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## Non-nulling protocols for fast, accurate, 3-D velocity measurements in stacks

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#### ABSTRACT

The authors present protocols for making fast, accurate, 3D velocity measurements in the stacks of coal-fired power plants. The measurements are traceable to internationally-recognized standards; therefore, they provide a rigorous basis for measuring and/or regulating the emissions from stacks. The authors used novel, five-hole, hemispherical, differential-pressure probes optimized for non-nulling (no-probe rotation) measurements. The probes resist plugging from ash and water droplets. Integrating the differential pressures for only 5 seconds determined the axial velocity  $V_a$  with an expanded relative uncertainty  $U_r(V_a) \le 2\%$  of the axial velocity at the probe's location, the flow's pitch ( $\alpha$ ) and yaw ( $\beta$ ) angles with expanded uncertainties  $U(a) = U(\beta) = 1^\circ$ , and the static pressure  $p_s$  with  $U_r(p_s) = 0.1\%$  of the static pressure. This accuracy was achieved 1) by calibrating each probe in a wind tunnel at 130, strategically-chosen values of ( $V_a$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ) spanning the conditions found in the majority of stacks ( $|\alpha| \le 20^\circ$ ;  $|\beta| \le 40^\circ$ ; 4.5 m/s  $\le V_a \le 27$  m/s), and 2) by using a long-forgotten definition of the pseudo-dynamic pressure that scales with the dynamic pressure. The resulting calibration functions span the probe-diameter Reynolds number range from 7,600 to 45,000.

*Implications*: The continuous emissions monitoring systems (CEMS) that measure the flue gas flow rate in coal-fired power plant smokestacks are calibrated (at least) annually by a velocity profiling method. The stack axial velocity profile is measured by traversing S-type pitot probes (or one of the other EPA-sanctioned pitot probes) across two orthogonal, diametric chords in the stack cross-section. The average area-weighted axial velocity calculated from the pitot traverse quantifies the accuracy of the CEMS flow monitor. Therefore, the flow measurement accuracy of coal-fired power plants greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions depends on the accuracy of pitot probe velocity measurements. Coal-fired power plants overwhelmingly calibrate CEMS flow monitors using S-type pitot probes. Almost always, stack testers measure the velocity without rotating or nulling the probe (i.e., the non-nulling method). These 1D non-nulling velocity measurements take significantly less time than the corresponding 2D nulling measurements (or 3D nulling measurements for other probe types). However, the accuracy of the 1D non-nulling velocity measurements made using S-type probes depends on the pitch and yaw angles of the flow. Measured axial velocities are accurate at pitch and yaw angles near zero, but the accuracy degrades at larger pitch and yaw angles.

The authors developed a 5-hole hemispherical pitot probe that accurately measures the velocity vector in coal-fired smokestacks without needing to rotate or null the probe. This non-nulling, 3D probe is designed with large diameter pressure ports to prevent water droplets (or particulates) from obstructing its pressure ports when applied in stack flow measurement applications. This manuscript presents a wind tunnel calibration procedure to determine the non-nulling calibration curves for 1) dynamic pressure; 2) pitch angle; 3) yaw angle; and 4) static pressure. These calibration curves are used to determine axial velocities from 6 m/s to 27 m/s, yaw angles between  $\pm 40^{\circ}$ , and pitch angles between  $\pm 20^{\circ}$ . The uncertainties at the 95% confidence limit for axial velocity, yaw angle, and pitch angle are 2% (or less), 1°, and 1°, respectively. Therefore, in contrast to existing EPA-sanctioned probes, the non-nulling hemispherical probe provides fast, low uncertainty velocity measurements independent of the pitch and yaw angles of the stack flow.

#### Introduction

In 2020, anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions totaled  $(34.8 \pm 1.8) \times 10^{12}$  kg (Friedlingstein et al. 2021). Coal-fired power plants produced 40% of these emissions. Thus, accurate, internationally accepted measurements of coal-fired plant emissions are essential for

abating the CO<sub>2</sub> contributions to global climate change. In the United States, emissions from coal-fired power plants are determined by measuring the axial velocity  $V_a$  at prescribed locations in a cross-section of the plant's exhaust stack. (Figure 1). The protocols for measuring  $V_a$  must be accepted by the U.S. Environmental

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**Figure 1.** Schematic illustrates a non-nulling pitot probe traverse in a coal-fired power plant smokestack. A hemispherical probe measures the axial velocity ( $V_a$ ) at traverse points located along the Y and Z axes. The flow's pitch (a) and yaw ( $\beta$ ) angles are defined relative to the direction of traverse paths and quantify the non-axial velocity components.

Protection Agency (EPA). The most frequently used protocol deduces  $V_{\rm a}$  from measurements of the pressure difference between the two holes of an S-probe oriented parallel to the stack axis (EPA 2017a, 2017c). This protocol can overpredict emissions by 10% or more when the flow in a stack has significant non-axial velocity components (Norfleet, Muzio, and Martz 1998). Here, the authors describe new protocols for measuring  $V_{\rm a}$ that have much smaller expanded uncertainties  $U_r$  $(V_a) \leq 2\%$  and are traceable to internationally accepted standards. These uncertainties apply to stack flows with axial velocities 4.5 m/s  $\leq V_a \leq$  27 m/s and with significant pitch (-20 ° ≤  $\alpha$  ≤ 20 °) and yaw (-40 ° ≤  $\beta$  ≤ 40 °). (Figure 1 defines pitch and yaw). The authors believe that the new protocols are as robust and economical as the existing S-probe protocol, yet the non-nulling method outperforms existing methods by providing 2% accuracy or better for a wide range of yaw and pitch angles; therefore, they are attractive to the owners and regulators of power plants.

### Methodolgy

Recently, the authors reported significant progress in generating fast, accurate, low-uncertainty protocols (Johnson et al. 2020). The authors used EPA-approved 5-hole spherical probes to measure  $V_a$  with the relative expanded uncertainty  $U_r(V_a) = 2\%$  for the range 4.5 m/  $s \le V_a \le 27$  m/s, thereby avoiding the over-prediction problem inherent with S-probe measurements (Norfleet, Muzio, and Martz 1998). These demonstration measurements were conducted in a fast (therefore economical), non-nulling mode. (In the nulling mode the spherical probe is rotated about its axis until the pressure difference between designated holes is zero. This timeconsuming process is repeated at each measurement location.) The demonstrated speed and accuracy of these non-nulling measurements were encouraging; however, these measurements revealed two problems that the authors address in this manuscript. (1) The pressure ports of the spherical probe frequently became plugged by ash and/or by water droplets entrained in the exhaust gas. The diameter of the spherical probe's ports was 1.5 mm, much smaller than the 12.7 mm diameter of the S-probe's ports. (2) The authors calibrated each spherical probe at 3000 values of  $(V_a, \alpha, \beta)$  in NIST's wind tunnel. Such extensive calibrations are expensive and not generally available; therefore, they cannot be the basis of a widely used protocol.

Our solution to the plugging problem is the novel, 5-hole hemispherical probe described in Section 3, below. This patented non-nulling hemispherical probe features large 6.5 mm ports that minimize plugging problems when used with stack measurement applications (Shinder, Johnson, and Filla 2022).

Our solution to the calibration problem is described in Section 3, below. It combines 3 ideas: (1) including  $V_{\rm a}$ , or equivalently, the probe-diameter Reynolds number as an independent calibration variable (in addition to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ), (2) using an unusual, judiciously-chosen definition of the pseudo-dynamic pressure to scale the differential pressure measurements, and (3), a systematic strategy for minimizing the number of calibration set-points. The authors combined these ideas to achieve a cost-effective procedure for using hemispherical probes throughout the 3-parameter space ( $|\alpha| \le 20^\circ$ ;  $|\beta| \le 40^\circ$ ;  $4.5 \text{ m/s} \le V_a \le 27 \text{ m/s}$ ) with expanded relative uncertainties  $U_r(V_a) \le 2\%$  at each point. However, to achieve this low uncertainty at yaw angles near  $|\beta| \approx 40^\circ$ , the authors had to increase the span of the yaw calibrations from  $|\beta| \le 40^\circ$  to  $|\beta| \le 45^\circ$ .

In addition to solving the plugging and calibration problems, this manuscript deals with several other problems that relate to the practical application of five-hole hemispherical probes for fast, accurate 3D velocity

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>In this manuscript the authors denote the standard uncertainty of a measurand x by u(x) and its relative standard uncertainty expressed as a percent of x by  $u_r(x) = 100 \ u(x)/x$ . Unless otherwise stated, all uncertainties are standard uncertainties with a unity coverage factor (k = 1) corresponding to a 68% confidence interval. Expanded uncertainties, which have a coverage factor of two (k = 2) and correspond to a 95% confidence interval, are denoted by U(x) = 2u(x) or  $U_r(x) = 2u_r(x)$ , respectively.

measurements in stacks. In Section 4, the authors consider 7 identically-designed probes manufactured using different processes and materials. The dimensions of each probe were measured with a coordinate measuring machine (CMM), and the variability between probes was the basis of the hemispherical probe's specified dimensional tolerances in Figure 4. By implementing the wind tunnel measurement protocol documented in Section 5 and the uncertainty analysis in Section 6, the authors verified that all 7 probes could be calibrated to achieve the target expanded relative uncertainties  $U_r(Va) \le 2\%$  at each point. The dominant uncertainty for the calibration curves resulted from the residuals of fitting 3 variable, 3rd degree polynomials to the wind tunnel data. Therefore, low uncertainty non-nulling calibrations in the field will not require laboratory grade pressure sensors or state-of-the anemometers to achieve  $U_r(Va) \le 2\%$  at each point. The authors expect hemispherical probes manufactured in accordance with Figure 4 can be calibrated to the obtain the target uncertainty  $U_r(V_a) \le 2\%$  by following the measurement protocol in Section 5.

A committee of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers is drafting a documentary standard to facilitate EPA's adoption of a non-nulling, hemispherical probe protocol for stack flow measurements. This publication provides technical details of the research and methods that are the basis of the documentary standard.

