

# The effect of base flow uncertainty on transitional channel flows

**Armin Zare**

Joint work with:

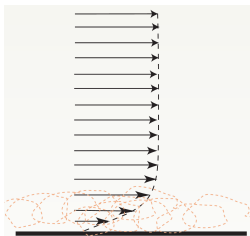
Dhanushki Hewawaduge



2022 American Control Conference, Atlanta, GA

# Reynolds decomposition

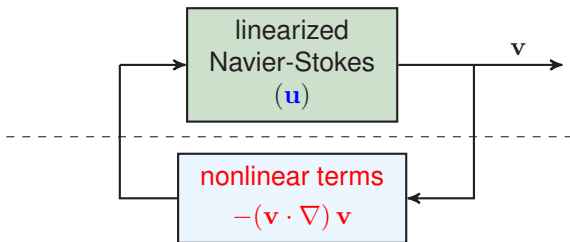
$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$$



$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{E}(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}) \quad \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{v}) = 0$$

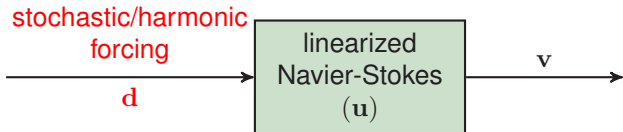
# Low-complexity modeling

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_t &= -(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{v} - (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \frac{1}{Re} \Delta \mathbf{v} - (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} \\ 0 &= \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}.\end{aligned}$$



# Low-complexity modeling

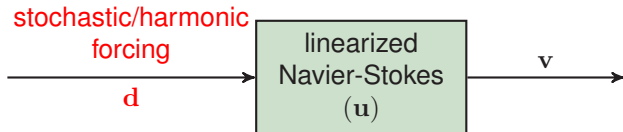
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_t &= -(\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{v} - (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \frac{1}{Re} \Delta \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{d} \\ 0 &= \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}.\end{aligned}$$



# Low-complexity modeling

## uncertainty

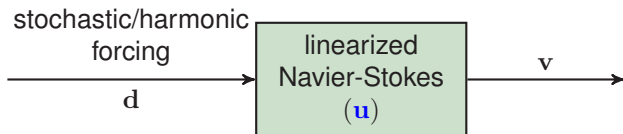
unmodeled dynamics, exogenous disturbances, base flow, ...



# Low-complexity modeling

## uncertainty

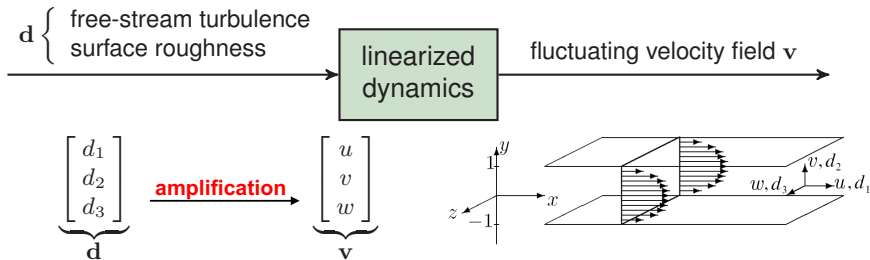
unmodeled dynamics, exogenous disturbances, [base flow](#), ...



- Ensemble average of velocity fields from experiments or simulations
- Steady-state solution to the NS equations
- Reynolds-averaged NS: turbulence modeling
- ...

