Effects of shock strength on shock turbulence interaction

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Direct numerical simulation (DNS) and linear analysis (LIA) of isotropic turbulence interacting with a shock wave are performed for several upstream shock normal Mach numbers ($M_1$). Turbulence kinetic energy (TKE) is amplified across the shock wave, but this amplification tends to saturate beyond $M_1 = 3.0$. TKE amplification and Reynolds stress anisotropy obtained in DNS are consistent with LIA predictions. Rapid evolution of TKE immediate downstream of the shock wave persists for all shock strengths and is attributed to the transfer between kinetic and potential modes of turbulence energy through acoustic fluctuations. Changes in energy spectra and various length scales across the shock wave are predicted by LIA, which is consistent with DNS results. Most turbulence length scales decrease across the shock. Dissipation length scale ($\bar{p}\bar{q}/\epsilon$), however, increases slightly for shock waves with $M_1 < 1.65$. Fluctuations in thermodynamic variables behind the shock wave stay nearly isentropic for $M_1 < 1.2$ and deviate significantly from isentropy for the stronger shock waves due to large entropy fluctuation generated through the interaction.

1. Motivation and objective

The presence of shock waves is an important feature that distinguishes high-speed supersonic flows. Understanding the mechanisms of turbulence interacting with a shock wave is not only of generic interest, but also of fundamental importance in predicting the interactions of turbulent boundary layers with the shock waves which occur in many engineering applications. Since the 1950’s, linear analyses (LIA) on the modification of elementary disturbance waves, such as vortical, acoustic, and entropic waves, by the shock wave have been performed with an emphasis on the acoustic wave generation behind the shock wave (Ribner 1953, 1954, 1968, Moore 1953, Kerrebrock 1956, Chang 1957, McKenzie and Westphal 1968). Recently, the applicability of homogeneous Rapid Distortion Theory (RDT) on shock/turbulence interaction was investigated by Jacquin et al. (1993).

There has been a significant accumulation of experimental data on the shock turbulence interaction during the last decade. Interaction of turbulent boundary layers with a shock wave over a corner was investigated by many research groups, among them are Dolling and Or (1985), Andreopoulos and Muck (1987), Smits and Muck (1987). A general finding from these experiments is that Reynolds shear stress and turbulence intensities are amplified across the shock wave. The studies of oblique shock wave/turbulent boundary layer interaction included several additional phenomena which complicated the flow behavior (Honkan and Andreopoulos 1992). To isolate the effects of a shock wave on turbulence, several experiments (Debieve and
Lacharme 1986, Keller and Merzkirch 1990, Jacquin et al. 1991, Honkan et al. 1992) on the interaction between the shock wave and grid-generated turbulence have been performed. They found that turbulence is amplified and turbulence length scales increase across the shock wave. But the length scale increase contradicts the intuitive expectation that mean flow compression should decrease the relevant turbulence length scales. The issue of length scale change will be thoroughly discussed in the present paper (Sec. 2.2).

Numerical simulations of the shock turbulence interaction are just beginning to emerge. Using a shock capturing numerical technique, Rotman (1991) calculated the change in a two dimensional turbulent flow caused by the passage of the traveling shock wave. He found that the shock causes an increase in the turbulent kinetic energy and that the length scale of the turbulent field is reduced upon passage of the shock. Lee et al. (1991a, 1992) conducted direct numerical simulations of two and three dimensional turbulence interacting with a shock wave. They found that vorticity amplification compared well with the linear analysis predictions, and turbulent kinetic energy undergoes rapid increase behind the shock wave. The spectrum was found to be enhanced more at large wave numbers, leading to an overall length scale decrease.

In the present report, interaction of isotropic turbulence with a strong shock wave is studied to investigate the effects of shock strength on turbulence modification. A numerical technique to simulate turbulence interacting with a strong shock wave without resolving its structure was developed, and it validated this technique against the shock-resolving simulations (Lee 1993). The simulation results are compared with the results from a linear analysis, and they are contrasted against the results from the weak shock case to show the shock strength effects.

