

# Rising bubbles in a liquid column

## SUMMER SCHOOL AND DISCUSSION MEETING ON BUOYANCY-DRIVEN FLOWS

by

**Rajaram Lakkaraju**

Department of Mechanical Engineering  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur



Acknowledgement  
**INSPIRE-DST, Govt. India**



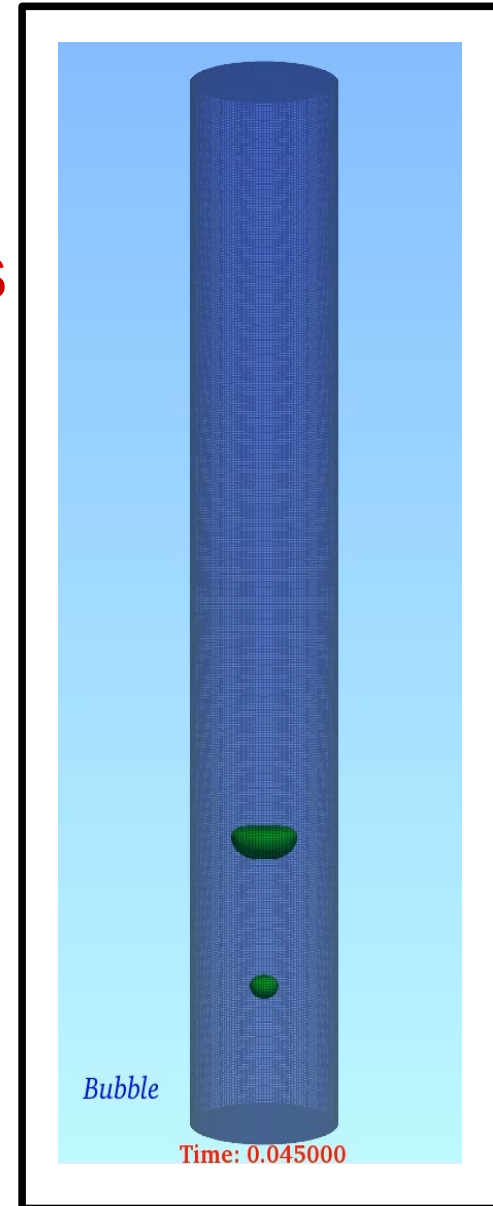
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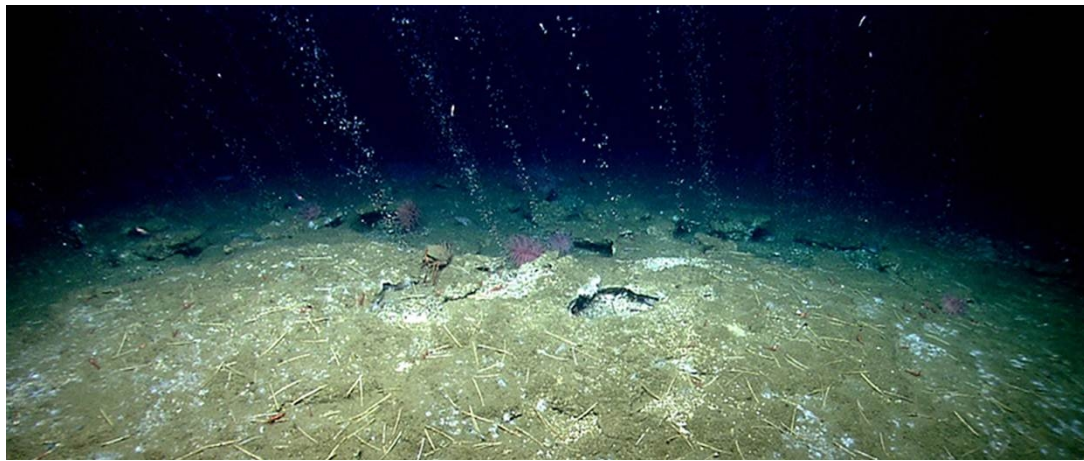
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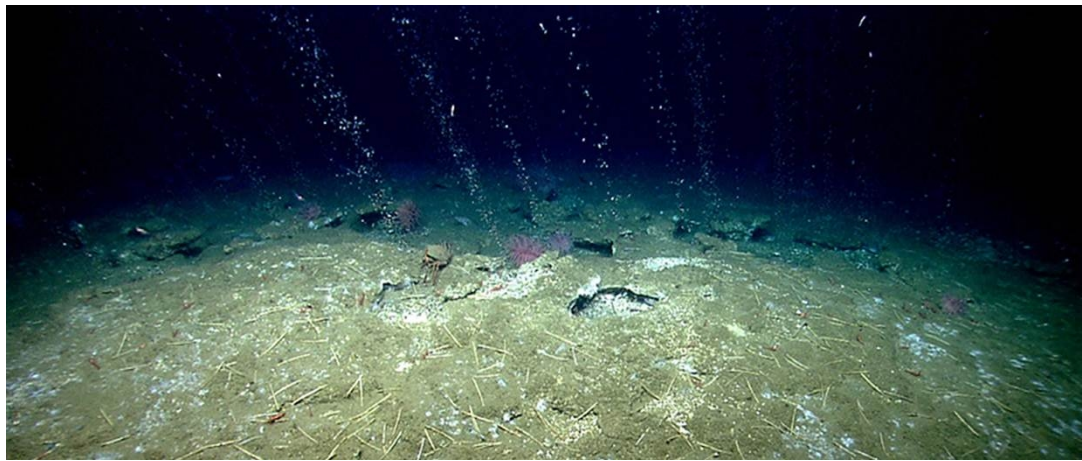


# Where do we see bubbles?

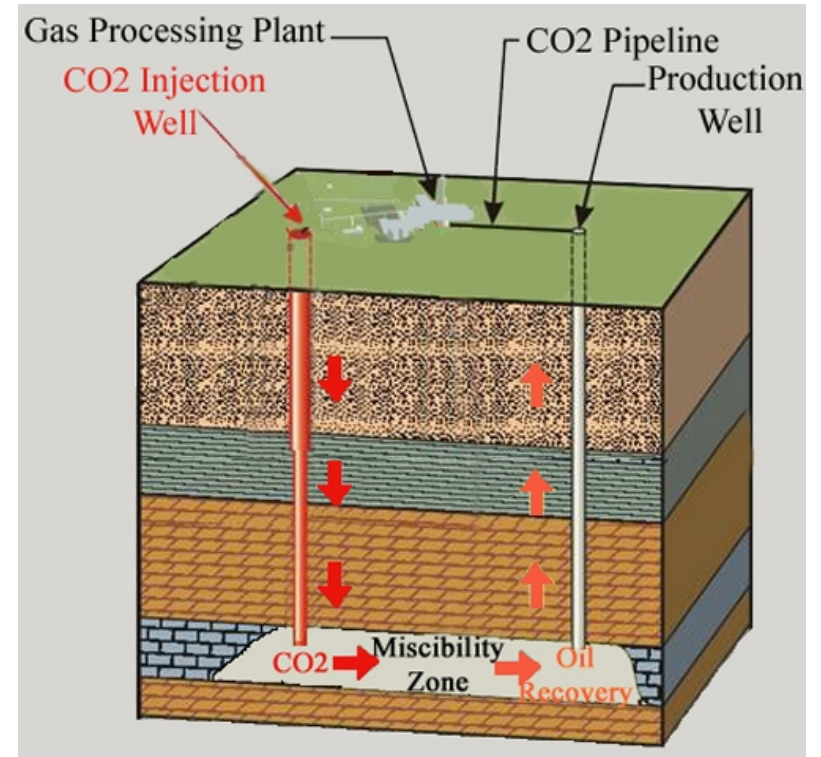


**Methane streams in oceans-climatic change**

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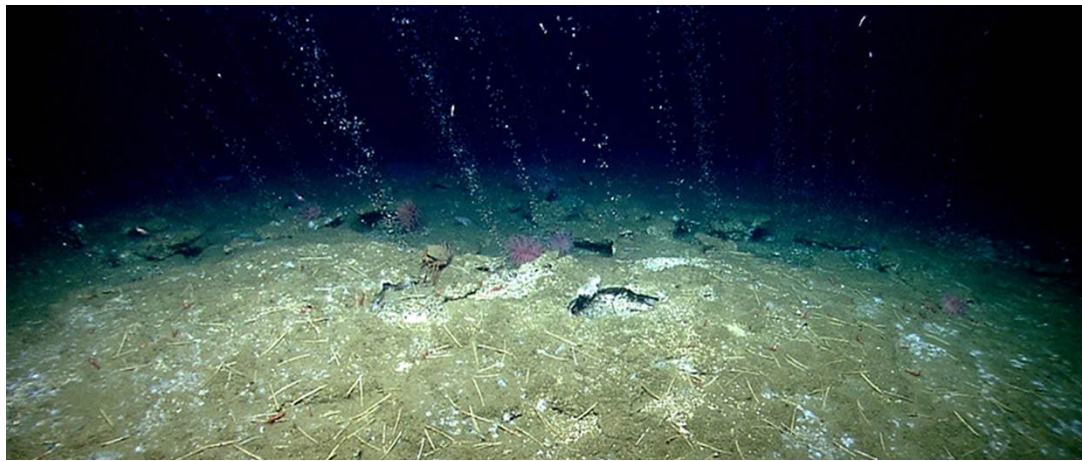


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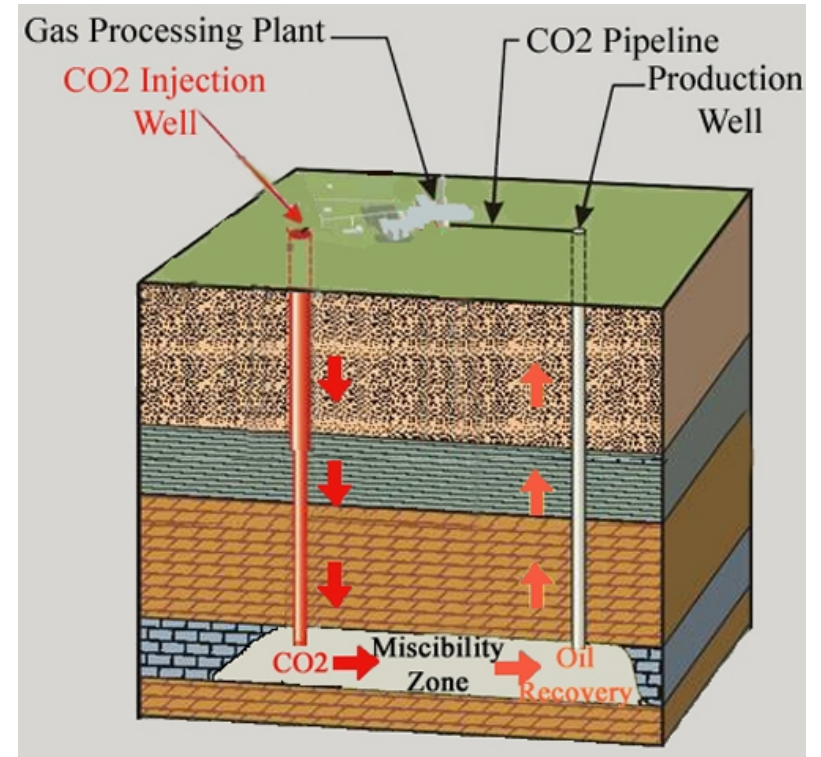
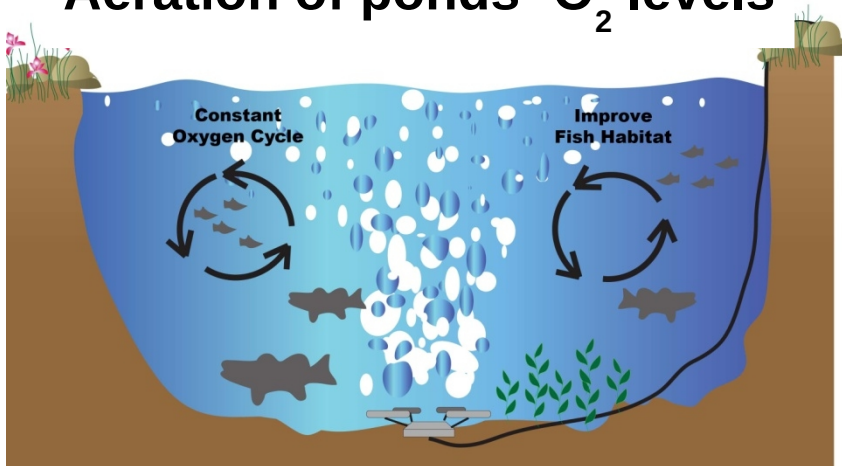
Enhanced oil recovery

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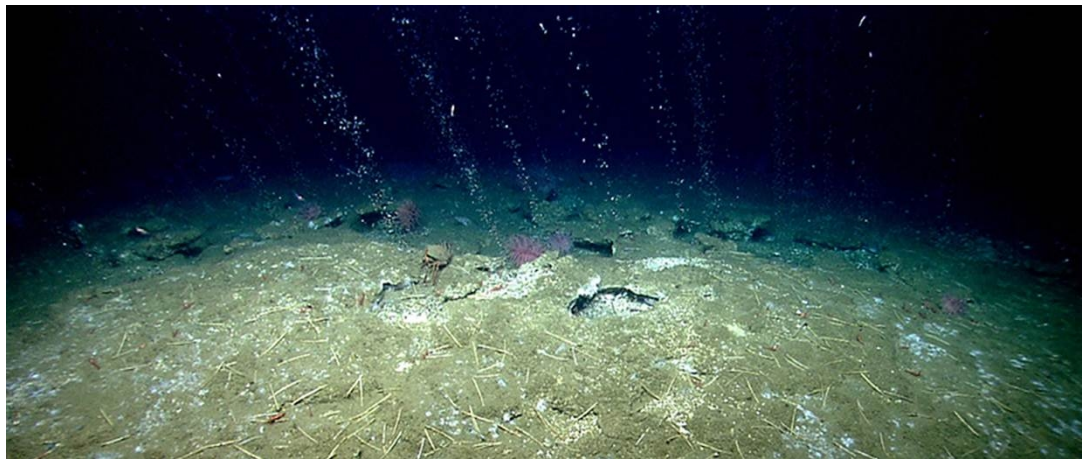
Methane streams in oceans-climatic change

## Aeration of ponds- O<sub>2</sub> levels

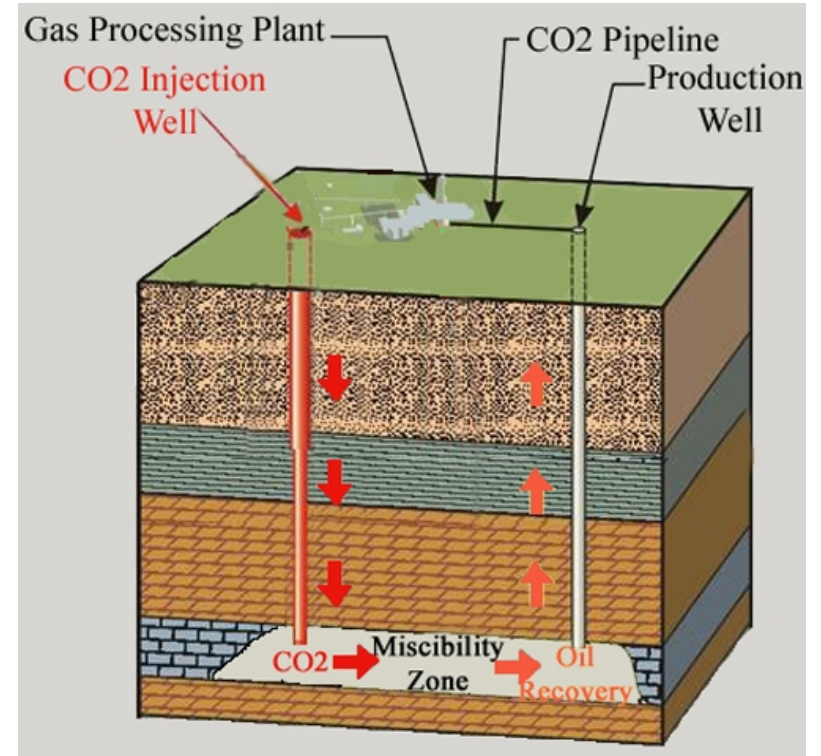


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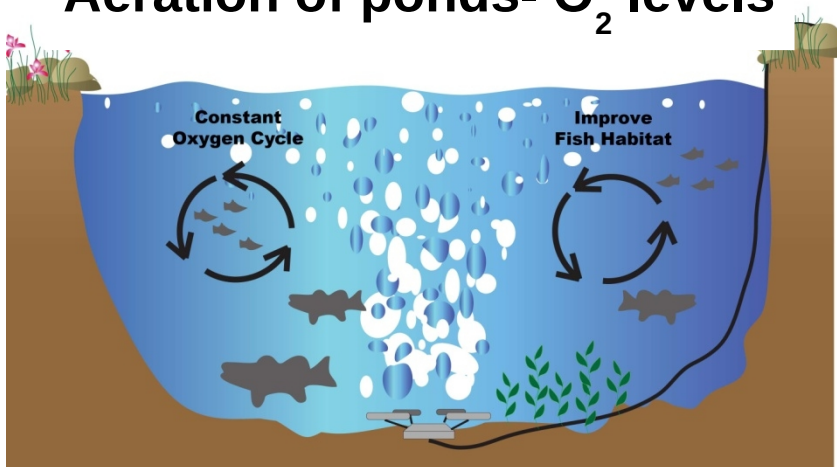


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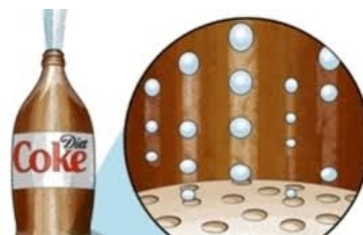


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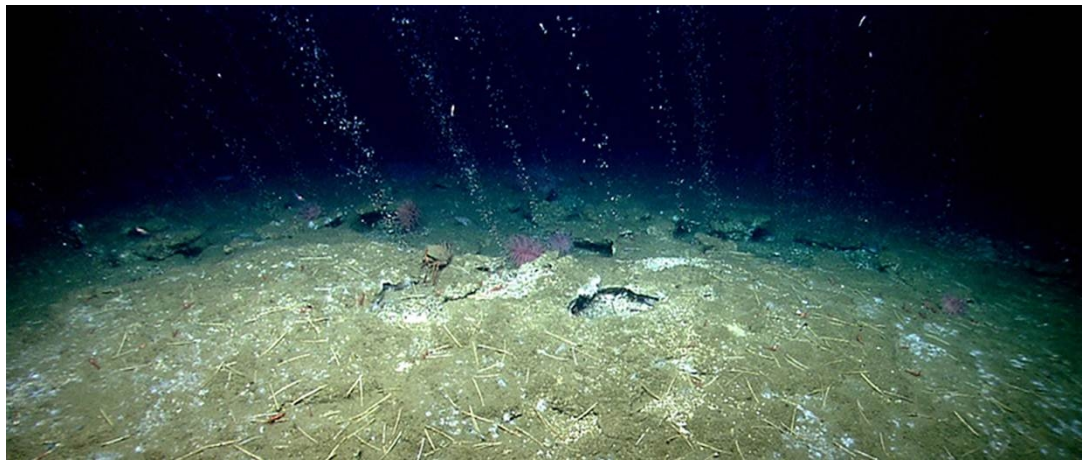
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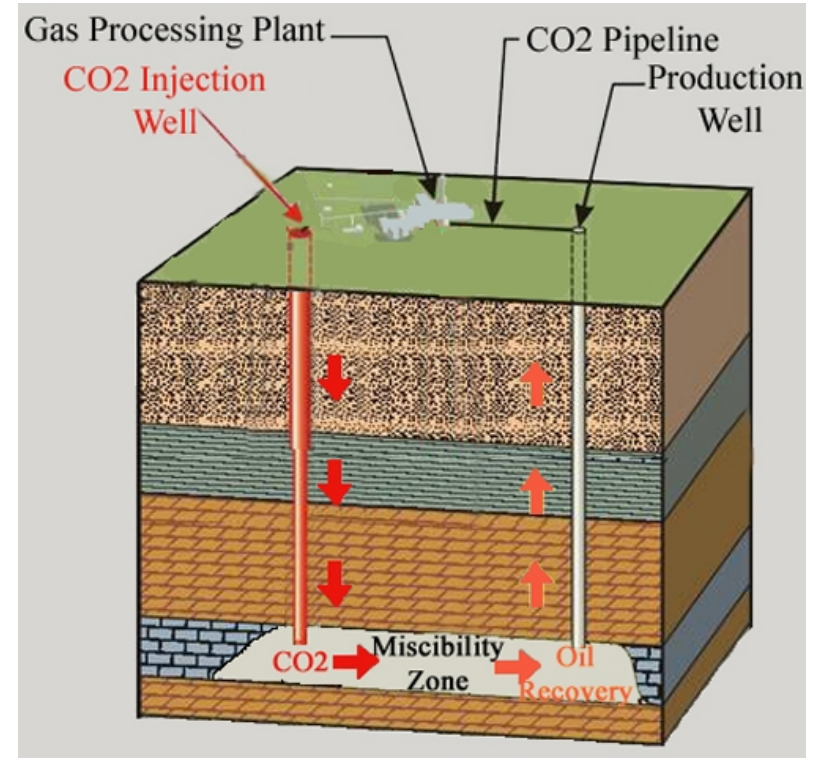
## Drinks



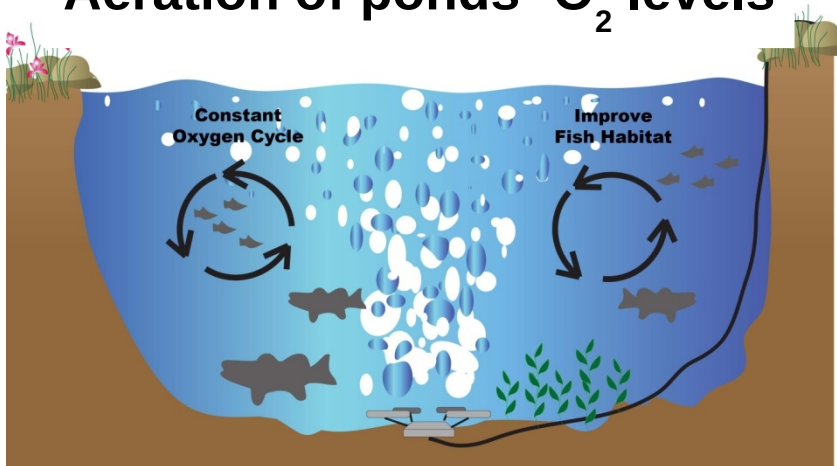
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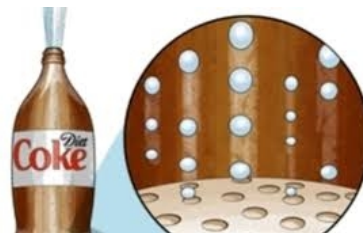
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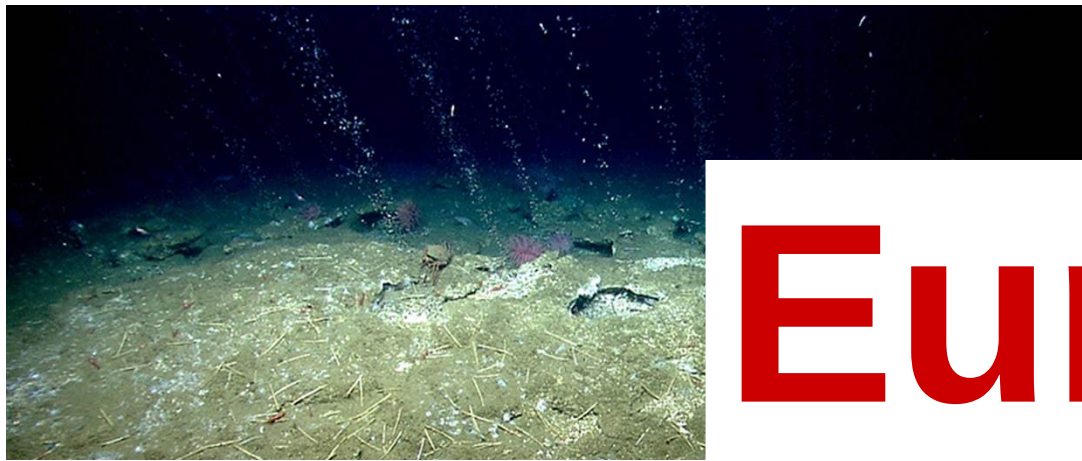
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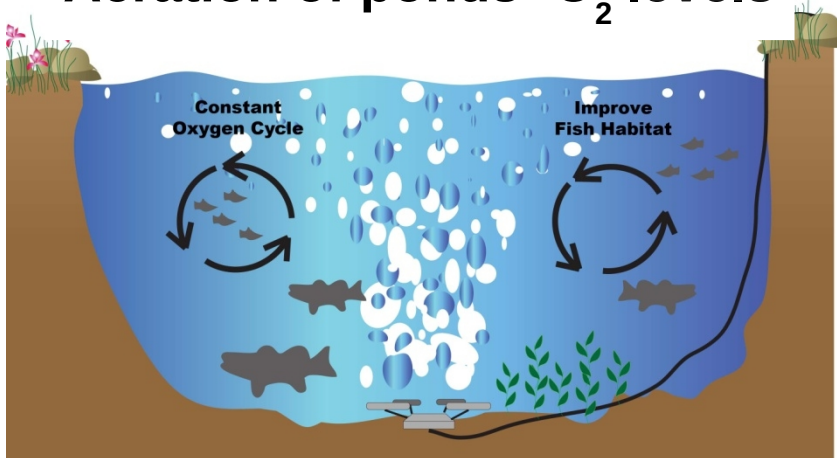


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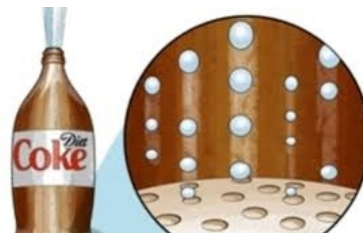
Methane streams in ocean

# It is RBC...

Aeration of ponds-  $O_2$  l



Drinks

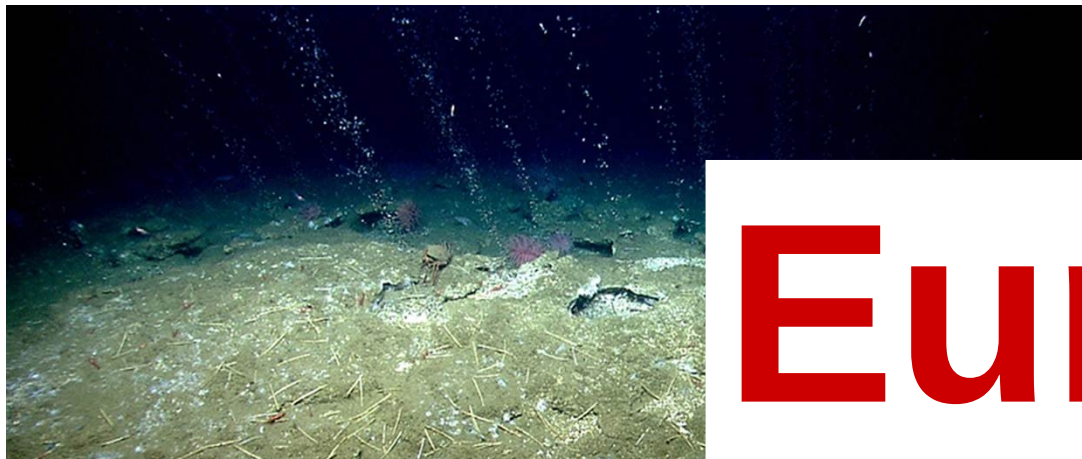


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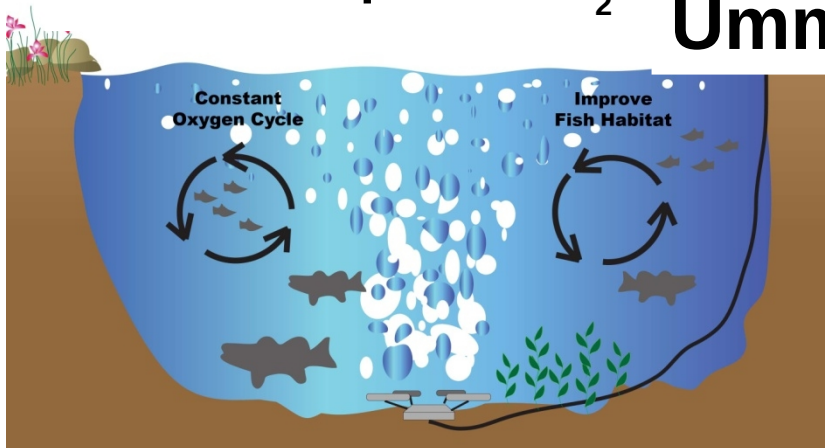
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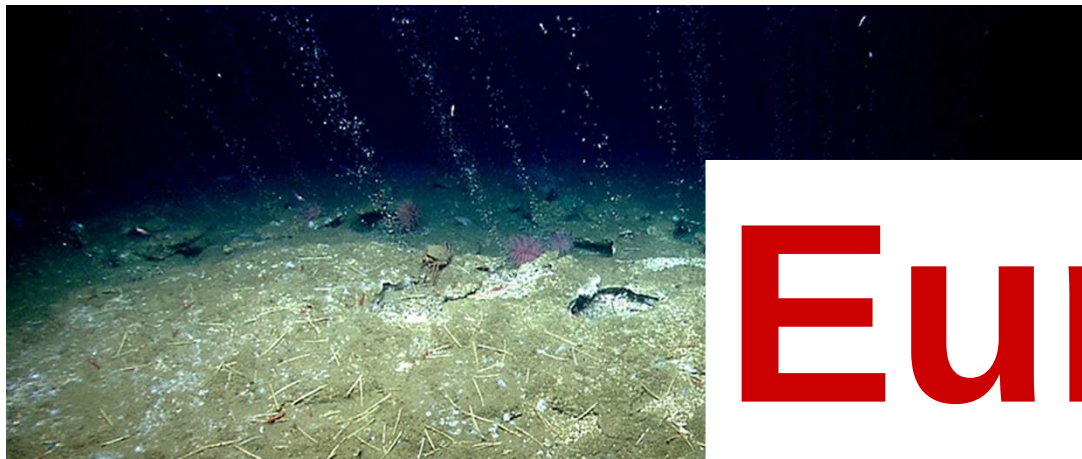
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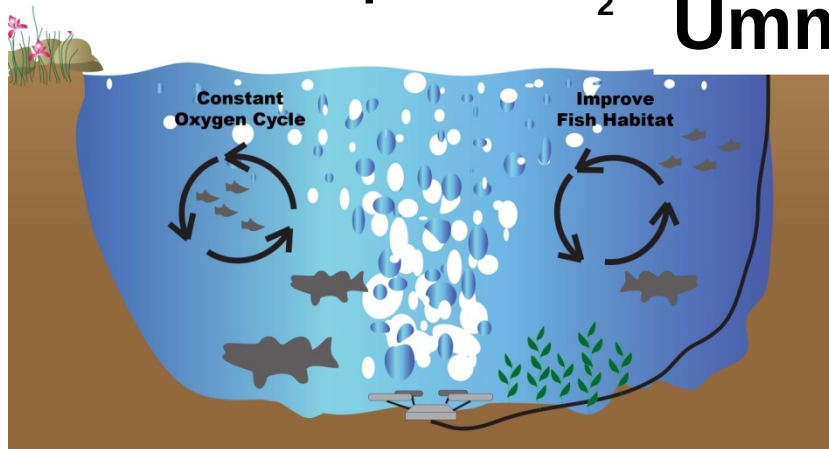
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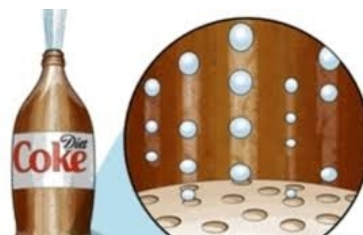
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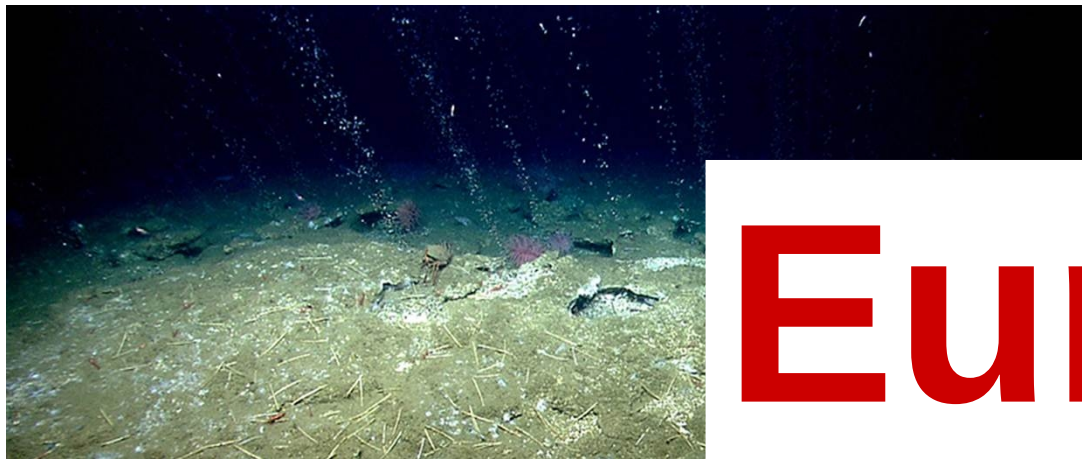
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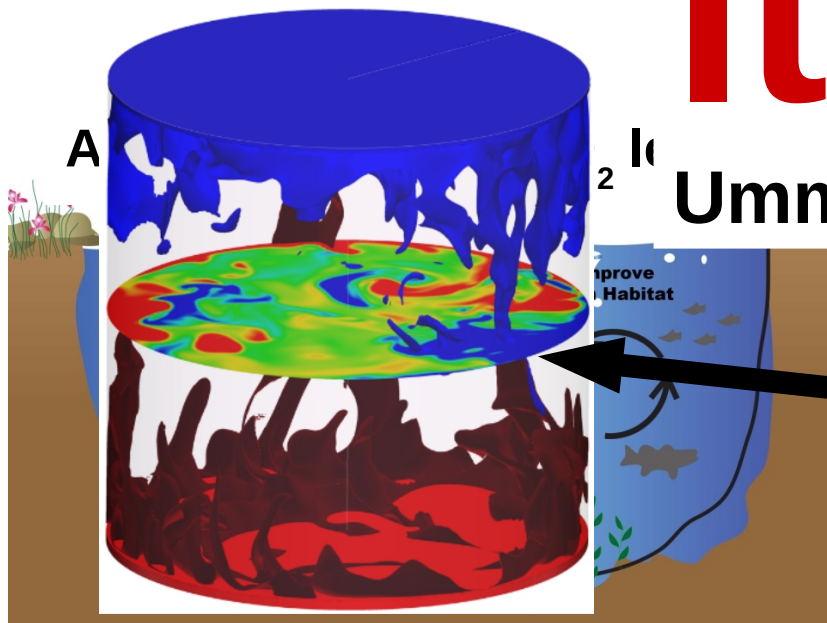


