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Power**



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**ALIGARH MUSLIM
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<https://fmfpamu2024.in/>

The great problem of turbulence: new developments in the new millennium

(a review of the work of many)

by Sergei Chernyshenko

**Imperial College
London**

The talk

- I. The great problem of turbulence
- II. SOS: the revolution at the start of the millennium
- III. Auxiliary functionals
- IV. Tying the three: uncertain system method
- V. Examples:
NSE stability and Kuramoto-Sivashinsky bounds
- VI. Two challenges
 - Speed
 - Unstable solutions
- VII. Glimpse of the future: optimal unstable orbits
- VIII. Conclusion

The great problem of turbulence is to get answer we really need at a small fraction of the total solution cost

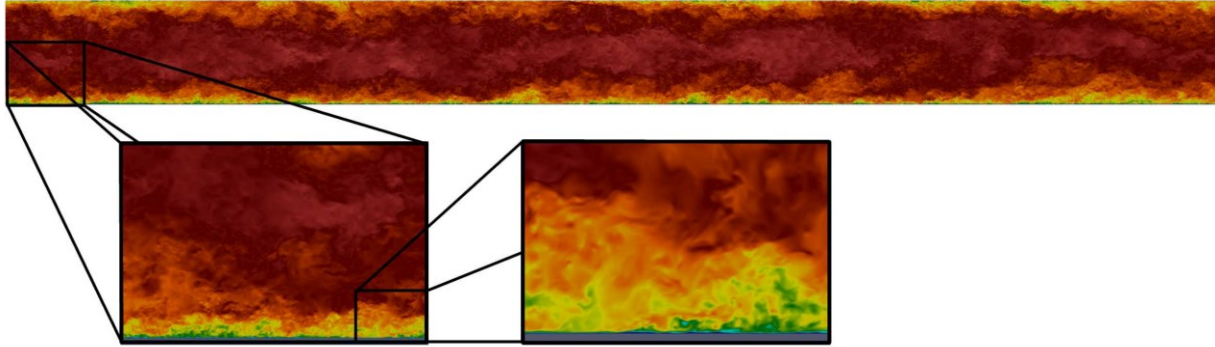


Figure 7: Instantaneous streamwise velocity component over the entire streamwise length of the simulated channel. Zooming in on the flow highlights the multi-scale nature of the turbulence.

Channel flow calculation that required 260,000,000 CPU hours and resolved all the minute detail.

[Lee, Malaya, & Moser 2013](#)

Or: to buy the bolt without the factory

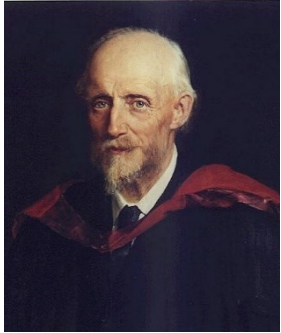
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{Re} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\overline{\Phi[\mathbf{u}]} = ?$$



A bit of history. The most known road to solving the problem of turbulence: RANS and 'closures'



$$\frac{\partial \langle u_i \rangle \langle u_j \rangle}{\partial x_j} = -\frac{\partial \langle p \rangle}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{Re} \frac{\partial^2 \langle u_i \rangle}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial \langle u'_i u'_j \rangle}{\partial x_j}$$

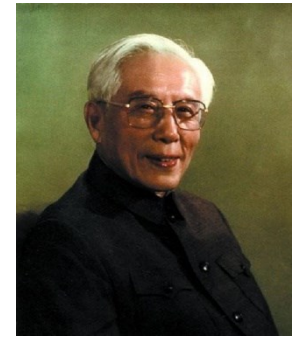
Osborne Reynolds, 1895



$$u'v' = -l^2 \left| \frac{dU}{dy} \right| \frac{dU}{dy}$$

Ludwig Prandtl 1925

$$\frac{\partial \langle u'_i u'_j \rangle}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \langle u'_i u'_j u'_k \rangle}{\partial x_k} + \dots$$



Chou Pei-Yuan 1945

RANS is an industry workhorse now. But it is not rigorous.

A bit of history. Bounds for average energy dissipation rate have indeed been derived:

$$\overline{\Phi} =? \quad \rightarrow \quad L \leq \overline{\Phi} \leq B, \quad L, B =?$$

[Howard \(1972\)](#), [Busse \(1978\)](#)

...

[Doering & Constantin \(1994\)](#), [Constantin & Doering \(1995\)](#), Background flow method – the current workhorse of bounding time averages

...

...

For channel flow:



$$\frac{12}{Re} \leq C_f \leq \frac{27}{32\sqrt{2}} \left(1 + \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{Re} \right)^2$$

Re	Lower bound x 10 ³	Experiment x 10 ³	Upper bound x 10 ³
2 x 10 ³	6	11.1	600
10 ⁴	1.2	7.43	597
10 ⁵	0.12	4.18	597

But the existing bounds are not good enough. Ability to trade off the error for the cost is needed

$$\bar{\Phi} =? \quad \rightarrow \quad L \leq \bar{\Phi} \leq B, \quad L, B =?$$

Buildings commonly use a factor of safety of 2.0. Pressure vessels use 3.5 to 4.0, automobiles use 3.0, and aircraft and spacecraft use 1.2 to 3.0.

From Wikipedia

For currently available bounds for a channel flow

Re	Experiment / Lower bound	Upper bound / Experiment
2×10^3	1.9	54
10^4	6.2	82
10^5	35	140

Start of millennium: a breakthrough in semi-algebraic geometry - SOS

$$P_2 = ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2 \geq 0 ?$$

$$P_2 = q_{ij}x_i x_j = \mathbf{x}^T Q \mathbf{x} = \sum_i \lambda_i \tilde{x}_i^2 = \sum_i \left(\sqrt{\lambda_i} A_{ij} x_j \right)^2$$

$$P_2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow Q \succeq 0 \Leftrightarrow P_2 = \text{SOS}$$

