

# Fluctuations and scaling in turbulent transport and mixing

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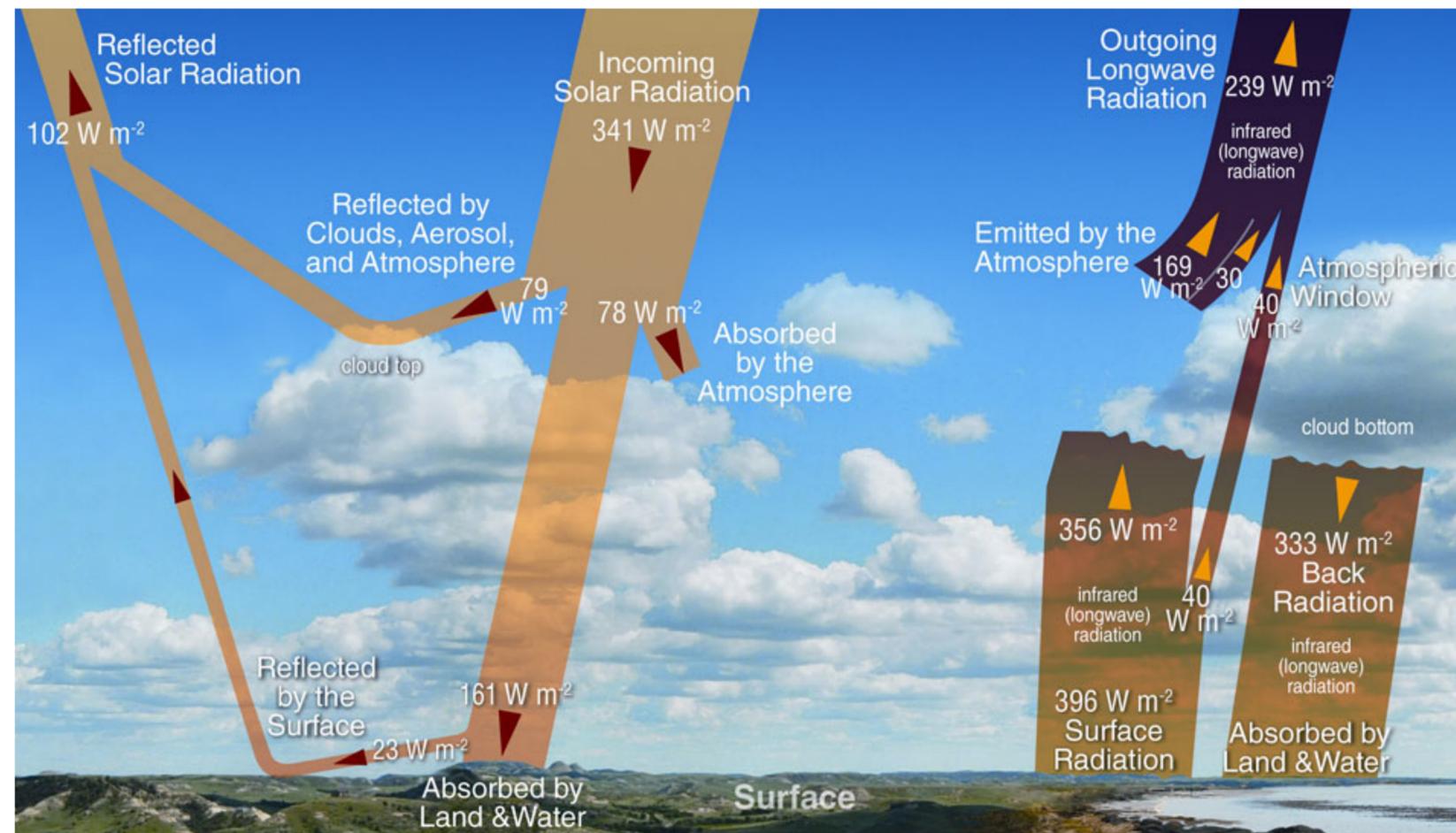
Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, Nice, France

# Influence of aerosols on climate

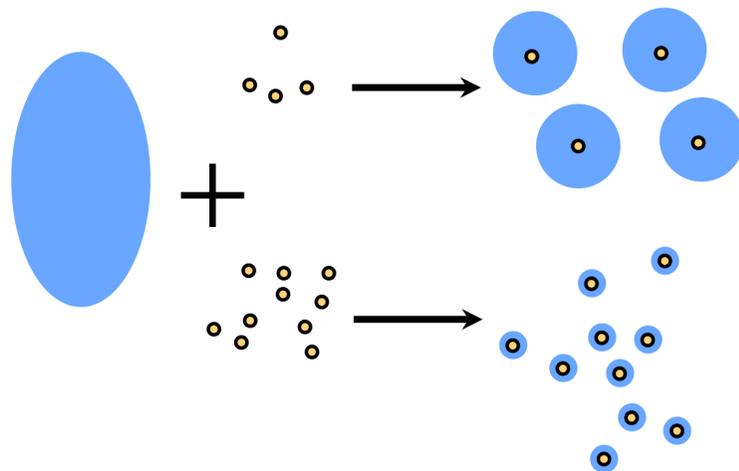
## ► Direct effects

Albedo, Greenhouse

- Lifetime?
- Spatial distribution?
- Scattering properties?

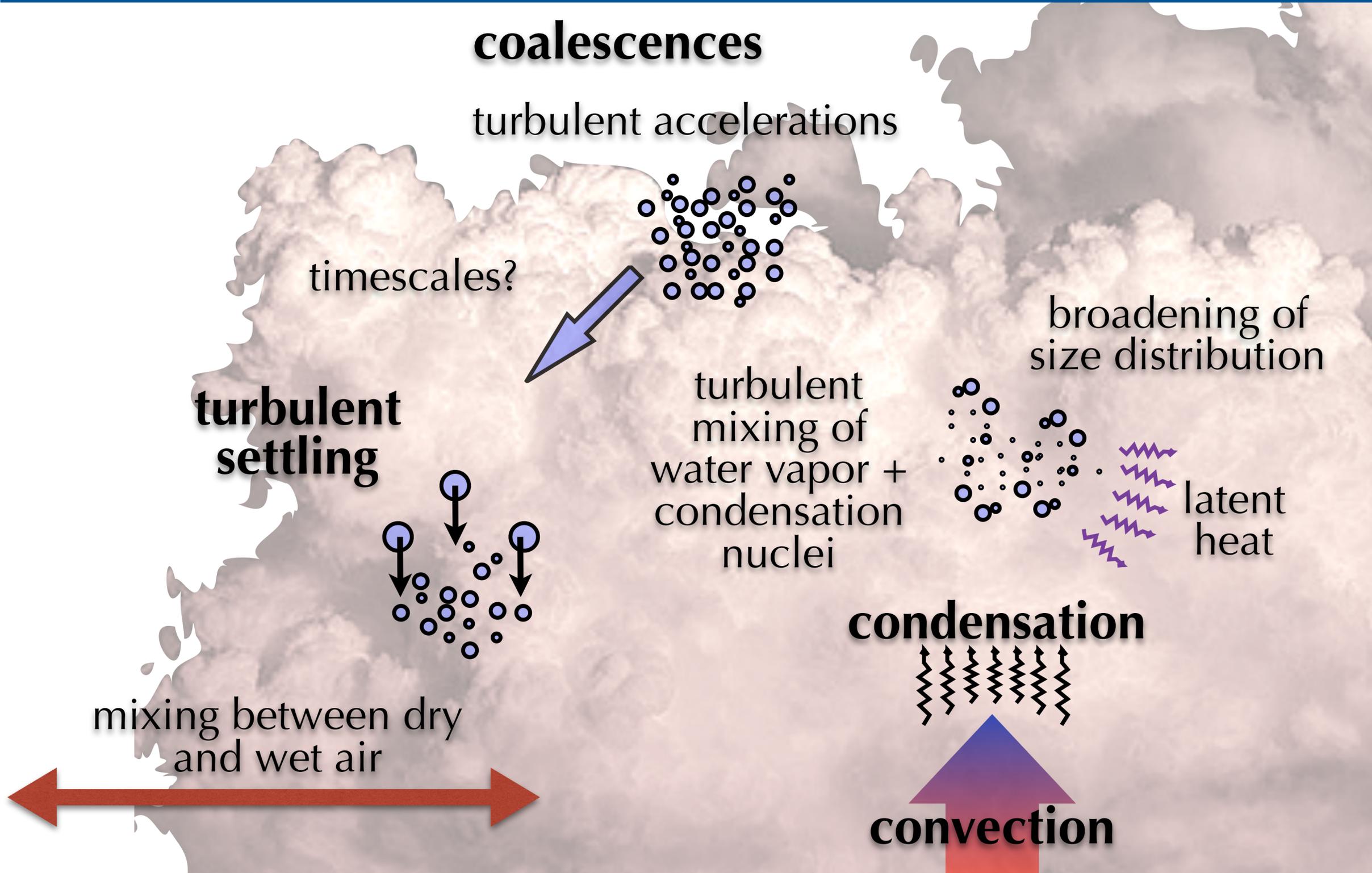


► Indirect effects related to their role as condensation nuclei in clouds



- Influence on cloud droplet size distributions?
- Repercussions on the lifecycle of clouds?
- Consequences on global circulation?

# Multi-physics of warm clouds



**Turbulent fluctuations are ubiquitous!**

# Planet formation

protostar nebula

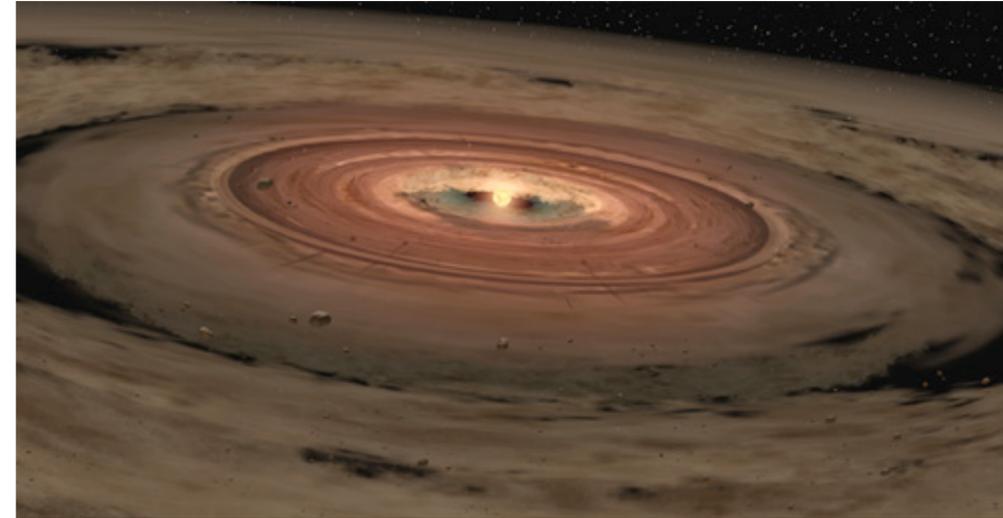


gravitational  
collapse



migration toward  
the equatorial plane

circumstellar disk

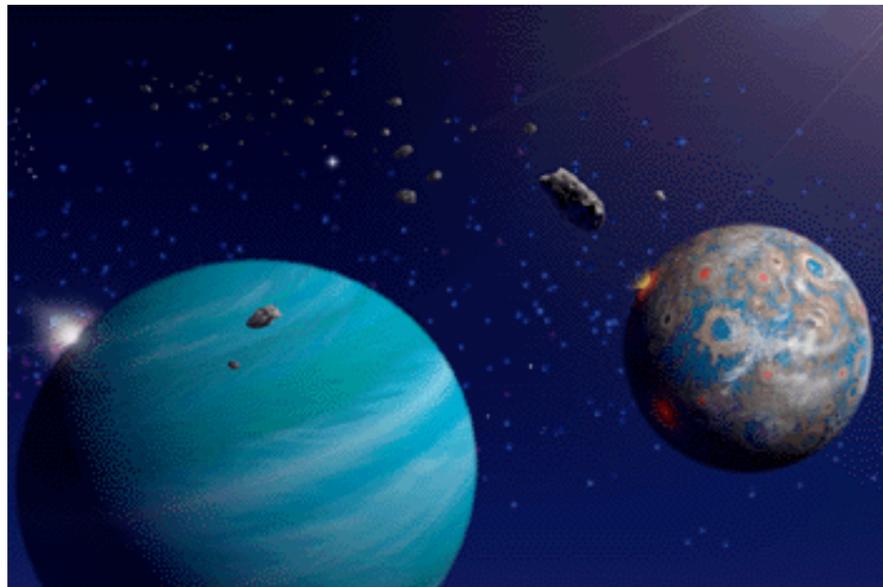


Development of  
**turbulence** in the gas  
motion + **accretion**  
of dust particles



creation of  
medium-size  
bodies (mm to m)  
**Time scales?**

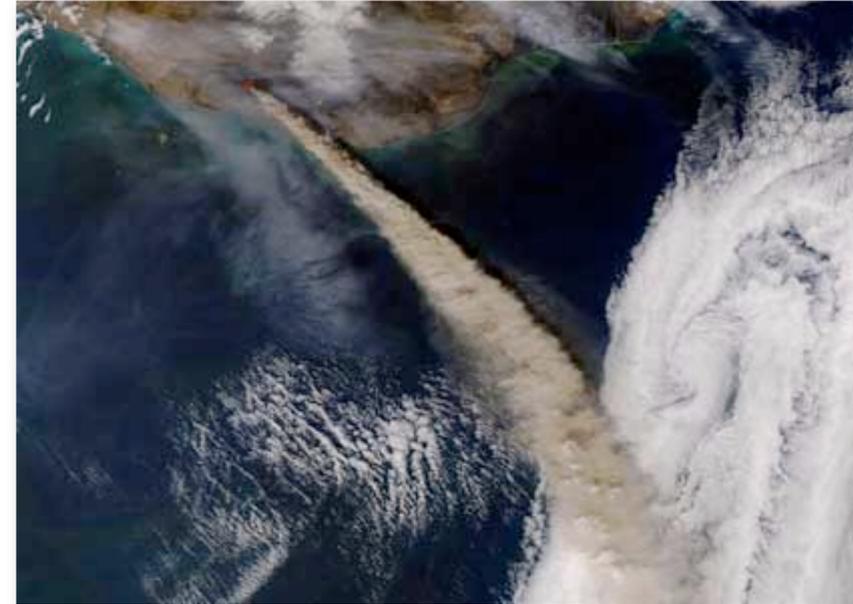
planetary system



gravitational  
interactions +  
collisions between  
large bodies  
(1m to moons)



# Atmospheric dispersion



- ▶ Fluctuations are important for risk assessments
- ▶ **Models/Observations:** space and/or time averages

# Content

## ▶ **Lecture 1: Richardson 2/3 scaling**

- Turbulent transport and concentration fluctuations
- Relation with Lagrangian relative motion
- Spontaneous stochasticity and dissipative anomaly
- Richardson law / scaling
- Models for relative dispersion

## ▶ **Lecture 2: Anomalous scaling laws**

- Intermittency and fronts
- Kraichnan model and zero modes
- Coalescences of droplets
- Breakdown of kinetic models

# Length and time scales of turbulence

► Incompressible Navier–Stokes equation

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho f} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

↑
↑
↑
↑

transfer between scales
dissipation
injection
incompressibility

**Reynolds number:**

$$Re = \frac{u \ell}{\nu} \gg 1$$

measures how weak is viscous dissipation

$$Re = (L/\eta)^{4/3}$$

$L$  scale of injection

$\eta$  dissipative scale (Kolmogorov)

