



#### Validation of OVERFLOW for Supersonic Retropropulsion



Guy Schauerhamer Jacobs/NASA JSC 10/2012

SRP CFD Team Karl Edquist, Kerry Zarchi, Bil Kleb

# Outline

- Project Introduction
- Explanation of SRP Flow Structure
- Validation Approach
- LRC UPWT Test
- Ames UPWT Test
- Conclusions/Future Work



# Introduction

- The goal is to softly land high mass vehicles (10s of metric tons) on Mars
- Supersonic Retropropulsion (SRP) is a potential method of deceleration
- Current method of supersonic parachutes does not scale well past ~1 metric ton
- CFD is of increasing importance since flight and experimental data at these conditions is difficult to obtain
- CFD must first be validated at these conditions



#### Introduction



Fig. 3. Exploration Feed Forward Concepts

• The EDL SA Team identified SRP as the only credible method of supersonic deceleration for Exploration Class (100 metric tons) vehicles entering Mars



Time = 0.000000 seconds



Time = 0.000000 seconds



Time = 0.001035 seconds



Time = 0.0000000 seconds

# **CFD Validation Approach**

- Employ multiple solvers to the same SRP problems
  - DPLR (Kerry Zarchi, ARC)
  - FUN3D (Bil Kleb, LRC)
  - OVERFLOW (Guy Schauerhamer, Jacobs/JSC)
- Compare results between codes and with historical tunnel data
  - Qualitative: Shock structure and standoff distance, unsteady behavior
  - Quantitative: Surface pressure, forces and moments
- Perform CFD-validation wind tunnel tests of SRP
  - Complete run conditions, quantified tunnel uncertainties
  - Higher thrust coefficients to better match flight requirements



# Wind Tunnel Model

- Air as freestream and jet gas.
- 4 removable nozzle plugs.
- 167 pressure taps including 7 high frequency pressure transducers.
- High speed Schlieren video (5-10 kfps).

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Same model used in both tests.





# Wind Tunnel Tests

Langley 4'x4' Test

- Mach 2.4, 3.5, 4.6
- $C_{T}$ s up to 3, a couple at 6 Ames 9'x7' Test
- Mach 1.8, 2.4
- $C_{T}$ s up to 10
- Liquefaction in plumes ۲



ARC



#### Langley Test







THE CUT-AWAY MODEL OF THE TEST SECTION ILLUSTRATES THE METHOD OF 144 TUNNEL IN WHICH TEST-SECTION SPEED IS ESSENTIALLY DEPENDENT ON "FAIL THE RATIO OF THE CROSS-SECTION AREA AT THE TEST SECTION TO THAT AT THE ARRANGEMENT PROVIDES THAT TEST-SECTION SPEED MAY BE CONTINUOUSLY VAR



### **OVERFLOW Best Practices for SRP**

- Best practices based from LRC UPWT Run 165: 1-nozzle, Mach 4.6, C<sub>T</sub> 2
- Grid refinement and time step sensitivity studies
  - Grids between 80 and 90 million points
  - Time steps <= 1.71e-06 seconds
  - 5 Newton subiterations
- HLLE++ numerical flux function with Van Albada limiter for spatial terms
- Symmetric Successive Over Relaxation (SSOR) algorithm with Newton dual time stepping for temporal terms.
- Used Direct Eddy Simulation (DES) turbulence modeling with Menter's Shear-Stress Transport (SST) as the Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) submodel.
  - For SST, used strain-based production term employing Wilcox's realizability constraint
- All jet-on cases were solved time-accurately.



# Structured Overset Grid System

- Chimera Grid Tools script library- all configurations in single script
- X-rays and DCF for domain connectivity



# LRC Run 165 Qualitative Comparison



# LRC Run 165 Comparisons



- Capturing periodic oscillation in the triple point increased average pressure on the face.
- All codes fall within tunnel uncertainty.



# **Turbulence Modeling**

- Unsteady behavior was influenced by turbulence modeling.
- For SRP, limiting eddy viscosity produced more realistic behavior
  - Cart3D is inviscid
- Figure is ratio of eddy to laminar viscosity for different turbulence models, simulated with OVFRFLOW and FUN3D.
- For SRP simulations:
  - DPLR used SST-V. •
  - FUN3D used SA-DES ٠
  - **OVERFLOW** used SST-DES • and SST-RC











(e) SST-DES: SST-based DES.42



(b) SST-CC: SST with Suzen and Hoffmann's compressibility correction.47



(d) SST-RC: SST with Wilcox's realizability constraint.41



(f) SA-DES: SA-based DES.34

Figure 20: The ratio of turbulent eddy viscosity to laminar (bulk) viscosity for various turbulence models. Note: No attempt was made to capture these instantaneous snapshots near the same point of the guasi-periodic cycle.

