# **An effective simulation scheme for the prediction of aerodynamic environment under hypersonic conditions characterized by NACA0012**

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**Abstract.** Currently, aerodynamic environment prediction research into scramjet-propelled vehicles characterized by NACA0012 under hypersonic conditions is relatively sparse. Two-dimensional external flow field models are established, and then through validation tests, we perform a systematic investigation between simulation parameters and prediction accuracy, and an effective aerodynamic environment prediction simulation scheme under hypersonic conditions is proposed. Unlike under incompressible conditions, the maximum accuracy decline could be attributed to the inappropriate choice of the sharp trailing edge modeling method, but the definition formula is still preferred. In particular, for the two modeling data point sources, Airfoil tools and NACA4, the numerical performance of the latter is better than the former, and the calculation accuracy negatively correlates with the number of data points offered by both of them. Moreover, for the mesh cells near the shock, the cell Reynolds number and aspect ratio values should be no smaller than 16 and not exceed 380, respectively, and the recommended values for the far field distance, the turbulence model and flux type are 16L, Spalart-Allmaras, and ROE flux type. Under hypersonic conditions, the aerodynamic environment characterized by NACA0012 predicts a maximum temperature of approximately 1856.85 °C, with an average temperature change rate of 77 °C/s. Meanwhile, the top sound pressure level and the vibration acceleration could reach up to 145 dB and 182 g, respectively.

**Keywords:** simulation, hypersonic, prediction, model.

# **1. Introduction**

Adapting to the environment becomes crucial as the hypersonic vehicle encounters increasingly harsh flight conditions. NASA has identified environmental failure as the leading cause of previous vehicle launch crashes, emphasizing the criticality of environment testing. Therefore, it is imperative to first predict the aerodynamic environment experienced by the hypersonic vehicle and subsequently design its structure accordingly. By conducting comprehensive environment testing, potential issues can be identified and addressed to enhance flights' reliability and adaptability in diverse environments. The predicted results of the aerodynamic environment serve as a fundamental basis for both vehicle design and subsequent environment testing. The accurate prediction of the aerodynamic environment is crucial for the design and optimization of the hypersonic vehicle. The main types of hypersonic vehicle include the ground-to-orbit reentry, the low-orbit reentry and the scramjet-propelled [1] and the reusable reentry vehicle is the leading research object [2]-[7], while the prediction research for the scramjetpropelled vehicle is relatively sparse. Hence, we focus our research on the scramjet-propelled hypersonic vehicle.

Analyzing the flight trajectory and determining the initial atmospheric conditions is crucial for accurate environmental forecasting. As shown in Fig. 1 [8], the scramjet-propelled vehicle is transported by a large aircraft carrier to the designated location. Subsequently, the solid rocket engine propels the vehicle to achieve Mach 0.8 into the climbing phase, which encompasses the ejection, the sub-combustion, and the super-combustion phases, responsible for rapidly increasing the flight altitude and speed and lasts about 34 seconds. Once the vehicle attains the desired altitude and Mach number (30 km and 6.5), it transitions into the cruise phase. Throughout this period, the vehicle will maintain a consistent altitude and velocity, constituting approximately 90 % of its total range. After reaching the designated airspace, it would proceed to initiate the attack phase with precision and accuracy against the intended target. According to Ref. [9], the external flow field could be categorized as either incompressible or compressible based on its velocity. Furthermore, the compressible flow is considered transonic when the Mach number ranges from 0.6 to 1. The flow field is referred to as supersonic when the Mach number falls between 1 and 3, while it is categorized as high supersonic when the Mach number ranges from 3 to 5. Finally, if the Mach number exceeds 5, the flow field is classified as hypersonic. The flight path of the scramjet-propelled vehicle typically encompasses all the aforementioned compressible conditions. Confirmation of specific environmental prediction parameters is required for different flow conditions. Therefore, it is imperative to analyze the simulation parameters' effect on calculation accuracy to ascertain the optimal simulation configuration. Based on the determined optimal simulation configurations, we could more accurately forecast the aerodynamic conditions of the characteristic position of the scramjet-propelled vehicle during flight, enabling enhanced vehicle optimization and thermal protection design.



**Fig. 1.** The typical flight trajectory of the scramjet-propelled hypersonic vehicle

The NACA0012 airfoil is widely employed for investigating the characteristics of the aerodynamic environment [10]-[14], and the analysis of Refs. [15], [16] reveals a significant correlation between numerical accuracy and the trailing edge shape. NACA0012 has sharp and blunt two trailing edge shapes. For the sharp trailing edge shape, Refs. [17], [18] discusses the external flow field properties of dimpled and square dimpled NACA0012s. The studied Mach numbers are 1.7, 2.2, and 2.7. SST k-omega and Spalart-Allmaras (SA) turbulence models are used. The results show there is a positive correlation between Mach number and aerodynamic condition. Based on different ranges of upper and lower surface temperatures, Ref. [19] extends the previous investigations, and the force coefficients are evaluated. Under the conditions of pitching and plunging NACA0012s, Ref. [20] uses SST k-omega and SA at very low speed to study the thermal effect on force coefficients around NACA0012. The conclusion indicates that the lift coefficient is increased, and the drag coefficient is decreased due to the temperature variation between extrados and intrados of the airfoil. Similar research is investigated by Ref. [21], and a spectral analysis demonstrates that as the surface temperature increases, the force coefficient amplitudes decrease. Based on the 0.3 Mach number and SA model, Ref. [22] discusses water droplets impact characteristics on NACA0012 type turbine, and the calculation results show the

matching degree with the experimental results is good, and the numerical approach is acceptable. With an asymmetric heating surface, Ref. [23] selects the k-epsilon turbulence model and Mach number 0.7 to evaluate the NACA0012 anti-icing performance. The research conclusions indicate that the aerodynamic performance could be promoted through the extended heating surface of the suction surface. The impacts of Mach number and ambient temperature on the icing shape and icing growth rate are investigated by Ref. [24], which adopts the SA turbulence model. Regarding the blunt trailing edge, existing literature primarily focuses on noise generation and validation of associated prediction methods, while limited attention has been given to investigating the aerodynamic prediction correlation [25], [26].

In summary, the existing research primarily centers on examining the impact of geometrical alterations on the properties of the external flow field based on a trailing edge shape [27]. There is limited investigation into how the shape of the NACA0012 trailing edge affects the precision of aerodynamic predictions, with only a few studies addressing this aspect [28], [29]. But these studies are all focus on incompressible conditions. During the typical trajectory of hypersonic vehicle shown in Fig. 1, over 90 % of the flight path occurs under hypersonic conditions with a typical Mach number exceeding 5, which is the predominant aerodynamic environment encountered by scramjet-propelled vehicle. However, the maximum Mach number achieved in the aforementioned simulations is below 3, indicating potential deviations from established research conclusions regarding simulation parameter selection for hypersonic conditions. To date, we have not found reliable literature analyzing the influence of trailing edge shape under hypersonic conditions. Meanwhile, the existing literature lacks comprehensive details on the various methodologies employed to establish the NACA0012 model, and the associated CFD simulations commonly incorporate a fixed far field distance and turbulence model. Furthermore, the literature reviewed thus far has paid little attention to the appropriate values of crucial grid parameters such as cell Reynolds number [30] and aspect ratio [31] near the shock, which are characterized by NACA0012. Reliable references addressing the impact of these parameters on numerical accuracy are currently lacking. In summary, there is an insufficient investigation on the selection criteria for these key parameters under hypersonic conditions.

In this study, we select the NACA0012 airfoil as the characterized object to generate computational external flow fields. Our objective is to perform simulations to investigate the influence of trailing edge shape, modeling method, far field distance, and turbulence model on prediction accuracy under hypersonic conditions. By comparing numerical results with wind tunnel data, we establish a correlation between prediction accuracy and simulation parameters and identify an optimal simulation configuration for future reference. This research contributes to the field of environmental prediction for hypersonic flight vehicles. Furthermore, based on the identified optimal simulation configuration mentioned above, we are able to predict environmental conditions along the trajectory of hypersonic vehicle during flight. These predictions provide valuable information for vehicle optimization and thermal protection design.

# **2. Simulation fundamentals**

To look for a suitable simulation scheme for the aerodynamic environment prediction, the appropriate parameter values of the grid strategy and numerical method should be identified through validation tests.  $P$  is the local static pressure, and  $P_t$  is the static pressure of the free stream. T is the local static temperature, and  $T_t$  is the static temperature of free stream. U is the local velocity, and  $U_t$  is the velocity of free stream. We adopt the wind tunnel data of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ and  $U/U_t$  from Ref. [13] as the reference data, where the location range of  $P/P_t$  and  $T/T_t$  is  $x/L \in [-0.007 \text{ 0}]$  and the location range of  $U/U_t$  is  $y/L \in [0.01 \text{ 0.1}]$  at  $x/L = 0.95$ . The initial values are as follows: Reynolds number  $(R_e)$  is 10e6, the Mach number  $(M_a)$  is 10,  $P_t$  is 576 Pa,  $T_t$  is 81.2 K, and the wall temperature of airfoil  $(T_W)$  is 311 K. Ansys ICEM CFD and Ansys fluent are chosen as the meshing tool and the CFD simulation tool, respectively. The calculation process is 16-core parallel, and the precision is double.

