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Blowup as a mechanism responsible for energy cascade and statistical anomaly

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Hydrodynamic turbulence

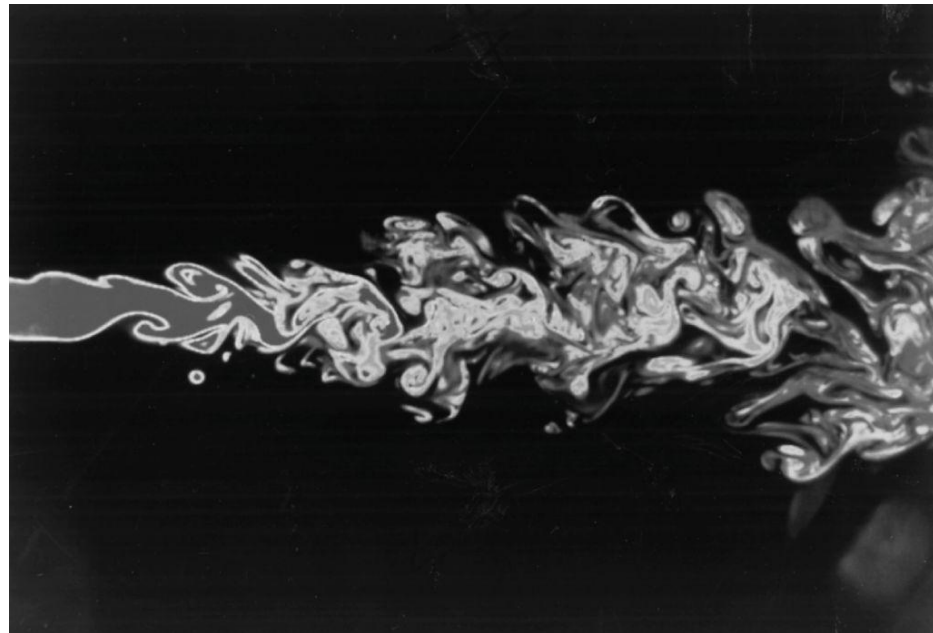
Navier–Stokes equations $\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} = -\nabla p + \nu \Delta \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$

Large Reynolds number

$$\text{Re} = \frac{VL}{\nu} \gg 1$$
$$(10^{>3})$$

Fully developed turbulence

$$\text{Re} \rightarrow \infty$$

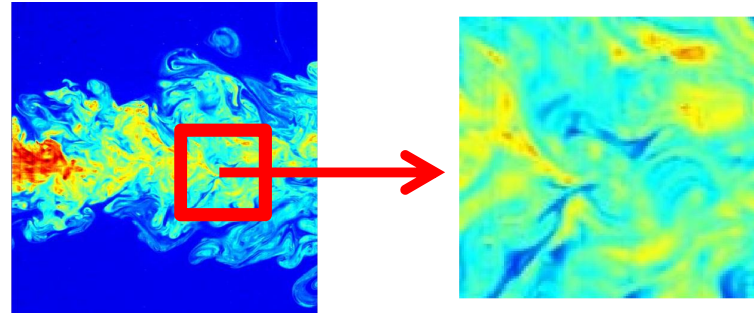


Open problems:

Existence and uniqueness of smooth solution (with and without viscosity),
explanation of turbulent statistics, dissipation anomaly etc.

Kolmogorov's theory (1941) and anomaly

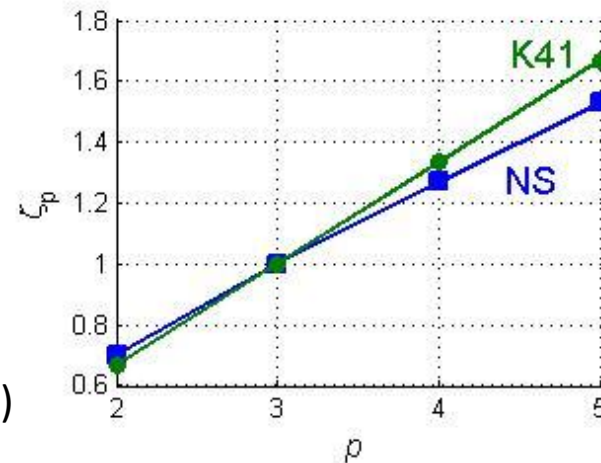
turbulent statistics at small scales: universal, isotropic, homogeneous



