



Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids

Ianto Cannon, Mohamed S. Abdelgawad, Marco E. Rosti
Complex Fluids and Flows Unit, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, Japan





Elastoviscoplastic fluids

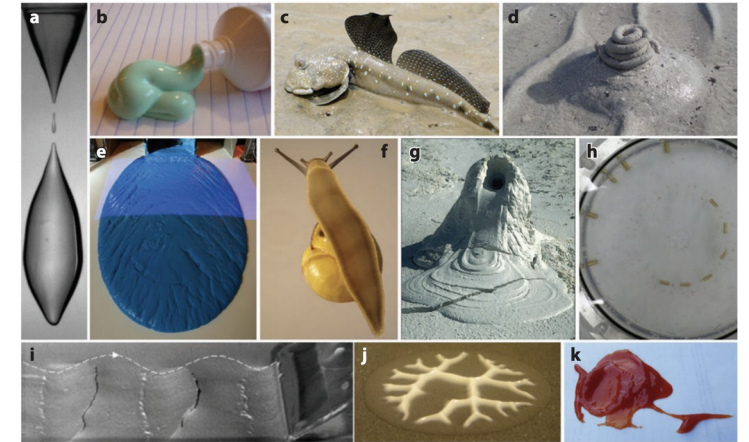
Elastoviscoplastic (EVP) fluids

- solid (unyielded) $\tau \leq \tau_y$
- liquid (yielded) $\tau > \tau_y$

With elastic effects present in both solid and liquid states.



CBC News - Mudslide barrels through Swiss town

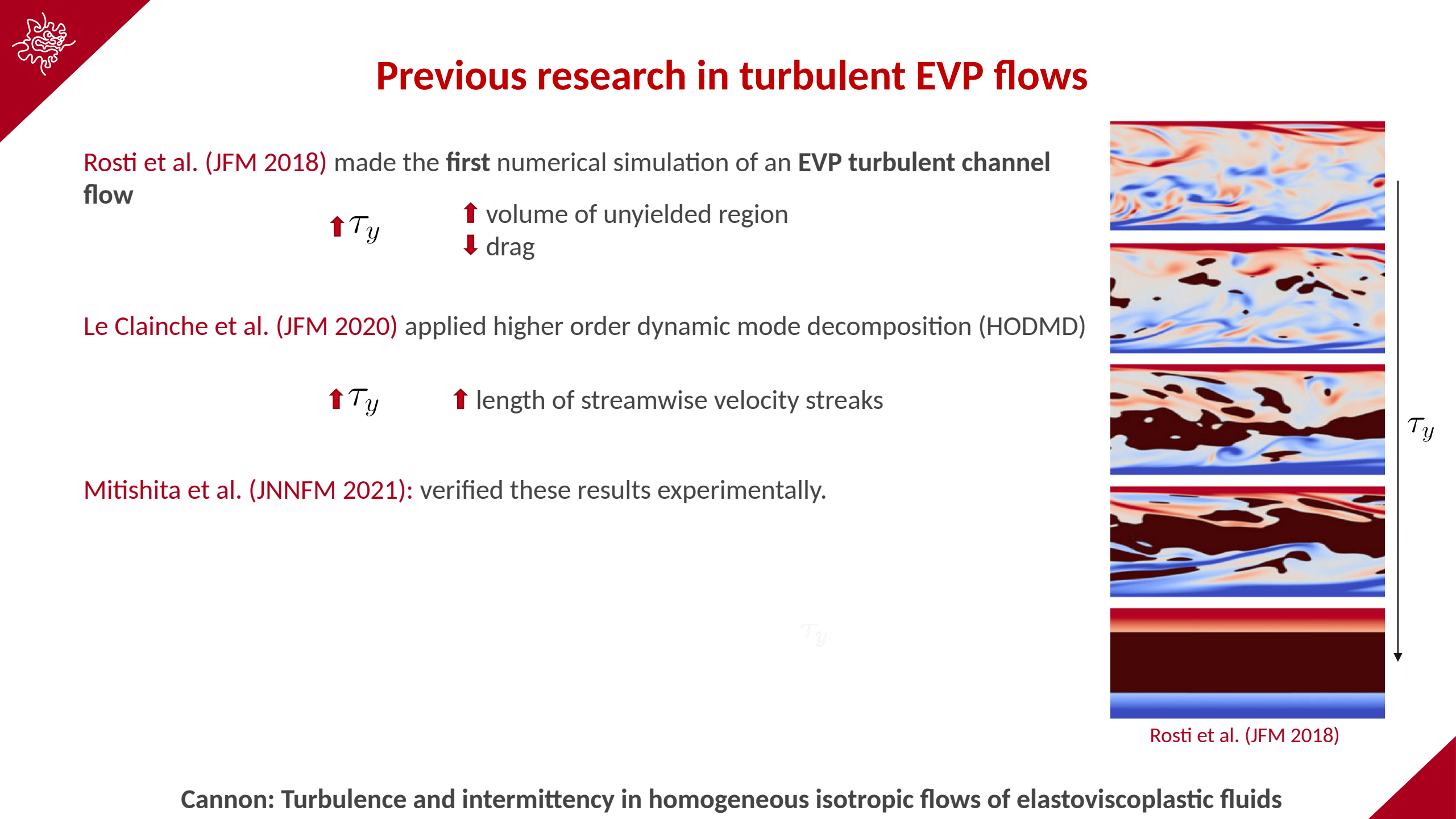


Balmforth et al. *Annu. Rev. Fluid Mech.* **46**, 121–146 (2014).



<https://mycal.com.pe/medio-ambiente/tratamiento-de-lodos/>

Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids



Previous research in turbulent EVP flows

Rosti et al. (JFM 2018) made the **first** numerical simulation of an **EVP turbulent channel flow**

- ↑ τ_y
- ↑ volume of unyielded region
- ↓ drag

Le Clainche et al. (JFM 2020) applied higher order dynamic mode decomposition (HODMD)

- ↑ τ_y
- ↑ length of streamwise velocity streaks

Mitishita et al. (JNNFM 2021): verified these results experimentally.

τ_y

Rosti et al. (JFM 2018)



Objective

We study a statistically **homogenous** and **isotropic** flow of an **EVP** fluid

How are **Kolmogorov's (1941)** predictions affected when the fluid is elastoviscoplastic?

τ_y



Numerical Setup

Flow equations are solved on a 1024^3 grid with **periodic boundary conditions** in x, y, z.

