

Progress & problems in the analysis of turbulence, dissipation and drag

**Bounds on turbulence: what does it mean when they exist, and
what does it mean when we don't know if they exist?**

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***"Models versus physical laws/first principles, or why models work?"
Wolfgang Pauli Institute, Vienna, Austria, February 2-5, 2011***

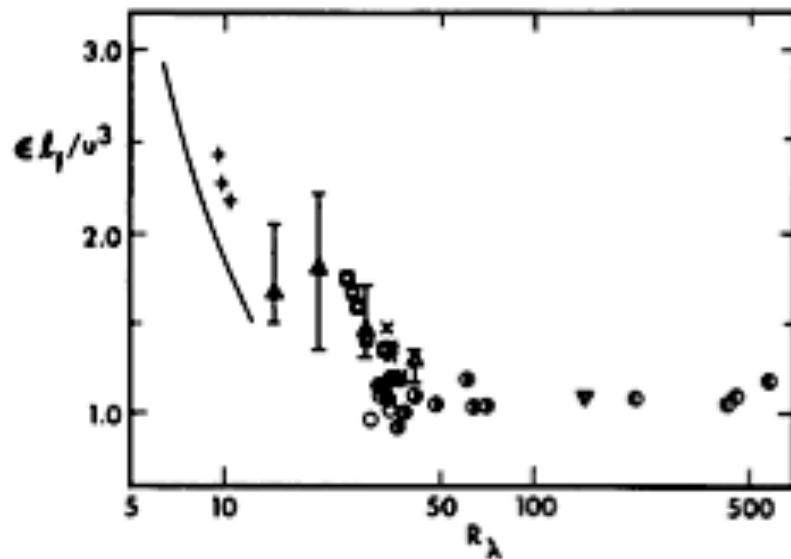
Progress & problems in the analysis of turbulence, dissipation and drag

- Energy dissipation rate bounds for body-force driven (turbulent) flows
- Bounds on (turbulent) wavenumber moments
- Energy dissipation rate bounds for boundary driven (turbulent) flows

Experiments:

On the scaling of the turbulence energy dissipation rate

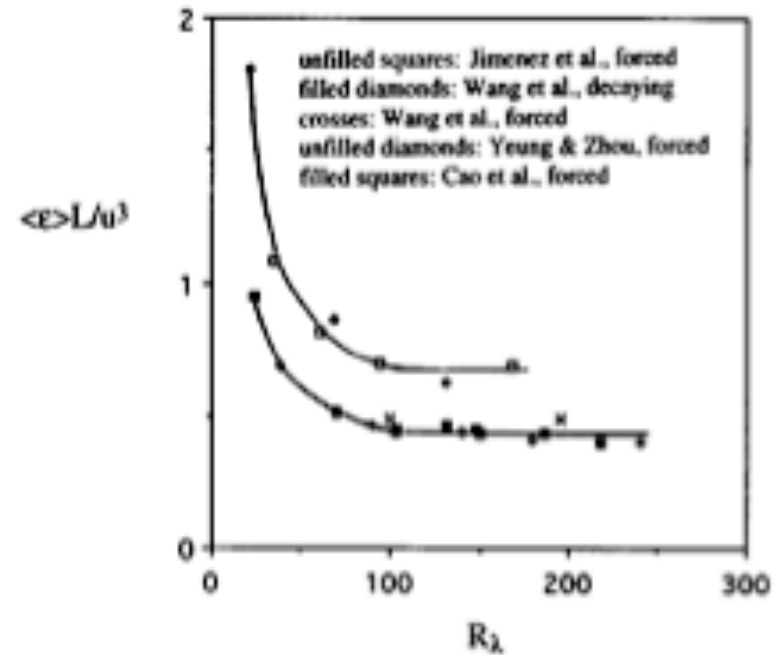
K. R. Sreenivasan
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(Received 29 November 1983; accepted 23 February 1984)



Direct numerical simulations:

An update on the energy dissipation rate in isotropic turbulence

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Energy dissipation in body-forced turbulence

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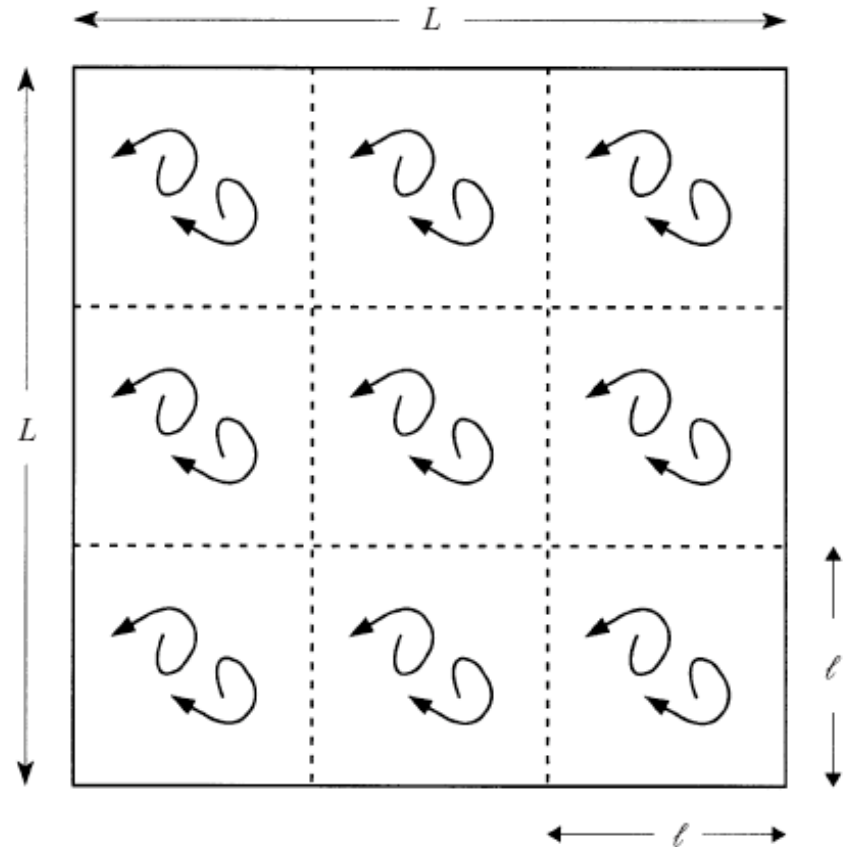
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$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = \nu \Delta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$$

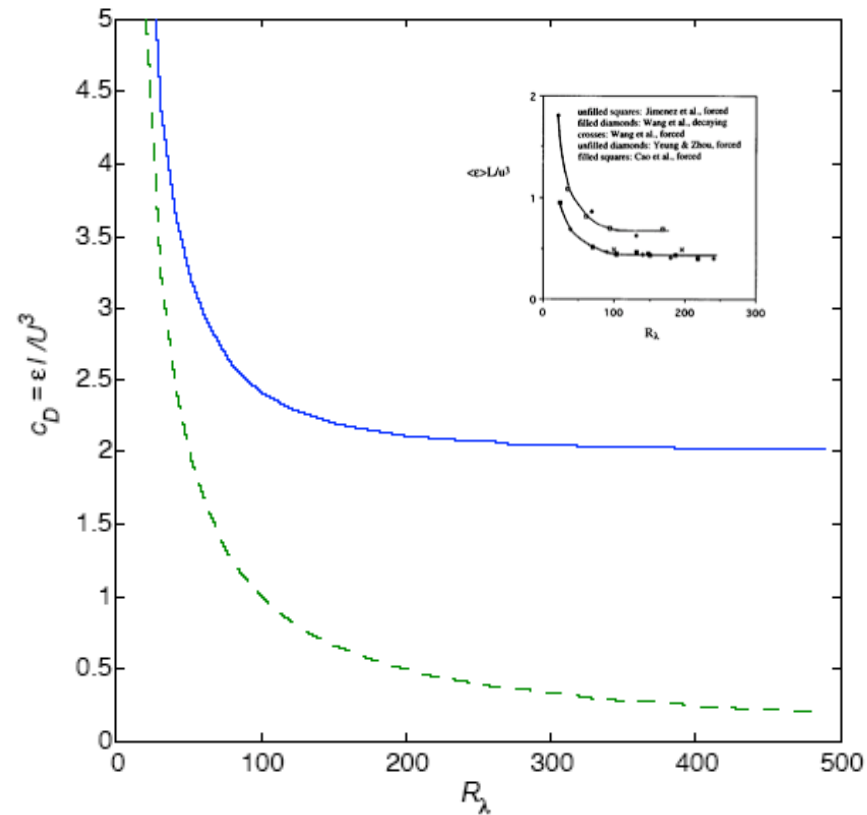
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = F \Phi(\ell^{-1} \mathbf{x})$$



