



Validation of OVERFLOW for Supersonic Retropropulsion



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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_T 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° , 8° , and 12°



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



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



C_p 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_p well.
- FUN3D and OVERFLOW simulations are similar
- OVERFLOW captures C_p 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** •

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2.5

C_{A,total}

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



Acknowledgements

- Scott Berry, Matt Rhode, and Bill Oberkampf (the SRP wind tunnel team) for running LRC UPWT Test 1853 and Ames UPWT Test 234.
- Karl Edquist, Kerry Zarchi, Bil Kleb, and Jan-Renee Carlson- the SRP CFD team.
- Pieter Buning, Phil Stuart, Darby Vicker, and Tom Booth for valuable CFD guidance.
- David Saunders for developing the code OVERFLOW used for shadowgraph/Schlieren visualizations.

The authors would like to acknowledge the support of the Exploration Technology Development and Demonstration (ETDD) Program, which was managed at NASA-Glenn Research Center. The work documented herein was performed as part of ETDD's Entry, Descent, and Landing (EDL) Technology Development Project, which was managed at NASA-Langley Research Center and supported by NASA-Ames Research Center, NASA-Johnson Space Center, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.