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \mathbf{f}_{\text{inj}}$$

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

Saramito (JNNFM 2007) model

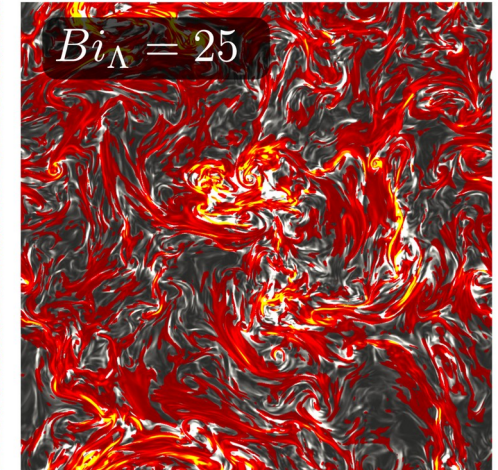
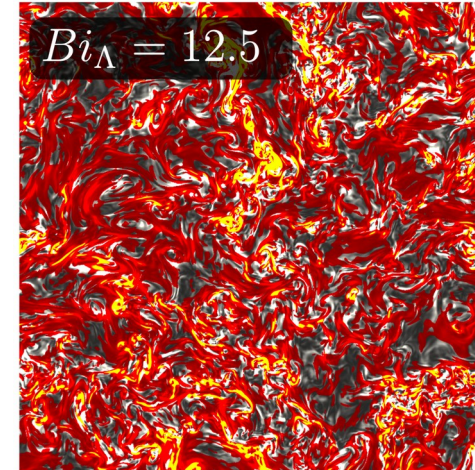
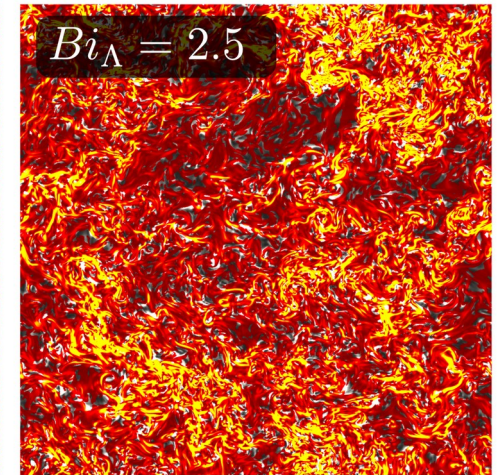
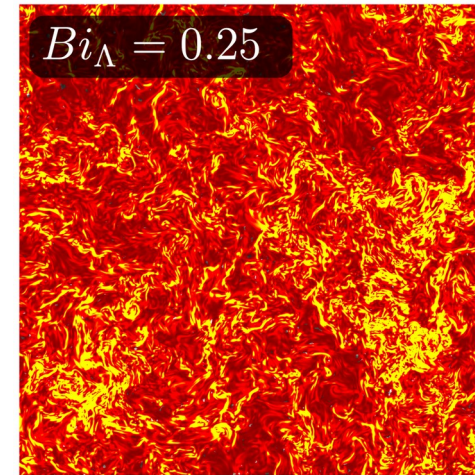
$$\lambda \frac{\nabla}{\tau} + \max \left(0, \frac{\tau_d - \tau_y}{\tau_d} \right) \boldsymbol{\tau} = \eta_p \left(\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T \right)$$

$$\frac{\nabla}{\tau} = \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{\tau} - (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} - \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}$$

Dimensionless groups

$$Re_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\rho u' \Lambda}{\eta_0} \approx 435, \quad Wi_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\lambda u'}{\Lambda} \ll 1,$$

$$0 \leq Bi_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\rho \tau_y \Lambda}{\eta_0 u'} < 25.$$



Λ Taylor's micro-scale η_0 viscosity

τ_d magnitude of deviatoric stress

λ relaxation time u' RMS of fluid velocity

τ_y yield stress

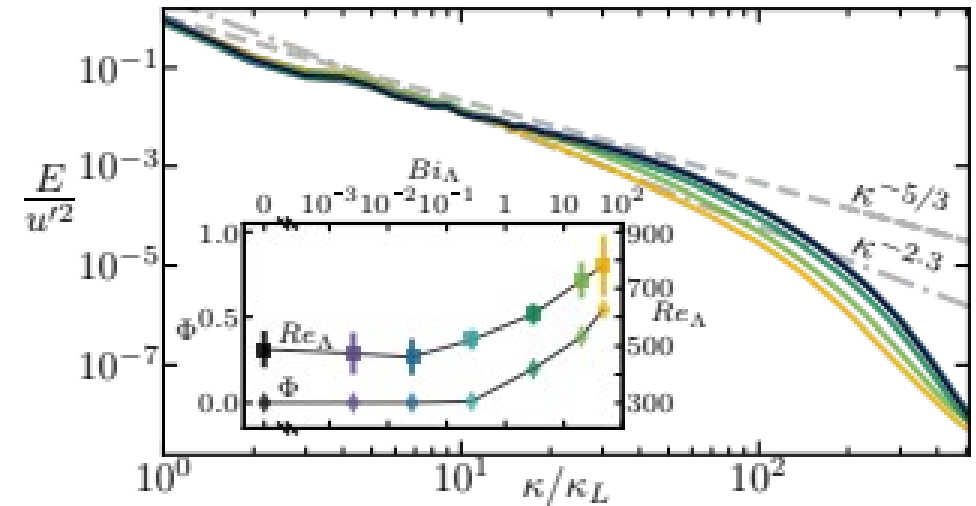
Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids



Effect of plasticity on the kinetic energy spectrum

- Bulk properties (Re_Λ and Φ) increase for $Bi_\Lambda > 1$
- Energy increase at large scales
- Energy decrease at small scales
- Apparent $E \sim \kappa^{-2.3}$ scaling at large Bi_Λ