# **2.1. Grid strategy**

# **2.1.1. NACA0012 computational domains**

Firstly, we need to choose an appropriate modeling method to design NACA0012 model, which is the basis for establishing computational domain. There exists three NACA0012 modeling methods: NACA4 digital generator, Airfoil tools and definition formula. NACA4 digital generator offers 200 modeling data points and provides the function of the close trailing edge. Therefore, it could be used to design the sharp trailing edge NACA0012 model. Airfoil tools offers 132 modeling data points. The established trailing edge based on this method is not closed and requires a manual connection. So, this method could design the blunt trailing edge. Eq. (1) is the Definition formula, in which the value of  $x$  represents the point on the  $X$ -axis and the value of y corresponds to the point on the Y-axis. The 200 and 132  $X$ -axis data points offered by NACA4 and Airfoil tools could be substituted into the definition formula to calculate the related Y-axis data points to build the NACA0012 model. In summary, the NACA0012 has two trailing edge shapes, three modeling methods, two data point sources, and different numbers of modeling data points. Therefore, we establish six NACA0012 airfoils, shown in Table 1, to investigate the selection principles of NACA0012 modeling method parameters. Fig. 2 demonstrates the related NACA0012 models, and the airfoil characteristic length  $(L)$  is 1 m. There exist significant positional differences between different modeling data points:

$$
y = \pm 0.5947[0.2983x^{1/2} - 0.1271x - 0.3579x^2 + 0.2920x^3 - 0.1052x^4].
$$
 (1)

Trailing edge shape Modeling method						
One blunt trailing edge	Airfoil tools (132 points)					
		Naca $4(200 \text{ points})$				
	Definition formula	Adopts 132 points from Airfoil tools				
	Definition formula	We double 132 points to 264 points, then				
Five sharp trailing edges		substitute them into definition formula				
	Definition formula	Adopts 200 points from NACA4				
	Definition formula	We double 200 points to 400 points, then				
		substitute them into definition formula				

**Table 1.** The designed six NACA0012s and the corresponding modeling methods

After establishing the NACA0012 models, we need to select the proper far field distance to establish the computational domain of the NACA0012 airfoil to perform numerical simulation. Ansys suggests the far field distance should be  $12-20$  times  $L$  [32]. However, Ansys only provides a suggested range without providing specific values or analyzing the impact of different far field distances on numerical calculation accuracy. By selecting far field distances of  $12L$ ,  $16L$ , and  $20L$ and conducting validation tests using wind tunnel data, Ref. [29] examines the correlation between the accuracy of the far field distance in the incompressible external flow field. The findings suggest a discernible relationship between the far field distance and numerical accuracy in the incompressible external flow field. In this study, based on the same research object NACA0012, we still select  $12L/16L/20L$  far field distances to create computational domains. Our investigation focuses on examining the relationship between these distances and numerical accuracy under hypersonic conditions, while also comparing them to incompressible external flow fields [33]. Fig. 3 demonstrates the established two trailing edge types of computational domains, where the black dot is the coordinate origin. The INLET and OUTLET serve as the input and output boundaries, respectively, employing the Pressure far field condition. The WALL boundary, highlighted in red, is characterized by the no-slip, isothermal wall condition. The airfoil surfaces serve as the primary source of the turbulence and the mean vorticity, and the accuracy of numerical predictions for turbulence in wall-bounded flows is heavily influenced by the near-wall meshing. Therefore, finer meshing areas are created by further dividing blocks in close proximity to the

airfoil surface. As illustrated in Fig. 3, the cyan lines indicate the grid division. For the sharp trailing edge, the block at the end is folded, whereas it remains in place for the blunt trailing edge.





# **2.1.2. Grid parameters**

The innermost layer of the near wall is the viscous sublayer, where viscosity has the dominant role in the heat and momentum. The first layer cells of the boundary layer are proposed to exist within the viscous sublayer, with the height value  $(y_H)$  being directly correlated to  $y^+$  and the calculation process is displayed in Fig. 4. The calculations of  $R_e$ ,  $U_t$ , air speed ( $C_{air}$ ), friction coefficient  $(C_f)$ , shear stress  $(\tau_W)$ , friction velocity  $(\mu_t)$ , and the distance from the wall to the centroid of the wall adjacent cells  $(y_n)$  are shown from Eqs. (2-8):

$$
R_e = \frac{\rho U_t L}{\mu},\tag{2}
$$

$$
U_t = C_{air}^{\mu} \times M_a,\tag{3}
$$

$$
C_{air} = 20.05\sqrt{T_t},
$$
  
\n
$$
C_f = [2\log_{10}(R_e) - 0.65]^{-2.3},
$$
\n(4)

$$
C_f = [2\log_{10}(R_e) - 0.65]^{-2.3},
$$
  
\n
$$
\tau_W = 0.5 \times \rho U^2 C_f,
$$
\n(6)

$$
u_{\tau} = \left(\frac{\tau_W}{\rho}\right)^{1/2},\tag{7}
$$

$$
y_p = \frac{y^+ \mu}{u_\tau \rho}.\tag{8}
$$

where  $T_t$  is 81.2 K and  $P_t$  is 576 Pa, the flow density ( $\rho$ ) is about 0.0247 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.  $C_{air}$  is 180.6 m/s and  $M_a$  is 10. Hence,  $U_t$  is 1806 m/s.  $R_e$  is 10e06,  $\rho$ ,  $L$  and  $U_t$  are substituted into Eq. (2) and flow viscosity ( $\mu$ ) is about 4.46082 Pa·s. Then we could solve  $y_p$  according to Eqs. (5-8). At last,  $y_H$  is calculated according to Eq. (9):

$$
y_H = 2y_p. \tag{9}
$$



**Fig. 4.** The calculation process of  $y_H$ 

Since the empirical formula  $(C_f)$  is used in the above calculation process [34],  $y_H$  value is an estimate, and it needs to be tested repeatedly through numerical simulation to ensure that the maximum value of  $y^+$  at airfoil surface is less than 1 [35]. The initial value of  $y^+$  is 1, and  $y_H$  is 4.6e-5 m could be estimated according to the above Equations. However, tests show that the maximum value of  $y<sup>+</sup>$  at the airfoil surface exceeds 1 during simulations, which indicates that the initial value of  $y^+$  is inappropriate. Through repeated testing,  $y^+$  is 0.3 and  $y_H$  is 1.4e-5 m could meet the condition.

Secondly, it is crucial to evaluate the quality of the mesh utilized in a simulation, encompassing an examination of diverse metrics such as aspect ratio and determinant. In particular, meticulous attention must be paid to the aspect ratio since an excessively small value of  $y_H$  could potentially lead to a large aspect ratio value. This scenario may result in floating-point overflow or calculation divergence, ultimately leading to simulation failure. In this study, we validate the stability of numerical simulations by conducting CFD tests to determine the appropriate aspect ratio and determinant values. At  $12L/16L/20L$  three far field distances, the maximum aspect ratios and the minimum determinants for the sharp and blunt trailing edge shapes are (2100 0.84), (3310 0.881), (4460 0.873) and (2760 0.894), (3680 0.886), (4770 0.827) respectively. These findings ensure the robustness of our numerical simulations.



**Fig. 5.** Mean error ratios of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ ,  $U/U_t$  at three far field distances under three grid levels (NACA4)

Thirdly, grid independency should be performed to confirm the appropriate total mesh cells number. Three modeling methods are applied to establish three types NACA0012 models: sharp trailing edge (based on NACA4), sharp trailing edge (based on definition formula), and blunt trailing edge (based on Airfoil tools) and we adopt the sharp trailing edge designed by NACA4, combined with the SST k-omega model and ROE flux type as an example. The numerical results of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ ,  $U/U_t$  at location ranges and related error ratios with wind tunnel data are shown in Fig. 5. At 12L far field distance, the average error ratios of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ , and  $U/U_t$  under three grid levels at all calculating locations are (3.094 % 5.608 % 2.188 %), (2.277 % 3.964 % 1.034 %), and (2.248 % 3.936 % 1.025 %). Hence, the total mean error ratios of  $(P/P_t T/T_t U/U_t)$  for the three grid levels are 3.630 %, 2.425 %, and 2.403 %. Similarly, the average error ratios for three grid levels under 16L are (11.570 % 5.638 % 3.038 %), (6.229 % 3.251 % 2.356 %), and (6.212 % 3.218 % 2.338 %) and the corresponding total mean error ratios are 6.749 %, 3.945 %, and 3.923 %. The average error ratios under 20L are (10.198 % 5.949 % 2.835 %), (3.151 % 4.140 % 2.277 %), and (3.141 % 4.106 % 2.249 %) and the corresponding total mean error ratios are 6.327 %, 3.189 %, and 3.165 %. As depicted in Fig. 5, at three far field distance, with the mesh number increases from 608,000 to 850,000, the numerical error ratio hardly changes, and the other two types present similar grid independency performances as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. Therefore, the mesh with 608,000 could meet the requirement of grid independency. The mesh views of the two trailing edge shapes are depicted in Figs. 8-9.



