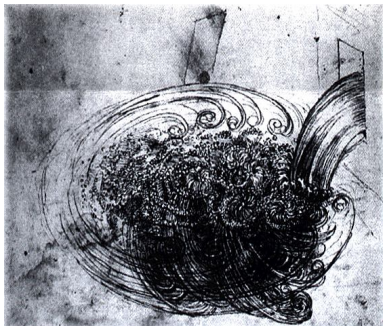


What is Turbulence?

Fabian Waleffe

Depts of Mathematics and Engineering Physics
University of Wisconsin, Madison

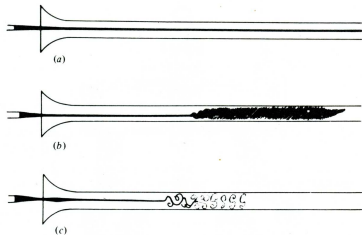
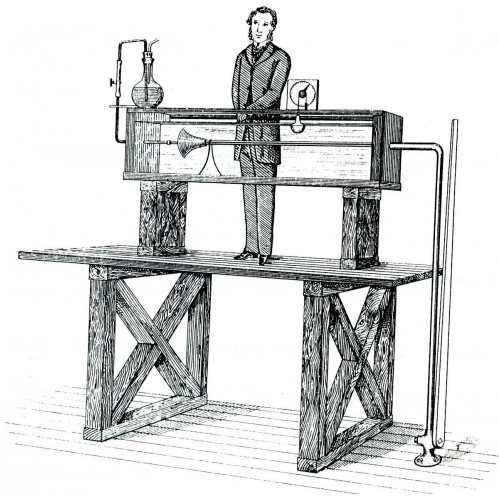
it's all around, ... and inside us!



Leonardo da Vinci (c. 1500)

- River flow, pipe flow, flow from a faucet, ...
- Clouds, smoke, ...
- Wakes behind boats, golf balls, bikers, cars, airplanes ...
- Nuclear fusion, stars, ...
- Blood flow in heart and large arteries ($R \approx 20,000$ in aorta!)

Reynolds 1883: turbulence in pipe flow



Navier-Stokes equations

3D velocity field $\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t)$:

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

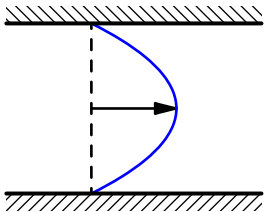
$$\partial_t \mathbf{v} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}) + \nabla p = \frac{1}{R} \nabla^2 \mathbf{v}$$

Control parameter: *Reynolds number*

$R \equiv$ non-dimensional *velocity*

$\frac{1}{R} \equiv$ non-dimensional *viscosity*

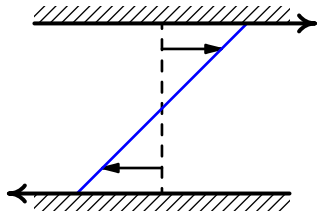
Simple geometries, simple flow?



Pipes, Channels

Laminar solutions: $\mathbf{v} = (1 - y^2)\hat{\mathbf{x}}$

Linearly stable yet: $R \lesssim 2,000$



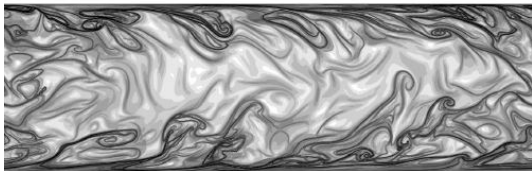
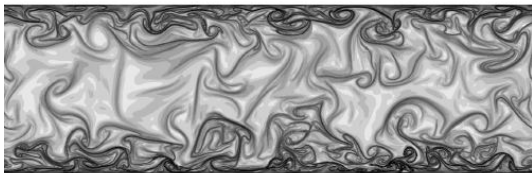
plane Couette

$\mathbf{v} = y\hat{\mathbf{x}}$

$R \lesssim 350$

Turbulence in channel flow

Front



Side

Top



Green, M. A., Rowley, C. W. & Haller, G.
Detection of Lagrangian coherent structures in three-dimensional turbulence,
J. Fluid Mech., **572**, 2007, 111-120.

Classical statistical approach to Turbulence

$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}, t)$ 'random' \Rightarrow ensemble average $\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle$

$$\nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$$

$$\partial_t \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle + \nabla \cdot (\langle \mathbf{v} \rangle \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle) + \nabla \langle p \rangle = \frac{1}{R} \nabla^2 \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle - \nabla \cdot \langle \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} \rangle$$

'Closure problem:' *Reynolds stress* $\langle \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} \rangle = ?!$

$\langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle$ modeling

- [Prandtl-von Karman]

Turbulence = collisions of eddies?

→ eddy viscosity: $\langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle \approx -\nu_T (\nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle + \nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^T)$

$\nu_T?$ mixing length, Smagorinsky, ...

$\langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle$ modeling

- [Prandtl-von Karman]

Turbulence = collisions of eddies?

$$\rightarrow \text{eddy viscosity: } \langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle \approx -\nu_T (\nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle + \nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^T)$$

ν_T ? mixing length, Smagorinsky, ...

- [Richardson-Kolmogorov]

Turbulence = Cascade of energy from large to small scales?

scale-similarity, inertial range, return-to-isotropy, ...

\rightarrow K-Epsilon ν_T , Dynamic model, RANS, LES, ...

$\langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle$ modeling

- [Prandtl-von Karman]

Turbulence = collisions of eddies?

$$\rightarrow \text{eddy viscosity: } \langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle \approx -\nu_T (\nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle + \nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^T)$$

ν_T ? mixing length, Smagorinsky, ...

- [Richardson-Kolmogorov]

Turbulence = Cascade of energy from large to small scales?

scale-similarity, inertial range, return-to-isotropy, ...

\rightarrow K-Epsilon ν_T , Dynamic model, RANS, LES, ...

- Walls?! *Ouch!*

$\langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle$ modeling

- [Prandtl-von Karman]

Turbulence = collisions of eddies?

$$\rightarrow \text{eddy viscosity: } \langle \mathbf{v}\mathbf{v} \rangle \approx -\nu_T (\nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle + \nabla \langle \mathbf{v} \rangle^T)$$

ν_T ? mixing length, Smagorinsky, ...

- [Richardson-Kolmogorov]

Turbulence = Cascade of energy from large to small scales?

scale-similarity, inertial range, return-to-isotropy, ...

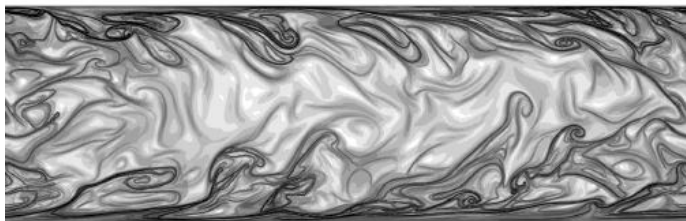
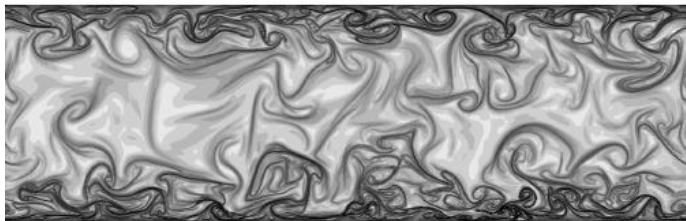
\rightarrow K-Epsilon ν_T , Dynamic model, RANS, LES, ...

- Walls?! *Ouch!*

- \mathbf{v} random? *coherent structures!*

Turbulence is controlled by boundary conditions

(with apologies to Kolmogorov and Clay Institute)



What are coherent structures?

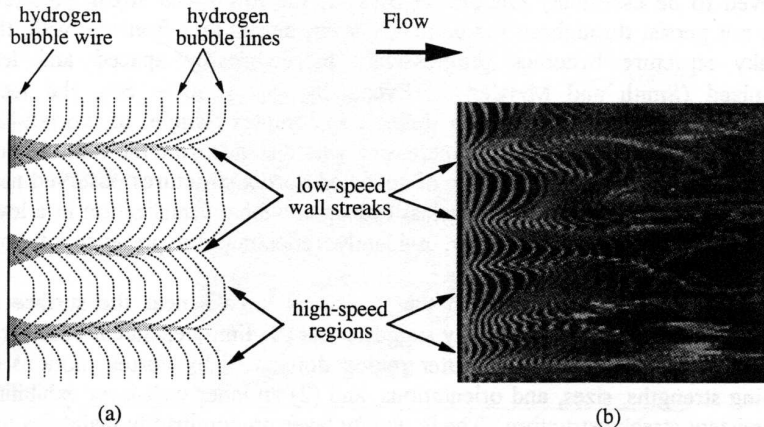
What are coherent structures?
How do they fit with classical models of turbulence?

