

**TURBULENCE ASSIGNMENT**  
**Wednesday 06 June 2018**

**Using the JHU public turbulence database to explore basic aspects of turbulence:**

1. Go to <http://turbulence.pha.jhu.edu> and familiarize yourself with the database.
2. Download **Matlab scripts with solutions.**  
Use your own token.
3. We will access the transitional boundary-layer database, so familiarize yourself with the simulation Readme-file on the webpage.  
To specify the boundary-layer database in the Matlab script, use: *dataset = 'transition\_bl'*
4. The domain size and number of grid points in the streamwise and spanwise directions are,  
 $L_x = 969.8465$ ;  $N_x = 3320$ ;  
 $L_z = 240$ ;  $N_z = 2048$ ;  
For the wall-normal grid, use the file "**BL\_ycoor.mat**".
5. Visualization: (Do not use spatial or temporal interpolation)
  - a. Write a Matlab script that reads the velocity every 10<sup>th</sup> grid point in the x-z plane  
 $100 < x < 600$   
 $y = 1$   
 $0 < z < 240$   
at time  $t=0$  and plot contours of  $w(x,z)$ .  
Repeat at various times, until you can identify a turbulent spot!
  - b. Query the database and plot contours of the w-velocity in sub-sampled end and side views, in planes that bisect the spot.
6. Averages
  - a. Write a Matlab script that reads the velocity gradient every 10<sup>th</sup> grid point in the x-z plane  
 $100 < x < 600$   
 $y = 0$   
 $0 < z < 240$   
and plot contours of  $C_f(x,z)$ .
  - b. Compute the spanwise average of  $C_f(x,z)$  from part (b) and plot it versus x.
  - c. Query the velocity every 20<sup>th</sup> point in x and z, and every 10<sup>th</sup> point in y only.  
 $100 < x < 600$   
 $0 < y < y_{max}$   
 $0 < z < 240$   
and compute the boundary-layer 99%, displacement and momentum thicknesses, and plot them.

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7. Spot detection

For the snapshot with a spot, use a threshold on the w-velocity to identify the boundary of a turbulent spot and calculate the area of the spot.

8. Streak detection

From an end view in the early transitional region, compute the streamwise-velocity perturbations. Identify the local maxima in the spanwise plane, and extract the local perturbation velocity. Using these values, plot a probability density function of the streak amplitudes.

Note: Feel free to add analysis of any other feature of turbulence you may wish to explore. Remember, the database allows you access to a full 4-D space-time history of three velocity components and pressure, and allows you to calculate velocity gradients and pressure.