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The tilted rocket rig: A test case for Los Alamos models

Jon Reisner, Nick Dennisen, Bertrand Rollin, and Malcolm Andrews

- The tilted rig setup is a unique data source to test a given models ability to simulate Rayleigh Taylor (RT) and Kelvin Helmholtz (KH) instabilities
- Can be used to assess both implicit large eddy simulation (ILES) and Reynolds averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) modeling approaches used in a common mix framework

LANL Advanced Simulation and Computing (ASC) Codes

- LANL has 3 ASC codes, xRage, Flag, and Roxane
- Besides xRage using a total energy equation, the gas dynamic equation sets are similar--- compressible Navier-Stokes with species energy/mass equations
- Results will be shown from xRage and Flag
- xRage uses a modified Godunov scheme
- Flag uses an ALE approach

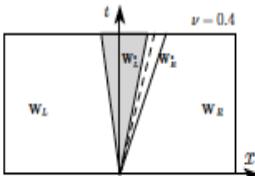
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Problems with Contacts?

Shock Tube Test: Le Blanc's Problem

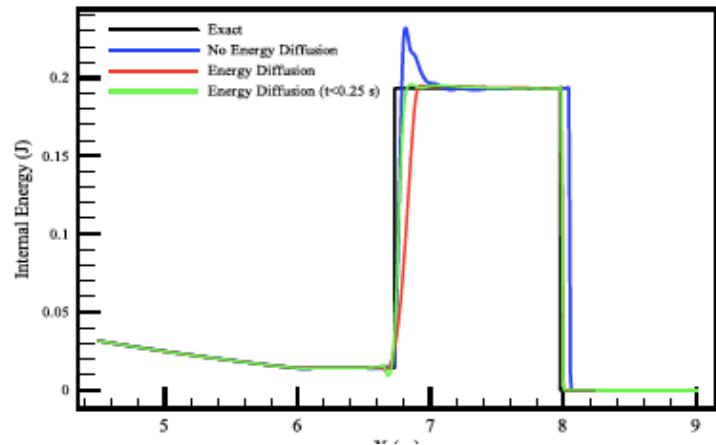
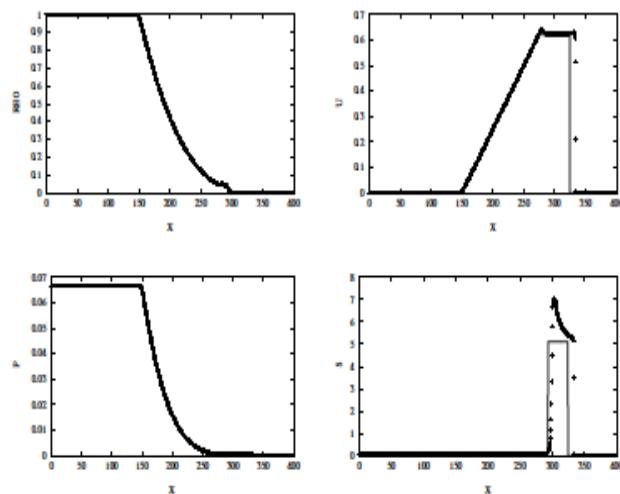
$\rho_L = 1$	$\rho_R = 0.001$
$u_L = 0$	$u_R = 0$
$p_L = 0.06667$	$p_R = 6.667e-10$
$\gamma_L = 1.667$	$\gamma_R = 1.667$



A variation on LeBlanc's shock-tube problem.

Scheme xrange::1d

Solver numrho6



Solution: Add artificial viscosity to energy equation?

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Common Mix Framework

- *Goal:* Develop a consistent framework to test mix formulations across ASC codes
- *Methodology:* Start simple with a common BHR-II code base, validate and verify, add complexity if needed
- *Expected Results:* A framework that accurately represents mixing across a range of instabilities and is model independent...

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What is BHR?

- BHR is a variable density turbulence model
- Formulated by assuming ensemble averaging
- Various formulations exist from simple BHR-II (TKE, L, a_i , and b) to complex multi-species approaches (a_i^k, b^k)

Why BHR-II to Comprise Common Mix Framework?

- Small number of tuning coefficients and numerical efficiency
- Ease of implementation across ASC codes
- Successful validation of the approach
- Numerical errors are relative small
- Future Capability: BHR-MS, BHR energy terms, matrix form of length scale S_{ij} , etc...

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BHR-II

A Common Mix Framework Across ASC Models

$$\bar{\rho} \frac{DK}{Dt} = a_j \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\mu_T}{\sigma_k} \frac{\partial K}{\partial x_j} \right) - R_{ij} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_j} - C_k \bar{\rho} \frac{K^{3/2}}{L} \quad (\text{turbulence kinetic energy})$$

$$\bar{\rho} \frac{DL}{Dt} = \frac{L}{K} \left[\left(\frac{3}{2} - C_4 \right) a_j \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_j} - \left(\frac{3}{2} - C_4 \right) R_{ij} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_i}{\partial x_j} \right] - C_3 \bar{\rho} L \frac{\partial \tilde{u}_j}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\mu_T}{\sigma_L} \frac{\partial L}{\partial x_j} \right) - \left(\frac{3}{2} - C_2 \right) \bar{\rho} K^{1/2} \quad (\text{turbulent length scale})$$

$$\bar{\rho} \frac{Da_i}{Dt} = b \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_i} + \bar{\rho} \frac{\partial a_i a_j}{\partial x_j} - \bar{\rho} a_j \frac{\partial (\tilde{u}_i - a_i)}{\partial x_i} - \frac{R_{ij}}{\bar{\rho}} \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\mu_T}{\sigma_a} \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial x_j} \right) - C_a \bar{\rho} a_i \frac{K^{1/2}}{L}$$

(density velocity correlation)

$$\bar{\rho} \frac{Db}{Dt} = 2 \bar{\rho} a_j \frac{\partial b}{\partial x_j} - 2(b+1) a_j \frac{\partial \bar{p}}{\partial x_j} + \bar{\rho}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\mu_T}{\bar{\rho}^2 \sigma_b} \frac{\partial b}{\partial x_j} \right) - C_b \bar{\rho} \frac{K^{1/2}}{L} b$$

