

# Machine Learning Approaches in Computational Fluid Mechanics

Student: James Wnek

Student Email: wnek.5@wright.edu

Faculty: Mitch Wolff, Ph.D.

Faculty Email: mitch.wolff@wright.edu

AFRL Sponsor: Christopher Schrock, Ph.D.

AFRL Directorate: AFRL/RQ

PA #: AFRL-2024-5749

# Motivation

- Current turbulence models perform poorly in separated flows.
- Machine learning provides potential framework for improvement.
- Predicting anisotropy tensor in barycentric coordinates can help enforce realizability in data-driven turbulence modeling.
- What mean flow features are most useful in predicting anisotropy tensor?

# Turbulence Anisotropy

- Non-dimensional anisotropy tensor,  $b_{ij}$ ,

$$b_{ij} = \frac{\tau_{ij}}{2k} - \frac{1}{3} \delta_{ij}$$

- Use eigendecomposition to represent in barycentric coordinates,

$$C_1 = \lambda_1 - \lambda_2,$$

$$C_2 = 2(\lambda_2 - \lambda_3),$$

$$C_3 = 3\lambda_3 + 1$$

$$\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3,$$

$$C_1 + C_2 + C_3 = 1,$$

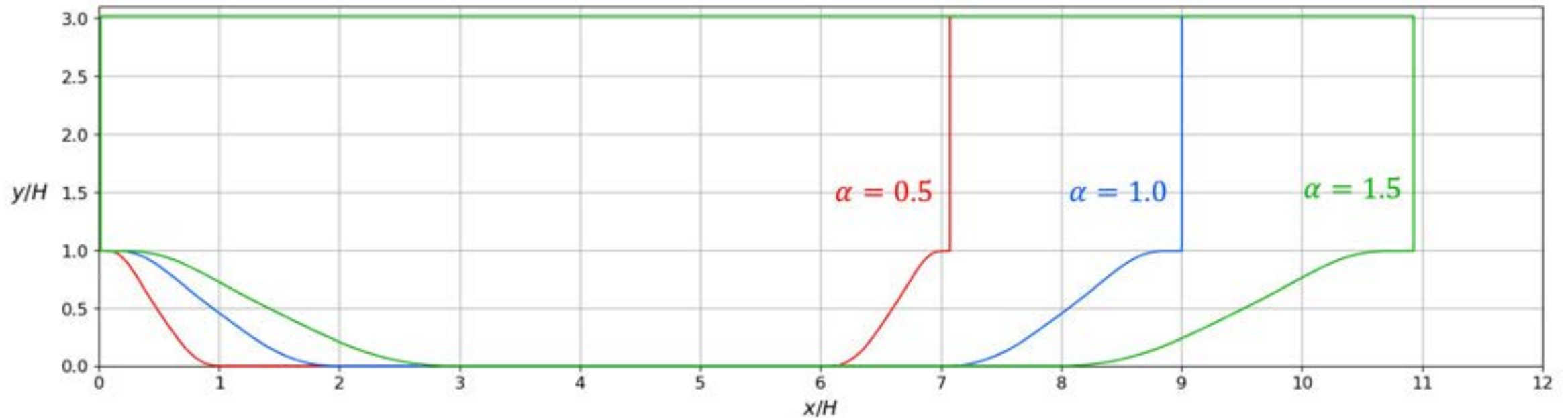
$$0 \leq C_i \leq 1$$

- Corners represent limiting states of turbulence; barycentric coordinates represent strength of component:

- Corner 1,  $C_1 \rightarrow$  One-component
- Corner 2,  $C_2 \rightarrow$  Two-component, axisymmetric
- Corner 3,  $C_3 \rightarrow$  Isotropic

