

# The higher-order gradient model for large-eddy simulation of turbulent flows

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## Overview

- Research aim
- Large-eddy simulation
- The gradient model
- The higher-order gradient model
- Preliminary numerical results
- Review and future work

## Description of incompressible flows

- Navier-Stokes equations

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (u_i u_j) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{Re} \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j}$$

- Infeasible to solve for all relevant scales (DNS) for most flows
- Leave out information about the smallest scales (LES)

## Large-eddy simulation

- Filtering

$$\bar{u}_i(\vec{x}, t) = \int \int u_i(\vec{x}', t') G(\vec{x}, \vec{x}', t, t') d\vec{x}' dt$$

$$u_i = \bar{u}_i + u'_i$$

- Homogeneous spatial filter

$$\bar{u}_i(\vec{x}, t) = \int u_i(\vec{x}', t) G(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') d\vec{x}' = G * u_i(\vec{x}, t)$$

- Examples of filters

- Box filter (our choice)

$$G(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') = \frac{1}{\delta^3} \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } |\vec{x} - \vec{x}'| \leq \frac{\delta}{2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Filter length:  $\delta$

- Gaussian filter
- Spectral cutoff filter
- More...

## Large-eddy simulation

- Filtered Navier-Stokes equations

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\overline{u_i u_j}) = -\frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{Re} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j}$$

– Closure problem

- Rewrite and provide closure model

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j) = -\frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{Re} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \underbrace{(\overline{u_i u_j} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j)}_{\tau_{ij}}$$

## Large-eddy simulation

- Examples of closure models

- Boussinesq hypothesis

$$\tau_{ij} - \frac{1}{3}\tau_{ii}\delta_{ij} \approx -2\nu_t \bar{S}_{ij}$$

- Bardina's scale-similarity model

$$\tau_{ij} = \overline{u_i u_j} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j \approx \overline{\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j$$

- Approximate deconvolution model

$$\tau_{ij} = \overline{u_i u_j} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j \approx \overline{u_i^* u_j^*} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j \text{ where } u_i^* \approx G^{-1} * \bar{u}_i$$

- Many more...

- Our focus: 'expansion deconvolution methods'

Sagaut (2005) *Large Eddy Simulation for Turbulent Flows*

Berselli, Iliescu and Layton (2006) *Mathematics of Large Eddy Simulation of Turbulent Flows*

Stolz and Adams (1999) *Phys. Fluids* **11**, 1699

Stolz, Adams and Kleiser (2001), *Phys. Fluids* **13**, 997

Katopodes Chow, Street and Ferziger (2000), Stanford University Technical Report 2000-K1

## Large-eddy simulation

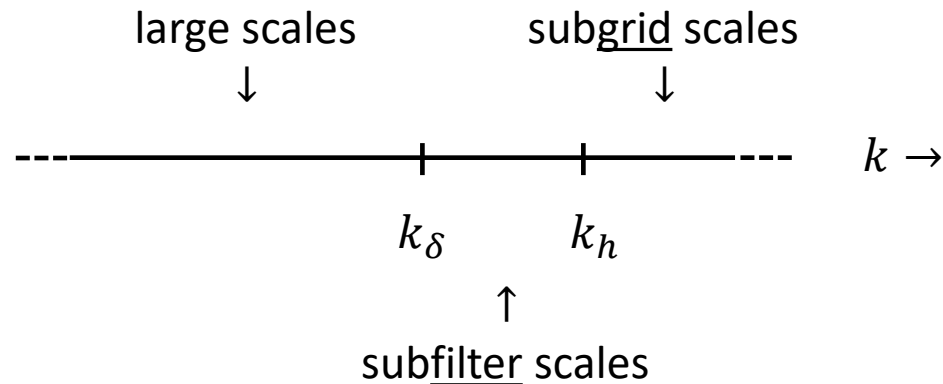
- Explicit filter

- Box filter, Gaussian filter, ...
- Denoted by  $\bar{u}_i$

- Implicit filter

- Numerics, grid
- Could be denoted by  $\tilde{u}_i$

- Distinguishing scales



- Subfilter-scale stresses

- May be recovered mathematically (our focus)

