ABSTRACT

A high supersonic, shocked and heated jet at a Reynolds number of $10^5$ is computed by large-eddy simulations (LES) to directly determine its radiated sound field, using low-dissipation schemes in combination with an adaptive shock-capturing method. The jet exit parameters are a Mach number of $M_e = u_e/c_e = 3.30$, a static pressure of $P_e = 0.5 \times 10^5$ Pa and a static temperature of $T_e = 360$ K, where $u_e$ and $c_e$ are the exit velocity and sound speed. The aerodynamic and the near acoustic fields are compared with theoretical results [1] and experimental data [2, 3, 4]. Shear layer velocity fluctuations are analyzed and some insights into the acoustic field are finally shown.

1. INTRODUCTION

In supersonic jets, large turbulent scales are well-known to play an important role in noise generation [5]. They could especially radiate noise by Mach wave mechanisms in the shear layer [3, 6, 7], by interacting with the shock-cell structure [8, 9] and by non-linear effects at the end of the potential core [10, 11]. However, few experimental [4, 12, 13] and computational [14, 15] studies exist for high Mach number jets and the importance of the different noise mechanisms has not yet been identified clearly.

Over the past ten years, the development of low-dissipation and low-dispersion numerical schemes [16, 17, 18] has permitted to carry out Direct Noise Computation (DNC) on high Reynolds subsonic jets to compute its radiated sound field [19, 20] and to analyze noise sources [21]. However, the computation of the noise radiated by supersonic jets using low-dissipation methods is still a challenging problem. Nevertheless, a DNC without shock-capturing scheme was successfully applied to an underexpanded planar jet at a fully expanded Mach number of $M_j = 1.55$ in order to investigate screech generation.

In the present study, DNC using low-dissipation methods is applied to a high Mach number, heated and shocked jet to compute its acoustic field and to investigate noise sources. The computation of the flow and the radiated sound fields is performed using compressible large eddy simulation (LES). Then, acoustic near-field quantities are propagated to the far-field from a control surface using Euler equations. The outline of the paper is the following. In the first section, the numerical procedure and the simulation parameters are presented. In the second section, the mean aerodynamic field is then examined and the properties of shear layer velocity fluctuations are analyzed. Finally, near-field and far-field acoustic results are shown in the third part.

2. NUMERICAL PROCEDURE

2.1 Simulation parameters

In the present work, an overexpanded jet at an exit Mach number of $M_e = 3.30$, an exit temperature of $T_e = 360$ K and an exit static pressure of $p_e = 0.5 \times 10^5$ Pa, originating at $z = 0$ from a pipe nozzle of length $0.5r_e$ where $r_e$ is the nozzle radius, is considered. The stagnation pressure $p_0$ and temperature $T_0$ are $28.6 \times 10^5$ Pa and 1144 K. The equivalent fully expanded conditions defined from the stagnation conditions and a static pressure of $p_j = 10^5$ Pa are a Mach number of $M_j = 2.83$ and a temperature of $T_j = 439$ K. The acoustic Mach number $M_a$ defined as the ratio of the fully expanded velocity $u_j$ over the ambient sound speed $c_{\infty}$ is equal to 3.47. The Reynolds number $Re$ estimated from the exit quantities is equal to $0.94 \times 10^5$. At the inlet, a Blasius profile for a laminar boundary layer of thickness $\delta = 0.05r_e$ is imposed for the mean velocity and a Crocco-Busemann profile is used for the mean density. Random pressure disturbances of low amplitude are introduced in the nozzle, yielding nozzle-exit maximum velocity fluctuations of 0.3% of the jet velocity.

The jet exit quantities are similar to those of an experiment performed at LEA Poitiers on MARTEL facility [4]. However, due to numerical limitations, the Reynolds number of the simulation is 20 times smaller than the Reynolds number in the experiment.
2.2 Numerical methods