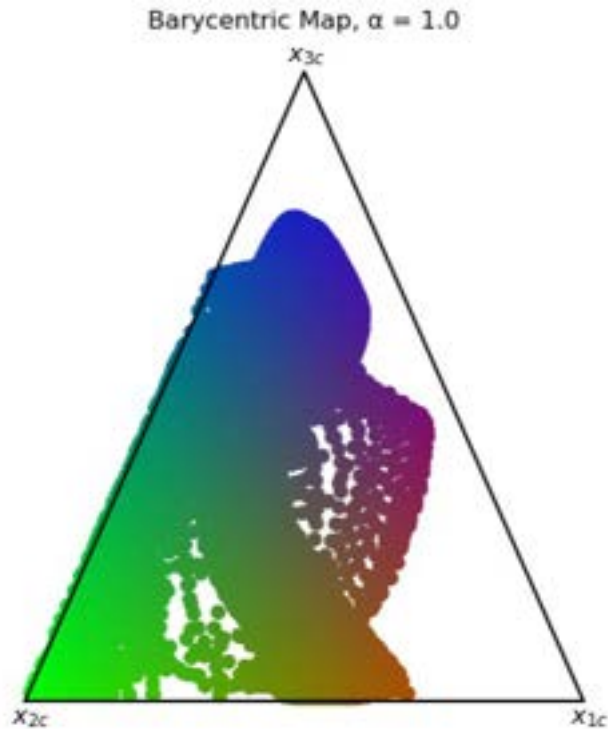
# Periodic Hills Dataset

- DNS dataset generated by (Xiao et al. 2020). OpenFOAM case files provided. 29 combinations of hill width, domain height, and streamwise length.
- Flow ranges from attached to massively separated by left hill depending on hill slope parameter,  $\alpha$ .
- Three cases used: baseline hill height and domain height,  $\alpha = 0.5, 1.0, 1.5$ .

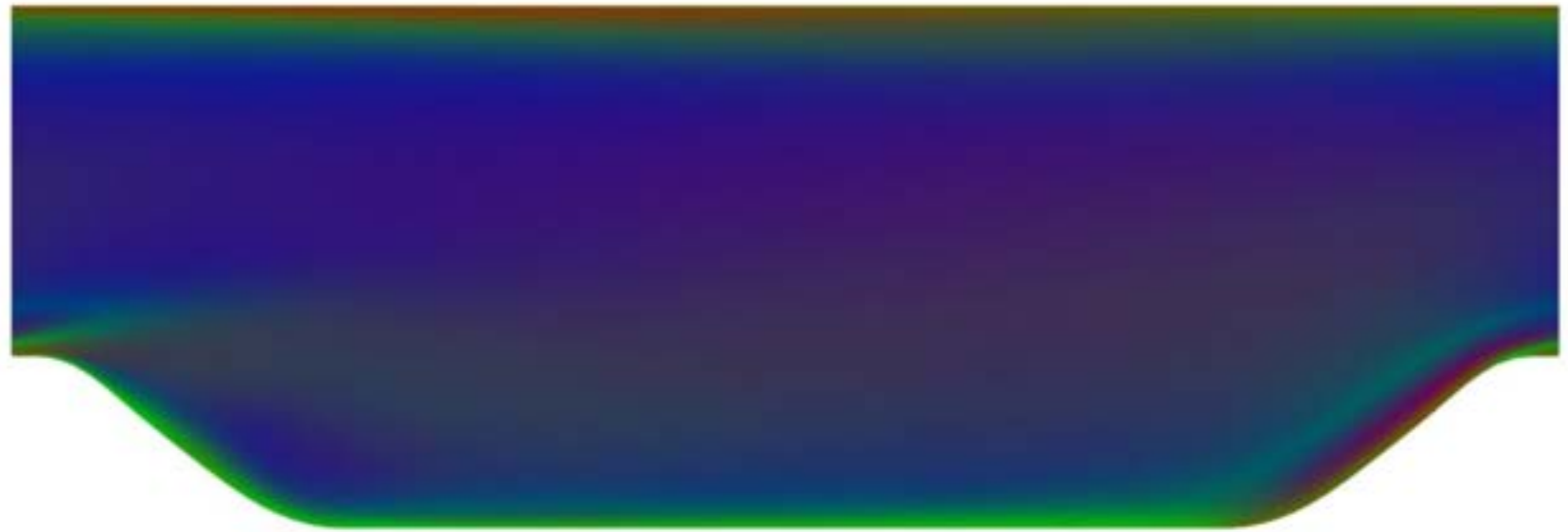


# Turbulence Componentiality

- Barycentric coordinates can be treated as pixel values. Used to create contour maps of anisotropy.
- Anisotropy componentiality of case,  $\alpha = 1.0$ .



