
Preface

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Biographical notes: Bruno Chanetz graduated from University Lyon I [PhD in Fluid Mechanics in 1986; Habilitation to Manage Research (HDR) in 1997]. He was a Research Engineer at Onera in 1983, Head of Hypersonic Group in 1990, Head of Hypersonic Hyperenthalpic Project in 1997 and Head of Experimental Simulation and Physics of Fluid Unit in 1998, he is since 2003 Deputy Director of the Fundamental and Experimental Aerodynamic Department. Between 1996 and 2003, he was in charge of the 'boundary layer' course at 'Ecole Centrale de Paris', then Associated Professor at the University of Versailles from 2003 to 2009. He is presently an Associated Professor at the University Paris-Ouest. He has published 40 papers in archival journals and 100 articles in international or national conferences.

Jean Délery has been the Director of the Fundamental and Experimental Aerodynamics Department of Onera until 2003. He is now Emeritus Advisor for this department, Chairman of the Aerodynamics Commission of 3AF (French Aeronautics and Astronautics Society), Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the National Centre for Technological Research in the field of terrestrial vehicle aerodynamics and aeroacoustics. He is a Professor of Aerodynamics at EPF-Engineering School and gives lectures at the University of Paris and the University of Rome 'La Sapienza'.

Abderrahmane Baïri is a Professor at University of Paris Ouest (UPO). His main teaching activity is related to heat transfer and engineering numerical methods. His areas of research are numerical and experimental natural convection in closed cavities, thermal characterization of materials, heat transfer at solid-solid interfaces and renewable energy.

The Applied Aerodynamics Symposium is organised yearly in France by the Aerodynamics Technical Committee of the 'Association Aéronautique et Astronautique de France' (French Aeronautics and Astronautics Society or 3AF). The Symposium concentrates each year on a topic pertinent to the present interest of the aerodynamics research community. As international colleagues have contributed substantially to the conference in the past, the 3AF have decided to open it up to a larger audience by extending the participation to the international community and adopting English as the working language.

This year, the Symposium was held in the Ecole Centrale de Nantes between 23rd and 25th March 2009 and was devoted to the problem of control of uncertainties in experimental and numerical aerodynamics. In the present special issue of the *International Journal of Engineering*

Systems Modelling and Simulation (IJESMS), 13 papers together covering exhaustively the problem addressed by the conference are published. Four papers are concerned with numerical uncertainties whereas two deal with experimental uncertainties and another two with uncertainties in industrial applications. The last two papers address the issues of physical modelling, acoustics and receptivity. The articles have been peer-reviewed by experts in the aerodynamics field.

The next symposium will be held in Marseille from 22nd to 24th March 2010. The main research area covered by the congress will be aerodynamics of high-speed flows, from transonic to hypersonic. A special issue will be dedicated to this conference.