

# **Stability of non newtonian fluid flows down a slope**

GDR TransInter Phase II, Aussois, 10-12 june 2025

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# Introduction

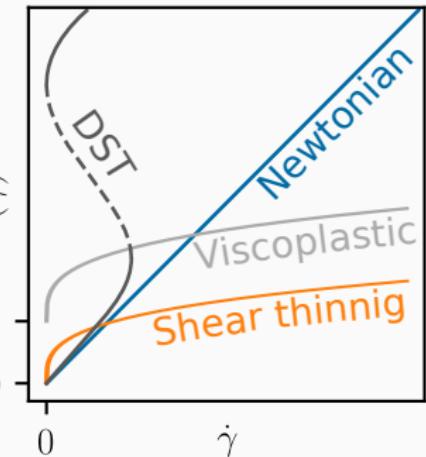


**Figure 1:** Roll waves on a chocolate fountain. Surface coating. Oroville dam spillway (2016). Landslide in Colorado (2014).

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- Discontinuous Shear Thickening (cornstarch),
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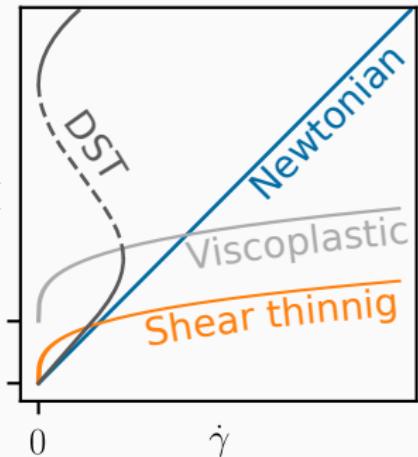
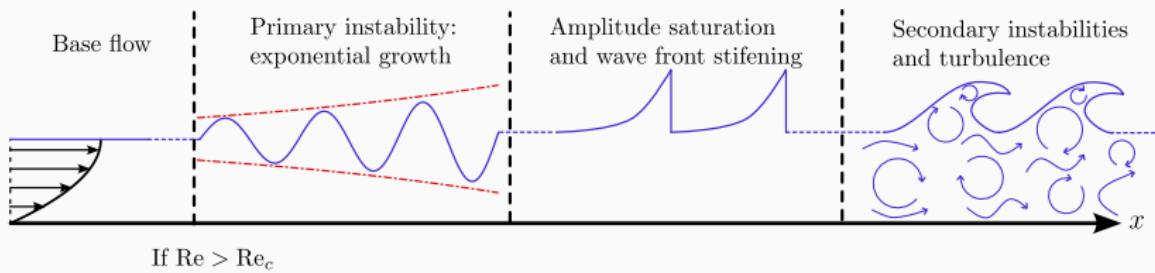


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Growth scenario:

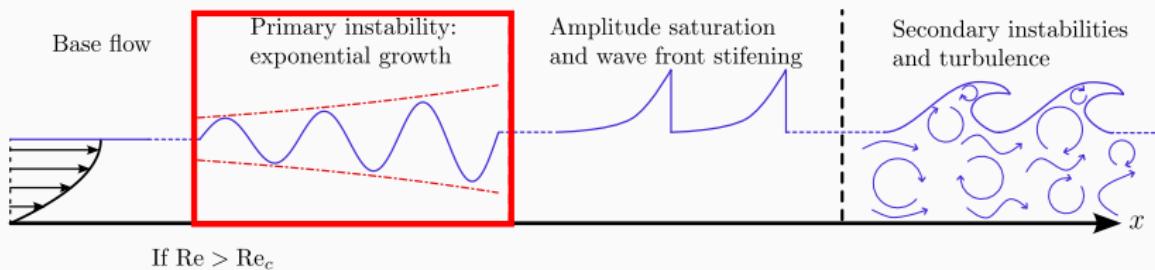


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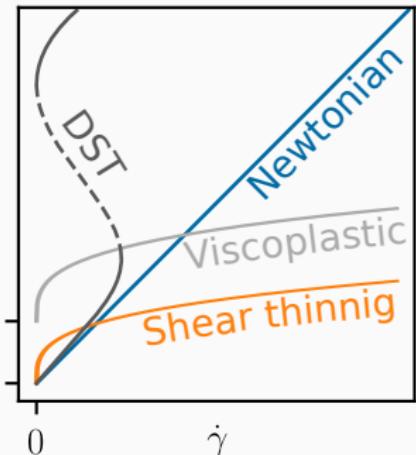
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Our focus today: primary instability



# Some studies on the primary instability (very non exhaustive)

## Newtonian fluids:

- Kapitza (ZETF, 1948)
- Yih (PoF, 1963)
- Benney (JMP, 1966)
- Liu & Gollub (JFM, 1993)
- Ruyer Quil & Manneville (Eur. Phys. J. B, 1998)
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## Shear thinning fluids:

- Ng & Mei (JFM, 1994)
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## Discontinuous shear thickening fluids:

- Darbois-Texier *et al.* (JFM, 2023)
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## Other (funky) rheologies:

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Is it possible to find a common framework to unify these studies ?

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Is it possible to find a common framework to unify these studies ?

## Answer:

Yes, if we are able to find a common framework for the fluid rheologies.

