

# NASA Small Engine Components Compressor Test Facility: High Efficiency Centrifugal Compressor Vaneless Diffuser and Transition Duct Configurations

**Herbert M. Harrison**

NASA Glenn Research Center

**Ezra O. McNichols**

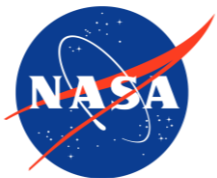
NASA Glenn Research Center

**Matthew R. Blaha**

HX5 Sierra



Cleveland, OH USA

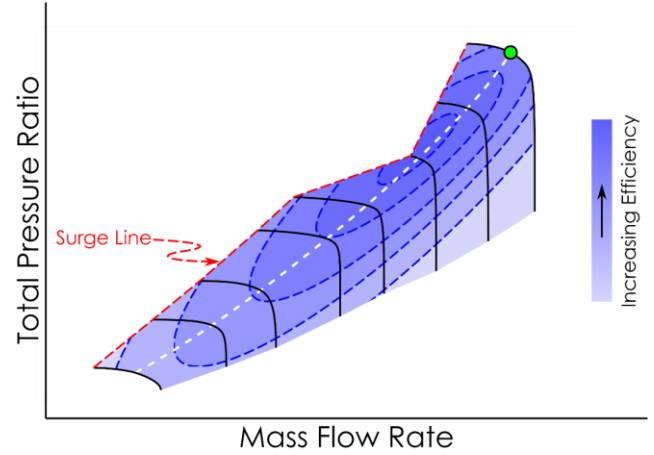
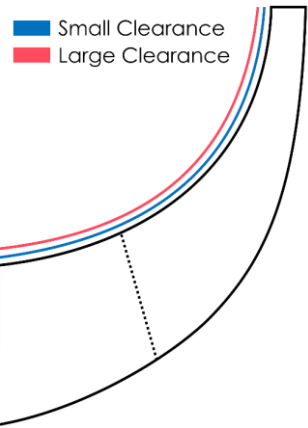
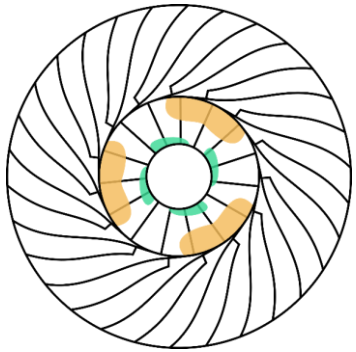


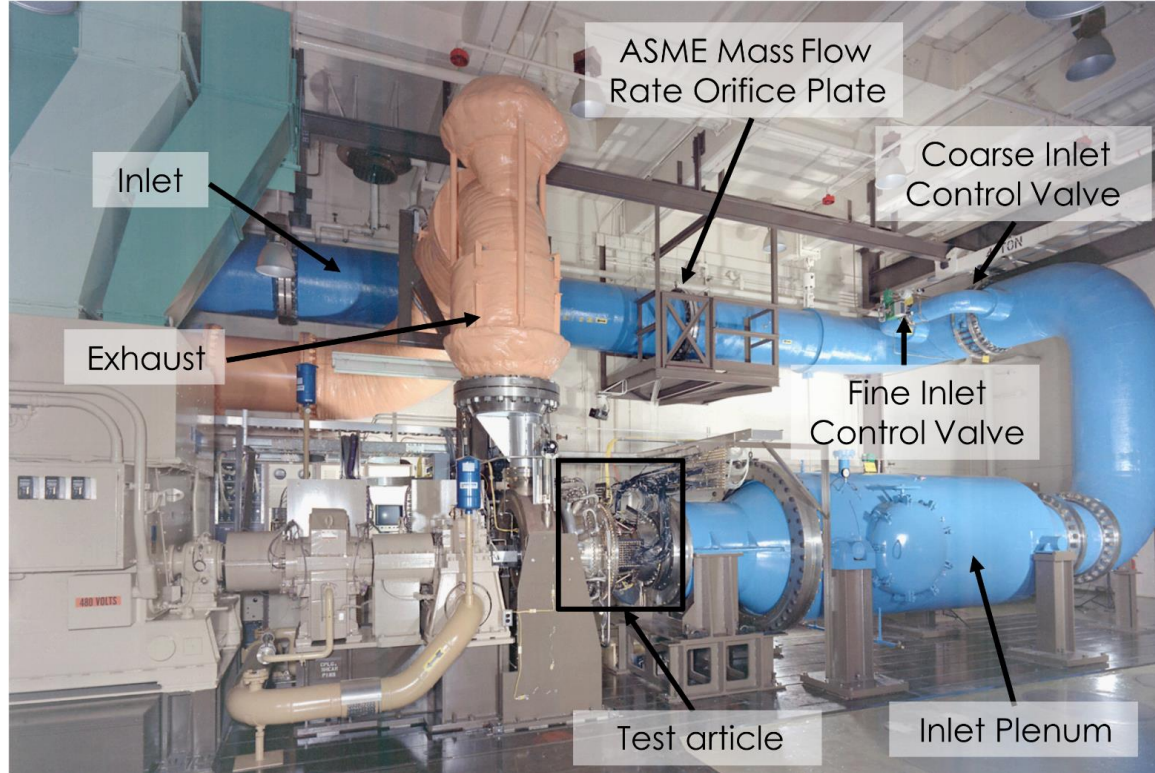
**GT2023-103128**  
**Turbo Expo**  
**Boston, MA USA**  
**June 26-30, 2023**

**Very few well-documented open turbomachinery cases are available in the open literature**



# Goal of HECC research is to provide high quality, open access data for centrifugal compressors

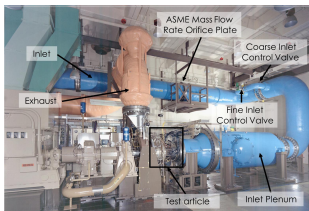
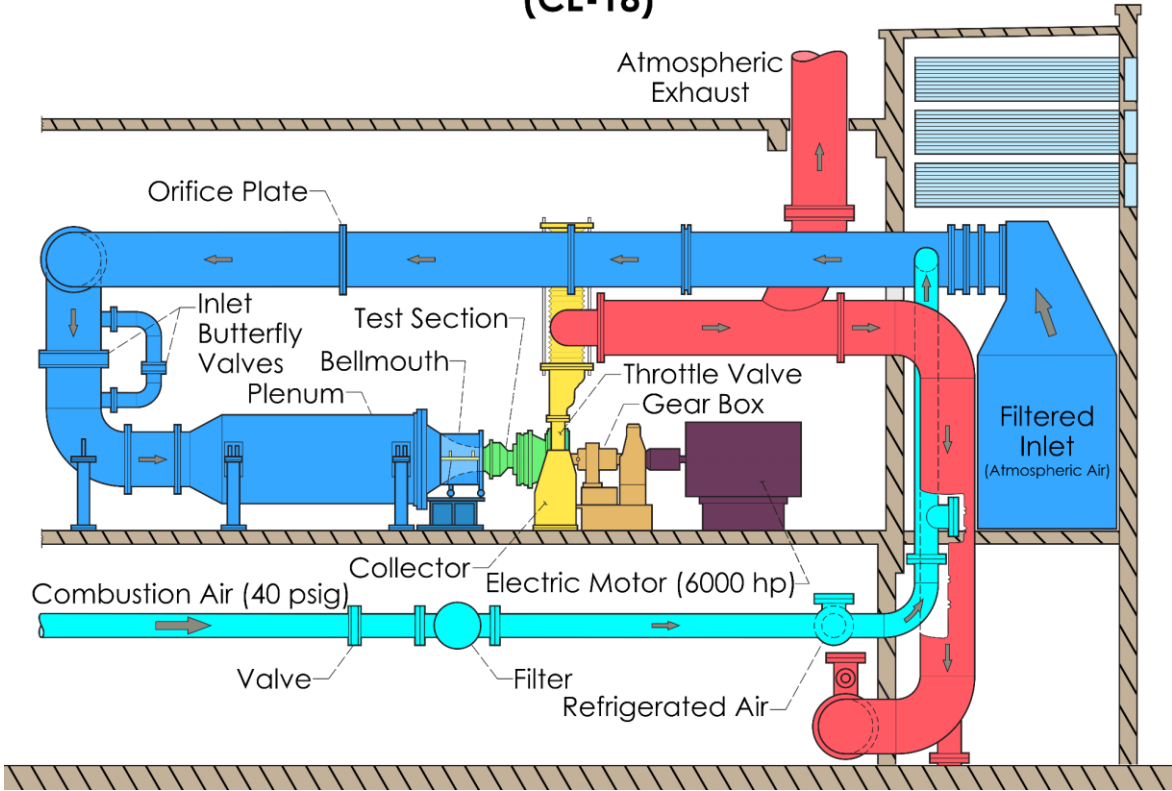




# Small Engine Components Compressor Test Facility (CE-18)

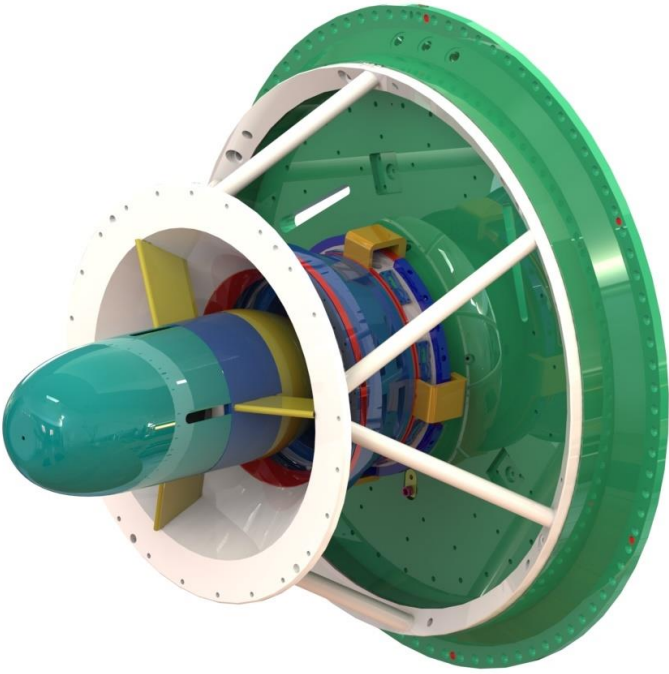
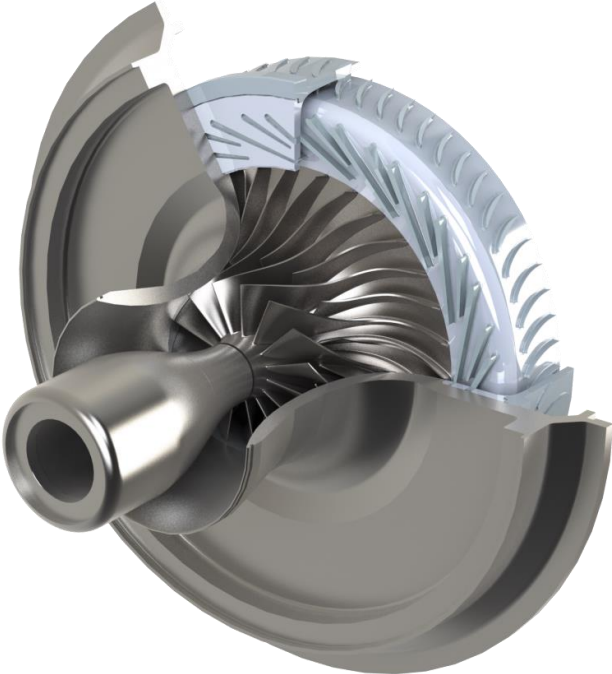
# The CE-18 test cell facilitates high fidelity centrifugal compressor research

