The transport and dynamics of wavedriven reef jets under the influence of rotation and stratification

-Walter Torres
Ph.D Candidate (Year III) | Duke University
Advisor: Jim Hench

The transport and dynamics of wavedriven reef jets under the influence of rotation and stratification

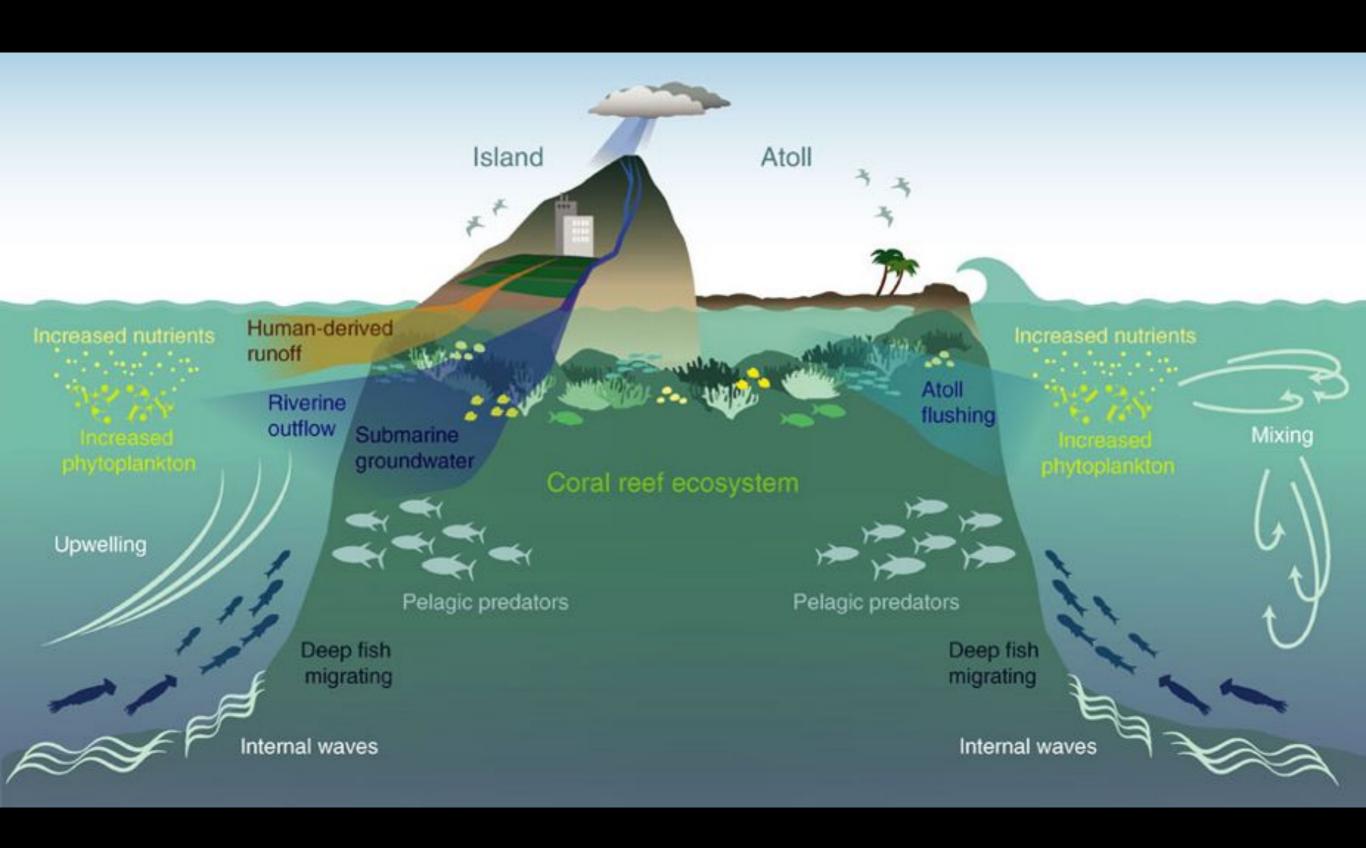
-Walter Torres
Ph.D Candidate (Year III) | Duke University
Advisor: Jim Hench



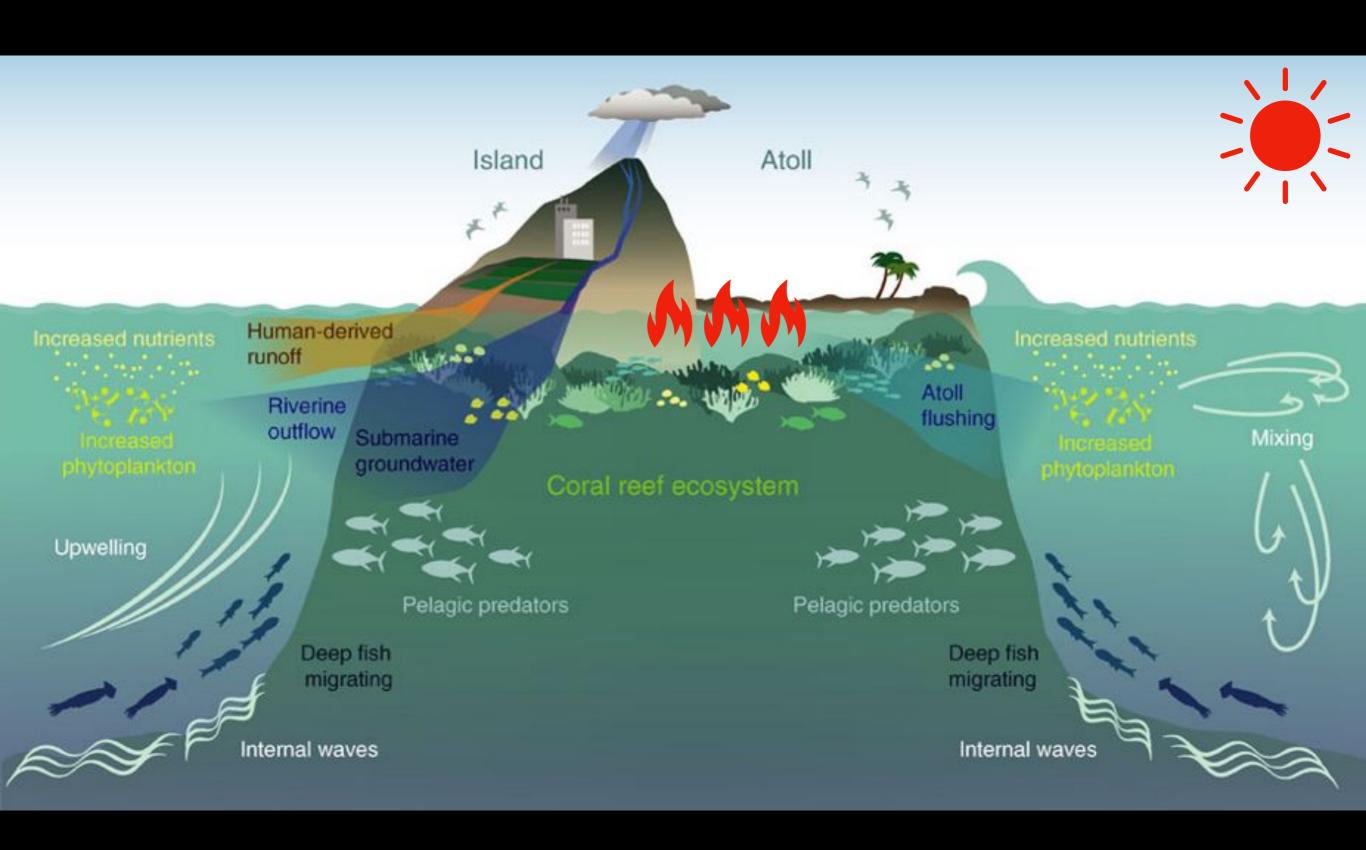
The transport and dynamics of wavedriven reef jets under the influence of rotation and bottom friction

