

PyFR: Next-Generation High-Order Computational Fluid Dynamics on Many-Core Hardware

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B. C. Vermeire, J. S. Park, A. S. Iyer

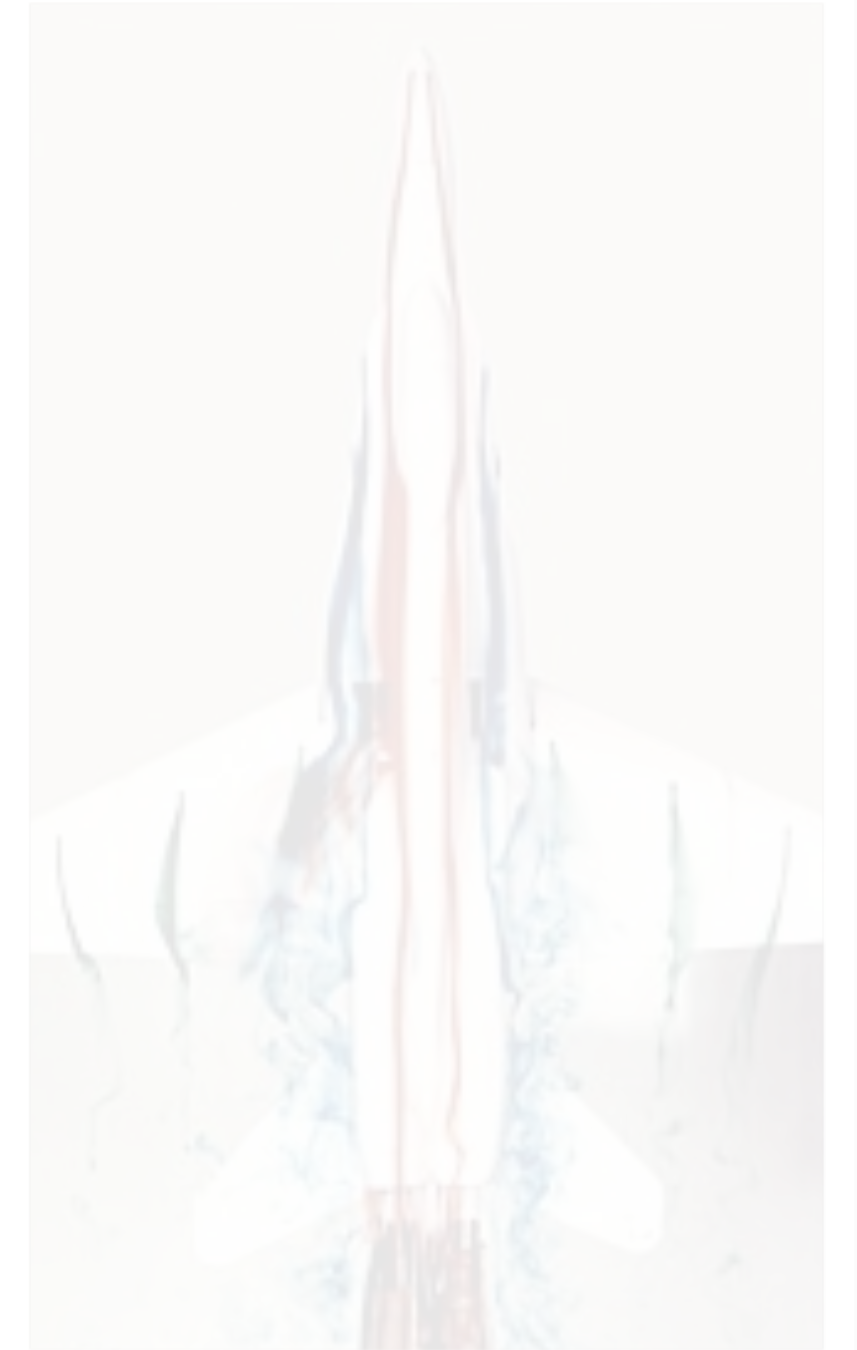
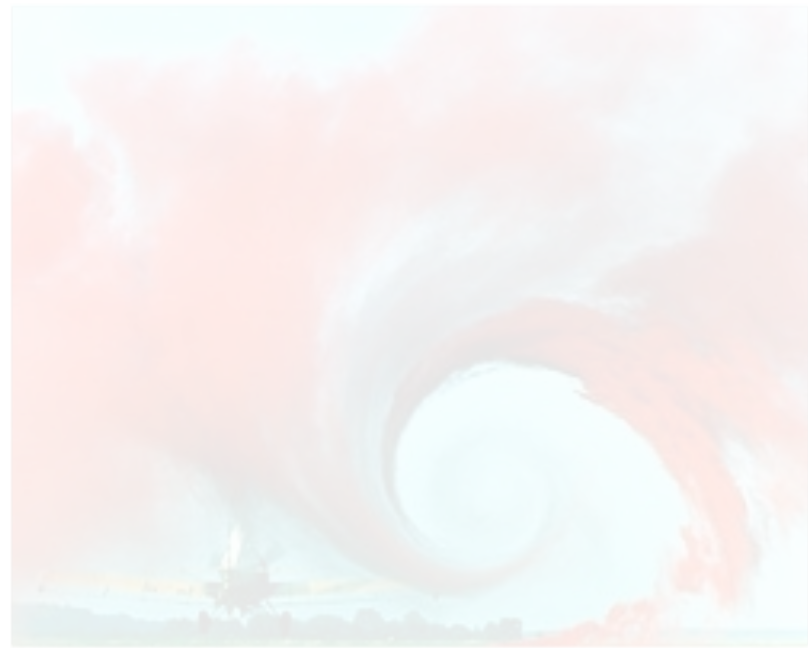
Department of Aeronautics
Imperial College London

24th June 2015



Our Motivation

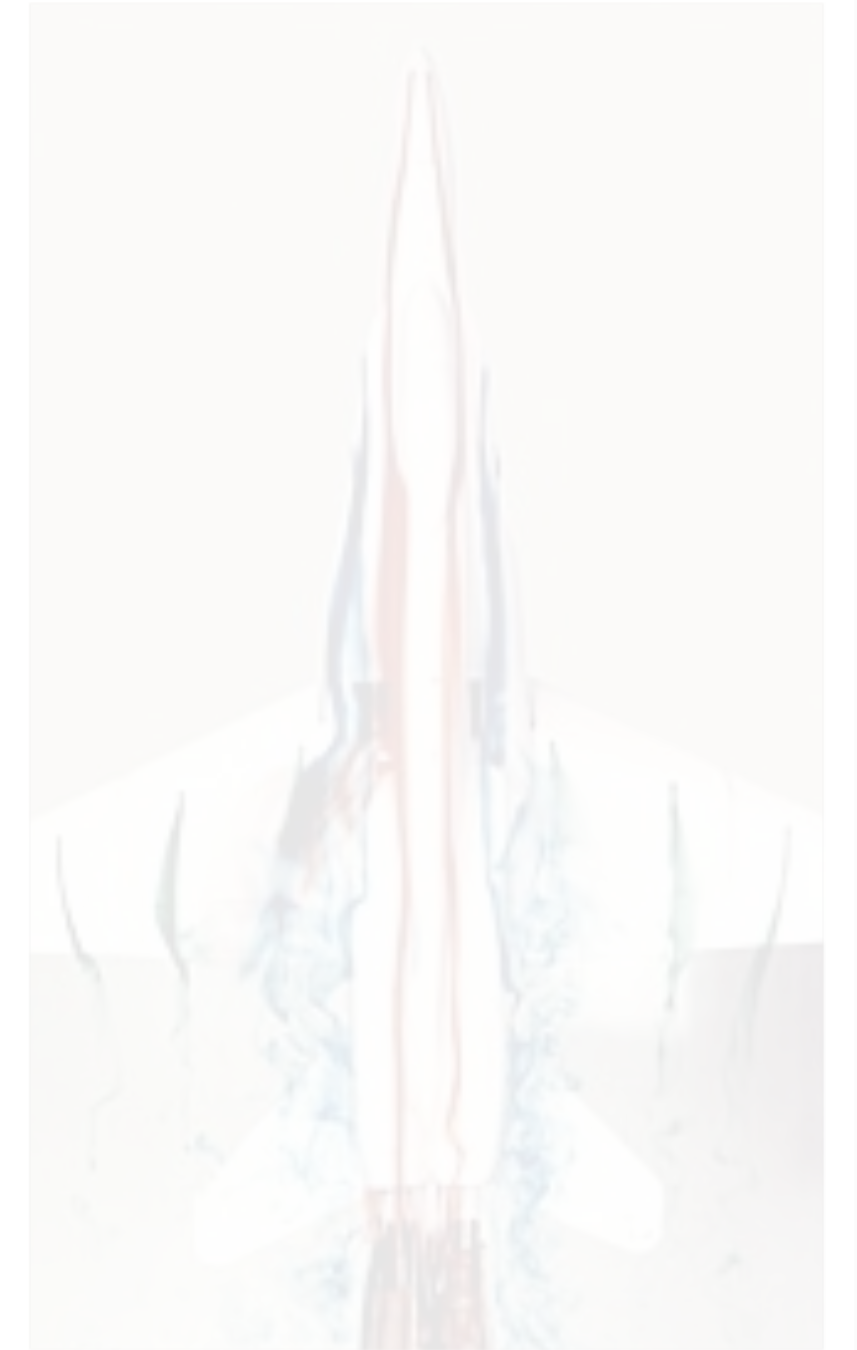
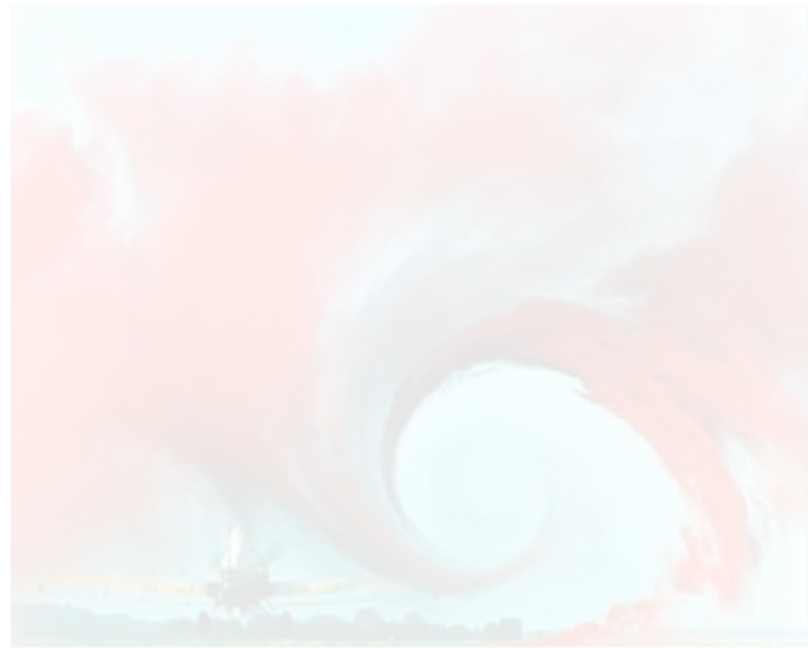
Our Motivation



Current industry standard CFD tools
have limited capabilities



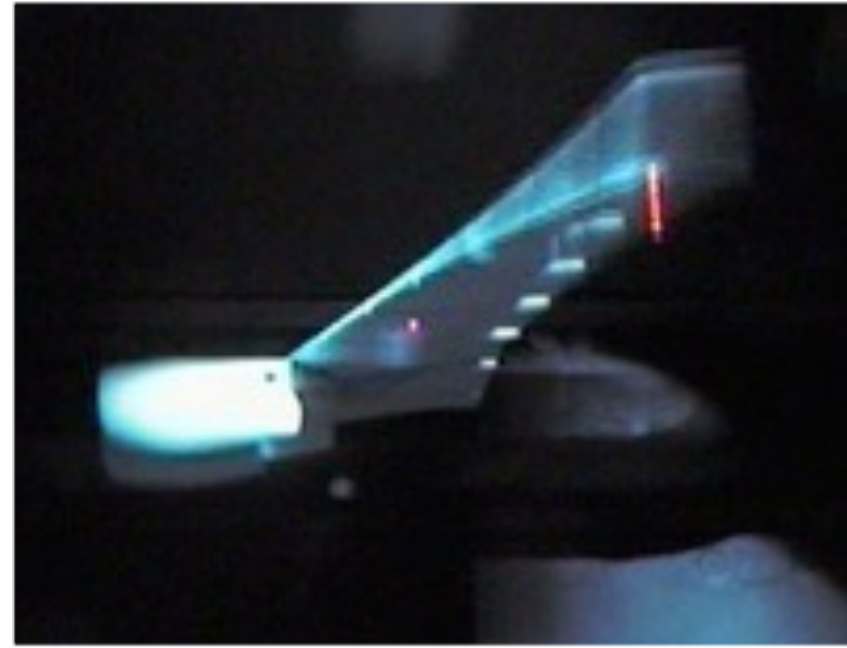
Our Motivation



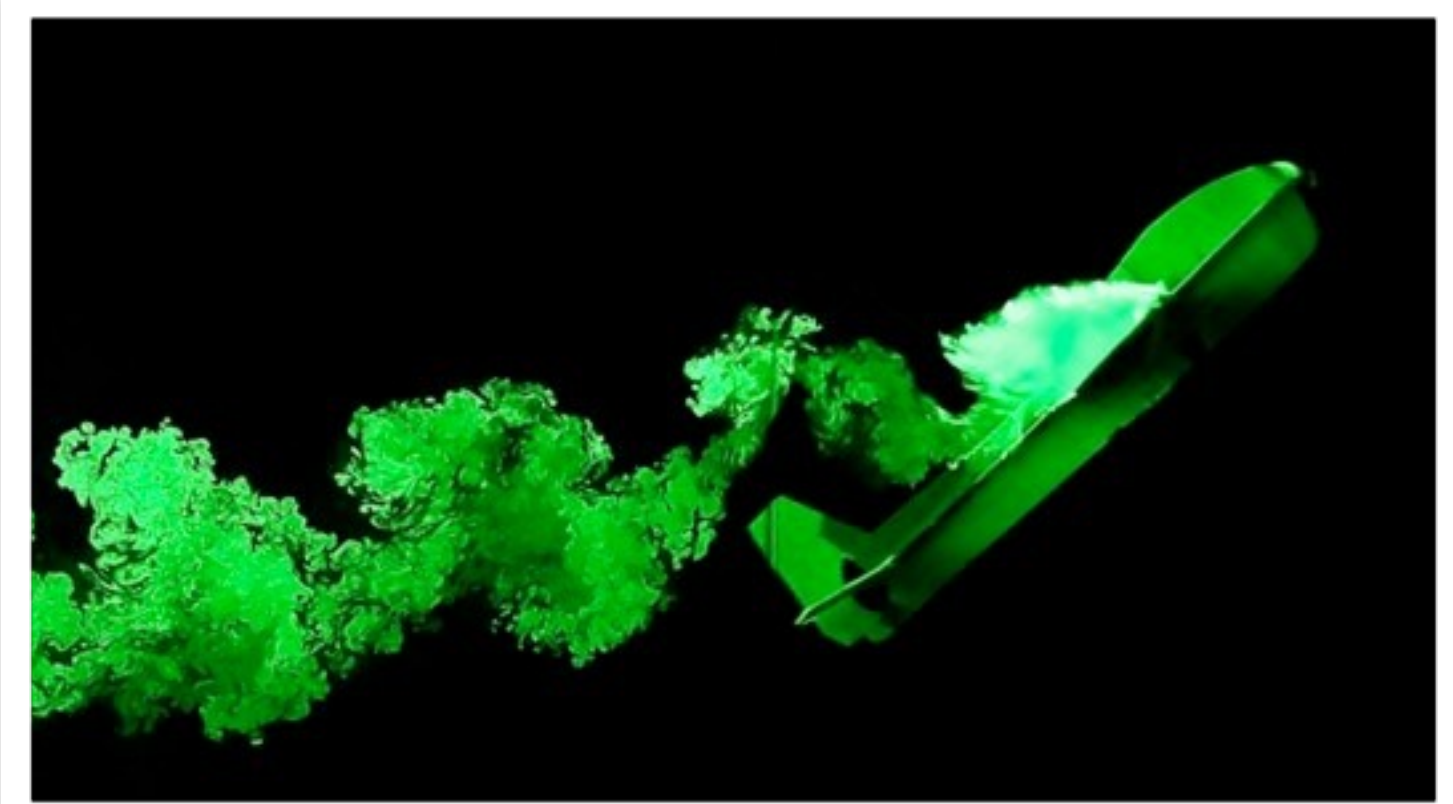
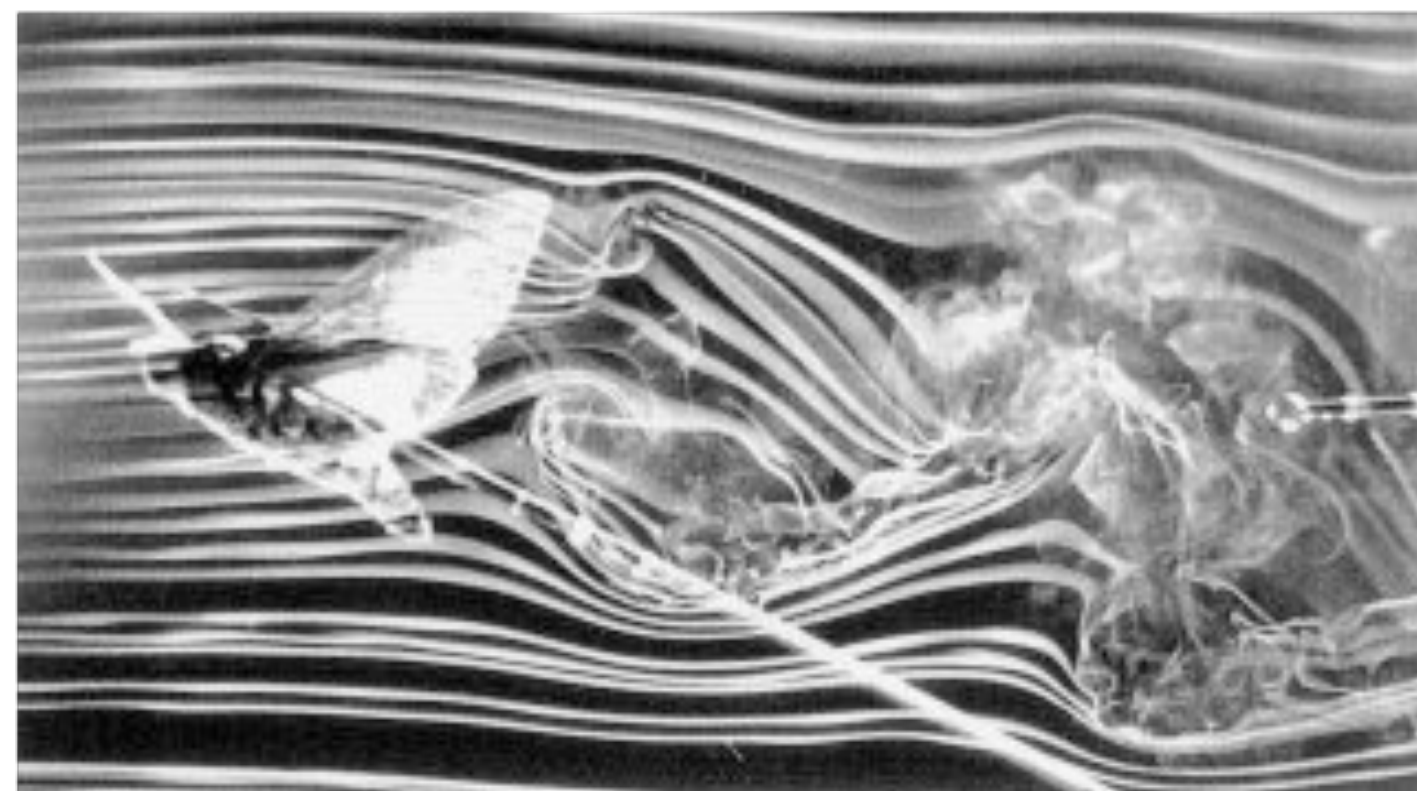
Technology is **decades old** and
designed for solving **steady flow**
problems (using RANS approach)



