

Control of Smoke Flow in a Tunnel

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(Received October 25, 2010; accepted October 9, 2011)

ABSTRACT

This study focuses on fires in road tunnels in order to increase the level of security for users. This paper proposed numerical investigations carried out on a small scale tunnel model to study the fire-induced smoke control by longitudinal and longitudinal-natural ventilation systems. We studied the effect of two ventilation systems on the temperature distribution and stratification of the pollutant to estimate the effectiveness of ventilation systems. The flow is characterized by the temperature fields, temperature profiles and the Froude number. The numerical tool used is FDS (version 4.0). This numerical study requires validation with experiment and numerical results and comparison with the model developed by Kunsch J.P. to evaluate the critical velocity. However, good agreement with experimental results, it confirms the possibility of using this code in the problem.

Keywords: Tunnel fire, Ventilation, FDS, Stratified flow, Temperature.

NOMENCLATURE

A	tunnel cross-sectional area, m^2	ρ	density, $Kg\ m^{-1}$
P	tunnel perimeter, m	U	ventilation velocity, ms^{-1}
C_p	specific heat, $KJKg^{-1}K^{-1}$	W	tunnel width, m
Fr	Froude number, dimensionless	L	tunnel length, m
g	acceleration of gravity, ms^{-2}	d	opening length, m
H	tunnel height, m	$\delta x, \delta y, \delta z$	the dimensions of the smallest grid cell, m
\bar{H}	hydraulic tunnel height, m	Subscript	
k	thermal conductivity, $Wm^{-1}K^{-1}$	Avg	average
P	pressure, Pa	cf	difference between ceiling and floor
Pr	Prandtl number	c	critical
Sc	Schmidt number	in	tunnel inlet
Cd	proportionality constant	0	ambient
Cf	empirical constant	ref	reference
Ck	empirical constant	x, y, z	cartesian coordinates, m
Cs	Smagorinsky constant (LES)	1	mixed ventilation system
Q	heat release rate of the fire, KW	2	longitudinal ventilation system
Q''	dimensionless heat release rate defined for correlation of critical velocity by Wu and Bakar	T	temperature, $^{\circ}C$

1. INTRODUCTION

Generally, a tunnel fire has very complex flow structure because it is a physical phenomenon that is affected by tunnel geometry, inclination, ventilation system capacity, and wind pressure, also including chemical reaction, etc. In tunnel fires, the most immediate threat to life is not the direct exposure to fire, but smoke inhalation. Efficient control of smoke propagation, therefore, is one of the most important issues in designing tunnel ventilation and a full understanding of the characteristics of smoke propagation in tunnels is a necessity in order to proceed with a successful design.

Thermal stratification is an important feature of fire environment in a confined space. It has been found that relative influence of inertia and buoyancy forces resolves the stratified flow characteristics. In this study understanding the characteristics of flow is characterized by the stratification and temperature distribution.

The longitudinal ventilation system is used extensively. The longitudinal ventilation system is characterized by the longitudinal velocity of ventilation 'the critical velocity of ventilation', the critical velocity is used to represent the value of the ventilation velocity which is just able to eliminate the back-layering, and force the smoke to move in the downstream direction. When the fire size is medium or large, there will be a flattening of the flow in one side of the fire, which gives us a major problem for user evacuation as the fire in the tunnel. In the event of a tunnel fire, a longitudinal ventilation system is often brought into action to create a safe route upstream clear of smoke for evacuation and fire fighting. If the ventilation velocity is low, the smoke produced from the fire can travel in the upstream direction against the direction of the ventilation air. This reversal of flow is called back-layering. These values of the critical velocity and the heat release rate have become one of the prime criteria for the design of longitudinal ventilation system.

The natural ventilation system is based on the buoyancy of the smoke as the first criterion to control the smoke, and largely depends on the thickness and temperature of the smoke under the ceiling.

Methods for analysis of smoke movement in tunnel fires are numerical simulation, reduced-scale experiment and full-scale experiment.

Numerical study, by using FDS, is performed by using a large eddy simulation to give a quantitative description of the temperature stratification and heat flux from a square fire source in a ventilated tunnel. Numerical simulation analyzed the effect of the aspect ratio on smoke movement in tunnel fires and temperature distribution under the tunnel ceiling will be studied by [Lee and Ryou \(2006\)](#). The back-layering length, the critical ventilation velocity and the temperature distribution under the ceiling in tunnel fires will be studied by [Hu *et al.* \(2008\)](#).

The longitudinal temperature distribution in a fire tunnel and the smoke temperature under the ceiling under different longitudinal ventilation velocities in tunnel fires

was studied experimentally and numerically ([Hu *et al.* 2006](#); [Hu *et al.* 2007](#)).

Smoke from a fire can not only reduce the visibility and cause slower evacuation; toxic gases in the smoke can also be fatal in duration of time. The ventilation system installed in a tunnel must ensure a safe environment under both emergency conditions and normal conditions. Smoke movement should be controlled in a fire incident. The design of ventilation systems for road tunnels depends on various parameters, such as the expected design fire and desired smoke clear height. Under normal conditions, the tunnel ventilation system design aims to prevent accumulation of vehicular emissions to dangerous levels. For dilution ventilation, fresh air entering the tunnel would mix with vehicle emissions.

The polluted air will be exhausted consequently by the tunnel ventilation system. The volume of fresh air required, traffic density and tunnel length are the design parameters in normal conditions.

Ventilation systems commonly installed for road tunnels are longitudinal, semi-transverse, transverse, partial transverse and natural ventilation systems. There are many variations and combinations of systems, such as the combination of longitudinal and natural systems. Numerical simulations have also been tried to predict the fire development and to investigate into the efficiency of different smoke control methods in tunnels ([Jojo and Chow 2003](#); [Modic 2003](#); [Banjac and Nikolić 2008](#)).