Theorem: for $\Phi(\xi)$ in $L^2([0,1]^d)$,

$$\frac{2\pi}{\alpha R_\lambda} \leq \beta \leq \frac{b}{2} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{4a}{b^2} \frac{1}{R_\lambda^2}} \right)$$



Energy dissipation in body-forced plane shear flow

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³Fachbereich Physik, Philipps-Universität, D-35032 Marburg, Germany

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = F\phi(y/\ell)\mathbf{e}_x$$

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Volume 6, No. 17, 2005

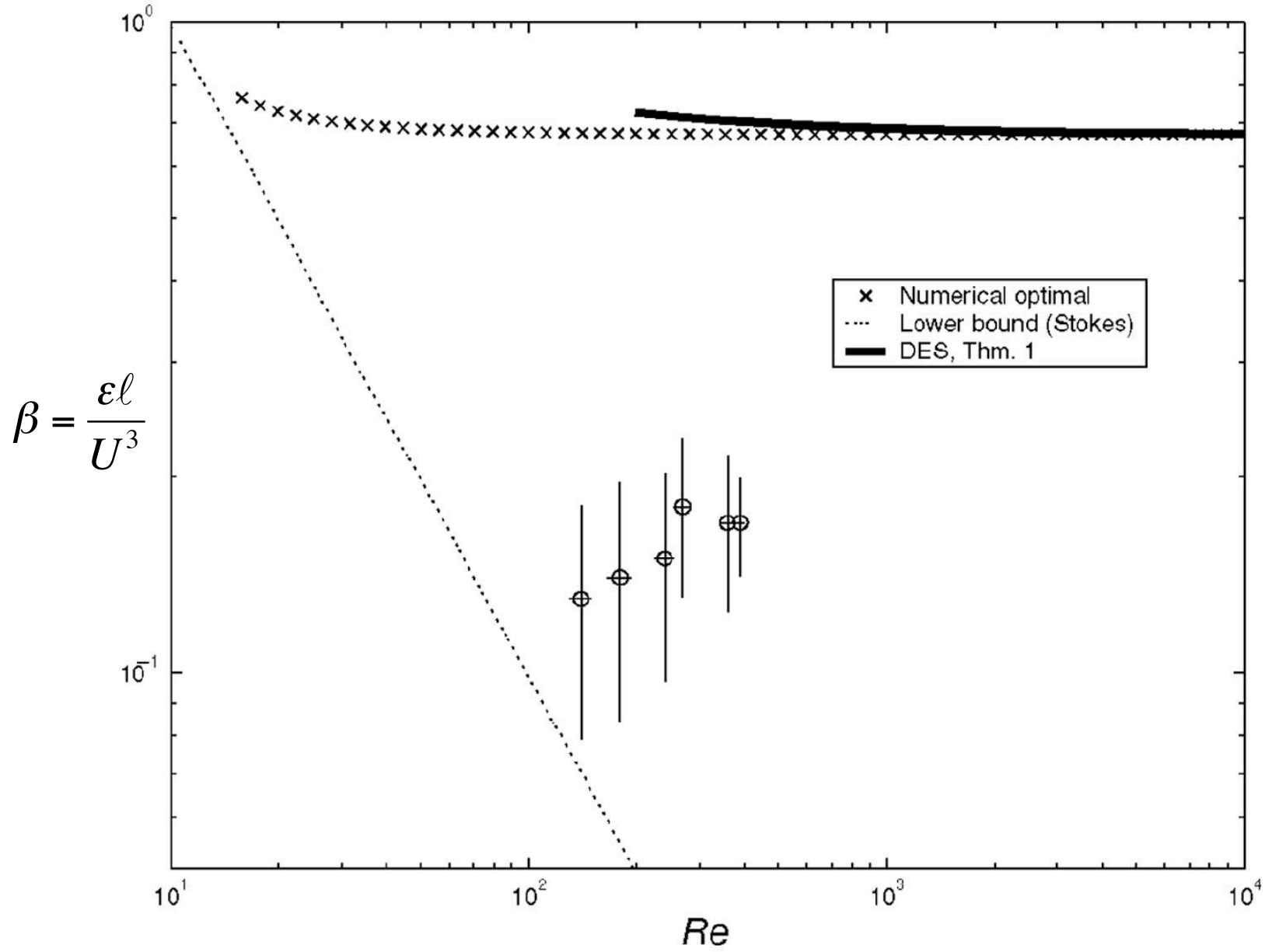


Variational bounds on the energy dissipation rate in body-forced shear flow

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Variations on Kolmogorov Flow: Turbulent Energy Dissipation and Mean Flow Profiles

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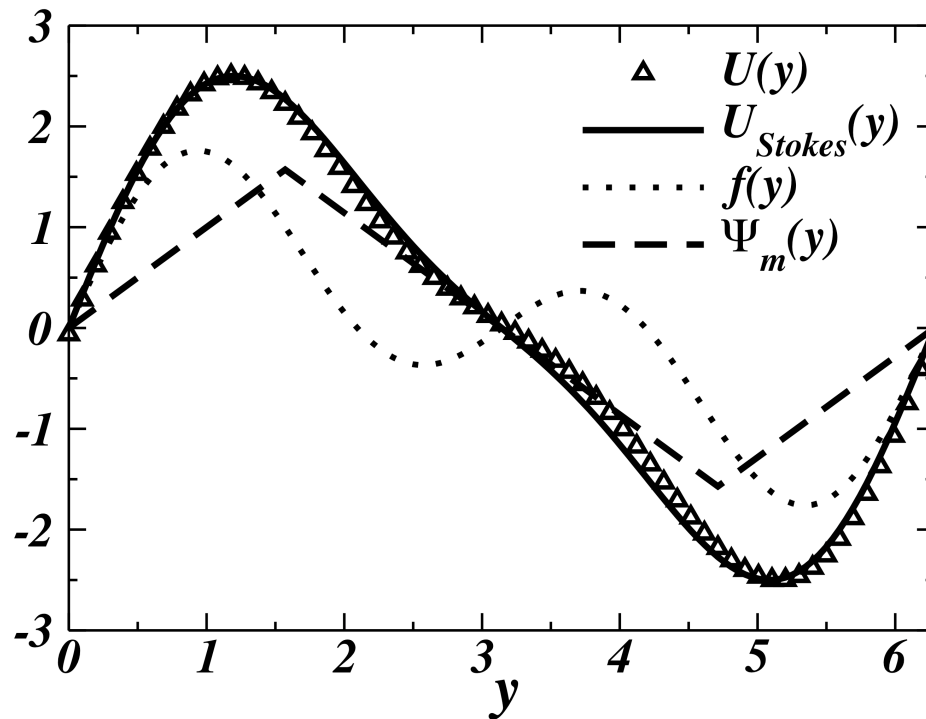
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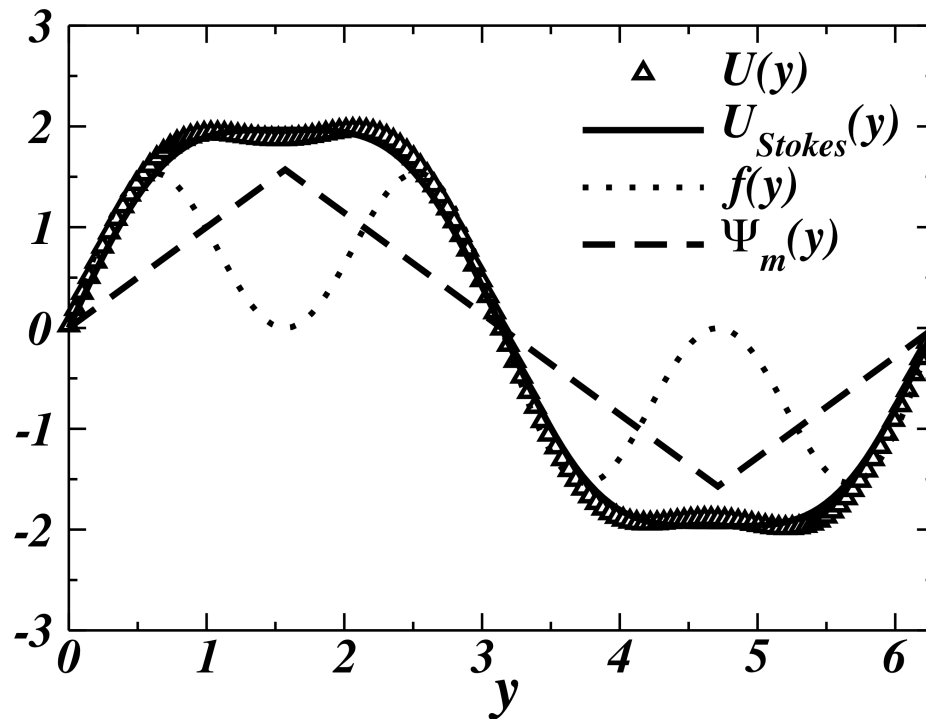
$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = F\phi(y/\ell)\mathbf{e}_x$$

