



# ME 323: FLUID MECHANICS-II

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**Lecture-06**

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**Operation of Converging-Diverging Nozzle**

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## Recap

The **maximum possible mass flow rate through a nozzle is;**

$$\dot{m}_{\max} = \rho^* A^* V^*$$

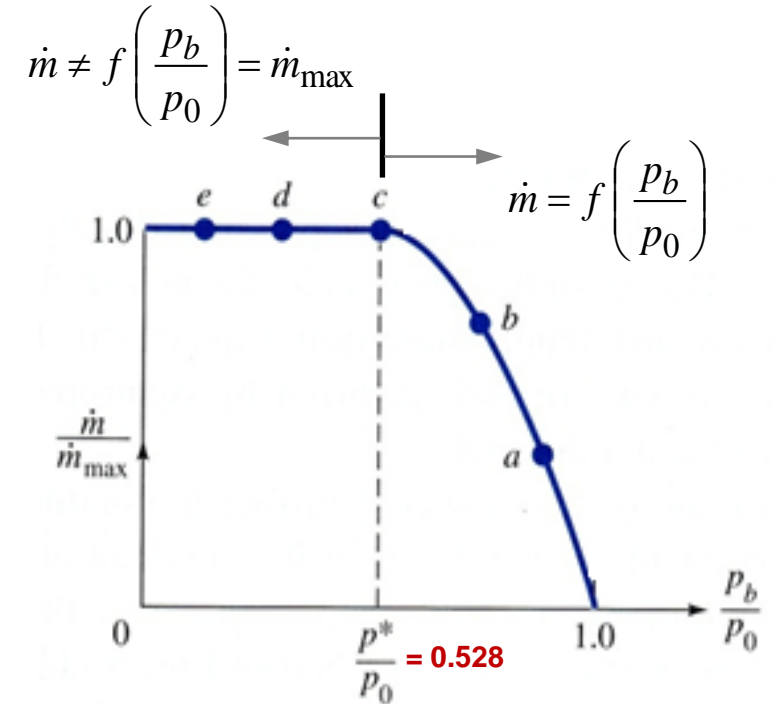
$$\Rightarrow \dot{m}_{\max} = \rho_0 \left( \frac{2}{k+1} \right)^{1/(k-1)} A^* \left( \frac{2k}{k+1} RT_0 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{m}_{\max} = \frac{p_0}{RT_0} \left( \frac{2}{k+1} \right)^{1/(k-1)} A^* \left( \frac{2k}{k+1} RT_0 \right)^{1/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{m}_{\max} = k^{1/2} \left( \frac{2}{k+1} \right)^{\frac{k+1}{2(k-1)}} A^* \frac{p_0}{\sqrt{RT_0}}$$

$$\because V^* = M^* a^* = (1.0) \sqrt{kRT^*}$$

$$\Rightarrow V^* = \sqrt{\frac{2k}{k+1} RT_0} \quad ; \quad \frac{T^*}{T_0} = \frac{2}{k+1}$$



For air;  $k = 1.4$  and  $R = 287 \text{ J/kgK}$ :

$$\dot{m}_{\max} \approx 0.04 \frac{p_0 A^*}{\sqrt{T_0}} \quad (\text{kg/s})$$



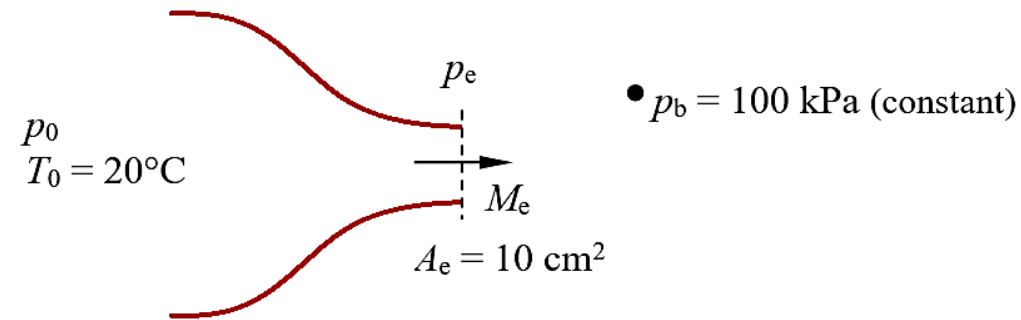
For isentropic flow through a duct;  
the maximum mass flow possible is

- **proportional to the throat area,  $A^*$**
- **proportional to stagnation pressure,  $p_0$**  and
- **inversely proportional to the square root of the stagnation temperature,  $T_0$ .**



# Problem

Air is being discharged to atmosphere ( $p_b = 100$  kPa) through a converging nozzle as shown in figure. The air is being feed from a large reservoir in which the pressure is continuously increased from 200 kPa to 600 kPa. During this operation, the reservoir temperature is maintained constant at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ .



(a) Complete the table:

$p_0$ (kPa)	200	300	400	500	600
$p_e$ (kPa)					
$M_e$					
$\dot{m}$ (kg/s)					

(b) Plot  $\dot{m}$  vs.  $p_0$



(c) Is the nozzle choked or not? Justify your comment.



# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

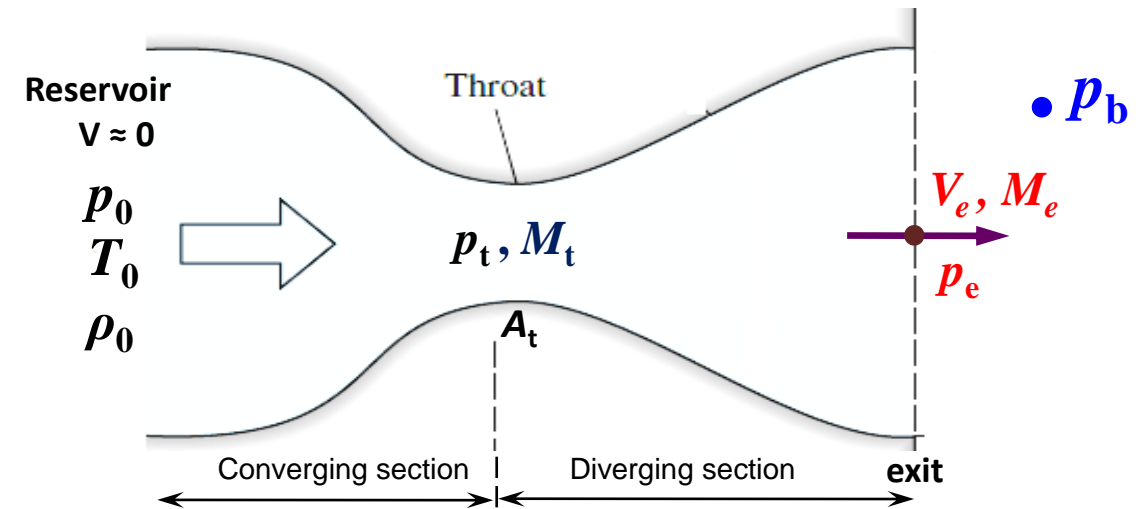
Consider a converging-diverging (C-D) nozzle in which a gas is flowing from a large reservoir ( $V \approx 0$ ). Thus, the reservoir is at stagnant condition. The reservoir pressure is  $p_0$  which is **kept constant** throughout the operation (steady flow).

