

# USING PHYSICAL INFORMED NEURAL NETWORK (PINN) TO IMPROVE A $k - \omega$ TURBULENCE MODEL [2]

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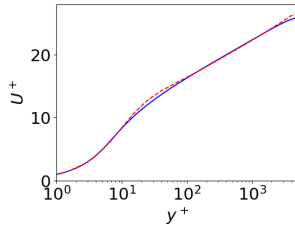
# THE $k - \omega$ TURBULENCE MODEL

The Wilcox  $k - \omega$  turbulence model reads [4]

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial x_i} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \bar{v}_i \bar{v}_j}{\partial x_j} &= -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ (\nu + \nu_t) \frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial x_j} \right] \\ \frac{\partial \bar{v}_j k}{\partial x_j} &= P^k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \left( \nu + \frac{\nu_t}{\sigma_k} \right) \frac{\partial k}{\partial x_j} \right] - C_\mu k \omega \\ \frac{\partial \bar{v}_j \omega}{\partial x_j} &= C_{\omega 1} \frac{\omega}{k} P^k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left[ \left( \nu + \frac{\nu_t}{\sigma_\omega} \right) \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x_j} \right] - C_{\omega 2} \omega^2 \\ P^k &= \nu_t \left( \frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \bar{v}_j}{\partial x_i} \right) \frac{\partial \bar{v}_i}{\partial x_j}, \quad \nu_t = \frac{k}{\omega}\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

The standard coefficients are used, i.e.  $C_{\omega 1} = 5/9$ ,  $C_{\omega 2} = 3/40$ ,  $\sigma_k = \sigma_\omega = 2$  and  $C_\mu = 0.09$ .

# FULLY-DEVELOPED CHANNEL FLOW, $k - \omega$ MODEL, $Re_\tau = 5\,200$

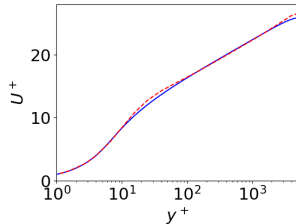


(A) Mean velocity.

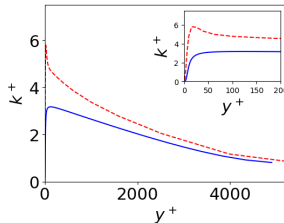
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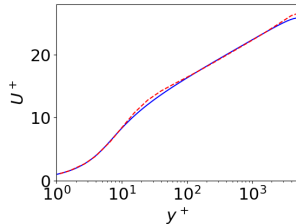


(B) Turb. kinetic energy.

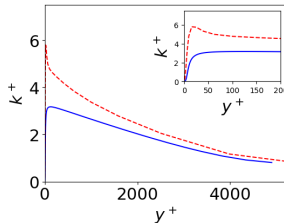
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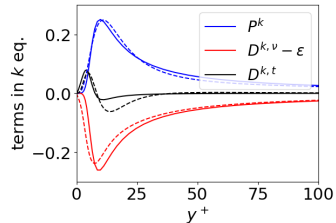
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(B) Turb. kinetic energy.



(C) Terms in  $k$  equation.

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- The mean flow, shear stress (and hence the turbulent viscosity,  $\nu_t$ ) agree well
- But not the turbulent, kinetic energy
- It seems to be because the diffusion of  $k$  is poorly predicted

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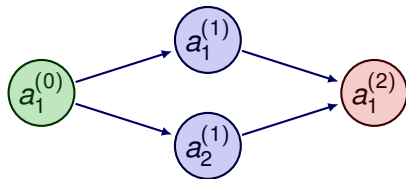
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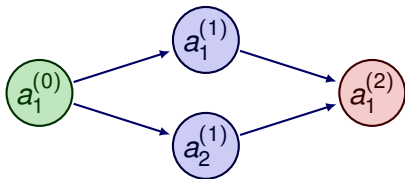
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- $\nu_{t,k} = \nu_{t,NN}$  in Eq. 2, will be predicted by PINN while minimizing the error  $Q^2$ .

