

different  $L/D$  ratios, and  $\epsilon$  different pressures are necessary. Tracer runs at different gas consumption or gas generation rates are also needed.

## 8 Nomenclature

$c$	constant in equation for void fraction profile
$C_L$	liquid phase concentration, $\text{mol}/\text{cm}^3$
$C_G$	gas phase $\epsilon$ concentration, $\text{mol}/\text{cm}^3$
$D_c$	column diameter, $m$
$D_L$	liquid axial dispersion coefficient, $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$
$D_G$	gas axial dispersion coefficient, $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$
$D_{rr}$	radial turbulent diffusivity, $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$
$D_{zz}$	axial turbulent diffusivity, $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$
$g$	gravitational constant, $\text{cm}/\text{s}^2$
$H$	Henry's constant
$K_L a$	overall liquid side volumetric mass transfer coefficient, $\text{cm}/\text{s}$
$L$	height of liquid dispersion, $\text{cm}$
$m$	void fraction exponent
$U_G$	superficial gas velocity, $\text{cm}/\text{s}$
$\bar{U}$	liquid circulation velocity, $\text{cm}/\text{s}$
$z$	axial position of detector, $\text{cm}$

### Greek

$\alpha$	fraction of Gas phase tracer detected
$\epsilon_G$	gas holdup
$\tilde{\epsilon}_G$	constant $i$ in equation for void fraction profile
$\rho$	density, $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$
$\psi$	non dimensional radial position

### Subscripts

G	gas
L	liquid
t	time

U	upflow region
z	axial position

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## 10 Appendix I: Holdup Measurements

This appendix deals with some of the aspects on holdup measurements, that were discussed in the main report. The differences in gas holdup estimates between the nuclear densitometer and  $\gamma$  ray tomography technique are shown in Figure A.1.1. In nuclear densitometry (left figure), the source emits a narrow beam of  $\gamma$  radiation through the column, with a detector opposite it. This yields a series of chordal measurements. A single line averaged holdup can be obtained across the centerline of the column. In  $\gamma$  ray tomography (CT), a series of scans is obtained at different angular positions to yield a distribution of void fraction across a given cross-section. The average holdups obtained from NDG are thus higher than the true cross-sectional average holdups from CT. More details are presented elsewhere (Kumar et al, 1995).

However, as the void fraction profile becomes more uniform, that is, with larger values for the void fraction exponent  $m$  in equation 14, the differences are reduced. This is illustrated in Figure A.1.2.

Figure A.1.3 (a) and (b) shows the axial holdup profiles in the column from DP and NDG measurements at various process rates.

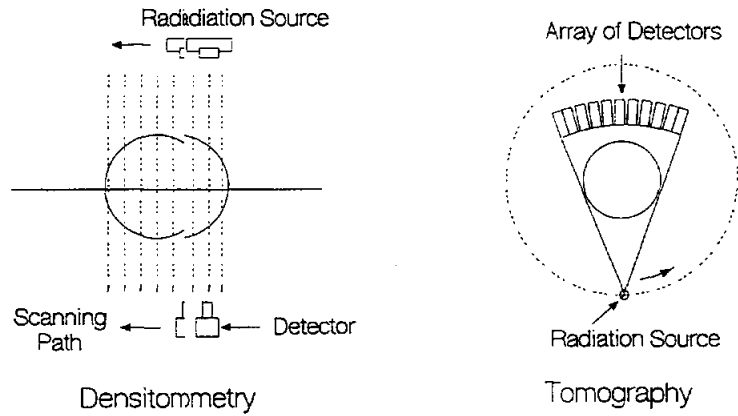


Figure A.1.1: Data Collection for Densitometry and Tomography

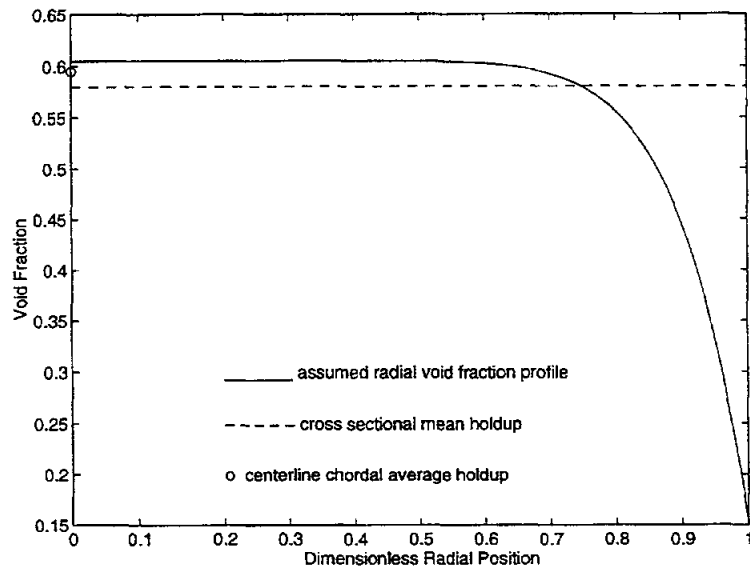


Figure A.1.2: Comparison  $\epsilon$  of Assumed Void Fraction Distribution and Centerline Chordal Average

