

# Sedimenting Anisotropic Particles in Turbulence

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# Motivation

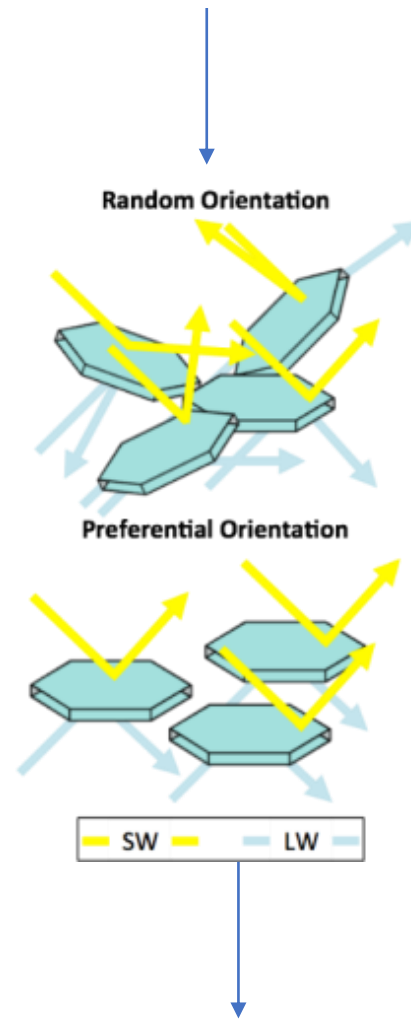
## *CIRRUS CLOUDS*



Ice-crystals settling under gravity

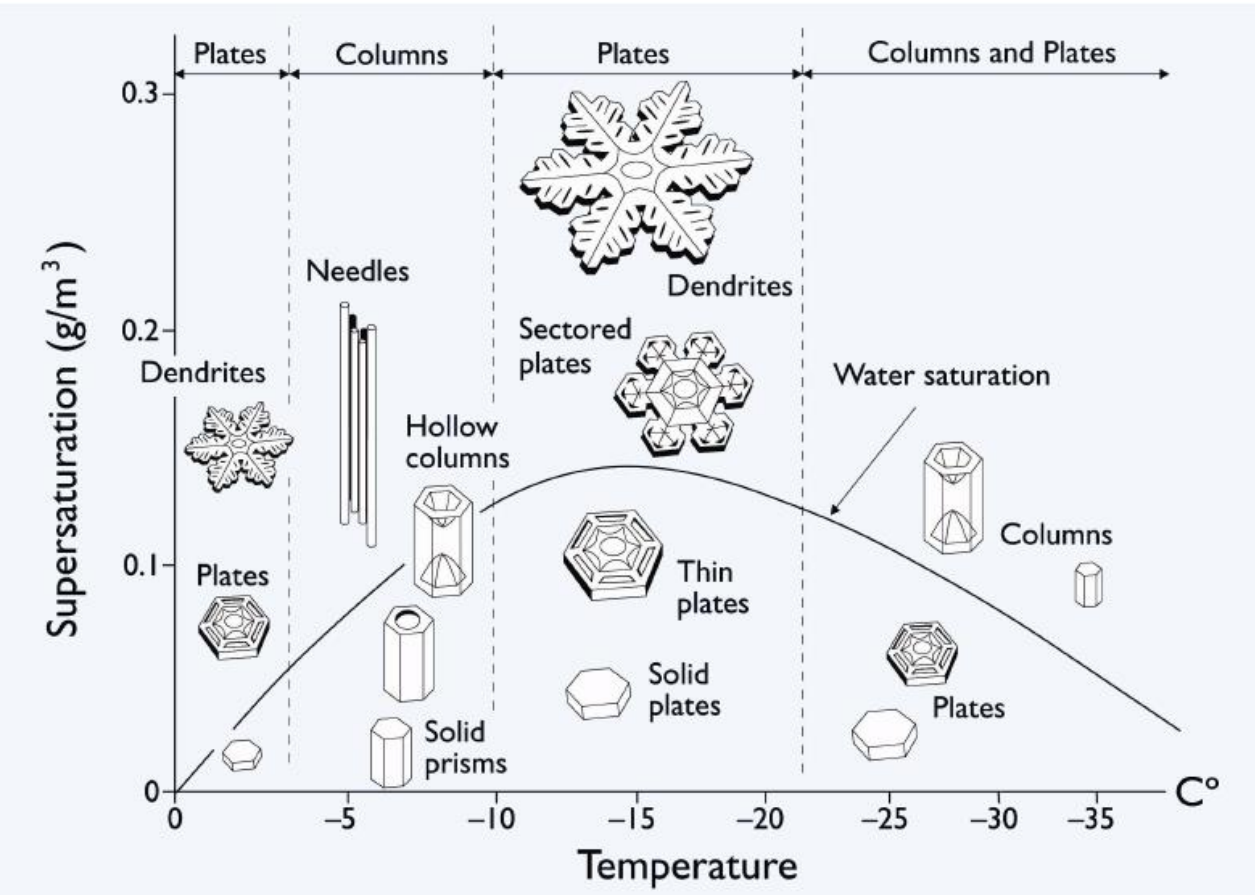


Particle orientation matters!

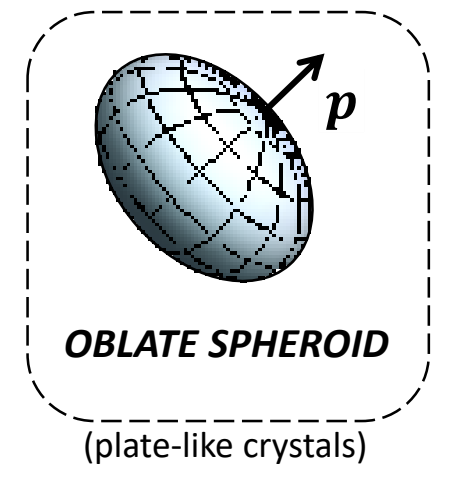
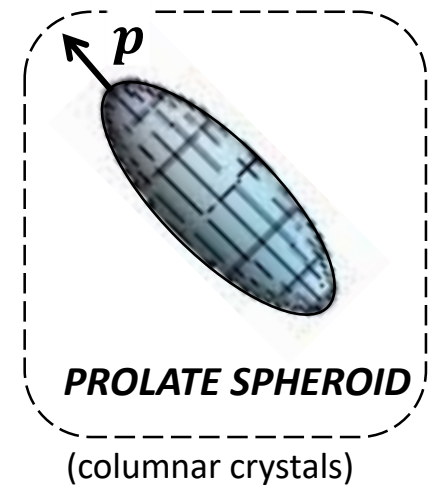


Light scattering affects Earth-atmosphere radiation budget

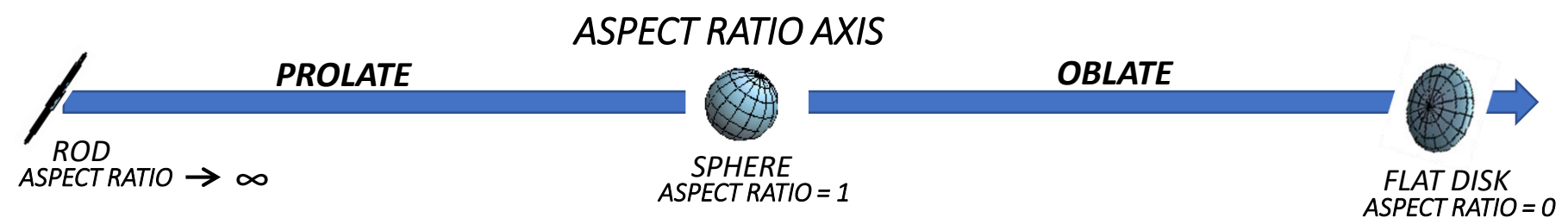
# Ice-crystals come in a variety of shapes and sizes



Shape Simplification



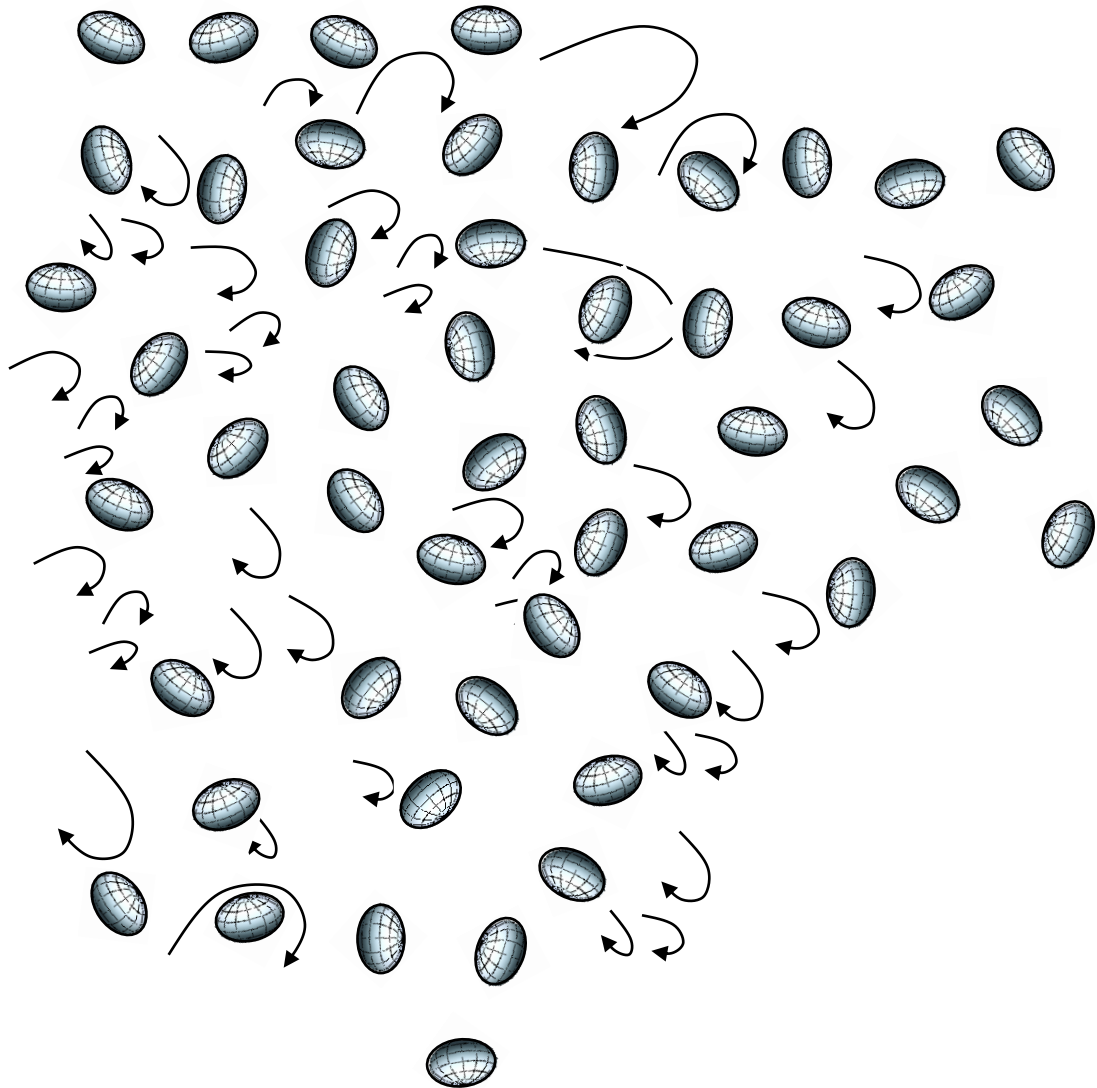
<http://www.cas.manchester.ac.uk/resactivities/cloudphysics/topics/lightscattering/>



