

Prediction of fluid flow and heat transfer characteristics of turbulent shear flows with a two-fluid model of turbulence

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Abstract—A two-fluid model of turbulence is employed to calculate velocity and temperature characteristics of turbulent boundary layer flows over a flat plate and in heated plane and axisymmetric jets. Emphasis is placed on establishing a model for inter-fluid heat conduction and comparing the results with established data where available.

1. INTRODUCTION

RECENT advances in digital computers have stimulated development of many models for calculating turbulent flows. In a recent work, Markatos [1] has provided an extensive review of such models ranging from the mixing length to the more sophisticated Reynolds' stress closures. The most widely used of these are the single-point closures such as the k - ϵ model originally proposed by Harlow and Nakayama [2].

While these models have served as valuable tools for simulating practical flows and heat transfer, their performance is far from completely satisfactory when applied to a class of flow in which pressure-induced turbulence is significant. These flows are characterized by the presence of 'structured diffusion' or 'sifting' phenomena such as the formation and growth of large structures and the creation and stretching of small-scale structures. Such situations arise in all swirling flows, Rayleigh–Taylor type flow situations including Kelvin–Helmholtz instabilities, and Taylor and Goertler vortices.

An underlying cause of this inadequacy is that conventional models are based on the unstructured diffusion concepts of Boussinesq [3] and Prandtl [4] in which shear stress is the sole mechanism of turbulence formation. Nevertheless, it is now becoming increasingly evident that turbulence resulting from interaction between body forces and pressure gradients is equally prevalent.

The basic features of the sifting phenomena mentioned earlier have been incorporated into a 'two-fluid' model recently proposed by Spalding [5–8]. In

this model, a turbulent fluid is assumed to behave like a two-phase mixture with imaginary interfaces along which there is no surface tension. These two fluids are distinguished only by a difference in their velocity components in the body-force direction. This approach allows the expressions for the various turbulent fluxes to be derived from improved ideas of Prandtl [4]. Thus, the model employs an equation system comprising two sets of velocities, volume fractions (or existence probabilities), temperature and other desirable scalar quantities.

In two earlier papers [9, 10], the present authors formulated the model in terms of the governing equations and the auxiliary relations for inter-fluid friction, entrainment and the associated constants for isothermal systems. The present work represents an extension of the model to heat transfer calculation. In particular, a model is described which expresses conduction of heat between the fluids and the associated constant is optimized by reference to mean-flow data.

The flow situations considered here are relatively simple and well established. They are nevertheless investigated to test the consistency and novelties of the model. Work is being carried out on more complicated flow situations involving pressure gradients, that would provide a stiffer test of the model.

In the following section, the mathematical framework is established. Section 3 contains the computational details while the results are presented in Section 4 and discussed in Section 5. Finally, Section 6 contains the concluding remarks.

2.2. Auxiliary relations

2.2.1. *Interfacial heat conduction, Q_{ij} .* The allowance for difference in temperature between the two fluids entails heat conduction across the interface. In order to formulate an expression for this heat flux, it is useful to invoke an analogy with inter-fluid momentum flux (i.e. friction).

A postulate for the latter has been discussed in ref. [5] and employed with some success in refs. [9, 10]. A corresponding expression for Q_{ij} , the heat conduction from fluid j to fluid i across the interface is

$$Q_{ij} = c_h c_p \rho_i l^{-1} r_i r_j |w_i - w_j| (T_j - T_i) \quad (4)$$

where $|w_i - w_j|$ is the characteristic 'slip' velocity with which the individual fluid temperatures are transported to the interface, $(T_j - T_i)$ expresses the local fluctuations in temperature, c_p the specific heat and c_h an empirical constant, the determination of which is a main contribution of the present work. It is worth stressing that the form of equation (4) ensures heat is imparted to the cooler fluid at the expense of the hotter fluid.