2. Accomplishments

The parameters of the simulation are the mean Mach number ($M_1$), the fluctuation Mach number ($M_t$), and the turbulence Reynolds number based on the Taylor microscale ($Re_\lambda$) upstream of the shock wave. In the simulation, all of the turbulence scales are fully resolved, while the effect of the shock wave on turbulence is captured (rather than fully resolved). Two new simulations are conducted for the interaction with strong shock waves $M_1 = 2.0, 3.0$), and the results from shock-resolving simulations (Lee et al. 1993) for the interaction with a weak shock wave ($M_1 = 1.05, 1.1, 1.2$) are quoted to investigate the effects of the shock normal Mach number. Table 1 lists the simulation parameters, where the values of $M_t$ and $Re_\lambda$ are taken at the location immediately upstream of the shock.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>$M_1$</th>
<th>$M_t$</th>
<th>$Re_\lambda$</th>
<th>$k_o$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.108</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.110</td>
<td>19.7</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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2. Turbulence velocity fluctuation

Interaction of turbulence with a shock wave generates acoustic waves downstream of the shock, part of which undergo rapid decay (Ribner 1953). LIA predicts that turbulent kinetic energy is amplified across the shock wave and the decaying acoustic waves contribute significantly to the streamwise fluctuations just behind the shock wave.

Figure 1(A) shows the evolution of the diagonal components of the Reynolds stress tensor, $R_{ij} = \overline{u_i''u_j''}$. The off-diagonal components stay close to zero over the entire flow field since turbulence is isotropic upstream and axisymmetric downstream of the shock. The streamwise component in the shock region contains the intermittency effects due to the oscillations of the shock. For more details of the intermittency effects on turbulence statistics, see Lee et al. (1992). The boundaries of the shock oscillations are defined as the locations where mean dilatation $\dd u_1/\dd x_1 = 0$; $\dd u_1/\dd x_1$ is negative inside the shock wave and slightly positive away from the shock due to viscous heating. All the velocity fluctuations are enhanced during the interaction. The velocity fluctuations are axisymmetric behind the shock, and their return to isotropy is negligible compared to the decay. Away from the shock wave, all the velocity fluctuations decay monotonically due to the viscous dissipation.

Mach number dependence of the far-field velocity fluctuation amplification predicted by LIA is shown in Figure 1(B). All components of the velocity fluctuation are amplified across the shock wave, and the amplification of TKE tends to saturate beyond $M_1 = 3.0$. The shock normal component is amplified more for shock waves with $M_1 < 2.0$ while the opposite is true for $M_1 > 2.0$. In DNS, however, the streamwise velocity fluctuation away from the shock is larger than the transverse velocity fluctuations, which apparently contradicts with the LIA prediction. Viscous
FIGURE 1(B). Amplification of velocity fluctuation variances across the shock wave predicted by LIA at far away from the shock. $u_1''$, $u_2''$, $u_3''$.

FIGURE 1(C). Evolution of velocity fluctuation variances behind the shock wave predicted by LIA ($M_1 = 2.0$). $u_1''$, $u_2''$, $u_3''$.

