

18.354J / 3541

Nonlinear dynamics: continuum systems

Course intro



18.354J / 3541
Nonlinear dynamics: continuum systems
Spring 2020

Lectures: MW 2:30-4.00 in 253-7826
Instructor: Jörn Dunkel
Contact: dunkel@mit.edu 253-7826 (office phone)
Office Hours: Thursdays 2:30-3:30 (2-381)
Course website: math.mit.edu/~dunkel/Teach/18.354/

<https://math.mit.edu/~dunkel/Teach/18.354/>

course info, psets, lecture notes,

GRADING

- 60%: Problem sets
- 10%: Project proposal
- 30%: Final project presentation + report

HOMEWORK - PROBLEM SETS

Homework will be assigned roughly every two-three weeks. We aim to have 4 problem sets in total. Each homework set may contain analytical and computational problems, and even the odd experiment. Assignments must be handed in at the start of class on the due date.

First unexcused late homework score will be multiplied by $3/4$. No subsequent unexcused late homework is accepted.

You are welcome to discuss solution strategies and even solutions, but please write up the solution on your own. Be sure to support your answer by explaining important steps or listing any relevant theorems. Be as clear and concise as possible. I strongly encourage the computational problems to be written in MATHEMATICA, MATLAB or JULIA.

TEXTBOOKS

Although there are no textbooks which follow the precise spirit of this course, there are literally hundreds of textbooks where the topics we will cover are discussed. For most lectures, typed notes can be downloaded from the course webpage. Useful books for further reading include:

- M. Cross, *Pattern Formation and Dynamics in Non-equilibrium Systems*, Cambridge University Press (2009).
- A. Goriely, *The Mathematics and Mechanics of Biological Growth*, Springer (2017).
- B. Audoly & Y. Pomeau, *Elasticity & Geometry*, Oxford University Press (2010).
- D. J. Acheson, *Elementary Fluid Dynamics*, Oxford University Press (1990).

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wed Feb 26 - Problem Set 1 DUE
- Wed Mar 11 - Problem Set 2 DUE
- Wed Mar 18 - Proposal (1 page) for final project DUE
- Wed Apr 1 - Problem Set 3 DUE
- Wed Apr 22 - Problem Set 4 DUE
- May 3, 5 & 10 - Final project presentations
- May 10 - Final project report DUE

Note: The exact due dates for the P-sets may be subject to change

Course topic:

Physical Applied Mathematics

Q: What is Physical Applied Maths?

A:  PAM is like cooking...



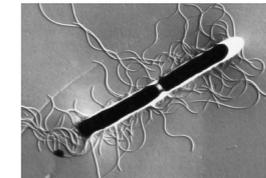
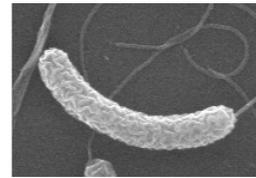
Often the ingredients (*physical principles*) are already known but not the way (*mathematics/equations/couplings*) to turn them into a nice dinner

With some creativity, many new dishes (*novel phenomena*) can be created (*discovered/understood*)

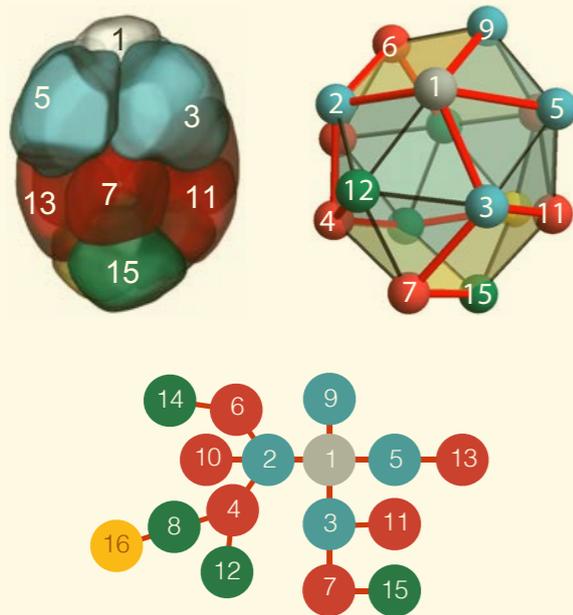
Why study Applied Maths?

- intellectual challenge
- obtain general understanding of physical phenomena and the world around us
- be able to make prediction about physical processes
- development of general tools to be applied to other fields

Discrete active matter



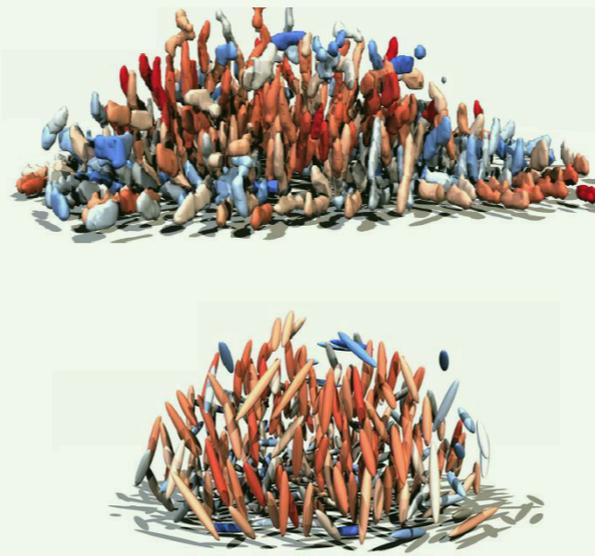
Oogenesis



Shvartsman lab, Princeton

Nature Physics 2018

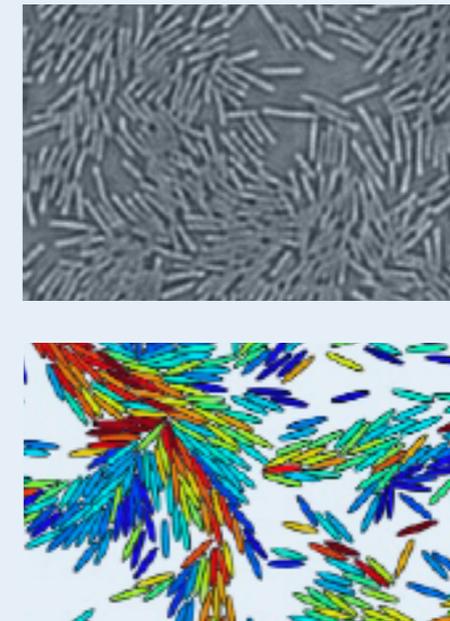
Bacterial biofilms



Drescher lab, MPI Marburg

PNAS 2016
Nature Physics 2019
Nature Microbiology 2019
Physical Review Letters 2019

Bacterial swarming

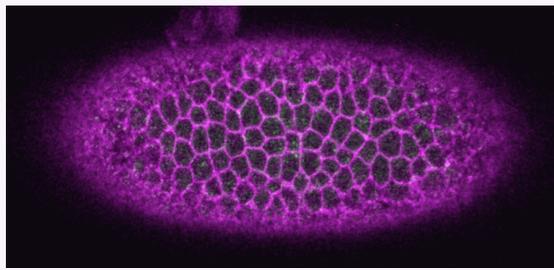


Drescher lab, MPI Marburg

PNAS 2019

Continuous biological (&) soft matter

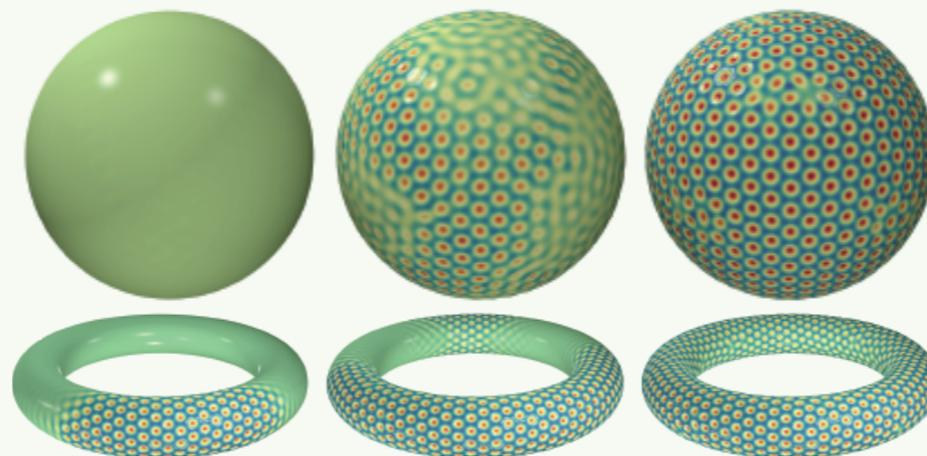
Morphogenesis



Martin lab, MIT Biology

Development 2017
Developmental Cell 2019

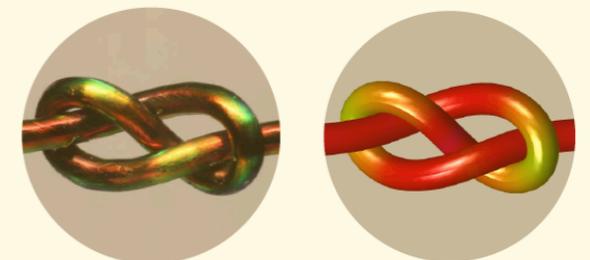
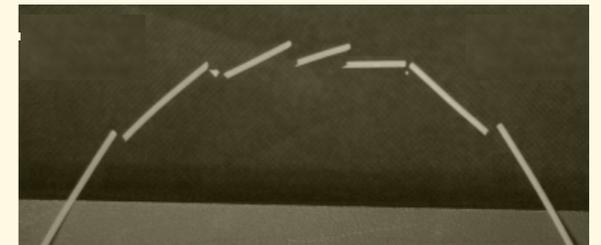
Curvature-controlled pattern formation



Reis lab, MIT MechE \Rightarrow EPFL

Nature Materials 2015
Physical Review Letters 2016

Thin structures



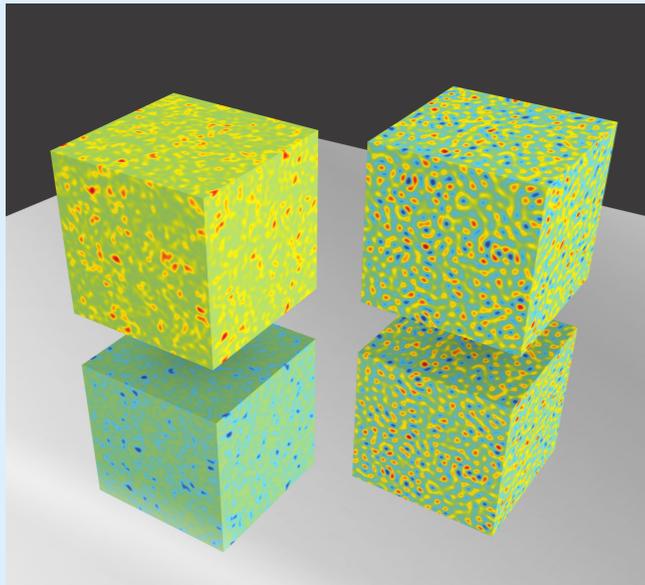
Kolle lab, MIT MechE

PNAS 2018
Science 2020

Continuous active matter

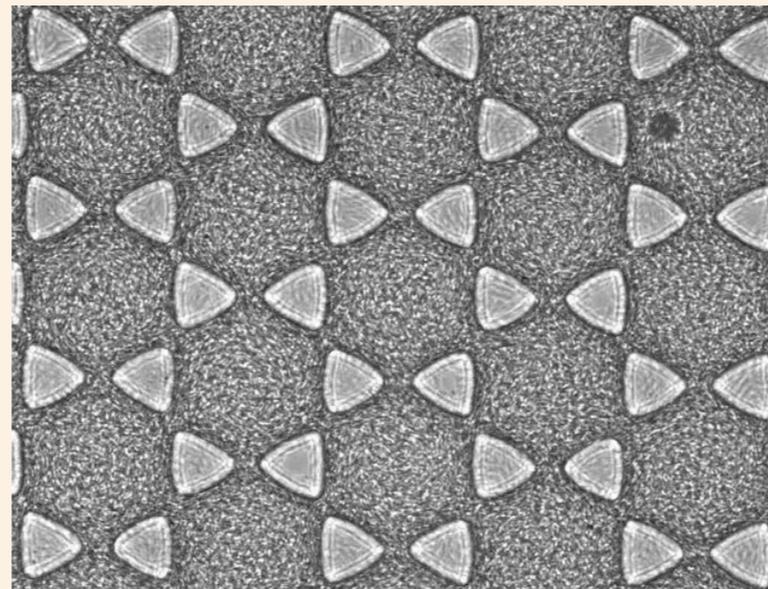
Active fluids

Energy transport in active fluids



PNAS 2012
Physical Review Letter 2013
PNAS 2017
J Fluid Mech 2018

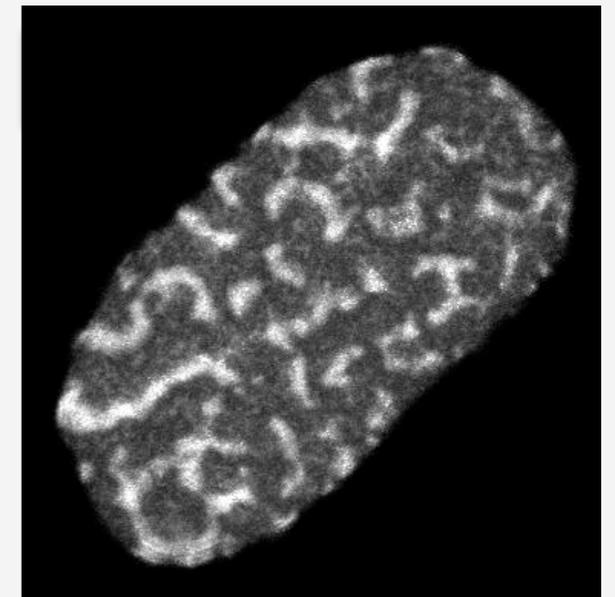
Geometric control of microbial suspensions



Goldstein lab, Cambridge

Physical Review Letters 2013
PNAS 2013
eLife 2014
Nature Physics 2016

Cell membranes



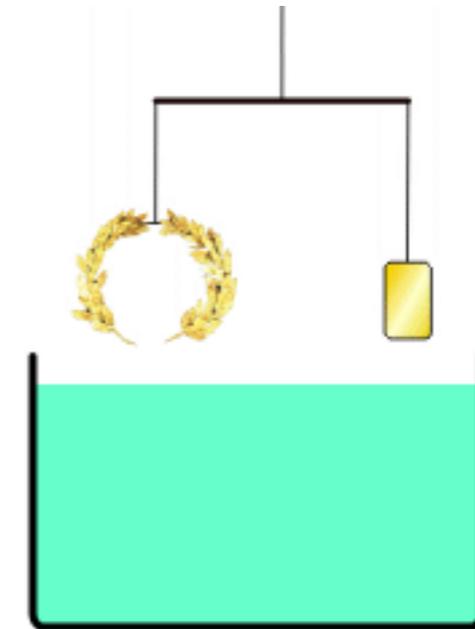
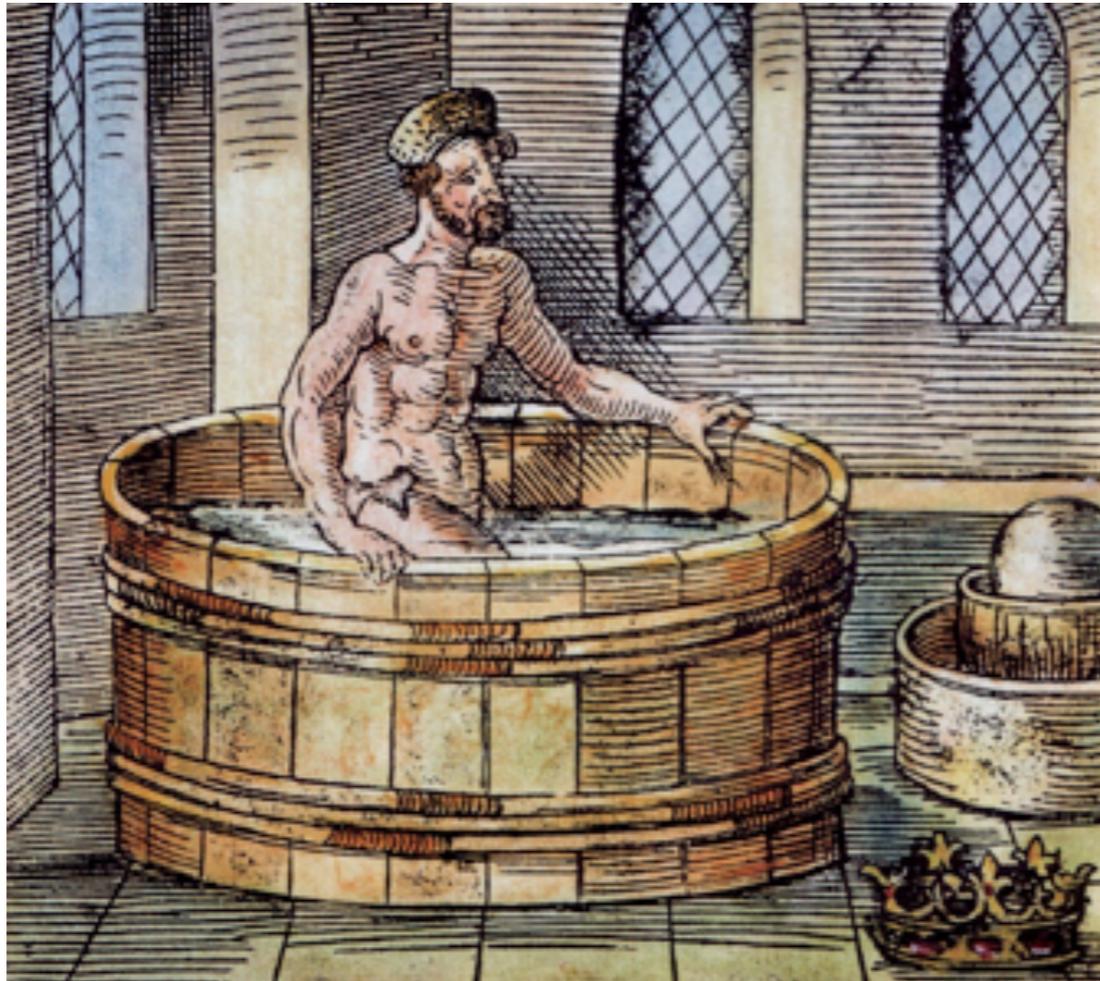
Fakhri lab, MIT Physics

Nature Physics 2020 (in press)

Historical backdrop ... quiz:

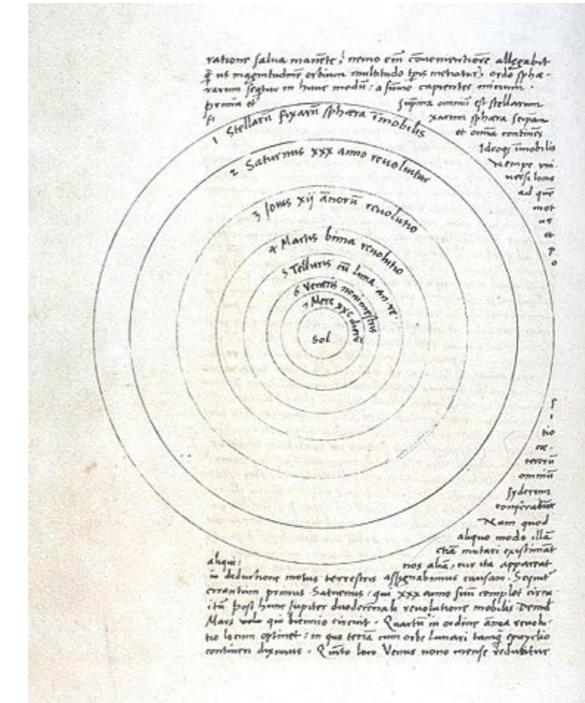
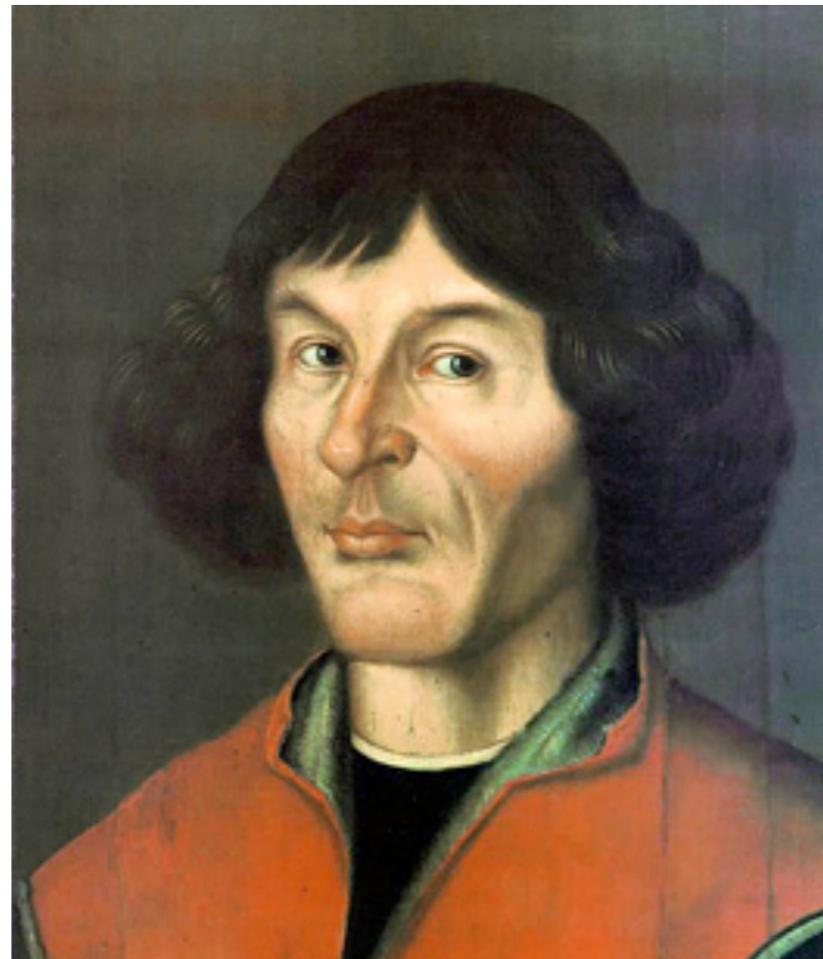
Some famous thought on
Applied Math ?

