

# Physical Transport of Spectral Properties in 2D Turbulence 

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# Flow Structures 

## Fluid flows are coherent in space and time.

## Nonlinearities generate structure on many scales.



G.L. Brown \& A. Roshko, J. Fluid Mech. (1974)

## Pattern Formation





## Whatare the mportant flow structures?

## How are structures comected to dynamics?

## Can a decompostion into stuctures be predictive?

Defining "Dynamics"
$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial t}+\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{u}=-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p+\nu \nabla^{2} \boldsymbol{u}$
$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial t}+\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{u}=-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p+\nu \nabla^{2} \boldsymbol{u}$
Triad Interactions:
Generate new length scales

## Defining "Dynamics"

$$
\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial t}+\boldsymbol{u} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{u}=-\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p+\nu \nabla^{2} \boldsymbol{u}
$$

Triad Interactions:
Generate new length scales

Energy injection
Spectral Transfer


Electric Current



## Measure velocity field with PTV

## $50 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ particles, $\sim 35 \mathrm{k}$ per frame

## Advect virtual particles through field

NTO, H. Xu, \& E. Bodenschatz, Exp. Fluids (2006)

NTO, P.J.J. O'Malley, \& J.P. Gollub, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2008)
S.T. Merrifield, D.H. Kelley, \& NTO, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2010)

## Field Conditioning

## Ensure velocity field is 2D by projecting onto basis modes

Define three sets of modes: $\Psi$ : streamfunction
$\theta$ : boundary Ф: potential


Lekien et al., J. Geophys. Res. (2004) D.H. Kelley \& NTO, Phys. Fluids (2011)

## Field Conditioning


D.H. Kelley \& NTO, Phys. Fluids (2011)

## 2D Turbulence



## G. Boffetta, J. Fluid Mech. (2007)

## Spatially Resolved Spectral Fluxes

## Convolve velocity field with spectral low pass filter:

$$
\boldsymbol{u}^{(r)}=\int G^{(r)}\left(\boldsymbol{x}-\boldsymbol{x}^{\prime}\right) \boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}) \mathrm{d} \boldsymbol{x}^{\prime}
$$

## Filtered at $\mathbf{r}=\mathbf{2} \mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{f}}$

## Full Field



## Write equation of motion for filtered energy:

$$
\frac{\partial E^{(r)}}{\partial t}=-\frac{\partial J_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{i}}-\nu \frac{\partial u_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{j}} \frac{\partial u_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{j}}-\Pi^{(r)}
$$

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## Change in energy at a point

## Write equation of motion for filtered energy:



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$$

Change in Spatial energy at transport dissipation a point

Viscous
dissipation


Coupling to other scales

## Write equation of motion for filtered energy:

$\frac{\partial E^{(r)}}{\partial t}=-\frac{\partial J_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{i}}-\nu \frac{\partial u_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{j}} \frac{\partial u_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{j}}-\Pi^{(r)}$
$\begin{array}{lcc}\text { Change in } & \text { Spatial } & \text { Viscous } \\ \text { energy at } & \text { transport } & \text { dissipation }\end{array}$ a point
Coupling to other scales

$$
\Pi^{(r)}=-\left[\left(u_{i} u_{j}\right)^{(r)}-u_{i}^{(r)} u_{j}^{(r)}\right] \frac{\partial u_{i}^{(r)}}{\partial x_{j}}
$$

G.L. Eyink, J. Stat. Phys. (1995)
M.K. Rivera et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2003)




Energy


Enstrophy

## Spectral Energy Flux

## $r / L_{f}=0.50$

5 cm

## Spectral transfer is not constant in time!

## How does is change? What are its dynamics?

## Spectral Energy Flux Time Evolution

## Spectral Energy Flux Time Evolution

## 5 cm



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## Energy Flux Correlations


D.H. Kelley \& NTO, Phys. Fluids (2011)


## Spatial Dependence of Integral Times

|  | $\tau_{L} / T_{L}$ |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0.5 | 1 | 1.5 | 2 | 2.5 |
|  | $\vdots$ | $i$ | $i$ | $i$ |  |



## Aside: Lagrangian Coherent Structures


(Right) Cauchy-Green strain tensor: $C_{i j}=\frac{\partial \Phi_{k}}{\partial x_{i}} \frac{\partial \Phi_{k}}{\partial x_{j}}$

$$
\text { FTLE: } \quad \sigma\left(\vec{x}, t_{0}, \Delta t\right)=\frac{1}{|T|} \ln \sqrt{\lambda_{\max }\left(C_{i j}\right)}
$$

G. Haller \& G. Yuan, Physica D (2000)
G.A. Voth et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. (2002)
S. Shadden, F. Lekien, \& J. Marsden, Physica D (2005)


## LCS Organize Mixing



## Lagrangian Coherent Structures



FTLE Field



## $\int_{t}^{t+\tau} \Pi^{(r)}\left(t^{\prime}\right) \mathcal{D}\left(t^{\prime}\right)$

$$
\int_{t}^{t+\tau} \Pi^{(r)}\left(t^{\prime}\right) \mathcal{D}\left(t^{\prime}\right)
$$



Spatial Averages


## Spatiotemporal Averages













## Summary

Spectral fluxes have nontrivial spatiotemporal structure

Spectral transport couples to spatial transport

Appropriate Lagrangian averages reveal coherent dynamics

LCS may separate dynamically distinct regions

## http://leviathan.eng.yale.edu

