

## EFFECTS OF SLOTTED BLADING ON SECONDARY FLOW IN HIGHLY LOADED COMPRESSOR CASCADE

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### Abstract

With the aim to increase allowable blade loadings and enlarge stable operating range in highly loaded compressor, this work is carried out in order to explore the potential of passive control via slotted bladings in linear cascade configurations under both design and stall conditions. Through an extensive 2D-numerical study, the effects of location, width and slope of slots were analysed and the best configuration was identified. Based on the optimal slot, the 3D aerodynamic performances of cascade were studied and the influence of slotted blading to control endwall flow was investigated. Both 2D and 3D calculations are performed on steady RANS solver with standard k-epsilon turbulence model and low Mach number regime. The total loss coefficient, turning angle and flow visualizations on the blade and end-wall surfaces are adopted to describe the different configurations. The obtained results show, for 2D situation, that a maximum of 28.3% reduction in loss coefficient had been reached and the flow turning was increased with approximately 5°. Concerning 3D flow fields the slots marked their benefit at large incoming flow angles which delays the separation on both end wall and blade suction surface at mid span. However, at design conditions, the slotted blades are not able to control secondary flows near the wall and so, lose their potential.

Keywords: Secondary flow, High loading, Slotted blades, Separation.

### 1. Introduction

It is of main interest to decrease the weight and length of compressor by reducing the number of blades or stages for a desired pressure rise. The problem encountered in front of this reason is the rise in the level of loading and diffusion

**Nomenclatures**

$AR$	Aspect ratio
$C_f$	Skin friction coefficient
$C_p$	Static pressure coefficient
$c$	Chord length, m
$M$	Mach number
$P$	Static Pressure, Pa
$P_{0i}$	Inlet stagnation pressure, Pa
$R_c$	Coanda radius, m
$Re$	<i>Reynolds number</i>
$R_p$	Pressure surface radius, m
$r_L$	Slot leading edge radius, m
$r_T$	Slot trailing edge radius, m
$S$	Relative dynamic pressure
$t$	Thickness at intersection of slot axis and mean camber line, m
$X$	Chordal slot location
$Y$	Slot width, m
$y^+$	Non dimensional distance
$W_1$	Inlet velocity, m/s
<i>Greek Symbols</i>	
$\alpha_i$	Angle of attack, deg.
$\beta_i$	Inlet flow angle, deg.
$\theta$	Turning angle, deg.
$\lambda$	Stagger angle, deg.
$\varpi$	Mass averaged total loss coefficient
$\sigma$	Solidity
$\psi$	Angle formed by slot axis and mean camber line, deg.

which the boundary layer separation can be occurred. It is well known that separation is the main factor to reduce drastically the aerodynamic performances of compressors in turbo-engines. It decreases the operating range by generating instability such as rotating stall and surge, and reduces efficiency by producing high losses. The evident objective of engineers facing this undesirable phenomenon is to control it by mitigating or eliminating the separation zones. A lot of researches have been done in the area of flow control but the passive control method remains the preferable tools because of their simplicity and cost effectiveness. The basic principle of passive flow control is to energize the low momentum layers near solid surface without adding extra energy in order to overcome stronger adverse pressure gradient and therefore avoid the flow separation. All of the passive approaches used in turbo machinery such as vortex generators, Gurney flaps, slots and tandem bladings have been derived from methods successfully applied to aircraft wings. The slots represent one of the older methods to control boundary layer. To the author's knowledge, there have been a few previous investigations of slots in real turbo machinery applications. One of the two dimensional investigations which was conducted to determine the potential of slotted cascades for obtaining a wide range of operation and a large stall margin of compressor stages are carried out by Zhou et al. [1, 2].

Zhou et al. [1] designed three kinds of blade slot treatments and the results indicate that the performance of cascade can be improved by effective slot position and structure. In another work [2] the slot solution was designed on the stator blade in order to explore their effect on the single stage compressor characteristic. The slot effect was positive to improve compressor performance and enlarge stable operation region. As experimentally investigated in annular compressor cascade with slotted blades by Rockenbach et al. [3-5], the effectiveness of the slots appears in the region of mid span, but near both end walls the control gave poor performance and marked their inability to minimize the secondary flow losses. Moreover, the results indicated that no benefit was achieved in the wall region by the addition of wall vortex generators or inter blade secondary flow fences to original slots. Concerning the control with tandem airfoil, the recent three dimensional numerical study which performed by McGlumphy et al. [6] showed an improvement in the performance over a single blade rotor and the end wall flow losses had an important effect. Yasuo et al. [7] used a bowed compressor cascade to ameliorate the performances in endwall region. The numerical results indicated that the bowed stacking blade enhanced the spanwise transport of low momentum fluid inside the endwall boundary layer from sidewall towards the midspan. The control with the bowed shape of blade decreased the number of vortices developed in the region of corner stall and reduced the level of total pressure losses. The effects of the control appear remarkably when the blade loading is increased.

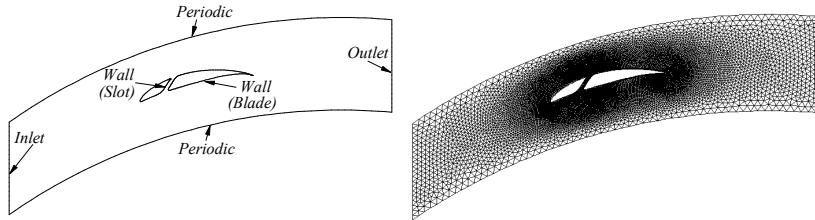
Quite recently, Hergt et al. [8] proposed an endwall groove to influence on the secondary flow structure. The numerical and experimental results were promising, the strong interaction of low momentum end wall fluid with the suction side boundary layer was considerably decreased and the secondary flow structure was significantly influenced by the aerodynamic separator. Furthermore, the spanwise as well as pitchwise extension of separation in the corner stall was mitigated and the losses were reduced. The present article focuses on numerical investigation which firstly explores the best configuration of cascade where the slot jet energizes the low momentum flow in order to delay or eliminate the separation boundary layer and thus enhance the aerodynamic performances of the highly loaded compressor cascades. Different slot locations, slot slope angles and slot widths are studied in order to achieve this objective in 2D configuration. In the second part, the best 2D slot configuration is adopted, in order to analyze the potential of slots to control both, the boundary layer separation on the suction surface of blade and the secondary flow structures at design and off design conditions for high loaded blade designs taken into consideration in Wennerstrom's paper [9].