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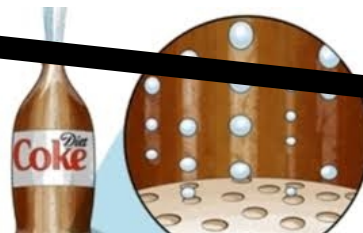
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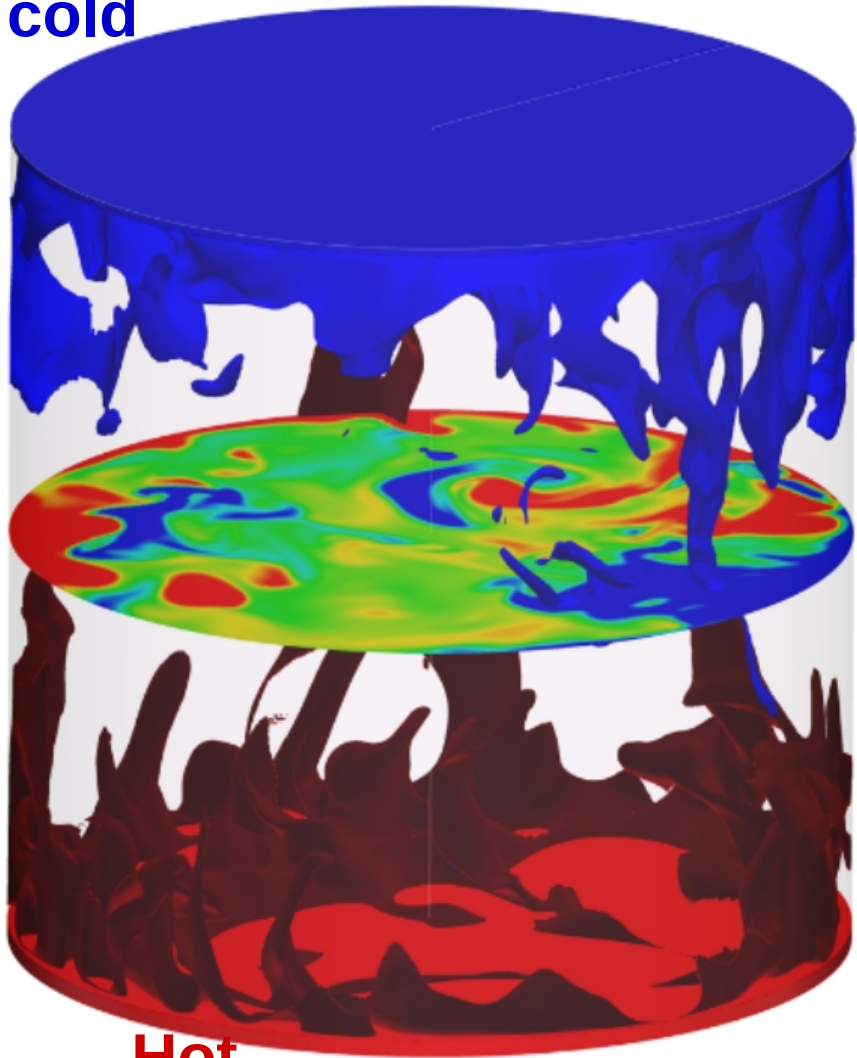
Drinks



# How we started into this

Initially began with traditional RBC

cold



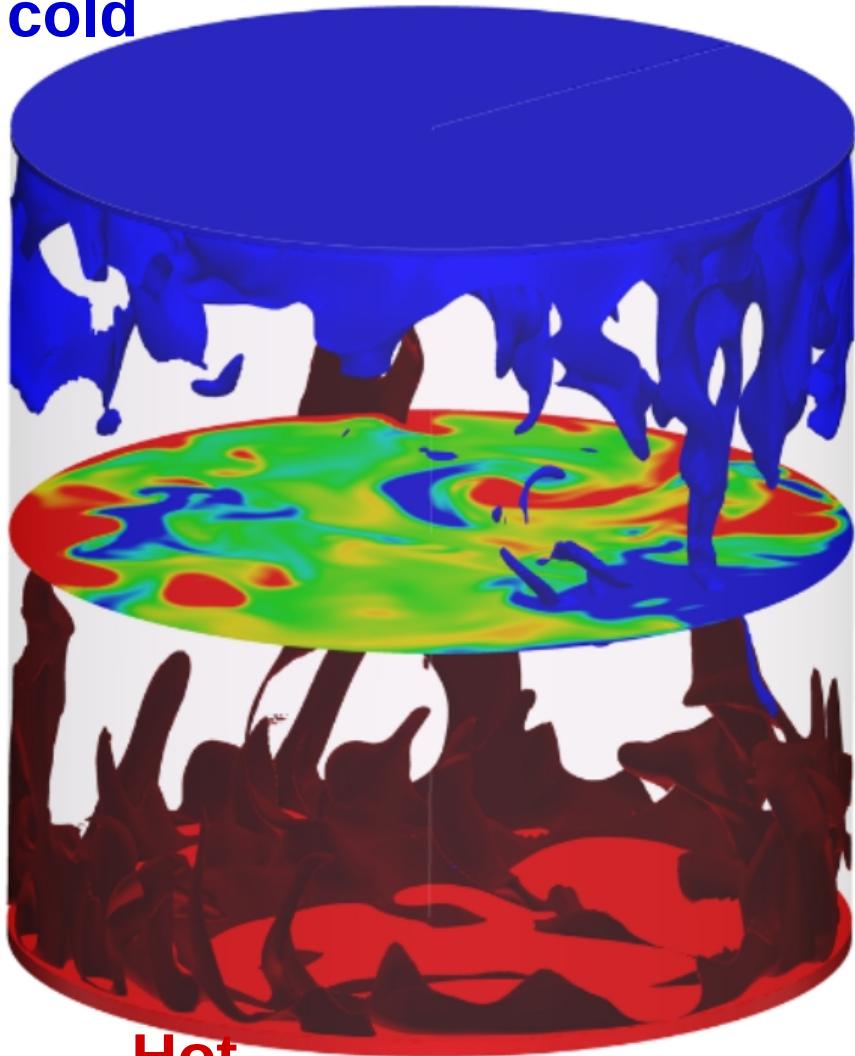
Hot

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Initially began with traditional RBC...

LSC, plumes, heatflux, structure functions...what not...

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Hot

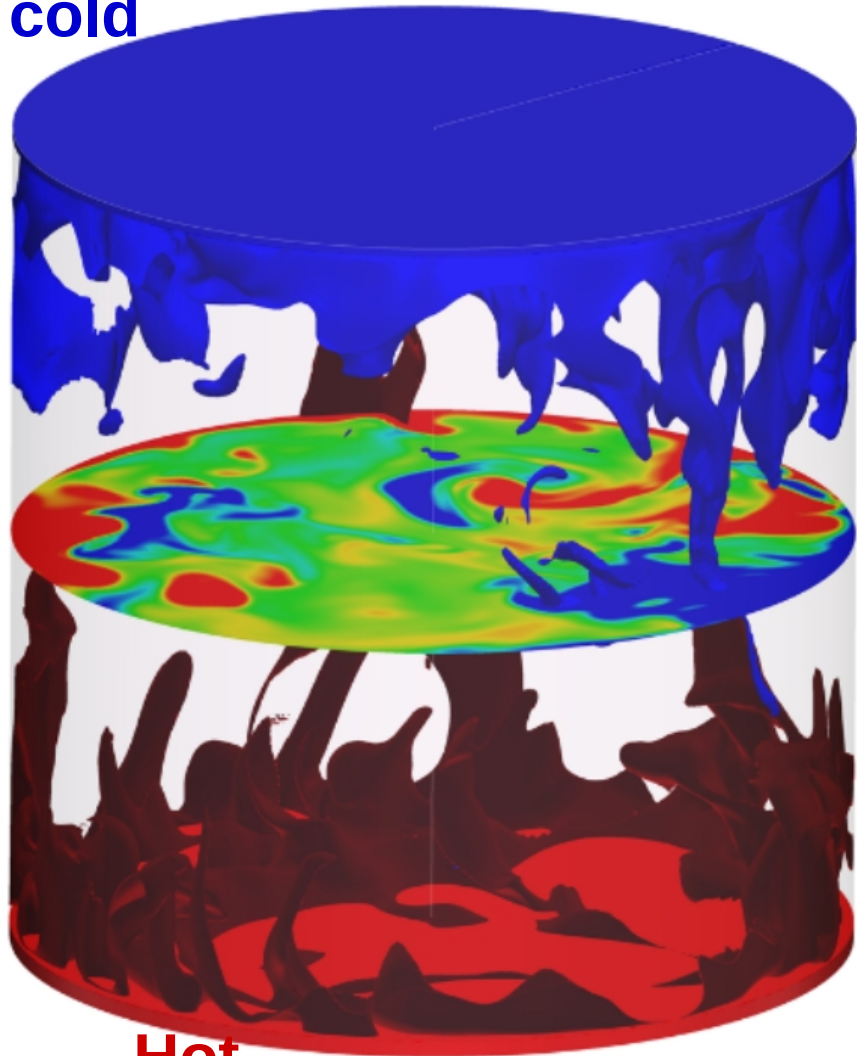
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How about boiling RBC?

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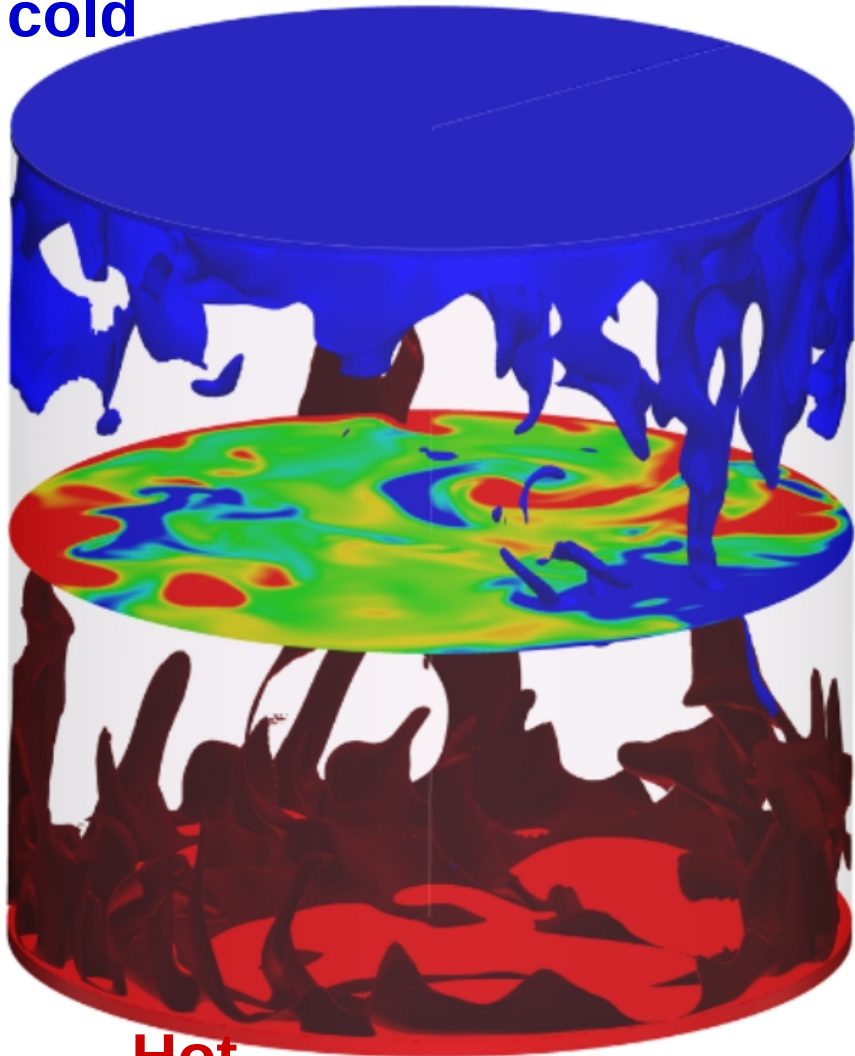
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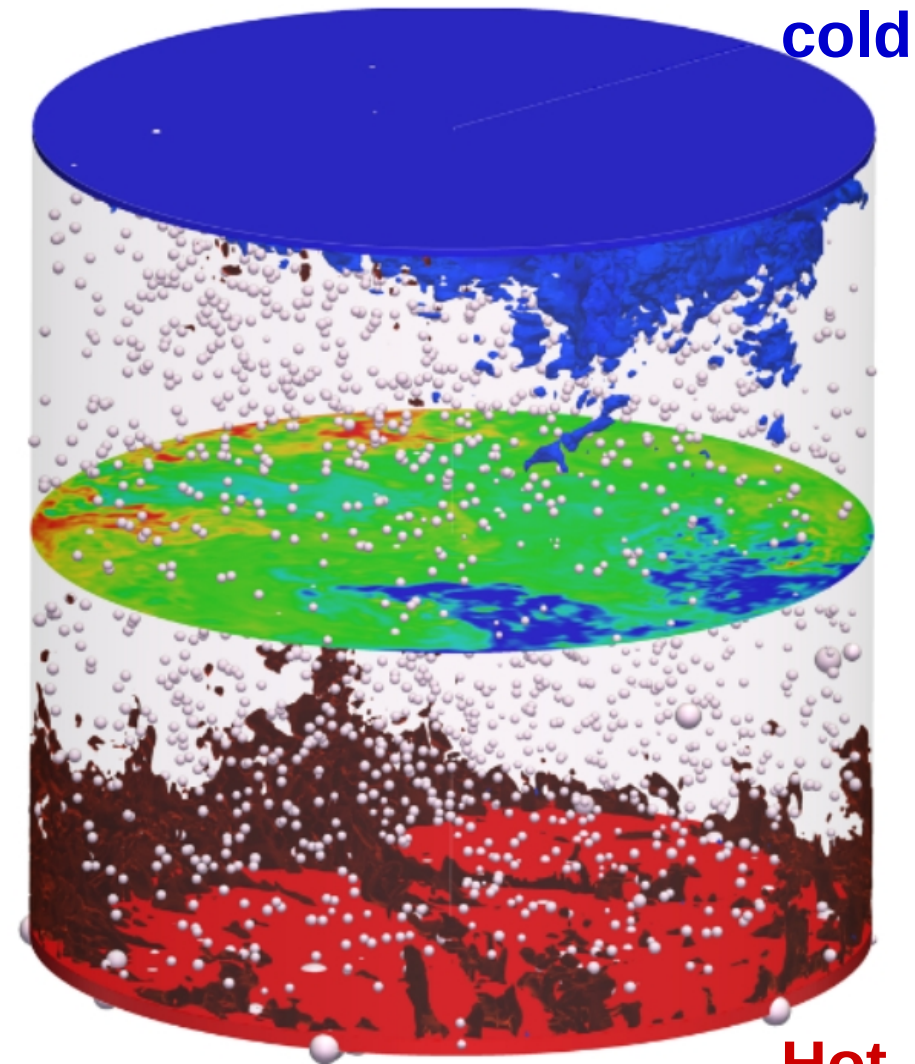
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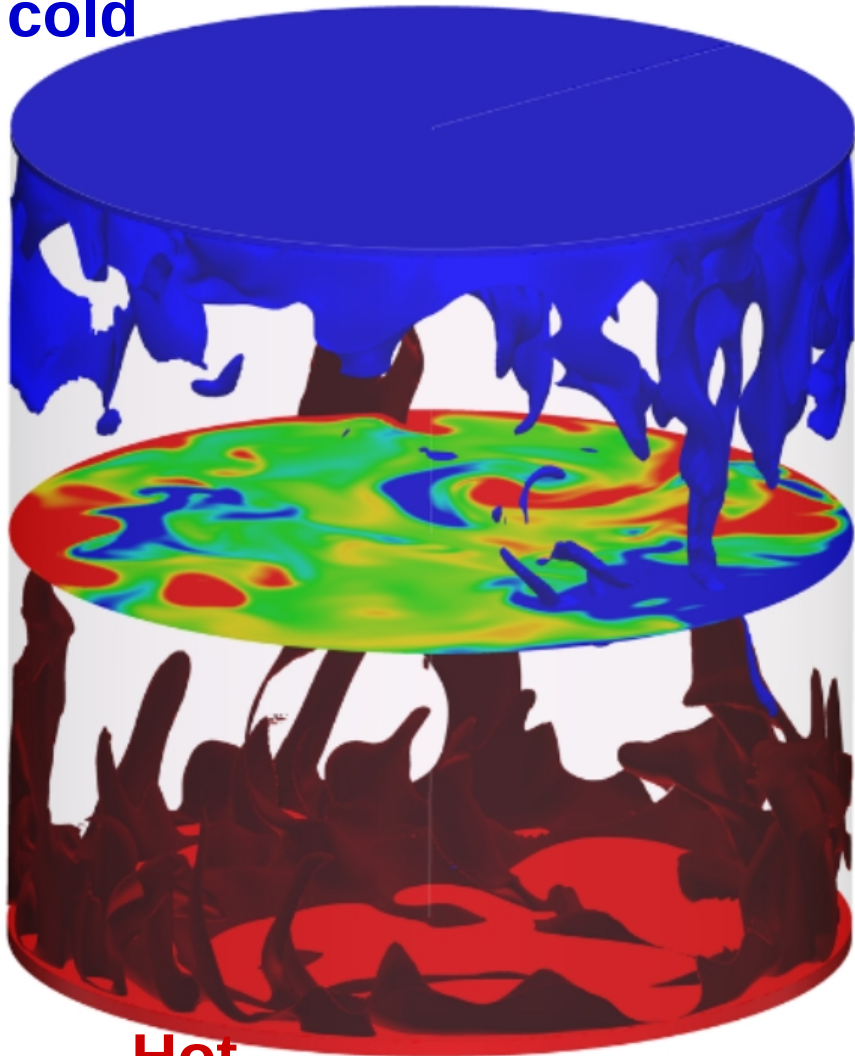
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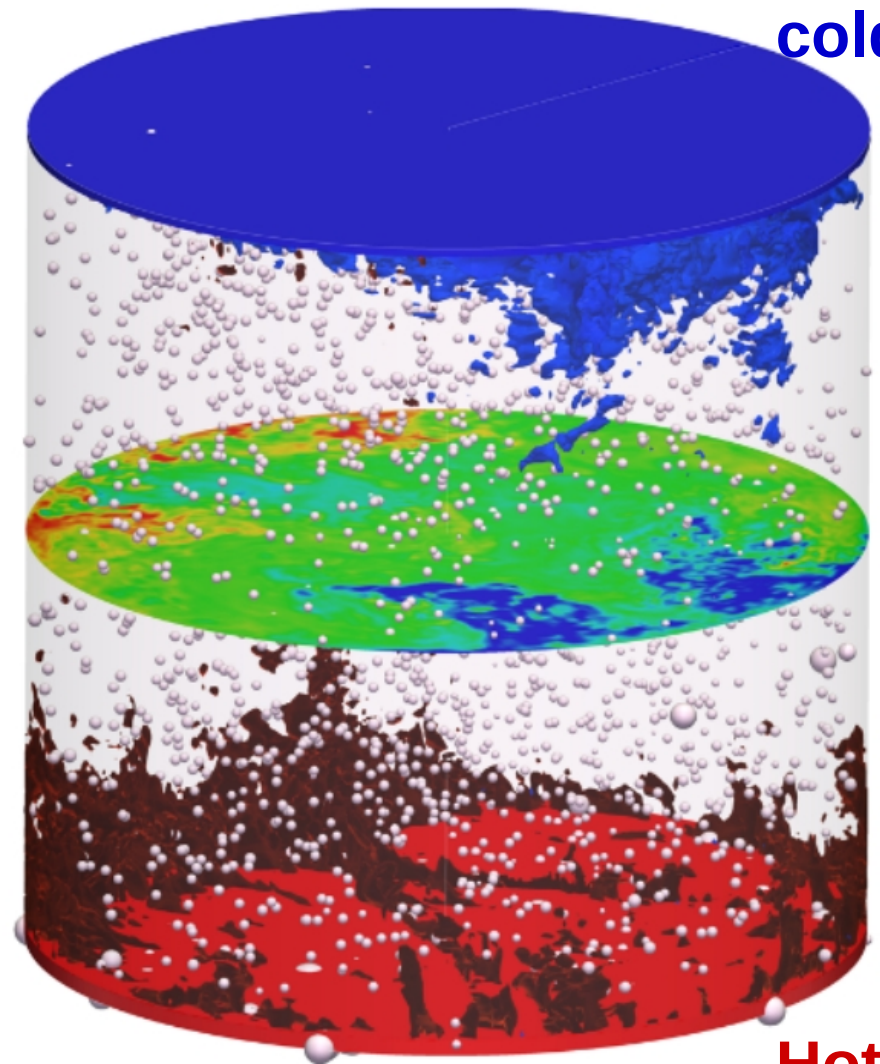
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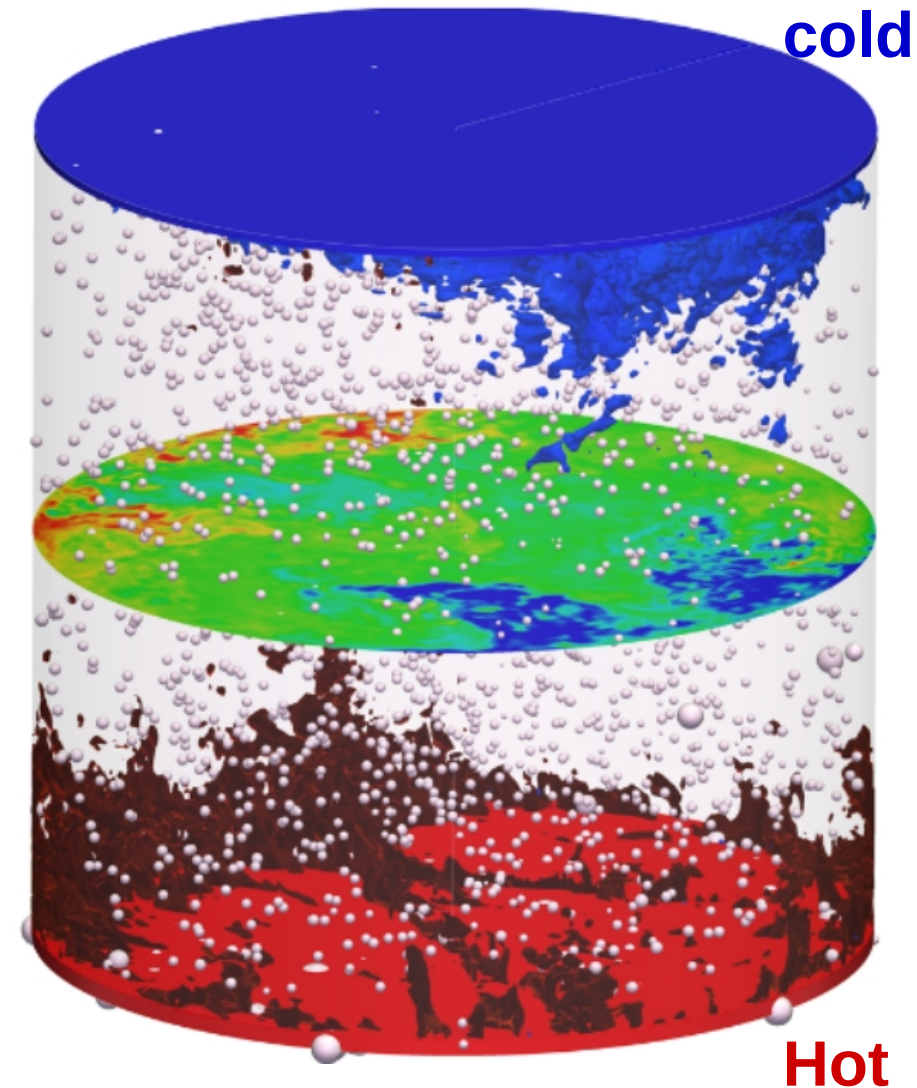
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A beautiful mathematical framework

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## A beautiful mathematical framework

Incompressible flow for liquid - Euler

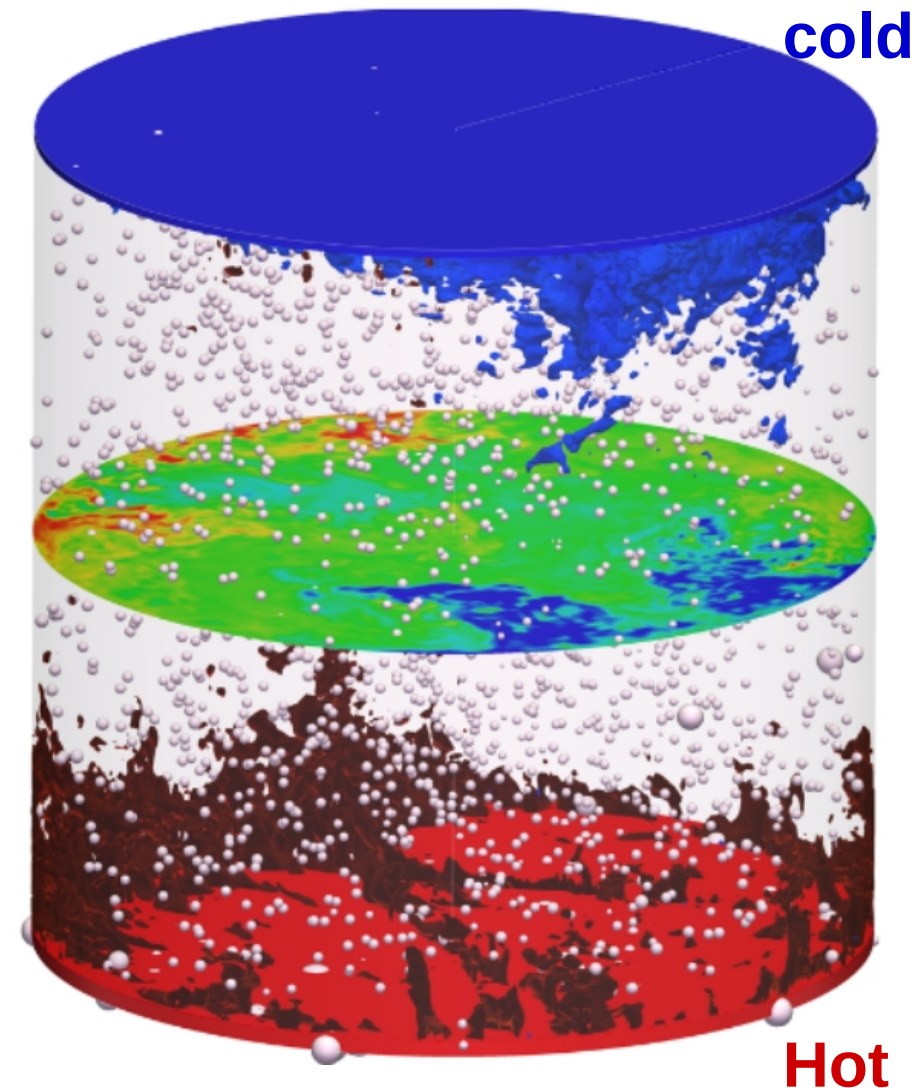
+

Point size – Lagrange

+

Growth/Condensation

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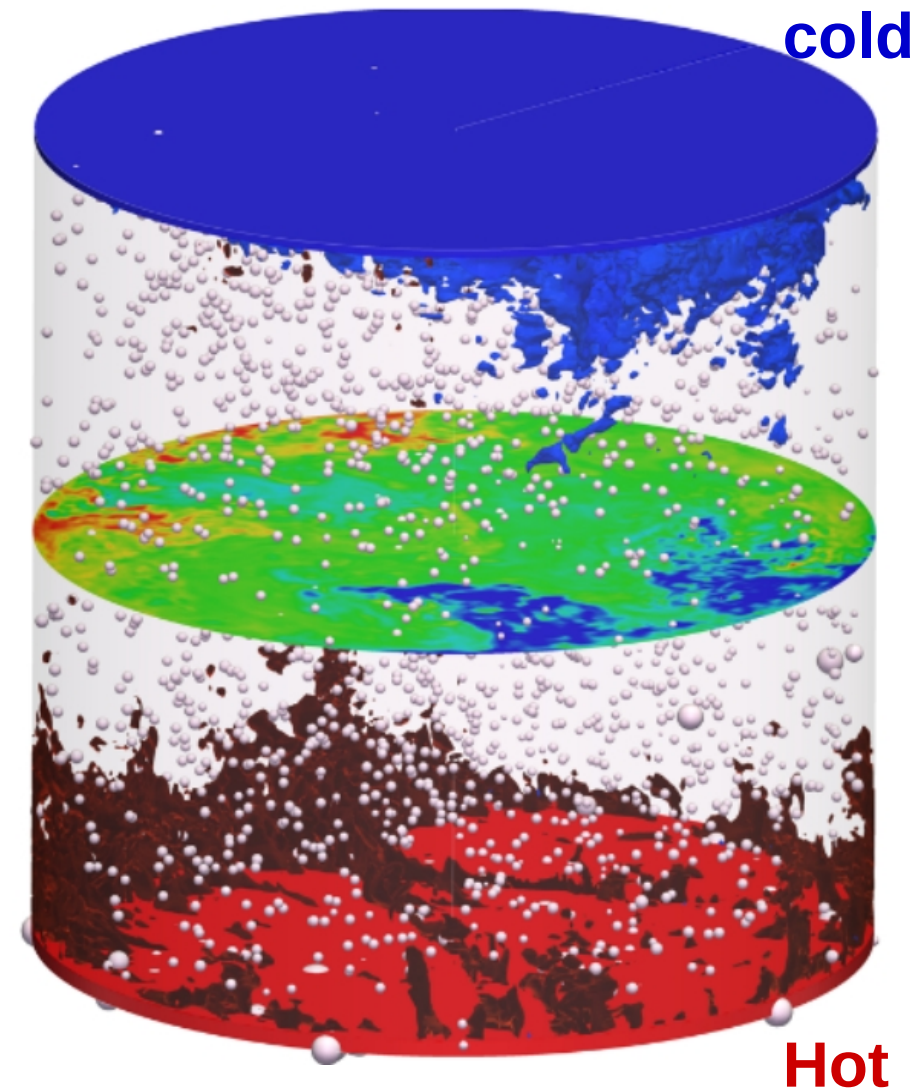
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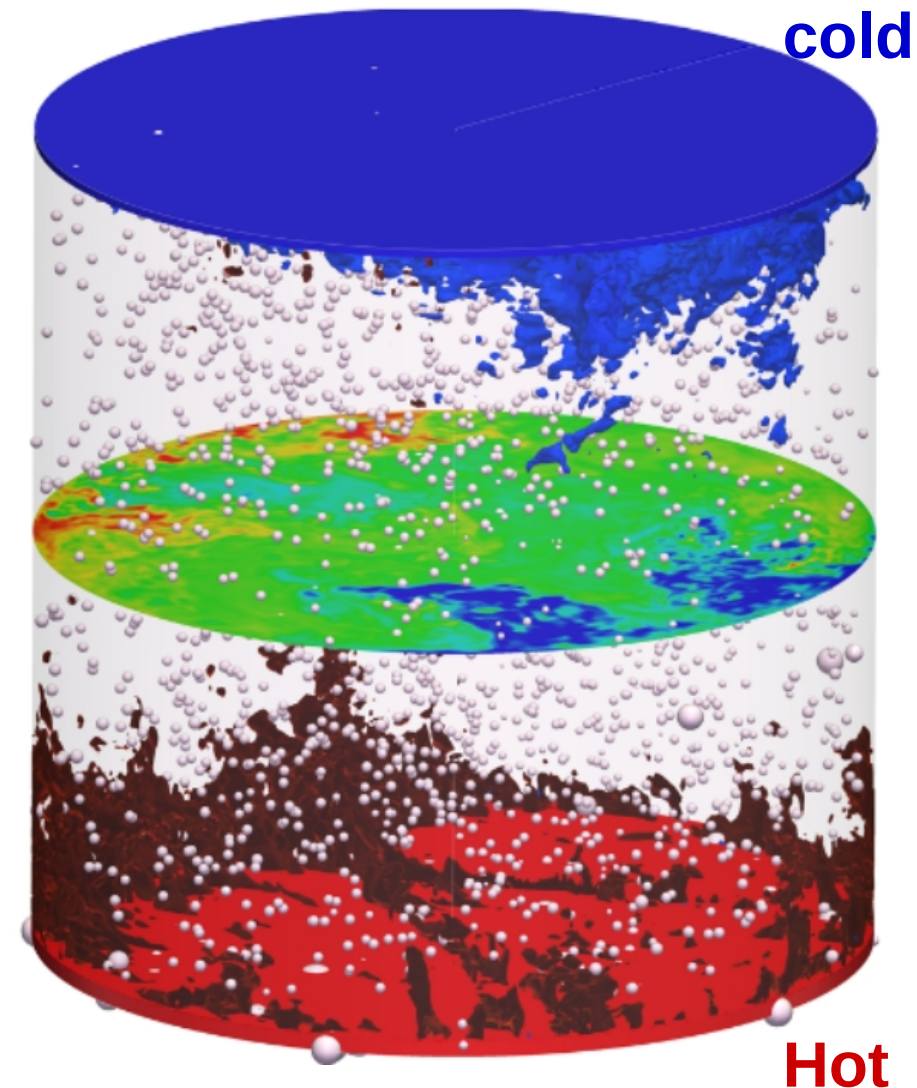
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Wait a minute...

