

Semiannual Progress Report, December--June 1974
NASA Grant NGR 16-002-038

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(NASA-CR-138308) NUMERICAL COMPUTATION OF
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Progress (Iowa State Univ. of Science
and Technology) 12 p HC \$4.00 CSCL 20D

N74-29647

Unclas
G3/12 45719

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NUMERICAL COMPUTATION OF TWO-DIMENSIONAL VISCOUS
BLUNT BODY FLOWS WITH AN IMPINGING SHOCK

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An extraneous shock impinging on a blunt body in a hypersonic flow has been observed to greatly increase both the heat transfer rate and pressure near the impingement point. In fact, Hains and Keyes¹ have measured peak heating rates up to 17 times the ordinary stagnation point rate and pressure peaks up to 8 times the freestream pitot pressure as a result of shock impingement. Flow fields of this type will occur on the Space Shuttle and other maneuverable re-entry vehicles.

The intense heating and high pressures occur over a small region where a disturbance, originating at the intersection of the impinging shock and bow shock, strikes the body. The disturbance may be a free shear layer, a supersonic jet, or a shock depending on the strength and location of the impinging shock and the shape of the body. Edney² has described six different types of shock interference patterns which can occur. The shock interference pattern which produces the maximum heating rates and pressures is Type IV, which is shown in Fig. 1. In this type of interference pattern, the disturbance is a supersonic jet which is embedded in the subsonic portion of the flow field.

Because of the very complicated nature of shock impingement flow fields, previous attempts²⁻⁵ at predicting the maximum heating rates and pressures have been limited to semiempirical approaches. In the present study, this

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empiricism has been eliminated since the entire shock impingement flow field has been numerically computed. This was accomplished by using a "time-dependent", finite-difference method⁶ which solves the complete set of Navier-Stokes equations for a compressible flow. The major reason for using the "time-dependent" method is that the resulting unsteady Navier-Stokes equations are a mixed set of hyperbolic-parabolic equations for both subsonic and supersonic flows. As a result, a very complicated flow field, such as the one shown in Fig. 1 where both subsonic and supersonic regions are present, can be calculated as an initial-value problem. An additional advantage is that since Navier-Stokes equations are solved in a conservative manner, shocks are automatically allowed to form without previous knowledge of their location or even existence.

In the present two-dimensional analysis, the computational domain extends from the bow shock to the body and includes both the upper and lower sonic lines. For ease of computation, two coordinate transformations have been employed. The first transformation maps the physical plane into a rectangular computational plane bounded on the left by the bow shock and bounded on the right by the body. The second transformation stretches the computational grid in the direction normal to the body in order to permit a better resolution of the boundary layer.

MacCormack's finite-difference algorithm⁷ is used to solve the Navier-Stokes equations at each interior grid point. In order to determine the flow variables at the grid points along the leftmost boundary, the bow shock is treated as a moving discontinuity across which the Rankine-Hugoniot equations are applied. The location of the bow shock at each time step is determined using a predictor-corrector method⁶. All other shocks which exist between the bow shock and the body as well as any shear layers, jets, and the boundary layer are automatically "captured" in the finite-difference solution.

Initially, the blunt body flow without the impinging shock is computed. The impinging shock is then introduced into the flow field by specifying its location and strength. Thus, the freestream conditions behind the impinging shock are known. The computation is then restarted and is continued until the final "steady-state" solution is reached.

The present method has been used to compute the two-dimensional flow fields resulting when different shocks are allowed to impinge on a circular cylinder. The freestream conditions chosen for these calculations were

$M_{\infty} = 4.6$	$p_{\infty} = 14.93 \text{ newtons/m}^2$
$Re_{D_{\infty}} = 10,000$	$T_{\infty} = 167^{\circ}\text{K}$
$Pr = .72$	$D = .3048 \text{ m}$
$\gamma = 1.4$	$T_{\text{wall}} = 556^{\circ}\text{K}$

A mesh consisting of 31 grid points in the normal direction and 51 grid points in the transverse direction was used in all computations. The Mach number contours for the blunt body flow without the impinging shock are shown in Fig. 2. The boundary layer is clearly evident in this figure. Computations were then made of two cases in which shocks of different strengths were allowed to impinge on the undisturbed flow field at a point near the stagnation streamline. These impinging shocks made angles of 16.1° and 20.9° , respectively, with the freestream direction.

