

# Heat transfer mechanisms in an impinging synthetic jet for a small jet-to-surface spacing

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## Abstract

Impinging synthetic jets have been identified as a promising technique for cooling miniature surfaces like electronic packages. This study investigates the relation between the convective heat transfer characteristics and the impinging synthetic jet flow structure, for a small jet-to-surface spacing  $H/D = 2$ , dimensionless stroke length  $1 < L_0/D < 22$ , and Reynolds number  $1000 < Re < 4300$ . The heat transfer measurements show evidence for a power law relationship between the Reynolds and Nusselt number for a constant stroke length. A critical stroke length  $L_0/H = 2.5$  has been identified. Using phase-resolved particle image velocimetry, vortex quantification is applied to elucidate the influence of the impinging vortex on the time-averaged heat transfer distribution.

*Key words:* synthetic jet, convective heat transfer, vortex quantification, particle image velocimetry, critical stroke length

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## Nomenclature

$A$	orifice cross-sectional area, $\text{m}^2$
$a$	speed of sound, $\text{m/s}$
$D$	jet orifice diameter, $\text{m}$
$d_I$	PIV interrogation window size, pixel
$f, f_0$	jet frequency and cavity Helmholtz frequency, $\text{Hz}$
$H$	jet-to-surface spacing, $\text{m}$
$h$	convective heat transfer coefficient, $\dot{q}/(T - T_{ref})$ , $\text{W}/(\text{m}^2\text{K})$
$K$	orifice pressure drop coefficient
$k$	thermal conductivity of air, $\text{W}/(\text{mK})$
$L$	orifice length, $\text{m}$
$L_0$	jet stroke length, $\text{m}$
$m$	pixel resolution in PIV image, $\text{m}/\text{pixel}$
$Nu, Nu_0$	local and stagnation Nusselt number, $hD/k$
$p^*$	jet cavity pressure amplitude, $\text{Pa}$
$Pr$	Prandtl number
$Re$	Reynolds number, $\rho U_0 D/\mu$
$r', r'_1$	radial distance from vortex centre and equivalent vortex radius, $\text{m}$
$\dot{q}$	surface convective heat flux, $\text{W}/\text{m}^2$
$s$	distance covered by propagating vortex centre, $\text{m}$
$T, T_{ref}$	surface and jet cavity temperature, $\text{K}$
$t$	time, $\text{s}$
$U_0$	averaged jet velocity during blowing phase, $\text{m/s}$
$U_m(t), U_m^*$	mean instantaneous jet velocity and amplitude, $\text{m/s}$
$u, v$	axial and radial velocity, $\text{m/s}$

$V$	jet cavity volume, $\text{m}^3$
$v_r$	tangential velocity around vortex centre, $\text{m/s}$
$x, r$	axial and radial coordinate, $\text{m}$
$x_c, r_c$	location of vortex centre, $\text{m}$
$z$	coordinate perpendicular to PIV measurement plane, $\text{m}$
Greek symbols	
$\Delta$	absolute measurement uncertainty
$\Gamma, \Gamma_1$	circulation around vortex centre and circulation at equivalent radius $r'_1$ , $\text{m}^2/\text{s}$
$\theta, \theta_{max}$	phase within jet period, and phase at peak ejection, $\text{rad}$
$\mu$	dynamic viscosity, $\text{Ns/m}^2$
$\rho$	density, $\text{kg/m}^3$
$\tau$	pulse separation time of PIV light sheet, $\text{s}$
$\omega$	vorticity, $\frac{1}{2}(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y})$ , $\text{rad/s}$

## 1 Introduction

Synthetic or zero-net mass flux jets are being studied in various fields of fluid dynamics, from active flow control to enhanced heat transfer. A synthetic jet is produced by the interaction of a train of vortices that form by successive ejection and suction of fluid across an orifice. The orifice flow is forced by periodic pressure variations, typically generated in a cavity with a movable diaphragm.

To identify flow mechanisms influencing the surface heat transfer with an impinging synthetic jet, the heat transfer results are interpreted as a function

10 of the main flow parameters. A free synthetic jet flow is described by the  
11 dimensionless stroke length  $L_0/D$  and the Reynolds number  $Re = \rho U_0 D / \mu$ .  
12 An impinging synthetic jet flow is further characterised by the dimensionless  
13 jet-to-surface spacing  $H/D$ .

14 The stroke length  $L_0 = \int_0^{1/(2f)} U_m(t) dt$  represents the distance traveled by  
15 a fluid slug during the ejection phase, where  $f$  is the jet frequency and  
16  $U_m(t)$  is the instantaneous mean jet orifice velocity. The corresponding ve-  
17 locity scale  $U_0 = 2fL_0$  is the averaged jet orifice velocity during the ejection  
18 phase. For axisymmetric jets, a jet formation threshold value corresponds to  
19  $(L_0/D)/\pi > 0.16$  or  $L_0/D > 0.5$  [1, 2]. For a two-dimensional synthetic jet,  
20 Gillespie et al. [3] show that the stagnation point flow can be turbulent at  
21 Reynolds numbers far below the transition value for steady jets. However this  
22 cannot be generalized since the transition to turbulence is a complex process.  
23 According to Smith and Glezer [4], a free two-dimensional synthetic jet tran-  
24 sitions after  $t > 0.5/f$ . Therefore the turbulent nature at the stagnation point  
25 in an impinging jet likely also depends on  $L_0/H$ .