Are these real bubbles?

Can they rotate, coalesce, bounce, tumble,  
Oscillate, create wake?

**How about boiling RBC?**



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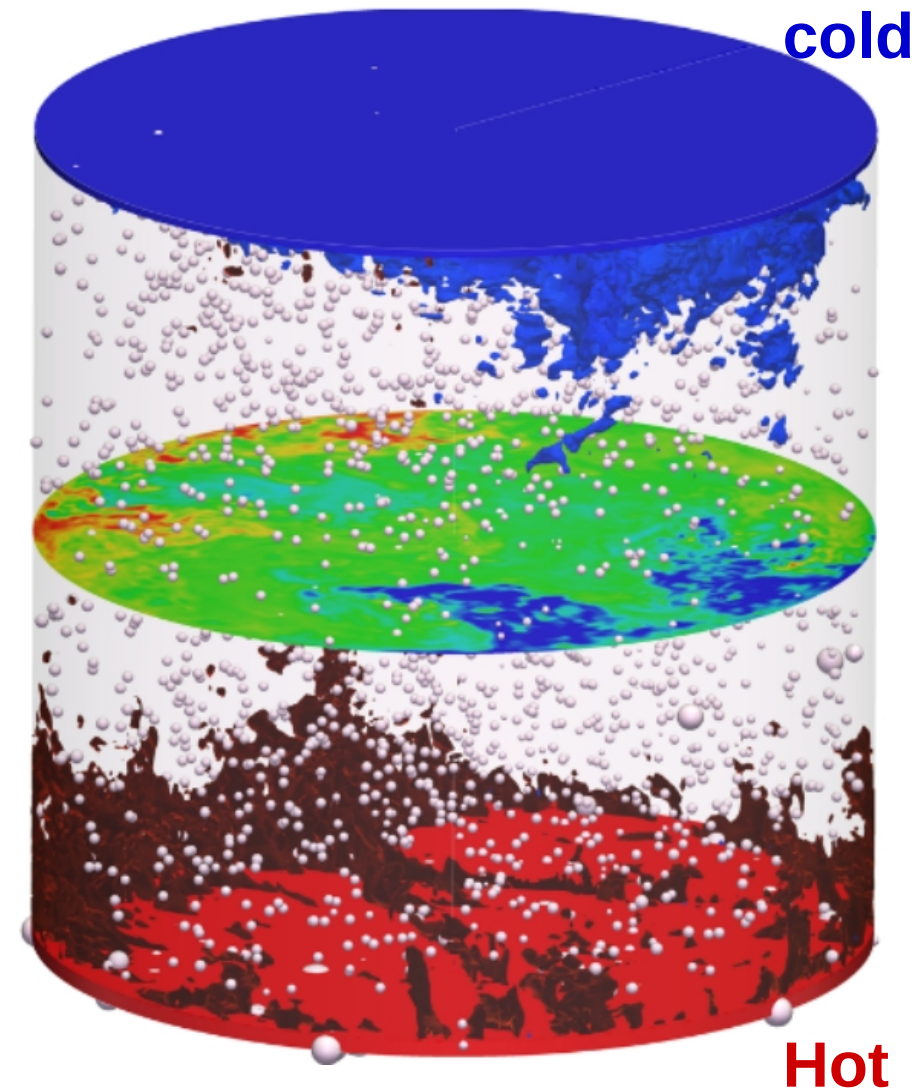
Are these real bubbles?

Can they rotate, coalesce, bounce, tumble,  
Oscillate, create wake?

# NO!

But, see we can publish papers... hmm...

**How about boiling RBC?**



# How we started into this

**Then we started to work on real bubbles**

Which can deform, rotate, coalesce, bounce, tumble...blah blah blah.

# How we started into this

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**Raja, we are waiting for colorful dynamics**

**Show us some fancy  
animation**

# How we started into this

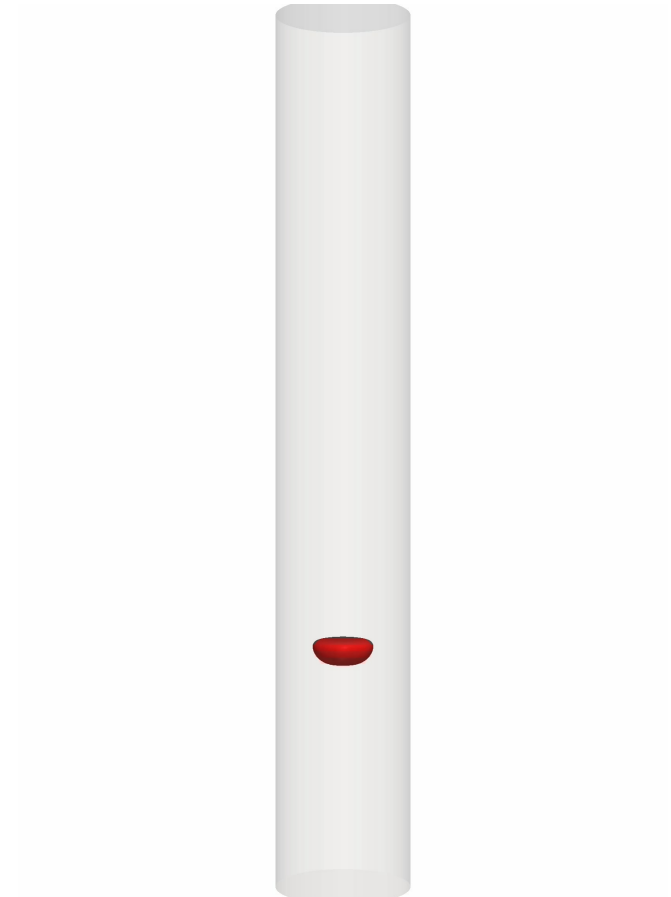
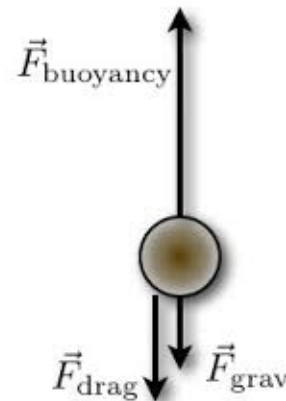
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**How about rising bubble  
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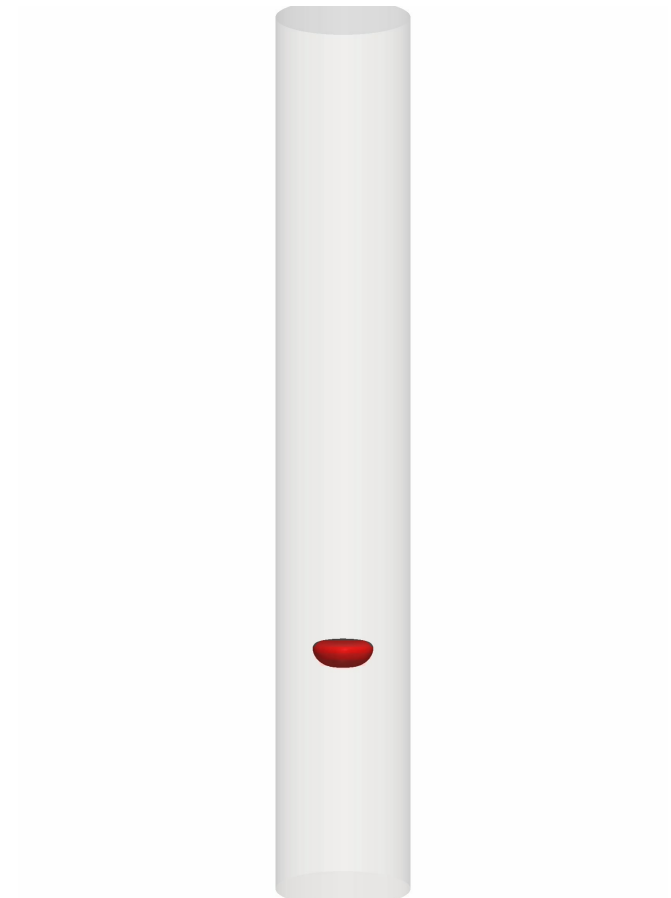
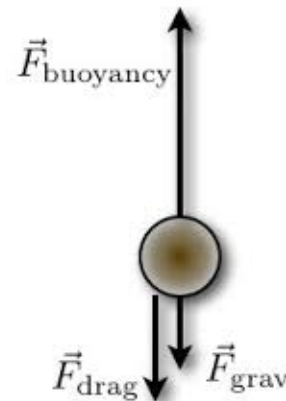
Which can deform, rotate, coalesce, bounce, tumble...blah blah blah.

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## Show us some fancy animation

**How about rising bubble  
in a quiescent liquid?**

Size ~ 5 mm  
cylinder of 16 cm x 2 cm  
Rise velocity ~ 20 cm/s

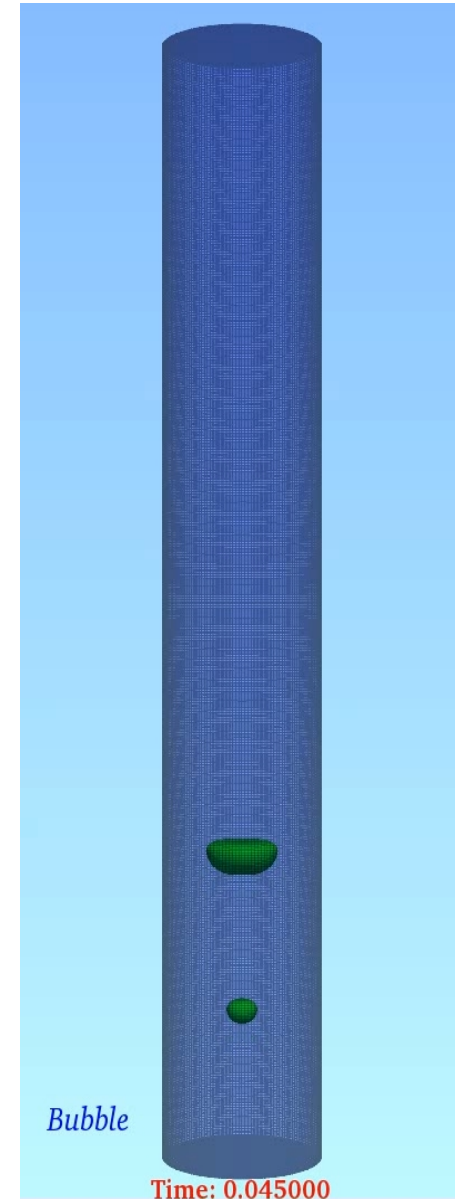


# Rising bubbles in a liquid column

**Let us see if a small bubble trails  
a leading big one**

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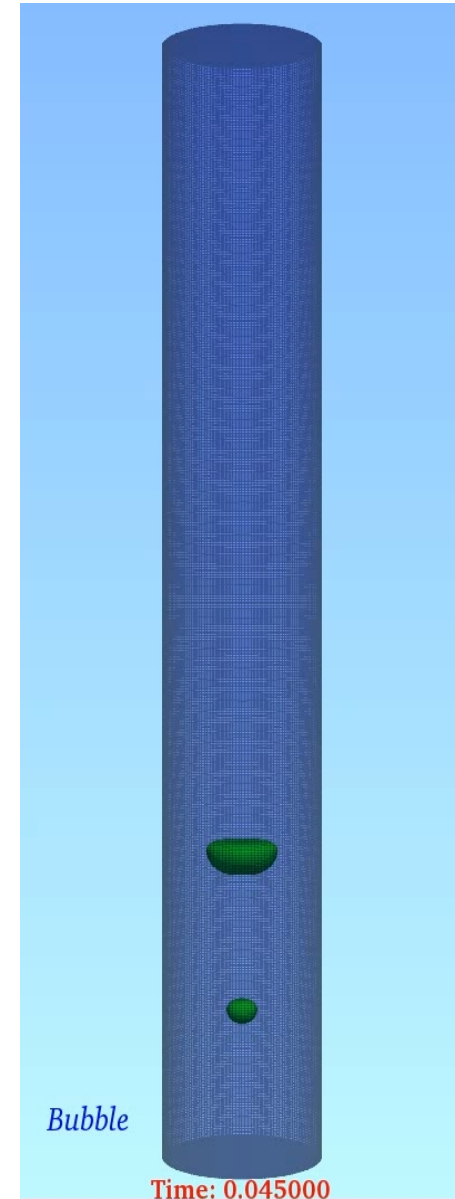
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# Rising bubbles in a liquid column

**Let us see if a small bubble trails  
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**Small trailing bubble rises fast  
and approaches big leading bubble**

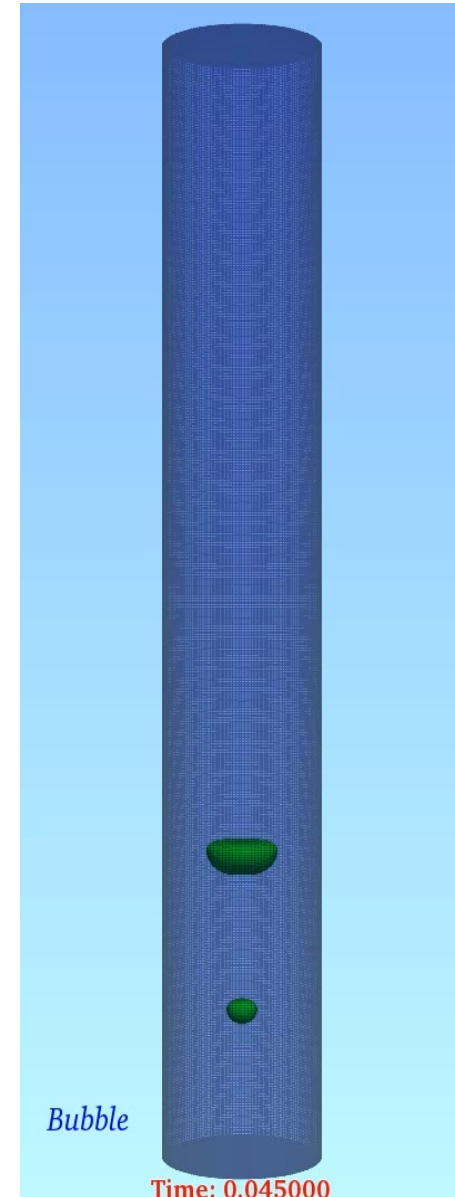


# Rising bubbles in a liquid column

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**Why?**



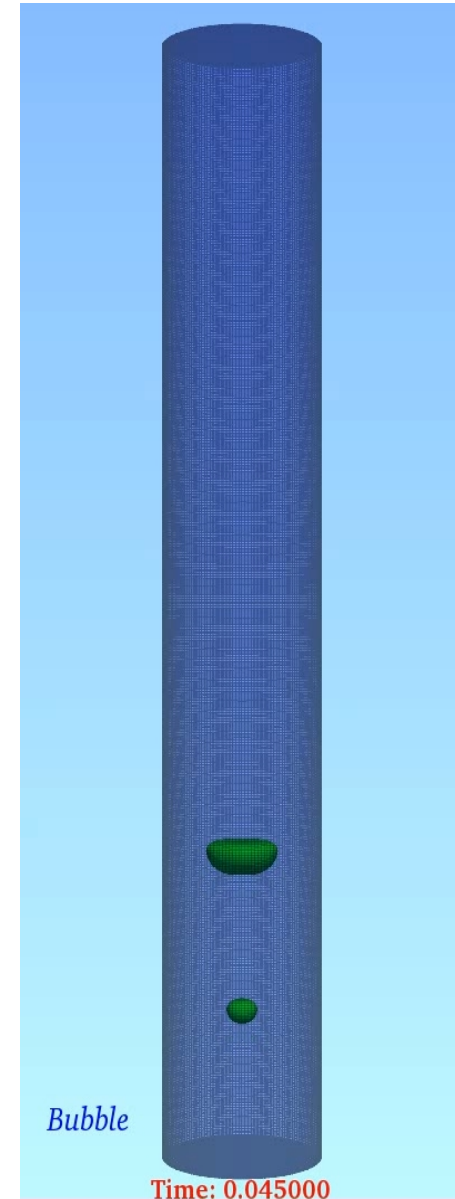
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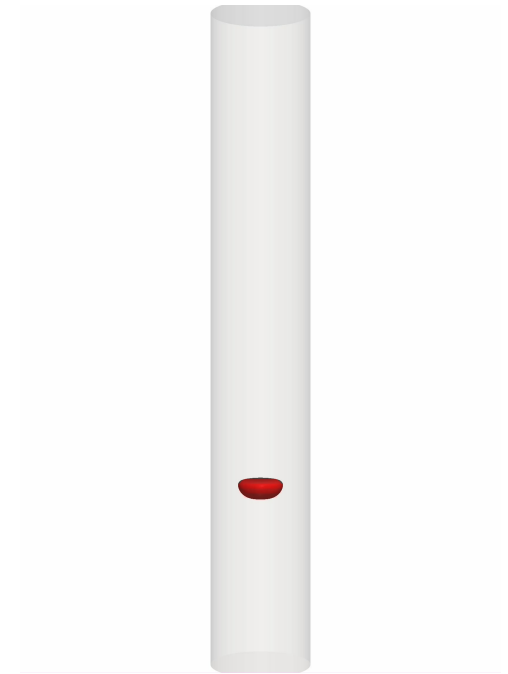
## Why?

In next 15 min., we will see why...



# A single bubble rising in a column

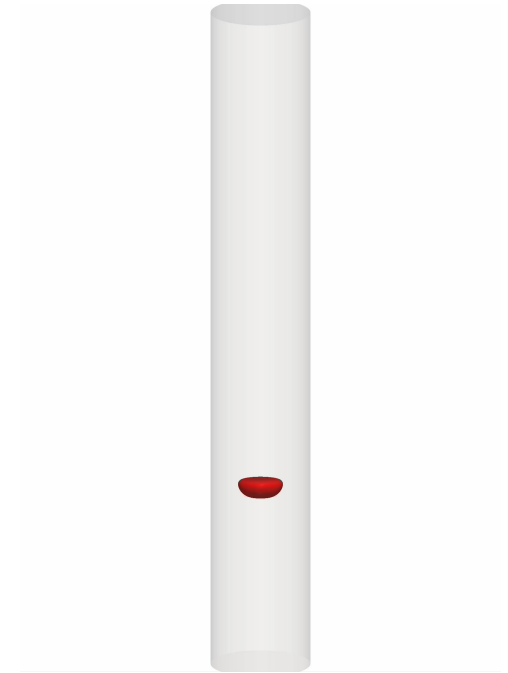
bubble rises due to gravity and based on the bubble size they may reach steady rise



# A single bubble rising in a column

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Based on parameters they show various shapes



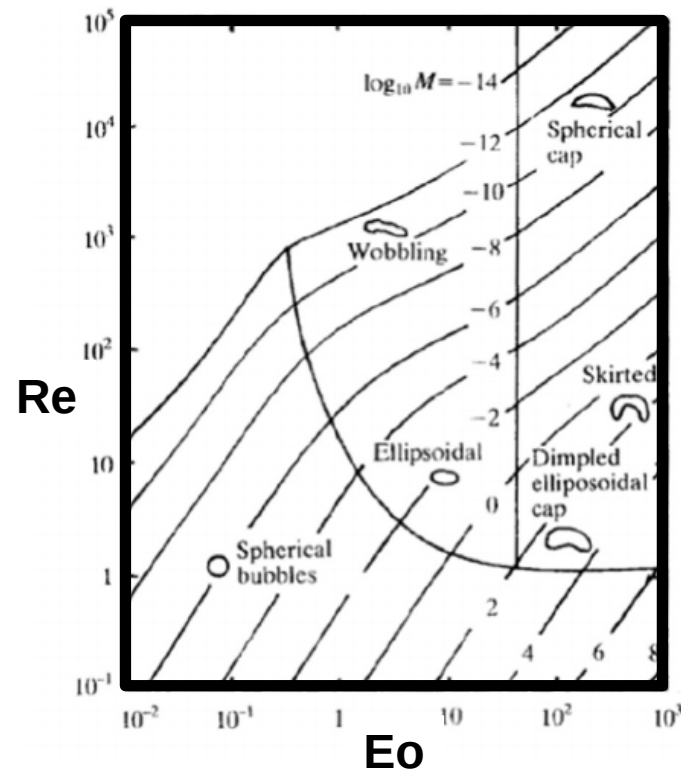


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**Bhaga & Weber (1981)**



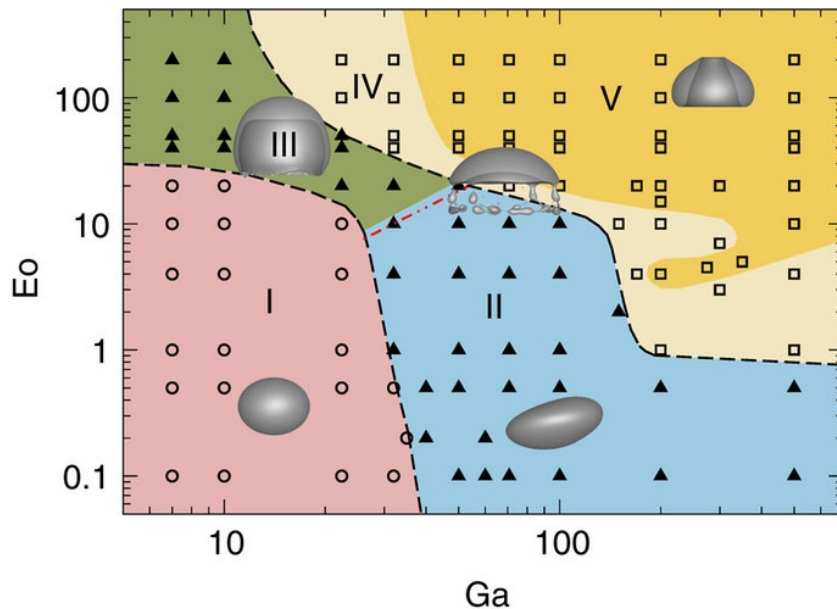
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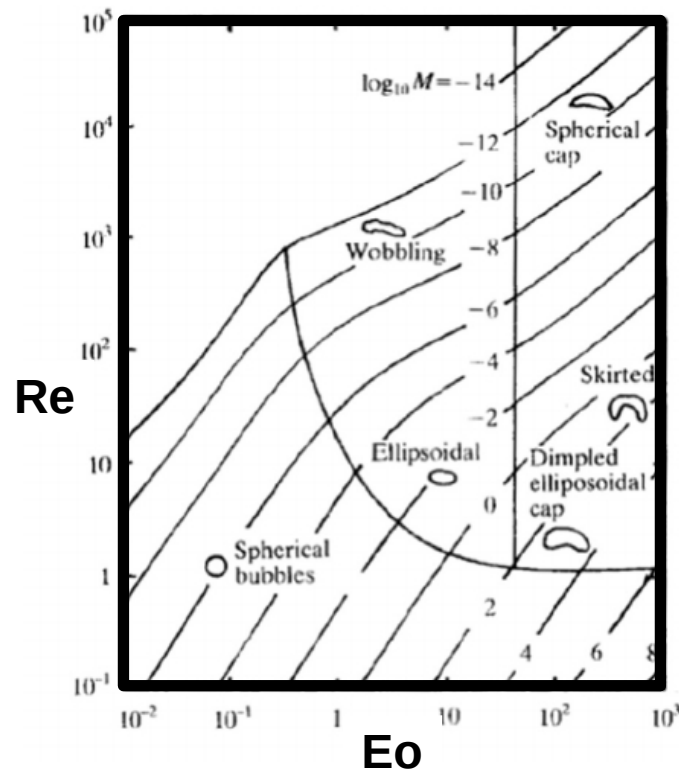
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**Tripathi et al. (2015)**



**Bhaga & Weber (1981)**



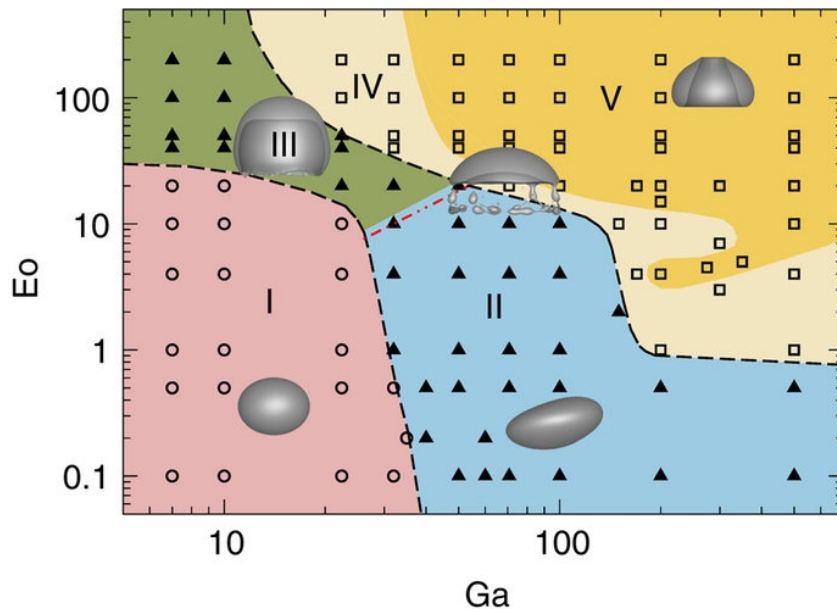
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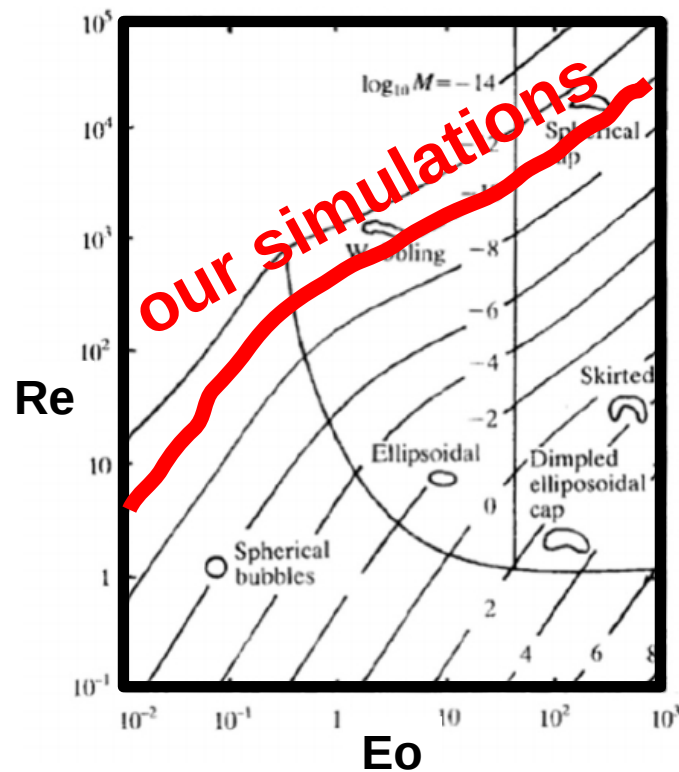
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These parameters are

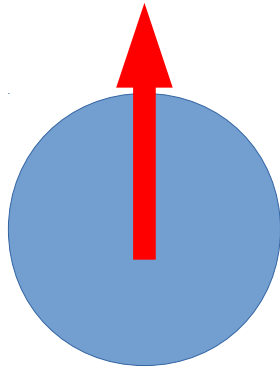
**Archimedes number** = buoyancy / viscous

**Eotvos number** = buoyancy / surface tension

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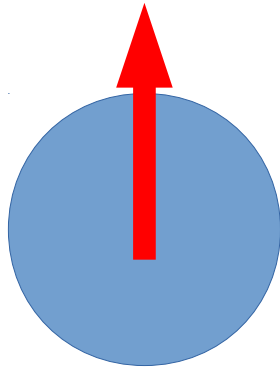
**High Archimedes**  
**Quick rise**