(density self correlation)

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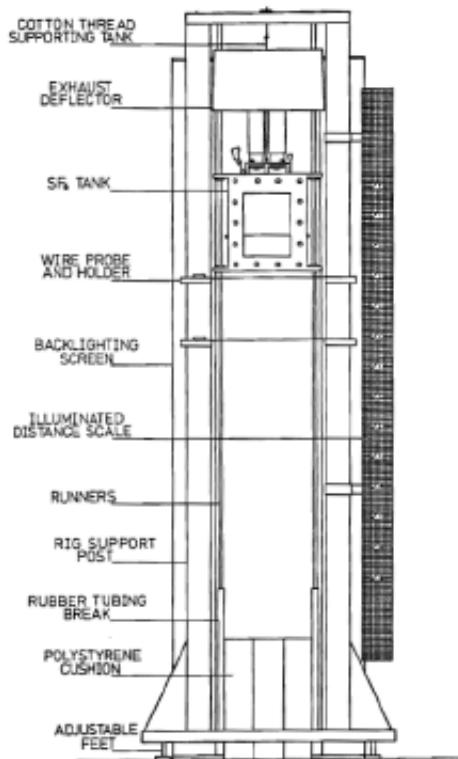
A Common Mix Framework: Test Problems

- Tilted RT problem is being tested in xRage and Flag...appropriate for RT and KH instabilities
- Problem has helped in chasing out bugs and implementation issues
- Results compare reasonably well against DNS
- But a definite need exists for test problems that can verify mean and turbulent quantities under a wide range of conditions

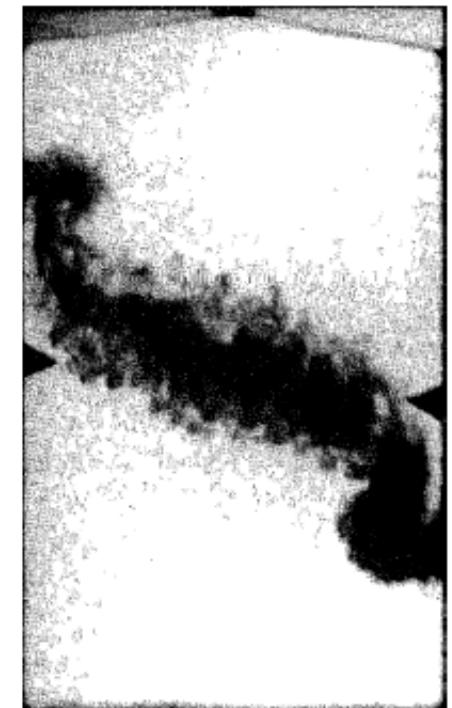
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Tilted Rocket Rig



- ▶ Series of experiments from the UK AWE¹
- ▶ Gravity is “flipped” via downward rocket motors
- ▶ Interested in case 110, low surface tension, significant interface tilt