$$\phi(\eta) = \sin(2\pi\eta) + A_k \sin(2\pi k\eta)$$

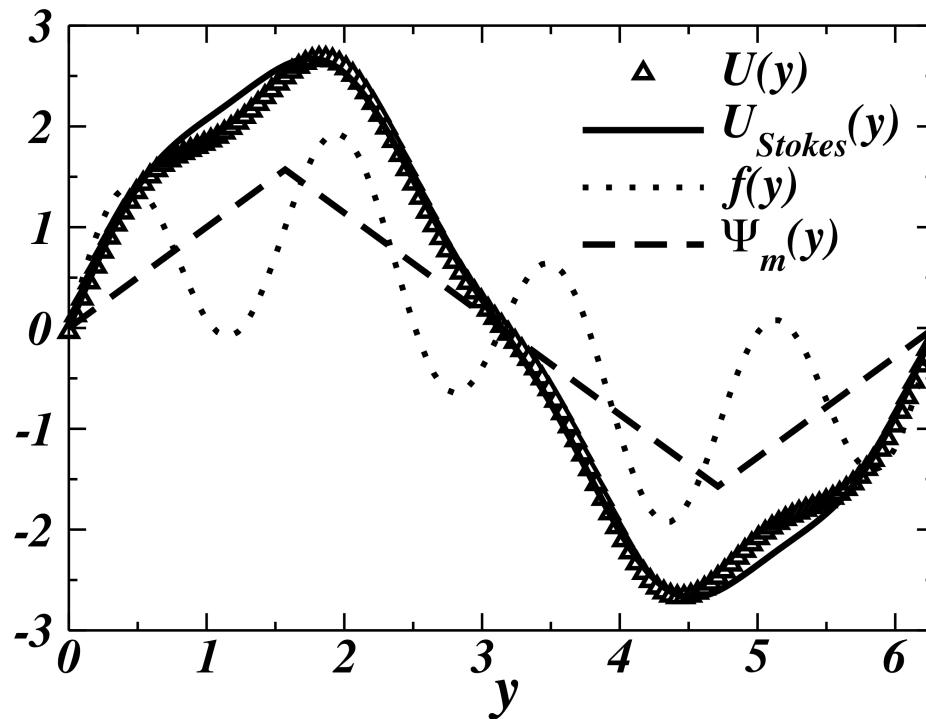
$$\phi(\eta) = \sin(2\pi\eta) + A_2\sin(4\pi\eta)$$



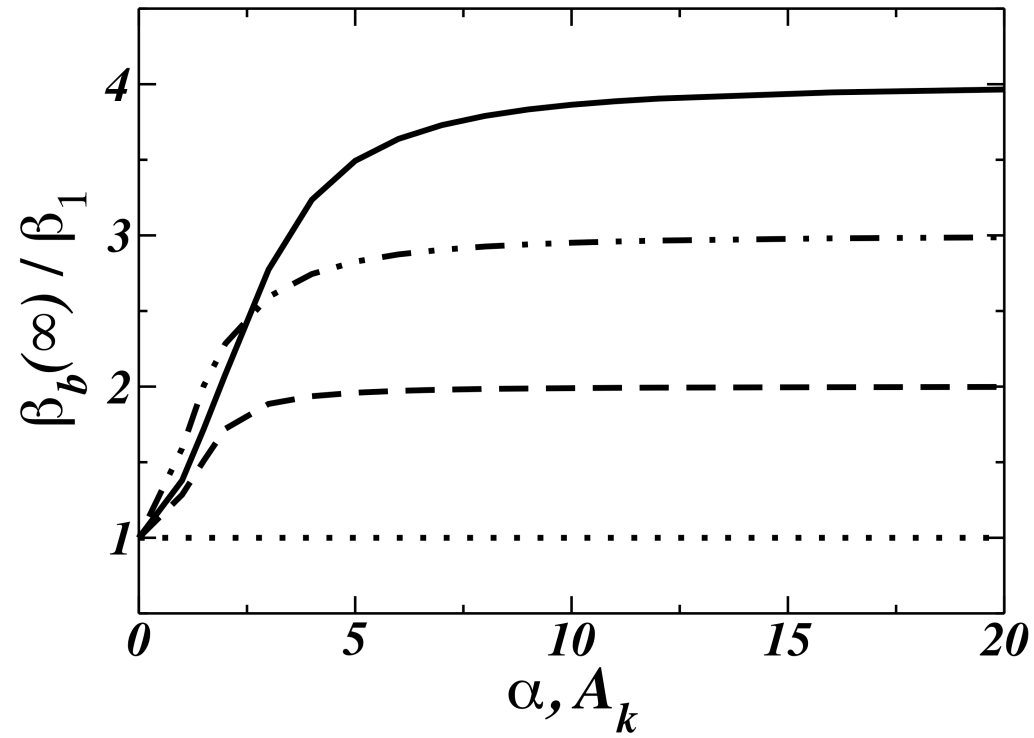
$$\phi(\eta) = \sin(2\pi\eta) + A_3 \sin(6\pi\eta)$$



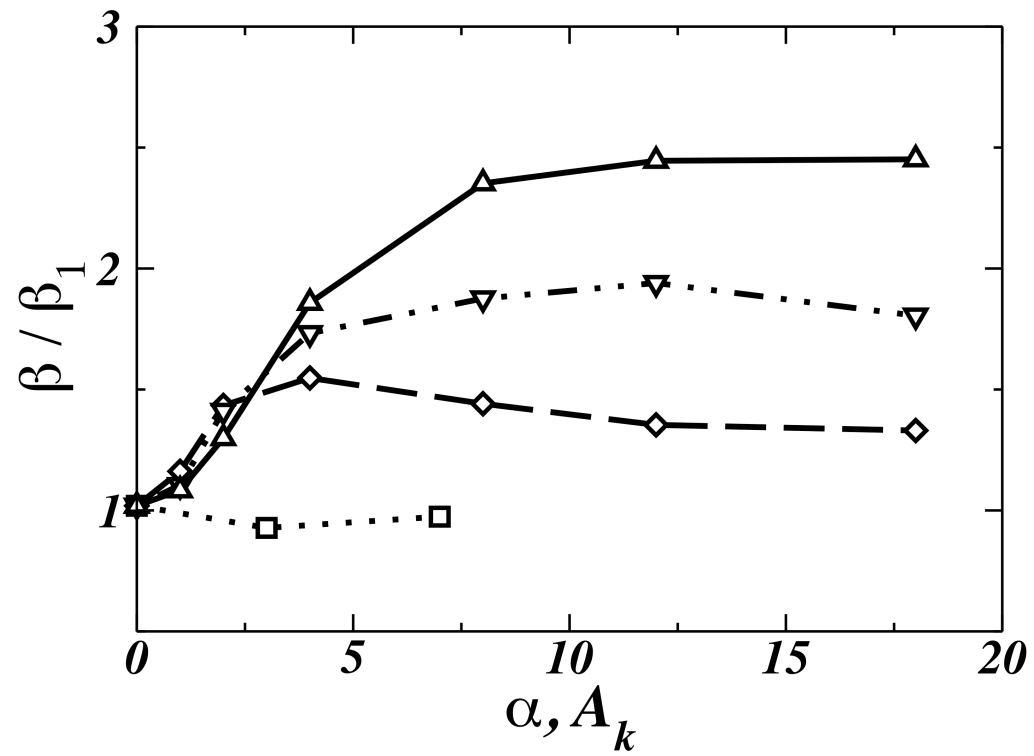
$$\phi(\eta) = \sin(2\pi\eta) + A_4 \sin(8\pi\eta)$$



$$\phi(\eta) = \sin(2\pi\eta) + A_k \sin(2\pi k\eta)$$



$$\phi(\eta) = \sin(2\pi\eta) + A_k \sin(2\pi k\eta)$$



Energy dissipation in fractal-forced flow

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$$\mathbf{f} \in H^{-\alpha} \text{ with } \alpha \in [0, 1]$$

$$\beta \lesssim \text{Re}^{\alpha/(2-\alpha)}$$

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- Energy dissipation rate bounds for boundary driven (turbulent) flows