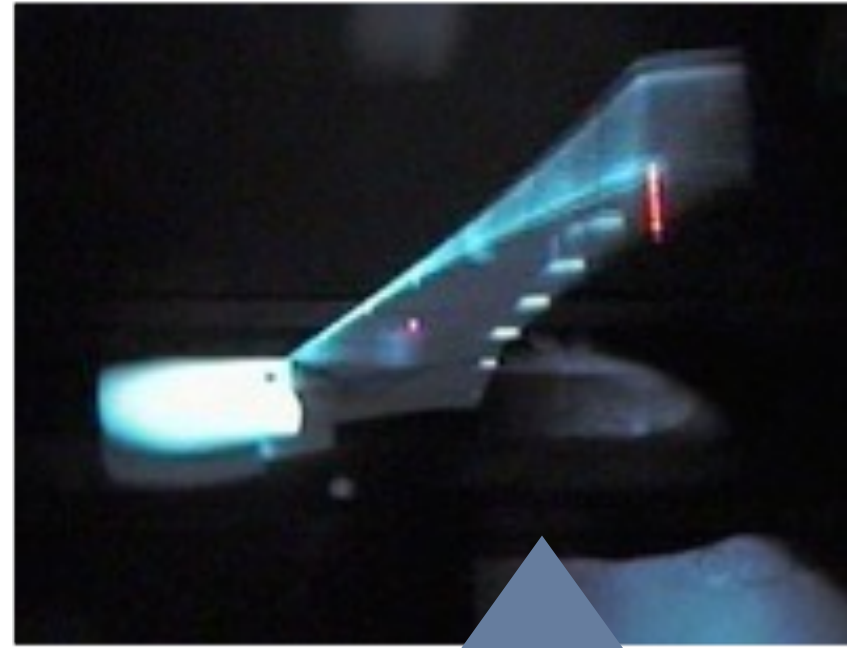
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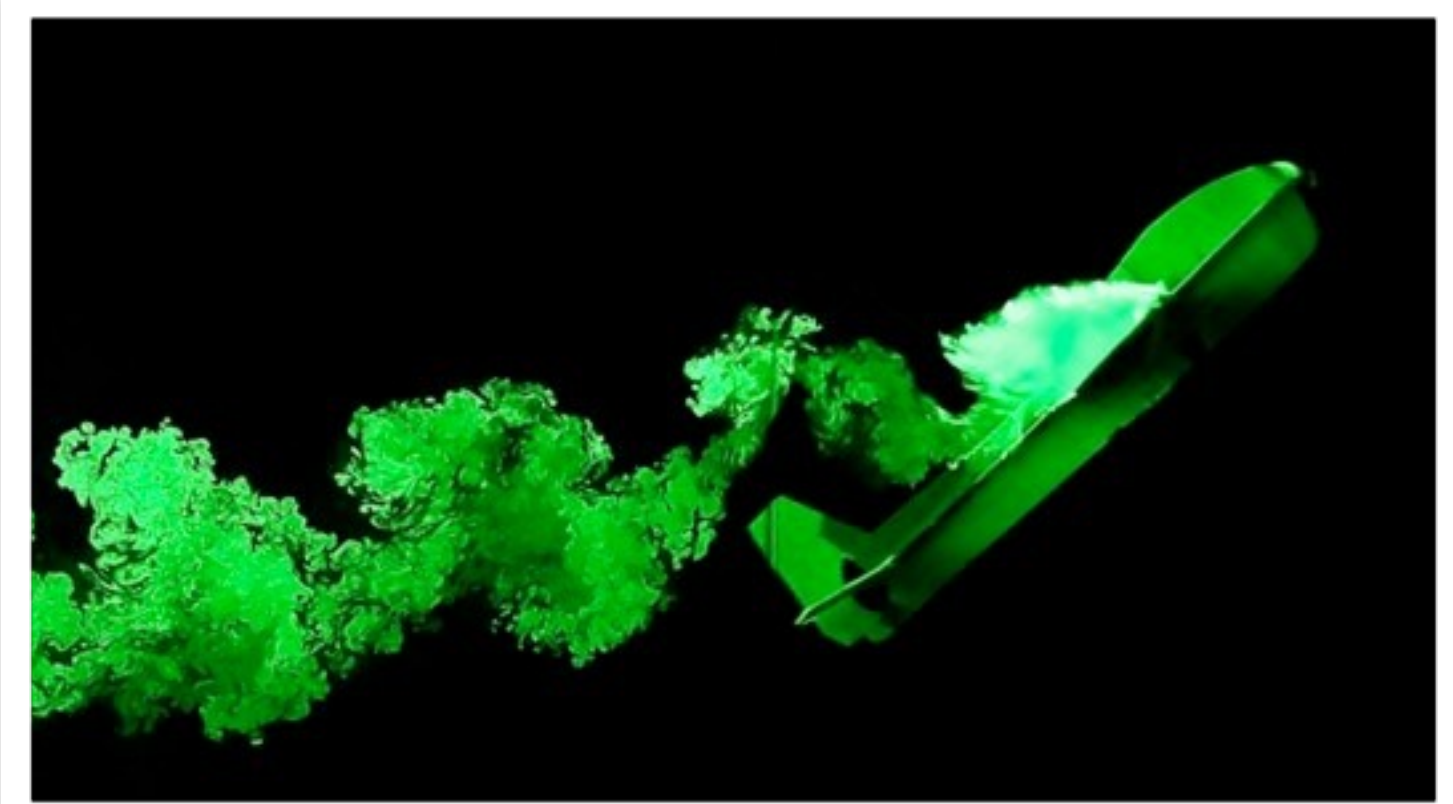
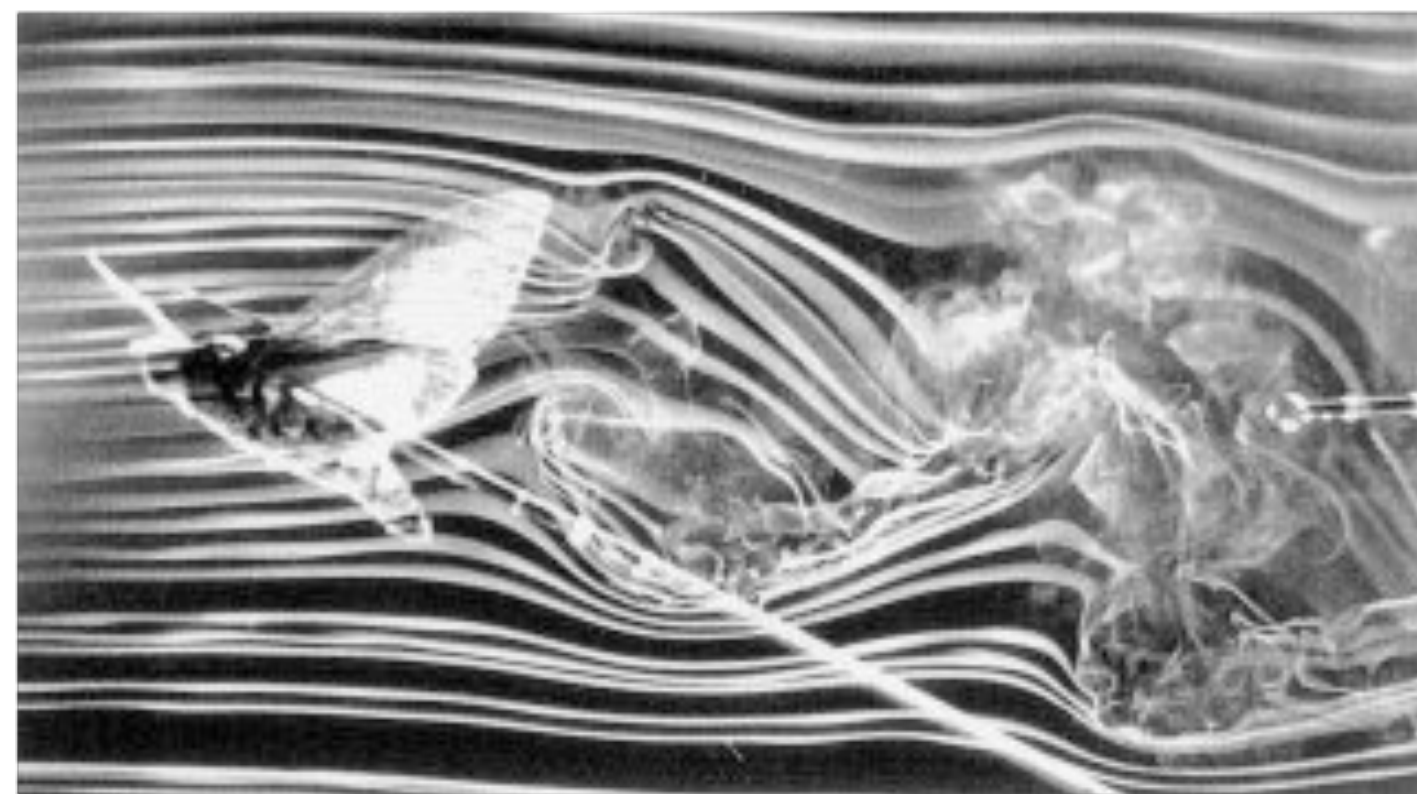
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Our Motivation

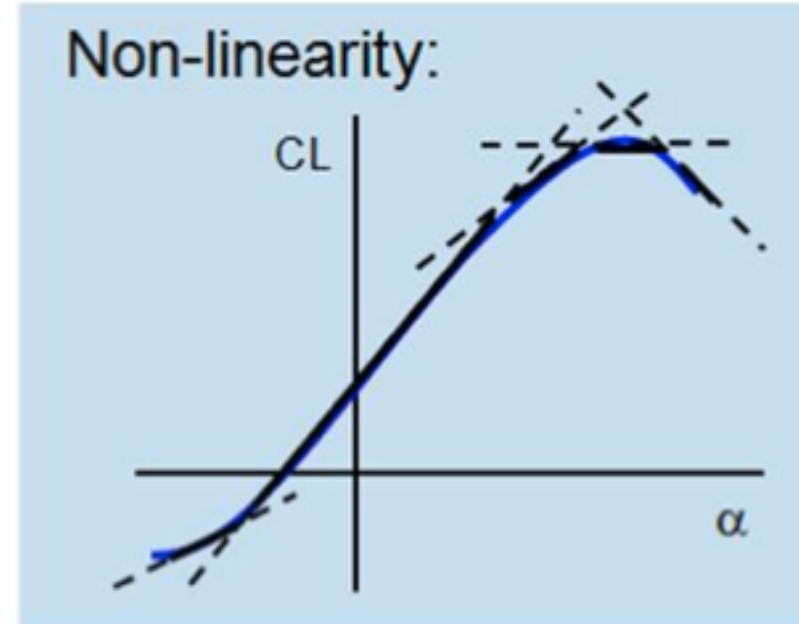
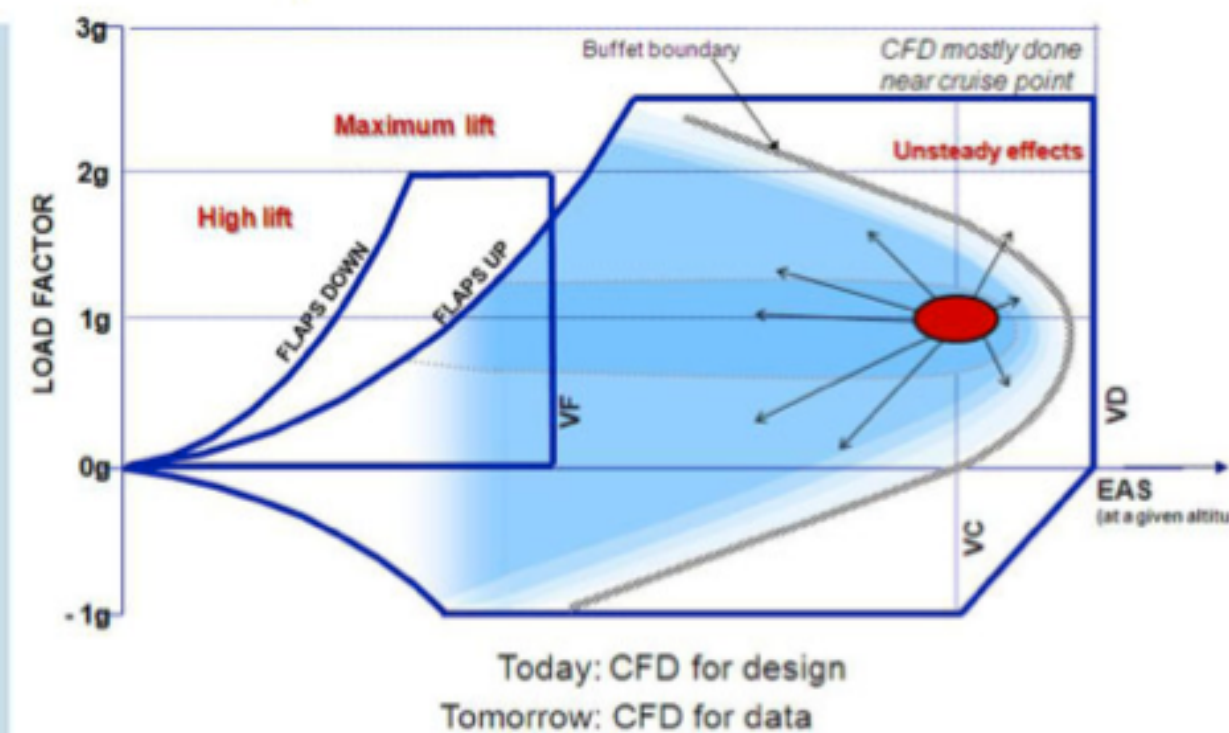
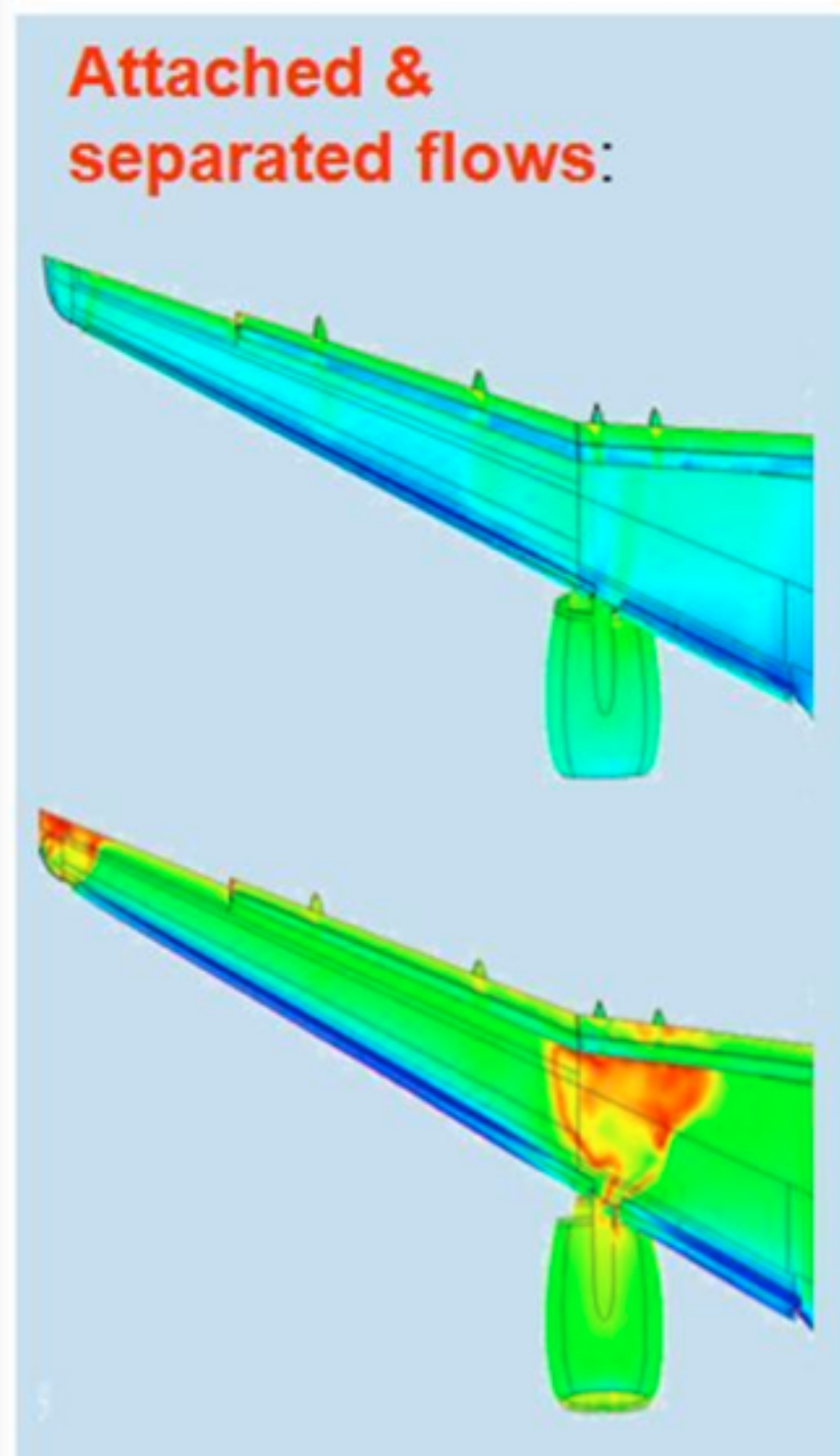


Need to expand the 'industrial CFD envelope'



Our Motivation

Airbus Needs – expanding the envelope



All configurations:

Clean



Airbrakes out

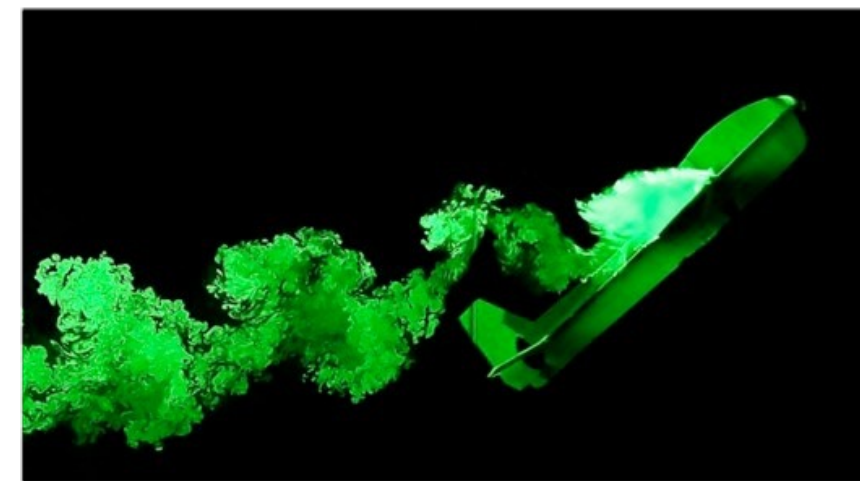
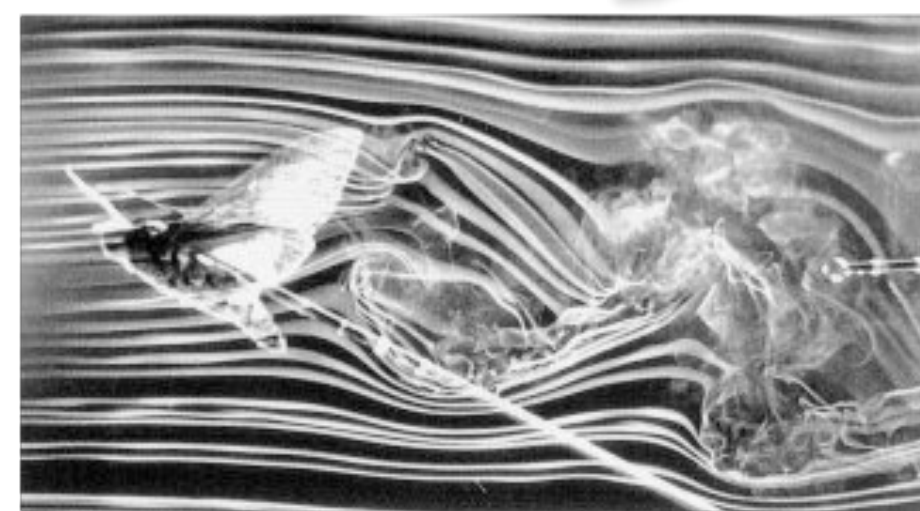
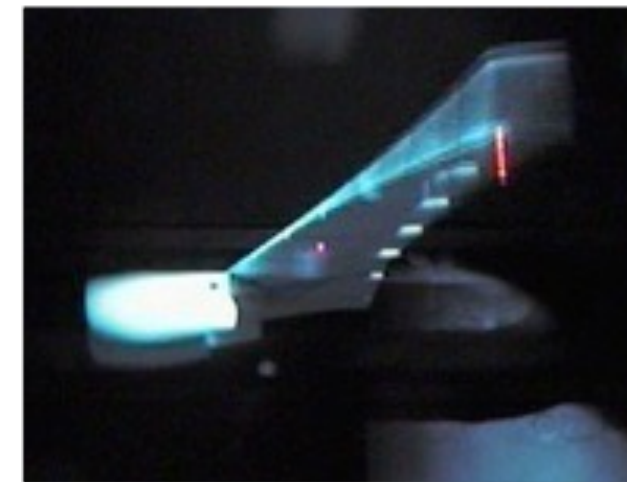


High lift



Our Motivation

Flux Reconstruction
+
Modern Hardware



Flux Reconstruction

- Flux Reconstruction (FR) approach to high-order methods was first proposed by Huynh in 2007 [3]
- High-order accurate in space
- Works on unstructured grids

Flux Reconstruction

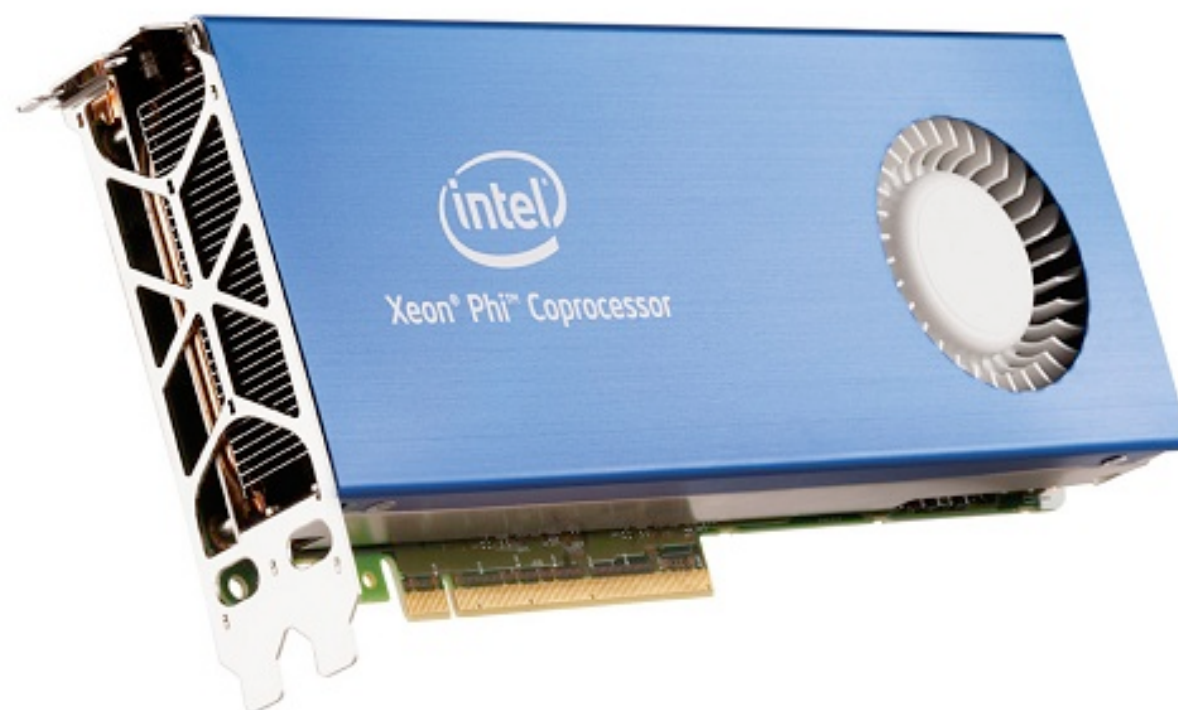
- So ...

High Accuracy + Complex Geometry

Modern Hardware

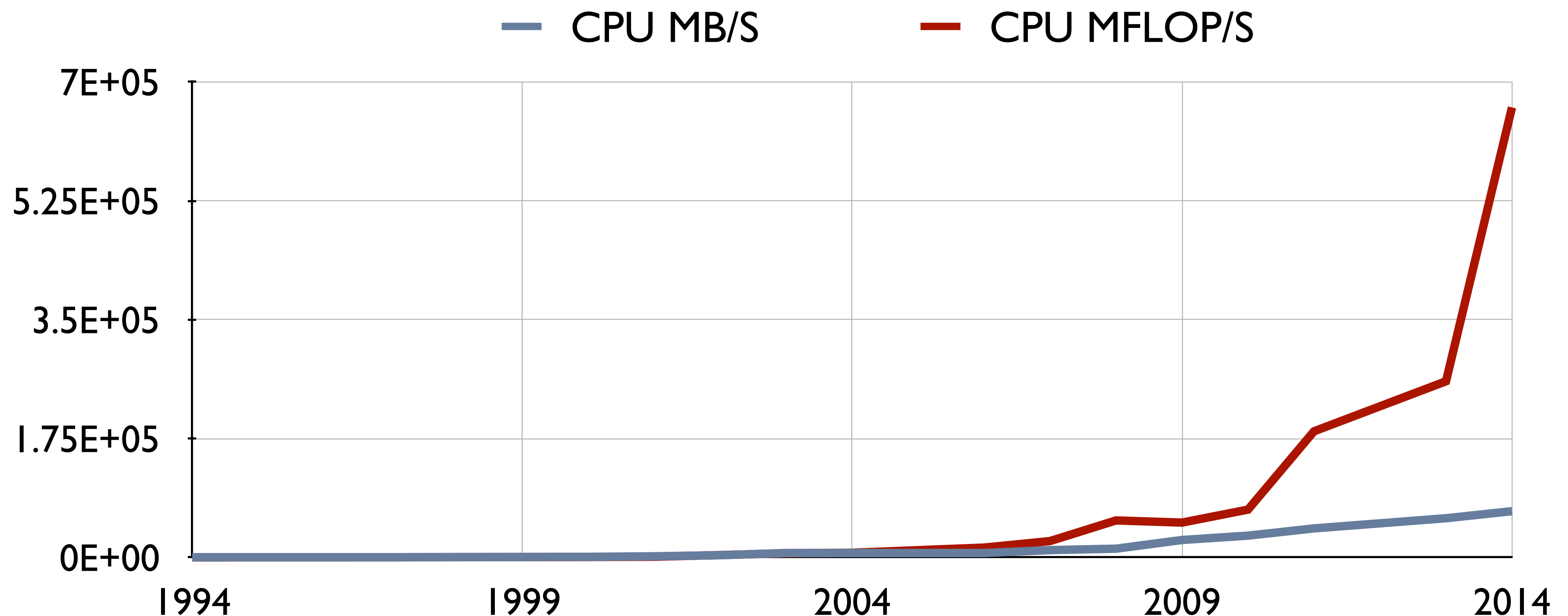


Modern Hardware



Modern Hardware

- **FLOPS** increasing faster than **memory bandwidth** [7]



[7] F. D. Witherden, A. M. Farrington, P. E. Vincent. PyFR: An Open Source Framework for Solving Advection-Diffusion Type Problems on Streaming Architectures using the Flux Reconstruction Approach. Computer Physics Communications. 2014. Data courtesy of Jan Treibig.

Modern Hardware

- Also FLOPS come in parallel ...

Modern Hardware

- And, different programming languages for different devices ...

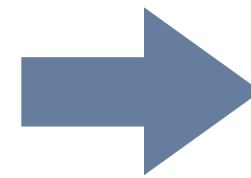
Modern Hardware

- So a **challenging** environment ...

Modern Hardware

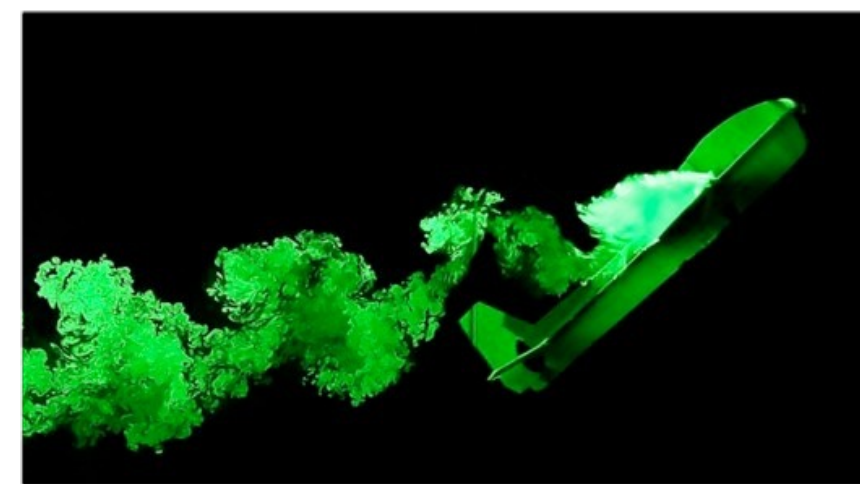
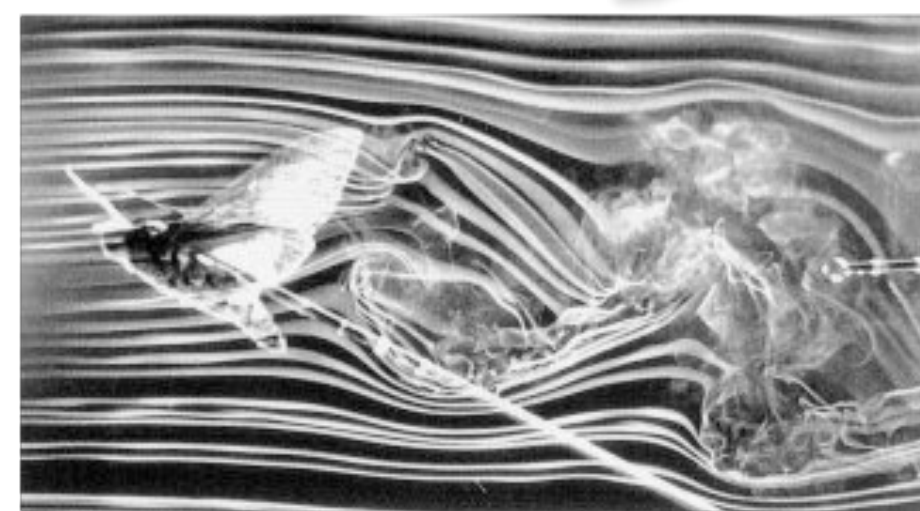
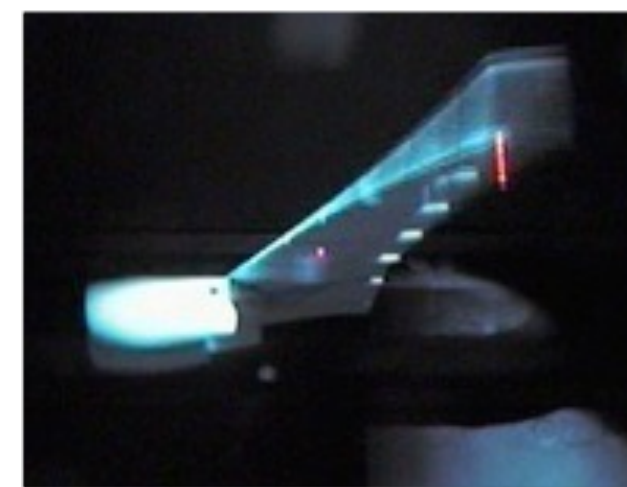
- But significant **FLOPS** now available if they can be harnessed ...

2.91 TFLOPS
(Double Precision)



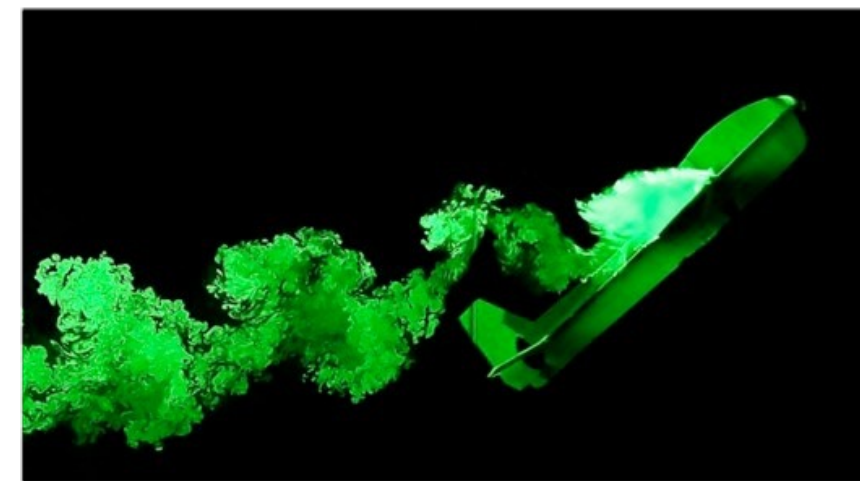
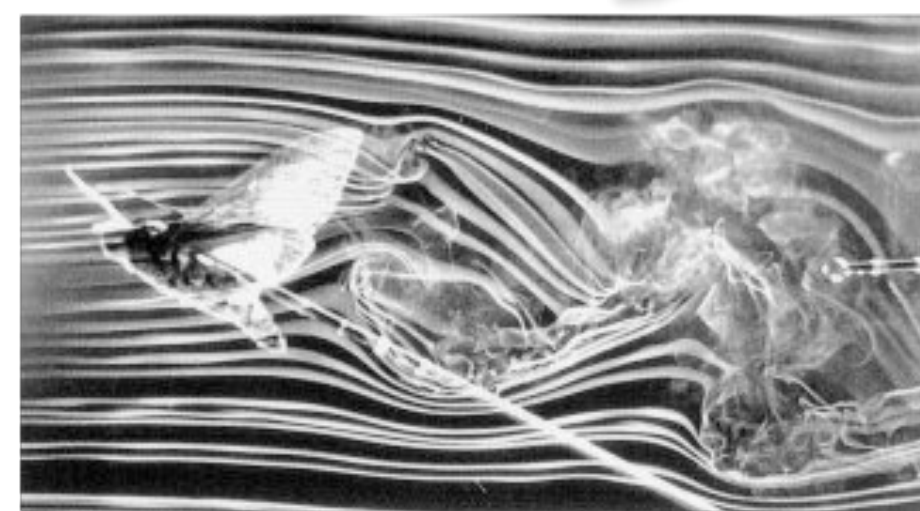
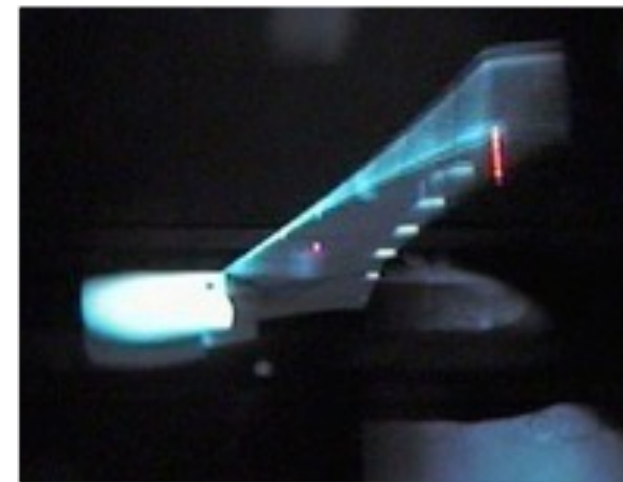
PyFR

Flux Reconstruction
+
Modern Hardware



PyFR

PyFR



PyFR

- **Features**

Governing Equations	Compressible Euler Compressible Navier Stokes
Spatial Discretisation	Arbitrary order FR on mixed unstructured grids (tris, quads, hexes, tets, prisms, pyramids)
Temporal Discretisation	Range of explicit Runge-Kutta schemes
Platforms	CPU clusters (C-OpenMP-MPI) Nvidia GPU clusters (CUDA-MPI) AMD GPU clusters (OpenCL-MPI)
Precision	Single Double
Input	Gmsh
Output	Paraview

PyFR

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PyFR

- Python Outer Layer (Hardware Independent)

Python Outer Layer
(Hardware Independent)

- Setup
- Distributed memory parallelism
- Outer 'for' loop and calls to
Hardware Specific Kernels

PyFR

- Need to generate the Hardware Specific Kernels

Python Outer Layer
(Hardware Independent)

- Setup
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PyFR

- Two **types** of kernel are required ...

Python Outer Layer (Hardware Independent)

- Setup
- Distributed memory parallelism
- Outer 'for' loop and calls to
Hardware Specific Kernels

Matrix Multiply Kernels

- Data
interpolation/
extrapolation
etc.

Point-Wise Nonlinear Kernels

- Flux functions,
Riemann
solvers etc.

PyFR

- For matrix multiply kernels it is pretty easy ...

Python Outer Layer (Hardware Independent)

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- Distributed memory parallelism
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Matrix Multiply Kernels

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Point-Wise Nonlinear Kernels

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Use DGEMM from
vendor supplied
BLAS

PyFR

- Harder for point-wise nonlinear kernels ...

