

Article

# Spatial Distribution Characteristics of Rainfall for Two-Jet Collisions in Air

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**Abstract:** Many researchers have studied the energy dissipation characteristics of two-jet collisions in air, but few have studied the related spatial rainfall distribution characteristics. In this paper, in combination with a model experiment and theoretical study, the spatial distributions of rainfall intensity of two-jet collisions, with different collision angles and flow ratios, are systematically studied. The experimental results indicated that a larger collision angle corresponds to a larger rainfall intensity distribution. The dimensionless maximum rainfall intensity sharply decreased with the flow ratio, while the maximum rainfall intensity slightly increased when the flow ratio was greater than 1.0. A theoretical equation to compute the location of maximum rainfall intensity is presented. The range of rainfall intensity distribution sharply increased with the flow ratio. When the flow ratio was greater than 1.0, the range of longitudinal distribution slightly increased, whereas the lateral distribution remained unchanged or slowly decreased. A formula to calculate the boundary lines of the  $x$ -axis is proposed.

**Keywords:** rainfall intensity distribution; two water jets; collision in air; Gaussian distribution; trajectory line

## 1. Introduction

At present, the high dam projects that have been built, are under construction, or are planned in China have the common features of large drops, a narrow river valley, and a large flood discharge flow. The flood discharge energy dissipation mode of the dam body has been mostly adopted by two-jet collisions and downstream water reservoirs, such as Ertan (Figure 1), Xiaowan, Xiluodu, Goupitan, and the Jinping grade I project. Two-jet collisions in air change the motion track of each of the two jets, significantly disperse the water flow, effectively alleviate the dynamic pressure impact of the water flow on the bottom plate of the water cushion reservoir, and have a remarkable energy dissipation effect [1–7]. However, compared with the traditional energy dissipation method, two-jet collisions in air appear to be a serious problem with regard to flood discharge atomization in the existing engineering examples, which has caused great damage to the normal operation, traffic safety, surrounding environment, and even the stability of the downstream bank slopes. It is necessary to study the spatial distribution characteristics of rainfall intensity in two-jet collisions in air, in order to improve the prediction accuracy of the discharge atomization rain strength and influence range, as well as make a relevant protection classification and protection design scheme in the design planning [8–10].



**Figure 1.** Simultaneous discharge of the surface and the deep hole of the Ertan hydropower station in 2010.

Many former researchers who have studied two-jet collisions in air have focused on the energy dissipation effect of collisions. Xiong [11] introduced the main factors that affect energy dissipation during an in-air collision between the surface and the deep hole. Guo [12] theoretically analyzed the effect of the collision angle on energy dissipation. Using the momentum integral equation of fluid mechanics, Liu [13] derived the related formula of energy dissipation for the collision of two water jets in air in detail, and introduced the concept and calculation method for the energy dissipation rate. Diao [14] studied the relationship between the collision angle, the flow ratio, and the collision energy dissipation effect through model testing, and proposed that the main function of jet collisions is to disperse the water flow. Sun [15] analyzed hydraulic characteristics, such as the energy loss of up- and down-collisions, three-dimensional (3-D) diffusion and leakage collision of the surface, and deep orifice slugs. The 3-D collision velocity, collision efficiency, and collision energy loss were derived using the momentum equation and variation law of the air diffusion width of the water tongue, and the optimal hydraulic conditions for collision were obtained. Sun [16] applied the turbulence jet theory and flow momentum equation, in order to introduce the calculation formula of the collision velocity vector and collision energy dissipation efficiency of the combined water tongue when it collides with the left and right sides of the air.

At present, the research on flood discharge atomization is mainly about ski-jump atomization. Liang [17] proposed a calculation model of atomized water flow, and obtained various calculation formulas and methods in the field of atomized water flow influence. Liu [18,19] studies the diffusion law, velocity distribution, and energy loss of a water jet. According to the prototype observation data of the flood discharge atomization and some experimental data of the model, based on the comprehensive analysis of various factors that affect the atomization range, Li [20] discusses the rough estimation method of the range of the energy dissipation atomization precipitation area. Liu [21–24] introduces several key problems with regard to the shape and the numerical simulation of atomized flows, such as the jet calculation of the water tongue, collision between the water tongue and the water surface, and calculation of the fog source quantity. By collecting, inducing, and summarizing the partial flood discharge atomization of engineering prototype observation data, Sun [25] found the longitudinal boundary flood discharge atomization average discharge flow, and a good relationship between the water flow velocity and the water entry angle of the water tongue. Based on the dimensional analysis, a method was established to estimate the rainfall intensity, flood discharge atomization, and longitudinal boundary experience relationship. Liu [26] proposed an atomization forecast model based on artificial neural networks. The Monte Carlo method was applied to add the effect of

environmental, wind, and topographic factors to the atomization mathematical model of overpass discharge by Lian [27]. Sun [28] revised the resistance coefficient of particles, using the research results of raindrop movement, and obtained the resistance coefficient of the splashing water droplet movement. Then the effect of the diameter of a splashing water droplet on the splashing length is preliminarily discussed, which deepens the understanding of the splashing movement. Using the generalized model test in 2013 by Wang [29]—under different hydraulic conditions, to select a tongue that fell into the water downstream of an atomized water source area of rainfall intensity—the flood discharge atomization fog source area of the plane distribution features was measured and analyzed, to determine the reasons for the formation of different areas around the atomization source and the plane distribution of rainfall intensity. Lian [30] proposes a method to predict the spray atomization of spillage by combining a physical model and theoretical analysis. Zhang [31] experimentally studied the motion track, distribution range, water point shape, and velocity of single-strand jets under different air dosages. Although their methods are accurate in predicting the atomization of a ski-jump flow, they are not good at predicting the atomization of two-jet collisions, which add a collision zone and change the trajectory of two jets. In rocket propulsion, extensive experiments—mostly based on physical model investigations—have been conducted on two-jet collisions, including the liquid membrane [32–35], droplet size, and velocity distribution [36–41].

Most domestic and foreign scholars have focused on the atomization of flood discharge by single-strand pick flows. However, compared with the single-strand pick flow, two-jet collisions in air increase the area of collision atomization, where both range and intensity of the atomization increase. For example, Ertan applied this method to flood discharge and cause landslide by rainfall. Therefore, in this paper, through theoretical analysis and a physical model experiment, we studied the distribution characteristics of rainfall intensity after the collision of two jets, the trajectory lines of the water tongue, and the range of the  $x$ -axis after collision for different flow ratios and collision angles.

## 2. Model Design and Experiment

The experiment was conducted in the State Key Laboratory of Hydrodynamics and Mountain River Engineering in Sichuan University. Figure 2 shows the schematic diagram of the model test. The water flux was supplied by a large rectangular tank (width of 4.0 m, length of 4.0 m, and height of 5.0 m). When laying the rainfall receiving platform, we considered the symmetry of the surface and deep hole, and only one side was arranged. Water was fed into the iron box through the pump behind the iron box, and the water level of the iron box was maintained through the valve in order to achieve a stable deep and surface flow.

