

# Turbulence model reduction by deep learning

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# Introduction

# Preview

- Turbulent transport impacts confinement. How to predict?
- In this talk: use deep supervised learning to find simple model
- As test of concept: apply to well-trodden ground (Hasegawa-Wakatani), and compare to analytics
- Recover existing theory, while finding some new features



Figure Artist's conception of machine learning applied to the tokamak

# Hasegawa-Wakatani

- Simplest realistic framework for understanding collisional drift wave turbulence

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = \alpha(\tilde{\phi} - \tilde{n}) + D\nabla^2 n$$

$$\frac{d\nabla^2\phi}{dt} = \alpha(\tilde{\phi} - \tilde{n}) + \mu\nabla^4\phi$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + (\hat{z} \times \nabla\phi) \cdot \nabla$$

- $\alpha \equiv k_{\parallel}^2 T_e / (n_0 \eta \Omega_i e^2)$  “adiabaticity parameter,” measures parallel electron response
- Want theory for *radial* transport (1D reduction)
- Averaging over symmetry directions ( $\langle \dots \rangle$ ) yields

$$\partial_t \langle n \rangle + \partial_x \Gamma = \text{dissipation}$$

$$\partial_t \langle \nabla^2 \phi \rangle - \partial_x^2 \Pi = \text{dissipation}$$

where  $\Gamma = \langle \tilde{n} \tilde{v}_x \rangle$  (particle flux) and  $\Pi = \langle \tilde{v}_x \tilde{v}_y \rangle$  (poloidal momentum flux or Reynolds stress)

# Methods

# Feature selection

- Seek a model that predicts local  $\Gamma, \Pi$  as function of local zonal averages. How to choose parameters?
- Exact symmetries useful: invariant under uniform shifts  $n \rightarrow n + n_0$  and  $\phi \rightarrow \phi + \phi_0$ , Galilean boosts in  $y$

$$\begin{cases} \phi & \rightarrow \phi + v_0 x \\ y & \rightarrow y - v_0 t \end{cases}$$

Thus cannot depend on  $\langle n \rangle, \langle \phi \rangle, \partial_x \langle \phi \rangle$

- Choose minimal set of parameters  
 $N' = \partial_x \langle n \rangle, U = -\partial_x^2 \langle \phi \rangle, U', U'', \varepsilon = \langle (\tilde{n} - \nabla \tilde{\phi})^2 \rangle$
- Close model by coupling with intensity evolution

$$\partial_t \varepsilon + 2\varepsilon(\Gamma - \partial_x \Pi)(N' + U') = -\gamma \varepsilon - \gamma_{NL} \varepsilon^2$$

# Deep learning

- Now use deep supervised learning to fit fluxes to choice of params
- Locality  $\rightarrow$  good scaling. Each point in space and time treated on equal footing!
- Exploit 3 reflection symmetries  $x \rightarrow -x, y \rightarrow -y$  and  $\phi \rightarrow -\phi, n \rightarrow -n, x \rightarrow -x$  and  $\phi \rightarrow -\phi, n \rightarrow -n, y \rightarrow -y$  for data augmentation. Symmetries enforce, e.g.  $\Gamma \rightarrow -\Gamma$  under  $N' \rightarrow -N'$  in absence of flow
- Each simulation thus yields  $4N_t N_x$  data points

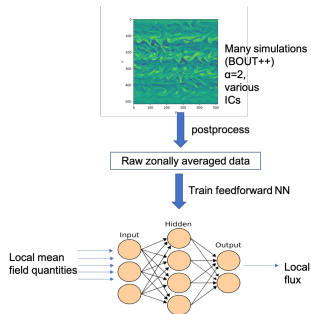


Figure Schematic of deep learning method

# Deep neural networks 101

- Method of approximating arbitrary nonlinear functions. We use simplest form: “multi-layer perceptron.”
- Inputs  $\mathbf{x}$  repeatedly transformed in each layer:  
$$x_j^{(n+1)} = \sigma(W_{ij}^{(n)} x_i^{(n)} + b_j^{(n)})$$
where  $\sigma$  is a nonlinear function (“activation”)
- Weights  $\mathbf{W}^{(n)}$ , biases  $\mathbf{b}$  are “trained” using SGD
- Bottom line: simply a proven choice of multivariate, fully nonlinear, nonparametric regression

