Design and Analysis Aerospike Blunt Body at Hypersonic Speed

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Research Article

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Abstract

Hypersonic vehicles have the drag and heating problem when they operate at high speeds, to avoid or minimize this problem, aero spikes are utilized. This investigation finds a solution for reducing the drag and heating. Using ANSYS fluent, designed an aero spike, which has flow around a blunt body at highersonic Mach number 6 with angle of attack zero. It is analyses for L/D ratio of 1.5 and 2. The front of the body is replaced by an aero spike which has weak oblique shocks and well-built detached shock. This develops a circular region between shock and blunt body. This works as a streamlined profile to reduce heat as well as drag.

Keywords: Aero spike, Blunt body, Highersonic Mach number, ANSYS, Bow shocks.

Introduction

A rapidly developing area of technology called hypersonic flight holds the potential to completely transform both air and space travel. The design and development of vehicles that can sustain these circumstances, however, is significantly complicated by the high speeds and temperatures associated with hypersonic flight. Aerospike blunts body designs are a viable strategy for reducing the consequences of hypersonic flight.

The aero spike blunt body is a type of hypersonic vehicle design that has shown potential for reducing the heating and drag associated with high-speed flight. The design has blunt body and a spike at the rear of the body\textsuperscript{1}. This extension is designed to generate a shock which again directs the hot gas flow out from the aircraft or hypersonic vehicle, which reduces the heat on the surface\textsuperscript{2}.

“Heat transfer is a critical aspect of the aero spike blunt body design because it affects the thermal protection system required to protect the vehicle from the extreme temperatures generated during flight”. Heat transfer occurs through several mechanisms, including conduction, convection, and radiation. In hypersonic flight, the dominant heat transfer mechanism is convective heating, which occurs when the hot gas molecules collide with the surface of the vehicle, transferring heat to the surface.
The design and analysis of heat transfer over an aero spike blunt body at hypersonic speeds is a complex and challenging task that requires the use of advanced simulation techniques. Computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations are commonly used to model the flow of hot gases around the vehicle and predict the heat transfer rates. These simulations take into account the complex interactions between the vehicle and the surrounding air, including shock waves, boundary layer effects, and turbulence.

To design an effective thermal protection system for an aero spike blunt body, it is necessary to understand the heat transfer mechanisms involved and how they affect the surface temperature of the vehicle. The design must also take into account the structural requirements of the vehicle, including weight, strength, and durability.

Overall, the design and analysis of heat transfer over an aero spike blunt body at hypersonic speeds is a critical area of research that has the potential to enable practical hypersonic flight. By developing effective thermal protection systems, it may be possible to overcome the technical challenges associated with hypersonic flight and unlock new frontiers in air and space travel.

An aero spike blunt body is a type of hypersonic vehicle design that has been proposed as a means to reduce the heating and drag associated with hypersonic flight. The aero spike design consists of a blunt body with a spike-shaped extension at the rear of the body. This extension is designed to form a shock wave that redirects the flow of hot gases away from the vehicle, reducing the heating on the surface.

Heat transfer is a critical aspect of aero spike blunt body design because it affects the thermal protection system required to protect the vehicle from the extreme temperatures generated during flight. Heat transfer occurs through several mechanisms, including conduction, convection, and radiation. In hypersonic flight, the dominant heat transfer mechanism is convective heating, which occurs when the hot gas molecules collide with the surface of the vehicle, transferring heat to the surface. The design of the aero spike blunt body must take into account the heat transfer characteristics of the vehicle to ensure that the thermal protection system can withstand the extreme temperatures generated during flight. Computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulations are commonly used to model the flow of hot gases around the vehicle and predict the heat transfer rates.
In summary, heat transfer is a critical factor in the design of an aero spike blunt body for hypersonic flight. Understanding the mechanisms of heat transfer and using CFD simulations to predict heat transfer rates is essential to develop effective thermal protection systems for hypersonic vehicles.

**Methodology**

**MESHING AND BOUNDARY CONDITION**

**Figure 1.** Blunt body mesh without a spike

**Figure 2.** Blunt body mesh with spike
For inner and outer free stream condition were given. At Mach 6, the free stream conditions are utilized for inner layer boundaries. The temperature is 300k, stagnation pressure is 8.3 bars and stagnation temperature are 450k. For 60mm length, Reynolds number is 5*10^5. For these conditions the mesh is created. The above figure shows the L/D 1.5 with no spike.

CFD ANALYSIS IMAGES

Figure 3. Blunt body without spike for Mach number

Figure 4. Blunt body with spike at L/D 1.5
Figure 5. Blunt Body with spike at L/D 2

Figure 6. Total Pressure Contour for Blunt Body without spike
The Mach Number Contour and Total Pressure contour for all the three cases—Blunt Body without spike, Blunt Body with spike at L/D ratio 1.5 and Blunt Body with spike at L/D ratio 2 are shown as the above images\(^9\). These results are obtained after giving the boundary condition for the model in the ANSYS Software.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Highly strengthened bow shocks are formed, which are very near the spiked blunt body. Shocks deviate on spike and create a recirculation zone which was close to the body surface.

“Due to this heat and pressure drops in zone ahead of the blunt body. The aero spike introduces bow shocks with low capable oblique shocks, this can decrease the pressure on surface of a body.
The above images show the without aero spike with different MACH number flow through a blunt body”. Aero spike of L/D 1.5 has better variations for different Mach numbers and forms a bow shock in front of the blunt body. L/D ratio 2 has also having good variation with aero spike blunt body with various Mach numbers.

The surface of the blunt body was cooled by the temperatures in the region of the recirculation. This recirculation depends upon the length and diameter of the aerospike. These all conditions lead the blunt body, it reduces the drag as well as pressure in front of the aerospike body. From the above figures L/D 1.5 shows better pressure reduction of the aerospike blunt body as compared to L/D ratio 2. Above all the figures show the pressure for various cases. This figure shows total pressure at different Mach numbers.

CONCLUSION

This investigation utilizes the ANSYS fluent for hypersonic Mach number 6, which is having aero spike with different L/D ratio, that is 1.5, 2 respectively at 0° angle of attack. The pressure differences and Mach number contour are investigated. Due to the spread of recirculation, pressure drops in stagnation zone. This research analyses two studies, that is with spike and without spike. Without spike has very poor pressure values and with spike has observed as high-pressure values at L/D ratio of 1.5, and 2. The total pressure drops for L/D 1.5 ahead of blunt body, this indicates the reduction in the drag. This study is helpful for further development of drag reduction and experimenting with different drag reduction techniques with different L/D ratios.

Bibliography


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