Velocity moments in inertial range):

$$S_p(r) = \langle |\delta \mathbf{v}|^p \rangle \propto r^{p/3} \quad (\text{Kolmogorov - K41})$$

Experiment: $S_p(r) \propto r^{\zeta_p}$, $\zeta_p \neq p/3$
(comment of Landau, 1941)



Dissipation anomaly: positive limit of dissipation rate as $\text{Re} \rightarrow \infty$ (Onsager, 1946)

Singular (1/3-Hölder) velocity field (Onsager 1946) and blowup problem (open)

Interpretation with multifractal model (Parisi&Frisch 1985)

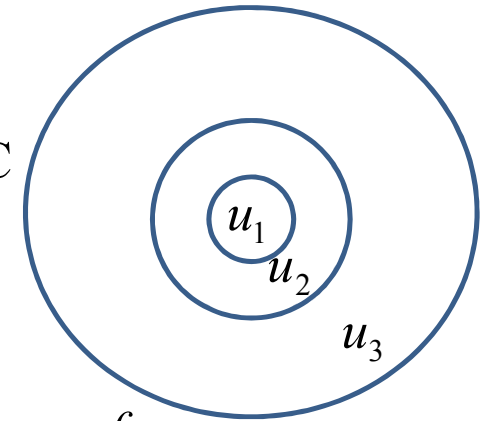
Shell models of turbulence

Discrete variables: $\mathbf{k} \rightarrow k_n = 2^n$, $r_n = 2^{-n}$, $\mathbf{v} \rightarrow u_n \in \mathbb{C}$

Sabra (modified GOY 1973-89) model (L'vov et al. 1998):

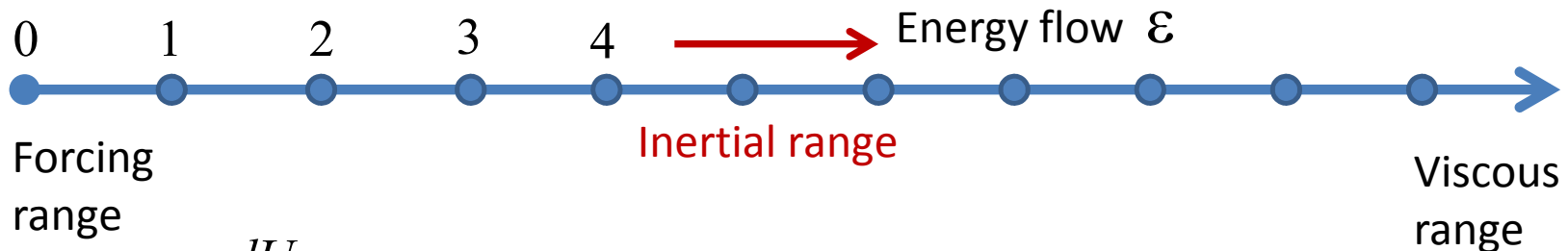
$$\frac{du_n}{dt} = i(k_{n+1}u_{n+2}u_{n+1}^* - \frac{1}{2}k_nu_{n+1}u_{n-1}^* + \frac{1}{2}k_{n-1}u_{n-1}u_{n-2}) - \nu k_n^2 u_n + f_n$$

(quadratic nonlinearity, conservation of energy and helicity, viscosity etc.)



$$k_n = 2^n$$

$$r_n = 2^{-n}$$



$$\frac{dU_n}{dt} = -\frac{1}{4}U_{n+2}U_{n+1}^* + \frac{1}{2}U_{n+1}U_{n-1}^* + 2U_{n-1}U_{n-2}, \quad U_n = ik_n u_n$$