The **flow structure** inside and outside the nozzle is dependent on the magnitude of available **back pressure,  $p_b$**  (where jet will be exhausted).

Now, the back pressure,  $p_b$  **will be decreasing** in a well controlled manner while  $p_0$  **is remained fixed**.

The flow condition is defined by the parameter:

$$\frac{p_b}{p_0} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{p_0}{p_b} \quad (\text{NPR})$$



# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

**Case - 0** : There will be no flow when  $p_b = p_0$  i.e.

$$\frac{p_b}{p_0} = 1.0 \quad \dot{m}|_0 = 0$$

**Cases-A and B** ( $p_b < p_0$ ) represent the **subsonic isentropic flow** inside the nozzle. In these cases, Mach number will increase in the converging section and will reach maximum at the throat **but at subsonic value ( $M < 1$ )** and then decreases in the diverging portion (**subsonic operation**).

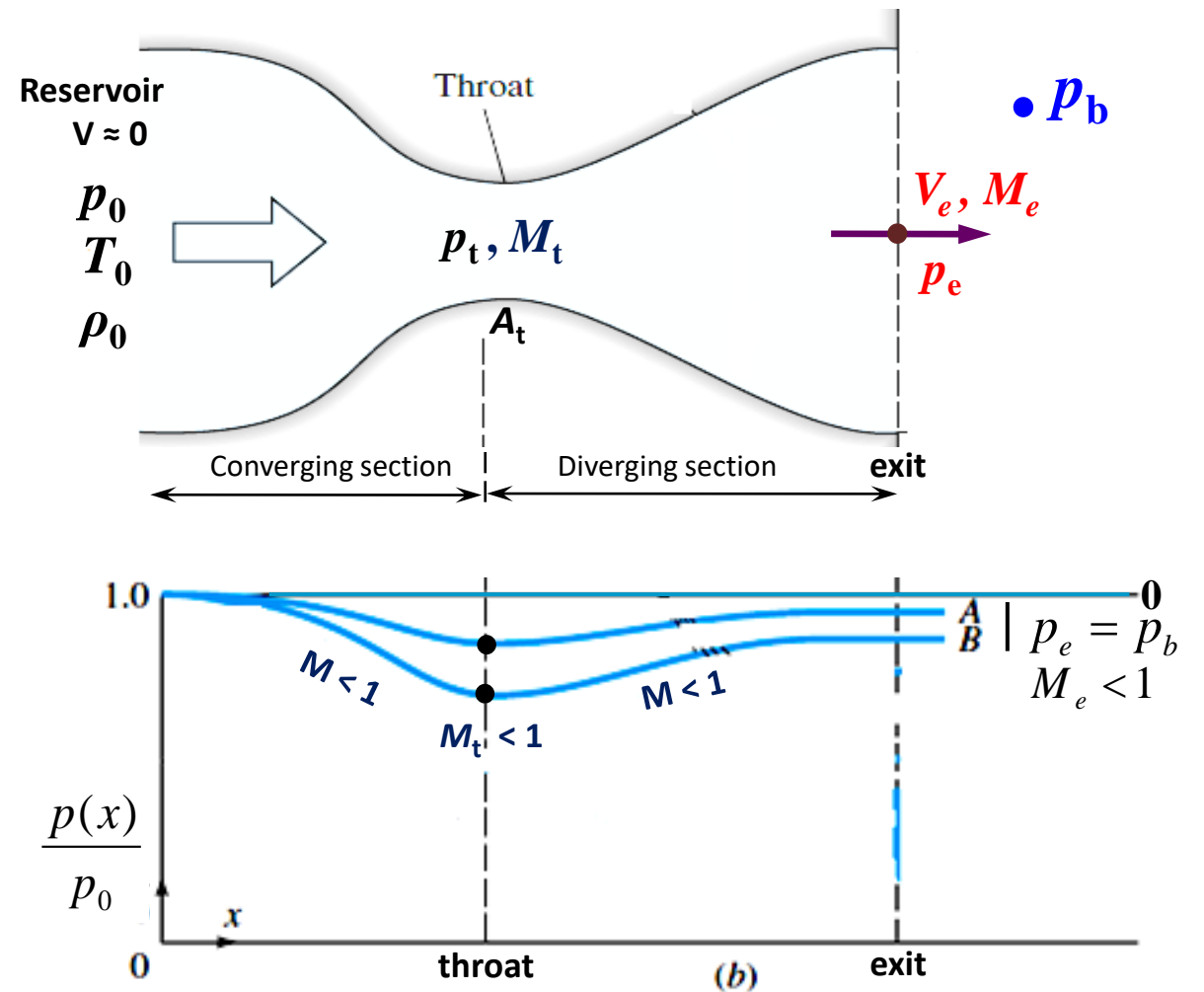
The exit jet Mach number,  $M_e$  will be less than 1. (**Venturimeter operation !!**)

$$\frac{p_b}{p_0} < 1.0 \quad \dot{m}|_B > \dot{m}|_A > \dot{m}|_0 = 0$$

For example:

$$A: \frac{p_b}{p_0} = 0.9 \quad \therefore M_e \approx 0.4$$

$$B: \frac{p_b}{p_0} = 0.8 \quad \therefore M_e \approx 0.57$$



# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

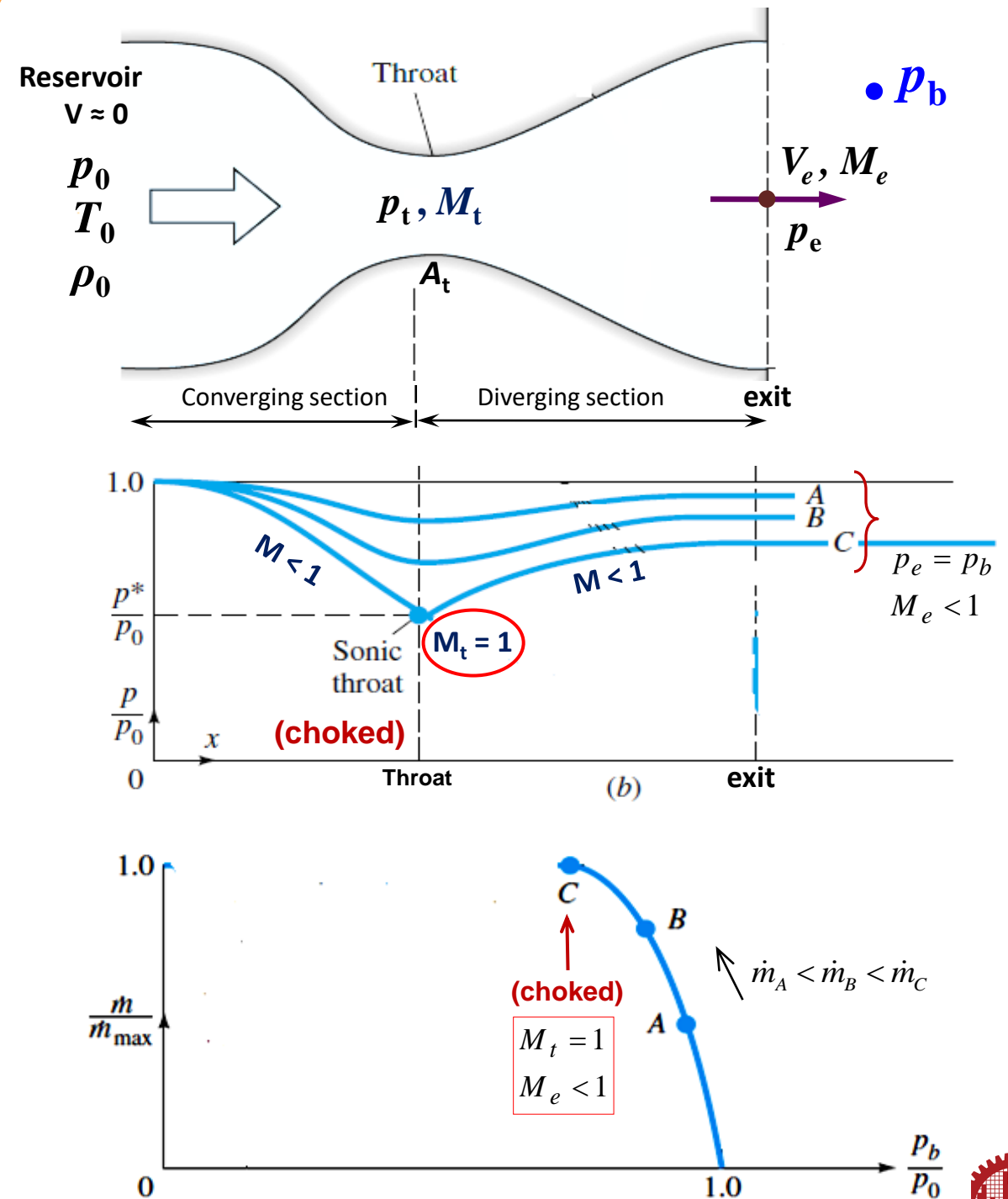
As the back pressure is decreased, more flow is further induced through the nozzle until eventually **sonic flow occurs** at the throat. This is **Case-C**.

At **Case-C** ( $M_t = 1.0$ ,  $p_t = 0.528p_0$ ), the throat is **just reached** at critical condition with  $M_t = 1.0$ . However, after the throat, the flow could not expand further, and the flow is still subsonic in the diverging portion of the nozzle ( $M_e < 1$ ). **Nozzle is choked at case C**, and **the mass flow rate is the maximum**.

Further decrease of back pressure **CANNOT** be “transmitted/sensed” upstream of the throat; thus, for all the back pressures below that of Case-C, the reservoir continues to deliver the same flow rate as in Case-C and **NO** additional mass will be induced (**choking phenomena**).

The pressure distribution up to the throat will remain the same for the next other cases.

**Is this the design operation of nozzle?? (No)**



# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

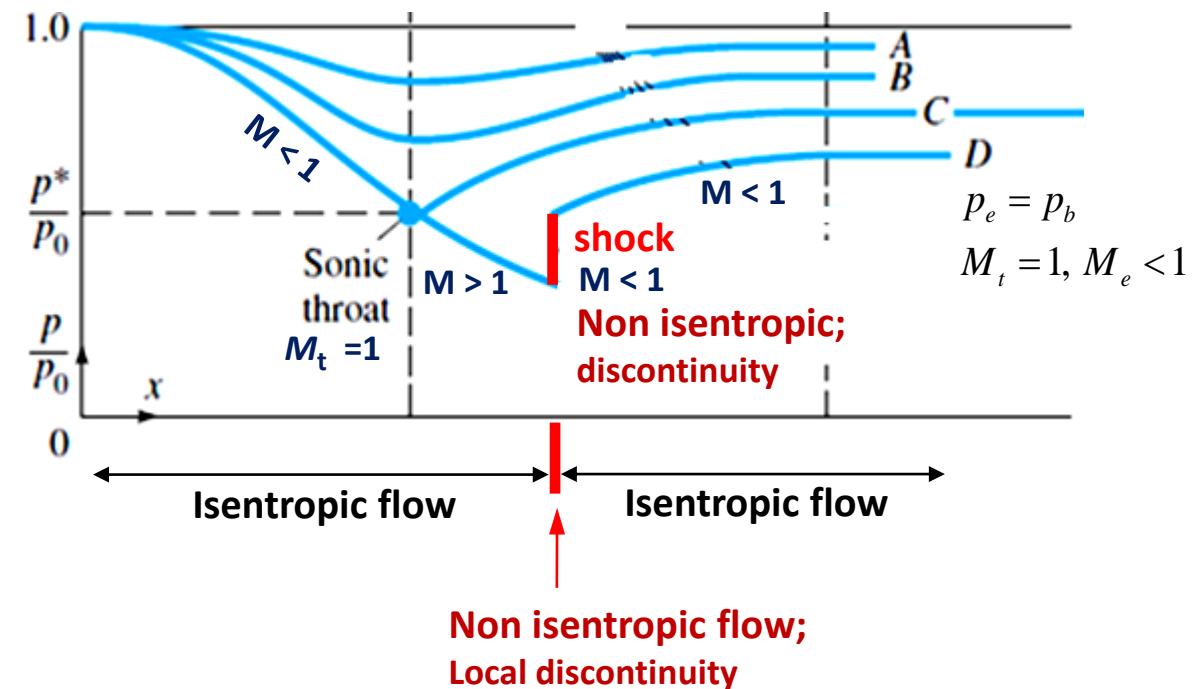
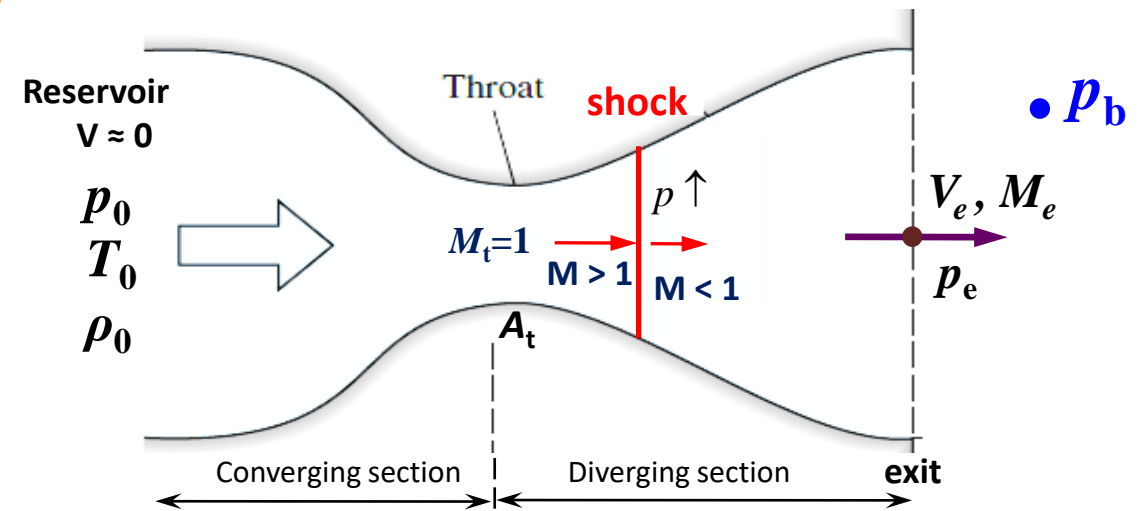
If back pressure is decreased from the magnitude as in **Case-C**, the flow could be able to expand in the diverging section.