Python Outer Layer (Hardware Independent)

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Matrix Multiply Kernels

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Use DGEMM from
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Pass Mako
derived kernel
templates through
Mako derived
templating engine

PyFR

- These can now be called

Python Outer Layer (Hardware Independent)

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C/OpenMP Hardware Specific Kernels



CUDA Hardware Specific Kernels



OpenCL Hardware Specific Kernels

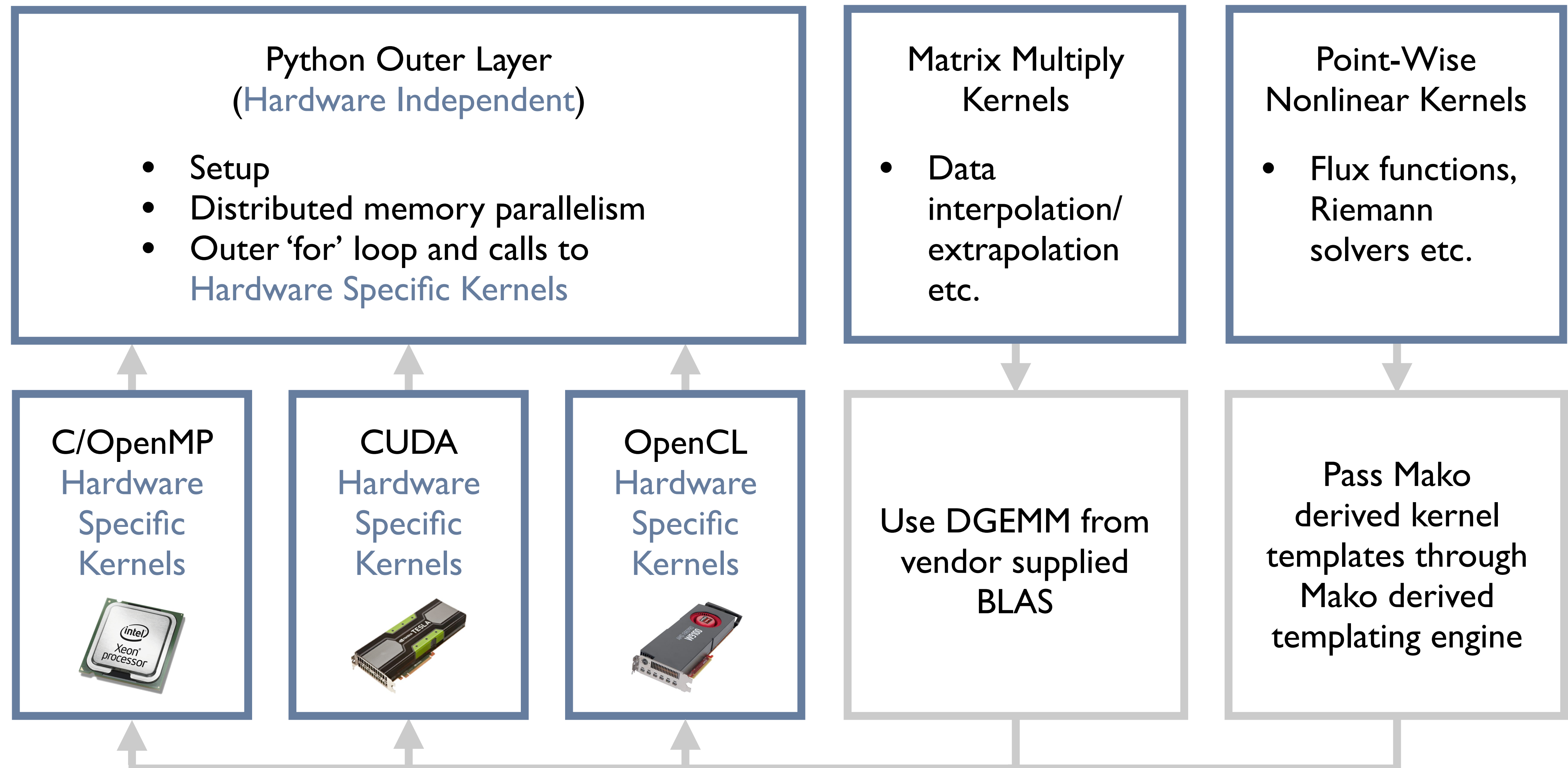


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PyFR



- Website: www.pyfr.org
- Twitter: [@PyFR_Solver](https://twitter.com/PyFR_Solver)
- Paper: [Computer Physics Communications \[8\]](#)



[8] F. D. Witherden, A. M. Farrington, P. E. Vincent. PyFR: An Open Source Framework for Solving Advection-Diffusion Type Problems on Streaming Architectures using the Flux Reconstruction Approach. Computer Physics Communications. 2014

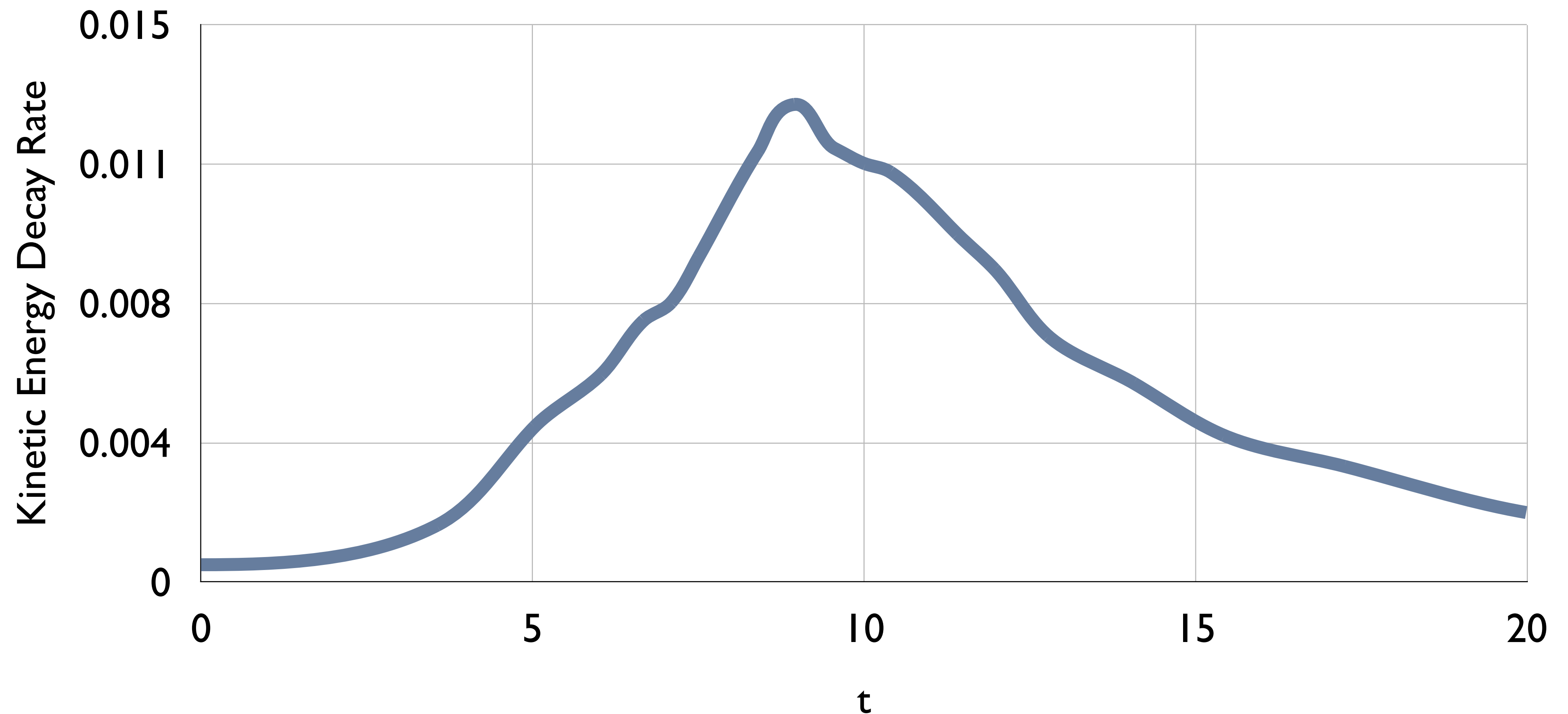
Results

- 3D **Taylor-Green** vortex breakdown
- Compare with spectral DNS results of van Rees et al. [9]

[9] W. M. van Rees, A. Leonard, D. I. Pullin, and P. Koumoutsakos. A Comparison of Vortex and Pseudo-Spectral Methods for the Simulation of Periodic Vortical Flows at High Reynolds Numbers. *Journal of Computational Physics*, 2011

