

On the role of bulk viscosity in compressible reactive shear layer developments

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Abstract Despite 150 years of research after the reference work of Stokes, it should be acknowledged that some confusion still remains in the literature regarding the importance of bulk viscosity effects in flows of both academic and practical interests. On the one hand, it can be readily shown that the neglect of bulk viscosity (i.e., $\kappa = 0$) is strictly exact for mono-atomic gases. The corresponding bulk viscosity effects are also unlikely to alter the flowfield dynamics provided that the ratio of the shear viscosity μ to the bulk viscosity κ remains sufficiently small. On the other hand, for polyatomic gases, the scattered available experimental and numerical data show that it is certainly not zero and actually often far from negligible [13]. Therefore, since the ratio κ/μ can display significant variations and may reach very large values^a, it remains unclear to what extent the neglect of κ holds [3]. The purpose of the present study is thus to analyze the mechanisms through which bulk viscosity and associated processes may alter a canonical turbulent flow. In this context, we perform direct numerical simulations (DNS) of spatially-developing compressible non-reactive and reactive hydrogen-air shear layers interacting with an oblique shock wave. The corresponding flowfield is of special interest for various reactive high-speed flow applications, e.g., Scramjets. The corresponding computations either neglect the influence of bulk viscosity ($\kappa = 0$) or take it into consideration by evaluating its value using the EGLib library [15]. The qualitative inspection of the results obtained for two-dimensional cases in either the presence or the absence of bulk viscosity effects shows that the local and instantaneous structure of the mixing layer may be significantly altered when taking bulk viscosity into account. This contrasts with some mean statistical quantities, e.g., the vorticity thickness growth rate, which do not exhibit any significant sensitivity to the bulk viscosity. Enstrophy, Reynolds stress components, and turbulent kinetic energy (TKE) budgets are then evaluated from three-dimensional reactive simulations. Slight modifications are put into evidence on the energy transfer and dissipation contributions. From the obtained results, one may expect that refined large-eddy simulations (LES) may be rather sensitive to the consideration of bulk viscosity, while Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) simulations, which are based on statistical averages, are not. The filtering of the present dataset may provide further insights so as to assess (or not) such a conclusion.

Keywords: Bulk Viscosity, Shear Layer, Direct Numerical Simulation, Molecular Transport

^aIt can exceed thirty for dihydrogen.

1 Introduction

The bulk (or volume) viscosity κ , which can be related to the second (or dilatational) viscosity coefficient λ , is related to the vibrational and rotational energy of the molecules. From the macroscopic viewpoint, it characterizes the resistance to dilatation of an infinitesimal bulk element at constant shape [2]. It is strictly zero only for dilute monoatomic gases and this theoretical result is often used to discard it, regardless of the nature or internal structure of the fluid as well as the flowfield conditions. However, acoustic absorption measurements performed at room temperature have shown that the ratio of the volume to the shear viscosity κ/μ may be up to thirty for dihydrogen [10], and recent analyses of reactive multicomponent high-speed flows have confirmed that it is not justified to neglect it, except for the sake of simplicity [3]. The dilatational viscosity is important in describing sound attenuation in gaseous media, and the absorption of sound energy into the fluid depends itself on the sound frequency, i.e., the rate of fluid expansion and compression. For polyatomic gases, the available measurements of κ , which remains quite seldom due to the complexity of its determination, show that it is certainly not zero and actually far from negligible. It is also noteworthy that theoretical analyses do show that κ/η is at least of the order of unity. Therefore, since the ratio κ/μ can display significant variations and may reach very large values, it is unclear to what extent the Stokes hypothesis (i.e., $\lambda = -2\mu/3$ or $\kappa = 0$) may hold for compressible and turbulent flows of gases featuring a ratio κ/μ greater than unity.

In either an expansion or a contraction of the gas mixture, the work done by the pressure modifies immediately the translational energy of the molecules, while a certain time-lag is needed for the translational and internal energy to re-equilibrate through inelastic collisions [8]. This can be described through a system of two coupled partial differential equations written for the internal and translational temperatures, with a pressure-dilatation term that acts as a source term in the translational temperature budget. The volume (or bulk) viscosity is associated to this relaxation phenomenon and it is evaluated from this internal energy relaxation time-lag. The evaluation of this property for a mixture of polyatomic gases is far from being an easy task since the kinetic theory of gases does not yield an explicit expression for this transport coefficient, but instead linear systems that must be solved [14]. The corresponding systems are derived from polynomial expansions of the species' perturbed distribution functions. The bulk viscosity is obtained here using the library `EGlib` developed by Ern and Giovangigli [13, 15]. It is evaluated as a linear combination of the pure species volume viscosities, which require the evaluation of various collision integrals [14].

The impact of bulk viscosity effects has been previously analysed in several situations including shock-hydrogen bubble interactions [3], turbulent flames [17], compressible boundary layers [11], shock-boundary layer interaction [1], and planar shock-wave [9]. All these studies confirm that the bulk viscosity effects may be significant. The purpose of the present work is to assess its influence in regard to both the instantaneous and statistical features of canonical compressible turbulent multicomponent flows. Using direct numerical simulation (DNS), we investigate the impact of the bulk viscosity coefficient κ on the spatial development of reactive and non-reactive compressible mixing layers interacting with an oblique shock wave. Such a canonical flowfield is typical of the shock-mixing layer interactions that take place in compressible flows of practical interest. For instance, supersonic jets at high nozzle-pressure ratio (NPR) give rise to a complex cellular structures, where shocks and expansion waves interact with the turbulent outer shear layer [7]. It is also encountered in Scramjet intakes and combustors, where shock waves interact with the shear layers issued from the injection systems. On

the one hand, it is clear that the occurrence of shock waves in supersonic combustors induces pressure losses that cannot be avoided but, on the other hand, the resulting shock interactions with mixing layers contribute to scalar dissipation (i.e., mixing) rates enhancement [4], and may favor combustion stabilization in high-speed flows.

The present manuscript is organized as follows: the mathematical model is presented in the next section (i.e., §2), which also includes a short description of the numerical methods. The details of the computational setup are subsequently provided in section §3. Section §4 gathers all the results issued from (i) two-dimensional numerical simulations of both inert (§4.1) and reactive (§4.2) cases, and (ii) the three-dimensional case, which is analysed in §4.3. Finally, some concluding remarks and perspectives for future works are presented in section §5.

2 Mathematical description and computational model

In this work, the in-house massively parallel DNS solver **CREAMS** is used. It solves the unsteady, three-dimensional set of compressible Navier-Stokes equations for multicomponent reactive mixtures [23]:

$$\partial_t (\rho) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u}) = 0, \quad (1a)$$

$$\partial_t (\rho \mathbf{u}) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} \otimes \mathbf{u}) = \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \quad (1b)$$

$$\partial_t (\rho \mathcal{E}_t) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} \mathcal{E}_t) = \nabla \cdot (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{u} - \mathcal{J}), \quad (1c)$$

$$\partial_t (\rho Y_\alpha) + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} Y_\alpha) = -\nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{V}_\alpha Y_\alpha) + \rho \dot{\omega}_\alpha, \quad (1d)$$

where t denotes the time, ∇ is the spatial derivative operator, \mathbf{u} is the flow velocity, ρ is the density, $\mathcal{E}_t = e + \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}/2$ is the total specific energy (obtained as the sum of the internal specific energy, e , and kinetic energy), Y_α is the mass fraction of chemical species α (with $\alpha \in \mathcal{S} = \{1, \dots, \mathcal{N}_{\text{sp}}\}$), \mathbf{V}_α is the diffusion velocity of species α , \mathcal{J} the heat is flux vector and $\dot{\omega}_\alpha$ represents the chemical production rate of species α . The integer \mathcal{N}_{sp} denotes the number of chemical species.

The above set of conservation equations (1) requires to be completed by constitutive laws. In this respect, the ideal gas mixture equation of state (EoS), $P = \rho \mathcal{R}T/\mathcal{W}$ with \mathcal{R} the universal gas constant, is used to relate the pressure P to the temperature T . In this expression, the quantity \mathcal{W} denotes the molar weight of the multicomponent mixture, which is obtained as the sum of the molecular mass of each individual species $\mathcal{W}^{-1} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{\mathcal{N}_{\text{sp}}} Y_\alpha/\mathcal{W}_\alpha$. Within the framework of the kinetic theory of dilute polyatomic gas mixtures, the molecular diffusion velocity vector \mathbf{V}_α , $\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$, heat flux vector \mathcal{J} , and second-order stress tensor $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ are expressed as follows:

$$\rho \mathbf{V}_\alpha Y_\alpha = - \sum_{\beta \in \mathcal{S}} \rho Y_\alpha \mathcal{D}_{\alpha,\beta} (\mathbf{d}_\beta + \chi_\beta X_\beta \nabla (\log T)), \quad (2a)$$

$$\mathcal{J} = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{S}} \rho \mathbf{V}_\alpha Y_\alpha \left(h_\alpha + \frac{\mathcal{R}T\chi_\alpha}{\mathcal{W}_\alpha} \right) - \lambda_T \nabla T, \quad (2b)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma} = -P\mathbf{I} + \boldsymbol{\tau} = -P\mathbf{I} + \mu (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^\top) + \lambda (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{I}, \quad (2c)$$

where $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha,\beta}$, $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{S}^2$, are the multicomponent diffusion coefficients, \mathbf{d}_α , $\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$, the species diffusion driving forces, χ_α , $\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$, the rescaled thermal diffusion ratios, X_α , $\alpha \in \mathcal{S}$, the species mole fractions, h_α the enthalpy per unit mass of the α -th species, and λ_T the thermal conductivity. The diffusion driving force \mathbf{d}_α of the α -th species is given by $\mathbf{d}_\alpha =$

$\nabla X_\alpha + (X_\alpha - Y_\alpha) \nabla (\log P)$. The quantity μ denotes the shear viscosity and λ denotes the second (or dilatation) viscosity coefficient.