- Subgrid-scale stresses

- Irreversibly lost
- Must be modeled (not our focus)

## The expansion deconvolution method

- Derivation

$$\tau_{ij} = \underbrace{\overline{u_i u_j} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j}_{\#1}$$

$$\tau_{ij} = \underbrace{\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j + \bar{u}_i u'_j + u'_i \bar{u}_j + u'_i u'_j - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j}_{\#2}$$



$$\mathcal{F}$$

$$\sum_{m=0}^n \dots \delta^m$$

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}$$

Fourier transform

Truncated Taylor expansion in the filter length

Inverse Fourier transform



$$\tau_{ij} = \underbrace{f(u_k) + \mathcal{O}(\delta^{n+2})}_{\#1}$$

$$\tau_{ij} = \underbrace{g(\bar{u}_k) + \mathcal{O}(\delta^{n+2})}_{\#2}$$

- Consistent approximation of actual subfilter-scale stresses
- An example: the gradient model



## The gradient model

- The gradient model for the subfilter stress

$$\underbrace{\tau_{ij} = \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)}_{\#1}$$

$$\underbrace{\tau_{ij} = \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_k} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)}_{\#2}$$

- Promises
  - Good correlations with actual subfilter-scale stresses
- Problems (1)
  - Linearly unstable when supplemented to Burgers' equation
- Possible remedies (1)
  - Add (minimal amount of) eddy viscosity
  - Regularize the model by filtering it

Winckelmans et al. (2001), *Phys. Fluids* **13**, 5

Katopodes Chow, Street and Ferziger (2000), Stanford University Technical Report 2000-K1

Vreman, Geurts and Kuerten (1996), *Theor. Comp. Fluid Dyn.* **8**, 309-342

Berselli, Iliescu and Layton (2006) *Mathematics of Large Eddy Simulation of Turbulent Flows*

Berselli and Iliescu (2003), *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **159**, 411-430

## The gradient model

- The gradient model for the subfilter stress

$$\underbrace{\tau_{ij} = \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)}_{\#1}$$

$$\underbrace{\tau_{ij} = \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_k} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)}_{\#2}$$

- Promises
  - Good correlations with actual subfilter-scale stresses
- Problems (2)
  - Turbulent stresses  $\overline{u'_i u'_j} \sim \mathcal{O}(\delta^4)$ , hence **not** modeled
- Possible remedies (2)
  - Add higher-order contribution from expansion method

## The higher-order gradient model

- The higher-order gradient model for the subfilter stress

$$\tau_{ij} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + f(u_k) \delta^4}_{\#1} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6)$$

$$\tau_{ij} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_k} + g(\bar{u}_k) \delta^4}_{\#2} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6)$$

- Promises
  - Better correlation with actual subfilter-scale stresses
- Problems
  - ‘More linearly unstable’ when supplemented to Burgers’ equation: no finite amount of eddy viscosity can damp perturbations.
- Possible remedies
  - Adapt/regularize the model
- Preliminary numerical tests
  - Approach #1. Seems numerically stable?

## Numerical setup

- Filtered Navier-Stokes equations

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j) = -\frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{Re} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \underbrace{(\overline{u_i u_j} - \bar{u}_i \bar{u}_j)}_{\tau_{ij}}$$

- Model equations (approach #1)

$$\frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (\bar{v}_i \bar{v}_j) = -\frac{\partial \bar{q}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{Re} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{v}_i}{\partial x_j \partial x_j} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_k} + f(v_k) \delta^4 \right)}_{\#1}$$

- Drop bars
- Assume  $v \approx \bar{u}$ ,  $q \approx \bar{p}$

## Numerical setup

- Discretization of model (approach #1)

- Boole's numerical integration rule (1D)

$$\bar{u} = \frac{1}{\delta} \int_{x' = x - \frac{\delta}{2}}^{x + \frac{\delta}{2}} u(x') dx'$$