What are coherent structures?
How do they fit with classical models of turbulence?

?

About 50 years of *a posteriori*, qualitative studies

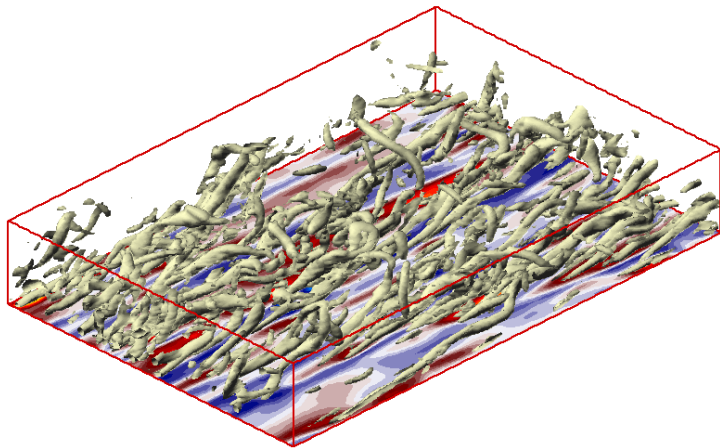
Streaks with 100^+ z-spacing



Kline, Reynolds, Schraub & Runstadler, JFM 1967

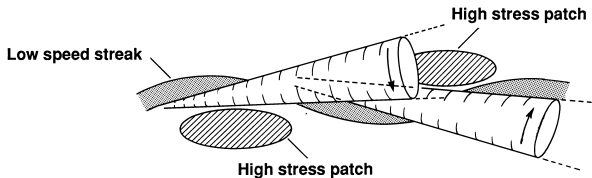
(diagram from Smith & Walker, 1997)

Near wall coherent structures



John Kim, <http://www.turbulence.ucla.edu/>

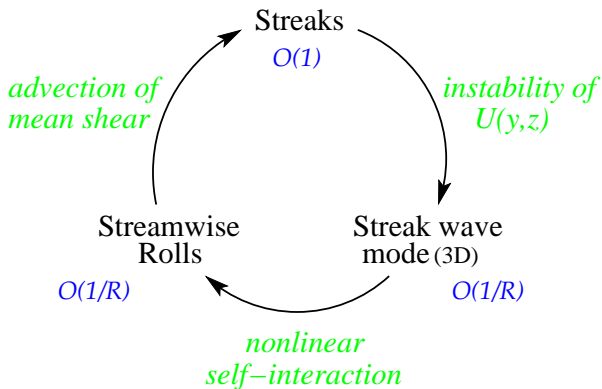
Characteristic near-wall coherent structure



Derek Stretch, CTR Stanford, 1990

Streaks + staggered quasi-streamwise vortices: why?

Self-Sustaining Process (SSP)



WKH 1993, HKW 1995, W 1995, 1997

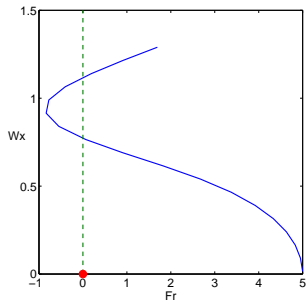
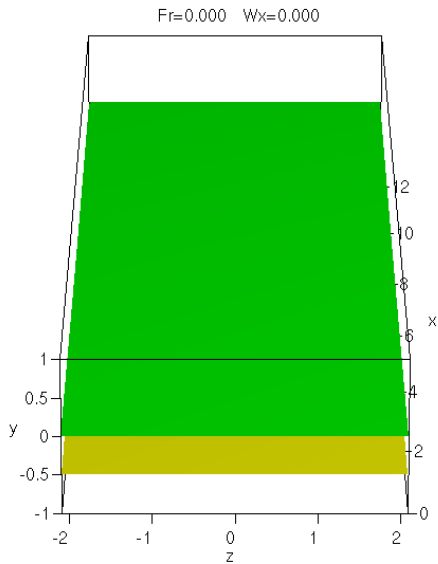
SSP theory \longrightarrow SSP method

Construction of *Exact Coherent States* from SSP

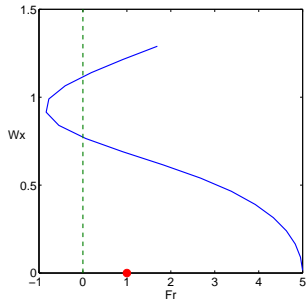
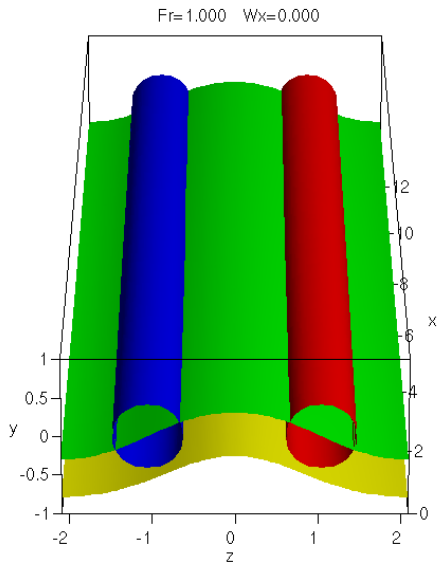
(‘Full’ NSE, Newton’s method)

PRL 1998, JFM 2001, PoF 2003

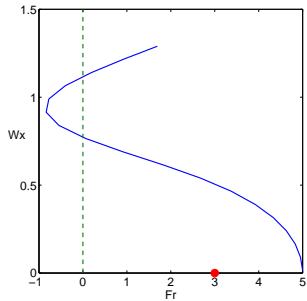
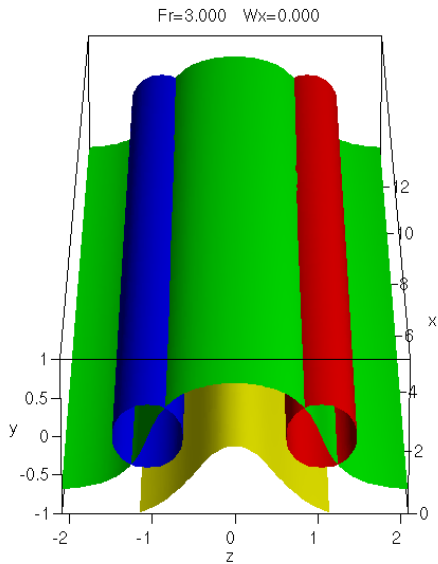
Laminar Couette flow: $u=0$ & $u=-0.5$



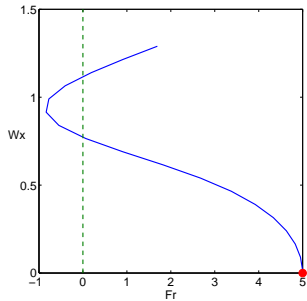
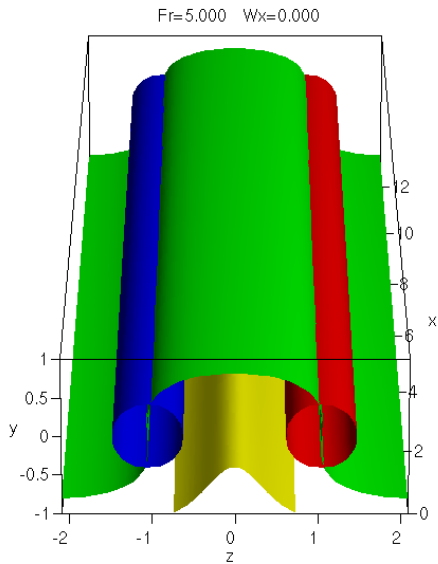
SSP: Streamwise Rolls create Streaks



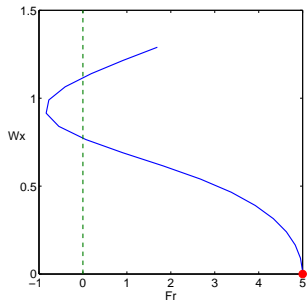
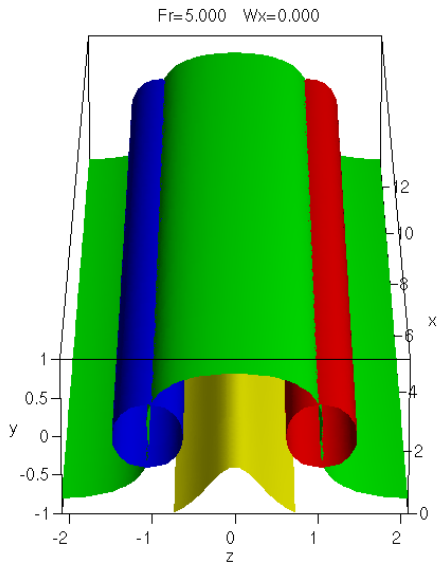
SSP: Rolls create Streaks



