

# **Study of Unsteady Flow in Transonic Compressors at Near Stall Operation With a Large Eddy Simulation**

**Chunill HAH**

**NASA Glenn Research Center,  
MS 5-11, Cleveland, Ohio 44135**



# Objectives

- Current RANS with various Turbulence models does not calculate unsteady flow features in transonic compressor adequately for many applications.
- LES can be applied for better calculation.
- Flow fields in two transonic compressors are used for evaluation.



# Order of presentation

- Flow field in the Darmstadt's Rotor 1.
- NASA Rotor 37 Flow field.
- Concluding Remarks.



# Numerical Procedure

- 3<sup>rd</sup>-order scheme for convection terms.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>-order central differencing for diffusion terms.
- Sub-iteration at each time step.
- Dynamic scheme for subgrid-scale model.

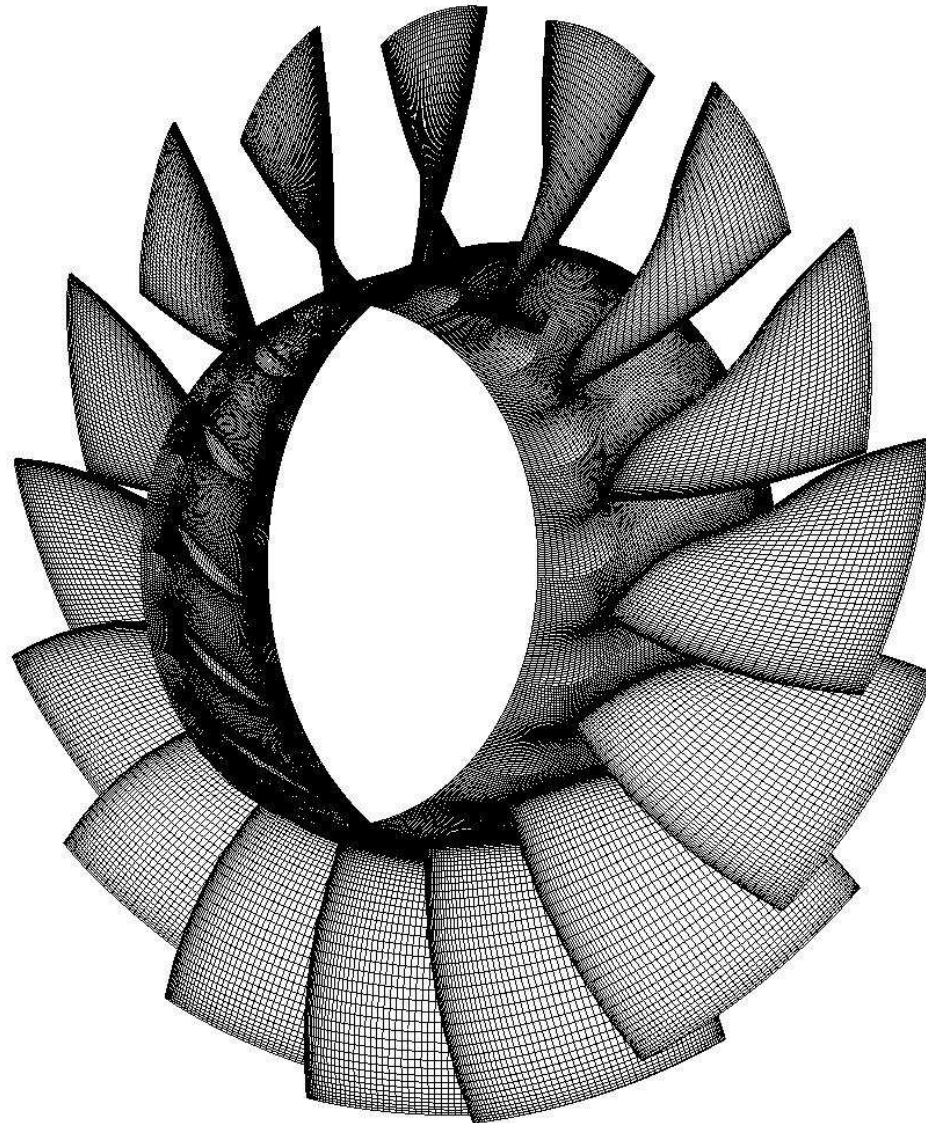
# Computational grid

Single passage LES. (198x77x200)

Full annulus LES. (16x100x77x200)

NASA Columbia Cluster used.

# Full annulus grid near the rotor

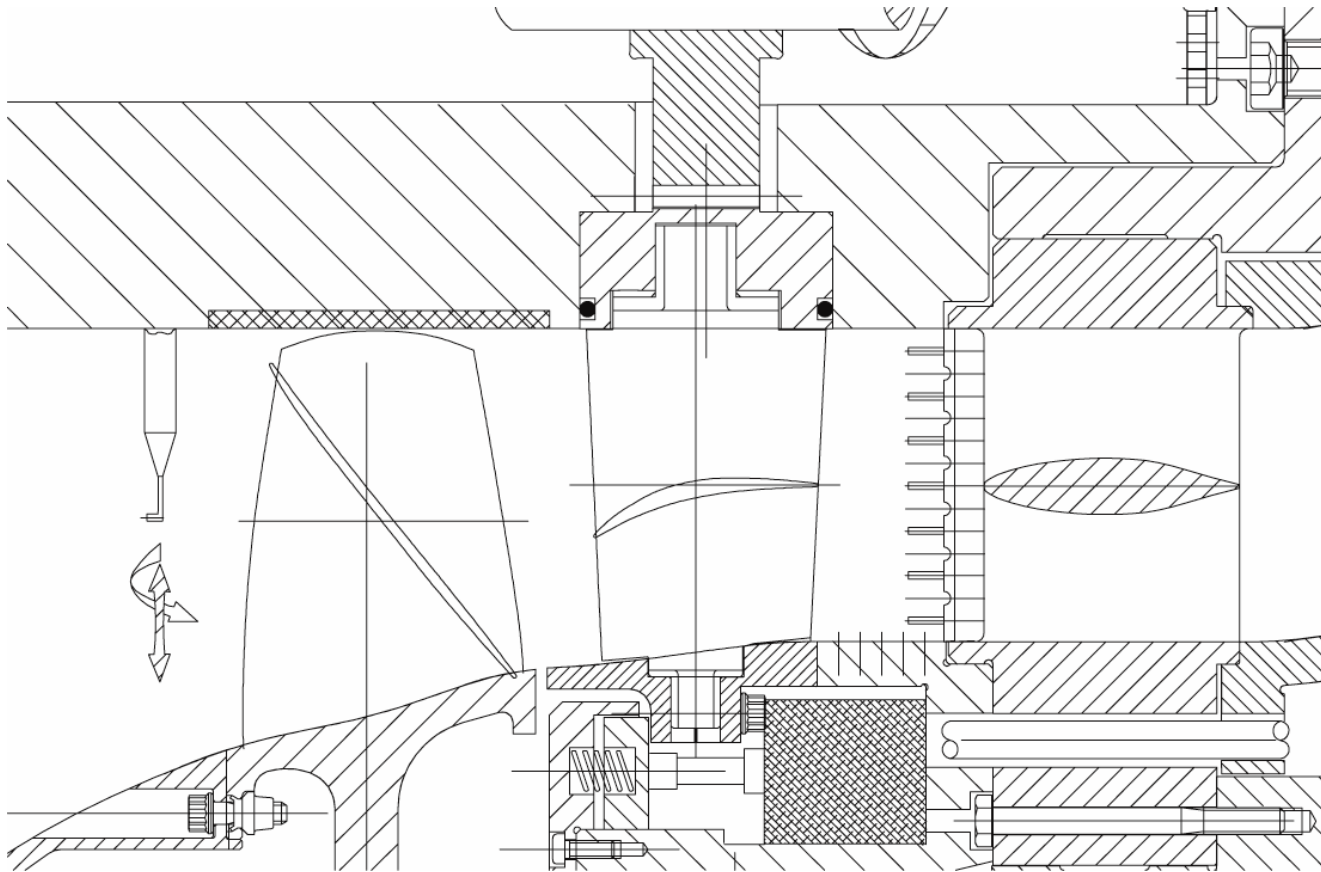




## **Flow characteristics in transonic compressors at near stall operation**

- Tip leakage vortex, passage shock, vortex shedding.
- Self-induced unsteady flow due to interactions among these.
- Non-synchronous frequencies/vibrations due to unsteadiness and instability observed.

