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Phase transition to large scale coherent structures in 2d active matter turbulence

Dr. Moritz Linkmann

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(P.I. Prof. Luca Biferale)***

Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata
C.F.n. 80213750583 – Partita IVA n. 02133971008 - Via della Ricerca Scientifica, 1 – 00133 ROMA

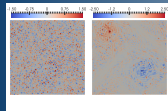
Phase transition to large-scale coherent structures in 2D active matter turbulence

Moritz Linkmann¹, Guido Boffetta²,
Cristina Marchetti³, Bruno Eckhardt¹

¹AG Komplexe Systeme, FB Physik, Philipps-Universität Marburg, Germany

²Dept. Physics and INFN, University of Torino, Italy

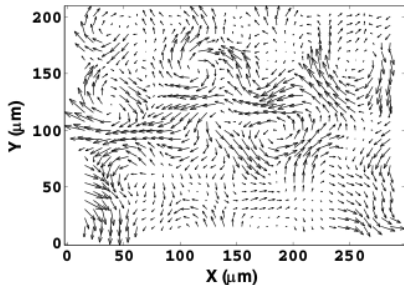
³Dept. Physics and Soft and Living Matter Program, Syracuse University, USA



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01.06.2018

Motivation: bacterial turbulence



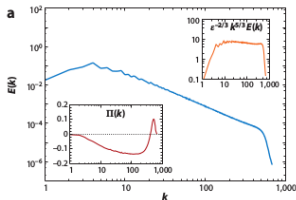
Velocity field of pendant drop
of *Bacillus subtilis* suspension
Dombrowski et al,
PRL **93** 098103 (2004)

Collective effects of many microswimmers lead to vortices larger than the characteristic size of an individual microswimmer

- length of microswimmer, e.g. *B. subtilis*: $O(5\mu m)$
- size of vortex: $O(100\mu m)$

From bacterial turbulence to hydrodynamic turbulence

- (quasi)-2D bacterial suspensions: bacterial films, plankton
- 2D turbulence: inverse energy cascade



Energy spectrum and flux in 2D turbulence
Boffetta, ARFM (2014)

- local Re for microswimmer $O(10^{-5})$: dissipative range
- pusher type bacteria can lower effective viscosity

Hatwalne et al., PRL **92** 118101 (2004), Liverpool & Marchetti PRL **97** 268101 (2006),
Sokolov & Aronson, PRL **103** 148101 (2009), López et al, PRL **115** 028301 (2015)

- 1 transition to hydrodynamic turbulence?
- 2 sustained turbulent cascade for strong driving?

- 1 Models
- 2 Phase transition
- 3 Four-scale model
- 4 Comparison to experiments
- 5 Viscosity reduction
- 6 Conclusions

1 Bacterial flow model

Wensink et al. PNAS **109** 14308 (2012)

Bratanov et al. PNAS **53** 15048 (2015)

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \lambda_0 (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = \lambda_1 \nabla |\mathbf{u}|^2 - (\alpha + \beta |\mathbf{u}|^2) \mathbf{u} + \Gamma_0 \Delta \mathbf{u} - \Gamma_2 \Delta^2 \mathbf{u},$$

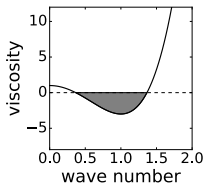
2 Solvent model

Słomka & Dunkel EPJE **224** 1349 (2015)

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = \nabla \cdot \sigma,$$

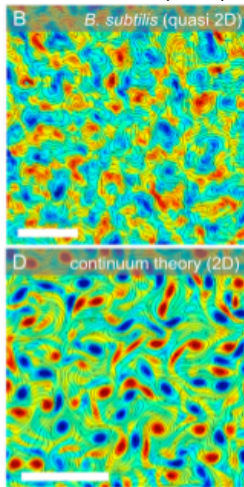
$$\sigma_{ij} = \left(\Gamma_0 - \Gamma_2 \Delta + \Gamma_4 \Delta^2 \right) (\partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i)$$

$$\hat{\nu}_{\text{eff}} = \Gamma_0 + \Gamma_2 k^2 + \Gamma_4 k^4.$$



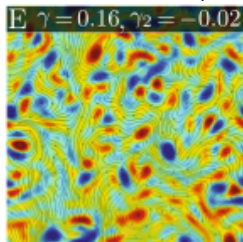
Comparison to experiments: Vorticity field

Wensink et al. (2012)