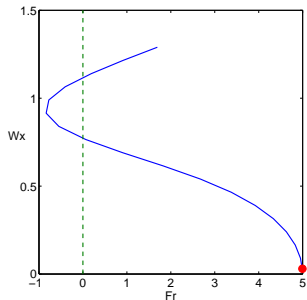
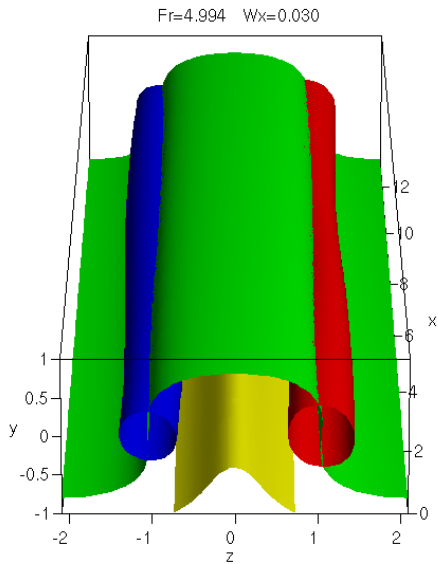
SSP: Rolls create Streaks



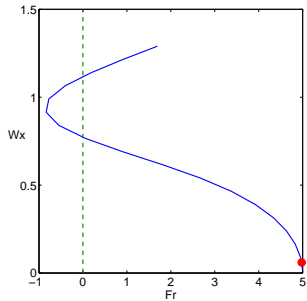
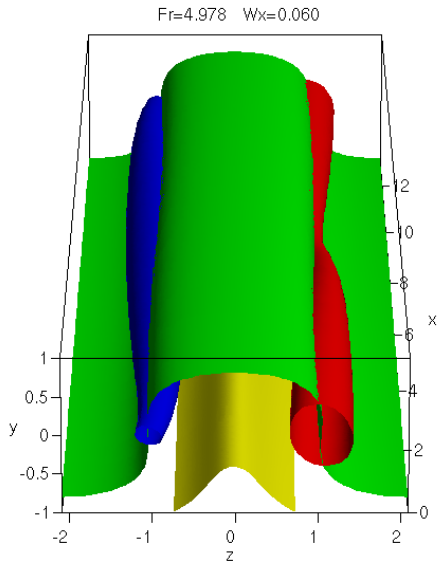
SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks



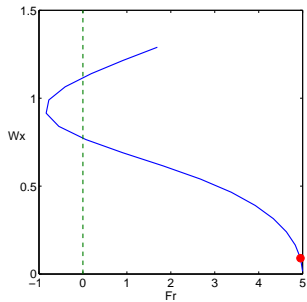
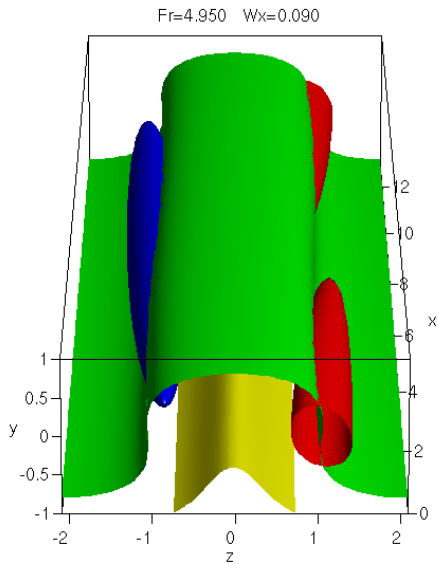
SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks



SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks

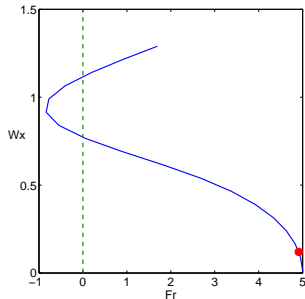
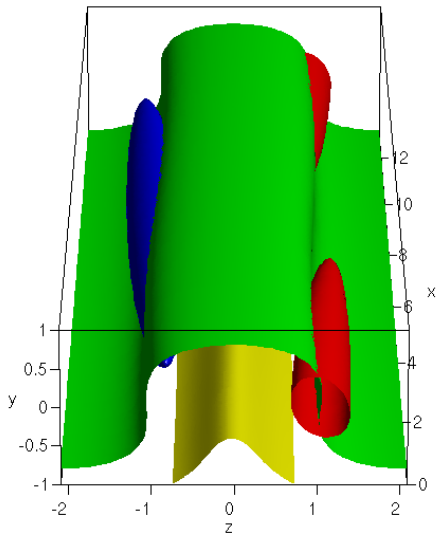


SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks



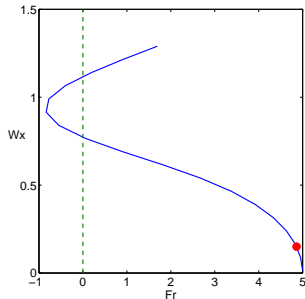
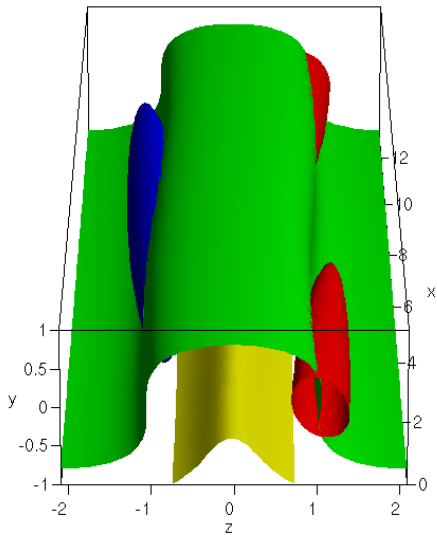
SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks

Fr=4.912 Wx=0.120

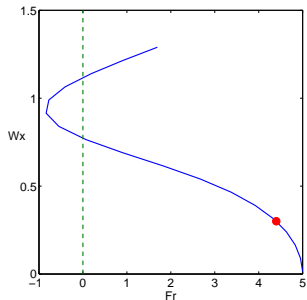
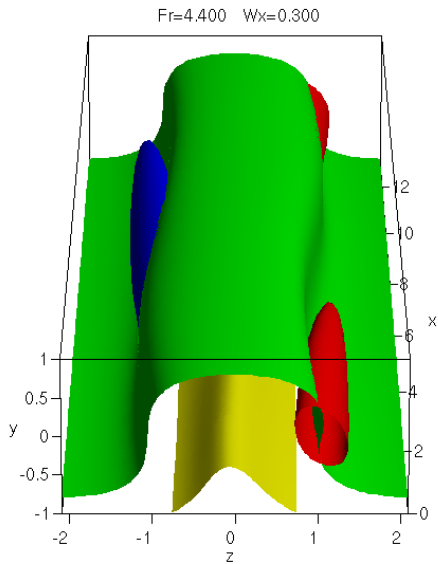


SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks

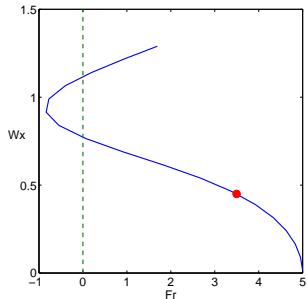
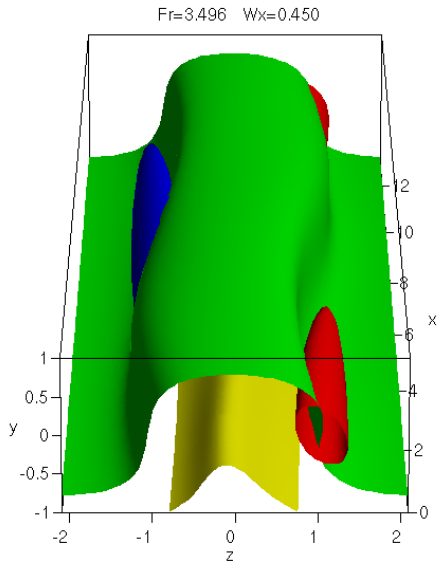
Fr=4.861 Wx=0.150



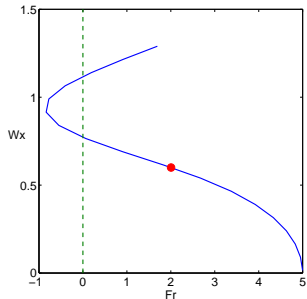
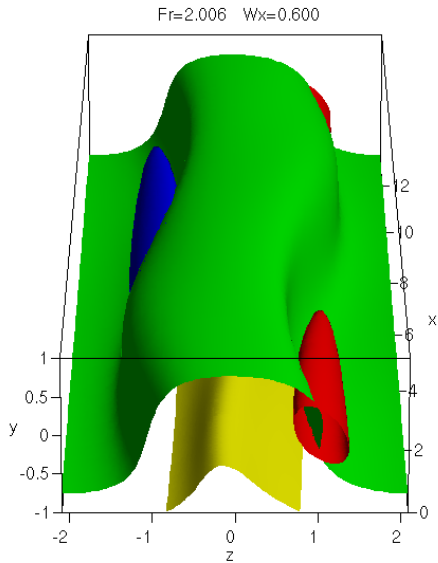
SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks



SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks

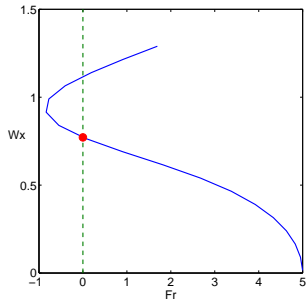
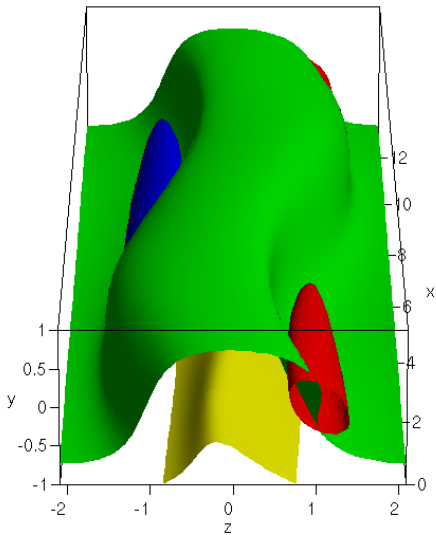


SSP in action: Subcritical Bifurcation from Streaks

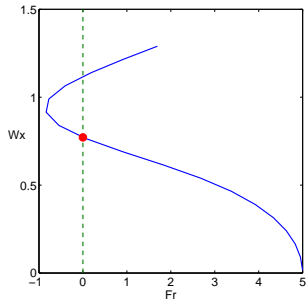
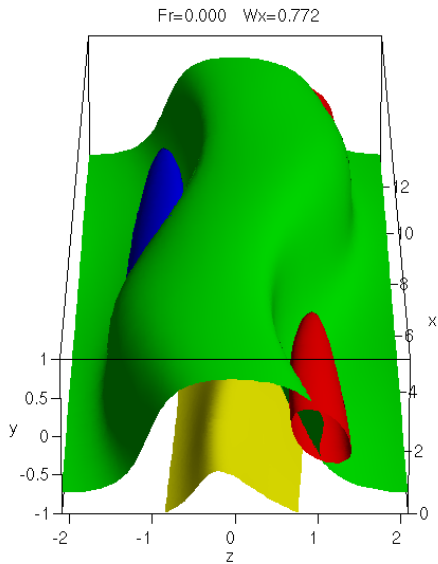


SSP: Self-Sustained! 3D Lower branch

Fr=0.000 Wx=0.772

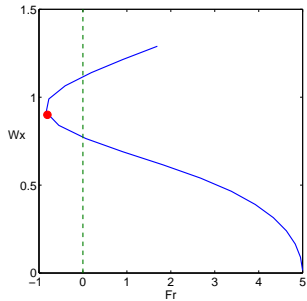
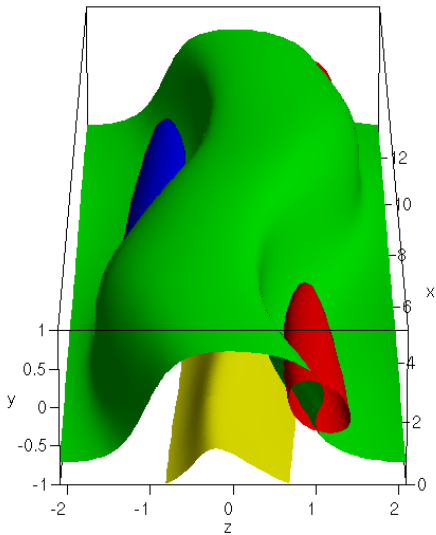


SSP: Self-Sustained! 3D Lower branch



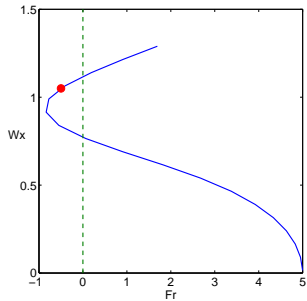
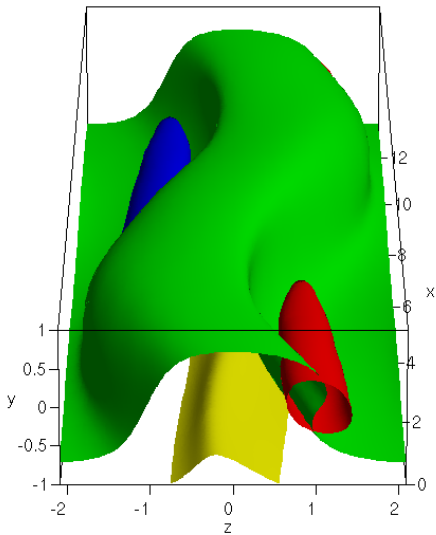
SSP: Bifurcation from Streaks

Fr=-0.808 Wx=0.900



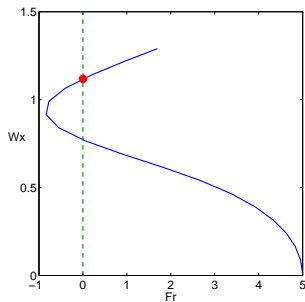
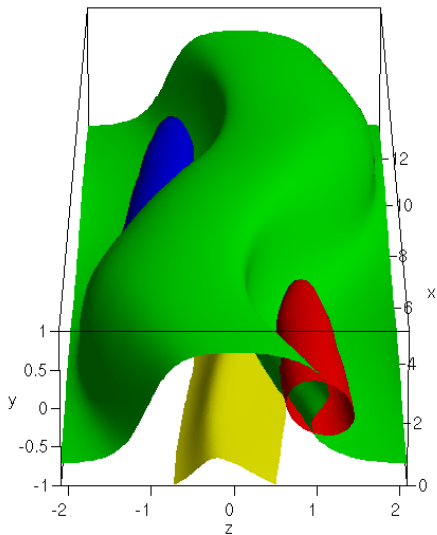
SSP: Bifurcation from Streaks

Fr=-0.499 Wx=1.050



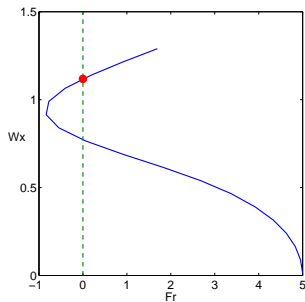
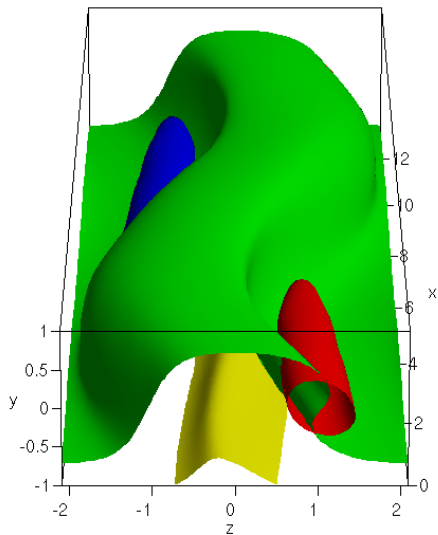
SSP: Self-Sustained! 3D Upper branch

Fr=0.000 Wx=1.118



SSP: Self-Sustained! 3D Upper branch

Fr=0.000 Wx=1.118



Homotopy

Free-Free Couette (FFC) \rightarrow Rigid-Free Poiseuille (RFP)