#### Hemispherical probe design

After evaluating a variety of 3D printed probe shapes and port orientations in the NIST wind tunnel, the authors selected a custom designed 5-hole hemispherical probe for further evaluation in stack flows. The wind tunnel results indicated that the hemispherical probe could be calibrated with low uncertainty using fewer points (See Section 3.3). During stack tests, the nonnulling hemispherical probe provided fast, accurate  $V_{\rm a}$ measurements without rotating (or "nulling") the probe or having its pressure ports blocked by particulates in the flue gas (Johnson et al. 2019). Figure 2 shows the shape and dimensions of the hemispherical probe's head. The probe's head consists of a bullet-shaped probe tip attached to a probe support at a 90° angle. During calibration and field applications a long shaft connects to the probe support to move the head to the desired position in a wind tunnel or stack. At each traverse point, the pressure is measured at 5 ports on the hemispherical surface of the probe's tip. The central port is denoted port #1 and the four peripheral ports are denoted #2, #3, #4, and #5. The adjacent, peripheral ports are spaced 90° apart in the Y'Z' plane, and the angle between the X'-axis and a line segment extending from the center of the hemisphere to the center of any peripheral pressure port is  $\gamma = 40.5^{\circ}$ .

The radius of curvature of the hemispherical surface  $R_{\rm t}$ = 12.7 mm is several times larger than similar five-hole probes used for atmospheric boundary layers measurements and turbomachinery applications (Hickman et al. 2021). The larger size is a key feature of our design because it facilitates larger diameter ( $D_b = 6.5 \text{ mm}$ ) pressure ports. Field tests in coal-fired stacks with wet scrubbers and dry scrubbers demonstrated that the larger hole size mitigates plugging of the pressure ports from water droplets or fly ash (Johnson et al. 2019). The forward-facing ports are 4.2 times larger than the ports on the EPA-approved spherical probe that is used for 3D velocity profiling in stacks (EPA 2017b). The larger holes on the hemispherical probe transition to smaller 1.65 mm diameter tubing inside the probe's head. The probe's head and support tube protect the tubing along the probe's length. The tubing exiting the probe connects to differential pressure transducers located outside the wind tunnel or stack.

The probe's tip is only L = 78.74 mm long; therefore, it fits through a standard stack flange (diameter 101.6 mm) without hitting the stack's walls during the probe's installation or removal. However, the 78.74 mm length is not sufficient to prevent flow interactions between the tip and the support. As a result of these interactions, the pressures at the ports differ from those that would exist without the support. These blockage effects increase at large negative pitch angles. Port #5, which is used to determine the pitch angle, is closest to the probe's support and is most affected by blockage. Consequently, low uncertainty pitch angle determinations are limited by blockage effects. Here, the authors consider pitch angles in the range  $\pm$  20°, which exceeds the  $\pm$  12° range of pitch angles encountered in most stack flow measurements (Gentry 2019).

# Calibration variables, pressure scaling, and set points

In this section, the authors describe: (1)  $V_a$ , or, equivalently, the probe-diameter Reynolds number (in addition to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ) as an independent calibration variable, (2) selecting pressure-ratio scaling and variables to process the differential pressure measurements, and (3) minimizing the number of calibration set-points based on a systematic study of a "cost"-accuracy trade-off. The authors combined ideas to achieve a cost-effective procedure for calibrating hemispherical probes spanning the 3-parameter space ( $|\alpha| \le 20$  °;  $|\beta| \le 45$  °; 4.5 m/s  $\le V_a \le 27$  m/s) with expanded relative uncertainties  $U_r$  ( $V_a$ )  $\le 2\%$  at each calibration point.



Figure 2. Five-hole hemispherical probe head. During the probe's calibration, it was attached to a 1 m long, 25.4 mm O. D. carbon fiber tube. The support tube enclosed narrower, pressure-transmitting tubes that connected the ports in the probe's head with differential-pressure gauges located several meters away.

#### Reynolds number is a calibration variable

In stack applications, the axial velocity  $V_{\rm a}$  is the critical velocity component. In the notation of Figure 1, the magnitude of  $V_a$  is calculated by

$$V_{\rm a} = V \, \cos\beta \cos\alpha. \tag{1}$$

where V is the magnitude of the velocity vector,

$$V = \sqrt{2p_{\rm dyn}/\rho} \,. \tag{2}$$

It equals the square-root of twice the dynamic pressure  $p_{\rm dyn}$  divided by the gas density  $\rho$ . The pitch and yaw velocity components are defined by  $V\sin\alpha$  and  $V\sin\beta$  $\cos\alpha$ , respectively.

In agreement with prior research, the authors found that the Reynolds number *Re* is useful for correlating the performance of five-hole probes (Dominy and Hodson 1992). The authors use the definition  $Re \equiv V_a D_t / v$ , where *v* is the kinematic viscosity and  $D_t = 2R_t$  is the diameter of the probe's tip. For our probes,  $D_t = 25.4 \text{ mm}$  and v $\approx 15.1 \times 10^{-6}$  m<sup>2</sup>/s for air nominally at ambient pressure and 20 °C; therefore, the velocity range 4.5 m/s  $\leq V_a \leq 27$ m/s corresponds to the range  $7,600 \le Re \le 45,000$ . The significance of Re depends on the shape of the probe's head (Azartash-Namin 2017), the value of the Re (Dudzinski and Krause 1969; Passmann et al. 2021; Wallen 1983), the pitch and yaw of the flow (Pisasale and Ahmed 2004; Treaster and Yocum 1979), and the intensity of the freestream turbulence (Dominy and Hodson 1992).

#### Pressure-ratio scaling and calibration variables

The authors used differential pressure transducers to measure the differences between the pressure at each port and the static pressure:  $p_{is} = p_i - p_s$  for i = 1 to 5. Then, the authors calculated the differences between the central port (port #1) and the 4 peripheral ports:  $p_{1s} =$  $p_{1s} - p_{is}$ , for i = 2 to 5. Likewise, the yaw and pitch pressures were calculated by subtracting the corresponding port pressures,  $p_{23} = p_{2s} - p_{3s}$  and  $p_{45} = p_{4s} - p_{4s}$  $p_{5s}$ , respectively. The authors define the pseudodynamic pressure  $(p_{\text{PSEUDO}})$  for scaling pressure ratios:

$$p_{\text{PSEUDO}} = \sqrt{p_{12}^2 + p_{13}^2 + p_{14}^2 + p_{15}^2},$$
 (3)

where  $p_{12}$  etc. are the pressure differences between each peripheral port and the central port. In 1970, Wright defined a similar "velocity factor" based on sums of squares (Wright 1970). The authors use capital letters in the subscript of  $p_{\text{PSEUDO}}$  to distinguish it from the widely used scaling  $p_{pseudo} = p_1$   $p_{\text{avg}}$  introduced by Dudzinski where  $p_{\text{avg}} = (p_2 + p_3 + p_3)$  $+p_5$ )/4 (Dudzinski and Krause 1969). Our discussion concerning Figure 3 explains the advantages of  $p_{\text{PSEUDO}}$  over  $p_{\text{pseudo}}$  in the context of measuring stack flows that have high angularity.

The authors develop correlations using 5 pressure ratios. The dynamic pressure ratio is

$$r_{\rm dyn} = p_{\rm dyn} / p_{\rm PSEUDO}, \qquad (4a)$$

and the static pressure parameter is

$$r_{1s} = p_{1s}/p_{\text{PSEUDO}} \tag{4b}$$

where  $p_{1s} = p_1 - p_s$ . The authors also define three pressure ratios given by

$$r_{12} = p_{12}/p_{\text{PSEUDO}},$$
  
 $r_{23} = p_{23}/p_{\text{PSEUDO}},$  (4c)  
 $r_{45} = p_{45}/p_{\text{PSEUDO}}.$ 

These pressure ratios are used as the independent variables of four non-nulling calibration curves: 1) the pitch angle,  $f_{\alpha}(r_{12}, r_{23}, r_{45})$ ; 2) the yaw angle,  $f_{\beta}(r_{12}, r_{23}, r_{45})$ ; 3)



**Figure 3.** Dynamic pressure ratio  $r_{dyn}$  versus yaw angle  $\beta$  for two scaling factors D. The plus symbols (+) use  $D = p_{pseudo}$  as defined by Dudzinski (Dudzinski and Krause 1969); the solid circles (•) use  $D = p_{PSEUDO}$  as proposed here in Equation (3). (Data from NIST's wind tunnel spanning airspeeds from 4.5 m/s to 27 m/s and pitch angles  $\alpha$  from -20 ° to 20 °).



**Figure 4.** Increasing uncertainty of calibrations as the number of calibration points is reduced from n = 2000. The empirical dashed curve has the equation  $u_n/u_{2000} = 1 + 7000/n^2$ . for n = 130, the uncertainty is approximately  $1.4 \times u_{2000}$  where  $u_{2000} = 0.0057$  is the fractional standard deviation of the residuals of the normal velocity calibration factor ( $fv_n$ ) in Equation (5).

the dynamic pressure ratio,  $f_{rdyn}$  ( $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ ,  $r_{45}$ ); and 4) the static pressure parameter,  $f_{r1s}$  ( $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ ,  $r_{45}$ ). The authors developed these calibration curves using linear regression to fit 3<sup>rd</sup> degree polynomials to data acquired in NIST's wind tunnel. See the appendix for explicit examples of the calibration curves' fit coefficients.

Figure 3 demonstrates the advantage of the scaling parameter  $p_{\text{PSEUDO}}$ . The authors plotted the dynamic pressure ratio  $r_{dvn}$  as a function of  $\beta$ , as measured in NIST's wind tunnel (Shinder et al. 2013; Shinder, Hall, and Moldover 2010). (See Section 5.) The 2000 data points span the ranges:  $|\alpha| \le 20^\circ$ ;  $|\beta| \le 45^\circ$ ; and  $4.5 \text{ m/s} \le V_a \le$ 27 m/s. The plotted solid circles (•) show  $r_{dyn}$  scaled by  $p_{\text{PSEUDO}}$ . These data are well-behaved for all values of  $\beta$ ; therefore, it is easy to represent them by polynomial functions. In contrast, the plus symbols (+) in Figure 3 represent  $r_{\rm dyn}$  scaled by  $p_{\rm pseudo}$ , as specified by Dudzinski and widely used by others. For yaw angles  $-20^{\circ} \le \beta \le 20^{\circ}$ , the ratio  $p_{\rm dyn}/p_{\rm pseudo}$  is smooth and varies by only 25%; therefore, it too can be represented by simple polynomial functions. However, at larger values of  $\beta$ ,  $p_{\text{pseudo}} \rightarrow 0$  causing  $r_{\text{dyn}}$  to diverge (Pisasale and Ahmed 2002). In this region, Dudzinski's  $p_{\text{pseudo}}$  is not a suitable scaling parameter.

