



Building a proper tensor-diffusivity model for large-eddy simulation of buoyancy-driven flows

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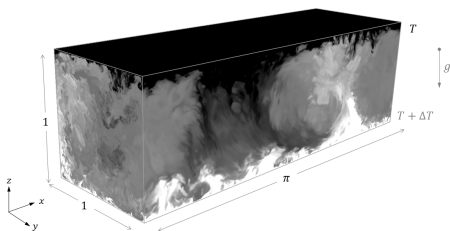
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Motivation

Research question:

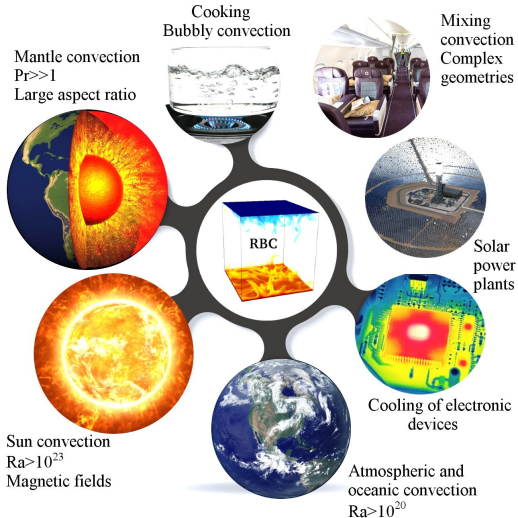
- Can we find a nonlinear SGS heat flux model with **good physical** and **numerical properties**, such that we can obtain satisfactory predictions for a turbulent Rayleigh-Bénard convection?



DNS of an air-filled Rayleigh-Bénard convection at $Ra = 10^{10}$

¹F.Dabbagh, F.X.Trias, A.Gorobets, A.Oliva. *On the evolution of flow topology in turbulent Rayleigh-Bénard convection*, **Physics of Fluids**, 28:115105, 2016.

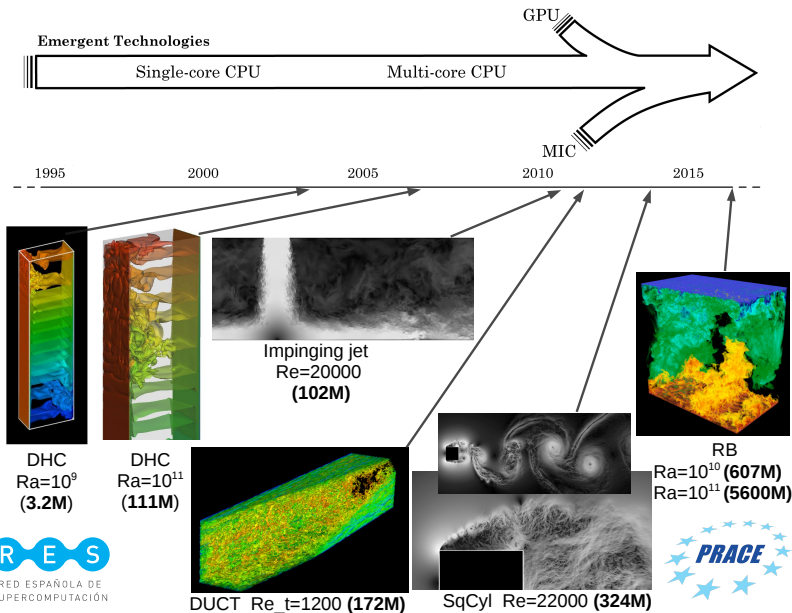
Motivation



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And of course... saving the planet!



Eddy-viscosity models for LES

$$\partial_t \bar{u} + (\bar{u} \cdot \nabla) \bar{u} = \nabla^2 \bar{u} - \nabla \bar{p} - \nabla \cdot \tau(\bar{u}) ; \quad \nabla \cdot \bar{u} = 0$$

eddy-viscosity $\longrightarrow \tau(\bar{u}) = -2\nu_t S(\bar{u})$

²F.X.Trias, D.Folch, A.Gorobets, A.Oliva. *Building proper invariants for eddy-viscosity subgrid-scale models*, **Physics of Fluids**, 27: 065103, 2015.