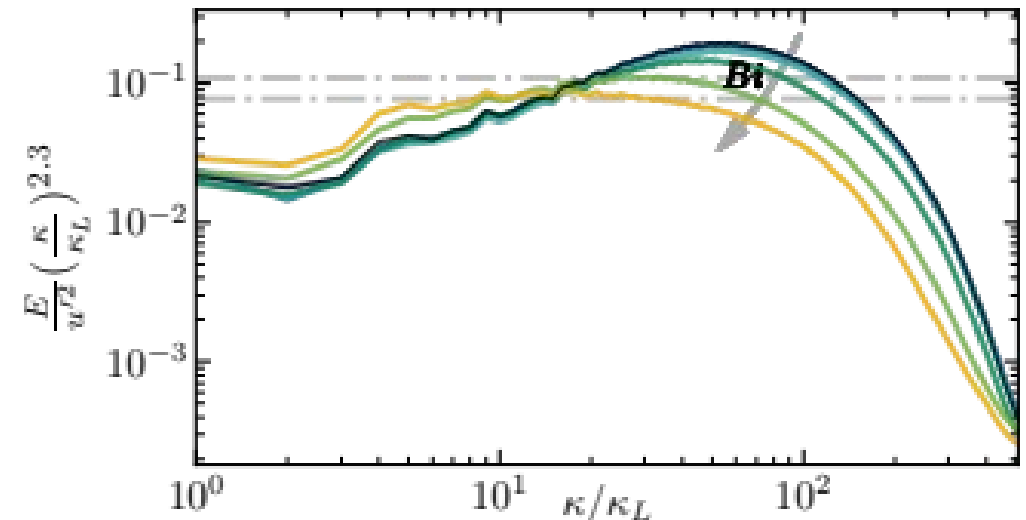
$Bi_\Lambda = [0, 0.0025, 0.025, 0.25, 2.5, 12.5, 25]$



Energy scaling in turbulent flows of viscoelastic fluids:

Rosti et al, *arXiv* 2, 1–11 (2021).

Zhang et al, *Sci. Adv.* 7, 1–9 (2021).



Φ volume fraction of the unyielded regions

Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids



Scale-by-scale energy balance

The **energy flux** due to each term in the Navier-Stokes equation is given by the balance:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{inj}}(\kappa) + \Pi(\kappa) + \mathcal{D}(\kappa) + \mathcal{N}(\kappa) = \langle \epsilon_f \rangle + \langle \epsilon_n \rangle = \langle \epsilon_t \rangle,$$

Turbulent forcing

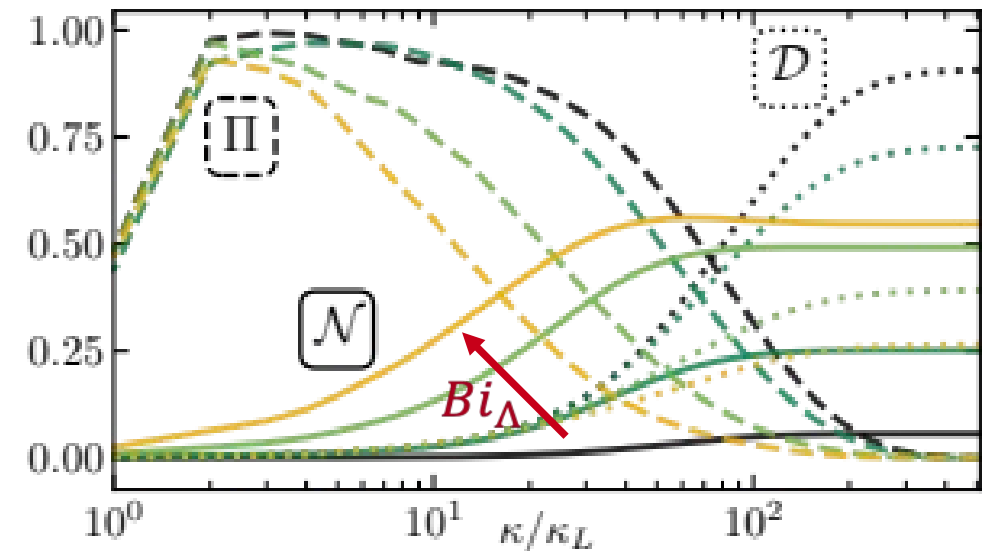
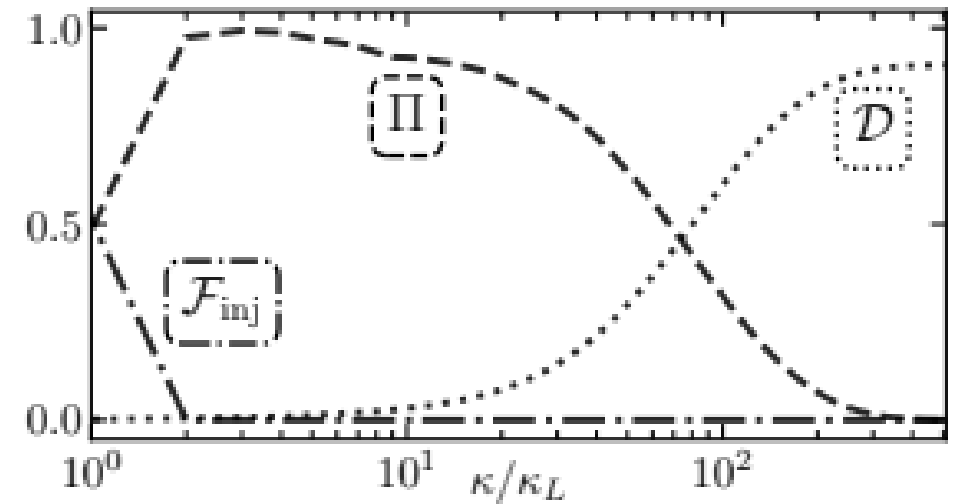
Convection