# Cross section of Darmstadt's compressor test rig





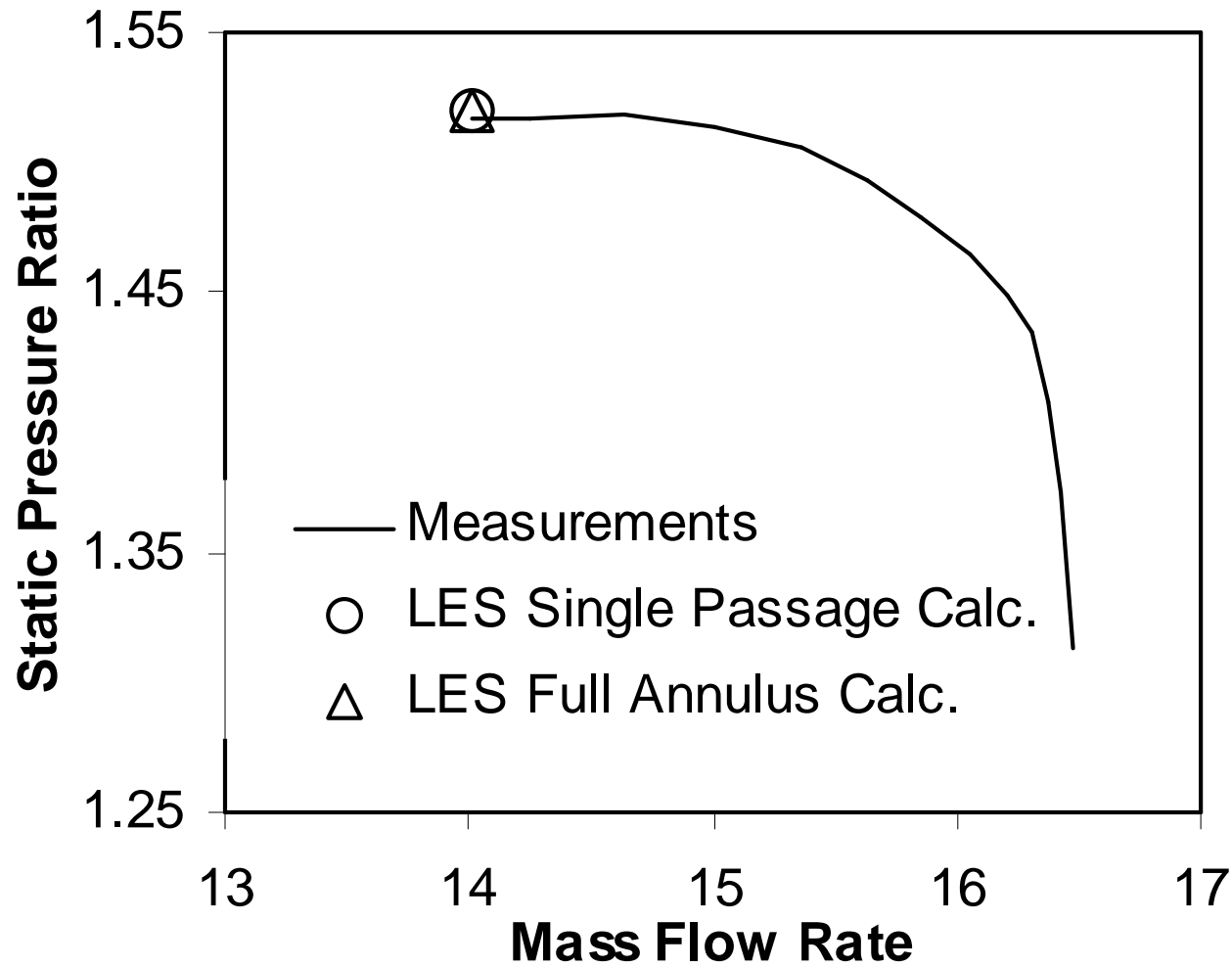
# Darmstadt Rotor1



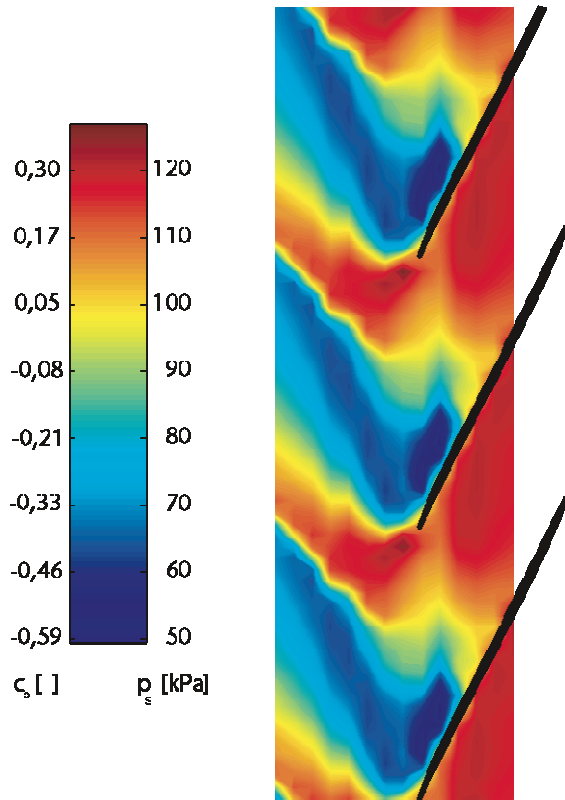
# Darmstadt Rotor 1 design parameters

Pressure ratio	1.5
Corrected mass flow rate	16.0 kg/s
Corrected tip speed	398 m/s
Inlet relative Mach number at tip	1.35
Inlet relative Mach number at hub	0.70
Shaft speed	20,000 rpm
Tip diameter	0.38 m
Rotor mean aspect ratio	0.94
Rotor solidity (hub/mid/tip)	1.9/1.5/1.2

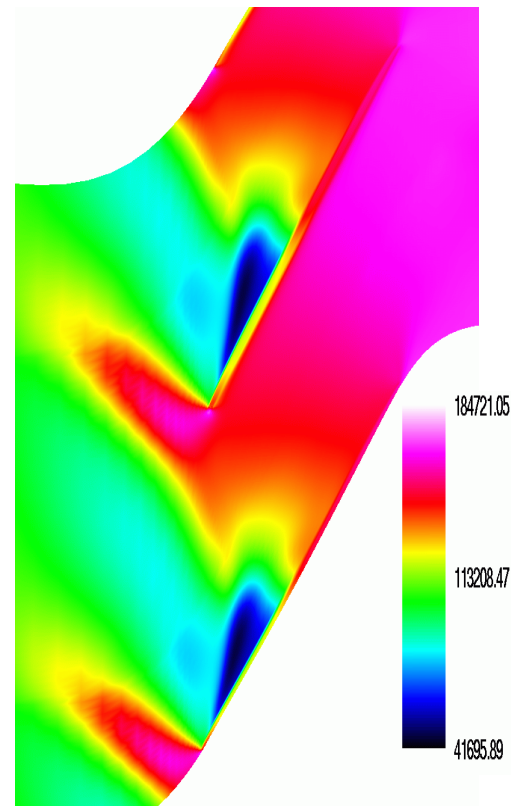
# Pressure rise characteristics of the rotor