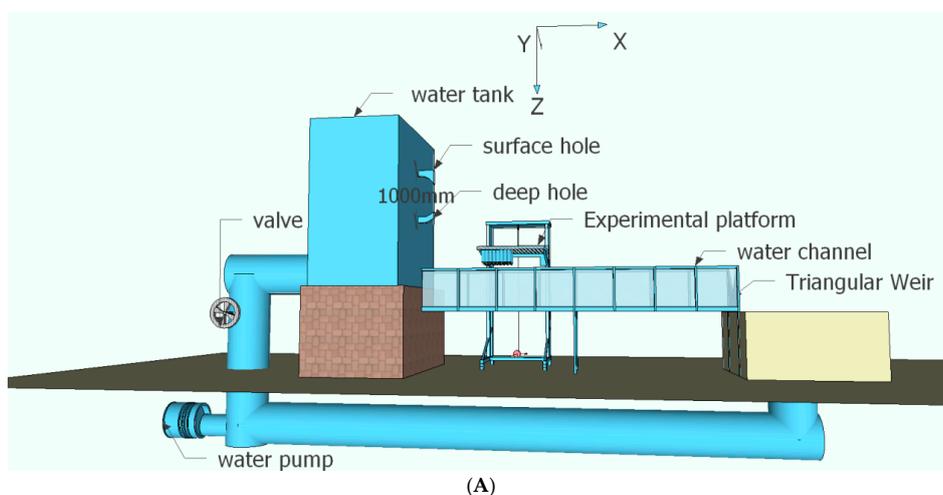


Figure 2. Cont.

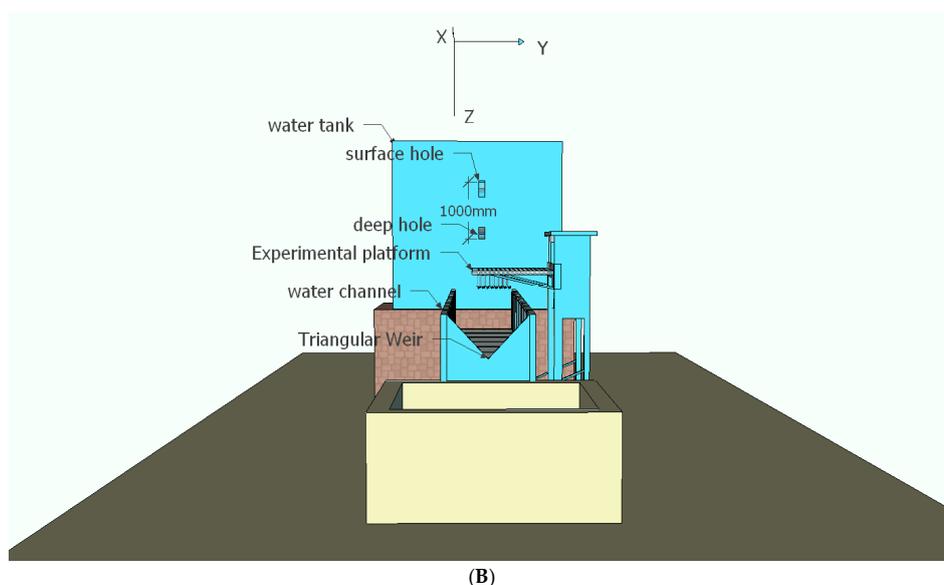


Figure 2. (A) Experiment layout: side view; (B) experiment layout: front view.

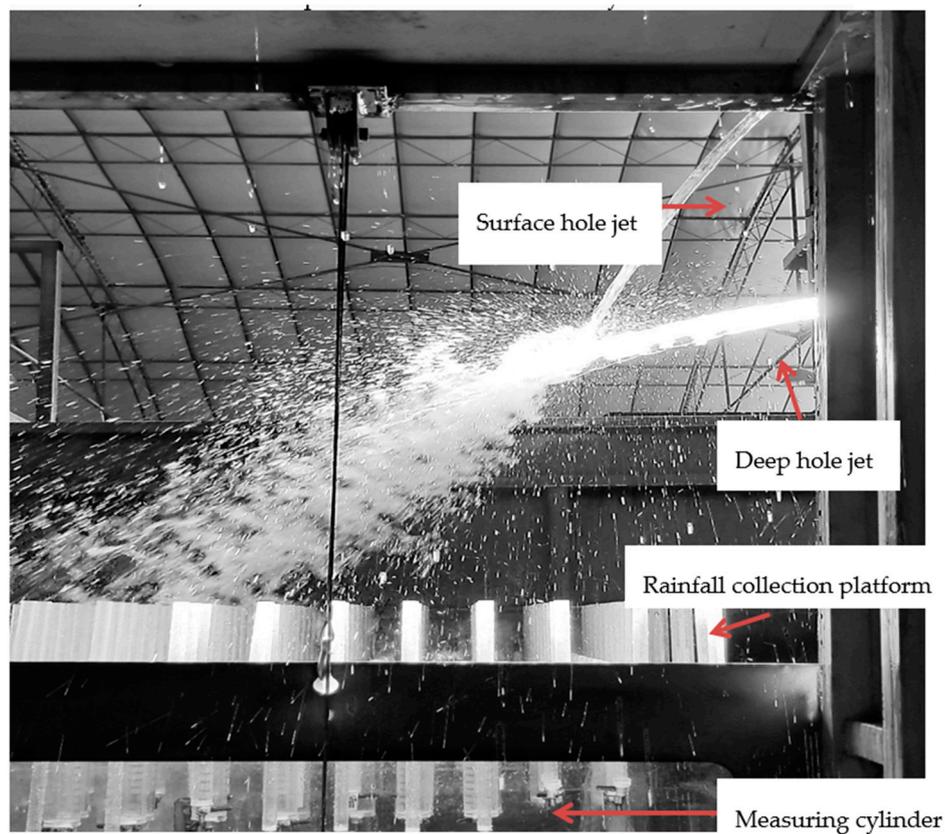
In order to be consistent with the prototype which adopts two-jet collisions in air, this experiment used a constant surface hole angle  $\theta_1$  (a pitch-down angle of  $-30^\circ$ ) and adjusted the deep hole pick angle  $\theta_2$  ( $0^\circ \sim 45^\circ$ ) to change the collision angle  $\beta$ . The width of the surface deep hole was identical, the height of the deep hole could be adjusted, and the range was 0~5 cm. The maximum single-width flux of the model table hole was  $0.1236 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ , the maximum single-width flux of the deep hole was  $0.1431 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ , and the flux was measured by a triangular thin-walled weir ( $\pm 1\%$ ). Four horizontal planes, under the collision points of 36 cm, 56 cm, 76 cm, and 96 cm, were set to measure the rainfall intensity. The platform was supported by a slide rail system, and the accuracy in the vertical platform position was less than 0.5 cm. Table 1 lists 18 working conditions in the experiment, including almost 30,000 measurement points. To obtain the four different sections, we first used image processing to find the collision point, and then adjusted the height of the measuring platform. Detailed visual observations of the collision points were conducted using a Canon EOS80D DSLR camera (Canon, Chengdu, China).

