Casimir Cascades in Two-Dimensional Turbulence

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2D Turbulence in Fourier Space

• Navier–Stokes equation for vorticity $\boldsymbol{\omega} = \hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} \times \boldsymbol{u}$:

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + \boldsymbol{u} \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla} \omega = -\nu \nabla^2 \omega + f.$$

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• In Fourier space:

$$\frac{\partial \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}}{\partial t} = S_{\boldsymbol{k}} - \nu k^2 \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}} + f_{\boldsymbol{k}},$$

where $S_{\boldsymbol{k}} = \sum_{\boldsymbol{p}} \frac{\hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \times \boldsymbol{p} \cdot \boldsymbol{k}}{p^2} \omega_{\boldsymbol{p}}^* \omega_{-\boldsymbol{k}-\boldsymbol{p}}^*.$

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• When $\nu = 0$ and $f_{k} = 0$:

energy
$$E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k} \frac{|\omega_{k}|^{2}}{k^{2}}$$
 and enstrophy $Z = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k} |\omega_{k}|^{2}$ are conserved.

Kraichnan–Leith–Batchelor Theory

• In an infinite domain [Kraichnan 1967], [Leith 1968], [Batchelor 1969]:

– large-scale $k^{-5/3}$ energy cascade;

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• In a bounded domain, the situation may be quite different...

Long-Time Behaviour in a Bounded Domain



Tran and Bowman, PRE 69, 036303, 1–7 (2004).

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- Do these invariants also play a fundamental role in the turbulent dynamics, in addition to the quadratic (energy and enstrophy) invariants? Do they exhibit cascades?
- Polyakov [1992] has suggested that the higher-order Casimir invariants cascade to large scales, while Eyink [1996] suggests that they might cascade to small scales.

High-Wavenumber Truncation

• Only the quadratic invariants survive high-wavenumber truncation (Montgomery calls them rugged invariants).

$$\frac{\partial \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}}{\partial t} = \sum_{\boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{q}} \frac{\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{k} \boldsymbol{p} \boldsymbol{q}}}{q^2} \omega_{\boldsymbol{p}}^* \omega_{\boldsymbol{q}}^*.$$

where $\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}\boldsymbol{p}\boldsymbol{q}} = (\hat{\boldsymbol{z}} \cdot \boldsymbol{p} \times \boldsymbol{q}) \, \delta(\boldsymbol{k} + \boldsymbol{p} + \boldsymbol{q}).$

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• Enstrophy evolution:

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{d}{dt}\sum_{\boldsymbol{k}}|\omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}|^2 = \operatorname{Re}\sum_{\boldsymbol{k},\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{q}}\frac{\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}\boldsymbol{p}\boldsymbol{q}}}{q^2}\omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}^*\omega_{\boldsymbol{p}}^*\omega_{\boldsymbol{q}}^* = 0.$$

$$0 = \sum_{\boldsymbol{k},\boldsymbol{r},\boldsymbol{s}} \left[\sum_{\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{q}} \frac{\epsilon_{\boldsymbol{k}\boldsymbol{p}\boldsymbol{q}}}{q^2} \omega_{\boldsymbol{p}}^* \omega_{\boldsymbol{q}}^* \omega_{\boldsymbol{r}}^* \omega_{\boldsymbol{s}}^* + 2 \text{ other similar terms} \right].$$

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- We find that this is indeed the case.

Enstrophy Balance

$$\frac{\partial \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}}{\partial t} + \nu k^2 \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}} = S_{\boldsymbol{k}} + f_{\boldsymbol{k}},$$

• Multiply by $\omega_{\mathbf{k}}^*$ and integrate over wavenumber angle \Rightarrow enstrophy spectrum $Z(k) = \frac{1}{2} \int |\omega_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 k \, d\theta$ evolves as:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}Z(k) + 2\nu k^2 Z(k) = T(k) + F(k),$$

where
$$T(k) = \operatorname{Re} \int S_{k} \omega_{k}^{*} k \, d\theta$$
 and $F(k) = \operatorname{Re} \int f_{k} \omega_{k}^{*} k \, d\theta$.

Nonlinear Enstrophy Transfer Function $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}Z(k)+2\nu k^2 Z(k)=T(k)+F(k).$

• Let

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• Integrate from k to ∞ :

$$\frac{d}{dt}\int_k^\infty Z(p)\,dp = \Pi(k) - \epsilon_Z(k),$$

where $\epsilon_Z(k) \doteq \int_k^\infty [2\nu p^2 Z(p) - F(p)] dp$ is the total enstrophy transfer, via dissipation and forcing, out of wavenumbers higher than k.