# NEURAL NETWORK (NN). PYTHON'S `PYTORCH`. CRASH COURSE



- I create a NN that finds a damping function,  $Y \equiv f$ , as a function of input  $X \equiv y^+$
- 1 input ( $X = a_1^{(0)}$ ), 1 hidden layer with 2 neurons ( $a_1^{(1)}, a_2^{(1)}$ ) and 1 output ( $Y = a_1^{(2)}$ )

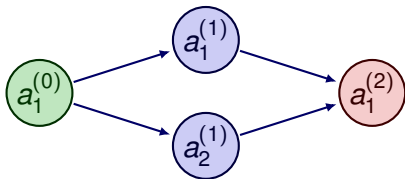
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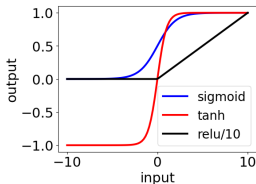
```
class NN(nn.Module):  
    def super__init__(self):  
        self.layer_1=nn.Linear(1, 2) # Connection 0-1  
        self.layer_2=nn.Linear(2, 1) # Connection 1-2  
    def forward(self, x):  
        y = torch.nn.functional.sigmoid(self.layer_1(x)) #  $a_1^{(1)}, a_2^{(1)}$ , hidden-layer  
        output = torch.nn.functional.sigmoid(self.layer_2(y)) #  $a_1^{(2)}$ , output-layer
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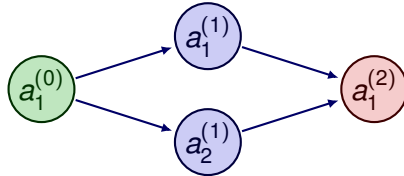


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# NEURAL NETWORK (NN). FORWARD



Activation 1: 
$$a_1^{(1)} = s_1^{(1)} \left( w_1^{(0)} a_1^{(0)} + b_1^{(0)} \right)$$

Activation 2: 
$$a_2^{(1)} = s_2^{(1)} \left( w_2^{(0)} a_1^{(0)} + b_2^{(0)} \right)$$

Output: 
$$a_1^{(2)} = s_1^{(2)} \left( w_1^{(1)} a_1^{(1)} + b_1^{(1)} + w_2^{(1)} a_2^{(1)} + b_2^{(1)} \right) \equiv Y$$

- $s$  is an activation function (linear, sigmoid, tanh, ...)

# NEURAL NETWORK (NN). BACKWARD

The Python code for the simple NN model is given in the listing below