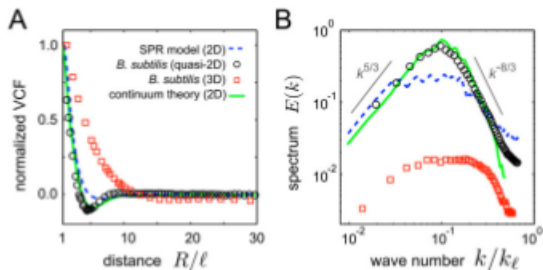
scale bar: $50\mu m$, domain length: $217\mu m$

Słomka & Dunkel (2015)



domain length: $600\mu m$

Comparison to experiments: energy spectrum



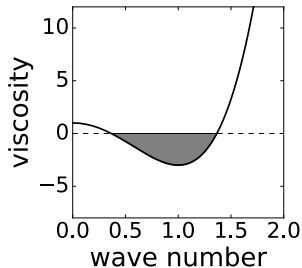
Wensink et al. PNAS **109** 14308 (2012)

Piecewise constant viscosity (PCV) model

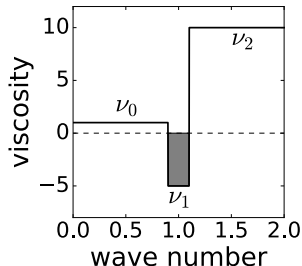
$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + D[\mathbf{u}],$$

$$D[\mathbf{u}] = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} d\mathbf{k} \hat{\nu}(|\mathbf{k}|) k^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}}_k e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}},$$

continuous



piecewise constant



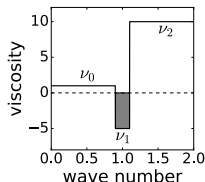
Wensink et al. PNAS **109** 14308 (2012)
Bratanov et al. PNAS **53** 15048 (2015),
Słomka & Dunkel EPJE **224** 1349 (2015)

Piecewise constant viscosity (PCV) model

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) + (\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla p(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} d\mathbf{y} \nu(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \Delta_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{y}) ,$$

$$\partial_t \hat{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{k}) + \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} d\mathbf{p} (\hat{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{p}) \cdot i\mathbf{k}) \hat{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{k} - \mathbf{p}) + i\mathbf{k} \hat{p}(\mathbf{k}) = -\hat{\nu}(k) k^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}}(\mathbf{k}) ,$$

$$\hat{\nu}(k) = \begin{cases} \nu_0 > 0 & \text{for } k < k_{\min} , \\ \nu_1 < 0 & \text{for } k \in [k_{\min}, k_{\max}] , \\ \nu_2 > 0 & \text{for } k > k_{\max} . \end{cases}$$



- Galilean invariant
- One single parameter, ν_1 , controls the energy input.

Parameter study: numerical details

- fully dealiased pseudospectral DNS
- domain $[0, 2\pi]^2$, discretised on 256^2 and 1024^2 grid points
- keep ν_0 and ν_2 fixed
- keep amplification wavenumber band $[k_{\min}, k_{\max}]$ fixed
- vary amplification factor ν_1

