



# Transport phenomena in a suspension of swimming micro-organisms

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Louis Pasteur (1822-1895)

The role of the infinitely small in nature is infinitely large.

## Micro-organisms in the ocean

50% of biomass

Bottom of food chain

→ Oceanic ecosystem

Absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>

Nitrogen cycle

→ Global environment



Plankton blooms around Australia and New Zealand in October. Picture from Byatt et al. (2001)



## Micro-organisms in bioreactors

### Making food

Yeast, Lactic acid bacterium

→ Food industry



### Making medicine and cosmetics

→ Chemical industry



### Sewage treatment

→ Plant industry



### Algae fuel

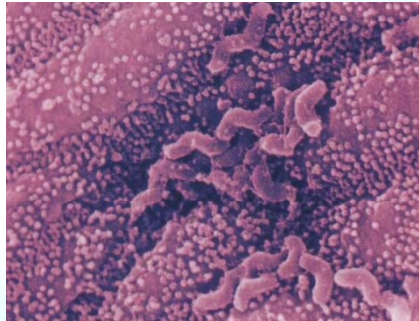
an alternative to fossil fuel

→ Energy revolution?

## Micro-organisms in human body

hundreds of species  
about  $10^{14}$  cells

*Helicobacter pylori*  
in the stomach

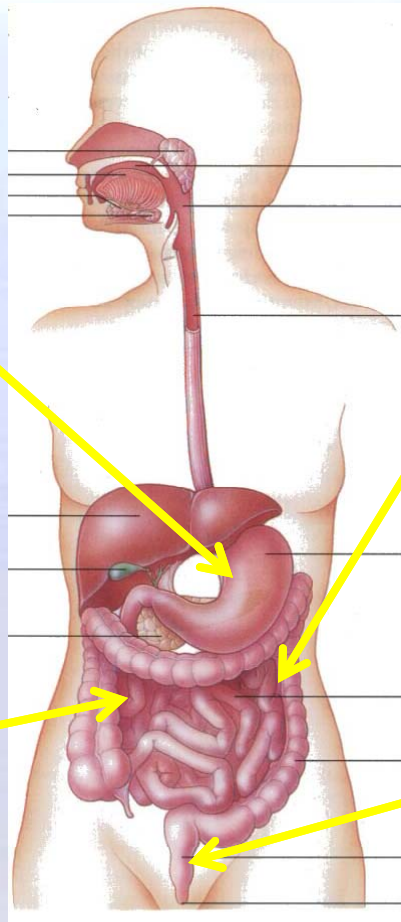


from Introduction to Microbiology

Infection by *salmonella*

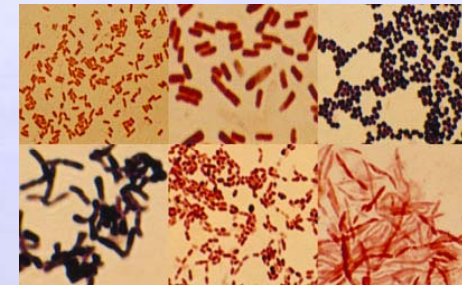


from Introduction to Microbiology



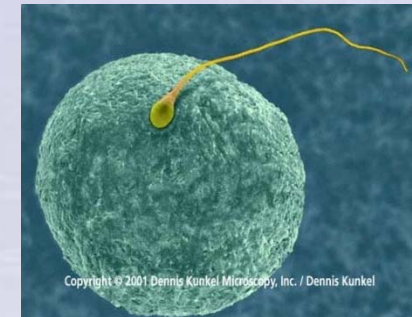
from Introduction to Microbiology

Digestion helped by  
enterobacteria  
(vitamin K)



<http://www.riken.go.jp/>

Reproduction owed  
to sperm swimming



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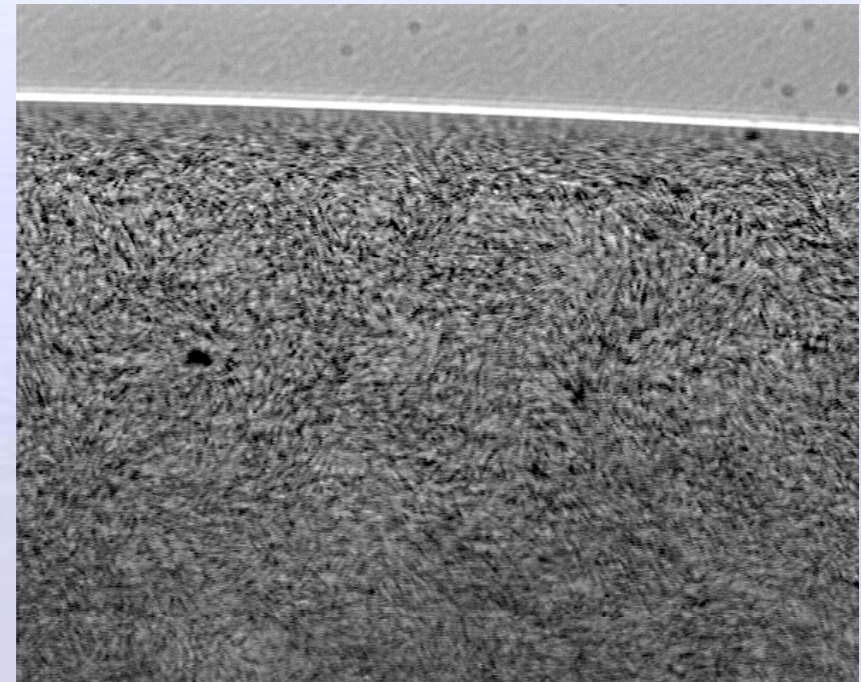


In order to understand variety of micro-organisms' phenomena Ecology, Biology & Chemistry have been used.

## One example of bacterial phenomena

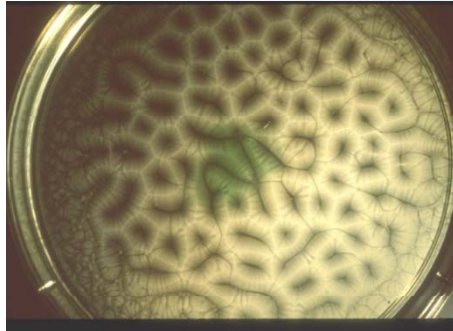
In this suspension, chemical substances spread  $10^3$  times more than the Brownian diffusion.

Can we explain this by ecology, biology or chemistry?



**Biophysics & biomechanics can contribute more in this field**

Cell motions of *Bacillus subtilis*.  
Movie from R. E. Goldstein Lab

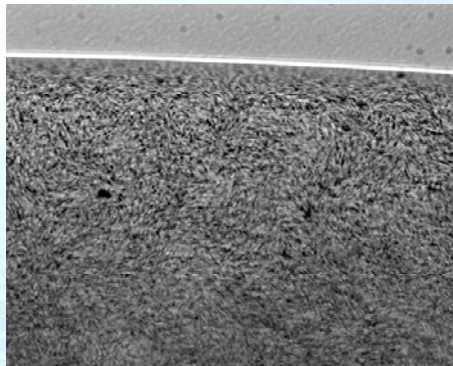


## Macroscopic level

Rheological and Diffusion properties



Strong influence

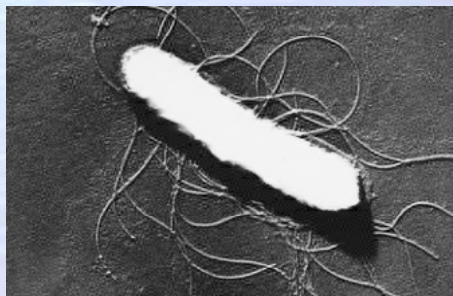


## Mesoscale level

Collective motions, Coherent structures



Strong influence



## Cellular level

Cell-cell interactions

**Bottom-up Strategy**



## Introduction



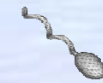
Biomechanics of an **individual** and a **pair** of micro-organisms



**Collective swimming** in meso-scale



**Macroscopic properties** of a suspension of micro-organisms



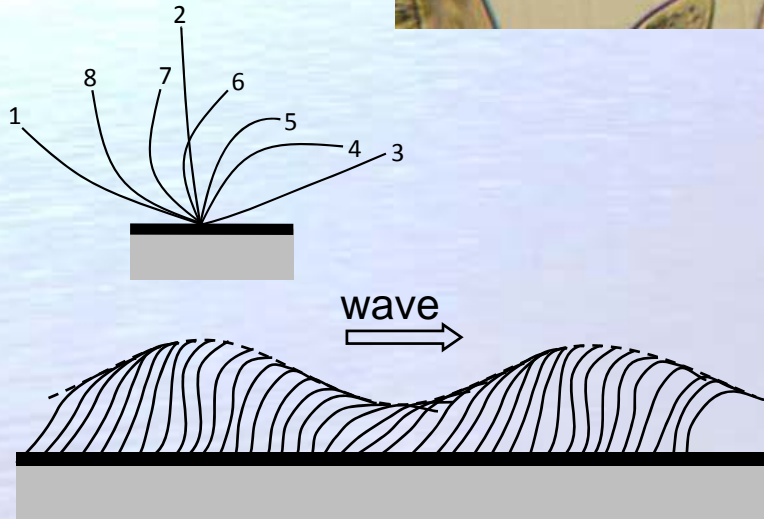
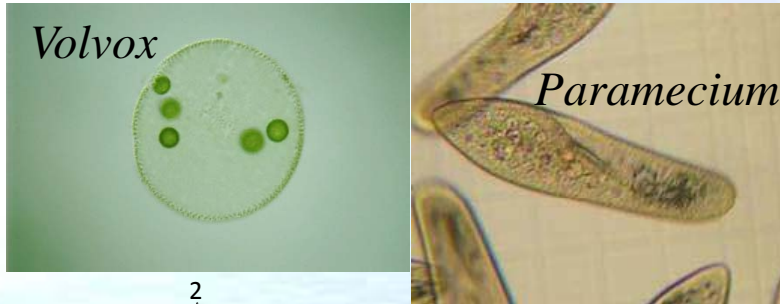
Conclusions



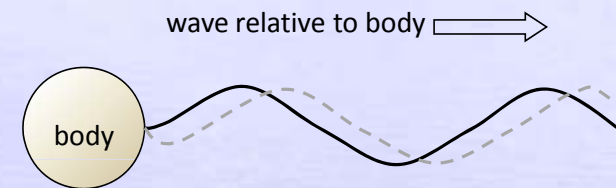


## In terms of swimming motion

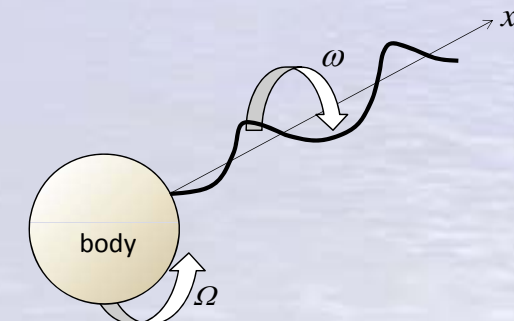
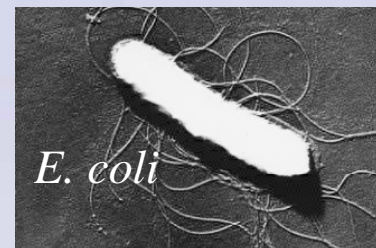
### Ciliate



### Flagellate (eukaryote)



### Bacteria





## Flow field

Size of a single cell: 1-100 $\mu\text{m}$

Swimming speed: 1-10 body length / sec

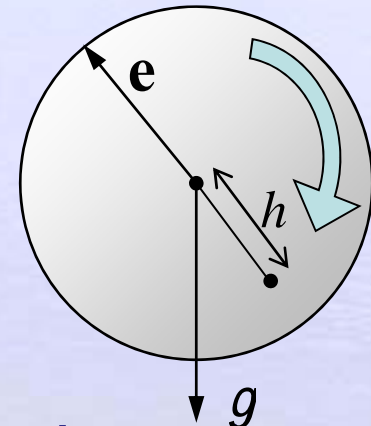
$$\rightarrow \text{Re} = 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$$

Stokes flow (Inertia-free)

## Force-Torque condition of a cell

Force is almost free

Torque may not be free (bottom-heaviness)



## Review paper

Brennen & Winet, *Ann. Rev. Fluid Mech.* (1977)

Lauga & Powers, *Rep. Prog. Phys.* (2009)

When two cells come close, what happens?

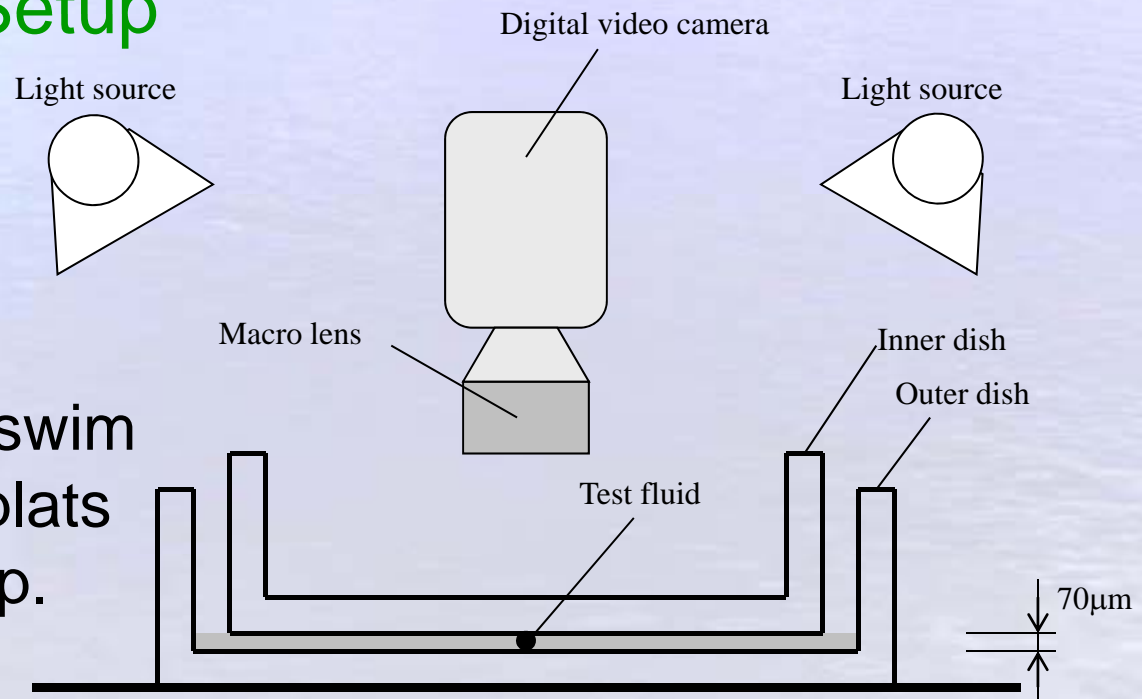
## *Paramecium caudatum*

Approximately  
250 $\mu\text{m}$  in length  
50 $\mu\text{m}$  in width



## Experimental Setup

*Paramecium* swim  
between flat plates  
with 70 $\mu\text{m}$  gap.







Avoiding Reaction (AR)

Anterior end:  $Ca^{2+}$  channel

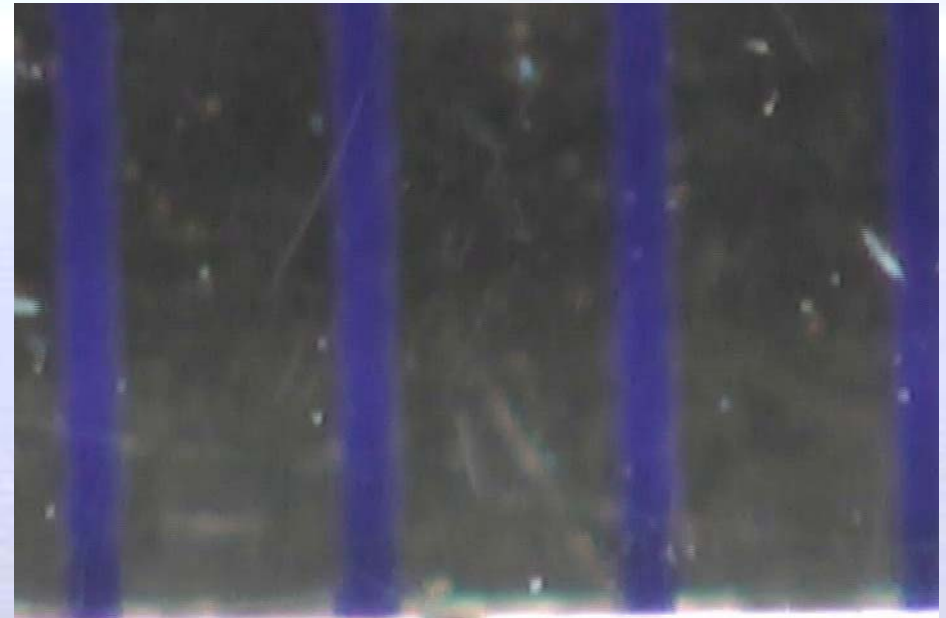


Escape Reaction (ER)

Posterior end:  $K^{+}$  channel



Initially facing each other



Two orientation vectors  
initially have a large angle



## Ratio of three kinds of interaction

The total number of experimental cases recorded in this study is 301, and the total number of cells is 602.