'Eureka, Eureka'



c. 287 BC - c. 212 BC

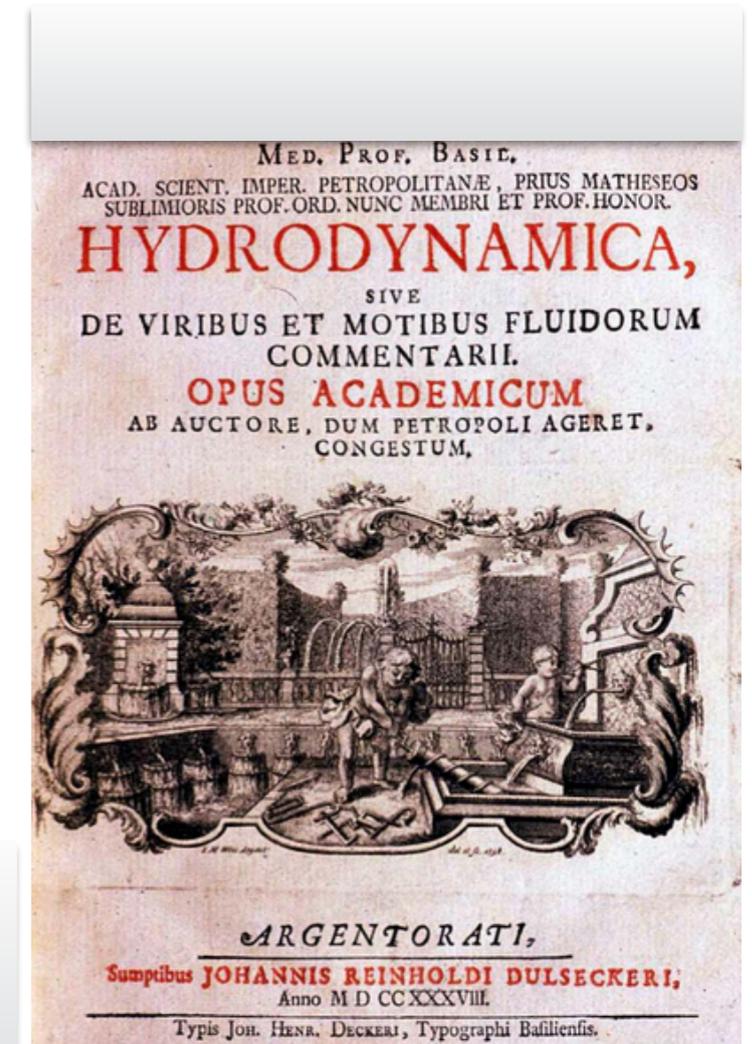
'Mathematic is written for mathematicians'



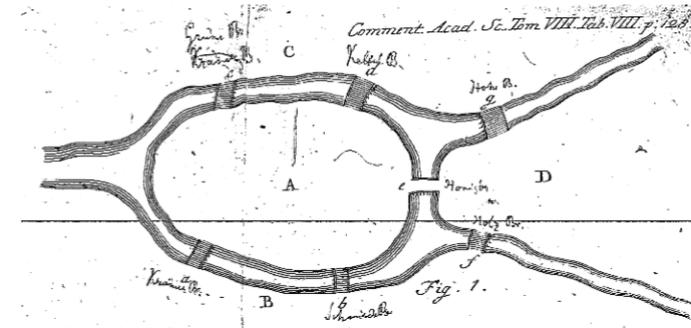
19 February 1473 – 24 May 1543

*'It would be better for the true physics
if there were no mathematicians on
earth'*

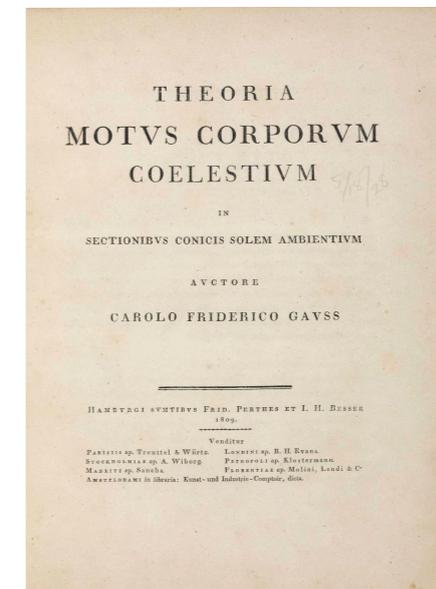
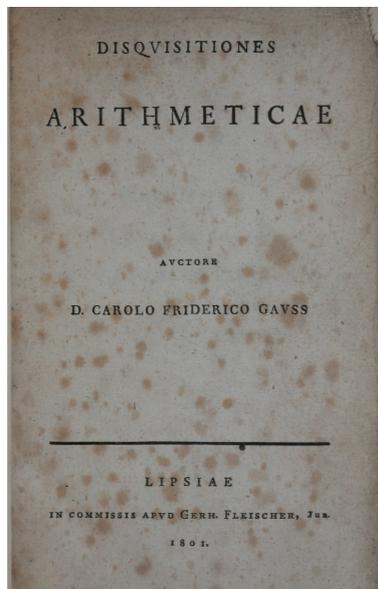
8 February 1700 – 17 March 1782



'Now I will have less distraction'

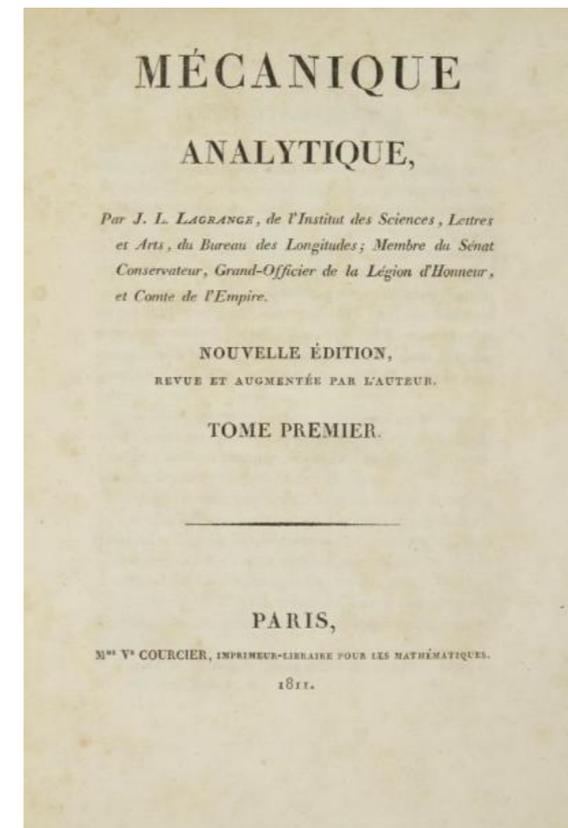
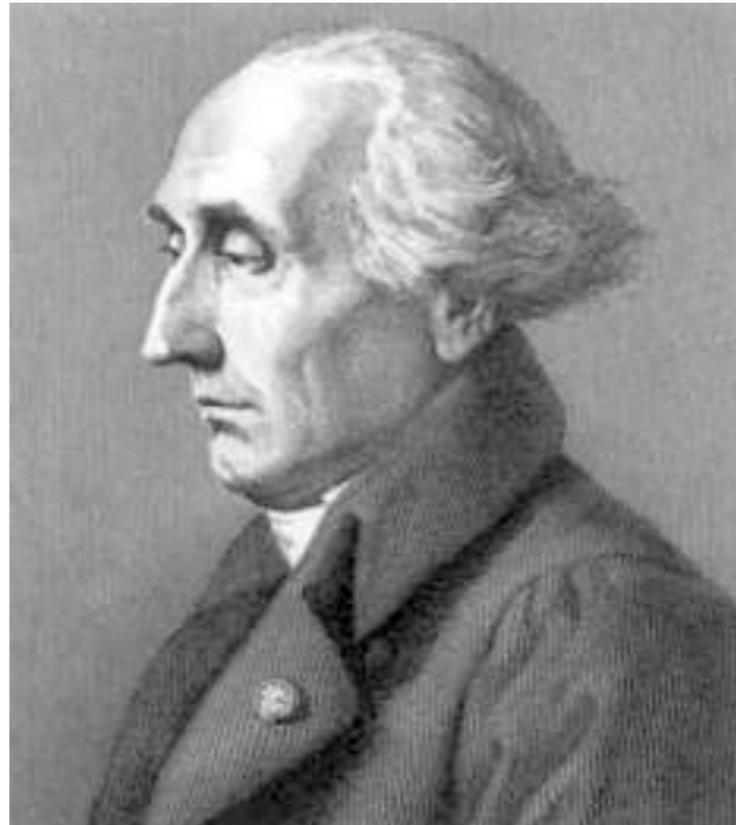


15 April 1707 – 18 September 1783



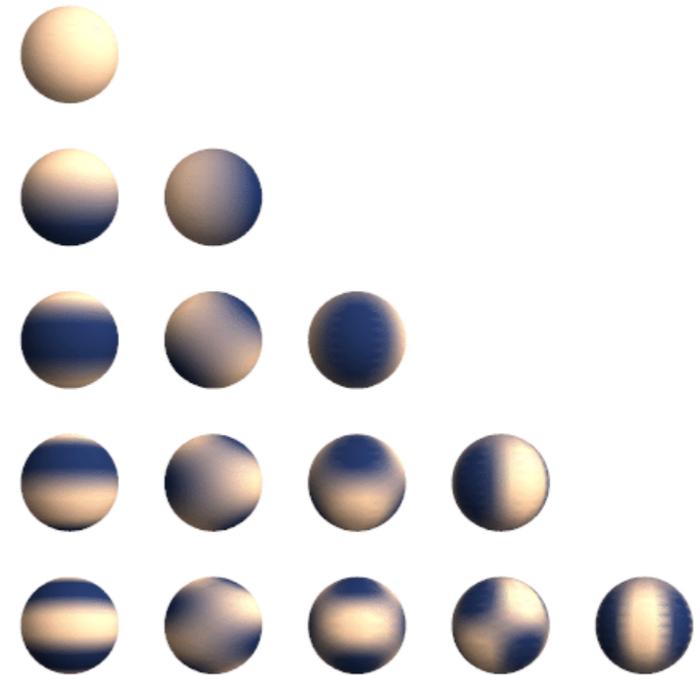
“If this subject has hitherto been considered from the wrong viewpoint and thus enveloped in mystery and surrounded by darkness, it is largely an unsuitable terminology which should be blamed. Had $+1$, -1 and $\sqrt{-1}$, instead of being called positive, negative and imaginary (or worse still, impossible) unity, been given the names say, of direct, inverse and lateral unity, there would hardly have been any scope for such obscurity.”

'I do not know'



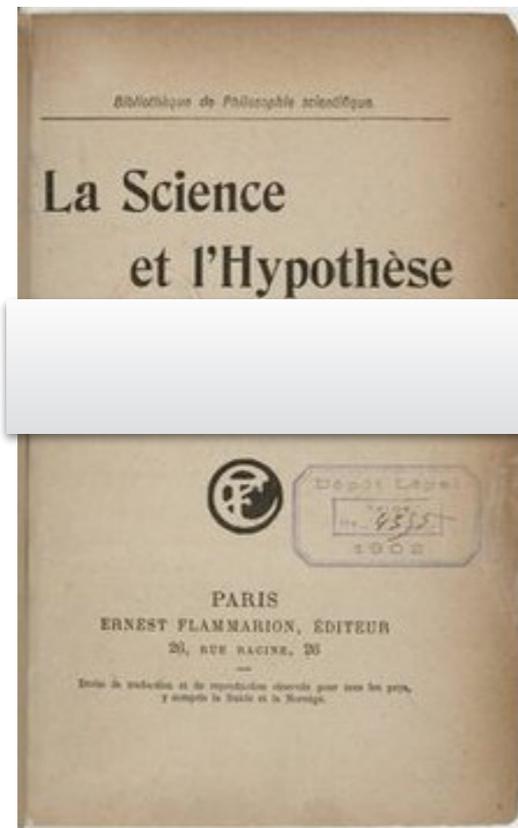
25 January 1736 - 10 April 1813

'Nature laughs at the difficulties of integration'



23 March 1749 – 5 March 1827

'Mathematicians are born, not made'



29 April 1854 – 17 July 1912

'Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future'



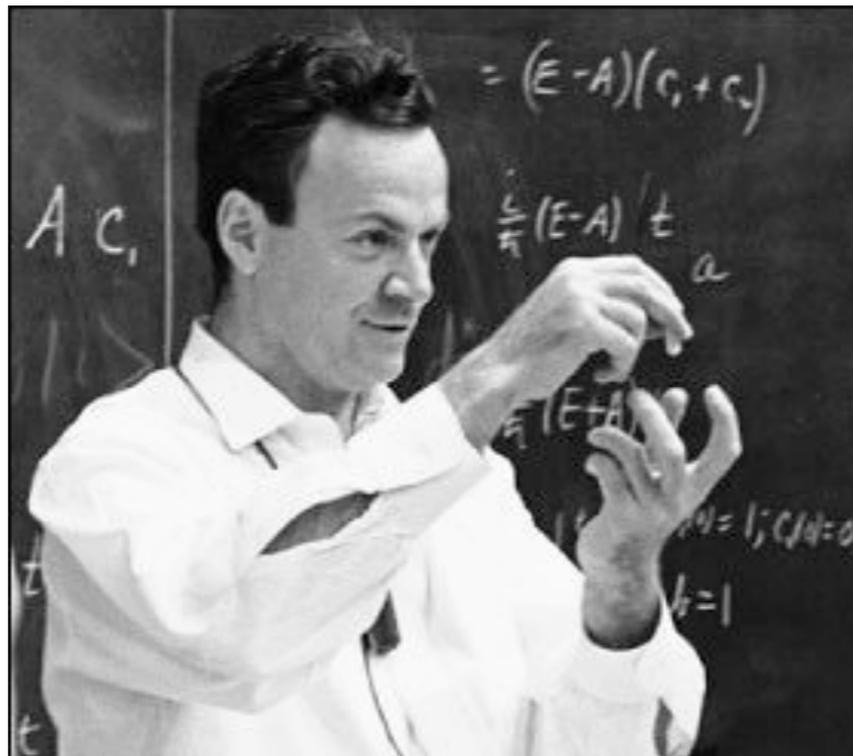
7 October 1885 – 18 November 1962



'It is more important to have beauty in one's equations than to have them fit experiment' and 'This result is too beautiful to be false'

8 August 1902 – 20 October 1984

'To those who do not know mathematics it is difficult to get across a real feeling as to the beauty, the deepest beauty, of nature'



May 11, 1918 – February 15, 1988

BSc 1939

Course content overview

Concepts

- linear/nonlinear PDEs for scalar, vector and tensor fields
- model **derivation/construction**, dimensional analysis
- solution techniques, Fourier methods
- stability, perturbation theory
- calculus of variations

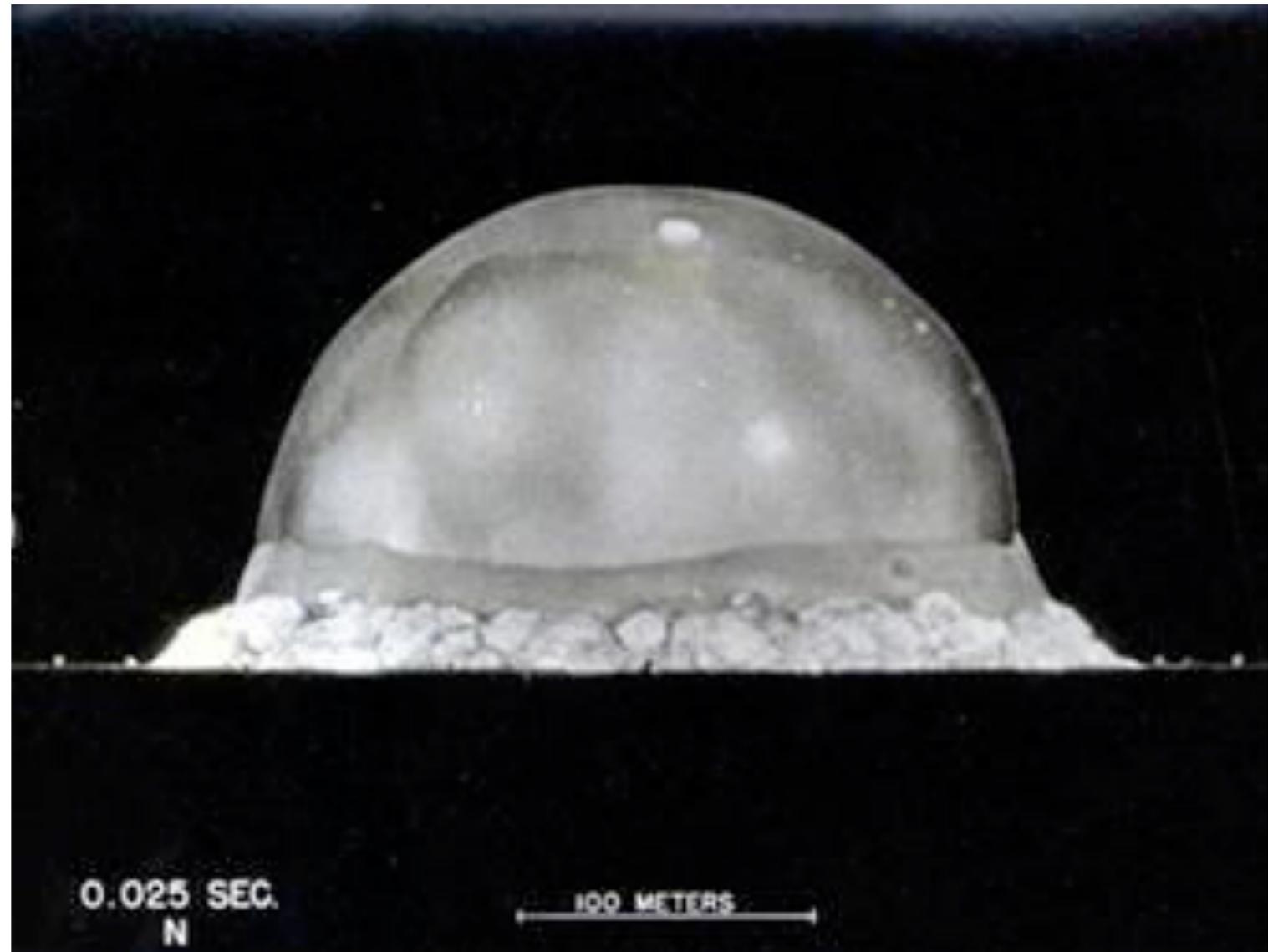
Examples

- Hamiltonian dynamics & Liouville equation
- Brownian motion (free and confined)
- quantum mechanics (linear and nonlinear)
- pattern formation theory (Turing)
- elasticity theory
- fluid dynamics (passive and active)

