



SG2218 – 2012

Turbulence models for CFD

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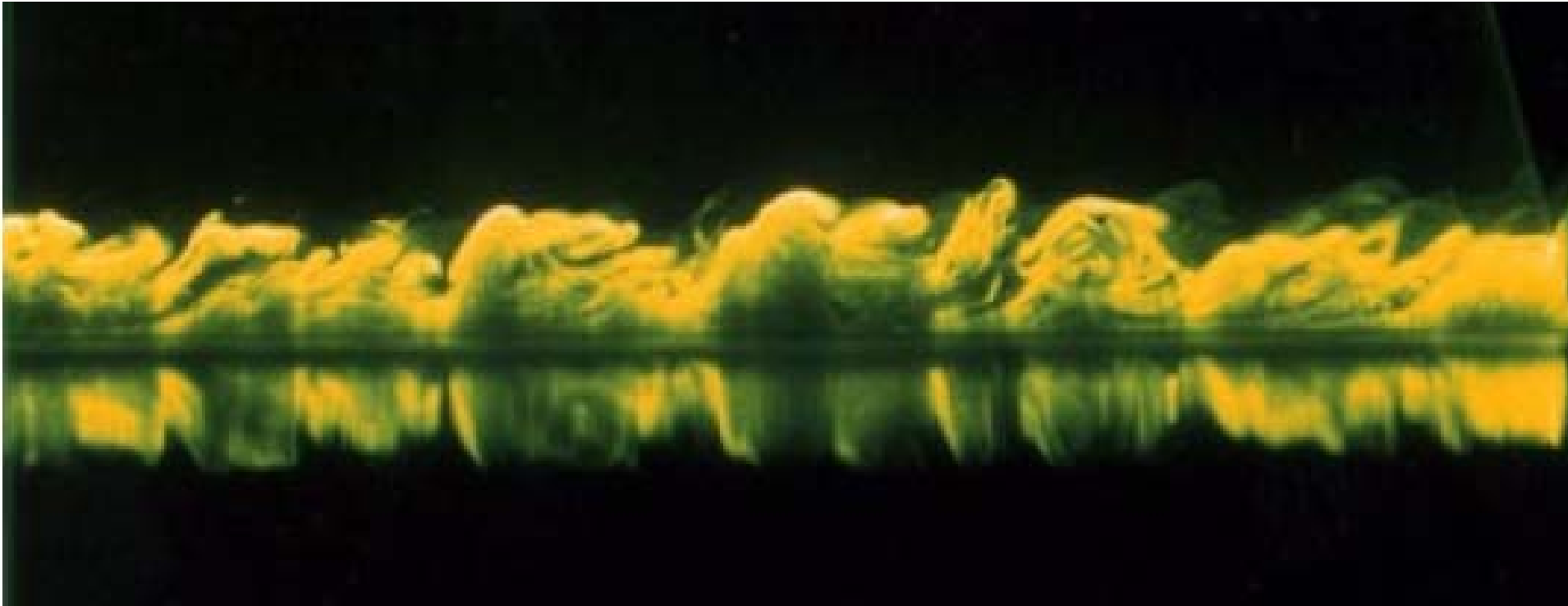
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Dept. of Aeronautics and Systems Integration, FOI

There are no “simple” turbulent flows

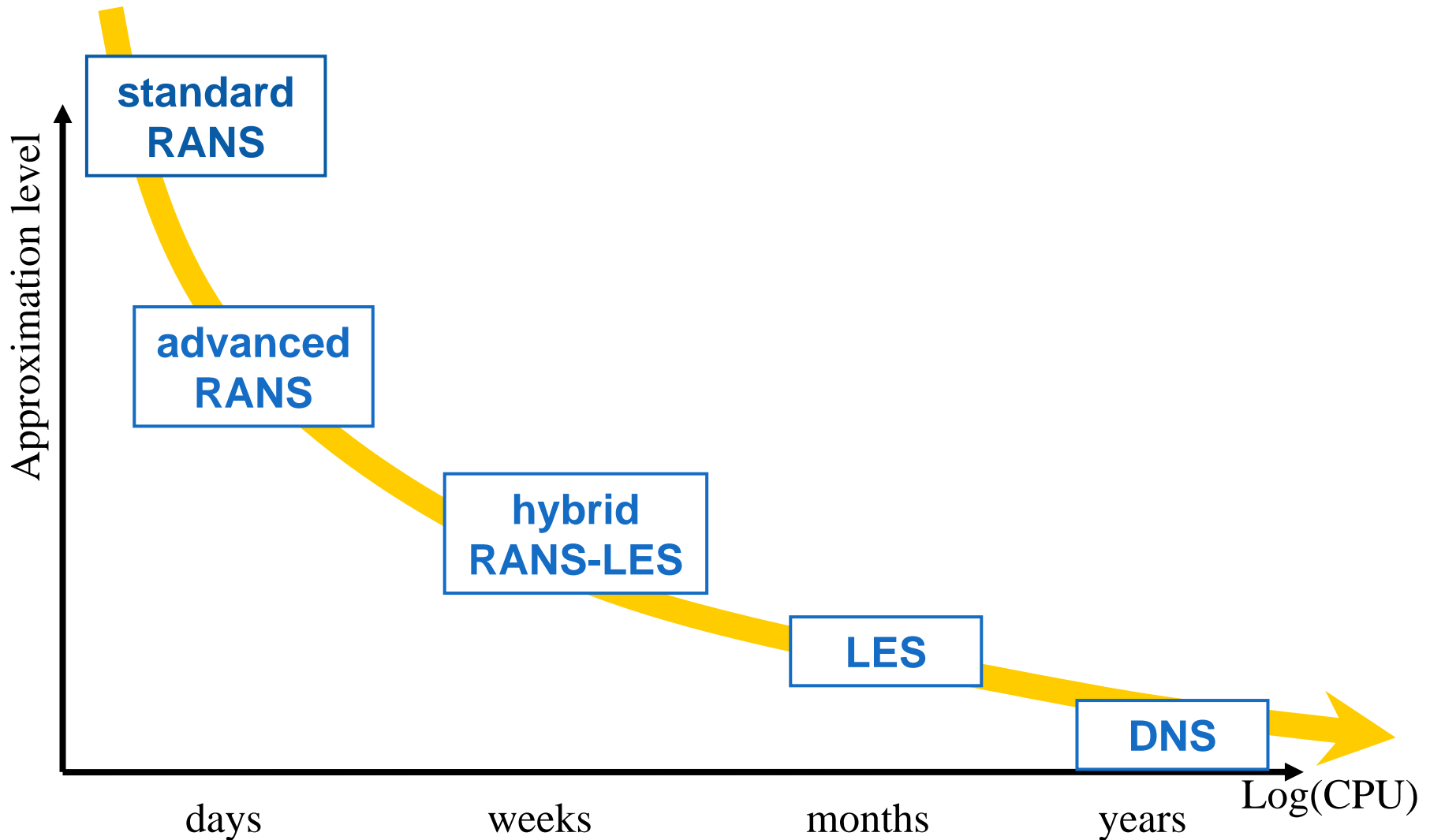
Turbulent boundary layer:

