

Energy and Information Transfer Mechanisms in Turbulence

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Introduction

Self introduction

荒木 亮 (ARAKI, Ryo), born in Kyoto prefecture, Japan

Career

- Until 03/2020: Bachelor & Master @Osaka University 
 - Supervisor: Prof. Susumu Goto
- Until 09/2023: PhD @École Centrale de Lyon  & Osaka Univ. 
 - Supervisors: Dr. Wouter Bos and Prof. Susumu Goto
 - Thesis: “Temporal and Spatial Features of the Turbulent Kinetic Energy Cascade”
- Since 10/2023: **Fixed-term** Assistant Professor @Tokyo Univ. of Science
 - In Prof. Takahiro Tsukahara’s lab
 - **Looking for a next position!**

Today, I want to discuss ...

Part I

- Q. How do different **physical mechanisms** contribute to energy and information transfer in the inertial range of 3D turbulence?

Part II

- Q. What can we **universally** say about the nature of the information flow in turbulence in terms of nonequilibrium statistical mechanics?

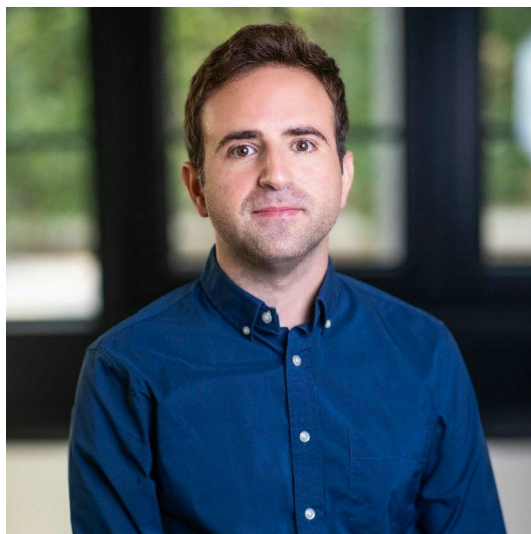
Part III

- Ideas for future research & possible collaborations: Q. What is the universal bound on the finite-time predictability?

Collaborators

Adrián Lozano-Durán

@Caltech, USA



Alberto Vela-Martín

@UP3M, Spain



Tomohiro Tanogami

@Osaka U., Japan

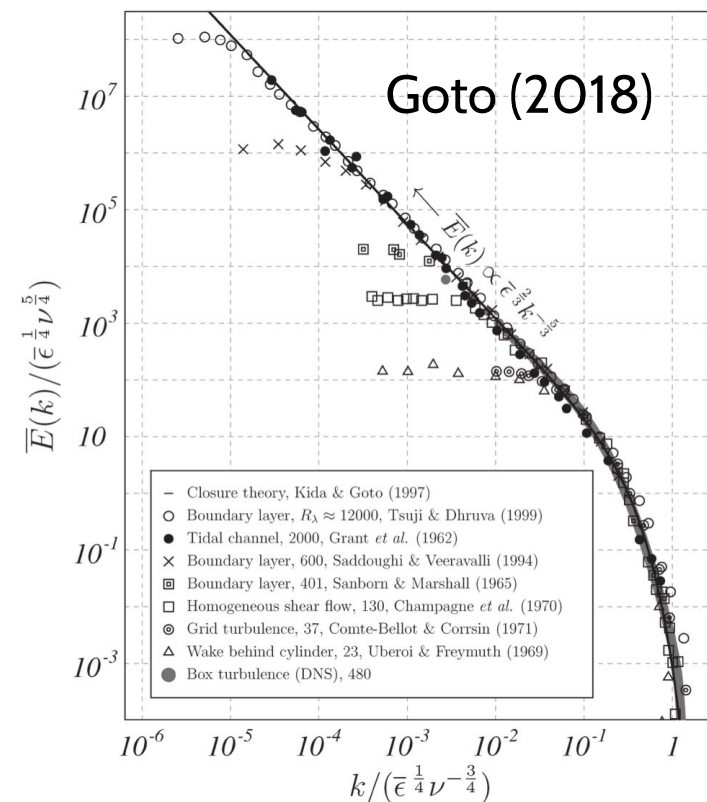


Will attend StatPhys29 held in
Firenze, July 13–18.

Physical Mechanisms of Energy/Information Transfer

Turbulence and its statistical universality

da Vinci's sketch



[...] big whirls have little whirls that feed on their velocity, and little whirls have lesser whirls and so on to viscosity [...]. Richardson (1922)

Causality and “forgetful” in energy cascade

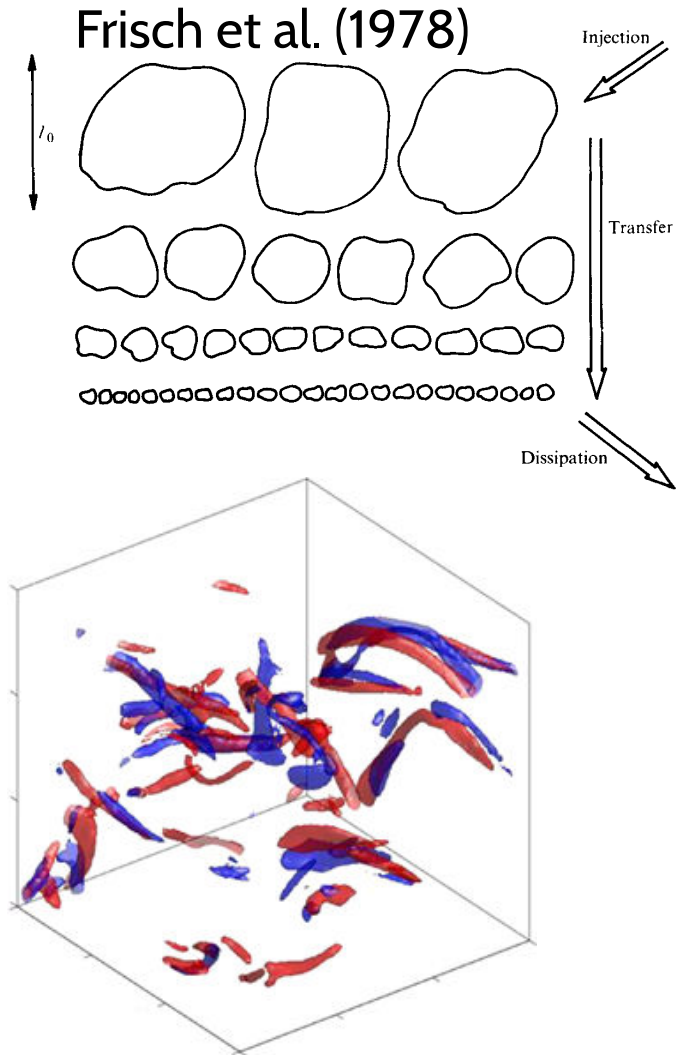
Small scales “forget” about large scales

[The small scales] do not retain any information which relates to their great-great-great-grand parents. Davidson (2013)

Small scales are determined by large scales

“Twin” turbulent simulations with the same large scales exhibit synchronised small scales.
Vela-Martín (2021)

Q. 1 Can we reconcile this paradox?



Brief introduction of information theory

Shannon entropy

$$H(X) := \int dx p(x) [-\ln p(x)]$$

- Information of an event $x \in X$ is quantified by $-\ln p(x)$.
- $H(X)$ quantifies “average uncertainty” of a random variable X .

Quantities to quantify correlation and causality

- Mutual information $I[X : Y] := \int dx p(x) \ln[p(x, y)/p(x)p(y)]$
- Transfer entropy $T_{X \rightarrow Y} := H\left(Y_{t+1} \mid \mathbf{Y}_t^{(k)}\right) - H\left(Y_{t+1} \mid \mathbf{X}_t^{(l)}, \mathbf{Y}_t^{(k)}\right)$
where $\mathbf{X}_t^{(l)} := (X_t, X_{t-1}, \dots, X_{t-k+1})$
- Information flow $\dot{I}^X := \lim_{dt \searrow 0} \frac{1}{dt} (I[X_{t+dt} : Y_t] - I[X_t : Y_t])$

Information flux

Discrete dynamical system

- Variable $\mathbf{Y} = [Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N]$
- Time evolution $Y_j^{n+1} = f_j(\mathbf{Y}^n)$

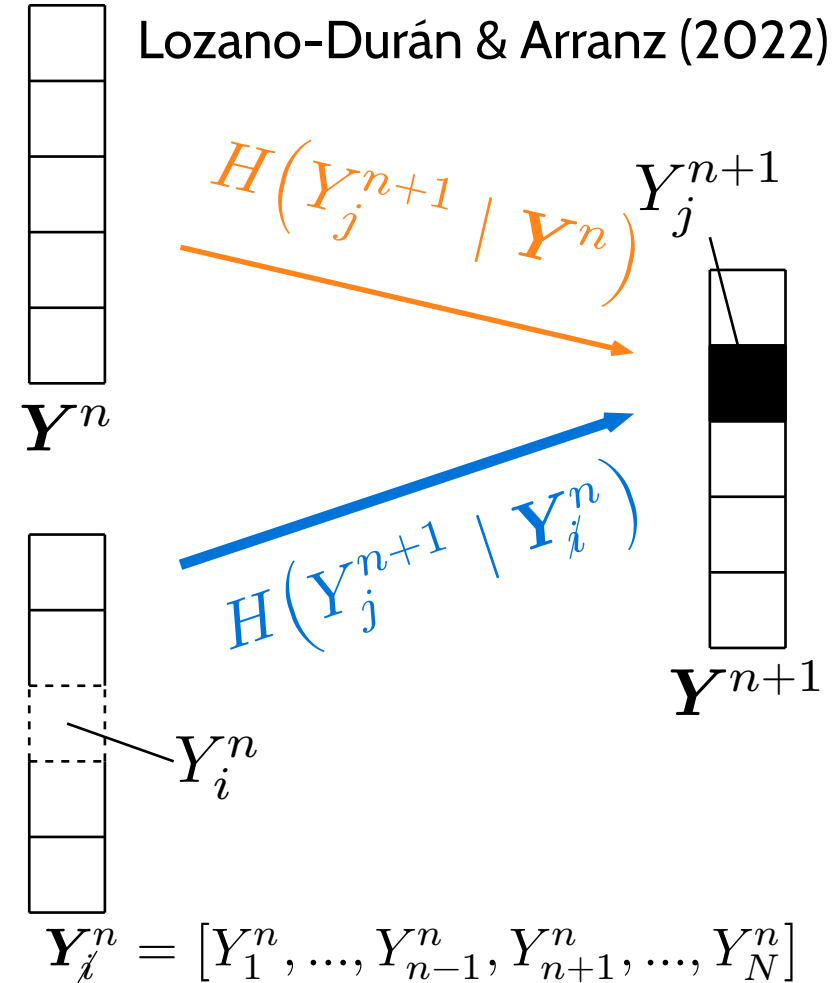
Information flux

Uncertainty to observe Y_j^{n+1} is

- $H(Y_j^{n+1} | \mathbf{Y}^n)$ when $\mathbf{Y}^n$ is known
- $H(Y_j^{n+1} | \mathbf{Y}_{\neq j}^n)$ when $\mathbf{Y}_{\neq j}^n$ is known

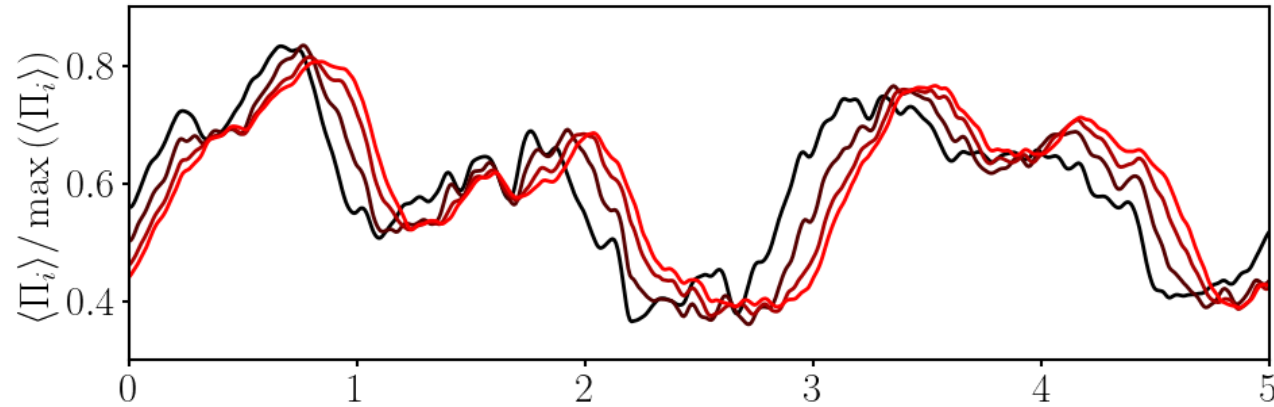
$$\therefore T_{i \rightarrow j}^Y := H(Y_j^{n+1} | \mathbf{Y}_{\neq j}^n) - H(Y_j^{n+1} | \mathbf{Y}^n)$$

quantifies **decrease of uncertainty to observe Y_j^{n+1} by newly knowing Y_i^n** .