## 2. Numerical Procedure

### 2.1. 2D-Configuration cascade

In the pre-processing step, the geometry and mesh are developed in GAMBIT. The geometry definition gives the study field limited, in streamwise, by inlet and outlet located at approximately 1.2 chords away from the leading edge and trailing edge, respectively, and, in pitchwise, by two periodic identified by solidity  $\sigma=1.25$ . Between these four boundaries, the high cambered blade NACA 65(18)10 profile has been chosen. It is built by creating real edges from a 26 points table, taken from the reference of Emery et al. [10]. The blade is provided

by a slot with constant section  $Y$  and characterized by a stagger angle  $\lambda = 13^\circ$  and a chord length  $c = 0.127$  m, Fig. 1. It is well known that the existence of singular points, which represent in this investigation the slot corners, provoke a pressure gradients between their upstream and downstream and consequently the separation of boundary layer in these zones. The remedy of this problem is to design slot geometry with curves instead broken lines as shown in Fig. 2.



**Fig. 1. Geometric Model and Computational Grid for Slotted Blading with  $X = 0.35c$ ,  $Y = 4$  mm, and  $\psi = 45^\circ$ .**

The slot data are chosen from the reference reported by Linder et al. [11]. They are summarized as follow:

$Y$ : Width slot

$t$ : Thickness at intersection of slot axis and mean camber line

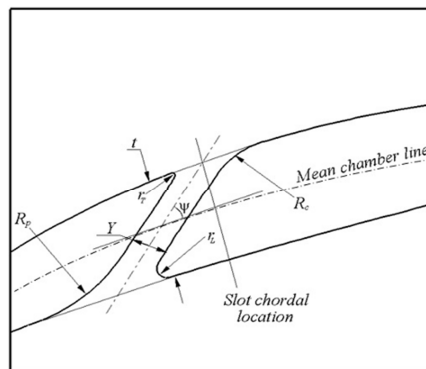
$r_T$ : Slot trailing edge radius ; 0.000127 m

$r_L$ : Slot leading edge radius ; 0.097  $t$

$R_c$ : Coanda radius ; 0.792  $t$

$R_p$ : Pressure surface radius; 1.73  $t$

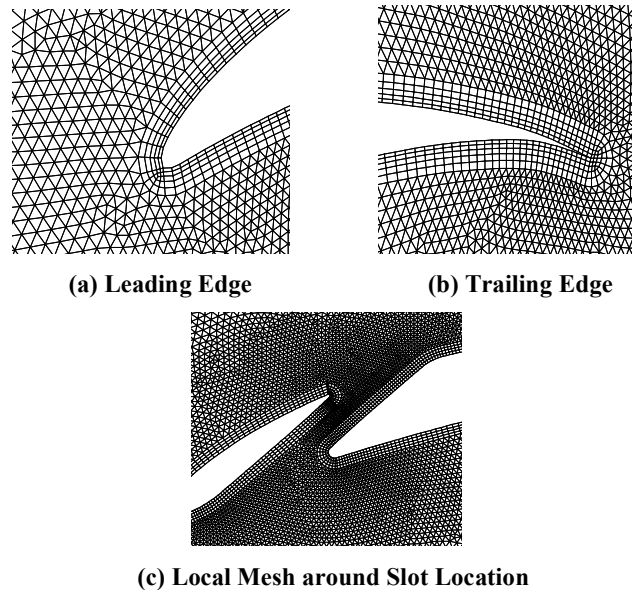
$\psi$ : Angle formed by slot axis and mean camber line.



**Fig. 2. Slot Geometry Nomenclature.**

The grid generation represents the subdivision of the study field into discrete control volumes. Two types of mesh are applied, a structured mesh in the vicinity of blade surfaces to capture the severe gradients in the region of boundary layer and an unstructured mesh in the remainder of computational domain. The wall functions model needs to adjust the thickness of neighboring cells to blade surface with the value of 0.0005 chords in order to satisfy the condition

$30 < y^+ < 100$ , where,  $y^+$  is the characteristic non dimensional distance from the wall. The total number of cells for a typical cascade configuration is about 26000. The independence grid-solution is obtained after several attempting improvements. Since each model needs a different mesh, it is inappropriate to show all slotted cascades tested in this work. Therefore, only representative mesh of slotted cascades with a chordal location  $X = 0.35c$ , a width  $Y = 4$  mm, and a slope  $\psi = 45^\circ$  is shown in Fig. 1. Detailed 2D mesh configurations are shown in Figs. 3(a) to (c), respectively for the leading edge zone, trailing edge one and in the slot.