# Casing static pressure near stall



measurement

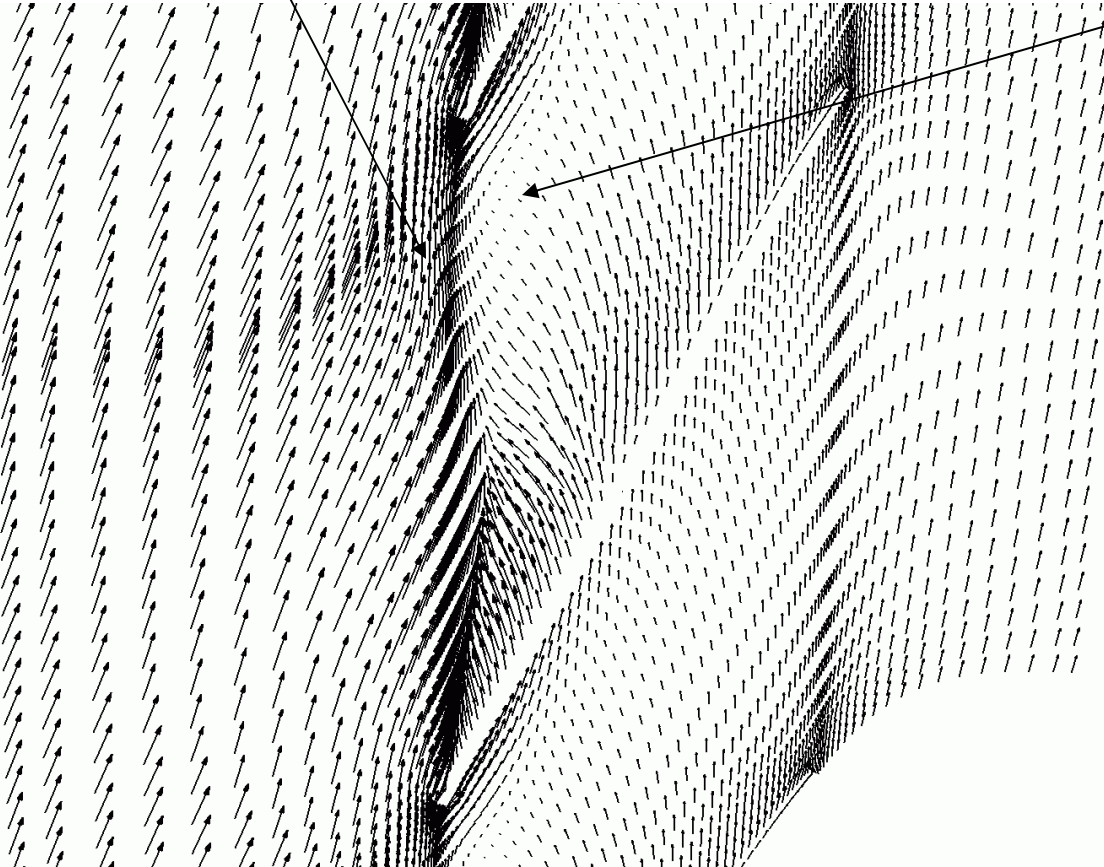


calculation

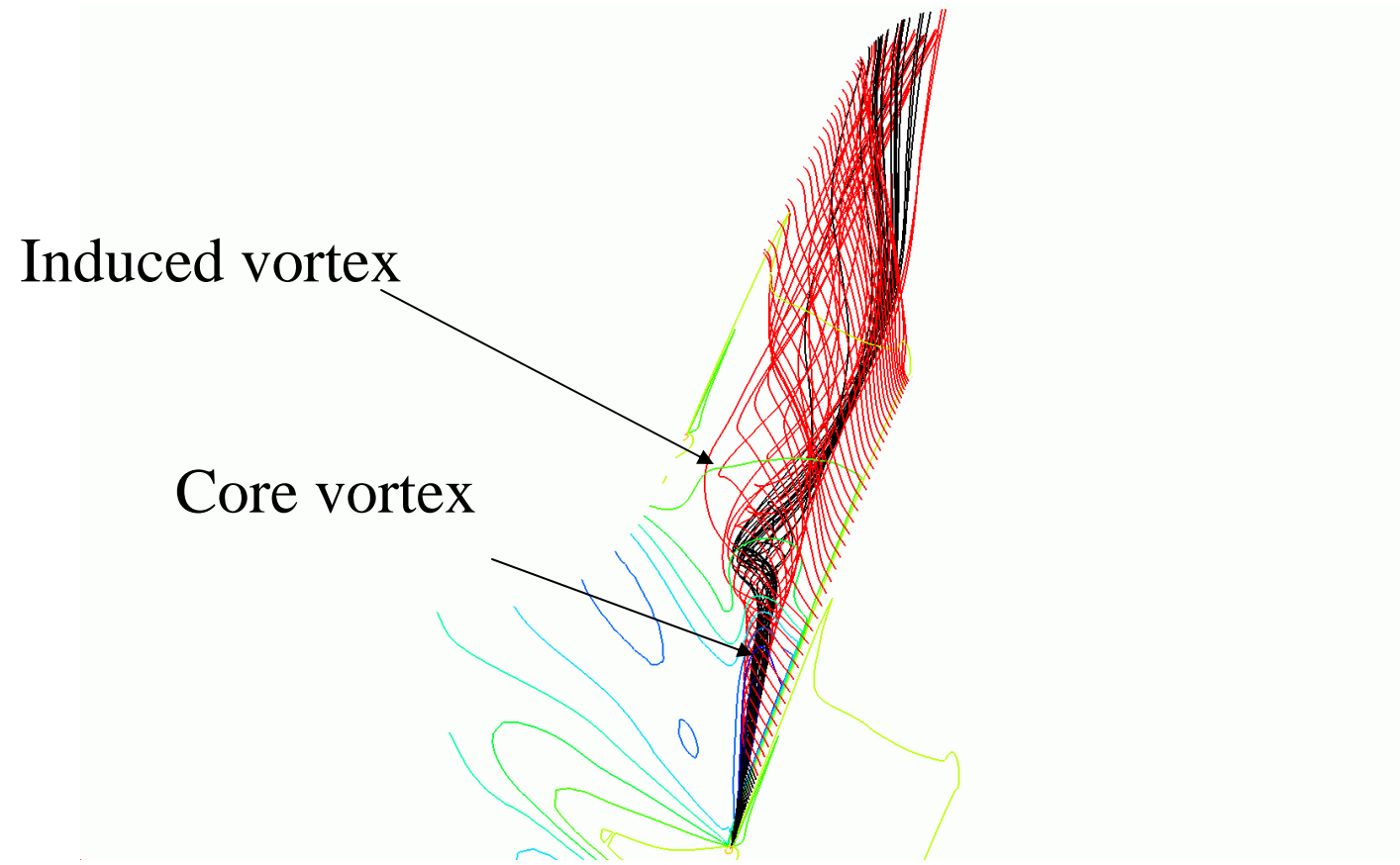
# Velocity vectors at rotor tip, near stall, averaged LES