Dimensional analysis



G I Taylor
1886-1975



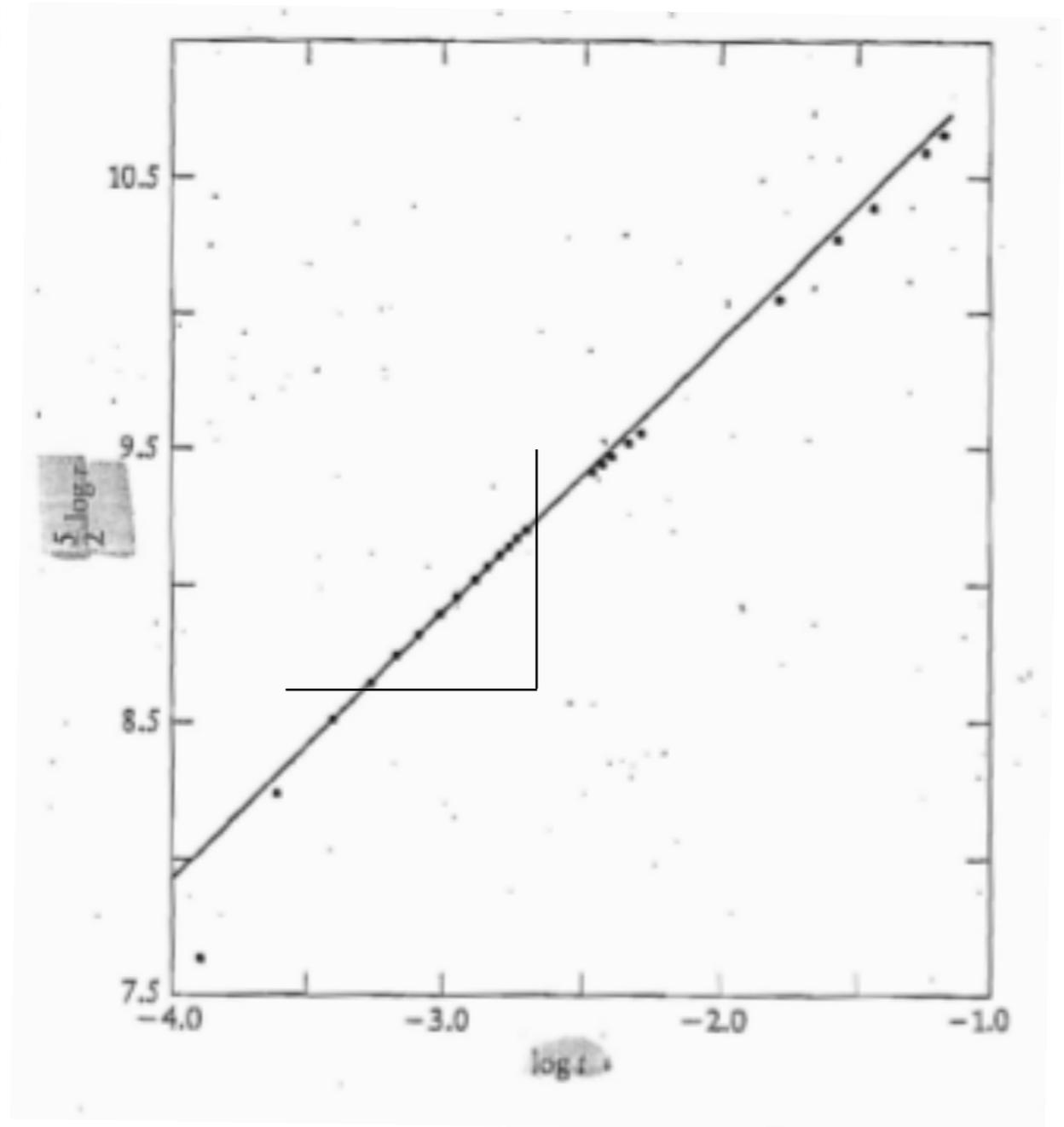
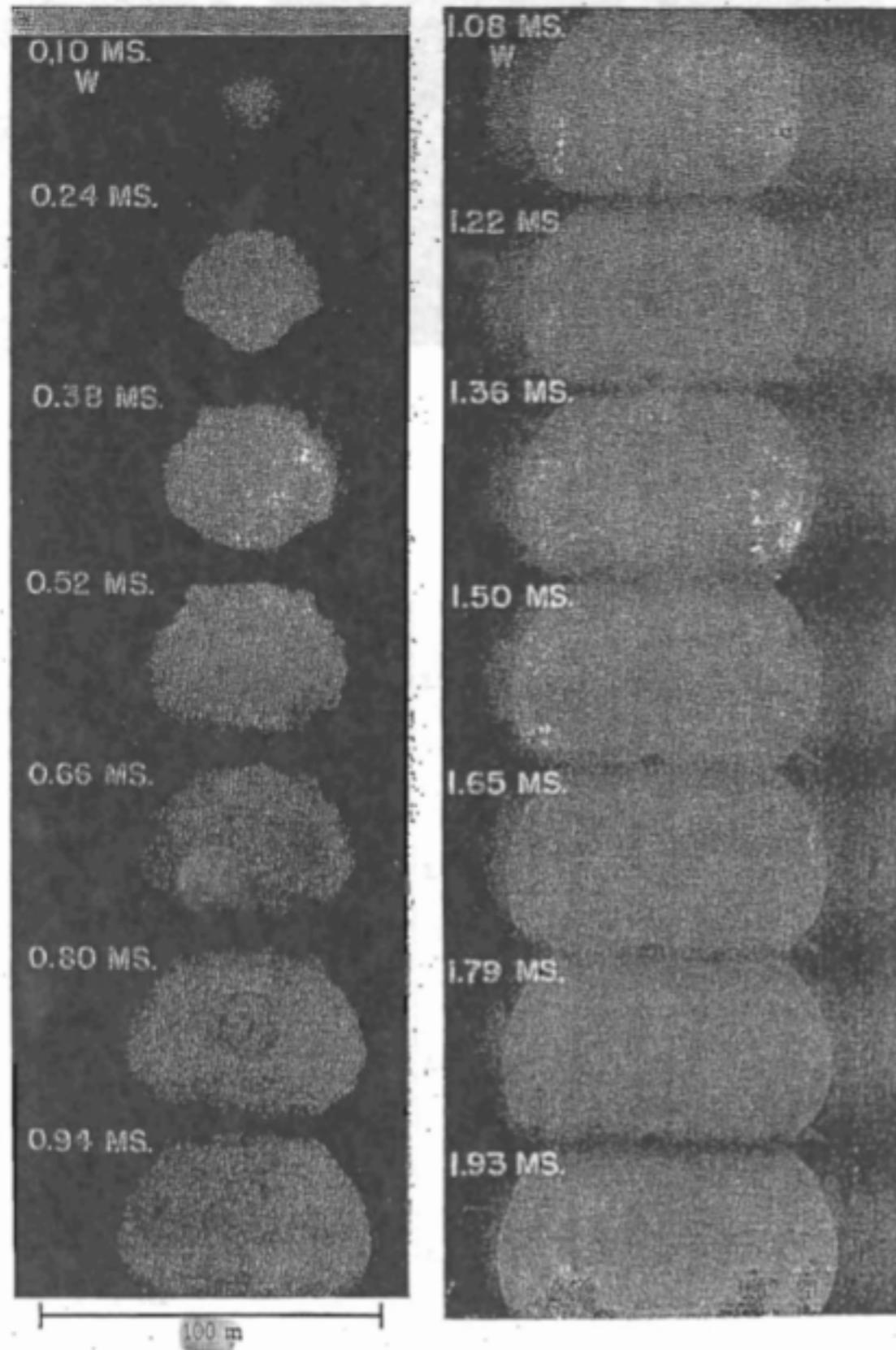
Trinity nuclear test, July 1945
Life Magazine, August 20, 1945

The formation of a blast wave by a very intense explosion.

II. The atomic explosion of 1945

By SIR GEOFFREY TAYLOR, F.R.S.

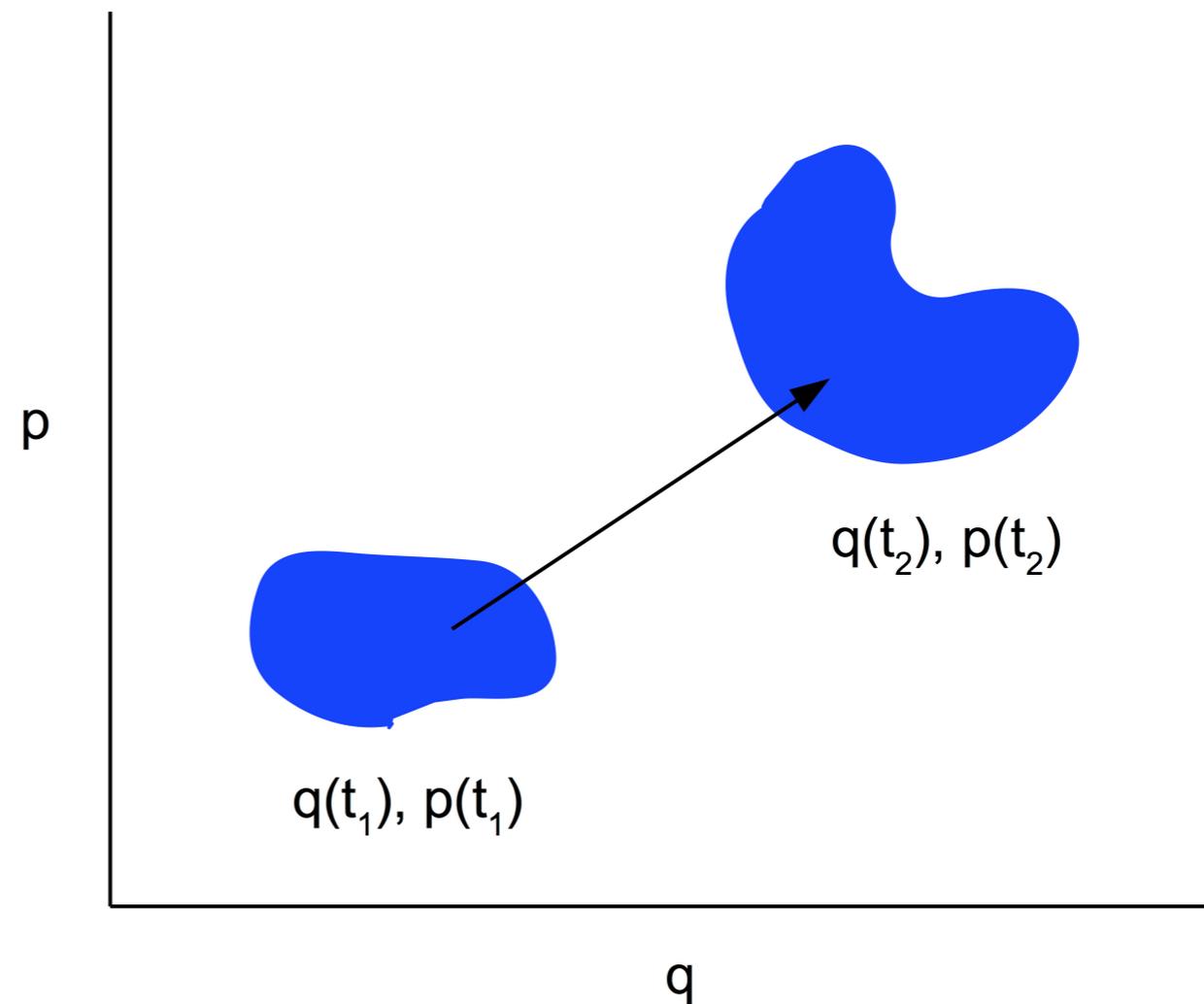
(Received 10 November 1949)



$$\ln R = \ln \left[c \left(\frac{E}{\rho} \right)^{1/5} \right] + \frac{2}{5} \ln t$$

Hamiltonian dynamics & Liouville equation

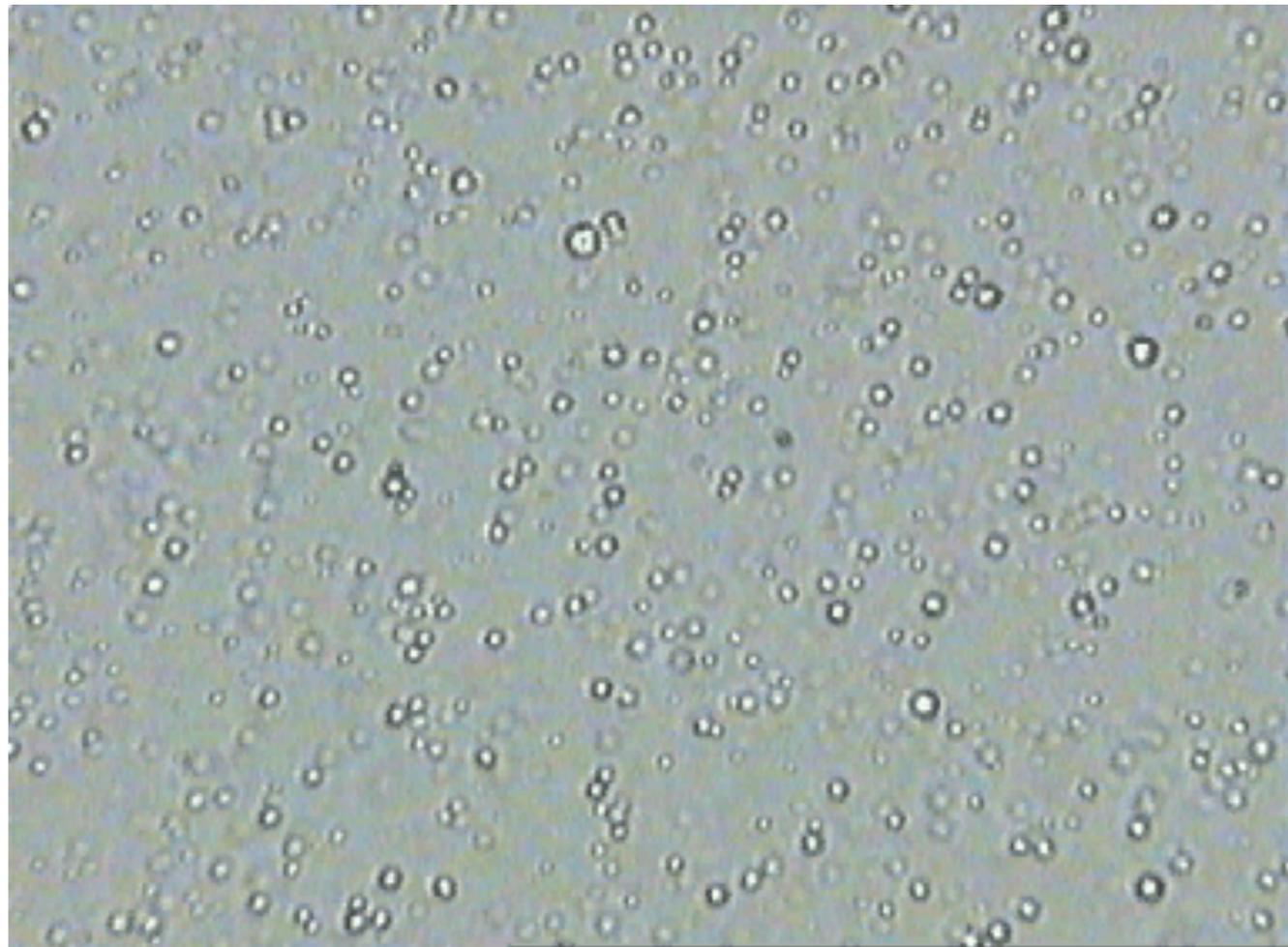
$$H = \sum_i \frac{p_i^2}{2m_i} + U(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$