An alternative method to circumvent the divergence of Dudzinski'  $p_{pseudo}$  is to separate the measurement domain into 5 zones, one corresponding to each pressure port on the probe's head (Gallington 1980; Paul, Upadhyay, and Jain 2011). When this is done, the port with the maximum pressure determines which zone is used to compute the velocity. As a result, the method of zones requires correlations for all 5 zones. Other researchers have avoided the divergence by using a scaling parameter that depends on wind tunnel parameters (e.g.,  $p_{dyn}$ ,  $p_t$ , and  $p_s$ ). A drawback of this technique is that the pressure coefficients are not explicitly determined by port pressure measurements. Instead, the pressure coefficients must be determined iteratively using numerical methods (Pisasale and Ahmed 2002, 2004). Neither alternative provides the straightforward probe calibration and application the authors propose in this manuscript.

### Selecting calibration set points

To meet the majority of stack-flow measurement needs, the authors calibrated probes in the 3-parameter space:  $|\alpha| \le 20^\circ$ ;  $|\beta| \le 45^\circ$ ;  $4.5 \text{ m/s} \le V_a \le 27 \text{ m/s}$ . In this space, a complete calibration on a grid (for example: 5° steps in  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  at each of 11 values of  $V_a$  comprising n = 1881 calibration set points) would be too expensive for many applications. For this reason, non-nulling probes have often been calibrated at a single velocity in turbomachinery applications. Instead of a grid, the authors

devised a novel, quasi-random scheme for selecting n calibration set points and the authors quantified the trade-off between reduced calibration uncertainty *versus* increasing n. The authors concluded that n = 130 judiciously-selected set points produces calibration curves  $f_{\alpha}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ , and  $f_{rdyn}$  for the hemispherical probe that have random errors that, on average, are only 40% larger than the corresponding errors in an n = 2000 calibrations.

Figure 4 is one example of many experiments that the authors used to quantify the trade-off between reduced calibration uncertainty versus increasing the number of calibration points. To generate Figure 4, the authors calibrated hemispherical probe #7 in NIST's wind tunnel at 2000 ( $V_{\alpha}$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ) set points at the turbulence intensity of 3%. The authors began the calibration at the lowest velocity 4.9 m/s and increased  $V_a$  logarithmically at successive set points reaching the maximum velocity 30 m/s at set point 2000. At each set point,  $\alpha$  was randomly selected from the 41 values between  $-20^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}$  in  $1^{\circ}$  increments, and  $\beta$  was randomly selected from the 91 values between -45 ° to 45 ° in 1 ° increments. The authors fitted the data for  $f_{rdyn}$ ,  $f_{qy}$ and  $f_{\beta}$  to polynomial functions of pressure ratios  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$ . These polynomials were used in Equation (5) to determine the *normal velocity calibration factor*  $fv_n$  for the n = 2000 data set,

$$fv_{\rm n} = \sqrt{f_{\rm rdyn}} \cos f_\beta \cos f_\alpha. \tag{5}$$

As a measure of the uncertainty of fitted values of  $fv_{n2000}$ , the authors used  $u_{2000} \equiv \text{StdDev}\{fv_{n2000}/v_{n2000}\} = 0.0057$ . Here, the  $v_{n2000}$ 's are the measured values of  $fv_{n2000}$ , and the expression "StdDev{ ... }" indicates the standard deviation calculated over the complete n = 2000 data set. The authors also computed  $fv_n$  for 15 subsets of the n =2000 set ranging in size from  $60 \le n \le 2000$ . These mutually-independent, subsets were chosen by randomly removing velocity set-points from the n = 2000 set. For each subset the authors computed the ratio  $fv_n/v_{n2000}$ where the  $v_{2000}$  are the measured values of the scaled velocity calibration factor from the original, n = 2000 set, and the  $fv_n$ 's are the calibration factors generated by fitting each of the 15 subsets to polynomial functions of the pressure ratios  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$ . The smooth, dashed curve in Figure 4 represents the fractional increase in uncertainty as *n* is reduced. The authors chose n = 130 as a compromise between accuracy and cost of probe calibrations. For n = 130,  $u_{130}/u_{2000} \approx 1.4$  and  $u_{130} \approx 0.8\%$ .

The authors emphasize that  $u_{130} \approx 0.8\%$  is the largest single contributor to the uncertainty of the measurement of  $V_a$  at a point in a stack. Knowing this, the authors chose to repeat the trade-off exercise after reducing the yaw range from  $|\beta| \le 45^\circ$  to  $|\beta| \le 40^\circ$ . Because of the reduced range,

 $u_{2000}$  decreased from 0.57% to 0.53%;  $u_{130}$  decreased from 0.8% to 0.62%; and the equation of the dashed, trade-off curve in Figure 4 became:  $u_n/u_{2000} = 1 + 2800/n^2$ .

In the remainder of this paper, the authors use quasi-random, n = 130 calibrations generated by the following method. The first set point was the lowest velocity,  $V_a = 4.5$  m/s. For this set point, a value of  $\alpha$  was randomly selected from the nine 5 ° increments in the range from  $-20^{\circ}$  to  $20^{\circ}$  and a value of  $\beta$  was selected from the ninety-one 1 ° increments of yaw angle between  $-45^{\circ}$  to  $45^{\circ}$ . After completing measurements at these values (4.5 m/s,  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ), the authors increased the value of  $V_a$  by the factor 1.014 and randomly selected new values of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . This process was repeated until the maximum velocity 27 m/s was reached at the  $130^{\text{th}}$  set point.

This calibration procedure exploits the fact that both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are weak functions of Reynolds number (Kjelgaard 1988), except at high yaw angles and low flow velocities where flow separation is prominent. An advantage of using small velocity increments is: the wind tunnel quickly stabilizes at successive set points. Because only 130 set points are needed, manual adjustment of the probe's pitch and yaw at each set point is feasible.

#### Probe dimensions and interchangeablity

The authors purchased 7 custom hemispherical probes with dimensions specified in Figure 2. The authors measured the probes dimensions using a coordinate measuring machine (CMM). The probes were purchased from 3 different manufacturers, made from 2 different materials (plastic or stainless steel), and fabricated using 2 different processes (3D-printing or manually fabricated by machining and welding). Table 1 identifies each probe and lists its CMM measurements using the notation in Figure 2. The authors measured the angle  $\theta$  between the probe tip and the probe support, the radius of curvature of the hemispherical surface  $R_{t}$ , the diameters  $D_{\rm b}$  of the 5 pressure ports, the polar angles y, and radial locations r' of the 5 ports. The table includes the averages and standard deviations of the port measurements of  $D_{\rm b}$ ,  $\gamma$ , and r'.

The authors deliberately varied the probes' manufacturers, fabrication methods, and materials to determine how these variations impacted the probes' non-nulling calibrations. If the calibrations were insensitive to these variations, the probes would be interchangeable; that is, calibration of a single hemispherical probe would accurately predict the performance of all the probes. However, our wind tunnel calibrations showed that each probe must be individually calibrated to ensure the expanded

							center hole		4 peripheral holes	
Probe No.	Manuf.	Material	Manuf. Process	<i>θ</i> [deg]	R <sub>t</sub> [mm]	D <sub>b</sub> [mm]	γ [deg]	<i>r'</i> [mm]	γ [deg]	<i>r</i> ' [mm]
1	А	stainless steel	manually fabricated	89.2	12.69 [0.045] <sup>a</sup>	6.51 (0.016) <sup>b</sup>	0.1	0.05	40.50 (0.14)	8.33 (0.038)
2	А	stainless steel	manually fabricated	91.3	12.76 [0.085]	6.511 (0.004)	0.1	0.14	40.88 (0.36)	8.34 (0.08)
3	В	stainless steel	3D Printed	90.6	12.54 [0.05]	6.40 (0.023)	0.2	0.05	40.85 (0.25)	8.21 (0.04)
4	В	plastic resin	3D Printed	89.9	12.66 [0.057]	6.46 (0.021)	0.2	0.1	40.95 (0.29)	8.29 (0.076)
5	В	plastic resin	3D Printed	90.0	12.66 [0.065]	6.45 (0.024)	0.3	0.07	40.95 (0.48)	8.27 (0.038)
6	С	plastic resin	3D Printed	90.0	12.66 [0.068]	6.41 (0.033)	0.1	0.11	40.28 (0.33)	8.17 (0.053)
7	С	stainless steel	3D Printed	88.7	12.64 [0.20]	6.41 (0.039)	0.3	0.07	40.58 (1.12)	8.2 (0.055)
			Average Stdev.	89.96 {0.85}c	12.686 {0.06}	6.51{0.016}	0.19	〈0.03〉 d	40.5 {0.26}	8.26 {0.07}

**Table 1.** Dimensional CMM measurements of 7 hemispherical probes all made in accordance with the probe design shown in Figure 2. (The uncertainty of the CMM measurements was 0.02 mm).

<sup>a</sup>Square brackets "[]" denote the dimensional form error defined as the departure from measured radius of curvature.

<sup>b</sup>Round brackets "()" denote the standard deviation of the related hole dimensions on the *same* probe (e.g.,  $D_b$  of the 5 holes,  $\gamma$  or r' of the peripheral ports). <sup>c</sup>Curly brackets "{" denote the standard deviation of the same dimensions on *different* probes.