26 Pavlova and Amitay [5] studied the influence of the stroke length for differ-  
27 ent  $H/D$ . With smaller stroke lengths, the formed jets are more susceptible  
28 to breakdown and merging of vortices prior to impingement, thereby remov-  
29 ing more heat for small jet-to-surface spacings. Conversely, for larger stroke  
30 lengths, the vortex rings impinge on the surface separately, thereby removing  
31 more heat for large jet-to-surface spacings. The influence of these distinct flow  
32 regimes on the heat transfer is confirmed and detailed in the present paper,  
33 resulting in a critical stroke length value.

34 The jet-to-surface spacing  $H/D$  influences the flow at the heat transfer surface,

35 and the level of confinement and recirculation as shown by Campbell et al. [6].  
36 Pavlova and Amitay [5] and Gillespie et al. [3] studied the influence of  $H/D$   
37 on the heat transfer to an impinging synthetic jet experimentally for different  
38 settings. Both studies indicate that the maximum heat transfer occurs for jet-  
39 to-surface spacings in the range  $4 < H/D < 11$ . Very few heat transfer studies  
40 have been undertaken for  $H/D < 4$ .

41 Another phenomenon which merits investigation is the understanding of the  
42 role of vortices on the surface heat transfer. For steady jets, this has been  
43 studied by O'Donovan and Murray [7]. However, such a study may be par-  
44 ticularly fruitful for synthetic jets due to the fixed formation frequency, thus  
45 facilitating phase-resolved measurements.

46 This paper sets out to investigate the heat transfer mechanisms in an imping-  
47 ing round synthetic jet flow for a small jet-to-surface spacing  $H/D = 2$ . The  
48 heat transfer performance will be characterised as a function of the stroke  
49 length  $L_0/D$  and Reynolds number  $Re$ , (i) to identify a critical stroke length  
50 marking different flow and heat transfer regimes, and (ii) to investigate the  
51 scaling of  $Nu$  with  $Re$ . Phase-resolved velocity measurements using particle  
52 image velocimetry (PIV) are applied to identify flow regimes and to quantify  
53 the impinging vortex dynamics.

## 54 **2 Experimental approach**

55 The synthetic jet flow is produced by a cavity enclosed on one side by an  
56 acoustic speaker and on the opposite side by an orifice plate, as depicted  
57 schematically in Fig. 1. The oscillating speaker diaphragm forces air flow across

58 the round orifice (diameter  $D = 5$  mm, length  $L = 10$  mm), thus forming a  
59 synthetic jet directed towards a heated foil. The jet-to-surface spacing  $H =$   
60 10 mm ( $H/D = 2$ ). The stroke length and Reynolds number vary over the  
61 range allowed by the acoustic speaker, respectively  $1 < L_0/D < 22$  and  $1000 <$   
62  $Re < 4300$ .

### 63 *2.1 Convective heat transfer measurements*

64 The synthetic jet is directed towards a heated foil surface, consisting of a  
65 170  $\mu\text{m}$  thick polyester substrate with 3.5 nm thick vacuum deposited layer of  
66 silver. The ohmically heated foil is sufficiently thin to be considered a constant  
67 heat flux boundary condition. The foil is optically transparent, thus allowing  
68 the PIV laser light sheet to pass through. The bottom of the foil is painted  
69 matte black, except for a 2 mm wide strip along the PIV measurement plane.  
70 A FLIR ThermoVision<sup>TM</sup> A40M thermal imaging camera measures the tem-  
71 perature distribution  $T$  on the bottom of the heated foil. Temperature data  
72 within the 2 mm strip are omitted. During heat transfer measurements, the  
73 jet is offset to  $z = 10$  mm from the PIV centreline to measure the complete  
74 temperature distribution, including the stagnation point.

75 The local convective heat flux  $\dot{q}$  is determined from the electrical power, and is  
76 corrected for radiation and convection heat loss from the bottom of the foil and  
77 radiation heat loss from the top. Lateral conduction within the foil is verified  
78 to be negligible compared to the other loss terms. The relative uncertainty in  
79 the Nusselt number is considered equal to the uncertainty in the convective

80 heat transfer coefficient  $h = \ddot{q}/(T - T_{ref})$ , given by:

$$\frac{\Delta Nu}{Nu} \simeq \frac{\Delta h}{h} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta \ddot{q}}{\ddot{q}}\right)^2 + \frac{\Delta T^2 + \Delta T_{ref}^2}{(T - T_{ref})^2}} \quad (1)$$

81

82 The uncertainty in the heat flux  $\Delta \ddot{q}/\ddot{q}$  arises mainly from non-uniformities in  
83 the electrical contact resistance between foil and electrodes, and is estimated  
84 to be around 10%. The reference temperature  $T_{ref}$  is measured in the jet cavity  
85 using a K-type thermocouple. Based on the measurement standard deviation  
86 and a 95% confidence level, the uncertainty  $\Delta T_{ref} = 0.25^\circ\text{C}$ . The uncertainty  
87  $\Delta T$  results from a combination of uncertainty in the infrared camera mea-  
88 surement and the radiation properties of the heated foil and its surroundings.  
89 Overall,  $\Delta T = 0.25^\circ\text{C}$ .

90 A determining factor in the overall uncertainty  $\Delta h$  is the temperature dif-  
91 ference  $T - T_{ref}$ . The minimum difference occurring at the stagnation point  
92 (at  $r = 0$ ) is typically greater than  $3^\circ\text{C}$ , resulting in an estimated uncertainty  
93  $\Delta h/h = 15\%$ . However, in certain adverse flow conditions, recirculation of hot  
94 air into the jet cavity may cause  $T - T_{ref}$  to reduce to around  $2^\circ\text{C}$ , thereby  
95 increasing the measurement uncertainty of the stagnation Nusselt number  
96  $\Delta Nu_0/Nu_0$  to 20%.

