Unstable manifolds of recurrent flows in pipe flow

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Motivation



Lorenz system:

 $\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= \sigma(y-x), \\ \dot{y} &= \rho x - y - xz, \\ \dot{z} &= xy - bz, \end{aligned}$

Unstable manifolds *shape* the attractor.

Motivation

Plane Couette flow (Gibson, Halcrow, Cvitanović (2008))



FIGURE 5. A state space portrait of plane Couette flow for Re = 400 and $[L_x, L_y, L_z] = [2\pi/1.14, 2, 4\pi/5]$, projected from 61506 dimensions to 2. The labeled points are exact equilibrium (steady-state) solutions of the Navier-Stokes equation (see §3); the curved trajectories are fully-resolved time-dependent numerical integrations of Navier-Stokes projected onto the (eq., ee) plane defined by $(\underline{G}3)$, W_{12} , the 1*d* unstable manifold of the 'lower-branch' equilibrium u_{Ln} , and $\tau_x W_{12}^{(1,2)}$, at 2*d* portion of the unstable manifold of the 'nower-branch' equilibrium u_{Ln} , and $\tau_x W_{12}^{(1,2)}$, at 2*d* portion of the unstable manifold of the 'nower-branch' equilibrium u_{Ln} , and $\tau_x W_{12}^{(1,2)}$, at 2*d* portion of the unstable manifold of the 'nower-branch' equilibrium u_{Ln} , and $\tau_x W_{12}^{(1,2)}$, the 1*d* unstable manifolds of u_{C} and $\tau_x U_{\text{Ln}}$ indicate $W_{12}^{(1,2)}$ and $\tau_x U_{12}$ indicate $W_{12}^{(1,2)}$ and $\tau_x U_{12}$ indicate $W_{12}^{(1,2)}$ and $\tau_x U_{12}$ indicate $W_{12}^{(1,2)}$ and $\tau_x U_{13}$ is the 2*d* unstable manifolds of u_{Ln} and u_{14} and $\tau_x U_{12}$ indicate $W_{12}^{(1,2)}$ and $\tau_x U_{13}$ is the 2*d* unstable manifolds of u_{Ln} and u_{14} and u_{15} and u_{15} and u_{16} and u_{18} . The plane of the projection is defined in terms of the equilibrium solutions; it is dynamically invariant and independent of the numerical representation. See §1.2 and §4.2 and following the projection and the dynamics.

The problem

- Continuous symmetries \rightarrow *relative* invariant solutions
- Can be avoided in invariant subspaces of plane Couette flow
- Cannot be avoided in pressure-driven flows (pipes, channels)

Relative equilibria and relative periodic orbits





Symmetry reduction





Pipe flow

• Navier-Stokes equations for fluctuations around base flow:

$$\mathbf{u}_{\tau} + \mathbf{u}_{HP} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_{HP} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + 32 \frac{\beta}{Re} \mathbf{\hat{z}} + \frac{1}{Re} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

- $\beta = \beta(\tau)$ ensures constant-flux
- Incompressibility: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$
- No-slip on the wall: $\mathbf{u}(z, \theta, r = D/2) = 0$
- Periodic in axial and azimuthal directions: $\mathbf{u}(z, \theta, r) = \mathbf{u}(z + L, \theta, r)$ and $\mathbf{u}(z, \theta, r) = \mathbf{u}(z, \theta + 2\pi, r)$

Navier-Stokes equations along with incompressibility and boundary conditions induces a finite-time flow

$$\mathbf{x}(\tau)=f^{\tau}(\mathbf{x}(\mathbf{0})),$$

where x is the state space vector corresponding to a point in the space of allowable velocity fields.

Symmetries

- Translation: $g_z(l)\mathbf{u}(z,r,\theta) = \mathbf{u}(z-l,r,\theta)$
- Rotation:
- Reflection:

$$g_{z}(l)\mathbf{u}(z, r, \theta) = \mathbf{u}(z - l, r, \theta)$$

$$g_{\theta}(\phi)\mathbf{u}(z, r, \theta) = \mathbf{u}(z, r, \theta - \phi)$$

$$\sigma[u, v, w](z, r, \theta) = [u, v, -w](z, r, -\theta)$$

• Equivariance under $SO(2)_z \times O(2)_{\theta}$:

$$G = \{g_z(I), g_\theta(\phi), \sigma\}$$

• In state space:

$$gf^{ au}(x) = f^{ au}(gx)$$
, where $g \in G$

• Each solution x has infinitely many "symmetry copies" on its "group orbit":

$$\mathcal{M}_{gx} = \{g \, x \, | \, \forall g \in G\}$$

 Symmetry reduction is a coordinate transformation x → x̂ such that each group orbit M_{gx} is represented by a single point x̂.

SO(2) symmetry reduction: First Fourier mode slice

Project the solution $x(\tau)$ onto a subspace where group orbits are circular, then fix the polar angle on this projection:



Budanur et al. (2015) PRL, Willis, Short, Cvitanović (2016) PRE

Why call it a slice?