Causality in energy flux time series

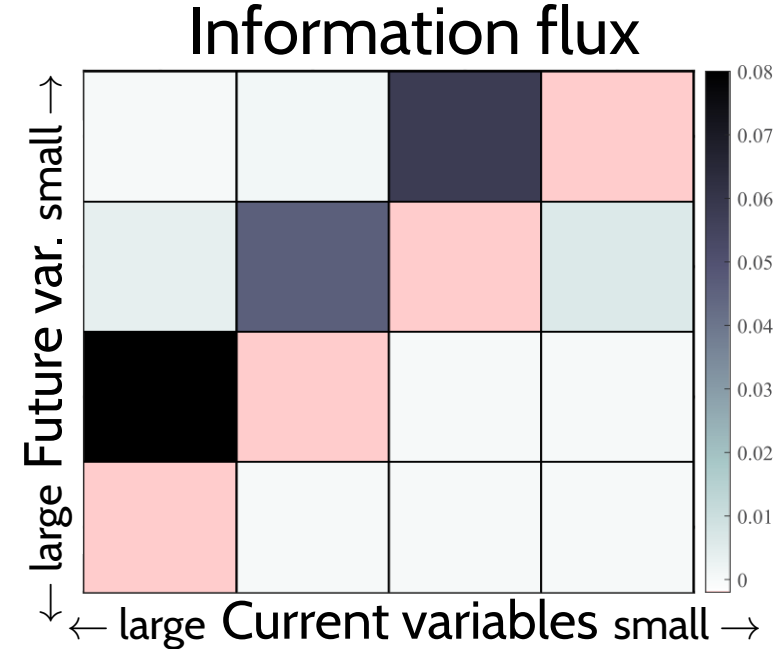
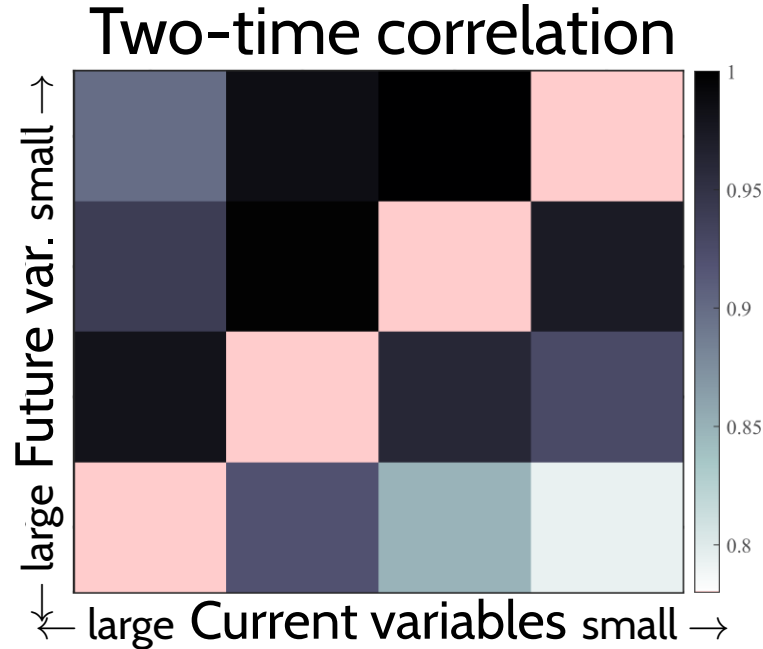
$$\Pi := -\dot{\tau}_\ell(u_i, u_j) \bar{S}_{ij}^\ell$$



Large scale $\rightarrow$ small scale t/T_ε

- Coarse-grained velocity field $\bar{u}_i^\ell(\mathbf{x}) := \iiint_{-\infty}^{\infty} G_\ell(\mathbf{x}) u_i(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$
- Gaussian filter $G_\ell(\mathbf{x}) := \mathcal{N} \exp(-|\mathbf{r}|^2/2\ell^2)$
- Reynolds stress $\tau_\ell(u_i, u_j) := \overline{u_i u_j}^\ell - \bar{u}_i^\ell \bar{u}_j^\ell$
- Strain rate $\bar{S}_{ij}^\ell := [\partial_j \bar{u}_i^\ell + \partial_i \bar{u}_j^\ell]/2$ where non-diagonal part $\dot{\tau}_{ij} := \tau_{ij} - \delta_{ij} \tau_{kk}/3$

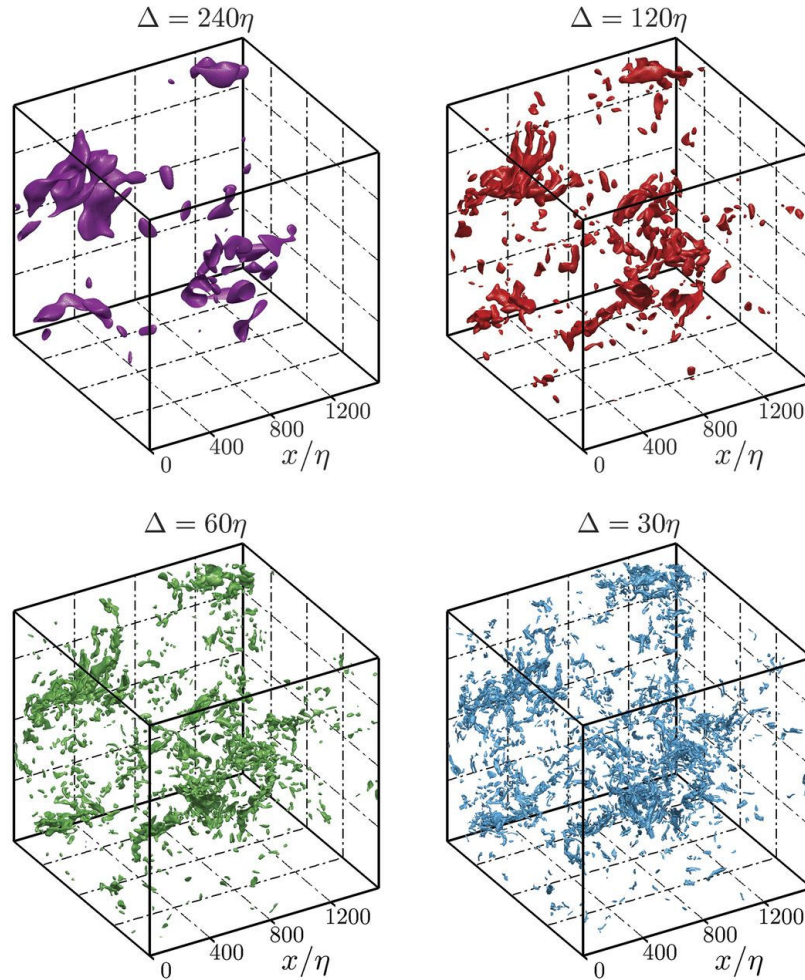
Causality in energy flux time series



Summary 1 Information flux captures the forward scale-local causality, which two-time correlation function cannot.

Lozano-Durán & Arranz (2022)

Overview of my approach

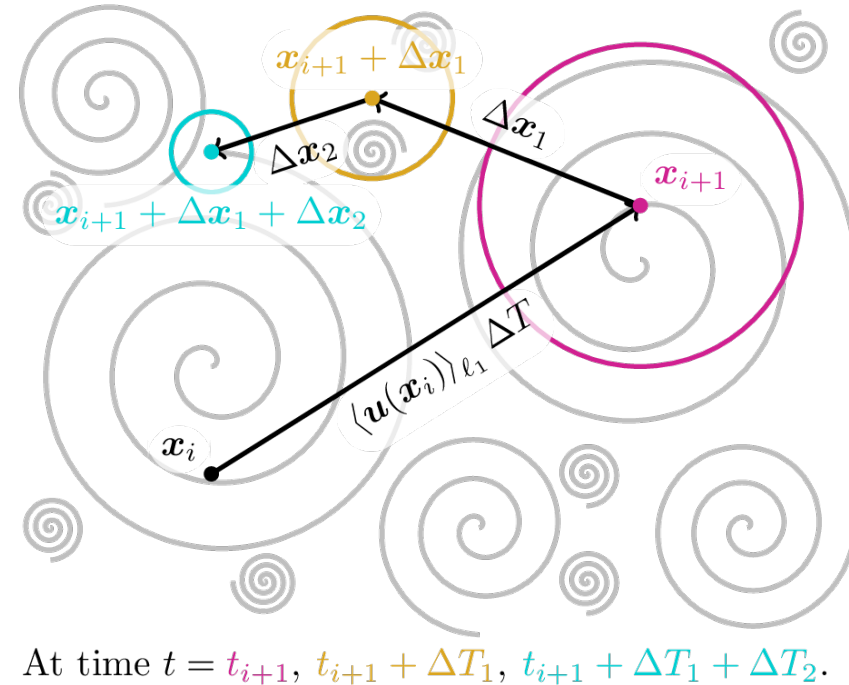
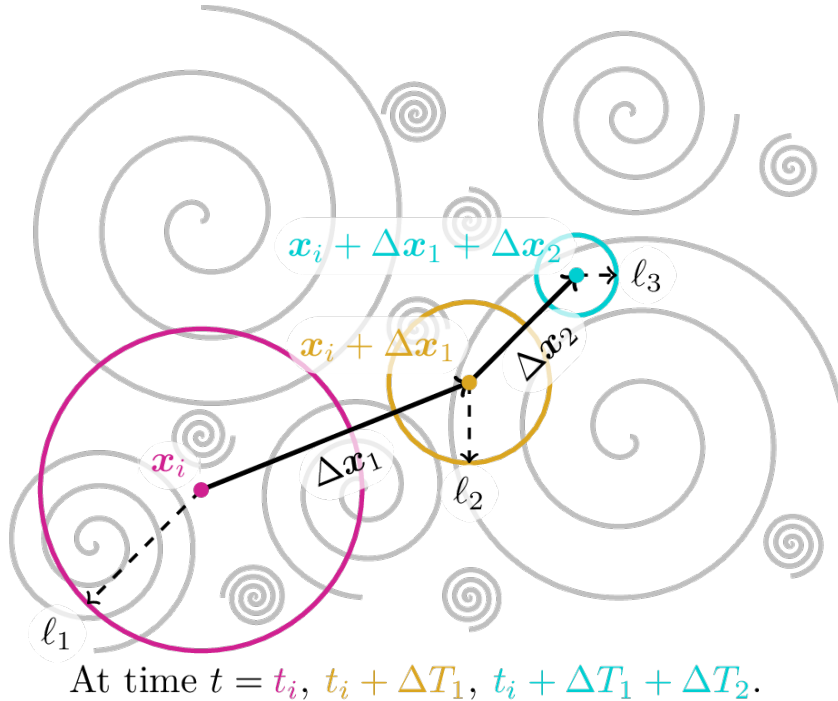


Turbulence dataset

- Time-resolved HIT @UPM
- Taylor-scale $\text{Re}_\lambda = 315$
- Resolution $N^3 = 1024^3$
- Length $T_{\text{sim}}/T_0 = 66$
- # of sample: $N_{\text{sample}} = \mathcal{O}(10^3)$
- Linear forcing at low k