Structure functions:

$$S_p(k_n) = \langle |u_n|^p \rangle \propto k_n^{-\zeta_p}$$

Anomalous scaling:

$$\text{Sabra: } \zeta_2 = 0.72, \zeta_3 = 1, \\ \zeta_4 = 1.26, \zeta_5 = 1.49$$

$$\text{NS: } \zeta_2 = 0.7, \zeta_3 = 1, \\ \zeta_4 = 1.27, \zeta_5 = 1.53$$

Blow-up in shell model

Viscous model: global existence and uniqueness for $(U_n) \in \ell_2$

(Constantin, Levant, Titi, 2007)

Inviscid model: finite time blowup

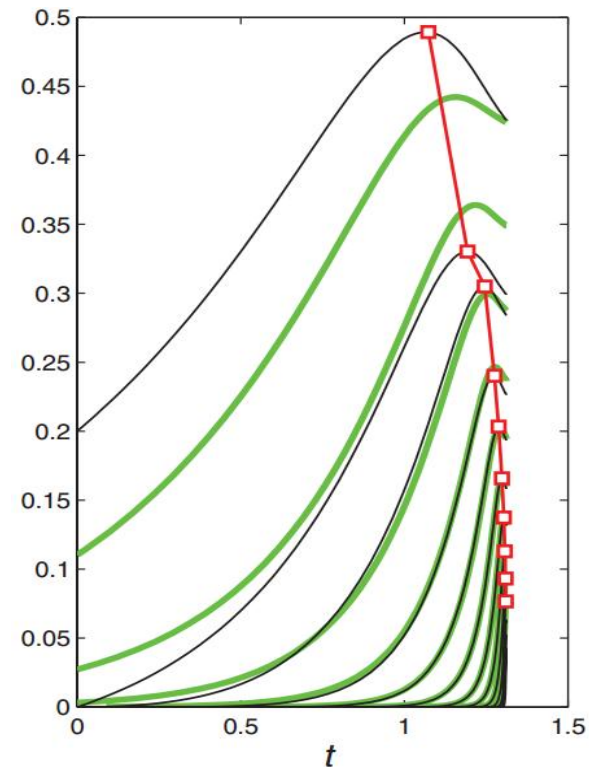
(Dombre&Gilson 1998; AM 2012, 2013)

Self-similar universal blowup structure
(when only large scales are perturbed in I.C.)

$$u_n(t) = -iu_* k_n^{-y_0} f[u_*(t_* - t)k_n^{1-y_0}]$$

$$y_0 = 0.281$$

$$u_n \propto k_n^{-y_0}, \quad t_* - t \propto k_n^{1-y_0}$$



Blow-up theory (inviscid model)

$$\frac{du_n}{dt} = i(k_{n+1}u_{n+2}u_{n+1}^* - \frac{1}{2}k_nu_{n+1}u_{n-1}^* + \frac{1}{2}k_{n-1}u_{n-1}u_{n-2})$$

Renormalized variables (Dombre&Gilson 1998)

$$t = t_0 + \int_0^\tau \exp\left[-\int_0^{\tau'} A(\tau'') d\tau''\right] d\tau', \quad u_n = -ik_n^{-1} \exp\left[-\int_0^\tau A(\tau') d\tau'\right] w_n$$

and renormalized system

$$\frac{dw_n}{dt} = N_n[w] - Aw_n, \quad N_n[w] = -\frac{1}{4}w_{n+2}w_{n+1}^* + \frac{1}{2}w_{n+1}w_{n-1}^* + 2w_{n-1}w_{n-2}$$

$$A = \operatorname{Re} \sum_n w_n^* N_n[w] / \sum_n |w_n|^2 \Rightarrow \sum_n |w_n|^2 = \text{const}$$