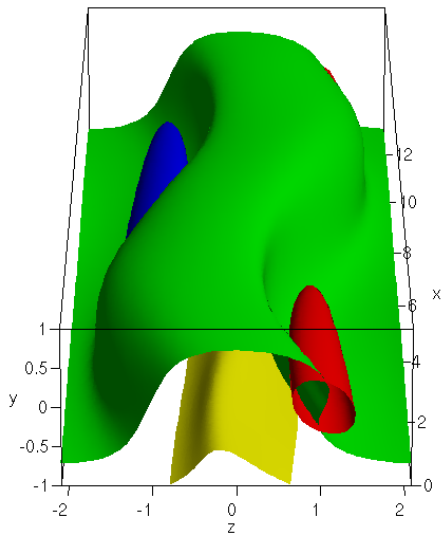
$$\mu = 0 \rightarrow 1$$

$$BC : \quad (1 - \mu) \frac{du}{dy} + \mu u = 0$$

$$Flow : \quad U_L(y) = y + \mu \left(\frac{1}{6} - \frac{y^2}{2} \right)$$

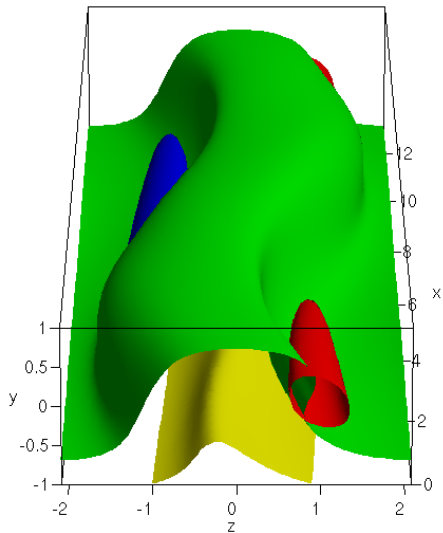
FFC \longrightarrow RFP

$\mu=0.0$ $R=142$



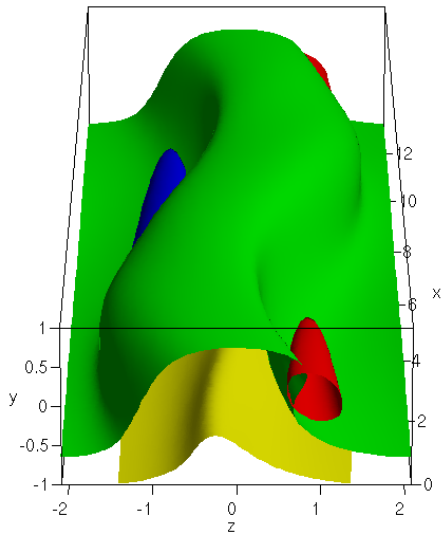
FFC \longrightarrow RFP

$\mu=0.2$ $R=145$



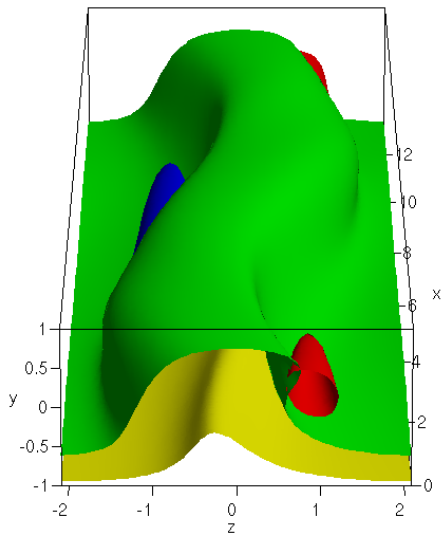
FFC \longrightarrow RFP

$\mu=0.4$ $R=152$



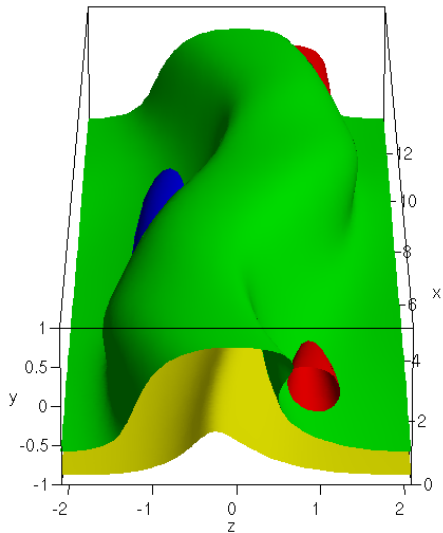
FFC \longrightarrow RFP

$\mu=0.6$ $R=166$

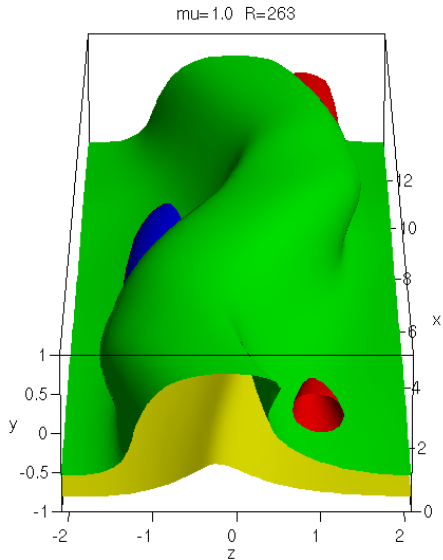


FFC \longrightarrow RFP

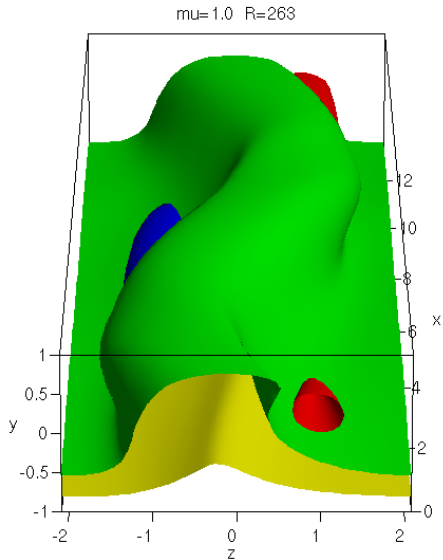
$\mu=0.8$ $R=192$



Poiseuille traveling wave!



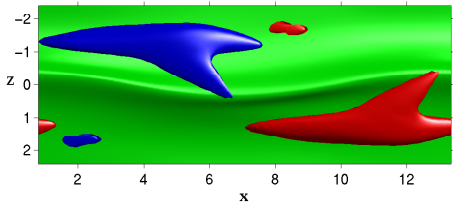
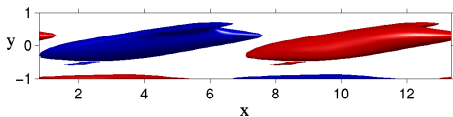
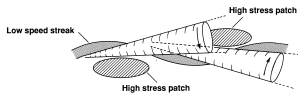
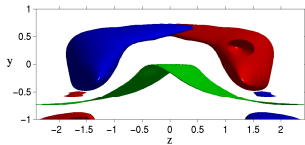
Poiseuille traveling wave!



SSP, ECS: Generic

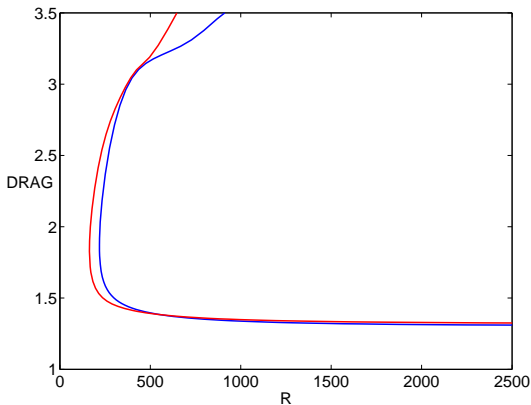
- *structurally* stable, dynamically unstable
- Plane Couette *and* Channel, free-slip, no-slip, any-slip!
- Pipe:
 - Faisst & Eckhardt PRL 2003,
 - Wedin & Kerswell JFM 2004,
 - Hof *et al.* Science 2004,
 - Pringle & Kerswell PRL 2007

Optimum Traveling Wave: 100^+ !



$\min R_\tau = 2h^+ = 44$ for $L_x^+ = 274$, $L_z^+ = 105$ just right!

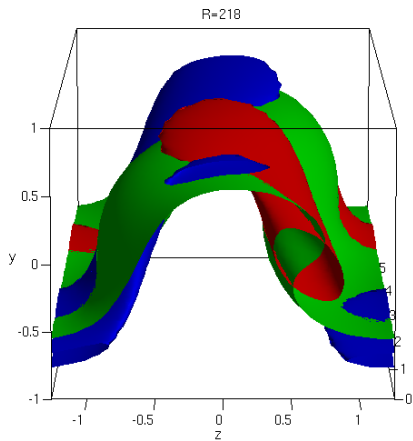
'Out-of-the-blue-sky' (saddle-node)



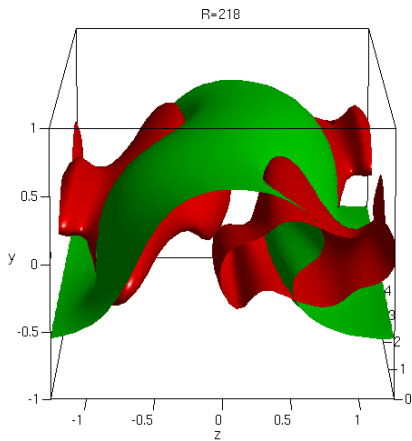
Lower branch does NOT bifurcate from laminar flow!