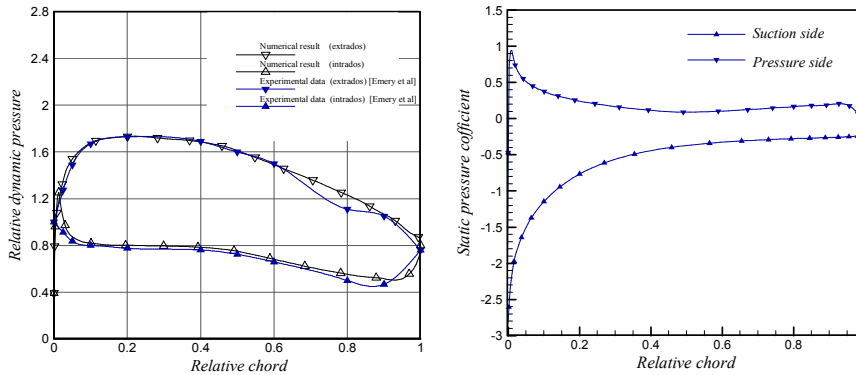


**Fig. 3. Local Mesh with  $X = 0.35c$ ,  $Y = 4$  mm, and  $\psi = 45^\circ$ .**

In the processing step, The FLUENT solver is used as a CFD-tool for solving the governing equations. The flow model considered in the present investigation is based on two dimensional situation, steady state, incompressible regime and  $k-\varepsilon$  turbulent model with wall functions. Therefore, the governing equations representing continuity, momentum,  $k$ - and  $\varepsilon$ - transport equation, are discretized using the finite volume approach applied in FLUENT solver. It is convenient to simulate one flow passage limited by two interfaces because the row compressor represents a cascade with an infinite number of blades. At these interfaces or periodic boundaries the principle of ghost cells is introduced. Consequently, the real and ghost cells are allowed to overlap without need to interpolate the flow variables with another blade passages. At all solid walls such as pressure, suction surfaces, and slot walls; the no slip and impermeability condition is imposed. At the inlet, the velocity components, turbulence intensity and hydraulic diameter are specified. On the contrary, at the outlet, the velocity components and turbulence parameters are extrapolated from neighboring interior cells.

To validate the numerical model; a comparison between computational and experimental results is carried out. The experimental data comes from the Emery's report [10]. The comparison is shown in Fig. 4 for the surface pressure

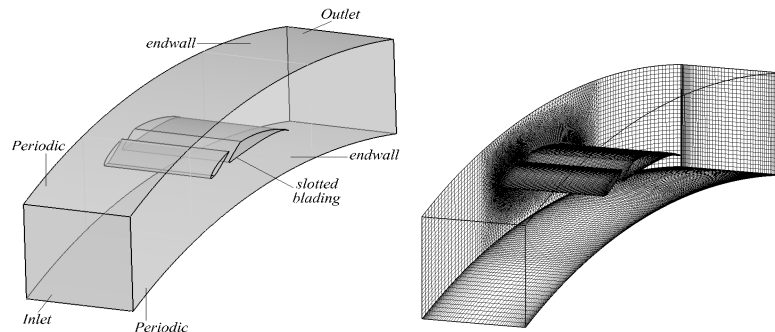
distribution on a NACA 65(18)10 cascade without slots and reported in terms of relative dynamic pressure,  $S=2(P_{01}-P)/(\rho W_1^2)$ , where,  $P_{01}$  is the upstream stagnation pressure. The operating conditions are set at free-stream Mach number  $M=0.085$  and Reynolds number, based on blade chord,  $Re=245000$ . The cascade has a stagger angle  $\lambda=13^\circ$ , blade angle of attack  $\alpha_I=17^\circ$  and solidity  $\sigma=1.25$ . The shown result in Fig. 4 and other numerical outputs for many tested configurations give a good agreement with experimental data cited in [10].



**Fig. 4. Comparison between Experimental and Numerical Results for Blade Surface Relative Pressure Distributions (left) and Static Pressure Coefficient (right) For Baseline Cascade with ( $\alpha_I=17^\circ$ ,  $\lambda=13^\circ$  and  $\sigma=1.25$ ).**

**2.2. 3D-Configuration cascade**

The 3D geometry is provided by the optimal 2D slot and has been developed with the same precedent cascade parameters: chord length  $c = 0.127$  m, stagger angle  $\lambda = 13^\circ$ , solidity  $\sigma = 1.25$ . The aspect ratio  $AR = h/c$  which gives the third dimension is equal to unity, Fig. 5. The grid generation represents two types of elements, a structured mesh in the regions of inlet and outlet to minimize the number of cells and an unstructured mesh in the blade passage. The endwall region of the cascade was meshed using quadrilateral and triangular elements with refined grid near solid surfaces. The total number of cells for 3D cascade configuration is about one million, Fig. 5.

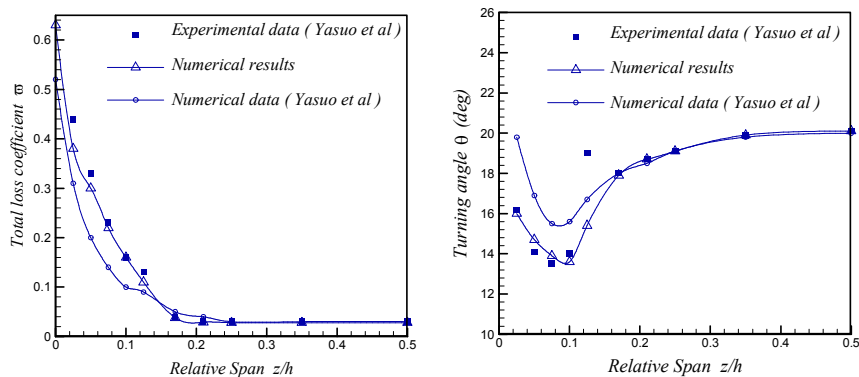


**Fig. 5. 3-D Domain with Boundary Conditions and Computational Grid for the Slotted Cascade.**

At all solid walls such airfoil, slot and end walls; the no-slip and impermeability condition is imposed. At the inlet plane, the velocity distribution and flow angle of the free stream are prescribed. The velocity components and turbulence parameters, at exit plane, are extrapolated from neighboring interior cells. It was assumed that the turbulence intensity of the inlet flow is 1%.

This solver already gave accurate results, comparing with Yasuo et al. [7] experimental results of 3D flows characteristics for a two dimensional cascade, referring to a NACA65 blading with a camber angle of  $30.1^\circ$ , a stagger angle of  $32.2^\circ$ , a solidity of 1.08 and an aspect ratio of 2.3. The incoming fluid inlet angle was  $47.1^\circ$  and the Reynolds number based on chord length was  $2.2 \times 10^5$ .

For this test case geometry the spanwise distribution of total pressure loss coefficient and deflection angle are shown in Figs. 6. The deflection angle is defined as  $\theta = \beta_1 - \beta_2$ ; where  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are the angles between inlet and outlet flow, respectively, and the axial direction. Compared to the experimental results, the numerical ones obtained by the present authors are better compared to Ref. [7] ones.