The simulations are performed by solving the unsteady compressible Navier-Stokes equations in cylindrical coordinates [22], using low-dispersion and low-dissipation finite-difference schemes [18, 23]. The numerical treatment of Mohseni & Colonius [24] is used for the jet centerline singularity and the simulation time step is increased by reducing the azimuthal resolution near the jet axis [25]. The LES approach is based on the explicit application of a selective filtering to the flow variables [26] to take into account the dissipative effects of the subgrid scales. Non-reflective acoustic boundary conditions [27] are implemented for radial and upstream boundaries. A sponge zone is used downstream to avoid acoustical reflections at the outflow boundary [27]. It has been successfully implemented in previous LES of subsonic round jets [21, 28] and of a supersonic rectangular jet [8]. An adaptative and conservative shock-capturing scheme is used to remove Gibbs oscillations near shocks [29]. The grid used for the present jet contains \( n_r \times n_\theta \times n_z = 256 \times 128 \times 840 = 28 \times 10^6 \) points, and 120,000 iterations carried out using NEC SX - 8 computers are necessary to ensure statistical convergence. The radial and the axial mesh spacing are presented in the figure 1. In the radial direction, the mesh is refined down to \( \Delta r = 0.0072 r_e \) at the nozzle lip to have an accurate resolution of the shear layer. In the axial direction, the grid is stretched downstream of \( z = 52 r_e \) to implement the sponge zone. To compute far-field noise spectra and directivities, the LES near-field obtained on a control surface located at \( r = 9.5 r_e \) is propagated to 50 radii from the nozzle exit, by solving the Euler equations with the shock capturing scheme [29] on a grid of \( 561 \times 128 \times 1001 = 72 \times 10^6 \) points. the mesh size is constant and equal to \( \Delta r_{\text{acou}} = 0.1 r_e \) in the radial direction and to \( \Delta z_{\text{acou}} = 0.074 r_e \) in the axial direction. The numerical cut-off Strouhal number is thus \( St_c = 2 f_c r_e / U_e = 1.37 \) where \( f_c = c_{\infty} / (4 \Delta r_{\text{acou}}) \).

![Figure 1: Mesh size of the grid in the LES computation: in (a) the radial and in (b) the axial directions.](image1)

![Figure 2: Snapshots in the \((z, r)\) plane of density gradient norm \(\nabla \rho\) in gray scale, of azimuthal vorticity \(\omega_\theta\) in color scale in the jet and of fluctuating pressure \(p'\) in color scale outside the jet. The color scale ranges for levels from \(-5000\) to \(5000\) Pa for \(p'\).](image2)
3. AERODYNAMIC RESULTS

3.1 Instantaneous field
Snapshots of azimuthal vorticity $\omega_\theta$, of density gradient norm $\nabla \rho$ and of fluctuating pressure field is shown in figure 2. The distances are made dimensionless with respect to the nozzle radius $r_e$. Shock cells and temperature fronts are visible using the density gradient. The development of the turbulence in the shear layer and turbulent mixing after the jet potential core can be observed. Vorticity due to shock interactions [30] can also be noticed in the potential core close to the jet axis. The acoustic waves radiate mainly in the downstream direction and Mach waves are visible attached to the shear layer. Low-amplitude waves can also be seen in the upstream direction.

3.2 Mean flow features
The fields of mean axial velocity $<u_z>$, mean static pressure $<p>$ and mean radial velocity $<u_r>$ are presented in figure 3. The sonic line corresponding to an axial Mach number $M_z = <u_z>/c$ equal to 1, where $c$ is the local sound speed, is also plotted in figure 3(a). The sonic core length is thus $L_s = 36r_e$. As expected, a shock-cell structure is observed on the mean pressure field in figure 3(b) due to the adaptation of the jet exit conditions to the ambient field. Shock cells could also be noticed on the mean radial velocity colormap in figure 3(c). Outside the flow field, the negative radial velocity is linked to the jet axial development. The variations of the inverse of the centerline velocity $u_{axis}$ is plotted in figure 4. Data are made dimensionless according to the jet exit conditions. The end of the potential core $L_e$ is located around $z = 20r_e$, which is in fair agreement with numerical results from Nonomura & Fuji [14, 15]. Moreover, data obtained at MARTEL experimental facility [4] with similar exit conditions, but with a higher Reynolds number, display the end of the potential core around 24 radii and the end of the sonic core around 50 radii which compare roughly with the present computation. In perfectly expanded self-similarity jets, mean centerline velocity $u_{axis}$ is indeed given by:

$$\frac{u_{axis}}{u_j} = A \frac{2r_j}{z - z_0}$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where $u_j$ and $r_j$ are the fully expanded velocity and radius, $A$ is the decay constant and $z_0$ denotes the virtual origin. In the present simulation, $A = 4.90$ is found if fully expanded quantities are used and $A$ is equal to 3.44 if exit conditions are used. For unheated jets [31], $A$ is usually between 5 and 6.5.