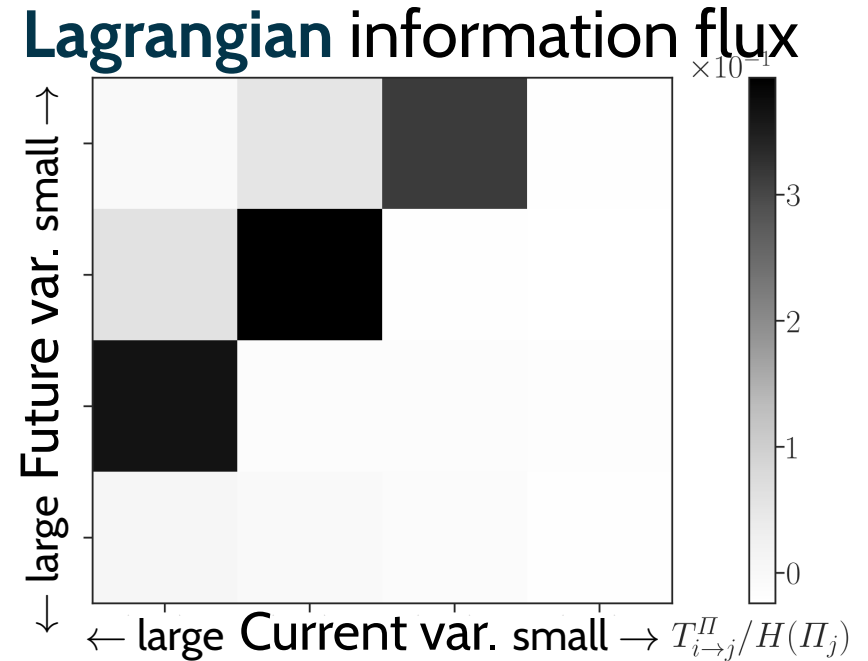
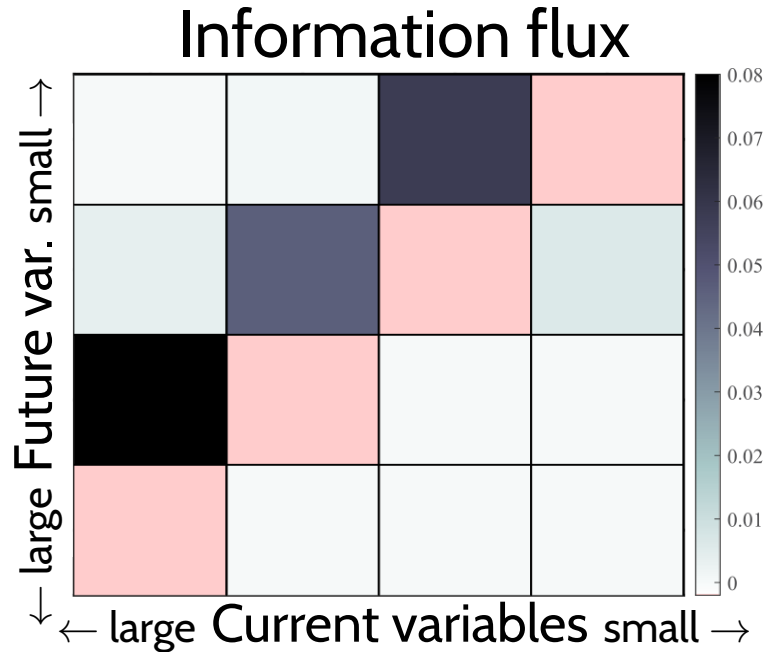
Cardesa et al. (2017)

Lagrangian tracking of space-local energy flux



1. Compute space-local average of energy flux at x .
2. Advect $x \rightarrow x + \Delta x$ & compute the same quantity at smaller scale.
3. Repeat 1-2 to construct the Lagrangian dataset.

Scale-local information flux

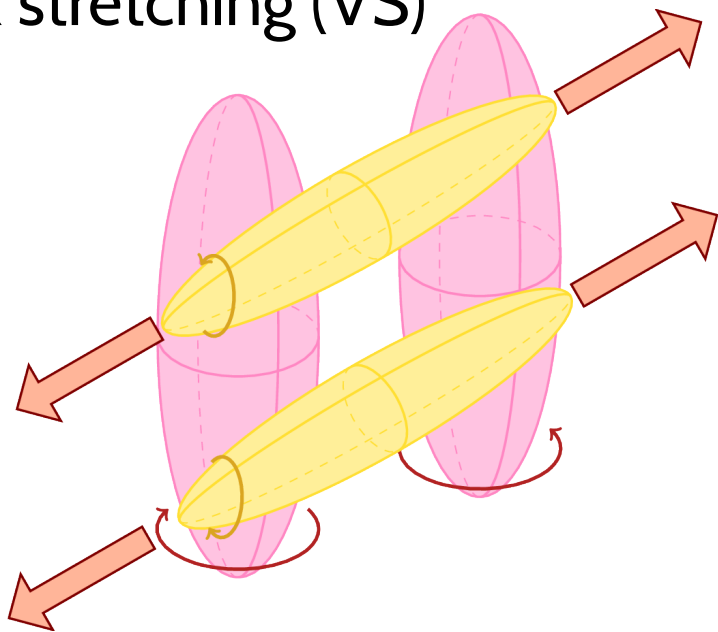


Summary 2 Lagrangian dataset captures the scale-local information flux without the self-induced ones.

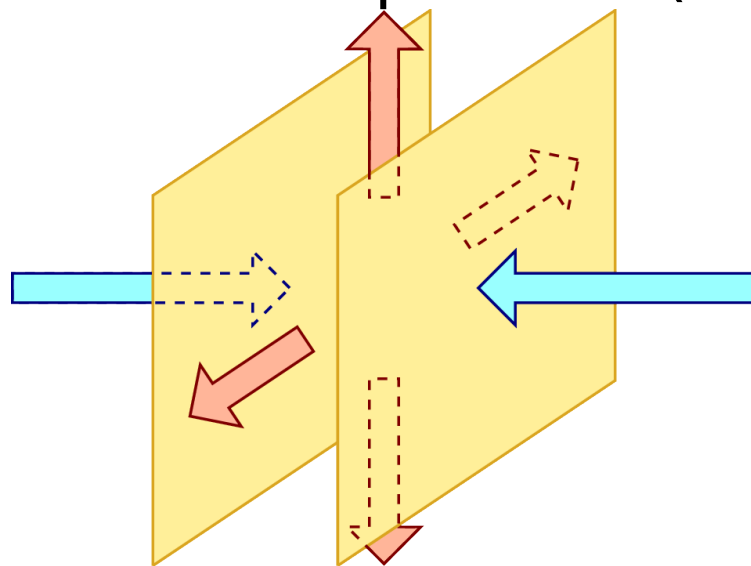
Physical mechanisms of energy cascade

Q. 2 What is the physical mechanism of the information flow?

Vortex stretching (VS)



Strain Self-Amplification (SSA)



Note: **The** physical mechanism of the cascade is still an open question.

Decomposed energy flux

$$\Pi := -\dot{\tau}_\ell(u_i, u_j) \bar{S}_{ij}^\ell$$

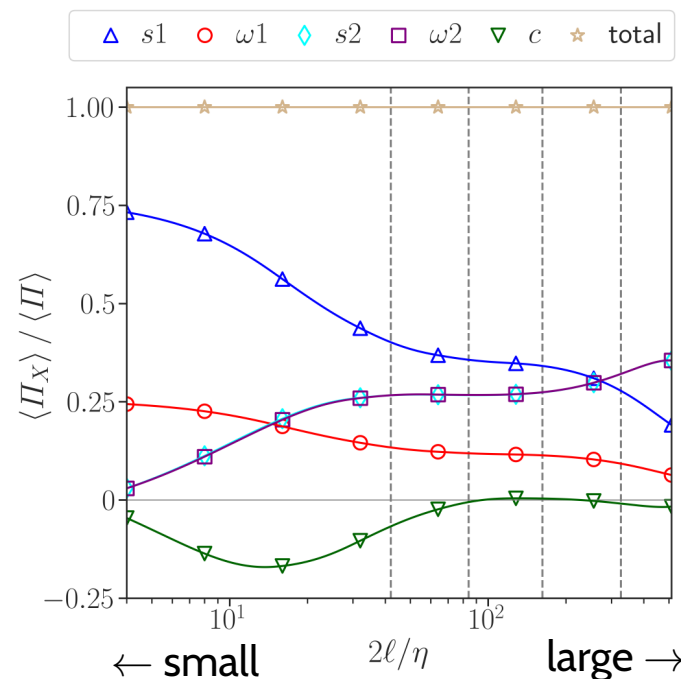
$$= \Pi_{s1}^\ell + \Pi_{\omega1}^\ell + \Pi_{s2}^\ell + \Pi_{\omega2}^\ell + \Pi_c^\ell$$

- Scale-local SSA

$$\Pi_{s1}^\ell := -\ell^2 \bar{S}_{ij}^\ell \bar{S}_{jk}^\ell \bar{S}_{ki}^\ell$$

- Scale-local VS

$$\Pi_{\omega1}^\ell := \ell^2 \bar{\omega}_i^\ell \bar{S}_{ij}^\ell \bar{\omega}_j^\ell / 4$$



Summary 3 $\Pi_{s1}^\ell > \Pi_{\omega1}^\ell$: SSA transfers more energy to smaller scales than VS in the inertial range. Johnson (2021)

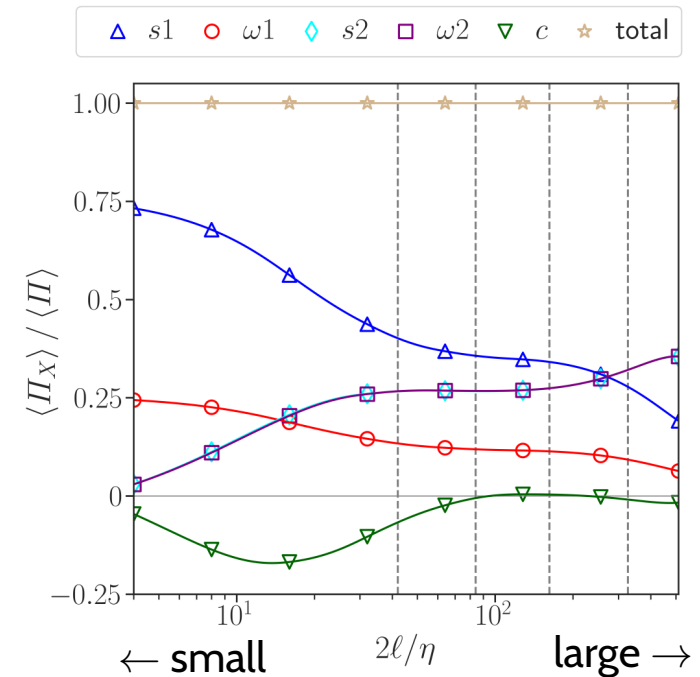
Decomposed energy flux

- Scale-nonlocal SSA

$$\Pi_{s2}^\ell := - \int_0^{\ell^2} d\alpha \bar{S}_{ij}^\ell \tau_\beta \left(\bar{S}_{jk}^{\sqrt{\alpha}}, \bar{S}_{ki}^{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)$$

- Scale-nonlocal VS

$$\Pi_{\omega 2}^\ell := - \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{\ell^2} d\alpha \bar{S}_{ij}^\ell \tau_\beta \left(\bar{\omega}_i^{\sqrt{\alpha}}, \bar{\omega}_j^{\sqrt{\alpha}} \right)$$



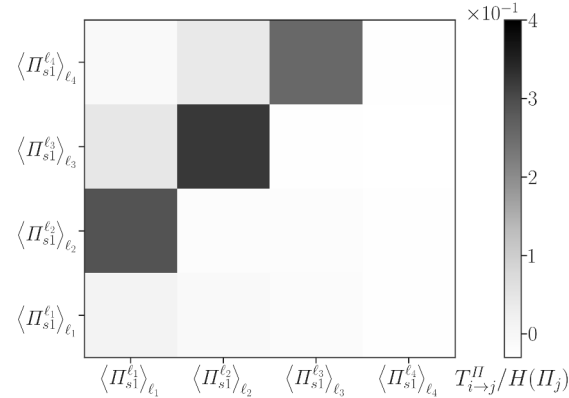
Summary 4 $\Pi_{s2}^\ell = \Pi_{\omega 2}^\ell$: Nontrivial relation in nonlocal terms.