**Fig. 6. Spanwise Distribution of Total Pressure Loss Coefficient (left) and Turning Angle (right).**

### 2.3. 2D Investigation and parametric analysis

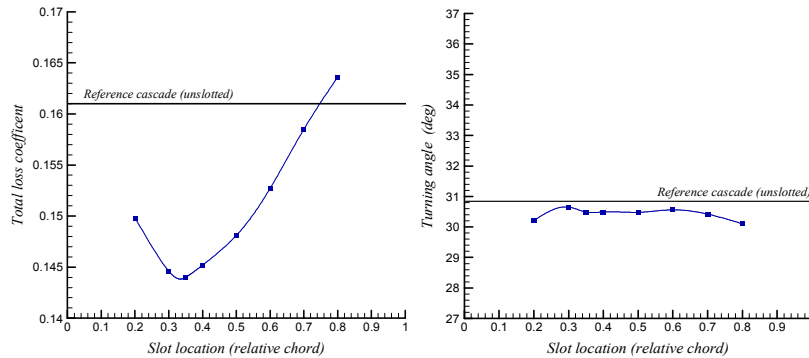
The parametric study will be carried out on the basis of a cascade configuration with a constant angle of attack  $\alpha_1 = 39^\circ$  which gives a beginning of separation at about 70% of the relative chord length. Figure 4 shows this separation zone for which the pressure gradient starts leveling off.

The influences of location, width and slope of the slot are successively examined. Each control parameter is studied independently and the efficiency of control is analyzed on the basis of the mass averaged total loss coefficient and the turning angle.

#### 2.3.1. Influence of slot location

The objective of this section is to identify the optimal slot location by fixing the width and slope as  $Y = 2$  mm and  $\psi = 45^\circ$ . The analysis is carried out on eight locations, seven adjacent positions are separated with 10% of the relative chord

length and one other position is located at 35% of the relative chord length. The procedure to determine the location of the slot is to draw the slot centerline at an angle  $\psi$  with the mean line and passed it through the suction surface. The produced intersection represents the desired chordal slot location  $X$  on the suction side. Figure 7 shows that the lower loss coefficients, which oscillate around the value 0.145, are located in the range of locations between 30% and 50% of the relative chord length and the best loss coefficient is identified when the slot is positioned at 35% of the relative chord length.



**Fig. 7. Total Loss Coefficient and Turning Angle for Different Slot Locations ( $Y = 2$  mm and  $\psi = 45^\circ$ ).**

First, since the position of separation point is located at about 70% of the relative chord length, and the minimum pressure point is close to the leading edge, Fig. 4 (left), the optimal location  $X = 0.35c$  confirms the Linder's criterion [10], which said that the slot would be located approximately halfway between the minimum pressure point and the separation point.

Second, the reason for the higher losses marked in the region downstream the location  $X = 0.5c$ , in particular in the separation zone, is the insufficient slot jet momentum to energize the surface suction boundary layer. This insufficient slot jet momentum is resulted from the weak difference pressure level between suction and pressure surface shown by the static pressure coefficient distribution in Fig. 4. Concerning the slot located in the detachment zone, it is inadvisable to exhaust the slot flow into the separated region because it cannot effectively turn the primary flow back toward the suction surface.

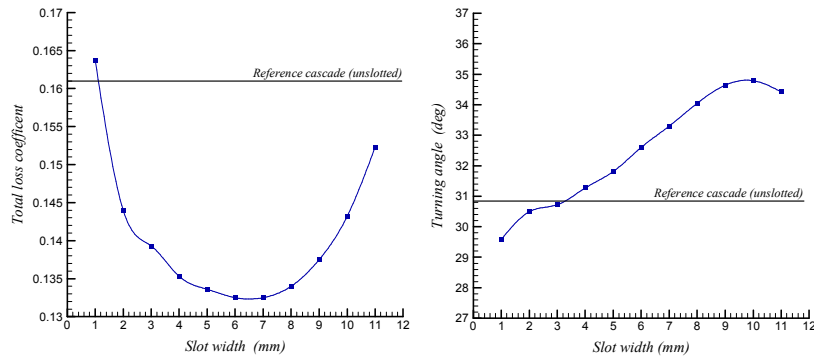
Third, in spite the high difference pressure level in the region upstream the location  $X = 0.3c$ , illustrated by the static pressure coefficient distribution, Fig. 4, the loss coefficient appear high. This increase is produced by the mixing losses due to the high velocity of the main flow in this region. Figure 7 (left) shows that the different locations of the slot used with the width  $Y = 2$  mm and the slope  $\psi = 45^\circ$  influences negatively but slightly the turning angle.

### 2.3.2. Influence of slot width

The influence of slot width is studied for the optimal position  $X = 0.35c$  and the fixed value of slot slope  $\psi = 45^\circ$ . The results are reported in Figs. 8 for the



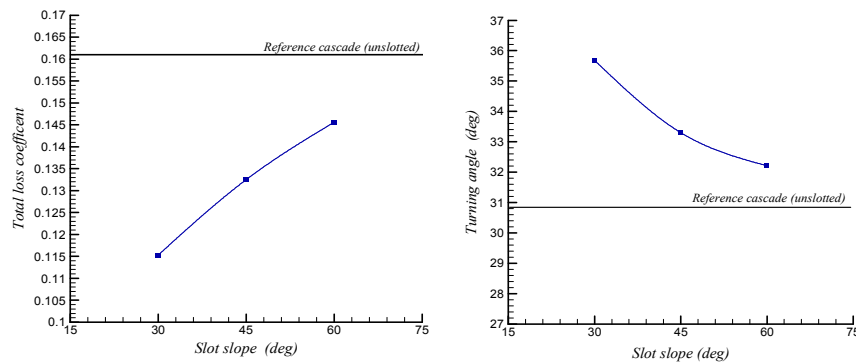
different widths from 1 to 11 mm. The positive effect is obtained when the width is increased as far as the value  $Y = 6$  mm. The two widths  $Y = 6$  mm and  $Y = 7$  mm give the same lower value of loss coefficient but the slot width  $Y = 7$  mm leads to high turning angle, Fig. 8 (left). Therefore, the optimum corresponds to the threshold value  $Y = 7$  mm. Beyond this optimal value, the increasing in the level of losses represents the sign of the thicker of boundary layer set by the higher values of slot width.



