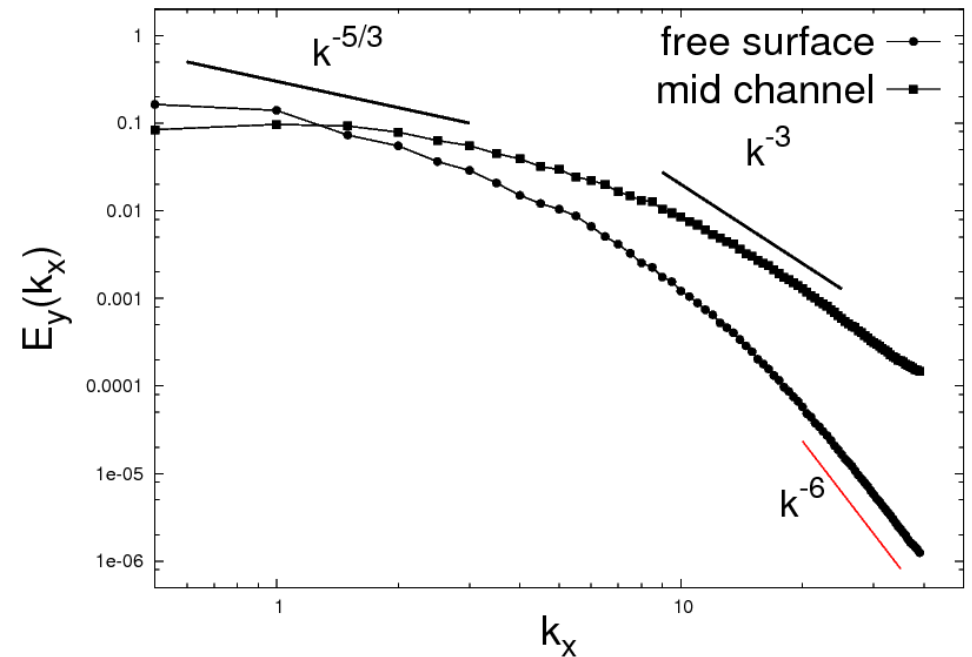
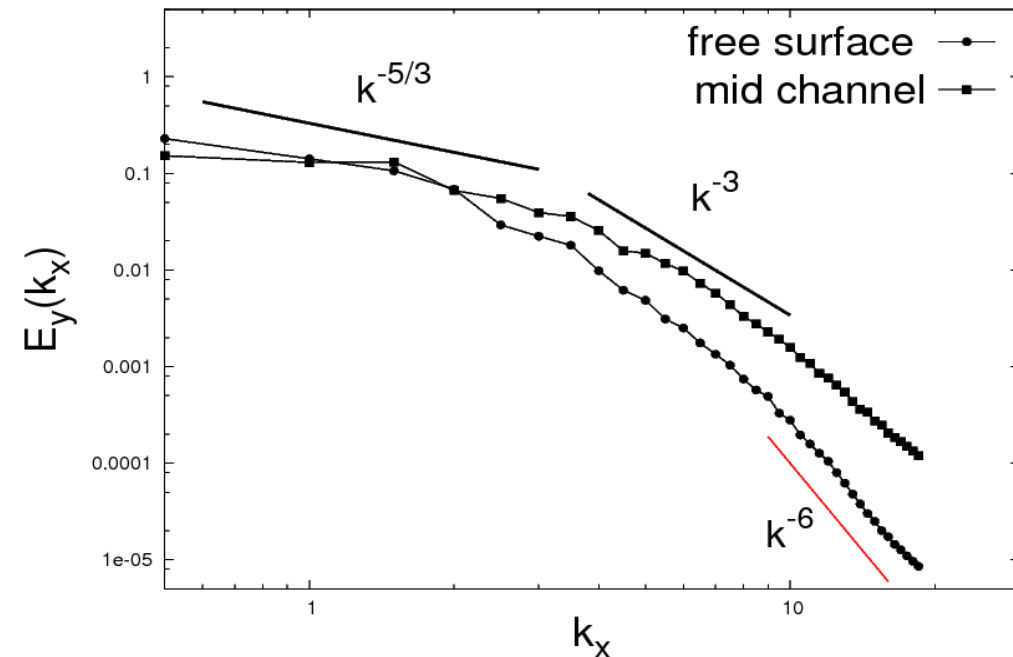
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Streamwise energy spectrum of the spanwise velocity

$$Re_{\tau} = 171$$

$$Re_{\tau} = 510$$





# 1. Flow at surface: Energy flux

## Filtered space techniques (FST)

D.H.Kelley, N. T. Ouellette  
Phys.Fluids 23 (2011)