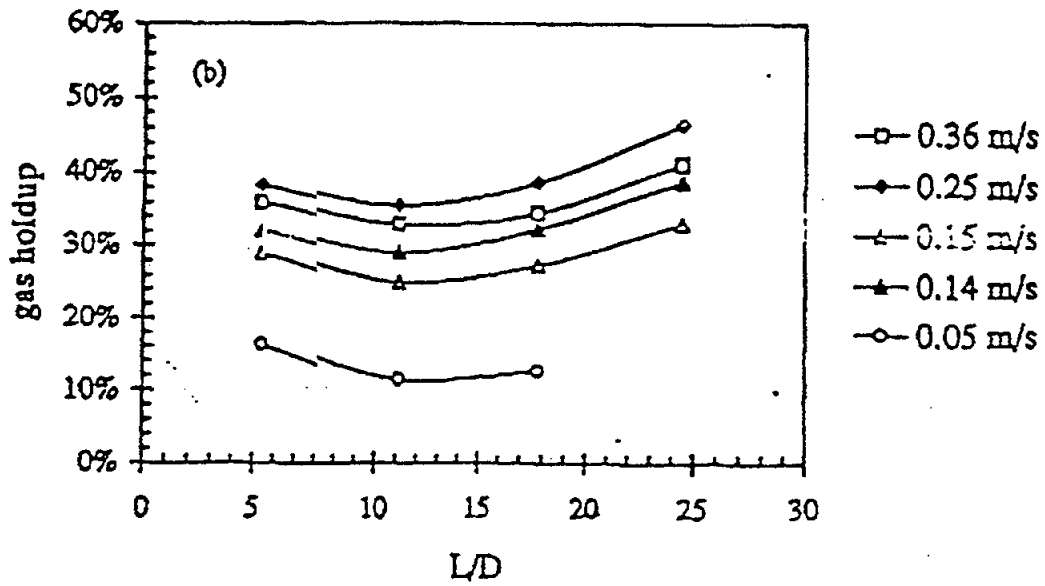


Figure A.1.3 (a) Axial Holdup Profile Measured by DP

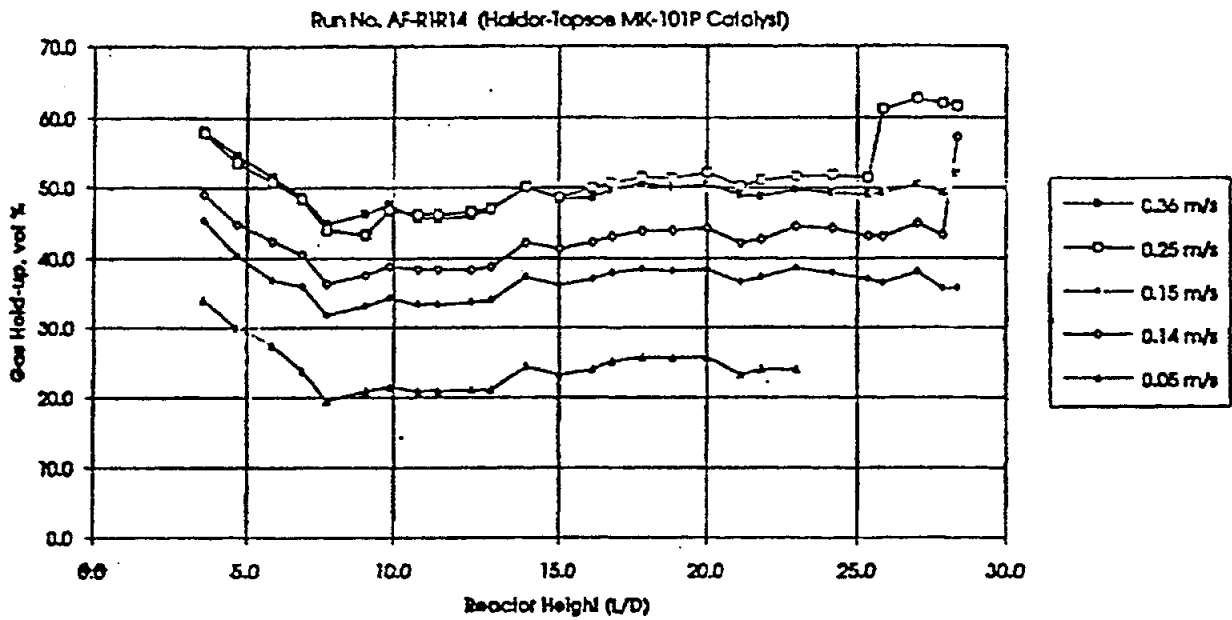


Figure A.1.3 (b) Axial Holdup Profile Measured by NDG

## 11 Appendix III: Simulation of the Radiation Intensity Measured by a Detector

The intensity of radiation from a point source recorded at a detector is given by the following expression:

$$n_p = AF.BF.\Omega.\eta.S \quad (24)$$

$n_p$  is the count rate (counts/time) at the detector due to a point source. Each factor is defined below.

The attenuation factor  $AAF$  is defined as

$$AAF = \exp[-(\mu_g l_g + \mu_{sl} l_{sl} + \mu_w l_w)] \quad (25)$$

in which  $\mu_g$ ,  $\mu_{sl}$  and  $\mu_w$  are the linear attenuation coefficients in the gas, the slurry and the wall of the reactor, and  $l_g$ ,  $l_{sl}$  and  $l_w$  are the effective distances or depths of penetration in the respective media. The attenuation coefficient in the gas phase is negligible when compared with the other phases, and so the term for the gas phase is ignored.  $l_{sl}$  takes into account the liquid (slurry) holdup. The calculation of  $l_{sl}$  depends on the nature of the holdup distribution. This assumes that the slurry is pseudohomogeneous. If that is not the case and if the attenuation coefficients for the solid and liquid are considerably different, then the term  $\mu_{sl} l_{sl}$  must be replaced by  $\mu_l l_l + \mu_s l_s$ , where subscripts  $s$  and  $l$  refer to solid and liquid, respectively.

The buildup factor  $BF$  represents the ratio of the intensity due to all photons to the intensity due to unscattered photons alone. It is defined empirically using the Berger equation (Tsoulfanidis, 1988):

$$BF = 1 + (a_{sl} \mu_{sl} l_{sl} + a_w \mu_w l_w) [\exp(b_{sl} \mu_{sl} l_{sl} + b_w \mu_w l_w)] \quad (26)$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are the empirical constants depending on the medium and energy of radiation.

The solid angle  $\Omega$  is the fraction of photons emitted by the source that is seen by the detector. For a shielded detector, only the front circular surface of the detector is exposed to the  $\gamma$  rays. For such a case, the solid angle is given by:

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos(\tan^{-1}(R_c/d))) \quad (27)$$

where  $R_c$  is the radius of the circular face of the detector, and  $d$  is the distance between the source and the detector.

$\eta$ , the efficiency of the detector, is taken to be a constant.  $S$  is the source strength. This is proportional to the concentration of tracer at a given location.

The detectors used are 2'2" x 2" NaI crystals, shielded on their sides. The various material constants at the energy levels of the source used are provided in Table A.2.1 (Tsoulfanidis, 1971).