-Walter Torres
Ph.D Candidate (Year III) | Duke University
Advisor: Jim Hench





Gove, J. M. et al. Near-island biological hotspots in barren ocean basins. Nat. Commun. (2016)

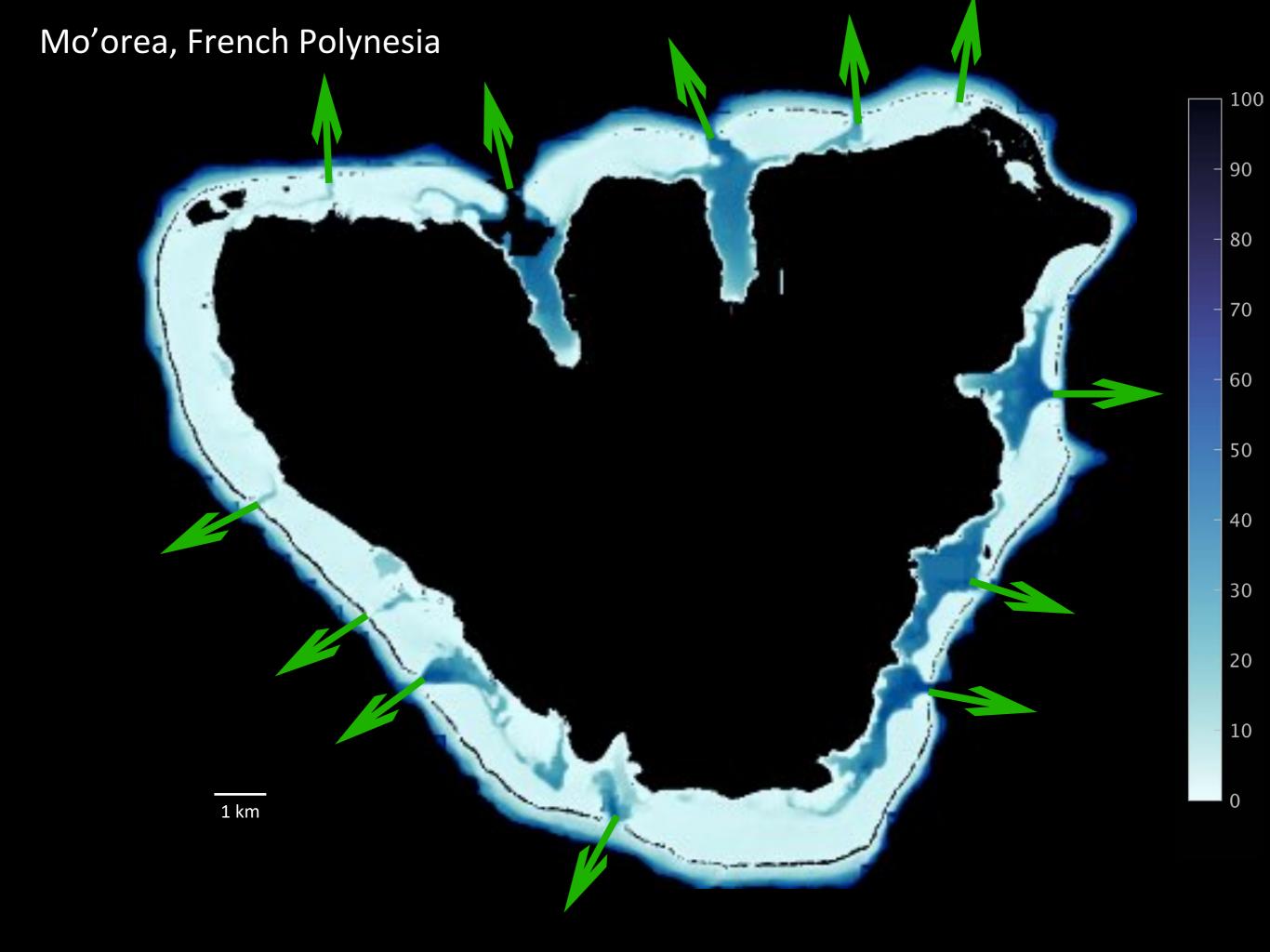


Gove, J. M. et al. Near-island biological hotspots in barren ocean basins. Nat. Commun. (2016)

