

# Analytical Mesoscale Modeling of Aeolian Sand Transport

Marc Lämmel, Anne Meiwald, Klaus Kroy

# Aeolian Sand Transport

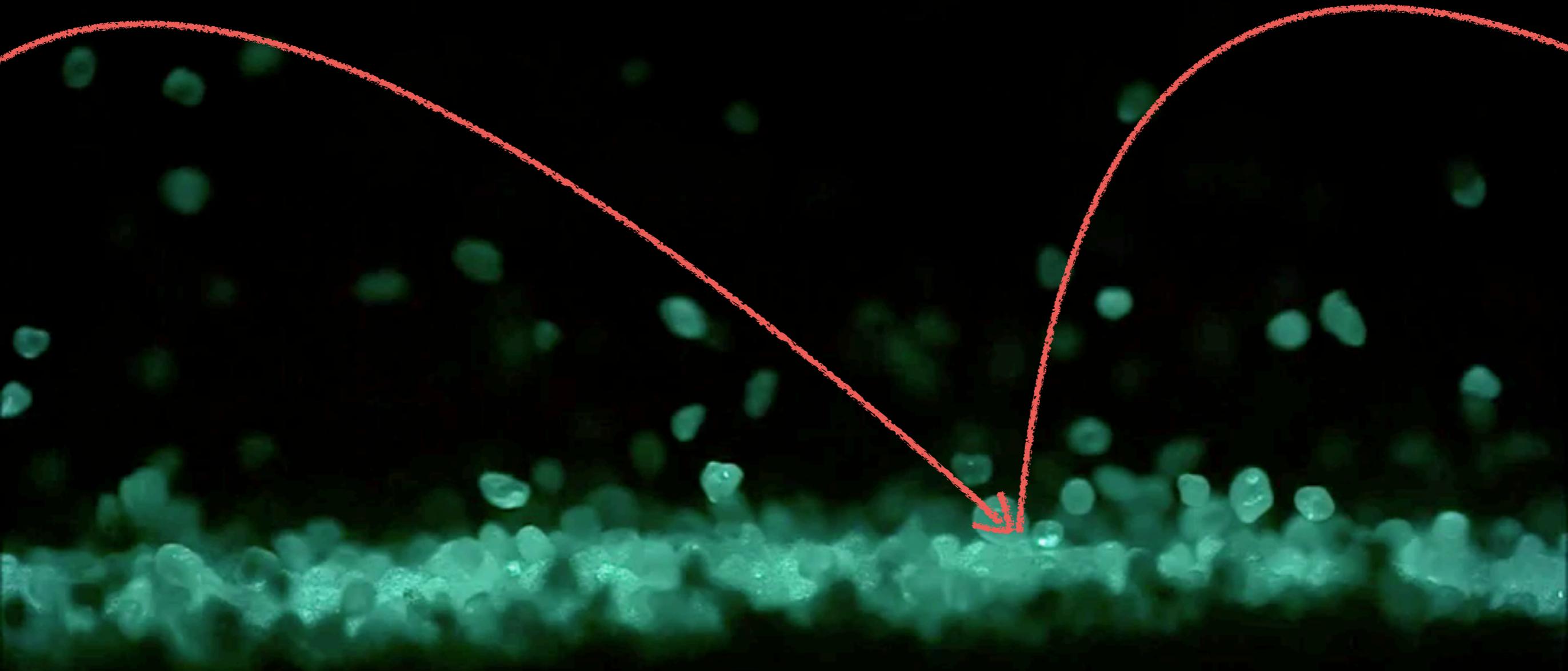


# Mesoscale Process



**potentially amenable  
to analytical modeling**

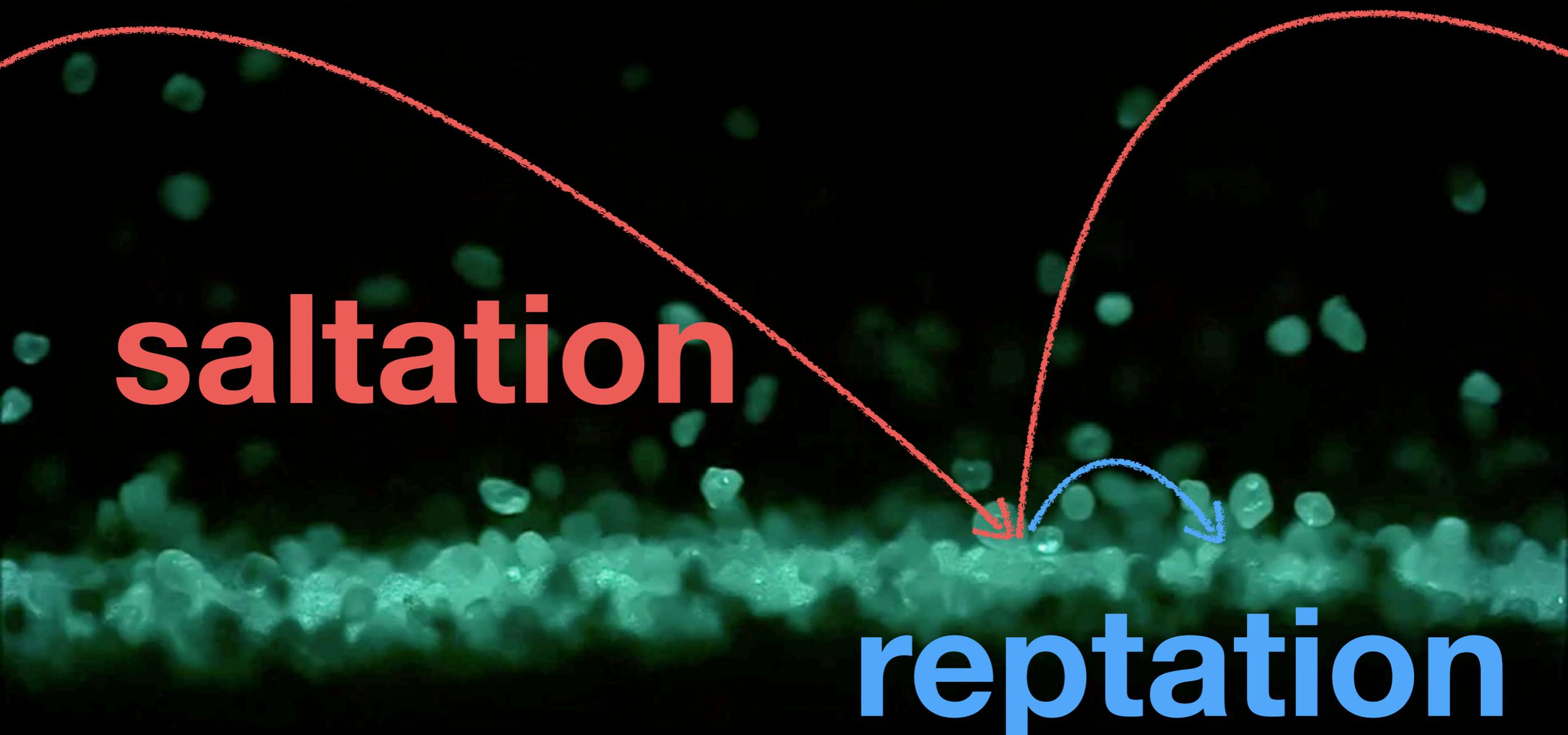
# Mean-Field approach



movie @ A. Valance & BBC

# Two-species approach

**saltation**

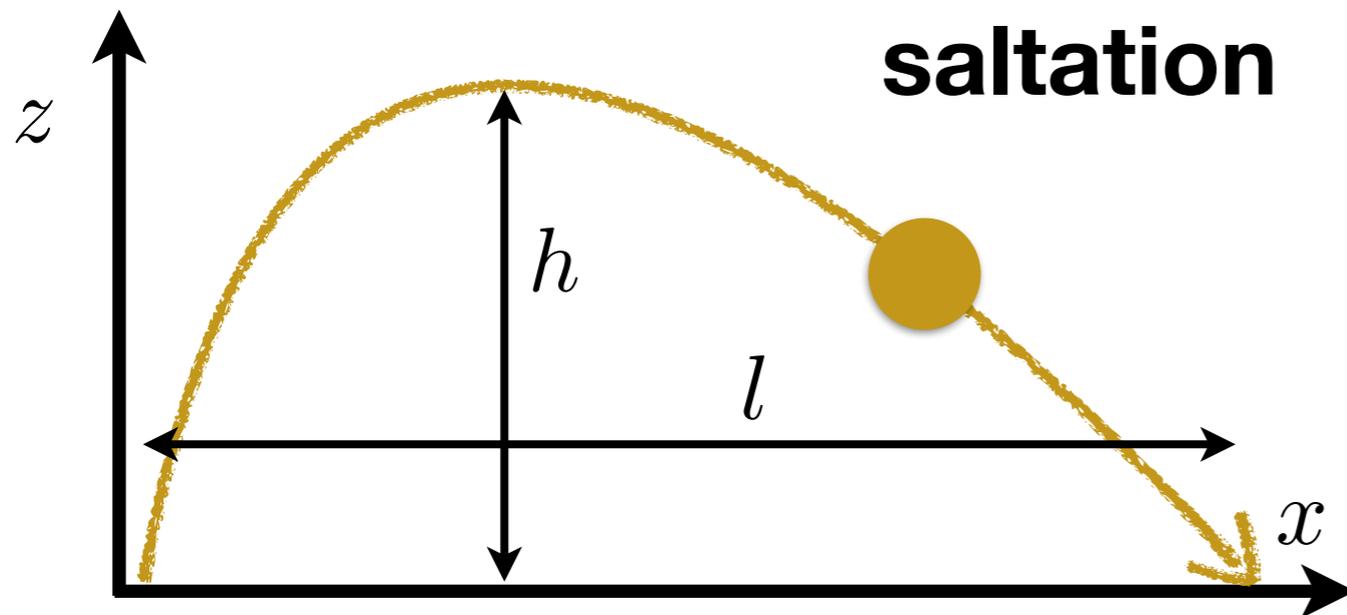


**reptation**

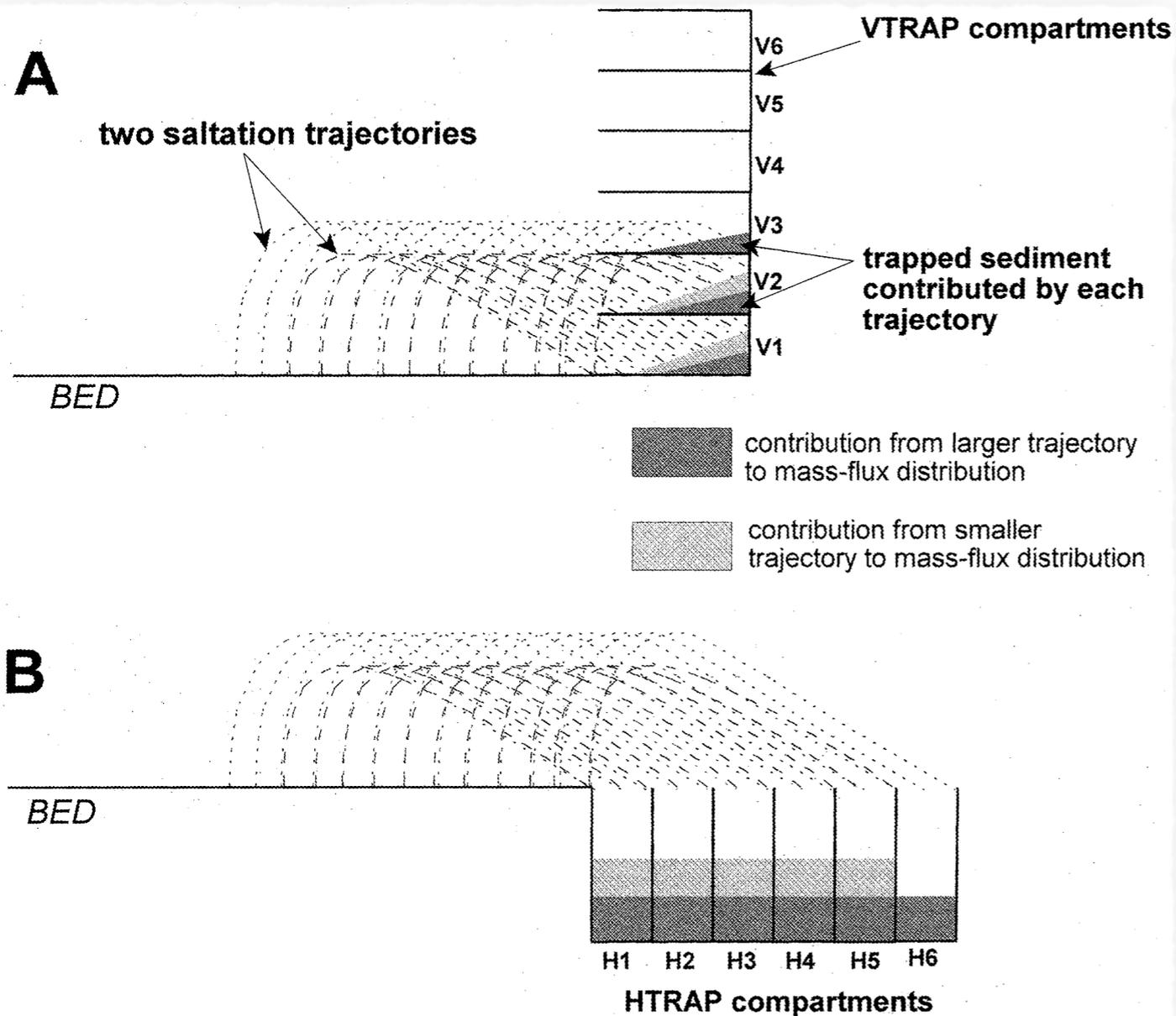
# Aeolian Structure Formation

$$\ell_s \partial q / \partial x = q(1 - q/q_s)$$

# Mesoscale Phenomena



**megaripple**



- ## HEIGHT RESOLVED
- particle concentration
  - particle velocity
  - particle flux
  - hop length & height
  - wind speed

*J. Fluid Mech.* (1964), vol. 20, part 2, pp. 225–242  