Kinds of interaction	Number of cells	Percent [%]
Hydrodynamic Interaction (HI)	510	84.7
Avoiding Reaction (AR)	29	4.8
Escape Reaction (ER)	63	10.5

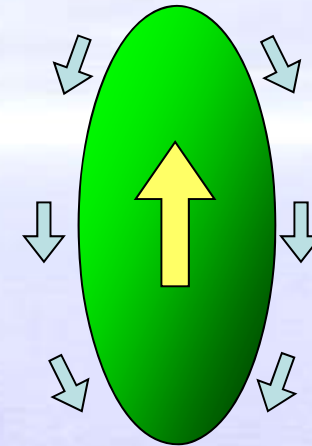
Ishikawa and Hota, *J. Exp. Biol.* (2006)

**Mainly hydrodynamic interaction**

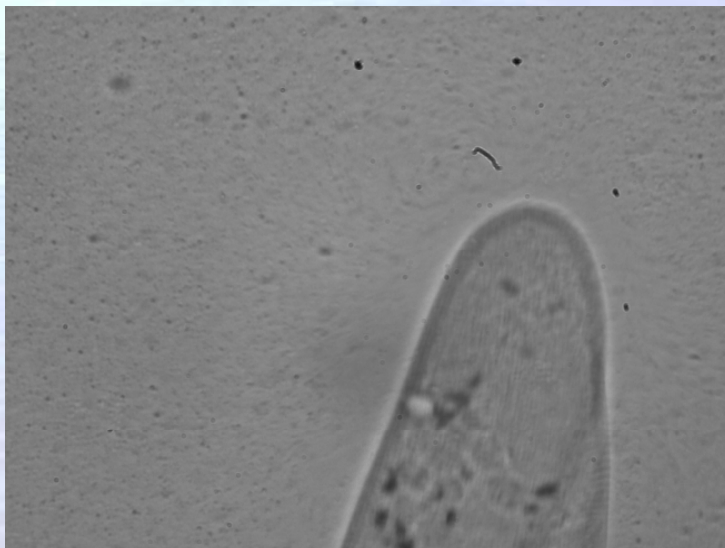
## Squirmers model

assumed to propel itself by generating tangential velocities on its surface.

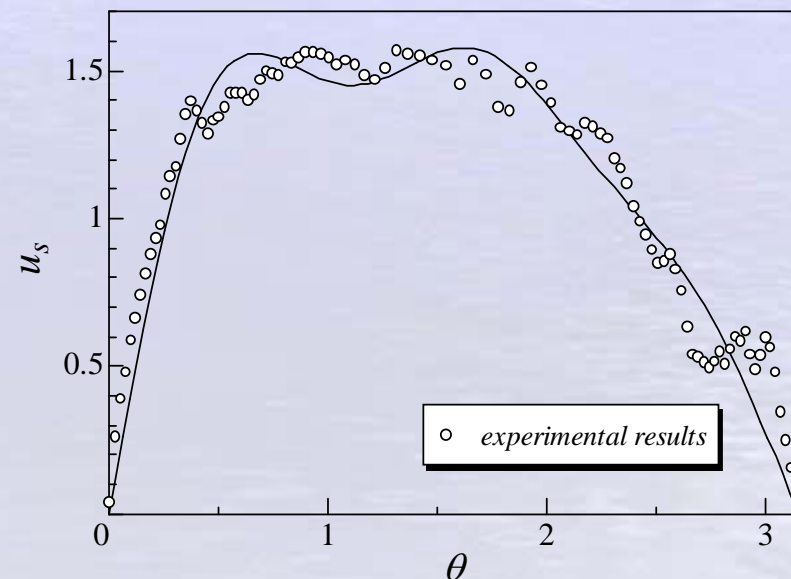
Surface velocity is given as a B.C.



## Velocity field around *Paramecium*



PIV  
→





Paramecium: Force-free, Torque-free

Flow Field: Boundary Element Method

Ishikawa *et al.*, *J. Fluid Mech.* (2006)

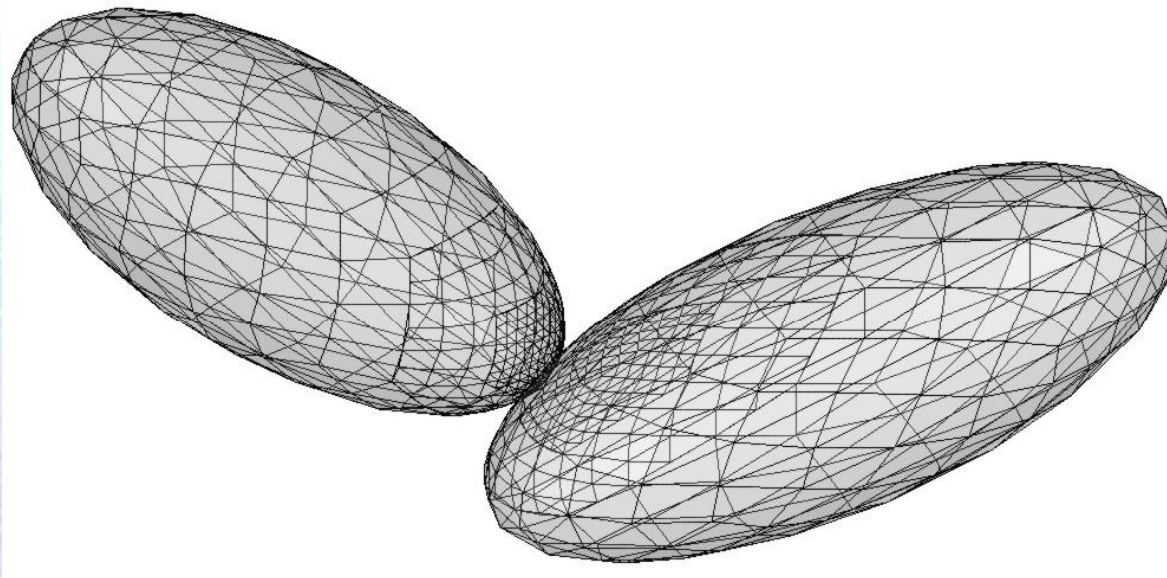
$$u_i(\mathbf{x}) - \langle u_i(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = -\frac{1}{8\pi\mu} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \int_{A_\alpha} J_{ij}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) q_j(\mathbf{y}) dA_y$$

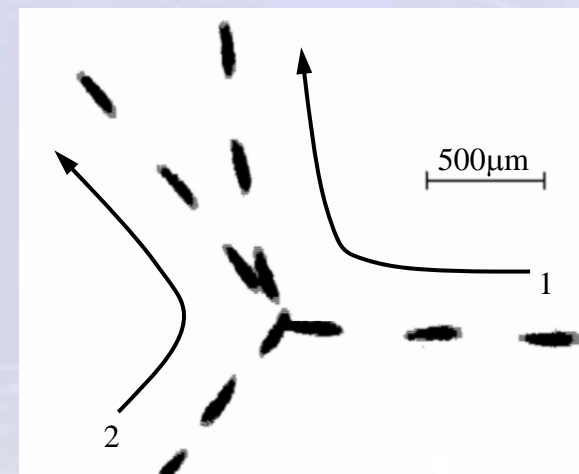
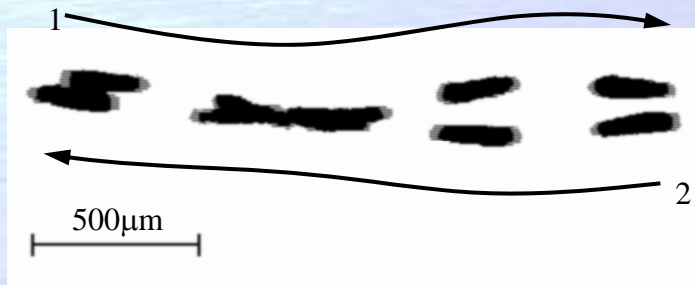
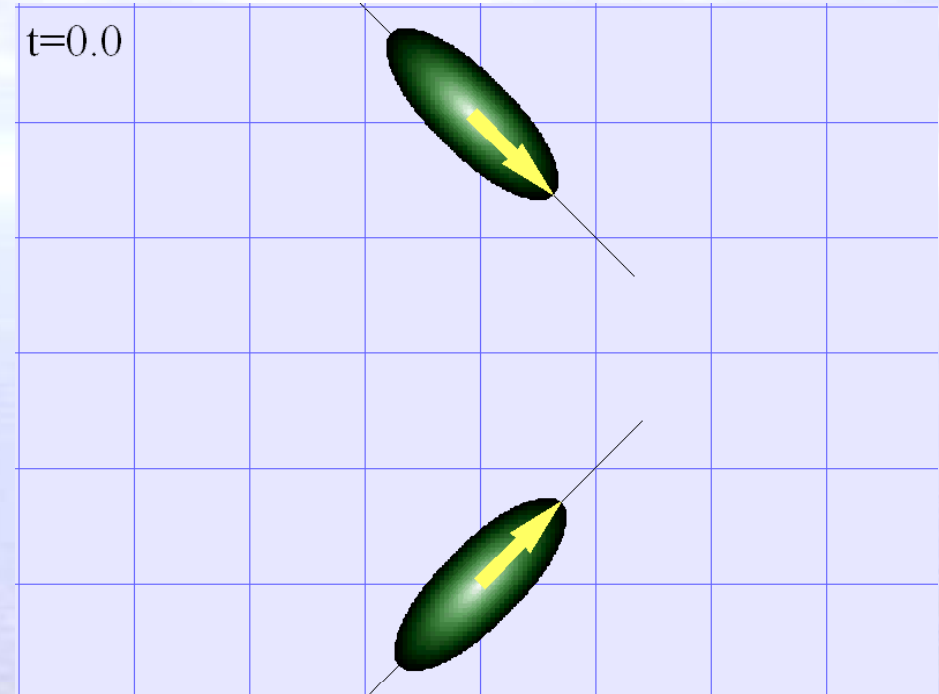
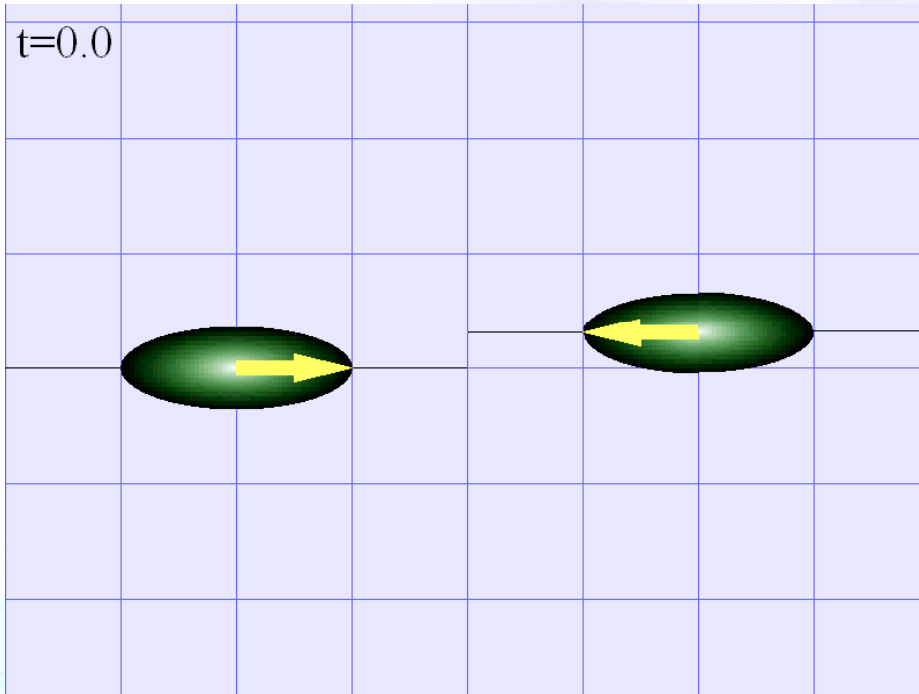
$\mathbf{q}$  : single-layer potential

$A$  : surface of a particle

$\mathbf{u}$  : velocity

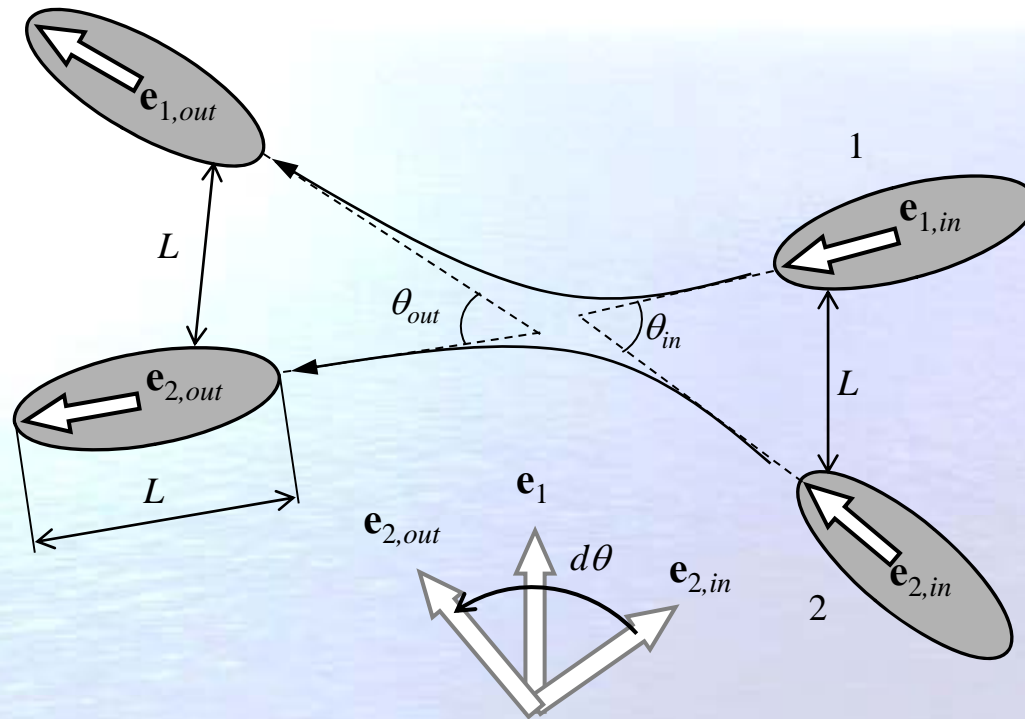
$\mathbf{J}$  : Green function





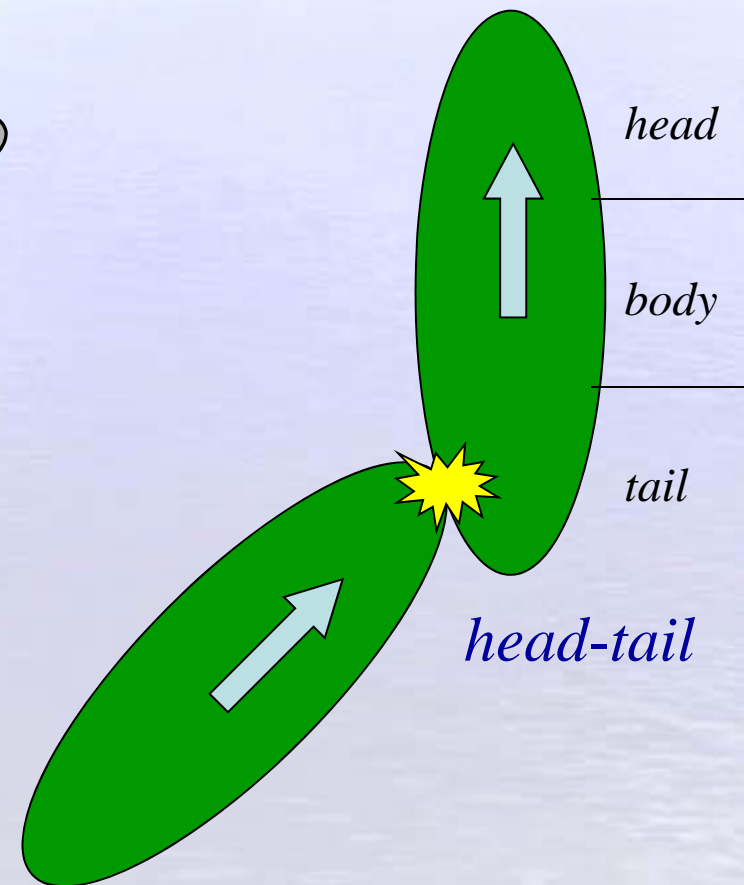
**Agree with the experiment**

## Definition of angles



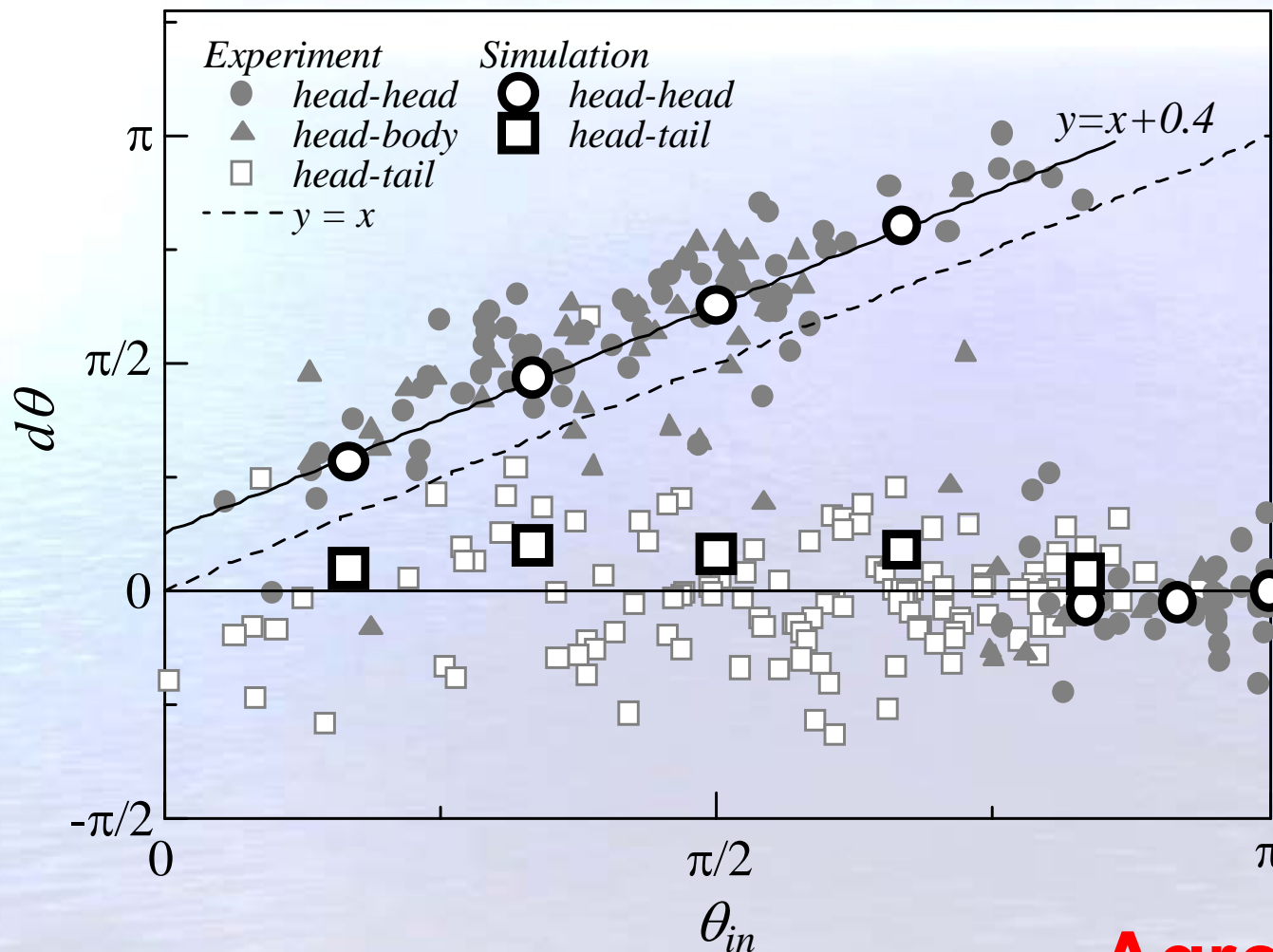
$\theta_{in}$  : angle between  $e_{1,in}$  and  $e_{2,in}$   
 $d\theta$  : change in the orientation vector  
of cell 2 relative to cell 1