**Fig. 8. Total Loss Coefficient and Turning Angle for Different Slot Widths ( $X = 0.35c$  and  $\psi = 45^\circ$ ).**

### 2.3.3. Influence of slot slope

Similarly, in order to analyze the influence of slot slope, the optimal control parameters such the position  $X = 0.35c$  and the width  $Y = 7$  mm are used for three values of the angle  $\psi$ ;  $30^\circ$ ,  $45^\circ$  and  $60^\circ$ . The results, shown in Fig. 9, indicate that the best result corresponds to the lowest tested angle  $\psi = 30^\circ$ . In fact, with the fixed exit slot on the position  $X = 0.35c$ , at suction side, and the different entries slot, at pressure side, which correspond to the angles  $\psi = 30^\circ$ ,  $45^\circ$  and  $60^\circ$ , the pressure difference, between the entry and the exit of slot, increases when the slot slope becomes less stiff. This is confirmed by the static pressure coefficient distribution in Fig. 4.



**Fig. 9. Total Loss Coefficient and Turning Angle for Different Slot Slopes ( $X=0.35c$  and  $Y=7$  mm).**

The numerical experimentation presented here provides us different solutions to reduce the mass averaged loss coefficient and increase the turning angle. The best solution is obtained for a slot located at 35% of relative chord length, a slot width  $Y=7$  mm and a slope, defined by the angle between the slot centerline and the mean chamber line,  $\psi = 30^\circ$ . The relative reduction of loss coefficient is up to 28.3% and the turning angle increase with  $5^\circ$ , Fig. 9 (left). Figures 10 show a comparison of velocity magnitude fields and streamlines between the slotted and unslotted cascades and illustrates the significant influence of the optimal slot jet momentum to eliminate boundary layer separation. In this configuration cascade, the passive control with slotted blading proves his efficiency to eliminate the flow detachment.

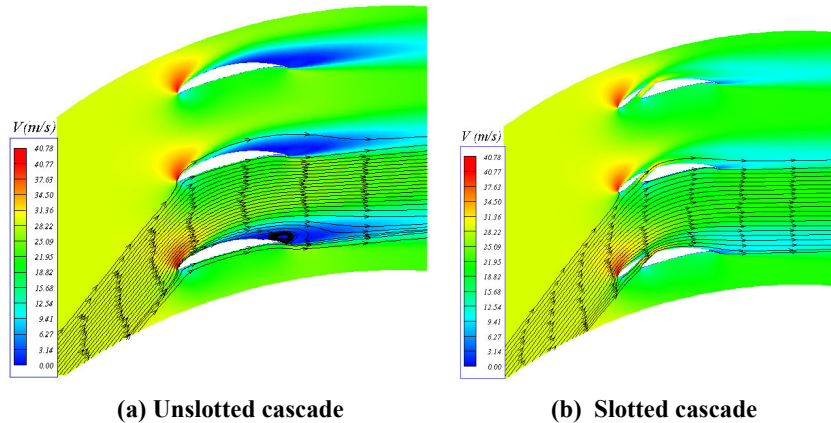


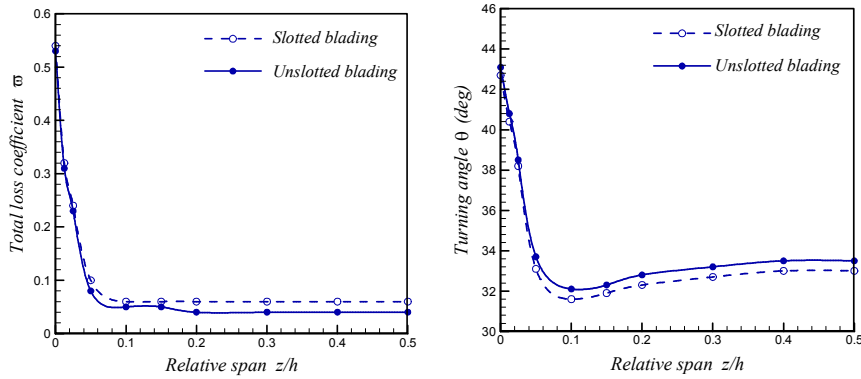
Fig. 10. Velocity Contours and Streamlines for the Best Configuration ( $X = 0.35c$ ,  $Y = 7$  mm and  $\psi = 30^\circ$ ).

### 3. 3D-Investigation with Optimal Slotted

#### 3.1. Results for inlet design angle $\beta_1 = 32^\circ$

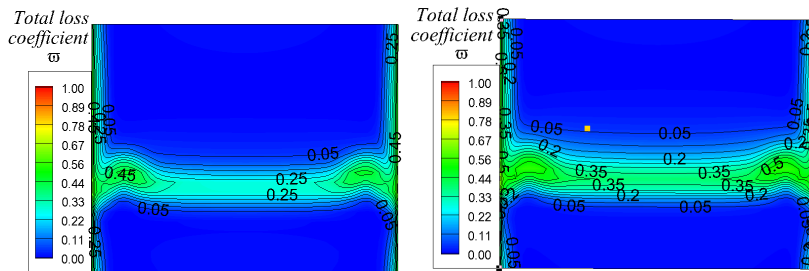
Figure 11 (left) shows the spanwise distribution of pitchwise averaged total loss coefficient for both cases calculated at an axial position 50% downstream from the trailing edge. The total losses are strictly the sum of those due to the skin friction on blade surfaces and secondary losses. Close to the end walls, the total loss coefficient has almost the same values for the two cases, but outside this region up to mid span, the losses of the slotted case exhibit higher values.