Rainwater was collected in the horizontal plane ( $xy$  plane in Figure 3) at the different elevations below the collision point and 0.15 m above the faceplate. The rainfall collection platform included the movable base, support, and rainfall collection panel, which was made of an organic glass panel and a PVC pipe. In each plane, up to 121 PVC pipes (each with a diameter of 2.0 cm) were used simultaneously to collect rain within a period varying from 60 s to 1000 s, depending on the rain intensity in that region, which was found to be sufficient to ensure stable results. Zhang and Zhu [31] indicated that the measurement error could be ignored with different pipe diameters. In their test, the bottles (25 mL with a bottle-neck diameter of 1.52 cm) were tested to give the same (3% difference) result of rain intensity distribution as those of much larger plastic bottles (250 mL with a bottle-neck diameter of 3.26 cm). To avoid the impact of water splashing on the back of the faceplate, the faceplate was hollow, except for the holes and supporting frames. The lower end of the short pipe, whose range was 15~3000 mL, used a measuring cylinder to collect rainfall. Rainfall intensity varies from point to point, so different cylinders were used. To obtain the whole region's rainfall intensity, the platform was first placed in one region to collect rainwater, then the entire platform was moved 1.2 m in the longitudinal direction to the next region. To ensure measurement accuracy, two measurements were made in the same working conditions, and the average was taken.

**Table 1.** Working conditions in experiments.

Run	$\theta_1$ (°)	$\theta_2$ (°)	$q_m$ (m <sup>2</sup> /s)	$q_c$ (m <sup>2</sup> /s)	$f$	$Q \times 2/(q_m + q_c)$
T1-1	−30	0	0.0373	0.1236	0.3	103%
T1-2	−30	0	0.0745	0.1236	0.6	95%
T1-3	−30	0	0.0727	0.0800	0.9	102%
T1-4	−30	0	0.1091	0.0800	1.3	104%
T1-5	−30	0	0.1073	0.0436	2.5	98%
T1-6	−30	0	0.1427	0.0436	3.2	104%
T2-1	−30	30	0.0373	0.1236	0.3	95%
T2-2	−30	30	0.0745	0.1236	0.6	110%
T2-3	−30	30	0.0727	0.0800	0.9	102%
T2-4	−30	30	0.1091	0.0800	1.3	105%
T2-5	−30	30	0.1073	0.0436	2.5	103%
T2-6	−30	30	0.1427	0.0436	3.2	92%
T3-1	−30	45	0.0373	0.1236	0.3	111%
T3-2	−30	45	0.0745	0.1236	0.6	94%
T3-3	−30	45	0.0727	0.0800	0.9	103%
T3-4	−30	45	0.1091	0.0800	1.3	106%
T3-5	−30	45	0.1073	0.0436	2.5	108%
T3-6	−30	45	0.1427	0.0436	3.2	111%

$q_m$  is the flow discharge per unit width of deep hole.  $q_c$  is the flow discharge per unit width of surface hole.  $f$  is the ratio of deep hole flow to surface hole flow, that is  $f = q_m/q_c$ .  $Q$  is the integral of measurement value.



**Figure 3.** Rainfall collection platform in 2017.

In each test, the total rain flux in the horizontal plane was integrated and compared to the total water flux of the surface and the deep holes. The total water/rain flux  $Q$  was calculated from  $Q = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} I dx dy$ , where  $I$  was the measured rain intensity. Comparisons of the integrated values with the water flux at the surface and the deep holes were listed in Table 1. For all tests, the conservation

ratio of rain flux on average was  $101.4 \pm 7.0\%$ . In runs T2-6 and T3-6, the loss of rain flux was slight larger ( $\pm 9.3\%$ ), which may be related to the fact that the rain had a wider range in the test. Hence, the above comparison showed the reliability of the measurements.

### 3. Experimental Results and Discussion

#### 3.1. Spatial Distribution Characteristics of Rainfall Intensity

Figures 4–6 show the distribution of rainfall intensity for several flow ratios, collision angles, and heights of the rainfall intensity collection platform from the collision point. The rainfall intensity boundary defined 5% of the maximum rainfall intensity under each working condition [31].

In Figure 4, the flow ratios vary, and the height and collision angles from the collision point to the measurement platform are constant. Note that on the section with the same vertical distance from the collision point, the rainfall intensity range showed an increasing trend on the  $y$ -axis when the flow ratio increased. On the  $x$ -axis, the rainfall intensity range increased first, and subsequently decreased slowly. For  $f = 0.3$ , the rainfall intensity range was concentrated in the range  $0 \text{ cm} \leq x \leq 22 \text{ cm}$ ; for  $f = 0.9$ , the rainfall intensity range was concentrated in the range of  $10 \text{ cm} \leq x \leq 100 \text{ cm}$ ; while when  $f = 3.2$ , the rainfall intensity range was concentrated in the range of  $40 \text{ cm} \leq x \leq 115 \text{ cm}$ . Under all of the working conditions, the maximum rainfall intensity was on the  $x$ -axis.