- Instantaneous velocity field (snapshot) $u_i(\mathbf{x}, t)$

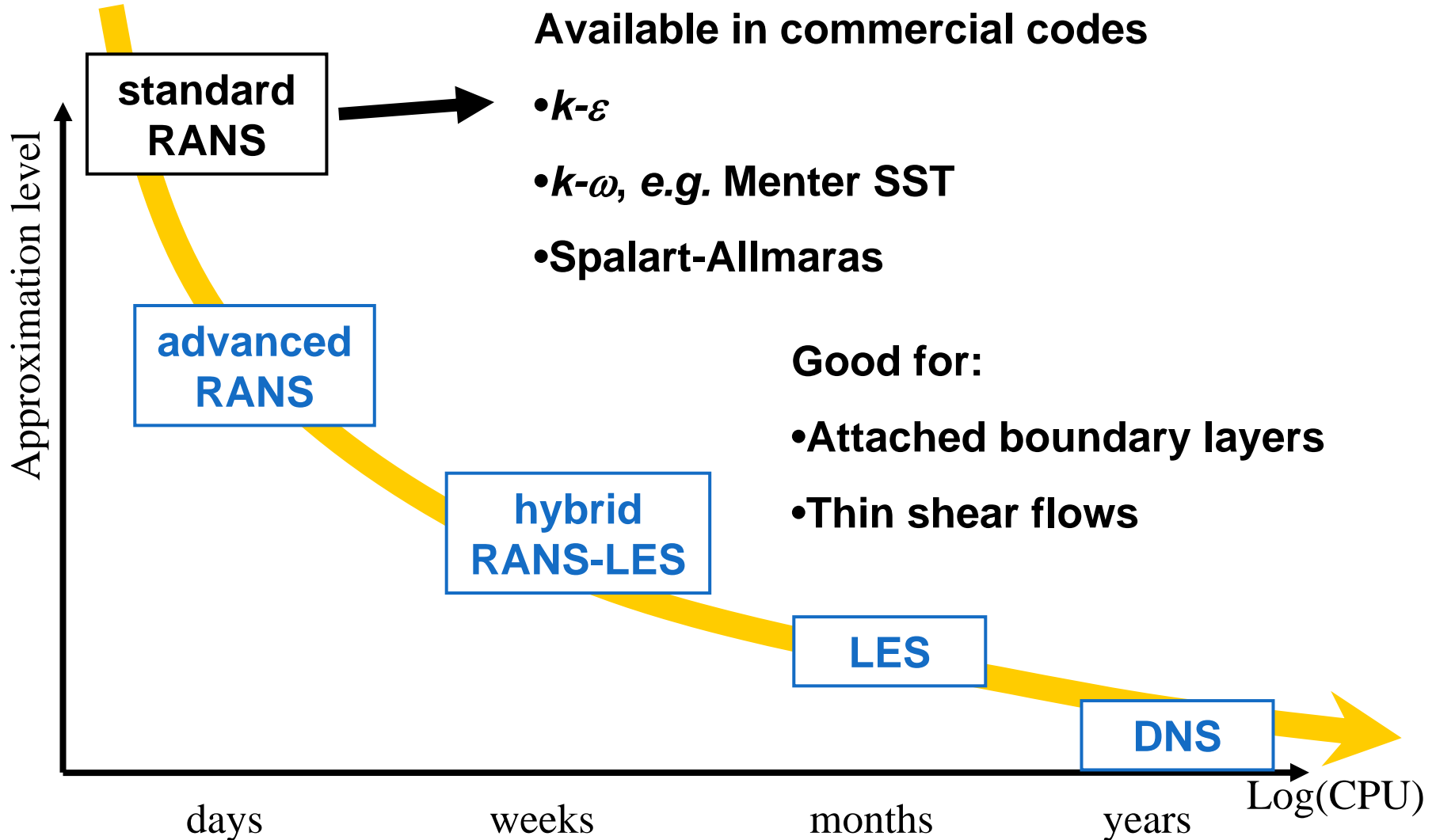


Ref: Prof. M. Gad-el-Hak, University of Notre Dame

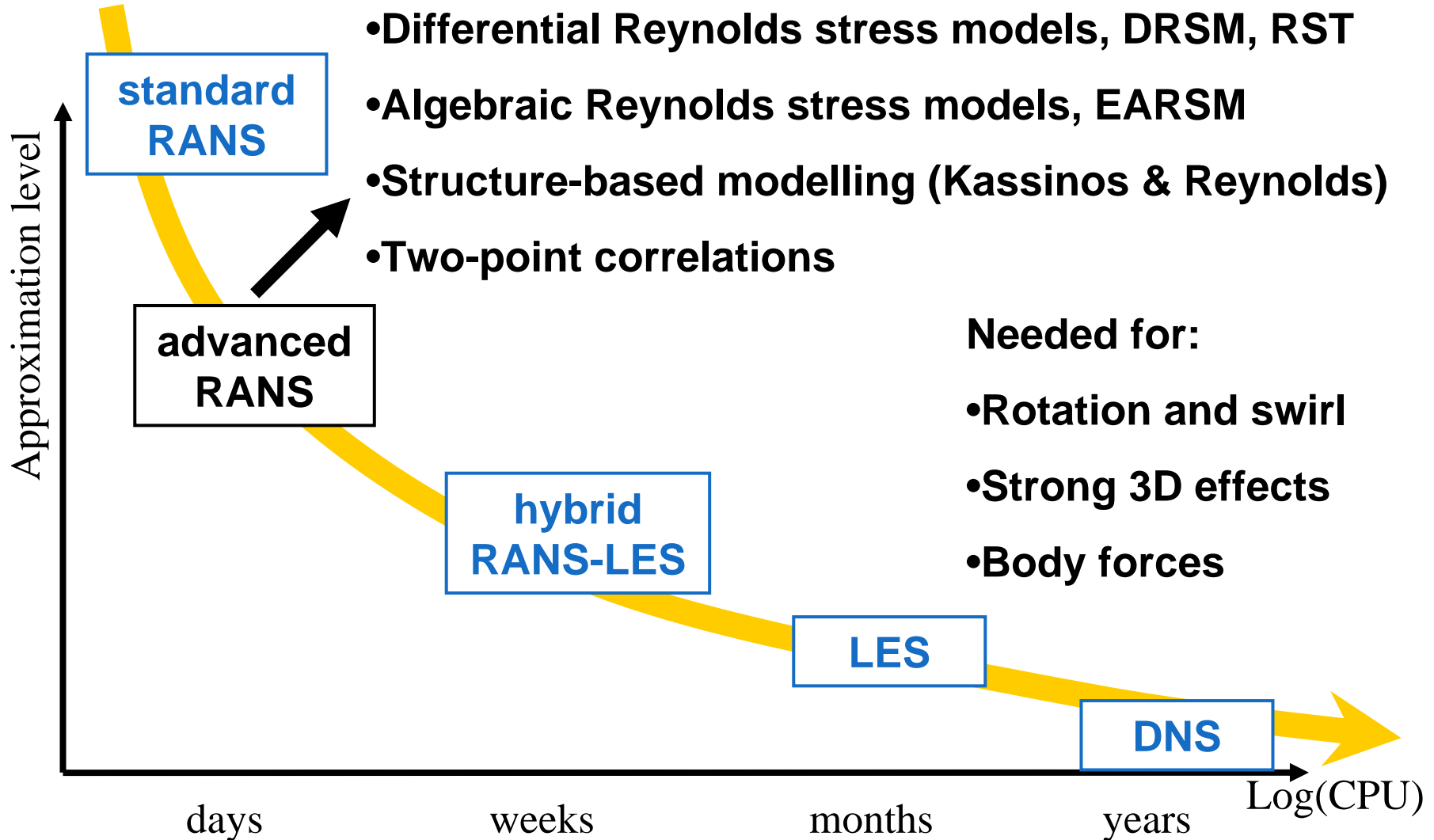
Prediction of turbulent flows



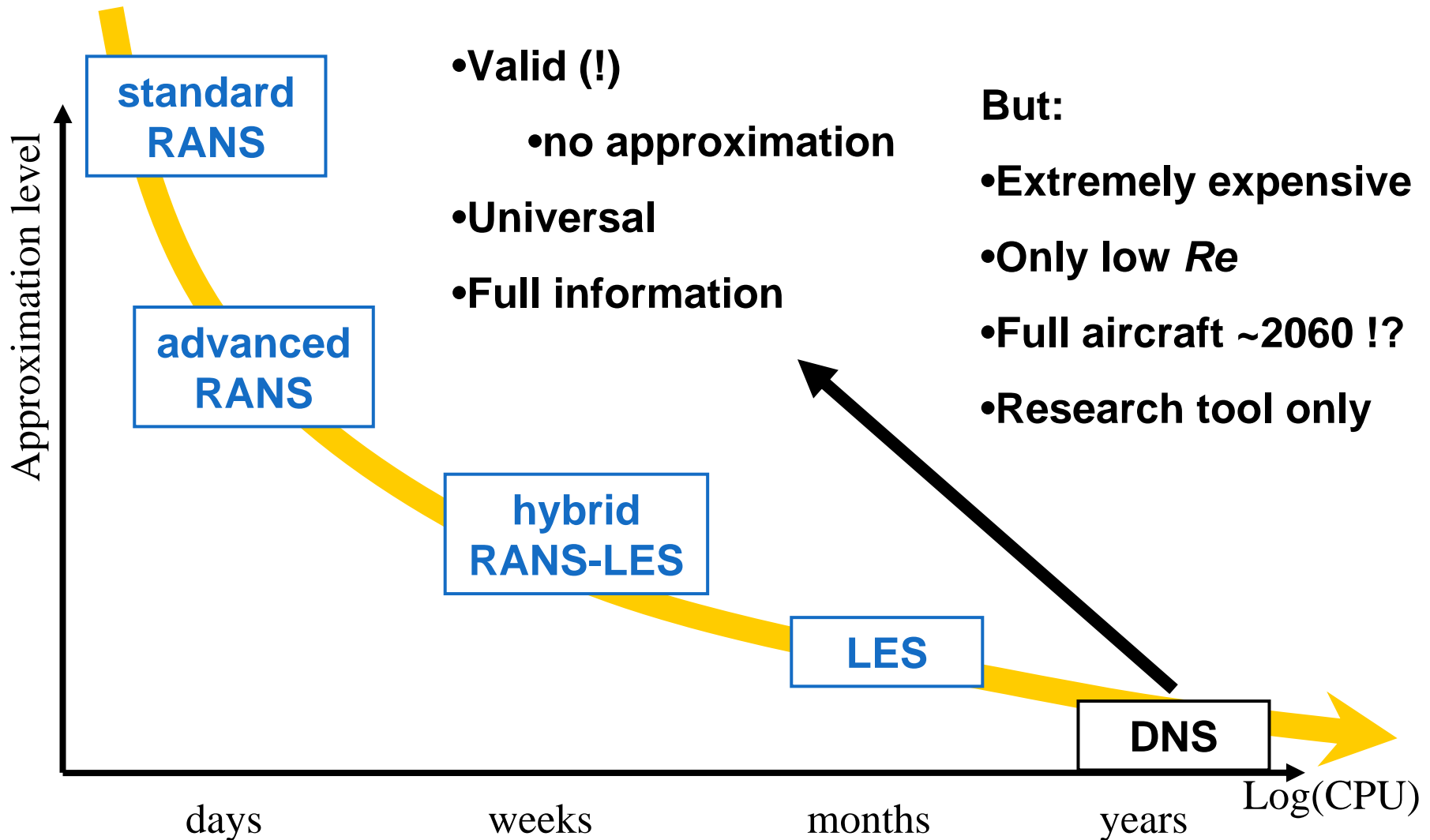
Standard RANS models



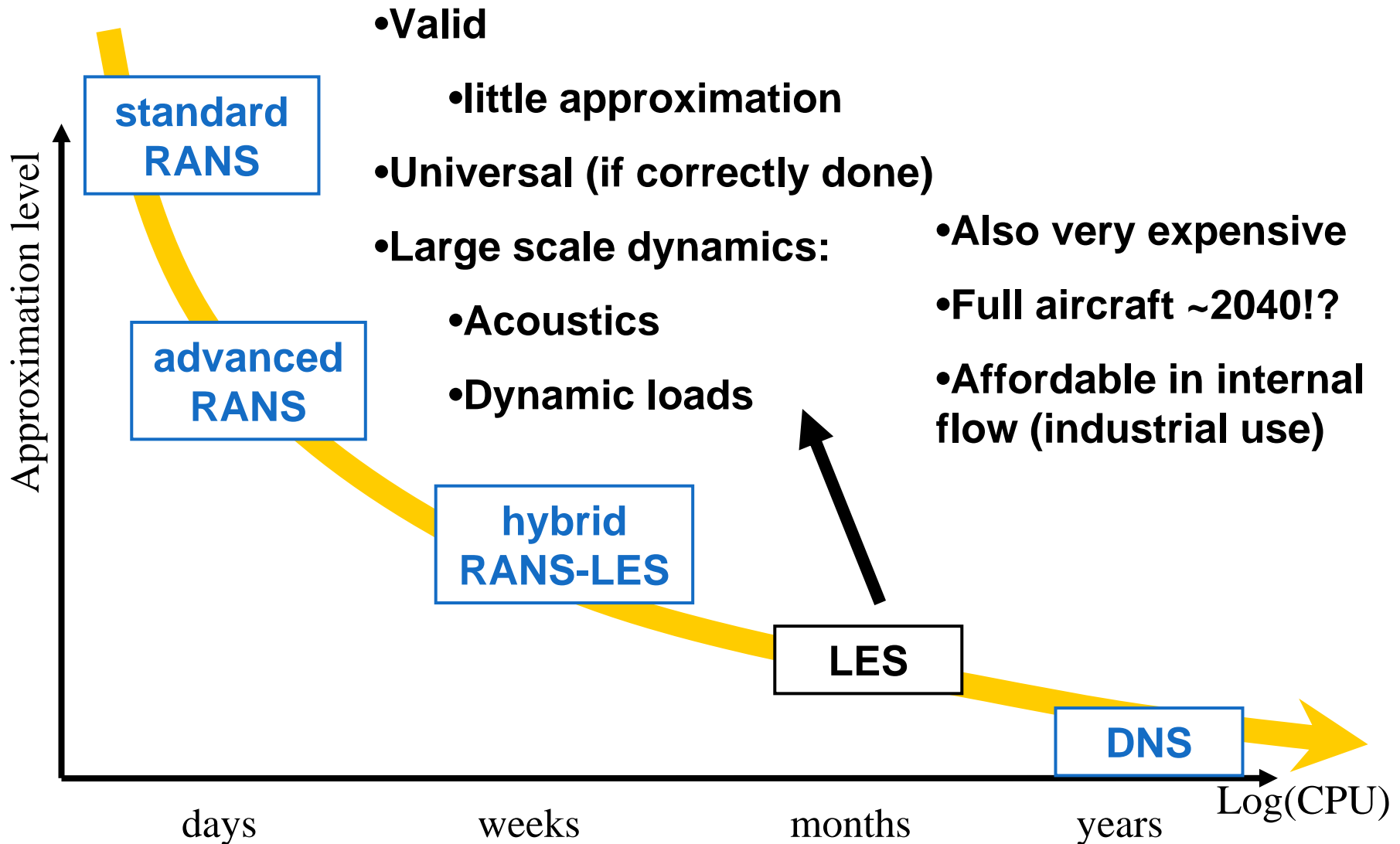
Advanced RANS models



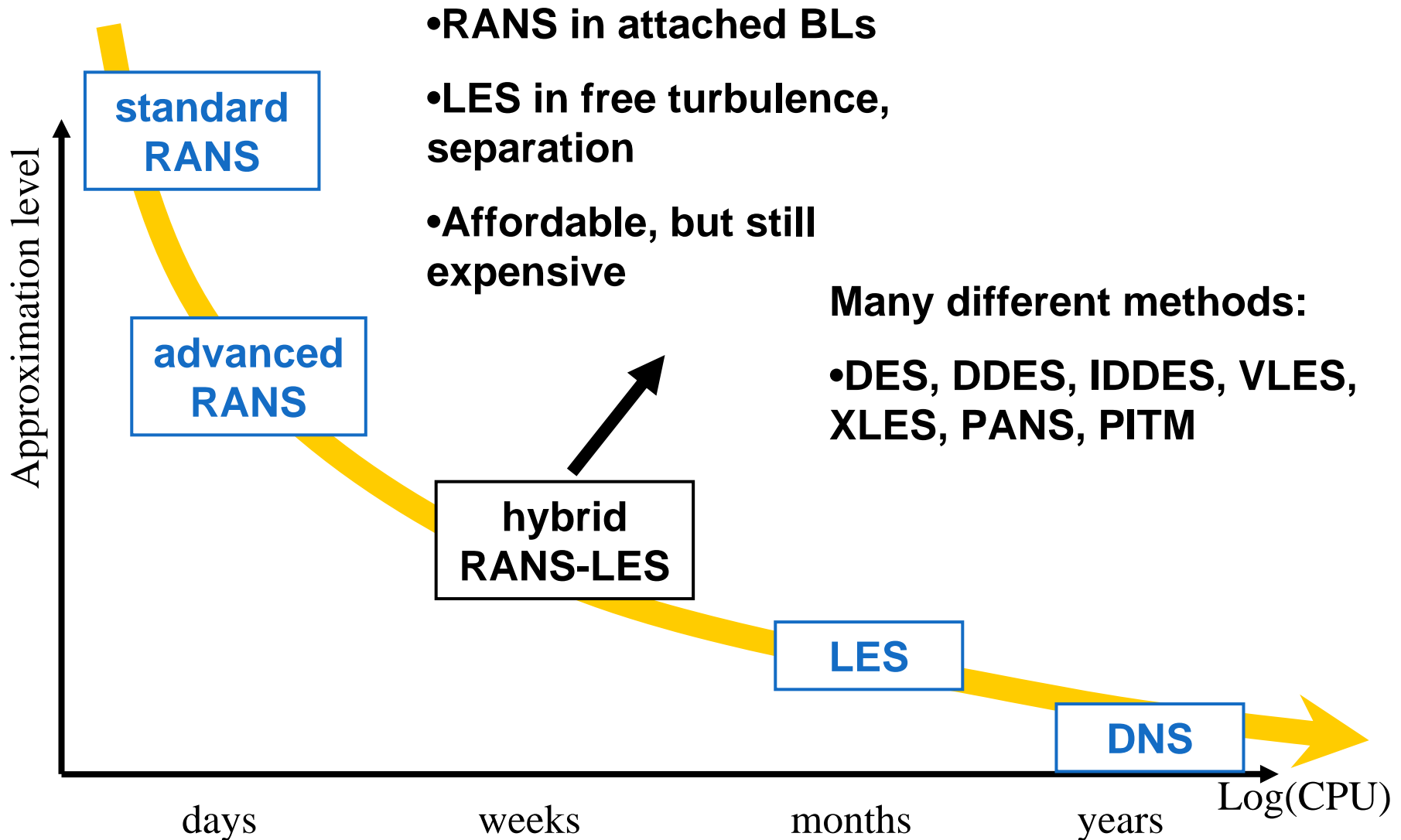
Direct Numerical Simulation – DNS



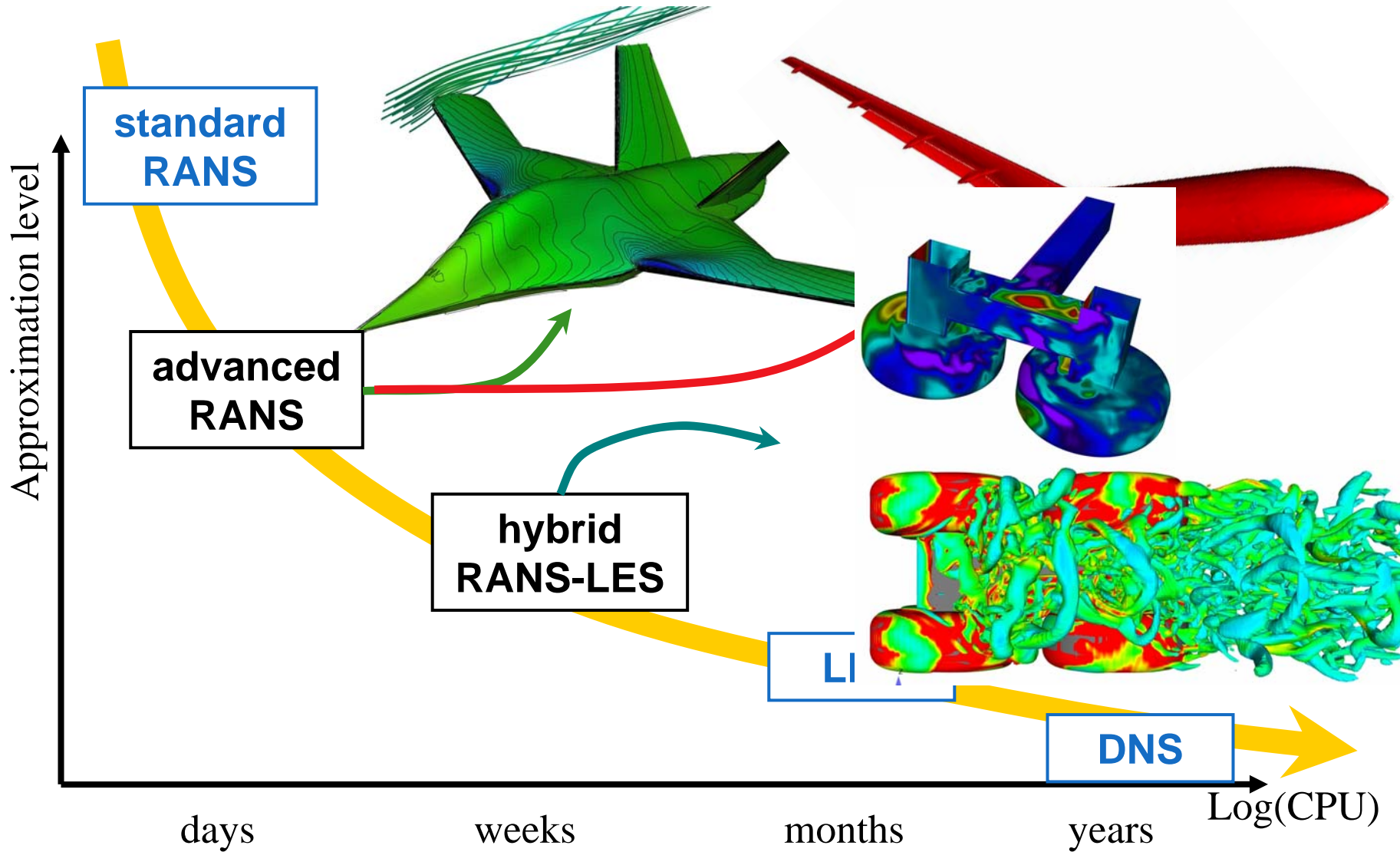