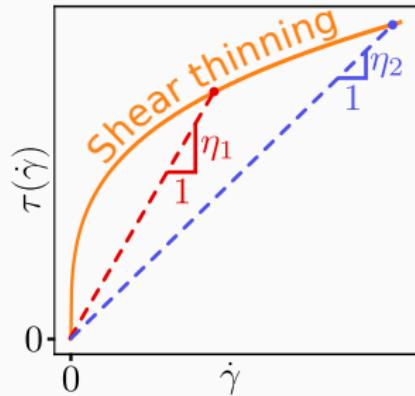
## **The common framework: generalised Newtonian fluids**

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# Generalised Newtonian fluids: viscosity

Newtonian fluid:

$$\tau(\dot{\gamma}) = \eta\dot{\gamma} \rightarrow \eta = \text{constant viscosity}$$



# Generalised Newtonian fluids: viscosity

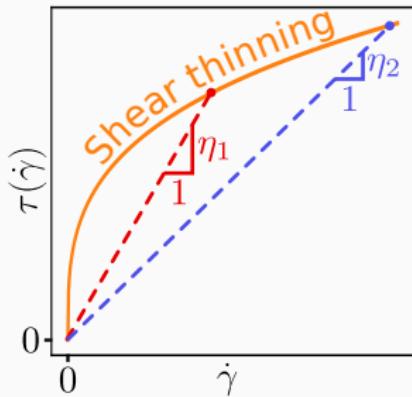
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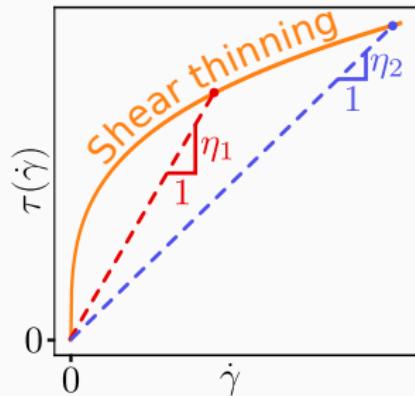
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Fluids mentioned earlier are in fact generalised Newtonian fluids:

- Shear thinning fluid:  $\eta(\dot{\gamma}) = \kappa\dot{\gamma}^{n-1}$
- Viscoplastic fluid:  $\eta(\dot{\gamma}) = \frac{\tau_y}{\dot{\gamma}} + \kappa\dot{\gamma}^{n-1}$
- Discontinuous shear thickening:  $\eta(\dot{\gamma}) = \frac{\eta_s}{(\Phi_J(\tau) - \Phi)^2}$

# Generalised Newtonian fluids: fluidity

Express  $\dot{\gamma}$  as a function of  $\tau$ :

$$\dot{\gamma} = \phi(\tau)\tau$$

- $\phi(\tau)$ : fluidity function.

Fluidity is the inverse of viscosity:

$$\phi(\tau) = \frac{1}{\eta(\dot{\gamma})}.$$

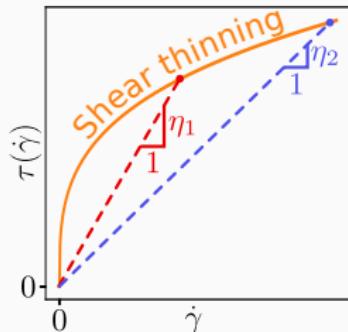


Figure 2: Viscosity

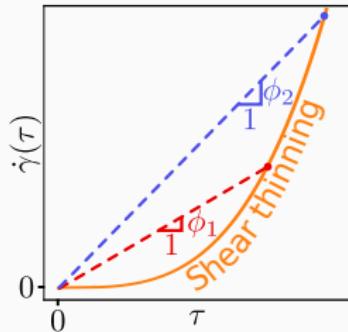


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Rheological laws using fluidity:

- Shear thinning fluid:  $\phi(\tau) = \frac{1}{\tau} \left( \frac{\tau}{\kappa} \right)^{1/n},$

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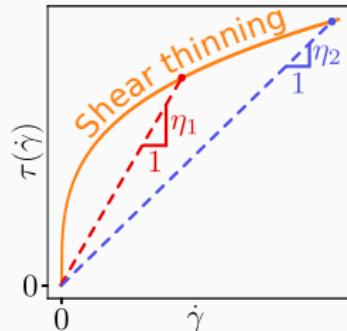


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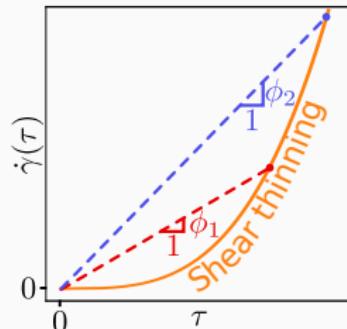


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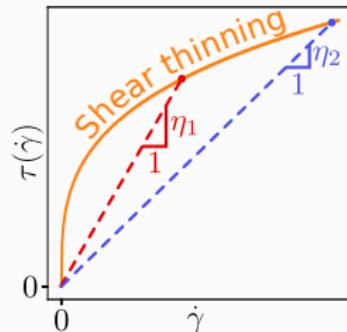


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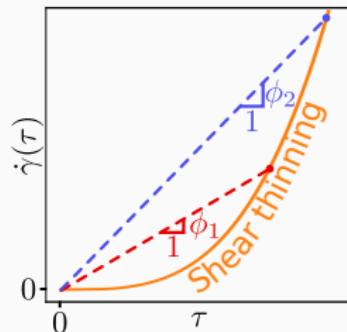


Figure 3: Fluidity

Strategy for a generalised model:

keep  $\eta$  and  $\phi$  known but unspecified.

