

# Study of Turbulent Mixing Development at the Interface Gas-Gas at Mach Numbers by Shock Wave from 2 till 9

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## ABSTRACT

The experimental technique for investigation of turbulent mixing is presented in this report. Turbulent mixing (TM) arises at Richtmyer-Meshkov instability at the interface gas-gas accelerated by a shock wave. Helium (He) and air (Air) was used as light gas, as heavy gas - six-fluorine sulfur (SF<sub>6</sub>). In all the experiments a shock wave propagated from light gas to heavy gas. Mach number of a shock wave in SF<sub>6</sub> has changed from 2 to 9. The flow was recorded by the use of shlieren method during rapid motion-picture recording.

## Introduction

Hydrodynamic instabilities such as Rayleigh-Taylor [1], Richtmyer-Meshkov [2, 3] play a leading role in many fields of research, for example, in astrophysics, aerohydrodynamics, gas dynamics, in inertial thermonuclear fusion etc. To calculate these instabilities and turbulent mixing (TM) connected with them both numerical methods and semi-empirical models. Both require the testing on experimental data.

A number of experimental works is known, in which development of turbulent mixing was investigated at the interface of gases with different density at Mach numbers by a shock wave (SW)  $M \leq 5$  (for instance, [3÷5]). To understand better the influence of compressibility of medium on development of TM it is desirable to obtain experimental data within a wider range of the change of Mach numbers of SW.

In this work SW was formed in a shock tube [6] as a result of detonation of combustible gas mixture (CGM) of acetylene and oxygen. SW Mach number in SF<sub>6</sub> was changed in a range of 2 - 9. Growth of instability and turbulent mixing was studied at the interface of heavy and light gases.

## Experimental techniques

Shock tube scheme is presented at Fig. 1. The shock tube consists of chambers with a high pressure (driver) and a low pressure. The chambers are separated from each other by the help of a diaphragm made of lavsan thick up to 100-150 micrometer mcm. A measuring section with a silencer is connected with the low pressure chamber. The measuring section has two windows made of optically clear organic glass. It breaks away from the low pressure chamber by means of polymer film  $\approx 0,3$  micrometer in thickness, and from a silencer – membrane made of lavsan 50 mcm. thick.

In experiments the low pressure chamber was filled with light gas: helium or air; the measuring section– SF<sub>6</sub> ( $\rho_0 \approx 6,5$  g/l;  $C_0 \approx 129,5$  m/s;  $\gamma \approx 1,094$ ) at atmospheric pressure. There is air in the silencer at atmospheric pressure. The high pressure chamber (driver) length changed within a range of  $L_1 = 220 \div 450$  mm, the low pressure chamber length–  $L_2 = 800 \div 1550$  mm. The high pressure chamber was filled with CGM at certain pressure  $P_0$ . Detonation of CGM was realized by pulsed electro spark discharge.