## SMALL ENGINE COMPONENTS COMPRESSOR TEST FACILITY (CE-18)



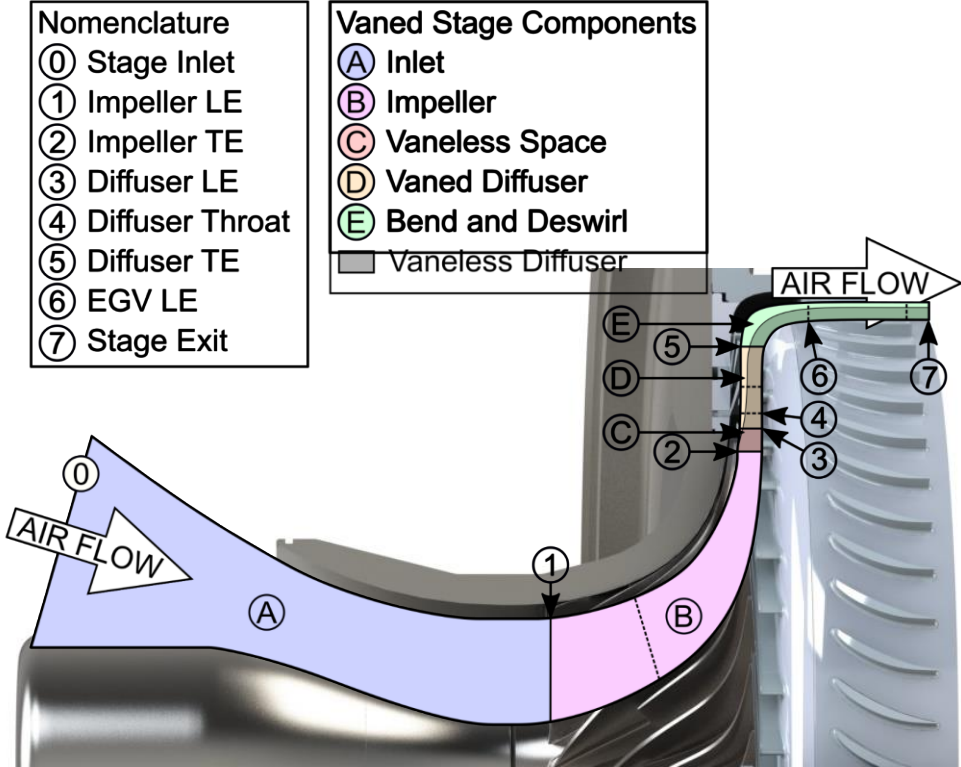
# HECC Test Article

# HECC configurations: vaned and vaneless diffusers; baseline and transition duct inlets



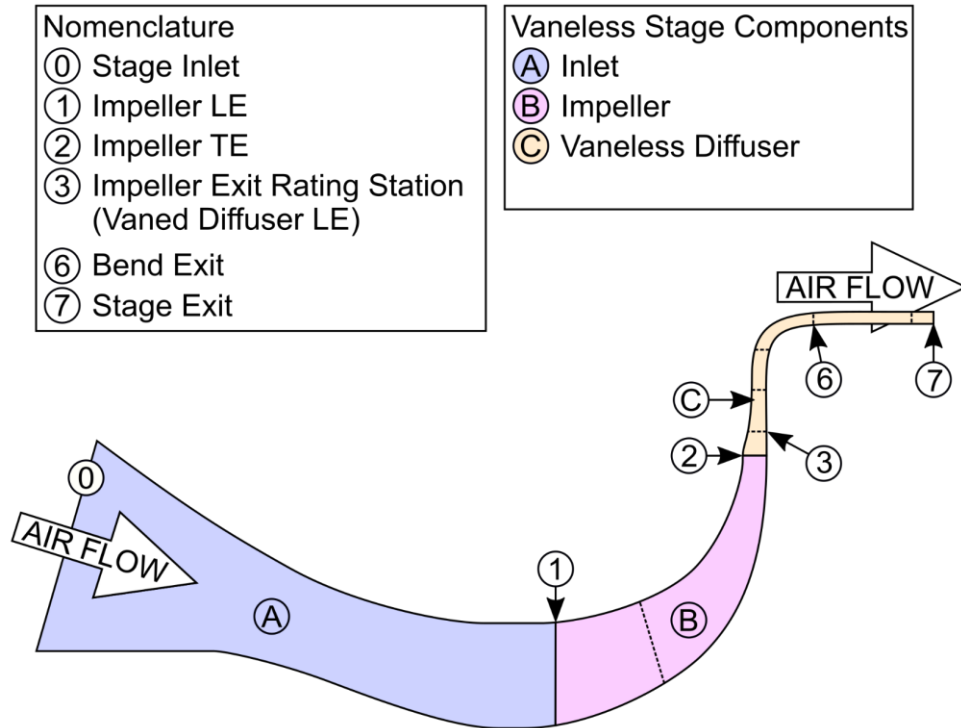


# HECC configurations: vaned and vaneless diffusers; baseline and transition duct inlets

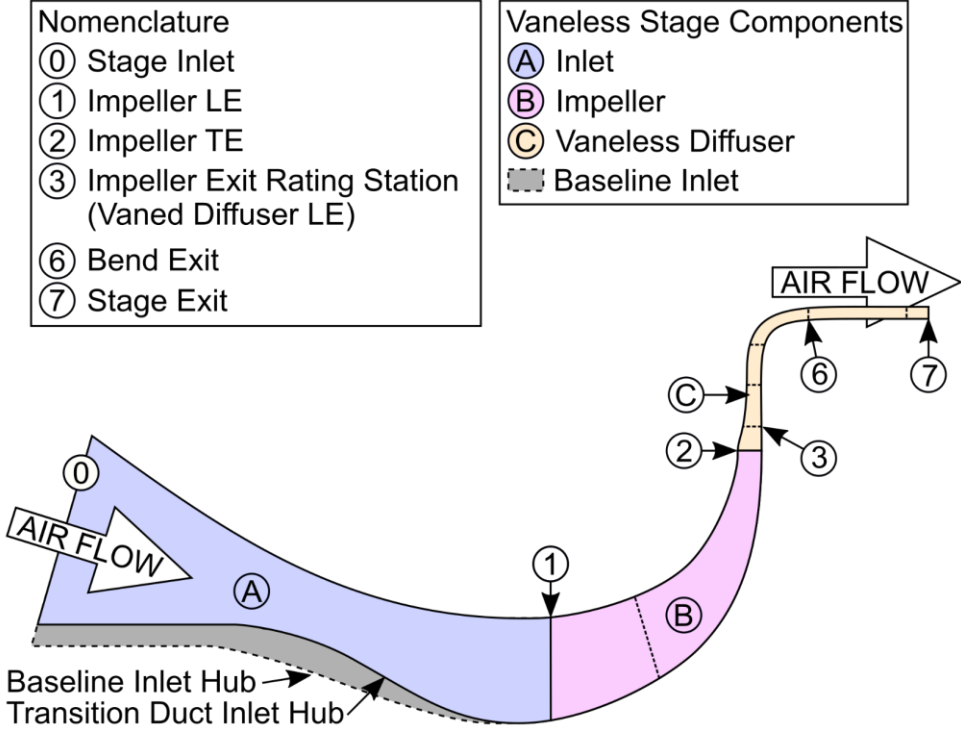




# HECC configurations: vaned and vaneless diffusers; baseline and transition duct inlets



# HECC configurations: vaned and vaneless diffusers; baseline and transition duct inlets



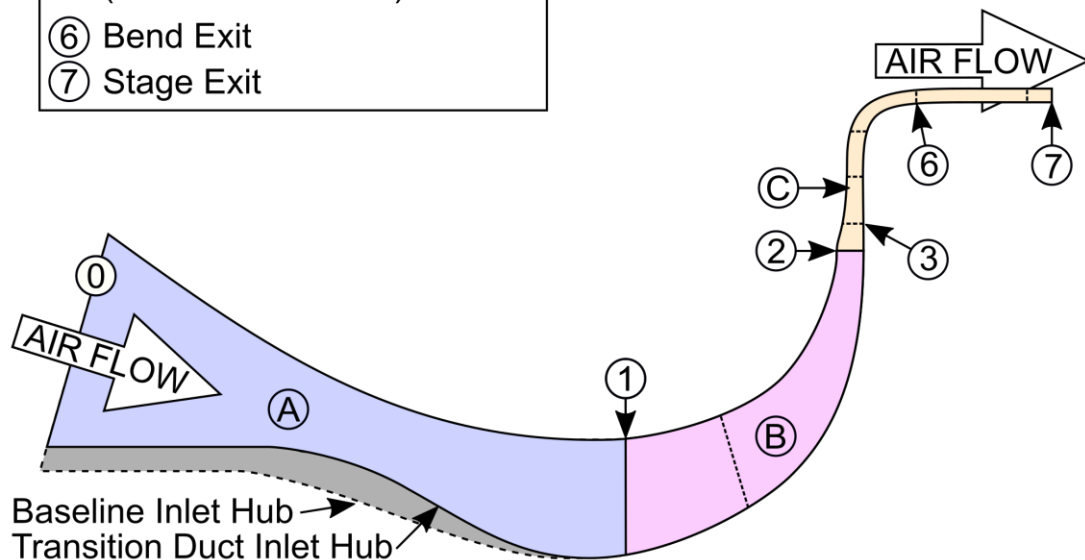
# HECC is a highly loaded machine representative of modern designs

## Nomenclature

- ① Stage Inlet
- ① Impeller LE
- ② Impeller TE
- ③ Impeller Exit Rating Station (Vaned Diffuser LE)
- ⑥ Bend Exit
- ⑦ Stage Exit

## Vaneless Stage Components

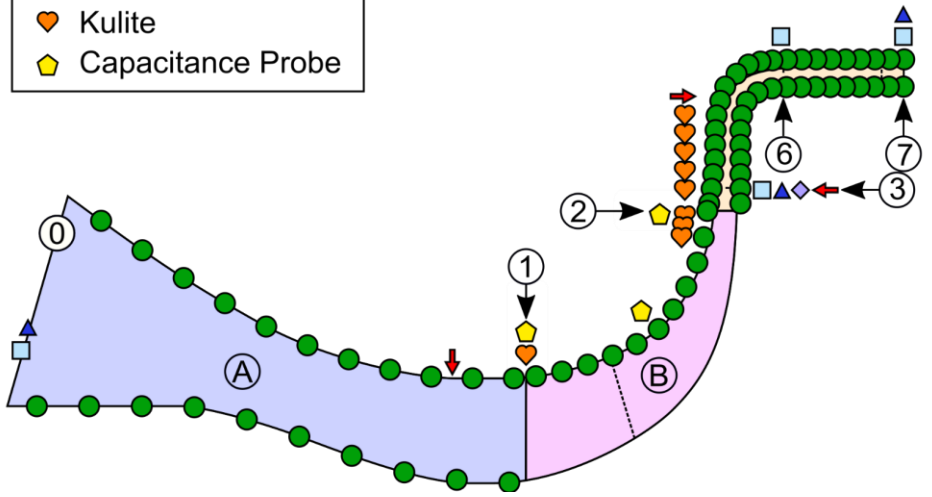
- Ⓐ Inlet
- Ⓑ Impeller
- Ⓒ Vaneless Diffuser
- Baseline Inlet



