

# ***A gentle introduction to Microswimming:***

***geometry, physics, analysis***

***Jair Koiller***

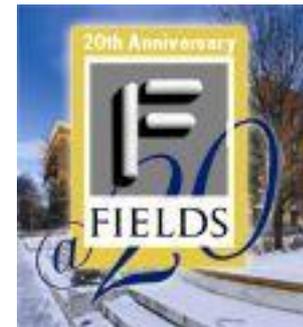
***EMAP, Fundação Getulio Vargas,***

***Associations***

***Millenium Math Initiative, IMPA***

***Laboratorio Pinças Óticas, UFRJ***

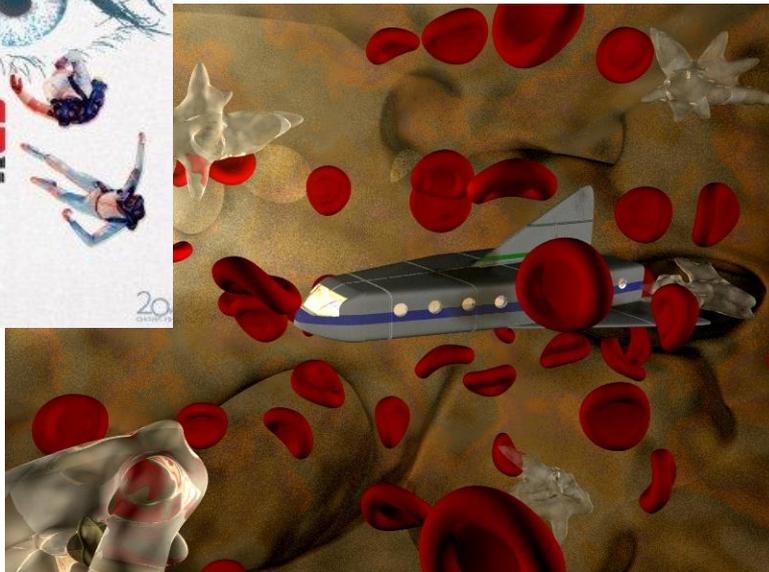
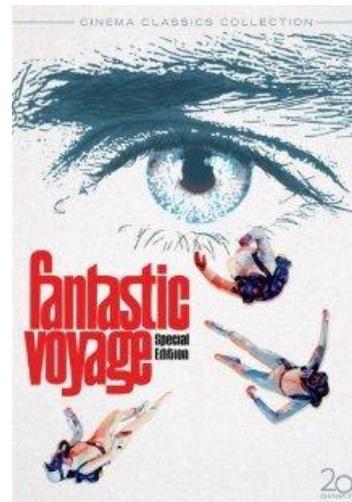
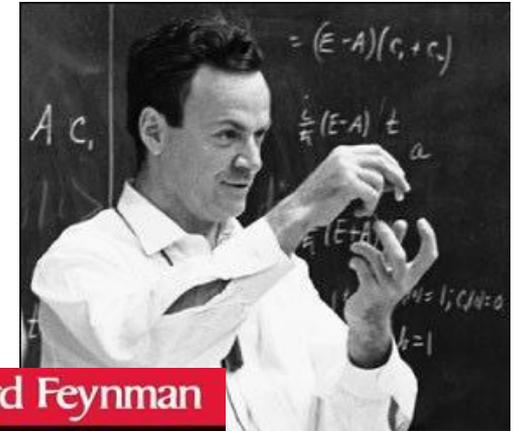
**Marsden legacy July 2012 @**



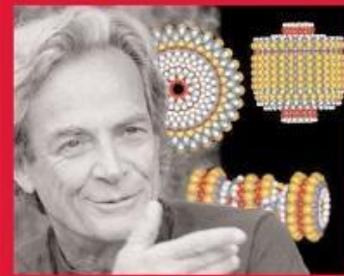
# Why study microswimming?

Feynman: there is plenty of room in the bottom!

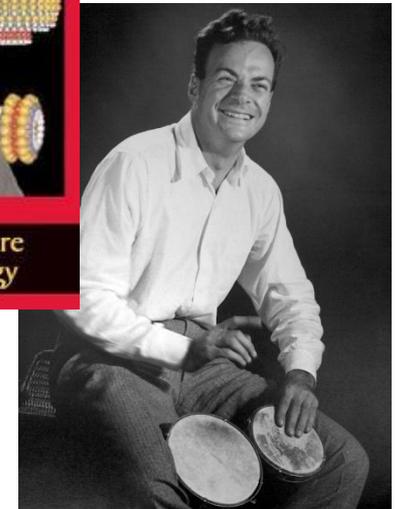
(and plenty of grant money, so it seems)



Richard Feynman  
Tiny Machines



The Feynman Lecture  
on Nanotechnology



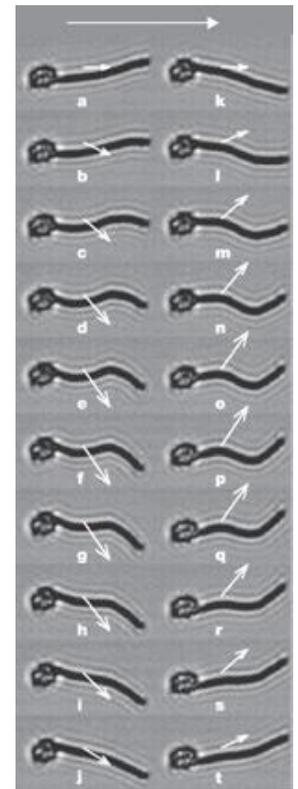
**In the last 15 years:**

**New tools for particle visualization, in vivo cell manipulation, biochemical structure, genomics and function.**

**These developments are bringing new challenges and opportunities for the applied mathematician to do collaborative work with biologists and engineers.**

**One example:**

**[Recent experiments](#) in [R.Goldstein](#), DAMPT**



Dreyfus et al.,  
Microscopic  
artificial  
swimmers,  
Nature 437,  
862-865, 2005

## **Collaborators**

Kurt Ehlers and Richard Montgomery

Joaquim Delgado

Marco Raupp, Alexandre Cherman, Gerusa Araujo, Fernando Duda

## **Advice/ suggestions**

Howard Berg, Theodore Wu, Moyses Nussenzweig

Greg Huber, Scott Kelly, John Bush, Lisa Fauci, Peko Hosoi, ...

