Supersonic Jet Shock Noise Reduction

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Abstract

Shock-cell noise has been identified as a potentially significant problem for advanced supersonic aircraft at takeoff. Therefore NASA has conducted fundamental studies of the phenomena involved and model-scale experiments aimed at developing means of noise reduction. This paper reviews the results of a series of studies conducted to determine means by which supersonic jet shock noise can be reduced to acceptable levels for advanced supersonic cruise aircraft. Theoretical studies were conducted on the shock associated noise of supersonic jets from convergent-divergent (C-D) nozzles. Laboratory studies were conducted on the influence of narrowband shock screech on broadband noise and on means of screech reduction. The usefulness of C-D nozzle passages was investigated at model scale for single-stream and dual-stream nozzles. The effect of off-design pressure ratio was determined under static and simulated flight conditions for jet temperatures up to 960 K. Annular and coannular flow passages with center plugs and multielement suppressor nozzles were evaluated, and the effect of plug tip geometry was established. In addition to the far-field acoustic data, mean and turbulent velocity distributions were obtained with a laser velocimeter, and shadowgraph images of the flow field were obtained.

Nomenclature

(All symbols are in SI units unless noted.)

\begin{align*}
A & \quad \text{area} \\
c & \quad \text{speed of sound} \\
D & \quad \text{nozzle diameter} \\
F & \quad \text{functional relation} \\
f & \quad \text{1/3-octave-band center frequency} \\
h & \quad \text{annulus height} \\
k & \quad \text{ratio of convection velocity to jet velocity} \\
L & \quad \text{shock cell spacing} \\
M & \quad \text{Mach number, } V/c \\
OASPL & \quad \text{overall sound pressure level, } dB \text{ re } 20 \mu N/m^2 \\
P & \quad \text{pressure} \\
R & \quad \text{source-to-observer distance} \\
S & \quad \text{nondimensional frequency parameter} \\
SPL & \quad \text{1/3-octave-band sound pressure level, } dB \text{ re } 20 \mu N/m^2 \\
T & \quad \text{total temperature} \\
V & \quad \text{velocity} \\
X & \quad \text{distance downstream of nozzle exit} \\
\alpha & \quad \text{turbulent length scale ratio} \\
\theta & \quad \text{shock strength, } \sqrt{M_j^2 - 1} \\
\rho & \quad \text{density} \\
\lambda & \quad \text{wavelength} \\
\theta_p & \quad \text{polar angle from inlet axis, deg} \\
\alpha & \quad \text{apparent angle of attack, deg} \\
\alpha_M & \quad \text{Mach angle, } 180^\circ - \sin^{-1}(1/M_j), \text{deg} \\
\text{Subscripts:} \\
a & \quad \text{ambient} \\
c & \quad \text{convection} \\
d & \quad \text{design point} \\
D & \quad \text{downstream} \\
e & \quad \text{equivalent} \\
e_f & \quad \text{effective} \\
Ex & \quad \text{exit} \\
h & \quad \text{hydraulic} \\
ISA & \quad \text{international standard atmosphere (288 K and 101.3 kN/m}^2) \\
f & \quad \text{inner} \\
j & \quad \text{fully-expanded jet} \\
n & \quad \text{shock cell number (downstream of nozzle exit)} \\
o & \quad \text{outer} \\
P & \quad \text{premerged} \\
p & \quad \text{plug} \\
0 & \quad \text{aircraft} \\
1 & \quad \text{inner stream} \\
2 & \quad \text{outer stream}
\end{align*}

Introduction

Shock-cell noise has been identified as a potentially significant problem for advanced supersonic aircraft at takeoff. Therefore, the NASA Lewis and Langley Research Centers have conducted fundamental studies of the phenomena involved and more applied studies aimed at developing means of noise reduction. Early studies indicated that it might be necessary to employ convergent-divergent (C-D) nozzle passages in order to reduce or eliminate shock noise. Some benefits have been demonstrated statically for single stream C-D circular nozzles at design jet Mach numbers of 1.5 and 2.0; however, lower jet Mach numbers will probably be required to achieve acceptable jet noise levels. In addition, more complicated single- or dual-stream nozzle geometries, possibly including multi-element suppressor exhaust passages will probably be required, and the effect of flight should be determined. Existing shock noise theories were found to apply to a limited degree, but only to convergent circular nozzles, thus indicating a need for further theoretical advances. Experimental data
were required to determine the degree to which these theoretical approaches could be applied to the complicated nozzle geometries to evaluate the merit of the noise reduction concepts. This paper summarizes the results of the NASA Lewis Research Center supersonic jet shock noise reduction studies and relates these results to those of other investigators, particularly those involved in the NASA Langley Research Center Program.

A multifaceted approach was employed in the Lewis program to determine means by which supersonic jet shock noise can be reduced to acceptable levels for advanced supersonic cruise aircraft. Extensive photographic data on the flow fields of coaxial supersonic jets was obtained. Theoretical studies were conducted on the shock associated noise of supersonic jets from C-D nozzles. The influence of narrowband shock screech on broadband shock noise was investigated and means of screech reduction developed. The usefulness of C-D nozzle passages was investigated for single-stream and dual-stream nozzles. The effect of off-design pressure ratio was determined under static and simulated flight conditions for jet temperature up to 980 K. Anomalous and coannular flow passages with center plugs and multielement supersonic nozzles were evaluated, and the effect of plug tip delay was established. In addition to the far-field acoustic data, mean and turbulent velocity distributions were obtained with a laser velocimeter, and shadowgraph images of the flow field were obtained. Other concepts which may prove useful for shock noise reduction are porous plugs and lined ejectors, but these approaches will not be discussed in this paper.