Induced vortex

Low momentum area

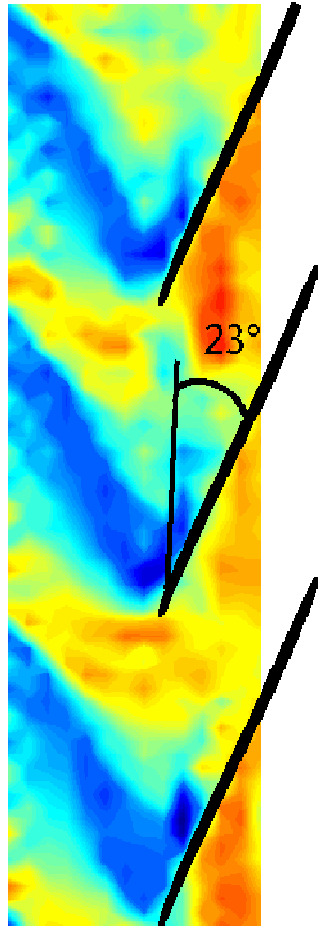


# Particle traces at rotor tip

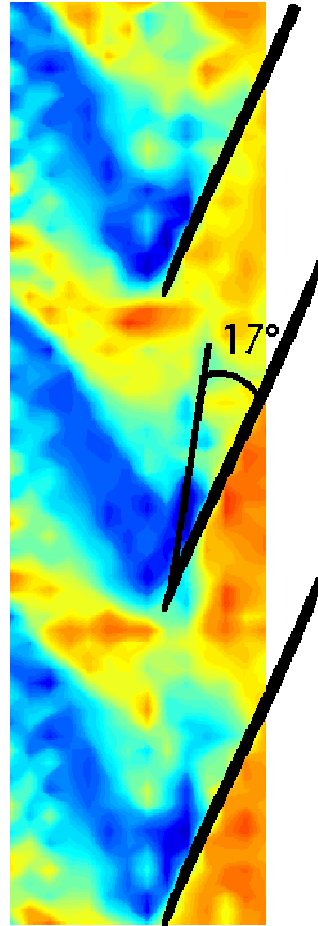


# Measured endwall pressure variation

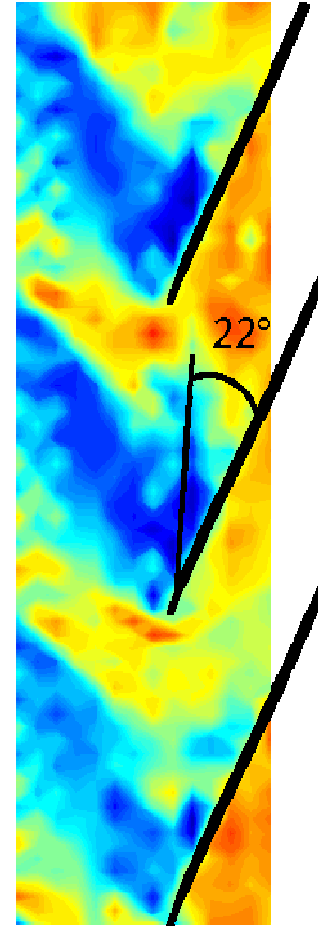
revolution 2251



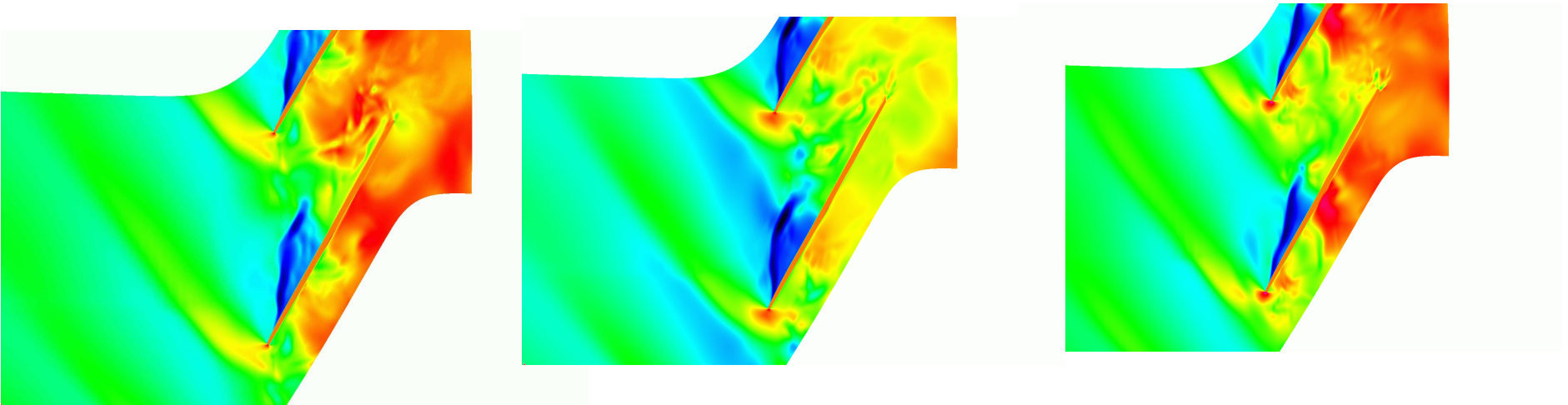
revolution 2252



revolution 2253

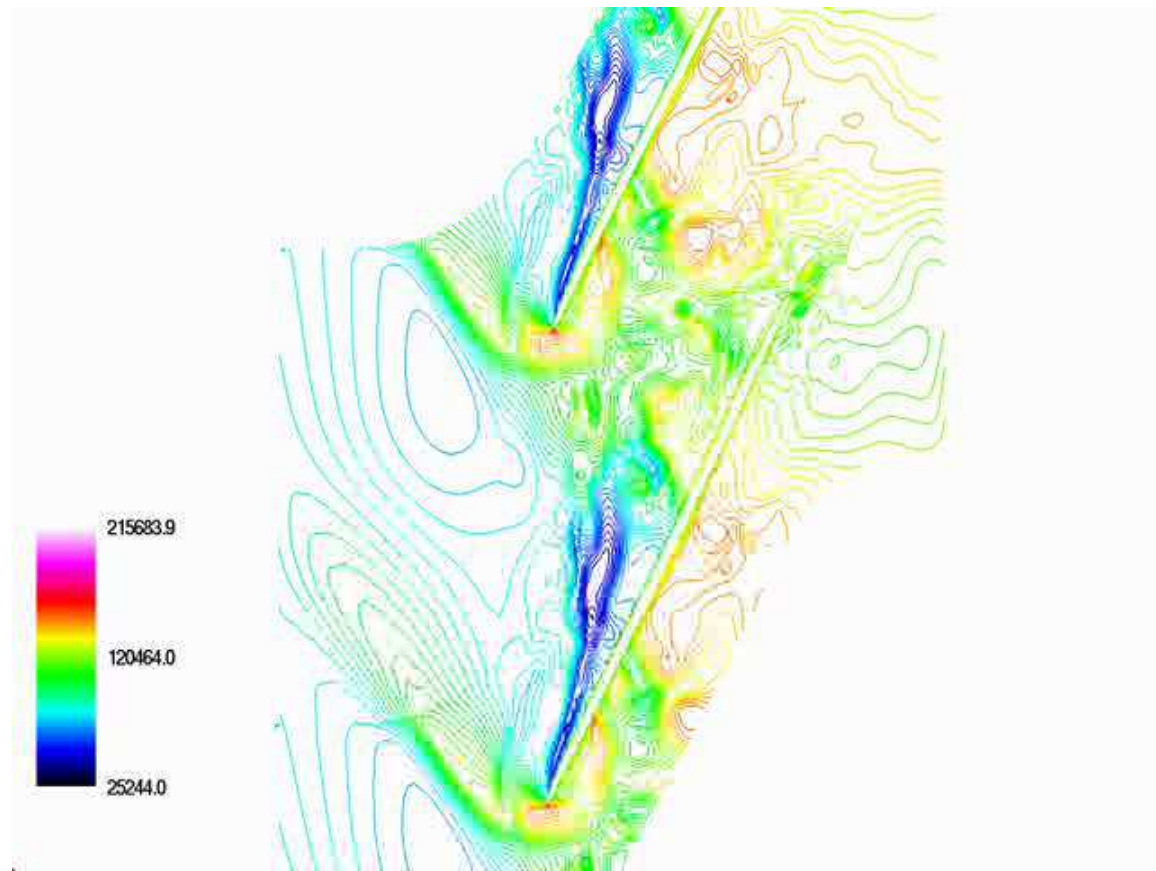


# Calculated instantaneous casing pressure

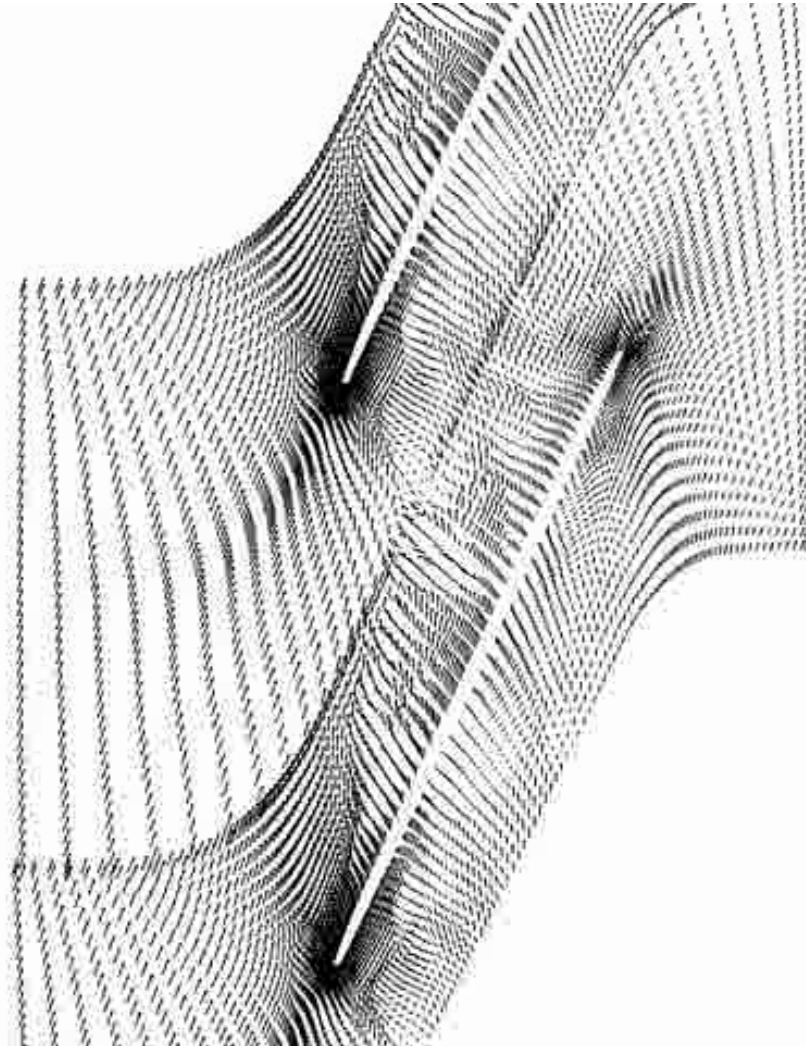


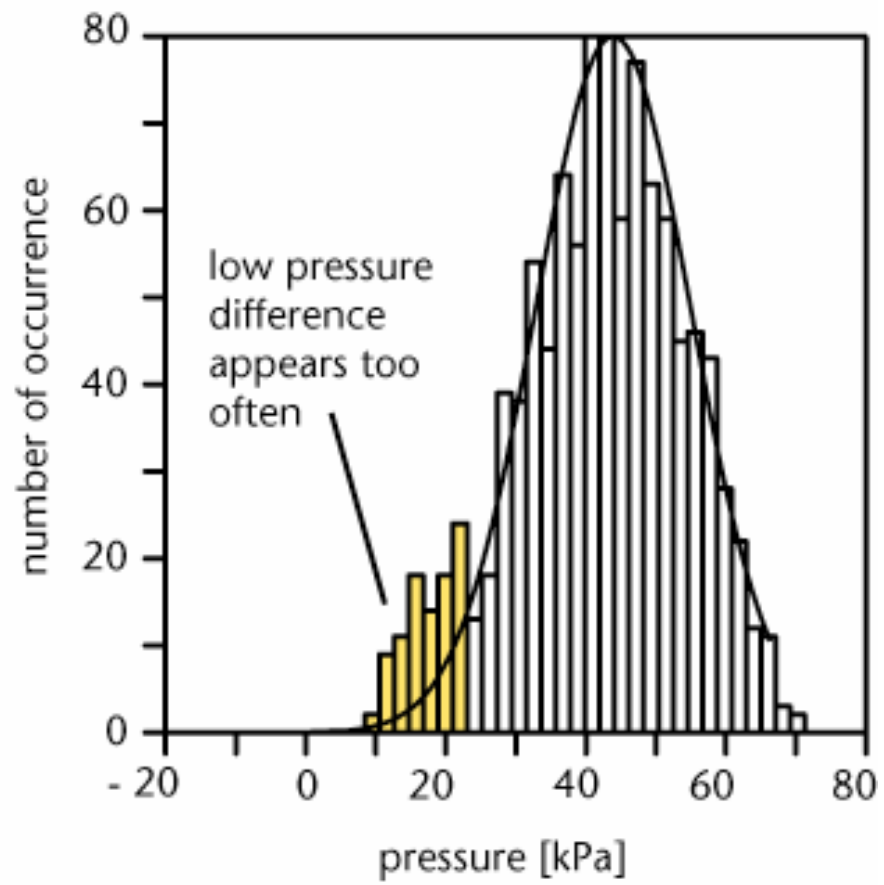
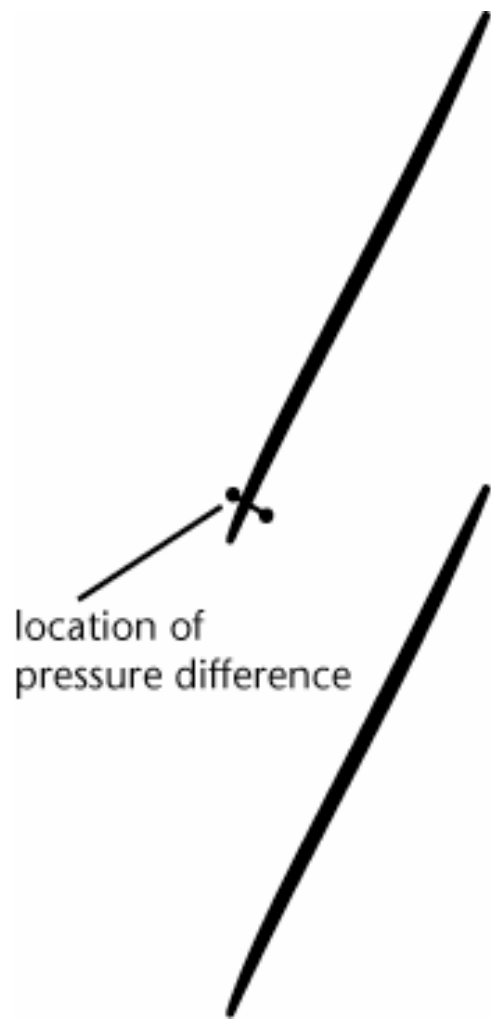