97 This non-negligible measurement uncertainty is intrinsic to the constant heat  
98 flux boundary condition approach, yet also partly due to the unconventional  
99 choice of heater foil material (i.e. transparent silver-coated polyester film). For  
100 this reason, additional local heat transfer measurements have been performed  
101 using a thermopile heat flux sensor on an isothermally heated 5 mm thick  
102 copper plate. The RdF Micro-Foil<sup>TM</sup> heat flux sensor has been calibrated in a  
103 steady impinging air jet against an established correlation for the stagnation

104 Nusselt number [8], as described by O'Donovan and Murray [7] and McGuinn  
 105 et al. [9]. The thermopile sensor measurement has an uncertainty on the Nus-  
 106 selt number of around 6% and a spatial resolution of about 1 mm.

## 107 2.2 Synthetic jet operating point

108 Persoons and O'Donovan [10] describe an analytical acoustic model using a  
 109 cavity pressure measurement (G.R.A.S. 40BH microphone, 0.5 mV/Pa) to  
 110 estimate the synthetic jet velocity, and thus  $Re$  and  $L_0$ . This semi-empirical  
 111 model requires an orifice damping coefficient  $K$ . The model accurately predicts  
 112 the jet velocity for the frequency range from zero over the cavity Helmholtz  
 113 frequency  $f_0$ , up to a geometry-dependent frequency limit [10]. Using the pres-  
 114 sure magnitude  $p^*$ , the velocity magnitude  $U_m^*$  is determined from:

$$\frac{\rho a U_m^*}{p^*} = \sqrt{\frac{2V}{AL'}} \times \sqrt{\left(\frac{f}{f_0}\right)^2 + \sqrt{\left(\frac{f}{f_0}\right)^4 + \left(K \frac{V}{AL'} \frac{p^*}{\rho a^2}\right)^2}}^{-1} \quad (2)$$

115 where  $L' = L + 2\beta D$  is the effective orifice length ( $\beta = 0.425$  for a sharp-  
 116 edged circular orifice) and  $f_0 = a/(2\pi L')\sqrt{AL'/V} \simeq 200$  Hz. The orifice  
 117 damping coefficient  $K = 1.46 \pm 0.13$  is determined from a steady flow pres-  
 118 sure drop measurement. For quasi-sinusoidal pressure and velocity oscillations  
 119  $U_0 = U_m^*/(\pi/2)$ , yielding  $Re = \rho U_0 D/\mu$  and  $L_0 = U_0/(2f)$ . This approach  
 120 allows to set the synthetic jet operating point without the need for a priori  
 121 in-situ velocity measurements. The predicted velocity agrees very well to the  
 122 velocity measured using PIV close to the orifice.

124 Velocity measurements have been performed using particle image velocimetry  
 125 (PIV). The PIV system comprises a New Wave Solo-II Nd:YAG twin cavity  
 126 laser (30 mJ, 15 Hz) and a PCO Sensicam<sup>TM</sup> thermo-electrically cooled CCD-  
 127 camera ( $1280 \times 1024$  px<sup>2</sup>, 12 bit) with 28 mm lens. A glycol-water aerosol is  
 128 used for seeding, with particle diameters between 0.2 and 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$ . Customised  
 129 optics are used to generate a 0.3 mm thick light sheet. The CCD-camera is  
 130 mounted perpendicular to the light sheet. The image magnification is 1:4.1  
 131 ( $m = 54 \mu\text{m}/\text{px}$ ). A narrow band pass filter is used with fluorescent paint on  
 132 the orifice plate to maximise the signal-to-noise ratio near the walls. Phase-  
 133 locked to the synthetic jet actuator, images are acquired for 24 phases per  
 134 period and 16 vector fields are averaged for each phase. The pulse separation  
 135 time is determined such that the maximum particle image displacement does  
 136 not exceed a quarter of the initial interrogation window size [11]. The velocity  
 137 fields have been processed with LaVision DaVis 6.2 software, using multi-pass  
 138 cross-correlation with an interrogation window size decreasing from  $64 \times 64$   
 139 to  $16 \times 16$  px<sup>2</sup> at 50% overlap.

140 To improve the dynamic velocity range, a multi double-frame PIV technique  
 141 is applied [12, 13]. To this end, images are acquired for two values of the  
 142 pulse separation time,  $\tau = \tau_{min} = \frac{1}{4}md_I/U_m^*$  and  $\tau = 8\tau_{min}$ . The value  $\tau_{min}$  is  
 143 optimal for the high velocity jet core region, and an arbitrary choice of  $8\tau_{min}$   
 144 is better suited for the low velocity wall jet region. Persoons et al. [12] show  
 145 a considerable increase in dynamic velocity range by applying this technique,  
 146 resulting in more accurate velocity vectors in the low velocity wall jet and  
 147 entrainment regions.

149 From the phase-resolved velocity fields, the vorticity field  $\omega$  is obtained using  
 150 a circulation-based algorithm by Vollmers [14]. The vortex centre  $\{x_c, r_c\}$  is  
 151 determined in a two-step algorithm, (i) first by detecting the local peak vor-  
 152 ticity, (ii) secondly by performing a five-point two-dimensional parabolic fit to  
 153 the local vorticity field to determine the interpolated vortex centre location.