## Contact position





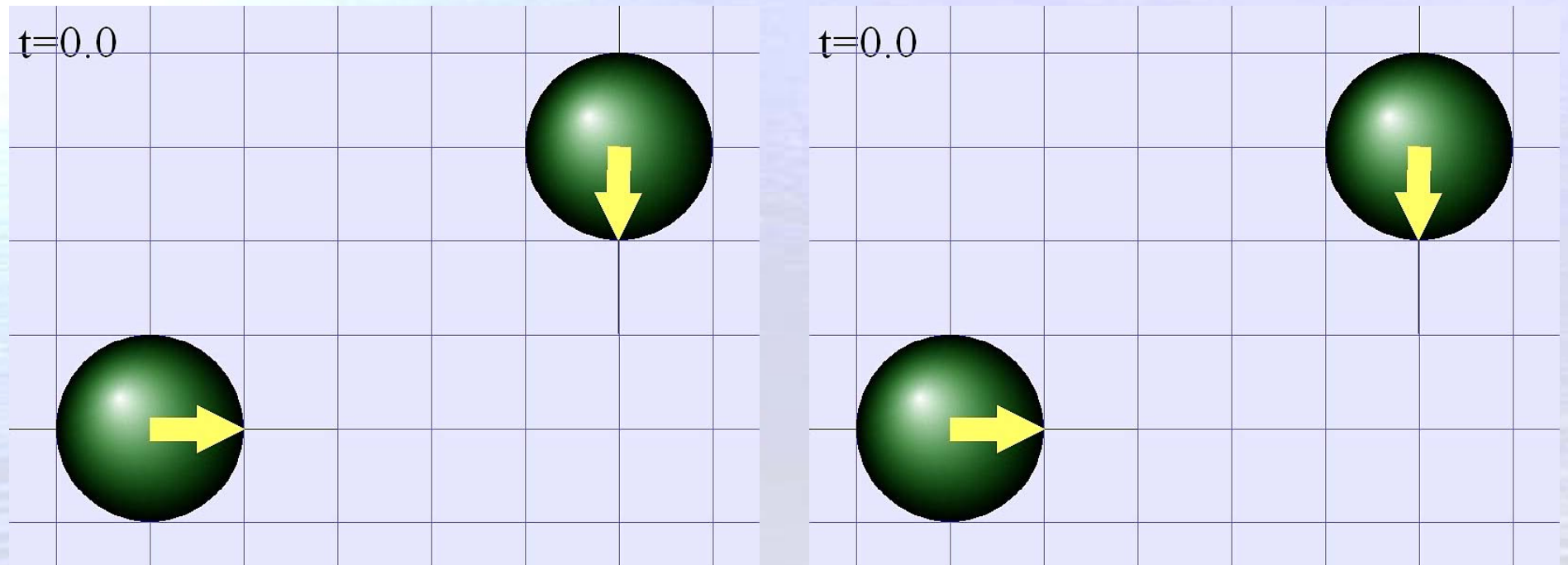
## Correlation between $\theta_{in}$ and $d\theta$



*Paramecium* is not a steady squirmer.

**Spherical unsteady squirmer model:** Blake (1971), Magar & Pedley (2005)

Surface tangential displacements:  $\theta = \theta_0 + \varepsilon \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n(t) V_n(\cos \theta_0)$



## Shear stress on the surface of a squirmer

Intensity of  
the stimulus



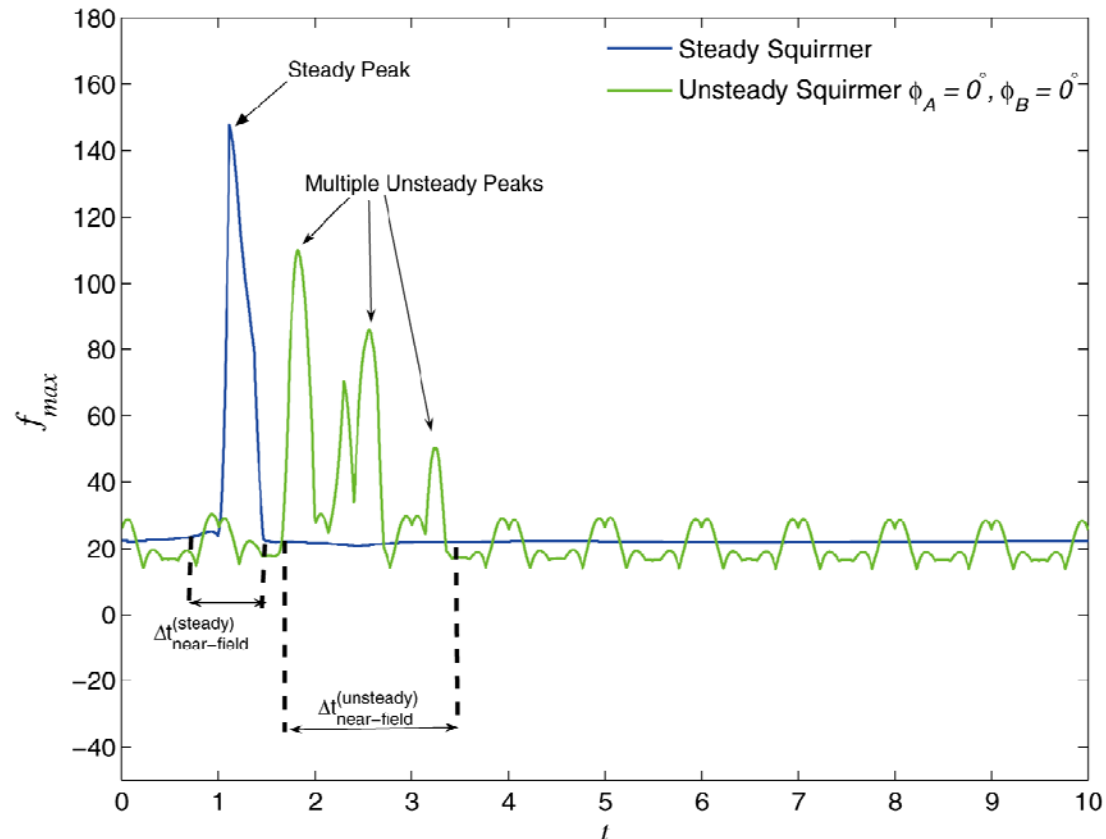
Intensity of  
the calcium influx



Determines the  
membrane  
depolarization



Consequently  
response of the  
ciliary apparatus

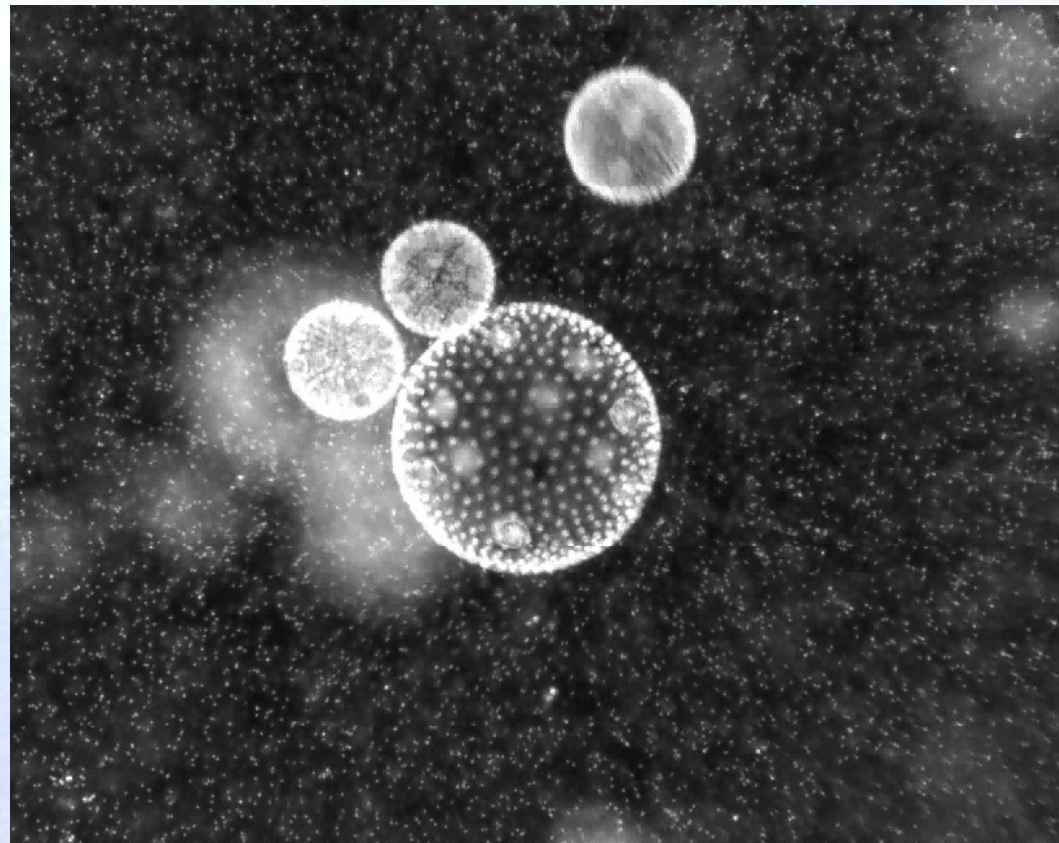


Unsteadiness adds hydrodynamic nature of randomness  
in biological reactions



# Waltzing motion of *Volvox*

A waltzing motion was found by R.E. Goldstein's group.



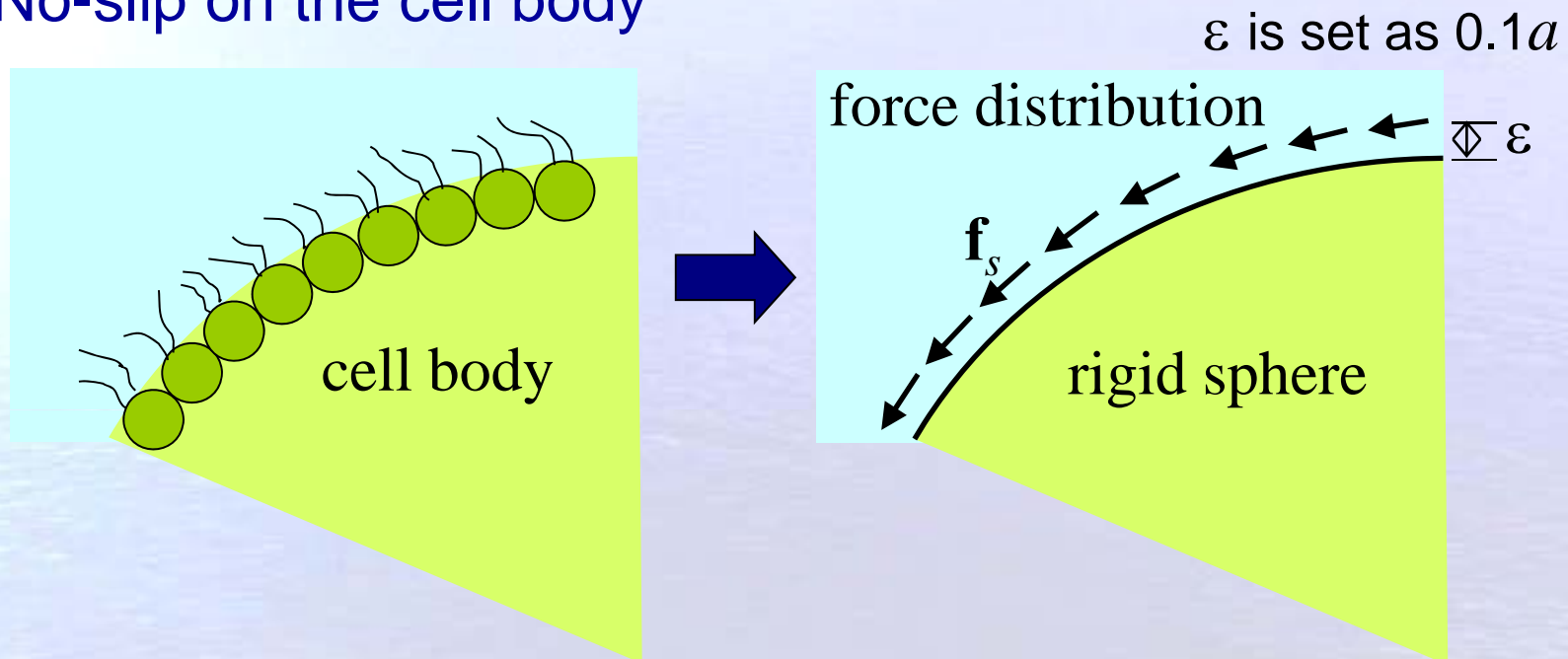
for fertilization?

<http://www.damtp.cam.ac.uk/user/gold/>

Mechanism: Biological? Hydrodynamical?

## Two important boundary conditions

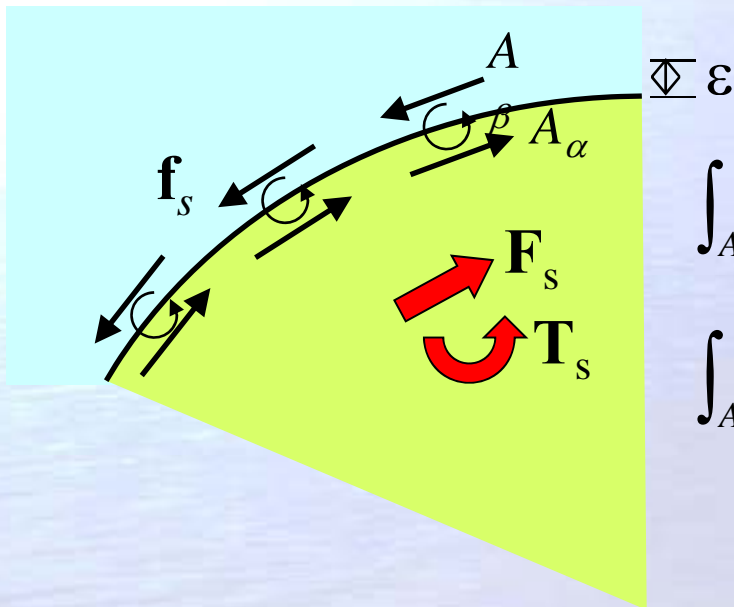
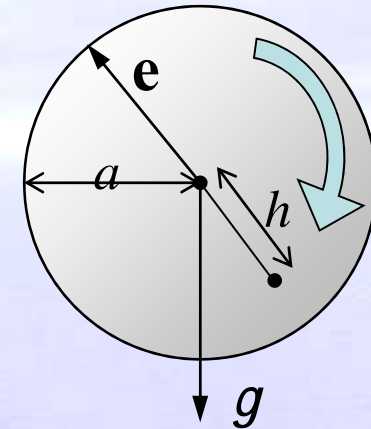
- Force distribution generated by flagella
- No-slip on the cell body



Volvox is assumed as a rigid sphere, and force distribution  $f_s$  is generated  $\epsilon$  above the spherical surface  
 $f_s$  is the force vector per unit area due to the flagella motion

Flow Field : Stokes Flow

Cell Body Motion : Force *not free*  
Torque *not free*



$$\int_{A_\alpha} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} dA = -\mathbf{F}_s \left( = \int_{A_\beta} \mathbf{f}_s dA \right)$$

$$\int_{A_\alpha} (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \wedge \mathbf{r} dA = -\mathbf{T}_s \left( = \int_{A_\beta} \mathbf{f}_s \wedge (1 + \varepsilon) \mathbf{n} dA \right)$$

$\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  : stress tensor,  $\mathbf{n}$  : normal vector

