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Complex networks approach to wall-bounded turbulence

Research group @ Politecnico di Torino (Italy)



Group members:

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Collaborations:

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Introduction



Why wall-turbulence?

- **Technological importance** \geq
- **Energetics Optimization** \geq
- Fluid transport >
- **Environmental issues** \geq

"A 5% reduction of the transportation <u>energy loss</u> in the US would have an environmental impact comparable to a doubling of wind energy production." *





From turbulence data to complex networks





 $\mathbf{2}$

 t_i

1

3

 $\mathbf{4}$

Network hubs \leftrightarrow peaks

 $\mathbf{2}$

3



Lacasa, L., et al. *PNAS* 105.13 (2008): 4972-4975.

From time-series to networks: Results channel flow

 $u(x_0, y, z, t_0)$





- Highlight occurrence of peaks (extreme events)
- Highlight the presence of irregularities (small fluctuations)
- The metric behaviours reveal the relative intensity of peaks and irregularities

Iacobello, G., Scarsoglio, S., & Ridolfi, L. (2018). Physics Letters A, 382(1), 1-11.



Passive scalar plume in a turbulent boundary layer (experimental data)



near field

far field

Iacobello, G. et al. (**2019**). **Physical Review Fluids**, 4(10), 104501.

From time-series to networks: Results plume + TBL

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From time-series to networks: Results plume + TBL

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Passive scalar plume in a turbulent boundary layer (experimental data)



Previous findings:

Smaller source size \rightarrow stronger meandering motion (near field) \rightarrow higher intermittency.

Network metrics – Near field:

- \blacktriangleright Decreasing <u>occurrence</u> of extreme events for smaller source sizes;
- \succ Increasing relative <u>intensity</u> of extreme events (outliers) for smaller source sizes.

Iacobello, G. et al. (**2019**). **Physical Review Fluids**, 4(10), 104501.

From turbulence data to complex networks



From spatio-temporal data to networks

- **D**NS of a fully developed turbulent channel flow
- $\Box \qquad Re_{\tau} = 180$
- \Box Streamwise velocity, u



 \gg What is the spatial organization of <u>high correlation</u> values? \ll

Spatial correlation-network:

- > Nodes: fixed spatial positions (~ 10^6)
- \succ Links: high *u*-based correlation coefficients,

 $|C_{i,j}| > threshold$



Iacobello G., Scarsoglio, S., Kuerten, J. G. M., & Ridolfi,	Iacobello G., (2020
L. (2018). Physical Review E, 98(1), 013107.	PhD Thesis

Spatial network: Results



Spatial network: Results



Spatial network: Results





Teleconnections:

long-distance high-correlation links \rightarrow Imprint of coherent high- and low-speed streaks

Spatial network: Results

 $y^+ = 180, T^+ = 225$



No teleconnections for nodes far from the walls

From turbulence data to complex networks



From particle trajectories to networks

Dispersion of fluid particles in a turbulent channel flow:

DNS: • $Re_{\tau} = 950$ • $T^+ = 15200 \ (\Delta t^+ = 4.75)$ Fluid particles (t = 0): $N_y \times N_z = 100 \times 100$



From particle trajectories to networks

Dispersion of fluid particles in a turbulent channel flow:

DNS:

$$Re_{\tau} = 950$$

 $T^{+} = 15200 \ (\Delta t^{+} = 4.75)$
Fluid particles $(t = 0)$:
 $N_{y} \times N_{z} = 100 \times 100$



Geometrical representation of <u>turbulence</u> <u>mixing</u> via complex networks

From particle trajectories to networks

Lagrangian network approach





Iacobello G., Scarsoglio S., Kuerten



Link weight: number of connections between particles

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From particle trajectories to networks: Lagrangian approach 13/15



Conclusions

- ✓ Highlight spatio-temporal features of the flow that would be difficult to capture by means of other techniques
 - Time-series:
 - □ Highlight occurrence and (relative) intensity of **extreme events**.
 - Spatial networks:
 - Appearance of **teleconnections** between near wall regions along all directions.
 - $\label{eq:high-correlation} \text{High-correlation spatial information is retained} \rightarrow \text{lost in two-point average correlation.}$
 - Particle trajectory-based networks:
 - $\blacktriangleright \quad \text{Identify characteristic regimes of particle dynamics: Advection} \rightarrow \text{transition} \rightarrow \text{mixing.}$
 - ▶ Lagrangian transport and mixing in wall-turbulence.
- ✓ Future outlooks
 - Versatile framework for fluid applications: inhomogeneous, multiphase flows, biomedical applications
 E.g.: hemodynamics → see group {L. Ridolfi, S. Scarsoglio, U. Morbiducci} @ Politecnico di Torino
 - Investigate different flow quantities: velocity, energy, vorticity, ...
 - **Higher-order network formulations:** multilayer, simplicial complexes, ...



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www.polito.it/fluidlab/

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