... but NP-hard for higher degrees ☹️

Start of millennium: a breakthrough in semi-algebraic geometry - SOS

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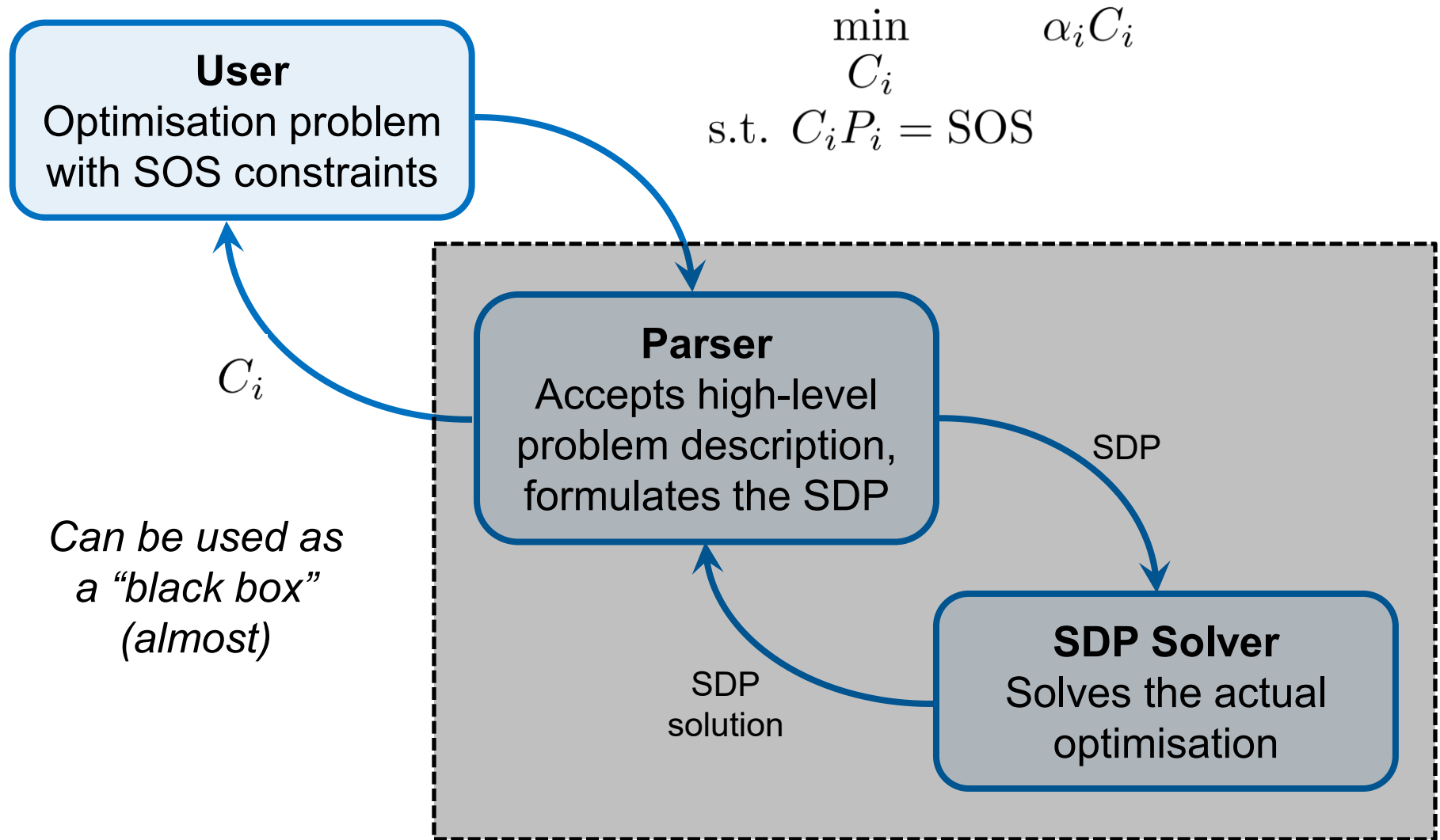
$$P_3 = ax^3 + bx^2y + cxy^2 + dy^3 \geq 0? \quad x^2 = u, \quad y^2 = w$$

$$P_3 = axu + buy + cxw + dyw = \tilde{P}_2(x, y, u, w) \geq 0 ?$$

$$P = \text{SOS} \Leftrightarrow Q \succeq 0 \Rightarrow \text{Semi-Definite Programming (SDP)}$$

If $P \geq 0$ then very often $P = \text{SOS}$

The good news: available software makes it simple



Common software toolboxes

Parsers

- YALMIP (<https://yalmip.github.io/>)
- SOSTOOLS (<http://www.cds.caltech.edu/sostools/>)
- GloptiPoly (<http://homepages.laas.fr/henrion/software/gloptipoly3/>)

Solvers

- SDPT3 (free, <https://github.com/sqlp/sdpt3>)
- Mosek (free for academia, <https://www.mosek.com/>)
- SeDuMi (free, <https://github.com/sqlp/sedumi>)
- CDCS (free, <https://github.com/oxfordcontrol/CDCS>)
- SCS (free, <https://github.com/cvxgrp/scs>)

... and many more!



Since 2000 SOS technique was spreading like fire

Jump ahead of the rest of the talk - a seed of an idea:

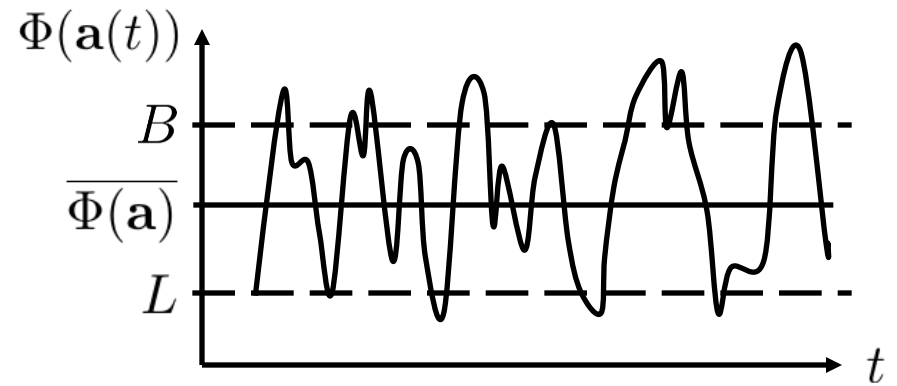
Can we reduce the problem of turbulence to the question of something being always positive?

Can we then reduce this something to a polynomial?

And can we then check the positiveness of this polynomial using the start-of-the millennium breakthrough in SOS?

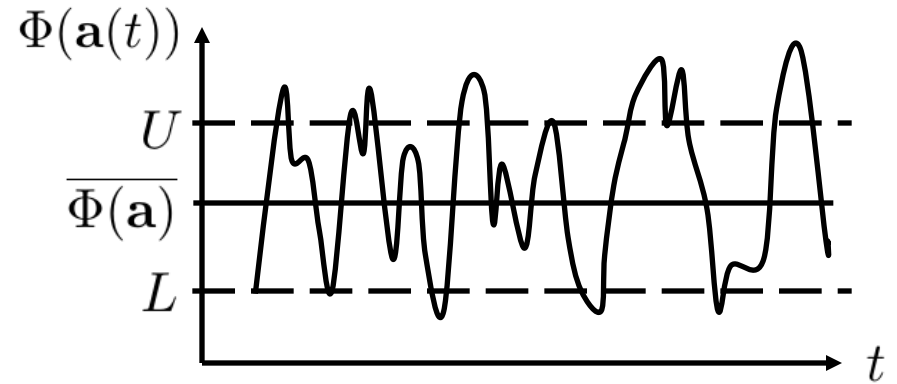
Auxiliary function method

$$\frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}), \quad \overline{\Phi(\mathbf{a}(t))} = ?$$



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$$\overline{D(\mathbf{a}(t))} = 0, \quad \Phi(\mathbf{a}) + D(\mathbf{a}) \leq B \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{\Phi} \leq B$$