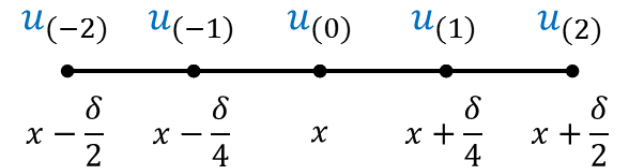
$$= \frac{7}{90}u\left(x - \frac{\delta}{2}\right) + \frac{32}{90}u\left(x - \frac{\delta}{4}\right) + \frac{12}{90}u(x) + \frac{32}{90}u\left(x + \frac{\delta}{4}\right) + \frac{7}{90}u\left(x + \frac{\delta}{2}\right) + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6)$$

$$= \sum_{l=-2}^2 \alpha_{(l)} u_{(l)} + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6)$$

- Subfilter-scale model

$$\tau_{11} = \overline{uu} - \bar{u}\bar{u} = \sum_{l=-2}^2 \alpha_{(l)} u_{(l)}^2 - \left[ \sum_{l=-2}^2 \alpha_{(l)} u_{(l)} \right]^2 + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6)$$

- Extension to 3D: sum in each direction, using  $5^3$  points
- Choice of filter length:  $\delta = 4h$

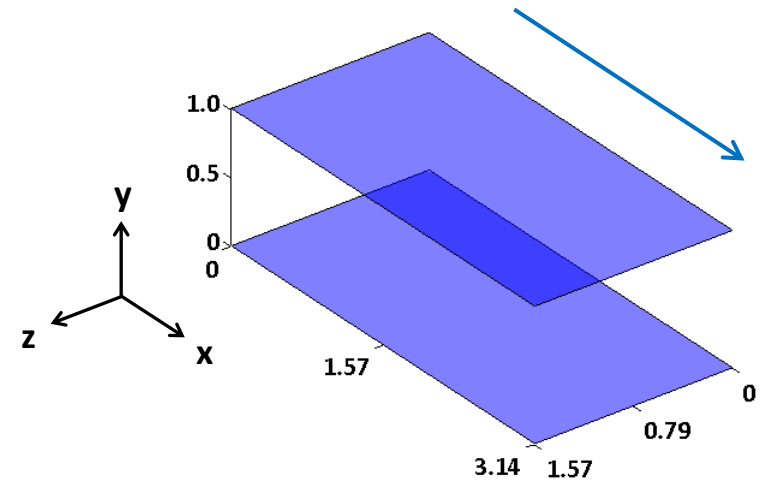


## Numerical setup

- Discretization recipe
  - Finite-volume method on a staggered grid
  - Explicit second-order accurate time-stepping method
  - Fourth-order symmetry-preserving spatial discretization
  - Higher-order gradient model discretization

