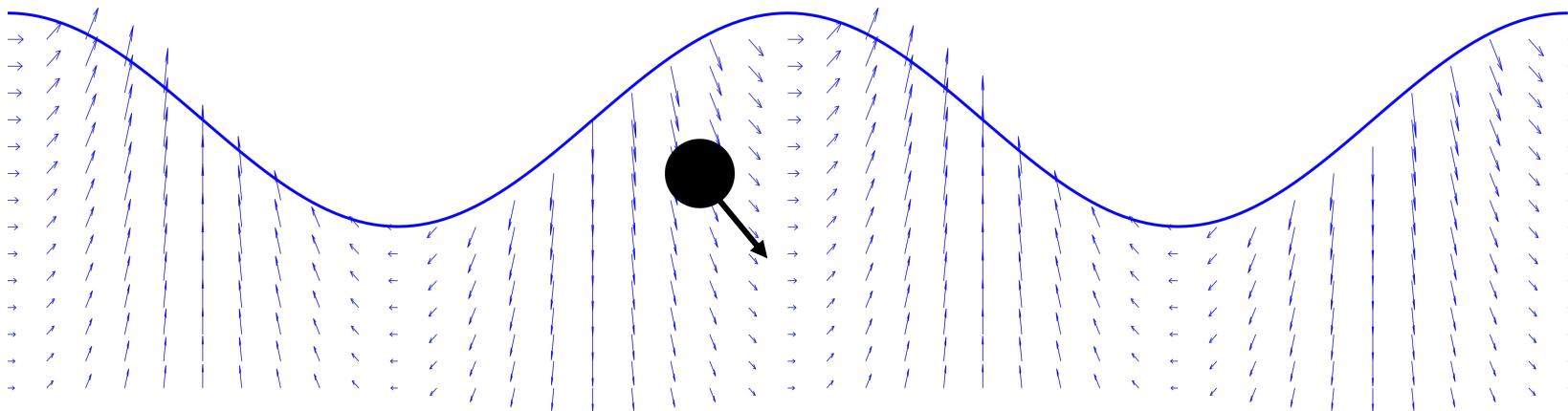


# Inertial effects in particle (microplastic) settling through wavy flow

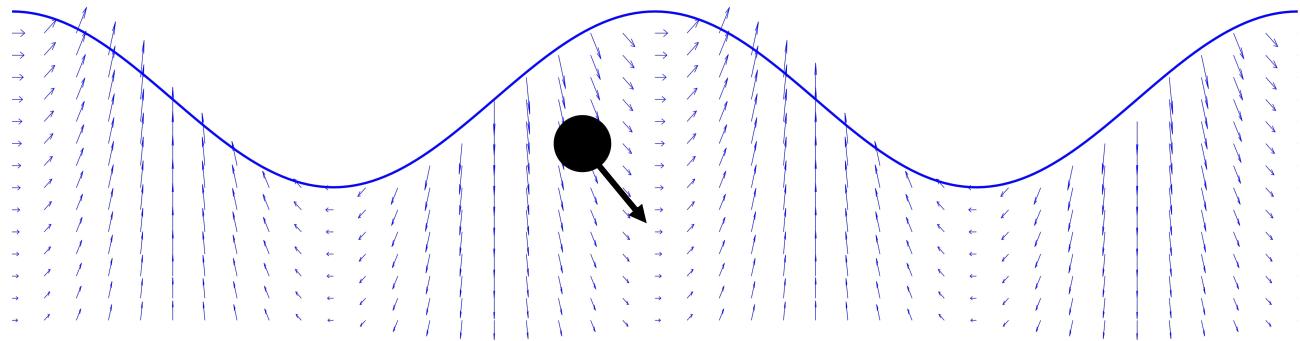


**Nimish Pujara**



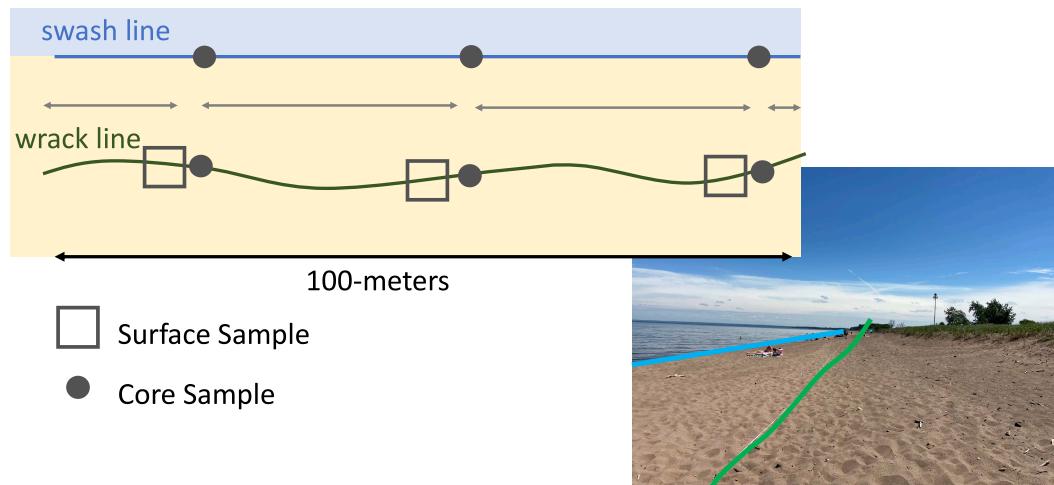
Department of Civil and  
Environmental Engineering  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

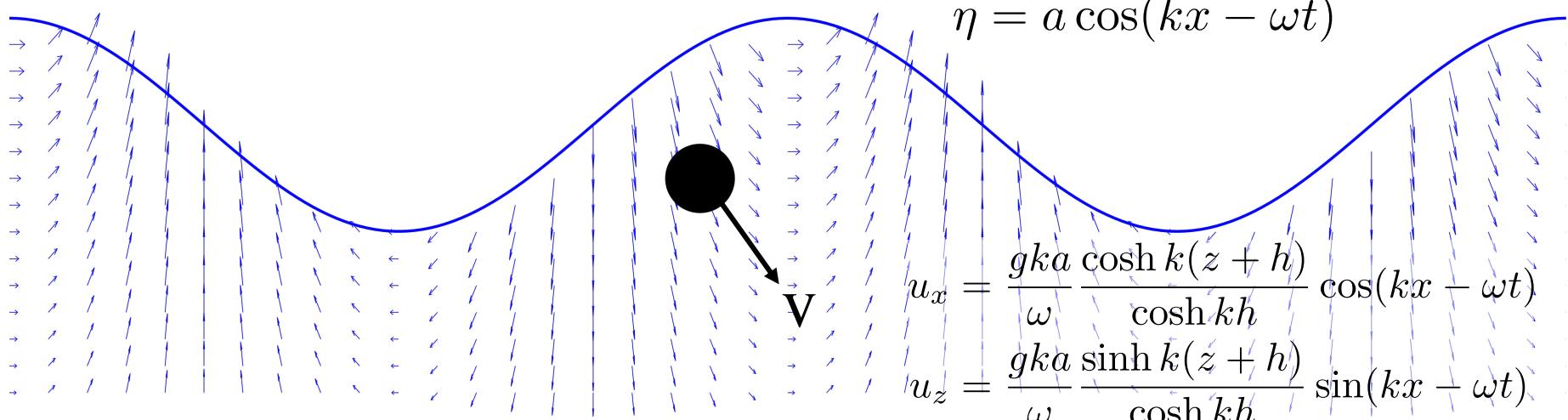
# 1. Negatively buoyant particles in surface waves



DiBenedetto, M., Clark, L., & Pujara, N. (2022). Enhanced settling and dispersion of inertial particles in surface waves. *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 936, A38. doi:10.1017/jfm.2022.95