Our objective is twofold. Initially we estimate the spatial range at a given axial position in the column over which the detector receives its signal. The simulation is done for an assumed uniform distribution of tracer and uniform distribution of phases. Secondly, we proceed to study the effect of the radially non-uniform gas holdup profile on the radiation received at the detector

#### 1. Uniform phase distribution and concentration of tracer in gas and liquid phase

The medium is considered to be homogeneous, with uniform phase and tracer distribution. Therefore the effective distance in the liquid (slurry) medium used in Equation 25 and 26 is given as

$$l_{sl} = l_{sd}(1 - \epsilon_G) \quad (28)$$

where  $l_{sd}$  is the distance between the source and center of the detector. The source strength or local activity is the same at all locations, since the concentration of tracer (which is proportional to the local source strength) is uniform. Substituting for all the factors into Equation 24, the count rate recorded at the detector due to the individual uniformly distributed point sources is calculated. The resulting spatial distribution of intensity (counts/time) at a given axial position is shown in Figure A.2.1. The position of the detector relative to the intensity distribution is shown in Figure A.2.2. The perpendicular distance between the face of the detector and the wall of the column is 2.54 cm (1 inch). The shaded region in Figure A.2.2. represents the volume (area) considered for the contribution of the radiation to the overall radiation received at the detector. The total radiation from this shaded region, which forms less than 1 % of the entire reactor volume, is 90 % of the total radiation from the entire domain. Since the detector is shielded on its sides, the contribution of radiation from different axial positions other than the cross-sectional slice (10 cm in thickness) at the axial position of the detector is negligible. Therefore it can be assumed that the radiation



measured at the detector at a given axial position is proportional to the concentration of tracer at that axial location.

## 2. Uniform tracer concentration and variable gas holdup profile

It is well known that there exists a cross-sectional holdup profile in the column. The effect of this profile, that is, variation in holdup, can be accounted for in the simulation of the radiation measured at the detector. This is done as follows:

- The gas phase model is used to estimate the cross-sectional average gas and liquid tracer concentrations ( $C_G$  and  $C_L$ ) at a given axial location and time.
- A suitable radial holdup profile of the gas  $\epsilon_G(r)$  and thereby the liquid  $\epsilon_L(r)$  is assumed (Kumar, 19994).
- The attenuation factor ( $AF$ ) and buildup factor  $BF$  are calculated by accounting for the local variation in the phase distribution.

$$AF = \exp(-([\int_{p_0}^{p_d} \mu_{sl}(1 - \epsilon_G(r))dl] + \mu_w l_w)) \quad (29)$$

where  $p_0$  and  $p_d$  denote the position of the source and detector. A similar expression is used for the buildup factor, which takes into account the varying phase distribution. Thereby the effects of radial gas holdup profile are properly accounted for in the factors  $AF$  and  $BF$ . The solid angle and efficiency remain unchanged from the previously discussed values. The source strength at a given point in the cross-sectional plane is calculated as

$$SS(r, z, t) = \epsilon_G(r)C_G(t, z) + \epsilon_L(r)C_L(t, z) \quad (30)$$

Substituting for the individual factors into Equation 24 and integrating over the field of view of the detector, the overall count rate is calculated, which gives the total tracer concentration at a given axial location  $C_t(t, z)$ .

In this simulation, the gas profile given by equation 21 is used with an exponent of  $m = 3$ . The effect of gas and liquid tracer concentration on the resultant count rate at the detector is shown in Figure A.2.3.(a), (b) and (c). When the gas and liquid tracer concentration are equal, the simulated profile is steep, similar to Figure A.2.1 with a sharp exponential decay. However, as the concentration of liquid tracer is

reduced, the profiles become flatter, and the contribution of the tracer in the shaded region of Figure A.2.2. to the total radiation is reduced (Fig A.2.3.(c)).

Therefore when the concentration of tracer in the liquid phase is low enough, as in the present situation, the  $\nu$  (cross-sectional) spatial contribution of radiation from the tracer at a given axial location becomes uniform and the simplified expression for  $C_i$  given by Eqn 7 is valid.

Table A.2.11 : Constants for Radiation Simulation

$\mu_{slsl}$	$0.065 \text{ cm}^{-1}$	$\mu_w$	$0.40 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
$a_{slsl}$	1.4	$a_w$	1.27
$b_{slsl}$	0.027	$b_w$	0.032

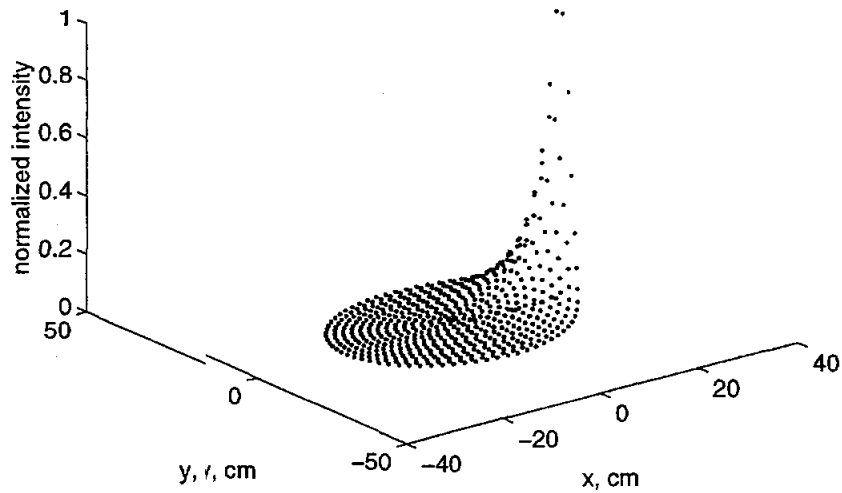


Figure A.2.1: (a) Three-Dimensional view of the (x,y) Spatial Distribution of Intensity in a Cross-Sectional Slice of the Reactor. Each '.' denotes a discrete source point at an (x,y) location. . Position of detector is shown in Fig. A.2.2. Contribution of the shaded region in Fig. A.2.2. is 90 %.