# Input-output analysis

Quantifying **flow sensitivity** via **spatio-temporal frequency responses**



## Implications:

- insights into underlying physical mechanisms

Trefethen et al., *Science* '93

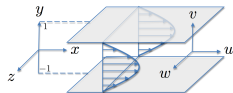
Farrell & Ioannou, *Phys. Fluids* '93

Bamieh & Dahleh, *Phys. Fluids* '01

Jovanović & Bamieh, *J. Fluid Mech.* '05

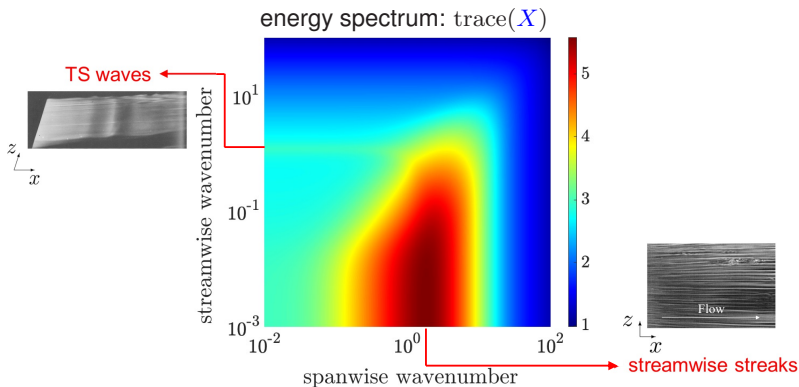
# Energy amplification

Flow subject to white-in-time forcing  $\mathbf{d}$



- ★ solution to the Lyapunov equation at various  $(k_x, k_z)$  pairs

$$A X + X A^* + \Omega = 0$$

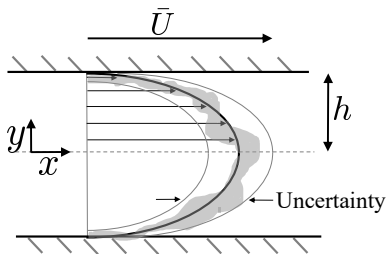




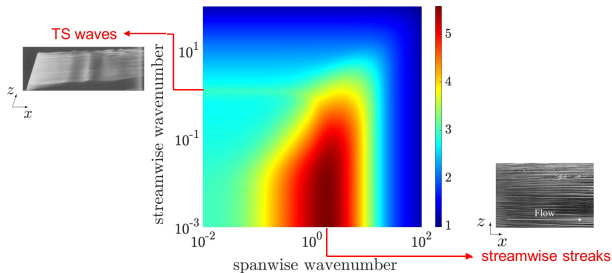
## Uncertain base flow

$\gamma_u(y, t)$  zero-mean white-in-time stochastic process

$$\mathbf{u}(y, t) = \bar{\mathbf{u}}(y) + \alpha \gamma_u(y, t)$$



Effect of base flow uncertainty  $\gamma(t)$  on  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{stability} \\ \text{frequency response} \end{array} \right.$



# Fluctuation dynamics

Linearization around *uncertain* base flow

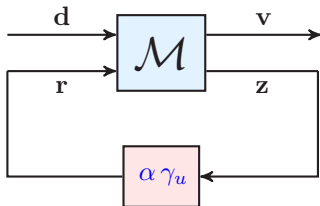
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\boldsymbol{\psi}}(t) &= \mathbf{A}(t) \boldsymbol{\psi}(t) + \mathbf{d}(t) \\ \mathbf{v}(t) &= \mathbf{C} \boldsymbol{\psi}(t)\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(t) = \underbrace{\bar{\mathbf{A}}}_{\downarrow} + \underbrace{\alpha \gamma_u \mathbf{A}_u}_{\text{stochastic}}$$

**nominal dynamics**                      **stochastic**

# Input-output reformulation

## Stochastic feedback interconnection



$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{z} \end{bmatrix} = \mathcal{M} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{r} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{M} : \begin{cases} \dot{\boldsymbol{\psi}}(t) = \bar{A} \boldsymbol{\psi}(t) + \mathbf{r}(t) + \mathbf{d}(t) \\ \mathbf{z}(t) = A_u \boldsymbol{\psi}(t) \\ \mathbf{v}(t) = C \boldsymbol{\psi}(t) \end{cases} \quad \mathbf{r}(t) = \alpha \gamma_u(t) \mathbf{z}(t)$$

# Mean-square stability

- Stability of the mean and boundedness of output variances
- Stochastic multiplicative uncertainty *can* lead to **a loss of stability**
- Conditions for mean-square stability:
  - ✓  $\bar{A}$  Hurwitz
  - ✓ spectral radius  $\rho(\mathbb{L}) < 1$

$$\text{Loop gain operator } \mathbb{L} : \begin{cases} \mathbb{L}(\bar{\mathbf{R}}) = \Gamma \circ (A_u X A_u^\dagger) \\ \bar{A} X + X \bar{A}^\dagger = -\bar{\mathbf{R}} \end{cases}$$

## Second-order statistics

- Generalized Lyapunov equation

$$\bar{A}X + X\bar{A}^* + \alpha^2 \Gamma \circ (A_u X A_u^*) = -\Omega$$

**Computationally expensive!**

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**Computationally expensive!**