$$\nu_0 = 0.00109$$

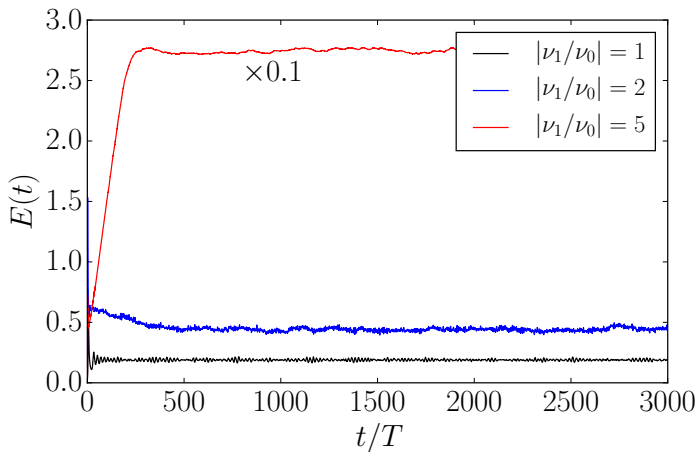
$$\nu_2/\nu_0 = 10$$

$$k_{\min} = 33$$

$$k_{\max} = 42$$

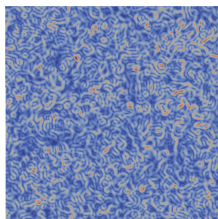
$$|\nu_1/\nu_0| \in [0.25, 7]$$

Parameter study: Time evolution



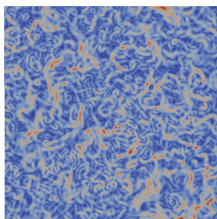
$$|\nu_1/\nu_0| = 1$$

0.00 0.512 1.021 1.531 2.04



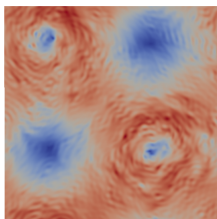
$$|\nu_1/\nu_0| = 2$$

0.01 0.723 1.445 2.168 2.90

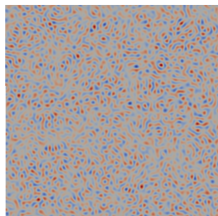


$$|\nu_1/\nu_0| = 5$$

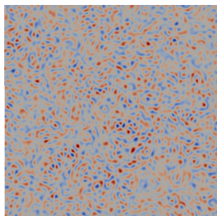
0.01 2.908 5.815 8.723 11.64



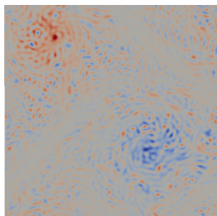
-1.50 -0.75 0 0.75 1.50



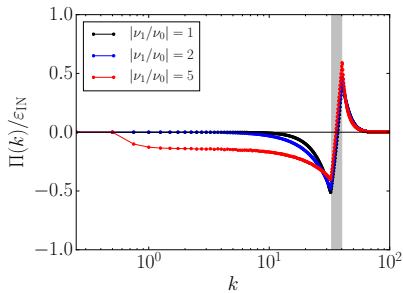
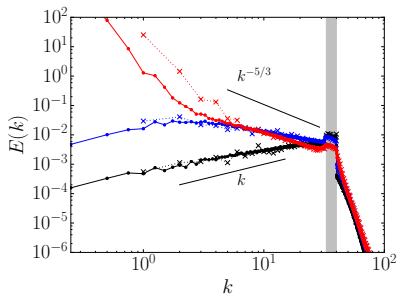
-1.50 -0.75 0 0.75 1.50



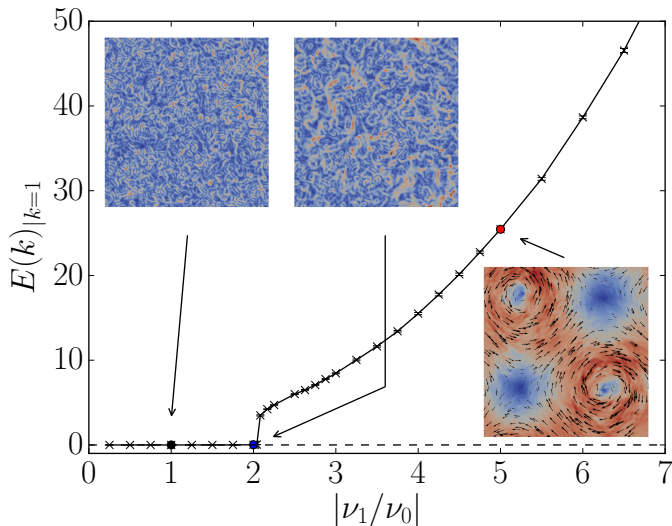
-2.50 -1.2 0 1.2 2.50



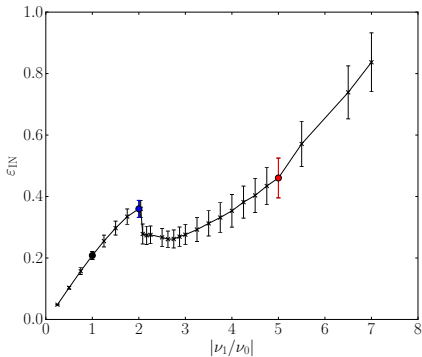
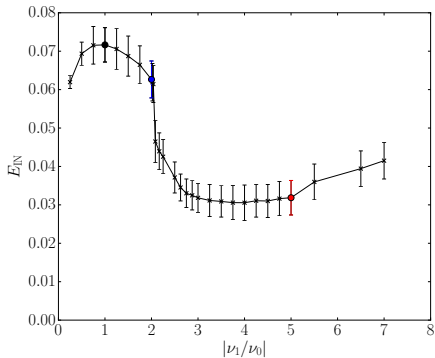
Parameter study: Scale-by-scale results