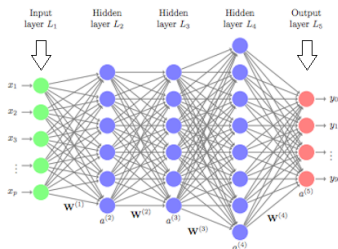


Figure Diagram of MLP, shamelessly stolen from the internet



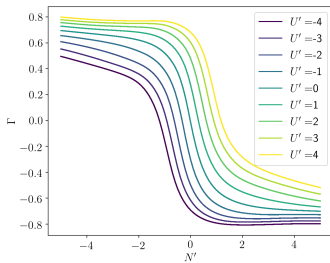
# Results

# Particle flux

DNN learns a model roughly of the form (for small gradients)

$$\Gamma \simeq -D_n \varepsilon N' + D_U \varepsilon U'.$$

Large gradients: fluxes saturate. Diffusive term  $\propto N'$  well-known, tends relax driving gradient. Second (non-diffusive) term is not so well-known, driven by vorticity gradient!



**Figure** Particle flux at constant  $\varepsilon$  as function of density and vorticity gradients

# Derivation of nondiffusive term

Analytic treatment in  $\alpha \rightarrow \infty$  limit reproduces nondiffusive term. Need include frequency shift due to convection of mean vorticity. In QLT:

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_{\mathbf{k}} &= \frac{k_y}{1+k^2} (N' + U') + O(\alpha^{-2}) \\ \gamma_{\mathbf{k}} &= \frac{k_y^2}{\alpha(1+k^2)^3} (N' + U')(k^2 N' - U') + O(\alpha^{-2}) \\ \Gamma &= \text{Re} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} -ik_y \tilde{n}_{\mathbf{k}} \tilde{\phi}_{\mathbf{k}}^* \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \frac{-k_y^2 \partial_x n (\gamma_{\mathbf{k}} + \alpha) + \alpha k_y \omega_{r,\mathbf{k}}}{\omega_{r,\mathbf{k}}^2 + (\gamma_{\mathbf{k}} + \alpha)^2} |\tilde{\phi}_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} -\frac{k_y^2}{1+k^2} (k^2 N' - U') |\tilde{\phi}_{\mathbf{k}}|^2 + O(\alpha^{-2})\end{aligned}$$

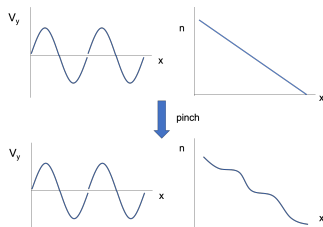
Using ansatz spectrum in this expression yields good agreement with DNN

# Implications of nondiffusive term

- Neglected in literature, but coupling same order of magnitude ( $\sim 0.5$ ) that of usual  $N'$  term.  $\Gamma$  dependence on shear  $U$  comparatively weak!
- Consequence: ZF can induce “staircase” pattern on profile. If  $V_y = V_0 \sin(qx)$ ,  $U'$  term will contribute

$$\partial_t \langle n \rangle \sim -\frac{k_y^2 q^3 V_0 \langle \varepsilon \rangle}{\alpha (1 + k^2)^3} \cos(qx)$$

- Previous explanation for staircase is some form of bistability. This mechanism is distinct



**Figure** Cartoon indicating how ZF may induce profile staircase via nondiffusive flux/pinch

# Reynolds stress

- Learns model of Cahn-Hilliard form

$$\Pi \sim \varepsilon(-\chi_1 U + \chi_3 U^3 - \chi_4 U''')$$

with  $\chi_1, \chi_3, \chi_4 > 0$

- $\partial_t U = \partial_x^2 \Pi \sim \chi_1 \varepsilon k^2 U$ . Zonal flow generation by *negative viscosity*  $\varepsilon \chi_1$
- Large  $U$  stabilized by nonlinearity  $\propto U^3$ , small scales by hyperviscosity  $\chi_4$  (not shown)

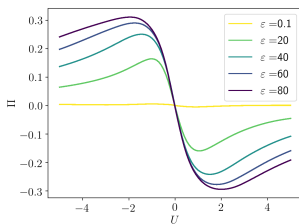


Figure Reynolds stress as function of  $U$ , at fixed  $U'$ ,  $U''$

# Reynolds stress: gradient corrections

- How does Reynolds stress depend on  $N'$ ,  $U'$ ? Not easy to calculate
- Learned dependence well-described by overall suppression factor  $f \simeq 1/(1 + 0.04(N' + 4U')^2)$ , i.e. gradients generally reduce Reynolds stress
- Found to be crucial for stability of learned model. Kinks tend to form in flow in its absence