**“inertial range”**

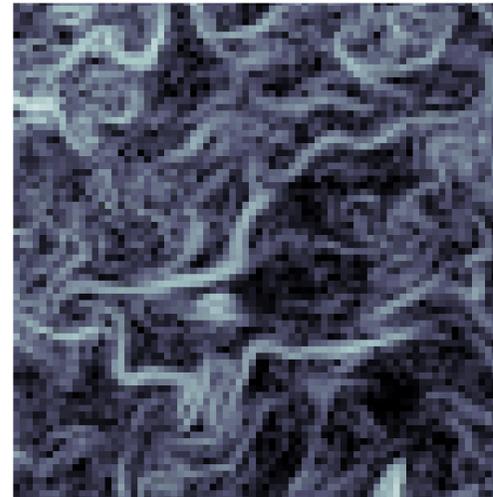
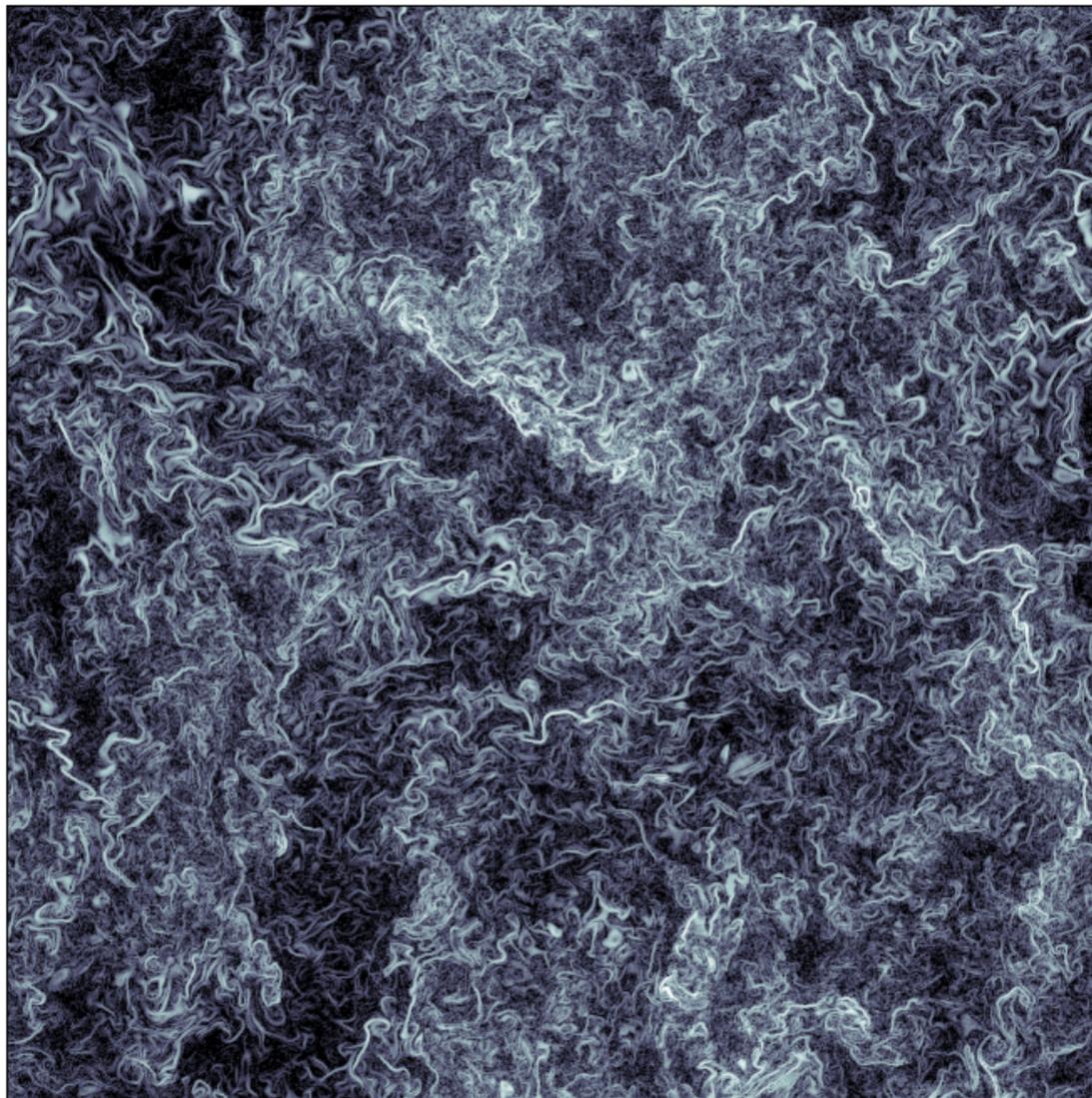
$$\eta \ll \ell \ll L$$

Energy cascades downscale with a  $\approx$  constant rate  $\varepsilon$

Kolmogorov 1941 scaling

$$\delta_\ell u = |u(x + \ell) - u(x)| \sim (\varepsilon \ell)^{1/3}$$

$$\tau_\ell = \ell / \delta_\ell u \sim \varepsilon^{-1/3} \ell^{2/3}$$



$\approx \eta$

$\approx L$

# Advection-diffusion equation

- ▶ Concentration field: passive scalar

$$\partial_t \theta + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \theta = \kappa \nabla^2 \theta + \Phi$$

advection by a  
prescribed velocity field

diffusion

source

- ▶ **Batchelor scale:**

$$\ell_B = \eta \sqrt{\kappa / \nu}$$

$\eta = \varepsilon^{-1/4} \nu^{3/4}$  Kolmogorov viscous dissipative scale

$\nu$  fluid kinematic viscosity

$\varepsilon$  kinetic energy dissipation rate

ozone in air  $\kappa \approx 0.14 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \Rightarrow \ell_B \approx 0.8 \eta \approx 0.8 \text{ mm}$

1  $\mu\text{m}$  aerosol  $\kappa \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1} \Rightarrow \ell_B \approx 10^{-3} \eta \approx 1 \mu\text{m}$

# Taylor diffusion

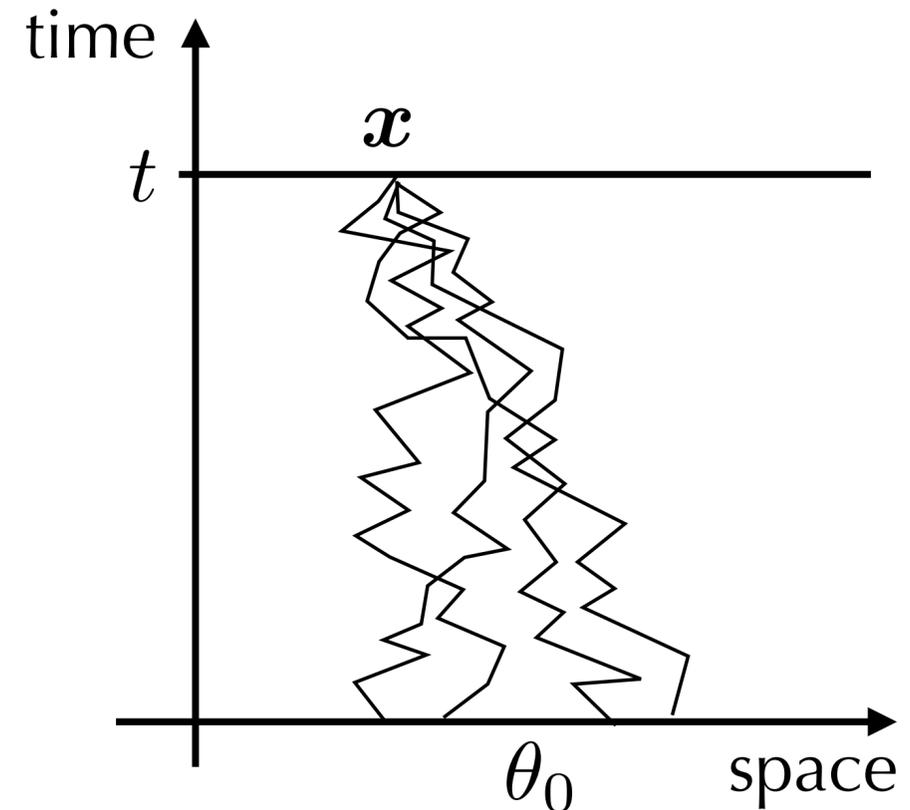
$$\partial_t \theta + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \theta = \kappa \nabla^2 \theta \quad \theta(\mathbf{x}, 0) = \theta_0(\mathbf{x})$$

- ▶ Tracers = characteristics of the advection equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) + \sqrt{2\kappa} \boldsymbol{\eta}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta(\mathbf{x}, t) = \langle \theta_0(\mathbf{x}(0)) \mid \mathbf{u} \rangle_{\kappa}$$

- ▶ **Turbulent diffusion** (Taylor 1921)



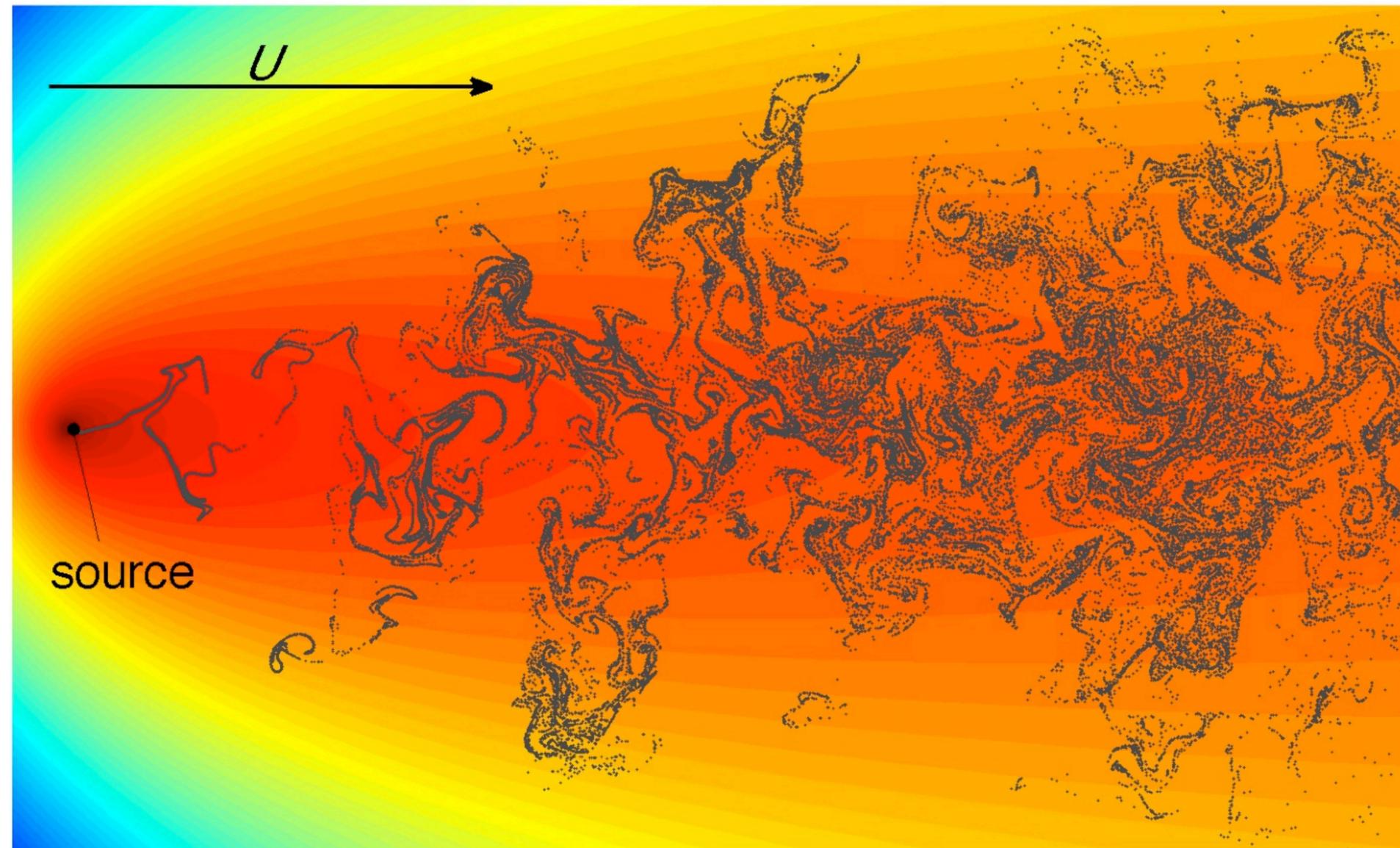
Mean-field description for the averaged concentration

$$\langle |\mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{x}(0)|^2 \rangle = \int_0^t \int_0^t \langle \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}(s), s) \cdot \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}(s'), s') \rangle ds ds' + 2\kappa t \simeq 2(T_L u_{\text{rms}}^2 + \kappa) t$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_t \langle \theta \rangle = -\nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{u} \theta \rangle + \kappa \nabla^2 \langle \theta \rangle \approx (\kappa_{\text{eff}} + \kappa) \nabla^2 \langle \theta \rangle$$

# Mean vs. meandering plumes

- ▶ Averaged concentration is well described by eddy diffusivity



- ▶ PDFs have tails rather far from Gaussian
- ▶ Spatial correlations relates to relative motion of tracers

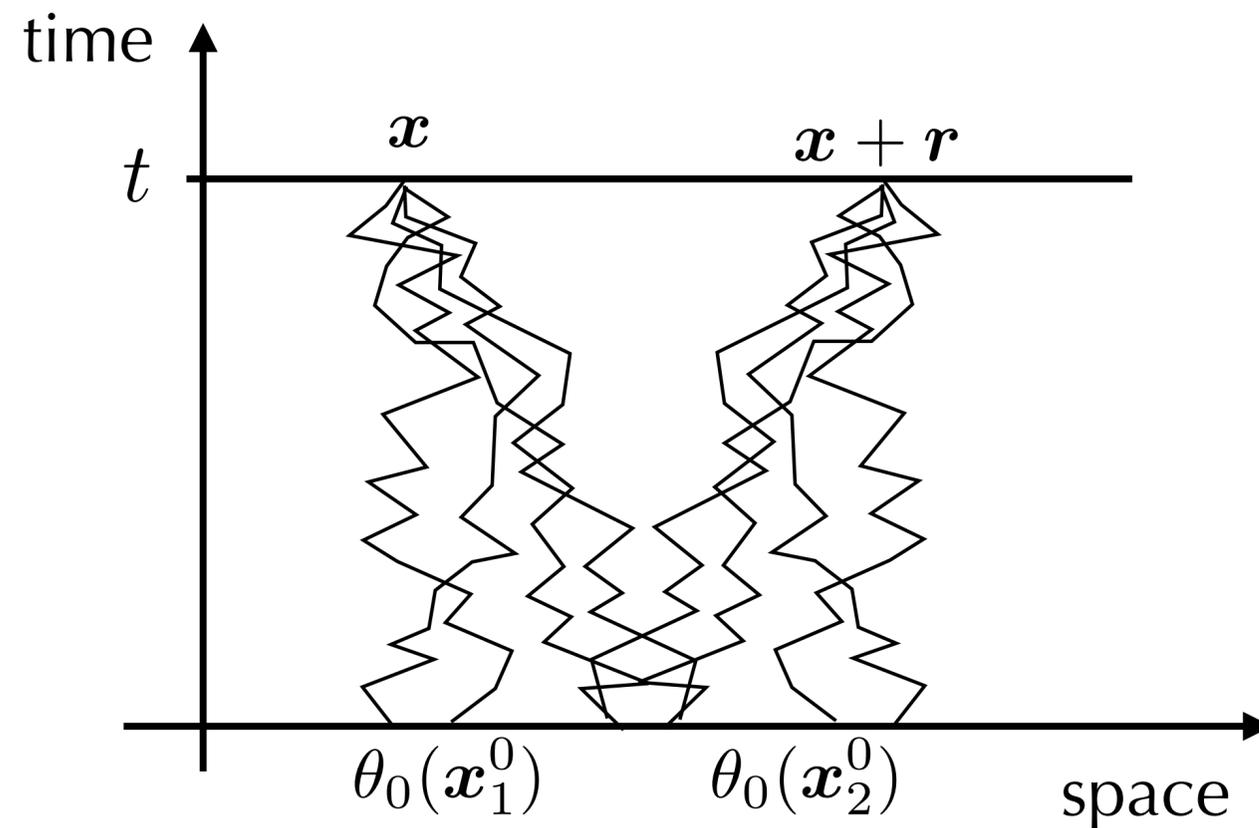
# Fluctuations and relative dispersion

- Spatial correlations of the concentration

$$\langle \theta(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}, t) \theta(\mathbf{x}, t) \rangle = \iint \langle \theta_0(\mathbf{x}_1^0) \theta_0(\mathbf{x}_2^0) \rangle p_2(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{x}, t | \mathbf{x}_1^0, \mathbf{x}_2^0, 0) d\mathbf{x}_1^0 d\mathbf{x}_2^0$$

