An Experiment on the Near Flow Field of the GE/ARL Mixer Ejector Nozzle

K.B.M.Q. Zaman
Glenn Research Center, Cleveland, Ohio
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July 2004
Acknowledgments

Thanks are due to Dr. Muni Majjigi of GEAE for initiating the investigation and providing guidance in the choice of the experimental parameters, and to Dr. J. M. Seiner of NASA Langley for his continued support.

Document History

This research was originally published internally as HSR040 in July 1996.
An Experiment on the Near Flow Field of the GE/ARL Mixer Ejector Nozzle

K.B.M.Q. Zaman
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Glenn Research Center
Cleveland, Ohio 44135

Summary

This report is a documentation of the results on flowfield surveys for the GE/ARL mixer-ejector nozzle carried out in an open jet facility at NASA Glenn Research Center. The results reported are for cold (unheated) flow without any surrounding co-flowing stream. Distributions of streamwise vorticity as well as turbulent stresses, obtained by hot-wire anemometry, are presented for a low subsonic condition. Pitot probe survey results are presented for nozzle pressure ratios up to 3.5. Flowfields both inside and outside of the ejector are considered. Inside the ejector, the mean velocity distribution exhibits a cellular pattern on the cross sectional plane, originating from the flow through the primary and secondary chutes. With increasing downstream distance an interchange of low velocity regions with adjacent high velocity regions takes place due to the action of the streamwise vortices. At the ejector exit, the velocity distribution is nonuniform at low and high pressure ratios but reasonably uniform at intermediate pressure ratios. The effects of two chevron configurations and a tab configuration on the evolution of the downstream jet are also studied. Compared to the baseline case, minor but noticeable effects are observed on the flowfield.

Introduction

In order to achieve jet noise reduction goals for the High Speed Civil Transport (HSCT) aircraft, currently under development, various designs of a mixer-ejector nozzle have been under consideration. Its basic feature includes a two dimensional primary nozzle with multiple chutes which is surrounded by an ejector of rectangular cross section. An earlier model of the nozzle was tested extensively in the Aerodynamic Research Laboratory (ARL) of General Electric Aircraft Engines Company in Cincinnati. Laser doppler velocimeter data for the flowfield and data for the radiated noise field were obtained; these results were summarized in an earlier report (Majjigi, R.K., Brausch, J.F., Askew, J.W., Shin, H., Mengle, V., and Balan, C., “Low Noise Exhaust Nozzle Technology Development”, Report on Grant NAS3–25415, April, 1996, not published). While the noise reduction goal continues to be pursued through testing with later generations of the nozzle, the earlier model was brought to Glenn to carry out relatively fundamental measurements in an effort to further understand the flow mechanisms. The immediate goal in the Glenn study has been to obtain complementary, further details of the flowfield with and without noise suppression devices such as chevrons and tabs. The overall goal has been to look for clues that could lead to improved mixing within the ejector and further spreading of the jet downstream which are thought to hold keys for the desired noise suppression. So far measurements have been conducted with a fixed geometry of the chutes and the ejector, with and without the chevrons and tabs, and the purpose of this report is to document those results.
The specific objectives in the measurements were as follows. (A) For the baseline configuration perform hot-wire surveys for an incompressible flow case inside and outside of the ejector (mean velocity, vorticity and turbulent stresses.). (B) For the baseline configuration perform Pitot probe surveys at various nozzle pressure ratios inside and outside of the ejector (flow uniformity, pumping, jet spreading, etc.). (C) Study effects of “chevrons” and “tabs” on the downstream evolution of the jet.

The main results are presented with composite plots and perspective views of the velocity and vorticity distributions, in figures V.1 to V.15, without any details of the quantitative information. A discussion of each of these figures is listed in the Results section. Details of the data are included in the appendix as contour plots. With the help of the nomenclature section and the annotations on the margin of the appendix figures one should be able to obtain all pertinent details. For cross reference, the corresponding appendix figure numbers are listed in parentheses on each of figures V.1 to V.15.

## Nomenclature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Equivalent diameter of ejector exit (4.07 in.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ṁ</td>
<td>Mass flow rate (ṁ₁ from flow meter, other data from Pitot probe survey)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Mach number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPR</td>
<td>Nozzle pressure ratio, P₀/Pₐ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>Static pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pₜ</td>
<td>Total pressure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>u,v,w</td>
<td>Streamwise and transverse velocity components (upper case for mean values)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x,y,z</td>
<td>Coordinates with origin at ejector exit center (z along long axis of the ejector cross section)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ωₓ</td>
<td>Streamwise vorticity (∂V/∂z – ∂W/∂y)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subscripts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subscript</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Ambient conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Conditions at primary nozzle exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Conditions at ejector exit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Plenum chamber conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>Maximum value at a given x</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Measurement Conditions and Procedure

The measurements were conducted for the nozzle configuration with suppressor area ratio (SAR) of 2.8 and mixing area ratio (MAR) of 1.0. The “long ejector” was used together with the “flush inlet.” MAR = 1 implied that the cross sectional area of the ejector (5.005 in. x 2.600 in.) was constant throughout its length. The long ejector had a length of 9.705 in. downstream of the primary nozzle exit. SAR denoted the ratio of the ejector area to the primary nozzle exit area which was 4.649 in². The hot-wire data were obtained at NPR = 1.07 (P₀ = 1 psig, Mᵢ = 0.32). The Pitot probe data were obtained covering an NPR range of 1 to 3.5. The effect of chevrons and tabs were studied mostly at NPR = 2.5. Standard measurement techniques were employed with computer controlled probe traversing and data acquisition. For details of the Pitot probe measurements reference 1 may be consulted, while details of the hot-wire measurements are discussed in reference 2.