```
# initiate the NN model
model = NN()
# define input, X
X=np.zeros(nj,1)
X[:,0] = scaler_yplus.fit_transform(yplus)[: ,0]
# define output, Y (f is known)
Y = f
# Training loop
for epoch in range(max_no_epoch):
    # Compute prediction and loss, L
    o = model(X) #prediction
    L = loss_fn(o, Y) # L=|o-Y|_2
    L.backward()
```

- `loss.backward()` computes  $dL/dw_1, dL/db_1, dL/ds_1, \dots$
- They are used to get new improved  $w_1, b_1, \dots$



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def ODE(y, nut):
    nut_y = torch.autograd(nut, y, torch.ones(x.size()[0], 1), create_graph=True)[0]
    # Differential equation loss
    ODE_loss = (nu+nut)*k_yy + k_y*nut_y + Pk - eps
    ODE_loss = torch.sum(ODE_loss ** 2)
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    BC_loss = (nut[0] - nut_0) ** 2
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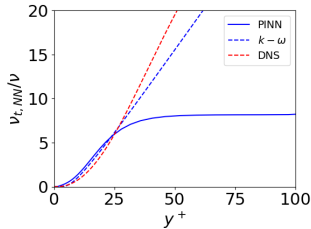
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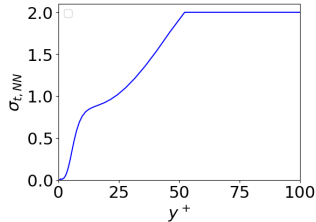
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- There are two losses, `ODE_loss` and `BC_loss`

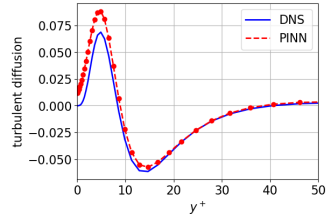
## SOLVING EQ. 2 WITH PINN.



(A) Turbulent viscosity.



(B) Prandtl number.



(C) Turbulent diffusion.

FIGURE:  $k$  equation.

- Fully-developed flow in half a channel at  $Re_\tau = 5\,200$ .
- $\sigma_{t,NN} = \nu_t / \nu_{t,NN}$  ( $\nu_t$  is the turbulent viscosity predicted by the Wilcox  $k - \omega$  model)
- $\sigma_{t,NN}$  is limited to 2 (same as  $\sigma_k$  in the Wilcox  $k - \omega$  model)



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- The discretized equations are solved with **Python sparse matrix solvers**.

CFD,  $Re_\tau = 5\,200$

The equation below is solved is using **pyCALC-RANS**

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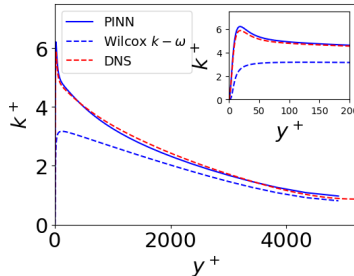


FIGURE: Turbulent kinetic energy.

FIND  $C_k$  AND  $C_{\omega 2}$

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- Finally, the  $\omega$  equation in the new  $k - \omega$  model must predict  $\omega = \omega_{DNS}$

$$\frac{d}{dy} \left( \frac{\nu_t}{\sigma_\omega} \frac{d\omega_{DNS}}{dy} \right) + C_{\omega 1} \frac{\omega_{DNS}}{k_{DNS}} P_{DNS}^k - C_{\omega 2} \omega_{DNS}^2 = 0$$

# PLOT $C_k$ AND $C_{\omega 2}$

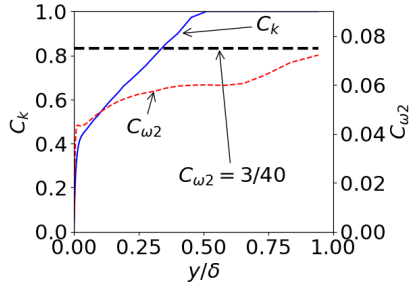
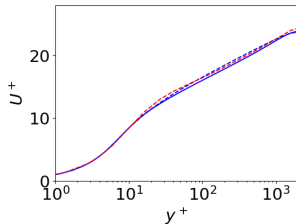
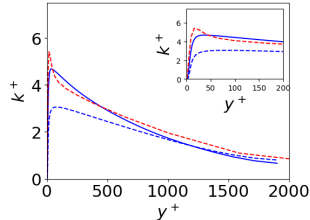


FIGURE:  $C_k$  and  $C_{\omega 2}$  vs.  $y/\delta$ .

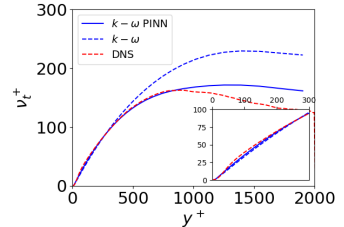
# RESULTS. CHANNEL FLOW. $Re_\tau = 2\,000$



(A) Velocity.



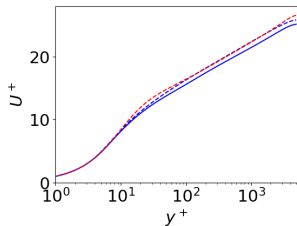
