

# Chapter 24

## Turbulence and heat flux formulations

### 24.1 Test case *pycno*

#### 24.1.1 Theory

This test case is a 1-D problem describing the evolution of a wind-driven surface mixed layer in the absence of rotation. Although simple in form the problem is of considerable oceanographic interest. Moreover it allows to intercompare in a simple way the different turbulence formulations implemented in the program. The initial state consists of a water column at rest with a stable stratification in the vertical using a constant density gradient. A surface stress is applied initially remaining uniform in space and time. A surface mixed layer develops which grows in time. The deepening is governed by the entrainment of denser water at the base of the mixed layer. As will be shown below the process critically depends on some parameters of the turbulence formulation while others are of less importance.

The basic equations in the absence of advection and horizontal diffusion are given by

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu_T \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) \quad (24.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \lambda_T \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} \right) \quad (24.2)$$

where  $z$  is the vertical coordinate (increasing upwards and zero at the surface),  $u$  the current,  $\rho$  the density and  $\nu_T$ ,  $\lambda_T$  the vertical eddy coefficients<sup>1</sup>.

---

<sup>1</sup>The eddy coefficients reduce to their molecular values in the absence of turbulence.

The initial and boundary conditions are given by

$$u = 0, \quad -\frac{g}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} = N_0^2 \quad \text{at } t = 0 \quad (24.3)$$

$$\nu_T \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} = u_{*s}^2, \quad \lambda_T \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial z} = 0 \quad \text{at } z = 0 \quad (24.4)$$

where  $N_0$  is the uniform initial buoyancy frequency and  $\rho_0$  a reference density.

Kundu (1981) explored the possibility to cast the solutions of (24.1) and (24.2) into a self-similar form

$$u(z, t) = \hat{U}(t)F(\xi) \quad (24.5)$$

$$\rho(z, t) = \rho_h(t) + (\hat{\rho}(t) - \rho_h(t))G(\xi) \quad (24.6)$$

where  $\xi = -z/h(t)$ ,  $h(t)$  is the depth of the turbulent layer<sup>2</sup>,  $\rho_h$  the density at the base of the layer and  $\hat{U}$ ,  $\hat{\rho}$  the values of respectively the current and density averaged over the turbulent layer. He showed that (24.5)–(24.6) are acceptable forms provided that the following additional assumptions are made:

- $u = 0$  and  $Ri = -\rho_0(\partial u/\partial z)^2/(g(\partial \rho/\partial z)) = Ri_c$  at  $z = -h$  where  $Ri_c$  is a constant critical Richardson number
- the eddy coefficients can be cast into the form

$$\nu_T = f_\nu(\xi)h^2/t, \quad \lambda_T = f_\lambda(\xi)h^2/t \quad (24.7)$$

The solutions of (24.1)–(24.2) can then be written as

$$u(z, t) = \frac{u_{*s}}{(2\overline{Ri})^{1/4}}F(\xi)(tN_0)^{1/2} \quad (24.8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\rho(z, t) &= \rho(z, t) - \rho(z, 0) \\ &= \frac{\rho_0 N_0^2}{2g}(2 - 2\xi - G(\xi))h(t) \end{aligned} \quad (24.9)$$

and

$$h(t) = (2\overline{Ri})^{1/4}u_{*s}(t/N_0)^{1/2} \quad (24.10)$$

The bulk Richardson number  $\overline{Ri}$  is defined by

$$\overline{Ri} = \frac{N_0^2 h^2(t)}{2\hat{U}^2(t)} = -\frac{F'^2(1)}{G'(1)}Ri_c = \text{constant} \quad (24.11)$$

where a ' denotes a derivative with respect to  $\xi$ . For a more profound theoretical discussion of this idealised mixed layer problem the reader is referred to the papers by e.g. Kundu (1981); Kranenburg (1983); Luyten *et al.* (1996).

<sup>2</sup>This definition of  $h$  should not be confused with the one for the mean water depth.

### 24.1.2 Model setup

Equations (24.1)–(24.4) are solved numerically with the following parameters

$$u_{*s} = 0.01\text{m/s} , N_0 = 0.01\text{s}^{-1} \quad (24.12)$$

for a simulated period of 1 day. The total water depth is set to 100 m which is more than 2 times larger than the simulated mixed layer depths. The density equation (24.2) is transformed into an equivalent salinity equation using a linear equation of state. The initial salinity field is given by

$$S = S_0 - \frac{N_0^2}{g\beta_S}(z + H) \quad (24.13)$$

where  $S_0$  is a reference salinity and  $H$  the water depth.

### 24.1.3 Experiments and output parameters

Seven numerical experiments have been defined by setting a number of turbulence switches. The following schemes are used in the experiments:

- A** : zero-equation  $k - l$  model using the Mellor-Yamada expressions for the stability functions and the “Blackadar” mixing length formulation (4.216)–(4.217)
- B** : one-equation model using the Munk-Anderson formulation (4.199) for the stability functions and the “Blackadar” mixing length (4.216)–(4.217) without limiting conditions
- C** : as scheme **B** now including the limiting conditions (4.225)–(4.226)
- D** : one-equation model using the  $k - \varepsilon$  and Hossain-Rodi formulation for the stability functions, and the parabolic mixing length (4.213) with limiting conditions enabled
- E** : as scheme **D** now using Blackadar’s (4.216)–(4.217) mixing length formulation
- F** : two-equation  $k - l$  model using the Mellor-Yamada formulation for the stability functions and with limiting conditions enabled
- G** : two-equation  $k - \varepsilon$  model using the Hossain-Rodi formulation for the stability functions and with limiting conditions enabled.

Table 24.1: Settings of the turbulence switches for the *pycno* experiments. A “-” means that the value of the switch is irrelevant.

switch	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>
iopt_turb_ntrans	0	1	1	1	1	2	2
iopt_turb_param	1	1	1	2	2	1	2
iopt_turb_stab_form	3	2	2	3	3	3	3
iopt_turb_lmix	4	4	4	1	4	-	-
iopt_turb_stab_mod	1	-	1	4	4	1	4
iopt_turb_iwlim	0	0	1	1	1	1	1

Values of the corresponding turbulence switches are listed in Table 24.1. Note that experiment **E** corresponds to the default scheme of the program (except for the inclusion of limiting conditions). All schemes, except **B** and **C**, yield a critical Richardson number so that the first criterion for self-similarity is satisfied. It can be demonstrated that none of the schemes complies with the second criterion. As shown by Luyten *et al.* (1996) the latter condition is of minor importance.