## **Encouragement:**

## **Collaborators**

Kurt Ehlers and Richard Montgomery

Joaquim Delgado

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## **Advice/ suggestions**

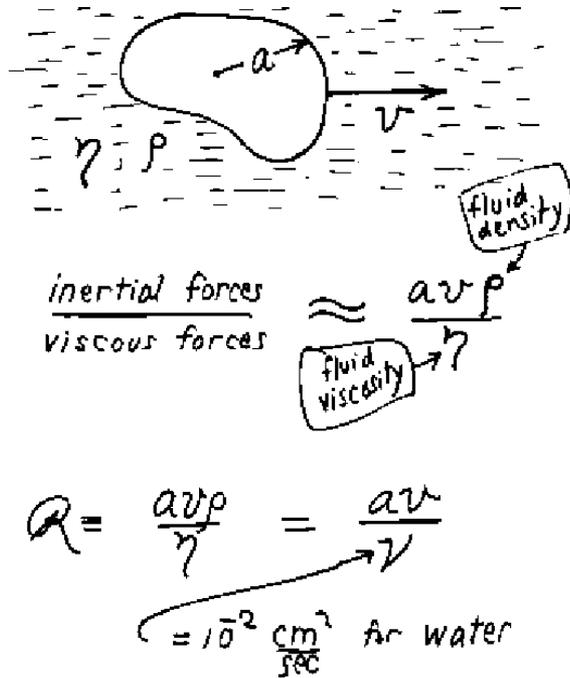
Howard Berg, Theodore Wu

Greg Huber, Scott Kelly,

**Encouragement:**     Jerry Marsden     [ JK, KE, RM [Problems and Progress](#) ]

Microswimming is governed by Stokes equations on an incompressible fluid

[Taylor \(movie\)](#)



Ambient:  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (life at interface) or  $\mathbb{R}^3$

“Molasses Laplacian”

$$0 = -\text{grad } p + \mu \Delta u$$

$$\text{div } u = 0$$

[Purcell Life at low Re](#)

$$\text{Reynolds} = O(10^{-5})$$

(drop the inertial term from Navier Stokes)

# Stress tensor $\mathbf{T} = -p\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\sigma}$ , $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = ??$

$$\nabla \mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial_x u & \partial_y u & \partial_z u \\ \partial_x v & \partial_y v & \partial_z v \\ \partial_x w & \partial_y w & \partial_z w \end{bmatrix}$$

denote the Jacobian matrix of  $\mathbf{u}$ . By Taylor's theorem,

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) + \nabla \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{h} + O(h^2), \quad (1.2.2)$$

where  $\nabla \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \mathbf{h}$  is a matrix multiplication, with  $\mathbf{h}$  regarded as a column vector. Let

$$\mathbf{D} = \frac{1}{2} [\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T],$$

32 1 The Equations of Motion

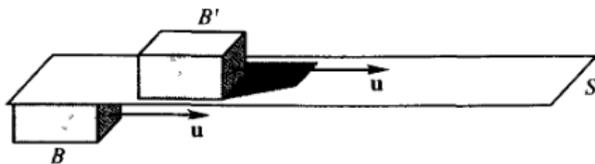


FIGURE 1.3.1. Faster molecules in  $B'$  can diffuse across  $S$  and impart momentum to  $B$ .

where  $\mathbf{n}$  is the normal to  $S$ , we now assume that

$$\text{force on } S \text{ per unit area} = -p(\mathbf{x}, t)\mathbf{n} + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{x}, t) \cdot \mathbf{n}, \quad (1.3.1)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  is a *matrix* called the **stress tensor**, about which some assumptions will have to be made. The new feature is that  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n}$  need not be parallel to  $\mathbf{n}$ . The separation of the forces into pressure and other forces in (1.3.1) is somewhat ambiguous because  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n}$  may contain a component parallel to  $\mathbf{n}$ . This issue will be resolved later when we give a more definite functional form to  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ .

This is reasonable, because when a fluid undergoes a rigid body rotation, there should be no diffusion of momentum.

3.  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  is symmetric. This property can be deduced as a consequence of balance of angular momentum.<sup>7</sup>

Since  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  is symmetric, it follows from properties 1 and 2 that  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  can depend only on the symmetric part of  $\nabla \mathbf{u}$ ; that is, on the deformation  $\mathbf{D}$ . Because  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  is a linear function of  $\mathbf{D}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  commute and so can be simultaneously diagonalized. Thus, the eigenvalues of  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  are linear functions of those of  $\mathbf{D}$ . By property 2, they must also be symmetric because we can choose  $\mathbf{U}$  to permute two eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{D}$  (by rotating through an angle  $\pi/2$  about an eigenvector), and this must permute the corresponding eigenvalues of  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ . The only linear functions that are symmetric in this sense are of the form

$$\sigma_i = \lambda(d_1 + d_2 + d_3) + 2\mu d_i, \quad i = 1, 2, 3,$$

where  $\sigma_i$  are the eigenvalues of  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ , and  $d_i$  are those of  $\mathbf{D}$ . This defines the constants  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ . Recalling that  $d_1 + d_2 + d_3 = \text{div } \mathbf{u}$ , we can use property 2 to transform  $\sigma_i$  back to the usual basis and deduce that

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \lambda(\text{div } \mathbf{u})\mathbf{I} + 2\mu \mathbf{D}, \quad (1.3.2)$$

where  $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity. We can rewrite this by putting all the trace in one term:

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = 2\mu[\mathbf{D} - \frac{1}{3}(\text{div } \mathbf{u})\mathbf{I}] + \zeta(\text{div } \mathbf{u})\mathbf{I} \quad (1.3.2)'$$

where  $\mu$  is the **first coefficient of viscosity**, and  $\zeta = \lambda + \frac{2}{3}\mu$  is the **second coefficient of viscosity**.

source: Marsden/Chorin

**An organism/robot is a deforming boundary immersed in the ambient.**

**There are physical requirements for self propulsion.**

**What are them?** (Wait a couple slides.)

**For now:**  $\mathbf{T} = -p \mathbf{I} + 2 \mu \mathbf{D}$

$\text{div } \mathbf{T} = 0$  and  $\text{div } \mathbf{u} = 0$

$\mathbf{u} \rightarrow 0$  at infinity ,

**no slip condition imposed on all boundaries**  
**(moving or fixed)**

**Ambient:  $R^2$  (life at interface) or  $R^3$**

**but ... everything has boundaries !!!!**

**Common wisdom:**

**Boundaries affect motion substantially only**

**when organisms are close to them.**

# Geometry and Physics of Microswimming \*

(Purcell & [Shapere-Wilczek](#))

It 's a Gauge theory !