Circular Nozzles

When a supersonic jet exhausts from a convergent circular nozzle the static pressure at the nozzle exit is above ambient. Thus, as the jet expands outside the nozzle expansion waves are radiated from the nozzle lip and are subsequently reflected by the jet boundary. These reflected compression waves converge to form a shock, again raising the jet static pressure above ambient, leading to another set of expansion waves and the process is repeated, resulting in the familiar repetitive shock structure shown in Fig. 1. The viscous mixing taking place in the jet shear layer reduces the strength and spacing of these shock cells in the downstream direction. The eddies formed by this mixing process are convected downstream and interact with the shock cells to produce shock noise.

A very useful, although rather simplified approach to predicting shock noise for convergent circular jets was proposed by Harper-Bourne and Fisher. They characterized the far-field noise as resulting from the summation of the noise generated by each eddy interacting with each shock cell as indicated by the "group" spectrum in Fig. 2. The acoustic waves from the different shocks were modeled to constructively or destructively interfere depending on the lifetime and convection velocity of the eddies, resulting in the "interference" spectrum in Fig. 2. The superposition of these results produces the characteristic spectrum of broadband shock noise, as also shown in Fig. 2. One of the major results of this model is that the broadband shock noise sound pressure level (SPL) should be proportional to 10 log 10 $\sqrt{M^2 - 1}$, where $M$ is the Mach number.

Influence of Screech

In addition to the broadband shock noise, discussed in the preceding section, and jet mixing noise, narrowband "screech" tones are often observed for imperfectly expanded jets. The feedback mechanism involved has been the subject of several investigations based primarily on the early work of Powell. Since screech tones often produce higher SPL levels, even on a 1/3-octave-band basis, than broadband shock noise, many investigators have used nozzle tip modifications to break the feedback loop and suppress screech in order to investigate broadband shock noise. However, the devices used to suppress screech also influenced the flow field development and consequently the broadband noise, as discussed by von Glahn. This problem motivated the studies conducted by Nagel et al. to develop means of screech suppression which do not influence flow field development.

Nagel et al. devised a new method for screech tone elimination based on the feedback mechanism proposed by Powell and the assumption that the acoustic waves propagating back to the nozzle exit are nearly plane waves at the nozzle exit. Under these conditions it is possible to position a reflective surface near the nozzle which establishes a local standing wave pattern from the incident and reflected screech tone. As illustrated in Fig. 4, a minimum pressure occurs at a distance of 1/4 wavelength from the reflector (and also at 3/4, 5/4, etc. wavelengths). If the reflector is positioned at the proper distance upstream of the exit, a node will occur at the nozzle exit plane (Fig. 4). This node serves to cancel the screech tone at the nozzle exit and interrupt the feedback mechanism.

Although in theory a hard reflector should be used, Nagel et al. obtained more consistent results with a foam disk. A comparison of spectra obtained in a reverberant room is shown in Fig. 5 for $M_j = 1.4$ with screech, with screech removed by an intrusive tab, and with screech cancelled by a foam disk located approximately 1/4 screech tone wavelength upstream of the nozzle exit. Both methods largely suppress screech. The intrusive tab however, significantly alters the broadband noise, while the foam disk does not. When screech is removed with the tab the shock cell spacing is reduced by about 10 percent, and severe distortions caused by the tab are evident in the flow and shear layer. This is consistent with the results of Norum and Seiner. In contrast, when the screech is removed by cancellation the flow appears unaltered from the clean nozzle case with screech. Thus, it appears that where feasible, the cancellation approach is the preferred method for removing screech tones so that broadband shock noise and its suppression can be investigated.
Effect of C-D Termination

Yamamoto et al.\(^8,9\) investigated the effect of a C-D termination designed for shock-free flow at \(M_j = 1.40\) (pressure ratio, \(P_j/P_a = 3.12\)) on circular nozzle shock noise. Experiments were conducted over a range of pressure ratios from 2.6 to 3.9, covering both overexpanded and underexpanded conditions, under static and simulated flight conditions. Results for a typical jet temperature \(T_j = 960\) K are shown in Fig. 6, where the overall sound pressure level, OASPL, is plotted against the logarithm of the shock strength parameter, \(\beta\), for a forward-quadrant angle, \(\alpha = 50^\circ\). Data for the C-D termination are compared with data for the convergent termination. Large noise reductions can be seen in the vicinity of the C-D design point. It is an important observation that noise reductions are obtained over a wide range of pressure ratios, not just in the immediate vicinity of the design point. Directivity comparisons at the C-D design point (shown in Fig. 7) indicate that the noise reductions are obtained throughout the forward quadrant and extend somewhat into the rear quadrant. The peak noise, which should be dominated by jet mixing noise, is essentially unchanged by the C-D termination.

The spectral comparisons at the C-D design point (shown in Fig. 8) provide further insight. The C-D nozzle at its design point shows a typical jet mixing noise spectral shape with very little evidence of shock noise. Thus, it can be seen that jet mixing noise sets the “noise floor” when shock noise is suppressed. This explains the greater noise reduction, -11 dB, in simulated flight than in the static case, -7.5 dB, for the C-D termination, since the shock noise is amplified in flight in the forward quadrant while the jet mixing noise is generally reduced slightly (although in this particular case there is very little effect). Shadowgraph photographs and laser doppler velocimeter surveys show no evidence of shock structure for the C-D termination.