Large Eddy Simulation – LES



Hybrid RANS – LES methods



Prediction of turbulent flows

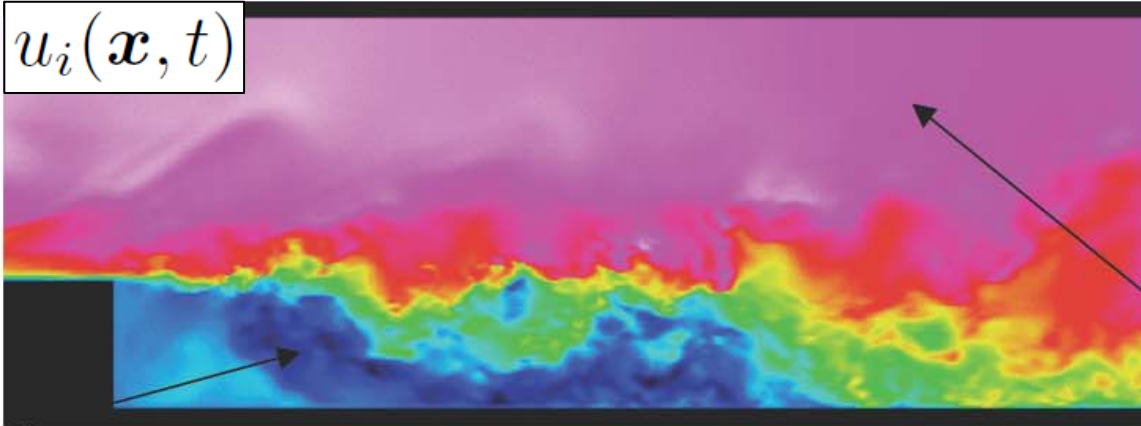


DNS – RANS

DNS

$$u_i(x, t)$$

Istantaneous



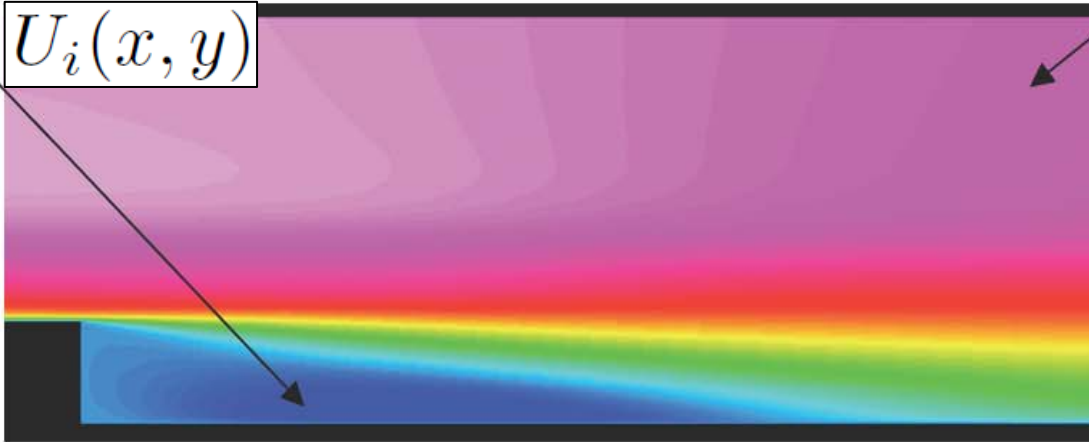
low velocity regions

high velocity regions

RANS

$$U_i(x, y)$$

Time averaged

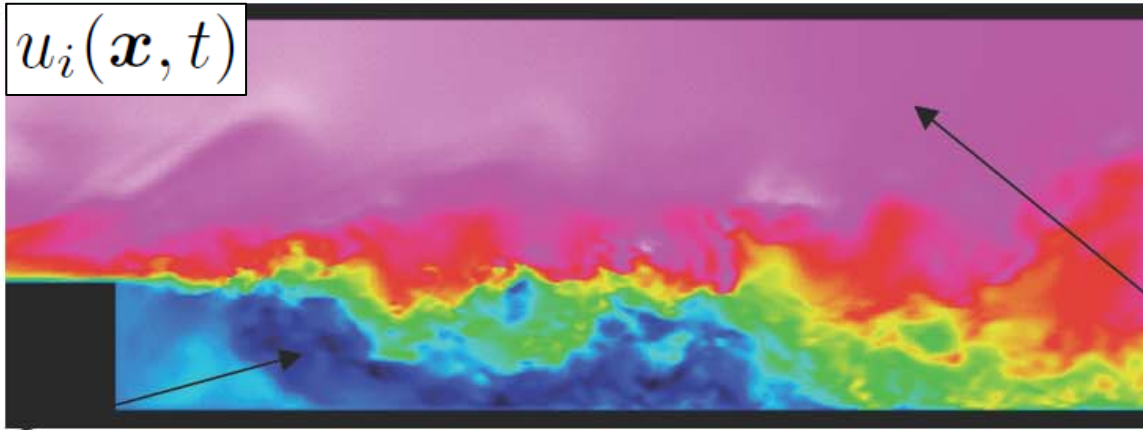


Length of the recirculation region is of engineering interest

DNS – RANS

DNS

$$u_i(\boldsymbol{x}, t)$$