Time series of the mixed layer depth  $h(t)$ , the surface current  $u(0, t)$  and the surface density difference  $\Delta\rho(0, t)$  are shown in Figures 24.1a–f. The mixed layer depth is determined as the surface distance of the first grid point below the surface where the current is lower than 1% of its surface value. Vertical profiles of the current  $u$ , the density  $\rho$  minus the initial surface value  $\rho(0, 0)$  and the Richardson number at the end of the simulation period are plotted in Figure 24.2.

A number of output parameters are defined. Their intention is primarily to compare the results with the self-similarity theory. Equations (24.8)–(24.11) for the surface current, the surface value of  $\Delta\rho$ ,  $h(t)$  and  $\overline{Ri}$  are then written in the form

$$\ln h = \alpha_h + \beta_h \ln(tN_0) \quad (24.14)$$

$$\ln u(0, t) = \alpha_u + \beta_u \ln(tN_0) \quad (24.15)$$

$$\ln \Delta\rho(0, t) = \alpha_d + \beta_d \ln(tN_0) \quad (24.16)$$

$$\ln \overline{Ri} = \alpha_r + \beta_r \ln(tN_0) \quad (24.17)$$

where, according to the self-similarity theory,

$$\beta_h = \beta_u = \beta_d = 1/2, \quad \beta_r = 0 \quad (24.18)$$

and

$$\alpha_h = \frac{1}{4} \ln(2\overline{Ri}) + \ln\left(\frac{u_{*s}}{N_0}\right) \quad (24.19)$$

The eight coefficients  $(\alpha_h, \alpha_u, \alpha_d, \alpha_r)$ ,  $(\beta_h, \beta_u, \beta_d, \beta_r)$  in (24.14)–(24.17) are determined from the model results by applying a linear regression analysis. To remove the influence of initial conditions and adjustments the analysis is restricted to the last 14 hours. A description of all output parameters is given below.

- rvmean** The value of  $\overline{Ri}$  defined by (24.11) and averaged over the last 14 hours.
- brv** The coefficient  $\beta_r$  in the linear relation (24.17) for  $\overline{Ri}$ .
- corr** The squared correlation coefficient  $r^2$  for the linear relation (24.17). A zero value indicates that  $\overline{Ri}$  is uncorrelated with time.
- rvmean2** The value of  $\overline{Ri}$  as determined from (24.19).
- bh** The coefficient  $\beta_h$  in the linear relation (24.14) for  $h(t)$  (log(m)).
- corr** The squared correlation coefficient  $r^2$  for the linear relation (24.14).
- bu2** The coefficient  $\beta_u$  in the linear relation (24.15) for  $u(0, t)$  (log(m/s)).
- corru2** The squared correlation coefficient  $r^2$  for the linear relation (24.15).
- bdr0** The coefficient  $\beta_d$  in the linear relation (24.16) for  $\Delta\rho(0, t)$  (log(kg/m<sup>3</sup>)).
- corrdr0** The squared correlation coefficient  $r^2$  for the linear relation (24.16).
- vedmax** The maximum value of the eddy viscosity coefficient  $\nu_T$  over the whole water depth (m<sup>2</sup>/s) at the end of the simulation.
- difmax** The maximum value of the eddy diffusion coefficient  $\lambda_T$  over the whole water depth (m<sup>2</sup>/s) at the end of the simulation.
- tkemax** The maximum value of the turbulence energy  $k$  over the whole water depth (J/kg) at the end of the simulation .
- tmdl** The value of  $h$  at the end of the simulation (m).
- usur** The value of the surface velocity at the end of the simulation (m/s).
- drosur** The value of the surface density difference  $\Delta\rho$  at the end of the simulation (kg/m<sup>3</sup>).
- sdev** The relative difference between the depth-averaged salinity and its initial value, defined by

$$\text{sdev} = 10^5 (\overline{S}(t) - \overline{S}(0)) / \overline{S}(0) \quad (24.20)$$

where an overbar denotes a depth-averaged value. Since there are no bottom and surface salinity fluxes, the exact value of **sdev** is zero. A conservative scheme is applied in the model for the vertical diffusion of salinity so that non-zero values are only due to rounding errors. This parameter is therefore useful to test the machine accuracy.

Values for all experiments are given in Table 24.2.

Table 24.2: Output values for the parameters of test case *pycno*.

parameter	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>G</i>
rvmean	0.3318	4.028	1.014	0.6097	0.5974	0.6002	0.4777
brv	0.0592	0.3793	0.0503	0.0357	0.0176	0.0361	-0.0529
corr <sub>v</sub>	0.2223	0.9702	0.3253	0.1602	0.0568	0.2012	0.0036
rvmean <sub>2</sub>	0.2275	0.3559	0.7355	0.4852	0.5341	0.4766	0.4942
bh	0.5147	0.5948	0.5126	0.5089	0.5044	0.5090	0.4987
corr <sub>h</sub>	0.9971	0.9992	0.9987	0.9984	0.9987	0.9987	0.9980
bu <sub>2</sub>	0.5019	0.3515	0.4106	0.4294	0.4267	0.4159	0.4214
corr <sub>u</sub> <sub>2</sub>	0.9999	0.9997	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.9999
bdro	0.4897	0.5653	0.5356	0.5254	0.5303	0.5329	0.5374
corr <sub>dro</sub>	0.9999	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
ved <sub>max</sub>	10.19	1.247	1.187	1.890	1.252	1.506	1.350
dif <sub>max</sub>	12.79	1.422	1.385	2.587	1.825	2.166	1.663
tk <sub>max</sub>	226.2	3.254	3.254	3.036	3.036	3.036	4.362
t <sub>ml</sub> <sub>d</sub>	26.75	51.25	35.25	30.75	30.75	30.75	29.25
us <sub>ur</sub>	0.6497	0.4002	0.4377	0.4415	0.4634	0.4518	0.4789
dros <sub>ur</sub>	0.0987	0.1530	0.1418	0.1348	0.1333	0.1340	0.1244
s <sub>dev</sub>	-2.337	-4.297	-13.01	-0.1192	-0.0596	-0.0954	-0.9775