<sup>d</sup>Angle brackets " $\langle \rangle$ " denote the average of radius of the center hole for all 7 probes as calculated using  $r' = \sqrt{Y'_{avg} + Z'_{avg}^2}$ , where  $Y'_{avg}$  and  $Z'_{avg}$  are the respective averages of these coordinates for all 7 probes.

uncertainty of the axial velocity  $U_r(V_a) \leq 2\%$ . If the calibration of probe #3 is applied to the other probes, the average of 100  $(V_{a,p}/V_{a,3} - 1) = 4\%$  where the average equally weights the full range of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $V_{a,p}$  and the index p indicates the probes other than #3. The authors were unable to use the dimensional measurements to correct probes' calibration curves to a universal curve because: (1) the authors do not know the functional forms of the corrections, and (2) the expanded uncertainties of the CMM measurements (0.02 mm) are comparable to the errors in the hemispherical shape and to the standard deviations of the locations of the peripheral holes. Instead of developing corrections based on the dimensional measurements, the authors used the spans of the measurements to specify the tolerances listed in Figure 2. The authors are confident that probes satisfying these tolerances can be calibrated using the method proposed herein to achieve  $U_r(V_a) \le 2\%$ .

### Calibrating probes in NIST's wind tunnel

#### Layout for calibrating probes in turbulence

The authors characterized the 7 hemispherical probes in the rectangular test section (1.5 m by 1.2 m) of NIST's wind tunnel over velocities spanning 4.5 m/s to 27 m/s (Re = 7,600 to 45,000). The authors measured the air's axial velocity  $V_{\text{LDA}}$  using NIST's laser doppler anemometer (LDA) with a standard uncertainty of  $u_r(V_{\text{LDA}})$ = 0.205% (Shinder et al. 2014). The top view of the test section depicted in Figure 5 shows the location of a hemispherical probe during calibrations in NIST's wind tunnel. The LDA's sensing volume was 12 cm upstream of the hemispherical probe's port #1. To correct for blockage effects caused by the hemispherical probe and its support, the velocity measured by the LDA at x =12 cm ( $V_{\text{LDA},12 \text{ cm}}$ ) was multiplied by a blockage correction factor,  $C_{\text{blk},12 \text{ cm}} = 1.008$  (Shinder et al. 2021). As indicated in Figure 5, the authors used the L-shaped pitot probe closest to the LDA's sensing volume as a check standard to verify  $V_{\text{LDA}}$  and to measure the static pressure  $p_s$ . The output of another *L*-shaped pitot probe was used in a PID loop to control the wind speed in the test section. These pitot probes were located such that their blockage effects were negligible.

During the calibrations of each hemispherical probe, a turbulence-generating grid was located upstream of the probe under test (See Figure 5). The measurement of Tu and the corrections for



**Figure 5.** Schematic layout of instruments in the wind tunnel's test section, as viewed from above, when calibrating a hemispherical pitot probe.

the grid's blockage are explained in (Shinder et al. 2021). In the absence of the grid, the turbulence intensity in NIST's wind tunnel was so low ( $Tu \approx 0.1\%$ ) that the laminar boundary layer on the surface of hemispherical probes became unstable leading to obvious hysteresis in the calibration curves at  $V_{\rm LDA} \leq 5$  m/s and  $|\beta| > 45$  ° (Crowley et al. 2013). This hysteresis does not occur in turbulent stack flows nor does it occur when the gridgenerated turbulence was Tu = 3%.

In the wind tunnel, the density of the air and the LDA's velocity determine the dynamic pressure by

$$p_{dyn} = \rho V_{LDA}^2 / 2. \tag{6}$$

The authors determined the air's density from measurements of the temperature, relative humidity, and static pressure  $p_s$  near the test section wall (not shown in Figure 5) using (Yeh and Hall 2007).

$$\rho = c_0 / T[p_s - c_1 R Hexp(-c_2/T)].$$
 (7)

Here, *T* is the Kelvin temperature, *RH* is the relative humidity in percent, and the coefficients  $c_0$ ,  $c_1$ , and  $c_2$  have the values:  $c_0 = 3.4848 \times 10^{-3}$  K kg/J,  $c_1 = 6.65287 \times 10^8$  Pa, and  $c_2 = 5315.56$  K. The relative uncertainty of the density equation of state is  $u_{r,EOS}(\rho) = 0.1\%$  (Jaeger and Davis 1984).

#### Differential pressure measurements

Static line pressure effects can affect the accuracy of the measured differential pressures  $p_{12}$ ,  $p_{13}$ ,  $p_{14}$ , and  $p_{15}$ . During probe calibration the port pressure  $p_1$  varies at each of the probe's pitch and yaw orientations. When a differential pressure transducer measures the difference between port pressures,  $p_{1i}$  for j = 2 to 5, the static line pressure changes in accordance with the variation in  $p_1$ . Our testing showed that some pressure transducers that are not equipped with line pressure compensation can yield readings outside their specifications when they are used at line pressures that differ from the line pressure used during calibration. The laboratory grade differential pressure transducers used in this work account for line pressure effects; however, the authors anticipate that the non-nulling protocol will be implemented using less expensive differential transducers commonly used in stack applications. Our suggested protocol for measuring  $p_{1i}$  minimizes uncertainty attributed to line pressure effects.

The authors used differential pressure transducers to measure the differences between the pressure at each port and the static pressure:  $p_{is} = p_i - p_s$  for i = 1 to 5. Then, the authors calculated the differences between the central port

(port #1) and the 4 peripheral ports:  $p_{1i} = p_{1s} - p_{is}$ , for i = 2 to 5. Similar subtractions were used to calculate the yaw pressure  $p_{23} = p_{2s} - p_{3s}$  and the pitch pressure  $p_{45} = p_{4s} - p_{5s}$ . The authors re-zeroed the differential pressure transducers (as necessary) after each change in the velocity set point. The pseudo dynamic pressure is determined *via* Equation (3) and the pressure ratios are calculated using (4a) through (4c).

### Automated traversing system

Figure 5 shows the probe's orientation just after it was installed in the wind tunnel when its pitch and yaw angles are zero,  $\alpha_p = 0^\circ$  and  $\beta_p = 0^\circ$ , respectively. In this orientation, the probe's head is parallel to the *X*-axis and located 12 cm downstream from the LDA's sensing volume on the same streamline as the sensing volume. The authors set  $\beta_p = 0^\circ$  by placing an inclinometer along the probe's head in the *X*-direction and manually rotating the probe's support about its axis until the inclinometer read zero. After zeroing  $\beta_p$ , the probe was securely fastened to the automated traverse system located just outside the wind tunnel (See Figure 5). The traverse system was used to orient the probe's support shaft 90° to the wind tunnel wall's so that  $\alpha_p = 0^\circ$ .

During calibrations, NIST's automated traversing system in Figure 6 orients the probe's head to specified  $\alpha_p$  and  $\beta_{\rm p}$  while maintaining port #1 on the section of the Z-axis referred to as the *test line* indicated by dotted line (••••) in Figure 6. As  $\beta_p$  spans ± 45 °, port #1 moves along the *test line* spanning a distance  $Z = \pm 5.6$  cm. Throughout the calibration process, the dominant uncertainties of the probe's yaw and pitch angles result from the pitch and vaw misalignment during the probe's installation. The uncertainties resulting from the traverse system's translational and rotational stages are only 0.01 mm and 0.015 °, respectively. The uncertainty of the yaw angle is  $u(\beta_p) =$  $0.25^{\circ}$ . The uncertainty of the pitch angle is slightly larger, u $(\alpha_{\rm p}) = 0.35$  ° because it includes the misalignment and an additional uncertainty resulting from aerodynamic drag on the probe. Section 5.6 discusses alignment and additional details regarding the traverse system are provided in reference (Shinder et al. 2021).

#### Data acquisition and probe calibration software

A custom software program controls the air speed and the probe's pitch and yaw angle settings. The program also acquires the calibration data including the LDA velocity ( $V_{\text{LDA}}$ ), the pressure measurements at each probe port (*i.e.*,  $p_{1s}$ ,  $p_{2s}$ ,  $p_{3s}$ ,  $p_{4s}$ , and  $p_{5s}$ ), the probe's pitch angle ( $\alpha_p$ ), and the probe's yaw angle ( $\beta_p$ ). Pressure-based instrument readings are acquired using



**Figure 6.** TOP: Wind tunnel's coordinate system. The probe's port #1 remains on the dashed test line during calibration. The coordinate system's origin is located 12 cm downstream from the LDA's sensing volume. BOTTOM: Coordinate system for orienting a hemispherical pitot probe. The probe's pitch angle  $a_p$  is in the XY plane; it increases from zero as the probe's shaft is rotated in the pitch plane from the Y-axis. The probe's yaw angle  $\beta_p$  increases when the probe's shaft is rotated about its axis. The axes X' and Y' are attached to the probe.

a PCI-based multifunction DAQ board, while auxiliary LabVIEW programs are used to continuously monitor the LDA system, the temperature (*T*) and relative humidity (*RH*) of the wind tunnel air, and the static pressure ( $p_s$ ). The program ensures that the flow is stable and within ± 0.2% of the velocity set point during data collection.

## Data reduction and non-nulling calibration functions

When used in stacks, the probe is installed at  $\beta_p = 0^\circ$  and  $\alpha_p = 0^\circ$  in the stack's coordinate system (X, Y, Z) depicted in Figure 1. Conversely, during calibrations the authors orient the probe at specified values of  $\alpha_p$  and  $\beta_p$  in the wind tunnel's coordinate system (X, Y, Z)

shown in Figure 6. The relationships between the flow's relative yaw and pitch angles in the (X', Y', Z') coordinate system and the flow's yaw and pitch angles in the (X, Y, Z) coordinate system are

$$\beta' = \beta - \beta_p, \tag{8a}$$

and

$$\alpha' = \alpha - \alpha_p, \tag{8b}$$

respectively.

The yaw and pitch calibration functions  $f_{\beta}$  and  $f_{\alpha}$  are polynomials fitted to  $\alpha$  ' and  $\beta$ ' calibration data. Similarly, the dynamic pressure ratio and static pressure parameter functions,  $f_{rdyn}$  and  $f_{r1s}$ , are polynomials fitted to  $r_{dyn}$  in Equation (4a) and  $r_{1s}$  in Equation (4b). In this work the authors used a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree polynomial with the 3 independent variables  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$  defined in Equation (4c).