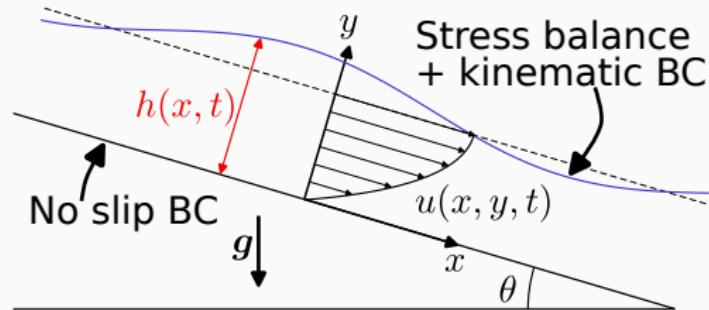
# **Orr-Sommerfeld equations for a generalized Newtonian fluid**

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# Incompressible Navier-Stokes equations

## 2D, incompressible, isothermal flow:

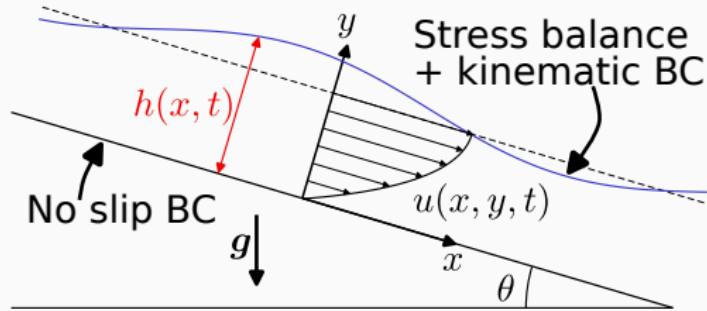
- density:  $\rho$ ,
- velocity:  $\mathbf{u} = (u, v)$ ,
- pressure:  $p$ ,
- shear stresses:  $\tau_{xx}$  and  $\tau_{xy}$ ,
- film thickness:  $h(x, t)$ ,
- surface tension:  $\sigma$ .



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Navier-Stokes equations:

$$\partial_x u + \partial_y v = 0,$$

$$\rho(\partial_t u + u\partial_x u + v\partial_y u) = -\partial_x p + \partial_x \tau_{xx} + \partial_y \tau_{xy} + \rho g \sin \theta,$$

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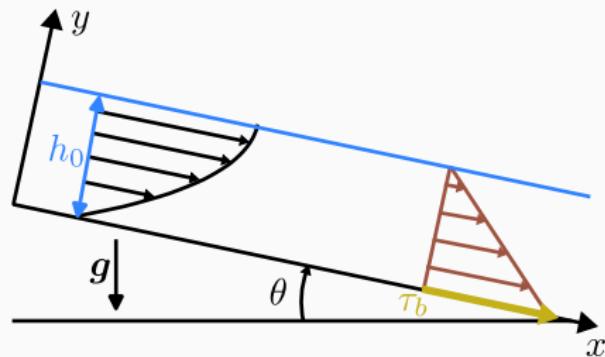
+ boundary conditions

with  $\phi(\tau)\tau_{xx} = 2\partial_x u$  and  $\phi(\tau)\tau_{xy} = \partial_y u + \partial_x v$ .

# Characteristic scales and dimensionless numbers

## “Natural” scales:

- undisturbed film thickness:  $h_0$ ,
- bottom shear stress:  
 $\tau_b = \rho g h_0 \sin \theta$ .



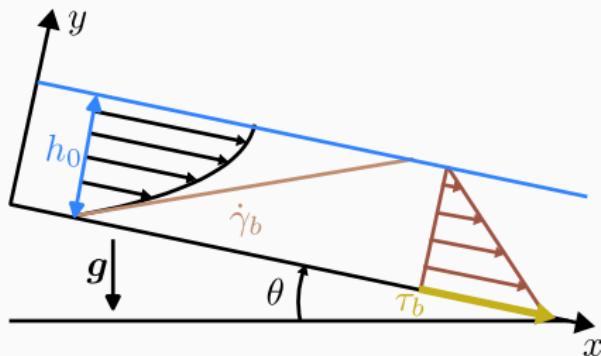
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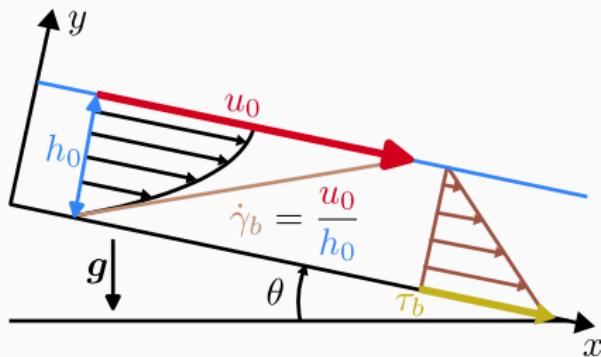
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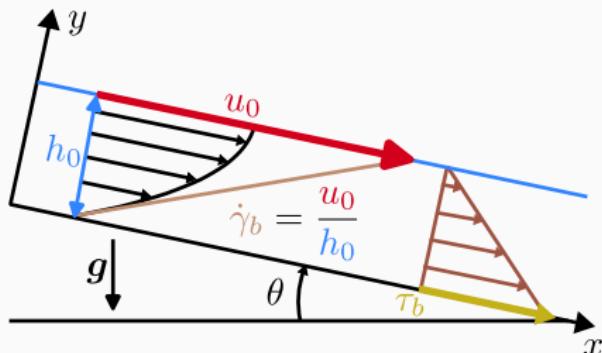
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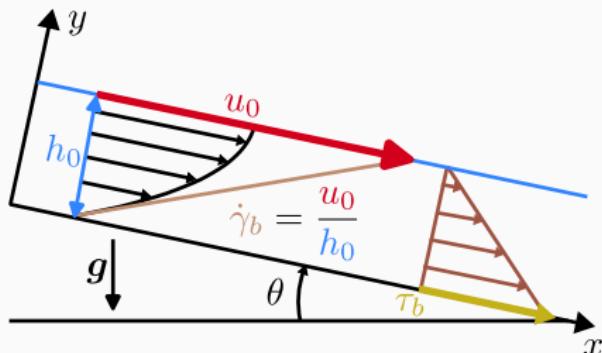
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## Dimensionless numbers:

$$\text{Re} = \frac{\rho u_0 h_0}{\eta(\dot{\gamma}_b)} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Bo} = \frac{\rho g h_0^2 \sin \theta}{\sigma},$$

+ rheology based numbers.

