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Soutenance de thèse de doctorat de l'Université Paris 11 8 décembre 2010 - ENS Paris Thèse préparée au Laboratoire de Météorologie Dynamique, sous la direction de Marie Farge et Kai Schneider







Biker in a wind tunnel

Ultraviolet sun (TRACE, NASA)

Earth (Apollo 17)





Flows in plasmas and fluids



Wavelet-based study of dissipation by fluid flows Flows in plasmas and fluids



Wavelet-based study of dissipation by flows

Kinetic theory of gases and plasmas

- By definition, **flows** are collective motions in **systems of many interacting particles**.
- They are best described using **reduced models** which focus on macroscopic quantities.
- Kinetic theory takes as main quantity the probability *f*(**x**,**v**,t)d**x**d**v** of finding a particle at position **x** with velocity **v** at time t,
- in general, **it is not possible to obtain a closed equation** on *f* using only Hamiltonian mechanics,
- only in the limiting case of weak interactions (collisionless gas or plasma).

Fluids

Sometimes an even more reduced description is preferable
 → fluid description

$$m(\mathbf{x},t) = \int f(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{v},t) d\mathbf{v}$$
, $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x},t) = \frac{1}{n} \int \mathbf{v} f(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{v},t) d\mathbf{v}$, etc.
density fluid velocity

- As before, no closed equation follows only from conservation principles, except in the case of a **perfect fluid**.
- In particular, the viscosity of such a perfect fluid vanishes. It is called **inviscid**.

Dissipative models

- To get closed equations in more general cases (for example, collisional plasmas and viscous fluids), dissipative terms have to be added, yielding:
 - in kinetic theory, the **Boltzmann equation**:

$$\partial_t f + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} f + \frac{\mathbf{F}}{m} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} f = C(f)$$

- in fluid theory, the Navier-Stokes equations:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p = \nu \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \end{cases}$$
pressure

Here we focus on 2D incompressible Navier-Stokes flows

Boundary conditions

- Most of the time, flowing systems are not isolated, and boundary conditions must be specified,
- For a fluid in contact with a solid, we impose nonpenetration:

$$u_n = 0$$

• Navier (1823):

$$u_{ au} = -lpha \partial_n u_{ au}$$
slip length

• The special case $\alpha = 0$ (**no-slip**) is relevant to a lot of situations.



Navier-Stokes initial-boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} \underbrace{\partial_{t}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_{t} + \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})}_{(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u})} = -\nabla p + \underbrace{\partial_{t}(\boldsymbol{\omega}_{t} + \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v})}_{Re} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0} \\ (\text{no body forces} \rightarrow \text{decaying flow}) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{Re} = \frac{UL}{\nu} \end{aligned}$$

Boundary conditions

$$u_n=0$$
 and $u_ au=-lpha\partial_n u_ au$ on $\partial\Omega$

Initial conditions

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x},t=0)=\mathbf{u}_0$$

In 2D this is a well-posed problem

Flows in plasmas and fluids



Wavelet-based study of dissipation by flows

Definition of dissipation

- Lagrangian mechanics are **insufficient** to predict the behavior of the majority of many-particles systems.
- But **equilibrium** implies equivalence between a (very) **large number** of microscopic configurations.
- This **principle of equivalence** is sufficient to predict macroscopic properties at equilibrium!
- Statistical distributions compatible with this principle are **entropy maxima**.
- The phenomenon by which these equilibria are attained is called **dissipation**.



Dissipation is a matter of choice!

- The definition of dissipation **depends** on the definitions of equilibrium:
 - return to local equilibrium \rightarrow collisional dissipation,
 - return to global equilibrium \rightarrow fluid dissipation.
- Close to equilibrium, dissipation can be predicted by a linear theory (Onsager relations, etc).
- But far from equilibrium, open questions:
 - does the standard dissipation still play a role?
 - is there another relevant dissipation?

Dissipation as randomization

trajectory of reduced model



Dissipation as randomization

trajectories of more complete model

Dissipation can be seen as voluntary forgetfulness. The goal is to make predictions from incomplete knowledge.

time

Definition of "dissipation by flows"

- Particle systems subject to flows are **out of local** thermodynamic equilibrium.
- There is a dissipation associated to this departure, which we will call **molecular dissipation**.
- Corresponding coupling coefficient: viscosity or collisionality.
- To understand the effects that are **due to the flow**, we study the following regimes:
 - vanishing viscosity limit,
 - vanishing collisionality limit.