154 In a frame of reference moving with the vortex centre  $\{x_c, r_c\}$ , Fig. 2 shows  
 155 the definition of an equivalent vortex radius  $r'_1$  defined by the peak tangential  
 156 velocity  $\max[v_r(r')] = v_{r1}$ . The circulation is linked to the tangential velocity  
 157 as  $\Gamma(r') = 2\pi r' v_r(r')$ . The measured vortex profiles are similar to viscous  
 158 Lamb-Oseen vortices, as described by Saffman [15]. The vortex strength is  
 159 quantified here by the circulation at the equivalent radius  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma(r'_1)$ .

### 160 3 Experimental results

161 Firstly, the influence of the stroke length  $L_0$  and Reynolds number  $Re$  on  
 162 the time-averaged flow field is investigated. Two distinct flow regimes thus  
 163 identified help to explain the observed heat transfer characteristics, and the  
 164 existence of a critical stroke length. Finally, the dynamics of the impinging vor-  
 165 tices are studied using phase-resolved PIV, to further elucidate the underlying  
 166 heat transfer mechanisms.

167 *3.1 Flow field characteristics*

168 Time-averaged flow field plots are produced to study the effect of the stroke  
169 length while keeping the Reynolds number constant, and vice versa.

170 *3.1.1 Effect of the stroke length*

171 Figure 3 shows the time-averaged vorticity distributions for a constant Reynolds  
172 number  $Re \simeq 1020$  and increasing stroke lengths  $2.48 < L_0/D < 8.70$ . The  
173 contour lines indicate the dimensionless vorticity  $\omega D/U_0$ , with a contour spac-  
174 ing increasing from  $1/32$  to  $1$  in powers of  $2$ .

175 For high stroke lengths from  $L_0/D > 5$  (Fig. 3c,d), an increasingly stronger  
176 time-averaged recirculation vortex can be observed close to the heat transfer  
177 surface, around  $r/D = 2$ . This vortex is not observed for lower stroke lengths,  
178 which indicates that two different flow regimes occur, depending on the value  
179 of the stroke length.

180 For a free synthetic jet flow, Shuster and Smith [2] show that the distance  
181 traveled by the propagating vortex scales with the stroke length. Thus, for  
182 an impinging synthetic jet flow, the ratio of stroke length  $L_0$  to jet-to-surface  
183 spacing  $H$  is expected to determine the flow regime. As such, in the discussion  
184 of the heat transfer characteristics, the stroke length is indicated as  $L_0/H$   
185 instead of  $L_0/D$ .

186 *3.1.2 Effect of the Reynolds number*

187 Figure 4 shows the time-averaged vorticity distributions for a constant stroke  
188 length  $L_0/D \simeq 5.0$  and increasing Reynolds numbers  $1010 < Re < 3000$ .  
189 Again, the contour lines indicate the dimensionless vorticity  $\omega D/U_0$ , with the  
190 same contour spacing as for Fig. 3.

191 Plotting the dimensionless vorticity  $\omega D/U_0$  facilitates the comparison between  
192 the flow fields at different  $Re$ . The flow structure seems quasi independent of  
193 the Reynolds number for a fixed stroke length. This has already been es-  
194 tablished by Shuster and Smith [2] for a free synthetic jet flow, even on the  
195 phase-averaged level.

196 The Reynolds number does not appreciably change the flow structure yet it  
197 does change the intensity of the flow, since the vorticity and velocity scale with  
198  $U_0 (\propto Re)$ . This is an important finding to explain the power law relationship  
199 between the stagnation Nusselt number and  $Re$ , as discussed below.

200 *3.2 Stagnation heat transfer characteristics*

201 For a round steady turbulent impinging jet, a correlation for the Nusselt num-  
202 ber can be expressed in the simplest form as  $Nu \propto Re^n$  where the exponent  
203  $n = fn(Pr, r/D, H/D)$  is typically in the range  $0.5 < n < 0.8$ . Liu and Sul-  
204 livan [8] obtained a correlation  $Nu_0 = 0.585Re^{0.5}Pr^{0.4}$  for  $H/D < 2$ . In this  
205 section too, the surface heat transfer is characterised by the stagnation Nusselt  
206 number  $Nu_0$  at  $r = 0$ .

207 Figure 5 shows  $Nu_0$  as a function of the stroke length and  $Re$ . The stroke

length is plotted as  $L_0/H$ , relative to the jet-to-surface spacing. These results are obtained for a single jet-to-surface spacing  $H/D = 2$ . The Nusselt number in the vertical axis is scaled as  $Nu_0/Re^n$ , where the exponent  $n = 0.32 \pm 0.06$  is obtained through least-squares fitting of the data points to a single curve. The circular markers represent measurements on the constant heat flux heated foil ( $1 < L_0/D < 22$ ,  $1000 < Re < 4300$ ). Additionally, the triangular markers represent measurements on an isothermal plate using a thermopile heat flux sensor ( $2 < L_0/D < 20$ ,  $Re = 3000$ ).

As the stroke length varies from a minimum<sup>1</sup> to higher values, the heat transfer performance in terms of  $Nu_0/Re^n$  first increases quasi linearly up to  $L_0/H \simeq 2.5$ , after which a saturation value is reached. In Fig. 5, a vertical dotted line indicates this critical stroke length at  $L_0/H \simeq 2.5$  (or  $L_0/D \simeq 5$ ), separating two heat transfer regimes for low and high stroke lengths. At low  $L_0/H$ , the stroke length significantly influences the heat transfer at the stagnation point. At high  $L_0/H$ , this influence diminishes and the synthetic jet tends more towards a pulsed (on/off) continuous jet. In this case, the heat transfer at the stagnation point depends primarily on the Reynolds number for a fixed geometry. The dashed line in Fig. 5 represents this bilinear correlation:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \frac{Nu_0}{Re^n} = c & (L_0/H \geq 2.5) \\ \frac{Nu_0}{Re^n} = a + (c - a) \frac{L_0/H}{2.5} & (L_0/H < 2.5) \end{array} \right. \quad (3)$$

where the exponent  $n = 0.32 \pm 0.06$ , the saturation value  $c = 1.52 \pm 0.04$  and the intercept  $a = 0.19 \pm 0.07$ .