The Mach number contours for the 16.1° shock impingement calculation are shown in Fig. 3. In this case, a shear layer emanates from the impingement point and makes a tangential approach to the body surface. This corresponds to a Type III interference pattern although no shock from the body surface is observed. This is probably due to the tangential approach of the shear layer.

The Mach number contours for the 20.9° shock impingement calculation are shown in Fig. 4. In this case a shear layer emanates from the impingement point and is intercepted by a shock wave which starts at the upper kink in

the bow shock. This is a Type IV interference pattern. The internal shock wave is smeared as would be expected in a "shock-capturing" calculation. The impinging shock has caused the stagnation point to be moved a considerable distance from its original location (see Fig. 4). A comparison of the pressures and heat transfer rates on the body surface before and after impingement are shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The impinging shock causes a peak pressure which is 2.4 times greater than the undisturbed stagnation point pressure and a peak heating rate which is 2.5 times greater than the undisturbed stagnation point rate.

The flow conditions and shock angles chosen for these sample calculations correspond with the tests of Edney², which were three-dimensional flows resulting from a planar shock impinging on a body of revolution. Although the present calculations are two-dimensional, qualitative comparisons can still be made with the Edney experiments, especially near the bow shock where the flow is locally two-dimensional. The correctness of the present calculations is inferred by these comparisons.

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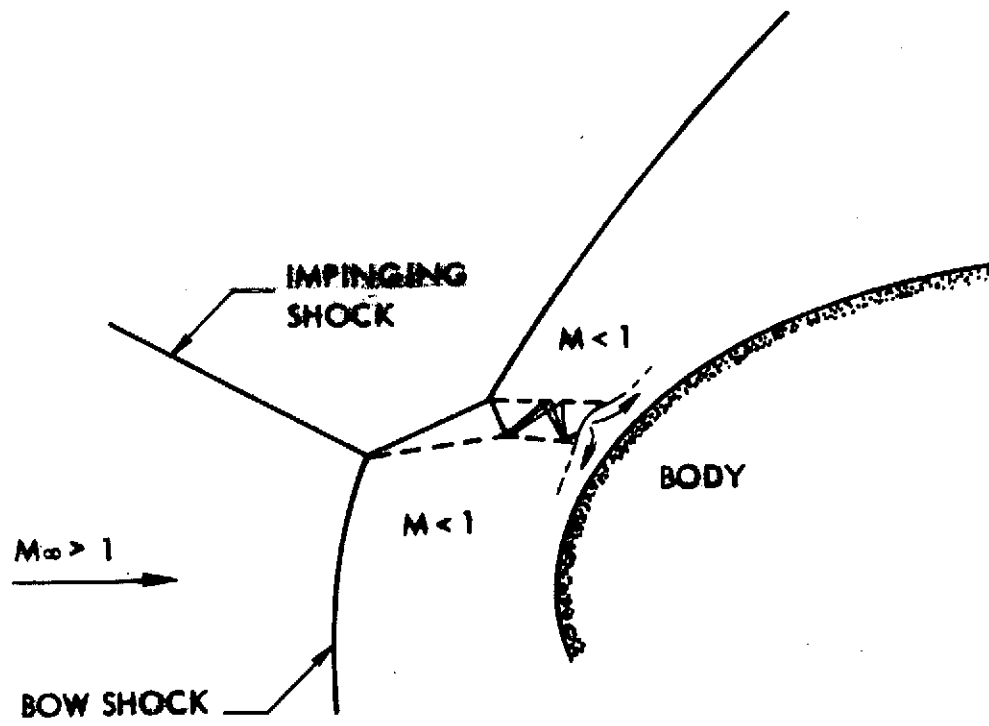


Fig. 1. Type IV shock interference pattern.