Modeling

Reasonably accurate empirical correlations of broadband shock noise for convergent circular nozzles have been obtained by several investigators\(^8,25\) based on the Harper-Bourne and Fisher approach,\(^15\) and theoretical\(^26,27\) and numerical\(^28\) models have been formulated which predict the essential features of the noise generation process. However, the interest in C-D nozzles led to the need to develop a theoretical model for the shock noise generation for off-design C-D nozzles.

Tam and Tanna\(^16\) proposed that this noise be modeled as weak but coherent interaction between downstream propagating large turbulence structures in the mixing layer of the jet and quasi-periodic shock cells. By using simple analytical models to represent the large turbulence structures and the shock cells they derived relations for shock noise intensity scaling and peak frequency. Comparisons with their experimental data\(^16\) were favorable, providing support for the general validity of the proposed mechanism. However, the vortex sheet model solution\(^16\) is adequate only as a first approximation. It provides a reasonably good description of the weak shock cells in the region immediately downstream of the nozzle exit where the mixing layer is thin. Norum and Seiner\(^23\) found that the dominant sources of shock noise lie much further downstream, near the end of the potential core, where the mixing layer is quite thick. Therefore, the vortex sheet model cannot be very accurate. Thus a better shock cell model solution which takes into account the spatial evolution of the mean flow is needed and has been developed by Tam et al.\(^3,4\).

In terms of sound-level scaling, the peak SPL varies as \(10 \log \left(\frac{(A_j/R_j) (M_j - M_o)^2}{1 + (M_j - M_o)^2}\right)\), as also obtained by the simpler formulation.\(^16\) The more complete model requires numerical computation of the peak frequency, instead of the simplified result,

\[f = \frac{V_c}{L} (1 - M_c \cos \alpha)\]

As can be seen in Fig. 9, the numerically calculated peak frequency agrees more closely than the simplified relationship with the experimental data.

These theoretical findings can be incorporated into simple empirical prediction methods, such as that of Stone and Montegani,\(^25\) rather easily. The following expression is obtained for the overall sound pressure level:

\[
\text{OASPL} = 162 + 10 \log \left(\frac{\rho a^2}{p_{ISA}} \left(\frac{C_D}{C_{ISA}}\right)^4\right) + 10 \log \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_a}\right) + 10 \log \left(\frac{\rho a^2}{\rho_c^2}\right) - 10 \log \left(1 - M_o \cos (\alpha + \alpha_c) + F(\alpha - \alpha_m)\right)
\]

where \(\alpha_M\) is the Mach angle given by \(180^\circ - \sin^{-1}\left(1/M_j\right)\). The function \(F\) is given by

\[
F = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } \alpha \leq \alpha_M \\ 0.75 & \text{for } \alpha > \alpha_m \\ \end{cases}
\]

The more complicated relation than \((M_j^2 - M_o^2)/(1 + (M_j^2 - M_o)^2)\) is introduced (rather than \(\alpha^6\)) to account for the Mach disk formation and consequent leveling off of shock noise at high \(\alpha^4,15\).

The appropriate nondimensional frequency parameter, again based on the Harper-Bourne and Fisher\(^15\) model, but also consistent with Tam and Tanna,\(^16\) is given by

\[S = \left(\frac{\rho a^2}{k V_c^3}\right) \sqrt{M_j^2 - M_o^2} \left[1 - M_o \cos (\alpha + \alpha)\right] \left[1 + \left(\frac{k V_c}{c_a}\right)^2 \cos \theta\right] + a^2 \left(\frac{V_c}{c_a}\right)^2\]

Note that the convection velocity factor \(k = 0.7\), and the turbulence length scale factor \(a = 0.2\).
The shock noise peaks at \( S = 1.0 \) and varies with log \( S \) (as shown in Fig. 10).

### Annular Plug Nozzles

The experimental configurations of Yamamoto et al.\(^8,9\) included an annular plug nozzle with both convergent and convergent-divergent terminations (as shown in Fig. 11). The annular radius ratio at the throat was 0.85. Experiments were also conducted with screech tabs on the convergent configuration.

#### Influence of Screech

A limited study was conducted on screech and the usefulness of tabs in reducing screech, along with the resulting effects on broadband noise. Narrowband data at \( \phi = 60^\circ \) obtained with and without tabs are compared in Fig. 12, for a pressure ratio, \( P_j/P_o = 3.4 \) and jet temperature, \( T_j = 483 \) K. A strong discrete tone at 937.5 Hz is apparent for the nozzle without tabs and is barely discernible with tabs. In addition the broadband shock noise is somewhat reduced in level and shifted to a higher frequency with tabs. The corresponding 1/3-octave-band spectra are shown in Fig. 13(a), and it can be seen that the tabs influence a fairly wide frequency range. The shift of the broadband peak cannot be seen because the spectrum without tabs is so strongly influenced by screech that the broadband peak cannot be determined. The corresponding aft quadrant spectra at \( \phi = 140^\circ \) are shown in Fig. 13(b). The screech tabs produce a noise reduction over the entire spectrum, even though jet mixing noise is the dominant source at this angle. It is clear from these results that the tabs influence the mixing process as well as break the feedback loop. At higher temperature, \( T_j = 960 \) K, the screech is weaker and the influence of the tabs is less than at the lower temperature (as shown in Fig. 14). From these comparisons it appears that the high-temperature data without tabs are the most valid broadband shock noise data, since the influence of screech is fairly small, whereas the tabs have a noticeable effect on the flow field. The foam disc cancellation approach was not considered practical for these tests because of the inclusion of simulated flight testing.