Key words: shape space, principal bundle, connection!

And a subriemannian geometry!

Metric is the [hydrodynamical power](#) [efficiency notions](#)

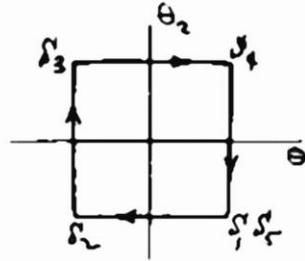
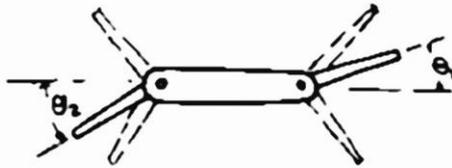
( For collective swimming: Ehresmann connection )

[Recife notes](#)

[www.impa.br/~jair](http://www.impa.br/~jair)

\* Taylor and Lighthill already knew in the 1950's what it was all about.  
Later on, analysts occasionally make blunders (see [O.P.](#) (2.14))

# Microswimming is a gauge theory!!



Purcell's 3 linked swimmer  
(only recently studied)



toroidal animal ([Taylor](#), [Purcell](#))

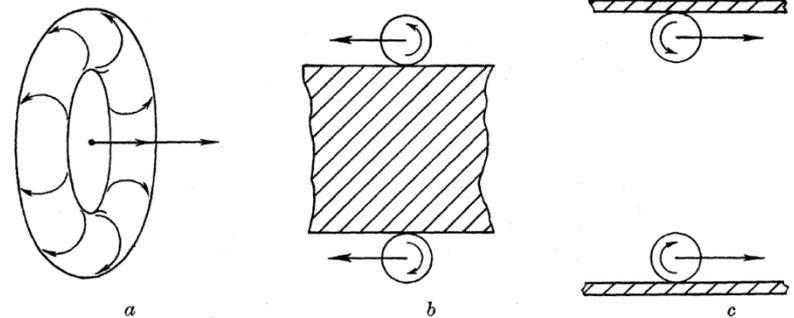


FIGURE 1a. Hypothetical ring-shaped animal capable of rotating its body in the direction indicated. b. Direction of motion when the ring rolls on the outside of a cylinder. c. Direction of motion when the ring rolls on the inside of a cylindrical tube.

# What is the metric? Hydrodynamical power expenditure \*

$U$  = vectorfield along the boundary

$u$  = solution of exterior Stokes equations (analogous to Dirichlet problem for Laplacian)

$\sigma$  = stress tensor associated to  $u$   $F = \sigma \cdot n$  along the boundary

integrate  $F \cdot U$  on  $S$ , call it  $\langle\langle U, U \rangle\rangle$

$P : U \longrightarrow F$

symmetric

Resistance operator

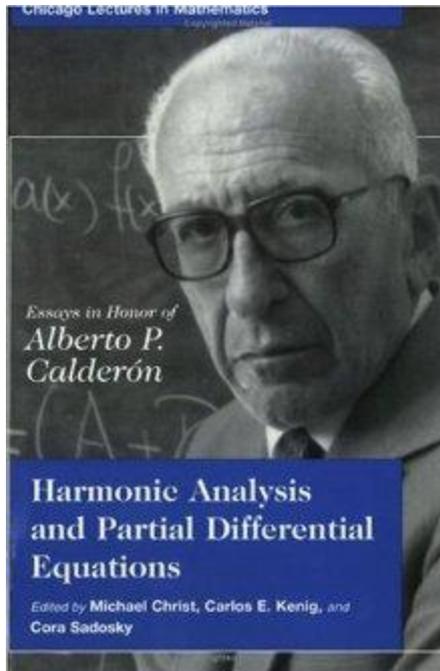
(Lorenz reciprocity)

\* Discuss the envelope approximation

# A “wet” Calderon problem?

**P : U → F**

analogous to “Dirichlet to Neumann”



It is well known (see, e.g., [21]) that, given  $f \in C^{2,\alpha}(\Omega)$ , there exists a unique solution of the boundary-value problem

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\gamma(x, u) \nabla u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = f. \end{cases} \quad (19.164)$$

We define the Dirichlet to Neumann map  $\Lambda_\gamma : C^{2,\alpha}(\partial\Omega) \rightarrow C^{1,\alpha}(\partial\Omega)$  as the map given by

$$\Lambda_\gamma : f \rightarrow \nu \cdot \gamma(x, f) \nabla u|_{\partial\Omega}, \quad (19.165)$$

where  $u$  is the solution of (19.164) and  $\nu$  denotes the unit outer normal of  $\partial\Omega$ .

Physically,  $\gamma(x, u)$  represents the (anisotropic, quasilinear) conductivity of  $\Omega$  and  $\Lambda_\gamma(f)$  the current flux at the boundary induced by the voltage  $f$ .

We study the inverse boundary-value problem associated to (19.164): how much information about the coefficient matrix  $\gamma$  can be obtained from knowledge of the Dirichlet to Neumann map  $\Lambda_\gamma$ ?

# What is the Connection?

**Horizontal spaces:**

physically allowed motions for self propulsion

$$\text{Total force} = 0 \quad \text{Total torque} = 0$$

**Vertical spaces:** rigid motions (with frozen shape)

A key fact: **Vertical**  $\perp$  **Horizontal**

Proof.

“Lorenz reciprocity” (Green like identities for the “gooey” Laplacian)

Answer: Its the mechanical connection

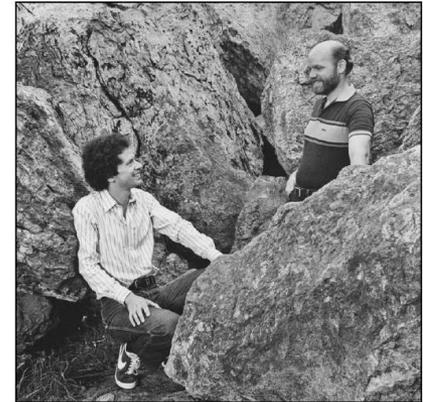


Photo by Margo Weinstein.