TKE dissipation rate behind the shock for the transverse components are found to be significantly higher than the streamwise component. Therefore, comparing low Reynolds number DNS results directly with the inviscid linear analysis is not fair. After the viscous decay is compensated for by extrapolating the curves to the shock location, the trend of amplification from the DNS is found to be consistent with the LIA prediction.
The rapid evolution of velocity fluctuations which was observed for weak shock turbulence interaction (Lee et al. 1993) persists in the present simulations of strong shock turbulence interaction. In order to understand the downstream evolution of the velocity fluctuations, the budget of the Reynolds stress transport equation downstream of the shock wave is investigated. All terms in the transport equation can be accurately evaluated, since all the flow variables are fully resolved both in time and space outside the shock wave. As for weak shock case, the pressure transport term \((-p'u''_1,1)\) in the inhomogeneous (or the shock normal) direction is mainly responsible for the rapid evolution of the streamwise velocity fluctuation. The evolution of the velocity fluctuations downstream of the shock wave predicted by LIA is shown in Figure 1(C), which reproduces the main feature of the rapid evolution from the DNS. Hence, the rapid TKE evolution behind the shock wave can be explained mainly as a linear process. This rapid evolution in the streamwise velocity fluctuation is due to a correlation between the vortical and decaying acoustic fluctuations behind the shock wave. The acoustic velocity fluctuations and vortical velocity fluctuations are anti-correlated just behind the shock, and the correlation between the two fluctuations decreases rapidly as the amplitude of the acoustic wave decays exponentially away from the shock wave. In previous studies (Lee et al. 1991a, 1992, 1993), the correlations between vortical and acoustic waves were not properly accounted for, and the prediction capability of the linear analysis was not fully appreciated.

Another facet of the rapid evolution of velocity fluctuations is revealed by an equation for linear acoustic energy balance (Thompson 1985). The continuity and momentum equations for the linearized fluctuating components can be written as

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial t} &+ \hat{u}_k \frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial x_k} + \frac{\partial u''_k}{\partial x_k} = 0, \\
\frac{\partial u''_k}{\partial t} &+ \hat{u}_k \frac{\partial u''_k}{\partial x_k} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x_k} - \frac{\partial \sigma''_{ik}}{\partial x_k} = 0
\end{align*}
\]

by assuming that there exist no mean flow gradients, where \(\sigma''_{ij} = \tau''_{ij}\) denotes the viscous stress. For an ideal gas, an infinitesimal density fluctuation can be related to the pressure and entropy \((s)\) fluctuations by

\[
\frac{\rho'}{\bar{\rho}} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\rho'}{\bar{\rho}} - \frac{\gamma s'}{c_p},
\]

where \(c_p\) is the specific heat at constant pressure. Multiplying the continuity equation by \(\rho'\), contracting the momentum equations by \(u''_i\), and cancelling density-dilatation correlation by using above thermodynamic relation with neglecting entropy fluctuation effect \((-s'u''_{ij}/c_p\bar{\rho})\), the following equation (in the averaged form) follows.

\[
\frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left[ \frac{\hat{u}_k}{\bar{c}} \left( \frac{u''_i u''_i}{2\bar{c}^2} + \frac{\rho'^2}{2\bar{\rho}^2} \right) + \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{\rho'}{\bar{\rho}} \right] - \frac{u''_i}{\bar{c}^3} \frac{\partial \sigma''_{ik}}{\partial x_k} = 0.
\]
The acoustic balance equation is integrated in the streamwise direction from the downstream side of the shock ($x_o$) to give
where $\| f \|^2 = f(b) - f(a)$. The integrated results are shown in Figure 2(A). In all the cases we investigated (with different shock strengths and upstream turbulence intensities) the acoustic energy balance is satisfied with little deviation. The rapidly evolving acoustic energy — sum of scaled density and velocity fluctuations — is found to be mainly balanced by the pressure transport once the decay due to viscous dissipation is compensated. Therefore, the rapid evolution of velocity fluctuations can be attributed to the acoustic energy balance: energy transfer from the acoustic potential energy in the form of density (or pressure) fluctuations to turbulence kinetic energy. This is consistent with the fact that the pressure-transport term is scaled best by flow variables associated with acoustic wave propagation (Lee et al. 1993). Note that density fluctuation is replaced by the pressure fluctuation using the isentropic relation in deriving the acoustic energy balance equation, even though entropy fluctuation behind the shock wave contributes significantly to the density fluctuation (as is shown in Sec. 2.3). This is justified because as shown in Figure 2(B) the neglected entropy-dilatation correlation is found to be less than 30% of the pressure-dilatation correlation in the zone of interest, and 5% of the pressure transport term. Even though thermodynamic fluctuations are far from isentropic, the contribution of entropy fluctuations to the acoustic energy balance can be neglected. The entropy-dilatation correlation vanishes in the linear limit and the acoustic energy balance derived above holds exactly in the linear analysis, which ignores viscous dissipation.