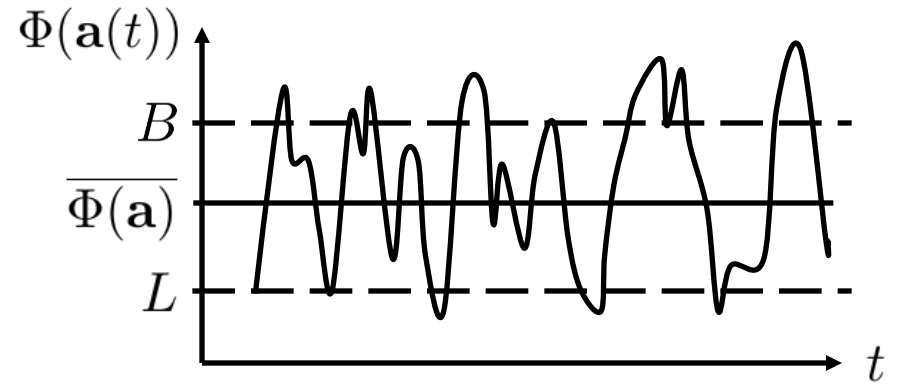
$$V < \infty \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{\frac{dV}{dt}} = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \frac{dV}{dt} dt = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{V|_{t=T} - V|_{t=0}}{T} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \overline{\Phi + \frac{dV}{dt}} = \overline{\Phi}$$

$$\Phi(\mathbf{a}) + \frac{dV}{dt} \leq B \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{\Phi} \leq B$$

Auxiliary function method

$$\frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}), \quad \overline{\Phi(\mathbf{a}(t))} = ?$$



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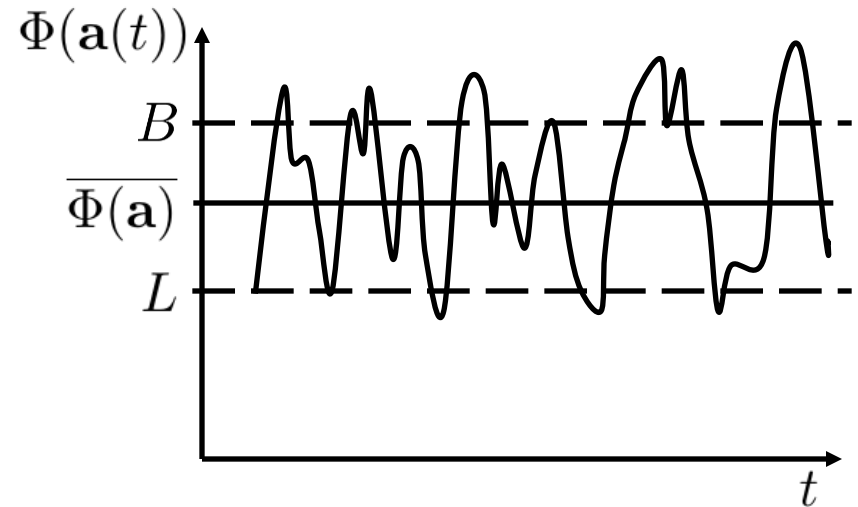
$$\Rightarrow \quad \overline{\Phi + \frac{dV}{dt}} = \overline{\Phi}$$

$$\Phi(\mathbf{a}) + \frac{dV}{dt} \leq B \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{\Phi} \leq B$$

$$V(\mathbf{a}(t)) \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{B - \Phi(\mathbf{a}) - \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V \geq 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \overline{\Phi} \leq B}$$

Auxiliary function(Φ)s provide arbitrarily sharp bounds on time averages

$$\frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}), \quad \overline{\Phi(\mathbf{a}(t))} = ?$$



$$L = \max_{V(\mathbf{a}), C} C$$

$$\text{s.t. } \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V + \Phi(\mathbf{a}) - C \geq 0$$

[Tobasco et al. 2018](#), [Rosa & Temam 2020](#)

← The largest lower bound problem is dual to the smallest time average problem.



$$L = \min_{\mathbf{a}_0} \overline{\Phi(\mathbf{a}(t))}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}), \quad \mathbf{a}(0) = \mathbf{a}_0$$

[Lasserre 2001](#), [Korda et al. 2021](#)



A promise of a trade-off between accuracy and cost

Tying the three together: the plan

- Use auxiliary functions to bound time averages of turbulent flows
- Reduce NSE to ODE with polynomial RHS by Galerkin expansion
- Replace ‘positive-semidefinite’ with ‘sum of squares’

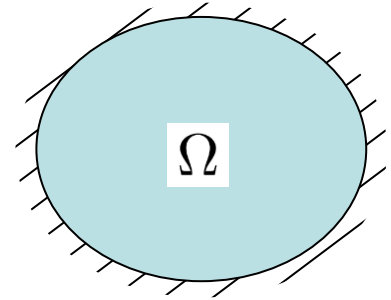
$$\begin{array}{ccc} L = \max_{V(\mathbf{a}), C} C & & L = \max_{V(\mathbf{a}), C} C \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V + \Phi(\mathbf{a}) - C \geq 0 & \longrightarrow & \text{s.t. } \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V + \Phi(\mathbf{a}) - C \in \Sigma \end{array}$$

- Make it rigorous for PDE (by the uncertain system method)

Polynomial systems are generated from Navier-Stokes equations by truncated Galerkin expansion

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{Re} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$



Basis: $\{\mathbf{u}_i(\mathbf{x})\}, i = 1, \dots, \infty, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}_i = 0, \mathbf{u}_i|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j(t) \mathbf{u}_j(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\frac{da_i}{dt} = f_i(\mathbf{a}) = N_{ijk} a_j a_k + L_{ij} a_j + b_i$$

Uncertain system method rigorously reduces Navier-Stokes to a finite-dimensional, but uncertain, system

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{Re} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) = \sum_{j=1}^k a_j(t) \mathbf{u}_j(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{u}_s(\mathbf{x}, t)$$

$$q^2 = \|\mathbf{u}_s\|^2 / 2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}) + \Theta \\ \frac{dq^2}{dt} &= -\mathbf{a} \cdot \Theta + \Gamma + \chi \\ \|\Theta\|^2 &\leq p(\mathbf{a}, q^2) \\ \Gamma &\leq \kappa q^2 \\ \chi^2 &\leq r(\mathbf{a}, q^2) \end{aligned}$$

1. Choosing \mathbf{u}_j and k makes $\chi = 0$ and $\kappa < 0$
2. Polynomial p is quadratic
3. $V[\mathbf{u}] = V(\mathbf{a}, q^2)$
4. The optimization constraint is reducible to SOS

Before looking at examples: Lyapunov functional is (almost) a special case of auxiliary functional

$$\frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}), \quad \mathbf{f}(0) = 0$$

Lyapunov function

$$V(0) = 0, \quad V(\mathbf{a}) > 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \neq 0$$

$$\mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V < 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{a} \neq 0$$

$$B = \min_{V(\mathbf{a}), C} C$$

$$\text{s.t. } V(\mathbf{a}) > 0, \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V - C < 0$$

$$B = 0 \Rightarrow \text{stable}$$

Auxiliary function

$$B = \min_{V(\mathbf{a}), C} C$$

$$\text{s.t. } \Phi(\mathbf{a}) + \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V - C \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{\Phi} \leq B$$

Theorem: under mild conditions V is bounded from below

[Goluskin and Fantuzzi 2019](#)