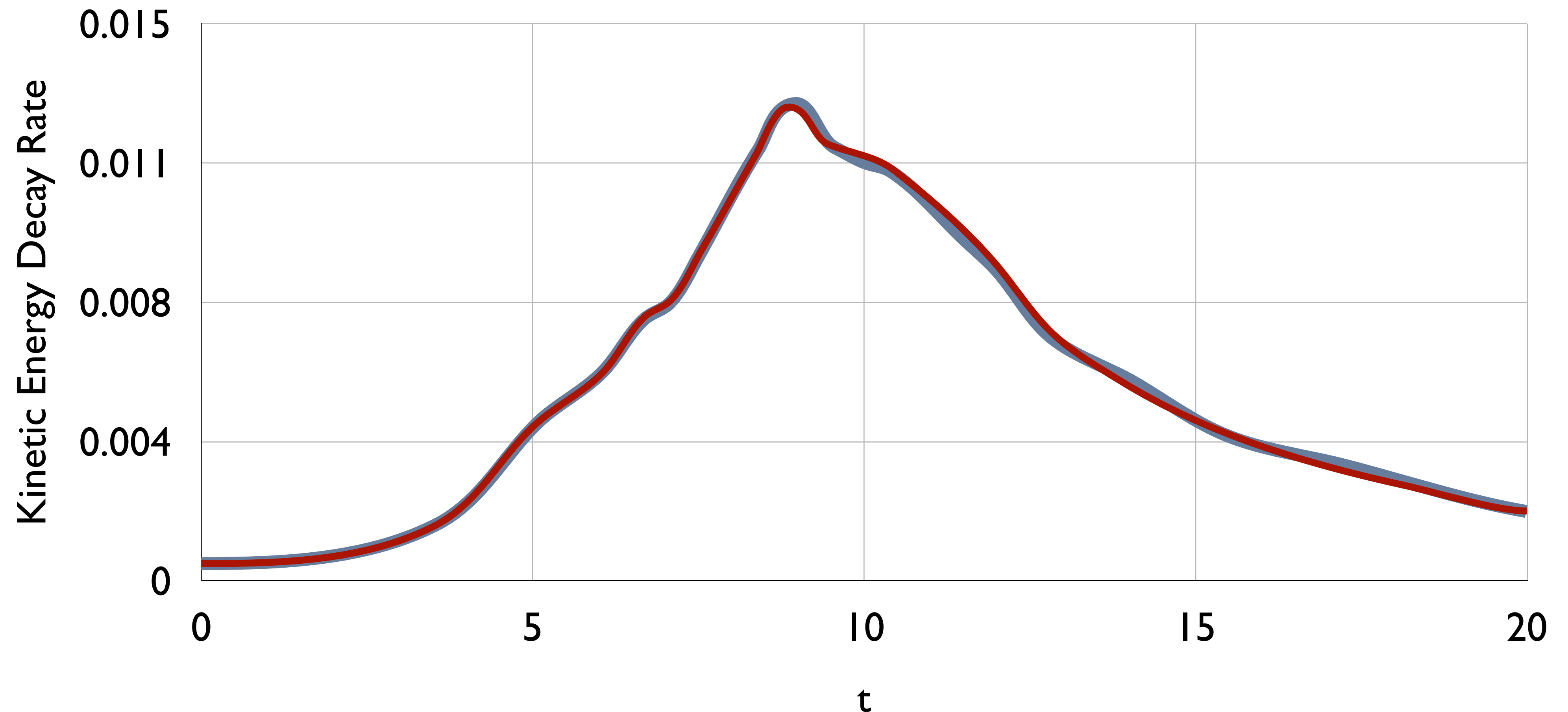
Results

- van Rees et al. spectral DNS



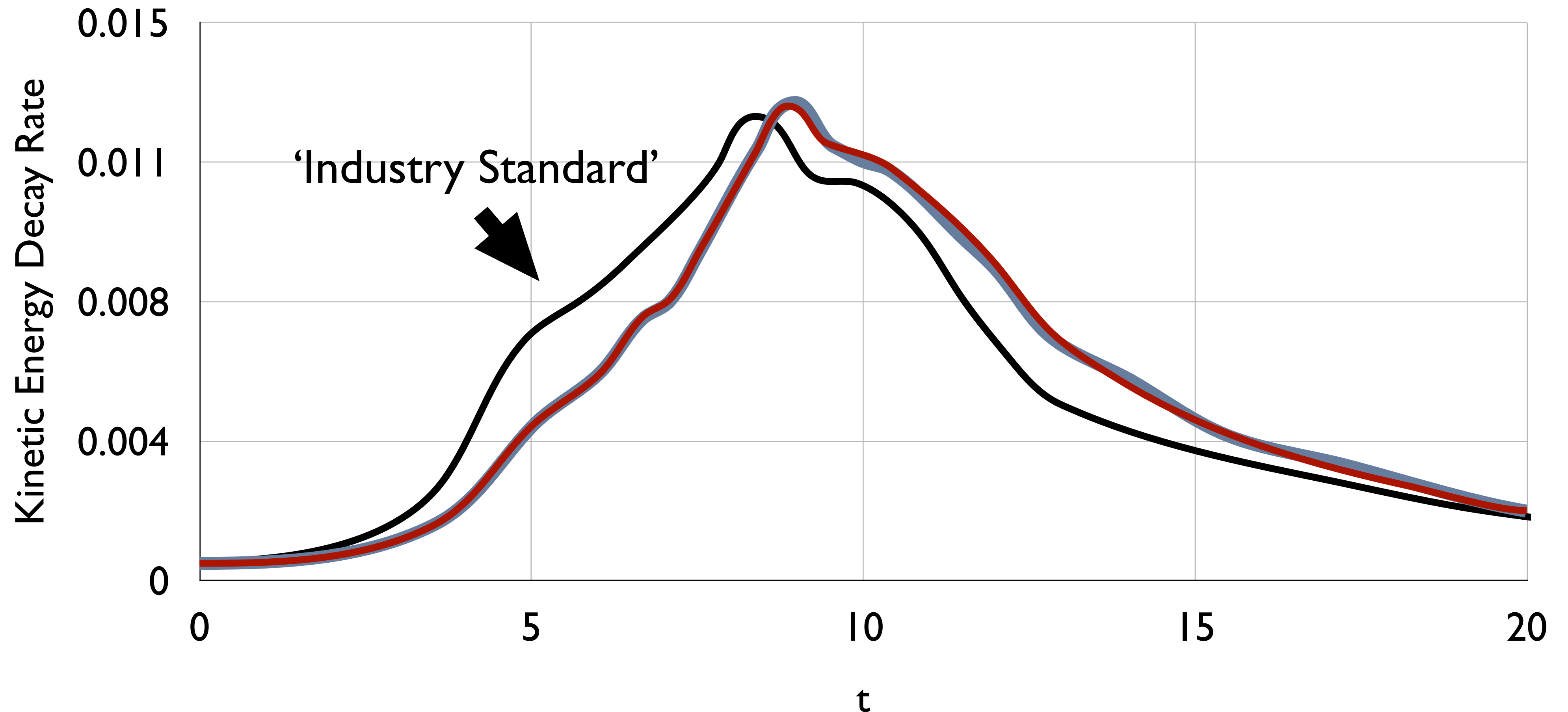
Results

- van Rees et al. spectral DNS + PyFR 6th order



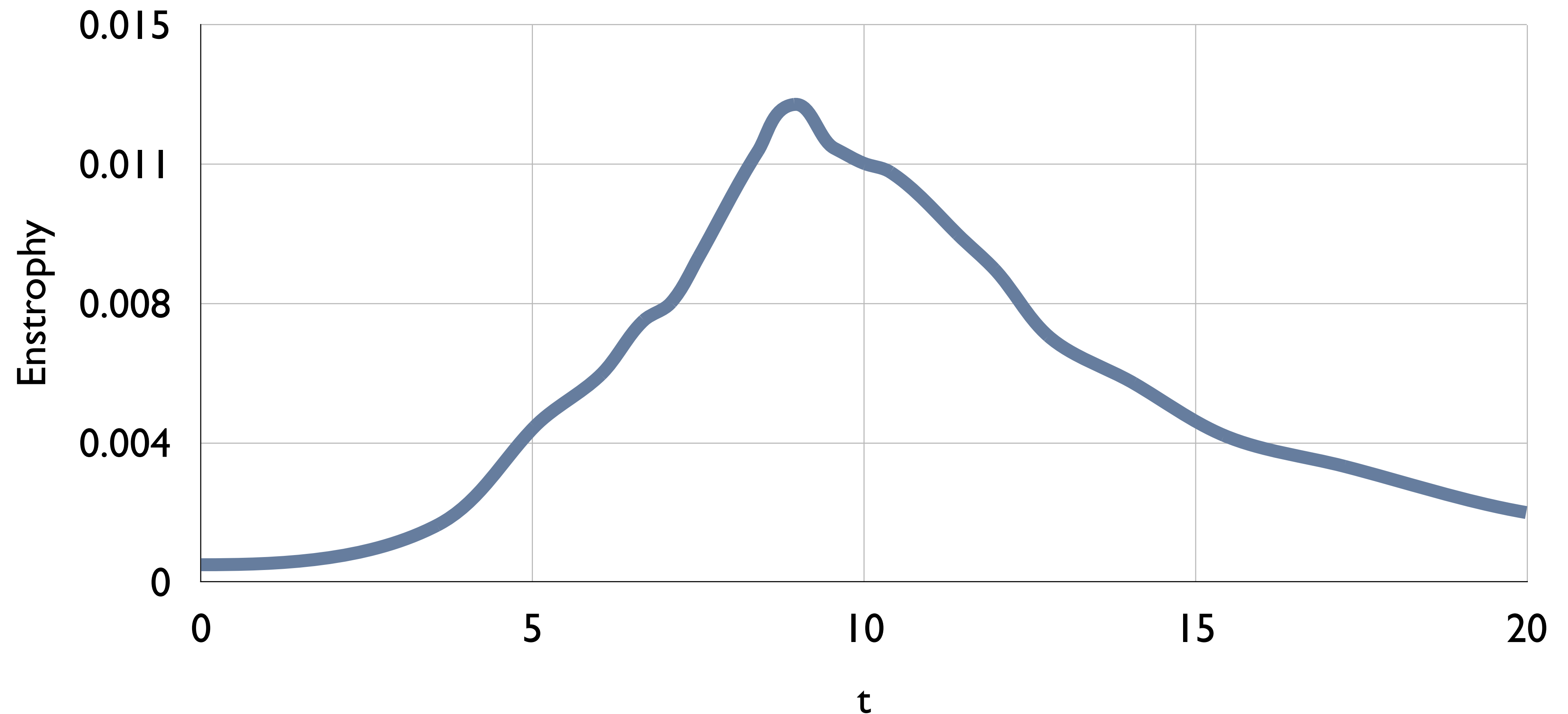
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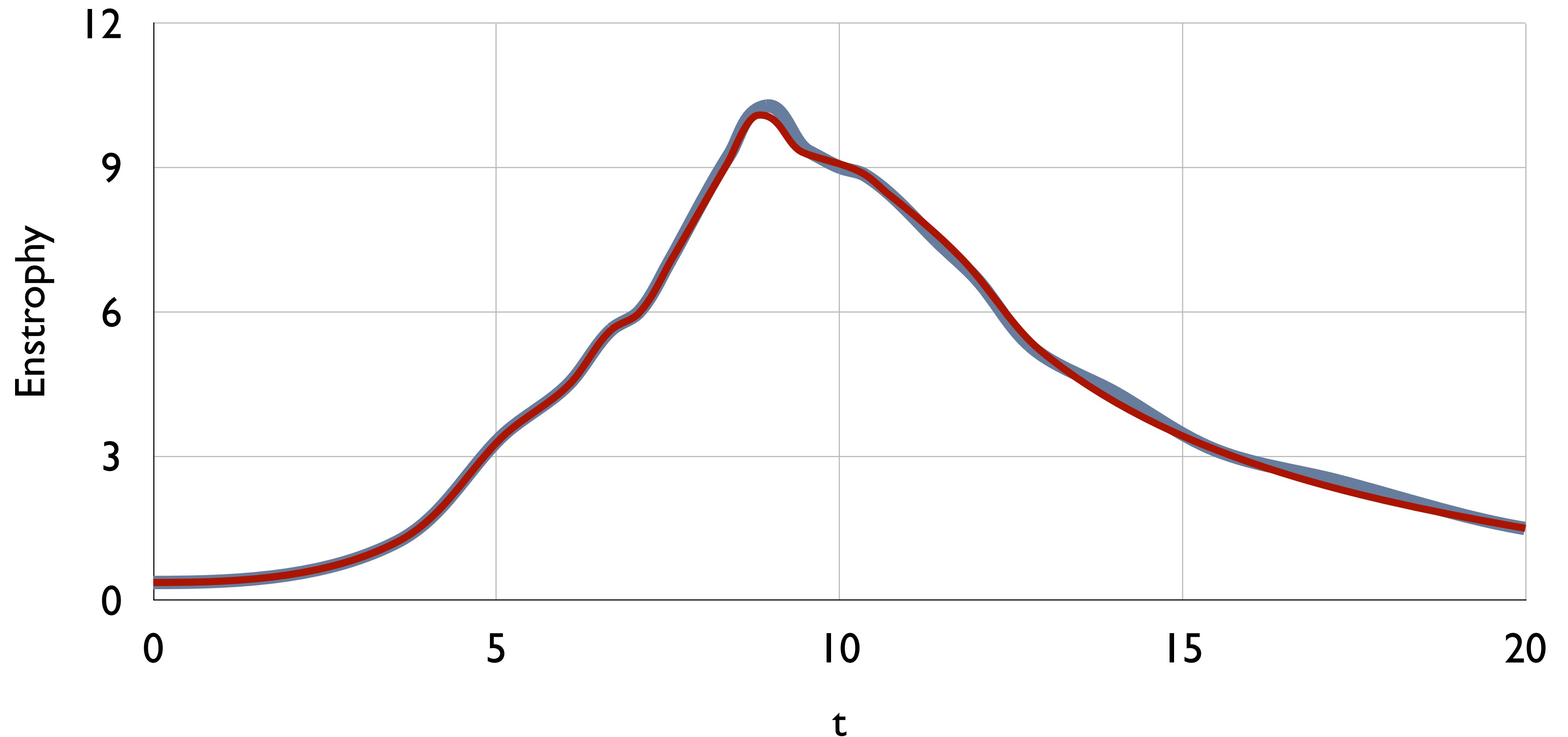
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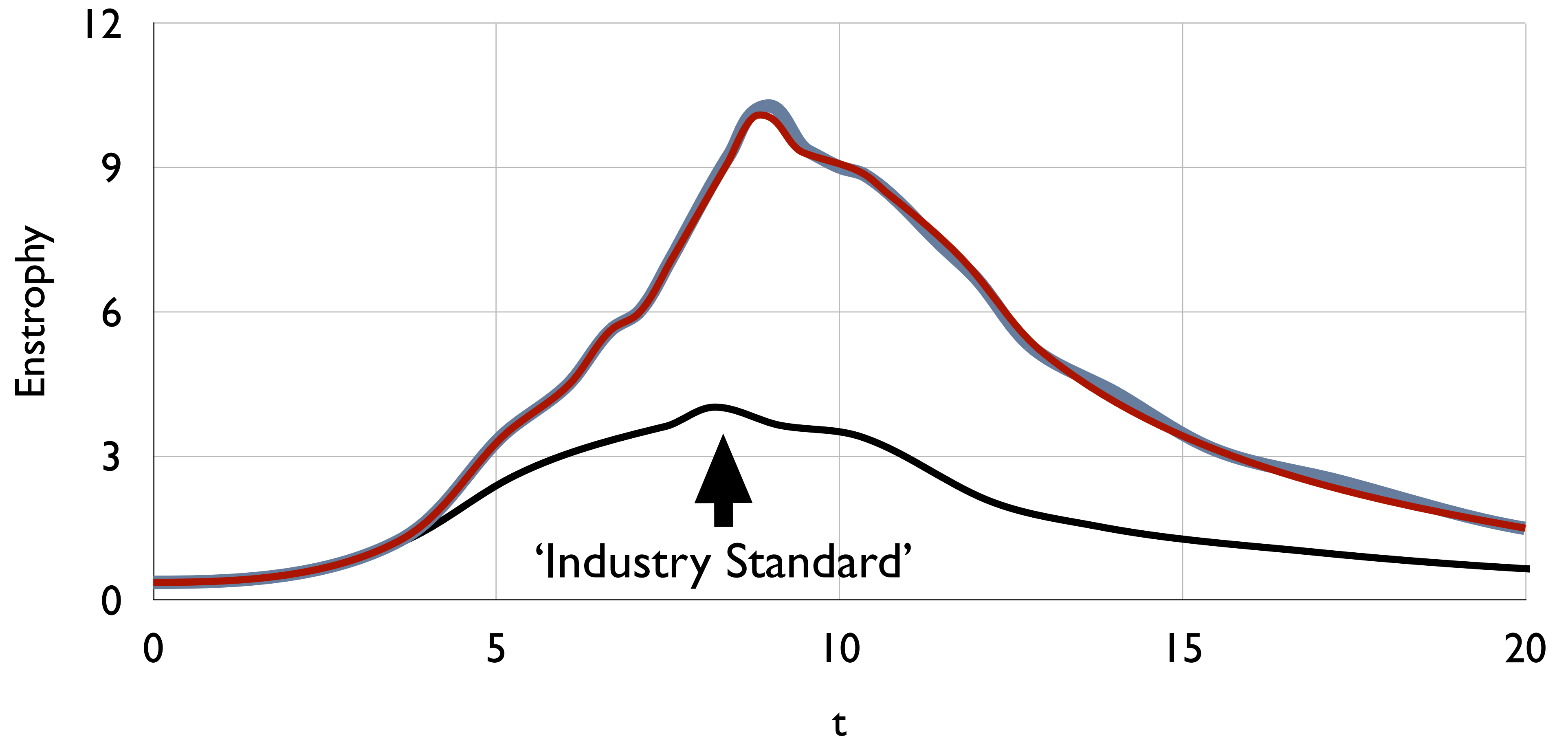
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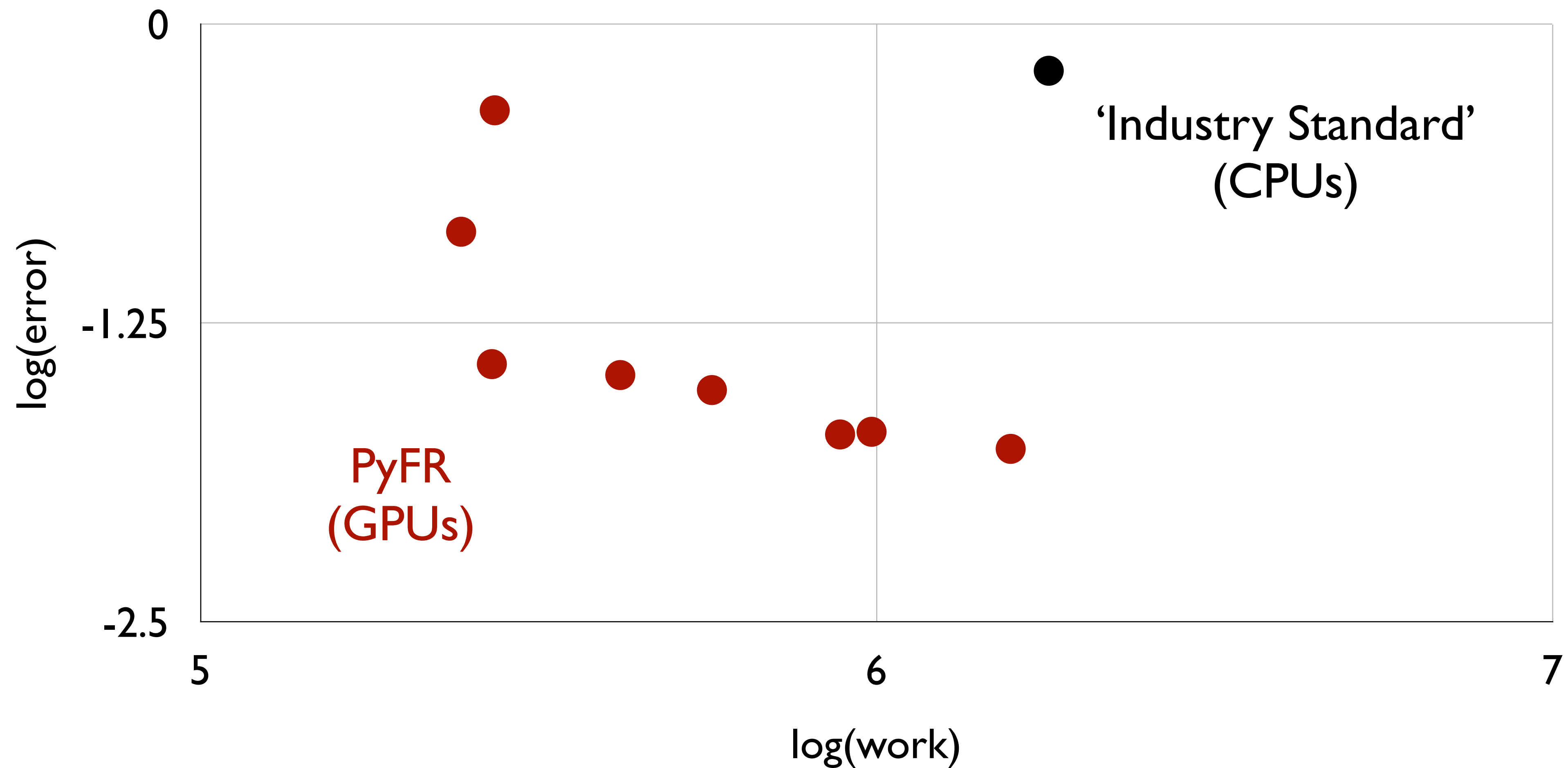
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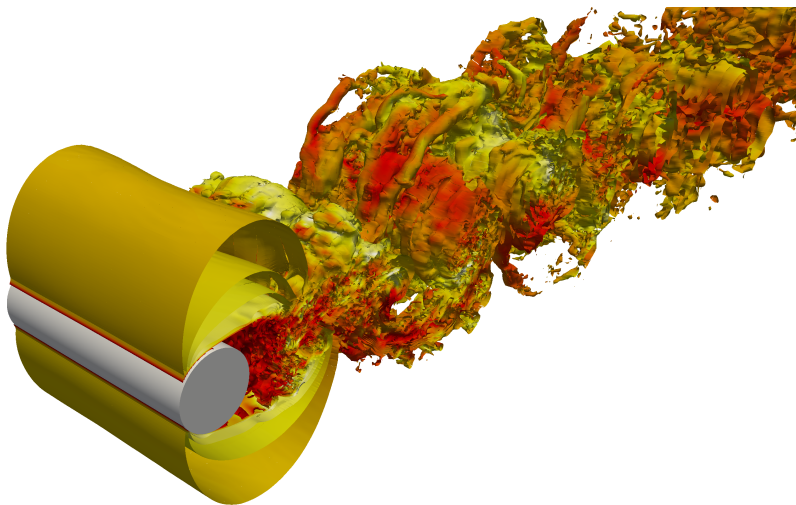
Results

- L_∞ error in enstrophy



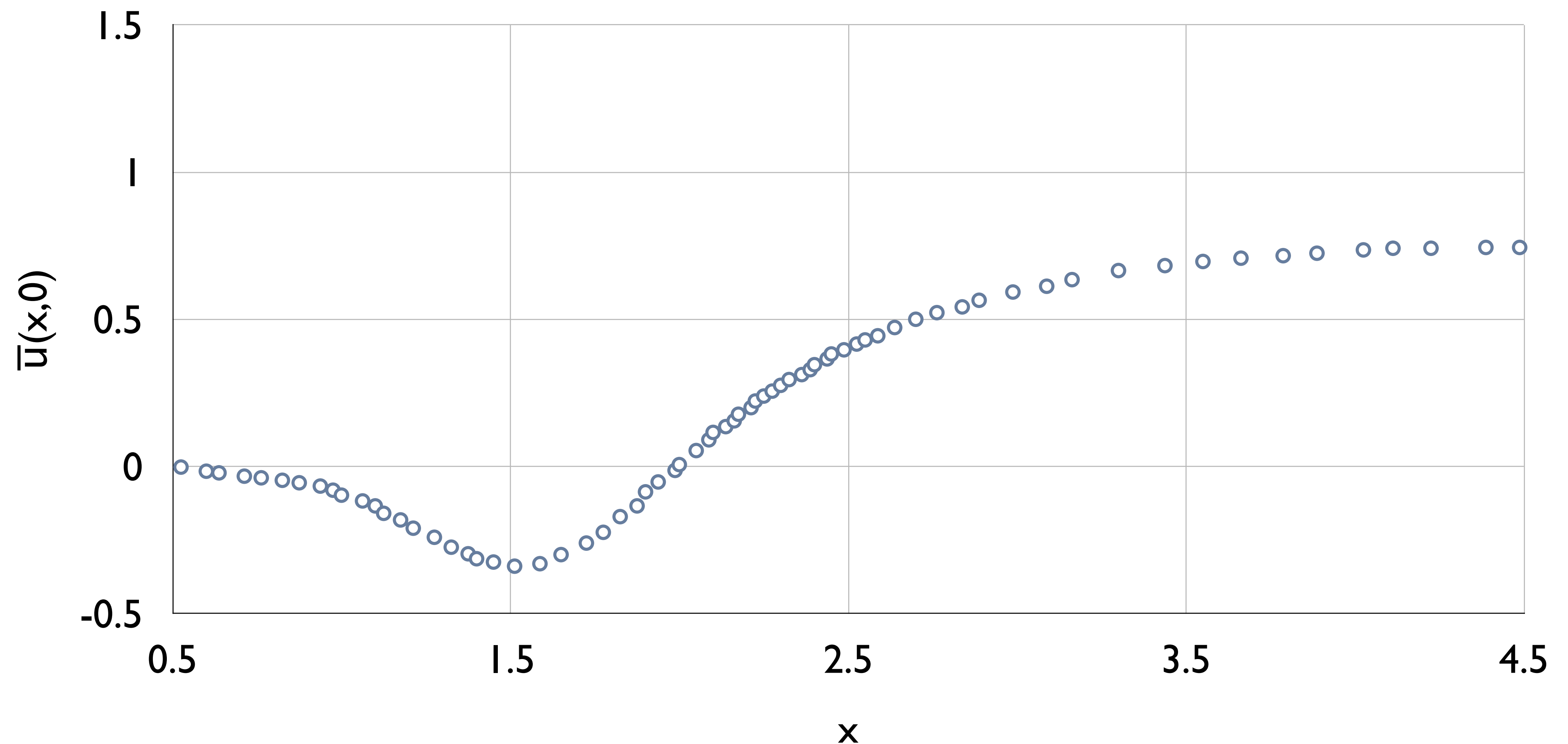
Results

- Flow over a circular cylinder
- $Re = 3900$
- $Ma = 0.2$
- Compare with Parnaudeau et al. [10]