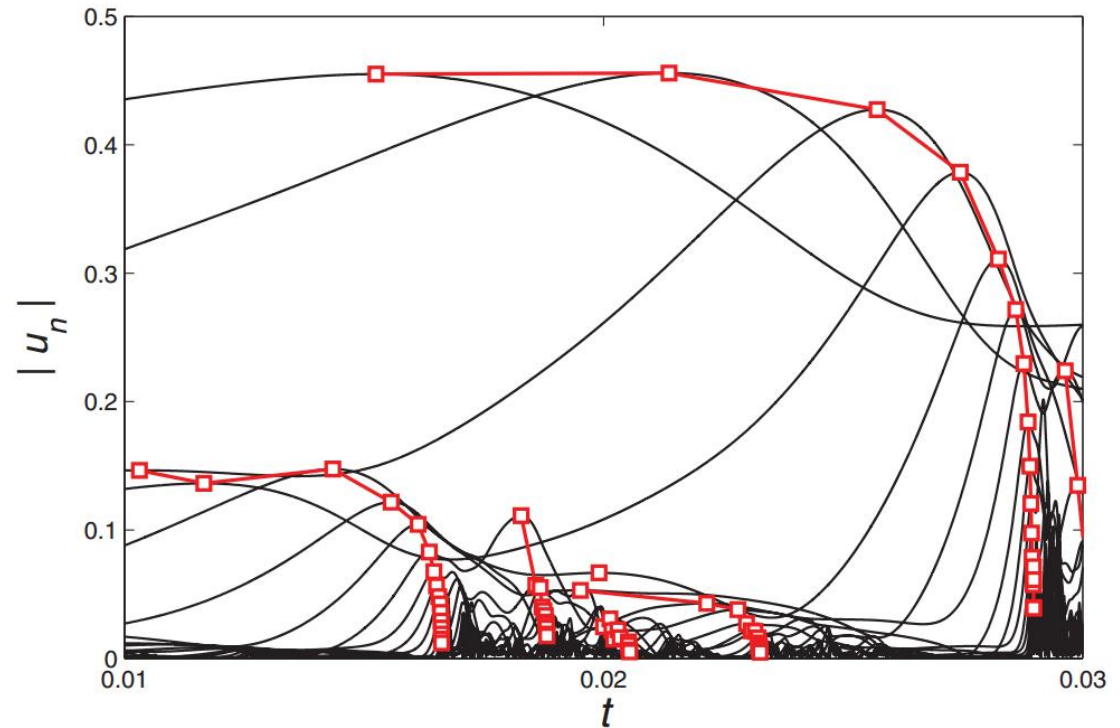
Existence of solution for all times (no blowup) if $\sum_n |w_n|^2$ is finite (AM 2013)

Fixed-point attractor of Poincaré map leads to Dombre&Gilson traveling wave solution, which in turn implies universal self-similarity (AM 2013)

Instantons

Simulations for 40 shells
with small viscosity, $Re \sim 10^{14}$

If small viscosity is introduced,
blowup phenomena reduce to
instantons:
extreme events correlated in
space and time



Instantons are identified using local maximums of shell velocities:

$$v_n = \max_t u_n(t)$$

Large part of maxima $\sim 80\%$ belong to instantons reaching the viscous range!

Anomalous scaling in terms of instantons

Viscosity moments: $S_p(k_n) = \langle |u_n|^p \rangle \propto k_n^{-\zeta_p}$ $\Delta t_n \approx (k_n v_n)^{-1}$

$$\langle |u_n|^p \rangle = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T |u_n|^p dt \approx \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{\text{all instantons}} v_n^p \Delta t_n \approx \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T k_n} \sum_{\text{all instantons}} v_n^{p-1}$$