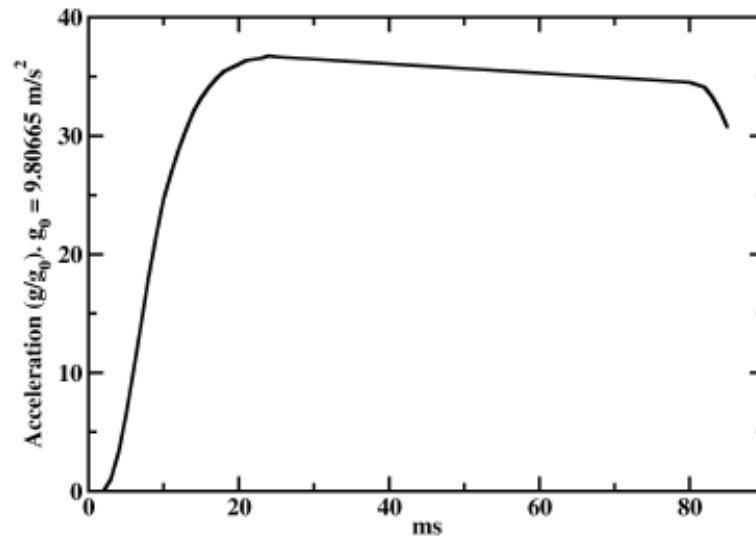
t=55 ms

[1] Smeeton & Youngs, AWE Report No. O 35/87

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Experimental Setup



ρ_H	ρ_L	At	L_x	L_z
1.89	0.66	0.48	15	25

Table: Experimental parameters in units: cm, g, ms

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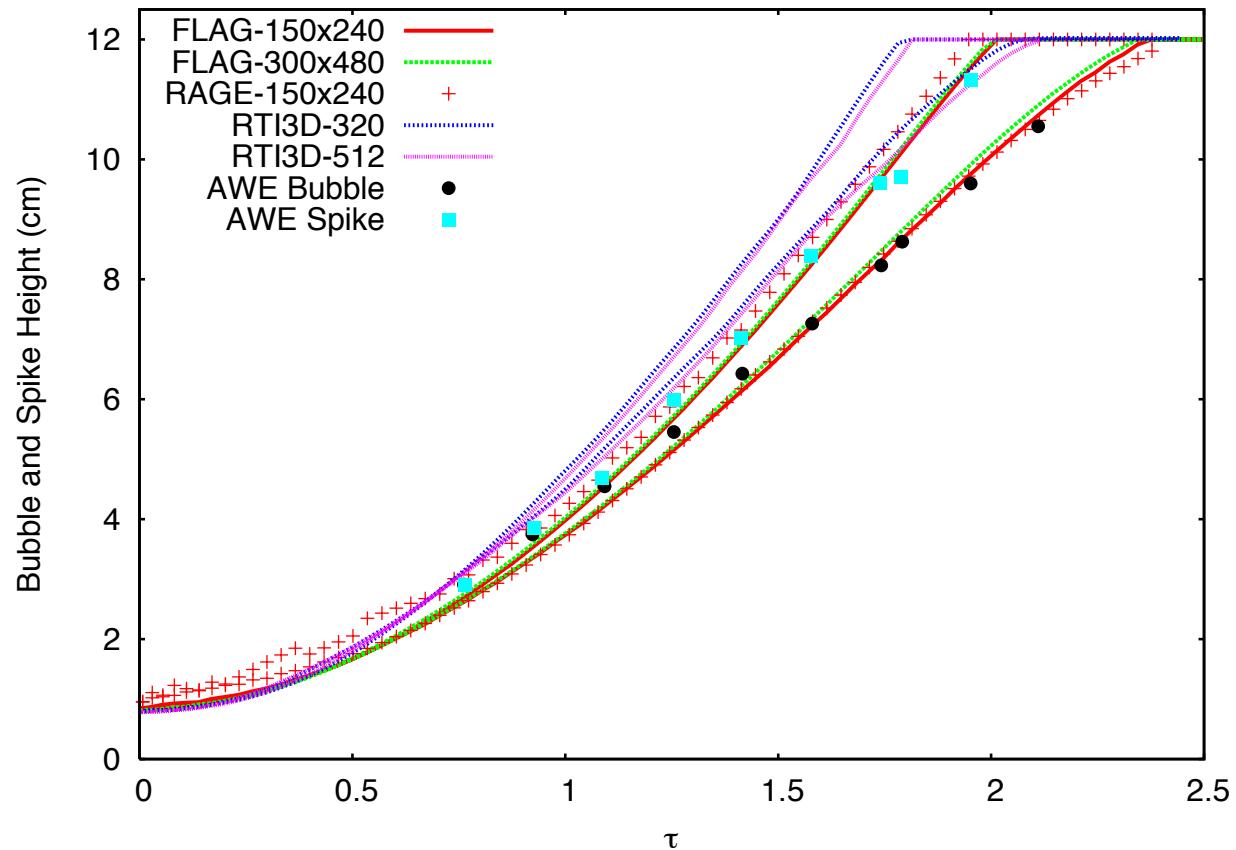
Model Setup

- Both xRage and Flag (complete remap-no artificial viscosity) used 150x240 grid points
- BHR-II was used in simulations and a gamma law gas EOS was used in the base simulations
- Flag used similar pressure/temperature to experiment; xRage initially used much higher pressure/temperature
- Preliminary results suggest that xRage does not produce enough mixing

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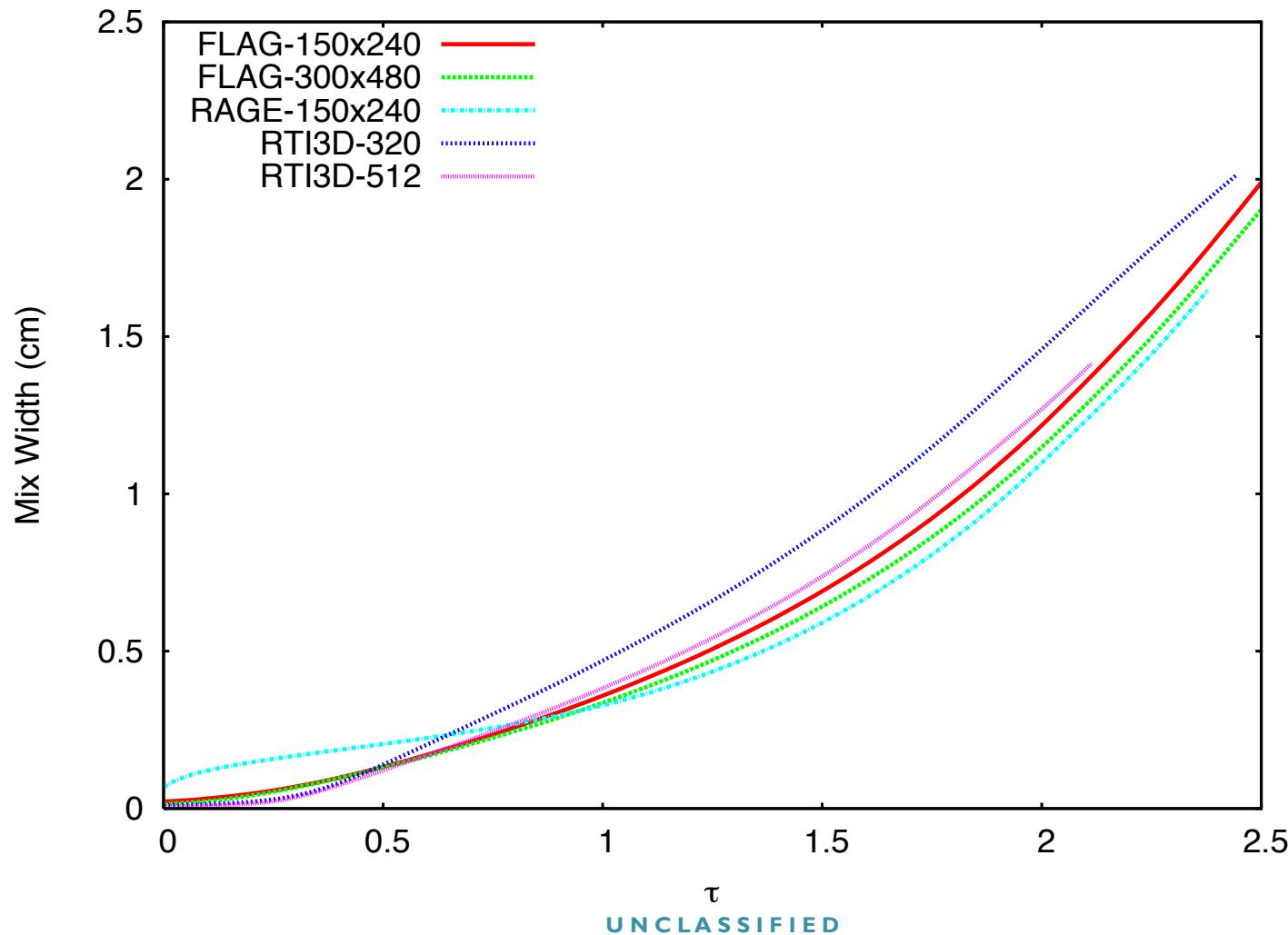
Bubble/Spike Growth Rates