#### Effect of C-D Termination

Yamamoto et al.\(^8,9\) investigated the effect of a C-D termination designed for shock-free flow at \( M_o = 1.44 \) (pressure ratio, \( P_j/P_o = 3.30 \)) on shock noise for an annular plug nozzle with a throat radius ratio of 0.85. The exit radius ratio of the C-D nozzle was 0.79. Experiments were conducted over a range of pressure ratios from 2.94 to 3.54, covering both over-expanded and under-expanded conditions, under static and simulated flight conditions. Results for a typical jet temperature, \( T_j = 660 \) K, are shown in Fig. 15, where the OASPL is plotted against log \( \phi \) for a forward-quadrant angle, \( \phi = 50^\circ \). Data for the C-D termination are compared with data for the convergent termination and with data for the baseline convergent circular nozzle. Perhaps the most significant observation is that the C-D termination does not provide any significant reduction in noise compared with the convergent annular plug nozzle, although both annular plug nozzles provide suppression, ~6 dB, relative to the baseline convergent circular nozzle. Directivity comparisons shown in Fig. 16 and spectral comparisons at \( \phi = 50^\circ \) (shown in Fig. 17) support this observation.

The reason for the ineffectiveness of the C-D termination is that, as shown by laser velocimeter (LV) measurements, near the C-D design point both the convergent and C-D nozzles produce shocks downstream of the plug, and the shock noise generated in that region exceeds that generated in the plug region. As the LV results also showed, even though shocks on the plug were eliminated by the C-D termination, the plume velocity at the plug tip was still supersonic. Consequently the truncated plug tip produces a series of expansion and shock waves downstream which interact with the turbulent mixing layer to produce shock noise.\(^8\) From the spectral comparisons in Fig. 17, it can be seen that the C-D termination does provide some noise reduction at high frequency, which is attributable to the suppression of shock noise in the plug region. However, in the aft quadrant the directivity comparisons of Fig. 16 indicate that the C-D termination produces increased noise; this result is consistent with the reduction in nozzle exit radius ratio.

#### Effect of Plug Tip Geometry

The tests of Yamamoto et al.\(^8,9\) did not include the effects of plug tip geometry. However, Janardan, Yamamoto et al.\(^10,11\) investigated the effect of plug tip geometry for a dual-stream coaxial plug nozzle. The downstream-generated shock noise was substantially reduced when a sharp tipped plug was used instead of a truncated plug. This effect should also be observed for the single-stream annular plug nozzle.

#### Modeling

For purposes of predictive modeling, annular plug nozzle shock noise is broken into two components: noise generated in the premixed region in the vicinity of the plug, and noise generated downstream of the plug, as shown by Yamamoto et al.\(^8\). This is illustrated in Fig. 16, where the spectra at \( \phi = 50^\circ \) for both the convergent and C-D termination are compared with each other and with predictions based on modified inputs to the Motsinger-Sieckman (M-S) model. As noted in the previous section, the downstream-generated shock noise is somewhat reduced in level, and the sharp tipped plug was used instead of a truncated plug. This effect should also be observed for the single-stream annular plug nozzle.

In the high frequency region the convergent nozzle levels exceed those of C-D configuration, which indicates that this noise is generated in the plug region, where the C-D nozzle has no shocks. The spectral shape agrees with the N-S model\(^16\) using the hydraulic diameter, \( D_h = 4A/\pi\), as the effective diameter.

#### Plug region

A theoretical study of shock noise generation in this region was conducted by Balsa\(^3\) based on an extension of the Howe and Ffowcs Williams\(^16\) model. Balsa found that the SPL should increase with 10 log \( \theta \) as predicted by other models. He also found a directional dependence, \( \text{SPL} = 10 \log (1 - M_C \cos \phi) \) as also found by Howe.
and Ffowcs Williams, but which is not found in predictions based on the Harper-Bourne and Fisher model. However, because of the difficulty in separating out the effect of high frequency jet mixing noise, it is uncertain whether this rather weak directivity is actually present.

The observations of Yamamoto et al. can be incorporated into simple empirical prediction methods, such as the circular nozzle model proposed earlier in this paper, which is based on that of Stone and Montegani (as shown in Fig. 19). In order to get proper limiting behavior with a two-source model, the constant in Eq. (1) must be reduced by 3 dB. An additional level correction is also required; the form $\Delta S_{PL} = \log \left[ 1 - (D_i/D_{Ex}) \right]$ gives the proper limiting behavior, and the proportionality constant is about 10. The following expression is then obtained for the overall sound pressure level:

$$OASPL = 159 + 10 \log \left( \frac{P_{a}}{P_{ISA}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{C_{a}}{C_{ISA}} \right)^2 + 10 \log \left[ 1 - (D_i/D_{Ex}) \right] + 10 \log \left( \frac{A_i}{R^2} \right) + 10 \log \left( \frac{M_{i}^2 - M_{d}^2}{1 + \frac{M_{j}^2 - M_{d}^2}{M_{d}^2}} \right) + 10 \log \left[ 1 - M_{o} \cos (\theta + \theta_a) \right] + F(\theta - \theta_M)$$

where $F(\theta - \theta_M)$ is given by Eq. (1a). The appropriate nondimensional frequency parameter, to be used in conjunction with Fig. 10, is given by:

$$S_p = \left( \frac{f_0}{0.7 \nu} \right) \sqrt{\frac{M_{j}^2 - M_{d}^2}{1 + \frac{M_{j}^2 - M_{d}^2}{M_{d}^2}}} \left( 1 - M_{o} \cos (\theta + \theta_a) \right)$$

$$\times \sqrt{1 + 0.7 \left( \frac{\nu}{C_{a}} \right) \cos \theta} + 0.0196 \left( \frac{\nu}{C_{a}} \right)^2$$

Coannular Nozzles

Most modern jet engines are of the dual-stream type and have coannular exhaust nozzles. Therefore, information on the noise characteristics of such nozzles is quite important. The dual-stream shock noise studies of Janardan, Yamamoto et al. included convergent and C-D coannular plug nozzles with both truncated and extended plugs (as shown in Fig. 19). Both the coannular nozzles had an inner-stream radius ratio of 0.93 and an outer-stream radius ratio of 0.85.