Fluid dissipation

Non-Newtonian

$$Bi_\Lambda = [0, 0.0025, 0.025, 0.25, 2.5, 12.5, 25]$$

- Non-Newtonian contribution $\uparrow$ as plasticity $\uparrow$



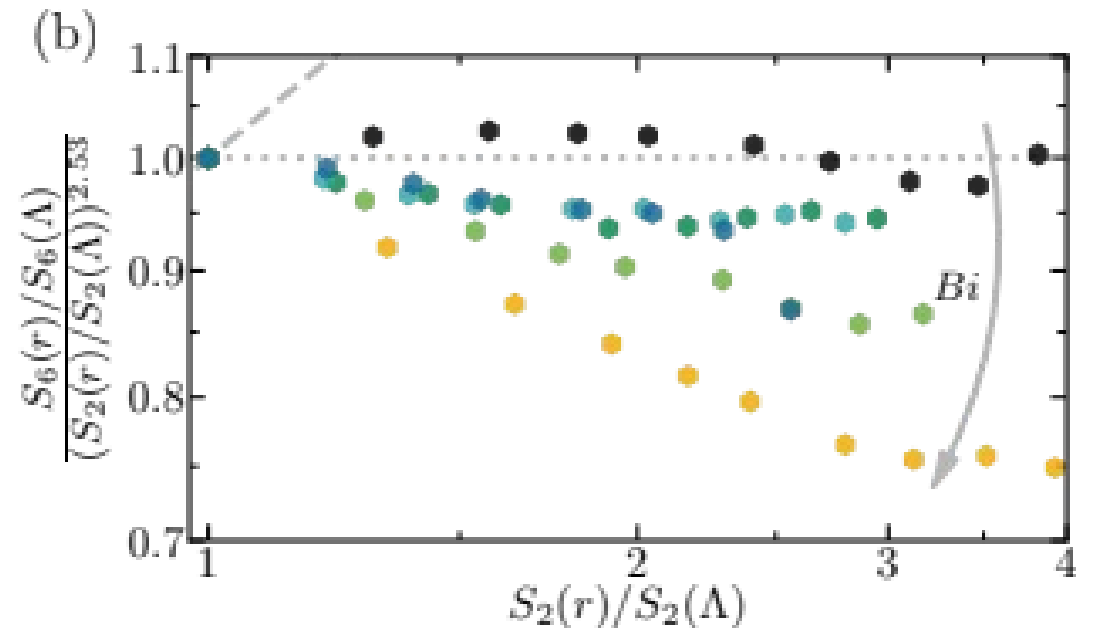
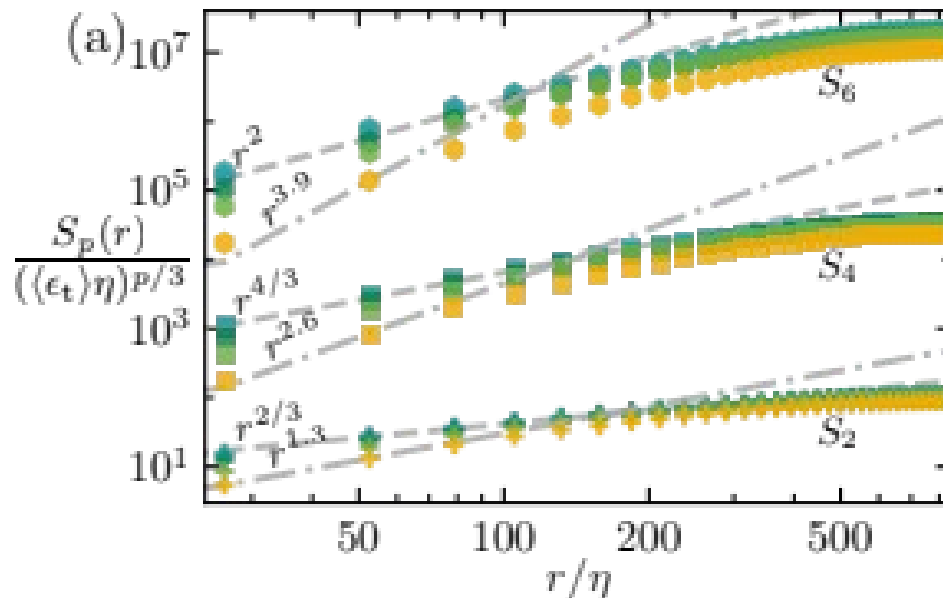
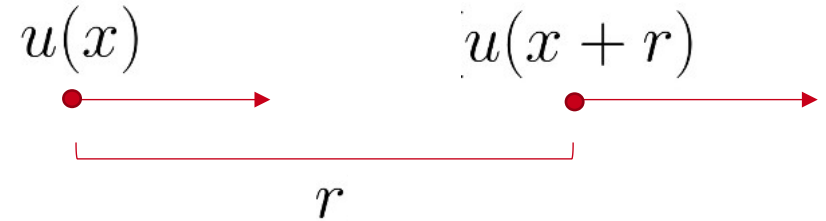


Structure functions and intermittency

- Structure functions allow us to test Kolmogorov's hypotheses

$$S_p(r) = \langle [u(x+r) - u(x)]^p \rangle \sim (\langle \epsilon_t \rangle r)^{p/3}$$

⇒ **Intermittency** grows as Bi_Λ increases



Kolmogorov, *J. Fluid Mech.* **13**, 82-85 (1962).

Benzi et al, *Phys. Rev. E.* **48**, 29-32 (1993).

Mandelbrot, *J. Fluid Mech.* **62**, 331-358 (1974).

Frisch, *Cambridge Uni. Press* (1995).

$$Bi_\Lambda = [0, 0.0025, 0.025, 0.25, 2.5, 12.5, 25]$$

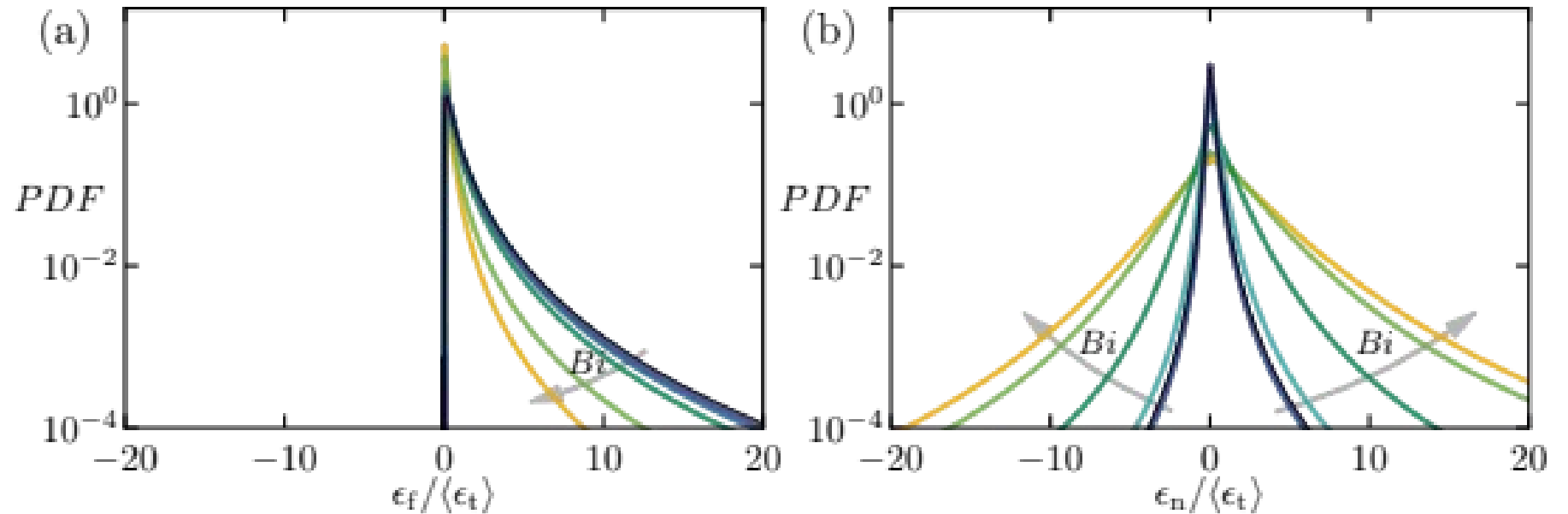
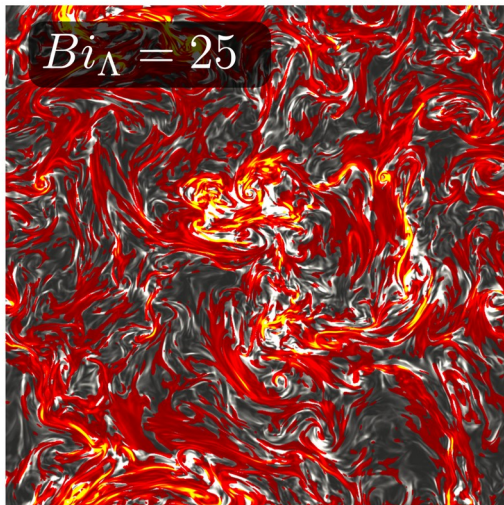
Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids



Intermittency of the dissipation

- Turbulent kinetic energy is dissipated by the **fluid** and the **non-Newtonian** stresses; $\epsilon_t = \epsilon_f + \epsilon_n$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \underbrace{\nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}}_{\epsilon_f} + \underbrace{\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}}_{\epsilon_n} + \mathbf{f}_{inj}$$



The distribution of ϵ_f narrows and of ϵ_n significantly broadens as Bi_Λ increases.

$\Rightarrow$ The extreme values of ϵ_n are the source of the **enhanced intermittency**.

$$Bi_\Lambda = [0, 0.0025, 0.025, 0.25, 2.5, 12.5, 25]$$

Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids



Conclusion

By means of unprecedented high-Reynolds-number DNS of an elastoviscoplastic fluid, we have shown that:

- Plastic effects significantly alter the classical turbulence predicted by the Kolmogorov theory for Newtonian fluids
- The non-Newtonian contribution to the energy balance becomes dominant at intermediate and small scales for large Bingham numbers, inducing the emergence of a new intermediate scaling range in the energy spectra between the Kolmogorov inertial and the dissipative ranges, where energy spectrum decays with a -2.3 exponent
- The flow in the presence of plastic effects is more intermittent than in a Newtonian fluid, due to the dissipation rate, which includes a new plastic contribution that grows with the Bingham number

Thank you!
ありがとうございます！



Numerical Setup

Homogeneous isotropic turbulence (HIT)

with $Re_\Lambda \approx 435$ on a 1024^3 grid

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}_{\text{evp}} + \mathbf{f}_{\text{inj}} \quad \mathbf{f}_{\text{evp}} \equiv \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} / \rho$$

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

Saramito model (2007)

$$\lambda \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} + \max \left(0, \frac{\tau_d - \tau_y}{\tau_d} \right) \boldsymbol{\tau} = \eta_p \left(\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T \right)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\tau}_d = \boldsymbol{\tau} - \frac{1}{N} \text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \mathbf{I}$$

Dimensionless groups

$$\alpha \equiv \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_0} = 0.1, \eta_0 = \eta_s + \eta_p$$

$$Re_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\rho u' \Lambda}{\eta_0}, Wi_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\lambda u'}{\Lambda} \ll 1$$

We study the effect of $Bi_\Lambda \equiv \frac{\rho \tau_y \Lambda}{\eta_0 u'} = [0, 0.0025, 0.025, 0.25, 2.5,$

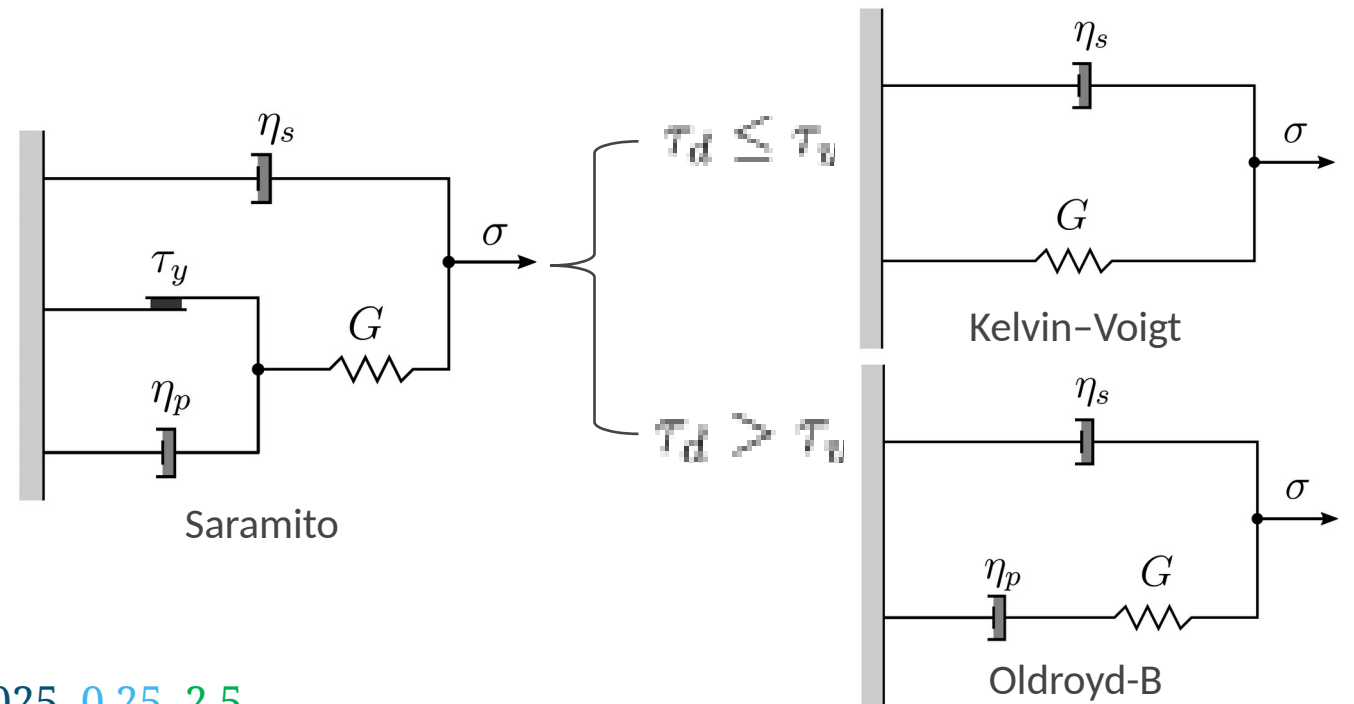
Λ Taylor's micro-scale
 λ relaxation time