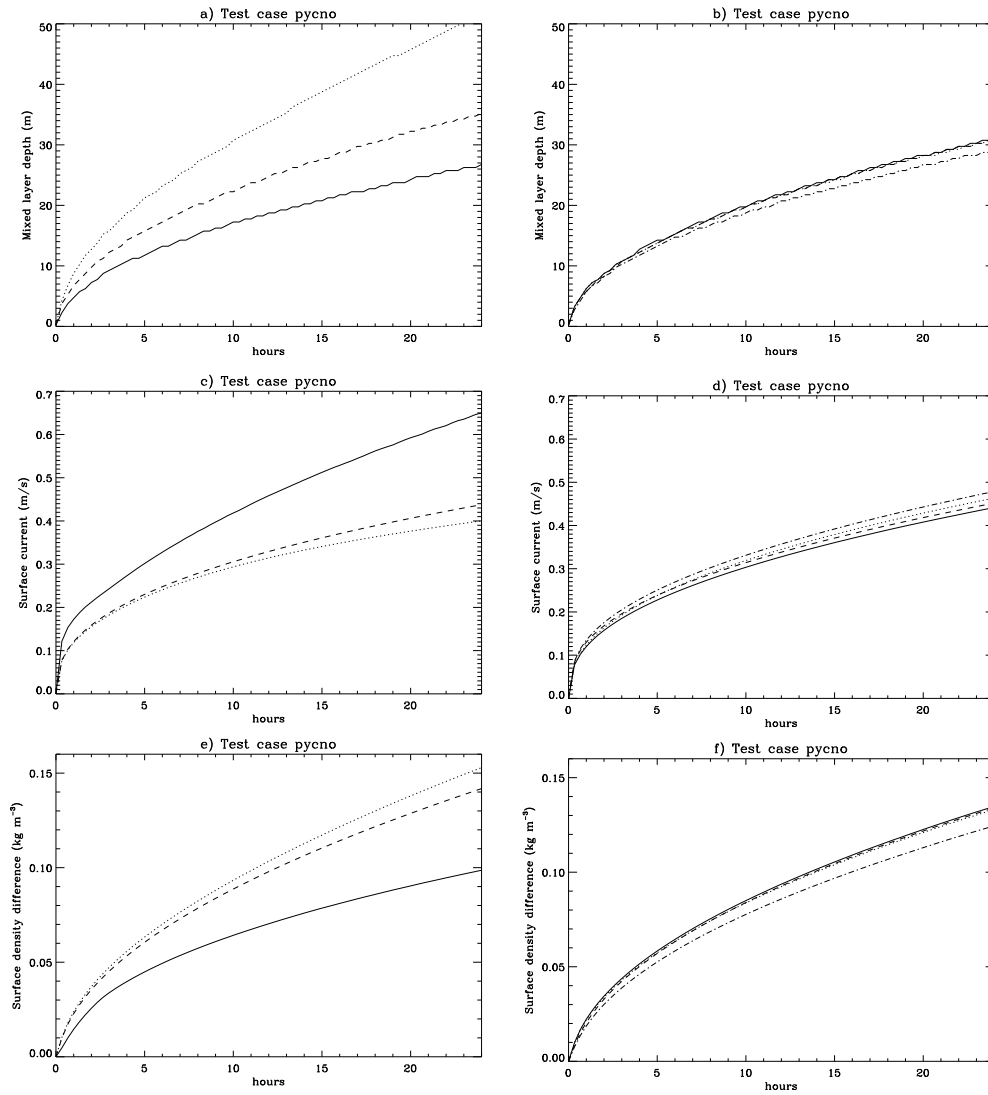


Figure 24.1: Test case *pycno*. Time series of the mixed layer depth (a–b), the surface current (c–d) and the surface density difference  $\Delta\rho(0,t)$  (e–f). Test runs **A**, **B**, **C**, are represented in Figures a, c, e by the solid, dotted and dashed curves respectively. Test runs **D**, **E**, **F**, **G** are shown in Figures b, d, f by the solid, dotted, dashed and dash-dotted curves respectively.