Low-pass spatial filter applied to velocity field

$$u_x^{(r)}(x, y) = \int u_x(x', y') G^{(r)}(x - x', y - y') dx' dy'$$

Equation motion of filtered Kinetic energy

$$\frac{\partial E^{(r)}}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial J_i^{(r)}}{\partial x_i} - \nu \frac{\partial u_i^{(r)}}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_i^{(r)}}{\partial x_j} - \Pi^{(r)}$$

$$\Pi^{(r)} = -\tau_{ij}^{(r)} s_{ij}^{(r)}$$

Energy Flux to scale  $< r$  at each space point

Stress tensor induced by eddies at scales  $< r$

$$\tau_{ij}^{(r)} = (u_i u_j)^{(r)} - u_i^{(r)} u_j^{(r)}$$

Strain tensor

$$s_{ij}^{(r)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i^{(r)}}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j^{(r)}}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

$$\Pi^{(r)} = - \left[ (u_i u_j)^{(r)} - u_i^{(r)} u_j^{(r)} \right] \frac{\partial u_i^{(r)}}{\partial x_j}$$



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Strain tensor

$\Pi^{(r)}$

$>0$  : transfer to smaller structures

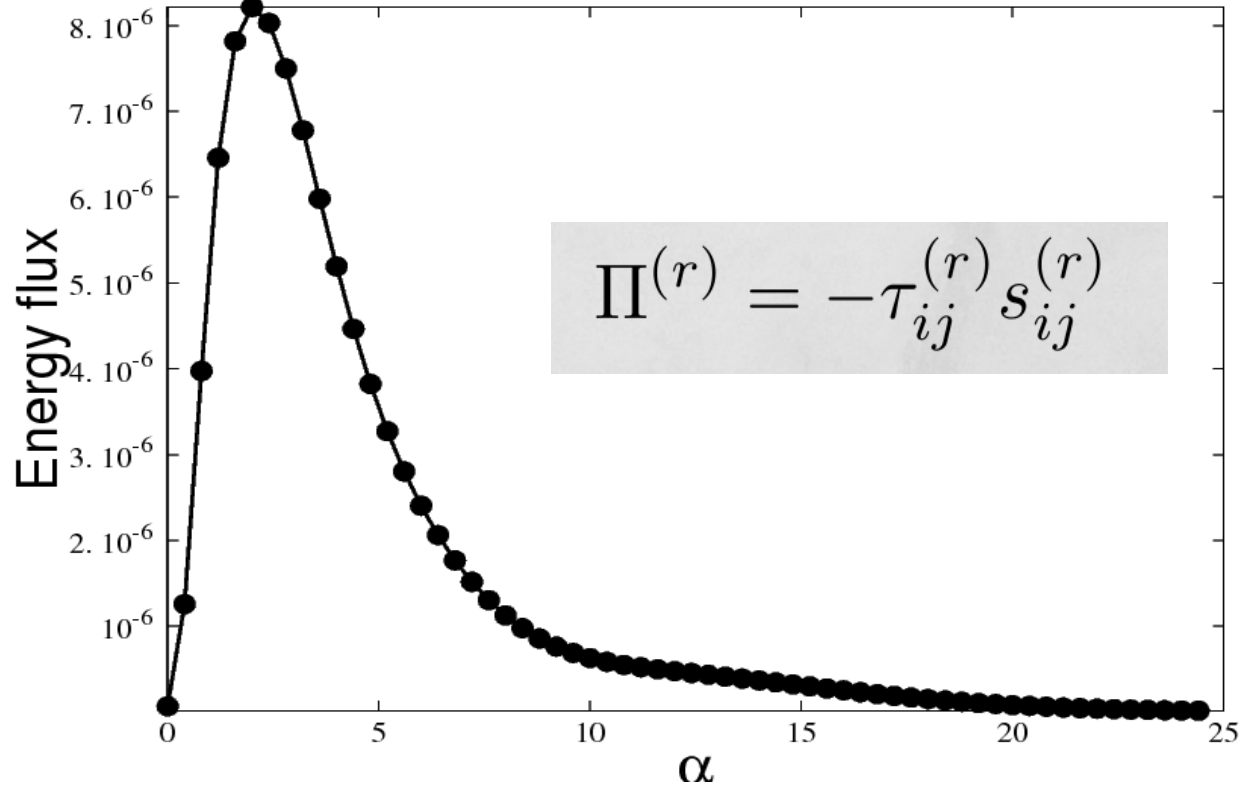
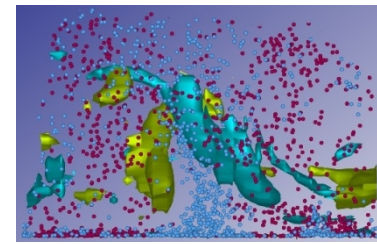
FORWARD TRANSFER