$A_\alpha$  : surface of the cell body

$A_\beta$  : surface where the force is generated

Reaction force  $\Rightarrow$  Thrust force & torque



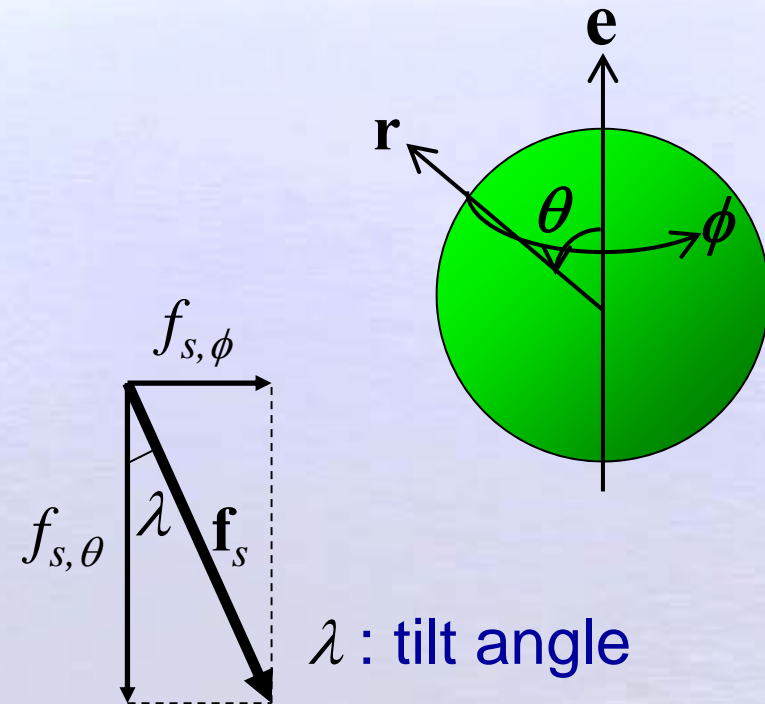
Force distribution : time-invariant, with swirl

$$f_{s,r} = 0$$

$$f_{s,\theta} = \text{const}$$

$$f_{s,\phi} = f_{s,\theta} \tan \lambda$$

$$(\mathbf{F}_s = \text{const}, \mathbf{T}_s = \text{const})$$



When  $\lambda = 5\text{deg}$ ,  $U = 1$  and  $\Omega = -1.8$

## Boundary Element Method

$$u_i(\mathbf{x}) - \langle u_i(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = -\frac{1}{8\pi\mu} \left[ \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \int_{A_\alpha} J_{ij}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) t_j(\mathbf{y}) dA_y - \sum_{\beta=1}^N \int_{A_\beta} J_{ij}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) f_j(\mathbf{y}) dA_y \right]$$

$\mathbf{u}$  : velocity

$\langle \mathbf{u} \rangle$  : background velocity

$\mathbf{t}$  : traction force on the cell body

$\mathbf{f}$  : force due to the flagella motion

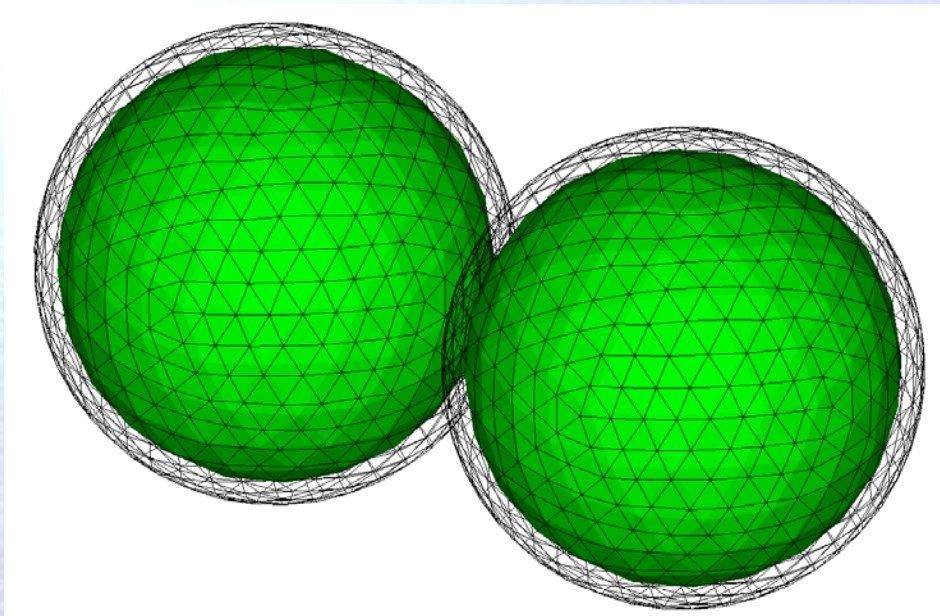
$A_\alpha$  : surface of the cell body

$A_\beta$  : surface where the force is generated

$\mathbf{J}$  : Half-space Green function

When there is a wall, the kernel function need to be modified

Blake (1971)



Computational mesh

## Initial condition

### Volvox parameters

cilia length :  $\varepsilon = 0.1$

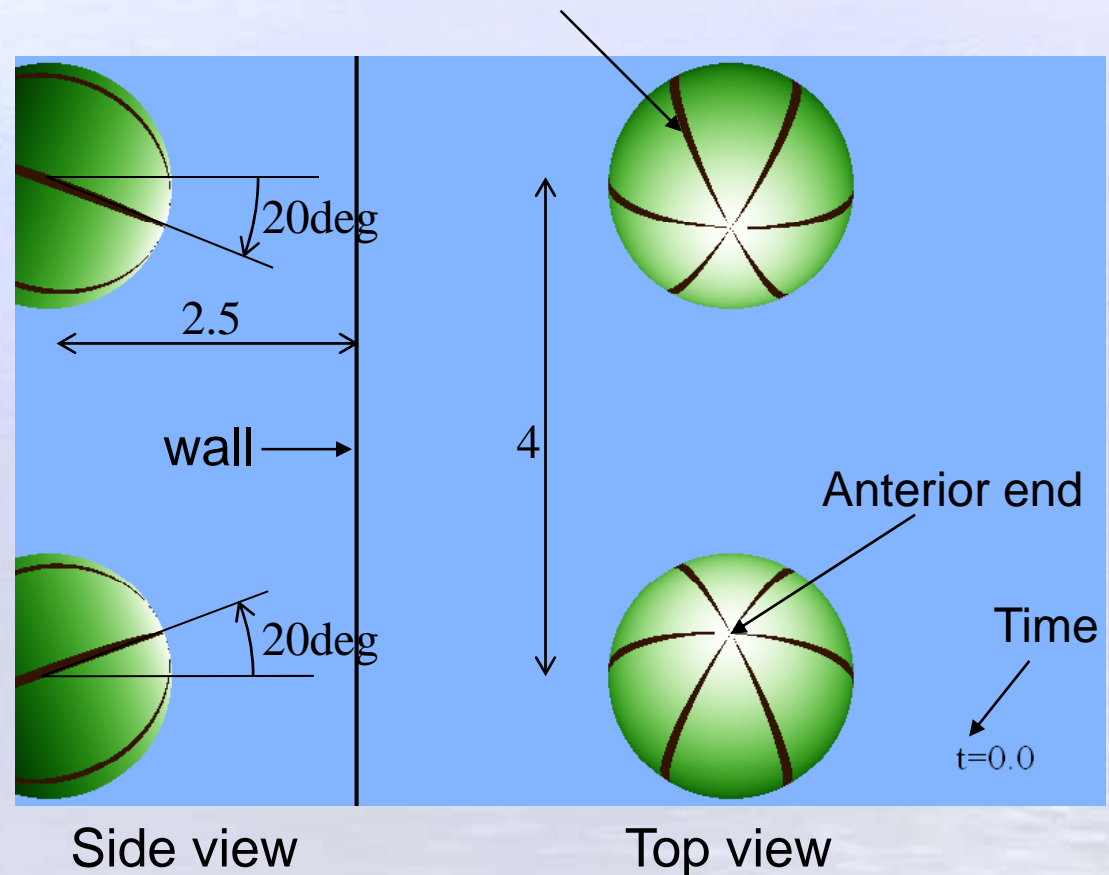
tilt angle :

$\lambda = 0, 5, 10\text{deg}$

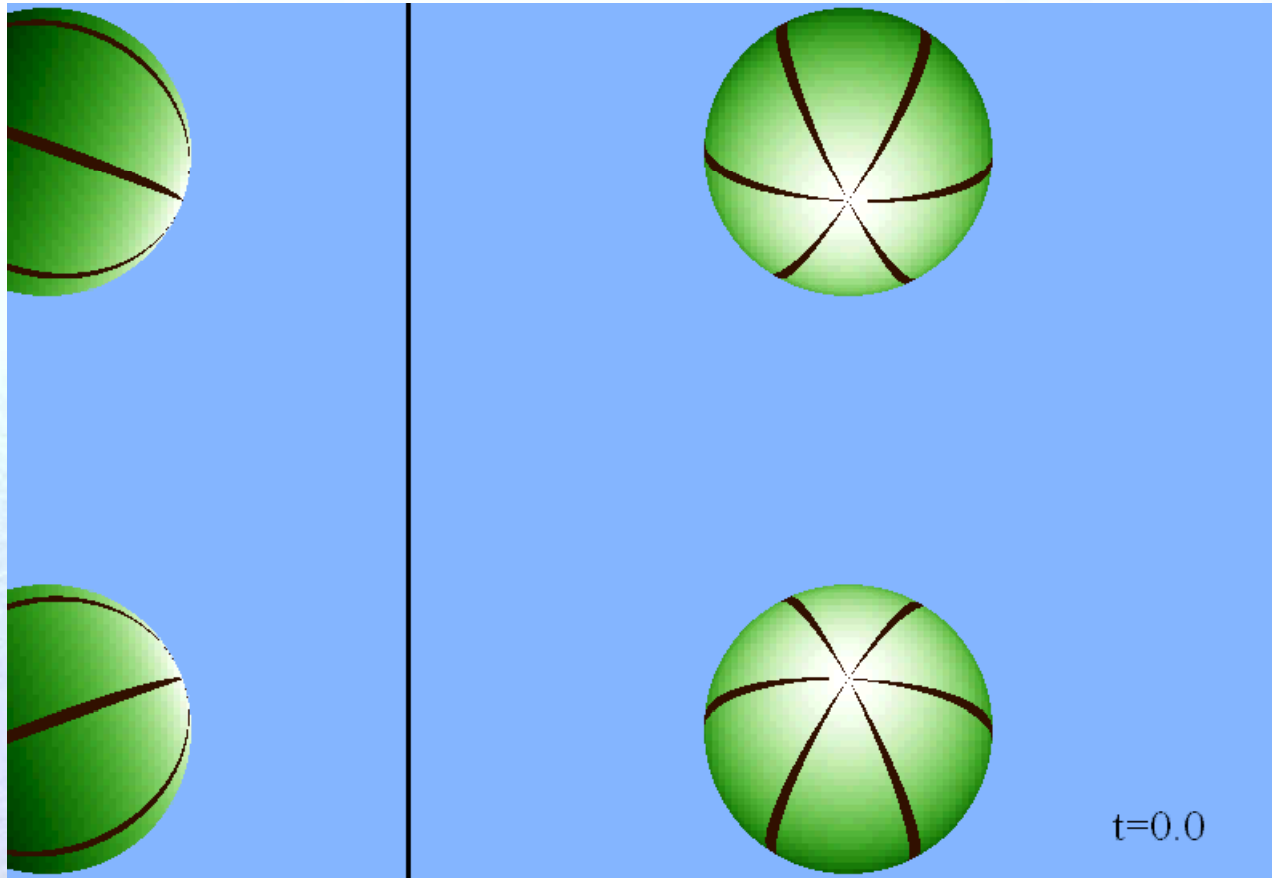
Bottom-heaviness :

$$G_{bh} = \frac{4\pi\rho g a^2}{3\mu U} = 0, 10, 50$$

6 meridians are drawn for reference



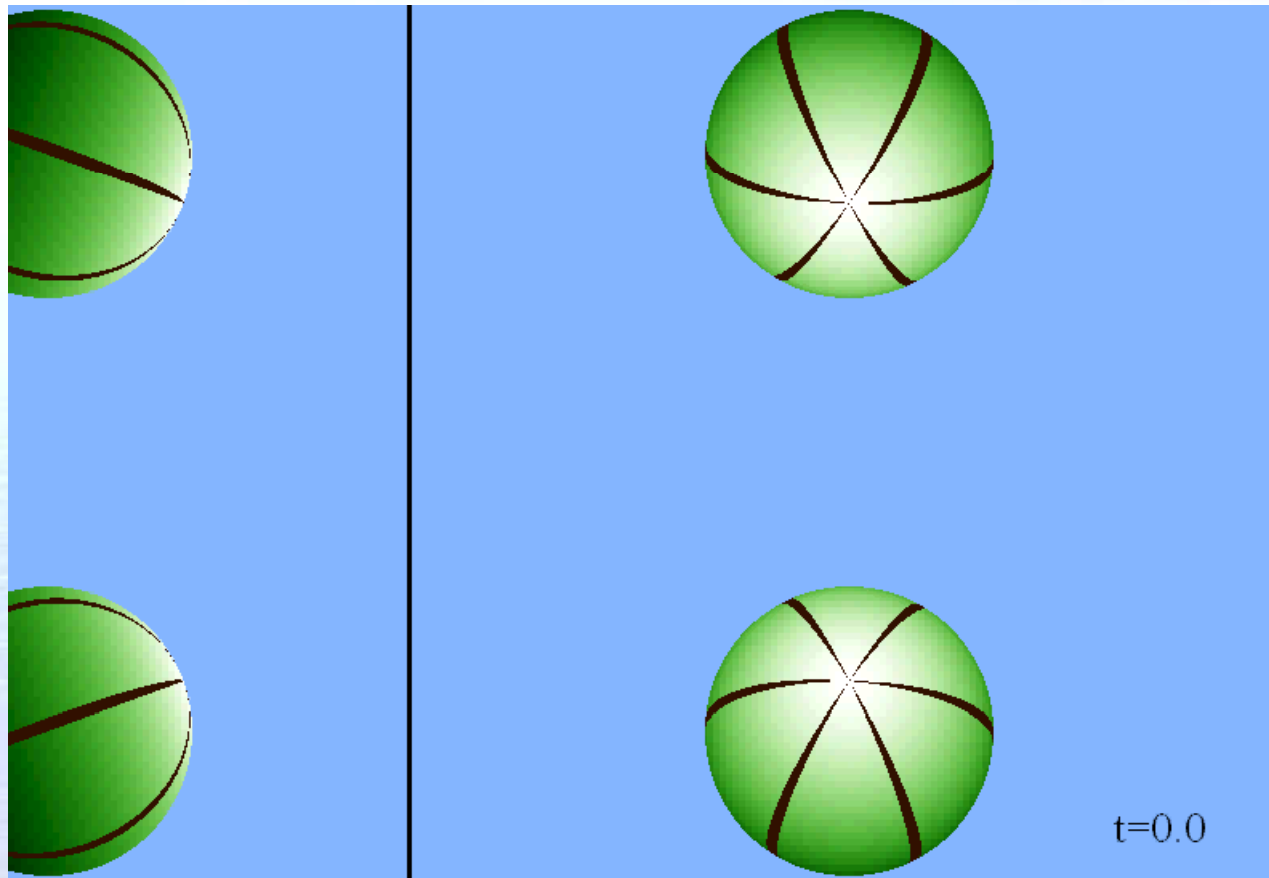
$G_{bh}=0$  : non-bottom-heavy ( $\lambda = 5\text{deg}$ )



Waltzing motion does not appear



$G_{bh}=50$  : bottom-heavy ( $\lambda = 5\text{deg}$ )

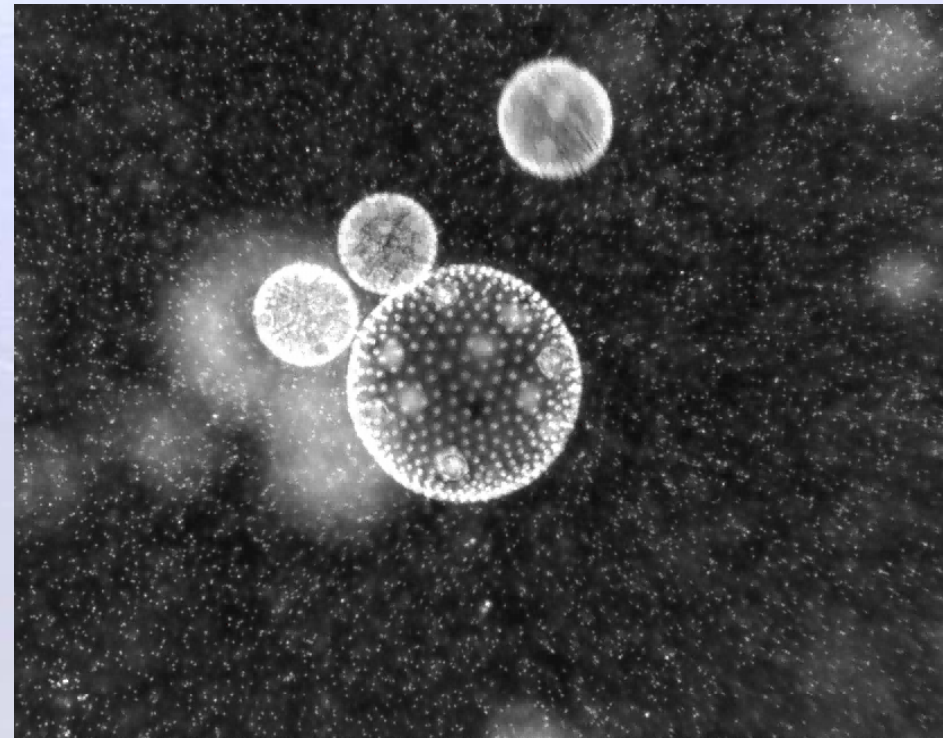


Waltzing motion does appear

The waltzing motion can be reproduced by introducing:

- (a) A wall boundary
- (b) Bottom-heaviness
- (c) Swirl velocity

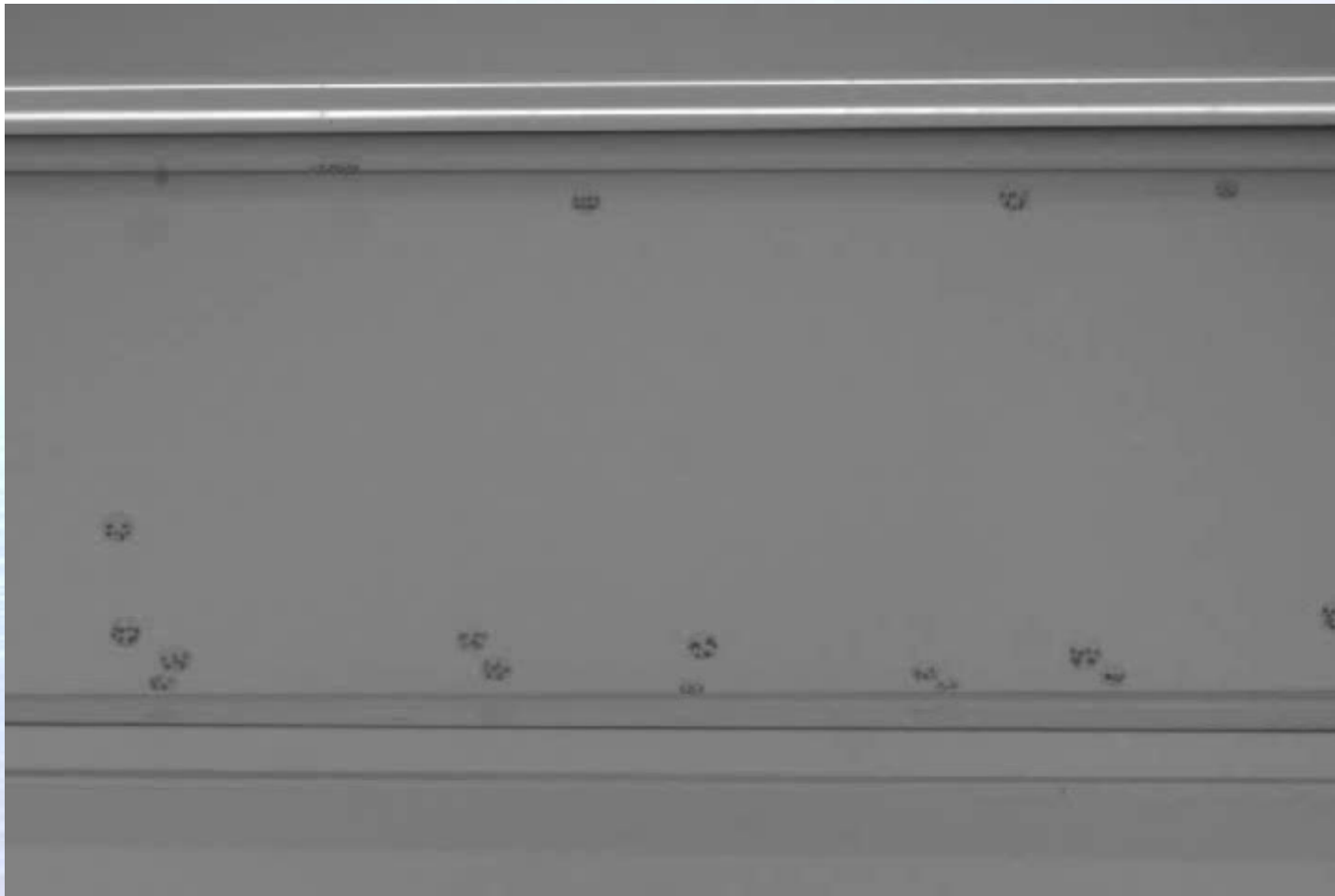
**Mechanism**  
**= Hydrodynamics**



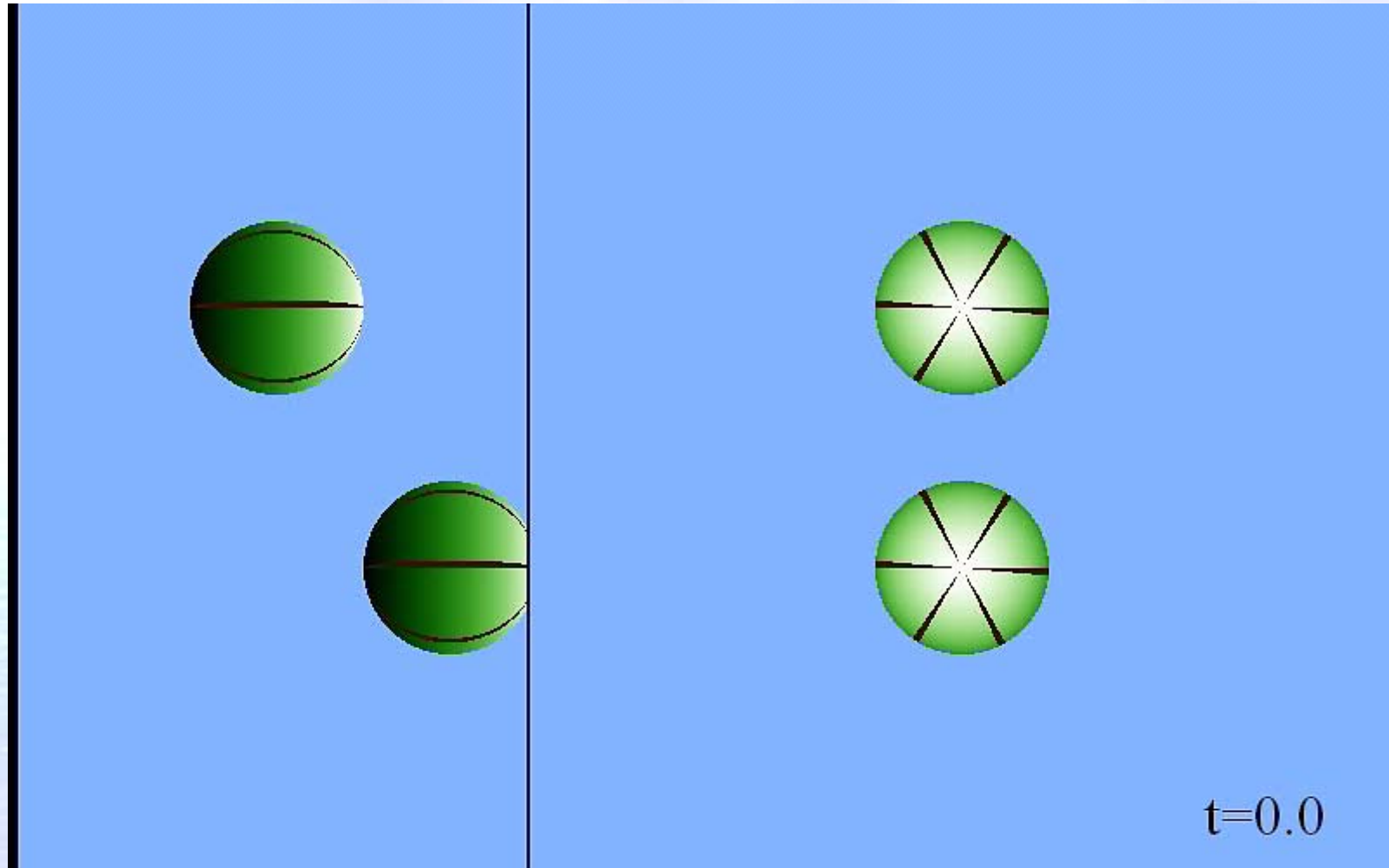
Drescher *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2009)

# Another interaction of *Volvox*

Another interaction, referred to as minuet, was found.



How about this?



Another bound state does appear ( $G_{bh} = 3$ )



## Minuet bound state requires:

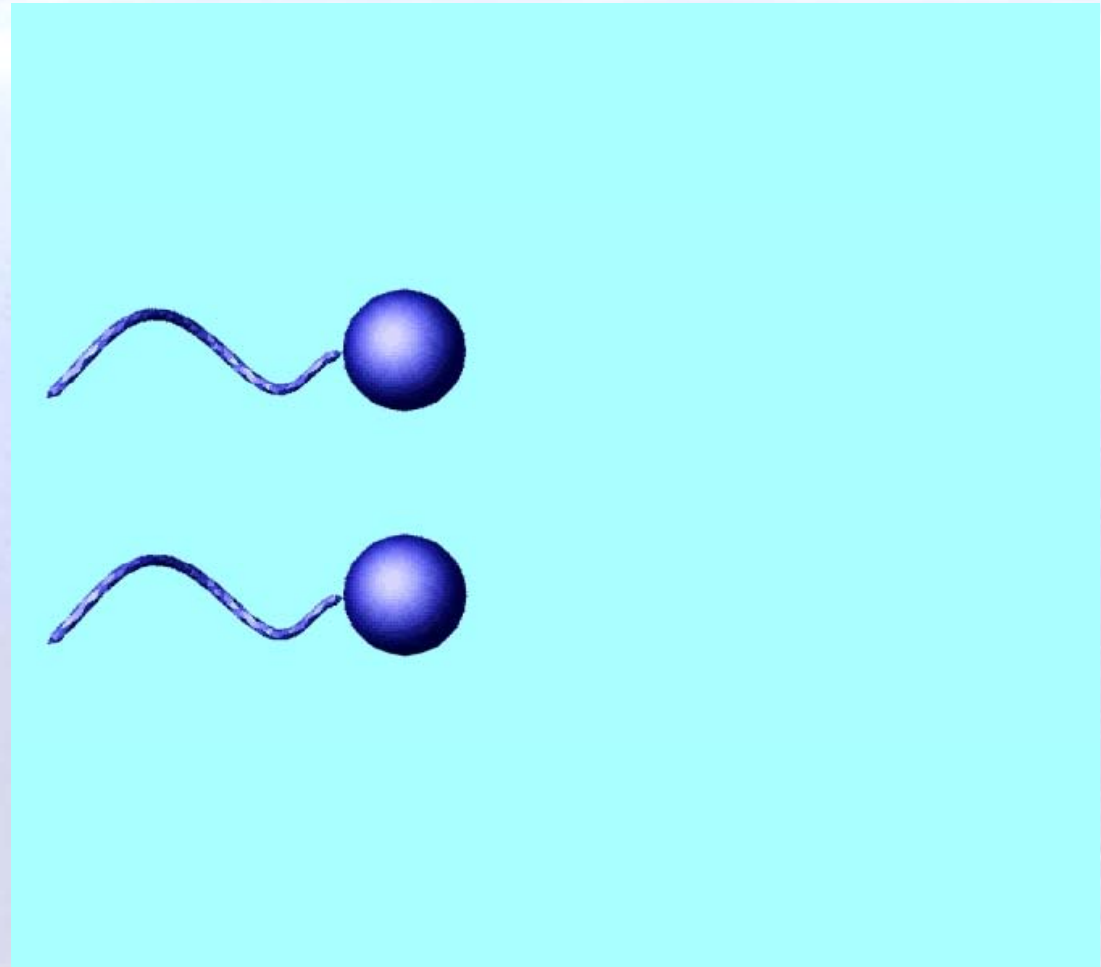
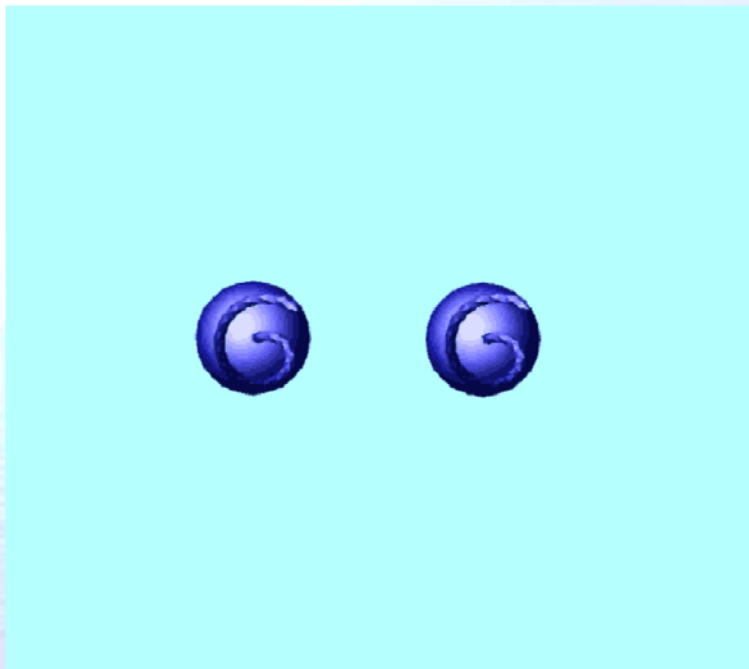
- (a) Sedimentation
- (b) Bottom wall
- (c) Bottom-heaviness
- (d) Swirl



Mechanism is again hydrodynamics.

Drescher *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2009)

## Two Bacteria Interaction



Ishikawa *et al.*, *Biophys. J.* (2007)

Bacterial interaction can also be analyzed.



Introduction



Biomechanics of an **individual** and a **pair** of micro-organisms



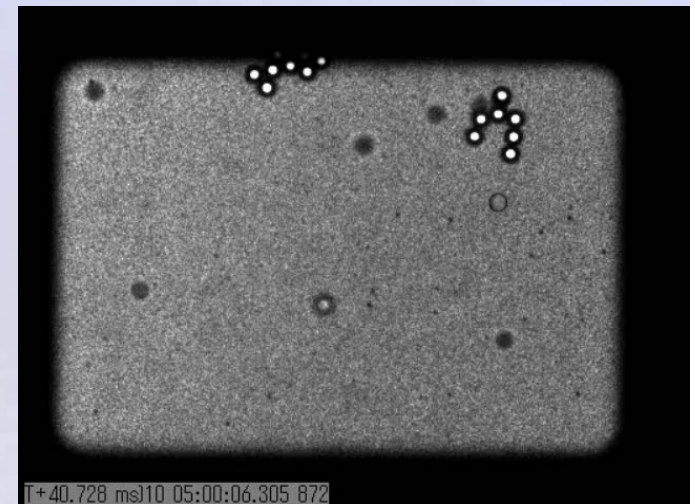
**Collective swimming** in meso-scale



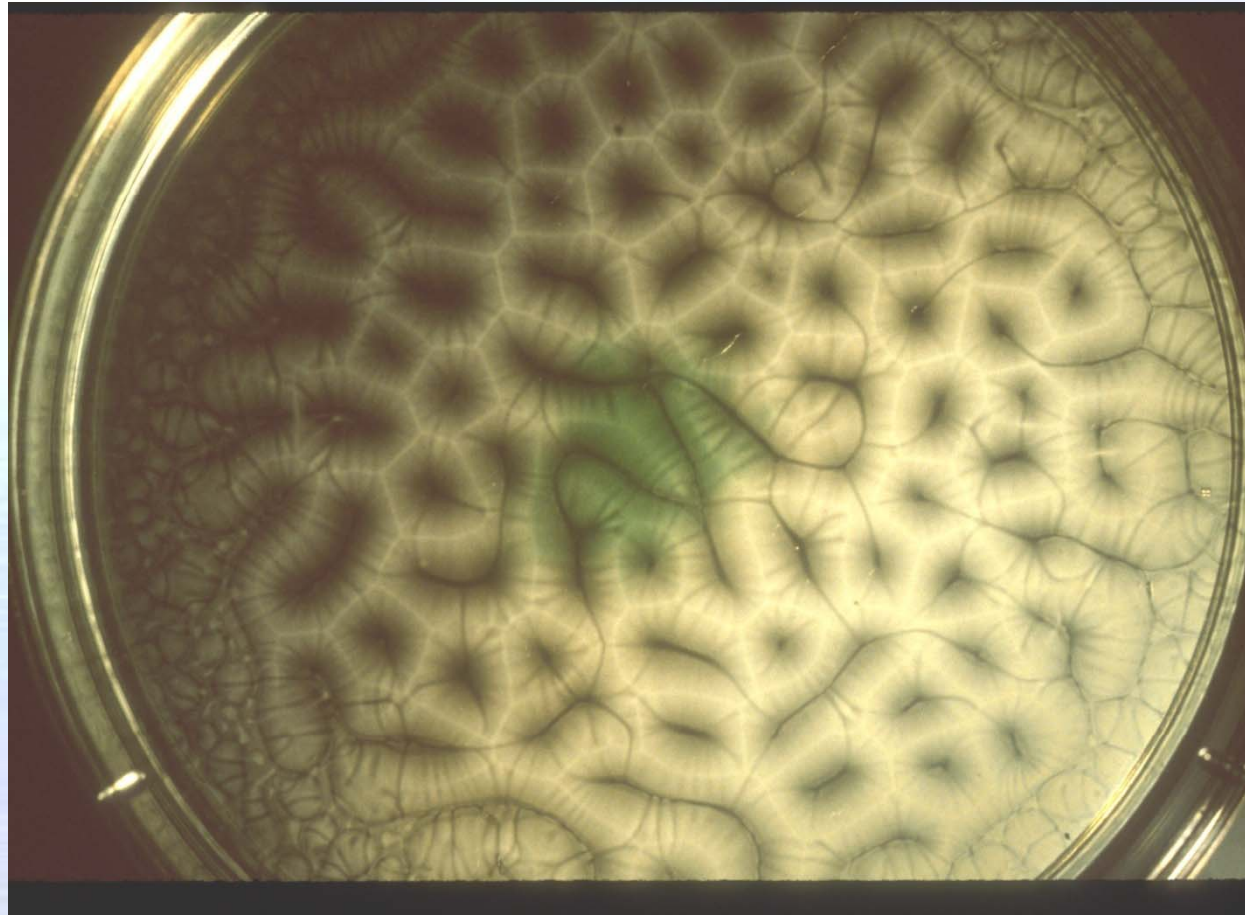
**Macroscopic properties** of a suspension of micro-organisms



Conclusions



## Suspensions of *B. subtilis* : Pedley & Kessler (1992)

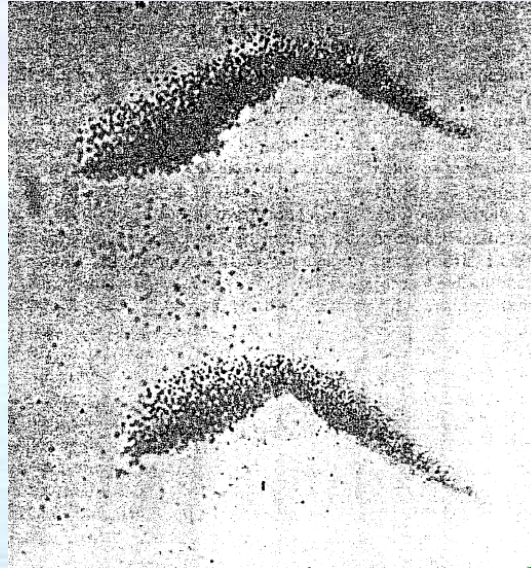


Mechanism : upswimming of cells that are slightly denser than water generates unstable density stratification which leads to overturning