Variance of vorticity fluctuation is a main contributor to the TKE dissipation rate. Figure 3(A) shows the evolution of vorticity components. The transverse components are amplified across the shock, while the streamwise component is hardly affected. Mach number dependence of transverse vorticity variance amplification predicted by LIA is shown in Figure 3(B). LIA predicts no amplification of the streamwise component. The amplification trend and its amplification ratio obtained from DNS are found to be consistent with the LIA prediction.

### 2.2 Turbulence length scales

Experimental studies (Debieve et al. 1986, Keller et al. 1990, Honkan et al. 1992) have reported that large scale turbulent motions are enhanced more than small scale motions as turbulence passes through a shock wave, leading to the overall increase of turbulence length scales, especially of microscales. LIA predicts that Taylor microscales decrease across the shock wave for all shock strengths, which was confirmed by DNS for weak shock waves (Lee et al. 1991a, 1993). For weak shock waves, changes in some turbulence length scales were too small to draw definite conclusions on the issue.

To investigate the scale-dependent amplification of turbulence, the modification of power spectra across the shock wave ($M_1 = 2.0$) is computed through LIA for
FIGURE 3(A). Evolution of the vorticity fluctuation variances with $M_1 = 2.0$:

- $\omega_1^2$, $\omega_2^2$, $\omega_3^2$.

FIGURE 3(B). Amplification of transverse vorticity fluctuation variances predicted by LIA.

the one dimensional spectrum in the shock-normal (longitudinal) and transverse direction which is shown in Figure 4(A) and (B), respectively. In the longitudinal spectrum, significant scale-dependent amplification is observed: more amplification at small scales than at large scales. Large scale part of $E_2(k_1)$ is even suppressed through the interaction. In the transverse spectrum, more amplification at small scales is found for $E_1(k_2)$ and $E_2(k_2)$, while more amplification at large scale is found for $E_3(k_2)$. The energy spectrum used in the analysis is the von Karman
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FIGURE 4. (a) LIA prediction of the shock-normal direction (vs. \( k_1 \)) one dimensional energy spectra change across the shock wave for \( M_1 = 2.0 \): \( E_1 \): upstream, \( E_2 \) & \( E_3 \): downstream. (b) LIA prediction of the transverse direction (vs. \( k_2 \)) one dimensional energy spectra change across the shock wave for \( M_1 = 2.0 \): \( E_2 \): upstream, \( E_1 \): downstream.\( E_3 \): upstream, \( E_1 \): downstream.

spectrum (Hinze 1975), but the results obtained in the analysis are insensitive to choice of the spectrum. Since the spectrum amplification pattern is different for different spectrum (e.g. \( E_1(k_2) \) or \( E_3(k_2) \)), the issue of the length scale change should be addressed for the specific length scale only. In the following, changes in various turbulence length scales are discussed.

To directly check the scale-dependent turbulence amplification, transverse power spectra of velocity fluctuations in a numerically simulated field from case A are shown for upstream and downstream of the shock wave in Figure 5. Amplification is more pronounced at the large wave numbers, which is consistent with the prediction by the linear analysis in Figure 4(B).