# *CIRRUS CLOUDS*

## **Problem set-up**

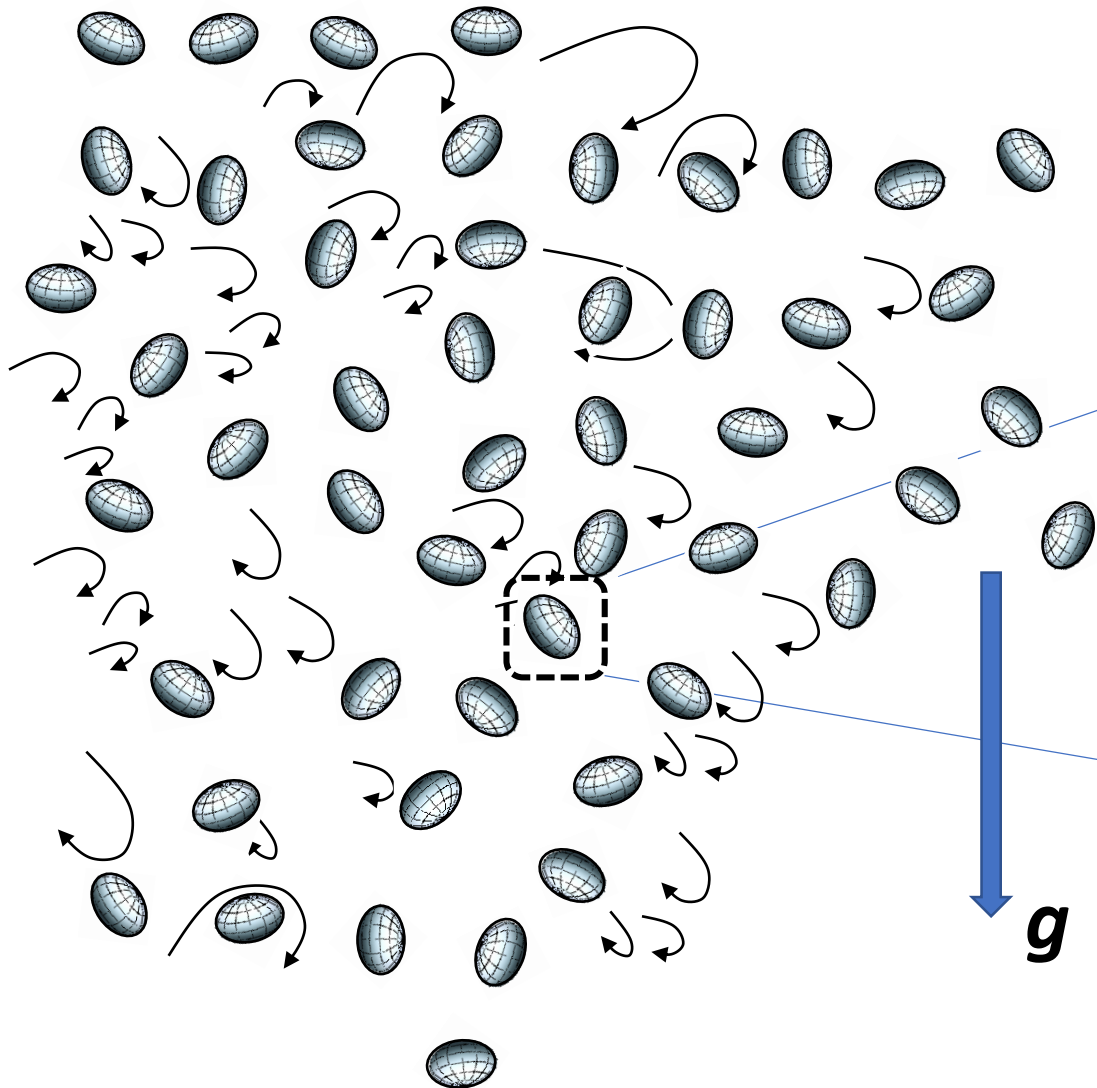
A dilute suspension of spheroids in a turbulent flow



# CIRRUS CLOUDS

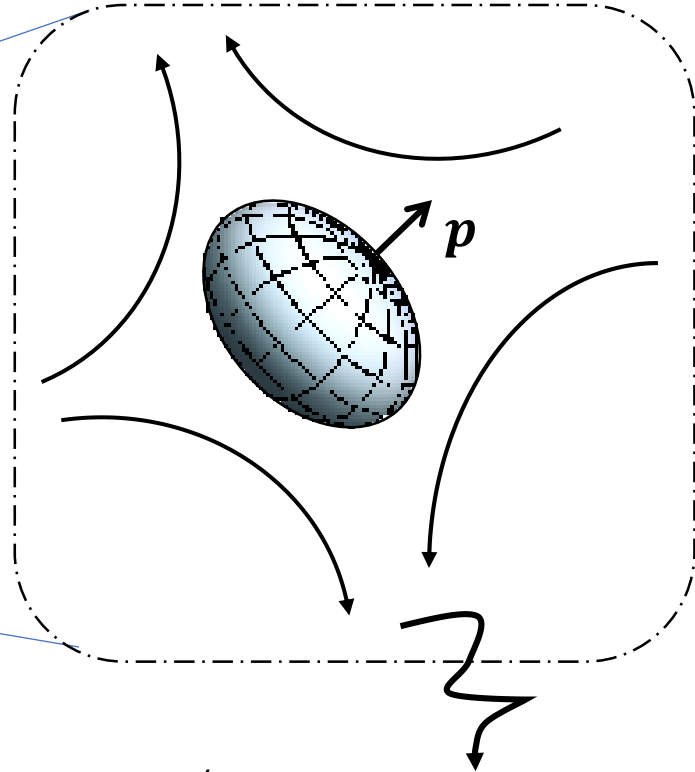
## Problem set-up

A dilute suspension of spheroids in a turbulent flow



Ice crystal size: 10's to 1000's of microns  
Atmospheric : O(1 mm) Kolmogorov length  
turbulence

*Spheroids are smaller than the Kolmogorov scale*



Kolmogorov scale  $\sim \left(\frac{\nu^3}{\epsilon}\right)^{1/4}$

Turbulence appears as a fluctuating linear flow

# Governing Equations:

Sub-Kolmogorov particles  $\Rightarrow Re_{shear} \ll 1$

Force balance: 
$$\frac{d\mathbf{U}_p}{dt} = \mathbf{g} + \frac{1}{\tau_p X_A} \mathbf{M}_t^{-1} \cdot (\mathbf{U}_p - \mathbf{u})$$

Torque balance: 
$$\frac{d\boldsymbol{\omega}_p}{dt} + \mathbf{I}_p^{-1} \cdot [\boldsymbol{\omega}_p \wedge (\mathbf{I}_p \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}_p)] = \underbrace{K_{sed} \mathbf{I}_p^{-1} \cdot [(\mathbf{M}_t \cdot \hat{\mathbf{g}}) \cdot \mathbf{p} (\mathbf{M}_t \cdot \hat{\mathbf{g}}) \wedge \mathbf{p}]}_{\text{Gravity-induced torque for } Re_s \ll 1}$$

$$+ 8\pi\mu L^3 \mathbf{I}_p^{-1} \cdot [\mathbf{M}_r^{-1} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\Omega} - \boldsymbol{\omega}_p\right) - Y_H (\mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{p}) \wedge \mathbf{p}]$$

Angular acceleration

Turbulent shear-induced torque (Jeffery's torque)

Earlier works have neglected this crucial contribution

Gustavsson et al, *PRL* **119**, 254501 (2017); Siewert et al, *Atmos. Res.* **142**, 45-56 (2014); Siewert et al, *JFM* **758**, 686-701 (2014); Jucha et al, *Phys. Rev. Fluids* **3**, 014604 (2018).

\*Dabade, V., Marath, N., & Subramanian, G. (2015). Effects of inertia and viscoelasticity on sedimenting anisotropic particles. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 778, 133-188. doi:10.1017/jfm.2015.360

# Direct Numerical Simulations:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Kolmogorov Froude number : } & Fr_\eta = \frac{\tau_p g}{u_\eta} \\ \text{Kolmogorov Stokes number : } & St_\eta = \frac{\tau_p}{\tau_\eta} \\ \text{Settling Reynolds number : } & Re_s = \frac{\tau_p g L}{\nu} \\ \text{Particle aspect ratios : } & \kappa \\ \text{Taylor Reynolds number : } & R_\lambda \end{aligned}$$

## Parameter ranges

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ll} \kappa = 0.01-0.5 & \kappa = 2-100 \\ \text{(OBLATES)} & \text{(PROLATES)} \\ R_\lambda = 47, 96, 150, 200 \\ St_\eta \equiv (0.0037, 0.4) \\ Fr_\eta \equiv (0.5, 25) \end{array} \right.$$

- Parameters relevant to atmospheric scenario
- Estimates indicate a dominant gravity-induced torque