Physica D 165 (2002) 163–175



Bounds on moments of the energy spectrum for weak solutions of the three-dimensional Navier–Stokes equations

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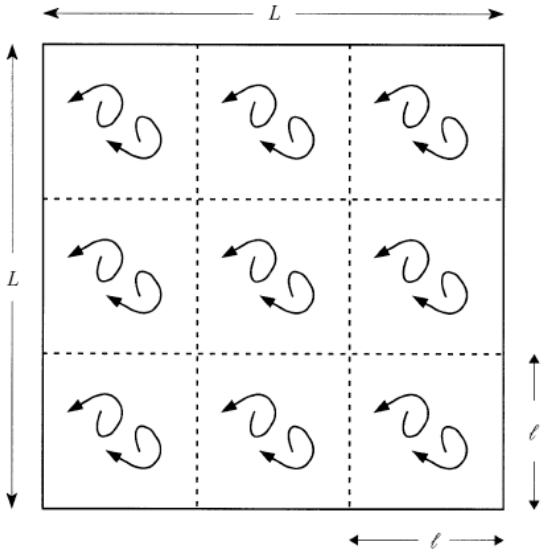
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$$\langle \tilde{\kappa}_n \rangle \equiv \left\langle \left(\frac{\|\nabla^n \mathbf{u}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{u}\|_2} \right)^{1/n} \right\rangle$$

$$\langle \tilde{\kappa}_n \rangle \equiv \left\langle \left(\frac{\|\nabla^n \mathbf{u}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{u}\|_2} \right)^{1/n} \right\rangle$$



Theorem: For any $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{2}$,

$\exists c_n < \infty$ so that as $\nu \rightarrow 0$,

$$\ell \langle \kappa_n \rangle \leq c_n \left(\frac{L}{\ell} \right)^{3(n-1)/n} Re^{3-5/2n+\delta/n}$$

Consistent (mod δ) with $E(k) \sim k^{-q}$ up to $\ell k_c \sim R^{q_c}$ with

$$q = \frac{8}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad q_c = 3$$

Now assume that $\frac{\|u\|_\infty}{L^{-3/2}\|u\|_2} = O(1)$ as $\nu \rightarrow \infty \dots$ then

Theorem: For any $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{2}$,

$\exists c_n < \infty$ so that as $\nu \rightarrow 0$,

$$\ell\langle \kappa_n \rangle \leq c_n Re^{3/4 - 1/4n + \delta/n}$$

Consistent (mod δ) with $E(k) \sim k^{-q}$ up to $\ell k_c \sim R^{q_c}$ with

$$q = \frac{5}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad q_c = \frac{3}{4}$$

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Transition to shear-driven turbulence in Couette-Taylor flow

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(Received 27 March 1992)

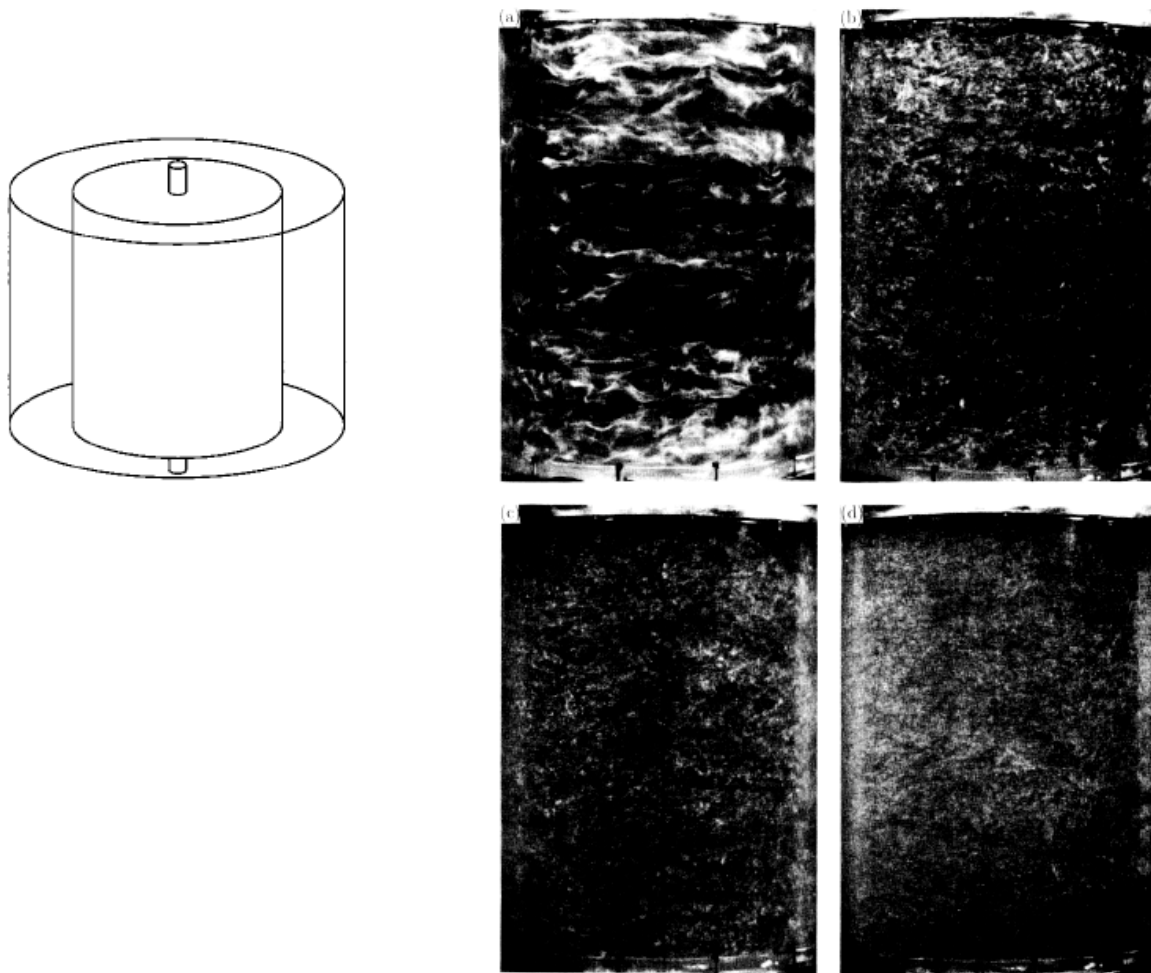


FIG. 5. Photographs of flow states at (a) $R = 6000$, (b) $R = 24\,000$, (c) $R = 48\,000$, and (d) $R = 122\,000$, obtained using Kalliroscope flow visualization. Eight vortices are visible in (a) and (b) and possibly (c), but not in (d).

Transition to shear-driven turbulence in Couette-Taylor flow

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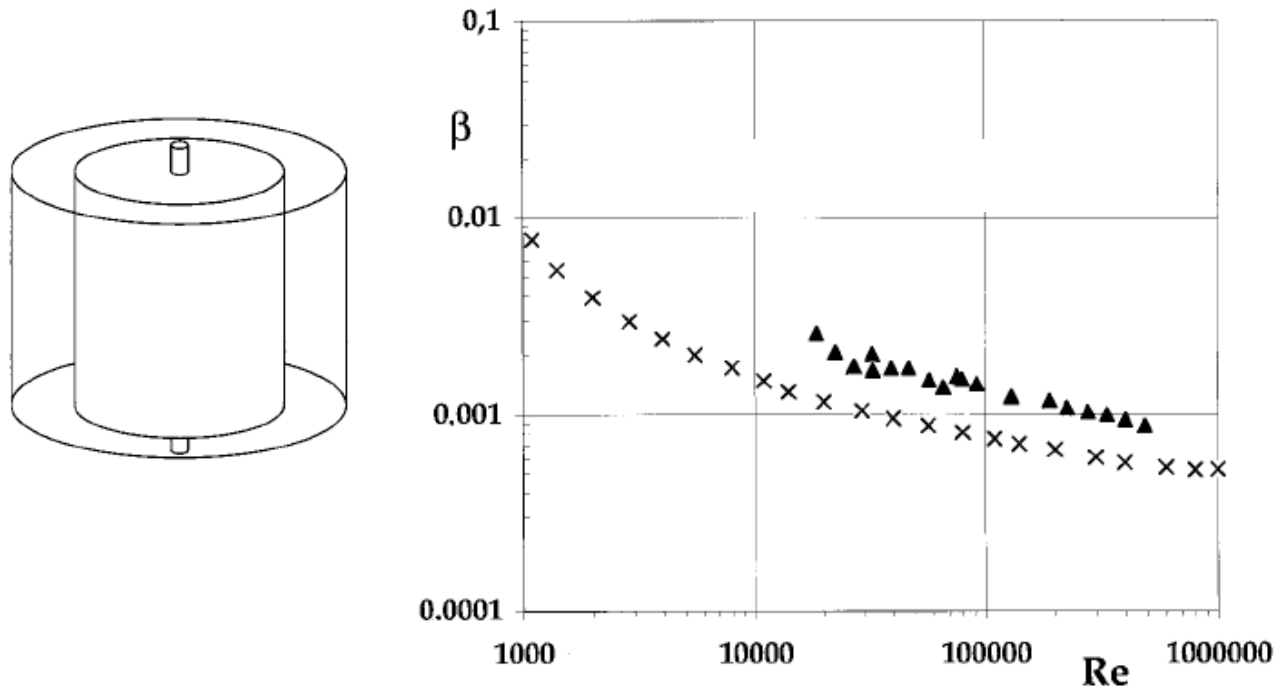


