Abstract Submitted for the DFD12 Meeting of The American Physical Society

The spectral link for frictional drag in non-uniform turbulent soap-film flows¹ CHIEN-CHIA LIU, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, RORY CERBUS, WALTER GOLDBURG, University of Pittsburgh, GUSTAVO GIOIA, PINAKI CHAKRABORTY, Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology — The spectral link provides a novel relation between the frictional drag (f) and the exponent α of the turbulent energy spectrum ($E(k) \sim k^{-\alpha}$): $f \sim \text{Re}^{(1-\alpha)/(1+\alpha)}$, where Re is the Reynolds number. The spectral link has been verified experimentally in uniform turbulent soap-film flows where the same α , which is either 3 (the enstrophy cascade) or 5/3 (the inverse energy cascade), prevails across the width of the flow. We perform experiments on non-uniform turbulent soap-film flows where α switches between 3 and 5/3 across the width of the flow. Our measurements of fvs. Re are in excellent accord with the localized version of the spectral link.

¹This research was partially supported by funds from the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology

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Date submitted: 03 Aug 2012

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