$10^5$  particles initialized in the computational box for each run

# DIRECT NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

Results

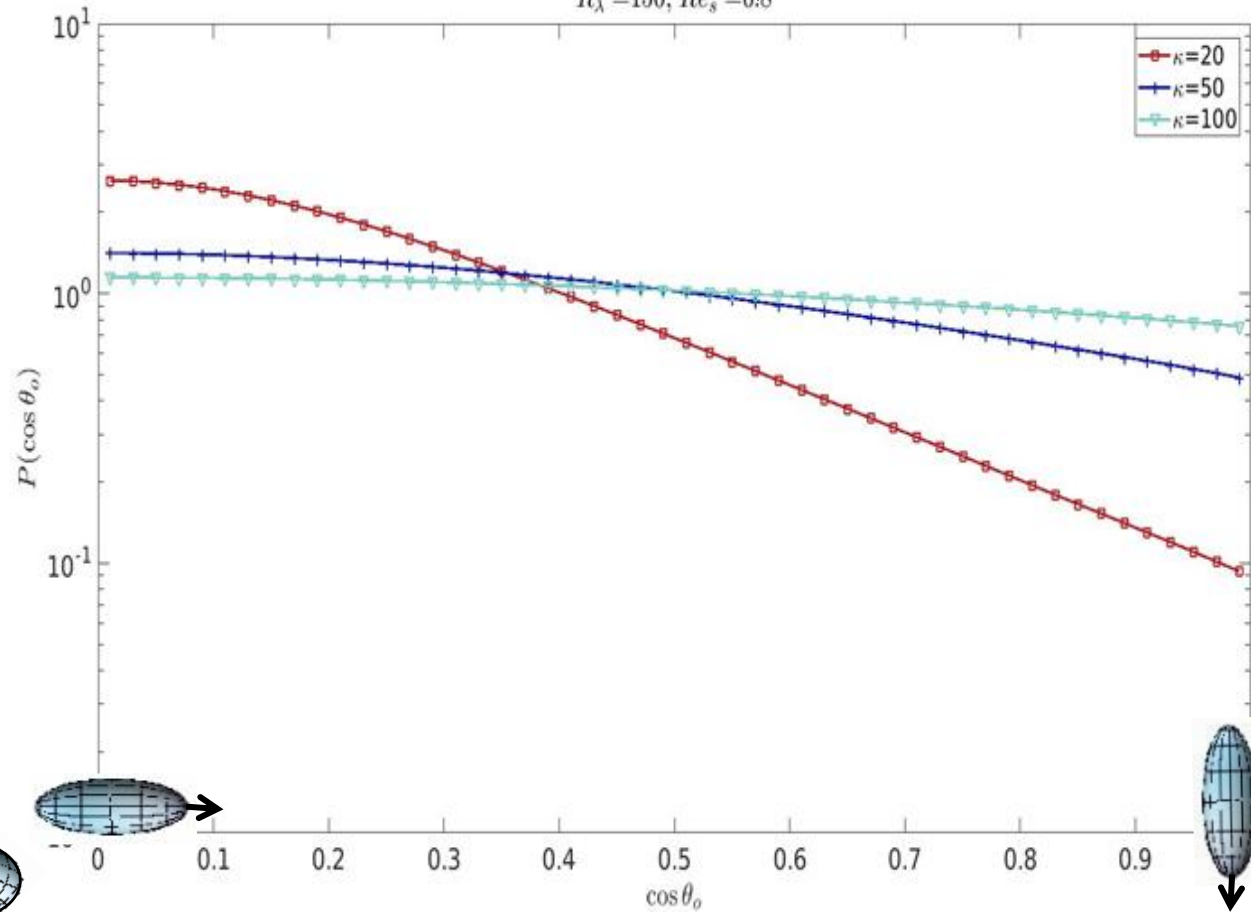
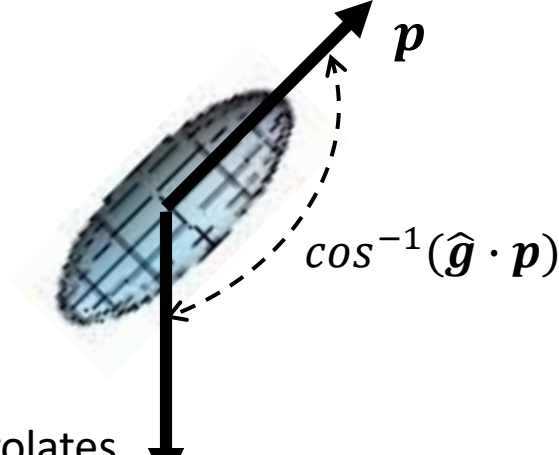
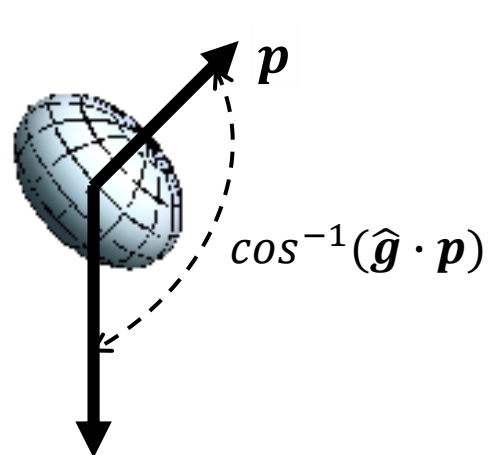
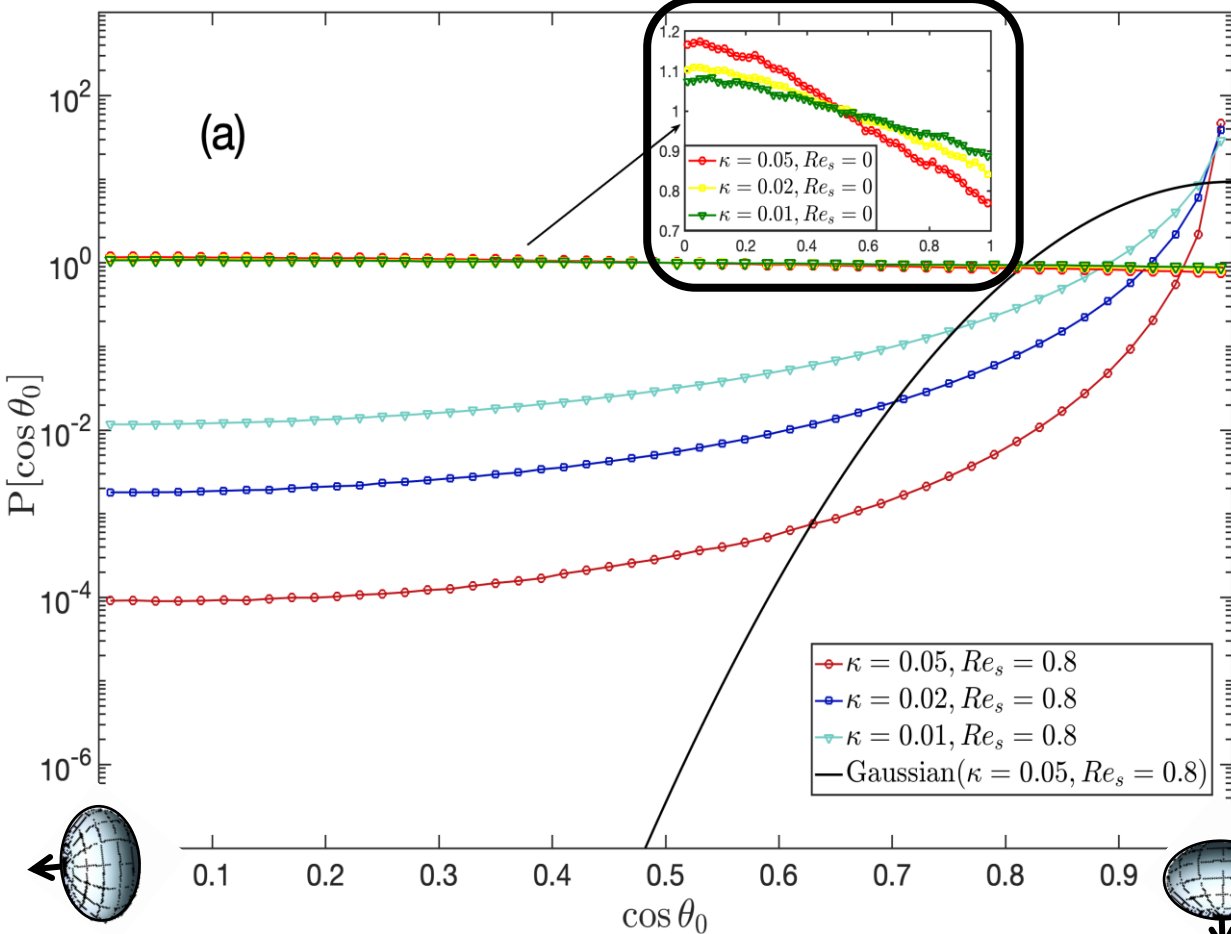
$R_\lambda = 150$