$p_2(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, t | \mathbf{x}_1^0, \mathbf{x}_2^0, 0)$  = joint transition probability density  
of two tracers  $\mathbf{x}_1(t)$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2(t)$

Sawford, *Ann. Rev. Fluid Mech.* 2001



# Spontaneous stochasticity

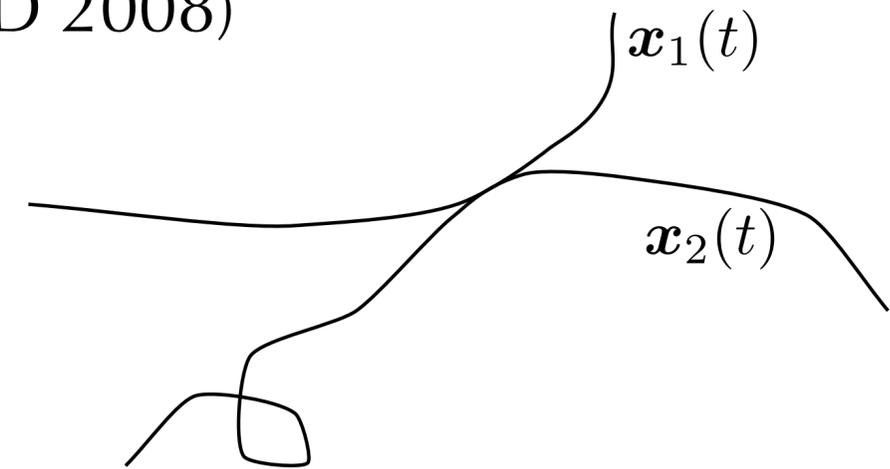
- Diffusion is not the unique source of randomness

(Bernard *et al.*, *J. Stat. Phys.* 1998; Eyink, *Physica D* 2008)

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

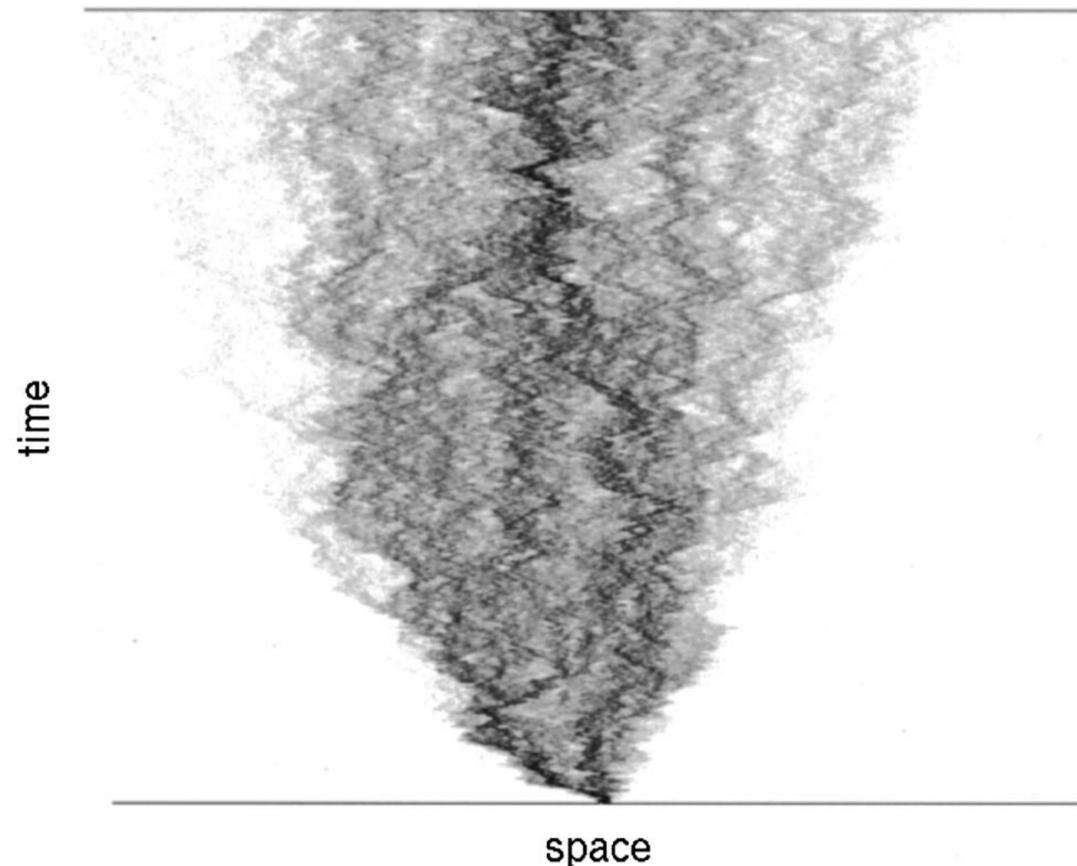
$$|\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}', t')| \sim |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|^h$$

$h = 1/3 < 1 \Rightarrow$  not Lipschitz  $\Rightarrow$  non-uniqueness



$$\kappa \rightarrow 0, \nu \rightarrow 0$$

$$p_2(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, t | \mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_0, 0) \neq \delta^d(\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2)$$



Turbulent mixing is infinitely more efficient than any chaotic flow!

$$|\mathbf{x}_1(t) - \mathbf{x}_2(t)| \simeq |\mathbf{x}_1(0) - \mathbf{x}_2(0)| e^{\lambda t}$$

# Dissipative anomaly

► Scalar dissipation

Larchevêque & Lesieur, *J. Méc.* 1981

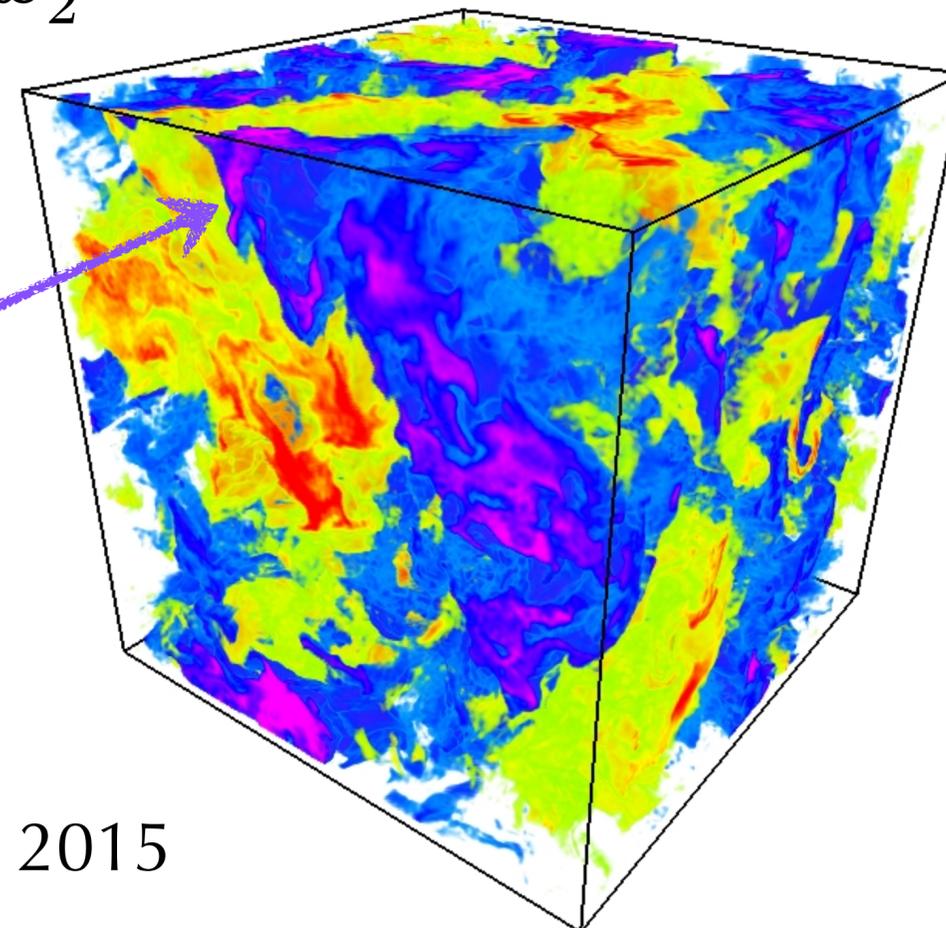
Nelkin & Kerr, *PoF* 1981 ; Thomson, *JFM* 1996

$$\varepsilon_\theta = -\kappa \langle (\nabla \theta)^2 \rangle \rightarrow \text{const} \quad \text{when } \kappa, \nu \rightarrow 0 \text{ with fixed } Pr$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \langle \theta(\mathbf{x}, t)^2 \rangle = \iint \langle \theta_0(\mathbf{x}_1^0) \theta_0(\mathbf{x}_2^0) \rangle \times \\ \partial_t p_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}, t | \mathbf{x}_1^0, \mathbf{x}_2^0, 0) d\mathbf{x}_1^0 d\mathbf{x}_2^0$$

Backward motion

Fronts



► Relation with the turbulent anomalous dissipation of kinetic energy?

Burgers equation: Eyink & Drivas, *J. Stat. Phys.* 2015

# Pair dispersion: ballistic regime

- ▶ Statistics of the two-point motion  $\mathbf{R}(t) = \mathbf{x}_1(t) - \mathbf{x}_2(t)$   
 $\langle \cdot \rangle_{r_0}$  conditioned on a fixed initial distance  $|\mathbf{R}(0)| = r_0$

- ▶ **Batchelor regime**

Batchelor, *Proc. Camb. Phil. Soc.* 1952

Short-time expansion:  $\mathbf{R}(t) = \mathbf{R}(0) + t \delta \mathbf{u} + \frac{t^2}{2} \delta \mathbf{D}_t \mathbf{u} + O(t^3)$

$$\delta \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_1(0), 0) - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_2(0), 0), \quad D_t \mathbf{u} = \partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}$$

$$\langle |\mathbf{R}(t) - \mathbf{R}(0)|^2 \rangle_{r_0} = t^2 S_2(r_0) + t^3 \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot \delta \mathbf{D}_t \mathbf{u} \rangle + O(t^4)$$

$$S_2(r_0) = \langle |\delta \mathbf{u}|^2 \rangle \sim (\varepsilon r_0)^{2/3} \quad \langle \delta \mathbf{u} \cdot D_t \mathbf{u} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \langle |\delta \mathbf{u}|^2 \rangle = -2\varepsilon$$

- ▶ Crossover time  $t_0 = \frac{S_2(r_0)}{2\varepsilon}$

**Ballistic separation for**  $t \ll t_0 \sim \varepsilon^{-1/3} r_0^{2/3}$

# Richardson–Obukhov law

- ▶ Behavior for times larger than  $t_0$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{R}}{dt} = \delta\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{R}) \sim (\varepsilon|\mathbf{R}|)^{1/3}$$

## Explosive separation

$$\langle |\mathbf{R}(t)|^2 \rangle_{r_0} \sim g \varepsilon t^3$$

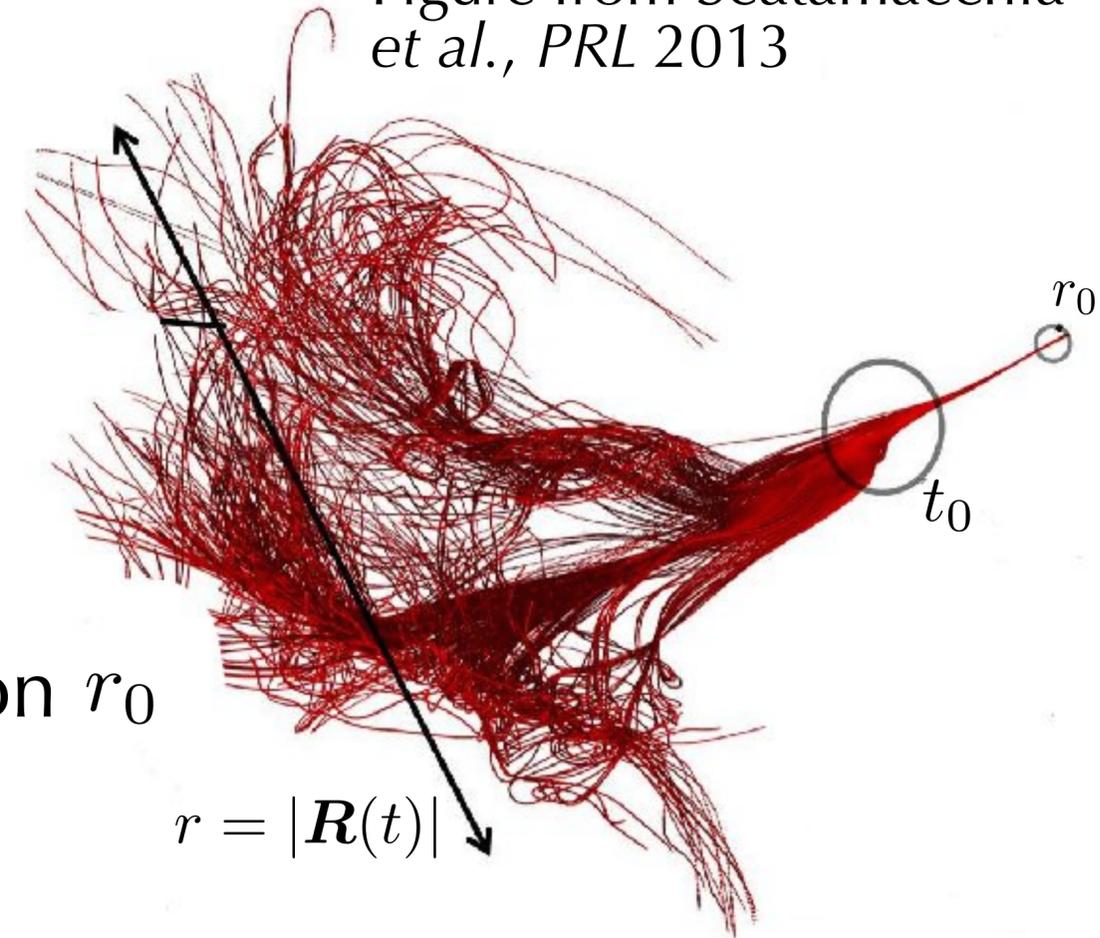
for  $t_0 \ll t \ll T_L$

Independent of the initial separation  $r_0$

Richardson, *Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.* 1926

Obukhov, *Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR* 1941

Figure from Scatamacchia  
*et al.*, *PRL* 2013



- ▶ Scaling regime?

$$r \sim \varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2} \text{ suggests } p_2(r, t | r_0, 0) \sim \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}} \Psi\left(\frac{r}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}}\right) \text{ for } t \gg t_0$$

Difficult to observe numerically and experimentally because of the large temporal scale separation that is required:  $\tau_\eta \ll t_0 \ll t \ll T_L$

Review by Salazar & Collins  
*Ann. Rev. Fluid Mech.* 2009

$\Rightarrow$  sub-leading terms? Mechanisms?