The bulk viscosity coefficient κ appears explicitly in the expression of the viscous stress tensor $\boldsymbol{\tau}$. A relationship between the bulk viscosity κ and viscosity coefficients μ and λ can be deduced from the expression of the total pressure, which can be evaluated as the component of the spherical tensor based on the trace of the total stress tensor $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$:

$$-\frac{\text{tr}(\boldsymbol{\sigma})}{3} = -\sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{\sigma_{ii}}{3} = P - \left(\lambda + \frac{2}{3}\mu \right) \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = P - \kappa \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \quad (3)$$

The second term in the right-hand-side of the above expression is the dilational contribution, which defines the bulk viscosity as $\kappa = \lambda + 2\mu/3$. As mentioned above, the Stokes' hypothesis, stating that $\lambda = -2\mu/3$ (and hence $\kappa = 0$), is often retained as a simplifying assumption. Many efforts have been devoted to the derivation of relationships between the bulk viscosity and fundamental fluid properties [21, 29]. If we consider a single polyatomic gas with a unique internal energy mode, the internal energy relaxation time τ^{int} can be related to the bulk viscosity [8, 6]:

$$\kappa = (P \mathcal{R}/c_v^2) \cdot c^{\text{int}} \tau^{\text{int}}, \quad (4)$$

where c^{int} denotes the internal heat capacity and c_v the specific heat at constant volume. When there are several internal energy modes and/or several species present in the mixture, the above simple expression is replaced by the solution to a linear system [12]. Within the Monchick and Mason approximation [26], neglecting complex collisions characterized by more than one quantum jump, the reduced system is diagonal and yields κ [3]:

$$\kappa = (P \mathcal{R}/c_v^2) \cdot \sum_{k \in \mathfrak{P}} X_k c_k^{\text{int}} \tau_k^{\text{int}}, \quad (5)$$

where $\mathfrak{P} = 1, \dots, n^p$ is the polyatomic species indexing set. The average relaxation time for internal energy of the k -th species τ_k^{int} is then expressed as:

$$c_k^{\text{int}}/\tau_k^{\text{int}} = \sum_{m \in \mathfrak{N}} c_k^m/\tau_k^m, \quad (6)$$

where τ_k^m denotes the average relaxation time of internal energy mode m for the k -th species, and \mathfrak{N} is the internal energy mode indexing set.

The CREAMS solver is coupled with the Eglib library to estimate transport coefficients from the kinetic theory of gases [16]. In this library, the optimized subroutines EGSK m are used to evaluate the bulk viscosity. The integer $m \in \llbracket 2, 6 \rrbracket$ associated to the subroutine name refers to retained level of approximation. The higher the value of m , the more expensive the algorithm but also the more accurate the bulk viscosity expression. Following the work of Billet et al. [3], the value $m = 3$ is retained for the purpose of the present study. The shear viscosity and diffusion velocities are evaluated with the routines EGFE3 and EGFYV, respectively. EGFLCT3 is used to determine the thermal conductivity λ_T and rescaled thermal diffusion ratios χ_α .

The above system (1) is discretized on a Cartesian grid. A seventh-order accurate WENO scheme is used to approximate inviscid fluxes, while an eighth-order accurate centered difference scheme is retained to approximate viscous and diffusive contributions. Time integration is performed with a third-order accurate TVD Runge-Kutta scheme. The stiffness associated

to the wide range of time scales involved in the description of the chemical system is addressed using the Sundials CVODE solver [20]. A standard splitting operator technique, similar to the one previously retained in reference [32], is used.

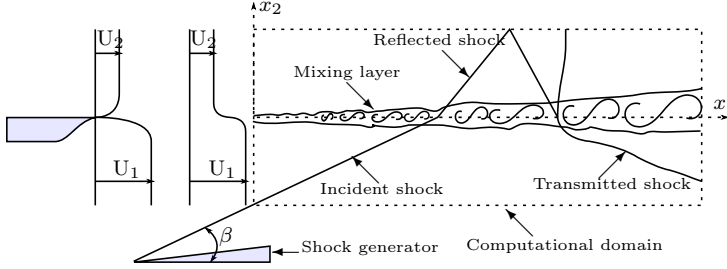


Figure 1: Sketch of the two-dimensional shock–mixing layer interaction geometry. The computational domain dimensions are $L_{x_1} \times L_{x_2} = 275.0 \times 120.0$ in inlet vorticity thickness units (i.e., $\delta_{\omega,0}$). It is uniformly discretized using $N_{x_1} \times N_{x_2} = 1640 \times 720$ grid points.

3 Problem statement and computational setup

We study the interaction of an oblique shock with a spatially-developing shear layer. The upper stream corresponds to the fuel inlet, i.e., a mixture containing hydrogen, and the bottom inlet stream to vitiated air. Both two- and three-dimensional computations are performed. Figure 1 provides a typical sketch of the corresponding computational geometry and Table 1 gathers the values of the main parameters relevant to the present numerical simulation. The flow initialization is similar to the one retained in reference [23]. Assuming equal free-stream specific heat capacity ratios, the convective Mach number may be evaluated from $M_c = (U_1 - U_2)/(a_1 + a_2)$, where a_1 and a_2 denotes the sonic speeds of streams 1 (oxidizer inlet stream) and 2 (fuel inlet stream) respectively. For the present set of computations, it is equal to $M_c = 0.48$.

	Fuel	Oxidizer
T (K)	545.0	1475.0
u_1 (m/s)	U_2	U_1
u_2 (m/s)	0.0	0.0
u_3 (m/s)	0.0	0.0
ρ (kg/m ³)	0.354	0.203
Y_{H_2} (–)	0.05	0.0
Y_{O_2} (–)	0.0	0.278
Y_{H_2O} (–)	0.0	0.17
Y_H (–)	0.0	$5.60 \cdot 10^{-7}$
Y_O (–)	0.0	$1.55 \cdot 10^{-4}$
Y_{OH} (–)	0.0	$1.83 \cdot 10^{-3}$
Y_{HO_2} (–)	0.0	$2.50 \cdot 10^{-7}$
Y_{N_2} (–)	0.95	0.55

Table 1: Parameters of the shock–mixing layer interaction case.

The mixing layer flow is impinged by an oblique shock wave that is issued from the oxidizer inlet stream (1) at the bottom boundary. The oblique shock wave angle is $\beta = 33^\circ$, see Figure 1. The geometrical parameters relevant to the present set of numerical simulations are provided in Table 2. The quantities L_{x_1} , L_{x_2} , and L_{x_3} denote the computational domain lengths in each direction normalized by the initial vorticity thickness $\delta_{\omega,0}$, while N_{x_1} , N_{x_2} , and N_{x_3} are

the corresponding numbers of grid points. In the two-dimensional computations, only the x_1 - and x_2 -directions are considered.

Table 2: Computational mesh description.

L_{x_1}	L_{x_2}	L_{x_3}	N_{x_1}	N_{x_2}	N_{x_3}	$\delta_{\omega,0}$ (m)
280	130	15	1640	750	180	$1.44e^{-4}$

The flow is initialized with a hyperbolic tangent profile for the streamwise velocity component, while the other velocity components are set at zero. Species mass fractions and density are also set according to the following general expression:

$$\varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{\varphi_1 + \varphi_2}{2} + \frac{\varphi_1 - \varphi_2}{2} \tanh\left(\frac{2x_2}{\delta_{\omega,0}}\right), \quad (7)$$

where φ denotes any of the flow variables mentioned above (i.e., species mass fraction or streamwise velocity component). The value of the Reynolds number Re_ω , based on the initial vorticity thickness and inlet velocity difference $\Delta U = U_1 - U_2$ is $Re_{\delta_\omega} = 640$. Dirichlet boundary conditions are applied at the two supersonic inlets, perfectly non-reflecting boundary conditions are set at the outflow, and periodic boundary conditions are settled along the x_3 -direction. A slip boundary condition is imposed at the top, while the bottom boundary condition is set by using Rankine-Hugoniot relations, generalized for a multicomponent mixture [25]. In order to trigger flow transition, a slight white noise fluctuation is superimposed to the transverse velocity component along the line $(x_1, x_2) = (4\delta_{\omega,0}, 0)$. The value of the CFL number is set to 0.75. Reactive flow simulations are conducted with the detailed mechanism of O’Conaire et al. [27]. It consists of nine chemical species (H_2 , O_2 , H_2O , H , O , OH , HO_2 , H_2O_2 , and N_2) and 21 elementary reaction steps. The concentrations of these species at the inlet have been determined from equilibrium conditions so as to reach favorable self-ignition conditions within the extension of the computational domain.

	u_1 (m/s)	u_2 (m/s)	T (K)	P (Pa)	ρ (kg/m ³)
Fuel	1634.0	0.0	1475.0	94232.25	0.354
Oxidizer	1526.0	156.7	1582.6	129951.6	0.421
Bottom	973.0	0.0	545.0	94232.25	0.203

Table 3: Flow parameters of the shock–mixing layer interaction.

Throughout this manuscript, the Reynolds and Favre averages of any quantity φ are denoted by $\bar{\varphi}$ and $\tilde{\varphi}$, while the corresponding statistical fluctuations are denoted by single and double primes, i.e., φ' and φ'' , respectively. Averaging is performed over both transverse directions of statistical homogeneity (x_1 and x_2) and time t .

4 Analysis of computational results

4.1 Inert two-dimensional mixing layer

Figure 2 displays the instantaneous field of the ratio κ/μ computed for the present flow conditions. From this figure, it is noteworthy that (i) this ratio reaches values significantly larger than unity, (ii) it exhibits important spatial variations, the most significant of which are related to mixture composition. This contrasts with its sensitivity to pressure variations (i.e.,

shock waves), which seems to remain rather moderate. Considering the values of κ/μ , as well as the amplitude of its variations, one may expect some remarkable effects of the bulk viscosity on this inert flowfield. It is the objective of this preliminary section to study to what extent the bulk viscosity may influence the instantaneous and statistical characteristics of the two-dimensional mixing layer development.

