

# **Some Hypersonic Aerodynamics**

**W.H. Mason**  
**Configuration Aerodynamics Class**

# Hypersonics!

- Lots of hypersonics
  - Missiles
  - Rockets
  - Entry (re-entry?)
- How fast is hypersonic anyway?
  - Mach numbers at which supersonic linear theory fails
  - Where  $\gamma$  is no longer constant, and we must consider temperature effects on fluid properties.
  - Mach numbers from 3 - 5, where Mach 3 might be required for blunt bodies causing large disturbances to the flow, and Mach 5 might be the starting point for more highly streamlined bodies.
- Shocks curved, typically close to the body
  - Stagnation pressure varies from body to shock
    - Rotational flow and entropy variation

# 5 things to know about hypersonics

1. Temperature and heating become critical
2. Blunt shapes are common
  - And in fact required to withstand heating
3. Many times pressure can be easily estimated
4. Control and stability lead to different shapes at hypersonic speeds
5. Engine-Airframe Integration is key
  - Systems are so tightly coupled the aero and propulsion cannot be separated from each other

Review Chapter 12 of Bertin and Cummings, your aerodynamics text and Anderson, *Modern Compressible Flow*, your compressible aero text

# Board Work

- Newtonian Impact Theory

# Surface pressure estimation

Local slope rules differ in supersonic and hypersonic flows

Linearized supersonic flow

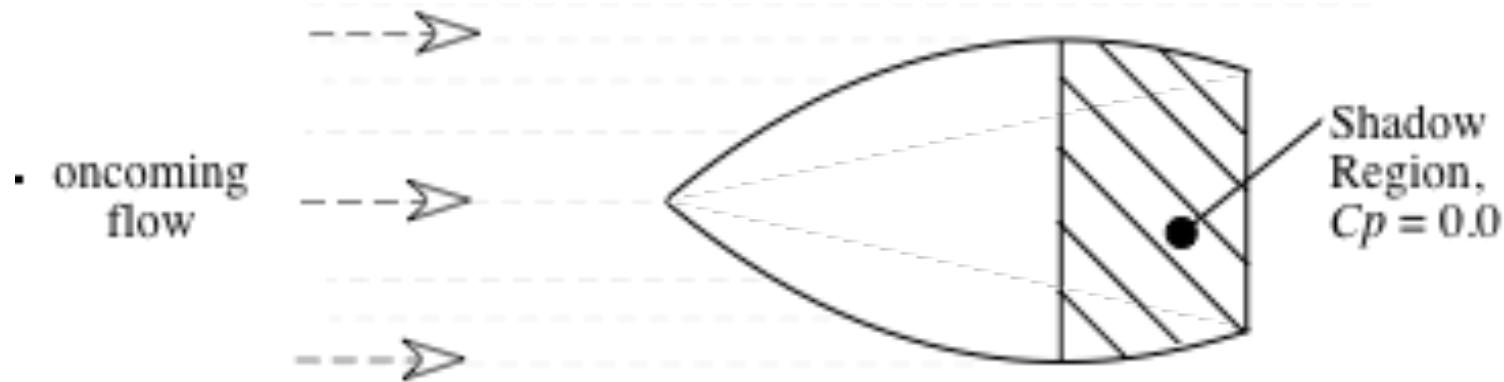
$$C_p = \frac{2\theta}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}}$$

Hypersonics: Newtonian flow rule

$$C_p = 2 \sin^2 \theta$$

No Mach number!  
Nonlinear! ( $M = \infty, \gamma = 1$ )

*Many other hypersonic “rules” available*



# Modified Newtonian

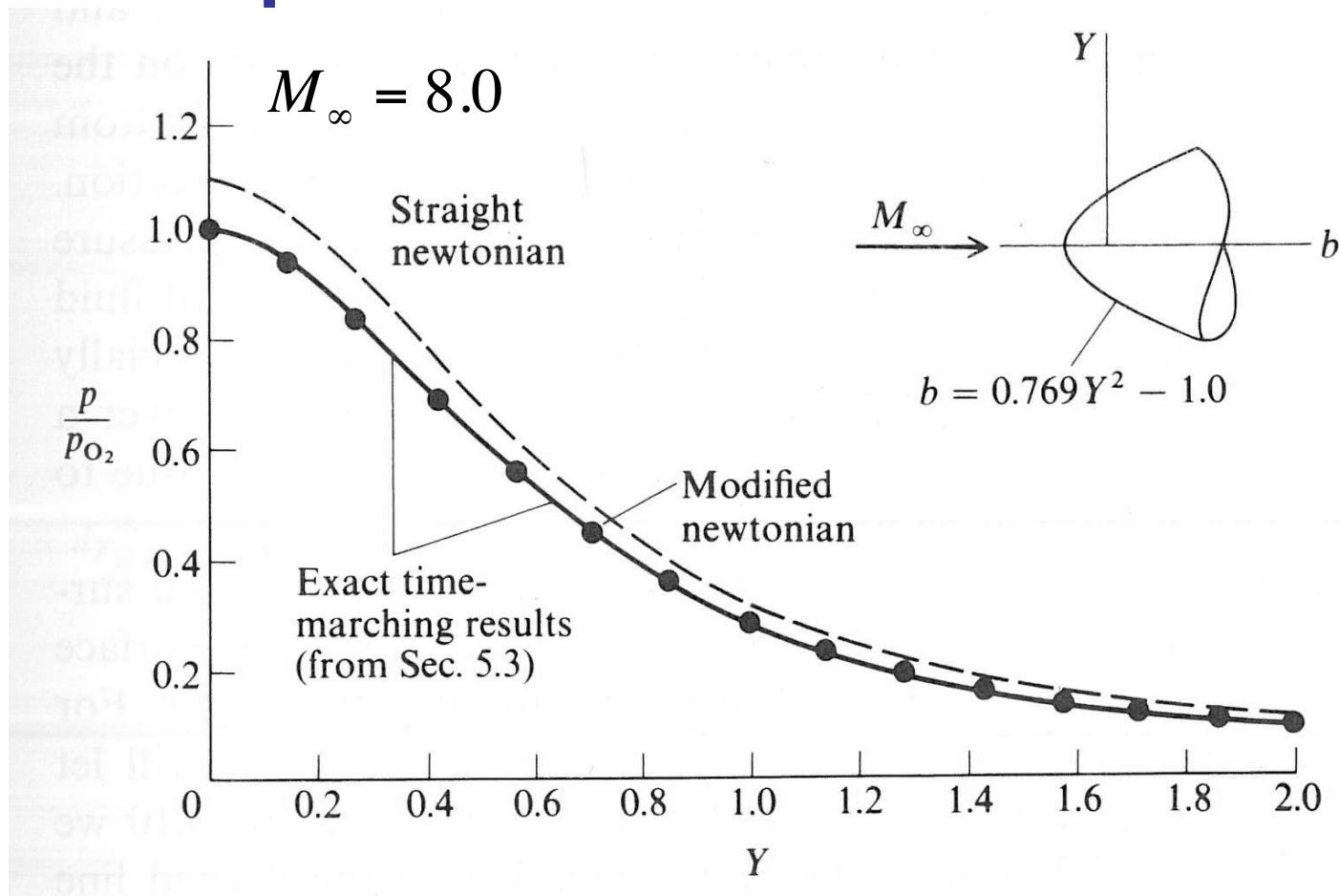
$$C_p = C_{p_{\max}} \sin^2 \theta$$

- $C_{p_{\max}}$  is  $C_p$  behind a normal shock
  - For  $\gamma = 1.4$ ,  $C_{p_{\max}}$  at  $M = \infty$  is 1.84, at  $M = 4$ ,  $C_{p_{\max}} = 1.79$

Newtonian/Modified Newtonian is typically good for blunt bodies with large inclination angles, and better for axisymmetric bodies than 2D

- A good homework problem is to show for  $\gamma = 1, M = \infty, C_{p_{\max}} = 2$

# Comparison: Newtonian w/CFD



$p_{02}$  is the total pressure behind a normal shock at  $M_\infty = 8.0$

John D. Anderson, Jr., *Hypersonic and High Temperature Gas Dynamics*,  
McGraw Hill, 1989 (now 2nd Ed. From AIAA)

See also your Bertin and Cummings Aerodynamics book for derivations

# **Other Surface Inclination Methods (Approximations developed before CFD)**

For bodies with attached shocks (nominally pointed bodies)

- Tangent Cone
  - Pressure locally equal to a cone with the same slope
- Tangent Wedge
  - Pressure locally equal to a 2D wedge with the same slope
- Shock Expansion
  - Compute pressure behind shock and then do a P-M expansion

## **Thus, in the first approximation you only need the vehicle geometry**

(just like the Harris Wave Drag code)

- Essentially, the standard code is known as the Hypersonic Arbitrary Body Program (HABP)
- Also known as the S/HABP or “the Gentry code”
  - Developed by Gentry of Douglas Aircraft for the Air Force, with a date of about 1973 or so
  - Has a list of flow inclination – pressure formulas
    - the user chooses (once again, the burden is placed on “the user”)
  - Available as part of PDAS

# The Hypersonic Challenge of the '50s: Ballistic Missile Atmospheric Entry

**1<sup>st</sup> thought:** a slender shape with pointed nose would be best

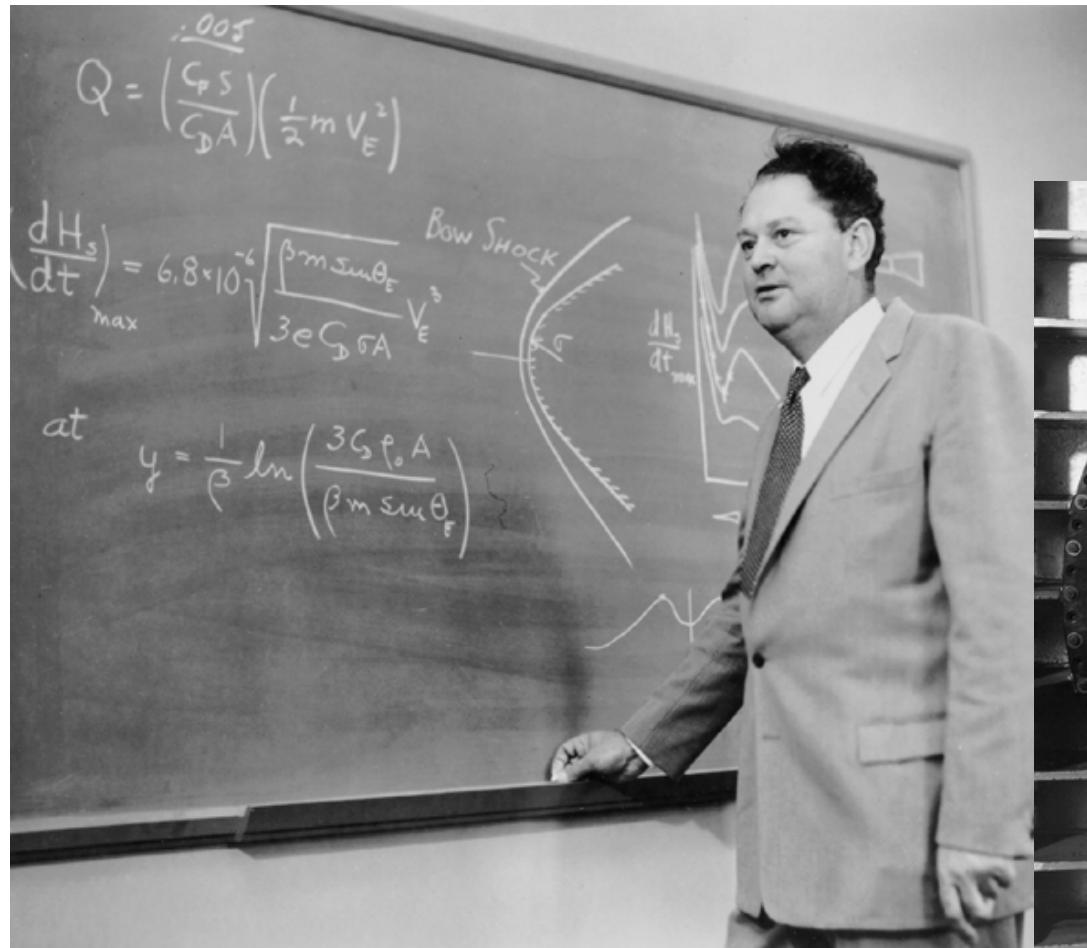
**But!** H. Julian Allen and A.J. Eggers, Jr.:

**A blunt nose forces a detached shock and most of the heat goes off the surface and into the flowfield, not the vehicle, and enables practical re-entry “vehicles”**

This was the major theoretical advance in the 1950s

NACA R 1381, H. Julian Allen and A.J. Eggers, Jr., “A Study of the Motion and Aerodynamic Heating of Ballistic Missiles Entering the Earth’s Atmosphere at High Supersonic Speeds,” 1953 (declassified and publicly released in 1958)

# Harvey Allen, NASA Ames



Photos from the NASA web site

## Allen showed:

$$\dot{q}_{\text{max, laminar}} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{R_{LE}}}$$

- *q-dot* is the heating rate
- $R_{LE}$  is the leading edge radius at the stagnation point
  - *and should be large!*
    - Think Mercury, Gemini, Apollo
- Still requires a thermal protection system: ablative material
- Finally, on fast (lunar) re-entry, radiation is important!