# Numerics

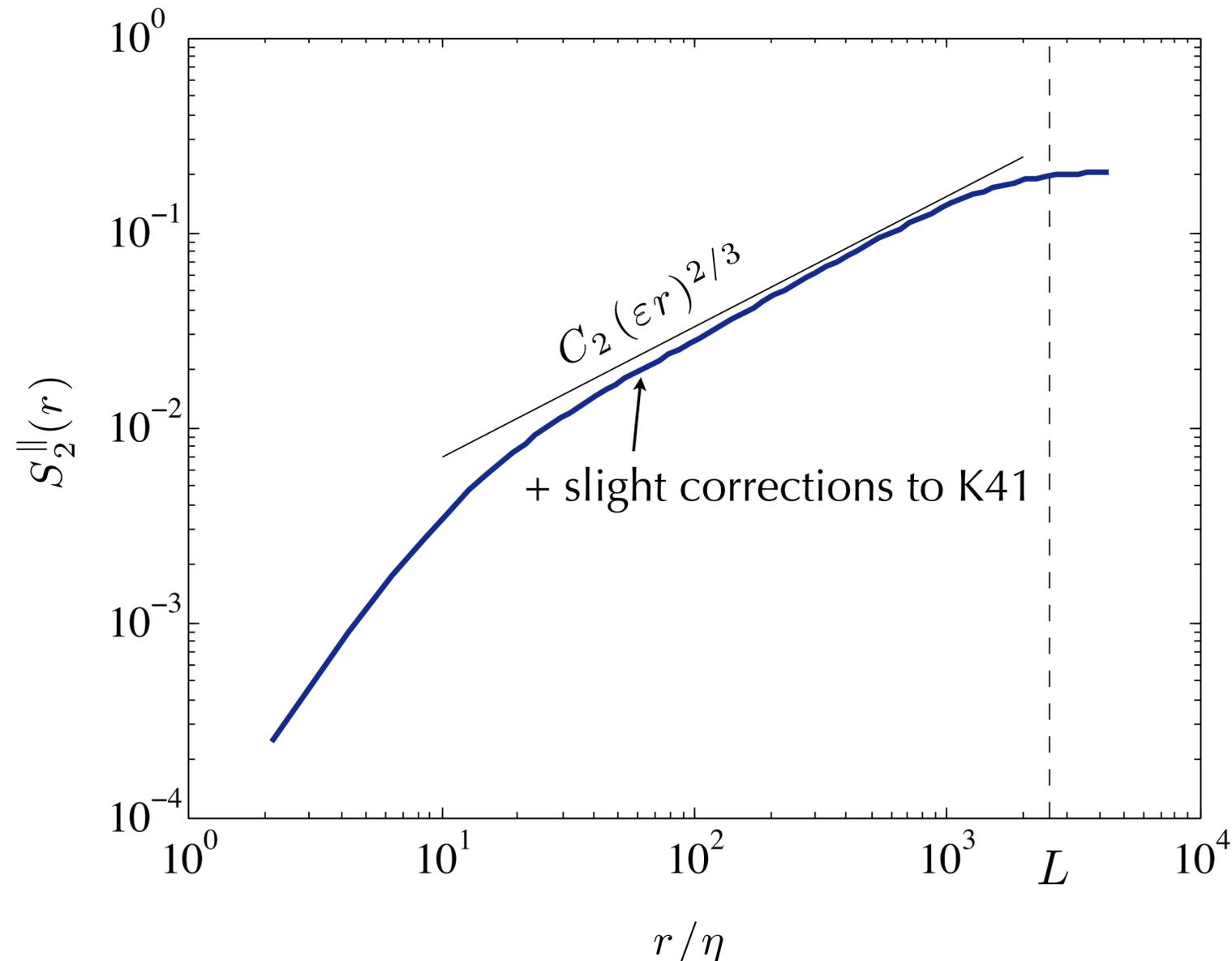
*LaTu*: MPI pseudo-spectral solver (Homann et al. 2007)

$R_\lambda$	$\nu$	$\eta$	$\tau_\eta$	$L$	$T_L$	$N^3$
730	$10^{-5}$	$7.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	0.05	1.85	9.6	$4096^3$

Incompressible NS +  
large-scale forcing

+  $10^7$  Lagrangian  
trajectories

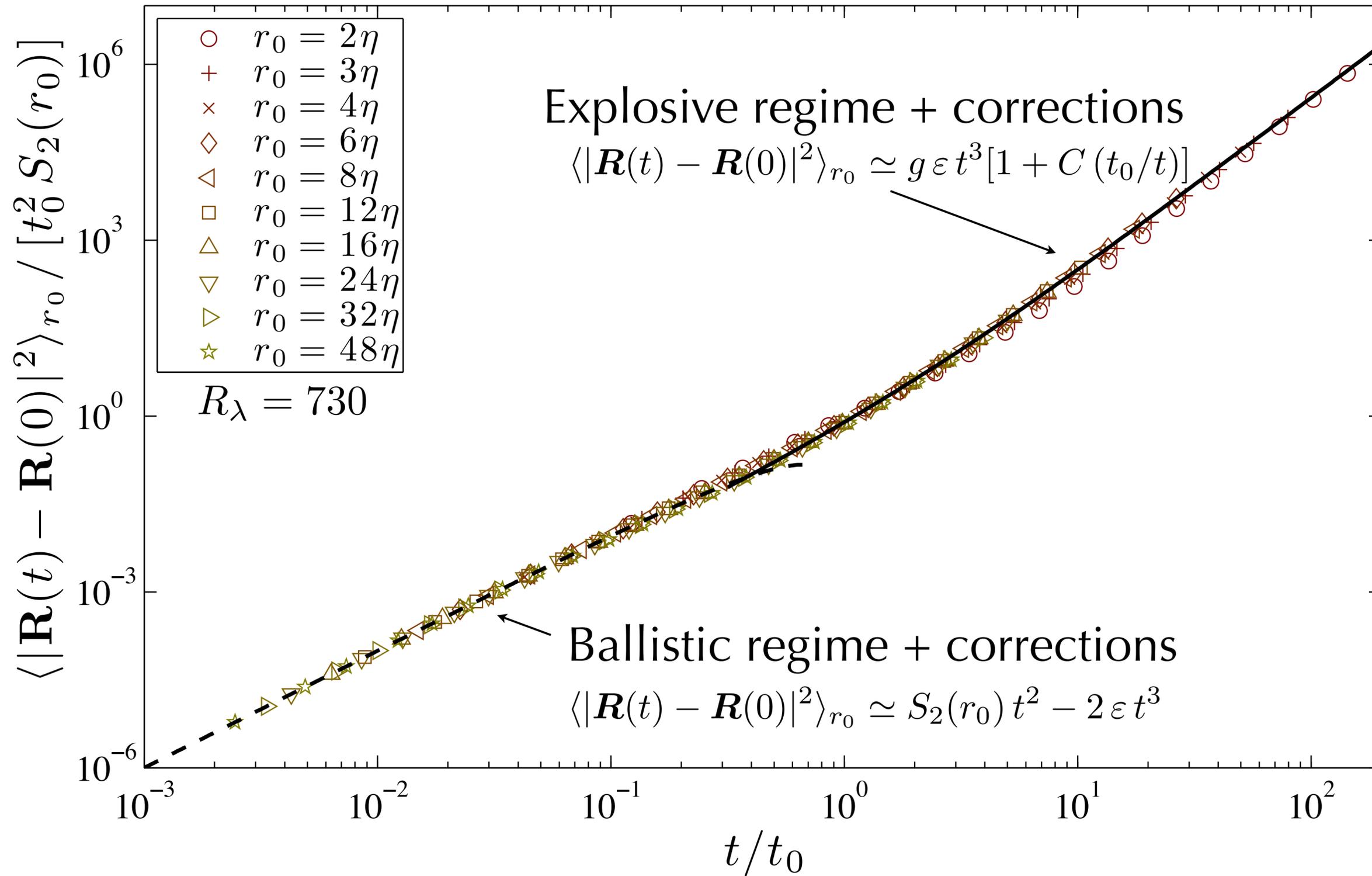
65 536 processes  
on BlueGene/P



 **JÜLICH**  
FORSCHUNGSZENTRUM

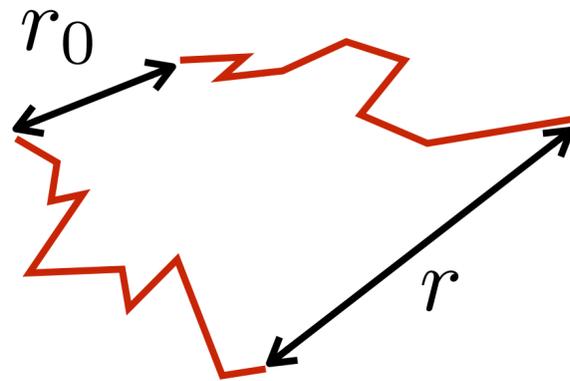


# Transition Ballistic/Explosive



# Richardson diffusion

**Assumption:** velocity differences **uncorrelated**  $\Rightarrow$  separation diffuses



Transition probability  $p_2(r, t | r_0, 0)$

$$\partial_t p_2 = \nabla \cdot (K(r) \nabla p_2)$$

+ K41 (Obukhov)  $K(r) \sim \varepsilon^{1/3} r^{4/3}$

$$\Rightarrow p_2(r, t | r_0, 0) \propto \frac{r^2}{t^{9/2}} e^{-C r^{2/3} / (\varepsilon t)} \quad \text{and} \quad \langle |\mathbf{R}(t)|^2 \rangle_{r_0} \sim g \varepsilon t^3$$

Formalized for Kraichnan model: Gaussian velocity with correlation

$$\langle u^i(\mathbf{x}, t) u^j(\mathbf{x}', t') \rangle = \delta(t - t') [2D_0 \delta^{ij} - d^{ij}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')] ]$$

$$d^{ij}(\mathbf{r}) = D_1 r^\xi [(d - 1 + \xi) \delta^{ij} - \xi r^i r^j / r^2]$$

see Falkovich,  
Gawedzki, Vergassola,  
*Rev. Mod. Phys.* 2001

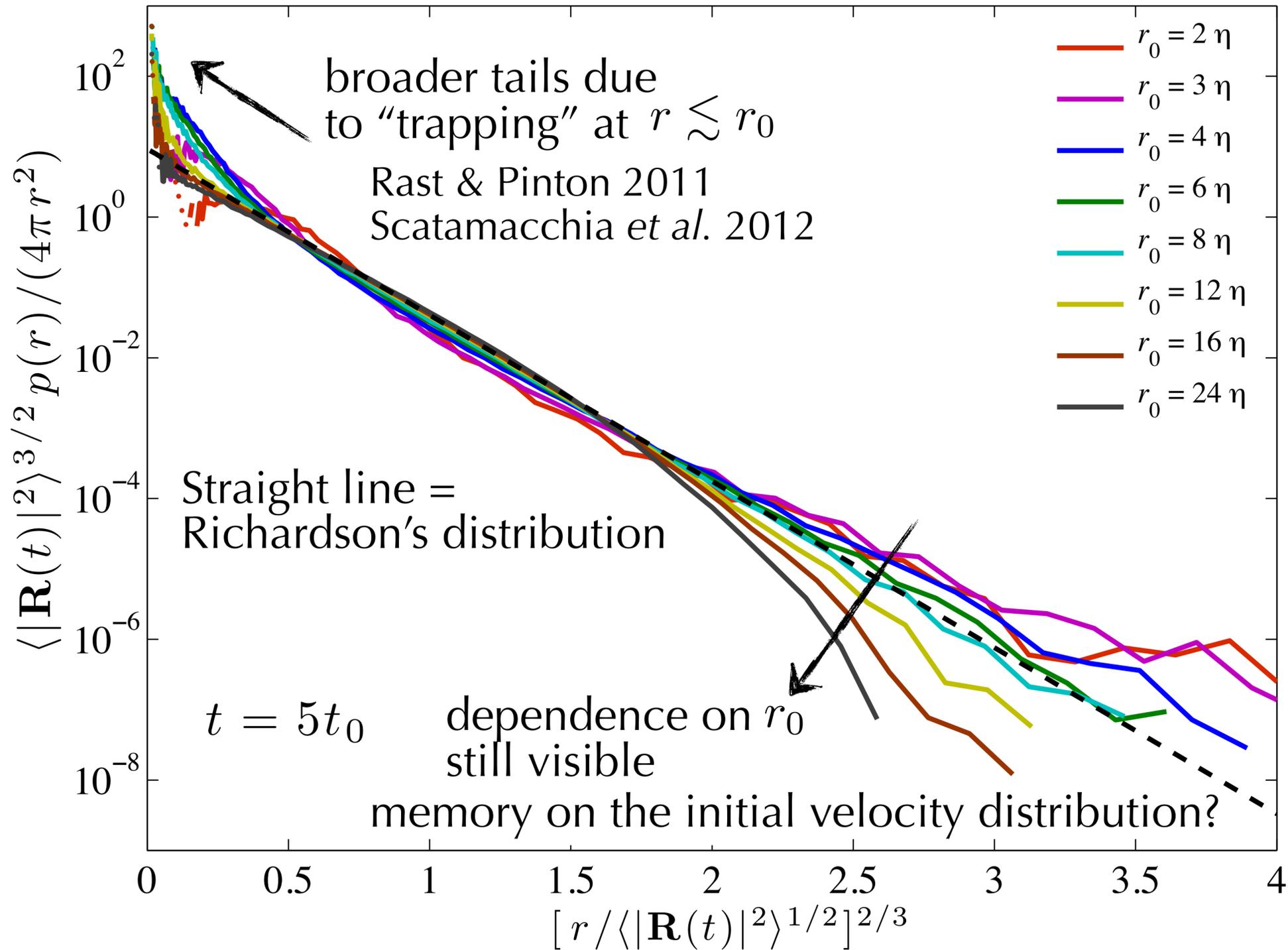
**Shortcoming:** velocity difference get uncorrelated on times  $O(t)$

Phenomenology  $\Rightarrow$  correlation time  $\tau_r \sim r^{2/3}$

$$+ r^2 \sim t^3 \Rightarrow \tau_r \sim t \dots$$

# Distribution of distances

Comparison to Richardson's distribution  $p_2(r, t|r_0, 0) \propto \frac{r^2}{t^{9/2}} e^{-C r^{2/3}/(\varepsilon t)}$



Such a representation emphasizes the collapse of the core of the distribution...