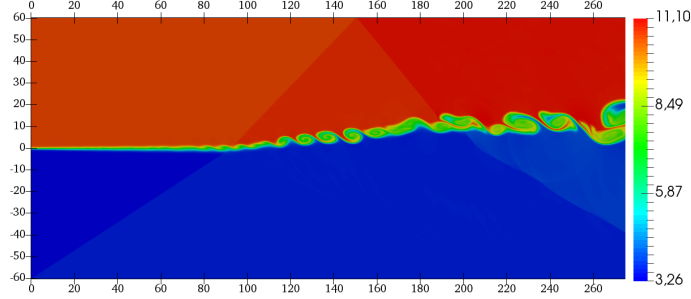


Figure 2: Instantaneous field of the ratio κ/μ in the case $\kappa \neq 0$ at $t\Delta U/\delta_{\omega,0} = 75.0$.

Instantaneous flow visualizations are very revealing of some local features of the shear layer, which are filtered out once fields or cross-stream profiles of averaged quantities are considered instead. For instance, quantitative comparisons of the onset of the streamwise vortices formation can be obtained from the instantaneous fields of the dimensionless magnitude of the density gradient, i.e., “numerical Schlieren”, reported in Figure 3.

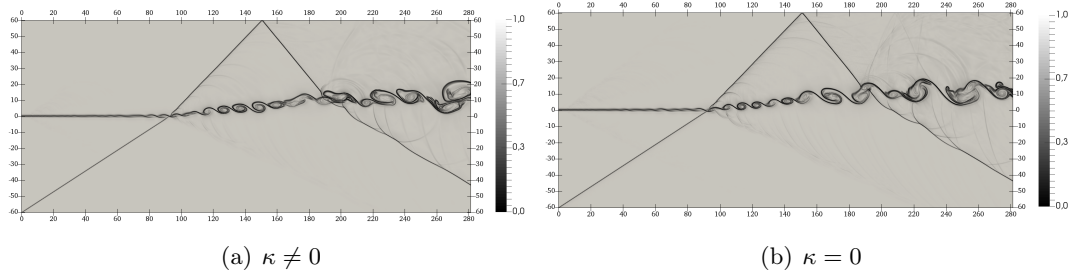


Figure 3: Instantaneous field of the numerical density-based Schlieren at $t\Delta U/\delta_{\omega,0} = 75.0$.

In this figure, it is remarkable that, in the absence of bulk viscosity, the normalized abscissa at which the vortex roll-up processes take place is approximately $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} = 103.0$, while in the situation featuring non-zero value of the bulk viscosity, it can be estimated to be $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} = 116.0$. This can be explained by the same argument as the one invoked by Billet et al. [3] in their study of shock/hydrogen bubble interaction. The shear layer is also a diffusion layer associated to a density gradient, the absence of bulk viscosity makes the baroclinic term $\nabla P \times \nabla \rho / \rho^2$ greater at the shock / mixing layer interaction location, thus favoring the birth of velocity fluctuations. When volume viscosity is taken into account, the shock is much smoother in agreement with the physical theory of shock wave internal structure. As a consequence, the baroclinic production term is lower than in absence of volume viscosity. The interaction between the mixing layer and the shock wave can be further assessed by considering the Richtmyer-Meshkov instability development, the key point of which is the baroclinic

effect [5]. The Richtmyer-Meshkov instability indeed takes place when two fluids having different densities are impulsively accelerated, similarly to what occurs when the shock wave impinges the mixing layer in the present study. This process may be analysed by considering the transport equation for the enstrophy $\Omega = |\boldsymbol{\omega}|^2/2$.

Such a transport equation is readily obtained by (i) taking the curl of the momentum transport equation and subsequently (ii) multiplying each term of the resulting equation by the vorticity vector itself:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{D\Omega}{Dt} &= \partial_t \Omega + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \Omega \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T) \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega}}_{\mathcal{E}} - \underbrace{\Omega \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}}_{\mathcal{D}} + \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \left(\frac{\nabla P \times \nabla \rho}{\rho^2} \right)}_{\mathcal{B}} + \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\omega} \cdot \left(\nabla \times \left[\frac{\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}}{\rho} \right] \right)}_{\mathcal{V}} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

The production / destruction terms on the right hand side (RHS) of (8) are associated to vortex-stretching, dilatation, baroclinic torque, and viscous dissipation. The baroclinic contribution $\nabla P \times \nabla \rho$ plays a significant role in the enstrophy and vorticity production and it appears as one of the main sources of vorticity in supersonic flows [31].

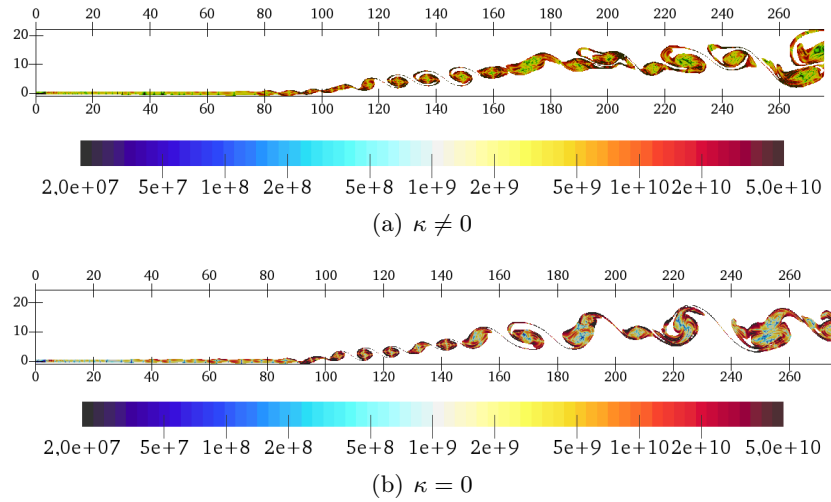


Figure 4: Instantaneous field of the mixing zone colored by $\|\nabla P \times \nabla \rho\|$.

Figure 4 displays the instantaneous field of the magnitude of $\nabla P \times \nabla \rho$ within a region restricted to mixture fraction values such that $\xi \in [0.05, 0.95]$. This passive scalar ξ is defined on the basis of conserved elemental (i.e., atomic) mass fractions [28]. The mass fraction of chemical element γ , denoted a_γ , is readily deduced from the chemical species mass fractions:

$$a_\gamma = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{N_{sp}} \frac{Y_\alpha N_{\alpha,\gamma} A_\gamma}{W_\alpha}, \quad (9)$$

where A_γ is the atomic weight associated to element γ and $N_{\alpha,\gamma}$ denotes the number of γ atoms present in each molecule of chemical species α . For a two-feeding inlet system such as

the one considered here¹, the mixture fraction is then obtained by summing over all elemental mass fractions and normalizing the result

$$\xi = \frac{\sum_{\gamma} |a_{\gamma} - a_{\gamma,O}|}{\sum_{\gamma} |a_{\gamma,F} - a_{\gamma,O}|}, \quad (10)$$

where $a_{\gamma,O}$ and $a_{\gamma,F}$ denote the mass fractions of atom γ in the oxidizer and fuel inlet streams, respectively.

Figure 4 shows that the term $\nabla P \times \nabla \rho$ displays large values at the periphery of the mixing layer where the pressure gradient and the density gradient are significantly misaligned, thus promoting the development of the mixing layer. The misalignment of the pressure gradient – that is imposed by the shock wave – and local density gradient – that is associated to the mixing layer – serves as a basis to vorticity generation through the baroclinic term. It may contribute significantly to mixing enhancement.

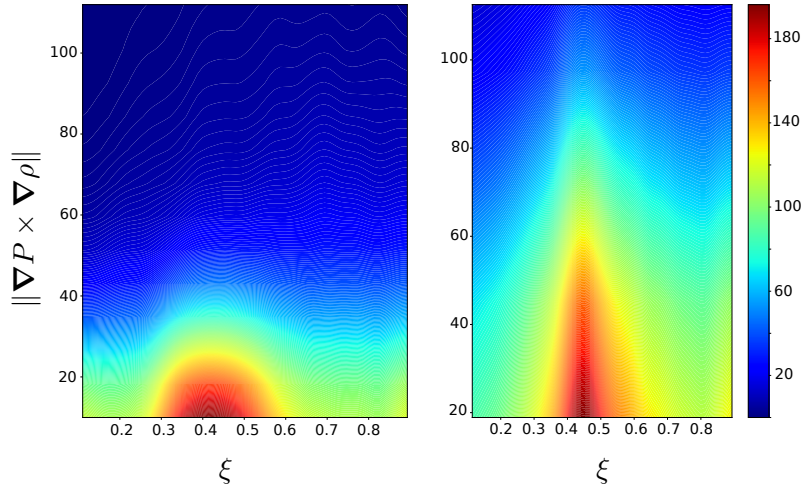


Figure 5: JPDF of ξ and $\|\nabla P \times \nabla \rho\|$ for $\kappa \neq$ (left) and $\kappa = 0$ (right).

To quantify the vorticity production that is induced by the baroclinic term in the presence or in the absence bulk viscosity, Figure 5 reports the joint probability density function (JPDF) of the passive scalar ξ and baroclinic term $\|\nabla P \times \nabla \rho\|$ obtained for both cases. This figure reveals that the production of vorticity by baroclinic effects is concentrated around the stoichiometric mixture fraction value $\xi_{st} = 0.43$. It also confirms that the neglect of bulk viscosity tends to enhance large values of this production term.