The Mach number values in appendix figures B1 to B22 are approximate especially far inside the ejector. Only total pressure was measured and the Mach number was calculated assuming static pressure to be equal to that outside in the ambient. Furthermore, Pitot probe errors were large just downstream of the primary nozzle due to flow angularity. The errors were also large on the periphery of the downstream jet (figs. C1 to C16) where the velocity was small and dominated by the entrainment component. (No significance should be attached to the small “negative” Mach numbers in those regions which, for ease of analysis, were calculated simply by using the absolute values of the measured negative total pressures.) The hot-wire measurements similarly had errors in the same regions due to flow angularity. Further discussion of the errors can be found in references 1 and 2.

Figure P.1 shows an end view of the nozzle mounted in the jet facility. The lower half of the primary nozzle chutes can be seen. The upper and lower chutes were aligned. Figure P.2 shows a close up view of the nozzle mounted in the jet facility. Here, the ejector end is fitted with the large chevrons. Figure P.3 shows another view of the facility where the ejector end is fitted with the tabs. A three element Pitot probe rake mounted on the probe traversing unit can be seen in the foreground. (Chevrons and tabs are described further with figures V.11(A) and (B).) Figure P.4, reproduced from reference 3, shows schematic views of the nozzle and the chutes.

Results

Figure V.1.—Longitudinal mean velocity distributions at five x-locations inside the ejector; Mᵢ = 0.32. The box outlines the ejector, with the primary nozzle exit located on the left end.

Figure V.2.—Streamwise vorticity distribution within the ejector shown by two iso-surfaces. The data are based on measurements at the five stations of figure V.1. The outer vortex strands appear broken because measurement range was smaller farther inside.

Figure V.3.—Sense of the streamwise vortex pairs originating from the chutes, as inferred from the ωₓ data.

Figure V.4.—The data of figure V.1 shown as contour plots at four stations. The switchover of the high-low-high velocity regions to low-high-low velocity regions from x/D = –2 to x/D = –1 is clearly shown. This occurs because the streamwise vortex pairs continually transport fluid in the lateral direction.
Figure V.5.—Downstream evolution of the jet shown by data at x/D = 0, 1, 2, 4, and 8; M₁ = 0.32.

Figure V.6.—Streamwise vorticity distribution corresponding to the measurement range of figure V.5. Note that the iso-surface levels are ten times lower than those in figure V.2.

Figure V.7.—Mach number distributions within the ejector obtained from Pitot probe surveys. (A), (B) and (C) are for indicated values of NPR and M₁. Note that the distribution at the exit plane is nonuniform and similar at M₁ = 0.34 and 1.21 but more uniform at M₁ = 0.70.

Figure V.8.—The switchover of the high and low velocity regions, as in figure V.4, is shown by total pressure variations measured downstream of a primary and an adjacent secondary chute. Data are shown for 11 values of NPR in (a) and (b). The pair of traces for each NPR are normalized by \( P_{T,0} \) which is the measured total pressure at \( x = -9.5 \text{ in.}, y = 0.8 \text{ in.}, z = 0 \). Successive pairs are staggered by one major ordinate division. Switchover occurs at all values of NPR, more than once in certain cases. No systematic trend in the first switchover location can be discerned.

Figure V.9.—Mach number distributions at the exit plane of the ejector obtained from Pitot probe surveys. The cellular patterns occur at low and high values of NPR, but the flow is more uniform at NPR = 1.36 (M₁ = 0.68).

Figure V.10.—Ratio of mass flow rate at ejector exit, obtained by integration of data as in figure V.9, to the mass flow rate through primary nozzle measured by a flow meter.

Figure V.11.—Sketch of the chevrons and tabs. The large chevrons in (a) are approximately similar in geometry as used with a larger model of the nozzle in Cell 41 of GEAE, Cincinnati. Chevrons are mounted on the ejector outer surface (see fig. P.2). They are bent by about 10° so that the surface exposed to the flow is parallel to the streamwise direction. Tabs are of same size as the small chevrons. Ten tabs are used (see fig. P.3), each located downstream of the secondary flow chutes. This configuration was chosen, on the basis of the measured streamwise vorticity distribution (fig. V.3), in order to augment the strength of the vortices.

Figure V.12.—Downstream evolution of the jet based on Pitot probe surveys at M₁ = 1.23 (NPR = 2.5) for the chevron and the tab cases. No dramatic difference in jet spreading is observed. However, noticeable changes in the jet cross sectional shape can be observed upon close inspection.