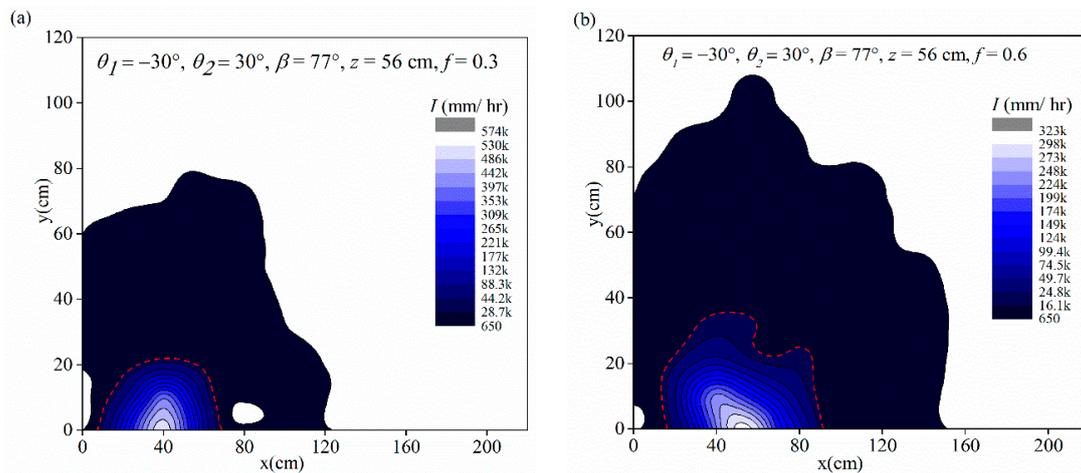
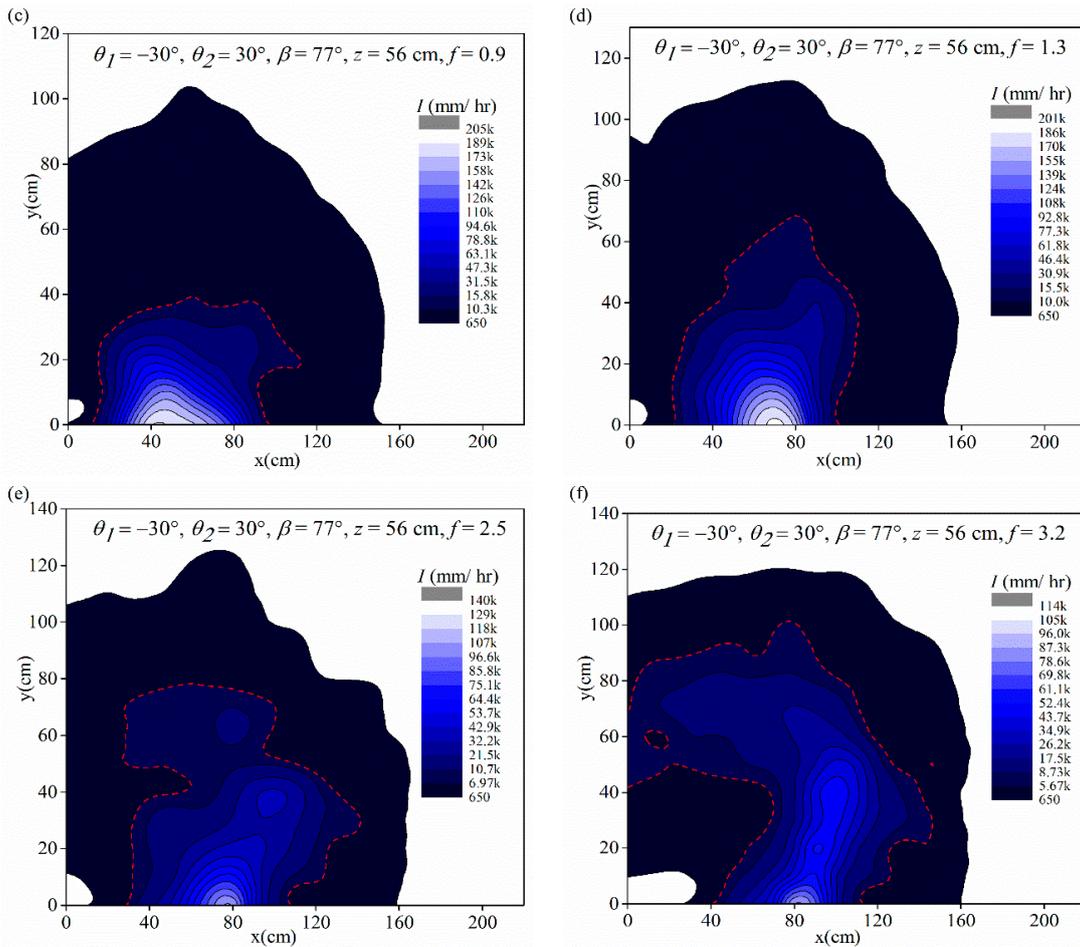
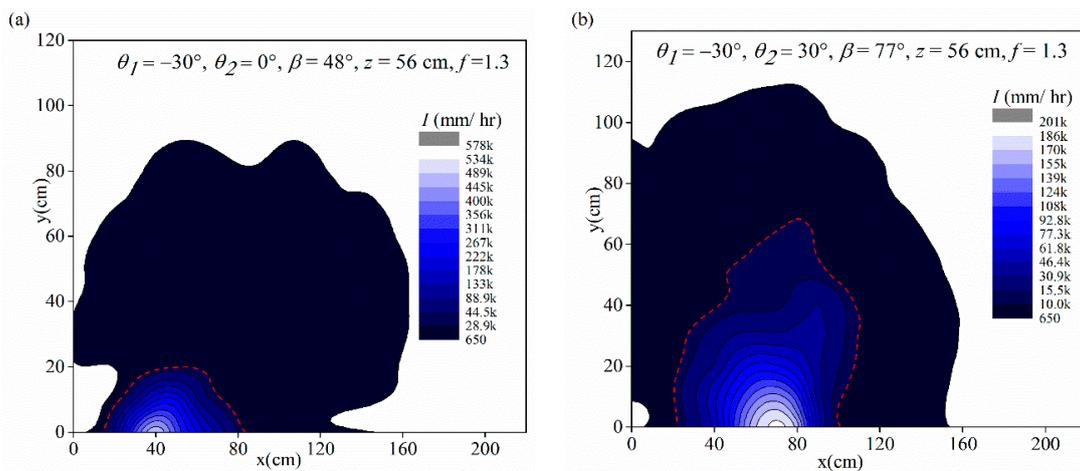


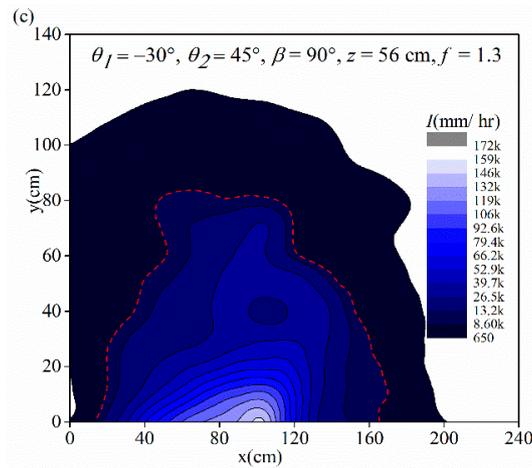
Figure 4. Cont.



**Figure 4.** Rainfall intensity distribution at different flow ratios on the  $x$ - $y$  measuring platform. (a)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 0.3$ ; (b)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 0.6$ ; (c)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 0.9$ ; (d)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 1.3$ ; (e)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 2.5$ ; (f)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 3.2$ .



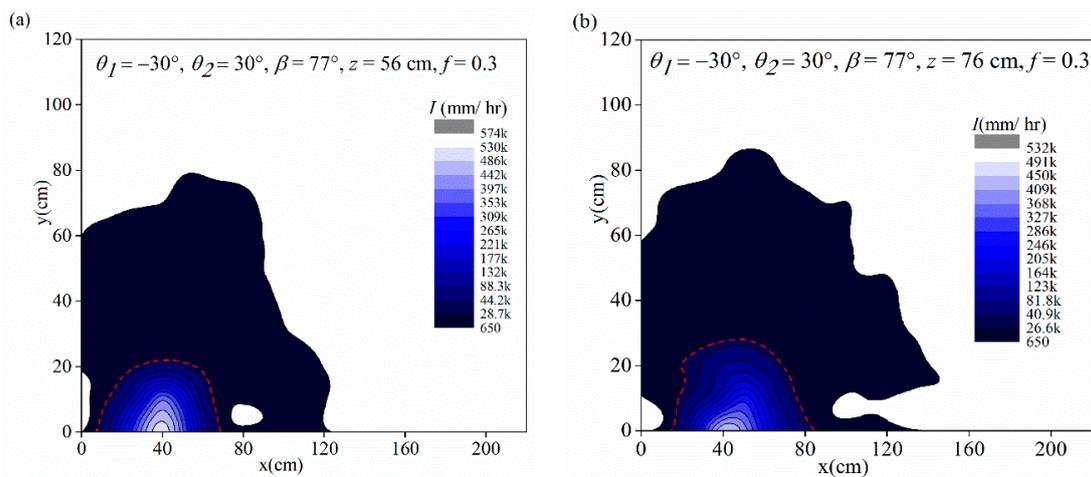
**Figure 5.** Cont.