RRC $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1, 2), (1.14, 2.5)$, up to $R \approx 60\,000$ + asymptotics

Vortex visualization

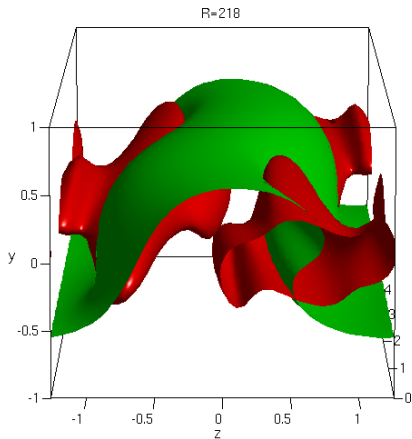
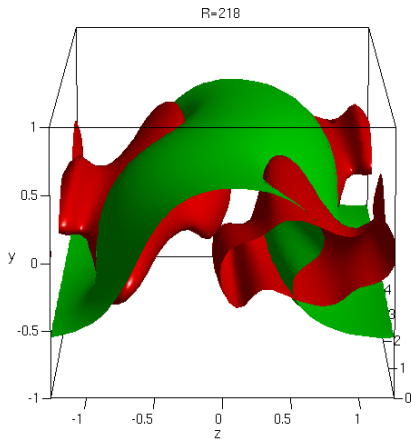


ω_x



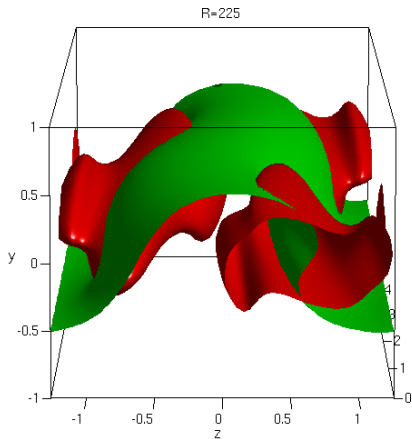
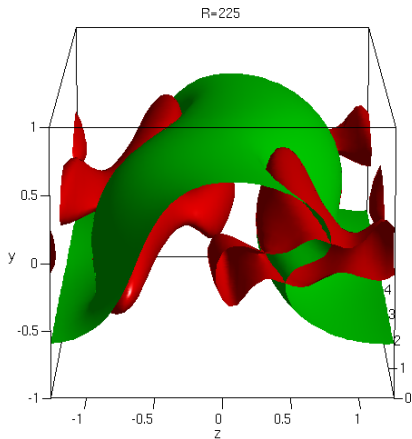
$$2Q = \nabla^2 p = \Omega_{ij}\Omega_{ij} - S_{ij}S_{ij}$$

Upper and Lower branches



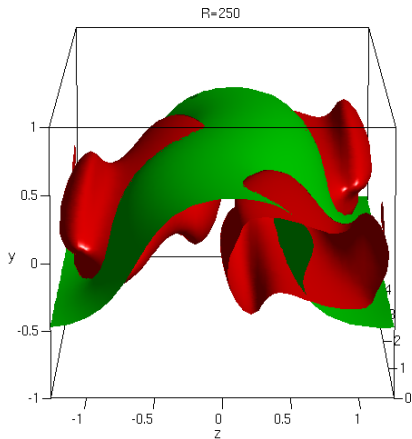
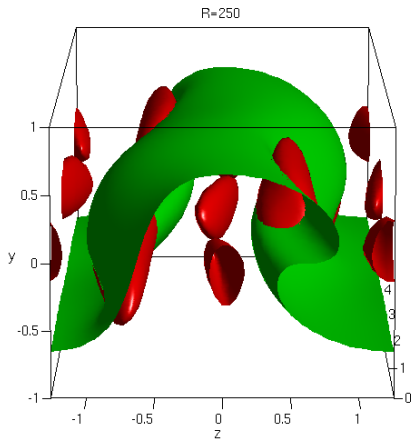
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



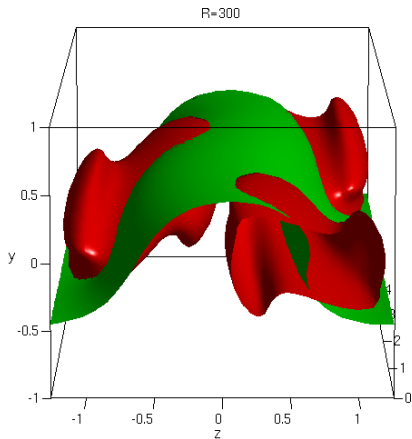
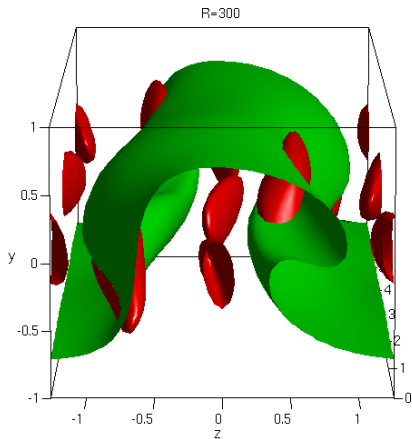
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



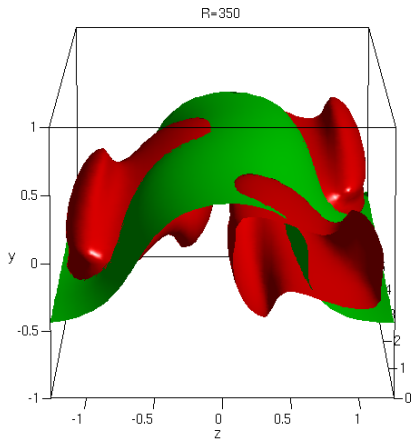
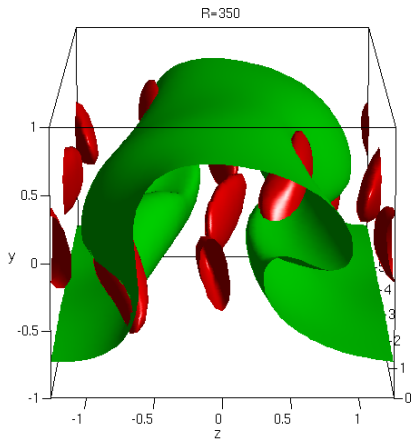
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



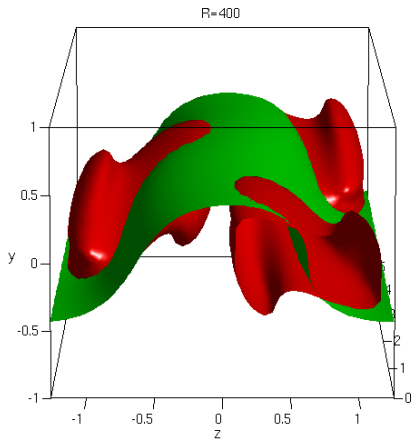
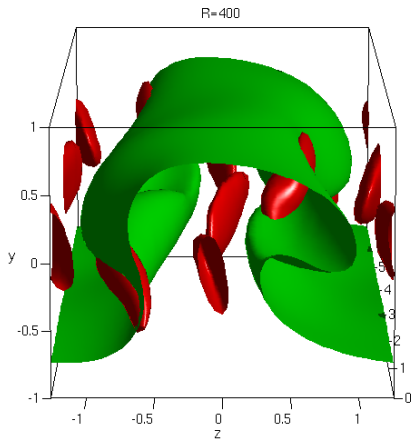
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



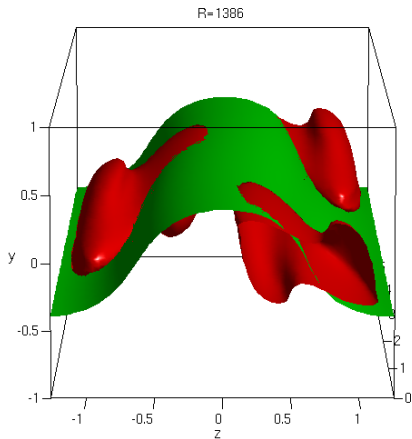
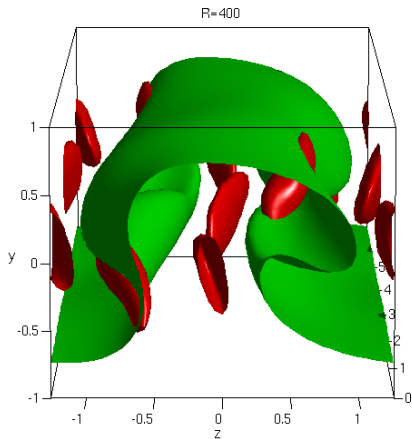
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



