

Poster 2

Llor, Bailly & Poujade

Volume fraction profiles of transport structures in Rayleigh-Taylor turbulent mixing zone: evidence of enhanced diffusion processes

Antoine Llor¹, Pascal Bailly² & Olivier Poujade²

1. CEA/Siège,
31-33, rue de la Fédération, 75752 Paris Cedex 15, France
antoine.llor@cea.fr

2. CEA/DAM,
BP12, 91680 Bruyères le Châtel, France
pascal.bailly@cea.fr, olivier.poujade@cea.fr

Using (a) general mass conservation equations, (b) simple volume fraction and density profiles provided by experimental and numerical data, and (c) basic first-gradient constraints on mass flux and mass exchange closures, it is possible to deduce the normalized strength of the flux and exchange terms in a turbulent mixing zone (TMZ) for incompressible fluids and vanishing Atwood number. Some physical consistency properties are also obtained.

This approach shows that, in contrast to more common turbulent shear layers, the Rayleigh-Taylor TMZ must contain an enhanced diffusion process, which is about 25 fold higher than $C_\mu k^2/\varepsilon$, the usual estimate of the turbulent diffusion coefficient. The relative weakness of the usual turbulent diffusion reflects the small integral length scales which were previously reported [Llor 2003]. However, the turbulence relaxation rate is still correctly and consistently captured as ε/k .

The findings support some recent and important evolutions of the 2SFK modelling concept [LLor & Bailly 2003] as presented in this conference [LLor, Bailly & Poujade 2004].

References

- LLor, A. 2003 Bulk turbulent transport and structures in RT, RM and variable acceleration instabilities; *Laser Part. Beams*, 305.
- LLor, A. & Bailly, P. 2003 A new turbulent 2-field concept for modelling RT, RM and KH mixing layers; *Laser Part. Beams*, 311.
- LLor, A., Bailly, P. & Poujade, O. 2004 The modelling of turbulent mixing in gravitationally induced instabilities based on the 2-Structure, 2-Fluid, 2-turbulence (2SFK) concept; (in preparation).