# Dimensionless equations

Dimensionless N.S equations:

$$\partial_x u + \partial_y v = 0,$$

$$\text{Re}(\partial_t u + u\partial_x u + v\partial_y u) = -\text{Re}\partial_x p + \partial_x \tau_{xx} + \partial_y \tau_{xy} + 1,$$

$$\text{Re}(\partial_t v + u\partial_x v + v\partial_y v) = -\text{Re}\partial_y p + \partial_x \tau_{xy} - \partial_y \tau_{xx} - \cot \theta,$$

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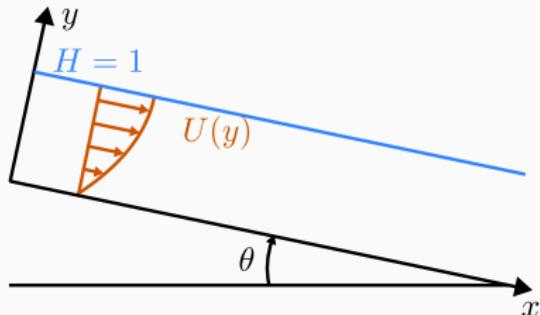
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## Base flow assumptions:

- steady state:  $\partial_t = 0$ ,
- constant thickness:  
 $h(x, t) = H = 1$ ,
- parallel to the wall:  
 $\mathbf{U}(x, y) = (U(y), 0)$ ,



# Base flow

Simplified equations:

$$\partial_y T_{xy} = -1,$$

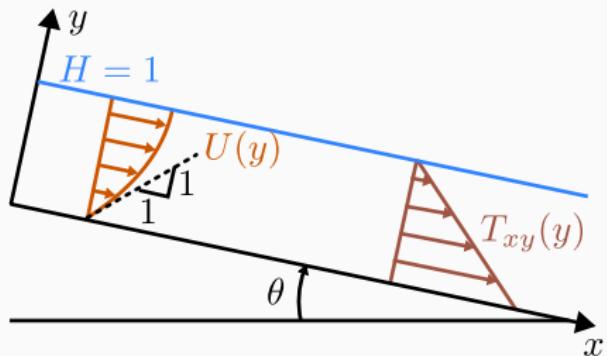
$$\text{Re} \partial_y P = -\cot \theta,$$

$$\partial_y U = \phi(T_{xy}) T_{xy},$$

+ boundary conditions.

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$$T_{xy}(y) = 1-y, \quad \text{Re}P(y) = (1-y) \cot \theta$$



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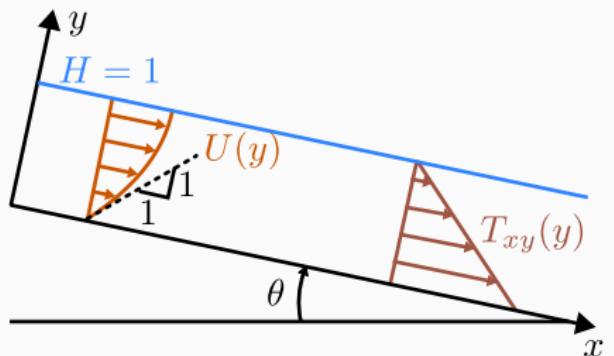
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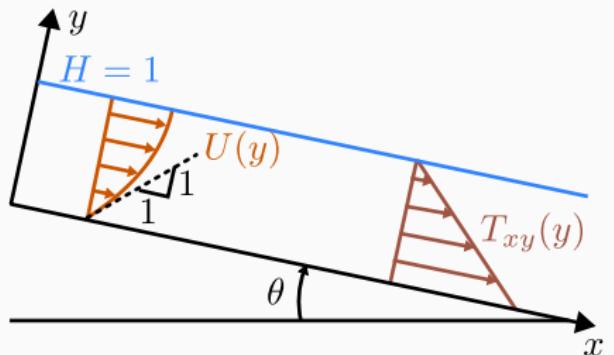
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$U(y)$  depends only on the rheology which is known!



# Perturbation equations

**Small perturbations around the base flow:**

$$u = U + \tilde{u}, \quad v = \tilde{v}, \quad p = P + \tilde{p}, \quad h = 1 + \tilde{h}, \quad \tau = T + \tilde{\tau}, \quad \dot{\gamma} = \dot{\Gamma} + \tilde{\dot{\gamma}}.$$

Perturbations → N.S equations → linearisation

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Perturbations  $\rightarrow$  N.S equations  $\rightarrow$  linearisation

**Linearised N.S equations for the perturbations:**

$$\partial_x \tilde{u} + \partial_y \tilde{v} = 0,$$

$$\text{Re}(\partial_t \tilde{u} + U \partial_x \tilde{u} + \tilde{v} \partial_y U) = -\text{Re} \partial_x \tilde{p} + \partial_x \tilde{\tau}_{xx} + \partial_y \tilde{\tau}_{xy},$$

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+ boundary conditions.

**Stream function and normal modes decomposition:**

$$\tilde{u} = \partial_y \Psi \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{v} = -\partial_x \Psi,$$

$$\Psi = \psi(y) \exp(i\alpha(x - ct)),$$

with  $\alpha$ : wavenumber,  $c$ : phase velocity.

# Perturbation equations

## Orr-Sommerfeld equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & i\alpha \operatorname{Re} ((\textcolor{brown}{U} - c)(\psi'' + \alpha^2 \psi) - \textcolor{brown}{U}'' \psi) = \\ & - \left( \frac{\psi''}{\textcolor{brown}{U}''} \right)'' - \alpha^2 \left( \left( \frac{\psi}{\textcolor{brown}{U}''} \right)'' + 4 \left( \frac{\psi'}{\phi} \right)' + \frac{\psi''}{\textcolor{brown}{U}''} \right) - \alpha^4 \frac{\psi}{\textcolor{brown}{U}''}. \end{aligned}$$

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Depends only on the **fluidity** through  $\textcolor{brown}{U} = \int_0^y \phi(1 - y_1)(1 - y_1) dy_1$ .