FIG. 5. Couette-Taylor experiments. Logarithmic plots of the nondimensional rates of energy dissipation β_D as a function of the Reynolds number.

J. Fluid Mech. 17 (1963) 405–432.

Heat transport by turbulent convection

By LOUIS N. HOWARD

J. Fluid Mech. 37 (1969) 457–477.

On Howard's upper bound for heat transport by turbulent convection

By F. H. BUSSE

J. Fluid Mech. 41 (1970) 219–240.

Bounds for turbulent shear flow

By F. H. BUSSE

Energy Dissipation in Shear Driven Turbulence

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Variational bounds on energy dissipation in incompressible flows: Shear flow

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PHYSICA D

Improved variational principle for bounds on energy dissipation in turbulent shear flow

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PHYSICA D

Unification of variational principles for turbulent shear flows: the background method of Doering–Constantin and the mean-fluctuation formulation of Howard–Busse

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Variational Bound on Energy Dissipation in Turbulent Shear Flow

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**Improved upper bound on the energy
dissipation rate in plane Couette flow: the
full solution to Busse's problem and the
Constantin–Doering–Hopf problem with
one-dimensional background field**

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Transition to shear-driven turbulence in Couette-Taylor flow

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 (Received 27 March 1992)

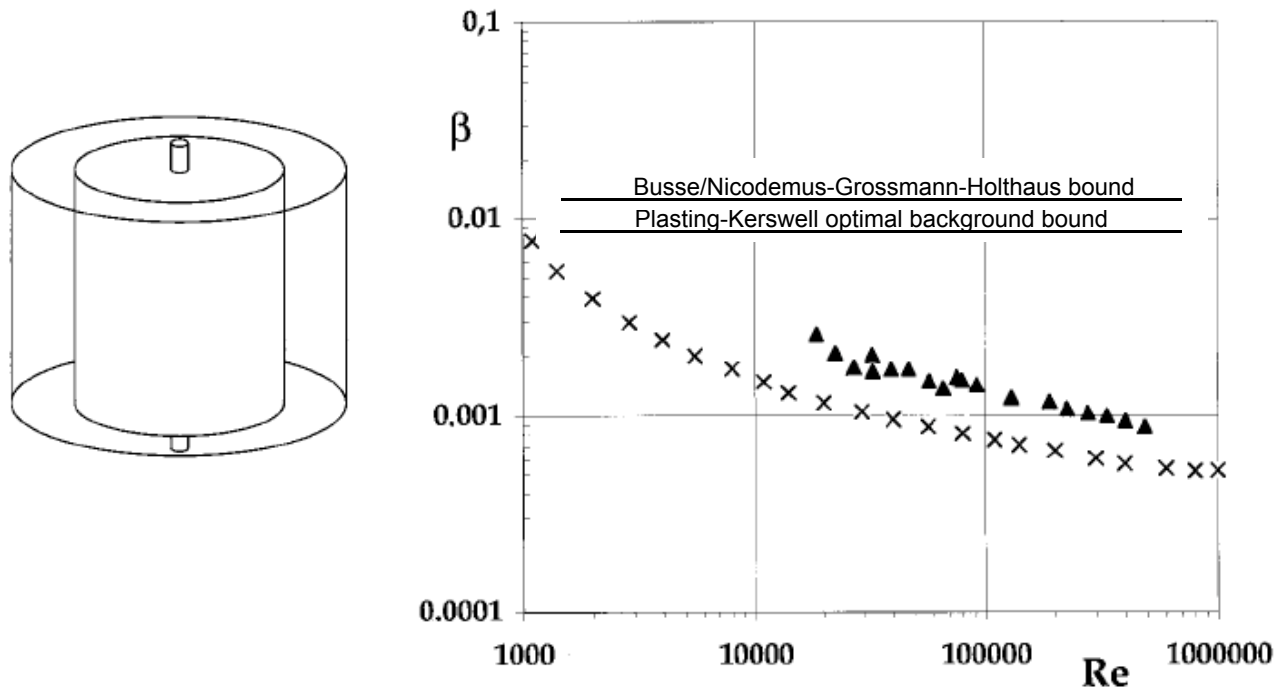


FIG. 5. Couette-Taylor experiments. Logarithmic plots of the nondimensional rates of energy dissipation β_D as a function of the Reynolds number.

Energy injection in closed turbulent flows: Stirring through boundary layers versus inertial stirring

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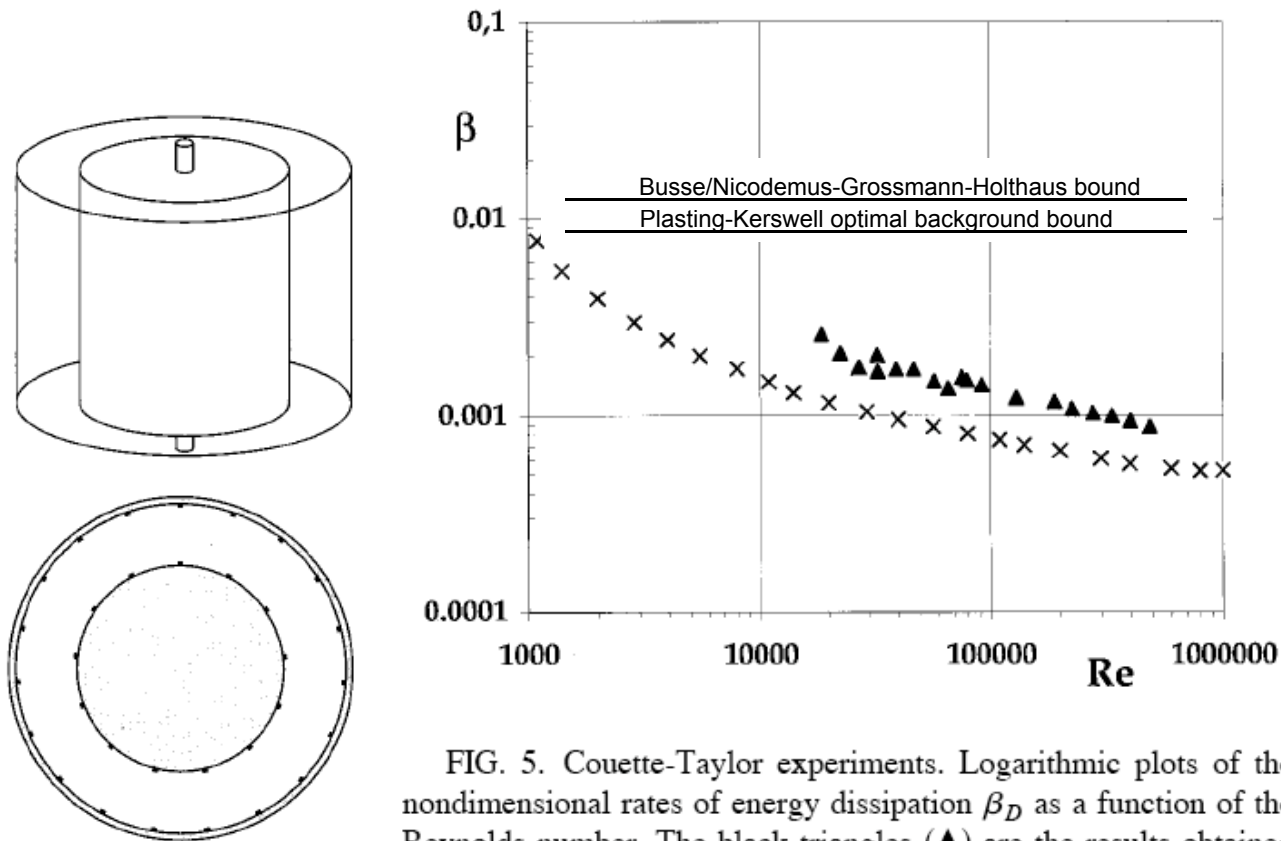


FIG. 5. Couette-Taylor experiments. Logarithmic plots of the nondimensional rates of energy dissipation β_D as a function of the Reynolds number. The black triangles (\blacktriangle) are the results obtained with smooth cylinders, and the open ones (\triangle) correspond to those obtained with the ribbed ones. The crosses (\times) show for comparison the rates of energy injection β_D deduced from the data obtained with smooth cylinders by Lathrop, Finenberg, and Swinney [8].