"Polar" coordinate transformation defines a codimension-1 "slice hyperplane" in state space:

$$\langle \hat{x}(\tau) - \hat{x}', t_z'
angle = 0, \quad \langle t_z(\hat{x}), t_z'
angle > 0$$



- $t_z(\hat{x}) = T_z \hat{x}$: Group tangent
- T_z : Generator of infinitesimal translations i.e. $g_z(l) = e^{lT_z}$
- $t'_z = t_z(\hat{x}')$: Slice tangent

Projecting perturbations

Small perturbations δx to x can be brought to the slice by the transformation

$$\delta \hat{x} = \left(1 - \frac{t_z(\hat{x}) \otimes t'_z}{\langle t_z(\hat{x}), t'_z \rangle}\right) g_z(-l) \delta x$$



Projection operator

$$H(x) = 1 - rac{t_z(\hat{x}) \otimes t'_z}{\langle t_z(\hat{x}), t'_z
angle}$$

allows us to project tangent space onto the slice.

Example: If $\dot{x} = v(x) = \lim_{\delta \tau \to 0} f^{\delta \tau}(x) / \delta \tau$ then

$$\dot{\hat{x}} = \hat{v}(\hat{x}) = v(\hat{x}) - rac{\langle t_z', \, v(\hat{x})
angle}{\langle t_z(\hat{x}), \, t_z'
angle} t_z(\hat{x})$$

is the symmetry reduced state space velocity.

By acting with H(x), we are able to bring stability eigenvectors of traveling waves and Floquet vectors of relative periodic orbits to the slice.

Unstable manifolds of traveling waves

- "Asymmetric" traveling wave, S1
- Invariant under "shift-and-reflect"

$$x_{S1} = \sigma g_z (L/2) x_{S1}$$

- Lies on laminar-turbulent boundary
- Has two real unstable $(\mu > 0)$ stability eigenvalues

Here, computed at Re = 3000 for a pipe of length L = 5D.

(Pringle & Kerswell 2007, Mellibovsky & Meseguer 2007)





$$\hat{x}_{\phi}(\tau=0) = \hat{x}_{\mathcal{S}1} + \epsilon \left(rac{\hat{V}_1}{\mu_1} \cos \phi + rac{\hat{V}_2}{\mu_2} \sin \phi
ight), \quad e_{1,2} = \langle \hat{x}_{\phi}(\tau), \ \hat{V}_{1,2}
angle$$



$$\hat{x}_{\phi}(\tau=0) = \hat{x}_{\mathcal{S}1} + \epsilon \left(\frac{\hat{V}_1}{\mu_1} \cos \phi + \frac{\hat{V}_2}{\mu_2} \sin \phi \right) , \quad e_{1,2} = \langle \hat{x}_{\phi}(\tau), \ \hat{V}_{1,2} \rangle$$







Recurrences on the unstable manifold



A new traveling wave on the "edge"

Initial condition:



Converged solution:





 $x(0) = x_{New} \pm \epsilon V_5$

"Almost" complete picture



"Destabilizing" turbulence



Kühnen et al. (2017) to appear

Too much turbulence kills turbulence

 $SO(2)_z \times SO(2)_{\theta}$ -reduced manifold:



Too much turbulence kills turbulence









Localized relative periodic orbits

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Streamwise-Localized Solutions at the Onset of Turbulence in Pipe Flow

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> Although the equations governing fluid flow are well known, there are no analytical expressions that describe the complexity of turbulent motion. A recent proposition is that in analogy to low dimensional chaotic systems, turbulence is organized around unstable solutions of the governing equations which provide the building blocks of the disordered dynamics. We report the discovery of periodic solutions which just like intermittent turbulence are spatially localized and show that turbulent transients arise from one such solution branch.





Poincaré section



Unstable manifold of the lower branch at Re=1700



Heteroclinic connection



UB:

$$n = 0 (LB)$$
:



n = 9 (closest approach):



On the same scale



Puff formation from a random initial perturbation



Flow structures







n = 4 (closest approach):







Conclusions

- We computed and visualized unstable manifolds of traveling waves and relative periodic orbits
- We found a new traveling wave on the laminar-turbulent boundary of a small pipe
- We found strong numerical evidence of a heteroclinic connection between localized relative periodic solutions of pipe flow

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Complex conjugate eigenvalues



$$\hat{x}(0) = \hat{x}_{TW} + \epsilon e^{rac{2\pi\mu}{\omega}\delta} \operatorname{Re} \hat{V}_1, \quad \delta = (0,1]$$

Projection



$$\delta \tilde{x} = \left(1 - \frac{\partial_{\theta} f^{\theta}(x)|_{\theta=\phi} \otimes \nabla U(\tilde{x})}{\langle \partial_{\theta} f^{\theta}(x)|_{\theta=\phi}, \nabla U(\tilde{x}) \rangle}\right) \nabla f^{\phi}(x) \delta x$$