2.2.2. *Other relations.* As in the earlier work by the authors [9, 10], the entrainment rate E_{ij} of fluid j by fluid i , inter-fluid friction F_{ij} exerted by fluid j on fluid i , and length scale are expressed respectively as

$$E_{ij} = c_m \rho_i (r_j - 0.5) l^{-1} r_i r_j (w_i - w_j) \quad (5)$$

$$F_{ij} = c_f \rho_i l^{-1} r_i r_j |w_i - w_j| (w_j - w_i) \quad (6)$$

$$l = \kappa y \quad \text{for } y/\delta < 0.207 \quad (7)$$

$$l = 0.09\kappa \quad \text{for } y/\delta > 0.207. \quad (8)$$

Equations (7) and (8) are applicable to the flat plate flows. The expression used for the free flows is

$$l = \lambda z \quad (9)$$

where z is the distance from the inlet nozzle along the stream direction and λ deduced from established data for λ/δ and δ/z , δ being the half-width of the jet. The values thus deduced for λ are 0.025 and 0.018 for the plane jet and round jet, respectively.

2.3. Turbulence model constants

The set of values of the constants employed here is given in Table 2. All values, except those for σ_t , the Prandtl number, and c_h , the inter-fluid heat conduction constant, were established by the authors in an earlier work [9, 10]. The turbulent Prandtl number should be of the order of 1 and indeed, this value is employed here. This approach ensures that any necessary changes would be accommodated by the value of c_h .

Table 2. Values of the turbulence model constants

c_m	c_v	c_d	c_f	c_t	σ_t	c_h
10.0	0.3	1.0	0.05	10.0	1.0	0.05

2.4. Boundary conditions at the wall (flat plate)

Wall friction, τ_s , is applied to the near-wall fluid at the first computational cell adjacent to the wall such that

$$\tau_s / \rho w_{pi}^2 = \left\{ \kappa / \ln \left[\frac{Ey(\tau_s / \rho)^{1/2}}{\mu} \right] \right\}^2 \quad (10)$$

where w_{pi} is the main velocity of fluid i near the wall.

The heat flux from the isothermal surface to this near-wall fluid is deduced from the following expressions established in ref. [11]:

$$\tau_s = \rho^2 c_p w_{pi} St (T_s - T_{pi}) \quad (11)$$

where

$$St = s / \sigma_T (1 + P_J s^{1/2}) \quad (12)$$

$$s = \tau_s / \rho w_{pi}^2 \quad (13)$$

and

$$P_J = 9.0 \left(\frac{\sigma}{\sigma_T} - 1 \right) \left(\frac{\sigma_T}{\sigma} \right)^{1/4} \quad (14)$$

where P_J is a sublayer resistance factor according to Jayatillaka [12], T_{pi} the temperature at the first grid node adjacent to the wall, σ the laminar Prandtl number and σ_T the turbulent Prandtl number.

3. COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS

3.1. Boundary conditions of particular problems

Arbitrary volume fractions, temperature and velocity are specified at the start of the integration domain. At the outer boundary, constant fluid 2 velocity and temperature are specified to equal the measured free-stream values. A fixed pressure condition is also imposed at this outer boundary so that entrainment of fluid 2 across it is calculated from continuity.

3.2. Grid

Non-uniform grids are employed in all cases with grid densities concentrated near the wall for the flat plate, and near the edges of the jets. The grid in all cases is allowed to expand with shear-layer thickness such that the cross-stream width y_e is expressed as

$$y_e = Az^{0.85} \quad (15)$$

for the flat plate, and

$$y_e / y_0 = a + bz \quad (16)$$

for the jets, where z is the streamwise distance from the inlet, y_0 the value of y_e at the inlet, and A , a and b are empirical constants the values of which are estimated from established rates of growth of the shear layers. The values adopted for these constants are given in Table 3.

The number of cross-stream grid nodes employed for the flat plate, plane jet and round jet are 35, 30 and 40, respectively. These values were selected after

Table 3. Constants of expanding grid formulas for jets

Flow type	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>
Plane jet	1.0	16.67
Round jet	1.0	15.33

systematic grid refinement tests. In addition, the forward-step size is limited to 15% of the cross-stream width in all cases.

3.3. Solution procedure

The parabolic system of equations coupled with the boundary conditions described above are solved by the forward-marching, iterative finite-domain solution procedure embodied in the PHOENICS [13] computer code. This code employs a derivative of the SIMPLE algorithm of ref. [14].

4. RESULTS

4.1. Optimization of the model constant *c_h*

The present model does not specifically define the two fluids as turbulent/nonturbulent; thus, the value of *c_h* cannot strictly be deduced by comparing predictions with conditionally-sampled data such as those reported in ref. [15]. However, these data can at least indicate the order of magnitude of this constant since they offer the closest experimental approximation available to the two-fluid concept.

