

**C.P. No. 292**

(18,162)

A.R.C. Technical Report

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**An Index of Mathematical Tables  
for Shock-Tube Flow**

*By*

*B. D. Henshall, B.Sc., Ph.D.*

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An Index of Mathematical Tables,  
for Shock-Tube Flow

- By -

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24th January, 1956

1. SUMMARY

A classified index of tables for use in calculations of the flow in shock tubes is presented in this note. Consistent nomenclature in accordance with general usage is adopted.

2. Introduction

The increasing use of shock tubes in aerodynamic research has called attention to the scattered nature of the relevant tables required for calculations of shock-tube flow. It is hoped that the present index of freely-available tables will help to prevent unnecessary duplication of effort. A consistent nomenclature has been adopted which is in accordance with general usage. For convenience a labelled diagram of typical simple shock-tube flow is given in Figure 1 and a list of symbols is given below.

3. Notation

a	velocity of sound
C	length of chamber of shock tube
L	length of channel of shock tube
M	Mach number
p	absolute pressure
R	Reynolds number
s	entropy
t	time
$\tau$	flow duration
T	absolute temperature
u	flow velocity
U	shock velocity; subscript corresponds to flow region <u>ahead</u> of shock
x	distance measured along longitudinal axis of shock tube
X	distance parameter = $\frac{x}{C}$
y	$\frac{C_p}{C_v}$ , the ratio of the specific heats

$\rho/$

$\rho$	density
$M()$	flow Mach number with respect to the <u>local</u> speed of sound (e.g., $M_2 = \frac{u_2}{a_2}$ )
$M_{s()}$	shock wave propagation Mach number with respect to the speed of sound in the flow <u>ahead</u> of the shock front (e.g., $M_{s1} = \frac{U_1}{a_1}$ )
$P_o$	Overall pressure ratio across the extreme ends of a simple shock tube
$T_o$	Overall temperature ratio across extreme ends of a simple shock tube
$X_o$	Non-dimensional length of channel of shock tube ( $= L/C$ ).

Subscripts

1,2,3,4,5 etc identify quantities related to the gas in the corresponding region of shock tube flow (see Figure 1)

Special Non-dimensional Notation

$p_{mn} = \frac{p_m}{p_n}$	a pressure ratio
$\rho_{mn} = \frac{\rho_m}{\rho_n}$	a density ratio
	etc.

4. Classification of Tables

Independent tables of normal-shock functions and simple wave functions are listed in Sections 4A and 4B respectively. However, in simple shock-tube flow the normal shock and simple wave equations are combined so that the boundary conditions at the contact surface are satisfied, and thus tables which involve assumptions about the initial conditions in the shock tube are listed separately in Section 4C.

As in the index of tables for compressible flow calculations<sup>18</sup>, each table is described in the following manner:

Argument - Range of Argument - Respondents

The argument is placed first and underlined, followed by the range of argument tabulated. Figures in brackets indicate the interval of argument, and the flanking figures give the extremities of the range. Next the number of significant figures (S) or decimal places (D) for the respondents are given, and finally the appropriate reference number is noted. For example,

<u><math>M_{s1}</math></u>	1(.01)5	$p_{21}$	6S	Ref 1
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would denote that in Ref.1 there is a table in which  $p_{21}$  is tabulated against  $M_{s1}$  to 6 significant figures, for  $M_{s1}$  varying by intervals

of/

of 0.01 from 1 to 5. In all cases  $\gamma = 1.400$  unless otherwise stated and perfect gas behaviour is assumed. It is intended from time to time to bring this index up to date, and the author will be grateful to receive details of tables which have been overlooked in the compilation of the present list.