cm

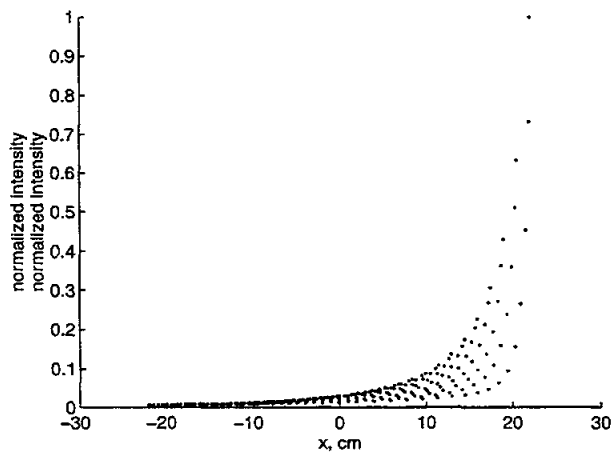


Figure A.2.1: (b) Front View (along x-axis) of Fig. A.2.1(a)

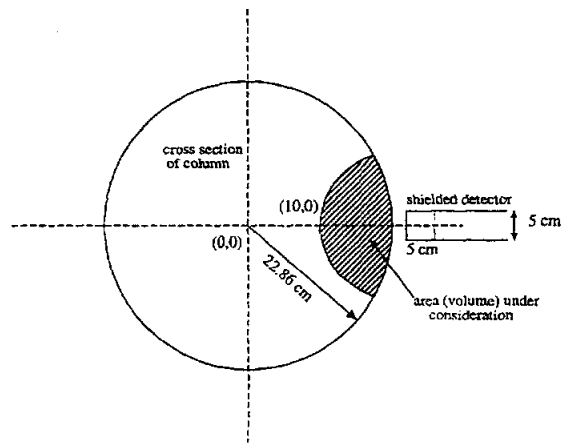


Figure A.2.2: Cross sectional view of the column with detector positioned along the 'x' axis. Shaded region represents the region considered for the contribution of radiation to the overall radiation received by detector.

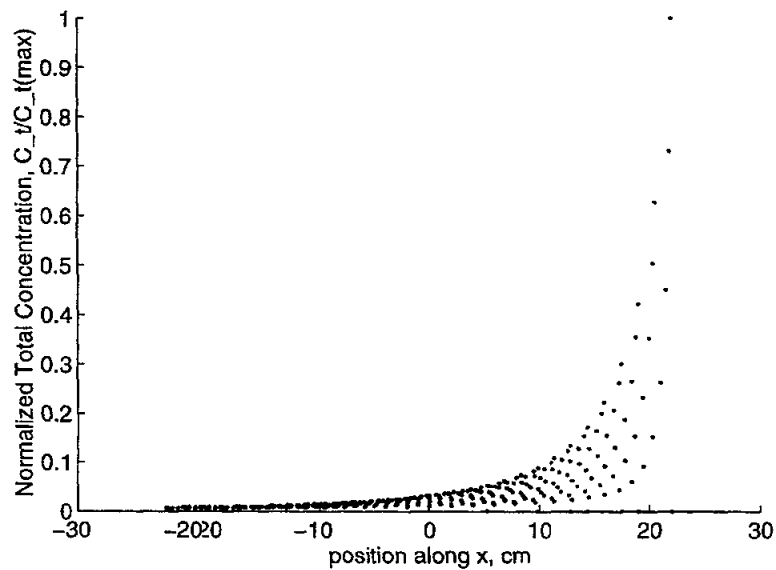


Figure A.2.3: (a) Front View of the (x,y) Spatial Distribution of Radiation with Non-Uniform Gas Holdup, and Equal Gas and Liquid Phase Tracer Concentration. The contribution of the shaded region in Fig. A.2.2. to the total radiation detected is 88 %.

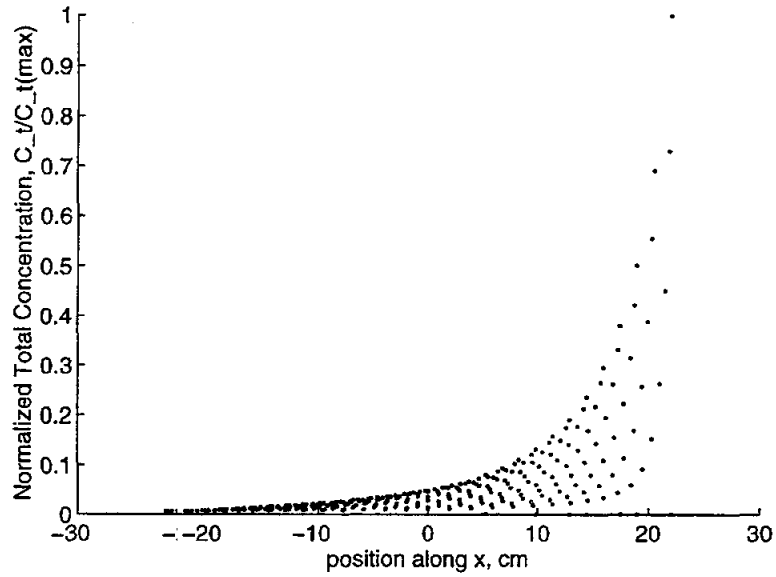


Figure A.2.3: (b) Front View of the (x,y) Spatial Distribution of Radiation with Non-Uniform Gas Holdup,  $\epsilon$ , and Ratio of Gas and Liquid Phase Tracer Concentration 1:0.5. The contribution of the shaded region in Fig. A.2.2. to the total radiation detected is 79 %.

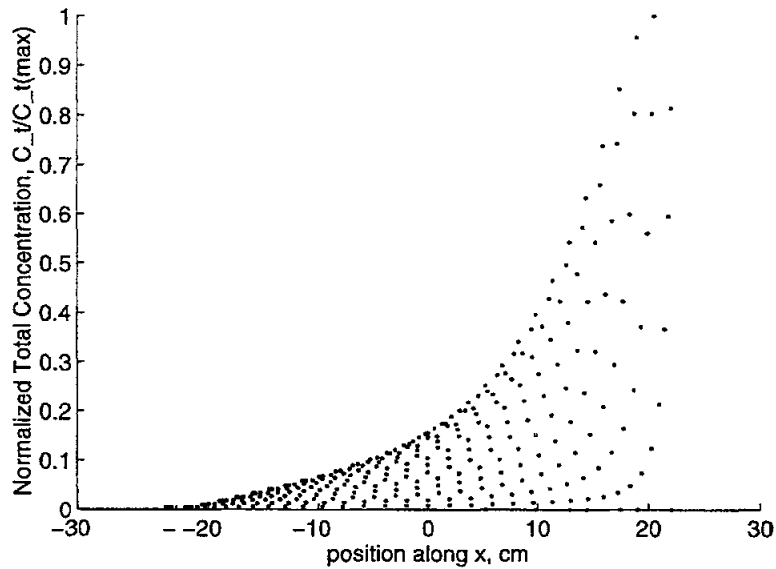


Figure A.2.3: (c) Front view of the (x,y) spatial distribution of radiation with non uniform gas holdup,  $\epsilon$ , and ratio of gas and liquid phase tracer concentration 1:0.1. The contribution of the shaded region in Fig. A.2.2. to the total radiation detected is 61%.