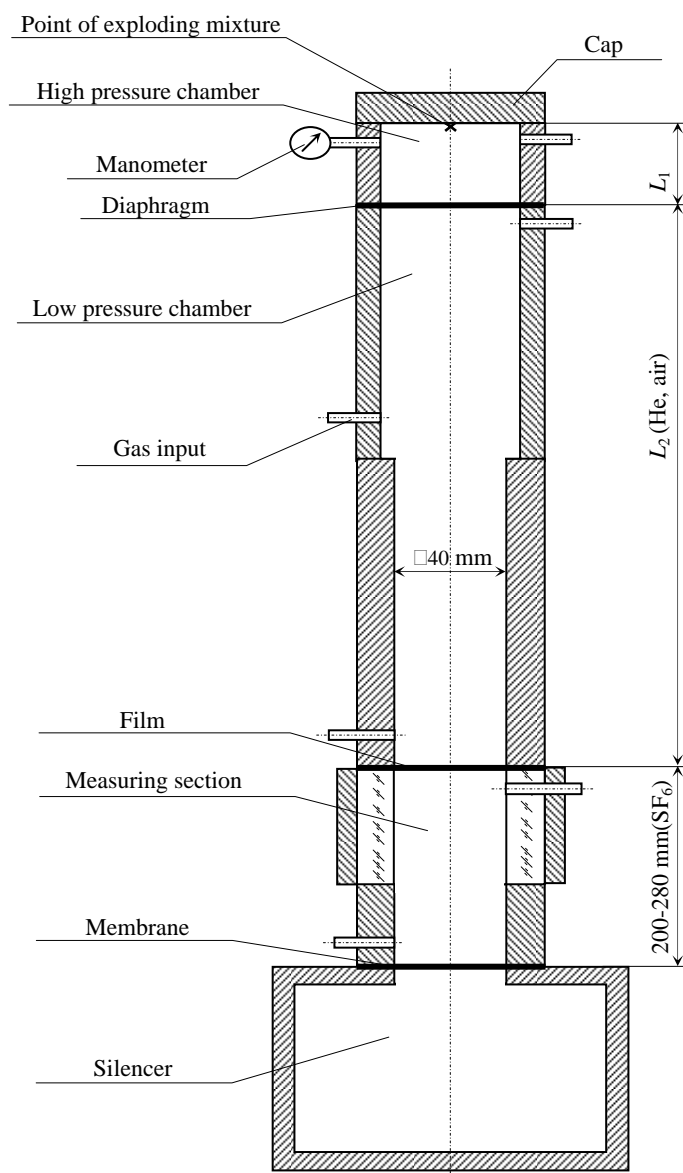


Figure 1 – Shock tube scheme

**Operation of the instrument**

After initiating CGM a detonation wave propagates on the high pressure chamber. When this detonation wave enters a diaphragm the latter disrupts and a shock wave propagates in light gas. When a shock wave goes toward a contact interface (CI) of light gas with SF<sub>6</sub>, two waves are created. A shock wave propagates on SF<sub>6</sub> and a reflected wave outgoes in light gas. After destructing a separating film CI of gases accelerates, with the result that Richmayer-Meshkov instability arises in it, which causes the development of turbulent mixing zone (TMZ) of light and heavy gases.

Variation of CGM composition and CGM pressure has made it possible to obtain shock waves having a varied intensity.

The flow was recorded through the schlieren method by the use of a rapid movie camera in frame-by-frame mode and in slot image scanning mode.

**The Results of the Experiments**

Figure 2 presents slot moving image frames and frame-by-frame moving image frames of the experiments with helium, Figure 3 – experiments with air, Figure 4 – calculation (without TM) and experimental  $X(t)$  diagrams of the flow for some tests. Measuring error of position of TMZ ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ) front and SW front in experiments makes up  $\pm 0.5$  mm, timing error– 0,5% $t$ . Gas dynamical

calculations of the flow were conducted by using one-dimensional techniques «VIKHR» [7]. With increase in shock wave Mach number from  $\sim 2$  to  $\sim 9$  Atwood number ( $A$ ) changed from  $\sim 0.83$  till  $99$ .

From moving image frames and diagrams we notice that with increase in number  $M$  SW in  $SF_6$ : contact interface of gases and, respectively, a front of TMZ approach a shock wave front (due to high compressibility of  $SF_6$ ); at  $M \geq 6,5$  an optical gap is not observed between SW and a forward shock wave front of TM ( $X_1$ ) in experiments (s. Fig. 2b);

The proximity of the front of TM and SW may cause their mutual influence yet to be studied in subsequent investigations.

The proposed techniques enable us to study TM development at the interface of gases and at higher Mach numbers. In this case a maximum value of Mach number is determined by measuring section strength (toughness).

## Conclusions

Experimental techniques were developed to study turbulent mixing development at the gas-gas interface, which is accelerated by the shock wave with Mach number up to 9.

In the near future detailed investigations will be performed into TM development at the interface of gases with different density at  $M \gg 5$ .