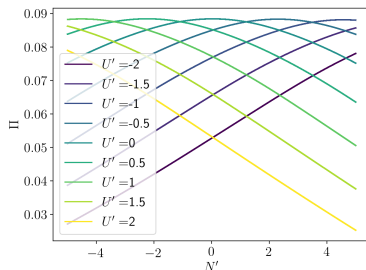
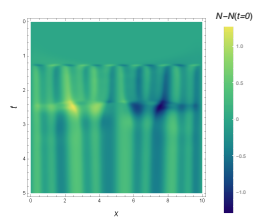
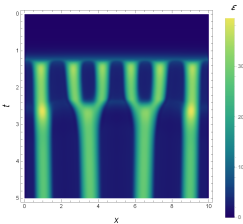
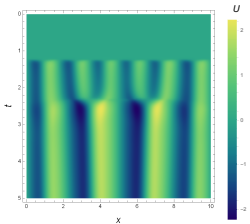


Figure Reynolds stress dependence on gradients at fixed  $\varepsilon$ ,  $U$ ,  $U''$

# Discussion

# Reduced 1-D model

Now have 3 coupled, **one-dimensional** mean field equations describing nonlinear turbulent dynamics. Construct expressions for  $\Gamma, \Pi$  capturing NN behavior, and numerically solve



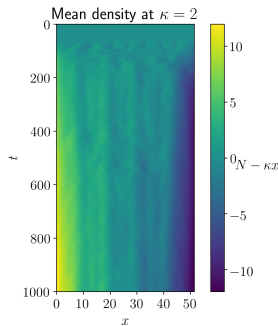
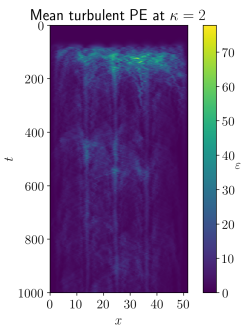
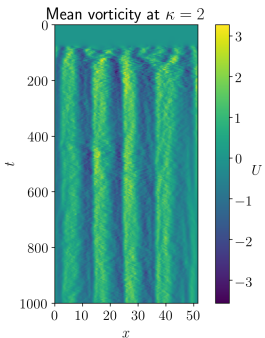


# Conclusions

- Have verified, directly from simulation, analytic models for spontaneous ZF. CH is “best” local 1D model
- Identified significant vorticity-gradient-driven particle flux which may induce layering. Shearing effects weak
- Also find higher-order corrections which are harder to anticipate analytically (e.g. effect of shear on  $\Gamma$ , gradients on  $\Pi$ )
- Note: 1D reduction breaks down for strong turbulence due to vortex interactions,  $\alpha \lesssim 1$  due to breakdown of ZF
- In future: generalize, apply to more complicated systems?  
*But:* need sufficient data. Potentially serious issue for application to GK, experiment

## Extra slides

# Compare to zonally averaged 2D DNS



1D resembles simplified version of DNS. One key difference: 3-field model equivalent to taking stationary “best-fit” spectrum. Some system memory lost

# Particle flux dependence on shear

- Shear  $U$  is usually invoked as directly involved in suppression of turbulent transport
- We find that direct dependence on  $U$  is comparatively weak
- Suppression is  $\lesssim 10\%$  for typical values of  $U$
- Conclusion: for HW particle transport in 2D model, shear *gradient* more important than shear itself!

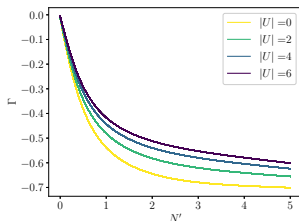


Figure  $U$  level curves of particle flux as function of  $N'$ , at fixed  $U'U''$ ,  $\varepsilon$

# Reynolds stress: intensity scaling

- Whereas learned  $\Gamma$  is essentially  $\propto \varepsilon$ ,  $\Pi$  scaling with  $\varepsilon$  is nontrivial
- Learned exponent is 1 for small intensity, close to zero for large intensity
- Jibes with intuition from strong turbulence theory