 Printed in Great Britain

225

### Saltation of uniform grains in air

By P. R. OWEN

Department of Aeronautics, Imperial College, London

(Received 14 April 1964)

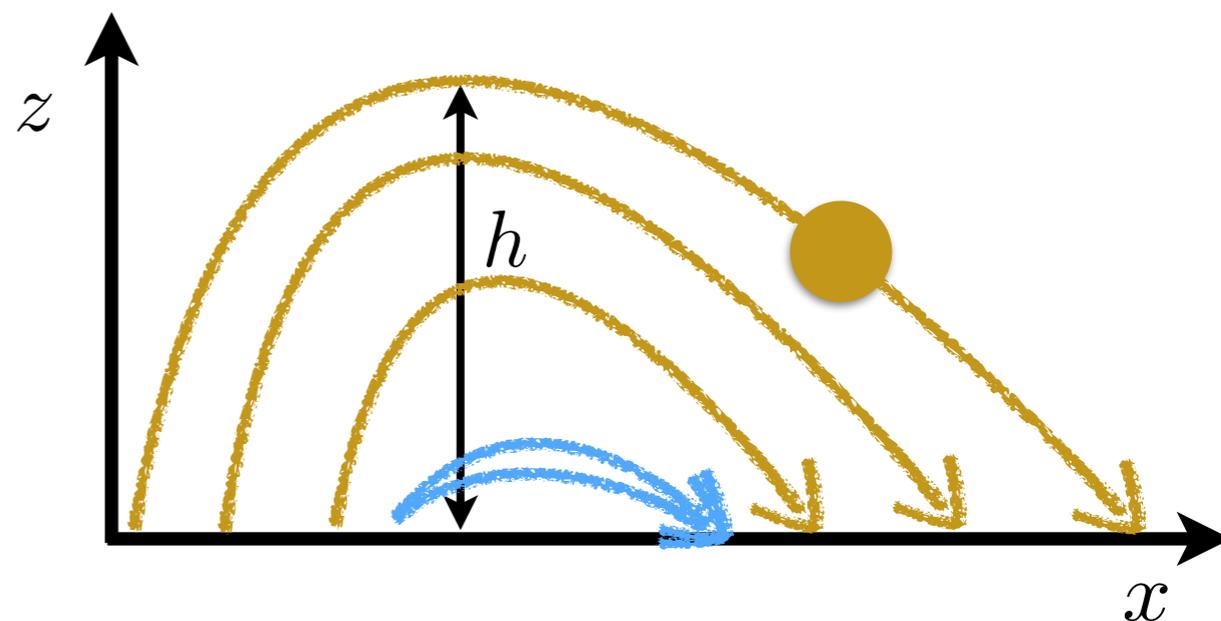


**DISTRIBUTIONS**  
*of grain trajectories*

# Analytically Feasible Tasks

## Hierarchical Approach

- **Single Trajectory**
- **Distribution of Trajectories**
- **2 Species**



*J. Fluid Mech.* (2004), vol. 510, pp. 47–70. © 2004 Cambridge University Press

DOI: 10.1017/S0022112004009073 Printed in the United Kingdom

• **Compare to Experiments & Simulation**  
A two-species model of aeolian sand transport

By BRUNO ANDREOTTI

**New Journal of Physics**

The open-access journal for physics

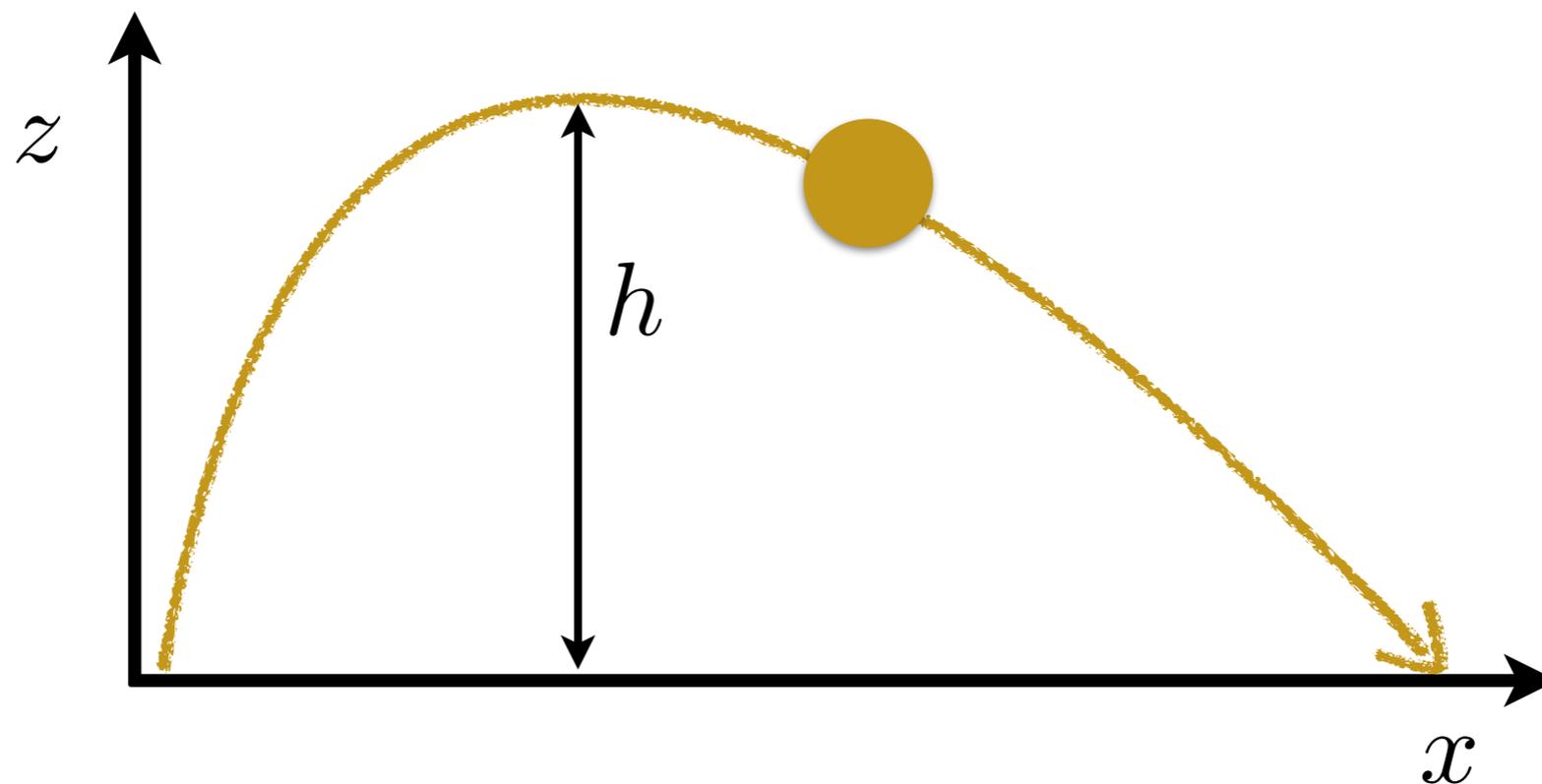
A two-species continuum model for aeolian sand transport