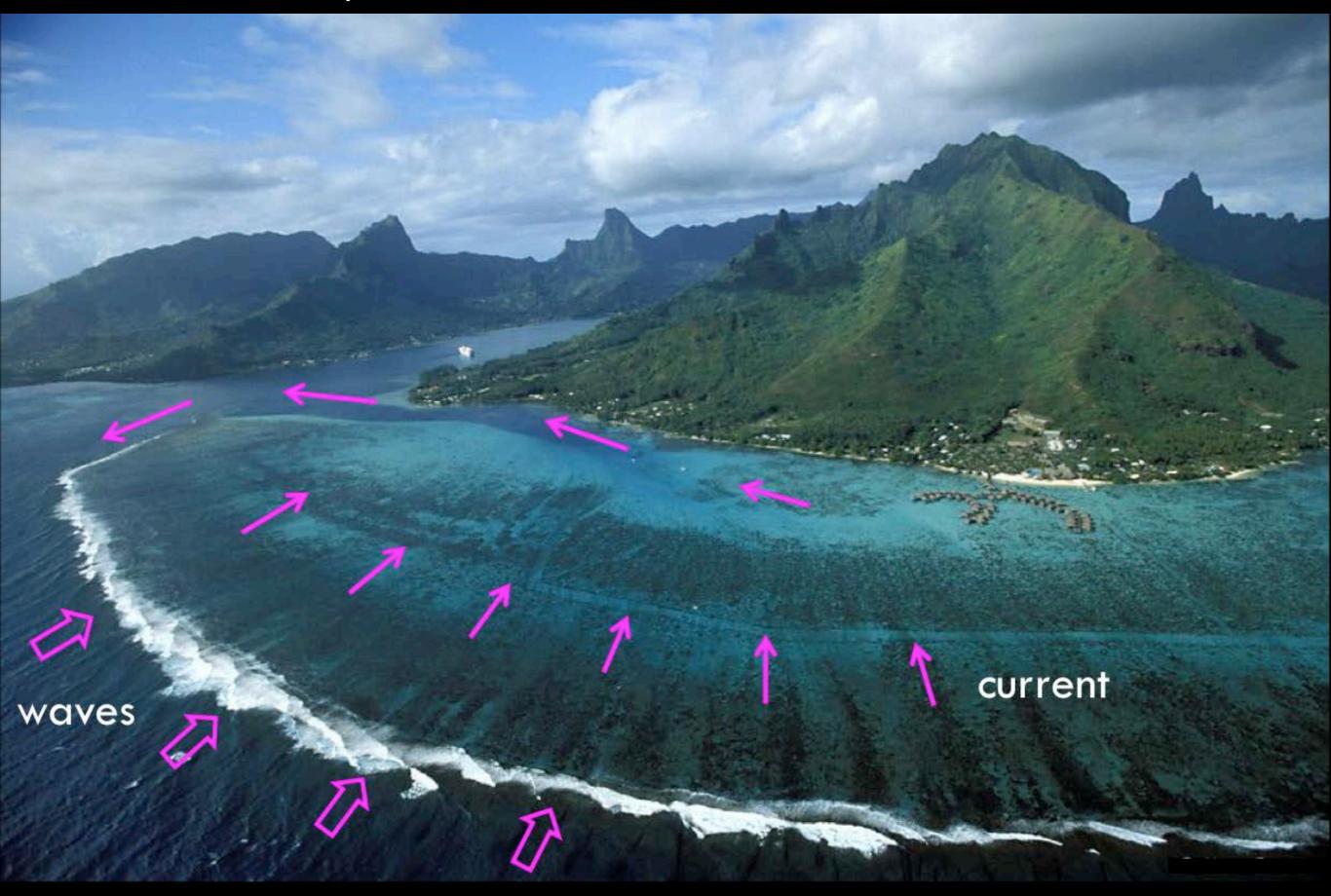


Mo'orea, French Polynesia





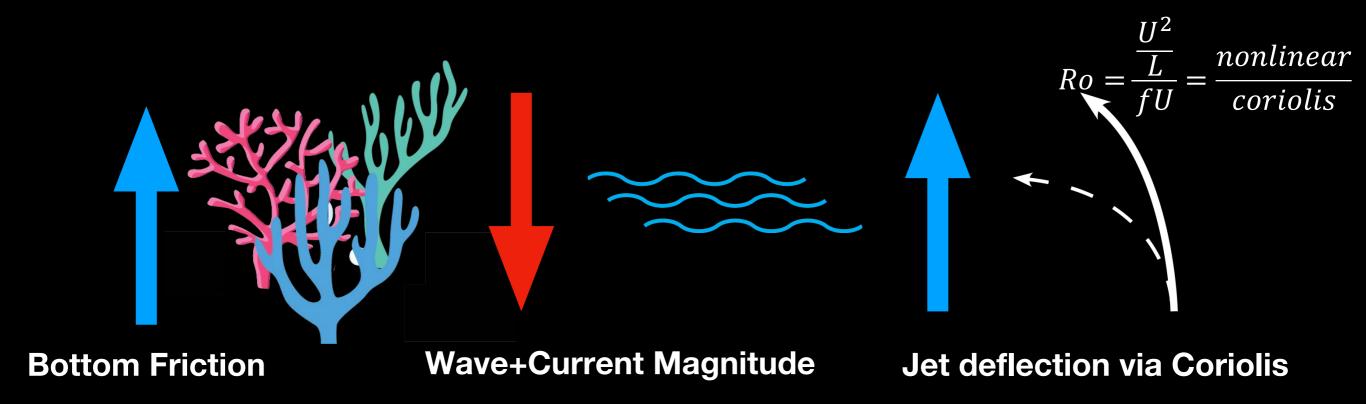
Mo'orea, French Polynesia





Question: What is the effect of rotation and bottom friction on the behavior of wave-driven reef jets?

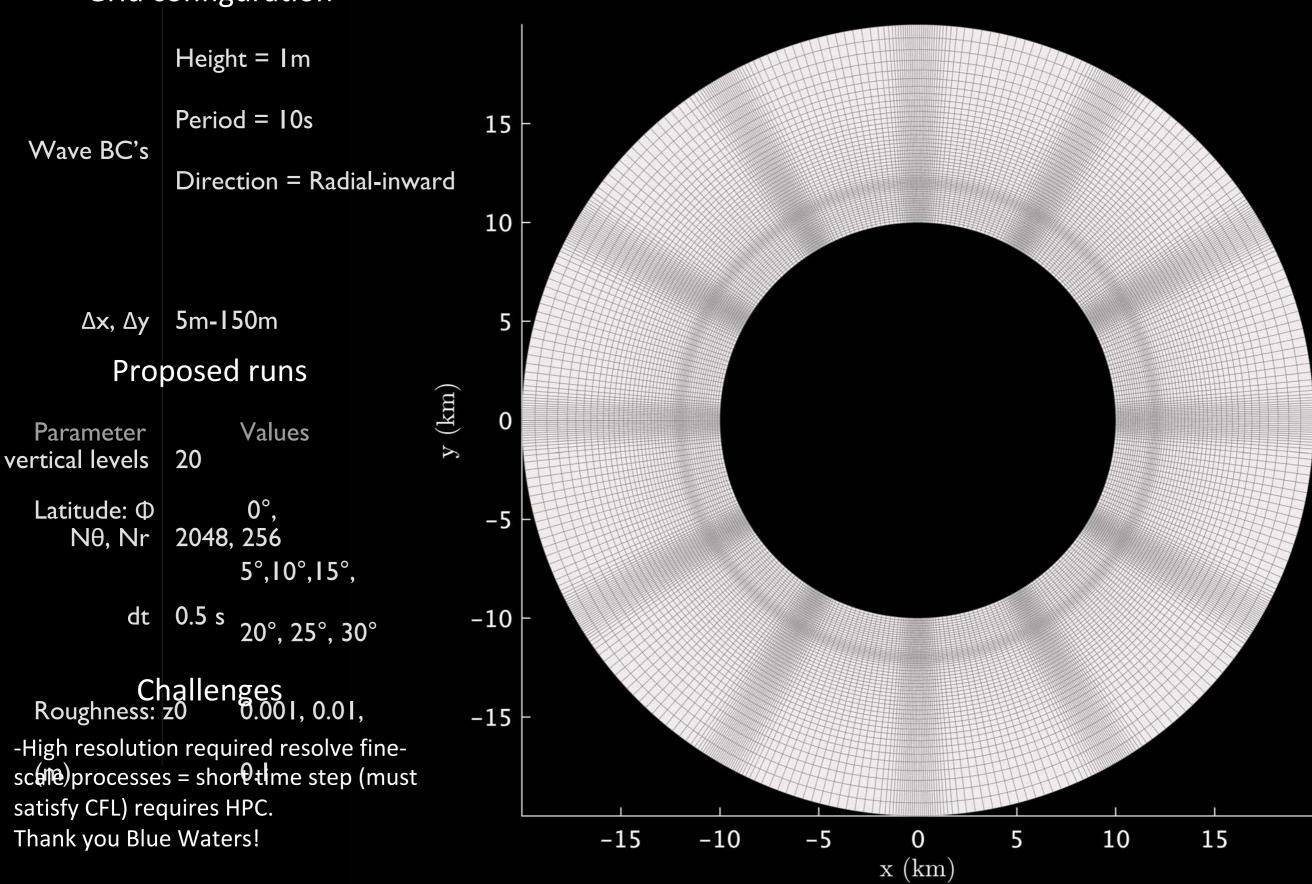
Hypothesis: At given latitude, simulations with higher bottom roughness will experience attenuated waves and currents. This will produce weaker jets that are more affected by the Coriolis force and will deflect more prominently



