



# Turbulence

Tobias M. Schneider

Pierre Beck (TA)

Jean-Clement Ringenbach (TA)

Savya Deshmukh (TA)

09.05.2025

Vattenfall, Denmark

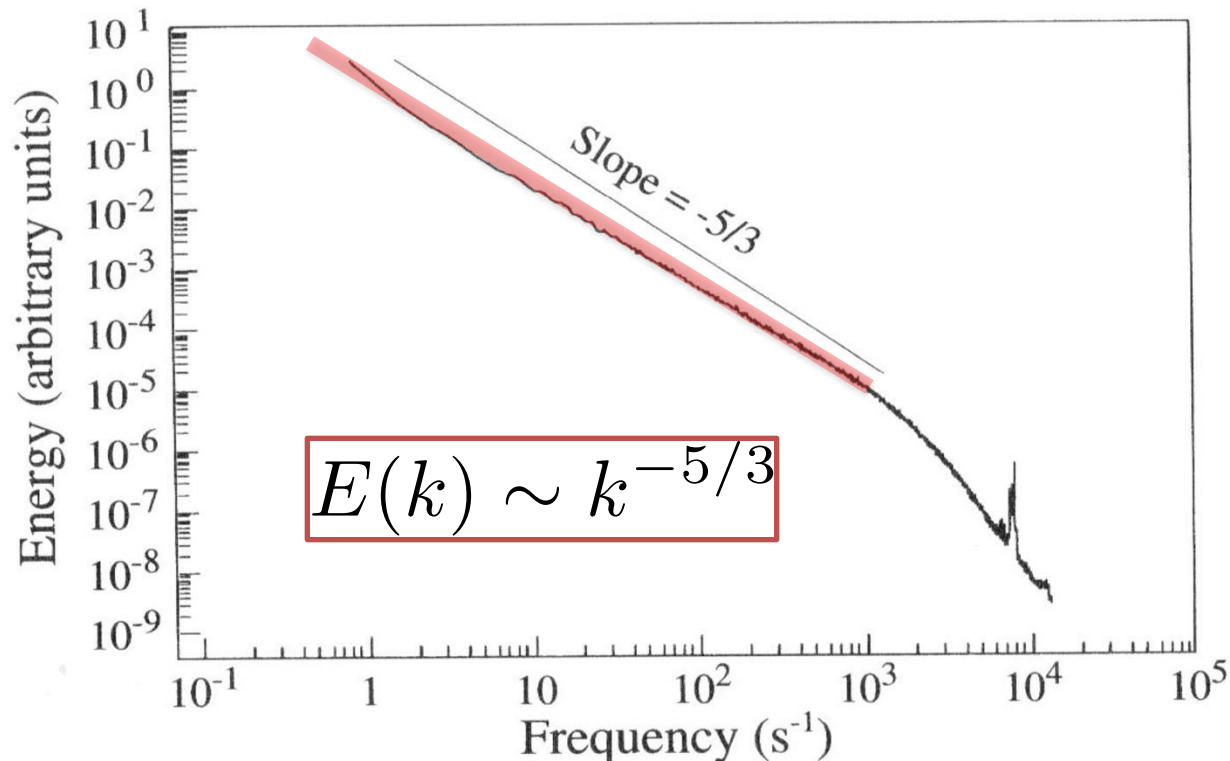
# Plan for today

1. Intermittency corrections / Intro Models (10h15-12h00)
2. Chaos Theory – Episode 2 (13h15-15h00) (Omid Ashtari)

# Ch. 8: Intermittency

Aim of this chapter: Demonstrate that K41 theory may need corrections

**Observation:** Energy spectrum



Or wavenumber  $k$  (Taylor frozen flow)

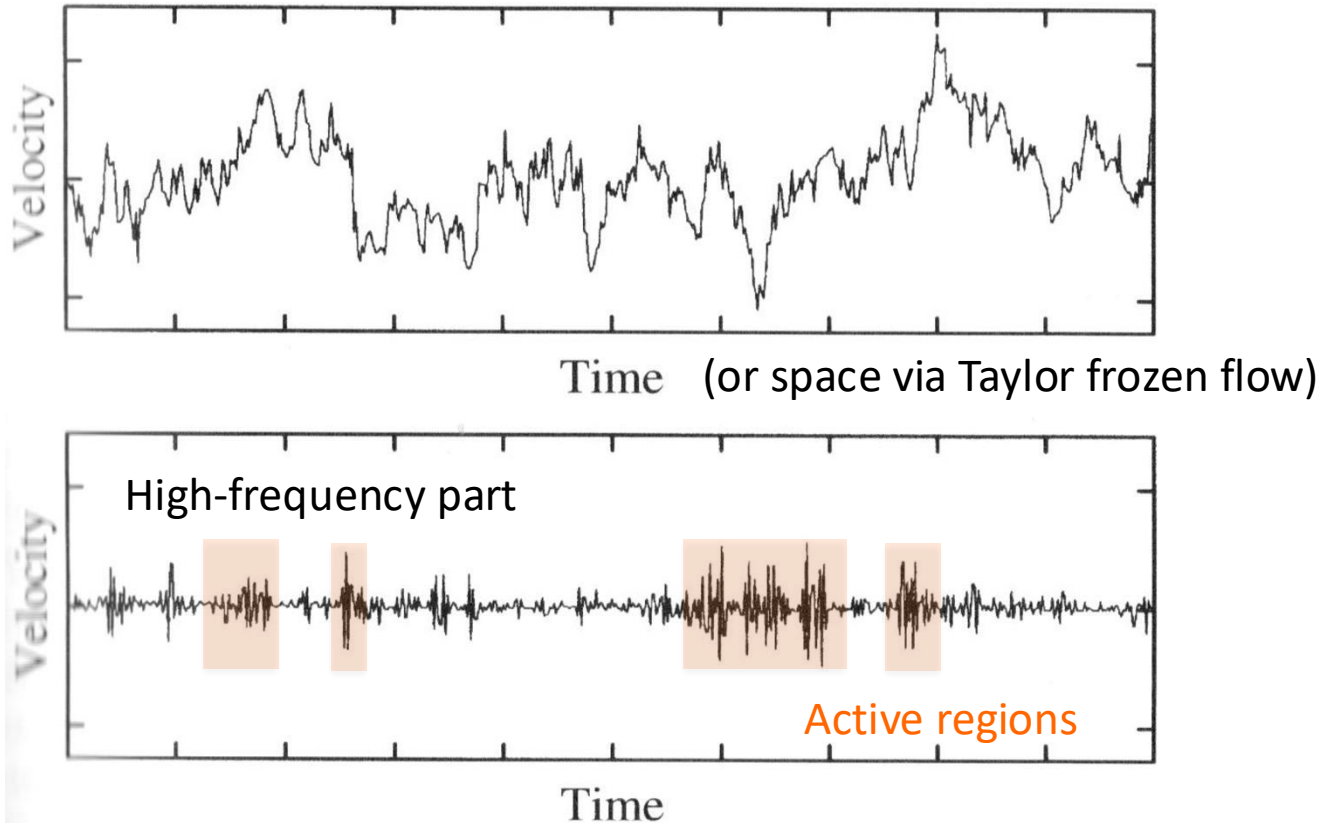
- K41 theory described data very well
- But: small deviations from  $-5/3$  scaling?

ONERA S1 windtunnel



# Intermittent turbulent signal

**Question:** Is the signal scale invariant (self-similar) – c.f. hypothesis 2



Turbulent jet

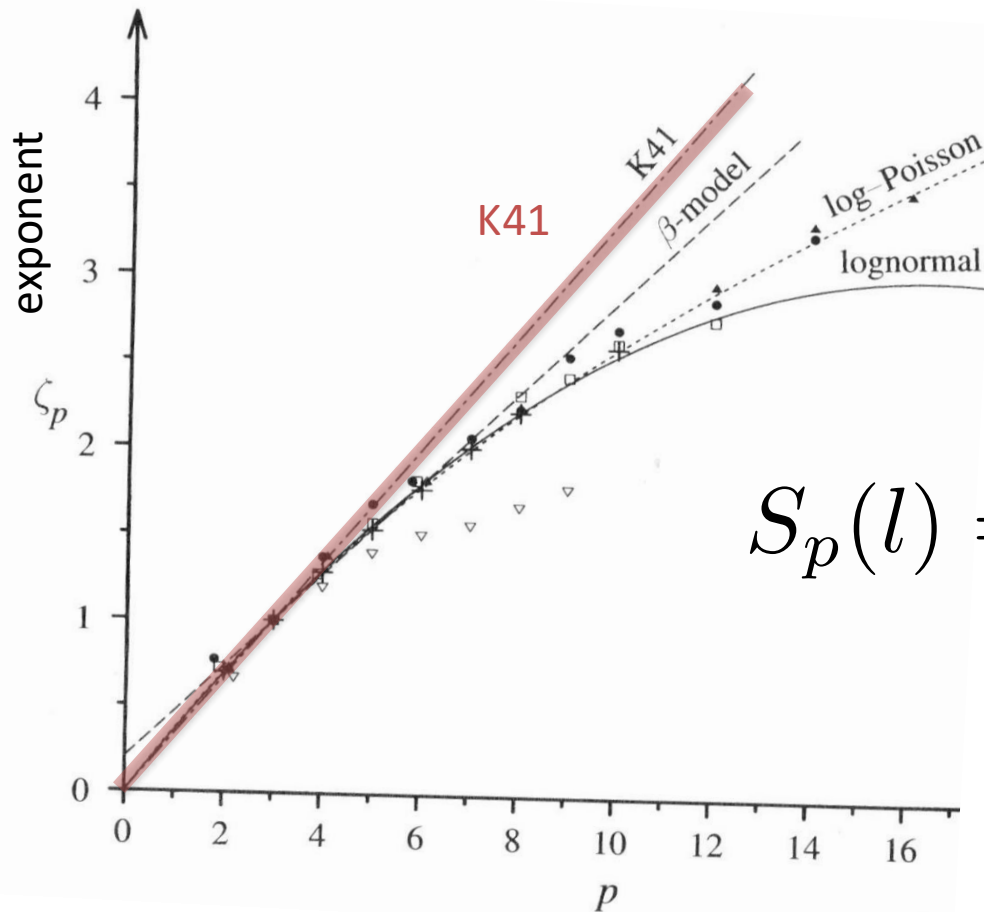


**Intermittent:** Activity only during a fraction of time

➡ Not self-similar (violates H2)

Here: Dissipation-range intermittency

# High-order structure functions

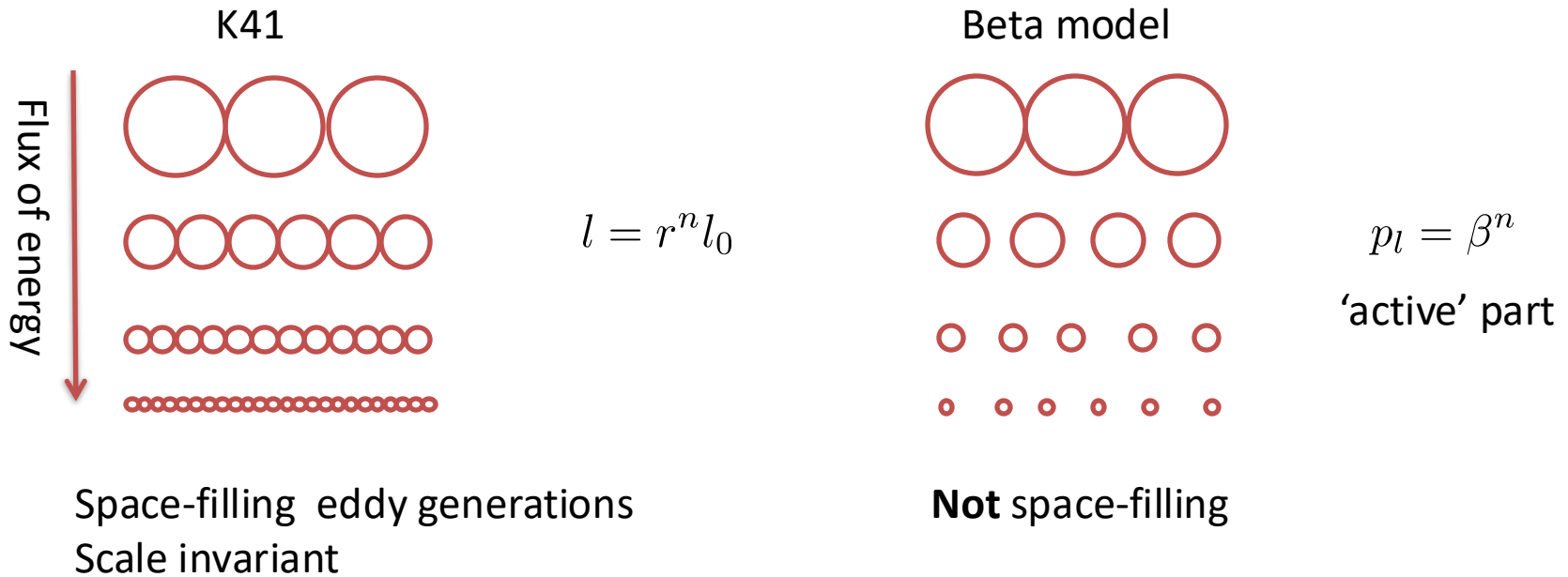


$$S_p(l) = \langle (\delta v_{||}(l))^p \rangle \propto l^{\zeta_p}$$

➡ Likely that there are *intermittency corrections* to K41 in the inertial range

# Intermittency models – Beta-model

Richardson cascade - cartoon



$$\zeta_p = \frac{p}{3}$$

$$\zeta_p = \frac{p}{3} + (3 - D)\left(1 - \frac{p}{3}\right) ; \quad 3 - D = \frac{\ln \beta}{\ln r}$$

# Summary turbulence theory

## 3 hypotheses

- H1: restored symmetries
- H2: self-similar scaling
- H3: finite dissipation

## Navier-Stokes equations

Energy transport

## Statistics

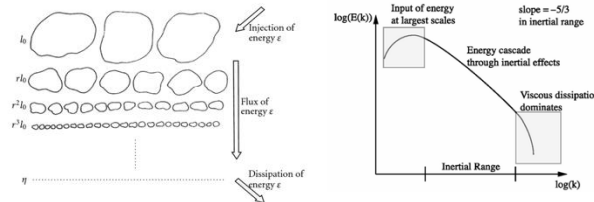
$E(k) \leftrightarrow$  correlations

K41 theory, including spectrum

$$E(k) \sim \epsilon^{2/3} k^{-5/3}$$

Physical picture

- Richardson cascade
- characteristic scales



Violation of H2 →

Intermittency corrections to K41 theory



# Fundamental open questions about turbulence

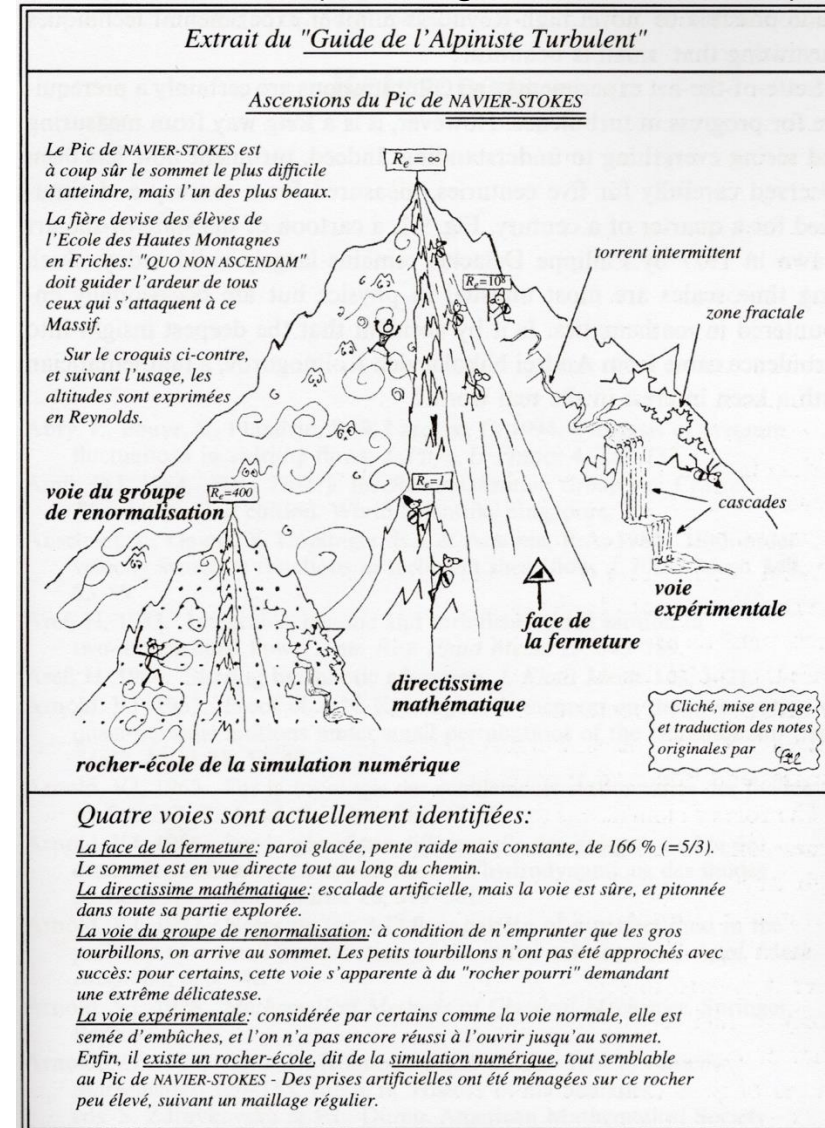
Feynman: "Turbulence is the most important unsolved Problem of classical physics"

- Intermittency corrections to K41
- Universality of the decay
- Transition to turbulence
- Smoothness of Navier-Stokes solutions
- .....

Exciting fundamental questions about the nature of turbulence remain

➔ One approach: **Dynamical Systems Theory**  
(tbc today 13h00 – 15h00)

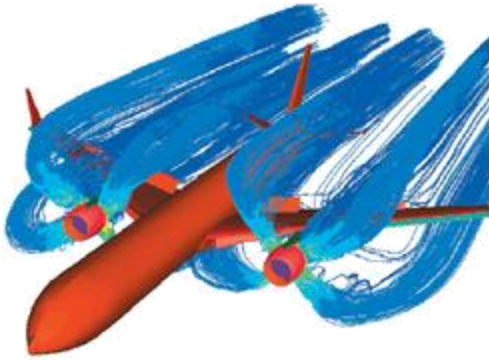
P. Delache, 1977 (observing turbulence research)





# Ch. 9 – Simulation and Models

Engineering problems involving turbulence - examples



## Typical tasks

- determine forces (drag, lift,...)
- design geometries optimizing forces
- ...

## Tools

- experiments (full-size / models)
- computer simulation CFD – *Computational Fluid Dynamics*

## Features of the flow:

- high Reynolds number
- complex geometries
- ...

**Question:** How to simulate the flow?

# The plan for the last classes

## 9.1 Introduction and motivation – Why models?

## 9.2 RANS Concepts

Reynolds decomposition and equations

- closure problem

eddy viscosity models

- mixing length

- k- $\epsilon$  model

- Reynolds stress models

## 9.3 LES (very short)

# Logistics for the remaining weeks

Reminder: Project deadline May 30 17h00 sharp

**May 16th:** No class but only Q&A (only 10h00 – 12h00)

- Project
- Remaining exercise sheets (and solutions)

**May 23rd:** RANS & LES – last class of the semester (!!!)

**Week of May 26th:** if possible, one extra Q&A session (tbc)