# 2. Microplastic beaching and settling in turbulence



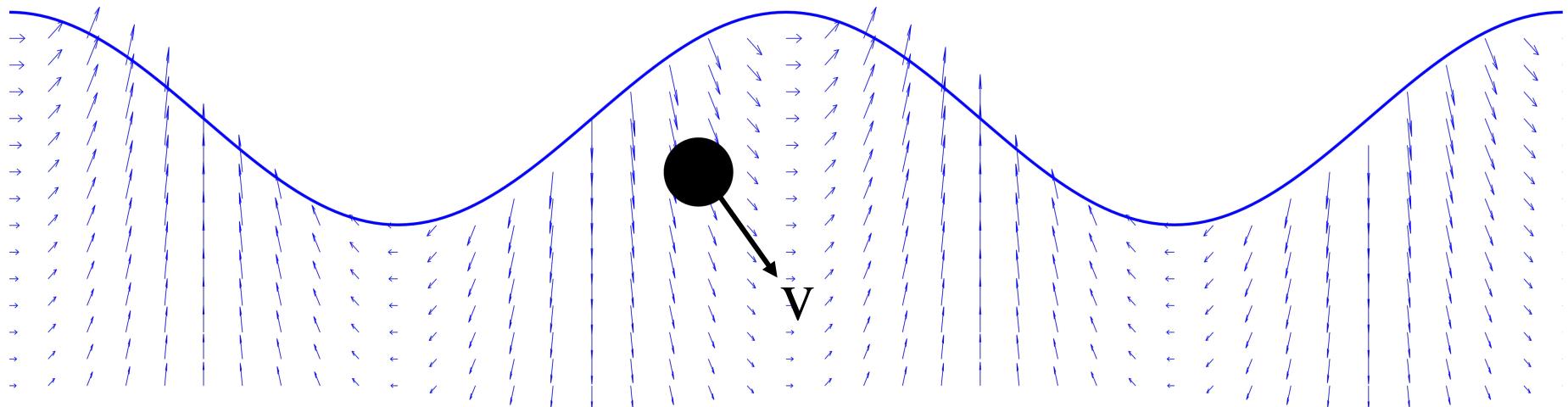


$$m \mathbf{a} = \sum \mathbf{F}$$

$$m_p \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = (m_p - m_f) \mathbf{g} + m_f \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} - C_m \left[ \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} - \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} \right] - F_{\text{drag}}$$

buoyancy	flow	added mass	drag
----------	------	------------	------

Can we predict particle transport without computing numerical solutions of the equation of motion?



Dimensionless equation of motion in linear drag regime ( $\text{Re}_p \ll 1$ )

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{(u - v)}{\text{St}} + \beta \frac{Du}{Dt} - \frac{v_s}{\text{St}} e_z$$

$$\text{St} = \omega \tau_p$$

Stokes number

$$\beta = (1 + C_m) / (\gamma + C_m)$$

Fluid forcing coefficient

$$\gamma = m_p / m_f$$

Buoyancy ratio

# St number expansion

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_0 + \text{St}\mathbf{v}_1 + \text{St}^2\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = \frac{(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v})}{\text{St}} + \beta \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} - \frac{v_s}{\text{St}} \mathbf{e}_z$$

Collect terms at each order

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}_s - \text{St}(1 - \beta) \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} + \text{St}^2(1 - \beta) \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t^2} + O(\varepsilon^2 \text{St}^2, \varepsilon \text{St}^3)$$

Evaluate using linear wave theory flow field

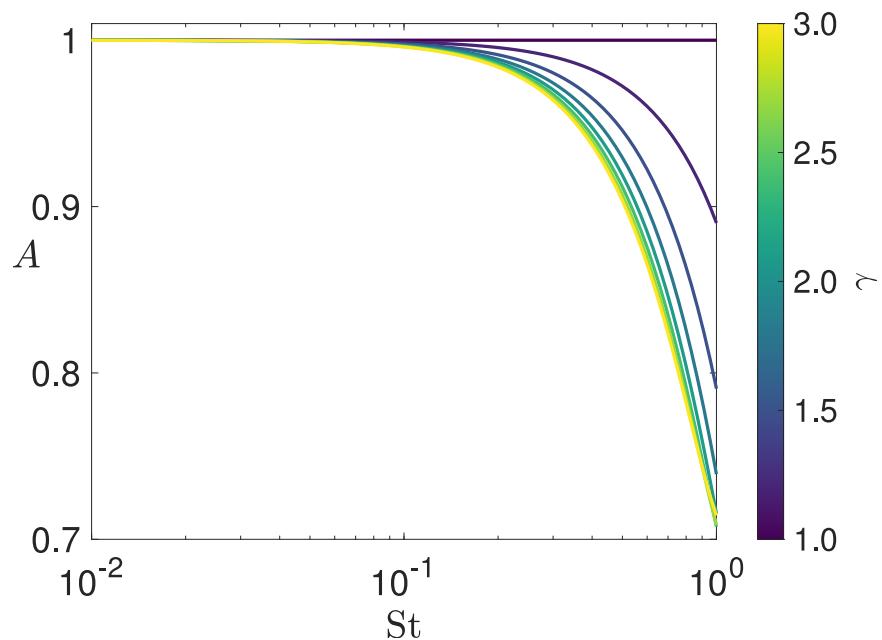
$$v_x = A \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\cosh z + kh}{\cosh kh} \cos(x - t + \phi) + \varepsilon^2 \text{St}(1 - \beta) \frac{\sin 2(x - t)}{2 \cosh^2 kh} \right]$$
$$v_z = -v_s + A \left[ \varepsilon \frac{\sinh z + kh}{\cosh kh} \sin(x - t + \phi) - \varepsilon^2 \text{St}(1 - \beta) \frac{\sinh 2(z + kh)}{2 \cosh^2 kh} \right]$$

Fluid flow

Non-linear wave effects

# Inertial particle motion

Amplitude



Phase

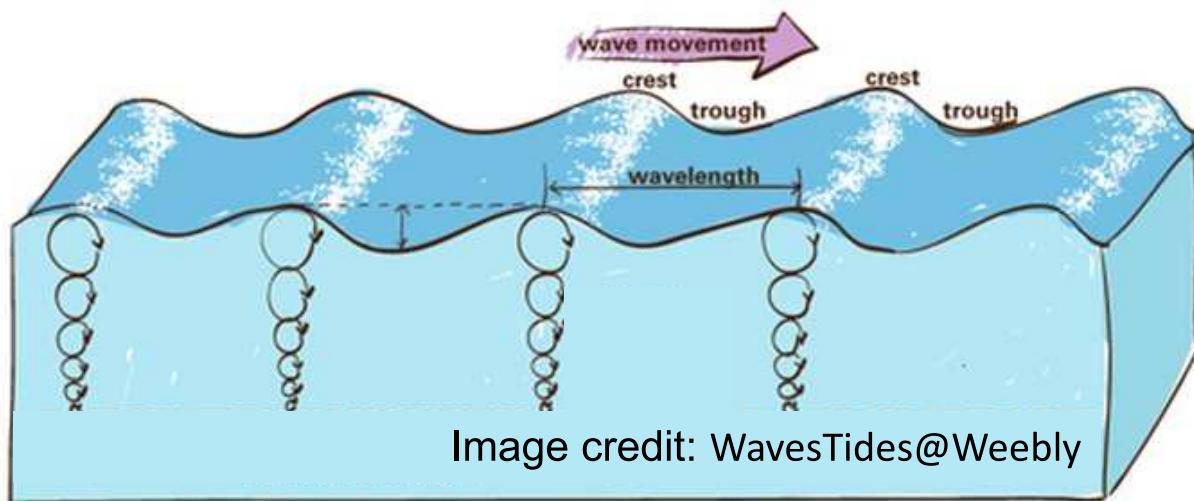
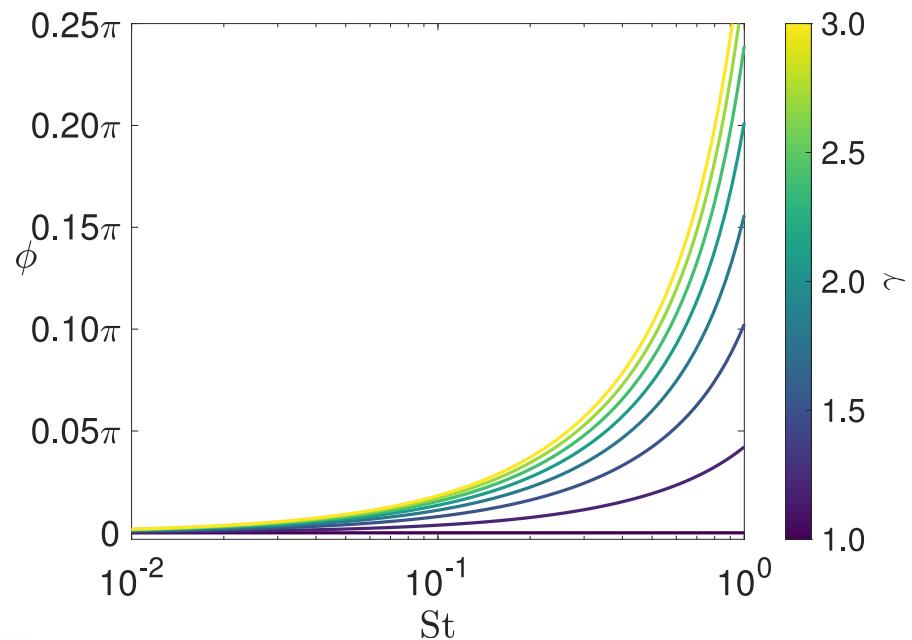
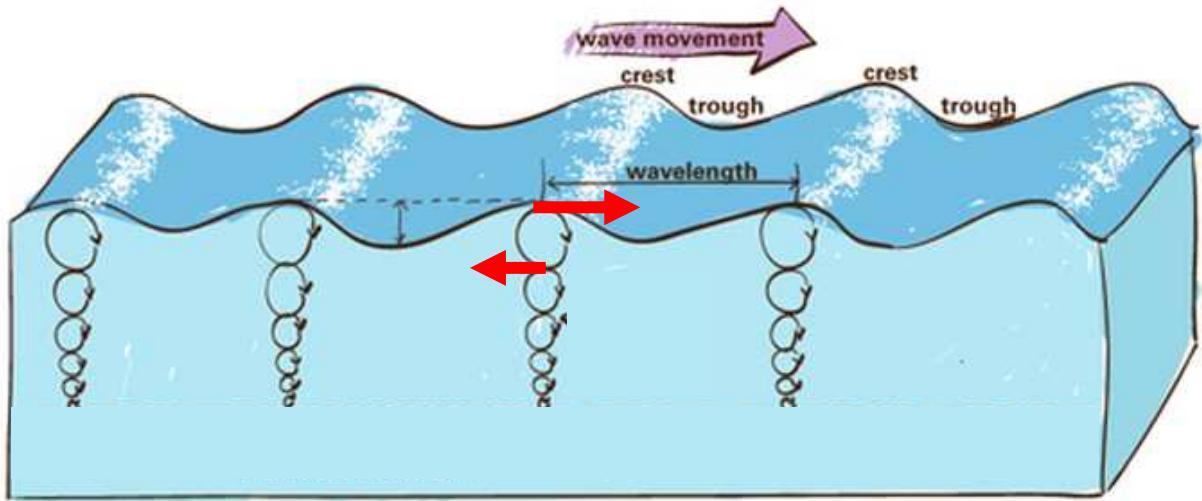
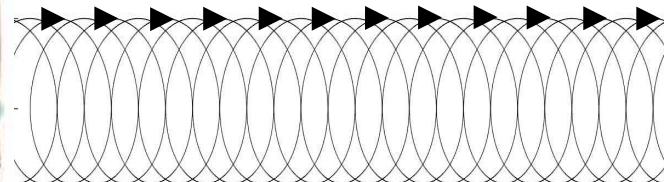