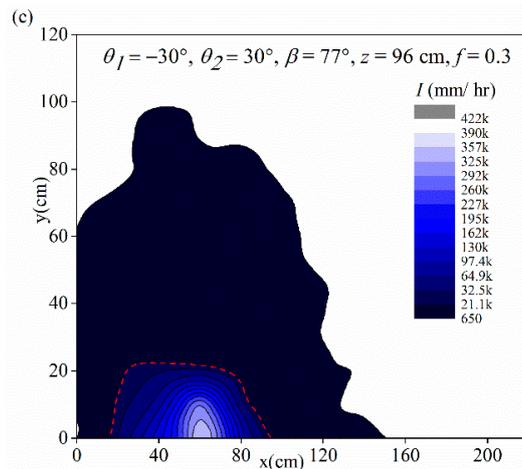
**Figure 5.** Rainfall intensity distribution at different collision angles on the  $x$ - $o$ - $y$  measuring platform. (a)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 0^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ,  $z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 1.3$ ; (b)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 30^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 77^\circ$ ,  $z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 1.3$ ; (c)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 45^\circ$ ,  $\beta = 90^\circ$ ,  $z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 1.3$ .

In Figure 5, the flow ratios and height from the collision point to the measurement platform are constant, and the collision angles vary. Note that with the increase in the collision angle, the rainfall intensity range on the  $x$ - and  $y$ -axes increased—for example, when  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ,  $L_x = 70$  cm, and  $L_y = 20$  cm; when  $\beta = 77^\circ$ ,  $L_x = 108$  cm, and  $L_y = 68$  m; when  $\beta = 90^\circ$ ,  $L_x = 163$  cm, and  $L_y = 80$  cm. However, the maximum rainfall intensity decreased with the increased collision angle—for example, when  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ,  $I_{\max} = 5.78 \times 10^5$  mm/h; and for  $\beta = 90^\circ$ ,  $I_{\max} = 5.78 \times 10^5$  mm/h.

In Figure 6, the flow ratio and collision angle were constant, and the collision point varied from the height of the measurement platform. Note that (1) the range of rainfall intensity on the  $x$ - and  $y$ -axes gradually increases along the  $z$  direction, and (2) the maximum rainfall intensity value continues decreasing. At  $z = 56$  cm, the maximum value is  $5.74 \times 10^5$  mm/h; at  $z = 76$  cm, the maximum value is  $5.32 \times 10^5$  mm/h; and at  $z = 96$  cm, the maximum value is  $4.22 \times 10^5$  mm/h. The maximum value decreases from  $5.74 \times 10^5$  mm/h to  $4.22 \times 10^5$  mm/h, which indicates that the maximum rainfall was continuously spreading during the falling process.

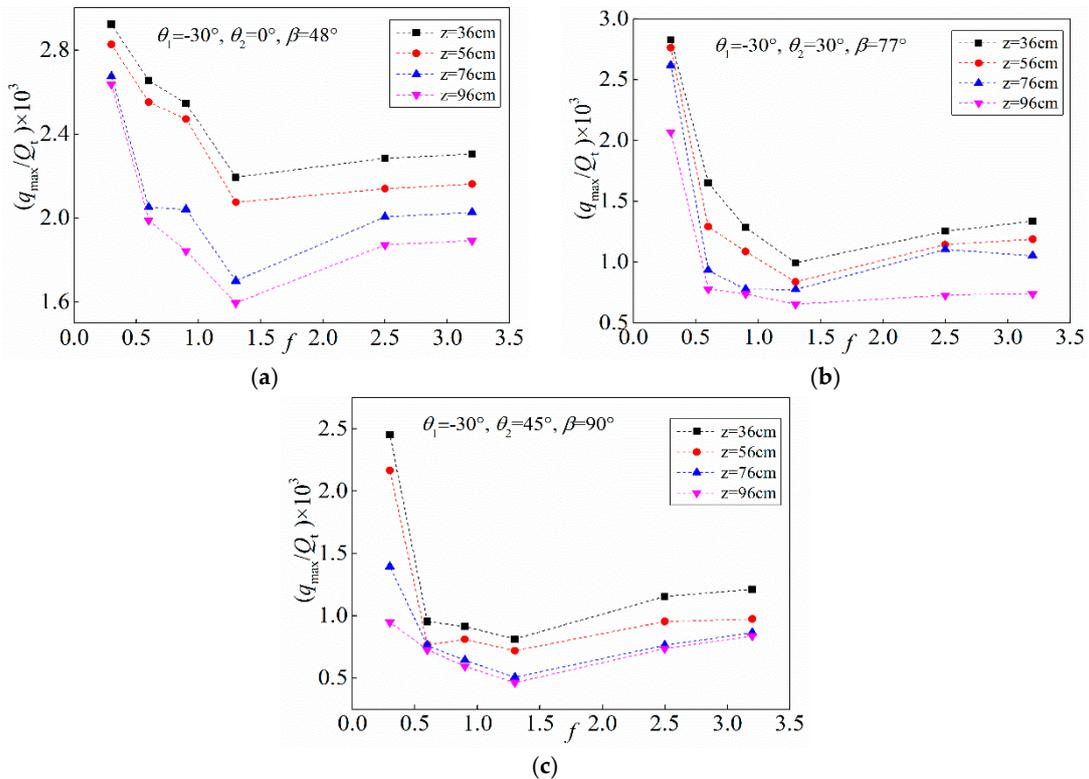


**Figure 6.** Cont.



**Figure 6.** Rainfall intensity distribution at different section heights on the  $x$ - $o$ - $y$  measuring platform. (a)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 56$  cm, and  $f = 0.3$ ; (b)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 76$  cm, and  $f = 0.3$ ; (c)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ, z = 96$  cm, and  $f = 0.3$ .

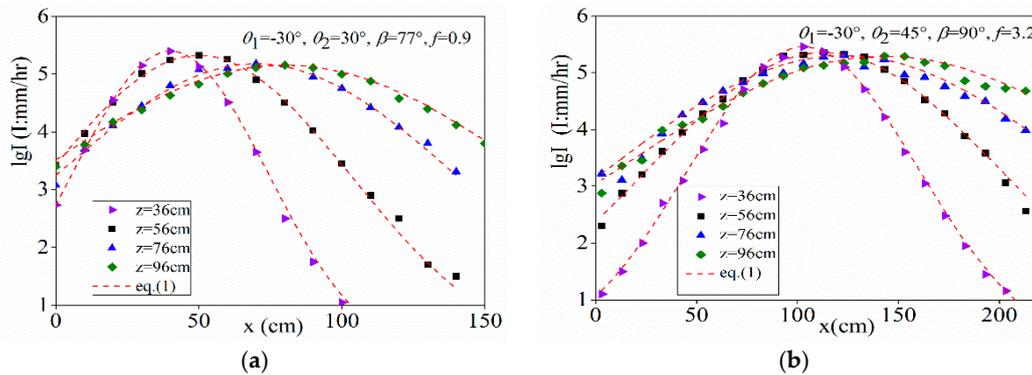
The maximum rainfall of each section ( $q_{max}$ ) is shown in Figure 7. Note that (1) the maximum rainfall intensity decreases with an increase in distance of  $z$ , (2)  $q_{max}$  sharply decreases for  $f < 1.4$  and slightly increases for  $f > 1.4$ , and (3) the results indicated that  $q_{max}$  decreases with an increase of  $\beta$ . In Figure 7a,c, for  $f = 1.3$  and  $z = 96$  cm,  $q_{max}/Q_t \times 10^3 = 1.6$  at  $\beta = 48^\circ$ , while  $q_{max}/Q_t \times 10^3$  decreased to 0.45 at  $\beta = 90^\circ$ , where  $Q_t$  is the sum flow discharge of surface hole and deep hole outlets.