M Lämmel, D Rings and K Kroy<sup>1</sup>

# particle distribution

$$P(z, h)$$

Prob to observe particle  
on trajectory of height  $h$  at  $z$



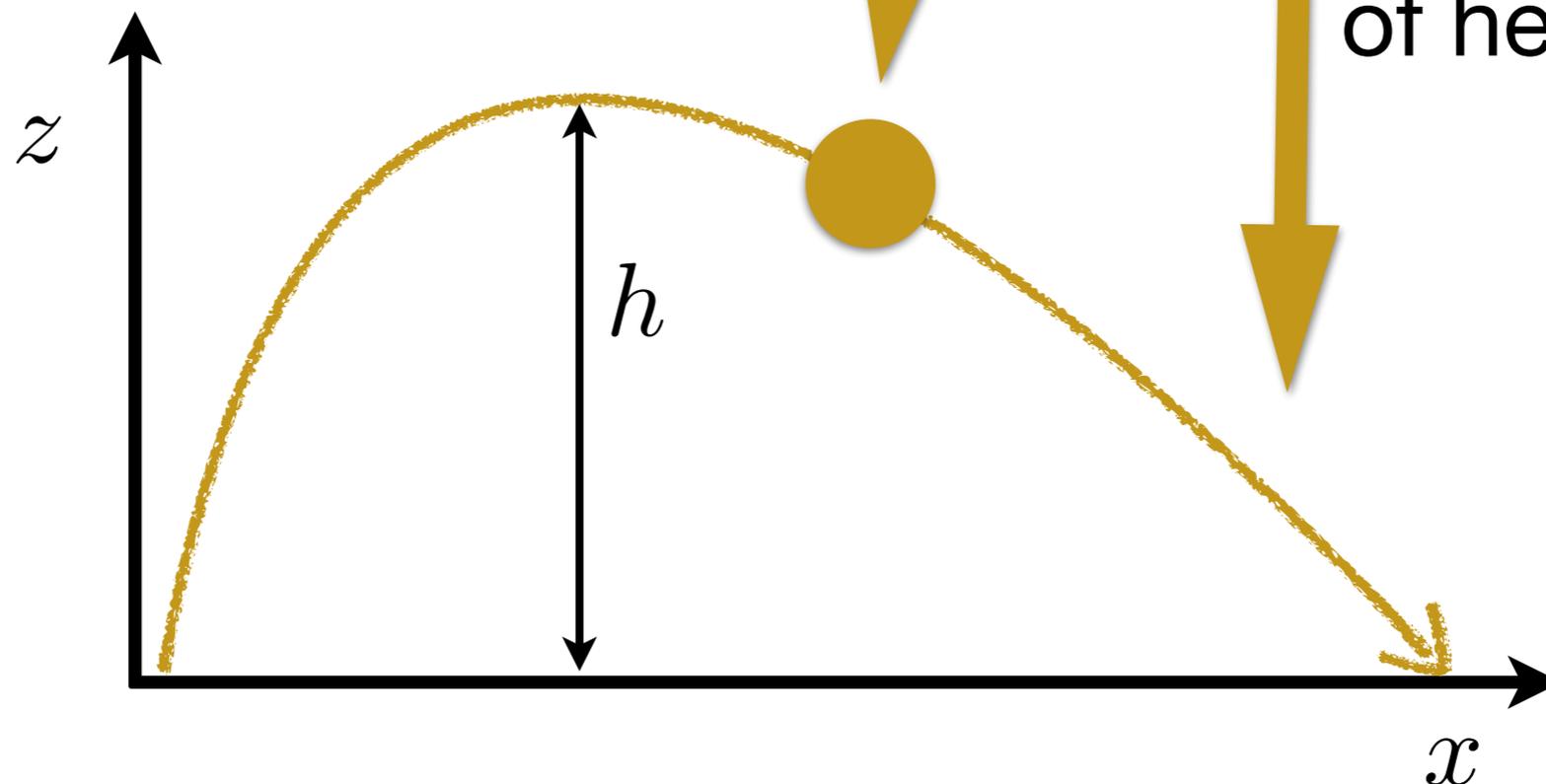
# particle distribution

$$P_{\bar{h}}(z, h) = P(z|h)P_{\bar{h}}(h)$$

wind  
2-spec

Prob for particle at  $z$   
if on this trajectory

Prob for  
trajectory  
of height  $h$



$$P_{\bar{h}}(h) \propto e^{-h/\bar{h}}$$

## Reptation/Splash



*J. Fluid Mech.* (1983), vol. 130, pp. 187–202

187

*Printed in Great Britain*

~ **barometer formula with**  
 A theory for the rapid flow of identical, smooth, nearly  
 elastic, spherical particles  
**granular temperature**  
 By J. F. JENKINS

