

**Report on AIAA Aerospace Sciences Conference, Reno, Nevada – 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2005.**

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The AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting was held at the Reno Hilton, Reno, Nevada from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> of January. This meeting is held annually and is the largest of its kind. It is specifically focused on aerospace sciences with approximately 3000 delegates over the 4 days. The meeting was mostly attended by delegates from the US, although foreign researchers did make up approximately 20% of the delegates present.

The Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Glasgow is a key member of the UK Rotorcraft Aeromechanics DARF. Therefore, global exposure, especially at a high profile conference, is important.

For myself, the conference offered the opportunity to present to a knowledgeable audience. During my postgraduate study there have been opportunities to present both to the other members of the department, and also at an annual rotorcraft conference hosted by the University of Glasgow Aerospace Department. The audience in the department is fairly diverse, and to a lesser degree so is the audience at the rotorcraft conference. However, this conference presented the opportunity to present to an audience whose primary interest blade vortex interaction and or indicial modelling.

The session itself started at 8:30 with presentations lasting a total of 30 minutes, which included 10 minutes for questions. On average approximately 30 to 40 attended per presentation, with a good range of questions for every speaker. All presentations were received well. I was particularly pleased to be put on the spot during the questions slightly more than normal.

The questions I received focused mostly on which particular version of the indicial model had been used. One member of the audience from the UK had information regarding a further attempt to improve on the existing models that I was using which had proven to be successful with parallel blade vortex interaction.

Contact with the member of audience has been possible after the conference and I'm now in possession of the updated indicial model that accurately predicted parallel blade vortex interaction. Hopefully, I will soon find time to test out this new model for orthogonal blade vortex interaction. Potentially, this could result in improved results for the final stages of the PhD thesis.

Attending the other presentations also provided me with an opportunity to view some of the cutting edge work being completed in related fields within the industry. Also, presentations within aerodynamics were varied in topic. Occasionally, I found that presentations clashed although this did not happen often and was resolved by using the Papers Room where the papers from all presentations were available for viewing. This allowed the opportunity to preview clashing papers to decide on which was more beneficial or relevant to my studies.

Most of all the conference provided the opportunity to receive excellent feedback, which will hopefully result in improved results for my PhD thesis.