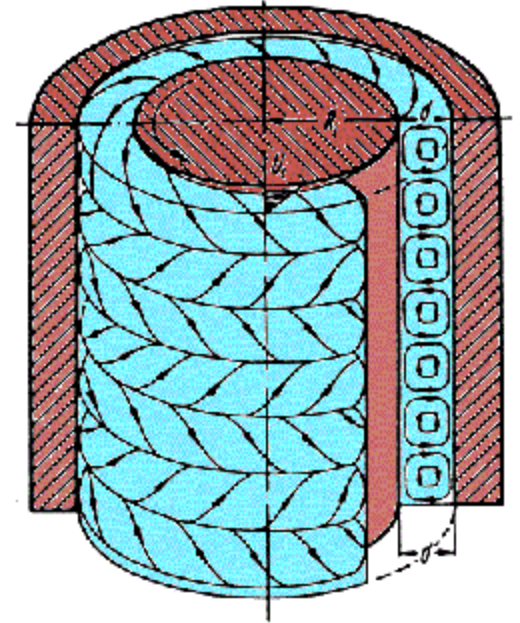
1. Stability of double-periodic rotating Couette flow

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + v = \Omega v + \frac{1}{Re} \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right),$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} = -\Omega u - \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \frac{1}{Re} \left(\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial z^2} \right),$$

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial w}{\partial y} + w \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{Re} \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0,$$



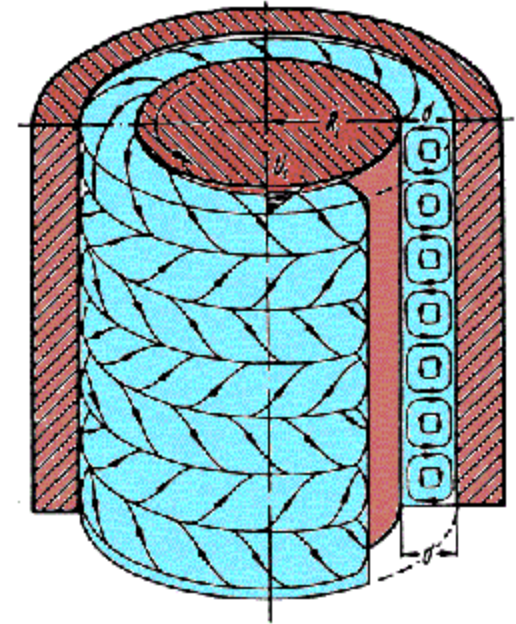
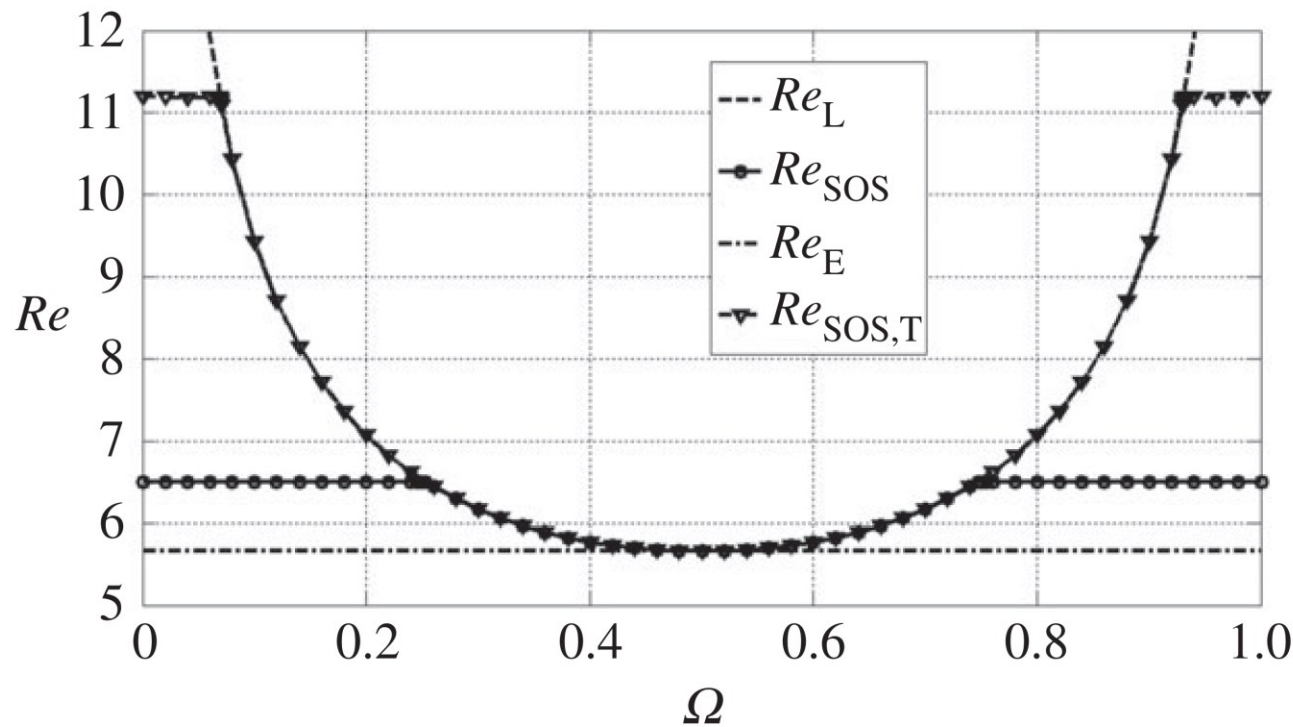
$\mathbf{u} = (u, v, w)$ is the velocity perturbation and $\bar{\mathbf{u}} = (y, 0, 0)$ is the equilibrium flow

$$\mathbf{u}(y, z) = \mathbf{u}(y + 2\pi, z) = \mathbf{u}(y, z + 2\pi), \quad p(y, z) = p(y + 2\pi, z) = p(y, z + 2\pi),$$