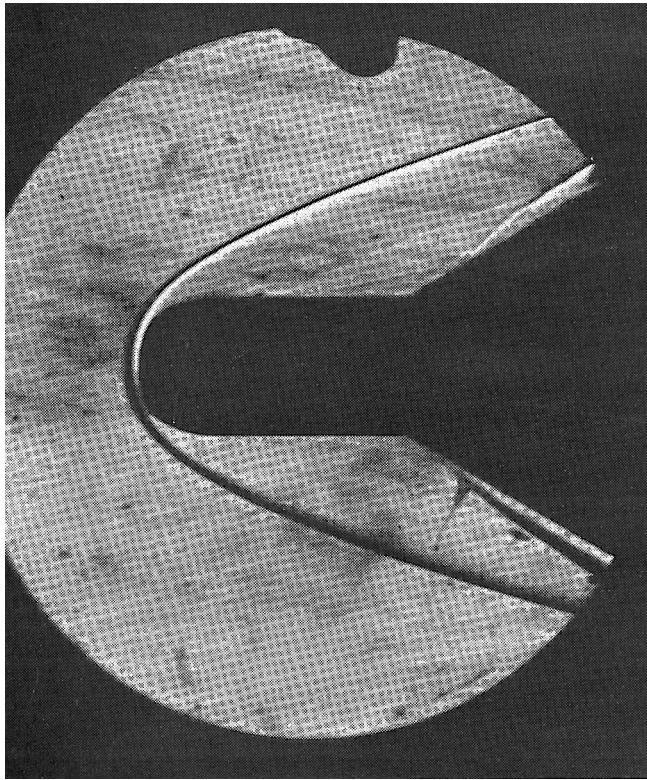
This was the first real CFD problem:

***“the blunt body problem”***

*Gino Moretti solved (1966) by realizing that you should march forward in time to get to the steady state solution*

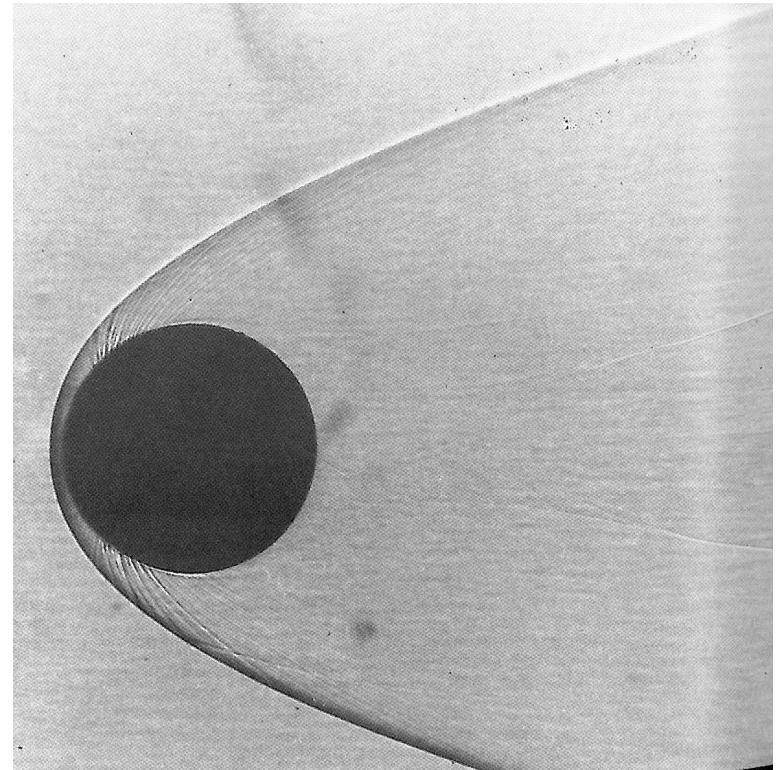
# Blunt Body Flowfield

$M = 6.85$



From Cox and Crabtree, *Elements of Hypersonic Flow*, Academic Press, 1965

$M = 7.6$

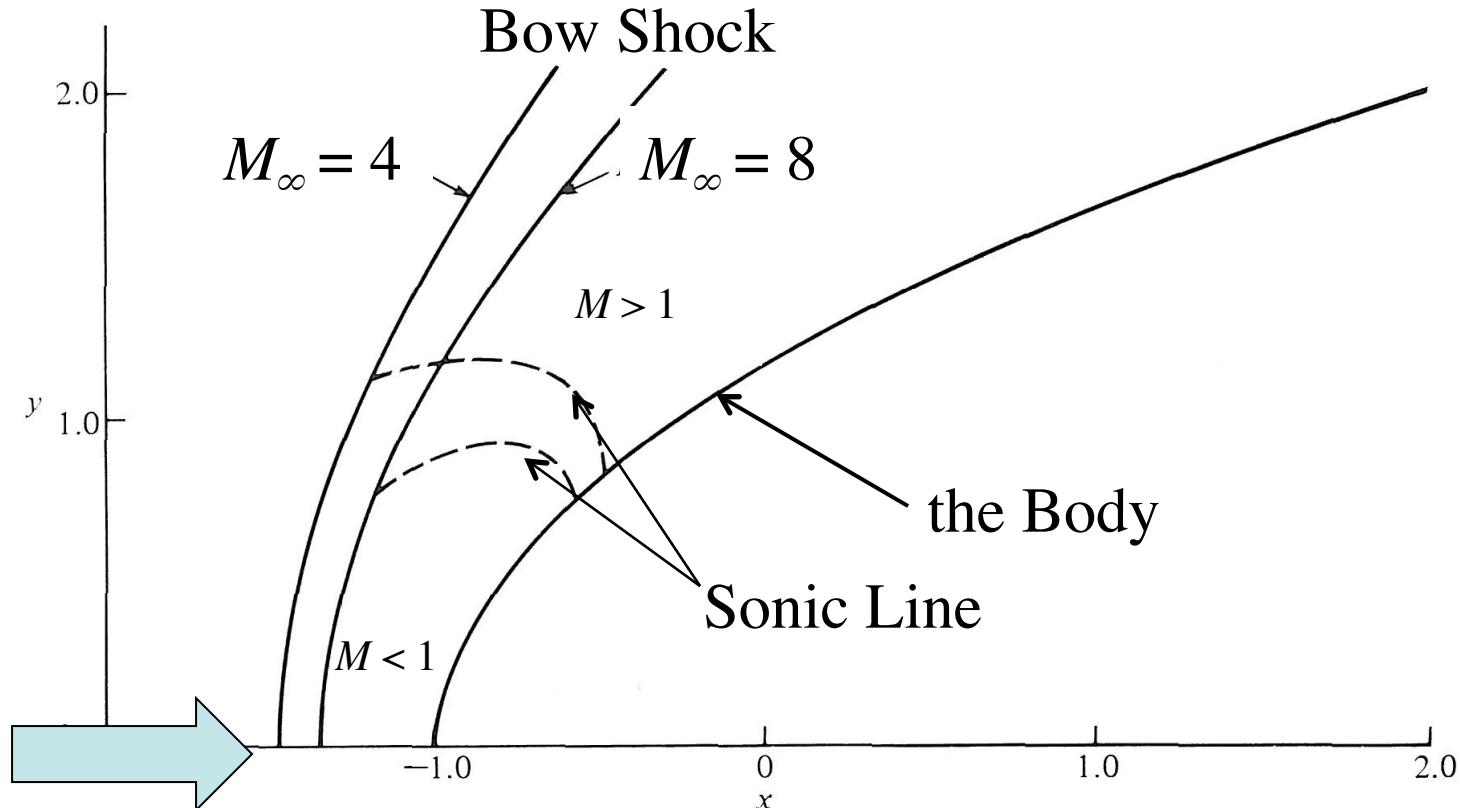


From Van Dyke, *An Album of Fluid Motion*, The Parabolic Press, 1982

***Key item of interest: Stagnation Point Heat Transfer***

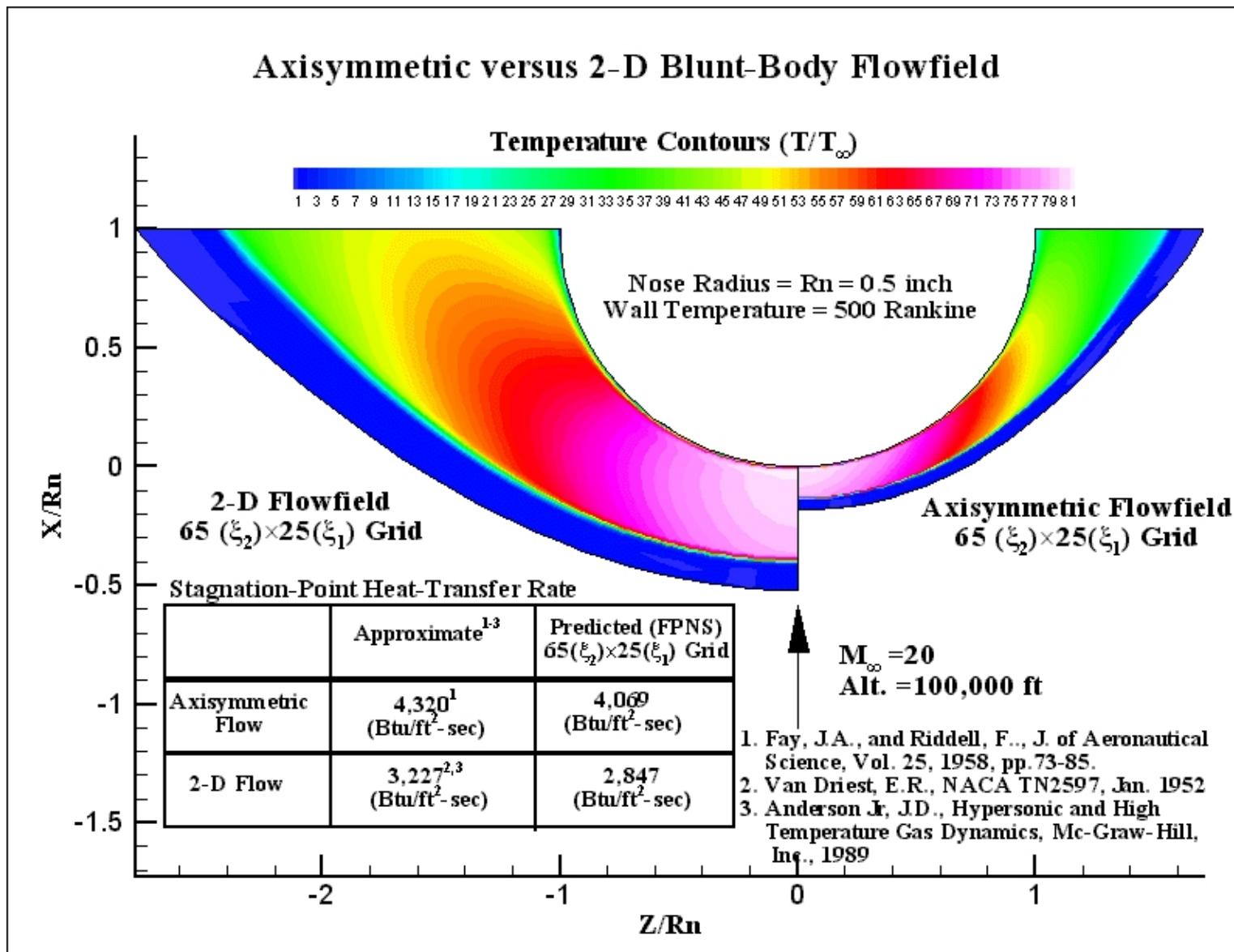
# The sketch of the physics

The mixed supersonic/subsonic flow caused the same problem that arose for transonic calculations