**Fig. 7.** Mean error ratios of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ ,  $U/U_t$  at three far field distances under three grid levels (Definition formula)



**Fig. 8.** The mesh views of the sharp trailing edge



**Fig. 9.** The mesh views of the blunt trailing edge

# **2.2. Numerical method**

### **2.2.1. Turbulence model**

When working with transonic fluids, it is necessary to manage compression and heat transfer. This necessitates solving control equations such as mass continuity, momentum (the NS equation), and energy. Since turbulent flow exists, additional transport equations must be solved. Turbulence is defined as unsteady random motion in fluids with medium to high Reynolds numbers, as described by the NS equation. However, direct numerical simulation (DNS) calculations can be time-consuming, necessitating the averaging of the NS equation to reduce turbulence components. The Reynolds Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) model is widely used to average the turbulence fluctuation time term. This method employs turbulent viscosity to calculate Reynolds stress and solve the RANS equations. The k-epsilon, SST k-omega, and Spalart-Allmaras (SA) turbulence models are widely accepted and relatively accurate for most numerical simulation applications [36]. However, the k-epsilon model exhibits limited sensitivity to adverse pressure gradients and boundary layer separation, resulting in delayed predictions and separation. Consequently, it is unsuitable for investigating the aerodynamic external flow field in this paper. The k-omega model demonstrates superior performance over the k-epsilon model in predicting adverse pressure gradients and boundary layer flow, showcasing its enhanced capabilities. Furthermore, the SST k-omega model effectively addresses the sensitivity issue of the original k-omega model to freestream conditions, thereby enhancing its applicability [37]. Moreover, the Spalart-Allmaras (SA) turbulence model is specifically tailored for aerospace applications involving wall-bounded flows and exhibits exceptional predictive capabilities for adverse pressure gradient boundary layers [38]. In conclusion, we employ SA and SST k-omega models.

Regarding the INLET boundary, when utilizing the SST k-omega, we employ the intensity and viscosity ratio turbulence method with values of 1 % and 1. In case of adopting the SA model, the turbulent viscosity ratio method is chosen and set its value to 1. The same actions are done for the OUTLET boundary. Furthermore, careful consideration should be given to selecting an appropriate upwind order for modifying turbulent viscosity in relation to the SA model. According to Ref. [30], there exists a situation where the performance of the first order is better than that of the second order. So, we execute a numerical comparison between these two upwind schemes. We still take the sharp trailing edge designed by NACA4, combined with ROE flux type as an example to carry out the analysis. The numerical results of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ , and  $U/U_t$  at location ranges and related error ratios with wind tunnel data are shown in Tables 2-4. For the first order, under three far field distances, the mean error ratios of  $(P/P_t, T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t)$  at all calculating locations are (9.18 % 4.96 % 3.02 %), (9.38 % 7.71 % 2.06 %), and (7.42 % 7.11 % 2.72 %). The corresponding total mean error ratios of  $(P/P_t T/T_t U/U_t)$  are 5.72 %, 6.38 %, and 5.75 %. Similarly, for the second order, the mean error ratios under three far field distances are  $(4.42\%2.16\%1.90\%),$ (5.33 % 5.24 % 1.61 %), and (4.69 % 4.28 % 1.73 %), and the total mean error ratios are 2.83 %, 4.06 %, and 3.57 %. Hence, the second order upwind is chosen.

**Table 2.** Numerical results comparison of  $P/P_t$  between the first-order upwind and second–order upwind of the modified turbulent viscosity

$\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$										
		$x/L$ locations (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical results and error ratios)								
Type of upwind order		$-0.007$		$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\Omega$	
	103.63		114.55	117.87	119.40	121.74	122.10	123.39	123.83	
		81.68	106.49	114.80	110.43	110.71	112.04	112.79	112.42	
	12L	21.19 %	$7.04\%$	$2.60\%$	$7.51\%$	$9.06\%$	8.24%	8.59 %	$9.22\%$	
First-order	16L	63.99	101.22	118.76	117.55	120.54	125.16	134.83	136.33	
		38.25 %	11.64%	$0.76\%$	$1.55\%$	$0.99\%$	$2.51\%$	$9.27\%$	$10.10\%$	
	20L	107.09	106.96	105.16	105.66	106.74	110.22	118.13	122.88	
		$3.34\%$	$6.63\%$	$10.79\%$	$11.5\%$	12.32 %	$9.73\%$	$4.27\%$	$0.77\%$	
	12L	93.15	112.16	117.71	119.13	122.20	125.88	134.72	136.43	
Second-order		10.11 %	$2.09\%$	$0.14\%$	$0.23\%$	$0.38\%$	$3.10\%$	9.18 %	$10.17\%$	
	16L	106.92	112.50	115.21	115.48	115.45	115.19	113.54	107.39	
		3.18%	$1.79\%$	$2.26\%$	$3.28\%$	5.17 %	5.66 %	7.99 %	13.28 %	
		102.75	106.52	113.59	117.72	122.04	126.47	136.72	136.17	
	20L	$0.85\%$	$7.01\%$	$3.63\%$	$1.41\%$	$0.25 \%$		3.58 $\frac{9}{10.8}$ %	$9.96\%$	

**Table 3.** Numerical results comparison of  $T/T_t$  between the first-order upwind and second-order upwind of the Modified turbulent viscosity



and second-order abwind or the modified turbulent viscosity $y/L$ locations (m) at $x/L = 0.95$ m (U/U <sub>t</sub> numerical results and error ratios)											
Type of upwind order		0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.1
		0.6907	0.8199	0.8556	0.8667	0.8705	0.8711	0.8740	0.8746	0.8771	0.8801
	12L	0.6315	0.8444	0.8823	0.8837	0.8858	0.8899	0.8920	0.8963	0.9020	0.8997
		$8.56\%$	2.98 %	$3.13\%$	$1.97\%$	$1.75\%$	$2.16\%$	$2.06\%$	2.49%	2.84 %	$2.22\%$
First-	16L	0.6392	0.8383	0.8668	0.8606	0.8737	0.8797	0.8883	0.8892	0.8943	0.8998
order		$7.46\%$	$2.24\%$	$1.31\%$	$0.71\%$	$0.36\%$	$0.98\%$	$1.63\%$	$1.67\%$	$1.96\%$	$2.23\%$
	20L	0.6487	0.8456	0.8862	0.8895	0.8865	0.8852	0.8904	0.8933	0.8971	0.8983
		6.08 $%$	$3.13\%$	$3.57\%$	$2.64\%$	$1.84\%$	1.61%	1.88 %	$2.15\%$	$2.29\%$	$2.06\%$
	12L	0.6405	0.8374	0.8733	0.8777	0.8795	0.8807	0.8820	0.8843	0.8870	0.8887
		$7.26\%$	$2.13\%$	$2.07\%$	$1.27\%$	$1.02\%$	$1.10\%$	$0.92\%$	$1.12\%$	$1.13\%$	$0.97\%$
Second-		0.6339	0.8357	0.8624	0.8666	0.8707	0.8756	0.8801	0.8851	0.8893	0.8918
order	16L	8.23 %	1.93 %	0.79%	$0.01\%$	$0.01\%$	$0.51\%$	$0.69\%$	$1.20\%$	$1.39\%$	$1.32\%$
	20L	0.6547	0.8416	0.8802	0.8815	0.8795	0.8788	0.8794	0.8816	0.8841	0.8863
		5.21 %	2.64%	2.87 %	$1.71\%$	$1.03\%$	$0.88\%$	$0.62\%$	$0.81\%$	$0.81\%$	$0.70 \%$

**Table 4.** Numerical results comparison of  $U/U_t$  between the first-order upwind and second-order upwind of the modified turbulent viscosity

# **2.2.2. Flux type and spatial discretization**

An appropriate scheme is needed to evaluate the flux component. According to Ref. [39], the cylinder is taken as a research object to investigate the simulation performance of different flux types, and the conclusions demonstrate that the results of the ROE and AUSM are closer to the reference data. Therefore, we adopt these two types to study the capability of the simulation accuracy of aerodynamic prediction characterized by NACA0012 under hypersonic conditions. For the flow discretization, the second order upwind is selected. A suitable gradient calculation scheme is also needed, based on which the cell face scalar values could be constructed. The calculation of related diffusion terms and velocity derivatives can be done. There are three types of schemes (node-based/cell-based/least cell-based). Out of these three, the least cell-based scheme is advantageous because it provides comparable accuracy to the node-based scheme, has fewer computing resources, and avoids spurious oscillations. Hence, the least cell-based with the standard gradient limiter is applied. In addition, when the Mach number is bigger than 5, the density-based solver is employed. Since the Mach number of validation tests is 10, it should be considered whether there exists real gas effect. The air critical pressure  $(P<sub>c</sub>)$  is 3.77 MPa, and if the ratio of  $P$  and  $P_c$  is much less than 1, then we could select the ideal gas. During the numerical simulation process, the value of  $P$  increases from the initial 576 Pa to the maximum 73728 Pa. The maximum ratio of  $P$  and  $P<sub>c</sub>$  is about 0.019, which satisfies the condition mentioned above. Hence, flow density  $(\rho)$  selects the ideal gas.