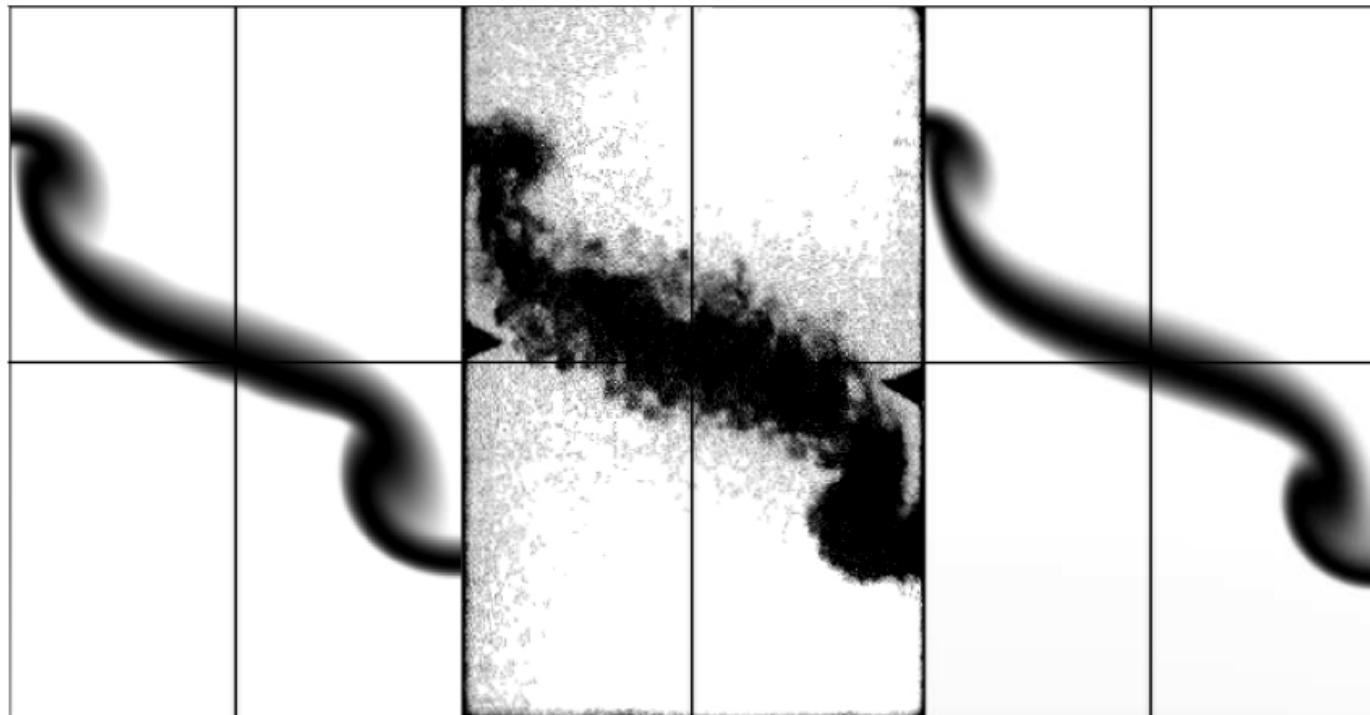
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Integrated Mixing Widths



xRage, Experimental, and Flag results at $t=55$ ms (Mixing Parameter)



