Abstract Submitted for the DFD07 Meeting of The American Physical Society

The turbulence dissipation constant is not universal because of its universal dependence on large-scale flow topography JOHN CHRISTOS VASSILICOS, NICOLAS MAZELLIER, Imperial College London — The dimensionless dissipation rate constant C_{ϵ} of homogeneous isotropic turbulence is such that $C_{\epsilon} = f(\log Re_{\lambda})C_{s}^{\prime 3}$ where $f(\log Re_{\lambda})$ is a dimensionless function of $\log Re_{\lambda}$ which tends to 0.26 (by extrapolation) in the limit where $\log Re_{\lambda} \gg 1$ (as opposed to just $Re_{\lambda} \gg 1$) if the assumption is made that a finite such limit exists. The dimensionless number C'_s reflects the number of large-scale eddies and is therefore non-universal. The non-universal asymptotic values of C_{ϵ} stem, therefore, from its universal dependence on C'_s . The Reynolds number dependence of C_{ϵ} at values of log Re_{λ} close to and not much larger than 1 is primarily governed by the slow growth (with Reynolds number) of the range of viscous scales of the turbulence. An eventual Reynolds number independence of C_{ϵ} can be achieved, in principle, by an eventual balance between this slow growth and the increasing non-gaussianity of the small-scales. The turbulence is characterised by five length-scales in the following order of increasing magnitude: the Kolmogorov microscale η , the inner cutoff scale $\eta_* \approx \eta (7.8 + 9.1 \log Re_{\lambda})$, the Taylor microscale $\lambda \sim Re_{\lambda}^{1/2} \eta$, the voids length-scale $\lambda_v \sim Re_{\lambda}^{1/3}\lambda$ and the integral length scale $L \sim Re_{\lambda}^{2/3}\lambda_v$.

> John Christos Vassilicos Imperial College London

Date submitted: 02 Aug 2007

Electronic form version 1.4