Department of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

AND S. B. SAVAGE

## Saltation

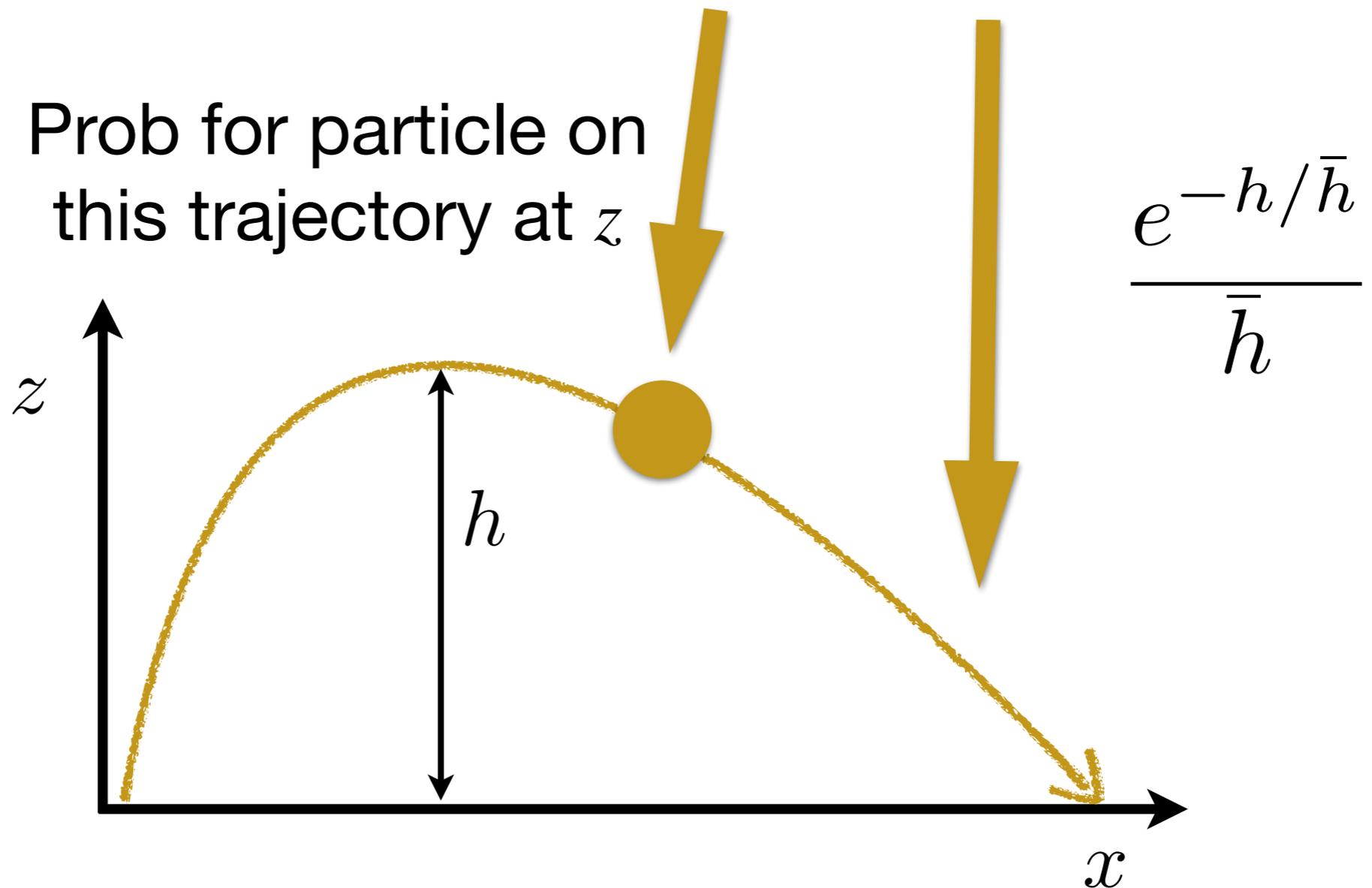


$$h \propto N; \quad P(\text{survival}) \propto e^{-N}$$

# particle distribution

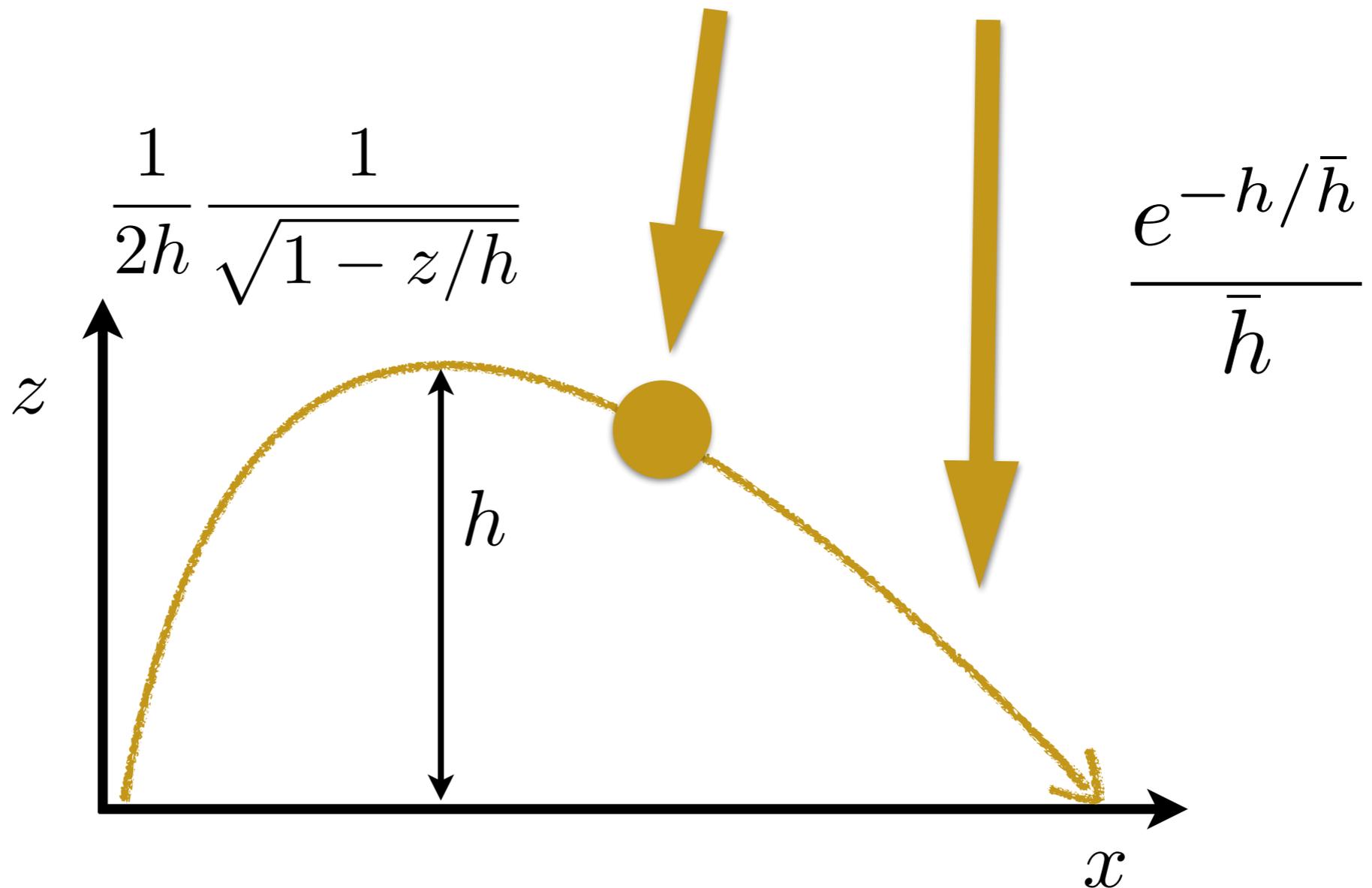
$$P_{\bar{h}}(z, h) = P(z|h)P_{\bar{h}}(h)$$

Prob for particle on  
this trajectory at  $z$



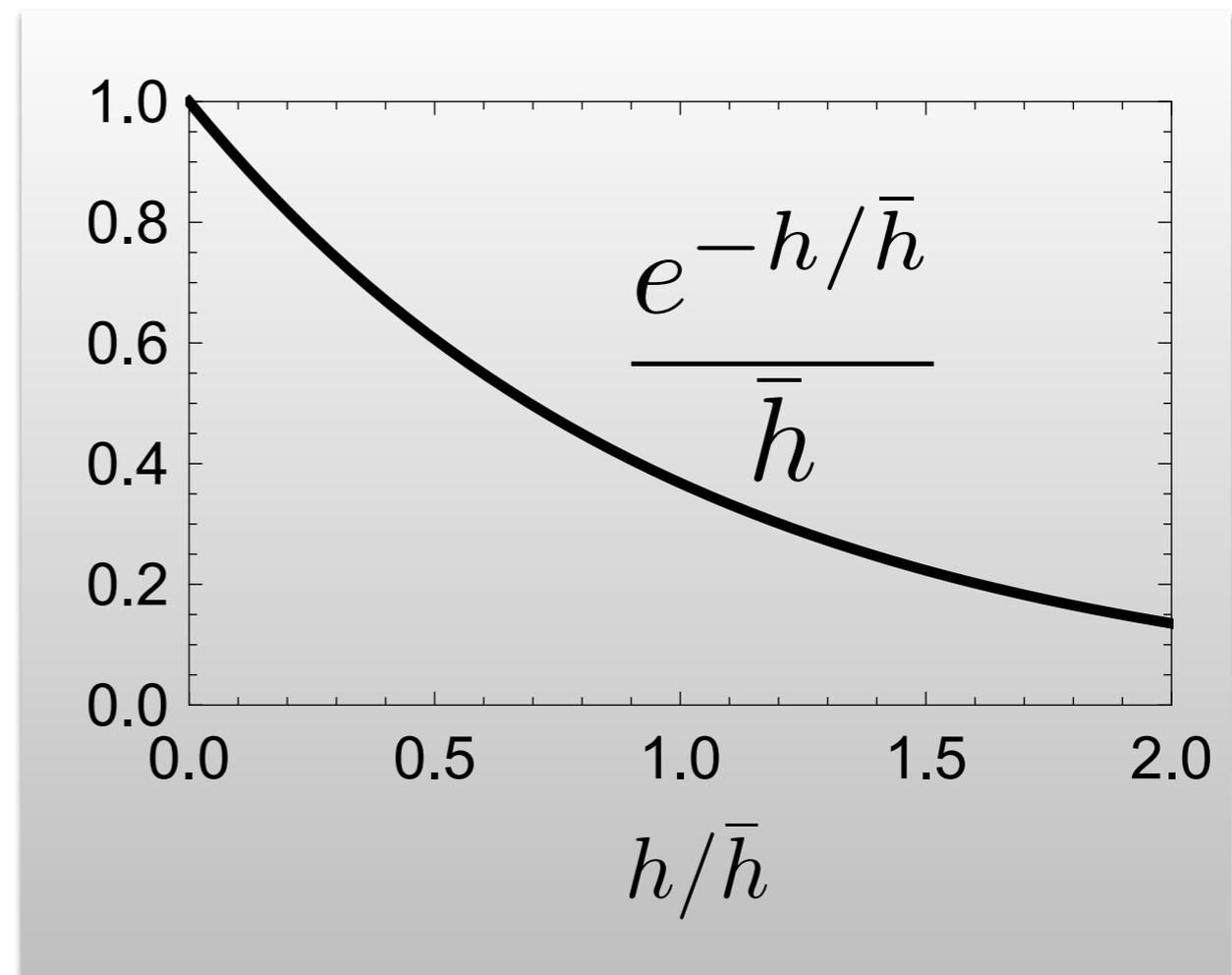
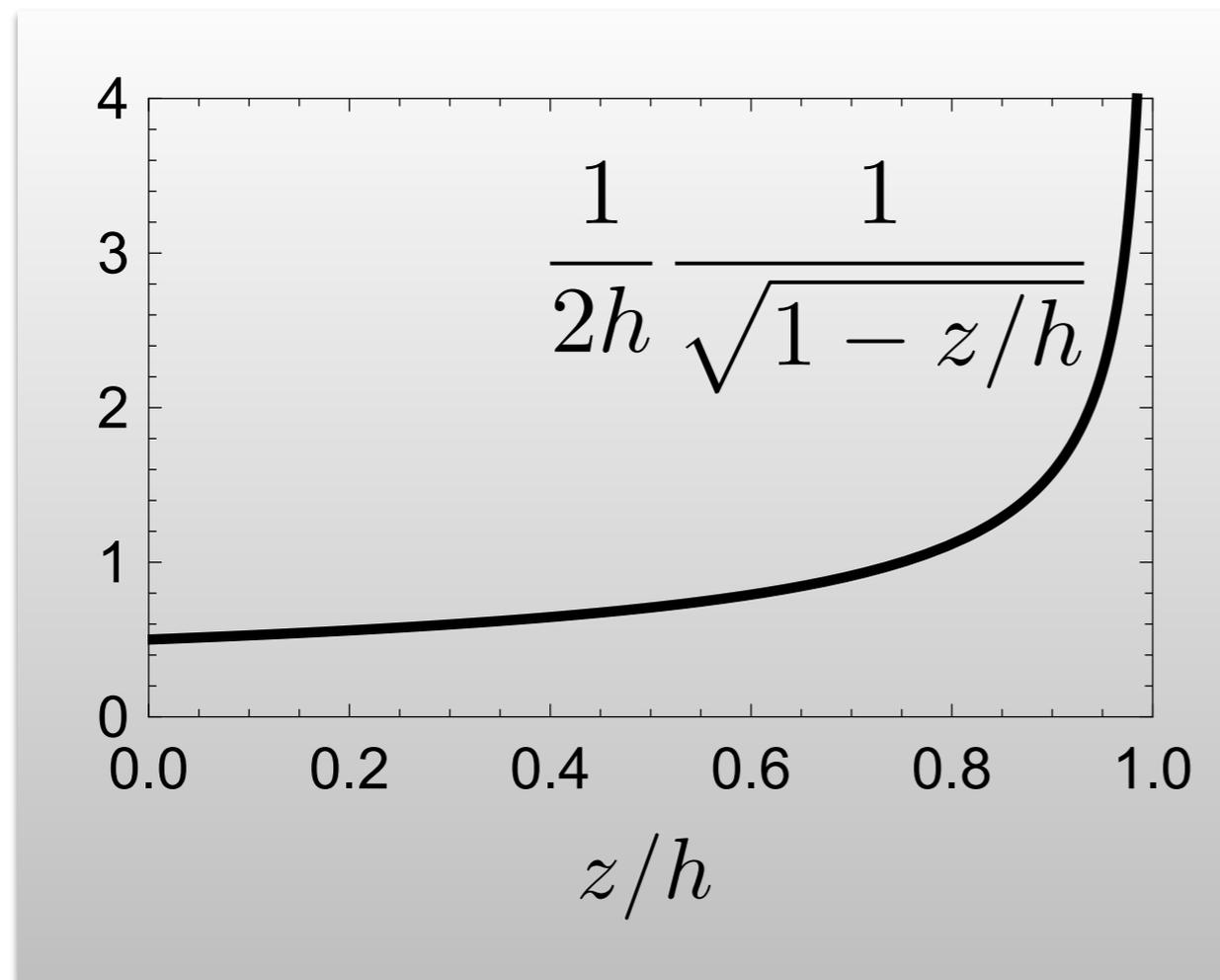
# particle distribution