By examining such data, it can be deduced that *c_h* should be of the order of 0.1 after equating the expression in equation (4) to the local excess flux of heat in the irrotational zone. This is indeed the value about which optimization is performed in the present work.

The results of this investigation are shown in Figs. 1 and 2 for flat plate and plane jet, respectively. Also shown are the experimental data of Reynolds *et al.* [16] in Fig. 1 and those of Zijnen [17] for the plane jet in Fig. 2. It is seen that the mean temperatures are highly sensitive to the values of *c_h* in the near-wall region of the flat plate and in the entire jet. It is also apparent that a value of *c_h* = 0.05 best approximates

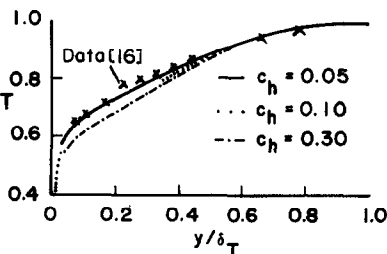


FIG. 1. Effect of *c_h* on mean temperature similarity profile for flat plate.

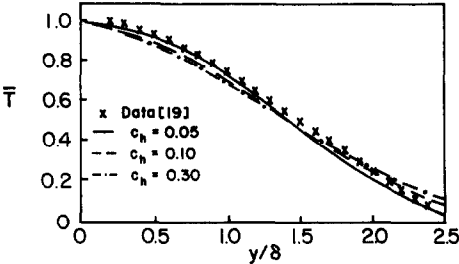


FIG. 2. Effect of *c_h* on mean temperature similarity profile for plane jet.

the measurements in both cases. This values is chosen for the calculations reported here.

4.2. Predictions

4.2.1. Flat plate boundary layer. Figure 3 shows the predicted similarity profiles of mean temperature compared with the data of Reynolds *et al.* [16]. The mean temperature has been calculated from the following general relationship:

$$\phi = r_1 \phi_1 + r_2 \phi_2. \tag{17}$$

The cross-stream distance in this figure has been non-dimensionalized by the thermal boundary layer thickness, defined at a location where the mean fluid temperature attains 99.95% of the free-stream value. It is seen that the mean temperature appears to be well simulated.

Figure 4 displays the profiles of the individual fluid temperatures across the boundary layer. This figure shows that fluid 1 which is directly heated by the wall is generally hotter than fluid 2. The difference between the two fluid temperatures decreases towards the outer boundary as the colder fluid 2 is continuously entrained.

The predicted mean velocity and individual velocity similarity profiles are shown in Figs. 5 and 6, respectively. Also given in Fig. 5 are the experimental data of Leslie *et al.* [18]. In each figure, the cross-stream distance has been normalized by the momentum boundary layer thickness. The predicted mean velocities appear to agree well with the data.

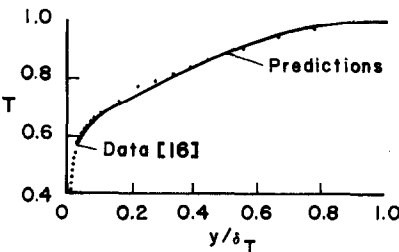


FIG. 3. Mean temperature similarity profile for flat plate.

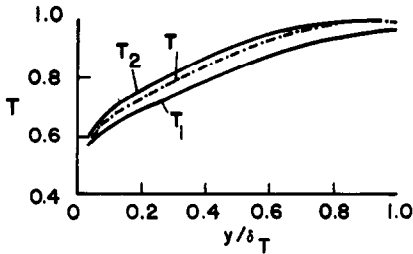


FIG. 4. Predicted fluid temperature profiles for flat plate.

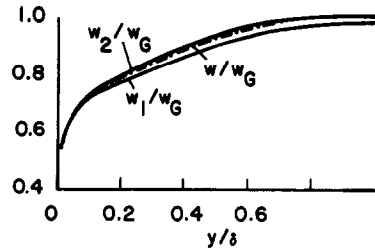


FIG. 6. Predicted fluid velocity similarity profiles for flat plate.

