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Stochastic excitation of streaky boundary layers

Jérôme Hœpffner

Luca Brandt, Dan Henningson

Department of Mechanics, KTH, Sweden





Boundary layer excited by free-stream turbulence



Fully turbulent inflow and flat plate

Turbulent free-stream

- \rightarrow receptivity
- \rightarrow streaks
- \rightarrow streak instability
- \rightarrow turbulent spots
- \rightarrow turbulent boundary layer

(Image by Philipp Schlatter,

LES of bypass transition, Tuesday, D31)



Boundary layer stability

TS waves:

Large Reynolds

2D waves

Exponential growth



Streaks:

Subcritical Reynolds Large external disturbances Transient growth





Secondary instability of streaks

Streaks instability is at amplitude 26% of the free stream velocity

inflectional profile

 \rightarrow Inviscid instability

Maybe an other mechanism at lower amplitude?

Contours of streamwise velocity, yz plane:



(Luca Brandt, PhD thesis)



Secondary transient growth of the streaks



Primary growth: streaks

Secondary growth

Assume the boundary layer is excited by the FST at all downstream position \rightarrow streaks is generated, then streaks is disturbed

Possibility of transient growth on top of the streaks: Schoppa & Hussain, JFM(2002).



Energy growth: sinuous perturbations

Transient growth: energy envelopes



Streak amplitude: 25% of free-stream velocity



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Question

How likely are those initial excitation in a FST boundary layer?

Will this growth mechanism be active with realistic disturbances?



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Statistical description

Farrell& Ioannou, POF(1993):Stochastic forcing of the linearized Navier–Stokes equations.

FST is erratic, instationnary, we describe it by its statistics \rightarrow two point correlation

Average, or expectation operator E.

Two-point correlation: $P_u(x, x') = E[u(x)u(x')]$ of u at x and x'.

For 3D flow: P(x, x', y, y', z, z', t, t').



Covariance matrix

Correlation is **covariance** normalized to unit variance.



Two point correlation, varying in x

Correlation matrix



Two-point correlation of FST



Isotropic turbulence: Von-Karman spectrum

Energy spectra:





Covariance matrix:



Covariance in *y*:



FST is only in the free-stream





Covariance matrix with ramping



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POD modes from the covariance matrix

Two-point correlation data has many dimensions \rightarrow show coherent structures

Energy content of the flow structures tells about flow coherence

POD modes are the eigenmodes of the covariance matrix



POD modes of the FST



Faster oscillation \rightarrow more damped, many spatial frequencies are present



Lyapunov equation

Explicit state solution:

$$\frac{\partial P(t,t)}{\partial t} = A\left(\underbrace{e^{At}P_{0}e^{A^{H}t} + \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{A(t-\tau)}We^{A^{H}(t-\tau)}d\tau}_{P(t,t)}\right) + \left(\underbrace{e^{At}P_{0}e^{A^{H}t} + \int_{0}^{\infty} e^{A(t-\tau)}We^{A^{H}(t-\tau)}d\tau}_{P(t,t)}\right)A^{H} + \underbrace{e^{A0}We^{A^{H}0}}_{W}$$



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Lyapunov equation

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = AP + PA^H + W, \quad P(0) = P_0$$

Initial condition problem

No stochastic forcing: W = 0Stochastic initial condition

 $\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = AP + PA^H, \quad P(0,0) = P_0$

 \rightarrow Covariance varies in time

Forced problem

With stochastic forcing: $W \neq 0$ Long time after initial condition

 $0 = AP + PA^H + W$

 \rightarrow Reached statistical steady state



Streaky flow excited by FST: Stochastic initial value problem



The FST is the flow initial condition



POD modes, $\alpha = 0.05$



Flow structure with maximum energy



Comparison FST/optimal



FST initial condition: u,v,w







Worst case initial condition: u,v,w





Comparison of flow structures: Streamwise velocity





(LES of bypass transition : Philipp Schlatter)



Comparison of flow structures: Streamwise shear





(LES of bypass transition : Philipp Schlatter)



Conclusions

- 1. Possibility of energy growth of $\mathcal{O}(1000)$ for subcritical streak
- 2. FST description using two-point correlation
- 3. Computation of state two-points correlation using Lyapunov equation
- 4. Response to FST involves transient growth mechanism
- 5. Secondary transient growth explains observed streak structure
- → Bypass transition involves TG mechanism twice Does this explain streak breakdown?







Computation of the transient growth

Power Iteration:

- \bullet Consider initial guess $q^0(0)$
- March forward in time with dynamic equation : $q^0(\tau) = \mathcal{H}_{\tau} q^0(0)$
- March backward in time with adjoint equation: $q^1(0) = \mathcal{H}_{\tau}^+ q^0(\tau)$
- Renormalize energy

Each of these power iteration magnifies the component of the initial guess on the optimal initial condition.