Parameter	Value
Mass Flow Rate	11 lbm/s
Stage Pressure Ratio	4.55
Impeller Pressure Ratio	5.1
Rotational Speed	21,789 rpm
Machine Mach No.	1.45
Impeller Blade Count	15/15
Diffuser Vane Count	n/a
Backsweep Angle*	30°
Inlet Flow Coefficient ( $\Phi$ )	0.045
Loading Coefficient ( $\psi$ )	0.78

# HECC is equipped with detailed instrumentation throughout the flow path

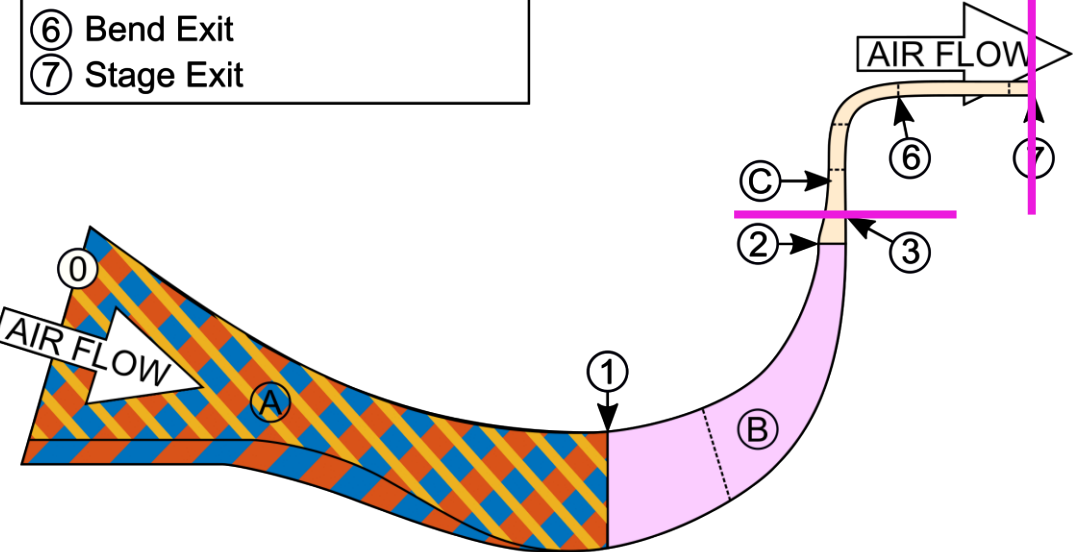
- Instrumentation
- Total Pressure
  - ▲ Total Temperature
  - ▼ 3-Hole Cobra Probe
  - ◇ Survey Locations
  - Static Pressure
  - ♥ Kulite
  - ◆ Capacitance Probe



# Forthcoming discussion focuses on impeller exit and stage exit for 3 inlet configurations

- Nomenclature
- ① Stage Inlet
  - ① Impeller LE
  - ② Impeller TE
  - ③ Impeller Exit Rating Station (Vaned Diffuser LE)
  - ⑥ Bend Exit
  - ⑦ Stage Exit

- Vaneless Stage Components
- Ⓐ Inlet
  - Ⓑ Impeller
  - Ⓒ Vaneless Diffuser
  - Baseline Inlet



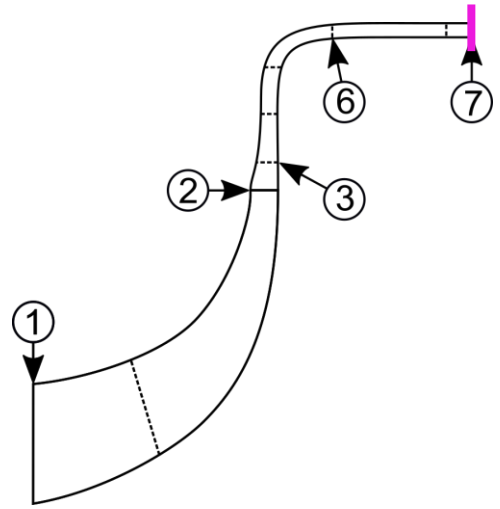
**Baseline Metal Inlet (BLM)**

**Baseline Plastic Inlet (BLP)**

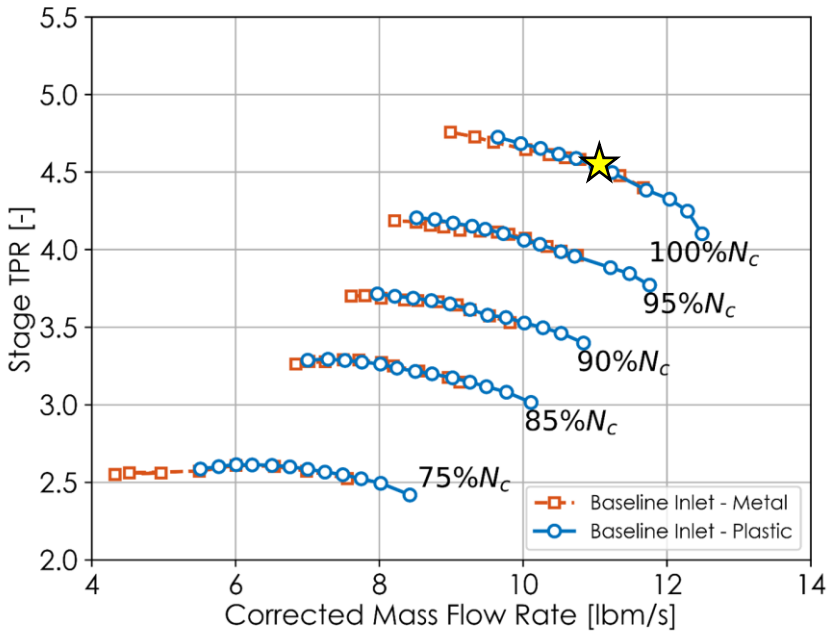
**Modified Hub Inlet (MH)**

# **HECC Baseline Metal and Baseline Plastic Inlet Performance**

# Stage TPR is consistent between the BLM and BLP inlets

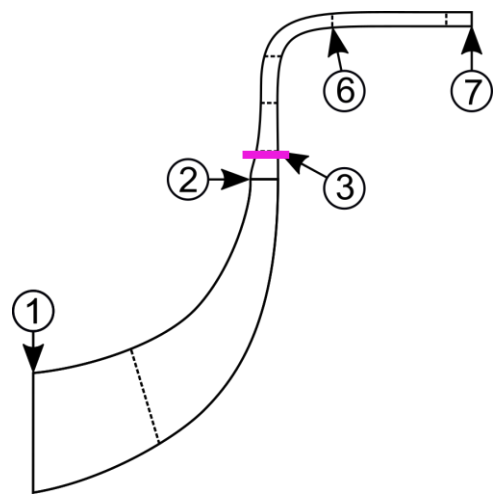


Design Point Parameters	Value
Mass Flow Rate	11 lbm/s
Stage Pressure Ratio	4.55
Impeller Pressure Ratio	5.1
Rotational Speed	21,789 rpm

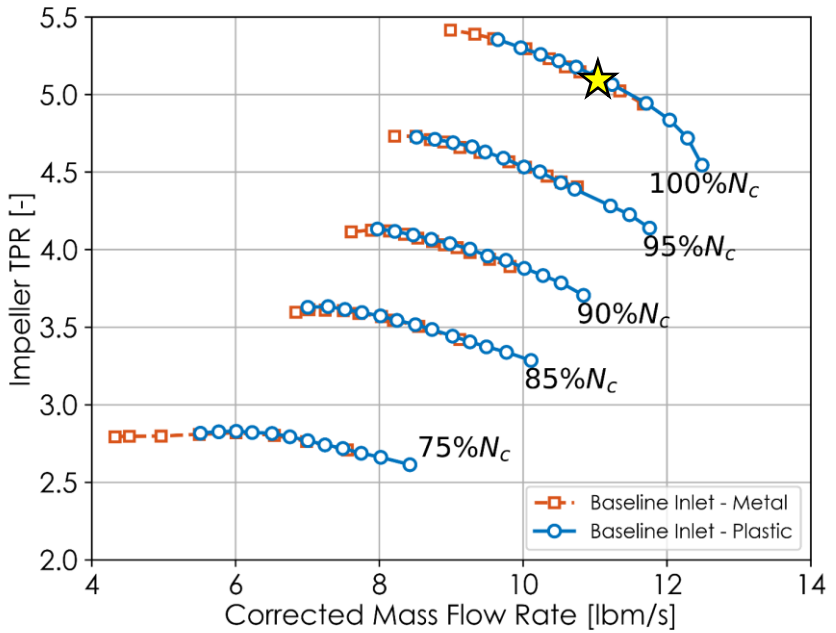




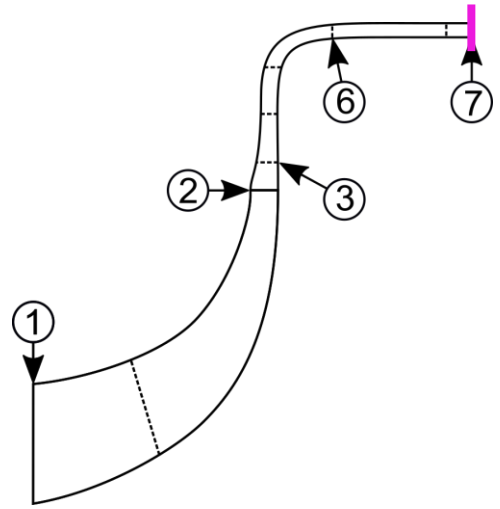
# Stage and impeller TPR are consistent between the BLM and BLP inlets



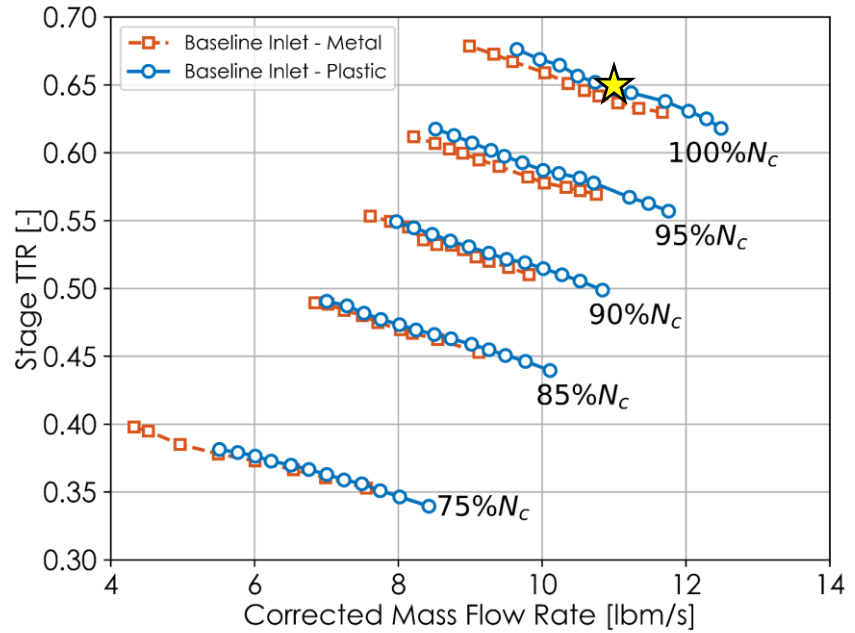
Design Point Parameters	Value
Mass Flow Rate	11 lbm/s
Stage Pressure Ratio	4.55
Impeller Pressure Ratio	5.1
Rotational Speed	21,789 rpm