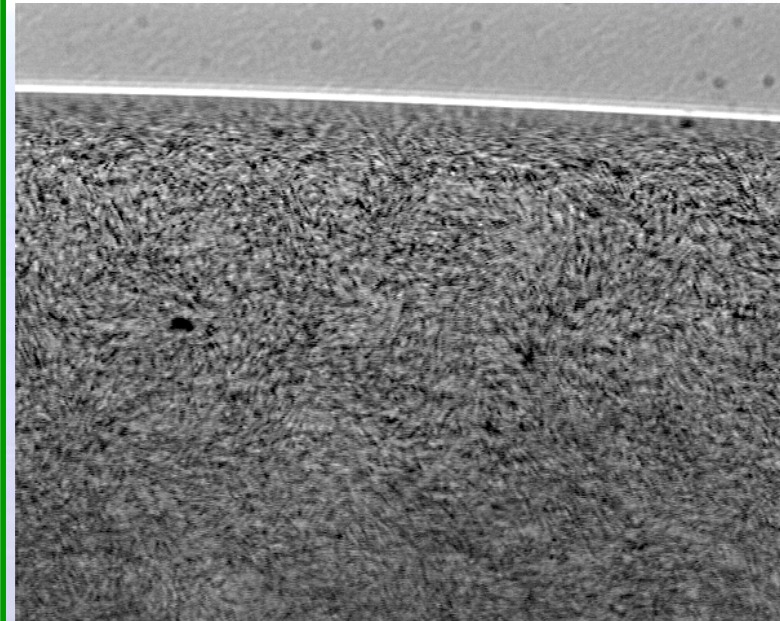


## Band formation

Band formation of magnetotactic bacteria. Picture from Guell *et al.*, *J. Theor. Biol.* (1988)



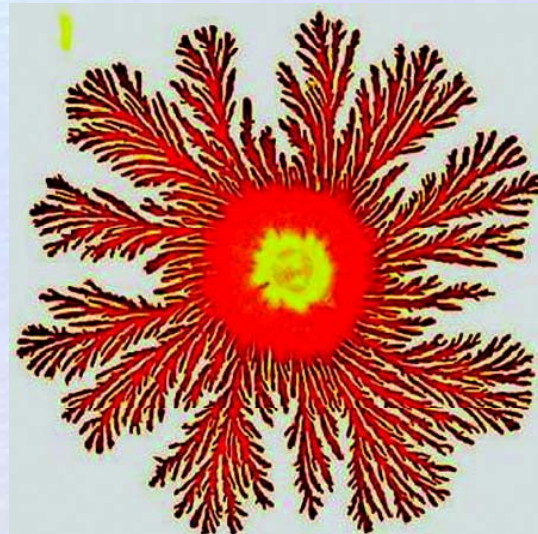
## Slow turbulence



Cell motions of *Bacillus subtilis*. Movie from Goldstein Lab, University of Cambridge

## Colonies on agar gel

Complex pattern of bacterial colonies. Picture from Ben-Jacob & Levine (2006)



**Mechanism**  
**= Physics? Mechanics?**

## Continuum Model:

Pedley & Kessler (1992) : Boussinesq approximation

Simha & Ramaswamy (2002), etc. : A kinetic theory

Saintillan & Shelley (2008) : A kinetic theory

Aranson et al. (2005), etc. : A two-dimensional master equation

Wolgemuth (2008) : A two-phase model

## Discrete Model:

Vicsek et al. (1995), Czirok et al. (1997), Gregoire & Chate (2004),  
Sambelashvili et al. (2007) : The hydrodynamics were not incorporated

Hopkins & Fauci (2002), Llopis & Pagonabarraga (2006), Hernandez-  
Ortiz et al. (2005), Underhill et al. (2008), Saintillan & Shelley (2007):  
Far-field hydrodynamics were incorporated

Ishikawa et al. (2007), etc. : Far- and Near-field hydrodynamics were  
incorporated precisely.

## Micro-organism : Spherical squirmer model

*Multipole Expansion* of the boundary integral equation

$$u_i(\mathbf{x}) - \langle u_i(\mathbf{x}) \rangle = -\frac{1}{8\pi\mu} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \int_{A_\alpha} J_{ij}(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y}) q_j(\mathbf{y}) dA_y \quad : \textit{Ewald sumation}$$

$$= \frac{1}{8\pi\mu} \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{6} \nabla^2 \right) J_{ij} F_j^\alpha + R_{ij} L_j^\alpha + \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{10} \nabla^2 \right) K_{ijk} S_{jk}^\alpha + \nabla_k \nabla_l J_{ij} Q_{klj}^\alpha + \dots \right]$$

+

*Faxen Laws*

$$U_i^\alpha - \langle u_i(\mathbf{x}^\alpha) \rangle = \frac{F_i^\alpha}{6\pi\mu a} + \frac{2}{3} B_1^\alpha e_i^\alpha + \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{6} \nabla^2 \right) u_i'(\mathbf{x}^\alpha)$$

$$\Omega_i^\alpha - \langle \omega_i(\mathbf{x}^\alpha) \rangle = \frac{L_i^\alpha}{8\pi\mu a^3} + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon_{ijk} \nabla_j u_k'(\mathbf{x}^\alpha)$$

$$-\langle E_{ij}(\mathbf{x}^\alpha) \rangle = \frac{S_{ij}^\alpha}{\frac{20}{3} \pi \mu a^3} + \frac{1}{5} \mu a^2 B_2^\alpha (3e_i^\alpha e_j^\alpha - \delta_{ij}) + \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{10} \nabla^2 \right) (\nabla_j u_i'(\mathbf{x}^\alpha) + \nabla_i u_j'(\mathbf{x}^\alpha))$$



Then, inclusion of near-field lubrication forces

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{F} \\ \mathbf{L} \\ \mathbf{S} \end{pmatrix} = \left[ \mathbf{R}^{far} - \mathbf{R}_{2B}^{far} + \mathbf{R}_{2B}^{near} \right] \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{U} - \langle \mathbf{u} \rangle \\ \mathbf{\Omega} - \langle \mathbf{\omega} \rangle \\ -\langle \mathbf{E} \rangle \end{pmatrix} + \left[ \mathbf{R}^{far} - \mathbf{R}_{2B}^{far} \right] \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{2}{3} B_1 \mathbf{e} + \mathbf{Q}_{sq} \\ 0 \\ -\frac{1}{5} B_2 (3\mathbf{e}\mathbf{e} - \mathbf{I}) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{F}_{sq}^{near} \\ \mathbf{L}_{sq}^{near} \\ \mathbf{S}_{sq}^{near} \end{pmatrix}$$

Database compiled by BEM

Effect of squirming motion

cf. Brady & Bossis, *Annu. Rev. Fluid Mech.* (1988)

For details : Ishikawa *et al.*, *J. Fluid Mech.* (2008)



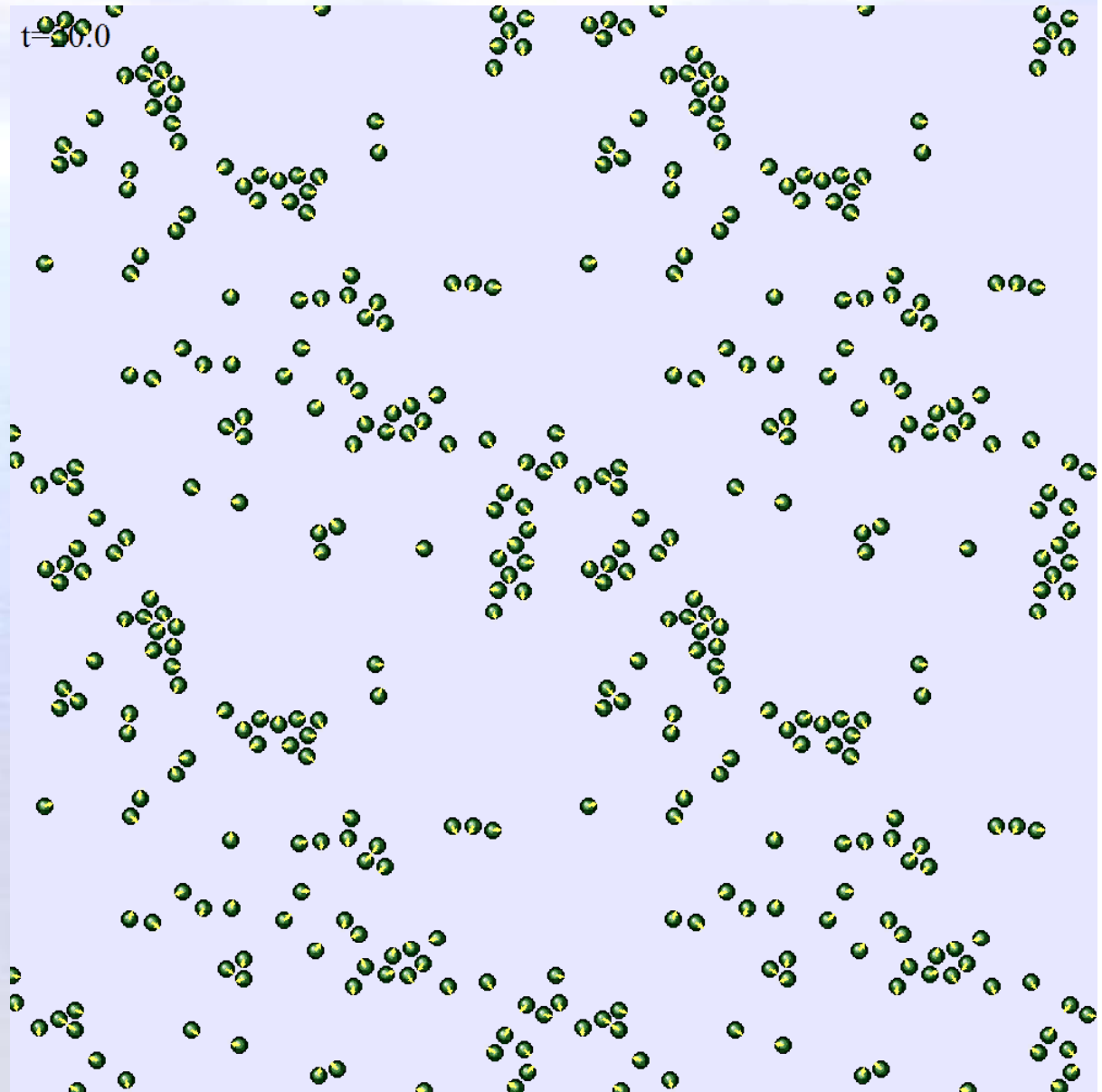
Monolayer

Non-bottom-heavy

$\phi_a=0.1$

Periodic B.C.