Experimental tests in reduced scale performed to study the fire characteristics, smoke movement and control of smoke in case of a tunnel fire. A semi-empirical model has been developed to evaluate the physical characteristics of a fire in tunnels was developed by [Mégret and Vauquelin \(2000\)](#). [Wu and Bakar \(2000\)](#), by using a horizontal model tunnel with propane gas burner as the fire source, studied a control of smoke flow using longitudinal ventilation system. Experimental study of the distribution smoke temperature along the tunnel ceiling under the effect of the longitudinal velocity of ventilation [Hu *et al.* \(2007\)](#). Study the fire-induced smoke control by longitudinal and transverse ventilation systems [Vauquelin \(2008\)](#). To understand the phenomena, the critical velocity is evaluated for different channel dimensions and for different buoyant source characteristics to determinate the influence of these parameters on the critical velocity was studied by [Vauquelin \(2005\)](#).

[Hwang and Edwards \(2005\)](#) be studied the critical ventilation velocity and description of the stratification and the temperature distribution in tunnel fires. Hwang studied the stratification based on the experimental study of Newman. [Newman \(1984\)](#) described the temperature stratification in tunnel fires by the Froude model is defined by the following relation:

$$\frac{\Delta T}{\Delta T_{ref}} = f(F_r) = f \left\{ \frac{V_{ref}}{\left[\left(\frac{\Delta T}{T_{ref}} \right) g \bar{H} \right]^{1/2}} \right\} \quad (a)$$

Where ΔT is a temperature difference associated with the stratification; T_{ref} is the reference temperature; V_{ref} is the reference flow velocity; g is the acceleration due to gravity; \bar{H} is the characteristic dimension of the duct. In this study as in the study of [Hwang et al\(2007\)](#) a Froude number is used based on: $\Delta T = \Delta T_{cf}$;

$$T_{ref} = T_{avg} ; V_{ref} = V_{avg} \quad (b)$$

$$\text{With } V_{avg} = \frac{\rho_{in}}{\rho_{avg}} u_{in} \approx \frac{T_{avg}}{T_{in}} u_{in}$$

Three regions can be defined:

Region I: For $F_r \leq 0.9, \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta T_{avg}} \leq 1.7$; i.e., buoyancy dominating temperature stratification.

Region II: For $0.9 \leq F_r \leq 10, 0.12 \leq \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta T_{avg}} \leq 1.7$ i.e., significant interaction of the ventilation velocity with the fire-induced buoyancy occurs.

Region III: For $10 \leq F_r \leq 10, \frac{\Delta T_{cf}}{\Delta T_{avg}} \leq 0.12$ i.e., stratification is insignificant.

Also note that [Hwang and Edwards \(2005\)](#). showed that the Froude model is independent of the dimensions of the geometric configuration.

The smoke movement has been described mainly from of equations derived by applying Froude number preservation, combined with some experimental data from a model channel ([Kurioka et al. 2003](#); [Vauquelin 2005](#)).

The approximate Froude modeling requires geometric similarity, and does not apply to a full-scale tunnel. Functional relationships have been derived from laboratory-scale tests ([Wu. and Bakar 2000](#); [Kurioka et al. 2003](#); [Kunsch 2002](#))

All the numerical simulation results and the functional relationships should be validated, especially by experimental data.

[Kunsch \(2002\)](#) derived an expression that takes into account the effect of the aspect ratio of the tunnel cross-section on the critical ventilation velocity. To examine the relationship between the critical velocity and the fire heat release rate, [Oka and Atkinson \(1995\)](#) studied the smoke movement systematically, using a horizontal model tunnel which was (10)th scale of the colliery tunnel with propane

gas burners as fire sources, to control of smoke flow in tunnel fire.

[Chen \(2000\)](#) review the progress of research on smoke propagation in tunnels, wherein the tests in full-scale tunnels, the nature of fire, the smoke propagation behavior in tunnels and the longitudinal ventilation systems.

Some full-scale tests have also been carried out in the past years [Grant et al. \(1998\)](#): In 1992, large-scale tests were carried out in a disused two-lane highway tunnel in Virginia, USA with length of 850m and longitudinal slope of 3.2%, to assess the heat output. Afterwards, an extensive series of experiments were conducted at HSL, Buxton in a 366m long and 2.56m high tunnel with a cross-section of 5.4m², to provide data suitable for the validation of CFD simulation. In 1994, tests were performed in a disused Norwegian mine tunnel, nominally 5.5m high, 6.5m wide and 2.3km in length under the EUREKA EU499 project [Grant and Drysdale \(1995\)](#). The main objective of this series of tests was to determine the heat output of fire in tunnels and the velocity profile upstream of the fire. In the full-scale, the transverse and longitudinal ventilation configurations were studied in the Memorial Tunnel Program [Luchian and Bendelius \(1994\)](#).

When a fire occurred in a tunnel, a buoyant smoke flow formed below the ceiling along the tunnel. The development of a buoyant smoke layer in a tunnel can be summarized into four phases or regions ([Delichatsios 1981](#); [Kunsch 1999](#)):

- Impinging region of rising plume on the ceiling
- Radial spread of smoke under the ceiling after impingement
- Interaction with side walls, and thus the transition region to one-dimensional spread
- One-dimensional spreading.

The mechanism for the tunnel plume distribution is the interaction of the air flow with the plume and the interaction of the plume with the tunnel walls.