### LRC Sting Sensitivity Study, 3-nozzle



# LRC Run 165 Comparisons



# LRC Run 165 Comparisons



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# LRC Run 262: 3-nozzle, Mach 4.6, $C_T$ =3



#### LRC Run 262: 3-Nozzle, $C_T = 3$ , $\alpha = 12^{\circ}$



Bow shock shedding impacts model face and side shell

Constructed shadowgraph of CFD solution

# Run 262: 3-Nozzle, $C_T = 3$ , $\phi = 0^{\circ}$



- DPLR steadier than FUN3D and OVERFLOW (SST-V vs DES)
  - Large scatter in neighboring pressure ports on the model windward side shell
  - FUN3D overpredicts  $C_P$  on model face for  $\alpha=0^{\circ}$  and  $\alpha=12^{\circ}$
  - Deviation at nose implies jet-to-jet interactions predicted differently between codes
  - Deviation at shoulder implies differences in shock shedding impacting the model face

#### Run 307 and 311: 4-Nozzle, $C_T=2$ , $\varphi=0^\circ$ , 180°



- Runs only differ in roll angle.
- Short blunt behavior vs. large shock standoff.

### Viscous Full Tunnel



#### Ames Test











# Ames Sting Sensitivity Study, 1-nozzle



# Run 223, $\beta = 0^{\circ}$ , $4^{\circ}$ , $8^{\circ}$ , and $12^{\circ}$



# Run 141, $\beta = 0^{\circ}$ , $4^{\circ}$ , $8^{\circ}$ , and $12^{\circ}$



#### 3-Nozzle, Mach 2.4, $C_T$ 10, Run 145



C<sub>p</sub> 0.3 0.15 0 -0.15 -0.3

# Run 130, $C_T 6$ , $\beta = 0^{\circ}$

- Comparisons with other codes
- DPLR reached steady state, captures side shell C<sub>p</sub> well.
- FUN3D and OVERFLOW simulations are similar
- OVERFLOW captures C<sub>p</sub> and nose and near nozzle





#### 4-Nozzle, Mach 1.8



Large difference exists in data acquisition rates between the CFD and WTT.

• Average surface pressure is not comparable for this chaotic of a flowfield.

### Thrust Dominance

Aerodynamic forces are small when compared to thrust.

Are aerodynamic forces negligible?

- Need to know entry angles • and vehicle design
- **Scalability** ٠

31

2.5

C<sub>A,total</sub>

LRC UPWT 0.5



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# **Computational Costs**

- From the Ames post-test runs
- All cases run on Pleiades, either Nehalem or Westmere nodes
- This is not a perfect comparison
  - DPLR is an average of three estimates
  - FUN3D is from a single case (not an average)
  - OVERFLOW is an average of six runs
- Need time accurate runs for predictions
- Would need to cut down computational costs for parametric studies or database generation.

Solver	CPU Hours per Case	Iterations per Case	Grid Points	CPU seconds/ iteration/ grid point
FUN3D	28000	39500	42M	6.1e-05
DPLR	44500	106000	53M	2.9e-05
OVERFLOW	35039	73500	85M	2.0e-05

# Conclusions

- Best agreement between WTT and CFD is for 1-nozzle cases and high thrust 3-nozzle cases.
- Worst agreement was for low thrust 3-nozzle cases and high thrust 4-nozzle cases.
- 3-nozzle cases more steady at  $C_T s > 4$ .
- 4-nozzle cases highly unsteady and chaotic at  $C_T s > \approx 4$ .
  - WTT averages spanning 2.5 seconds are probably not converged.
  - CFD averages spanning < 0.01 seconds are not too comparable to WTT data.
- Large difference in data acquisition rates exists between codes and test.
  - Test rate was 10 or 30 Hz (0.1 or 0.033 seconds per reading) for 2.5 seconds for 25 or 75 points per average.
  - CFD rate was between 190 and 400 points over a maximum of 0.017 seconds.
  - Frequencies captured by CFD not captured by test, and vice versa.
  - A "converged" average for CFD may be a completely different than the average that was obtained by the test data acquisition system.
- Aero effects are small when compared to thrust.
- Computational costs high for validation, could be much less for production.

#### **Future Work**

- More steps need to be taken to better simulate Mars EDL SRP
  - NASA funding for SRP was discontinued in Fiscal Year 2012
  - Live rocket engine test including startup in SRP conditions
  - Sounding rocket test
  - CFD of flight conditions
    - Atmospheric and rocket
- SRP is an enabling technology which still needs development
  - Large-scale propulsion
  - Aero/aerothermal analysis
  - Vehicle design
  - GN&C
- Additional funding avenues are being pursued
  - SpaceX and the USAF are researching SRP for Return To Launch Site capabilities
  - Masten Space is interested in returning rockets using SRP



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