Keller et al. (1990) reported that both the density microscale and the integral length scale in the shock normal direction increase for shock waves with \( M_1 < 1.24 \). In the present simulation, the spectrum changes of density and temperature fluctuations across the shock are found to be similar to those of velocity fluctuations: Spectrum is amplified more at small scales than at large scales. The difference between the present study and the experiment may be due to the assumptions made in the experimental data analysis, such as turbulence isotropy/homogeneity, and negligible pressure fluctuations, which may be too crude in light of the simulation. Velocity fluctuation variances are axisymmetric as shown in Sec. 2.1, and thermodynamic property fluctuations are not isobaric and decay rapidly behind the shock wave as shown in Sec. 3.3. The effects of these imperfect assumptions on the data
Figure 5. Changes in one dimensional spectra across the shock wave which is at \( k_0 x_0 = 12.29 \): lines for upstream spectra at \( k_0 x_1 = 10.59 \), and symbols for downstream spectra at \( k_0 x_1 = 13.68 \). \(-\cdot\) : \( E_2(k_2) \), \(-\cdot\cdot\cdot\) : \( E_1(k_2) \), \(-\cdot\cdot\cdot\) : \( E_3(k_2) \).

Analysis are not clearly documented in Keller et al. (1990).

Figure 6(A) shows the evolutions of Taylor microscales \( \lambda_\alpha \) and the transverse density microscale \( \lambda_\rho \), which are defined as

\[
\lambda_\alpha = \frac{\sqrt{u'_\alpha^2}}{\sqrt{u'_{\alpha,\alpha}^2}} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_\rho = \frac{\sqrt{\rho'^2}}{\sqrt{\rho'_{\alpha}^2}},
\]

respectively. All the microscales decrease significantly across the shock wave: the streamwise Taylor microscale by about 50%, the transverse Taylor microscales by about 20%, and the density microscale by about 30%. Mach number dependence of Taylor microscale change predicted by LIA is shown in Figure 6(B). The higher the Mach number, the Taylor microscales are reduced further through the shock wave. The reduction is more pronounced in the shock-normal direction. The reduction observed in the simulation agrees well with the LIA prediction. The Taylor microscale which was reported to increase (Debieve et al. 1986) was the time scale, not the length scale (Debieve 1992, private communication). If the mean velocity decrease across the shock is properly accounted for, their experimental result is consistent with the present simulation and analysis.
Figure 6(A). Evolution of microscales throughout the computational domain for \( M_1 = 2.0 \): \( \lambda_1 \), \( \lambda_2 \), \( \lambda_3 \), \( \lambda_4 \). Vertical lines denote the boundaries of shock intermittency.

Figure 6(B). Change of Taylor microscales and dissipation length scale across the shock wave predicted by LIA. \( \lambda_1 \), \( \lambda_2 \) & \( \lambda_3 \), \( \lambda_4 \). Symbols for DNS: \( \cdot \lambda_2 \), \( \times \lambda_4 \).

Integral scale \( (\lambda_f) \) of turbulent fluctuation \( f' \) in the \( x_2 \)-direction is defined from its two-point correlation, \( C_f(r; x_1) \), defined as

\[
C_f(r; x_1) = \frac{f'(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)f'(x_1, x_2 + r, x_3, t)}{f'(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)f'(x_1, x_2, x_3, t)}
\]
where the average is taken over time and homogeneous directions (x₂- and x₃-directions). The integral scale (Φ) is, then, defined as

\[ \Lambda_f(x_1) = \int_0^\infty C_f(r; x_1)dr, \]

where the upper limit of the integration is replaced by L/2 when dealing with numerically simulated field with L being the computational box size in the x₂-direction, where the periodic boundary condition is enforced. Figure 7 shows the evolutions of four integral scales throughout the flow field. Three integral scales (\(\Lambda_u\), \(\Lambda_u^2\), and \(\Lambda_p\)) undergo reductions across the shock wave, most significantly in \(\Lambda_u^2\) by about 45%, while \(\Lambda_u\) increases by about 30%. Mach number dependence of the integral length scale change can be predicted by LIA. For the shock wave with \(M_1 = 2.0\), the ratio of the downstream to the upstream integral length scale (with the von Karman upstream spectrum) is 0.91, 0.60, 1.46 for \(\Lambda_u\), \(\Lambda_u^2\), and \(\Lambda_u^3\), respectively. The simulation results agree well with the LIA predictions considering the difference in the upstream energy spectrum shape (see Fig. 4).