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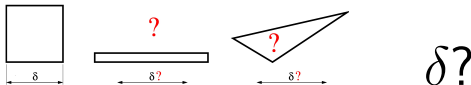
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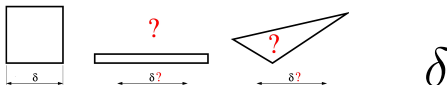
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³F.X.Trias, A.Gorobets, M.Silvis, R.Verstappen, A.Oliva. *A new subgrid characteristic length for turbulence simulations on anisotropic grids*, **Phys.Fluids**, 26:115109, 2017.

How to model the subgrid heat flux in LES?

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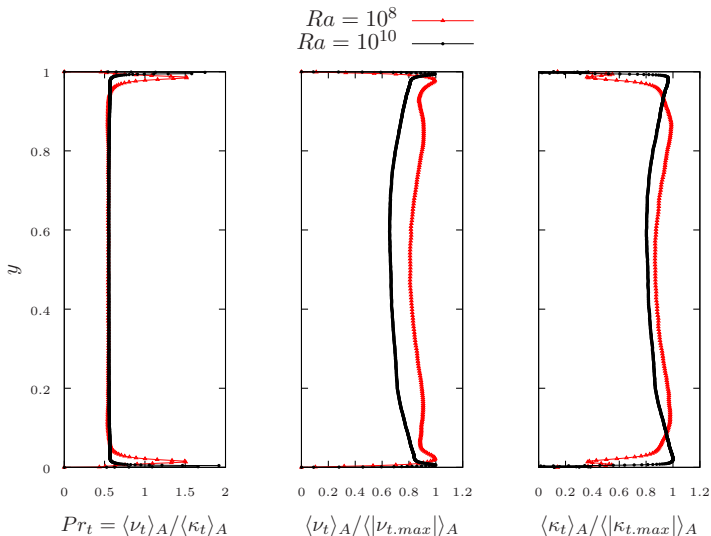
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$$G \equiv \nabla \bar{u} \quad \mathbf{q} = -\frac{\delta^2}{12} G \nabla \bar{T} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)$$

A priori alignment trends⁴

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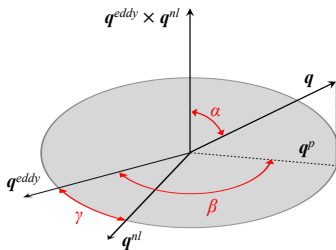
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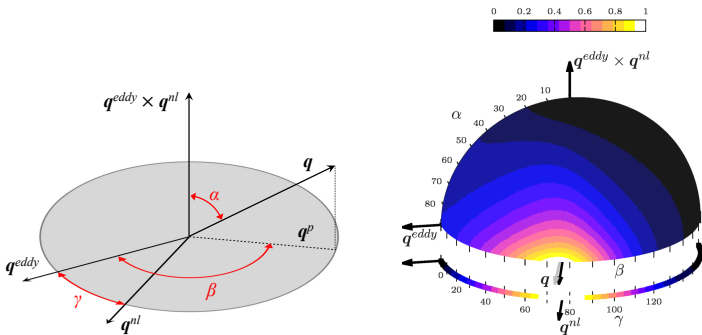