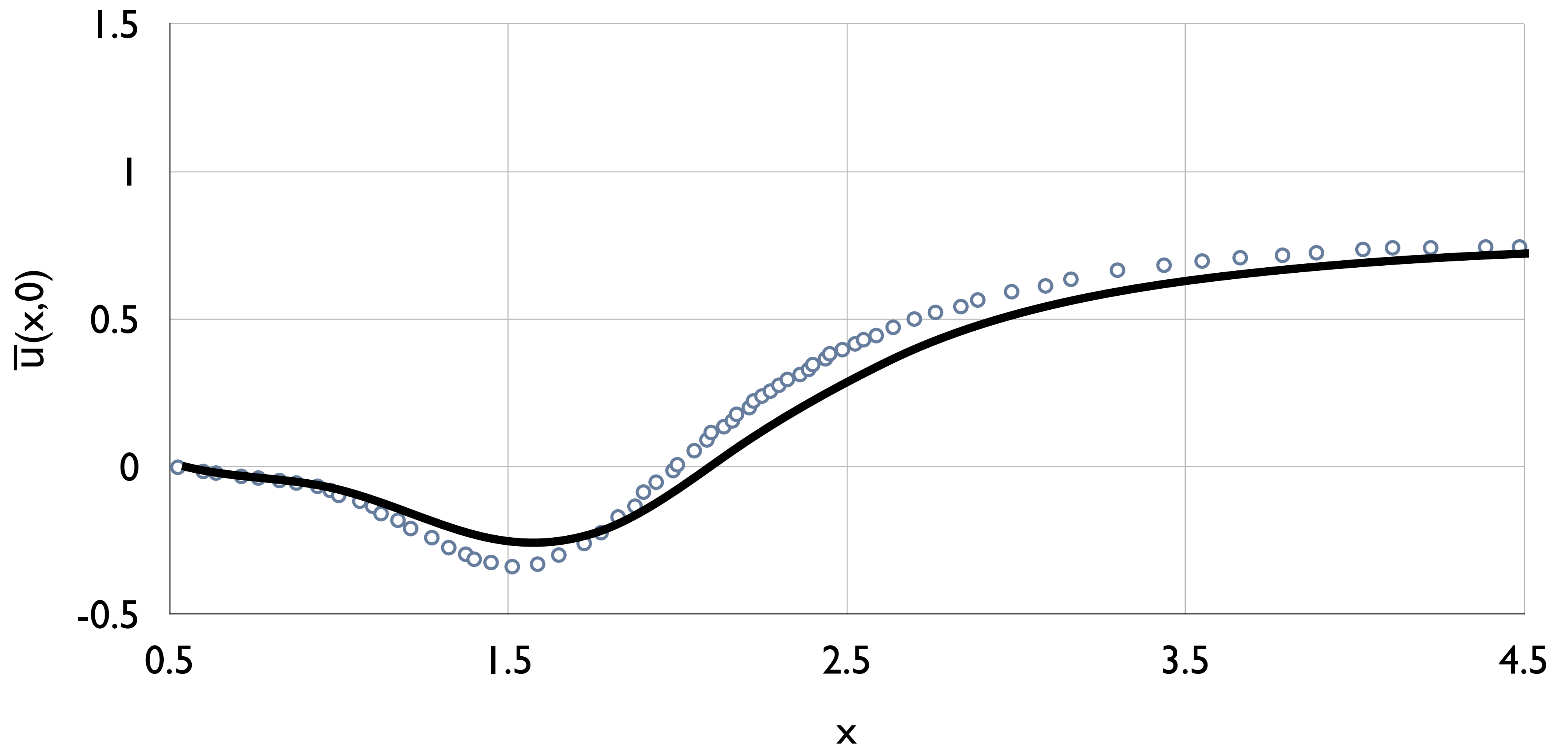
Results

- Parnaudeau et al. experiment



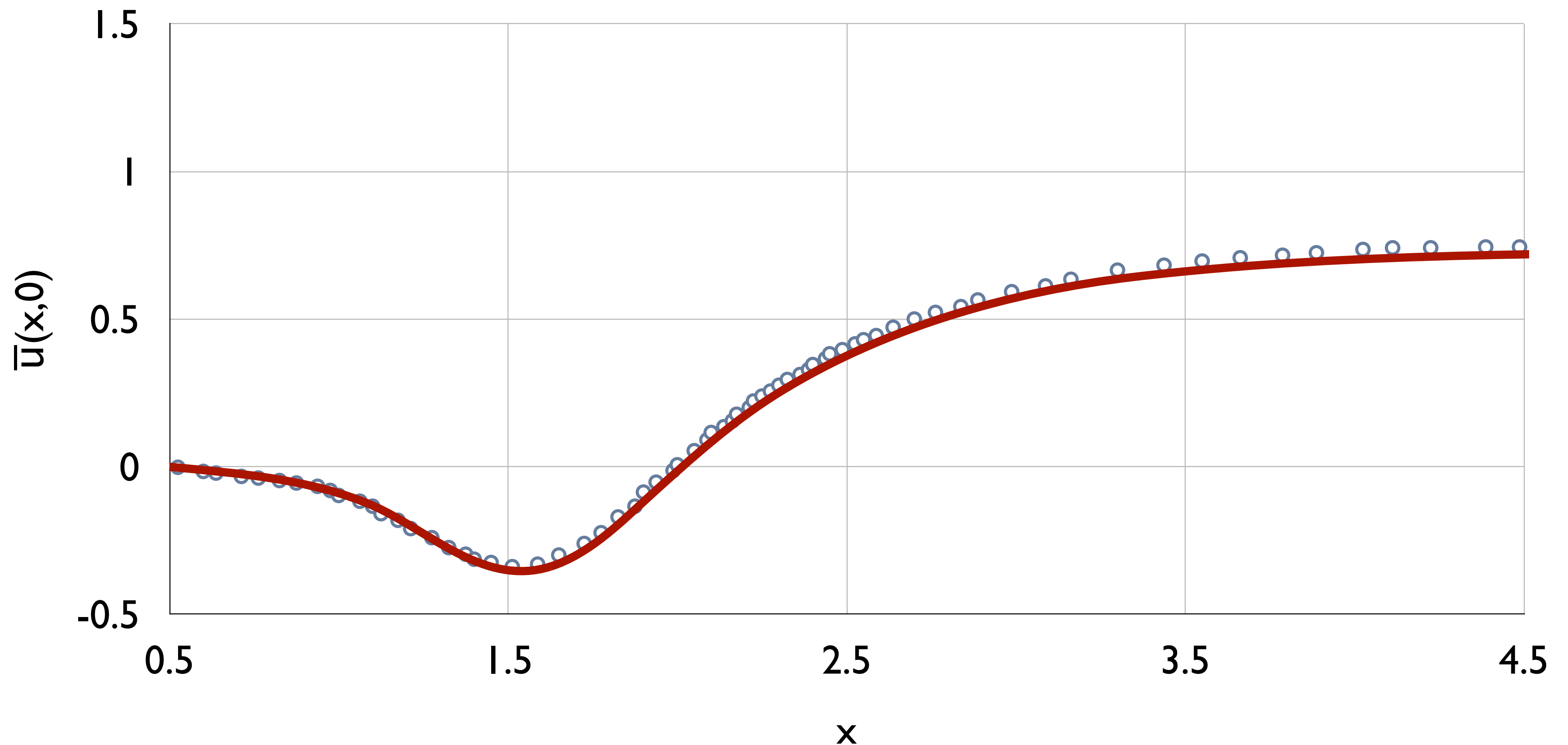
Results

- Parnaudeau et al. experiment + Parnaudeau et al. LES



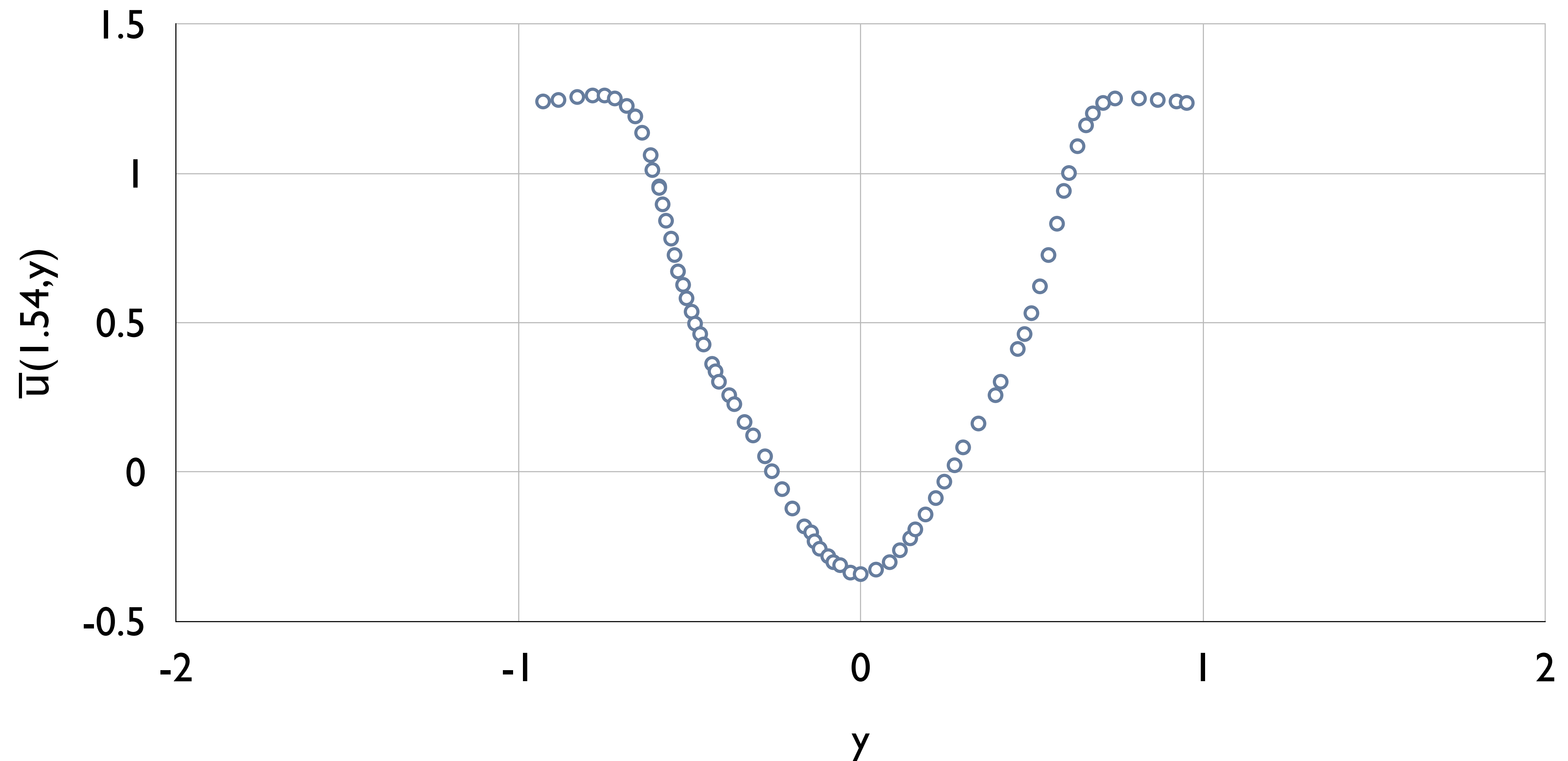
Results

- Parnaudeau et al. experiment + PyFR 5th order



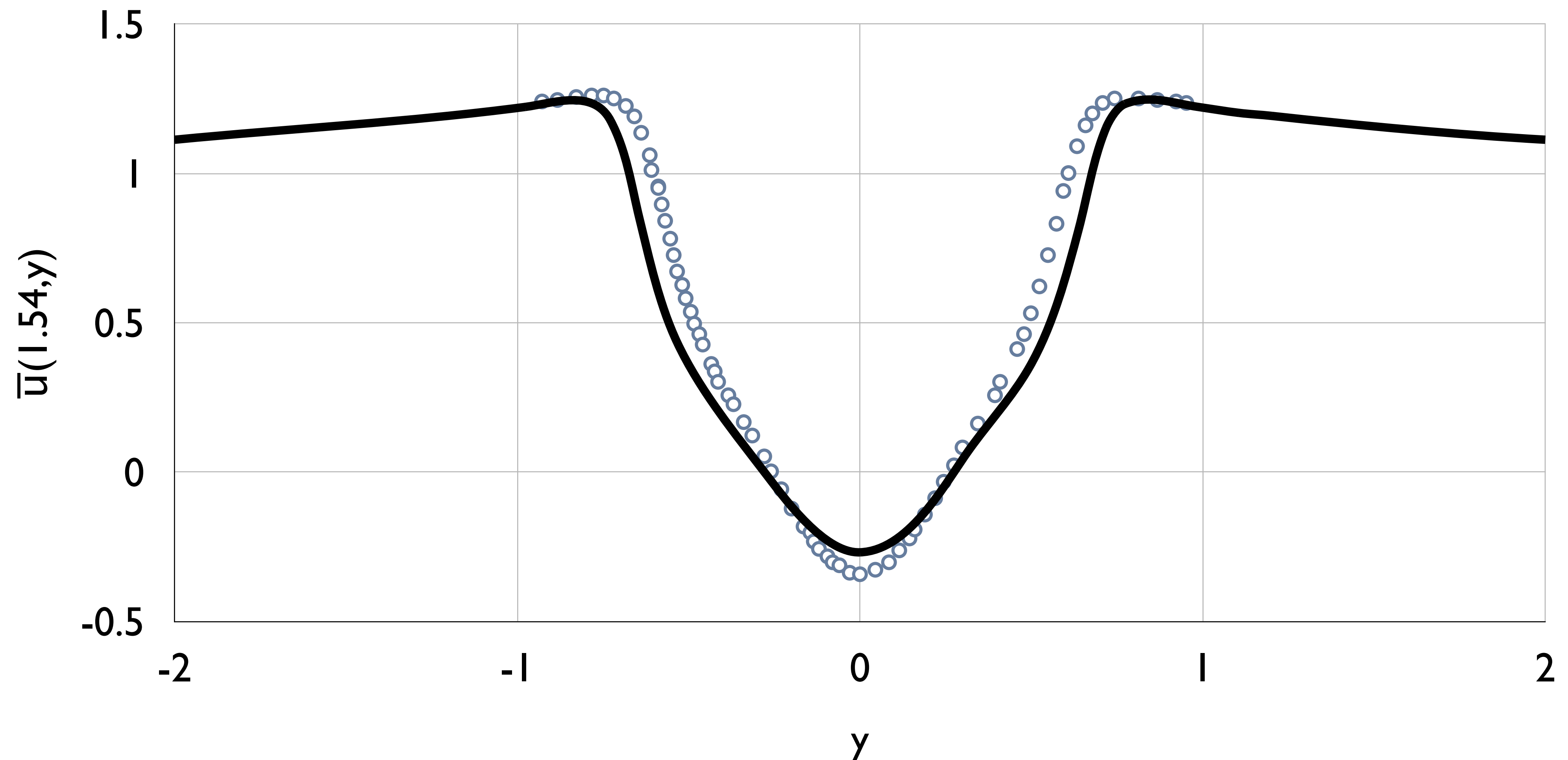
Results

- Parnaudeau et al. experiment



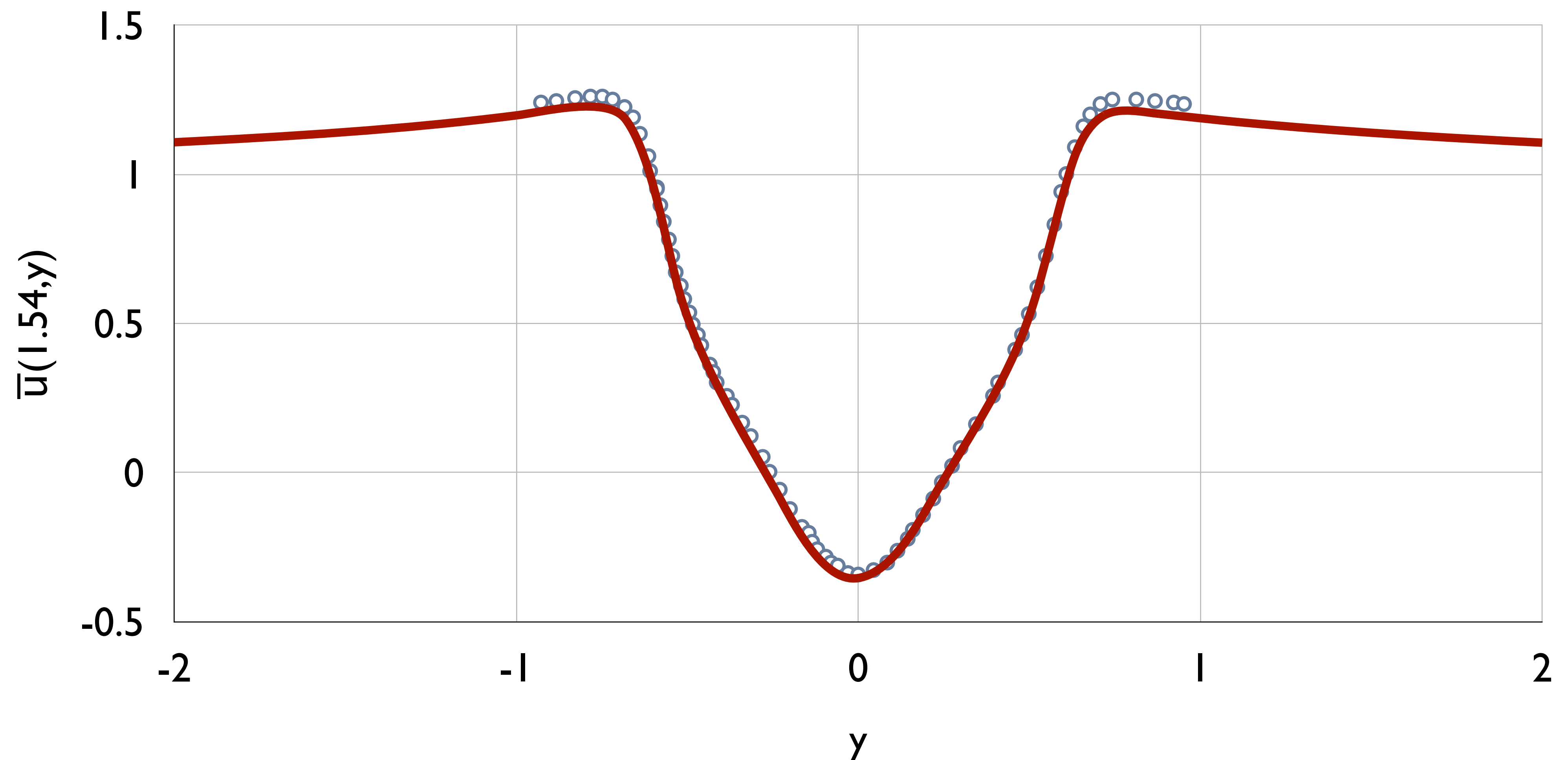
Results

- Parnaudeau et al. experiment + Parnaudeau et al. LES



Results

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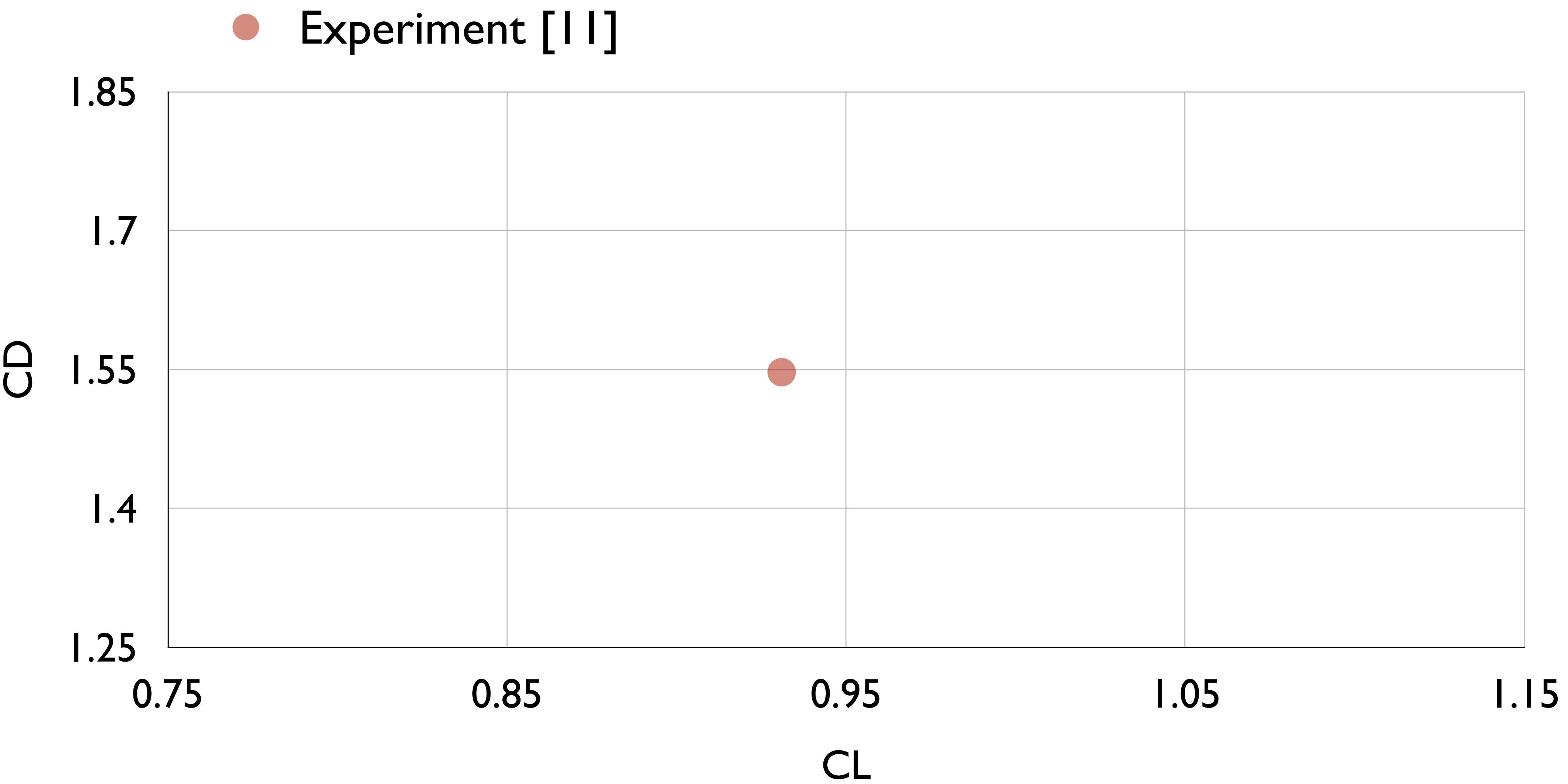
Results

- Flow over a NACA 0021 at 60 degree AoA
- $Re = 270,000$
- $Ma = 0.2$
- Compare with Swalwell and DESider [11][12]

[11] K. Swalwell. The Effect of Turbulence on Stall of Horizontal Axis Wind Turbines. PhD Thesis. 2005.