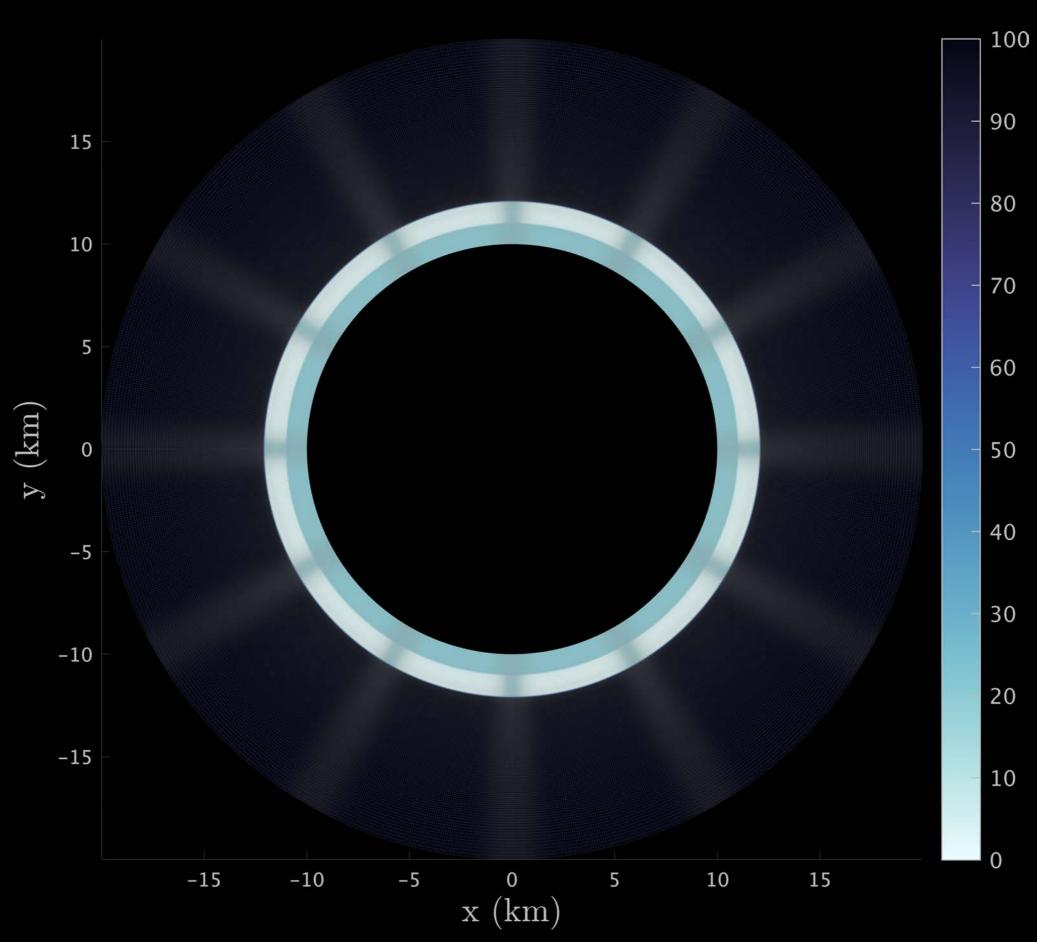
Methods: Idealized coupled wave-circulation numerical modeling (COAWST) - suite of runs varying latitude (Φ) and bottom friction (via z0)