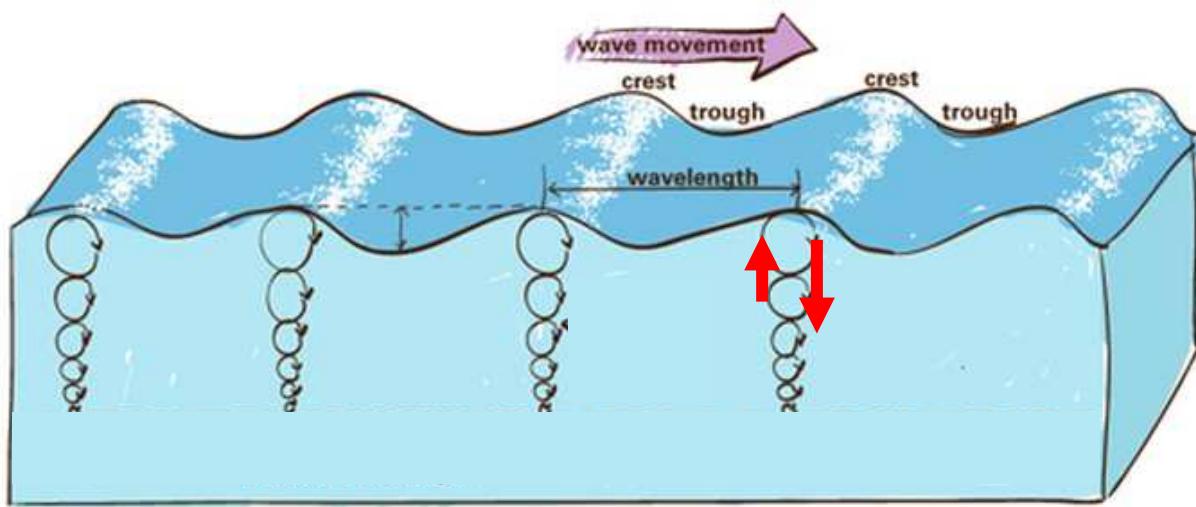
Image credit: WavesTides@Weebly



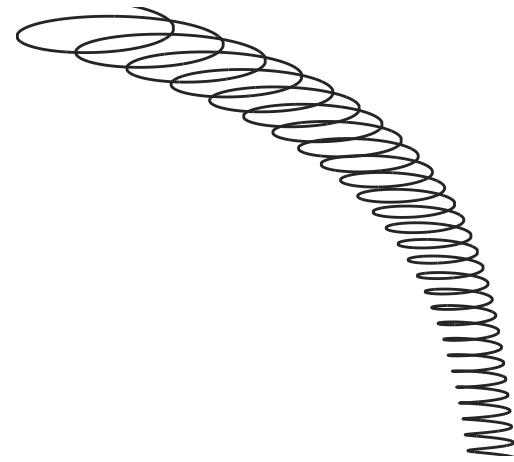
Stokes drift:



Stokes (1847)



Vertical drift:



Eames (2008)  
Santamaria et al. (2013)

# Multi-timescale expansion

$$\mathbf{x}_p(\tau, T) = \mathbf{x}_{p0}(\tau, T) + \varepsilon \mathbf{x}_{p1}(\tau, T) + \dots \text{ where } \tau = t, T = \varepsilon^2 t$$

Substitute into expressions for particle velocity and collect terms at each order. The drifts appear as a solvability condition at second order:

Reduced  
horizontal drift

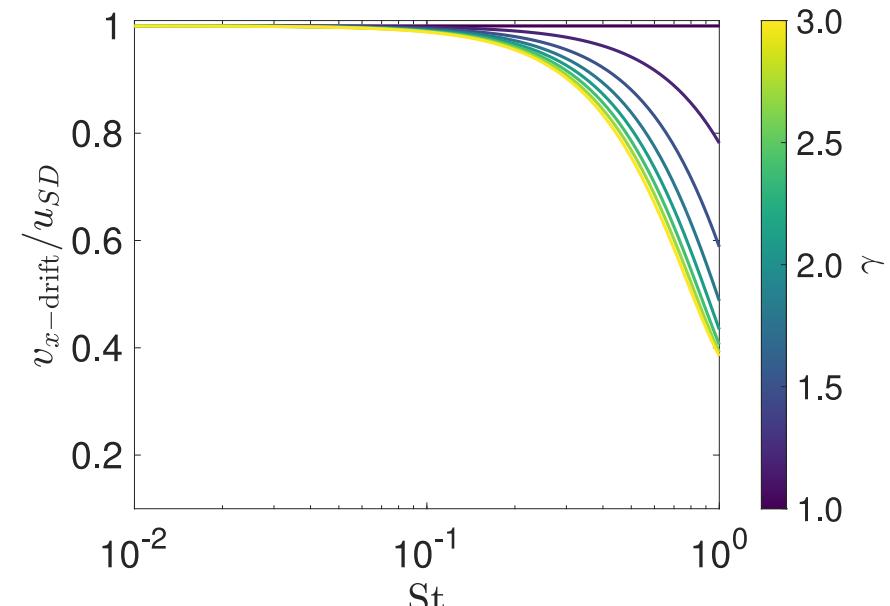
$$v_{x\text{-drift}} = \frac{A^2}{1 + v_s^2} u_{\text{SD}}$$

$$v_{z\text{-drift}} = -v_s \left[ 1 + \frac{A^2}{1 + v_s^2} u_{\text{SD}} + \frac{1}{2} \tanh kh \frac{du_{\text{SD}}}{dz_{p0}} \right]$$

