The background image shows an aerial view of a large wind farm. Numerous wind turbines are scattered across a field, with their blades creating a pattern of light and shadow against a bright, cloudy sky.

Turbulence

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Vattenfall, Denmark

Kolmogorov K41 theory - roadmap

Navier-Stokes equations

Energy transport

3 additional hypotheses

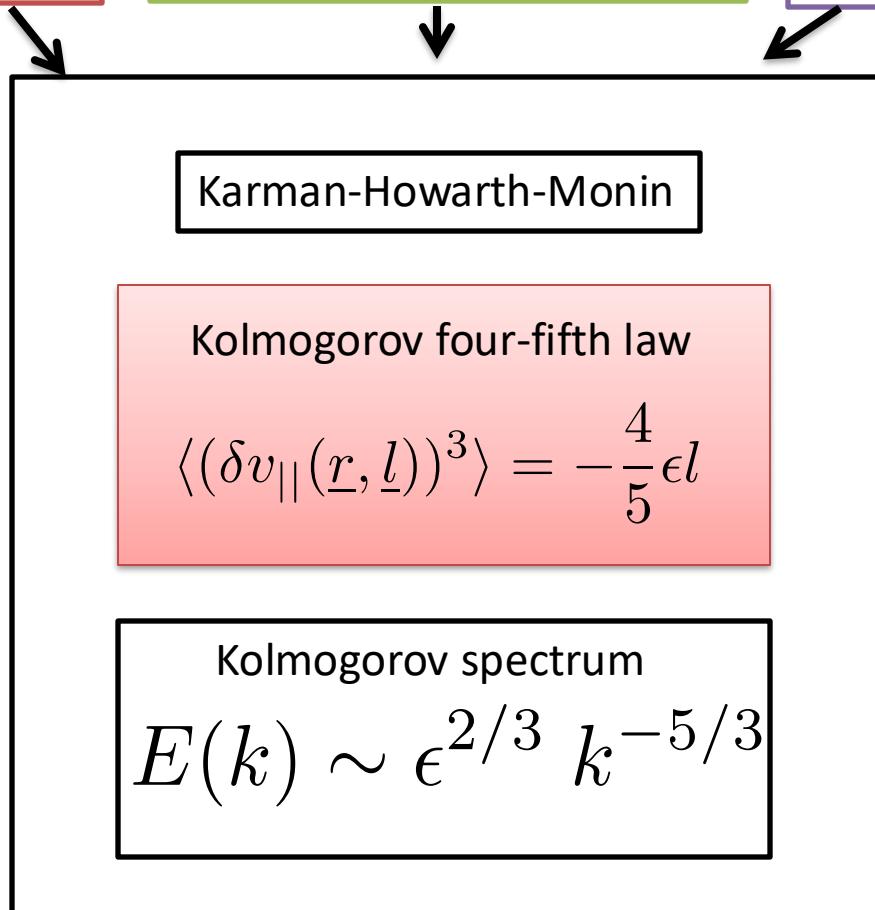
H1: restored symmetries

H2: self-similar scaling

H3: finite dissipation

Statistics

$E(k) \leftrightarrow$ correlations



The three hypotheses

H1: restored symmetries

In the limit of infinite Reynolds numbers, all the possible symmetries of the Navier-Stokes equations, usually broken by the mechanism producing the turbulence, are restored at small scales and away from boundaries.

(Especially: homogeneity and isotropy)

H2: self-similar scaling

Under the same assumption as H1, the turbulent flow is ‘self-similar’ at small scales, i.e it possesses a unique exponent h such that

$$\delta \underline{v}(\underline{r}, \lambda \underline{l}) \text{ and } \lambda^h \delta \underline{v}(\underline{r}, \underline{l}) \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R}_+$$

Have the same moments / pdf for all l and $\lambda l \ll l_0$

H3: finite dissipation limit

Under the same assumption as in H1, the turbulent flow has a finite non-vanishing mean rate of dissipation per unit mass ε .

$$Re \rightarrow \infty \text{ or } \nu \rightarrow 0$$

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Karman-Howarth-Monin

Kolmogorov four-fifth law

$$\langle (\delta v_{||}(\underline{r}, \underline{l}))^3 \rangle = -\frac{4}{5} \epsilon l$$

Kolmogorov spectrum

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

Today