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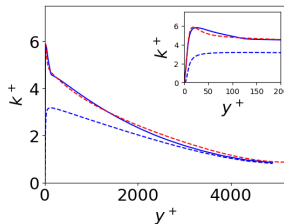
(C) Turbulent viscosity.

FIGURE: Fully-developed channel flow.  $Re_\tau = 2\,000$ .

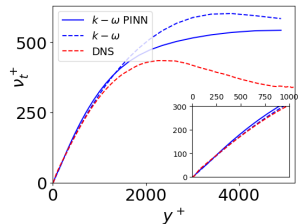
# RESULTS. CHANNEL FLOW. $Re_\tau = 5\,200$



(A) Velocity.



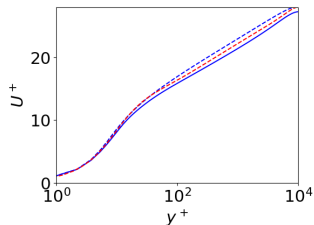
(B) Turb. kinetic energy.



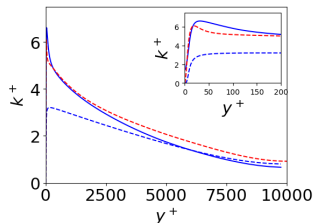
(C) Turbulent viscosity.

FIGURE: Fully-developed channel flow.  $Re_\tau = 5\,200$ .

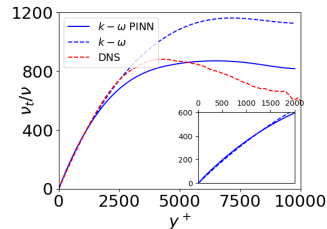
# RESULTS. CHANNEL FLOW. $Re_\tau = 10\,000$



(A) Velocity.



(B) Turb. kinetic energy.

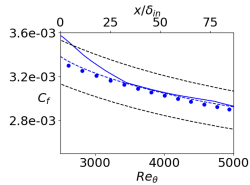


(C) Turbulent viscosity.

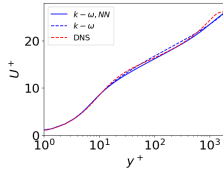
FIGURE: Fully-developed channel flow.  $Re_\tau = 10\,000$ .



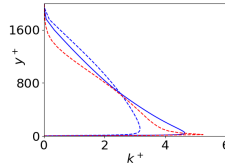
# RESULTS. FLAT-PLATE BOUNDARY LAYER



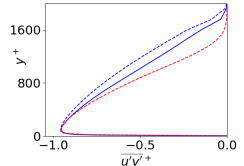
(A) Skin friction.



(B) Velocity.



(C) Turb. kinetic energy.



(D) Turbulent shear stress.

FIGURE: Flat-plate boundary layer. Profiles at  $Re_\theta = 4\,500$ .

- Inlet profiles from a pre-cursor RANS at  $Re_\theta = 2\,500$

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- Finally, I found a good combination input parameters:  $\overline{u'v'}/u_\tau^2$  and  $\nu_t/(yu_\tau)$  (not shown)

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- You can download the ETMM15 paper, pyCALC-RANS and PINN scripts [here](#) or Google [pyCALC-RANS PINN](#)

# NEURAL NETWORK

- **Neural Network** and **PINN** in Python.
  - Good YouTube lectures: "3Blue1Brown: But what is a neural network"; "3Blue1Brown: gradient descent, how neural networks learn"; "3Blue1Brown: backpropagation, intuitively"; "3Blue1Brown: backpropagation, calculus"; "Sebastian Lagae: how to create a neural network".

# DOWNLOAD

- Download paper, Python scripts and CFD codes

## REFERENCES

- [1] L. Davidson. pyCALC-RANS: a 2D Python code for RANS. Division of Fluid Dynamics, Dept. of Mechanics and Maritime Sciences, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg  
Download the code [here](#), 2021.
- [2] L. Davidson. Using physical informed neural network (PINN) to improve a k-omega turbulence model. In *15th International ERCOFTAC Symposium on Engineering Turbulence Modelling and Measurements (ETMM15), Dubrovnik on 22-24 September, 2025*.
- [3] M. Lee and R. D. Moser. Direct numerical simulation of turbulent channel flow up to  $Re_\tau \approx 5200$ . *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 774:395–415, 2015.
- [4] D. C. Wilcox. Reassessment of the scale-determining equation. *AIAA Journal*, 26(11):1299–1310, 1988.