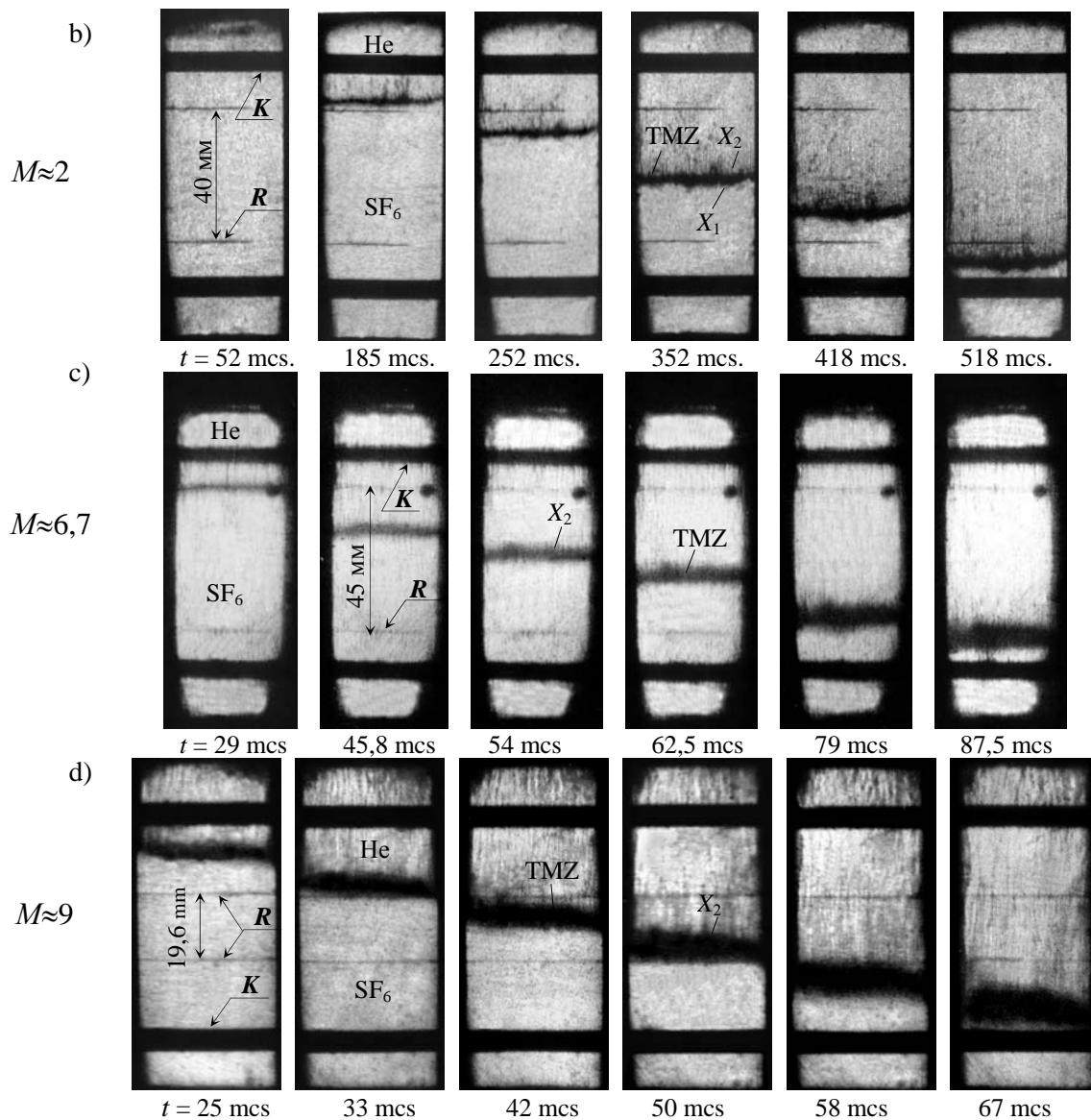
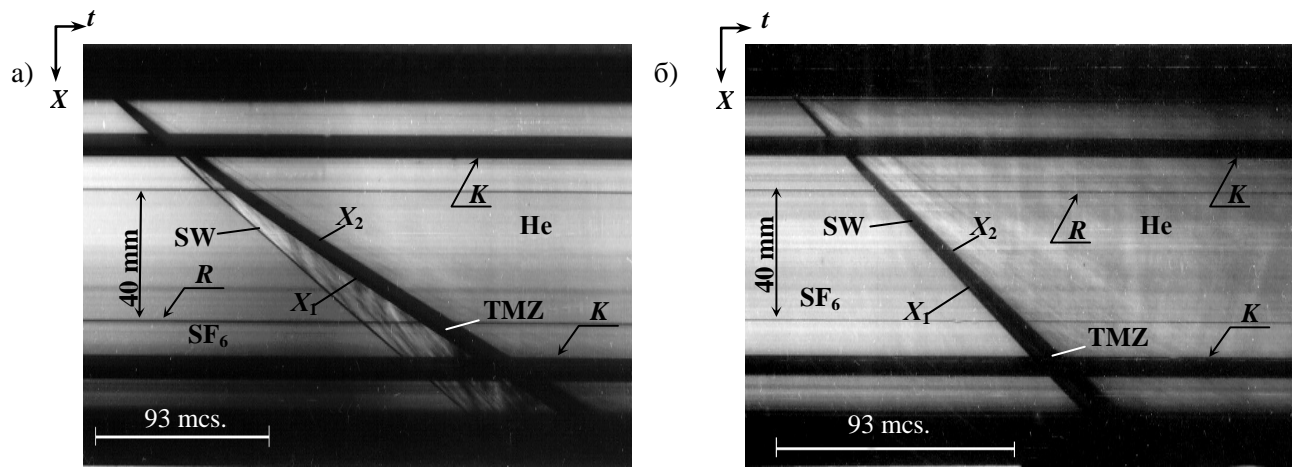