In a tunnel fire situation, since the fresh air is supplied via the ventilation upstream from the fire, there would be rapid air entrainment into the fire plume upstream compared with the downstream area. The entrainment rate is responsible for the flame height and the characteristics of the fire plume. Heat transfer from the smoke to the cooler ceiling can reduce the temperature and friction force and also the smoke velocity. Ceiling area plays an important role in the movement of the ceiling jet. The geometry of a tunnel is an important factor affecting growth and development of a fire [Lee and Ryou \(2006\)](#). [Kurioka et al. 2003](#) carried out experiments to understand the fire properties in the near field of a fire source considering the aspect ratio.

This paper presents numerical investigations carried out on a small scale tunnel model to study the fire-induced smoke control by longitudinal and longitudinal-natural

ventilation systems, for certain types of tunnels, based on the criterion of flow stratification and temperature distribution.

2. NUMERICAL MODEL

The Fire Dynamics Simulator (FDS) is being developed at NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) (2006) to study fire behavior and to evaluate the performance of fire protection systems in buildings. An approximate form of Navier–Stokes equations appropriate for low Mach number applications is used in the model. The approximation involves the filtering out of acoustic waves while allowing for large variations in temperature and density. To handle sub-grid scale convective motion, a large eddy simulation technique is used in which the large-scale eddies are computed directly and the sub-grid scale dissipative processes are modeled. Fire-driven flow in FDS is simulated by LES turbulence model. Details on the numerical model may be found in (McGrattan 2006; McGrattan and Forney 2006). The computer program can be used to analyze fire related problems, such as temperature, velocity and concentration distribution.

FDS solves flow equations numerically.

The physical equations include Navier–Stokes equations for flow analysis, energy conservation equations for temperature distribution, and other scalar equations for smoke and particulates transport. Governing equations are described as follows (NIST, 2006):

Conservation of mass:

$$\frac{\delta \rho}{\delta t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho u) = 0 \quad (1)$$

Conservation of momentum:

$$\rho \left(\frac{\delta u}{\delta t} + (u \cdot \nabla) u \right) + \nabla p = \rho g + f + \nabla \cdot \tau \quad (2)$$

Conservation of energy:

$$\frac{\delta(\rho h)}{\delta t} + \nabla \cdot \rho h u - \frac{Dp}{Dt} = \dot{q}'' - \nabla \cdot q_r + \nabla \cdot k \nabla T + \nabla \cdot \sum_l h_l (\rho D)_l \nabla Y_l \quad (3)$$

Conservation of species:

$$\frac{\delta(\rho Y_l)}{\delta t} + \nabla \cdot \rho Y_l u = (\rho D)_l \nabla Y_l + w_l'' \quad (4)$$

CFD simulation is now a practical tool in fire engineering for simulating buoyancy-induced flows (Li and Chow 2004; Zhang *et al.* 2002). Turbulence methods commonly used in CFD are based on the Reynolds Averaging Navier–Stokes equation (RANS) method, Large Eddy Simulation (LES) and Direct Numerical Simulation (DNS).

In this study used Large Eddy Simulation (LES) method. The application of LES techniques to fire is aimed at extracting greater temporal and spatial fidelity from

simulation of fire. This model explicitly calculates the turbulent large scales and models the effects of smaller ones using sub grid closure rules. LES of reacting flows can resolve the instantaneous position of a large-scale flame, so that LES captures the low-frequency variations of flow parameters. The approach based on LES has a particular advantage over the Reynolds-averaging procedures in that only the effects of small-scale turbulence motion have to be modeled. The balance equations for LES are obtained by filtering the instantaneous balance equations. In predicting smoke movement by LES, two points should be considered (McGrattan 2006; McGrattan and Forney 2006; Smagorinsky 1963)

-Fine enough grids; and

-A suitable Sub-grid Model (SGM) on small eddies.

The grid size should be fine enough to include the turbulence scales associated with the largest eddy motions which can be described accurately by the SGM. The ratio of the largest to the smallest eddy length scales that can be resolved by the computation with the current hardware limitations giving a few million grids is about 100 McGrattan (2006).

The LES Sub-grid Model commonly used in LES was developed originally by Smagorinsky. In LES, the eddy viscosity was obtained by assuming that the small scales are in equilibrium, by balancing the energy production and dissipation McGrattan (2006). A refined filtered dynamics sub-grid model was applied in the FDS model to account for the sub-grid scale motion of viscosity, thermal conductivity and material diffusivity McGrattan (2006). The dynamic viscosity defined in FDS is

$$\mu_{ij} = \rho_{ijk} (Cs\Delta)^2 |s|$$

Where Cs is the empirical Smagorinsky constant,

$\Delta = (\delta x \delta y \delta z)^{1/3}$ and

$$|s| = 2 \left(\frac{\delta u}{\delta x} \right)^2 + 2 \left(\frac{\delta u}{\delta y} \right)^2 + 2 \left(\frac{\delta w}{\delta z} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta u}{\delta x} + \frac{\delta v}{\delta y} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta u}{\delta z} + \frac{\delta w}{\delta x} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\delta v}{\delta z} + \frac{\delta w}{\delta y} \right)^2 - \frac{2}{3} (\nabla \cdot \vec{u})^2 \quad (5)$$

The term $|S|$ consists of second-order spatial differences averaged at the grid centre. The thermal conductivity k_{ijk} and material diffusivity D_{ijk} of the fluid are related to the viscosity μ_{ijk} in terms of the Prandtl number Pr and Schmidt number Sc by:

$$k_{ijk} = \frac{C_p \mu_{ijk}}{Pr} \quad (6)$$

$$(\rho D)_{ijk} = \frac{\mu_{ijk}}{Sc} \quad (7)$$

Both Pr and Sc are assumed to be constant. The specific heat C_p is taken to be that of the dominant species of the

mixture McGrattan (2006). The constants C_s , Pr and Sc are defaulted in FDS as 0.2, 0.5 and 0.5, respectively.

