Enhancing Pressure Recovery in a Serpentine Duct using Active Flow Control



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Background and Experimental Facility* eFPa e S-Duct Intake** Settling Chamber Contraction Exit Diffuser Test Section Blower 219 cm Optical Table 869 cm L = 217.3 mmLinkt= 304.8 mm H= 145.5 mm Hinlet= 66.7 mm

- Active and passive flow control methods were employed by CeFPaC to minimize total pressure losses.
- Mach 0.4, Re ~ 1.6M. This case was selected as the baseline, but measurements were conducted across a range of Reynolds and Mach numbers
- In this work, experimental measurements were compared with high-fidelity numerical simulations.

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*Gartner, J., Rice, T. T., & Amitay, M. (2019). Mitigation of massively separated flow in a three-dimensional diffuser. International Journal of Heat and Fluid Flow, 76, 242-258. **Northrop McDonnell Douglas YF-23A PAV-1 87-0800 Black Widow II LEngineIntake R&D NMUSAF 25Sep09 (14414042127) - S-duct - Wikipedia

3D LES Calculations with No Control



- Secondary flow structure, consistent with the experiment*, are captured in full 3D LES simulations.
- The flow establishes after 1 second.

Comparisons with the Experiments*

3D LES Calculations



- The spatial distribution of velocity magnitude shows good agreement with the measurements.
- The size of the separation region does not vary significantly across different spanwise planes.

Comparison of 2D k-ω SST and 3D LES (No Control)



- The size and structure of the separation region are found to be similar.
- Relatively larger gradients are observed in the k- ω SST solution.

Comparison of the Pressure Recovery 3D LES (No Control)



- Similar to the experiments, the pressure recovery at the location, defined as the ratio between the total pressure at the aerodynamic interface plane (AIP) and the total pressure at the inlet, does not vary significantly in the spanwise direction.
- The LES pressure recovery shows some discrepancies, which require further investigation.

Flow Control with 2D k-ω SST

No Control

Steady Jet



- 2D flow reaches a quasi-steady state earlier than the time predicted by 3D LES, likely due to the lack of secondary flow structures.
- A steady jet at location A, with velocities of 90 and 135 kPa, induces oscillations at a frequency of 22 Hz.

Flow Control with 2D k-ω SST

Low RMS

High RMS



- Low RMS jet injection induces flow oscillations with an approximate frequency of 40 Hz.
- High RMS flow injection significantly reduces the size of the separation region.

Comparison of the Pressure Recovery of 2D k- ω SST With Control



- The flow injection direction significantly affects the pressure recovery at the AIP.
- Oscillations induced by synthetic jets notably alter the pressure recovery.

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