Most widely used length scale in turbulence modeling is the dissipation length scale \((l_e)\), defined as

\[ l_e = \bar{\nu}_e^3 / \epsilon, \]

where \(\epsilon\) is the dissipation rate of turbulence kinetic energy, which includes contributions from both solenoidal and dilatational motions. Figure 8 shows the evolution of the length scale \(l_e\). The dissipation length scale also decreases across the shock wave. Just behind the shock wave, the length scale undergoes rapid increase as was the case with the streamwise Taylor microscale (Figure 6(A)), due to the rapid
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Figure 8. Evolution of the dissipation length scale throughout the computational domain for $M_1 = 3.0$. Vertical lines denote the boundaries of shock intermittency.

decay of the acoustic waves (or, the dilatational motions). The Mach number dependence of the dissipation length scale change predicted by LIA is presented in Figure 6(B). The length scale is reduced for strong shock waves, while it shows a mild increase for shock waves with $M_1 < 1.65$. For weak shock waves, TKE and its dissipation rate is comparably amplified to give slight increase in $l_c$ across the shock wave, while TKE amplification saturate much faster than vorticity variance amplification to give the reduction in the length scale (Lee et al. 1993). The length scale increase observed by Honkan et al. (1992) at $M_1 = 1.24$ (the equivalent shock normal Mach number in their experiment is 1.24 not 1.62) might be explained as the phenomenon occurring for weak shock waves, but the analyzed experimental results are not in quantitative agreement with the simulation and the analysis: LIA predicts less than 10% increase, while the analyzed experimental data shows more than 600% increase. This difference seems to suggest that the assumptions used in the experimental data analysis may be too crude, such as negligence of pressure fluctuations and applicability of Taylor's hypothesis in high intensity turbulence, and should be examined carefully.

2.3 Thermodynamic quantities

Thermodynamic fields which are obtained from the freely decaying turbulence (Lee et al. 1991b) and prescribed at the inflow are nearly isentropic. As the flow passes through the shock wave, all the fluctuations are amplified, followed by a decay. A general assumption on the relation between thermodynamic fluctuations is polytropic (with a polytropic exponent $n$), where

$$\frac{\rho' \rho'}{\bar{p}} = n \frac{\rho' \rho'}{\bar{p}} = \frac{n}{n-1} \frac{T''}{T}. $$
FIGURE 9. Evolution of exponents for the fluctuations in thermodynamic variables for $M_1 = 2.0$: $n_{pp}$, $n_{pT}$, $c_{pT}$. Vertical lines denote the boundaries of shock intermittency.

For polytropic fluctuations, specification of one property fluctuation and the polytropic exponent is enough to describe the thermodynamic fluctuations. Based on the above relations, different polytropic exponents can be defined using normalized rms fluctuations ($n_{pp}, n_{pT}$) and the correlations between instantaneous fluctuations ($c_{pT}$) as

$$n_{pp} = \frac{\sqrt{\rho^2 / \bar{p}}}{\sqrt{\rho_p^2 / \bar{\rho}}}$$

and

$$n_{pT} = 1 + \frac{\sqrt{T_p^2 / \bar{T}}}{\sqrt{\rho^2 / \bar{\rho}}}$$

and

$$c_{pT} = 1 + \frac{\bar{\rho} \rho_p^2 \rho^2}{T \rho^2}.$$  

For weak shock waves with $M_1 \leq 1.20$, relations between thermodynamic property fluctuations are close to isentropic ($n = \gamma$) throughout the flow field (Lee et al. 1993).