Anisotropy Componentiality (Red -> 1-component, Green -> 2-component, Blue -> Isotropic)



# Mean Flow Variables Considered

Raw Variable	Normalization Factor	Interpretation
$S_{kk}^2 = S_{ij}S_{ji}$	$  \nabla\mathbf{U}  ^2$	Strain rate as fraction of total deformation rate.
$W_{kk}^2 = W_{ij}W_{ji}$	$  \nabla\mathbf{U}  ^2$	Rotation rate as fraction of total deformation rate.
$Q_{criterion} = (  \mathbf{W}  ^2 -   \mathbf{S}  ^2) / 2$	$  \nabla\mathbf{U}  ^2 / 2$	Excess vorticity as fraction of total deformation rate.
$  \nabla \times \mathbf{U}   = \sqrt{2W_{ij}W_{ij}}$	$\sqrt{2} *   \nabla\mathbf{U}  $	Ratio of vorticity magnitude to total deformation rate.
$u_j(\partial p / \partial x_j)$	$  \mathbf{U}   \cdot   \nabla p  $	Orthogonality of velocity and pressure gradient.
$u_j(\partial u / \partial x_j)$	$  \mathbf{U}   \cdot   \nabla u  $	Orthogonality of velocity and x-velocity gradient.
$u_j(\partial v / \partial x_j)$	$  \mathbf{U}   \cdot   \nabla v  $	Orthogonality of velocity and y-velocity gradient.
$Re_D = \sqrt{k}d/\nu$	N/A	Wall distance Reynolds number.