## 12 Appendix III: Liquid Tracer Experiments and Model Fits

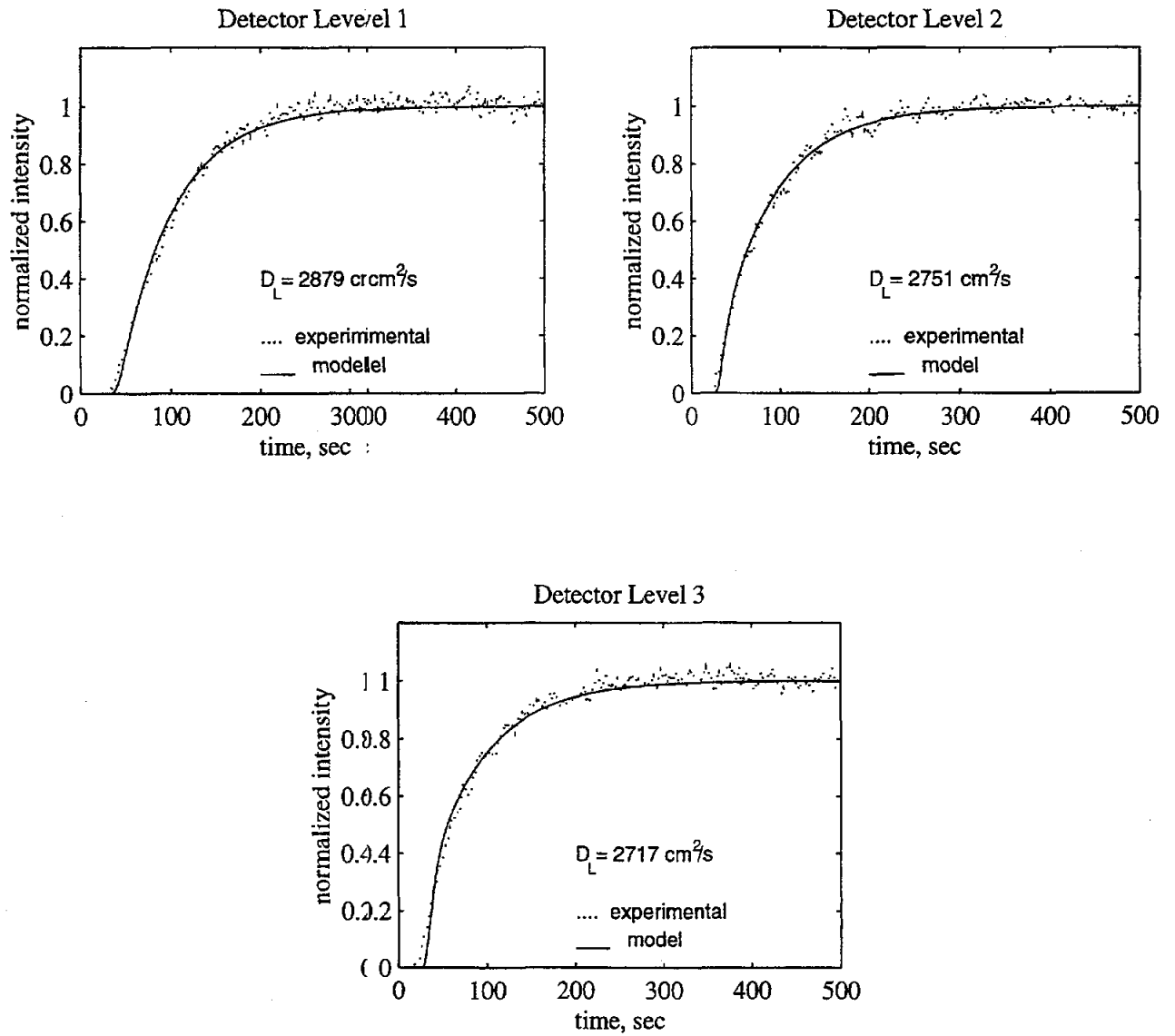


Figure A.3.1: Liquid Impulse Response Measurements for Run 14.6, N1-CEN, (5.2 MPa,  $U_G = 25$  cm/s), Injection Time 7.2s