In order to check the polytropy for the strong shock case, the polytropic exponents, $n_{pp}, n_{pT}$, defined above are investigated. If the fluctuations are indeed polytropic, the two exponents should be the same, which is defined as the polytropic exponent. The evolutions of the two exponents are shown in Figure 10. The exponents are the same upstream of the shock wave with $n_{pp} = n_{pT} \simeq \gamma$. Downstream of the shock wave, however, they differ significantly with $n_{pp}$ decreasing and $n_{pT}$ increasing. Their return to polytropy is very slow. To further investigate the relation between instantaneous fluctuations, the correlation between the fluctuations of density and temperature ($\rho_p T_p$) is studied.
The evolution of the exponent is also shown in Figure 9. Upstream of the shock wave, the exponent is quite close to the $\gamma (= 1.40)$. It drops significantly across the shock wave, and its further evolution is rather slow. The change in the exponents across the shock wave is found to be consistent with the LIA prediction (shown in Figure 10). Upstream thermodynamic fluctuations are polytropic (close to isentropic), and downstream fluctuations are not isentropic due to significant entropy fluctuations produced by the shock turbulence interaction. To properly describe the thermodynamic fluctuations in strong shock turbulence interaction, specification of at least one thermodynamic fluctuation along with two exponents (i.e., $n_{pp}$ and $n_{pT}$) are required.

The shock strength effects on thermodynamic fluctuations for wider range of shock normal Mach numbers can easily be investigated through the linear analysis. In the following, polytropic exponents downstream of the shock in the interaction of solenoidal velocity fluctuations with a shock wave is studied. The effects of the shock strength on downstream polytropic exponents are shown in Figure 10. For isentropic or acoustic fluctuations, all the exponents are same and equal to the specific heat ratio. For entropic or isobaric fluctuations, $n_{pp}$ and $C_pT$ become 0 and $n_{pT}$ becomes 2. For weak shock waves with $M_1 < 1.2$, thermodynamic fluctuations behind the shock can be regarded as isentropic. As the shock becomes stronger beyond this limit, the entropy fluctuation behind the shock cannot be neglected, and its importance becomes more dominant for the stronger shock waves. The results of the polytropic exponents from DNS are consistent with LIA predictions with the values from DNS systematically deviating from the LIA predictions toward the isentropic value of 1.4. This may be due to (incompressible) pressure fluctuations associated with dilatation-free velocity fluctuations (Sarkar et al. 1991), which accompany mainly isentropic thermodynamic fluctuations.

In order to quantify the importance of entropy fluctuations behind the shock wave, the contributions of acoustic and entropic fluctuations to the density fluctuation are quantified by the linear analysis and also shown in Figure 10. Since the acoustic fluctuations and entropic fluctuations are completely decorrelated in the linear limit, the relative importance of entropy fluctuations can be expressed as $\frac{\frac{\gamma^3}{\gamma - 1} L_\rho^2}{\frac{\gamma^2}{\gamma - 1} L_\rho^2}$. For weak shock waves with $M_1 < 1.2$, entropy fluctuations contribute less than 2% to the density fluctuations. However, entropy fluctuations become more important than acoustic fluctuations beyond $M_1 = 1.65$.

In summary, thermodynamic fluctuations downstream of the shock wave are found to be isentropic for weak shock waves ($M_1 < 1.2$) and become non-polytropic for strong shock waves, where the importance of entropy fluctuations are comparable to the acoustic fluctuations. The thermodynamic fluctuations cannot be modelled using polytropic exponents in this regime. Therefore, modelling effort should be made separately for the acoustic fluctuations and entropic fluctuations. Zeman (1993) stressed the need for such a separation for the mean thermodynamic quantities.


3. Future plans

The varied evolution of thermodynamic variables in Large-eddy Simulation (LES) using different formulations (where no explicit removal of aliasing errors is performed) has not yet been understood. In order to have a reference case where aliasing errors are removed exactly, a specific volume formulation in solving compressible Navier-Stokes equations is being pursued. Large eddy simulation of isotropic turbulence with a shock wave will be performed once the cause for the difference in the evolution of thermodynamic quantities is better understood.

Numerical simulation will be extended for a more practical situation where the turbulent boundary layer is subjected to externally imposed strains: a boundary layer under rapid expansion and over a compression ramp.

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REFERENCES


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