$<0$  : transfer to larger structures

INVERSE TRANSFER



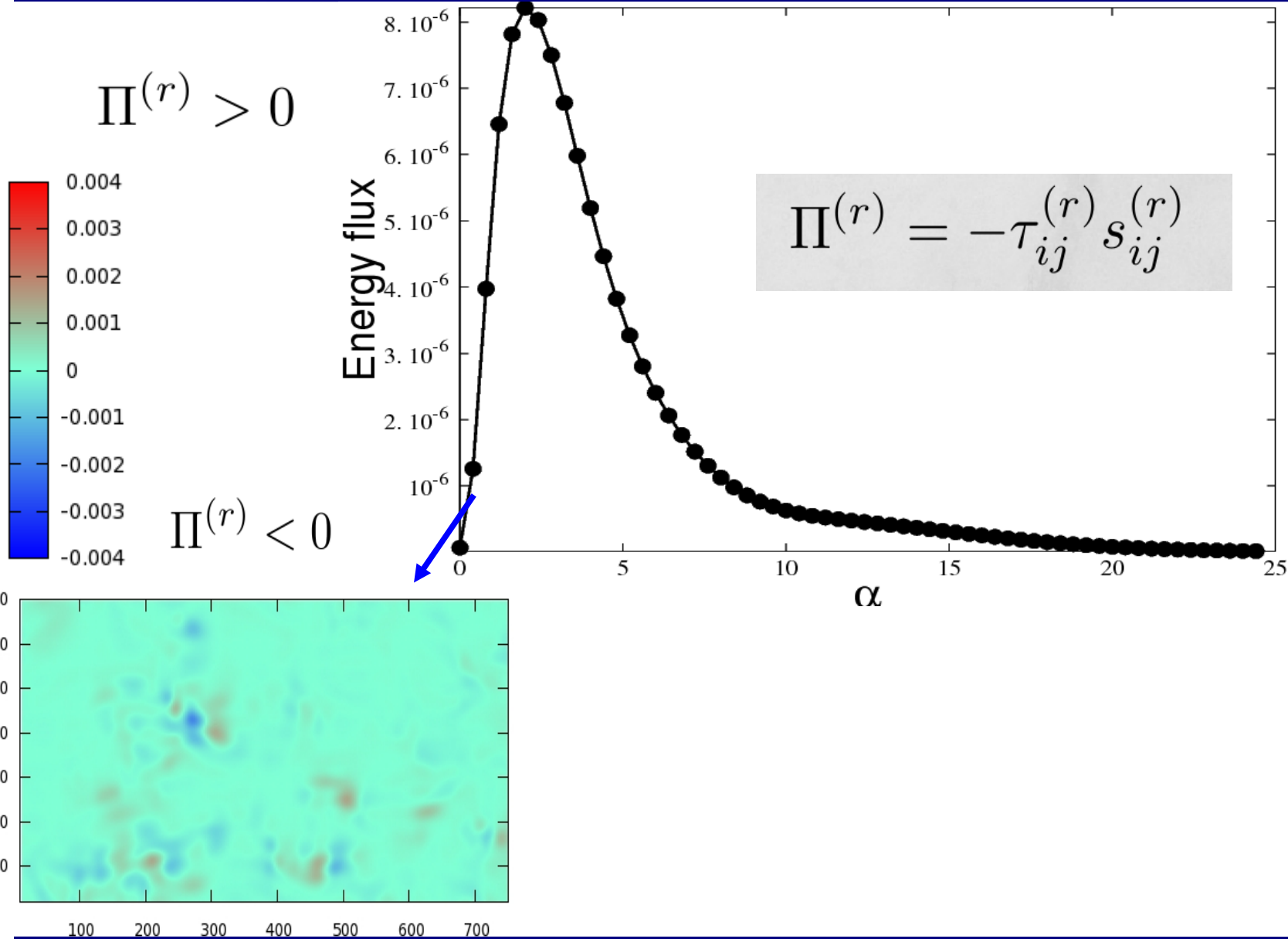
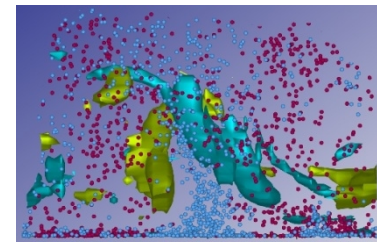
# 1. Flow at surface: Energy flux