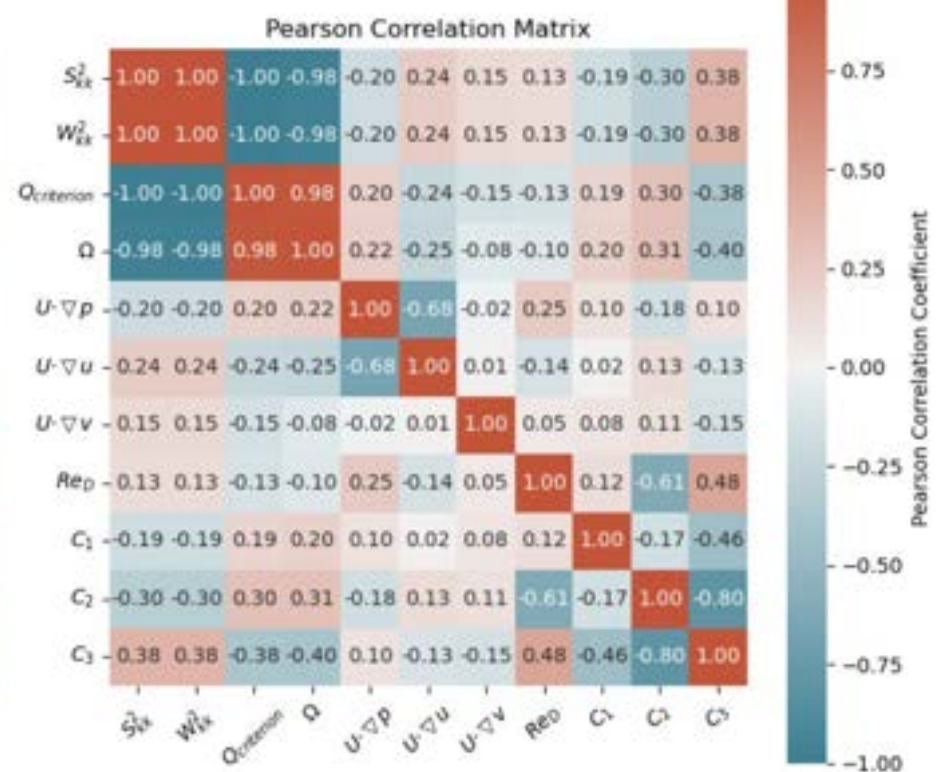
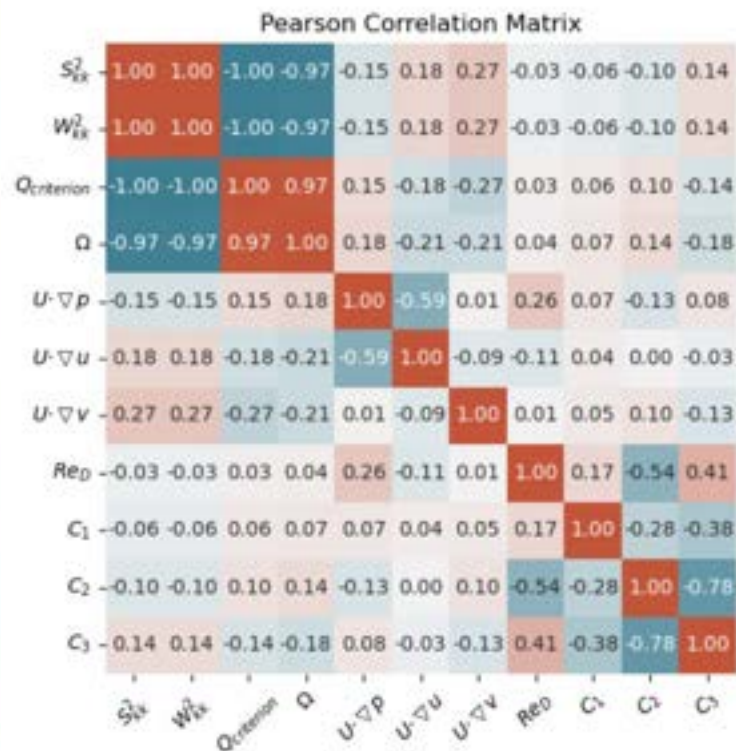
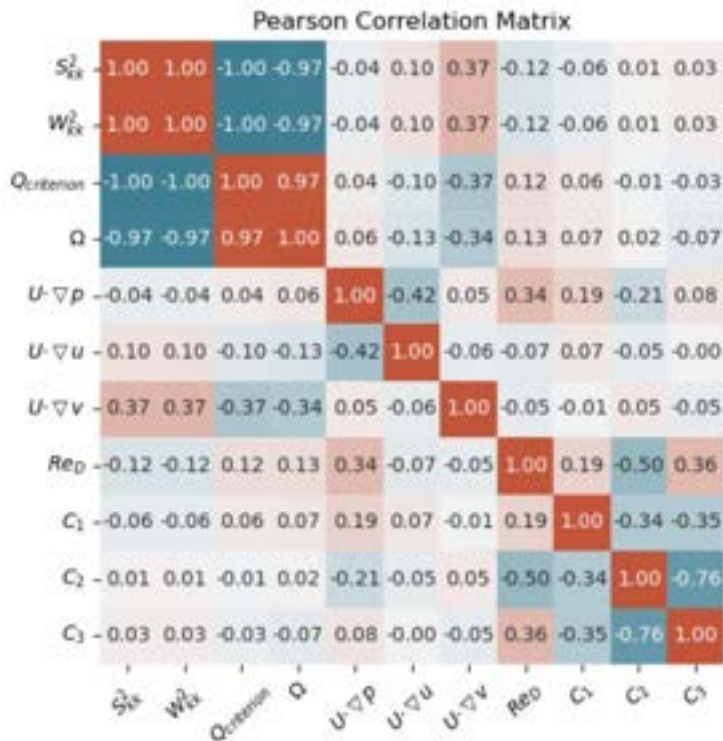
- All variables are normalized to range [-1,1]

# Feature Importance

- Can be investigated using random forest model. Implemented in SciKit-Learn:
  - Max Depth: 10
  - Number of Estimators: 100
  - Random State: 0
  - 80/20 training/validation data split
  - Random seed: 12345 for training/validation split
- Permutation Importance...Calculated by permuting features in the validation set one by one and measuring reduction in accuracy.
  - Biased against highly correlated features.
- Check feature correlation using Pearson correlation coefficient.
  - Tests for linear relationship between variables.

