

- Lecture I

- motivate/discuss celestial objects where rotation influences buoyancy driven flows
- discuss energetics, waves, balance

- Lecture II

- stability theory for rotating convection - what can we glean from it
- motivate non-hydrostatic quasi-geostrophy
- derive and investigate semi-analytic solutions (skeleton for strongly NL flows)

## Lecture III

- investigate fully NL rotating convection from QG perspective
- assess how the theory holds up c.f. experiments and DNS
- comments on broader view and future outlook

# NH-Quasi-Geostrophic (RRBC)

$Ro \rightarrow 0$  limit

**Balance:**  $p' = \Psi, \quad \mathbf{u} = (-\partial_y \Psi, \partial_x \Psi, w), \quad \zeta = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \nabla_{\perp}^2 \Psi, \quad T = \bar{T}(Z) + E^{1/3} \vartheta.$

**Vert. Vorticity**

$$\partial_t \zeta + J[\psi, \zeta] - \partial_Z w = \nabla_{\perp}^2 \zeta$$

**Vert. Velocity**

$$\partial_t w + J[\psi, w] + \partial_Z \psi = \nabla_{\perp}^2 w + \frac{\widetilde{Ra}}{Pr} \theta$$

**Temp. Fluct.**

$$\partial_t \theta + J[\psi, \theta] + w \partial_Z \bar{T} = \frac{1}{Pr} \nabla_{\perp}^2 \theta$$

**Mean. Temp.**

$$\partial_Z (\overline{w\theta}) = \frac{1}{Pr} \partial_{ZZ} \bar{T}$$

**Two control parameters**

$$\widetilde{Ra} = Ra E^{4/3}, \quad Pr$$

**Reduced BCs.**

$$w = 0, \quad T(0) = 1, \quad T(1) = 0$$

- Isotropic velocity magnitudes (non-hydrostatic dynamics)
- No vertical inertial advection (hallmark of QG theory)
- Horizontal dissipation only (no vertical dissipation - filtered mtm. Ekman bl's)
- Vertical diffusion for mean temperature only (TBL can develop)
- Slow inertial waves only. No fast (unbalanced) waves

$$\omega_{wave}^2 = \frac{k_Z^2}{k_{\perp}^2}$$

# NH-Quasi-Geostrophic (RRBC)

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$$\partial_t \zeta + J[\psi, \zeta] - \partial_Z w = \nabla_{\perp}^2 \zeta$$

**Two control parameters**

$$\widetilde{Ra} = Ra E^{4/3}, \quad Pr$$

**Vert. Velocity**

$$\partial_t w + J[\psi, w] + \partial_Z \psi = \nabla_{\perp}^2 w + \frac{\widetilde{Ra}}{Pr} \theta$$

**Temp. Fluct.**

$$\partial_t \theta + J[\psi, \theta] + w \partial_Z \bar{T} = \frac{1}{Pr} \nabla_{\perp}^2 \theta$$

**Reduced BCs.**

**Mean. Temp.**

$$\partial_Z (\overline{w\theta}) = \frac{1}{Pr} \partial_{ZZ} \bar{T}$$

$$w = 0, \quad T(0) = 1, \quad T(1) = 0$$

Conserved quantities: Energy (volume averaged) and Potential Vorticity (pointwise)

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \langle |\nabla^{\perp} \psi|^2 + w^2 \rangle_V, \quad Q_{PV} = \left( \zeta + \frac{\widetilde{Ra}}{Pr} \partial_Z \left( \frac{\theta}{\partial_Z \bar{T}} \right) \right) + J[w, \theta]$$

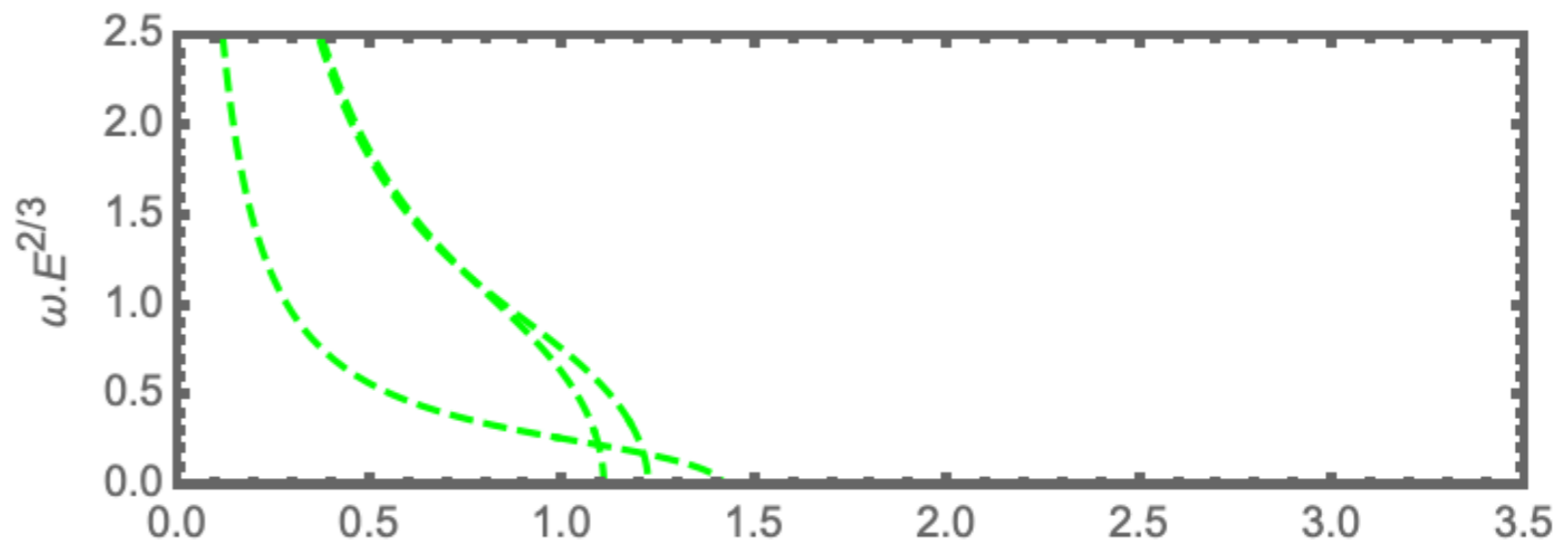
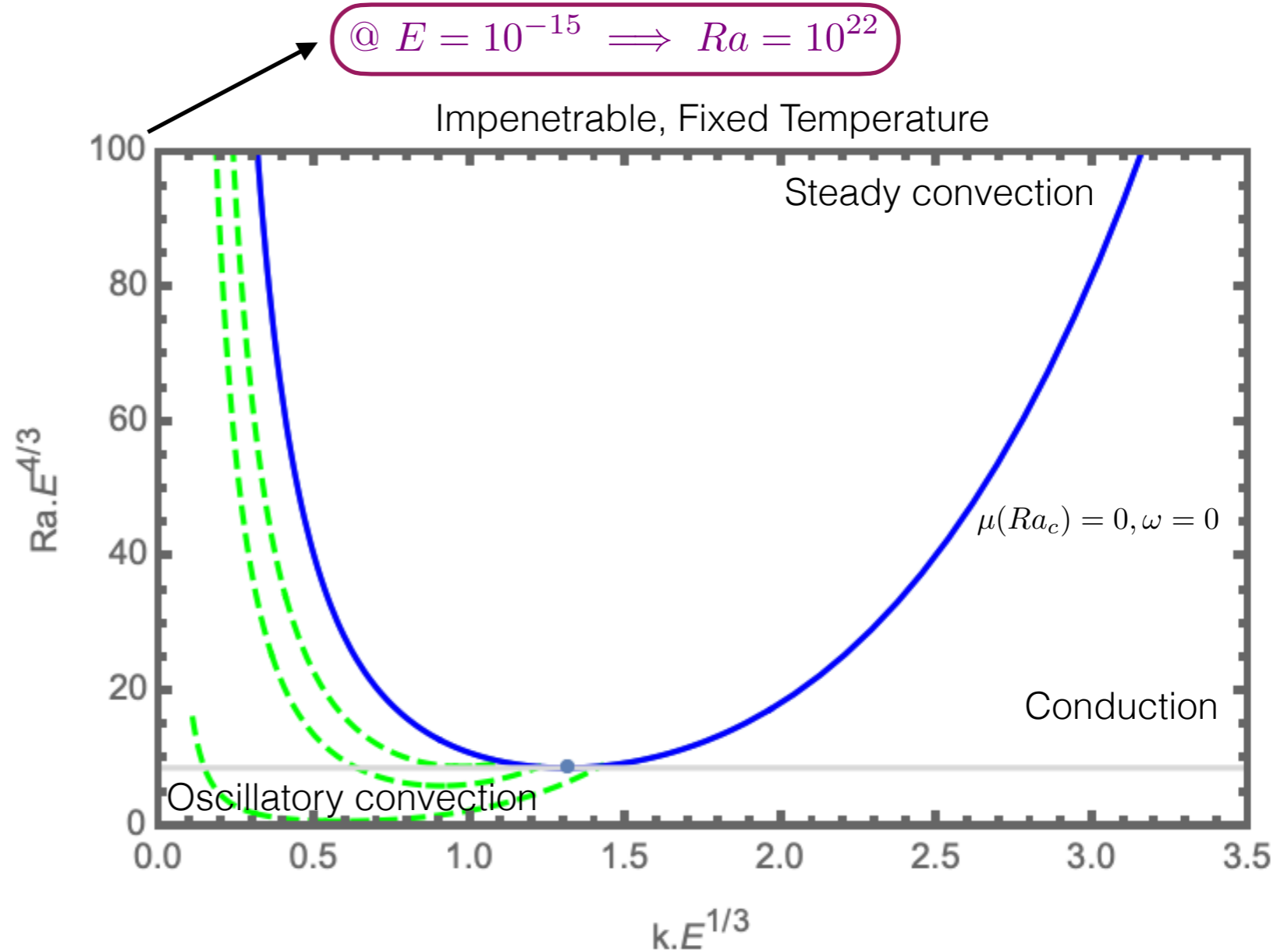
Enstrophy not conserved. Forward cascade?



# Linear Stability Theory: Captured

Asymptotic validity of NH-QGE

$$\widetilde{Ra} < \mathcal{O}(E^{-1/3})$$





# Single-Mode Solutions

$$p' = \Psi, \quad \mathbf{u} = (-\partial_y \Psi, \partial_x \Psi, w), \quad \zeta = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \nabla_{\perp}^2 \Psi, \quad T = \bar{T}(Z) + \epsilon \vartheta.$$

$$\partial_t \zeta + \cancel{J[\psi, \zeta]} - \partial_Z w = \nabla_{\perp}^2 \zeta$$

$$\partial_t w + \cancel{J[\psi, w]} + \partial_Z \psi = \nabla_{\perp}^2 w + \frac{\widetilde{Ra}}{Pr} \theta$$

$$\partial_t \theta + \cancel{J[\psi, \theta]} + w \partial_Z \bar{T} = \frac{1}{Pr} \nabla_{\perp}^2 \theta$$

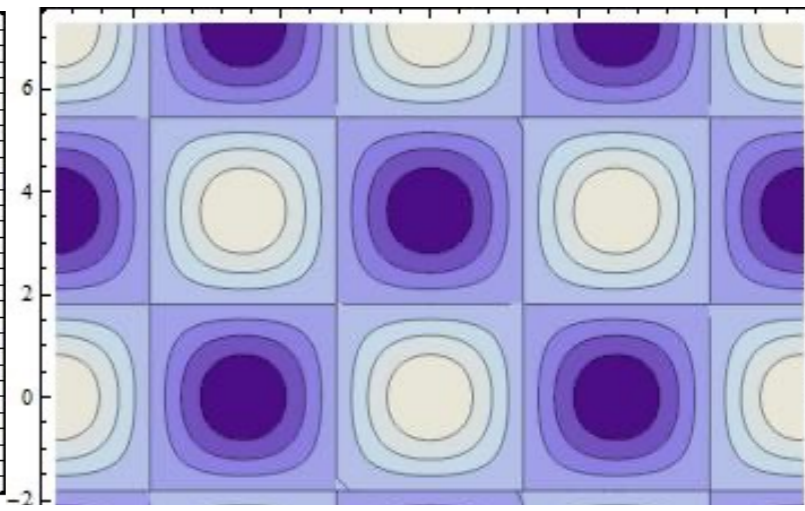
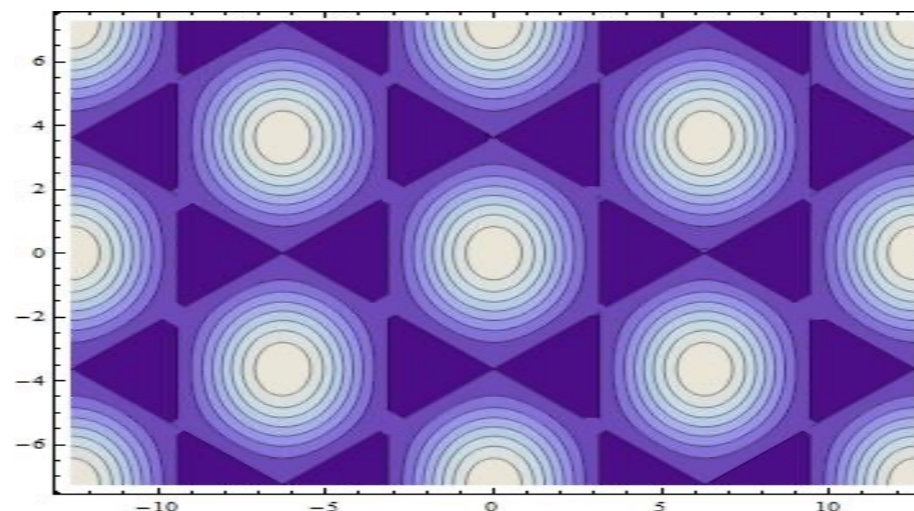
$$\partial_Z(\bar{w}\theta) = \frac{1}{Pr} \partial_{ZZ} \bar{T}$$

Pose:

$$w = \hat{W}(Z, t) h(x, y), \quad \nabla_{\perp}^2 h + k_{\perp}^2 h = 0$$

$$J[h, h] = 0$$

$h(x, y)$  top view



# Single-Mode Solutions

$$p' = \Psi, \quad \mathbf{u} = (-\partial_y \Psi, \partial_x \Psi, w), \quad \zeta = \hat{\mathbf{z}} \cdot \nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \nabla_{\perp}^2 \Psi, \quad T = \bar{T}(Z) + \epsilon \vartheta.$$

$$\cancel{k_{\perp}^2 \partial_t \hat{\Psi}} + \partial_Z \hat{W} = -k_{\perp}^4 \hat{\Psi}$$

$$\cancel{\partial_t \hat{W}} + \partial_Z \hat{\Psi} = -k_{\perp}^2 \hat{W} + \frac{\widetilde{Ra}}{Pr} \hat{\Theta}$$

$$\cancel{\partial_t \hat{\Theta}} + w \partial_Z \bar{T} = -\frac{1}{Pr} k_{\perp}^2 \hat{\Theta}$$

$$\partial_Z(\hat{W} \hat{\Theta}) = \frac{1}{Pr} \partial_{ZZ} \bar{T}$$

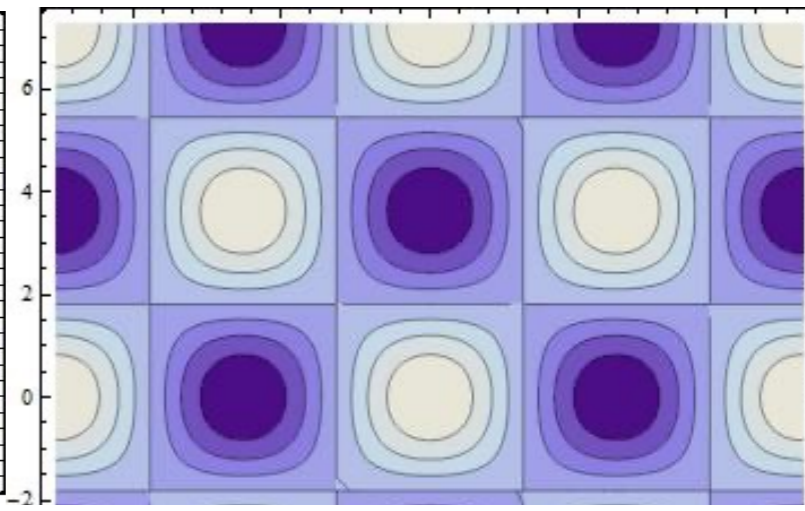
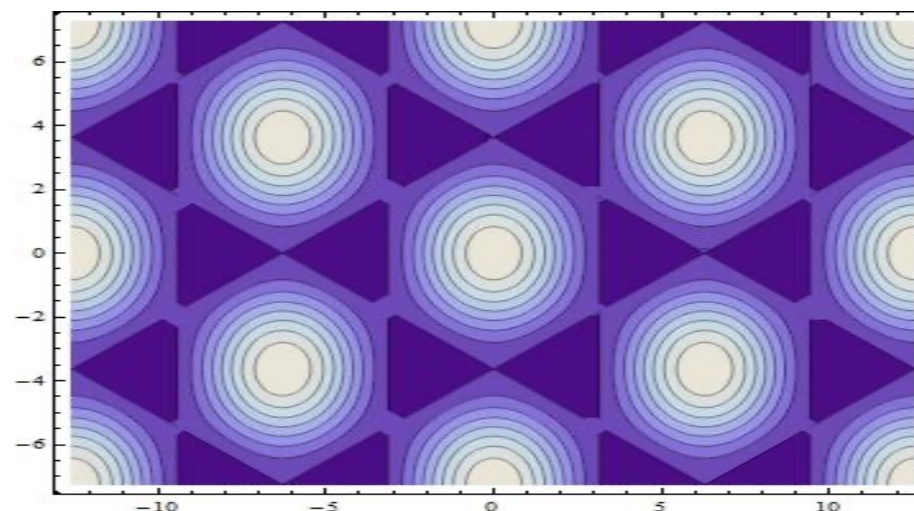
Steady convection

Pose:

$$w = \hat{W}(Z, t) h(x, y), \quad \nabla_{\perp}^2 h + k_{\perp}^2 h = 0$$

$$J[h, h] = 0$$

$h(x, y)$  top view





# Single-Mode Solutions

Pose:

$$w = \hat{W}(Z)h(x, y), \quad \nabla_{\perp}^2 h + k_{\perp}^2 h = 0$$

Find:

$$\partial_{ZZ}\hat{W} - k_{\perp}^2 \left[ \widetilde{Ra} \partial_Z \bar{T} + k_{\perp}^4 \right] \hat{W} = 0,$$

$$\partial_Z \bar{T} = - \left( \frac{k_{\perp}^2}{k_{\perp}^2 + Pr^2 \hat{W}^2} \right) Nu \quad Nu = \left[ \int_0^1 \left( \frac{k_{\perp}^2}{k_{\perp}^2 + Pr^2 \hat{W}^2} \right) dZ \right]^{-1}$$



# Single-Mode Solutions

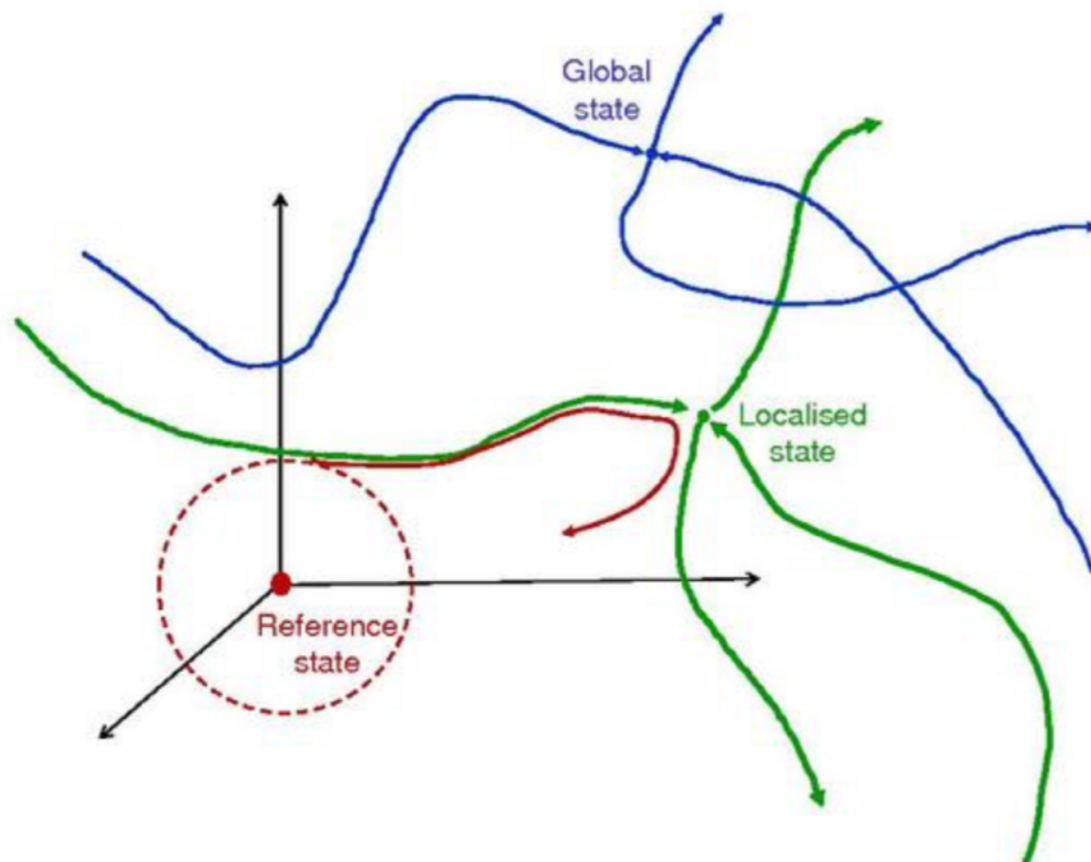
Pose:

$$w = \hat{W}(Z)h(x, y), \quad \nabla_{\perp}^2 h + k_{\perp}^2 h = 0$$

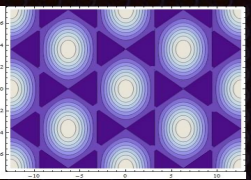
Find:

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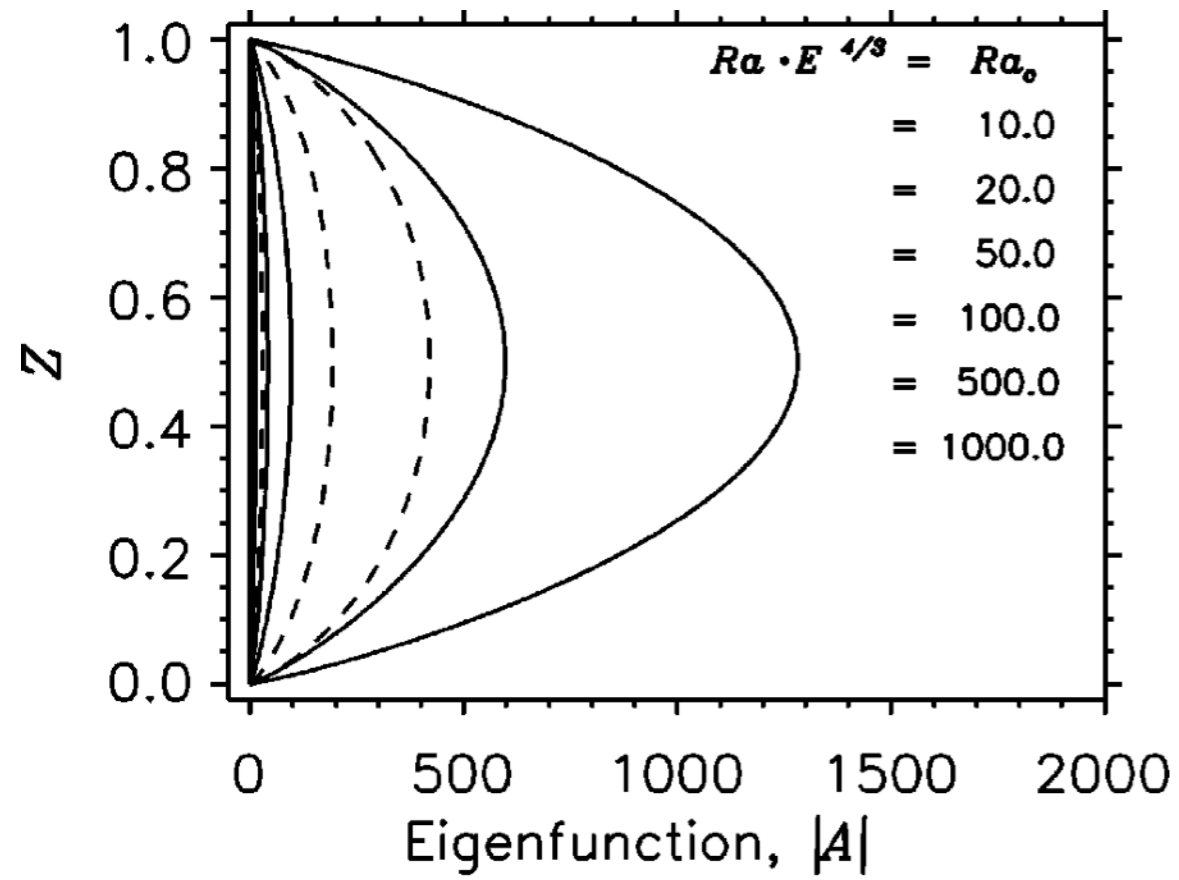
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Unstable solutions form a skeleton that impact the terrain of phase space

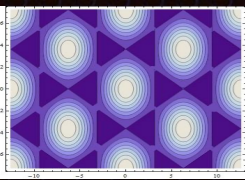


# Single-Mode Solutions

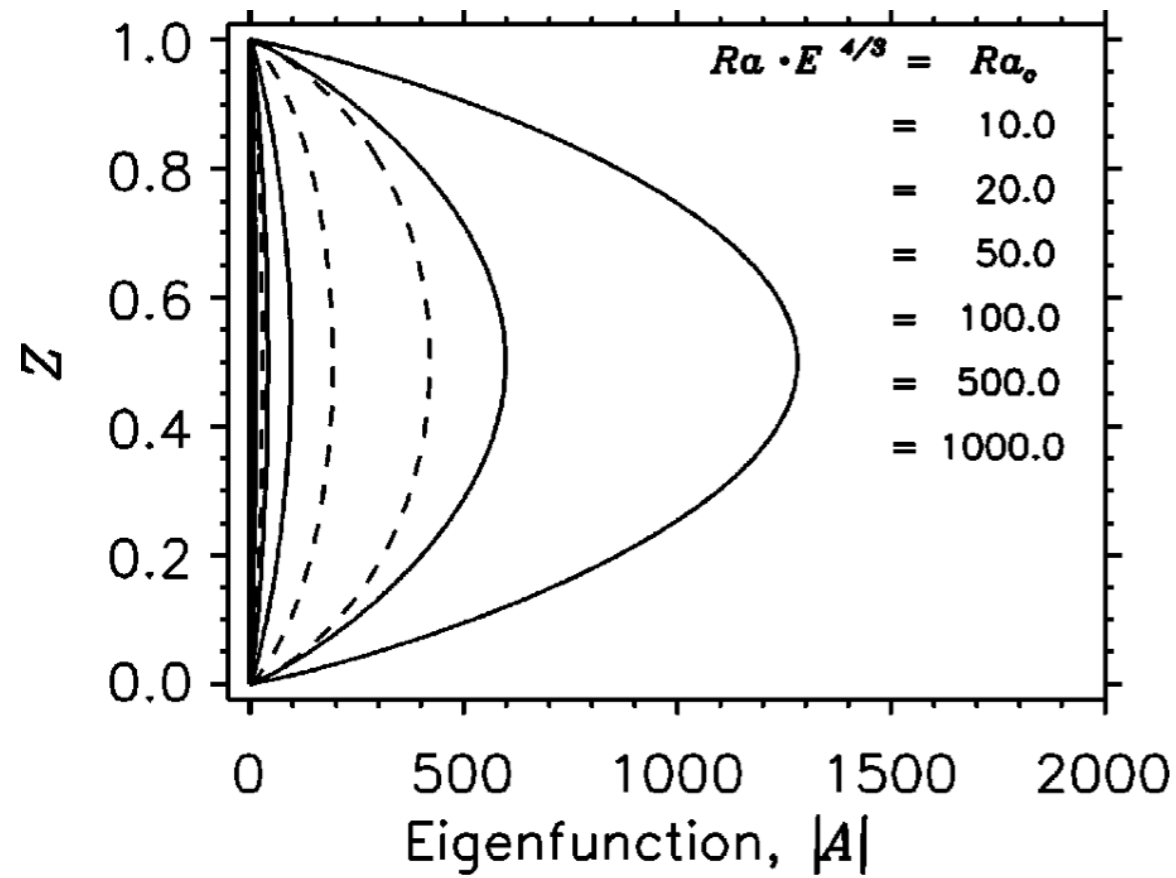


Sinusoidal vertical structure

For both steady and oscillatory convection

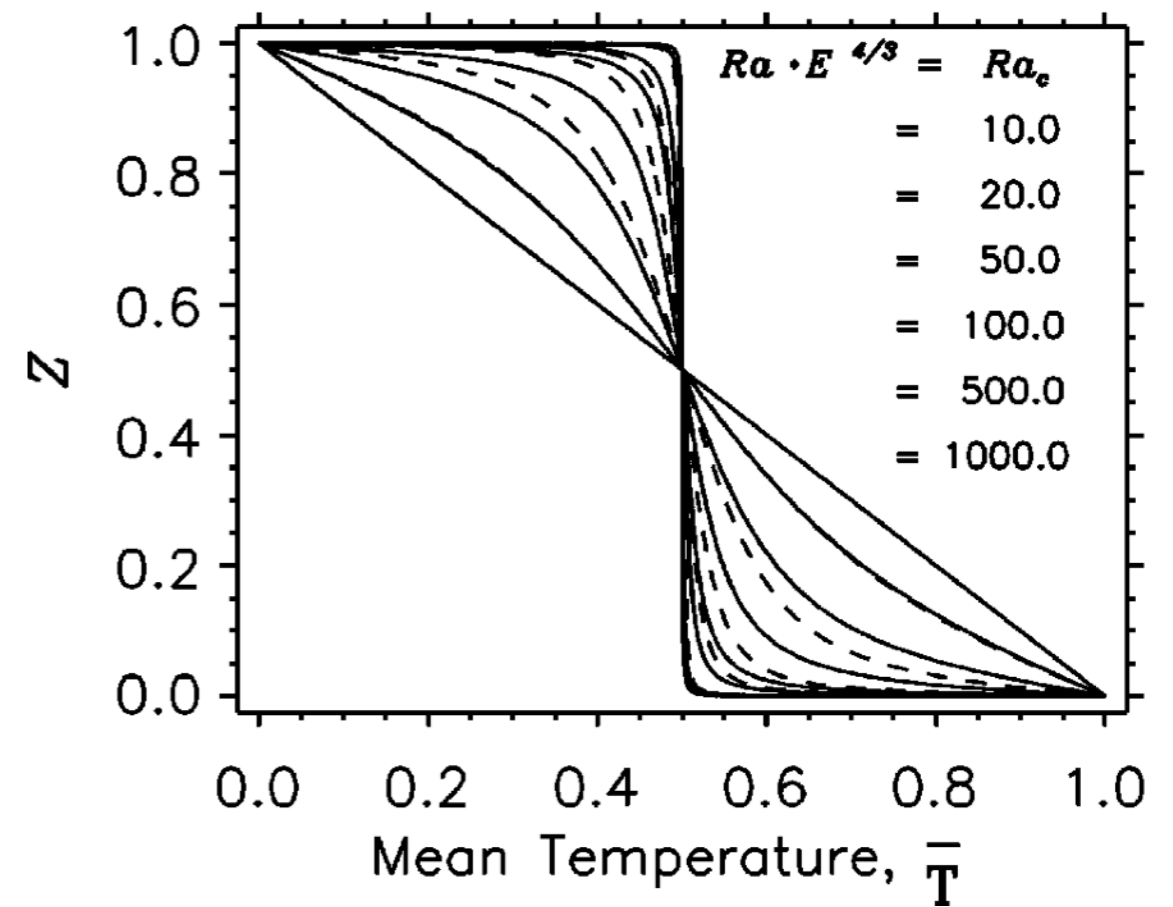


# Single-Mode Solutions



Sinusoidal vertical structure

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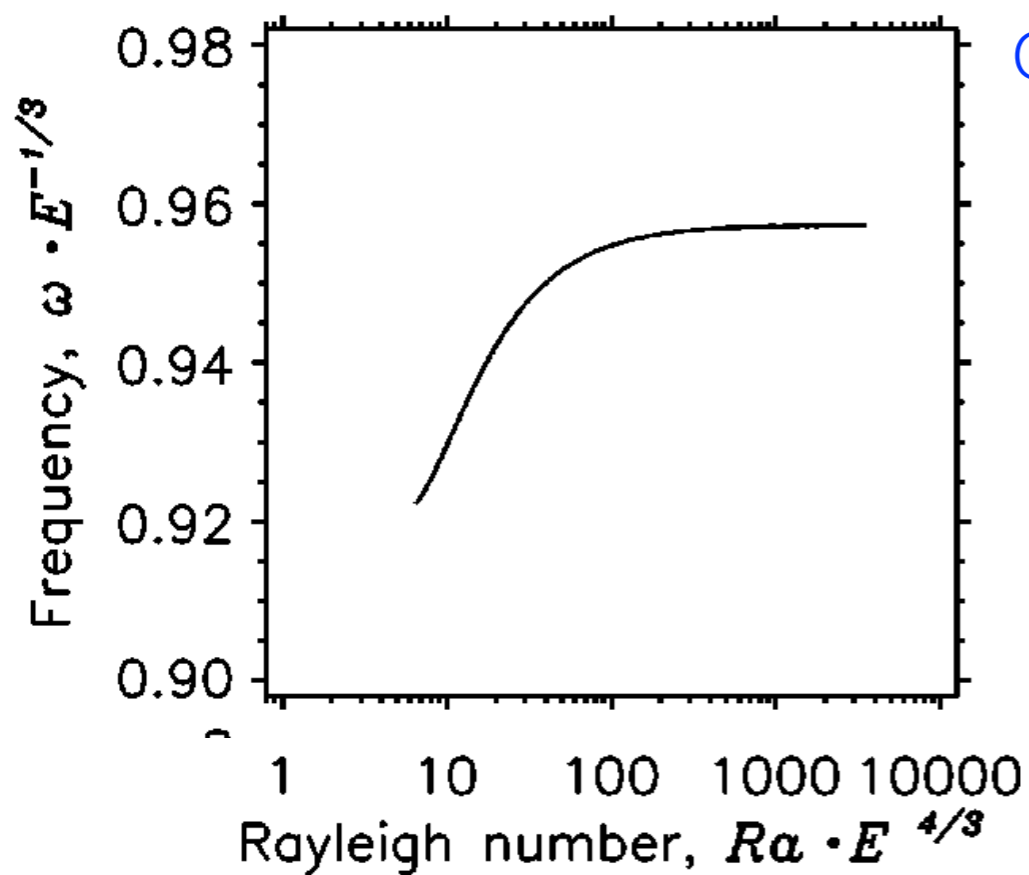
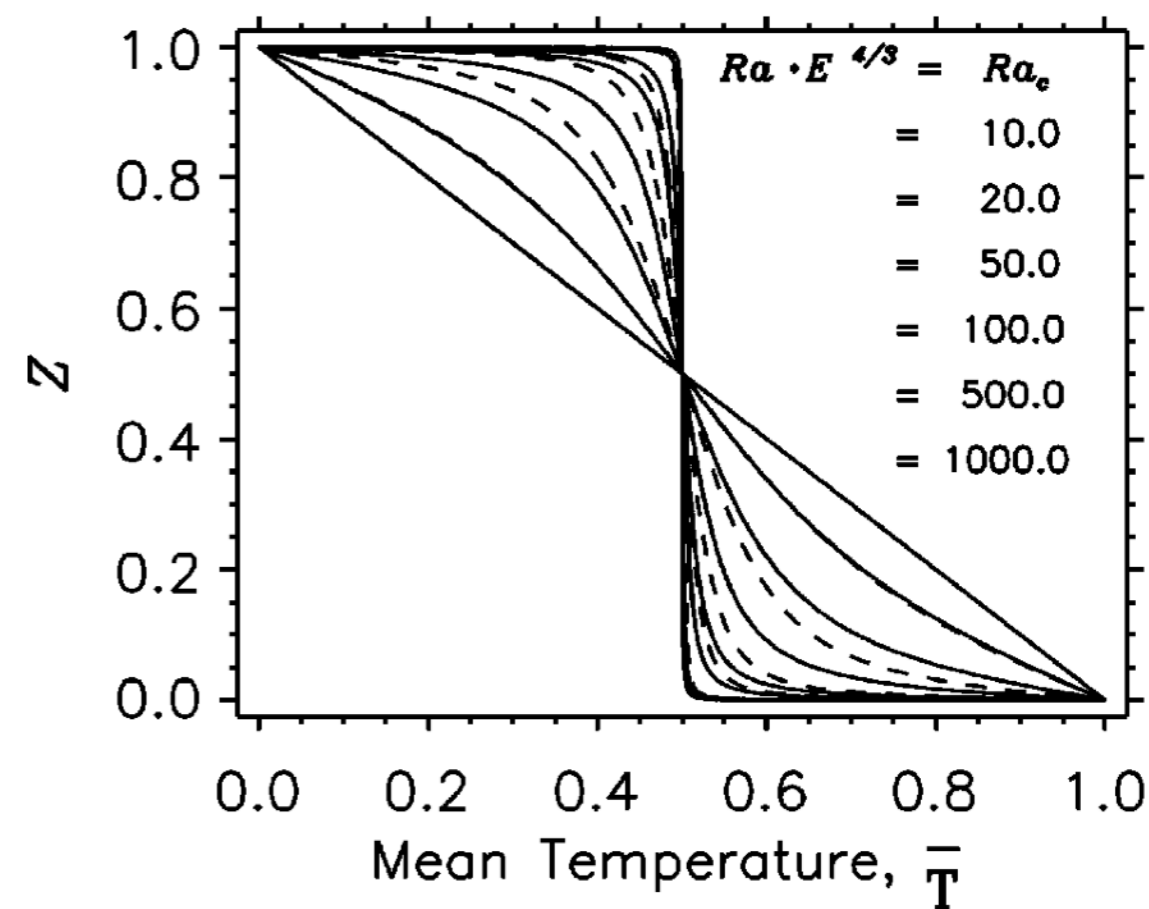
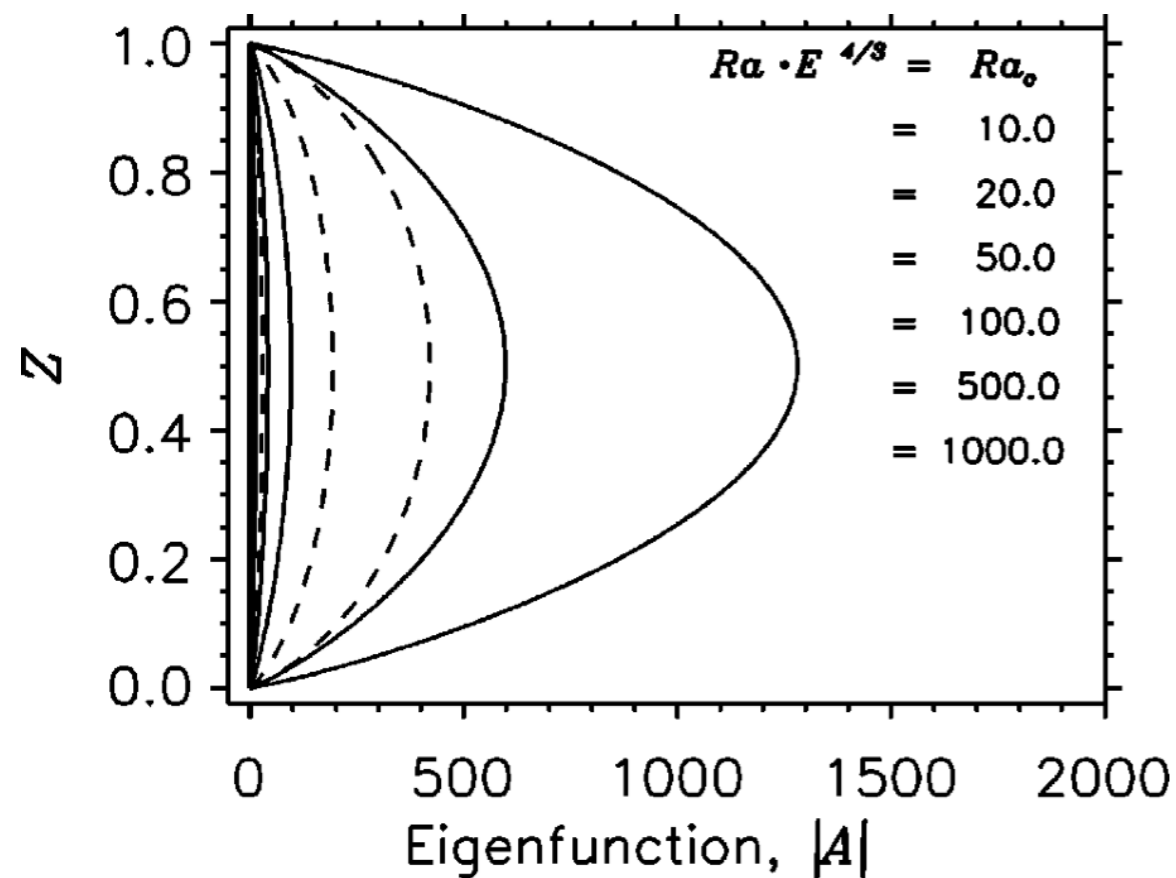
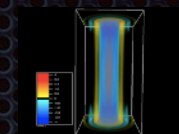
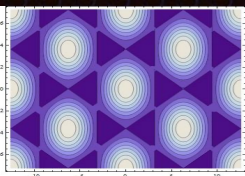