# **3. Numerical results and discussion**

# **3.1. Numerical results**

Based on the description in Grid strategy and Numerical Method, we apply six NACA0012 models, three far field distances, two turbulence models and two flux types to construct the simulation configurations and a total of seventy-two sets of numerical calculations are carried out. Tables 5-22 demonstrate the numerical results of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ ,  $U/U_t$  at sampling locations and Figs. 10-15 demonstrate the corresponding numerical error ratio distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ ,  $U/U_t$  compared with the wind tunnel data. The bold black values in the tables below  $x/L$  sampling positions represent the corresponding wind tunnel test data, and the red dashed diamond shapes in the figures indicate wind tunnel data at those positions. Table 23 demonstrates the mean error ratios of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$ ,  $U/U_t$  for six NACA0012 models under different simulation configurations. Through the error ratio comparison, the optimal mean error ratio of  $(P/P_t T/T_t U/U_t)$  of 2.05 % could be achieved based on the configuration of sharp trailing edge (definition formula) +  $16L$  far field distance + SA turbulence model + ROE flux type.

						$x/L$ (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical data)			
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$
		103.6285	114.5508	117.8656	119.3983	121.7447	122.1036	123.3942	123.8330
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	103.1758	114.2245	119.3853	122.5377	123.7579	124.7891	127.2207	128.9688
	<b>AUSM</b>	115.2700	114.4670	115,0006	114.7569 113.8172		111.8231	102.0335	97.0301
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	6.0925	35.2682	107.9680	118.2251	118.7486	121.5961	129.3444	138.5572
	<b>AUSM</b>	113.6156	114.3060		113.3640 113.4916 114.8708		118.5805	122.1218	124.7841
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	101.3087	113.2991	119.0844		122.3194 123.5652	124.6285	127.1412	128.9871
	<b>AUSM</b>	126.2989	125.2276	124.6631		126.3320 127.7393	129.1166	123,0015	109.6105
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	112.1930	112.6418	113.9845		114.8477 115.8725	120.3363	125.7635	127.4569
	<b>AUSM</b>	115.5999	116.4176	117.9377		122.8046 126.0157	129.6497	135.4119	138.2230
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	108.5238	119.5044	122.4766		125.7646 127.0867	128.2546	131.3245	133.7835
	<b>AUSM</b>	85.9375	103.1402	111.8435		111.6520 111.9114	112.0232	111.3510	110.1554
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	88.2687	113.0102	122.2196		123.6521   126.3275	128.9982	134.4160	135.5053
	<b>AUSM</b>	108.2922	118.887	118.7423		122.1060 125.9117	129.5463	140.4347	152.9953

**Table 5.** Numerical results of  $P/P_t$  of blunt trailing edge adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

**Table 6.** Numerical results of  $T/T_t$  of blunt trailing edge shape adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

				$x/L$ (m) and $T/T_t$	wind tunnel data $(T/T_t)$ numerical data)				
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\Omega$
		18.152	20.190	20.284	20.427	20.521	20.664	21.043	21.327
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.918	20.418	20.675	20.792	20.765	20.680	20.151	17.892
	<b>AUSM</b>	20.097	20.334	20.580	20.726	20.290	19.677	18.936	17.701
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	1.996	7.765	18.344	18.839	18.886	18.838	18.760	21.042
	<b>AUSM</b>	18.489	18.647	18.768	18.914	19.123	19.572	19.940	20.739
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.825	20.387	20.678	20.805	20.785	20.708	20.191	17.840
	<b>AUSM</b>	20.592	20.758	20.866	20.959	20.879	20.700	18.750	5.439
	<b>ROE</b>	20.483	20.664	20.806	20.898	20.907	20.604	19.867	19.799
$SA+16L$	AUSM	21.109	21.046	20.979	21.037	21.168	21.327	21.626	18.600
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	18.909	20.412	20.572	20.688	20.685	20.628	20.178	18.384
	AUSM	17.365	19.335	19.951	20.074	20.074	20.443	20.074	15.271
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	16.506	19.037	20.212	20.459	20.567	20.657	20.795	20.293
	<b>AUSM</b>	18.681	19.851	20.331	20.683	20.925	21.156	20.720	21.642

**Table 7.** Numerical results of  $U/U_t$  of blunt trailing edge adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types



# **3.1.1. Airfoil tools**

The corresponding numerical results and distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  are shown in Tables 5-7 and Fig. 10. Table 23 provides the mean error ratios under different simulation configurations. From the aspect of far field distance, the minimum values are 2.696 %, 2.738 %, and 3.436 % in order. From the aspect of turbulence model, the most favorable outcome for SST is 2.696 %, while that of SA is 3.292 %. For the two flux types, the finest value of ROE is 2.696 % and that of AUSM is 3.441 %. In conclusion, the SST+12 configuration, combined with ROE has achieved the minimum total mean error ratio. Compared with other simulation configurations, the corresponding accuracy improvements are 57.249 %, 84.153 %, 21.642 %, 1.532 %, 70.082 %, 18.089 %, 48.237 %, 21.543 %, 55.935 %, 27.146 %, and 27.602 %, respectively.



**Fig. 10.** The numerical result and error ratio distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  of blunt trailing edge

# **3.1.2. NACA4**

The corresponding numerical results and distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  are shown in Tables 8-10 and Fig. 11. Table 23 provides the mean error ratios under different simulation configurations. From the aspect of far field distance, the minimum values are 2.420 %, 3.797 %, and 3.189 % in order. From the aspect of turbulence model, the most favorable outcome for SST is 2.420 %, while that of SA is 2.829 %. For the two flux types, the finest value of ROE is 2.420 % and that of AUSM is 3.797 %.

		$x/L$ (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical data)										
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$			
		103.6285	114.5508	117.8656	119.3983	121.7447	122.1036	123.3942	123.8330			
	<b>ROE</b>	102.6623	113.7859	119.5540	122.7781	124.0214	125.0571	127.6113	129.5765			
$SST+12L$	<b>AUSM</b>	125.0601	122.6266	123.4892	130.3869	133.7133	136.7315	138.2960	133.3994			
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	93.1517	112.1581	117.7100	119.1311	122.1984	125.8803   134.7221		136.4293			
	<b>AUSM</b>	120.0194	113.7502	110.6636	109.2987	109.0662	109.8360 111.0621		115.5866			
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	90.3901	114.5756	124.3798	125.3509	127.3098		128.9722 132.1900	135.2095			
	<b>AUSM</b>	123.6560	124.3612	124.9024	124.9201	124.3482	122.1458 119.9241		118.5962			
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	106.9225	112.5033	115.2072		115.4793   115.4510   115.1886   113.5401			107.3866			
	<b>AUSM</b>	118.0516	119.6460	120.2279	120.3639	120.1021		119.3604 115.6705	111.5844			
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	91.5191	108.2494	117.8706	120.9798	122.3012	123.3865 125.8781		127.7352			
	<b>AUSM</b>	98.4080	99.3577	98.2276	97.5850	97.8597	100.8383	103.7027	103.7561			
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	102.7478	106.5220	113.5859	117.7168	122.0448	126.4707	136.7221	136.1655			
	<b>AUSM</b>	37.4234	73.3389	117.5831	118.8793	121.1027	123.9634	132.9692	140.2752			

**Table 8.** Numerical results of  $P/P_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on NACA4 adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

**Table 9.** Numerical results of  $T/T_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on NACA4 adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

					$x/L$ (m) and $T/T_t$ wind tunnel data ( $T/T_t$ numerical data)				
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\Omega$
		18.152	20.190	20.284	20.427	20.521	20.664	21.043	21.327
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.860	20.361	20.640	20.773	20.761	20.693	20.219	18.605
	<b>AUSM</b>	21.769	21.834	21.924	21.832	21.495	20.869	20.137	18.077
	<b>ROE</b>	17.555	19.131	20.061	20.174	20.297	20.552	20.642	20.707
$SA+12L$	<b>AUSM</b>	20.927	20.926	20.499	20.374	20.430	20.417	20.365	20.634
	<b>ROE</b>	17.182	19.264	20.271	20.609	20.704	20.696	20.454	18.930
$SST+16L$	<b>AUSM</b>	20.769	21.064	21.367	21.568	21.237	20.772	20.092	15.503
	<b>ROE</b>	19.570	20.031	20.265	20.325	20.309	20.469	20.101	15.717
$SA+16L$	<b>AUSM</b>	20.084	20.383	20.633	20.941	20.775	20.338	20.090	18.476
	<b>ROE</b>	18.834	20.122	20.647	20.833	20.832	20.610	20.262	17.108
$SST+20L$	<b>AUSM</b>	17.580	17.965	18.472	18.797	19.136	19.811	19.313	18.382
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.471	20.327	20.202	20.064	20.075	20.107	20.287	19.159
	<b>AUSM</b>	9.741	15.713	20.595	20.631	20.719	20.863	20.630	20.683

**Table 10.** Numerical results of  $U/U_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on NACA4 adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types



In conclusion, the  $SST+12L$  configuration, combined with ROE has achieved the minimum mean error ratio. Compared with other simulation configurations, the corresponding accuracy improvements are 68.882 %, 14.453 %, 46.120 %, 38.628 %, 55.249 %, 40.390 %, 36.269 %, 24.114 %, 71.737 %, 32.125 %, and 73.366 %, respectively.