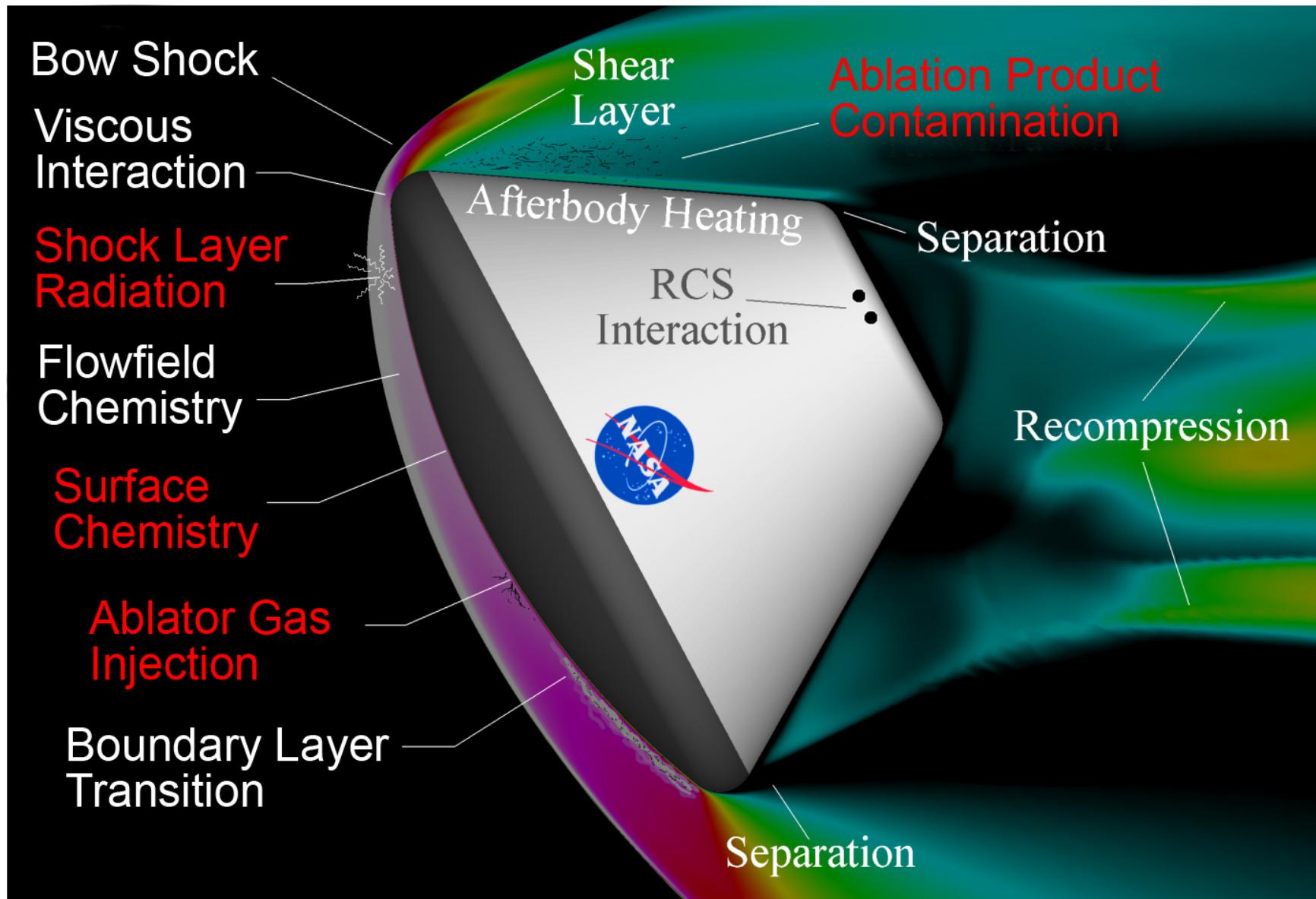
From Anderson, *Modern Compressible Flow*

# And CFD Solutions



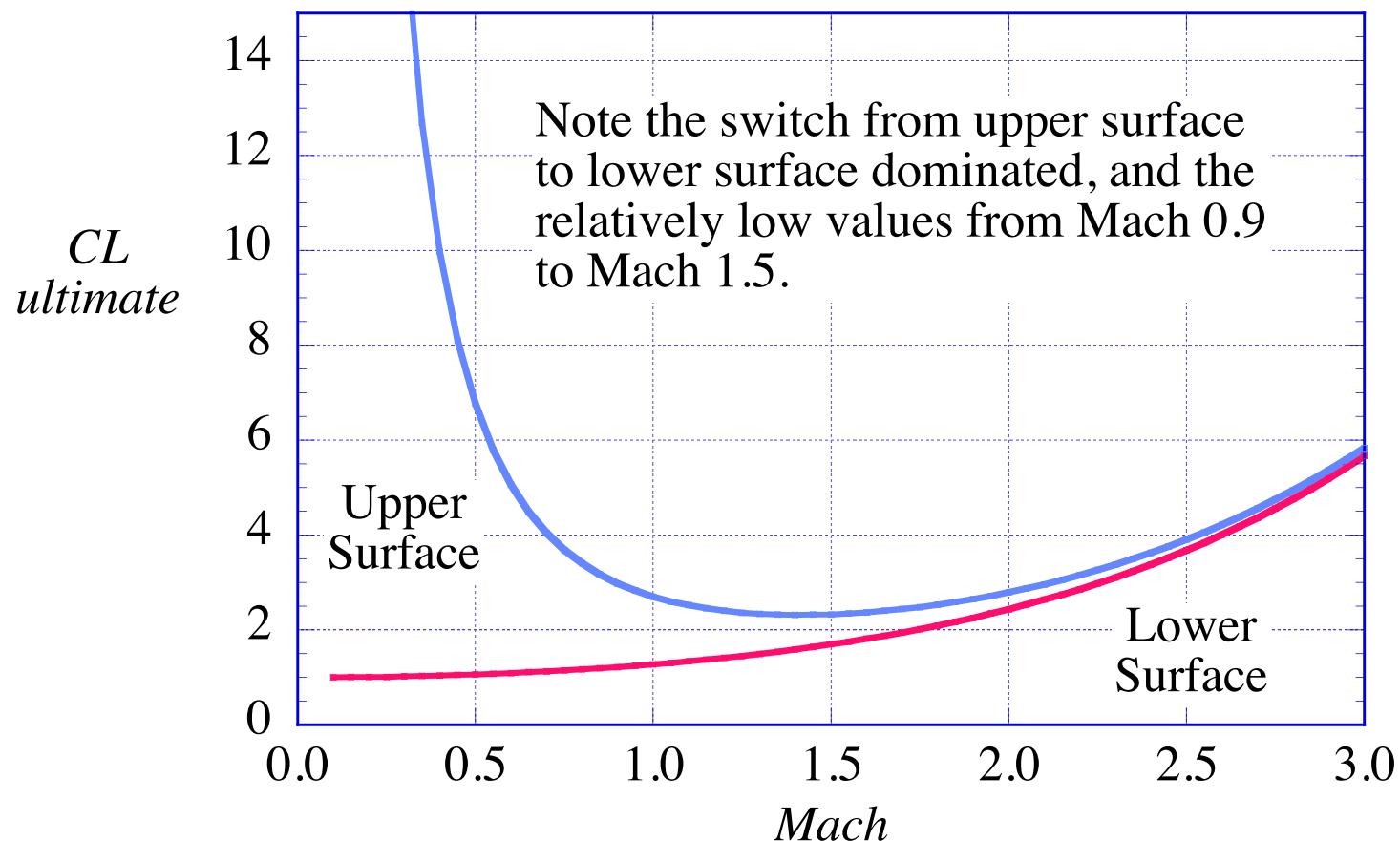
From AeroTechnologies Inc. on Google images

# From Chris Johnston, VT BS, MS, PhD



# The surface pressure story changes from an upper surface story to a lower surface story

$$C_{PVAC} = -\frac{2}{\gamma M_\infty^2}$$
 shows why



Vacuum pressure on top surface, stagnation pressure on bottom surface

# Gas Dynamics Issues

- A new type of viscous-inviscid interaction can occur: what's the value of "Chi bar"? (We'll explain later)
  - Greater or less than 3 changes the type of interaction
- Lots of laminar flow situations, and the boundary layer is thicker: high altitudes lead to low Reynolds numbers
  - Transition occurs over a long distance, it is not assumed to occur at a "point"
- Go high enough, and the mean free path of a molecule may be significant compared to the vehicle characteristic length: the Knudsen number,  $Kn$ , is the ratio of a molecule's mean free path to a characteristic vehicle length
  - $Kn > 1$  implies the rarefied gas dynamics regime
  - $Kn < 0.03$  is "normal" continuum flow

## Chi-bar

- At low speeds, we often estimate the pressure distribution using inviscid flow models as a start.
- At hypersonic speeds, sometimes the boundary layer influences the pressure distribution immediately.
- The value of chi-bar is used to tell when the boundary layer effects are of first order importance – a “strong interaction”

$$\bar{\chi} = \frac{M_\infty^3}{\sqrt{\text{Re}}} \sqrt{C}, \quad C = \frac{\rho_w \mu_w}{\rho_e \mu_e}$$

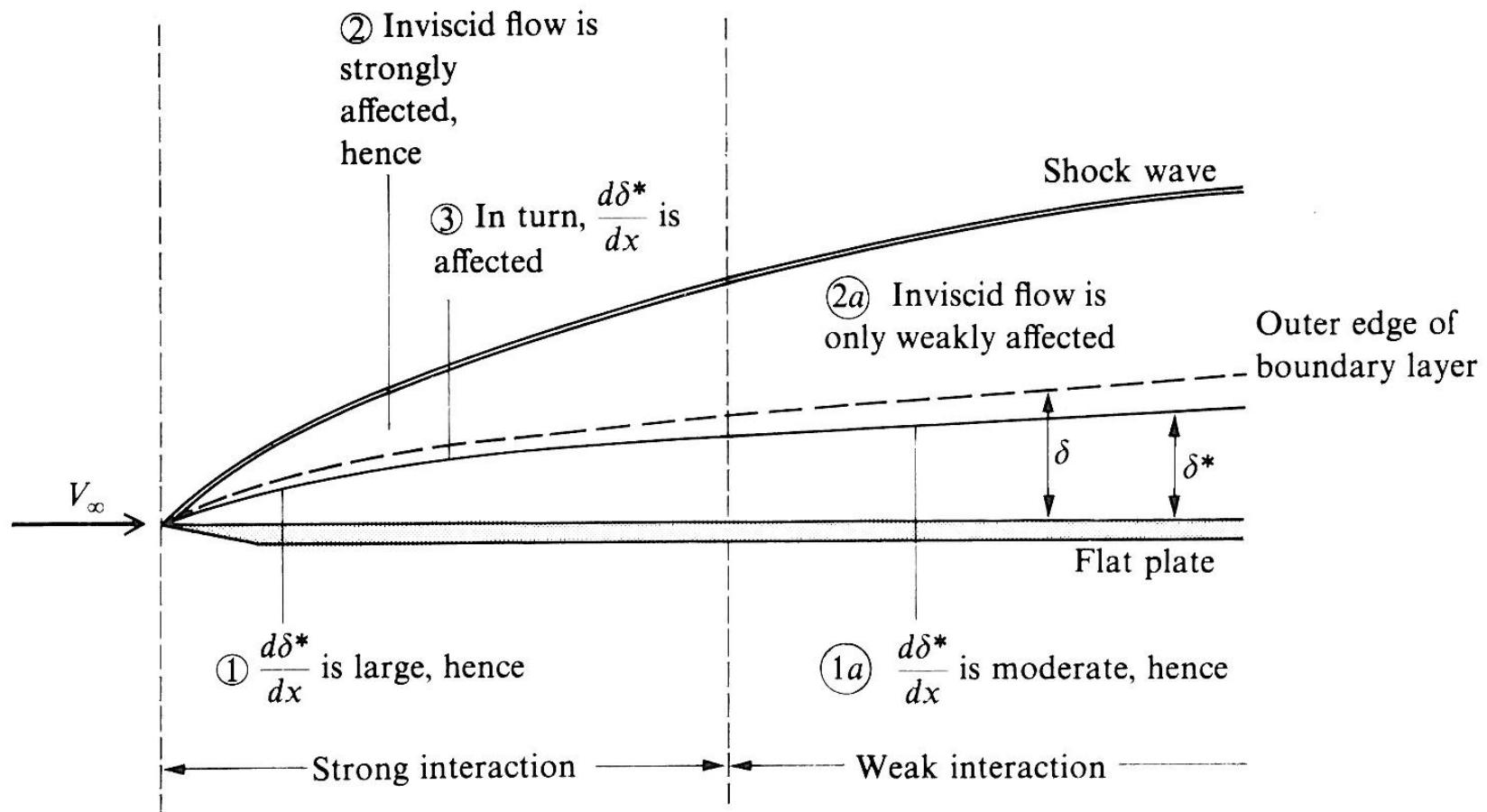
$\bar{\chi} > 3$  a strong interaction

$\bar{\chi} < 3$  a weak interaction

Note: recall that viscous effects are also found to be important at transonic speeds