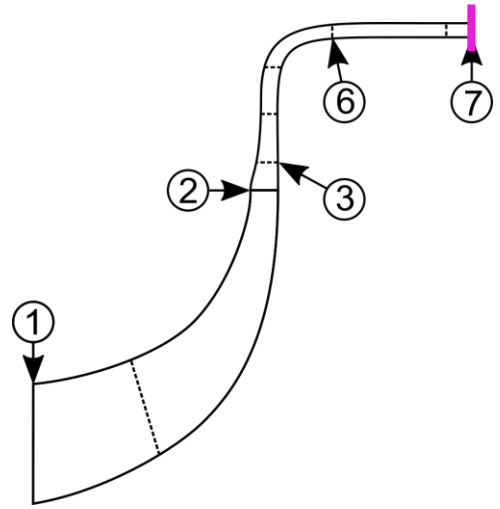
# Stage TTR is slightly increased with the BLP inlet relative to the BLM inlet



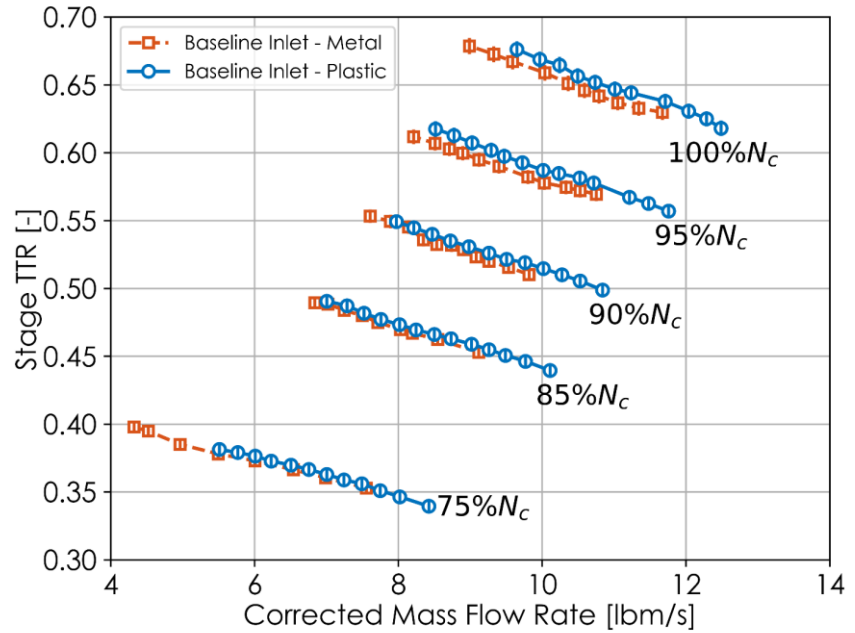
Design Point Parameters	Value
Mass Flow Rate	11 lbm/s
Stage Pressure Ratio	4.55
Impeller Pressure Ratio	5.1
Rotational Speed	21,789 rpm



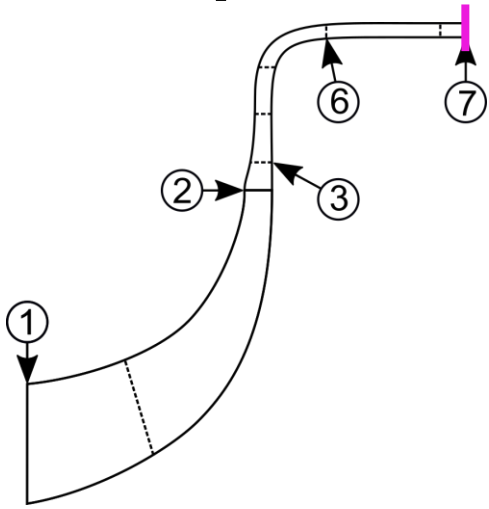
# Stage TTR is slightly increased with the BLP inlet relative to the BLM inlet



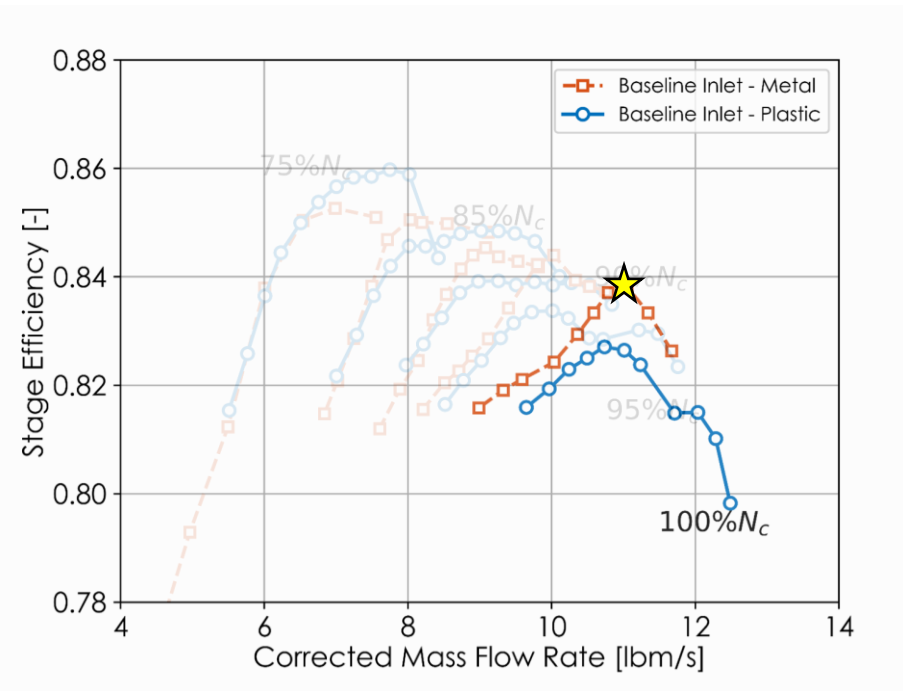
Design Point Parameters	Value
Mass Flow Rate	11 lbm/s
Stage Pressure Ratio	4.55
Impeller Pressure Ratio	5.1
Rotational Speed	21,789 rpm



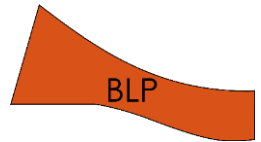
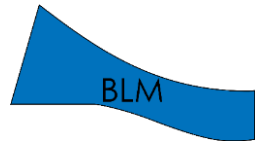
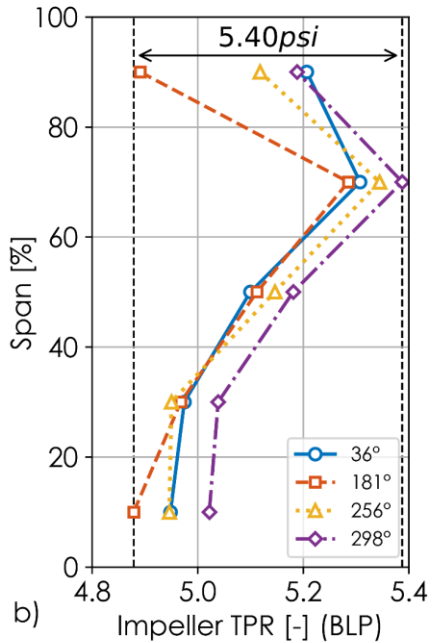
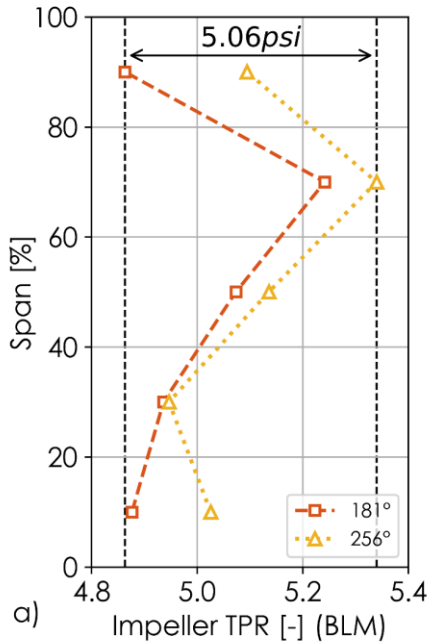
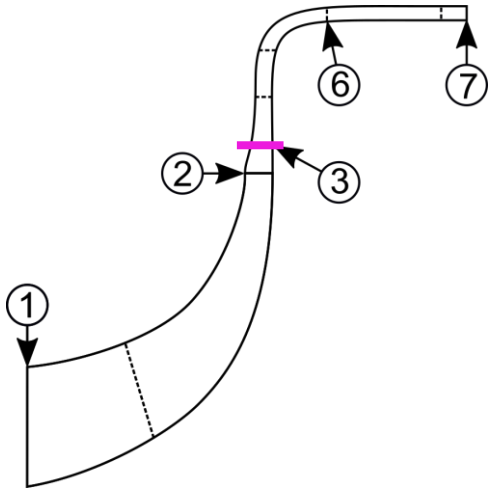
# Increased BLP TTR for similar TPR leads to reduced efficiency for the BLP configuration



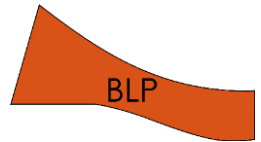
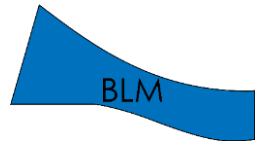
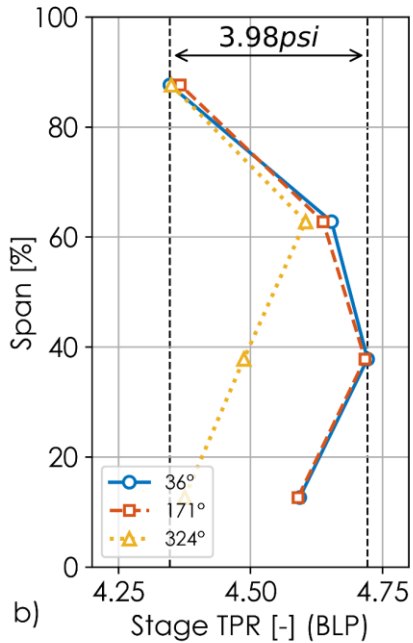
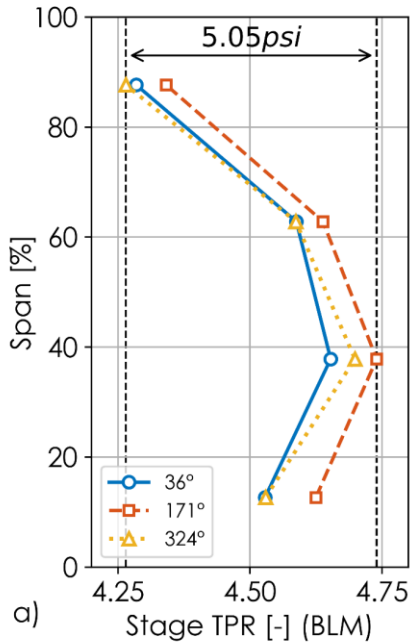
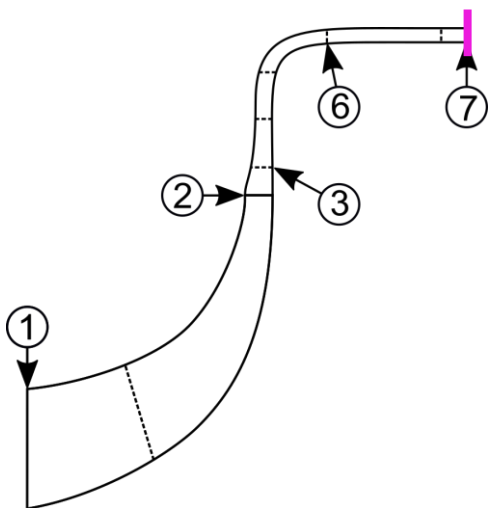
Design Point Parameters	Value
Mass Flow Rate	11 lbm/s
Stage Isentropic Efficiency	0.84
Rotational Speed	21,789 rpm