In this case, **Case-D**; some portion of the diverging section will be **supersonic ( $M > 1$ )**. This portion will be terminated by a **normal shock wave (sudden jump in pressure)** and the downstream section will be **subsonic again ( $M_e < 1$ )**.

The shock wave is assumed to be a local discontinuity across which the flow properties suddenly change. Shock wave decelerates the flow.

**NO isentropic solution** is allowed in the full diverging section of the nozzle. However, *flow from converging section to the location just before the shock wave is isentropic.*

*Similarly, flow from the location just downstream of the shock to the exit of the nozzle is isentropic.*

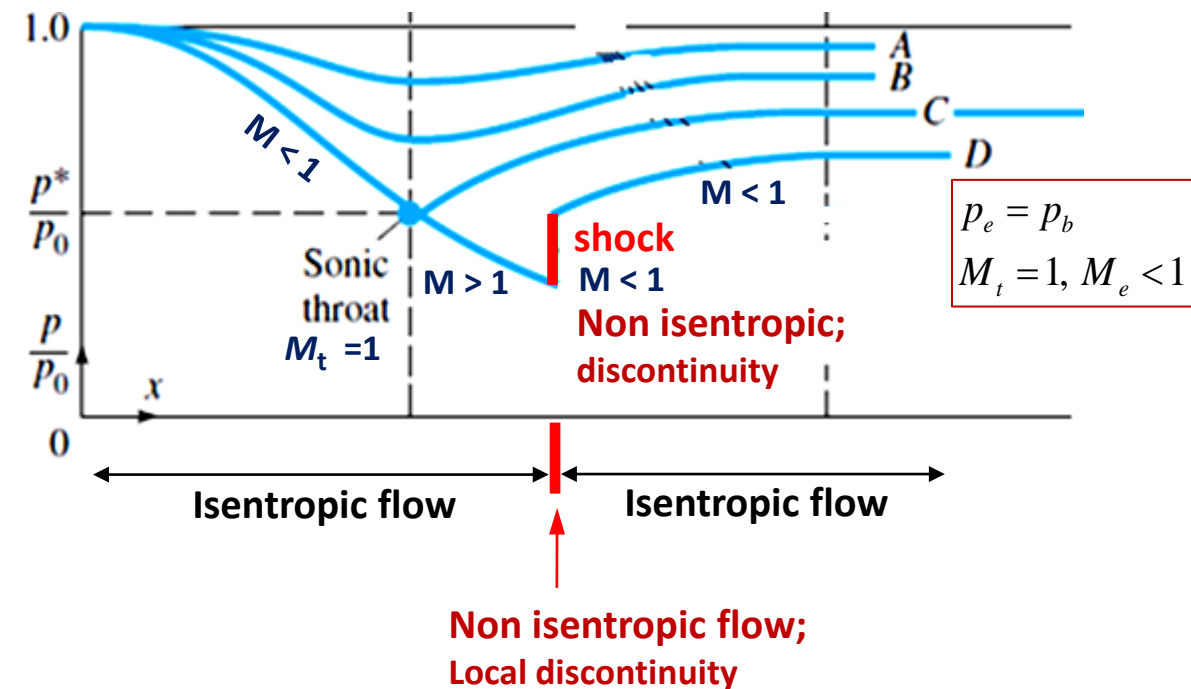
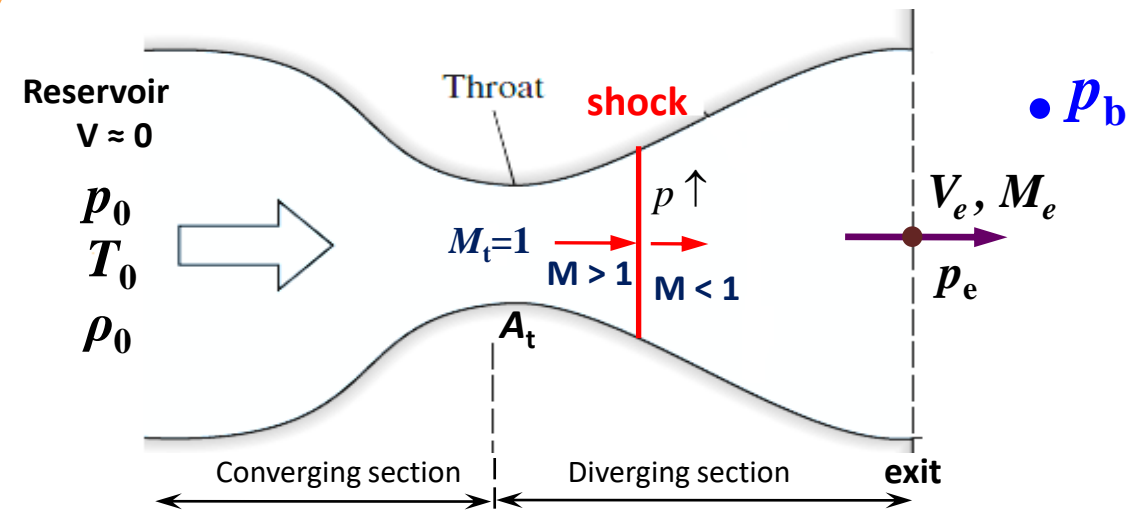


# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

Shock properties need to be calculated using **shock relations** (to be discussed in next classes).