Energy flux at free surface

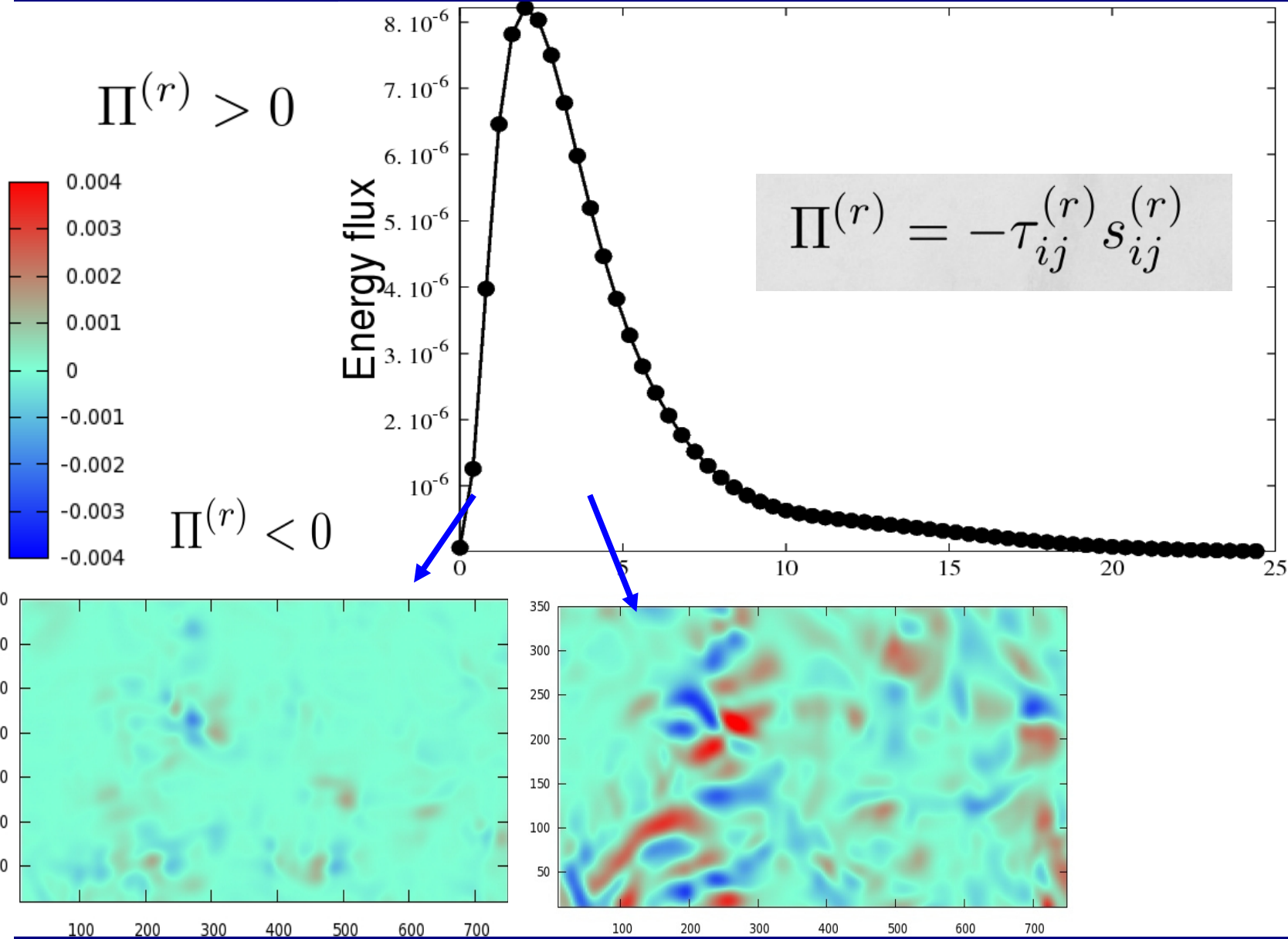
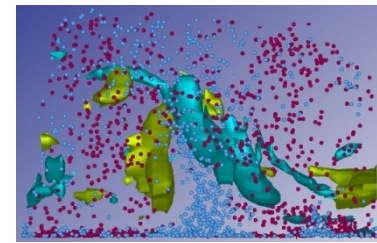