Figure V.13.—Maximum Mach number and mass flow rate variation with streamwise distance, obtained from data of figure V.12. The solid symbols are for a free rectangular jet with aspect ratio of 3:1 (ref. 2). Note that the comparison of the free rectangular jet data in figure V.13(b) should be interpreted with caution, as D is equivalent diameter of the nozzle in that case but it is equivalent diameter of the ejector in the present case.

Figure V.14.—Jet cross sectional shape at x/D = 4, at NPR = 2.5 and 3.5, for: (a) baseline, (b) tab, and (c) large chevron cases. Flutter at NPR = 3.5 did not allow measurement for the small chevron case. For the large chevron case in (c) at NPR = 3.5, probe broke off after half the field was surveyed; the full distribution is shown by assuming symmetry about y = 0 plane.

Figure V.15.—Flow unsteadiness and flutter of chevrons at NPR = 3.5 are shown by these noise spectra data measured by a microphone. With the chevrons (large and small) a rather violent
unsteadiness ensued when NPR was increased to about 3.5. It did not occur for the baseline and the tab cases. The frequency was about 400 Hz but changed for various set ups. After a sustained run, the chevrons would develop cracks (some actually fractured away) at the base along the lip of the ejector. It appeared that the unsteadiness was due to structural resonance (flutter) of the chevron pieces attached to the long edges of the ejector (fig. V.11(a)), probably instigated by unsteady shock motion.

References


Figure P.1.—End view of the nozzle mounted in the jet facility. The lower half of the primary nozzle chutes can be seen.
Figure P.2.—Close up view of the nozzle mounted in the jet facility. Here, the ejector end is fitted with the large chevrons.
Figure P.3.—Another view of the facility where the ejector end is fitted with the tabs. A three element Pitot probe rake mounted on the probe traversing unit can be seen in the foreground.
Figure P.4.—Schematic views of the nozzle and the chutes (from reference 3).
(a) Schematic of nozzle. (b) Perspective view of chutes.
Figure V.1.—Mean velocity inside injector; \( x/D = -2, -1.5, -1, -0.5 \) and 0 (appendix figs. A1–A4).

Figure V.2.—Streamwise vorticity inside injector, \( \omega_x D/U_J = \pm 0.8 \) iso-surfaces (appendix figs. A5–A8).
Figure V.3.—Schematic of streamwise vorticity from the chutes.

Figure V.4.—Mean velocity inside ejector. Switching of high and low velocity regions (appendix figs. A1–A4, turbulent stresses in figs. A9–A28).
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Figure V.7—Mach number, $M/M_{\text{MAX}}$. (a) NPR = 1.08 ($M_i = 0.34$) (appendix figs. B1–B4). (b) NPR = 1.39 ($M_i = 0.70$) (appendix figs. B5–B8). (c) NPR = 2.46 ($M_i = 1.21$) (appendix figs. B9–B12).
Figure V.7.—Concluded. (c) NPR = 2.46 (M$_{l}$ = 1.21) (appendix figs. B9–B12).
Figure V.8.—Total pressure variation inside ejector, y/D = 0.2. (a) Lower NPR. (b) Higher NPR.
Figure V.9.—Mach number distribution at ejector exit, x/D = 0 (appendix figs. B13–B22).
Figure V.10.—Ratio of mass flux at ejector exit and mass flux through primary nozzle (appendix figs. B13-B22).

Figure V.11.—(a) Large and small chevrons. (b) Tabs are bent $35^\circ$ into the flow. Area blockage is approximately $0.3\%$ per tab.
Figure V.12.—Mach number distribution, NPR = 2.5 (M_i = 1.23) (appendix figs. C1–C16).
Figure V.13.—Streamwise variations of peak Mach number and mass flux, NPR = 2.5 ($M_l = 1.23$). (a) Peak Mach number. (b) Mass flux.
Figure V.14.—Mach number distribution, x/D = 4. (a) Baseline. (b) Tabs. (c) Large chevrons.
Figure V.15.—Sound pressure level spectra for the large chevron case.
Appendix

The data are presented as contour plots on the cross sectional (y, z) plane for a given x/D location indicated in the margin. Figures A1 to A56 show hot-wire data for the baseline nozzle (without tabs or chevrons). Figures B1 to B22 show Mach number contours inside and at the exit of the ejector, for various NPR. Figures C1 to C16 show Mach number contours for the baseline, chevron and tab cases in the downstream jet at NPR ≈ 2.5. Figures D1 to D14 show hot-wire data for the chevron and tab cases. Other notations used in the margin are

- Min Minimum value in the field
- Max Maximum value in the field
- c_mn Minimum contour level
- c_mx Maximum contour level
- incr Contour interval
- Omega_x $\omega_x$
- $uv/Uj^2$ $\overline{uv}/U_j^2$
- $uw/Uj^2$ $\overline{uw}/U_j^2$
- mi $m_i$, lbs/sec
- Dy, Dz Half velocity diameters
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K.B.M.Q. Zaman

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
John H. Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field
Cleveland, Ohio 44135–3191

This research was originally published internally as HSR040 in July 1996. Responsible person, K.B.M.Q. Zaman, organization code 5860, 216–433–5888.

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