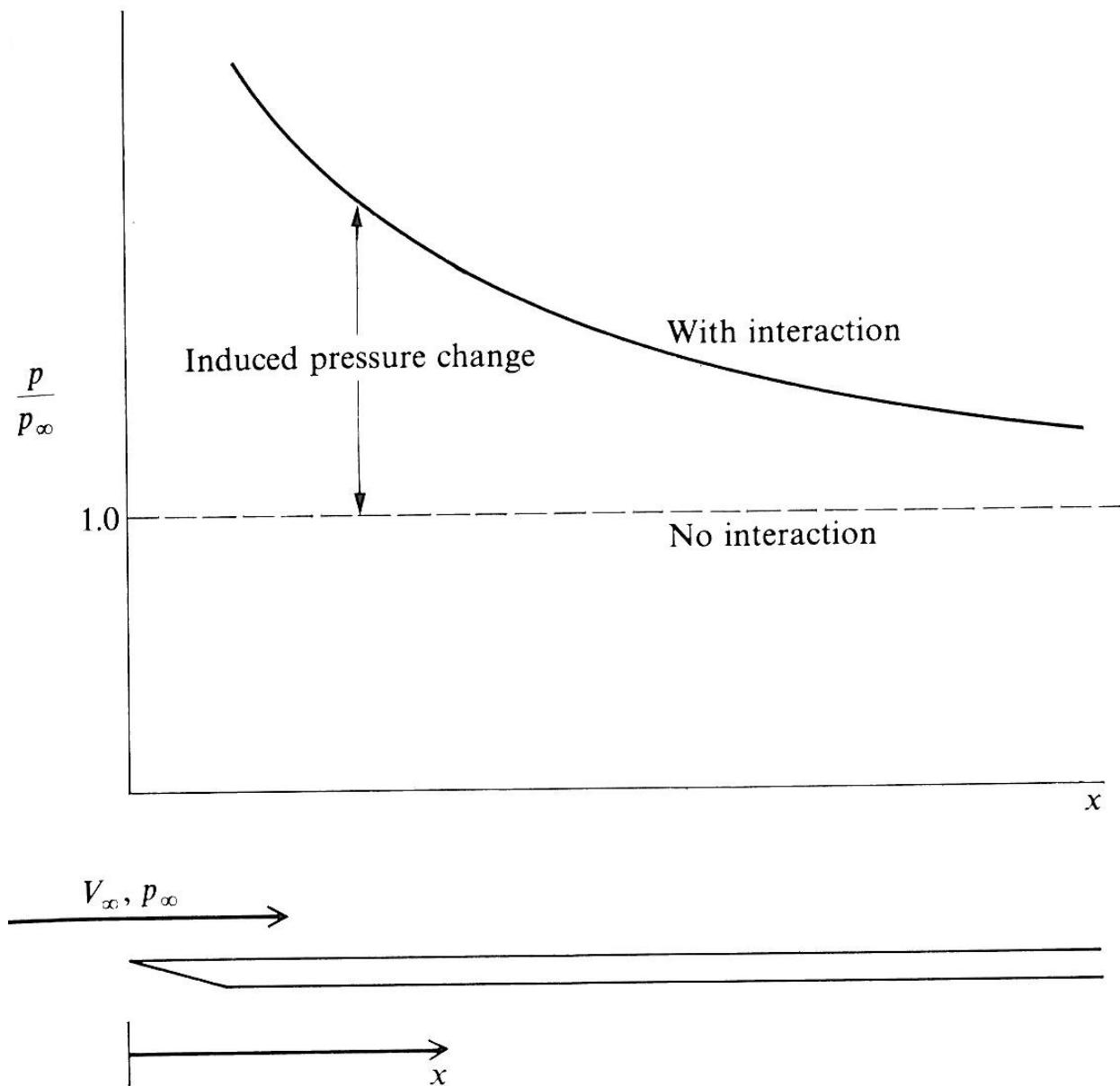
# Hypersonic Strong Viscous interaction

Boundary layer much thicker at hypersonic speed



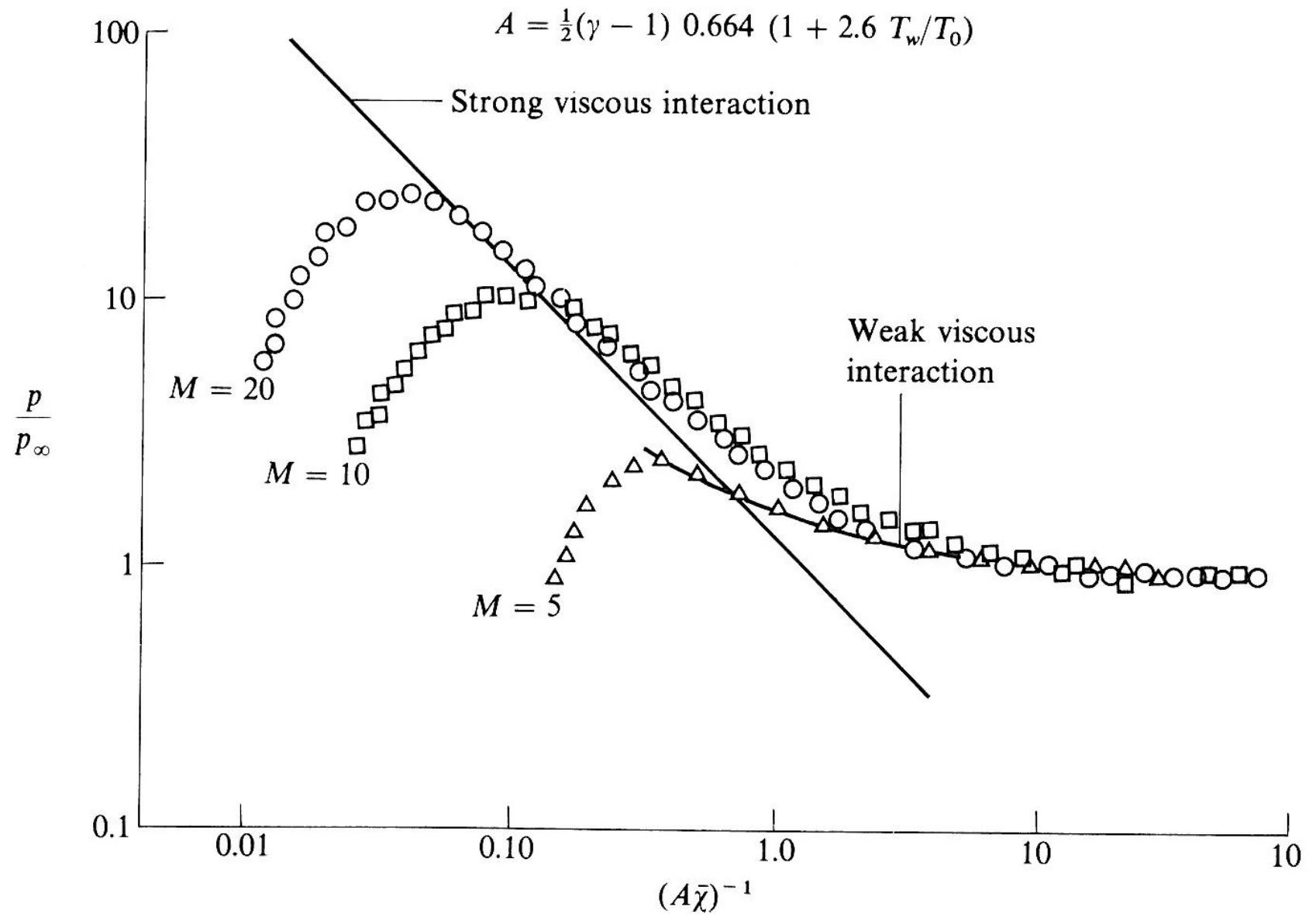
John D. Anderson, Jr., *Hypersonic and High Temperature Gas Dynamics*,  
McGraw Hill, 1989 (now 2nd Ed. From AIAA)

# Viscous effects induced pressures –



John D. Anderson, Jr., *Hypersonic and High Temperature Gas Dynamics*, McGraw Hill, 1989  
(now 2nd Ed. From AIAA)

# Experimental Demonstration



John D. Anderson, Jr., *Hypersonic and High Temperature Gas Dynamics*, McGraw Hill, 1989  
(now 2nd Ed. From AIAA)

# X-15



NASA Dryden Flight Research Center Photo Collection  
<http://www.dfrc.nasa.gov/gallery/photo/index.html>  
NASA Photo: E-5251 Date: 1960

X-15 ship #1 on lakebed

Dropped from a B-52

6/8/59: first drop/glide  
Scott Crossfield

With bigger tanks,

8/22/63: Max altitude -  
Joe Walker, 354k ft

10/3/67: Max speed -  
Pete Knight, Mach 6.70  
@ 100k ft

**XLR-99 Rocket Motor**

- anhydrous ammonia
- liquid oxygen

# The hypersonic stability story

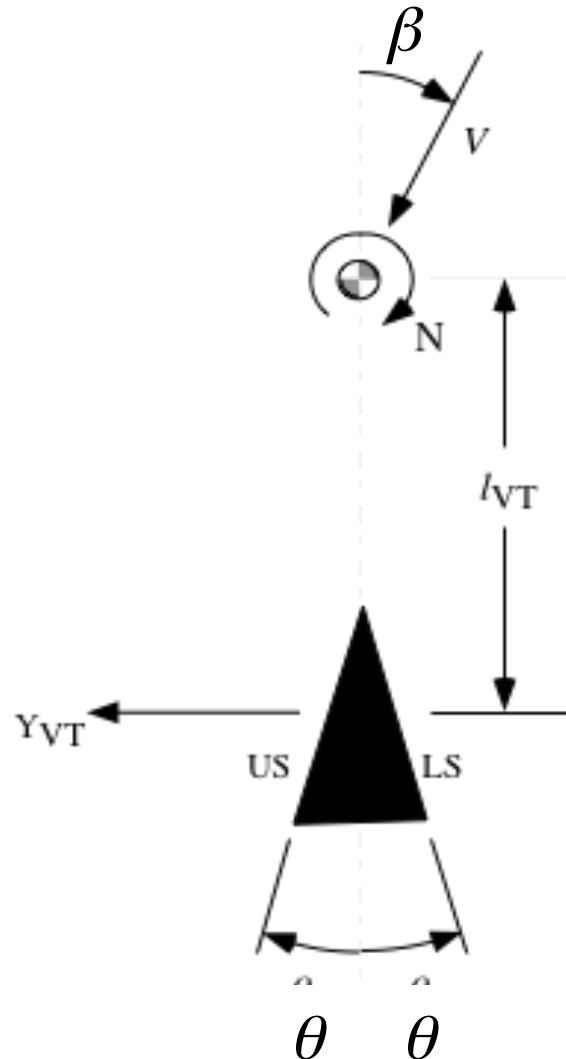
The change in pressure rules supersonic - hypersonic are important

- the difference in physics changes the shape
- exploitation actually made the X-15 practical
- consider the directional stability problem
- the yawing moment due to the vertical tail is:

$$C_{n_{VT}} = \frac{l_{VT} S_{VT}}{b_{ref} S_{ref}} \frac{q_{VT}}{q_{ref}} C_{Y_{VT}}$$

- The first term is the vertical tail volume coefficient,  $V_{VT}$
- The second term is the ratio of dynamic pressures, assumed unity here
- $C_{Y_{VT}} = C_{p_{LS}} - C_{p_{US}}$  with correct interpretation of “*us* and *ls*”

## For directional stability



$$\text{if } C_p = \frac{2\theta}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}},$$