One of the fundamental statistical quantities that characterizes the mixing layer development is its normalized growth rate [30]. Although the definition of this growth rate is not unique, its most standard expression relies on the vorticity thickness definition:

$$\delta_{\omega}(x_1) = \frac{U_1 - U_2}{\partial \tilde{u}_1 / \partial x_2|_{\max}} \quad (11)$$

Figure 6 displays the spatial evolution of normalized vorticity thickness for both cases. It reveals that the interaction of the reflected shock wave with the mixing zone changes significantly the mixing layer growth rate (i.e., the slope) and that the evolution of the mixing layer

¹Other situations featuring more than two inlets have been recently addressed by Gomet et al. [18].

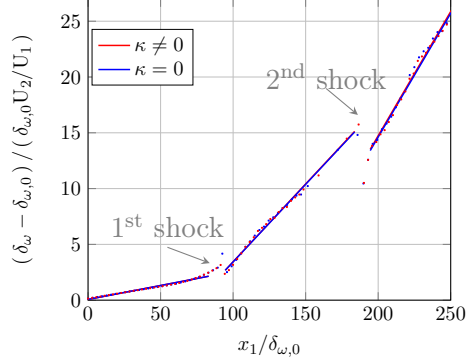


Figure 6: Two-dimensional inert simulation: spatial evolution of the normalized vorticity thickness.

displays three distinct zones. In the first zone (on the left), before the interaction of the incident shock with the shear layer, there is a quasi-linear growth of the mixing layer thickness. After the shock interaction, there is a significant increase in the mixing layer growth rate in the second zone (i.e., in the middle of the graph). A similar behaviour is observed in the third region (on the right) after the interaction of the reflected shock wave with the mixing layer. Finally, the inert case does not exhibit any noticeable difference with respect to the effect of the bulk viscosity: the profiles of the longitudinal evolution of the vorticity thickness for the cases $\kappa \neq 0$ and $\kappa = 0$ are indeed almost superimposed.

Attention is now focused on the spatial evolution of the normalized turbulent kinetic energy $\bar{\rho}\mathcal{K}/(\rho_0\Delta U^2)$ with $\mathcal{K} = \overline{u_i''u_i''}$. More specifically, special attention is paid to the maximum in the cross-stream profile of \mathcal{K} , which is reported in [Figure 7\(a\)](#). The comparison performed between both cases ($\kappa = 0$ and $\kappa \neq 0$) confirms that the molecular bulk viscosity only slightly affects the average development of turbulent kinetic energy in the inert case. Finally, [Figure 7\(b\)](#) displays the longitudinal evolution of the maximum enstrophy value Ω normalized by $(\Delta U/\delta_{\omega,0})^2$. As shown in this figure, enstrophy decreases continuously as the mixing layer develops, whether or not the bulk viscosity is taken into account. The enstrophy is also found to be quite slightly impacted by the bulk viscosity for the present set of two-dimensional non-reactive flow computations. Thus, it is concluded that, although the instantaneous fields of vorticity display significant differences depending on the consideration (or not) of the bulk viscosity, the time-averaged statistics tends to dwindle these differences, which are no longer visible on mean enstrophy and turbulent kinetic energy profiles.

4.2 Reactive two-dimensional mixing layer

The analysis of two-dimensional inert mixing layer developments showed that the bulk viscosity only appreciably affects the instantaneous flowfields. Indeed, whatever the bulk viscosity is considered or not, the statistical quantities that characterize the mixing layer development exhibit almost no difference. Since the bulk viscosity may affect only the smallest scales, i.e., the molecular ones at which chemical reactions take place, reactive cases may display more significant differences than those observed in inert cases. Therefore, reactive shear layer computations are carried out including (or not) the effects of the bulk viscosity.

For instance, [Figure 8](#) reports the instantaneous vorticity field obtained for the two conditions ($\kappa = 0$ and $\kappa \neq 0$) taken at the same physical time. Iso-lines of the pressure gradient are superimposed on the vorticity field. In comparison with the case without bulk viscosity effect (see [Figure 8\(b\)](#)), when bulk viscosity effects are taken into account (see [Figure 8\(a\)](#)), the flow

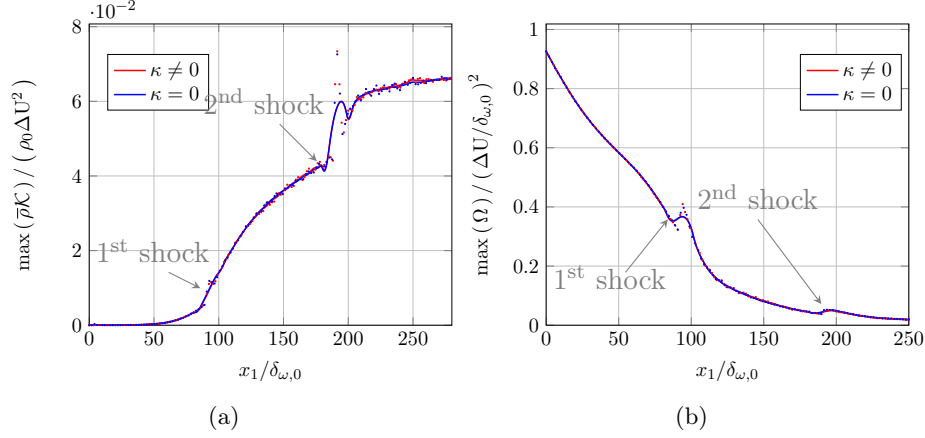


Figure 7: Inert simulation: spatial evolution of the longitudinal maxima of (a) normalized turbulent kinetic energy $\bar{\rho}\mathcal{K}$ and (b) normalized enstrophy Ω .

topology remains an ordered whole and the morphology of the vortices retains its coherence after the second interaction with the shock. Moreover, in the presence of bulk viscosity effects, one can notice a premature pairing of vortices similar to the one previously observed in inert cases. The abscissae at which this occurs are $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} \approx 110$ for $\kappa = 0$ and $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} \approx 127$ for $\kappa \neq 0$, respectively. Figure 9 displays the instantaneous field of the hydrogen mass fraction together with the iso-lines of the pressure gradient. This figure shows that the bulk viscosity contributes to maintain a greater flow coherence, which favors the identification of large roll-ups. In the absence of bulk viscosity effects, the vortex structures issued from the reflected shock interaction are indeed much more disorganized and elongated.

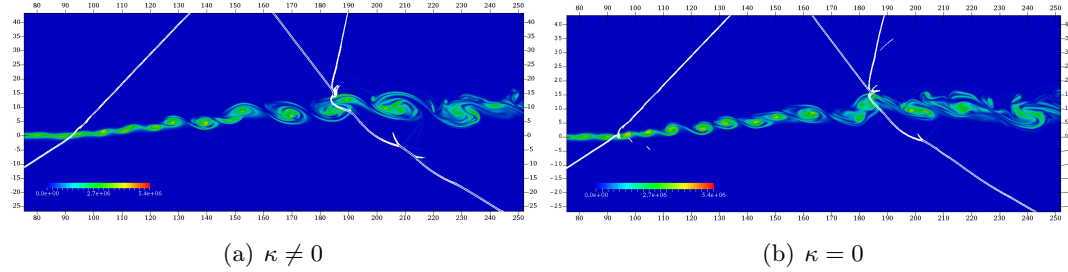


Figure 8: Instantaneous fields of vorticity superimposed with iso-lines of the pressure gradient (in white).

The auto-ignition process is now discussed in the light of Figure 10 and Figure 11. The first figure reports the hydroperoxyl and hydroxyl radical mass fractions superimposed with isolines of the norm of the pressure gradient. It is noteworthy that HO_2 formation begins just downstream of the injection plane in the middle of the mixing layer. Moreover, further downstream begins an induction process with a small amount of these HO_2 radicals converted into OH radicals in the fuel-lean mixture before the shock wave impingement zone. The production of these OH radicals increases significantly with the formation of pools in the kernels of the vortices while the concentration of HO_2 radicals progressively vanishes. These radical pools coincide with the high temperature regions discussed above, allowing for the

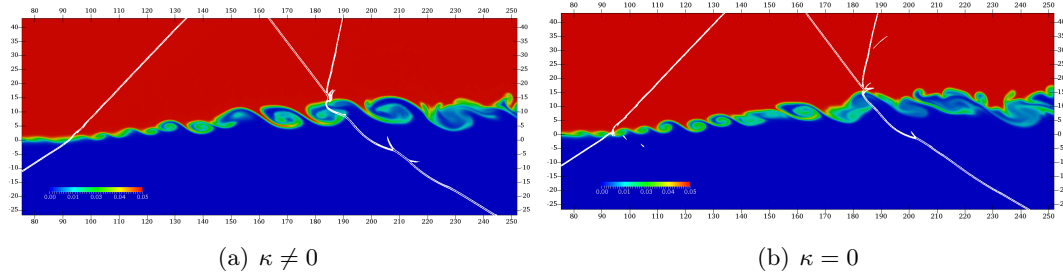


Figure 9: Instantaneous fields of H_2 mass fraction superimposed with iso-lines of the pressure gradient (in white).

thermal runaway of the reactive processes. The maximum levels of hydroxyl radicals are found after the reflected shock interacts with the mixing layer, where the heat release rate reaches its maximum value. The remaining hydroperoxyl radicals concentrate below the fuel-lean mixture region, on the oxidizer side. The bulk viscosity has the effect of increasing the maximum level of hydroxyl radical concentration, as well as the heat release rate. The latter decreases significantly when the mixing layer interacts with the second (i.e., reflected) shock wave. These different observations highlight the effect of the bulk viscosity on the instantaneous development of the reactive mixing layer, an effect which is quite remarkable. This confirms the observations made in the inert case.

The modifications that can be induced by the bulk viscosity effects on certain statistical quantities will be now quantified for reactive cases. First, in contrast to inert cases, one can notice that, after the second shock interaction, the vorticity thickness develops less substantially in the presence of bulk viscosity effects, as shown in Figure 12(a). In addition, it can be noted that the volume viscosity effects seem greater in the region downstream of the reflected shock impact where compressibility effects are the most important.