$$u(y, z) = -u(-y, z) = u(y, -z), \quad v(y, z) = -v(-y, z) = v(y, -z)$$

$$w(y, z) = w(-y, z) = -w(y, -z).$$

1. Stability of double-periodic rotating Couette flow

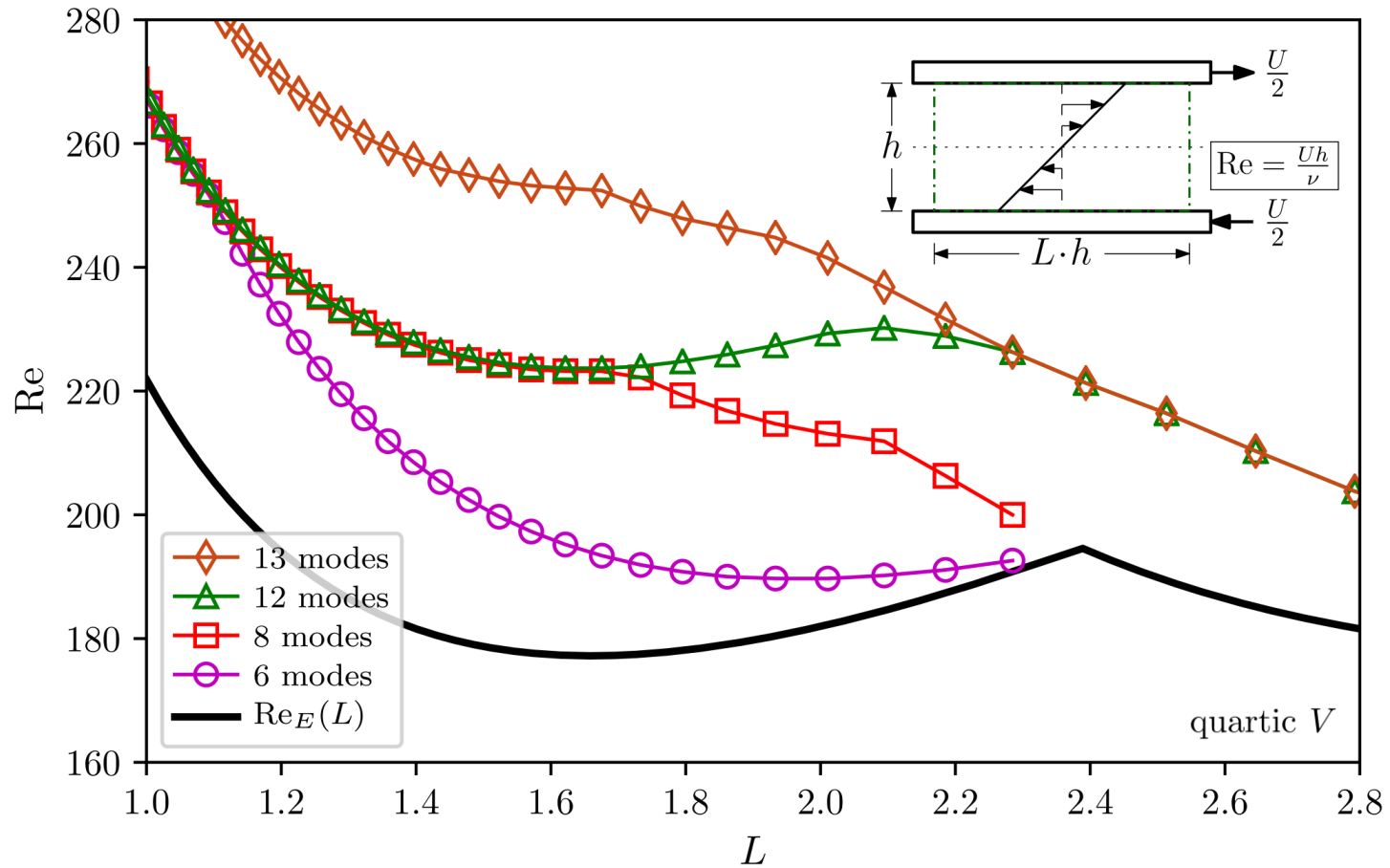


6 modes, 4th-degree V

The Lyapunov functionals obtained depend on Ω . For example, for $\Omega = 0.1$ it is

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(\mathbf{a}, q^2) = & 7.9294(|\mathbf{a}|^2 + 2q^2)^2 - a_5(1.5894a_1a_2 + 3.1590a_2a_3 - 0.9151a_1a_4 - 0.0949a_3a_4) \\
 & - a_6(29.2233a_2^2 - 0.1480a_1a_3 + 4.8479a_3^2 + 2.6869a_2a_4 + 2.8354a_4^2 + 2.2428a_5^2 + 7.1675q^2) \\
 & + 23.4772a_1^2 + 29.3767a_2^2 + 28.9780a_3^2 + 20.7968a_4^2 + 20.5949a_5^2 + 23.1982a_6^2 + 23.6155q^2 \\
 & - 27.7365a_2a_4 + 0.0557a_1a_3.
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Stability of 2D plane Couette flow



— Re_E , [Orr 1907](#)

[Fuentes et al. 2019](#)

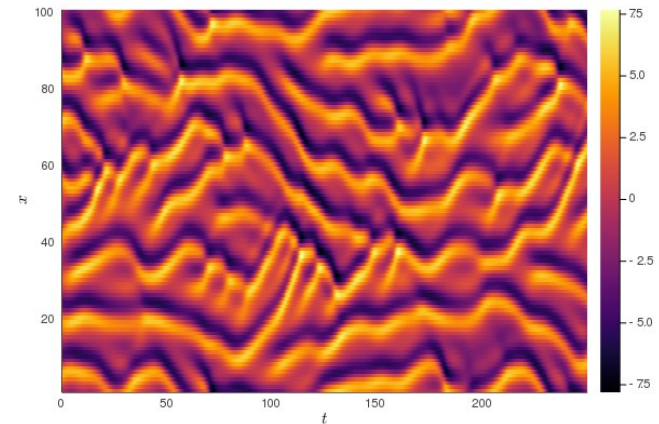
3. Bounds on mean energy in the Kuramoto–Sivashinsky equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} = 0,$$

$$u(x, t) = u(x + 2\pi L, t),$$

$$u(-x, t) = u(x, t)$$

$$\Phi = \mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2\pi L} \int_{-\pi L}^{\pi L} u^2 dx$$

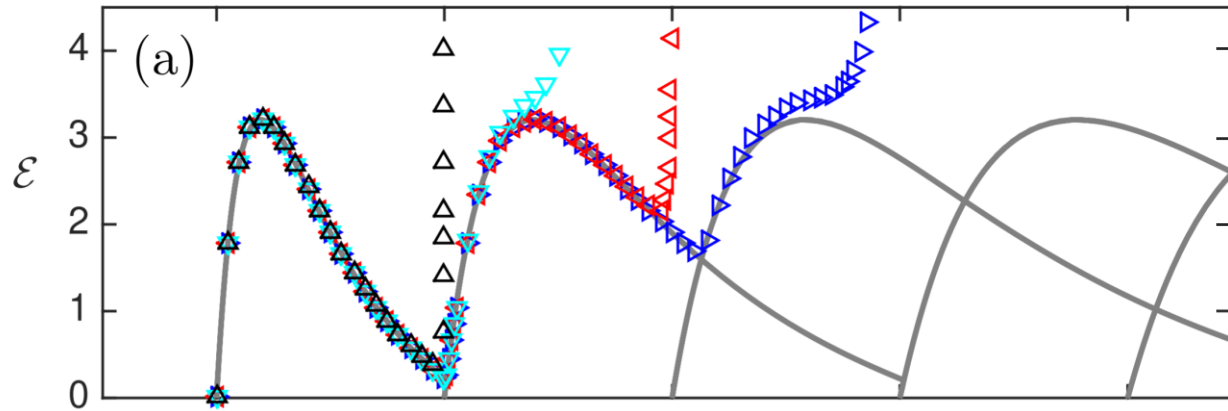


Kuramoto–Sivashinsky spatiotemporal evolution.