$$P_{\bar{h}}(z, h) = P(z|h)P_{\bar{h}}(h)$$



# particle distribution

$$P_{\bar{h}}(z, h) = P(z|h)P_{\bar{h}}(h)$$



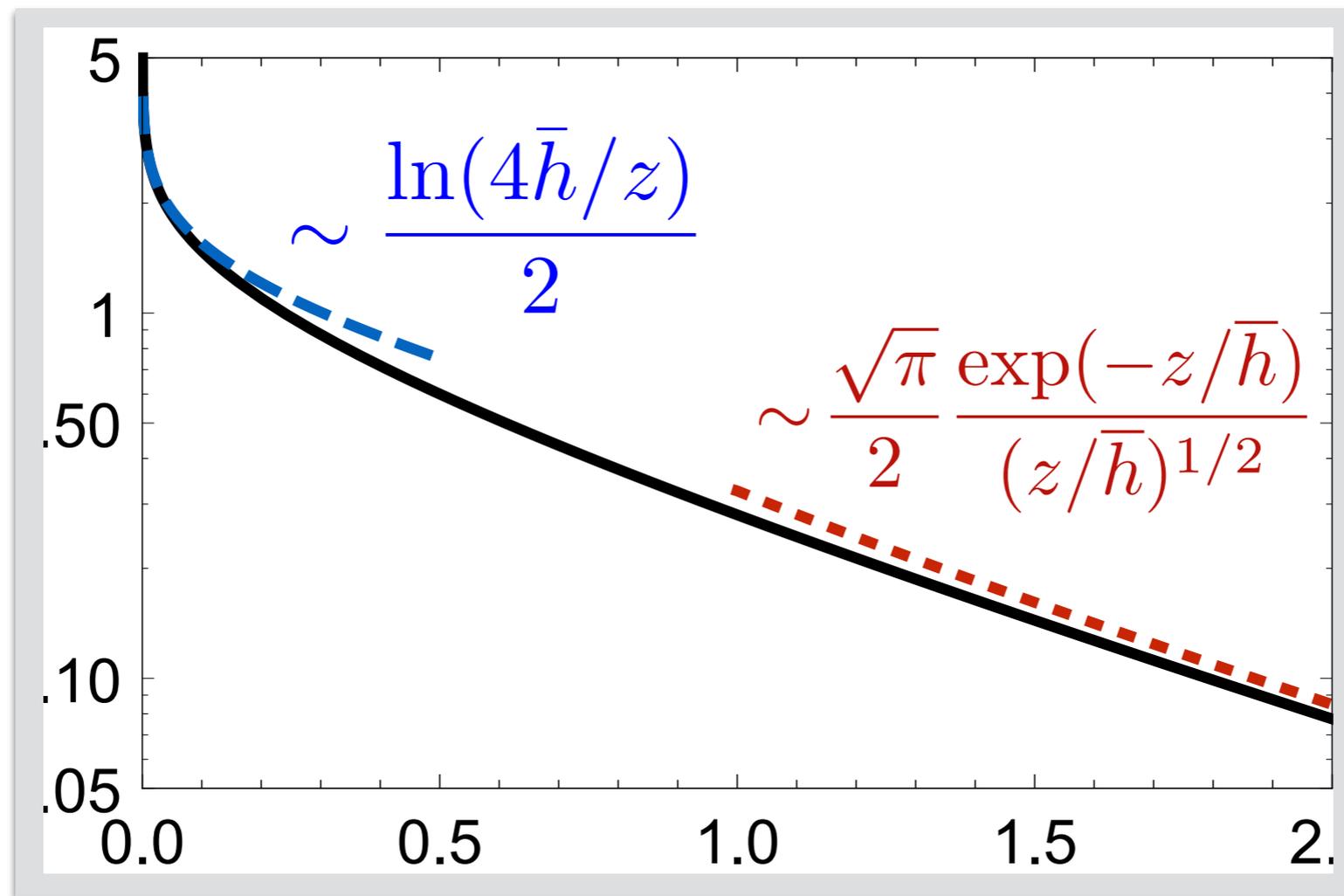
# height-resolved observables

- **grain density**  $\rho(z)$
- **horizontal flux**  $j(z)$
- **vertical flux**  $\phi(z)$
- **grain-borne stress**  $\tau_g(z)$
- **hop length distribution**  $P(z, l)$
- **hop length distribution**  $P(l) \propto -\partial_l \phi_l(0)$

# particle distribution

$$\rho_{\bar{h}}(z) = \int dh P_{\bar{h}}(z, h)$$

Prob for particle at  $z$   
for **any** trajectory



$z/\bar{h}$



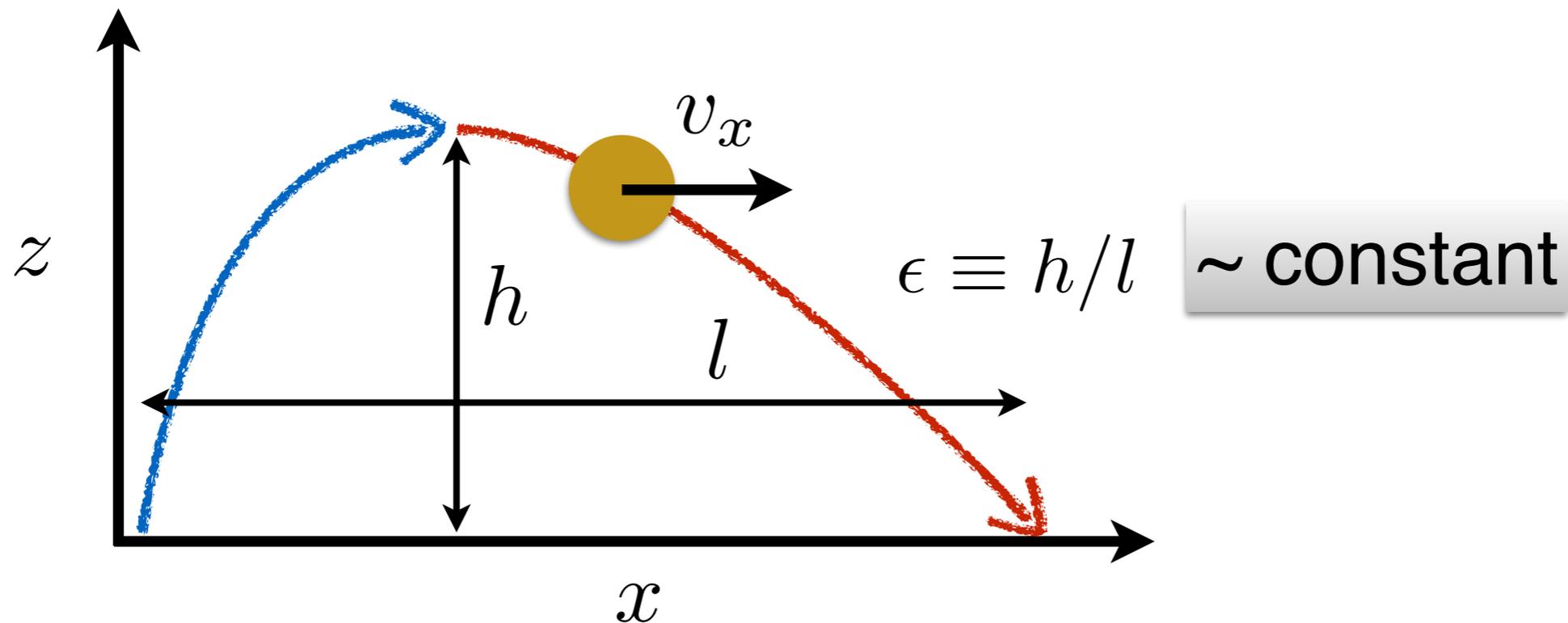
wind, 2 spec

# particle velocity

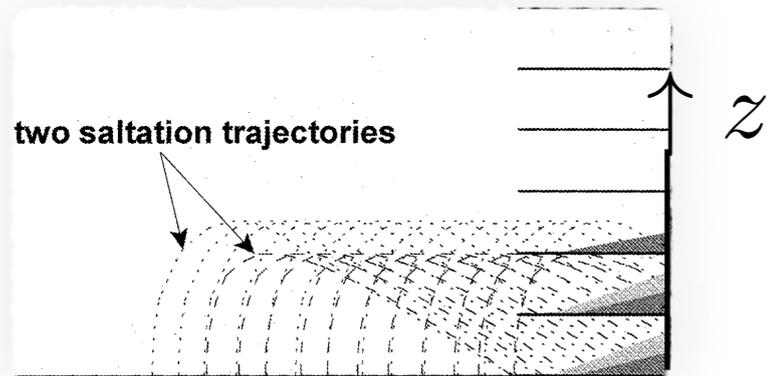
$$v_x(\cancel{z}, \cancel{l}, h) \approx \sqrt{2gh/4\epsilon} \quad \text{hop-length/flight-time}$$



~ free-fall/const.- $\epsilon$  approx

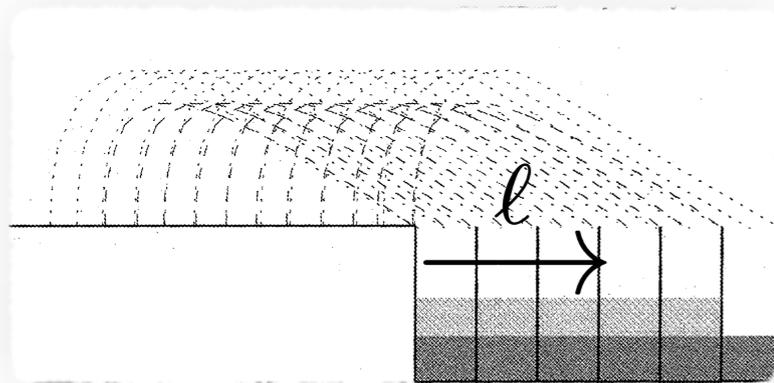


# horizontal sand flux



$$j_{\bar{h}}(z) = \int dh v_x(h) P_{\bar{h}}(z, h) = q \frac{e^{-z/\bar{h}}}{\bar{h}}$$