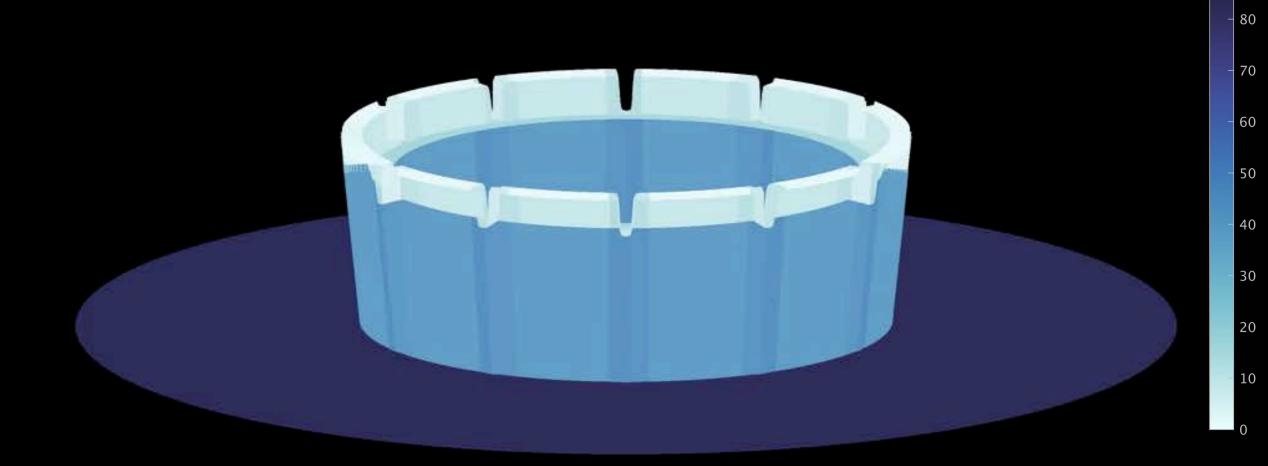
Annulus Domain

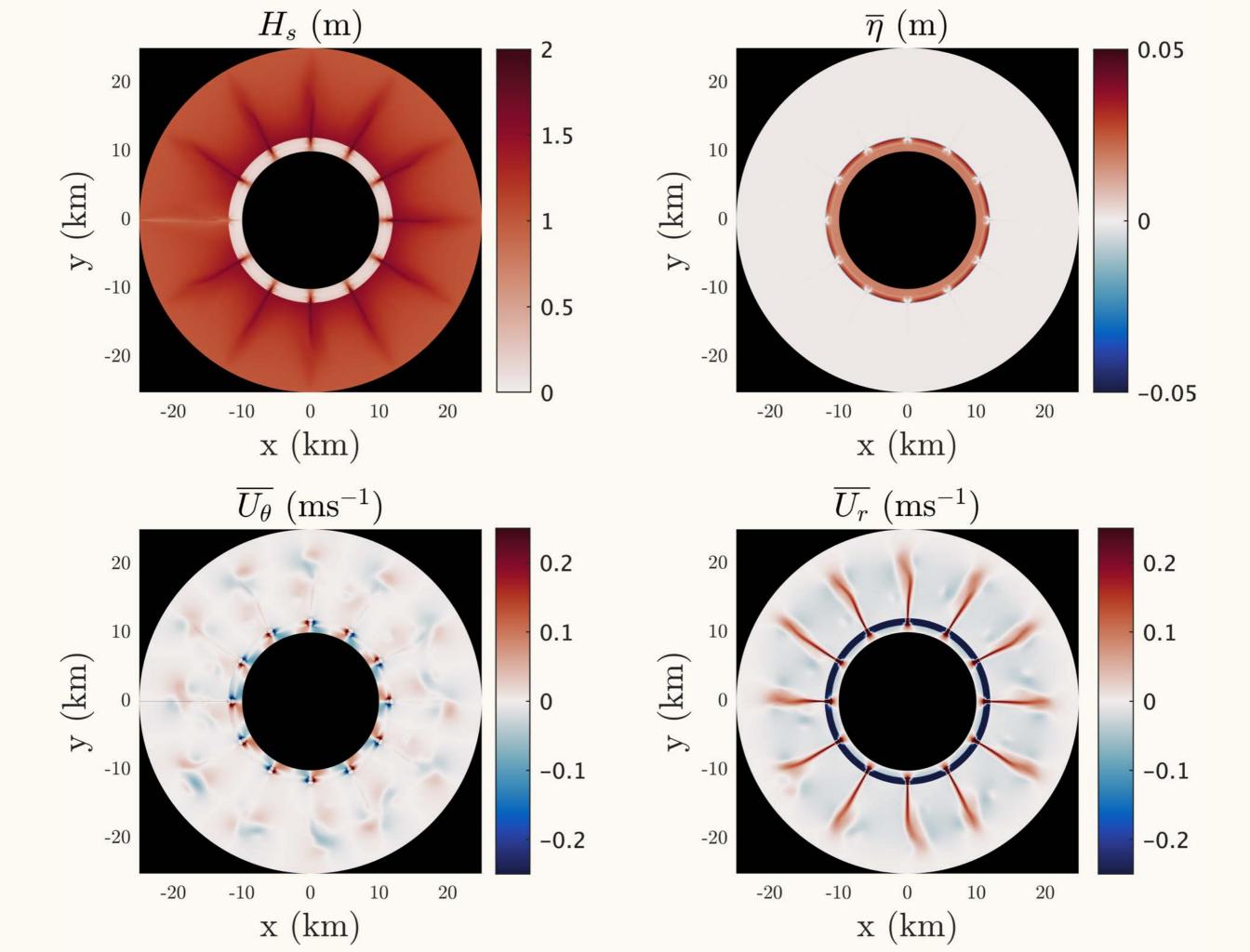


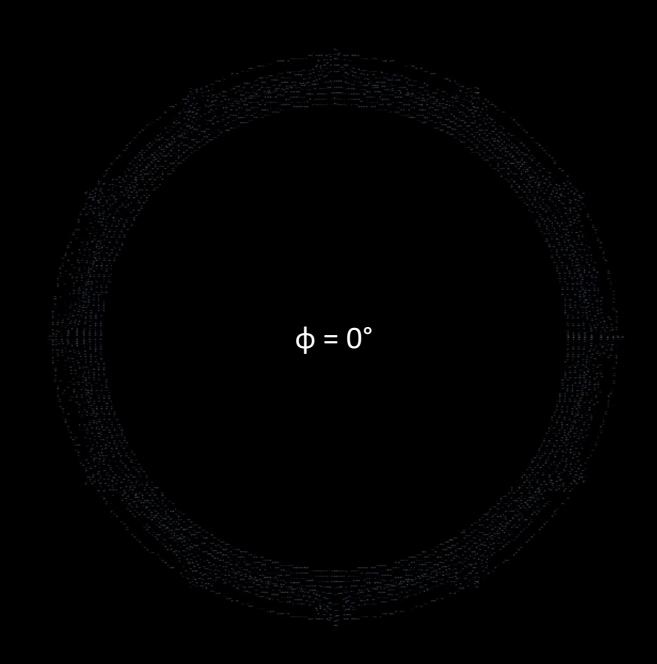


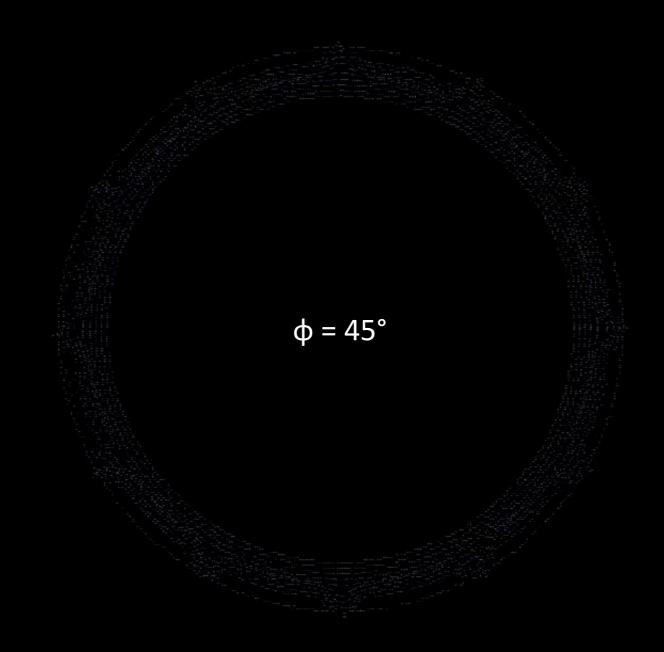
Annulus Domain

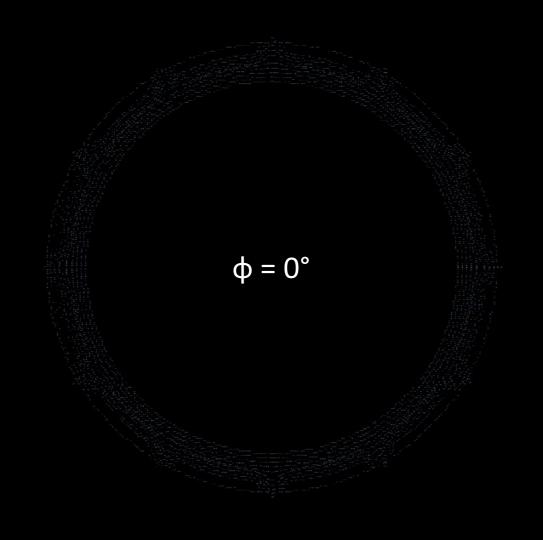