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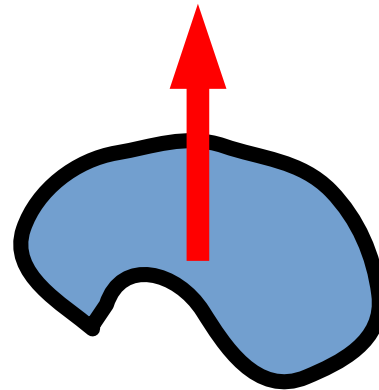
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**High Archimedes**  
Quick rise



**High Eotvos**  
Large deformation

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**Rise velocity: bubble Reynolds number**

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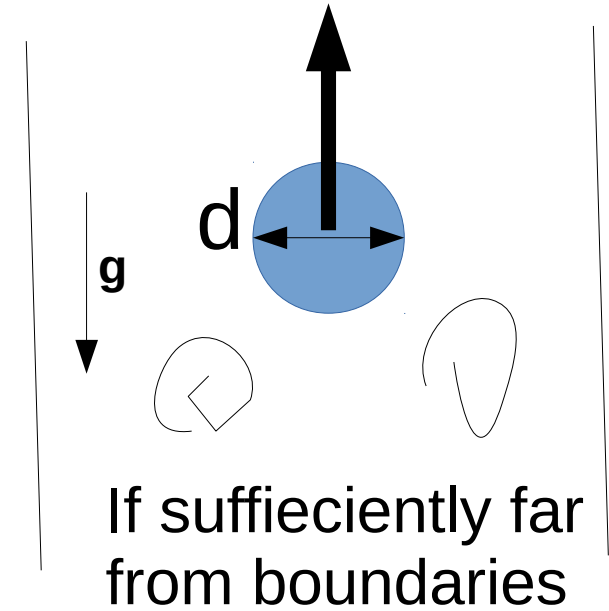
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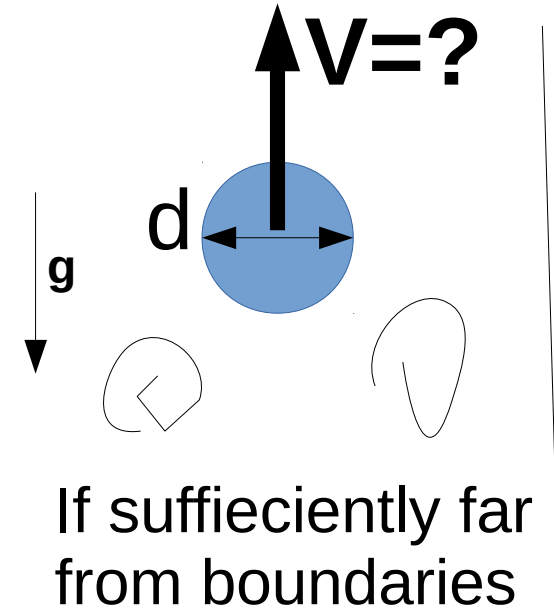
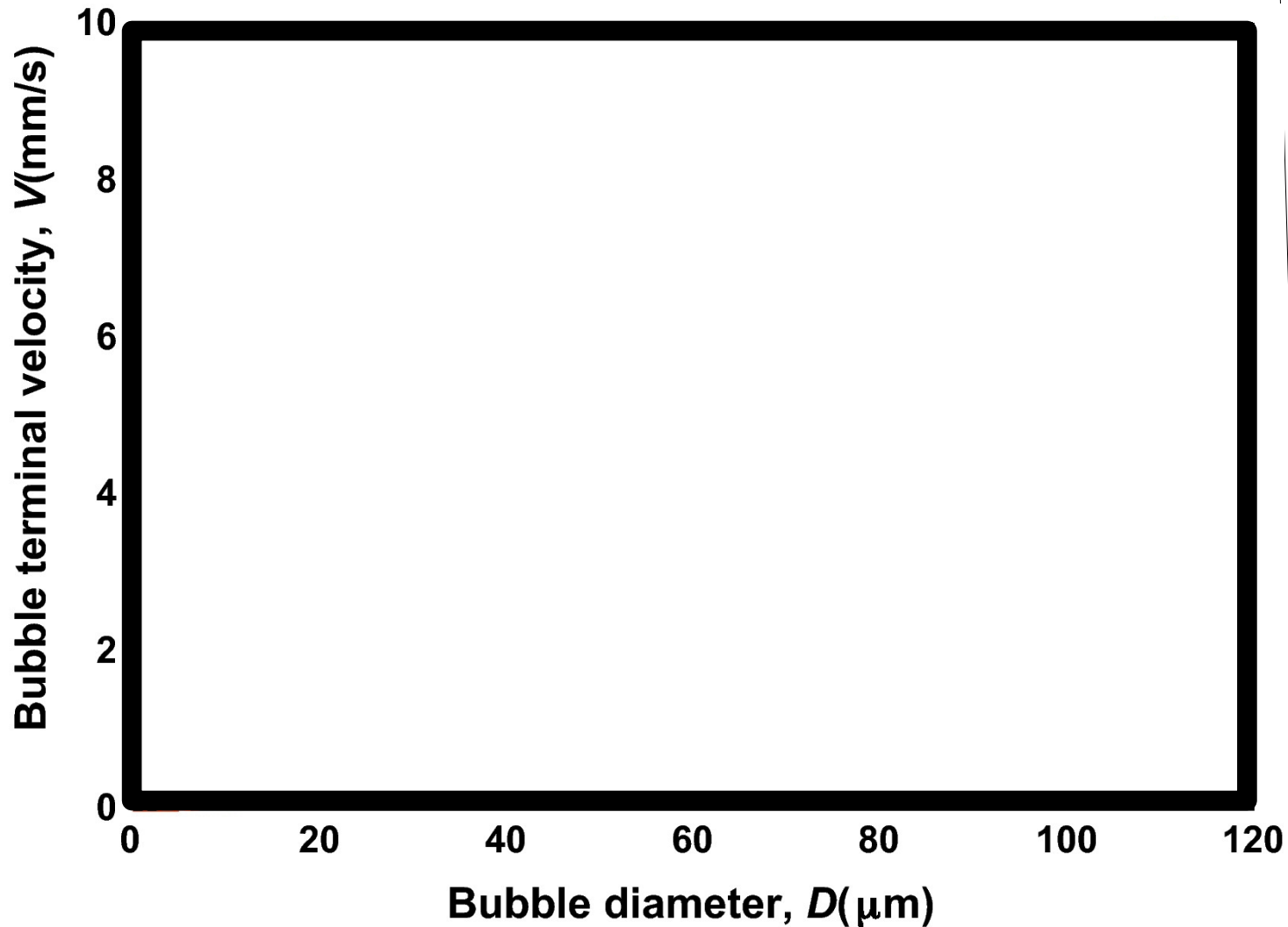
} Known in scientific world

**Flow features in the wake-** Not much known

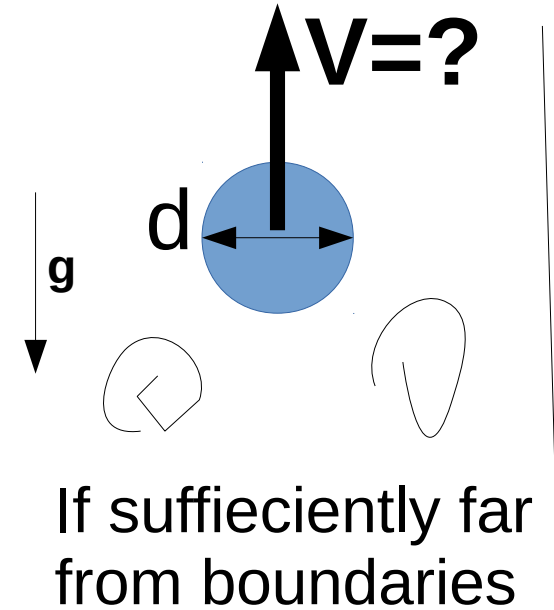
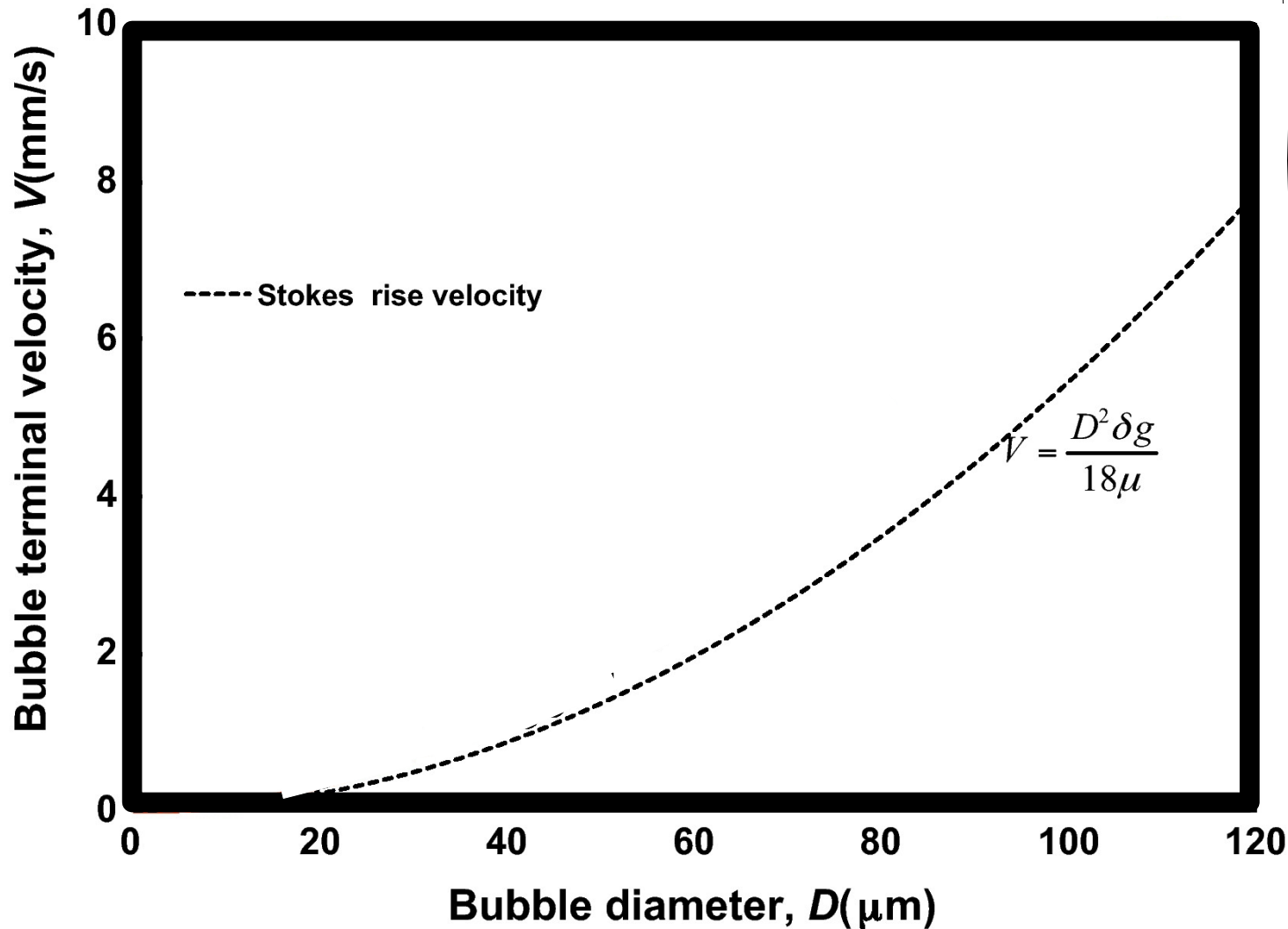
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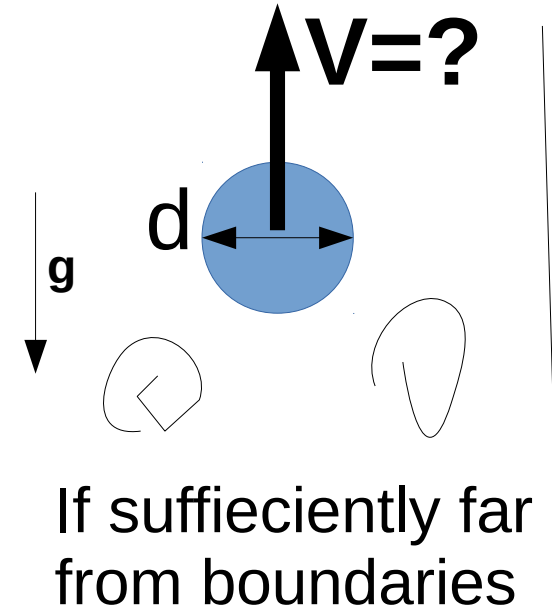
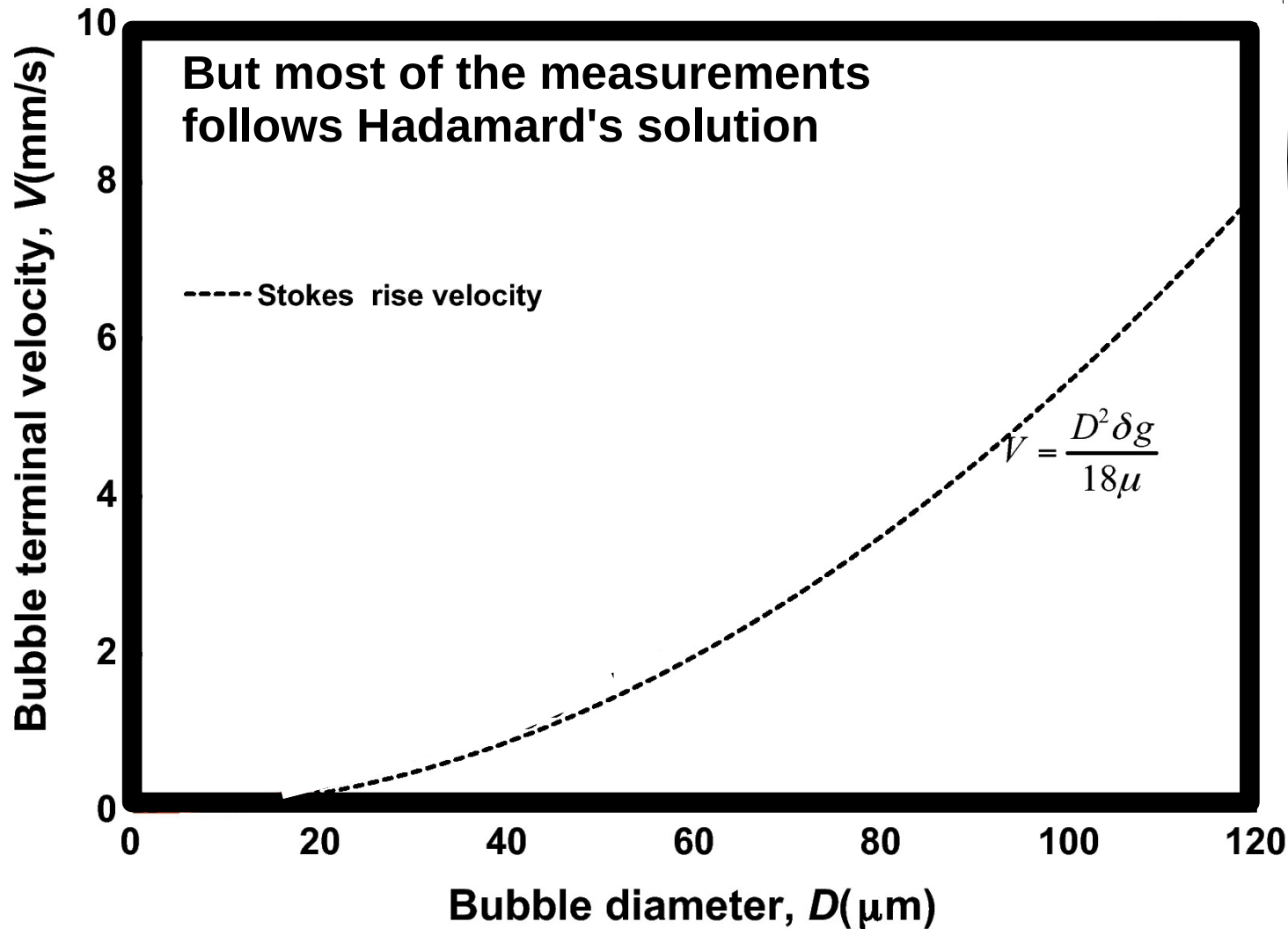
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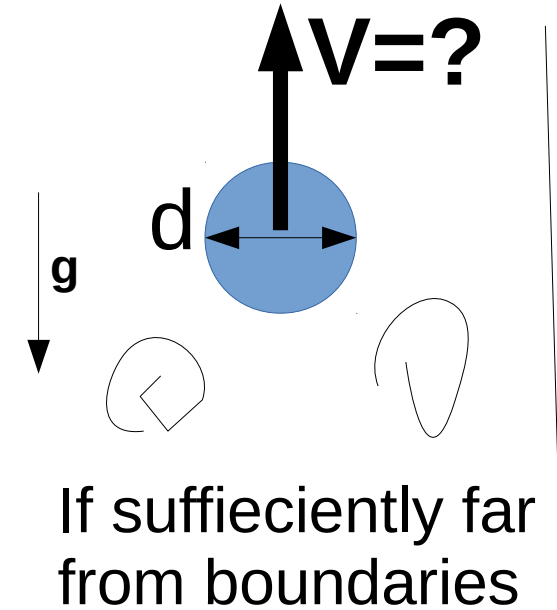
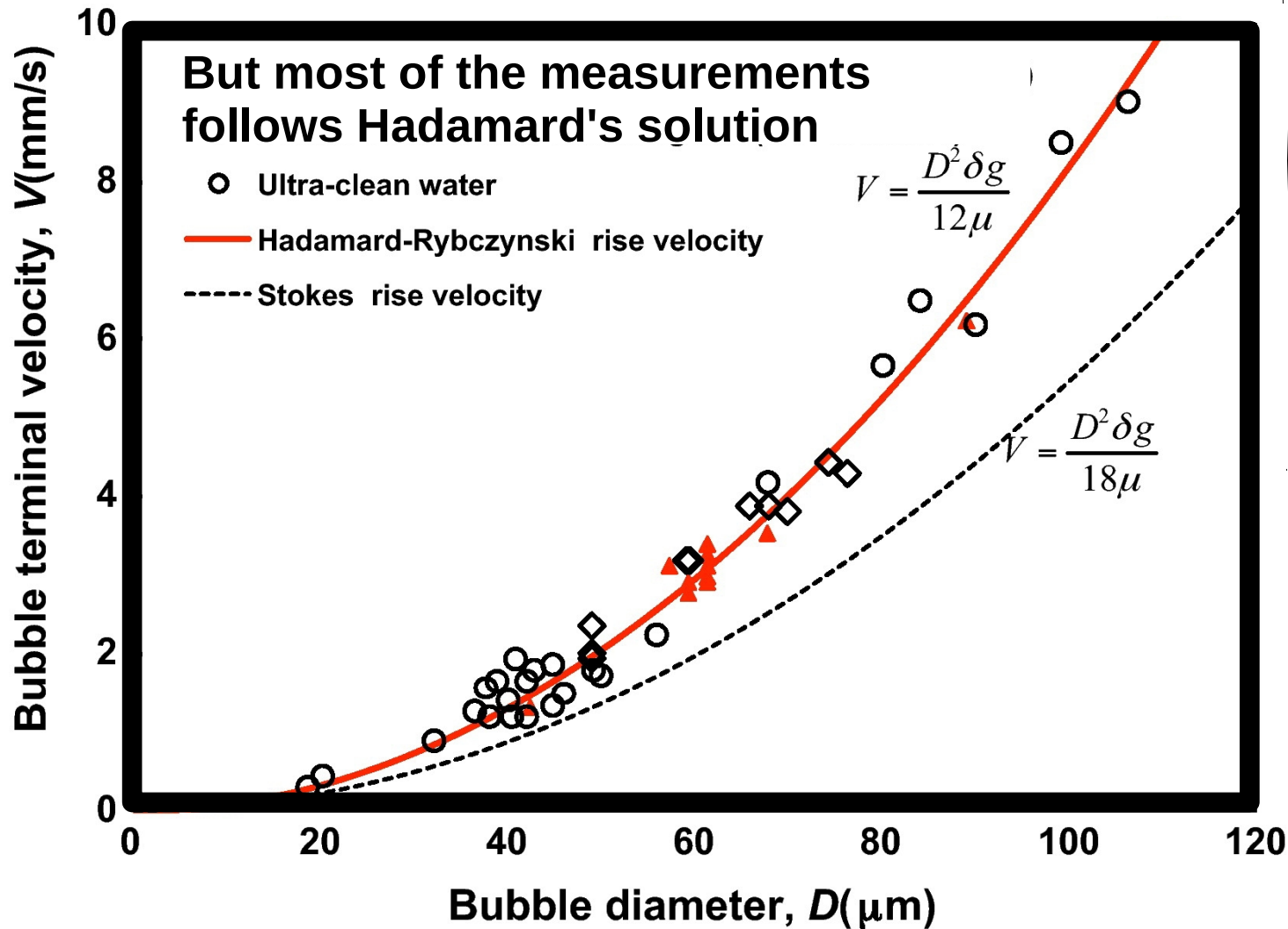
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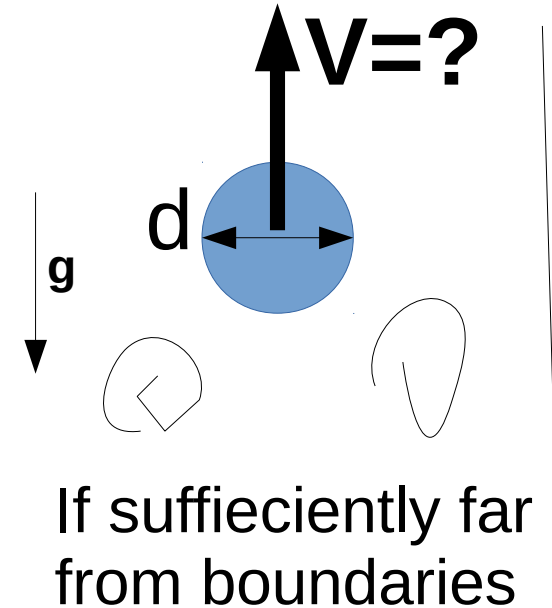
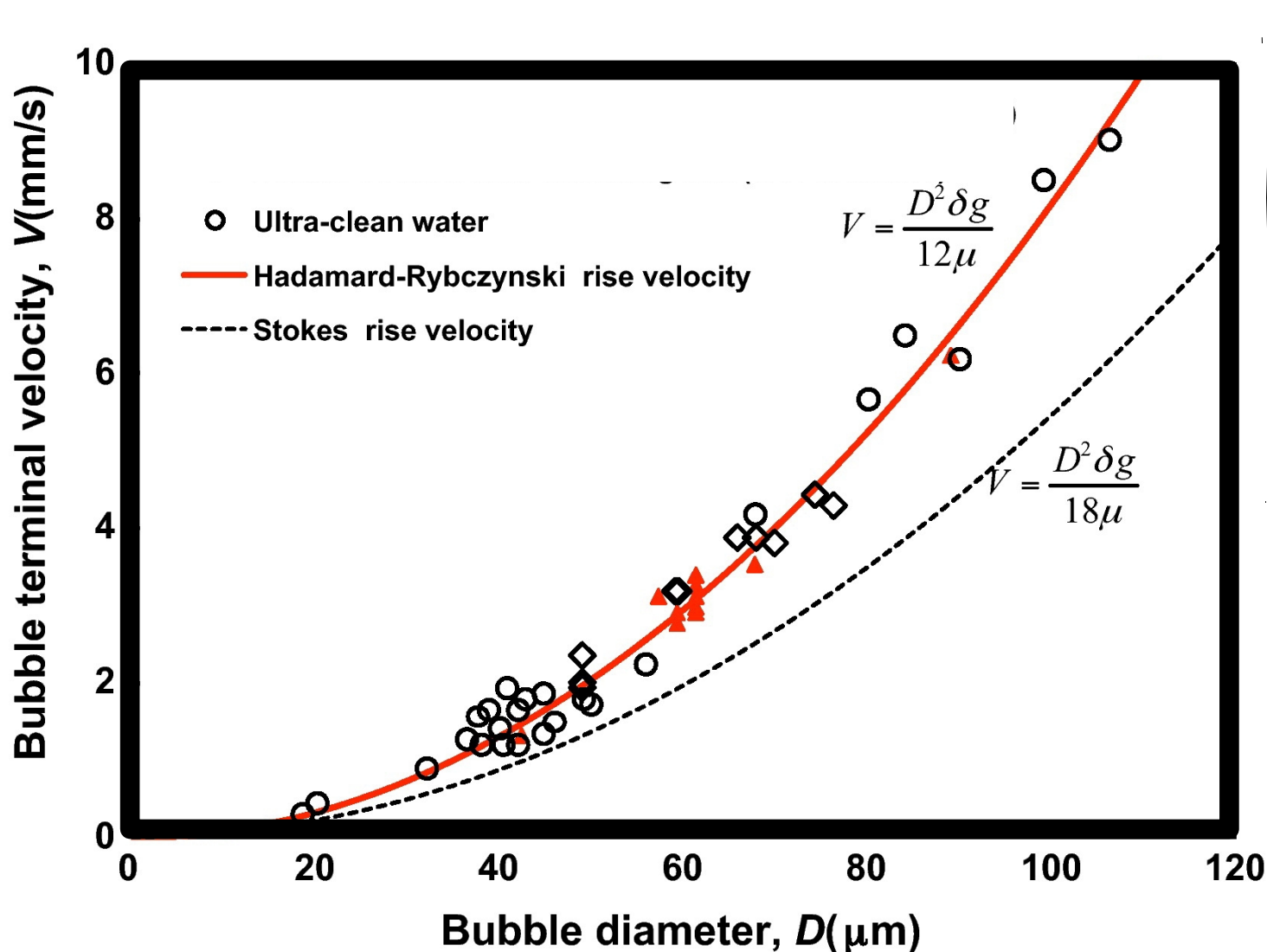
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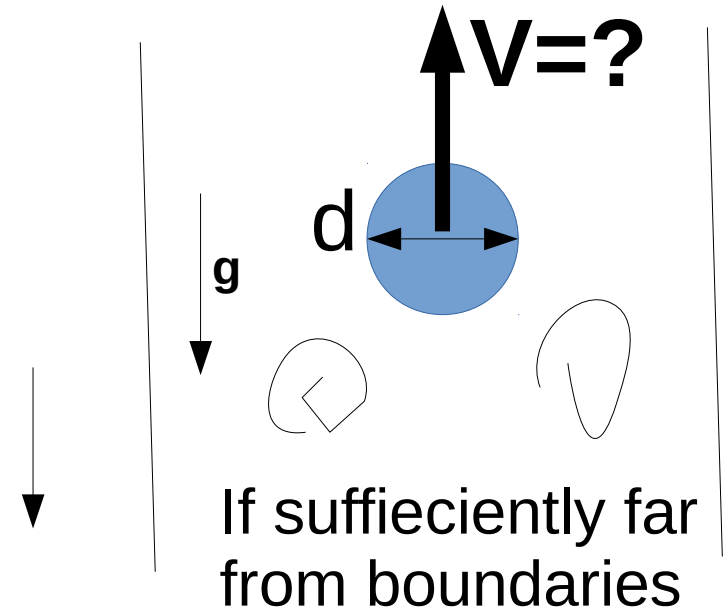


**For larger bubbles (mm or cm) the solution is different**



# Single bubble rise velocity

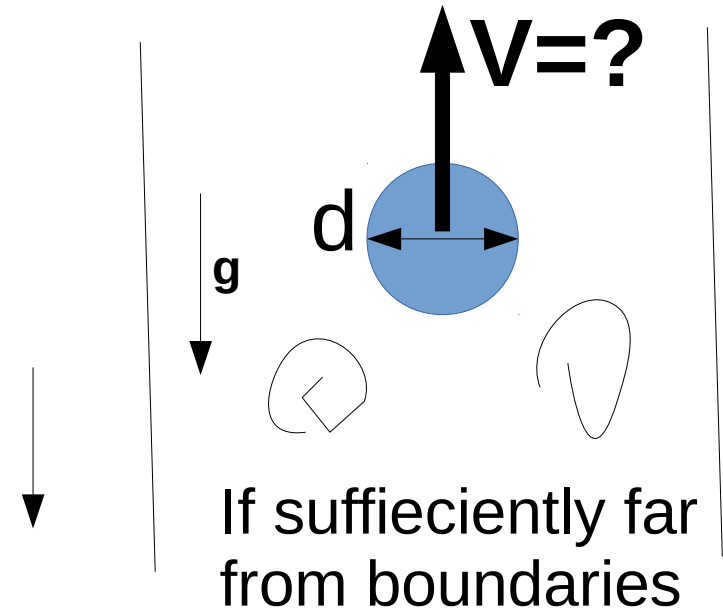
For larger bubbles (mm or cm) the solution is different