![Figure 3](image)

Figure 3: Representation in the $(z,r)$ plane of (a) mean axial velocity $<u_z>$, of (b) mean static pressure $<p>$ and of (c) mean radial velocity $<u_r>$. The color scales range for levels from 80 to 1255 m/s for $<u_z>$, from $0.5 \times 10^5$ to $1.5 \times 10^5$ Pa for $<p>$ and from $-30$ to $30$ m/s for $<u_r>$. The sonic line is plotted in black on the mean axial velocity field.

The discrepancies between the velocity decays from the present simulation and the literature may come from temperature and Mach number effects [32, 33] or from changes in the initial boundary layer thickness [22, 34]. The variations of the centerline mean static pressure $<p>$ are plotted in figure 5, where six shock-cells are noticed. The static pressure after the first shock on the jet centerline can be estimated using straight shock formula. A pressure of $6.3 \times 10^5$ Pa is found, which is in agreement with the simulation results in figure 5. In the present computation, the average shock-cell length $L_{shock}$ is equal to $4.6r_e$. The average shock-cell length could also be estimated using the formula of Tam and Tanna [9]:

$$L_{shock} = 2\pi(M_j^2 - 1)^{1/2}r_j/\mu_1$$  \hspace{1cm} (2)

where $r_j$ is the fully expanded radius and $\mu_1 = 2.40483$. Using equation 2, it is found $L_{shock} = 5.6r_e$. 

\[\text{(Equation 1)}\]

\[\text{(Equation 2)}\]
Figure 4: Variations along the jet centerline of the inverse of the mean longitudinal velocity $u_{\text{axis}}$: present computation, — — — line to evaluate the similarity parameter.

Figure 5: Variations of the mean static pressure $\langle p \rangle$ along the jet centerline.

The shock-cell spacing provided by the computation appears to be smaller than expected by the formula of Tam and Tanna [9]. This trend might be due to the fact that the estimation of Tam and Tanna [9] does not consider the shear-layer thickness [8, 35, 36].

3.3 Turbulent flow properties

Root-mean-square (rms) variations of the axial velocity along the jet centerline and of the axial and radial velocities along the line $r = r_j$ are plotted in figure 6. The maximum of rms velocity along the jet axis is reached after the end of the potential core. Along the line $r = r_j$, the peak of the radial fluctuating velocity is also obtained at the end of the potential core. However, the maximum of the rms axial velocity in the shear layer is located before the end of the potential core and axial velocity fluctuations are nearly constant between $z = 13r_e$ and $z = 20r_e$.

To investigate turbulence properties in the shear layer, power spectral densities of axial and radial velocity fluctuations are shown in figure 7 as function of the axial position and of the Strouhal number, $St_e = 2fr_e/u_e$. At an axial position $z$, the power spectral density of the axial and radial velocities is normalized by their maximum value. The mean shocks location on the jet centerline are indicated in the same figure. Shock positions are determined from local maxima of mean static pressure in figure 5. Axial evolutions of the normalized power density spectra of the axial and radial velocities have the same trend. Between $z = 5r_e$ and $z = 10r_e$, axial and radial velocities are dominated by fluctuations at a Strouhal number of $0.3 - 0.4$. This flow region corresponds to a first growth of the shear layer rms velocities in figure 6. Between $z = 10r_e$ and $z = 13r_e$, the peak Strouhal number of fluctuating velocities decreases until $St_e = 0.1$. After $z = 13r_e$ until the seventh shock, velocity components from $St_e = 0.07$ to $St_e = 0.16$ are significant and two peaks are found at $St_e = 0.11 - 0.12$ and $St_e = 0.08 - 0.09$. The first
peak vanishes at the end of the potential core for the axial velocity fluctuations in figure 7 (a). After the end of the potential core a low-frequency peak appears around a Strouhal number of 0.05. For an axisymmetric supersonic jet with a convection velocity \( u_c \) equal to 0.7\( U_\infty \), Tam et al. [1] estimate a screech peak frequency at \( St_e = 0.087 \). This frequency is in agreement with the peaks found in the shear layer at \( St_e = 0.11 - 0.12 \) and \( St_e = 0.08 - 0.09 \).

