

Abstract Submitted
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A Comparative Study of Spatially Modulated Forcing of Cylinder Wake with Segmented Plasma Actuators of Different Wavelengths¹

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— The wake of a 1-inch diameter (D) circular cylinder was forced three dimensionally by mounting dielectric barrier discharge plasma actuators at specific spanwise locations. Actuators with spanwise wavelengths of 1, 2, 4 and 6 D were used. Considerable drag reduction was achieved with 4 D and 6 D actuators compared to 1 D and 2 D actuators which showed no effect on the drag. In the case of the 6 D actuator, prominent spanwise differences were observed in the wake mean velocity profiles, with a much wider wake behind the region of no plasma formation and differential development persisting well downstream. The different wavelength actuators were also compared in terms of their ability to induce streamwise vorticity in the wake. Segmented forcing with the 4 D actuator augmented the generation of streamwise vorticity in the wake which was revealed in the cross-plane time-averaged data. A detailed study of vortex dislocation was carried out with a rake of eight hot wires. Segmented forcing with 4 and 6 D actuator introduced vortex dislocation in the Karman vortex street. The phenomenon of vortex dislocation due to phase mismatch is inferred as the primary reason for the effectiveness of 4 D actuator in reducing drag.

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