# Markov models

**Assumption:** acceleration differences are **short correlated**

$$\frac{d\mathbf{V}}{dt} = \mathbf{A} = \delta D_t \mathbf{u} \longleftarrow \text{components correlated over a time } O(\tau_\eta)$$

Central-Limit Theorem:  $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{\text{law}}{\equiv} \sqrt{\tau_\eta} \mathbb{A}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}) \circ \boldsymbol{\eta}(t)$  when  $t \gg \tau_\eta$

with  $\mathbb{A}^\top \mathbb{A} = \langle \delta D_t \mathbf{u} \otimes \delta D_t \mathbf{u} \mid \delta \mathbf{u} \rangle$  correlations of acceleration differences conditioned on  $\delta \mathbf{u}$

**General form:** 
$$\begin{cases} d\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{V} dt \\ d\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}, t) dt + \mathbb{B}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{V}, t) d\mathbf{W} \end{cases}$$
 Kurbanmuradov & Sabelfeld (1995); Sawford (2001)

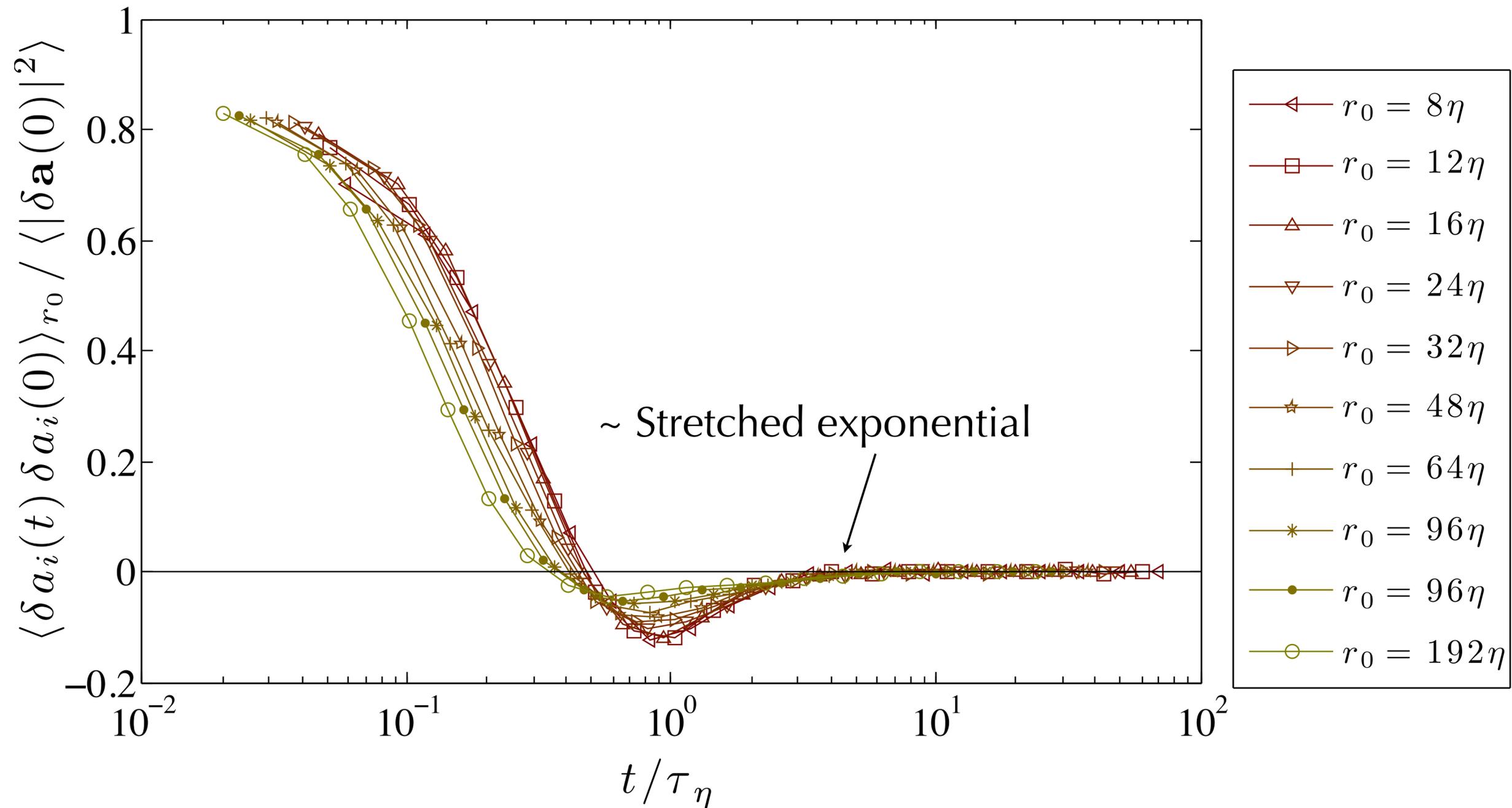
$\Rightarrow$  Fokker–Planck equation for  $p(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}, t \mid \mathbf{r}_0, \mathbf{v}_0, 0)$

$$\partial_t p + \partial_{r_i} (v_i p) + \partial_{v_i} (a_i p) = \frac{1}{2} \partial_{v_i} \partial_{v_j} [B_{ik} B_{jk} p]$$

**Admissibility condition: “well-mixing”**

Consistency with Eulerian statistics  $p_E(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v})$  is a stationary solution associated to an initial uniform distribution in space (Thomson 1991)

# Time-correlation of acceleration

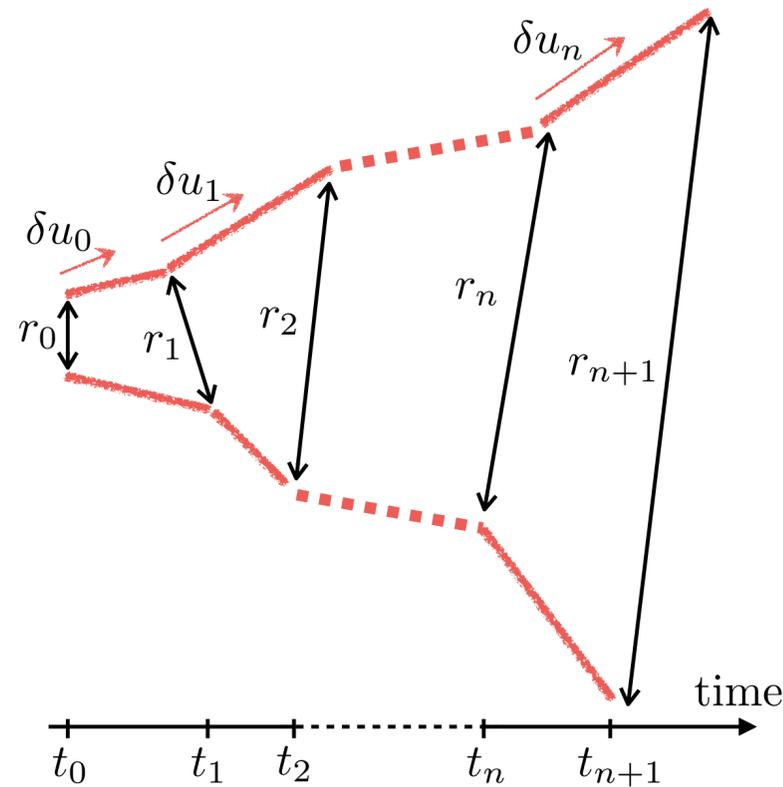


# Limits of Markov modeling

- ▶ Is acceleration really short-time correlated?
  - ⇒ OK for components but not amplitude (Mordant *et al.*, *PRL* 2004)
  - ⇒ Stretched exponential correlations (non-mixing process)
- ▶ Most models lead to an asymptotic diffusion of velocities.  
Is this the mechanism explaining Richardson's scaling  $R \sim t^{3/2}$ ?
  - ⇒ Is it compatible with the observed intermittent behaviors?  
e.g. exit times (Boffetta *et al.*, *PRE* 1999; Boffetta & Sokolov, *PRL* 2002)
  - ⇒ Are finite- $Re$  effects solely responsible for lack of scaling?  
(Scatamacchia *et al.*, *PRL* 2012)
- ▶ Is turbulent relative motion really a Markov process?
  - ⇒ Relation to Lévy walks / waiting times approaches  
(Shlesinger *et al.*, *PRL* 1987; Faller, *JFM* 1996; Rast & Pinton, *PRL* 2011)
  - ⇒ Some deviations might be due to memory effects  
(Ilyin *et al.*, *PRE* 2010; Eyink & Benveniste, *PRE* 2013)

# A piecewise-ballistic scenario

- ▶ Ballistic regime is key in the convergence to the explosive behavior
- ▶ Build a simple model that reproduces some essential mechanisms



**Continuous-Time  
Random Walk**

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{r}_n &\mapsto \vec{r}_{n+1} = \vec{r}_n + \Delta t_n \delta \vec{u}_n \\ t_n &\mapsto t_{n+1} = t_n + \Delta t_n \end{aligned}$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta u_n \text{ and } \Delta t_n \text{ depend on } r_n \\ \text{the } \delta u_n \text{'s are independent from each other} \end{array} \right.$   
**non-Markovian** w.r.t. to the continuous time

**K41 version:**  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta u_n \sim (\varepsilon r_n)^{1/3} \\ \Delta t_n \sim r_n / \delta u_n \sim \varepsilon^{-1/3} r_n^{2/3} \end{array} \right.$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} r_{n+1} &\simeq r_n + X_n r_n \Rightarrow \ln(r_n/r_0) \simeq \sum_k \ln(1 + X_k) \propto n \\ t_{n+1} &\simeq t_n + Y_n r_n^{2/3} \Rightarrow t_n \simeq \sum_k Y_k r_k^{2/3} \propto e^{\frac{2}{3}n} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \ln(r_t/r_0) \simeq \frac{3}{2} \ln(t/t_0)$$

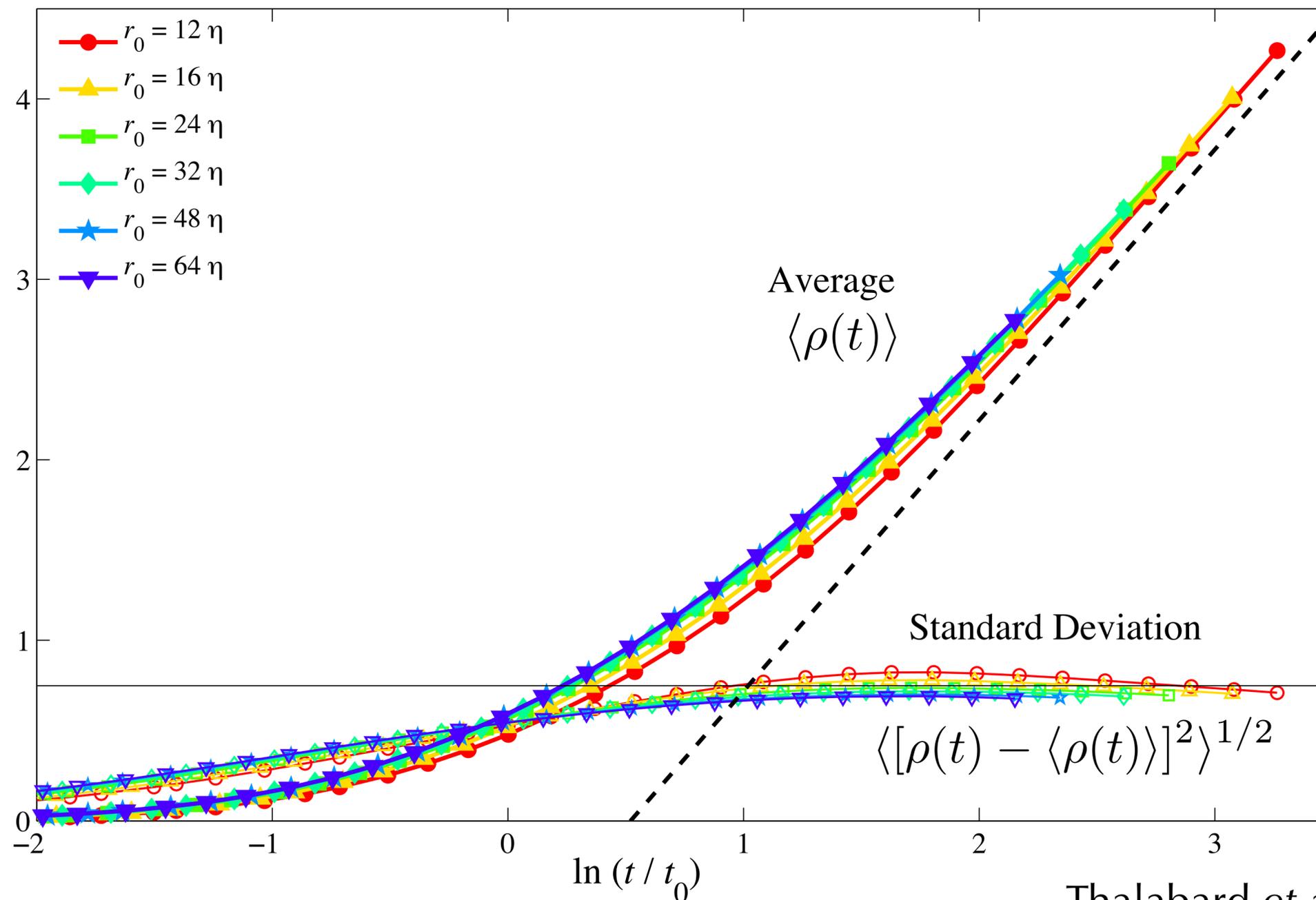
- ▶ Is  $\ln(|\mathbf{R}(t)|/r_0)$  a **self-averaging quantity**?  
Law of large numbers? Central-limit theorem? Large deviations?

# Are distances a multiplicative process?

► The ballistic scenario suggests  $\rho = \ln(|\mathbf{R}(t)|/r_0)$  as a relevant quantity

Richardson's distribution:  $\langle \rho(t) \rangle = (3/2) \ln(t/t_0) + (1/2) \ln g - 0.46$

$$\langle [\rho(t) - \langle \rho(t) \rangle]^2 \rangle^{1/2} = 0.748$$



# Further modeling

Time increment: dissipation time  $\Delta t_n = |\delta \vec{u}_n|^2 / \varepsilon$

$$\alpha_n = \delta u_n^{\parallel} / |\delta \vec{u}_n| \quad \text{with statistics independent of } r_n \text{ (K41)}$$

$$\beta_n = |\delta \vec{u}_n|^3 / (\varepsilon r_n)$$

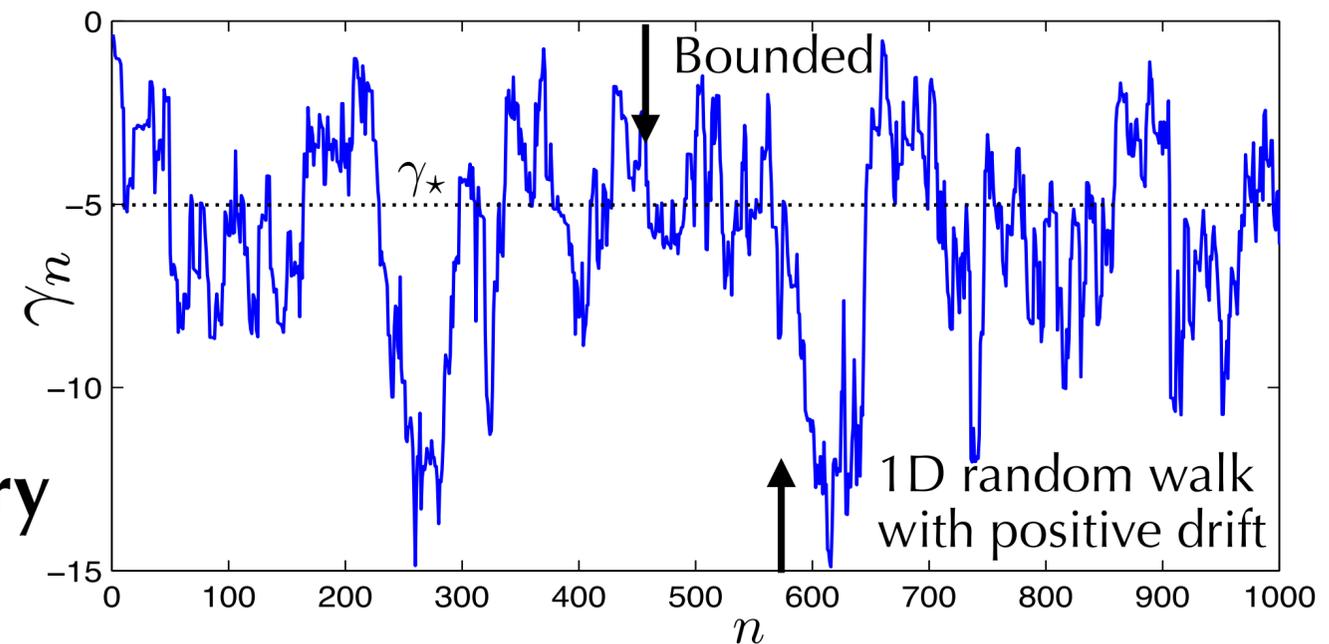
$$\begin{cases} r_{n+1} = r_n \sqrt{1 + 2\alpha_n \beta_n + \beta_n^2} \\ t_{n+1} = t_n + \varepsilon^{-1/3} \beta_n^{2/3} r_n^{2/3} \end{cases}$$

Change of variables:  $\gamma_n = \ln(r_n/r_0) - (3/2) \ln(t/t_0)$       $t_0 = \varepsilon^{-1/3} r_0^{2/3}$

$$\gamma_{n+1} = \gamma_n + \frac{3}{2} \ln \frac{(1 + 2\alpha_n \beta_n + \beta_n^2)^{1/3}}{1 + \beta_n^{2/3} e^{(2/3)\gamma_n}}$$