$$\beta := \sqrt{\ell^2 - \alpha}, \omega_i := \epsilon_{ijk} \partial_j u_k, \Omega_{ij} := [\partial_j u_i - \partial_i u_j] / 2$$

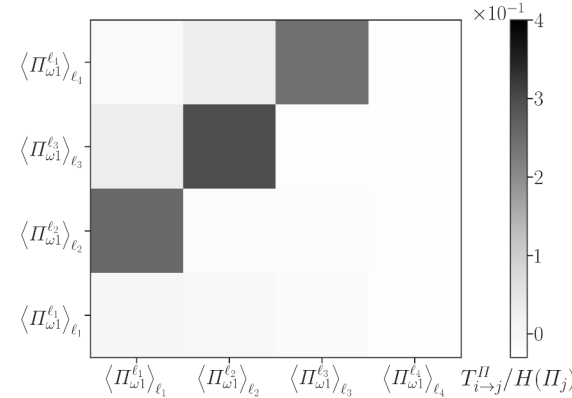
Johnson (2021)

Information flux associated with different mechanisms

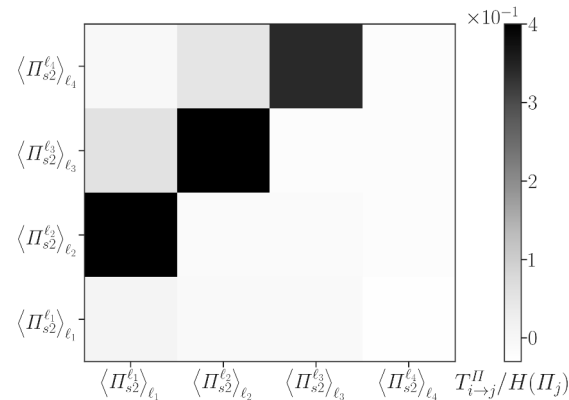
Local SSA Π_{s1}^ℓ



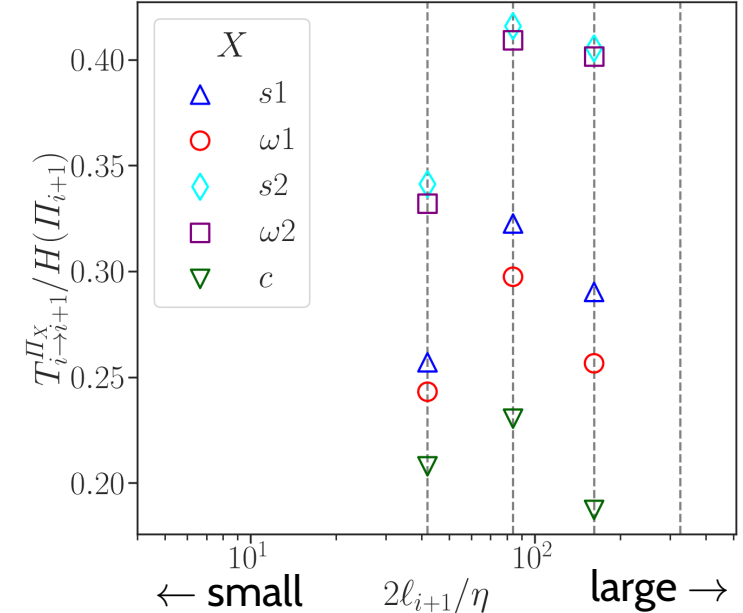
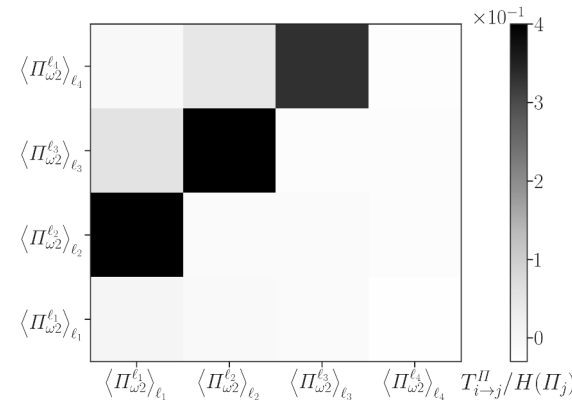
Local VS $\Pi_{\omega 1}^\ell$



Nonlocal SSA Π_{s2}^ℓ



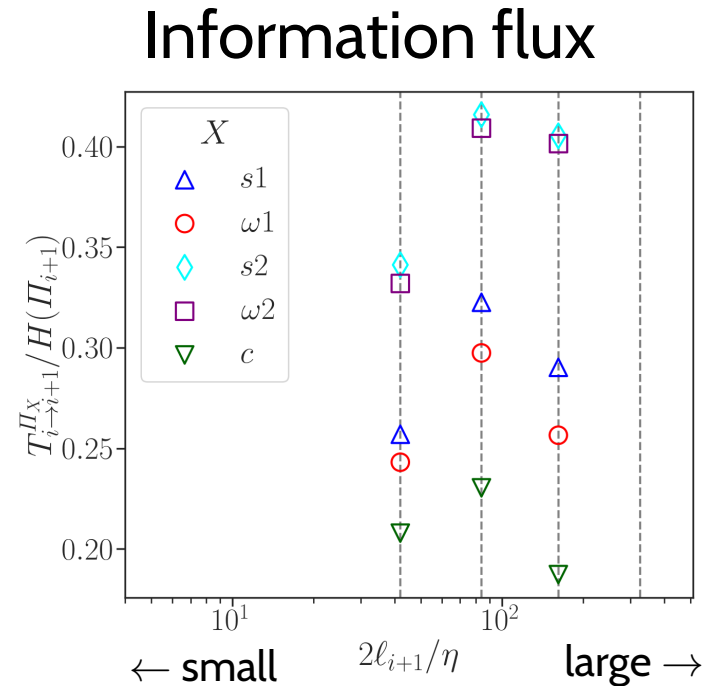
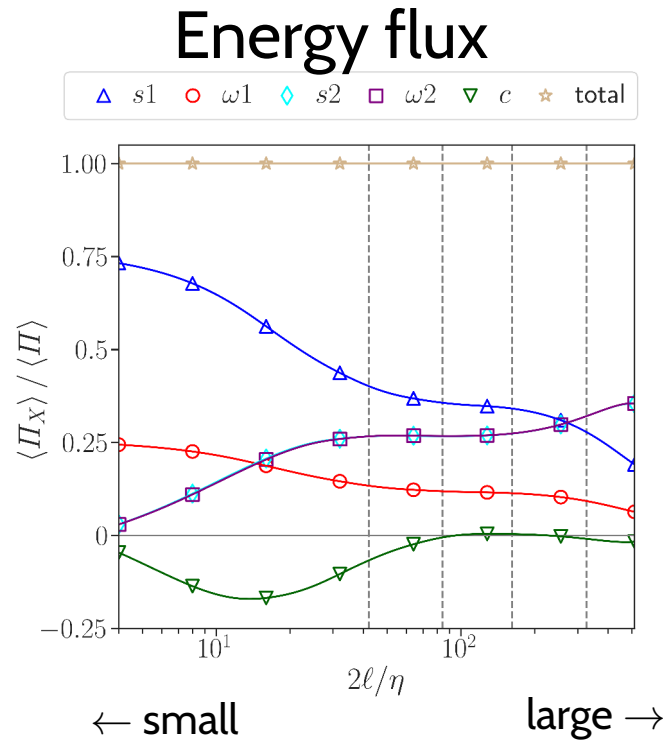
Nonlocal VS $\Pi_{\omega 2}^\ell$



Summary 5

Nonlocal terms are more “causal”

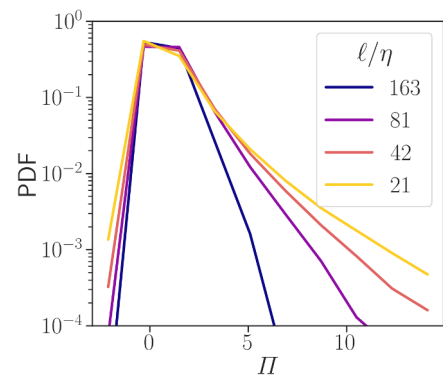
Discrepancy between energetic and causal mechanisms



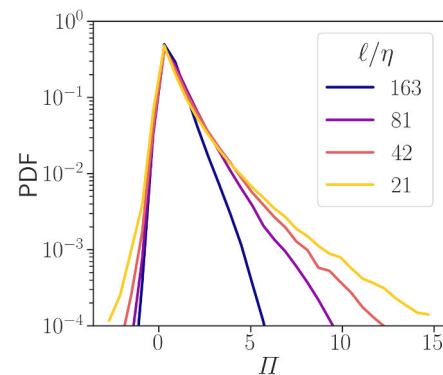
Summary 6 The most energetic mechanism $\neq$ the most causal mechanism (and vice versa)

Estimation method dependency

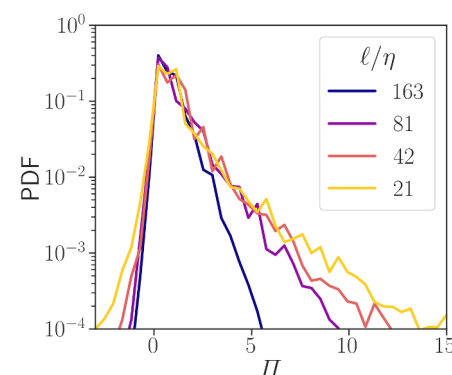
Direct binning
(# of bin = 10)



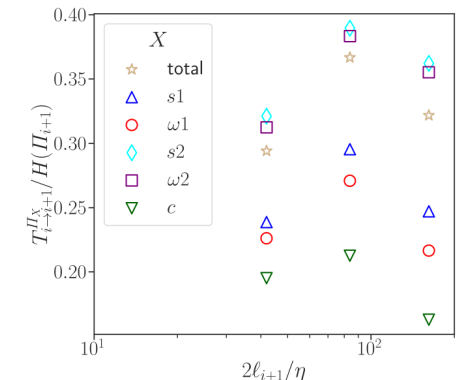
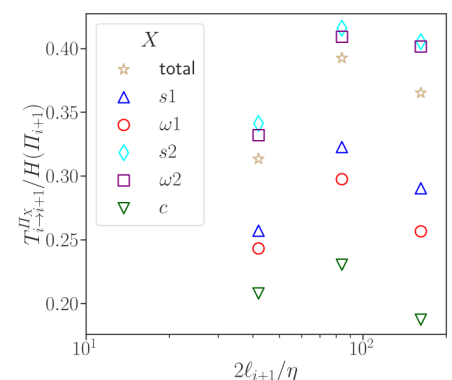
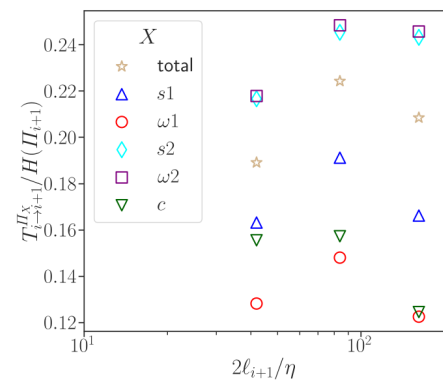
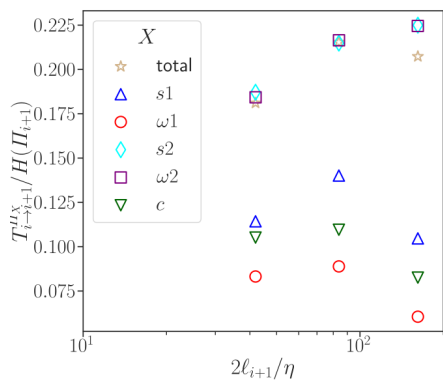
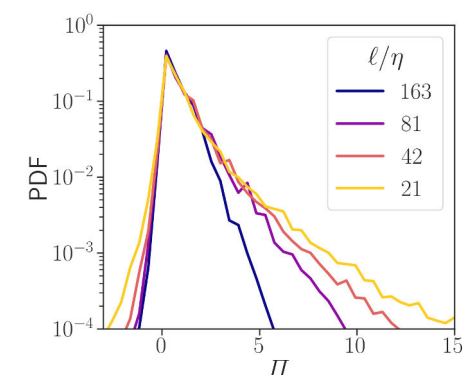
Direct binning
(# of bin = 30)



k -NN ($k = 15$)



k -NN ($k = 50$)

