SLE in 2d Turbulent Systems with G. Boffetta, A. Celani, G. Falkovich



Strong fluctuations + infinite many strongly interacting degrees of freedom \rightarrow scale invariance...if in addition... + locality \rightarrow conformal invariance

Here... out of equilibrium systems + (non?) locality \rightarrow ???????

Basics of 2D turbulence.

Fluid Mechanics: Governed by the Navier-Stokes equation with (random) forcing (+ dissipation + friction). Non linearity.

$$\partial_t u + u \cdot \nabla u - v \nabla^2 u + u / \tau = -\nabla P + f, \quad \nabla u = 0$$

Vorticity $\omega = \nabla \wedge u$ transported by the fluid (without ...)

$$\partial_t \omega + u \cdot \nabla \omega - \nu \nabla^2 \omega + \omega / \tau = F$$

All moments conserved (without...) \rightarrow 2 quadratic conserved quantities:

Energy
$$E = 1/2 \int d^2 x \, u^2$$
; Enstrophy $Z = 1/2 \int d^2 x \, \omega^2$

In a stationnary state, balance between injection (f.u) /dissipation ($\nu(\nabla u)^2$).

Basics... the double cascade.

Fully developed turbulence; $Reynolds \rightarrow \infty$ ie. $\nu \rightarrow 0$. Energy and enstrophy are injected at length L_f . Enstrophy dissipated at small scale but not energy \rightarrow double cascade

Direct cascade: enstrophy flux ζ inertial range $L_f \gg \ell \gg L_d$. scaling $u_\ell \sim \zeta^{1/3} \ell$ possibly anomalous Inverse cascade: ensergy flux ϵ scaling $u_\ell \sim \epsilon^{1/3} \ell^{1/3}$ inertial range $L, L_\tau \gg \ell \gg L_f$. possibly not anomalous



Basics... Numerical simulations.

Inverse cascade Inertial range $10^{-2} < \ell < 1$ boxe size =1

Parameters: *N* spatial resolution, dx grid spacing, v viscosity, α friction, ℓ_f forcing scale, ℓ_d =enstrophy dissipative scale,





N	dx	ν	α	u_{rms}	ℓ_f	ℓ_d	ϵ_I	ϵ_{v}	
2048	$4.9 imes 10^{-4}$	2×10^{-5}	0.015	0.26	0.01	2.4×10^{-3}	$3.9 imes 10^{-3}$	1.8×10^{-3}	2.
4096	$2.4 imes 10^{-4}$	5×10^{-6}	0.024	0.26	0.01	1.2×10^{-3}	$3.9 imes 10^{-3}$	0.7×10^{-3}	3.2
8192	$1.2 imes 10^{-4}$	2×10^{-6}	0.025	0.27	0.01	$7.8 imes 10^{-4}$	$3.9 imes 10^{-3}$	0.3×10^{-3}	3.0
16384	$0.6 imes 10^{-4}$	1×10^{-6}	0.0	0.24	0.01	$5.5 imes 10^{-4}$	3.8×10^{-3}	0.2×10^{-3}	3.0



colored clusters of vorticity of given sign

2D (inverse) turbulence: vorticity clusters.

vorticity clusters: connected components of set of points with positive vorticity cluster boundaries: macroscopic zero isovorticity lines $(L_f = UV \text{ cutoff})$

A large macroscopic filled vorticity cluster



dark violet = filled holes

Frontier of a vorticity cluster Ext. perimeter of a vorticity cluster



exterior perimeter = closed fjords (L_f)

Fractal dimensions of vorticity clusters.

Naive KK scaling: $u_{\ell}^3 \sim \epsilon \ell$

Macroscopic cluster size L $\Gamma \equiv \int d^2 x \, \omega \sim \omega_L L^2 \propto L^{4/3}$ $\Gamma = \oint u \cdot d\ell \sim N_{L_f} \, u_{L_f} L_f \propto P$ Perimeter P $P \propto L^{4/3}$

Dim. of frontier = 7/4, (as SLE_6); Dim. of ext. perimeter = 4/3, (as $SLE_{8/3}$); Dim. of double points = 3/4.



More tests of conformal invariance.



Fraction of clusters of size between *s* and 1.1*s*

Fraction of clusters with boundary length between *b* and 1.1*b*

CFT prediction.

Reconstructing (discrete) SLE in 2D turbulence.



(i) Extract contour samples from turbulent flows;
(ii) Code them into conformal maps;
(iii) Reconstruct the (discrete) Loewner driving source;
(iv) Analyse their statistics.

The curves are discretized (set of points w_j) but coded into a discrete Loewner equation via composition of maps (iteration of discrete slits): $G^{(n)} = g_n \circ G^{(n-1)}$ where $g_n = \sqrt{(z-a_n)^2 + b_n} + a_n$ with $b^2 = (Imw_n)^2 = 4\Delta t_n$ and $a_n = Rew_n = \xi(t_n)$.

with
$$b_n^2 = (Imw_n)^2 = 4\Delta t_n$$
 and $a_n = Rew_n = \zeta(t_n)$

Then iterate... (the points move at each iteration)

Reconstructing (discrete) SLE in 2D turbulence \rightarrow **SLE(6).**



Statistics of $\xi(t)$ is close to that of a 1D Brownian motion \rightarrow SLE(6) but need for more tests...

Test of SLE in 2D turbulence.



Cardy's formula (blue): probability for a cluster to cross a rectangle
Watts-Dubedat formula (red): probability of 'four-legged' cluster joining all sides of a rectangle

– Schramm's formula (insert): probability that isovorticity line leaves the point $\rho e^{i\theta}$ to its right

 \rightarrow "some" conformal invariance in 2d turbulence....

Test of SLE in 2D turbulence.

Harris criteria.....

Long range correlation of $sign(\omega)$



Non Gaussianity Randomized phase....

 $\hat{\omega} = \int d^2k \, \omega_k e^{i\phi_k}$ Identical 2-point function (but not pdf) $< \xi(t)^2 >$ not linear in *t*.

 \rightarrow "some" conformal invariance in 2d turbulence....

Surface Quasi-Geostrophic (SQG) turbulence

Transport by the fluid (without ...) (*T* as ω):

 $\partial_t T + u \cdot \nabla T - \nu \nabla^2 T + T / \tau = F$

Non linearity: velocity $u^i = \varepsilon^{ij} \partial_j \Psi$ with $\Psi_{\mathbf{k}} = |\mathbf{k}|^{-\alpha} T_{\mathbf{k}}...$ (NS is $\alpha = 2$) Two quadratic conserved quantities (without...):

$$E = 1/2 \int d^2 x \, T \Psi$$
 ; $Z = 1/2 \int d^2 x \, T^2$

Two cascades: (small scale Z) and (large scale E) Scaling in the inverse cascade: $T_{\ell} \simeq \ell^H$ with $H = 2(1 - \alpha)/3$ In the following $\alpha = 1$.

SQG inverse cascade

Numerical simulations...

Log scaling: $< T_0 T_r > \propto \log(r/L_f)$



Non anomalous scaling. Pdf $(T_r, r) \simeq T_r^{-1} f(T_r / \log(r/L_f))$





Test of conformal invariance of T-clusters in SQG



(a) Mass versus radius
(b) Length versus radius
Fractal dim = 3/2
(c) Number of clusters versus mass
(d) Number of loops versus length
(e) Number of loops versus radius
(f) Number of loops versus area

Stat. idem as in O(2) model c=1 CFT.

SLE test of for T-clusters in SQG \rightarrow **SLE(4)**



Statistics of T-clusters in the same universality class as O(2) models

 \rightarrow why conformal invariance? analytic confirmation? why inverse cascade? for which class of outoff equilibrium systems??.....

Comparing with direct 2D turbulence.



Iso-loops in direct cascade are not SLEs different structure, differents spectrum of fractal dimensions