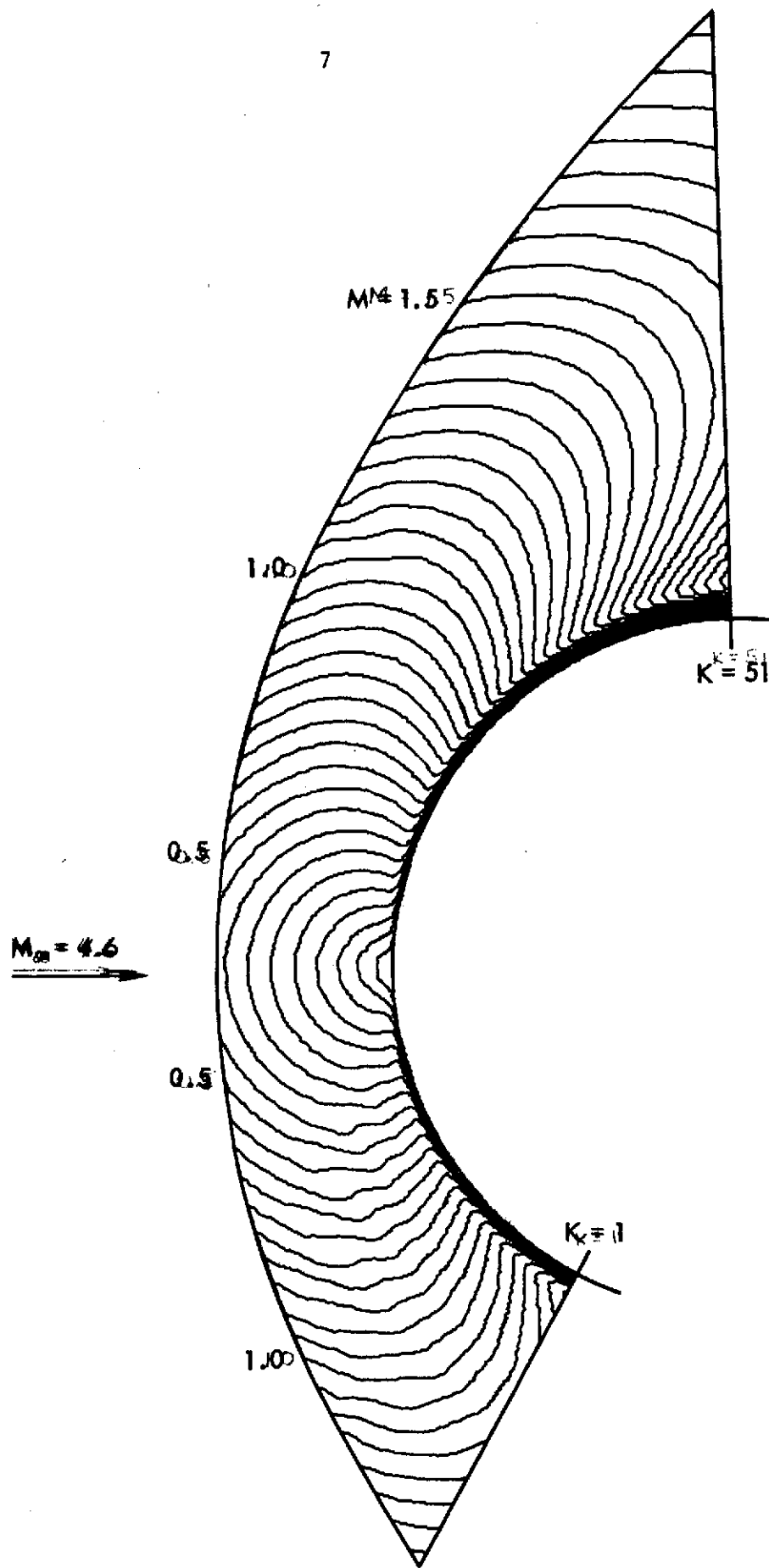


Fig. 2. Mach number contours for no shock impingement.