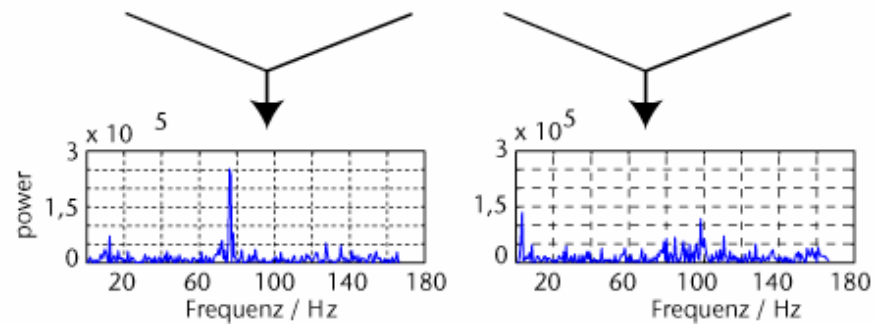
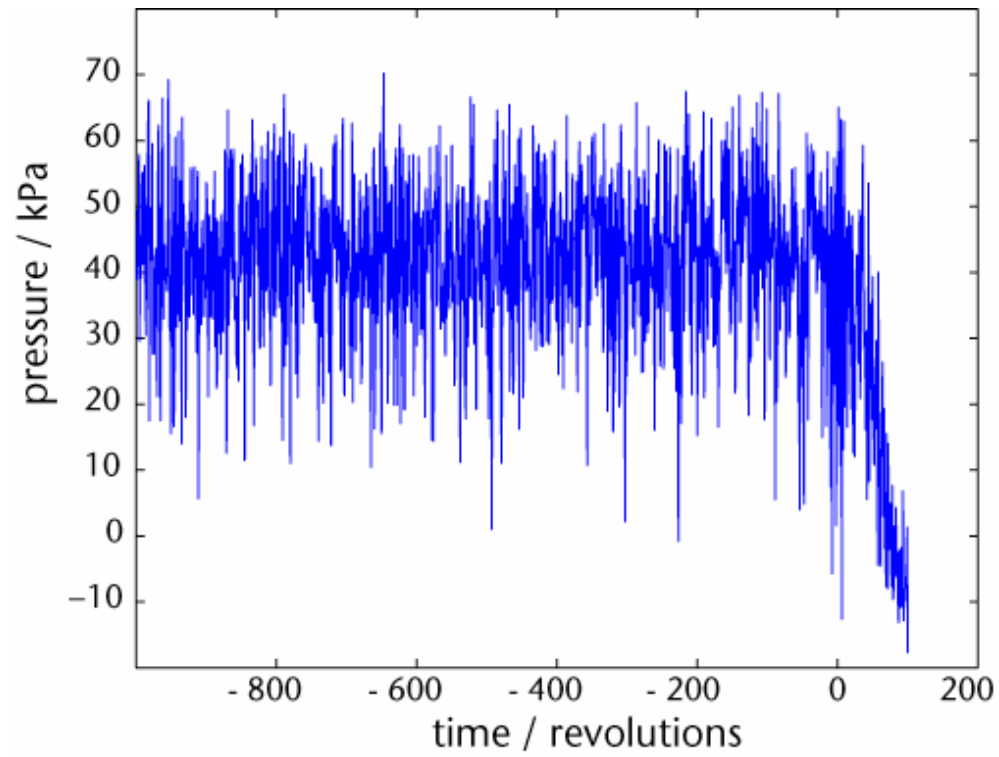
# Pressure contours at blade tip (LES)



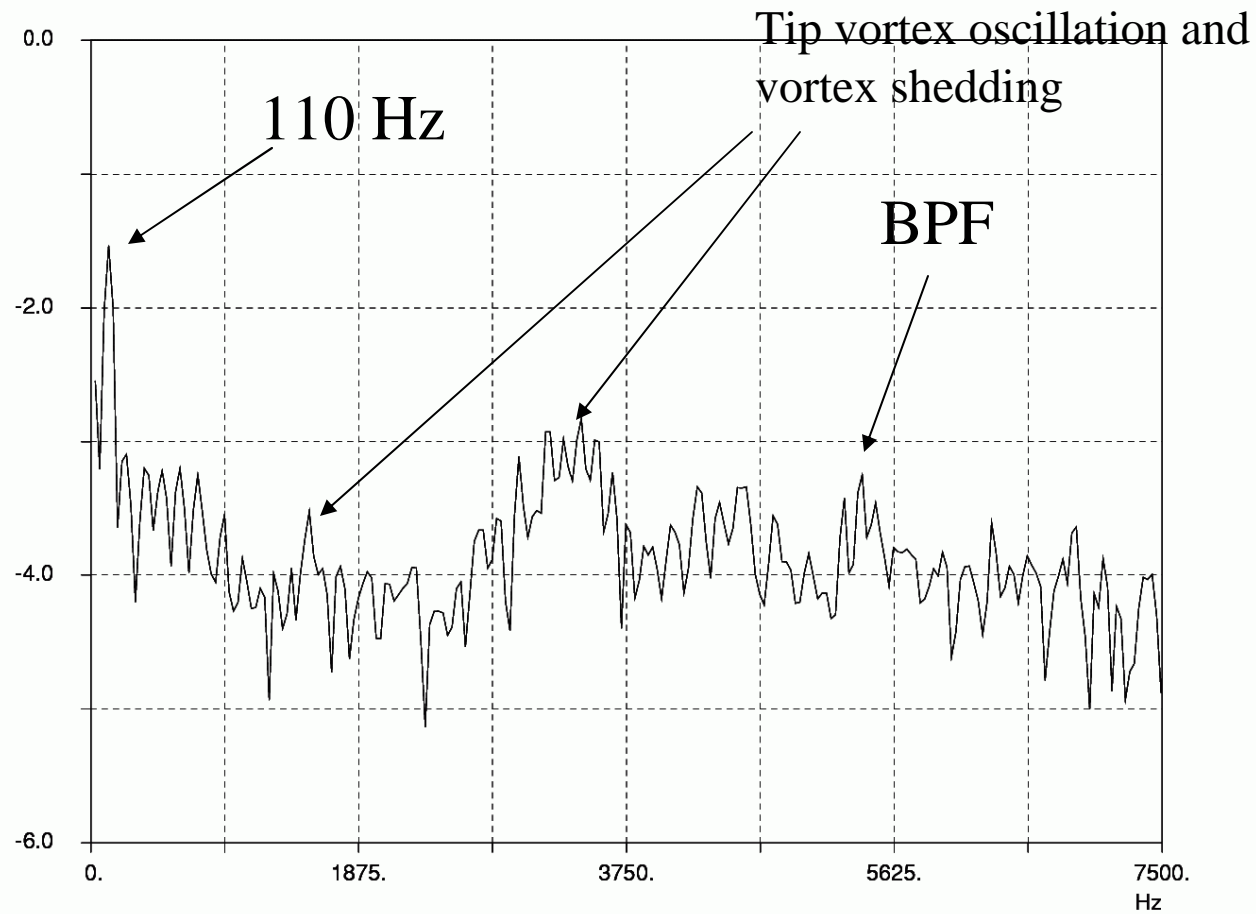
# Instantaneous velocity vectors at blade tip (LES)