Parameter study: Global results

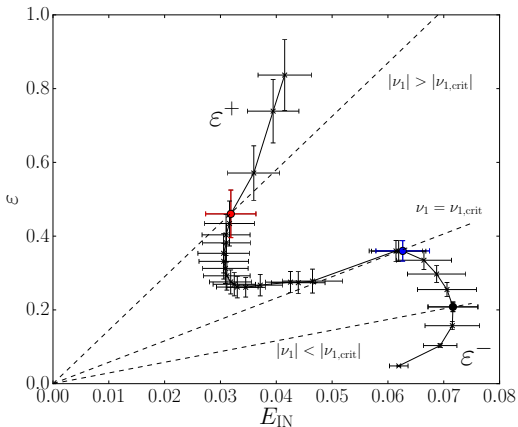


Parameter study: Global results

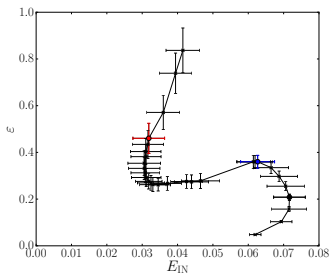
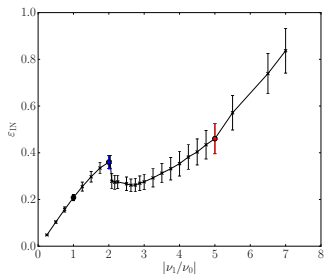
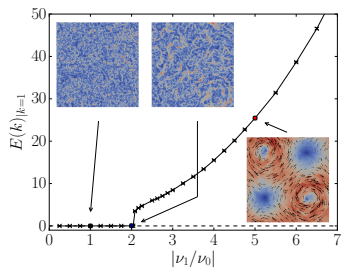


Parameter study: Global results

$$\varepsilon \simeq 2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2 E_{\text{IN}}$$



Parameter study: Global results



Four-scale model

- condensate: $E_1 := E(k)|_{k=1}$
- large scales: $E_{LS} := \int_1^{k_{\min}} E(k) dk$
- driven scales: $E_{IN} := \int_{k_{\min}}^{k_{\max}} E(k) dk$
- small scales: $E_{SS} := \int_{k_{\min}}^{\infty} E(k) dk$

Interscale energy transfers

$$E_{IN} \longrightarrow E_{LS} : c_1 E_{LS}^{1/2} E_{IN} ,$$

$$E_{IN} \longrightarrow E_1 : c_2 \theta(E_1 - E_{1,0}) E_1^{1/2} E_{IN} ,$$

$$E_{LS} \longrightarrow E_1 : c_3 E_1^{1/2} E_{LS} ,$$

$$E_{IN} \longrightarrow E_{SS} : c_4 E_{SS}^{1/2} E_{IN} ,$$

$c_i > 0$: coupling constants determined from DNS

θ : Heaviside step function

Evolution equations

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{E}_{\text{IN}} = & -2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2 E_{\text{IN}} - c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} - c_4 E_{\text{SS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} \\ & - c_2 \theta (E_1 - E_{1,0}) E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{E}_{\text{LS}} = -2\nu_0 k_{\text{LS}}^2 E_{\text{LS}} + c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} - c_3 E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{LS}}$$

$$\dot{E}_{\text{SS}} = -2\nu_2 k_{\text{SS}}^2 E_{\text{SS}} + c_4 E_{\text{SS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}}$$

$$\dot{E}_1 = -2\nu_0 k_1^2 E_1 + c_3 E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{LS}} + c_2 \theta (E_1 - E_{1,0}) E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}}$$

effective wavenumbers:

$$k_1 = 1, \quad k_{\text{LS}}, \quad k_{\text{SS}}, \quad k_{\text{IN}} = (k_{\text{min}} + k_{\text{max}})/2$$