The location of the normal shock wave is determined by the requirement that the increase of static pressure across the shock wave (local discontinuity) **plus** that in the diverging portion of the subsonic flow behind the shock be (due to isentropic expansion) just right to achieve the exit pressure,  $p_e$  equal to  $p_b$ .

**Mass flow rate will remain the same (and maximum)** in this case as found in **Case-C (Choked)**.





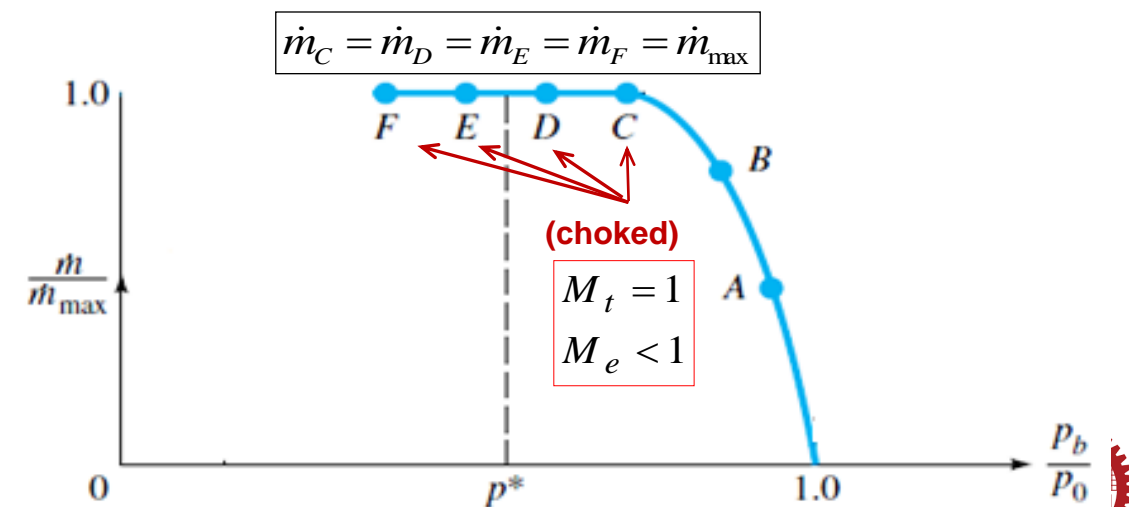
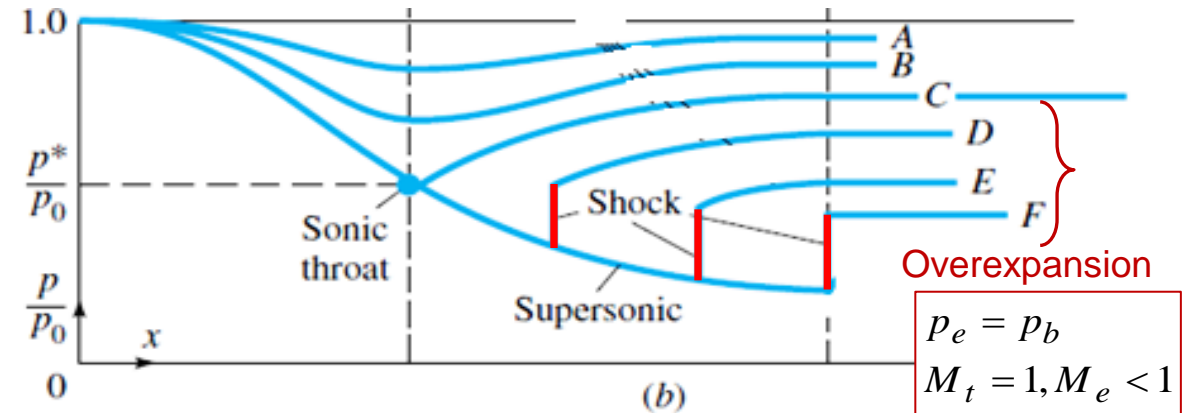
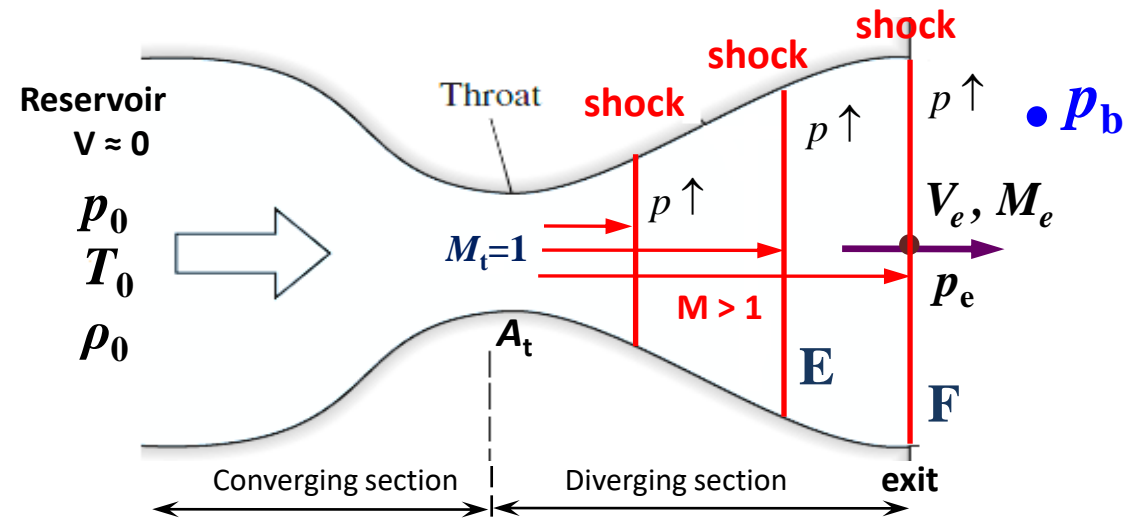
# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

As the back pressure is reduced further, the normal shock wave will move downstream, closer to the nozzle exit (**Cases-E and F**).

These cases are known as “**Overexpansion**” since the nozzle is **overly expanded inside the nozzle** than the available back pressure in the discharge side. **(at low altitudes)**

**Mass flow rate remains the constant which is maximum for a given nozzle throat size and reservoir conditions.**

Overexpansion is an **Off-design operation** of nozzle.



# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

When an expansion (supersonic flow,  $M > 1$ ) in the complete diverging section is possible (**Case-H**), then the case is known as “**ideal expansion**” (or correct expansion). Also known as **design operation** ( $M_e > 1$ ).