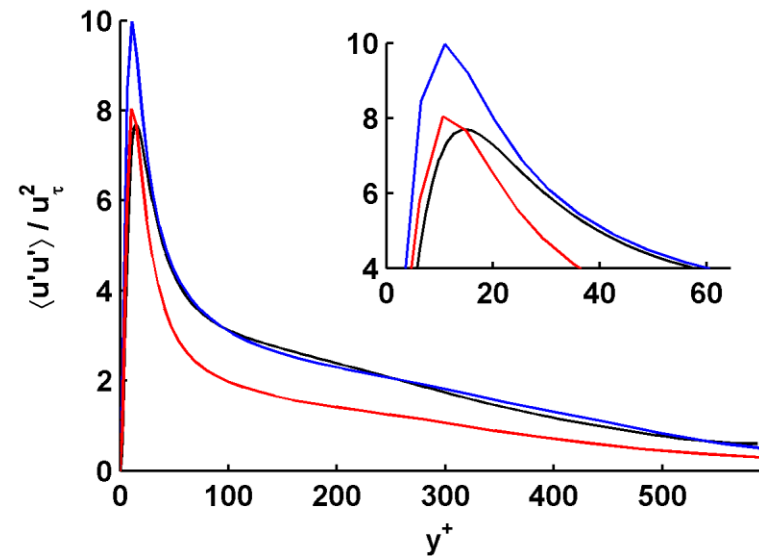
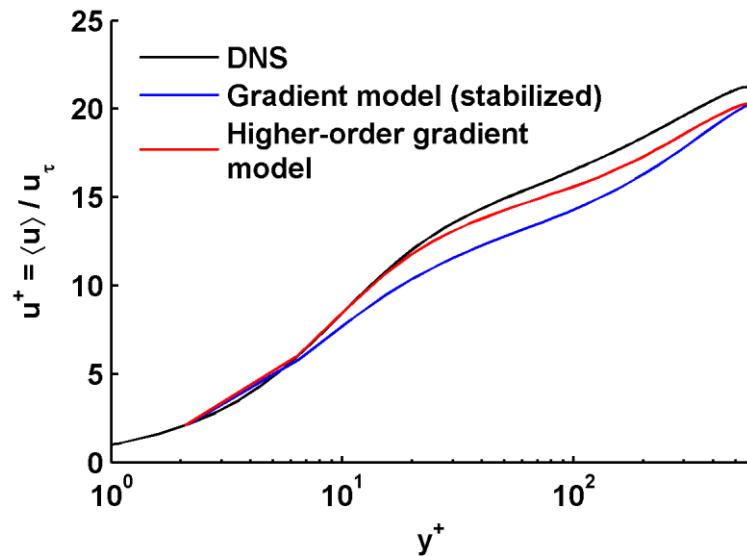
## Numerical test case

- Turbulent plane channel flow
  - Periodic in  $x$  and  $z$ -directions
  - Mass flow prescribed
  - Friction Reynolds number  $Re_\tau = 590$
- Grid
  - LES:  $64^3$  nonuniform grid for a  $\pi * 1 * \pi/2$  channel compared to
  - DNS:  $384 * 257 * 384$  grid



## Preliminary numerical results

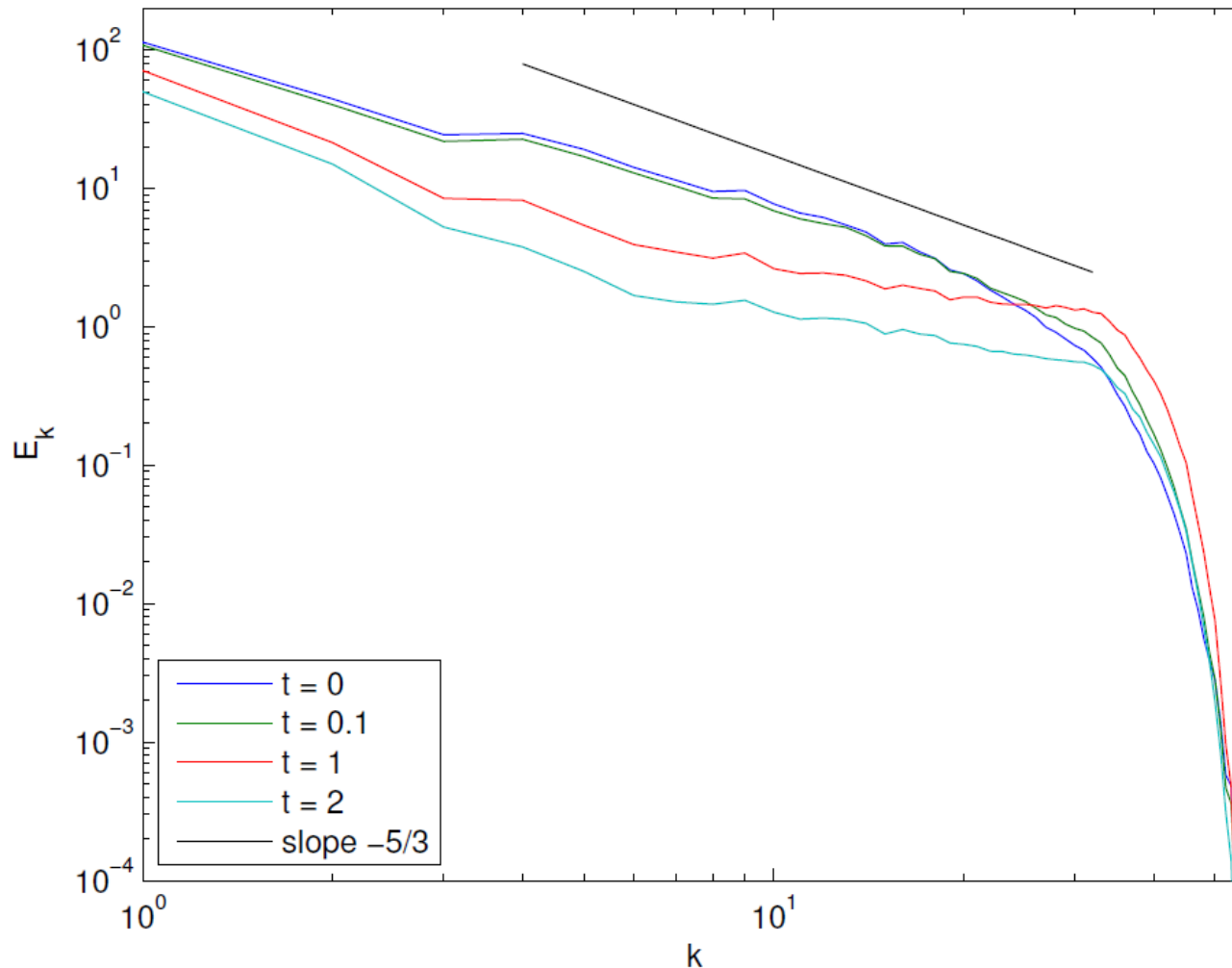
- Turbulent plane channel flow
  - Velocity profile:  $u^+$
  - Reynolds stress profile:  $\langle u'u' \rangle$