WITHOUT  
GRAVITATIONAL TORQUE

Oblates

Prolates

$R_\lambda = 150, Re_s = 0.8$

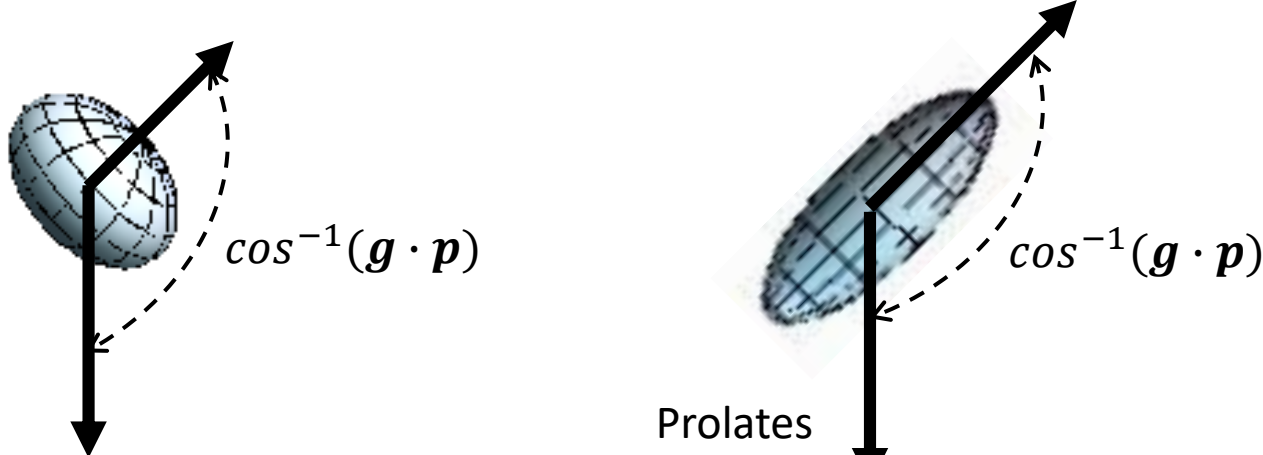




# DIRECT NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

Results

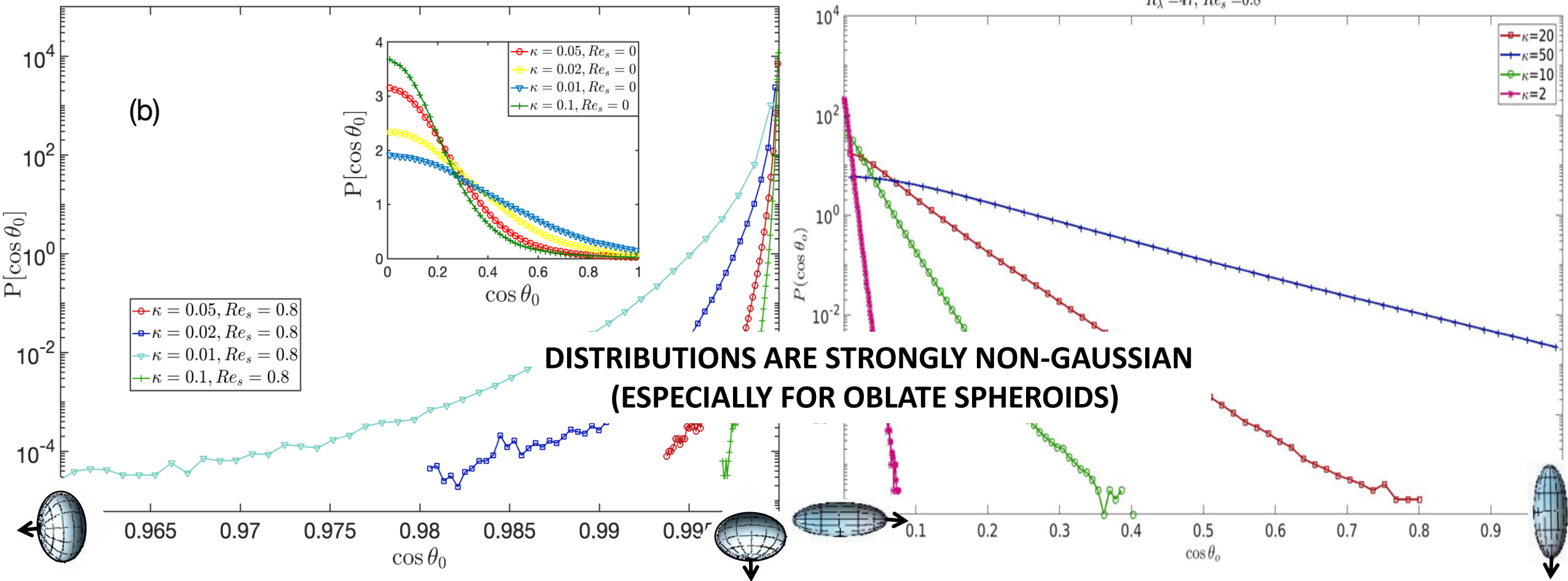
$R_\lambda = 47$



Oblates

Prolates

$R_\lambda = 47, Re_s = 0.8$

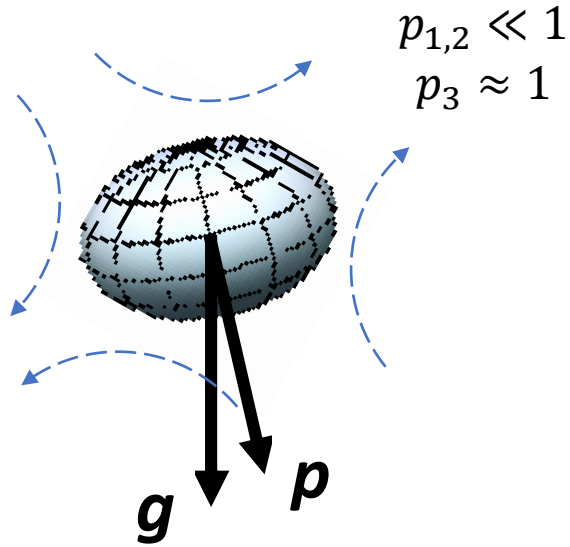


# RAPID SETTLING THEORY

$$Fr_\eta \gg 1, St_\eta \ll 1$$

$$Fr_\eta = \frac{U_{sed}}{u_\eta}$$

$$St_\eta = \frac{\tau_p}{\tau_\eta}$$



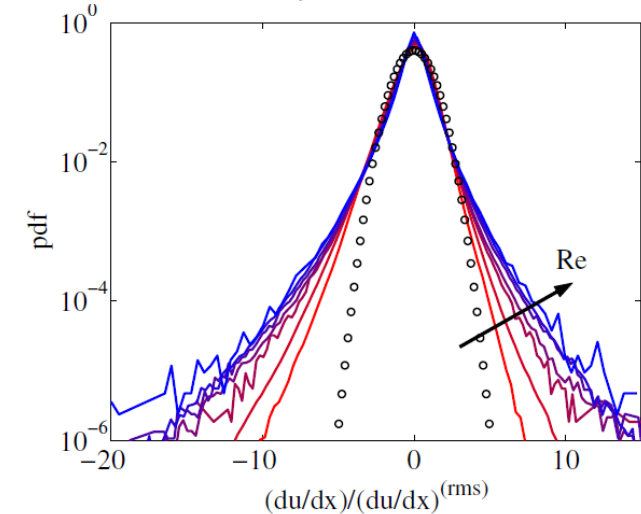
- Dominant gravity-induced torque leads to broadside-on orientation
- Quasi-static balance between gravity-induced and (weak) turbulent torques in the plane normal to gravity.

Using RST-

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} p_1 &= \frac{1}{K_{sed}} \left( S_{31} + \frac{\gamma^H}{\gamma^C} E_{31} \right) \\ p_2 &= \frac{1}{K_{sed}} \left( S_{32} + \frac{\gamma^H}{\gamma^C} E_{32} \right) \end{aligned} \right.$$

Final relation between components of orientation and (turbulent) velocity gradient

The Kolmogorov-scale velocity gradients are distinctly *non-Gaussian* (DISSIPATION-RANGE INTERMITTENCY)



**Figure 1.** The p.d.f.s of the longitudinal velocity gradient for several Reynolds numbers, increasing in the direction of the arrow. Normalized with the standard deviation.  $Re_L = 260 - 3.5 \times 10^6$ . Symbols are Gaussian. Data from Jimenez et al. [1993]; Belin et al. [1997]; Antonia and Pearson [1999].

# RAPID SETTLING THEORY

- Second Moment of the Orientation Distribution

$$\langle p_1^2 + p_2^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{(K^{sed})^2} \sum_{i=1}^2 (\langle W_{3i} W_{3i} \rangle + \left(\frac{Y^H}{Y^C}\right)^2 \langle E_{3i} E_{3i} \rangle)$$

Second Moment of the Turbulent Velocity Gradient

$$\left\langle \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_k}{\partial x_l} \right\rangle = \frac{\epsilon}{15\nu} (\delta_{ik}\delta_{jl} - \frac{1}{4}\delta_{ij}\delta_{kl} - \frac{1}{4}\delta_{il}\delta_{jk})$$

$$\langle E_{3i} E_{3i} \rangle = \frac{\gamma_\eta^2}{20} \quad \langle W_{3i} W_{3i} \rangle = \frac{\gamma_\eta^2}{12} \quad i = 1, 2$$

$$\langle p_1^2 + p_2^2 \rangle = \frac{32\pi^2 Y_A^2 Y_C^2}{f_l^2(\kappa) X_A^2} \left[ \frac{1}{3} + \left(\frac{Y^H}{Y^C}\right)^2 \frac{1}{5} \right] \frac{1}{Fr_\eta^4}$$

$$\frac{F(\kappa)}{Fr_\eta^4}$$

# RAPID SETTLING THEORY

- Second Moment of the Orientation Distribution

$$\langle p_1^2 + p_2^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{(K^{sed})^2} \sum_{i=1}^2 (\langle W_{3i} W_{3i} \rangle + \left(\frac{Y^H}{Y^C}\right)^2 \langle E_{3i} E_{3i} \rangle)$$

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$$\frac{F(\kappa)}{Fr_\eta^4}$$

- Fourth Moment

Dissipation-range intermittency leads to an additional  $R_\lambda$  dependence

$$\langle (p_1^2 + p_2^2)^2 \rangle \propto G(\kappa, R_\lambda) \frac{1}{Fr_\eta^8}$$