Four-scale model: upper branch $E_1 > E_{1,0}$

In steady state:

$$-2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2 E_{\text{IN}} = c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} + c_2 E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} \implies c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} + c_2 E_1^{1/2} = -2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2,$$

$$2\nu_0 k_{\text{LS}}^2 E_{\text{LS}} = c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} \implies E_{\text{LS}} = \left(\frac{c_1}{2\nu_0 k_{\text{LS}}^2} E_{\text{IN}} \right)^2,$$

$$2\nu_0 k_1^2 E_1 = c_2 E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} \implies E_1 = \left(\frac{c_2}{2\nu_0 k_1^2} E_{\text{IN}} \right)^2.$$

$$-2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2 = c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} + c_2 E_1^{1/2} = \frac{c_1^2}{2k_{\text{LS}}^2} + \frac{c_2^2}{2k_1^2} E_{\text{IN}} \implies E_{\text{IN}} = -4 \frac{\nu_1 \nu_0 k_{\text{IN}}^2}{\frac{c_1^2}{k_{\text{LS}}^2} + \frac{c_2^2}{k_1^2}},$$

$$E_{\text{IN}} \sim |\nu_1| \text{ and } E_1 \sim \nu_1^2$$

Four-scale model: lower branch $E_1 < E_{1,0}$

In steady state:

$$2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2 E_{\text{IN}} = -c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} \implies E_{\text{LS}} = \left(\frac{2\nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2}{c_1} \right)^2 ,$$

$$2\nu_0 k_{\text{LS}}^2 E_{\text{LS}} = c_1 E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} E_{\text{IN}} - c_3 E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{LS}} \implies E_{\text{IN}} = \frac{1}{c_1} \left(2\nu_0 k_{\text{LS}}^2 + c_3 E_1^{1/2} \right) E_{\text{LS}}^{1/2} ,$$

$$2\nu_0 k_1^2 E_1 = c_3 E_1^{1/2} E_{\text{LS}} \implies E_1 = \left(\frac{c_3}{2\nu_0 k_1^2} E_{\text{LS}} \right)^2 .$$

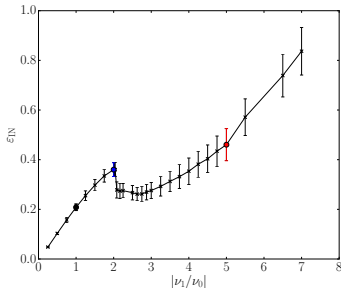
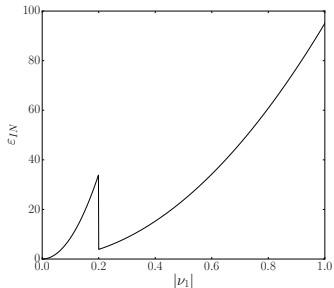
$$E_{\text{IN}} = -4 \frac{\nu_1 \nu_0}{c_1^2} k_{\text{IN}}^2 \left(k_{\text{LS}}^2 + \left(\frac{c_3 \nu_1 k_{\text{IN}}^2}{c_1 \nu_0 k_1} \right)^2 \right) ,$$

Four-scale model: transition

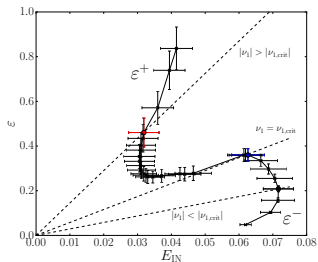
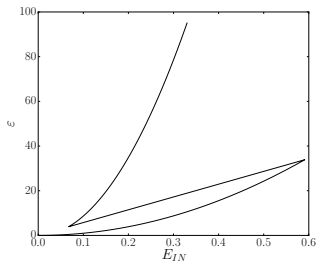
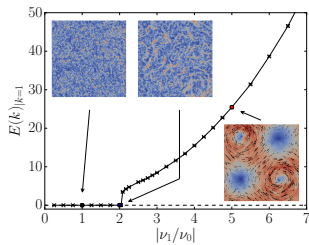
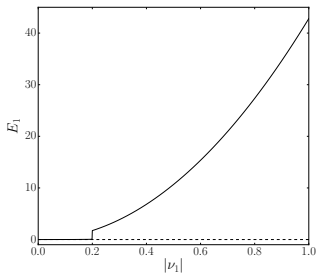
For $|\nu_1^\pm| \simeq |\nu_{1,\text{crit}}|$:

$$E_{\text{IN}}^{\varepsilon_+} = 4 \frac{|\nu_1^+| \nu_0 k_{\text{IN}}^2}{\frac{c_1^2}{k_{\text{LS}}^2} + \frac{c_2^2}{k_1^2}} < 4 \frac{|\nu_1^-| \nu_0}{c_1^2} k_{\text{IN}}^2 \left(k_{\text{LS}}^2 + \left(\frac{c_3 \nu_1^- k_{\text{IN}}^2}{c_1 \nu_0 k_1} \right)^2 \right) = E_{\text{IN}}^{\varepsilon_-}.$$

$$\varepsilon_+ = \varepsilon_{\text{IN}}^+ = 2|\nu_1^+| k_{\text{IN}}^2 E_{\text{IN}}^{\varepsilon_+} < 2|\nu_1^-| k_{\text{IN}}^2 E_{\text{IN}}^{\varepsilon_-} = \varepsilon_{\text{IN}}^- = \varepsilon_-$$