$$C_{n\beta_{VT}} = V_{VT} \frac{4}{\sqrt{M_\infty^2 - 1}}$$

- goes to 0 as  $M$  increases

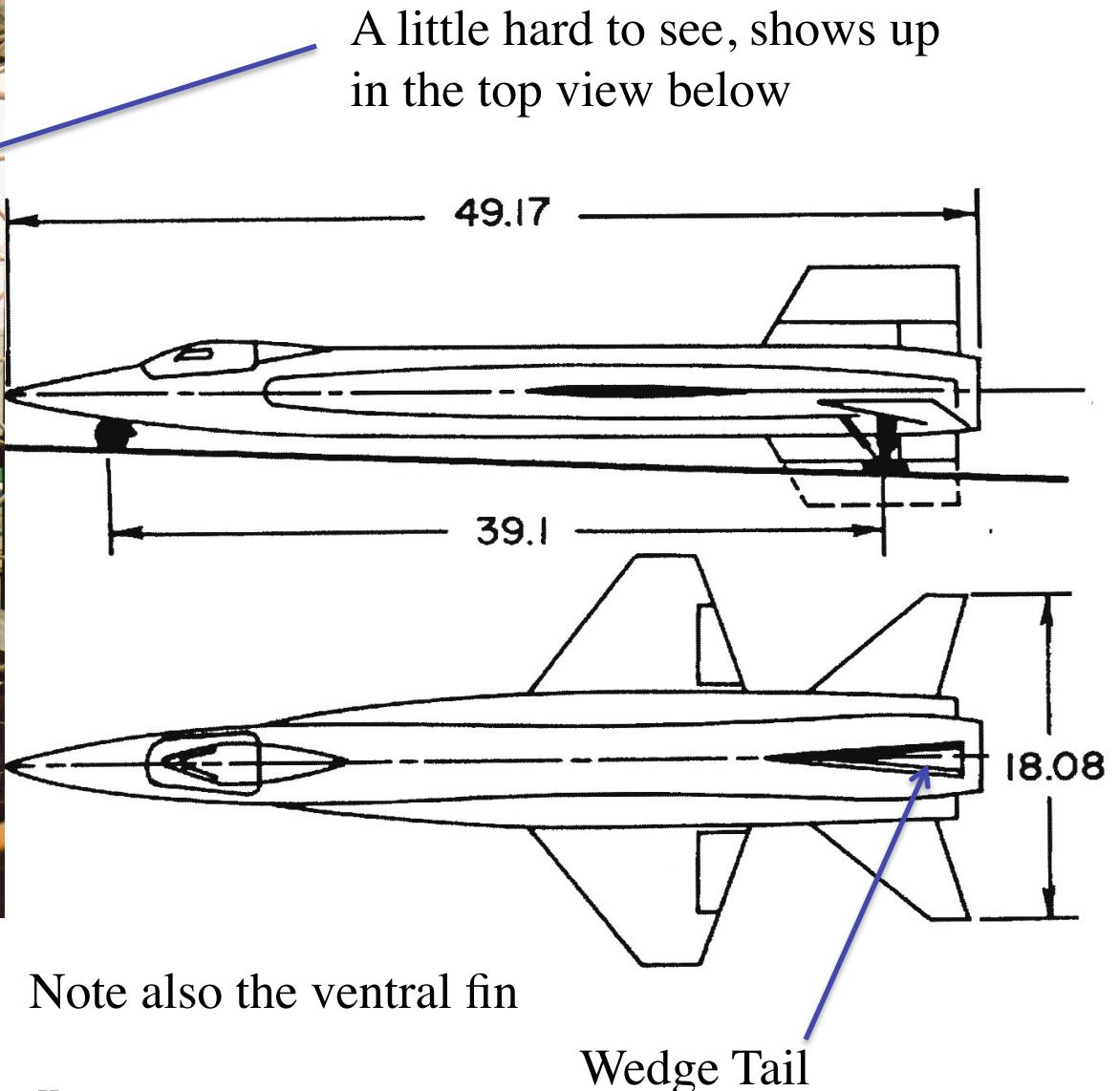
$$\text{if } C_p = 2 \sin^2 \theta,$$

$$C_{n\beta_{VT}} = 8V_{VT}\theta$$

- increases with  $\theta$ !
- no Mach sensitivity

Realization essentially saved the X-15

# Example: the X-15 vertical tail



Mason took this at the  
NASM on the Mall in DC

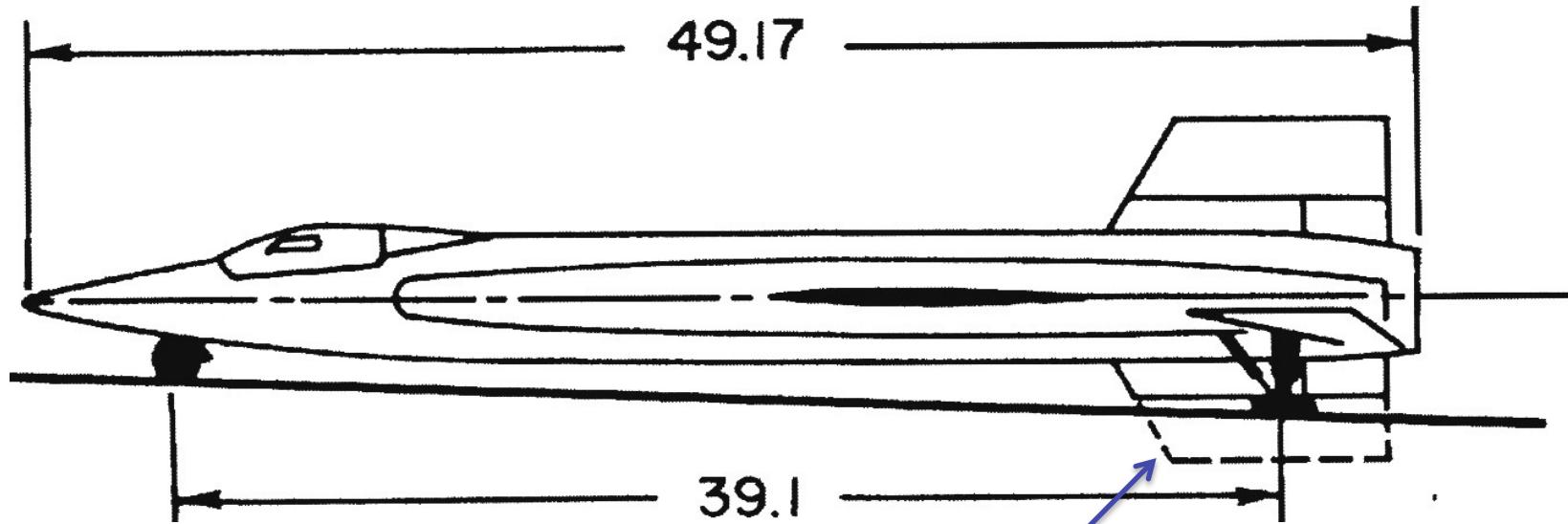
*Also explains “Missile Skirts”*

Side and top views from NASA TN D-2532

# X-15 Roll Instability and Aero Fix

Above  $15^\circ \alpha$ , a PIO with SAS off, roll damper is flight critical  
- good  $C_{n\beta}$ , but bad  $C_{l\beta}$ .

The fix: leave lower ventral, that had to be jettisoned to land, off



Just leave the lower part of the ventral off

Note: SAS is the Stability Augmentation System

The story is in *Flight Testing at Edwards*, Ed. by Fred Stoliker, Bob Hoey and Johnny Armstrong, Flight Test Historical Foundation, 1996.

# The directional data: NASA TN D-2532

Ventral off: less  $C_{n\beta}$

Speed brakes closed

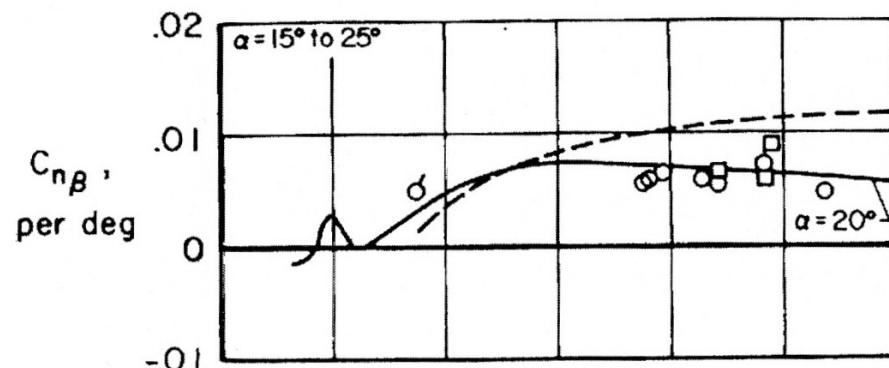
Speed brakes open  
( $\delta_j = 35^\circ$  except as noted)

Power off      Power on

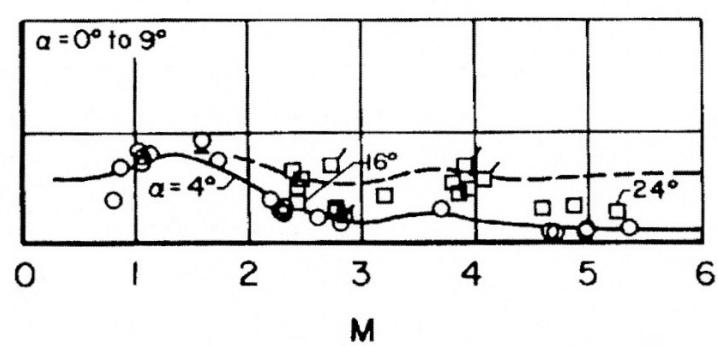
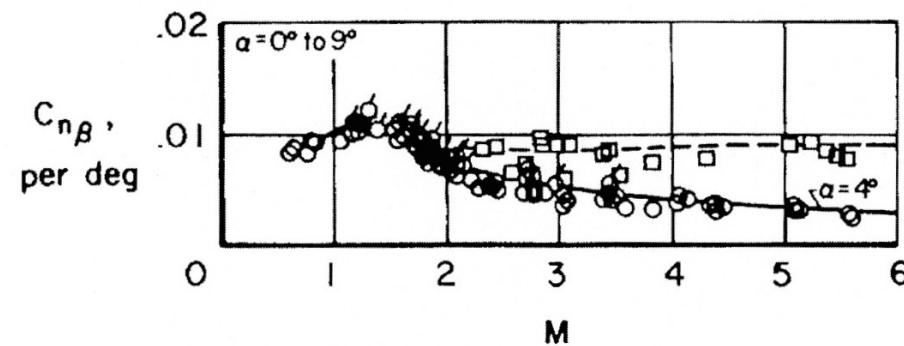
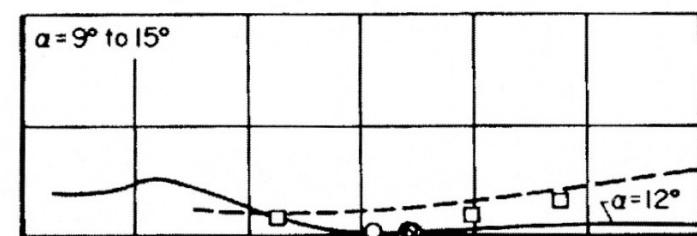
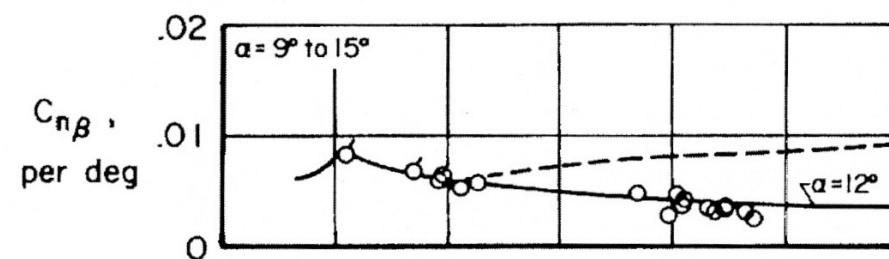
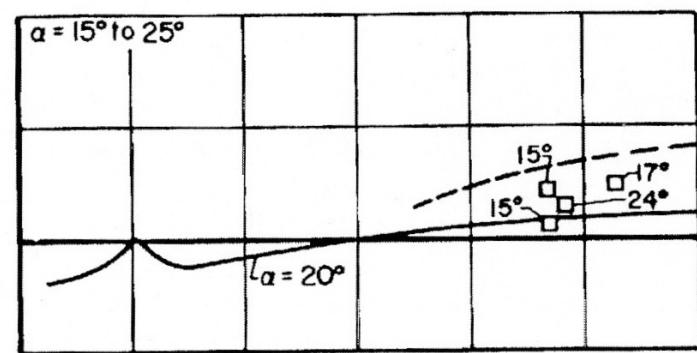
Power off      Power on

Flight      ○  
Wind tunnel      —

**Lower Ventral On**



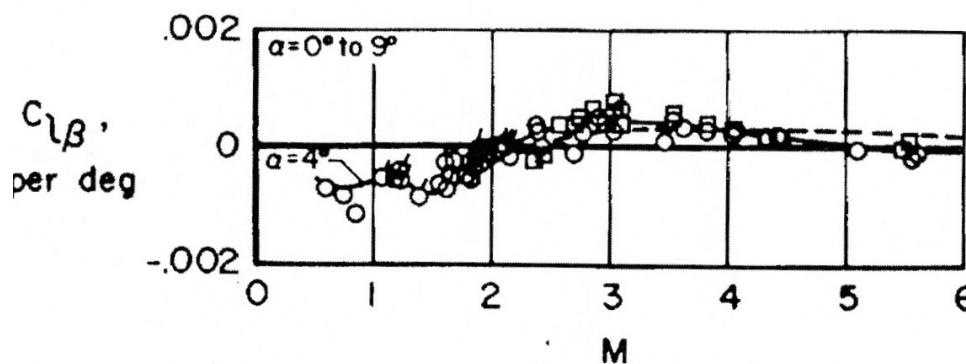
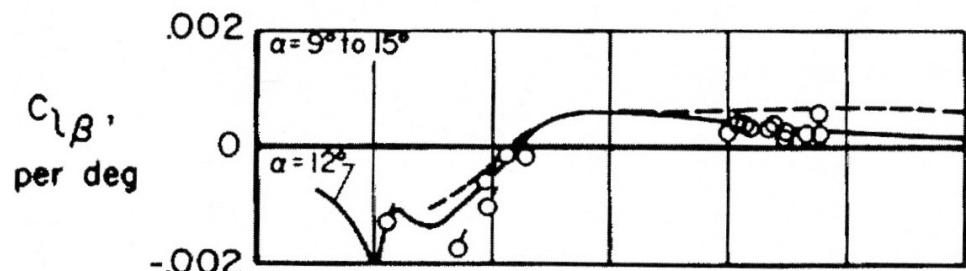
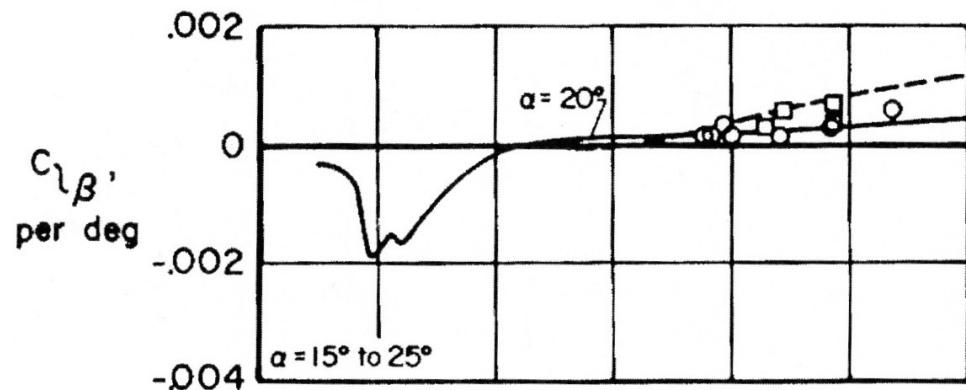
**Lower Ventral Off**