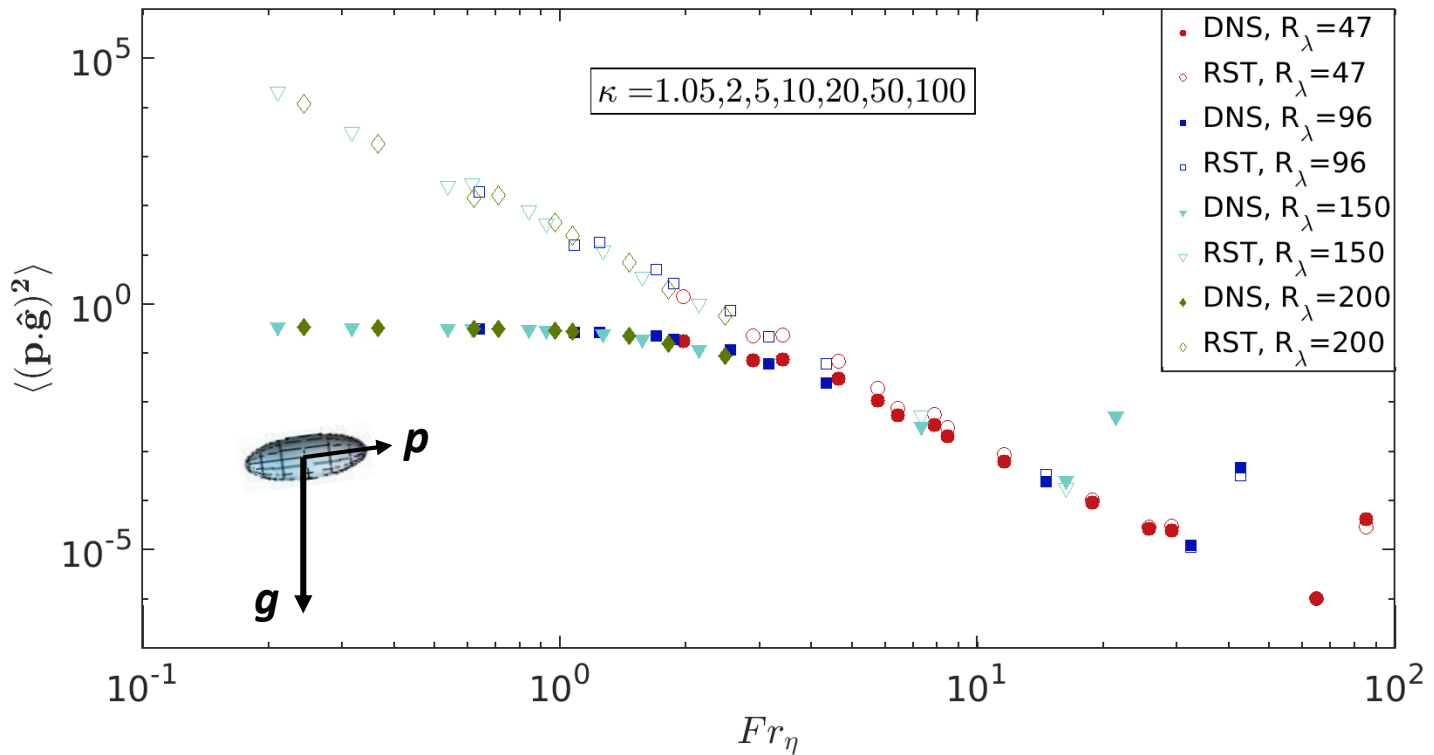
# RAPID SETTLING THEORY

- Second moment of the orientation distribution

$$p \cdot \hat{g} = \cos\theta \quad (\theta \approx 0)$$

$$\langle 1 - (p \cdot \hat{g})^2 \rangle \approx \langle \theta^2 \rangle$$

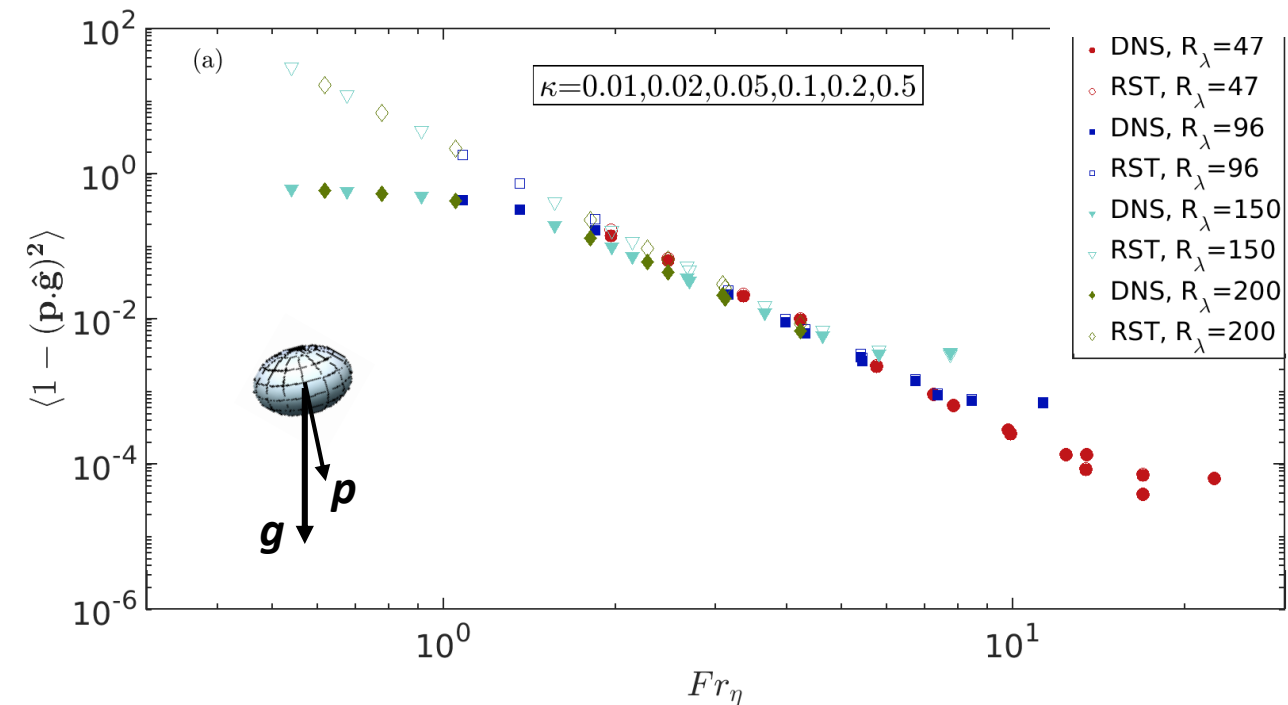
**Oblates**



**Prolates**

$$p \cdot \hat{g} = \cos\theta \quad (\theta \approx \frac{\pi}{2})$$

$$\langle (p \cdot \hat{g})^2 \rangle \approx \langle (\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta)^2 \rangle$$

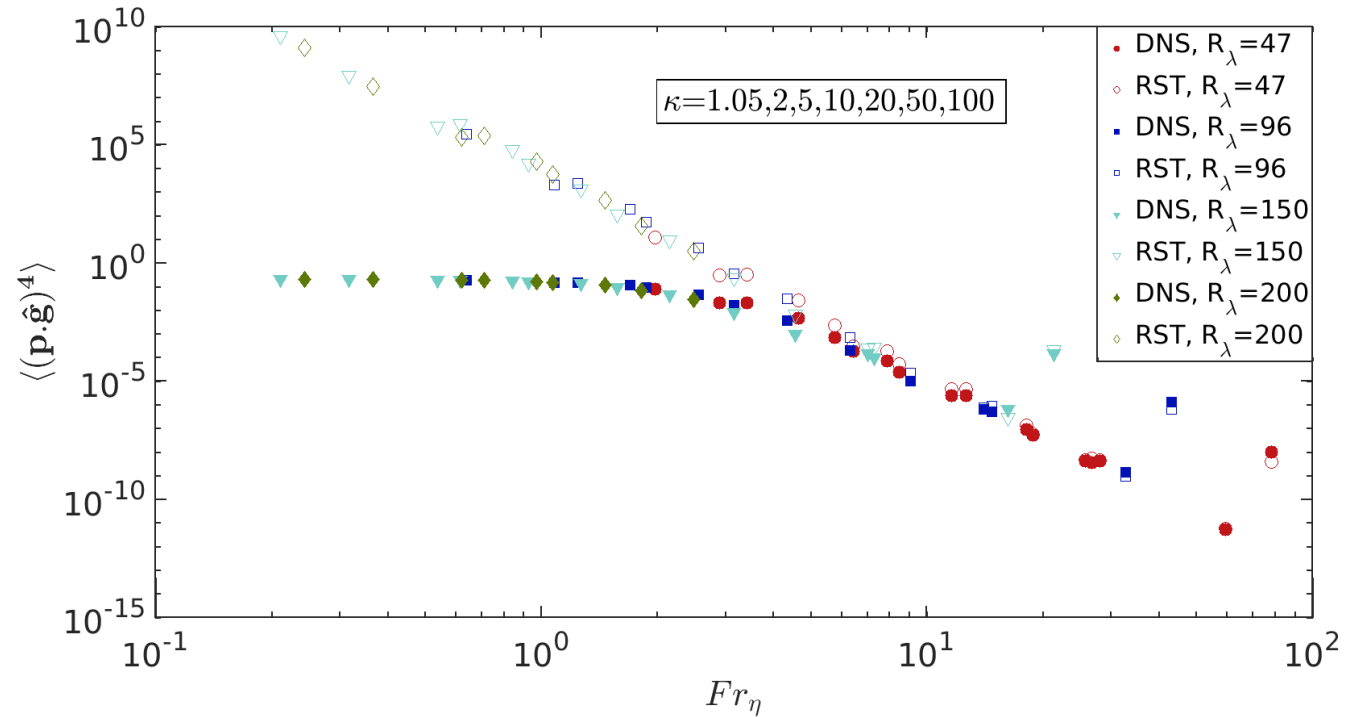
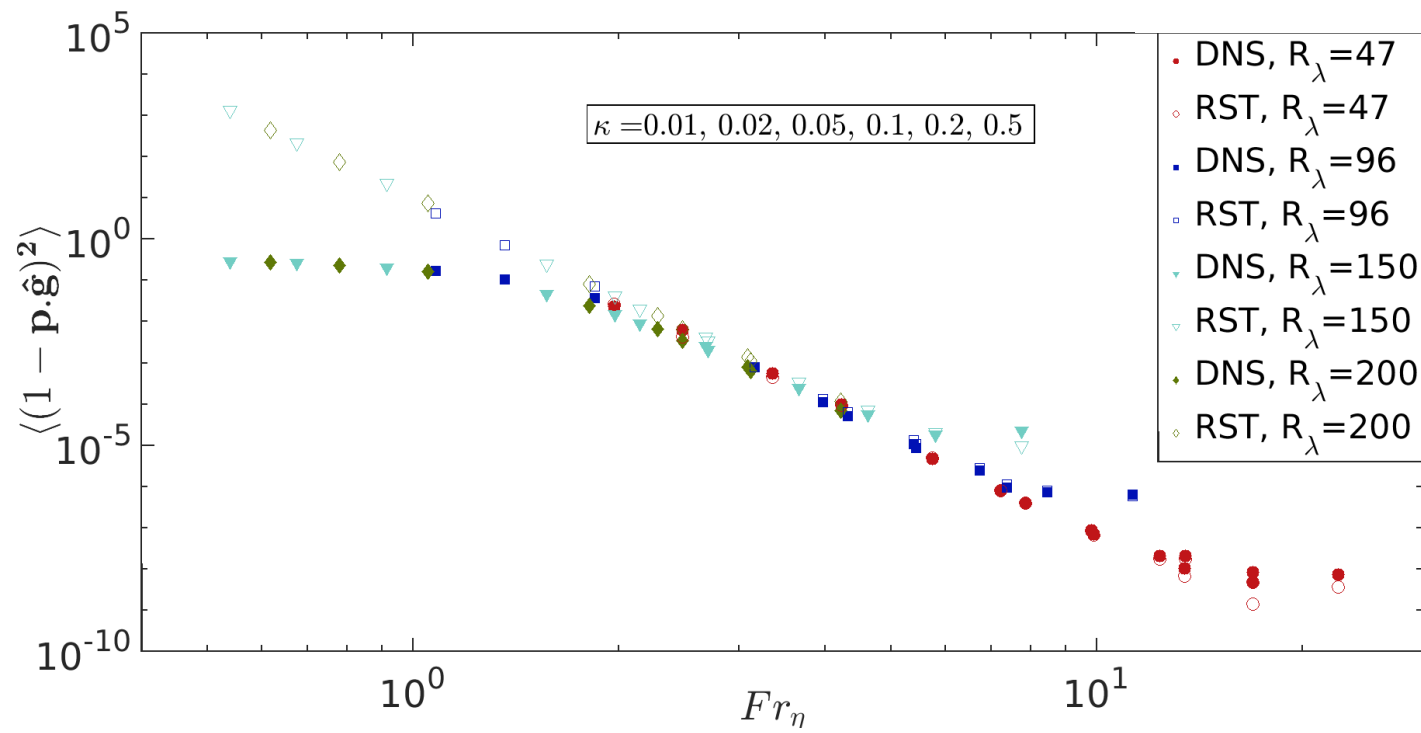