xRage

Experimental

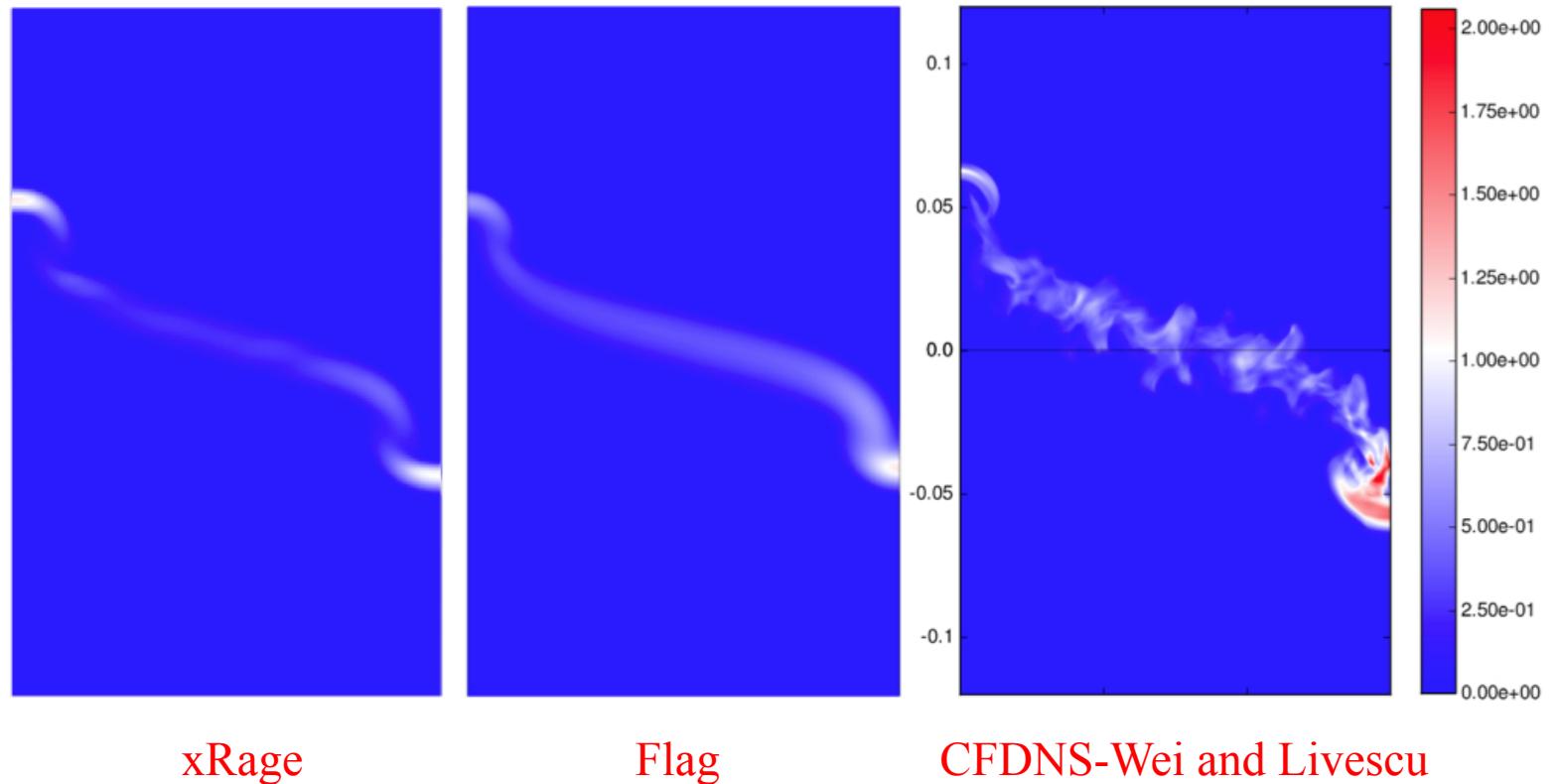
Flag

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xRage, Flag, and CFDNS TKE Results at t=45 ms

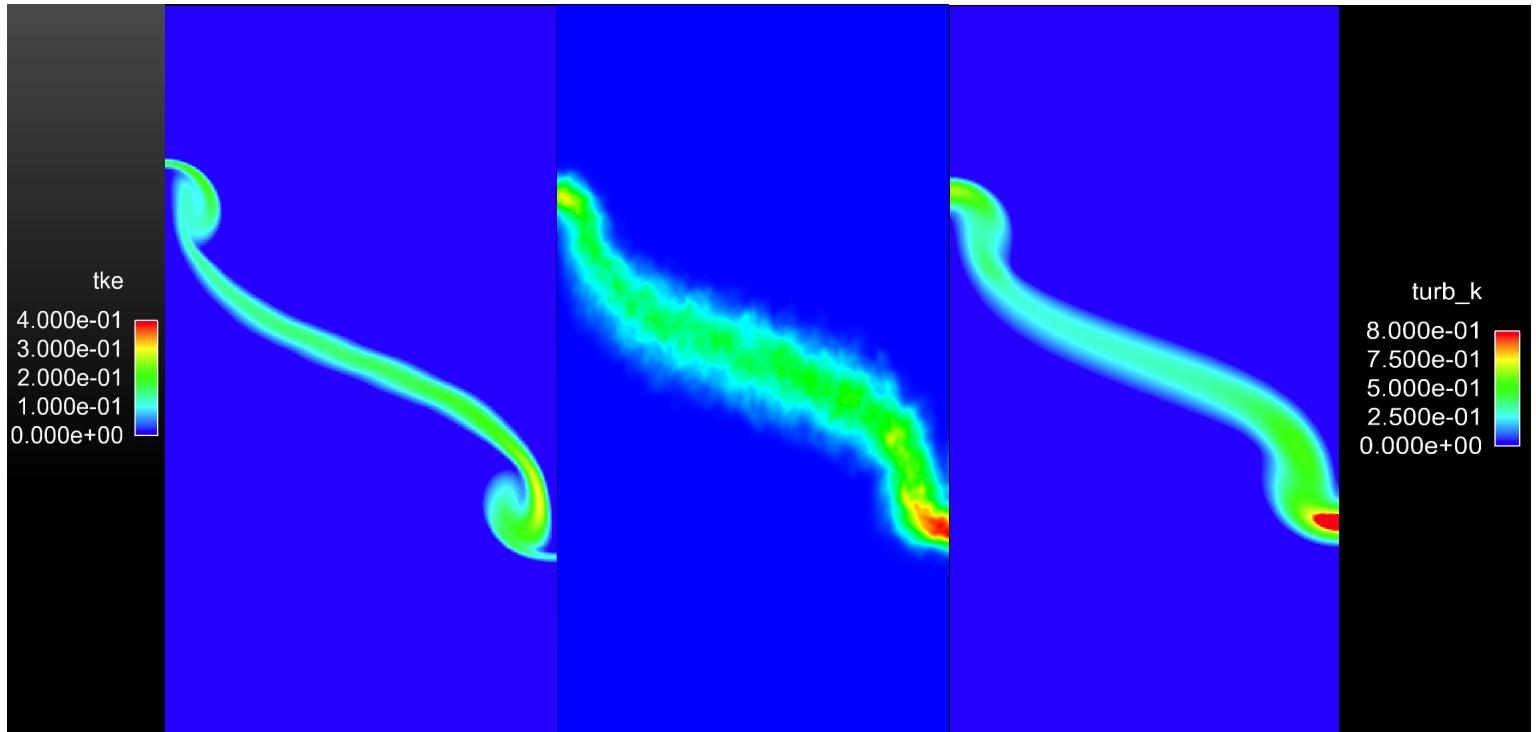
xRage is Symmetric (Why?)



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Same Findings for Different Tilted Rig Setup