## Preliminary numerical results

- Homogeneous isotropic turbulence



?

## Review

- Large-eddy simulation
  - Filtering
  - Closure problem
  - Closure models
- Expansion deconvolution method
  - Mathematically recover subfilter-scale stresses
  - Gradient model
  - Higher-order gradient model
- Preliminary numerical results
  - Velocity and Reynolds stress profiles for a turbulent channel flow
  - Energy spectrum for homogeneous isotropic turbulence

## Future work and questions

- Future work
  - Use the ‘true’ deconvolution model  $\tau_{ij}(\bar{u}_k)$  (approach #2)
  - Adapt expansion deconvolution-type models to stabilize them
  - And..
- Questions
  - (Global) dissipation properties reproduced well by most models, how to properly model dispersive effects?
    - Shape and scaling laws of spectra?
    - Correlation between subfilter/subgrid stress tensors from models and from DNS?
    - ...

Thank you for your attention!



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## The higher-order gradient model

- Approach #1 with box filter

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{ij} = & \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \left[ \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_1} + \dots \right] \\ & + \frac{1}{1440} \delta^4 \left[ \begin{aligned} & 2 \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_1^2} \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x_1^2} + \dots && \text{Pure second derivatives} \\ & 10 \frac{\partial^2 u_i}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + \dots && \text{Mixed second derivatives} \\ & 3 \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial^3 u_j}{\partial x_1^3} + \dots && \text{Pure third derivatives} \\ & 5 \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial^3 u_j}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2^2} + \dots && \text{Mixed third derivatives} \end{aligned} \right] \\ & + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6) \end{aligned}$$

## The higher-order gradient model

- Approach #2 with box filter

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{ij} = & \frac{1}{12} \delta^2 \left[ \frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_1} + \dots \right] \\ & + \frac{1}{1440} \delta^4 \left[ \begin{aligned} & 2 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_1^2} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_1^2} + \dots && \text{Pure second derivatives} \\ & 10 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + \dots && \text{Mixed second derivatives} \\ & -2 \frac{\partial \bar{u}_i}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial^3 \bar{u}_j}{\partial x_1^3} + \dots && \text{Pure third derivatives} \end{aligned} \right] \\ & + \mathcal{O}(\delta^6) \end{aligned}$$