Fluid-structure coupling of a compliant panel installed in a compression ramp at Mach 6: Experiments

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Previous fluid-structure-interaction experiments in high-speed flows

- Very few hypersonic FSI experiments previously been conducted
- Supersonic SWBLI/FSI investigated by Spottswood et al. (2013)
- Cantilevered plate in Mach-6 flow studied by Currao et al. (2016)
- Casper et al. (2016) investigated response of flexible panel to turbulent spots



Schlieren image from Currao et al. (2016)



DIC-patterned panel from Spottswood et al. (2013)



A. JAMES CLARK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING Experimental configuration of Casper et al. (2013)





Why shock-wave/boundary-layer interactions?

- No previous FSI measurements on ramp-induced hypersonic SWBLIs in open literature
- Hypersonic interactions show notable differences from supersonic ones, producing extremely high pressure fluctuation levels, also with significant low frequency content and large subsonic region in separated cases
- Therefore, might expect ramp-induced SWBLI to be worst-case scenario for external FSI



I. Experimental apparatus





Test facility

- Tests performed in NASA Langley 20" Mach 6 tunnel
- Test times potentially up to minutes, but limited here to a few seconds by camera memory
- Two test conditions to investigate influence of incoming boundary-layer state
- Total pressure and temperature variations during run <0.1%

Condition	А	В
M_{∞}	5.96	6.04
${ m Re}_{\infty} \ [10^6 \ 1/{ m m}]$	6.6	23.6
P_{∞} [kPa]	0.57	2.04
T_{∞} [K]	62.7	63.6
$ ho_\infty ~ [{ m kg/m}^3]$	0.113	0.032
$\mathrm{u}_{\infty}~\mathrm{[m/s]}$	946	962



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Experimental model

- Flat plate/compression ramp with angles of 10°, 20°, 30°-35°
- Ramp corner located 356 mm from leading edge transitional and turbulent incoming boundary-layer states for Conditions A & B respectively
- Compliant structure incorporated in ramp:
 - 4140 steel, 0.032" thick, 3.5" wide by 3.475" long
 - Well below flutter boundary at tested conditions
- Flush-mounted Kulite pressure sensors on centerline upstream and downstream of panel
- 25 x 25 grid of markers on panel for photogrammetry, recorded at 30 kHz (Phantom v2512s)
- Pressure beneath panel uncontrolled (but measured)





Development of high-accuracy photogrammetry

- Photogrammetry allows sparse, localized markers and absolute position measurements, though displacement accuracy traditionally lower than DIC
- Marker position evaluated through least-squares fitting of intensity profile instead of center-of-mass calculation
- Accuracy evaluated through artificial image analysis
 - Average position error ~0.015 pixels (comparable to DIC), relatively insensitive to marker diameter

$$\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{A} \left\{ \tanh\left[p\left(\sqrt{(\frac{x'}{a})^2 + (\frac{y'}{b})^2} + 1\right) \right] - \tanh\left[p\left(\sqrt{(\frac{x'}{a})^2 + (\frac{y'}{b})^2} - 1\right) \right] \right\}$$





Development of high-accuracy photogrammetry

- Ray-tracing analysis of DNS of shock-wave/boundary-layer interaction indicated refractive errors should be negligible for present application
- Experimental errors (out-of-plane) estimated as 2-4 μ m
- Allows high-speed (>10 kHz) micron-level out-of-plane measurements over entire panel region



Integration with Spectral POD method

- Spectral Proper Orthogonal Decomposition (SPOD) (re-)introduced to community by Towne et al. (2018)
- Uses data from all markers to determine dynamic modes at each frequency
- Characterizes panel motion as a whole rather than at discrete points



II. Rigid ramp characterization





High-frequency pressure measurements

- Flush-mounted Kulites have flat frequency response up to ~40 kHz
- Significant amplification of pressure fluctuations through SWBLI maximum of 12% of mean pressure for 35 degree ramp



Focusing schlieren visualizations

- Focusing schlieren allows visualization of flow structures near centerline
- Cavilux Smart and Phantom v2512 allow double-pulsed operation for structure tracking
- More information was given in AIAA 2019-1127

Transitional boundary layer, 33° ramp



Turbulent boundary layer, 34° ramp





III. Compliant panel results





Influence of ramp angle on panel modes

- Fully separated cases show largest panel responses
- Transitional interactions appear to excite broader range of panel modes (esp. asymmetric)
- Shifting of panel modes to lower frequencies with increased interaction strength



Mode shapes: 35° ramp, transitional boundary layer



Time series data, 34° ramp



- Calculated using wavelet transform of single marker displacement
- Forcing in turbulent case appears far more sporadic
- No discernible link to upstream pressure content on centerline





Static deformation and frequency shifting



- Panel also underwent substantial static deformations, especially for turbulent condition
 - Not well predicted by finite-element analysis
- Shifting of modal frequencies noted earlier appears to be linked to these deformations





Static deformation, thermal stresses, and frequency shifting



- Static deformation could be a result of thermal stresses induced by temperature differential between panel and surrounding structure
- Temperature differential ΔT chosen to best match measured deflections for Condition B





Static deformation, thermal stresses, and frequency shifting



- Thermal stresses will also produce shift in modal frequencies
- Good qualitative agreement between measured frequencies and model predictions





Fundamental mode bifurcation



- At larger ramp angles, 1,1 mode appears to split into two discrete frequencies
- Split modes appear alternately, rather than simultaneously
- Origin of this behavior unknown still need to examine links to static deformation



Influence of panel motion on downstream pressure fluctuations

 Small panel displacements mean limited coupling back to fluid motions, but some effect appears to be present in pressure fluctuations downstream of ramp





Conclusions and Acknowledgements

- High-speed photogrammetry used to study response of compliant panel to hypersonic rampinduced SWBLI for varying interaction strengths
- SPOD allowed mode shapes and strengths to be evaluated under different conditions
 - For turbulent interactions, 1,1 mode excitation dominant
 - For transitional interactions, higher-order modes showed comparable energy to 1,1
- Higher than expected static deformation and frequency shifting appear to be linked to thermal stresses between panel and support
- Limited intensification of downstream pressure fluctuations also observed origin not clear

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Modal Testing

 Post-campaign modal testing performed