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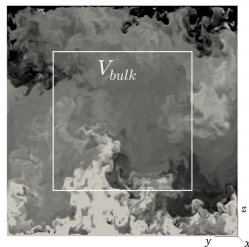
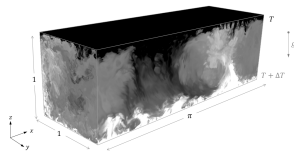
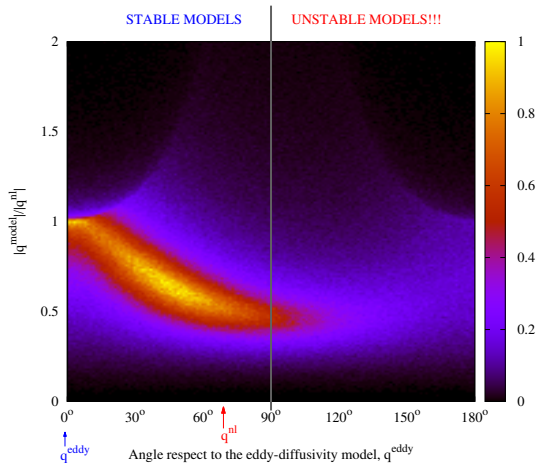
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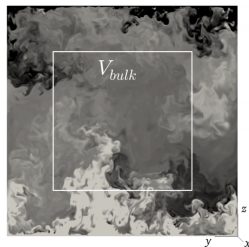
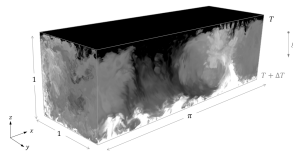
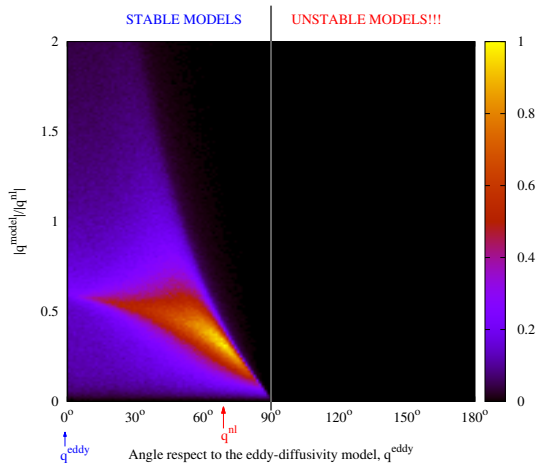
$$\mathcal{T}_{SGS} = 1/|S|$$

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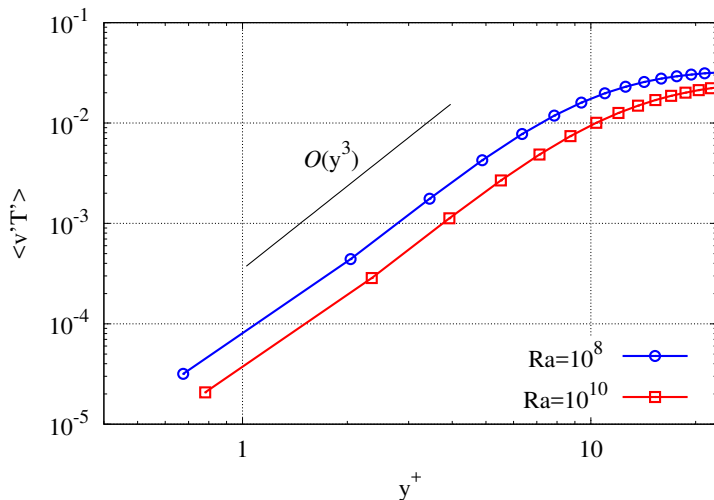
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$$q^{DH} \equiv -\mathcal{T}_{SGS} \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T}$$



Near-wall scaling



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$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} y & 1 & y \\ y^2 & y & y^2 \\ y & 1 & y \end{pmatrix}; \quad \nabla T = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 1 \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$G = \begin{pmatrix} y & 1 & y \\ y^2 & y & y^2 \\ y & 1 & y \end{pmatrix}; \quad \nabla T = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 1 \\ y \end{pmatrix} \implies GG^T \nabla \bar{T} = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y^2 \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{O}(y^1)$$

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Idea: build a \mathcal{T}_{SGS} with the proper $\mathcal{O}(y^2)$ scaling!!!

Building proper models for the subgrid heat flux

Let us consider models that are based on the invariants of the tensor GG^T

$$\mathbf{q} \approx -C_M \left(P_{GG^T}^p Q_{GG^T}^q R_{GG^T}^r \right) \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla T \quad (\equiv q^{S2})$$

