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# Computational Study to Reduction of Aerodynamic drag of Passenger Car Using Rectangular Perforated Tail plate

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**ABSTRACT:** Aerodynamic drag is concept use of increasing car performance at high speed. Race car Design Engineers realized that air flowing over the car could be used to increase down force and reduce aerodynamic drag force on the car. This technique is also useful for the domestic sedan base passenger car. As fuel economy became a strong factor in road vehicle design, engineers soon realized that the methods of reducing aerodynamic drag on passenger cars could be transferred to road vehicles in order to improve fuel economy. Optimizing the various type of add on device installed on vehicle to reduce aerodynamic drag.

This paper revealed computational Study & effect of rectangular Plane tail plate & Perforation plate 10mm & 20mm RPP and RP1, RP2 respectively is reducing the drag coefficient of sedan baseline (BM) passenger car. A baseline drag value is obtained for a simplified sedan baseline car in WORKBENCH ANSYS 16.0. CFD software with SST k- $\omega$  turbulence model was applied. In order to have high accuracy, Second Order discretization schemes were chosen. The drag reduction of a proposed rectangular shaped tail plate (RPP) is compared to rectangular perforation plate (RP1 & RP2) at High speed 120 km/hr (33 m/sec). The Tail plates are installed at back side of the roof of the passenger car at  $12^{\circ}$  inclination angle. Similarly observe the effect of perforation tail plate on coefficient of drag for sedan baseline car model with respective diameter of hole. A maximum drag reduction of 6.5% is achieved using a Rectangular Perforation 10mm (RP1) with 0.18 m length axis towards direction of flow. Hence, the drag force can be reduced by using add on devices on passenger car and fuel economy, stability of a passenger car can be improved.

KEYWORDS: Aerodynamic, CFD, Coefficient of Drag, Passenger car, Perforation, Tail Plate.

### I. INTRODUCTION

In present day Automobile Sector fuel efficiency at high speed, Comfort Driving & Environmental safety is very important factors. Fuel resources are one of the most important problems in Automobile sector. Day by day because of increasing population and maximum utilization of fuels for automobile sector increased consumption of fuel. Since From 1900's up to today date fossil fuel is use as energy resources for all automobile factories. The cost of fuel are goes on increasing, for this reason most of the manufacturing company have their research focus on development of engine efficiency with minimum fuel consumption. Addition to this improvement in fuel efficiency as result of better aerodynamic shape is the new area in research point of view [1]. "Aerodynamics" is concept of passing air flow over the automobile and also the study of behaviour of air flow with the computational fluid dynamics (CFD) approaches respectively. The term "air" is used in a generic sense. It basically means the flowing gaseous medium which could be



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air, helium, or any other gas for that matter depending on condition. Even cars passing through air is also affected by aerodynamics effect. Aerodynamic shape of car model has its maximum contribution to change fuel efficiency with the help of drag coefficient. Few case studies show that, reduction in Coefficient of drag 0.01 means save the 0.4 liters/100km fuel at the speed of 130 km/hr [2]. Emission controlled is important which direct affects on environmental safety. In above problem can be easily solved by improving fuel efficiency as result of improvement in drag force and minimum fuel consumption [1]. CFD analysis is only efficient tool in order to evaluate specific design parameterization of a generic shape of automobile. Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) is a branch of fluid mechanics that uses numerical methods and algorithms to solve and analyse the problems that involve fluid flows. The analysis of system is associated by means of computer based simulation. Nowadays consume fuel 50% for ground vehicle all over worldwide and affected 60% greenhouse gas affected by the emission of gases from consuming fuel [3]. In recent times increasing the greenhouse effect in global warming world to reduce  $CO_2$  emission with the help increasing the performance of automobile by reducing the drag coefficient by using the various methods like passive flow control system ex. Ahmed body, Add-on Device, VG is conclude [5].

The tail plate is installed on the passenger car model at underneath half-foot long plate was attached to the floor of vehicle is like diffuser and 5cm long plate was attached to the top at rear side of roof the plate angle of inclination is 12 degree. The obtained result for CFD simulation is coefficient of drag is 0.3376 and Coefficient of lift is 0.1926. Therefore the percentage of reduction of aerodynamic drag coefficient is comparing with base line model is 3.87% and in coefficient of lift is 16.62%. [6]. The effect of aerodynamic design is increasing fuel efficiency, reducing drag and also improving the stability of automobile in high speed is shown in survey taken by Lynette Cheah & John Heywood [4]. Similarly Alamaan Altaf et al is observer the effect of various geometry shape tail plate are used on trucks for reducing aerodynamic drag near about 11.11%. In this research paper is also work on the perforation tail plate is attached at the rear end of truck is also effective tool for reducing aerodynamic drag [7].