The data points for  $Nu_0/Re^n$  collapse reasonably well to Eq. (3). Furthermore,

<sup>1</sup> The formation threshold stroke length for a round synthetic jet is  $L_0/D > 0.5$  [1].

230 the circular and triangular markers corresponding to constant heat flux and  
231 isothermal boundary conditions show good agreement. The remaining scatter  
232 is consistent with the uncertainty in the stagnation heat transfer coefficient  
233  $\Delta Nu_0/Nu_0 \simeq 15\%$ . The results give evidence for a power law relationship  
234  $Nu_0 \propto Re^n$ . The obtained exponent  $n = 0.32 \pm 0.06$  is smaller than those  
235 reported for steady impinging jets ( $0.5 < n < 0.8$ ) [8].

236 Kercher et al. [16] confirm a power law relationship between  $Nu_0$  and  $Re$   
237 for an impinging synthetic jet, albeit for a limited range of  $Re$  and for an  
238 unspecified range of stroke lengths. The results presented here show the ex-  
239 plicit dependence of  $Nu_0$  on both  $Re$  and  $L_0$ , for a fixed jet-to-surface spacing  
240  $H/D = 2$ .

### 241 *3.3 Vortex impingement at high stroke length*

242 This section closely examines the fluid dynamics of the vortex impingement  
243 process and its influence on the local heat transfer rate. All results discussed  
244 below are for one selected synthetic jet setting of  $L_0/D = 8.7$  and  $Re = 1020$ .  
245 Thus, the ratio of stroke length to jet-to-surface spacing  $L_0/H = 8.7/2 = 4.35$   
246 is greater than the critical value ( $L_0/H = 4.35 > 2.5$ ).

#### 247 *3.3.1 Vortex dynamics*

248 Figure 6 shows the phase-resolved evolution of the vortex characteristics dur-  
249 ing the process of formation, detachment, impingement, radial stretching and  
250 breakup into turbulence, spanning a phase interval of  $480^\circ$  or  $4/3$  cycles. The  
251 vortex strength and size are indicated by the thick lines representing the equiv-

252 alent circulation  $\Gamma_1$  and radius  $r'_1$ , respectively. The location of the vortex cen-  
 253 tre is indicated by the thin lines representing the vortex distance to the heat  
 254 transfer surface  $H - x_c$  and its radial position  $r_c$ . The horizontal axis indi-  
 255 cates the phase with respect to the phase of maximum ejection  $\theta_{max}$ . As such,  
 256  $\theta - \theta_{max} = 0^\circ, 90^\circ, 180^\circ$  and  $270^\circ$  correspond respectively to peak ejection, end  
 257 ejection, peak suction and end suction. The vertical dotted lines correspond  
 258 to the phases listed in Table 1.

259 Table 1 lists the characteristics at eight distinct phases in the vortex impinge-  
 260 ment process, identified from Fig. 6 and listed below. Figure 7 shows the  
 261 instantaneous vorticity field at each of these phases. The contour lines indi-  
 262 cate the vorticity  $\omega D(\theta)/U_0$ , with a contour spacing increasing from  $1/8$  up to  
 263 4 in powers of 2. The path of the vortex centre  $\{x_c, r_c\}$  in the left half plane  
 264 (starting at  $\theta_{(a)}$ ) is indicated by the thick solid line and crosshair marker.

- 265 (a) Leading up to the peak ejection, the developing vortex increases in strength  
 266 and size (Fig. 7a).
- 267 (b) Around the peak ejection phase ( $\theta = \theta_{max}$ ), the vortex detaches from the  
 268 orifice and attains its maximum strength (Fig. 7b).
- 269 (c,d) Upon impingement (Fig. 7c and d), Fig. 6 shows that the vortex strength  
 270 and size suddenly decrease to a minimum.
- 271 (e) Fed by the final part of ejection phase, the vortex recovers and attains its  
 272 maximum strength after impingement (Fig. 7e). Afterwards, Fig. 6 shows  
 273 that the vortex moves rapidly radially outward to  $r_c/D \simeq 2.2$ .
- 274 (f) The vortex continues to lose strength yet remains quasi stationary at  
 275  $r_c/D \simeq 2.2$  until the end of the suction phase ( $\theta = \theta_{max} + 270^\circ$ ) (Fig. 7f).  
 276 Only after the start of the next ejection phase does the vortex continue  
 277 to move further outwards.

278 (g) Following the impingement of the new vortex, the old vortex moves up-  
279 wards away from the surface (Fig. 7g). Note that angles  $\theta_{(g)}$  and  $\theta_{(e)}$   
280 differ by  $360^\circ$ , thus show the same vorticity field but illustrate the dis-  
281 tance traveled by the vortex during one cycle.  
282 (h) Shortly after, the vortex completely loses coherence and dissipates into  
283 turbulence (Fig. 7h).

### 284 3.3.2 *Effect on the local heat transfer*

285 Figure 8 shows the effect of the vortex impingement on the radial profile of the  
286 time-averaged local heat transfer coefficient. The heat transfer coefficient has  
287 been determined using a uniform wall temperature surface and a thermopile  
288 heat flux sensor, which results in a superior spatial resolution compared to  
289 the heated foil. The top plot shows the local Nusselt number, normalized with  
290 its stagnation value. As an indication, the bottom plot shows the vortex path  
291 and eight circles corresponding to the vortex location at the phases in Table 1  
292 and Fig. 7. The circle radius and line thickness indicate the equivalent vortex  
293 radius  $r'_1$  and strength, respectively.