η_s fluid viscosity

η_0 Non-Newtonian viscosity

τ_d magnitude of deviatoric stress tensor

G elastic modulus



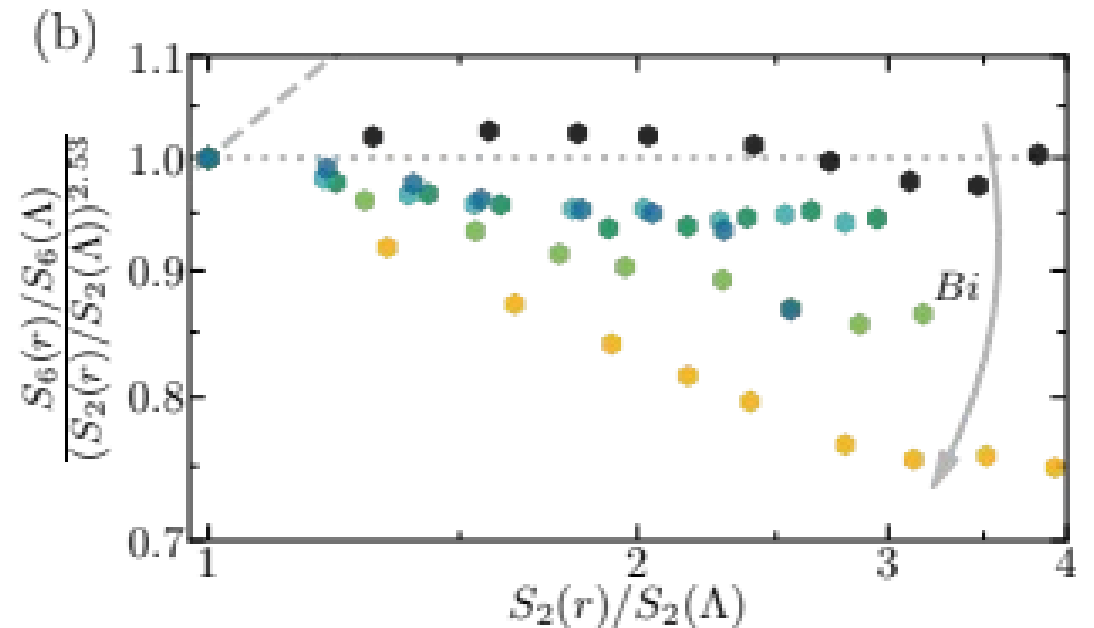
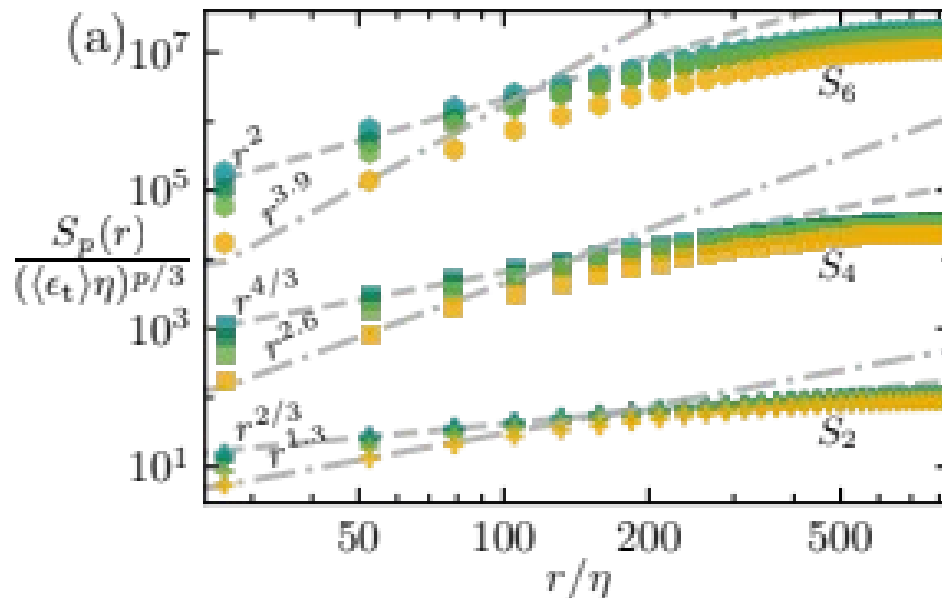
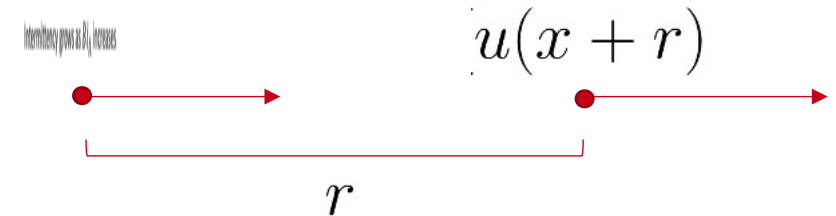


Structure functions and intermittency

- Structure functions allow us to test Kolmogorov's hypotheses

$$S_p(r) = \langle [u(x+r) - u(x)]^p \rangle \sim (\langle \epsilon_t \rangle r)^{p/3} A_p$$

$\Rightarrow$ Intermittency grows as Bi_Λ increases



Kolmogorov, *J. Fluid Mech.* **13**, 82–85 (1962).

Benzi et al, *Phys. Rev. E.* **48**, 29–32 (1993).

Mandelbrot, *J. Fluid Mech.* **62**, 331–358 (1974).

Frisch, *Cambridge Uni. Press* (1995).