Smooth and rough boundaries in turbulent Taylor-Couette flow

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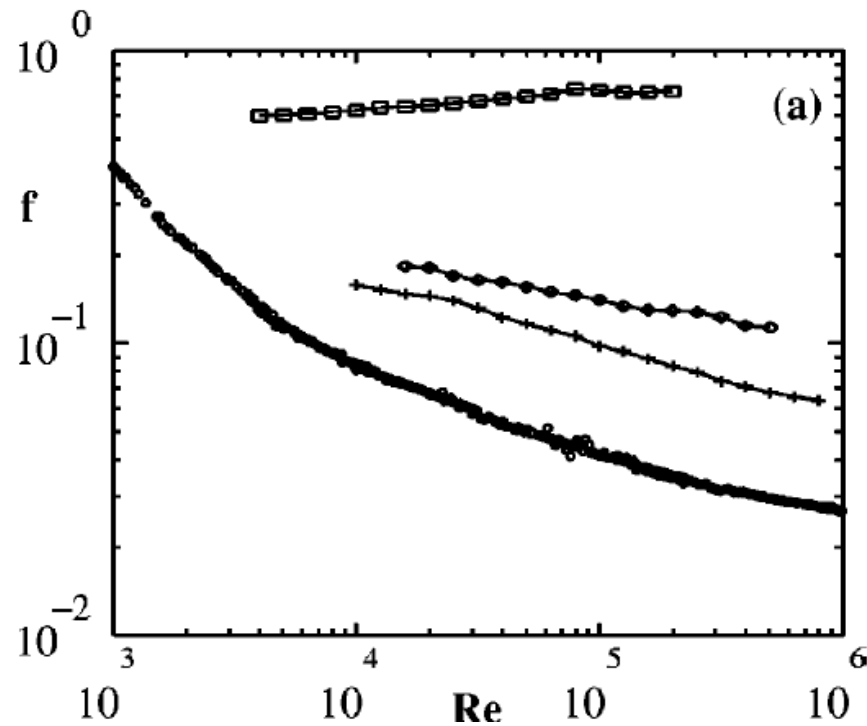


FIG. 3. (a) Skin friction coefficient f vs Reynolds number Re for the four cases (\circ) ss, ($+$) sr, (\diamond) rs, and (\square) rr, bottom to top.

Energy dissipation in a shear layer with suction*

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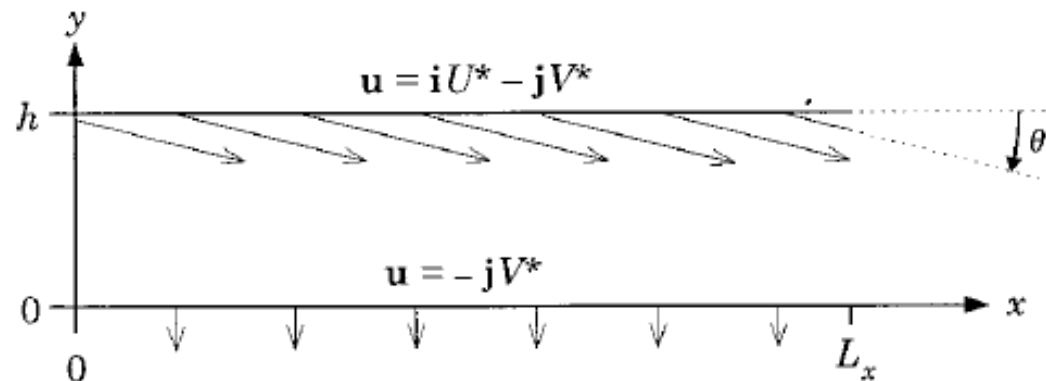


FIG. 1. Sketch of the boundaries and boundary conditions for the flows under consideration.

A simple exact steady solution of the problem is the laminar flow $\mathbf{u}_\ell = U_\ell(y)\mathbf{i} - V^*\mathbf{j}$ with

$$U_\ell(y) = U^* \frac{1 - e^{-V^*y/\nu}}{1 - e^{-\text{Re} \tan \theta}}$$

$$\delta_\ell = \frac{\nu}{V^*} = \frac{h}{\text{Re} \tan \theta}$$

$$\varepsilon = \frac{\nu}{hA} \langle \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|^2 \rangle$$

$$\varepsilon_\ell = \frac{\nu}{h} \int_0^h \left(\frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} \right)^2 dy$$

$$= \frac{U^{*2} V^*}{2h} \frac{1}{\tanh((1/2)\text{Re} \tan \theta)}$$

$$= \frac{U^{*3}}{h} \frac{\tan \theta}{2 \tanh((1/2)\text{Re} \tan \theta)}$$

$$\lim_{\nu \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon_\ell = \frac{\tan \theta}{2} \frac{U^{*3}}{h} \quad (\theta \neq 0).$$

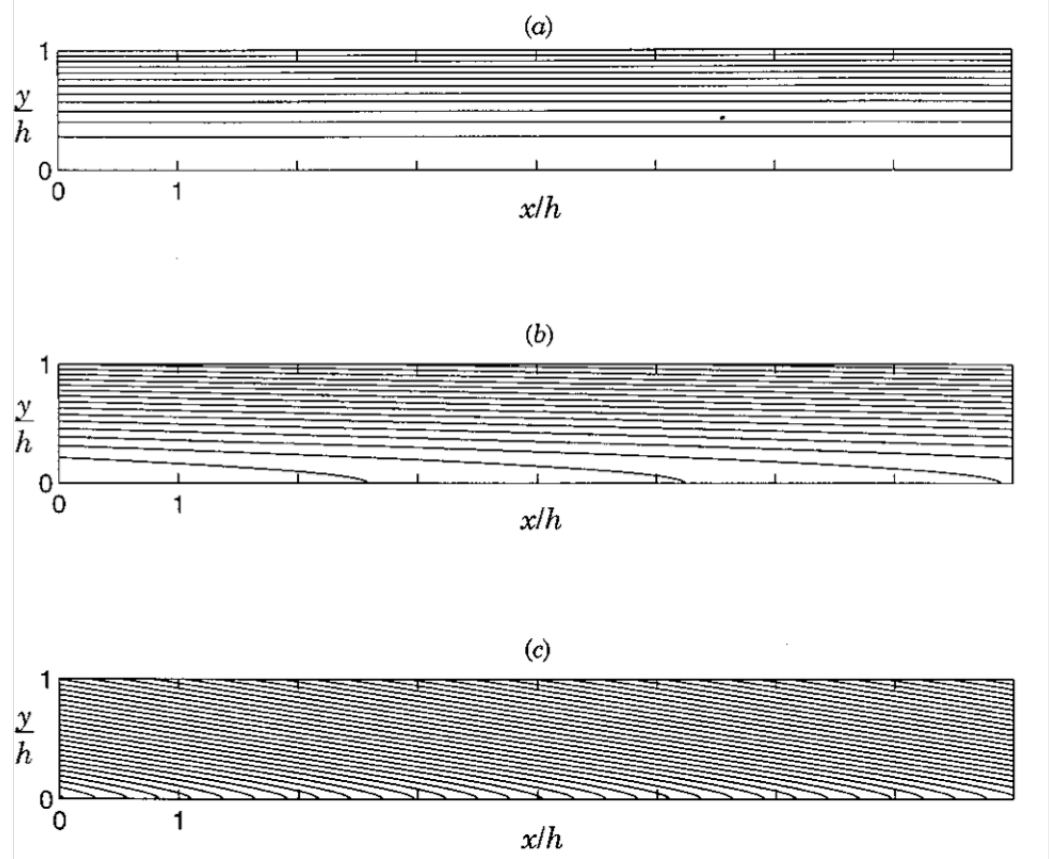


FIG. 2. Streamlines for the steady laminar flow at several parameter values. (a) Plane Couette flow, $\text{Re} = 100$ and $\theta = 0$. (b) $\text{Re} = 99.99$ and $\theta = 0.9^\circ$, with laminar boundary layer thickness $\delta_\ell \approx 0.64h$. (c) $\text{Re} = 98.77$ and $\theta = 9^\circ$, with laminar boundary layer thickness $\delta_\ell \approx 0.064h$.