# The connection 1 form solves the self rotating torus

(Taylor, Purcell)

**Nano: DNA ring**



You can invent other animals that have no trouble swimming. We had better be able to invent them, since we know they exist. One you might think of first as a physicist, is a torus. I don't know whether there is a toroidal animal, but whatever other physiological problems it might face, it clearly could swim at low Reynolds number

Hold the shape in place,

SR boundary conditions: solve Stokes equations, compute total force  $F$  and total torque  $T$  (most likely  $T = 0$ ).

RB counterflow: solve Stokes equations with unit velocity. Compute total force and adjust to have minus the force calculated previously.

Purcell,  
Life at low  
Reynolds

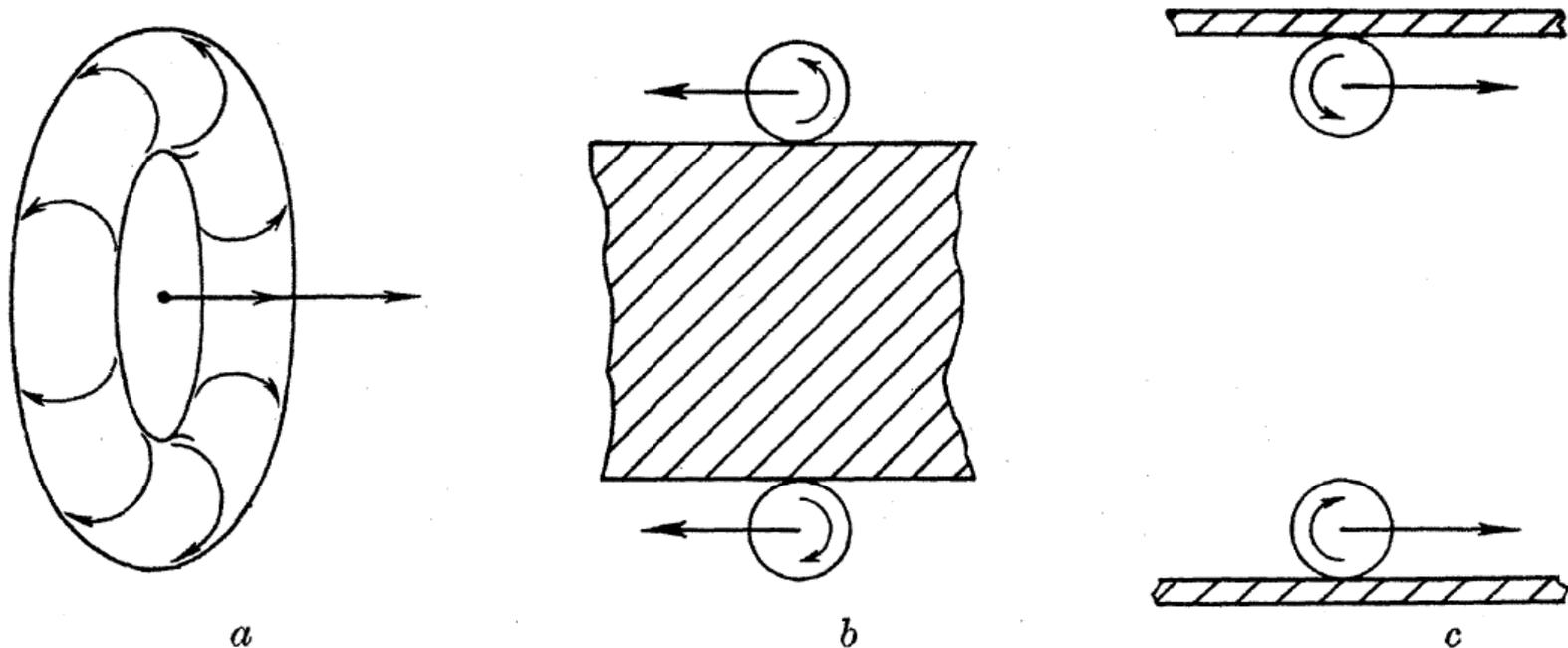


FIGURE 1 *a*. Hypothetical ring-shaped animal capable of rotating its body in the direction indicated. *b*. Direction of motion when the ring rolls on the outside of a cylinder. *c*. Direction of motion when the ring rolls on the inside of a cylindrical tube.

## The action of waving cylindrical tails in propelling microscopic organisms

BY SIR GEOFFREY TAYLOR, F.R.S.

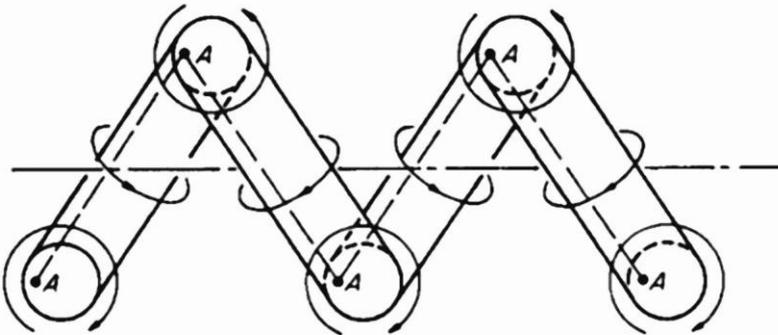
(Received 3 October 1951)

# Spirochetes

<http://www.annualreviews.org/doi/full/10.1146/annurev.genet.36.041602.134359>



**Self rotation induced flow (depicted in the figure)**  
**Rigid Body counterflow with the opposite total torque**  
**(note that total force vanishes)**



Schematic figure showing the mechanism for the self rotation about a local body axis.

[Lighthill's analysis](#)

**More later in this talk**

\* Different trick by spiroplasma ([Greg Huber](#))

# How to compute the curvature?

( Some tricks of the trade that we learned in the 1990's )

Is it really needed to solve Stokes equations for any deformation?

Answer: yes and no.

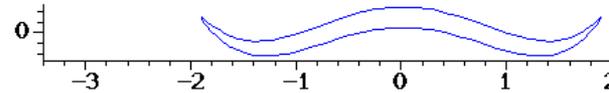
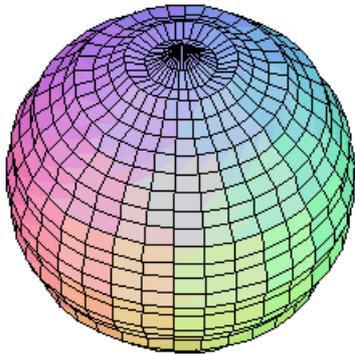
Yes, we need to extend vectorfields defined on the boundary of the shape as the external Stokes flows; we need to Lie bracket them.