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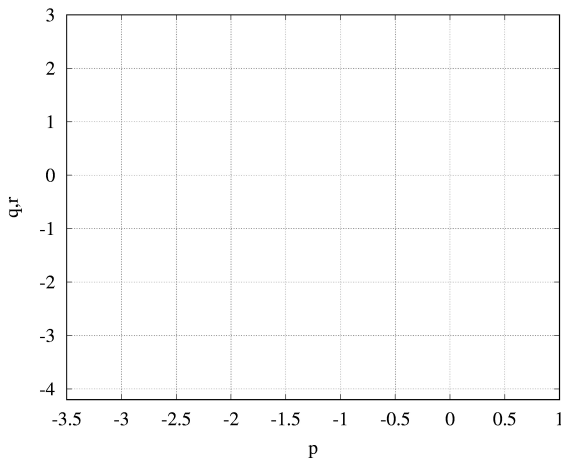
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$$-6r - 4q - 2p = 1 [T]; \quad 6r + 2q = s,$$

where s is the slope for the asymptotic near-wall behavior, *i.e.* $\mathcal{O}(y^s)$.

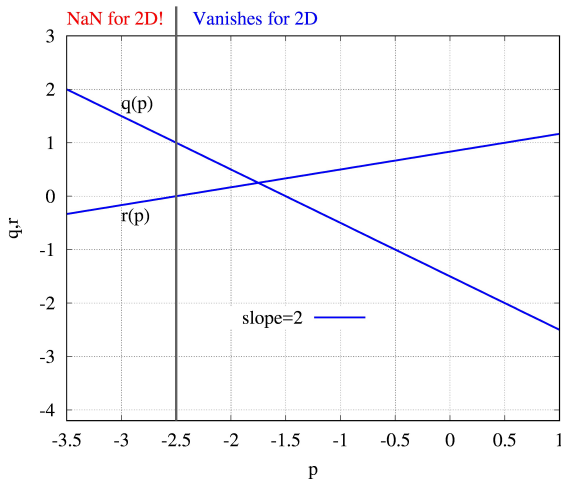
Building proper models for the subgrid heat flux

Solutions: $q(p, s) = -(1 + s)/2 - p$ and $r(p, s) = (2s + 1)/6 + p/3$



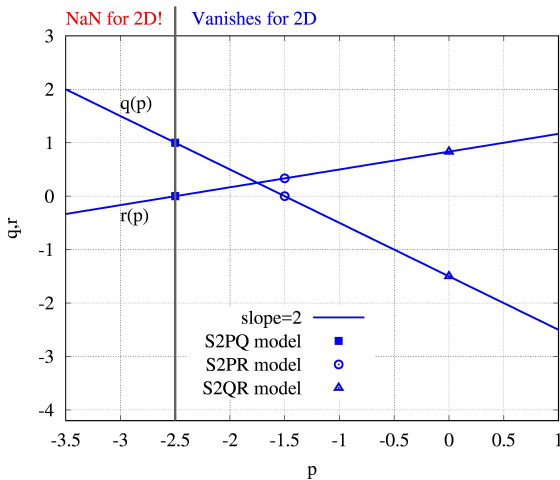
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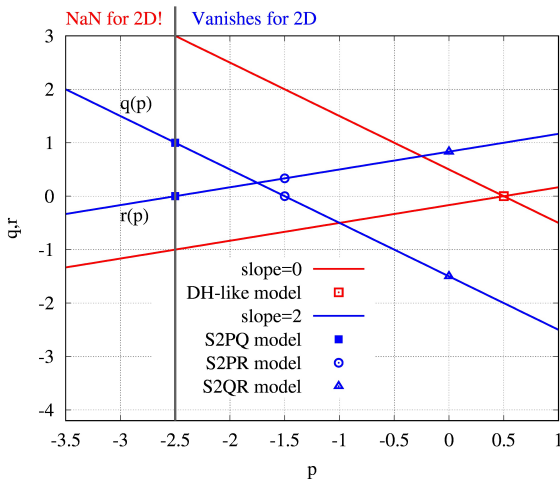
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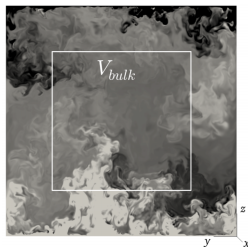
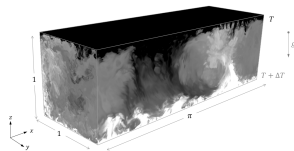
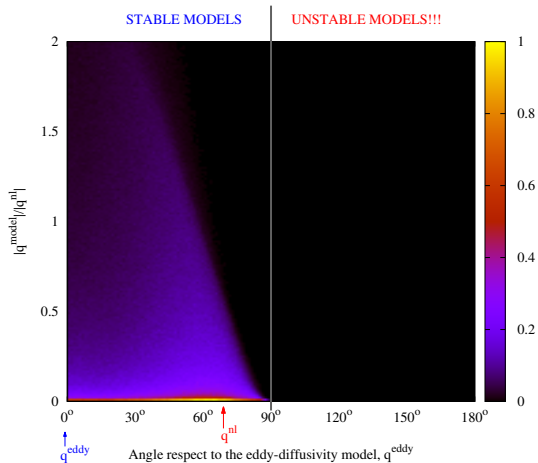
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A priori alignment trends of S2QR