# **3.1.3. Definition formula adopting 132 points**

The corresponding numerical results and distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  are shown in Tables 11-13 and Fig.12. Table 23 provides the mean error ratios under different simulation configurations. From the aspect of far field distance, the minimum values are 3.136 %, 2.640 %, and 2.975 % in order. From the aspect of turbulence model, the most favorable outcome for SST is 2.640 %, while that of SA is 2.975 %. For the two flux types, the finest value of ROE is 2.640 % and that of AUSM is  $3.136\%$ . In conclusion, the SST+16L configuration, combined with ROE has achieved the minimum mean error ratio. Compared with other simulation configurations, the corresponding accuracy improvements are72.073 %, 15.821 %, 61.731 %, 58.624 %, 25.987 %, 63.533 %, 45.070 %, 53.338 %, 31.817 %, 11.290 %, and 66.411 %, respectively.

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			$x/L$ (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical data)									
	NACA0012 models		$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$			
			103.6285   114.5508				117.8656 119.3983 121.7447 122.1036 123.3942		123.8330			
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	77.9720	97.5837		103.9596   104.2068   105.7531		108.2004 103.7853		93.4325			
	<b>AUSM</b>	122.9772	118.5715				117.4966   120.4748   122.3124   123.9481   126.0108   132.5421					
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	126.8481	127.4266				128.1201   128.9839   128.9838   128.9172   128.3850   127.1818					
	<b>AUSM</b>	94.8265					106.4431   109.2256   108.2244   108.7156   108.9666   109.8323   131.9843					
	<b>ROE</b>		102.8513   114.0935   119.5973   122.7339   123.9256   124.9008   127.3781   129.2507									
$SST+16L$	<b>AUSM</b>		116.3570   118.2875   117.5792   117.6293   119.3575   122.0409   122.4785   121.0955									
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>		110.5474   142.6264   133.8498   134.7360   135.7823   135.8110   131.7480   133.3460									
	<b>AUSM</b>	126.5742					124.6259   124.2431   126.2068   126.8411   127.7232   129.5196   127.2727					
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	89.3645	103.6540				106.7764   103.4379   104.8373   109.8622   112.3890   112.5213					
	<b>AUSM</b>		121.9440 118.9971				117.6949 118.6125 119.4331 121.7822 125.1382 132.7346					
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>		103.6814   114.6149   117.3158   116.9946   118.5445   122.0046   125.1439   132.9575									
	<b>AUSM</b>	67.4088	111.4342				132.0675   125.9648   128.9382   132.7707   143.0583   153.6435					

**Table 11.** Numerical results of  $P/P_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (132 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

**Table 12.** Numerical results of  $T/T_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (132 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

		wind tunnel data $(T/T_t)$ numerical data) $x/L$ (m) and $T/T_t$										
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$			
		18.152	20.190	20.284	20.427	20.521	20.664	21.043	21.327			
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	15.133	16.859	18.502	19.281	20.050	20.660	19.174	18.030			
	<b>AUSM</b>	19.944	20.075	20.212	20.495	20.646	20.841	21.900	19.971			
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.816	20.841	20.869	20.909	20.932	20.995	20.806	10.720			
	<b>AUSM</b>	17.497	18.624	19.302	19.408	19.484	19.593	19.665	18.654			
$SST+16L$	ROE	19.873	20.384	20.656	20.781	20.761	20.683	20.173	18.277			
	AUSM	18.708	19.203	19.657	19.851	20.044	20.498	20.571	14.955			
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	16.122	20.522	22.666	23.641	23.466	20.439	19.578	20.710			
	<b>AUSM</b>	21.319	21.230	21.041	20.932	20.794	20.698	21.178	17.974			
	<b>ROE</b>	17.271	19.272	20.199	20.584	20.672	20.630	19.591	17.817			
$SST+20L$	<b>AUSM</b>	21.116	21.097	21.012	20.946	20.862	20.764	20.399	20.262			
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	18.608	19.239	19.496	19.593	19.692	19.713	19.929	18.019			
	AUSM	11.876	16.908	20.229	20.249	20.367	20.476	19.791	21.239			

**Table 13.** Numerical results of  $U/U_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (132 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types







### **3.1.4. Definition formula adopting 264 points**

The corresponding numerical results and distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  are shown in Tables 14-16 and Fig. 13. Table 23 provides the mean error ratios under different simulation configurations. From the aspect of far field distance, the minimum values are 2.826 %, 2.758 %, and 3.449 % in order. From the aspect of turbulence model, the most favorable outcome for SST is 2.758 %, while that of SA is 4.511 %. For the two flux types, the finest value of ROE is 2.758 % and that of AUSM is  $3.822\%$ . In conclusion, the SST+16L configuration, combined with ROE has achieved the minimum mean error ratio. Compared with other simulation configurations, the corresponding accuracy improvements are 2.388 %, 27.832 %, 38.853 %, 42.156 %, 78.356 %, 48.882 %, 48.951 %, 20.037 %, 67.078 %, 40.690 %, and 69.247 %, respectively.

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			$x/L$ (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical data)									
	NACA0012 models		$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\Omega$			
		103.6285					114.5508   117.8656   119.3983   121.7447   122.1036   123.3942		123.8330			
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	119.7998	119.7281	120.2691		122.1656 122.9093	123.4018 123.1883		122.8126			
	<b>AUSM</b>	106.5388					105.0963   104.8083   104.9926   105.3805   110.8957   115.5403		123.2807			
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	111.6394					109.2246   109.1835   109.8389   109.8331   118.7383   132.1181		148.5604			
	<b>AUSM</b>		117.0965 117.1610 115.3581 114.1848 114.3075 116.5136 120.0602						131.7145			
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>		104.9188 114.8591	120.1705			123.3651   124.5840   125.6013   128.1834		130.1437			
	<b>AUSM</b>	14.2166					57.3405   121.6925   120.0211   121.3962   123.1041   126.7583		131.6546			
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>		113.7103 113.9911 115.5370 115.9321 115.4393 113.6081 102.4842						91.1783			
	<b>AUSM</b>	112.5245					111.4754   109.5819   108.2756   109.2258   112.8401   115.5227		120.5992			
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	96.4637					118.4568   124.6484   125.9054   127.6129   129.0491   132.1726		135.1249			
	<b>AUSM</b>	108.7255	108.7527	108.7589	108.7113		108.6527   108.5267   107.3855		104.1970			
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	120.4941	120.9398	121.3385			121.6577   121.5770   121.3591   116.5592   114.0342					
	<b>AUSM</b>	67.4088	111.4342	132.0675			125.9648   128.9382   132.7707   143.0583   153.6435					

**Table 14.** Numerical results of  $P/P<sub>t</sub>$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (264 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

**Table 15.** Numerical results of  $T/T_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (264 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

		wind tunnel data $(T/T_t)$ numerical data) $x/L$ (m) and $T/T_t$										
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$			
		18.152	20.190	20.284	20.427	20.521	20.664	21.043	21.327			
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.265	20.399	20.523	20.751	20.862	20.961	20.889	18.934			
	<b>AUSM</b>	19.513	19.793	20.230	20.351	20.493	20.652	19.449	20.337			
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.653	20.674	20.662	20.620	20.616	20.787	19.673	21.209			
	<b>AUSM</b>	21.407	21.550	21.067	20.836	20.643	20.455	20.339	20.312			
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.961	20.385	20.629	20.749	20.733	20.661	20.186	18.623			
	<b>AUSM</b>	4.826	11.009	19.659	19.813	19.921	19.972	19.857	20.080			
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.189	19.449	20.030	20.322	20.471	20.266	19.039	18.611			
	AUSM	20.044	20.421	20.526	20.373	20.137	19.901	20.219	12.186			
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	17.859	19.600	20.384	20.631	20.707	20.658	20.402	18.762			
	AUSM	20.354	20.487	20.628	20.896	20.986	20.840	19.309	13.045			
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.566	20.638	20.702	20.772	20.770	20.691	20.248	13.594			
	<b>AUSM</b>	11.876	16.908	20.229	20.249	20.367	20.476	19.791	21.239			

Table 16. Numerical results of  $U/U_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (264 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types







The corresponding numerical results and distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  are shown in Tables 17-19 and Fig. 14. Table 23 provides the mean error ratios under different simulation configurations. From the aspect of far field distance, the minimum values are 2.866 %, 2.047 %, and 3.376 % in order. From the aspect of turbulence model, the most favorable outcome for SST is 3.264 %, while that of SA is 2.047 %. For the two flux types, the finest value of ROE is 2.047 % and that of AUSM is 3.264 %. In conclusion, the SA+16L configuration, combined with ROE has achieved the minimum mean error ratio. Compared with other simulation configurations, the corresponding accuracy improvements are 36.670 %, 65.361 %, 28.590 %, 56.800 %, 66.338 %, 37.299 %, 37.549 %, 54.702 %, 64.219 %, 46.723 %, and 39.367 %, respectively.

