The background image shows an aerial view of a large wind farm. Numerous wind turbines are scattered across a field of green and yellow crops under a clear blue sky. The perspective is from above, looking down the rows of turbines.

# Turbulence

Tobias M. Schneider

Pierre Beck (TA)  
Jean-Clement Ringenbach (TA)  
Savya Deshmukh (TA)

14.03.2025

Vattenfall, Denmark

# Plan for today

- 1. Probabilistic description of turbulence – why?**
- 2. Review of statistical tools and methods**

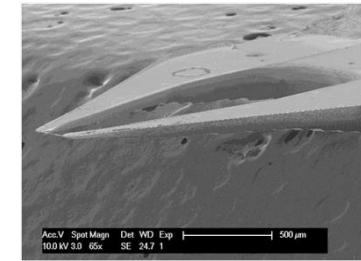
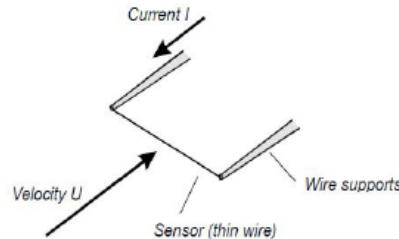
**Note: No exercises today -> postponed to next week**

# Ch. 3: Probabilistic description of turbulence – why?

ONERA S1 windtunnel



Anemometer – eg. Hot Wire



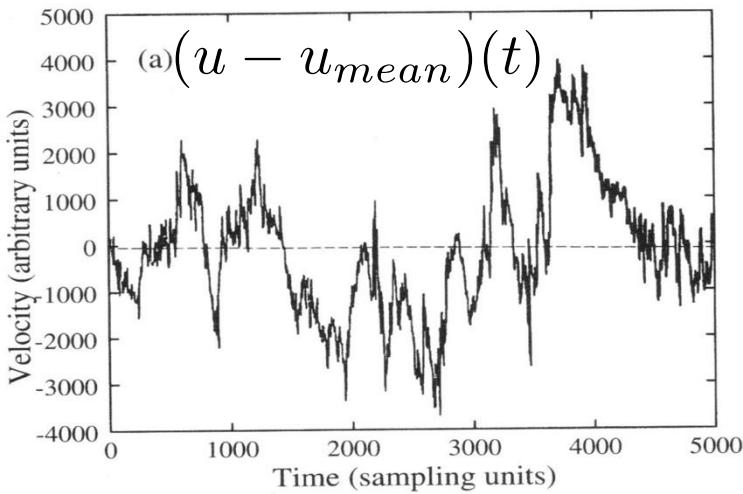
Schematic

Princeton NSTAP  
(Smits Lab)

**Collect Data:** Measure component of velocity at a fixed location

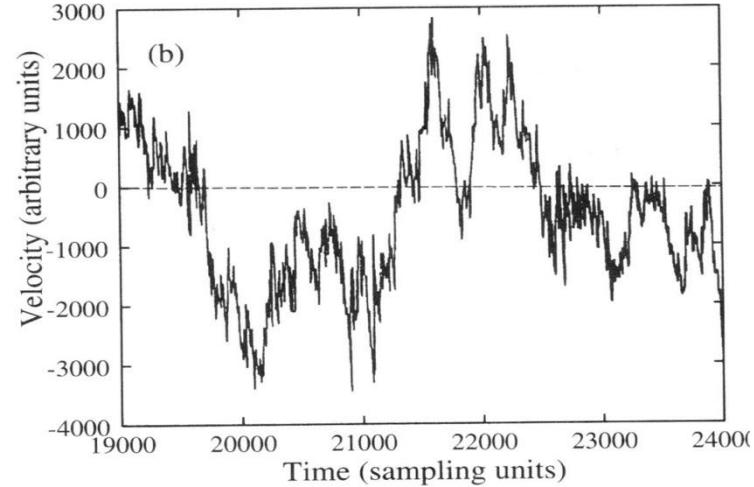
# Stochastic data

One second signal

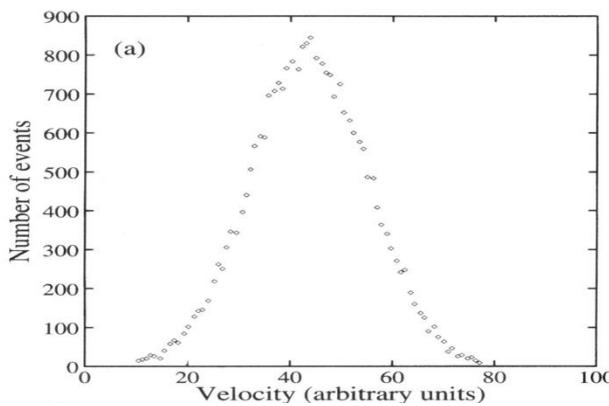


sampled at 5kHz

One second signal (later)

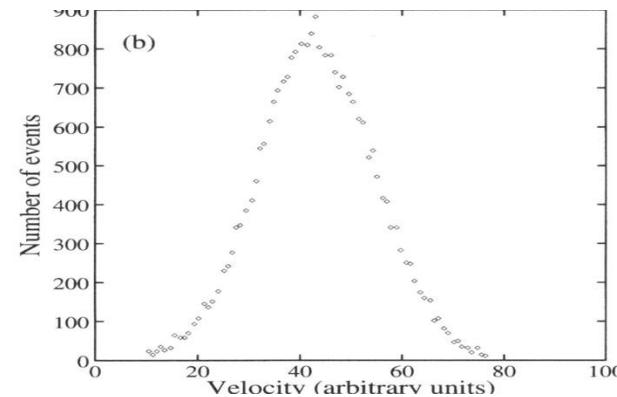


- (1) disorganized, structure on all (temporal) scales, 'chaotic'
- (2) unpredictable in detail
- (3) some properties appear reproducible



Histogram of stochastic  
signal:

Reproducible!!!!



*'Probabilistic description of turbulence'* (G I Taylor, 1930s)

# Deterministic Chaos

**Question:** Why a stochastic / probabilistic description when the Navier-Stokes equations are deterministic?

**Answer:** Chaotic dynamics of nonlinear dynamical systems

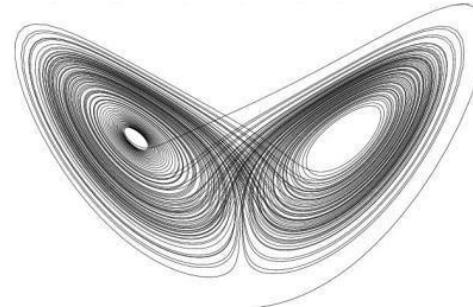
$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} \right) = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{f}.$$

**Example systems:** (1) discrete chaotic maps (see Frisch ch. 3.2)  
(2) here: Lorenz equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sigma(y - x),$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x(\rho - z) - y,$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = xy - \beta z.$$



Extremely sensitive dependence on initial conditions limits predictability (butterfly effect)  
-> stochastic description despite deterministic (chaotic) dynamics.

# Course outline

1. Introduction – fully developed turbulence
2. Symmetries and conservation laws
3. Probabilistic description of turbulence
4. Review: Statistical tools and methods

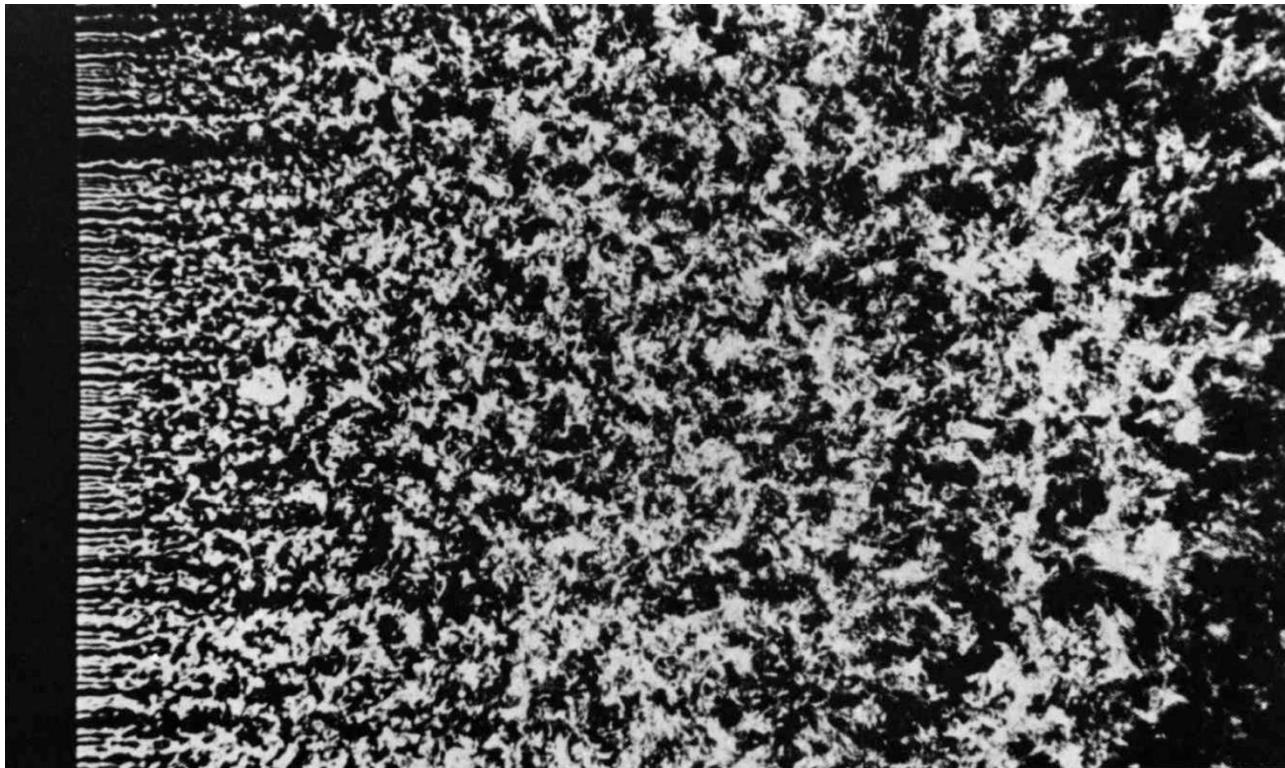
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5. Two experimental laws of fully developed turbulence
6. Kolmogorov's 1941 turbulence theory
7. Phenomenology
8. Intermittency – corrections to K41 theory
9. Modeling and simulation: DNS, RANS, LES,....
10. Ergodic Theory and Turbulence

# Filtering in space

Grid turbulence



**Observe:** Structures on many different scales