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## In what follows:

### Asyptotic resolution:

- long waves ( $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ),
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#### Numerical resolution:

- dispersion curves,
- comparison with experimental results.

## **Asymptotic resolution at long waves**

---

## Long wave expansion

**Temporal stability:**  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  fixed,  $\psi$  and  $c \in \mathbb{C}$  variables

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**Power series in  $\alpha$ :**

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$$c_0 = 1 \rightarrow c_0^{\dim} = \mathbf{u}_0 = \dot{\gamma}_b \mathbf{h}_0,$$

**1<sup>st</sup> order:**

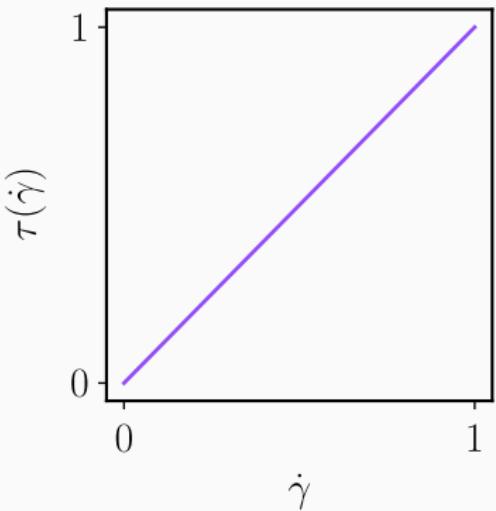
$$\text{Re}_c = \frac{1 - 2q}{1 - 4q + 2(\mathcal{M} + \mathcal{K})} \cot \theta,$$

$$\text{with } q = \underbrace{\int_0^1 U(y) dy}_{\text{flow rate}}, \mathcal{M} = \underbrace{\int_0^1 U^2(y) dy}_{\propto \text{shape factor}} \text{ and } \mathcal{K} = \underbrace{\int_0^1 \int_0^y \int_0^{y_1} (U'(y_2))^2 dy_2 dy_1 dy}_{\propto \text{dissipation rate?}}$$

# Comparison with experimental results

Newtonian fluid:

$$\tau(\dot{\gamma}) = \dot{\gamma}$$



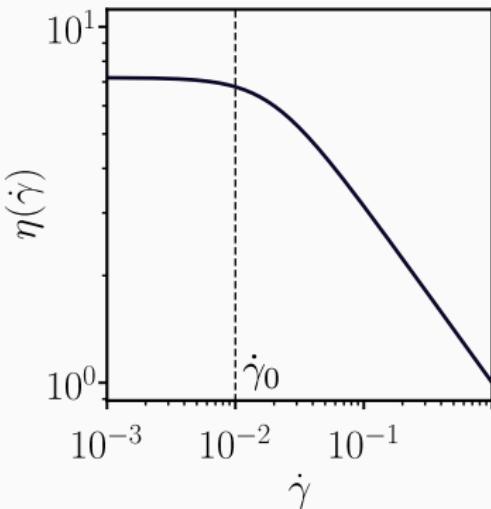
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$$\tau(\dot{\gamma}) = \left( \frac{1 + (\dot{\gamma}/\dot{\gamma}_0)^2}{1 + (1/\dot{\gamma}_0)^2} \right)^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \dot{\gamma}$$



# Comparison with experimental results

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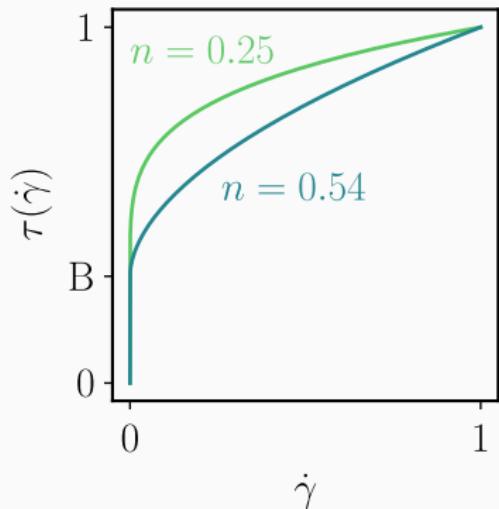
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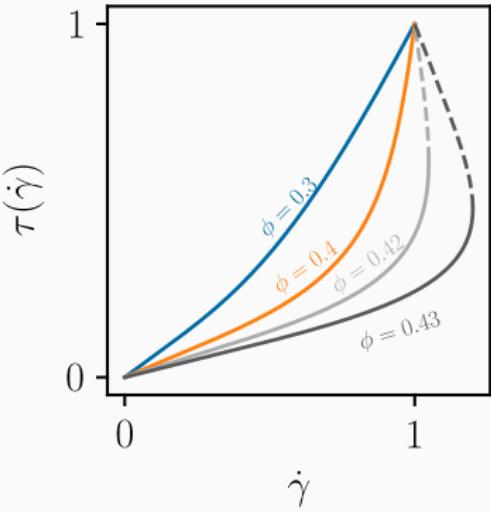
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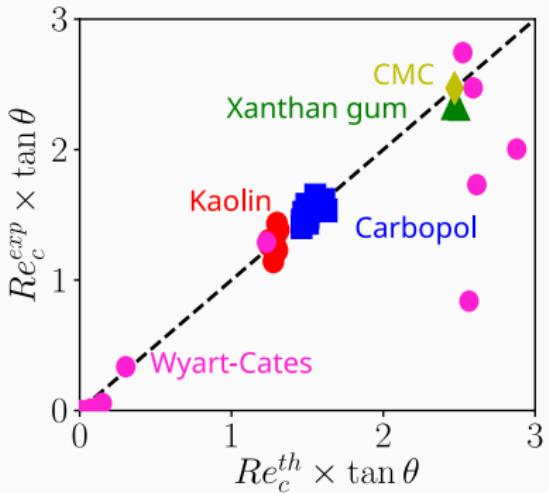
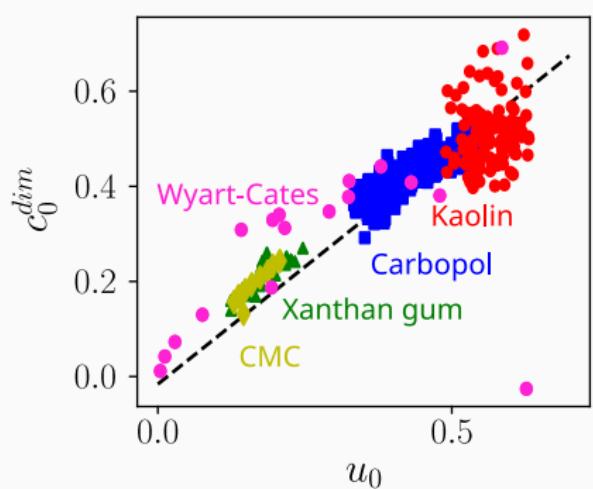
Wyart-Cates law for shear-thickening suspensions:

$$\dot{\gamma}(\tau) = \left( \frac{\Phi_J(\tau) - \Phi}{\Phi_J(1) - \Phi} \right)^2 \tau,$$

$\Phi$ : volumic fraction,  $\Phi_J$  : jamming fraction.



# Comparison with experimental results



Noma *et al.* (JFM, 2021)

Darbois-Texier *et al.* (JFM, 2023)

Allouche *et al.* (JFM, 2017)

## **Numerical resolution and dispersion curves**

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## Dispersion curves

---

**Spatial stability:** Pulsation  $\omega = \alpha c \in \mathbb{R}$  fixed,  $\psi$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$  variables  
 $\alpha_R$ : wavenumber,  $-\alpha_I$ : growth rate.

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## What we want:

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## What we want:

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→ for Newtonian and Herschel-Bulkley fluids

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- easier for spatial stability (polynomial eigenavalue problem),
- well suited for stiff problems.

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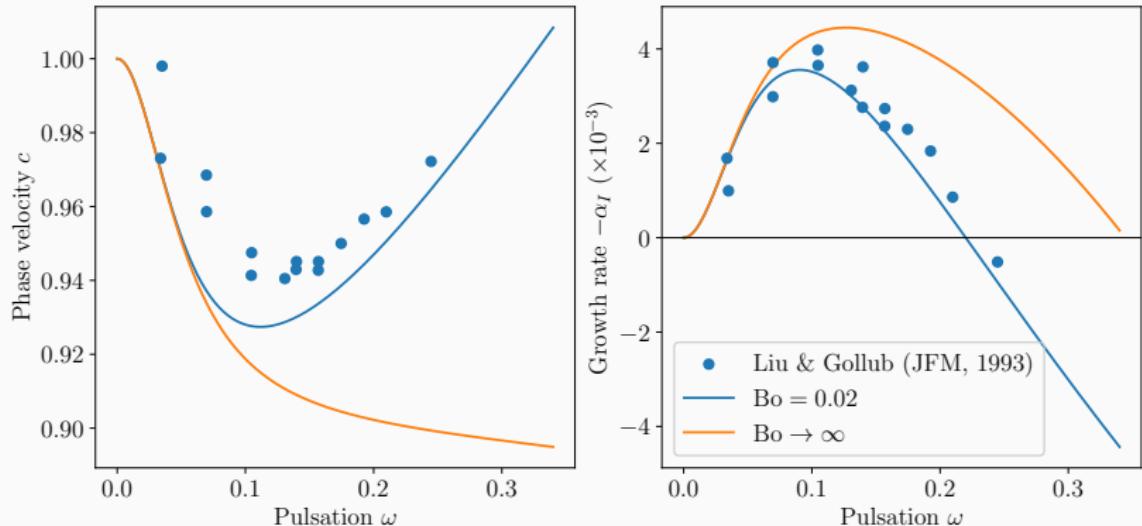
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- repeat for multiple  $\omega$ .

# Dispersion curves for a Newtonian fluid

$$\text{Re} \times \tan \theta = 3.72$$



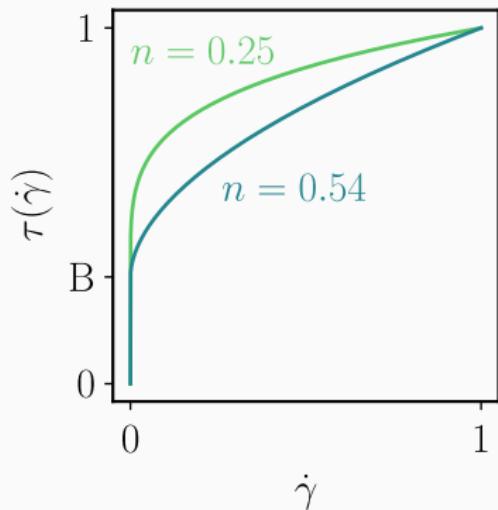
Liu & Gollub (JFM, 1993)

# Dispersion curves for Herschel-Bulkley fluids

Herschel-Bulkley rheological law:

$$\tau(\dot{\gamma}) = B + (1 - B)\dot{\gamma}^n$$

- B: dimensionless yield stress,
- $n \leq 1$ : rheological index.