	adopting the talenties models, ance has note abunced and the flash types											
			$x/L$ (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical data)									
NACA0012 models		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$			
							103.6285   114.5508   117.8656   119.3983   121.7447   122.1036   123.3942   123.8330					
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	95.2490	121.0420				122.3321   123.1870   124.9979   126.5275   129.6336		132.2661			
	<b>AUSM</b>	129.6510					127.9943   126.6424   127.8131   128.1751   127.3835   125.5274   122.0080					
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	88.1361					106.7947   112.6416   113.1061   114.1654   117.0814   120.5537   127.4284					
	<b>AUSM</b>	92.6078					127.9824   128.0527   127.0169   128.0833   129.2793   131.2632   133.4659					
	<b>ROE</b>	70.0133					107.5888   126.7207   128.4036   128.3239   127.5474   127.2913   126.4086					
$SST+16L$	<b>AUSM</b>						123.2248 121.5232 118.3046 119.8646 121.7615 123.6976 125.7666 124.9552					
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>						101.5952 111.8097 117.2720 117.7607 118.0276 118.0976 117.8711 119.7389					
	<b>AUSM</b>	119.8220					114.3523 111.4593 112.6008 114.4394 119.3344 121.2641 122.1085					
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>						101.8103   112.8437   115.7255   114.2609   114.3502   113.7401   110.6038   114.4976					
	<b>AUSM</b>	129.1016					125.3428   123.7512   125.0469   126.9627   128.7558   133.7061   144.7895					
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>						121.1185 120.9658 120.7203 120.3242 119.6663 118.7319 115.1396 110.0396					
	<b>AUSM</b>	119.1405	120.4283				120.6966   122.0053   122.8732   123.2574   123.3283   121.9717					

Table 17. Numerical results of  $P/P<sub>t</sub>$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (200 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

**Table 18.** Numerical results of  $T/T_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (200 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

NACA0012 models		$x/L$ (m) and $T/T_t$ wind tunnel data ( $T/T_t$ numerical data)									
		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$		
		18.152	20.190	20.284	20.427	20.521	20.664	21.043	21.327		
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	16.551	19.384	20.448	20.622	20.666	20.651	20.270	18.759		
	<b>AUSM</b>	20.727	21.044	21.272	21.549	21.585	20.283	19.882	16.591		
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	17.981	19.476	20.274	20.411	20.527	20.688	20.812	20.568		
	<b>AUSM</b>	14.238	19.106	20.805	20.829	20.869	20.741	20.767	20.866		
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	11.797	17.598	20.550	21.057	21.280	21.064	20.717	20.642		
	<b>AUSM</b>	19.688	20.028	20.234	20.448	20.627	20.889	21.297	17.054		
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.274	19.891	20.245	20.439	20.516	20.648	20.695	20.217		
	<b>AUSM</b>	20.448	20.500	20.518	20.514	20.404	20.293	20.064	19.781		
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	17.608	18.326	18.700	18.845	19.056	19.702	19.834	19.830		
	<b>AUSM</b>	20.882	21.048	21.204	21.310	21.056	20.465	20.164	20.226		
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.707	20.751	20.773	20.766	20.769	20.760	20.145	19.683		
	<b>AUSM</b>	18.929	19.318	19.726	19.914	20.181	20.654	20.752	17.893		

**Table 19.** Numerical results of  $U/U_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (200 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types





a) Numerical result distribution of  $P/P_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (200 points)



c) Numerical result distribution of  $T/T_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula





b) Error ratio distribution of  $P/P_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula



 $\frac{0.007}{0.006}$   $\frac{0.006}{0.004}$   $\frac{0.004}{x/L(m)}$   $\frac{0.003}{0.002}$   $\frac{0.001}{0.001}$  0.000<br>d) Error ratio distribution of  $T/T_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula



f) Error ratio distribution of  $U/U_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (200 points)



### **3.1.6. Definition formula adopting 400 points**

The corresponding numerical results and distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$  are shown in Tables 20-22 and Fig. 15. Table 23 provides the calculated mean error ratios under different simulation configurations. From the aspect of far field distance, the minimum values are 4.136 %, 2.460 %, and 2.454 % in order. From the aspect of turbulence model, the most favorable outcome for SST is 2.454 %, while that of SA is 3.482 %. For the two flux types, the finest value of ROE is 2.454 % and that of AUSM is 3.482 %. In conclusion, the  $SST+20L$  configuration, combined with ROE has achieved the minimum mean error ratio. Compared with other simulation configurations, the corresponding accuracy improvements are 40.670 %, 80.420 %, 56.911 %, 71.324 %, 0.240 %, 61.911 %, 33.899 %, 29.537 %, 40.134 %, 36.977 %, and 59.327 %, respectively.

adopting the tuloutence models, three has frenc alsumees and the francy pes											
<b>NACA0012</b> models		$x/L$ (m) and $P/P_t$ wind tunnel data ( $P/P_t$ numerical data)									
		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\Omega$		
		103.6285	114.5508			117.8656 119.3983 121.7447		122.1036 123.3942	123.8330		
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	121.5352	121.5892		121.8436   122.3692	122.4129	122.2378	116.3225	108.3289		
	AUSM	104.5392	104.3224		104.0669   103.6346	103.5846	103.5758 98.7789		94.0892		
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	120.7982	120.4667		120.3445   119.5408	117.6898 114.7833 100.4419			102.2569		
	<b>AUSM</b>	106.9614	106.0633			105.1678   103.4016   102.6120   101.9376   101.4844			103.5008		
$SST+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	103.1487	114.1292			119.7196   122.8894   124.0935		125.0836 127.5916	129.4911		
	<b>AUSM</b>	119.4194				119.4679   118.3171   116.7076   114.0483   110.7948   107.6613			109.6274		
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	84.7344	105.5092			115.0007   116.0551   119.1564		123.3079 135.0119	138.4577		
	AUSM	115,7716	116.3642			117.5177   118.0496   118.5284   119.1038   118.8542			116.6833		
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	101.7360	113.5344			119.1353   122.2907   123.5090		124.5382   126.9285	128.7087		
	<b>AUSM</b>	111.4175	120.3351		118.6102   120.8620	125.6442		130.3150 137.6943	143.5232		
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	85.6777	105.7869		113.6548 114.4745	117.0368		120.6551   134.5757	138.7417		
	<b>AUSM</b>	86.0844	105.3288		117.5366 116.7220	118.1160		$123.6655 \mid 136.1005$	146.2670		

**Table 20.** Numerical results of  $P/P_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (400 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

**Table 21.** Numerical results of  $T/T_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (400 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types

NACA0012 models		wind tunnel data $(T/T_t)$ $x/L$ (m) and $T/T_t$ numerical data)									
		$-0.007$	$-0.006$	$-0.005$	$-0.004$	$-0.003$	$-0.002$	$-0.001$	$\theta$		
		18.152	20.190	20.284	20.427	20.521	20.664	21.043	21.327		
$SST+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.476	20.586	20.682	20.862	20.944	20.889	20.056	18.964		
	<b>AUSM</b>	19.928	20.157	20.330	20.269	19.400	16.884	8.214	3.902		
$SA+12L$	<b>ROE</b>	20.513	20.606	20.155	19.781	19.622	19.593	19.235	18.366		
	<b>AUSM</b>	18.219	18.129	18.075	18.023	18.011	18.089	18.158	16.021		
$SST+16L$	ROE	19.882	20.374	20.645	20.770	20.751	20.675	20.176	18.464		
	<b>AUSM</b>	21.466	21.187	20.172	19.808	19.637	19.458	19.065	14.682		
$SA+16L$	<b>ROE</b>	17.053	18.914	20.053	20.139	20.244	20.500	20.609	20.531		
	<b>AUSM</b>	20.506	20.677	20.858	21.126	21.139	20.820	20.126	19.176		
$SST+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	19.831	20.385	20.670	20.797	20.776	20.697	20.190	18.259		
	AUSM	18.831	19.597	20.131	20.380	20.680	20.935	21.276	20.721		
$SA+20L$	<b>ROE</b>	17.312	19.017	19.999	20.080	20.182	20.470	20.599	20.551		
	<b>AUSM</b>	17.093	18.685	19.730	19.768	19.813	19.906	19.975	12.296		

**Table 22.** Numerical results of  $U/U_t$  of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (400 points) adopting two turbulence models, three far field distances and two flux types





a) Numerical result distribution of  $P/P_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula



c) Numerical result distribution of  $T/T_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula



e) Numerical result distribution of  $U/U_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (400 points)



 $b)$  Error ratio distribution of  $P/P_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula



d) Error ratio distribution of  $T/T_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula



f) Error ratio distribution of  $U/U_t$  of the sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (400 points)

**Fig. 15.** The numerical result and error ratio distributions of  $P/P_t$ ,  $T/T_t$  and  $U/U_t$ of sharp trailing edge based on definition formula (400 points)