# RAPID SETTLING THEORY

- Fourth moment of the orientation distribution

$$\langle (1 - p \cdot \hat{g})^2 \rangle \approx \langle \theta^4 \rangle$$

**Oblates**



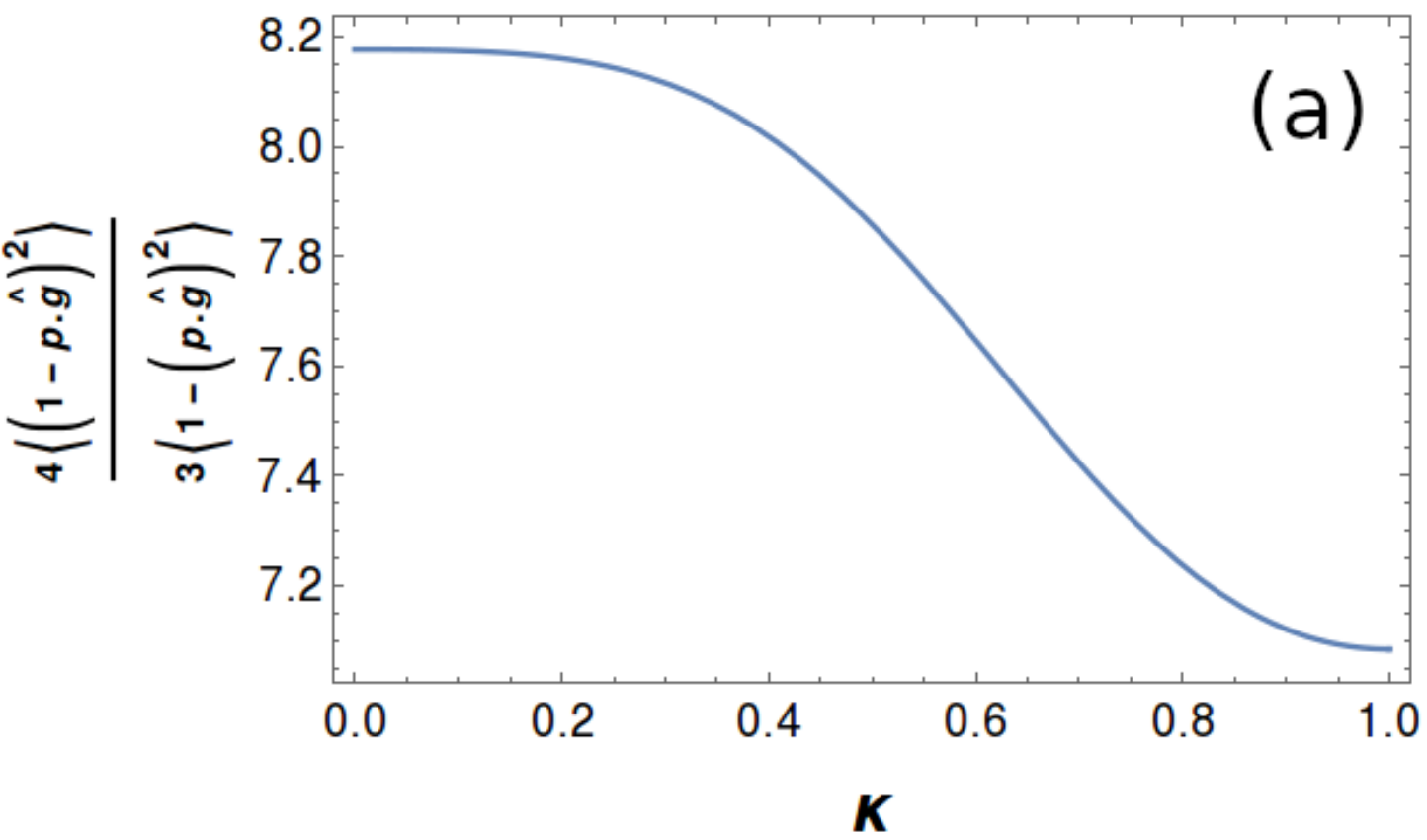
**Prolates**

$$\langle (p \cdot \hat{g})^4 \rangle \approx \left\langle \left( \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \right)^4 \right\rangle$$

$R_\lambda=200$

Flatness factor is  
well in excess of 1!

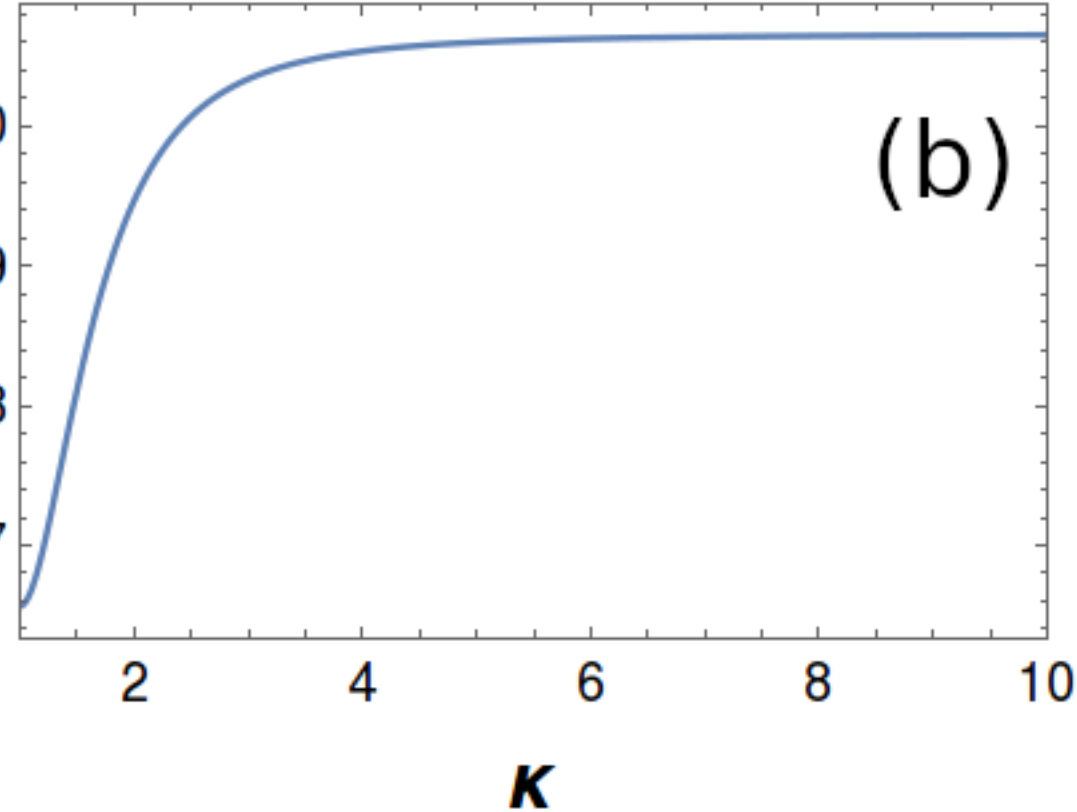
Oblates



$$\frac{\langle (\hat{p} \cdot \hat{g})^4 \rangle}{3 \langle (\hat{p} \cdot \hat{g})^2 \rangle^2}$$

3.0  
2.9  
2.8  
2.7

(b)