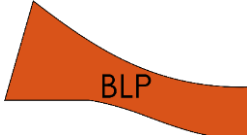
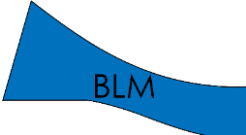
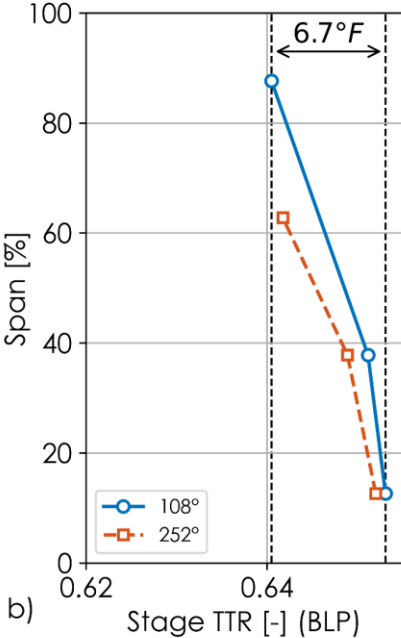
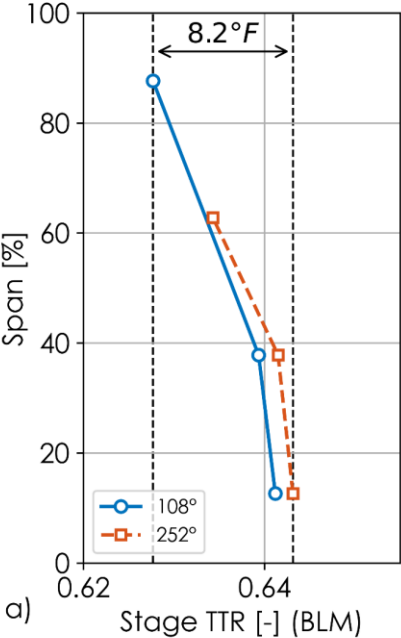
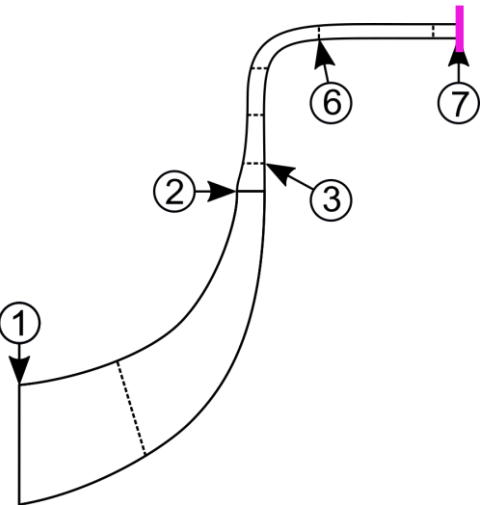
# Impeller exit profiles are circumferentially uniform at design point



# Stage exit TPR profiles develop some nonuniformity



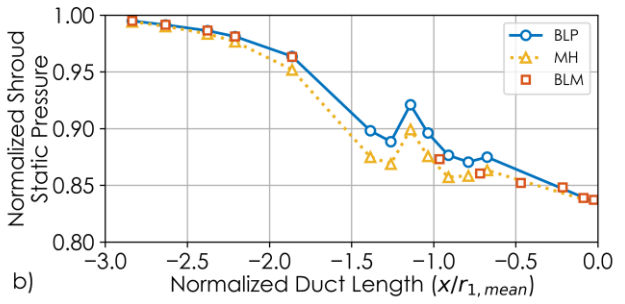
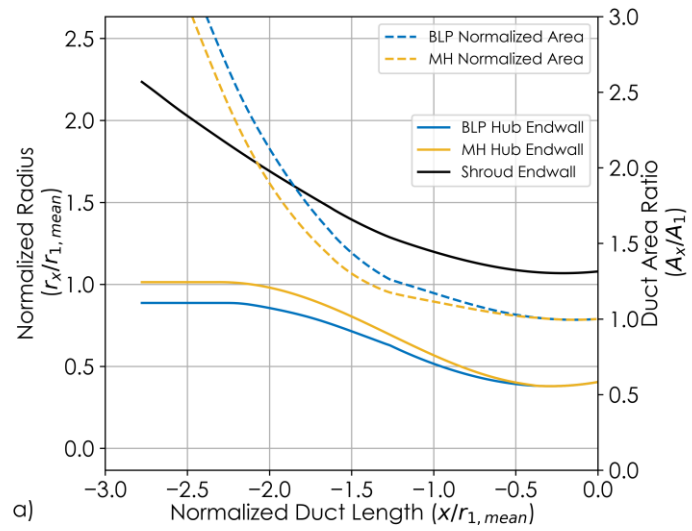
# Discrepancy in TTR profiles can be observed between inlets



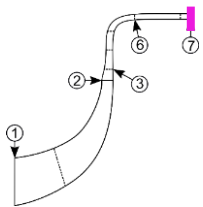
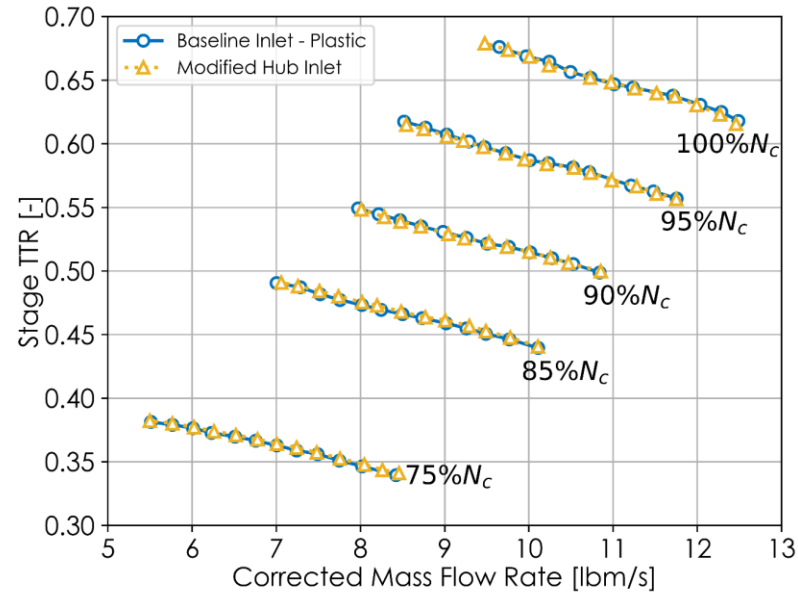
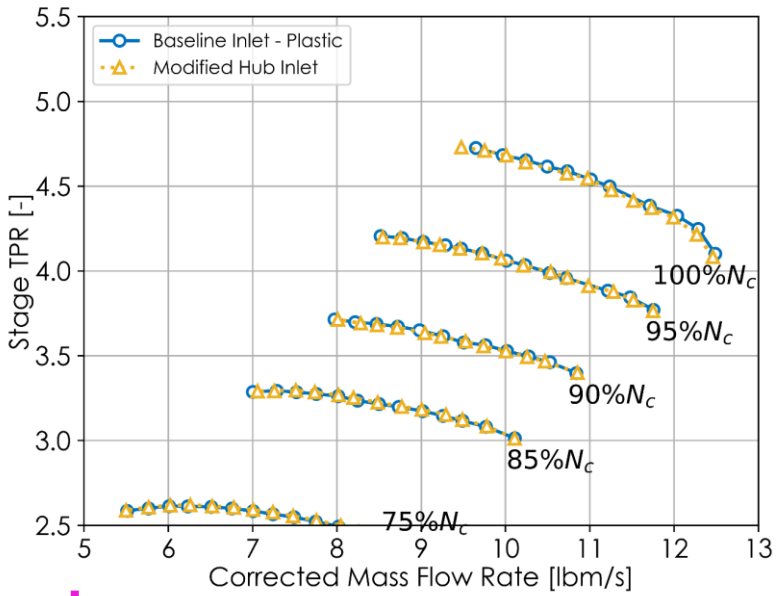


# **HECC Baseline Plastic and Modified Hub Inlet Performance**

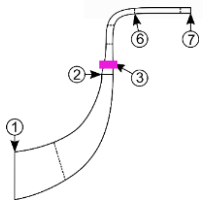
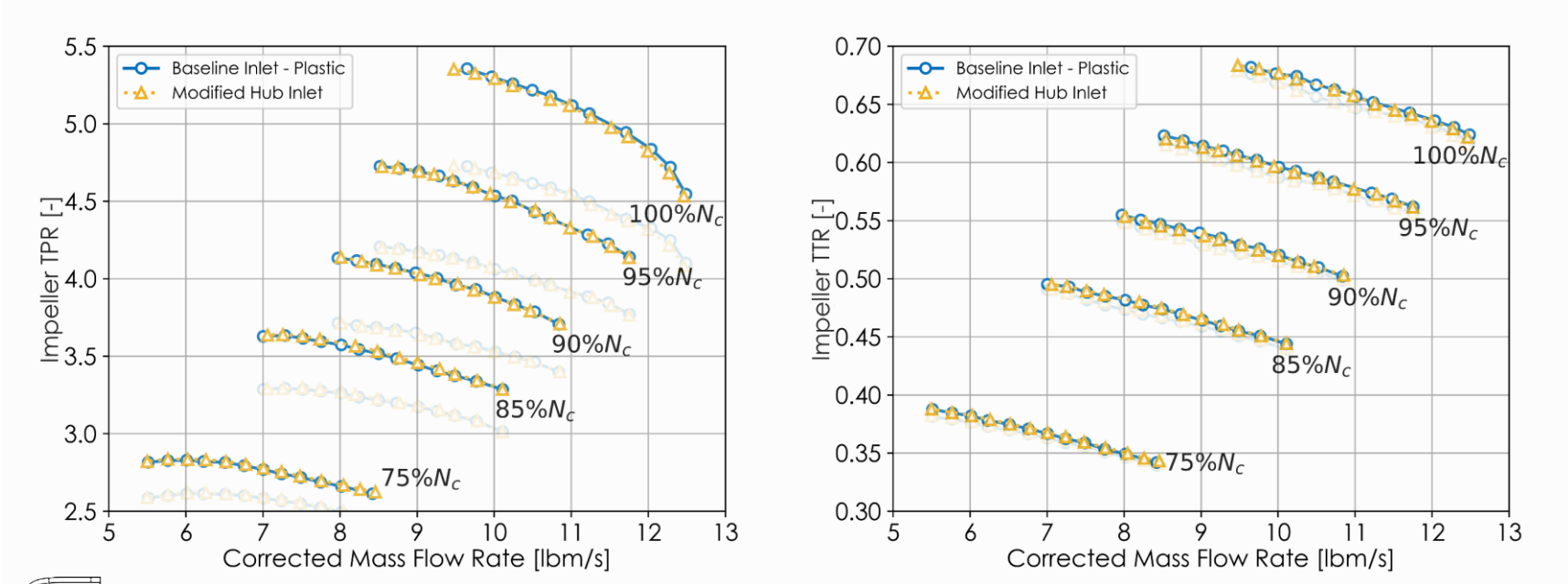
# The modified hub inlet is representative of an axi-centrif transition duct