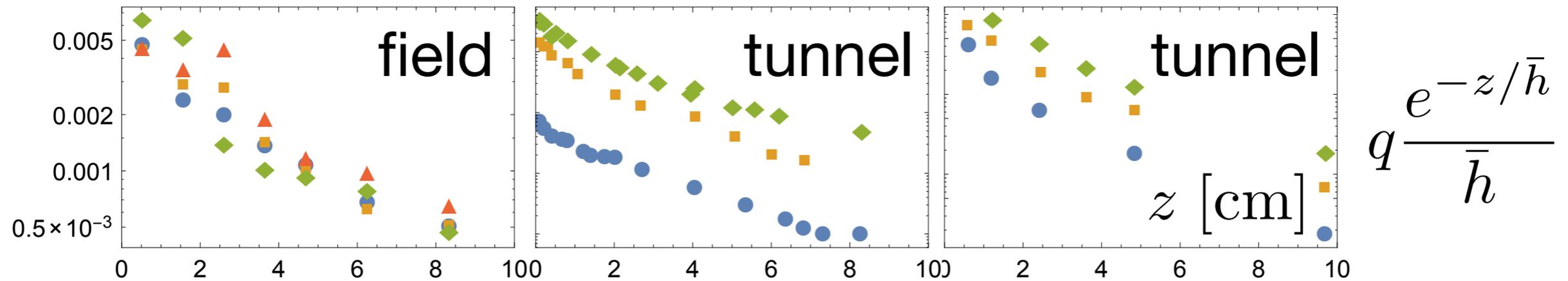
# vertical sand flux



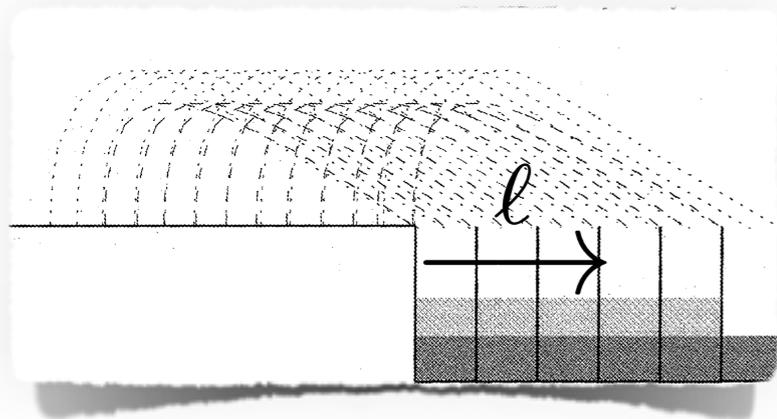
$$\phi_l(z) = \int_{l(h) > l} dh v_z(z, h) P_{\bar{h}}(z, h)$$

$$v_z(z, h) = \sqrt{2g(h - z)} \quad \phi_l(z = 0) = q \frac{\text{erfc} \sqrt{\ell \epsilon / \bar{h}}}{\bar{h} / \epsilon}$$

# horizontal sand flux



# vertical sand flux



$$\phi_l(z) = \int_{l(h) > l} dh v_z(z, h) P_{\bar{h}}(z, h)$$

$$v_z(z, h) = \sqrt{2g(h - z)} \quad \phi_l(z = 0) = q \frac{\text{erfc} \sqrt{\ell \epsilon / \bar{h}}}{\bar{h} / \epsilon}$$

# grain-scale experiments

Rasmussen, Mikkelsen, Sedimentology (1998)

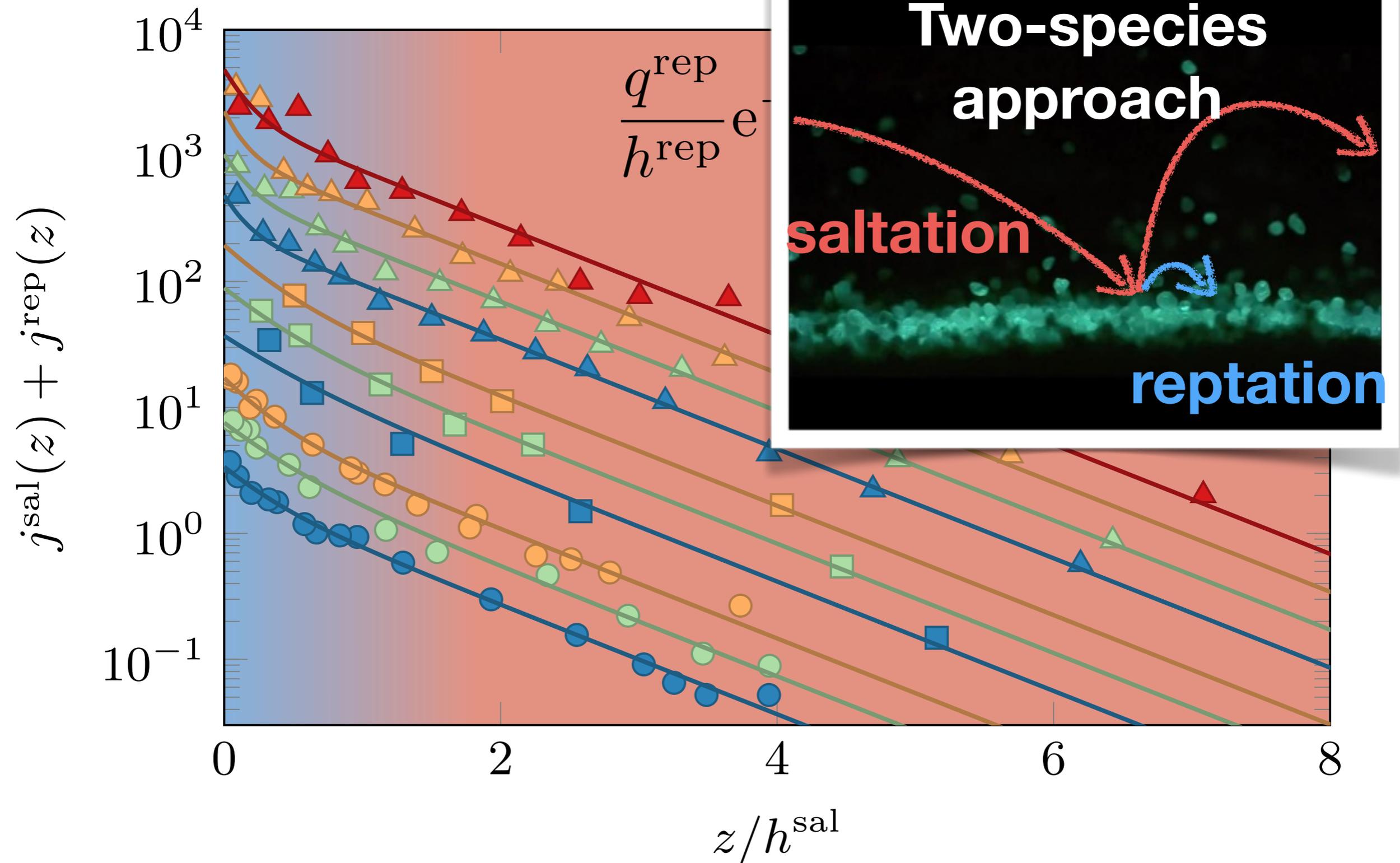
Namikas, Sedimentology (2003)

Rasmussen, Sørensen, J. Geophys. Res. (2008)

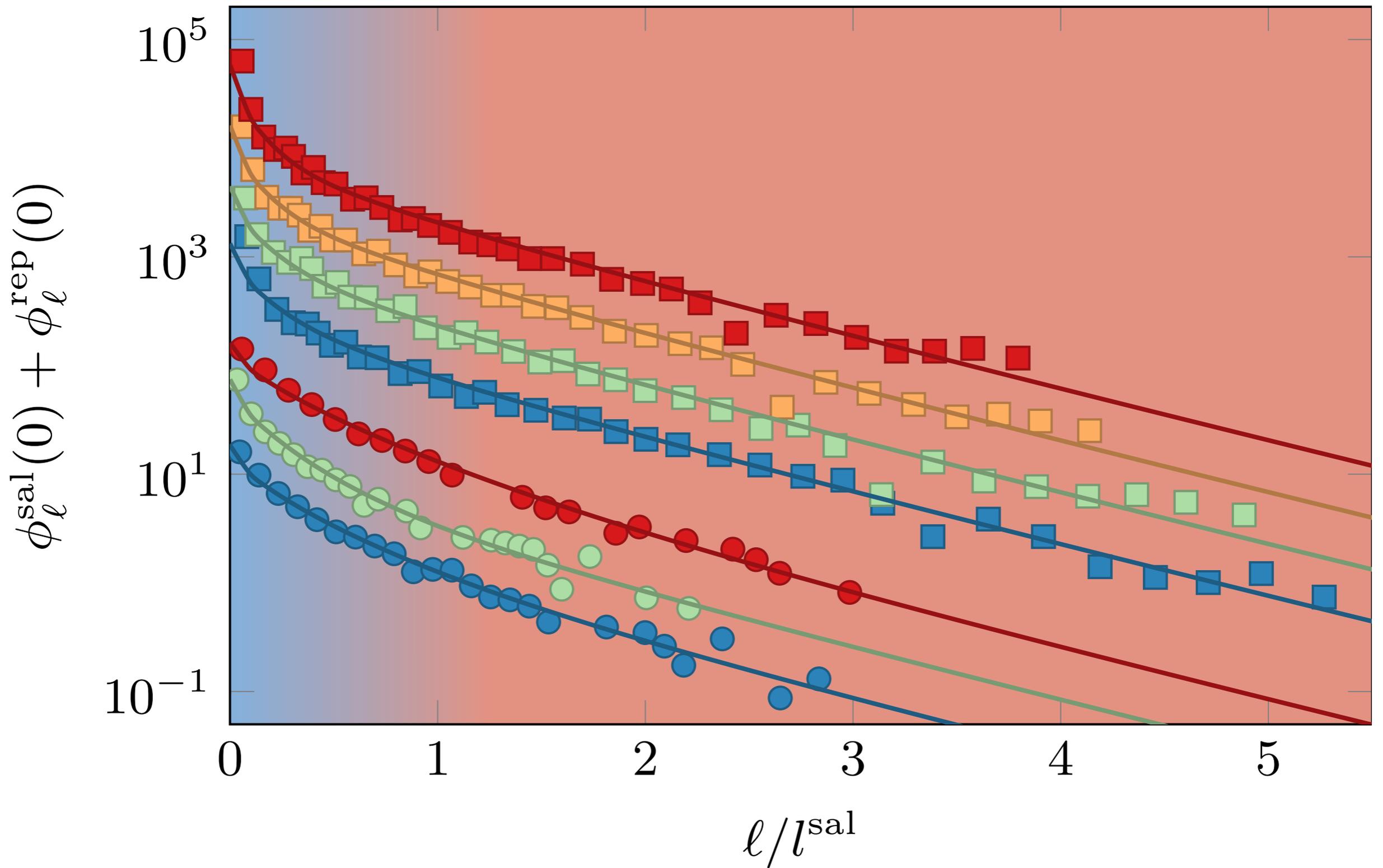
Ho, Valance, Dupont, Moctar, Aeolian Research (2014)