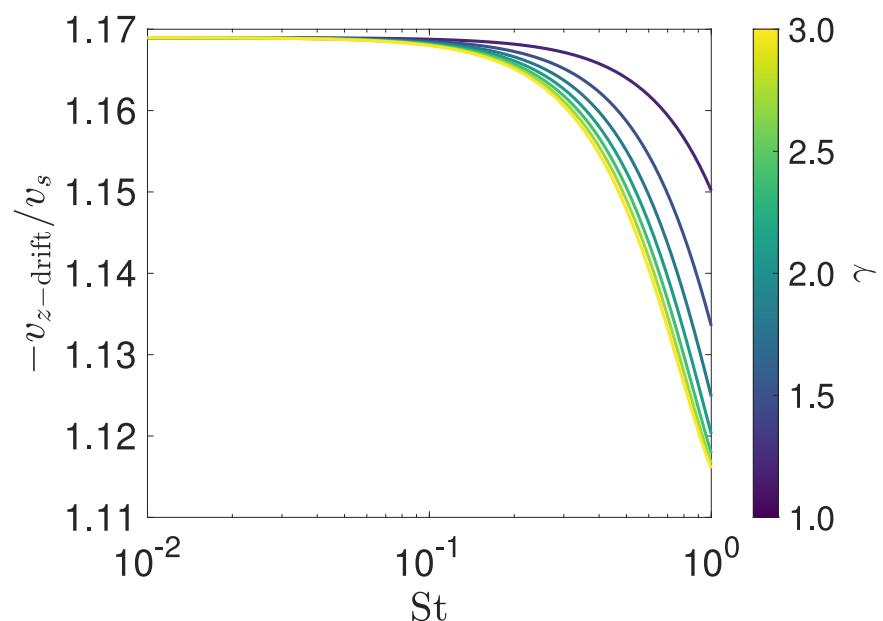
Enhanced settling

# Inertial particle drift

Horizontal drift

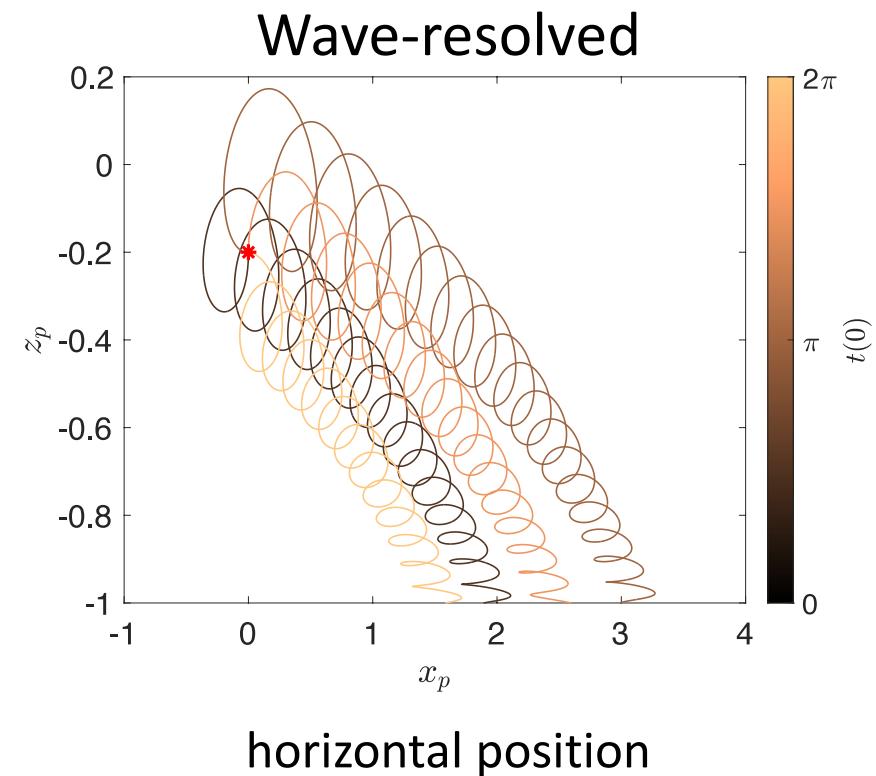
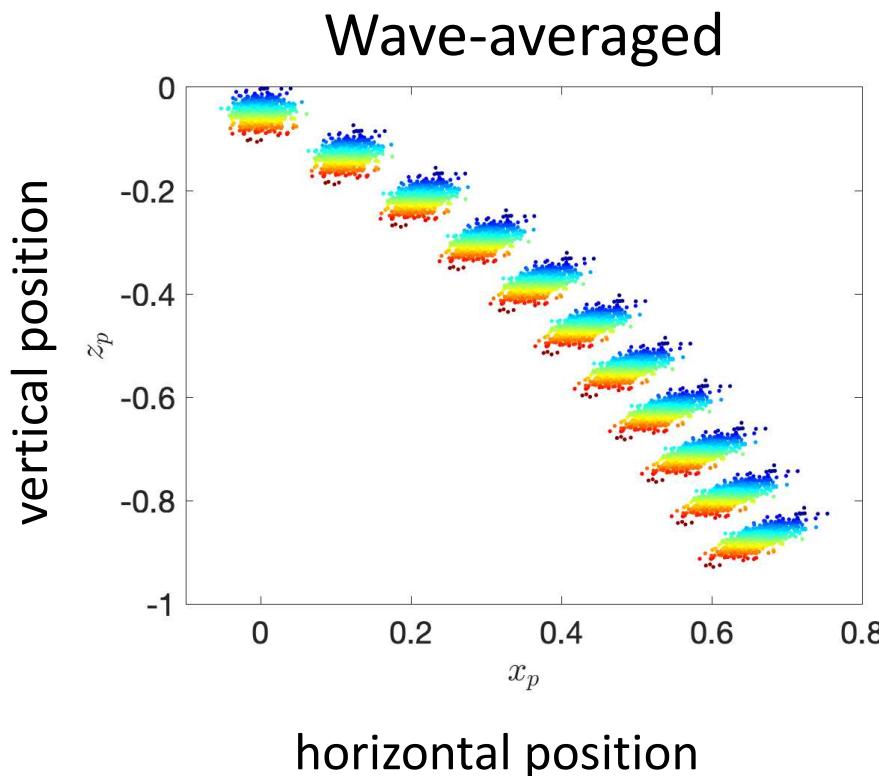


Vertical drift



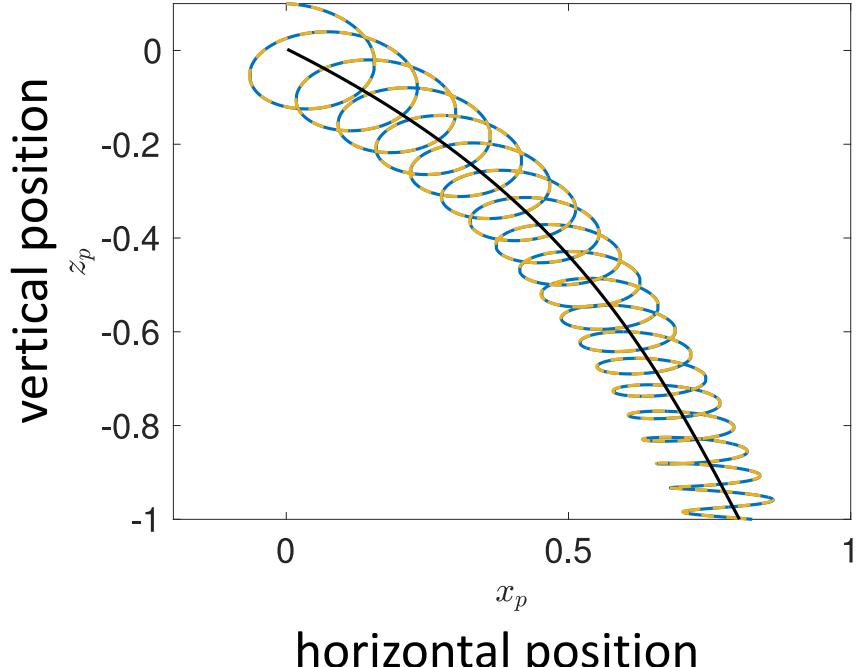
$$\epsilon = 0.33; \quad kh = 1$$

# Horizontal dispersion due to vertical shear



Initial conditions (correctly projected into wave-averaged variables)  
are important!