# Single bubble rise velocity

For larger bubbles (mm or cm) the solution is different

Because of wakes, deformability,  
3-dimensionality, contamination

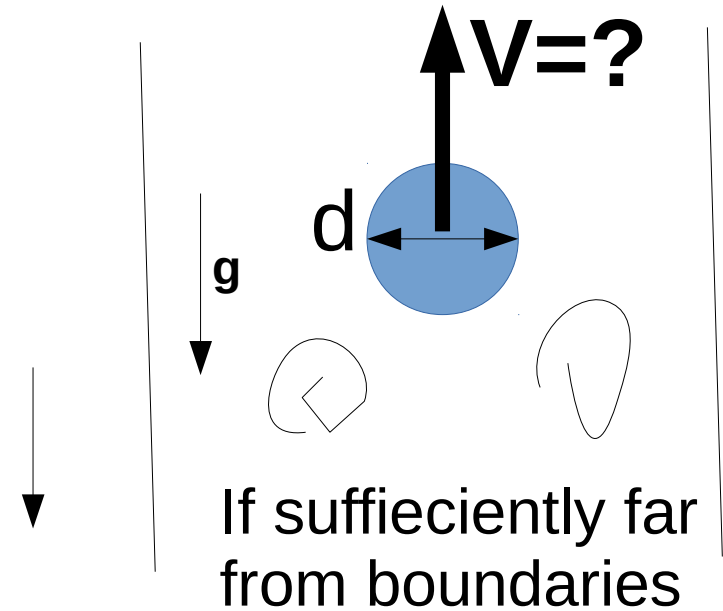


# Single bubble rise velocity

For larger bubbles (mm or cm) the solution is different

Because of wakes, deformability,  
3-dimensionality, contamination

Increase/decrease in rise velocity  
may happen with increase in bubble size

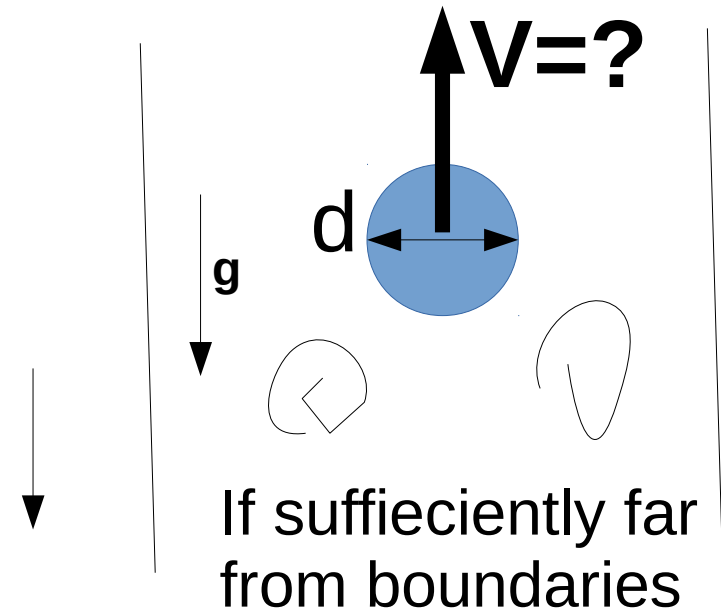
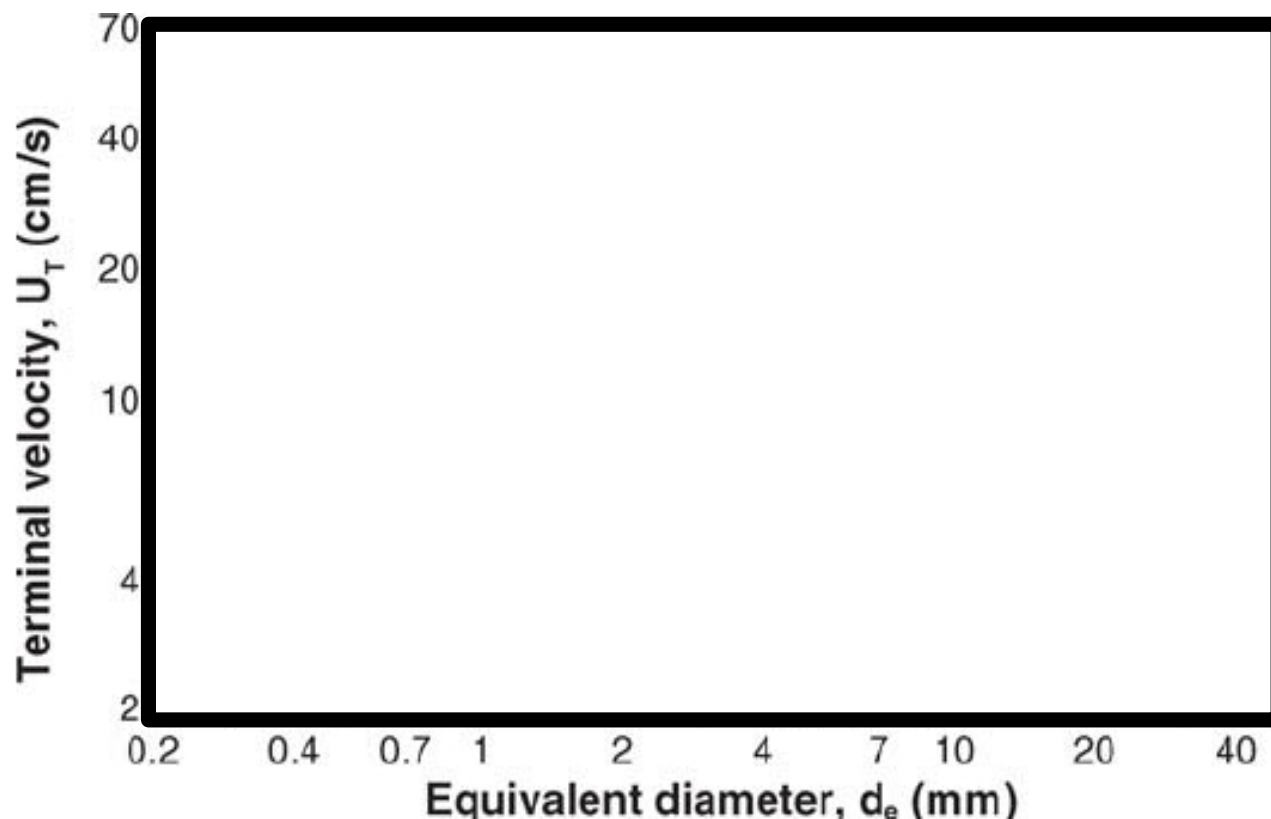


# Single bubble rise velocity

For larger bubbles (mm or cm) the solution is different

Because of wakes, deformability,  
3-dimensionality, contamination

Increase/decrease in rise velocity  
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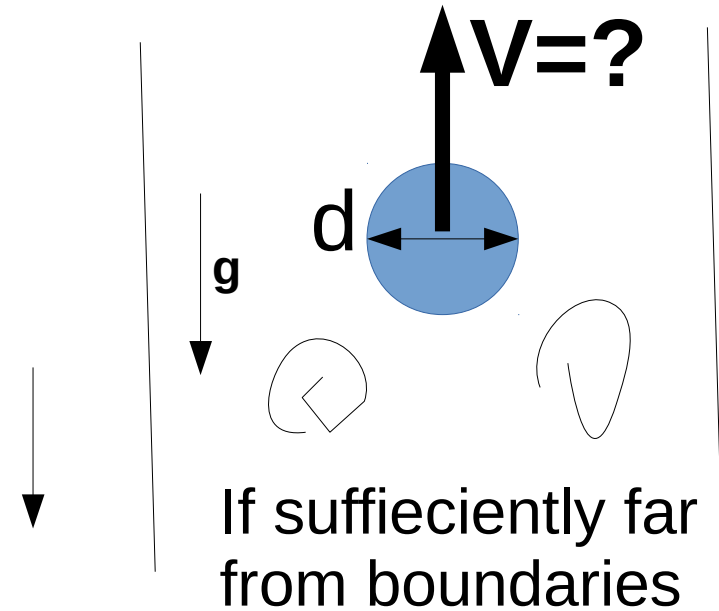
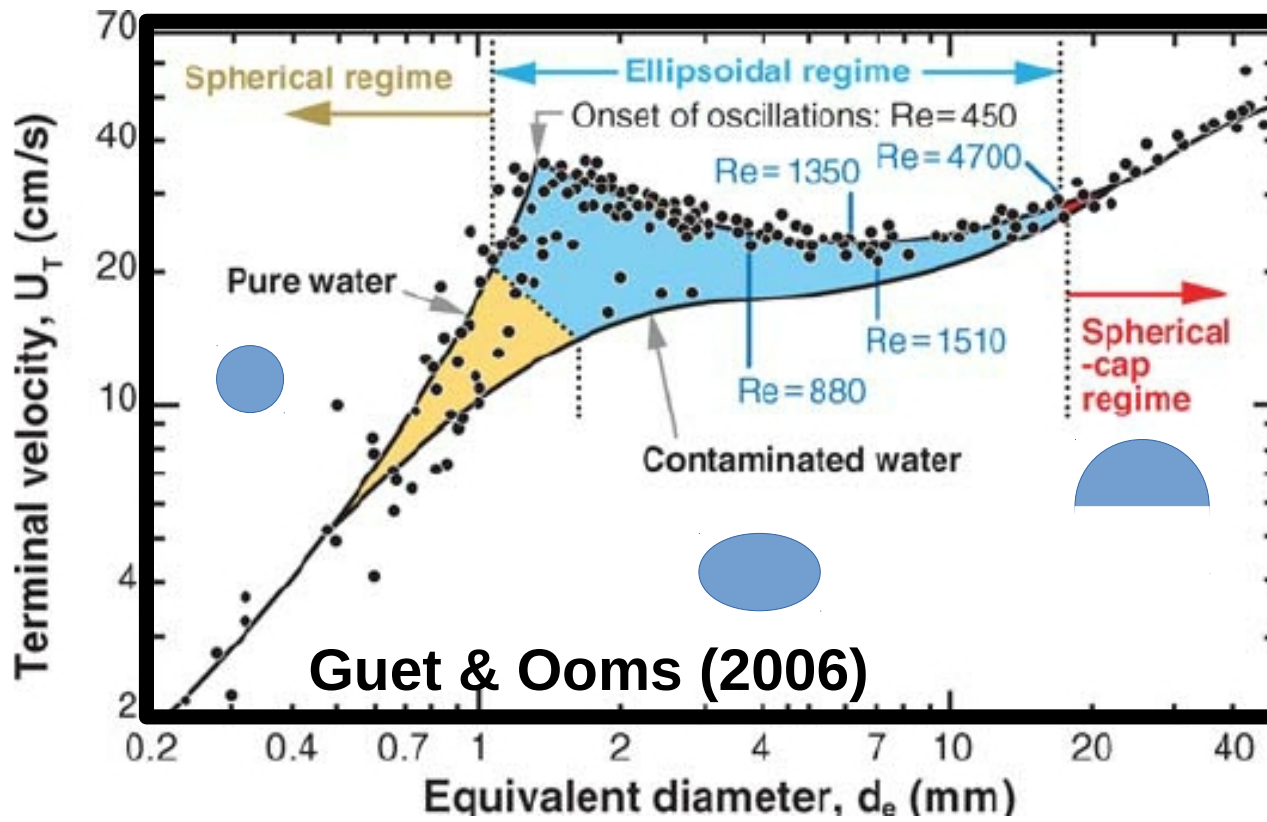


# Single bubble rise velocity

For larger bubbles (mm or cm) the solution is different

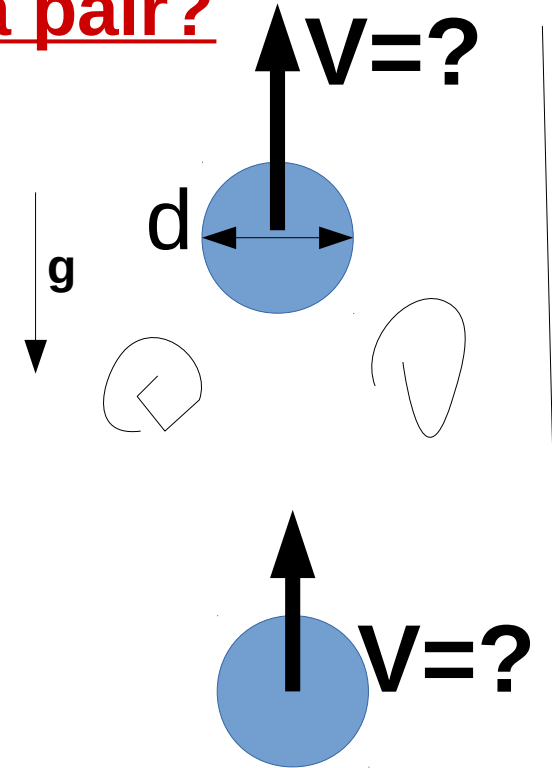
Because of wakes, deformability, 3-dimensionality, contamination

Increase/decrease in rise velocity may happen with increase in bubble size



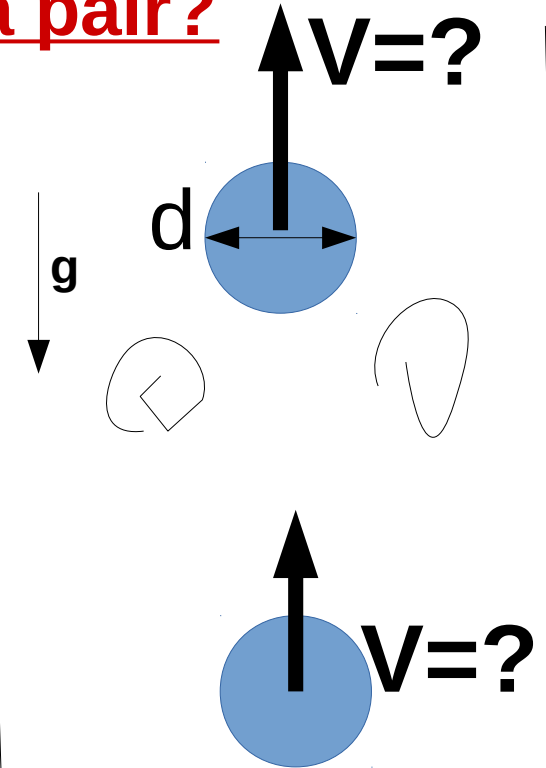
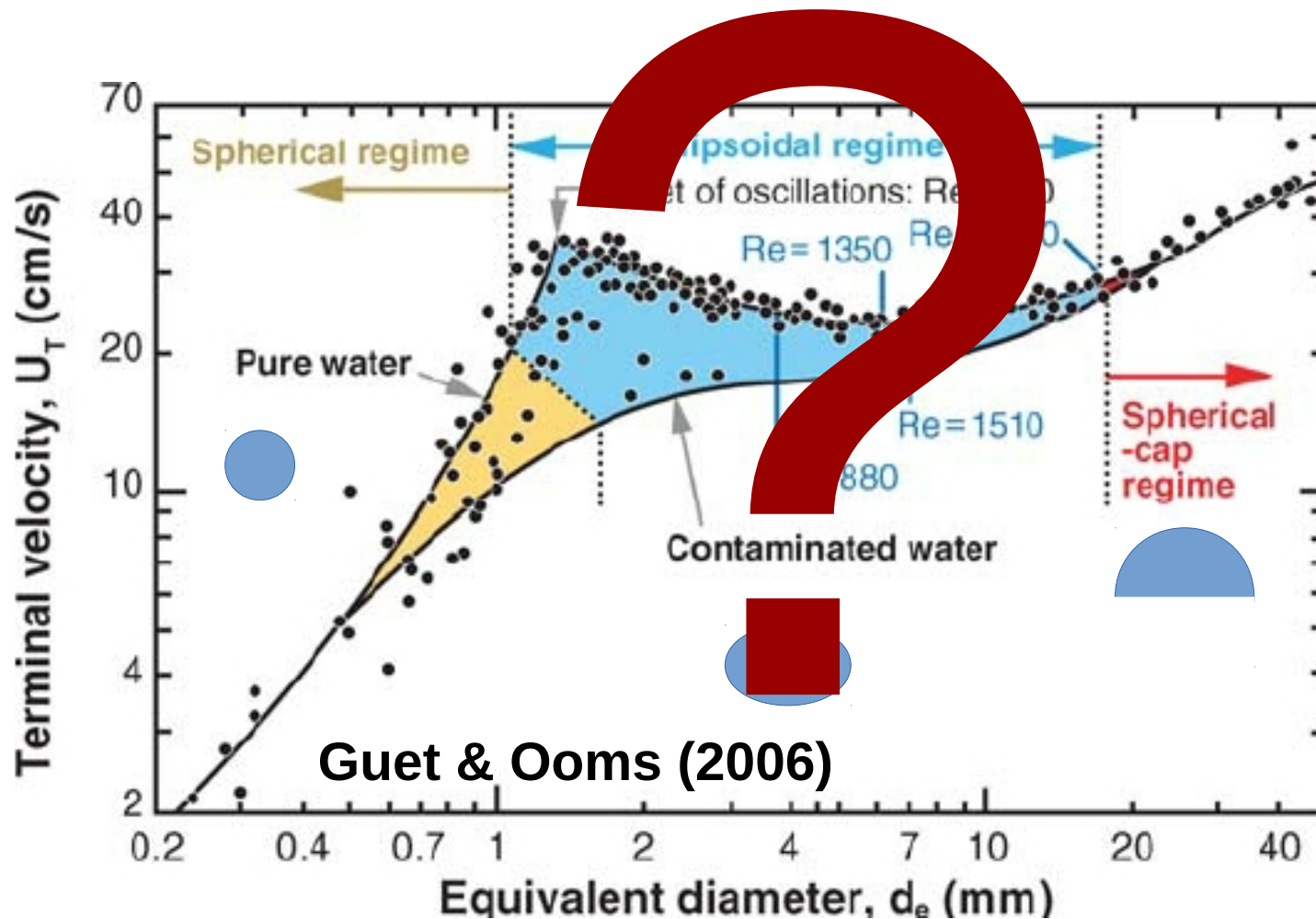
# In case of pair of bubbles

Do we see any steady rise velocities for a pair?



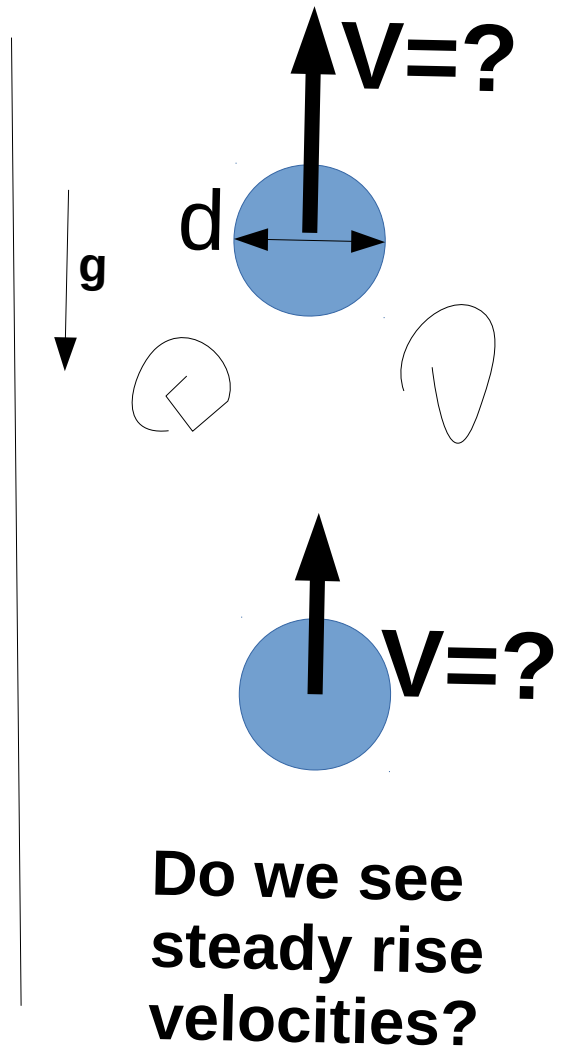
# In case of pair of bubbles

Do we see any steady rise velocities for a pair?



# In case of pair of bubbles

## Inline pair

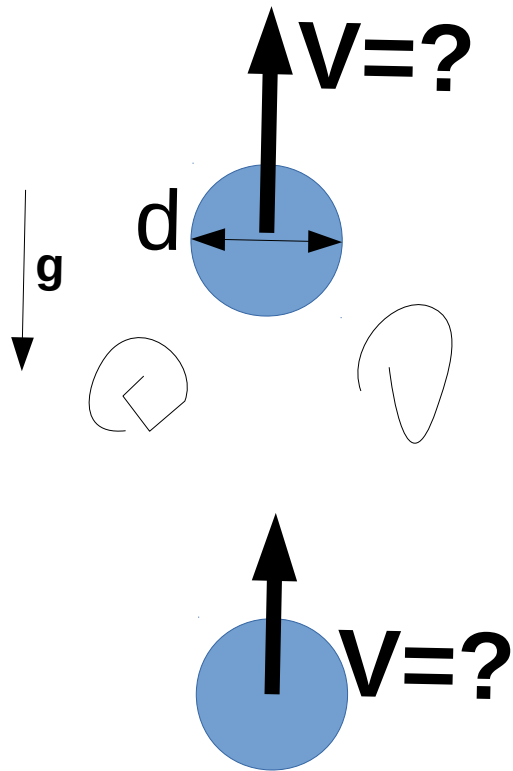


Long outstanding problem



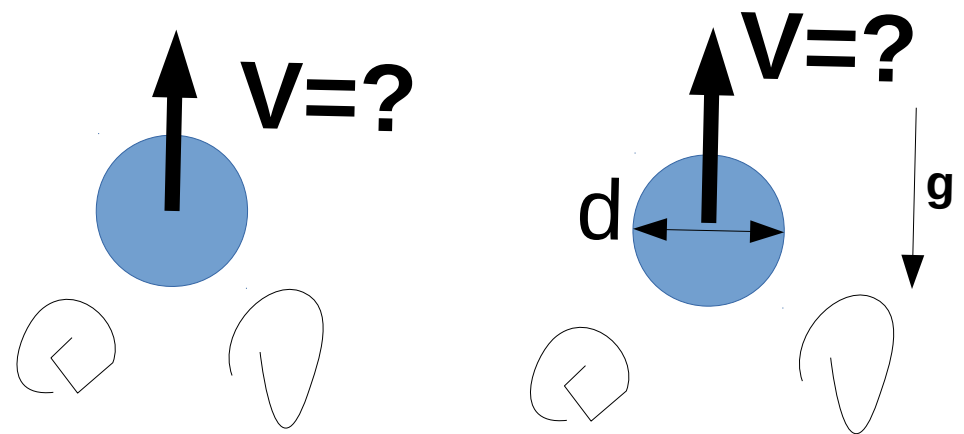
# In case of pair of bubbles

## Inline pair



Do we see steady rise velocities?

## Side by side pair



Do we see steady rise velocities?

Long outstanding problems

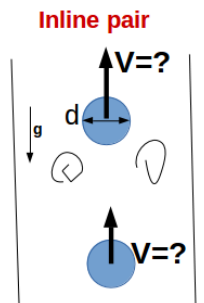
# In case of pair of bubbles

Stokes flow  
( $Re \sim 0$ )

Potential flow  
( $Re$  very large)

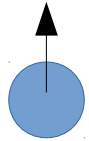
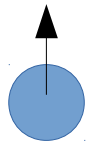
Various theories  
counter-intuitive  
results

Moderate  $Re$

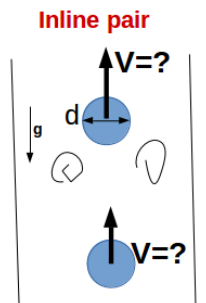


# In case of pair of bubbles

## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )



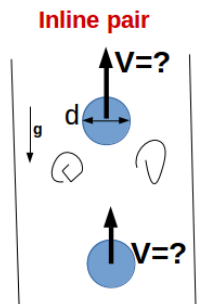
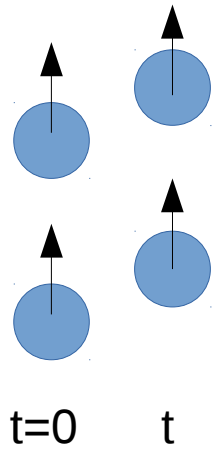
$t=0$



# In case of pair of bubbles

## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

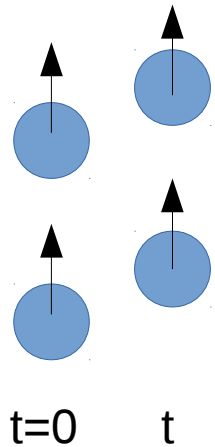
Steady rise  
never approach



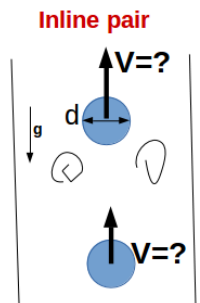
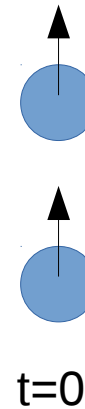
# In case of pair of bubbles

## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

Steady rise  
never approach



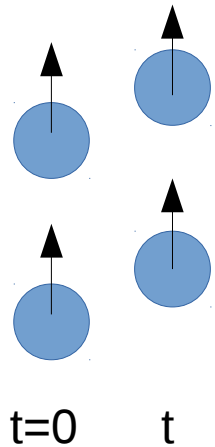
## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake



# In case of pair of bubbles

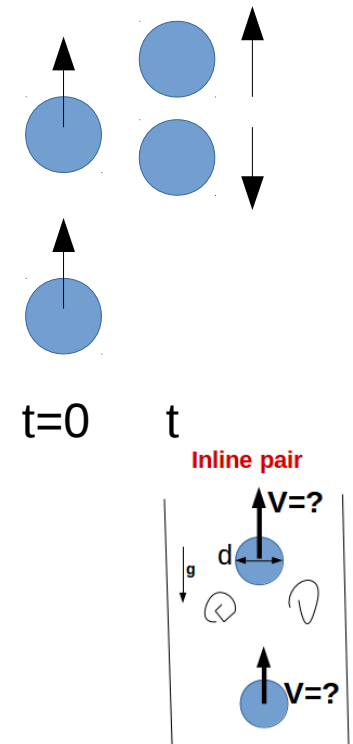
## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

Steady rise  
never approach



## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

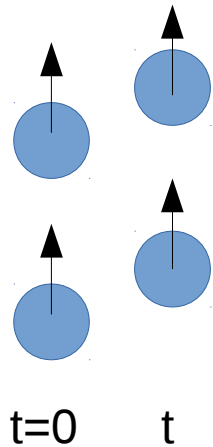
They repel vertically  
(van Wijngaarden 1982)



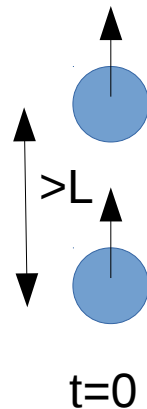
# In case of pair of bubbles

## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

Steady rise  
never approach

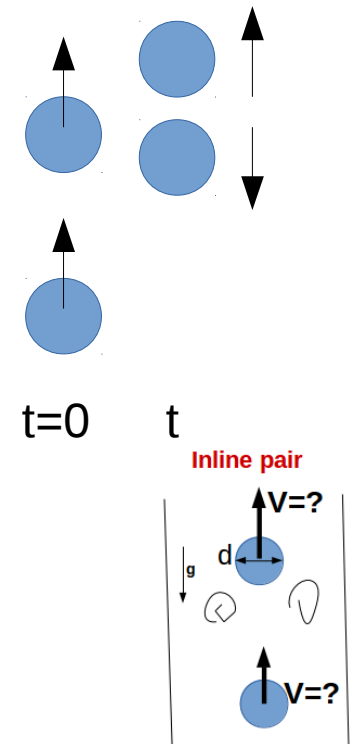


## Potential flow & thin wake



## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

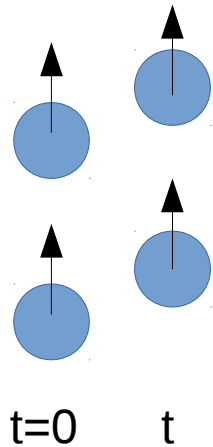
They repel vertically  
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# In case of pair of bubbles

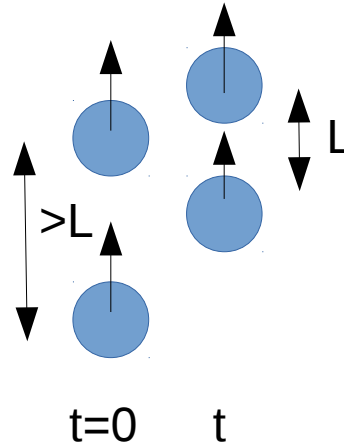
## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

Steady rise  
never approach



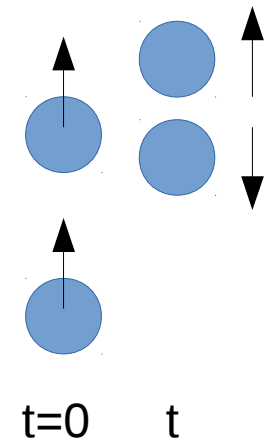
## Potential flow & thin wake

Equilibrium distance  
(Harper 1970)



## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

They repel vertically  
(van Wijngaarden 1982)

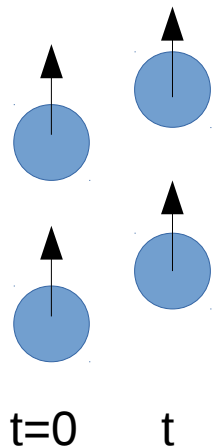




# In case of pair of bubbles

## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

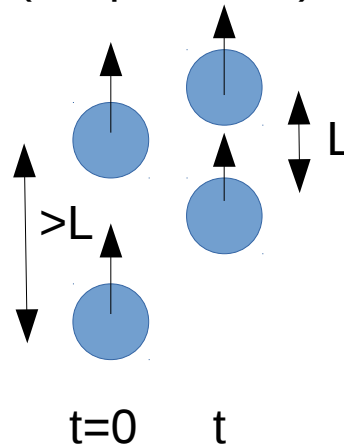
Steady rise  
never approach



Moderate  $Re$

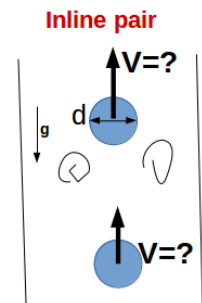
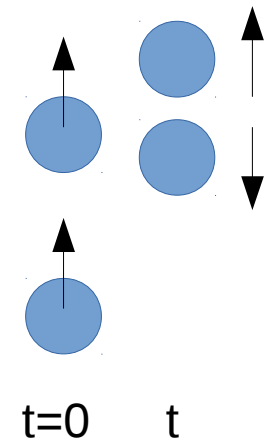
## Potential flow & thin wake

Equilibrium distance  
(Harper 1970)



## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

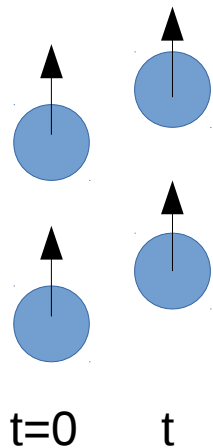
They repel vertically  
(van Wijngaarden 1982)



# In case of pair of bubbles

## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

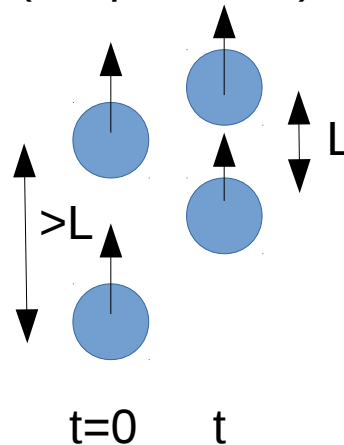
Steady rise  
never approach



Moderate Re

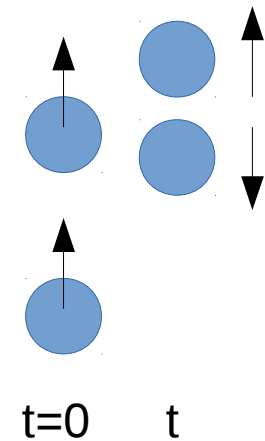
## Potential flow & thin wake

Equilibrium distance  
(Harper 1970)

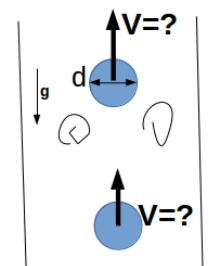


## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

They repel vertically  
(van Wijngaarden 1982)



Inline pair

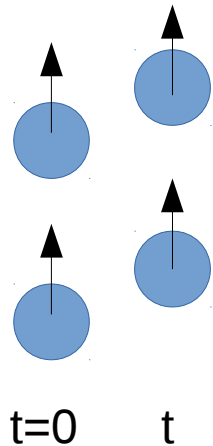


**Axisymmetric bubbles**  
Equilibrium distance  
(Prosperetti 1994)

# In case of pair of bubbles

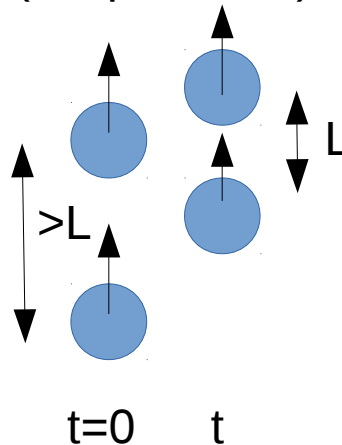
## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

Steady rise  
never approach



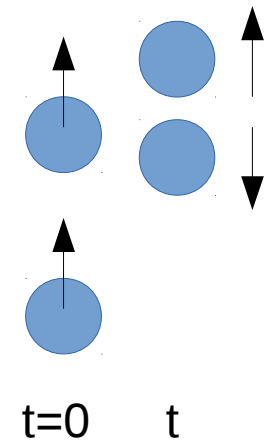
## Potential flow & thin wake

Equilibrium distance  
(Harper 1970)



## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

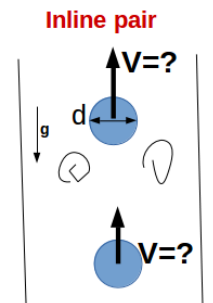
They repel vertically  
(van Wijngaarden 1982)



## Moderate Re

Axisymmetric bubbles  
Equilibrium distance  
(Prosperetti 1994)

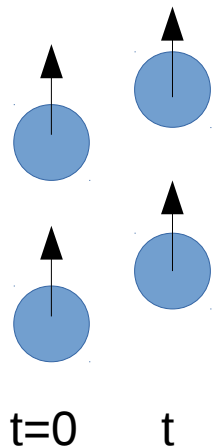
Experiments  
coalescence  
(Meneveau 1996)



# In case of pair of bubbles

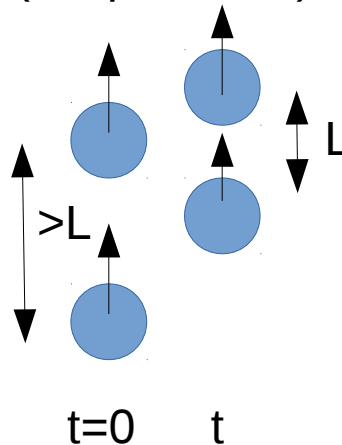
## Stokes flow ( $Re \sim 0$ )

Steady rise  
never approach



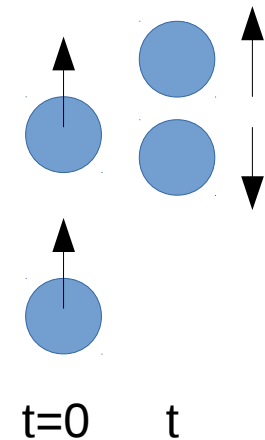
## Potential flow & thin wake

Equilibrium distance  
(Harper 1970)



## Potential flow ( $Re$ very large) & no wake

They repel vertically  
(van Wijngaarden 1982)



## Moderate Re

Axisymmetric bubbles  
Equilibrium distance  
(Prosperetti 1994)

Experiments  
coalescence  
(Meneveau 1996)

## Why this discrepancy?

Because of wakes, deformability,  
3-dimensionality, contamination

# In case of pair of bubbles

**Let us ask a question...**

**Moderate Re**

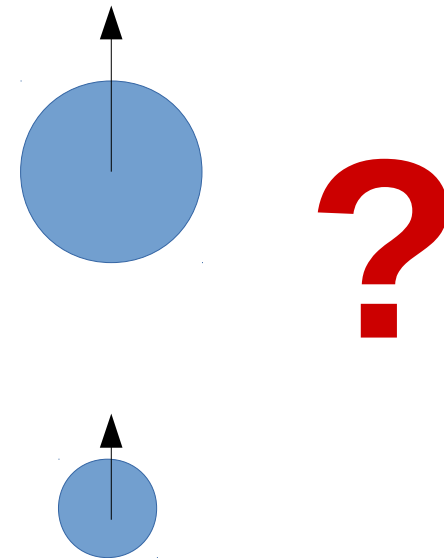
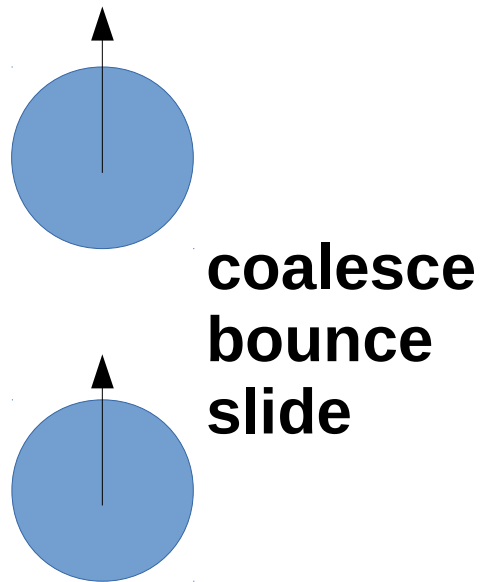
**Instead an equal size pair if an unequal size pair rises then?**

# In case of pair of bubbles

Let us ask a question...