Influence of Screech

Since screech was shown by Yamamoto et al. to be less for an annular nozzle than for a circular nozzle and to decrease with increasing temperature, it was not expected to be a critical problem in these experiments, particularly at jet temperatures of practical interest. The narrowband spectra shown in Fig. 20 confirm this expectation. Moderate levels of screech are seen at moderate temperatures under both static and simulated flight conditions. The higher temperature spectra show some evidence of screech (at ~1200 Hz) under static conditions (Fig. 20(a)) and simulated flight (Fig. 20(b)) conditions. The increased aft quadrant noise at high temperature is due to increased jet mixing noise. In the forward quadrant, the reverse effect is seen, but is of relatively small magnitude. This increase at lower temperature is probably due largely to the increased screech, and the broadband shock noise is relatively insensitive to temperature.

Effect of Temperature

The effect of outer-stream temperature for the convergent coannular nozzle is shown in Fig. 21. OASPL directivities are shown for two different outer-stream temperatures under both static (Fig. 21(a)) and simulated flight (Fig. 21(b)) conditions. The increased aft quadrant noise at high temperature is due to increased jet mixing noise. In the forward quadrant, the reverse effect is seen, but is of relatively small magnitude. This increase at lower temperature is probably due largely to the increased screech, and the broadband shock noise is relatively insensitive to temperature.

Effect of C-D Termination

Janardan, Yamamoto et al. investigated the effect of C-D terminations designed for shock-free flow at an inner-stream Mach number, $M_{i_j} = 1.38$, and an outer-stream Mach number, $M_{o_j} = 1.44$. At the exit the inner-stream radius ratio was 0.91, and that of the outer-stream was 0.79. Experiments were conducted over a range of over-expanded and under-expanded conditions for both streams, under...
static and simulated flight conditions. Typical results for the truncated plug are shown in Fig. 22, where the OASPL is plotted against $10 \log \beta_{ef}$ for a forward-quadrant angle, $\theta = 60^\circ$. (The effective shock strength, $\beta_{ef}$, is calculated from an area-weighted pressure ratio, as defined subsequently in the "Modeling" discussion.) Data for the C-D configuration are compared with data for the convergent coannular nozzle; also shown for comparison are baseline convergent circular nozzle data scaled to the fully-mixed conditions of the dual-stream nozzles. It can be seen that at the C-D design point the C-D nozzle provides about 2 dB reduction under static conditions and about 5 dB reduction in simulated flight relative to the convergent coannular nozzle. The convergent coannular nozzle itself provides about 5 dB reduction under static conditions and about 6 dB reduction in simulated flight relative to the fully-mixed convergent circular nozzle.

OASPL comparisons for these configurations at the C-D design point are shown in Fig. 23. The C-D termination is seen to reduce noise throughout the forward quadrant. The noise increase in the aft quadrant with the C-D termination is due to the effect of the decreased radius ratios at the exit. For purposes of predictive modeling, coannular nozzle with extended plug design point are shown in Fig. 25. The extended plug is seen to provide additional noise reduction under static conditions and about 6 dB reduction in simulated flight relative to the fully-mixed convergent circular nozzle.

Effect of Plug Tip Geometry

Because of the residual shock noise observed for annular and coannular nozzles with truncated plugs, Janardan et al. investigated the effect of plug tip geometry. Typical results are shown in Fig. 26, where the OASPL is plotted against $10 \log \beta_{ef}$ for a forward quadrant angle, $\theta = 60^\circ$. Data for the nozzle with C-D terminations and an extended plug are compared with both the C-D coannular nozzle with truncated plug and the convergent coannular nozzle with truncated plug. It can be seen that an extended plug provides an additional 1.5 dB (static) to 3 dB (simulated flight) suppression relative to the C-D nozzle with truncated plug. Compared to the convergent nozzle with truncated plug, the C-D nozzle with extended plug provides 2.5 dB suppression under static conditions and 7 dB under simulated flight conditions.

OASPL directivity comparisons at the C-D design point are shown in Fig. 26. The extended plug is seen to provide additional noise reduction throughout the forward quadrant and has no significant effect in the rear quadrant, where jet mixing noise is dominant. The corresponding forward quadrant spectral comparisons at $\theta = 60^\circ$ are shown in Fig. 27. It appears that there may be some shock noise still present with the extended plug, but its contribution is relatively small.