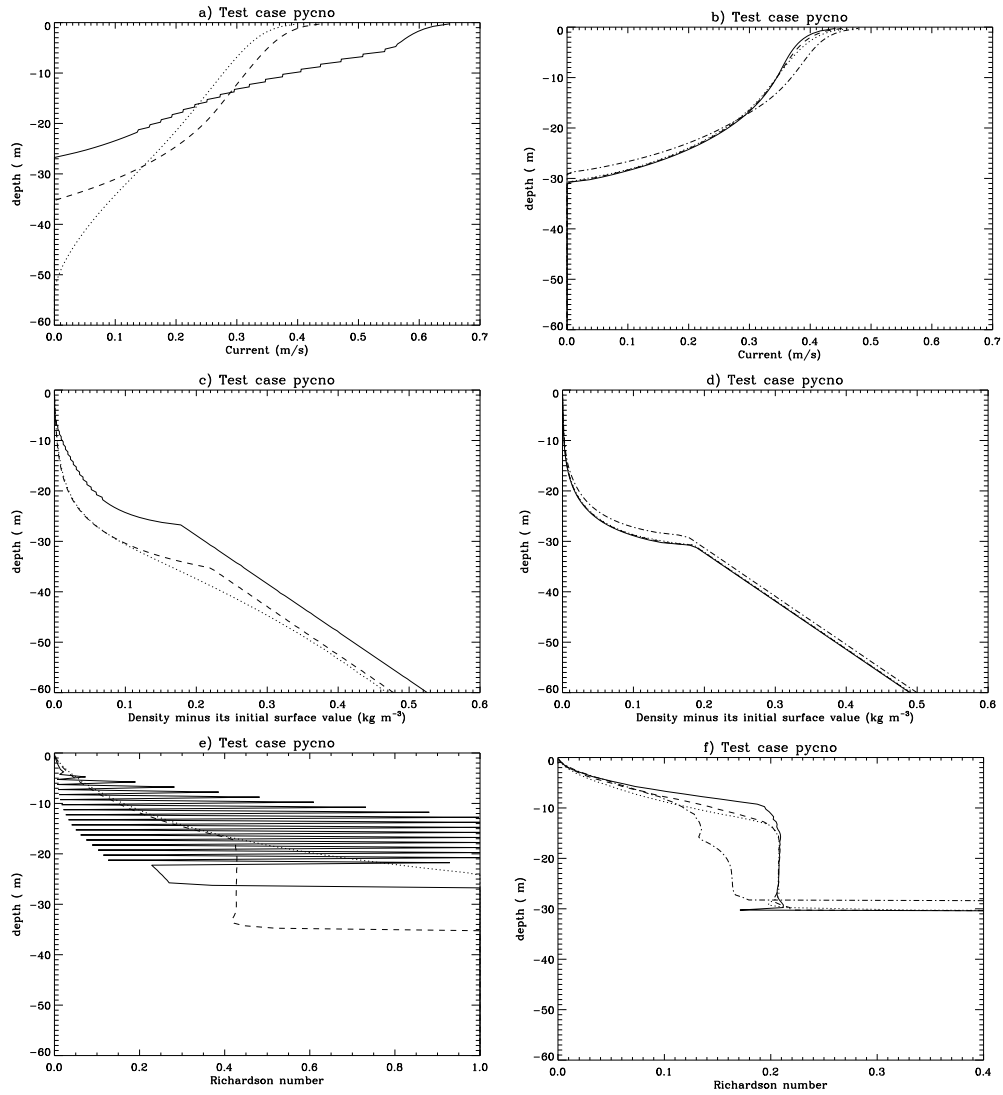


Figure 24.2: Test case *pycno*. Vertical profiles of the current (a–b), the density minus its initial surface value,  $\rho(z, t) - \rho(0, 0)$  (c–d) and the Richardson number (e–f) after one day. Experiments **A**, **B**, **C** are represented in (a), (c), (e) by the solid, dotted and dashed-dotted curves respectively. Experiments **D**, **E**, **F**, **G** are shown in (b), (d), (f) by the solid, dotted, dashed and dash-dotted curves respectively.



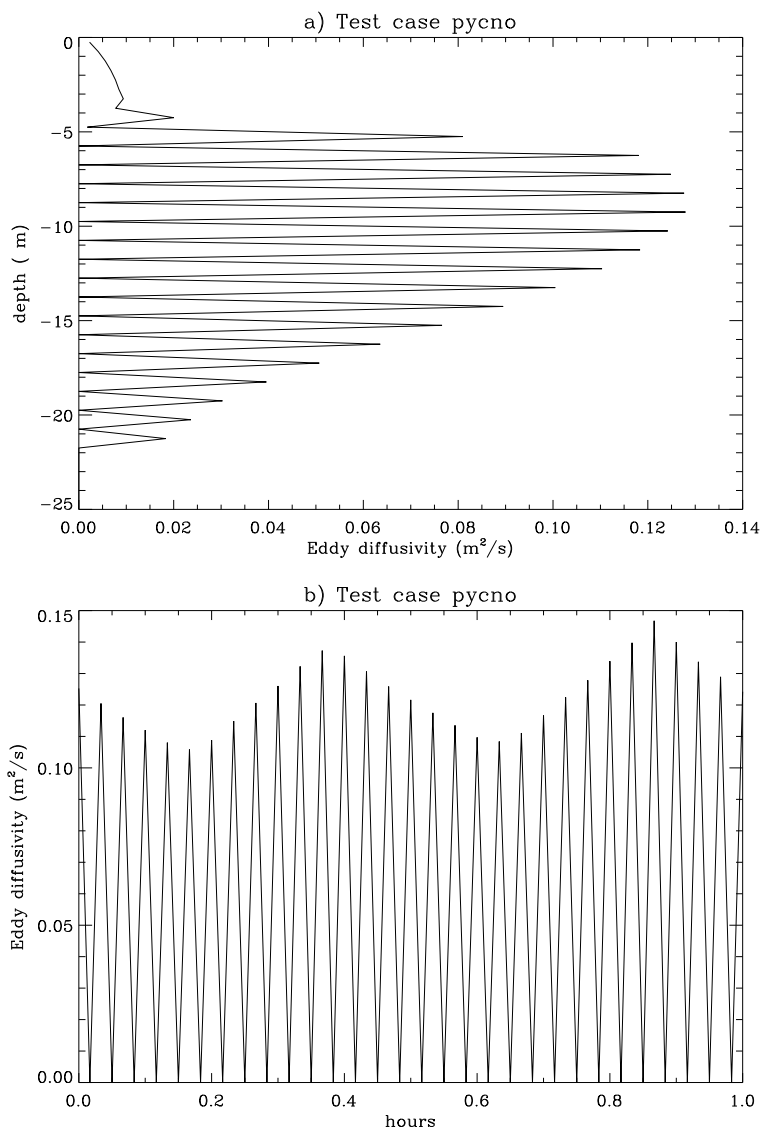


Figure 24.3: Test case *pycno*. Vertical profile of the vertical diffusion coefficient  $\lambda_T$  after one day (a) and time series of  $\lambda_T$  at 10 m depth during the last hour of the simulation (b) for experiment **A**.

