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Test cases for variable density flow

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Motivation

- Variable density flow modeling is challenging and not well understood
- Important for many industrial flows:
 - Reactor Safety
 - Chimney Plumes
 - Internal Combustion Engines
 - High Mach Number Flows
- To better understand the effects of variable density on flows, simple test cases where selected in order to test several aspects of these flows individually





Test cases

- In this presentation:
 - Saline Mixing Layer: different density fluids
 - Differenced Heated Cavity: density variation due to heating
- The densities differences involved in both test cases are not large
- In both test cases the flow has large buoyant effects



Saline Mixing Layer

• Fluids:

INSYS

- Fresh water: $\rho_1 = 1015 \, [kg/m^3]$
- Salt water: $\rho_2 = 1030 \, [kg/m^3]$
- Mixture Kinematic Diffusivity:1e-9 [m²/s]

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- Inlet average velocities:
 - Fresh water inlet: $U_1 = 0.52 [m/s]$
 - Salt water inlet: $U_2 = 0.32$ [m/s]

Experiment made by Uittenbogaard [1995]







Mesh

- Coarse Mesh (Grid01):

 Mesh suggested by
 Uittenbogaard [1989]
 8160 hexahedrical
 elements

 Fine mesh (Grid02):

 Refined by a factor of 2 in
 - each direction from Grid01
 - 32640 hexahedrical elements







Numerical Model

- CFX 12.0 version used for simulations
- 2D Flow
- Stationary Simulation
- High Resolution advection scheme
- First order turbulence Numeric's
- Automatic Time step (0.3 seconds on both meshes)
- Full Buoyancy model
- Convergence Criteria:
 - 1e-5 RMS residuals





Numerical Model

- Turbulence Models
 - SST
 - SST with buoyancy production for k (SSTbuopro)
 - K-Epsilon
 - K-Epsilon with buoyancy production for k (KEpsbuopro)





Mesh comparison







Mesh comparison







Mesh comparison



























Model Comparison - Salt Water Mass Fraction at the outlet







Model Comparison - Salt Water Mass Fraction at the outlet















































Conclusions

- Mesh convergence was achieved (curves overlap)
- It is necessary to switch buoyancy turbulence on to match experimental results
- In the measurements made at 40 m from the inlet, the experimental values might be shifted because the experiment was conducted in an open channel leading to an inconstant free surface height





Description

ANSYS Experiment made by Cheesewright et al [1986] Cavity containing air • Equation of state: $\rho = \frac{\rho_{ref} T_{ref}}{T}$ Cold Wall Hot Wall •T_{hot} = T_{Ref} + 0.5 ΔT= 74.4 [°C] 5 m • T_{cold} = T_{Ref} - 0.5 ΔT= 28.6 [°C] Where: -T_{ref} = 51.5 [ºC] - ΔT = 45.8 [ºC] $-P_{ref} = 1 [atm]$ $-\rho_{ref} = \frac{P_{ref}.M}{T_{ref}.R}$ 1.000 (m 0.500





Mesh



*Average y⁺ values

Coarse Mesh figures





Numerical Model

- CFX 12.0 version used for simulations
- Stationary Simulation
- High Resolution advection scheme
- First order turbulence Numeric's
- Full Buoyancy Model
- Convergence Criteria:
 - 1e-5 MAX residuals
 - 1e-5 conservation target for the energy equation
 - 0.01 conservation target for other equations





Numerical Model

- Turbulence:
 - BSL
 - K Omega
 - Reynolds Stress BSL
 - K Epsilon
 - Reynolds Stress SSG

Automatic Wall function

Scalable Wall function

- Stationary simulation
- Pseudo time step:
 - Automatic time step (0.7 seconds for both meshes)





Profiles Locations







Mesh Comparison







Mesh Comparison



Where Uc is the convection velocity calculated as:

$$U_c = \sqrt{g.Width.\beta.\Delta T}$$

Where β is the thermal expansion coefficient













Where Uc is the convection velocity calculated as:

$$U_c = \sqrt{g.Width.\beta}.\Delta T$$

Where β is the thermal expansion coefficient























Conclusions

- Mesh convergence was achieved
- Omega based models in CFX resolve viscous sub-layer and therefore provide better prediction of the flow
- Omega based models correctly predict Nusselt numbers (turbulent heat flux normal to wall is correctly predicted)
- For all models the turbulent heat flux in the Y direction (TpVp) is greatly under predicted due to the turbulent Prandtl number approximation





References

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