As discussed in ref. [9], the intermittency factor I , can be defined in relation to the symmetry expression contained in the entrainment equation (5) as

$$I = \min(1.0, 2r_1) \quad (18)$$

where r_1 is the volume fraction of the near-wall fluid. The predicted similarity profile of I is compared with the conditionally-sampled data of Leslie *et al.* [18] in Fig. 7. It should be re-emphasized here that these authors specifically defined the two fluids as turbulent/nonturbulent while the present model does not employ such a restriction. It is seen that the predicted intermittency factor, though in the consensus of the data, is generally underpredicted and the discrepancy is more pronounced in the inner region containing the turbulent fluid. Clearly, this behavior may be attributed to the difference in characterization of the two fluids between the model and the experimental investigation.

Figure 8 shows the predicted dimensionless entrainment rate. There is no entrainment at the wall and in the free-stream which consist entirely of single fluids. The entrainment rate however attains a maximum value at about 73% of the boundary layer thickness from the wall. This value compares with the location of maximum 'crossing frequency' in ref. [18].

The predicted local heat transfer coefficient (Stanton number) at the fully-developed region is compared with the data of Reynolds *et al.* [16] in Fig. 9. The abscissa in this figure is the Reynolds number based on the axial distance along the flat plate. The

agreement between predictions and data is satisfactory in the fully-developed region. The discrepancy in the developing region is probably attributable to the boundary conditions specified at the inlet of the calculation domain.

4.2.2. *Plane jet and round jet.* In Table 4, the predicted rates of spread, maximum shear stress, maximum turbulent heat flux and maximum entrainment rate are compared with the values deduced from the measurements on the one hand, and those often quoted for the $k-\epsilon$ model of turbulence on the other. The exact expressions for turbulent fluxes have been derived in ref. [5] and are of the general form

$$v\phi = r_1 r_2 (v_1 - v_2)(\phi_1 - \phi_2). \quad (19)$$

It should be remarked that the values shown as the measured data were actually deduced by the present authors from the mean flow measurements because the values obtained by direct measurement did not close the mean thermal balance.

Table 4 shows that the predictions are generally in good agreement with the experimental data. It is also observed that the rate of spread of heat is much larger than that of momentum. In addition, the results obtained with the present model are generally comparable to those reported for the more popular $k-\epsilon$ model. It should be noted that the $k-\epsilon$ values for the round jet were obtained after modifying the model constants in line with the suggestion of Rodi [19].

A comparison of the results in terms of the cross-stream similarity profiles of the mean and turbulence

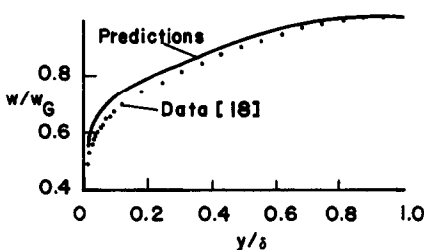


FIG. 5. Mean velocity similarity profiles for flat plate.

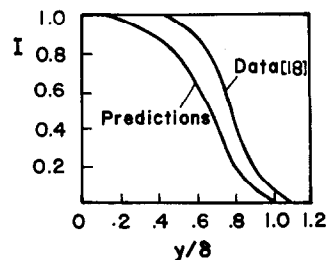


FIG. 7. Intermittency factor similarity profile for flat plate.

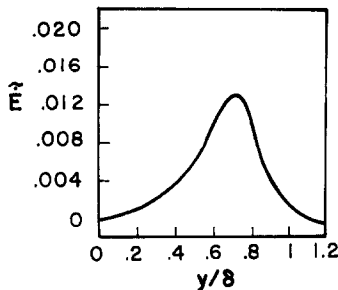


FIG. 8. Predicted similarity profile of entrainment rate for flat plate.

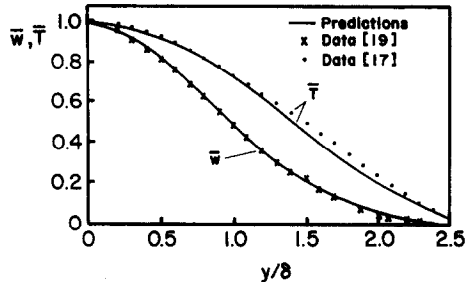


FIG. 10. Mean temperature and velocity similarity profiles for plane jet.

quantities are presented in Figs. 10–15. Each figure includes the predictions and experimental data. Figures 10 and 11 show the mean temperature and velocity similarity profiles for the plane jet and round jet, respectively. These figures show that the widths of the temperature similarity profiles are larger than those of the velocity profiles. The agreements between predictions and measurements appear to be satisfactory. However, in the plane jet (Fig. 10), the predicted approach to the external temperature value is faster than the data while the opposite trend is observed for the velocity profile.