Recurrence point  $\gamma_*$

$\Rightarrow$  the  $\gamma_n$ 's are becoming **stationary**

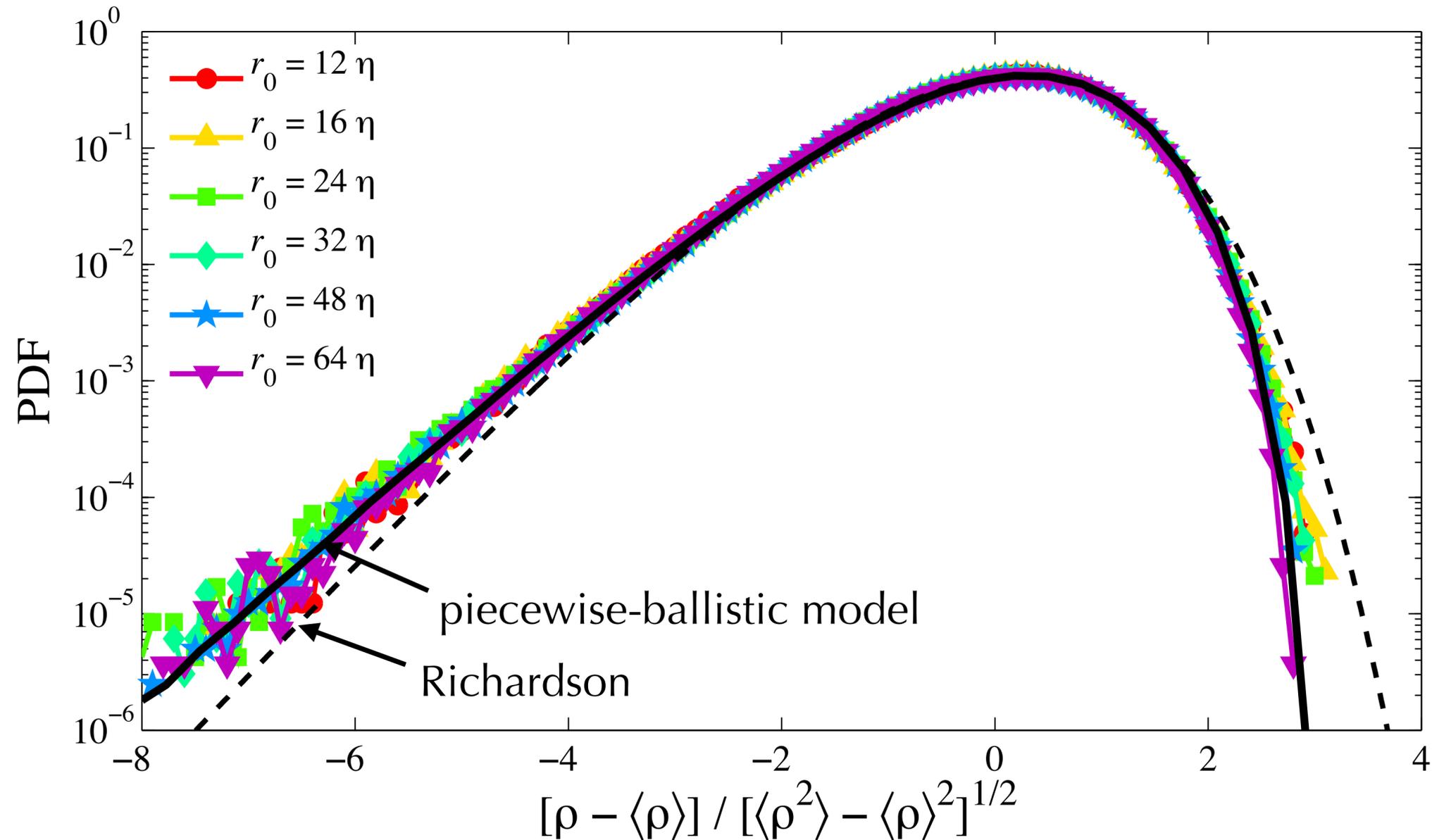


**This suggests** for  $\rho = \ln(|\mathbf{R}(t)|/r_0)$

$$\langle \rho \rangle \simeq (3/2) \ln(t/t_0) + \langle \gamma \rangle \quad \text{Var} [\rho] \simeq \text{Var} [\gamma] = \text{const} \quad \text{PDF} (\rho) \simeq \Psi(\rho - \langle \rho \rangle)$$

# Distribution of the log-separation

Scale invariance for the distribution of  $\rho = \ln(|\mathbf{R}(t)|/r_0)$



The collapsing distribution can be reproduced by properly choosing the distribution of  $\alpha_n = \delta u_n^{\parallel} / |\delta \vec{u}_n|$  and  $\beta_n = |\delta \vec{u}_n|^3 / (\varepsilon r_n)$

# Open questions

$$\begin{cases} r_{n+1} = r_n \sqrt{1 + 2\alpha_n \beta_n + \beta_n^2} \\ t_{n+1} = t_n + \varepsilon^{-1/3} \beta_n^{2/3} r_n^{2/3} \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \alpha_n = \delta u_n^{\parallel} / |\delta \vec{u}_n| \\ \beta_n = |\delta \vec{u}_n|^3 / (\varepsilon r_n) \end{cases}$$

## ► Effect of the fluid velocity intermittency

How is the scaling behavior affected when K41 is not fulfilled?

⇒ Studying extensions of the model assuming multifractal statistics

e.g.  $\beta_n \propto r_n^{3h_n - 1}$  with  $p(h_n) \propto r_n^{3 - D(h_n)}$

⇒ Is the long-time behavior still following a scaling regime?

## ► Time irreversibility

Relative dispersion is faster backward in time than forward

What are the underlying mechanisms? How to quantify?

⇒ In the model, the only symmetry-breaking quantity is  $\alpha_n$

How is the “Richardson constant” altered when  $\alpha_n \mapsto -\alpha_n$ ?

The model might not be enough to address this issue:

in real flows,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are correlated

# Lecture 2: Anomalous scaling

## ► Summary of lecture 1

2-point motion / 2nd-order statistics in the “explosive regime” pretty well described by **Richardson–Obukhov scaling**:

$$r \sim \varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2} \quad p_2(r, t | r_0, 0) \sim \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}} \Psi\left(\frac{r}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}}\right)$$

⇒ Possible intermittent corrections?

$$p_2(r, t | r_0, 0) \sim \frac{1}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}} \bar{\Psi}\left(\frac{r}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}}, \frac{r}{L}\right) \quad \text{e.g.} \quad \bar{\Psi} = \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)^\alpha \Psi\left(\frac{r}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}}\right)$$

Origin? Not turbulent transport itself but maybe fluid velocity anomalous scaling

## ► Second lecture:

⇒  $n$ -point motion / higher-order statistics is intrinsically intermittent (Kraichnan flow)

⇒ A concrete example where this matters

# Passive scalar intermittency

## Structure functions of a passive scalar

$$\partial_t \theta + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \theta = \kappa \nabla^2 \theta + \phi$$

$$\delta \theta = \theta(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}, t) - \theta(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

$$\langle \delta \theta^q \rangle \sim r^{\zeta_q}$$

Exact relation (Yaglom 1949):

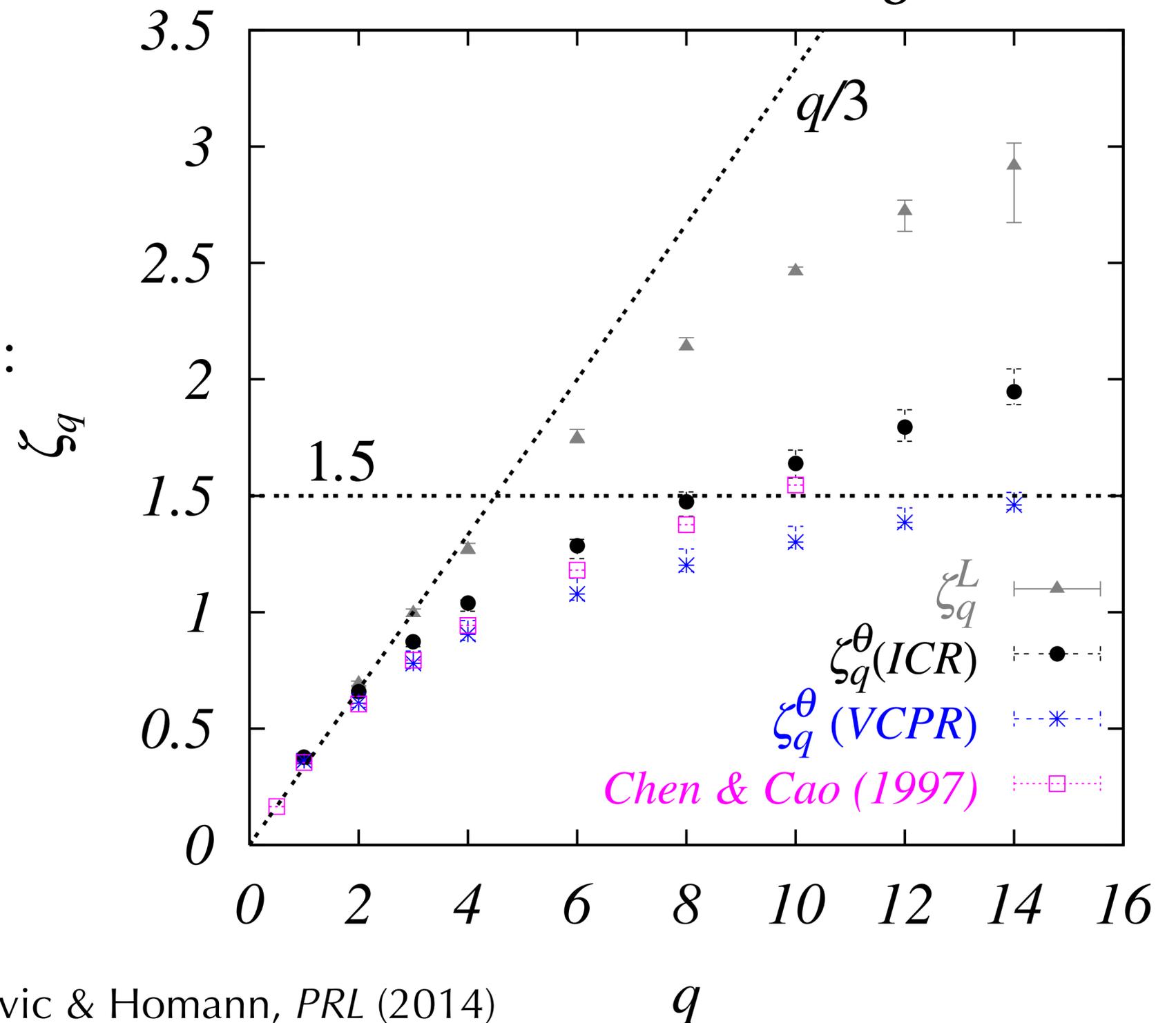
$$\langle \delta^{\parallel u} [\delta \theta]^2 \rangle = -\frac{4}{3} \varepsilon_\theta r$$

$$\delta^{\parallel u} = \hat{\mathbf{r}} \cdot \delta \mathbf{u} \quad \varepsilon_\theta = \kappa \langle (\nabla \theta)^2 \rangle$$

Dimensional scaling (K41):

$$\zeta_q = q/3$$

## Anomalous scaling



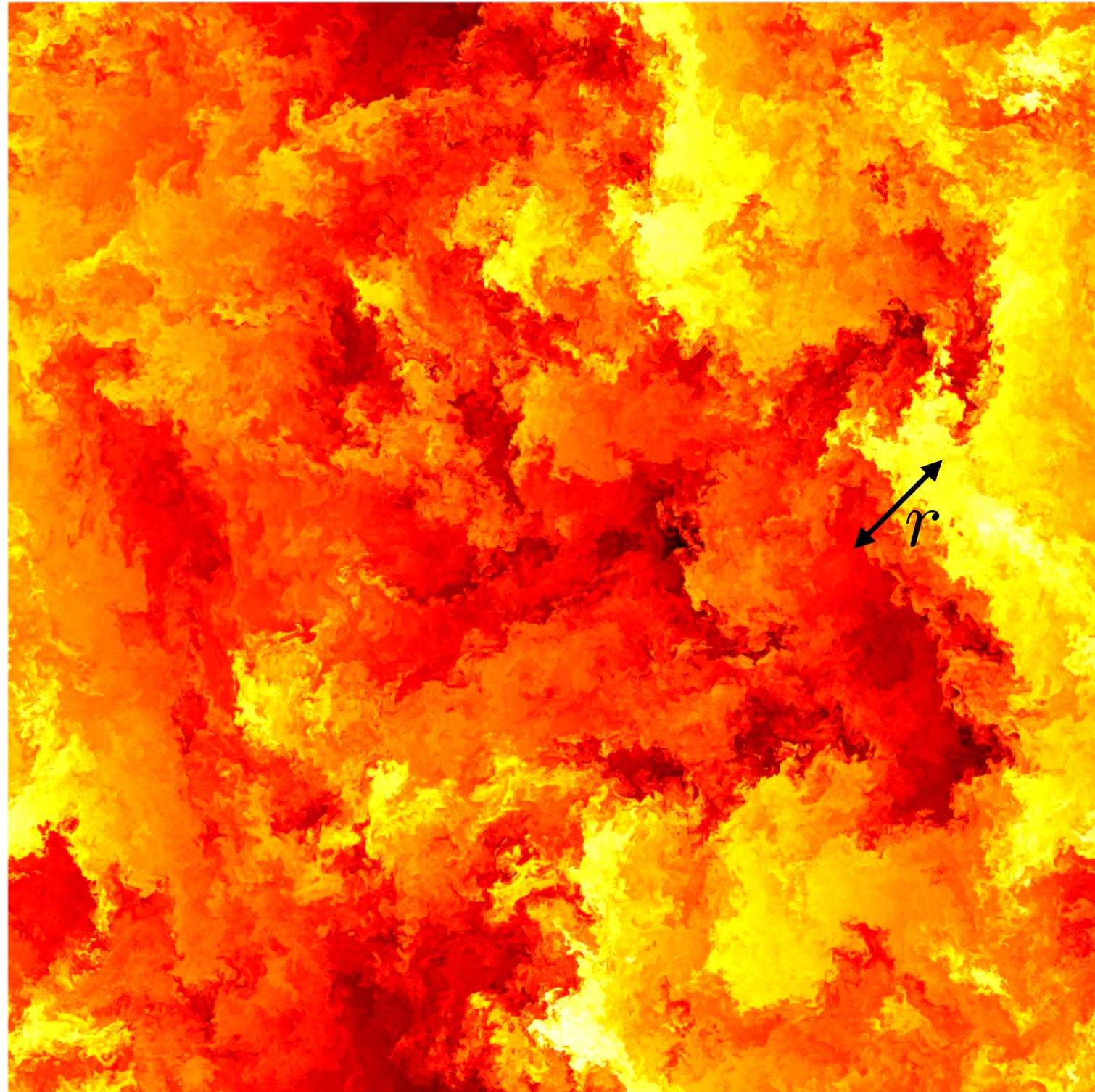
from Watanabe & Gotoh, *NJP* (2004)

see also Gotoh & Watanabe, *PRL* (2015); Bec, Krstulovic & Homann, *PRL* (2014)

$q$

# Geometric structure of intermittency

Strong intermittency related to the presence of “**multifractal fronts**”



$$\delta_r \theta \propto r^h$$

$$\text{with prob.} \propto r^{d-D(h)}$$

$$\zeta_q = \inf_h [qh + d - D(h)]$$

$$4096^3$$

$$R_\lambda = 730$$

# Lagrangian interpretation

Lagrangian viewpoint

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}(t), t) + \sqrt{2\kappa} \boldsymbol{\eta}(t)$$

$$\delta\theta^q \longleftrightarrow \mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_q$$