Istantaneous

low velocity
regions

high velocity
regions

DNS (and also LES):

- 3D
- Time dependent
 - Full information of turbulence scales
 - Acoustics and dynamic loads
- Huge Reynolds number dependency (at least Re^3)

Expensive!

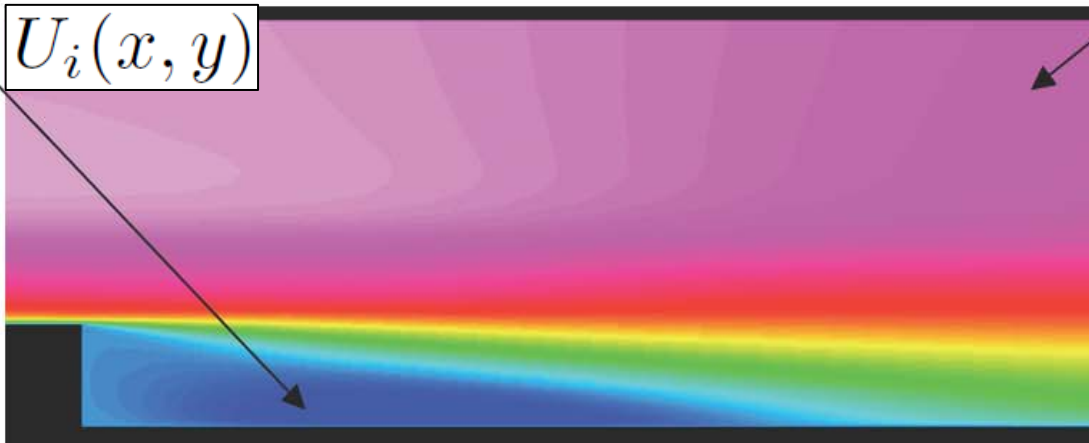
DNS – RANS

RANS:

- Reduction of dimensions → cheap
 - Here: 2D and steady
- Only statistical information of turbulence scales:
 - Time and length scales
 - rms values
 - Smooth fields = easy to resolve → cheap

