# Modeling the Effect of Resolution Inhomogeneity in LES

## Gopal Yalla

Robert Moser, Todd Oliver, Sigfried Haering, Björn Engquist

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The University of Texas at Austin Oden Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences

## **Traditional LES Modeling**

- Homogeneous, Isotropic Filtering / Resolution
- Isotropic Unresolved
  Turbulence
- Spectral representation by the underlying numerics



## **Practical LES Applications**

- Inhomogeneous, Anisotropic Filtering / Resolution
- Anisotropic Unresolved
  Turbulence
- Lower order numerical representation





$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

**Commutation Error**<sup>1</sup>:

Without Commutation Terms

$$\mathscr{C}(u) = \left(\frac{\overline{du}}{dx} - \frac{d\overline{u}}{dx}\right)$$
$$\approx -C\Delta \frac{d\Delta}{dx} \frac{d^2\overline{u}}{dx^2} + \begin{array}{c} \text{Higher Order} \\ \text{Terms} \end{array}$$

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x} = 0$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>S. Ghosal and P. Moin "The basic equations for the large eddy simulation of turbulent flows in complex geometry," *Journal of Computational Physics*, vol. 118, no. 1, pp. 24-37, 1995

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Analysis was incomplete due to a dimensionally inconsistent assumption ( $\Delta \ll \kappa \Delta$ ) that leads to the absence of several terms of the commutation error.

#### **Complete Commutation Error**

$$\mathscr{C}(u) = \left(\frac{\overline{du}}{dx} - \frac{d\overline{u}}{dx}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{N/2} \sum_{m=1}^{2n} C_{mn} \Delta^{2n-m} \frac{d^{2n-m+1}\overline{u}}{dx^{2n-m+1}} \frac{d^m \Delta^m}{dx^m} + \mathcal{O}\left(\delta^{N+2}\right)$$
$$N = 2, 4, 6, \dots$$

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$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

With Commutation Terms

Without Commutation Terms

$$\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} + a^*(x)\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x} = \nu(x)\frac{\partial^2 \bar{u}}{\partial x^2}$$
$$a^*(x) = a \left[1 - \frac{C}{2}\left(\left(\frac{d\Delta}{dx}\right)^2 + \Delta\frac{d^2\Delta}{dx}\right)\right]$$
$$\nu(x) = aC\Delta\frac{d\Delta}{dx}$$

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With Commutation Terms

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 $\frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial \bar{u}}{\partial x} = 0$ 

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One flow through:

Incoming turbulence interacts with spurious scales.

## **Model Formulation**

For large  $\kappa$ , the most significant commutation term is:

$$\mathscr{C}(\psi) \approx C \frac{d\Delta}{dx} \left( \Delta^{N-1} \frac{d^N \bar{\psi}}{dx^N} \right) = C \Delta \frac{d\Delta}{dx} \left( \Delta^{N-2} F_N(\bar{\psi}) \right) \quad \text{for } N \text{ (even) as large} \\ \text{as possible, and } F_N(\bar{\psi}) = \frac{d^N \bar{\psi}}{dx^N}.$$

• N limited by the underlying numerics based on number of available derivatives of filtered field.

• Analytical constant needs adjusting to compensate for omitted commutation terms and numerical behavior.

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We can create higher order filters from lower order differential operators. Consider the  $B_2 - B_1 B_1$  operator:



Taylor Expansion:

<u>2nd Centered Difference</u>  $(B_2 - B_1 B_1)\psi = \Delta x^2 F_4(\psi) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta x^6)$ 

7-Bsplines

$$(B_2^7 - B_1^7 B_1^7)\psi \sim \Delta x^8 F_{10}(\psi) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta x^{12})$$

## **Model Formulation**

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#### **Model Results**



Top: 
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{\tilde{u}}}{\partial t} + a_x \frac{\partial \mathbf{\tilde{u}}}{\partial x} = 0$$
  
Bottom:  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{\tilde{u}}}{\partial t} + a_x \frac{\partial \mathbf{\tilde{u}}}{\partial x} = Ca_x \frac{d\Delta}{dx} \Delta \left( (\mathbf{A}_2^{N-2} \frac{d^N \mathbf{\tilde{u}}}{B_1^1 B_1^1}) x) \right] \mathbf{\tilde{u}}$  (N = 10)

#### **Model Results: 7-Bsplines**



#### **Model Results: 2-Bsplines**



## Conclusion

- Much more is required of LES models in practical applications than in the settings where they are typically developed.
  - Models need to capture *more than just the dissipation rate*!
- Probed the issue of resolution inhomogeneity to uncover what is required of LES models in this setting.

Need to account for commutation error and corresponding numerical behavior.

 Developed a model based on the extended commutation error analysis and numerical analysis and demonstrated impact on turbulence statistics.

#### References

- S. Ghosal and P. Moin "The basic equations for the large eddy simulation of turbulent flows in complex geometry," *Journal* of Computational Physics, vol. 118, no. 1, pp. 24-37, 1995
- L. N. Trefethen, "Group velocity in finite difference schemes," SIAM review, vol. 24, no. 2, pp. 113–136, 1982.
- S. Haering, M. Lee, and R. Moser, "Resolution-induced anisotropy in LES," arXiv:1812.03261 [physics.flu-dyn], Apr. 2019

R. Vichnevetsky, "Wave propagation analysis of difference schemes for hyperbolic equations: a review," *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Fluids*, vol. 7, no. 5, pp. 409–452, 1987.





Homogeneous, Isotropic Turbulence





Flow over a cylinder





Flow through a wind turbine

## **Recommended References**

S. Ghosal and P. Moin "The basic equations for the large eddy simulation of turbulent flows in complex geometry," *Journal of Computational Physics*, vol. 118, no. 1, pp. 24-37, 1995

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**Model Results: 7-Bsplines** 



Model Results: 2-Bsplines