Development of TBL + Isothermal Interior

$$\partial_z \bar{T} \propto \widetilde{Ra}^{-1}$$

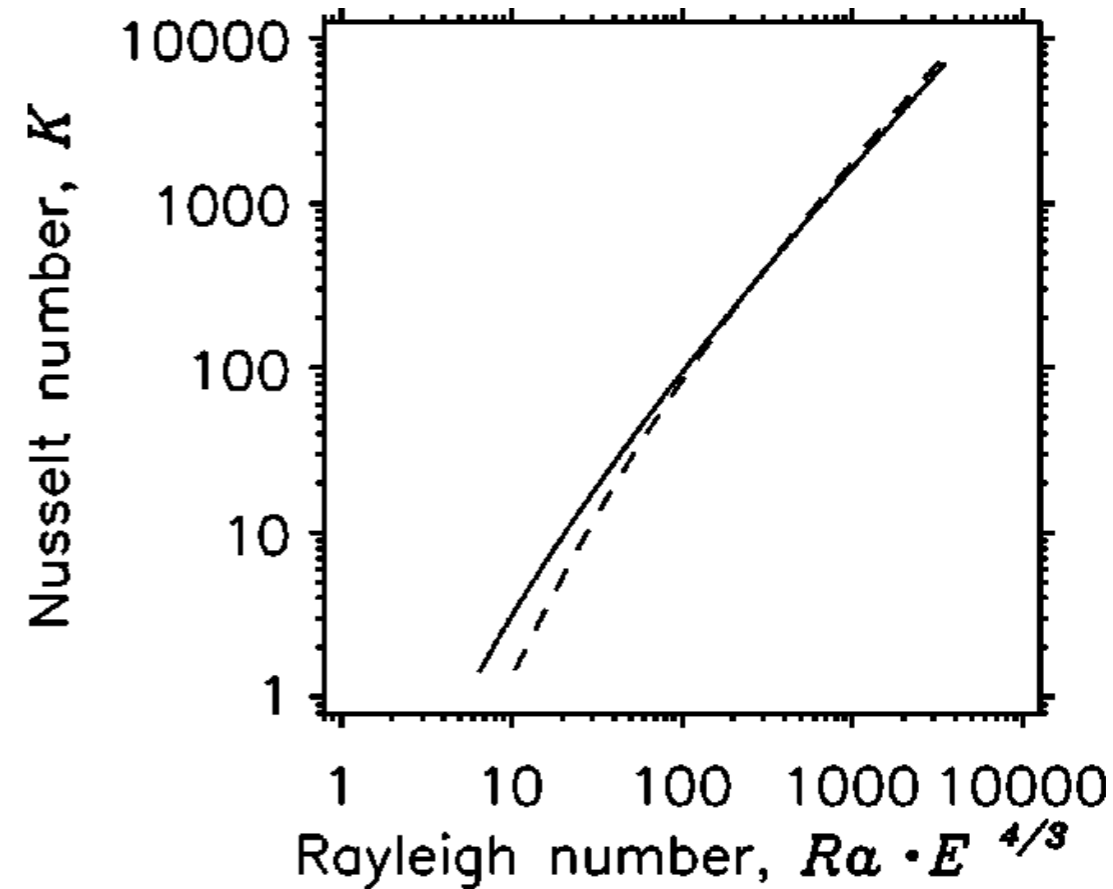
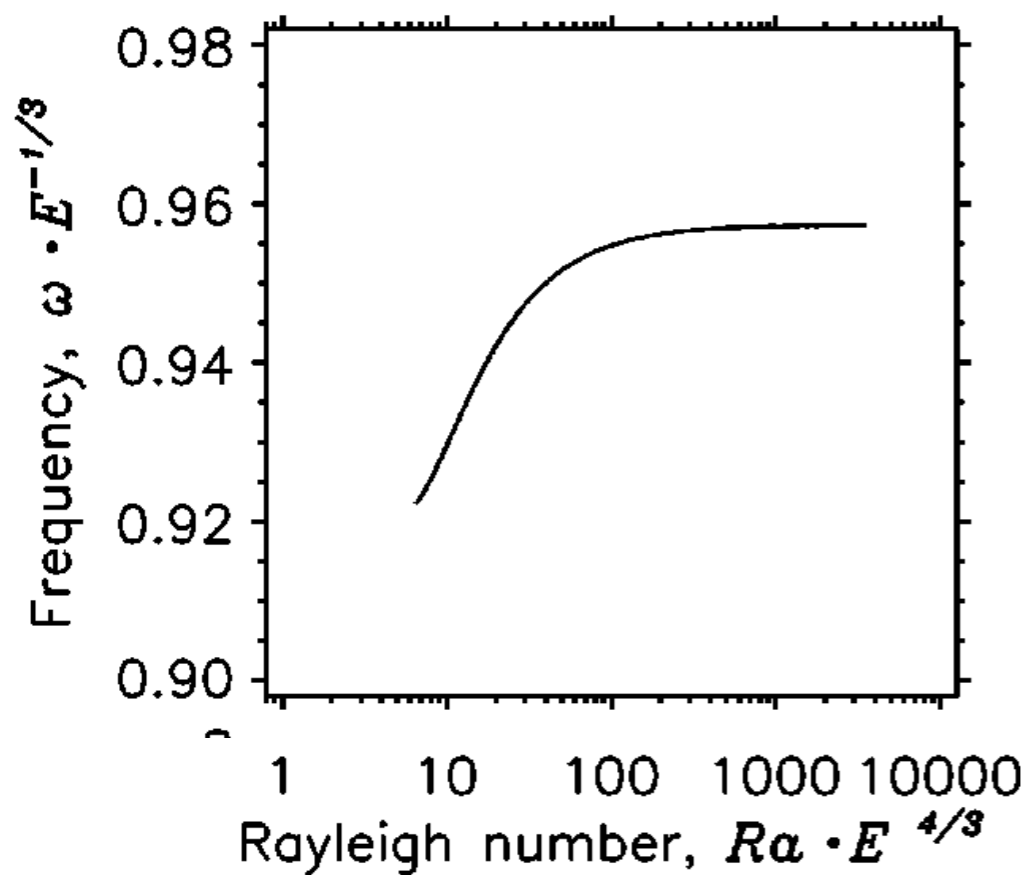
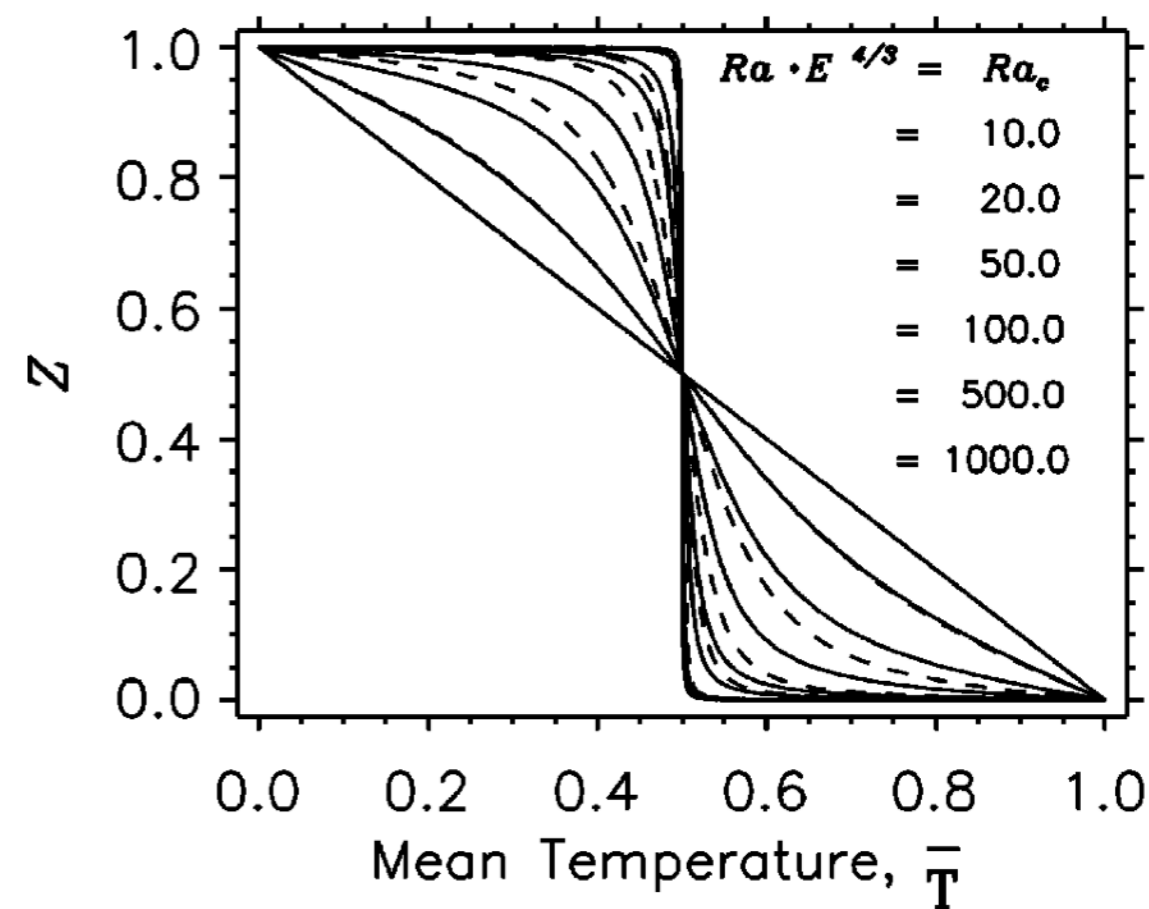
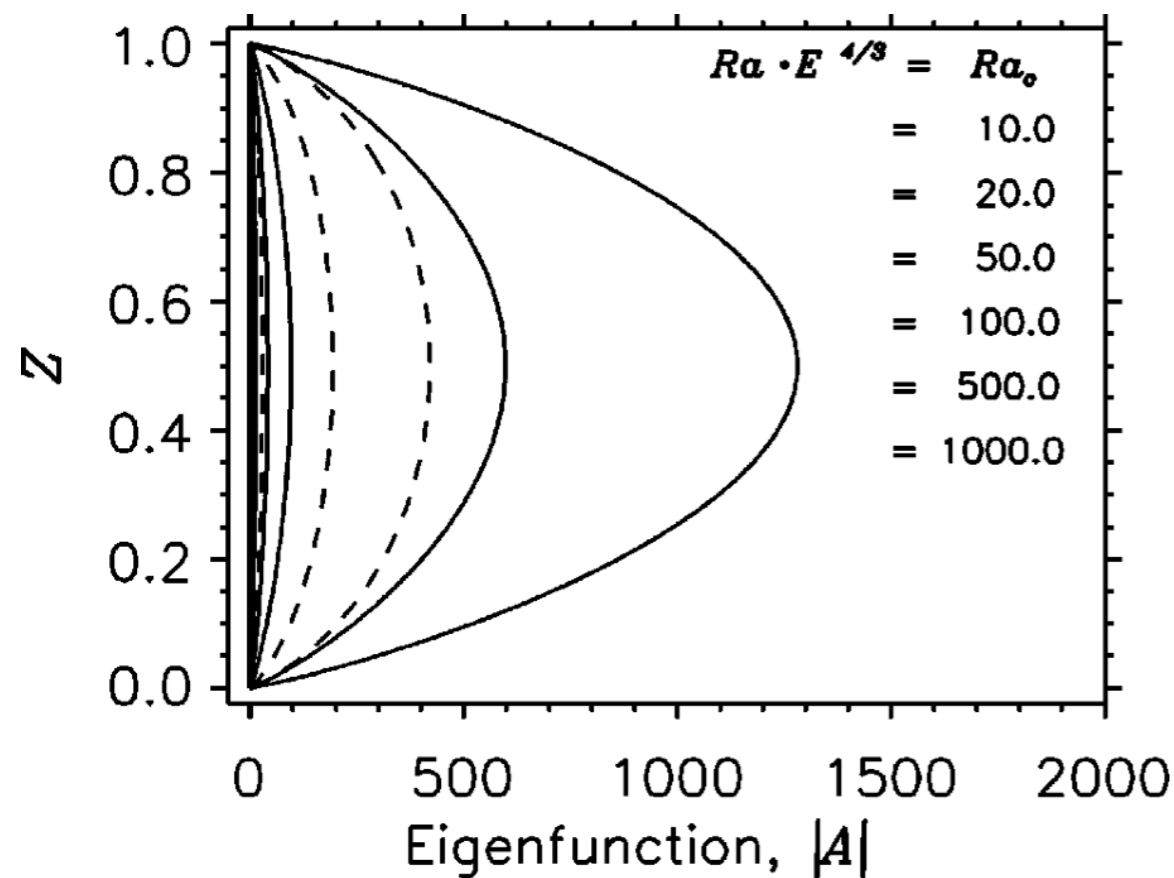
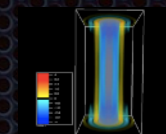
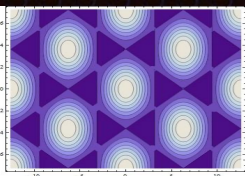


# Nonlinear Solutions - Exact Coherent Structures (ECS)

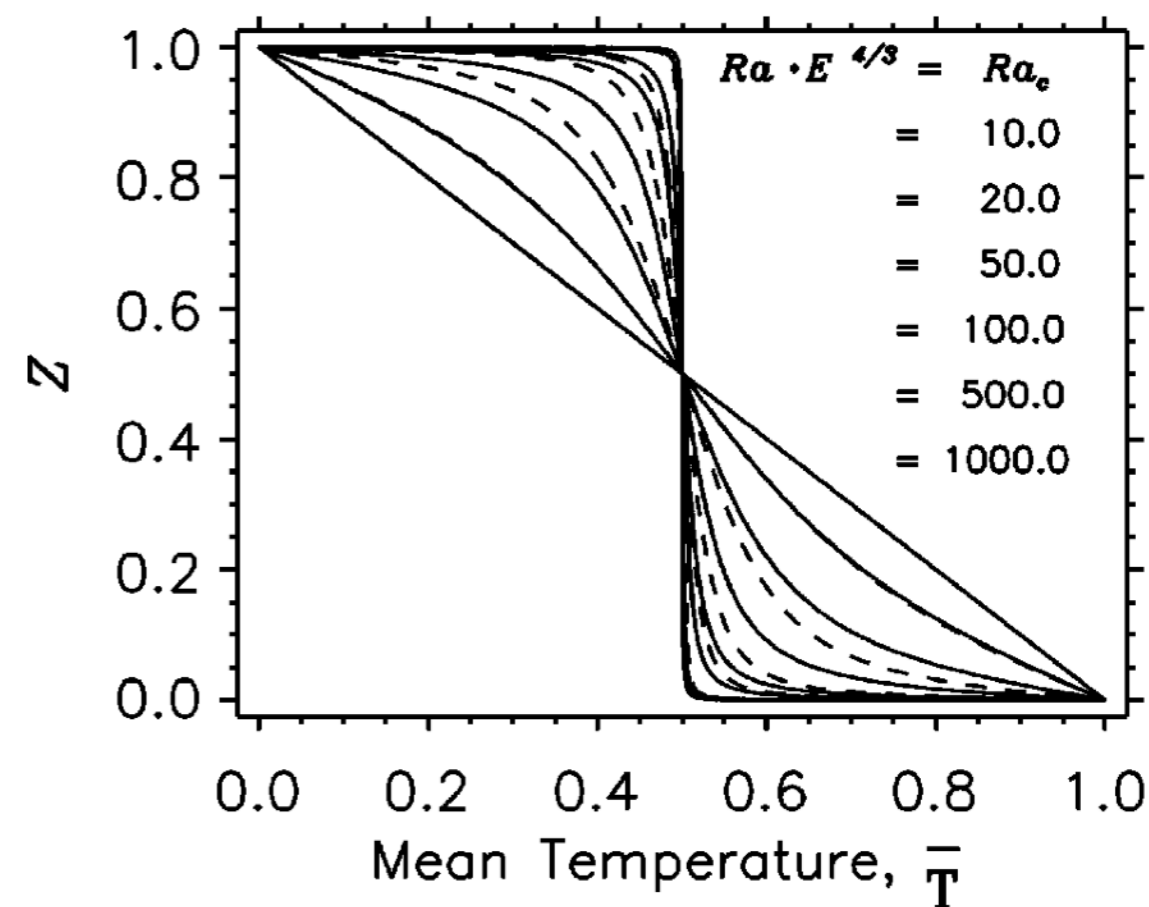
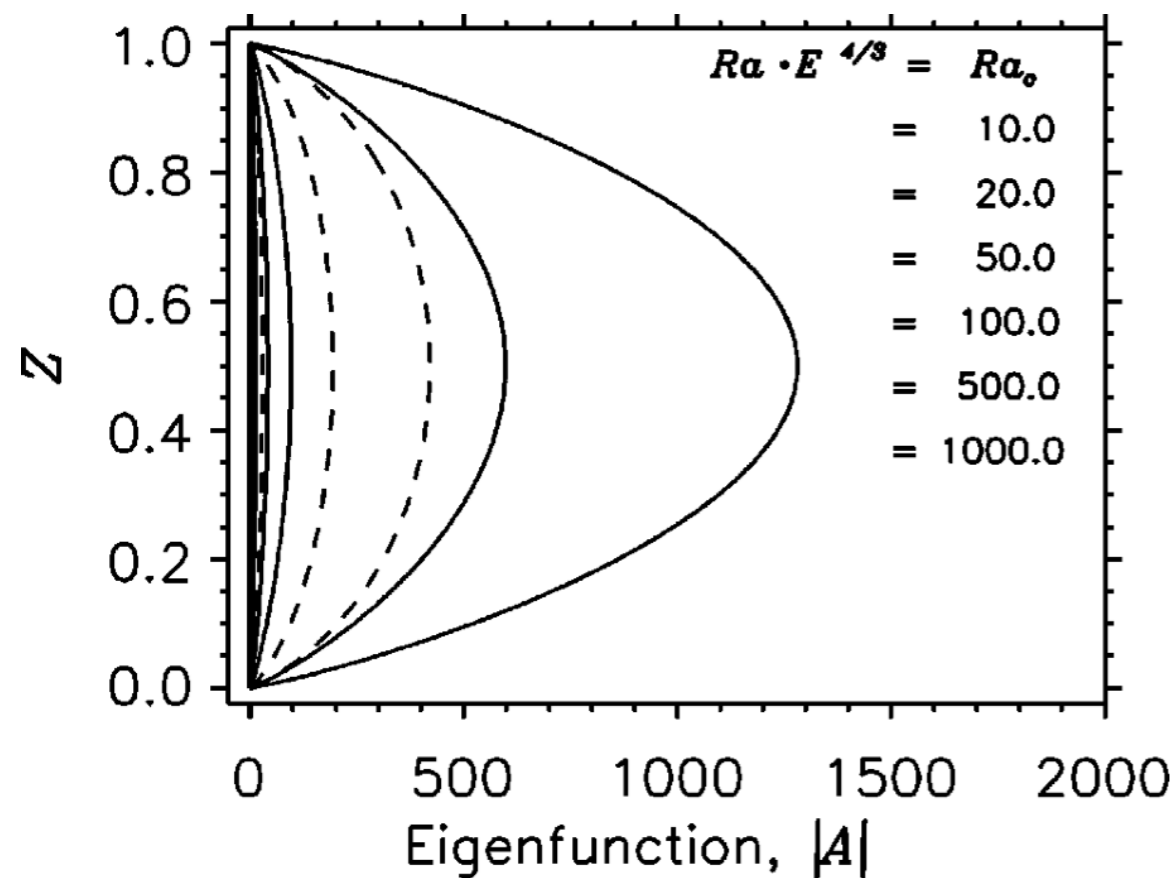
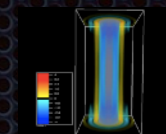
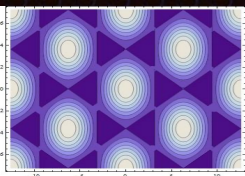


Oscillations saturate

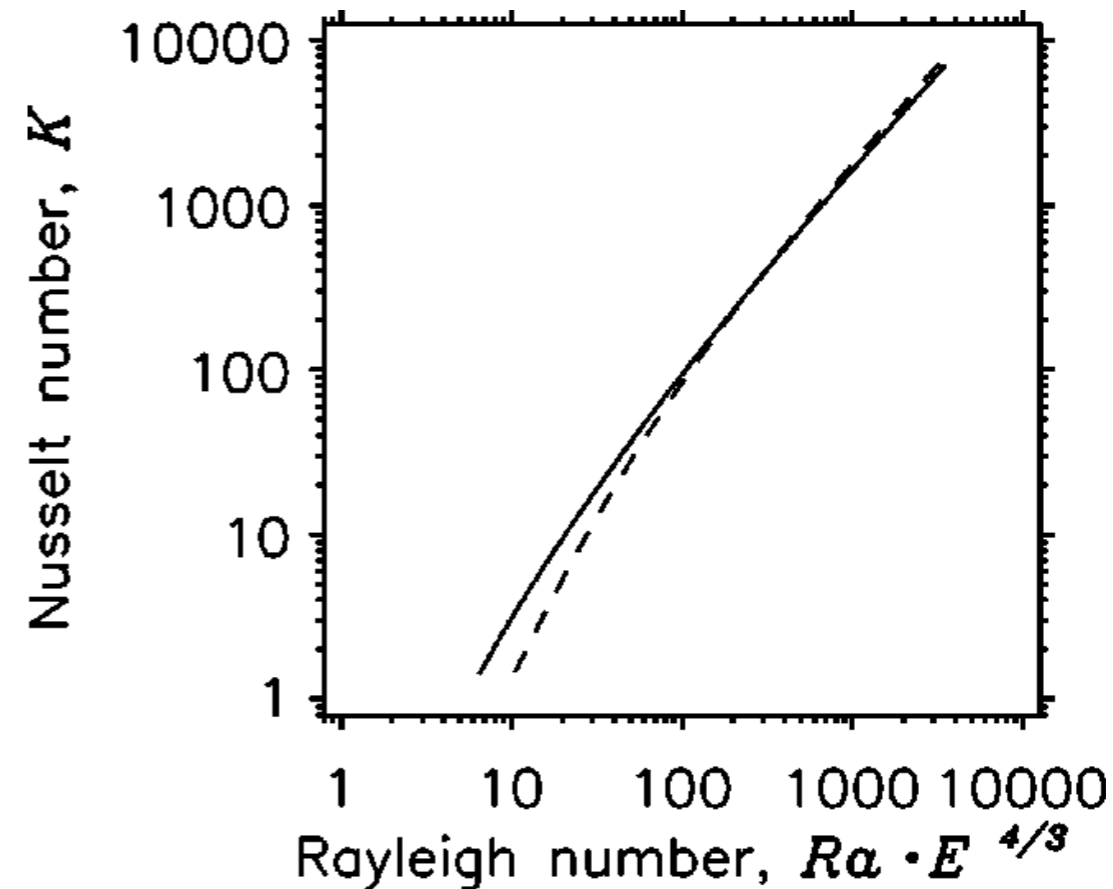
# Nonlinear Solutions - Exact Coherent Structures (ECS)



# Nonlinear Solutions - Exact Coherent Structures (ECS)



HX:  $Nu \propto \widetilde{Ra} \ln \widetilde{Ra}$





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**Reduced BCs.**

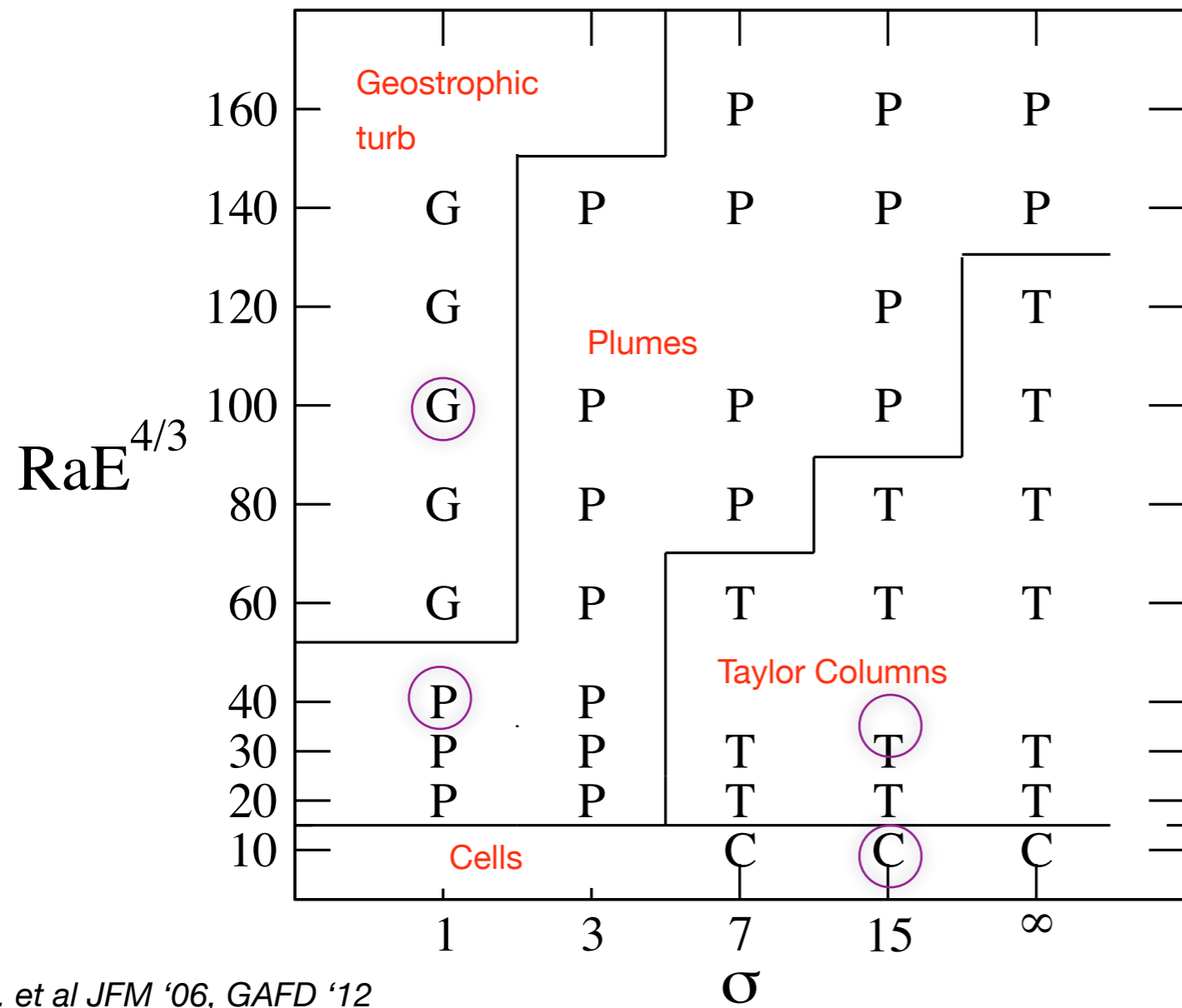
$$w = 0, \quad T(0) = 1, \quad T(1) = 0$$

Simulations for plane-layer performed on HPC platforms

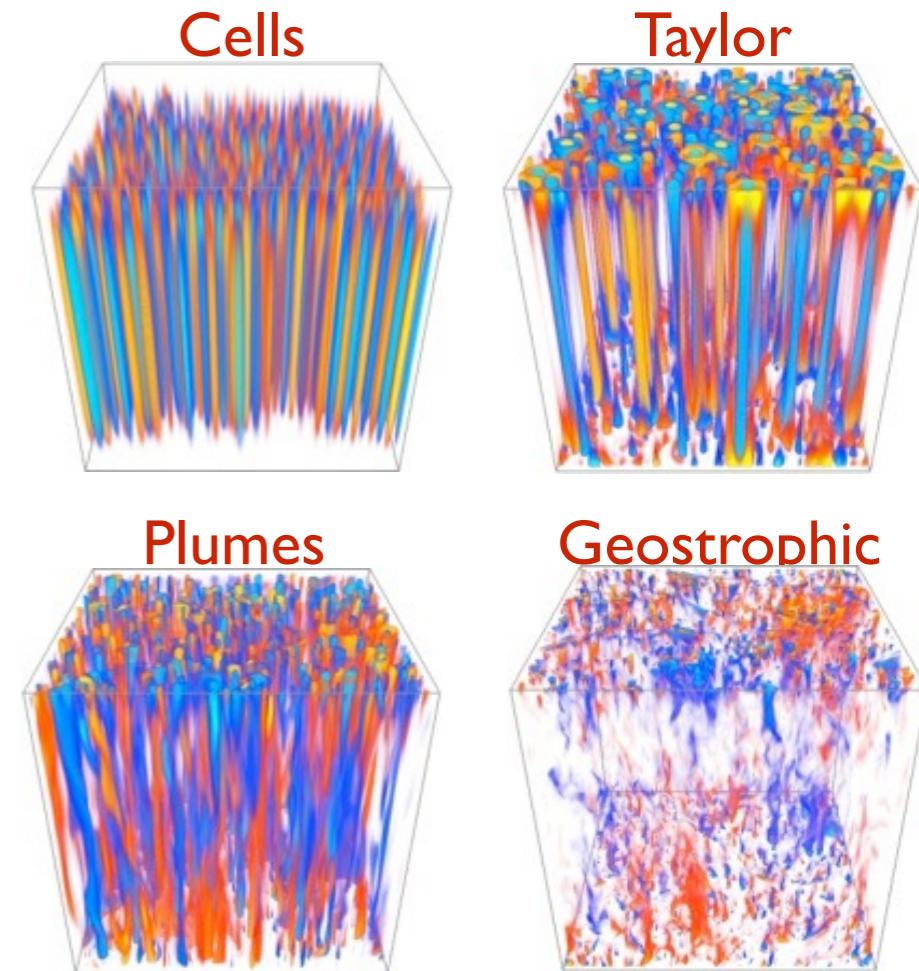
- Fast parallel algorithm
- Sparse Fourier-Chebyshev Spectral Method
- 3rd order Implicit/Explicit timestepping

# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Mapping Parameter Space



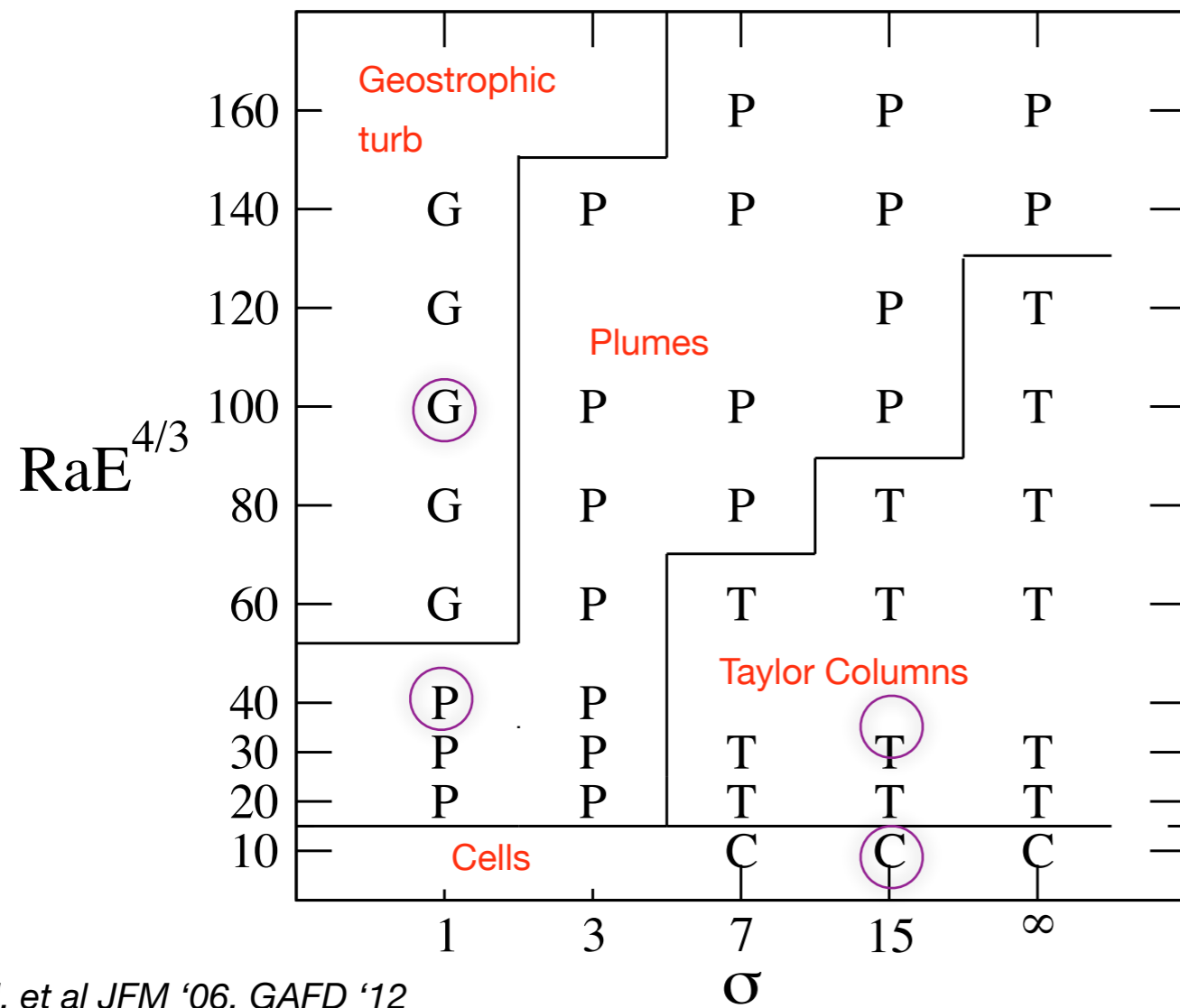
J. et al JFM '06, GAFD '12





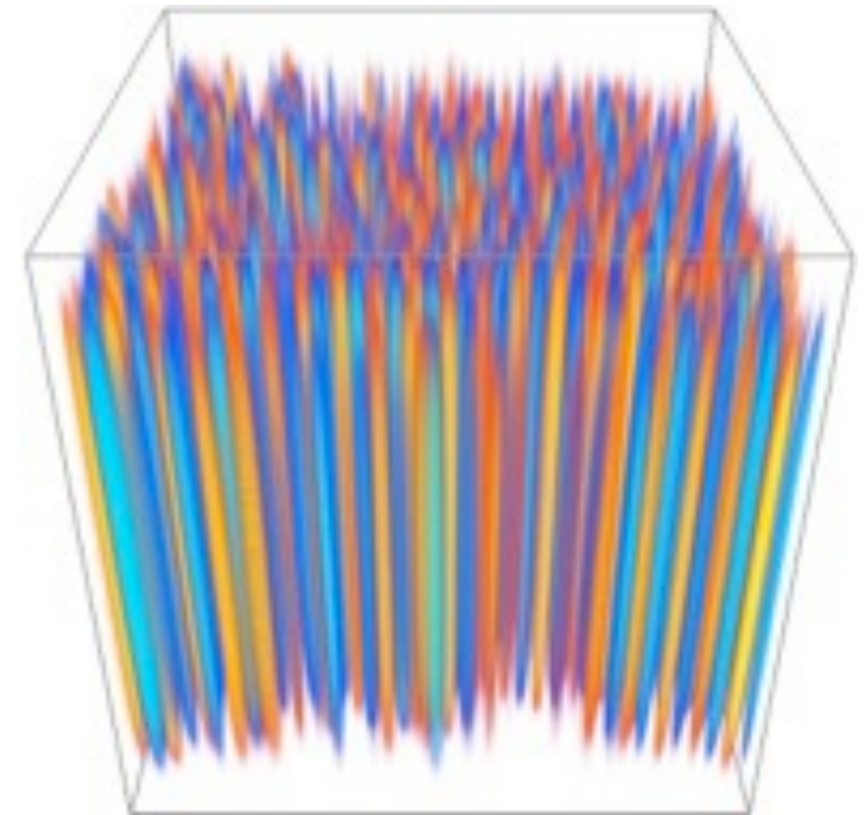
# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Cellular Regime