Durand, Claudin, Andreotti, PNAS (2014)

# horizontal sand flux

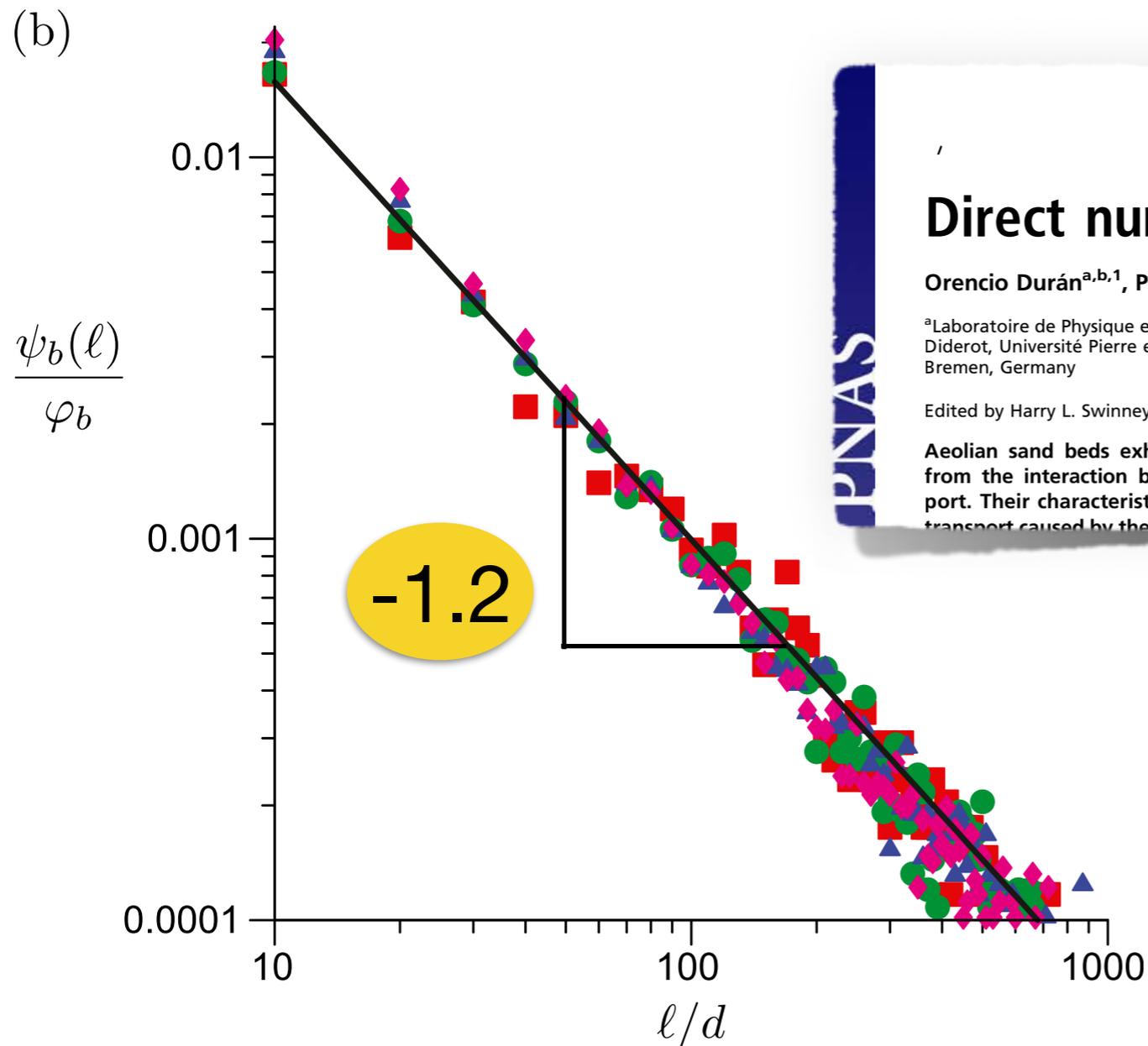


# vertical sand flux



# hop length distribution

$$P(l|z) \propto P[z, h(l)] \partial_l h(l) \propto \frac{e^{-\epsilon l / \bar{h}}}{l}$$



 CrossMark  
← click for updates

## Direct numerical simulations of aeolian sand ripples

Orencio Durán<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Philippe Claudin<sup>a</sup>, and Bruno Andreotti<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Laboratoire de Physique et Mécanique des Milieux Hétérogènes, UMR 7636, CNRS, Ecole Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielles, Université Paris Diderot, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, 75005 Paris, France; and <sup>b</sup>MARUM—Center for Marine Environmental Sciences, University of Bremen, D-28359 Bremen, Germany

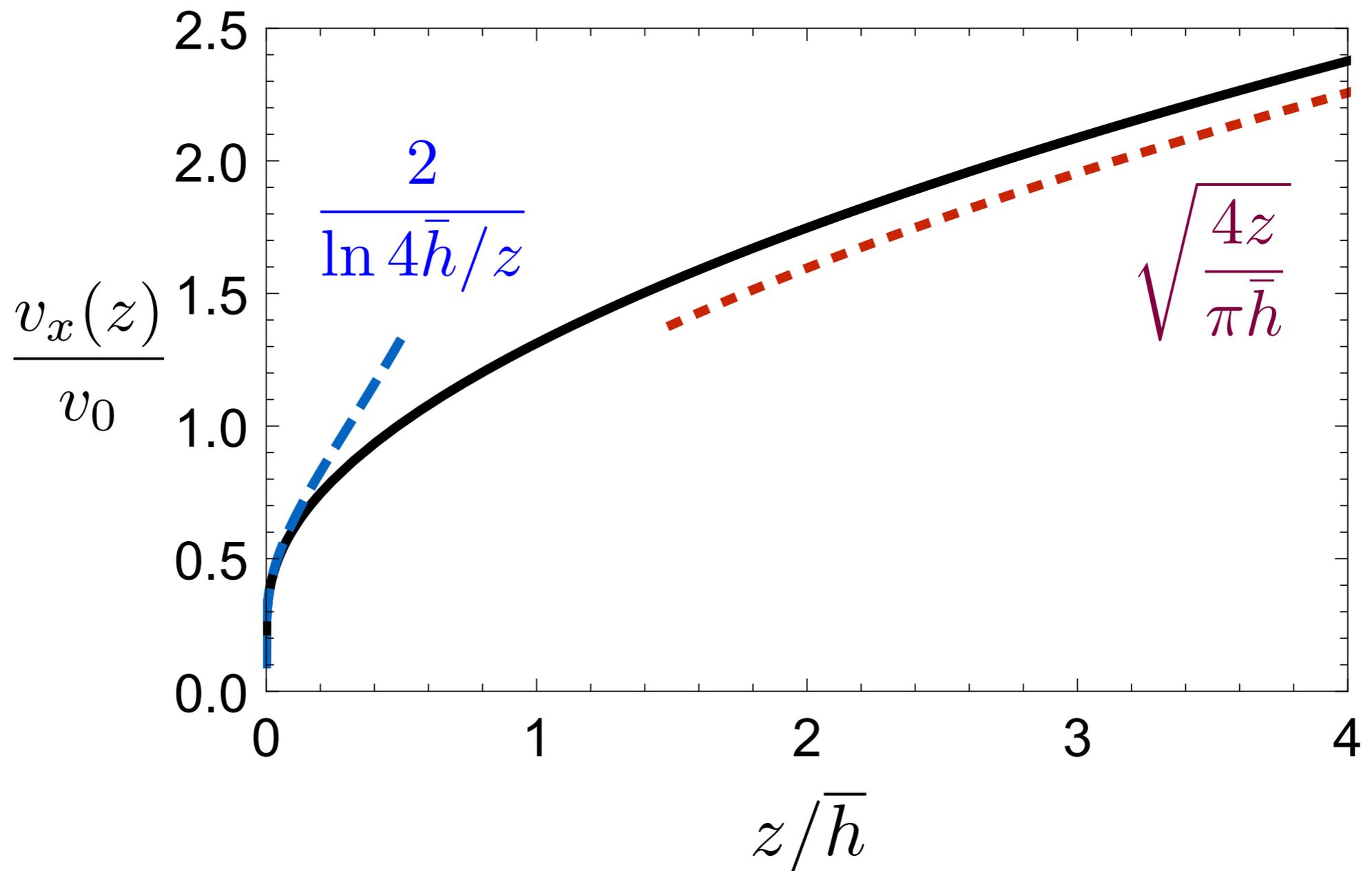
Edited by Harry L. Swinney, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, and approved September 17, 2014 (received for review July 10, 2014)

**Aeolian sand beds exhibit regular patterns of ripples resulting from the interaction between topography and sediment transport. Their characteristics have been so far related to reptation transport caused by the impacts on the ground of grains entrained**