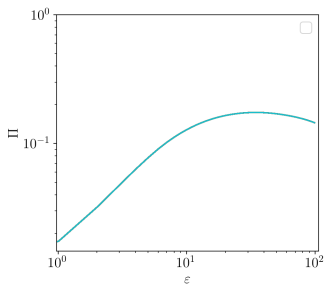


Figure Reynolds stress dependence on gradients at fixed  $\varepsilon$ ,  $U$ ,  $U''$

# Comparison to theory (diffusive term)

Compare DNN result to theory result using spectrum centered at most unstable  $\mathbf{k}$  for  $U' = 0$

$$\varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{\langle \varepsilon \rangle}{2\pi^2 \Delta k_x \Delta k_y} \frac{1}{1 + k_x^2 / \Delta k_x^2} \left( \frac{1}{1 + (k_y - \sqrt{2})^2 / \Delta k_y^2} + \frac{1}{1 + (k_y + \sqrt{2})^2 / \Delta k_y^2} \right)$$

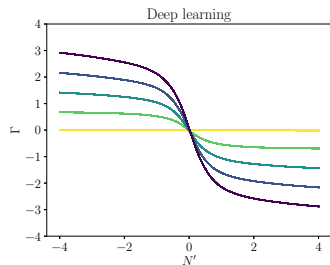


Figure Curves (at fixed  $U = U' = U'' = 0$ , and various  $\varepsilon$ ) of  $\Gamma$  vs density gradient from DNN

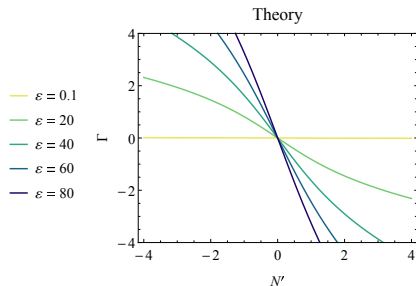


Figure Corresponding curves from QLT+ansatz with  $\Delta k_x = \Delta k_y = 0.8$

# Comparison to theory (nondiffusive term)

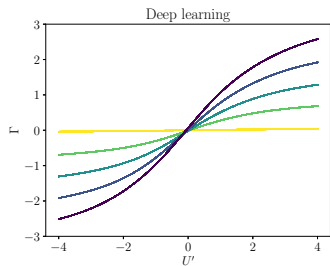


Figure Curves (at fixed  $N' = U = U'' = 0$ , and various  $\varepsilon$ ) of  $\Gamma$  vs  $U'$  from DNN

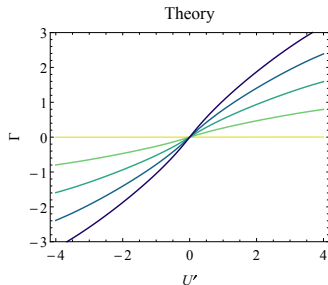


Figure Corresponding curves from QLT+ansatz with  $\Delta k_x = \Delta k_y = 0.8$

Good agreement when  $N', U'$  are small!

# Reynolds stress: hyperviscosity

Hyperviscous term, crucial for stability, has small coefficient.  
Sensitive test of method

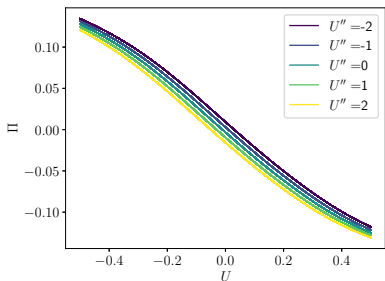


Figure  $U''$  level curves of Reynolds stress as function of  $U$ , at fixed  $\varepsilon, U', N'$

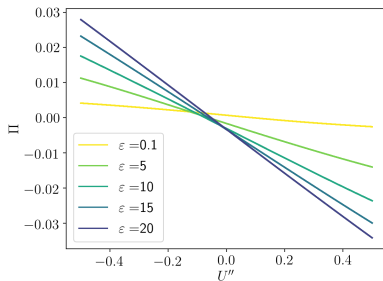


Figure  $\varepsilon$  level curves of Reynolds stress as function of  $U''$ , at fixed  $U, U', N'$



# Ideas for future

- No 1D reduction. Replace zonal average with 2D window average
- Relax locality assumption. Can include time derivatives as inputs, or extend to fully non-Markovian and/or spatially nonlocal models. Tradeoff is more predictive power at the expense of simplicity/interpretability
- This work essentially a second-order moment closure. Higher-order moments? Turbulence spreading? (interesting to note: applying this method to PE flux didn't work!)