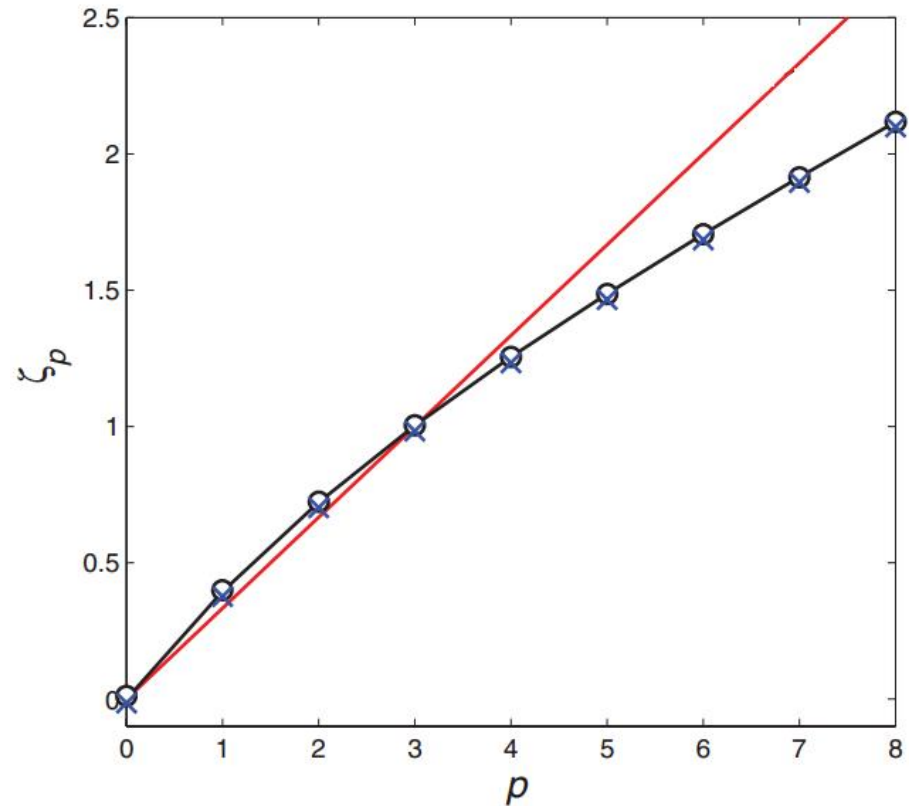
Viscosity moments in terms of instanton amplitudes:

$$S'_p(k_n) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T k_n} \sum_{\text{all instantons}} v_n^{p-1}$$

Inertial range scaling

$$S'_p(k_n) \propto k_n^{-\zeta_p}$$

Same values of anomalous scaling exponents!



Some new interpretations of scaling exponents

Instantons are dense in space-time (n,t)

$$\zeta_0 = 0 \Rightarrow \langle |u_n|^0 \rangle \approx \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{\text{all instantons}} \Delta t_n \propto \text{const}$$

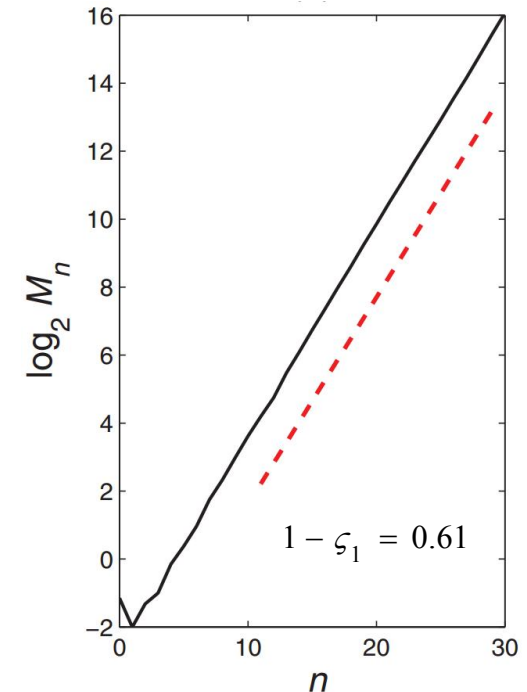
(instanton lifetime is $\Delta t_n \approx (k_n v_n)^{-1}$)