Figure 11 (right) shows the spanwise distribution of pitchwise averaged turning angle  $\theta$ . The secondary flow produces the areas of the overturning and underturning at around 10% span for each two cases with the same level and evolution. Therefore the slotted cascade cannot control the secondary flows within the end wall boundary layer at the design inlet angle  $\beta_1 = 32^\circ$ .

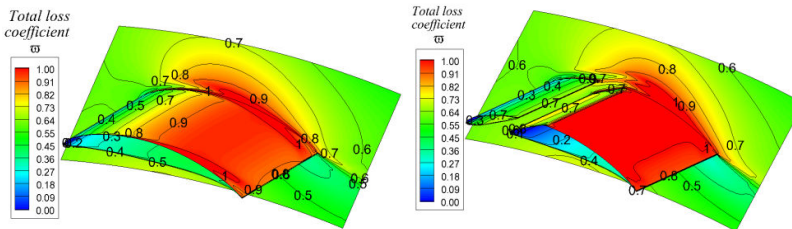


**Fig. 11. Spanwise Total Pressure Loss Coefficient and Turning Angle Evolutions between Initial Blade and Slotted One for Inlet Design Angle at Cascade Outlet Plane  $x/C_{ax}=1.5$ .**

Figure 12(a) represents the wake identified by the contours plot of the total pressure loss coefficient on a cross plane located at the aforementioned axial position. It can be seen that the total pressure loss coefficient contours are symmetric near mid span and slightly skewed near the end wall. The highest loss coefficient appears near the end wall under the effect of mixing with secondary flows. The rise in total losses on the sidewall and blades surfaces is marked in the slotted cascade as depicted in Fig. 11. Therefore, the slot contributes to slightly increase the loss coefficient over the whole passage as it was already found in pure 2D configuration.

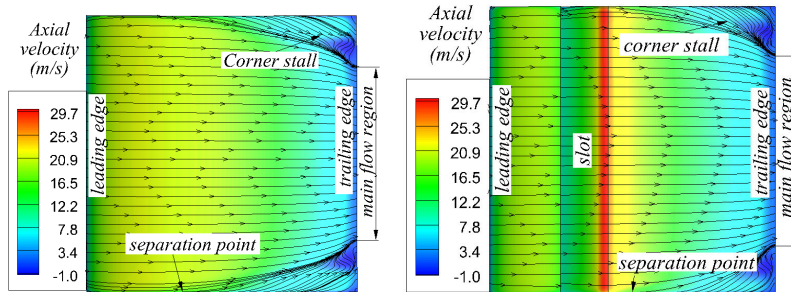


**Fig. 12(a). Total Pressure Loss Coefficient Contours. Exit plane at  $x/C_{ax}=1.5$ , for both Initial Blades (left) and Slotted Ones (right); Nominal Inlet Angle  $\beta_1=32^\circ$ .**

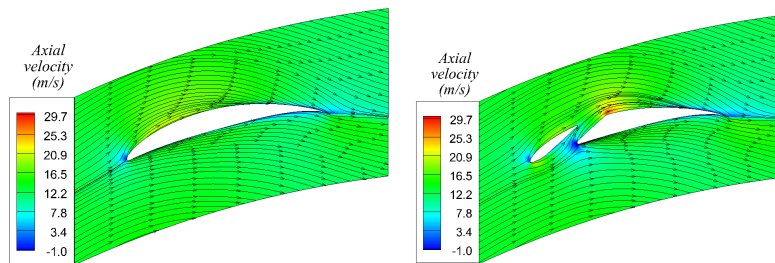


**Fig. 12(b). Total Pressure Loss Coefficient on Blade End Wall for both Initial Blades (left) and Slotted Ones (right); Nominal Inlet Angle  $32^\circ$ .**

Figures 13(a) and (b) represent the streamlines coloured by axial velocity on blade and sidewall surfaces. The stall regions on the suction surfaces near end wall act as a blockage effect which reduces the main primary passage. The end wall surfaces are qualified of free stall for the design angle. The distance between separation points and leading edge increase in the controlled blade but the displacement of separation points downstream in the blade passage doesn't change significantly the area of separation zones. The results for the design angle  $\beta_1=32^\circ$ , globally show that no positive effects of the slot to mitigate the secondary losses are present.



**Fig. 13(a). Limiting Streamlines on the Suction Surface for both Initial Blades (up) and Slotted Ones (bottom); Nominal Inlet Angle  $\beta_1=32^\circ$ .**

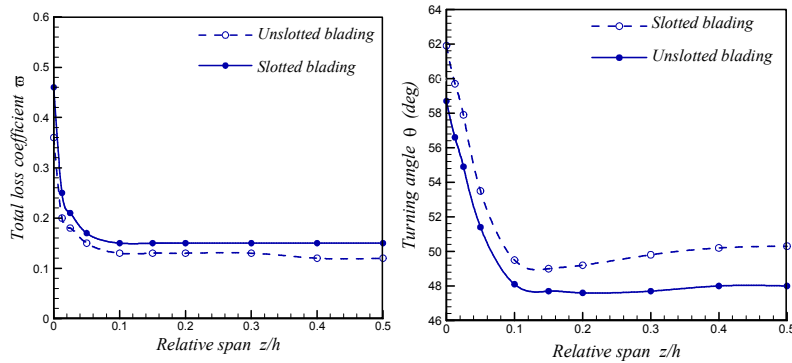


**Fig. 13(b). Limiting Streamlines on the End Wall for both Initial Blades (up) and Slotted Ones (bottom), Nominal Inlet Angle  $\beta_1=32^\circ$ .**

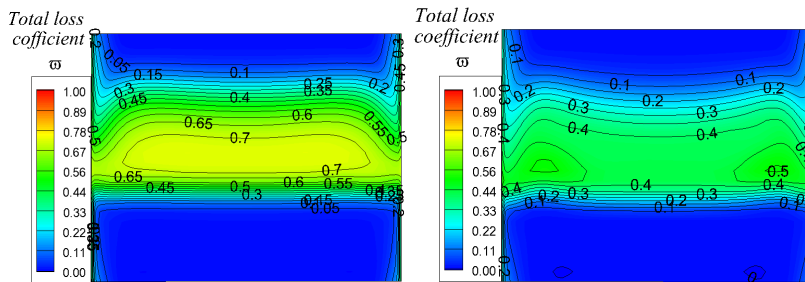
### 3.2. Results for off-design inlet angle $\beta_1=52^\circ$