294 Although Fig. 8 shows only time-averaged heat transfer data, some interesting  
295 insights can be obtained by comparing to the vortex impingement dynamics  
296 shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

297 The heat transfer coefficient peaks at the stagnation point and remains high  
298 up to  $r/D \simeq 0.75$  (first vertical dotted line in Fig. 8) before dropping off  
299 sharply. The extent of the high heat transfer region may be explained based  
300 on the flow field results during vortex impingement (Fig. 7c-e). As Table 1  
301 indicates, the vortex centre is at  $r_c/D = 0.89$  upon impingement (Fig. 7c).

302 Furthermore, since the stroke length in this case is much greater than the  
303 jet-to-surface spacing ( $L_0/H = 8.7/2 = 4.35$ ), the flow continues to impinge  
304 on the central region ( $r/D < 0.75$ ) during the remainder of the ejection phase  
305 (Fig. 7d,e).

306 The heat transfer decreases monotonously with increasing radius. At  $2.5 <$   
307  $r/D < 3$ , a modest secondary peak can be identified, which also marks the ra-  
308 dius of influence of the jet (second vertical dotted line in Fig. 8). Interestingly,  
309  $r_c/D = 2.2$  corresponds to the location where the vortex remains stationary  
310 up to the end of the suction phase (see Fig. 7d-f). As shown in Fig. 7g-h, the  
311 vortex moves away from the surface at  $r_c/D = 3$  after the following vortex  
312 impingement, and subsequently dissipates into turbulence. As such, the extent  
313 of the coherent vortex corresponds to the radius of influence in terms of the  
314 heat transfer.

## 315 4 Conclusion

316 This paper presents phase-resolved flow field and time-averaged local heat  
317 transfer data for a round impinging synthetic jet, with a small jet-to-surface  
318 spacing  $H/D = 2$ .

319 The flow field characteristics have been investigated using particle image ve-  
320 locimetry (PIV), revealing the effect of the main synthetic jet parameters  
321  $L_0/D$  and  $Re$ . For this fixed jet-to-surface spacing, two different flow regimes  
322 can be identified. For large stroke lengths at  $L/D > 5$ , a time-averaged re-  
323 circulating vortex is established at  $r/D \simeq 2$ . Since the distance traveled by  
324 a propagating vortex scales with the stroke length [2], it is expected that

325 the ratio of stroke length to jet-to-surface spacing  $L_0/H$  determines the flow  
326 regime.

327 Heat transfer measurements have been performed using a heated foil surface  
328 and a thermal imaging camera. Based on the stagnation Nusselt number  $Nu_0$ ,  
329 a critical stroke length  $L_0/D = 5$  (or  $L_0/H = 2.5$ ) has been identified. This is  
330 the same critical value that marks two flow regimes as observed from the PIV  
331 measurements.

332 There is evidence for a power law relationship between  $Nu_0$  and  $Re$  with an  
333 exponent  $n = 0.32 \pm 0.06$ . The stagnation heat transfer is well described by a  
334 bilinear correlation (Eq. (3)).

335 Additional local heat transfer measurements have been performed using an  
336 isothermal copper plate and thermopile heat flux sensor, featuring a higher  
337 spatial resolution. Features in the local heat transfer profile can be explained  
338 by comparison to the impinging vortex dynamics.

339 For a selected case where the ratio of stroke length to jet-to-surface spacing is  
340 greater than the critical value ( $L_0/H = 4.35 > 2.5$ ), the extent of the central  
341 region of high heat transfer ( $r/D < 0.75$ ) corresponds roughly to the vortex  
342 impingement location. The region of influence for the heat transfer  $r/D < 3$   
343 seems to be determined by the distance traveled by the coherent vortex, before  
344 it dissipates into turbulence.

345 Further understanding of the heat transfer mechanisms could be obtained us-  
346 ing time-resolved heat transfer measurements, which is the focus of ongoing  
347 research. However, the present paper already brings several new insights into  
348 the behaviour of the impinging vortex in a round synthetic jet, and its signif-

349 icance for the time-averaged heat transfer distribution.

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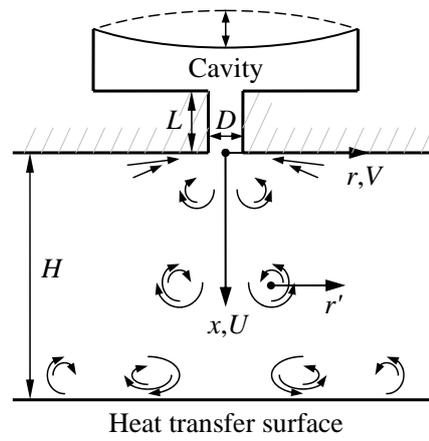