In this research paper the simulation perform on passenger car model with & without tail plate by using WORKBENCH ANSYS-16.0 software. The 'pressure based solver' in ANSYS FLUENT 16.0 was Two equation SST  $k-\omega$  turbulence model was applied for finding Cd.

Car drivers usually install tail plates that successfully reduce the drag and improve down force to better handling stability at high speed. For this reason, these works has concentrate design engineers for the study effect of tail plate on aerodynamic drag & introduce new tool, and idea for tail plate design process. In the next sections, some related work and the methodology will be presented in detail.

#### II. RELATED WORK

In present day the maximum type of new and old car model is available in the world. By using tail plates are reduced aerodynamic drag, improve down force which leads to better handling. It is also reduced drag with the help of tail plate added at the end of passenger vehicle. This type of device is very cheap and installing very easily for new and old model. So this method is very popular seen in present survey. Present scenario the every hatch back model used Tail plate at rear end of car model at back side. It is very effective method for old and new model of passenger vehicle. Dongri Kim [8] in this research paper the work on AMD (Automatic Moving Deflector), is add on the 3d model of vehicle for reducing aerodynamic drag coefficient & lift coefficient. This design inspired by the movement of secondary feathers on bird's wing: i.e., a secondary feather in Bird life is increases the lift force at landing. By using of AMD the reduction of aerodynamic drag is up to 19%. This concept is applicable also applicable on passenger car for reducing aerodynamic drag for improving fuel efficiency & better handling performance. Manigandan. R [9] is work on hatch back type of car model reducing drag coefficient by using tail plate at rear end of car model. The final result at velocity 40km/h means the coefficient of drag reduced up to 0.078%. G. Siva and V. Loganathan [10] is main objective to reduce the aerodynamic drag for SUV model like Toyota Fortuner model is used. With the help modification in angle of tailgate and C-post is getting better result. The simulation is conducted at velocity 100km/h at an angle of tailgate is 35 & 45 degree. The original angle of tailgate of C-post is 45 degree and modification angle is 35 degree. Finally aerodynamic of drag coefficient is reduce up to 14.21%. This is very important for improving performance of car without change in shape of car. Alamaan Altaf et al [7] study on the plan as well as perforation type of flap with



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various type of geometry is applied on Truck type heavy vehicle. The three type of geometry shape are considered is equal in surface area & equivalent aerodynamic length. The result are find out with the help of STAR C++ CFD software is elliptical plane plate is reduce the aerodynamic drag up to 11.11% & perforation of the elliptical plate on 0.01 & 0.02m in different diameter is reduce drag up to 8.8%.

#### III. METHODOLOGY & VARIOUS STEPS

In this research work the Sedan Based Car model is complete simulation with the help of WORKBENCH ANSYS 16.0 CFD software as like following flow chart of each tail plate like RPP, RP1 & RP2 for finding coefficient of drag value of each model at velocity 120 km/hr (33.33m/sec) and getting result for better tool for improving the efficiency of passenger car model with better handing at high speed.



#### IV. FORMULATION OF BASELINE MODEL & PRE PROCESSING ACTIVITY IN CFD SOFTWARE



Figure 1 (a) Baseline Model in CAD software, (b) Surface Meshing Model in CFD Software, (c) Boundary Condition applied on passenger car model

As shown in figure 1 (a) First of all a Baseline sedan base passenger car model is prepared with the help of CAD software. The full size generic passenger car is 4145mm long, 1625mm wide, 1385mm high. Then after, this model has been analysed for drag coefficient and forces under the ANSYS WORKBENCH- 16.0 (FULENT) module and values of drag coefficient.



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As shown in figure 1 (b) The necessary pre-processing activities such as surface meshing was performed with the help of ANSYS Design Modeler and Mesher software is Meshing Details is like Element Type: Hexahedral + Tetrahedral + Prisms, Number of Elements: ~2,000,000.

Similarly as shown in figure 1 (c) indicates the Working of Preprocessing work of CFD Anysis software like computational domain preparation for performing simulation with the help of boundary condition. With the help of theoretical knowledge apply the boundary condition for getting result as per environment condition of given virtual model. Now the next step is go for simulation setup on baseline passenger car model at inlet speed is 120km/Hr.

#### V. SIMULATION SETUP FOR PASSENGER CAR

With the help of 'pressure based solver' in ANSYS FLUENT 16.0 was chosen for these 3-Dimensional, Steady state simulations. The boundary conditions for the simulations had been highlighted. Two equation SST  $k-\omega$  turbulence model was applied for finding Cd. In order to have high accuracy, Second Order discretization schemes were chosen. Convergence for the simulation was defined based on the force balance over the iterations.