J. et al JFM '06, GAJD '12

Thermal anomaly  
 $\theta \propto T - \bar{T}(Z)$

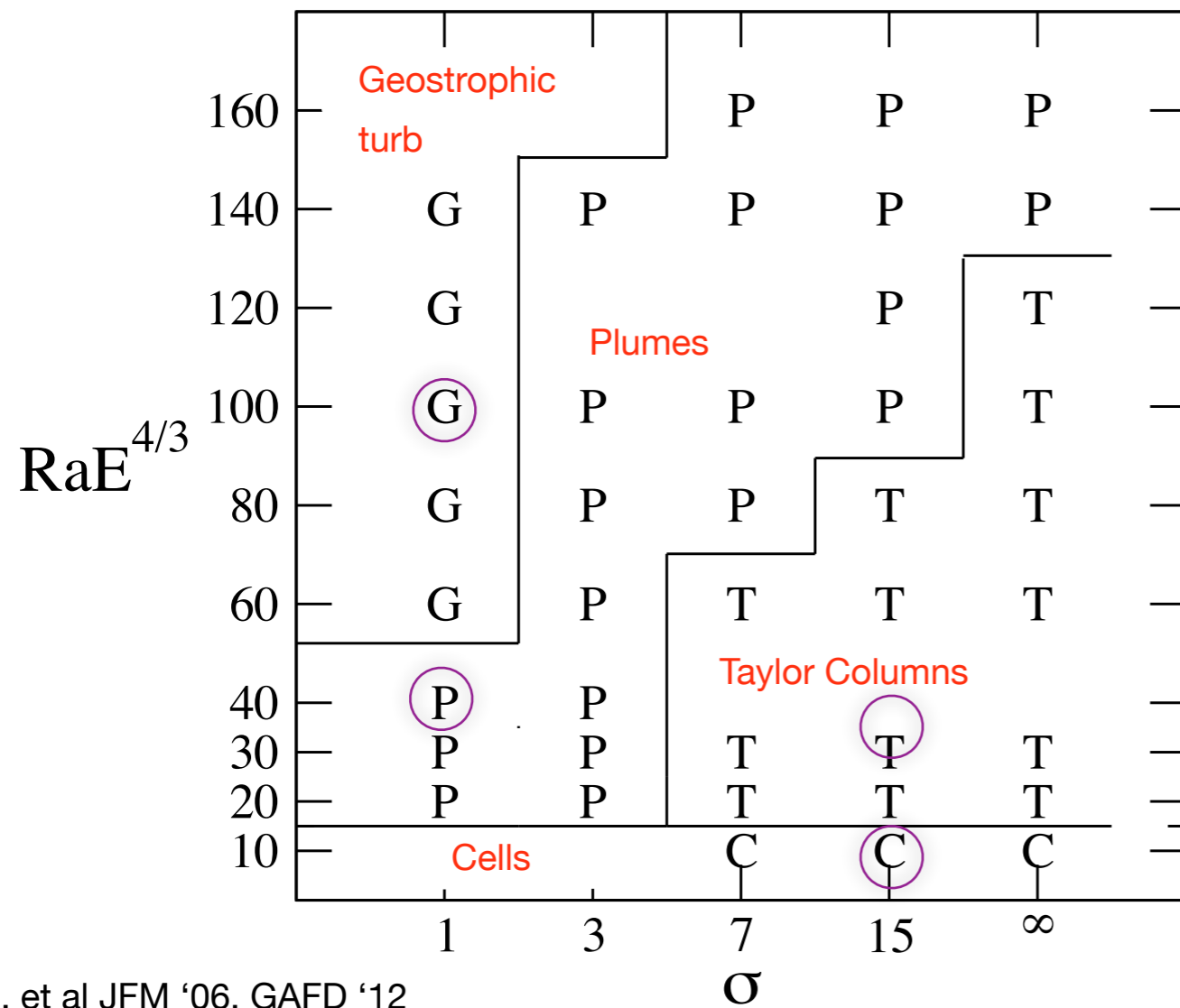


$\widetilde{Ra} = 10, Pr = 15$



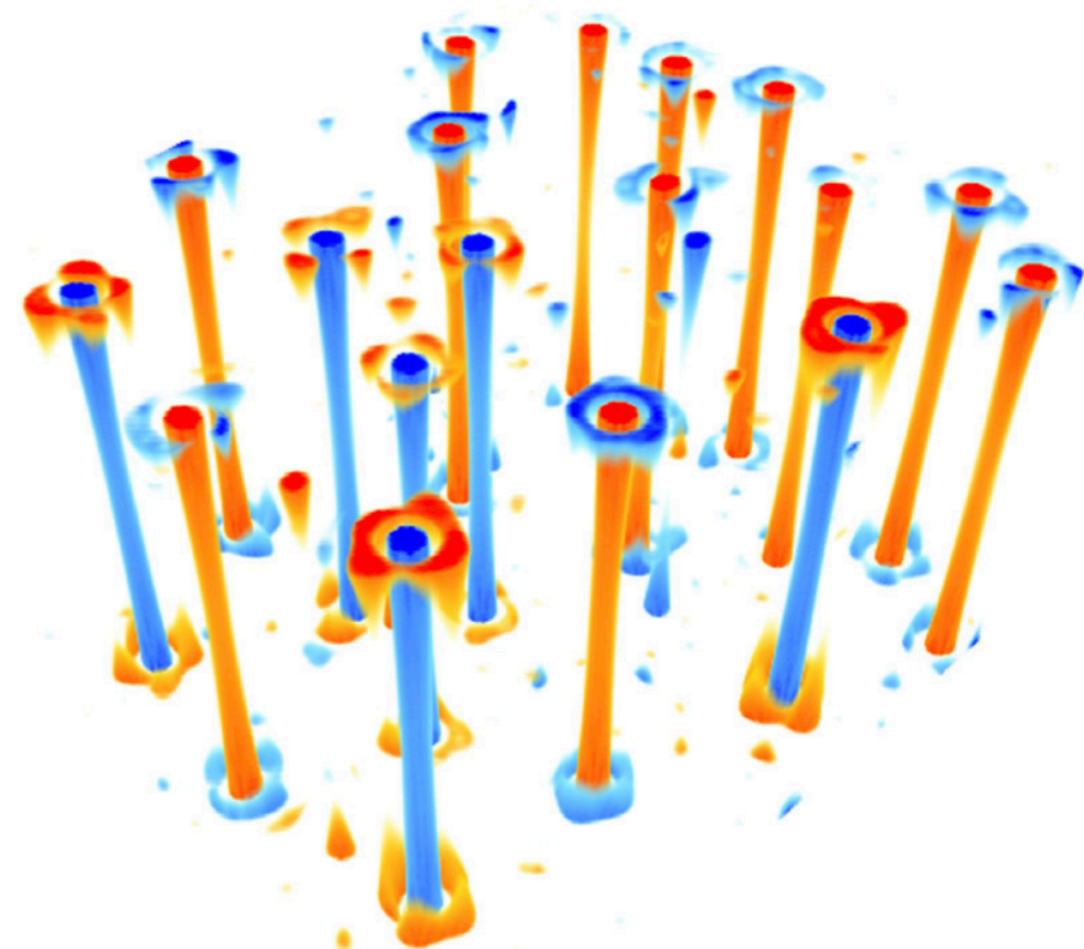
# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Convective Taylor Columns



J. et al JFM '06, GAJD '12

Thermal anomaly  
 $\theta \propto T - \bar{T}(Z)$



$$\widetilde{Ra} = 40, Pr = 7$$

# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Convective Taylor Columns

### Instability of TBL

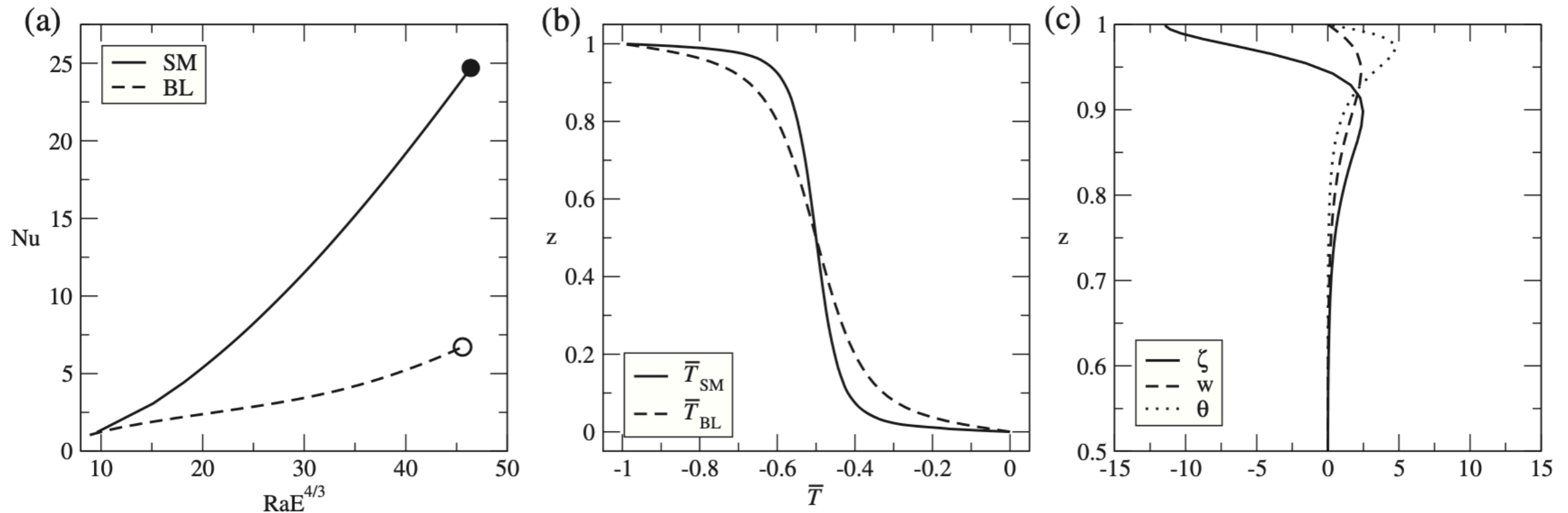
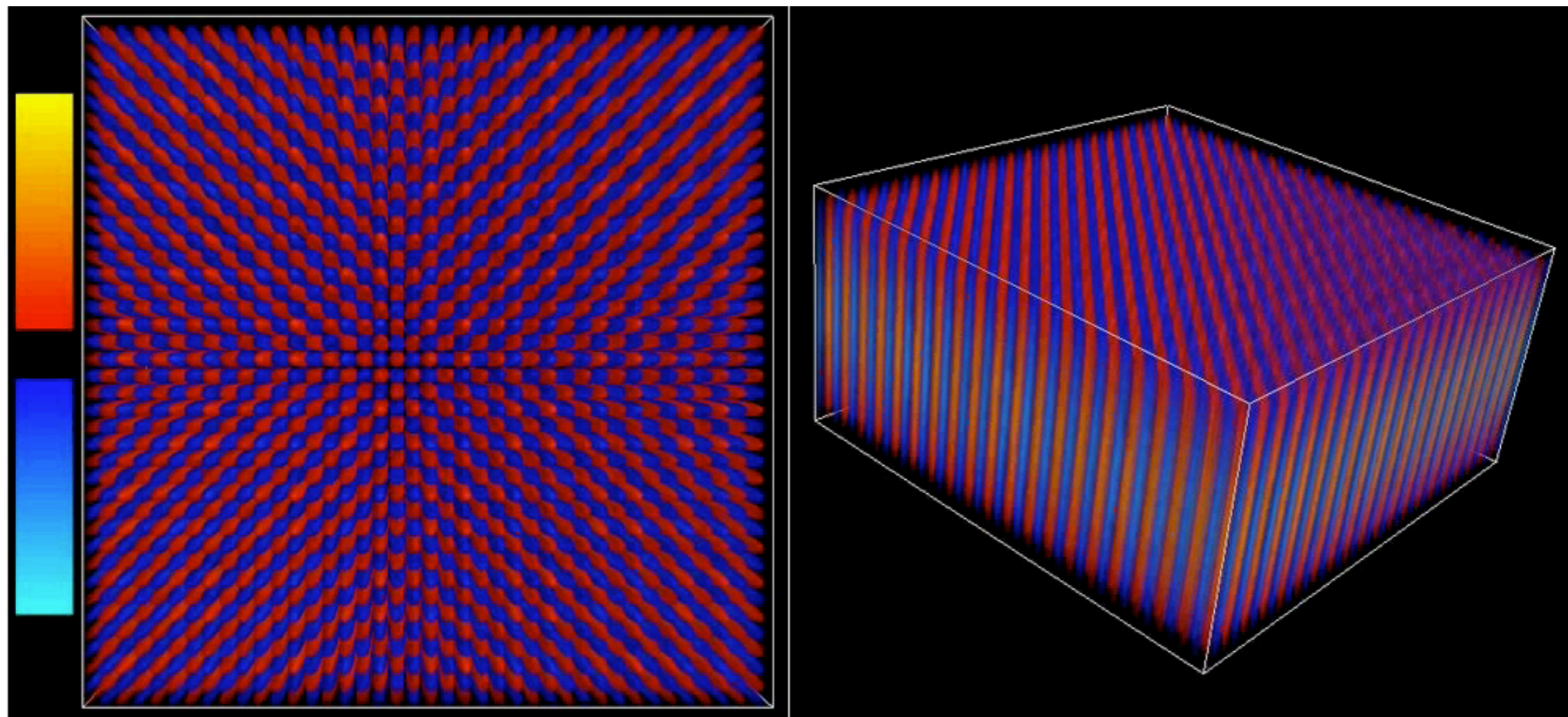


Figure 17. Comparison of single mode theory with the boundary layer stability analysis. (a) Nusselt number as a function of  $\tilde{Ra}$  for both single mode ( $k_{\perp} = 1.3084$ ) and boundary layer instability. (b) Mean temperature profiles for single mode and boundary layer instability at  $\tilde{Ra} = 45.6$ , shown as open and filled circles in (a). (c) Eigenfunctions of the boundary layer instability at  $\tilde{Ra} = 45.6$  with instability wavenumber  $k_{\perp} = 4.8154$ .



# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Convective Taylor Columns



$RaE^{4/3} = 40, \sigma = 7$

*Sprague,, KJ, et al JFM '06*

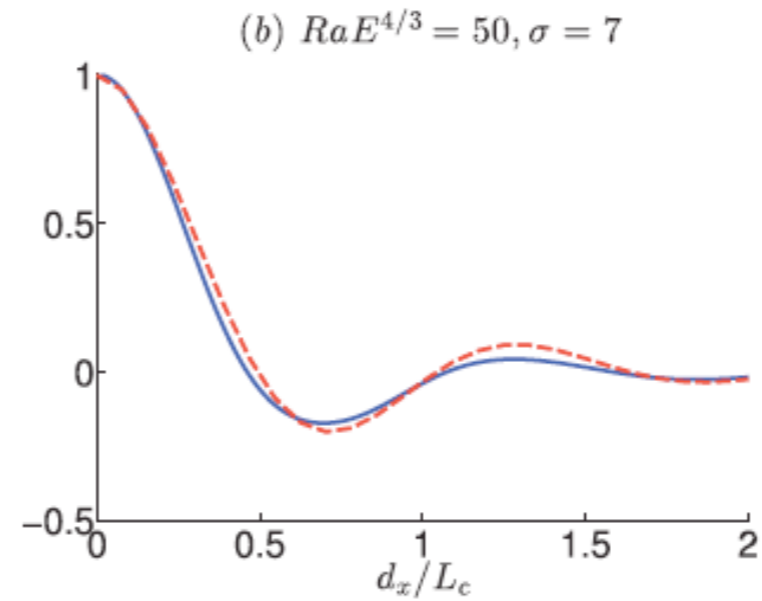


# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

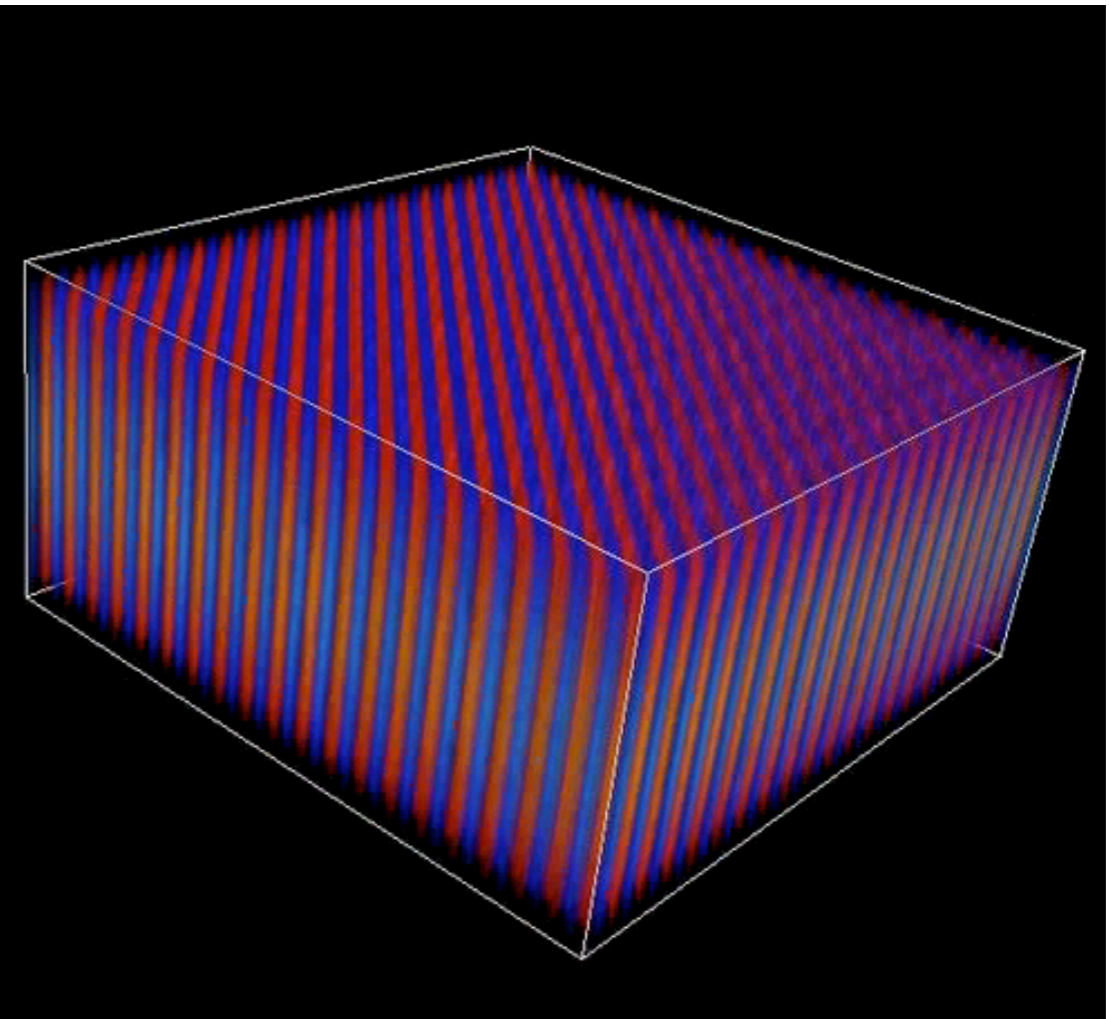
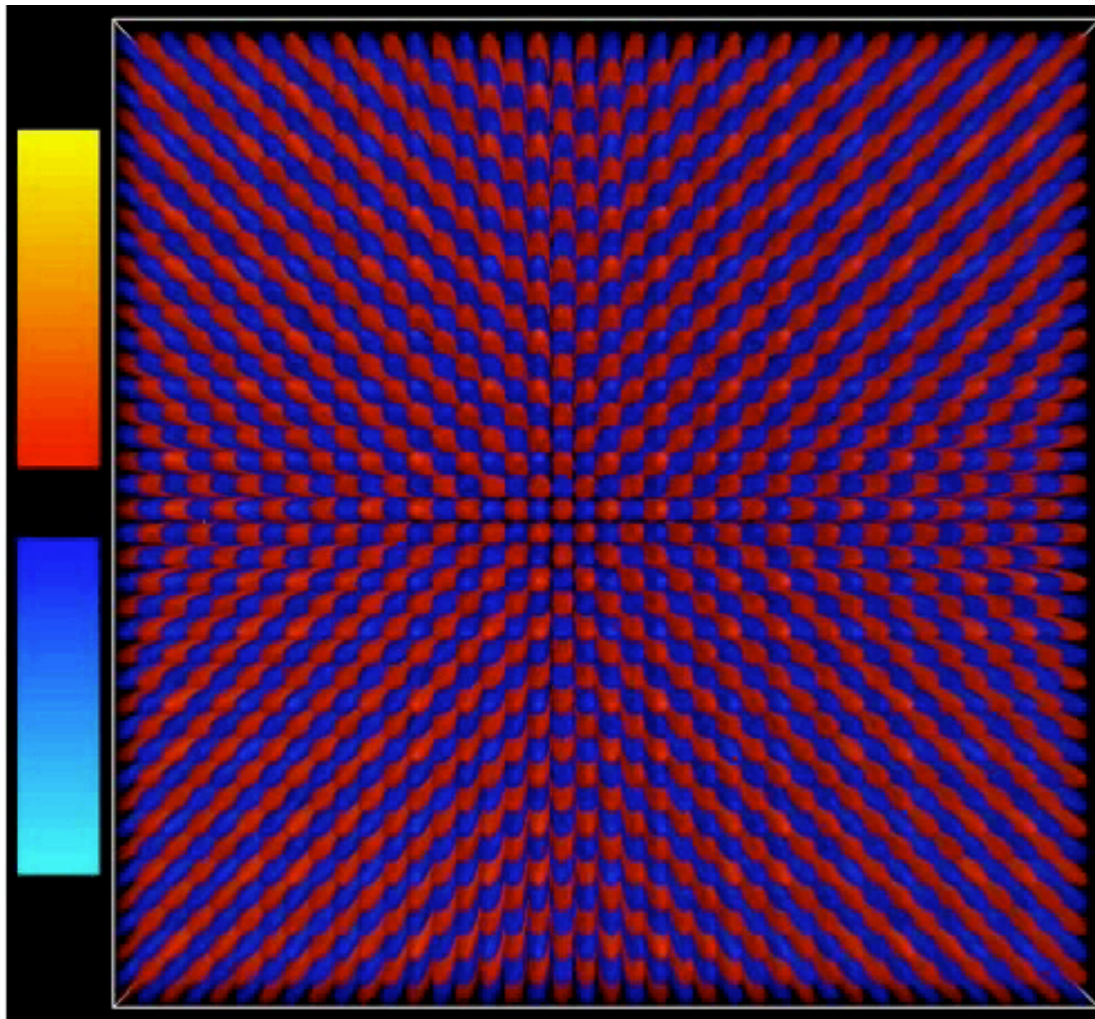
## Convective Taylor Columns

Circulation:

$$K \equiv \int \omega dA \approx 0$$



*Nieves et al PoF '14*  
*Grooms et al PRL '10*  
 Auto-correlation of  
 temperature fluctuations  
 captures radial structure

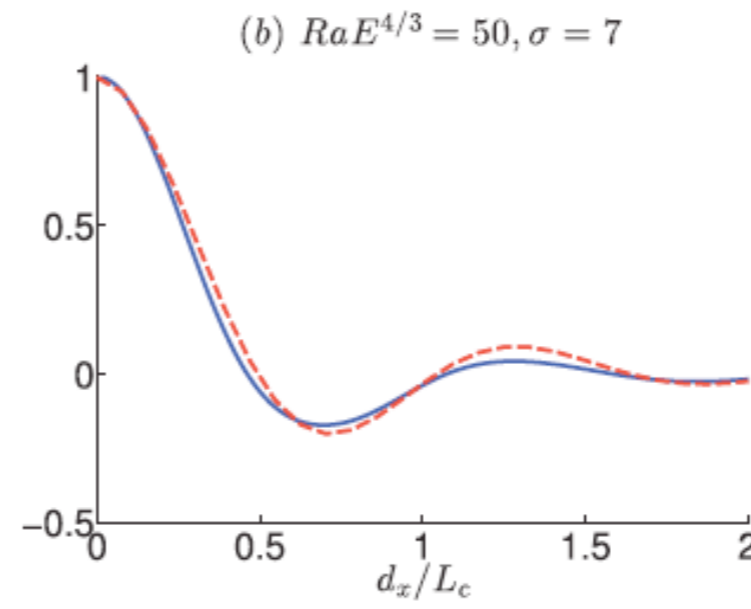
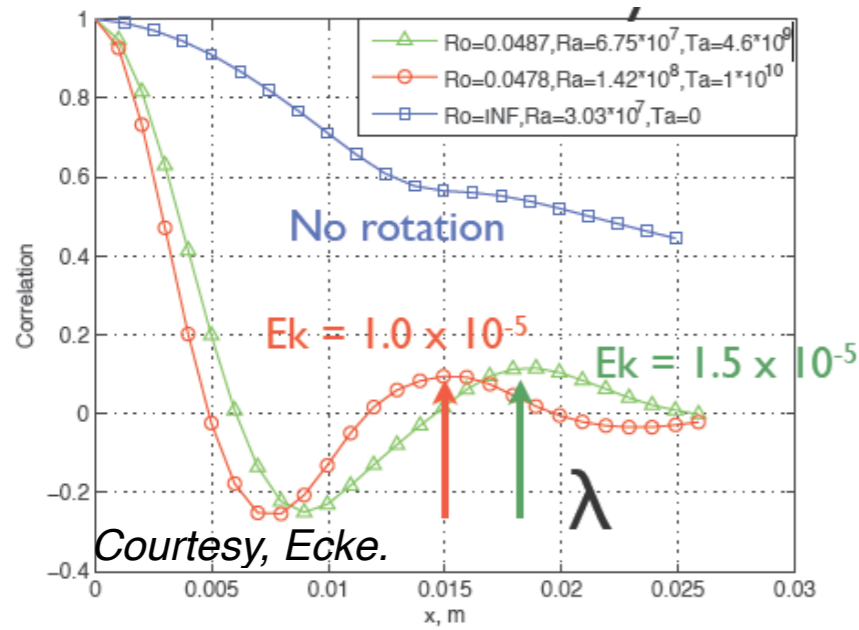


$RaE^{4/3} = 40, \sigma = 7$

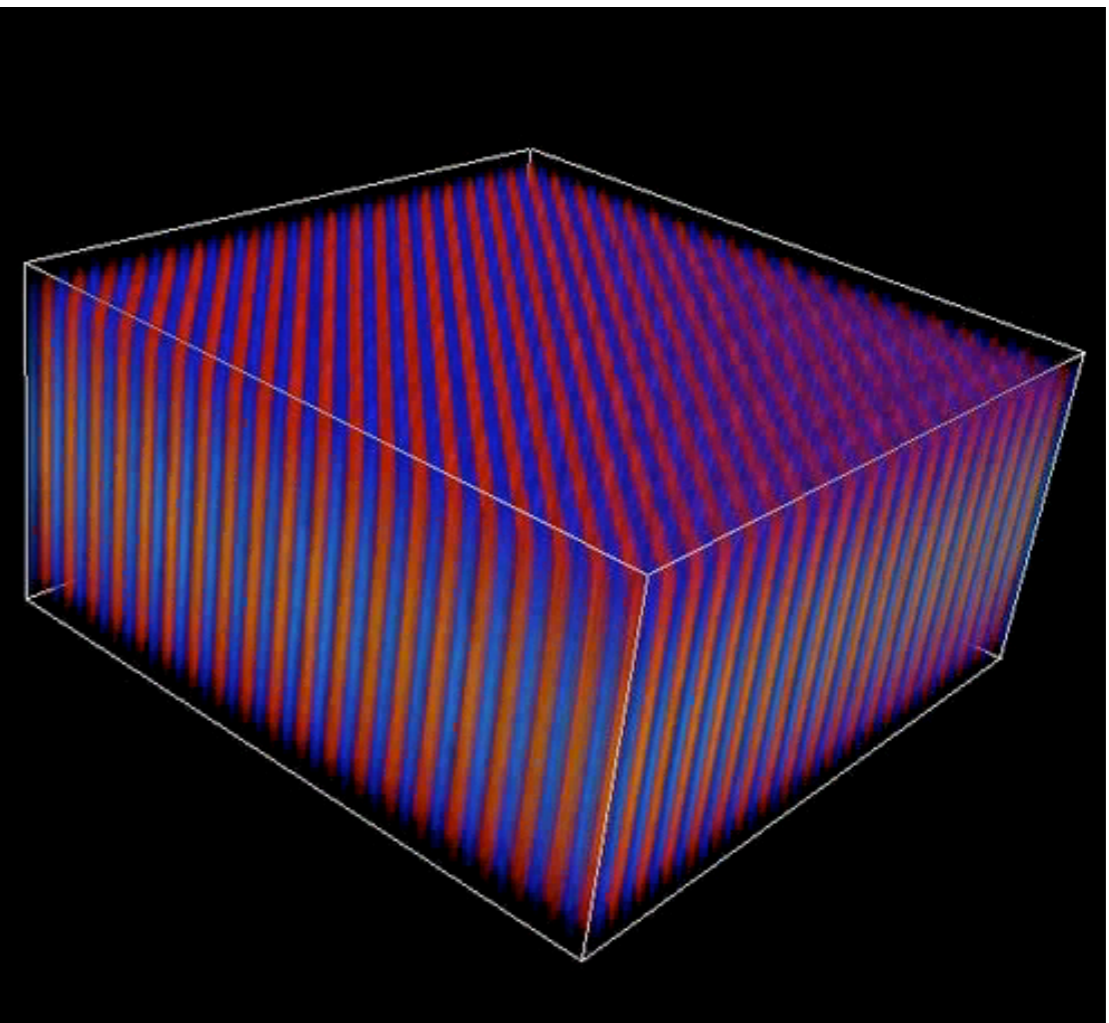
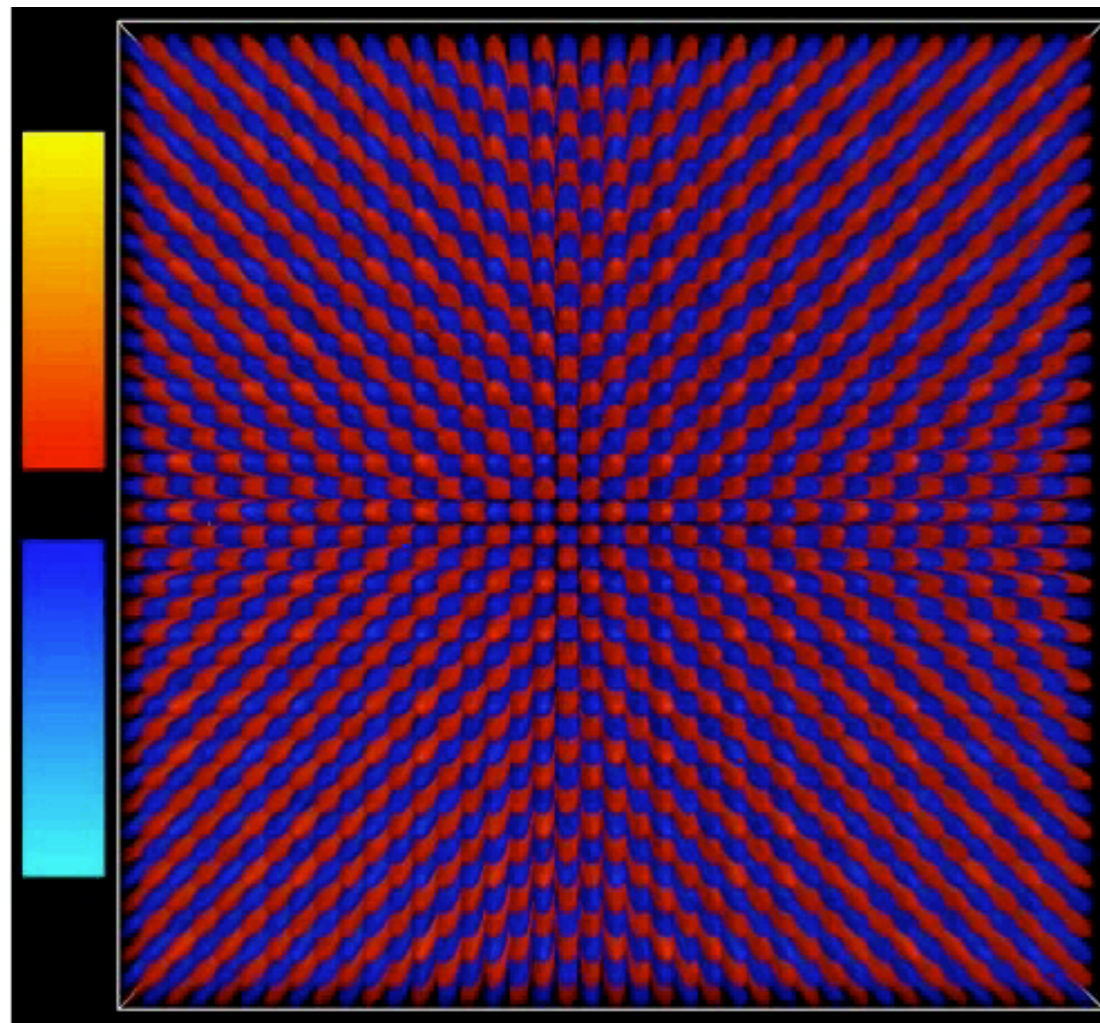
*Sprague,, KJ, et al JFM '06*



# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes Convective Taylor Columns



*Nieves et al PoF '14*  
*Grooms et al PRL '10*  
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$RaE^{4/3} = 40, \sigma = 7$

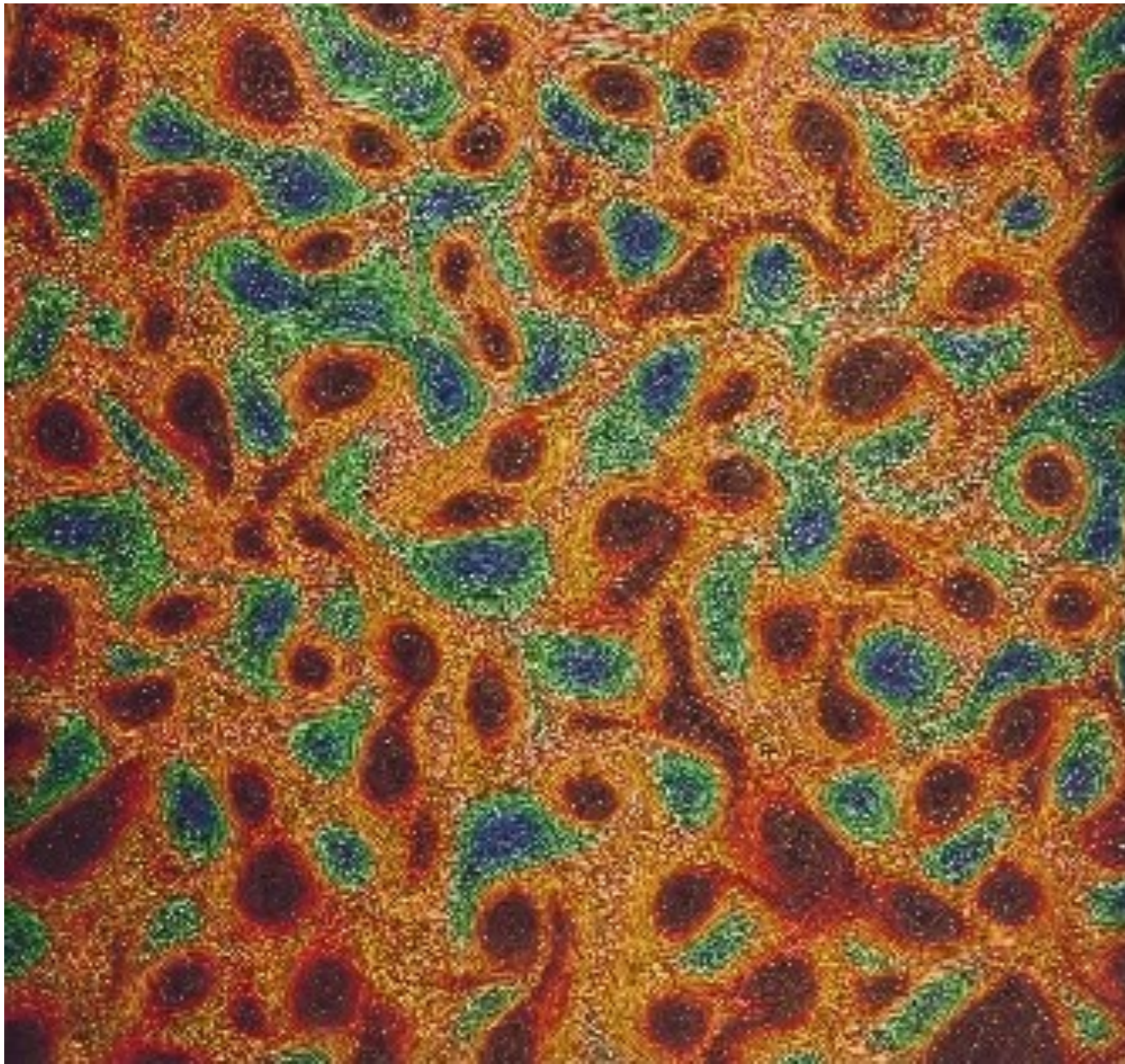
*Sprague, KJ, et al JFM '06*



# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

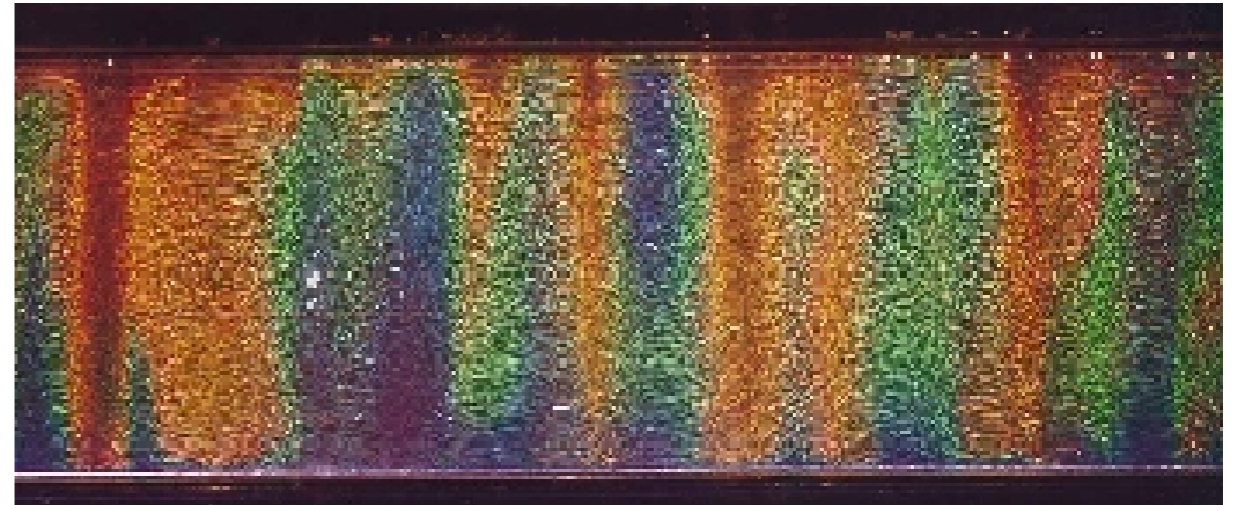
## Convective Taylor Columns

Top view - Temperature



$$(Ra \approx 10^7, Ek \approx 10^{-4}, Pr \approx 7)$$
$$\widetilde{Ra} \approx 37$$