Effect of Subsonic Inner Stream

Some candidate engine cycles for advanced supersonic transports feature coannular exhausts with a supersonic outer stream and subsonic inner stream (e.g., Refs. 2, 22, and 33). Therefore, Janardan, Yamamoto et al. conducted experiments at such conditions for the convergent coannular nozzle with the extended plug. The effect of the subsonic inner stream conditions is illustrated in Fig. 28, where the OASPL is plotted against $10 \log \beta_{ef}$ for a forward quadrant angle, $\theta = 60^\circ$, for the convergent coannular nozzle at subsonic and supersonic inner stream conditions. The subsonic inner stream provides a significant noise reduction over a range of effective Mach numbers from 1.35 to 1.5 in simulated flight and over a wider range under static conditions. OASPL directivity comparisons are shown in Fig. 29 for an effective jet Mach number of 1.4, where the beneficial effect of the subsonic inner stream is most pronounced. The subsonic inner stream provides a noise reduction throughout the forward quadrant. Near the jet axis where jet mixing noise is predominant, there is no significant change. The corresponding spectral comparisons at $\theta = 60^\circ$ are shown in Fig. 30. A significant reduction in broadband shock noise is evident. These results are consistent with diagnostic LV measurements, which indicated a significant weakening of the shock structure with a subsonic inner stream.

Modeling

For purposes of predictive modeling, coannular plug nozzle shock noise is broken into two components, like the annular plug nozzle: noise generated in the vicinity of the plug, and noise generated downstream of the plug, as shown by Janardan et al. Janardan developed modifications to the Harper-Bourne and Fisher approach to account for his findings, which are now applied to the Stone and Montegani model using a similar approach to that used for the annular plug model.

Plug region. Since the shocks on the plug are due mainly to the outer stream expansion, the prediction is based on outer stream conditions. The following expression, derived from Eq. (3), is then obtained for the overall sound pressure level:

$$OASPL_{p} = 159 + 10 \log \left( \frac{P_{0}}{P_{ISA}} \right) \left( \frac{c_A}{c_{ISA}} \right)^{4} + 10 \log \left( 1 - \frac{D_{1/2}}{D_{0/2}} \right) + 10 \log \left( \frac{A_{0}}{R^{6}} \right)$$

$$+ 10 \log \left( \frac{M_{2}^{2} - M_{d1/2}^{2}}{1 - \left( M_{d1/2}^{2} - M_{d2/2}^{2} \right)^{2}} \right) - 10 \log \left[ 1 - M_{0} \cos (\theta + \theta_{a}) \right] + f(\theta - \theta_{M_{0}})$$

$$+ OASPL_{p} = \sqrt{\left( \frac{D_{0/2}}{0.7 V_{j}} \right) \left( \frac{M_{j}}{c_{a}} \right)^{2} \cos \theta} + 0.0196 \left( \frac{V_{j}}{c_{a}} \right)^{2}$$

The appropriate nondimensional frequency parameter, to be used in conjunction with Fig. 10, is given by

$$S_{p} = \left( \frac{D_{0/2}}{0.7 V_{j}} \right) \sqrt{\left( \frac{M_{j}}{c_{a}} \right)^{2} \cos \theta} + 0.0196 \left( \frac{V_{j}}{c_{a}} \right)^{2}$$

$$x \left( 1 + 0.7 \left( \frac{V_{j}}{c_{a}} \right)^{2} \cos \theta \right)^{2}$$
Downstream region. Janardan\textsuperscript{10} showed that the downstream shock noise depends on the conditions of both streams in a rather complicated manner. The effective pressure ratio is given by the appropriate relation, as follows:

\begin{equation}
\frac{p_{j,\text{ef}}}{p_a} = \frac{p_{j,1}}{p_a} \quad \text{for} \quad p_{j,1} \geq p_{j,2}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\frac{p_{j,\text{ef}}}{p_a} = \frac{p_{j,1}}{p_a} \left[ \frac{A_{j,1}}{A_{j,2}} - 1 \right] + \frac{p_{j,2}}{p_a} \left[ \frac{p_{j,1}}{p_{j,2}} \left( \frac{A_{j,1}}{A_{j,2}} + 1 \right) \right]
\end{equation}

for \( p_{j,1} < p_{j,2} \)

Using the fully-mixed jet total temperature, the effective Mach number, \( M_{j,\text{ef}} \), is calculated along with the effective jet velocity, \( V_{j,\text{ef}} \). The values are then substituted, along with total area, \( A_{j,1} + A_{j,2} \), into Eqs. (5) and (6). The resulting expression for OASPL is then given by

\[ \text{OASPL}_D = 159 + 10 \log \left[ \frac{\rho_a}{\rho_{\text{ISA}}} \left( \frac{c_a}{c_{\text{ISA}}} \right)^2 \right] 
+ 10 \log \left[ \frac{A_{j,1} + A_{j,2}}{R^2} \right]
+ 10 \log \left[ \frac{M_{j,\text{ef}}^2 - M_d^2}{1 + M_{j,\text{ef}}^2 - M_d^2} \right] \frac{1}{2^n}
- 10 \log \left[ 1 - M_c \cos (\theta + \theta_a) \right]
+ F(\theta - \theta_{\text{M,ef}}) \]

where \( M_{d,p} \) is calculated by substituting the design conditions into Eq. (9) and taking the resulting Mach number as the effective \( M_{d,p} \), for the extended plug case, or by setting \( M_{d,p} = 1 \) for a truncated plug. The appropriate nondimensional frequency parameter, to be used in conjunction with Fig. 10 is given by

\[ S_0 = \left( \frac{f_0 e}{0.7 V_{j,\text{ef}}} \right) \]

\[ \times \sqrt{\left[ \frac{M_{j,\text{ef}}^2 - M_d^2}{1 - M_c \cos (\theta + \theta_a)} \right] \frac{1}{2^n}} + 0.7 \left( \frac{V_{j,\text{ef}}}{c_a} \right) \cos \theta + 0.0196 \left( \frac{V_{j,\text{ef}}}{c_a} \right)^2 \]

where \( D_0 \) is based on the total nozzle area. Instead of using formulations of this type for the C-D termination effect, Janardan calculated the noise for \( M_d = 1 \) and developed a set of empirical corrections.\textsuperscript{10} No comparison has yet been made to determine the differences between these two approaches.