The following CFD simulation performed with the help of following table 1, 2, 3, 4 Ram Bansal and R. B. Sharma [6] boundary condition settings, solver setup, Turbulence model settings, and pressure based solver solution controls for present simulation respectively.

Table 1 Boundary condition settings				
	Velocity i	nlet		
Magnitude for Measured Normal to Boundary		= 33.33 m/sec (120 Km/hr)		
Turbulence Specification Method	-	= Intensity and Viscosity Ratio		
Turbulence Intensity		= 1.00%		
Turbulence Viscosity Ratio		= 20		
Pressure Outlet				
Gauge Pressure Direction		= 0 Pascal		
Turbulence Specification Method		= Normal to Boundary		
Backflow turbulence Intensity		= Intensity and Viscosity Ratio		
Backflow Turbulent Viscosity Ratio		= 10%		
	Stationary Wall	Condition		
a)	Vehicle surface	ce-no slip wall B/c		
b)	Ground face-	Inviscid wall B/C		
c)	Side faces -In	viscid wall B/C		
	Fluid Prope	erties		
Fluid Type		= Air		
Fluid Density		$= \rho = 1.175 (\text{kg/m}^3)$		
Kinematic Viscosity		$= v = 1.7894 \times 10^{(-5)} (kg/(ms^{1}))$		

With the help of above table 1 is shown the boundary condition are applied in CFD simulation are performed, in this table is defining various input inlet velocity properties and outlet pressure with turbulence condition. The main important is defining stationary wall condition are performing simulation on car model with domain prepare in software. They are also used with type of fluid are used when simulation perform like Air, liquid etc & its properties.

Table 2 Solver Setup			
CFD simulation	: 3d		
Solver	: Fluent		
Space	: 3D		
Formulation	: Explicit		
Time	: Steady		
Velocity Formulation	: Absolute		



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Table 2 represent is explain the solver setup used in CFD model. With help of given 3D model to apply the boundary condition using solver like CFD fluent, CFX etc. With space 3D CAD model & different type of Formulation like Implicit or Explicit type are used in CFD simulation. The steady state equation is used for solving the problem with the help of absolute velocity.

Table 3 Turbulence Model Settings			
Turbulence Model	: SST K-ω		
K-ω Model	: Shear Stress Transport		
Near Wall Treatment	: Enhanced Wall Function		
<b>Operating Condition</b>	: Ambient		

As shown in Table 3 the two equation SST  $k-\omega$  turbulence model was applied for finding coefficient of drag value with the help of enhanced wall function condition as Ambient condition. In order to have high accuracy, with low cost and less time performing for CFD simulation for finding coefficient of drag value

	Table 4 Solver Setup
Equation	: Flow& Turbulence Model SST
Discretization	: Pressure: Standard
	Momentum: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ordered
	Turbulence Kinetic Energy: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Upwind
	Turbulence Dissipation Rate: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Upwind
Monitor	: Residual & Drag Coefficient
Convergence Criterion	: Continuity =0.001, X- Velocity =0.001
	Y-Velocity = 0.001, K= 0.001, $\omega = 0.001$

Similarly shown in Table 4 solver setup is very important for all simulation setup use Flow & turbulence model at standard pressure with  $2^{nd}$  ordered momentum equation are used. In WORKBENCH ANSYS 16.0 software  $2^{nd}$  order upwind turbulence Kinetic Energy are used. Similarly turbulence Dissipation rate used for  $2^{nd}$  order upwind model for discretization process. Convergence for the simulation was defined based on the force balance over the iterations with continuity and K- $\omega$  model. Now start the simulation work and wait for completion near about 16 Hr for go to next step as post processing. When the simulation is over then go for next step as Result and analyse with the help of pressure & velocity Contour.





<sup>(</sup>a) Figure 2 (a) Velocity Contour for BM at 120Km/Hr,



(b)

(b) Cd value for BM at 120Km/hr with respective iteration Number.



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As per above figure 2 shows the when simulation completion with the help of WORKBENCH ANSYS16.0 software then the go for post processing getting in velocity contour image is shown at rear side of car model is decreasing velocity. The velocity magnitude is the instantaneous speed of the model car. The region of light brownish yellow colour shows the normal velocity of the fluid (air) in the domain. As the model car travels with 33.33 m/s the velocity of the air changes with the position of the car. In the figure 2 (a), the air has velocity of 31 m/s. As the air along the car model is brought closer towards the bonnet, the velocity rise from 40 m/s of the orange patch. It keeps increasing to 45 m/s on the top roof surface of the car in pale red patchy region and drops slowly at rear end of car model up to 4.5m/s this is region to generated the recirculation of air to form Wake is reason of increasing drag force on a car body.. On the bottom part of the model car, the velocity of the air exhibits very low or near about 9m/sec of no air movement. This is shown as region of ocean blue colour having velocity of 4m/s to 0 m/s.