Moderate  $Re$

Instead an equal size pair if an unequal size pair rises then?



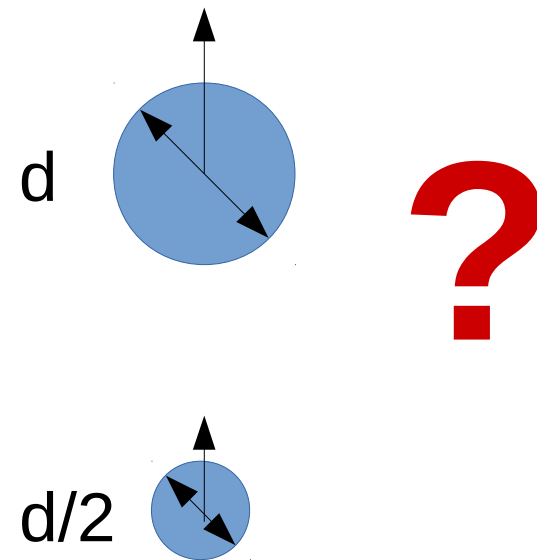
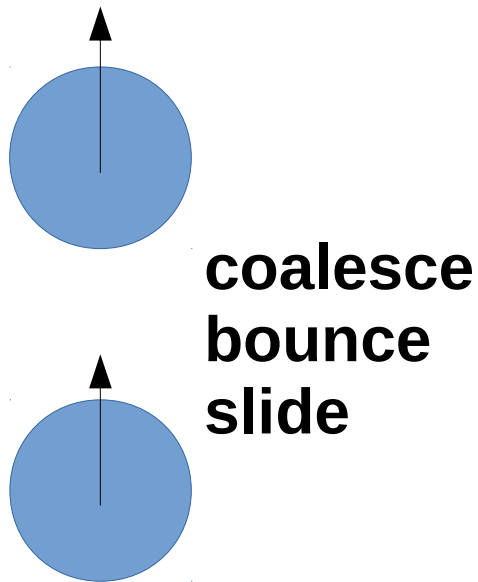
Experiments are right

# In case of pair of bubbles

Let us ask a question...

Moderate  $Re$

Instead an equal size pair if an unequal size pair rises then?



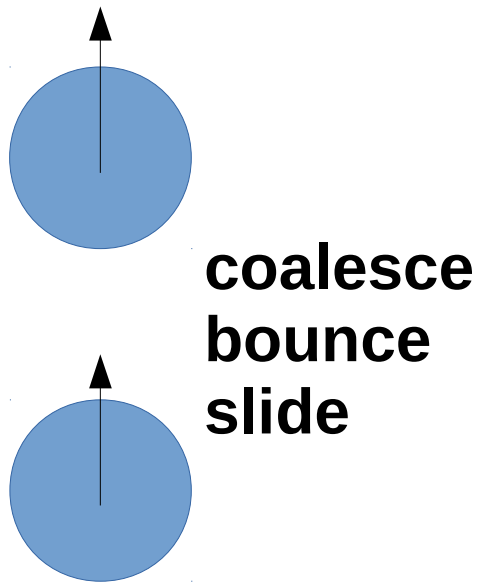
Experiments are right

# In case of pair of bubbles

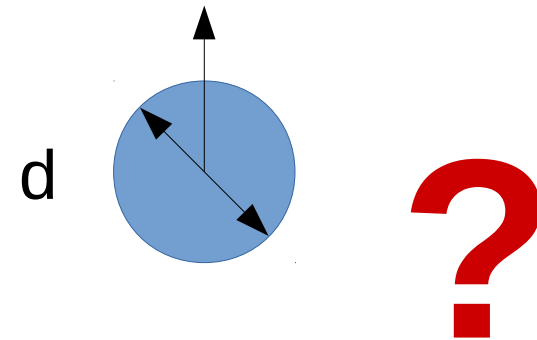
Let us ask a question...

Moderate Re

Instead an equal size pair if an unequal size pair rises then?



Buoyancy force  $\sim d^3$



Buoyancy force  $\sim (1/8)d^3$

Experiments are right

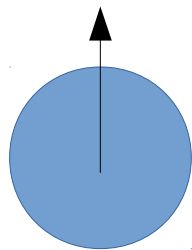


# In case of pair of bubbles

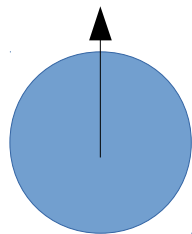
Let us ask a question...

Moderate Re

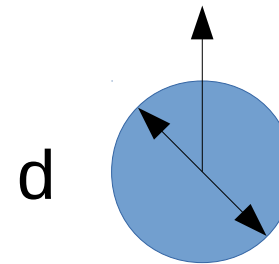
Instead an equal size pair if an unequal size pair rises then?



coalesce  
bounce  
slide



Buoyancy force  $\sim d^3$

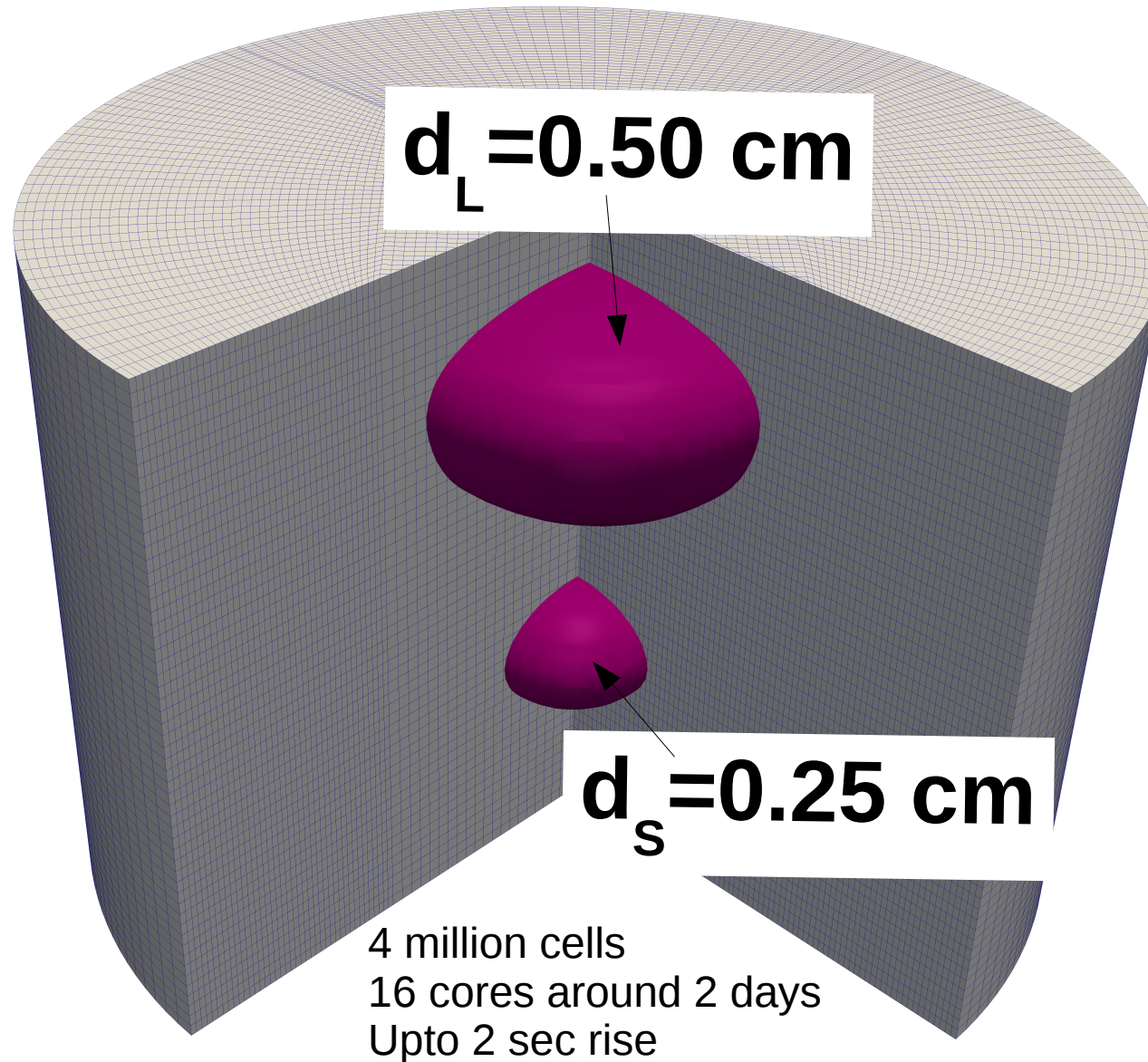
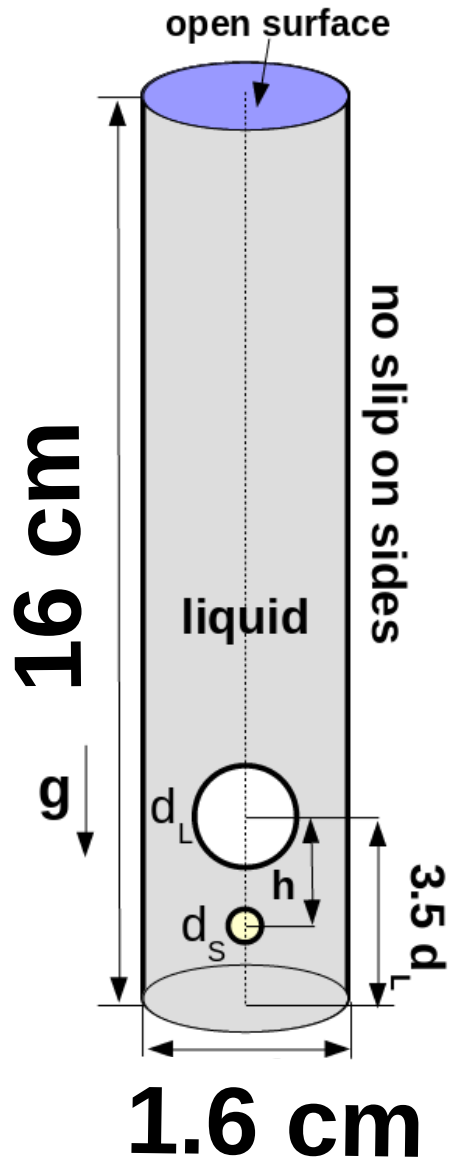


Buoyancy force  $\sim (1/8)d^3$

Can this small bubble catches-up?

Experiments are right

# Inline pair - Simulations




# Inline pair – Simulations

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

$$\frac{\partial(\rho_m \mathbf{u})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_m \mathbf{u} \mathbf{u}) = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot [\mu_m (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)] + \rho_m \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{f}_s$$

$$\rho_m = \rho_g \alpha + \rho_l (1 - \alpha).$$

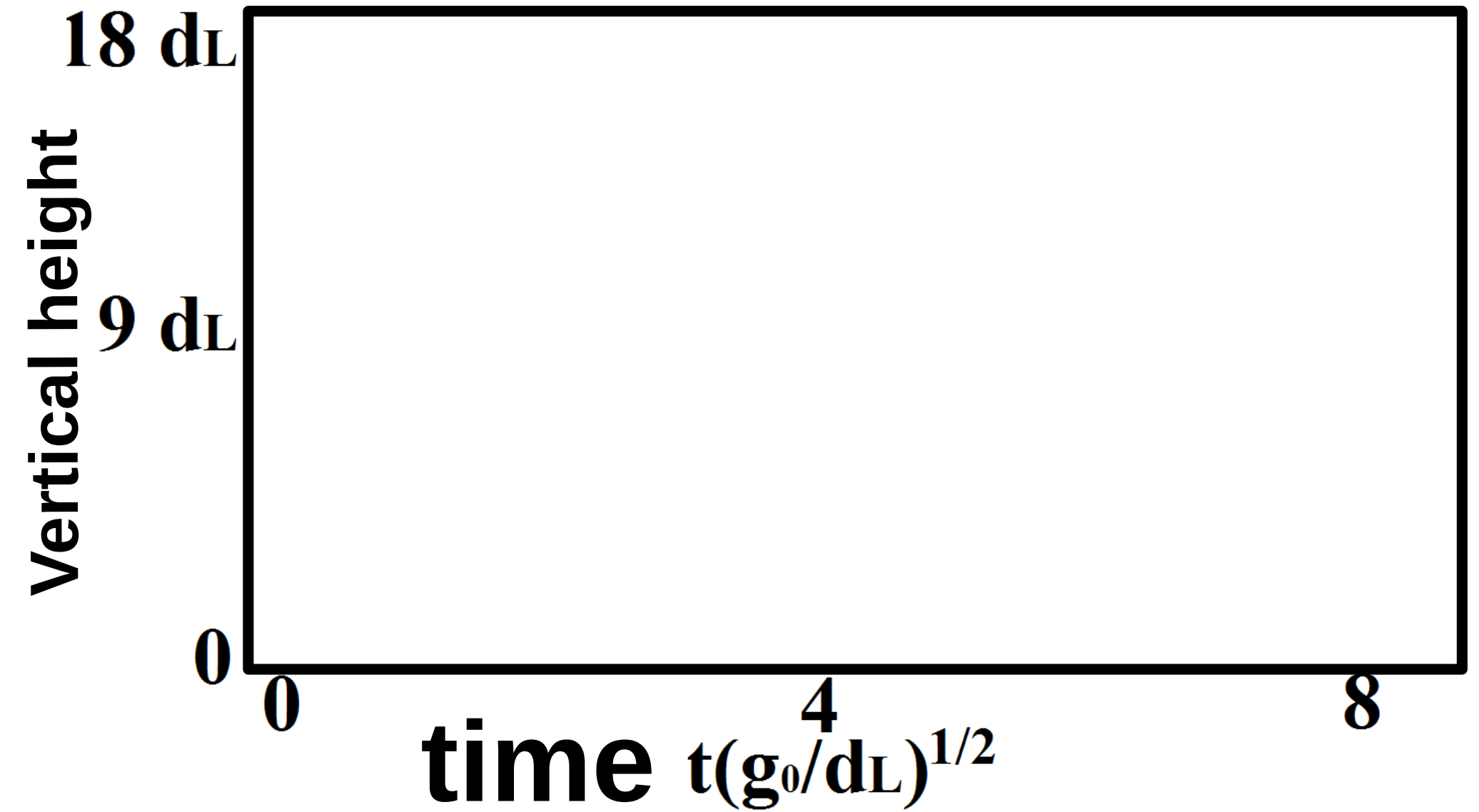
$$\mu_m = \mu_g \alpha + \mu_l (1 - \alpha)$$

$$\mathbf{f}_s = \gamma \kappa \nabla \alpha$$


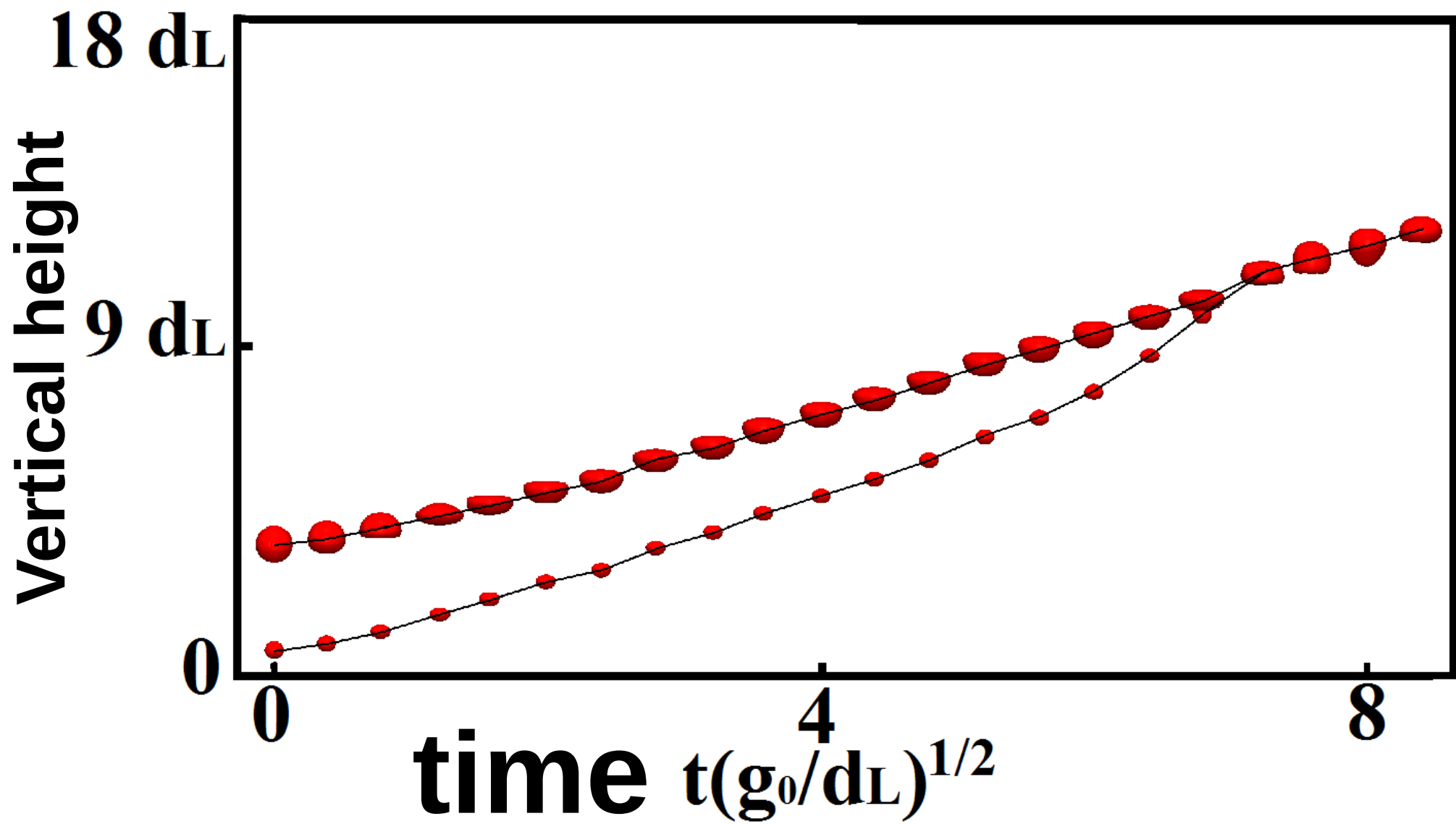
$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u}) - \nabla \cdot [\alpha (1 - \alpha) \mathbf{u}_r] = 0$$

$$\mathbf{u}_r = \mathbf{n} \min(c_\gamma \frac{|\phi|}{|S|}, \max(\frac{|\phi|}{|S|}))$$

