

Today, we will:

- Discuss the closure problem of turbulence
- Derive and discuss the kinematic Reynolds stress transport equation
- Derive and discuss the mean kinetic energy (MKE) equation and the turbulent kinetic energy (tke) equation

5. The Closure Problem

Consider

- incompressible
- no buoyancy
- energy eq uncoupled from cont. & mom.

a. mean flow eqs

cont. $\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$ mom. $\rho_0 \left[\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial t} + U_j \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} \right] = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[\mu \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} - \rho_0 \overline{u_i u_j} \right]$

4 eqs + 4 unk. + 6 new unknowns

Mathematically, the system of eqs is not "closed"

★ We call this the Closure Problem in turbulence

How do we close the set of eq's?

↓
We can write an exact eq. for the Reynolds stress tensor.

b. Reynolds stress transport eq.

↓
Actually, derive a transport eq. for the kinematic Reynolds stress

$\overline{u_i u_j}$

See Handout

The Turbulence Closure Problem and Derivation of the Reynolds Stress Equation

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1. Introduction – Governing Equations and the Closure Problem

Consider a simple case of turbulent flow – incompressible flow ($\rho = \rho_0$) without gravity. In this situation, the energy equation is *uncoupled* from the continuity and momentum equations. The mean flow equations therefore reduce to:

$$\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_i} = 0 \quad (1), \quad \text{and} \quad \rho \left(\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial t} + U_j \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} \right) = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\mu \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} - \overline{\rho u_i u_j} \right) \quad (2).$$

This represents 4 equations and 4 primary unknowns (U_i and P), which are functions of (x_i and t). But, the **Reynolds stress tensor**, $\tau_{ij} \equiv -\rho u_i u_j$ in the momentum equation represents *six additional unknowns*! Note that these equations are exact (within the limits of the approximation of incompressible flow, of course). Thus, *these four equations are insufficient to mathematically close the problem*. This is known as the **turbulence closure problem**. Somehow we must come up with additional equations or assumptions to mathematically close the problem.

2. Derivation of the [Exact] Kinematic Reynolds Stress Transport Equation

We generate an *exact* transport equation for the Reynolds stresses by clever manipulation of the equations for the turbulent fluctuations (Actually, the equation will be for the **kinematic Reynolds stress tensor** $\overline{u_i u_j}$ for convenience.):

- **Step 1.** Start with the momentum equation for the turbulent fluctuations, neglect buoyancy, and use k instead of j as the dummy (repeating) index. This gives $\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + U_k \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} + \dots$, which is a *vector* equation since i is a free index.
- **Step 2.** Multiply the equation from Step 1 by u_j . This generates a *tensor* equation since i and j are both unrepeated (free) indices. This gives $u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + U_k u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} + \dots$, where k is still a dummy (repeating) index.
- **Step 3.** Interchange subscripts i and j everywhere in the equation from Step 2. (This is permitted since i and j are free indices, as long as it is done in the same manner for every term in the equation.) This gives $u_i \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial t} + U_k u_i \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k} + \dots$.
- **Step 4.** Add the equations generated by Steps 2 and 3. Utilize the inverse product rule, and make use of the continuity equation for the turbulent fluctuations to simplify some terms. After some algebra, this yields $\frac{\partial(u_i u_j)}{\partial t} + U_k \frac{\partial(u_i u_j)}{\partial x_k} + \dots$.
- **Step 5.** Take the ensemble average of the equation generated in Step 4. Some terms drop out since $\overline{u_i} = \overline{u_j} = 0$.

Rearrangement yields the **Kinematic Reynolds Stress Transport Equation**: Note: $\frac{D}{Dt} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + U_k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k}$. *Material derivative*

$$\frac{D}{Dt} (\overline{u_i u_j}) = - \left(\overline{u_i u_k} \frac{\partial U_j}{\partial x_k} + \overline{u_j u_k} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_k} \right) + \frac{p}{\rho} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left[\overline{u_i u_j u_k} \right] - \nu \frac{\partial^2 (\overline{u_i u_j})}{\partial x_k^2} + \frac{p}{\rho} (\overline{u_i \delta_{jk}} + \overline{u_j \delta_{ik}}) - 2\nu \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k}$$

Note: Since i and j are free indices, the above equation represents 9 (6 independent) components. The terms are defined below:

- I Total rate of change** of kinematic Reynolds stress following a fluid particle.
- II Production** of kinematic Reynolds stress, commonly given the symbol P_{ij} .
- III Pressure-strain** term, often called the **intercomponent transfer** term, commonly given the symbol π_{ij} or ϕ_{ij} . This term represents a *redistribution* of kinematic Reynolds stress [with no net gain or loss].
- IV Spatial transport** (diffusion) of kinematic Reynolds stress by three mechanisms: turbulent fluctuations, molecular (viscous) effects, and pressure fluctuations.
- V Viscous dissipation** of kinematic Reynolds stress, commonly given the symbol $-\varepsilon_{ij}$ where $\varepsilon_{ij} \equiv 2\nu \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_k}$.

This equation is still *exact*, and we now have six extra independent transport equations to mathematically close the problem. However, notice some *new unknowns* in the Reynolds stress transport equation in terms **III**, **IV**, and **V**! These new unknowns make the problem once again mathematically unclosed. Further transport equations for these terms can be developed if desired,

e.g., $\frac{D}{Dt} (\overline{u_i u_j u_k}) = \dots$, but then *even more new unknowns* would appear! **The closure problem of turbulence cannot be resolved analytically (exactly)**. This is where **turbulence modeling** comes in – to mathematically *close* the equation set.

6. Mean $\bar{\cdot}$ Turbulent Kinetic Energy Equations

a. MKE Mean Kinetic Energy Eq. (see Kundu Sec. 13.6, 7)



transport eq. for $\frac{1}{2} U_i U_i = \frac{1}{2} U_i^2 =$ Mean kinetic energy per unit mass
↓
(still implies i summed)

b. TKE turbulent kinetic energy eq.

transport eq. for $\frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i u_i} =$ turbulent k.e. per unit mass

See Handout

Mean Kinetic Energy and Turbulent Kinetic Energy Equations

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1. Mean Kinetic Energy (MKE) Equation

Consider nearly incompressible turbulent flow (Boussinesq approximation). Manipulation of the mean continuity and momentum equations yields an equation for the *mean kinetic energy per unit mass* $\frac{1}{2}U_i^2$,

$$\frac{D}{Dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} U_i^2 \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[\underbrace{-\frac{P U_j}{\rho_0}}_{\text{II}} + \underbrace{2\nu U_i E_{ij}}_{\text{III}} - \underbrace{\overline{u_i u_j U_i}}_{\text{IV}} \right] + \underbrace{\overline{u_i u_j} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}}_{\text{V}} - \underbrace{\frac{g}{\rho_0} \overline{\rho} U_3}_{\text{VI}} - \underbrace{2\nu E_{ij} E_{ij}}_{\text{VII}} \quad (1)$$

where the terms are labeled and defined as follows:

- I** *Total rate of change* of mean kinetic energy per unit mass following a fluid particle.
- II** Rate of *spatial transport* of mean kinetic energy per unit mass by pressure work.
- III** Rate of *spatial transport* of mean kinetic energy per unit mass by mean viscous stresses.
- IV** Rate of *spatial transport* of mean kinetic energy per unit mass by turbulent stresses.
- V** Rate of *destruction* (or production) of mean kinetic energy per unit mass into turbulence.
- VI** Rate of *destruction* (or production) of mean kinetic energy per unit mass into potential energy.
- VII** Rate of *viscous dissipation* of mean kinetic energy per unit mass (turns mean kinetic energy into thermal energy, i.e., heat). *This term is always negative*, indicating a *loss* of mean kinetic energy per unit mass.

Note: In Equation (1), $E_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial U_j}{\partial x_i} \right) = \text{mean strain rate tensor}$, sometimes called S_{ij} (as in T&L). (2)

2. Turbulent Kinetic Energy (tke) Equation (also called the *tke budget*)

Manipulation of the continuity and momentum equations for the turbulent fluctuations yields an equation for the *turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass* $q^2 = \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_k u_k}$ (Note: q^2 is sometimes given the notation K or k or tke),

$$\frac{D}{Dt} (q^2) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[\underbrace{-\frac{1}{\rho_0} \overline{p u_j}}_{\text{II}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i^2 u_j}}_{\text{III}} + \underbrace{2\nu \overline{u_i e_{ij}}}_{\text{IV}} \right] - \underbrace{\overline{u_i u_j} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}}_{\text{V}} + \underbrace{g \alpha \overline{w T'}}_{\text{VI}} - \underbrace{2\nu \overline{e_{ij} e_{ij}}}_{\text{VII}} \quad (3)$$

where the terms are labeled and defined as follows:

- I** *Total rate of change* of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass following a fluid particle.
- II** Rate of *spatial transport* of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass by pressure work.
- III** Rate of *spatial transport* of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass by turbulent velocity fluctuations (convective diffusion).
- IV** Rate of *spatial transport* of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass by turbulent viscous stresses.
- V** Rate of *production* (or destruction) of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass from mean shear.
- VI** Rate of *production* (or destruction) of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass from fluctuating potential energy (buoyancy).
- VII** Rate of *viscous dissipation* of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass (turns tke into thermal energy, i.e., heat). *This term is always negative*, indicating a *loss* of turbulent kinetic energy.

Note: In Equation (3), $e_{ij} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right) = \text{fluctuating strain rate tensor}$, sometimes called s_{ij} (as in T&L). (4)

3. Rate of Viscous Dissipation of Turbulent Kinetic Energy per Unit Mass

The last term (**VII**) in Equation (3) is extremely important in analysis of turbulent flows. The negative of term **VII** is given a special name and symbol – the *viscous dissipation rate of turbulent kinetic energy per unit mass*, sometimes called the *scalar dissipation rate* or simply the *dissipation rate*,

$$\varepsilon \equiv 2\nu \overline{e_{ij} e_{ij}} \quad (5)$$

Since $\overline{e_{ij} e_{ij}}$ is positive definite, *the viscous dissipation rate is always a positive quantity* ($\varepsilon > 0$).

ε of famous $k-\varepsilon$ turbulence model

Comments about the t.k.e. eq.

(1) The turbulence production term

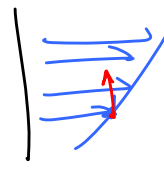
$$\overline{-u_i u_j \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}}$$

appears in the MKE eq., but with opposite sign

Recall, \overline{uv} typ. < 0 when $\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} > 0$

$z=0$:

∴ \overline{uv} typ. > 0 when $\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} < 0$



In $z=0$ $\overline{uv} \frac{\partial U}{\partial y}$ typ. negative

$$\overline{u_i u_j \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}} \text{ is typically negative}$$

- ∴ represents
- loss of mean k.e. into turbulence
 - gain of t.k.e. from the mean flow

(2) Viscous dissipation term $-2\nu \overline{e_{ij} e_{ij}} = -\epsilon$

$\epsilon > 0$ (the term in the eq. is ∴ \ominus ve)

Always represents a loss of t.k.e. (into heat ultimately)

(3) Notation - be careful!

Author	<u>Viscous transport term</u>	<u>Viscous dissipation term</u>
<u>Kundu</u>	$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (2\nu \overline{u_i e_{ij}})$	$-\epsilon = -2\nu \overline{e_{ij} e_{ij}}$
<u>Tennekes & Lumley</u>	$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (2\nu \overline{u_i S_{ij}})$	$-\epsilon = -2\nu \overline{S_{ij} S_{ij}}$

Same as Kundu since $S_{ij} = e_{ij}$

<u>Panton</u>	Same as T; L	Same as T; L
<u>Wilcox</u>	$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\nu \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right)$ $(k = g^2 = tke)$	$-\xi = -\nu \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j}$
	Not the same as the others	Not the same as the others

The sum of these two = the sum of the two terms in the other authors' notation

(4) the notation

<u>Author</u>	<u>Reynolds decomposition</u>	<u>Defn^{i, symbol} of tke</u>
<u>Kundu</u>	$\tilde{u}_i = U_i + u_i$	$g^2 = \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i u_i} = tke$
T; L	$\tilde{u}_i = U_i + u_i$	$\frac{1}{2} g^2 = \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i u_i} = tke$
* <u>Wilcox</u>	$u_i = U_i + u_i'$	$k = \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i' u_i'} = tke$
<u>Panton</u>	$\tilde{u}_i = U_i + u_i$	$\frac{1}{2} g^2 = \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i u_i} = tke$
<u>White Viscous Fluid Flow</u>	<u>$u_i = \bar{u}_i + u_i'$</u>	<u>$K = \frac{1}{2} \overline{u_i' u_i'}$</u> All ν are different!