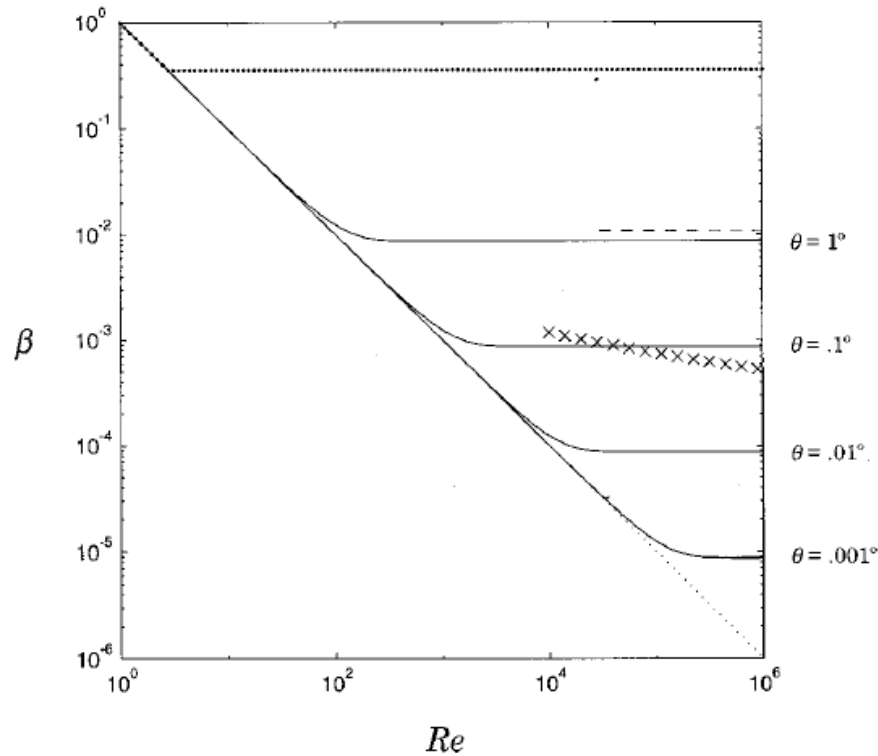


FIG. 6. The dissipation factor $\beta = \varepsilon \times h / U^*{}^3$ vs Reynolds number Re . The discrete data (\cdots) at the top are the rigorous upper bound $\beta_B(Re, \theta)$ in Eq. (5.2) for injection angles $\theta = 1^\circ, 0.1^\circ, 0.01^\circ$, and 0.001° (there is very little sensitivity of the bound to changes in θ at small angles). The dashed line segment (- -) is the best known high Re bound for turbulent Couette flow, $\beta_B(Re, 0) \approx 0.01087$ (from Ref. 26). The crosses (\times) show the fit in Eq. (5.4) to experimental data. The solid lines (-) are, from top to bottom, the dissipation factor in Eq. (5.6) for injection angles $\theta = 1^\circ, 0.1^\circ, 0.01^\circ$, and 0.001° . The lower envelope to the curves is the dissipation factor for plane Couette flow, the only rigorous lower bound available for the dissipation factor for arbitrary injection angles.

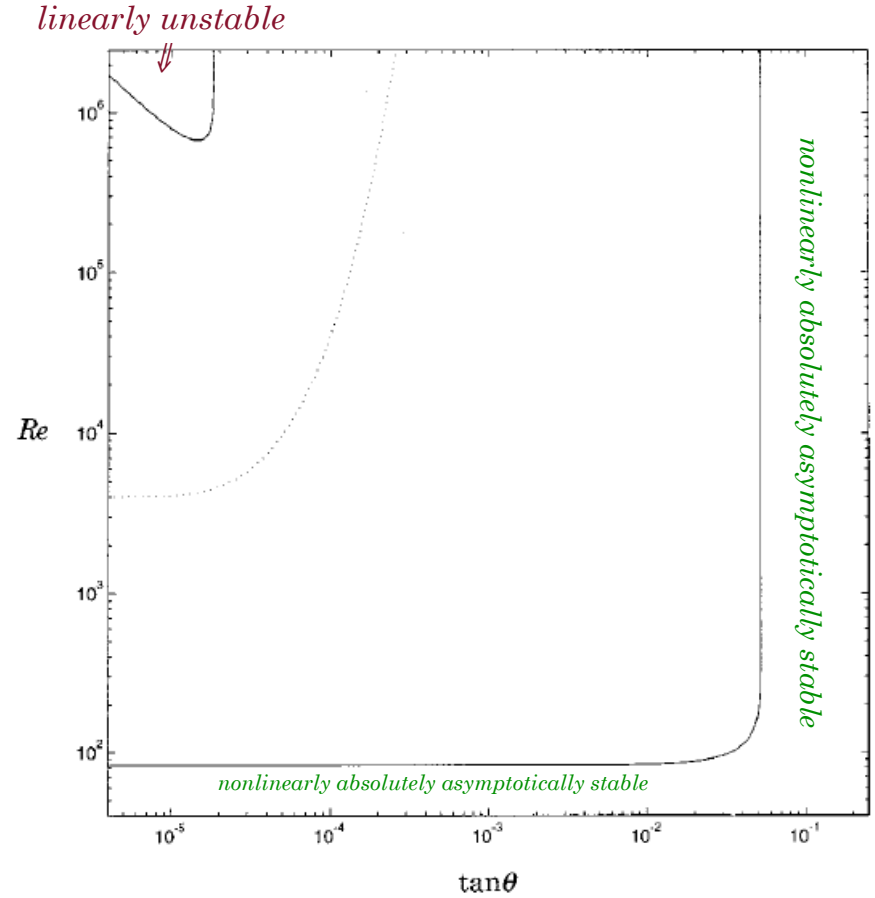


FIG. 5. Summary of the stability portrait in the $Re-\theta$ plane. The steady laminar flow is *absolutely stable* according to the energy method for $Re < 82$ or $\theta > 3^\circ$ (with $\tan \theta \approx 0.05$). The steady laminar flow is *linearly unstable* in the indicated region in the upper left hand corner where $\theta < 0.001^\circ$ (with $\tan \theta \approx 0.0002$) and $Re \geq 700\,000$. The dotted line is a sketch of the conjectured nonlinear stability boundary for the steady laminar flow.