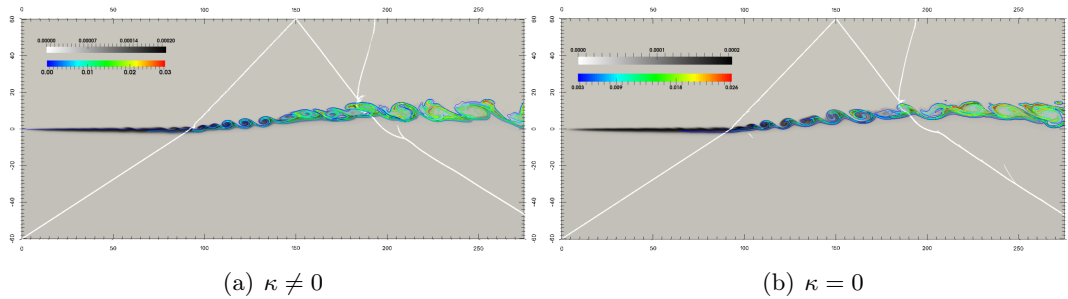


Figure 10: Iso-lines of the pressure gradient (in white) superimposed on the instantaneous field of the HO_2 mass fraction (gray levels) and iso-lines of the OH mass fraction (in color).

As far as the evolution of the transverse maxima of the turbulent kinetic energy (TKE) is concerned, the bulk viscosity slightly increases the dissipation of turbulent kinetic energy, especially after the interaction with the second shock in the reactive case, see Figure 12(b). This observation is fully consistent with Eq. (2c), an equation that displays the explicit dependency of the dissipation of TKE on the ratio κ/μ . It could have been expected that the dissipation is all the more important that this ratio is large. However, the statistics of the

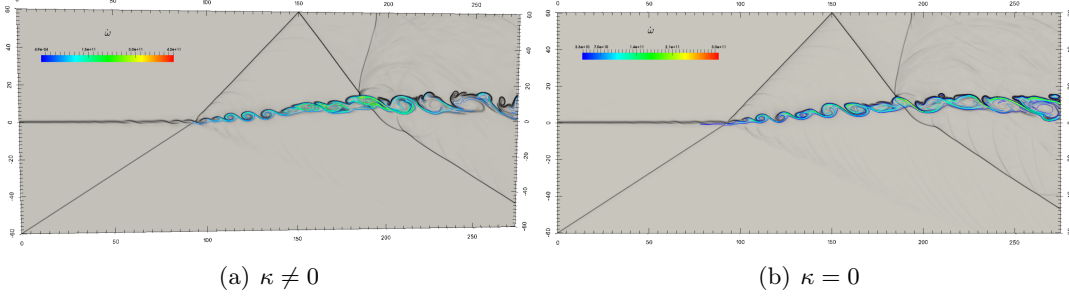


Figure 11: Heat release rate iso-lines superimposed on a numerical Schlieren image.

enstrophy – not reported for the sake of conciseness – do display similar trends regardless of bulk viscosity effects.

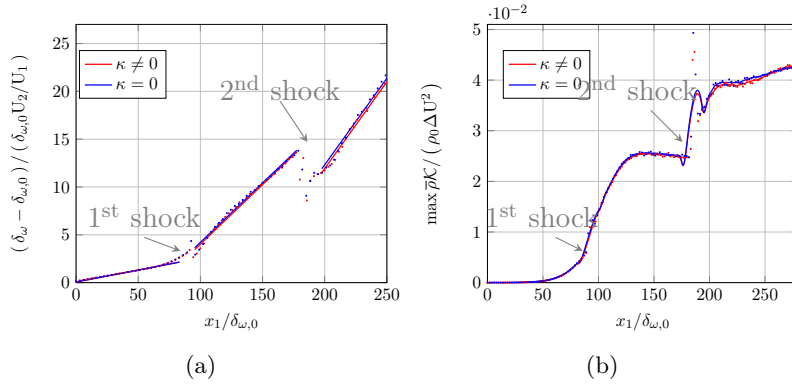


Figure 12: Reactive simulation: spatial evolution of the normalized vorticity thickness (a) and normalized turbulent kinetic energy.

Reactive as well as non-reactive two-dimensional numerical simulations have shown that the bulk viscosity influences more significantly the instantaneous flowfields than the statistical characteristics of the mixing layer impacted by the oblique shock. In this respect, the longitudinal evolutions of the mean vorticity thickness and turbulent kinetic energy issued from these reactive flow computations only display slight differences compared to inert cases. However, one may expect that these conclusions may be altered by three-dimensional effects and the next section aims at analyzing this possible influence; the question to be answered is as follows: is the three-dimensional configuration more sensitive to the influence of the bulk viscosity than the two-dimensional configuration?

4.3 Non-reactive three-dimensional mixing layer

The three-dimensional numerical simulation of the shock wave–mixing layer interaction is illustrated in Figure 13 that displays iso-values of the numerical Schlieren signal, to delineate the shock waves, together with an iso-value of the λ_2 -criterion colored by the norm of the vorticity. Some visualizations are first provided to get preliminary insights into the possible changes that may be induced by the volume viscosity on the structure and topology of the present shock wave–mixing layer interaction. In both cases, i.e., with and without κ , an

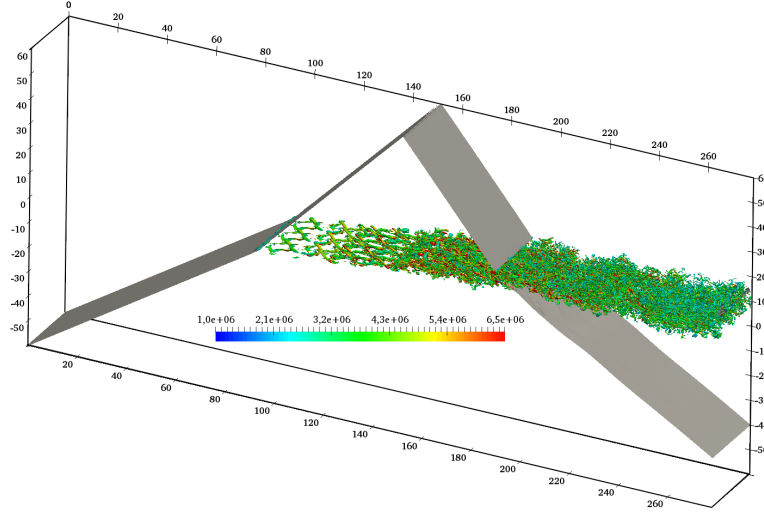


Figure 13: Three-dimensional case: iso-value of $\lambda_2 = 0.02 * \lambda_{2,min}$ colored by the norm of the vorticity.

intensification of the vortical activity is observed just downstream of the interaction of the mixing layer with the incident oblique shock wave, the mixing layer develops and finally gives rise to a highly three-dimensional dynamics.

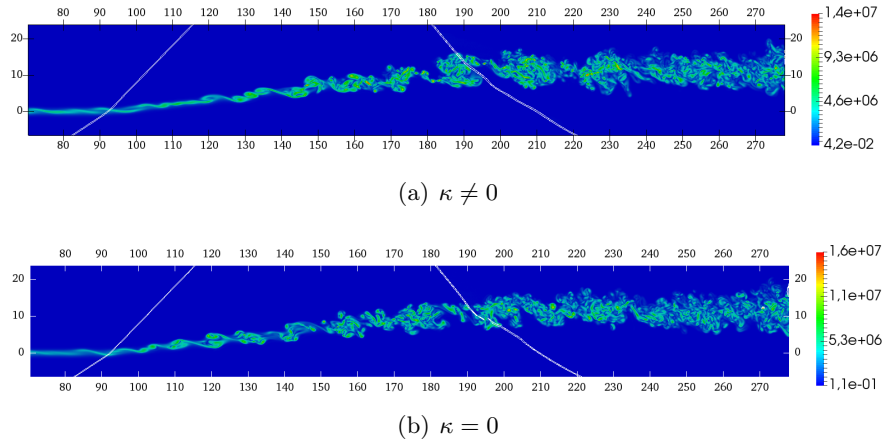


Figure 14: Iso-lines of the pressure gradient (in white) superimposed on the instantaneous field of vorticity in the $x_1 - x_2$ median plane (i.e., $x_3 = 0$).

Figure 14 displays the instantaneous vorticity field obtained in the median plane $x_1 - x_2$ at normalized time $t\Delta U/L_1 = 20$. The consideration of the bulk viscosity leads to a substantially different flow topology. Indeed, when $\kappa = 0$, there is an early formation of vortices taking place just after the interaction with the first shock (i.e., oblique incident shock), as it has been already observed above in the two-dimensional results. However, in the three-dimensional case, the creation of the first vortical structures is much more marked. Figure 15 shows a snapshot of turbulent structures visualized using an iso-value of the Q -criterion colored by vorticity. The density of vortical structures is higher in the absence of bulk viscosity. This

is especially true after the interaction with the second shock wave where a larger number of localized (and scattered) regions of high turbulent activities are visible.

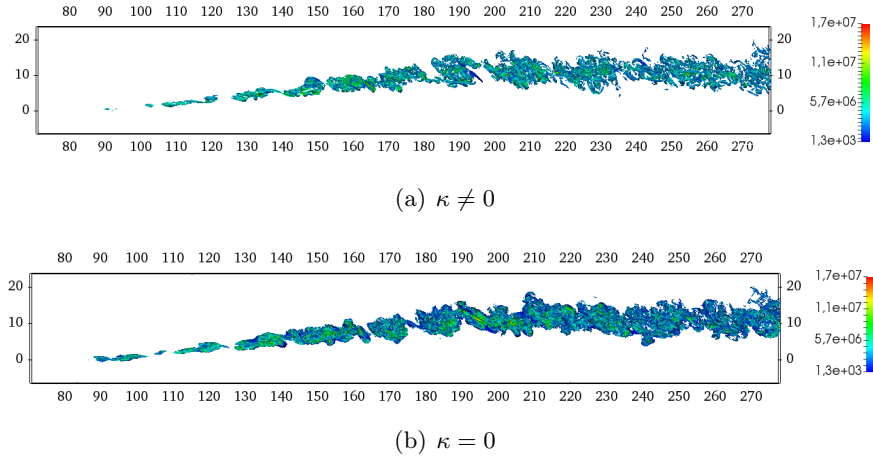


Figure 15: Instantaneous field of the Q -criterion colored by the vorticity in the $x_1 - x_2$ median plane (i.e., $x_3 = 0$).