# Our observation

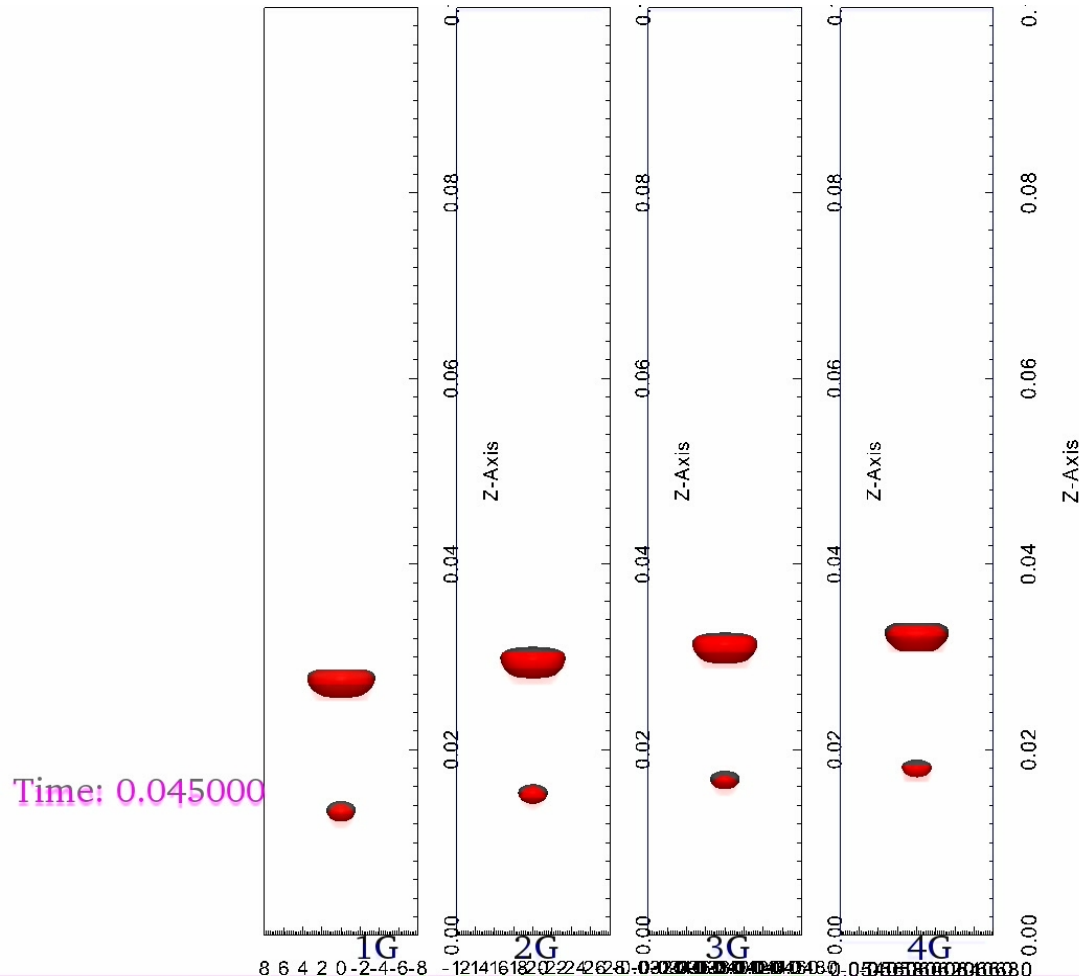


# Our observation



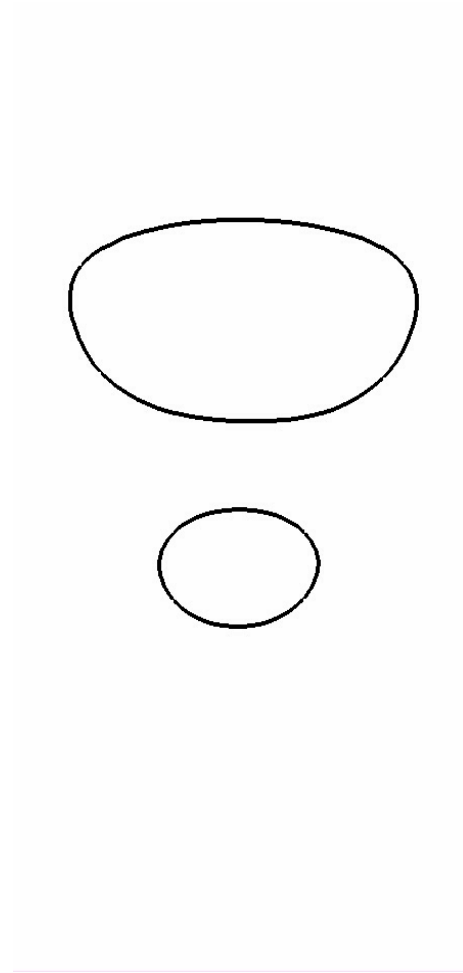
# Increase in buoyancy

Increase in buoyancy  
→



# Shape dynamics

**Shape oscillations  
during coalescence**



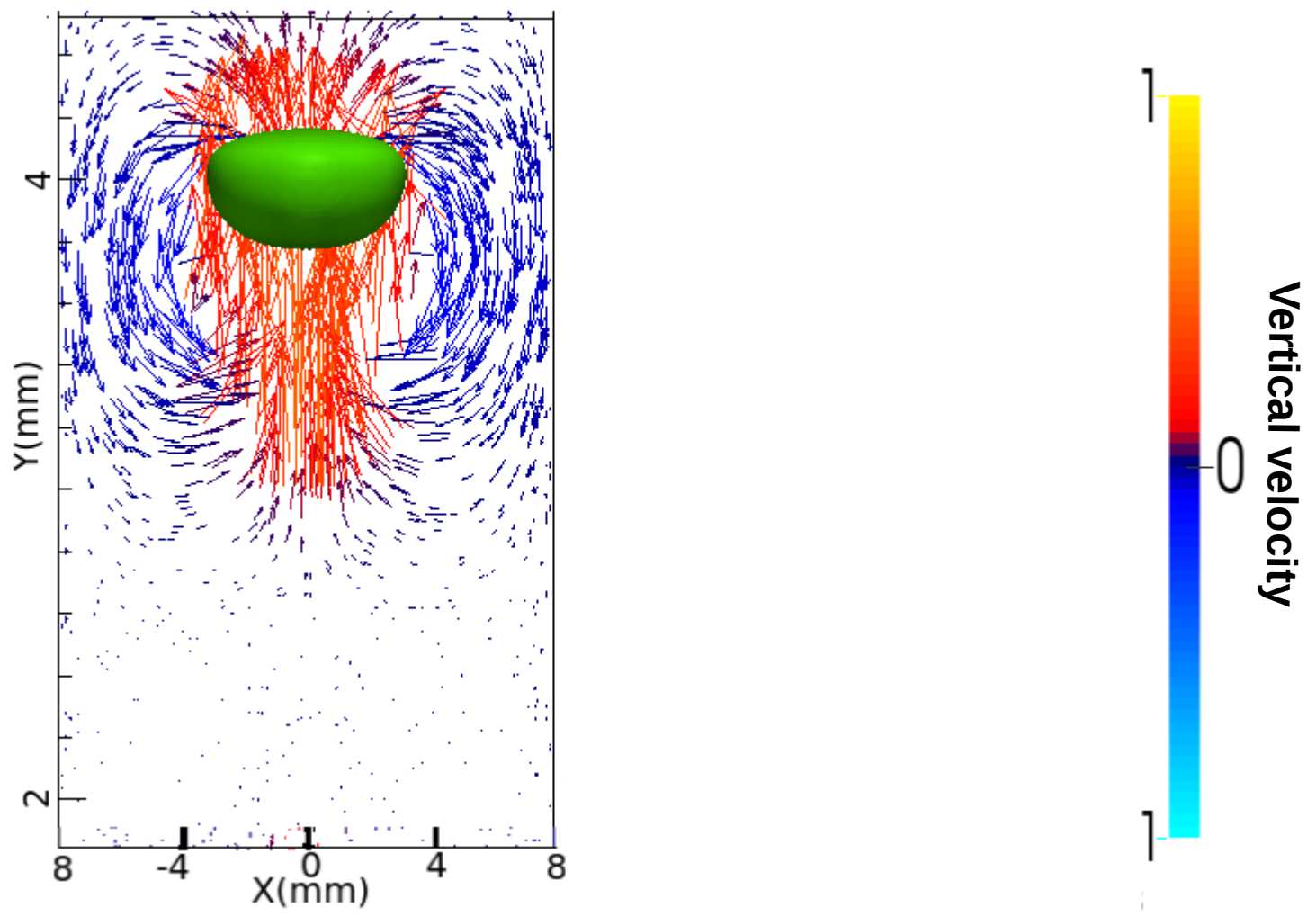
**Let us look at velocity vectors**



# Let us look at velocity vectors

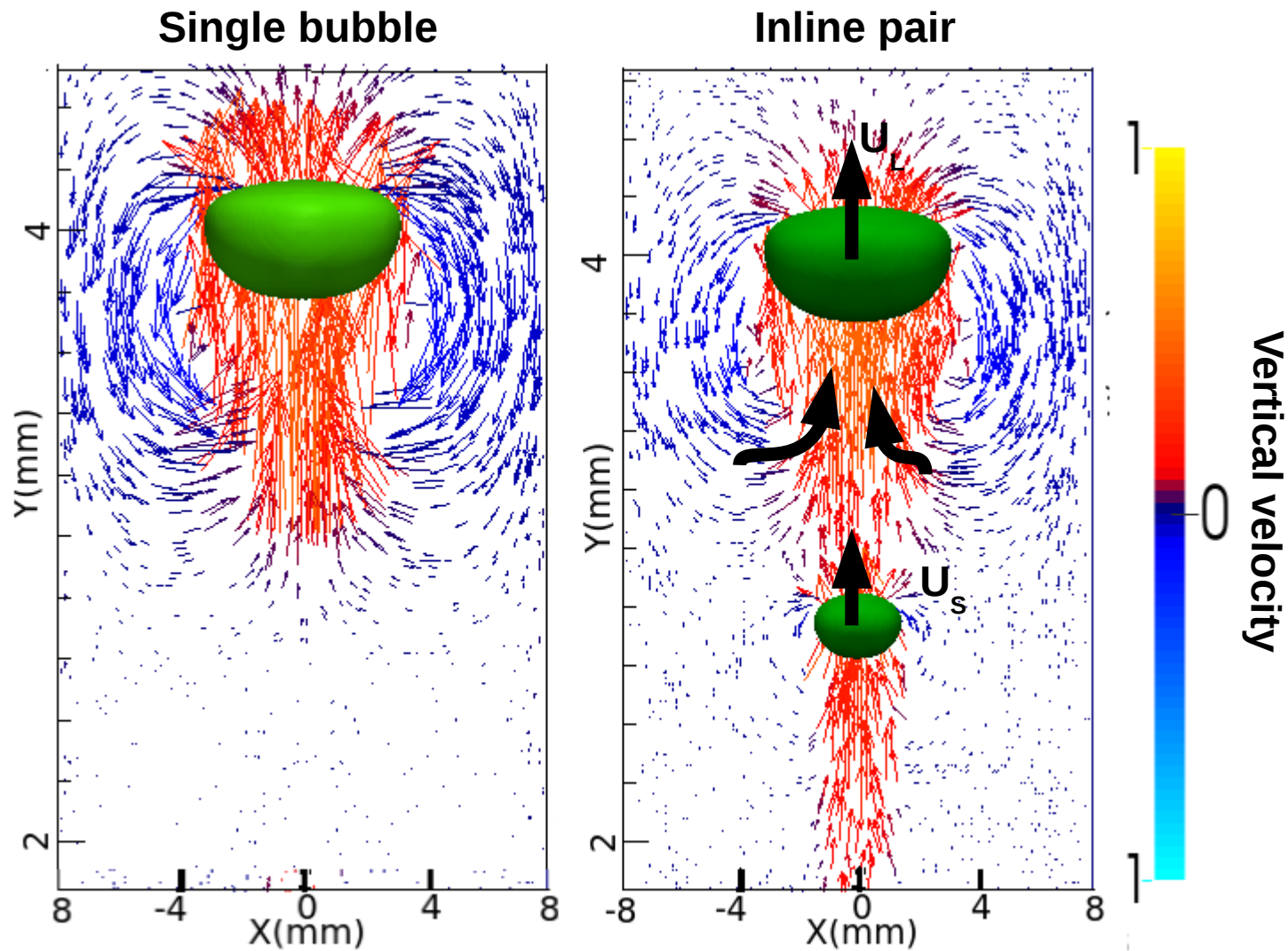
## Leading bubble's wake

Single bubble



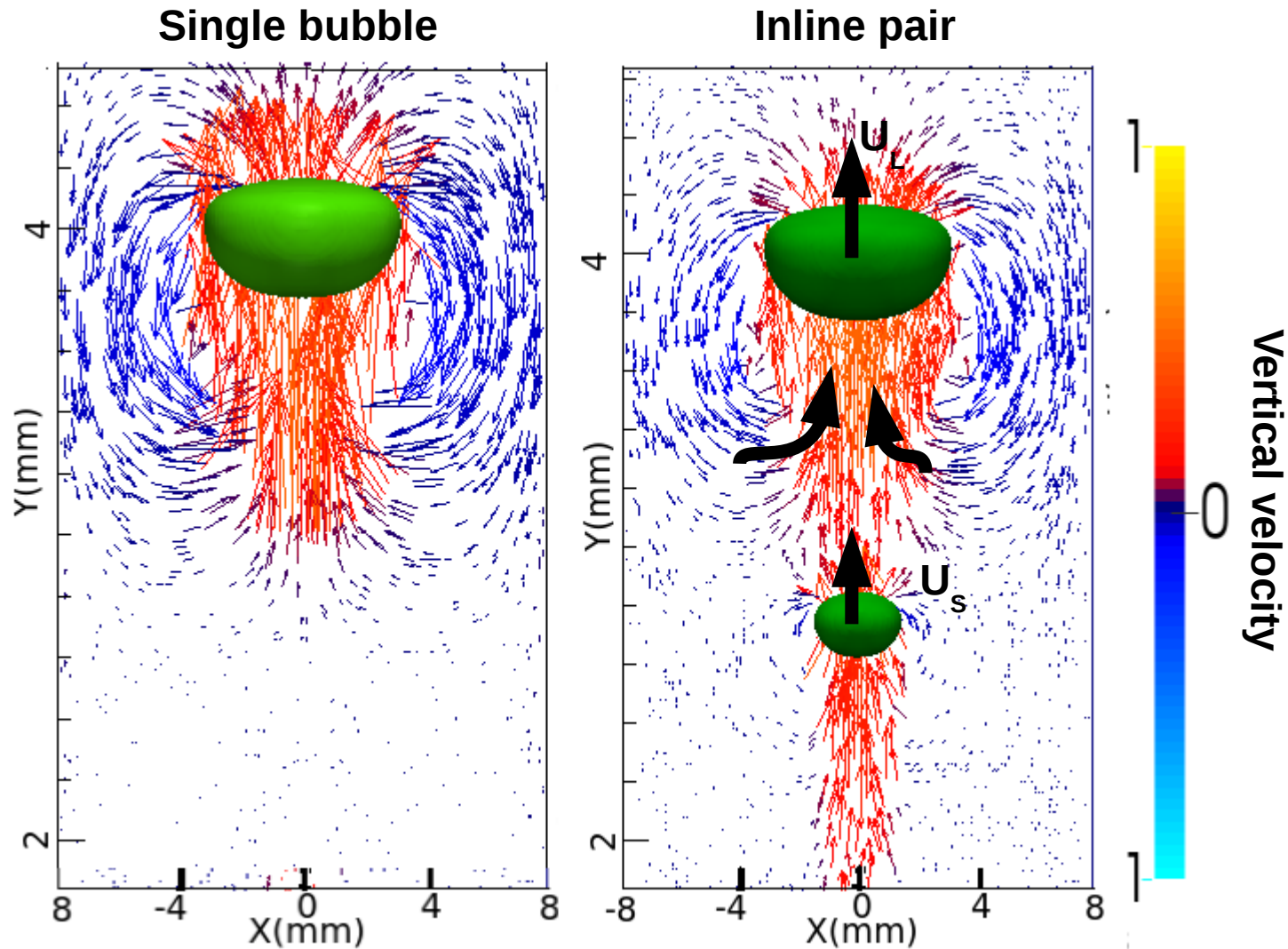
# Let us look at velocity vectors

## Leading bubble's wake



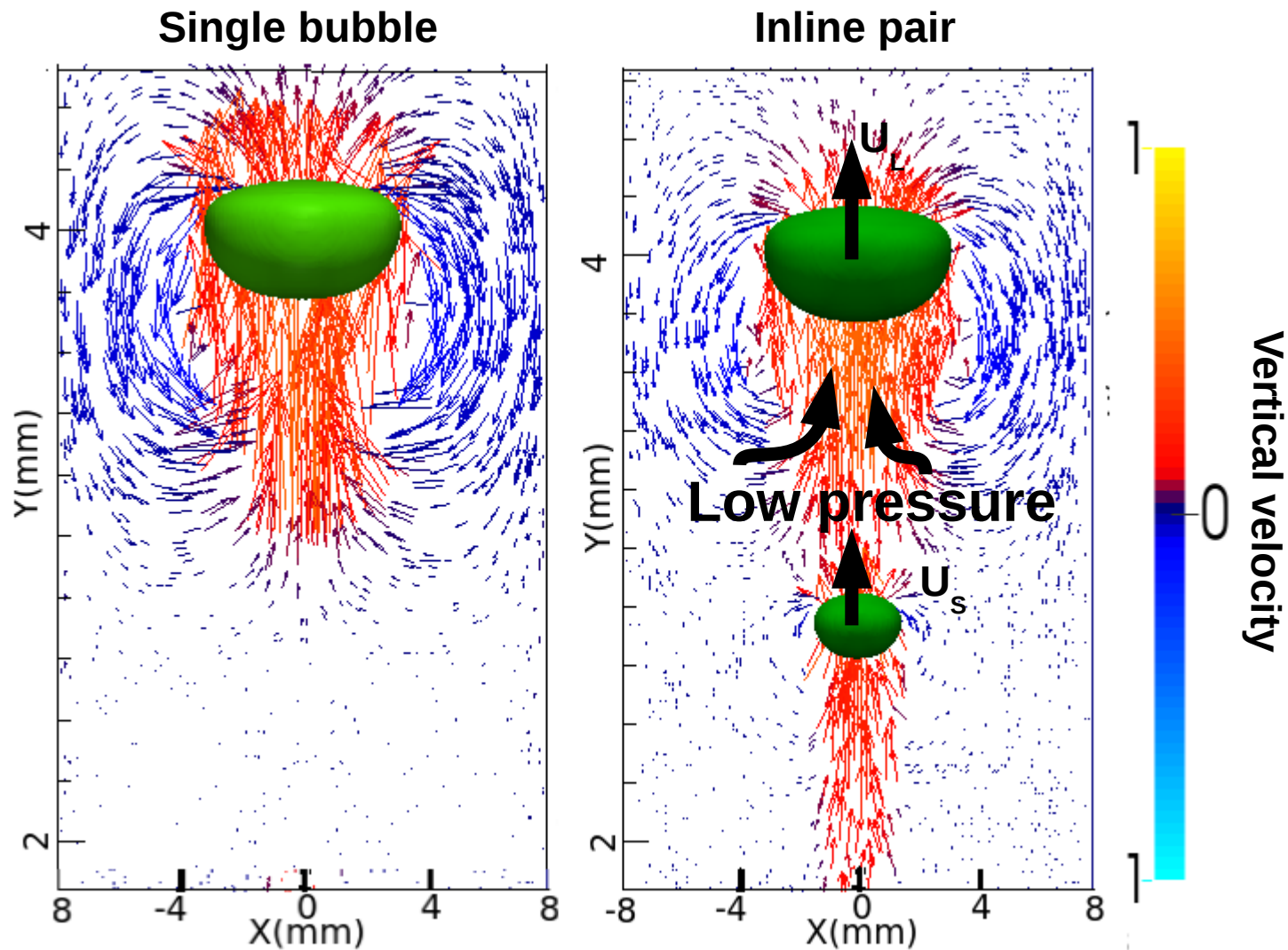
# Leading bubble's wake plays a role

Leading bubble's wake play a big role- so trailing bubble speeds-up



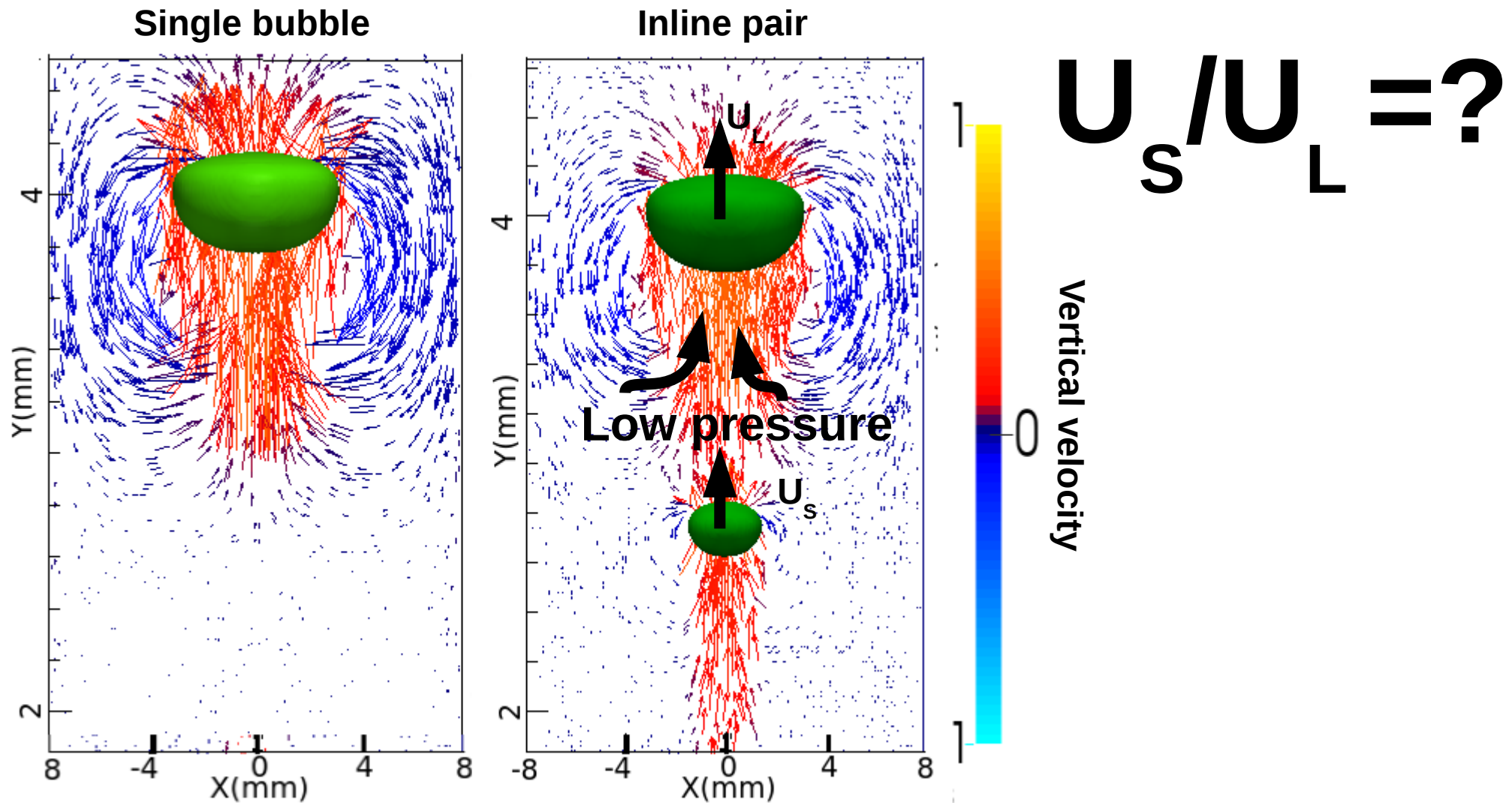
# Leading bubble's wake plays a role

Leading bubble's wake play a big role- so trailing bubble speeds-up



# Leading bubble's wake plays a role

Leading bubble's wake play a big role- so trailing bubble speeds-up



**Wake is very complex**

# Wake is very complex

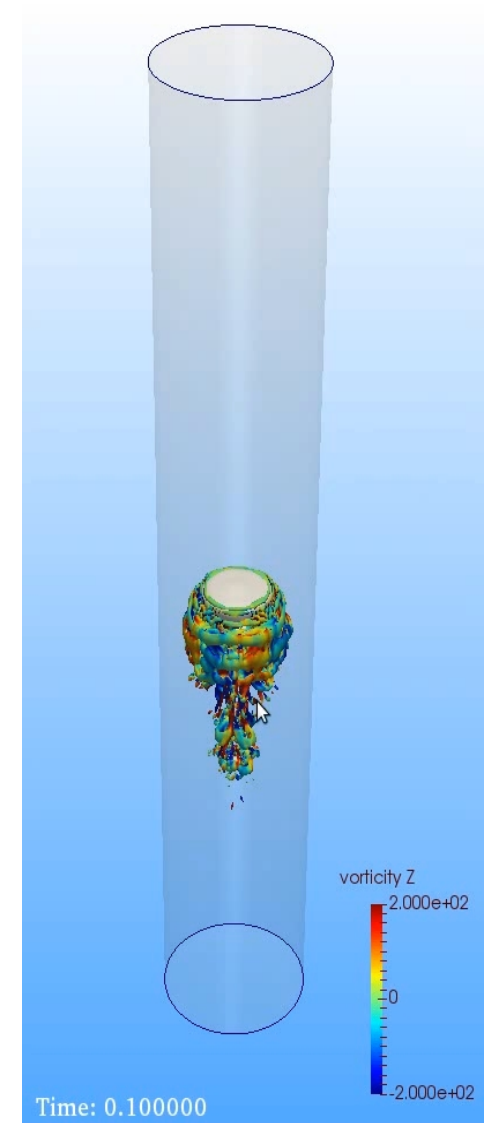
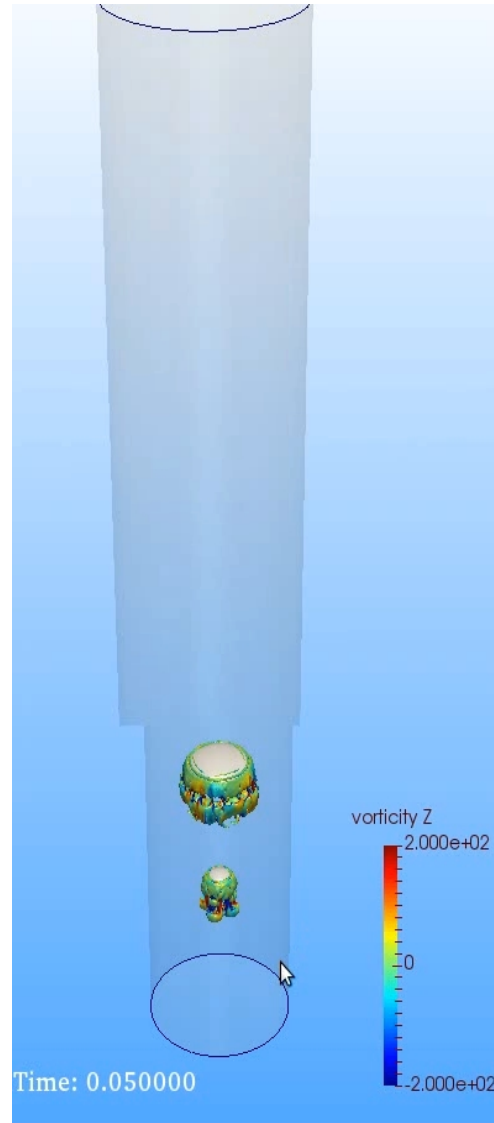


## Q-criterion based vortex structures Color mapped by streamwise vorticity

- Hairpin like structures during rise
- Jet ejections away from bubble
- Toroidal roll development at coalescence

# Wake is very complex

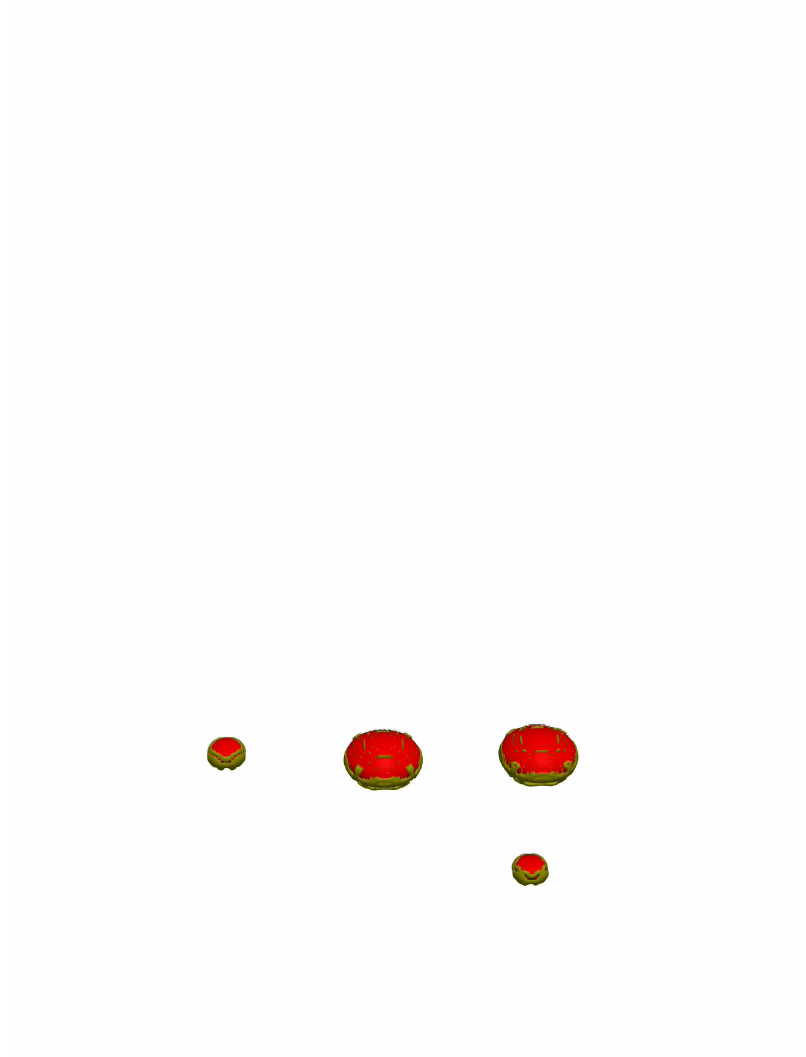
Buoyancy increases →



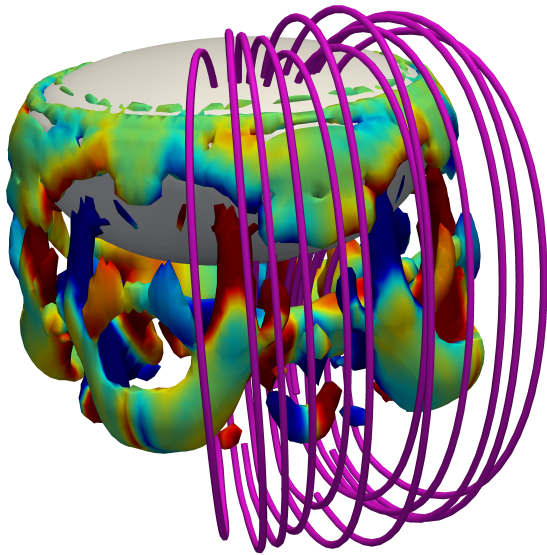


# Wake is very complex

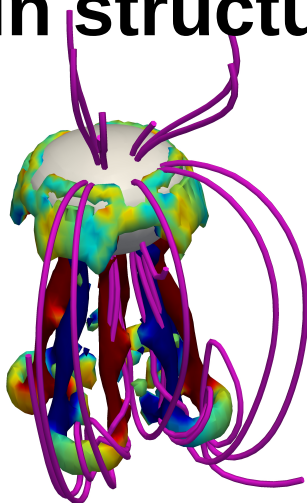
**Buoyancy increases** 



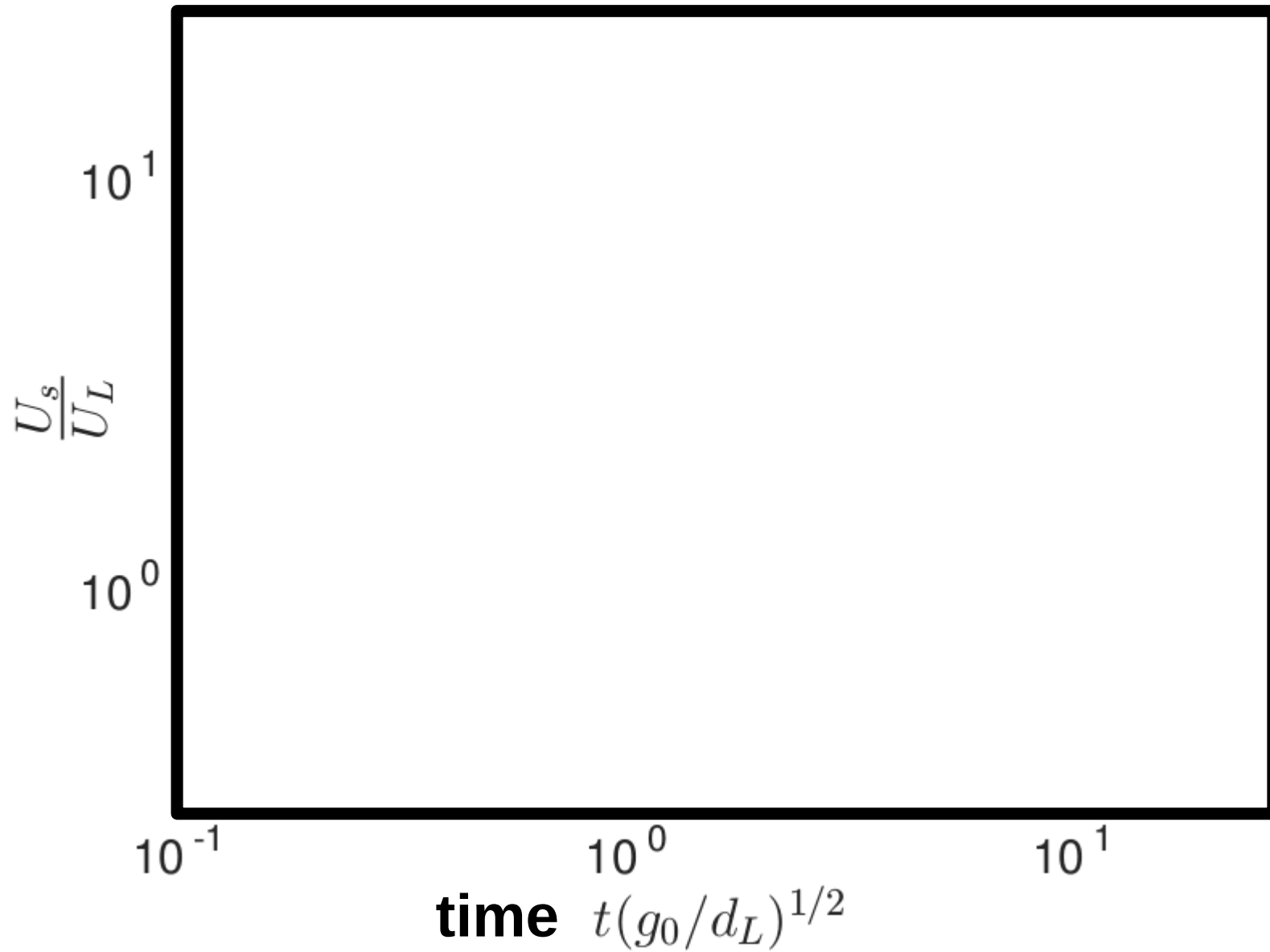
# Wake is very complex



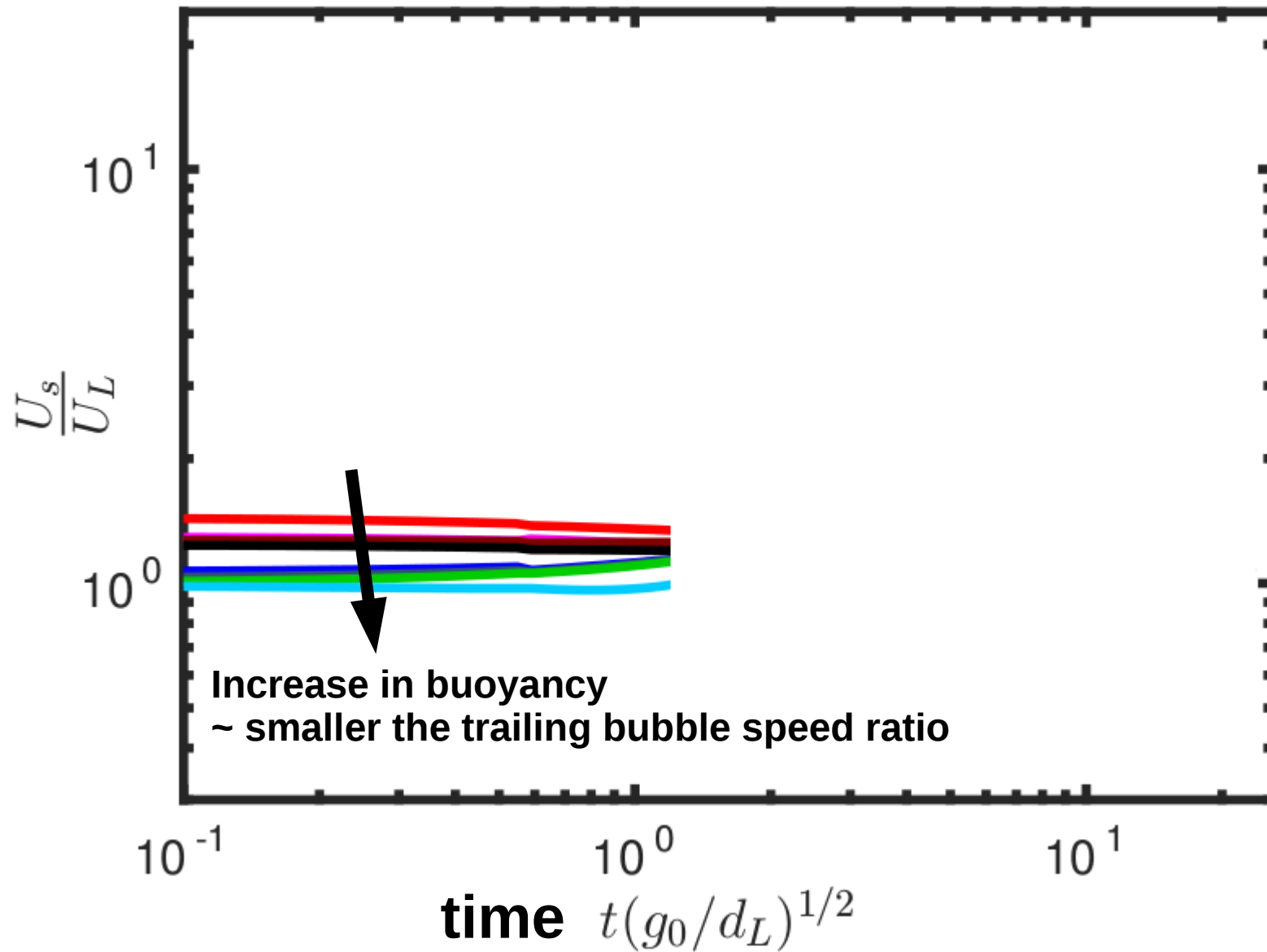
**Streamlines** twined on  
**hairpin structures**



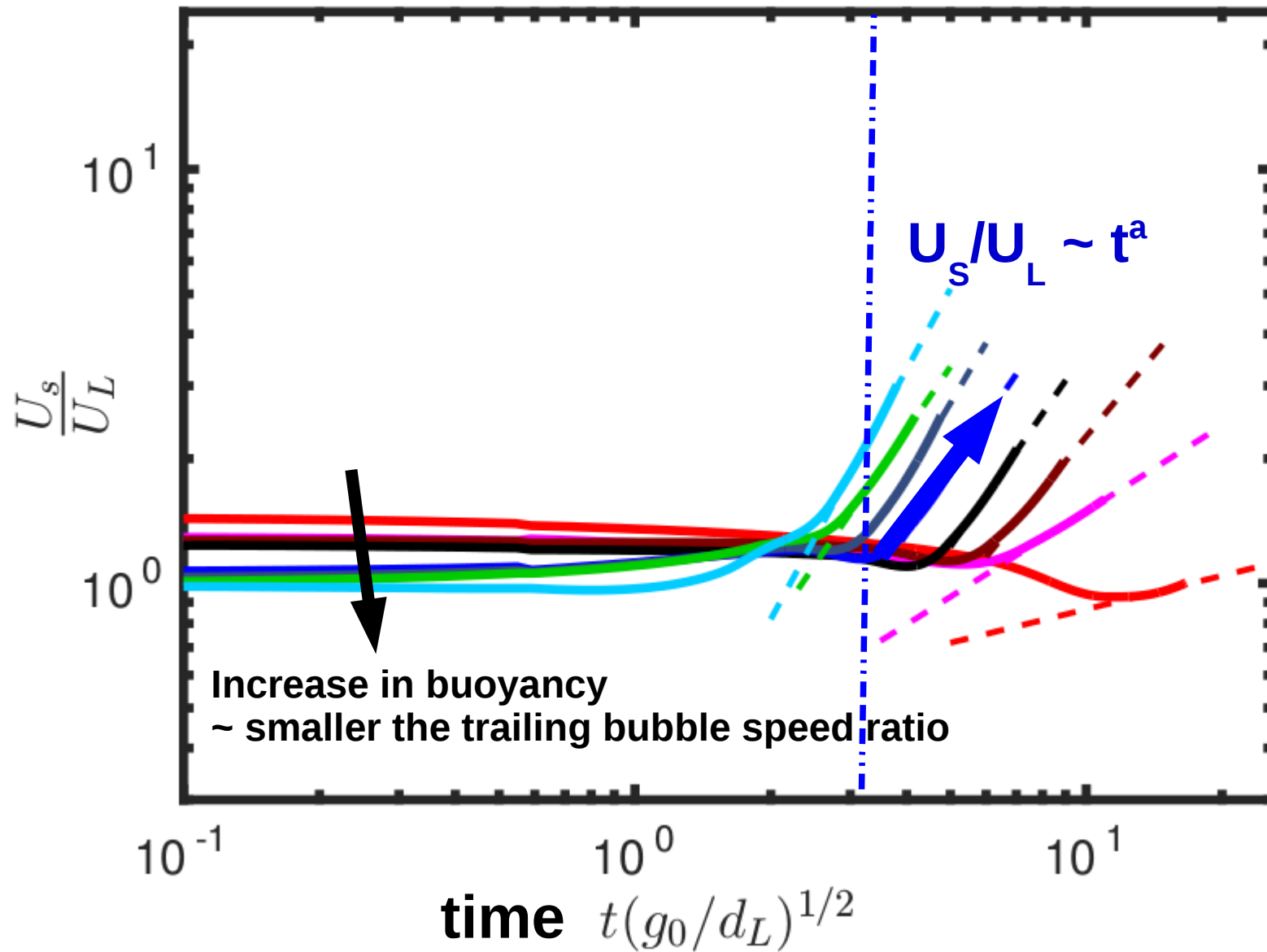
# Trailing bubble speed: $U_s/U_L$ ratio