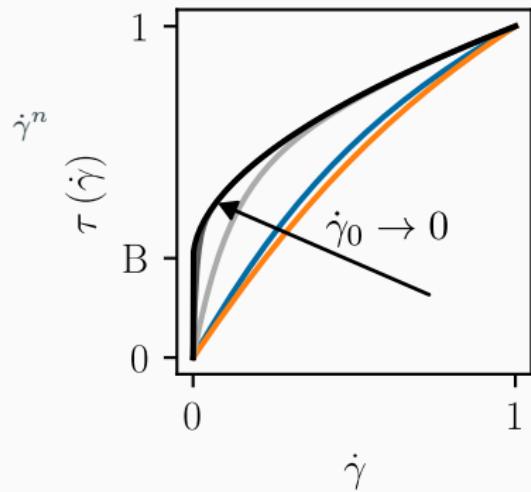


Diverging viscosity at  $\dot{\gamma} \rightarrow 0$  !

# Dispersion curves for Herschel-Bulkley fluids

Double regularized Herschel-Bulkley rheological law:

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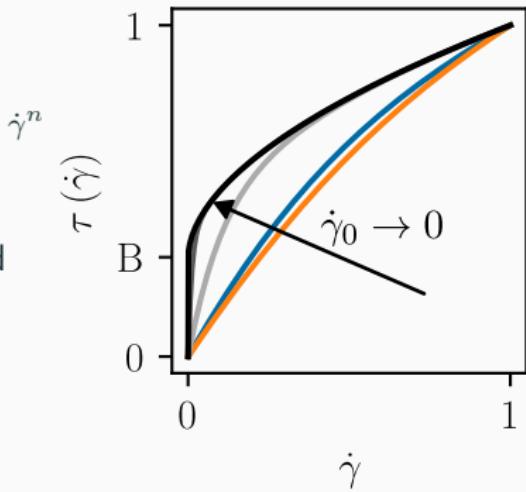


# Dispersion curves for Herschel-Bulkley fluids

Double regularized Herschel-Bulkley rheological law:

$$\tau(\dot{\gamma}) = B \left( 1 - \exp(-\dot{\gamma}/\dot{\gamma}_0) \right) + (1-B)$$

- Papanastasiou-like regularization for the yield stress,



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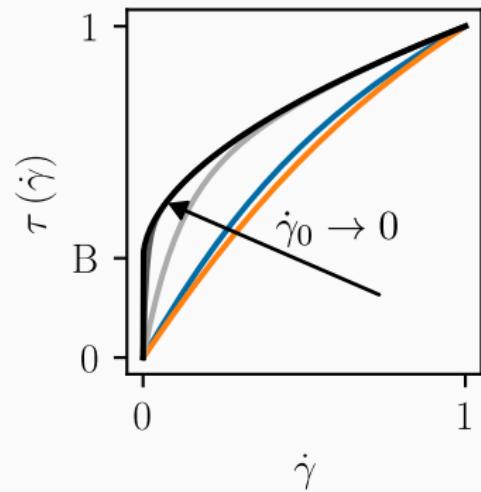
Papanastasiou (Journal of Rheology, 1987)

## Dispersion curves for Herschel-Bulkley fluids

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- Papanastasiou-like regularization for the yield stress,
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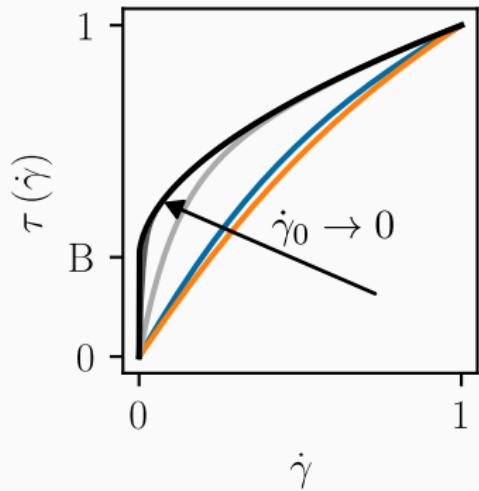
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# Dispersion curves for Herschel-Bulkley fluids

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- Papanastasiou-like regularization for the yield stress,
- Carreau-like regularization for  $\dot{\gamma}^n$ ,
- $\dot{\gamma}_0$ : regularization parameter, no physical meaning.



Choose  $\dot{\gamma}_0$  as small as possible!

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Papanastasiou (Journal of Rheology, 1987)  
Carreau (Trans. Soc. Rheol., 1972)

# Experimental wave-detection

## Experimental setup:

- angle  $\theta \approx 1^\circ - 30^\circ$ ,
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## Experimental setup:

- angle  $\theta \approx 1^\circ - 30^\circ$ ,
- imposed pulsation  $\omega$ ,
- fluid used: Carbopol 980 (Lubrizol),

## Measurement of $\alpha$ :

- translating laser at velocity  $v$ :