4A. Normal Shock Tables

$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)5	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}$	6S	Ref.1
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)5	$M_2, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	6S	Ref.1
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.05)5	$[\gamma = 1.405] p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}$	4S	Ref.7
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)4	$p_{21}, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	4S	Ref.6
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)3	$p_{21}, \left\{ 1 - a_{21} \cdot \frac{M_2}{M_{S_1}} \right\}$	5D	Ref.3
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)10	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, \left\{ 1 - a_{21} \cdot \frac{M_2}{M_{S_1}} \right\}, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	4S	Ref.4
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)3(.5)5(1)10	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}$	5S	Ref.5
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)2(.1)5(1)25	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}, a_{21}$ $\{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\} \cdot \left\{ 1 - a_{21} \cdot \frac{M_2}{M_{S_1}} \right\}$	5S	Ref.8
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.05)3.5(.1)5	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}, a_{21}, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	4S	Ref.9
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.1)8(1)20	$p_{51}, T_{51}$	5S	Ref.16
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.1)2	$p_{21}, p_{12}, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	4S	Ref.12
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)10(.02)20(.2)50(1)100	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	4S	Ref.13
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)5	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}, a_{21},$ $\{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}, \left\{ 1 - a_{21} \cdot \frac{M_2}{M_{S_1}} \right\}$	5D	Ref.2
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.01)3(.5)5(1)10, $\infty$	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}, \{M_{S_1} \cdot a_{12} - M_2\}$	5S	Ref.10
$\frac{M_{S_1}}$	1(.05)2(.1)3(.2)4	$p_{21}, \rho_{21}, T_{21}, a_{21}, \frac{u_2}{a_1}, \frac{u_2}{U_1}, U_{21}, M_2, \frac{s_2 - s_1}{C_v}$	4S	Ref.11
$\frac{P_{21}}$	1(.1)1.5(.25)2(.5)4(1)6(2)10(2.5)20(5)30(10)60(20)100(50)300, 400, 600, 800, 1,000, 2,000, 3,000 and $\infty$ $\gamma_1 = 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, \text{ and } 5/3.$	$T_{21}, \rho_{21}, a_{21}, M_{S_1}, M_2, \frac{u_2}{a_1}, \frac{s_2 - s_1}{C_v}$	3 or 4D	Ref.15

<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(.1)1.5(.25)2(.5)4(1)6(2)10(2.5)20(5)30(10)60(20)100(50)300				
	400, 600, 800, 1,000 and ∞				
	$\gamma_1 = 1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.4$ and $5/3$				
	$P_{52}, T_{52}, \rho_{52}, U_{21}$		3 or 4D	Ref.15	
<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(1)21(2)43	$M_{S1}, T_{21}, M_2, \rho_{21}, a_{21}, \frac{u_2}{a_1}$		4S	Ref.14
<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(2)35	$M_{S1}, P_{52}, \rho_{52}, T_{52}, M_{32}$		4S	Ref.14
<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(.2)6.4	$P_{51}, M_{S1}, U_{21}, M_{S2}, a_{21}$		4 or 5S	Ref.17
<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(.2)2(.1)6.4	$M_{S1}, M_2, a_{21}, \frac{u_2}{a_1}$		4S	Ref.17

4B. Simple Wave Tables

<u>P<sub>34</sub></u>	1.0(.1)0.8(.2)0.4	$T_{34}, \rho_{34}, P_{34}$		4S	Ref.14
<u>M<sub>3</sub></u>	0(.05)1.0	$\gamma_4 = 1.1, 1.2, 1.4$ and $5/3$	$P_{34}$	4S	Ref.15
<u>M<sub>3</sub></u>	0(.1)0.2(.2)2(.5)10(2)20(5)30 and ∞				
	For $\gamma_4 = 1.1, 1.2, 1.4$ , and $5/3$				
	$a_{34}, T_{34}, P_{34}, \rho_{34}, \frac{u_3}{a_4}$			4 or 5S	Ref.15

4C. Shock Tube Tables

(a) A general double entry table  $\gamma_4 = \gamma_1 = 1.4$

$\frac{M_{S1}}{T_0}$	1(.1)8	} $P_0$			
<u><math>T_0</math></u>	1(1)15			5S	Ref.16

(b) Tables with  $T_0 = 1$  ( $T_{41} = a_{41} = 1$ )

(i)  $\gamma_4 = \gamma_1 = 1.4$

<u><math>P_0</math></u>	1(1)100 and ∞	$M_{S1}, M_2, M_3, a_{21}, a_{34}, P_{21}, P_{34}, \frac{u_2}{a_1}, T_{23}^{\frac{1}{4}}$		3 or 4S	Ref.17
<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(.2)2(.1)6.4	$P_0, P_{34}, a_{34}, M_3, T_{23}^{\frac{1}{4}}$		4S	Ref.17
<u>P<sub>21</sub></u>	1(1)21(2)43	$P_0, P_0^{-1}, a_{34}, T_{34}, P_{34} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{u_3}{a_4} \\ - - a_{34} \\ a_4 \end{array} \right\}$		4S	Ref.14

$M_{S1}$  /

M<sub>S1</sub> 1(.05)2(.1)3(.2)4

M<sub>32</sub>, a<sub>32</sub>, T<sub>32</sub> ρ<sub>32</sub>, R<sub>32</sub>

$$X_0, X_2, X_3, \frac{X_0}{X_2}, \frac{X_0}{\frac{a_1 \tau_2}{C}},$$

$$P_0, M_3, \frac{\tau_2}{\tau_3},$$

$$\frac{a_1 \tau_2}{C}, \frac{a_1 \tau_3}{C}, \frac{a_1 t_2}{C} = \frac{2a_1 t_2}{C}$$