**Multielement Suppressors**

Multielement suppressor nozzles may very well be required to provide sufficiently low jet mixing noise for advanced supersonic transports.\textsuperscript{33-37}

When a multielement nozzle is used to suppress jet mixing noise, the shock noise can become a more important source relative to jet mixing noise. Therefore, shock noise reduction for suppressors is of interest. Both single-stream\textsuperscript{8} and outer-stream (in a dual-stream exhaust)\textsuperscript{10} suppressors were investigated. Because of the complicated nozzle exit geometries, no strong feedback loop is established, and screech is not an important factor. Because of the rapid mixing with these nozzles, no significant effect of plug tip geometry is expected.

**Effect of C-D Termination**

The effect of C-D termination of the nozzle elements was investigated for both single-stream\textsuperscript{8} and dual-stream\textsuperscript{10} nozzles.

**Single-stream.** Yamamoto et al.\textsuperscript{8,9} investigated the effect of C-D suppressor elements, designed for shock-free flow at \( M_j = 1.42 \), on a 20-chute annular plug suppressor nozzle (Fig. 31), having a suppressor area ratio of 1.75 and radius ratio of 0.76 at the throat. Results for a typical jet temperature, \( T_j = 950 \text{ K} \) (shown in Fig. 32) where the OASPL is plotted against \( 10 \log a \) for a forward quadrant angle, \( \theta = 50^\circ \). Data for the C-D terminations are compared with data for the convergent terminations and with data for the baseline convergent circular nozzle. The C-D elements clearly provide additional shock noise suppression beyond that provided by the convergent suppressor in the simulated flight case. Corresponding spectral comparisons at the C-D design conditions (shown in Fig. 33) show the C-D elements effectively suppress the shock noise, which peaks at 1250 Hz. However, at middle frequencies the C-D elements produce some increase in noise. OASPL directivity comparison at these conditions (shown in Fig. 34 and aft-section spectral comparisons at \( \theta = 140^\circ \) (shown in Fig. 35) clarify the situation. In the aft quadrant jet mixing noise is dominant, and the C-D suppressor is significantly noisier than the convergent suppressor. Laser velocimeter measurements confirm the expectation that the weakened shocks produce less rapid mixing and, consequently, more jet noise. This is not surprising since one method of enhancing jet mixing and noise reduction is to promote a strong normal shock near the nozzle.\textsuperscript{2,34}

**Dual-stream.** Janardan, Yamamoto et al.\textsuperscript{10,11} investigated the effect of C-D suppressor elements and C-D inner-stream nozzle on a 20-chute outer-stream suppressor annular plug nozzle shown in Fig. 36. The suppressor area ratio was 1.75, and the suppressor radius ratio was 0.76 at the throat; the inner-stream nozzle had a radius ratio of 0.94 and an area constituting 0.2 of the total exit area. Results for typical conditions are shown in Fig. 37, where OASPL is plotted against \( 10 \log a_{\text{ef}} \) for a forward quadrant angle, \( \theta = 60^\circ \). Data for the C-D terminations are compared with data for the convergent terminations and with data for the baseline convergent circular nozzle at fully-mixed dual-stream conditions. The effect of the C-D terminations is that the C-D
elements provide no additional shock noise OASPL suppression beyond that of a convergent suppressor, although perceived noise levels (not shown) are slightly reduced. The effect of C-D terminations on the SPL spectra (shown in Fig. 38) and the OASPL directivity (shown in Fig. 39) illustrate the same general effects as for the single-stream suppressor: while there is some reduction in shock noise, especially downstream, the jet mixing noise is increased. Thus it appears that while C-D suppressor elements may reduce shock noise, they may not be practical for aircraft applications because of the increased jet mixing noise.

**Conclusions**

The most important result of these studies is that supersonic jet shock noise can be reduced by proper C-D design of nozzle flow passages and center plugs, even for the complicated nozzle geometries investigated experimentally. Furthermore, the noise reduction is obtained over a fairly wide range of pressure ratios above and below the C-D shock-free design point. This finding was predicted theoretically for the single-stream circular C-D nozzle and also found experimentally to be true for the more complicated geometries. However, it was found that the shock noise reductions were generally accompanied by some increase in jet mixing noise (except for the circular nozzle); this effect was especially pronounced for the suppressor nozzles. Thus, it is clear that tradeoffs will be required in applying the C-D nozzle approach to noise reduction in most practical situations, where jet mixing noise must also be considered.

**References**


Figure 1. - Representation of a family of shock-cells.

Figure 2. - Illustration of primary components of a convergent circular nozzle shock-cell noise spectrum.
Figure 3. Typical variation of shock noise OASPL in forward quadrant ($\theta = 50^\circ$) as function of $\beta$ for convergent circular nozzle. Data scaled to 0.903-m$^2$ nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline; jet temperature $T_j \approx 950$ K (ref. 8).
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Figure 5. - Narrowband noise spectra from the reverberation room comparing screech cancellation to screech reduction with tab, $M_j = 1.4$ (ref. 6).
Figure 6. - Effectiveness of C-D termination in reducing circular nozzle shock noise OASPL in forward quadrant (θ = 50°); jet temperature, Tj = 950 K. Data scaled to 0.903-m² nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 8).
Figure 7. Comparison of OASPL directivity of convergent and C-D nozzle at the C-D nozzle design conditions; jet temperature, $T_j = 950$ K. Data scaled to 0.903-m$^2$ nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 8).
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(a) Convergent termination.