Instanton creation rate

$$\zeta_1 = 0.39 \Rightarrow$$

$$\langle |u_n|^1 \rangle \approx \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T k_n} \sum_{\text{all instantons}} 1 \propto k_n^{-\zeta_1} \Rightarrow$$

$$\text{instanton creation rate} \propto k_n^{1-\zeta_1}$$



Self-similar statistics of the instanton

Instanton structure functions:

$$R_p^{(n_0)}(k_n) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{\substack{\text{all instantons} \\ \text{created in shell } n_0}} v_n^p,$$

$$R_p^{(n_0)}(k_n) \propto k_n^{-yp},$$

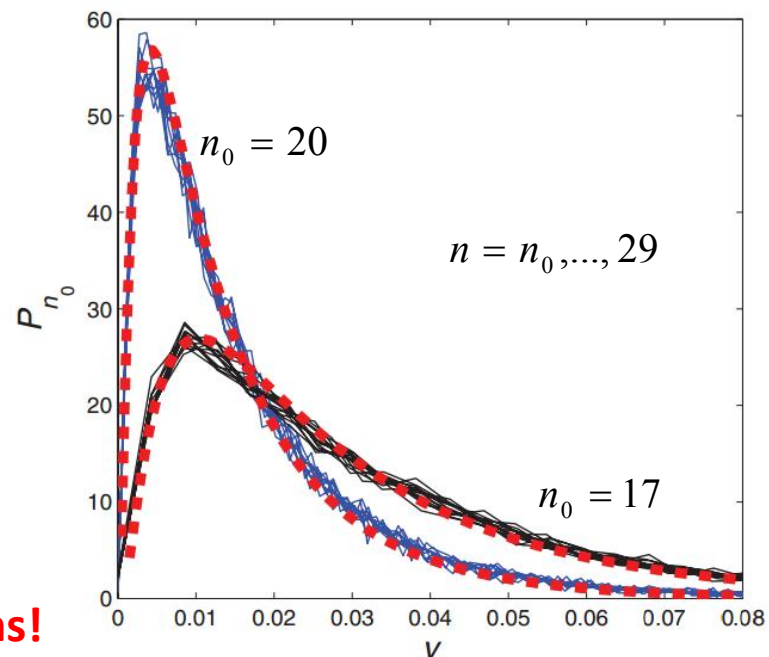
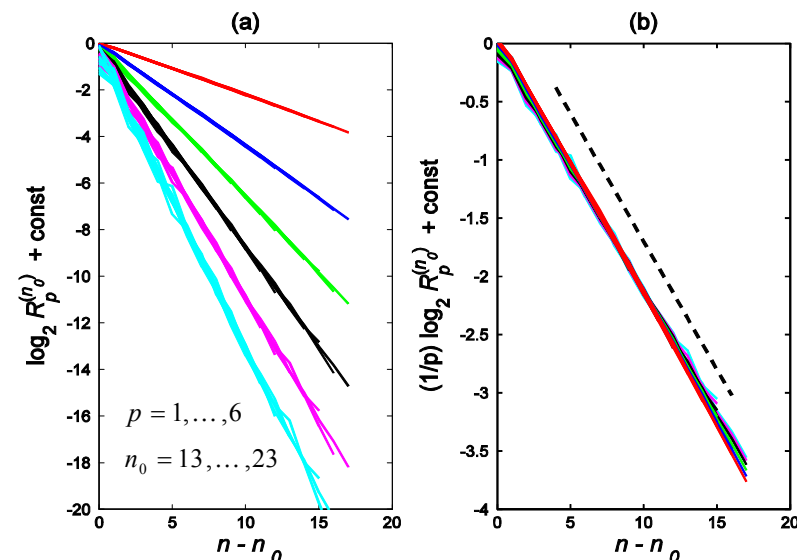
Exponent: $y = 0.225$ (blowup value 0.281)

Self-similarity of probability density function:

$$P_{n_0}(v) = 2^{-y\Delta n} P_{n,n_0}(2^{-y\Delta n} v)$$

$P_{n,n_0}(v) dv$ is the probability to find the maximum v in shell n for the instanton created in shell n_0

No anomaly of scaling exponents for instantons!