# Comparison against numerical solutions

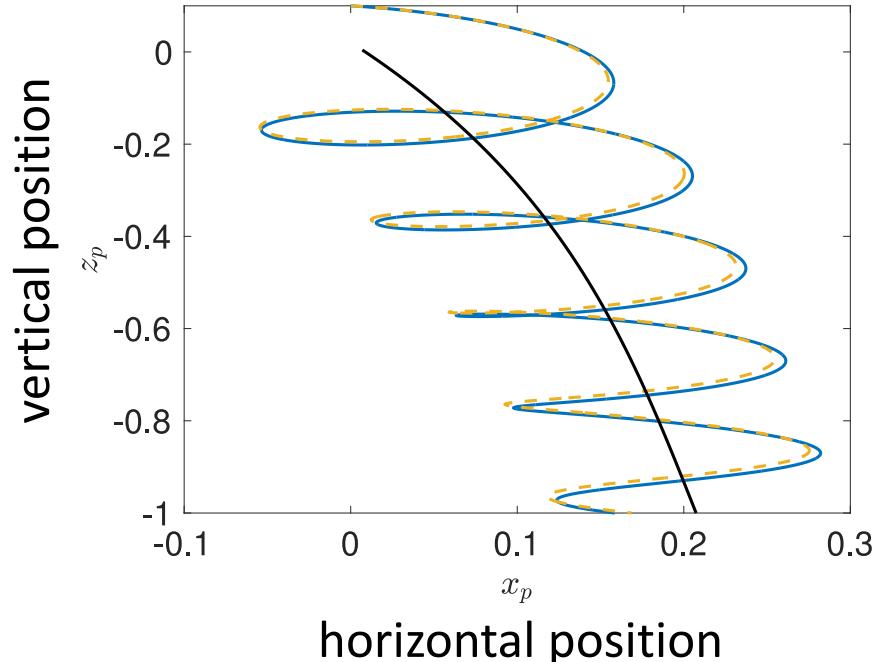


$$ka = 0.1, kh = 1, \gamma = 1.1, \text{St} = 0.1$$

---

Numerical  
solution

Velocity  
solution

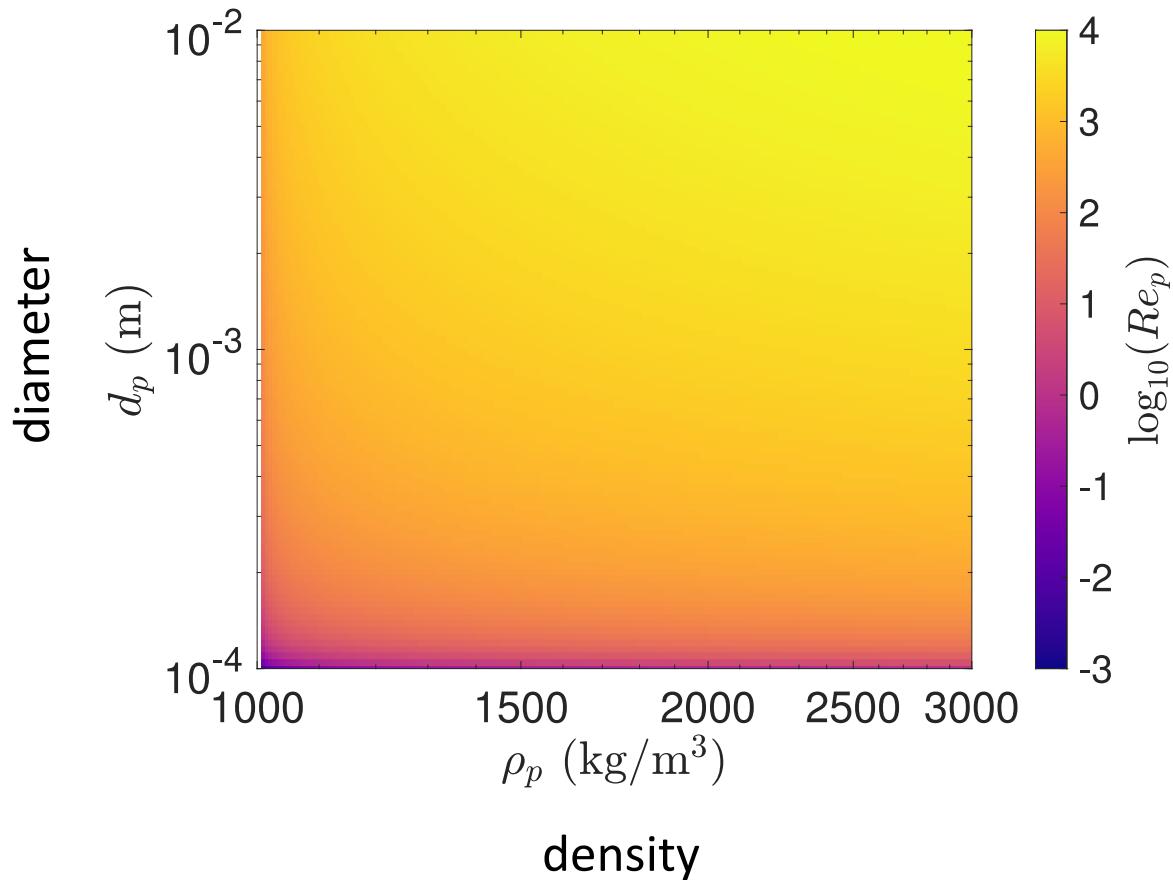


$$ka = 0.1, kh = 1, \gamma = 1.05, \text{St} = 0.75$$

---

Drift  
solution

# Non-linear drag



Microplastics can fall outside the linear (Stokes) drag regime and into the non-linear (intermediate Reynolds number) regime

# Non-linear drag

Schiller-Naumann drag model captures the drag in the intermediate Reynolds number regime

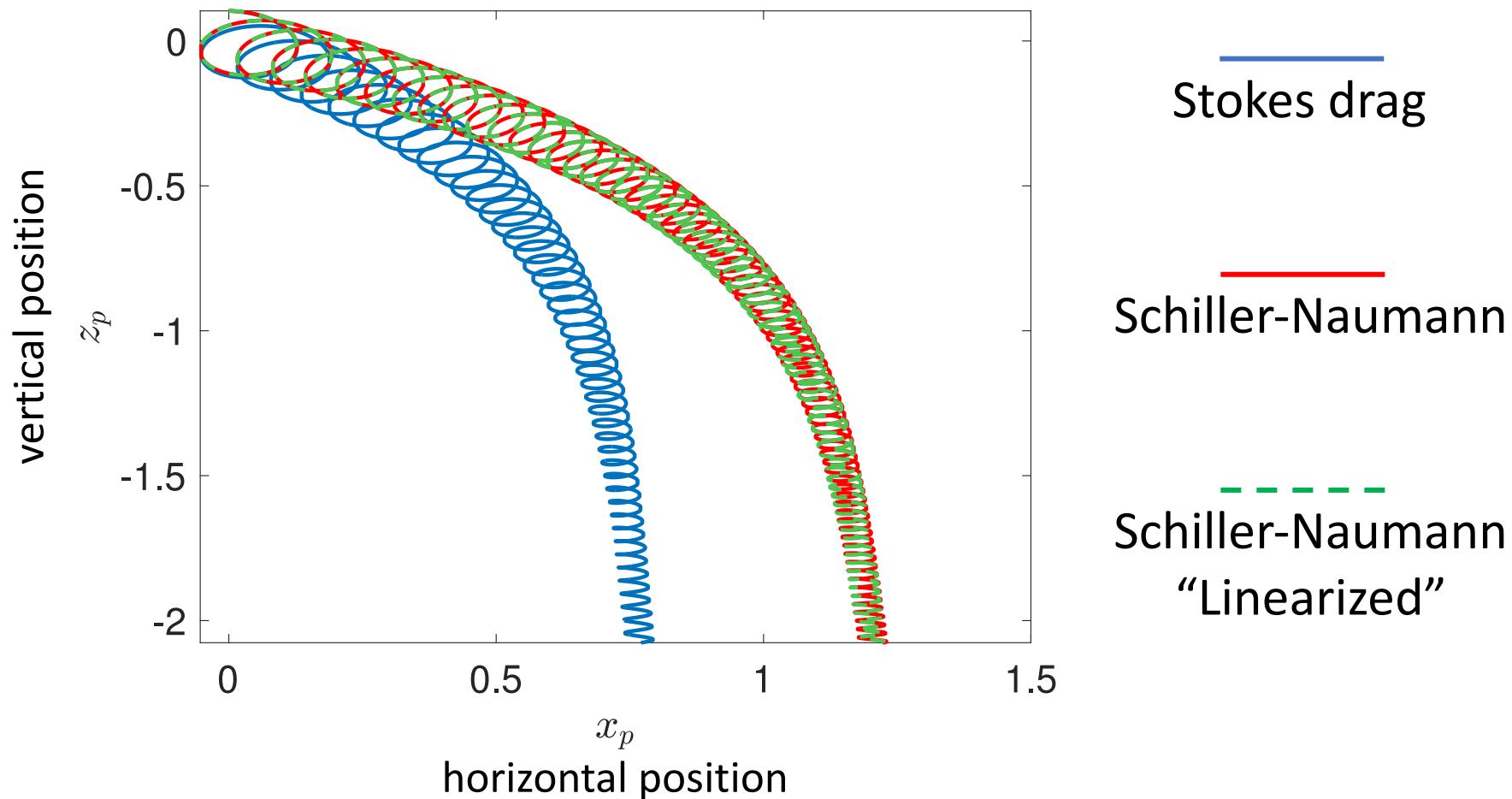
$$C_D = \frac{24}{\text{Re}_p} (1 + 0.15 \text{Re}_p^{0.687})$$