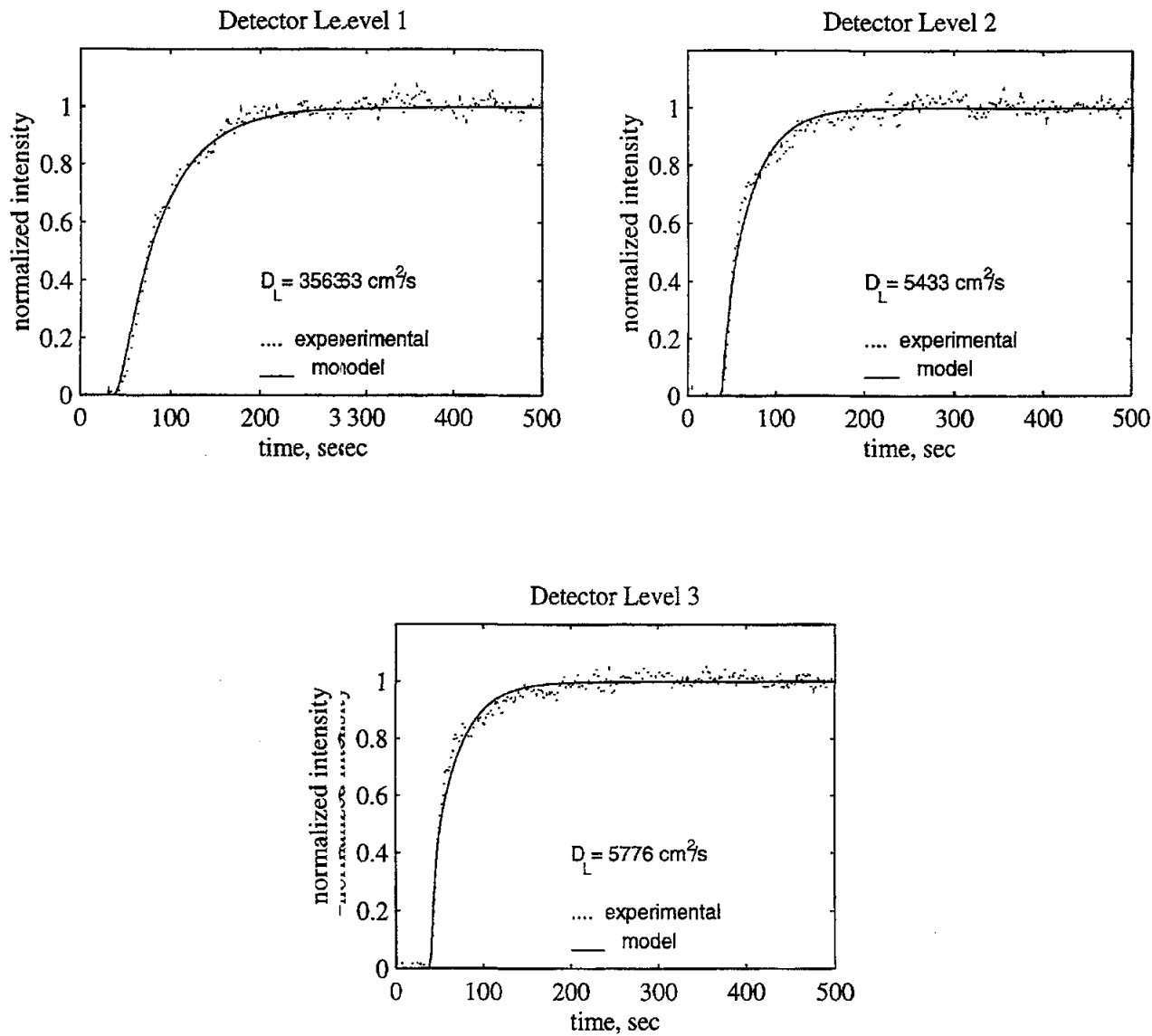


Figure A.3.2: Liquid Impulse Response Measurements for Run 14.6, N1-WALL, (5.2 MPa,  $U_G = 25$  cm/s), Injection Time 30.8s

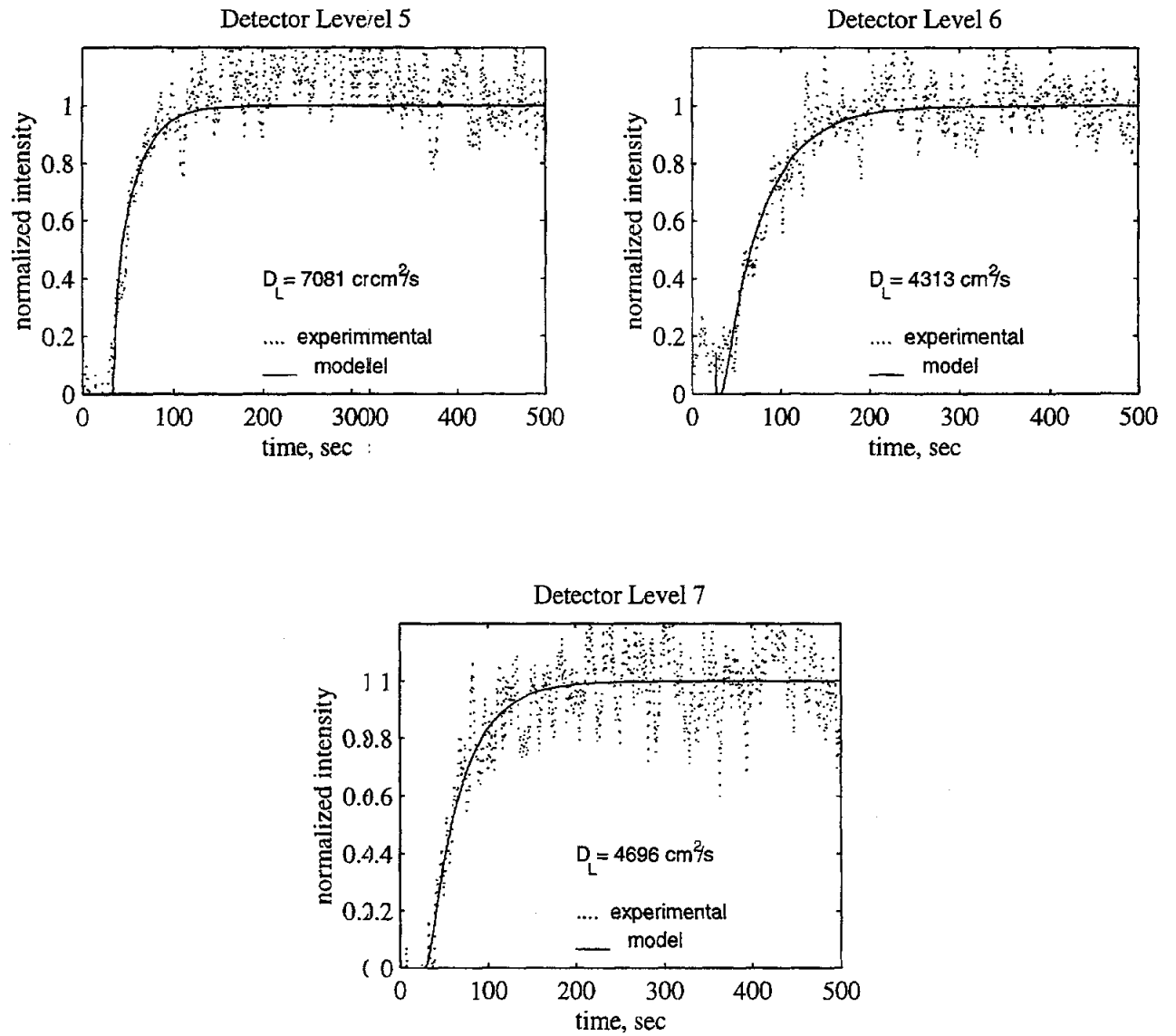


Figure A.3.3: Liquid Impulse Response Measurements for Run 14.6, N2-CEN, (5.2 MPa,  $U_G = 25$  cm/s), Injection Time 16.2s