#### Measuring the $\beta_p = 0^\circ$ streamline

Since NIST's wind tunnel produces nearly axial flow in its test section, both  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  are close to, but not exactly, zero due to growing boundary layers along the tunnel walls. To develop the calibration functions  $f_{\beta}$  and  $f_{\alpha}$ , the yaw ( $\beta$ ) and pitch ( $\alpha$ ) angles of the flow in the test section must be measured with respect to the tunnel's axis. The authors used three different 5-hole probes (hemispherical probe #3, hemispherical probe #7, and a spherical probe) to measure  $\beta$  in the test section as a function of velocity over the range  $4.25 \text{ m/s} \le V_a \le 28 \text{ m/s}$ . After installing each 5-hole probe in the wind tunnel and establishing a constant airspeed  $V_a = 4.25 \text{ m/s}$ , the authors used the automated traverse system to adjust  $\beta_p$  until the yaw pressure equaled zero, ( $p_{23}$  = 0). At each subsequent velocity set point the authors again adjusted  $\beta_p$  until  $p_{23} = 0$ . Figure 7 shows the measured yaw angles for all three probes. For each probe,  $\beta$  monotonically increased up to  $V_a \approx 15 \text{ m/s}$ and then tended toward a fixed value. The authors suspect that the differences between the three probes resulted from imperfect symmetry of the probes' yaw pressure ports. The average yaw angle of the three 5-hole probes  $(\beta_{avg})$  is indicated by the solid line (—) in Figure 7. The authors used  $\beta_{avg}$  to calculate  $\beta' = \beta_{avg} - \beta_{p}$ , and subsequently to determine the calibration curve  $f_{\beta}$ . The authors modeled the uncertainty as a rectangular distribution equal to  $u_{\text{axial}}(\beta) = 0.31 \text{ °}/\sqrt{3}$ , where 0.31 ° is the largest, absolute deviation from  $\beta_{avg}$ .



**Figure 7.** Plot of the measured yaw angle  $\beta$  versus the axial velocity  $V_a$  in NIST's wind tunnel test section.

In NIST's wind tunnel, the authors expect that the magnitude of the off-axis pitch flow is comparable to the off-axis yaw flow; however, the authors did not measure the  $\alpha_p = 0$  ° streamline. The maximum sensitivity of  $V_a$  to an error in either  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  occurs at their maximum measured values  $|\alpha_{max}| = 20$  ° or  $|\beta_{max}| = 45$  °. Because  $\alpha_{max} <<\beta_{max}$ , the maximum sensitivity of  $V_a$  to  $\alpha$  is only 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of that to  $\beta$ . [See Equation (12a) in Sect. 6.1.] The authors assumed that the pitch angle was zero  $(\alpha = 0$  °) and calculated the relative pitch angle by  $\alpha' = -\alpha_p$ . Our estimate of the uncertainty of off-axis pitch flow is  $u_{axial}(\alpha) = 0.5$  °/ $\sqrt{3}$  where 0.5 ° is the assumed to be the maximum off-axis pitch angle.

#### Calibration function for normal velocity

At each yaw and pitch orientation in Figure 6, the component of the air velocity normal to port #1 is

$$V_{\rm n} = V_{\rm LDA} \cos\beta' \cos\alpha'. \tag{9}$$

The normal velocity  $V_n$  is analogous to the expression for the stack axial velocity  $V_a$  in Equation (1). That is, measuring  $V_n$  in the (X', Y', Z') reference frame in Figure 6 is analogous to measuring  $V_a$  in a stack's (X, Y, Z) reference frame in Figure 1. For this reason,  $V_n$  is the key calibration parameter for non-nulling stack flow measurements.

The authors derive Equation (9) by taking the inner product  $\mathbf{V} \cdot \hat{n}$  of wind tunnel velocity  $\mathbf{V} = V_{\text{LDA}}\hat{\mathbf{i}}$  and the unit normal vector in Figure 6,  $\hat{n} = \cos\beta_{\text{p}} \cos\alpha_{\text{p}} \hat{\mathbf{i}} - \sin\alpha_{\text{p}}$  $\cos\beta_{\text{p}} \hat{\mathbf{j}} + \sin\beta_{\text{p}} \hat{\mathbf{k}}$ . The result is  $V_{\text{n}} = V_{\text{LDA}} \cos\beta_{\text{p}} \cos\alpha_{\text{p}}$ . Substituting  $\beta_{\text{p}} = \beta - \beta'$  and  $\alpha_{\text{p}} = \alpha - \alpha'$  from Equation 8 (a,b) into the normal velocity results in  $V_{\text{n}} = V_{\text{LDA}} \cos(\beta' - \beta) \cos(\alpha' - \alpha)$ . Here, the authors switched the polarity of angles since  $\cos(\beta - \beta') = \cos(\beta' - \beta)$  and  $\cos(\alpha - \alpha') = \cos(\alpha' - \alpha)$ . The resulting expression for the normal velocity is identical to Equation (9) provided the flow in wind tunnel has zero yaw and pitch angles,  $\beta = 0^{\circ}$  and  $\alpha = 0^{\circ}$ . If the yaw and pitch angles are not identically zero, one can correct for the departure from axial flow by measuring the  $\beta_p = 0^{\circ}$  and  $\alpha_p = 0^{\circ}$  streamlines as the authors did for the yaw streamline in Section 5.6. Any remaining deviations from axial flow due to the yaw or pitch angles are included in the uncertainty budget (See Section 6).

In what follows the measurements and calculated uncertainties of  $V_n$ ,  $\alpha'$ , and  $\beta'$  in the (X', Y', Z') reference frame in Figure 6 directly correspond to measurements of  $V_a$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $\beta$  in the stack's (X, Y, Z) reference in Figure 1. However, for consistency with the preceding sections the authors continue to specify the calibration domain and the applicable domain of the calibration curves using  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ instead of  $\alpha'$ , and  $\beta'$ .

To facilitate straightforward non-nulling velocity measurements, the authors define the normal velocity calibration factor,

$$v_{\rm n} = \frac{V_{\rm n}}{V_{\rm PSEUDO}} = \sqrt{r_{\rm dyn}} cos \beta' cos \alpha'.$$
 (10)

This dimensionless calibration factor is the ratio of the normal velocity in Equation (9) and the pseudo velocity defined by

$$V_{\rm PSEUDO} = \sqrt{2p_{\rm PSEUDO}/\rho}.$$
 (11)

Here, the LDA velocity in Equation (9) is replaced by  $V_{\text{LDA}} = \sqrt{2p_{dyn}/\rho}$ . A calibration curve for the normal velocity is obtained by replacing  $\beta'$ ,  $\alpha'$ , and  $r_{dyn}$ , in Equation (10) with the three calibration curves  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$ , and  $f_{rdyn}$  to obtain Equation (5) given earlier in Section 3.3.

#### Calibration and verification data

The authors calibrated all 7 hemispherical probes using the 130-point quasi-random data collection strategy discussed in Section 3.3. The calibration domain was  $|\alpha| \le 20^\circ$ ;  $|\beta| \le 45^\circ$ ;  $4.5 \text{ m/s} \le V_a \le 27 \text{ m/s}$ . The 130 calibration set points were used to develop the calibration curves  $f_{\alpha}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\text{rdyn}}$ , and  $f_{r1s}$ . The authors used these calibration curves to calculate  $fv_n$  as specified by Equation (5).

For probe #3 the authors collected 1200 additional points over a 3-month period, herein referred to as verification data. The values of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $V_a$  selected for the verification data differed from each other and from the values used for the 130-point calibration. The authors computed fit residuals for the 130-point calibration and for the 1200-point verification data using 100 (*f*   $v_n / v_n - 1$ ). The calibration fit residuals indicated how well the calibration curve  $f v_n$  represents the 130 measurements of  $v_n$ . On the other hand, the verification residuals indicated if  $f v_n$  is accurately described using only 130 points.

Figure 8 shows these residuals plotted against the axial velocity  $V_a$  measured by the LDA for probe #3. The residuals of the 130 calibration set points are denoted by the circles (•). More than 95% of the calibration residuals (•) lie within the expanded uncertainty  $U_r(fv_n) = \pm 1.53\%$  indicated by the dashed lines (---). Section 6 is a detailed discussion of  $U_r(fv_n)$ .

In Figure 8, the residuals of the 1200 verification data points are separated into two groups denoted by squares ( $\blacksquare$ ) for values of  $|\beta| \le 40^\circ$  and by crosses ( $\times$ ) for values of  $40^\circ < |\beta| \le 45^\circ$ . Only 3.5% of the 1108 squares are outside the expanded uncertainty limits calculated using the calibration data. However, 26% of the crosses are outside the uncertainty limits. Thus, to ensure 95% of the residuals are within the uncertainty limits, the non-nulling method should not be used over the entire calibration domain. The *applicable domain* excludes  $|\beta| > 40^\circ$ .

In Figure 8, the excellent overlap of the calibration and verification residuals is evidence of the stability of



**Figure 8.** The residuals of the normal velocity calibration factor  $fv_n$  vs the axial velocity  $V_{LDA}$  measured by the LDA. Using a regression analysis of the 130 measured  $v_{n's}$  the authors developed a third degree polynomial  $fv_n(r_{12}, r_{23}, r_{45})$  for  $v_n$ . The circles (•) are the residuals from the polynomial and the dashed lines at  $\pm 1.53\%$  indicate the expanded uncertainty  $U_r(fv_n)$  of the 130  $v_n$  points. The squares (•) and crosses (×) represent the residuals of independently-measured verification points from the same polynomial for  $|\beta_p| \le 40$  ° and for 40 °  $\le |\beta_p| \le 45$  °, respectively.

probe #3 because verification data were acquired 3 months after the 130-point calibration data. Also in Figure 8, the small positive slope of both the calibration and verification residuals is evidence that the calibration factor  $fv_n$  has a weak Reynolds number dependence. This slope could be removed by introducing additional *Re*-dependent terms into  $fv_n$ . However, lower uncertainties cannot be realized in field applications because the values of the *Re*-dependent terms might depend on the level of the turbulence intensity, which is generally unknown in stacks.