The present three-dimensional numerical simulations have been run over a sufficiently long physical time to generate large databases, which allows for statistical analyses. In addition to this, the extension of the retained computational domains are sufficiently large in the longitudinal direction to reach developed turbulence. The bulk viscosity effect is now analyzed through the vorticity thickness evolution. Figure 16 reports a comparison of this evolution in both cases $\kappa \neq 0$ and $\kappa = 0$. Three distinct regions can be delineated, the limits of which are reported in Table 4. Before the first shock, the vorticity thickness growth rate is almost identical in both cases $\kappa = 0$ and $\kappa \neq 0$. Between the first and the second shock, it is substantially larger when $\kappa = 0$. This inhibition of the mixing layer growth rate is fully consistent with the instantaneous flow topology discussed above. From the second shock impact location, the mixing layer growth rate changes and takes a value that is smaller than those observed in the second region. In this third region, the vorticity thickness growth rates are similar in both cases.

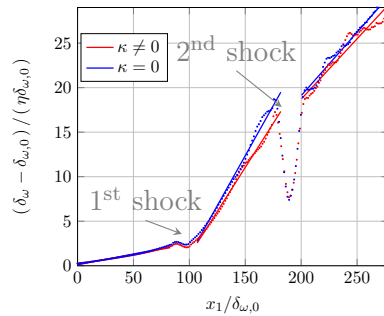


Figure 16: Evolution of the vorticity thickness in the three-dimensional shock-mixing layer simulation.

The profiles of the passive scalar ξ and non-dimensional longitudinal velocity $(\tilde{u}_1 - U_2)/\Delta U$ are plotted at three different abscissae in Figure 17 for both cases $\kappa \neq 0$ and $\kappa = 0$. The profiles of both quantities remain very close whether the bulk viscosity is taken into account or not. Figure 18 reports the profiles of the mean pressure normalized by its value at the inlet, i.e.,

Table 4: Values of $(U_1/U_2)d\delta_\omega/dx_1$ obtained from the three-dimensional mixing layer computations.

	1 st region	2 nd region	3 rd region
$\kappa = 0$	0.023	0.223	0.142
$\kappa \neq 0$	0.022	0.192	0.137

\bar{P}/P_{in} , at the same locations. It is noteworthy that the minimum levels achieved by the average pressure are larger for the case $\kappa \neq 0$. This finding is in line with the previous results of Gonzalez and Emanuel [19] concerning the high sensitivity of the pressure field to the Stokes hypothesis and the strong modification of the pressure distribution obtained for large values of the ratio κ/μ .

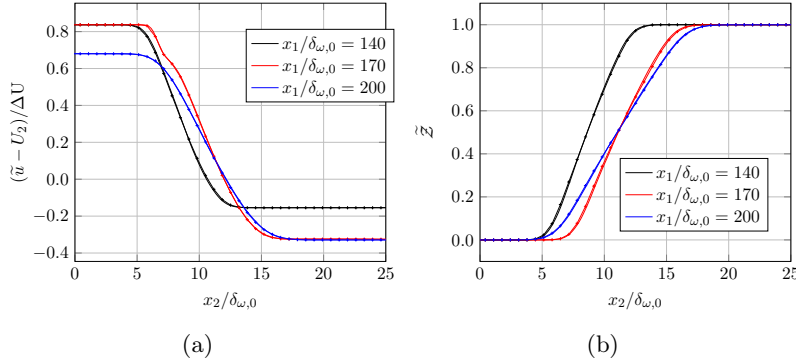


Figure 17: Comparison between the normalized velocity and passive scalar profiles obtained for both case $\kappa \neq 0$ and $\kappa = 0$ plotted at three abscissae. The solid lines correspond to $\kappa \neq 0$ and the lines with symbol $(++)$ to $\kappa = 0$.

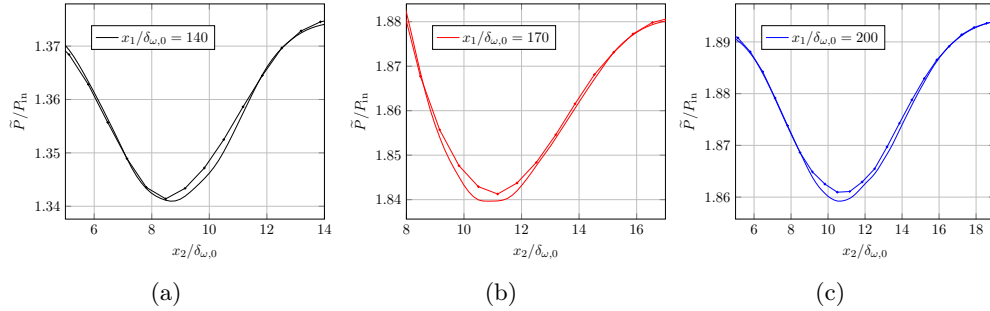


Figure 18: Longitudinal profiles of the mean pressure normalized by its value at the inlet P_{in} , same symbols as those used in Figure 17.

Since it has been shown that the first-order statistical moments do not display a significant sensitivity to the bulk viscosity, a closer look is now taken at some second-order moments that characterize the velocity and passive scalar fluctuations. Figure 19 reports the longitudinal evolution of the maximum values of the normalized TKE. It is noteworthy that the three-dimensional character of the present set simulation slightly modifies the conclusion that were

previously drawn from the two-dimensional computations: the influence of bulk viscosity is noticeable. Up to the abscissa $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} \approx 150.0$, neglecting the bulk viscosity only leads to a very slight overestimate compared to the case where the effects of κ are considered. The region that extends from $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} = 150.0$ until the interaction with the reflected shock is characterized by a significant change of behavior and the values obtained with $\kappa \neq 0$ are larger than those obtained with $\kappa = 0$. This region is characterized by strong pressure wave reflection from the upper limit of the computational domain. After the interaction with the reflected shock wave (and up to the abscissa $x_1/\delta_{\omega,0} = 275.0$), the maxima of the TKE obtained without taking into account the bulk viscosity effects are again underestimated compared to those issued from the computations performed with $\kappa \neq 0$ and this trend is slightly modified further downstream as the end of the computational domain is approached. It can be concluded that, in the absence of the second shock wave interaction and associated parasitic pressure waves issued from the top of the computational domain, the TKE levels would be underestimated if the effects of κ were not taken into account. In an attempt to better understand the behavior of the TKE, the analysis of the main terms involved in its transport equation is now carried out.

The transport equation for the turbulent kinetic energy \mathcal{K} is given by

$$\partial_t(\bar{\rho}\mathcal{K}) + \nabla \cdot (\bar{\rho}\tilde{\mathbf{u}}\mathcal{K}) = \mathcal{P} + \varepsilon + \mathcal{T} + \Pi + \Sigma, \quad (12)$$

In this equation, \mathcal{P} is the production term, ε is the dissipation term, \mathcal{T} denotes the turbulent transport term, Π is the pressure-strain term, and finally Σ the mass flux term. The budget (12) is deduced from the transport equation of the Reynolds tensor components:

$$\frac{\partial(\bar{\rho}R_{ij})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\bar{\rho}\tilde{u}_k R_{ij})}{\partial x_k} = \mathcal{P}_{ij} + \varepsilon_{ij} + \mathcal{T}_{ij} + \Pi_{ij} + \Sigma_{ij}, \quad (13)$$

with

$$\mathcal{P}_{ij} = -\bar{\rho} \left(R_{ik} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_j}{\partial x_k} + R_{jk} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_k} \right), \quad (14a)$$

$$\varepsilon_{ij} = -\overline{\tau'_{ik} \frac{\partial u''_j}{\partial x_k}} - \overline{\tau'_{jk} \frac{\partial u''_i}{\partial x_k}}, \quad (14b)$$

$$\mathcal{T}_{ij} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\overline{\rho u''_i u''_j u''_k} + \overline{P' u''_i \delta_{jk}} + \overline{P' u''_j \delta_{ik}} - \overline{\tau'_{jk} u''_i} - \overline{\tau'_{ik} u''_j} \right), \quad (14c)$$

$$\Pi_{ij} = \overline{P' \frac{\partial u''_i}{\partial x_j}} + \overline{P' \frac{\partial u''_j}{\partial x_i}}, \quad (14d)$$

$$\Sigma_{ij} = \left(\overline{u''_i \frac{\partial \tau_{jk}}{\partial x_k}} + \overline{u''_j \frac{\partial \tau_{ik}}{\partial x_k}} \right) - \left(\overline{u''_i \frac{\partial \bar{P}}{\partial x_j}} + \overline{u''_j \frac{\partial \bar{P}}{\partial x_i}} \right), \quad (14e)$$

The analysis of the main terms involved in the TKE transport equation is carried out at two distinct locations to infer the impact of the volume viscosity. Figure 20 shows that the most important contributions are associated to the production and dissipation terms. Their amplitude is found to be slightly smaller when κ is not taken into account. The turbulent transport term is positive at the periphery of the mixing layer while it tends to be negative within the mixing layer. This quantity, which is larger in the case featuring $\kappa \neq 0$, removes energy from regions characterized by large fluctuations levels to deposit it in regions characterized by lower levels of TKE. Figure 20 also shows that the contributions due to pressure-strain and mass flux terms remain negligible compared to the others, for both cases.