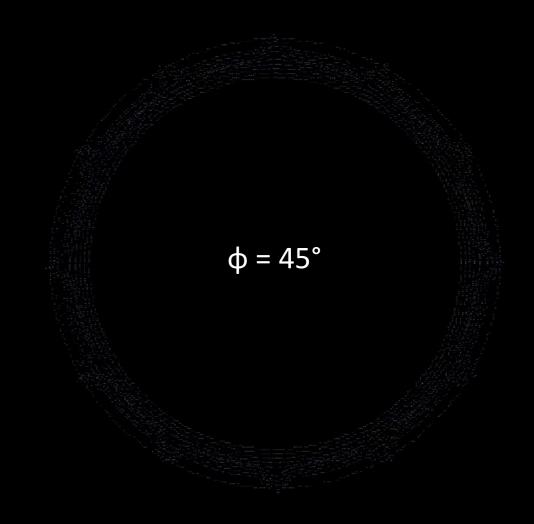


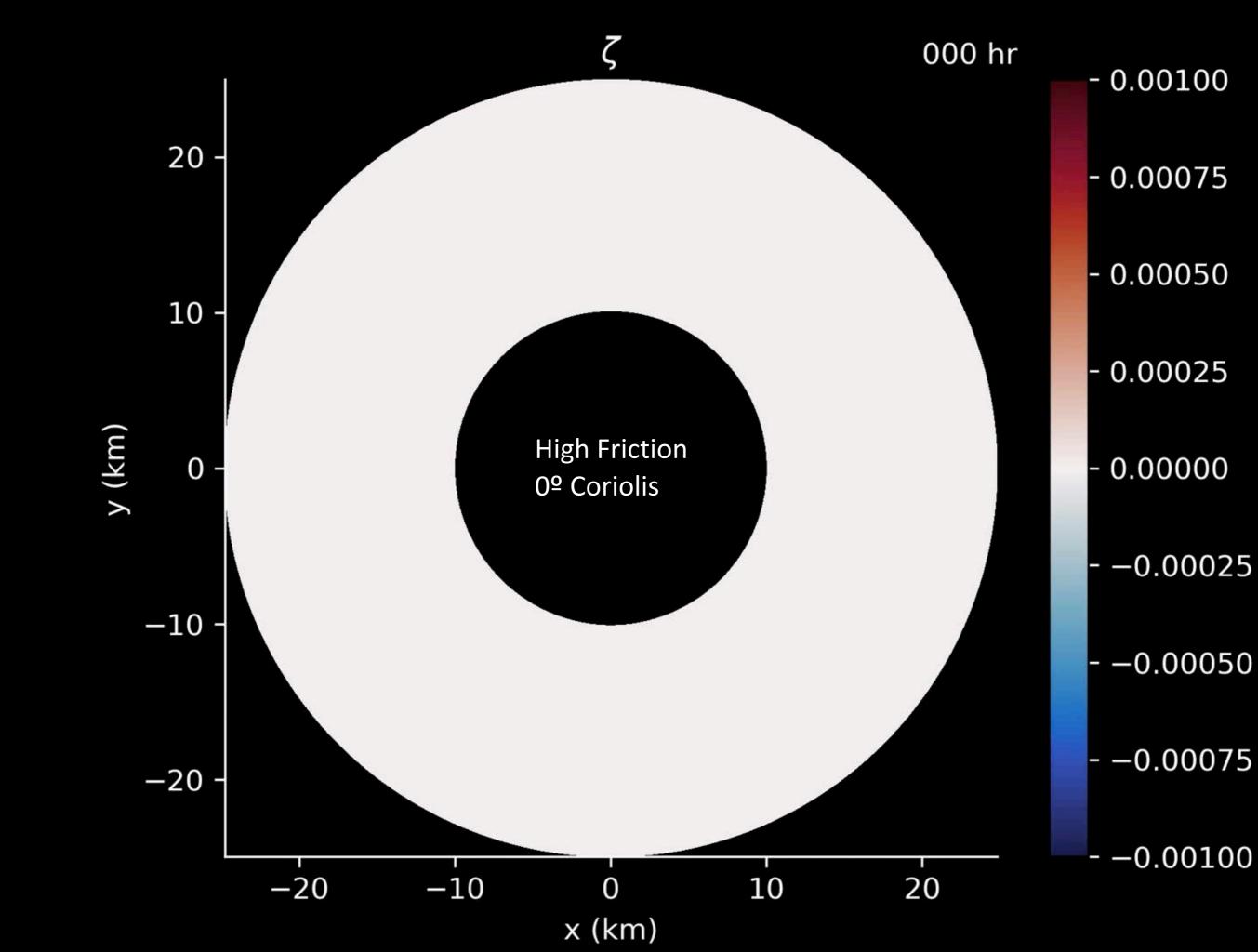


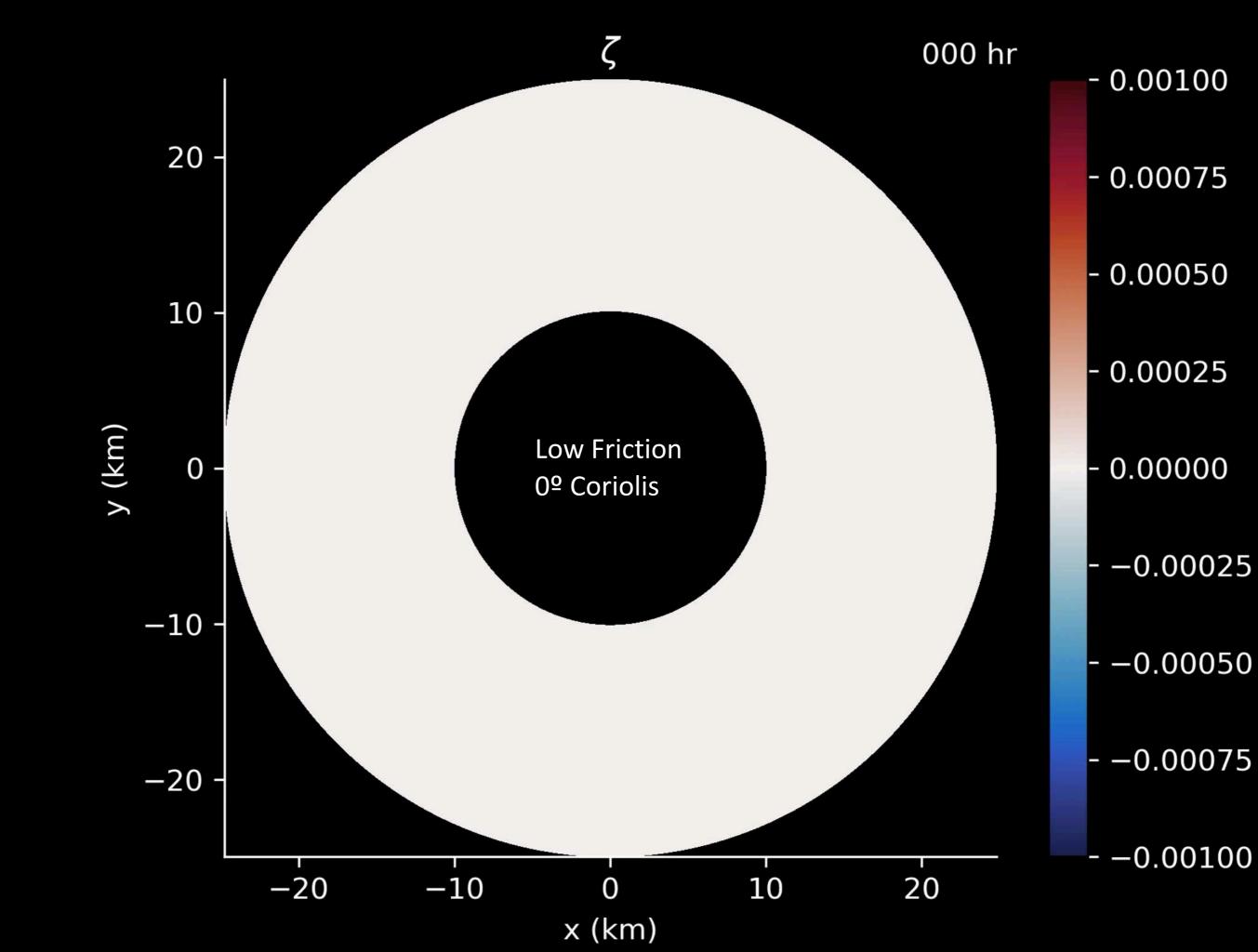


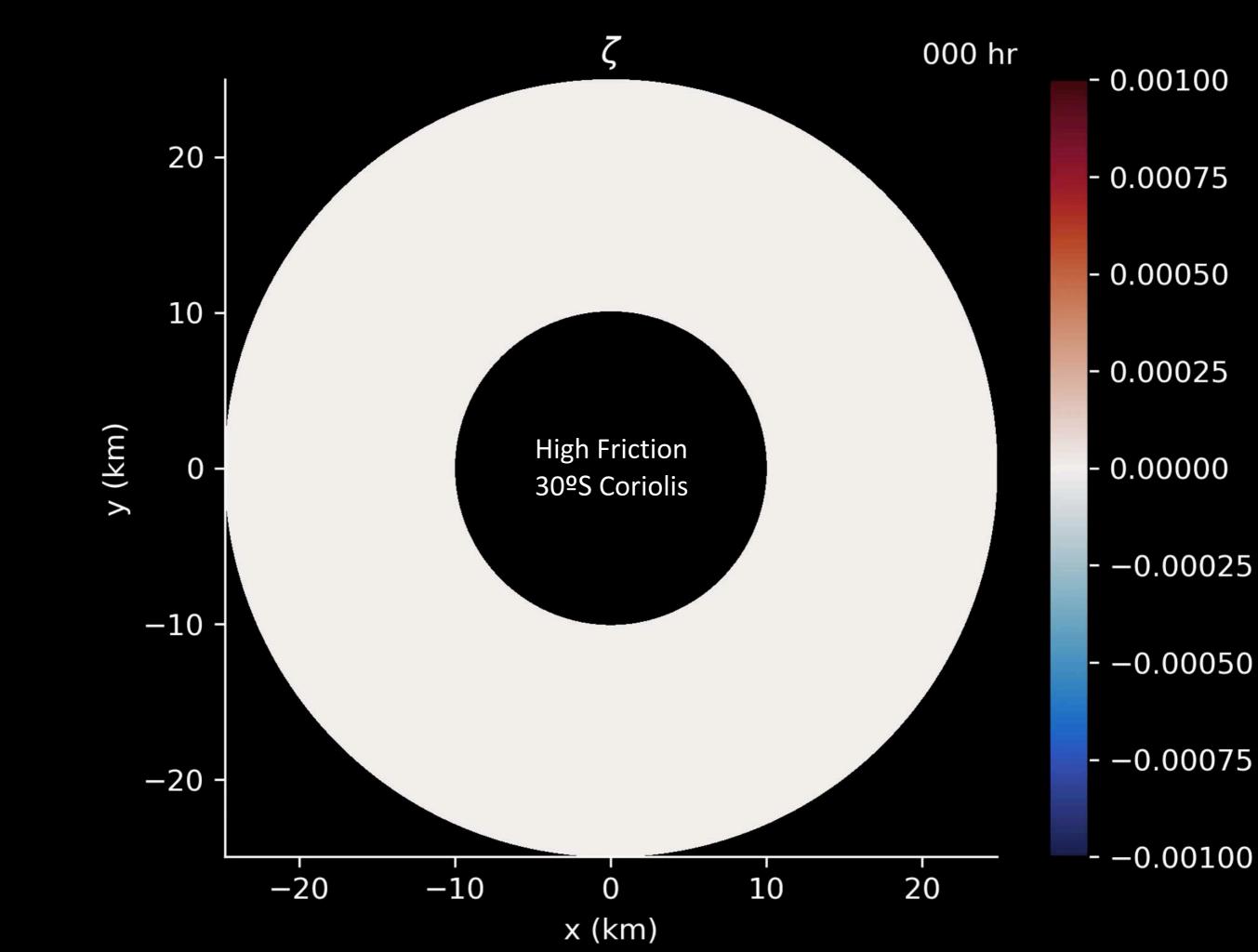


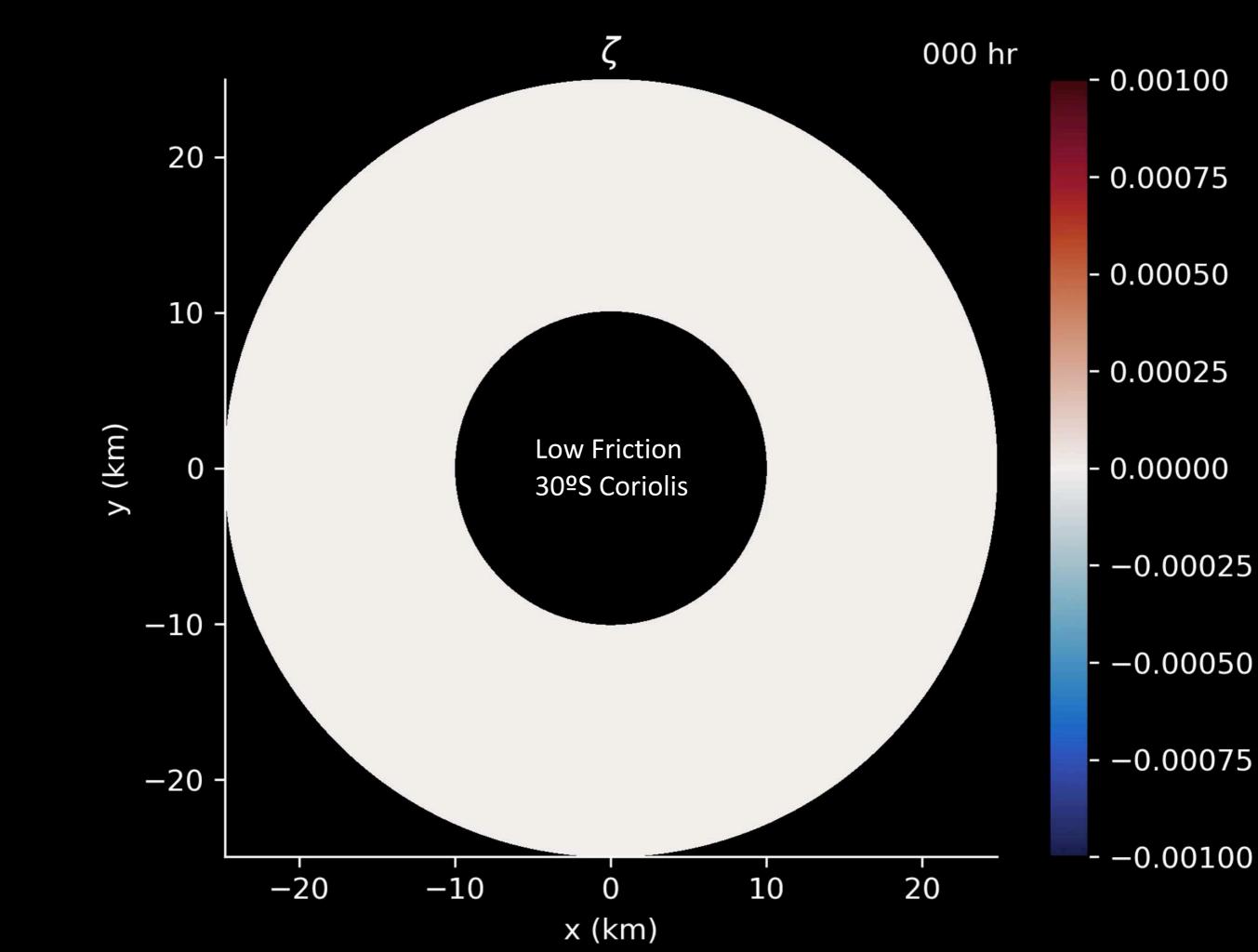






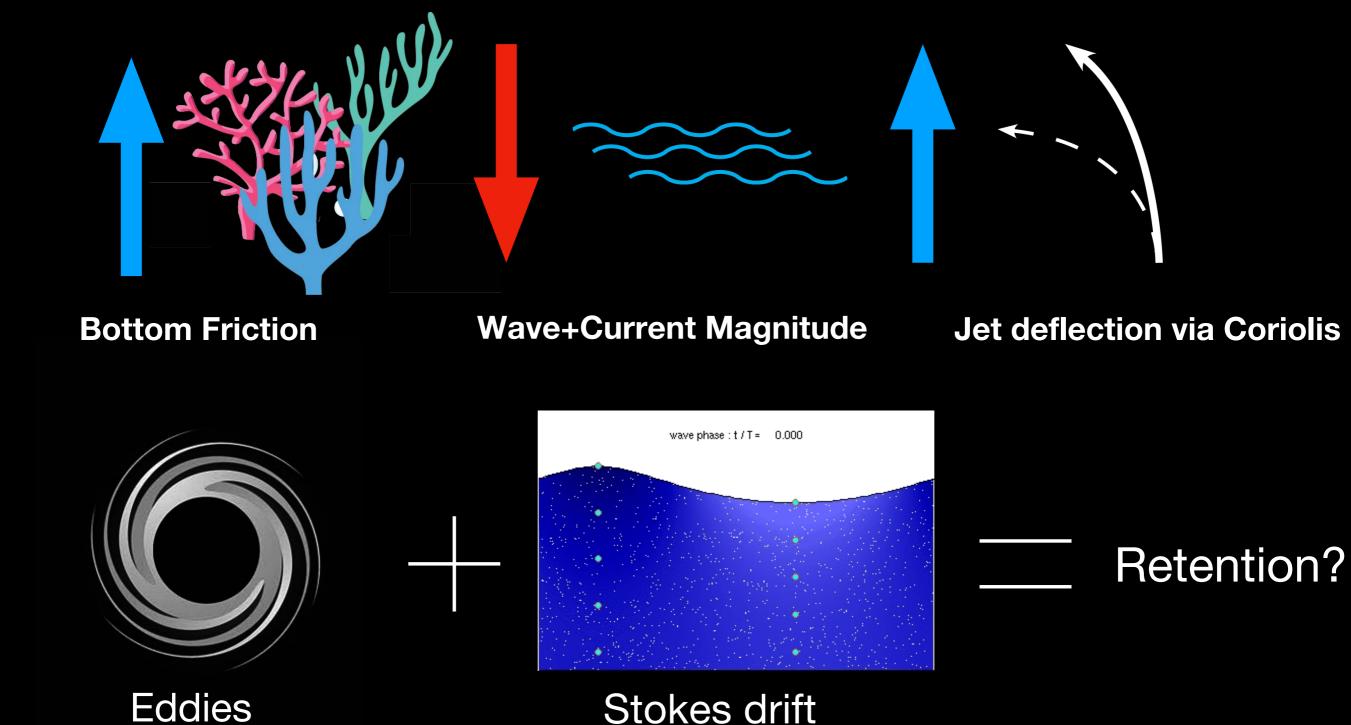






Summary

 Interaction of eddy shedding from jets, Coriolis, and stokes drift from waves as possible retention mechanism, which is modulated by frictional processes in the back reef



Future Work

- Longer model integration times to allow for recirculation and eddy interaction with other jets
- Preferential sign of vorticity due to centrifugal instability
- More model runs to span (z0,φ) parameter space
- Next project: include stratification and diurnal heating forcing for more realistic conditions capturing combined plume+jet dynamics