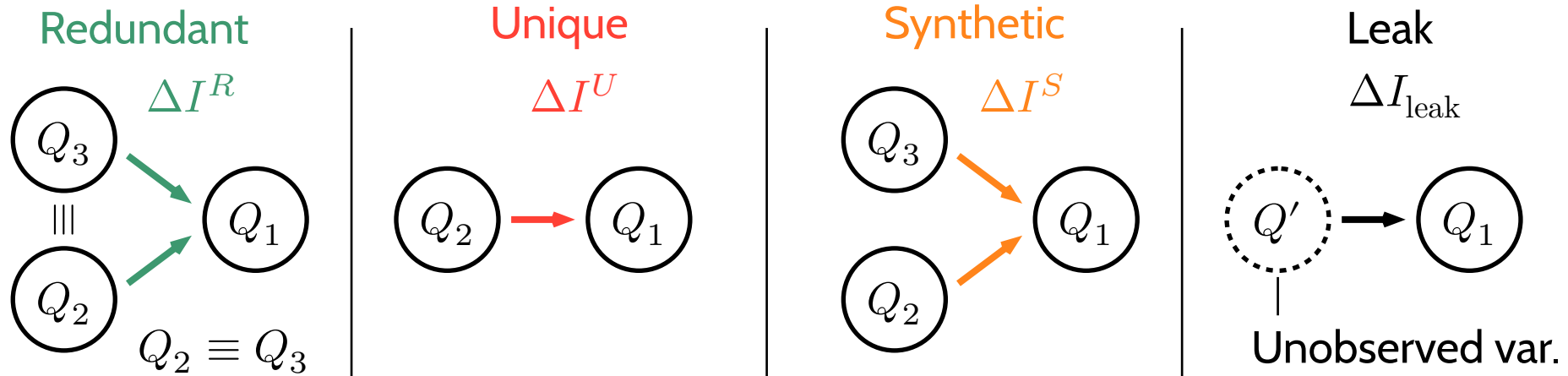


Synthetic-Unique-Redundant Decomposition (SURD)

Martínez-Sánchez et al. (2024)

Consider decomposing information flux from $Q_i(t)$ to $Q_j(t + \Delta t)$:

$$H(Q_j(t + \Delta t)) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \Delta I_{i \rightarrow j}^R + \sum_{i=1}^N \Delta I_{i \rightarrow j}^U + \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} \Delta I_{i \rightarrow j}^S + \Delta I_{\text{leak} \rightarrow j}$$



Results to be presented at EFDC2 @Dublin!

Information- Thermodynamic Nature of Information Flow in Turbulence

Stochastic thermodynamics (ST)

Thermodynamics for microscopic systems
with thermal fluctuations

- (Underdamped) Langevin equation

$$\ddot{x} = -\frac{\gamma}{m}\dot{x} + F(x, t) + \sqrt{2\gamma T} \xi(t)$$

↑ Fluctuation-dissipation relation

p : probability, $F(x, t)$: External force, $\xi(t)$: Noise

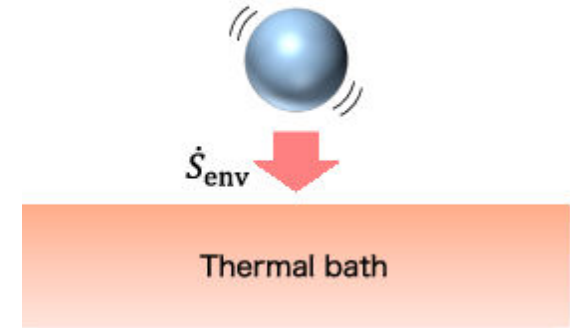
γ : Friction coefficient, m : Mass, T : Temperature

- Second law of ST

System's entropy change

$$\frac{dS}{dt} + \dot{S}_{\text{env}} \geq 0$$

↑ Environment's entropy change



Tanogami et al. (2023)

References

- Peliti & Pigolotti (2021)
- Shiraishi (2023)
- Tasaki (2023)

Information thermodynamics (ITD)

Thermodynamics for microscopic
subsystems with **information exchange**

Second law of ITD (Shiraishi 2023)

Subsystem's entropy change

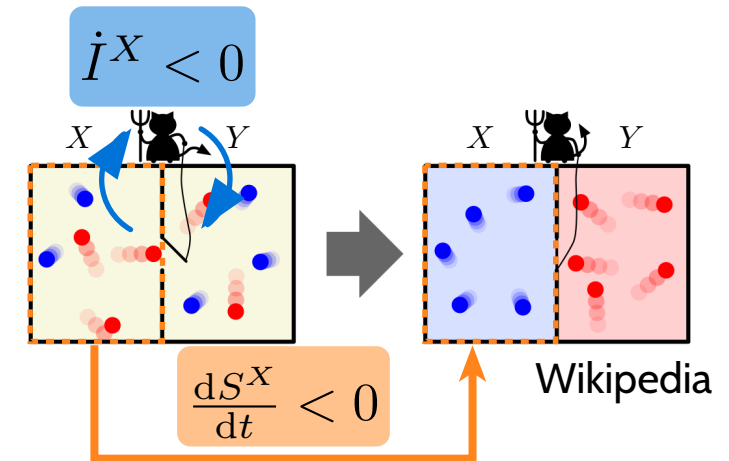
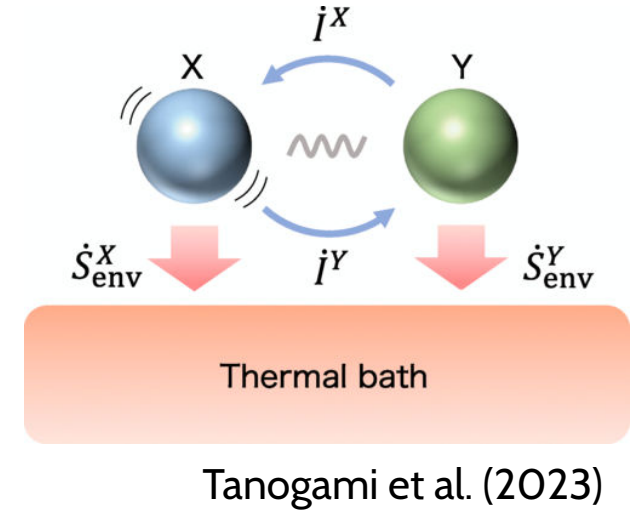
$$\frac{dS^X}{dt} + \dot{S}_{\text{env}}^X \geq \dot{I}^X$$

Information flow

Environment's entropy change

Example: Maxwell's demon

- Can reduce entropy → **Violate the second law of thermodynamics**
- Demon has to measure & feedback
→ **Satisfy the second law of ITD**



Fluctuating Navier–Stokes equations (FNS eqs)

Explicitly taking **thermal fluctuations** into account

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{s}$$

In Fourier space,

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{u}}_k}{\partial t} = \mathbf{B}_k(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) - \nu k^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}}_k + \hat{\mathbf{f}}_k + \sqrt{\frac{2\nu k^2 k_B T}{\rho}} \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_k.$$

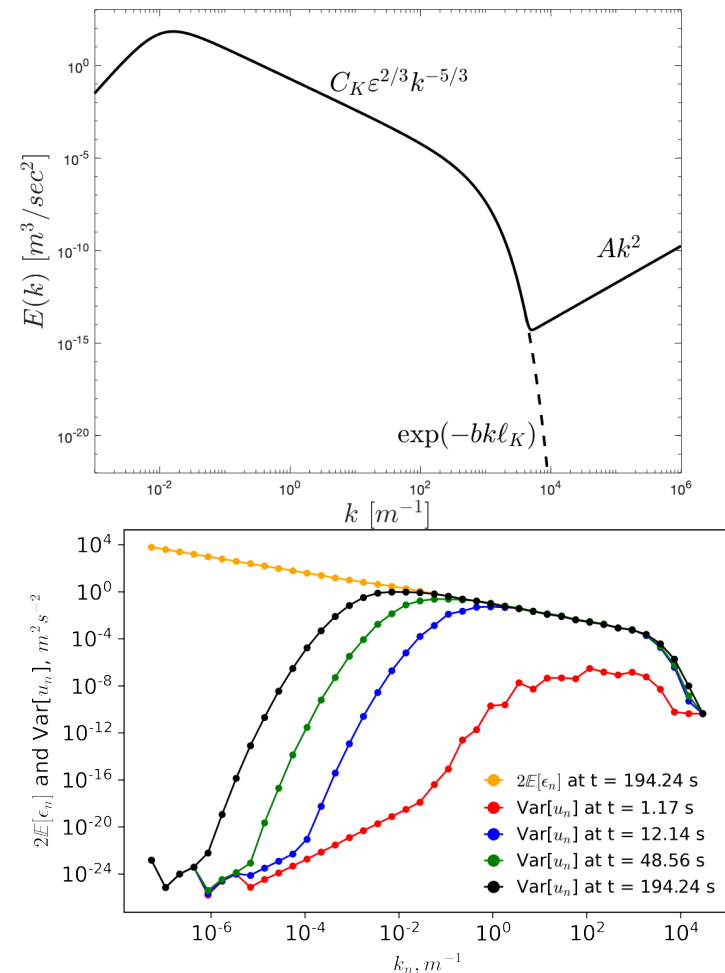
- $\hat{\mathbf{u}}_k$: Fourier-space velocity at mode k
- ν : Kinematic viscosity
- ρ : Mass density
- T : Temperature
- k_B : Boltzmann constant
- $\mathbf{B}_k^a(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) := -ik^c \left(\delta^{ab} - \frac{k^a k^b}{k^2} \right) \sum_{\mathbf{p}+\mathbf{q}=\mathbf{k}} \hat{u}_\mathbf{p}^b \hat{u}_\mathbf{q}^c$: Nonlinear term

Recent findings on the importance of thermal noise

Thermal fluctuations

- **dominate the far dissipation range** with energy equipartition (Bandak et al. 2022)
- are amplified to the largest scales **in finite time** (Bandak et al. 2024)
- **inhibit intermittency** in compressible turbulence (Srivastava et al. 2025)

Summary 7 Thermal fluctuations impact dynamics and statistics of turbulence.

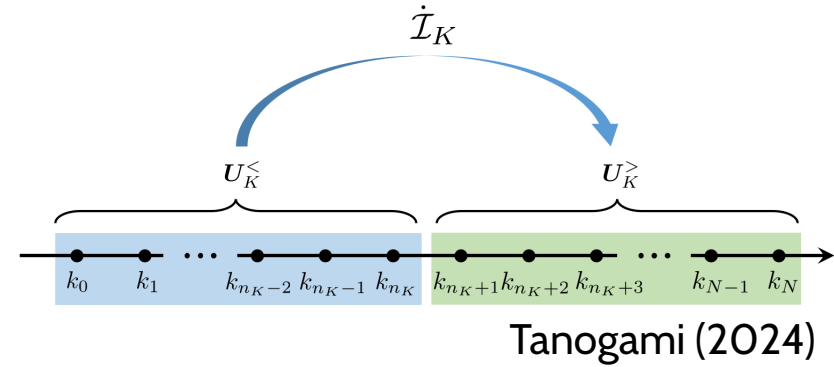


Information flow from large- to small-scale velocities

Divide full velocity field $\{\hat{u}, \hat{u}^*\}$ into

$$\{\hat{u}, \hat{u}^*\} = \mathbf{U}_K^< \cup \mathbf{U}_K^>$$

- Large scale modes $\mathbf{U}_K^<$ for $|\mathbf{k}| \leq K$
- Small scale modes $\mathbf{U}_K^>$ for $|\mathbf{k}| > K$



$$\text{Mutual information } I[\mathbf{U}_K^<, \mathbf{U}_K^>] := \left\langle \ln \frac{p_t(\mathbf{U}_K^<, \mathbf{U}_K^>)}{p_t^<(\mathbf{U}_K^<)p_t^>(\mathbf{U}_K^>)} \right\rangle$$

Information flow

$$\dot{I}_K^> := \lim_{dt \searrow 0} \frac{I[\mathbf{U}_K^<(t) : \mathbf{U}_K^>(t + dt)] - I[\mathbf{U}_K^<(t) : \mathbf{U}_K^>(t)]}{dt}$$

When $\dot{I}_K^> > 0$, **small scales gain information** about large scales.