In this analysis the  $fv_n$  calibration curve consisted of a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree polynomial of the three pressure ratios in Equation (4c). When the authors repeated the analysis using a 4<sup>th</sup> degree polynomial, the uncertainty of the fit residuals reduced by a factor of 1.49 and lead to a lower expanded uncertainty equal of 1.19% of  $fv_n$ . However, only 83. 5% of the  $|\beta| \le 40$  ° verification data lie within the uncertainty limits, indicating poor reproducibility. The authors are not certain what caused the irreproducibility observed for the 4<sup>th</sup> degree polynomial fit, and additional reproducibility studies are necessary.

#### **Uncertainty analysis**

The authors developed the calibration curves  $fv_n$ ,  $f_\beta$ ,  $f_\alpha$ , and  $f_{r1s}$  using NIST's wind tunnel, differential pressure ssensors, and the LDA system that NIST routinely uses to calibrate external customers' wind speed instruments. In this section the authors provide sample uncertainty calculations of the calibration curves for probe #3. The calculated uncertainties are valid for velocities ranging from 4.5 m/s  $\leq V_a \leq 27$ m/s and pitch and yaw angles from  $|\alpha| \le 20^{\circ}$  and  $|\beta| \le 40^{\circ}$ , respectively. The authors used the method of propagation of uncertainty (Coleman and Steele 1999; International Organization for Standardization 1996; Taylor and Kuyatt 0000) and determined the expanded uncertainty of the four of calibration curves: 1)  $U_r(fv_n) = 1.53\%$  calculated using Equation (12a), 2)  $U(f_{\beta}) = 0.86^{\circ}$  calculated using Equation (12b), 3)  $U(f_{\alpha}) = 0.96$  ° calculated using Equation (12c), and 4)  $U(f_{r1s}) = 0.011$  calculated using Equation (12d).

Our uncertainty analysis indicates that the uncertainty of NIST's instruments was not the largest uncertainty source. For example, the last term in Equations (12a) through (12d) account for the uncertainty in each of the non-nulling calibration curves due to measurement errors in the differential pressures  $p_{1s}$ ,  $p_{2s}$ ,  $p_{3s}$ ,  $p_{4s}$ , and  $p_{5s}$ . These uncertainties were negligible and accounted for less than 1% of each calibration curve's uncertainty budget. Likewise, the uncertainty attributed to the density measurement made a negligible contribution to the  $fv_n$  uncertainty budget, and the measurement uncertainty of the LDA velocity only made a modest contribution (*i.e.*, less than 8.4%). The dominant uncertainty source for all the calibration curves is attributed to the fit residuals of the 3 variable, 3<sup>rd</sup> degree polynomial fit used to model the wind tunnel data. As a result, low uncertainty non-nulling calibrations do not require laboratory grade pressure sensors or state-of-the anemometers. The authors expect that laboratories implementing this non-nulling protocol can generate calibration curves with expanded uncertainties to achieve  $U_r(fv_n) \le 2\%$ ;  $U(f_\beta) \le 1^\circ$ ;  $U(f_\alpha) \le 1^\circ$ , and  $U(f_{r1s}) \le 0.1$  using selected industrial-grade differential pressure transducers and anemometers.

Because this manuscript is intended to support an ASME documentary standard on non-nulling methods, the authors provide a comprehensive uncertainty analysis that accounts for all the uncertainty components including those that are negligible in the NIST analysis. In this way, stack laboratories implementing the nonnulling method can assess the uncertainty for a sensor calibration using their air speed instrumentation.

## Uncertainty of the normal velocity calibration factor

For stack flow applications the most important calibration curve is  $fv_n$  since it directly corresponds to the stack axial velocity via Equation (15a). The expanded uncertainty of  $fv_n$  is

$$U_{\rm r}(fv_{\rm n}) = 2 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{u_{\rm r}^2(\rho)}{4} + u_{\rm r}^2(V_{\rm LDA}) + u_{\rm r,Resid}^2(fv_{\rm n}) + 100^2\tan^2(\alpha') u^2(\alpha') \\ + 100^2\tan^2(\beta') u^2(\beta') + \frac{u_{\rm r}^2(\rho_{\rm rseudo})}{4} + 100^2 \sum_{i=1}^5 \left(\frac{1}{fv_{\rm n}} \frac{\partial fv_{\rm n}}{\partial p_{\rm n}}\right)^2 u^2(p_{\rm is}) \end{bmatrix}^{1/2},$$
(12a)

where  $u_{r,Resid}(fv_n) = 0.67\%$  is the standard deviation of curve fit residuals (See Figure 8). This uncertainty makes the largest contribution to the uncertainty budget, ranging from 51% to 88% of  $U_r(fv_n)$  depending on the values of  $\alpha$  ' and  $\beta$ '. The circles (•) in Figure 9 show the contribution of  $u_{r,Resid}(fv_n)$  to the uncertainty budget as a function of  $\beta$ '. At any value of  $\beta$ ', the corresponding uncertainty components that are specified in Equation (12a) sum to 100%. The authors calculate the contribution of each component by  $100S_i^2u_r^2(x_i)/\sum S_i^2u_r^2(x_i)$ where  $u_r(x_i)$  is the relative standard uncertainty of the i<sup>th</sup> component and  $S_i = \frac{x_i \partial v_n}{v_n \partial x_i}$  is its corresponding normalized sensitivity coefficient.

The terms  $u(\alpha') = \sqrt{u^2(\alpha_p) + u^2_{axial}(\alpha)}$  and  $u(\beta') = \sqrt{u^2(\beta_p) + u^2_{axial}(\beta)}$  are uncertainties in the pitch and yaw angles. Although both uncertainties  $u(\alpha') = 0.45^\circ$  and  $u(\beta') = 0.31^\circ$  are fixed, their respective sensitivity coefficients,  $\tan(\alpha')$  and  $\tan(\beta')$ , are variables that depend on the pitch and yaw angles.



**Figure 9.** Percent contribution of the uncertainty components of  $U_r(fv_n)$  in Equation (12a). The figure shows the uncertainty contribution from the polynomial fit residuals  $u_{r,\text{Resid}}(fv_n)$  dominate the uncertainty budget.

Since the authors calibrated the hemispherical probe over pitch angles ranging from  $-20 \circ \leq \alpha' \leq 20 \circ$  while the yaw angle range  $-45 \circ \leq \beta' \leq 45 \circ$  was significantly larger, the maximum value of the pitch sensitivity coefficient is less than the maximum value of the yaw angle sensitivity coefficient,  $\tan(20 \circ) < \tan(45 \circ)$ . Figure 9 illustrates this point. The yaw angle uncertainty denoted by the triangles ( $\blacktriangle$ ) scale with  $\tan^2(\beta')$ and accounts for 15% to 36.5% of uncertainty budget for  $|\beta'| > 30 \circ$ . In this region, the yaw angle is the second largest contributor to the uncertainty budget. The pitch angle uncertainty indicated by the crosses ( $\times$ ) makes a 10% to 14.5% contribution to the uncertainty budget when  $|\alpha'| \ge 15 \circ$  and a negligible contribution at smaller pitch angles.

The uncertainties attributed to the LDA velocity and the air density measurements are  $u_r(V_{LDA}) = 0.205\%$  and  $u_r(\rho) = 0.22\%$ , respectively. The LDA contribution to the uncertainty budget denoted by the squares ( $\square$ ) ranges from 5% to 8.4% while the density contribution indicated by the diamonds ( $\diamondsuit$ ) contributes less than to 2.4% since  $u_r(\rho)$  is reduced by its sensitivity coefficient  $S_{\rho}^2 = 1/4$  as shown in Equation (12a). The last two uncertainty components in Equation (12a) are the pseudo dynamic pressure  $p_{PSEUDO}$  indicated by the crosses (+) and the uncertainty in the differential pressure measurements. The contributions of both terms are negligible relative to  $U_r(fv_n)$ .

Finally, the authors point out that the expanded uncertainty  $U_r(fv_n)$  plotted in Figure 8 is an approximation. For simplicity, this plot used the average values of the pitch and yaw uncertainties at each velocity so that  $U_r(fv_n)$ , which depends on  $V_a$ ,  $\alpha'$ , and  $\beta'$  could be conveniently plotted as a function of  $V_a$  alone.

#### Uncertainty of the yaw angle calibration curve

The authors used a 3 variable,  $3^{rd}$  degree polynomial  $f_{\beta}$  fitted to measured values of the relative yaw angle  $\beta'$ . The authors plotted the residuals of the calibration curve  $f_{\beta} - \beta'$  versus the velocity measured by the LDA in Figure 10a. The residuals for the calibration curves  $f_{\alpha}$  and  $f_{r1s}$  use similar notation and are denoted by  $f_{\alpha} - \alpha'$  and  $f_{r1s} - r_{1s}$ , respectively. The triangles ( $\blacktriangle$ ) in Figure 10a show the residuals of the yaw angle calibration curve  $f_{\beta}$ , and the dashed lines (----) indicate its expanded uncertainty. The expanded uncertainty is expressed by

$$U(f_{\beta}) = 2\sqrt{u^2(\beta_{\rm p}) + u^2_{\rm axial}(\beta) + u^2_{\rm Resid}(f_{\beta}) + \sum_{i=1}^5 \left(\frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial p_{\rm is}}\right)^2 u^2(p_{\rm is})} \quad (12b)$$

where  $u(\beta_p) = 0.25$ ° is the uncertainty in the probe's yaw angle orientation,  $u_{axial}(\beta) = 0.31°/\sqrt{3}$  is the uncertainty attributed to a non-zero yaw angle of the velocity in the wind tunnel test section, and  $u_{Resid}(f_{\beta}) = 0.315°$  is the standard deviation of curve fit residuals. The last term in Equation (12b) accounts for the uncertainty in the  $f_{\beta}$  calibration curve attributed to uncertainty in the differential pressure measurements. This term makes an insignificant contribution to the  $f_{\beta}$  uncertainty budget.