**xRage + BHR mixing model (LEFT), averaged RTI3D (MIDDLE-
Andrews) and FLAG + BHR mixing model (RIGHT)**

Note the different scale only for the xRage figure

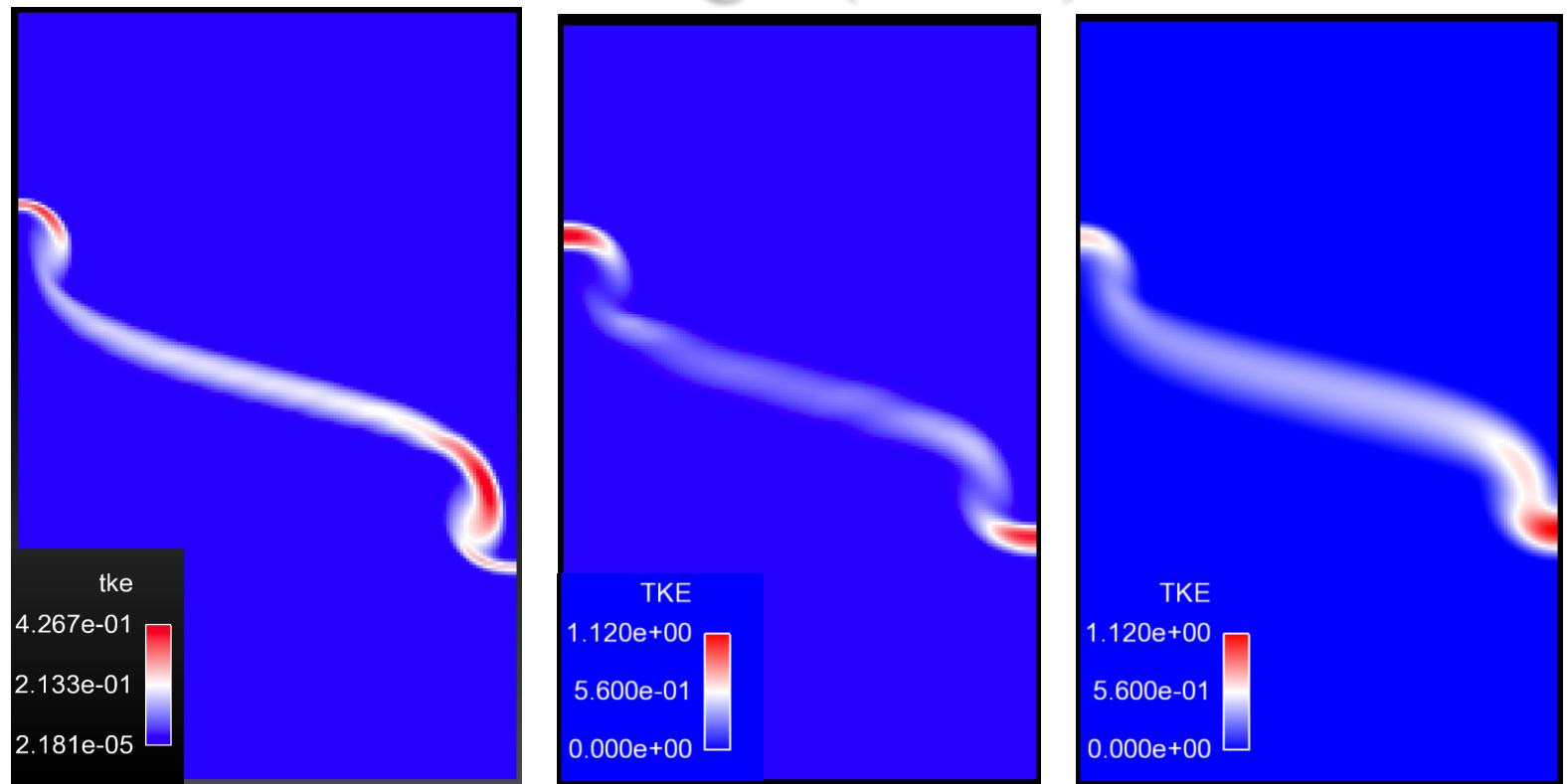
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Why Differences Between Flag and xRage?

- xRages produces sharper features and less turbulent mixing
- BHR-II implementation issues/bugs?
- Differences in initial conditions?
- Numerical issues of base hydro solver...
check using ILES

Impact of Initial Conditions in xRage (TKE)



xRage with exact FLAG initial thermodynamics conditions, hydrobet =0 and BHR2.

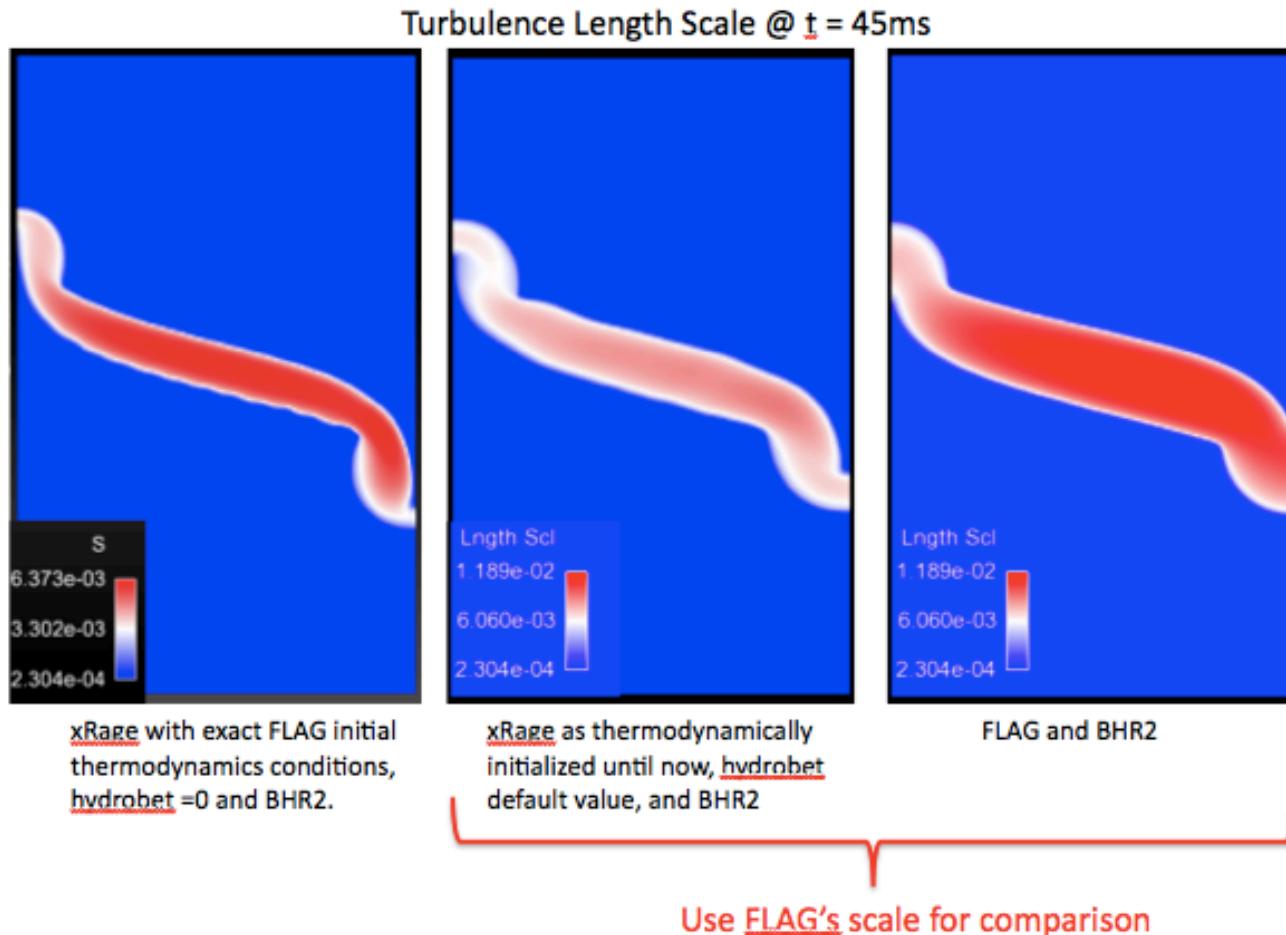
xRage as thermodynamically initialized until now, hydrobet default value, and BHR2