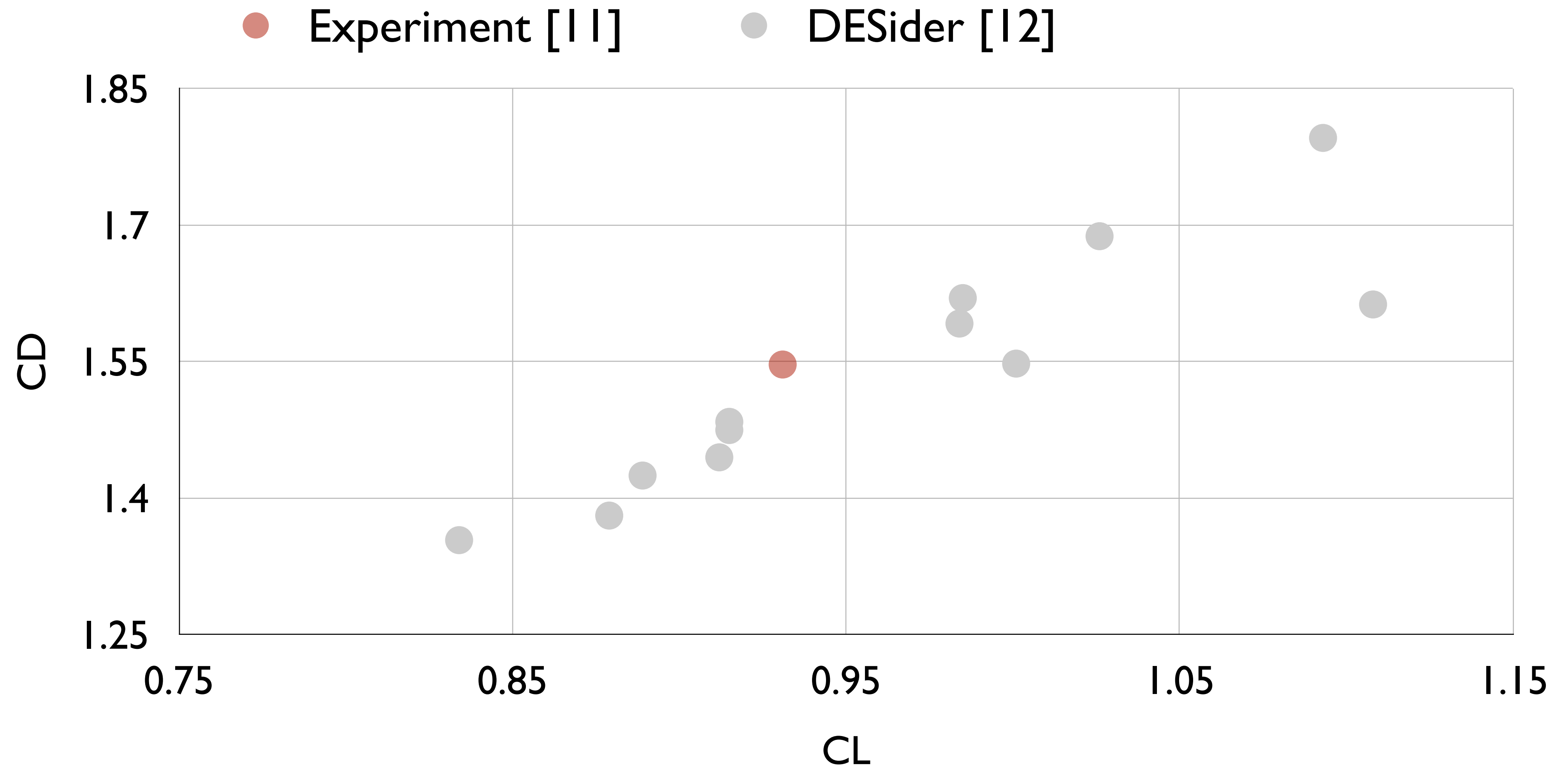
[12] W. Haase, M. Braza, A. Revell. DESider A European Effort on Hybrid RANS-LES Modelling. 2009.

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[11] K. Swalwell. The Effect of Turbulence on Stall of Horizontal Axis Wind Turbines. PhD Thesis. 2005.
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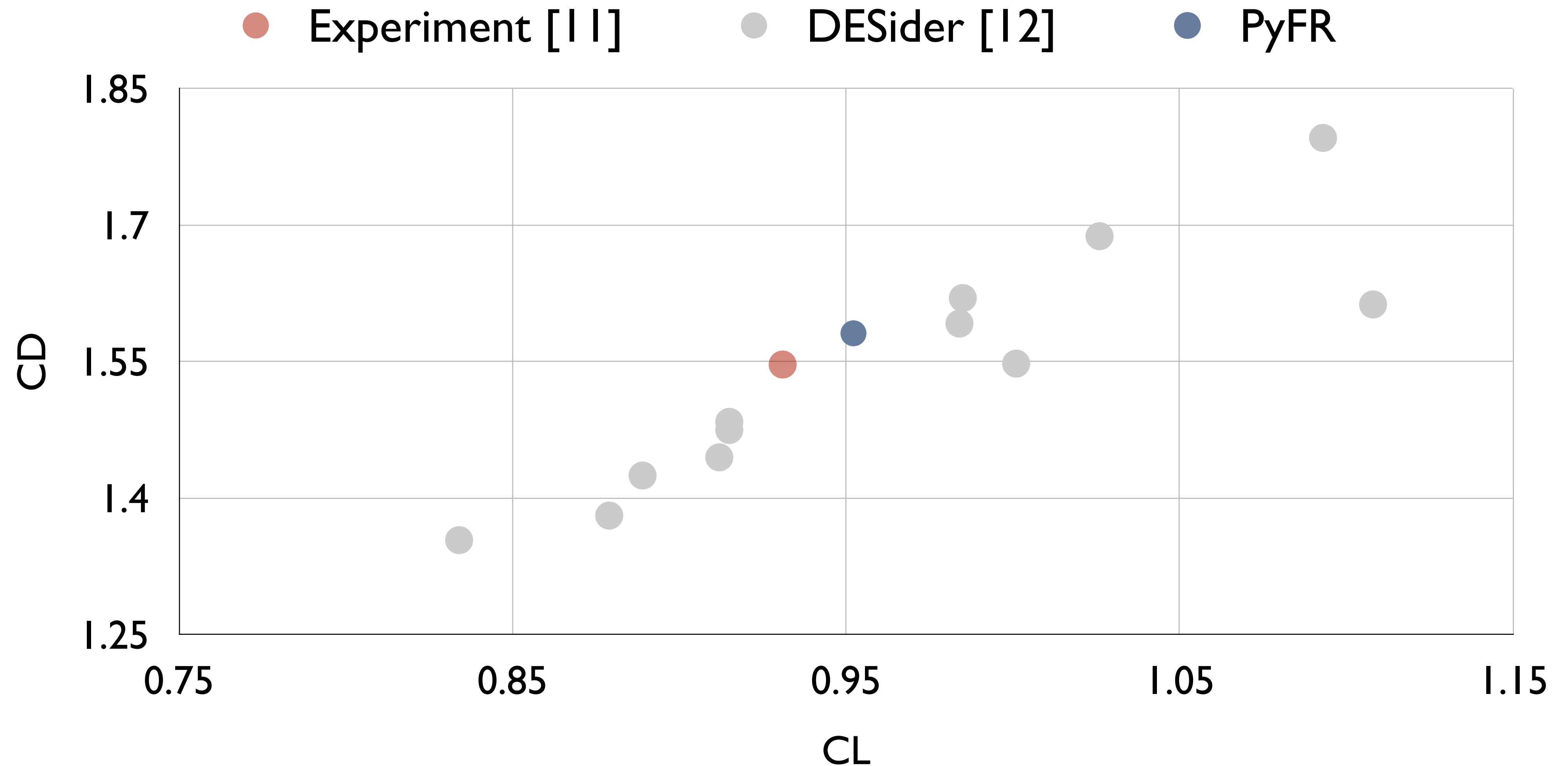
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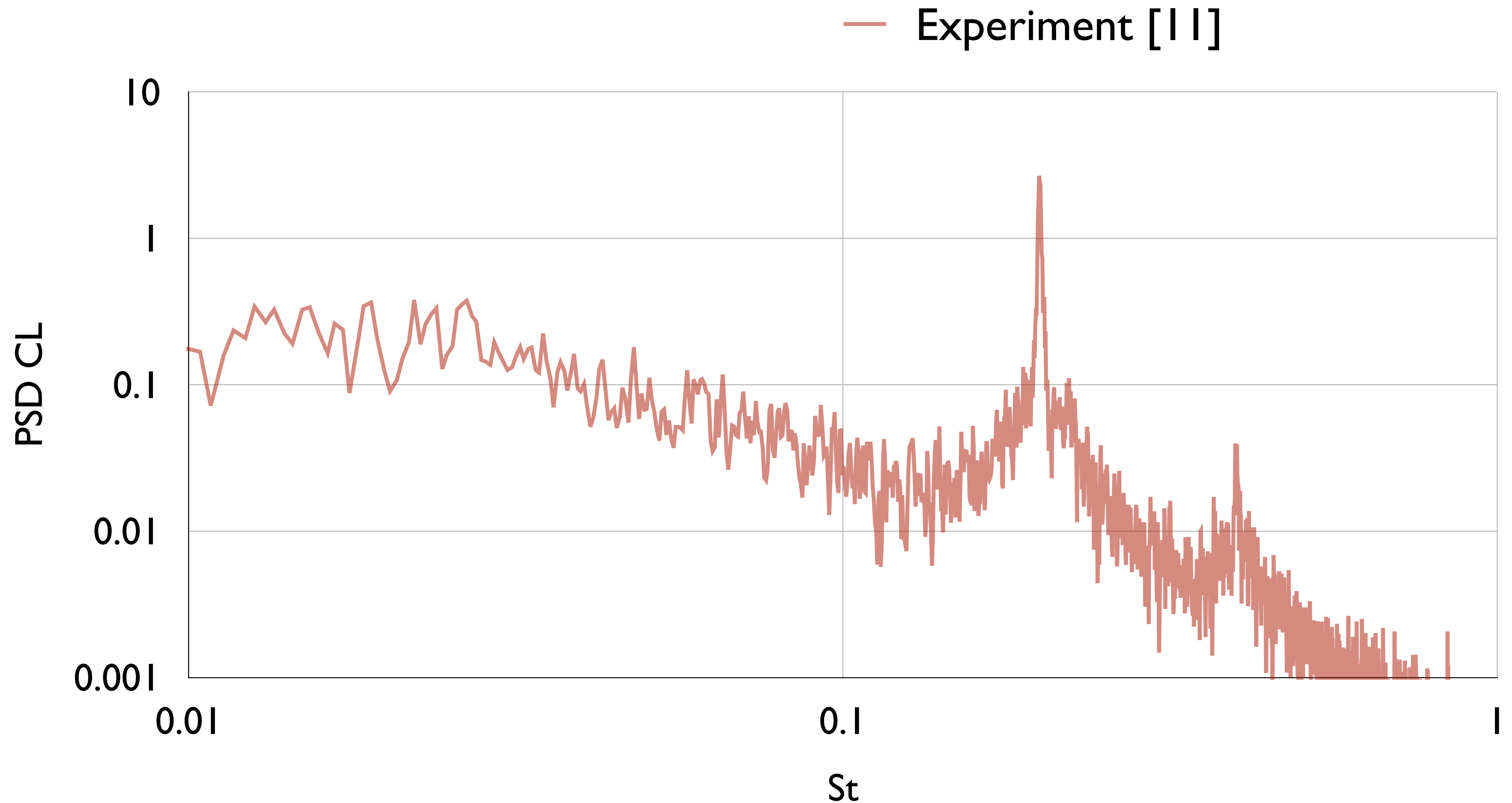
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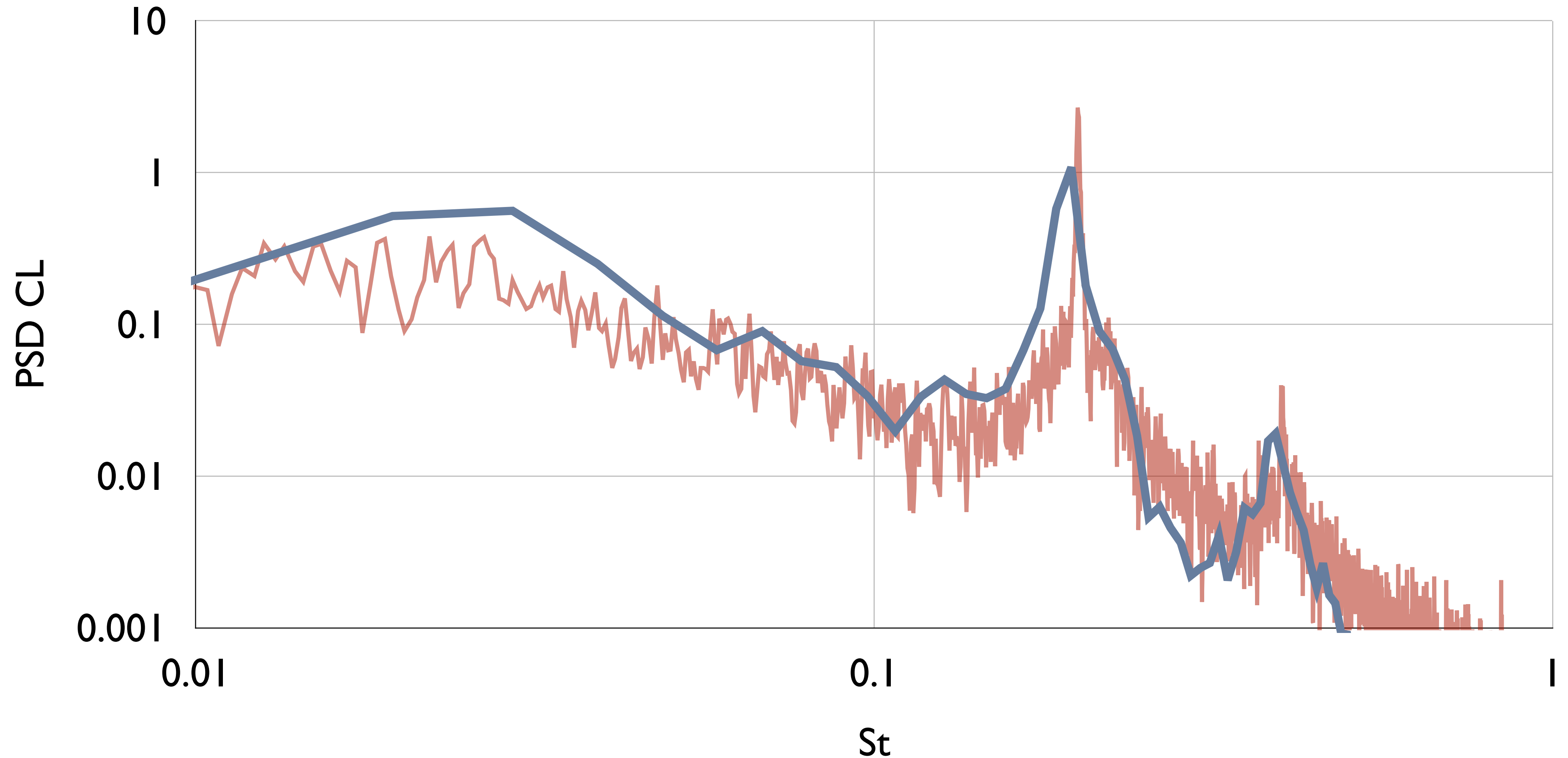
Results



[11] K. Swalwell. The Effect of Turbulence on Stall of Horizontal Axis Wind Turbines. PhD Thesis. 2005.

Results

— PyFR — Experiment [11]



[11] K. Swalwell. The Effect of Turbulence on Stall of Horizontal Axis Wind Turbines. PhD Thesis. 2005.

Results

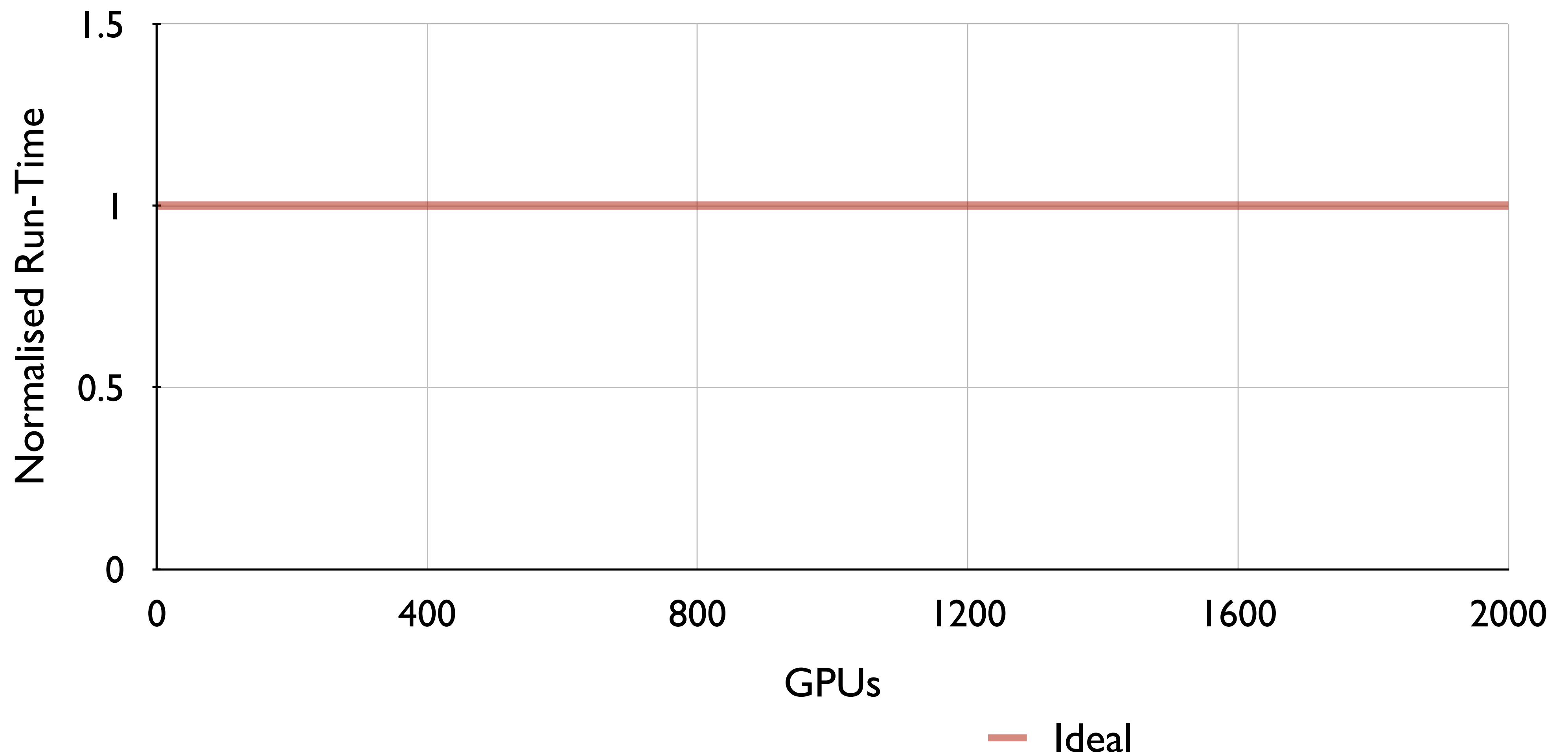
- Flow over a tandem cylinder and NACA 0012
- $Re = 500,000$
- $Ma = 0.2$