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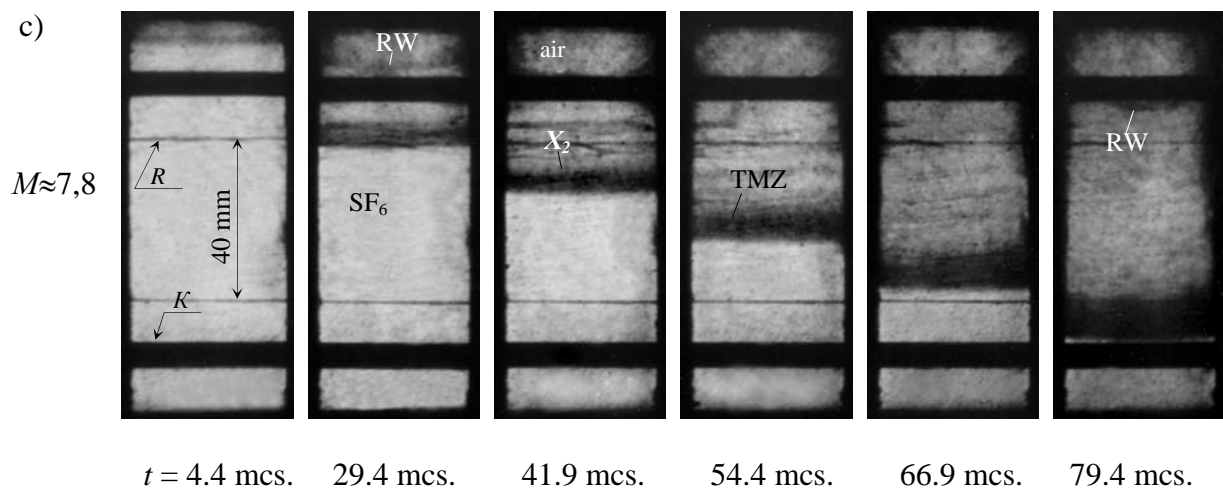