The Courant–Friedrichs–Lewy (CFL) was used in FDS McGrattan (2006) for justifying convergence. This criterion is more important for large-scale calculations where convective transport dominates the diffusive one. The estimated velocities are tested at each time step to ensure that the CFL condition is satisfied McGrattan

$$(2006): t. \max \left(\left| \frac{u_{ijk}}{\partial x} \right|, \left| \frac{v_{ijk}}{\partial y} \right|, \left| \frac{w_{ijk}}{\partial z} \right| \right) \quad (8)$$

The initial time step was set automatically in FDS by the size of a grid cell divided by the characteristic velocity of the flow.

Default values of the initial time step is $5(\partial x \partial y \partial z)^{1/3} / \sqrt{gH}$ where $\delta x, \delta y$ and δz is are the dimensions of the smallest grid cell, H is the height of the computational domain, and g is the gravitational acceleration McGrattan (2006).

During the calculation, the time step is varying and constrained by the convective and diffusive transport speeds to ensure that the CFL condition is satisfied McGrattan (2006).

The time step is eventually changed to a quasi-steady value when the fire burns steadily. The results from a numerical analysis are sensitive to the grid size used. In this study we chose the time step to be sure that the CFL condition is verified, in order to obtain a good convergence. The most recent models derived to calculate the critical ventilation velocity are those presented by (Thomas 1968; Danziger and Kennedy 1982; Oka and Atkinson (1995); Wu and Bakar 2000; Kunsch 2002) in table 1.

This study used dimensionless velocity and dimensionless heat release rate with the tunnel hydraulic height as the characteristic length in the analysis. The study of the fire plume showed that the critical ventilation velocity is determined by the interaction of the fire with the fresh air ventilation flow and the tunnel walls. The flow behaviors should be studied in three dimensions. The presence of the tunnel wall has a strong influence on the fire plume distributions.

The tunnel fire situation is in principle different from the one where fire plume impinges on a ceiling, in which the buoyancy force in the ceiling flow is a function of the ceiling height. In a tunnel fire, the buoyancy force in the back layering is due to the whole fire plume

Table 1 The models derived to calculate the critical velocity of ventilation.

Formulae	Remark	Source
$U_c = \left(\frac{gHQ}{\rho_0 T_0 c_p A} \right)^{1/3}$		Thomas (1968)
$U_c = \left(\frac{gHQ}{\rho_0 T_0 c_p A R_{i,c}} \right)^{1/3}$	$R_{i,c} = 4.5$	Danziger & Kennedy (1982)
$U_c^* = 0.35 \left(\frac{\dot{Q}^*}{0.124} \right)^{1/3} \text{ for } \dot{Q}^* < 0.124$ $U_c^* = 0.35 \text{ for } \dot{Q}^* > 0.124$	$U_c^* = \frac{U}{\sqrt{gH}}$ $\dot{Q}^* = \frac{\dot{Q}}{\rho_0 T_0 c_p g^{1/2} H^{1/2} A}$	Oka & Atkinson (1995)
$U'_c = 0.4 \left(\frac{Q'}{0.20} \right)^{1/3} \text{ for } Q' \leq 0.20$ $U'_c = 0.30 \text{ for } Q' \geq 0.20$	$U'_c = \frac{U_c}{\sqrt{gH}}$ $Q' = \frac{Q}{\rho_0 T_0 c_p g^{1/2} \bar{H}^{5/2}}$ $\bar{H} = 4A / P$	Wu & Bakar (2000)
$U'_a = c_1 \frac{\sqrt{1+c_2 Q_0^{*2/3}}}{1+6.13 Q_0^{*2/3}} Q_0^{*1/3}$ $(H/w) = 1, \quad c_1 = 1.44, \quad c_2 = 3.57$ $(H/w) = 0.5, \quad c_1 = 1.48, \quad c_2 = 3.11$	$U'_a = \frac{U_a}{\sqrt{gH}}$ $Q_0^* = \frac{Q}{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} p \sqrt{gH}^{5/2}}$	Kunsch (2002)

Although the problem is three-dimensional, at the critical ventilation conditions, the flow in the tunnel can be

divided into three sections, they are the fresh air flow section, the fire plume section and the downstream smoke

flow section. In each section, the mean hydraulic tunnel height is the characteristic length for the flow. Therefore it provides a basis for using the hydraulic tunnel height as the characteristic length in the dimensionless analysis study.

The following dimensionless for heat release rate and the critical ventilation velocity in this study:

$$Q'' = \frac{Q}{\rho_0 T_0 c_p g^{1/2} \bar{H}^{5/2}} \quad (9)$$

$$U_c'' = \frac{U_c}{\sqrt{g\bar{H}}} \quad (10)$$

Where U_c'' and Q'' are the dimensionless critical ventilation velocity and dimensionless heat release rate. Where ρ_0 is ambient air density, C_p is heat capacity of the hot gases, T_0 is the ambient temperature and g the acceleration due to gravity ($g = 9.81 m/s^2$). The expression of \bar{H} is $\bar{H} = 4.A/P$. A cross-sectional area of the tunnel and P is the tunnel perimeter.

The geometric configuration of the field study is shown in Figure 1a. The longitudinal computational domain, $L=14.92m$, was divided into five segments Figure 1-b.