Hydrodynamic  
interaction only

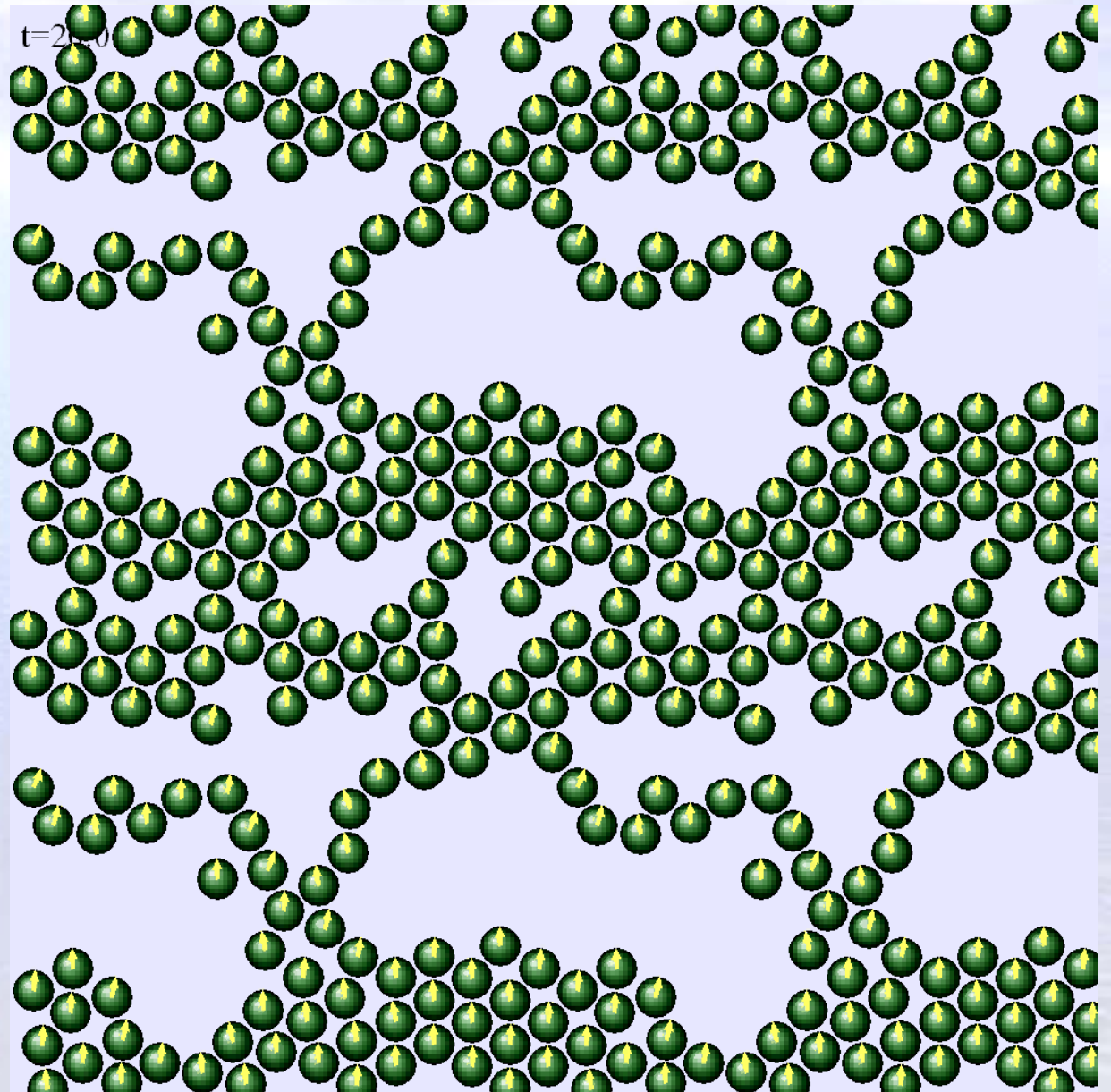


Monolayer

Bottom-heavy

$\phi_a = 0.5$ ,  $G_{bh} = 100$

$$G_{bh} = \frac{2\pi\rho g a h}{\mu B_1}$$



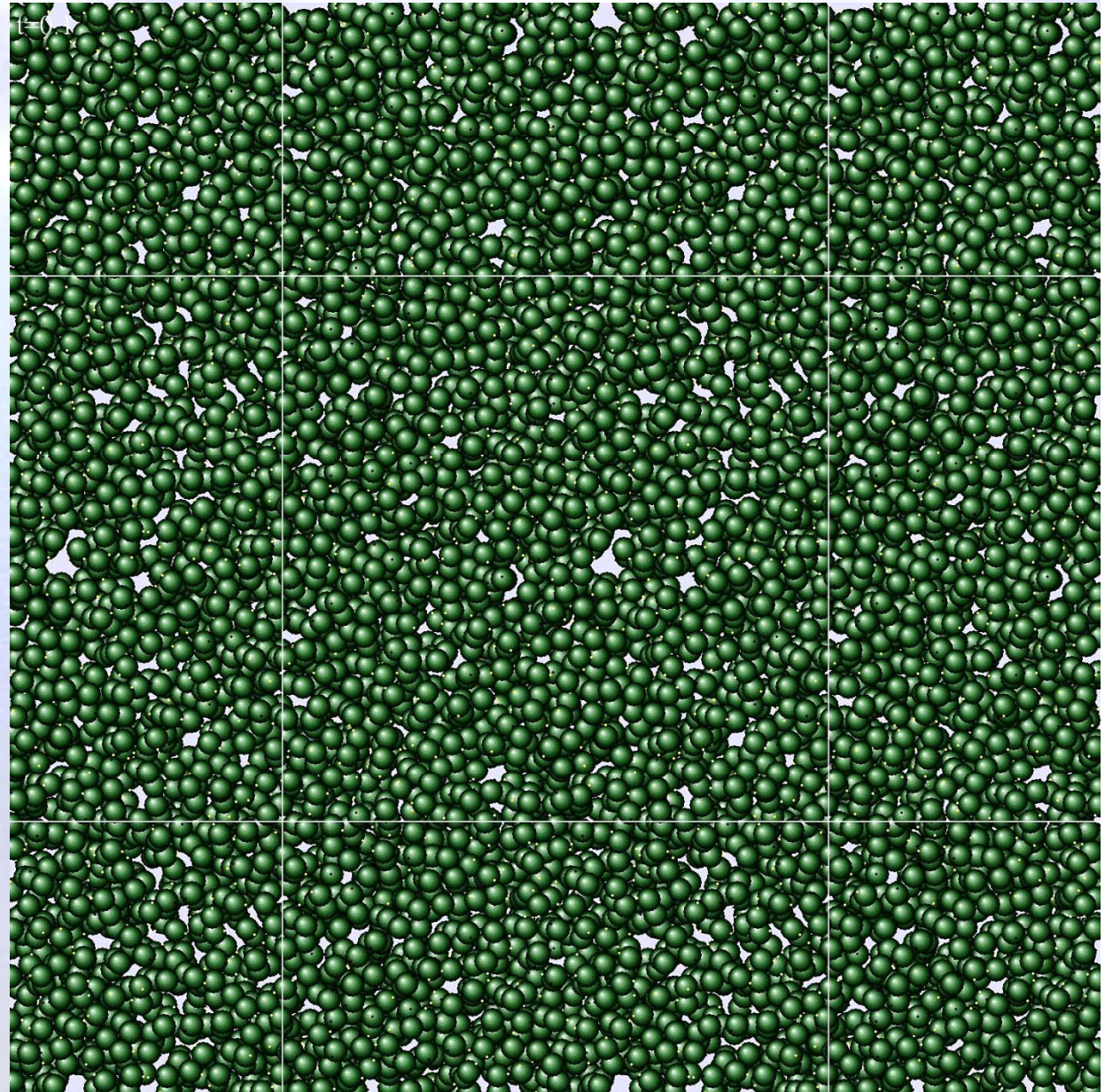


3D isotropic  
suspension

2000 cells

Non-Bottom-Heavy

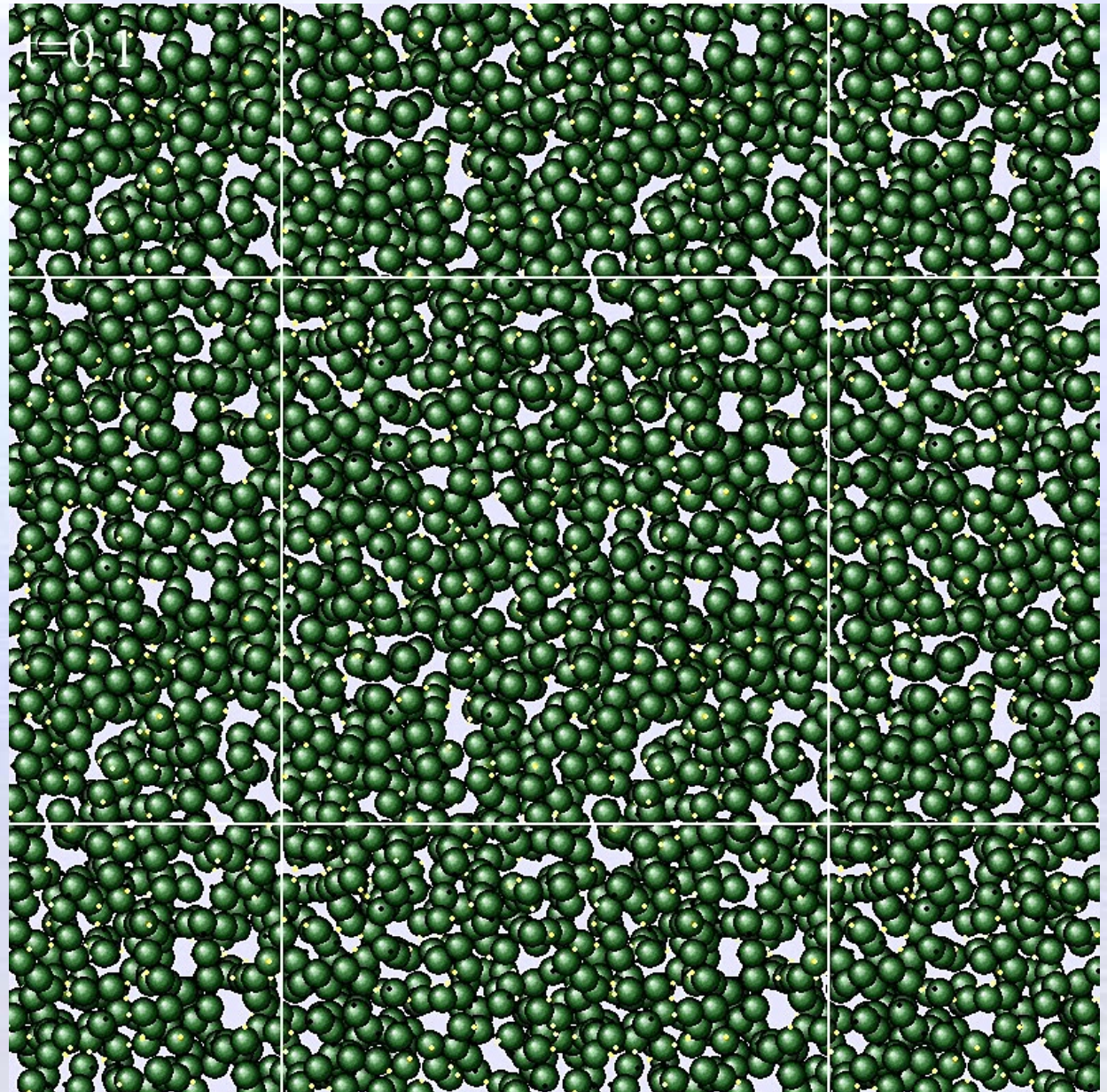
Periodic B.C.





## Bioconvection

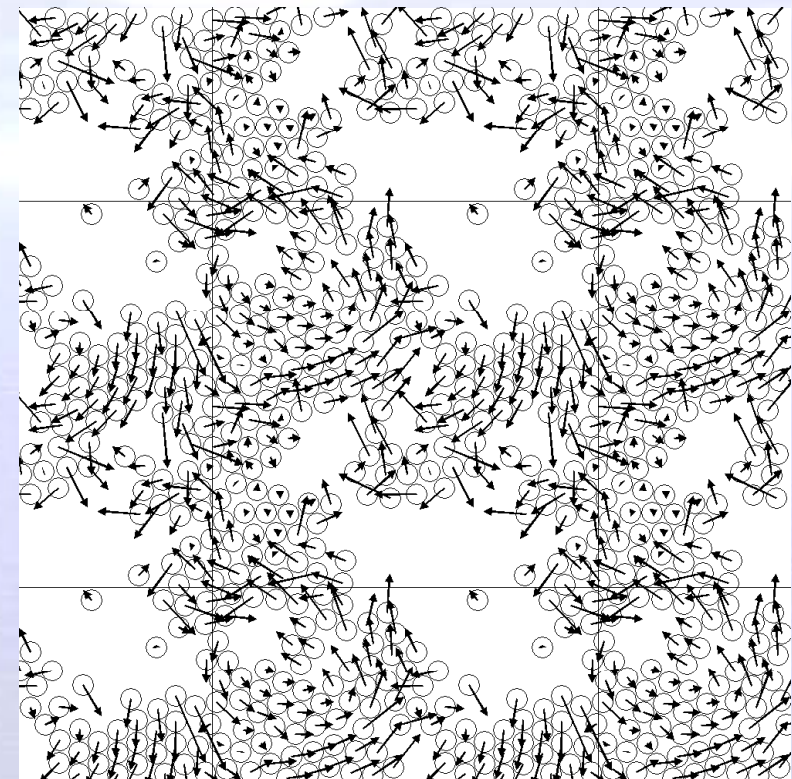
Bottom-Heavy  
Sedimentation  
Periodic B.C.










Various collective motions observed in former experiments can be expressed

- Meso-scale spatiotemporal motion
- Ordered motion



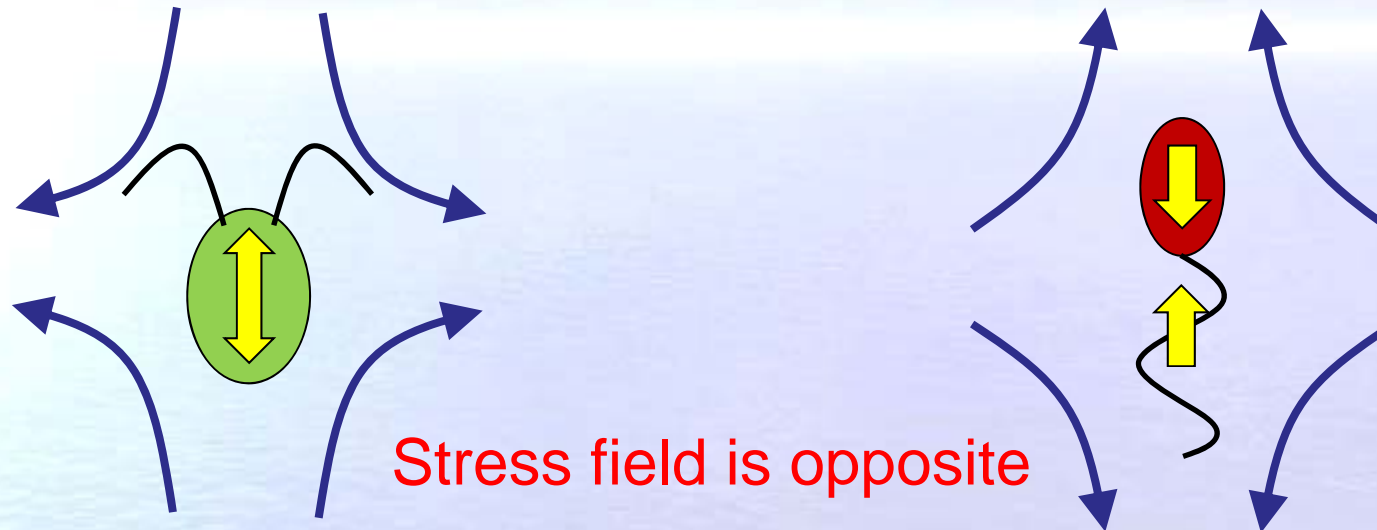
How the coherent structure affect transport phenomena?

- Diffusion of particles Wu & Libchaber (2000)
- Energy is transported towards larger scale?

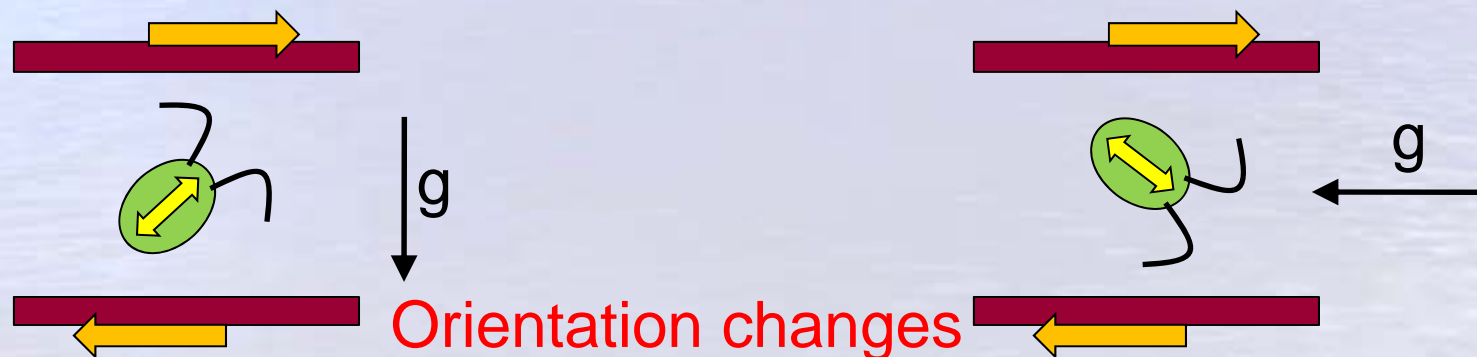
-  Introduction
-  Biomechanics of an **individual** and a **pair** of micro-organisms
-  **Collective swimming** in meso-scale
-  **Macroscopic properties** of a suspension of micro-organisms
-  Conclusions



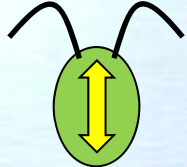

## Stress field generated by a solitary cell



## A bottom-heavy cell in a shear flow

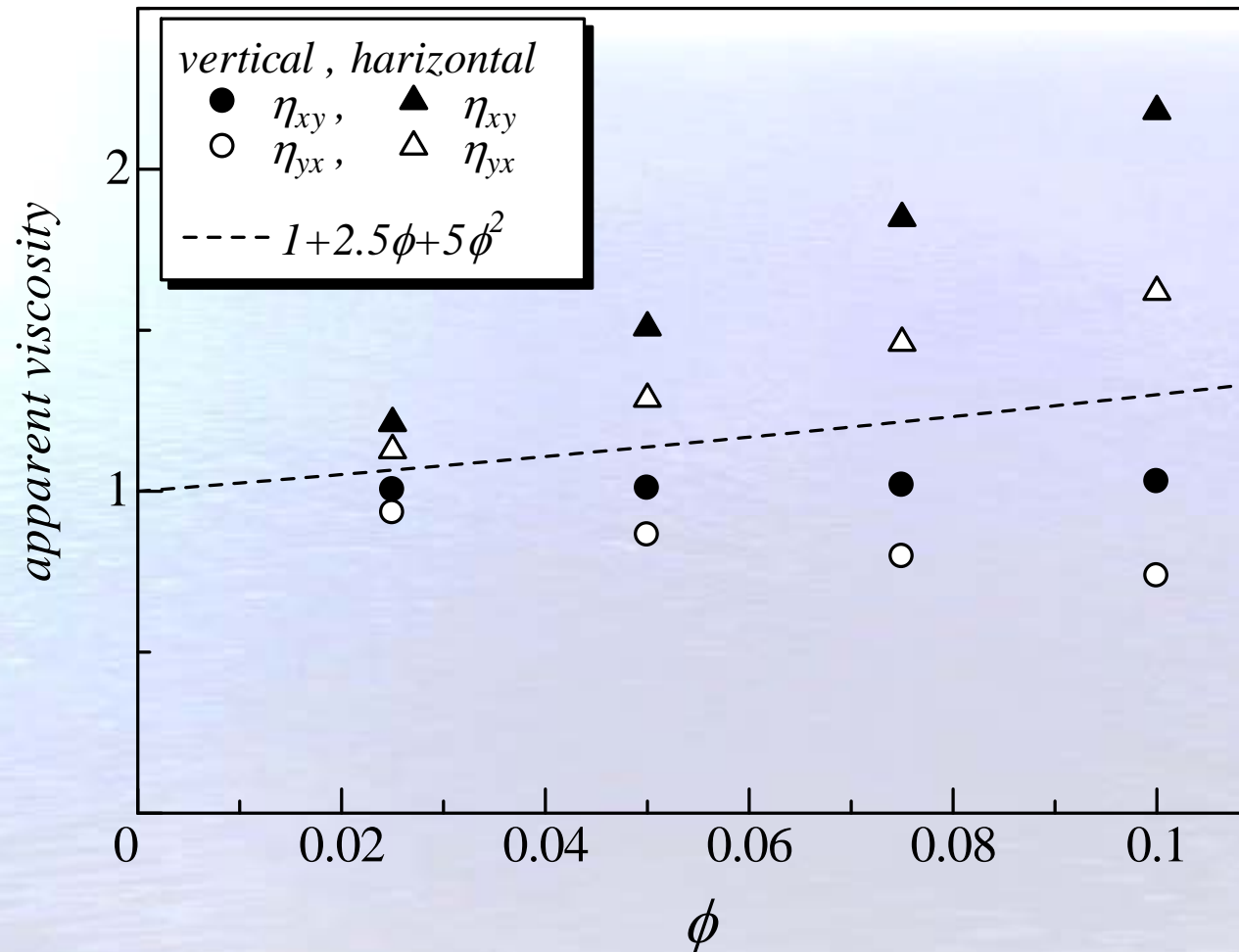


## Shear viscosity (compared to dead cell suspensions)

	Horizontal shear	Vertical shear
	Increase	Decrease
	Decrease	Increase



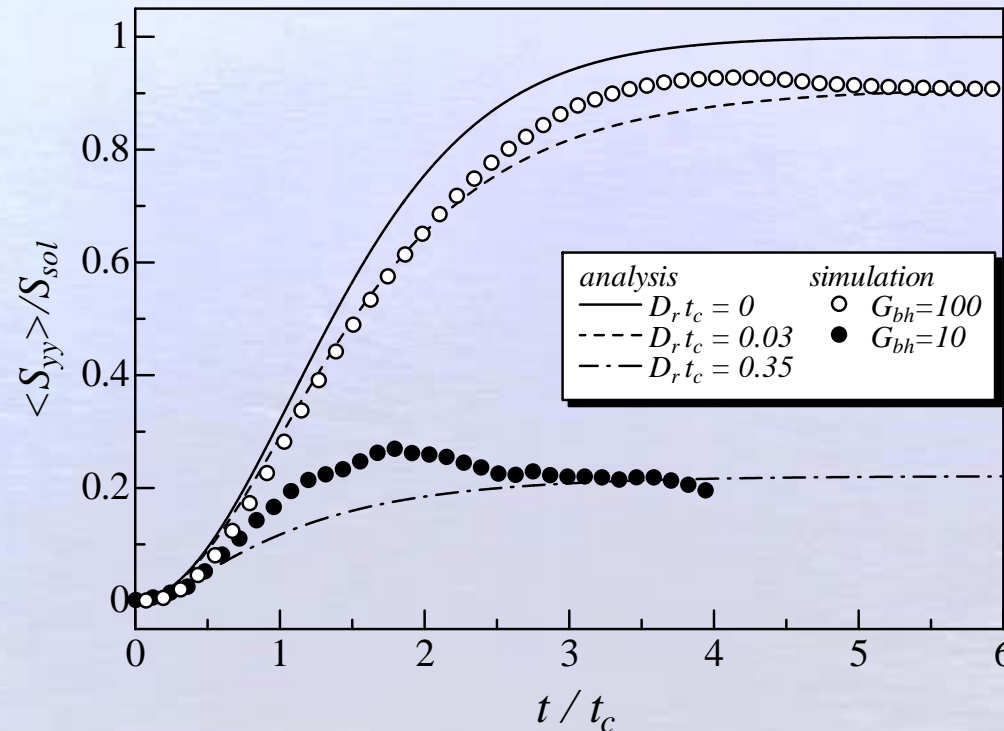
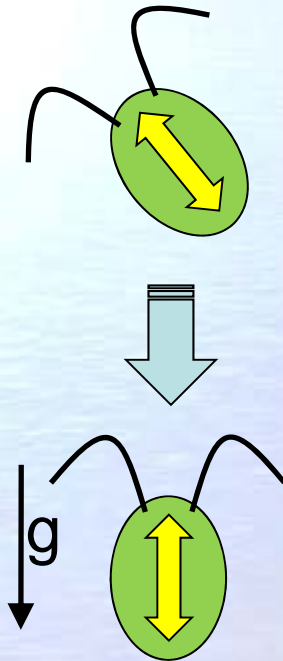
Shear viscosity : Stresslet is a part of the problem