Large deviation principle: derivation

Scaling rule for the moments

$$S'_p(k_n) = k_n^{-1} \sum_{n_0=0}^n R_{p-1}^{(n_0)}(k_n) = k_n^{-1} \sum_{n_0=0}^n R_{p-1}^{(n_0)}(k_{n_0}) 2^{-(p-1)y(n-n_0)} \propto k_n^{-\zeta_p}$$

$$\Rightarrow R_{p-1}^{(n)}(k_n) \propto k_n^{1-\zeta_p} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{T} \sum_{\substack{\text{for instantons} \\ \text{born at shell } n}} v_n^{p-1} = M_n \int v^{p-1} P_n(v) dv \propto k_n^{1-\zeta_p}$$

Change of variables

$$v \mapsto a = \frac{1}{n} \log_2 \frac{v}{v_*}, \quad P_n(v) \mapsto \rho_n(a) = \rho_* n M_n P_n(v)$$

$$\int 2^{npa} \rho_n(a) da \propto 2^{n(1-\zeta_p)}$$

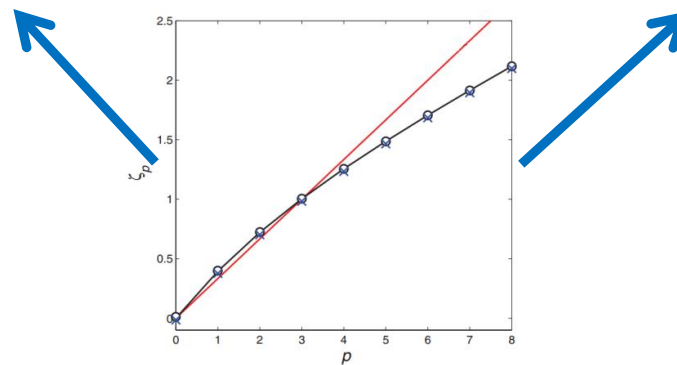
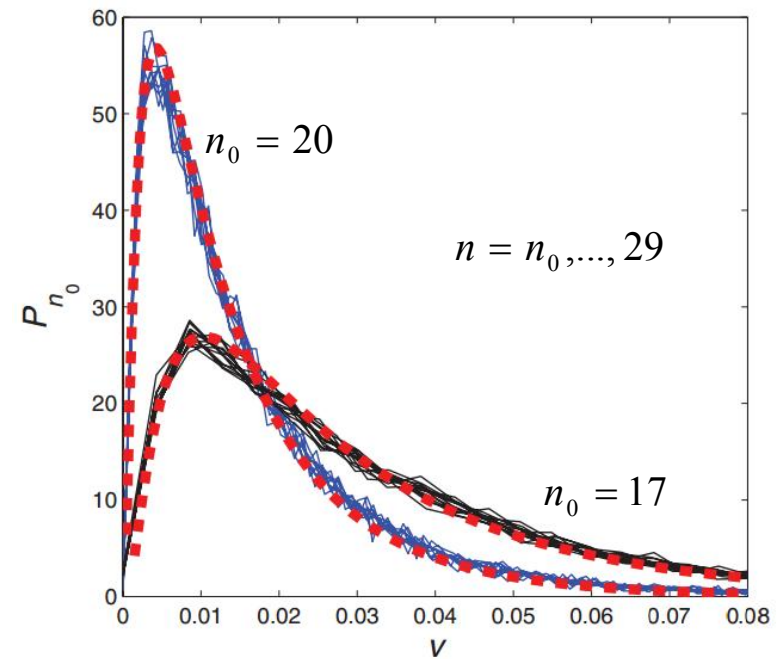
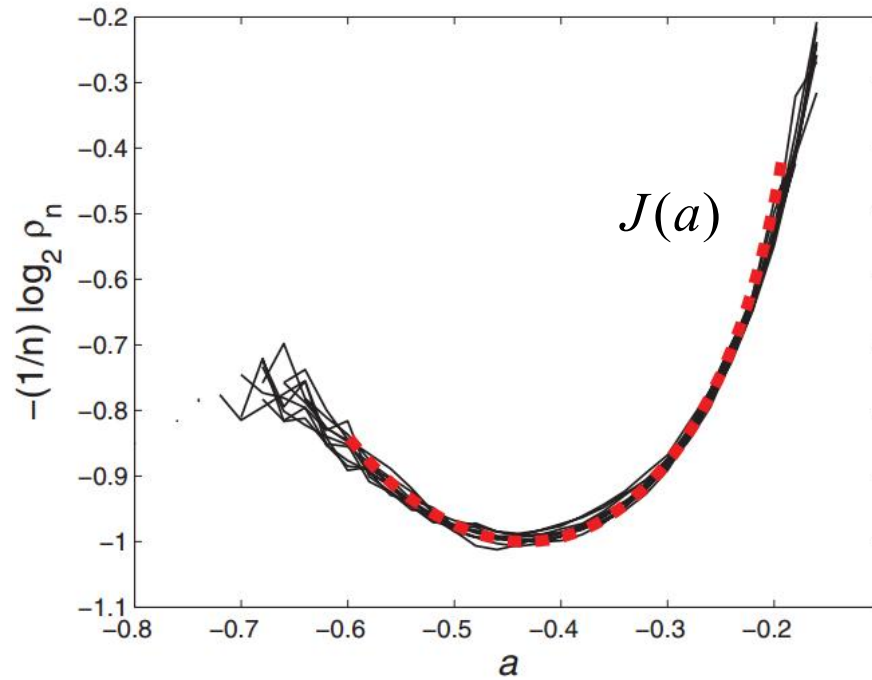
Solving using Gärtner-Ellis theorem