4 ACOUSTIC RESULTS

4.1 Acoustic near-field

All the acoustic results have been computed with a reference pressure of \( 2 \times 10^{-5} \) Pa. The overall sound pressure level (OASPL) at a distance of 9.5 radii from the jet centerline is compared to experimental data from Greska et al. [2] in figure 8. The experimental jet is fully-expanded, with an exit Mach number \( M_j \) of 2 and a ratio of stagnation temperature over ambient temperature of 4. The OASPL of the present simulation is in fair agreement with experimental data provided at \( r = 8r_j, 10r_j \) and \( 12r_j \), where \( r_j \) is the jet radius. The variation of the peak location might be due to a difference of potential core length between simulation and experiment.

The cross-correlation function \( R^{p'}(\theta) \) of the fluctuating pressure \( p' \) at point \((r, \theta, z)\) is defined by:

\[
R^{p'}(\delta \theta) = \frac{< p'(\theta)p'(\theta + \delta \theta) >}{< p'^2(\theta) >^{1/2} < p'^2(\theta + \delta \theta) >^{1/2}}
\]

where \( \delta \theta \) is the azimuthal separation. The cross-correlation function \( R^{\theta} \) obtained along the line \( r = 9.5r_e \) is then decomposed into a Fourier sum [38] as follows:

\[
R^{\theta}(\delta \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n^\theta \cos(n\delta \theta)
\]

where \( a_n^\theta \) is the relative amplitude of the Fourier mode \( n \). The coefficients of the axisymmetric mode, \( n = 0 \), and of the three modes, \( n = 1, 2, 3 \), along the line \( r = 9.5r_e \) are presented in figure 9. Distinct behaviors are noticed. Before \( z = 31r_e \), the mode \( n = 1 \) dominates the near acoustic field and downstream of \( z = 31r_e \), the axisymmetric mode \( n = 0 \) has the highest amplitude. Finally, around \( z = 13r_e \), the acoustic field appears to be less correlated, and the modes \( n = 2 \) and \( n = 3 \) cannot be neglected.

The variations of the power spectral density (PSD) of the fluctuating pressure along the line \( r = 9.5r_e \) are shown in figure 10. A maximum is observed downstream of \( z = 20r_e \). Between \( St_e = 0.03 \) and \( St_e = 0.2 \), a peak is noticed in the up-stream direction. The peak frequency corresponds to the screech frequency predict by Tam et al. [1].

Figure 7: Normalized power density of the velocity fluctuations in the shear layer along the line \( r = r_j \): (a) axial velocity fluctuations and (b) radial velocity fluctuations. The color scale ranges for levels from 0.1 to 1. -- -- -- Estimation of the screech peak frequency given by Tam et al. [1] and • average shock position along the jet centreline.
Figure 8: Variations of the overall sound pressure level (OASPL) in the axial direction. Present computation at $r = 9.5r_e = 11.8r_j$, measurements of Greska et al. [2]: $x$ at $r = 12r_j$, $o$ at $r = 10r_j$ and $+$ at $r = 8r_j$.

Figure 9: Variations in the axial direction of the coefficients $a_n^\theta$ obtained from the azimuthal decomposition $R^{\theta}$ of fluctuating pressure at $r = 9.5r_e$: $n = 0$, $n = 1$, $n = 2$ and $n = 3$.

Finally, at $z = 40r_e$, the broadband noise has vanished and a low-frequency noise between $St_e = 0.05 - 0.075$ and a peak at $St_e = 0.1$ dominate the spectrum. The peaks found between $St_e = 0.08$ and $St_e = 0.12$ at $z = 0$ and $z = 10r_e$ corresponds to the peak frequencies found downstream of $z = 13r_e$ in the shear layer in figure 7 and are in fair agreement with the screech frequency predicted by Tam et al. [1]. The broadband noise observed at $z = 10r_e$ and $z = 20r_e$ can be due to shock-associated noise [9] or Mach waves radiated by the shear layer. The second hypothesis is supported by the fluctuating pressure snapshot in figure 2 where high intensity Mach waves are noticed along the line $r = 9.5r_e$. Seiner et al. [3] has established the the mode $n = 1$ dominates Mach waves generation in supersonic hot jet.

Figure 10: Variations in the axial direction of the power spectral density (PSD) of the fluctuating pressure at $r = 9.5r_e$. The color scale ranges for levels from 150 to 180 dB. $-$ Estimation of the screech frequency according to Tam et al. [1].

