The quantitative description of various types of stability and the method of small disturbances are described and illustrated in chapter 3. Chapters 4 and 9–14 cover linear stability theory and examples, such as a continuous stirred tank reactor, feedback control system, catalytic reaction, rotational Couette flow, plane Poiseuille flow, polymer processing, convective transport, and a surface tension driven flow, are detailed. Chapters 5, 6 and 15–17 deal with nonlinear stability theory and develop and illustrate the use of: Liapunov's direct method: the energy method; the Stuart–Watson technique; the method of averaging; the Poincaré–Lindstedt method; and Eckhaus' method.

The text throughout is well presented and is complemented by a reasonable number of informative figures. The depth and style of presentation make the text very suitable for an introductory course.

R. L. Sani

CORRIGENDUM

'An experimental investigation of the detention of airborne smoke in the wake bubble behind a disk'

by W. Humphries and J. H. Vincent,

J. Fluid Mech. vol. 73, 1976, pp. 453–464.

In this paper we described measurements of the residence time of airborne smoke particles in the turbulent wake of flat disks for Reynolds numbers in the range $2\times 10^3 < Re < 4\times 10^4$. We have recently been made aware of some previously published related studies which deserve mention in the context of our own paper. The most relevant were by Bovina (1959) and Winterfield (1965) in connexion with turbulent exchange processes behind axisymmetric flame holders for the range $4\times 10^4 < Re < 3\times 10^5$, and by Kalra & Ulherr (1973) in connexion with mass transfer processes behind bluff bodies in the range $50 < Re < 200$. Indeed, the measurements of Winterfield for disks are in excellent agreement with our own for the case of smooth approaching flow.

We should like to thank Dr P. H. T. Ulherr of the Department of Chemical Engineering, Monash University, Australia for bringing this body of published work to our attention.

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