Brownian motion

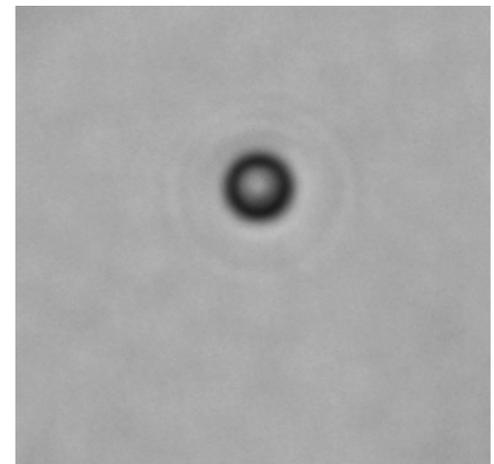


Random walks & diffusion



David Walker

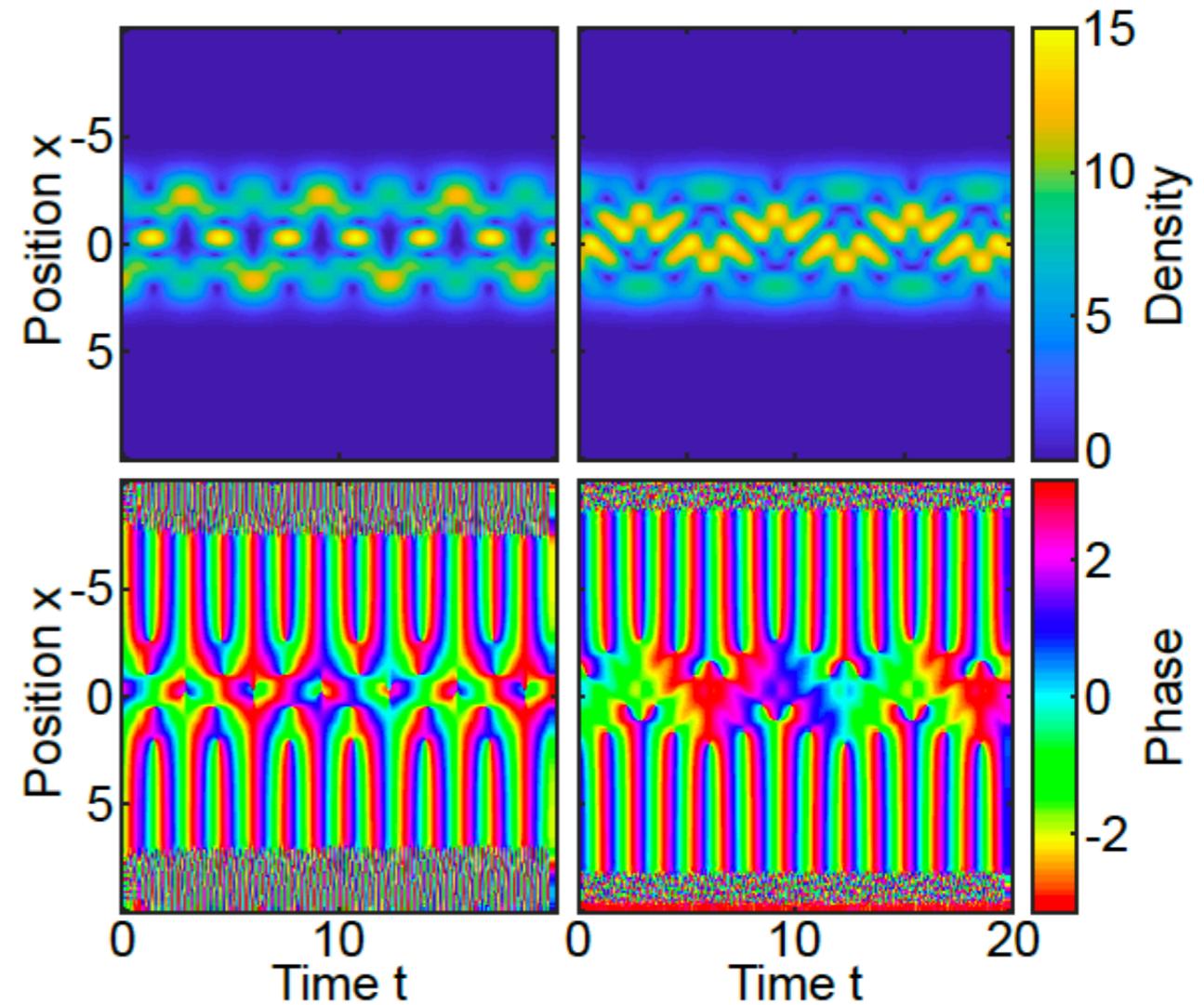
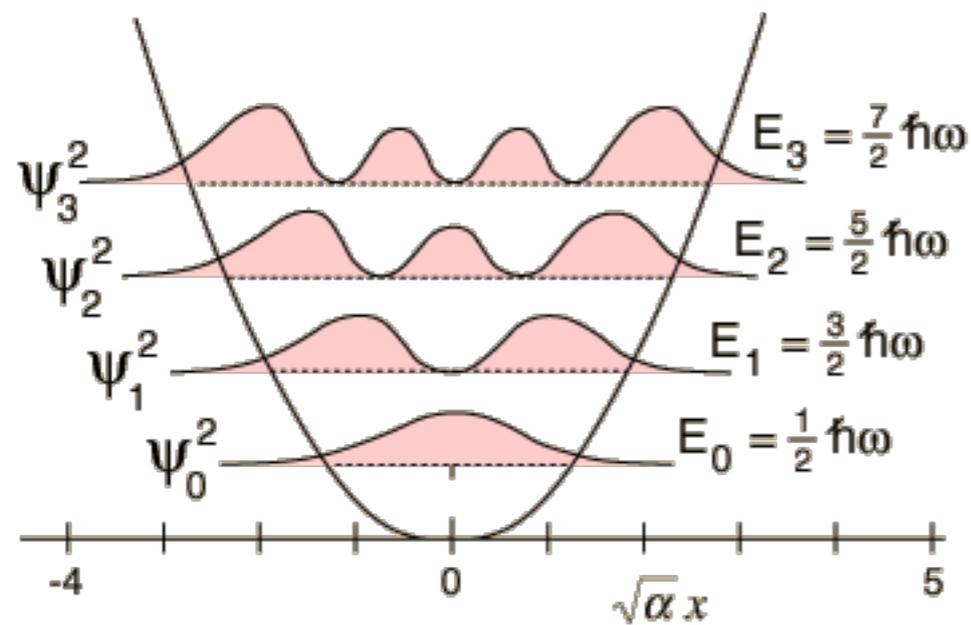
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial x^2}$$



Mark Haw

Quantum mechanics

$$i\psi_t = -\psi_{xx} + \omega^2 x^2 \psi$$



Higher-order quantum hydrodynamics

NLS
GPE

$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}) = \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2 + g_0 |\Psi(t, \mathbf{r})|^2 \right) \Psi(t, \mathbf{r})$$

$$u = g_0\delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')$$

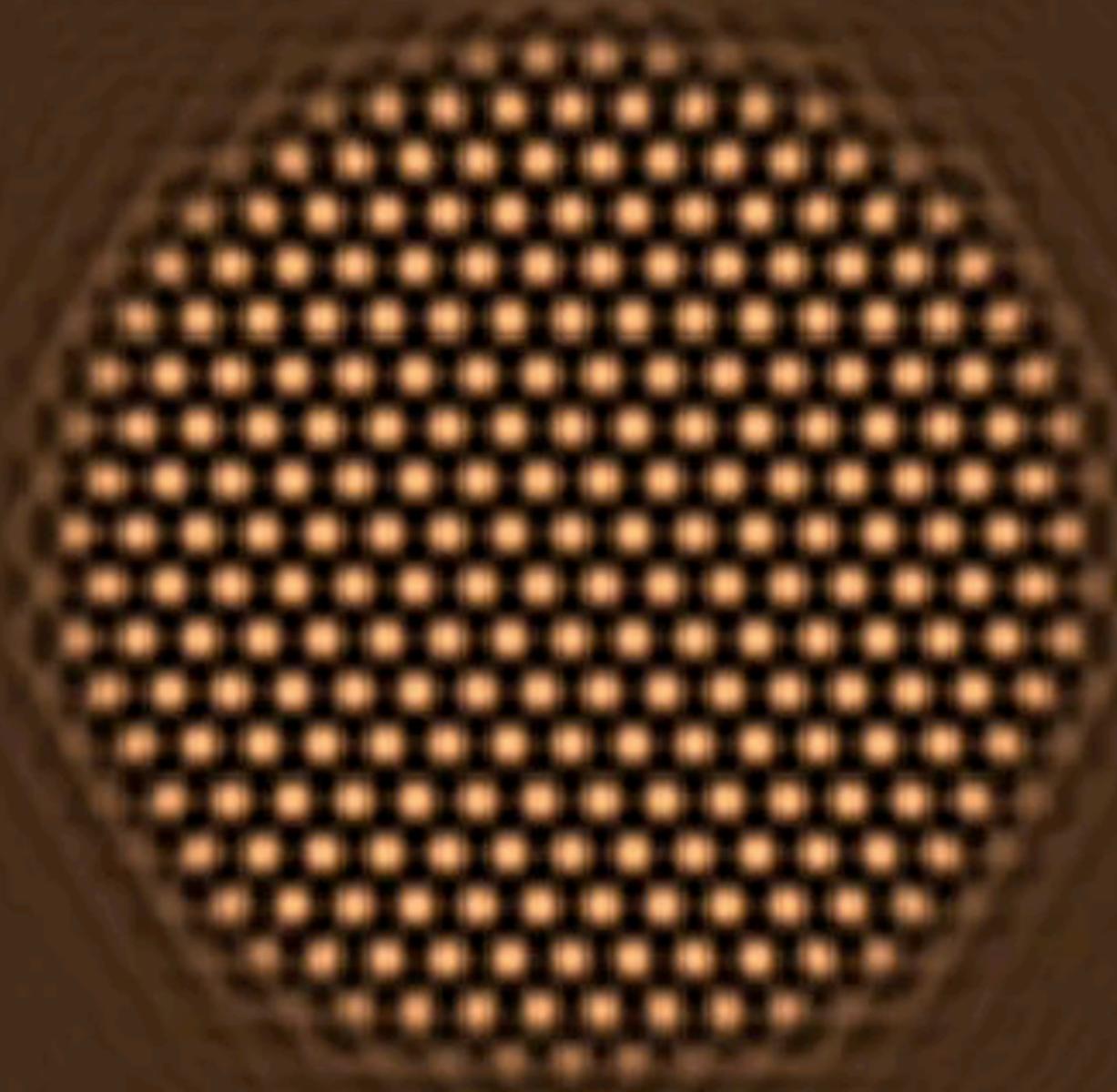
$$\langle u_{\text{int}} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \int \int d\mathbf{r}_1 d\mathbf{r}_2 [\Psi^*(t, \mathbf{r}_2)\Psi^*(t, \mathbf{r}_1)u_{\text{int}}(|\mathbf{r}_2 - \mathbf{r}_1|)\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}_1)\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}_2)]$$

$$\hat{u}_{\text{int}}(k) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} g_{2j}k^{2j}$$

$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi = \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2 + \left(\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (-1)^j g_{2j}(\nabla^2)^j |\Psi|^2 \right) \right] \Psi$$

Analytically tractable theory of super-solids

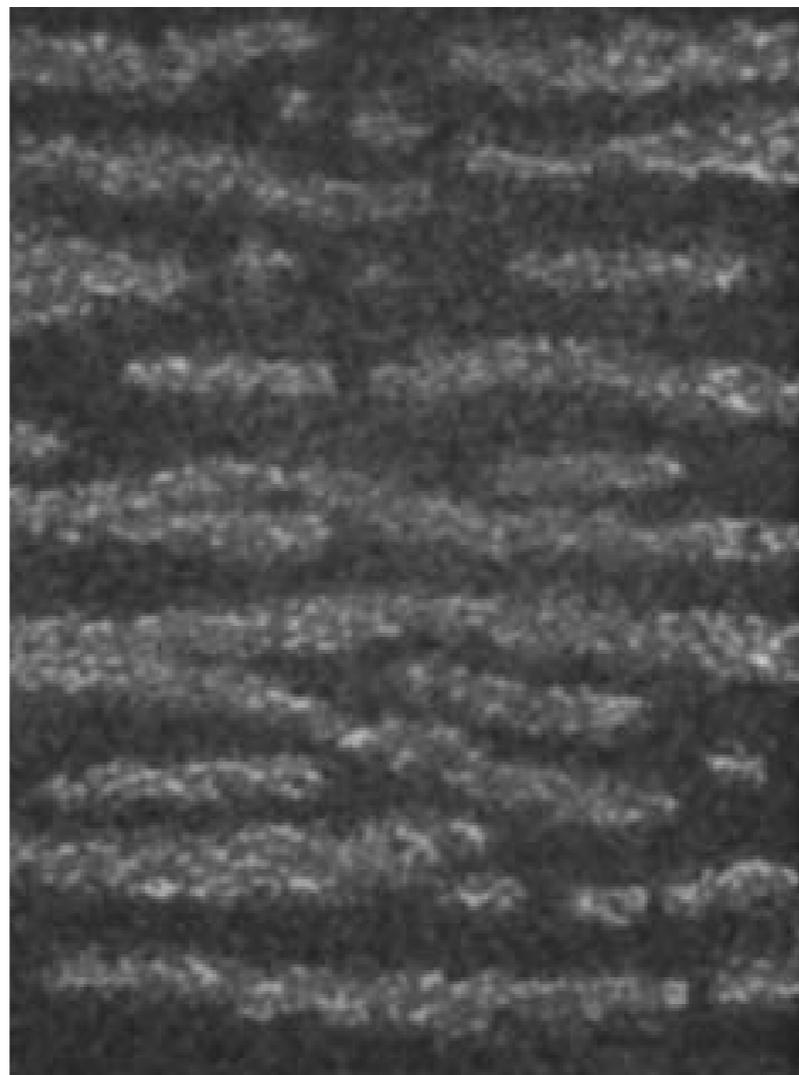
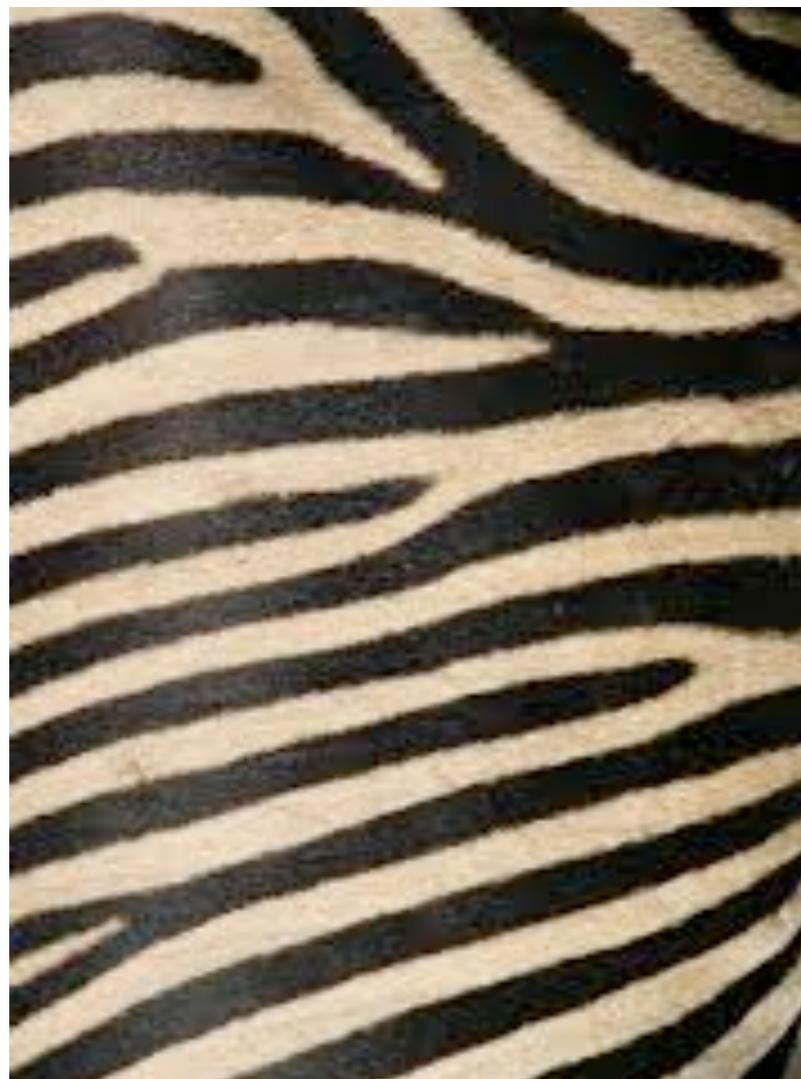
$|\Psi|^2$



Pattern formation



zebra vs. granular medium vs. fingerprint



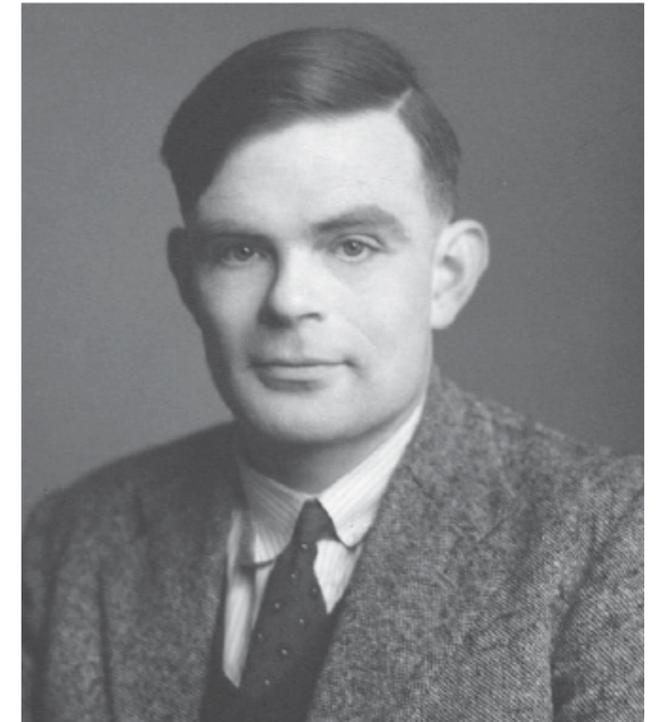
Mathematical theory of pattern formation

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. Series B, Biological Sciences, Vol. 237, No. 641. (Aug. 14, 1952), pp. 37-72.

THE CHEMICAL BASIS OF MORPHOGENESIS

By A. M. TURING, F.R.S. *University of Manchester*

(Received 9 November 1951—Revised 15 March 1952)



The Royal Society

$$\partial_t \mathbf{c}(t, \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{c}) + \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{c}$$

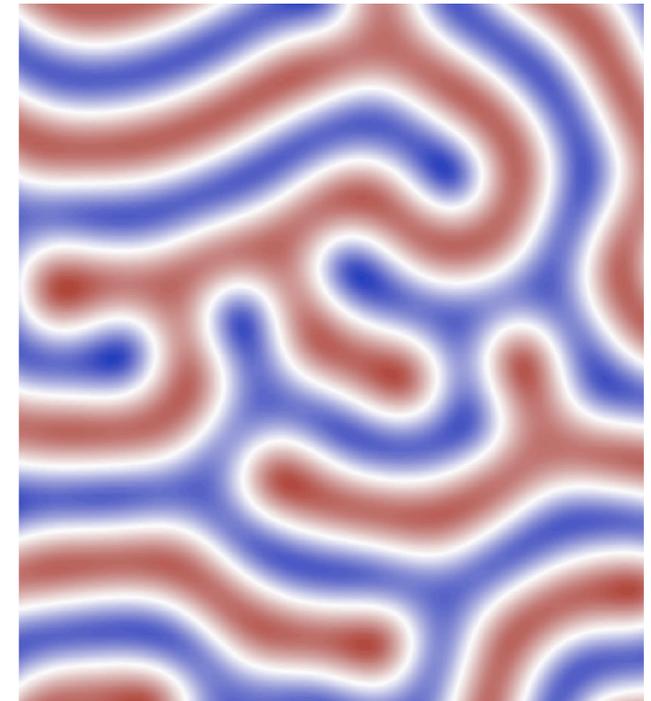
local
reactions
(nonlinear)

non-local
diffusive interactions
(linear)