### 24.1.4 Results

The results can be summarised as follows:

- The time-averaged bulk Richardson number  $\overline{Ri}$  (parameter `rvmean`) is much higher for the schemes **B** and **C** which use the Munk-Anderson formulation for the stability functions compared to the other schemes using a RANS model.
- The general time dependence of  $\overline{Ri}$  (not shown) consists of an oscillation around a mean value which increases in time. The amplitude of the oscillations and the growth rate of the mean value of  $\overline{Ri}$  remain small in all cases except **B**. This explains why `brv` is larger for **B** compared to the other experiments.
- The parameter `rvmean2` is mostly lower than `rvmean`. The former is obtained from the linear regression analysis and (24.19) whereas the latter is evaluated using its definition (24.11). The difference is larger for the schemes **A–C** indicating that the self-similarity hypothesis is less valid for this type of schemes. The laboratory data of Kato & Phillips (1969) calibrated by Price (1979) yield a value of  $\overline{Ri}$  close to 0.6 which agrees more with the values predicted by the RANS schemes **D**, **E**, **F**, **G** than the ones obtained from the Munk-Anderson formulations **B**, **C**.
- The parameters  $\beta_h$  and  $\beta_d$  are close to 0.5 in agreement with the value predicted by the self-similarity theory whereas  $\beta_u \simeq 0.4$  (except for case **A**) which is lower than the theoretical value of 0.5.
- For larger values of  $\overline{Ri}$  (parameter `rvmean`) the surface current tends to decrease whereas the surface density and the mixed layer depth tend to increase in agreement with equations (24.8)–(24.10).
- The schemes **D** to **G** produce larger shears near the surface and much shallower mixed layer depths compared to the **B** and **C** schemes. Note the remarked difference between the zero-equation and two-equation models **A** and **F** which are physically nearly the same. The discrepancy is most clearly observed in the profiles of the current (Figures 24.2a–b) and the density (Figures 24.2c–d).
- From Figures 24.2e–f one observes that the Richardson number approaches its critical value in the stratified zone just below the surface mixed layer (except in the runs **A** and **B**). Note that  $Ri \simeq Ri_c$  at the base of the turbulent layer for the schemes **C–G** which use a limiting

condition (`iopt_turb_iwlim=1`). The highly oscillating curve for run **A** is due to a numerical instability (see below).

- It is clear that the results obtained with the zero-equation model **A** should not be considered as realistic. This type of schemes becomes numerically unstable either when the time step  $\Delta t$  is too large or the vertical grid spacing  $\Delta z$  is too small. The problem is illustrated in Figures 24.3 showing the vertical profile of  $\lambda_T$  at the end of the simulation and a time series of  $\lambda_T$  for the last hour of the run at 10 m depth. An unrealistic “jittering” is observed oscillating over 2 vertical grid spacings. The problem can be remedied by increasing the vertical resolution. A more elaborate discussion can be found in Frey (1991); Luyten *et al.* (1996). Since there exists no clear criterion for the stability of the level 2 schemes, it is recommended to avoid the zero-equation scheme in a realistic model application.

## 24.2 Test case *csnsp*

### 24.2.1 Description of the problem and model setup

The intention of the previous test case is to verify the different turbulence schemes implemented in the program against analytical solutions. The setup of these applications is however far from the realistic conditions prevailing in coastal and shelf seas. A more realistic study should take account of the effects of e.g. wind, tides and seasonal stratification. Test case *csnsp* has been constructed for this purpose. This simulates the annual cycle of thermal stratification at station CS (55° 30'N, 0° 55'E) located in the deeper parts of the North Sea where a thermocline forms during the summer. The model is forced using realistic meteorological and tidal data. To limit CPU time the simulation is performed with the 1-D (water column) version of the program so that advective effects are ignored. The results can be validated with the observed data sets of the UK North Sea Project (Charnock *et al.*, 1994). This test case allows to compare the influence of different formulations available in the program (turbulence, boundary conditions, optics, equation of state).

Using the notations of Section 24.1.1 the basic equations in Cartesian coordinates  $(x, y, z)$  are:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - fv = -g \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu_T \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} \right) \quad (24.21)$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + fu = -g \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \nu_T \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) \quad (24.22)$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\rho_0 c_p} \frac{\partial I}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( \lambda_T \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \right) \quad (24.23)$$

where  $f = 2\Omega \sin \phi$  is the Coriolis frequency,  $\phi$  the latitude,  $\zeta$  the surface elevation,  $T$  the temperature,  $c_p$  the specific heat of seawater at constant pressure and  $I(z, t)$  solar irradiance. Neglecting the baroclinic component of the pressure gradient the surface slope terms are written as

$$g \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x} = F \cos(\omega_2 t - \varphi_x), \quad g \frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial y} = G \cos(\omega_2 t - \varphi_y) \quad (24.24)$$

where  $\omega_2$  is the frequency of the dominant  $M_2$ -tide and  $F, G$  the specified amplitudes of the surface slope term.

The boundary conditions are

$$\rho_0 \nu_T \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) = (\tau_{s1}, \tau_{s2}), \quad \rho_0 c_p \lambda_T \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} = -Q_{nsol} \quad (24.25)$$

at the surface, and

$$\rho_0 \nu_T \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial z}, \frac{\partial v}{\partial z} \right) = \rho_0 C_{db} (u_b^2 + v_b^2)^{1/2} (u_b, v_b), \quad \rho_0 c_p \lambda_T \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} = 0 \quad (24.26)$$

at the bottom where  $(u_b, v_b)$  are the velocities at the grid point nearest to the bottom. Different formulations are used for the surface stress and non-solar heat flux  $Q_{nsol}$  (see below). The bottom drag coefficient  $C_{db}$  is expressed as a function of the roughness length  $z_0$ . The solar irradiance in the temperature equation is decomposed into a near-infrared part absorbed in a shallow surface layer, and a non-infrared part which attenuates exponentially within a larger surface layer.

The simulation is performed from the beginning of January until the end of October 1989. As initial temperature the observed vertical profile from the North Sea Project is taken. The meteorological data are obtained from the UK Met Office.

## 24.2.2 Experiments and output parameters

Nine experiments are defined. The first four (**A**, **B**, **C**, **D**) are intended to examine the role of the turbulence scheme, the next four (**E**, **F**, **G**, **H**) analyse the influence of different heat flux parameterisations at the surface. Light attenuation is disabled in the last experiment **I**. The general equation of state (4.103)–(4.107) is used in all experiments (`iopt_dens=2`). Unless stated otherwise all experiments use the setup of reference experiment **A**.