- ✓ Perturbation analysis; small amplitudes  $\alpha$

$$X = X_0 + \alpha^2 X_2 + O(\alpha^4)$$

↓

$$E = E_0 + \alpha^2 E_2 + O(\alpha^4)$$

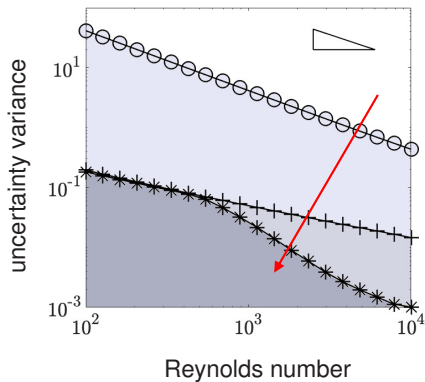
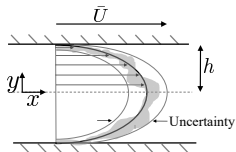
Hewawaduge & Zare, *Phys. Rev. Fluids* '21

# Results



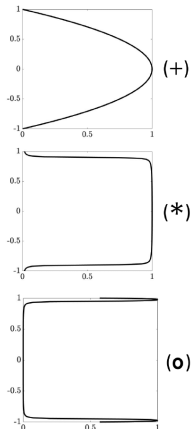
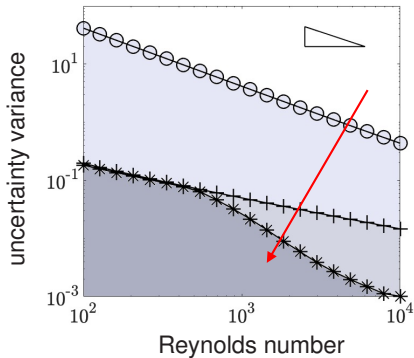
# Mean-square stability

$$(k_x, k_z) = (1, 1)$$



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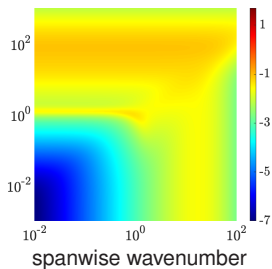
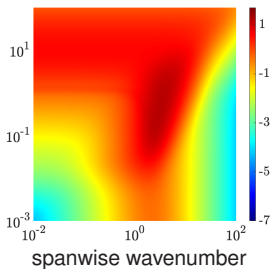
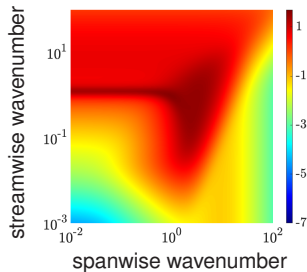
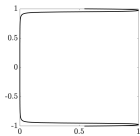
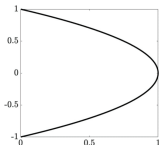
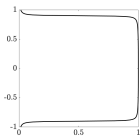
★  $O(R^{-1})$  scaling in agreement with (deterministic) worst-case analysis

Bottaro, Corbett, Luchini, *J. Fluid Mech.* '03

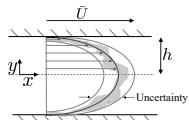
# Correction to energy spectrum

$$X = X_0 + \alpha^2 X_2 + O(\alpha^4)$$

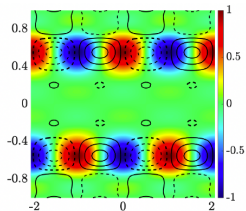
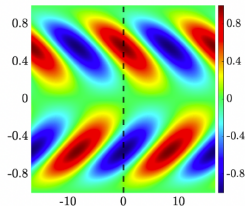
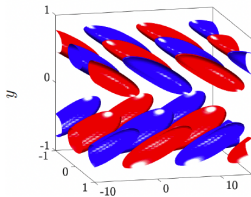
$$E_c = \alpha^2 \text{trace}(X_2)$$



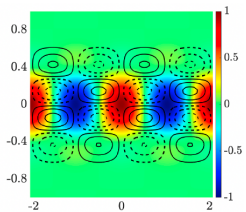
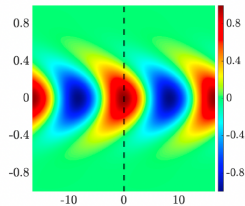
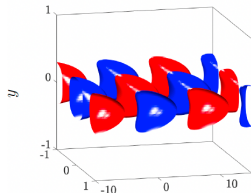
# Flow structures



Nominal



With perturbed base flow;  $\alpha = 1$ ,  $\sigma_u^2 = 0.21$



# Summary

Effect of stochastic base flow perturbations:

- mean-square stability
- frequency response

Reynolds number scaling of critically stable variance levels

Robustness of streaks ( $k_x = 0$ );  $R$ -dependance of variance amplification

$$E(k_z) = f(k_z)R + g(k_z)R^2 + h(k_z)R^3$$

Hewawaduge & Zare, *Phys. Rev. Fluids* '21