# 1. Flow at surface: Energy flux



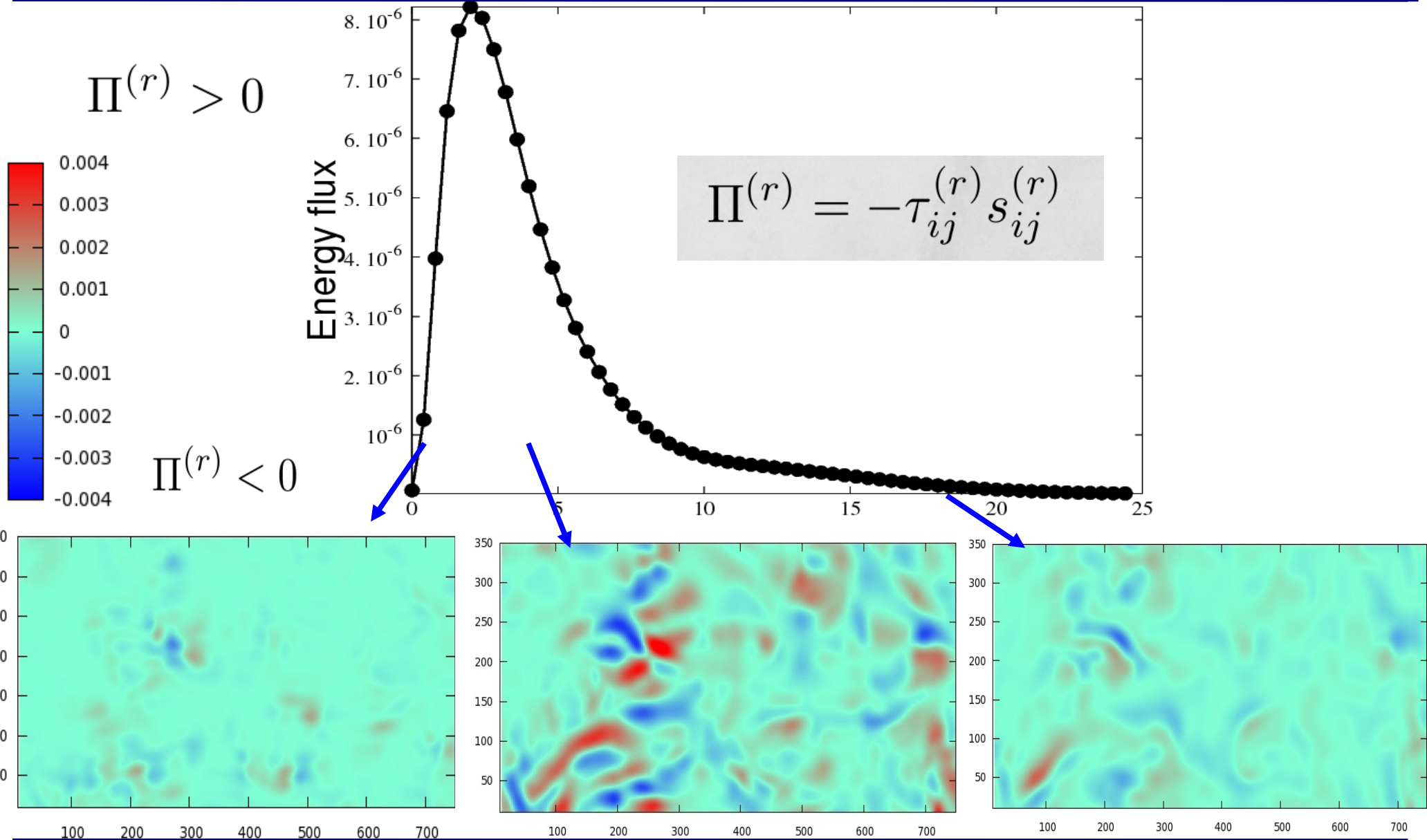
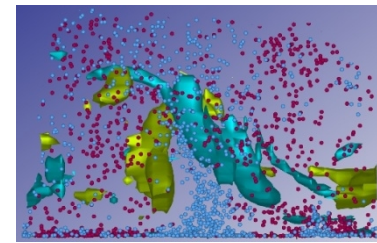