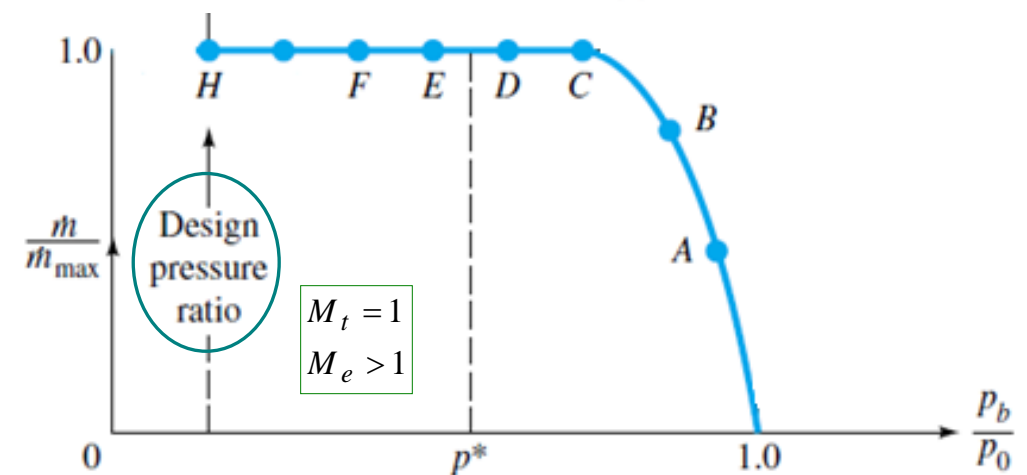
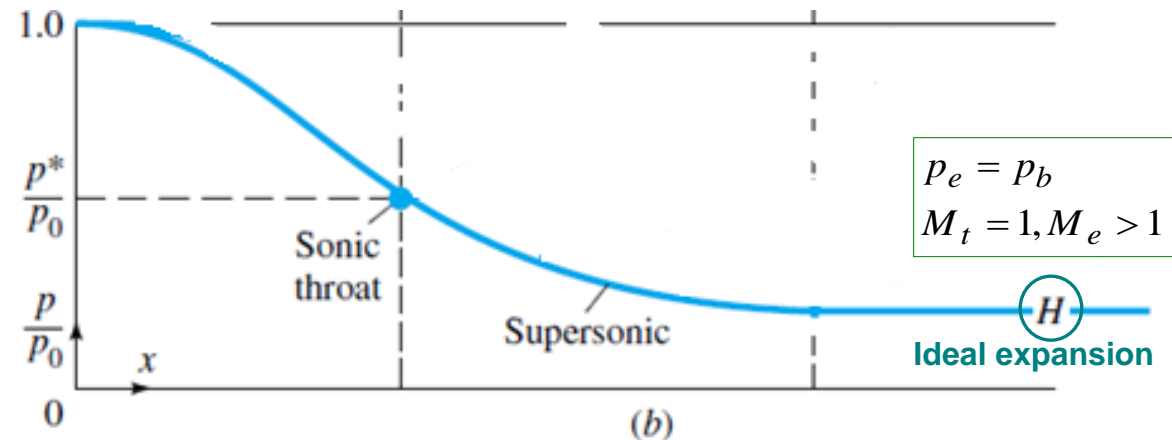
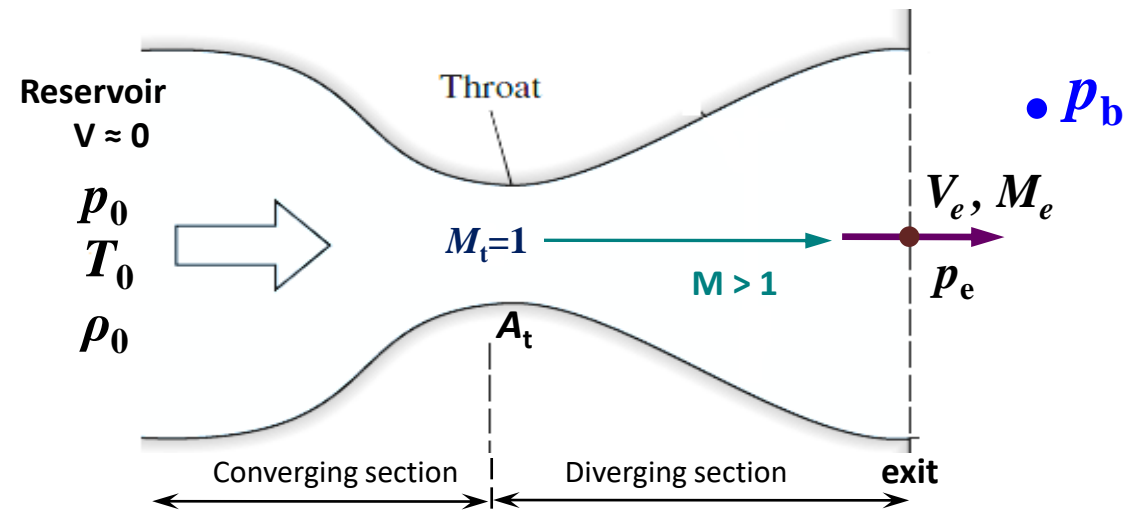
In this case, the nozzle exit pressure is exactly the same as the back pressure ( $p_e = p_b$ ). The **flow is isentropic throughout the nozzle**.

**Design operating condition (i.e. the design back pressure)** can be calculate knowing the **expansion ratio,  $\epsilon$**  at nozzle exit.

First, the design Mach number can be calculated using area-Mach relation and this Mach number can be used to determine the required static pressure ( $p_b$ ) using isentropic relation.

$$\frac{A_e}{A^*} = \frac{1}{M_e} \frac{(1 + 0.2M_e^2)^3}{1.728} \rightarrow M_e = ? (> 1.0)$$