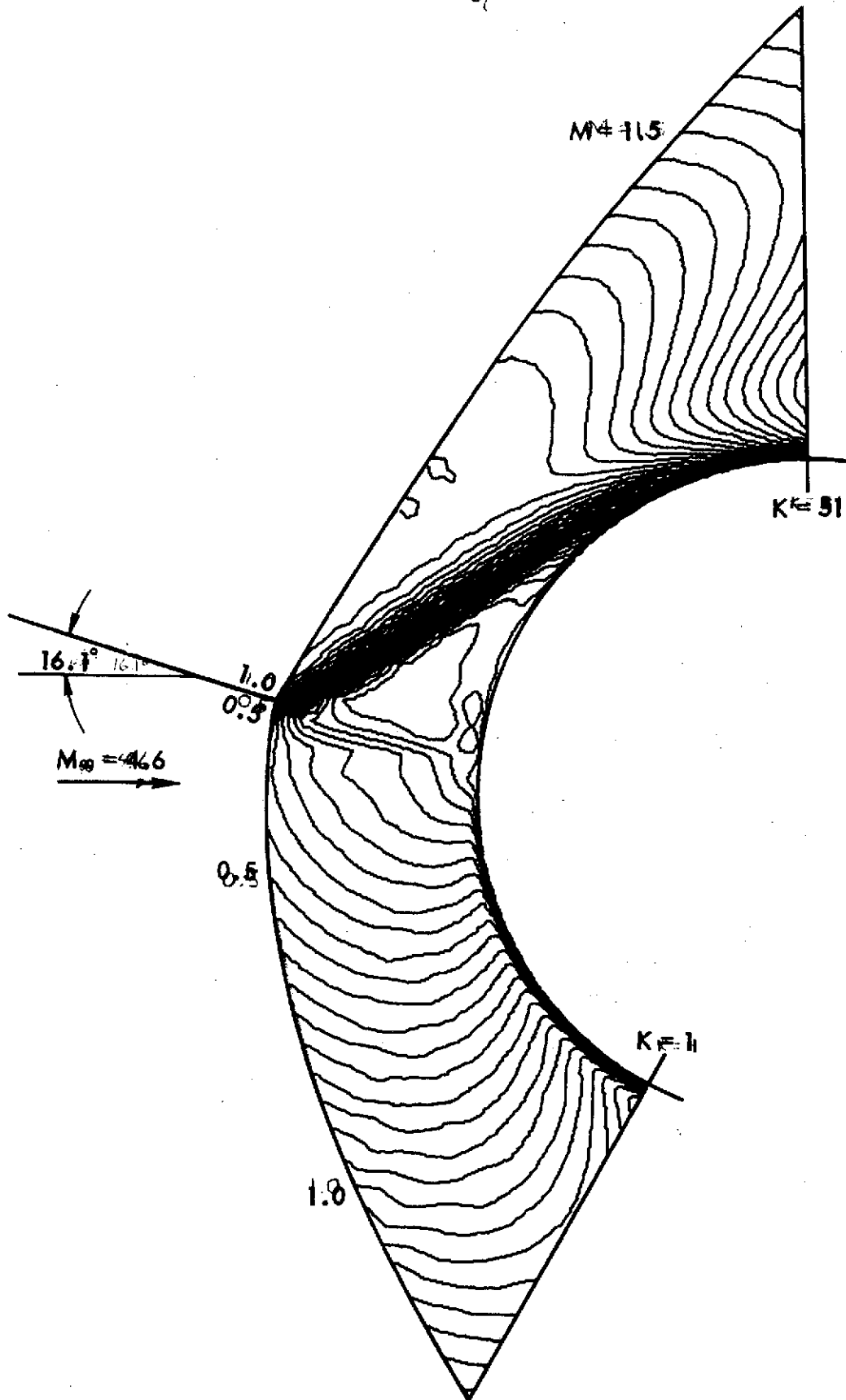


Fig. 3. Mach number contours for 16.1° shock impingement.