# The lateral data: NASA TN D-2532

Ventral off: lots more  $C_{l\beta}$

**Lower Ventral On**

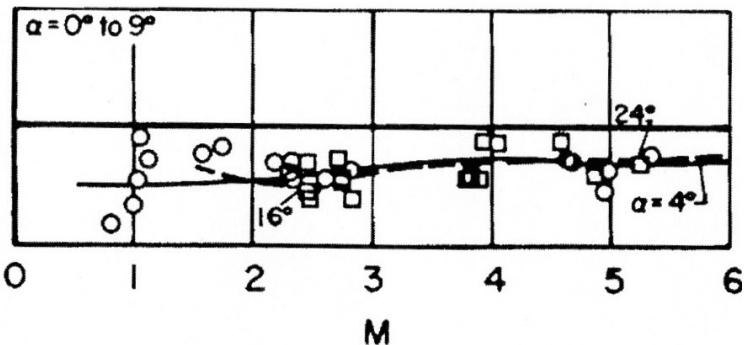
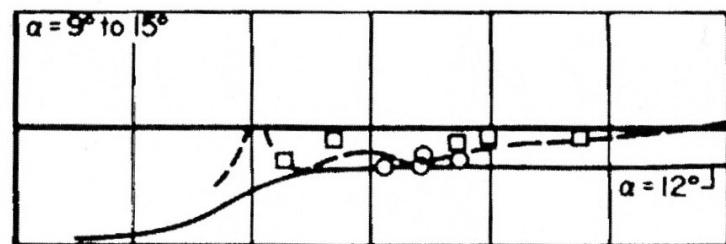
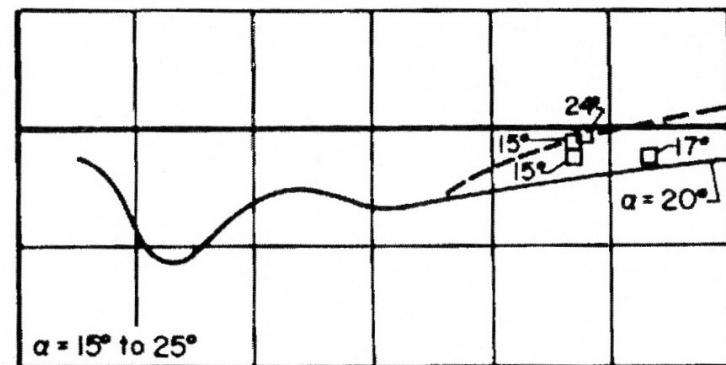


Speed brakes open  
( $\delta_j = 35^\circ$  except as noted)

Power off Power on

□ - - □

**Lower Ventral Off**



## X-15 Heating Problems: They're Real

- “normal” surface temps reached around 1350° F
  - Milt Thompson said it snapped and crackled like a tin can tossed into a fire
    - *the simulator never did that!*
  - The skin buckled due to heating
  - Twice a window crazed because the Inconel X frame buckled, and had to be replaced with titanium
- Shock-shock interference heating resulted in local temperatures above 2795° F (see below)

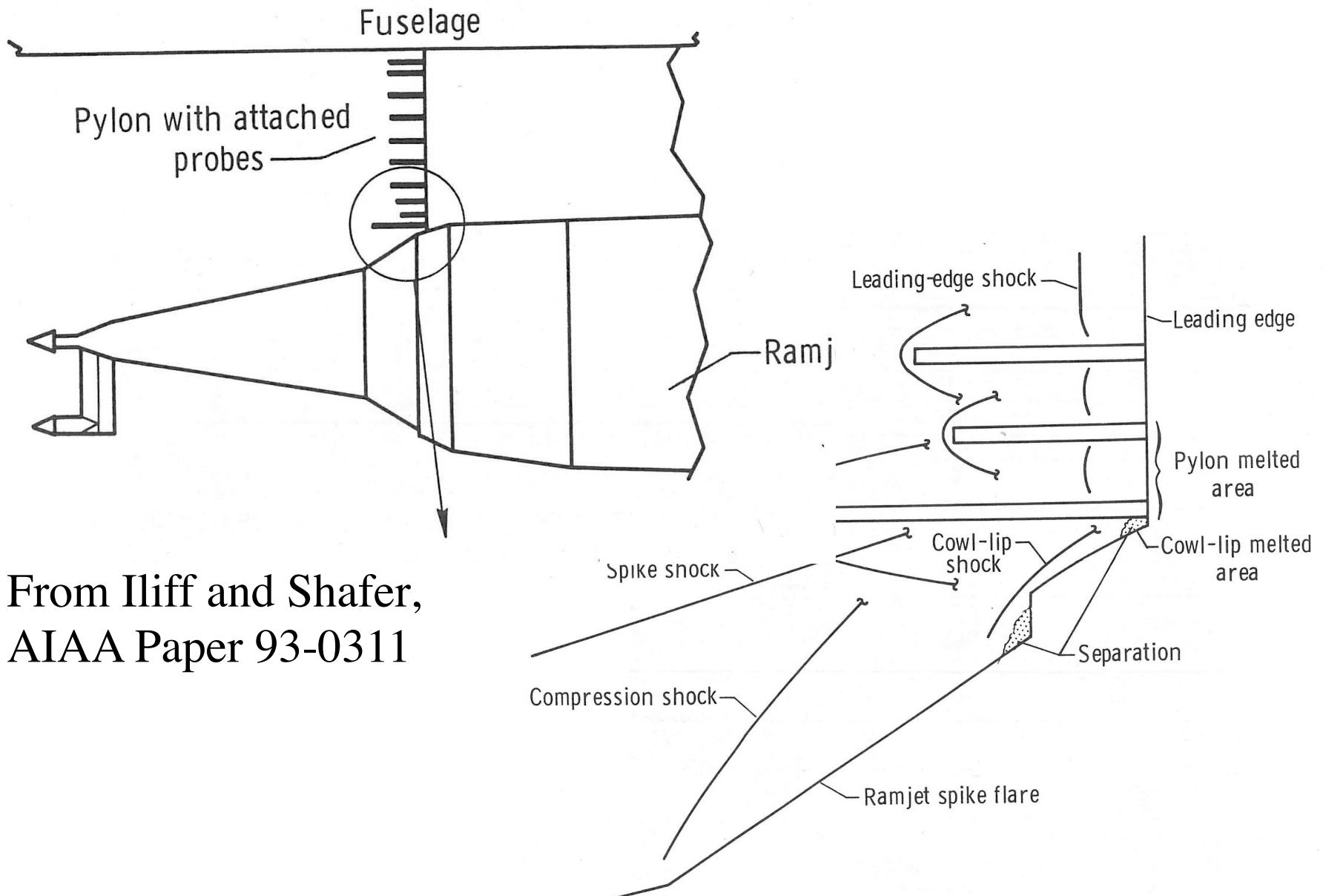
# X-15 dummy ramjet fiasco: a famous aero heating problem



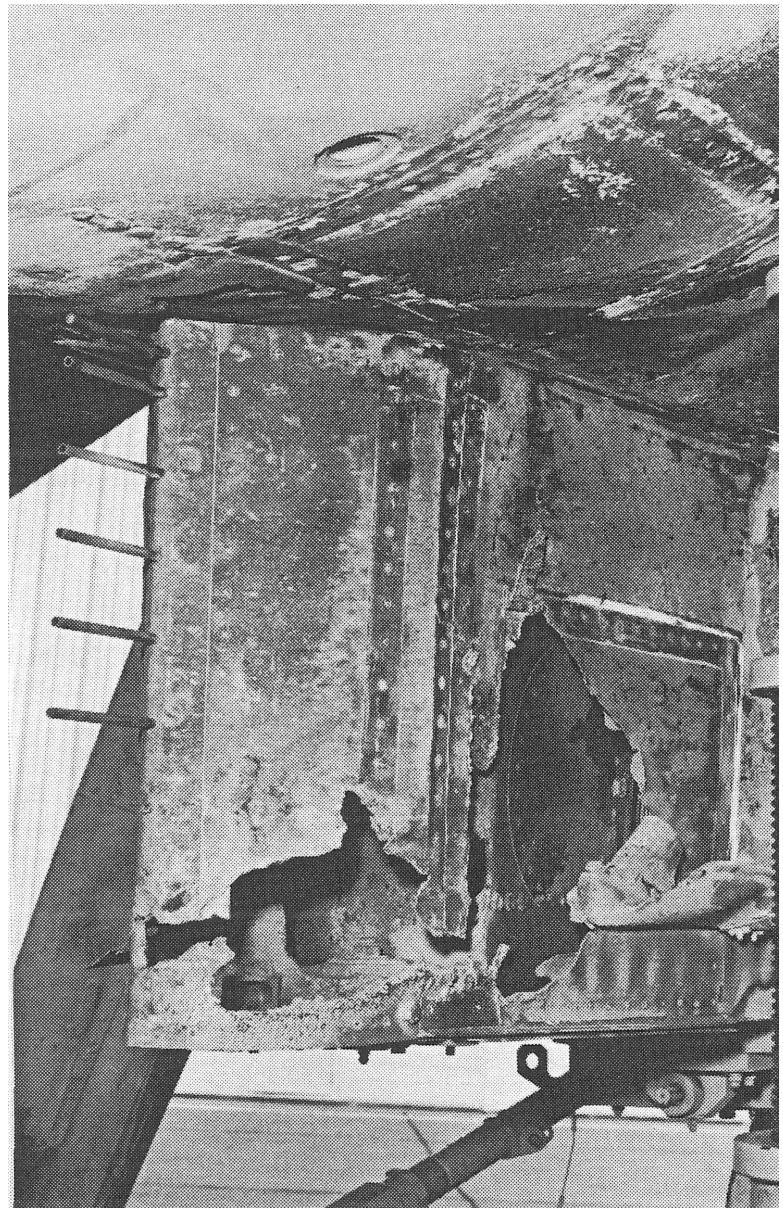
Dryden Flight Research Center EC88-180-2  
Photographed Early 1960's X-15



# Installation w/o analysis!



**The result melted the metal  
with temps > 2795° F, 10/3/67**



Structure: Inconel X (a nickel-chromium alloy) plus an ablative cover

From Iliff and Shafer, AIAA Paper 93-0311 and NASA TM X-1669

# Some X-15 Pilots



Dryden Flight Research Center E-1020 Photographed 1966  
X-15 Pilots Milt Thompson, Bill Dana, and Jack McKay



Note: Jack McKay was a graduate of VPI Aeronautical Engineering Dept.

# X-15 crashes when engine stops and fuel remains, so lands heavy and fast



Dryden Flight Research Center E-9149 Photographed 1962

X-15 after engine failure forced pilot Jack McKay  
to land at Mud Lake, Nevada. NASA photo



# Aero Heating

Recall:

$$\frac{T_0}{T} = 1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M_\infty^2$$

or:

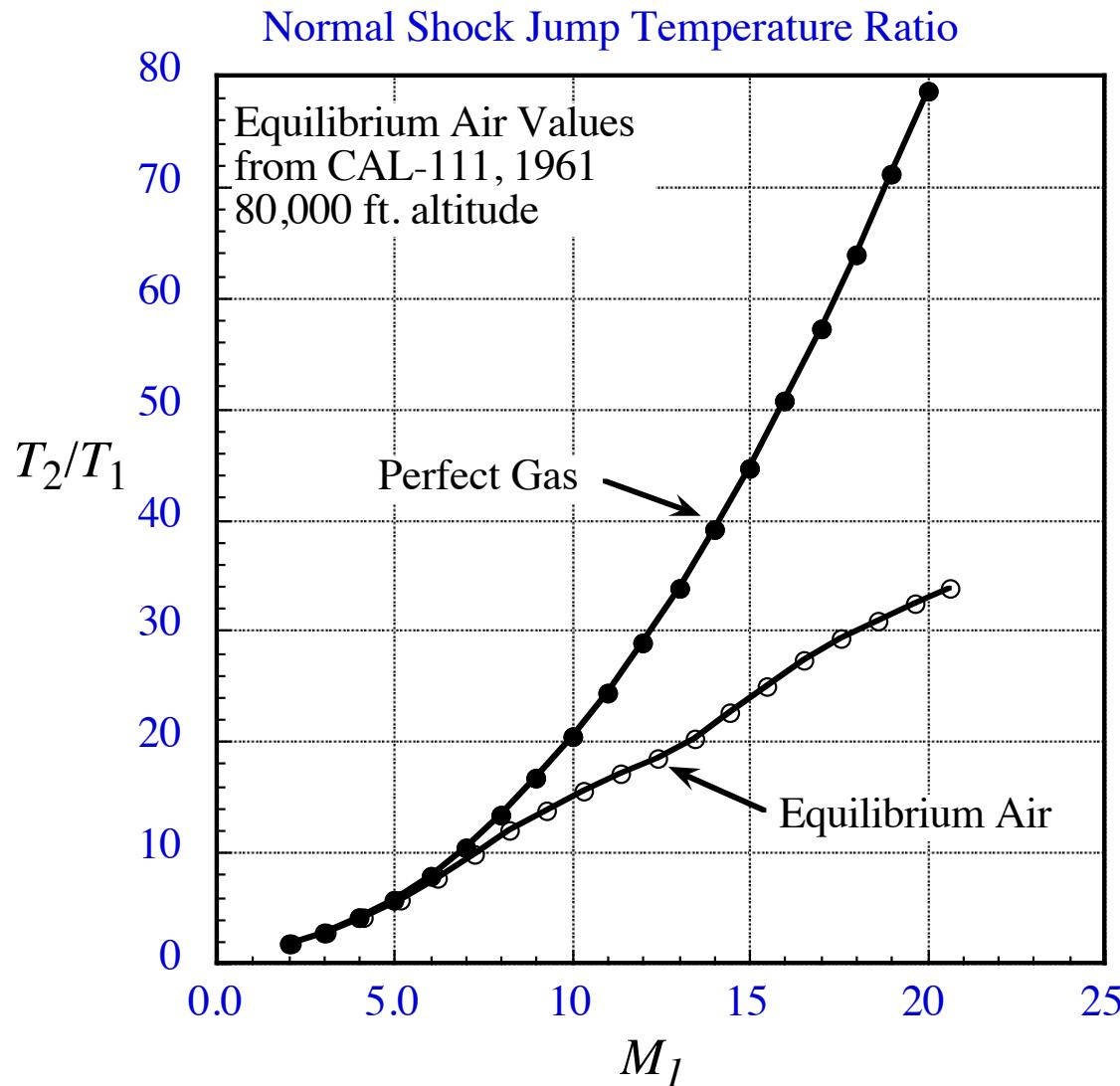
$$T_{\substack{\text{adiabatic} \\ \text{wall}}} = \left( 1 + r \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M_\infty^2 \right) T_e$$

$r$  = about 0.85 for laminar flow, about 0.88 for turbulent flow

*The air actually starts to vibrate, then dissociate, then ionize at high temperatures, and must be treated as a chemically reacting flow!*

Temperature quickly exceeds material limits, walls must be cooled!

