Abstract Submitted for the DFD07 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Modeling The Divergence Of The Two-Point, Third-Order Velocity Correlation<sup>1</sup> AMITABH BHATTACHARYA, ICES, University of Texas, Austin, ROBERT MOSER, ICES and Mech. Engr., The University of Texas, Austin — Knowledge of  $\Gamma_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) = \partial \langle \mathbf{u}'_i(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u}'_k(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u}'_j(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}) \rangle / \partial \mathbf{r}_k$  is crucial for modeling the subgrid force using the Optimal LES approach (Langford and Moser, (1999)). Here, a method is developed to obtain an approximation to  $\Gamma_{ij}$  in statistically stationary turbulence, given a finite-dimensional representation for  $R_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}) = \langle \mathbf{u}'_i(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u}'_j(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r}) \rangle$ . The rotationally invariant representation of  $R_{ij}$  is in terms of Structure Tensors (Kassinos, 2001), and accounts for componental and directional anisotropy. Our method is based on the fact that the evolution equation for  $R_{ij}$  is  $DR_{ij}/Dt =$  $F_{ij}(\Gamma_{ij}, \Pi_{ij}, R_{ij}, G_{ij})$ , where  $\Pi_{ij}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r})$  is the two-point pressure-strain correlation and  $G_{ij}$  is the mean velocity gradient. For  $DR_{ij}/Dt = 0$ , a symmetrized form of  $\Gamma_{ij}$ can be obtained in terms of a production term involving  $R_{ij}$  and  $G_{ij}$  (after projecting out  $\Pi_{ij}$  using continuity). The resulting model and it's underlying assumptions are validated by comparison with DNS.

<sup>1</sup>Support by NSF (grant no. NSF-CTS-0352552) and AFOSR-(grant no. F49620-04-1-0032) is gratefully acknowledged.

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Date submitted: 07 Aug 2007

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