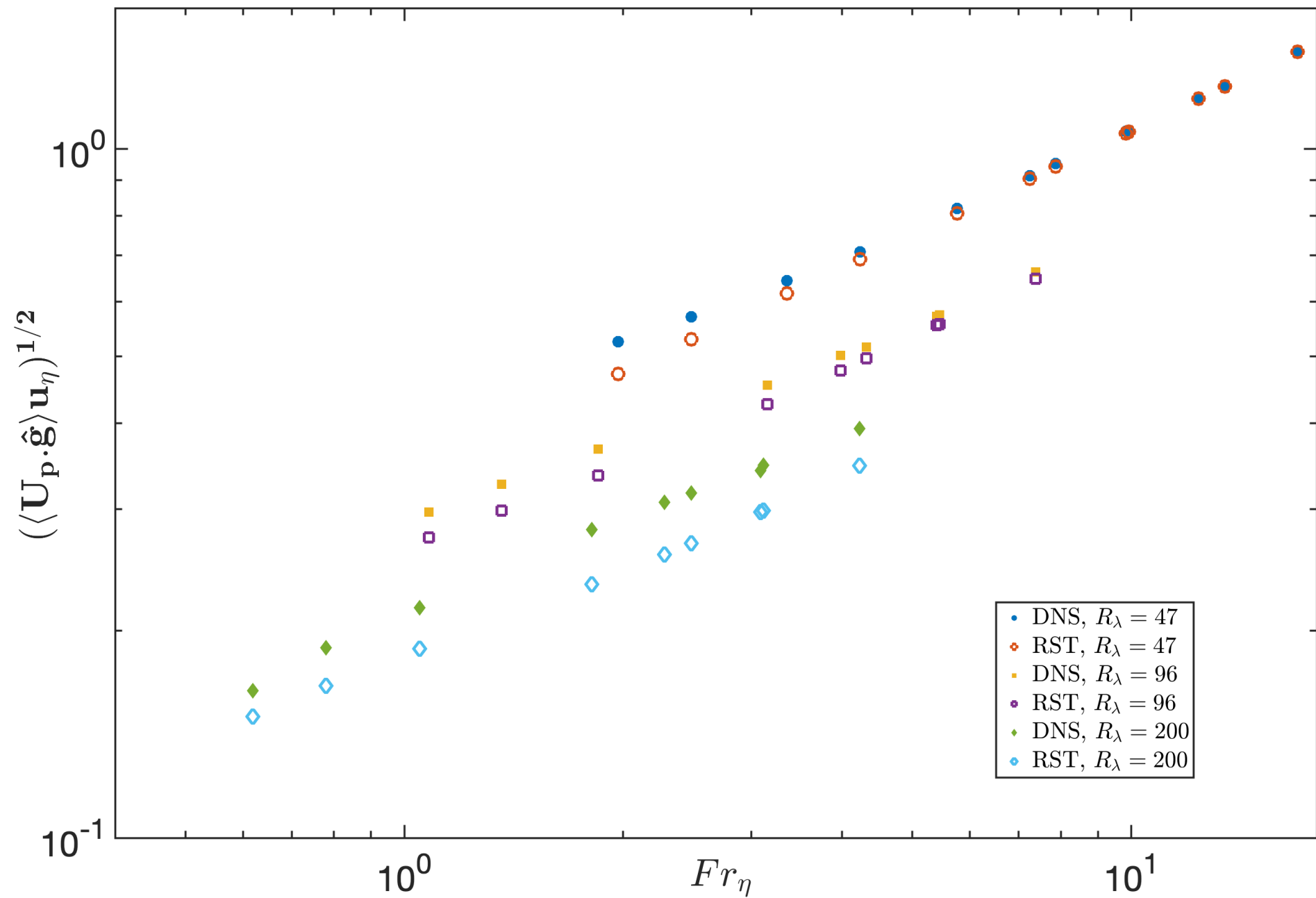


Prolates

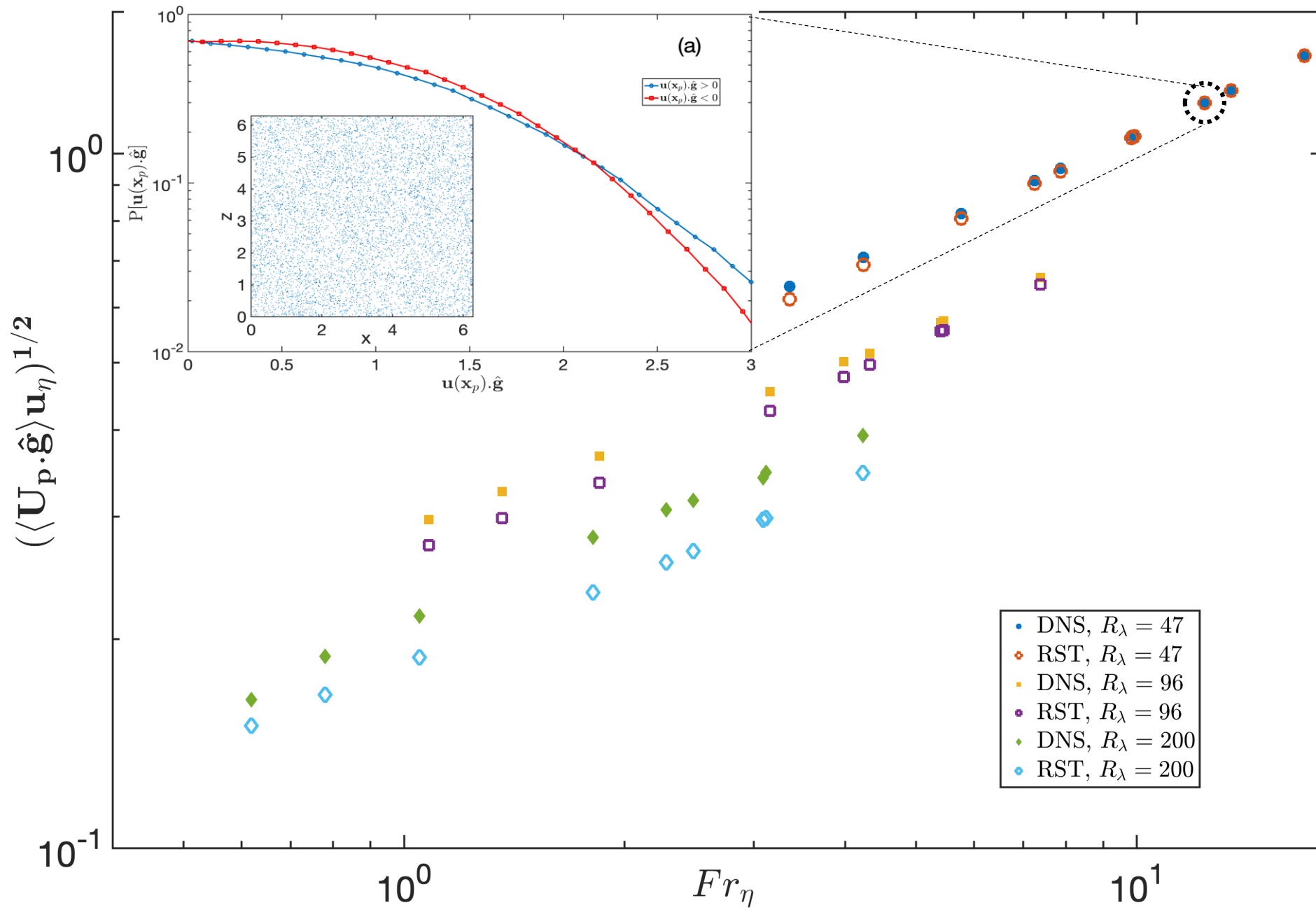
# DIRECT NUMERICAL SIMULATIONS

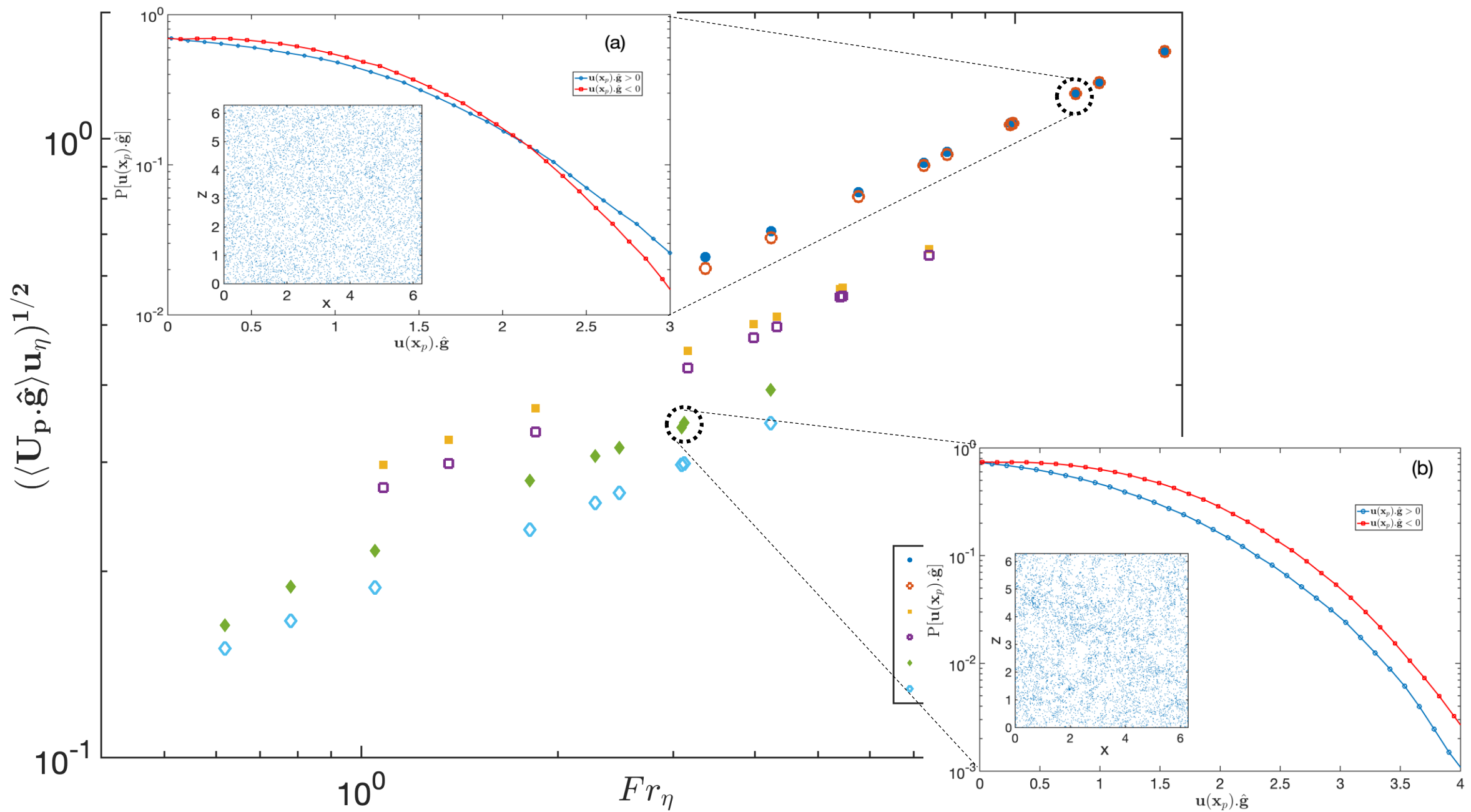
Settling velocity-Enhanced!