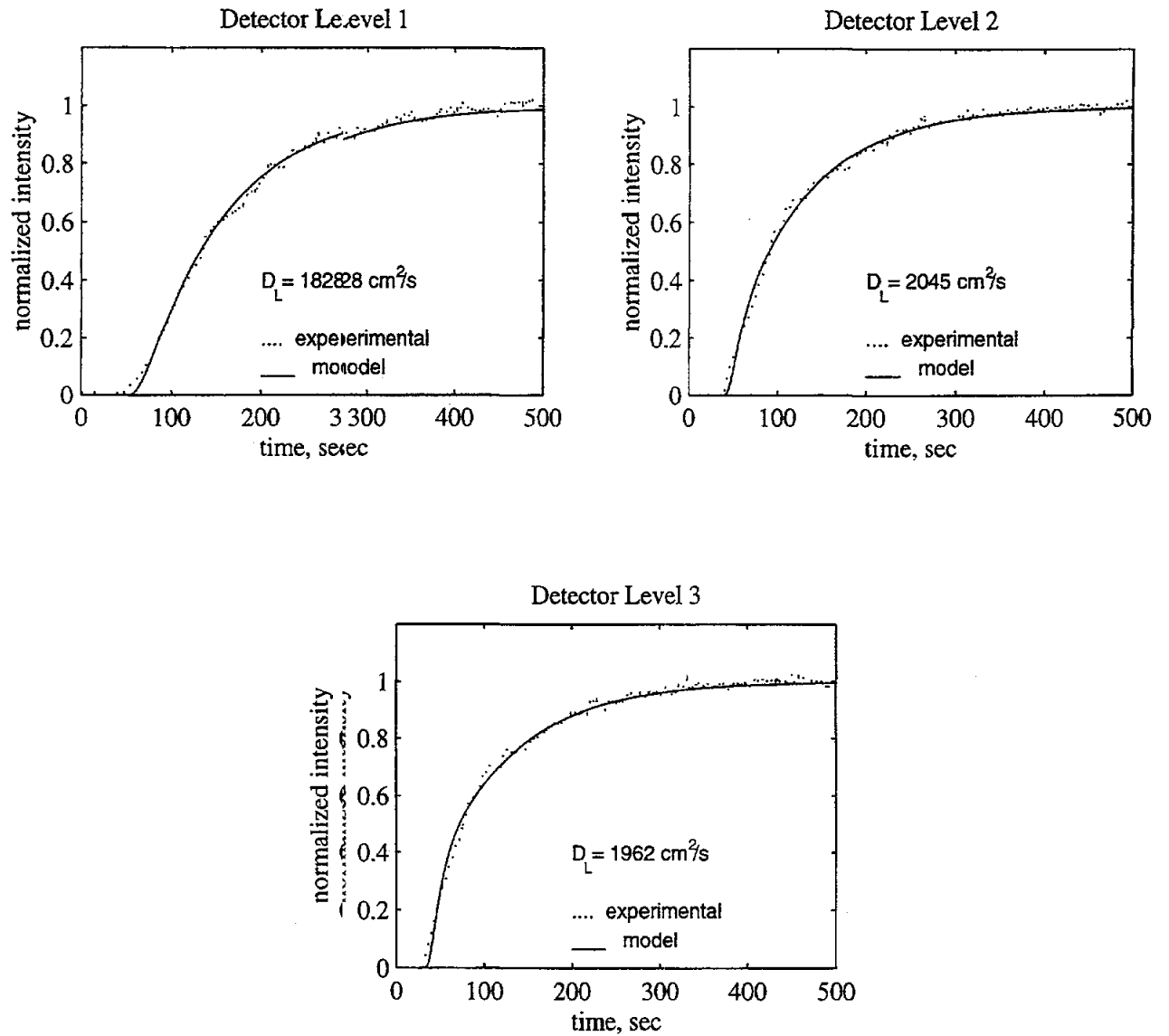


Figure A.3.4: Liquid Impulse Response Measurements for Run 14.7, N1-CEN, (5.2 MPa,  $U_G = 14 \text{ cm/s}$ ), Injection Time 26.4s