Normal stress differences appears

Relaxation time of the stress field

Ishikawa *et al.*,  
*J. Theor. Biol.* (2007)

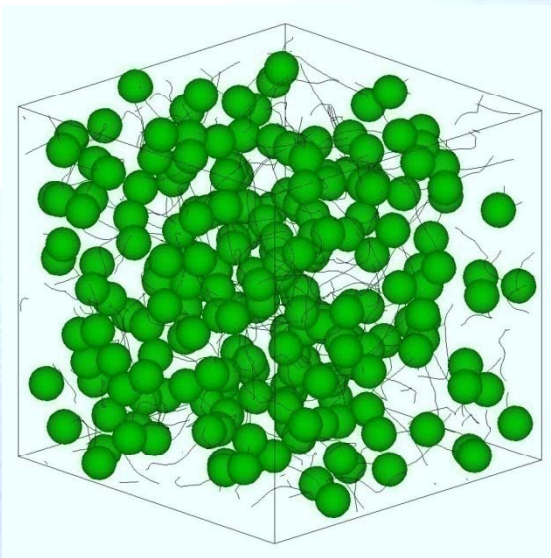


Shows strong non-Newtonian property

## Cell Conservation (continuum model)

$$\frac{Dn}{Dt} = -\nabla \cdot (n\mathbf{V}_c + \mathbf{J}_r) \quad [+ \text{ birth, death, etc}]$$

where  $\mathbf{V}_c$  = mean cell swimming velocity,  
 $\mathbf{J}_r$  = flux due to random cell swimming

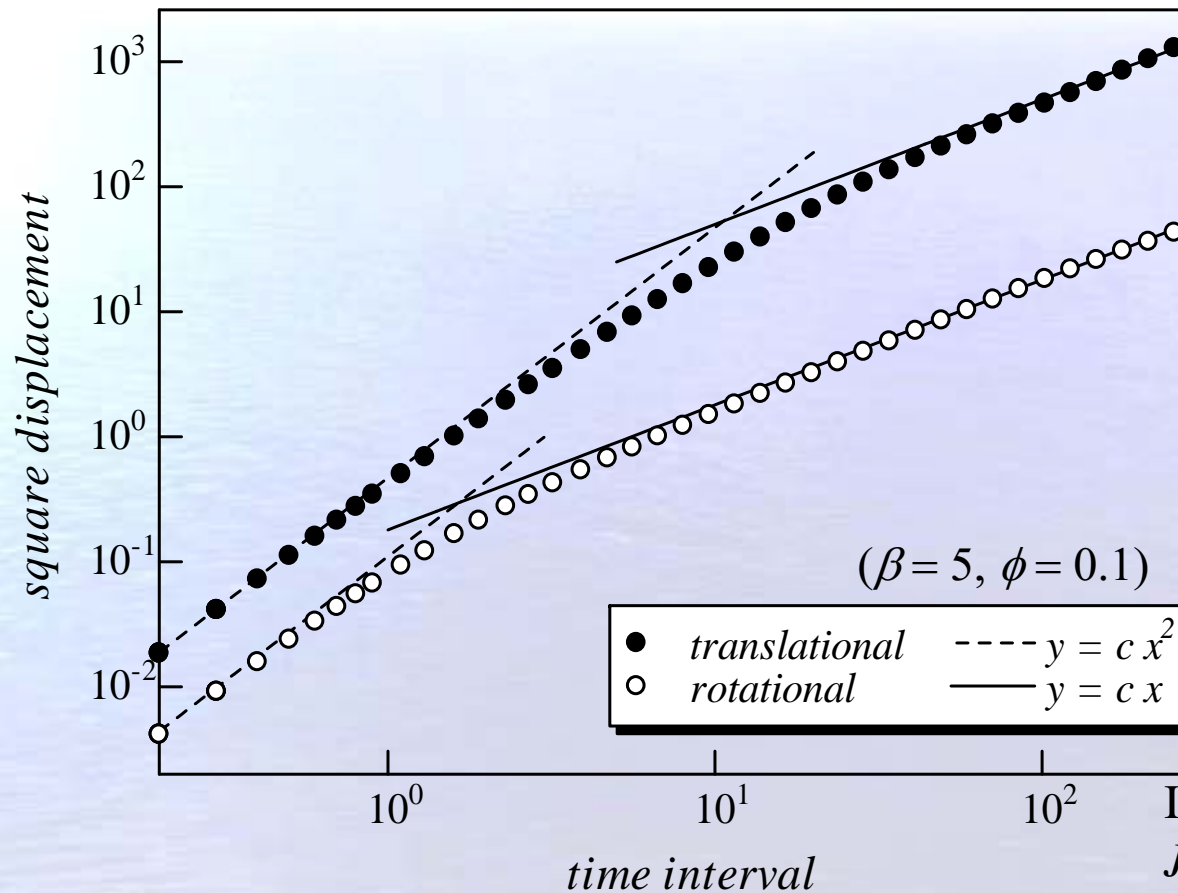


$$\mathbf{J}_r = -\mathbf{D} \cdot \nabla n \quad ?$$

Definition of  $\mathbf{D}$

$$\mathbf{D} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle [\mathbf{r}(t+t_0) - \mathbf{r}(t_0)] [\mathbf{r}(t+t_0) - \mathbf{r}(t_0)] \rangle}{2t}$$

## Self-diffusion of cells



Ishikawa & Pedley,  
*J. Fluid Mech.* (2007)

The spreading is correctly described as a diffusive process



## Diffusion of fluid particles

### Fluid particle motions : hybrid SDM-BEM

Ishikawa and Yamaguchi, *Phys. Rev. E* (2008)

$$u_i(x) - \langle u_i(x) \rangle = \frac{1}{8\pi\mu} \sum_{\alpha=1}^N \left[ \left( 1 + \frac{a^2}{6} \nabla^2 \right) J_{ij} F_j^\alpha + R_{ij} L_j^\alpha + K_{ijk} S_{jk}^\alpha + \nabla_k \nabla_l J_{ij} Q_{klj}^\alpha \right]$$

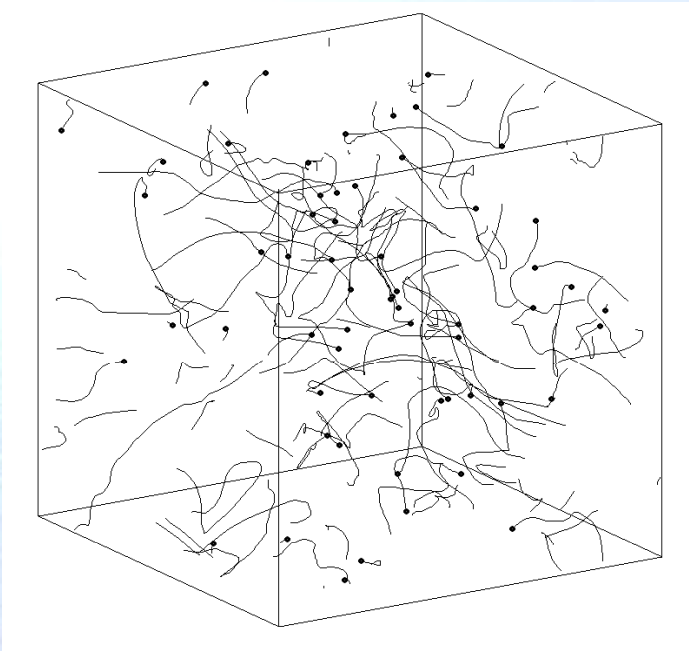
$$- \frac{1}{8\pi\mu} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_{\text{near}}} \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \int_{A_\alpha} \left[ \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \frac{\partial^m}{\partial k_1 \cdots \partial k_m} J'_{ij}(y_{k_1} - x_{k_1}^\alpha) \cdots (y_{k_m} - x_{k_m}^\alpha) q_j(y) \right] dA_y$$

Near field effect is calculated by BEM and L.T.

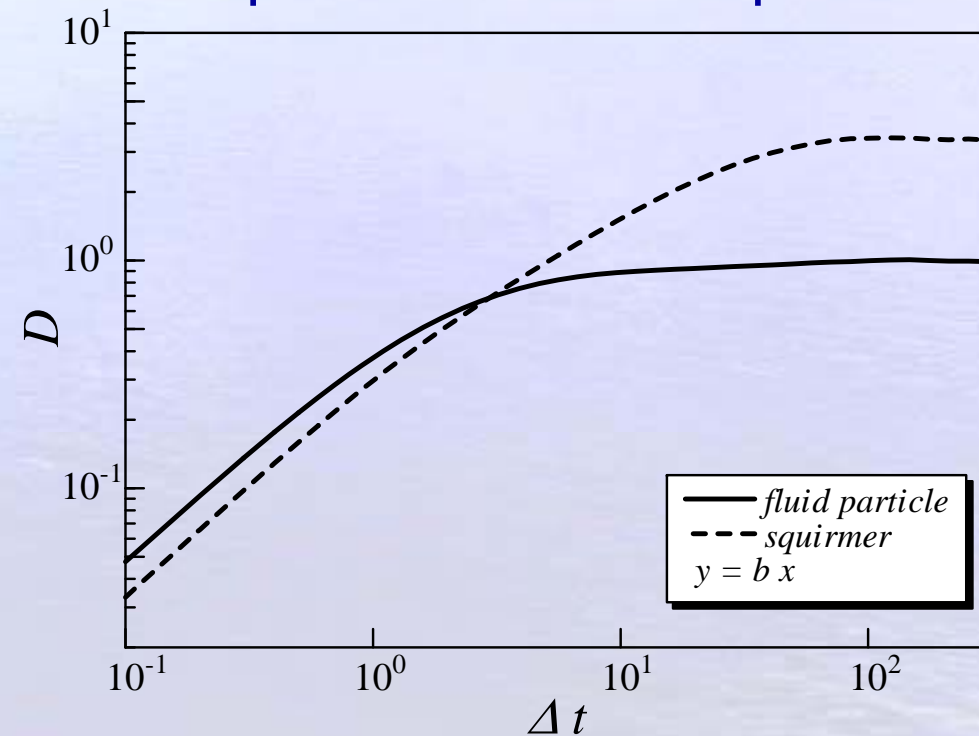
$N_{\text{near}}=2$  : semi-dilute : compiled a database in priori

## Diffusion of fluid particles

### Trajectories of fluid particles



### Diffusion coefficient of squirmers and fluid particles

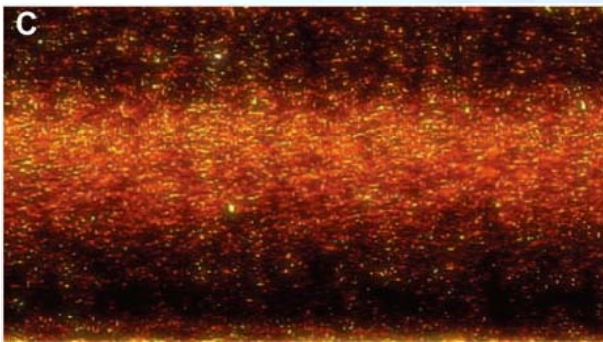


Ishikawa *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. E* (2010)

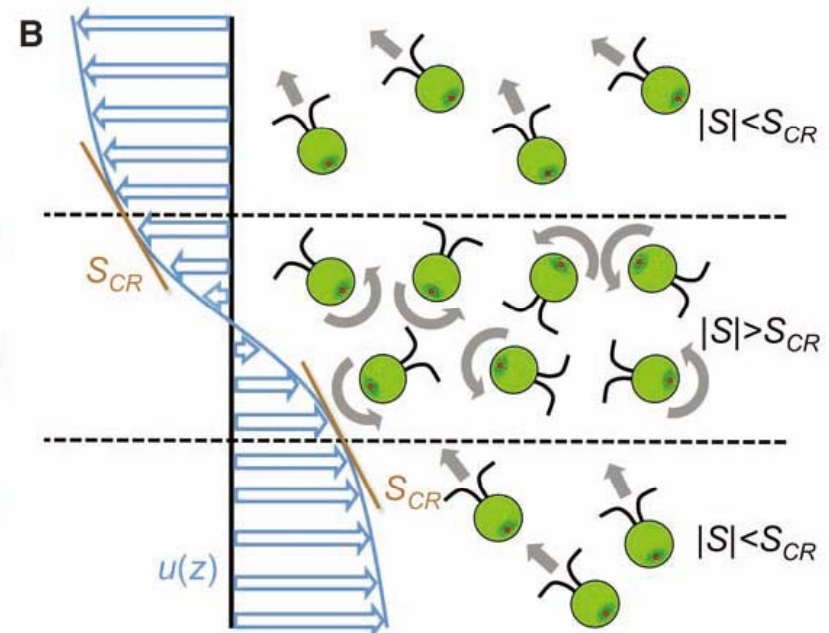
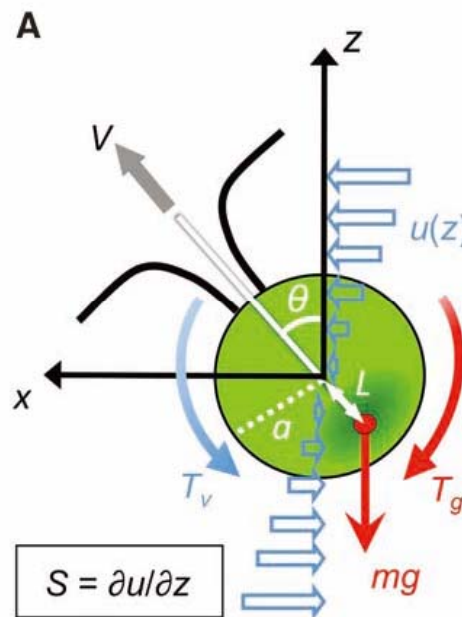
Spreading of fluid particles is also a diffusion process

Thin layers of plankton are important hotspots of ecological activity

Red tide



Durham *et al.*,  
*Science* (2009)



By using the bottom-up strategy, suspension biomechanics of swimming microbes can be clarified much further.

We need more biophysics and biomechanics to understand various phenomena of micro-organisms.

## Suspension biomechanics of swimming microbes

Takuji Ishikawa\*

*Department of Bioengineering and Robotics, Tohoku University, 6-6-01, Aoba,  
Aramaki, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-8579, Japan*

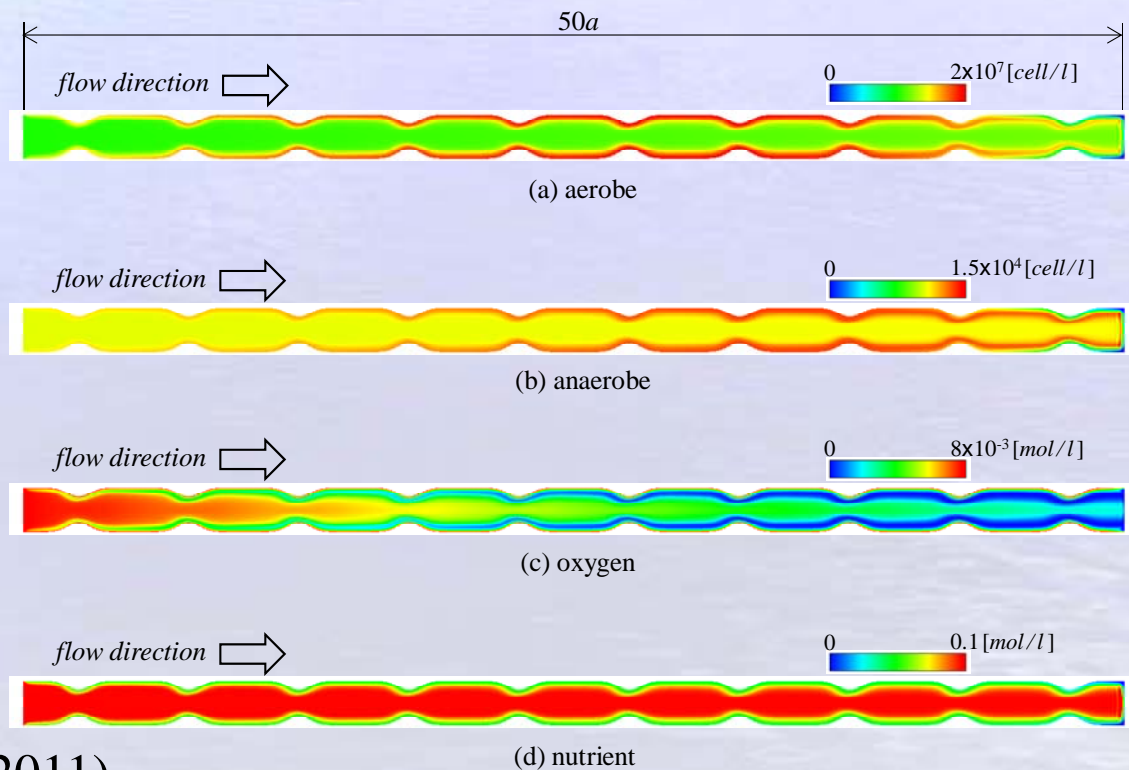
Recent review paper on this topic



## Applications: microbial flora, for instance



- Simultaneously solving:
- Flow field generated by peristalsis
  - Concentrations of oxygen and nutrient
  - Densities of anaerobes and aerobes



## Collaborators

### *Squirmers analysis*

Prof. T. J. Pedley (Cambridge)

Dr. J. T. Locsei (Cambridge)

### *Volvox experiments*

Prof. R. E. Goldstein (Cambridge)

### *Coherent structures*

Dr. E. Lauga (UCSD)

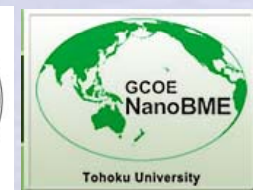
Prof. T. Yamaguchi (Tohoku Univ.)  
Lab members



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NEXT Program by the JSPS

Tohoku Univ. Global COE Program



**Thank you for your listening**