Swift-Hohenberg theory

$$\partial_t \psi = -U'(\psi) + \gamma_0 \nabla^2 \psi - \gamma_2 (\nabla^2)^2 \psi$$

$$U(\psi) = \frac{a}{2} \psi^2 + \frac{b}{3} \psi^3 + \frac{c}{4} \psi^4$$

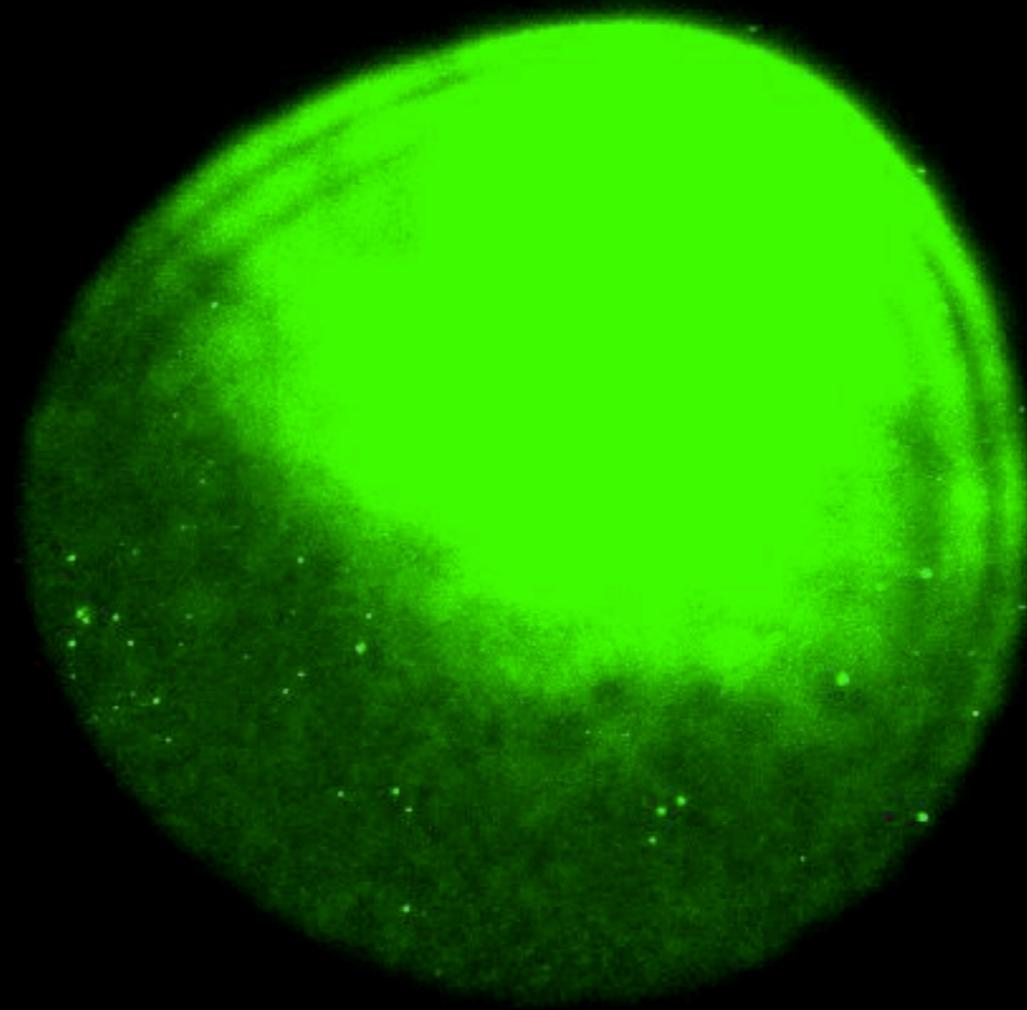
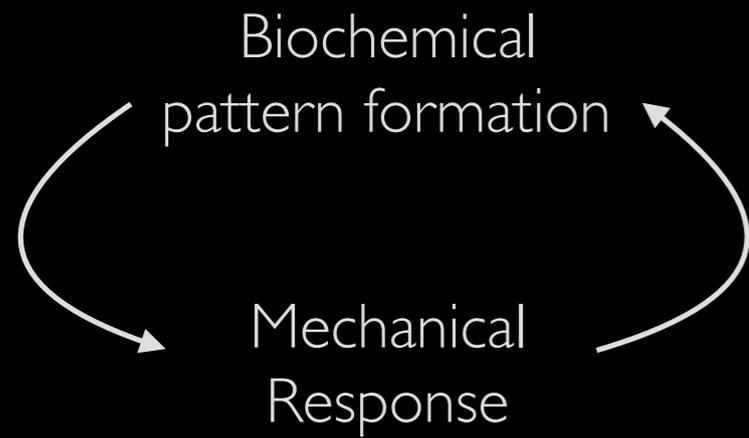


wikimedia



Beyond Turing

Starfish egg cell



Fakhri lab
MIT Physics

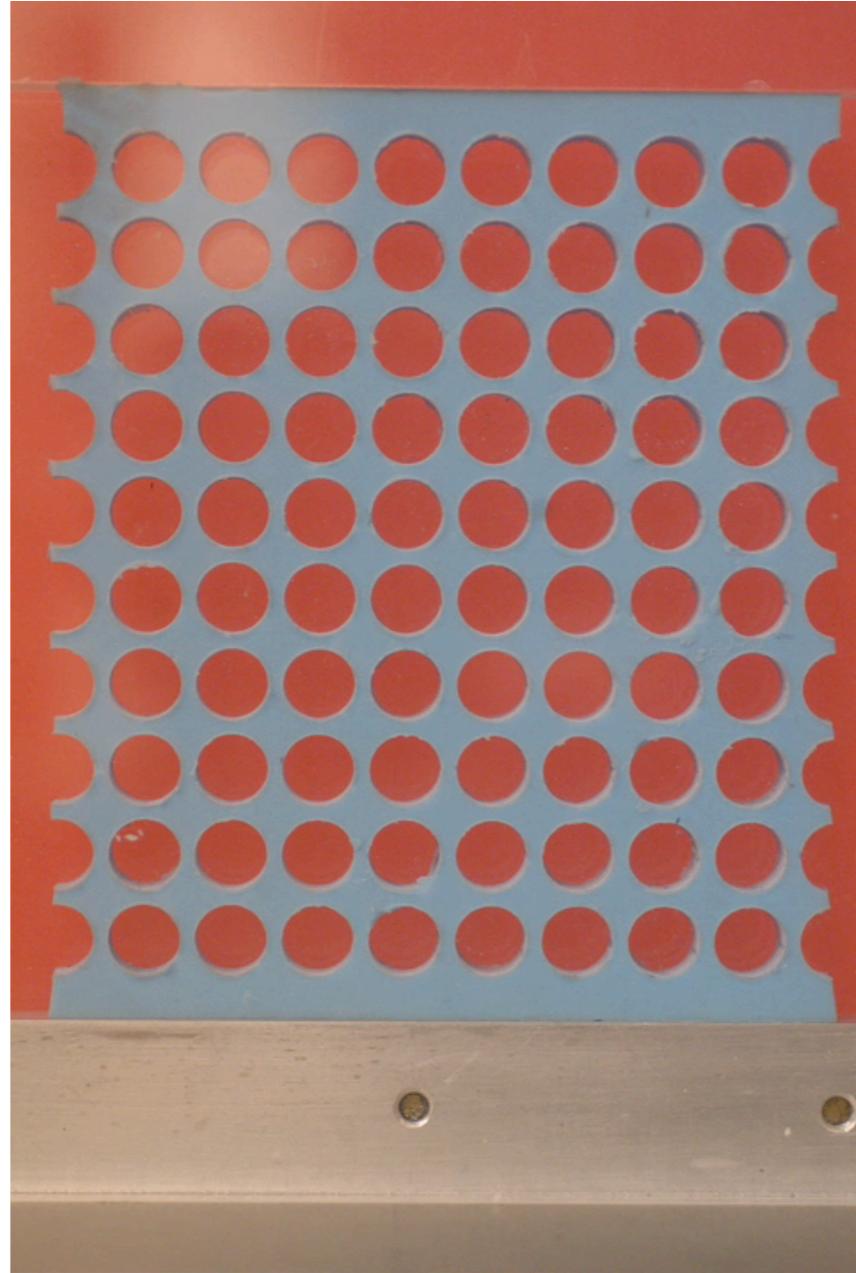
Topological turbulence in the membrane of a living cell
Tan*, Liu*, Miller*, Tekant, JD & Fakhri, Nature Physics (in press)

Calculus of variations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\delta I[Y]}{\delta Y} &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \{I[f(x) + \epsilon \delta(x - y)] - I[f(x)]\} \\ &= \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial Y} \delta(x - y) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial Y'} \delta'(x - y) \right] dx \\ &= \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial Y} - \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\partial f}{\partial Y'} \right] \delta(x - y) dx.\end{aligned}$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial Y} - \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\partial f}{\partial Y'}$$

Elasticity



Elasticity

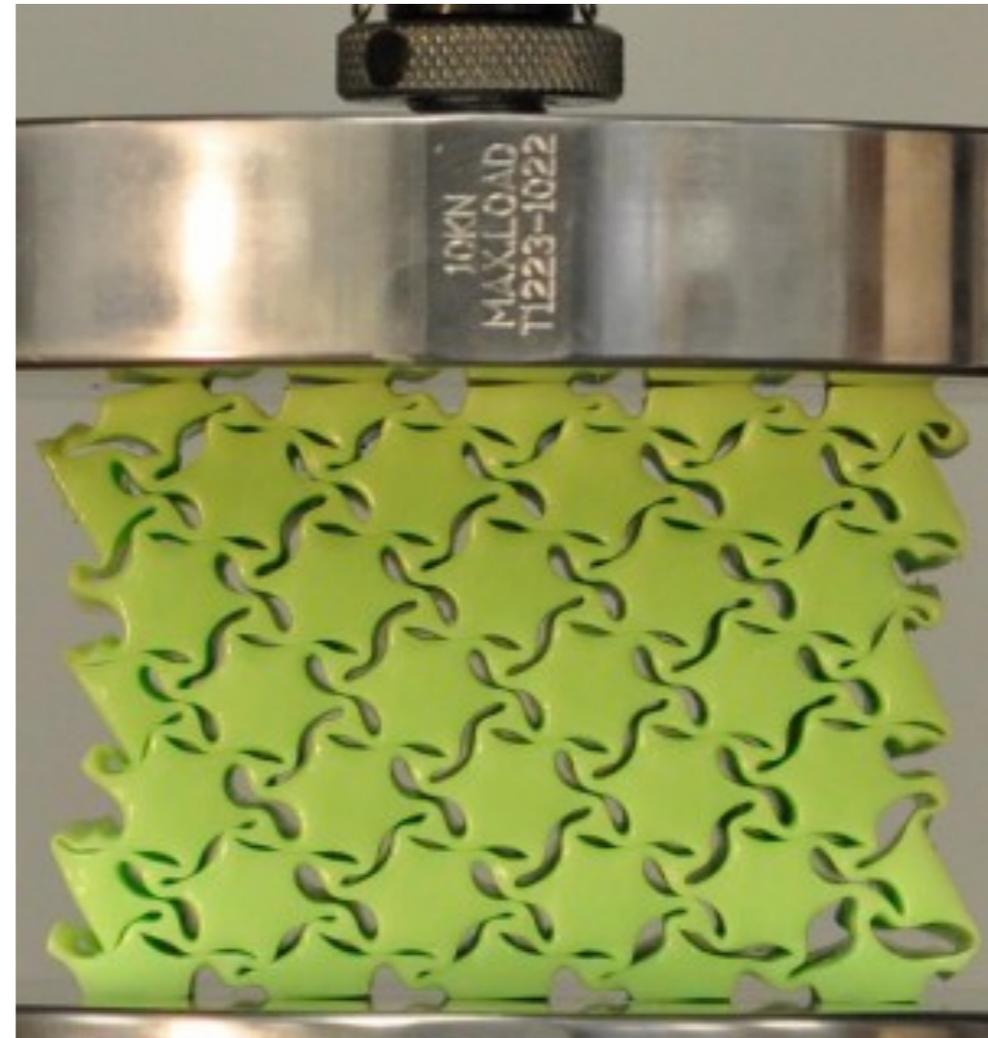
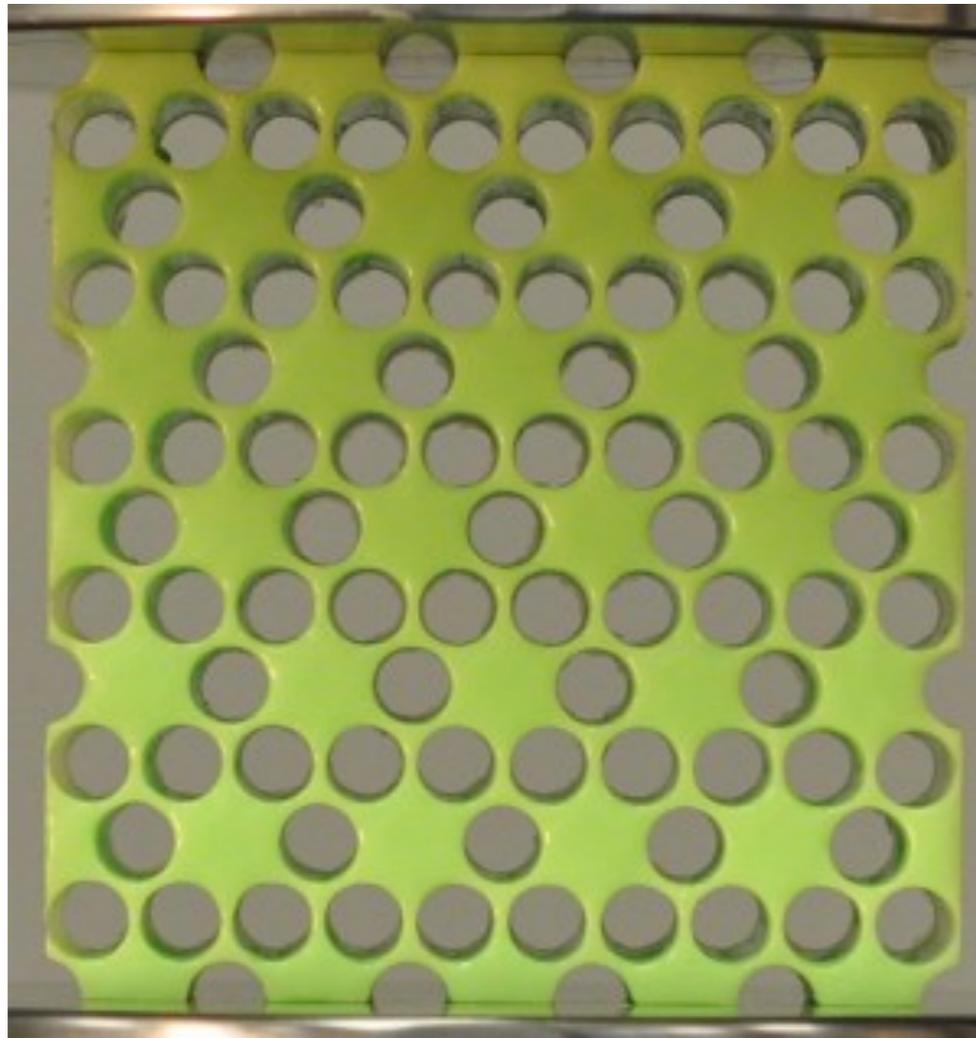
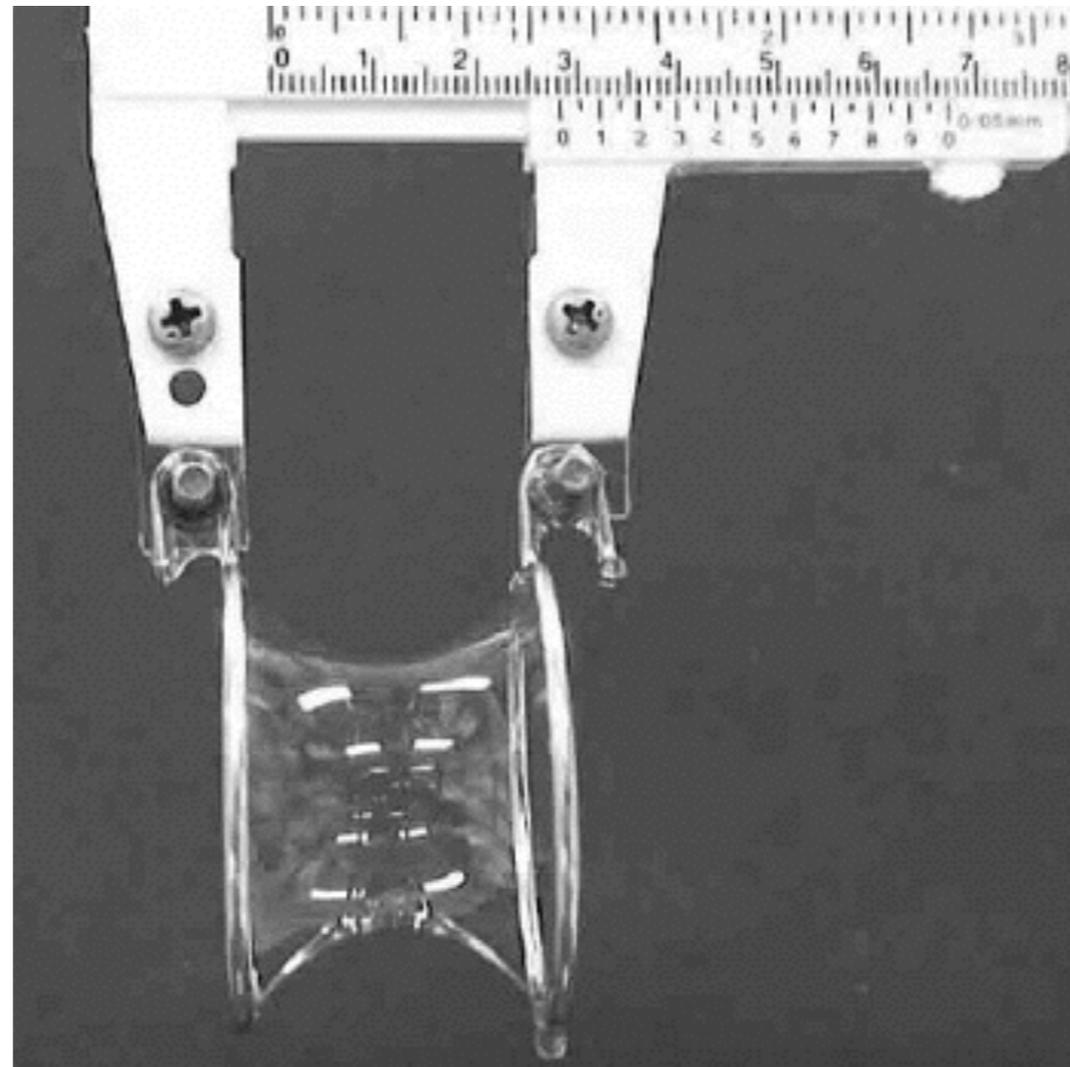
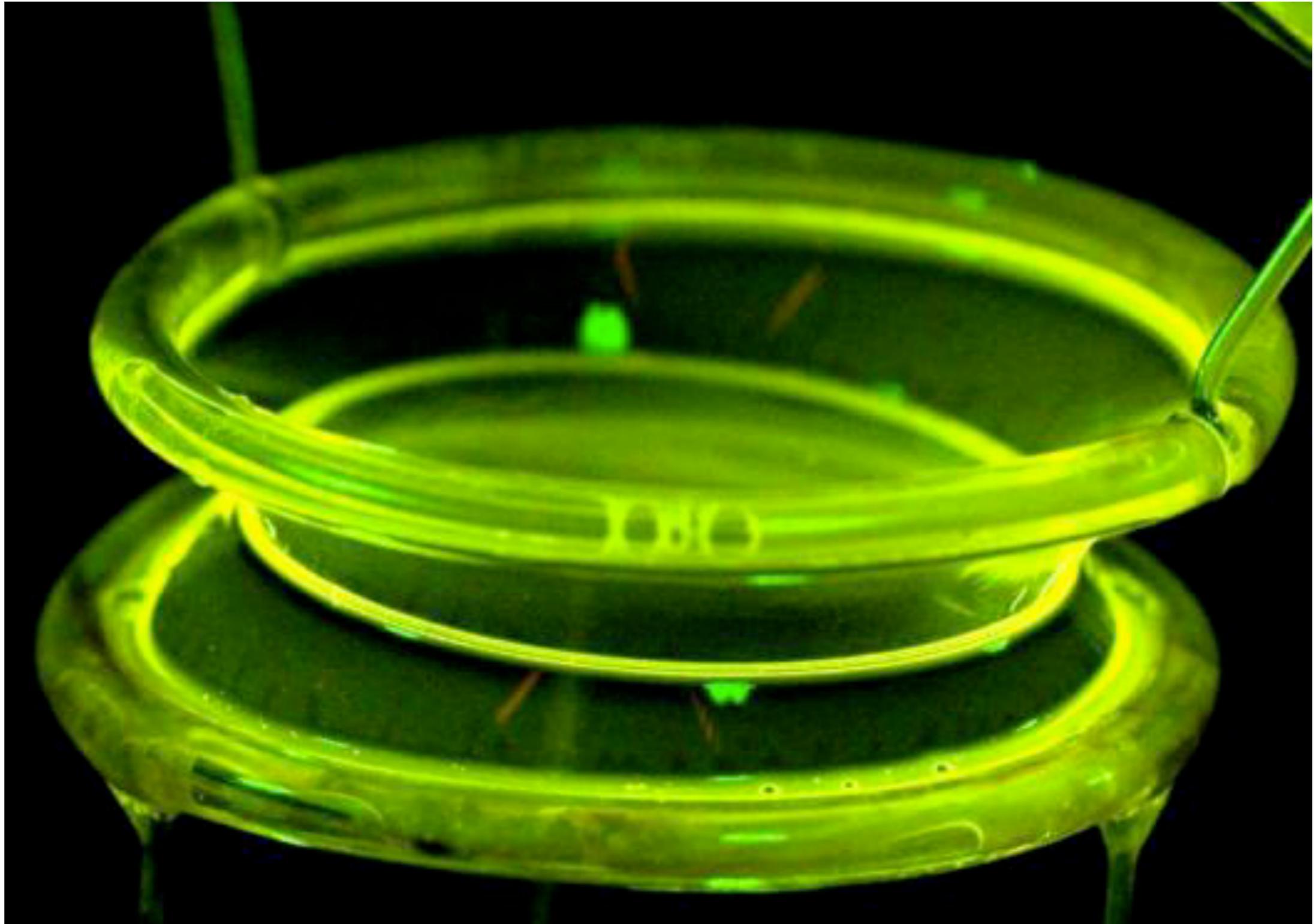


photo: Andrej Kosmrlj

Surface tension





Goldstein lab, Cambridge

Large drop in microgravity



Hydrodynamics

$$\int_V \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} dV = - \int_S \rho \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS = - \int_V \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) dV.$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0.$$

$$\int_{V(t)} \rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} dV = \int_{V(t)} (-\nabla p + \rho \mathbf{g}) dV$$