Fig. 1. Impinging synthetic jet nomenclature

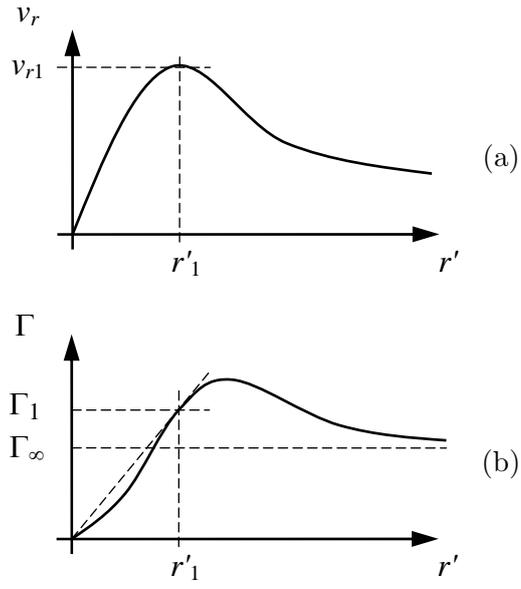


Fig. 2. Radial profile of (a) tangential velocity  $v_r$  and (b) circulation  $\Gamma$  for a viscous Lamb-Oseen vortex [15], in a frame of reference moving with the vortex centre

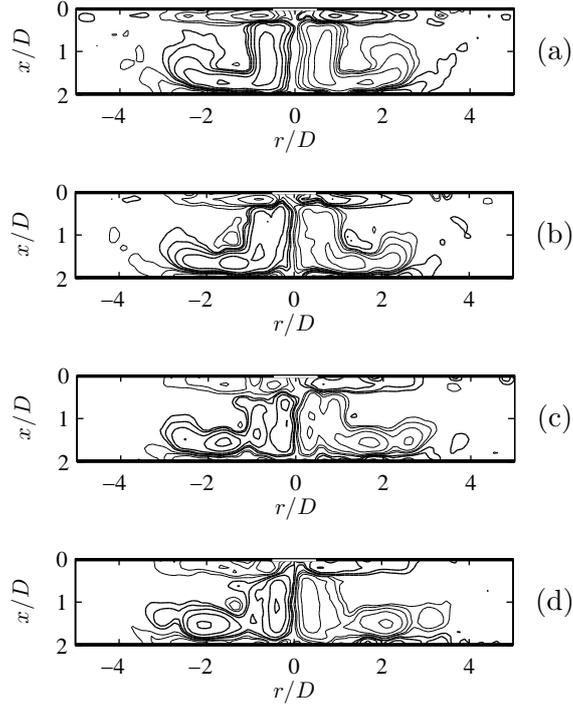


Fig. 3. Contours of time-averaged vorticity  $\omega D/U_0$  for varying stroke length (a)  $L_0/D = 2.48$ , (b)  $L_0/D = 3.78$ , (c)  $L_0/D = 5.04$ , (d)  $L_0/D = 8.70$  and constant Reynolds number  $Re \simeq 1020$ . Contour levels are increasing from  $1/32$  to  $1$  in powers of 2

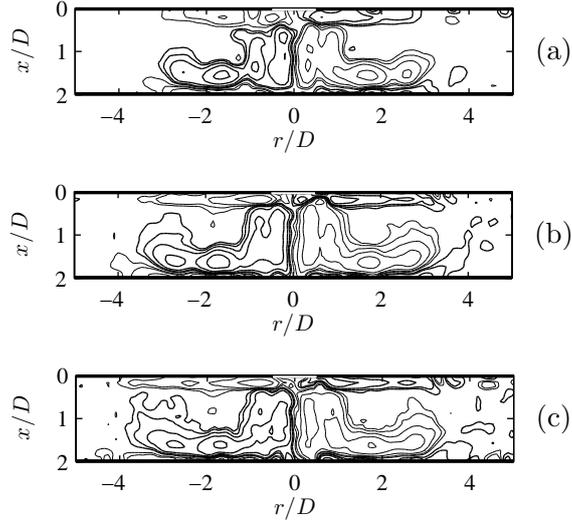


Fig. 4. Contours of time-averaged vorticity  $\omega D/U_0$  for varying Reynolds number (a)  $Re = 1010$ , (b)  $Re = 2010$ , (c)  $Re = 3000$  and constant stroke length  $L_0/D \simeq 5.0$ . Contour levels are increasing from  $1/32$  to  $1$  in powers of  $2$

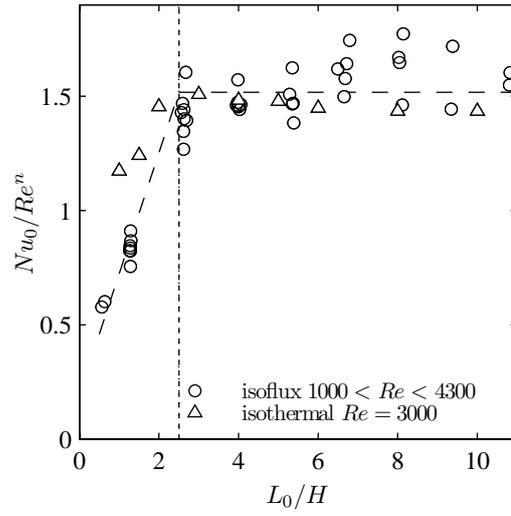


Fig. 5. Stagnation Nusselt number  $Nu_0$  as a function of stroke length  $L_0/H$  for a single circular impinging synthetic jet at  $H/D = 2$  ( $1 < L_0/D < 22$ ,  $1000 < Re < 4300$ ,  $Pr = 0.71$ ), where  $n = 0.32 \pm 0.06$  and  $Nu_0/Re^n = 1.52 \pm 0.04$  ( $L_0 > 2.5H$ ).

