

Emil J. Hopfinger
LEGI, Domaine Universitaire,
B.P. 53
38041 Grenoble Cedex 9, France



Professor Emil Hopfinger has contributed to three major areas in fluid mechanics: Stratified flows, waves, gravity currents and mixing; Rotating flows and vortex dynamics; Turbulence, interfacial instabilities and atomisation. He has served as Director of the Laboratoire des Ecoulements Geophysiques et Industriel (LEGI), and as scientific advisor of French and international research committees, scientific councils and editorial boards, including *J. Fluid Mechanics*, *Annual Reviews Fluid Mechanics*, *Physics of Fluids* and *Fluid Dynamics Research*. He Chaired the APS Fluid Dynamics Prize committee, has been a Founding member of the Euromech, European Mechanics Association, and at present is Chairman of its Fluid Mechanics Prize committee. Noteworthy is the number of PhD students (45) and the large number of highly cited publications. In 2006 he was distinguished with the Euromech Fluid Mechanics Prize.

His research has played a key role for the understanding of stratified turbulence, waves and mixing, through modelling and a variety of innovating experiments that are related to geophysical flows. Examples are his research on gravity currents, avalanches and grid turbulence, and later, motivated by equatorial ocean dynamics, his research on the different flow regimes and mixing in stratified Taylor-Couette flow. Pioneering were also the laboratory experiments on rotating geostrophic turbulence and the interaction of baroclinic vortices. In turbulence, Professor Hopfinger contributed by considering internal intermittency using wavelet transform of turbulent signals showing the first quantitative results on pdf's in turbulence. More recently, motivated by problems in rocket engine combustion chambers and cryogenic liquid storage tanks, his research has been focused on multiple jet interactions, with large density and liquid-gas phase differences, as well as liquid sloshing and interface breaking in containers.

In recognition of his decades of inspiring and renewing contributions to the field of stratified and rotating stratified flows, we are very pleased to honor Professor Hopfinger and host a Special Session in his name at the VIIIth International Symposium on Stratified Flows.

Please join us in congratulating and thanking Professor Hopfinger during the Symposium.