No, if we need only the connection 1 form.

Shapere/Wilzek recipe and more explained (see Recife lectures)

[Taylor's swimming sheet](#)

**With curvature form, get Propulsion operator  $F$  (antisymmetric)**



**$F(U,V)$  = infinitesimal displacement generated by  $U,V,-U,-V$**

**An element of  $\mathfrak{se}(3)$**

Let  $\{v_n\}$  be a basis for the vectorfields on the surface of a given located shape  $q$ . Define  $\mathcal{F}_{mn}$  to be the infinitesimal Euclidean motion given by the coupling of the modes  $v_m$  and  $v_n$  (e.g., Fourier modes). The  $\mathcal{F}_{mn}$  are nothing more than the components of the curvature two-form  $\mathcal{F}$  of the connection form  $A$ , evaluated at the shape  $q$  contracted with the vectors  $v_m$  and  $v_n$ . A formula for  $\mathcal{F}_{mn}$  is

$$\mathcal{F}_{mn} = A([v_n^h, v_m^h]),$$

where

$$[v_n^h, v_m^h] = (v_n^h \cdot \nabla) \hat{v}_{m|\text{shape}}^h - (v_m^h \cdot \nabla) \hat{v}_{n|\text{shape}}^h$$

is the Lie bracket. The hat indicates the Stokes' extension of the boundary condition to the fluid; the fluid response in a neighborhood of the boundary is necessary in order to compute the derivatives. The superscript  $h$  denotes "horizontal projection"—which in practice means subtracting  $A_q(v)$  from the input boundary conditions so that their Stokes' extensions lead to no net force or torque on the fluid.

Once we have the components of the curvature calculated at a particular shape we can approximate the connection form in a neighborhood of that shape. Let  $a_m$  be the coordinates associated to the  $v_m$ . A boundary condition can then be written  $v = \sum a_m v_m$ , and the  $a_m$  are to be thought of as the amplitudes. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}|_s &= \sum_{m < n} \mathcal{F}_{mn} da_m \wedge da_n \\ &= \sum_{m < n} d(a_m \mathcal{F}_{mn} da_n). \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $A \cong \sum a_m \mathcal{F}_{mn} da_n + \text{exact}$ . So if a swimming motion is gauge-parameterized by

$$s(t) = q + \sum a_n(t) v_n,$$

where  $q$  is a given located shape, then substituting the approximation for  $A$  into formula (9), we obtain an approximation for the net motion associated to the periodic swimming stroke:

$$\bar{P} \exp \int_0^1 A(t) dt = I + \int \sum_{m < n} \mathcal{F}_{mn} a_m \dot{a}_n dt + O(|a|^3).$$

## The "Curvature Approximation Formula"

(Shapere/Wilczek)

Concerns small deformations of an "average shape"

(or envelope model)

- Geometric thinking organizes the Stokes flows calculations.

(Lie brackets "lurk" in the papers by the founding fathers)

## Optimization

**Min  $P$  , subject to prescribed  $F$**

For small deformations of amplitude  $\varepsilon$   
of an “average shape”  $s_0$

We get a linear algebra problem (in infinite dimension)

Some efficiency concepts were given in [Shapere/Wilczek](#) (others recently)

See discussion in [JK/J.Delgado](#) on “Pareto optimization” .

# Purcellian Mechanics

1. Cell & flagellum      Bacterial motor (Berg)

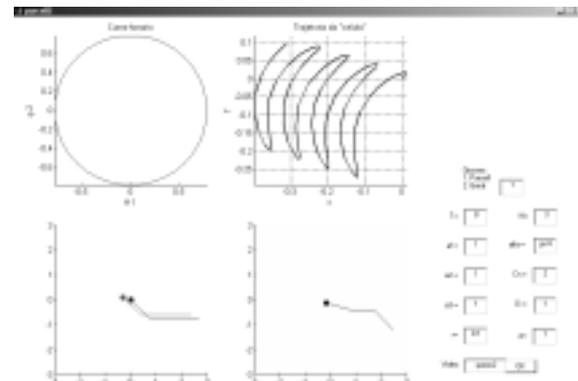
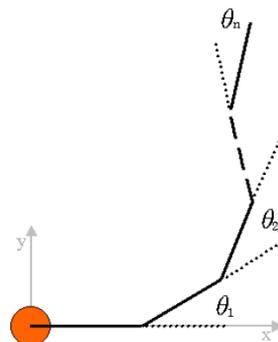
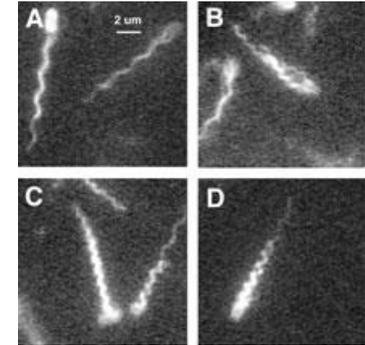
2. Two linked swimmer

(groups of Peko Hosoi , Howard Stone , Greg Huber ...)

One of the fundamental axiom: for rods  $F_{\perp} = 2 F_{\parallel}$

3. Axiomatization: resistance matrices add; equivariance

Geometric Mechanics of N-linked Swimmers (with Gerusa Araujo)