#### Uncertainty of the pitch angle calibration curve

Figure 10b shows the residuals ( $\bullet$ ) of the  $f_{\alpha}$  calibration curve, and its expanded uncertainty indicated by the dashed lines (----). The expanded uncertainty is calculated by

$$U(f_{\alpha}) = 2 \sqrt{\begin{array}{c} u^{2}(\alpha_{p}) + u^{2}_{\text{axial}}(\alpha) \\ + u^{2}_{\text{Resid}}(f_{\alpha}) \\ + \sum_{i=1}^{5} \left(\frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial p_{\text{is}}}\right)^{2} u^{2}(p_{\text{is}}) \end{array}}$$
(12c)

where only the first three terms make a significant contribution to the uncertainty budget. Here,  $u(\alpha_p) = 0.35^\circ$  is the uncertainty attributed to the probe's pitch orientation;  $u_{\text{axial}}(\alpha) = 0.5^\circ / \sqrt{3}$  is the uncertainty attributed to a nonzero pitch angle of the velocity in the wind tunnel test section; and  $u_{\text{Resid}}(f_{\alpha}) = 0.155^\circ$  is the standard deviation of curve fit residuals.

## Uncertainty of the static pressure parameter calibration curve

The residuals of the  $f_{r1s}$  calibration curve are denoted by the squares () in Figure 10c, and the dashed lines (----) show the expanded uncertainty. The expanded uncertainty is calculated by

$$U(f_{\rm r1s}) = 2\sqrt{u_{\rm Resid}^2(f_{\rm r1s}) + \sum_{n=1}^5 \left(\frac{\partial r_{\rm 1s}}{\partial p_{\rm ns}}\right)^2 u^2(p_{\rm ns}) + \sum_{n=1}^5 \left(\frac{\partial f_{\rm r1s}}{\partial p_{\rm ns}}\right)^2 u^2(p_{\rm ns})}$$
(12d)

where only the curve fit residual expressed by the first term  $u_{\text{Resid}}(f_{r1s}) = 0.0054 \text{ Pa}$  makes a significant contribution to the uncertainty.

### Uncertainty of the air density

The uncertainty in the wind tunnel air density is calculated by applying the propagation of uncertainty to the air density correlation in Equation (7) to obtain

$$u_{\rm r}(\rho) = \begin{bmatrix} u_{\rm r,EOS}^2(\rho) + \left(\frac{\rho_{\rm s}c_0}{\rho T}\right)^2 u_{\rm r}^2(p_{\rm s}) + 100^2 \left(\frac{c_0c_1 \exp(-c_2/T)}{\rho T}\right)^2 u^2(RH) \\ + 100^2 \left(\frac{1}{T}\right)^2 \left[1 + \left(\frac{c_2}{T}\right) \left(\frac{\rho_{\rm s}c_0}{\rho T} - 1\right)\right]^2 u^2(T) \end{bmatrix}^{1/2} .$$
(13)

where  $u_r(p_s) = 0.05\%$  is the relative static pressure uncertainty; u(T) = 0.5 K is the temperature uncertainty; and u(RH) = 2.5% is the uncertainty in relative humidity (in the units % relative humidity). The resulting uncertainty is  $u_r(\rho) = 0.22\%$ . Figure 9 shows that  $u_r(\rho)$  is negligible relative to  $u_r(fv_n)$  indicating that highly accurate density measurements are not necessary to achieve  $U_r(fv_n) \le 2\%$ .

### Uncertainty of the differential pressure measurements

During probe calibrations, the authors measured the pressure at each port relative to the wind tunnel static pressure,  $p_{1s}$ ,  $p_{2s}$ ,  $p_{3s}$ ,  $p_{4s}$ , and  $p_{5s}$ , using five 698A Baratron heated, high accuracy, bidirectional differential capacitance manometers with full scale of 10 Torr.<sup>2</sup> NIST's calibration records indicate that the standard uncertainty of each differential pressure transducer is  $u_{r,cal}(p_{is}) = 0.1\%$  of reading from 9 Pa to 666.7 Pa and  $u_{cal}(p_{is}) = 0.009$  Pa below 9 Pa. The authors zeroed each manometer at the start of each calibration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Certain commercial equipment, instruments, or materials are identified in this report to foster understanding. Such identification does not imply recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, nor does it imply that the materials or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.



**Figure 10.** Residuals of the respective calibration curves  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\alpha r}$  and  $f_{r1s}$  plotted versus the axial velocity  $V_a$  measured by the LDA working standard. The dashed lines (——) indicate expanded uncertainty of the respective calibration curves. (a) Residuals of  $f_{\beta}$  indicated by triangles ( $\Delta$ ); (b) Residuals of  $f_{\alpha}$  indicated by circles ( $\bigcirc$ ); (c) Residuals of  $f_{r1s}$  indicated by squares ( $\blacksquare$ ).

A conservative estimate of the standard uncertainty attributed to zero drift is  $u_{zero}(p_{is}) = 0.002$  Pa. The uncertainty of the differential pressure is

$$u(p_{\rm is}) = \sqrt{u_{\rm cal}^2(p_{\rm is}) + u_{\rm zero}^2(p_{\rm is})},$$
 (14)

for i = 1 to 5.

## Applying calibration curves in stack flow measurements

In stack flow measurement applications the calibration curves  $fv_n$ ,  $f_\beta$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$ , and  $f_{r1s}$  are used to determine 1) the stack axial velocity  $V_{a,NN}$  in Equation (15a); 2) the yaw angle  $\beta_{NN}$  in Equation (15b); 3) the pitch angle  $\alpha_{NN}$  in Equation (15c); and 4) the static pressure  $p_{s,NN}$  in Equation (15d). Here, the subscript "NN" indicates that the variables are calculated using the non-nulling calibration curves.

When a hemispherical probe is installed in a stack or duct (See Figure 1) and oriented at non-zero yaw and pitch angles,  $\alpha_p \neq 0$ ° and  $\beta_p \neq 0$ °, the axial velocity at a traverse point is

$$V_{a,NN} = V_{PSEUDO} f v_n C_\beta C_\alpha, \qquad (15a)$$

where  $fv_n$  is determined by Equation (5),  $C_\beta = \cos(f_\beta + \beta_p)/\cos(f_\beta)$  is the *yaw angle cosine correction factor* that accounts for a non-zero yaw orientation, and  $C_\alpha = \cos(f_\alpha + \alpha_p)/\cos(f_\alpha)$  is the *pitch angle cosine correction factor* that accounts for a non-zero pitch orientation.

The stack flow's yaw angle is the sum of the yaw angle calculated by the  $f_{\beta}$  calibration curve and the probe's yaw angle orientation,

$$\beta_{\rm NN} = f_{\beta} + \beta_{\rm p}. \tag{15b}$$

Similarly, the pitch angle is the sum of the pitch angle calculated by the  $f_{\alpha}$  calibration curve and the probe's pitch angle orientation,

$$\alpha_{\rm NN} = f_{\alpha} + \alpha_{\rm p}. \tag{15c}$$

The static pressure is calculated by

$$p_{s,NN} = -f_{r1s}p_{PSEUDO} + p_{1,ref} + p_{ref}, \qquad (15d)$$

where  $p_{\text{ref}}$  is the barometric pressure outside the stack, and  $p_{1,\text{ref}}$  is the pressure difference between the probe's port #1 and the reference barometric pressure. In stack applications,  $p_{s,\text{NN}}$  is used in conjunction with the flue gas temperature and composition to determine its density, which in turn is used to calculate the pseudo velocity  $V_{\text{PSEUDO}}$  in Equation (11). The authors then used the velocity scale  $V_{\text{PSEUDO}}$  in Equation (15a) to calculate the axial velocity  $V_{a,\text{NN}}$ .

Ideally, the non-nulling method is implemented with the probe oriented at  $\alpha_p = 0$  ° and  $\beta_p = 0$  ° as shown in Figure 1. In this special case, Equations (15a) through (15c) simplify. First, the cosine correction factors for yaw and pitch angles in Equation (15a) are both unity,  $C_{\alpha} = 1$ and  $C_{\beta} = 1$ . In addition, the yaw and pitch angles in Equation 15(b,c) equal the respective relative yaw and pitch angles calculated by the  $f_{\beta}$  and  $f_{\alpha}$  calibration curves.

In practice, probes are usually installed in stacks oriented at zero pitch  $\alpha_p = 0^\circ$ ; however, it is not always practical to orient probes at a zero yaw angle ( $\beta_p \neq 0^\circ$ ). First, during stack measurements the probe head and its support shaft shown in Figure 2 are extended by attaching a long steel shaft to facilitate traversing the probe across the (5 m to 10 m) diameter of the stack. The probe extension is equipped with a flat surface that is kept outside the stack and is used as a reference to measure the probe's yaw angle orientation when the probe's head is inside the stack. If the flat reference surface on the probe extension is offset from the zero yaw orientation of the probe head so that  $\beta_p \neq 0$ °, Equations (15a) through Equation (15c) are used to account for the yaw angle offset when calculating the axial velocity, as required by EPA regulations (EPA 2017a).

A prudent choice of the probe's yaw angle orientation can be used to measure unusual stack flows with yaw angles exceeding the ±40 ° limit of the calibration curves. When the probe extension is inserted into the stack, the extension is rotated so that its reference surface is at the yaw angle  $\beta_p$  that is chosen so that the relative yaw angle remains in the domain of the calibration curves. The value of probe yaw angle  $\beta_p$  required to extend measurements to large yaw angles can be estimated analytically or empirically based on measurements of the yaw pressures  $p_{12}$  and  $p_{13}$ . The details for estimating  $\beta_p$  are beyond the scope of this work.

Probes are installed at a zero pitch angle  $\alpha_p = 0$ °; however, as the probe is traversed into the stack the probe's support bends down under its own weight changing the pitch angle from zero. Equations (15a) through Equation (15c) can be used to correct the axial velocity measurement if the pitch angle due to probe deflection is known.