$Bi_\Lambda = [0, 0.0025, 0.025, 0.25, 2.5, 12.5, 25]$

Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids



Effect of elasticity

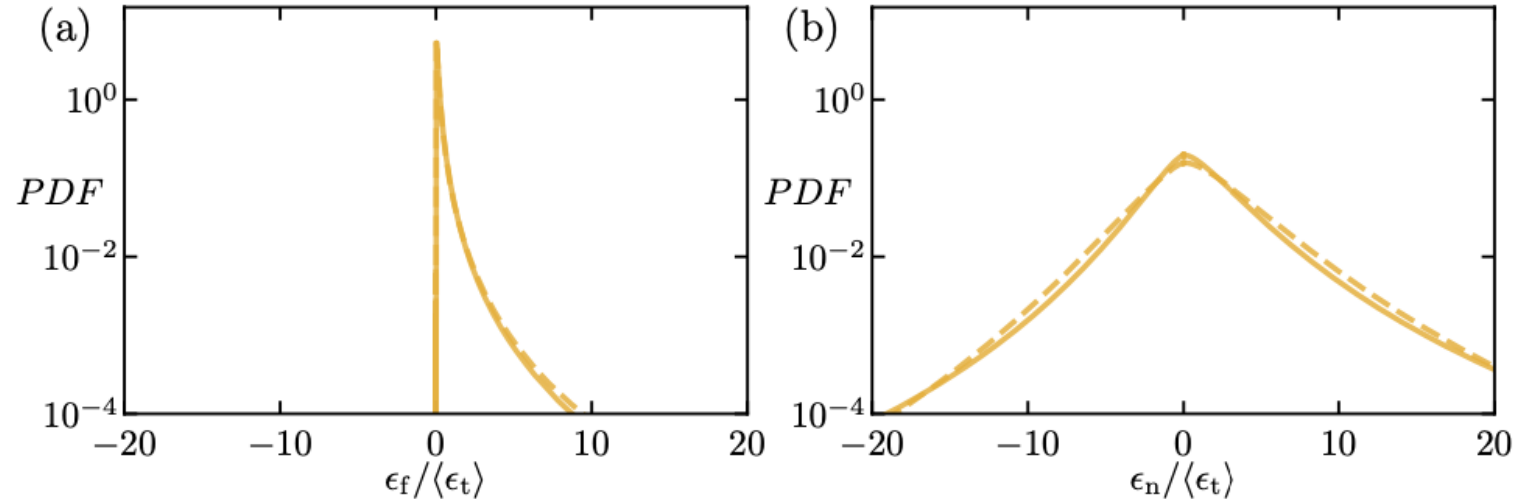


FIG. S2. Probability distribution function (PDF) of (a) the fluid dissipation rate ϵ_f and of (b) the non-Newtonian dissipation rate ϵ_n averaged over time for $Bi_\Lambda = 25$ at $Wi_\Lambda = 0.01$ (solid line) and $Wi_\Lambda = 0.001$ (dashed line).



Energy fluxes

2

$$\frac{d\hat{\mathbf{u}}}{dt} + \hat{\mathbf{G}} = -i\kappa \frac{\hat{p}}{\rho} - \nu\kappa^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}} + \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{inj}} + \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{evp}}, \quad (\text{S6})$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{G}}$ is the Fourier coefficient of the non-linear convective term appearing in Eq. (S2), and i is the imaginary unit. Similar equations can be obtained for the complex conjugate $\hat{\mathbf{u}}^*$. When Eq. (S6) is multiplied by $\hat{\mathbf{u}}^*$, the pressure term $-i\kappa \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}}^* \frac{\hat{p}}{\rho}$ vanishes due to the incompressibility constraint (Eq. (S5)), and the viscous term $-\nu\kappa^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*$ can be expressed in terms of the kinetic energy; $-2\nu\kappa^2 \hat{E}$. The same holds when multiplying the momentum equation of $\hat{\mathbf{u}}^*$ by $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$. By summing the two equations for $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ and $\hat{\mathbf{u}}^*$ and dividing by 2, we have an expression for the time evolution of turbulent kinetic energy $\hat{E}(\kappa, t)$

$$\frac{d\hat{E}(\kappa)}{dt} = \hat{T}(\kappa) + \hat{V}(\kappa) + \hat{F}_{\text{inj}}(\kappa) + \hat{F}_{\text{evp}}(\kappa), \quad (\text{S7})$$

where the terms on the right-hand side represent the following contributions: $\hat{T} = -\frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mathbf{G}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}}^* + \hat{\mathbf{G}}^* \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}})$ is due to the non-linear convective term, $\hat{V} = -2\nu\kappa^2 \hat{E}$ is due to the fluid dissipation term, $\hat{F}_{\text{inj}} = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{inj}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}}^* + \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{inj}}^* \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}})$ is due to the external forcing, and $\hat{F}_{\text{evp}} = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{evp}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}}^* + \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\text{evp}}^* \cdot \hat{\mathbf{u}})$ is due to the non-Newtonian stress. The one-dimensional energy spectrum $E(\kappa, t)$ can be obtained by isotropically averaging Eq. (S7) over the sphere of radius κ (i.e., $E(\kappa, t) = \iint_{S(\kappa)} \hat{E}(\kappa, t) dS(\kappa)$, where $S(\kappa)$ is the sphere defined by $\kappa \cdot \kappa = \kappa^2$),

$$\frac{dE(\kappa)}{dt} = T(\kappa) + V(\kappa) + F_{\text{inj}}(\kappa) + F_{\text{evp}}(\kappa). \quad (\text{S8})$$

where $\frac{dE}{dt}$ becomes zero for a statistically stationary flow. Integrating Eq. (S8) from κ to infinity, we obtain the energy-transfer balance

$$0 = \Pi + \mathcal{D}' + \mathcal{F}_{\text{inj}} + \mathcal{N}', \quad (\text{S9})$$