low velocity
regions

RANS



How expensive is DNS?

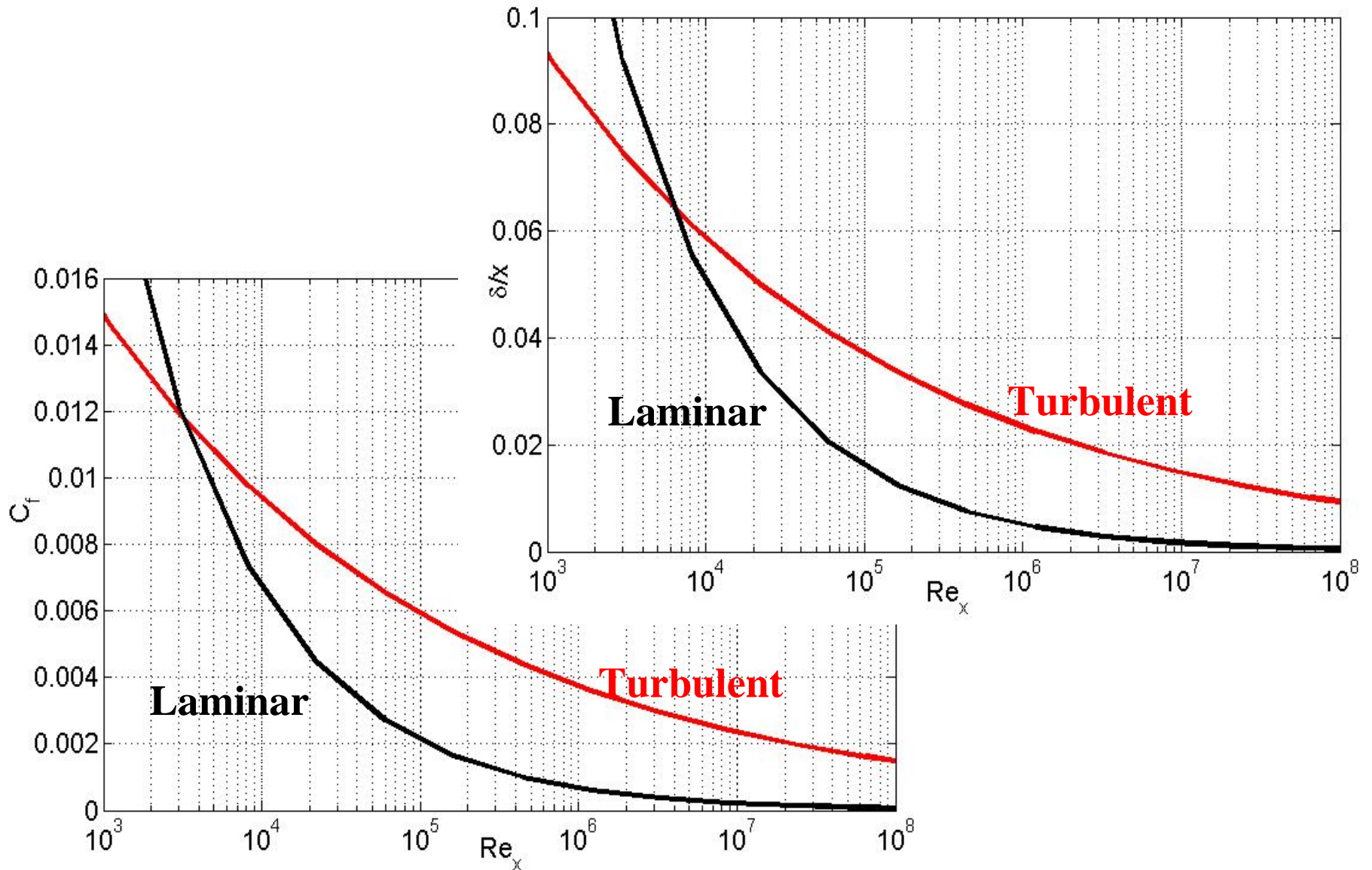
- **DNS of flat plate turbulent boundary layer**
 - Schlatter, et al., KTH, Dept. of Mechanics
 - APS meeting 2010: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1010.4000>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KeaAhVoPlw>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zm9-hSP4s3w>
 - $Re_\theta = 4300, Re_\tau = 1400$
 - $8192 \times 513 \times 768 = 3.2 \times 10^9$ spectral modes (7.5×10^9 nodes)
 - $\Delta x^+ = 9, \Delta z^+ = 4 \rightarrow$ box: $L^+ = 70\,000, H^+ = W^+ = 3\,000$
 - BL relations: $Re_x = 1.4 \times 10^6$
 - CPU time: 3 months @ 4000 CPU cores = 1 unit
- **DNS of Airplane, same Reynolds number ($Re_x = 1.4 \times 10^6$; $c=0.5\text{m}, U=40\text{m/s}$)**
 - Only a narrow stripe – wing requires about 1 000 stripes
 - $N_{\text{nodes}} = 10^{13}$
 - CPU = 10^3 units