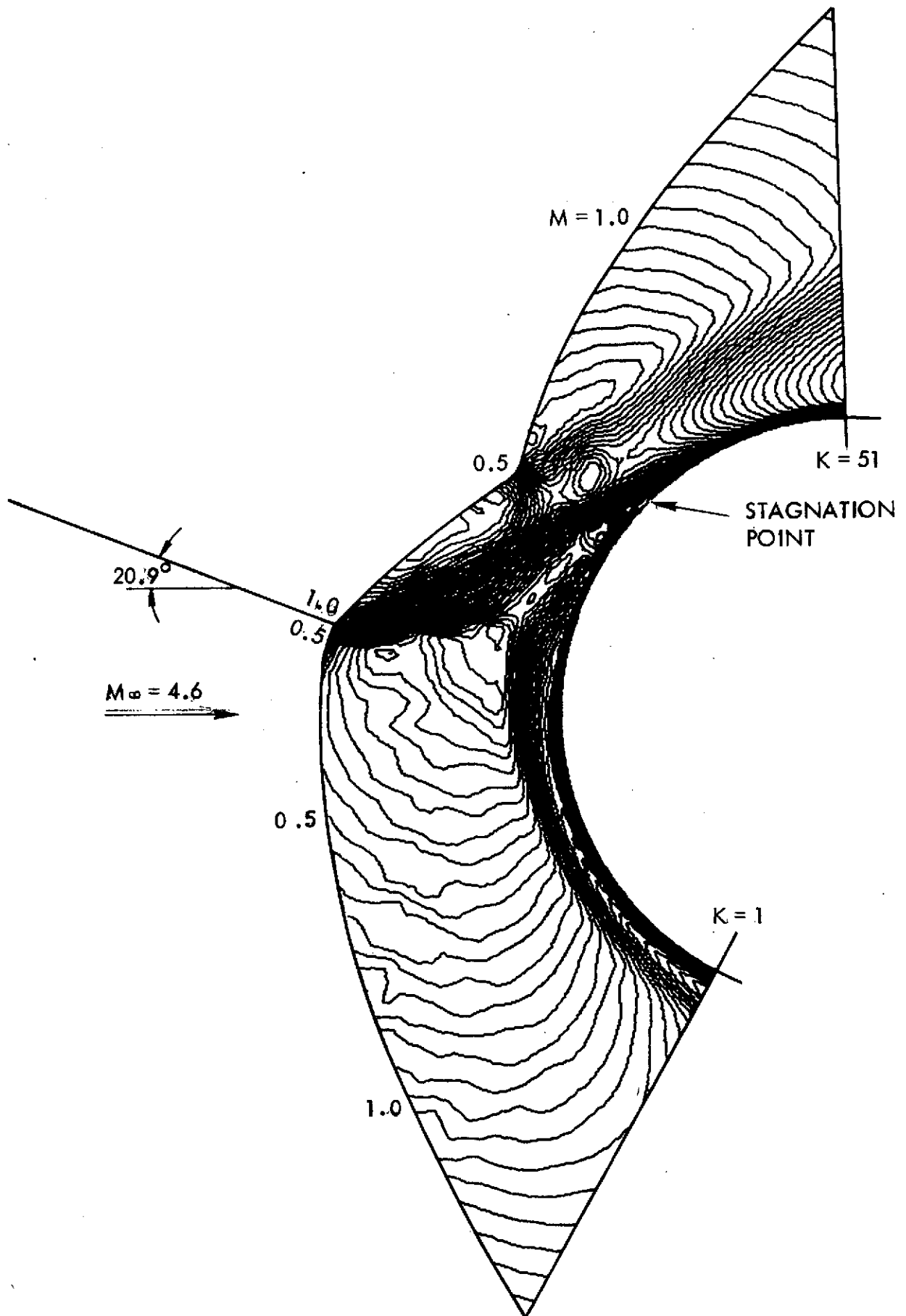


Fig. 4. Mach number contours for 20.9° shock impingement.