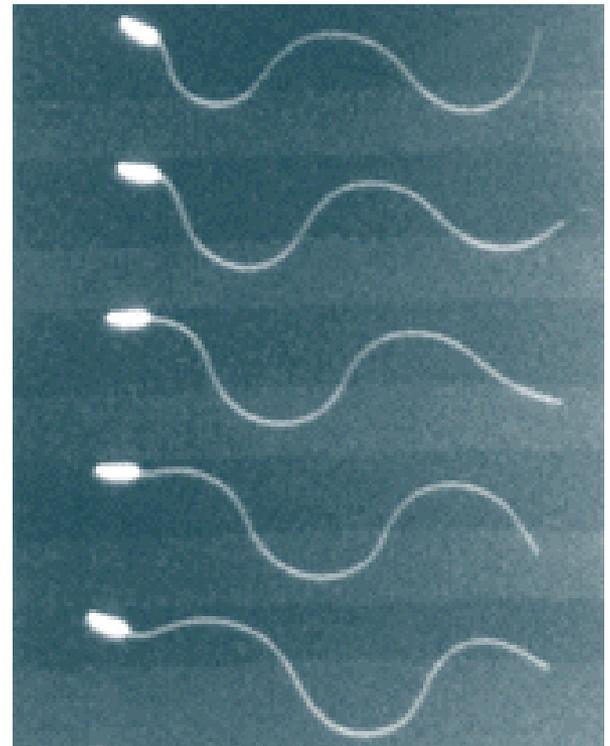
**Problem 1 (hopefully not too hard).**

**Apply Pontryagin, what are the optimal patterns?**

**... and in the continuous limit?**

**do you get progressive waves**

**of arcs of circles from base to tip ?**



## The holy grail: how molecular motors (dyneyn) act ?

**Problem 2 (hard):** Incorporate internal forces in the modeling.

Use a Geometric Mechanics approach to organize the analysis.

Can you infer what are the internal forces from the movies?

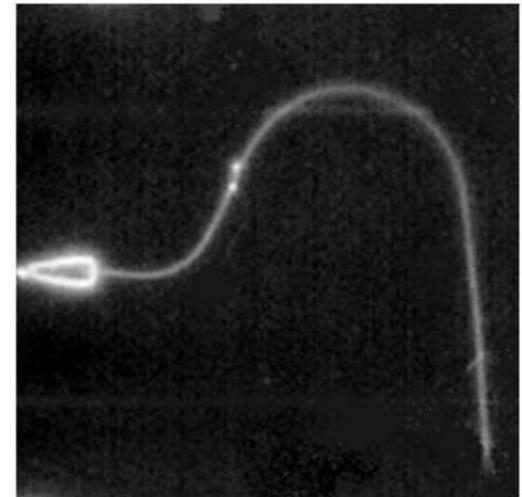
Start with internal force fields with biological interpretation; how to they relate with the stress tensor at the solid fluid contact?

[C.Brokaw](#)

[H.Gadelha](#)

Comment : [immersed boundary method](#)

[internal dissipation](#)

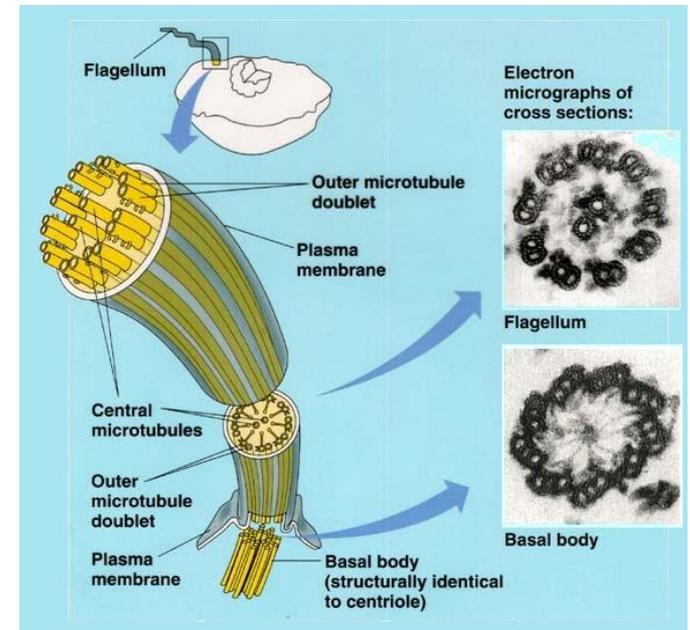
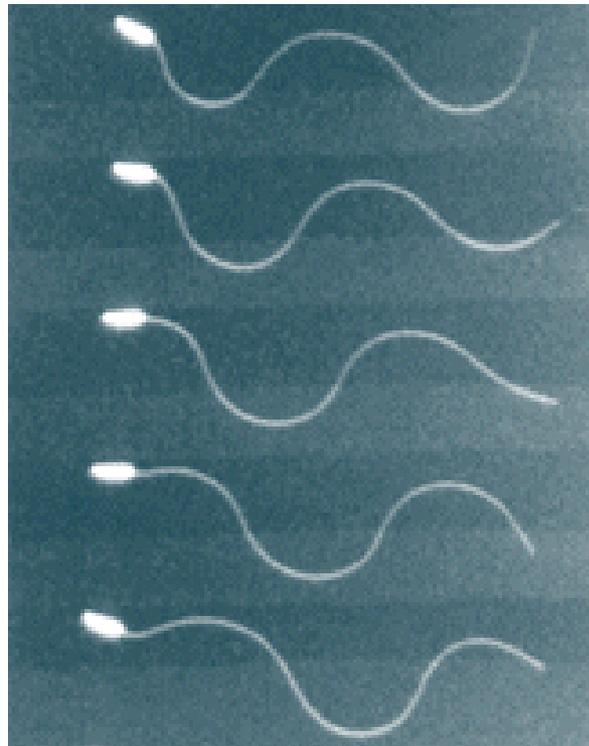


How to start this program? [Lighthill](#) (J. Eng. Math. , 1996)

# Distributed molecular motors of the eukariote flagella

Charles Brokaw Microtubule sliding

Bending patterns



**Question: are optimal patterns waves formed by arcs of circles?  
(or near to)**

# Spirochetes revisited

## Problem 3 (defy the experts!)

A 6 pack of beer offered !!