The total loss pressure coefficient distribution and contours are respectively shown in Figs. 14 (left), 15(a) and 15(b) for both cases. The slot has in this situation the capability to control secondary flow and boundary layer separation, since loss level decreases. The turning angle distribution, presented in Fig. 14 (right), shows that the slotted blade configuration gives better values as well. In order to give more details, Figs. 16(a) and 16(b) represent the streamlines coloured by axial velocity on blade and sidewall surfaces for the two cases. The cascade without slot is influenced by a large amount of reversed flow in both corner and mid span which increase the

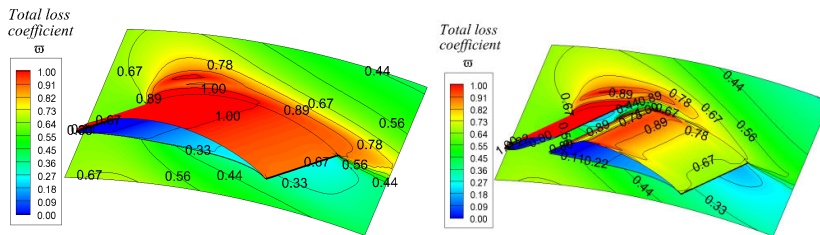
blockage in passage area. It can be seen that the slot jet in the controlled cascade eliminate the boundary layer separations both in the corner on end wall and at mid span on the suction surface. However, the zone of suction surface inside the corner remains stalled.



**Fig. 14. Comparison of Pitchwise Mass Averaged Total Pressure Loss Coefficient and Turning Angle for Initial Blades(up) and Slotted Ones (bottom), Off-design Inlet Angle for  $\beta_1=52^\circ$  at  $x/Cax=1.5$ .**



**Fig. 15(a). Total Pressure Loss Coefficient Contours Downstream the Cascade for Initial Blades (up) and Slotted Ones (bottom), Nominal Inlet Angle  $\beta_1=52^\circ$  at  $x/Cax=1.5$ .**



**Fig. 15(b). Total Pressure Loss Coefficient Contours on Blade and Side Wall for Initial Blades (up) and Slotted Ones (bottom), Off-design Inlet Angle  $\beta_1=52^\circ$ .**

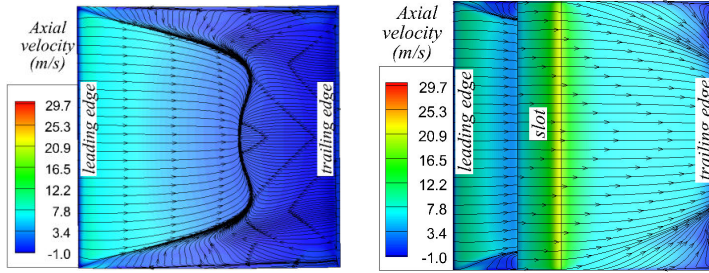


Fig. 16(a). Limiting Streamlines on the Suction Surface for Initial Blades (up) and Slotted Ones (bottom),  $\beta_1=52^\circ$ .

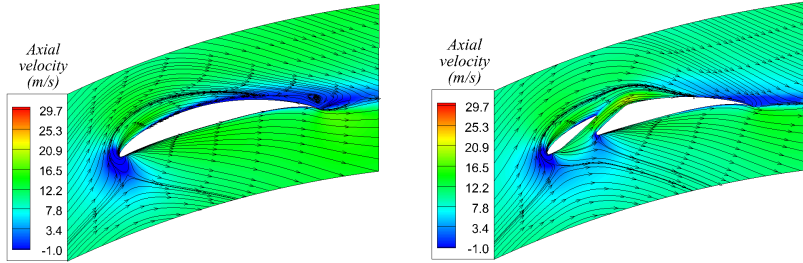


Fig. 16(b). Limiting Streamlines on the Enwall for Initial Blades (up) and Slotted Ones (bottom),  $\beta_1=52^\circ$ .

#### 4. Discussion of Results

##### 4.1. Influence of incoming flow angle

Figures 17 left and right respectively show the variations of total loss coefficient and turning angle, with various angles of attack for both cases. Over the angle of attack range, where the boundary layer separation on the suction surface is weak, the total loss coefficient has got the high values and turning angle take the same values comparing with the baseline cascade. Outside this range, the decreasing in loss coefficient and the rise of turning angle indicate the positive effect of the slot to control separations developed at mid span on the suction surface and at corner on the end walls.

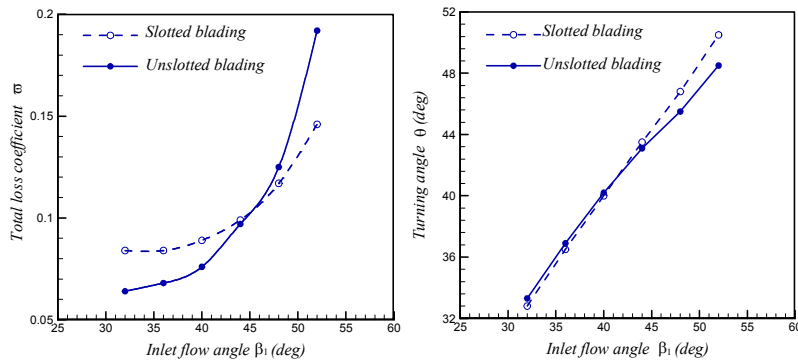


Fig. 17. Variation of Total Loss Coefficient and Turning Angle with Inlet Angle for both Configurations.