# Example High Temperature Effects on Shock Jump

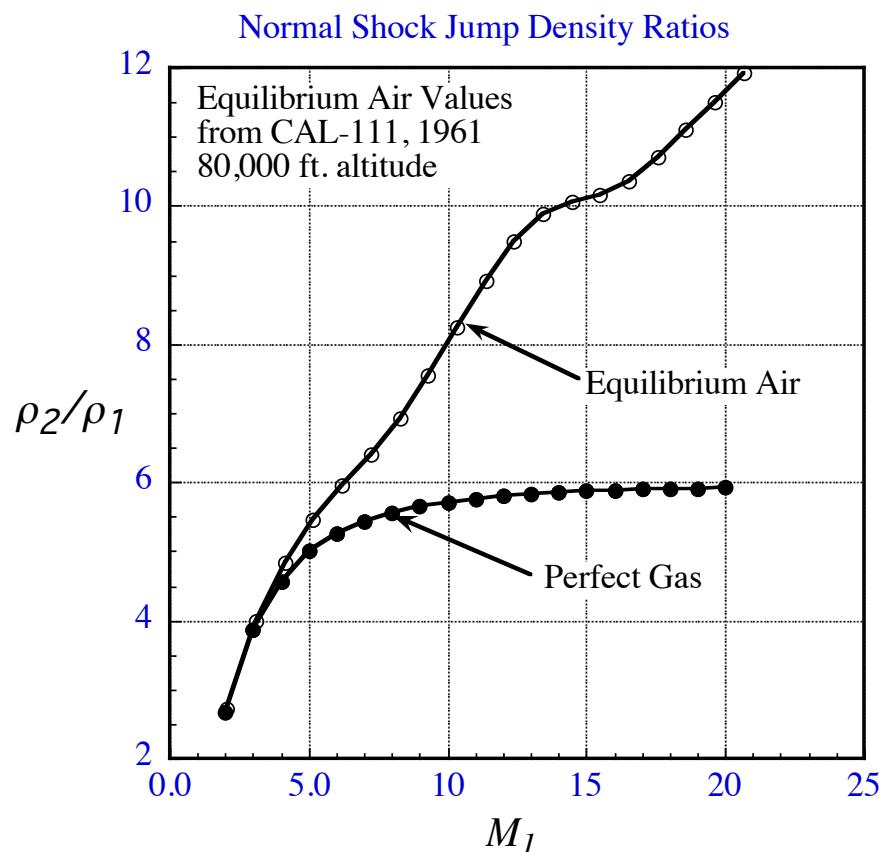
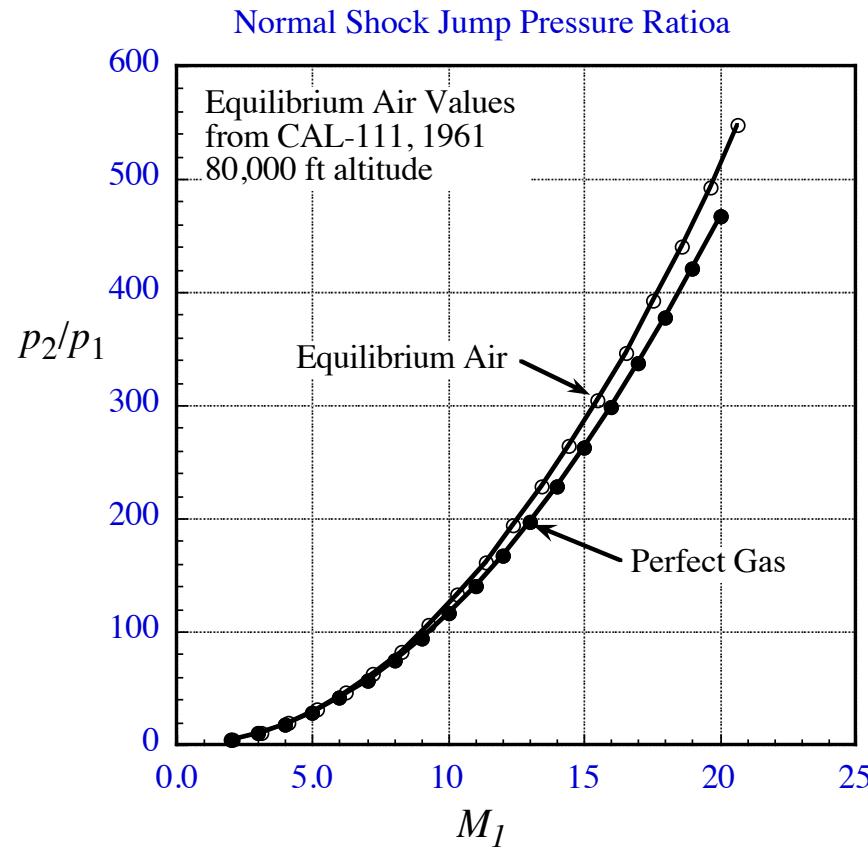


- $\gamma$  not constant above about 800°K
- Oxygen starts to dissociate above about 2000°K, completed at 4000°K
- Nitrogen dissociation begins at 9000° K
- > 9000° K, gas starts to ionize and become a plasma

According to Anderson,  
*Hypersonic and High  
Temperature Gas  
Dynamics*

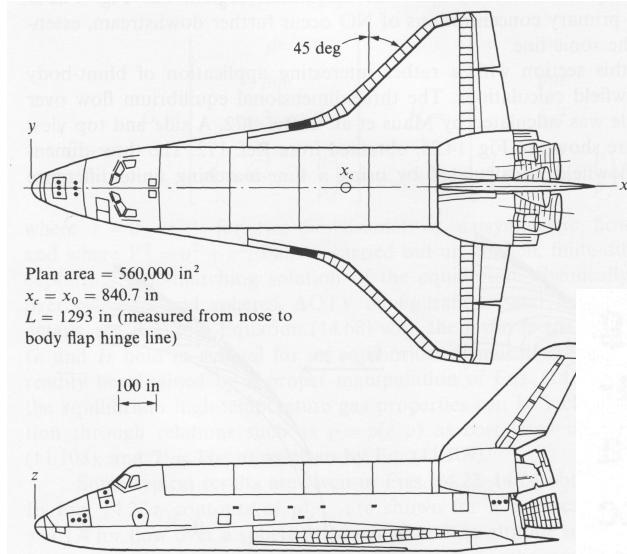
Representative: equilibrium air values also depend on the altitude

# Example High Temperature Effects on Shock Jumps



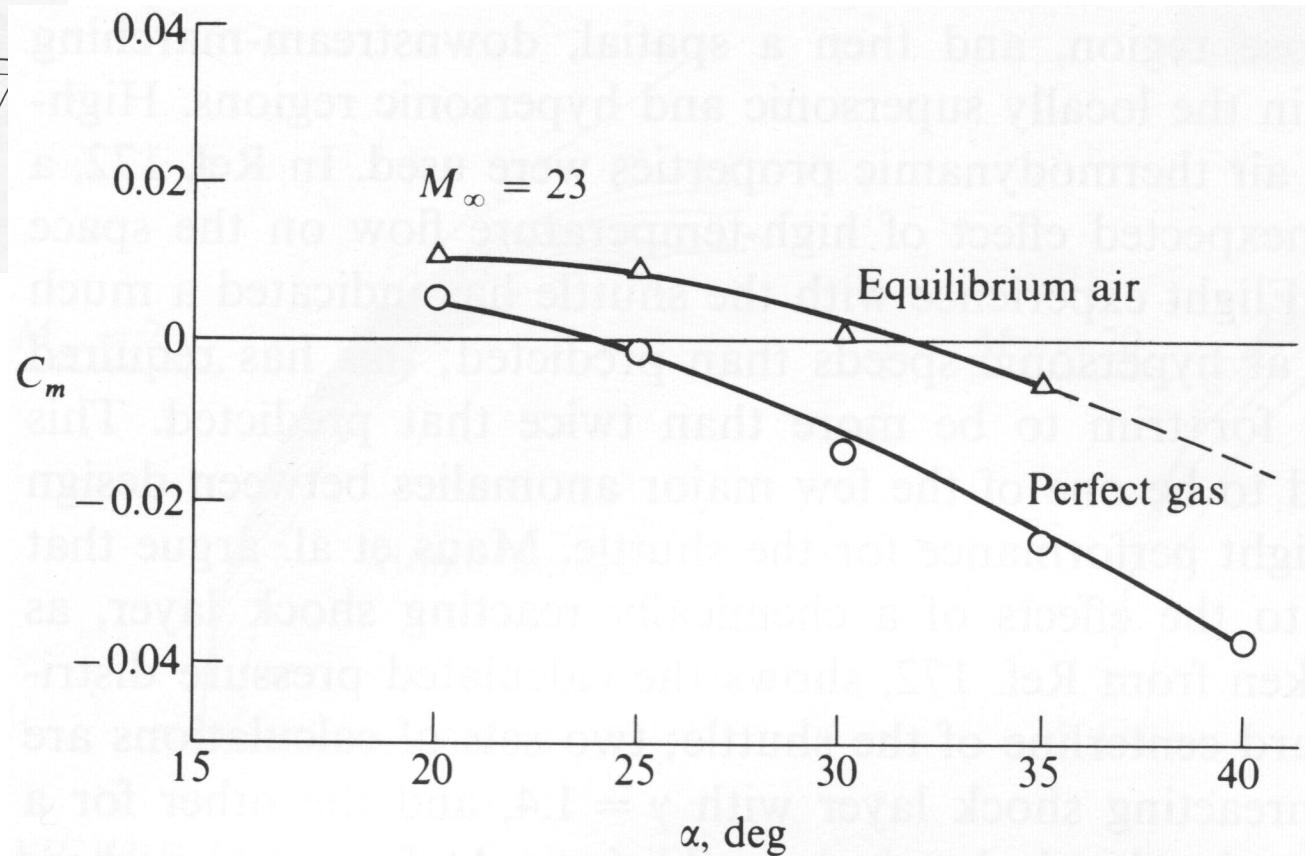
Note that equilibrium air values also depend on the altitude

# Space Shuttle Anomaly from high temp gas effects

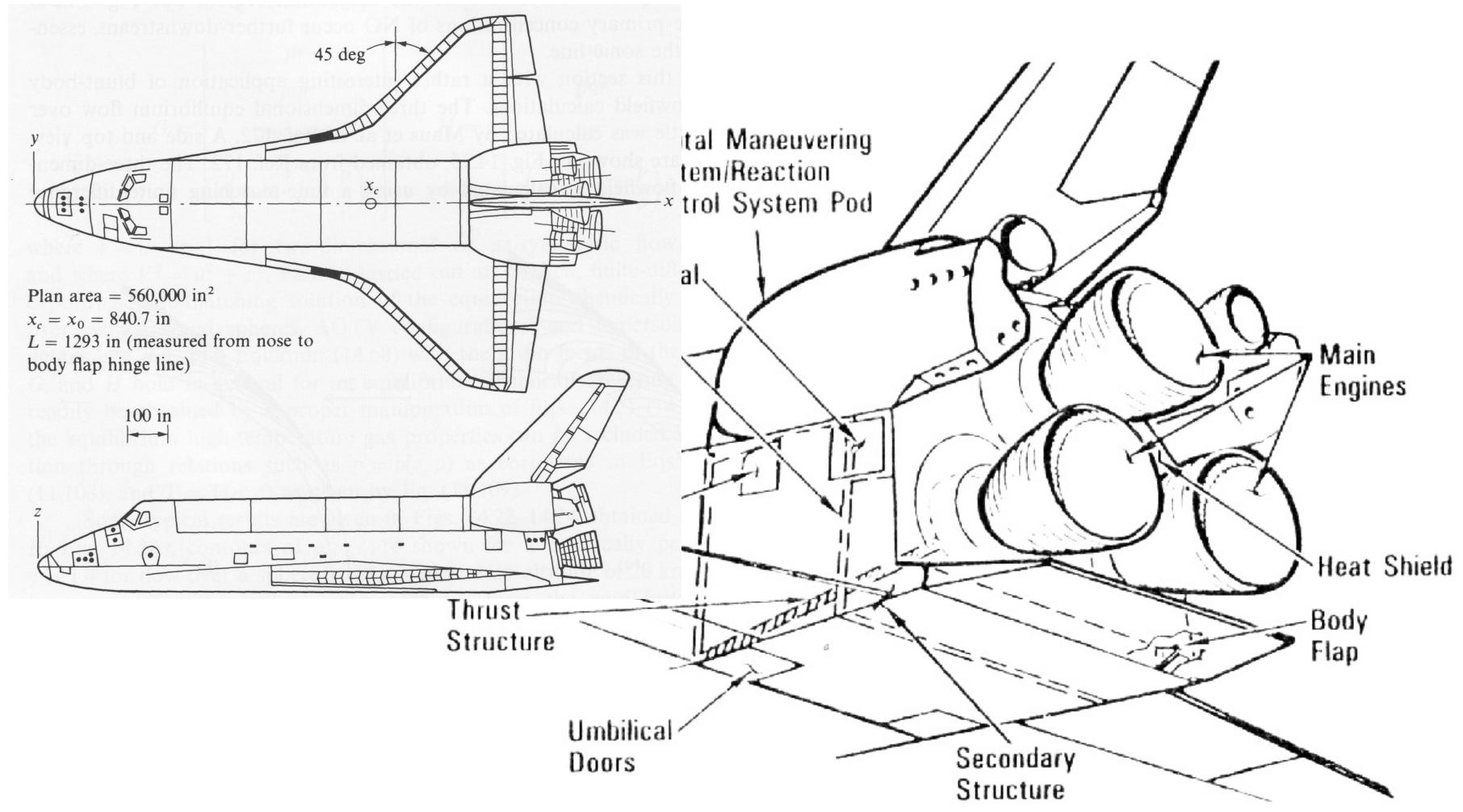


From Anderson,  
*Hypersonic and High  
Temperature Gas  
Dynamics*, but originally  
from Maus, et al, *JSR*  
Mar-Apr 1984, pp  
136-141

They almost ran out of deflection to trim - could have been a disaster!