## Encapsulated propulsion mechanisms

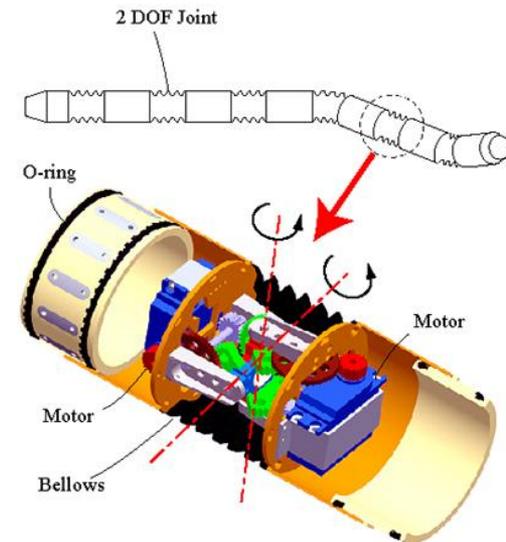
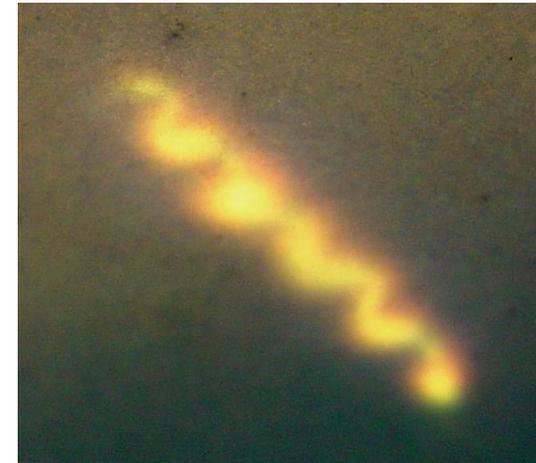
[Myxo](#)

Internal helical flagellum

Spirochete on a box



Would you like to swallow this?



[Hirose lab movie](#)

# Swimming in “Fatland” ( $S^n$ , $n = 2$ or $3$ )

**Problem 4\*:** Topology matters?

\* Another six-pack of beer for the first answer - does not need to be correct.

# Swimming in “Fatland” ( $S^n$ , $n = 2$ or $3$ )

Topology matters? Does it prevent swimming?

[ **I hope not.** Rewrite the connection condition in terms of a Momentum map

$$J: T^*Q \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$$

$Q = \{ \text{embeddings of reference body } B \text{ in } S^n \},$

$G = SO(n)$  acting in targets  $\Sigma = q(B)$  by rigid motion

Identify  $TQ \equiv T^*Q$  by Power metric

**Microswimming is just like the cart flip:  $J = 0$  . ]**

## Final Remarks I. Analysis /numerics: tools for Stokes flows

biharmonic equation / Darboux representation (2d)

slender body approximations (Lighthill)

(multi)pole collocation methods (Wu, Weinbaum, ... )

regularized Stokeslets (Cortez)

immersed boundary method (Peskin)

boundary integral methods (Pozrikidis)

.....

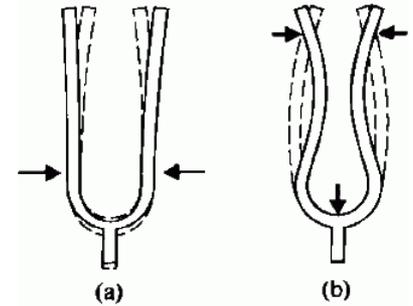
(we will discuss none of them!)

ESCAPE ROUTE: **Taylor waving sheet + tangent plane approximation**

# Final Remark II. Can you one-up the Scallop Paradox?



Tuning fork in molasses



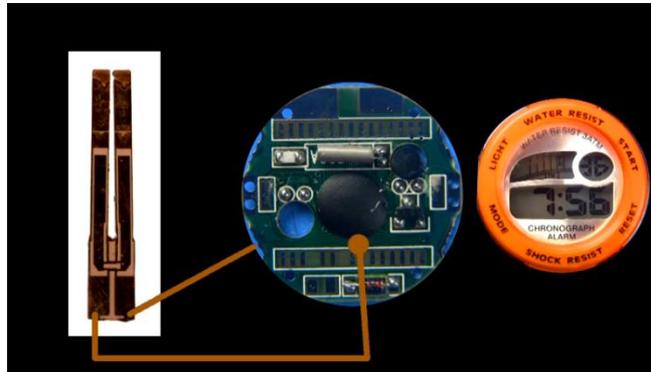
## Acoustic streaming

Play a guitar under water:

For MEMS devices

Quartz tuning fork

(cost: \$ 10 )



just a  
cookie:

“Snapping shrimp”  
(Detlef Lohse)

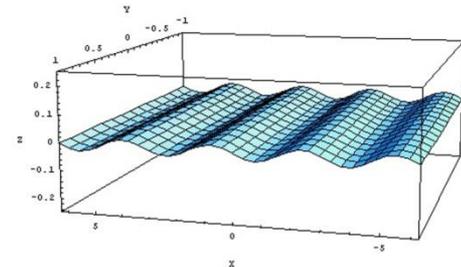
# Final Remark III (final) Taylor's waving sheet and the tangent plane approximation

TPA: Analogous to the planar wave superposition for Laplacian operator.

[Taylor's waving sheet](#)

[Taylor paper](#)

[Kurt Ehlers 8<sup>th</sup> order](#)



Application: Synechococcus locomotion

Acoustic streaming? 2.5 more efficient

## Taylor waving sheet revisited recently!!

[Wu](#) (not so recent, 1961)

[Kozlov-Ramodanov](#) (2002, potential flows + “recoil”)

[Kozlov-Onischenko](#) (2004)

[Childress](#) [IMAtalk](#) [SC-Spag-Tokieda](#) (all Reynolds + “recoil”)

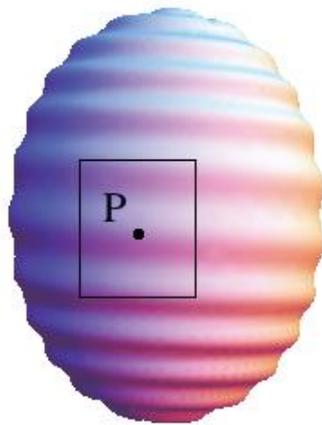
[Eric Lauga](#) (transient) [phaselocking](#) (cooperation) [higher order](#)

[Kurt calculations](#) Question: why only even terms are present?

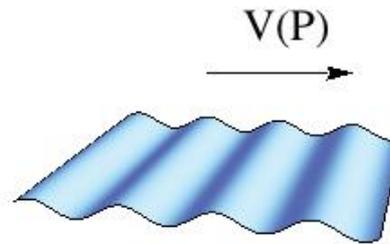
[Annete Hosoi-Wilkening](#) [Annete-Chan](#)

# The tangent plane approximation

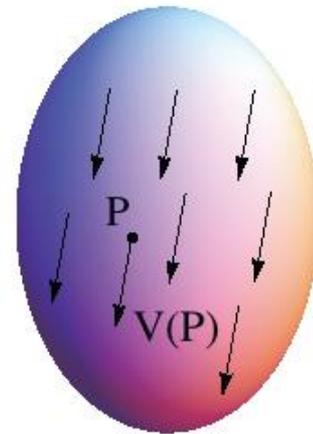
Can be used on problems where a “local” wave can be identified .