#### 4.2. Structure of hub corner stall

On Fig. 18, the particle traces are generated to visualize the vortices inside the corner stall at the design inlet flow angle  $\beta_1=32^\circ$  for both cases. The presence of the adverse pressure gradient in the blade passage and the cross flow from pressure to suction side in the boundary layer of the sidewall give a region characterized by the accumulation of low momentum fluid and the development of reverse flow.

The structures of the particle traces near the suction surface of the slotted blade are different from those obtained for initial case. In the former, the vortex due to the secondary flow is rolling up toward the mid span. This creates a well-known accumulation of low momentum fluid and the development of reverse flow. In the latter, the presence of slot creates two counter rotating vortices. These two vortices represent two legs of a single vortex and are situated near the trailing edge. The two counter vortices are the responsible for the obtaining of poor performances either total loss coefficient or turning angle.

The structures of the vortices within the corner stall at off design angle are illustrated in Figs. 19. In the cascade without slot the streamlines show a stronger reverse flow represented by a vortex perpendicular to the end wall surface and extended almost over the entire span. This vortex coexists with another vortex due from the end wall flow. On the other hand, the three dimensional flow fields in corner stall of the controlled cascade indicate that the stronger counter vortex is weakened with the creation of another two vortices. The onset of the first comes from the corner upstream the slot and the second is from the corner downstream the slot. Moreover, the vortex of suction boundary layer separation is eliminated. Seemingly, the control of this vortex at stall condition has the predominant effect to decrease total loss and increase turning even three vortices may exist near end walls.

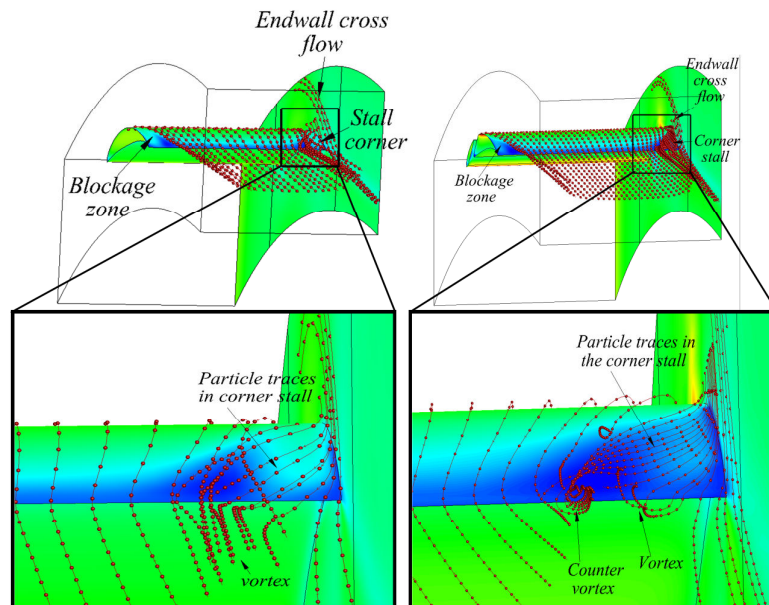
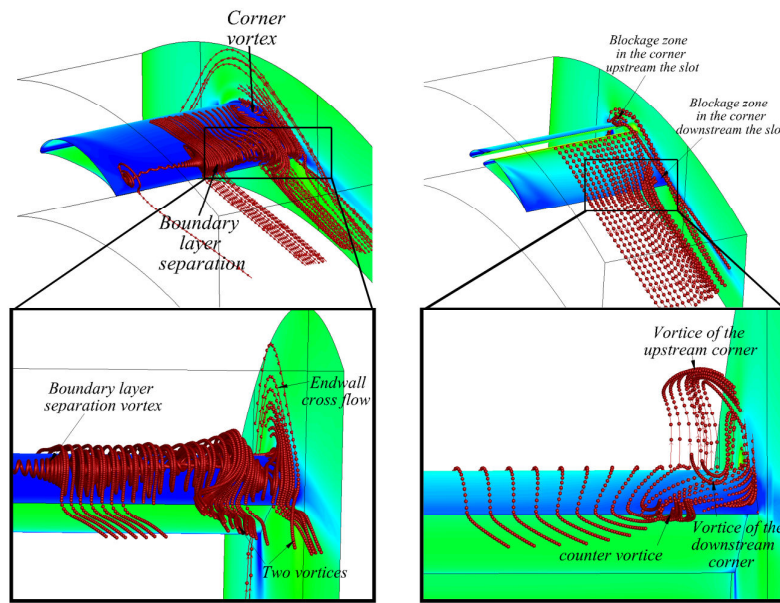


Fig. 18. Limiting Streamlines on the Blade and Endwall for Initial Blade (left) and Slotted (right) Cascades,  $\beta_1=32^\circ$ .



**Fig. 19. Limiting Streamlines on the Blade and Endwall for Baseline (left) and Controlled (right) Cascades,  $\beta_1=52^\circ$ .**

## 5. Conclusions

Numerical experimentations were performed in the highly loaded linear compressor cascade with NACA 65(18)10. The influences of location, width and slope of the slot were successively analysed in two-dimensional configuration. Under off design condition, the maximum relative reduction of loss coefficient was up to 28.3%, when the slot jet was located approximately halfway between the minimum pressure point and the separation point, the slot width reached the threshold value and the slot slope became less stiff. Moreover, a difference of about  $5^\circ$  between the turning angles with and without slot can be observed. In three-dimensional situation, the optimal slot marks their ability to reduce the secondary flow structures and eliminate the boundary layer separation at midspan and the corner stall. This benefit appears in the case where the incoming flow angle was large and the boundary layer separation was occurred. Thus, another work under design condition might be proposed to explore the potential of slotted blading to control endwall flows. In the end, because the slot jet is exhausted with the same direction of the main flow, it has the capability to energize the boundary layer and control the separated flow on the suction surface of blade. But as the secondary flows have a different structure and different direction the slot jet loses its impact to manipulate the secondary flow. Therefore, the solution to control the secondary flow structures is to use an active tool on the lateral endwalls. Like suction or blowing, these tools can be proposed in the future works in parallel with slotted bladings to improve aerodynamic performances of the axial compressors.



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