Linear drag

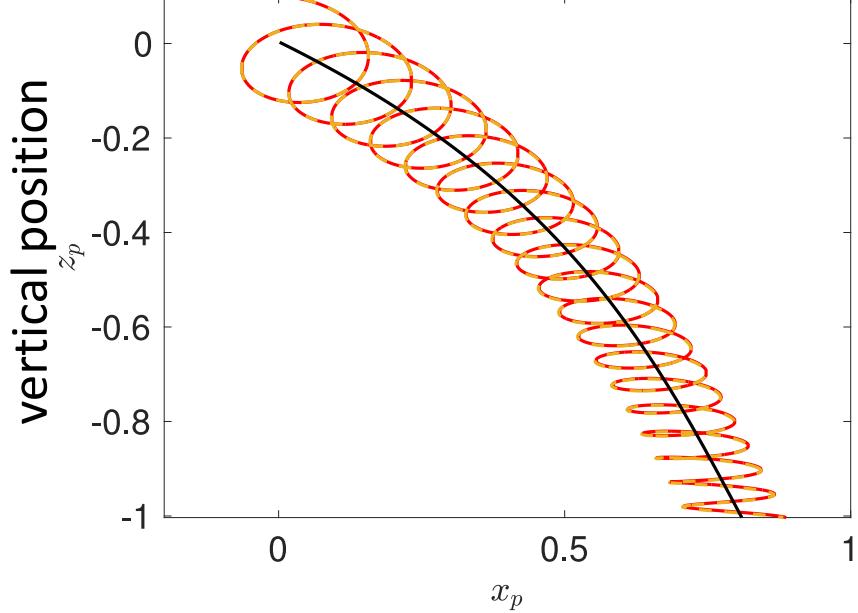
“Linearize” the drag model to allow analysis

$$C_D = \frac{24}{\text{Re}_p} (1 + 0.15 \text{Re}_{p,t}^{0.687})$$

# Non-linear drag



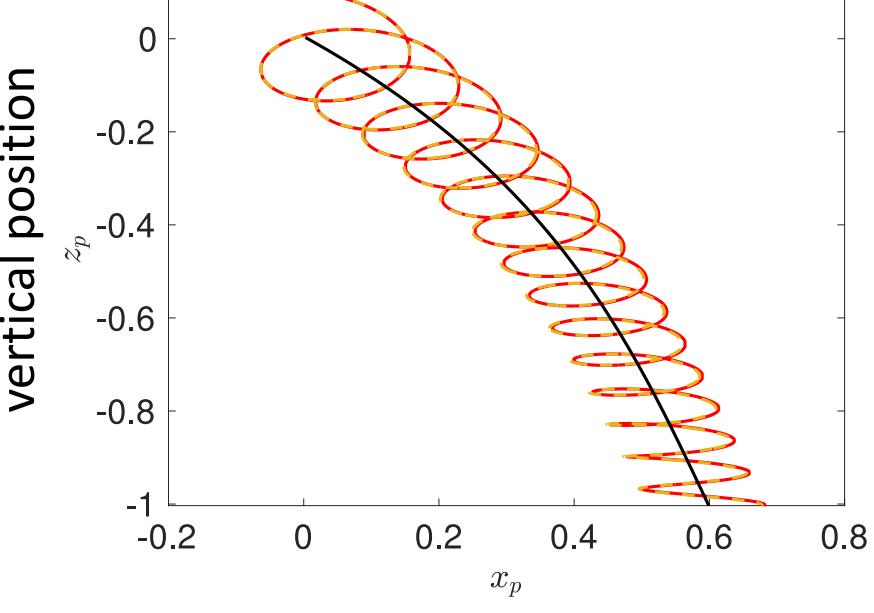
# Comparison against numerical solutions



horizontal position

$$ka = 0.1, kh = 1, \gamma = 1.1, \text{St}_{\text{SN},t} = 0.1, \\ Re_{p,t} = 212$$

Schiller-Naumann  
numerical solution

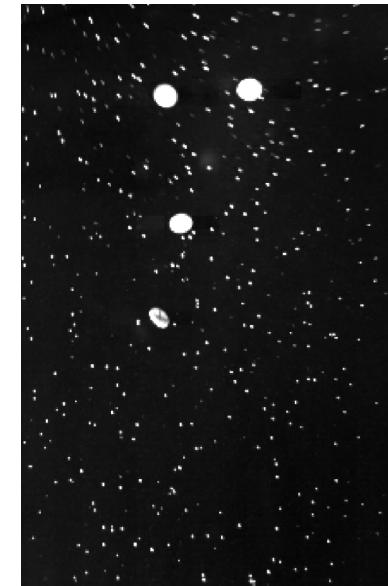
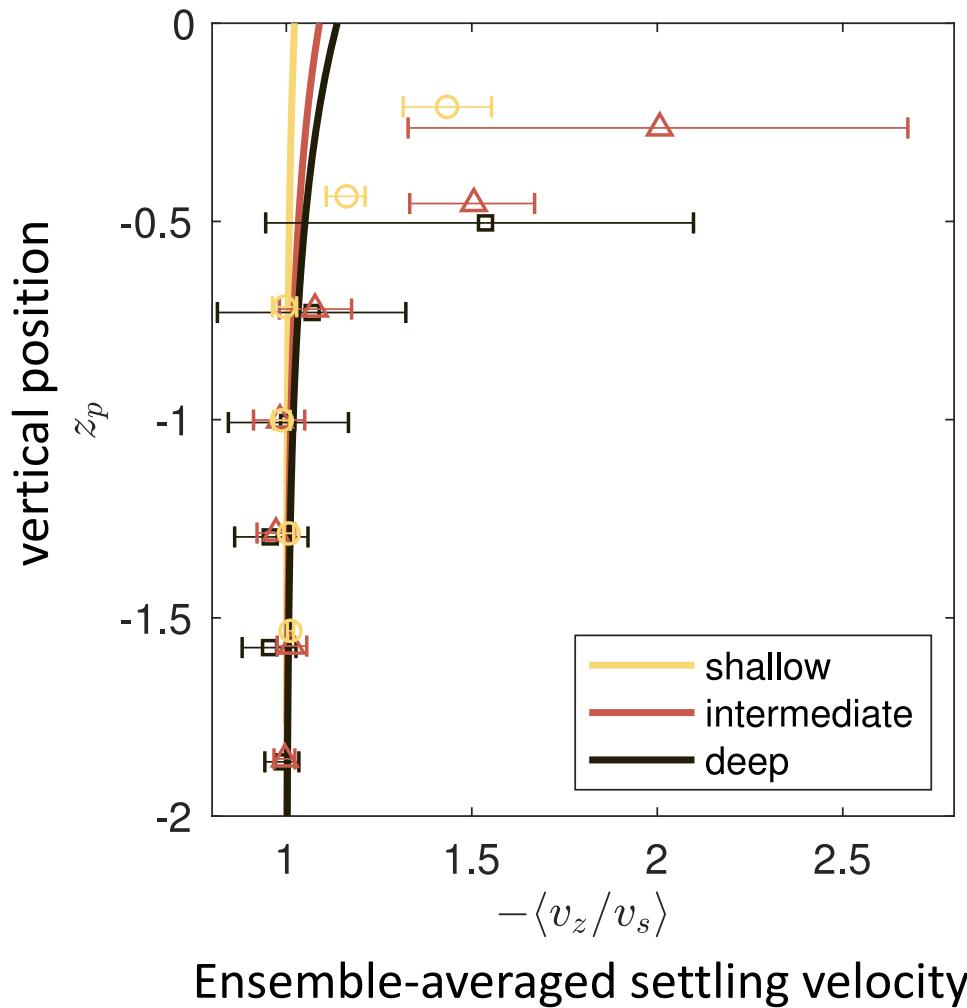


horizontal position

$$ka = 0.1, kh = 1, \gamma = 1.05, \text{St}_{\text{SN},t} = 0.5, \\ Re_{p,t} = 1093$$