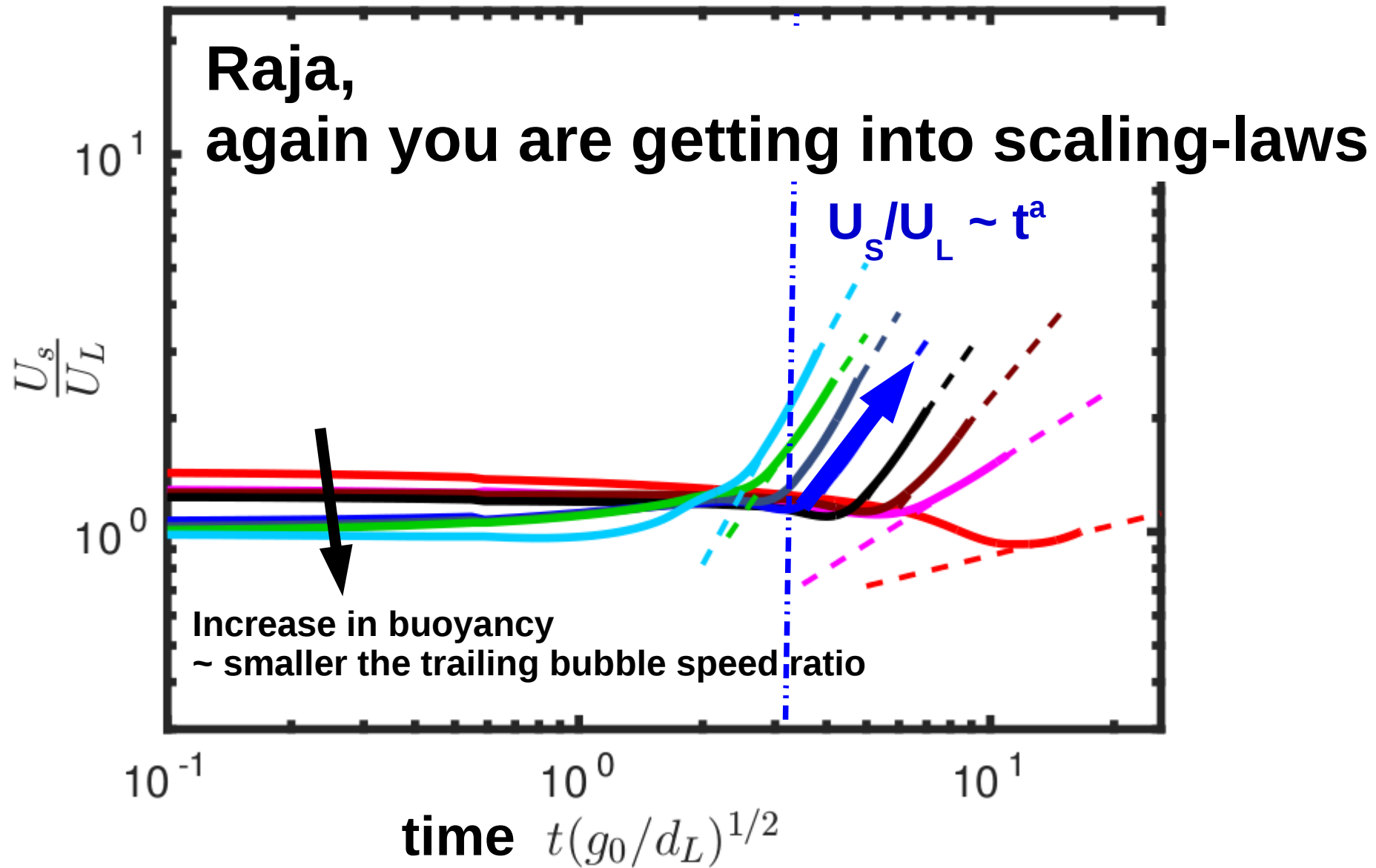
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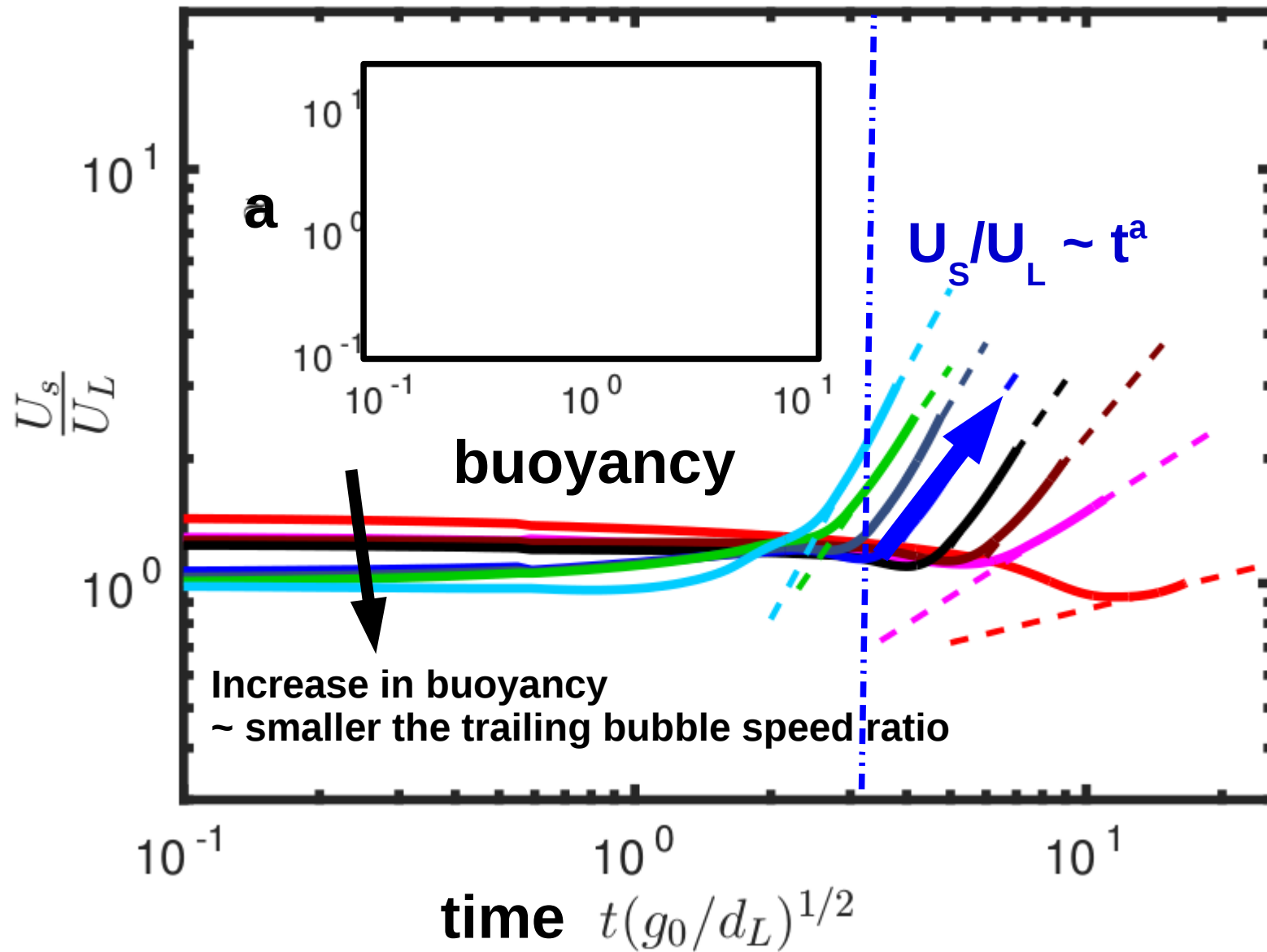
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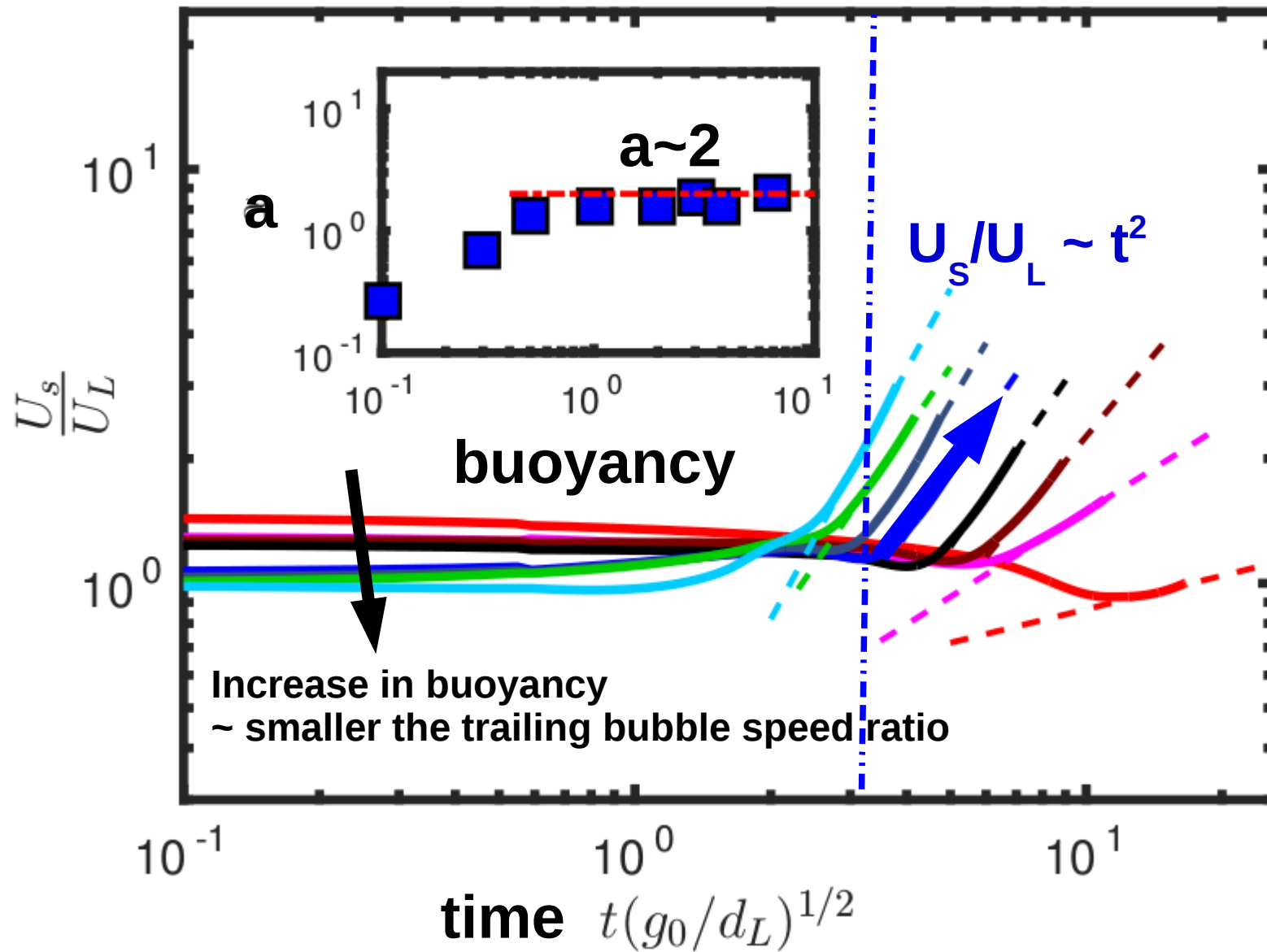
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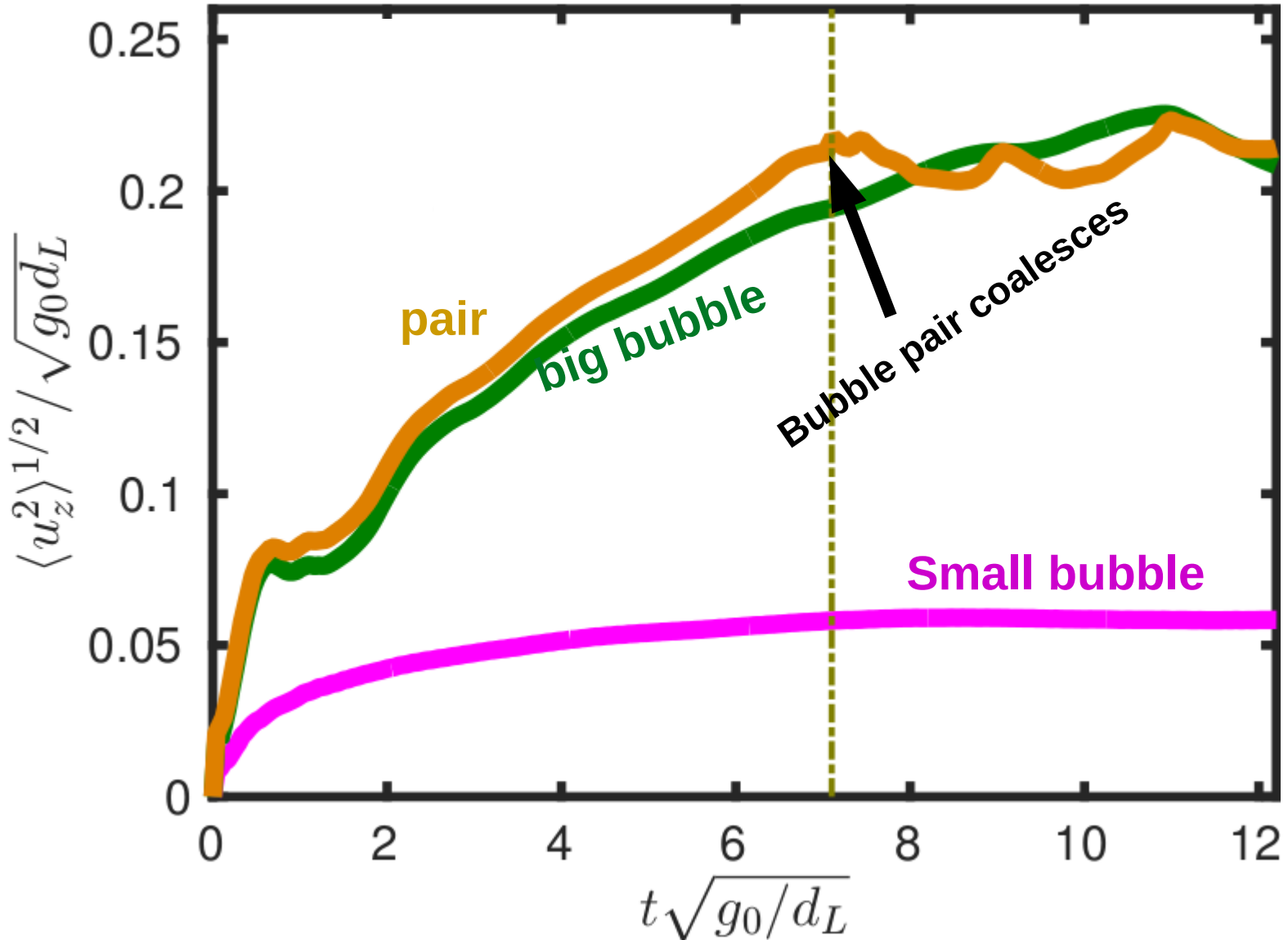




# Liquid velocity fluctuations?

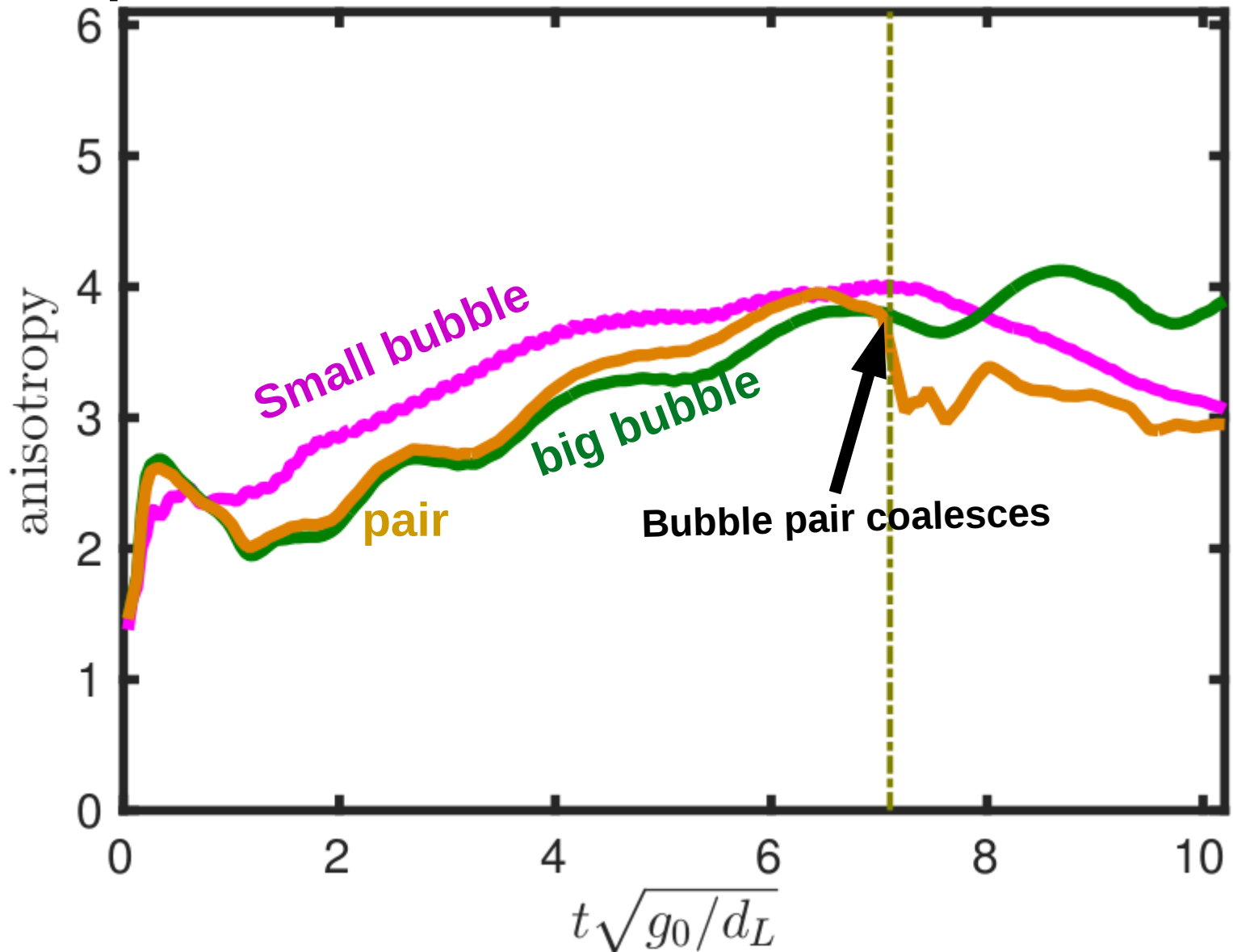
# Liquid velocity fluctuations?

Vertical component is dominant



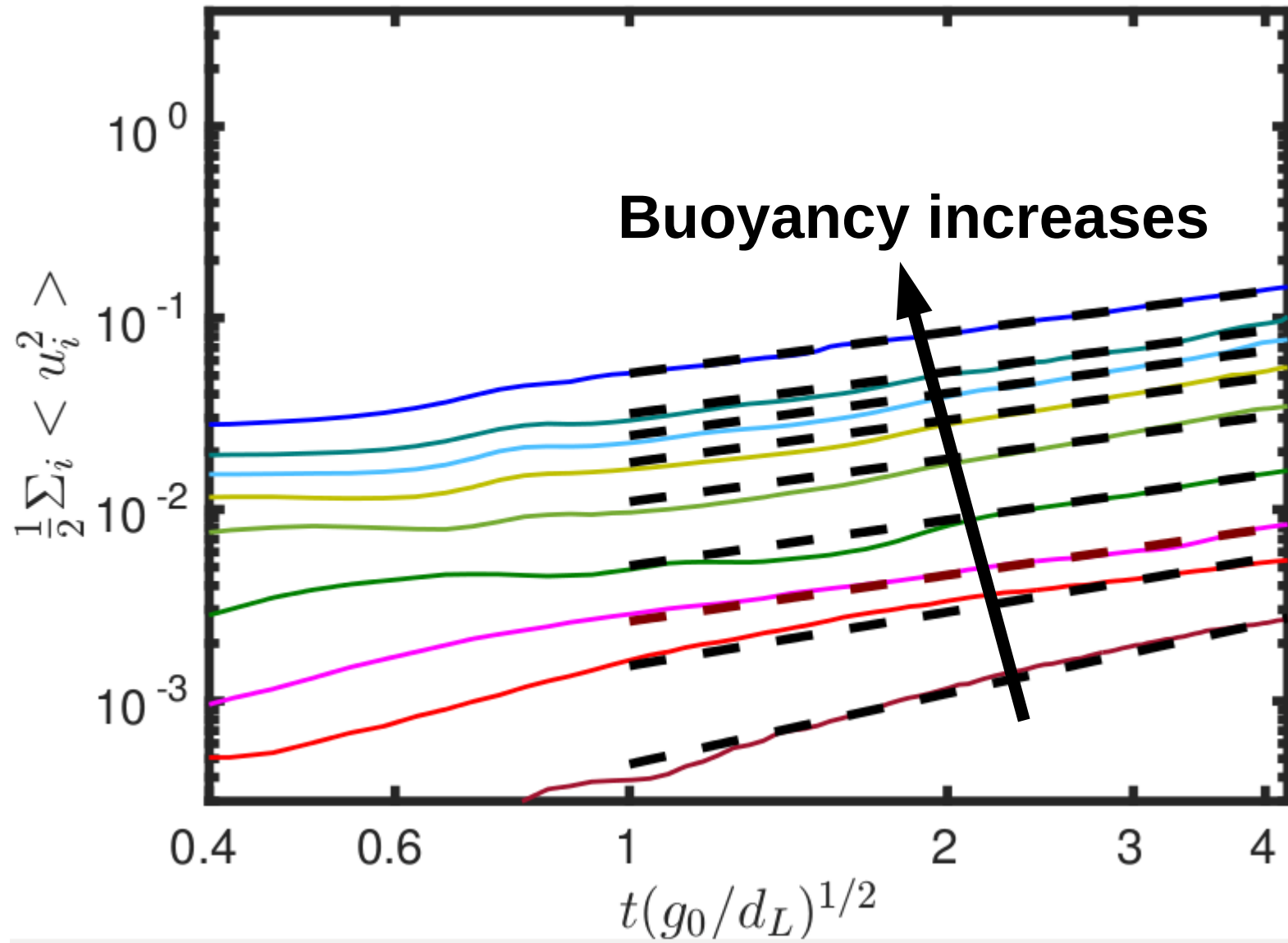
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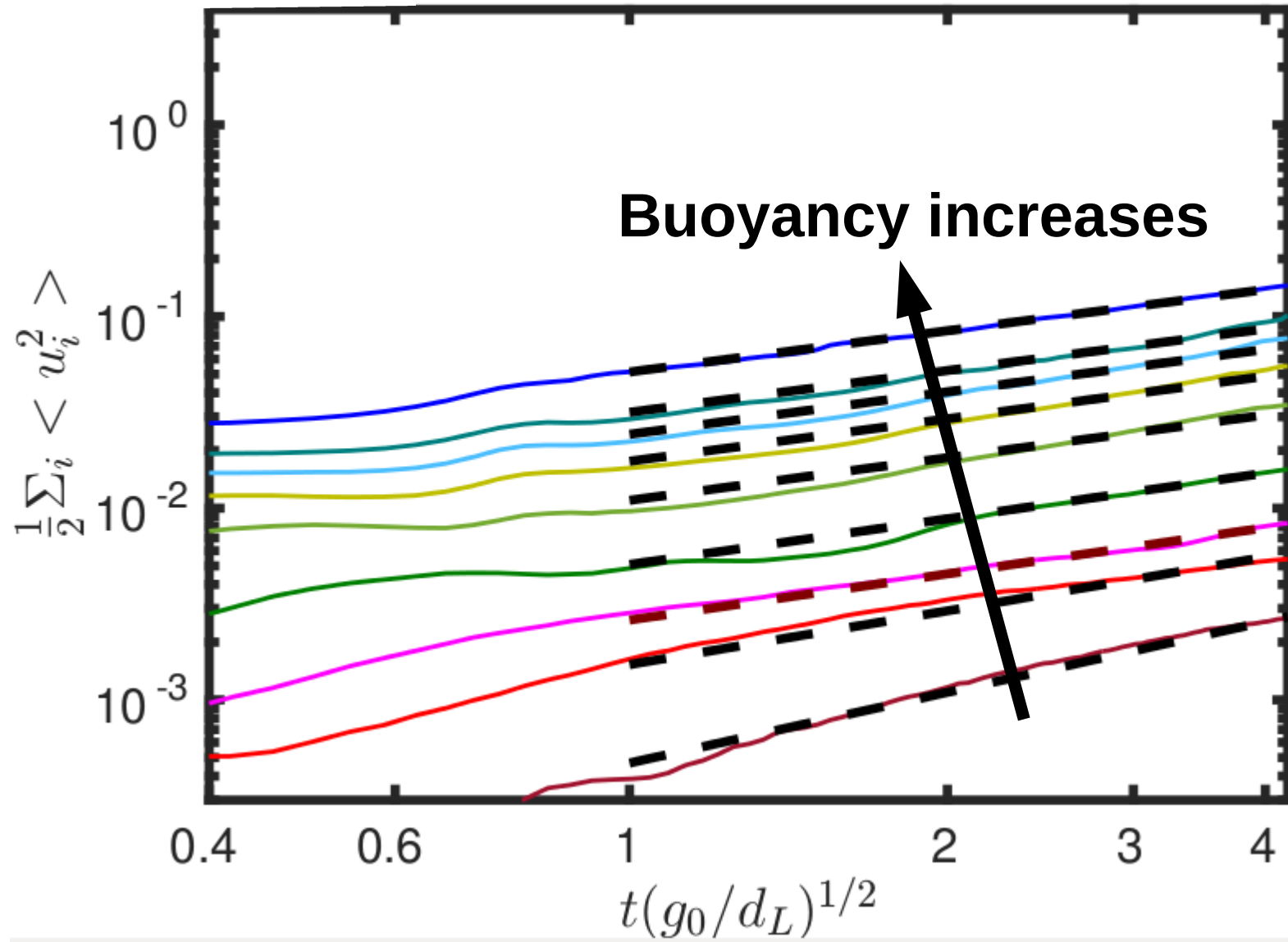
**KE increases in liquid as bubbles rise**

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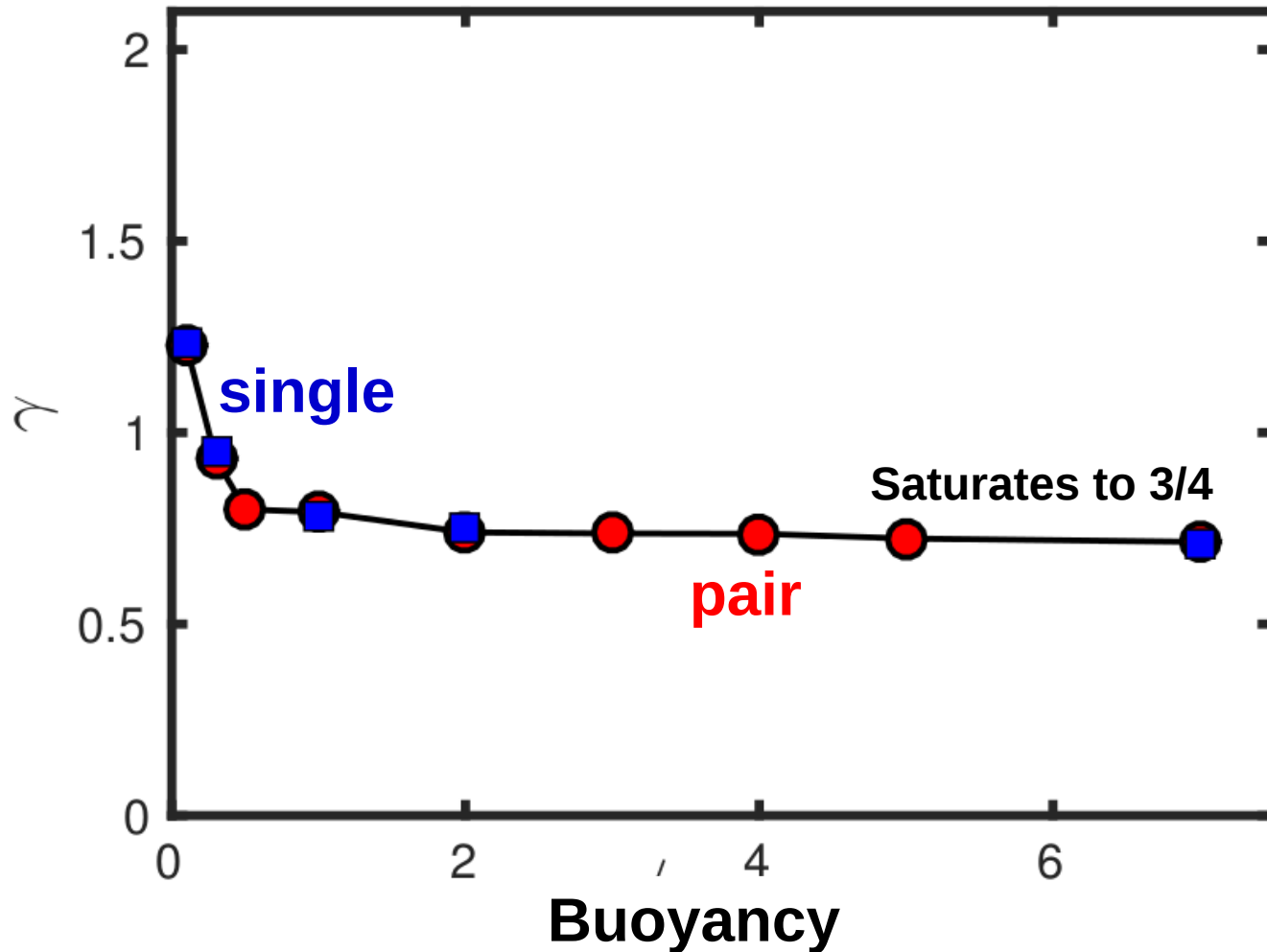
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# Summary



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- Small trailing bubbles speeds-up in the wake,  $U_S/U_L \sim t^2$
- Due to bubble rise- liquid vertical velocity component is dominant
- Liquid KE increases with time  $\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \langle u_i^2 \rangle \propto t^\gamma$

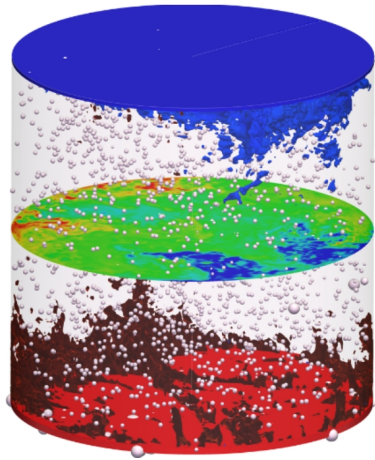
**What happend with boiling...**

# What happend with boiling...

**I think we are still on track**

# What happens with boiling...

I think we are still on track



Are these real bubbles?

Can they rotate, coalesce, bounce, tumble,  
Oscillate, create wake?

