

# Sanal Flow Choking in Nanoscale Fluid Flow Systems at the Zero Slip Length: Universal Benchmark Data for 3D in Silico, in Vitro and in Vivo Experiments

V R Sanal Kumar (✉ [vr\\_sanalkumar@yahoo.co.in](mailto:vr_sanalkumar@yahoo.co.in))

Indian Space Research Organisation

Vigneshwaran Sankar

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Nichith Chandrasekaran

Indian Institute of Science Bangalore

Sulthan Ariff Rahman Mohamed Rafic

Kumaraguru College of Technology, India

Ajith Sukumaran

Kumaraguru College of Technology, India

Pradeep Kumar Radhakrishnan

GITAM University

Shiv Kumar Choudhary

All India Institute of Medical Sciences

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## Research Article

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**Sanal Flow Choking in Nanoscale Fluid Flow Systems at the  
Zero Slip Length: Universal Benchmark Data for 3D *in Silico*,  
*in Vitro* and *in Vivo* Experiments**

**Running Title: An Exact Prediction of the 3D Blockage Factor in  
Diabatic Nanoscale Fluid Flow Systems**

V.R.Sanal Kumar,<sup>1-3,\*</sup> Vigneshwaran Sankar,<sup>2-4</sup> Nichith Chandrasekaran,<sup>2,3</sup> Sulthan Ariff Rahman  
Mohamed Rafic,<sup>3</sup> Ajith Sukumaran,<sup>3</sup> Pradeep Kumar Radhakrishnan,<sup>5</sup> Shiv Kumar Choudhary<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Indian Space Research Organisation, VSSC, Trivandrum 695 022, Kerala, India*

<sup>2</sup>*Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Karnataka, 560012, India*

<sup>3</sup>*Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore – 641 049, Tamil Nadu, India*

<sup>4</sup>*Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur 208016, Uttar Pradesh, India*

<sup>5</sup>*GITAM University, Visakhapatnam– 530045, Andhra Pradesh, India*

<sup>6</sup>*All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi – 110608, India*

**\*Corresponding Author:** Email: vr\_sanalkumar@yahoo.co.in, Phone: +91-8754200501

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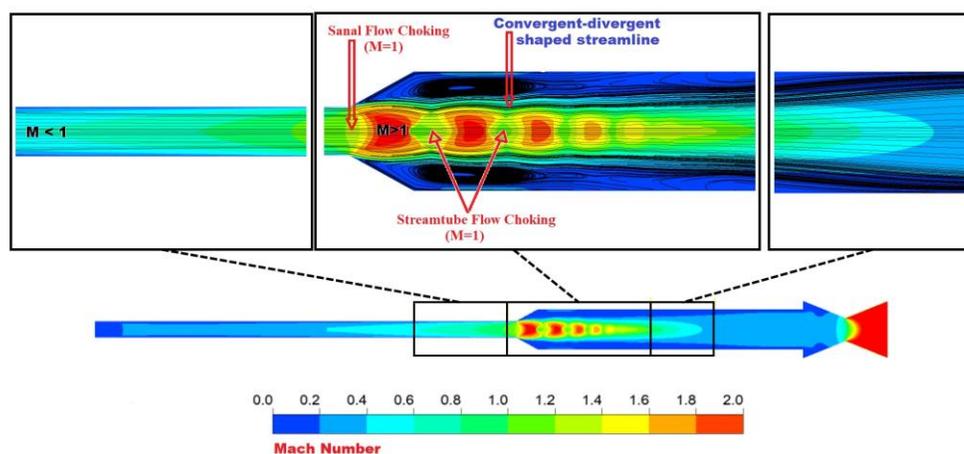
**ABSTRACT:**

Although the interdisciplinary science of nanotechnology has been advanced significantly over the last few *decades* there were no closed-form analytical models to predict the three-dimensional (3D) boundary-layer-blockage (BLB) factor, of *diabatic flows* (flows involves the transfer of heat) passing through a nanoscale tube. As the pressure of the diabatic *nanofluid* and/or non-continuum-flows rises, *average-mean-free-path* diminishes and thus, the *Knudsen number* lowers heading to a zero-slip wall-boundary condition with the compressible viscous flow regime in the nano scale tubes

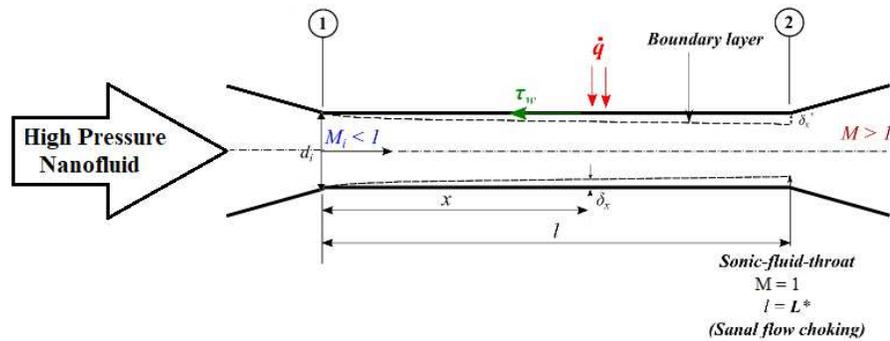
leading to *Sanal flow choking* [PMCID: PMC7267099; **Physics of Fluids**, DOI: 10.1063/5.0040440] creating a physical situation of the *sonic-fluid-throat* effect in the tube at a critical-total-to-static pressure ratio (CPR). Herein, we presented a closed-form-analytical-model, which is capable to predict exactly the 3D-BLB factor at the *Sanal flow choking*-condition of *nanoscale* diabatic fluid flow systems at the zero-slip-length. The innovation of *Sanal flow choking* model in the nanoscale fluid flow system is established herein through the entropy relation, as it satisfies all the conservation laws of nature. The exact value of the 3D-BLB factor in the *sonic-fluid-throat* region presented herein for each gas is a universal benchmark data for performing high-fidelity *in silico*, *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments for the lucrative design optimization of *nanoscale fluid flow* systems in gravity and microgravity environments and also for drug discovery for prohibiting asymptomatic cardiovascular diseases in Earth and human spaceflight <doi.org/10.2514/6.2021-0357>. Note that the relatively high and low-blood-viscosity (creating high turbulence) leads to the *Sanal flow choking* causing asymptomatic cardiovascular diseases. Such diseases in the cardiovascular system can be negated by maintaining the systolic-to-diastolic blood pressure ratio lower than the CPR <10.1002/gch2.20200076>. The CPR is regulated by the heat capacity ratio (HCR) of the fluid. Note that HCR is the key parameter, which could control simultaneously blood viscosity and turbulence. The physical insight of the boundary-layer-blockage persuaded *nanoscale Sanal flow choking* in *diabatic* flows presented in this article sheds light on finding solutions to numerous unresolved scientific problems in physical, chemical and biological systems carried forward over the centuries because the closed-form analytical model describing the phenomenon of *Sanal flow choking* is a unique scientific language of the real-world-fluid flows. More specifically, mathematical models presented herein are capable to forecast the limiting conditions of *deflagration to detonation transition* (DDT) in nanoscale systems and beyond with confidence. Additionally, the *Sanal flow choking* condition will forecast the *asymptomatic-hemorrhage* and *acute-heart-failure* [https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/str.52.suppl\\_1.P804](https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/str.52.suppl_1.P804). Briefly, the undesirable *Sanal flow choking* causing *detonation* and *hemorrhagic stroke* can be negated by increasing the HCR of the fluid.

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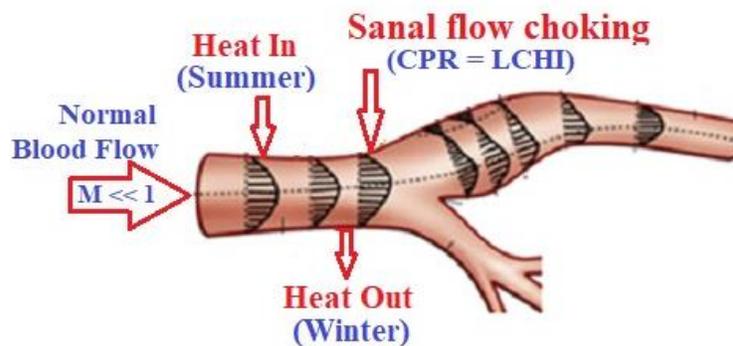
The theoretical finding of the *Sanal-flow-choking* and *streamtube-flow-choking*<sup>1,2</sup> (**Figure 1a**) is a methodological advancement in the modeling of the continuum and non-continuum real-world composite fluid flows at the creeping-inflow (low subsonic flow) conditions. The closed-form analytical model conceiving all the conservation laws of nature at the *Sanal flow choking* condition for *diabatic* flow is certainly the unique scientific language of the Universe, which we are presenting herein for solving various unresolved problems carried forward over the centuries. Cognizing physics of multi-phase and multi-species fluid-flows and controlling the composite flow at the *nanoscale* is vital for inventing, manufacturing, and lucrative performance improvements of nano-electro-mechanical systems (NEMS) for high precision applications.<sup>3-10</sup> The design of such systems are currently a subject of great interest in aerospace, chemical, material, biomedical and allied industries. This is particularly true for the design optimization of certain aerospace systems in the international space station (ISS) and the nanoscale-thrusters<sup>11</sup> operating at both gravity and microgravity environments where the flow field exhibit both the continuum and non-continuum fluid properties. In such physical situations multiscale and hybrid modeling approaches are encouraged.<sup>12</sup>



**Figure 1a.** The enlarged view of the *Sanal flow* choking and the streamtube flow choking phenomena in an idealized physical model of an internal fluid flow system <Movie: <https://youtu.be/bv3ZDcPKMSI>>.



**Figure 1b.** Demonstrating the *Sanal flow* choking condition in an idealized physical model of an internal *nanoscale fluid* flow system.



**Figure 1c.** Seasonal variations and the *Sanal flow* choking in an artery with bifurcation and without any plaque

Although mathematical modeling and the high-fidelity *in silico* simulation of physics of non-continuum/*nanofluid* flow have been progressed substantially over the last few decades there are numerous unanswered research questions in *real-world fluid flows*<sup>1-10</sup> for a plausible judgment on the biological and space systems design. Such problems of paramount interest are chiefly for performing *in silico* and *in vitro* experiments for the design optimization of nano scale aerospace propulsion devices and *in vivo* animal model experiments for drug discovery. Therefore, it is inevitable for capturing flow physics of high-pressure composite creeping fluid flow passing through a convergent-divergent (CD) duct, facilitated with a *nanoscale* throat with *microscale* length (**Figure 1b**) featuring both the continuum and non-continuum fluid flow properties. **Figure 1c** is demonstrating the possibilities of the occurrence of the *Sanal flow* choking phenomenon at a CPR due to seasonal variations in a nano scale artery with bifurcation and without any plaque.

*Nanofluid* flow is a blend of *nano-sized particles* in a traditional operating fluid,<sup>10-12</sup> which obeys all the conservation laws of nature. The occurrence of slip in gas flows, due to the local thermodynamic non-equilibrium, was originally reported by Maxwell<sup>14,15</sup> and its scale varies on the extent of rarefaction of the gas. It describes in terms of the *Knudsen number* ( $Kn$ ), which gives an explicit clue on the type of flow, viz., the continuum or non-continuum. Note that numerous modeling efforts have been reported in the open literature for *nanoscale* flow simulation without authentic code verification using any benchmark data and/or any closed-form analytical solution.<sup>16-35</sup> The fact is that generating benchmark data from the *nanoscale* system is a challenging task or quite impractical by using a conventional *in vitro* methods and/or *in vivo* animal models. And it is anticipated that the classical assumptions on the hydrodynamic model will ride into hitches as the composite flow system reaches nanometer (nm) size.<sup>19</sup> Obviously, due to the lack of universal benchmark data for an authentic verification of the *in silico* results, the conclusions drawn using sophisticated models, by various investigators across the globe, viz., direct simulation Monte Carlo (DSMC), molecular dynamics (MD), Burnett equation and the hydrodynamic models, will not be endorsed by the high precision industries for the highly expensive *nanoscale* systems designs for practical applications. It is patently true for the decision making on health care management too without providing an exact solution for the data verification. Note that nanoscale drug delivery devices can be tailored for site-specific therapeutic activity.<sup>36-38</sup>

Cooper et al.<sup>19</sup> reported that *in vitro* data well matched with the predicted results using the hydrodynamic Navier Stokes method with the first-order slip condition for the range of average pore diameters from 169-220 nm. Singh and Myong<sup>39</sup> reported that neither continuum models nor free-molecular models could be invoked for fluid flow cases when the *Knudsen number* falls in the intermediate range between the continuum ( $Kn \leq 0.01$ ) and free-molecular flow regimes

( $Kn \geq 10$ ). When the *Knudsen number* becomes large ( $Kn > 0.01$ ), the conventional assumptions of no-slip boundary condition, thermodynamic equilibrium, and linear stress-strain relationship fail. Admittedly, when the pressure of the *nano fluid* rises, the *average-mean-free-path* diminishes and thus, the *Knudsen number* lowers heading to a zero-slip wall-boundary condition with the compressible viscous flow regime creating *streamline* pattern in the *nanoscale* fluid flow system. Therefore, the *Sanal flow choking* and supersonic flow development leading to the shock-wave generation due to the *fluid-throat* effect at the zero-slip-length is a valid physical situation in the real-world fluid flows where CD shaped nanoscale *streamtubes* persists (**Figure 1a**). Herein, we provide a proof of the concept of *fluid-throat* persuaded flow choking in the nanoscale *diabatic fluid flow* system. For establishing this concept authoritatively, we are presenting an infallible closed-form analytical model for predicting the three-dimensional (3D) boundary layer displacement thickness (defined herein as the 3D-BLB factor) of a nano scale fluid flow system (**Figure 1b**) at the *sonic-fluid-throat* location where the slip length is zero, which will be a useful tool for the *in silico*, *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments in both the continuum and non-continuum flows with due consideration of heat transfer effects (real-world fluid flow effect).

D.M.Holland et al.<sup>40</sup> reported (2015) that the time dependent mass flow rate predicted using their enhanced computational fluid dynamics (CFD) simulation matches well with full molecular dynamics (MD) simulation and highlighted that the traditional CFD results of such cases are incompetent. Of late (2020), Chengxi Zhao<sup>41</sup> reported that the soundness of the traditional theories at the microscale and nanoscale has been taken into question. Authors reported that the thermal fluctuations are spontaneously occurring within molecular dynamics (MD) simulations. The study conclusions of the previous researchers<sup>32-47</sup> lead to say that in real-world scientific experiments of complex nano-microscale systems the robustness of *in silico* model needs to be tested by featuring

the actual fluid characteristics in a non-trivial geometry at the *nanoscale*. Singh and Myong<sup>39</sup> reported that for improved modeling efforts, the joint effect of material properties, the scale and shape of the flowing medium on fluid flow must be taken into account, which is lacking now and hence we are addressing it herein through the closed-form analytical models satisfying the Sanal flow choking condition in *diabatic* nano scale fluid flow systems. *Sanal flow choking*<sup>1,2</sup> is a *compressible* viscous flow effect, which occurs in any duct with uniform port geometry, due to the boundary layer blockage persuaded internal flow choking at a critical-total-to-static pressure ratio (CPR), as all real-world-fluids experience the *Sanal flow choking* phenomenon.<sup>1</sup> The CPR for flow choking (**Equation 1**)<sup>1</sup> of composite fluids would vary based on the lowest heat capacity ratio (HCR) of the evolved species at the constriction region (*fluid-throat*) of the *streamtube* or nano scale tube (**Figure 1a-c**). Note that the molecular dynamic condition in the composite fluid flow system could alter streamline-pattern at different time and location. Therefore, pinpointing the exact location of *streamtube* flow choking (**Figure 1a**) at the *Sanal flow choking* condition is a challenging *in vitro* and *in silico* topic of great interest to the nano-microscale system designers.

$$CPR = \left( \frac{\overbrace{(HCR)}^{\substack{\text{Evolved gases} \\ \text{with the lowest HCR}}} + 1}{2} \right)^{\frac{(HCR)_{\text{lowest}}}{(HCR)_{\text{lowest}} - 1}} \quad (1)$$

$$3D - BLB \Big|_{\substack{\text{@ the upstream port} \\ \text{of the nano scale system}}} = \frac{2\delta_x}{d_{\text{inlet}}} = 1 - \left[ \frac{M_{\text{inflow}}}{M_{\text{axial}}} \right]^{1/2} \left[ \frac{1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M_{\text{axial}}^2}{1 + \frac{\gamma - 1}{2} M_{\text{inflow}}^2} \right]^{\frac{\gamma + 1}{4(\gamma - 1)}} \quad (2a)$$

$$3D - BLB \Big|_{\text{@ sonic-fluid-throat}} = \left[ 1 - M_{\text{inflow}}^{1/2} \left[ \frac{2}{\gamma_{\text{highest}} + 1} \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma_{\text{highest}} - 1}{2} M_{\text{inflow}}^2 \right) \right]^{\frac{\gamma_{\text{highest}} + 1}{4(1 - \gamma_{\text{highest}})}} \right] d_{\text{inlet port}} \quad (2b)$$

$$\frac{1 + \gamma_{lowest}}{1 + \gamma_{lowest} M_{inflow}^2} = \left( \frac{\gamma_{lowest} + 1}{2} \right)^{\frac{\gamma_{lowest}}{\gamma_{lowest} - 1}} \quad (3)$$

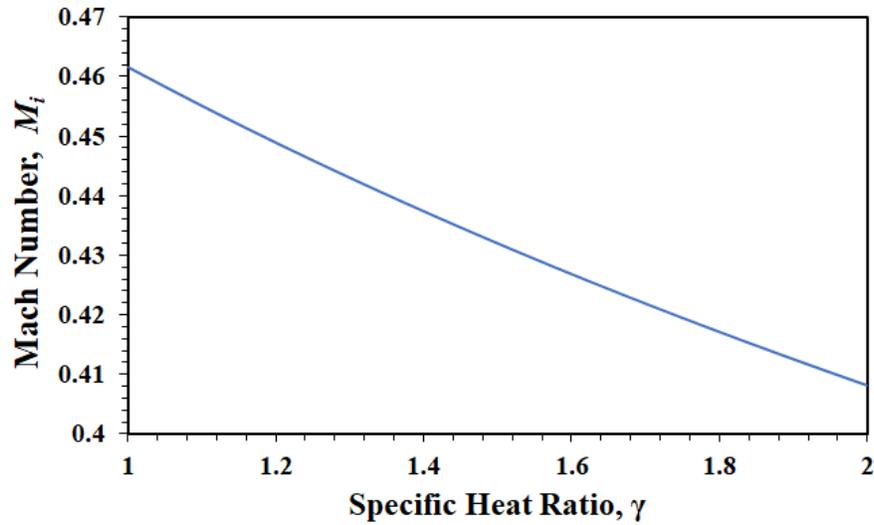
$$\left( \frac{S_2 - S_1}{C_p} \right)_{SanalFlow} = \ln \left[ \left( \frac{M_2}{M_1} \right)^{3\gamma_{lowest} - 1 / \gamma_{lowest}} \left( \frac{1 + \gamma_{lowest} M_1^2}{1 + \gamma_{lowest} M_2^2} \right)^{\gamma_{lowest} + 1 / \gamma_{lowest}} \left( \frac{1 + \frac{\gamma_{lowest} - 1}{2} M_1^2}{1 + \frac{\gamma_{lowest} - 1}{2} M_2^2} \right)^{\gamma_{lowest} + 1 / 2\gamma_{lowest}} \right] \quad (4)$$

The 3D-BLB factor derived for an internal flow system with the cylindrical upstream-duct for *adiabatic* fluid flow systems<sup>2, 48</sup> is translated herein for *diabatic* nanoscale flow systems with a desirable inflow condition and presented herein as **Equation 2a-b**. **Equation 3** is derived using **Equation 1** and the *thermal choking* (*Rayleigh flow effect*<sup>48</sup>) condition. It gives the desirable inflow condition in terms of Mach number for achieving *Sanal flow choking* in a nano scale diabatic fluid flow system, which is regulated by the material property viz., HCR. The solution curve of **Equation 3** is presented as **Figure 2a**. Note that the chances of *Sanal flow choking* increases when the specific heat ratio (HCR) of gases decreases due to the decreases in CPR of the nanoscale flow system as dictated by **Equation 1**. **Equation 2a** gives the exact solution of the 3D-BLB factor along the axial direction of the nano scale system, provided the local axial Mach number ( $M_{axial}$ ) is known. Note that  $M_{axial}$  alters due to the flow turbulence and as on today there is no closed-form analytical solution for predicting  $M_{axial}$  at the unchoked fluid flow condition, which is a challenging research topic. Note that **Equation 2b** provides an exact solution of the 3D-BLB factor at the *sonic-fluid-throat* ( $M_{axial} = 1$ ) with molecular precision at the condition prescribed by the *Sanal-flow-choking* for diabatic fluid flows, which is an authorized benchmark data for the verification of the results generated from *in vitro*, *in silico* and *in vivo* experiments of real-world nanoscale fluid flow problems. Note that in the multispecies-choked-*nanoscale* internal

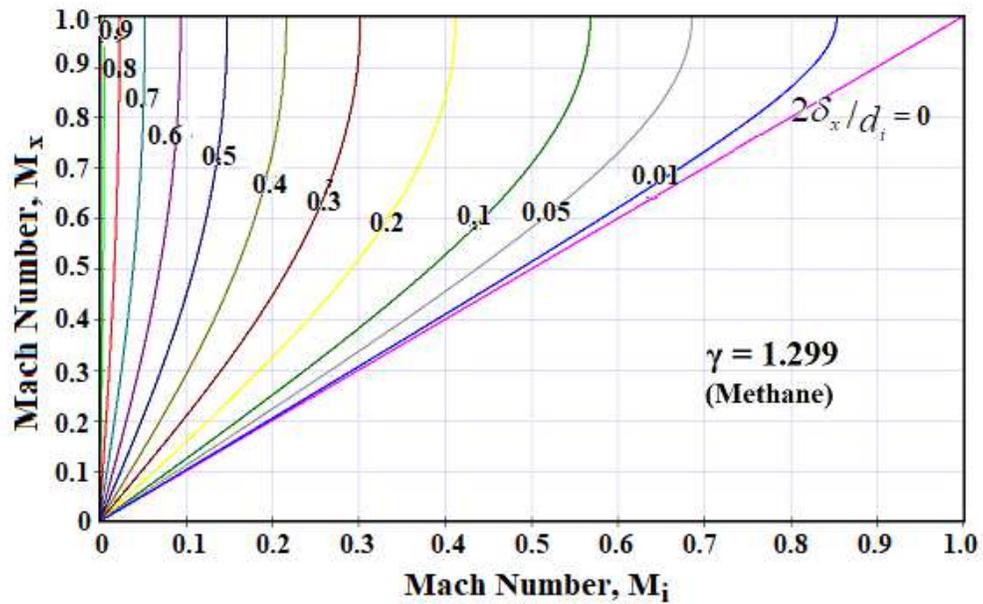
fluid flow system, the highest 3D-BLB factor created at the sonic-fluid-throat (**Equation 2b**) will be contributed by the species with the highest HCR. The 3D-BLB factor is a very useful benchmark data for nanoscale *in vitro* experiments and *in silico* model verification, validation and calibration with credibility, which was an unresolved problem over centuries. The corresponding non-dimensional blockage factor for the two-dimensional<sup>2</sup> case is also given in **Table-1** (*Vigneshwaran's* Table of Exact Solutions) as benchmark data for comparison at the *Sanal flow choking* condition for real-world flows. The solution curve of **Equation 2a** for *Methane* gas is given in **Figure 2b** and the solution curve of **Equation 2b** for *Hydrogen* gas is depicted in **Figure 2c**. The entropy relationship developed for the *Sanal flow model* altogether conceived the *Rayleigh flow* model and *Fanno flow* model effects and presented herein as **Equation 4** and its solution is given in **Figure 2d** with air as the operating fluid. The entropy-Mach number comparisons of *Fanno flow*, *Rayleigh flow* and *Sanal flow* models are shown in **Figure 2e**. The innovation of the *Sanal-flow-choking* model is established herein through the entropy relation (**Equation 4**), as it satisfies all the conservation laws of nature.

**Table 1. Benchmark Data: *Vigneshwaran's* Table of Exact Solutions of Blockage Factor**

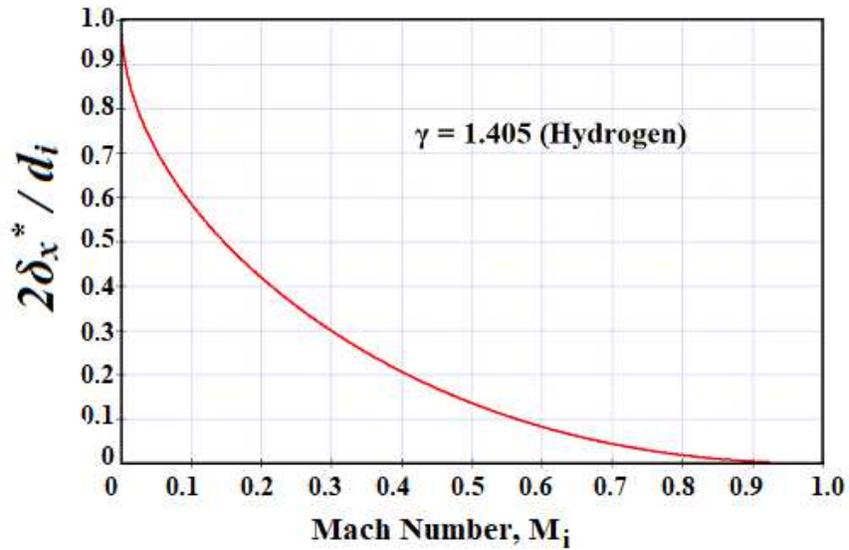
Sl No.	Type of Gas	$\gamma$	Sanal Flow Choking Condition for <i>Diabatic Nano Flows</i>			
			$M_i$	$\left(\frac{2\delta_x^*}{d_i}\right)$ 2D	$\left(\frac{2\delta_x^*}{d_i}\right)$ 3D	LCDI (CPR)
1	Air	1.400	0.4374	0.3247	0.1782	1.8929
2	Argon	1.667	0.4236	0.3296	0.1812	2.0530
3	CO <sub>2</sub>	1.289	0.4437	0.3224	0.1768	1.8257
4	Helium	1.667	0.4236	0.3296	0.1812	2.0530
5	Hydrogen	1.405	0.4372	0.3248	0.1783	1.8959
6	Methane	1.299	0.4431	0.3226	0.1770	1.8318
7	Nitrogen	1.400	0.4374	0.3247	0.1782	1.8929
8	Octane	1.044	0.4587	0.3169	0.1735	1.6759
9	Oxygen	1.395	0.4377	0.3246	0.1782	1.8899
10	Steam	1.327	0.4415	0.3232	0.1773	1.8488



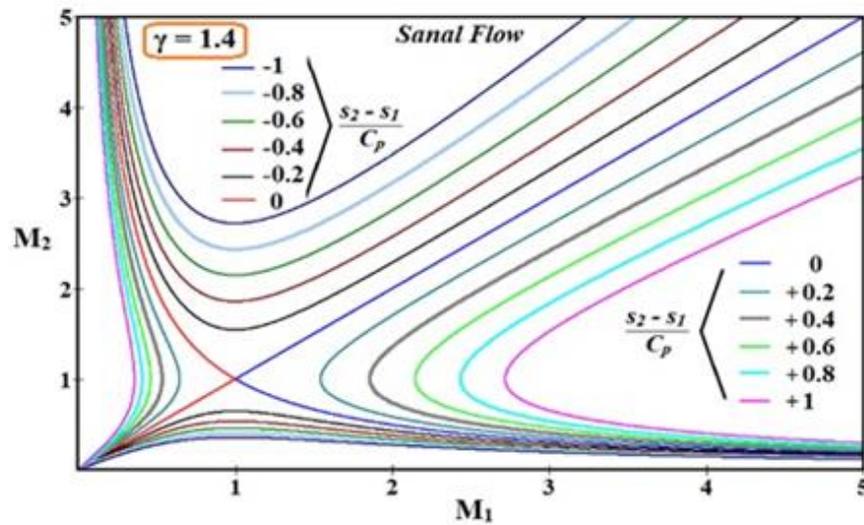
**Figure 2a.** The inlet Mach number prediction of different gases with different HCR ( $\gamma$ ) for achieving *Sanal* flow choking condition for *diabatic nano scale flows*.



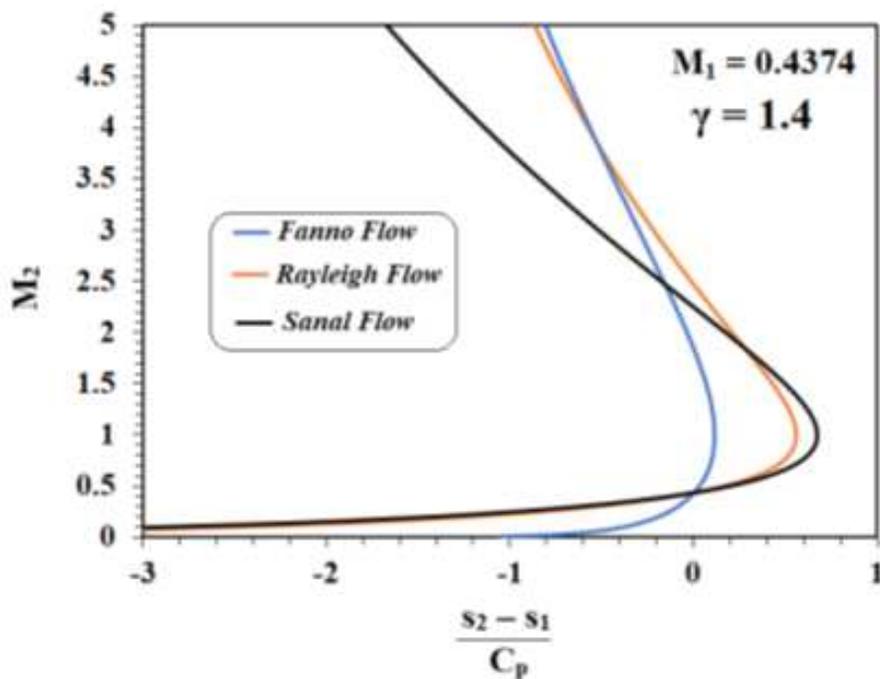
**Figure 2b.** The solution curve of Equation 2a is showing the 3D blockage factor with *Methane* as the working fluid.



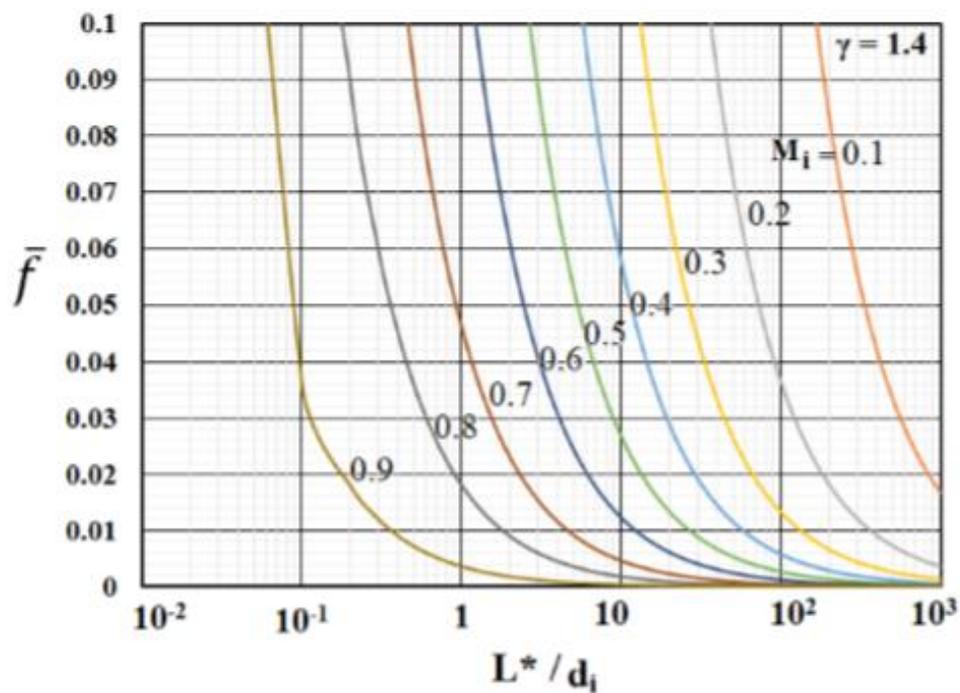
**Figure 2c.** The solution curve of Equation 2b is showing the 3D blockage factor in the sonic-fluid-throat of a nano scale fluid flow system with hydrogen as the working fluid.



**Figure 2d.** The demonstration of the *Sanal flow choking* in *diabatic nano scale fluid flows*. (Solution curves of **Equation 4**).



**Figure 2e.** Mach Number-Entropy chart of *Fanno*, *Rayleigh* and *Sanal* flow models at the choked flow condition.



**Figure 2f.** Analytical predictions of the *average friction coefficient* at the *Sanal flow choking* condition of different nanotubes at different inlet conditions.