Drift solution  
“Linearized” drag

# Comparison against laboratory experiments



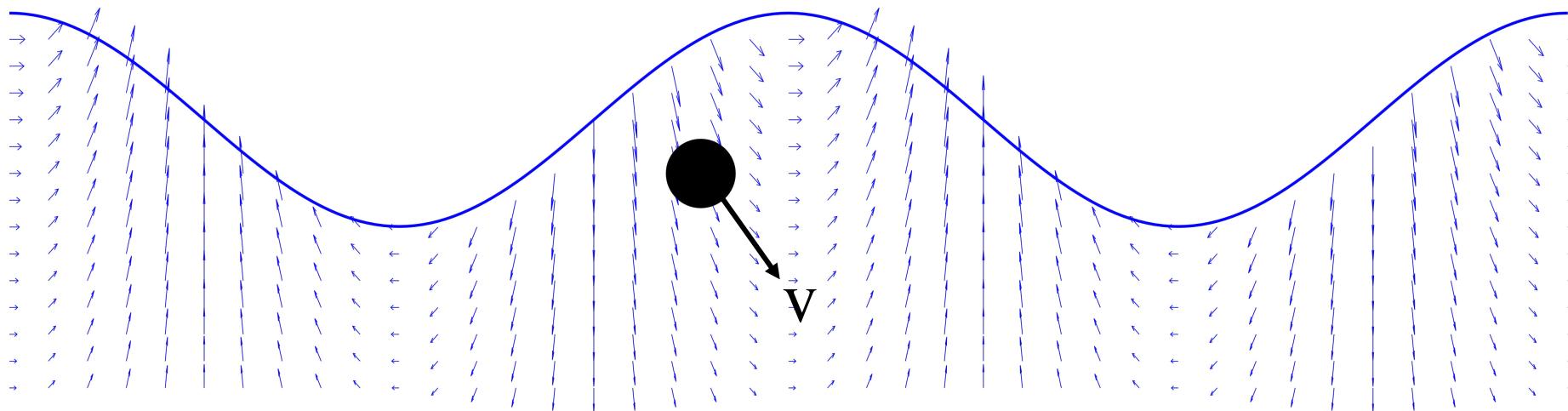
Data from Clark et al. (2020)

Theory captures the trend, if not the full extent of the enhanced settling velocity of inertial particles in surface waves

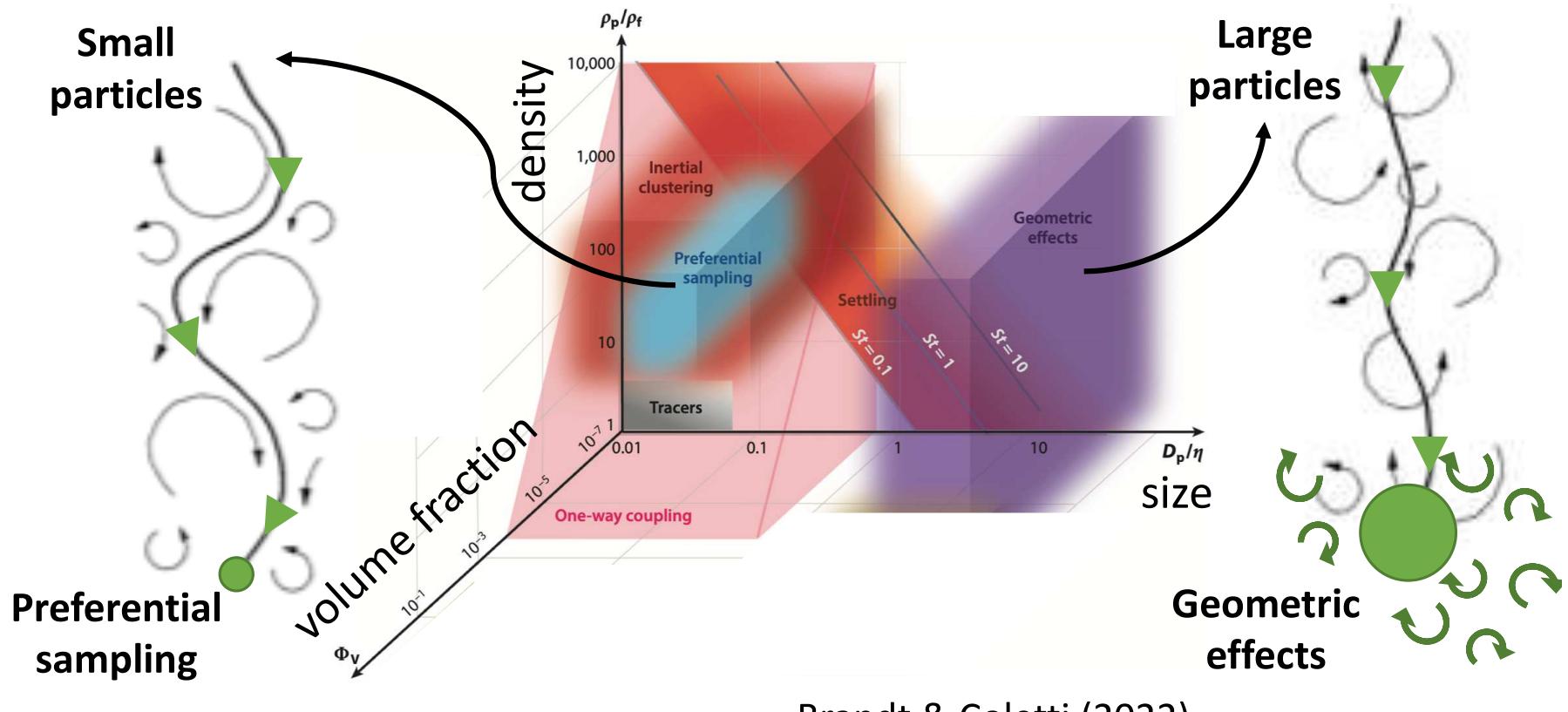
# Conclusions

## Negatively buoyant particles in surface waves

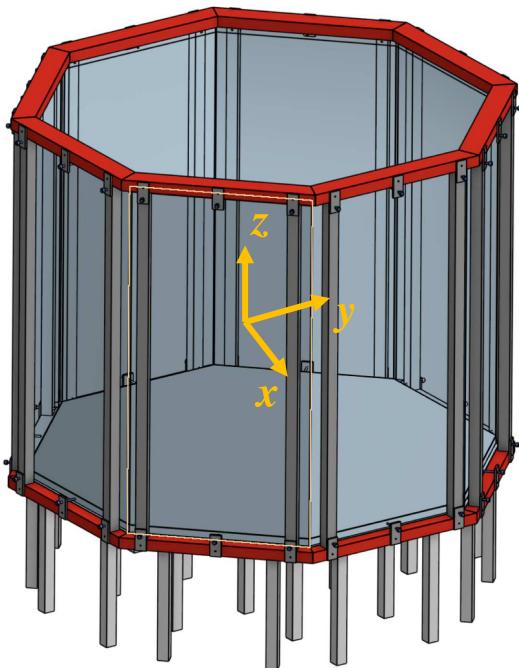
- Particles trace out small orbitals than fluid particles
- Horizontal drift is reduced relative to fluid particles
- Settling velocity is enhanced relative to terminal settling velocity through dynamical and kinematic (Stokes-drift-like) mechanisms