$$\rho_n(a) \propto 2^{-nJ(a)} = k_n^{-J(a)} \quad J(a) = pa - (1 - \zeta_p), \quad a = -\frac{d\zeta_p}{dp} \quad \text{rate function}$$

Large deviation principle: numerical validation

$$\rho_n(a) \propto 2^{-nJ(a)} = k_n^{-J(a)}$$

$$M_n P_n(v) \propto k_n^{-J(a)}, \quad a = \frac{1}{n} \log_2 \frac{v}{v_*}$$



Instanton creation (simple model)

Instanton of amplitude $v_n = 1$ creates

$$\varphi(v)dv$$

instantons of amplitude v in the same shell.

Rescaled value for $v_n = v'$:

$$\frac{1}{v'} \varphi\left(\frac{v}{v'}\right)dv$$

Direct computation of PDFs for instantons (using self-similarity) and of velocity moments yields the explicit anomalous exponent

$$\zeta_p = 1 + (p-1)y - \log_2(1 + \varphi_{p-1}), \quad \varphi_p = \int_0^\infty \xi^p \varphi(\xi) d\xi$$

Contribution of
self-similarity of
instantons

Contribution of
instanton creation
mechanism

Conclusions

Instantons are **statistical** objects originating from blowup. They are universal and self-similar.

Anomaly of scaling exponents for a shell model results from the process of instanton creation.

Large deviation principle allows analytic relation of instanton statistics to anomalous scaling exponents. Excellent agreement with numerical simulations.

Creating the statistical theory of instantons is a possible way for explaining turbulence in shell models.

References: [PRE 85 066317 \(2012\)](#); [PRE 86 025301 \(R\) \(2012\)](#);
[PRE 87 053011 \(2013\)](#); [Nonlinearity 26 1105 \(2013\)](#)

Blowup: scaling vs. creation in turbulence statistics

Exponents for a single blowup:

$$\zeta_p = 1 + (p-1)y_0$$

Exponents for a “gas” of instantons:

$$\zeta_p = 1 + (p-1)y - \Delta_p$$