Therefore as above figure 2(b) shows graph for Cd with respective iteration Number is start form 0.461 and end at last iteration 0.461 means the coefficient of drag at 120km/hr (33.33m/sec) for sedan base Passenger car model. Similarly as shown in figure 3 the velocity vector on surface of base model air behaviour at front part of roof of passenger car model is increasing up to 40m/sec & similarly at rear part of roof is decreasing up to 9m/sec. Therefore this reason the air recirculation is increasing at the rear end of passenger car model. This is main problem for increasing drag value of passenger car model. This recirculation of air is minimise with the help using different type of tail plate at the rear end of passenger car model at high speed.



Figure 3 Velocity Vector on surface of the of Base Model passenger car

Therefore the next step of simulation with Tail plates is installed at back side of the roof of the passenger car at  $12^{\circ}$  inclination angle. Similarly observe the effect of perforation tail plate on coefficient of drag for sedan baseline car model with respective diameter of hole at velocity 120 km/hr with same boundary condition & simulation setup.



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VII. SIMULATION AND TESTING OF PASSENGER CAR WITH TAIL PLATES LIKE RPP, RP1 & RP2 FOR COEFFICIENT OF DRAG



Figure 4 Passenger car with Rectangular Tail plate at rear roof 12<sup>0</sup> inclination angle 2D & 3D

As shown in figure 4 shows the passenger car model with installing Rectangular tail plate at rear end of roof for decreasing coefficient of drag. The above CAD MODEL is imported in WORKBENCH ANSYS 16.0 CFD software for generating surface meshing of passenger car model finding coefficient of drag with 120km/hr velocity. Surface meshing is very important for getting accurate result in CFD software the fine meshing on surface then result accuracy is also increasing. Similarly the air flowing in wind tunnel the sedan based car body is put in wind tunnel for next step of simulation with same boundary condition and simulation setup.

External aerodynamic simulation for a sedan based car model was carried out using ANSYS Workbench 16.0. Software, The necessary pre-processing activities such as computational domain preparation, meshing were performed with the help of ANSYS Design Modeler and Mesher. The 'pressure based solver' in ANSYS FLUENT 16.0 was chosen for these 3-Dimensional, Steady state simulations. In the boundary conditions for the simulations had been highlighted. Two equation SST k- $\omega$  turbulence model was applied. In order to have high accuracy, Second Order discretization schemes were chosen. Convergence for the simulation was defined based on the force balance over the iterations.



Figure 5 (a) Meshing of passenger car model with Tail plate, (b) CAD model with RP1 & RP2 tail Plate

As shown in figure 5 shows the surface meshing applied on the sedan base model with the help of ICEM software in the form of Tetrahedral + Hexahedral with 10 prism layers for increasing accuracy of Cd value in result. In above figure 5 (a) shows the surface meshing with domain preparation as per given boundary condition in Table 1. Similarly perforation plate is attached at the end of car model with 10mm & 20mm perforation as shown in figure 5 (b). This is same dimension car model are used for simulation and finding the effect of tail plate on coefficient of drag value at 120km/hr velocity. Now simulation is start on sedan based car model with attached tail plate RPP, RP1, RP2 at back side on roof at  $12^{0}$  of inclination angle & wait for next 16 Hr for the next step of simulation like post processing finding the resultant value of coefficient of drag and observe the result.



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(a) (b) Figure 7 (a) Velocity Contour for RP1 at 120Km/Hr, (b) Cd value for RP1 at 120Km/hr with respective iteration Number

This section gives the results of all the parametric studies conducted using the baseline model and Rectangular Plane Plate (RPP) and Rectangular Plate with Perforation 10mm (RP1) & 20mm(RP2) diameter of hole respectively. With the help of WORKBENCH CFD software RPP, RP1 & RP2 is installed back side of the roof of passenger car at 12° inclination angle. RPP & RP1 tail plate of equal length but surface pattern is different are also simulated at identical angle for benchmarking of passenger car. It is helpful for observing the pattern of air flow at rear end of sedan base passenger car model. In this observation shown the behaviour of air flow in the form of velocity contour of Baseline



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model (BM) of passenger car & the Rectangular Plane Tail plate (RPP), Rectangular Plate -10MM Perforation (RP1) & Rectangular Plate -20mm Perforation in Figure 2 & 6-8 (a) respectively.