Information-thermodynamic bound of information flow

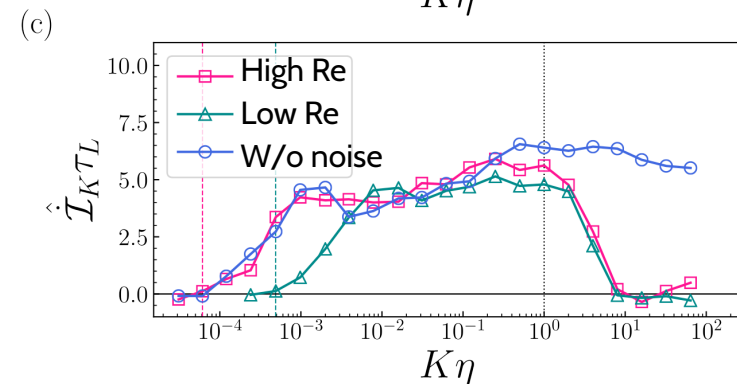
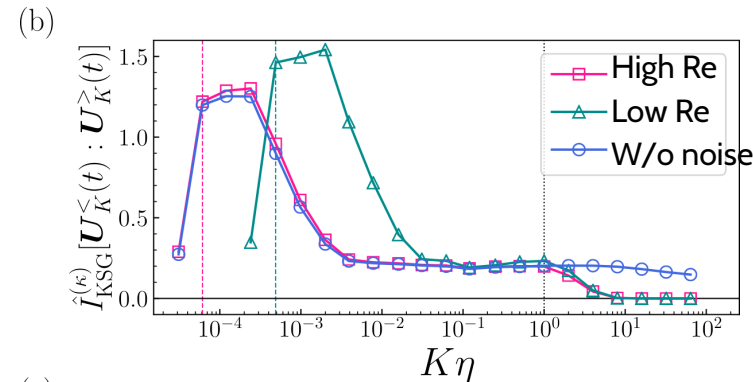
- In (nonequilibrium) steady state
- For wavenumber K in the inertial range

Information flow is bounded by

$$\frac{\rho V \varepsilon}{k_B T} \geq \dot{I}_K^{\geq} \geq 0.$$

Environment's entropy change

Summary 8 Positive (macro $\rightarrow$ micro) information flow, bounded by the second law of ITD, exists in turbulence. (Tanogami & Araki 2024a)



V : Volume of fluid,
 ε : energy dissipation rate

Sketch of the proof: Information flow

1. Consider the Fokker–Planck equation corresponding to FNS eqs.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_t(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) = \sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{K}^+} \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{u}}} \cdot \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{k}}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) - \text{c.c.} \right]$$
$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{k}}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) = \left[\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{k}}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) - \nu k^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\mathbf{k}} + \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\mathbf{k}} \right] p_t(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*)$$
$$- \frac{1}{V} \frac{\nu k^2 k_B T}{\rho} \left(\mathbf{I} - \frac{\mathbf{k} \mathbf{k}}{k^2} \right) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*} p_t(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*)$$

$\mathcal{K}^+$: Set of independent Fourier modes, $\mathbf{B}_{\mathbf{k}}(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*)$: Nonlinear term for mode $\mathbf{k}$

2. Define system's Shannon entropy

$$S[\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*] := - \int d\hat{\mathbf{u}} d\hat{\mathbf{u}}^* p_t(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*) \ln p_t(\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*)$$

Sketch of the proof: Information flow

3. Define environment's entropy change (due to viscous & thermal noise)

$$\dot{S}^{\text{env}} := \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{\rho V}{2k_{\text{B}}T} \left\langle \hat{\mathbf{u}}^* \circ \left[\nu k^2 \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{\mathbf{k}}^* - \sqrt{\frac{2\nu k^2 k_{\text{B}}T}{\rho}} \hat{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_{\mathbf{k}} \right] + \text{c.c.} \right\rangle$$

4. Show the second law of stochastic thermodynamics

$$\dot{\sigma} := \frac{d}{dt} S[\hat{\mathbf{u}}, \hat{\mathbf{u}}^*] + \dot{S}^{\text{env}} \geq 0$$

5. Derive the second law of information thermodynamics

$$\sum_{\mathbf{k} \in \mathcal{K}^+, k > K} \dot{\sigma}_{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{d}{dt} S[\mathbf{U}_K^>] + \dot{S}_{\text{env}}^> \geq I_K^>$$

where $d_t S[\mathbf{U}_K^>] = 0$ (NESS) & $\dot{S}_{\text{env}}^> \rightarrow \rho V \varepsilon / k_{\text{B}}T$ as $K/k_{\nu} \rightarrow 0$.

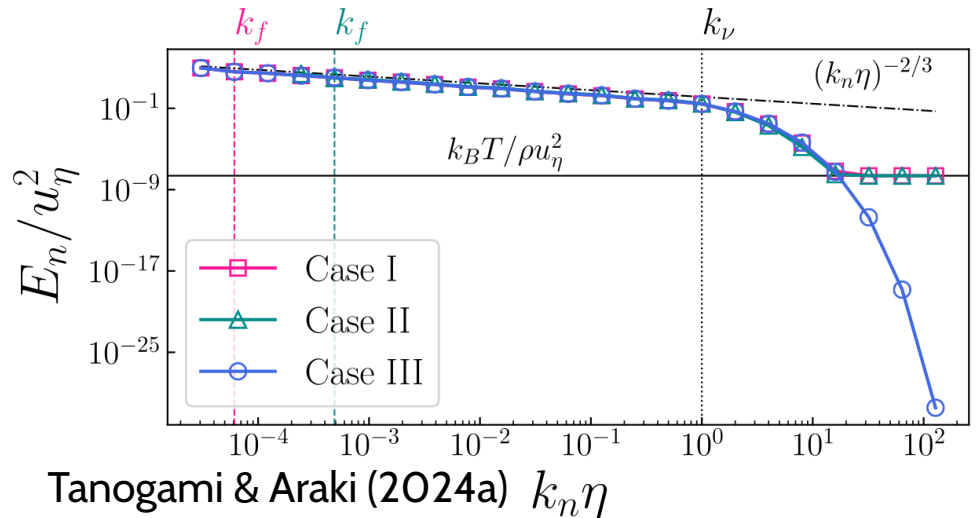
Fluctuating Sabra shell model (FSS model)

One-dimensional caricature of the fluctuating NS eqs.

$$\frac{\partial u_n}{\partial t} = B_n(u, u^*) - \nu k_n^2 u_n + f_n + \sqrt{\frac{2\nu k^2 k_B T}{\rho}} \xi_k,$$

$$B_n(u, u^*) = i \left(k_{n+1} u_{n+2} u_{n+1}^* - \frac{1}{2} k_n u_{n+1} u_{n-1}^* + \frac{1}{2} k_{n-1} u_{n-1} u_{n-2} \right)$$

- u_n : 1D “velocity” at wavenumber k_n
- u_n^* : complex conjugate of u_n
- $k_n = k_0 2^n$: wavenumber



Information flow and turbulence fluctuations

For FSS model,

Assumption

PDF of the Kolmogorov multiplier

$$z_n := |u_n / u_{n-1}| e^{i\Delta_n}$$

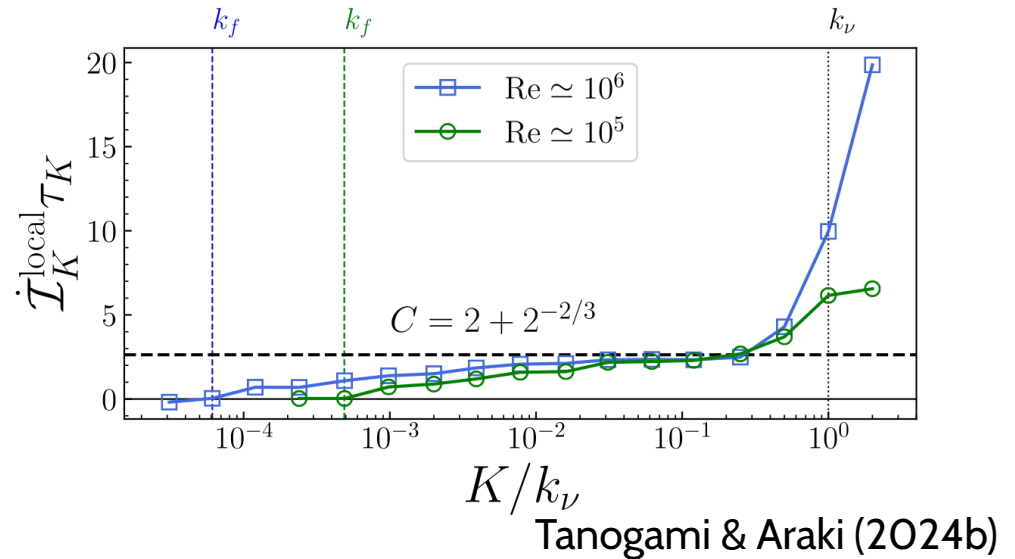
is universal and independent of n .

$$\Delta_n := \arg u_n - \arg u_{n-1} - \arg u_{n-2}$$

Statement

$$\dot{I}_K^> \leq C_p K \left\langle |u_{n_K}|^p \right\rangle^{\frac{1}{p}} \text{ for } p \geq 1$$

where C_p is a universal constant.



Summary 9 Information flow is bounded by turbulence fluctuations.

(Tanogami & Araki 2024b)

Sketch of the proof: Information flow & velocity fluctuations

1. Consider the Fokker–Planck equation corresponding to the large-scale modes $\mathbf{U}_K^< := \{u_n, u_n^* \mid 0 \leq n \leq n_K\}$ of the FSS model

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} p_t(\mathbf{U}_K^<) = \sum_{n=0}^N \left[-\frac{\partial}{\partial u_n} \bar{J}_n(\mathbf{U}_K^<) - \text{c.c.} \right],$$

$$\bar{J}_n(\mathbf{U}_K^<) := [\bar{B}_n(\mathbf{U}_K^<) + f_n] p_t(\mathbf{U}_K^<),$$

$$\bar{B}_n(\mathbf{U}_K^<) := \int d\mathbf{U}_K^> B_n(u, u^*) p_t(\mathbf{U}_K^> | \mathbf{U}_K^<).$$

2. Impose assumption: PDF of the Kolmogorov multiplier

$$z_n := |u_n / u_{n-1}| e^{i\Delta_n}$$

is universal and independent of $n \rightarrow$ FP eq. is closed with $\mathbf{U}_K^<$.