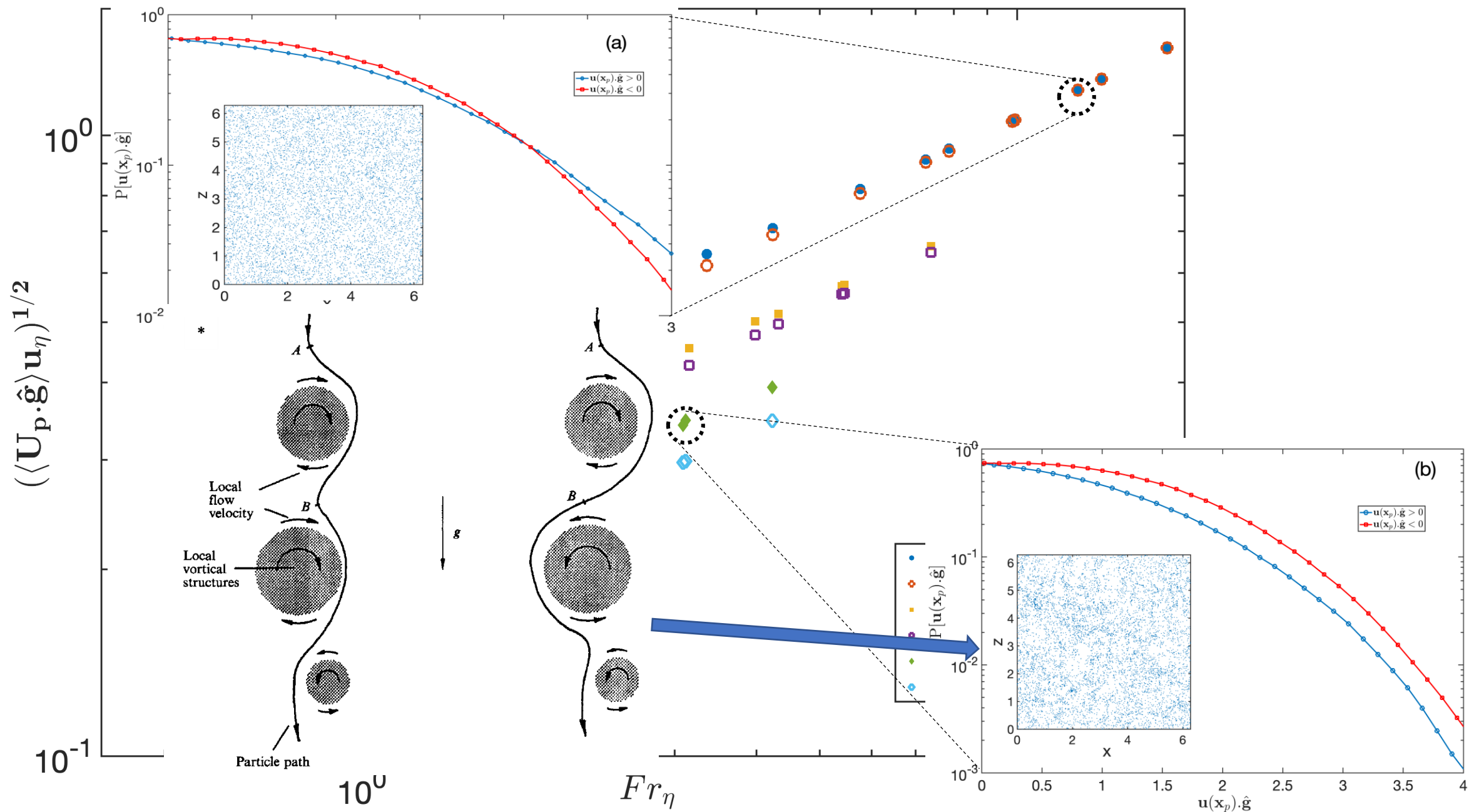
But WHY?



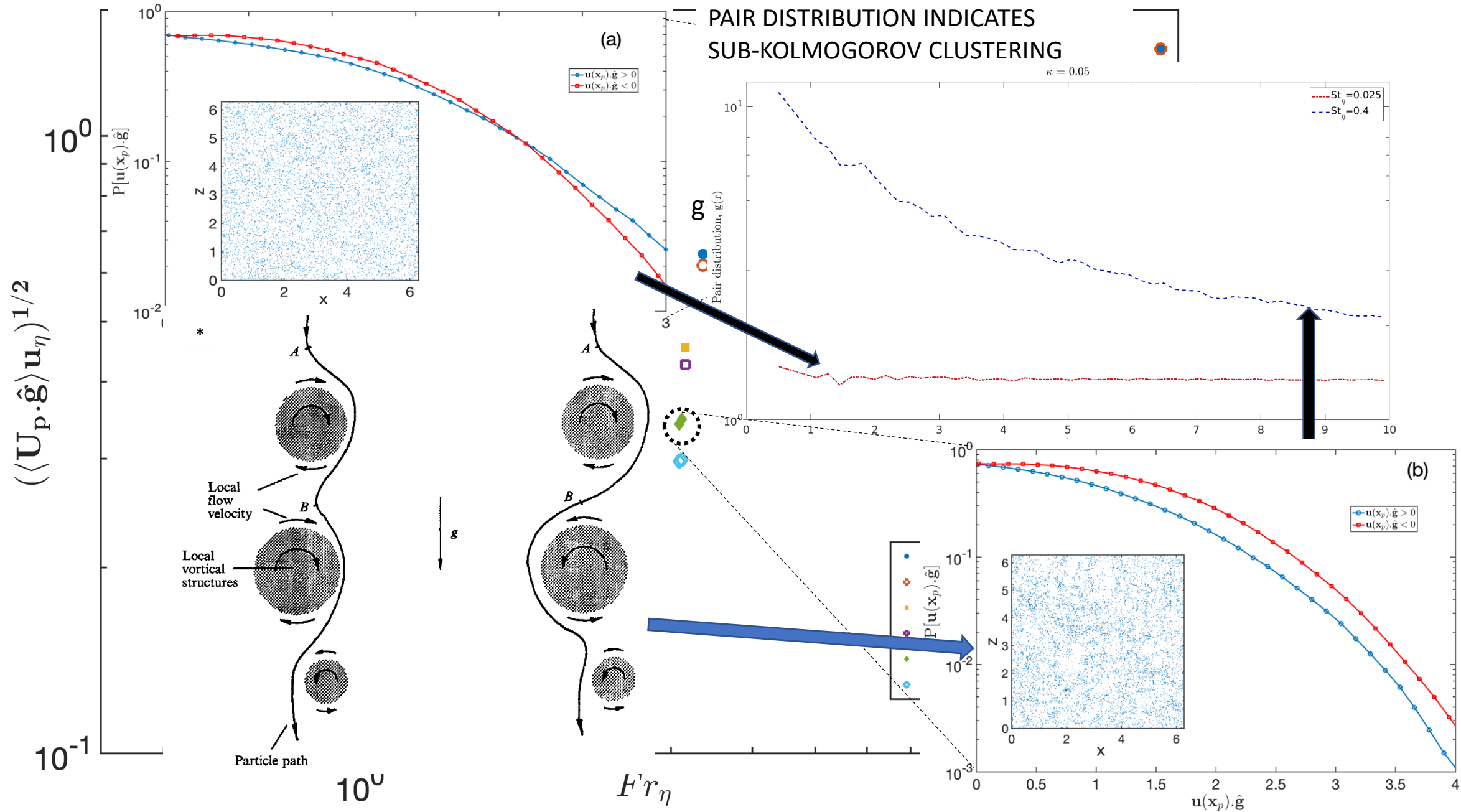






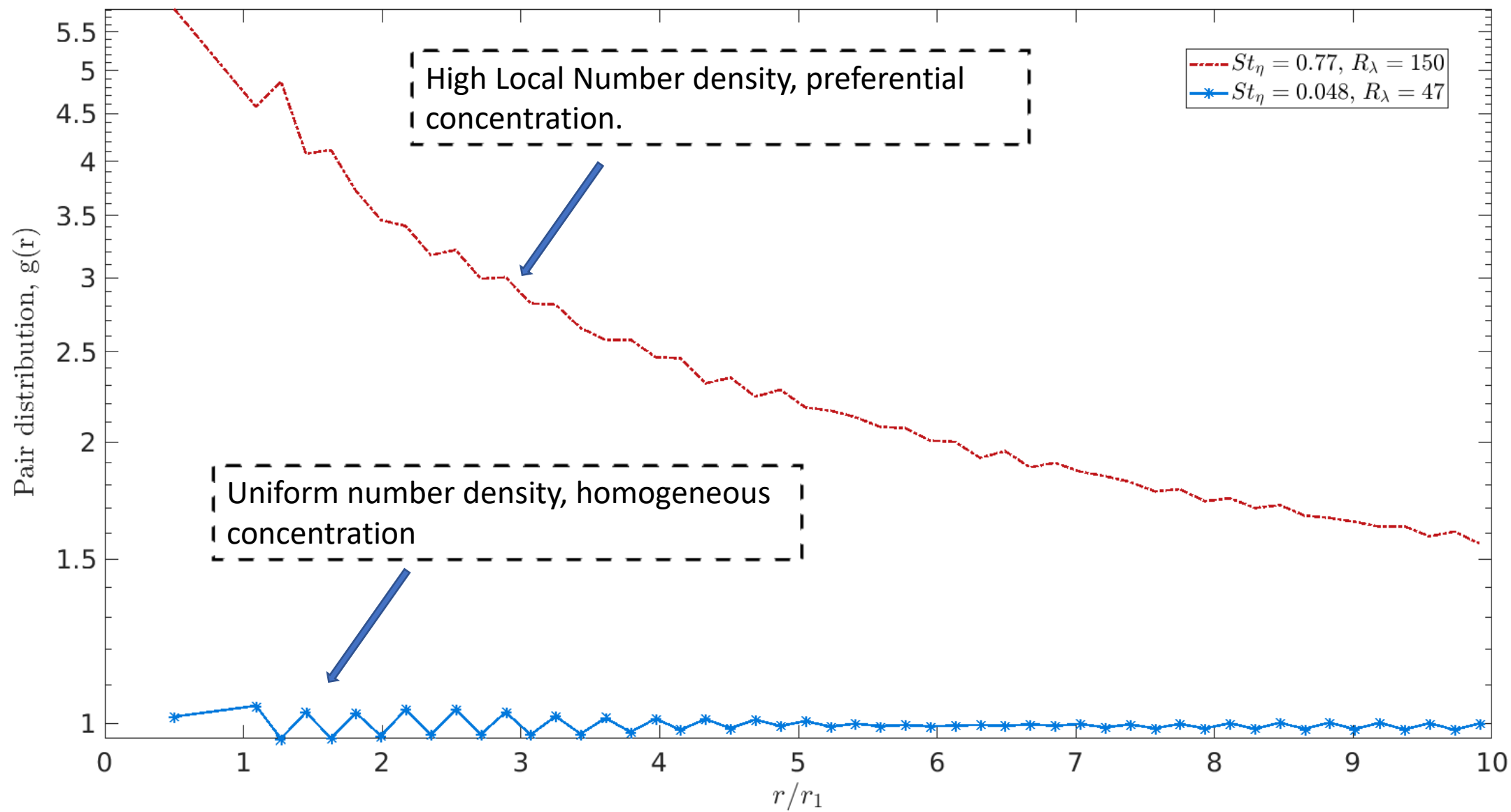


\*Wang, L., & Maxey, M. (1993). Settling velocity and concentration distribution of heavy particles in homogeneous isotropic turbulence. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 256, 27-68



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$\kappa = 2$



# Future Work

- Study of orientation dynamics of ellipsoids settling through a turbulent field.
- How the ellipsoids sample the turbulent field?
- What about the sampling in the Q-R space?

Thank you

Questions...