Segment 1 is the upstream section of the tunnel, its length is $2.01 m$ and $\delta x = 0.03m$. Segment 2 has a length $3.00 m$ and $\delta x = 0.02m$. Segment 3 was the burner section of length $2.41 m$ and $\delta x = 0.01m$. Segment 4 has a length $2.82 m$ and $\delta x = 0.02m$. Segment 5 is the downstream section of the tunnel, its length is $4.68 m$ and $\delta x = 0.03m$. Non-uniform distribution of the mesh allows us to maintain a sufficient degree of accuracy in the solution. Width, $W=0.5m$, is meshed with $\delta y = 0.01m$ and height, $H=0.25m$, is meshed with $\delta z = 0.01m$.

The first plane of the longitudinal domain was set to be the inlet of the longitudinal air flow and the last plane was set as the naturally opened with no initial velocity boundary condition specified. At the tunnel wall, the velocity satisfied the condition of adhesion. The circular burner was simulated as a square burner with different dimensions suitably to each release rate. The initial temperature is that of the ambient, $20^\circ C$, in the field of computing. The side of the source varies from 0.08 to $0.26 m$ for 1.5 will heat release rate up to $30 KW$. These fire sizes correspond to fires of approximately $2.5-50MW$ in a reality. A propane gas burner was used to simulate the fire source, for designating a fire is to prescribe a Heat Release Rate Per Unit Area (HRRPUA) on a SURF line.

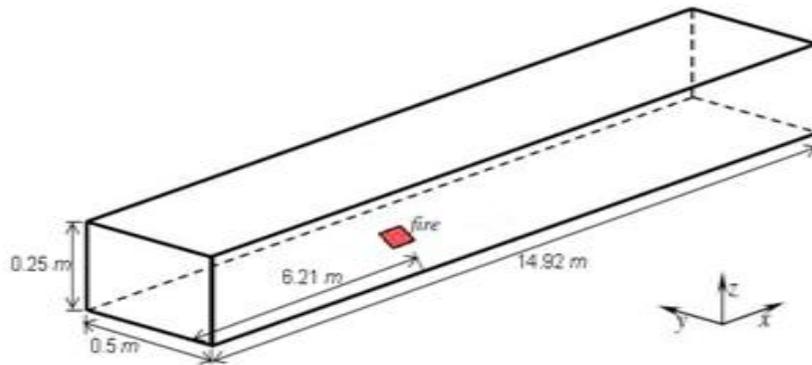


Fig. 1a. Geometric configuration

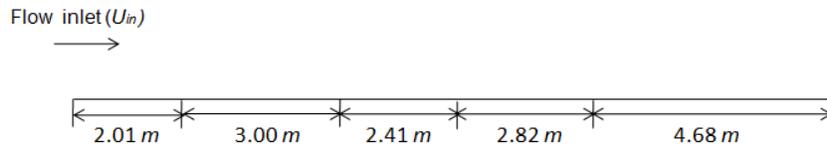


Fig. 1b. Boundary condition and mesh distribution

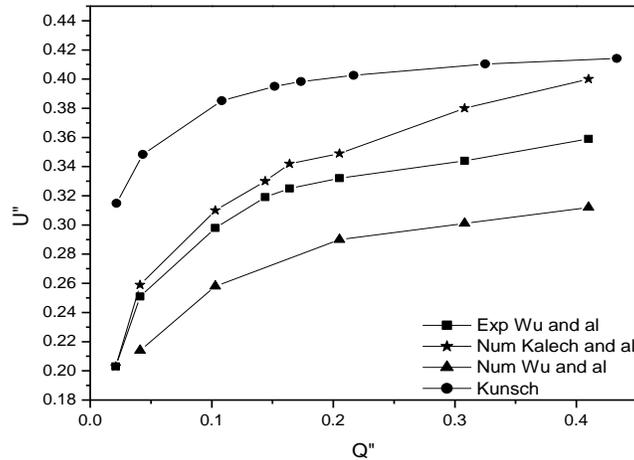


Fig. 2. Curve Validation

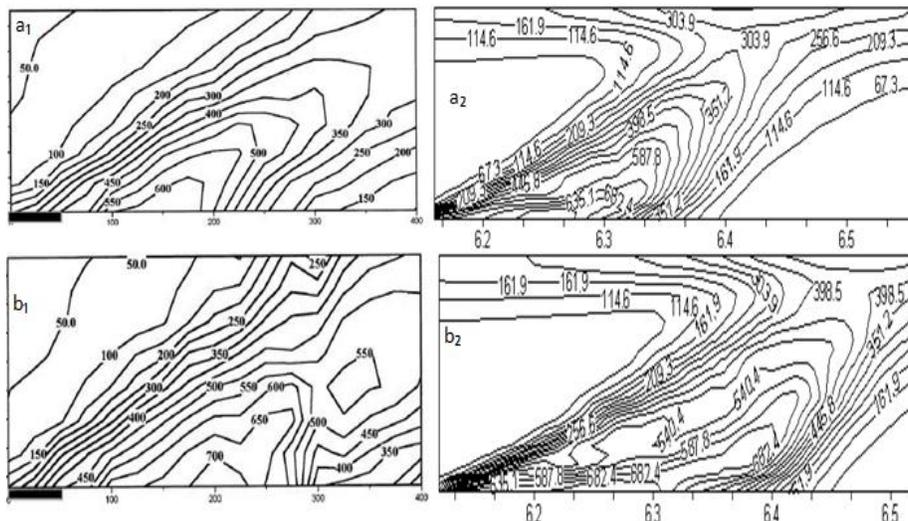


Fig. 3. Temperature contour at $y = 0.25m$ plane, showing the conditions at the critical ventilation. (a) $Q = 7.5kW$, (b) $Q = 15kW$; (1-EXP) Wu and al, (2-NUM) Kalech and al

A Validation of Simulations against the experimental results available in the public literature by Wu and al and the model of Kunsch in Figure 2, the critical velocity is plotted as a function of the heat release rate in dimensionless form. In our study the critical velocity taken as reference is that which with a back-layering does not exceed the height 'H' of the tunnel to multiply by 2.25.