$$s(t) \propto \cos((\omega - \alpha_R v)t) \exp(-\alpha_I vt)$$

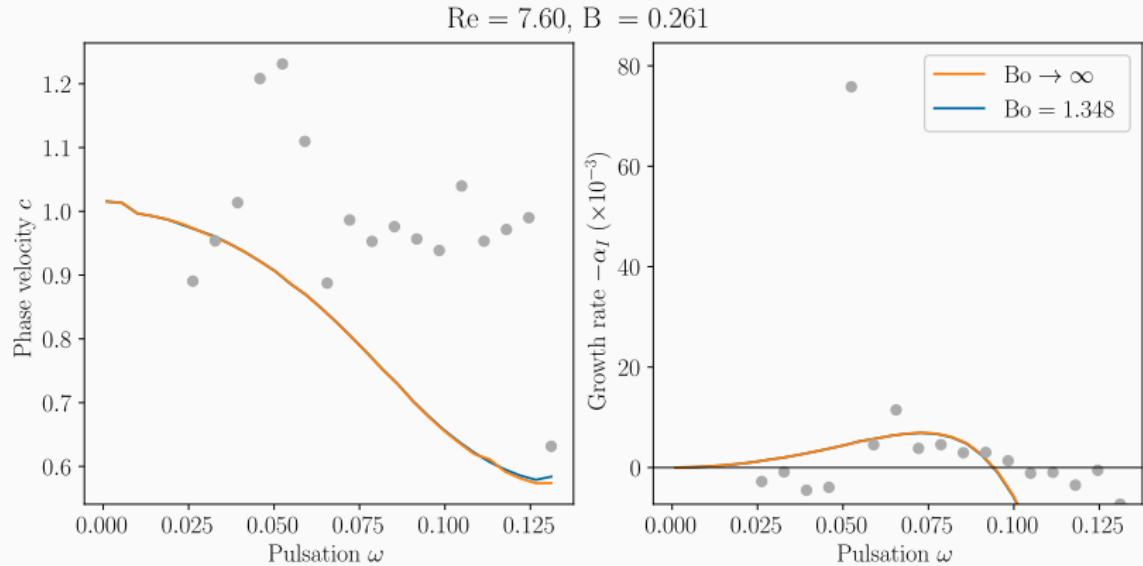
Doppler effect  $\rightarrow$  Fourier analysis  $\rightarrow \alpha$ .



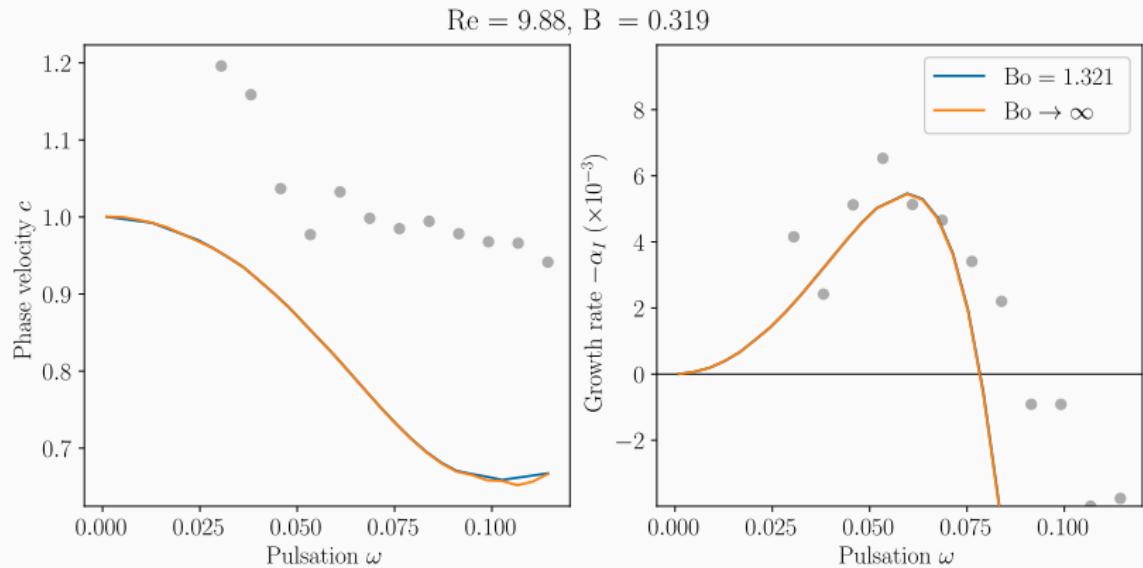
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Yoshida *et al.* (Jour. of Phys. E, 1981)

# Dispersion curves for viscoplastic fluids



# Dispersion curves for viscoplastic fluids



# Conclusion

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## Generalized model:

- generalised Newtonian fluids:  $\tau(\dot{\gamma}) = \eta(\dot{\gamma})\dot{\gamma}$  or  $\dot{\gamma} = \phi(\tau)\tau$ ,
- Orr-Sommerfeld equation.

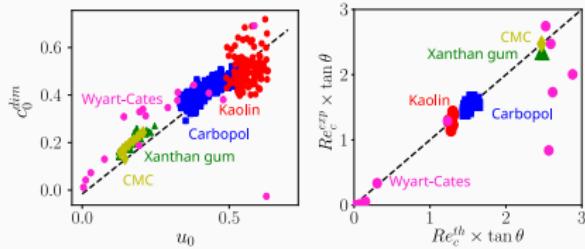
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- wave celerity  $c_0$  and stability threshold  $Re_c$ ,
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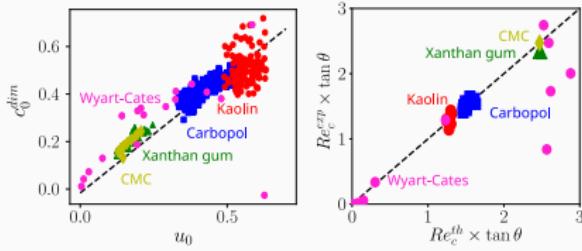
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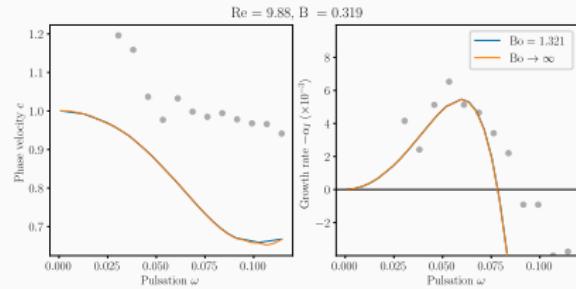
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## Dispersion curves:

- $\alpha = f(\omega, Re)$ ,
- good agreement for the growth rate,
- trickier to predict wave velocity.



# Perspectives

## More experiments:

- explore new rheologies (Carreau, . . . ),
- further validation of our model.

## Generalise other models:

- Benney equation, integrated models,
- non-linear stability.

## Add more funky effects:

- viscoelasticity.



Thank you very much !