

A Computational Analysis of Boundary Layer Instability over the BOLT Configuration (Effect of Nonzero AoA and Yaw)



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BOLT Geometry vs. HIFiRE-5b



- 2D nose tip, twice the nose radius relative to HIFiRE-5b
- 4 swept leading edges joined by 4 laterally concave surfaces



Ascent Condition from Flight Trajectory $t = 28.88 \text{ sec}, M_{\infty} = 5.53, \text{ and } Re_1 = 4.25 \times 10^6$

 $\alpha = \beta = 0 \deg$





Mach number contours: 0 to 5 ($\Delta M = 0.25$)





Stability Characteristics Near Centerline

- Local growth rate spectra
 - N-factor evolution
 - Mode shape evolution

Local Instability Characteristics: α = 4 deg (Leeward) Growth rate spectra at X/L = 0.515



- a) Mack modes: narrow bandwidth, near-wall peak fluctuations, dominant planar, trapped acoustic modes confined in wall-normal & azimuthal directions
- b) Shear layer modes (streak instabilities): concentrated away from the wall, large frequency bandwidth



Local Instability Characteristics: α = 4 deg (Windward) Growth rate spectra at X/L = 0.515



- Mack mode growth rates moderately lower than those on leeward side
- Substantially higher peak growth rate for shear layer mode #1

N-Factor Evolution Based on Plane Marching PSE : FAL $_{\alpha}$



- In all cases, the most amplified modes originate as Mack modes that subsequently morph into streak instabilities that amplify more rapidly, although purely streak instabilities can achieve comparable growth on the windward side
- Strong reduction in peak N-factors on leeward side and substantially higher N-factors on windward side
 - ⇒ Transition near centerline is unlikely on leeward side, but very likely on windward side



N-Factor Evolution : FAL_{β}



Comparable peak N-factor of 10-11 in all cases

Achieved by Mack modes that evolve into shear-layer modes



Mode Shape Evolution : FAL_{β} (Leeward) f = 130 kHz, MM





N-Factor Evolution : FAL_{β} (Leeward)





Summary

At the ascent condition of interest (t = 28.88 sec, $M_{\infty} = 5.53$, and $Re_L = 3.68 \times 10^6$),

- 4 deg yaw → No major change in N-factors of streak instabilities near the middle of the test surface
- 4 deg AoA → Earlier transition on windward side
 No transition on leeward side
- Surface pressure sensors may not provide meaningful characterization of modal growth of hybrid modes that originate as Mack modes and morph into shear-layer modes



Extra Charts

Outline



- Motivation
- BOLT vehicle geometry
- Numerics (see paper for details)
- Effects of nonzero AoA and yaw at flight conditions
 - Basic state
 - Stability analysis
 - Local stability characteristics
 - Non-parallel spatial evolution
- Summary



- Modeling of boundary layer transition an important part of predicting the aerothermal loads on hypersonic vehicles
 - In-flight measurements critical to calibration of predictive models
- BOLT flight experiment
 - Extends previous flight data for cones with circular (HIFiRE-1) and elliptic (HIFiRE-5b) cross sections to more complex shape (Wheaton et al. 2018-2892, 2020-1041)
 - Rich transition physics
 - Multiple, potentially interacting instability mechanisms (Mack modes, crossflow instability, dominance of streak instabilities)
 - Entropy layer effects
 - Few studies of streak instability near the centerline of test surface (Thome et al. 2018 – DNS, Li et al. 2020 – Modal Analysis), and none at off-design conditions



Flight Condition of Interest

- Flight, Ascent (Case FAL from Li et al. 2020)
 - -M = 5.53, Re = 4.24M/m, Re_L= 3.68M

− P = 2380.2 Pa, T = 222.0 K, T_w = 400 K, t = 28.8767 s

- Target attitude for flight experiment (Wheaton et al. 2018)
 - Combined AoA + yaw < 5 deg (threshold), < 2 deg (objective)
 - Quiet tunnel tests for α , β = 4 deg (Berridge et al. 2018)
 - Conventional tunnel measurements (Berridge et al. 2018)
- Nonzero AoA Case (FAL_α)
 - Nonzero AoA Case (FAL_{α}) : $\alpha = 4 \deg$, $\beta = 0 \deg$
 - Nonzero yaw Case (FAL_{β}) : α = 0 deg, β = 4 deg
- Complements numerical study by Mullen & Reed (2020)

 $-\alpha$, $\beta = \pm 1$ deg, acreage region away from prominent streaks



- VULCAN: 2nd-order NS code for initial laminar base flow
- DNS Code: 7th-order finite difference (based on Martin et al., *J. Comp. Phys.* 2006) for more accurate base flow
- MAFIA: LST, PNP (Partially Nonparallel) Analysis and Plane-marching PSE for streak instability computations.



Strategy for Basic State Computation for Stability Analysis

DNS domain

- Begins a short distance behind the leading edge
- Confined to the region just below the shock
- VULCAN solution provides inflow conditions
 + BCs along outer boundary of DNS domain
 - Evolution of complex flow features downstream of the leading edge computed using higher order code



Mach number contours: 0 to 5 ($\Delta M = 0.25$)





Local Instability Characteristics: $\alpha = \beta = 0 \text{ deg}$



- Two major mode types:
 - I. Mack modes: narrow bandwidth, near-wall peak fluctuations, dominant planar + weaker oblique, trapped acoustic modes confined in wall-normal & azimuthal directions
 - II. Shear layer modes (streak instabilities): concentrated away from the wall, large frequency bandwidth, higher peak growth rates





N-factors

Mode shape evolution of Mode I f = 130 kHz



Mode Shape Evolution : FAL_{α}

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Mode Shape Evolution : FAL_{β}







|u'| Mode Shape Evolution : FAL_{α}



 Mode shape initially resembles Mack modes with a near-wall peak in wall-normal direction, but soon evolves into a shear-layer mode that peaks along the crest of rollup – referred to as hybrid Mack Mode–Streak Instability (MM-SI) modes



Growth rate spectra at X/L = 0.343





Local Instability Characteristics: $\beta = 4 \text{ deg}$

Growth rate spectra at X/L = 0.687





N-Factor Evolution : FAL_{β}

 $\alpha = \beta = 0 \deg$