# Particle settling at finite-Reynolds numbers



# Particle settling at finite-Reynolds numbers



Non-turbulent region  
for initial particle settling

Large vertical extent of  
homogenous  
Isotropic turbulence

Non-turbulent and  
wall-affected region  
where settled particles collect



Turbulence  
parameters:

$$\text{Re}_\lambda = 300$$

$$u_{\text{rms}} = 3 \text{ cm/s}$$

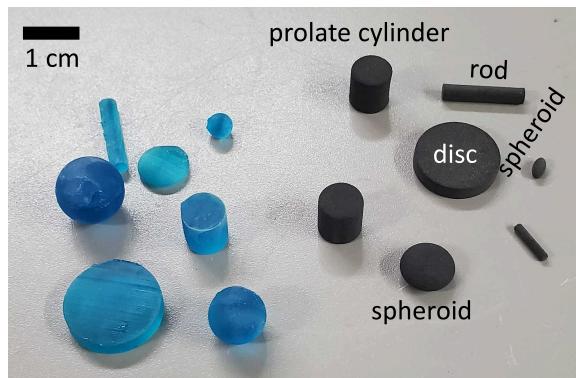
$$L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ cm}$$

$$T_{\text{int}} = 3 \text{ s}$$

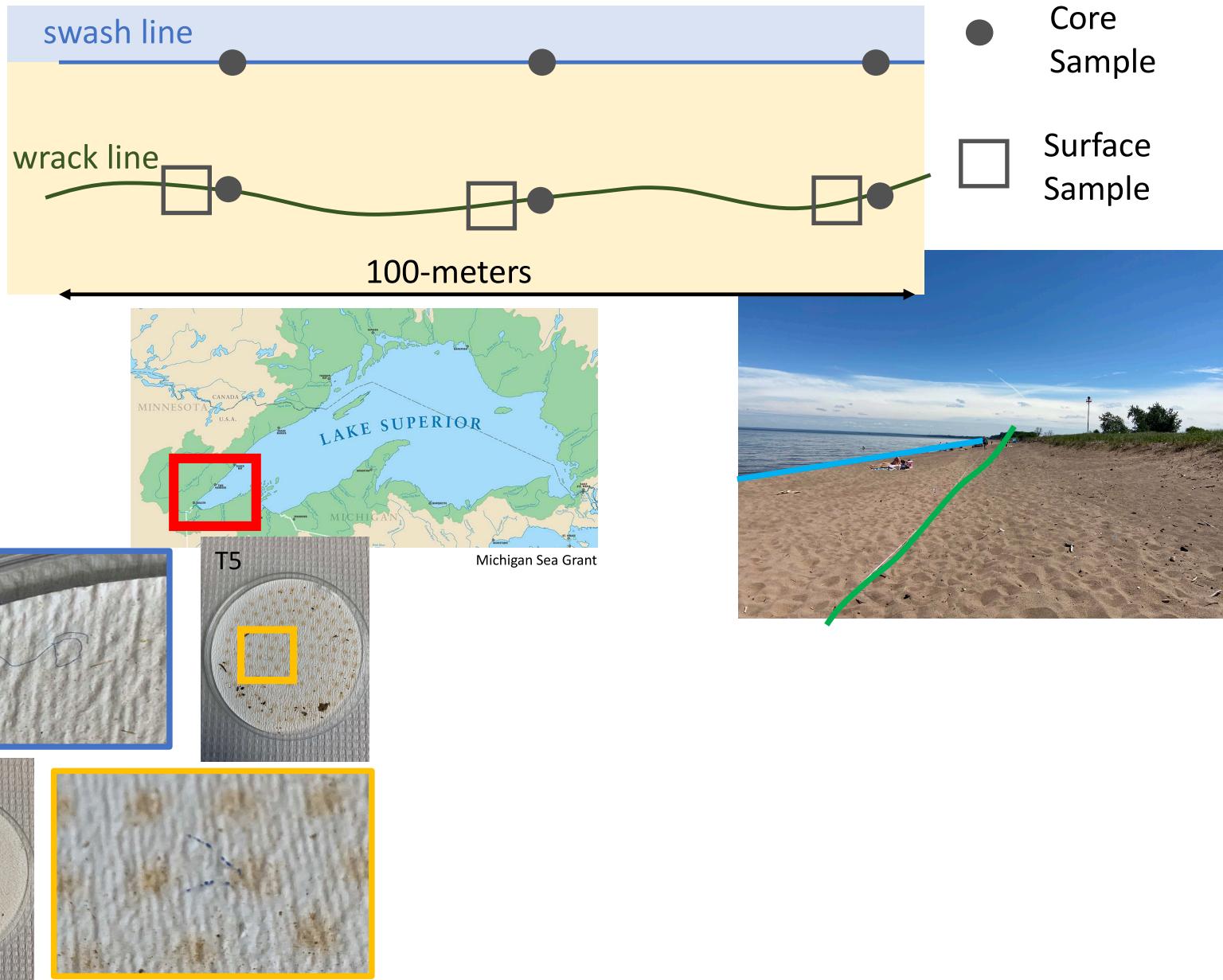
$$\langle \varepsilon \rangle = 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}^{-3}$$

$$\eta_K = 0.3 \text{ mm}$$

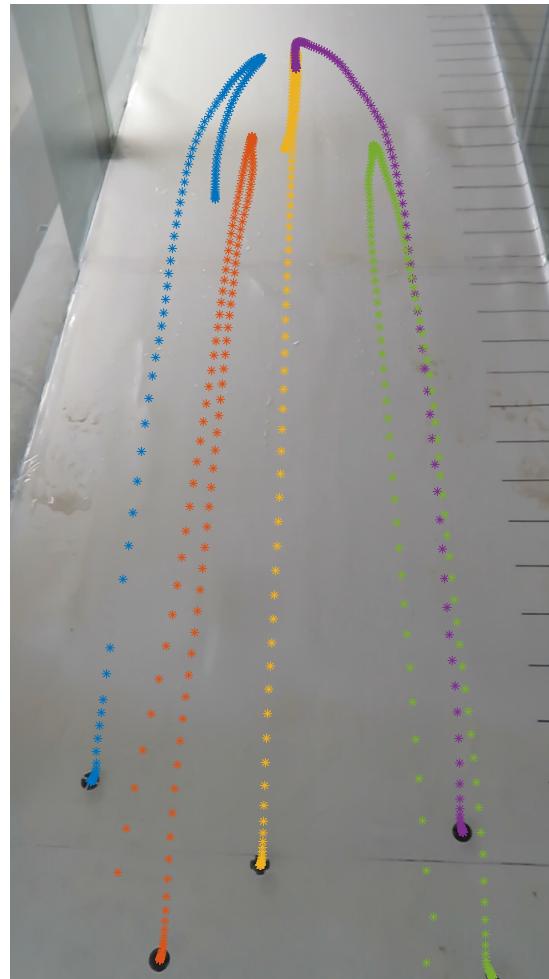
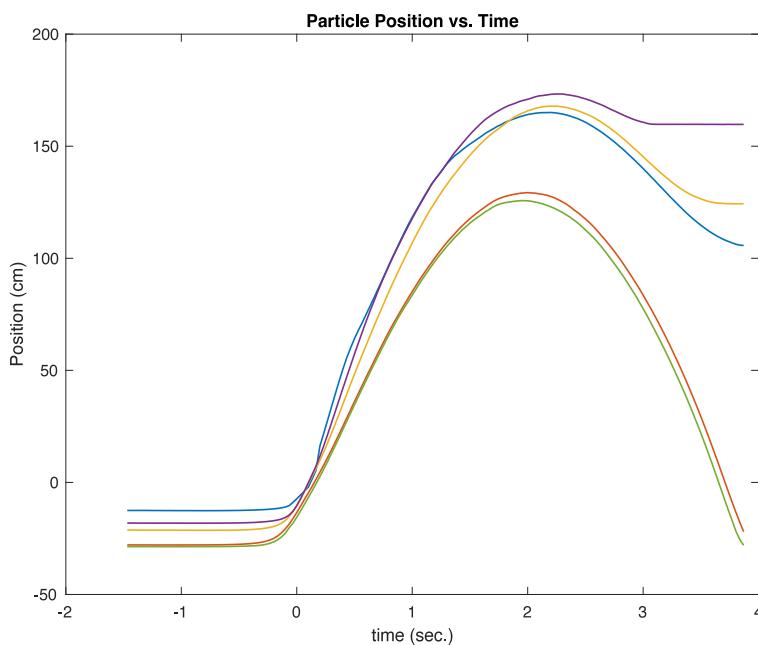
$$\tau_K = 0.1 \text{ s}$$



# Microplastic beaching and swash burial



# Microplastic beaching and swash burial



# Acknowledgements



Michelle  
DiBenedetto



Laura  
Clark

Enhanced settling and dispersion of inertial particles in surface waves

## Reference

DiBenedetto, Clark, Pujara (2022) *JFM* 936, A38



Ben Davidson  
Microplastic  
beaching and  
swash burial



Joo Young Bang  
Particle settling at finite Reynolds numbers



**Nimish Pujara**



Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON