

# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## Turbulence Models I

### Free shear flows

### Lecture 8

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Krister Wiklund  
Department of Physics  
Umeå University

# SUMMARY OF LECTURE: TURBULENCE MODELS I

- ☐ Be aware of some different types of Free shear flows
- ☐ Understand the basic settings for the Prandtl Mixing length model
- ☐ Be aware of the strength and weakness of Prandtl mixing length model
- ☐ Understand why the k-equation model was introduced
- ☐ Be able to make a physical interpretation of the terms in the Modeled k-eq.
- ☐ Be aware of the strengths and weakness of the one-equation approach using the Modeled k-equation
- ☐ Understand why the equation for epsilon was introduced
- ☐ Be able to make a physical interpretation of the terms in the Standard k-epsilon model
- ☐ Be aware of the strengths and weakness of the Standard k-epsilon model
- ☐ Be aware of boundary and initial conditions for Standard k-epsilon model

# Summary: Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS)

Navier-Stokes equations

$$\rho \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + \rho \left( u_j \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} (-p \delta_{ij} + \tau_{ij}) + f_i$$

$$u_{i,i} = 0$$

$$\tau_{ij} = \mu(u_{i,j} + u_{j,i})$$



Reynolds decomposition

$$u_i = U_i + u'_i$$

$$p = P + p'$$

$$\tau_{ij} = T_{ij} + \tau'_{ij}$$



Time average

Averaging properties



RANS equations

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial t} + U_j \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} \right) = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial T_{ij}}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial R_{ij}}{\partial x_j}$$

**Note:** We need to model this term...

$$\frac{\partial U_k}{\partial x_k} = 0$$

Reynolds stress

$$R_{ij} = -\langle \rho u'_i u'_j \rangle$$

$$\frac{\partial R_{ij}}{\partial x_j}$$

## Summary of RANS (cont.)

$$\frac{\partial R_{ij}}{\partial x_j} = ?$$

The RANS approach ends with a need of modeling the Reynolds stress term in the averaged Navier-Stoke equation.

1. Boussinesq hypothesis models
2. Reynolds stress models (RSM)

$$R_{ij} = \mu_t \left( \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial U_j}{\partial x_i} \right) - \frac{2}{3} \rho k \delta_{ij}$$

Further modelling

Zero-eq.

One-eq.

Two-eq.

This course

- Add six independent equations for the Reynolds stresses
- Derive their governing equations from NS
- Complicated and computational expensive

## Closure problem: Turbulence modeling

Many different approaches have been use to handle the closure problem.

Some of these are:

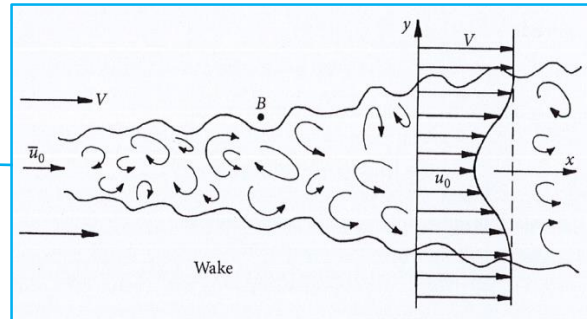
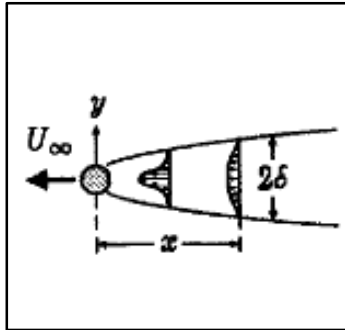
- Zero-equation / Algebraic models (mixing length models,...)
- One-equation models (k-model,  $\mu_t$ -model,...)
- Two-equation models (k- $\epsilon$ , k- $\omega$ ,...)
- **Reynolds stress models** (Not based on Boussinesq hypothesis)

# Turbulence models based on Boussinesq hypothesis

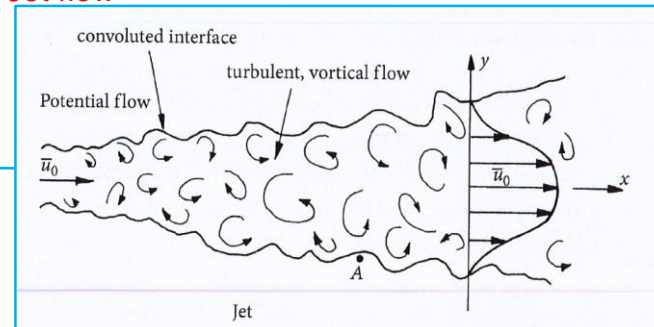
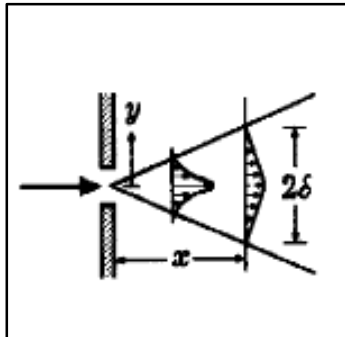
1. Mixing length model
  2. k-equation model
  3. Spalart-Allmaras one-equation model
  4. Standard k- $\epsilon$  model
  5. k- $\omega$  model (Wilcox)
  6. Low Re k- $\epsilon$  model
  7. Menter SST k- $\omega$ 
    - Blending function
  8. Realizable k- $\epsilon$ 
    - Reynolds stress constraint
- Todays lecture
- A special model for airfoils
- The two most basic two-eq. models
- Correction for near wall behavior  
(Wilcox k- $\omega$  model has not the same need for  
corrections near wall)
- Many other modern models exists...
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# Turbulence models for Free shear flows

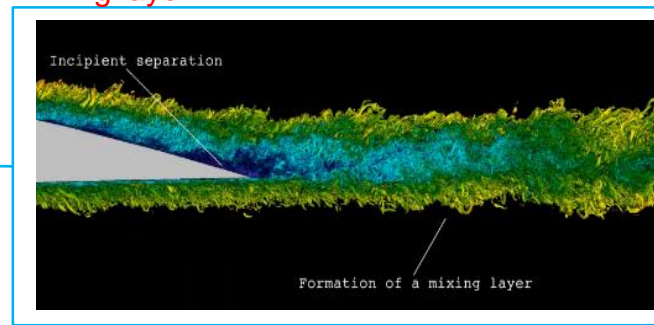
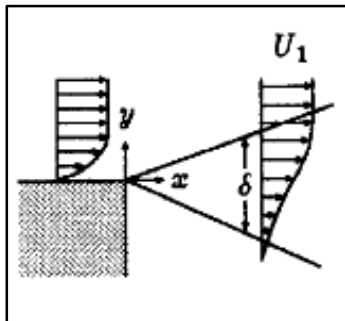
Far wake flow



Jet flow



Mixing layer



## Simulation

35 000 000 Core hours  
(75 Tb of data)

Nr of cores at  
Kebnekaise:

~ 17 000  $\Rightarrow$  85 days

Consider shear stress from molecular momentum transport:

$$\tau = \mu \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

$$\mu = \frac{1}{2} \rho v_{th} l_{mfp}$$

$v_{th}$  = thermal velocity

$l_{mfp}$  = mean free path

Average distance  
between collisions

**Prandtl mixing length model:**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 1. \mu_t = \rho v_{mix} l_{mix} \\ 2. v_{mix} \propto l_{mix} \frac{dU}{dy} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\mu_t = \rho l_{mix}^2 \frac{dU}{dy}$$

Now we instead have to find a suitable length scale...

This assumption will be upgraded in later models

**Prandtl mixing length:**  $l_m = \alpha \delta$

Depends on situation, see figures in previous slide.

Closure coefficient to be determined.

Wilcox 1993

**Far wake:** 0.180  
**Plane Jet:** 0.098  
**Radial Jet:** 0.080  
**Mixing layer:** 0.071



# Summary of Zero-equation model

## -The free shear turbulence case

- Easy to implement
- One closure coefficient needed
- The mixing length is determined by assumptions, not by the flow
- The mixing length model does not model transport of turbulence by the flow, all turbulence are created locally by the local gradient of the mean flow velocity
- Zero mean gradient implies that mixing velocity is zero. This is not correct in for example the middle of a pipe where the turbulent viscosity can be high

### Improvement of mixing length model:

Use a velocity scale based on the **turbulent kinetic energy** instead of assuming it proportional to mean velocity gradient as in the mixing length model.

$$k \equiv \frac{1}{2} \langle u'_i u'_i \rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sqrt{k} \sim \text{velocity scale} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu_t = \rho \sqrt{k} l_{mix}$$

## Derivation of k-equation

How do we obtain an evolution equation for the turbulent kinetic energy?

$$k \equiv \frac{1}{2} \langle u'_i u'_i \rangle \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} = \left\langle u'_i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u'_i \right\rangle$$

1) Multiply Navier-Stokes equation by  $u'_i$

**Ex.** First term:  $u'_i \rho \frac{\partial (U_i + u'_i)}{\partial t}$

2) Apply a time average on each term

**Ex.** First term:  $\rho \left\langle u'_i \frac{\partial (U_i + u'_i)}{\partial t} \right\rangle = \rho \left\langle u'_i \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial t} \right\rangle + \rho \left\langle u'_i \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial t} \right\rangle = \rho \langle u'_i \rangle \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial t} + \rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} = \rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t}$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + \dots = \langle u'_i \cdot \text{RHS} \rangle$$

Remember

$$u_i = U_i + u'_i$$

Mean  
flow

Fluctuation  
flow

## Derivation of k-equation (cont.)

3) Do the same for each term in Navier-Stokes equation...

$$\Rightarrow \rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + \rho U_j \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} = \underbrace{R_{ij}}_I \underbrace{\frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}}_II - \underbrace{\mu \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle}_III + \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \mu \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} - \frac{1}{2} \rho \langle u'_i u'_i u'_j \rangle - \langle p' u'_j \rangle \right)}_IV$$

Yet again we have a closure problem due to the primed variables...

Last time (in RANS) we solved the problem by using **Boussinesq hypothesis**.

This time the approach is to make **different closure models for each term I-IV**

# Exact turbulent kinetic energy equation: Interpretation of terms

$$\underbrace{\rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + \rho U_j \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j}}_{\text{Rate of change of turbulent kinetic energy}} = \underbrace{R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}}_{\text{I}} - \underbrace{\mu \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle}_{\text{II}} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \mu \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} - \frac{1}{2} \rho \langle u'_i u'_i u'_j \rangle - \langle p' u'_j \rangle \right)}_{\text{IV}}$$

Rate of change of turbulent kinetic energy

I

II

III

IV

**Celik Lecture Notes**  
Section 7 + App. C

$$(I) = R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}$$

Production

“The rate at which the kinetic energy is transferred from the mean flow to the turbulence”

$$(II) = \mu \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle \approx \rho \varepsilon > 0$$

Dissipation ( $\varepsilon$ )

“The rate at which the turbulent kinetic energy is converted into thermal energy”

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \varepsilon &= 2\mu \langle S'_{ij} S'_{ij} \rangle \\ &= \mu \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle + \mu \frac{\partial^2 \langle u'_i u'_j \rangle}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \end{aligned}$$

$$(III) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \mu \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right)$$

Diffusion

Diffusion by molecular motion

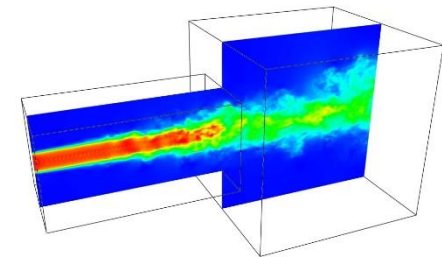
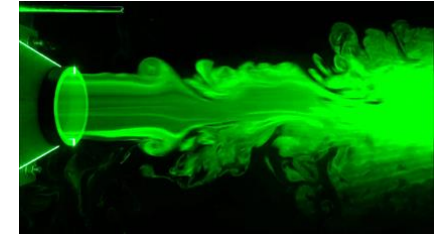
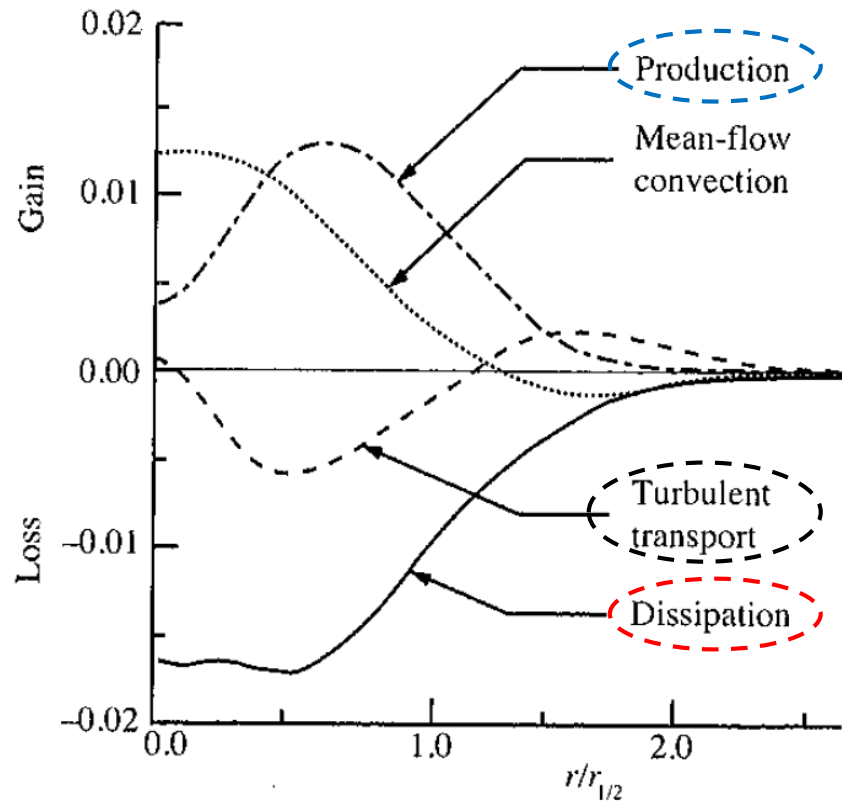
$$(IV) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( -\frac{1}{2} \rho \langle u'_i u'_i u'_j \rangle - \langle p' u'_j \rangle \right)$$

Turbulent transport  
+ pressure fluctuations

Redistribution of kinetic energy

## Example: Fluctuation Energy budget in a round jet

### "Fingerprint" of turbulence



**Note:** For a large part production and dissipation is in balance.

What happens in the other regions?

Fig. 5.16. The turbulent-kinetic-energy budget in the self-similar round jet. Quantities are normalized by  $U_0$  and  $r_{1/2}$ . (From Panchapakesan and Lumley (1993a).)

From Pope, 2000

# Term-by-term modeling of k-equation

## Production

$$(I) = R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}$$

## Assumption

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_t &= c \rho k^{1/2} l \\ c &= \text{constant} \\ l &= \text{turbulent length scale} \\ k^{1/2} &= \text{velocity scale}\end{aligned}$$

## Boussinesq hypothesis

$$R_{ij} = \mu_t \left( \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial U_j}{\partial x_i} \right) - \frac{2}{3} \rho k \delta_{ij}$$



$$R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} = 2 \mu_t S_{ij} S_{ij}$$

## Dissipation

$$(II) = \mu \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle \approx \rho \varepsilon$$

## Assumption

$$\varepsilon \sim \frac{(\text{velocity scale})^3}{\text{length scale}} = C_D \frac{k^{3/2}}{l}$$

## Turbulent transport + pressure fluctuations

$$(IV) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( -\frac{1}{2} \rho \langle u'_i u'_i u'_j \rangle - \langle p' u'_j \rangle \right)$$

## Assumption

$$-\frac{1}{2} \rho \langle u'_i u'_i u'_j \rangle - \langle p' u'_j \rangle = \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_k} \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j}$$

A tuning parameter

Again, similar approach as in Boussinesq hypothesis...

## Modeled turbulent kinetic energy equation

$$\rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + \rho U_j \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} = R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} - \rho \varepsilon + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \left( \mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_k} \right) \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right)$$

**Lecture 7:**  $\varepsilon \sim \frac{U^3}{L}$

$l$  = turbulent length scale  
 $k^{1/2}$  = velocity scale



$$\varepsilon \sim \frac{k^{3/2}}{l}$$

$$\varepsilon = C_D \frac{k^{3/2}}{l}$$

$$\mu_t = c \rho l k^{1/2}$$

$$C_D = \text{const}$$

$$c = \text{const}$$

$$\sigma_k = \text{const}$$

Closure constants

Usually chosen to one

A common model

$$C_D = [0.07, 0.09]$$

$$c = C_D^{1/3}$$

$$\sigma_k = 1$$

$$l = l_{mix}$$

### Note:

We still has to determine the turbulence length scale...

How well can this model predict experimental results?

## The k-model compared with experiments

$$\rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + \rho U_j \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} = R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} - \rho \varepsilon + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \left( \mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_k} \right) \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right)$$

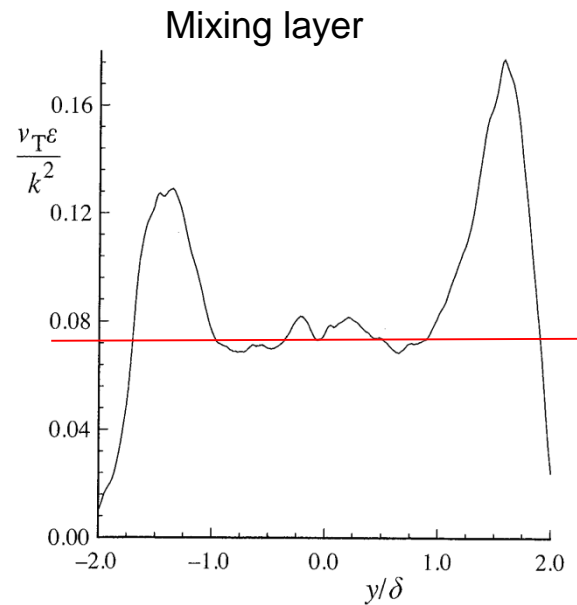
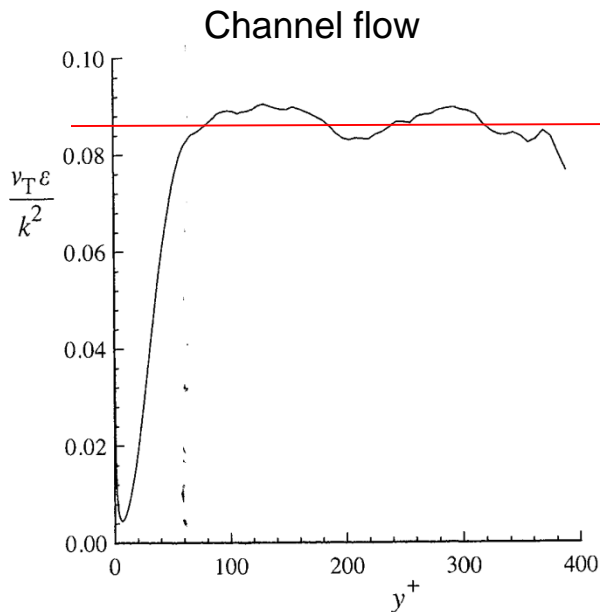
$$\varepsilon = C_D \frac{k^{3/2}}{l}, \quad \mu_t = c \rho l k^{1/2}$$

Difficult to measure

$$\mu_t = c \rho l k^{1/2} = c \rho C_D \frac{k^{3/2}}{\varepsilon} k^{1/2} = c C_D \rho \frac{k^2}{\varepsilon} \quad \Rightarrow \quad C_\mu = \frac{\mu_t}{\rho} \frac{\varepsilon}{k^2} = \nu_t \frac{\varepsilon}{k^2}$$

$\equiv C_\mu$

Is the *RHS* constant everywhere according the experimental data?



The experimental data is constant in some regions and here we have the value:

$$C_\mu \approx 0.08$$

From Pope  
Fig.10.3 & 10.4




## A short note: Mean and fluctuation kinetic energy

Fluctuation kinetic energy:  $k \equiv \frac{1}{2} \langle u'_i u'_i \rangle$




Mean flow kinetic energy:  $K \equiv \frac{1}{2} U_i U_i$

$$K_{tot} = K + k$$

 This term removes energy from mean flow

$$\rho \frac{\partial K}{\partial t} + \rho U_j \frac{\partial K}{\partial x_j} = -P - \rho E + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} A$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + \rho U_j \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} = P - \rho \varepsilon + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} B$$

 Production
  Dissipation
  Turbulent transport

$$P \equiv R_{ij} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j}$$

$$E \equiv \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left\langle \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle$$

$$\varepsilon \equiv \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle$$

## Summary of k-equation model

- Only a modest advantage in accuracy over mixing-length models
- Less adjustment is needed for different flows
- **Mixing length still has to be specified**
- It is for example not a good model for abrupt changes from wall-bounded to free shear flows (e.g. flow at trailing edge of an airfoil)

**Next model improvement:** Find a model where we account for transport effects of the turbulence length scale (important in separated flows).

This can for example be done by adding an extra equation for the dissipation

$$\varepsilon = C_D \frac{k^{3/2}}{l} \quad \Rightarrow \quad l = C_D \frac{k^{3/2}}{\varepsilon}$$

or by adding an equation for the **rate** of turbulent kinetic energy dissipation (Kolmogorov, 1942)

$$\omega = c \frac{k^{1/2}}{l} \quad \Rightarrow \quad l = c \frac{k^{1/2}}{\omega}$$

# The Standard $k$ - $\epsilon$ model

## Important assumptions

1. Turbulent fluctuations are locally isotropic
  - ❑ A problem near a surface since both mean flow and fluctuations have to satisfy boundary condition that forces the flow to be anisotropic
2. Production and Dissipation are locally equal
  - ❑ As we shall see later this is not true near walls

## Derivation of $\varepsilon$ -equation

### Dissipation

$$\varepsilon \equiv \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle$$

1) Operate on Navier-Stokes equation by  $\frac{\mu}{\rho} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}$

2) Apply a time average on each term and drop terms with zero average...



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} + U_j \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_j} = & -2\mu \left[ \langle u'_{i,k} u'_{j,k} \rangle + \langle u'_{k,i} u'_{k,j} \rangle \right] U_{i,j} - 2\mu \langle u'_k u'_{i,j} \rangle U_{i,kj} \\ & - 2\mu \langle u'_{i,k} u'_{i,m} u'_{k,m} \rangle - 2 \frac{\mu^2}{\rho} \langle u'_{i,km} u'_{i,km} \rangle + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \mu \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_j} - \mu \langle u'_j u'_{i,m} u'_{k,m} \rangle - 2 \frac{\mu}{\rho} \langle p'_{,m} u'_{j,m} \rangle \right] \end{aligned}$$

From here a term-by-term modeling approach can be used, but equally often one uses an empirical approach...

# The standard $k$ - $\varepsilon$ model

**Model**  $k$ -equation

$$\frac{\partial k}{\partial t} + U_j \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\mu_t}{\rho} S^2 - \varepsilon + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_k} \right) \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right]$$

**Model**  $\varepsilon$ -equation

$$\frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} + U_j \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_j} = C_{\varepsilon 1} \frac{\mu_t}{\rho} \frac{\varepsilon}{k} S^2 - C_{\varepsilon 2} \frac{\varepsilon^2}{k} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_\varepsilon} \right) \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_j} \right]$$

Production

Dissipation  
(or destruction)

Redistribution  
(diffusion)

Turbulent viscosity model

$$\mu_t = C_\mu \rho \frac{k^2}{\varepsilon}$$

Exercise

(see for example Celik)

$$P_k \equiv \frac{R_{ij}}{\rho} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} = \dots = \frac{\mu_t}{\rho} S^2$$

$$S^2 \equiv 2S_{ij}S_{ij}$$

$$S_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial U_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

Closure constants  
(Launder and Sharma)

$$C_\mu = 0.09$$

$$C_{\varepsilon 1} = 1.44 \quad C_{\varepsilon 2} = 1.92$$

$$\sigma_k = 1.0 \quad \sigma_\varepsilon = 1.3$$

## The standard $k$ - $\varepsilon$ model (cont.)

**Model**  $k$ -equation

$$\frac{Dk}{Dt} = P_k - \varepsilon + D_k$$

**Model**  $\varepsilon$ -equation

$$\frac{D\varepsilon}{Dt} = \frac{\varepsilon}{k} (C_{\varepsilon 1} P_k - C_{\varepsilon 2} \varepsilon) + D_\varepsilon$$

Turbulent viscosity model

$$\mu_t = C_\mu \rho \frac{k^2}{\varepsilon}$$

$$C_\mu = 0.09$$

$$C_{\varepsilon 1} = 1.44 \quad C_{\varepsilon 2} = 1.92$$

$$\sigma_k = 1.0 \quad \sigma_\varepsilon = 1.3$$

Closure constants  
(Launder and Sharma)

**$k$ -production**

$$P_k \equiv \frac{R_{ij}}{\rho} \frac{\partial U_i}{\partial x_j} = \frac{\mu_t}{\rho} S^2$$

**$k$ -diffusion**

$$D_k \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_k} \right) \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right]$$

**Dissipation**

$$\varepsilon \equiv \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left\langle \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial u'_i}{\partial x_j} \right\rangle$$

**$\varepsilon$ -diffusion**

$$D_\varepsilon \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \mu + \frac{\mu_t}{\sigma_\varepsilon} \right) \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial x_j} \right]$$

## Some boundary and initial conditions

### Standard $k$ - $\varepsilon$ model

**Inlet:** Distributions of  $k$  and  $\varepsilon$  must be given

**Outlet:**  $\partial k / \partial n = 0, \partial \varepsilon / \partial n = 0$

### Turbulence intensity

$$I \equiv \frac{u}{U}$$

Usually a specified number at inlet (bc) or domain (initial value) depending on situation (channel flow, jet etc.)

$$k = \frac{2}{3} U^2 I^2, \quad \varepsilon = C_{\mu}^{3/4} \frac{k^{3/2}}{l}, \quad l = 0.07L$$

### Intensity and length scale dependency on conditions upstream

#### 1) *Exhaust of a turbine*

Turbulence intensity = 20%. Length scale = 1 - 10 % of blade span.

#### 2) *Downstream of perforated plate or screen*

Turbulence intensity = 10%. Length scale = screen/hole size.

#### 3) *Fully-developed flow in a duct or pipe*

Turbulence intensity = 5%. Length scale = hydraulic diameter.

*From notes by Bakker*

## Summary of $k$ - $\varepsilon$ model

- Simplest turbulence model for which only initial and/or boundary conditions need to be supplied
- Well established and tested
- More expensive to implement than mixing length model
- Five closure constants with standard values that represents a compromise, tuning may improve results but not recommended
- Overpredicts the spreading rate for a far wake and round jet (30%), mixing layer (15%) and plane jets (5%)
- Performs reasonable well for 2D thin layer shear flows in which the mean streamline curvature and mean pressure gradient are small
- For boundary layers with strong pressure gradients the model performs poorly



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# End of lecture