Table 24.3: Settings of the model switches for the *csnsp* experiments. A “-” means that the value of the switch is irrelevant.

switch	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>I</b>
iopt_vdif_coef	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
iopt_turb_alg	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
iopt_turb_stab_form	3	3	2	-	3	3	3	3	3
iopt_turb_iwlim	1	0	0	-	1	1	1	1	1
iopt_temp_optic	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
iopt_sflux_cds	6	6	6	6	4	6	5	0	6
iopt_sflux_cehs	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	0
iopt_sflux_strat	2	2	2	2	1	0	2	0	2

**A** : Uses the Charnock formulation (4.291) for  $C_{ds}$  including Monin-Obukhov stratification (Section 4.8.3). The default turbulence scheme (one equation,  $k - \varepsilon$ , Blackadar mixing length, Hossain-Rodi RANS model) is taken with limiting condition enabled.

**B** : The limiting conditions for the mixing length and turbulence energy are disabled.

**C** : The formulation (4.199) by Munk-Anderson instead of the RANS formulation (Section 4.4.3.3) is taken for the stability functions and limiting conditions are disabled.

**D** : The turbulence scheme is replaced by the simpler empirical relations (4.136)–(4.140) of Munk and Anderson.

**E** : The surface exchange coefficients  $C_E$  and  $C_H$  are calculated using the Kondo (1975) formulation (see Section 4.8.2).

**F** : The surface drag coefficient  $C_{ds}$  is determined from the Charnock (1955) relation (4.291).  $C_E$  and  $C_H$  are taken as constants.

**G** : The formulation by Wu (1980) is used with effects of stratification.

**H** : Both surface and heat exchange coefficients are taken as constants.

**I** : The optical mode is disabled, all solar radiation is assumed to be absorbed at the surface.

The values of the model switches, used for setting up each experiment are given in Table 24.3.

The following output parameters are defined:

<code>tsur</code>	Surface temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) measured one-half grid distance below the surface.
<code>tbot</code>	Bottom temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) measured one-half grid distance above the bottom.
<code>tmean</code>	Depth-averaged temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).
<code>tdep</code>	The thermocline depth (m) measured as the distance to the surface where the temperature is $1^{\circ}\text{C}$ higher than the bottom temperature.
<code>tgrad</code>	Maximum value of the vertical temperature gradient ( $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{m}$ ).
<code>twidth</code>	This parameter measures the sharpness of the thermocline and is defined as the vertical distance (m) between the two points where the temperature is equal to respectively $8.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $12^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

### 24.2.3 Results

**turbulence schemes** Time series of surface and bottom temperature, and mixed layer depth for experiments **A**, **B**, **C**, **D** are compared in Figures 24.4a, 24.5a. Vertical profiles on August 4 are shown in Figure 24.6a.

- Surface, bottom and mean temperature are not much different between experiments **A** and **B**. The schemes are almost identical except that the former uses a background mixing scheme based on limiting conditions for turbulence parameters (see Section 4.4.3.6) which results in a deeper thermocline and a less sharper temperature gradient in the thermocline.
- Comparing schemes **A**, **C** and **D** it is observed that the first (last two) produce(s) larger (lower) surface temperatures, lower (larger) bottom temperature and larger (lower) temperature gradients in the thermocline. This shows that **A** is the least diffusive scheme. This can be explained by the absence of a critical Richardson number for the turbulence schemes used in **C** and **D**.
- The more diffusive scheme **D** produces an almost vertically mixed water column at the end of October whereas a significant surface-bottom temperature difference remains in the latter experiments. This is clearly observed in Figure 24.4a.
- Less differences are observed for the depth-mean temperature, although there seems to be a tendency for a higher mean temperature in case of tests **C**, **D** compared to **A**.
- An additional difference between schemes **A**, **B** and **C**, **D** is that the mixed layer increases smoothly for the former cases whereas

an abrupt increase in mixed layer depth occurs for the latter cases each time the surface temperature drops after a wind event during summer.

**drag and exchange coefficients** Time series of surface and bottom temperature, mixed layer depth, (upward) non-solar surface heat flux and the exchange coefficient  $C_E$  for experiments *H*, *A*, *E*, *F*, *G* are compared in Figures 24.4b, 24.5b and 24.7a–b. Vertical profiles on August 4 are shown in Figure 24.6b.

- The differences between the five experiments are most easily seen in the time series of the surface exchange coefficient. Compared to the reference case *H* with constant values and the formulation *F*, which does not include a dependence on air-sea temperature difference, the  $C_E$  coefficient increases by 50% in experiments *A*, *G* and even by 100% (and occasionally 400%) in test *E*.
- Contrary to what one may expect intuitively, the differences are inversely correlated with the behaviour seen in the evolution of the heat fluxes. For example, experiment *G* which shows the lowest time variability for  $C_E$ , produces the largest maxima and lowest minima for the heat fluxes. This is explained by a kind of relaxation effect. When  $C_E$  increases, the heat flux will first increase as well, so that the air-sea temperature difference is reduced. This occurs quite rapidly and is not seen in the figures showing 3-day averaged values. Once the difference is reduced the heat flux relaxes towards a lower value and  $C_E$  rapidly decreases again. If the initial increase of  $C_E$  is lower, the time of relaxation becomes longer. This behaviour can be deduced by a close inspection of Figures 24.7.
- Despite the relaxation mechanism, the use of a stratification dependent scheme for the exchange coefficients has an important impact on the evolution of surface temperature in summer by decreasing its value by 2°C.
- Since all schemes use the same turbulence formulation, the impact on diffusion, thermocline depth and stratification is less.

**light attenuation** When all solar light is absorbed at the surface itself and no longer within the water column, a strong stratification is produced in a shallow surface layer during periods of strong solar heating and low winds. The result is a damping of turbulence and less downward diffusion, yielding significantly larger surface temperatures (upto 5°C)

and shallower thermocline as seen in Figures 24.4 and 24.5. The effect on surface temperature is only temporary since the extra surface stratification is removed once the wind increases again.

Results of 1-D numerical simulations at station CS are discussed in Luyten (1996); Warrach (1998).



