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SEEDING REQUIREMENTS FOR SCANNING LASER VELOCIMETRY *

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ABSTRACT

To measure the velocity distributions within time dependent turbulent flow fields, a continuously scanning laser velocimeter system is being developed at SNLL. A prototype of this system has produced results which show that spatial and temporal variations in particle seed distribution seriously compromise the overall performance and operation of this device. To alleviate some of these problems, alternate flow seeding concepts have been explored. The most promising appear to be those that actively induce laser "sparks" within the gas flow, the velocity of which may be measured by a Fourier transformed velocimetry system.

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OUTLINE:

1. Scanning Laser Velocimeter Configurations

Conventional Dual-Beam, three component
Multibeam - Fourier Transformed

2. Seeding Concepts Investigated

Passive: Conventional Pre-Mixed Systems
Active: In Situ Particle Seeding
In Situ Laser Induced Seeding

3. Data Processing Implications

1. Scanning Laser Velocimeter Configurations

a) Conventional Dual-Beam Systems

Longitudinal Scanning
Transverse - Focal Plane Scanning

b) Multibeam - Fourier Transformed Systems

Real Fringe
Virtual Fringe

c) Data Processing Systems

Single processor
Multi-processor with virtual addressing

a) Conventional Dual-Beam Velocimeter Systems

Longitudinal Scanning

Zoom lenses, moving stages

Transverse Scanning - Focal Plane

Rotating Planar Mirrors

Advantages:

Commercial equipment is available

Large experience base for optics & processing

Disadvantages:

Requires separate laser line for each component

Small depth of modulation within the fringe pattern

Unsatisfactory three component performance so far!

b) Multibeam - Fourier Transformed Velocimeters

Longitudinal Scanning - Optical Axis

Zoom lenses, stages

Transverse Scanning - Focal Plane

Rotating Planar Mirrors

Advantages:

Deep Fraunhofer Modulation - high Signal/Noise ratio

Only ONE laser beam need be used for 3 components

Disadvantages:

Integrated commercial equipment is NOT available

Low absolute signal strength with current systems

Requires ELABORATE computer systems development

2. LV Seeding Concepts Investigated

Passive: Conventional Pre-mixed Seeding

Particle/Aerosol Production Techniques
Spatial & Temporal Dispersion

Active: In Situ Particle Seeding

Condensed & Solid Phase Particles
Chemically Formed Particles - TiO₂

Active: Laser Induced Phenomena

Multiphoton Absorption
Breakdown - Laser Sparks



Passive: Conventional Pre-mixed LV Seeding

Atomizers - liquid droplets - polydispersed:	0.5-2 microns
Berglund-Liu Aerosol Generator - monodispersed:	1-40 microns
Pre-formed Particle Dispersers - monodispersed:	1-10 microns

Advantages:

Good results obtained in homogeneously seeded flows
Integrated commercial equipment is available
Large experience base exists

Disadvantages:

Difficult to achieve uniform concentrations in space & time
Low absolute data rates due to the stochastic nature
Performance of scanning LV systems is seriously compromised

Active: In Situ Particle LV Seeding

Condensed liquid droplets formed from vapor/gas mixtures
Supercooled solid crystals formed from vapor/aerosol/gas mixes
Solid products from in situ vapor phase chemical reactions

Advantages:

High local particle concentrations within interaction zones
Seed high speed accelerating flows without acoustic dispersion
Seed fine scale flows, e.g. porous membranes and surfaces

Disadvantages:

Integrated commercial equipment is NOT available
Polydispersed, inhomogeneous in space & time - poor LV data
Difficult to characterize size & concentration of particles

Active: Laser Induced Seeding Phenomena

Multiphoton Absorption:

Pre-ionization condition, avalanche absorption
No emission, but scattering crosssection enhanced

Breakdown - Laser Sparks:

For air High E field > $6E7$ V/cm
at 1 atm.: High power density > $1E5$ MW/cm²
Laser: 900 mJ at 694.3 nm focused on spot 200 um dia.
Peak Power = 30MW, pulse duration = 30 ns, spark = 50us
Copper Vapor Lasers at 5kHz repetition rate

Advantages: Definitive scattering at high rates, with potential for
molecular spectroscopy to determine density & temperture

Disadvantages: Additional excitation laser needed, with high power
density optics required and constained velocity range

SUMMARY:

Passive Seeding Techniques

Conventional particle/aerosol seeding may be of limited value in any high rate scanning 3 component application

Active Seeding Techniques

Laser induced phenomena may be used to provide definitive scattering zones for LV and molecular spectroscopy

Conclusion:

For high rate 3 dimensional scanning LV active seeding techniques should be used to produce uniform scattering zones in space and time.