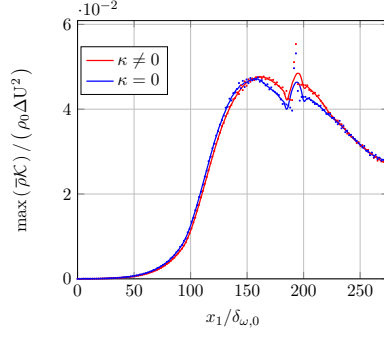


Figure 19: Spatial evolution of the longitudinal maxima of normalized turbulent kinetic energy $\bar{\rho}\mathcal{K}$.

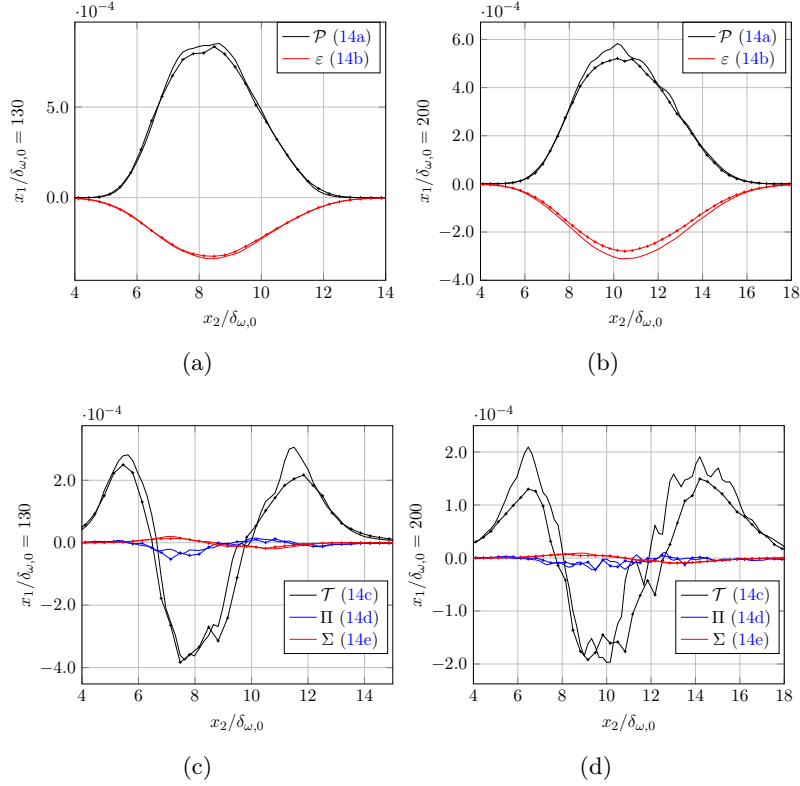


Figure 20: TKE budget with all terms normalized by $\Delta U^3/\delta_{\omega,0}$, same symbols as those retained in Figure 17.

Figure 21 reports the distribution of the Reynolds stress components as well as the variance of the passive scalar and the scalar to velocity correlations for both cases $\kappa \neq 0$ and $\kappa = 0$. The three streamwise positions under consideration are representative of the variations observed on the TKE profile reported in Figure 19. The profiles of the Reynolds stress components show that the maxima of its diagonal components follow the trends reported in Figure 19. Figure 21(f), which displays the longitudinal evolution of the scalar flux component $\widetilde{u_1''\xi''}/(u_{1,\text{RMS}}\xi_{\text{RMS}})$, reveals that the maximum value of the correlation between the longitudinal velocity fluctuation and the scalar fluctuation is slightly underestimated when the effects of bulk viscosity are not considered.

Figure 22 reports the variance of the mass fractions of chemical species present in the

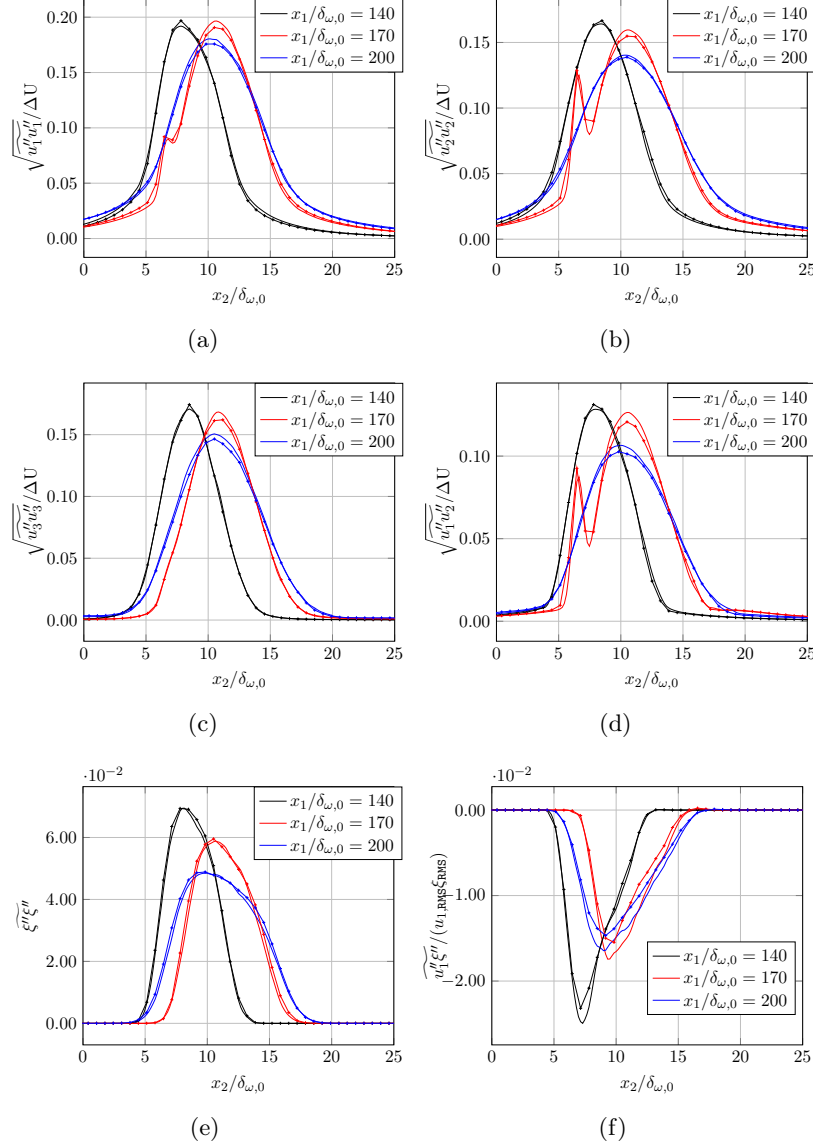


Figure 21: Profiles of the Reynolds stress tensor components normalized by ΔU together with the mixture fraction variance $\xi''\xi''$ and longitudinal component of the scalar flux $u_1''\xi''$ at three abscissae, same symbols as those retained in Figure 17.

mixture. The hydrogen, which is characterized by the highest ratio κ/μ is the one that displays the largest differences (up to approximately ten percent) between the two cases, i.e., $\kappa = 0$ and $\kappa \neq 0$. The differences observed at the three locations concern both the shape and maximum levels, which depend on the species under consideration. Indeed, it is found that the distribution of the profiles for all chemical species is slightly wider – indicating that the fluid is incorporated more markedly – when the effects of bulk viscosity are taken into account, which leads to a reduction of fluctuations around the averaged value. A similar effect is observed when the convective Mach number values are increased [22, 24].

For the present three-dimensional simulation, it is interesting to consider the evolution of

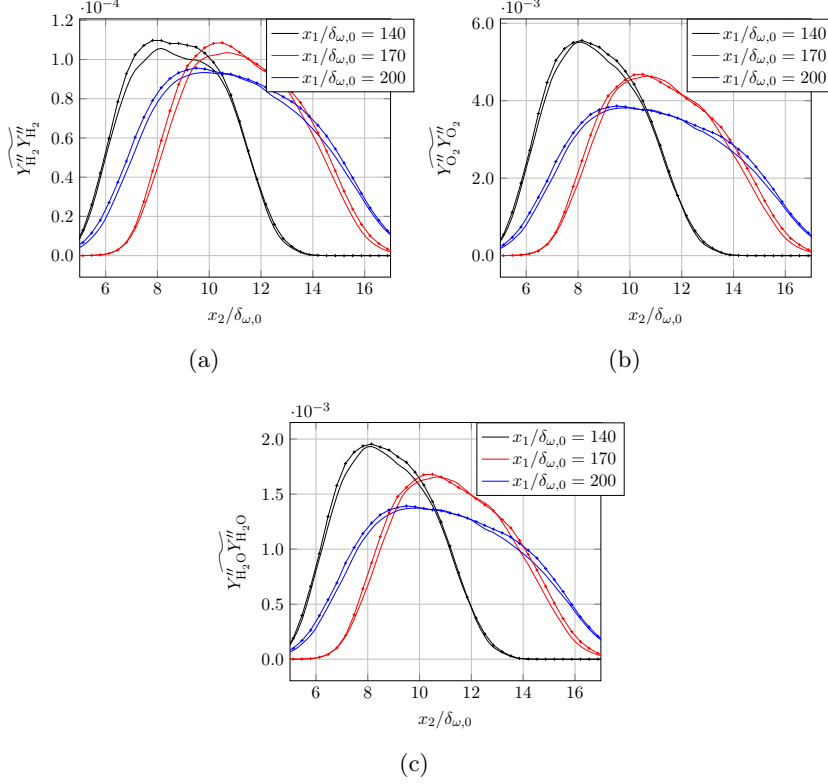


Figure 22: Profiles of the variances of chemical species mass fractions at three abscissae, same symbols as those retained in Figure 17.