# 1. Flow at surface: Energy flux





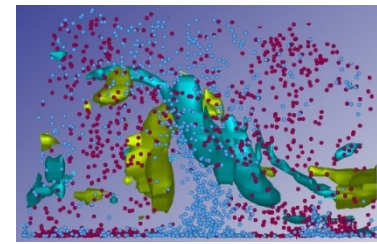
# 1. Flow at surface: Energy flux





## 2. Particles segregation

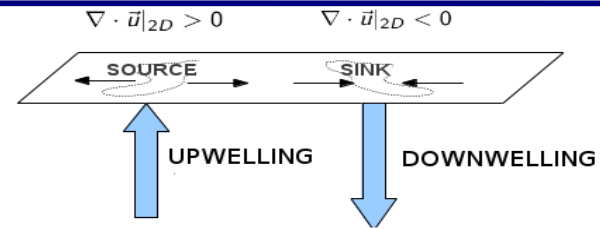
Dynamical system: source - sink



Surface divergence:

$$\nabla_{2D} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y}$$

$$Re_{\tau} = 171$$



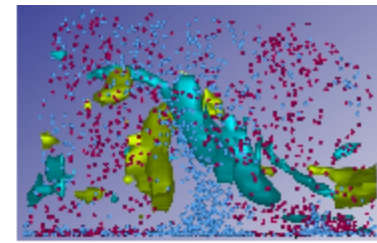