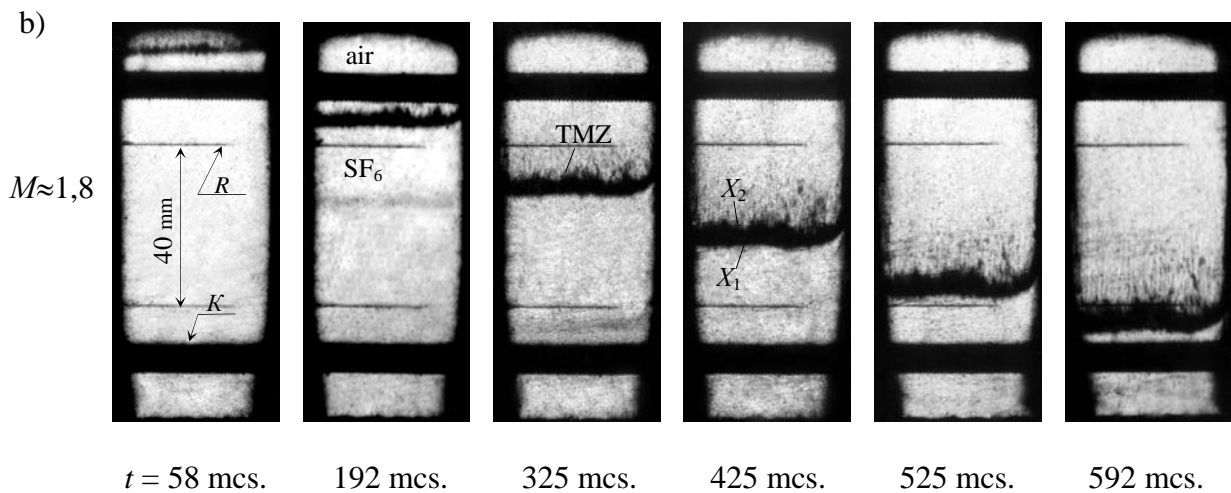
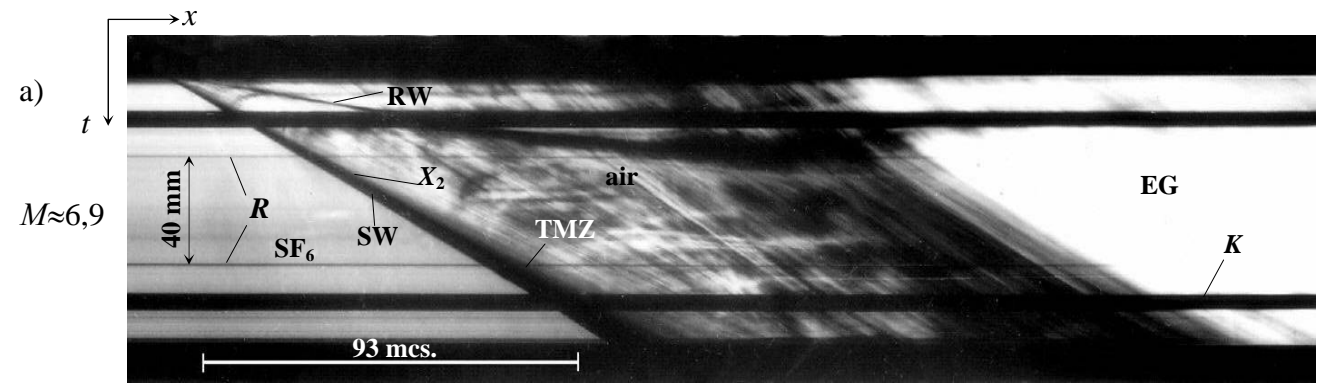
$M=3,9$