Figure 3 shown is the values found of the temperature for each power are in good agreement with experiments performed previously and literature. A good agreement was obtained with the simulated current values for the temperature and the critical value of the ventilation velocity.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The fire simulation is done by a plume. This problem is complex for the presence of the longitudinal air flow. First, the trajectory of the fluid is diverted downstream of the flow and by the problem geometry and characteristic of the plume, the flow can take several forms. The important parameters are the angle of inclination of the plume and the balance between buoyancy and momentum in the plume.

In this study, the geometric configuration as shown in Figure 4, he is identical for all simulations as it was previously defined in the validation, even for the mesh, the turbulence model and boundary conditions. In all cases by setting the velocity of longitudinal ventilation and the heat release rate convected. The width "d" of opening equal to 0.04m.

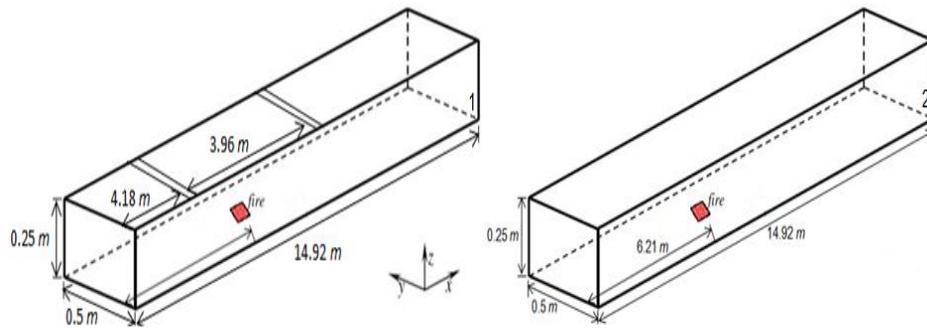


Fig. 4. Geometric configuration adopted for simulations

The longitudinal ventilation velocity had a large influence, on the smoke temperature distributions, as shown in figures 5 and 6. For these temperature fields in figures 5a and 6a, the temperature at 0.1m away from the fire was higher upstream than downstream, and were nearer at 0.15m position. At further away positions, they were much lower upstream than downstream. This phenomenon should be due to their different physics embedded for upstream positions near the fire and far away.

At the near fire position, the incoming longitudinal ventilation velocity would act like a barrier, the heat would accumulate at these positions and the local temperature would be higher, while for the upstream positions some further away, beyond the barrier, the smoke front upstream would shear with the oppositely coming longitudinal velocity, resulting in more air entrainment and faster temperature decrease.

At velocity of ventilation equal to 0.62 m/s, the critical velocity of ventilation, in figure 5a the temperature reached 700 °C at the source.

In the upstream side of the source the temperature varies from 145 °C to 290 °C and in the downstream side of the source the temperature varies from 80 °C to 145 °C. In figure 6a, at the source the temperature reached 640 °C and in the downstream side of the source the temperature varies from 90 °C to 145 °C. The highest temperature is below the ceiling and it degrades according on the length of tunnel. For the mixed ventilation system the values of temperature is high then values of longitudinal ventilation system.

There is a bigger jump temperature values depending on the height of the tunnel for the mixed ventilation system as the longitudinal ventilation system, as shown in figures 5a and 6a, then there exists a layer of smoke largest below the ceiling for the mixed ventilation system. Hence we can deduce that the flow is stratified, at the critical velocity of longitudinal ventilation equal to 0.62 m / s, for the mixed ventilation system.

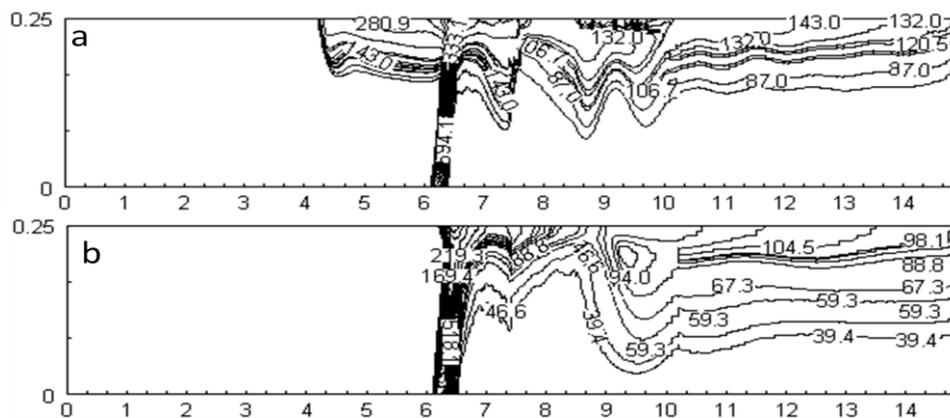


Fig. 5. Temperature contour at $y = 0.25$ plane or the mixed ventilation system (with opening)

$Q = 10.5KW$, (a) $U = 0.62m/s$ and (b) $=1.1m/s$.