In stack applications, the uncertainties of the probe calibration curves must be supplemented with uncertainties pertaining to the stack measurement processes. This can be accomplished by performing an uncertainty analysis on the stack measurement variables expressed in Equations (15a) through Equation (15d). This analysis should account for uncertainty attributed to the sensitivity of the calibration curves  $fv_n$ ,  $f_\beta$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$ , and  $f_{r1s}$  to differential pressure errors. This component of uncertainty is expressed for  $fv_n$ ,  $f_\beta$ ,  $f_\alpha$ , and  $f_{r1s}$  by the last term in Equations (12a) through (12d), respectively. If this uncertainty source is significant, it tends to increase the uncertainty at the lowest velocities (less than 10 m/s) when differential pressure errors are generally most significant.

### Discussion

The authors used a novel definition for the pseudodynamic pressure ( $p_{PSEUDO}$ ) that allows a 5-hole hemispherical probe to accurately measure the velocity vector over a wide range of pitch  $|\alpha| \le 20^{\circ}$  and yaw  $|\beta| \le 40^{\circ}$  angles without either rotating the probe or implementing complex zoning methods. The authors calibrated 7 identically-designed hemispherical probes and found that the 3 variable,  $3^{rd}$  degree polynomial fits of the normal velocity calibration factor  $fv_n$  had expanded uncertainties less than 2% for  $|\alpha| \le 20^{\circ}$  and yaw  $|\beta| \le 40^{\circ}$ . These polynomials were fit to 130 quasi-random set points of measured  $v_n$  values, and the standard deviation of the fit residuals was the dominant source of uncertainty, which accounted for as much as 88% of the uncertainty budget.

The authors introduced a novel quasi-randomized data collection procedure that only required 130 points to calibrate a 5-hole hemispherical probe over wide range of pitch angles  $|\alpha| \leq 20$ ۰, yaw angles  $(|\beta| \le 45^{\circ})$ , and velocities  $(4.5 \text{ m/s} \le V_a \le 27 \text{ m/s})$ . The authors expect this method can be extended to larger Reynolds numbers (or velocities) without any impact on the uncertainty budget, provided the flow is incompressible. Extending the method to lower Reynolds numbers (or velocities) will be more difficult because the uncertainty resulting from the differential pressure measurements will become significant and because boundary layer separation on the surface of the probe will become more prominent at lower Reynolds numbers. Both effects are likely to increase the uncertainty of the  $fv_n$  calibration curve.

In Section 3.3, the authors described NIST's calibrations of hemispherical probes that used 130 quasi-random set points logarithmically spaced in velocity. Establishing 130 distinct, closely-spaced velocity set points will be cumbersome in any wind tunnel that lacks automated control of the velocity set points. For such a wind tunnel, a quasi-random data collection strategy can still be implemented. For example, a probe can be calibrated at only 11 velocity set points spanning the velocity range in typical stacks (5 m/s to 30 m/s) in increments of 2.5 m/s. At each of the 11 velocity set points, 12 unique combinations of pitch and yaw angles can be randomly generated, as discussed in Section 3.3. In this example, the quasi-random calibration data would consist of  $11 \times 12$  = 132 set points.

In this work NIST calibrated the hemispherical probes using a non-intrusive measurement technique (*i.e.*, the NIST LDA working standard). To calibrate the probes using an intrusive air speed reference (*e.g.*, an L-shaped pitot probe), blockage effects must be accounted for in the calibration procedure and in the uncertainty budget. That is, if the probes are placed too close to each other in the wind tunnel test section, the flow around each probe produces a non-uniform velocity field that results in different velocities at the two probe locations. Moreover, the effective wind

### Conclusion

The non-nulling hemispherical probes described here are advantageous compared with the probes used with existing EPA protocols. First, non-nulling hemispherical probes provide accurate stack-velocity vector (3D) measurements, independent of the angularity of the flow. (Our uncertainty is less than 2% of  $v_{n,NN}$  at 95% confidence level.) The accuracy equals or exceeds 3D measurements using EPA's nulling protocol (EPA 2017b). Second, because the non-nulling probes are not rotated at each traverse point, the 3D measurements can be performed as quickly and economically as EPA's Method 2 using S-probes (EPA 2017a). Third, the hemispherical probe's 6.5 mm-diameter pressure ports are resistant to clogging by particulates and water droplets. In contrast, the ports of EPA-sanctioned 3D probes are more easily clogged because they are smaller and because the probes require longer measurement times to null at each traverse point. Finally, the time and effort required to calibrate a hemispherical probe are comparable to the effort required to calibrate existing 3D, EPAcompliant probes. In achieving these results, the authors rediscovered Wright's (Wright 1970) scaling factor for pressure differences, which the authors have called  $p_{\text{PSEUDO.}}$ 

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#### **Disclosure statement**

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the author(s).

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#### Data availability statement

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author, ANJ, upon reasonable request email: aaron.johnson@nist.gov for data.

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## Appendix: Example polynomial fit coefficients for calibration curves

This appendix provides the fit coefficients for the three variable, third degree polynomial fit used for probe #3. The functional form of the non-nulling calibration curves is expressed by

$$f(x, y, z) = a_{0,0,0} + a_{1,0,0}x + a_{0,1,0}y + a_{0,0,1}z + a_{2,0,0}x^{2}$$
  
+  $a_{1,1,0}xy + a_{1,0,1}xz + a_{0,2,0}y^{2} + a_{01,1}yz + a_{0,0,2}z^{2}$   
+  $a_{3,0,0}x^{3} + a_{2,1,0}x^{2}y + a_{2,0,1}x^{2}z + a_{1,2,0}xy^{2}$   
+  $a_{1,1,1}xyz + a_{1,0,2}xz^{2} + a_{0,3,0}y^{3} + a_{0,2,1}y^{2}z$   
+  $a_{0,1,2}yz^{2} + a_{0,0,3}z^{3}$  (A1)

where  $a_{m,n,p}$  are the 20 fit coefficients. The independent variables *x*, *y*, and *z* correspond to the pressure ratios  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$ , respectively. Table A1 gives the numerical values of theses coefficients for the following calibration curves: 1) the dynamic pressure ratio,  $f_{rdyn}$ ; 2) the yaw angle,  $f_{\beta}$ ; the pitch angle,  $f_{\alpha}$ ; and the static pressure parameter,  $f_{r1s}$ .

Table A2 computes the values of the calibration curves  $f_{rdyn}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$ ,  $f_{r1s}$ , and  $fv_n$  for three values of pressure ratios  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$ . The first four calibration curves  $f_{rdyn}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$ , and  $f_{r1s}$  are computed by using the coefficient in Table A1 with Eq. A1. The normal velocity calibration factor is computed from  $f_{rdyn}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ , and  $f_{\alpha}$  using Eq. (5).

**Table A1.** Specifies the 20 fit coefficients for the 3 variable polynomial in Eq. A1 that determine the 4 calibration functions  $f_{rdyn}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$  and  $f_{r1s}$ . The independent variables x, y, and z correspond to the pressure ratios  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$ , respectively.

Ν	Coefficients	f <sub>rdyn</sub>	f <sub>β</sub>	f <sub>a</sub>	f <sub>r1s</sub>
[]	0	0	[deg]	[deg]	0
1	a <sub>0,0,0</sub>	0.79795	-32.44667	11.005	0.90949
2	a <sub>1,0,0</sub>	1.87942	98.06597	-37.38347	0.63819
3	<i>a</i> <sub>0,1,0</sub>	1.03396	40.00581	-17.13675	0.28743
4	a <sub>0,0,1</sub>	0.6762	7.84504	9.21487	0.51121
5	a <sub>2,0,0</sub>	-3.90152	111.5057	-52.90107	-1.35238
6	<i>a</i> <sub>1,1,0</sub>	-3.9121	122.10436	-54.92279	-1.36909
7	a <sub>1,0,1</sub>	0.11551	1.2133	11.40922	0.01113
8	a <sub>0,2,0</sub>	-1.10757	51.90224	-21.47414	-0.90491
9	a <sub>0,1,1</sub>	0.0699	0.98722	6.23767	0.00639
10	a <sub>0,0,2</sub>	-0.17229	12.73546	-6.24043	-0.54172
11	a <sub>3,0,0</sub>	0.50356	-356.06725	149.46496	-0.54679
12	a <sub>2,1,0</sub>	0.4005	-580.04598	222.6523	-0.66608
13	a <sub>2,0,1</sub>	-2.85339	-31.2365	-124.31675	-2.0008
14	a <sub>1,2,0</sub>	-0.71159	-367.66289	132.1937	-0.04529
15	<i>a</i> <sub>1,1,1</sub>	-2.91672	-33.10391	-125.42384	-2.02849
16	a <sub>1,0,2</sub>	-0.44492	-37.52932	19.89931	0.26425
17	a <sub>0,3,0</sub>	-0.44486	-98.14006	28.198	0.09874
18	a <sub>0,2,1</sub>	-1.14536	-13.26536	-53.62432	-0.80842
19	a <sub>0,1,2</sub>	-0.25073	-33.50061	9.05109	0.15474
20	a <sub>0,0,3</sub>	-0.27751	-3.03881	-21.56955	-0.20971

**Table A2.** Specifies the value of the calibration curves  $f_{rdyn}$ ,  $f_{\beta}$ ,  $f_{\alpha}$ ,  $f_{r_{1s'}}$  and  $f_{u_n}$  for the following three values of the pressure ratios  $r_{12}$ ,  $r_{23}$ , and  $r_{45}$ .

Ν	r <sub>12</sub>	r <sub>23</sub>	r <sub>45</sub>	f <sub>rdyn</sub>	f <sub>β</sub>	f <sub>α</sub>	f <sub>r1s</sub>	fu <sub>n</sub>
[]	[]	۵	0	0	[deg]	[deg]	0	0
1	0.46519	0.0746	-0.11331	0.81243	-1.53283	-0.18669	0.90267	0.90102
2	0.77784	-0.9405	0.54255	0.62246	26.15901	-15.0006	0.68354	0.68402
3	-0.22738	1.03531	0.33769	0.63141	-28.2971	-10.0084	0.6876	0.68901