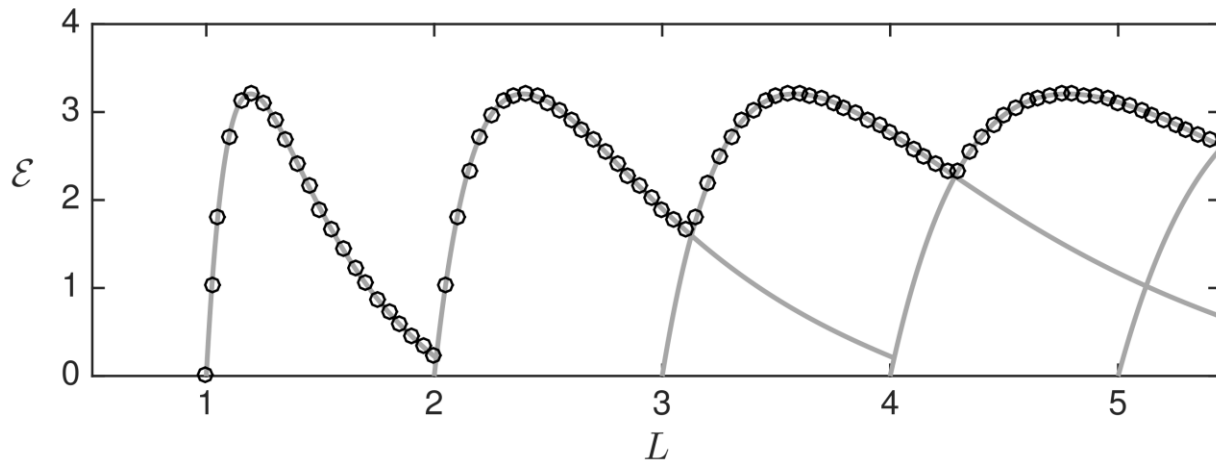
Describes instabilities of laminar flame front and of liquid film on an inclined plane, with trapped-ion instability and more.

3. Bounds on mean energy in the Kuramoto–Sivashinsky equation

quartic V



number of modes 4 (\triangle), 6 (∇), 8 (\triangleleft), and 10 (\triangleright)



number of modes 24

The first challenge: the problem of cost

The software is free, but there is no free lunch!

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{v}_d^T Q \mathbf{v}_d, \quad Q \succeq 0$$

With $p(\mathbf{x})$ of degree $2d$ and n variables, in general,

$$Q \text{ is } \binom{n+d}{d} \times \binom{n+d}{d}$$

Example. $n = 10, d = 6 \implies Q$ is 8008×8008

$n = 10, d = 8 \implies Q$ is $43\,758 \times 43\,758$

$n = 10, d = 10 \implies Q$ is $184\,756 \times 184\,756$

Computations practical only for moderate n and d

There is a hope in developing the specialist software

DNS vs SOS

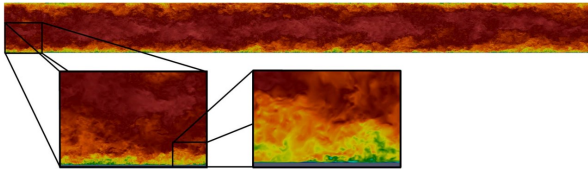
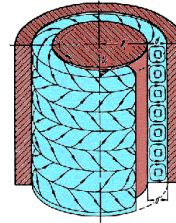


Figure 7: Instantaneous streamwise velocity component over the entire streamwise length of the simulated channel. Zooming in on the flow highlights the multi-scale nature of the turbulence.

$Re_\tau = 5200$
242000000000 degrees of freedom

Specialised NSE solver
Parallel code running on 786000 cores
260,000,000 CPU hours

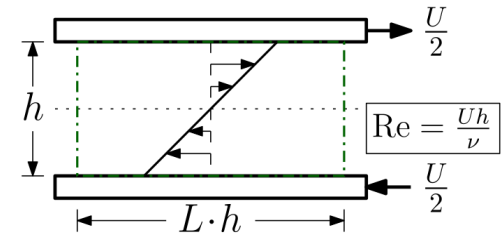
[Lee, Malaya, & Moser 2013](#)



$Re \sim 100$
 ~ 10 degrees of freedom

General-purpose SOS software
Serial code
Less or ~ 100 CPU hours

[Huang et al. 2015](#)



$Re \sim 280$
 ~ 13 degrees of freedom

General-purpose SOS software
Serial code

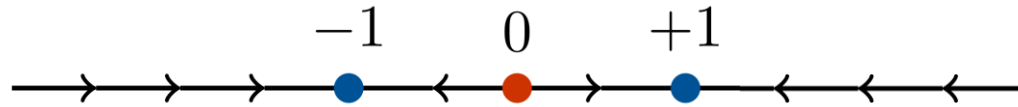
[Fuentes et al. 2019](#)

In 2021: auxiliary-functional formulation of the background flow method solved with about 12000 sparsely coupled variables.

[Arslan et al. 2021](#) "Bounds on heat transport for convection driven by internal heating"

The second challenge: the problem of unstable solutions

$$\frac{da}{dt} = a - a^3$$

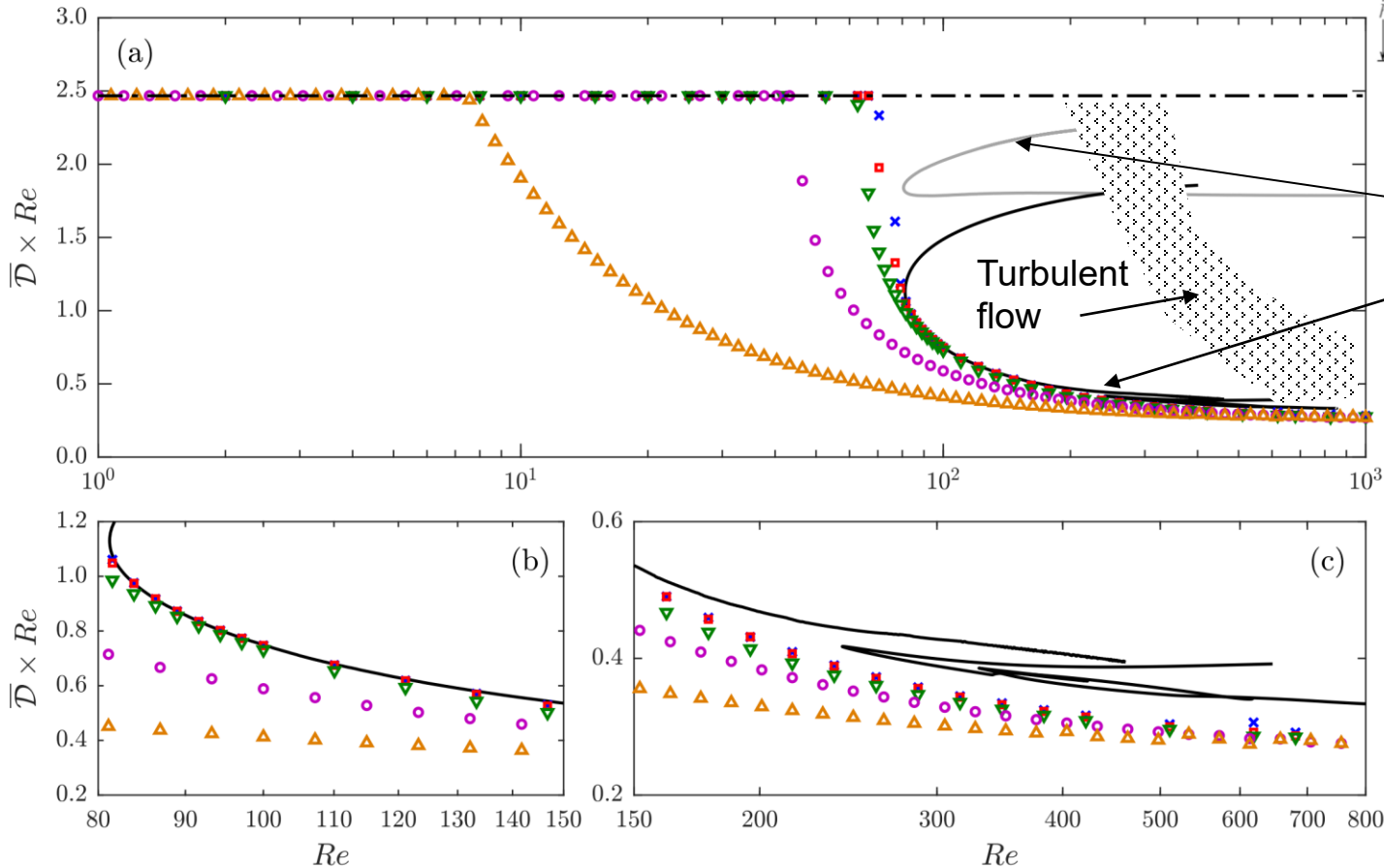
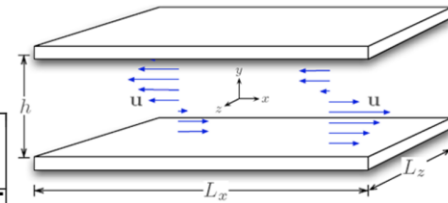