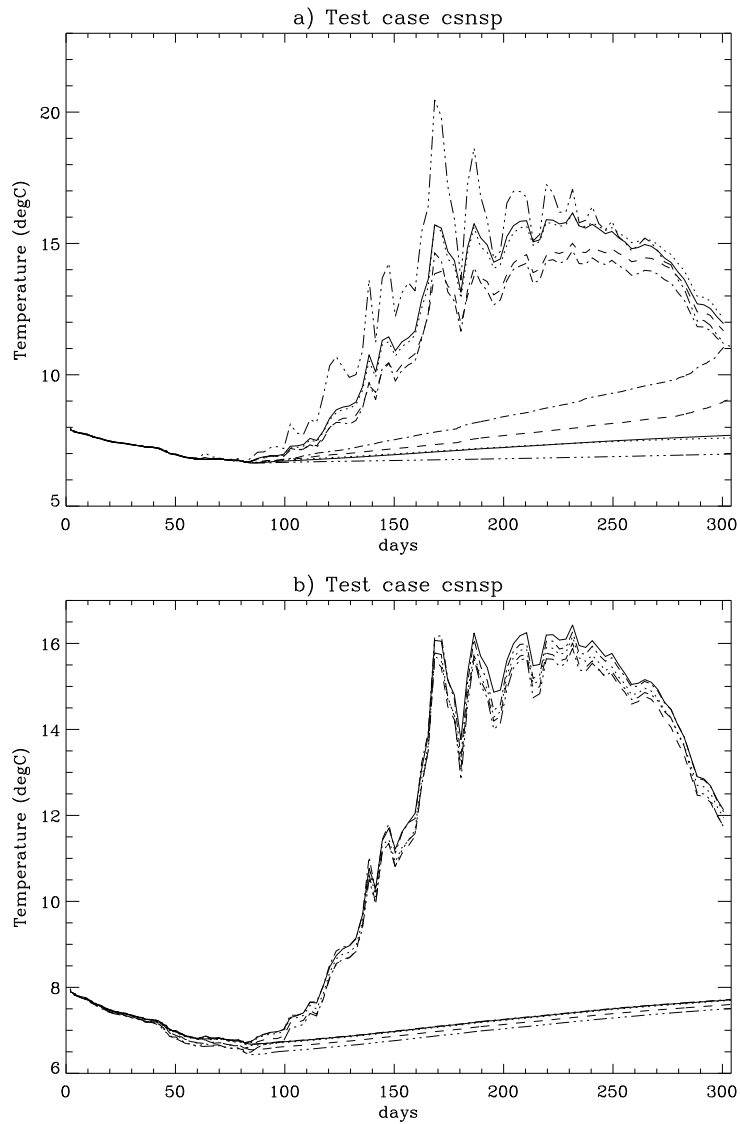


Figure 24.4: Test case *csnsp*. Time series (3-days average) of surface and bottom temperatures: (a) experiment **A** (solid), **B** (dots), **C** (dashes), **D** (dash-dots), **I** (dash and 3 dots); (b) experiment **H** (solid), **A** (dots), **E** (dashes), **F** (dash-dots), **G** (dash and 3 dots).

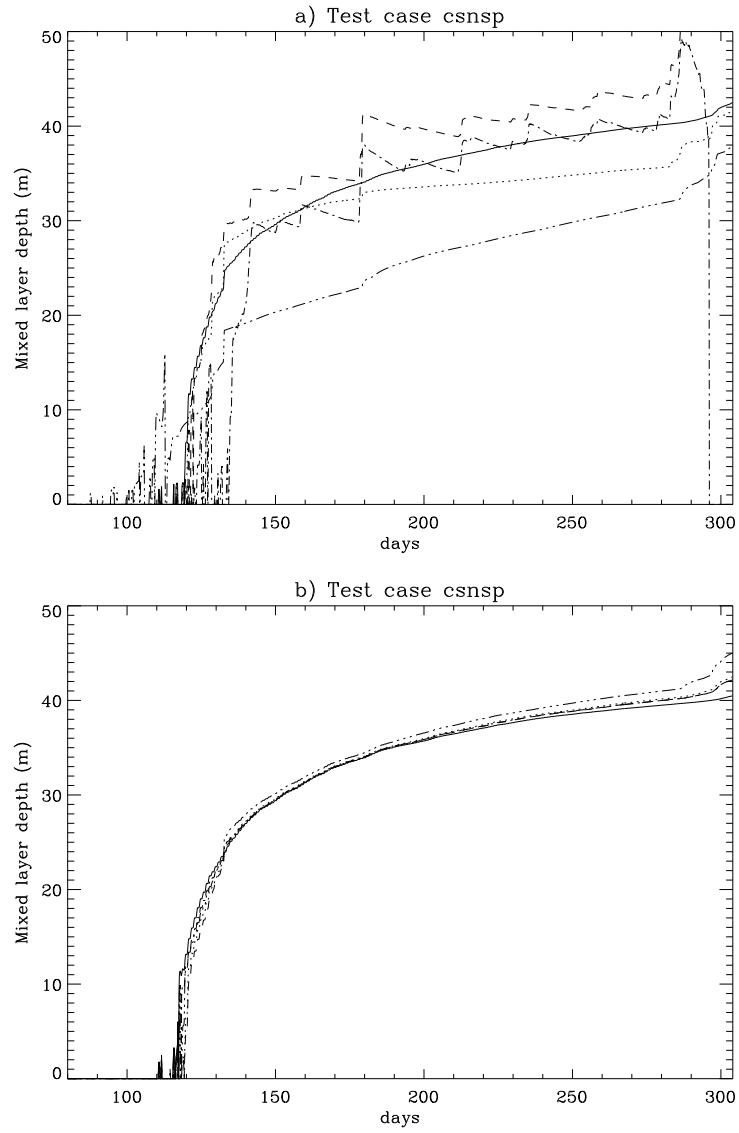


Figure 24.5: Test case *csnsp*. Time series (3-days average) of mixed layer depth. Legend is as in Figure 24.4.