# The Space Shuttle Body Flap

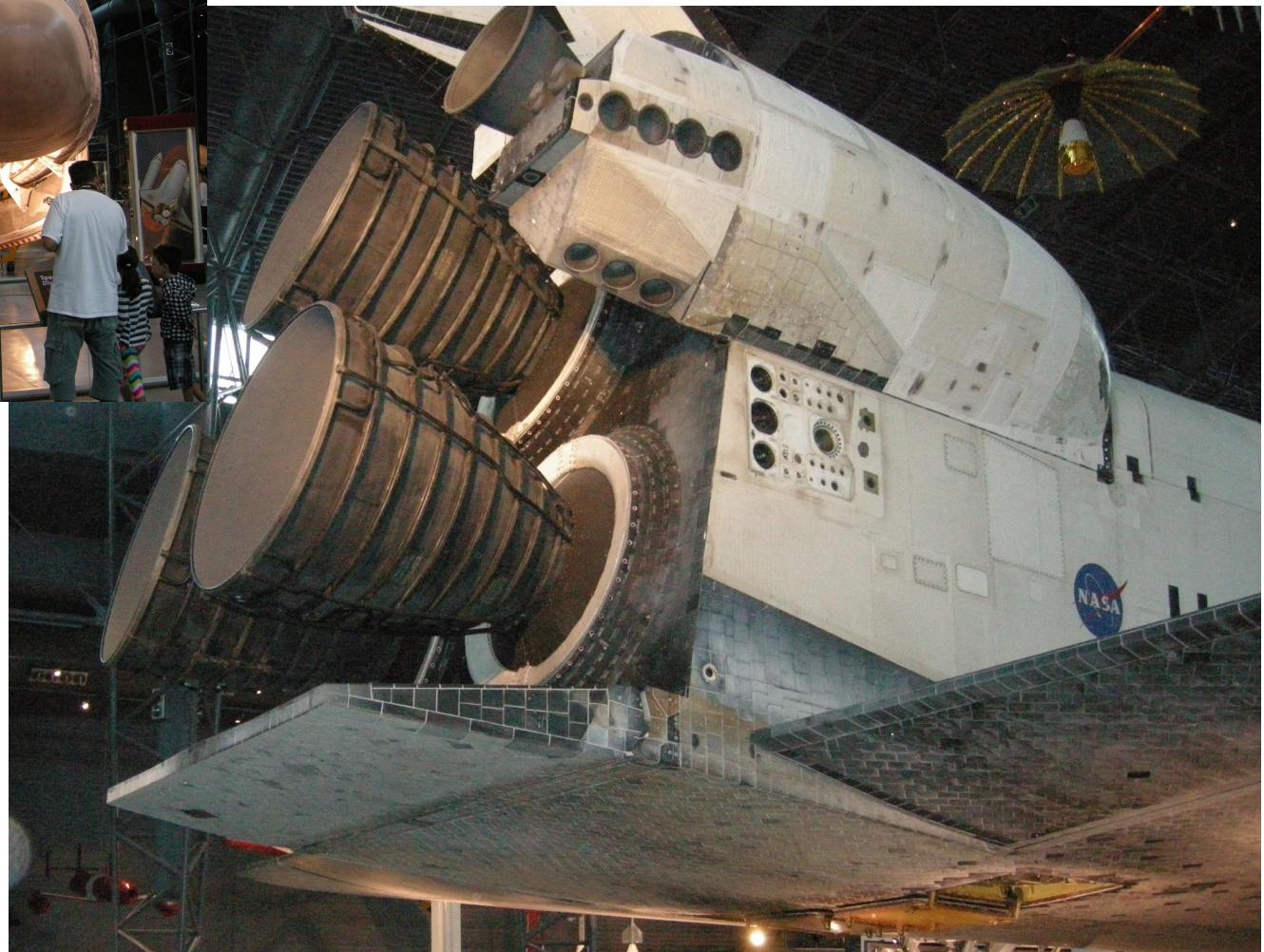


*Aft Fuselage Structure*

# Mason's Picture of the Body Flap



Discovery is now  
at the Udvar-Hazy



**Discovery**  
39 flights  
Last Flight:  
Feb. 24, 2011

# Scramjet Idea

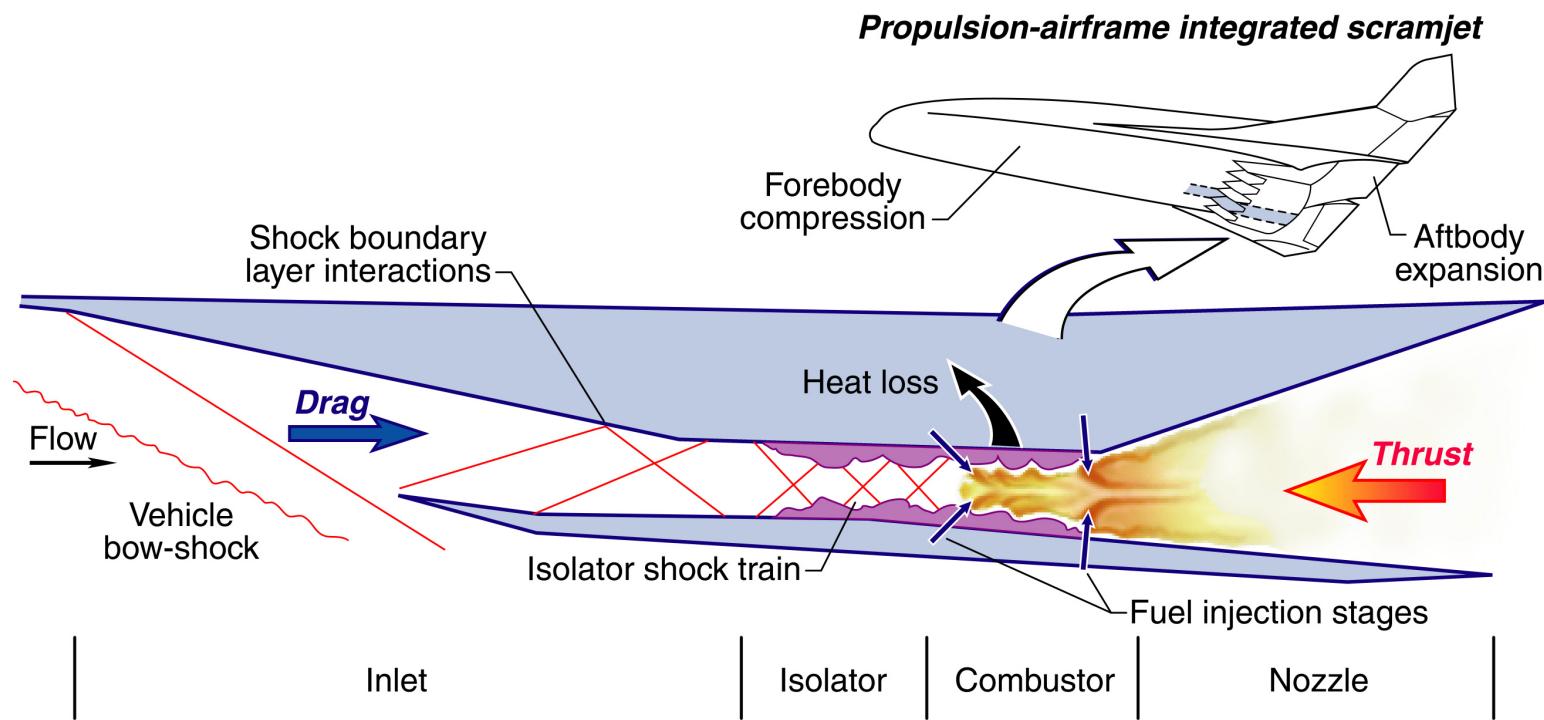
Suppose you could get propulsion from a ramjet that only slows the flow in the combustor down to moderate supersonic speeds? a *Scramjet*

- more efficient at Machs 7 - 10 and up
- has been a challenge
- Prof. Schetz, a key contributor for 50 years

Corin Segal, *The Scramjet Engine*, Cambridge Univ. Press, 2009

# From the talk to our class by Walt Engelund

## Scramjet Features



### Important Terms/Concepts for the X-43 Experiment

Inlet starting

Ignition/Flameout/Flameholding

KR/LH02072001

Combustor/isolator interaction

Fuel equivalence ratio/ $\Phi$

# Artist's Concept: X-43 (Hyper X)



Dryden Flight Research Center ED98-44824-1  
X-43/Hyper -X aircraft. NASA/Dryden Illustration by Steve Lighthill



12 feet long, 5 foot span, weighed 3,000 lb



# X-43 prep NASA Dryden Research Center, Edwards AFB, CA

Dryden Flight Research Center EC99-45265-14 Photographed DEC1999  
X-43 ground testing.  
NASA/Dryden photo by Tom Tschida



12 feet long  
5 foot span  
3,000 lb



# X-43 - dropped from NASA's B-52 and propelled to hypersonic speed by a Pegasus



Dryden Flight Research Center ED97 43968-04  
B-52 CARRY-ALL: This artist's concept depicts the Hyper-X  
research vehicle riding on a booster rocket prior to being launched  
by Dryden Flight Research Center's B-52 at about 40,000 feet.



# X-43 – Flight History

1<sup>st</sup> attempt – Pegasus failed, June 2, 2001

2<sup>nd</sup> attempt - success, Mar. 27, 2004



NASA Dryden Flight Research Center Photo Collection  
<http://www.dfrc.nasa.gov/Gallery/Photo/index.html>  
NASA Photo: EC04-0092-32 Date: March 27, 2004 Photo By: Jim Ross

A modified Pegasus rocket ignites moments after release from the B-52B, beginning the acceleration of the X-43A over the Pacific Ocean on March 27, 2004.

3<sup>rd</sup> attempt – success, Nov. 16, 2004

2<sup>nd</sup> flight:  $M = 6.83$ ,  
10 seconds of  
powered flight,  
 $q = 980 \text{ psf (95K ft)}$

3<sup>rd</sup> flight:  $M = 9.68$   
11 seconds of powered  
flight,  
 $q = 930 \text{ psf (110K ft)}$

See McClinton's Dryden Lecture, AIAA Paper 2006-1, Jan. 2006

# The X-51 - a “Wave Rider”

A “wave rider” is a very efficient way to use the shock to generate lift on the lower surface.

- Originally based on conical flow ideas
- some say the XB-70 was “Waverider-like”
- 1<sup>st</sup> flight – May 26, 2010, 2<sup>nd</sup> flight – June 13, 2011
- 3<sup>rd</sup> flight – Aug. 14, 2012, 4<sup>th</sup> flight – Spring or Sum. 2013

***The 4<sup>th</sup> flight May 1, 2013: Success!  $M = 5.1$ , 210 sec***



1<sup>st</sup> flight: 200 seconds of powered flight

2<sup>nd</sup> flight: Scramjet unstart when switched from ethylene to JP-7

3<sup>rd</sup> flight: a fin locked up and it went out of control

# HTV-2 Falcon DARAP-USAF Lockheed Hypersonic Glider



In both cases the flight ended prematurely.

It appears that asymmetric disintegration due to aero heating caused loss of control.

Launched from a missile

-11 April 2010

-11 Aug 2011

Both “Flew” at Mach 20



# To Conclude Hypersonics

- Scramjet research continues
- If scramjets become practical, a new era in flight will begin

For more info:

- Aero: John D. Anderson, Jr., *Hypersonic and High Temperature Gas Dynamics*, 2nd Ed. From AIAA
- See the Walt Engelund and Chris Cotting presentations on Hyper-X (X-43) on the class website
- Vehicles:  
<http://www.aerospaceweb.org/design/waverider/main.shtml>
  - this is a good overview across the board
- Air Force and NASA histories on the class website