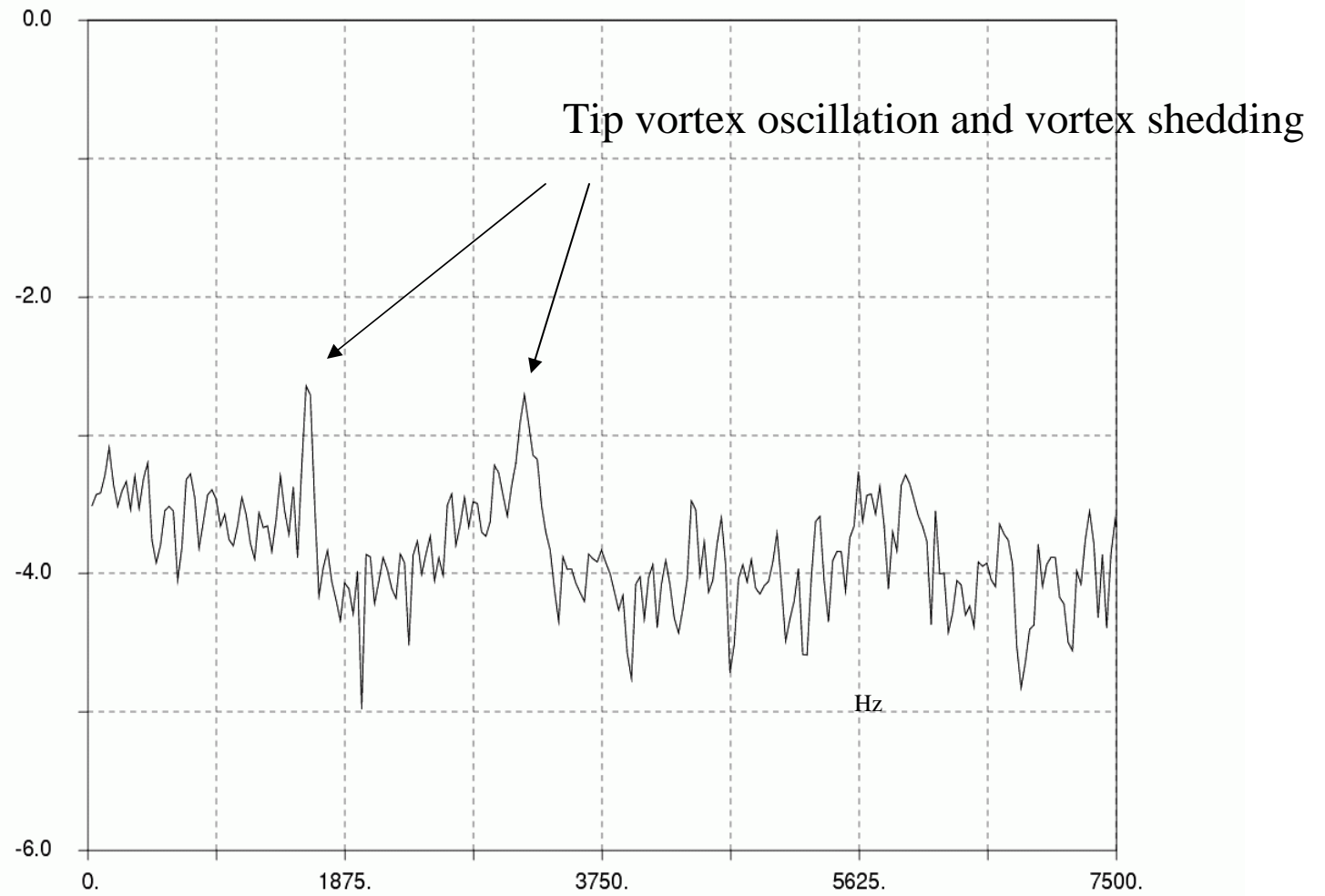




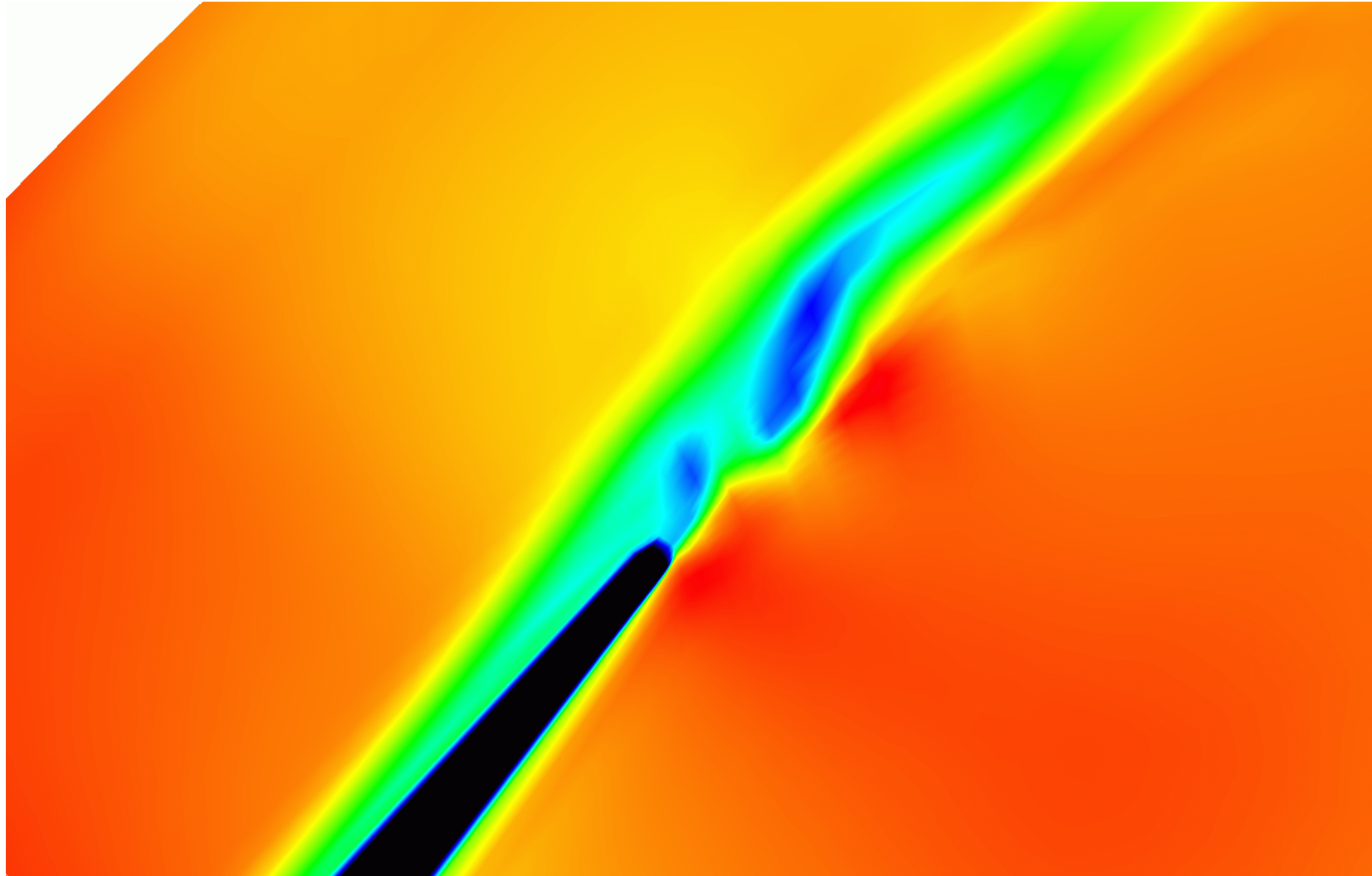
# Wall pressure spectrum from full annulus LES



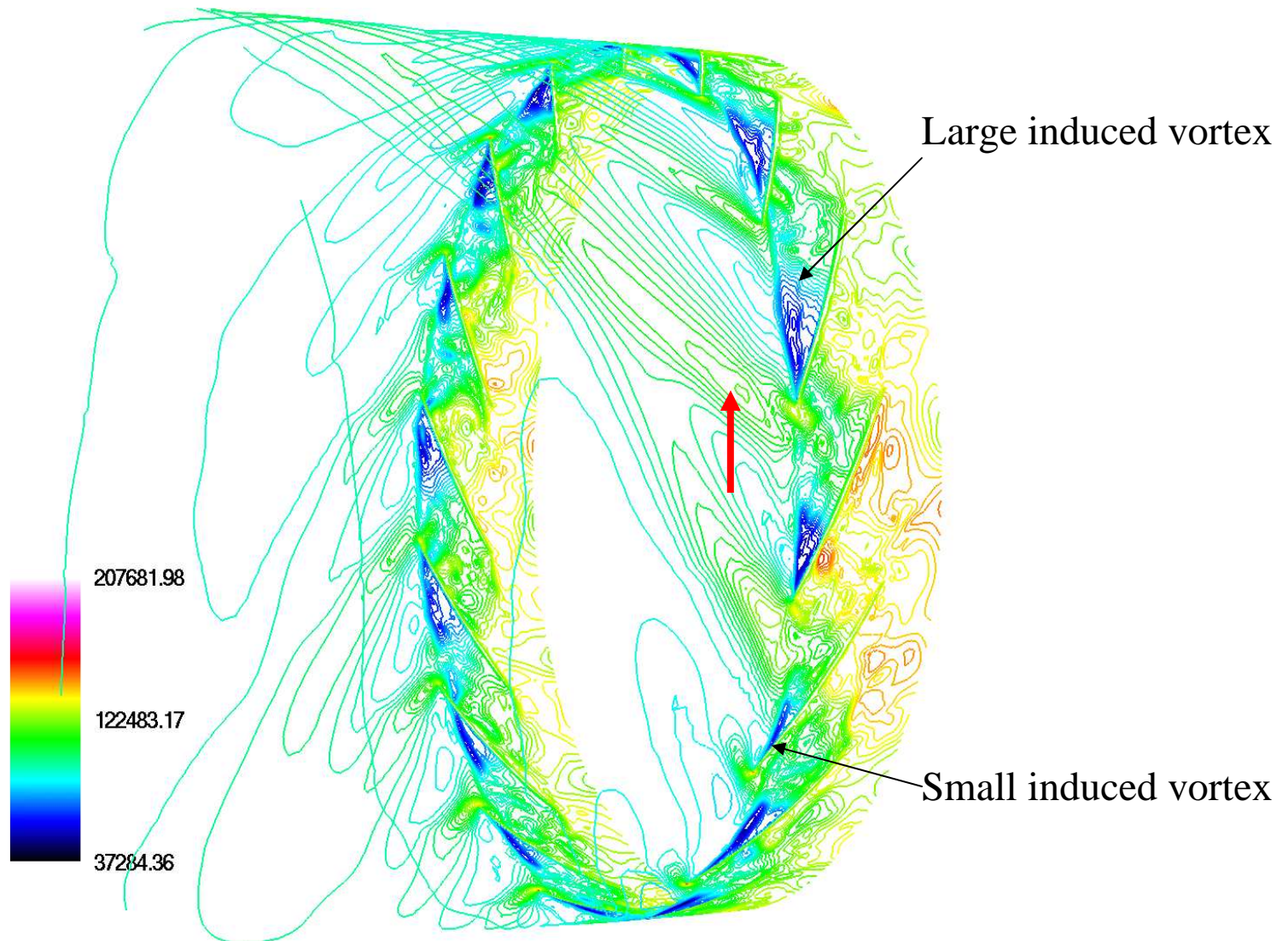
# Wall pressure spectrum from single passage LES



