




Module 3: Physics of Combustion

Lecture 17: Transport in Turbulent Flow

The Lecture Contains:

-  [Transport in Turbulent Flow](#)
-  [Characterization of Turbulent Flow](#)
-  [Turbulent Boundary layer](#)

 **Previous** **Next** 

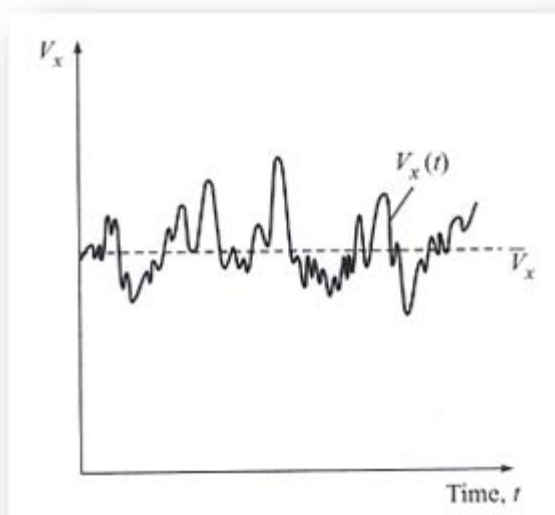
Transport in Turbulent Flow

Turbulent Flow:

- At high Reynolds and Grashof's number, the properties, velocity and temperature exhibits random variation.
- Eddies move randomly back and forth across the adjacent fluid layers.
- Turbulence reduces the B.L. thickness.
- Enhanced mass, momentum, and energy transfer rates.

$$V_x = \bar{V}_x + V'_x$$

$$V_y = \bar{V}_y + V'_y$$



(Figure 17.1)

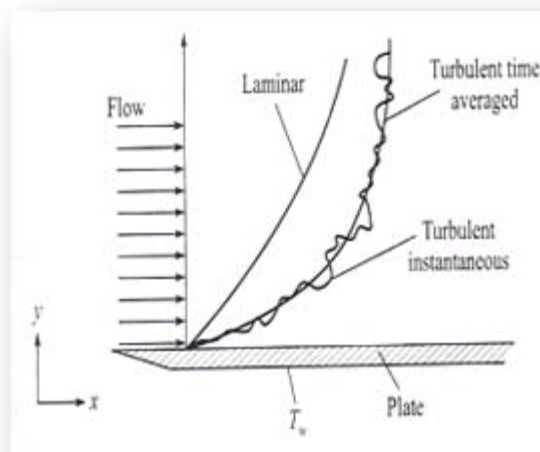
Where, \bar{V} – Time averaged value of velocity

V' – Fluctuating component of velocity

Turbulent diffusivity is given by,

$$\tau_T = \rho V_T \frac{d\bar{V}_x}{dy}; \quad \dot{q}_T'' = -\rho C_p a_T \frac{d\bar{T}}{dy};$$

$$\dot{m}_{AT}'' = -\rho D_T \frac{d\bar{Y}_A}{dy}$$



(Figure 17.2)

◀ Previous Next ▶

Module 3: Physics of Combustion

Lecture 17: Transport in Turbulent Flow

Characterization of Turbulent Flow

Length scale of Turbulence:

- The distance covered by an eddy before it disappears or loses its identity.

Intensity of Turbulence:

- Measure of violence of eddies.

Turbulence Intensity:

$$I = \frac{\sqrt{(V_x'^2 + V_y'^2 + V_z'^2)/3}}{\bar{V}}$$

Length Scales used
in Turbulent Flow:

1. Macroscopic scale, L (Characteristic width of flow)
2. Integral Scale, l_0
3. Taylor micro scale, l_λ
4. Kolmogorov length Scale, l_R

◀ Previous Next ▶

Module 3: Physics of Combustion

Lecture 17: Transport in Turbulent Flow

Taylor microscale, $l_\lambda = \frac{V'_{rms}}{\left[\overline{\left(\frac{\partial V_x}{\partial x}\right)^2}\right]^{0.5}}$

where, $\overline{\left(\frac{\partial V_x}{\partial x}\right)^2}$ is the mean strain rate

Kolmogorov length scale, $l_K = \left[\frac{2\nu^3 l_0}{3V'^3_{rms}}\right]^{1/4}$

Note: Kolmogorov length scale (l_K) is related to integral length scale (l_0)
 (l_K) - Thickness of the smallest vortex present in turbulent flow

Turbulent Reynolds number based on the length scales

$$Re_L = \frac{V'_{rms} L}{\nu} \quad Re_{l_0} = \frac{V'_{rms} l_0}{\nu} \quad Re_{l_\lambda} = \frac{V'_{rms} l_\lambda}{\nu} \quad Re_{l_K} = \frac{V'_{rms} l_K}{\nu}$$

Note: V'_{rms} is the characteristic velocity

◀ Previous Next ▶

Module 3: Physics of Combustion

Lecture 17: Transport in Turbulent Flow

Turbulent Boundary layer

Consider 2D steady incompressible turbulent flow over a flat plate,

Momentum equation in x direction is given by,

$$\rho \left(\bar{V}_x \frac{\partial \bar{V}_x}{\partial x} + \bar{V}_y \frac{\partial \bar{V}_x}{\partial y} \right) = -\frac{\partial \bar{P}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\mu \frac{\partial \bar{V}_x}{\partial y} - \rho \overline{V'_x V'_y} \right)$$

The term $\rho \overline{V'_x V'_y}$ is known as *Reynolds stress*

Energy equation for turbulent boundary layer is given by,

$$\rho C_p \left(\bar{V}_x \frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial x} + \bar{V}_y \frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(k \frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial y} - \rho C_p \overline{V'_x T} \right)$$

A simple model for *Reynolds stress* suggested by Bossinesq,

$$-\rho \overline{V'_x V'_y} = \rho v_T \frac{\partial \bar{V}_x}{\partial y}; \quad \text{where, } v_T \text{ is the turbulent diffusivity}$$

Similarly,

$$-\overline{V'_x T} = \alpha_T \frac{\partial \bar{T}}{\partial y}; \quad \text{where, } \alpha_T \text{ is the eddy diffusivity}$$

◀ Previous Next ▶

Module 3: Physics of Combustion

Lecture 17: Transport in Turbulent Flow

In analogy to kinetic theory of gases, Prandtl suggested an expression for turbulent diffusivity

$$v_T = l_m T$$

Where, l_m is the mixing length, and I is the turbulence intensity

$$I \propto l_m \frac{\partial \bar{V}_x}{\partial y}$$

Combining these two equations,

$$v_T = Cl_m^2 \frac{d\bar{V}_x}{dy}$$

C , is the constant, obtained from the experimental data

◀ Previous Next ▶