**Figure 7.** The maximum rainfall varies with the collision angles and flow ratios at different sections. (a)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 0^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ; (b)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 77^\circ$ ; (c)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 45^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 90^\circ$ .

### 3.2. Rainfall Intensity Distribution on the x-Axis

The rainfall intensity distributions on the  $x$ -axis are shown in Figure 8. Note that the rainfall intensity data along the  $x$ -axis was best correlated with the Gaussian distribution. In addition, the maximum rainfall intensity value gradually decreases with an increase along the  $z$ -axis. For example, in Figure 8a, the height of the section increases from 36 cm to 96 cm, and the maximum rainfall intensity value decreases from  $2.48 \times 10^5$  mm/h to  $1.43 \times 10^5$  mm/h. With an increase in section height, the rainfall intensity distribution along the  $x$ -axis flattens, and the range on the  $x$ -axis is bigger.



**Figure 8.** Rainfall intensity distributions along the  $x$ -axis and comparison with Equations (1) and (2). (a)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 30^\circ, \beta = 77^\circ$ , and  $f = 0.9$ ; (b)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ, \theta_2 = 45^\circ, \beta = 90^\circ$ , and  $f = 3.2$ .

For two-jet collisions in air on the  $x$ - and  $z$ -axis, the rainfall intensity distribution along the  $x$ -axis after the collision can be expressed by the following formulas (Figure 8):

$$\lg I = \lg I_{\max} \times e^{(-\alpha \times (\frac{x-x_{\max}}{z})^2)} \tag{1}$$

$$\alpha = 1.7e^{(-2.1 \times f)} + 2 \cos \beta \tag{2}$$

where  $I$  is the rainfall intensity and  $I_{\max}$  is the maximum rainfall intensity,  $\alpha$  is a coefficient.

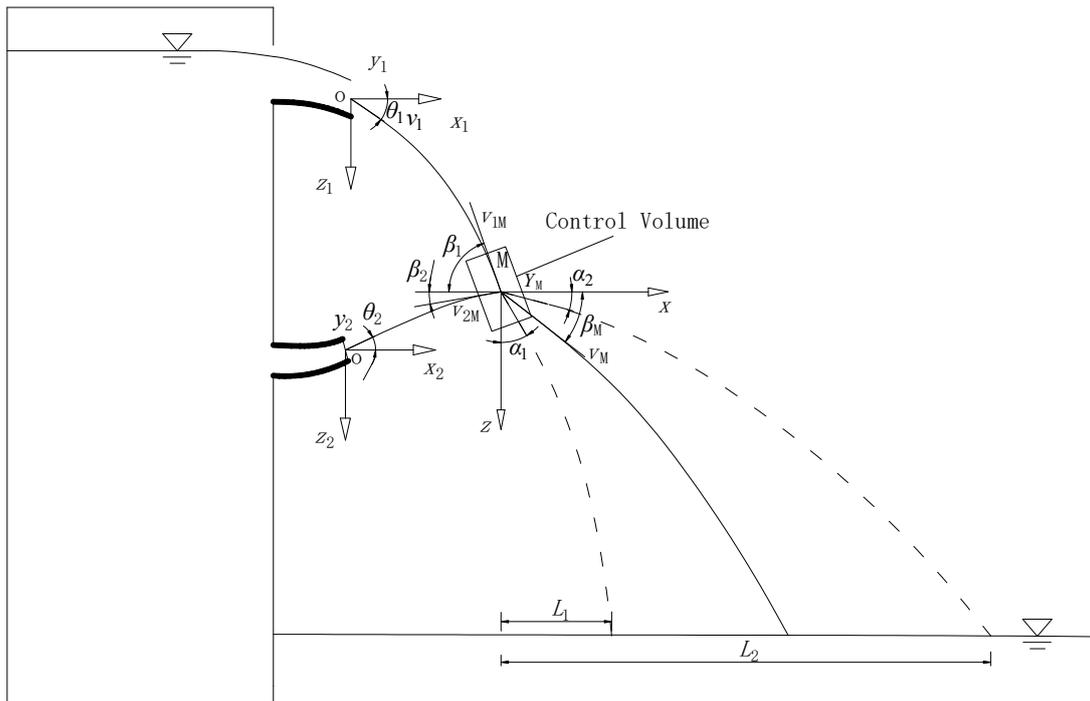
### 3.3. Trajectory Line after the Collision on the x-Axis

As shown in Figure 9, based on previous research on collision flow [9], the surface water tongue and deep water tongue completely collide in air; then, two water tongues combine and shoot in one direction.  $V_1$  is the surface hole water tongue velocity,  $\theta_1$  is the angle of depression, and  $q_1$  is the discharge per unit width; in addition,  $V_2$  is the deep hole water tongue velocity,  $\theta_2$  is the pick angle, and  $q_2$  is the discharge per unit width. Two water jets meet at the unit of  $M$ . At the confluence, the flow velocity of the upper edge of the water tongue at the confluence is  $V_{1M}$ ; the angle between the upper edge of the water tongue and the horizontal direction is  $\beta_1$ ; the flow velocity of the inner edge of the water tongue is  $V_{2M}$ ; the angle between the inner edge of the water tongue and the horizontal direction is  $\beta_2$ ; the flow velocity of the mixed water tongue after the phase confluence is  $V_M$ , and the angle between the water tongue and the horizontal direction is  $\beta_M$ .

The spatial position of collision point  $M$  can be obtained by calculating the trajectories of the inner edge of the surface-hole jet and outer edge of the deep-hole jet. The trajectories of the deep and surface water tongues were obtained from Equation (3).

$$z(x) = z_0 + \tan(\alpha)x - \frac{gx^2}{2V_0^2 \cos^2(\alpha)} \tag{3}$$

where  $V_0$  is the initial speed,  $g$  is gravity acceleration.



**Figure 9.** Schematic diagram of the collision between the surface-hole jet and the deep-hole jet in air.

The coordinate systems  $x_1O_1z_1$  and  $x_2O_2z_2$ , in Figure 9 have the following geometric relationship:

$$x_1 = x_2 + \Delta x_0, z_1 = z_2 + \Delta z_0 \tag{4}$$

Using the projectile principle, the trajectory equation of the surface water jet was:

$$z_1 = \frac{g}{2V_1^2 \cos^2 \theta_1} x_1^2 + x_1 \tan \theta_1 = A_1 x_1^2 + x_1 \tan \theta_1 \tag{5}$$

where  $V_1$  is the surface hole jet initial speed,  $x_1$  is the transverse distance,  $z_1$  is the vertical distance,  $A_1 = \frac{g}{2V_1^2 \cos^2 \theta_1}$ .