<b>Table 23.</b> The mean error fatios for the six typic-A0012 models under unferent simulation computations									
				$ROE$ $(\% )$		AUSM $(\% )$			
Simulation configuration	<b>NACA0012</b> models		$ T/T_t $	$U/U_t$	Total mean		$T/T_t$	$U/U_t$	Total mean
		$P/P_t$			error ratio of	$P/P_t$			error ratio of
					$(P/P_t, T/T_t,$				$(P/P_t, T/T_t,$
					$U/U_t$				$U/U_t$
	Blunt	1.968	4.523 1.598		2.696	8.939	5.909	4.072	6.307
	NACA4	2.276	3.962 1.035		2.424		10.415 8.540 4.376		7.777
	Definition								
$SST+12L$	formula		16.132 9.272 2.950		9.451	4.316	2.877 2.214		3.136
	$(132 \text{ points})$								
	Definition								
	formula	3.437	3.811	1.230	2.826	7.955	2.814 0.697		3.822
	$(264$ points)								







# **3.2. Discussion**

# **3.2.1. Cell Reynolds number and aspect ratio**

The cell Reynolds number  $(R_{cell})$  of near-wall mesh cells close to the shock are crucial in affecting the numerical error ratio. Taking blunt cylinder as the characteristic object, Ref. [30] points out that the  $R_{cell}$  value of the near shock wave grid cells should be no less than 8. Moreover, Ref. [31] shows that the aspect ratio of wall cells near the shock significantly impacts simulation performance. In this paper, based on the existing research, to investigate the influences of  $R_{cell}$ and aspect ratio of the near shock wave wall grid cells with NACA0012 as the characteristic object, the  $R_{cell}$  of near shock wave wall grid cells is first analyzed while keeping the total mesh number unchanged. Based on the optimal simulation configuration conclude in Section 3.1, we apply three  $R_{cell}$  values of 16, 8, and 4 and the related  $y^{+}$  and  $y_{H}$ values are (0.3 1.4e-5 m),  $(0.15 \text{ Te-6 m})$ , and  $(0.08 \text{ 3.5e-6 m})$ . Three numerical simulations are performed and the corresponding mean error ratios of  $(P/P_t, T/T_t, U/U_t)$  are (2.54 % 1.86 % 1.74 %), (2.62 % 2.09 % 2.01 %), and (6.38 % 4.77 % 2.47 %) respectively, as shown in Table 24. Therefore, the optimal results are obtained by  $R_{cell}$  value of 16. Next, to study the influence of aspect ratio on numerical accuracy, we made changes to the wall cells' aspect ratio near the shock while keeping the following conditions constant: (1) The total number of mesh cells remained the same. (2) The cell Reynolds number remained the same. (3) The aspect ratio changes were made only in small wall regions near the shock. The aspect ratio value of the near-wall mesh close to the shock at the optimal  $R_{cell}$  value is 380, through double and halve operations we select four aspect ratio values of 760, 380, 190, and 95. Another four simulations are executed and the corresponding comparison of error ratios are described in Table 25. When the aspect ratio is 380, the minimum simulation result is achieved, which is 2.05 %. Then with the further increase of the aspect ratio, the error ratio is also increased. Compared with the other three aspect ratios, the accuracy improvements are 63.97 %, 46.75 % and 65.37 %. In summarize, unlike the suggestions proposed in the existing research characterized by blunt cylinder, the suitable value for  $R_{cell}$  characterized by NACA0012 should be no smaller than 16, reducing this value will decrease numerical accuracy. Similar situation applies to the aspect ratio, smaller value would not lead to better numerical calculation and the recommended value is 380.





**Table 25.** Comparison of numerical error ratios under four aspect ratios



# **3.3. Trailing edge shape and modeling method**

Fig. 16 depicts the optimal numerical error ratios comparison among six NACA0012 model, where the left ordinate indicates the numerical error ratio displayed in a column graph, and the right ordinate indicates the accuracy improvement displayed in a line chart. Fig. 17 adopts the same settings. From the aspect of trailing edge shape, based on Airfoil tools, the designed blunt trailing edge's numerical performance is worse than that of other types of sharp trailing edge (the sharp trailing edge adopting 264 data points definition formula is excluded), with the numerical accuracy decreasing by 11.41 %, 2.14 %, 31.73 % and 9.88 %, respectively. For the three modeling methods, the corresponding finest numerical error ratio is 2.7 %, 2.42 % and 2.05 % in order. It is worth noting that although the smallest error ratio could be obtained using the definition formula of 200 data points, the numerical results of the airfoil designed based on NACA4 are better in other cases. The correlation between the number and source of data points of the definition formula and the calculation precision is further analyzed. Airfoil tools offers 132 data points, with the data points increasing to 264, the numerical accuracy decreases by 4.55 %. NACA4 offers 200 data points, and the increase in data amount also results in a decrease in numerical accuracy of 19.71 %. When using 200 and 400 data points, the optimal numerical error ratios are 2.05 % and 2.454 %, respectively. These ratios are superior to those based on 132 and 264 data points. In summarize, unlike existing research conclusions [28-29], firstly, there exists a significant decrease in accuracy may occur due to an incorrect shape of the trailing edge in NACA0012, the maximum value of which is up to 31.73 %. The sharp trailing edge is recommended, and the number of data points adopted for NACA0012 modeling is the key to the selection of definition formula or NACA4. Secondly, the performance of data points provided by NACA4 is superior to that provided by Airfoil tools, and there is no positive correlation between the data points number and the calculation accuracy. Lastly, it is recommended to use the definition formula that utilizes NACA4's 200 points to design the sharp trailing edge shape.

# **3.3.1. Far field distance, turbulence model and flux type**

Fig. 17 depicts the optimal numerical error ratios comparison among far field distances,

turbulence models and flux types. As to the far field distance, the numerical precision increases by 15.42 %, with the far field distance increasing from  $12L$  to  $16L$ . But with the far field distance reaching 20L, the simulation precision declines by 19.88 %. When considering the turbulence model, the SST k-omega model proves to be more effective than the SA model at far field distances of  $12L$  and  $20L$ .



**Fig. 16.** The optimal numerical error ratio comparison among six NACA0012 models





The numerical accuracy is also enhanced by 14.3 % and 17.54 %, respectively. However, at 16 far field distance, the SA model obtains the smallest error ratio. From the perspective of flux type, compared with AUSM, the numerical performance of ROE is better. The maximum increase is 37.3 %, and the minimum increase is 22.68 %. In summary, unlike the research conclusions in Ref. [29], firstly, the increase in far field distance is not necessarily positively correlated with the calculation accuracy. Keeping  $16L$  far field distance is recommended. Secondly, the turbulence model selection is associated with the distance of the far field, and according to the ideal value of far field distance, it is recommended to prioritize the SA model. Lastly, the ROE flux type is preferred. Therefore, under hypersonic conditions, the preferred simulation configurations of NACA0012 are the sharp trailing edge (definition formula adopting 200 data points) +  $16L + SA$ turbulence model + ROE, with the  $R_{cell}$  and aspect ratio values of near-wall mesh near the shock are 16 and 380.

# **4. Simulation scheme and aerodynamic environment prediction**

To simplify the analysis, it is assumed that the flight speed is increased uniformly, and the acceleration process could be completed instantaneously without considering the influence of fuel and engine performance. According to the flight path described in Fig. 1, the flight process is divided into sub-phases in seconds. Maintain a constant speed within each sub-phase and complete the acceleration process instantly when entering the next sub-phase. The hypersonic conditions can be divided into 11 sub-phases, which first undergo the accelerated flight for 10 s (hypersonic 1-hypersonic 10), and then maintain the steady flight at the same height and speed when the flow velocity reaches 6.5 Ma (hypersonic 11). According to the conclusion drawn from the detailed discussion in Section 3.2, an effective simulation scheme for the aerodynamic environment prediction under hypersonic conditions characterized by NACA0012 is shown in Table 26. The applied computational external flow field is shown in Fig. 3(a).