$$q^{nl} \equiv -\frac{\delta^2}{12} G \nabla \bar{T}$$

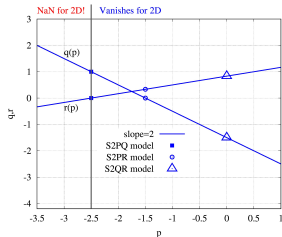
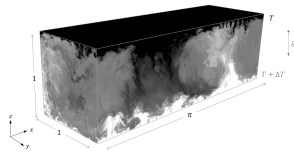
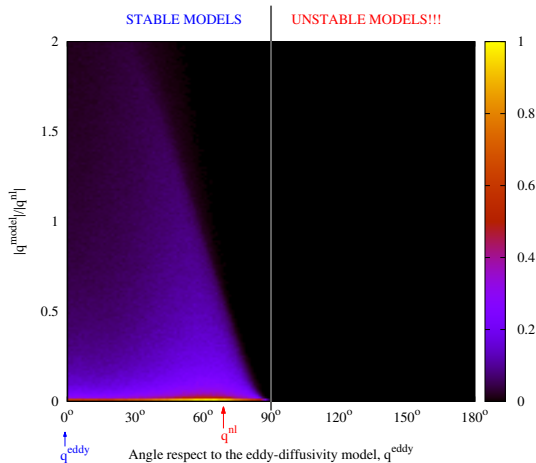
$$q^{s2QR} \equiv -C_M Q_{GGT}^{3/2} R_{GGT}^{5/6} \frac{\delta^2}{12} G G^T \nabla \bar{T}$$



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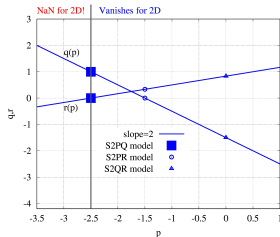
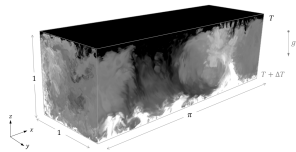
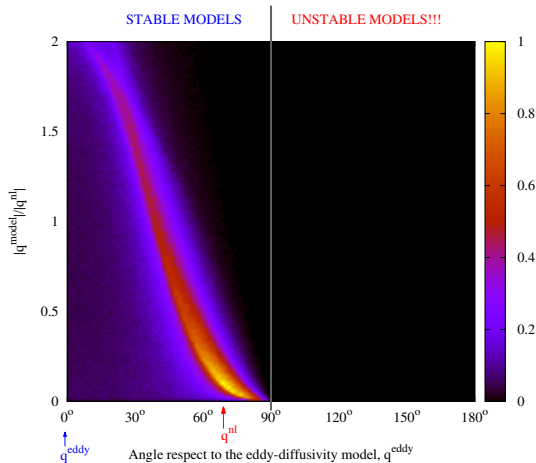
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A priori alignment trends of S2PQ