(b) Convergent-divergent (C-D) termination.

Figure 11. - Annular plug nozzle configurations.

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Figure 16. - Comparison of directivity of C-D annular plug nozzle with those of convergent annular plug nozzle and baseline convergent circular nozzle at C-D design conditions, $V_0 = 122$ m/sec.
Figure 17. - Spectral comparison between C-D annular plug nozzle, convergent annular plug nozzle, and baseline convergent circular nozzle at C-D design conditions; forward quadrant angle, $\theta = 50^\circ$; jet temperature, $T_j = 960$ K. Data scaled to 0.903-m$^2$ nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 8).
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(b) Moderately heated jet, $P_{j,2}/P_a = 3.41$, $T_{j,2} = 490$ K; simulated flight.

(c) High temperature jet, $P_{j,2}/P_a = 3.32$, $T_{j,2} = 940$ K; static.

(d) High temperature jet, $P_{j,2}/P_a = 3.33$, $T_{j,2} = 945$ K; simulated flight, $V_0 = 122$ m/sec.
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Figure 23. - Effect of C-D terminations on coannular nozzle directivity at C-D design point; \( T_{j,1} \approx 485 \) K, \( T_{j,2} \approx 940 \) K. Data scaled to 0.903-m\(^2\) total nozzle area and extrapolated to 730 m sideline (ref. 10).
Figure 24. - Effect of C-D termination on forward quadrant spectra ($\theta = 60^\circ$) for coannular nozzle at C-D design point: $T_{i,1} = 480$ K, $T_{i,2} = 940$ K. Data scaled to 0.903-m$^2$ total nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 10).
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\( T_{i,1} \approx 480 \, \text{K}, \quad T_{j,2} \approx 940 \, \text{K} \). Data scaled to 0.903-m\(^2\) total nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 10).
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$P_{j,2}/P_a = 1.81$; $T_{j,2} = 700$ K.

Figure 31. - 20 chute annular plug suppressor configurations (ref. 8).
Figure 32. - Comparison of C-D multi-element suppressor nozzle OASPL with those of convergent multi-element suppressor and baseline convergent circular nozzle in forward quadrant, $\theta = 50^\circ$; jet temperature, $T_j \approx 950$ K. Data scaled to 0.903-m$^2$ nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 9).
Figure 33. - Spectral comparison between baseline convergent circular nozzle, convergent multi-element suppressor plug nozzle, and C-D multi-element suppressor plug nozzle, $\theta = 50^\circ$; $T_j \approx 960$ K. Data scaled to 0.903 m$^2$ nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 8).
Figure 34. - OASPL directivity comparisons between baseline convergent circular nozzle, convergent multi-element suppressor plug nozzle, and C-D multi-element suppressor plug nozzle, $T_e \sim 960$ K. Data scaled to 0.905-m$^2$ nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 8).
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(a) Convergent flow element terminations.

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Figure 36. - 20-chute outer stream suppressor configurations (ref. 10).
Figure 37. - Effectiveness of C-D nozzle terminations on OASPL in forward quadrant, $\theta = 60^\circ$, for dual-stream nozzle with multi-element outer-stream suppressor; inner-stream temperature, $T_j, 2 = 940$ K. Data scaled to $0.903$-m$^2$ total nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 11).
(b) Simulated flight, $V \approx 122$ m/sec.

Figure 38. - Typical static and simulated flight front quadrant spectral comparison at $\theta = 60^\circ$ between coannular C-D and convergent suppressor nozzles at C-D design conditions:

$P_j, 1/P_a \approx 2.91$; $P_j, 2/P_a \approx 3.14$; $T_{j,1} \approx 480$ K; $T_{j,2} \approx 950$ K.

Data scaled up to total nozzle area of 0.903 m$^2$ and extrapolated to 730 m sideline.
Figure 39. - Comparison of OASPL-directivities of coannular suppressor C-D nozzle with those of coannular suppressor convergent nozzle at C-D design conditions; inner-stream temperature, \(T_1 \approx 450\) K; outer-stream temperature, \(T_{ij,2} \approx 950\) K. Data scaled to 0.903-m\(^2\) total nozzle area and extrapolated to 730-m sideline (ref. 10).
Supersonic Jet Shock Noise Reduction

Abstract
Shock-cell noise has been identified as a potentially significant problem for advanced supersonic aircraft at takeoff. Therefore NASA has conducted fundamental studies of the phenomena involved and model-scale experiments aimed at developing means of noise reduction. This paper reviews the results of a series of studies conducted to determine means by which supersonic jet shock noise can be reduced to acceptable levels for advanced supersonic cruise aircraft. Theoretical studies were conducted on the shock associated noise of supersonic jets from convergent-divergent (C-D) nozzles. Laboratory studies were conducted on the influence of narrowband shock screech on broadband noise and on means of screech reduction. The usefulness of C-D nozzle passages was investigated at model scale for single-stream and dual-stream nozzles. The effect of off-design pressure ratio was determined under static and simulated flight conditions for jet temperatures up to 960 K. Annular and coannular flow passages with center plugs and multielement suppressor nozzles were evaluated, and the effect of plug tip geometry was established. In addition to the far-field acoustic data, mean and turbulent velocity distributions were obtained with a laser velocimeter, and shadowgraph images of the flow field were obtained.

Key Words (Suggested by Author(s))
Noise reduction; Shock noise; Supersonic jet noise; Convergent-divergent nozzles

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