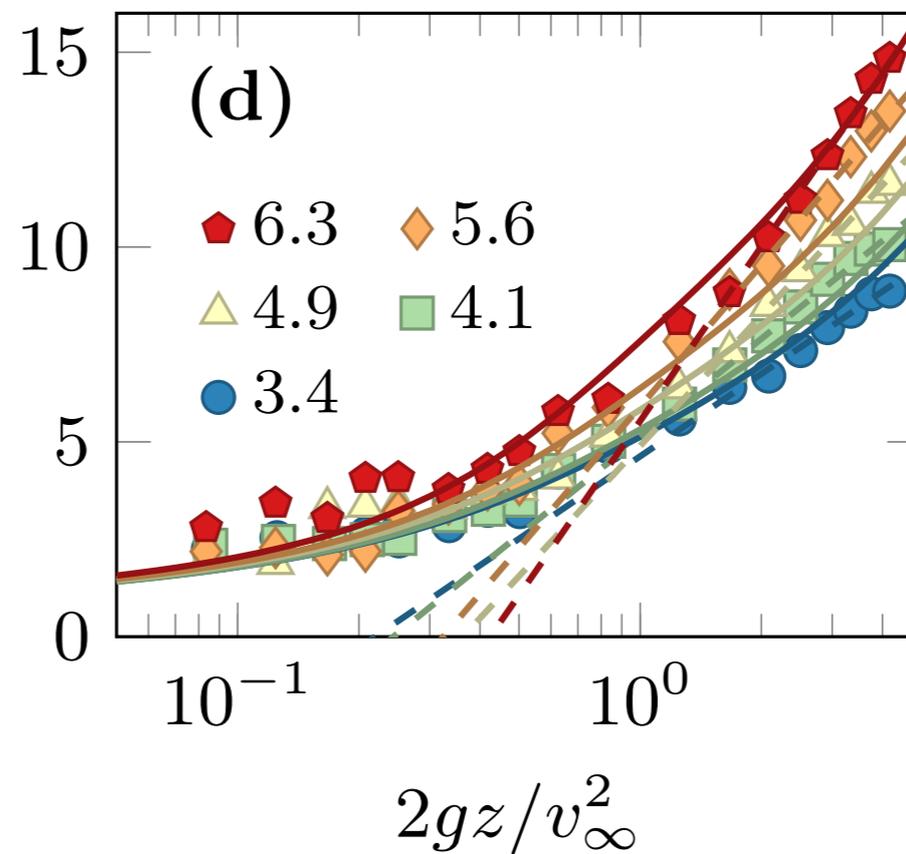
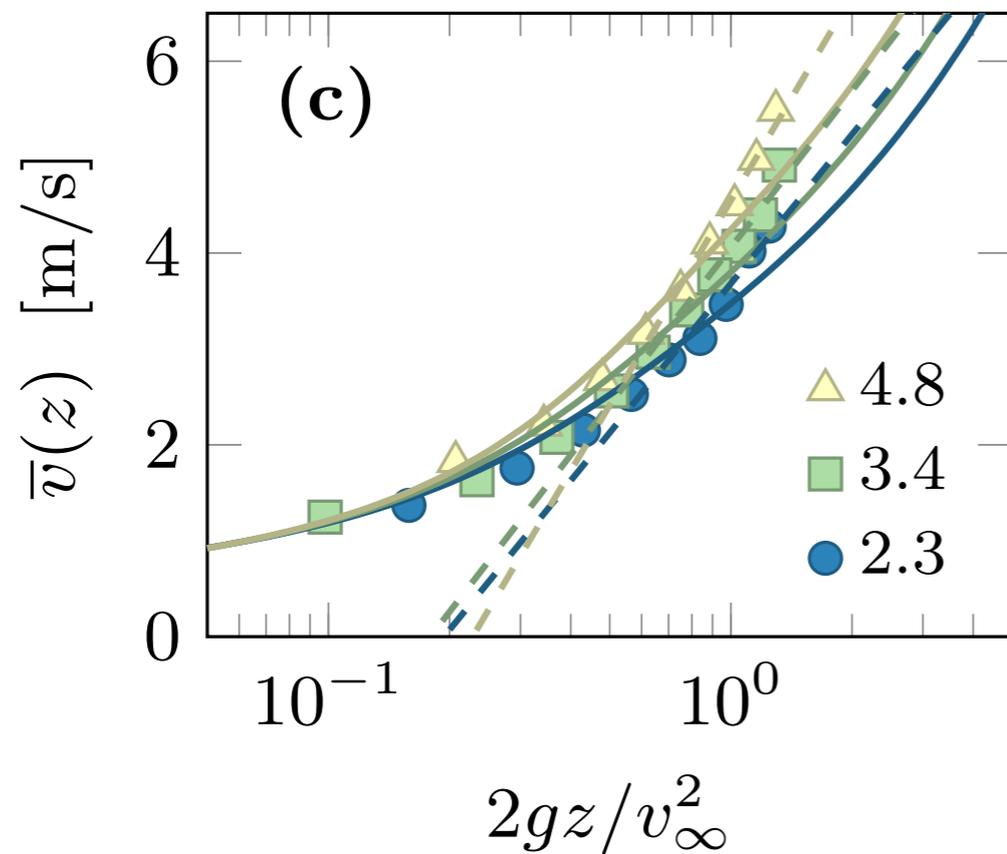
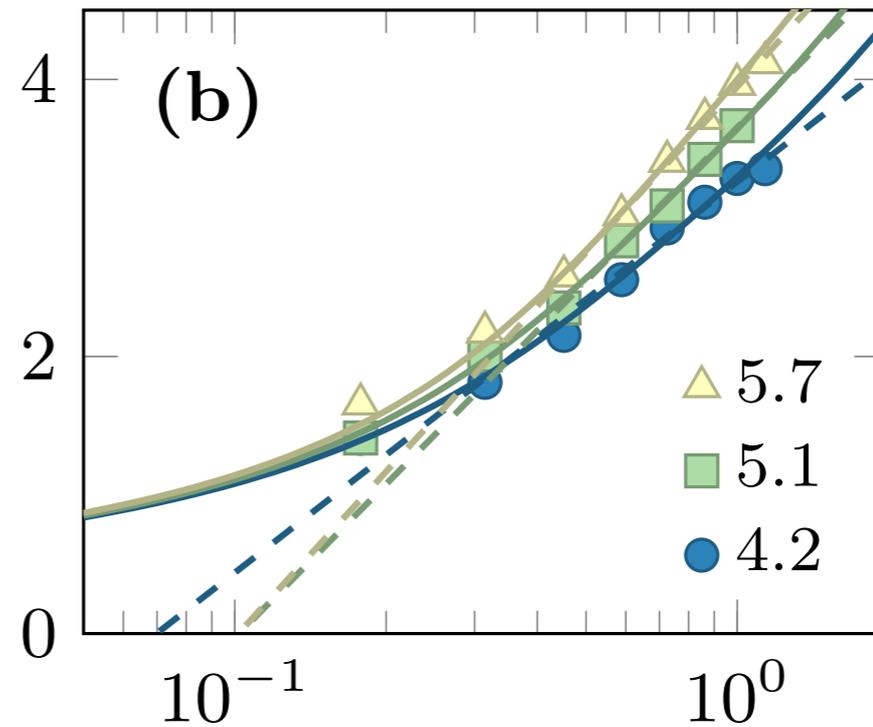
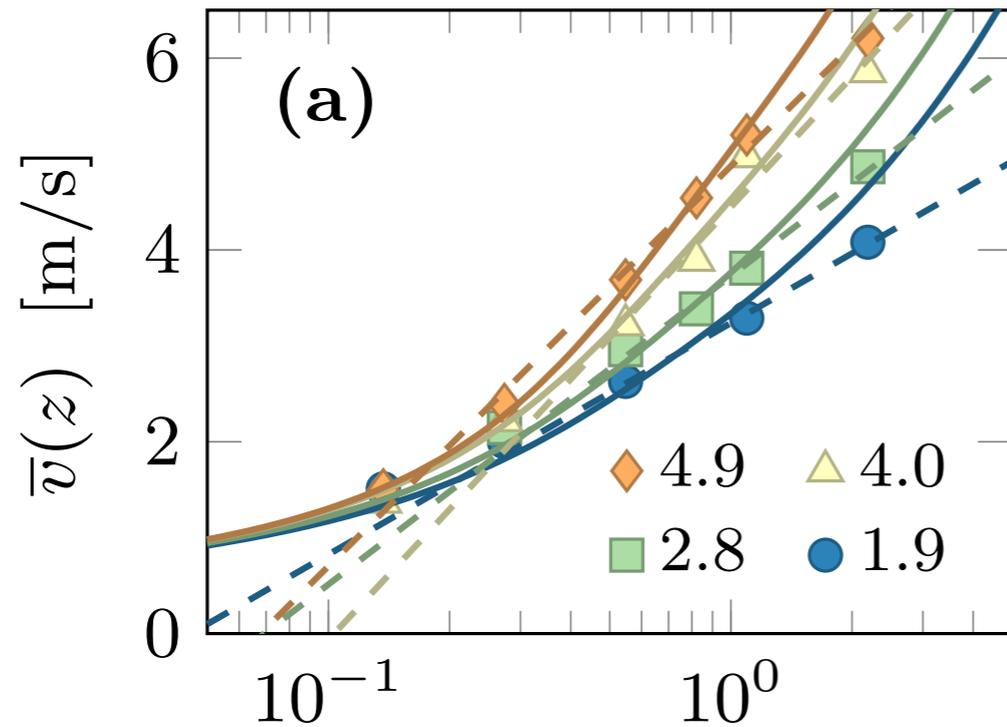
presented in ref. 26, we explicitly implement a two-way coupling between a discrete element method for the particles and a continuum Reynolds averaged description of hydrodynamics, coarse-grained at a scale larger than the grain size. This coupling

# particle velocity

$$v_x(z) = j(z)/\rho(z)$$



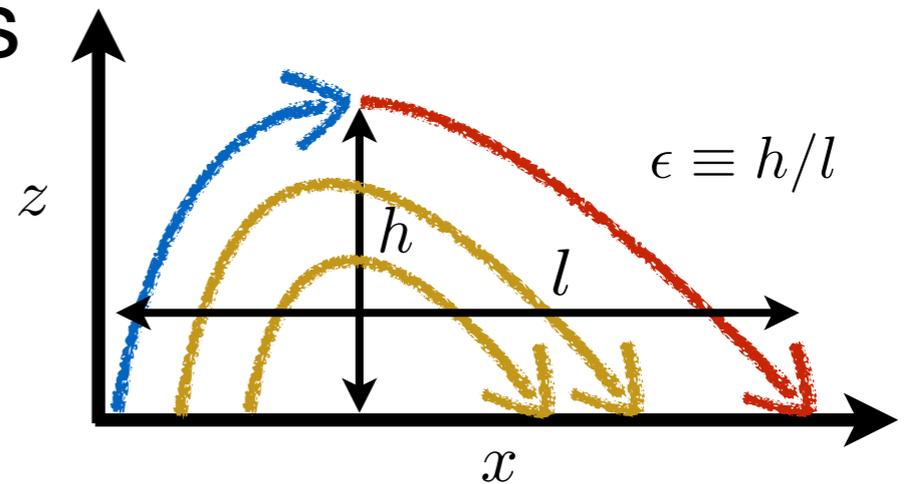
# particle velocity



# Summary

► **analytical mesoscale model of aeolian transport**

- based on grain scale physics
- ensemble of trajectories
- & two-species
- height-resolved observables
- applications to turbulent closure  
& data analysis & various mesoscale phenomena



**thank you!**