Figure 11: $PSD$ of the fluctuating pressure in the acoustic near field at: $\text{(r, z) = (9.5r_e, 0)}$, $\text{(r, z) = (9.5r_e, 10)}$, $\text{(r, z) = (9.5r_e, 20r_e)}$ and $\text{(r, z) = (9.5r_e, 40r_e)}$. $-$ Estimation of the screech frequency according to Tam et al. [1].

As reported by the azimuthal decomposition realized in figure 9, the mode $n = 1$ dominates the near-field at $z = 20r_e$, therefore, the broadband noise might be linked with Mach waves mecanisms. Finally, the source of the turbulent mixing noise is located at the end of the potential core [21] and generates axisymmetric acoustic waves [39]. The low-frequency noise between $St_e = 0.05 - 0.075$ at $z = 40r_e$ is in the area dominated by the axisymmetric mode in figure 9. Moreover, velocity fluctuations around $St_e = 0.05$ are found downstream the potential core in figure 7, thus the low-frequency noise could be due to turbulent mixing.
4.2 Acoustic far-field

The LES near-field obtained on a control surface located at $r = 9.5r_e$ is now propagated to 50 radii from the nozzle exit using Euler equations in combination with the adaptative shock-capturing scheme [29]. A snapshot of acoustic pressure is shown in figure 12. Acoustic waves propagate mainly in the downstream direction, but shock-associated noise is noticed in the upstream direction. The power spectral density of the acoustic pressure is presented in figure 13 as a function of the Strouhal number $St_e$ and of the angle of observation in the downstream direction $\theta$. The origin is taken at the nozzle exit. A maximum of acoustic radiation is observed from $\theta = 20^\circ$ and $\theta = 40^\circ$ and between $St_e = 0.03$ and $St_e = 0.2$. The peak frequency of the broadband shock-associated noise $f_{\text{shock}}$ is estimated by the model of Tam & Tanna [9]:

$$f_{\text{shock}} = \frac{u_c}{L_{\text{shock}}(1 - M_c \cos(\theta))}$$  \hspace{1cm} (5)

where $u_c$ is the convection velocity taken equal to $0.7u_j$ for axisymmetric jets and $M_c = u_c/c_\infty$ is the convective Mach number. The frequency predicted by the model of Tam & Tanna [9] is plotted in figure 13 but it is not in good agreement with the simulation. However, it can be noticed in figure 6 that the maximum of the axial velocity fluctuations is located far from the nozzle exit between the third and the fifth shock.

Figure 12: Snapshots in the $(z, r)$ plane of the vorticity in the jet and of the fluctuating pressure propagating using Euler equations. The color scale ranges for levels from $-3000$ to $3000$ Pa for the fluctuating pressure. Recorded data at $r = 50r_e$.

Figure 13: Colormap of the power spectral density of the fluctuating pressure in the far-field as a function of the Strouhal number $St_e$ and of the angle of observation $\theta$. The color scale ranges for levels from $140$ to $180$ dB. Prediction of the central frequency of shock associated noise given by equation 5: $\ldots$ without origin correction and $\ldots\ldots$ with origin correction.

The origin of the shock-associated noise model [9] is then modified and taken at the fourth shock at $z = 17r_e$. The frequency predicted by the model with a modified origin is also plotted in figure 13 and is in fair agreement with computed data.
CONCLUSION

Direct Noise Computation has been performed for a high Mach number heated jet using compressible large-eddy simulation. The mean flow field and the near acoustic field level have been characterized. An analysis of velocity fluctuations in the jet has shown the presence of different modes. In the shear layer, two peaks at $St_e = 0.08 - 0.09$ and $St_e = 0.11 - 0.12$ are closed to the screech frequency prediction of Tam et al. [1]. Moreover, low-frequency fluctuations located at the end of the potential core were found at $St_e = 0.05 - 0.06$. They might be linked with the turbulent mixing noise. The jet radiates mainly in the downstream direction between $St_e = 0.03$ and $St_e = 0.2$. A more detailed analysis is needed to clearly identify the role of the different noise mechanisms [5] on the acoustic spectra. This study could be possible by using far-field analysis, linear stability theory [3], correlations [10, 21] and cross-spectra [8].

Acknowledgements

The first author is grateful to the Centre National d’Études Spatiales (CNES) for financial support. This work was granted access to the HPC resources of IDRIS under the allocation 2009-020204 made by GENCI (Grand Equipement National de Calcul Intensif).

REFERENCES