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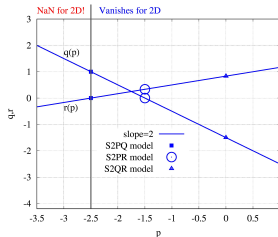
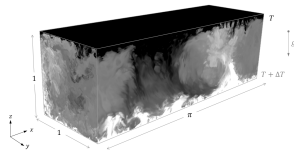
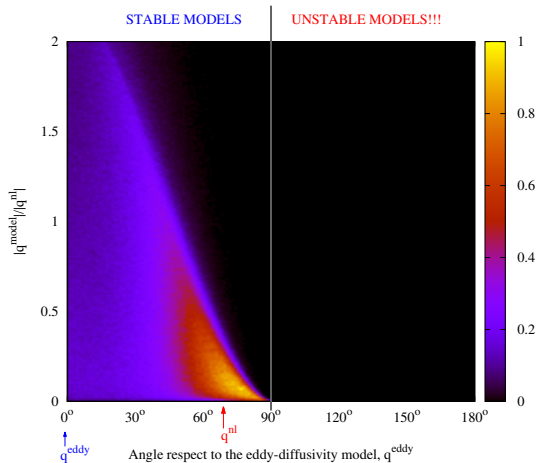
$$q^{s2PQ} \equiv -C_M P_{GG^T}^{-5/2} Q_{GG^T} \frac{\delta^2}{12} GG^T \nabla \bar{T}$$



A priori alignment trends of S2PR

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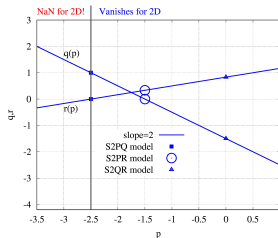
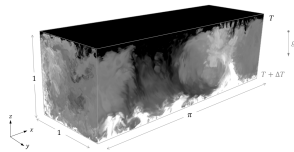
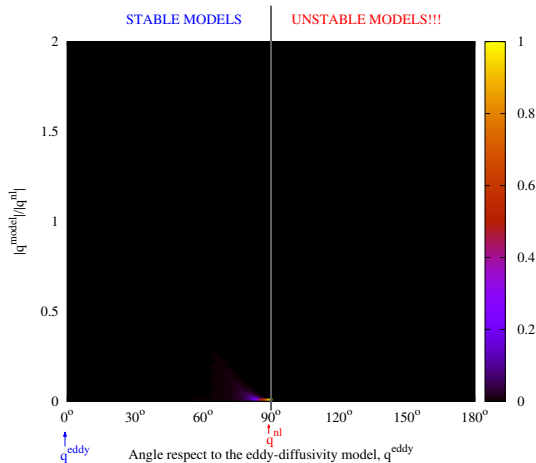
$$q^{s2PR} \equiv -C_M P_{GG^T}^{-3/2} R_{GG^T}^{1/3} \frac{\delta^2}{12} G G^T \nabla \bar{T}$$



A priori alignment trends of S2PR in the near-wall region

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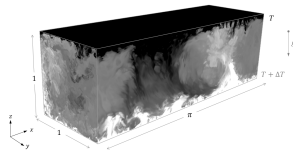
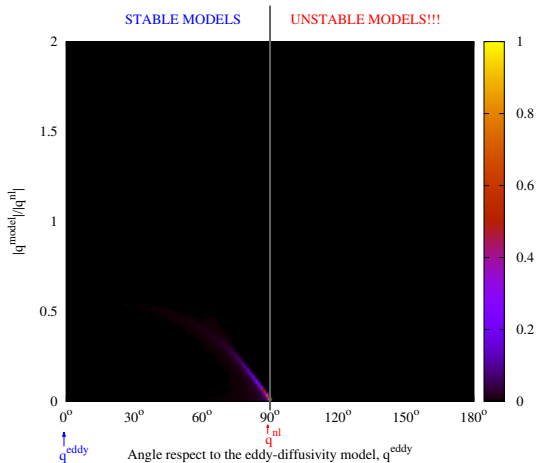
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A priori alignment trends of DH in the near-wall region

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A posteriori results

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Concluding remarks

- A new tensor-diffusivity model has been proposed

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- Locally defined, unconditionally stable and vanishes for 2D flows. ✓
- Good *a priori* alignment trends. ✓
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Future:

- *A posteriori* tests for Rayleigh-Bénard convection.

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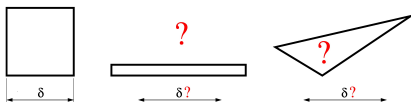
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Future:

- *A posteriori* tests for Rayleigh-Bénard convection.
- How δ should be defined for highly anisotropic grids?



Thank you for your attention