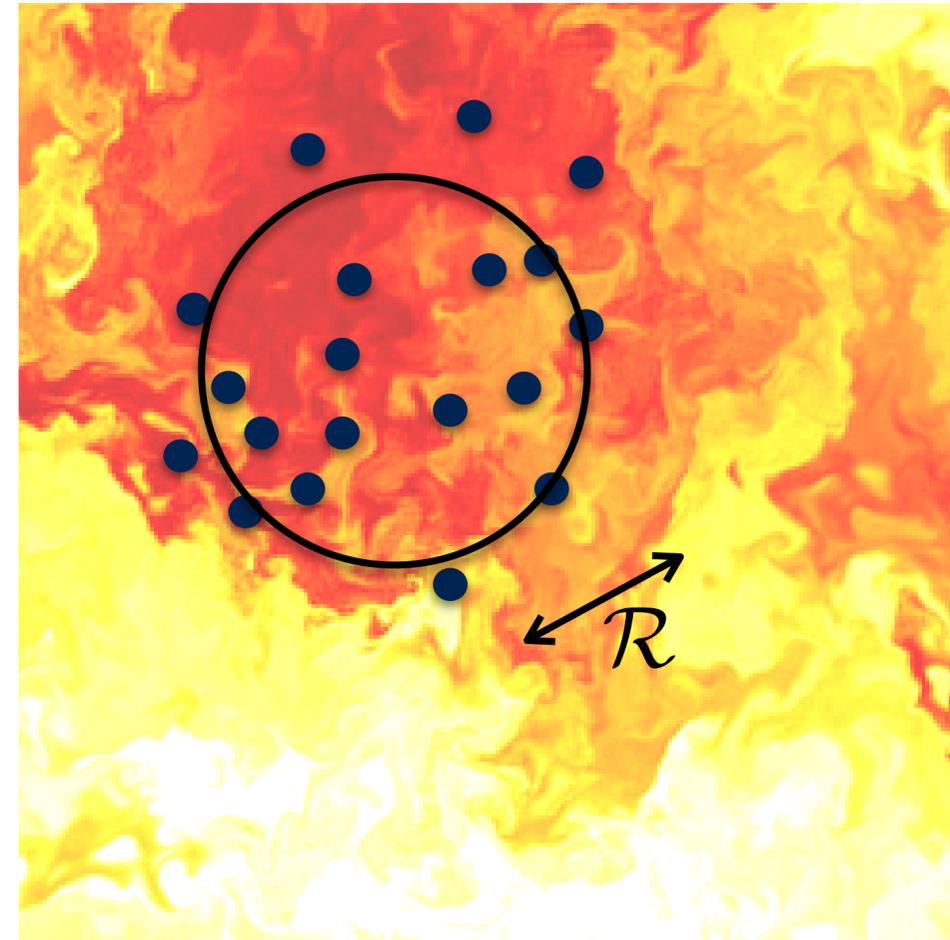
$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \frac{1}{q} \sum_n \mathbf{X}_n \quad \text{single-particle motion}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_n = \mathbf{X}_n - \bar{\mathbf{X}}$$

Time evolution of both **size** and **shape** of the cloud of tracers

$$\mathcal{R}^2 = \frac{1}{q} \sum_n |\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_n|^2$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{X}}_n = \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_n / \mathcal{R} \implies \text{shape}$$



# Lessons from Kraichnan model

Gaussian velocity field,  $\delta$ -correlated in time, self-similar in space

$$\langle u^i(\mathbf{x}, t) u^j(\mathbf{x}', t') \rangle = \delta(t - t') [2D_0 \delta^{ij} - d^{ij}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')] ]$$

$$d^{ij}(\mathbf{r}) = D_1 r^\xi [(d - 1 + \xi) \delta^{ij} - \xi r^i r^j / r^2] \quad \xi = 4/3 \longleftrightarrow \text{turbulence}$$

$q$ -point motion:  $p_q(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}_1, \dots, \tilde{\mathbf{X}}_q, t | \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_q, 0)$

Backward Kolmogorov ( $\approx$  Fokker–Planck):  $\partial_t p_q = \mathcal{M}_q p_q$

$$\mathcal{M}_q = \sum_{n < m} [d^{ij}(\mathbf{x}_n - \mathbf{x}_m) + 2\kappa \delta^{ij}] \partial_{x_n^i} \partial_{x_m^j}$$

There exists **zero modes**  $\mathcal{M}_q f_q = 0$  with non-trivial scaling properties:

$$f_q(\lambda \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \lambda \mathbf{x}_q) = \lambda^{\zeta_q} f_q(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_q)$$

# Lagrangian statistical conservation law

Zero modes are preserved by the dynamics

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left\langle \mathcal{R}^{\zeta_q} g_q(\hat{\mathbf{X}}_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{X}}_q) \right\rangle = 0$$

Bernard, Gawedzki, Kupiainen, *J. Stat. Phys.* (1997); Pumir, Shraiman, Chertkov, *PRL* (2000)

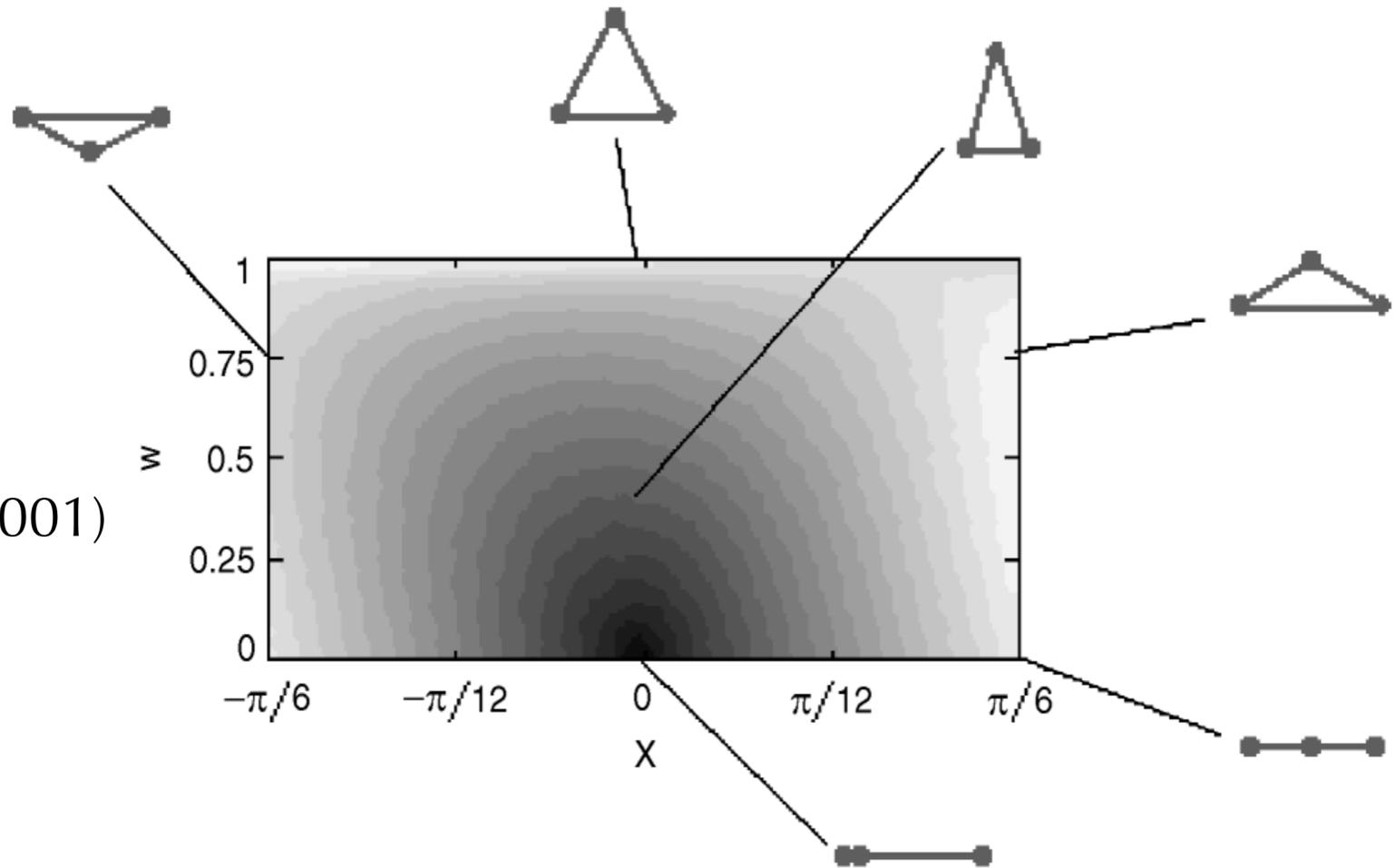
size factor  
 $\propto t^{3\zeta_q/2}$

shape function

$$q = 3$$

2D Inverse cascade

Celani & Vergassola, *PRL* (2001)



$$p_3(R_1, R_2, t | r_1, r_2, 0) \sim \left( \frac{R_1^2 + R_2^2}{L^2} \right)^{\frac{\zeta_3 - 1}{2}} \frac{1}{\varepsilon t^3} \Psi \left( \frac{R_1}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}}, \frac{R_2}{\varepsilon^{1/2} t^{3/2}} \right)$$

Intermittent correction

Richardson scaling

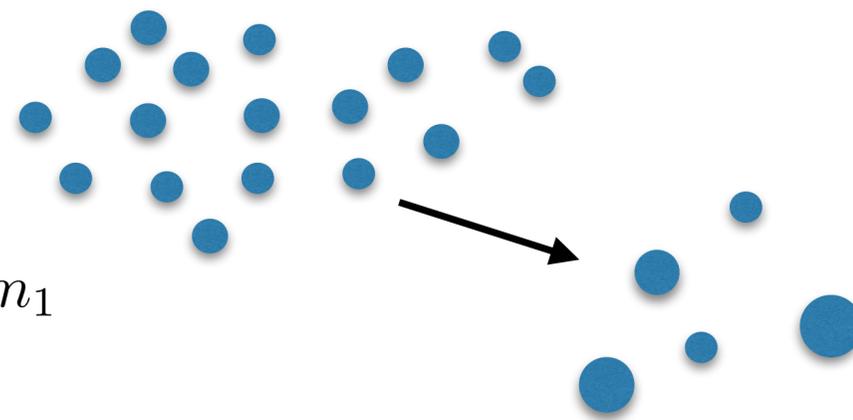
# An application: Growth by coalescences



In both cases: very **dilute** solid particles suspended in a **turbulent** gas

Initially: almost mono-disperse size distribution

monomers with mass  $\approx m_1$



How fast are large aggregates/drops created?

Time-evolution of the number  $n_i(t)$  of particles with mass  $i \times m_1$ ?

# Kinetic approach

► **Smoluchowski** coagulation equation  $i m_1 + j m_1 \xrightarrow{\kappa_{i,j}} (i + j) m_1$

$$\dot{n}_i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \kappa_{i-j,j} n_{i-j} n_j - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \kappa_{i,j} n_i n_j$$

$\kappa_{i,j}$  : collision rate between particles with masses  $i$  and  $j$

**How is this global picture influenced by turbulent fluctuations?**

► **Short-time asymptotics**

$n_1(t) \approx n_1(0)$  and creations are dominant

$$\dot{n}_2 = \frac{1}{2} \kappa_{1,1} n_1^2 \Rightarrow n_2(t) = \frac{1}{2} \kappa_{1,1} n_1^2 t$$

$$\dot{n}_3 = \kappa_{1,2} n_1 n_2 \Rightarrow n_3(t) = \frac{1}{4} \kappa_{1,1} \kappa_{1,2} n_1^3 t^2$$

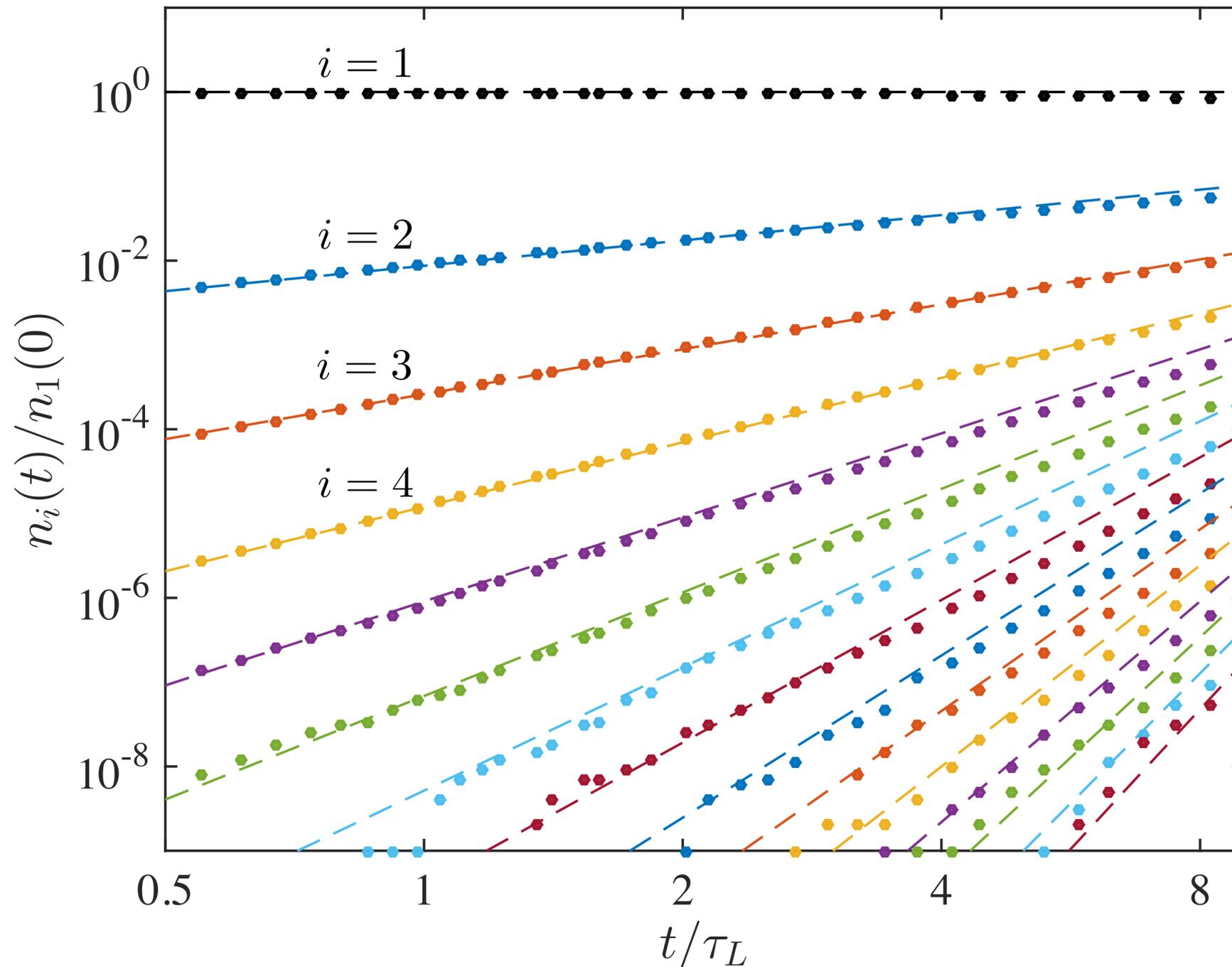
$$n_i(t) \simeq n_1^i \left( \frac{t}{t_i} \right)^{i-1}$$

The exponents do not depend on the kernel

# Short-time growth of large particles

**Numerics:** incompressible Navier–Stokes

pseudo-spectral  $2048^3$  ( $R_\lambda \approx 460$ ) initially  $n_1(0) = 10^9$  particles  $a_1 \approx \eta/10$