$$\frac{p_0}{p_b} = [1 + 0.2M_e^2]^{3.5} \rightarrow p_b = ?$$



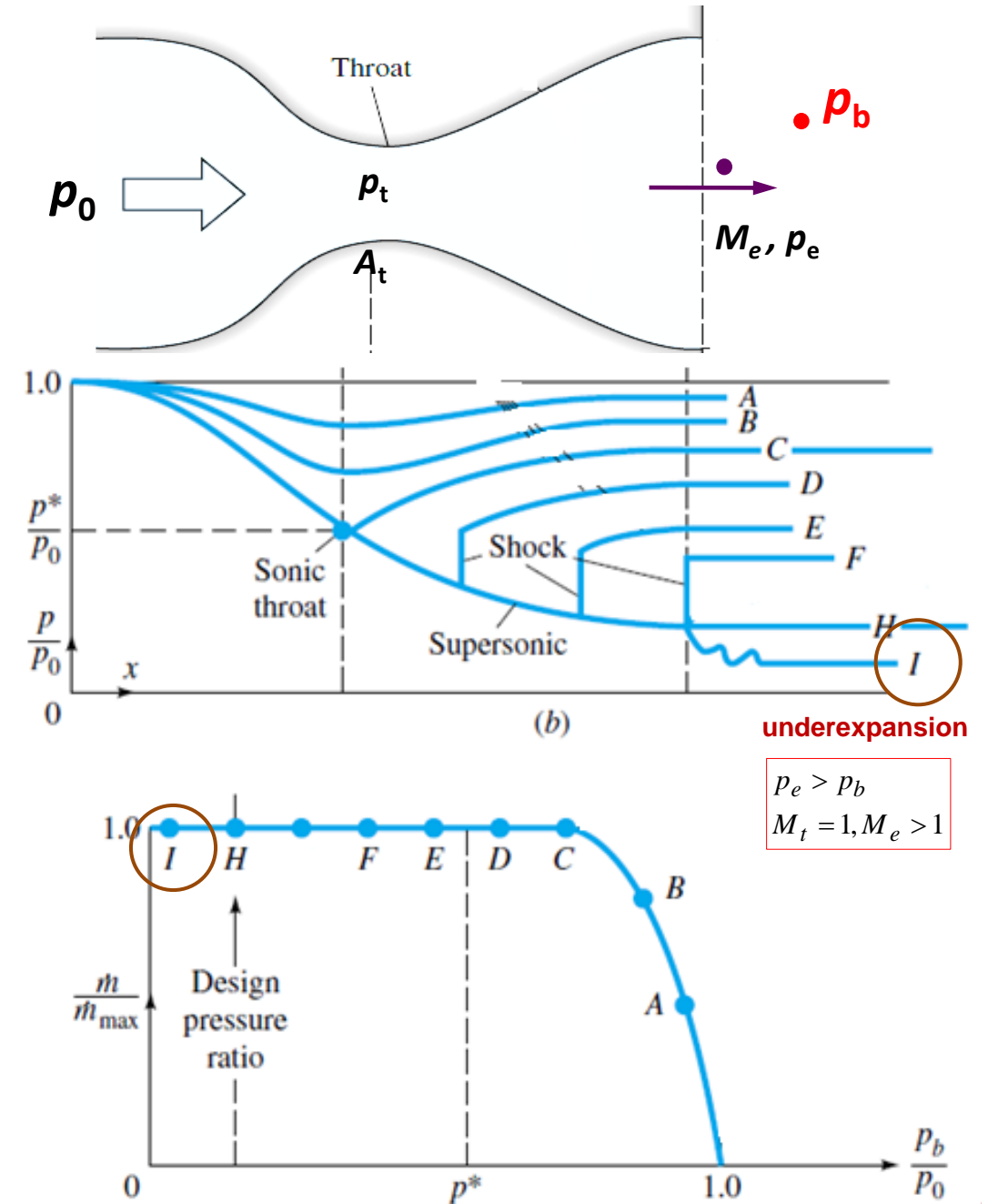
# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

## Case-I:

However, when the back pressure is reduced further (below Case-H), then the case is known as “**underexpansion**”. This case is seen when nozzle is operating at **higher altitudes (several km from the sea-level)**.

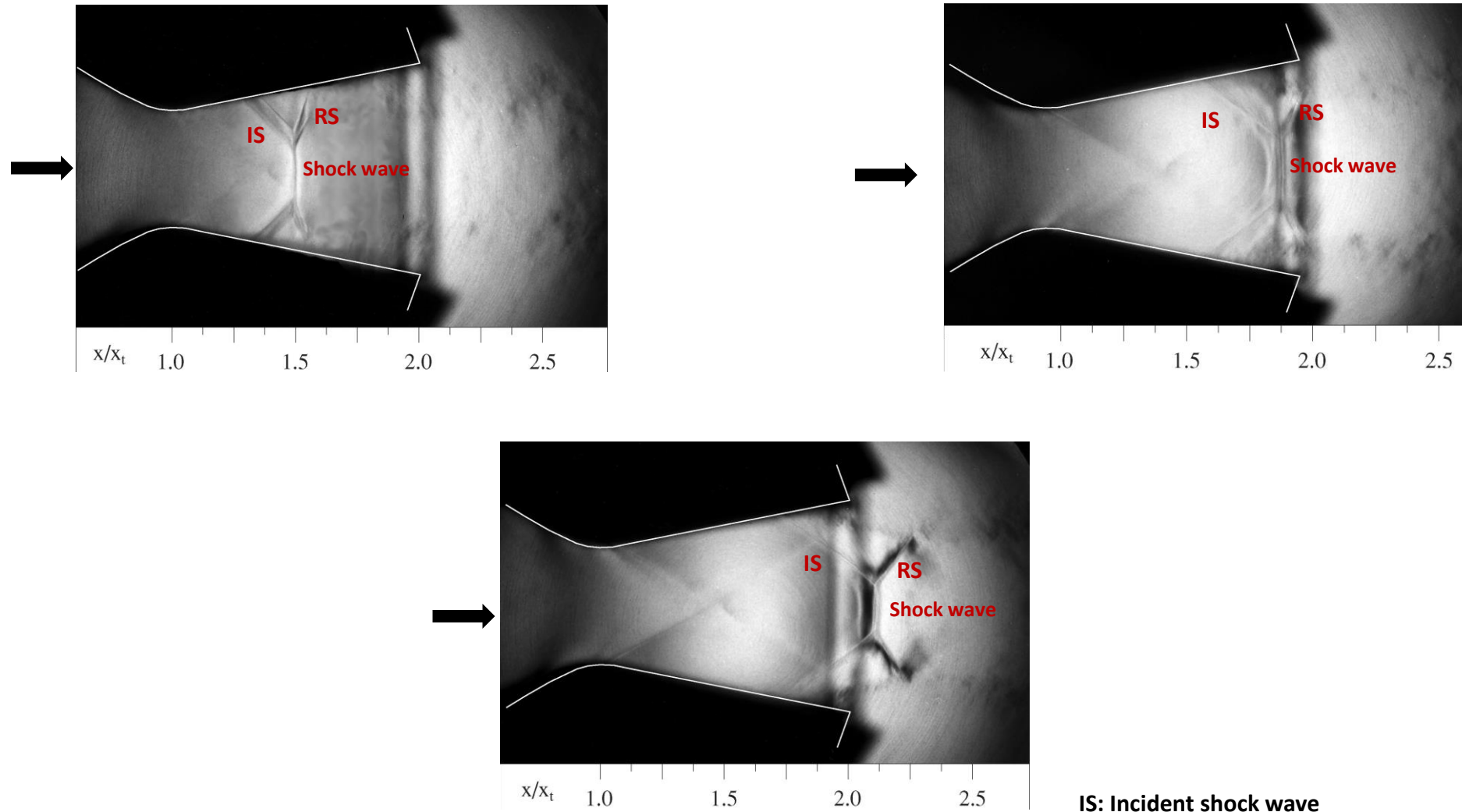
The exit pressure is higher than the back pressure ( $p_e)_{\text{case-I}} > p_b$ , and hence the flow is capable of additional expansion after leaving the nozzle. This is accompanied by generation of **expansion waves** and **shock waves** from the nozzle exit.