Molecular dissipation in 2D Navier-Stokes

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \Delta \mathbf{u} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \end{cases}$$
energy $E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{u}^2$
 $\frac{dE}{dt} = -2\nu Z$
enstrophy $Z(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \omega^2$ $\omega = \nabla \times \mathbf{u} \\ \text{vorticity} \end{cases}$
 $\frac{dZ}{dt} = -2\nu P + \frac{\nu}{2} \oint_{\partial\Omega} \nabla \omega^2 \cdot \mathbf{n}$ $P(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} |\nabla \omega|^2$



Re ≈ €







Energy dissipation at vanishing viscosity?



Enstrophy dissipation at vanishing viscosity?



Enstrophy dissipation at vanishing viscosity?



The effect of a wall: dipole-wall collision

- We now show an example where the molecular dissipation of **energy** does not vanish at vanishing viscosity.
- In 2D this effect can be observed only in the presence of a solid boundary!

solid

- We consider a periodic channel.
- As intial condition we take a vorticity dipole which will collide with the wall on the right.



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Numerical method

• We use the volume penalization method to approximate noslip boundary conditions at the walls:

$$egin{aligned} \partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot oldsymbol{
abla}) \mathbf{u} &= -oldsymbol{
abla} p + rac{1}{ ext{Re}} \Delta \mathbf{u} - rac{1}{\eta} \chi \mathbf{u} \ \end{aligned}$$
 where $\eta \propto ext{Re}^{-1}$

• Then, pseudo-spectral discretization with grid resolution such that :

$N \propto {\rm Re}$

• Perform computations for Re up to **7980**.

Results





Subregions

Define two subregions of interest in the flow :

- **region A** : vertical slab of width 10N⁻¹ along the wall,
- **region B** : square box of side length 0.025 around the center of the main structure.

Integrate over A and B the **local** energy dissipation rate:

$$\varepsilon = v |\nabla u|^2$$



Boundary conditions

- A posteriori, check what were the boundary conditions seen by the flow.
- The **normal velocity** is smaller than 10⁻³ (to be compared with the initial RMS velocity 0.443).
- The tangential velocity approximately satisfies a Navier boundary condition:

 $u_y + \alpha(\text{Re})\partial_x u_y = 0$

• With a slip length scaling like

 $\alpha(\text{Re}) \propto \text{Re}^{-1}$



What about 3D flows?

• The same phenomena are likely to play a role in 3D flows.



Fig. from Sreenisvasan (1984)







Wavelet-based study of dissipation by flows

Flow dissipation seen in Fourier space



Orthogonal wavelet bases



Orthogonal wavelet bases

$$\psi_{\lambda}(x) = 2^{j/2}\psi(2^{j}x - i)$$



Orthogonal wavelet bases

2d scaling function and wavelets



Wavelets and spatial localization

Brownianopotion



Wavelet thresholding

• Orthogonal wavelet decomposition:

$$f=\sum_{\lambda\in\Lambda}\widetilde{f}_\lambda\psi_\lambda$$
 , where $\ \ \widetilde{f}_\lambda=\int_{\mathbb{T}^2}f\psi_\lambda$,

• Idea: split wavelet coefficients between two sets, "large coefficients" and "small coefficients":

$$f = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_C} \widetilde{f}_\lambda \psi_\lambda + \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_I} \widetilde{f}_\lambda \psi_\lambda$$

Where large and small are defined with respect to a certain threshold:

$$|\widetilde{f_\lambda}| > \Theta_\lambda$$
 or $|\widetilde{f_\lambda}| \le \Theta_\lambda$



Scale-wise coherent vorticity extraction



Dissipation of coherent enstrophy



Flow dissipation seen in wavelet space



Summary and conclusion

- In the simplified framework of 2D incompressible fluids, we have shown that two dissipative mechanisms could exist completely **independently** of each other:
 - a purely macroscopic tendency to randomization of the flow,
 - a residual microscopic effect occuring in very localized structures.
- Impossible to distinguish them using Fourier analysis.
- But **wavelets** can be used to study them.

Perspectives

- The interaction of the two dissipative mechanisms could be studied in the framework of a forced wall-bounded 2D flow.
- Is there **collaboration** or **competition** between them?
- What predictions can we make from the knowledge of the coherent flow only?
- What is the statistical uncertainty associated with these predictions?
- Can this approach be extended to 3D flows?

References

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Proust on dissipation...

Le temps efface tout comme effacent les vagues Les travaux des enfants sur le sable aplani Nous oublierons ces mots si précis et si vagues Derrière qui chacun nous sentions l'infini.

Marcel Proust