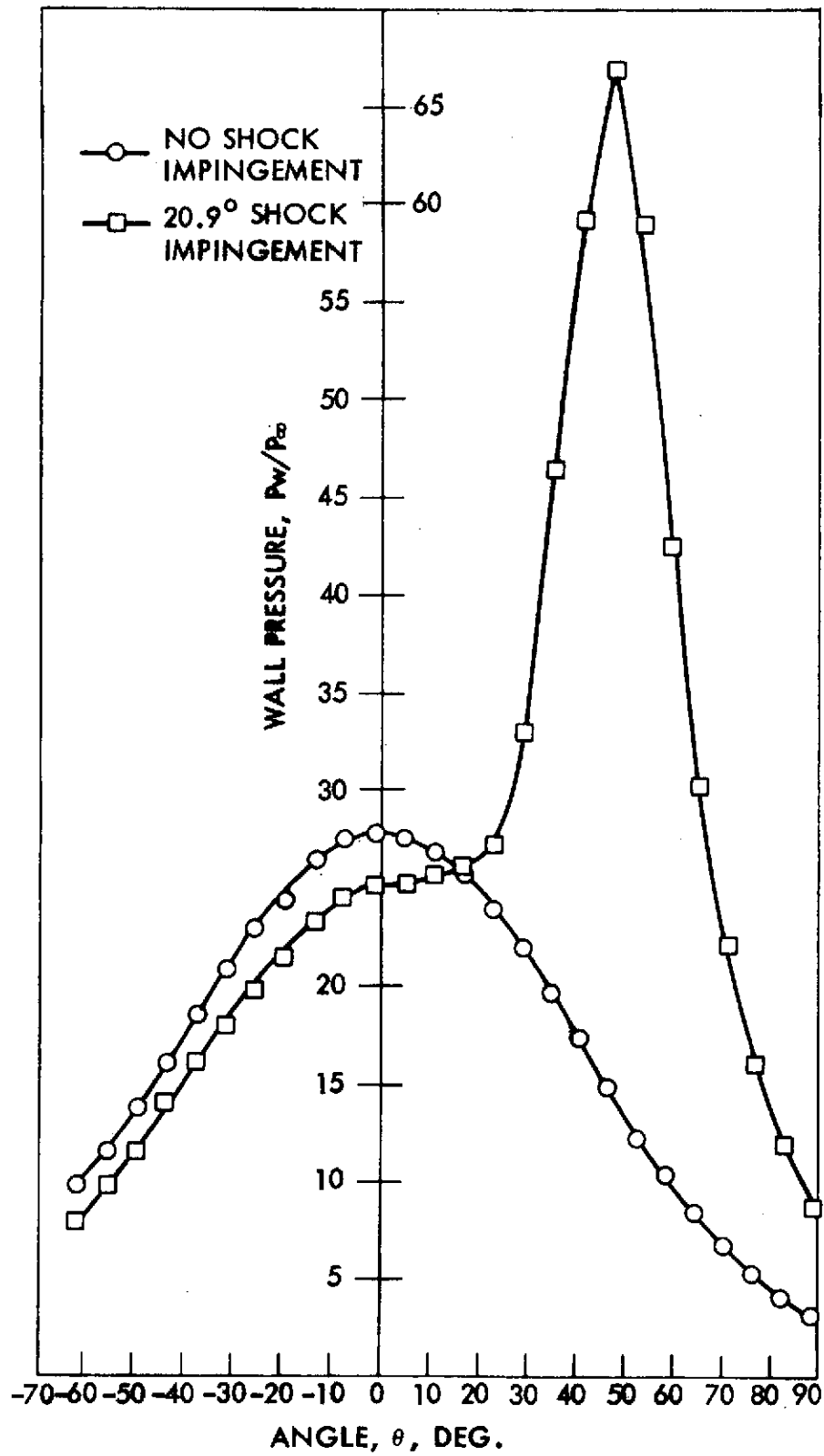


Fig. 5. Comparison of wall pressures.