Results

- Flow over a wedge
- $Ma = 1.34$

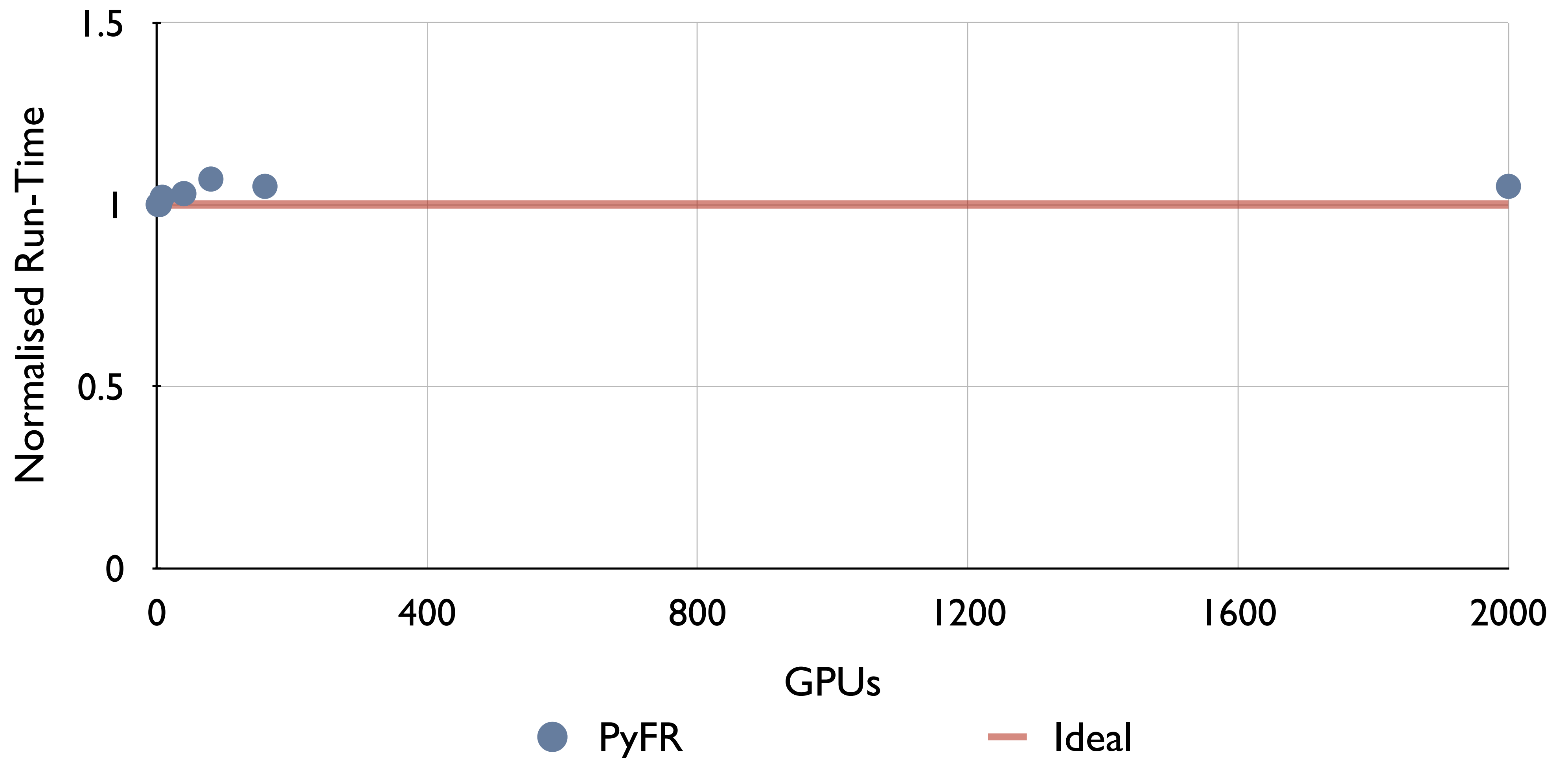
Results

- 3D Navier-Stokes **weak** scaling on Piz Daint



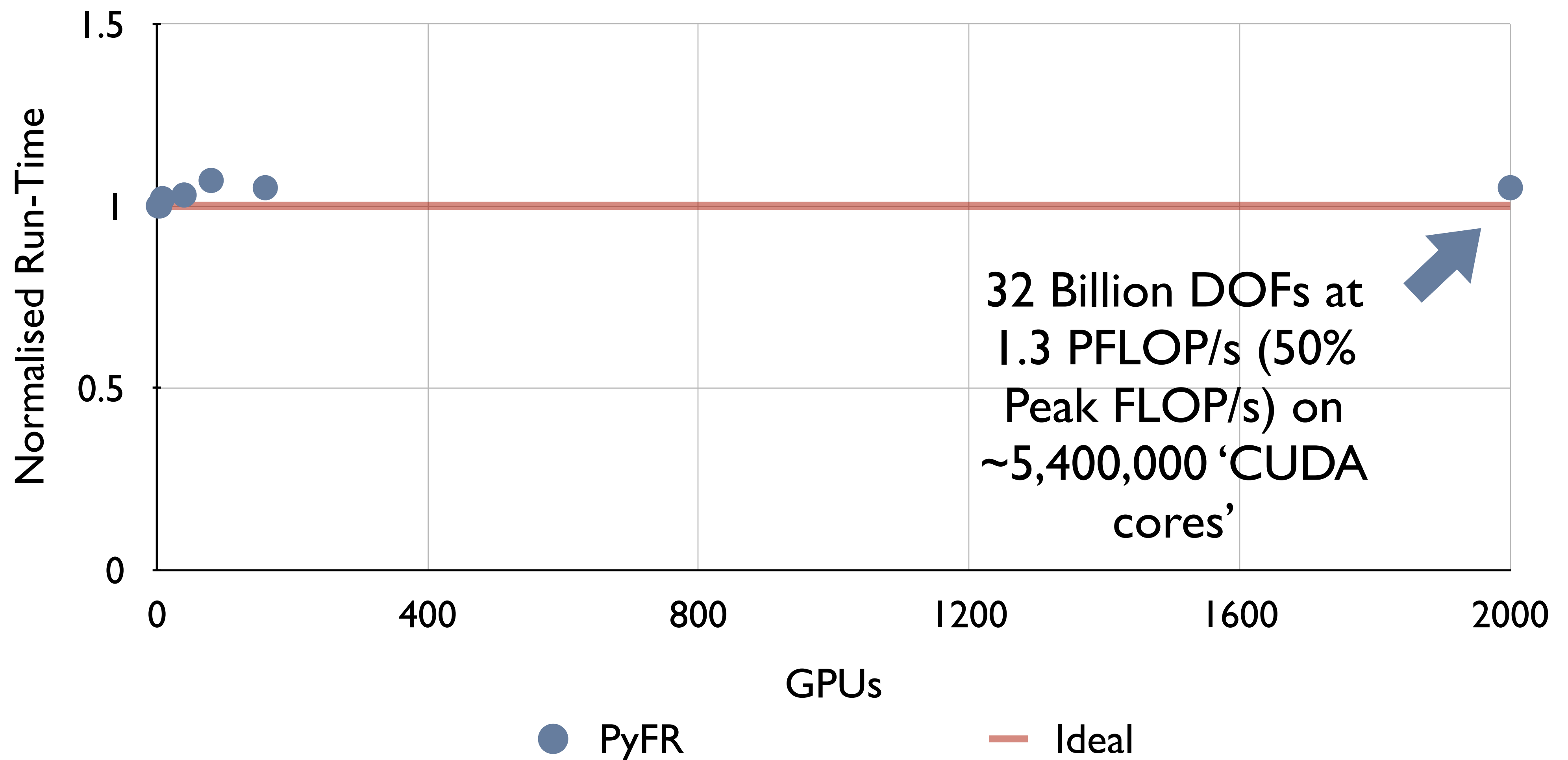
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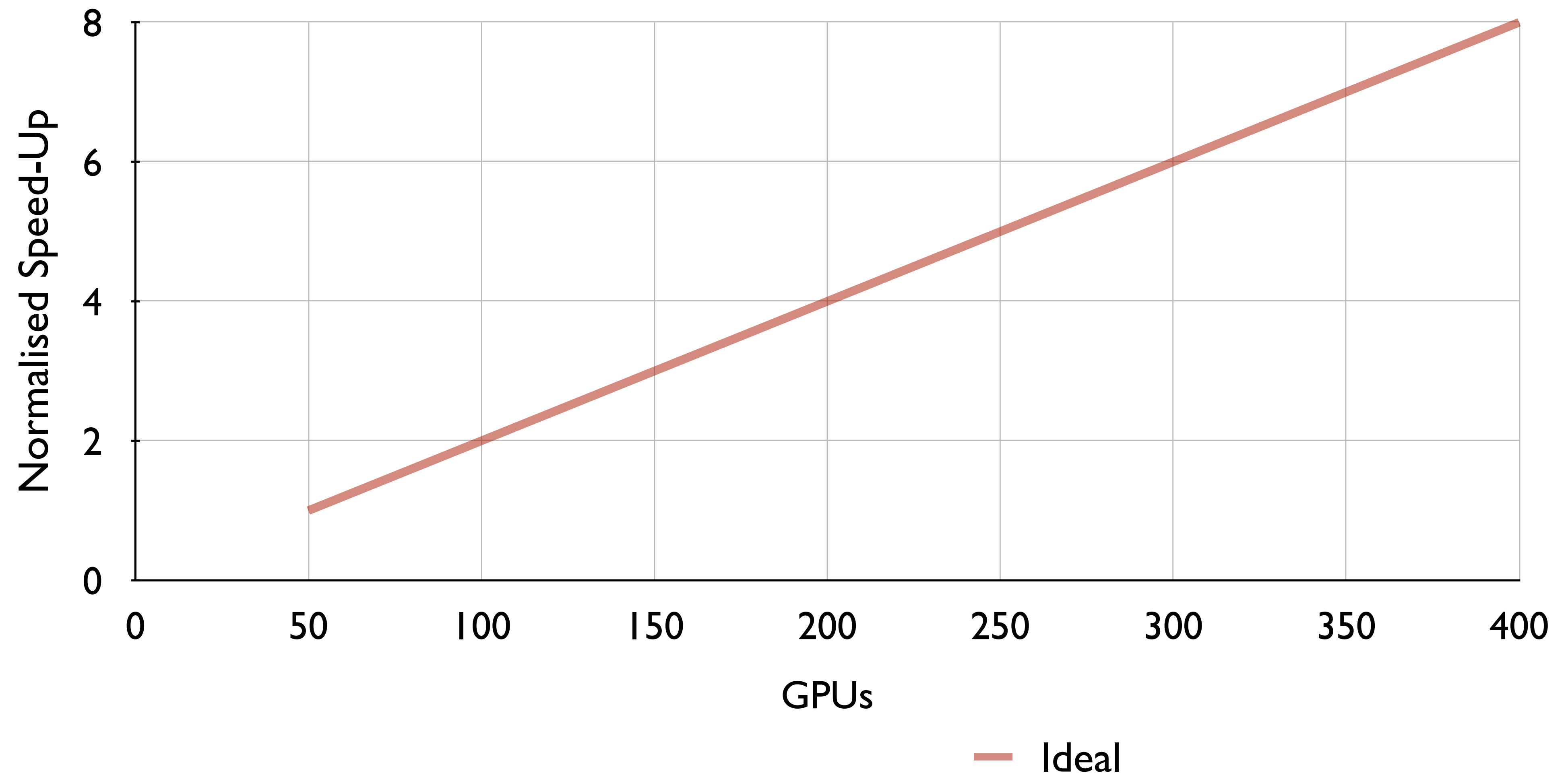
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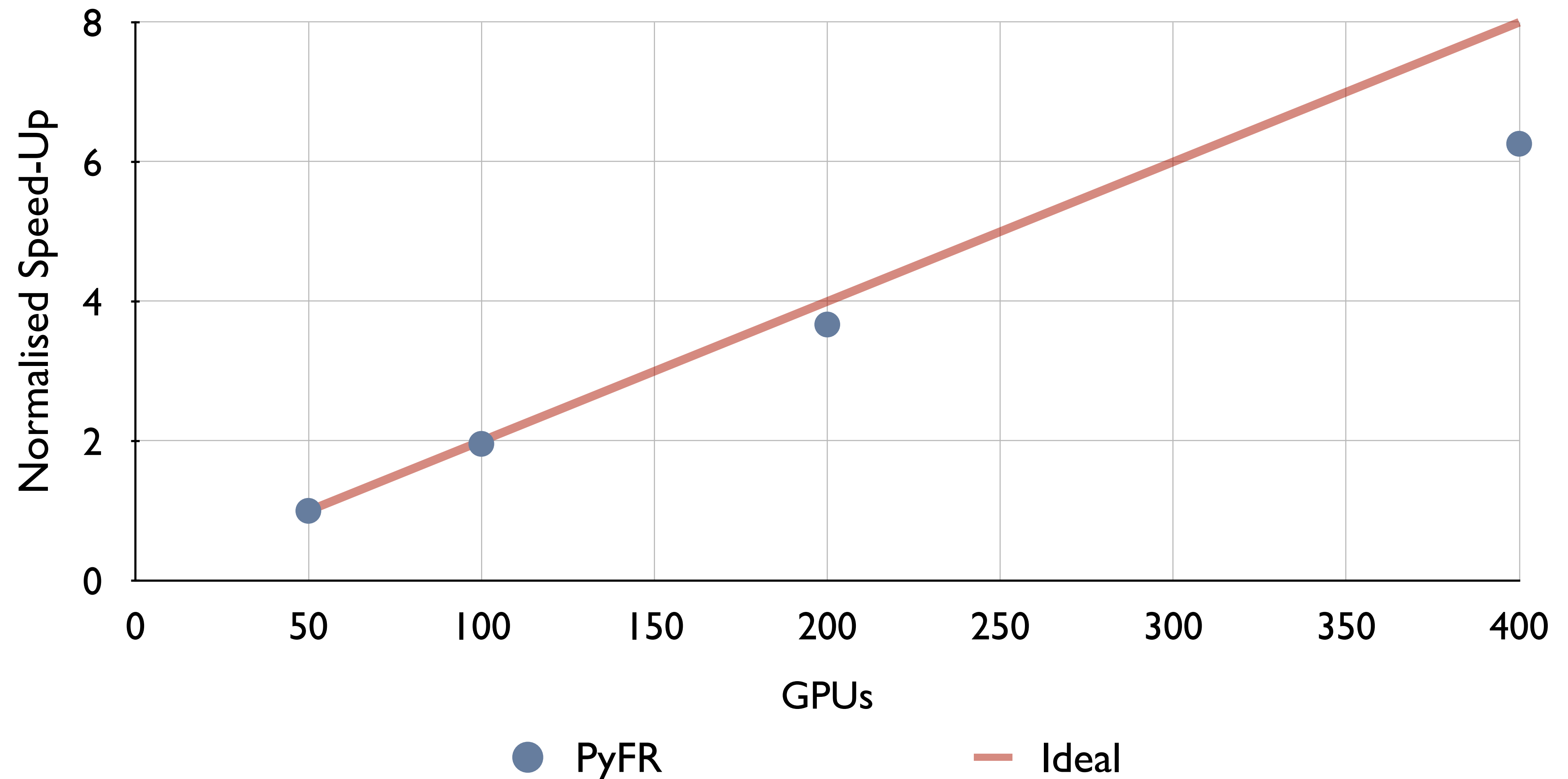
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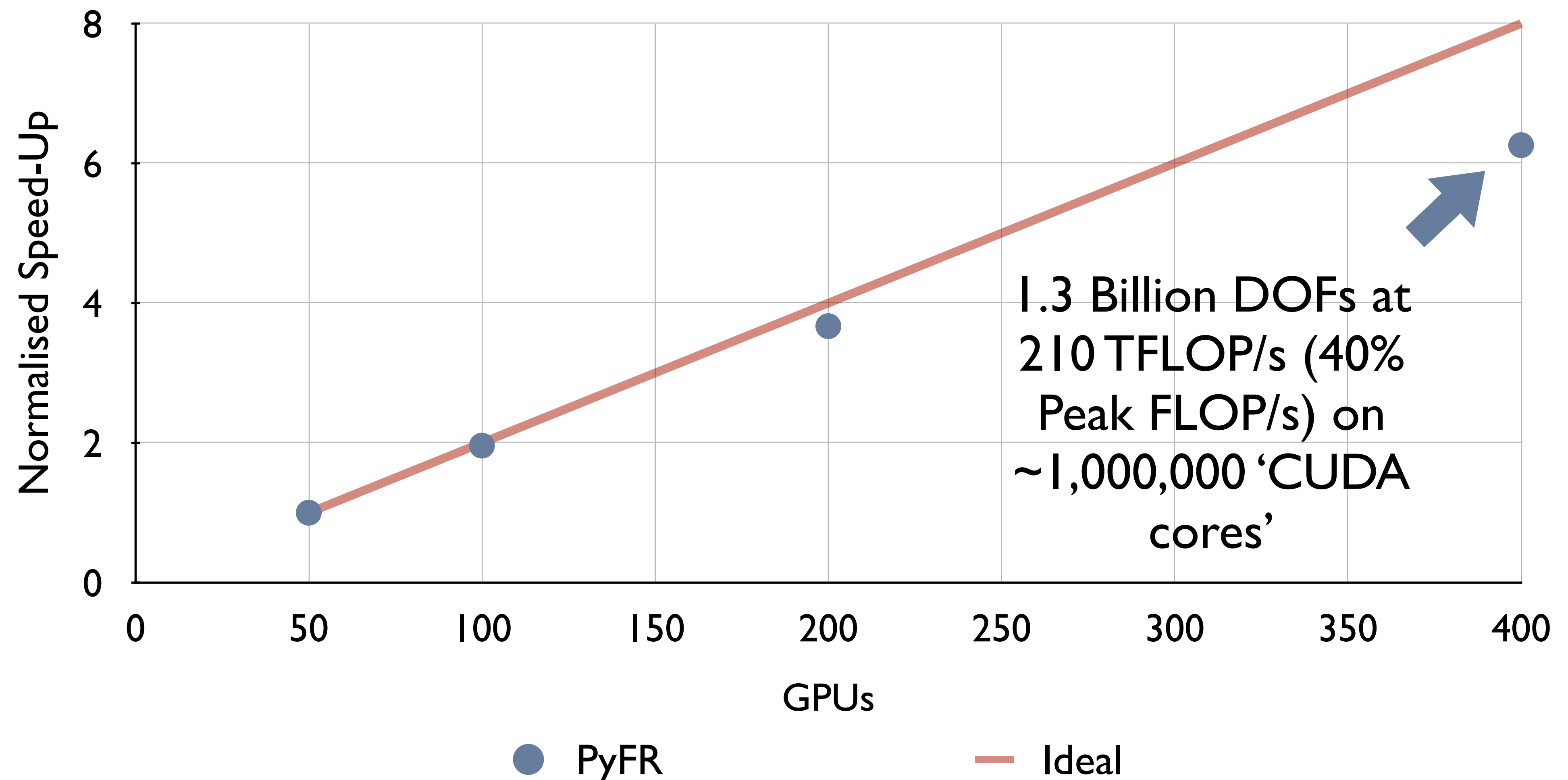
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Results

- 3D Navier-Stokes **strong** scaling on Piz Daint



Team



Brian Vermeire



Antony Farrington



Lorenza Grechy



Freddie Witherden



Arvind Iyer



George Ntemos



Francesco Iori



Jin Seok Park



Niki Loppi



Yaguang Liu

Funding

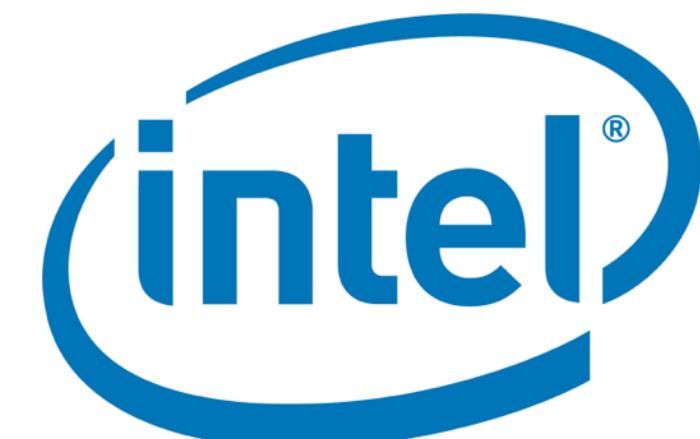
EPSRC

Pioneering research
and skills

Innovate UK
Technology Strategy Board



BAE SYSTEMS



Computers

- Emerald (CFI - UK)
- Wilkes (Cambridge University - UK)
- Piz Daint (CSCS - Switzerland)

Questions



- Web: www.imperial.ac.uk/aeronautics/research/vincentlab
- Twitter: [@Vincent_Lab](https://twitter.com/Vincent_Lab)
- Email: p.vincent@imperial.ac.uk