## Instantaneous Mach number distribution at mid-span

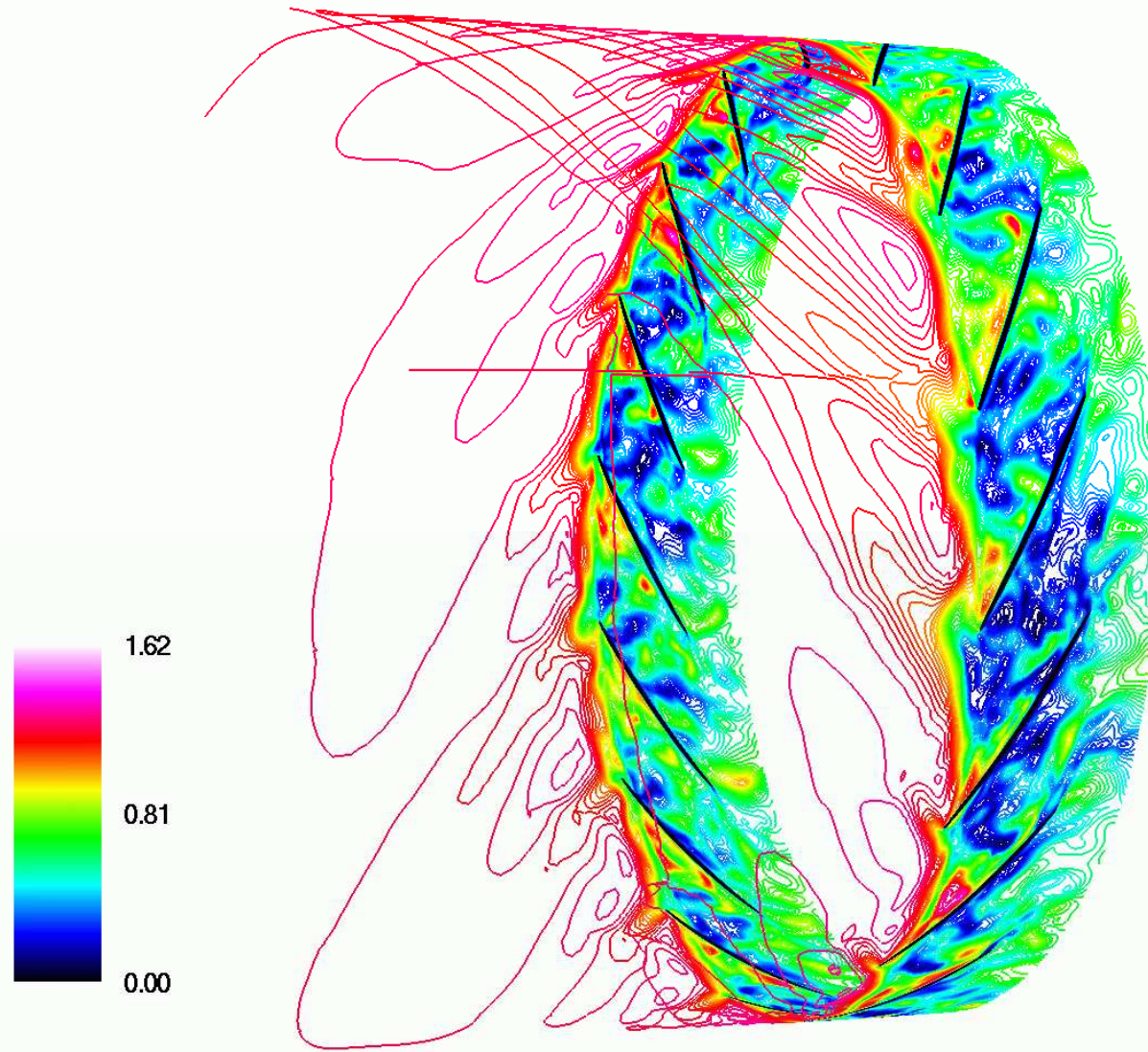


# Instantaneous pressure distribution, blade tip, time 1

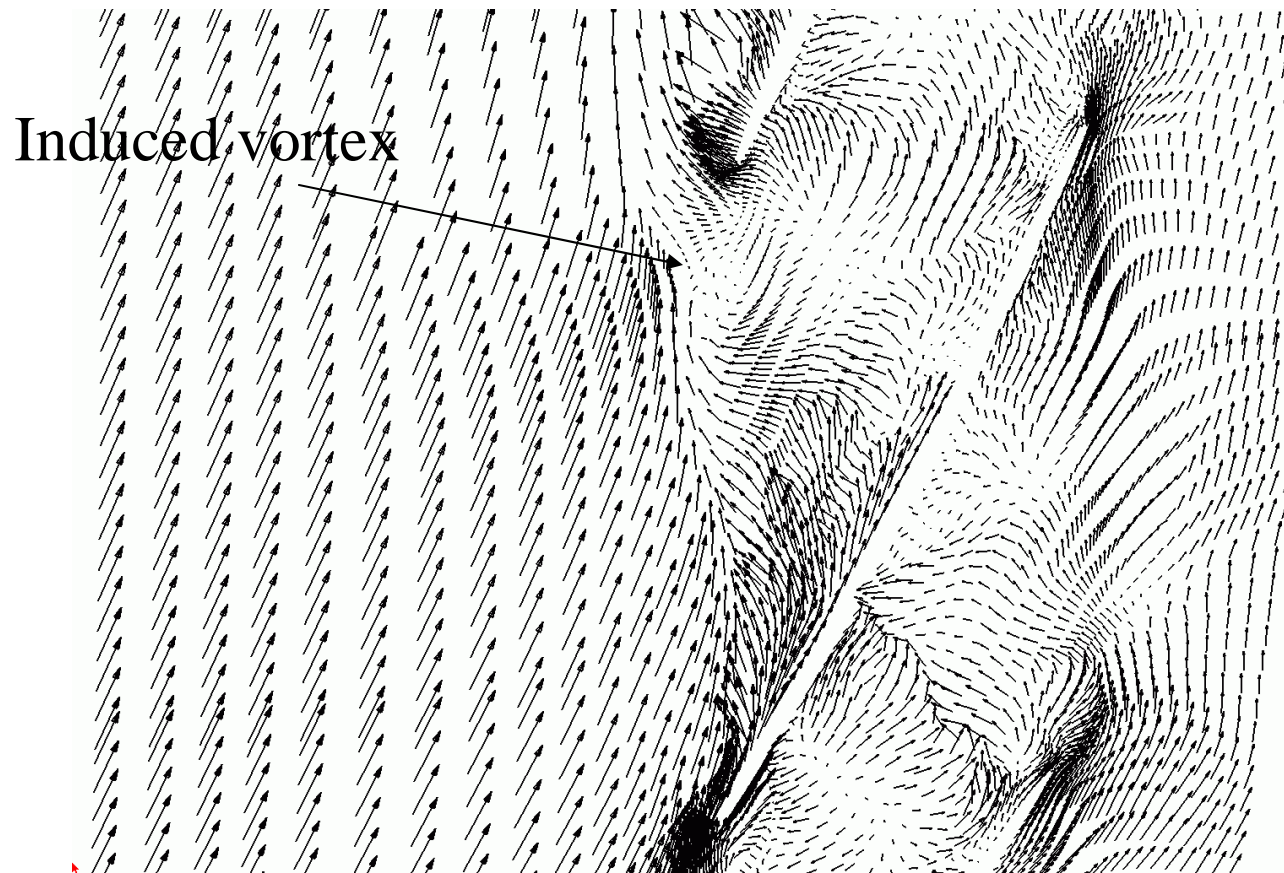




# Instantaneous Mach Number from LES



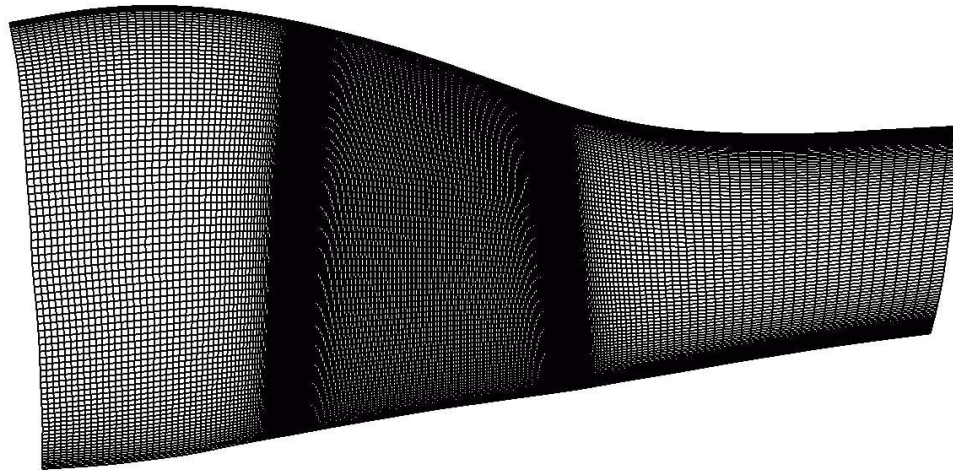
# Instantaneous velocity vectors



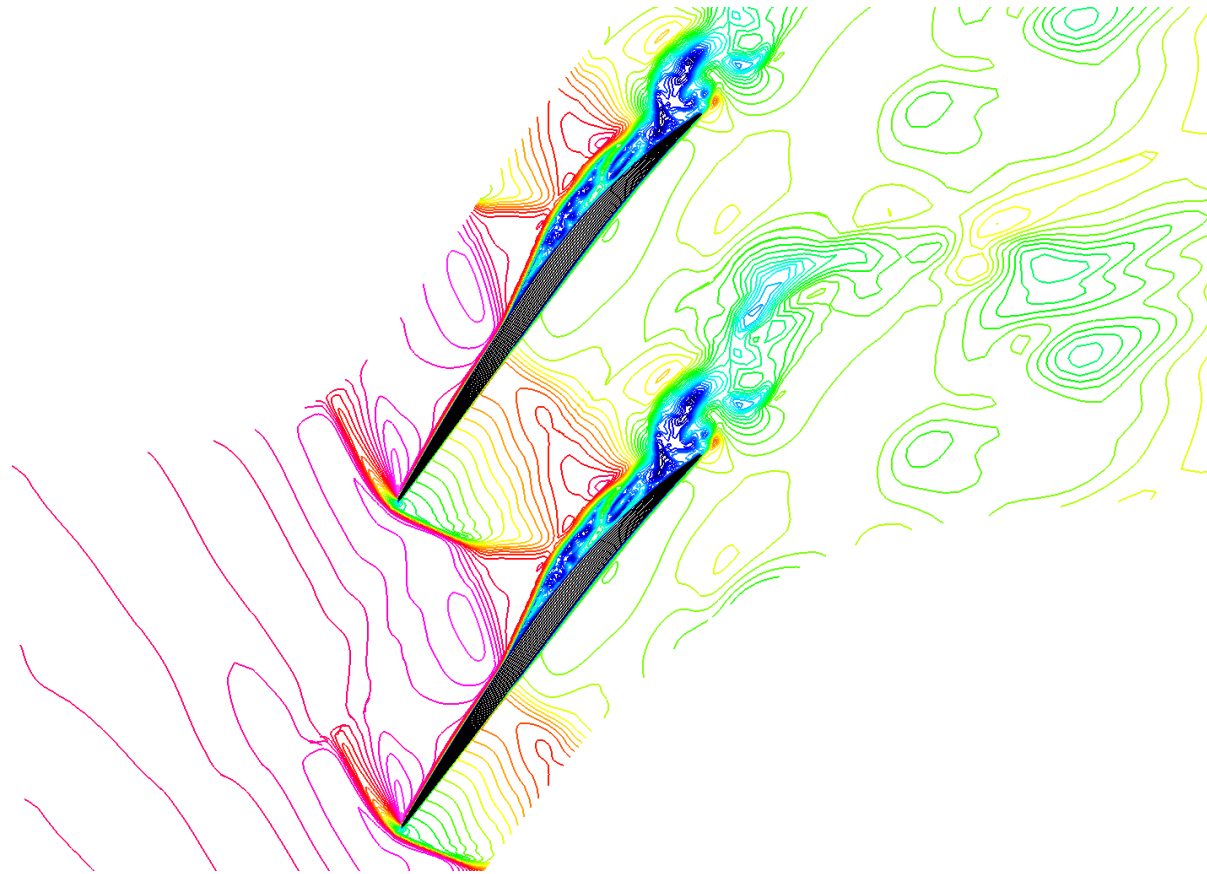
# NASA Rotor 37

- Transonic flow field with passage shock over the full span.
- Used as a a blind test case by ASME in 1992.
- Many flow features are not fully understood yet.