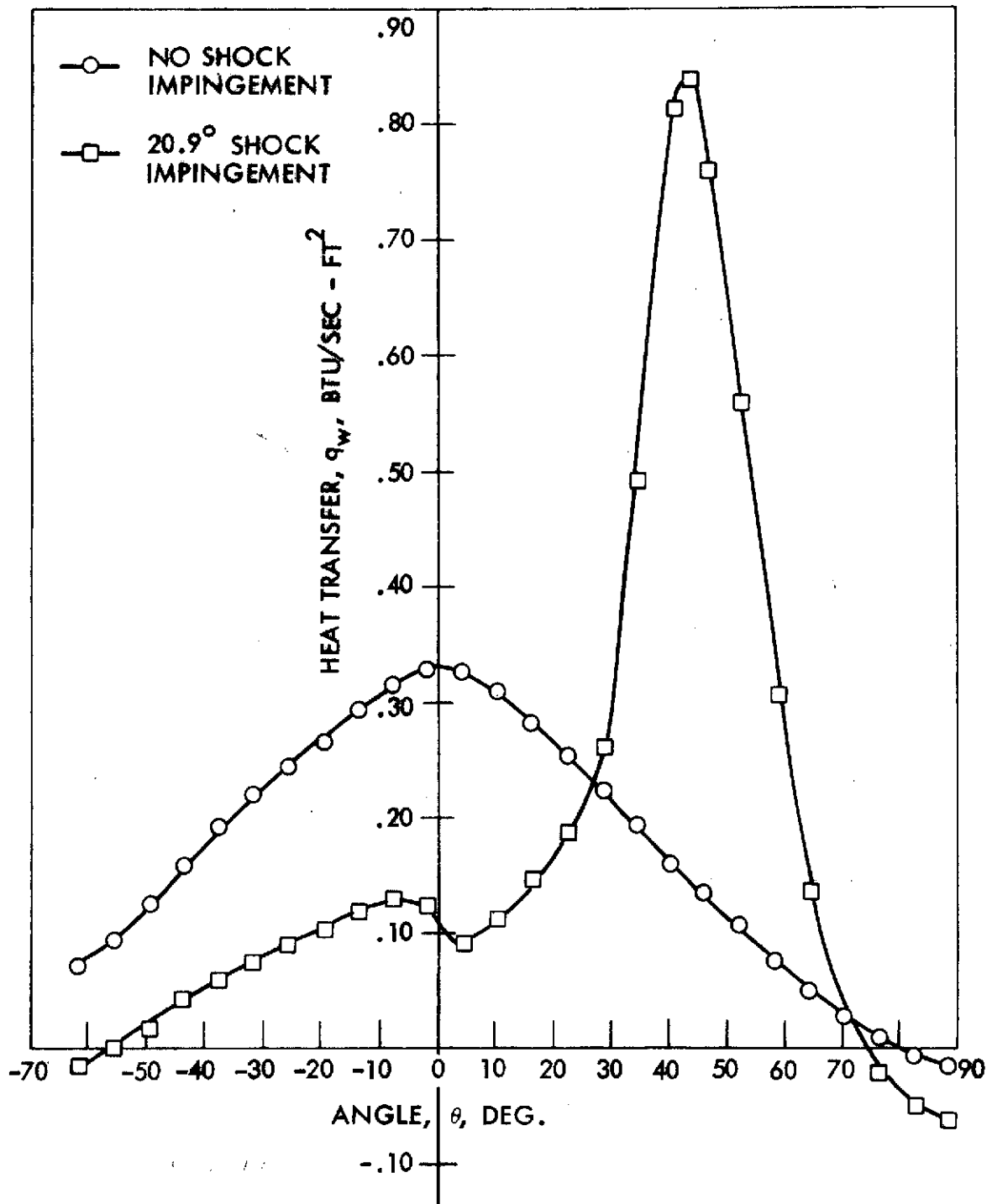


Fig. 6. Comparison of heat transfers.