higher moments (third- and fourth-order) of velocity and passive scalar fluctuations. Once properly normalized, these quantities provide the skewness and kurtosis of the statistical distribution, i.e., the probability density functions (PDF). They are defined by $\mathcal{S} = \mu_3/\sigma^3$ and $\mathcal{F} = \mu_4/\sigma^4$, respectively, with μ_3 and μ_4 the third and fourth centered moments, σ being the standard deviation. The skewness factor measures the symmetry of the fluctuations around the mean whilst the flatness factor characterizes if the PDF tends to be peaked or not. Their values can be compared to those associated to a Gaussian distribution with $\mathcal{S}_G = 0$ and $\mathcal{F}_G = 3$. Figure 23 displays the transverse profiles of \mathcal{S}_{u_1} , \mathcal{S}_{u_2} , \mathcal{F}_{u_1} , and \mathcal{F}_{u_2} obtained in three planes for $\kappa = 0$ and $\kappa \neq 0$. In the free streams (i.e., outside the mixing layer), the skewness and flatness coefficients tend to 0.0 and 3.0, respectively, which reflects a quasi-Gaussian behaviour of the residual turbulence outside the mixing zone. The consideration of bulk viscosity effects favors this trend. A sharp variation of these two coefficients is observed when approaching the mixing zone boundaries. These changes are associated to the intermittency between turbulent “puffs” (mixed fluid) in the freestream as well as fluid incursions into the mixing layer (fluid entrainment). The sign of the variation of the asymmetry coefficient depends upon the stream from which the mixing layer boundary is approached, either from the fast-cold stream side or from the slow-hot stream. On the one hand, on the high-speed and low-temperature side, intermittent events, which disrupt the fast and cold uniform flow, correspond to hotter and slower conditions and give rise to $\mathcal{S}_{u_1} < 0$ and $\mathcal{S}_{u_2} < 0$. On the other hand, on the low speed and high temperature side, such events correspond to colder and faster fluid particles, and we

have $\mathcal{S}_\xi < 0$, $\mathcal{S}_{u_1} > 0$, and $\mathcal{S}_{u_2} > 0$. These intermittent events influence the flatness coefficients as abruptly as the skewness coefficients, see Figure 23. Therefore, the different profiles approach an antisymmetric shape for the skewness coefficients and a symmetrical shape for the flatness coefficients. The positions where the asymmetry coefficients \mathcal{S}_{u_1} and \mathcal{S}_{u_2} cancel out correspond to the positions of the extrema on their respective variance profile. The bulk viscosity has the effect of amplifying the amplitude of the peaks observed for the asymmetry and flatness coefficients, which may be explained by the stabilizing action of molecular processes that induces a delayed development of the mixing layer and a subsequent delayed action of molecular processes. In addition, from the inner part of the mixing layer towards its boundaries (inlet stream conditions), it has to be noticed that the intermittent zone appears early in the presence of bulk viscosity effects.

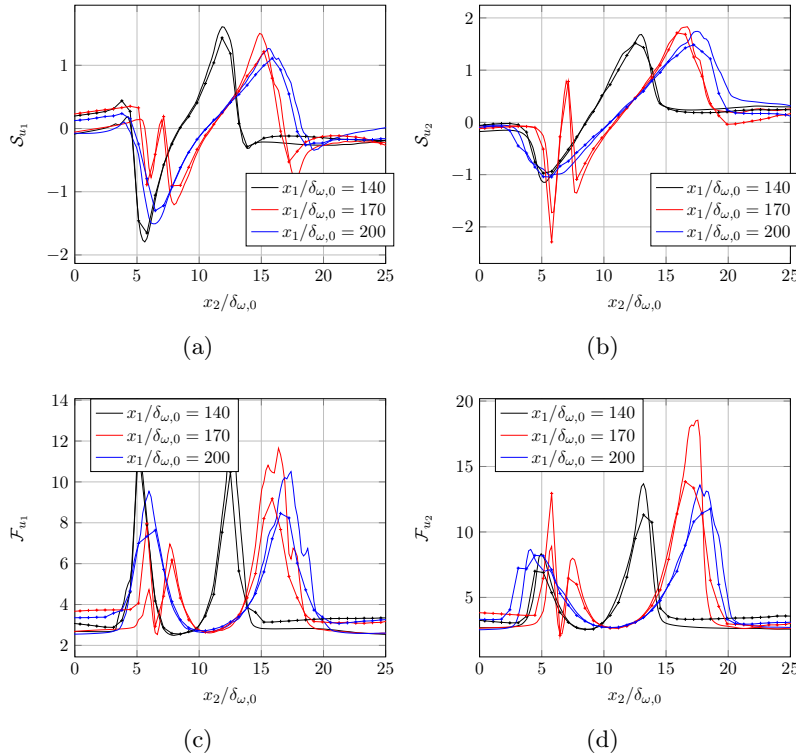


Figure 23: Skewness and flatness coefficients issued from the statistics of the two velocity components u_1 and u_2 , same symbols as those retained in Figure 17.

Figure 24 reports the longitudinal evolution of the enstrophy maximum Ω normalized by $(\Delta U/\delta_{\omega,0})^3$. These two profiles display three distinct regions. Before the interaction of the second reflected shock with the mixing layer, the maximum value of the enstrophy obtained with $\kappa = 0$ seems to be underestimated in comparison to that obtained with $\kappa \neq 0$ while beyond the second interaction, the two values become quite comparable.

Two specific locations that are typical of each region are now considered to study the origin of observable differences in the light of Eq. (8). It has to be noted that the most important contributions to the enstrophy budget are associated to vortex stretching and viscous diffusion. There is an indirect effect of bulk viscosity that tends to promote the stretching term and, as a direct outcome of the increased molecular effects, the viscous diffusion term is also slightly

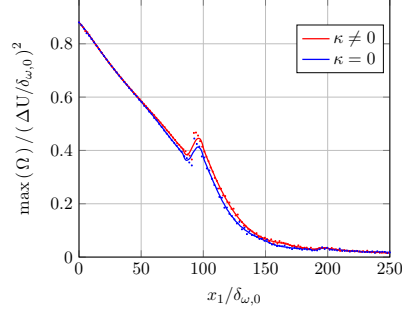


Figure 24: Longitudinal evolution of the normalized enstrophy maxima.

larger when $\kappa \neq 0$. Finally, the baroclinic term is slightly larger in the absence of bulk viscosity, while the dilatation contribution does not seem to be significantly modified by the consideration of bulk viscosity effects.

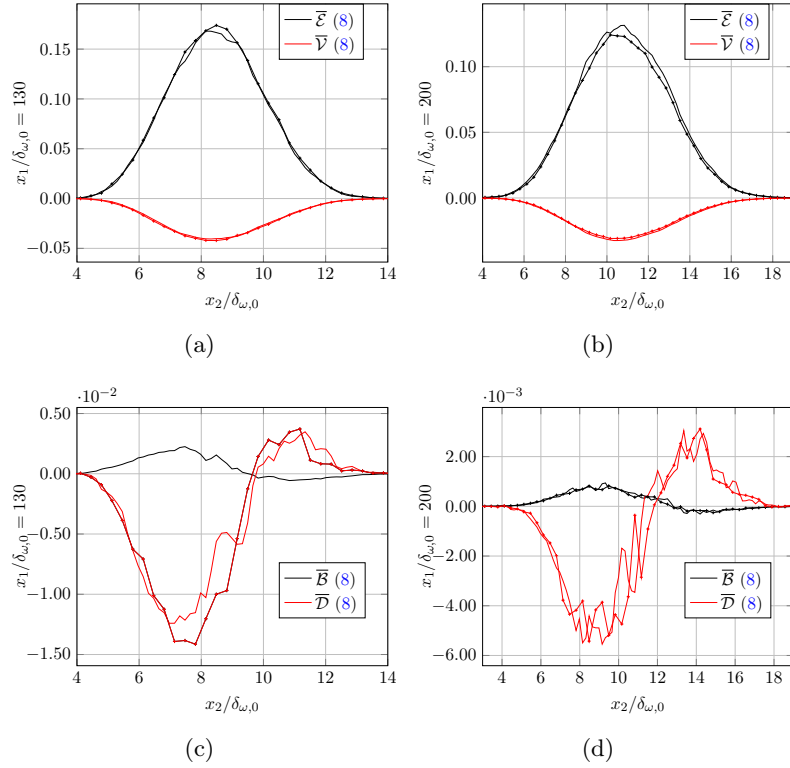


Figure 25: Enstrophy budget normalized by $(\Delta U / \delta_{\omega,0})^3$, same symbols as those retained in Figure 17.

5 Summary and conclusions

In the present manuscript, two- and three-dimensional numerical simulations of spatially-developing compressible mixing layers impacted by an oblique shock wave are conducted for a convective Mach number $M_c = 0.48$. The emphasis is placed on the possible influence of the bulk viscosity on the mixing processes. Thus, a mixture of hydrogen and air is considered

in conditions that are representative of experimental benchmarks relevant to high-speed flow combustion. In a first step of the analysis, two-dimensional computations of inert and reactive mixing layers are computed. A significant impact of the bulk viscosity is observed on the instantaneous flowfields while averaged quantities do not exhibit any remarkable modification. It is also worth noting that the reactive cases only display slight differences with respect to inert cases: this is especially true for the longitudinal evolutions of the vorticity thickness and turbulent kinetic energy. Three-dimensional simulations of inert mixing layers are subsequently conducted. The influence of the bulk viscosity is more visible in these three-dimensional cases: it tends to reduce the mixing layer growth rate compared to the case where it is not taken into account. The comparison is also performed in terms of higher-order statistical moments. This last part of the analysis shows that the bulk viscosity effects tend to amplify the velocity gradients at the boundaries of the mixing layer, and consequently favor the return to equilibrium. From the above synthesis of the obtained results, one may expect that refined large-eddy simulations (LES) may be rather sensitive to the consideration of bulk viscosity, while Reynolds-averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) simulations, which are based on statistical averages, are not. Finally, from the present set of results, it is recommended to take the bulk viscosity effects into account especially when highly-resolved large-eddy simulations (LES) are considered.

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