Side view



$$Ra = \frac{g\alpha\Delta TH^3}{\nu\kappa} \quad Ro_c = \sqrt{\frac{Ra}{Pr}} E \sim 0.1$$
$$\sim E^{-4/3} \quad \sim E^{1/3}$$



# Nonlinear Single-mode Solutions

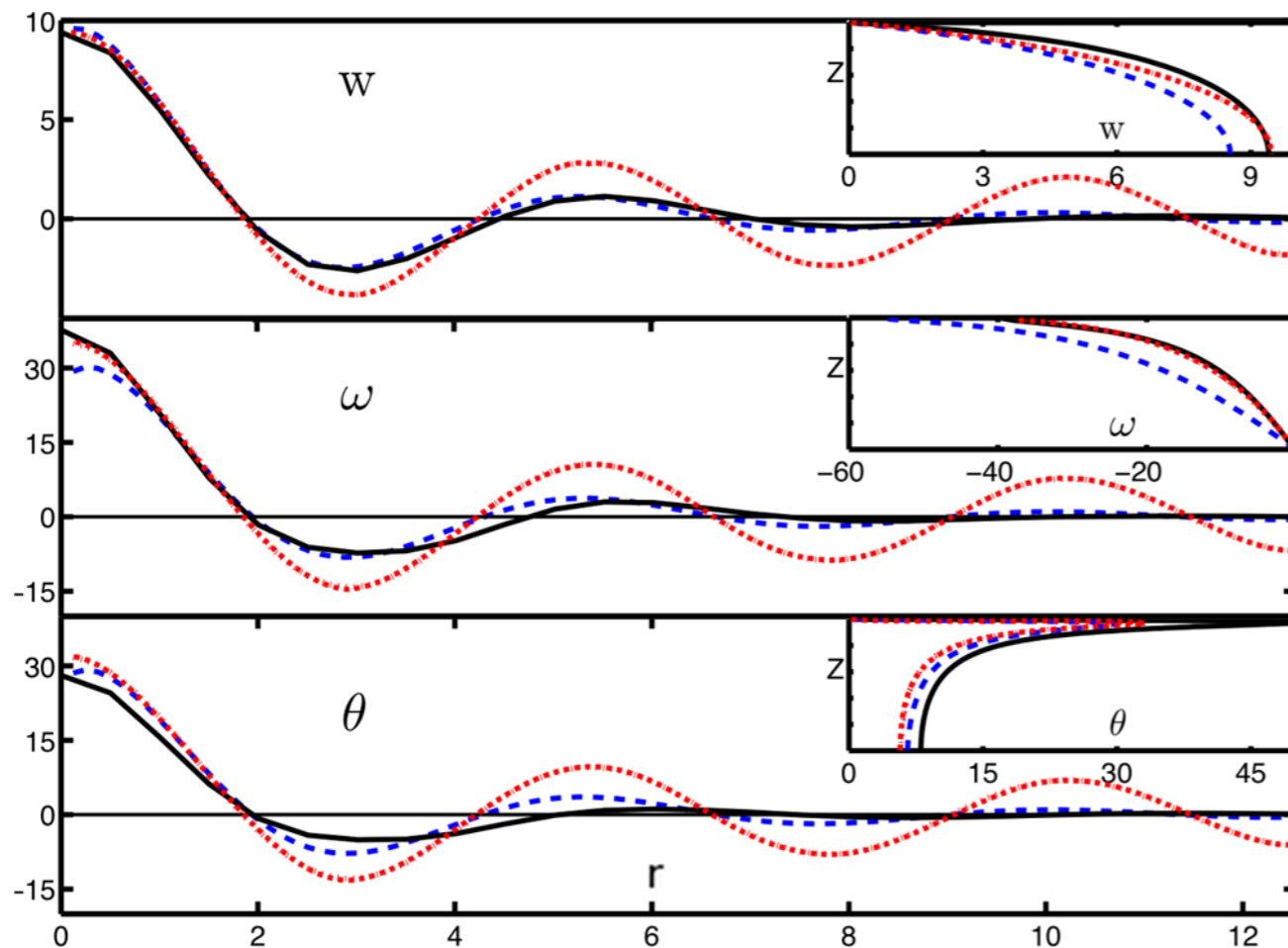
Pose:  $\phi = \hat{\Phi}(r)h(r) + c.c., \quad \nabla_{\perp}^2 h + k_{\perp}^2 h = 0$

Find:  $\partial_z^2 \phi + \nabla_r^2 (\tilde{\text{Ra}} \partial_z \bar{T} + \nabla_r^4) \phi = 0,$

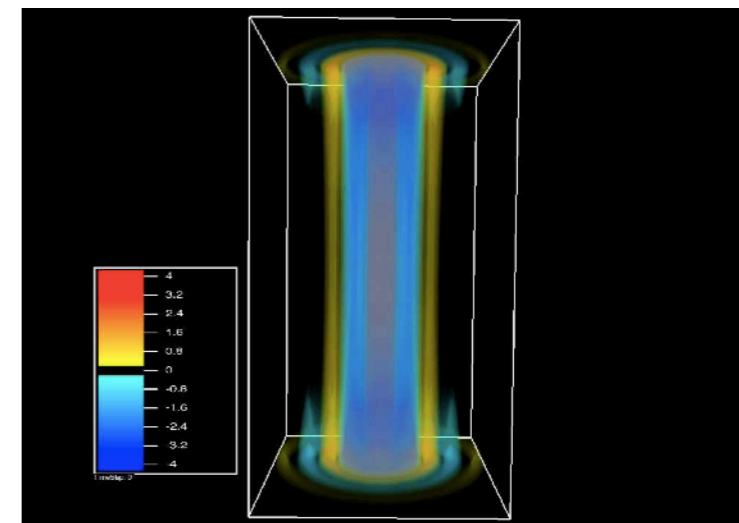
$$\partial_z \bar{T} = - \frac{\text{Nu}}{1 + f_t + c_f \sigma^2 \langle (\partial_r \phi)^2 \rangle}.$$

turbulence

CTC's



Spatially Localized (SL)



$$h(r) = J_0(k_{\perp} r) + iY_0(k_{\perp} r), \quad k_{\perp} = |k_{\perp}| e^{i\alpha}$$

# Nonlinear Single-mode Solutions

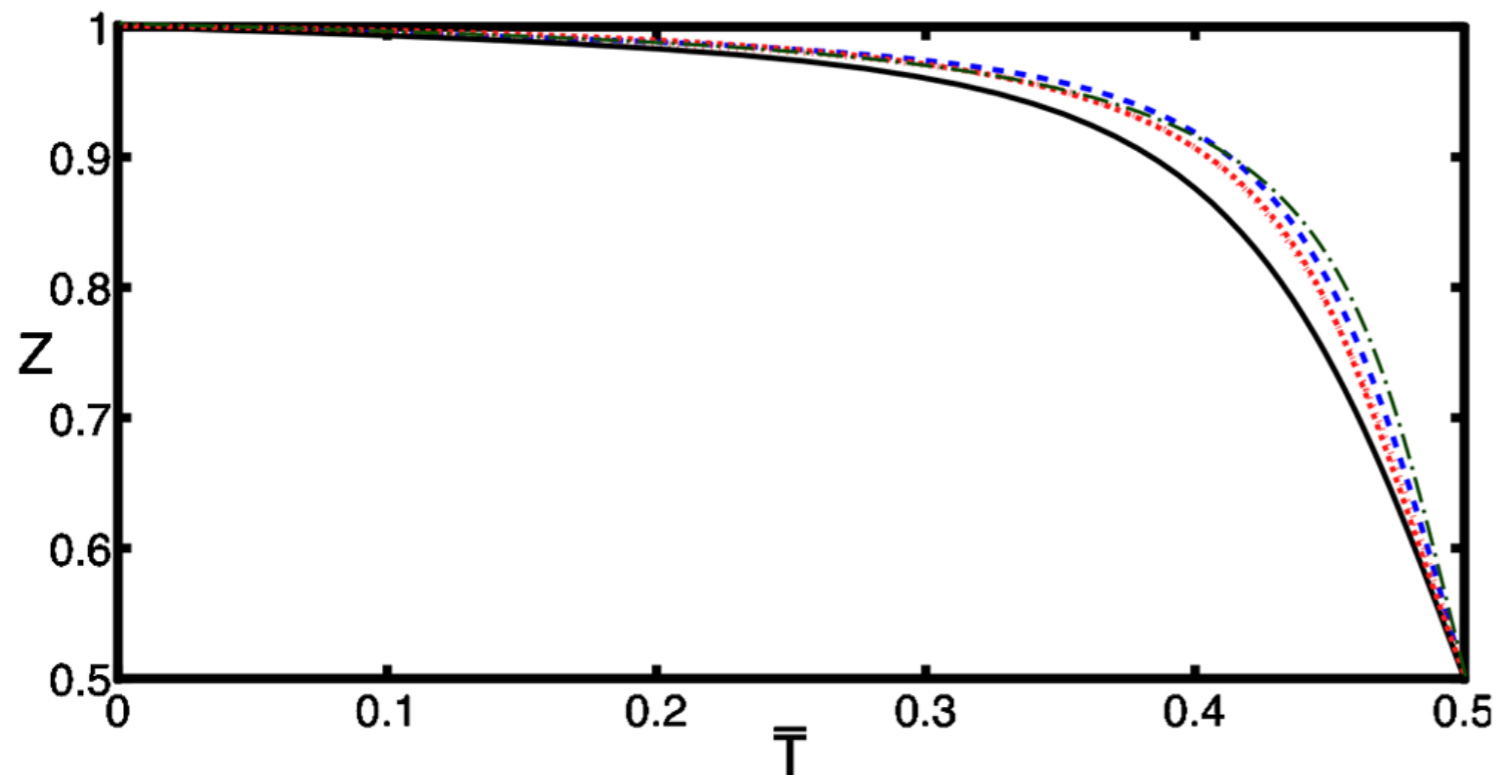
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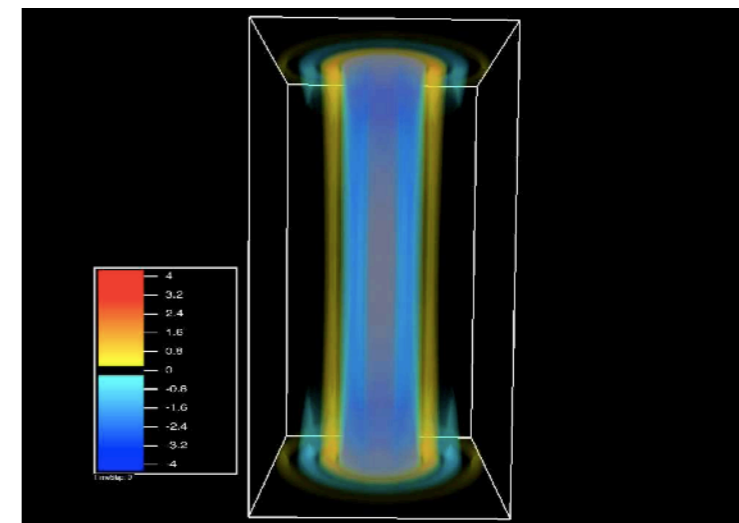
$$\partial_z \bar{T} = - \frac{\text{Nu}}{1 + f_t + c_f \sigma^2 \langle (\partial_r \phi)^2 \rangle}.$$

turbulence

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Spatially Localized (SL)



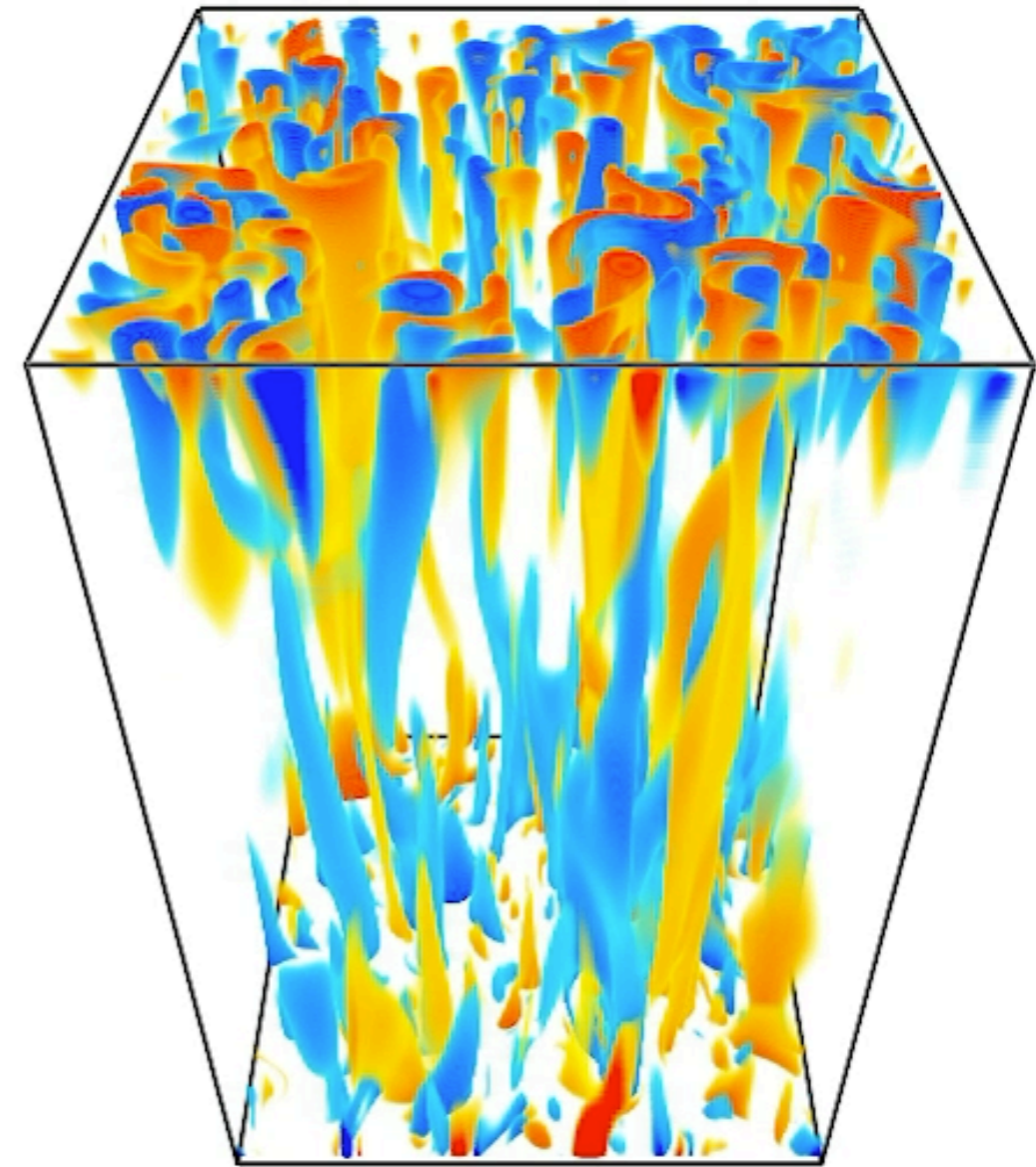
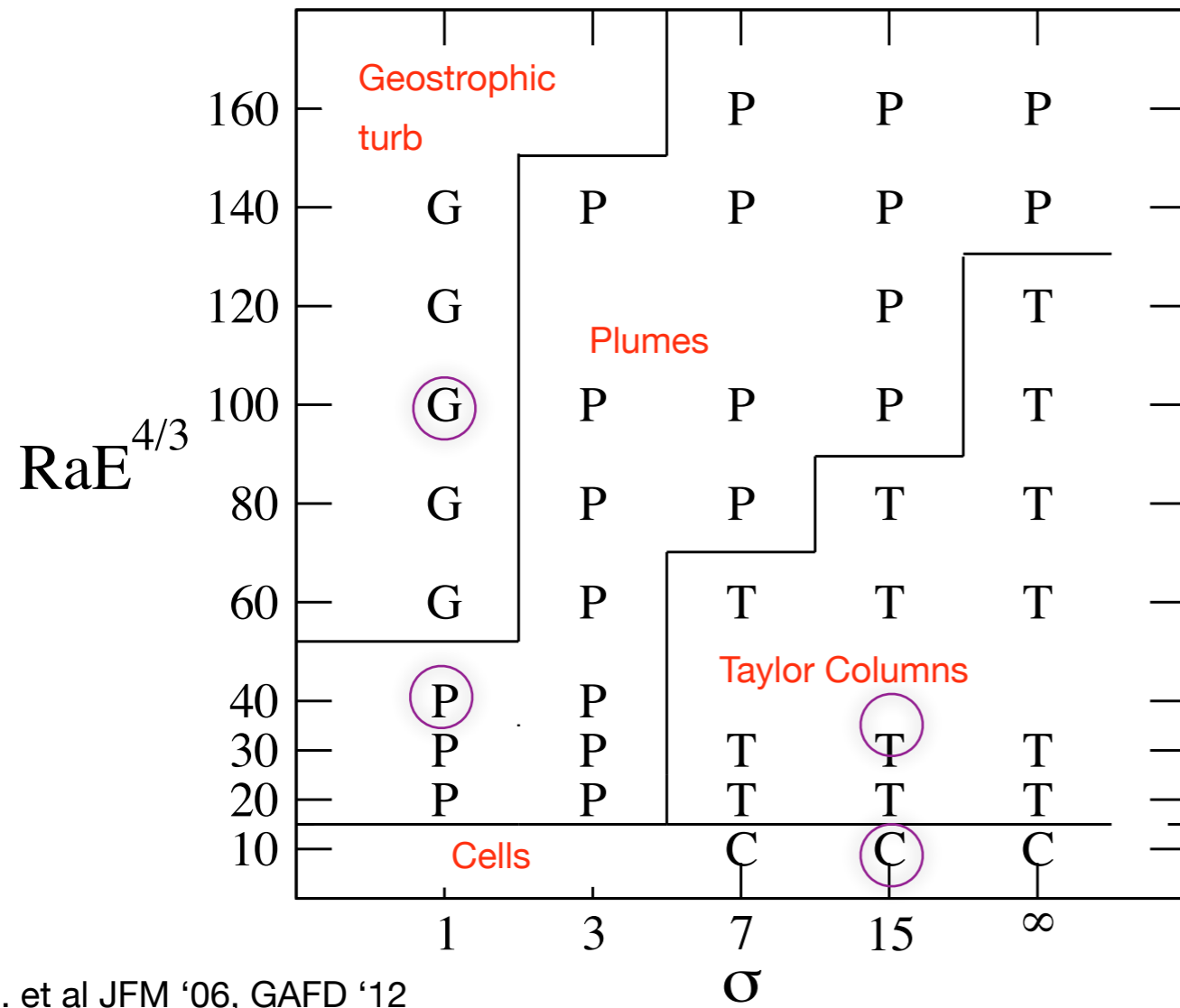
$$h(r) = J_0(k_{\perp} r) + iY_0(k_{\perp} r), \quad k_{\perp} = |k_{\perp}| e^{i\alpha}$$



# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Plume Regime

Courtesy M Calkins



$$(RaE^{4/3} = 60, Pr = 2)$$

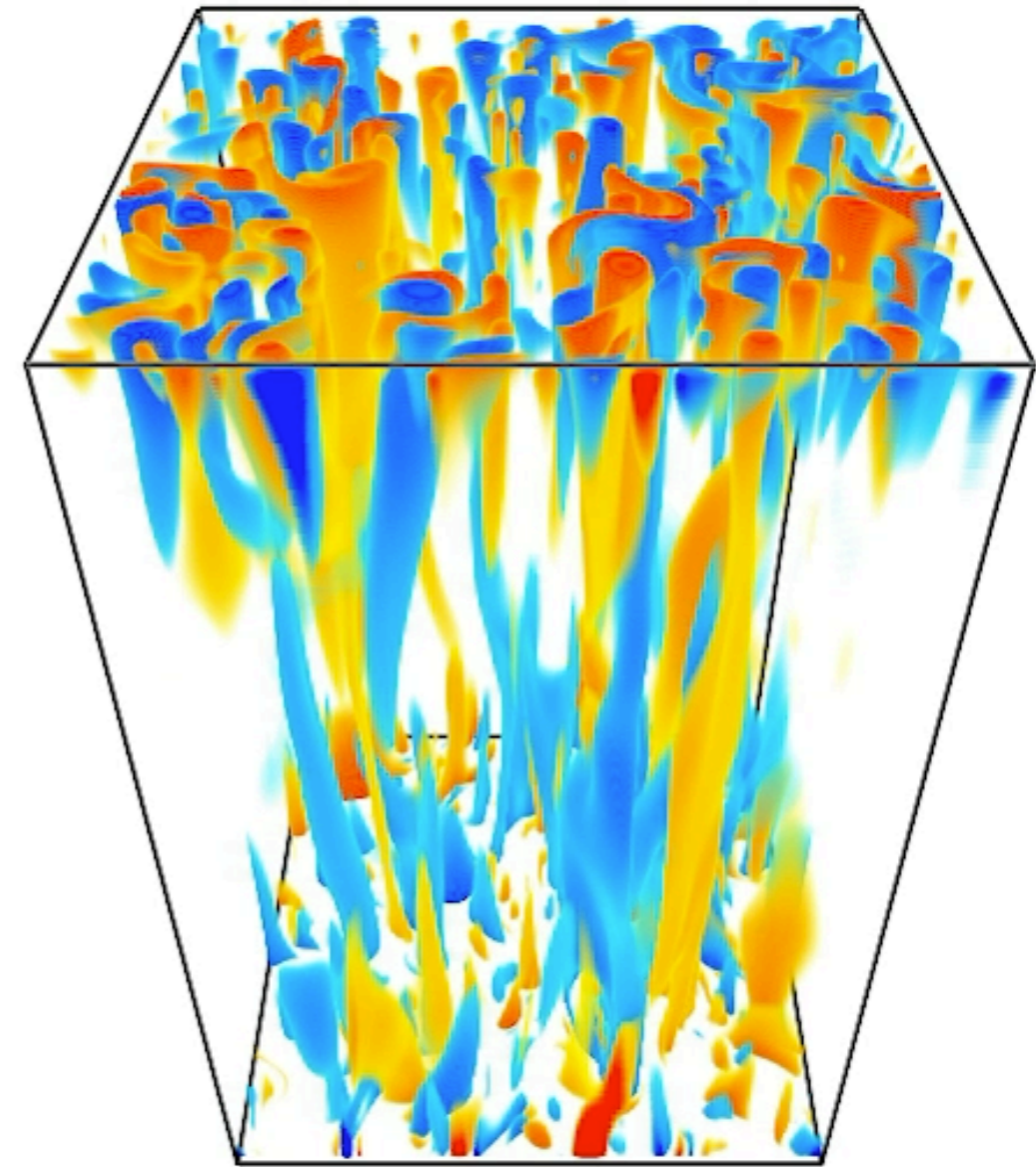
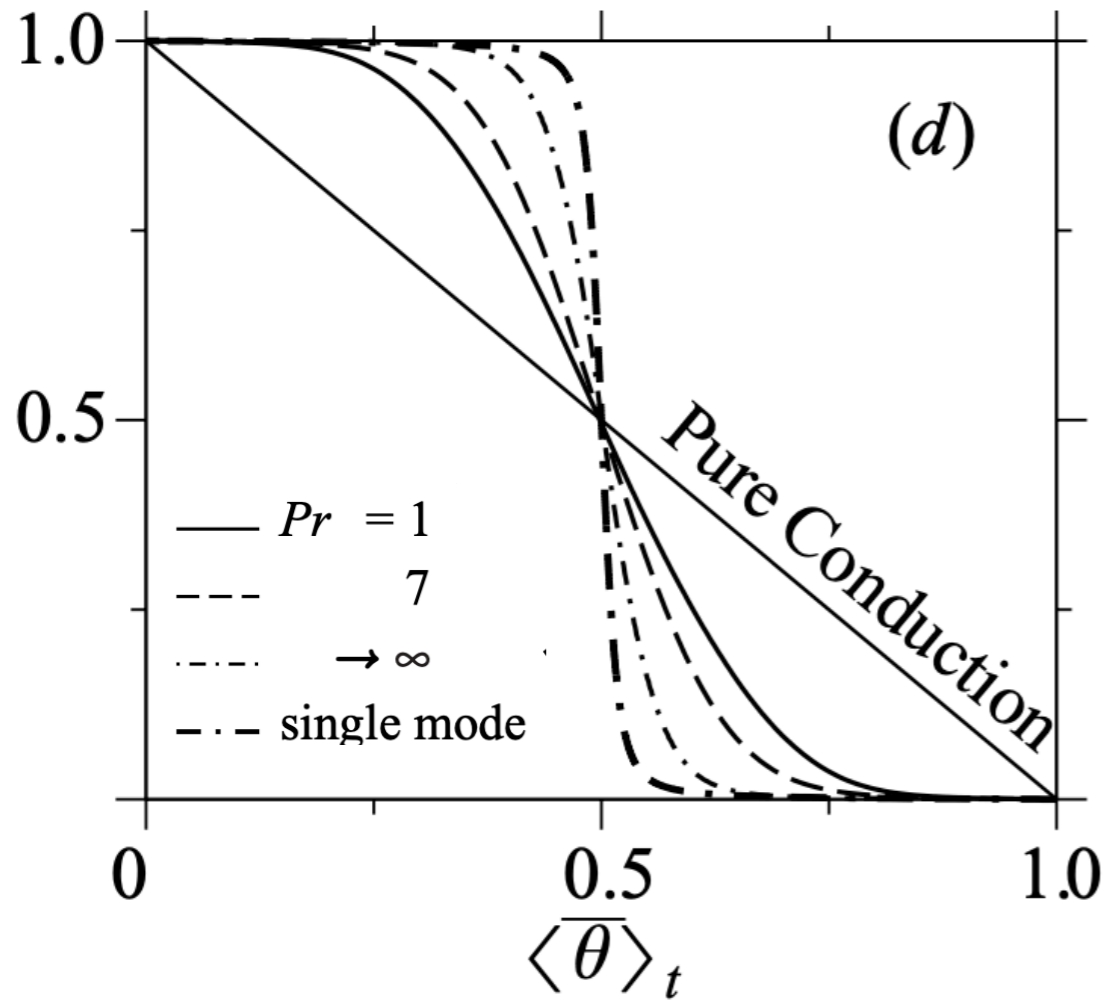


# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Plume Regime

Courtesy M Calkins

Saturation of mean temperature gradient  
lateral mixing



$$(RaE^{4/3} = 60, Pr = 2)$$

TBL's desynchronize

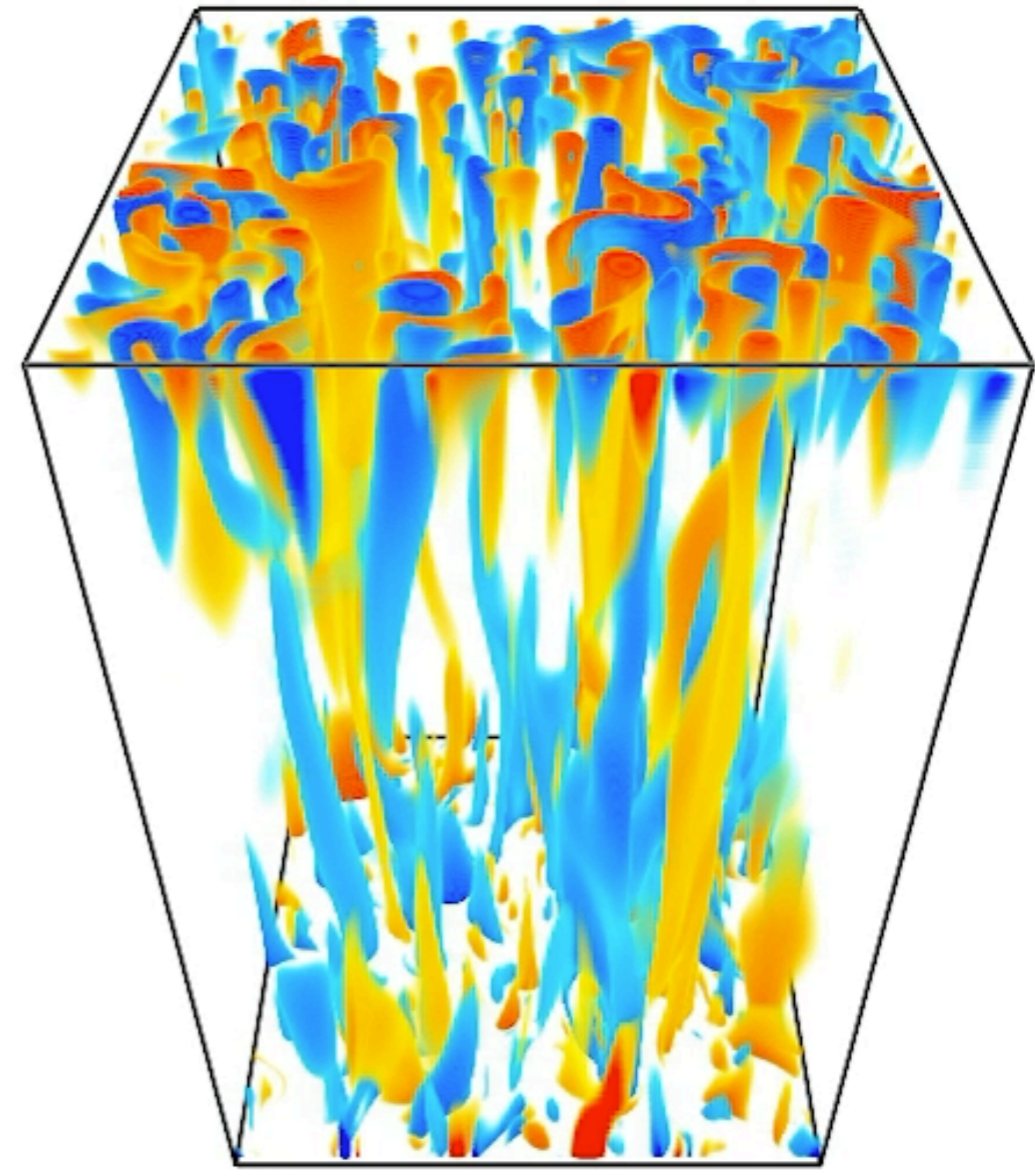
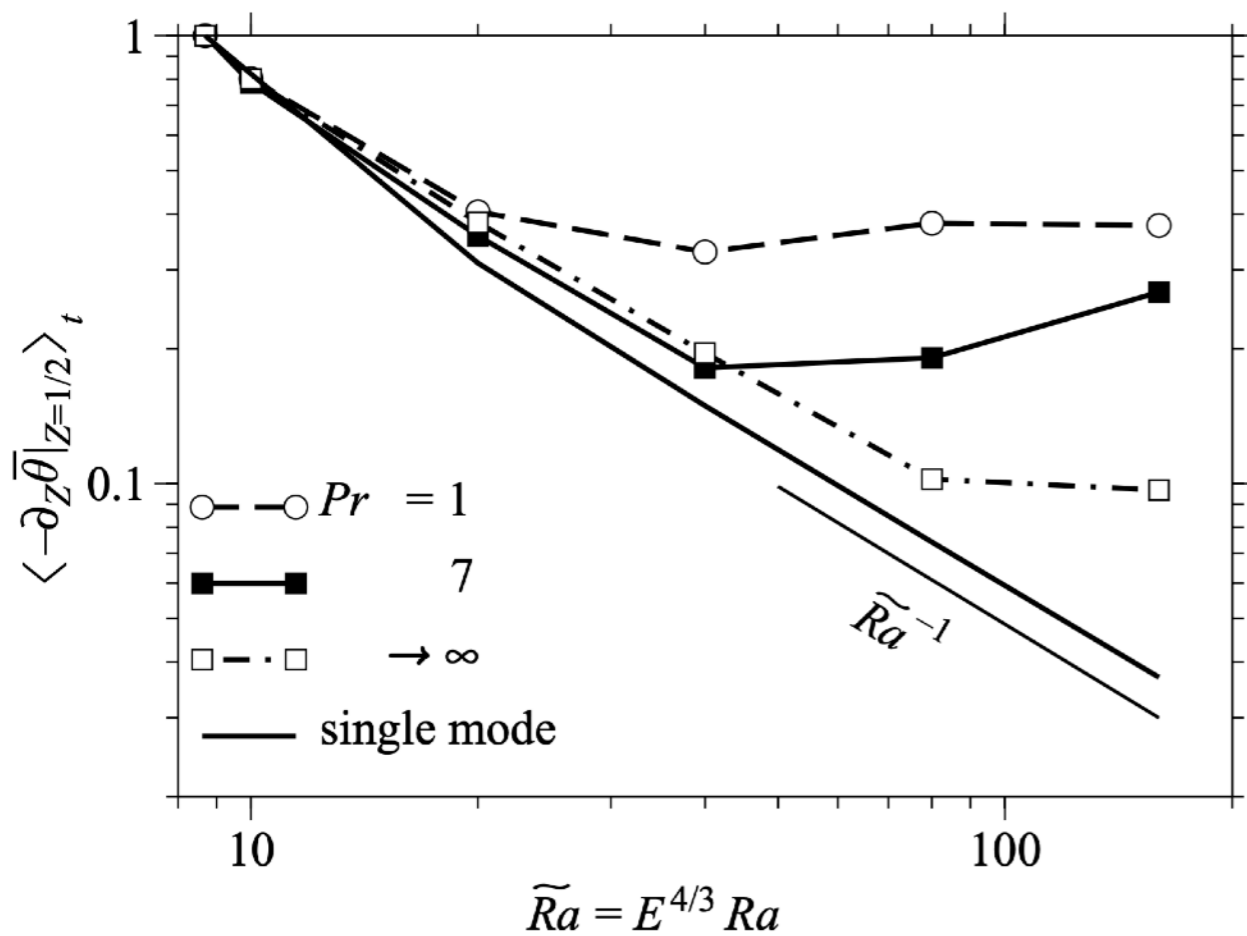
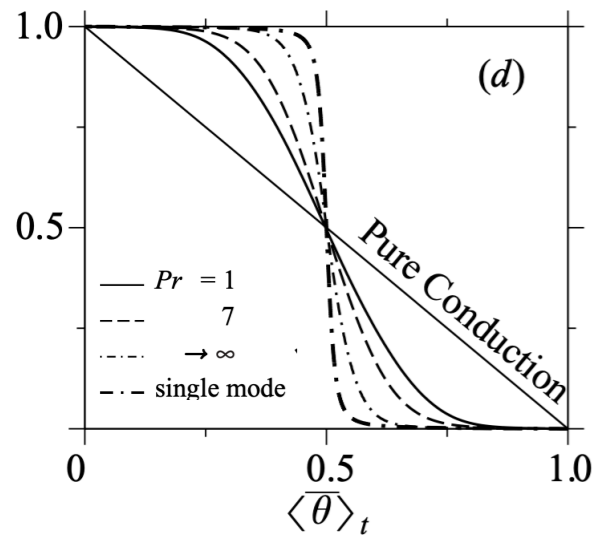


# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Plume Regime

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lateral mixing



$$(RaE^{4/3} = 60, Pr = 2)$$

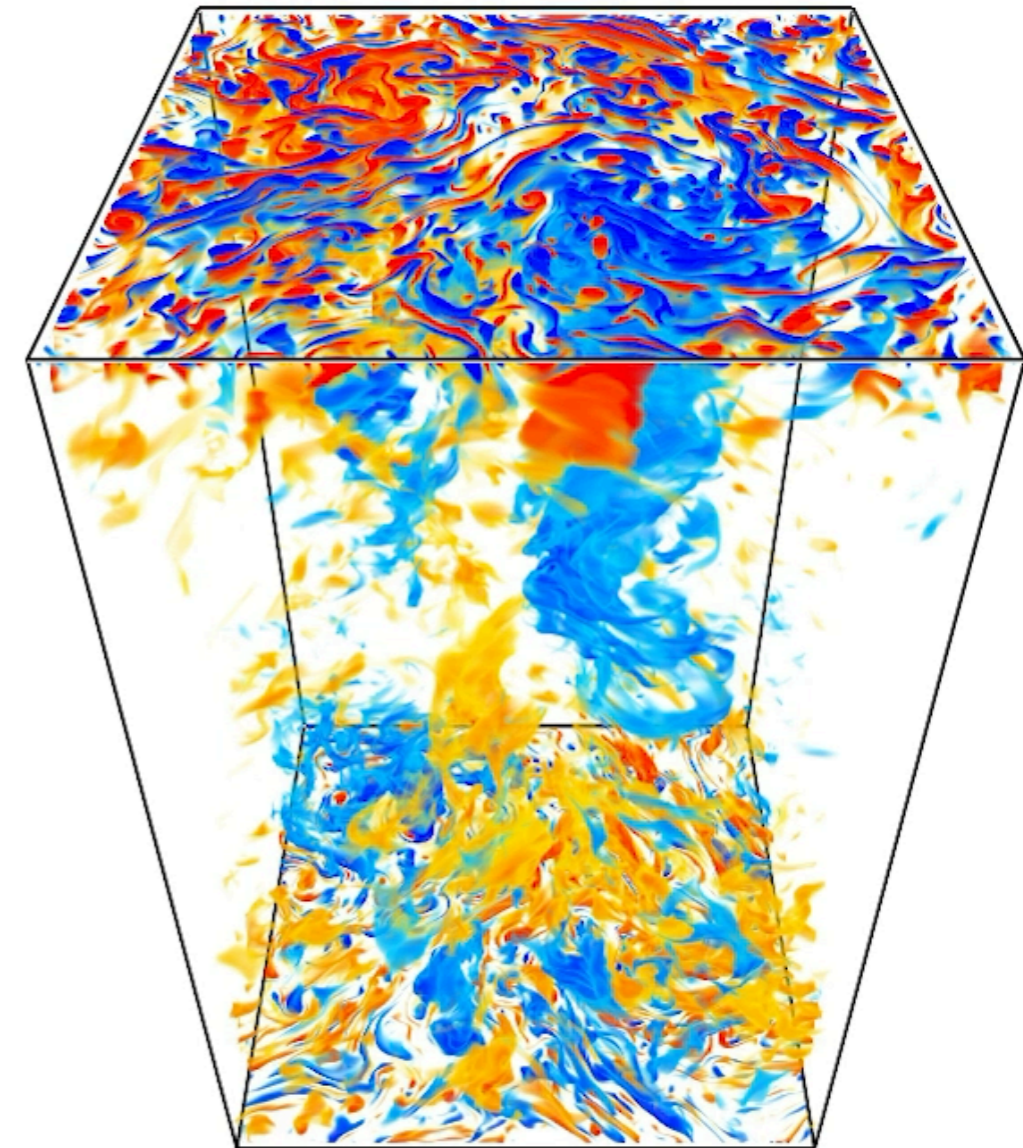
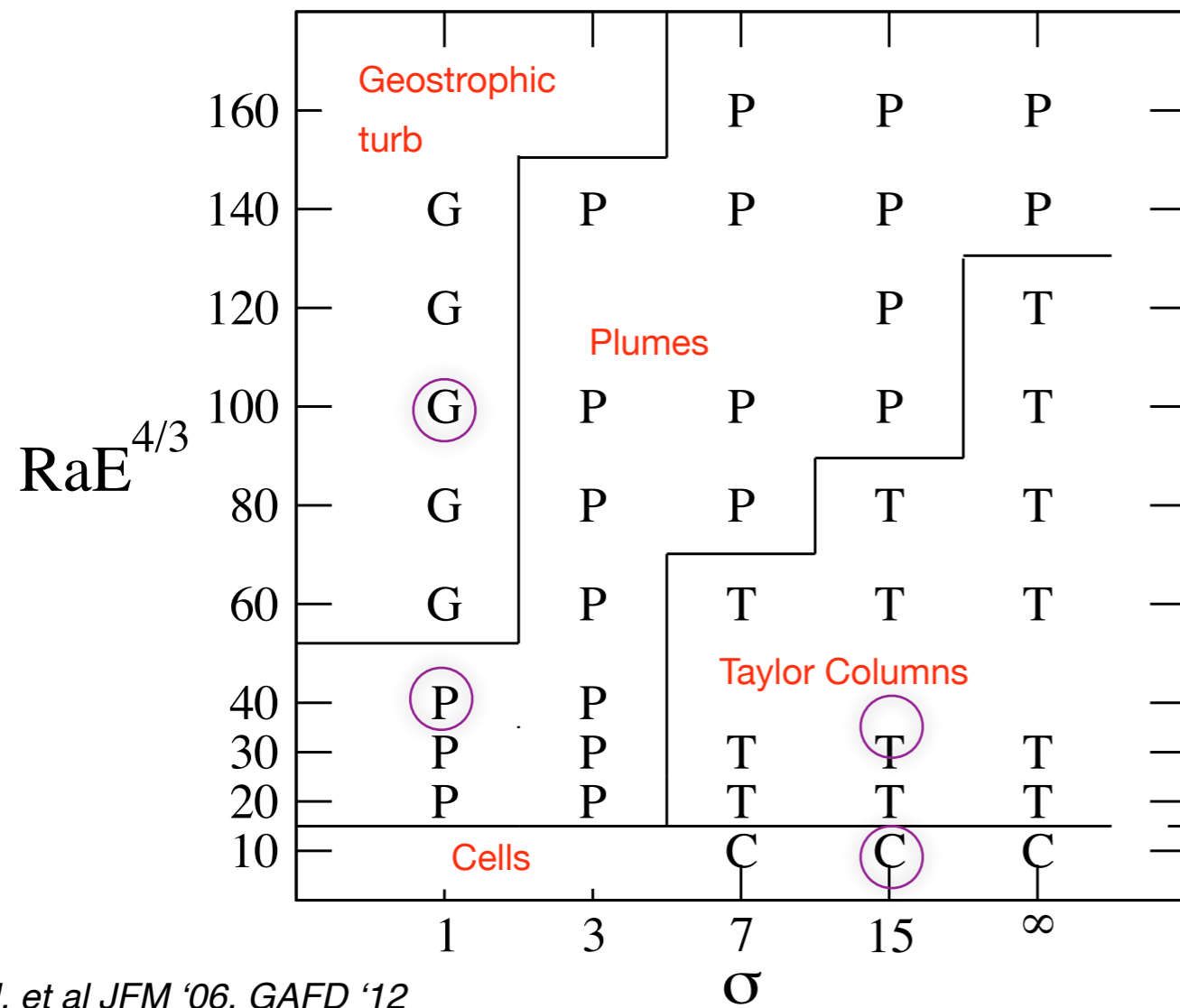
TBL's desynchronize



# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes

## Geostrophic Turbulence

Courtesy M Calkins



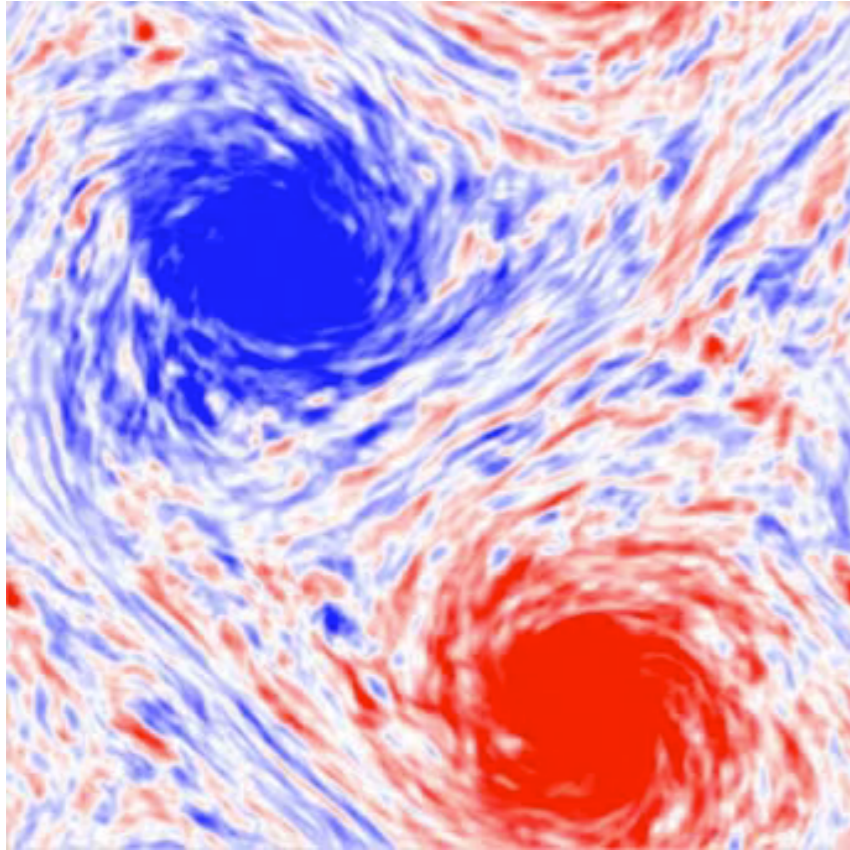
$$(RaE^{4/3} = 200, Pr = 1)$$

Maffei et al JFM 2021



# Quasi-Geostrophic Inverse Cascade - Large Scale Vortices

Rubio et al PRL '14



Temperature anomaly:  $Ra Ek^{-4/3}=160, Pr=1$

barotropic (depth averaged) - baroclinic decomposition

$$\psi = \langle \psi \rangle + \psi', \quad \mathbf{u}_{bt} = \nabla^\perp \langle \psi \rangle, \quad \mathbf{u}_{bc} = \nabla^\perp \psi'$$

barotropic vorticity equation - baroclinically forced

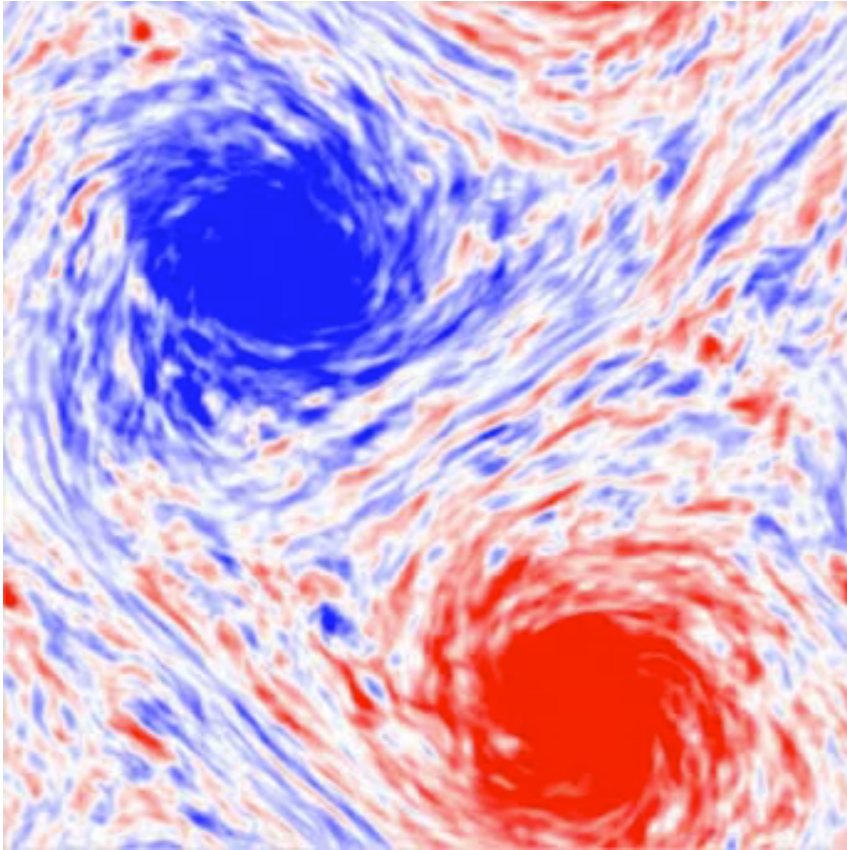
$$\partial_t \langle \zeta \rangle = -\mathcal{J}[\langle \psi \rangle, \langle \zeta \rangle] - \langle \mathcal{J}[\psi', \zeta'] \rangle + \nabla_\perp^2 \langle \zeta \rangle$$

Dual cascade - inviscid conservation laws

area-averaged energy & enstrophy  $\overline{|\nabla_\perp \langle \psi \rangle|^2}, \overline{(\nabla_\perp^2 \langle \psi \rangle)^2}$

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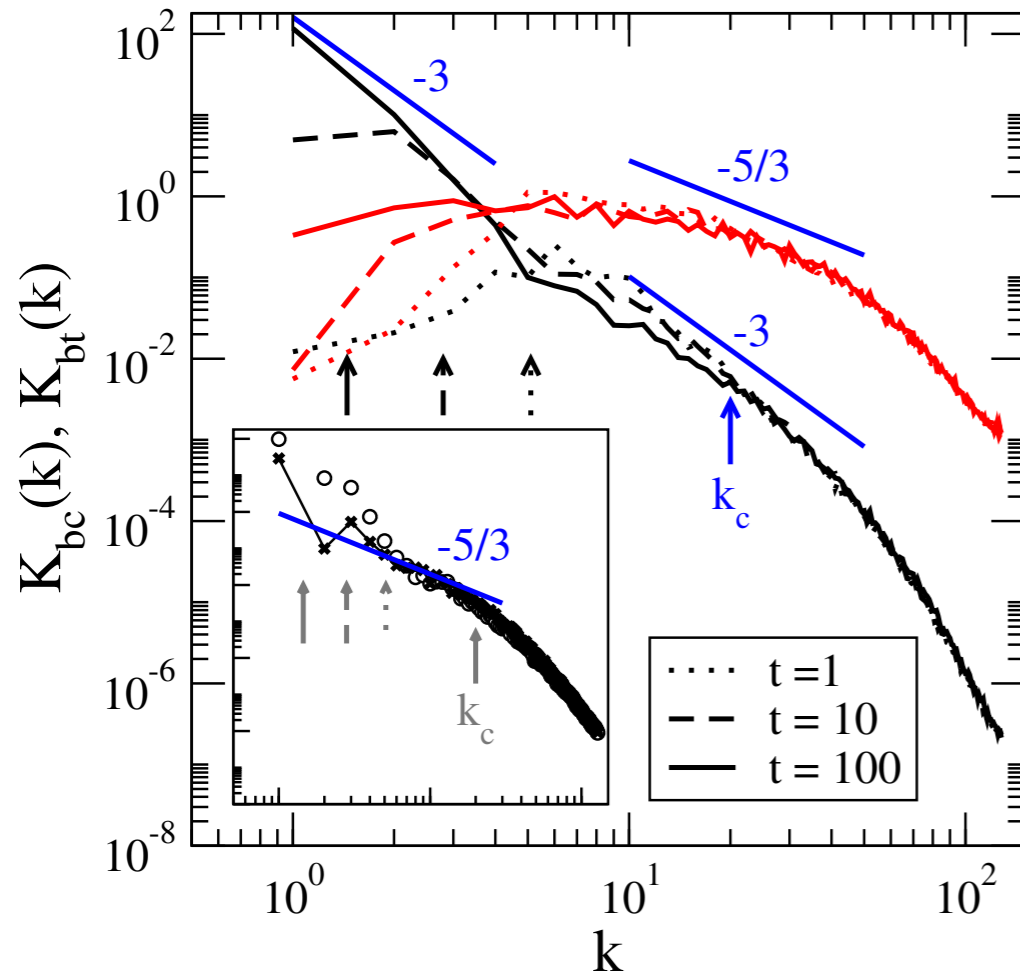
Dual cascade - inviscid conservation laws

area-averaged energy & enstrophy  $\overline{|\nabla_\perp \langle \psi \rangle|^2}, \overline{(\nabla_\perp^2 \langle \psi \rangle)^2}$



# Quasi-Geostrophic Inverse Cascade - Large Scale Vortices

Rubio et al PRL '14



barotropic (depth averaged) - baroclinic decomposition

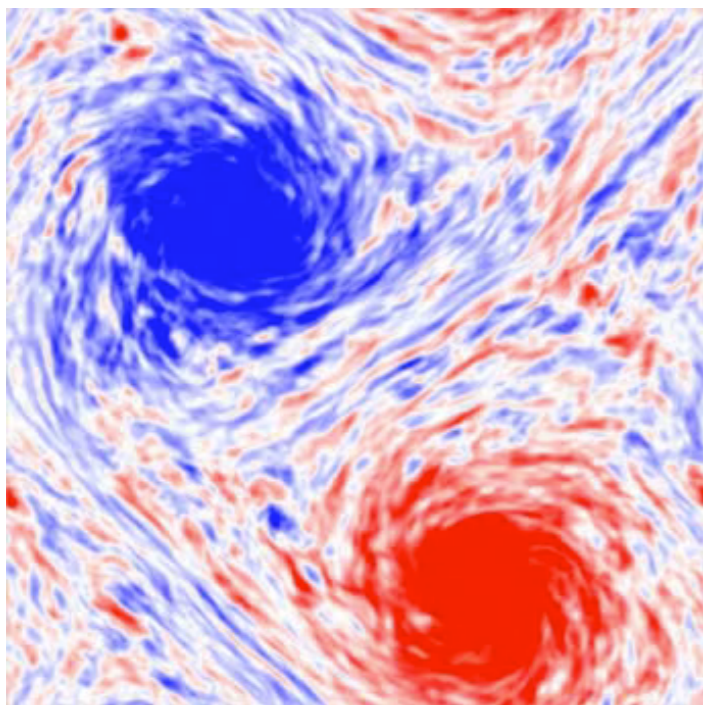
$$\psi = \langle \psi \rangle + \psi', \quad \mathbf{u}_{bt} = \nabla^\perp \langle \psi \rangle, \quad \mathbf{u}_{bc} = \nabla^\perp \psi'$$

barotropic vorticity equation - baroclinically forced

$$\partial_t \langle \zeta \rangle = -J[\langle \psi \rangle, \langle \zeta \rangle] - \langle J[\psi', \zeta'] \rangle + \nabla_\perp^2 \langle \zeta \rangle$$

Dual cascade - inviscid conservation laws

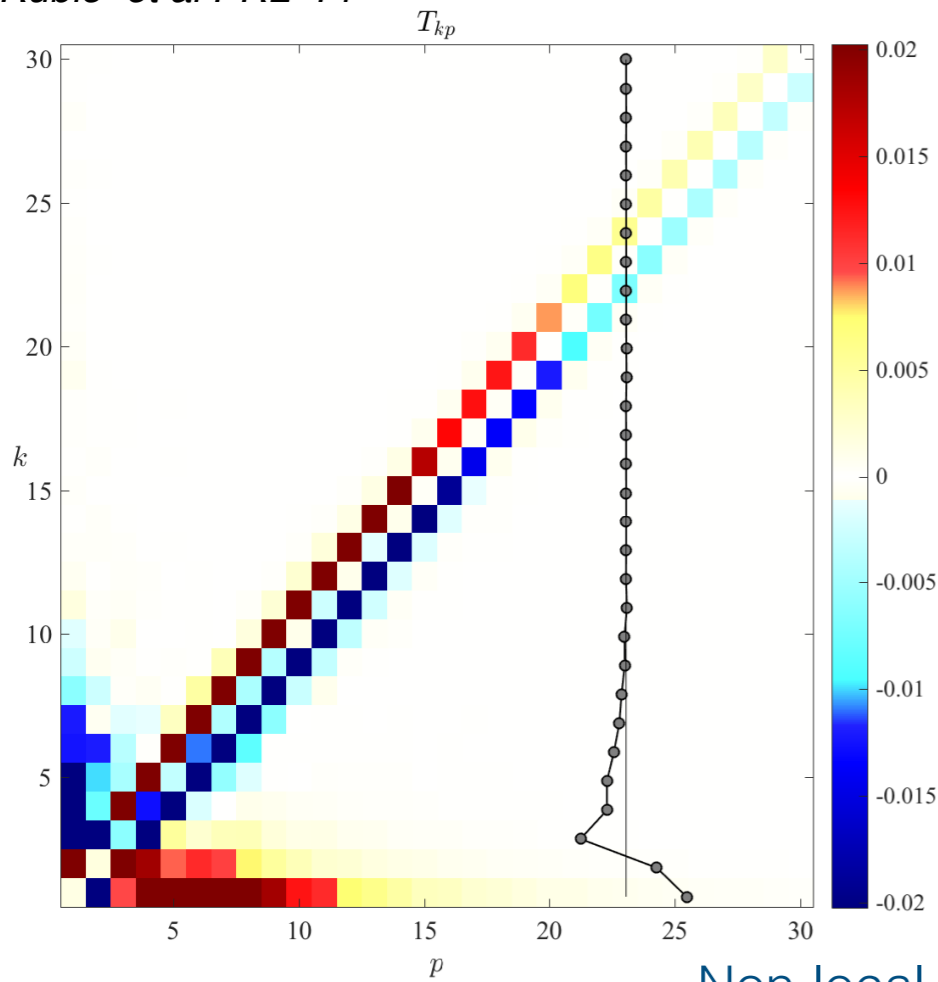
area-averaged energy & enstrophy  $|\nabla_\perp \langle \psi \rangle|^2, (\nabla_\perp^2 \langle \psi \rangle)^2$



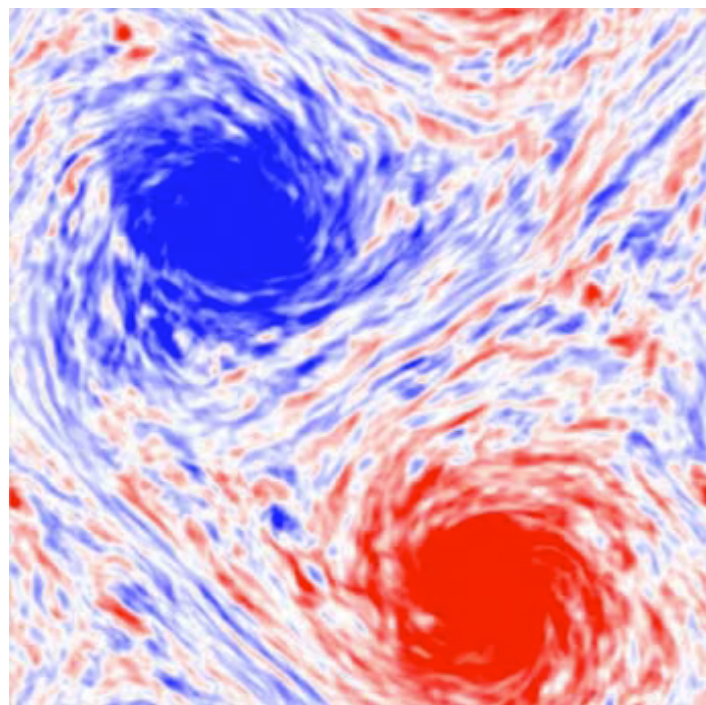
Temperature anomaly:  $Ra Ek^{-4/3} = 160, Pr = 1$

# Quasi-Geostrophic Inverse Cascade - Large Scale Vortices

Rubio et al PRL '14



Non-local inverse cascade



Temperature anomaly:  $Ra Ek^{-4/3}=160, Pr=1$

barotropic (depth averaged) - baroclinic decomposition

$$\psi = \langle \psi \rangle + \psi', \quad \mathbf{u}_{bt} = \nabla^\perp \langle \psi \rangle, \quad \mathbf{u}_{bc} = \nabla^\perp \psi'$$

barotropic vorticity equation - baroclinically forced

$$\partial_t \langle \zeta \rangle = -\mathcal{J}[\langle \psi \rangle, \langle \zeta \rangle] - \langle \mathcal{J}[\psi', \zeta'] \rangle + \nabla_\perp^2 \langle \zeta \rangle$$

Dual cascade - inviscid conservation laws

area-averaged energy & enstrophy  $|\nabla_\perp \langle \psi \rangle|^2, \overline{(\nabla_\perp^2 \langle \psi \rangle)^2}$

$$\partial_t KE_{bt}(k_\perp) = T(k_\perp) + F(k_\perp) + D(k_\perp)$$



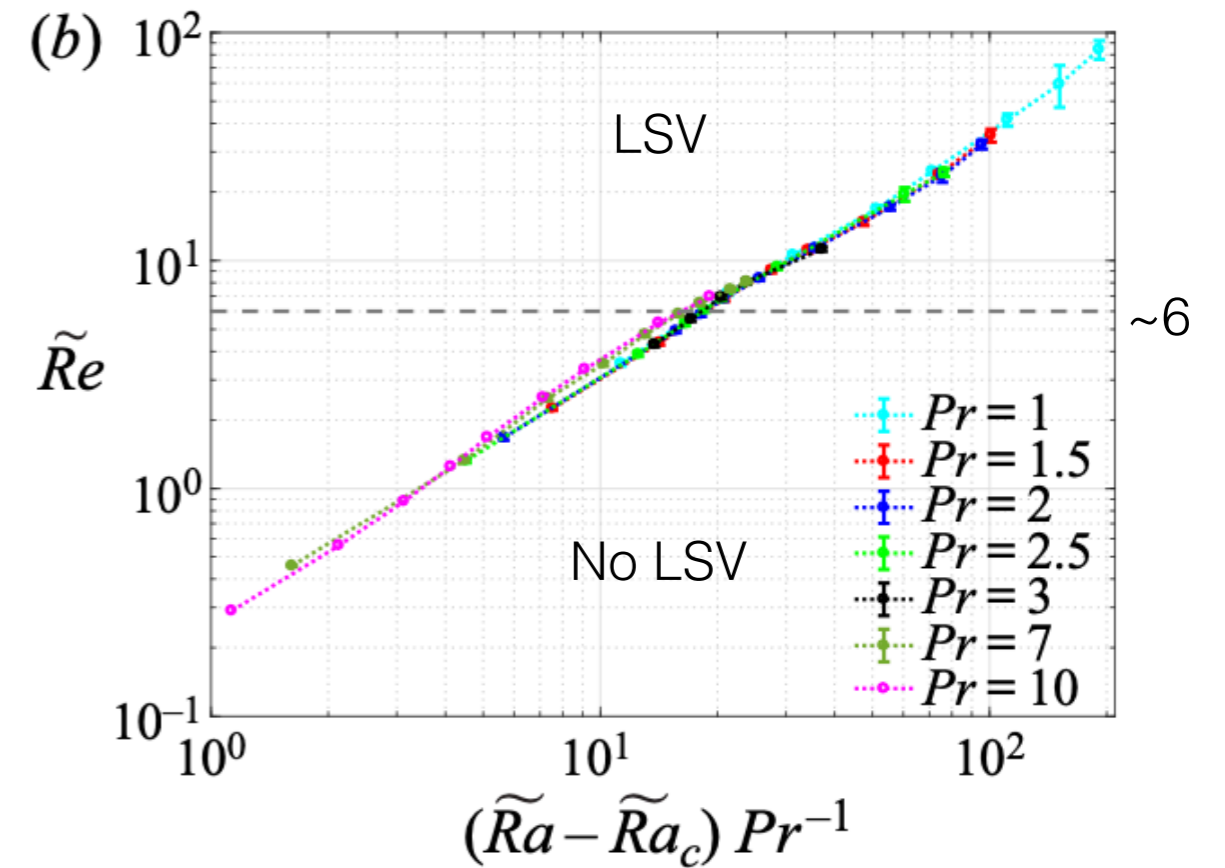
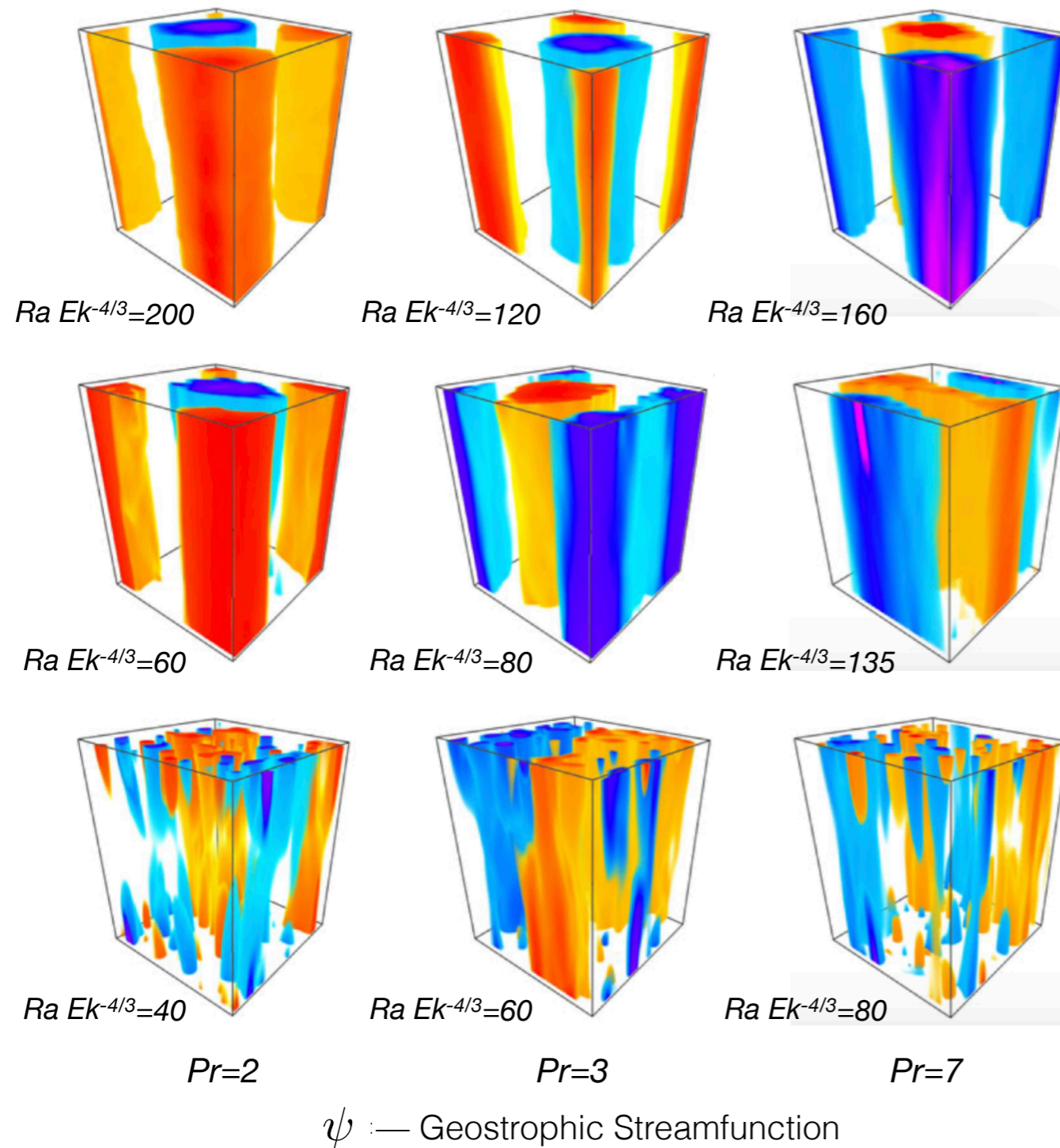
Energy (upscale) & Enstrophy (downscale)



# Quasi-Geostrophic Inverse Cascade - Large Scale Vortices

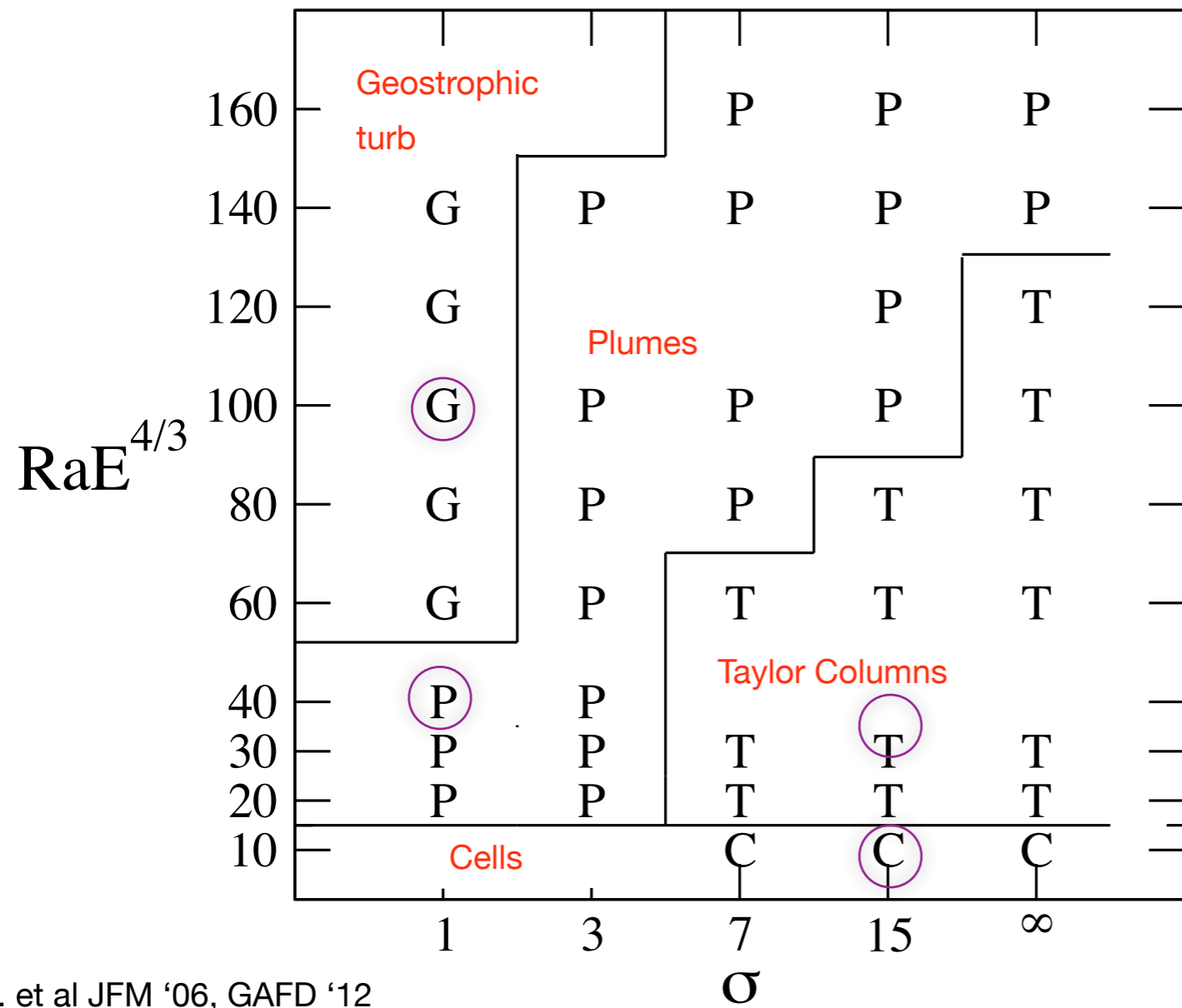
Maffei et al JFM 2020

Maffei et al JFM 2020



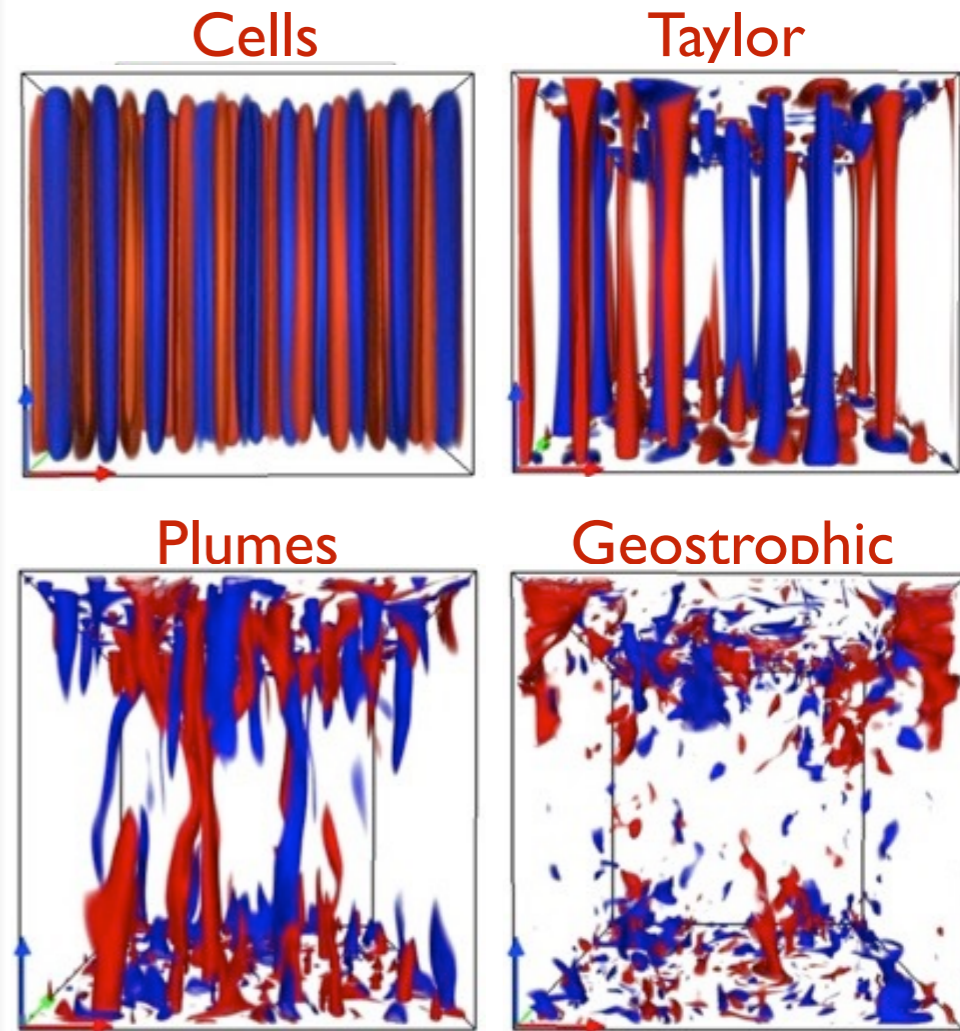
LSV prevalent for all  $Pr$  when  $Re > 6$

# Quasi-Geostrophic RBC Flow Regimes by DNS Mapping Parameter Space



J. et al JFM '06, GAJD '12

DNS @  $E = 10^{-7}$

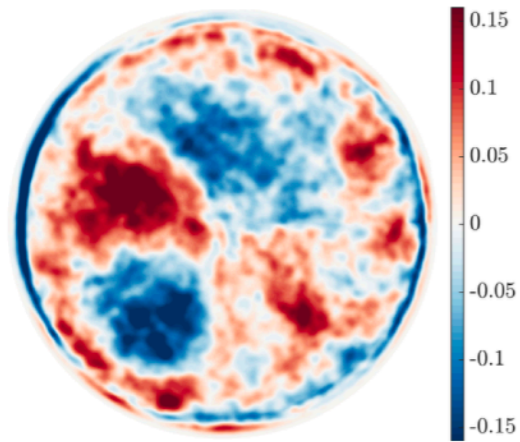


Stellmach ..., KJ..., Aurnou, PRL '14



# Quasi-Geostrophic Inverse Cascade - Large Scale Vortices

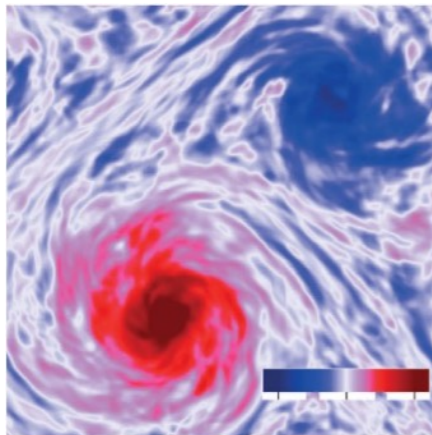
## Observations in the Lab?