Sketch of the proof: Information flow & velocity fluctuations

3. Show the equivalence between scale-to-scale information flow $\dot{I}_K^>$ and phase-space contraction rate

$$\dot{I}_K^> = - \left\langle \sum_{n=0}^{n_K} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u_n} \overline{B}_n(\mathbf{U}_K^<) \right) + \text{c.c.} \right\rangle \text{ for } k_f \ll K \ll k_\nu.$$

4. Show that $\dot{I}_K^>$ is upper bounded by the velocity structure function

$$\dot{I}_K^> \leq C_p K \left\langle |u_{n_K}|^p \right\rangle^{1/p} \text{ for } p \geq 1 \text{ by using}$$

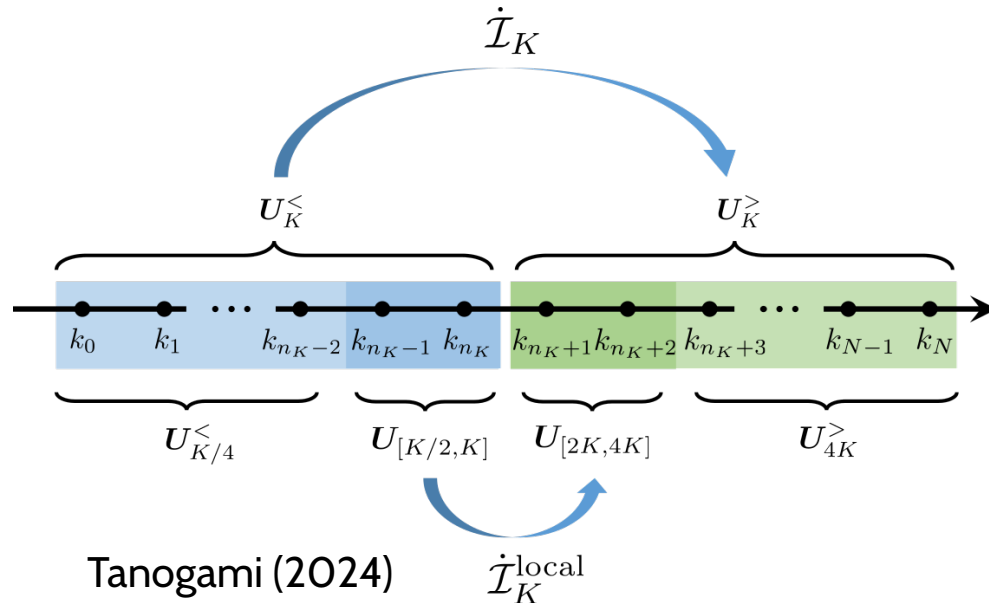
- Kolmogorov multiplier z_n
- Divergence of the “effective” nonlinear term $\overline{B}_n(\mathbf{U}_K^<)$
- Hölder inequality $\langle fg \rangle \leq \langle f^p \rangle^{1/p} \langle g^q \rangle^{1/q}$ with $1/p + 1/q = 1$

Scale locality of information flow

Assumption: For FSS model,

Scale-local information flow

$$\dot{I}_K^{>, \text{local}} := \lim_{dt \searrow 0} \frac{I[U_{[K/2, K]}^<(t) : U_{[2K, 4K]}^>(t + dt)] - I[U_{[K/2, K]}^<(t) : U_{[2K, 4K]}^>(t)]}{dt}$$



Summary 10 Information flow is local in scale:

$$\dot{I}_K^{>} \approx \dot{I}_K^{>, \text{local}}.$$

(Tanogami 2024)

Sketch of the proof: Scale locality

1. Decompose the information flow in scale local/nonlocal parts:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{I}_K^{\geq} &= \dot{I}_K^{\geq, \text{local}} + \dot{I}_K^{\geq, \text{nonlocal}} \\ &= \dot{I}_{[2K, 4K]} \left[\mathbf{U}_{[K/2, K]} : \mathbf{U}_{[2K, 4K]} \right] \\ &\quad + \dot{I}_{[2K, 4K]} \left[\mathbf{U}_{K/4}^{\leq} : \mathbf{U}_{[2K, 4K]} \mid \mathbf{U}_{[K/2, K]} \right] - \dot{I}_K^{\leq} \left[\mathbf{U}_K^{\leq} : \mathbf{U}_{4K}^{\geq} \mid \mathbf{U}_{[2K, 4K]} \right]\end{aligned}$$

2. Show **ultraviolet** locality (no direct influence from **high**-wavenumber modes)

$$\dot{I}_K^{\leq} \left[\mathbf{U}_K^{\leq} : \mathbf{U}_{4K}^{\geq} \mid \mathbf{U}_{[2K, 4K]} \right] = 0.$$

3. Show **infrared** locality (no direct influence from **low**-wavenumber modes)

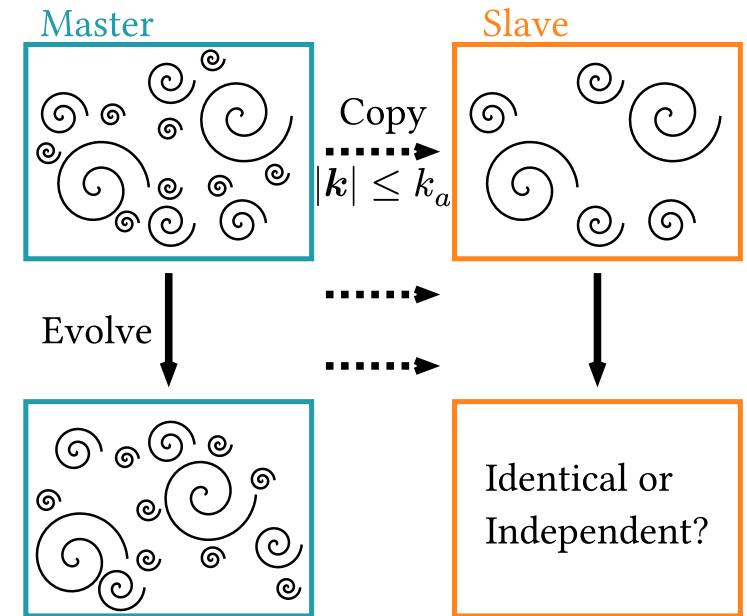
$$\dot{I}_{[2K, 4K]} \left[\mathbf{U}_{K/4}^{\leq} : \mathbf{U}_{[2K, 4K]} \mid \mathbf{U}_{[K/2, K]} \right] = 0$$

with the Kolmogorov multiplier's assumption.

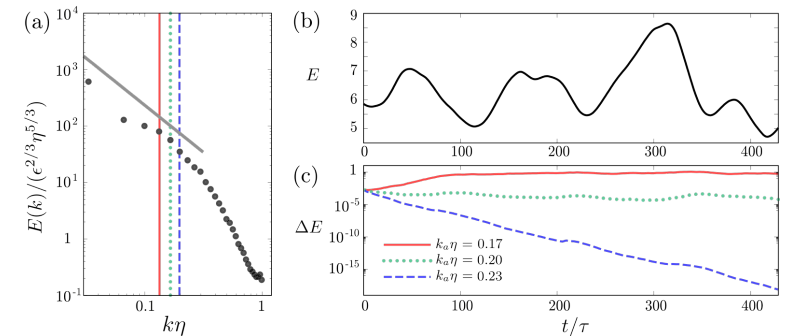
Ideas for Future Research

Data assimilation (DA) and chaos synchronisation

- **Master:** $\partial_t \mathbf{u}^m(\mathbf{x}, t) = \text{Navier-Stokes eq.}$
- **Slave:** $\partial_t \mathbf{u}^s(\mathbf{x}, t) = \text{Navier-Stokes eq.}$
 - $\hat{\mathbf{u}}^s := \sum_{|\mathbf{k}| \leq k_a} \hat{\mathbf{u}}^m(\mathbf{k}, t) e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{x}}$
- $\mathbf{u}^s$ synchronises with $\mathbf{u}^m$ for $k_a \eta > 0.2$
 η : Kolmogorov scale
(Inubushi et al. 2023, Yoshida et al. 2005)



Q. 3 Can we understand the DA threshold $k\eta = 0.2$ by means of “information flow”?



Butterfly effect and spontaneous stochasticity

Butterfly effect (sensitivity on initial condition)

...slightly differing initial states can evolve into considerably different states.

— Lorenz EN. 1963. Deterministic nonperiodic flow. *Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences*. 20(2):130–41

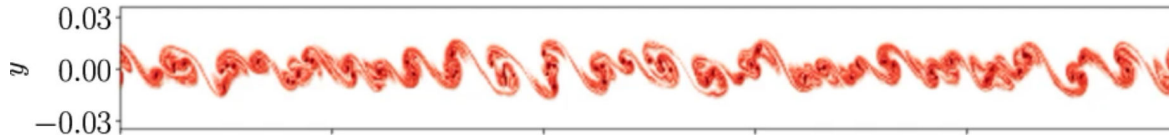
Spontaneous stochasticity (“real” butterfly effect)

... two states of the system differing initially by a small “observational error” will evolve into two states differing as greatly as randomly chosen states of the system within a finite time interval, which **cannot be lengthened by reducing the amplitude of the initial error.**

— Lorenz EN. 1969. The predictability of a flow which possesses many scales of motion. *Tellus*. 21(3):289–307

Spontaneous stochasticity in turbulence

Numerical simulation of shear layer



$$\omega_1 := U\delta(y), \quad \omega_2 := [1 + \varepsilon\eta(x)]U\delta(y)$$

$\varepsilon \ll 1$: small parameter, $\eta(x)$: perturbation profile

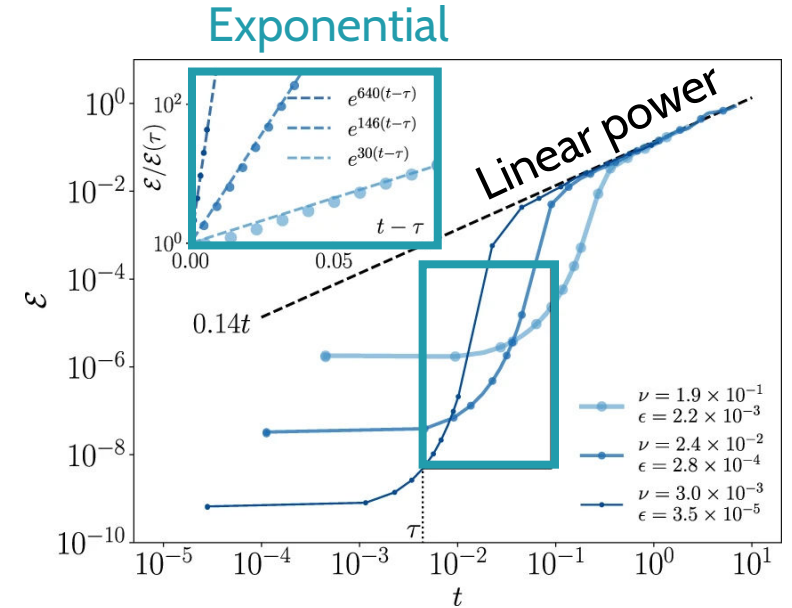
Time series of error energy $\mathcal{E} := \|u_1 - u_2\|$

1. ε -dependent exponential divergence

- Ruelle regime (Ruelle 1979)

2. Universal linear growth for $t > \mathcal{O}(10^0)$ independent of initial error

- Lorenz–Kraichnan–Leith regime



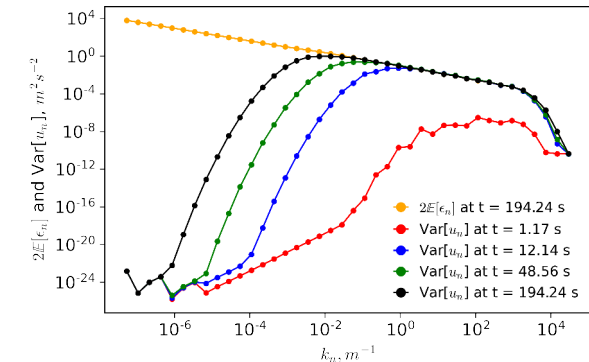
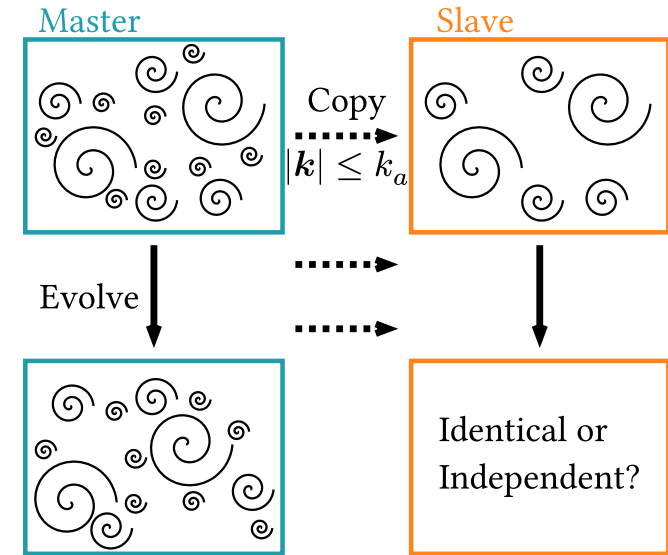
Thalabard S, Bec J, Mailybaev AA. 2020. From the butterfly effect to spontaneous stochasticity in singular shear flows. *Communications Physics*. 3(1):122

References: Bandak
(2023), Palmer (2024)

Intrinsic limit of data assimilation in fluctuating hydrodynamics

- Successful DA threshold: $k_a \eta > 0.2$
(Inubushi et al. 2023, Yoshida et al. 2005)
- Thermal fluctuations reach maximum scale in finite time (Bandak et al. 2024)
- How do **deterministic** and **fluctuating** NS differ for DA?
- How do spontaneous stochasticity and DA relate?