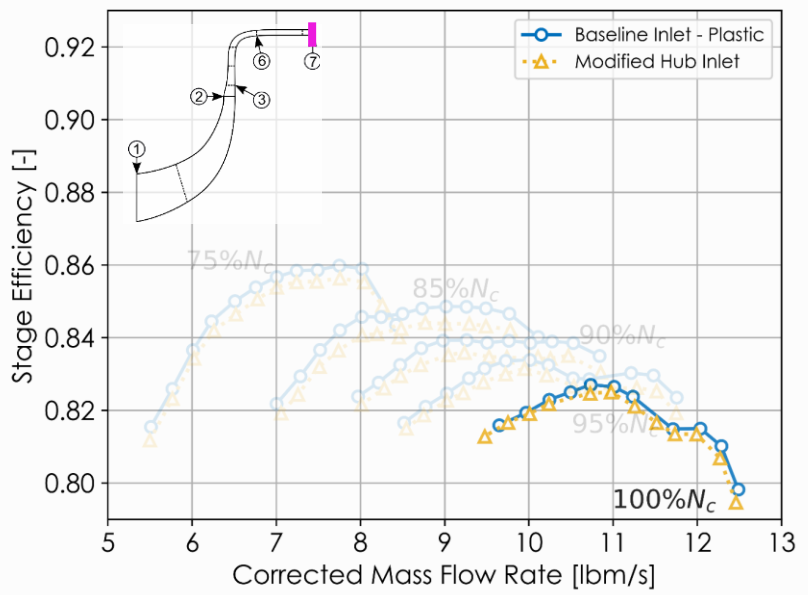
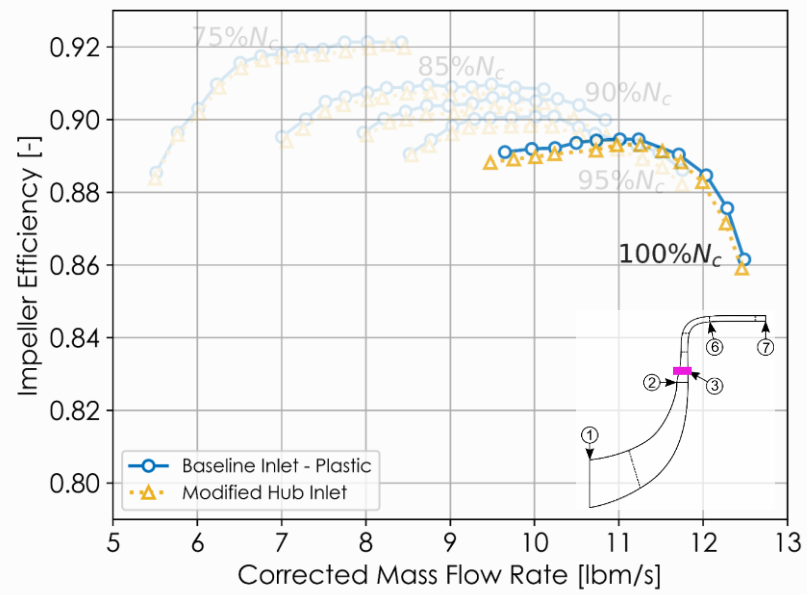
# The MH inlet has negligible impact on stage performance



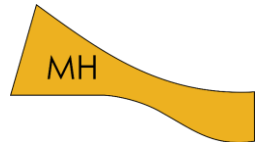
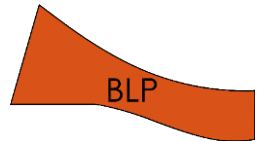
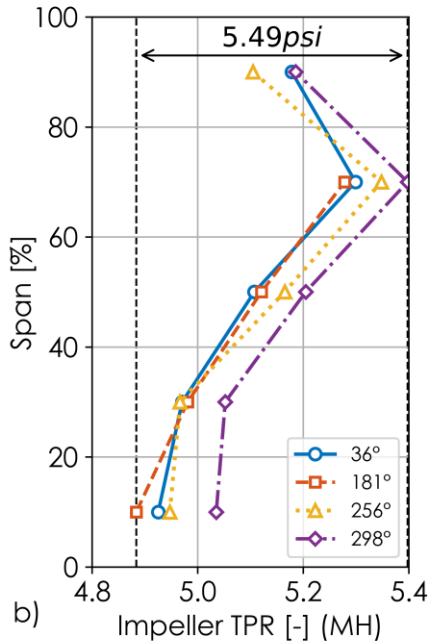
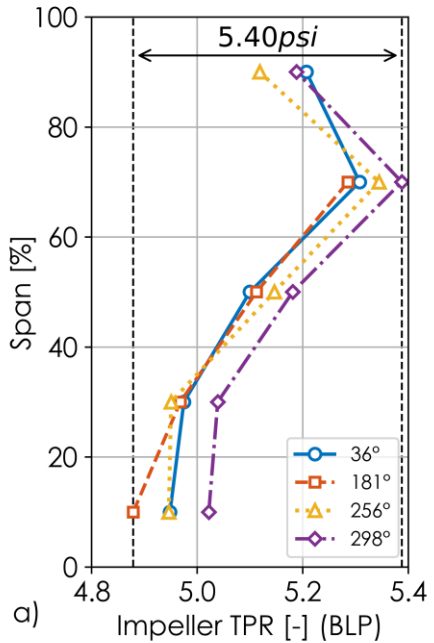
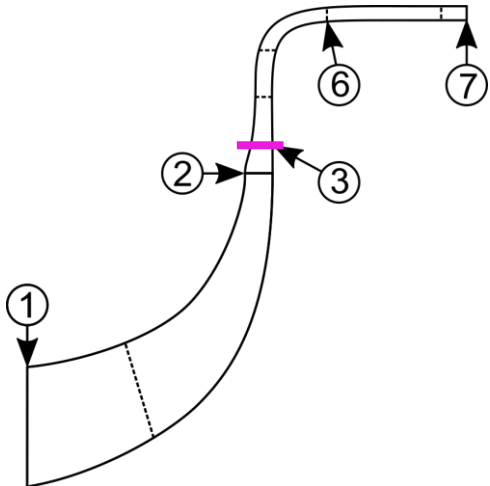
# Considering component performance, impeller TPR & TTR are greater than stage TPR & TTR



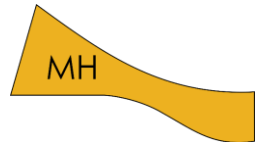
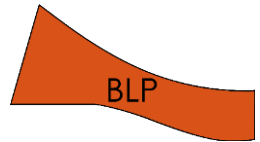
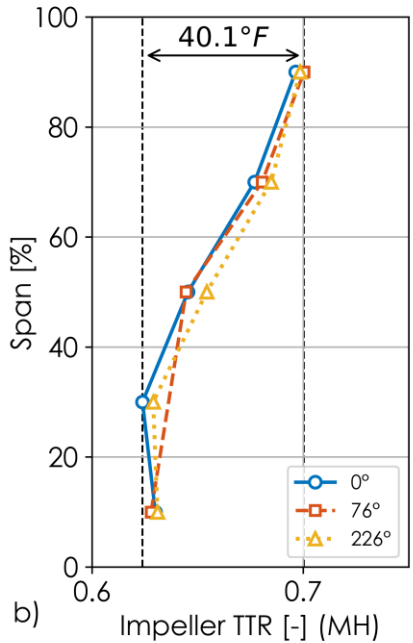
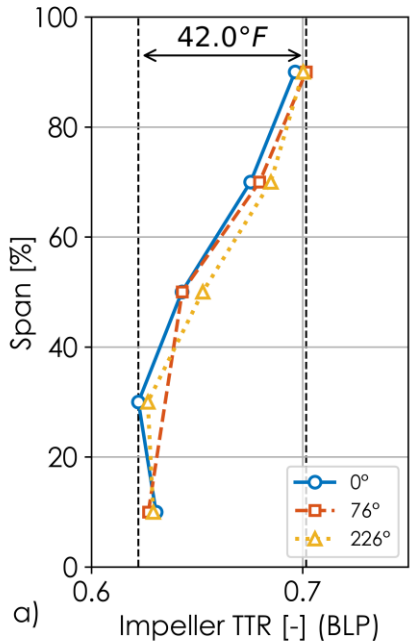
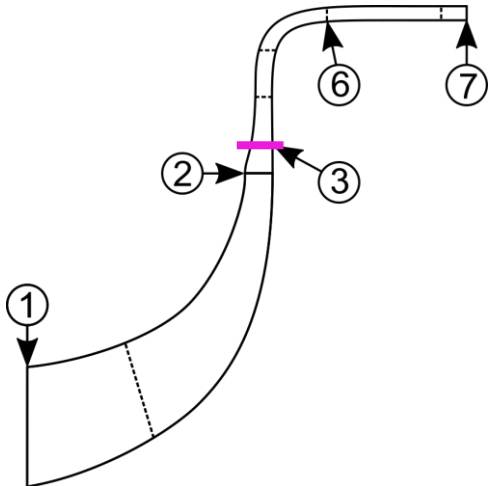
# The impeller has a wide efficient operating range



# Impeller exit flow properties are also not impacted by MH inlet



# Impeller exit flow properties are also not impacted by MH inlet

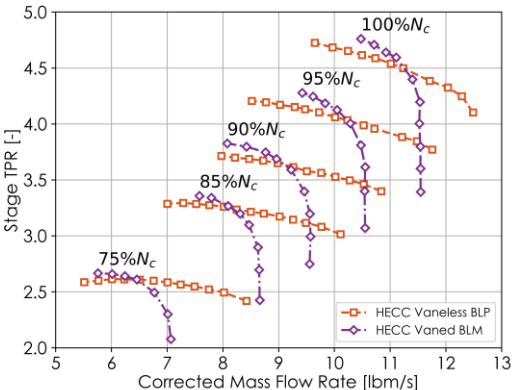
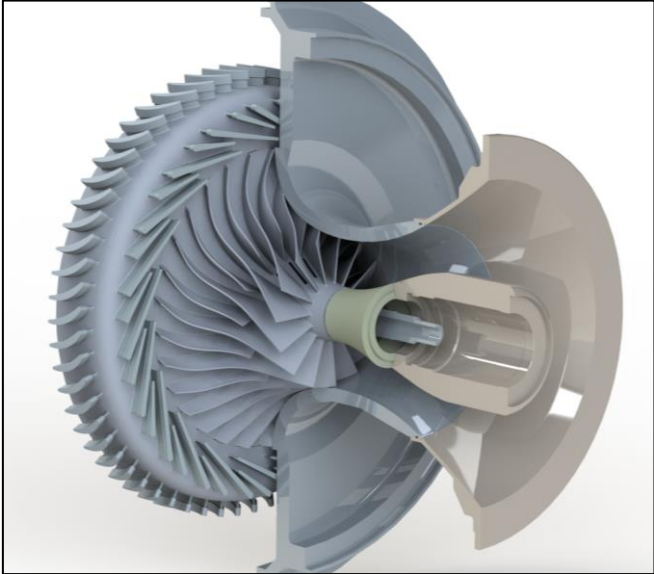
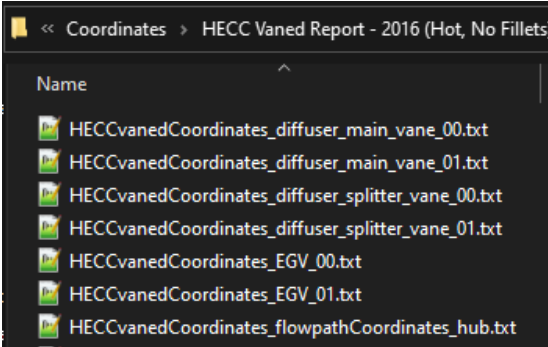
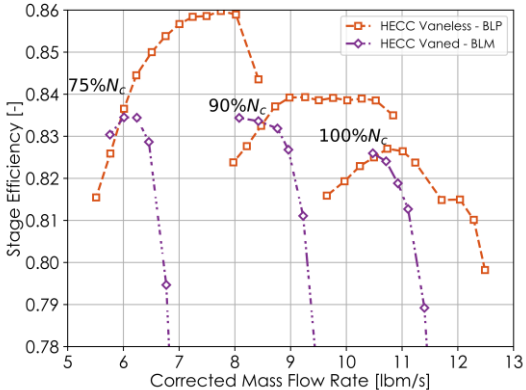