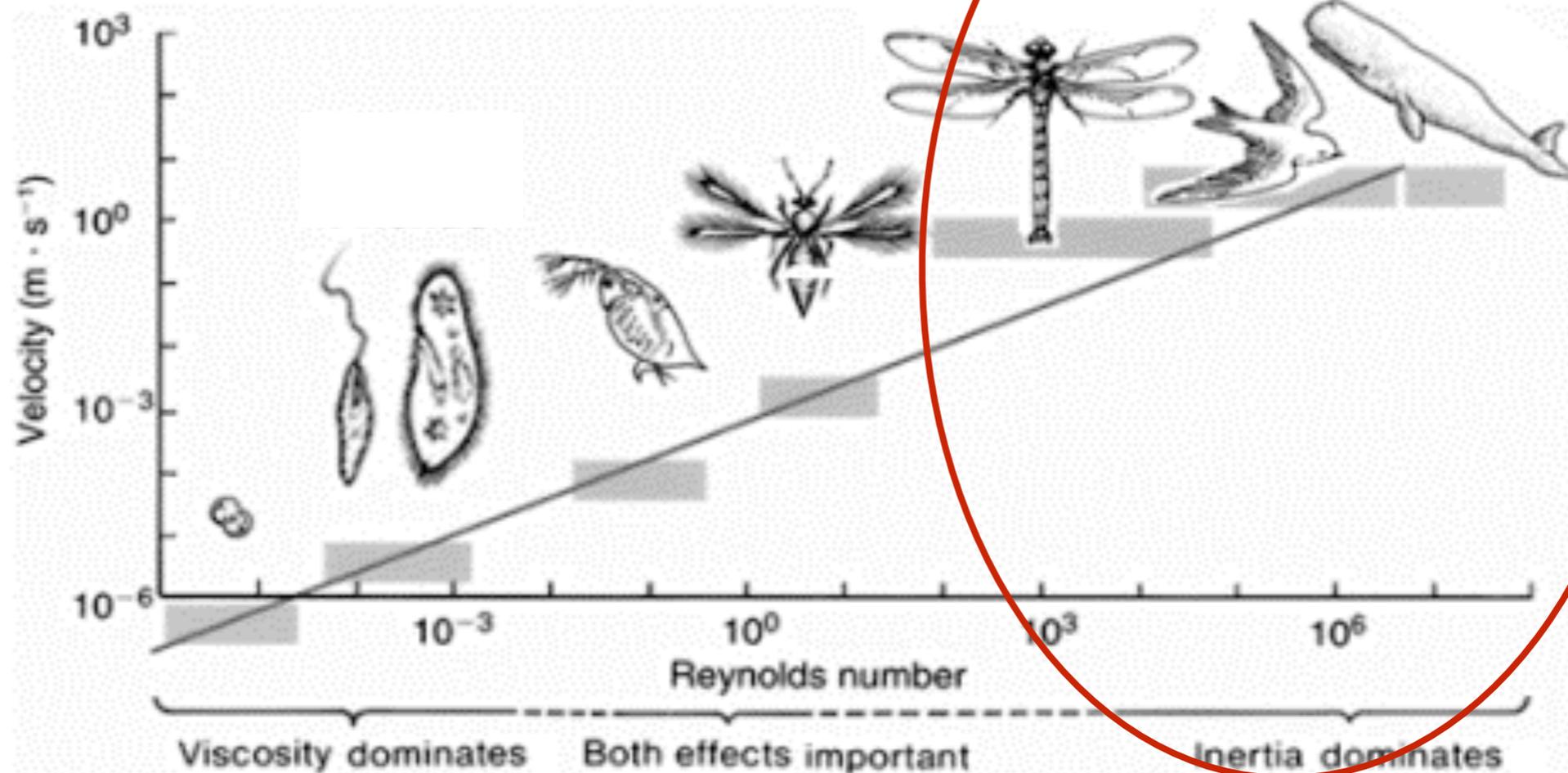
$$\frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = \frac{-\nabla p}{\rho} + \mathbf{g}.$$

Typical Reynolds numbers

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} \right) = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \frac{2}{3} \mu \nabla (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) + \rho \mathbf{g}$$

$$Re = \frac{\rho U L}{\mu} = \frac{U L}{\nu}$$

Macro-
world

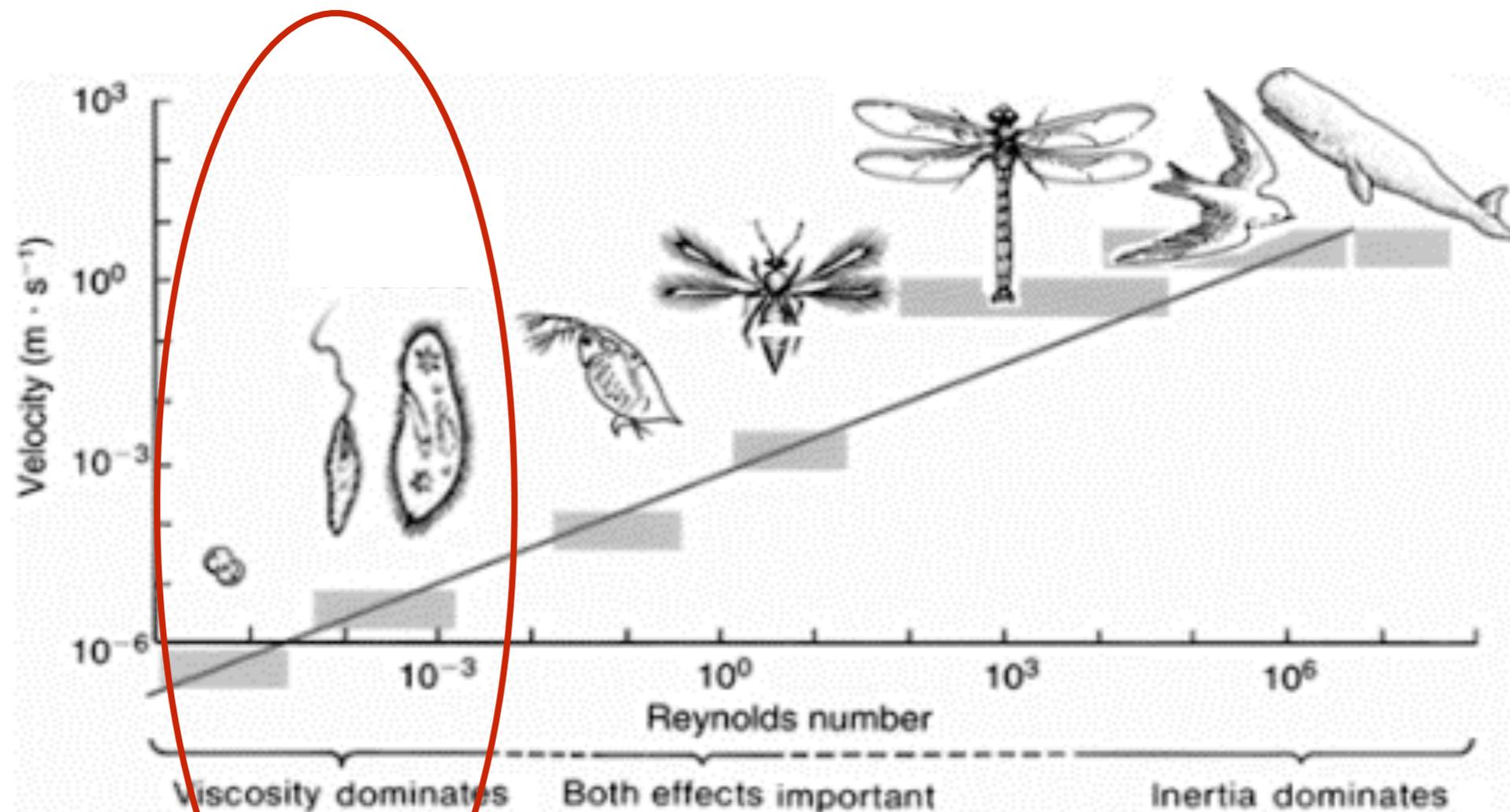


~ meters



What happens at **low** Reynolds numbers ?

$$Re = \frac{\rho U L}{\mu} = \frac{U L}{\nu}$$



Low-Re (laminar) flow



Swimming at low Reynolds number

Navier - Stokes:

$$-\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{v} = \cancel{\rho \frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t}} + \cancel{\rho (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v}}$$

If $\mathcal{R} \sim UL\rho/\eta \ll 1$

Time doesn't matter. The pattern of motion is the same, whether slow or fast, whether forward or backward in time.

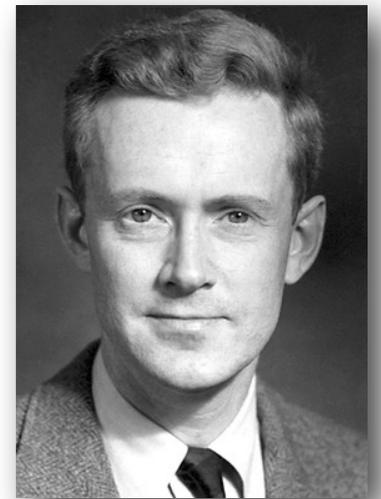
The Scallop Theorem



Geoffrey Ingram Taylor



James Lighthill



Edward Purcell

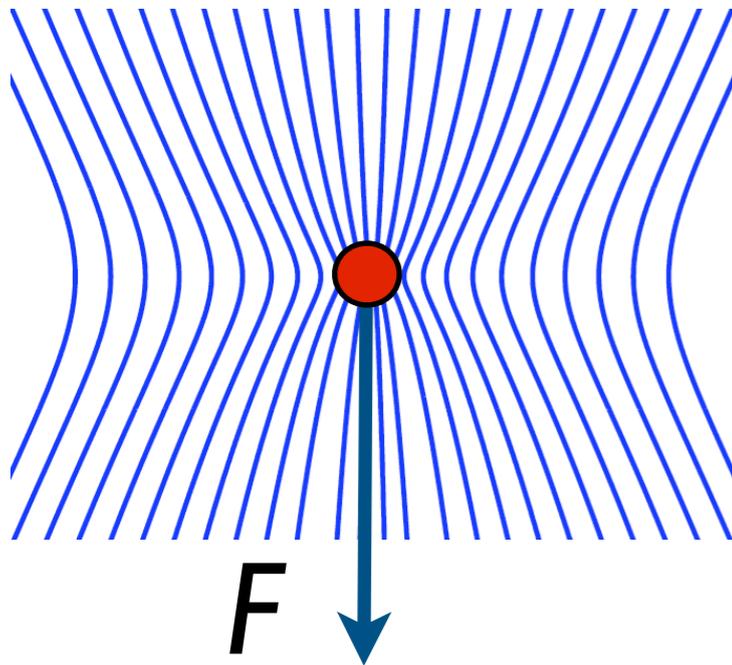
$$0 = \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \mathbf{f},$$

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

+ time-dependent BCs

Superposition of singularities

stokeslet

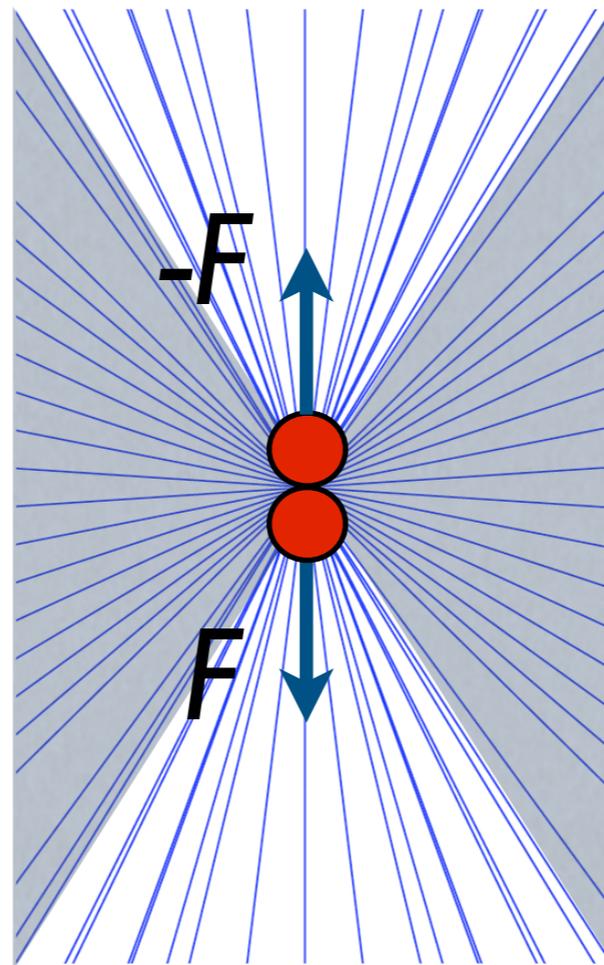


$$p(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \mathbf{F}}{4\pi r^2} + p_0$$

$$v_i(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{(8\pi\mu)^{-1}}{r} [\delta_{ij} + \hat{r}_i \hat{r}_j] F_j$$

$$\text{flow} \sim r^{-1}$$

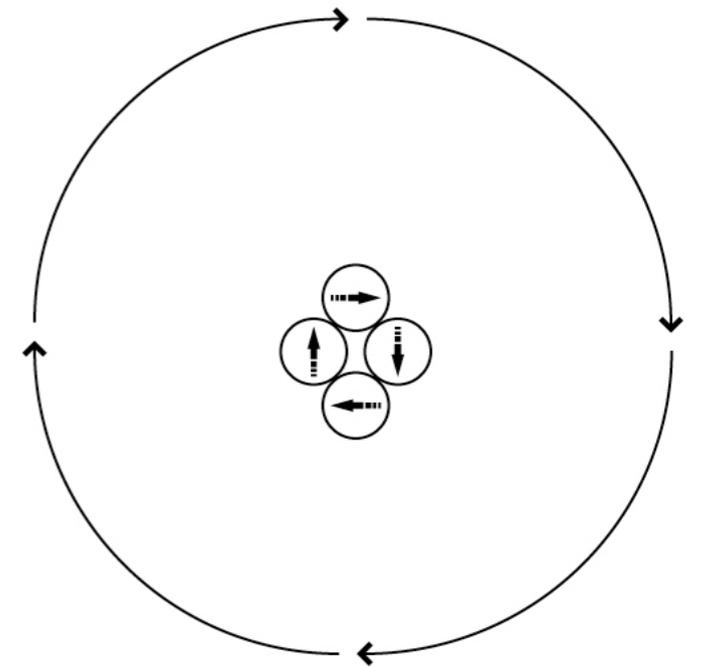
2x stokeslet =
symmetric dipole



$$r^{-2}$$

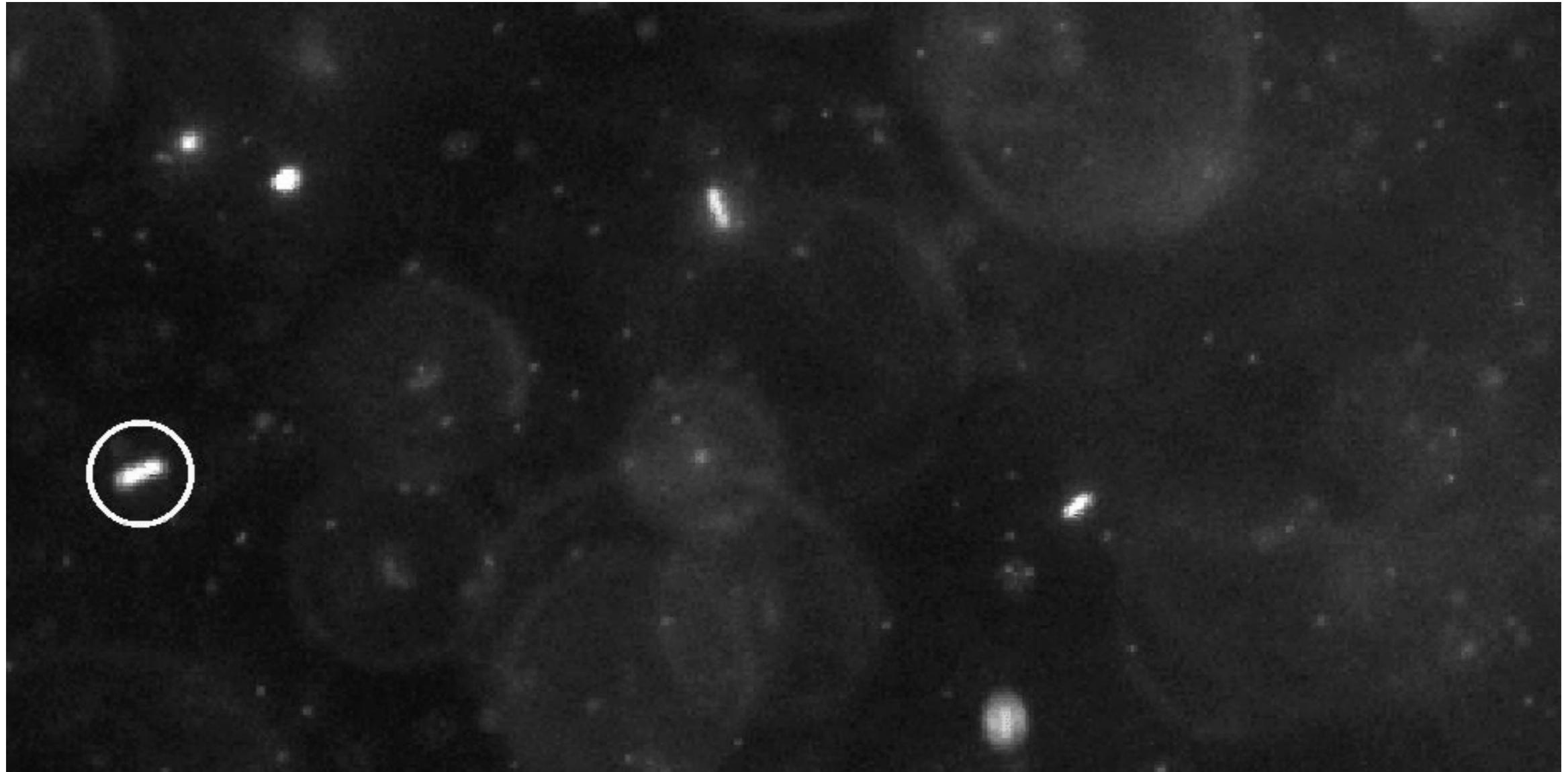
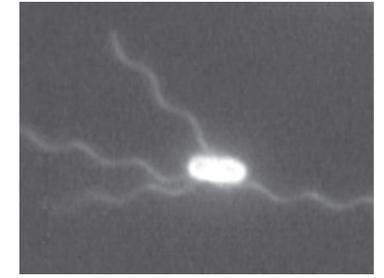
'pusher'

rotlet

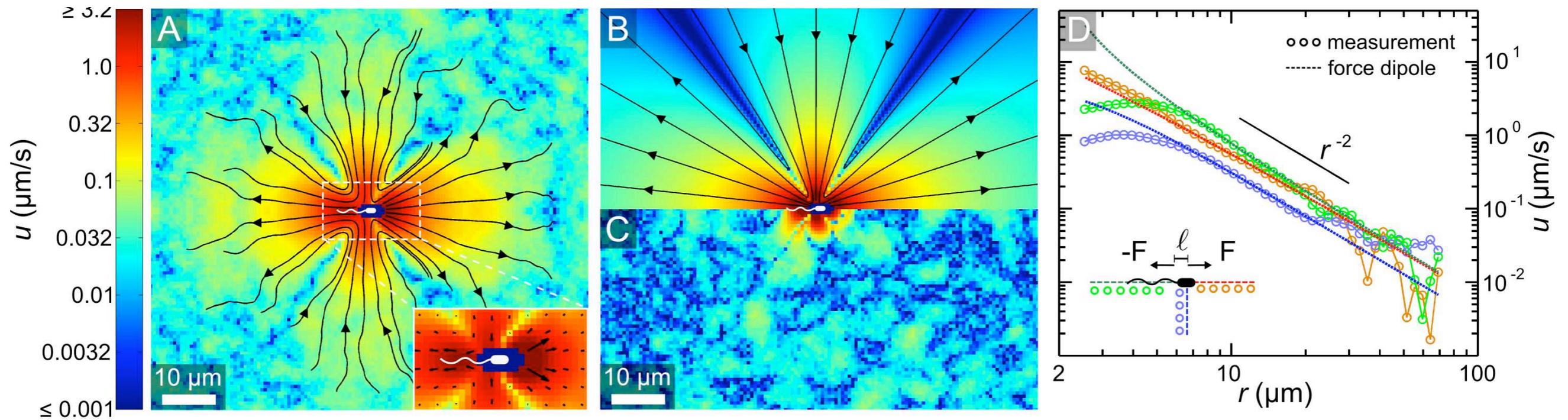
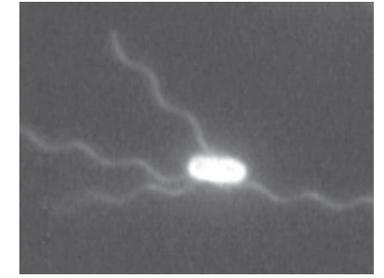


$$r^{-2}$$

E coli (non-tumbling HCB 437)