Madonia et al EPL 2021  
APS DFD 2021 P06.00009 [Flow measurements of turbulent rotating Rayleigh-Bénard convection in the geostrophic regime](#)

Fig. 4: Orientation-compensated mean vorticity field (in 1/s) at  $Ra/Ra_C = 47$ .

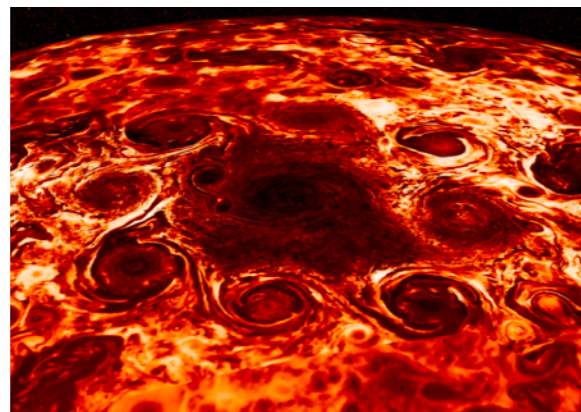
## Direct Numerical Simulations?



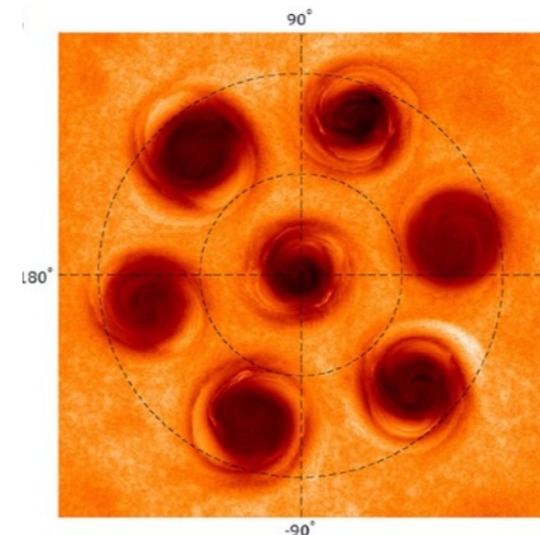
Stellmach,...,KJ. et al PRL 2014,  
Favier et al PoF 2014,  
Guervilly et al JFM 2014  
Favier & Knobloch JFM 2019  
Guzman et al PRL 2020

Stellmach,...,KJ. et al PRL 2014

## GAFD ?



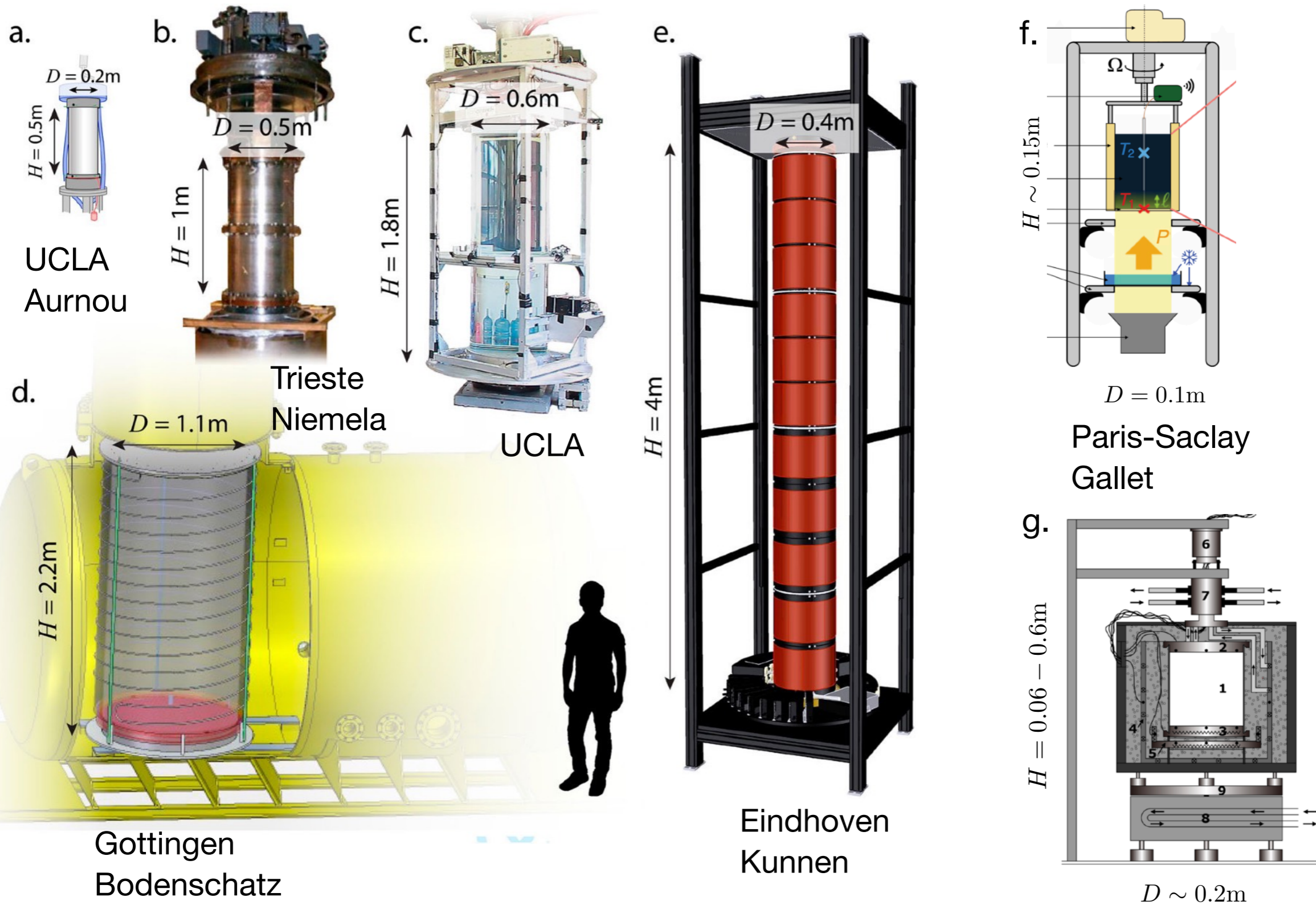
NASA/JPL-Caltech/SwRI/ASI/INAF/JIRAM)



Rotating Convection on  $\gamma$ -plane  
DNS - Cai et al PSJ 2021,



# On-going Laboratory Experiments

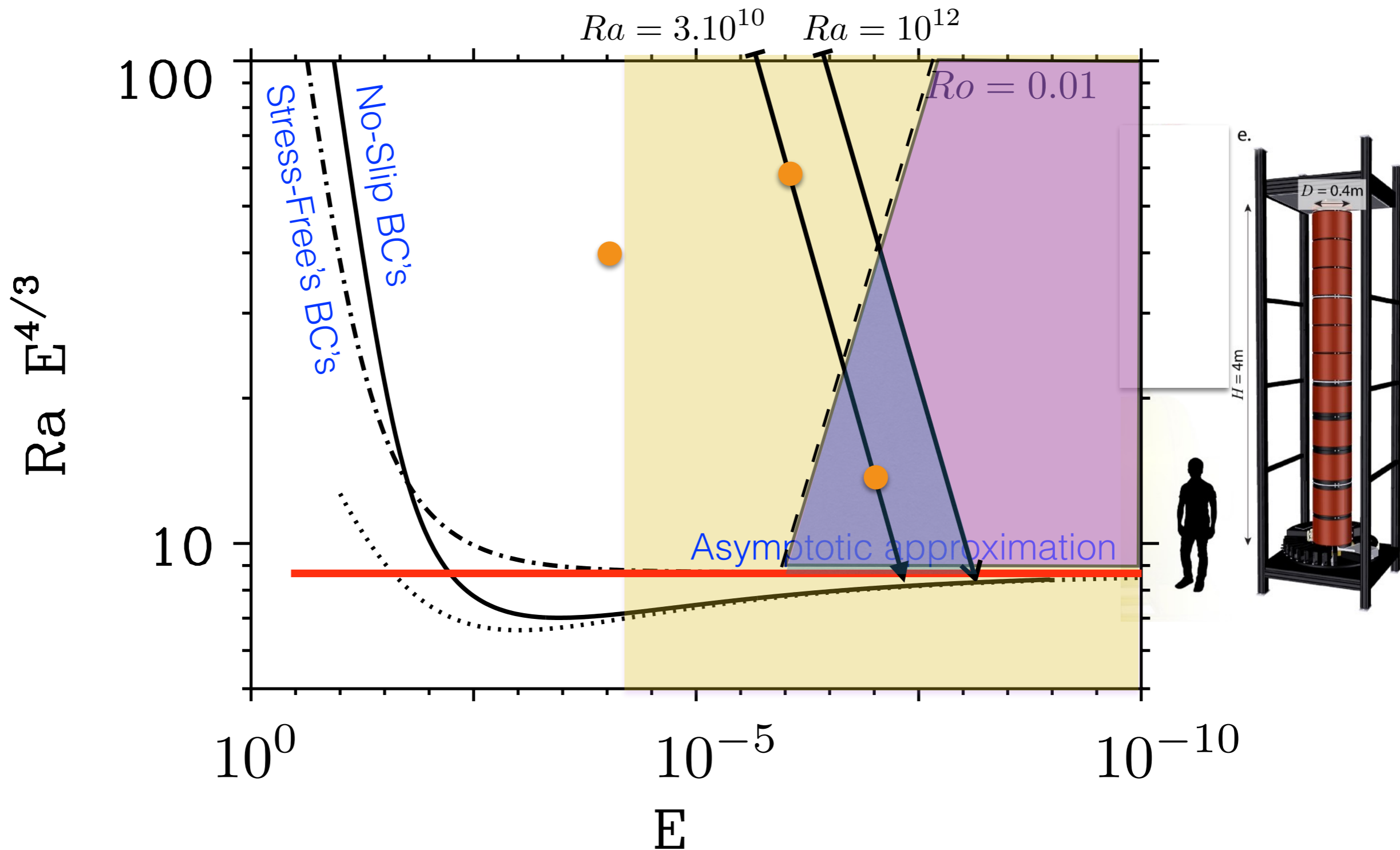


All striving to explore the geostrophic regime

Ecke & Niemela PRL 2014



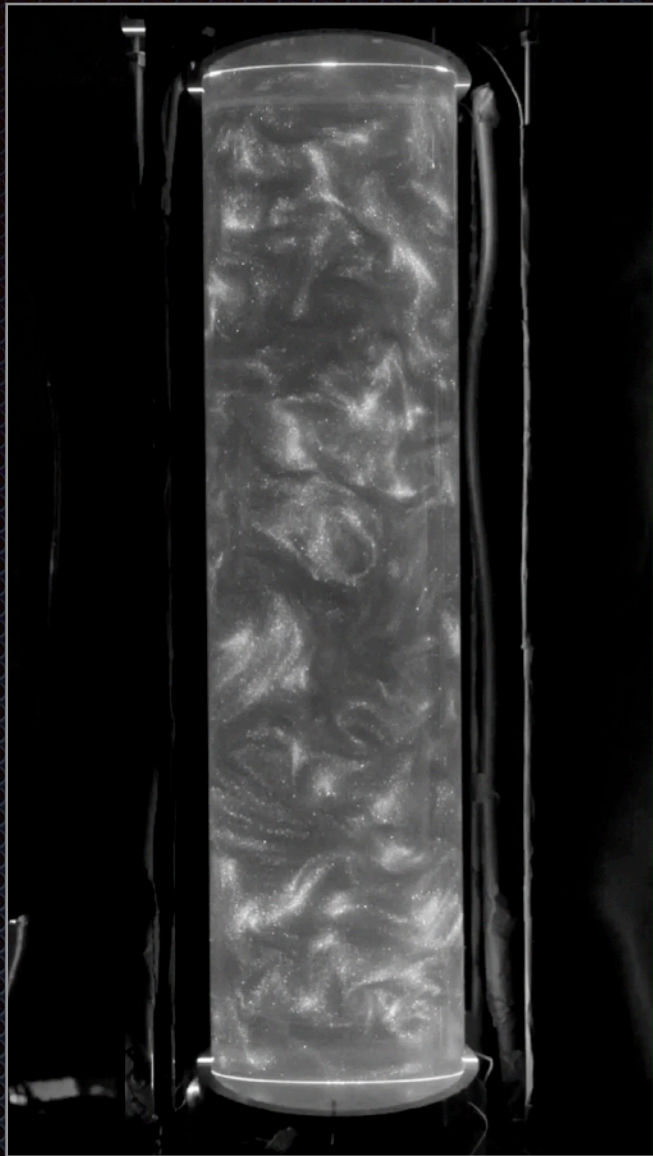
# Geostrophic Regime - DNS & Lab. Experiments



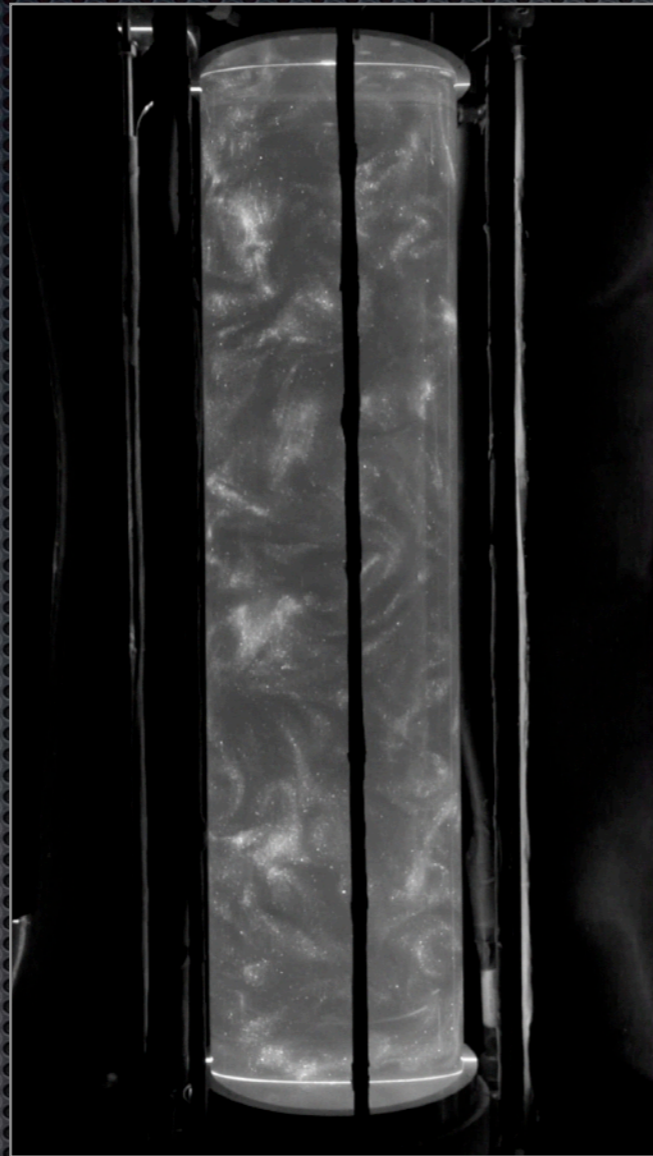
Extension of Reduced Model to No-Slip  
M. Plumley, KJ et al JFM 2016  
KJ. et al JFM 2016



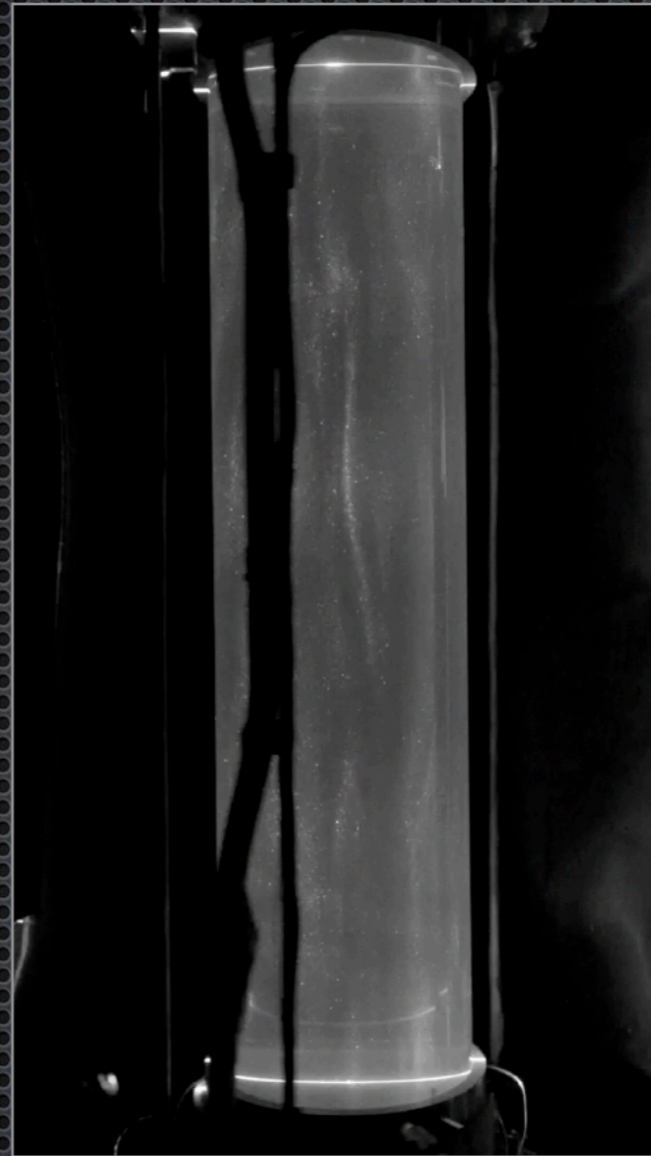
# RoMag: 80 cm tanks



$E = \text{inf.}$   
 $Ra \sim 2.7e10$   
 $Roc = \text{inf.}$



$E = 1.5e-5$   
 $Ra \sim 2.9e10$   
 $Roc \sim 0.97$   
 $RaE^{4/3} = 1.1e3$



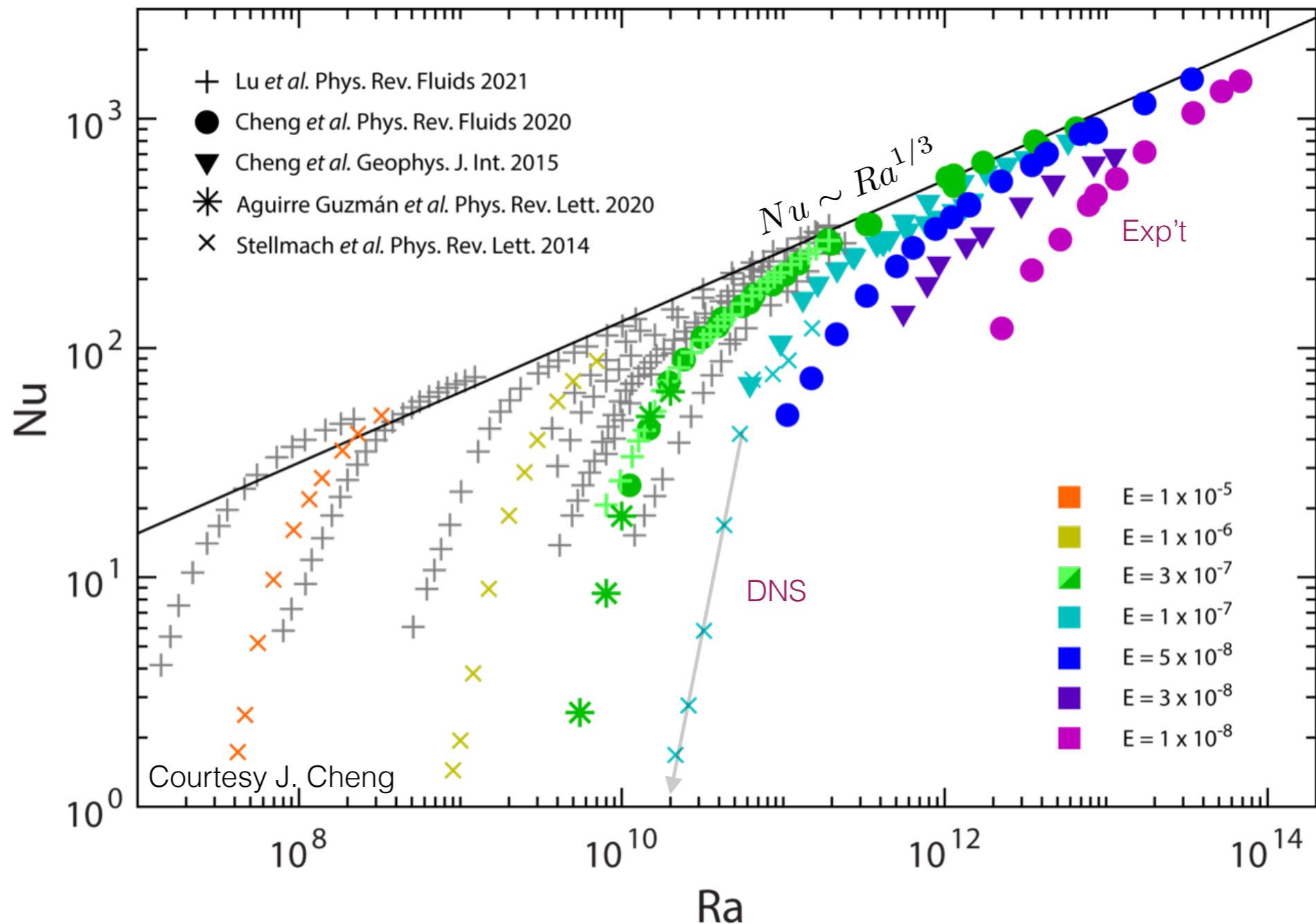
$E = 6.0e-7$   
 $Ra \sim 3.0e10$   
 $Roc \sim 0.039$   
 $RaE^{4/3} = 152$



$E = 1.0e-7$   
 $Ra \sim 5.3e10$   
 $Roc \sim 0.0087$   
 $RaE^{4/3} = 25$



# Limitations as view by Heat Transport



$$Nu = \frac{\text{Total Heat Transfer}}{\text{Conductive Transfer}} \sim \left( \frac{Ra}{Ra_c} \right)^\beta$$

$$\beta_\Omega > 1$$

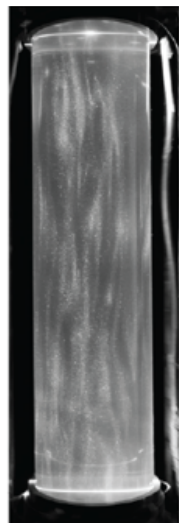
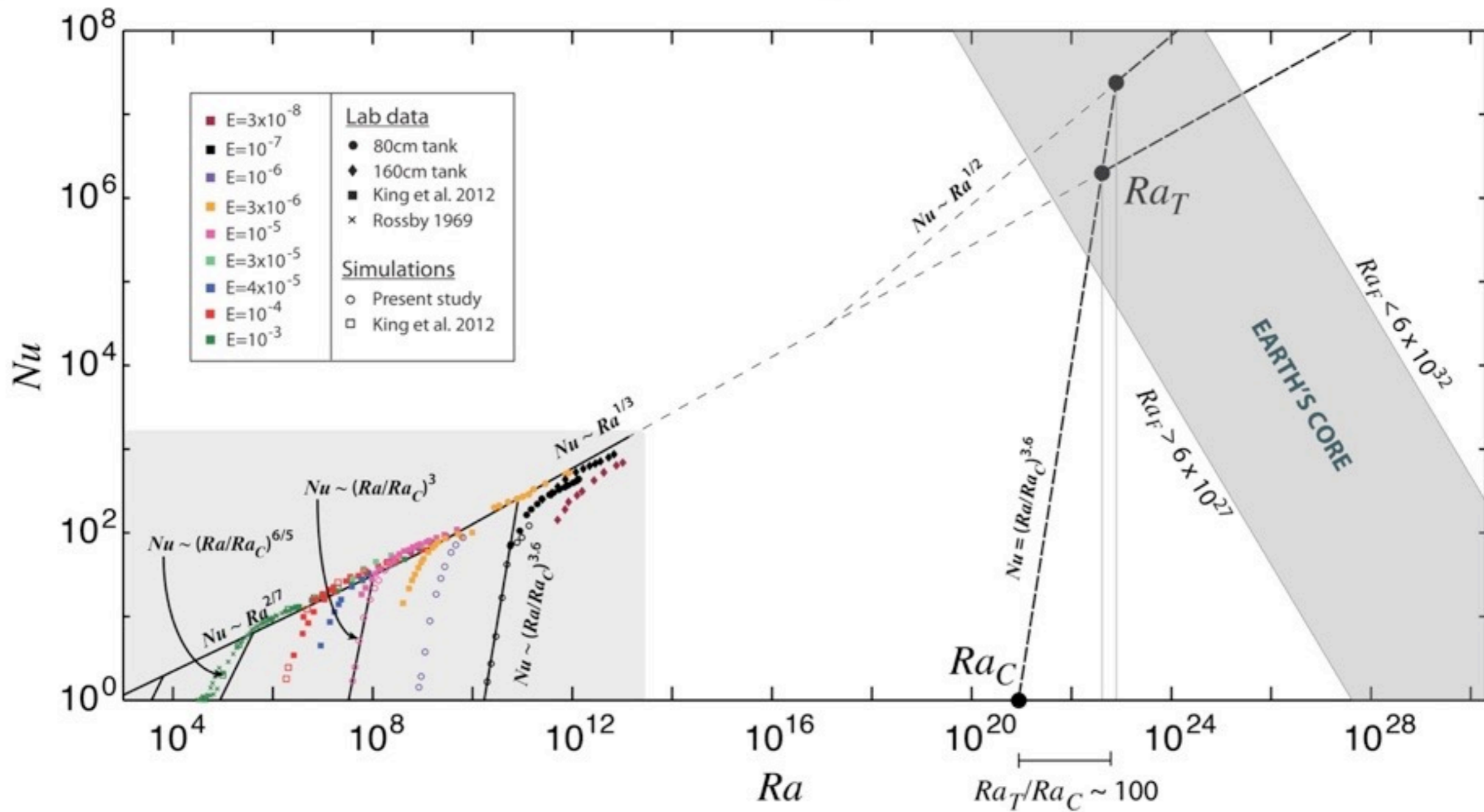
$$\beta_0 \approx 1/3$$

# Characterization - Heat Transport

Low  $Ro$  branch characterized by steep branch in  $Nu-Ra$  space

$$Ro_{crit} \sim E^{1/3} < Ro < 1, \quad Ra \sim E^{-4/3}$$

UCLA Spin-Lab: King et al Nature 2009  
Aurnou et al PEPI 2015



$$Nu = \frac{\text{Total Heat Transfer}}{\text{Conductive Transfer}} \sim \left( \frac{Ra}{Ra_c} \right)^\beta$$

$$\beta_{rot} > 1$$

$$\beta_{norot} = 1/3 \rightarrow 1/2$$

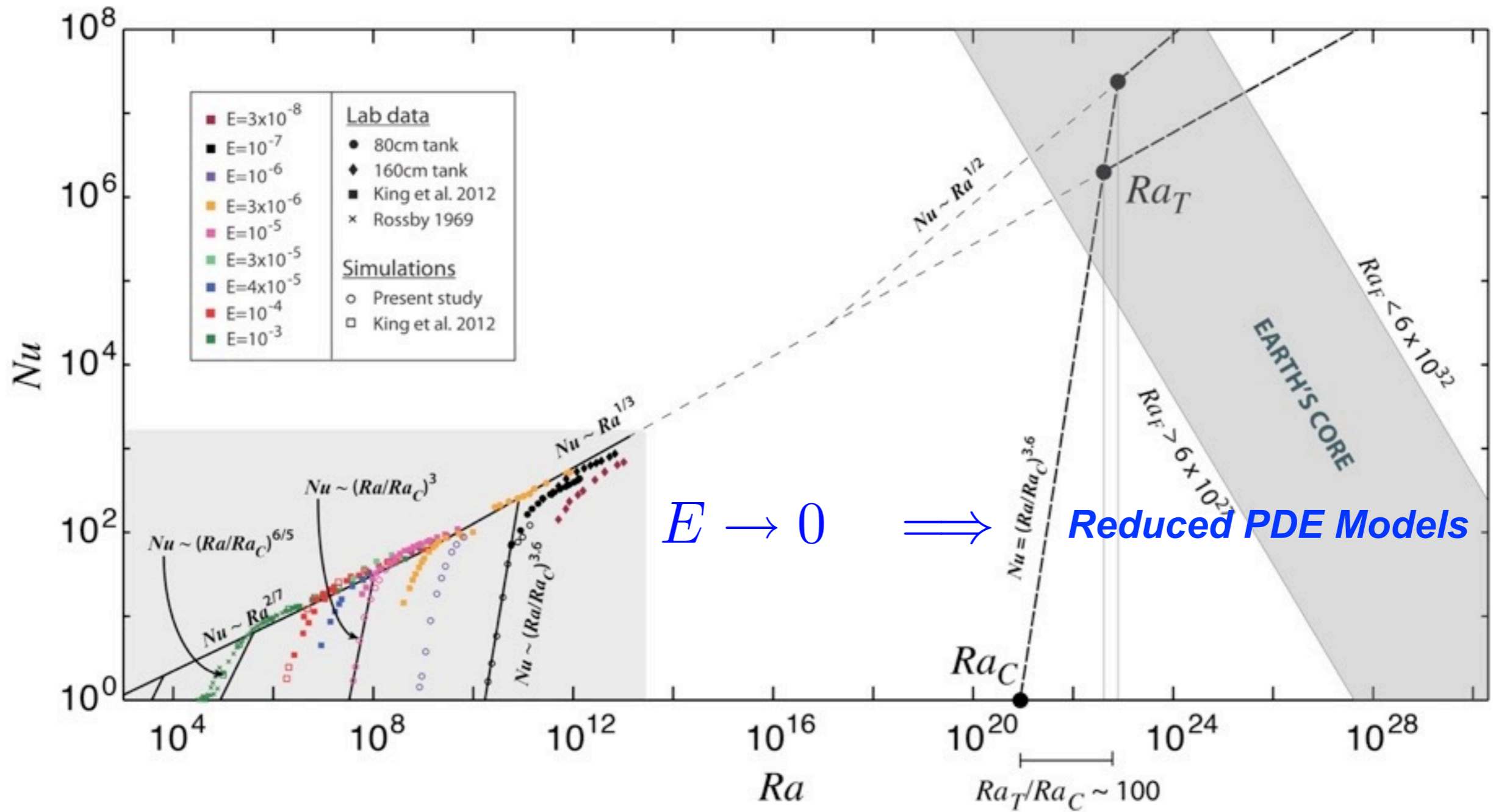


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$$\beta_{rot} > 1$$

$$\beta_{norot} = 1/3 \rightarrow 1/2$$

# Turbulent Heat Transport

$$Nu \equiv \frac{QH}{\rho_0 c_p \kappa \Delta T} = \sigma \overline{w\theta} - \partial_z \overline{T} \quad Nu - 1 = C(\sigma) \left( Ra E^{4/3} \right)^\alpha$$

$$Q \propto \left( \frac{\kappa \Delta T}{H} \right) \left( \frac{\nu}{\kappa} \right)^\gamma \left( \frac{g \alpha_T \Delta T H^3}{\kappa \nu} \right)^\alpha \left( \frac{\nu}{2\Omega H^2} \right)^{4\alpha/3}$$

Boundary Layer vs Turbulent control

- marginally stable tbl's (Malkus, '54):
- depth independence (Priestley, '59):

- ultimate (dissipation-free) turbulent law (Kraichnan '63, Howard '63, Spiegel '71):

$$\alpha = 3$$

$$\alpha = \frac{3}{2}$$
$$\gamma = -\frac{1}{2}$$

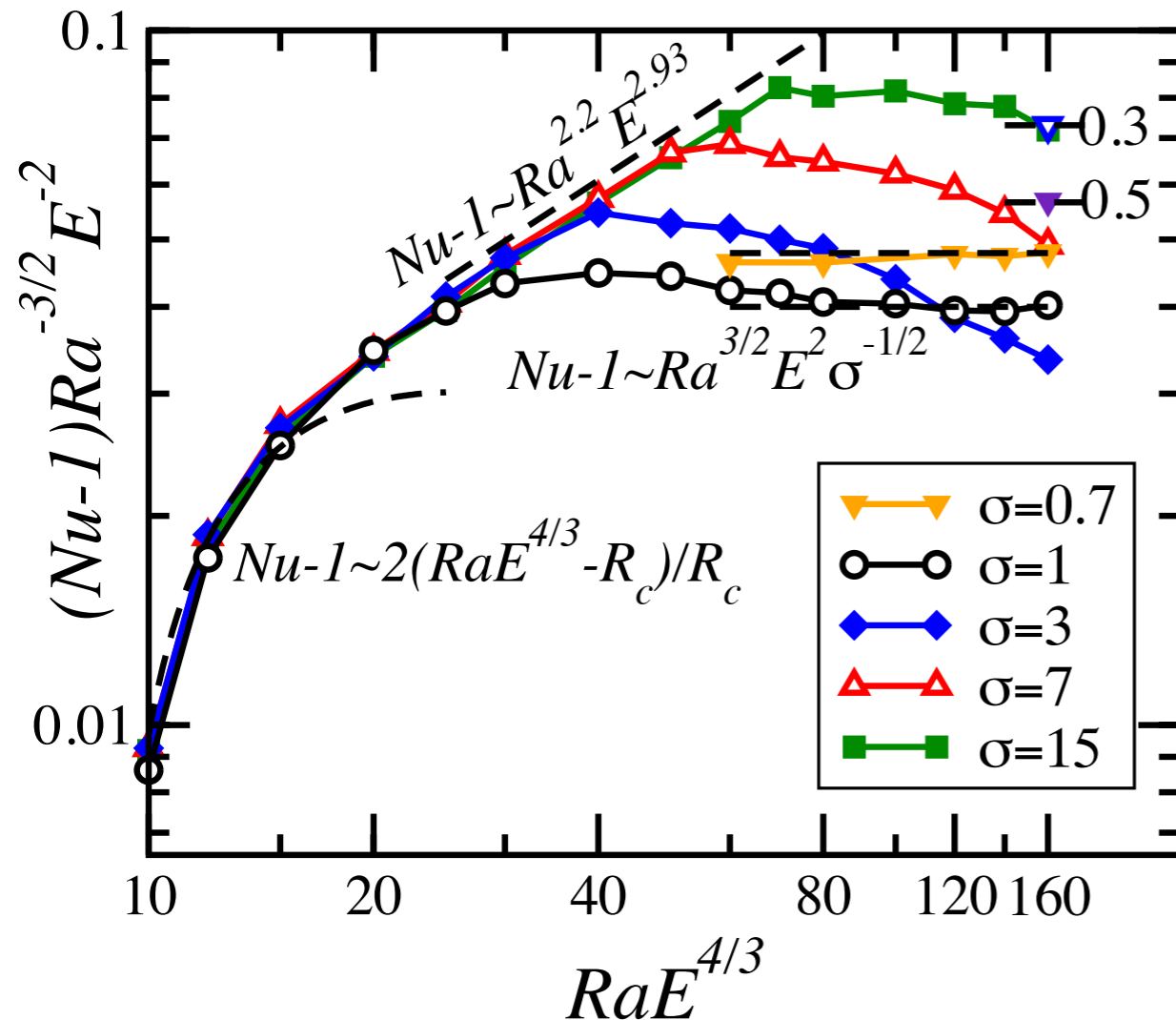
Turbulent control HX bottleneck  
Greater potential for observation



# DNS RBC vs NH-QGE

## Impenetrable Stress-Free Boundaries

KJ, et al PRL 2012



Good quantitative agreement

- NH-QGE (Open Symbols)
- DNS (Closed Symbols)  $E = 10^{-7}$

$$Nu - 1 = \frac{1}{25} \sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( RaE^{\frac{4}{3}} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Dissipation-free Scaling Law