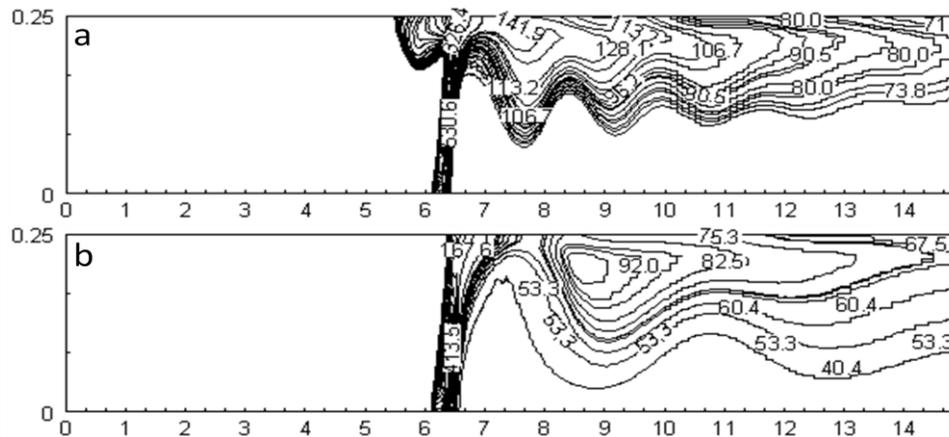


Fig. 6. Temperature contour at $y = 0.25$ plane for the longitudinal ventilation system

$Q = 10.5\text{KW}$, (a) $U = 0.62\text{m/s}$ and (b) $= 1.1\text{m/s}$.

For high velocity of ventilation in figures 5b and 6b, the temperature in the upstream side of the tunnel is the ambient temperature. Downstream of the tunnel, the temperature is distributed almost the entire height of the tunnel as the recorded values are 40°C to 90°C in the right before the opening and 40°C to 160°C in the left before the opening. The temperature values are almost equal. The flow is homogeneous, there is a mixture between air ventilation and the smoke which is delayed (destratification) flow and reduces the temperature values relative to the longitudinal air flow at low velocity of ventilation.

With longitudinal ventilation system and at the critical velocity of ventilation, upstream of the tunnel, the velocity of smoke becomes zero because all the quantity of pollutant is transported to the downstream tunnel. During this, with the ventilation system mixed (longitudinal-natural) a large amount of pollutants has been convected to the upstream portion of the tunnel for low velocity of ventilation. Has the opening to the left is a pressure difference between the inside of tunnel and the environment, it is an area of suction.

For the spread of smoke along the tunnel, there would be a boundary layer in the smoke layer contacting the tunnel ceiling. The smoke flow temperature would decrease along the tunnel due to the heat loss to the tunnel ceilings through this boundary layer.

It is one of the special features of tunnel fires, differing with that in normal compartment fires, that the smoke layer temperature decay largely when traveling down the tunnel.

The vertical temperature distribution at the downstream side of the tunnel is shown in figure 7. The recorded values of temperature are close to average for the two ventilation systems.

In exit of tunnel at Section 14.92m, two temperature profiles almost similar.

In Section 10.3m between the right opening and down the tunnel, for mixed ventilation system, the temperature equal to 20°C in the floor and increases slowly until it reaches 25°C at a height of 0.1m, then it increases progresely until it reached 80°C to 0.17m and in the end it increases sharply to reach 130°C below the ceiling. However, with the longitudinal ventilation system, it is expected that the temperature reached 45°C at 0.05m, 70°C at 0.1m and 0.15m from it would be equal to 105°C up to the ceiling. The vertical temperature profile for the longitudinal ventilation system does not admit an inflection point behavior the mixed ventilation system, compared to the mixed ventilation system, the temperature increase is progressively along the vertical direction, ie the flow is a homogeneous.

In Section 7.3 m , the temperature rise shows a steady and slow increase but experiences a sharp increase at an intermediate height $H=0.12\text{m}$ for mixed ventilation system. Then the temperature increases progressively along the height of tunnel.

In reality, thermal stratification still exists although it is very small, its effect is not negligible during all phases or a front separating the hot section and cold section exists in the tunnel, as it is already presented in figure7. In reality such a front is unstable. The advance of the front is followed by spotting sudden rises in temperature as it passes.

It is very difficult to define the interface smoke-fresh air from continuous temperature profile especially for large velocity of ventilation. We note that the profile has an inflection point in its upper part. This inflection point corresponds to the maximum temperature gradient, can therefore be regarded as representing the boundary between two layers of flow. The thermal stratification and the consequent flow patterns correlated well with the Froude number, for the case where we have used opening and for other case.

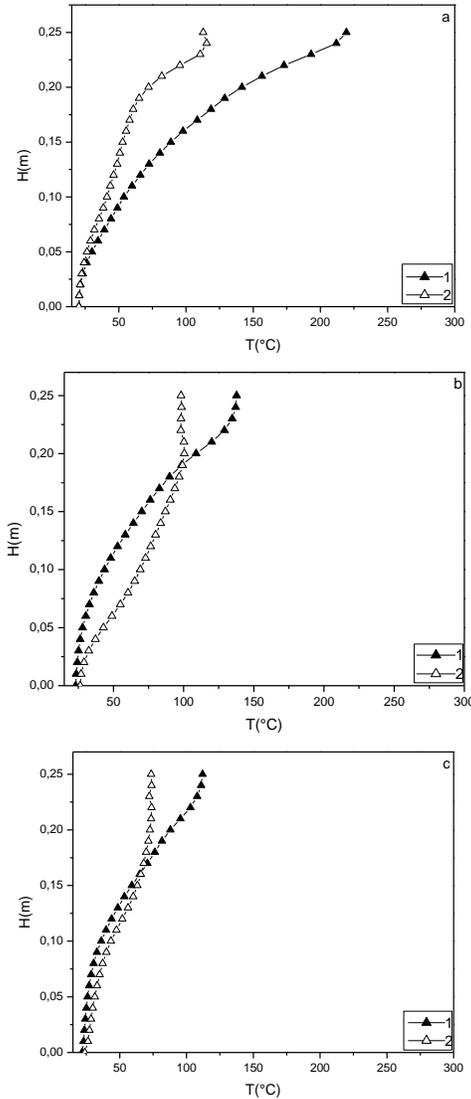


Fig. 7. The vertical temperature profiles at downstream of the tunnel, at (a) 7.3m, (b) 10.3m and (c) 14.92m for 10.5KW and $U_{in}=0.85$ m/s. mixed ventilation system and (2) longitudinal ventilation system.