4S Ref.11

(ii) y<sub>2</sub> = 1.665, y<sub>1</sub> = 1.402 (Helium/Air)

P<sub>21</sub> 1(1)30

ρ<sub>34</sub>, a<sub>34</sub>, T<sub>34</sub>, P<sub>34</sub>

4S Ref.14

P<sub>21</sub> 1(1)33(2)57

P<sub>0</sub>

4S Ref.14

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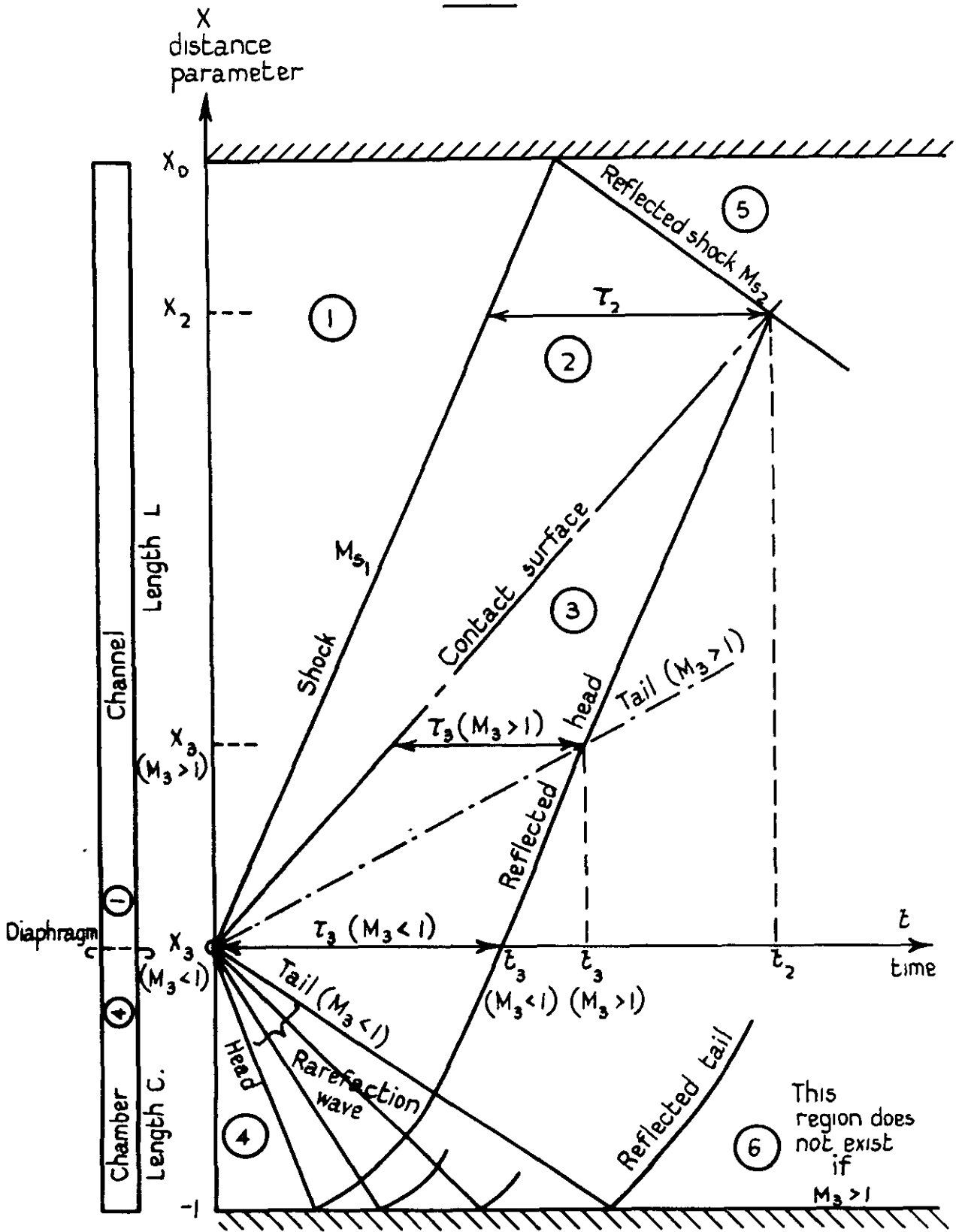
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FIG 1.



Flow in a simple shock tube





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