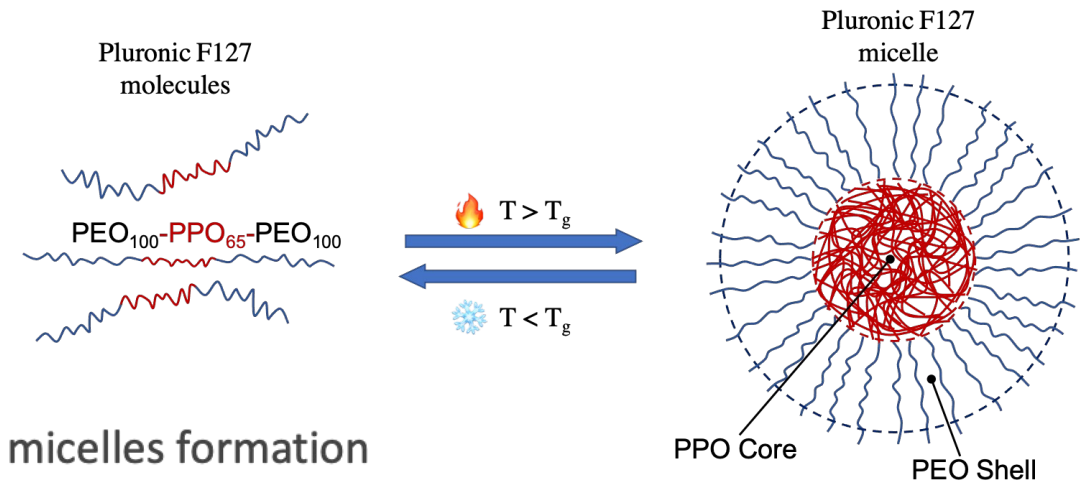
where $\Pi(\kappa) \equiv \int_{\kappa}^{\infty} T(\kappa) d\kappa$, $\mathcal{D}'(\kappa) \equiv \int_{\kappa}^{\infty} V(\kappa) d\kappa$, $\mathcal{F}_{\text{inj}}(\kappa) \equiv \int_{\kappa}^{\infty} F_{\text{inj}}(\kappa) d\kappa$, and $\mathcal{N}'(\kappa) \equiv \int_{\kappa}^{\infty} F_{\text{evp}}(\kappa) d\kappa$ represent the contributions to the spectral power balance from the non-linear convective, fluid dissipation, turbulence forcing, and non-Newtonian terms, respectively. The fluid dissipation term can be expressed as $\mathcal{D}(\kappa) = -\int_0^{\kappa} V(\kappa) d\kappa = \mathcal{D}'(\kappa) + \epsilon_f$, where $\epsilon_f = -\int_0^{\infty} V(\kappa) d\kappa$ is the energy dissipated by the fluid viscosity. Similarly, the non-Newtonian contribution can be written as $\mathcal{N}(\kappa) = -\int_0^{\kappa} F_{\text{evp}}(\kappa) d\kappa = \mathcal{N}'(\kappa) + \epsilon_p$, where $\epsilon_p = -\int_0^{\infty} F_{\text{evp}}(\kappa) d\kappa$ is the non-Newtonian dissipation. Substituting this in Eq. (S9), we obtain the energy balance equation (Eq. (1)) used in the main letter.



Elastoviscoplastic material

Pf127 solution of 20 wt % *

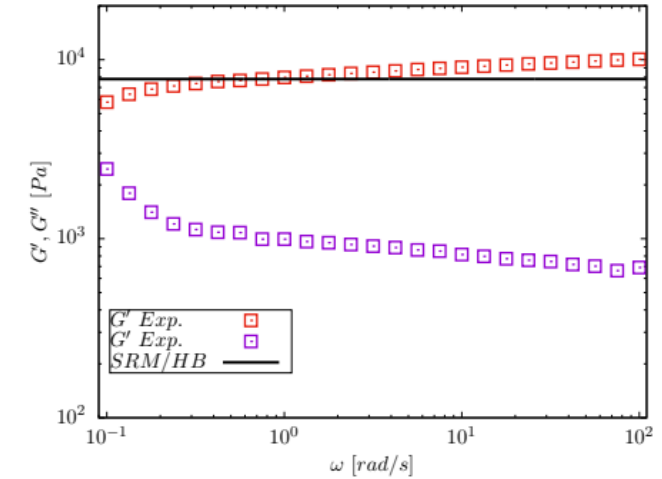
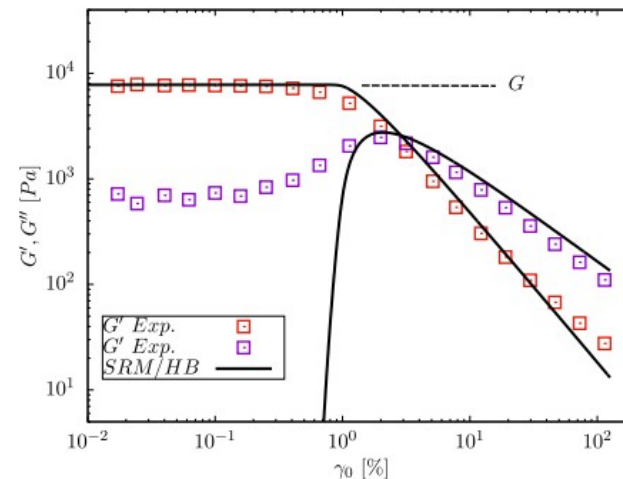
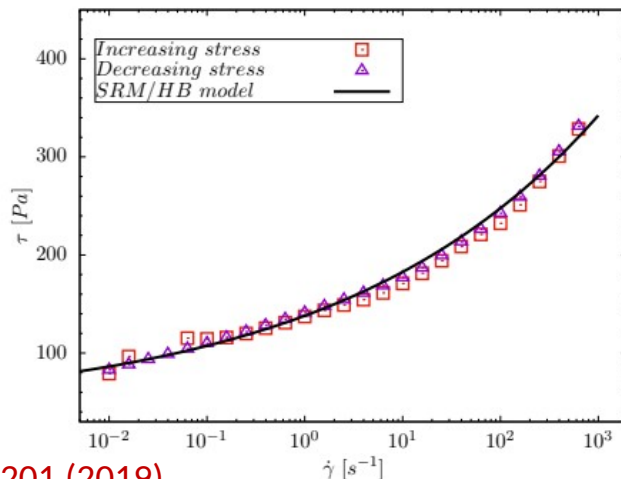
- At low temperatures (T) and concentrations (C):
PEO and PPO are soluble in water
- Above $C_{\text{crit}} \approx 12$ wt % as T increases:
Hydrophobicity/solubility of PPO blocks decreases $\rightarrow$ micelles formation



Rheological measurements**

Model parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_y &= 40 \text{ Pa} \\ n &= 0.163 \\ k &= 98 \text{ Pa}\cdot\text{s}^n \\ G &= 7800 \text{ Pa}\end{aligned}$$



* Hopkins et al. *J. Rheol.* **63**, 191-201 (2019).

** Varchanis et al. *PNAS*. 201922242 (2020).

Cannon: Turbulence and intermittency in homogeneous isotropic flows of elastoviscoplastic fluids