$$Re_{\tau} = 510$$





## 2. Particles segregation

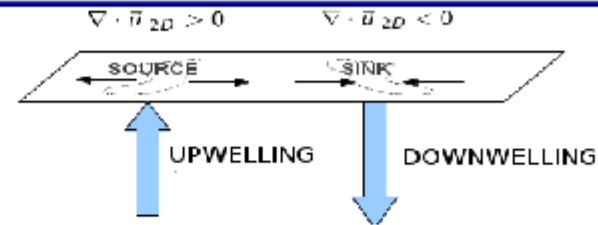
Dynamical system: source - sink



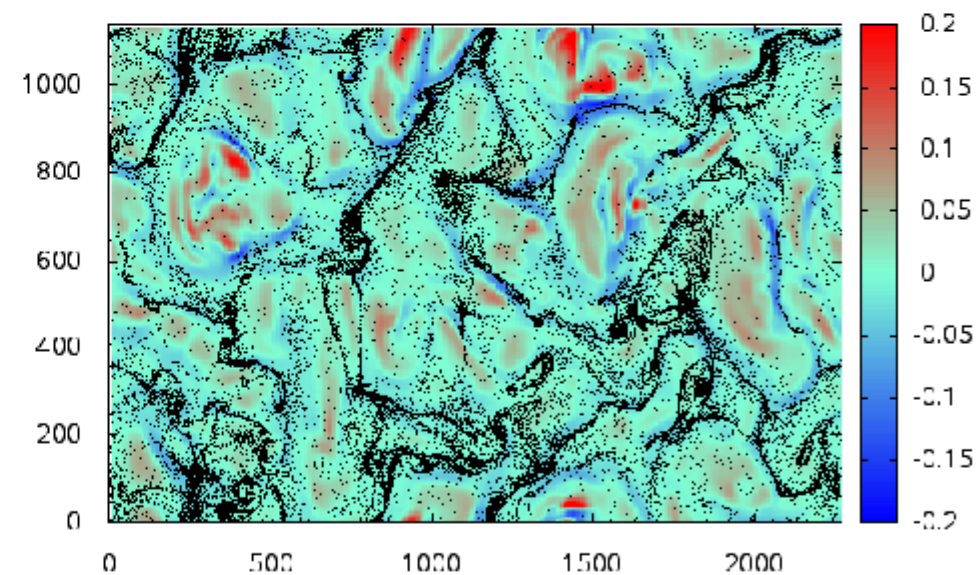
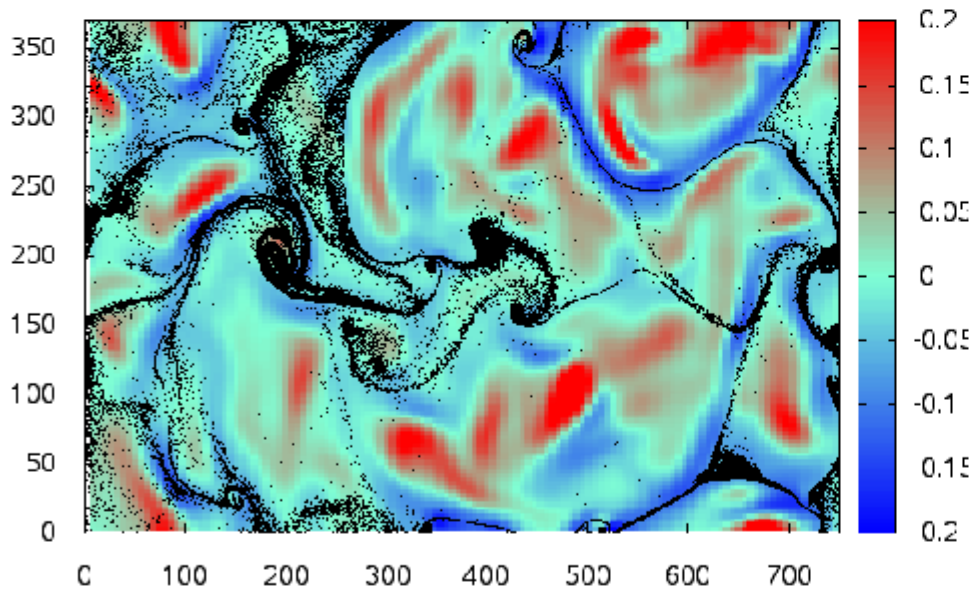
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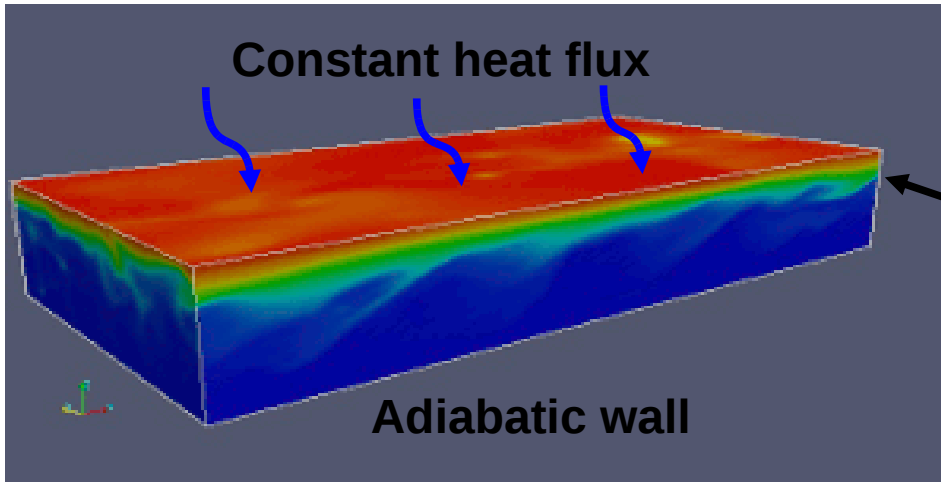
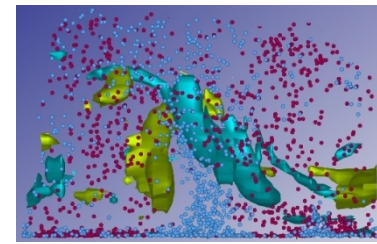
$$Re_{\tau} = 510$$