# Correlation Matrices

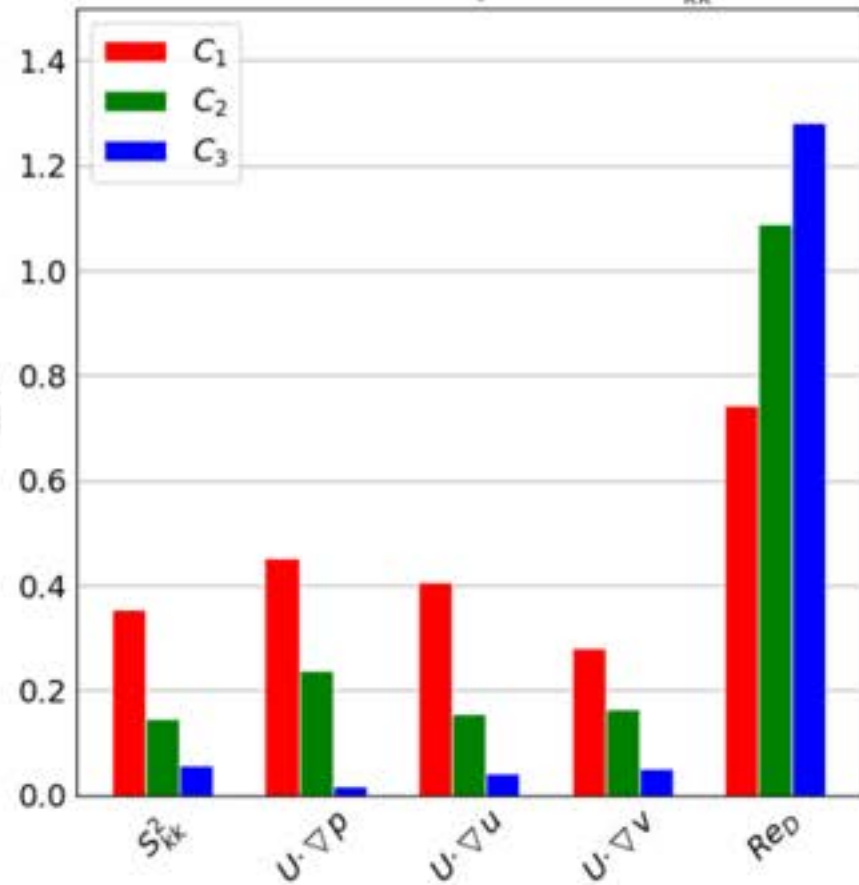
- $S_{kk}^2$ ,  $W_{kk}^2$ ,  $Q_{criterion}$ , and  $\Omega$  are highly correlated. Use only one from each group.