# HECC Data Archive

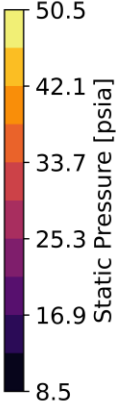
# HECC data archive contains...



a) Hub



b) Shroud



# HECC data archive contains...

## NASA HIGH EFFICIENCY CENTRIFUGAL COMPRESSOR DATA ARCHIVE

Contact and Maintainer: Herbert "Trey" Harrison  
[herbert.harrison@nasa.gov](mailto:herbert.harrison@nasa.gov)  
 NASA Glenn Research Center  
 Cleveland, OH

CN	DESCRIPTION	UNITS	CAT	SCAT
T7021	Rake #2 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7022	Rake #2 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7031	Rake #3 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7032	Rake #3 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7041	Rake #4 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7042	Rake #4 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7051	Rake #5 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7052	Rake #5 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT
T7061	Rake #6 Test	DEG R	AERO	TT

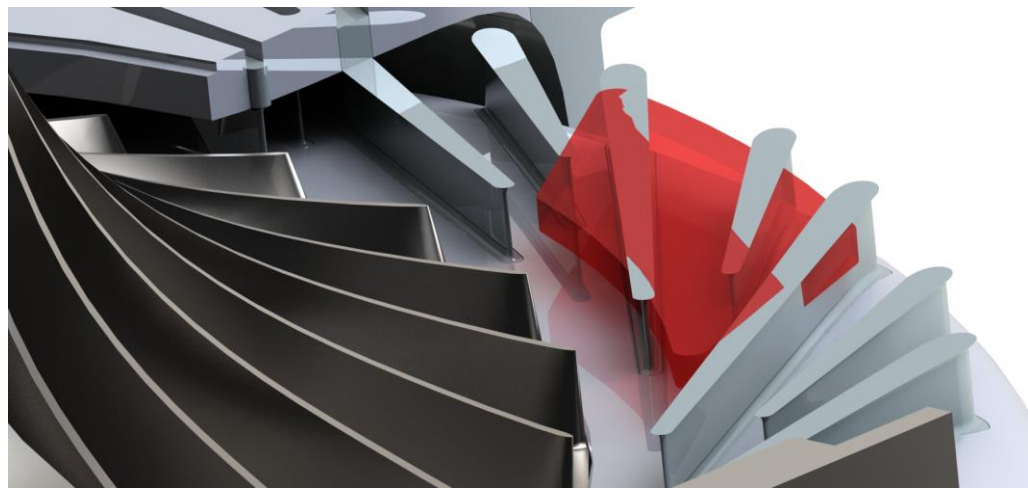
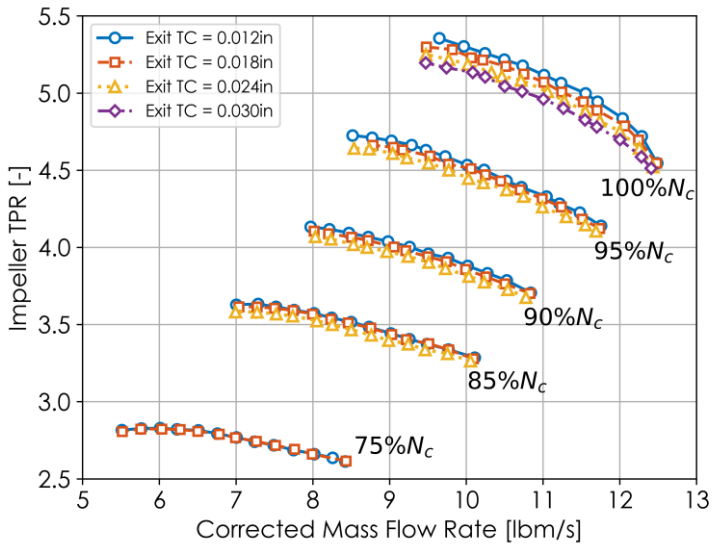
### SUMMARY

The datasets contained in this archive are associated with the High Efficiency Centrifugal Compressor (HECC) in the Small Engine Components Compressor Test Facility, colloquially referred to as CE-18, at NASA Glenn Research Center. The archive is accessible at <https://storage.googleapis.com/hecc-data/NASA-HECC-Data-Archive.zip>. The documentation contained herein provides context for the data hosted on [data.nasa.gov](https://data.nasa.gov). The datasets and accompanying content in this document will be updated periodically as additional data is procured analyzed. The revision of the document is provided by date in the footer, and the revision updates are provided in the Revisions section. Please contact Trey Harrison (email: [herbert.harrison@nasa.gov](mailto:herbert.harrison@nasa.gov)) for inquiries related to the dataset and documentation or to be added to an email list to be notified of updates and additions to the archive.

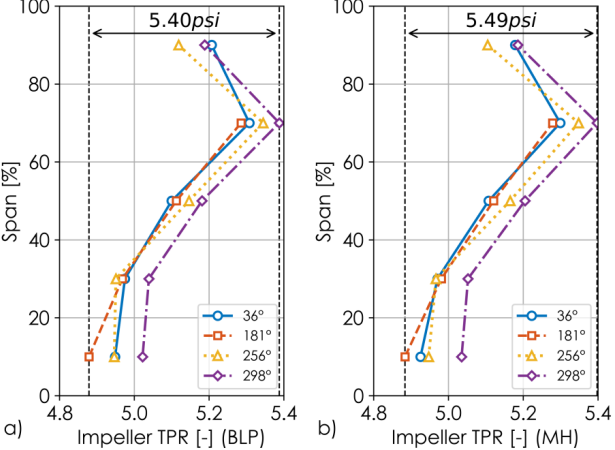
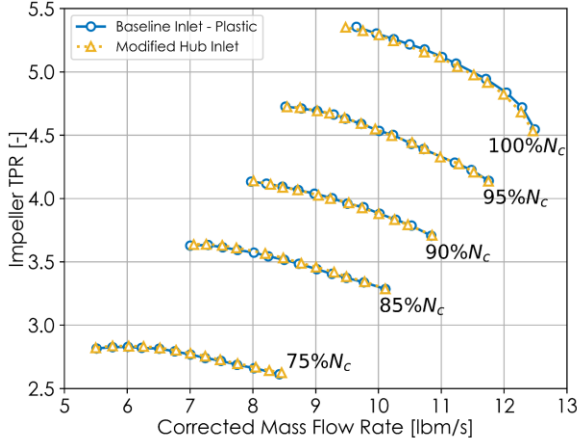
### 1. CONTENTS

- Summary ..... 1
- 2. Revision History..... 3
- 3. Nomenclature ..... 3
  - 3.1 Acronyms ..... 3
- 4. General notes..... 3

# The HECC data archive is publicly available and actively maintained



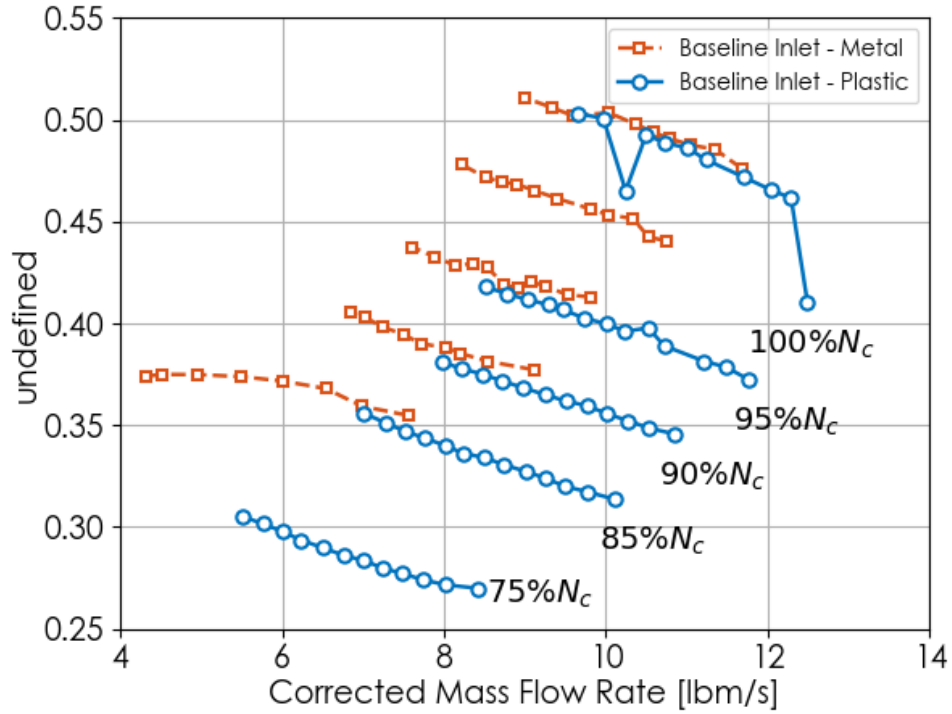
# CE-18 and HECC support state of the art research on an open access turbomachinery case



This work funded by the NASA Revolutionary Vertical Lift Technology and Transformational Tools & Technologies Projects.