**How long particle clusters survive at free surface?**



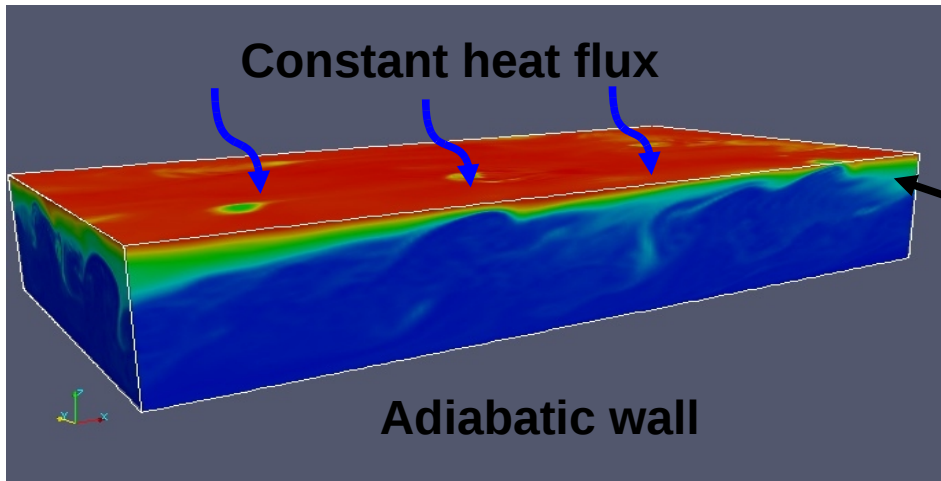
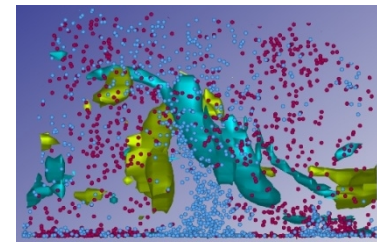
## 2. Particles segregation: stably stratified turbulence



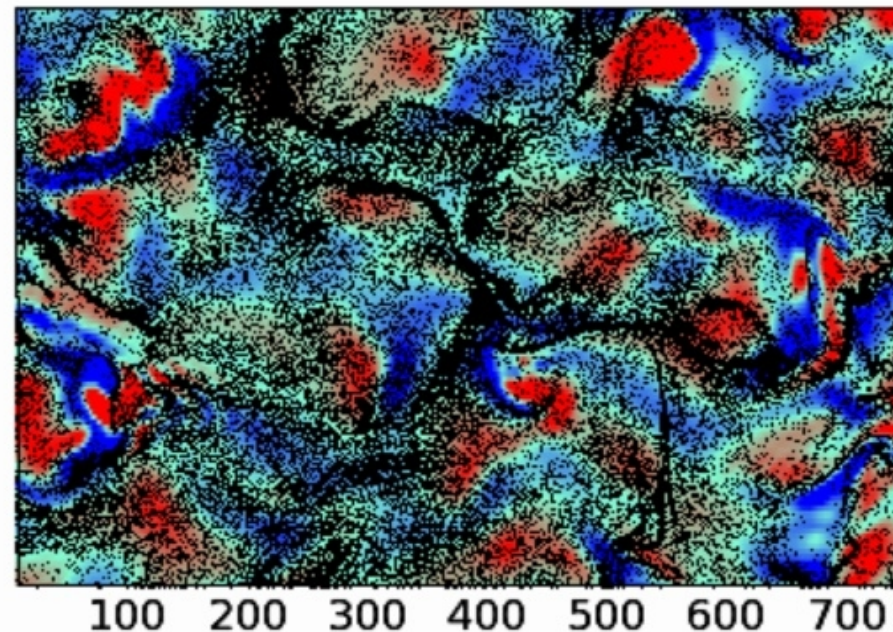
**Thermocline (barrier)**  
Reduced number of  
Upwelling That reach surface



## 2. Particles segregation: stably stratified turbulence



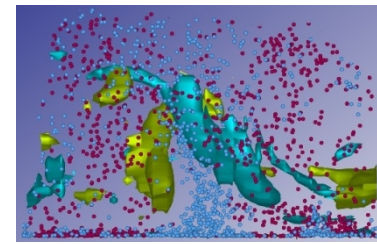
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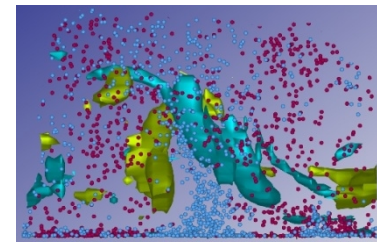
50  
100  
150  
200  
250  
300  
350



## 4. Conclusions



- ★ DNS of turbulent open channel flow at  $Re = 171$  (and  $Re = 509$ ) and for different stratification levels ( $Ri$ ) was performed
- ★ Flow at surface was characterized by surface divergence and energy flux
- ★ In neutrally-buoyant flow, particles tend to cluster into filaments following the dynamics of source and sink induced by upwelling and downwelling.
- ★ In stably stratified turbulence particles seem to sample more homogeneously the surface



**Thank you for your  
kind attention**