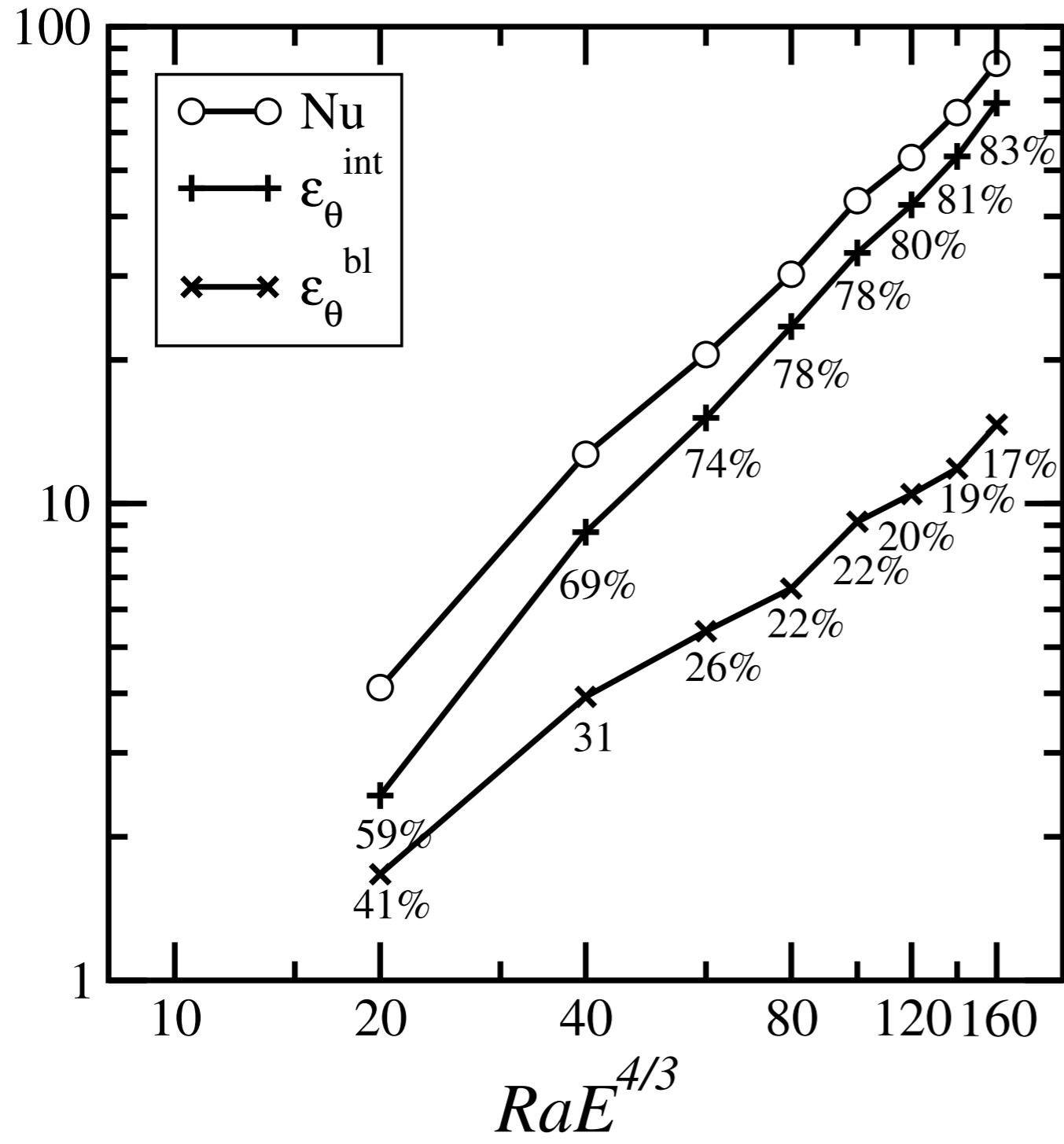
Flux bottleneck turbulent interior

- *Not thermal boundary layers*

$$Nu \equiv \frac{QH}{\rho_0 c_p \kappa \Delta T}, \quad Ra = \frac{g\alpha\Delta TH^3}{\nu\kappa}, \quad E = \frac{\nu}{2\Omega H^2}$$

# Low Ro Heat Transfer:

$$Nu - 1 = \frac{1}{25} \sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( Ra E^{\frac{4}{3}} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$



- turbulent interior controls heat transport (GL theory)

$$\mathcal{E}_{\theta} \approx \mathcal{E}_{\theta}^{int} = \langle |\partial_z \bar{T}|^2 \rangle + \langle |\nabla_{\perp} \theta|^2 \rangle \equiv Nu$$

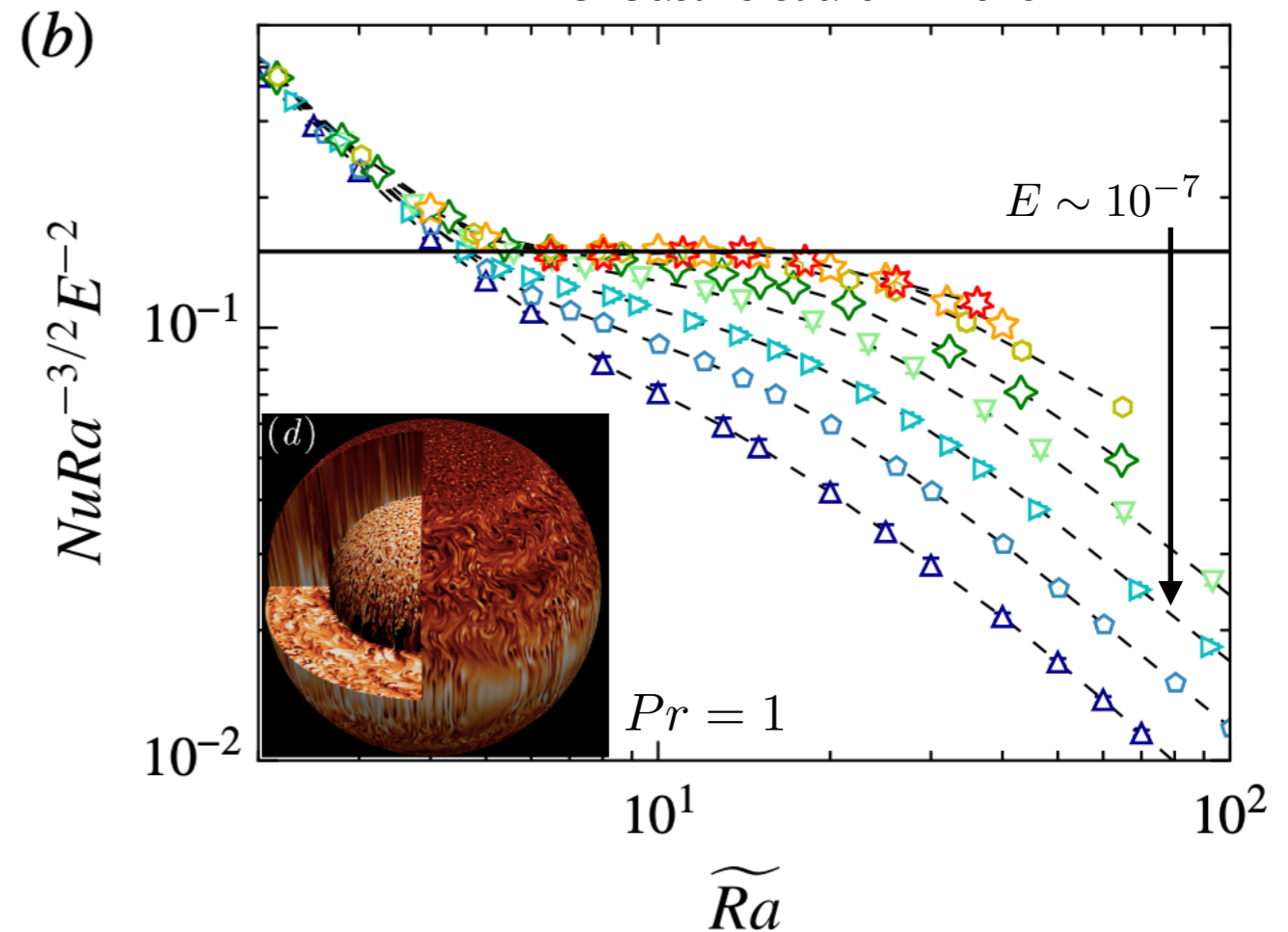
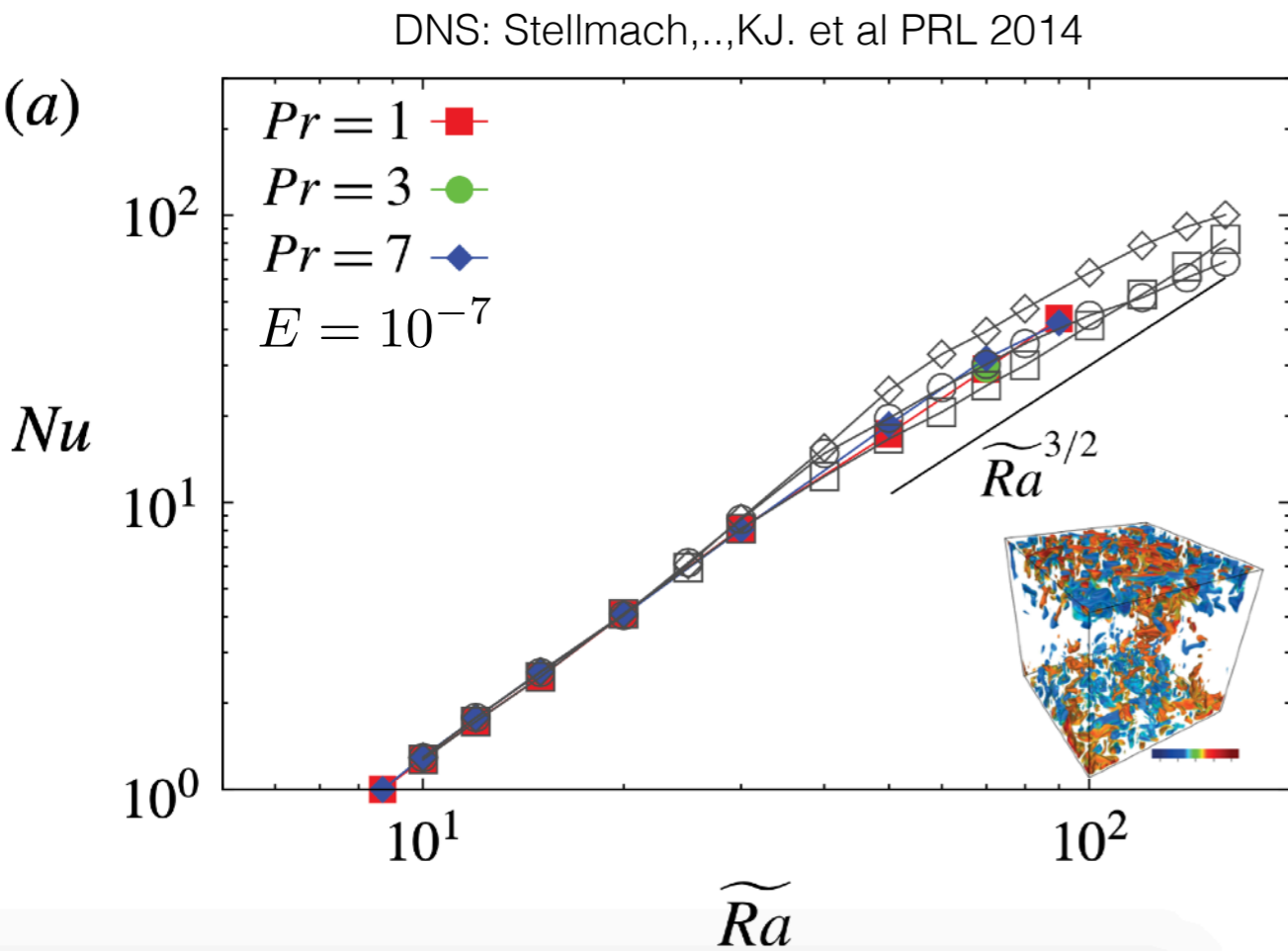
## Nondimensional #'s:

$$Nu \equiv \frac{QH}{\rho_0 c_p \kappa \Delta T}, \quad Ra = \frac{g \alpha \Delta T H^3}{\nu \kappa}, \quad E = \frac{\nu}{f H^2}$$

$$\sigma = \frac{\nu}{\kappa}$$



# Quasi-Geostrophic Heat Transport



Dissipation-free ultimate HT scaling law.  $\propto \left(\frac{Ra}{Ra_c}\right)^{3/2} Pr^{-1/2}$  upheld KJ et al PRL '12

DNS in planar geometries Stellmach, ..., KJ. et al PRL 2014

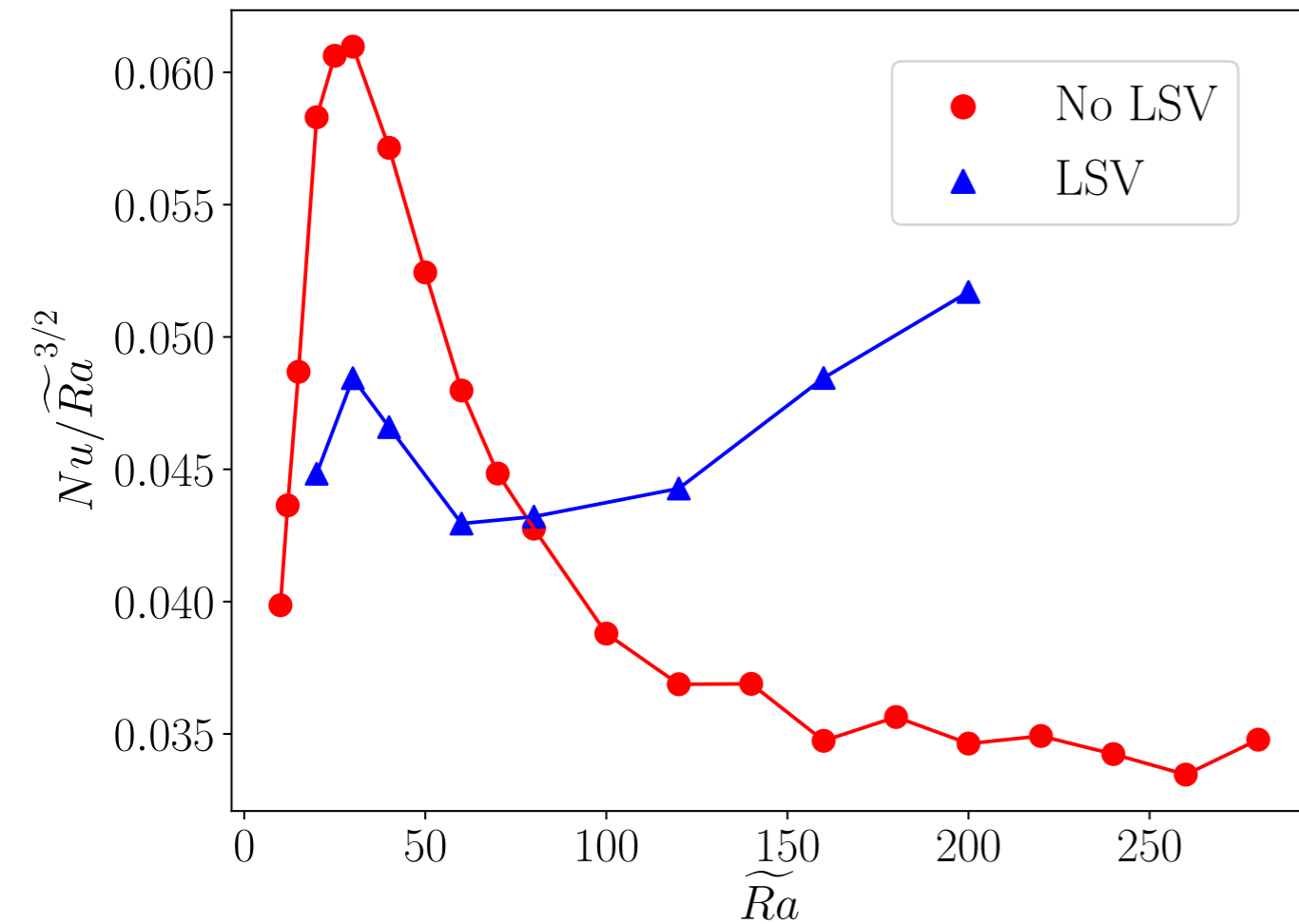
DNS in spherical geometries Gastine et al JFM 2016

Laboratory experiments

Challenges due to geometry and thermal control Ecke & Niemela PRL 2014

# DNS RBC vs NH-QGE

## Impenetrable Stress-Free Boundaries



LSV impacts heat transport

$$Nu - 1 = \frac{1}{25} \sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left( Ra E^{\frac{4}{3}} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

Dissipation-free Scaling Law

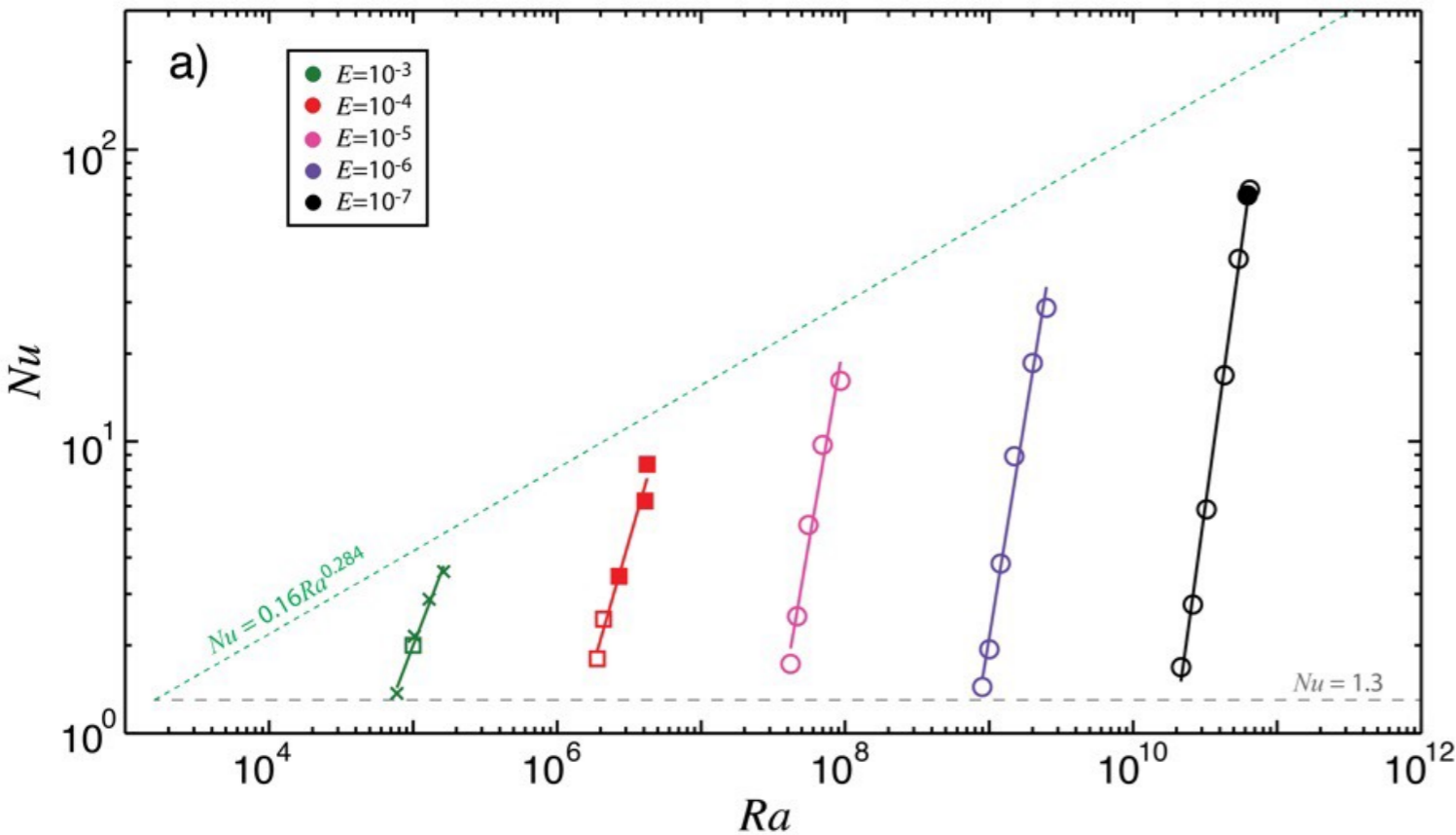
For underlying rotating turbulence

$$Nu \equiv \frac{QH}{\rho_0 c_p \kappa \Delta T}, \quad Ra = \frac{g \alpha \Delta T H^3}{\nu \kappa}, \quad E = \frac{\nu}{2 \Omega H^2}$$



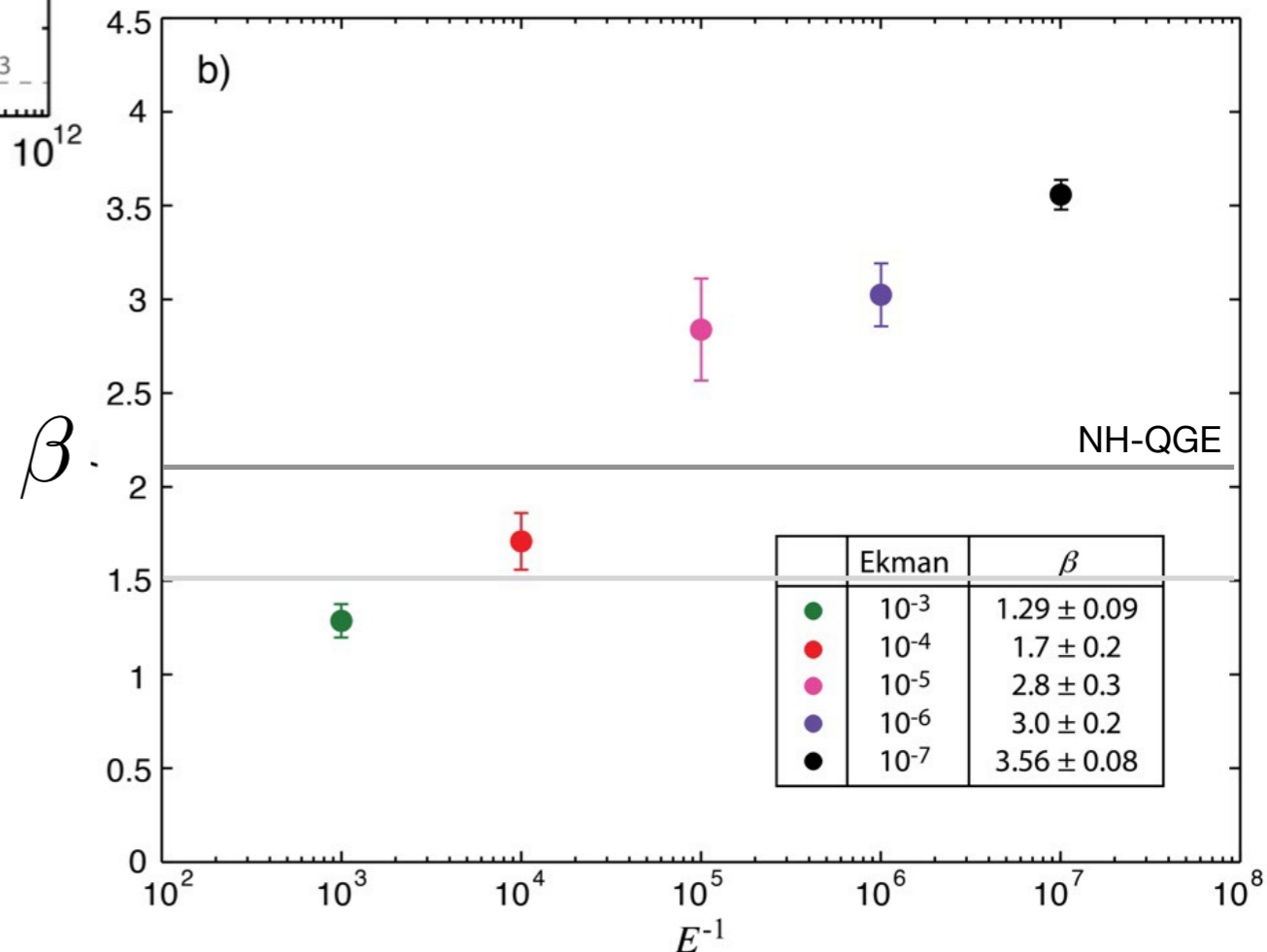
# Heat Transport: Exponent vs Ekman number

$Nu \propto (Ra/Ra_c)^\beta$  nonconvergence: exponent appears to increase w/ decreasing  $E$  !



Conclusion:

- $\mathcal{O}(E^{1/6}H)$  EBL's having leading order affect on heat transport
- Not captured in asymptotic reduced model



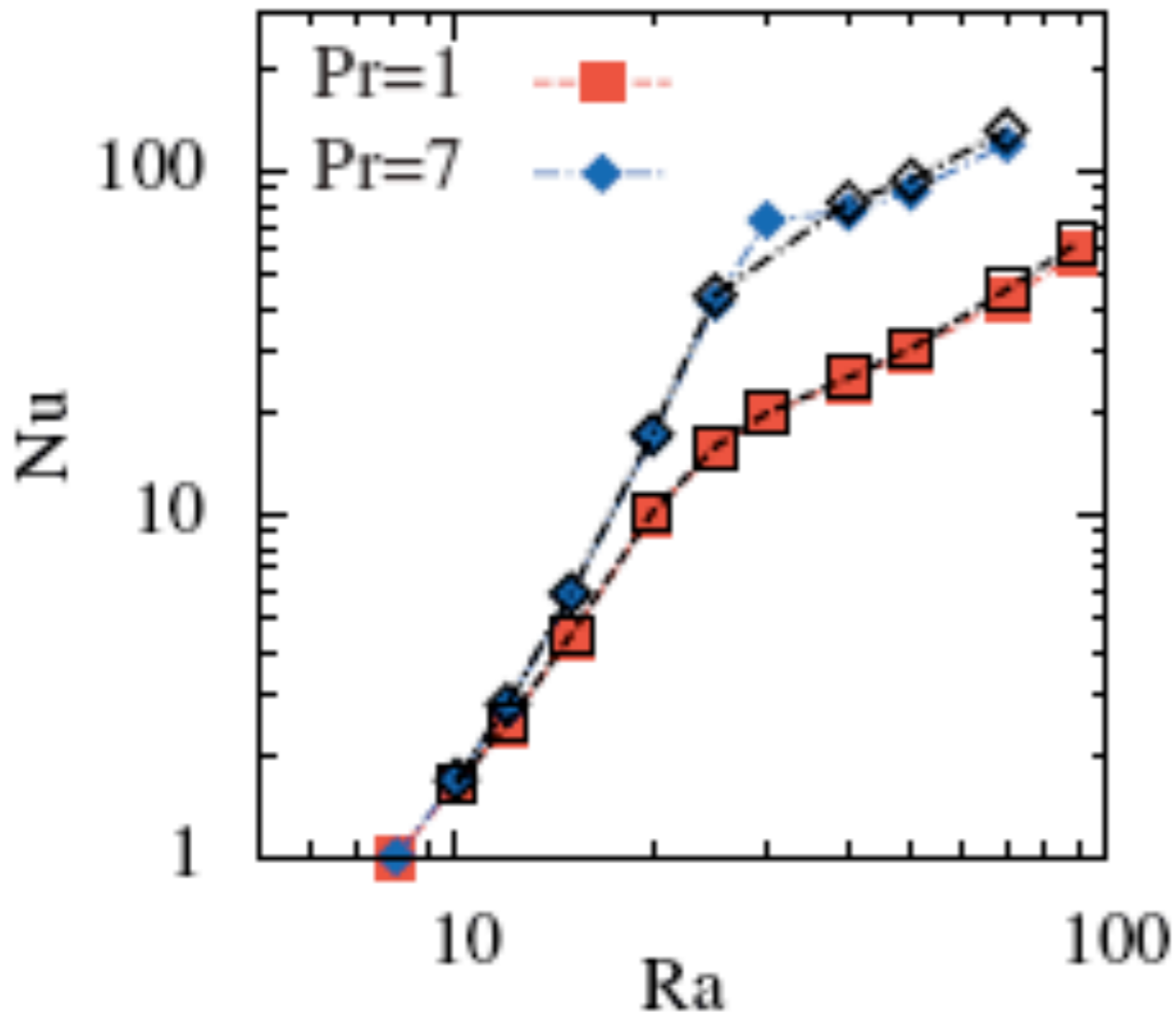
Results from UCLA SpinLab

Courtesy Jon Aurnou, Jon Cheng

# DNS RBC vs DNS with Parameterized Pumping

$$w^{(e)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t) = \mp \frac{E^{1//6}}{\sqrt{2}} \zeta_0^{(g)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t)$$

(a)



Conclusion:

- *Ekman pumping responsible for enhanced HT*
- Either  $E$  too large  
as  $E \Rightarrow 0$ ,  $DNS \Rightarrow NHQGE$

OR

- Pumping remains important as  $E \Rightarrow 0$   
as  $E \Rightarrow 0$ , *non-convergence to SF bc's*

- Filled symbols (DNS with No-Slip BC's)
- Open symbols (DNS w/ Pumping BC's)

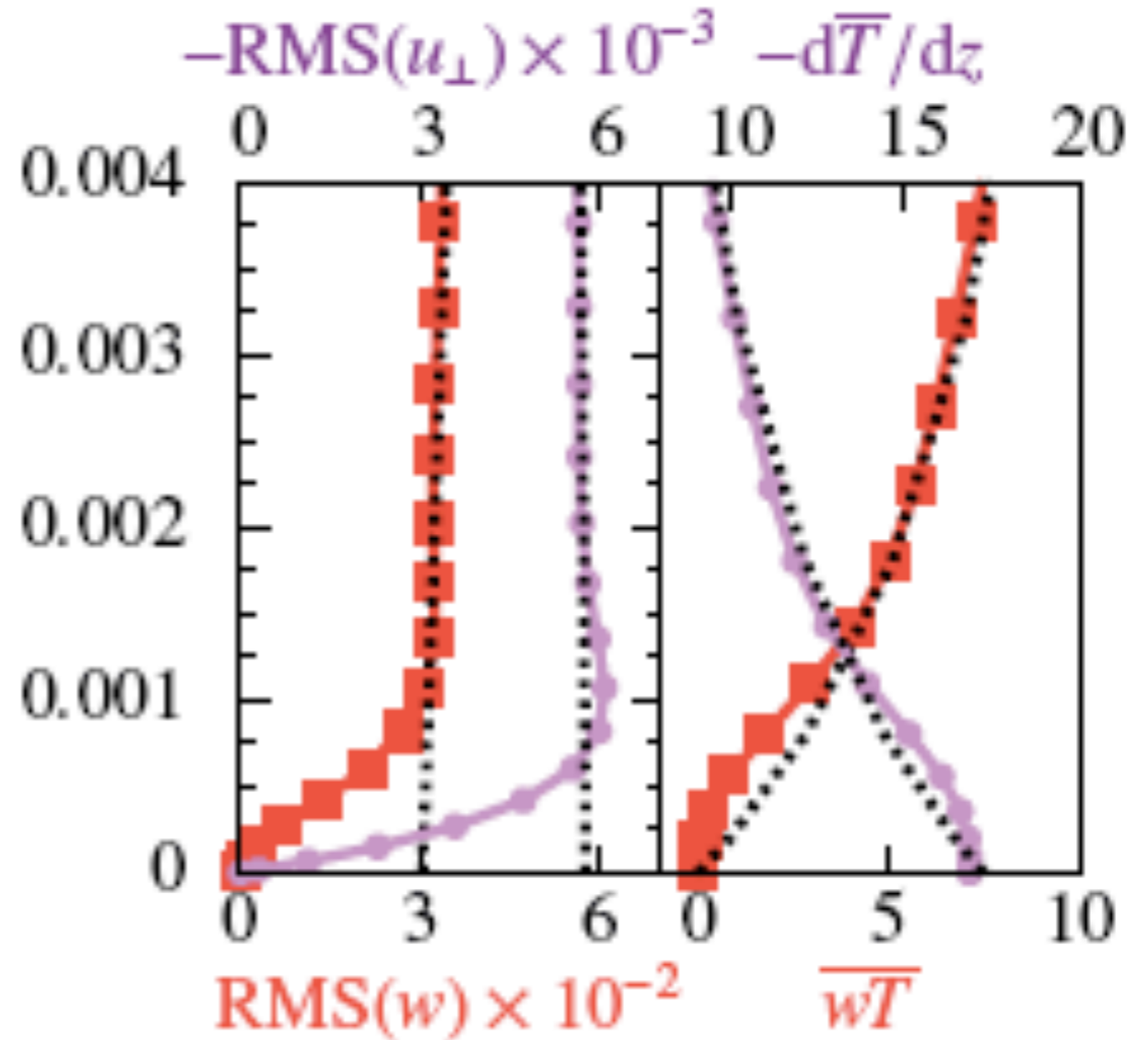
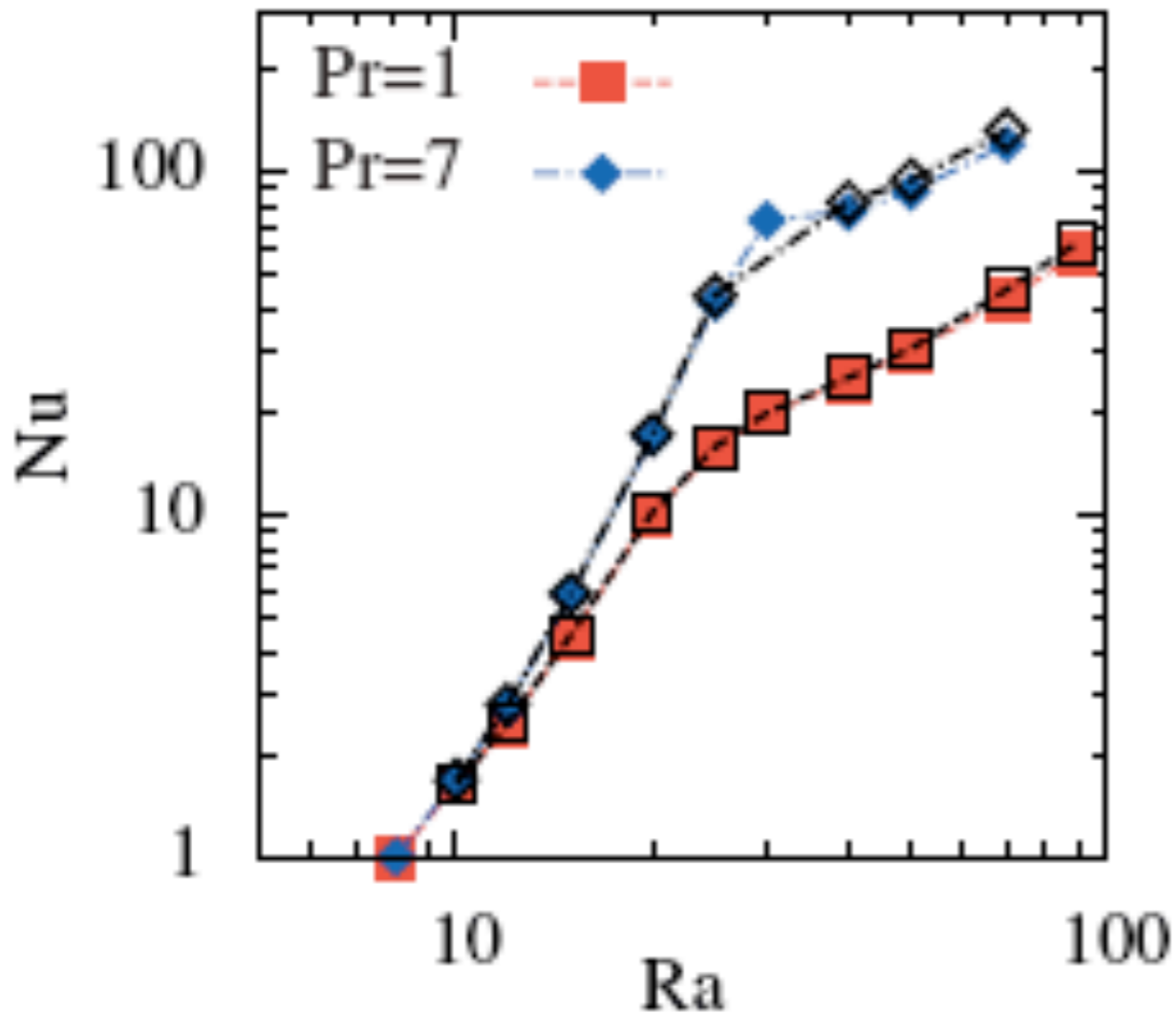


# DNS RBC vs DNS with Parameterized Pumping

$$w^{(e)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t) = \mp \frac{E^{1//6}}{\sqrt{2}} \zeta_0^{(g)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t)$$

$Ek = 10^{-7}$

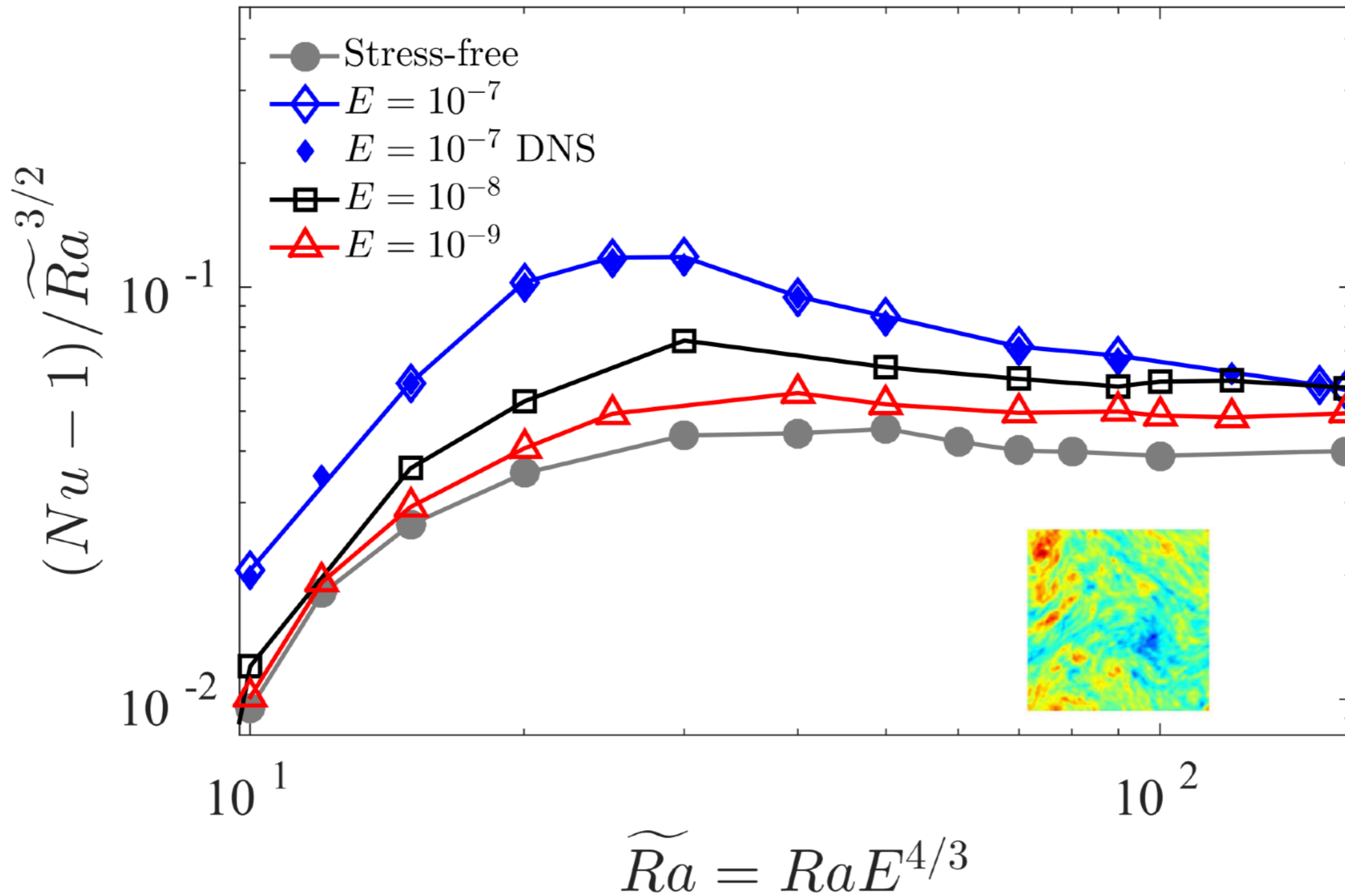
(a)