$$a = 0, \quad a = -1, \quad a = +1$$

$$\Phi = a^2, \quad 0 \leq \bar{\Phi} \leq 1$$

$$L \leq \Phi + (a - a^3) \frac{dV}{da} \leq U$$

Bounds for the 9-mode model of shear flow are constrained by the periodic orbits



Periodic orbits,
[Moehlis et al. 2005](#)

Volume force

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}\pi^2}{4Re} \sin(\pi y/2); 0; 0 \right),$$

free slip, laminar
profile is independent
of Re .

Onset of a periodic
orbit at $Re=80.54$

Auxiliary function degree: $2 (\triangle)$, $4 (\circ)$, $6 (\nabla)$, $8 (\square)$ and $10 (\times)$

[Lakshmi et al. 2020](#)

Another example of turbulent flow averages sandwiched between travelling waves averages, based on DNS of a pipe flow, is Figs 1 and 2 in [Kerswell & Tutty 2007](#)

Towards a solution of the second challenge:
accounting for noise in auxiliary function method

$$\frac{d\mathbf{a}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{a}) + \sqrt{2\epsilon}\boldsymbol{\xi}(t)$$

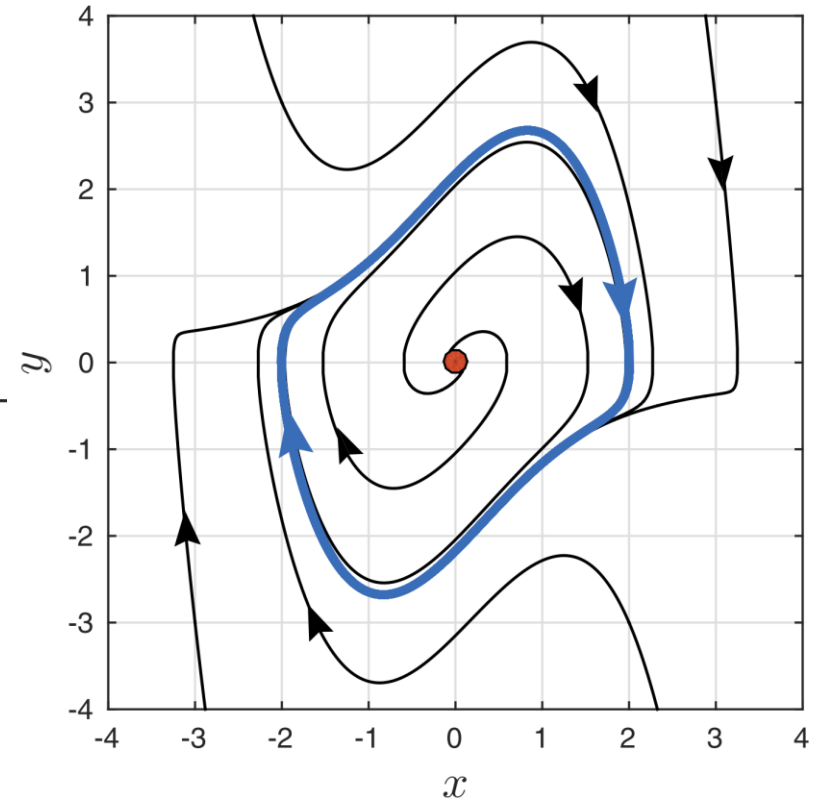
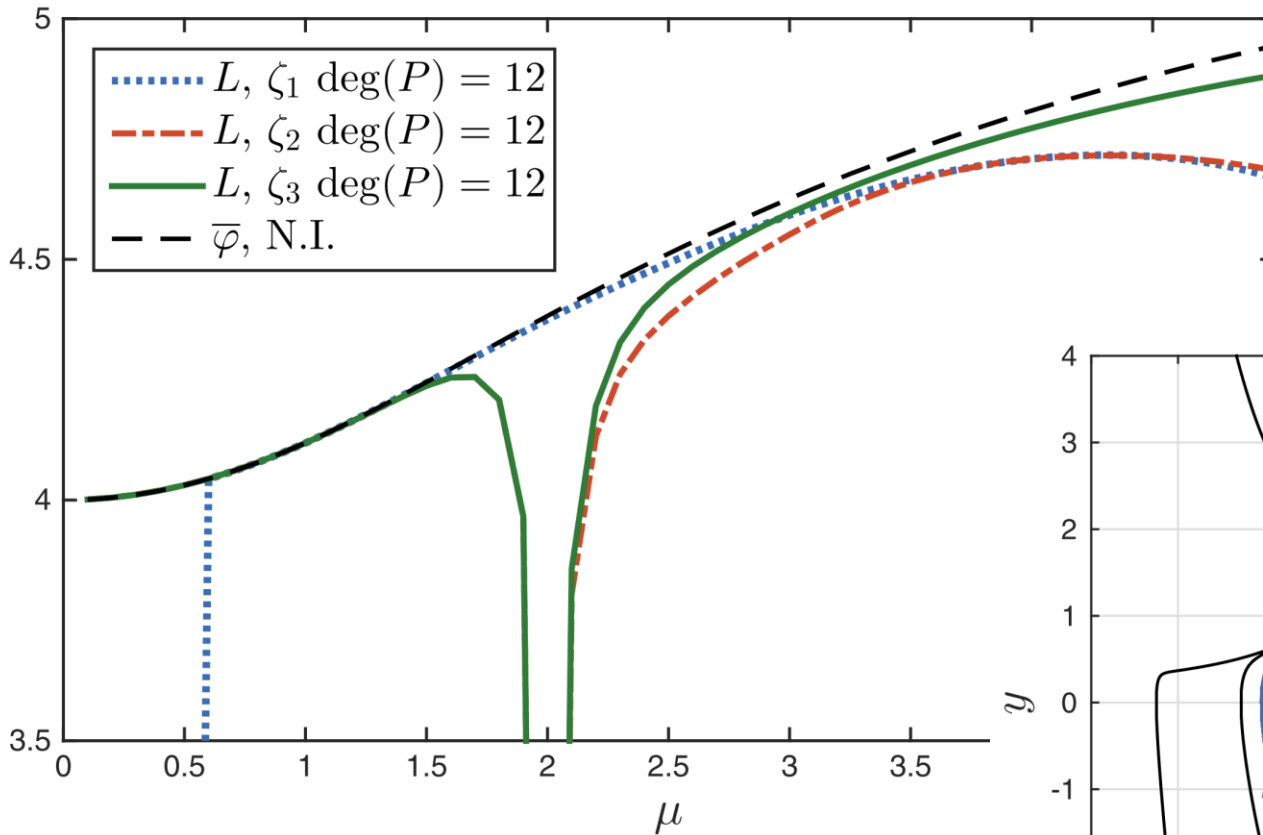
$$\nabla \rho \mathbf{f} - \epsilon \nabla^2 \rho = 0.$$

$$\bar{\Phi} = \langle \Phi \rangle = \int \rho \Phi da, \quad \int \rho da = 1$$

$$\Phi + \mathbf{f} \cdot \nabla V + \epsilon \nabla^2 V \leq C \quad \forall \mathbf{a}$$