Empirical turbulent BL relations

- **Skin friction coefficient:** $\frac{C_f}{2} = \frac{\tau_w}{\rho U_\infty^2} = \left(\frac{Re_\tau}{Re_\delta} \right)^2 \approx 0.0296 Re_x^{-1/5}$
- **Boundary layer thickness:** $\frac{\delta}{x} = \frac{Re_\delta}{Re_x} \approx 0.37 Re_x^{-1/5}$
- **Boundary layer momentum thickness:** $Re_\tau \approx 1.13 Re_\theta^{0.843}$
- **Reynolds numbers:**

$$Re_\tau \equiv \frac{\delta u_\tau}{\nu} \quad Re_\theta \equiv \frac{\theta U_\infty}{\nu} \quad Re_\delta \equiv \frac{\delta U_\infty}{\nu} \quad Re_x \equiv \frac{x U_\infty}{\nu}$$

Empirical relations plotted



DNS – full scale airplane

- Re scaling – wall bounded flow

- **Nodes:** $N_{nodes} \sim \frac{L \times B \times H}{\Delta x \Delta z \Delta y} \sim L^{+2} H^{+} \sim Re_x^{5/2}$

- **Time steps:** $N_{\Delta T} \sim \frac{T}{\Delta T} \sim T^{+} \sim Re_x^{4/5}$

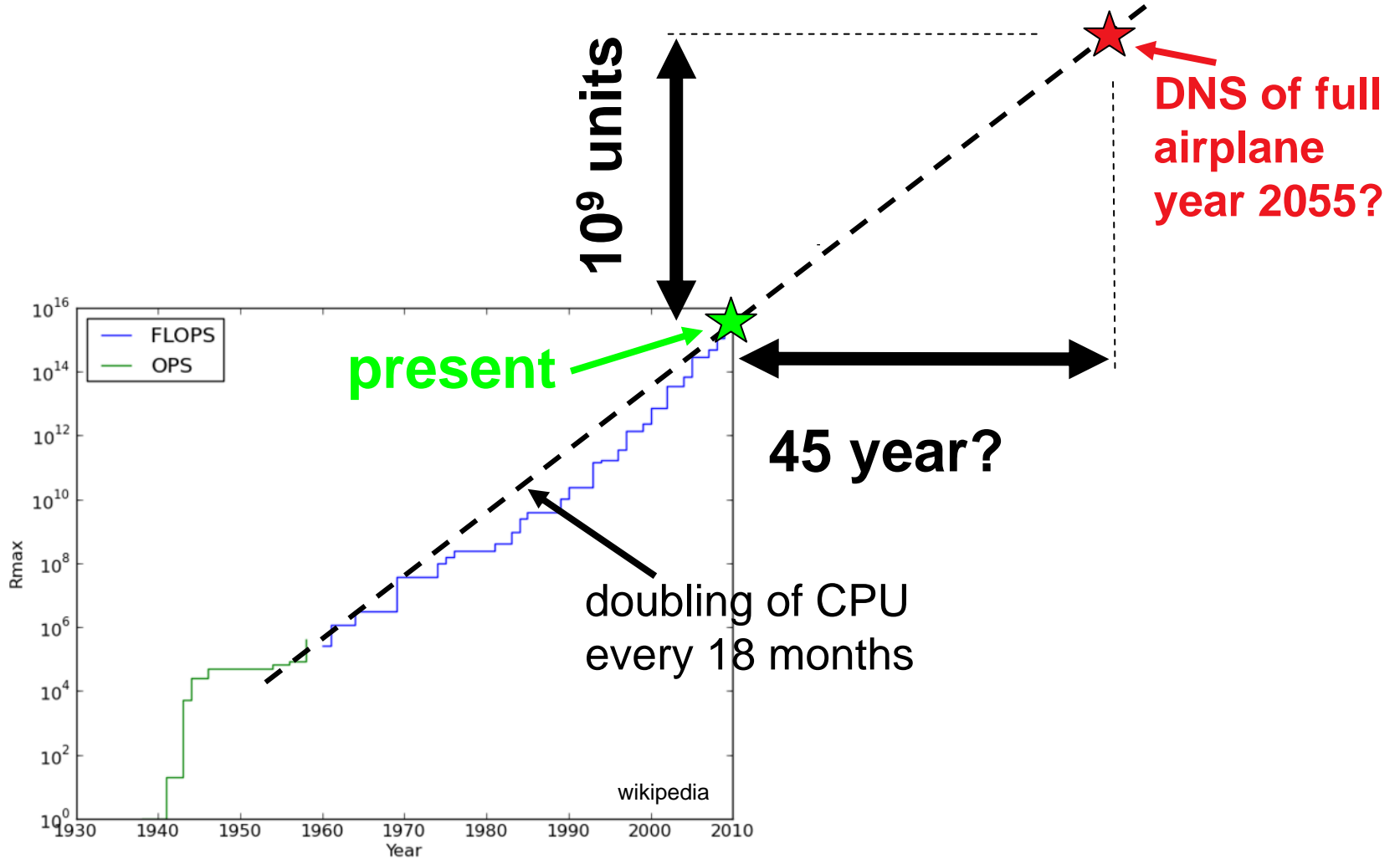
- **CPU time:** $N_{CPU} \sim N_{nodes} \times N_{\Delta T} \sim Re_x^{33/10}$