Simulation scheme	Values						
		hypersonic 1 $M = 5.100 P_t = 3467$ Pa $T_t = 219.65$ K $\mu = 1.438$ e-5 Pa·s $\rho = 0.055$ kg/m <sup>3</sup>					
		hypersonic 2 $M = 5.250$ $P_t = 3218$ Pa $T_t = 220.15$ K $\mu = 1.441$ e-5 Pa·s $\rho = 0.051$ kg/m <sup>3</sup>					
		hypersonic3 $M = 5.400 P_t = 2972$ Pa $T_t = 220.65$ K $\mu = 1.444$ e-5 Pa·s $\rho = 0.047$ kg/m <sup>3</sup>					
		hypersonic4 $M = 5.550 P_t = 2753 Pa T_t = 221.15 K \mu = 1.446e-5 Pa \cdot s \rho = 0.043 kg/m^3$					
Hypersonic		hypersonic5 $M = 5.700 P_t = 2549 \text{ Pa} T_t = 221.65 \text{ K } \mu = 1.449 \text{ e-5} \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s } \rho = 0.040 \text{ kg/m}^3$					
conditions		hypersonic6 $M = 5.850 P_t = 2361 \text{ Pa } T_t = 222.15 \text{ K } \mu = 1.452 \text{ e-}5 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s } \rho = 0.037 \text{ kg/m}^3$					
		hypersonic7 $M = 6.000 P_t = 2188 \text{ Pa } T_t = 222.65 \text{ K } \mu = 1.454 \text{ e-}5 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s } \rho = 0.034 \text{ kg/m}^3$					
		hypersonic8 $M = 6.125$ $P_t = 1880$ Pa $T_t = 223.54$ K $\mu = 1.459e-5$ Pa·s $\rho = 0.029$ kg/m <sup>3</sup>					
		hypersonic9 $M = 6.250 P_t = 1610 \text{ Pa } T_t = 224.53 \text{ K } \mu = 1.465 \text{ e-5 } \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s } \rho = 0.025 \text{ kg/m}^3$					
		hypersonic10 $M = 6.375$ $P_t = 1390$ Pa $T_t = 225.52$ K $\mu = 1.470$ e-5 Pa·s $\rho = 0.021$ kg/m <sup>3</sup>					
		hypersonic 11 M = 6.500 $P_t$ = 1197 Pa $T_t$ = 226.51 K $\mu$ = 1.475e-5 Pa·s $\rho$ = 0.018 kg/m <sup>3</sup>					
		hypersonic1 $C_{air} = 297 \text{ m/s } U_t = 1516 \text{ m/s } y^+ = 0.3 (R_{cell} = 16) y_H = 2e-6 \text{ m as ratio} = 380$					
		hypersonic2 $C_{air}$ = 298 m/s $U_t$ = 1562 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
	hypersonic3 $C_{air}$ = 298 m/s $U_t$ = 1608 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380						
	hypersonic4 $C_{air}$ = 298 m/s $U_t$ = 1655 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380						
	hypersonic5 $C_{air}$ = 299 m/s $U_t$ = 1702 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380						
Grid		hypersonic6 $C_{air}$ = 299 m/s $U_t$ = 1748 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
strategy		hypersonic7 $C_{air}$ = 299 m/s $U_t$ = 1795 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
		hypersonic8 $C_{air}$ = 300 m/s $U_t$ = 1836 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
		hypersonic9 $C_{air}$ = 300 m/s $U_t$ = 1878 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
		hypersonic10 $C_{air}$ = 301m/s $U_t$ = 1920 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
		hypersonic11 $C_{air}$ = 302m/s $U_t$ = 1961 m/s $y^+$ = 0.3 ( $R_{cell}$ = 16) $y_H$ = 2e-6 m as ratio = 380					
Numerical	Turbulence model	Spalart-allmaras: turbulent viscosity ratio 1					
		Density: ideal-gas; viscosity: sutherland law; Cp (j/kg-k):					
	Materials	1006.43					
method		Density-based solver adopting ROE flux type					
	Solver	Gradient: least-squares cell-based; Flow: second-order upwind					
		Modified turbulent viscosity: second-order upwind					

**Table 26.** The simulation scheme under hypersonic conditions characterized by NACA0012



<sup>5.1</sup> 5.25 5.4 5.55 5.7 5.85 6.125 6.25 6.375 6.5<br>**Fig. 18.** The aerodynamic environment prediction under hypersonic condition characterized by NACA0012

The aerodynamic environment prediction characterized by NACA0012 under hypersonic conditions is shown in Fig. 18. Firstly, the change of aerodynamic heat is analyzed. The maximum aerodynamic heat rises to 2130 K (1856.85 °C), which was consistent with the aerodynamic heat descriptions in Refs. [40], [41]. The temperature increases by 847 °C, with an average temperature change rate of about  $77 \text{ °C/s}$ . With the flow velocity increases, the aerodynamic thermal variation amplitude and average change rate are higher. The temperature extreme point is in front of the leading edge, and the temperature at the leading edge is higher than that at the trailing edge. Then, the aerodynamic sound pressure is analyzed. The minimum and maximum sound pressure levels are 130.8 dB and 145.3 dB. Fig. 19 demonstrates the distribution of frequencies in acoustic signals. Only in hypersonic 3 the middle and high frequencies above 100 Hz have contribution to the sound signal, and the middle and high frequencies in other substages are basically negligible. In general, it is the low-frequency signal within 100 Hz dominate under hypersonic conditions. Finally, the vibration analysis is conducted, and we first need to ascertain the material composition of the NACA0012 airfoil. The X43 A and X51 A are representative scramjet-propelled hypersonic vehicles, with the airfoil of the former utilizing haynes230 and that of the latter employing inconel718. In this paper, we adopt these two materials and the standard aluminium to analyze the influence of materials on vibration. Fig. 18 shows that Inconel718 has better compression and temperature resistance and could withstand relatively minimum average vibration acceleration and deformation amplitude. The NACA0012 with Inconel718 alloy experiences a maximum vibration acceleration ranges of 120 g to 182 g. Compared to aluminium alloy, the adoption of Inconel718 results in a vibration/deformation optimization range of 21.99 % to 28.02 % and 18.90 % to 22.99 %, respectively. As the flow velocity and temperature increase, both vibration acceleration and deformation also increase, leading to a decrease in the optimization degree achieved by Inconel718. Compared with aluminium alloy, Inconel718 still could bring a minimum optimization amplitude of 21.99 % for vibration acceleration and 18.90 % for deformation. The utilization of novel materials can yield considerable enhancements in structural reliability. To sum up, the scramjet-propelled vehicle encounters significant aerodynamic challenges under hypersonic conditions during the flight.



# **5. Conclusions**

Aiming at the insufficient research on the aerodynamic environment prediction of scramjet-propelled vehicles characterized by NACA0012 under hypersonic conditions, in this paper, based on the wind tunnel experimental data, a comprehensive analysis is performed to study

the influences of key simulation parameters on numerical accuracy and an effective simulation scheme for aerodynamic environment prediction under hypersonic conditions characterized by NACA0012 is proposed. In Section 2, we introduce the adopted grid strategy and numerical method. In Section 3, based on six NACA0012 models, three far field distances, two turbulence models, and two flux types, with additional three cell Reynolds numbers, and four aspect ratios, CFD simulations are conducted and the internal relationship between simulation parameters and numerical accuracy is discussed by comparing the numerical results with the wind tunnel data. Characterized by NACA0012, the optimal simulation configuration under hypersonic conditions is derived and the corresponding aerodynamic environment prediction is carried out in Section 4. Through systematic analysis, the study findings are as follows:

1) Compared with the blunt trailing edge, better numerical results could be obtained with the sharp trailing edge. It's worth noting that an incorrect sharp trailing edge modeling method could result in a higher numerical error ratio than a blunt trailing edge. Therefore, it's essential to select the sharp trailing edge modeling method with great care. Preference is given to the definition formula for designing the sharp trailing edge. The source and number of data points used by the definition formula would directly affect the numerical results. In this paper, the data points used in the definition formula are derived from Airfoil tools and NACA4, and the numerical analysis indicates that NACA4's data points perform better. These two modeling data point sources have a negative correlation between the data points number and the numerical accuracy.

2) Unlike under incompressible conditions, the recommended values for far field distance and flux type are 16L and ROE flux type, respectively. In particular, the appropriate modified turbulent viscosity for Spalart-Allmaras turbulence model is second order upwind. Moreover, unlike taking the blunt cylinder as the characterized object, the proposed values of cell Reynolds number and aspect ratio of airfoil mesh cells close to the shock are no smaller than 16 and no larger than 380, respectively.

3) The extreme aerodynamic environments place high demands on ground environment testing. The temperature of heating device can reach 1900 ℃ and the maximum temperature rise rate can reach 77 ℃/s. The vibration table supports a maximum vibration acceleration of 182 g and the maximum sound pressure level of the sound test reverberation room reaches 145 dB, mainly containing low-frequency signals within 100 Hz. In addition, the influence of aerodynamic heat on the structural vibration increases with the increase of flow velocity, indicating thermal vibration testing should be conducted jointly during environmental testing to better evaluate the structural stability of the vehicle.

4) The utilization of advanced materials like Haynes230 and Inconel718 plays a pivotal role in enhancing structural reliability. Although the optimization efficacy of these materials diminishes with escalating flow velocity and aerodynamic heat, the growth remains considerable. Inconel718 having better compression and heat resistance performance, which is recommended for airfoil design.

5) The research conclusions proposed in this paper provide the basis for the parameter selection and simulation scheme design for predicting the extreme aerodynamic environment experienced by the hypersonic vehicle during the flight. Researchers could obtain more accurate environmental extremes, conduct more efficient structural design and ground testing, avoid redundant protection design, reduce costs, and improve efficiency.

6) The flight trajectory of hypersonic vehicle spans transonic, supersonic, high supersonic and hypersonic four stages. In this paper, we discuss the hypersonic conditions occupying over 90 % of the flight external flow field, while the other three external flow field are not investigated. To further improve the predictive accuracy of vehicle flight environment and provide more accurate numerical references for vehicle design and optimization, future research directions should be firstly to analyze the internal relationships between simulation parameters and numerical accuracy under the other three external flow fields in order, then perform a complete flight environment prediction based on the optimal simulation configurations concluded under four external flow fields.

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### **Data availability**

The datasets generated during and/or analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

### **Author contributions**

Fangli Ding: Conceptualization, methodology, investigation, resources, validation, visualization, writing-original draft preparation. Lu Yang: Conceptualization, methodology, investigation, formal analysis, resources, validation, visualization, writing-review and editing.

# **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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