FLAG and BHR2

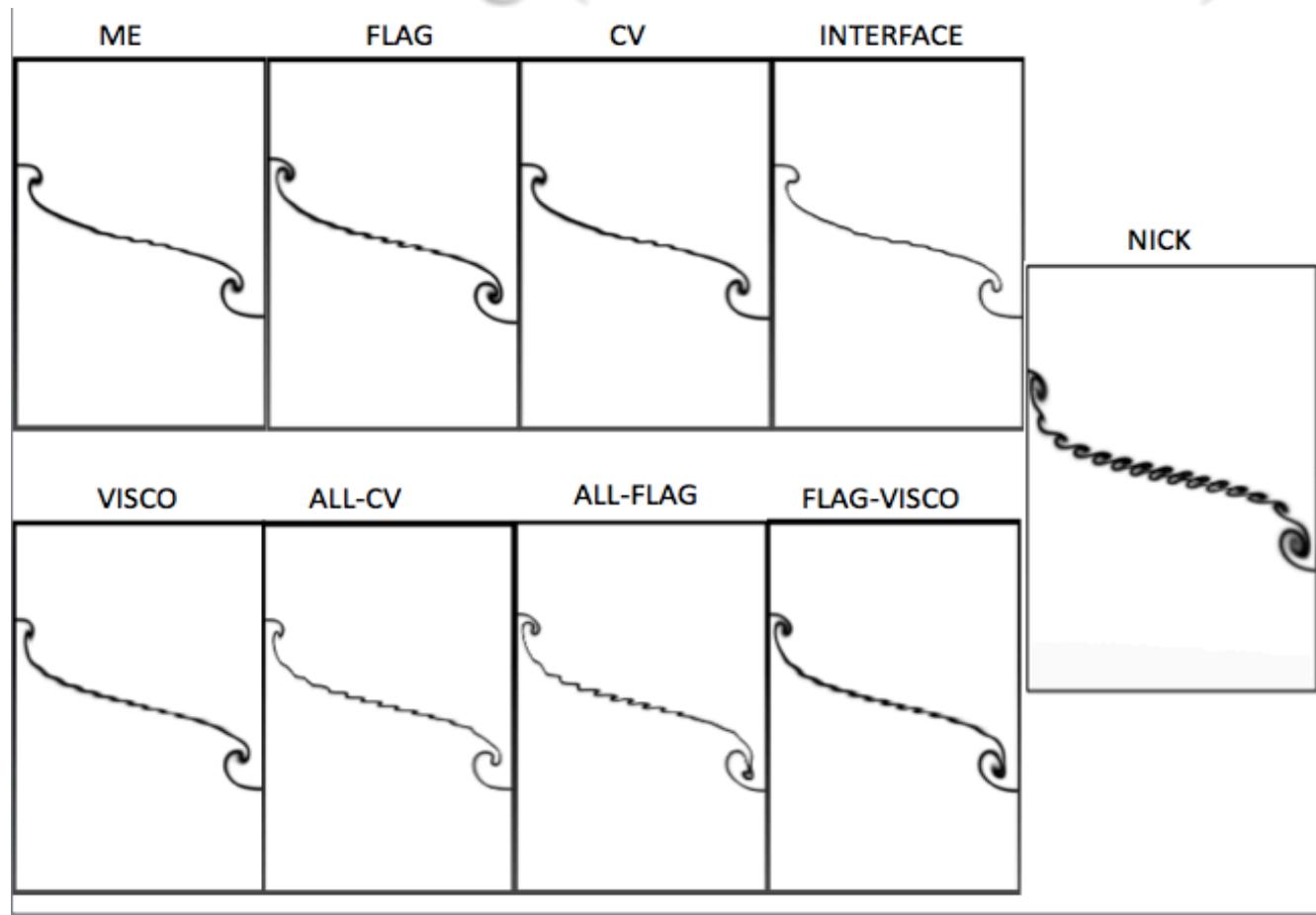
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Impact of Initial Conditions in xRage (Length Scale)



