# **Forecasting Turbulence: Experiments, Theory, and Numerics**

Balachandra Suri, Ravi Pallantla, Michael Krygier, Christopher J. Crowley, Logan Kageorge, \*Jeffrey Tithof, \*\*Daniel Borrero-Echeverry, \*\*Radford Mitchell, Jr Roman O. Grigoriev, Michael F. Schatz

> Georgia Tech \*University of Rochester \*\*Willamette University \*\*\*Northern Arizona University

Supported by: ARO (W911NF-15-1-047, W911NF-16-1-0281), DARPA (HR0011-16-2-0033), NSF (CMMI-1234436, CBET-0853691, CBET-0900018, DMS-1125302)



### **State Space Picture**



### **State Space Picture**



# **Kolmogorov Flow**

• A strictly 2D flow driven by a sinusoidal forcing



• Previously studied in the context of ECS

2D: Chandler & Kerswell (2013); Lucas & Kerswell (2015)3D: van Veen and Goto (2016)

### **Quasi-2D (Q2D) Kolmogorov Flow**



Bondarenko et al. (1979)



Top View

**Cross Section** 

### **Experimental Data**



PIV Software: Prana, freely available at: http://sourceforge.net/projects/qi-tools/files/

### **Transition to Turbulence**

Re = 1.2



**Turbulence** (*Re* = 22.5)  $t/\tau = 0.0$ 



# **2D Model**

• Quasi-2D Approximation:  $\vec{V}(x, y, z, t) = P(z)\vec{U}(x, y, t)$ 



• Depth-Averaged 2D Model (*Suri et al. 2014*):  $\partial_t \vec{U} + \beta \vec{U} \cdot \nabla \vec{U} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + \vec{v} \nabla^2 \vec{U} - \alpha \vec{U} + \langle \vec{F} \rangle_z, \quad \nabla \cdot U = 0$ 

## Laminar Flow (Re = 8)



11

### Modulated Flow (Re = 14)







#### **Periodic Orbit** (Supercritical Hopf Bifurcation)



Experiment:  $\text{Re}_{c}=17.6 \ (+/-0.1); T=120 \ \text{s} \ (+/-1 \text{s})$ 

Depth Averaged Model:  $Re_c=15.6$ ; T =137 s

#### **Turbulence** (*Re* = 22.5) $t/\tau = 0.0$



### **Identifying Exact Coherent Structures**



# Signatures of Exact Coherent Structures (ECS)

- ECS are *not* known *a priori*
- Dramatic slow-down in the evolution indicates possible role of unstable equilibria in evolution

Simple Analogy: A Pendulum





### **Rate of Evolution**

• Local minima correspond to possible close passes to unstable equilibria



• Serve as initial conditions to a Newton-Krylov solver

### **ECS from Experiment** Experiment ECS



### **ECS from Experiment** Experiment ECS



Projection of ECS & Turbulent Trajectories





# The Neighborhood



- Stable and unstable eigendirections/manifolds
- Typically 10 or fewer unstable directions
- Unstable manifold guides the departure of the turbulent trajectory from the vicinity of the ECS

## **Example: 2D Manifold**

• Comparable Eigenvalues → Construct the 2D manifold using numerical integration





### **Example: ~1D Unstable Manifold**

- A 7D unstable manifold
- $\lambda_1 > 10x \{\lambda_2, \lambda_3, \dots\}$



### Effectively 1D manifold



ECS



#### **Forecasting Turbulence in Experiments**





# **Dynamical Connections**



# **Exploit Bifurcations**

• Calculating heteroclinic connections by continuation



# Symmetries of Eigenvectors

 $\hat{e}_1$ 

ECS



• Governing equation is equivariant under rotation

## **Exploit Symmetry**

• Rotationally symmetric ECS and eigenvector



# Equivariance Under Rotation

- Governing equation is equivariant under Rotation  $(x, y) \rightarrow (-x, -y)$
- Trajectories starting in a rotationally symmetric subspace remain invariant under rotation



### Two Unstable Solutions (Re = 23.0)





### **Dynamical Connections: Exploit Symmetry**



### **Dynamical Connection (Full State Space)**



t = 00000 (s)



# **Complementary Approaches**

#### + Lyapunov Spectrum

Estimate fractal dimension ~20 Xu and Paul (Virginia Tech), unpublished

#### + Persistent Homology

Dynamics in symmetry reduced space Kramar, et al., *Physica D* **334**, 82 (2016)

+ Lagrangian Coherent Structures

First experimental test in Q2D flow Voth, et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2016)

### **Taylor–Couette Flow**



Radius ratio 
$$\eta = \frac{r_i}{r_0}$$
  
Aspect Ratio  $\Gamma = \frac{H}{d}$   
 $Re_i = \frac{\omega_i r_i d}{\nu}$ 

$$Re_o = \frac{\omega_o r_o d}{\nu}$$

### **Taylor–Couette Flow**



Radius ratio  $\eta = \frac{r_i}{r_0} = 0.905$ Aspect Ratio  $\Gamma = \frac{H}{d} = 5.24$ 

$$Re_i = \frac{\omega_i r_i d}{\nu} = 600$$

$$Re_o = \frac{\omega_o r_o d}{v} = -1000$$



### **Direct Transition to Turbulence**

Just after increasing Re<sub>in</sub> by 0.13 (that's 1 in 10<sup>4</sup>)

$$\leftarrow$$
 D = 15 1/4 cm  $\rightarrow$ 



$$\operatorname{Re}_{out} = -1000 \qquad \qquad \operatorname{Re}_{in} = 650$$



### Interpenetrating Spirals (Ro = -1000, Ri = 625)



#### Experiment (tomo-PIV)

#### **Direct Numerical Simulation**

C. J. Crowley et al., J Fluid Mech. (in preparation)

# **Γ=1 TCF Experiment**



# **Γ=1 TCF (Simulation)**





# **Γ=1 TCF (ECS)**





#### **Summary and Future Directions**

- Experimental evidence for dynamical relevance of invariant solutions in Q2D Kolmogorov flow.
- To Do: Identify sufficient number of ECS/dynamical connections to enable extended prediction of dynamics in experiment and simulation.
- To Do: Explore ECS/dynamical connections in small-aspect-ratio (Γ=1) Taylor-Couette flow.

#### Acknowledgements

+Thanks to Marc Avila and Jose Manuel Lopez Alonso for sharing their TCF code + Supported by: ARO (W911NF-15-1-047, W911NF-16-1-0281), DARPA (HR0011-16-2-0033), NSF (CMMI-1234436, CBET-0853691, CBET-0900018, DMS-1125302)

#### References

B. Suri, J. Tithof, R. Mitchell, Jr., R. O. Grigoriev, and M. F. Schatz "Velocity profile in a two-layer Kolmogorov-like flow," *Phys. Fluids* **26**, 053601 (2014).

M. Kramar, R. Levanger, J. Tithof, B. Suri, M. Xu, M. Paul, K. Mischaikow and M. F. Schatz, "Analysis of Kolmogorov flow and Rayleigh-Bénard convection using persistent homology," *Physica D* **334**, 82 (2016).

B. Suri, J. Tithof, R. O. Grigoriev and M. F. Schatz, "Forecasting fluid flows using the geometry of turbulence," in press, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (arxiv.org:1611.02226).

J. Tithof, B. Suri, R. K. Pallantla, R. O. Grigoriev, and M. F. Schatz, ``An experimental and numerical investigation of bifurcations in a Kolmogorov-like flow," under review, *J. Fluid Mech*. (arxiv.org:1601.00243).