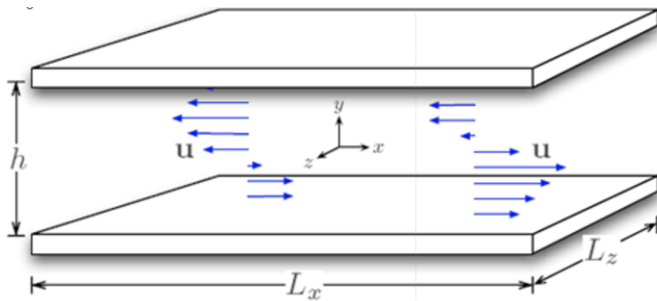
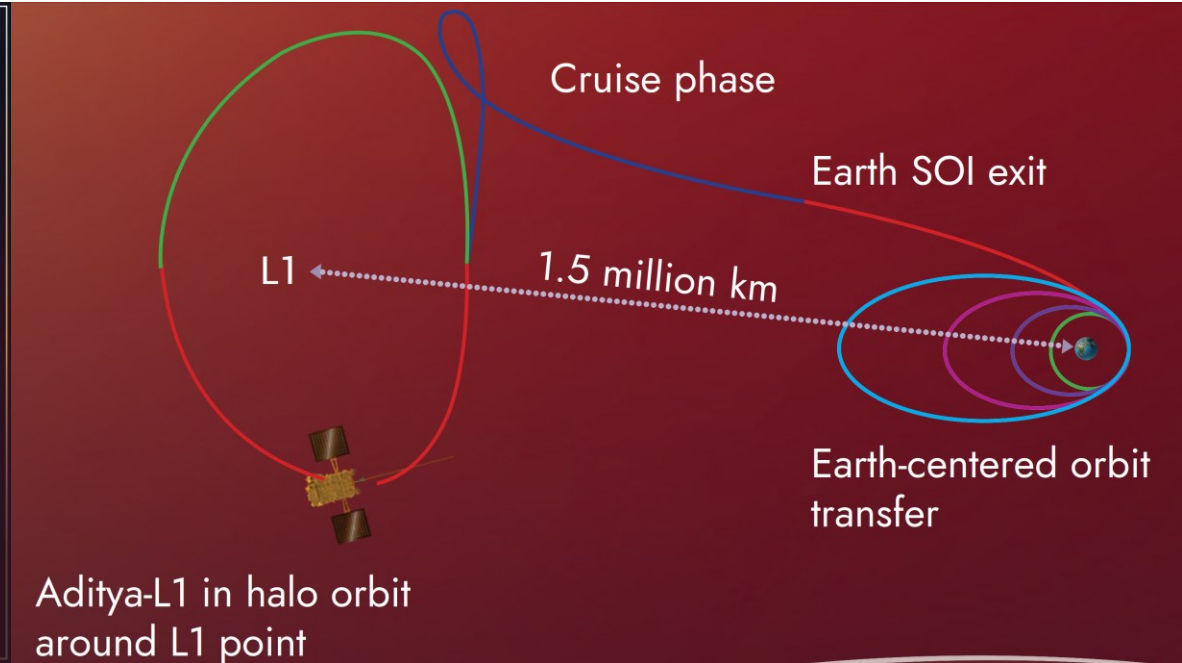
$$\Rightarrow \bar{\Phi} \leq C$$

Example: vanishing noise for Van der Pol oscillator

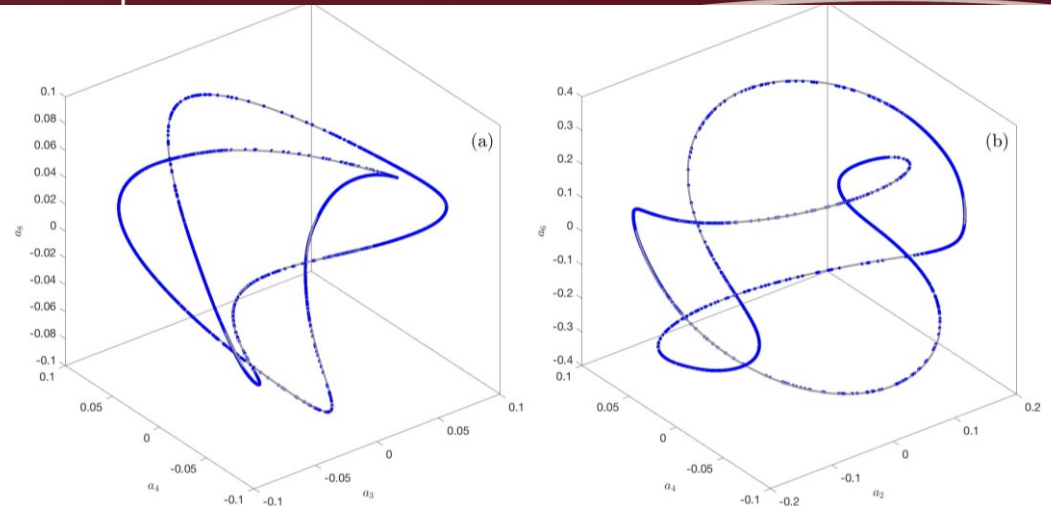


$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y \\ \mu(1 - x^2)y - x \end{bmatrix}$$

A glimpse of more: bounds for time averages give a method of finding even unstable optimal periodic orbits



[Laksmi et al. 2021](#)



Summary and Conclusion

- The great problem of turbulence: to buy bolts without factories. We seek bounds for time averages
- The SOS breakthrough: $P=SOS$ is feasible
- Auxiliary function: whose Lie derivative is added to an observable to gain a benefit
- Uncertain system: semi-truncated Galerkin plus the energy of the residual, with rigorous bounds of the right-hand-side
- Uncertain system gives a rigorous polynomial formulation
- Computational costs are high but are reducing
- Unstable solutions need to be eliminated by adding a vanishing noise
- Beyond the present talk: there are numerous other applications

New method came to fluid dynamics. It is different. It is versatile. It is full of intrinsic beauty. And it is promising a lot.

A copy of this presentation with clickable links is available at

https://www.imperial.ac.uk/aeronautics/fluidynamics/FMFP2024_Chernyshenko_web.pdf

A simple introduction to auxiliary functions is here:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/aeronautics/fluidynamics/IntroToAuxiliaryFunctions.pdf>