Q. 4 Can we seek **universal prediction boundary** of DA from fluctuating hydrodynamics?



Other research ideas on “Information hydrodynamics”

Q. 5 Information flow in 2D turbulence (Nakano et al. 2025)

Q. 6 Information-thermodynamic nature of thermal-noise-driven laminar-turbulent transition (Li et al. 2020)

Q. 7 Validation of the fluctuation theorem in fluctuating Navier-Stokes equations (Yao et al. 2023)

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Appendix

Turbulence model which preserves information

Reynolds stress model

$$\tau_{ij} = C_1(t) f_1(\mathbf{x}, t) \Delta^2 |\mathbf{S}| S_{ij} + C_4(t) f_4(\mathbf{x}, t) \Delta^2 (S_{ik} \Omega_{kj} - \Omega_{ik} S_{kj})$$

where $\mathbf{S} := (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^\top)/2$, $\mathbf{\Omega} := (\nabla \mathbf{u} - \nabla \mathbf{u}^\top)/2$, Δ : grid resolution

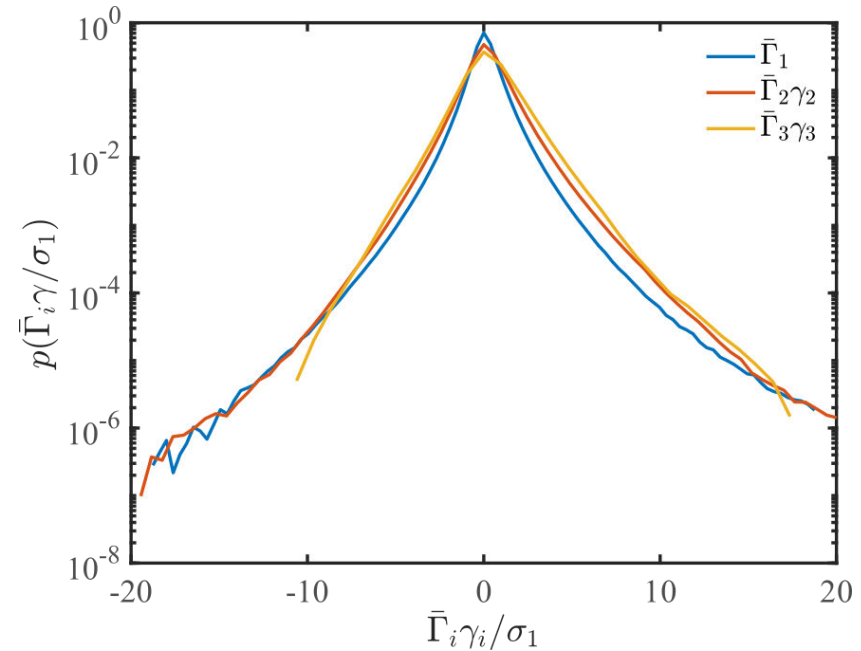
Energy flux

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\Gamma} &:= (\overline{u_i u_j} - \overline{u_i} \overline{u_j}) \bar{S}_{ij} \\ &\quad - 2\nu \bar{S}_{ij} \bar{S}_{ij} + \tau_{ij} \bar{S}_{ij} \end{aligned}$$

Modeling assumption

$$p(\bar{\Gamma}_1) \approx p(\bar{\Gamma}_2 \gamma) / \gamma$$

with scale factor $\gamma := (\Delta_1 / \Delta_2)^{2/3}$



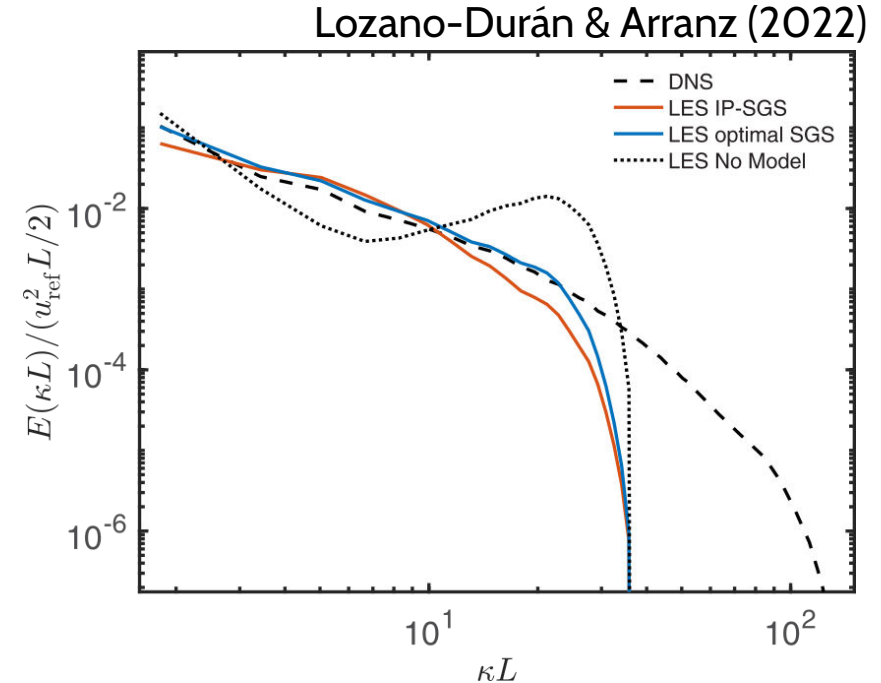
Lozano-Durán & Arranz (2022)

Information-Preserving SubGrid-Scale (IP-SGS) model

- “Similar PDF” = minimum Kullback–Leibler divergence
- To estimate $C_i(t)$ & $f_i(\mathbf{x}, t)$, find $C_i, f_i = \arg \min_{C_i, f_i} \text{KL}(\bar{\Gamma}_1 \parallel \bar{\Gamma}_2 \gamma)$

Deficits of IP-SGS

- A priori parameter α for $\gamma := (\Delta_2/\Delta_1)^\alpha$ exists
- No consideration of the near-wall behaviour



Kullback–Leibler divergence

$$\text{KL}(P \parallel Q) := \int dx p(x) \ln \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

Local equilibrium hypothesis in terms of information theory

Instead of PDF similarity, we consider

Local equilibrium hypothesis (LEH)

Instantaneous local balance of energy fluxes at different scales:

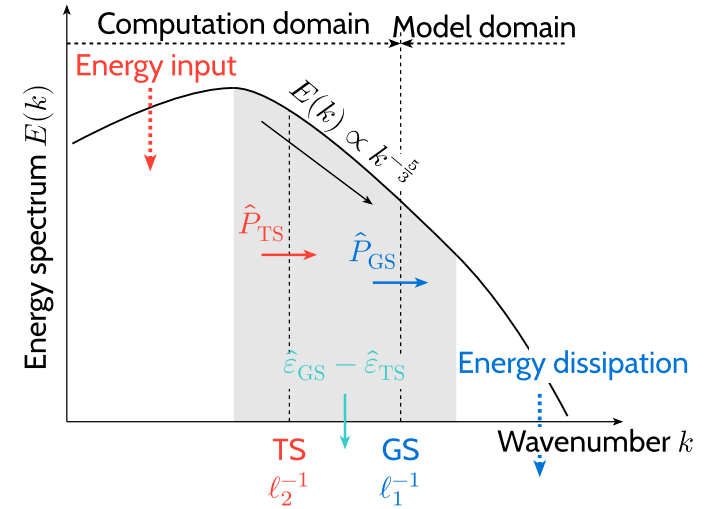
$$\langle P_{\text{TS}} + \varepsilon_{\text{TS}} \rangle_v \approx \langle P_{\text{GS}} + \varepsilon_{\text{GS}} \rangle_v$$

GS: Grid Scale at ℓ_1 , TS: Test scale at ℓ_2 , v : small domain

Information-theoretic redifinition of LEH

“Similar PDF” = maximum mutual information

$$\max I[P_{\text{TS}} + \varepsilon_{\text{TS}} : P_{\text{GS}} + \varepsilon_{\text{GS}}]$$



Mutual information

$$I[P : Q] := \iint dx dy p(x) \ln \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)q(y)}$$

Detailed procedure of IP-CSM

Spatio-time dependent coefficient

$$f_1(\boldsymbol{x}, t) = |F_{\text{CS}}|^{\frac{3}{2}}, f_4(\boldsymbol{x}, t) = |F_{\text{CS}}|^2$$

→ applicable to wall-bounded flow

Time-dependent parameter

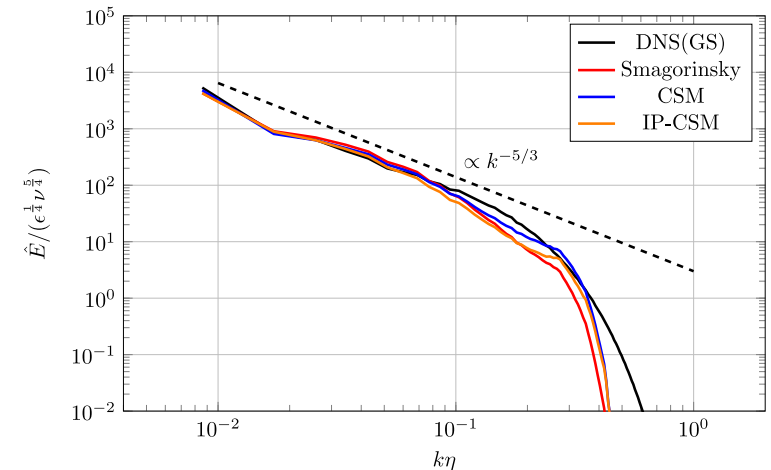
$$C_1, C_4 = \arg \max_{C_1, C_4} I[\Gamma_1 : \Gamma_2(C_1, C_4)].$$

Summary 11 IP-CSM attains similar performance against existing SGS models.

Coherent structure

function (Kobayashi 2005)

$$F_{\text{CS}} := \frac{(\Omega_{ij}\Omega_{ij} - S_{ij}S_{ij})/2}{(\Omega_{ij}\Omega_{ij} + S_{ij}S_{ij})/2}$$



Detailed procedure of IP-CSM

1. Compute Γ_1 from GS quantities and $\Gamma_2(C_1, C_4)$ using model quantities

$$\Gamma_1 = \int_v - \left(\overline{u_i^{\ell_1} u_j^{\ell_1}}^{\ell_2} - \overline{u_i^{\ell_1}}^{\ell_2} \overline{u_j^{\ell_1}}^{\ell_2} \right) \overline{S_{ij}}^{\ell_2} + \varepsilon_{\text{TS}} \, dv$$

$$\Gamma_2(C_1, C_4) = \int_v \boxed{\tau_{ij}^{\ell_1 \text{ mod}}}^{\ell_2} \overline{S_{ij}}^{\ell_2} - \overline{\tau_{ij}^{\ell_1 \text{ mod}}}^{\ell_2} \overline{S_{ij}}^{\ell_2} + \varepsilon_{\text{GS}} \, dv$$

2. Evaluate time-dependent $C_{i(t)}$ using gradient descent method

$$\boxed{C_1, C_4} = \arg \max_{C_1, C_4} I(\boxed{\Gamma_1 : \Gamma_2})$$

3. Estimate the SGS stress $\rightarrow$ evolve LES

$$\boxed{\tau_{ij}^{\Delta \text{ mod}}} = \boxed{C_1} |F_{\text{CS}}|^{\frac{3}{2}} \Delta^2 |\mathcal{S}| S_{ij} + \boxed{C_4} |F_{\text{CS}}|^2 \Delta^2 (S_{ik} \Omega_{kj} - \Omega_{ik} S_{kj})$$