$M=6,6$



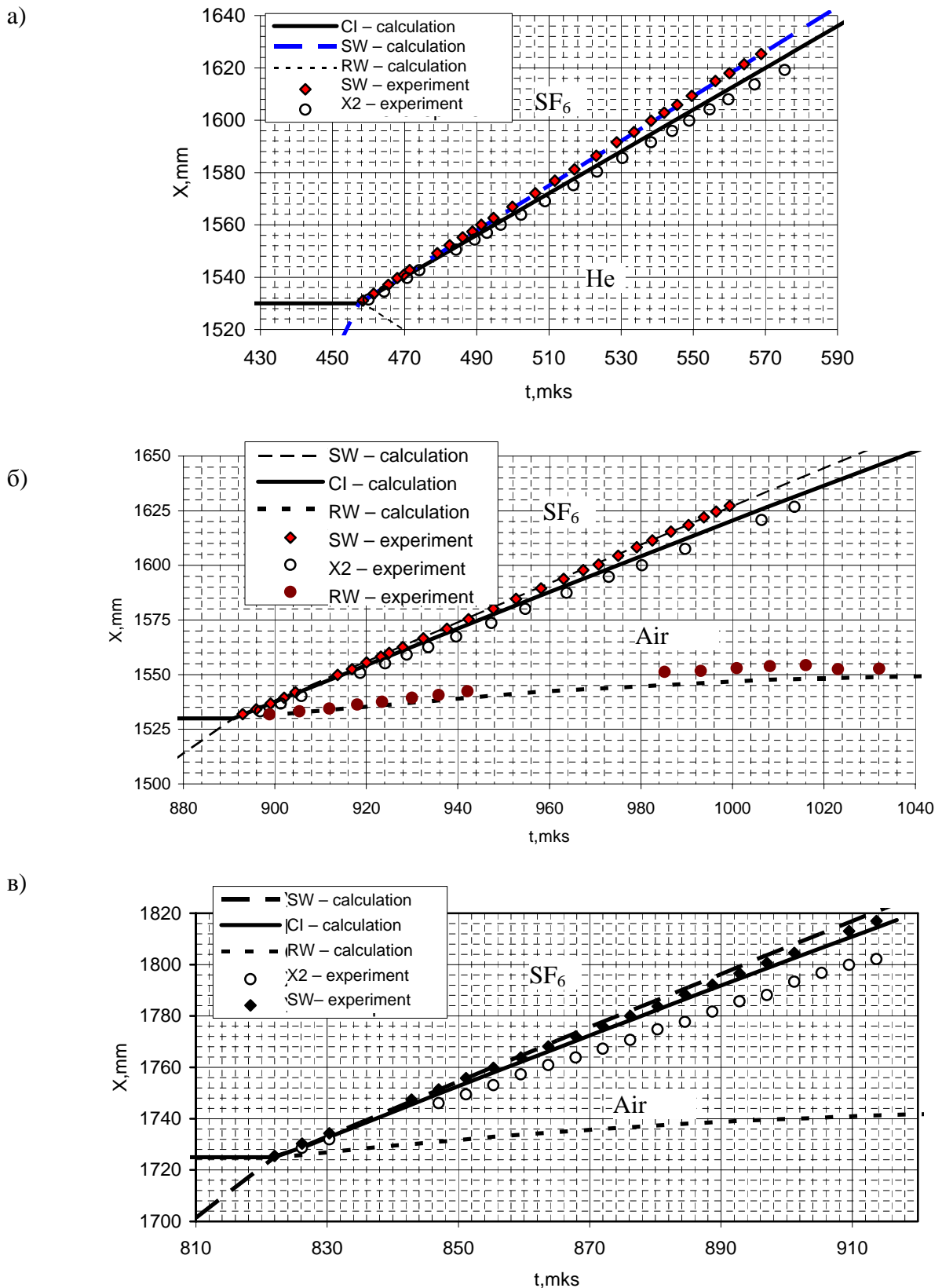
Designations:  $X_1$  – front of the penetration of «light» gas in «heavy» gas;  $X_2$  – front of the penetration of «heavy» gas in «light» gas;  $t$  – time is reckoned from output of SW to CI;  $K$  – structural element (out of flow);  $R$  – reference lines.

Figure 2 – Moving image frames of the experiments on TMZ development at the interface helium-SF<sub>6</sub>: a) experiment №1 ( $A \approx 0.95$ ); б) experiment №2 ( $A \approx 0.99$ ) – slot moving image frames; в) experiment №3 ( $A \approx 0.95$ ); г) experiment №4 ( $A \approx 0.99$ ); д) experiment №5 ( $A \approx 0.99$ )



Designations: RW – reflected wave; EG – CGM explosive gases; R – reference lines, K – structural element; t – time is reckoned from the moment of coming SW to the contact interface.

Figure 3 – Moving image frames of the experiments with TMZ development at the interface *air-SF<sub>6</sub>*: a) experiment №6 ( $A \approx 0.89$ ) – slot moving image frames; б) experiment №8 ( $A \approx 0.83$ ); в) experiment №7 ( $A \approx 0.89$ )



Designations: RW – reflected wave;  $t$  – time is reckoned from the beginning of CGM detonation; ordinate  $X$  is reckoned from the cap of the high pressure chamber.

Figure 4 –  $X(t)$  diagrams of the flow in the shock tube. a) experiment №2 (He-SF<sub>6</sub>); b) experiment №6 (air-SF<sub>6</sub>); c) experiment №7 (air-SF<sub>6</sub>  $L_1=450$  mm;  $L_2=1275$  mm; CGM – C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>+2.5O<sub>2</sub> with  $P_0=6,8\pm 0,05$  atm.)