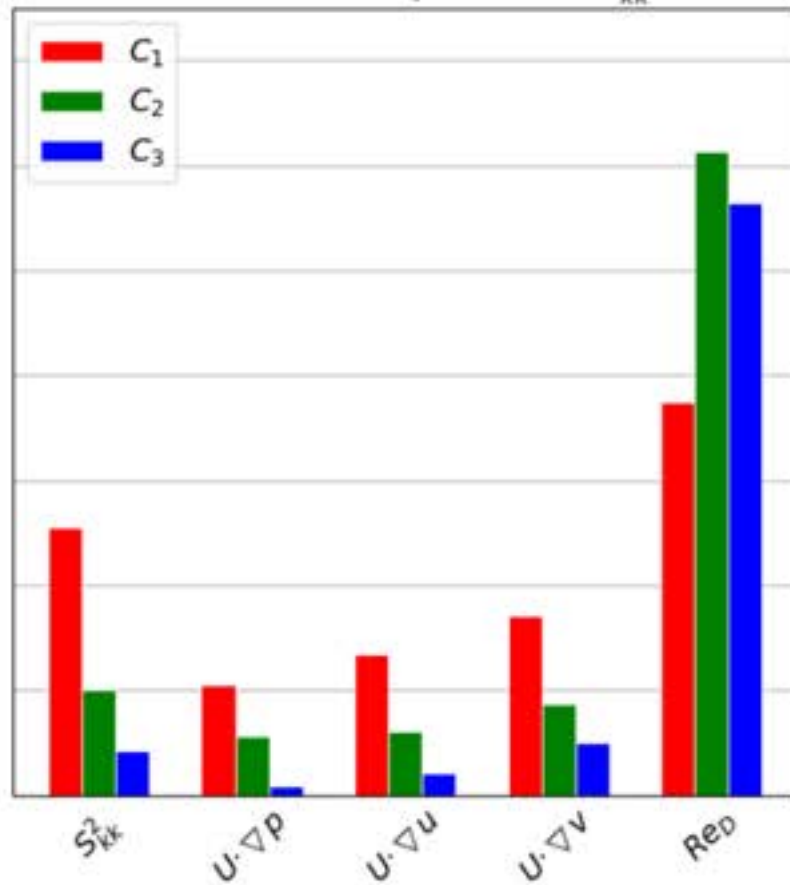


# Permutation Feature Importances

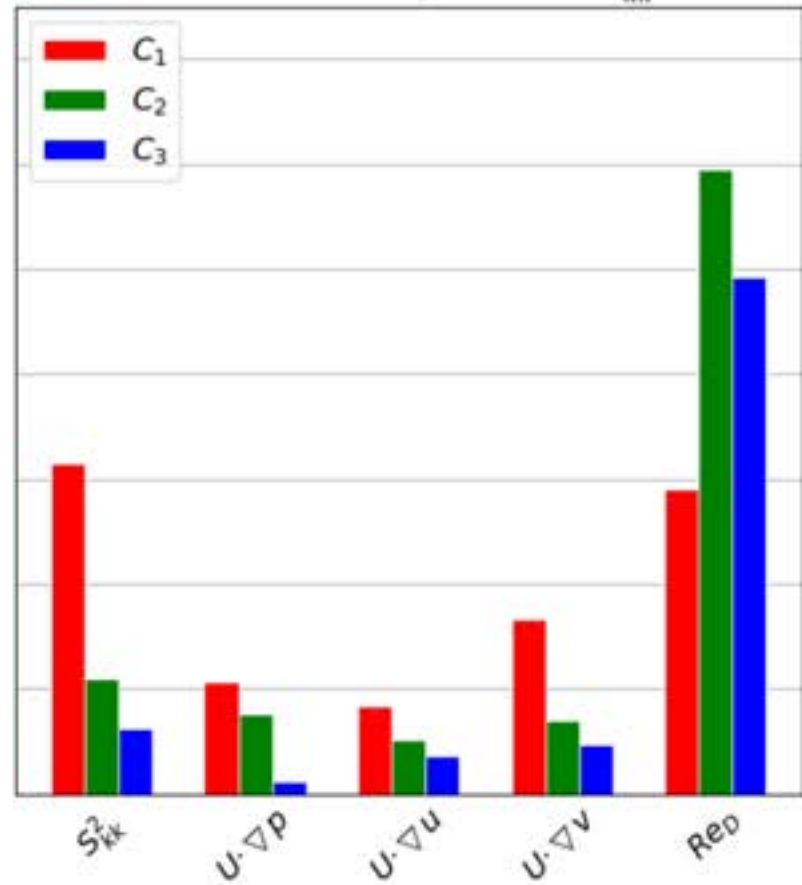
Permutation Feature Importances,  $S_{kk}^2$ ,  $\alpha = 0.5$



Permutation Feature Importances,  $S_{kk}^2$ ,  $\alpha = 1.0$



Permutation Feature Importances,  $S_{kk}^2$ ,  $\alpha = 1.5$



# Conclusions and Future Plans

- $Re_D$  is most informative feature, especially for  $C_2$  and  $C_3$ .
- $C_1$  shows significant dependence on all selected features. Dependence on  $S_{kk}^2$  increases with  $\alpha$ .
- Results can help inform selection of input features and approach to selecting from larger feature sets.
- In progress and future plans:
  - Developing new invariant map for use in ML turbulence modeling.
  - Designing modified tensor basis neural network architecture to ensure output realizability.
  - Implement proof of concept model using DNS and LES datasets.