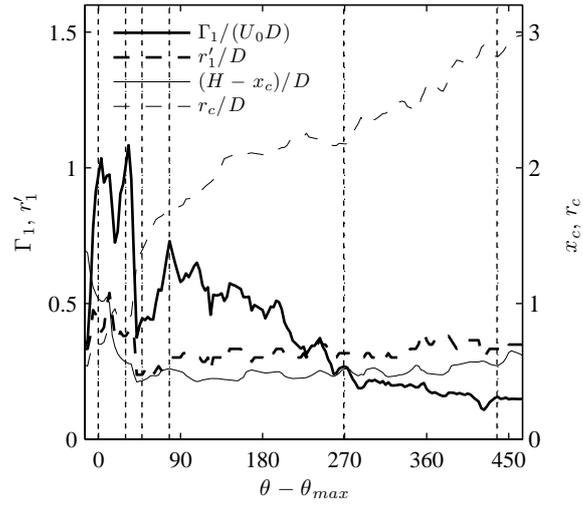


Fig. 6. Phase-resolved evolution of the vortex characteristics for  $L_0/D = 8.7$  and  $Re = 1020$

400 **Table captions**

Table 1

Vortex characteristics for  $L_0/D = 8.7$  and  $Re = 1020$  at eight characteristic phases

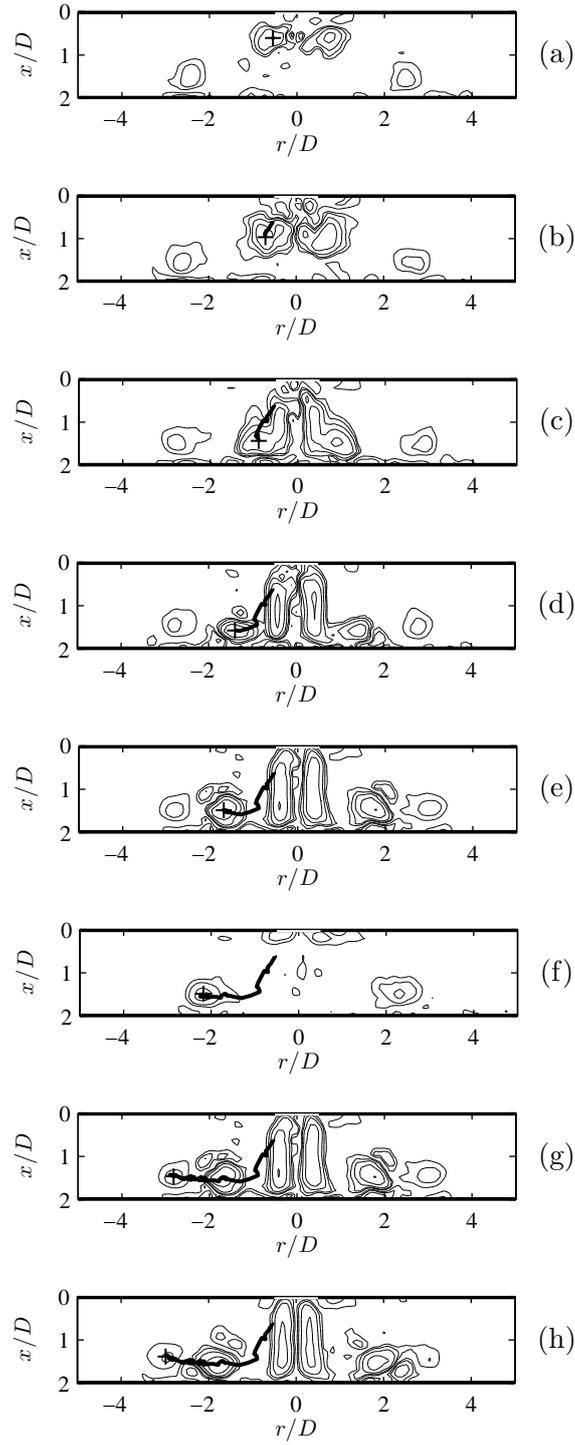


Fig. 7. Contours of phase-averaged vorticity  $\omega(\theta)D/U_0$  for  $L_0/D = 8.7$  and  $Re = 1020$  at eight characteristic phases  $\theta_{(a)}$  through  $\theta_{(h)}$  (see Table 1). Contour levels are increasing from  $1/8$  to  $4$  in powers of  $2$

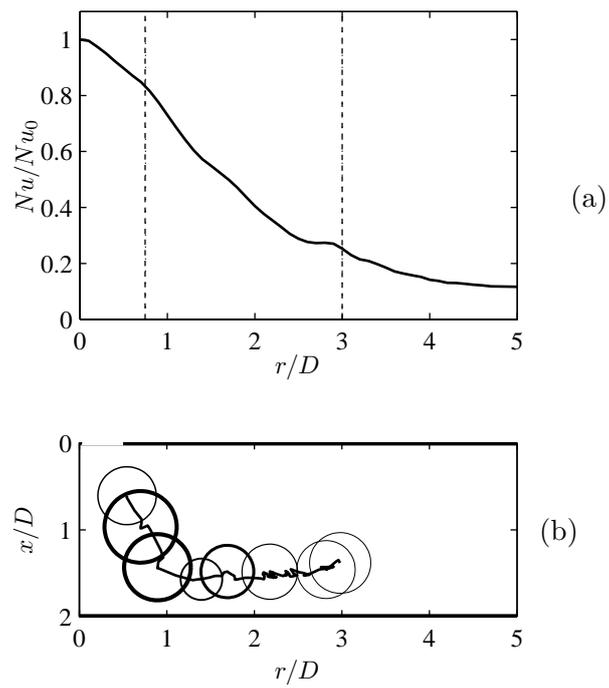


Fig. 8. Influence on (a) the local time-averaged heat transfer coefficient of (b) the impinging vortex (at phases corresponding to Table 1 and Fig. 7), for  $L_0/D = 8.7$  and  $Re = 1020$