It is apparent from **Figure 2d** that the change in entropy is obtained as zero at  $M_1 = M_2 = 1$ , which is validating the capability of the model for meeting the *Sanal flow choking* condition for the *nanoscale fluid* flow systems for benchmarking the data reported in **Table-1**. It could be taken as the authenticated data for elucidating high fidelity wall-bounded nanoscale fluid flow problems in various industrial applications. The CPR value is an indication of the lower critical detonation index (LCDI) of the internal flow systems having accumulated with such types of working fluids. The LCDI presented in **Table-1** is a powerful indicator of knowing the *detonation* index of nanoscale chemical energy systems with sudden expansion or divergent port for prohibiting the catastrophic failures due to the *Sanal flow choking* and/or *streamtube flow choking* (**Figure 1a**).

It is important to note that, at the *sonic-fluid-throat* of any wall-bounded real-world flows, all the three flow choking conditions, viz., *Sanal flow choking*<sup>1,2</sup>, *Rayleigh flow choking*<sup>48</sup> and *Fanno flow choking*<sup>48</sup> converge due to the prudent inflow condition (**Equation 3**) set herein for generating *benchmark data* for nano scale fluid flow systems. It is pertinent to note that the magnitude of the *entropy* of these three flow choking models are different at the sonic condition. The novelty of the closed-form analytical model presented herein stem from the veracity that at the *Sanal flow choking* condition for *diabatic nanoflows*, all conservation laws of nature are satisfied in the unique *sonic-fluid-throat* location. In this letter analytical models are presented for establishing the causes and effects of the *Sanal flow choking* in an internal nanoscale fluid flow system with sudden expansion or divergent region.

While performing the *in silico* model verification and calibration, the *average friction coefficient* must be chosen in accordance with the *Fanno flow choking* condition.<sup>2,48</sup> Admittedly, at the *sonic-fluid-throat* of the *nanoscale* fluid flow system (**Figure 1b**), the *thermal choking* and the wall-friction persuaded flow choking converge and satisfy all the conservation laws of nature.

In the *in silico* study the average friction coefficient ( $\bar{f}$ ) may be estimated from **Equation 5** based on the lowest HCR ( $\gamma_{\text{lowest}}$ ) of the evolving gases for satisfying the condition set for the *Sanal flow choking* for real-world multiphase, multi-species *nanoscale fluid-flow* systems.<sup>2</sup>

$$\bar{f} = \frac{d_i}{4L^*} \left[ \frac{1 - M_i^2}{\gamma_{\text{lowest}} M_i^2} + \frac{\gamma_{\text{lowest}} + 1}{2\gamma_{\text{lowest}}} \ln \left[ \frac{(\gamma_{\text{lowest}} + 1)M_i^2}{2 + (\gamma_{\text{lowest}} - 1)M_i^2} \right] \right] \quad (5)$$

where  $\bar{f}$  is an average friction coefficient<sup>2,48</sup> termed as **Equation 6**,

$$\bar{f} = \frac{1}{L^*} \int_0^L f dx \quad (6)$$

The solution curve of **Equation 5** is given in **Figure 2f** in the semi-log plot.

Note that, though the 3D-BLB factor is relatively less for cases with the low HCR, the dominant species with the lowest HCR predisposes for an early *Sanal flow choking* due to the low CPR at the sudden expansion or transition region of any internal nano scale fluid flow system (**Figure 1a**). Note that **Equations 1-6** are useful mathematical models for the high-performance aerospace chemical systems architects for predicting the limiting condition of *deflagration to detonation transition* (DDT) in nanoscale thrusters with confidence. Further discussion pertaining to the nanoscale chemical system design is beyond the scope of this letter. This letter is set for predicting the universal benchmark data at the *Sanal flow choking* condition for *in silico*, *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments in *nanoscale* fluid flow systems for various applications.

Vigneshwaran’s Table (Table-1) gives the exact values of the non-dimensional 3D-BLB factor at the *Sanal flow choking* condition of ten different working gases and the corresponding CPR and inlet Mach number. It is pertinent to state that, as seen in Table-1, the three-dimensional blockage factor is always lower than the two-dimensional blockage factor of any wall-bounded *nanoscale fluid flow system* at the *Sanal flow choking* condition. The average friction coefficient given in Table-2 (the solution of Equation 5) for different gases are the authenticated benchmark data generated from the closed-form analytical models for conducting *in silico* experiments with credibility.

**Table 2 : Vigneshwaran’s Table of Exact Solution**

Air -  $\gamma = 1.4$

Inlet Mach Number (M <sub>i</sub> )	Average Friction Coefficient ( $\bar{f}$ )					
	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 27	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 28	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 35	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 85	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 150	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 300
0.02	16.467129	15.879017	12.703213	5.230735	2.964083	1.482042
0.04	4.077335	3.931716	3.145373	1.295154	0.733920	0.366960
0.06	1.787325	1.723492	1.378793	0.567738	0.321718	0.160859
0.08	0.988132	0.952841	0.762273	0.313877	0.177864	0.088932
0.1	0.619644	0.597514	0.478011	0.196828	0.111536	0.055768
0.12	0.420444	0.405428	0.324343	0.133553	0.075680	0.037840
0.14	0.301031	0.290280	0.232224	0.095621	0.054186	0.027093
0.16	0.224054	0.216052	0.172842	0.071170	0.040330	0.020165
0.18	0.171691	0.165559	0.132448	0.054537	0.030904	0.015452
0.2	0.134567	0.129761	0.103809	0.042745	0.024222	0.012111
0.22	0.107371	0.103536	0.082829	0.034106	0.019327	0.009663
0.24	0.086912	0.083808	0.067046	0.027607	0.015644	0.007822
0.26	0.071181	0.068639	0.054911	0.022610	0.012813	0.006406
0.28	0.058863	0.056761	0.045409	0.018698	0.010595	0.005298
0.3	0.049067	0.047315	0.037852	0.015586	0.008832	0.004416