Figures 12 and 13 show the measured mean and conditioned temperatures and the predicted mean and individual fluid temperatures. The predicted individual fluid temperatures are in the consensus of the measurements notwithstanding the difference in the definitions of the fluids.

Finally, Figs. 14 and 15 show the predicted and measured similarity profiles of the turbulent shear stress and heat fluxes for the plane and round jets, respectively. The agreement in both cases could be considered satisfactory especially in the core regions of the flows. The results at the outer region are however less satisfactory.

5. DISCUSSION

The results presented above have shown that the mean flow and temperature characteristics of turbulent shear layers can be reasonably well simulated with the two-fluid model of turbulence.

The value of 0.05 obtained for the inter-fluid diffusion heat transfer coefficient is of the same order of magnitude as (but not greater than) that for momentum. It is not surprising that this value differs

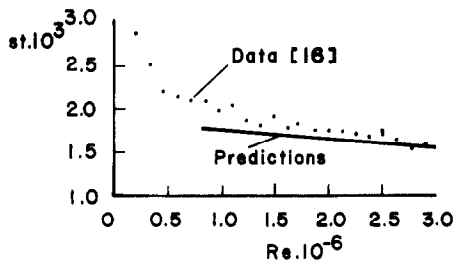


FIG. 9. Local heat transfer coefficient along flat plate.

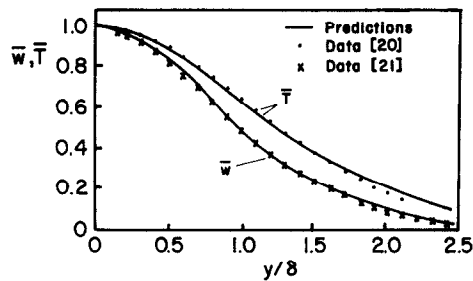


FIG. 11. Mean temperature and velocity similarity profiles for round jet.

Table 4. Calculated and measured characteristics of self-preserving jets

Quantity	Data	Plane jet		Data	Round jet	
		$k-\epsilon$	Two fluid		$k-\epsilon$	Two fluid
$d\delta/dz$	0.110	0.104	0.120	0.086	0.085	0.087
$d\delta_T/dz$	0.14	0.150	0.145	0.11	0.102	0.105
\overline{vw}_m	0.024	0.021	0.020	0.019	0.016	0.014
\overline{vT}_m	0.028	0.028	0.029	0.021	0.019	0.120
E_m	—	—	0.06	0.051	—	0.050

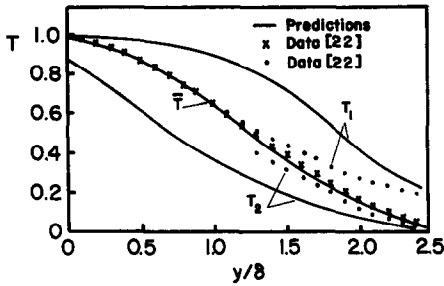


FIG. 12. Predicted mean and individual fluid temperature profiles compared with measured mean and conditioned temperature profiles for plane jet.

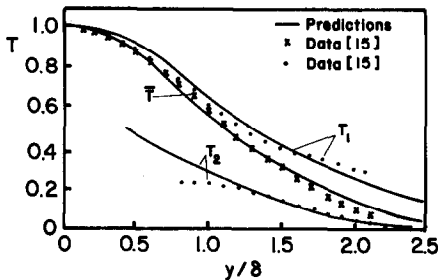


FIG. 13. Predicted mean and individual fluid temperature profiles compared with measured mean and conditioned temperature profiles for round jet.

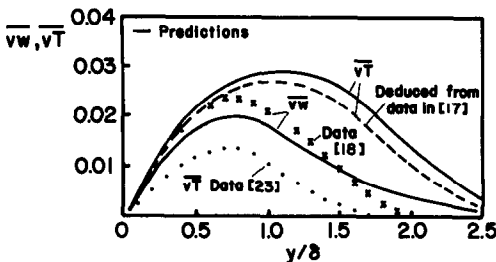


FIG. 14. Predicted and measured shear stress similarity profiles for plane jet.