Buoyancy and the inertia force are the two dominant factors that affect the fire-induced thermal stratification. The fire-induced buoyancy trends to maintain the stability of stratification, while the forced ventilation-induced inertia force trends to mix the flows. Thus, the fire-induced stratification depends upon the magnitudes of these two competing mechanisms. Froude number was usually used to characterize the fire-induced hot layer which represents the ratio of inertia force to buoyancy force [Wu and Bakar \(2000\)](#):

$$Fr = \frac{V_{avg}}{\left[\left(\frac{\Delta T_{cf}}{T_{avg}} \right) gH \right]^{1/2}} \quad (11)$$

Where ΔT_{cf} is the difference between the temperature near the ceiling and the temperature near the floor, T_{avg} is the average temperature in a section, V_{avg} is the average flow velocity; g is the acceleration due to gravity; H is the height of the channel.

$$\text{With: } V_{avg} = \frac{\rho_{in}}{\rho_{avg}} u_{in} \approx \frac{T_{avg}}{T_{in}} u_{in}$$

Figure 8 plots the Froude number of hot layer versus the ventilation velocity, the Froude number who is used as indicating of stratification.

At Region $Fr < 1$, the buoyant flow stratification was stable, where a distinct interface existed between the upper smoke layer and the lower air layer. The effect of buoyancy is more significant than the momentum forces in this case. Note also that for the temperature profiles we can see the point of inflection in the shape of the curve. The flow is more stably stratified because combined effect of momentum of heat input corresponds to very low Froude number.

At Region $Fr \geq 1$, the buoyant flow stratification is insignificant but with interfacial instability. By increasing the ventilation velocity, the buoyant flow stratification becomes unstable, with a strong mixing between the buoyant flow and the air flow. Froude number as shown in Figure 8, for the same heat release rate convected equal to 10.5KW, the Froude number is more important for the longitudinal ventilation system in all longitudinal sections.

Between the right opening and exit of the tunnel, in sections 10.3m and 14.92m, the flow is unstable for the velocity of ventilation roughly equal to 0.85m/s and it is completely destratified for velocities of ventilation superior to last for the two ventilation systems.

In approaching of the tunnel exit, the difference between the Froude number of longitudinal ventilation system and the Froude number of mixed ventilation system increases.

In Section 7.3m, between the source and the right opening, and with a velocity of ventilation equal to 0.85 m/s, the Froude number between 0.8 and 0.9 for the mixed ventilation system (1) and is equal to 1.35 for the longitudinal ventilation system (2) .

At the velocity of ventilation equal to 0.62 m/s, regarded as the critical velocity of ventilation in the longitudinal ventilation system, the flow is well laminated in the downstream side of the tunnel,

$Fr = 0.3$ in section 7.3m and $Fr \approx 0.9$ in sections 10.3m and 14.92m, for the mixed ventilation system. For the longitudinal ventilation system, the flow is laminated just at the section 7.3m, between the source and the right opening. $Fr=1$ at the section 10.3m ie the flow is unstable and $Fr=1.15$ at the exit of the tunnel here the destratified flow.

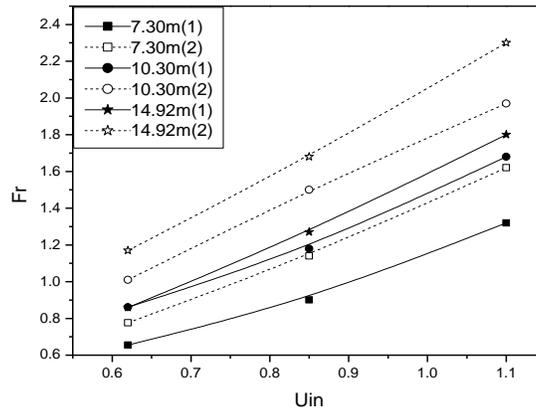


Fig. 8. Froude number versus the velocity of ventilation in tunnel fires at different sections.

This last interpretation on the stratification with $U=0.62$ m/s shows the favors to use of the openings to the ceiling and their influence on the stratification of flow. The flow is much more stratified with mixed ventilation system especially using the critical velocity of ventilation of the longitudinal ventilation system.

4. CONCLUSION

In this study, numerical simulations have been carried out to validate of FDS for examine the effect of the ventilation system on the temperature distribution and stratification in tunnel fires.

The longitudinal velocity affects the thermal stratification especially: firstly, longitudinal velocity generally results in the decrease in the hot layer temperature and increase the longitudinal velocity of upper buoyant flow, by enhancing the heat and mass exchange between the hot stratified layer and the lower cool layer. Secondly, longitudinal velocity air flow it increases the mixture between the upper hot layer and lower cool layer. The characteristics of buoyant flow stratification depend upon the magnitudes of buoyancy of the smoke flow itself and the inertia force induced by longitudinal air flow.

Instability of stratification resulted in a strong mixing between the buoyant flow and the air flow, and thus a thickened buoyant smoke layer. It also resulted in the smoke flow being pulled down to the lower spaces of the channel. Under such a condition, the human evacuation could be threatened by the smoke. These factors are recommended to be taken into account in the design of ventilation strategy for a fire emergency in a channel-like construction.

For some types of tunnels, sharp tunnels, and while relying on an important criterion which is manifested by the temperature distribution and stratification, we can conclude that it is more efficient to use the ventilation system mixed longitudinal natural that the longitudinal ventilation system.

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