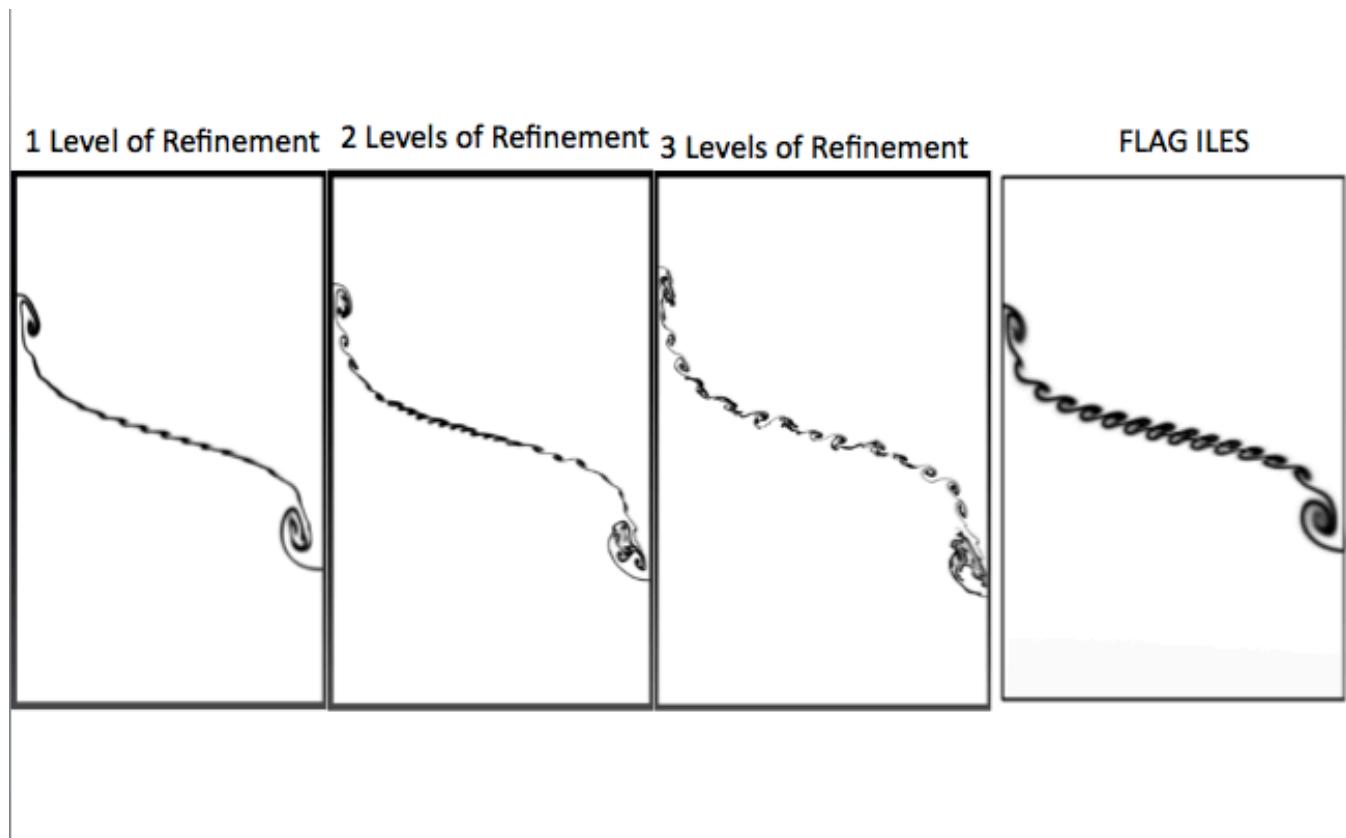
Various 2-D ILES xRage Results Versus Flag (Labeled NICK)



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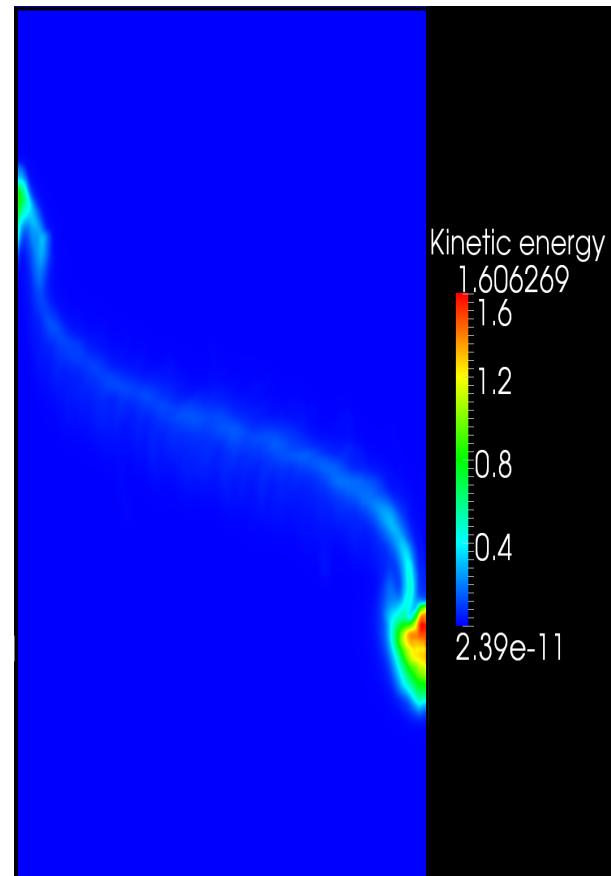
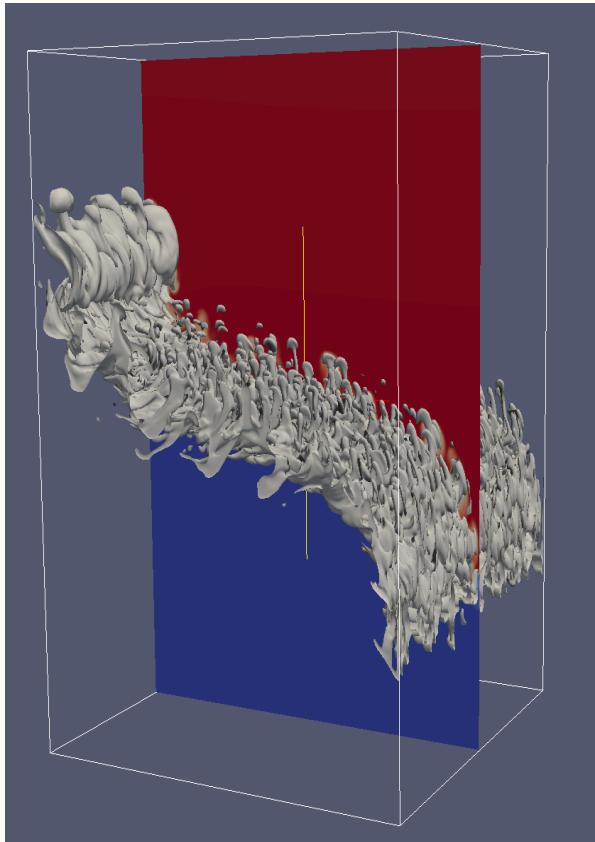
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xRage (AMR) Versus Flag



3D-ILES xRage

Still Sharper than Flag but Larger Values of TKE



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Overview/Questions Raised

- Differences between xRage and Flag appear to be the result of the underlying numerical scheme
- Will these differences increase/decrease for other problems, i.e., Richtmyer-Meshkov instability?
- Will Roxane produce results closer to xRage or Flag?