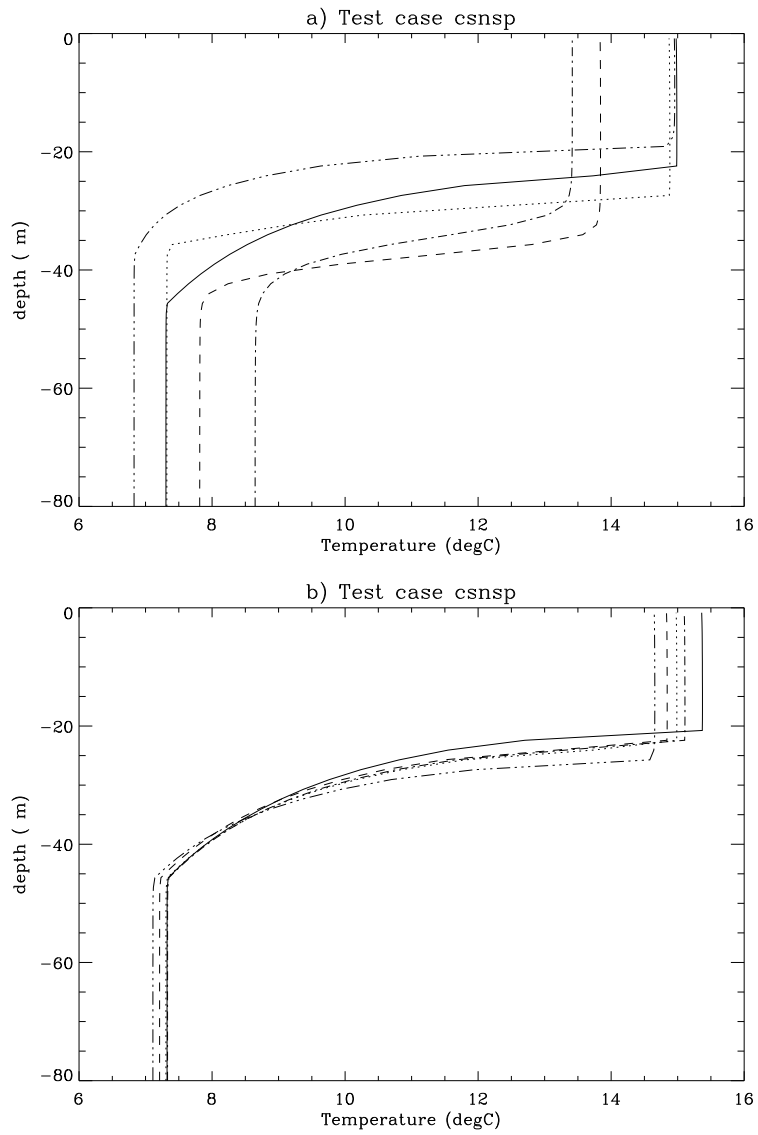


Figure 24.6: Test case *csnsp*. Temperature profile on August 4. Legend is as in Figure 24.4.

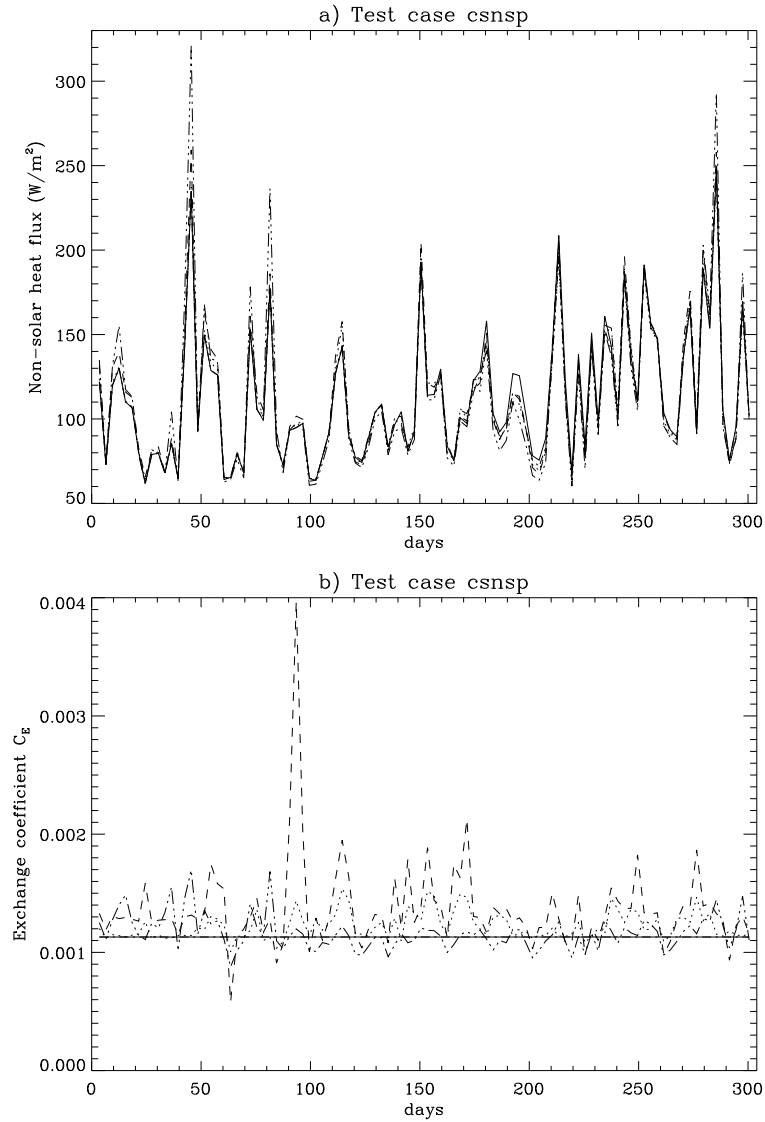


Figure 24.7: Test case *csnsp*. Time series (3-days average) of (upward) non-solar heat flux (a) and surface exchange coefficient  $C_E$  (b) for experiment **H** (solid), **A** (dots), **E** (dashes), **F** (dash-dots), **G** (dash and 3 dots).