E. coli (non-tumbling HCB 437)



$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{A}{|\mathbf{r}|^2} \left[3(\hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{d}})^2 - 1 \right] \hat{\mathbf{r}}, \quad A = \frac{\ell F}{8\pi\eta}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{r}} = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{|\mathbf{r}|}$$

$$V_0 = 22 \pm 5 \text{ } \mu\text{m/s}$$

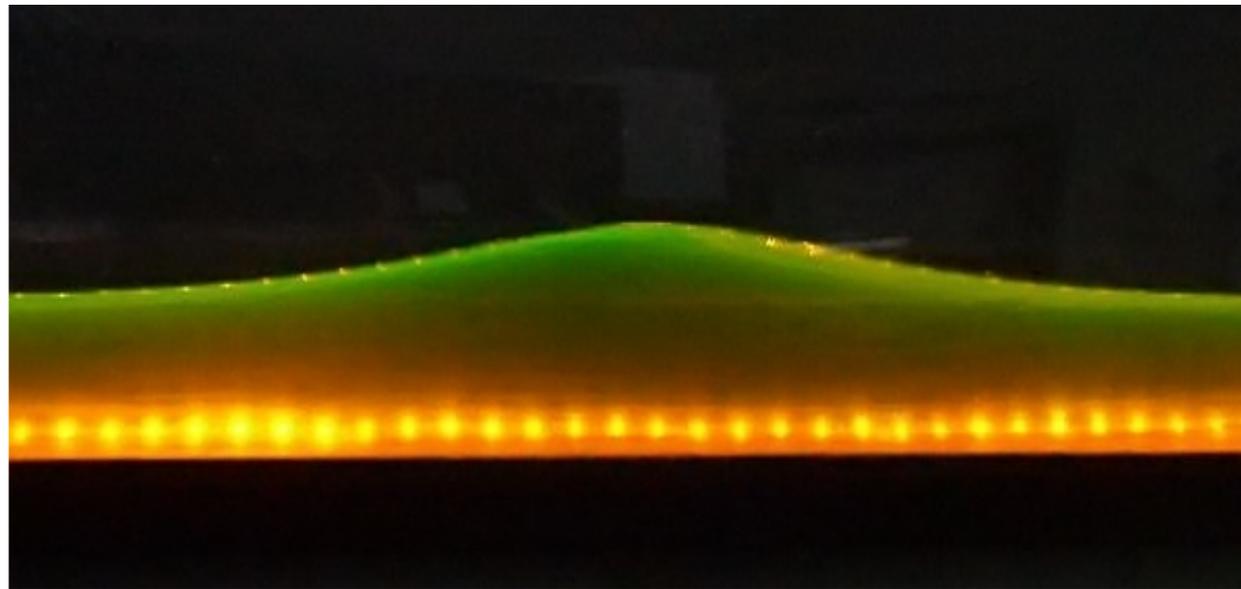
$$\ell = 1.9 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

$$F = 0.42 \text{ pN}$$

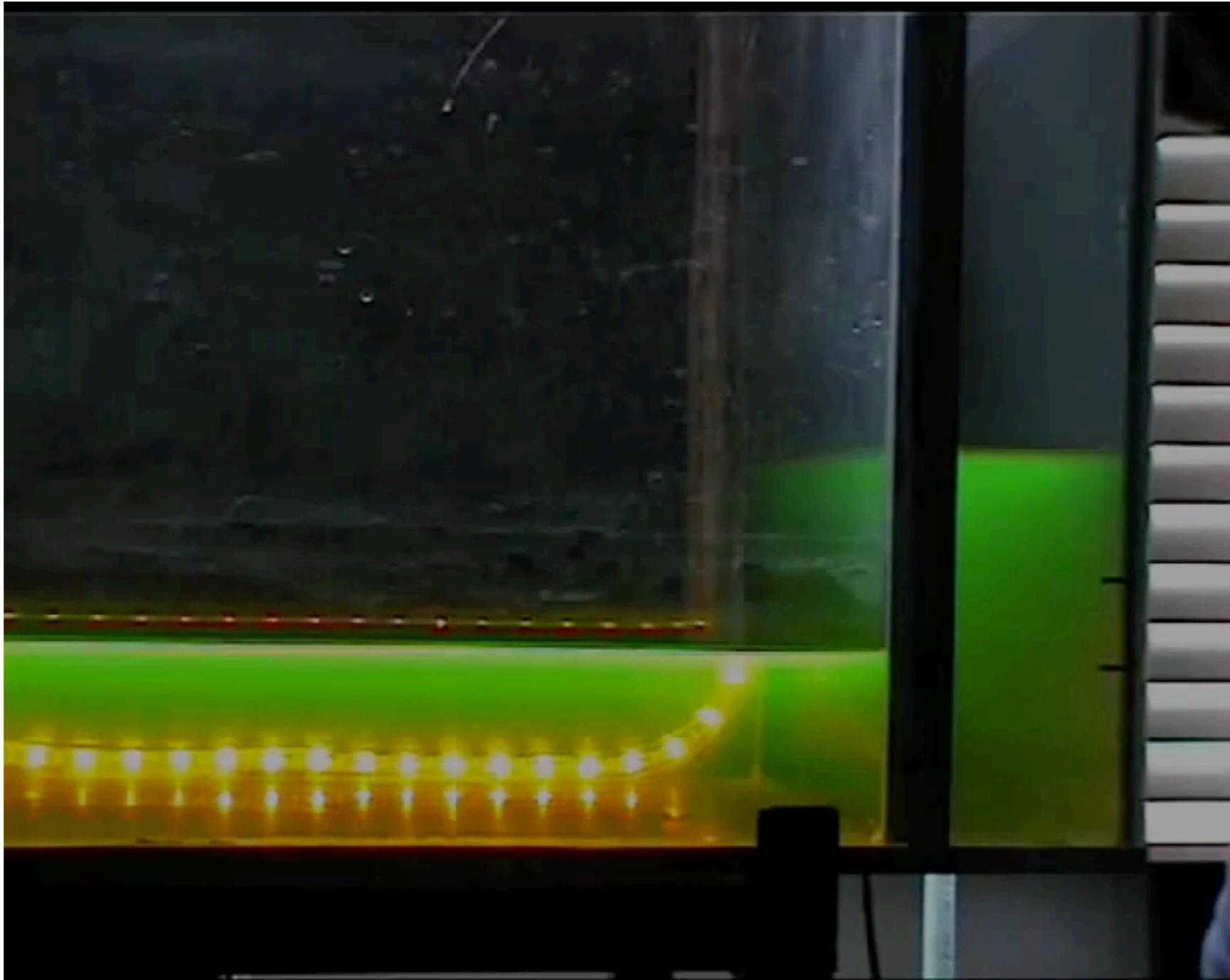
Nonlinear HD: Solitons

KdV equation

$$\partial_t \phi + \partial_x^2 \phi + 6\phi \partial_x \phi = 0$$



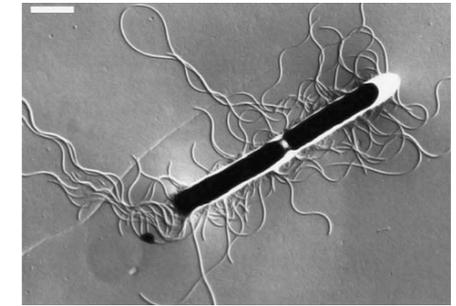
Solitons



credit: Christophe Finot

Active fluids

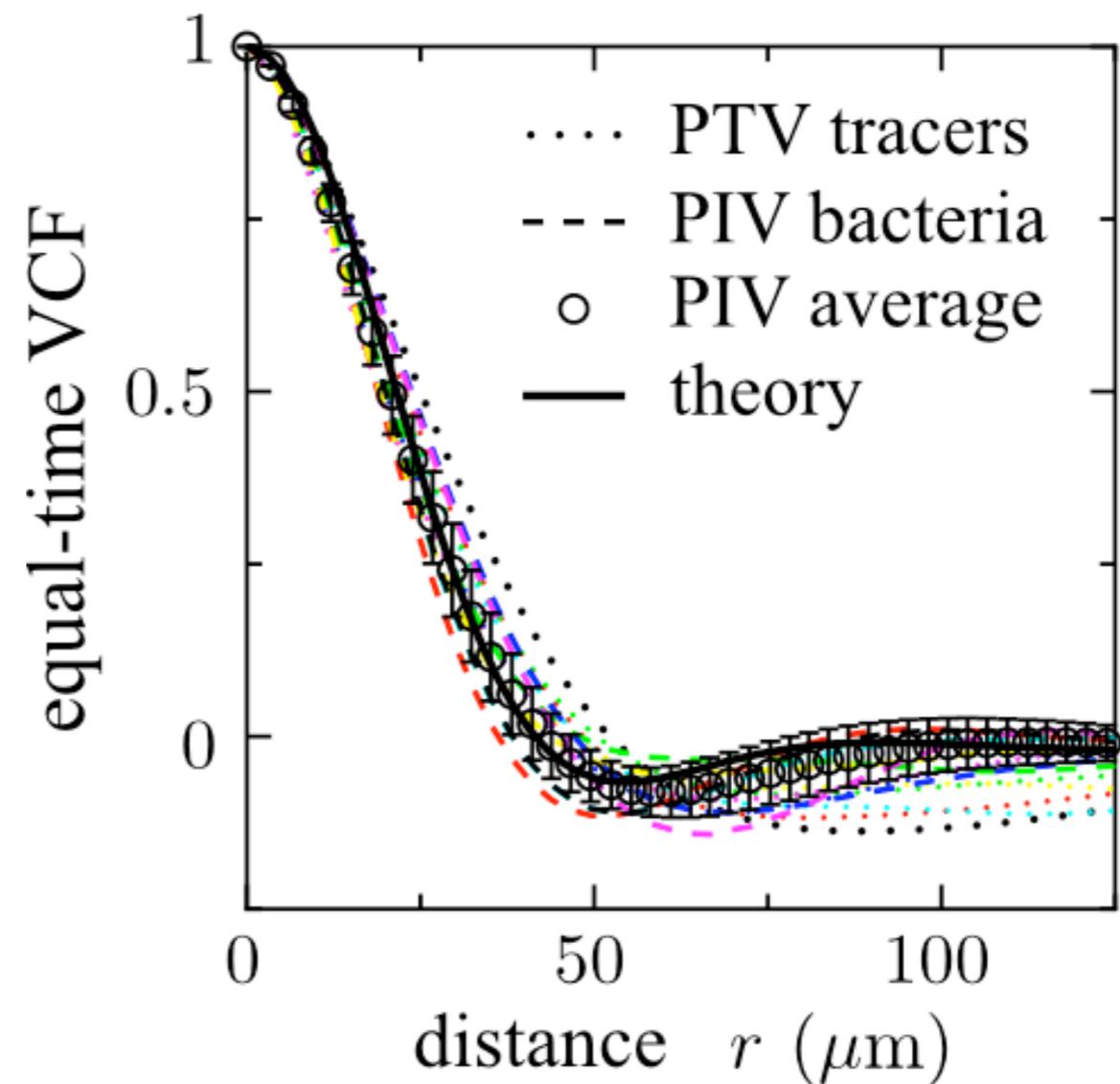
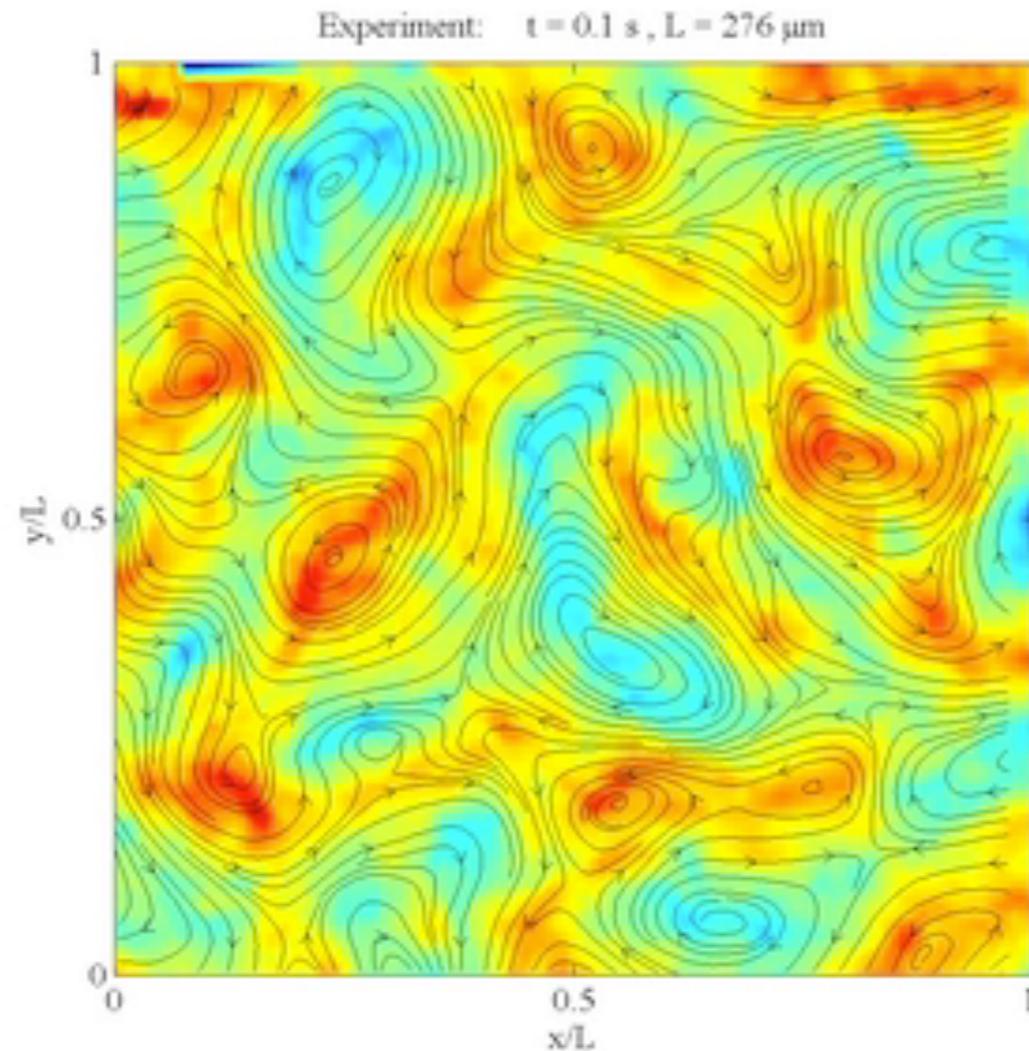
Cisneros et al, Exp Fluids 2017