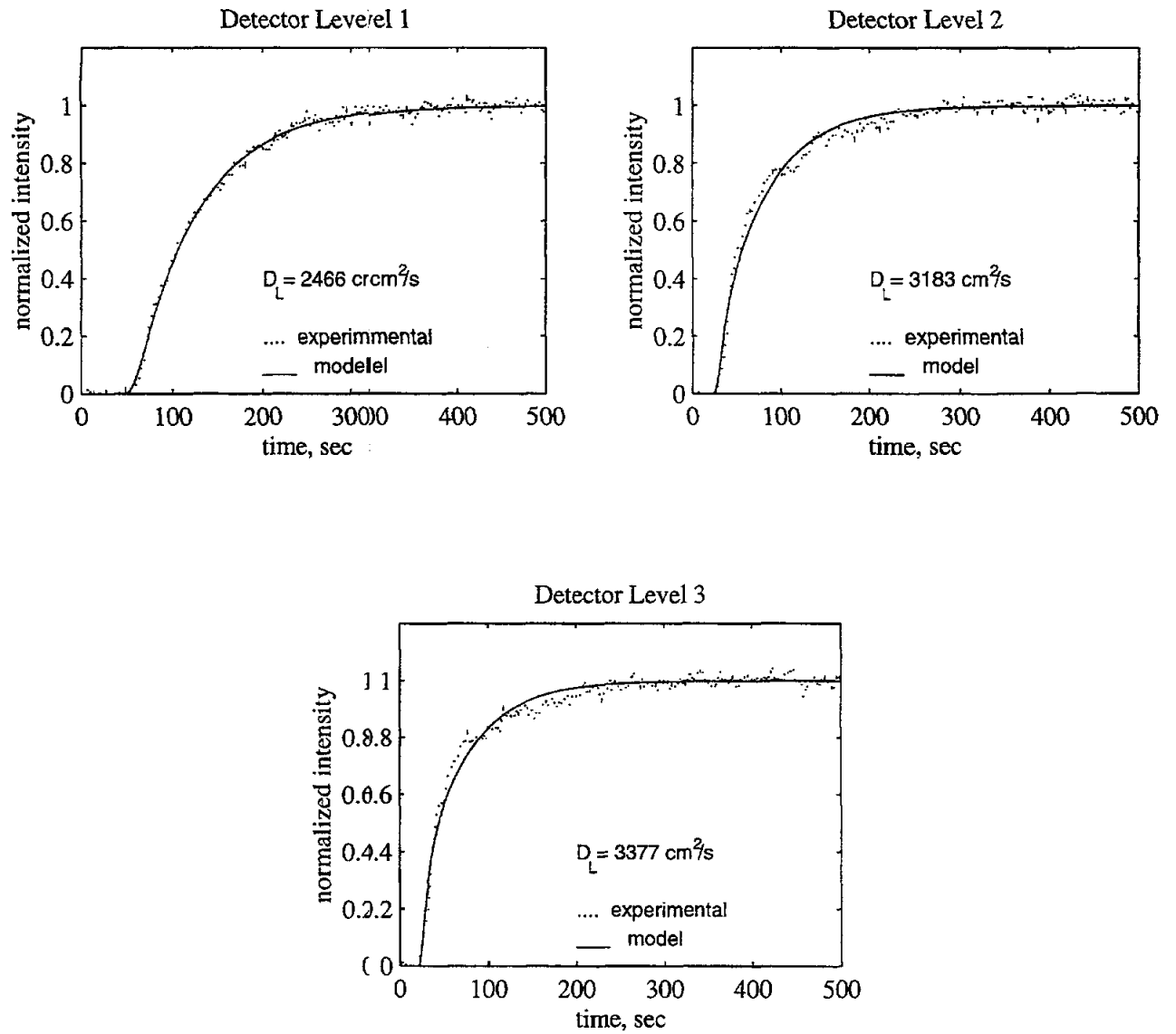


Figure A.3.5: Liquid Impulse Response Measurements for Run 14.7, N1-WALL, (5.2 MPa,  $U_G = 14 \text{ cm/s}$ ), Injection Time 25.5s

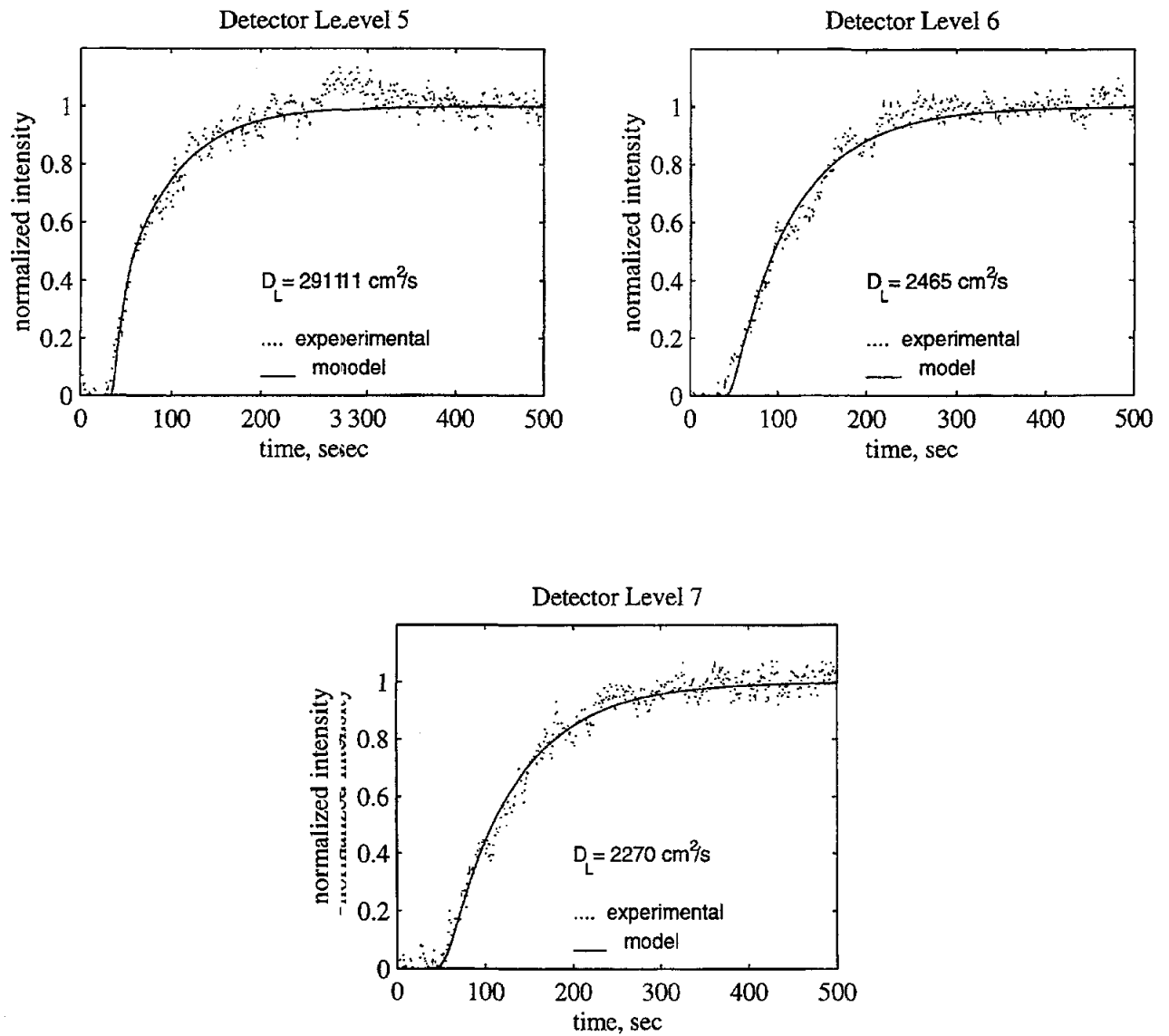


Figure A.3.6: Liquid Impulse Response Measurements for Run 14.7, N2-WALL, (5.2 MPa,  $U_G = 14$  cm/s), Injection Time 9.8s