As shown in figure 3 at the rear end of BM the large recirculation of air near the roof of car in velocity vector form. This consists of two counter-rotation vortices near the rear end of car. When all type of tail plate are used at rear end on roof of car in same angle like  $12^{0}$ , therefore the air passing over the plane & perforation plate is controlled the wake. In the case of Rectangular Plane Plate (RPP), there is shown figure 6 (a) in velocity contour controlled the wake at rear end hence for this reason the reduced the coefficient of drag value from 0.461 to 0.452 shown in figure 6 (b) means the coefficient of drag decrees near about 2%. This is very great achievement for reducing the coefficient of drag when tail plate is attached at rear end of passenger car model.

Similarly the shown in figure 7 (a) the Rectangular Plate -10mm perforation (RP1) is installed back side of passenger car at roof with same angle the air circulation is flow very stream line than the RPP & BM. Therefore the coefficient of drag is reducing form 0.461 to 0.428 is shown in figure 7 (b). This is very great achievement in when tail plate is attached at rear end of passenger car model the coefficient of drag is reduce approximately 7.2%. It is less than the rectangular plane plate because of the perforation on plate is very good for reducing drag is told Bruneau et al [11].



Figure 8 (a) Velocity Contour for RP2 at 120Km/Hr, (b) Cd value for RP2 at 120Km/hr with respective iteration Number

The Rectangular plate -20mm Perforation (RP2) is installed at rear end of Passenger car model with same angle and same length the air follow not stream line means the air travailing form roof toward the rear end the recirculation of air is increasing as compared therefore this is reason to increasing drag force because of wake at back side is increasing. In RP1 when air passing over car roof through the perforation tail plate is passing wake at back side of roof is controlled with the help of air passing into hole on tail plate, but when the diameter perforation hole is increasing the air passing through is maximum is opposed for stream line flow as shown in figure 8 (a & b). Therefore the RP2 tail plate is reduced the coefficient of drag from 0.461 to 0.454 is 1.5% less than the RPP & RP1.

In all above discussion the conclude that the when RPP tail plate is attached at rear end of passenger car model is the coefficient of drag is reduced greater than the RP2 plate but less than the RP1. Therefore it's clearly mention in below



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table the RP1 tail plate is best than the other both plate. Means the coefficient of drag is decreasing maximum with the help of Rectangular Plate-10 mm perforation (RP1).

#### Table 5 comparison of Coefficient of Drag Value with or without tail plate

Plate	Cd	% of Cd vs BM
Baseline Model (BM)	0.461	
BM with Rectangular Plane Plate (RPP)	0.452	1.95%
BM with Rectangular Plate -10mm Perforation (RP1)	0.428	7.2%
BM with Rectangular Plate -20mm Perforation(RP2)	0.454	1.5%



Figure 9 (a) Coefficient of drag decreasing % with Plate, (b) Coefficient of drag value with Plate

As shown in above figure 9 (a) & (b) the coefficient of drag decreasing in % with respective plate & Coefficient of drag value with respective plate respectively. When Rectangular Plate-10mm perforation is installed on baseline model is the coefficient of drag value is decreasing 7.2% and value is reducing from 0.461 to 0.428. This is very great achievement for increasing fuel efficiency and better handling at high speed. Similarly the effect shown for rectangular plane plate & Rectangular Plate- 20mm of coefficient of drag value is decreasing is less than the RP1 plate. Therefore as per above observation

### VIII. CONCLUSION

In this research paper work on the Sedan base passenger car simulation perform at 120 km/hr (33.33 m/sec) with the help of WORKBENCH ANSYS 16.0 CFD software with different tail plate is installed at back side at rear end of roof  $12^{0}$  of inclination angle & same length. In this analysis the coefficient of drag is decrees from 7.2%. Hence, is shown that the perforation on tail plate is very effective tool for reducing coefficient of drag. But the when the perforation on tail plate is increasing diameter result is not good means the coefficient of drag value reducing up to 1.5% is less than RP1 plate.



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The rectangular Plane plate is installed on sedan base passenger car the coefficient of drag up to 1.95% this is greater than the RP2 plate and less than the RP1 plate. Therefore the main objective of this paper is reducing the coefficient of drag of passenger car is maximum for increasing fuel efficiency and reducing the  $CO_2$  emission is help to global warming. The coefficient of drag value is decreasing means the down force value is increasing this is help to improving the better handling of car at high speed.

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