~ 5 μ m long

Collective **non-equilibrium** dynamics in a **multicellular** system

Bacillus subtilis

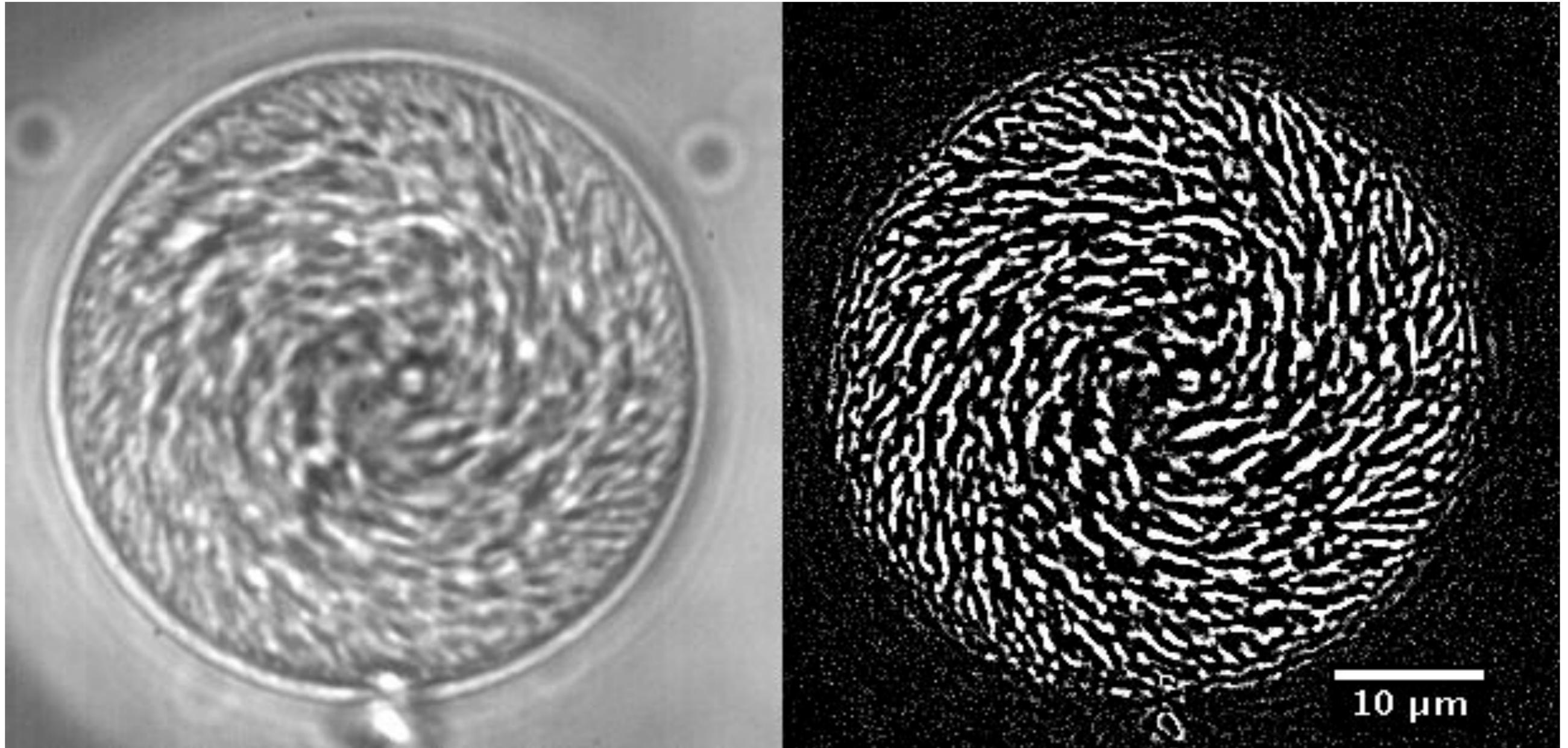


Vortex life time ~ seconds

Vortex diameter ~ 60 μ m

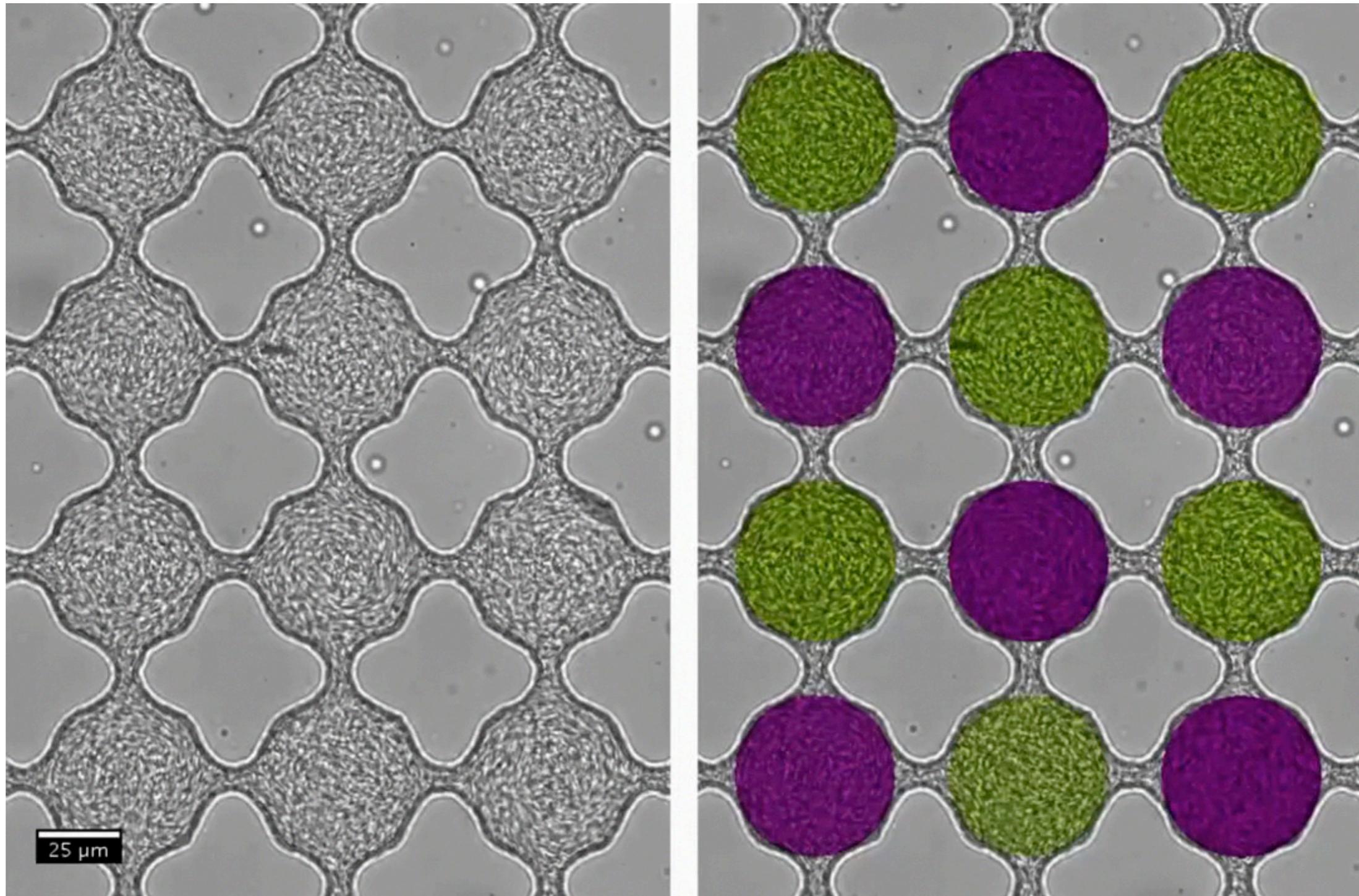


Confined bacterial suspensions



Spontaneously broken mirror-symmetry & edge currents

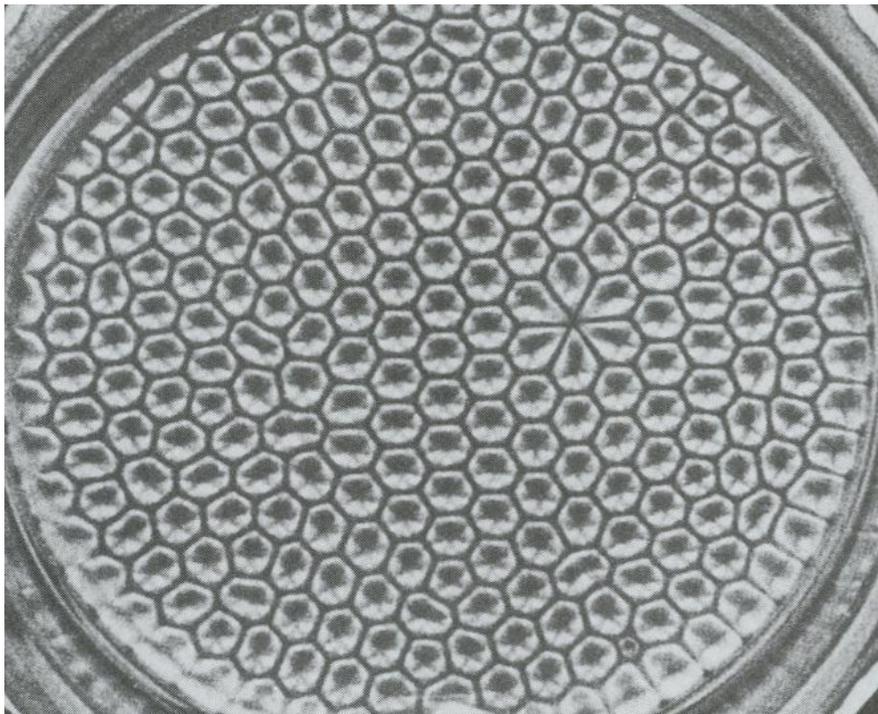
Bacterial spin lattices: Anti-ferromagnetic order



Generalized Navier-Stokes equations

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0,$$

$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\nabla p + \Gamma_0 \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} - \Gamma_2 \nabla^4 \mathbf{v} + \Gamma_4 \nabla^6 \mathbf{v}$$

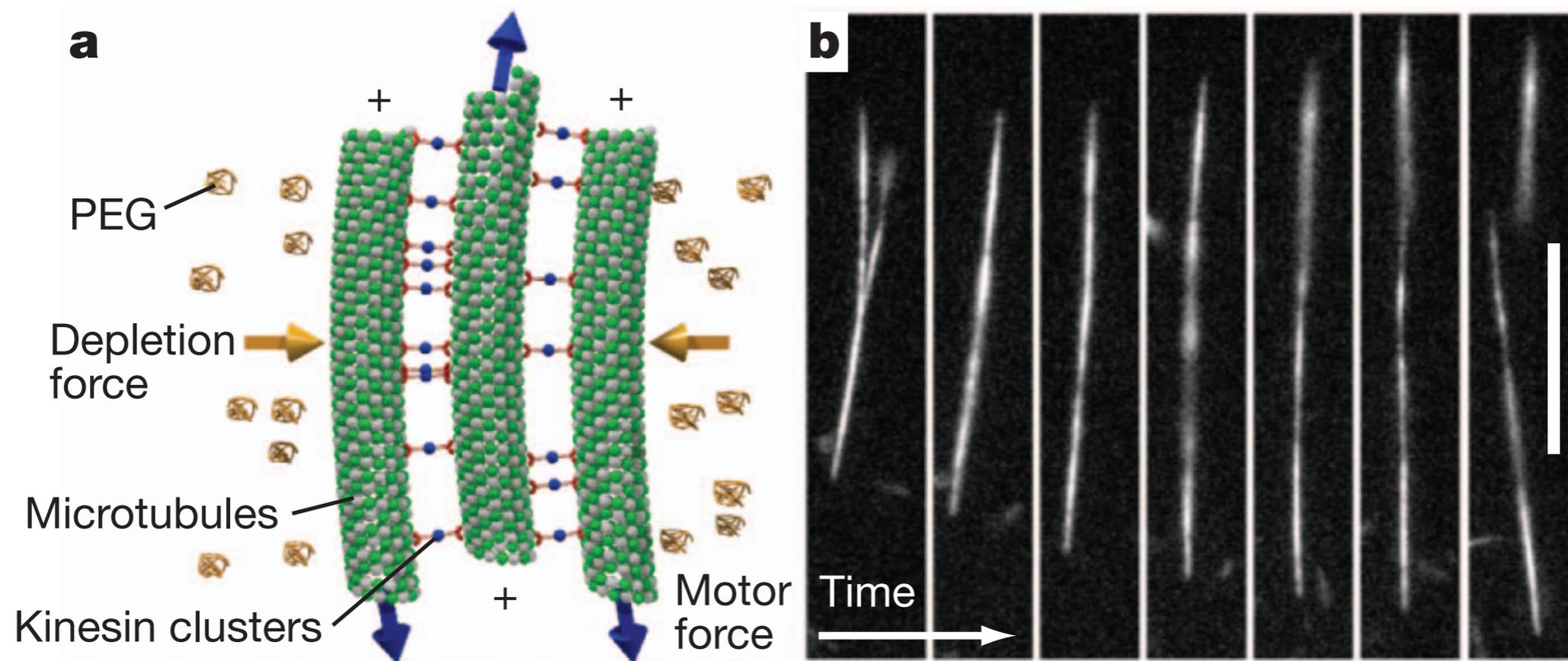


Classical
pattern formation theory

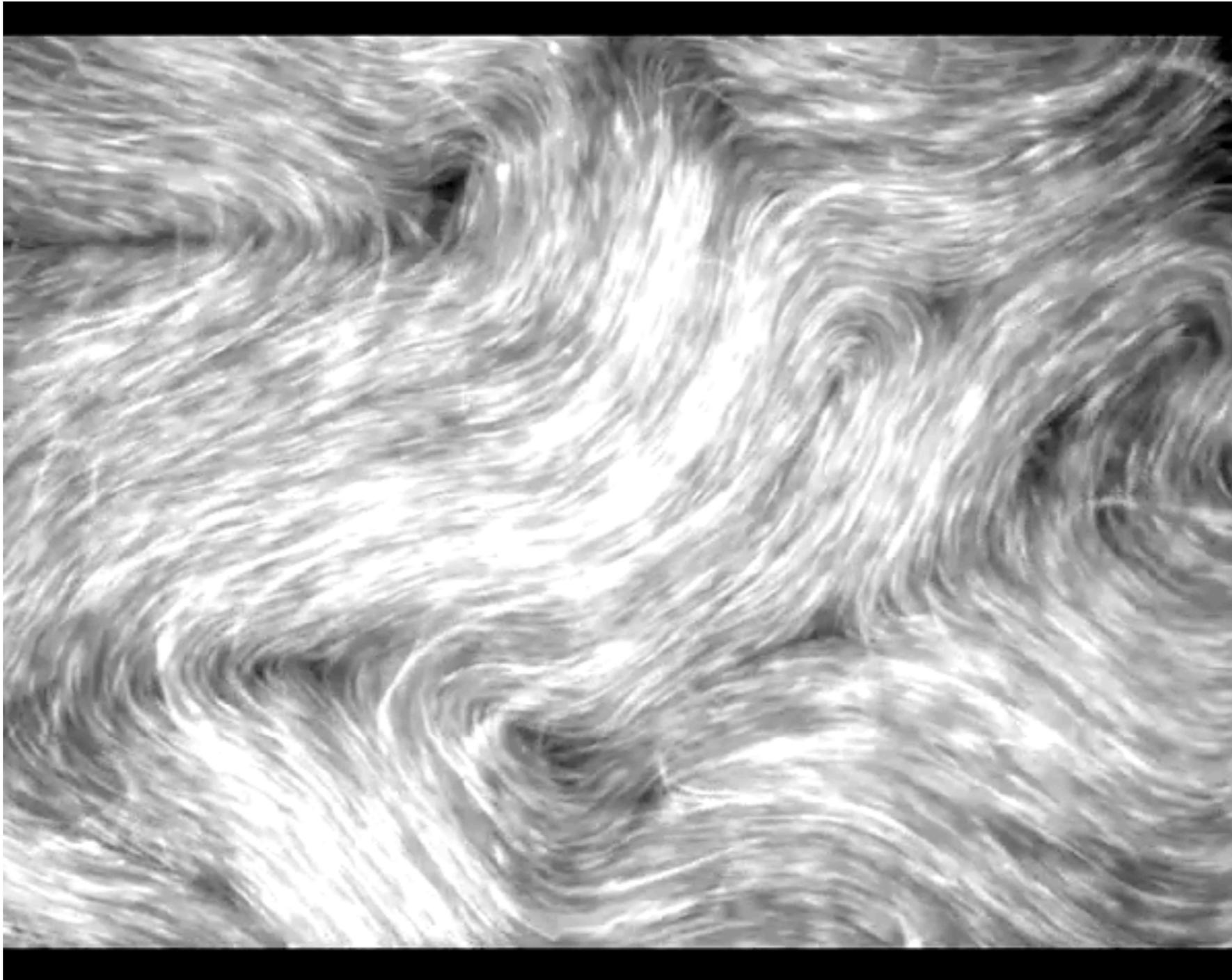


Classical
turbulence theory

Active liquid crystals

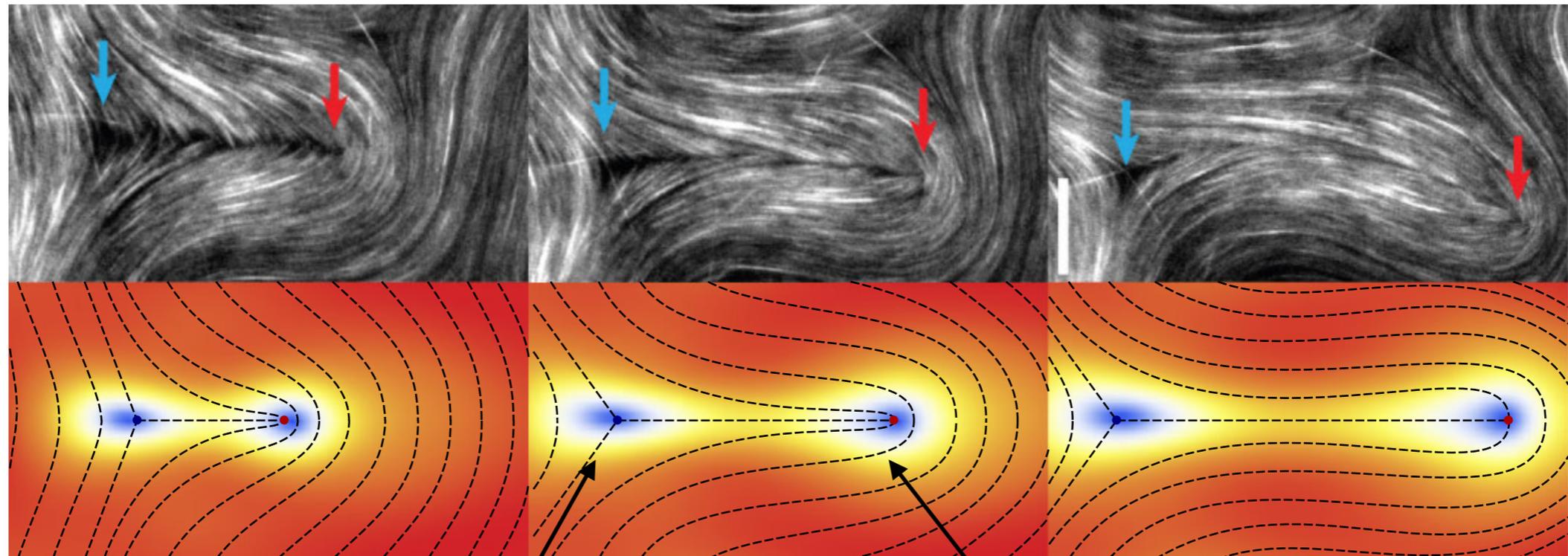


Active liquid crystals



Dogic lab, Nature 2012

Active liquid crystal defects



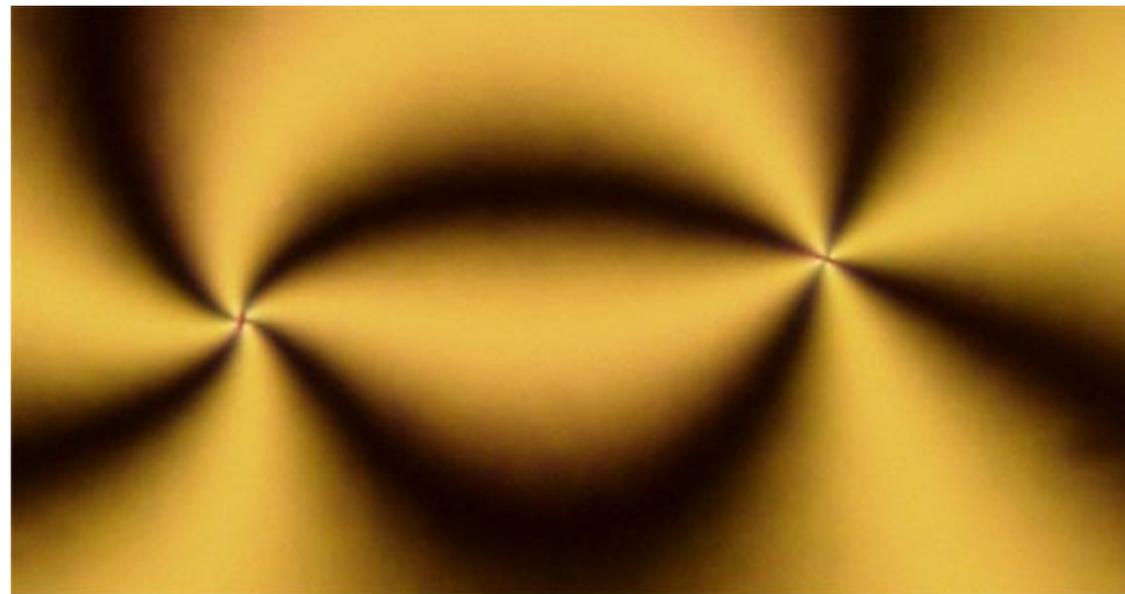
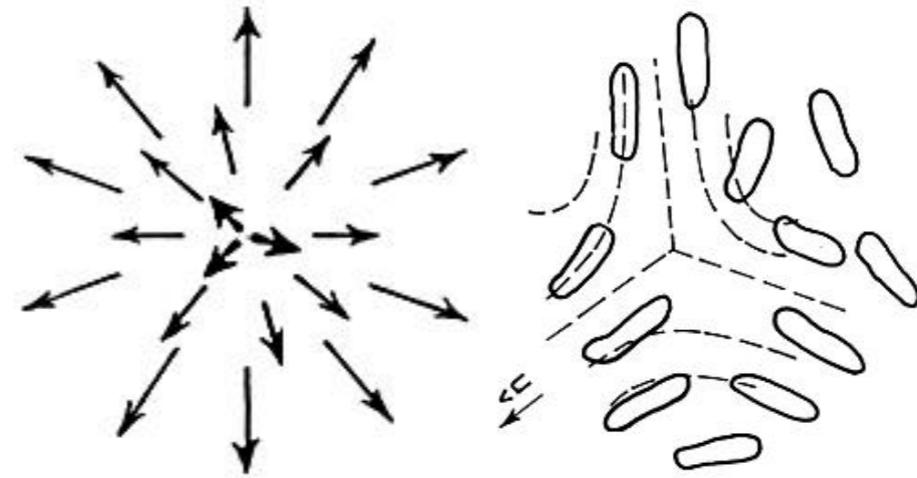
$-1/2$

$+1/2$

Giomi et al PRL 2012

Topological defects in order-parameter fields

- optical effects
- work hardening, etc



'umbilic defects' in a nematic liquid crystal