- DNS of Airplane ($Re_x = 70 \times 10^6$) (factor of 50)

- $N_{nodes} = 10^{17}$

- CPU = 10^9 units

Supercomputer development



Computational effort – different approaches

Name	Aim	Unsteady	<i>Re</i> -dependence	3/2D	Empiricism	Grid	Steps	Ready
2DURANS	Numerical	Yes	Weak	No	Strong	10^5	$10^{3.5}$	1980
3DRANS	Numerical	No	Weak	No	Strong	10^7	10^3	1990
3DURANS	Numerical	Yes	Weak	No	Strong	10^7	$10^{3.5}$	1995
DES	Hybrid	Yes	Weak	Yes	Strong	10^8	10^4	2000
LES	Hybrid	Yes	Weak	Yes	Weak	$10^{11.5}$	$10^{6.7}$	2045
QDNS	Physical	Yes	Strong	Yes	Weak	10^{15}	$10^{7.3}$	2070
DNS	Numerical	Yes	Strong	Yes	None	10^{16}	$10^{7.7}$	2080

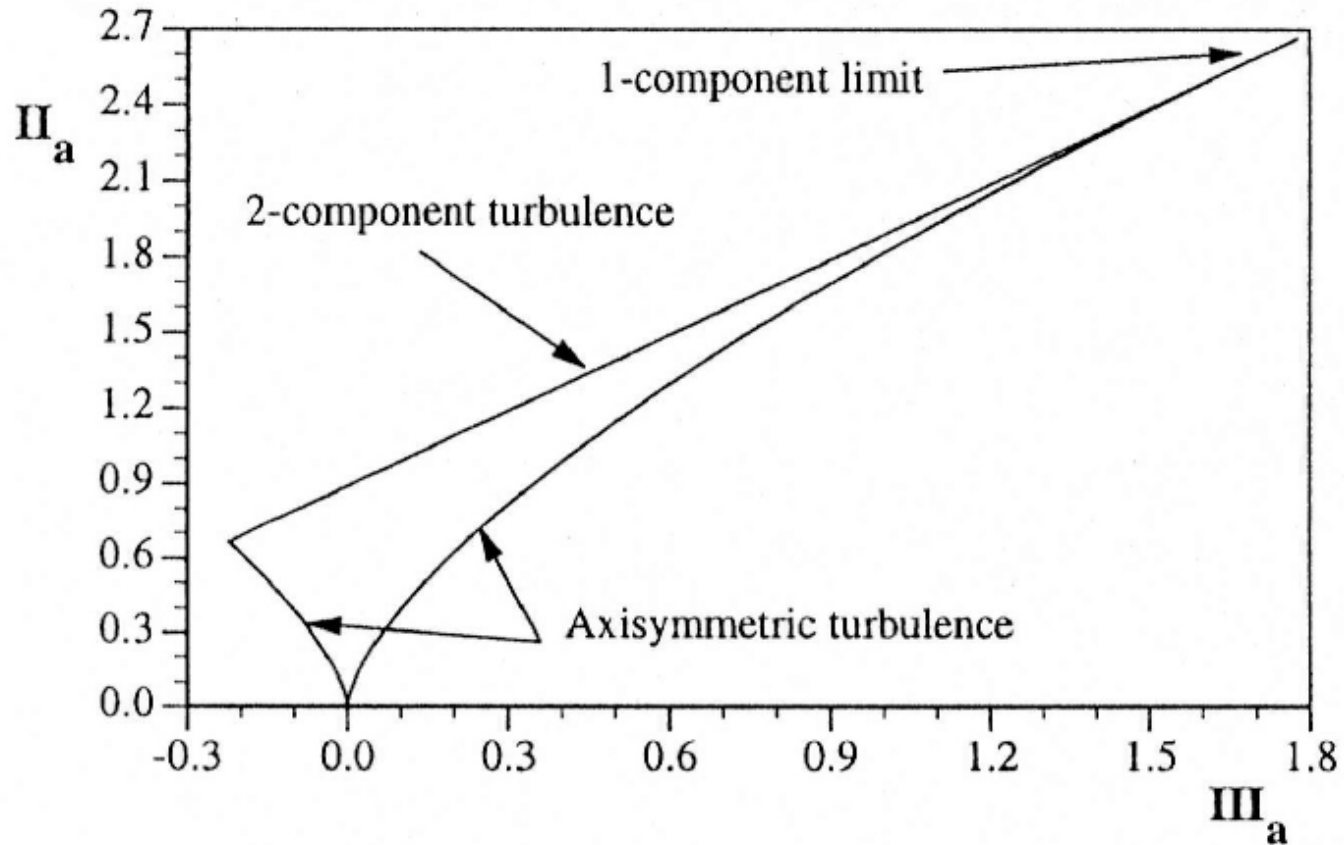
From Spalart, Int. J. Heat and Fluid Flow, 2000

- **RANS: Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes**
- **URANS: Unsteady RANS – slowly in time**
- **DES: Detached Eddy Simulation**
- **LES: Large eddy simulation**
- **QDNS: Quasi DNS, or wall resolved LES**
- **DNS: Direct Numerical Simulation (of the Navier-Stokes eq's)**
- **“Ready”:** When first results can be expected

RANS

- Reynolds stresses $\overline{u'_i u'_k}$
 - Appears because of the non-linear term $u_k \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_k}$
 - Not “small”
 - Significant effects on the flow
- RANS modelling
 - Model Reynolds stresses in terms of “known” quantities
 - Reduces the problem to steady (or slowly varying)
 - 2D assumptions possible
- Closure problem
 - Equation for $\overline{u'_i u'_k}$ can be derived from the N-S equation
 - Contains higher order correlations, e.g. $\overline{u'_i u'_j u'_k}$
 - All equations of the statistical properties contain additional correlations.

Reynolds stress anisotropy map



anisotropy map in channel flow