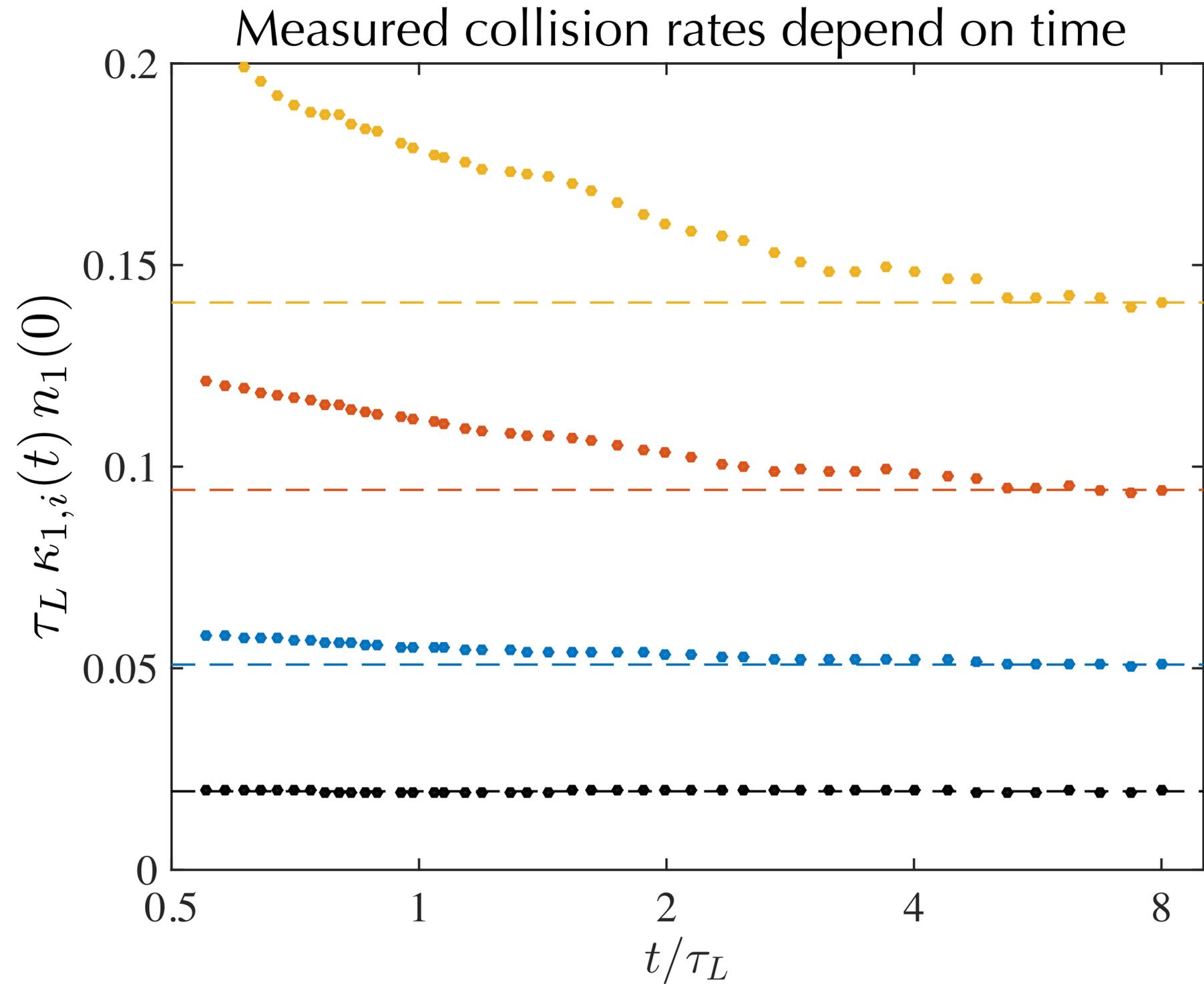
Data show

$$n_i(t) \propto t^{0.73(i-2)+1}$$

at short times

instead of  $n_i(t) \propto t^{i-1}$

# Kinetics not valid



**Smoluchowski kinetics is not valid at short times / large sizes**



# Inter-collision times

- ▶ The collisions define a **non-homogeneous Poisson process** with rate:

$$\lambda_{i,j}(\tau|s) = \lambda_{i,j}(\tau)$$

- ▶ Time to next collision: exponential distribution **with non-constant rate**

$$p_{i,j}(\tau) = \lambda_{i,j}(\tau) e^{-\int_0^\tau \lambda_{i,j}(\tau') d\tau'}$$

- ▶ **Smoluchowski kinetics:**

Successive coalescences are uncorrelated events

Memoryless process:  $p_{i,j}(\tau)$  exponential  $\Rightarrow \lambda_{i,j}(\tau) = \text{const} = \kappa_{i,j}$

**coagulation kernels**

$$Q_{i,j}(t) = \int_0^t \lambda_{i,j}(t-s) n_j(t) \dot{n}_i(s) ds = \kappa_{i,j} n_i(t) n_j(t)$$

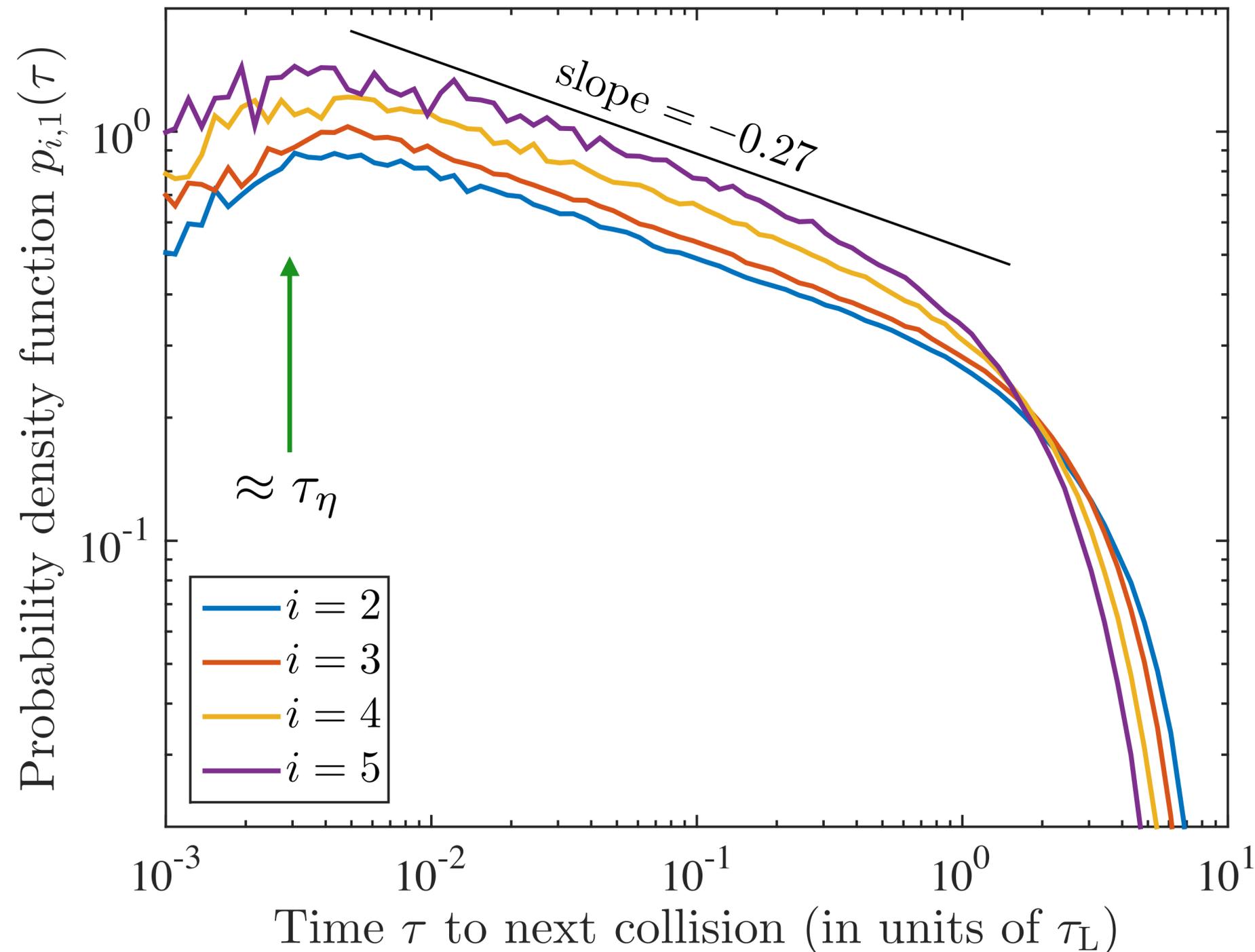
$$\dot{n}_i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \kappa_{i-j,j} n_{i-j} n_j - \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \kappa_{i,j} n_i n_j$$

# Long-range correlated collisions

Probability distribution of particles **mean-free times** (inter-collision times)

$$p_{i,j}(\tau) = \lambda_{i,j}(\tau) e^{-\int_0^\tau \lambda_{i,j}(\tau') d\tau'}$$

with  $\lambda_{i,j} \propto \tau^{-0.27}$



**Weibull**  
**distribution** with  
shape parameter  
 $k \approx 0.73$

# Contribution from turbulent transport

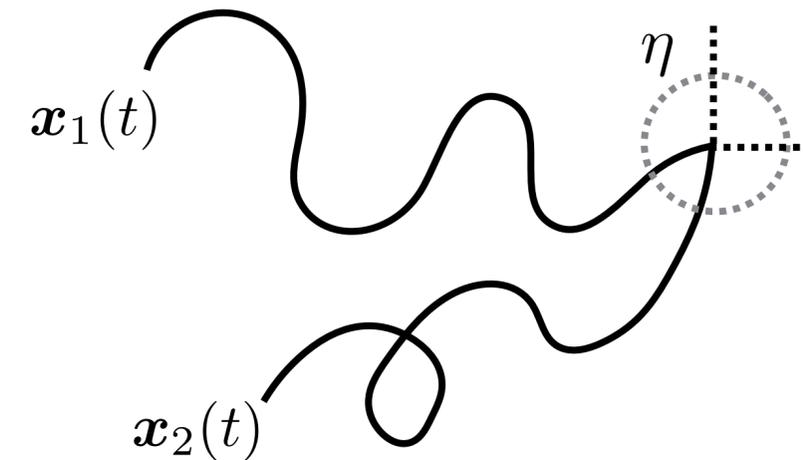
► **Dilute settings:** coalescing particles come from far apart

Two contributions to the coalescence rate:

$$\lambda_{i,j}(\tau) = \lambda_{i,j}^{\text{turb}}(\tau) \times \lambda_{i,j}^{\text{micro}}(\tau)$$

rate at which particles approach  
to a distance  $\lesssim \eta$

probability they coalesce  
once they are at  $r \lesssim \eta$



For  $|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2| \gg \eta$  (inertial range)

Coalescing particles are almost tracers

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{x}(t) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}(t), t) \quad |\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_1) - \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}_2)| \sim |\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2|^{1/3}$$

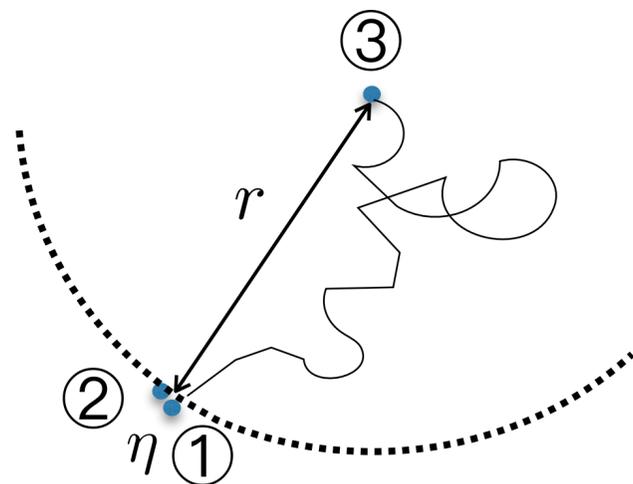
$$|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2| \sim t^{3/2} \text{ (Richardson law)}$$

For  $|\mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{x}_2| \lesssim \eta$  details of the microphysics matters

finite size, inertia, hydrodynamical interactions, repulsive forces...

# Dimensional estimates

Naive phenomenology:



**Two contributions to the turbulent rate:**

Density of particles ③ at distance  $r$ :

$$n(r) = r^2 / L^3$$

Probability that a particle ③ initially at distance  $r$  approaches at a distance  $\eta$  from the newly created ①+②:

$$p(\eta, \tau | r, 0) \simeq \left(\frac{\eta}{r}\right)^2 \frac{1}{\tau^{3/2}} \Psi\left(\frac{r}{\tau^{3/2}}\right)$$

↑  
solid angle

↑  
Richardson scaling

**Approaching rate:**

$$\lambda_{i,j}^{\text{turb}}(\tau) \propto \int u_\eta p(\eta, \tau | r, 0) n(r) dr \sim \frac{\eta^2 u_\eta}{L^3} \int \Psi\left(\frac{r}{\tau^{3/2}}\right) \frac{dr}{\tau^{3/2}} = \text{const}$$

**Wrong!** We are actually dealing with the 3-point motion

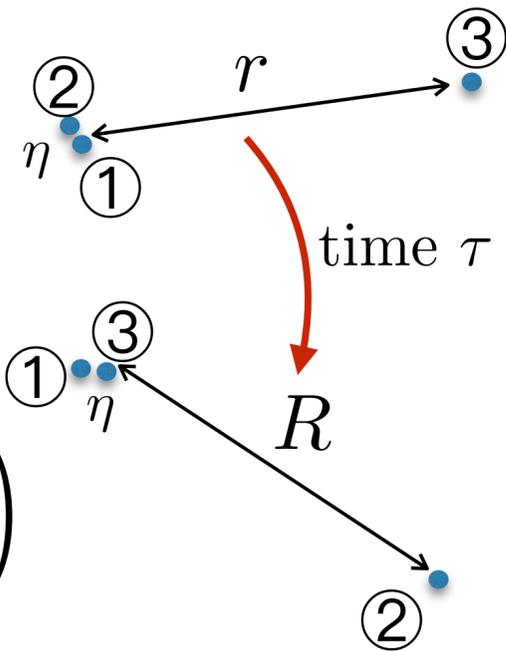
# Actual turbulent rates

**Collision rate:**  $\lambda_{i,j}^{\text{turb}}(\tau) \simeq \int u_\eta p_3(\eta, \tau | r, R, 0) n(r) dr dR$

Again two contributions:

$$\begin{cases} n(r) = r^2 / L^3 \\ \text{(unchanged)} \\ p_3(R, \eta, \tau | \eta, r, 0) = \left(\frac{\eta}{r}\right)^2 \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)^{\zeta_3 - 1} \frac{1}{\tau^3} \Phi\left(\frac{R}{\tau^{3/2}}, \frac{r}{\tau^{3/2}}\right) \\ \text{(enhanced for small } r) \end{cases}$$

$$\lambda_{i,j}^{\text{turb}}(\tau) \propto \frac{1}{\tau^3} \int \left(\frac{r}{L}\right)^{\zeta_3 - 1} \Phi\left(\frac{R}{\tau^{3/2}}, \frac{r}{\tau^{3/2}}\right) dr dR \propto \left(\frac{\tau}{\tau_L}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}(\zeta_3 - 1)} \quad \tau \ll \tau_L$$



**Consequences on population dynamics:**

$$\Rightarrow Q_{i,j}(t) \propto \int_0^t |t - s|^{\frac{3}{2}(\zeta_3 - 1)} n_j(t) n_i(s) ds$$

$$n_i(t) \propto t^{[1 - \frac{3}{2}(\zeta_3 - 1)](i-2) + 1}$$

$$\zeta_3 \approx 0.82 \Rightarrow n_i(t) \propto t^{0.73(i-2) + 1}$$

Short-time growth is much faster than the kinetic prediction  $\propto t^{i-1}$ !

# Conclusions

## ► Kinetic approach for coagulation fails at short times

- ◆ Number of large particles grows as  $n_i(t) \propto t^{0.73i}$  and not  $t^i$
- ◆ “Rapid” successive collisions are correlated (mean-field breaks), when they involve inertial-range physics.

This is a purely turbulent-mixing effect.

- ◆ New kinetic models (with e.g. multiple collisions) ?

## ► Turbulent transport intermittency gives here the leading behavior