The flow is isentropic inside the nozzle, however, the flow is **NOT isentropic outside the nozzle**.



# Supersonic Nozzle Operation

## Overexpansion

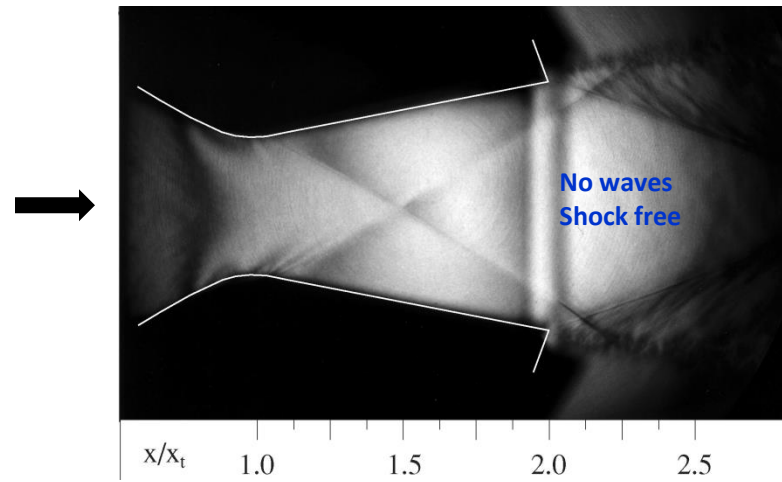


IS: Incident shock wave  
RS: Reflected shock wave

Source: Hunter, Journal of Propulsion and Power, 20 (3), 2004. pp. 527-532



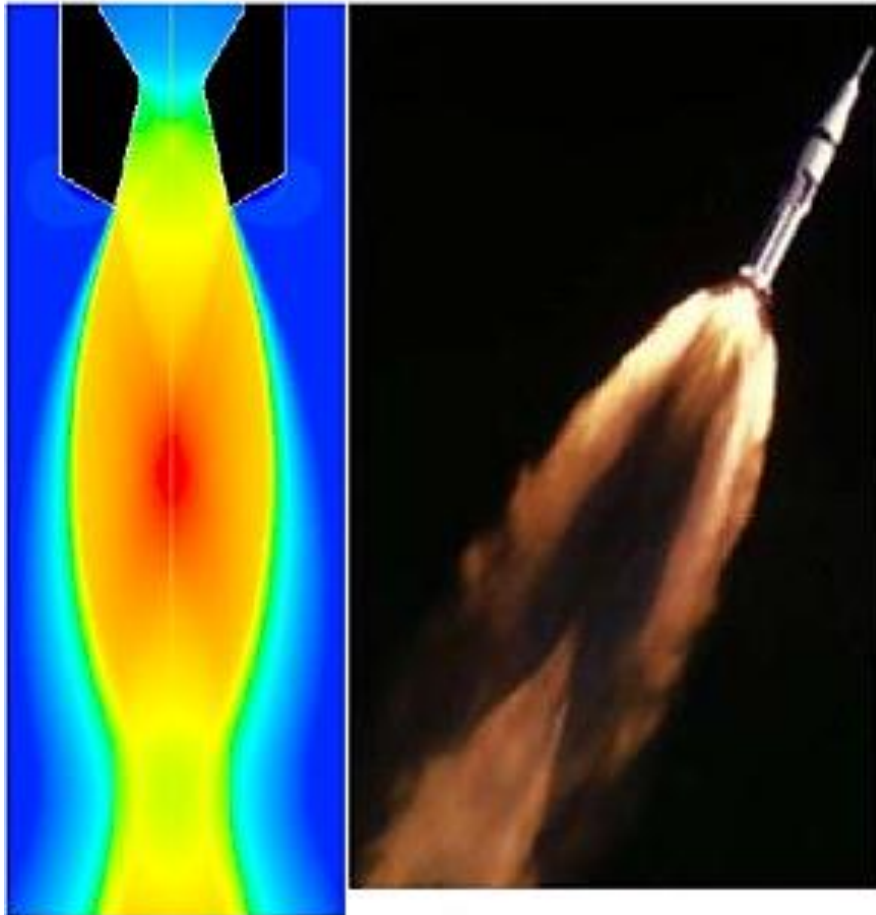
# Ideal Expansion



Source: Hunter, Journal of Propulsion and Power, 20 (3), 2004. pp. 527-532



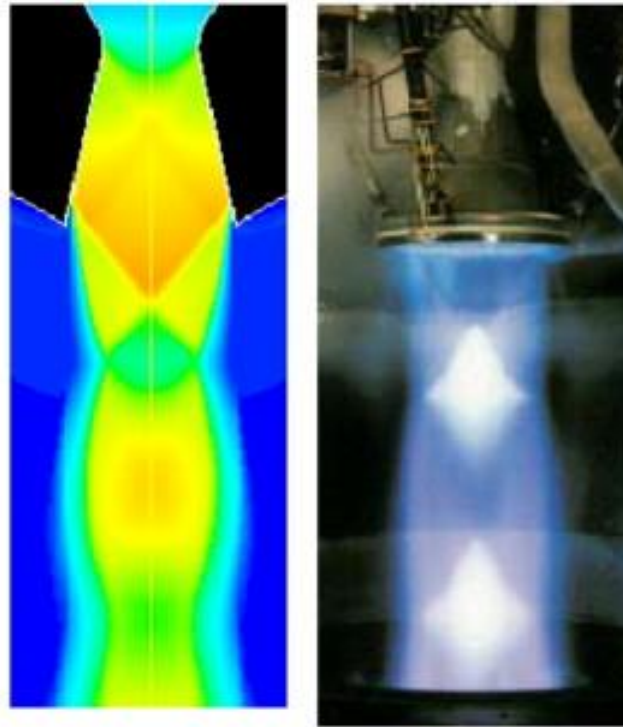
# Underexpanded jet



Present Prediction  
NPR=12

photographed during launch of  
Saturn I-B,  
Östlund [41]

**b- Under-expanded flow condition**



Present Prediction  
NPR=2.4

Östlund [41]

**a- Over-expanded flow condition**