Convergence in less than 20 iterations \rightarrow well separated eigenvalues



Numerical solution of Lyapunov equation

Solve: $AX + XA^H + W = 0$

1. Schur decomposition $A = UA'U^H$, $\rightarrow A'$ upper diagonal, U orthogonal.

2. Resulting equation $A' \stackrel{X'}{U^H X U} + \stackrel{X'}{U^H X U} A'^H + \stackrel{W'}{U^H W U} = 0$

3. Use Kronecker product \otimes

$$A \otimes B \triangleq \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B & a_{12}B & \dots & a_{1m}B \\ a_{21}B & a_{22}B & \dots & a_{2m}B \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1}B & a_{n2}B & \dots & a_{nm}B \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\vec{(A'X' + X'A'^H + W')} = 0$$
$$= \underbrace{(I \otimes A' + \overline{A'} \otimes I)}_{\mathcal{F}} \vec{(X')} + \vec{(W')}$$

4. Solve by backward substitution



 ${\mathcal F}$ has upper diagonal structure



Energy balance in streak secondary transient growth

$$K_t = \int (\underbrace{-uv \, U_y}_{T_y} \underbrace{-uw \, U_z}_{T_z} \underbrace{-\omega \cdot \omega / \mathsf{Re}}_{D}) \, dy \, dz \, dx,$$

- K_t : time variation of kinetic energy
- T_y : production due to interaction with wall normal mean shear
- T_z : production due to interaction with spanwise mean shear
- D: dissipation due to viscosity



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Production and dissipation in streak secondary transient growth



- Spanwise shear always contributes to energy growth
- Wall-normal shear gives then takes: Orr mechanism related to structure tilting

Disturbance can gain energy



Streaky flow excited by FST: Forced problem



The flow is constantly excited by FST





Unstable sinuous eigenmode



For large streak amplitude $\alpha=0.3$ eigenvalues:



Corresponding eigenfunction:



Transient growth analysis

To build the dynamical operator:

- Use PSE to optimize disturbance
- Input forcing in DNS
- \bullet Extract fully saturated streamwise velocity profile U(y,z)
- Apply linear stability analysis, using Floquet

Build matrix $A \rightarrow$ eigenvalues for asymptotic stability singular values for transient growth





Stability equations

Perturbation (v, η) on the base flow U(y, z)

Wavelike behaviour in the streamwise direction:

 $[v,\eta] = [\widehat{v}(y,z,t), \widehat{\eta}(y,z,t)] \ e^{i\alpha x} + c.c.$

Derivation similar to the Orr–Sommerfeld/Squire equation:

 $\begin{cases} \Delta v_t + U\Delta v_x + U_{zz}v_x + 2U_zv_{xz} - U_{yy}v_x - 2U_zw_{xy} - 2U_{yz}w_x = \frac{1}{Re}\Delta\Delta v, \\ \eta_t + U\eta_x - U_zv_y + U_{yz}v + U_yv_z + U_{zz}w = \frac{1}{Re}\Delta\eta. \\ \text{(with } w_{xx} + w_{zz} = -\eta_x - v_{yz}) \end{cases}$

 + Floquet analysis: base flow and disturbance are periodic in spanwise direction.
Look only at fundamental modes
Chebyshev discretization in wall-normal direction



Computation of the transient growth

• Dynamic system with initial condition:

$$\dot{q} = Aq, \quad q(0) = q_0$$

• Input-output operator \mathcal{H}_{τ} :

$$q(t) = \mathcal{H}_{\tau}(q_0)$$

• Maximum possible growth:

$$G(\tau) = \max_{q} \frac{||\mathcal{H}_{\tau}q||_{E}}{||q||_{E}} = \max_{q} \frac{(\mathcal{H}_{\tau}q, \mathcal{H}_{\tau}q)}{(q, q)} \triangleq \max_{q} \frac{(q, \mathcal{H}_{\tau}^{+}\mathcal{H}_{\tau}q)}{(q, q)},$$

• with adjoint operator:

$$(\mathcal{H}q_1, q_2) = (q_1, \mathcal{H}^+q_2), \quad \forall q_1, q_2$$

Max $G(\tau)$ is the largest eigenvalue of operator $\mathcal{H}_{\tau}^+\mathcal{H}_{\tau}$



Varicose energy evolution

For 4 different streak amplitudes: energy envelope for several α .





Flow structures for streak transient growth Sinuous: Varicose:

Optimal disturbance:



Optimal response



Optimal disturbance:



Optimal response





Sinuous energy evolution

For 4 different streak amplitudes: energy envelope for several α .