• When
$$\nu = 0$$
 and $f_{\mathbf{k}} = 0$:

$$0 = \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^\infty Z(p) \, dp = \int_0^\infty T(p) \, dp,$$

so that

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- This provides an excellent numerical diagnostic for when a steady state has been reached.

Forcing at k = 2, friction for k < 3, viscosity for $k \ge k_H = 300 \ (1023 \times 1023 \text{ dealiased modes})$







Cutoff viscosity ($k \ge k_H = 300$)



Cutoff viscosity ($k \ge k_H = 300$)



Molecular viscosity $(k \ge k_H = 0)$

Vorticity Field with Molecular Viscosity



Vorticity Field with Viscosity Cutoff



Vorticity Surface Plot with Molecular Viscosity



Nonlinear Casimir Transfer

• Fourier decompose the fourth-order Casimir invariant $Z_4 = N^3 \sum_{j} \omega^4(x_j)$ in terms of N spatial collocation points x_j :

$$Z_4 = \sum_{\boldsymbol{k},\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{q}} \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}} \, \omega_{\boldsymbol{p}} \, \omega_{\boldsymbol{q}} \, \omega_{-\boldsymbol{k}-\boldsymbol{p}-\boldsymbol{q}}.$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}Z_4 = \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}} \left[S_{\boldsymbol{k}} \sum_{\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{q}} \omega_{\boldsymbol{p}} \, \omega_{\boldsymbol{q}} \, \omega_{-\boldsymbol{k}-\boldsymbol{p}-\boldsymbol{q}} + 3\omega_{\boldsymbol{k}} \sum_{\boldsymbol{p},\boldsymbol{q}} S_{\boldsymbol{p}} \, \omega_{\boldsymbol{q}} \, \omega_{-\boldsymbol{k}-\boldsymbol{p}-\boldsymbol{q}} \right]$$
$$\frac{d}{dt}Z_4 = N^2 \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}} \left[S_{\boldsymbol{k}} \sum_{\boldsymbol{j}} \omega^3(x_{\boldsymbol{j}}) e^{2\pi i \boldsymbol{j} \cdot \boldsymbol{k}/N} + 3\omega_{\boldsymbol{k}} \sum_{\boldsymbol{j}} S(x_{\boldsymbol{j}}) \omega^2(x_{\boldsymbol{j}}) e^{2\pi i \boldsymbol{j} \cdot \boldsymbol{k}/N} \right]$$
$$\doteq \sum_{\boldsymbol{k}} T_4(\boldsymbol{k}). \quad \text{Here } S_{\boldsymbol{k}} \text{ is the nonlinear source term in } \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \omega_{\boldsymbol{k}}.$$

Downscale Transfer of Z_4



Nonlinear transfer Π_4 of Z_4 averaged over $t \in [250, 740]$.

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- Instead, use *implicit padding* [Bowman & Roberts 2011]: roughly twice as fast, 1/2 of the memory required by conventional explicit padding.
- Memory savings: in d dimensions implicit padding asymptotically uses $(2/3)^{d-1}$ or $(1/2)^{d-1}$ of the memory require by conventional explicit padding.

• Highly optimized implicitly dealiased convolution routines have been implemented as a software layer FFTW++ on top of the FFTW library and released under the Lesser GNU Public License.

http://fftwpp.sourceforge.net

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- In a steady state, $\Pi(k)$ will trivially be constant within a true inertial range.
- In contrast, the enstrophy flux through a wavenumber k is the amount of enstrophy transferred to small scales *via* triad interactions involving mode k.

Flux Decomposition for a Single $(\boldsymbol{k}, \boldsymbol{p}, \boldsymbol{q})$ Triad



• Note that energy is conserved: $L_k + S_k = T_k = -T_p - T_q$. Thus

$$L_{k} = \operatorname{Re} \sum_{\substack{|\mathbf{k}|=k\\|\mathbf{p}|$$

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- However, for the globally integrated ω^3 inviscid invariant, we found no systematic cascade: it appears to slosh back and forth between the large and small scales. This is expected since ω^3 does not have a definite sign.

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- However, for the globally integrated ω^3 inviscid invariant, we found no systematic cascade: it appears to slosh back and forth between the large and small scales. This is expected since ω^3 does not have a definite sign.
- One should distinguish between nonlocal transfer and flux. To compute this decomposition efficiently, one needs to develop a restricted Fast Fourier transform.

Asymptote: 2D & 3D Vector Graphics Language



Andy Hammerlindl, John C. Bowman, Tom Prince http://asymptote.sf.net (freely available under the GNU public license)

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