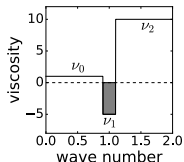


Four-scale model: transition



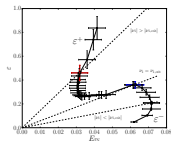
Summary

piecewise constant viscosity model in 2D:



- with weak driving, the large scales are in absolute equilibrium (no inverse energy flux)
- with strong driving, condensate forms at the largest resolved scale (inverse energy transfer)

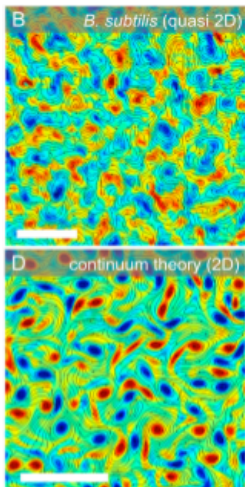
subcritical transition between two regimes
(no condensate vs condensate)



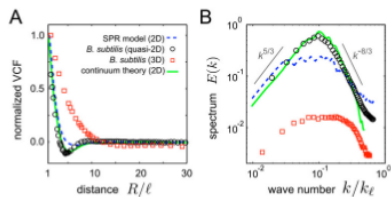
four-scale model:

direct coupling between condensate and driven scales

Comparison to experiments: Wensink et al. PNAS **109** 14308 (2012)



scale bar: $50\mu m$, domain length: $217\mu m$



Comparison with experiments

mesoscale vortices in bacterial suspensions:

Dombrowski et al PRL **93** 098103 (2004)

- size $\simeq 100\mu m$,
- speed $\simeq 100\mu m/s$,
- $\nu_{H_2O} = 10^6 \mu m^2/s$

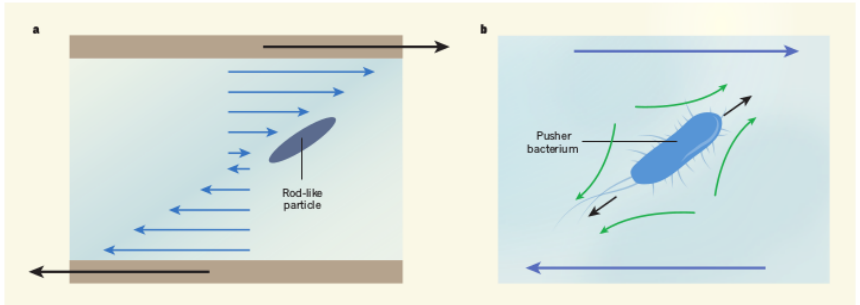
Reynolds number:
 $Re = O(10^{-2})$

numerical simulations:

- Driving scale:
 $\pi/k_{IN} \simeq 100\mu m$,
- Velocity scale:
 $\sqrt{E_{IN}} \simeq 240\mu m/s$
- $\nu = O(10^3 \mu m^2/s)$

Reynolds number:
 $Re = O(10 - 20)$

Viscosity reduction



M. C. Marchetti Nature Viewpoint **525** 37/38 (2015)

Viscosity reduction: bacterial suspensions

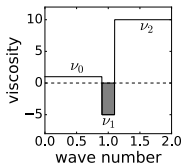
- viscosity reduction in suspensions of *B. subtilis*:
Sokolov & Aranson, PRL **103** 148101 (2009)
 $O(10)$ reduction for volume fractions 8% – 20%
- viscosity reduction in suspensions of *E. coli*:
López et al, PRL **115** 028301 (2015)
zero viscosity for volume fractions $\leq 1\%$
- mesoscale vortices occur for volume fractions $\geq 8\%$:
Gachelin et al, NJP **16** 025003 (2014)

$$Re = O(10^{-1} - 1)$$

Further reduction possible?

Conclusions

piecewise constant viscosity model in 2D:



subcritical transition between two regimes

- weak driving: the large scales in absolute equilibrium
no inverse energy flux
- strong driving: condensate at the largest scale
inverse energy transfer

four-scale model: direct coupling to condensate

Re $O(10 - 100)$ larger compared to experiments

Can such Re be achieved in experiments?

Thank you