Emergence of large scale secondary flow in a turbulent Taylor-Couette flow.

Florent Ravelet, René Delfos and Jerry Westerweel



Laboratory for Aero and Hydrodynamics Delft, The Netherlands



Taylor-Couette flow background



Dynamics motivated choice of parameters

Reynolds number : $R_e = \frac{2}{1+n} |\eta R_o - R_i|$

Rotation number :

 $R_{\Omega} = (1 - \eta) \frac{R_i + R_o}{nR_i + R_i}$

 $R_{\Omega} > 0$ $R_{\Omega} < 0$ $R_{\Omega} = 0$ Cyclonic flows (shear and angular velocity have same sign)

- Anti-Cyclonic flows
- Perfect counterrotation

Pattern formation in turbulent flows



Taylor-Couette experimental setup

Two coaxial cylinders Torque measurements = 110 mmR, R = 120 mmgap d = 10 mmН = 220 mm = 0,917ŋ Γ = 22 Two independent motors: max speed f = 10Hz $R_e = 1.4 \times 10^4 f$ for water Various glycerol/water mixtures viscosity : $1 \times 10^{-3} Pa.s < \mu < 1 Pa.s$

3C / 2D Velocity measurements Stereoscopic PIV

Stereoscopic PIV in single-phase flow

Method which allows measurements of 3 Components in one (2D) plane



Non-dimensional torque scaling for 3 different rotation numbers



G : Dimensionless torque $G = T/(\rho H v^2)$ $G_{lam} = \frac{2\pi\eta}{\left(1-n\right)^2} R_e$ G~Re for viscous flow $G \sim Re^2$ for "Kolmogorov turbulence" $G \sim Re^{1,5}$ for Taylor vortices $G \sim Re^{1,75} \implies$ "Ultra-hard turbulent regime" Dubrulle & Hersant EPJB 26, 379 (2002). Esser & Grossmann Phys. Fluids 8, 1814 (1996). Prediction for first instability : $R_e^c = 150$ for $R_{\Omega} = \eta - 1$ $R_e^c = 515$ for $R_{\Omega} = 0$ Here: $R_e^c \simeq 140$ for $R_{\Omega} = \eta - 1$ $R_e^c \simeq 400$ for $R_{\Omega} = 0$ Finite Aspect Ratio, end effects? ♦ Above $R_{e} \simeq 10^{4}$ all three seem "turbulent". Counter shows second transition

> Hierarchy of torques : Inner > Counter > Outer

Comparison of velocity fields for three Rotation numbers



Comparison of velocity fields for three Rotation numbers



Cross-correlation of radial and azimuthal fluctuations: 0,4

Comparison of velocity fields for three Rotation numbers



Model for the secondary flow

To quantify the secondary flow, we fit the stream function:



Example : Experimental U, fitted U

Quantitative study of the transition at a fixed Reynolds number







Conclusions & Perspectives

 We realized a Taylor-Couette facility for quantitative torque and velocity measurements.

 The counterrotation seems to be the threshold for the onset of a mean secondary flow on the turbulent Taylor-Couette flow.

This transition seems smooth (supercritical ?).

 Next step : study of direct transition to turbulence in the subcritical (outer cylinder alone) regimes.

> This work was made possible by financial support of Fundamenteel Onderzoek der Materie (Dutch national research) and Unilever corp. research

Aims of our study

Two immiscible fluids (oil and water), mixed in a turbulent flow, with no surfactants.

Subtle balance between turbulent breakup and coalescence

Oil extraction, food, chemical industry

Turbulent dispersion

Droplet size distribution, Phase inversion.

Modified transport properties (drag increase in pipe flow)



Conception and design of a new experiment which allows

- Optical measurements (LIF and PIV) in a two phase-flow
- Global power consumption measurements.

A model shear-flow : the turbulent Taylor-Couette flow

Qualitative picture of dispersion process Refractive index matching





At rest : two layers Counterrotating at 2Hz : dispersion starts

30% Nal in Oil



Counterrotating at 3Hz : concentrated dispersion





Quantitative measurements : Evolution of the torque



2

Conclusions & Perspectives

- Torque measurements now reliable, reveal interesting physics. Possibility to study a Subcritical transition to turbulence. R_{Ω} <-1 ; R_{Ω} >1/ η -1
- Stereoscopic PIV : link with torque scaling.

• Two-phase flow : Effective viscosity, Droplets distribution. Long time behaviour ?