The energy velocities of  $V_{1M}$  and  $V_{2M}$  before the impact of the surface water jet and deep water jet became:

$$V_{1M} = \varphi_a \sqrt{2g(z_{1M} + \frac{V_1^2}{2g})} \tag{6}$$

$$V_{2M} = \varphi_a \sqrt{2g(z_{2M} + \frac{V_2^2}{2g})} \tag{7}$$

where  $\varphi_a$  is the velocity coefficient of air resistance ( $\varphi_a \approx 0.95$ ),  $z_{1M}$  is the vertical distance from the surface hole to control volume,  $z_{2M}$  is the vertical distance from the deep hole to control volume. The control volume was taken around point  $M$ , as shown in Figure 9, and the momentum integral equation and continuous equation of fluid mechanics were used.

$$\iiint_M \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \vec{v} dV + \oiint_M \rho \vec{v} (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) dA = \Sigma \vec{F} \tag{8}$$

$$\iiint_M \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} dV + \oiint_M \rho (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) dA = 0 \tag{9}$$

where  $\rho$  is the density of water, and  $\vec{F}$  is the external force that acts on the control volume. In the absence of air resistance,  $\beta_M$  and  $V_M$  could be obtained with

$$\tan \beta_M = \frac{V_{1M}q_1 \sin \beta_1 - V_{2M}q_2 \sin \beta_2}{V_{1M}q_1 \cos \beta_1 + V_{2M}q_2 \cos \beta_2} \tag{10}$$

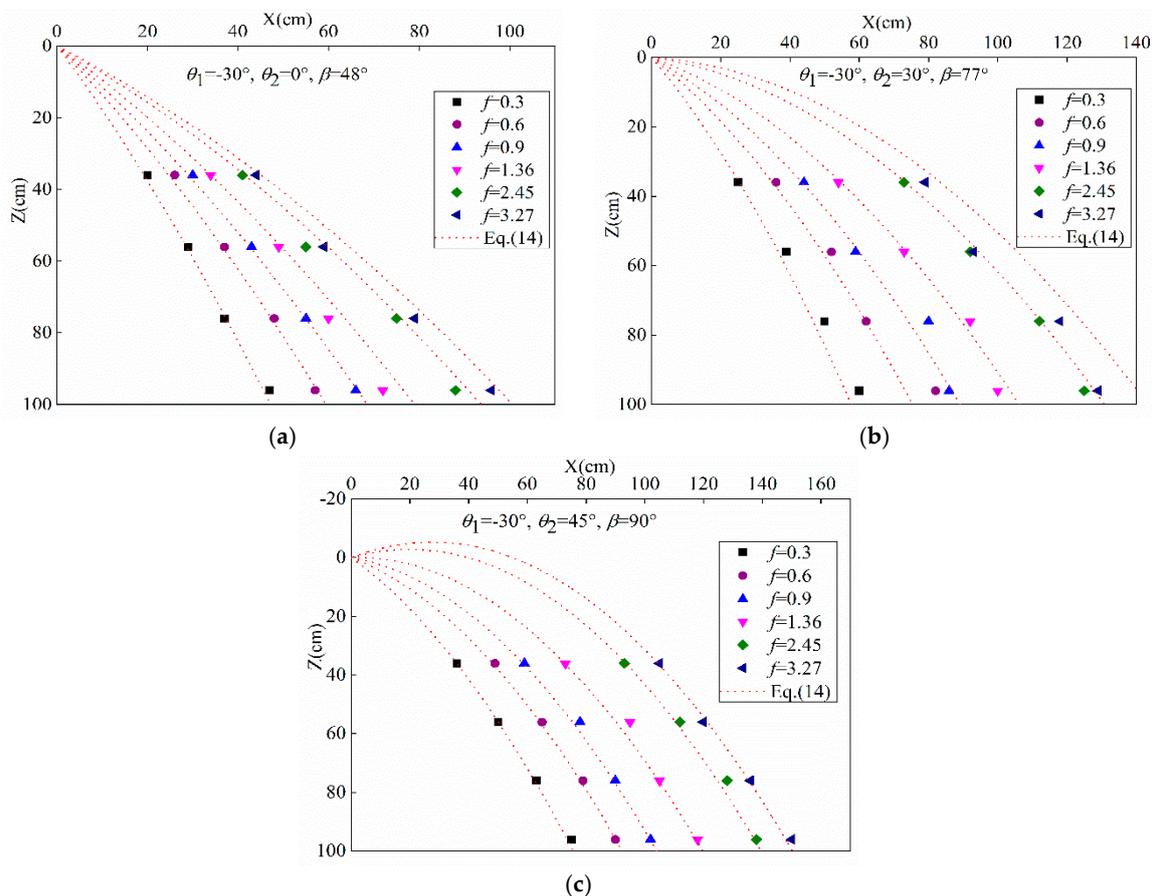
$$V_M = \frac{V_{1M}q_1 \cos \beta_1 + V_{2M}q_2 \cos \beta_2}{q_M \cos \beta_M} \tag{11}$$

with the assumption that  $V_{1M} = V_{2M}$ . Thus, Equations (10) and (11) become

$$\tan \beta_M = \frac{q_1 \sin \beta_1 - q_2 \sin \beta_2}{q_1 \cos \beta_1 + q_2 \cos \beta_2} \tag{12}$$

$$V_M = \frac{V_{1M}(q_1 \cos \beta_1 + q_2 \cos \beta_2)}{q_M \cos \beta_M} \tag{13}$$