A



B



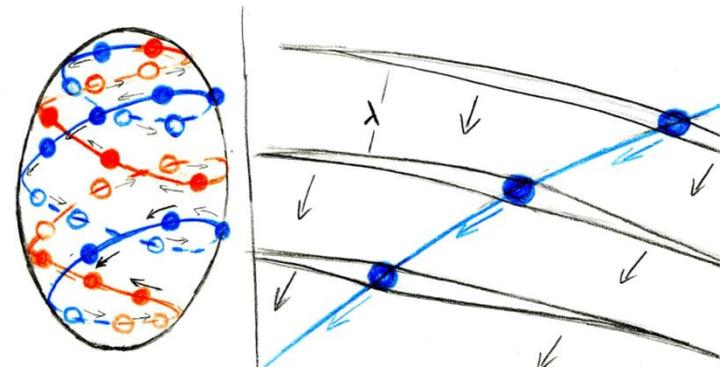
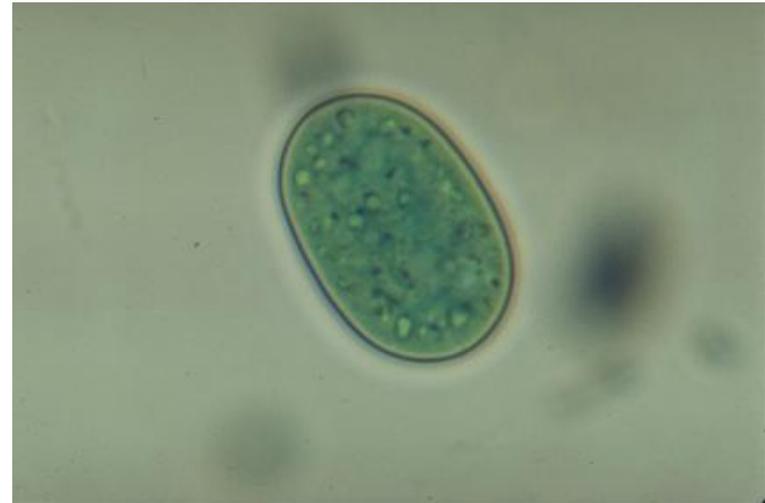
C

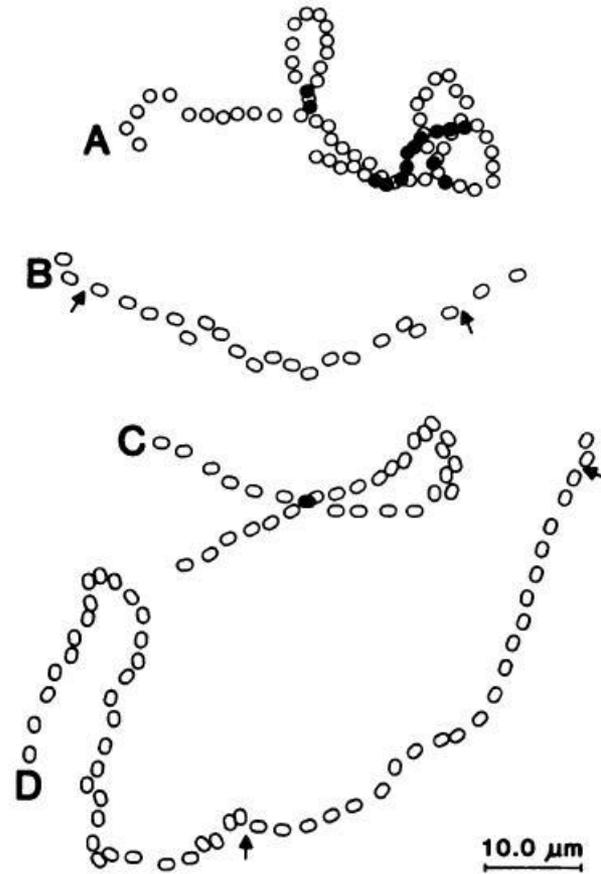
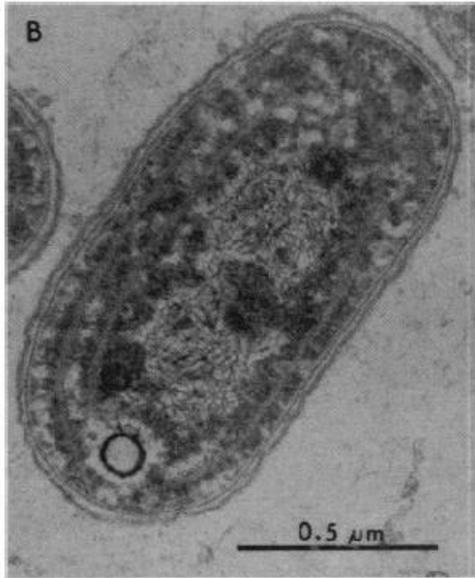
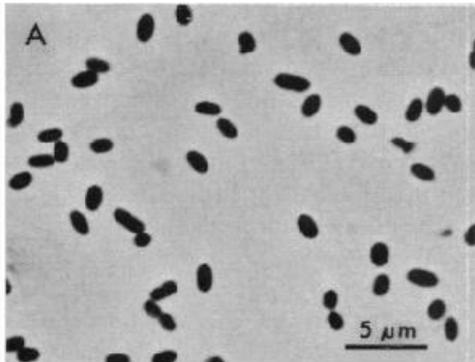
# Helical surface waves may explain the mystery of Synechococcus swimming

Our recent work

(JK, Kurt Ehlers) (KE, G.Oster)

[spheroid.mov](#)





The mysterious open sea swimmer *Synechococcus*

([Waterbury](#) et al., 1985)

## **Food for thought.**

**Research on autonomous micro swimming devices is attracting great interest due to their potential for medical and industrial applications.**

**Most proposals are inspired by bacteria with external flagella.**

**Could micro-robots driven by internal mechanisms be competitive? [Synmov1](#) (Berg)**

Photo by George Bergman.



**Jerry Marsden, Berkeley, 1997.**

**Thank you, Jerry!**