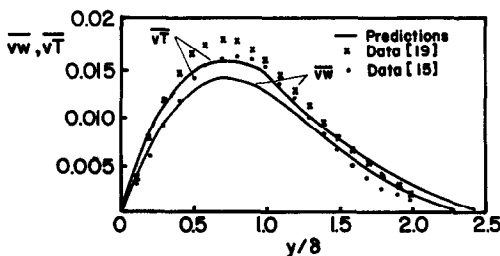


FIG. 15. Predicted and measured shear stress similarity profiles for round jet.

from that deduced from conditional sampling data. The latter specifically defines the two fluids as turbulent/nonturbulent while the present model distinguishes them by the difference in their cross-stream velocity components. This distinction is reflected through the whole calculation as evident in the comparison of the individual fluid properties with the conditionally-sampled data.

Of special interest is that the same set of constants was used for all predictions, including the round jet, which has traditionally required modification of some constants of conventional turbulence models. In addition, predictions of mean flow characteristics including the heat transfer coefficient at the wall appear to be as good as those obtained by other workers with the more popular $k-\epsilon$ model.

Some of the unacceptable results such as the predicted heat flux in the free shear layers could conceivably be improved upon by adjusting the model constants. However, the effects on the other results would need to be evaluated.

Of course, the large number of constants in the model is a drawback. But since the expressions with which they are associated have physical basis, a set of values such as those in Table 1 that can predict mean flow characteristics reasonably well will probably suffice for practical flow simulation.

This work is a small step in the long road to establishing the two-fluid model as a viable tool. A stiffer test demands its application to more complex flow situations including those with significant pressure gradients. This aspect will be the subject of the next investigation.

6. CONCLUSION

A two-fluid model of turbulence has been used to calculate fluid flow and heat transfer characteristics of turbulent shear layers including flat-plate boundary layer, a plane jet and a round jet. A model is formulated to represent conduction of heat at the interface of the constituent fluids and the associated constant in this model is deduced by reference to available experimental data. The same set of constants is employed for all flows and the model predictions of mean-flow characteristics agree satisfactorily with the experimental data.

Further work is being planned to apply the model to more complex flow situations such as those involving significant pressure gradients.

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PREDICTION DES CARACTERISTIQUES DYNAMIQUES ET THERMIQUES DES ÉCOULEMENTS TURBULENTS CISAILLANTS AVEC UN MODELE DE TURBULENCE A DEUX FLUIDES

Résumé—Un modèle de turbulence à deux fluides est utilisé pour calculer les caractéristiques de vitesse et de température des écoulements à couche limite turbulente sur une plaque plane et dans des jets chauds plans ou axisymétriques. L'attention est portée sur l'établissement d'un modèle pour rendre compte de la conduction interfaciale et dans la comparaison des résultats avec des données existantes valables.

BERECHNUNG DER STRÖMUNG UND DES WÄRMEÜBERGANGS IN TURBULENTEN SCHERSTRÖMUNGEN MIT EINEM ZWEIFLUID-TURBULENZ-MODELL

Zusammenfassung—Mit Hilfe eines Zweifluid-Turbulenz-Modells wird die Geschwindigkeits- und Temperaturverteilung einer turbulenten Grenzschichtströmung über einer ebenen Platte und in beheizten ebenen und achsensymmetrischen Strahlen berechnet. Besonders ein Modell für die Wärmeleitung im Fluid wird hier mit einbezogen. Die Ergebnisse werden mit experimentellen Daten verglichen—soweit vorhanden.

РАСЧЕТ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИК ТЕЧЕНИЯ ЖИДКОСТИ И ТЕПЛОПЕРЕНОСА В ТУРБУЛЕНТНЫХ—СДВИГОВ Х ПОТОКАХ НА ОСНОВЕ ДВУХЖИДКОСТНОЙ МОДЕЛИ ТУРБУЛЕНТНОСТИ

Аннотация—Для расчета скоростных и температурных характеристик турбулентных течений в пограничном слое на плоской пластине и в нагретых плоских и осесимметричных струях используется двухжидкостная модель турбулентности. Особое внимание уделяется разработке модели теплопроводности между жидкостями, а также сравнению результатов с расчетными данными.