

Stokes drift

Let us consider the tracer dispersion in a re-entrant channel bounded by walls at $y = 0, 1$. For simplicity we limit the study to a two dimensional flow. There is no mean flow and the turbulence is in the form of a traveling wave of small amplitude ϵ ,

$$\psi = \epsilon \sin[\pi(x - t)] \sin(\pi y), \quad (u', v') = (-\psi_y, \psi_x). \quad (1)$$

The equation for the displacement $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ is given by,

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\xi}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{u}' + O(\epsilon^2). \quad (2)$$

The diffusivity is,

$$\begin{aligned} K_{ij} &= \begin{pmatrix} \overline{u'\xi} & \overline{u'\eta} \\ \overline{v'\xi} & \overline{v'\eta} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{A^2\pi}{4} \begin{pmatrix} \overline{2\sin[2\pi(x-t)] \cos^2 \pi y} & \overline{(1 - \cos[2\pi(x-t)]) \sin(2\pi y)} \\ -\overline{(1 - \cos[2\pi(x-t)]) \sin(2\pi y)} & \overline{2\sin[2\pi(x-t)] \sin^2 \pi y} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{A^2}{4} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sin(2\pi y) \\ -\sin(2\pi y) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The Stokes drift in two dimensions is given by,

$$\bar{u}_S = -\frac{1}{2} \partial_y (D_{xx} - D_{yy}) = \frac{A^2\pi}{2} \cos(2\pi y), \quad (4)$$

$$\bar{v}_S = \frac{1}{2} \partial_x (D_{xx} - D_{yy}) = 0. \quad (5)$$