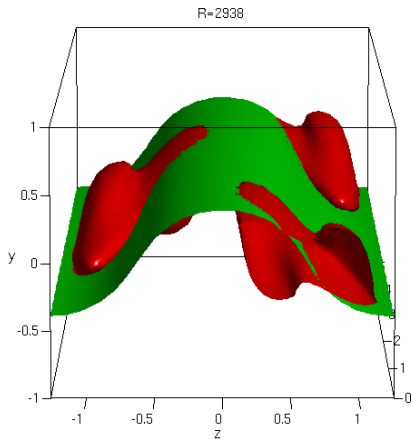
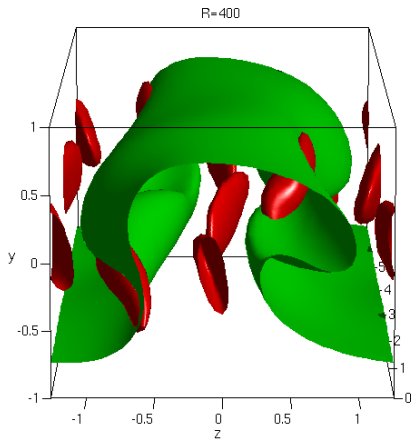
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



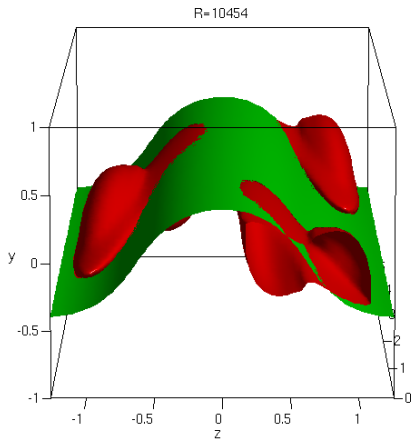
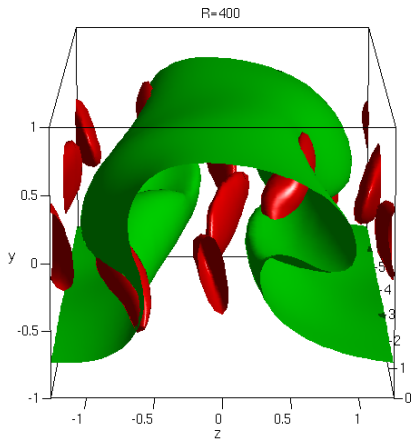
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



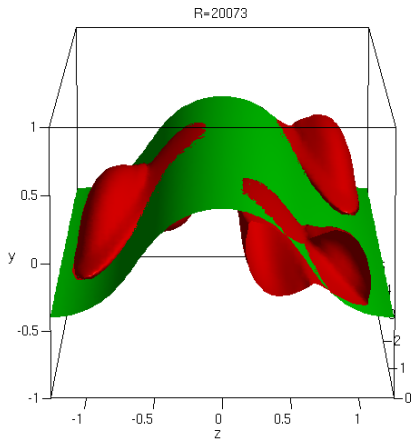
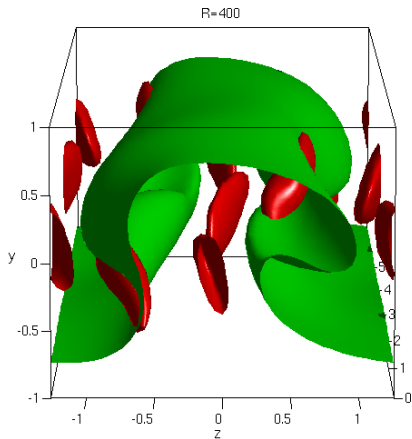
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



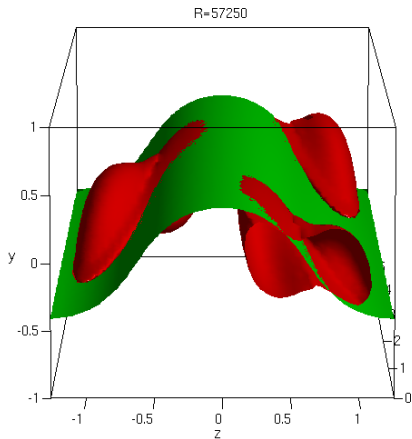
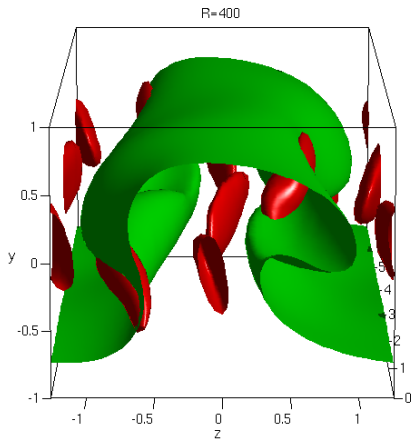
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Upper and Lower branches



$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

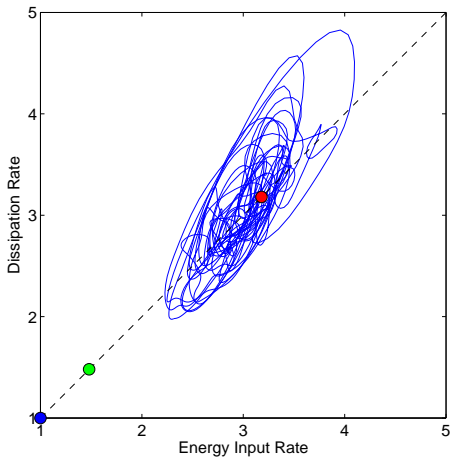
Upper and Lower branches



$0.6 \max(Q)$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

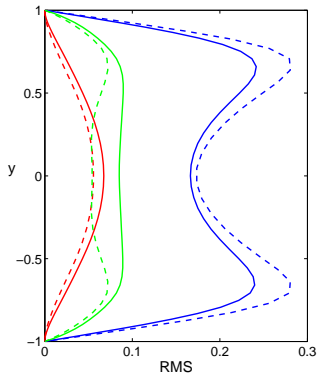
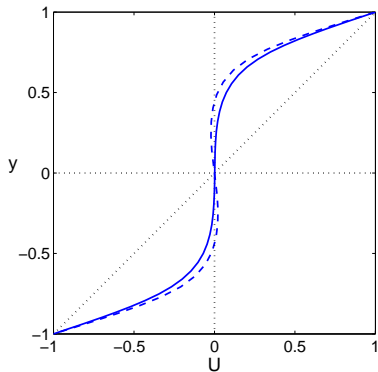
Upper and Lower branches

no-slip Couette



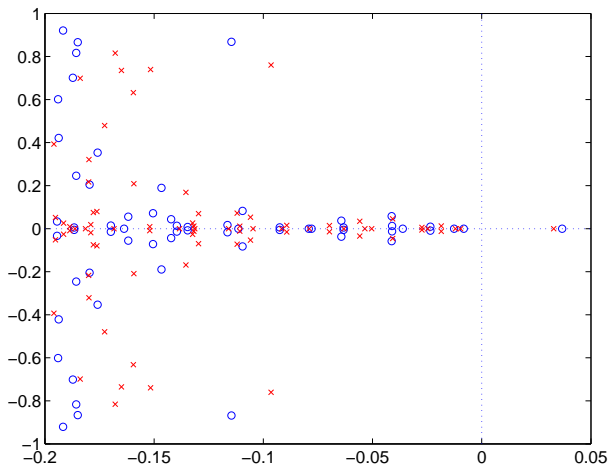
Steady State & 'turbulent' (by Jue Wang & John Gibson) in RRC, $R = 400$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (0.95, 1.67)$

Upper branches \longleftrightarrow Turbulence (no-slip Couette)



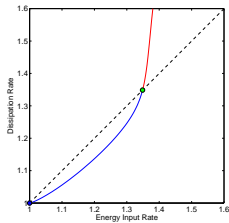
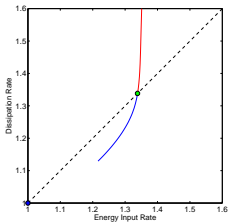
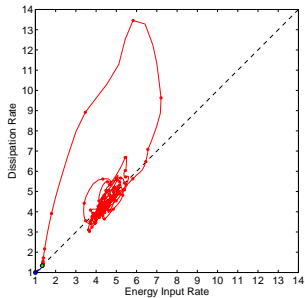
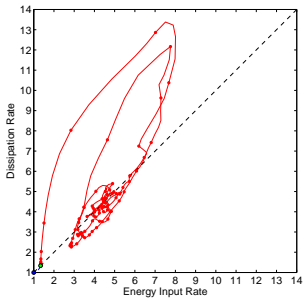
solid: Turbulent (avg $t=2000$), dash: fixed point
Mean and RMS velocity profiles

LB eigenvalues, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$, $(1, 2)$, $R = 1000$

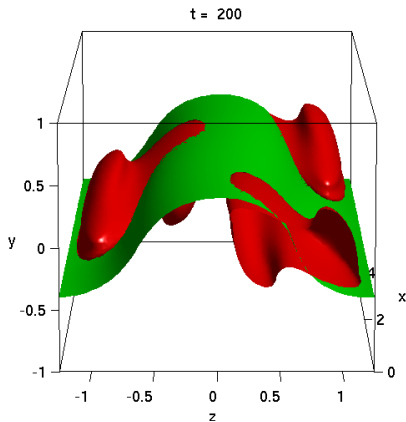
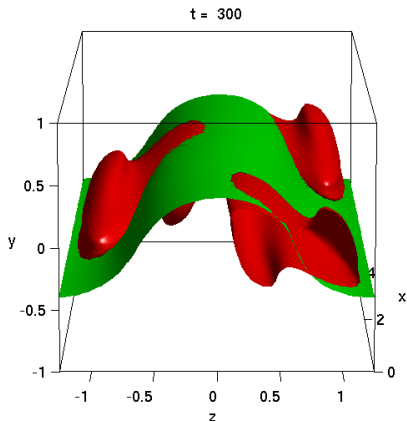


Only 1 unstable eig!