- Filled symbols (DNS with No-Slip BC's)
- Open symbols (DNS w/ Pumping BC's)

- Convergence outside Ekman layers
- Ekman layers can be filtered

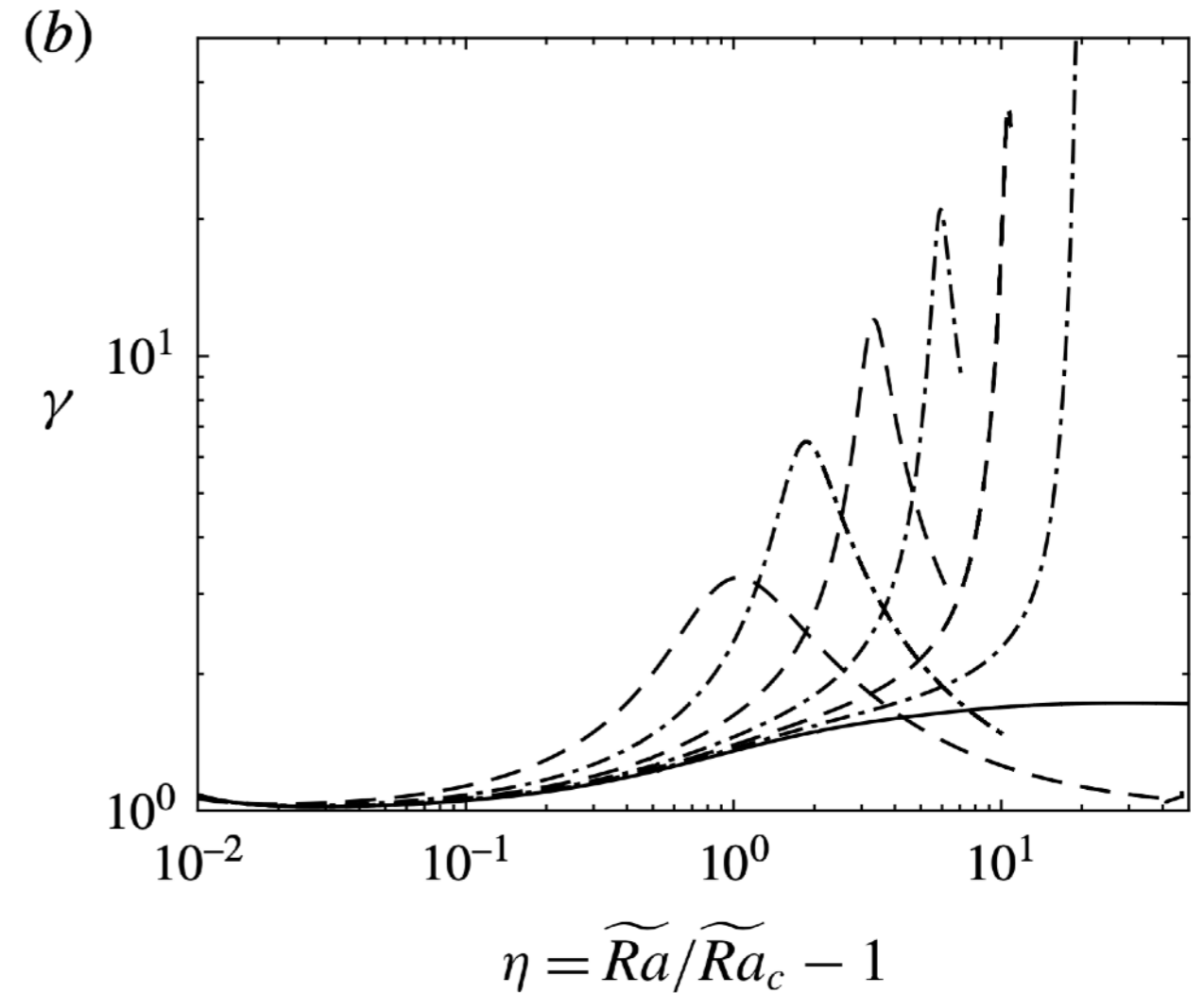
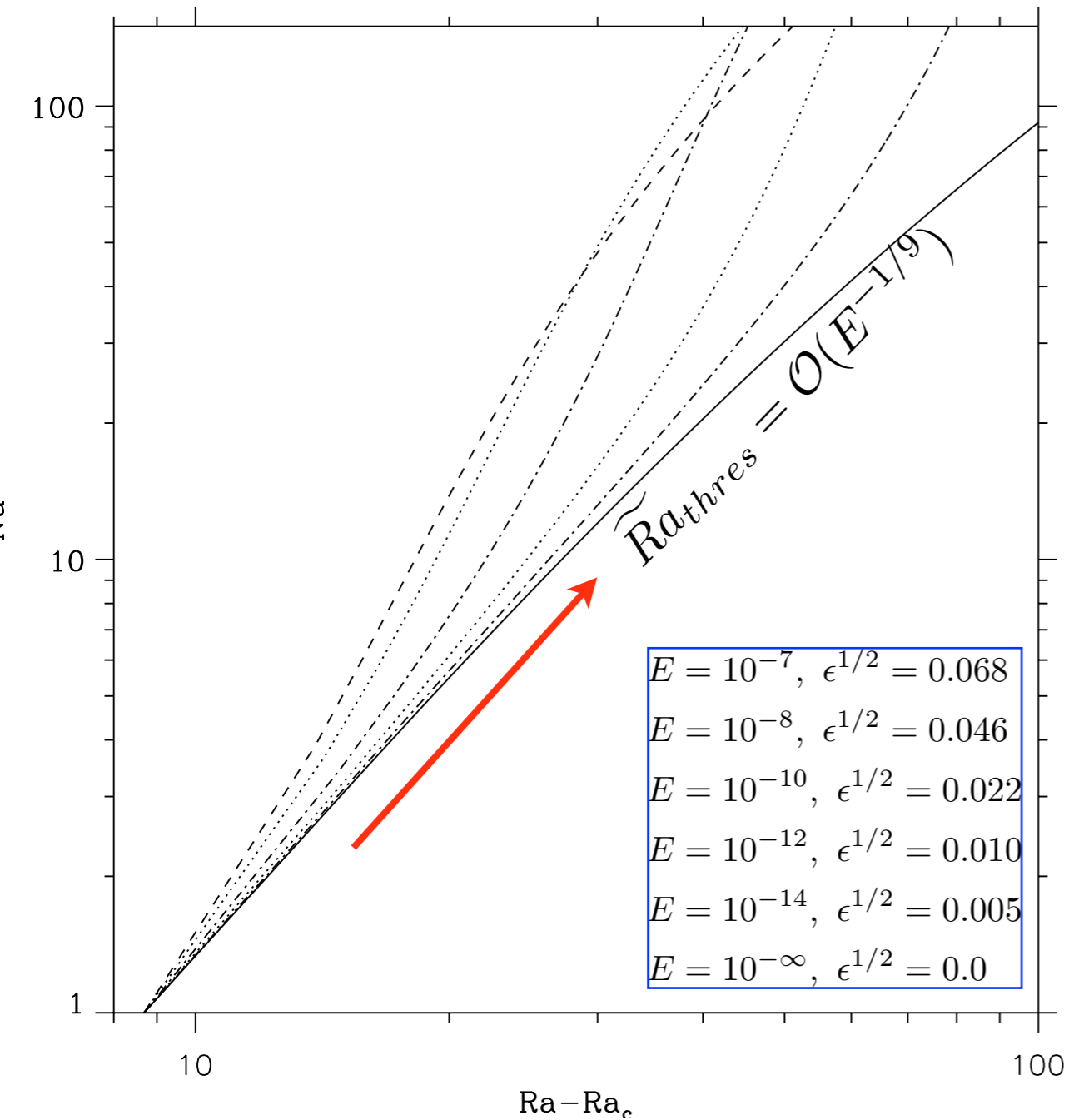
# NH-QGE Heat Transport (Pumping)



$$w^{(e)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t) = \mp \frac{E^{1/6}}{\sqrt{2}} \zeta_0^{(g)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t)$$



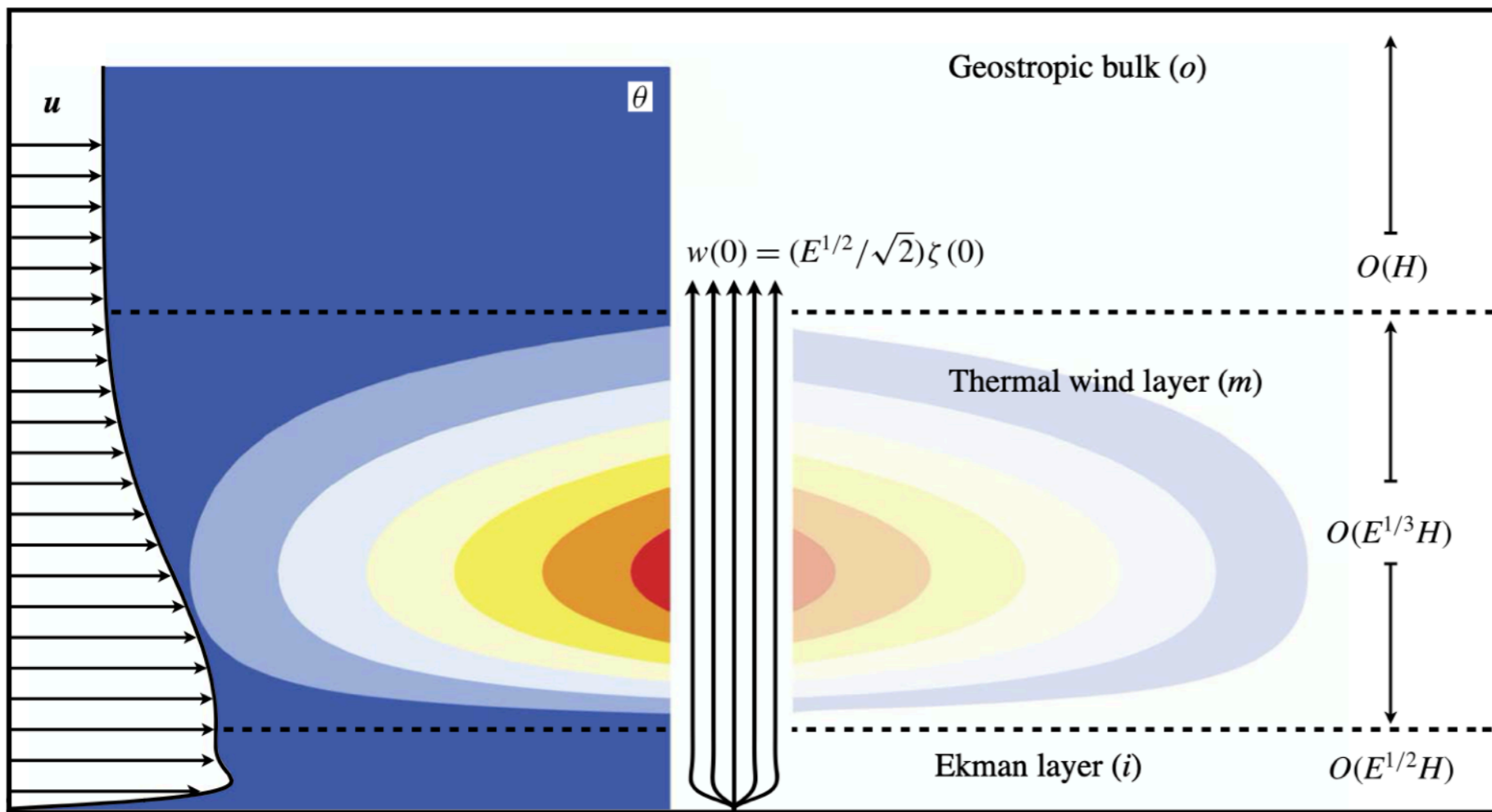
# Single-Mode Results with Ekman pumping Nu vs Ra



$$w^{(e)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t) = \mp \frac{E^{1/6}}{\sqrt{2}} \zeta_0^{(g)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t)$$

- Limit  $E \Rightarrow 0$  pumping displays sharp transition region prior to saturation

# Mechanism - Boundary Layer Analysis



BL balance

$$\Rightarrow w^{(o)} \theta^{(o)} \sim \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)} \sim Nu$$

Pumping Heat Flux

$$\Rightarrow w^{(i)} \theta^{(m)} \sim \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)} ?$$

Estimate Thermal fluctuations

$$\Rightarrow \theta^{(m)} \sim w^{(i)} \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)}$$

$\Downarrow$

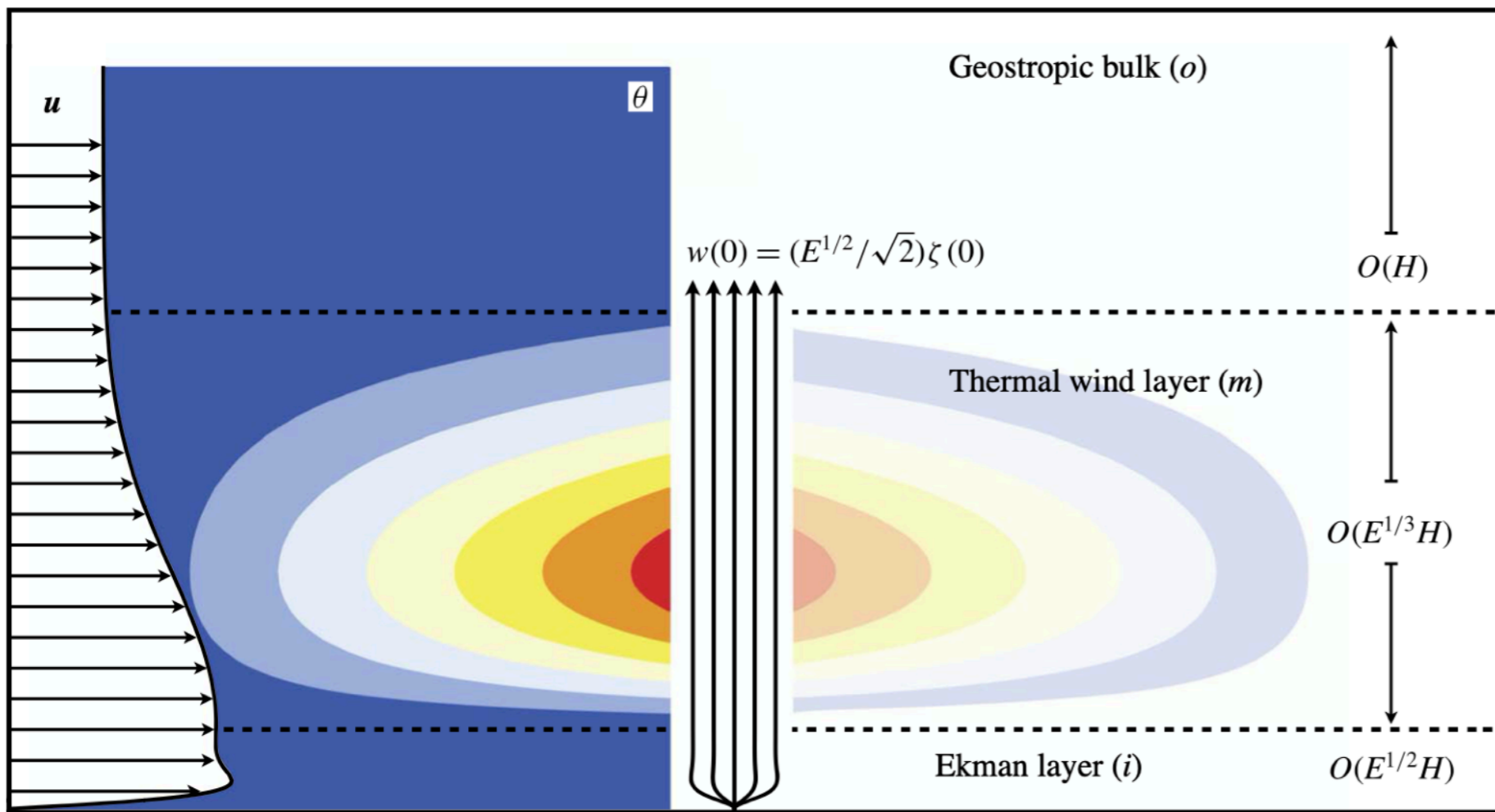
$$E^{-1/6} < \zeta^{(o)} = o(E^{-1/3})$$

Criteria for Pumping importance in HX

$$w^{(e)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t) = \mp \frac{E^{1/6}}{\sqrt{2}} \zeta_0^{(g)}(\mathbf{x}_\perp, Z_\pm, t)$$



# Mechanism - Boundary Layer Analysis



BL balance

$$\Rightarrow w^{(o)}\theta^{(o)} \sim \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)} \sim Nu$$

Pumping Heat Flux

$$\Rightarrow w^{(i)}\theta^{(m)} \sim \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)} ?$$

Estimate Thermal fluctuations

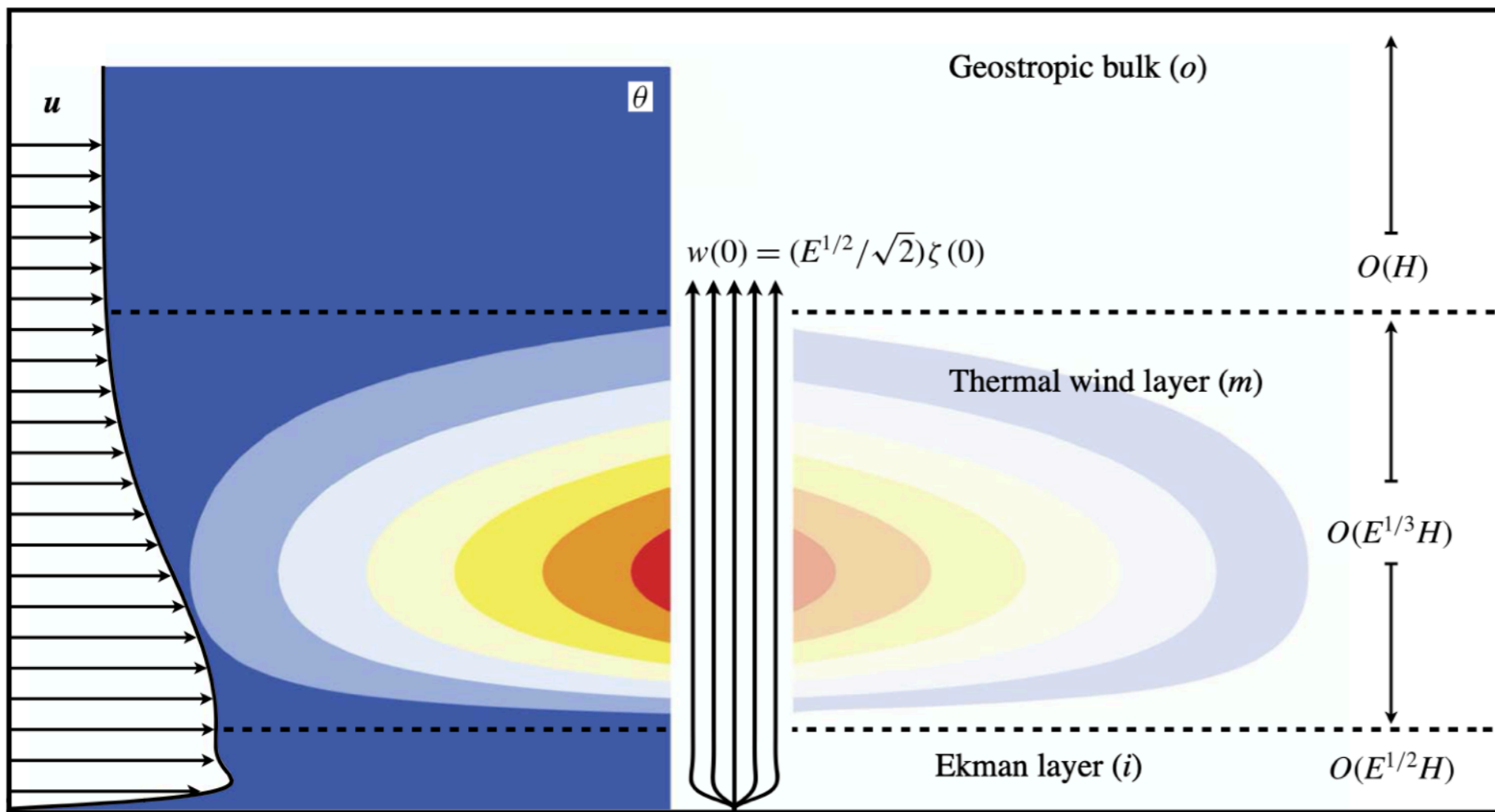
$$\Rightarrow \theta^{(m)} \sim w^{(i)} \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$E^{-1/6} < \zeta^{(o)} = o(E^{-1/3})$$

Criteria for Pumping importance in HX

# Mechanism - Boundary Layer Analysis



BL balance

$$\Rightarrow w^{(o)}\theta^{(o)} \sim \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)} \sim Nu$$

Pumping Heat Flux

$$\Rightarrow w^{(i)}\theta^{(m)} \sim \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)} ?$$

Estimate Thermal fluctuations

$$\Rightarrow \theta^{(m)} \sim w^{(i)} \partial_z \bar{T}^{(o)}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$E^{-1/6} < \zeta^{(o)} = o(E^{-1/3})$$

Criteria for Pumping importance in HX

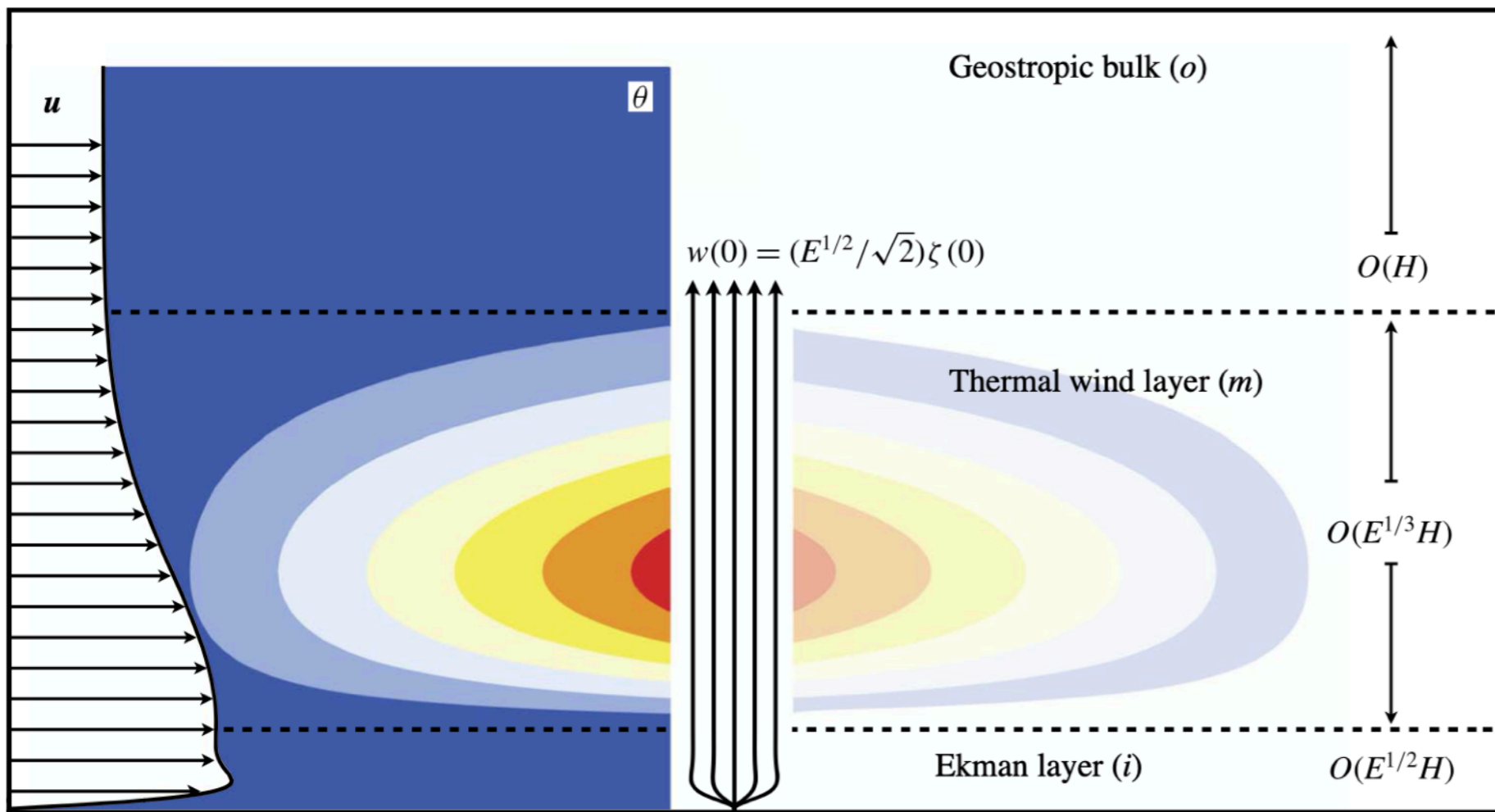
Boundary layer scaling (analyze NH-QGE):

$$Nu \sim \partial_z \bar{T}_0 \sim \theta_1 \sim \widetilde{Ra}^\beta, \quad \partial_z \sim \widetilde{Ra}^{(1+\beta)/2}$$

$$w_0 \sim \widetilde{Ra}^0, \quad \zeta_0 \sim \psi_0 \sim \widetilde{Ra}^{(1+\beta)/2}$$



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$$\zeta_{\pm} = \mathcal{O}(E^{-1/6}) = o(E^{-1/3})$$

$$\widetilde{Ra}_{thres} = E^{-1/3(1+\beta)} \uparrow$$

validity limit of NH-QGE

# Asymptotic Development

## Estimates of transitional values

$$\zeta_0(\pm) = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^{-1/2}) = o(\epsilon^{-1}), \quad \epsilon = E^{1/3}$$

$$\widetilde{Ra}_{thres} = E^{-1/3(1+\beta)} = E^{-1/9}, \quad \beta \approx 2$$

$$\widetilde{Ra}_c = 8.7$$

DNS, Lab  $\longrightarrow$   $E = 10^{-7}, \quad \epsilon^{1/2} = 0.068, \quad \widetilde{Ra}_t \approx 6.0$

$$E = 10^{-8}, \quad \epsilon^{1/2} = 0.046, \quad \widetilde{Ra}_t \approx 7.7$$

$$E = 10^{-10}, \quad \epsilon^{1/2} = 0.022, \quad \widetilde{Ra}_t \approx 12.9$$

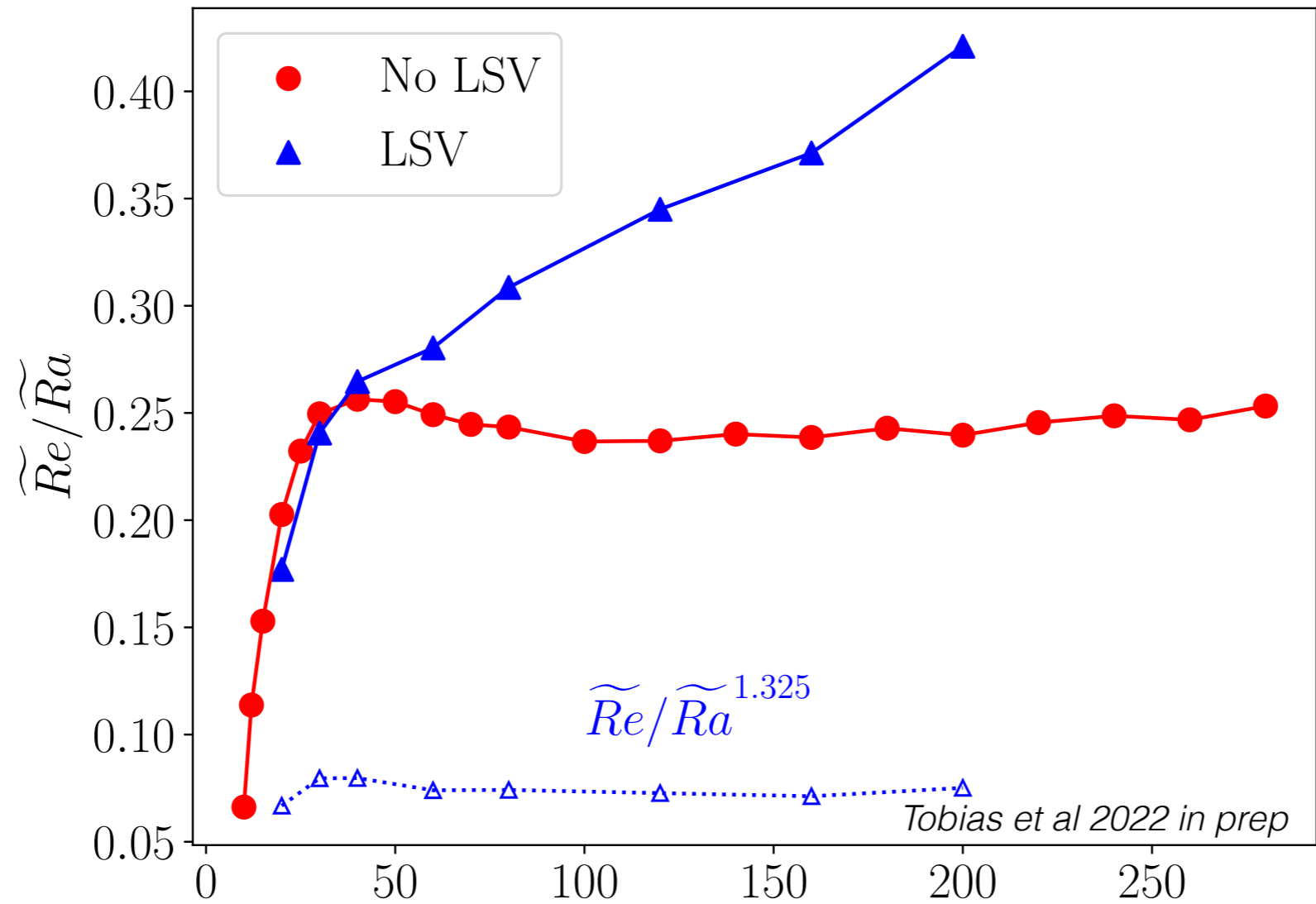
$$E = 10^{-12}, \quad \epsilon^{1/2} = 0.010, \quad \widetilde{Ra}_t \approx 21.5$$

$$E = 10^{-14}, \quad \epsilon^{1/2} = 0.005, \quad \widetilde{Ra}_t \approx 35.9$$

Earth's core  $\longrightarrow$   $E = 10^{-15}, \quad \epsilon^{1/2} = 0.003, \quad \widetilde{Ra}_t \approx 46.4$



# NH-QGE Momentum Transport

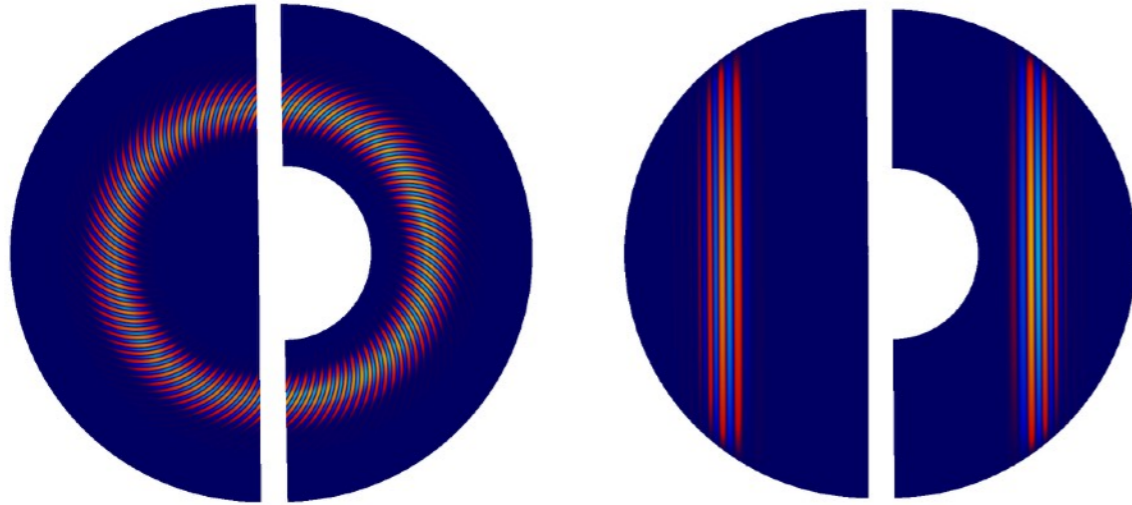


CIA balance

$$U_{\Omega ff} = \frac{g\alpha\Delta_T}{2\Omega} = Ro_c U_{off} \quad Re_H = \frac{Ra}{Pr} E \quad \implies \quad Re_\ell = \frac{\widetilde{Ra}}{Pr}$$

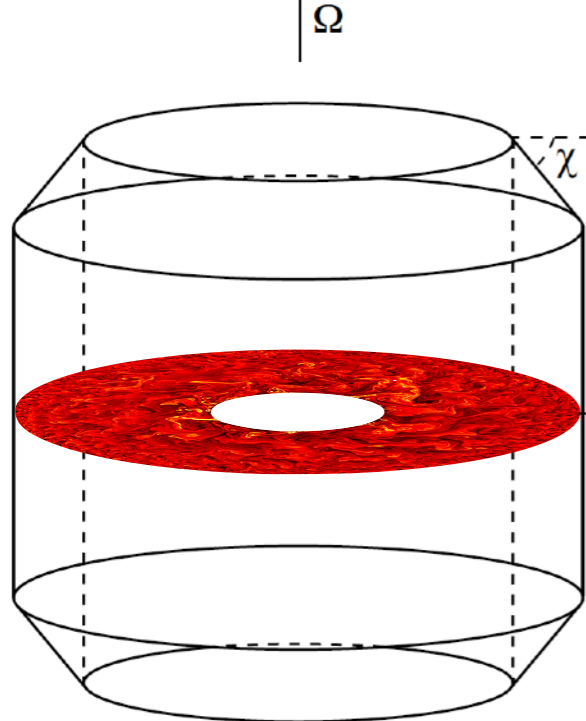
# Spherical Convection

Asymptotic Linear Theories (*Roberts P.Trans RSL '68, Busse jFM '70, JFM Jones et al JFM 2000*)

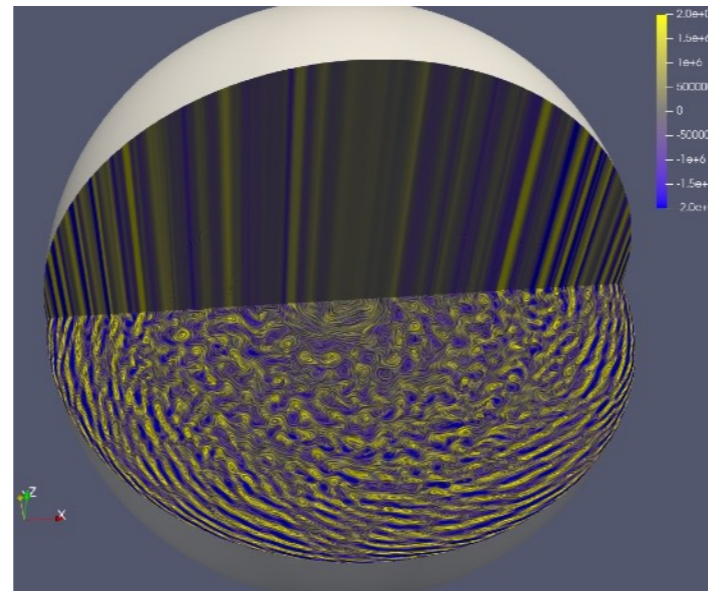


*Marti et al G3 2017*

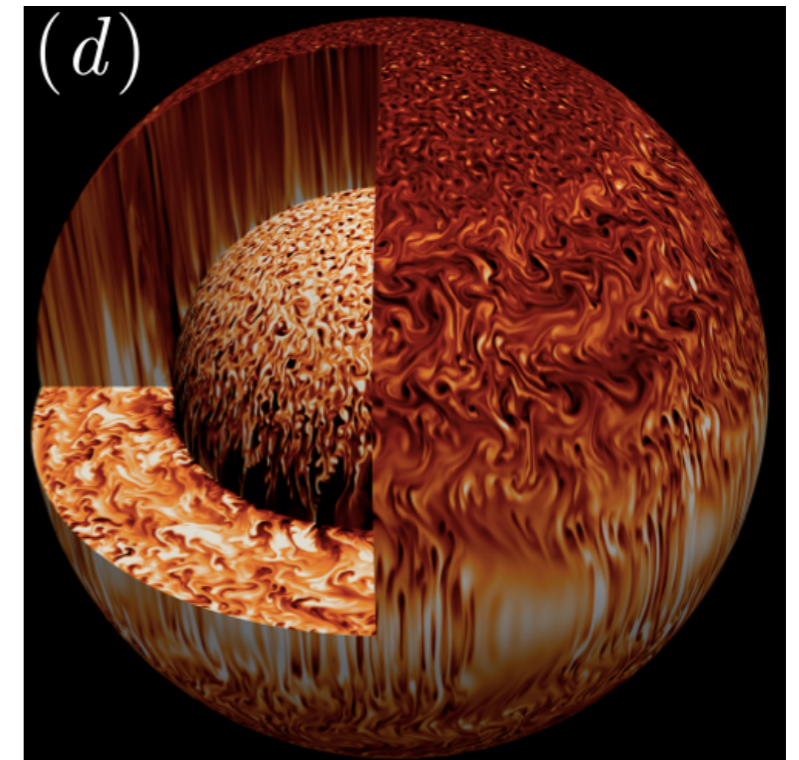
NonLinear Theories: still local or non-asymptotic



Annulus: *Busse JFM'70, Calkin, J, Marti JFM 2013*)



*Guervilly Cardin JFM 2016*)



DNS: *Gastine et al JFM 2016*



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U. Colorado



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