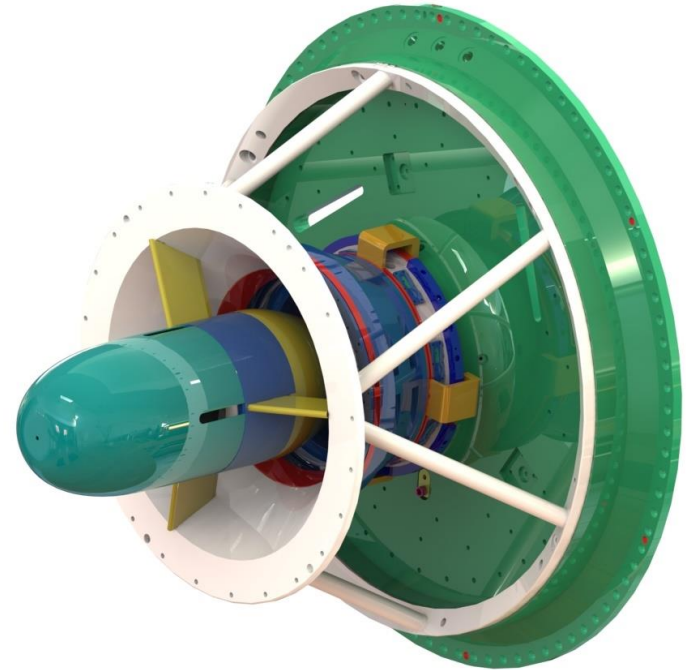
# Backup

# Metal temps do not agree with exit temps



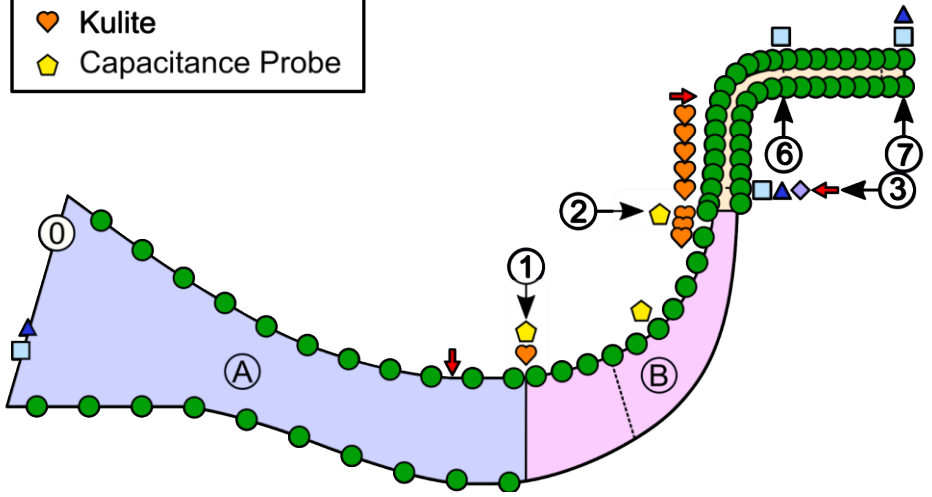


# This work documents the NASA CE-18 compressor test facility and the effect of a transition duct on centrifugal compressor performance

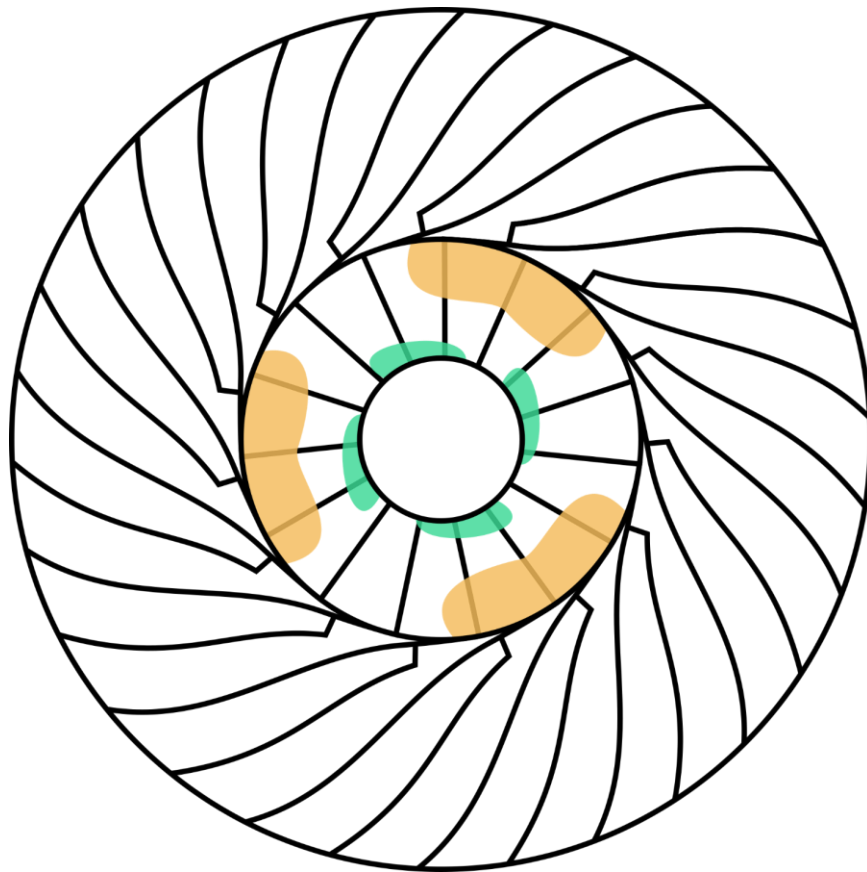


# HECC is equipped with detailed instrumentation throughout the flow path

- Instrumentation**
- Total Pressure
  - ▲ Total Temperature
  - ↓ 3-Hole Cobra Probe
  - ◇ Survey Locations
  - Static Pressure
  - ♥ Kulite
  - ◆ Capacitance Probe



# Open datasets support technological advancement in turbomachinery and propulsion



$$P_0 < P_{avg}$$

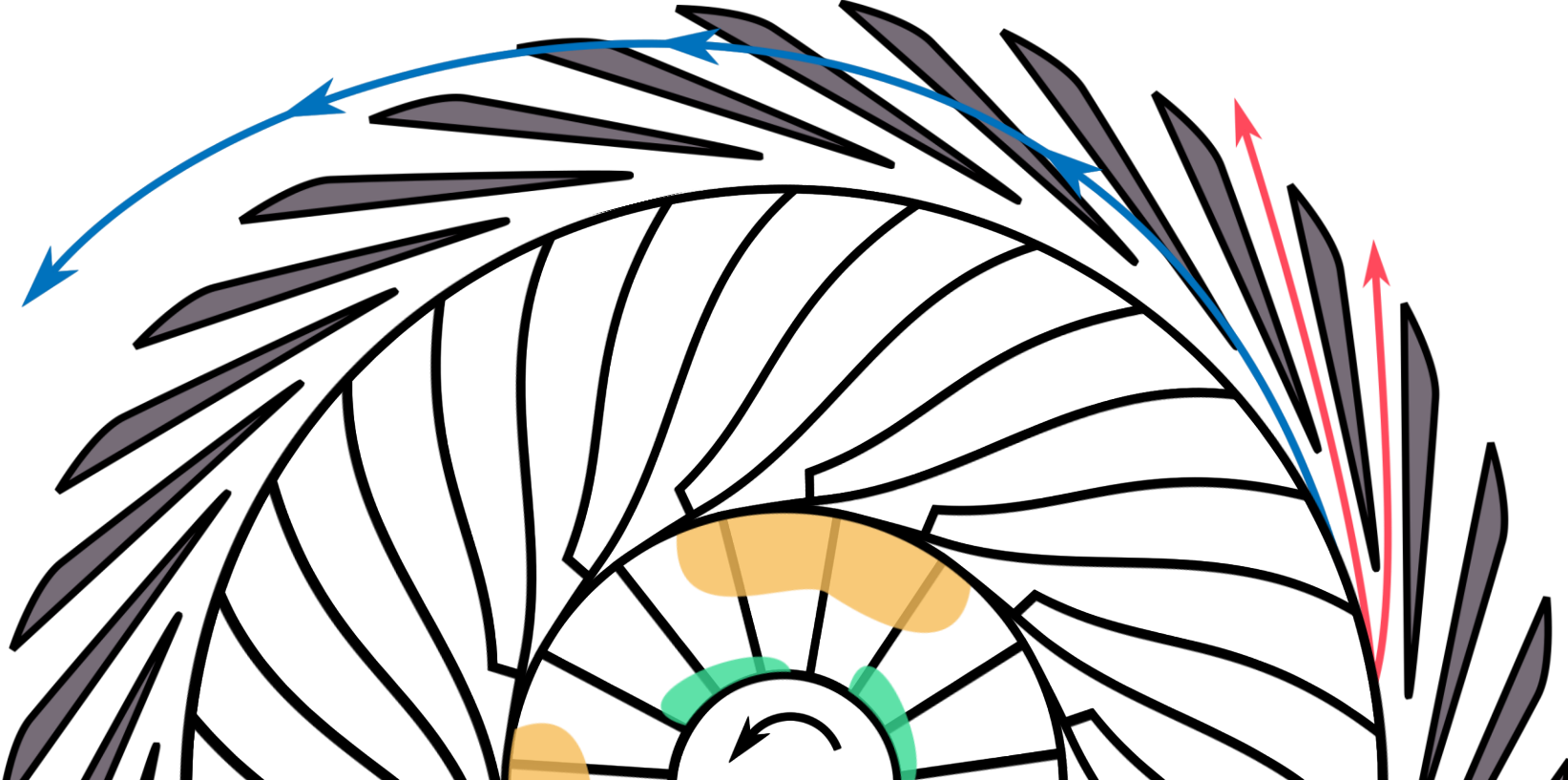
$$P_0 > P_{avg}$$

or

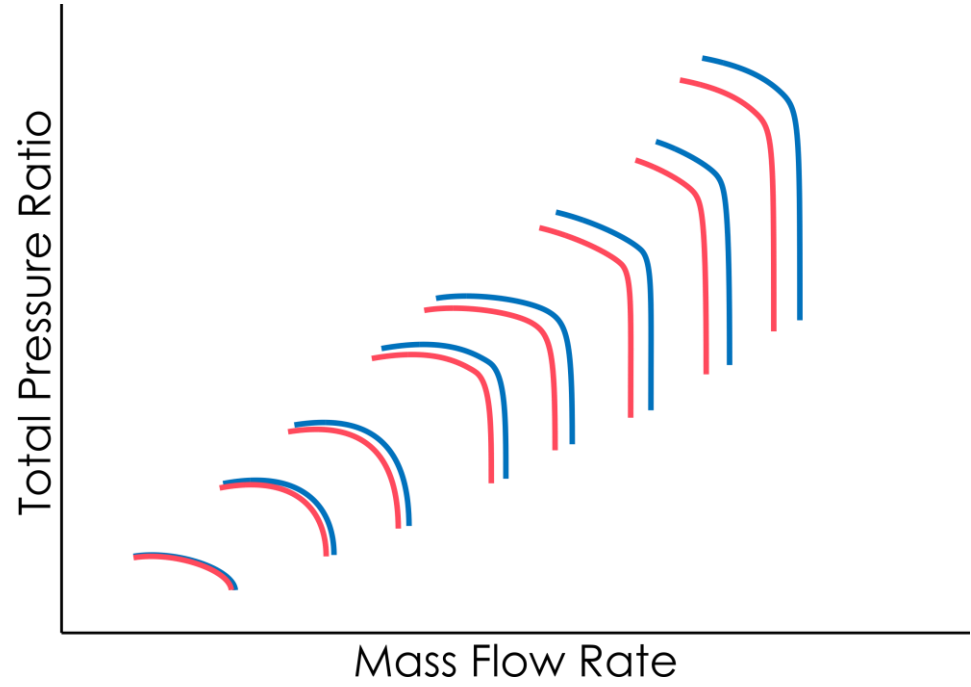
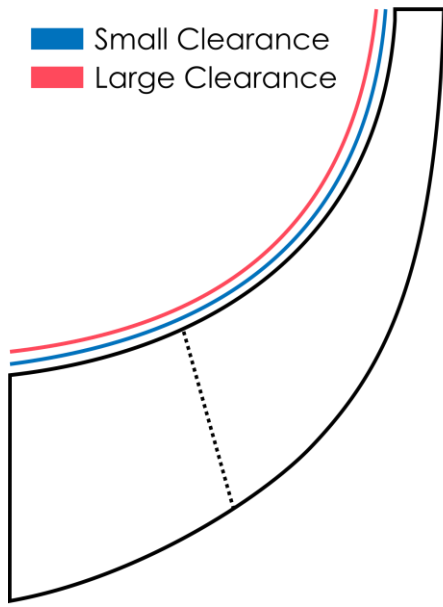
$$\alpha < \alpha_{avg}$$

$$\alpha > \alpha_{avg}$$

# Impeller diffuser interactions are still not well understood



# Stage performance decreases with increasing tip clearance, but the trend is unique to each machine



# Accurate prediction of instability onset and stall/surge suppression requires high fidelity data