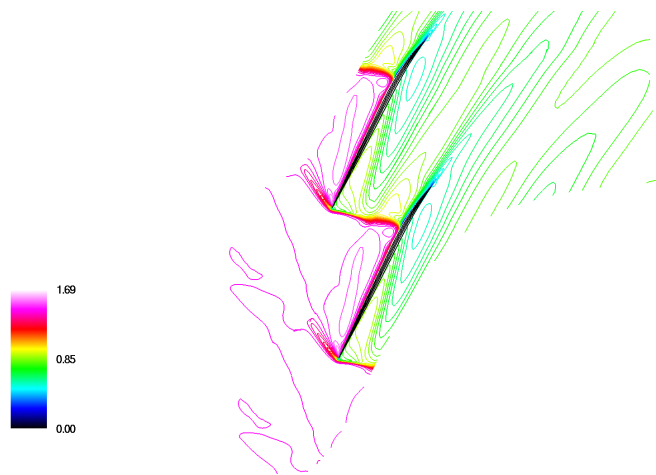
# Computational grid



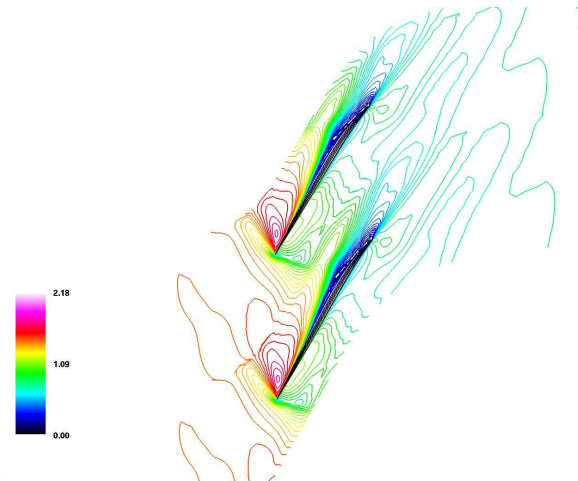
# Instantaneous Mach number



# Comparison of average Mach Number, near Peak effi.

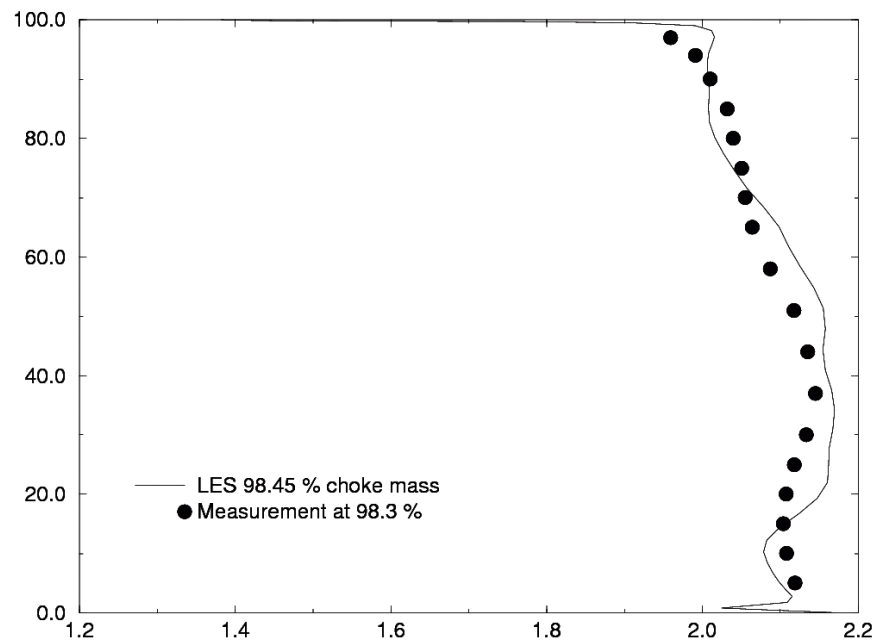


RANS

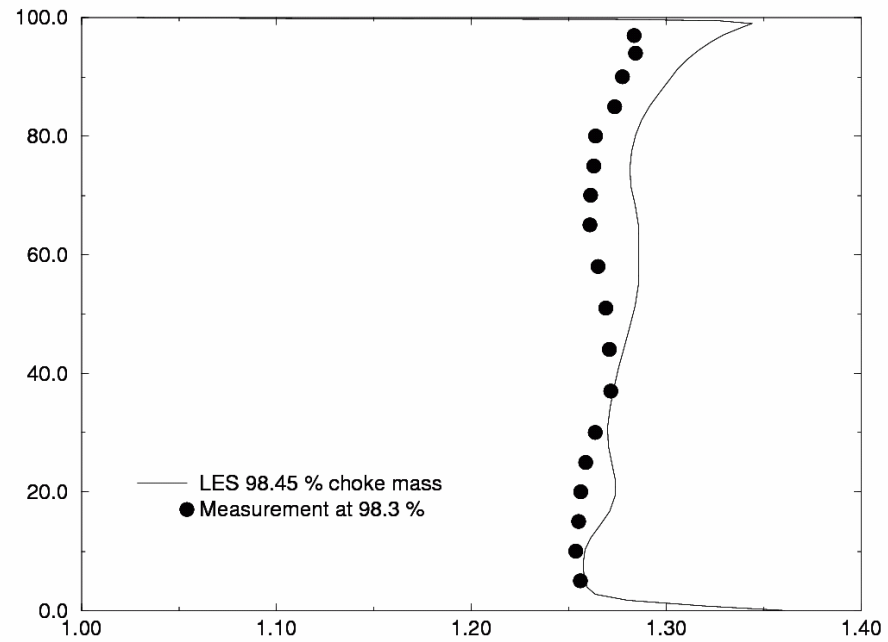


LES

# Comparison of Pt distribution



# Comparison of Tt distribution





# Observations and future research

- Promising results for simulation of transonic compressor flow field with LES.
- Further validations planned.