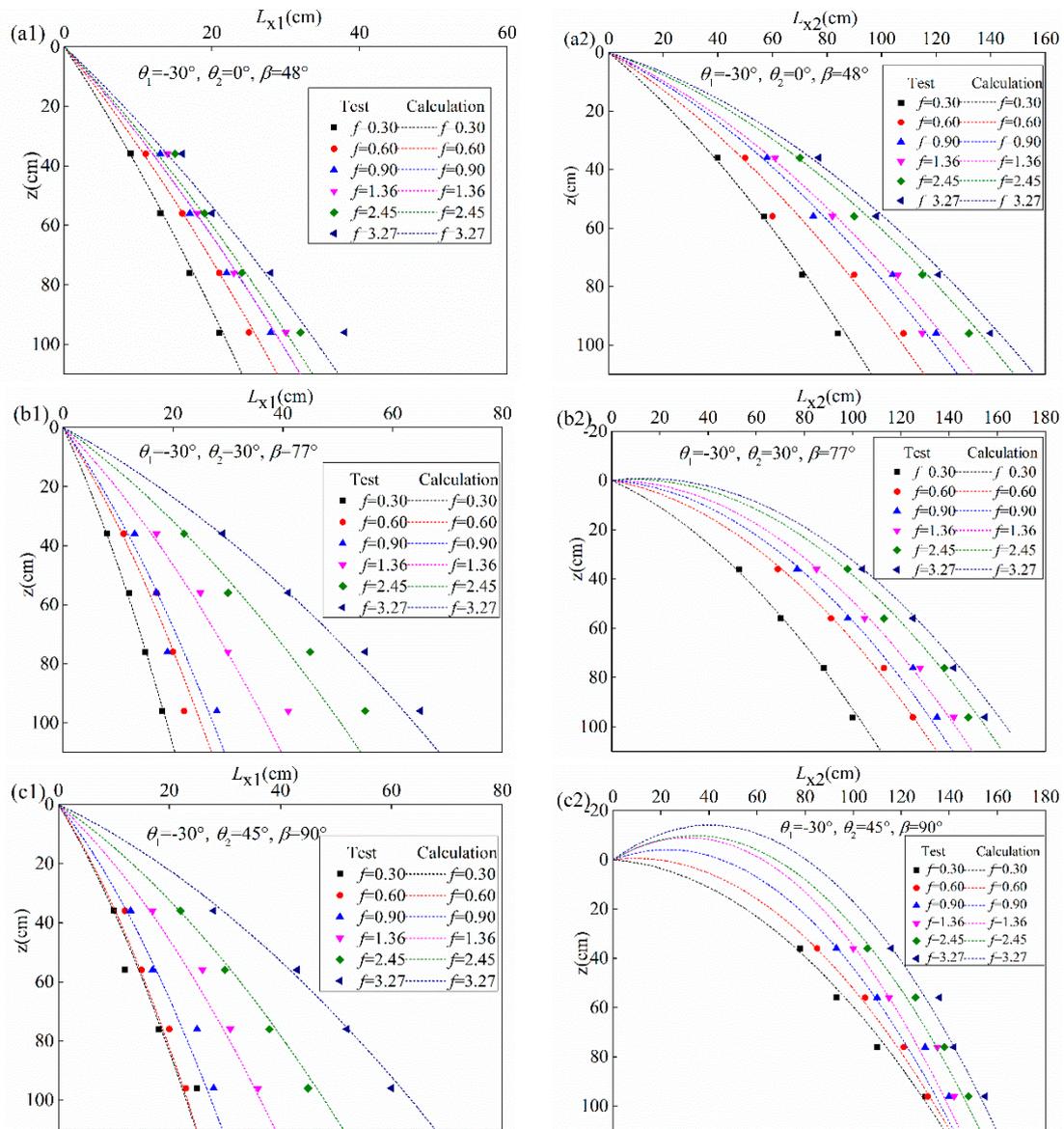
The comparisons of the measured locations of  $I_{\max}$  with Equations (12) and (13) are shown in Figure 10, which indicates good agreement.



**Figure 10.** Comparison of experimental and calculated values of the maximum rainfall intensity points. (a)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 0^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ; (b)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 30^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 77^\circ$ ; (c)  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 45^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 90^\circ$ .

Based on the above results, we assume that the velocity magnitude was identical in all directions after the collision, but that the directions vary. Therefore, the velocities in all directions were  $V_M$ . Downstream of the collision, the trajectory boundaries ( $5\% \times I_{\max}$ ) are shown in Figure 11. Hence,

using Equation (3),  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  can be obtained— $\alpha_1$  is the angle between the z-axis and the inner edge line, and  $\alpha_2$  is the angle between the x-axis and the outer edge line.

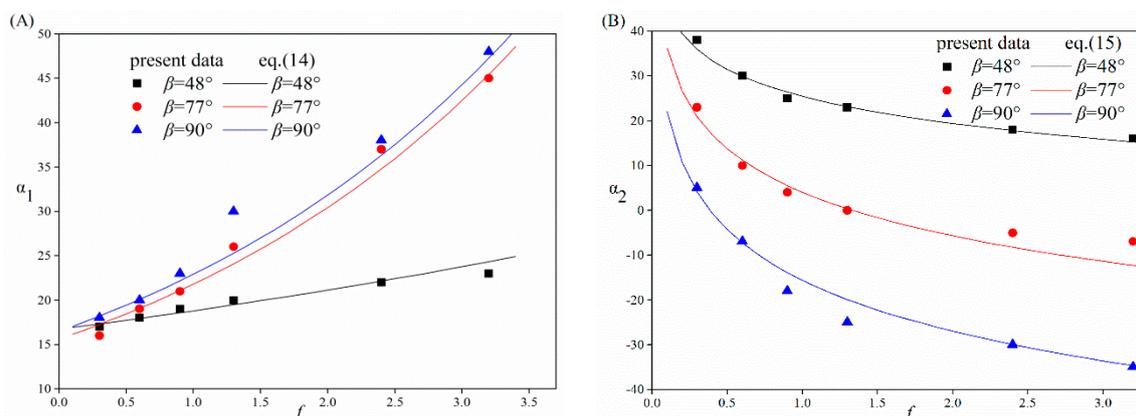


**Figure 11.** Comparison of the experimental and calculated values of  $L_{X1}$  and  $L_{X2}$ .  $L_{X1}$  is the distance of inner edge water tongue in x axis,  $L_{X2}$  is the distance of outer edge water tongue in x axis. **(a1)**  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 0^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ; **(a2)**  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 0^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 48^\circ$ ; **(b1)**  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 30^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 77^\circ$ ; **(b2)**  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$  and  $\theta_2 = 30^\circ$ ; **(c1)**  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 45^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 90^\circ$ ; **(c2)**  $\theta_1 = -30^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 45^\circ$ , and  $\beta = 90^\circ$ .

The calculated values of  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are shown in Figure 12. Note that (1) with the identical collision angle  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha_1$  increased, and with the increase in flow ratio,  $\alpha_2$  decreased; and (2) with the identical flow ratio,  $\alpha_1$  increased with the increase in collision angle  $\beta$ , and  $\alpha_2$  decreased with the increase in collision angle  $\beta$ . It can also be seen from Figure 12 that  $\alpha_1$  approximately shows exponential growth with the flow ratio, and  $\alpha_2$  shows logarithmic growth with the flow ratio. Data analysis indicates that the values of  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  are obtained as

$$\alpha_1 = 16e^{(f \sin^2 \beta)} \tag{14}$$

$$\alpha_2 = \beta \times (-0.182) \times \ln(f) - \beta \times \sin(\beta - 80^\circ) \tag{15}$$



**Figure 12.** Comparison of the values obtained from Equations (14) and (15) with the present data. (A) Inner angle of  $\alpha_1$ , and (B) outer angle of  $\alpha_2$ .

The computed and measured values correlated to  $R^2 = 0.97$  (Figure 12A) and 0.96 (Figure 12B). However, up until now, there was a paucity of information on the rainfall characteristics of the two-jet collisions. This present study provides a new method for understanding the rainfall characteristics of the two-jet collision, which will be useful to extend to other models or even prototypes for further research.

#### 4. Conclusions

In this paper, the flow characteristics of two-jet collisions with different collision angles and flow ratios were investigated systematically by a series of model tests. The present investigation illustrated the development of the spatial distribution of rainfall intensity. Observations indicated that the maximum rainfall intensity sharply decreased with an increase in flow ratio, while the maximum rainfall intensity slightly increased, as the flow ratio was greater than 1.0.

On the  $x$ -axis, the distribution of rainfall intensity followed a Gaussian distribution. The range of rainfall intensity tended to reach the maximum for the flow ratio = 1.0. A theoretical equation to compute the locations of maximum rainfall intensity was presented, which is in good agreement with the model tests. The formulas to calculate the boundary lines of the  $x$ -axis were proposed. The present analysis was based upon experiments performed in a model with  $48^\circ < \beta < 90^\circ$ ,  $0.3 < f < 3.2$ , and  $36 \text{ cm} < z < 96 \text{ cm}$ . The rainfall intensity distributions on the  $y$ -axis will be further studied.

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