LB \longleftrightarrow Transition $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5), (1, 2), R = 1000$

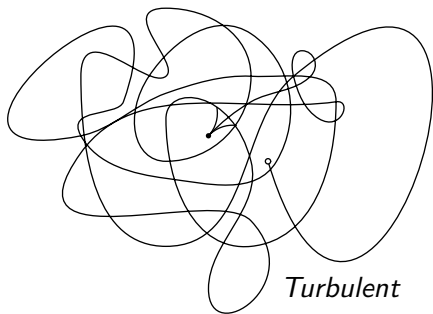


Lower branch $R = 1000$



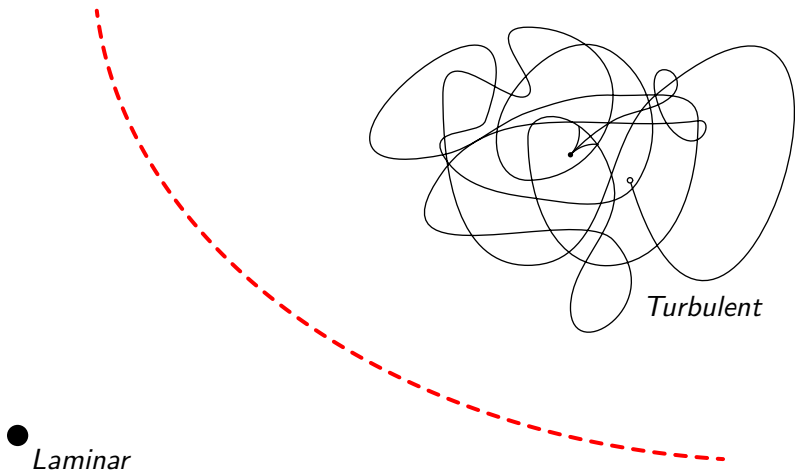
$0.6 \max(Q)$, $R = 1000$, $(\alpha, \gamma) = (1.14, 2.5)$.

Two states of fluid flow

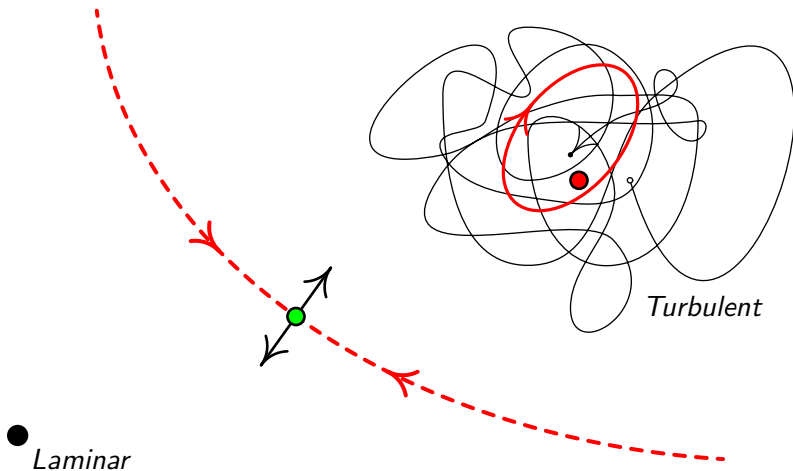


● *Laminar*

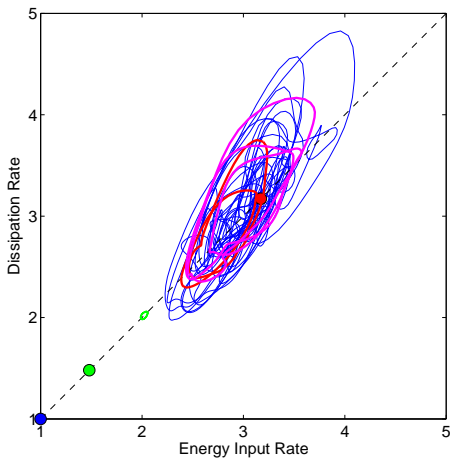
Separatrix, transition threshold



Unstable Coherent States!

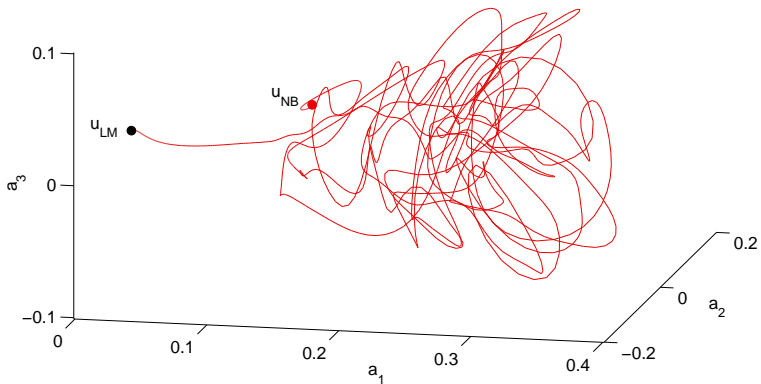


PCF data ($R = 400$)



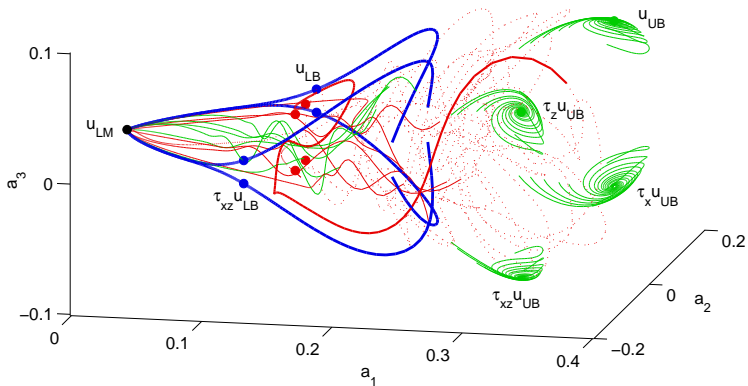
Periodic solutions in HKW (1.14, 1.67) by *Viswanath, JFM 2007* & *Gibson (TBA)*

Visualizing State Space (10^5 dof's)



RRC, R=400, *Gibson, Halcrow, Cvitanovic*, JFM to appear [arxiv.org/0705.3957](https://arxiv.org/abs/0705.3957)

Visualizing State Space (PCF, R=400)



RRC, R=400, *Gibson, Halcrow, Cvitanovic, JFM to appear arxiv.org/0705.3957*

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales
- *not small scale 'random' fluctuations but ...*

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales
- Multiscale Exact Coherent States (ECS) do the transport

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales
- Multiscale Exact Coherent States (ECS) do the transport
- ECS= 3D Traveling wave and periodic solutions of Navier-Stokes

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales
- Multiscale Exact Coherent States (ECS) do the transport
- ECS= 3D Traveling wave and periodic solutions of Navier-Stokes
- ECS: upper \approx turbulence, lower \approx transition

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales
- Multiscale Exact Coherent States (ECS) do the transport
- ECS= 3D Traveling wave and periodic solutions of Navier-Stokes
- ECS: upper \approx turbulence, lower \approx transition
- ECS unstable manifolds: low dimensional(?) \rightarrow control

Conclusions

- Turbulence is *not* the random collisions of fluid 'molecules'
- Turbulence is *not* a cascade of energy from large to small scales
- Multiscale Exact Coherent States (ECS) do the transport
- ECS= 3D Traveling wave and periodic solutions of Navier-Stokes
- ECS: upper \approx turbulence, lower \approx transition
- ECS unstable manifolds: low dimensional(?) \rightarrow control
- Asymptotic theory of lower branch solutions? Proof?