

Editorial: The 2022 François Naftali Frenkiel Award for Fluid Mechanics

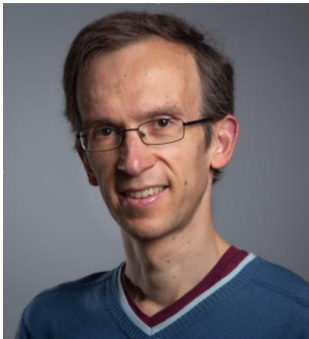
The recipients of the 39th François Naftali Frenkiel Award for Fluid Mechanics are **Nikhil Desai** and **Sébastien Michelin** for their paper “Instability and self-propulsion of active droplets along a wall” which was published in [Physical Review Fluids 6, 114103 \(2021\)](#). They were presented with this award on November 22, 2022 at the annual meeting of the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics in Indianapolis, Indiana. Each author received a check for \$500 plus a scroll acknowledging the award. The Frenkiel Award citation reads: “For a remarkable combination of modeling, numerical simulations, and analysis that led to the characterization of the striking and counterintuitive dynamics of chemically active particles near a wall.”

The purpose of this Award, which is named after Dr. F. N. Frenkiel, is to recognize significant contributions in fluid mechanics by early career researchers. The Award is sponsored by the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics and, beginning with the 2017 award, has been given annually to an early career author of a paper that has been published in *Physical Review Fluids*, during the calendar year preceding the presentation. “Early career” is defined as having had not more than twelve years of full-time employment after the most advanced academic degree was awarded prior to the year of the paper’s publication. More than one author may be involved, and one author may be a thesis advisor sharing the Award if the advisor also meets the same twelve year requirement. The winner of this Award is selected by a committee appointed by the Chair of the APS Division of Fluid Dynamics.

François Naftali Frenkiel (1910-1986) was the founder and longtime editor of *Physics of Fluids*, from which *Physical Review Fluids* (founded in 2016) evolved. He was born in Warsaw, Poland and received a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of Lille in France, where he studied under the direction of Kampé de Fériet. Dr. Frenkiel came to the U.S. in 1947 and was associated successively with several American academic and Naval research centers until his retirement in 1981. He published extensively in the field of turbulent flows and pioneered the application of high-speed digital computing methods to the measurement of turbulence and the mathematical modeling of urban pollution.



Nikhil Desai is a Post-doctoral Research Associate in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics in the University of Cambridge, UK. Prior to his current position, he was a Post-doctoral Researcher at LadHyX, Ecole Polytechnique, France, where he studied the self-propulsion of chemically active drops along rigid walls. He obtained his Ph.D. in 2019 from Purdue University, USA. Before that, he completed his B.Tech. in Mechanical Engineering and M.Tech. in Thermal Science and Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. His research interests lie in the modeling and simulation of the hydrodynamics of active matter and biological fluid flows.



Sébastien Michelin is a Professor of Fluid Mechanics at LadHyX, Ecole Polytechnique, France. His work focuses on the theoretical modeling of fluid motion coupled to other physical processes such as the motion of solid bodies or structures, reaction and diffusion, or interfacial phenomena. His research recently considered various problems involving fluid-solid interactions and energy harvesting processes, small-scale locomotion, Marangoni flows or the individual and collective dynamics of chemically active particles and droplets. He received a Starting Grant from the European Research Council to carry out his current work on active colloids (2017-2023). He has been an Associate Editor of the Journal of Fluids and Structures since 2015. Prof. Michelin received his Diplôme d'Ingénieur from Ecole Polytechnique, France in 2002, and graduated from the Corps des Mines program at Ecole des Mines de Paris in 2005. He then obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of California, San Diego in 2009, before joining the faculty of Ecole Polytechnique in 2010.

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