Destabilizing Taylor–Couette flow with suction

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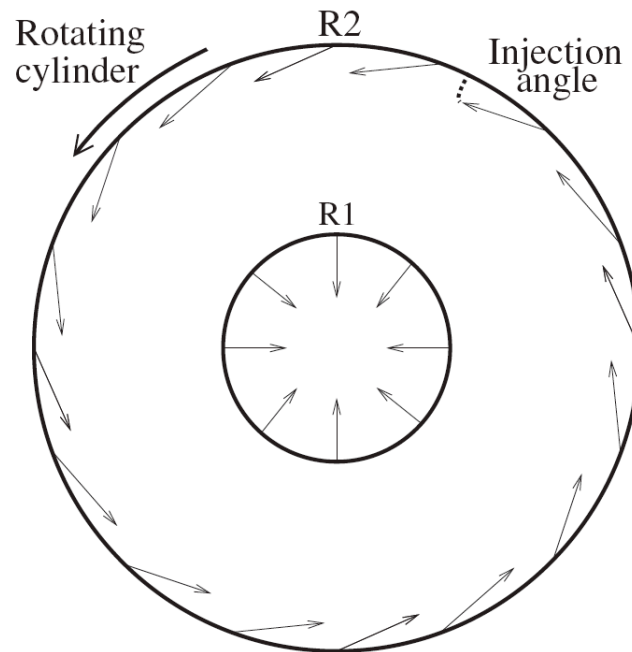
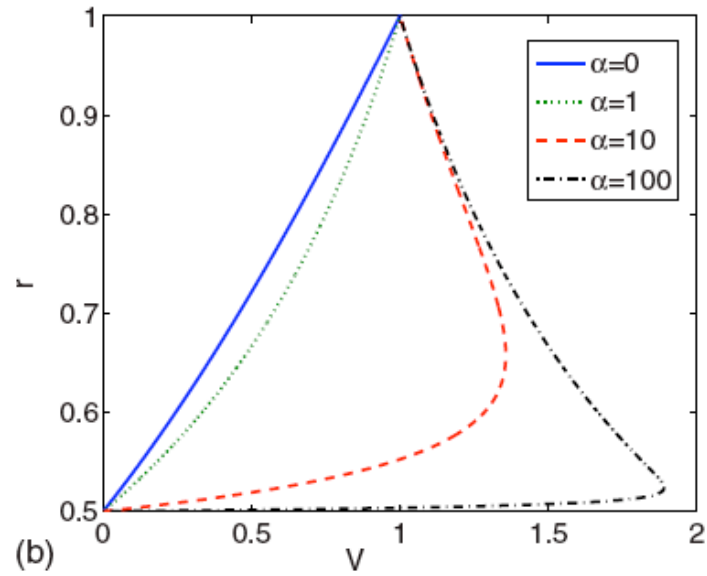
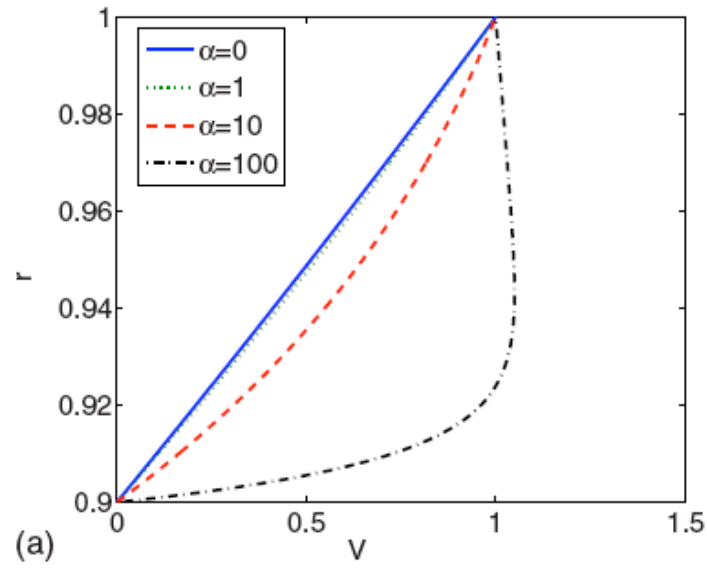


FIG. 1. The outer cylinder rotates at angular velocity Ω . Fluid is injected at the outer boundary with an entry angle $\Theta = \arctan[\varphi/(R_2^2\Omega)]$ and removed uniformly on the surface of the inner cylinder.



$$\alpha = \frac{\text{Re} \tan \Theta}{1 - \eta}$$

FIG. 2. (Color online) Azimuthal velocity profiles for different values of the radial Reynolds number (top: $\eta=0.9$, bottom: $\eta=0.5$).

The geometrical factor is $\eta=R_1/R_2$. When $\eta\rightarrow 1$ we approach the narrow-gap limit where $(R_2-R_1)\ll R_1$, and expect to find results similar to those from the slab geometry—namely, plane Couette flow with suction.

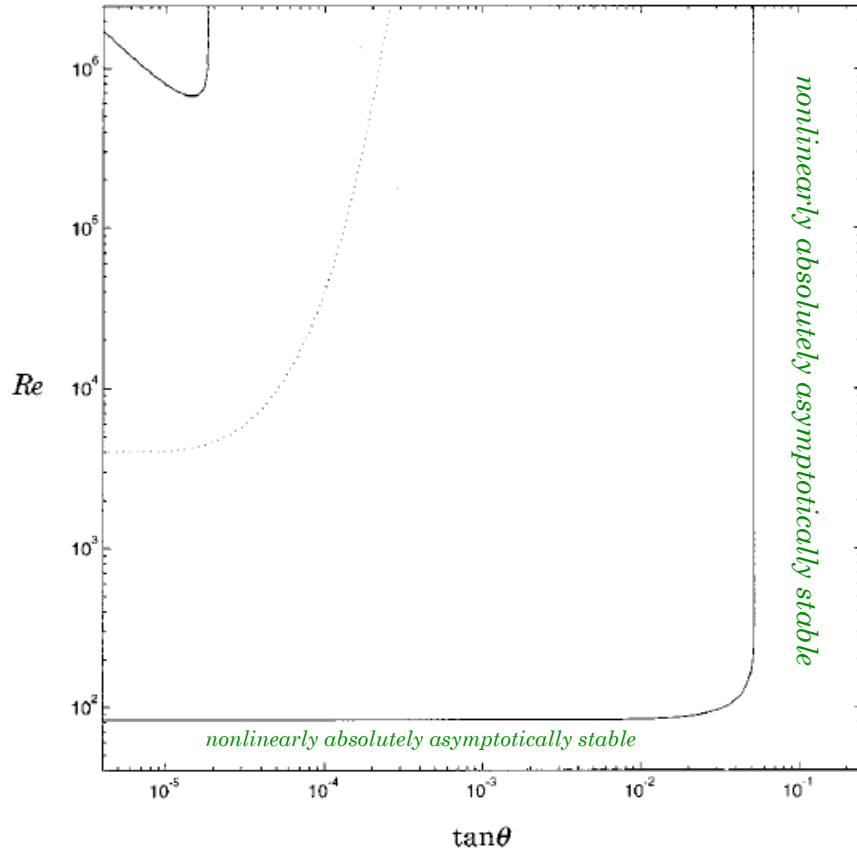


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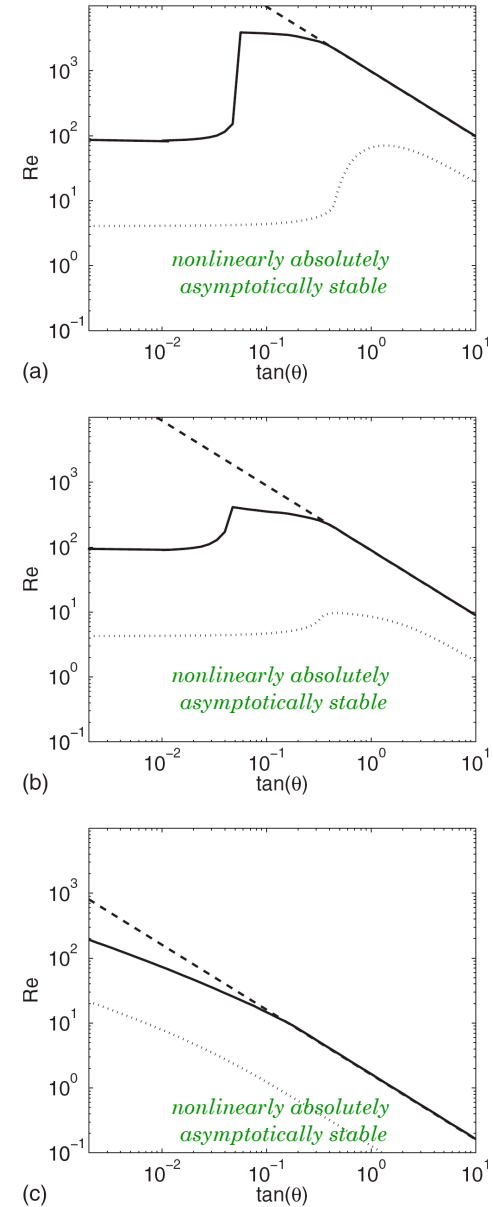



FIG. 9. Marginal energy stability boundary for different values of η (top: $\eta=0.99$, middle: $\eta=0.9$, bottom: $\eta=0.02$). The solid line is the numerically computed energy stability boundary, the dashed line is the upper bound Re_1 on the location of that curve, and the dotted line is the lower bound Re_2 .

Some questions & challenges:

- Does steady shear-suction *minimize* dissipation?
- \$2⁶ prize problem = **\$64** question!
- Does $\varepsilon = \mathcal{O}(1)$ as $\text{Re} \rightarrow \infty$ with flux at boundaries?
- \$2⁷ prize problem = **\$128** question!
- How do we bound the turbulent drag on a body?
- 
- Other turbulent transport & mixing problems ...

Thanks for your attention!