Oxygen -  $\gamma = 1.395$

Inlet Mach Number (M <sub>i</sub> )	Average Friction Coefficient ( $\bar{f}$ )					
	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 27	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 28	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 35	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 85	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 150	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 300
0.02	16.526261	15.936037	12.748830	5.249518	2.974727	1.487363
0.04	4.092037	3.945893	3.156714	1.299823	0.736567	0.368283
0.06	1.793805	1.729740	1.383792	0.569797	0.322885	0.161442
0.08	0.991738	0.956318	0.765055	0.315023	0.178513	0.089256
0.10	0.621922	0.599711	0.479768	0.197552	0.111946	0.055973
0.12	0.422002	0.406931	0.325545	0.134048	0.075960	0.037980
0.14	0.302156	0.291364	0.233092	0.095979	0.054388	0.027194
0.16	0.224899	0.216867	0.173493	0.071438	0.040482	0.020241
0.18	0.172345	0.166190	0.132952	0.054745	0.031022	0.015511
0.20	0.135084	0.130260	0.104208	0.042909	0.024315	0.012158
0.22	0.107787	0.103938	0.083150	0.034238	0.019402	0.009701
0.24	0.087252	0.084136	0.067309	0.027715	0.015705	0.007853
0.26	0.071463	0.068911	0.055129	0.022700	0.012863	0.006432
0.28	0.059099	0.056988	0.045590	0.018772	0.010638	0.005319
0.30	0.049265	0.047506	0.038005	0.015649	0.008868	0.004434

Carbon Dioxide -  $\gamma = 1.289$

Inlet Mach Number (M <sub>i</sub> )	Average Friction Coefficient ( $\bar{f}$ )					
	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 27	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 28	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 35	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 85	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 150	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 300
0.02	17.887824	17.248973	13.799179	5.682015	3.219808	1.609904
0.04	4.430553	4.272319	3.417855	1.407352	0.797500	0.398750
0.06	1.943020	1.873627	1.498901	0.617195	0.349744	0.174872
0.08	1.074778	1.036393	0.829115	0.341400	0.193460	0.096730
0.10	0.674383	0.650298	0.520238	0.214216	0.121389	0.060694
0.12	0.457886	0.441533	0.353226	0.145446	0.082420	0.041210
0.14	0.328069	0.316353	0.253082	0.104210	0.059053	0.029526
0.16	0.244361	0.235634	0.188507	0.077621	0.043985	0.021992
0.18	0.187399	0.180706	0.144565	0.059527	0.033732	0.016866
0.20	0.146998	0.141748	0.113398	0.046693	0.026460	0.013230
0.22	0.117388	0.113196	0.090556	0.037288	0.021130	0.010565
0.24	0.095103	0.091706	0.073365	0.030209	0.017118	0.008559
0.26	0.077959	0.075175	0.060140	0.024763	0.014033	0.007016
0.28	0.064526	0.062222	0.049778	0.020497	0.011615	0.005807
0.30	0.053838	0.051915	0.041532	0.017101	0.009691	0.004845

Nitrogen -  $\gamma = 1.4$

Inlet Mach Number (M <sub>i</sub> )	Average Friction Coefficient ( $\bar{f}$ )					
	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 27	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 28	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 35	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 85	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 150	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 300
0.02	16.467129	15.879017	12.703213	5.230735	2.964083	1.482042
0.04	4.077335	3.931716	3.145373	1.295154	0.733920	0.366960
0.06	1.787325	1.723492	1.378793	0.567738	0.321718	0.160859
0.08	0.988132	0.952841	0.762273	0.313877	0.177864	0.088932
0.1	0.619644	0.597514	0.478011	0.196828	0.111536	0.055768
0.12	0.420444	0.405428	0.324343	0.133553	0.075680	0.037840
0.14	0.301031	0.290280	0.232224	0.095621	0.054186	0.027093
0.16	0.224054	0.216052	0.172842	0.071170	0.040330	0.020165
0.18	0.171691	0.165559	0.132448	0.054537	0.030904	0.015452
0.2	0.134567	0.129761	0.103809	0.042745	0.024222	0.012111
0.22	0.107371	0.103536	0.082829	0.034106	0.019327	0.009663
0.24	0.086912	0.083808	0.067046	0.027607	0.015644	0.007822
0.26	0.071181	0.068639	0.054911	0.022610	0.012813	0.006406
0.28	0.058863	0.056761	0.045409	0.018698	0.010595	0.005298
0.3	0.049067	0.047315	0.037852	0.015586	0.008832	0.004416

Helium -  $\gamma = 1.667$

Inlet Mach Number (M <sub>i</sub> )	Average Friction Coefficient ( $\bar{f}$ )					
	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 27	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 28	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 35	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 85	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 150	L*/d <sub>i</sub> = 300
0.02	13.824736	13.330996	10.664797	4.391387	2.488453	1.244226
0.04	3.420418	3.298260	2.638608	1.086486	0.615675	0.307838
0.06	1.497793	1.444300	1.155440	0.475769	0.269603	0.134801
0.08	0.827028	0.797491	0.637993	0.262703	0.148865	0.074433
0.10	0.517887	0.499391	0.399513	0.164505	0.093220	0.046610
0.12	0.350858	0.338328	0.270662	0.111449	0.063154	0.031577
0.14	0.250794	0.241837	0.193469	0.079664	0.045143	0.022571
0.16	0.186338	0.179683	0.143746	0.059190	0.033541	0.016770
0.18	0.142529	0.137438	0.109951	0.045274	0.025655	0.012828
0.20	0.111499	0.107516	0.086013	0.035417	0.020070	0.010035
0.22	0.088790	0.085619	0.068495	0.028204	0.015982	0.007991
0.24	0.071727	0.069165	0.055332	0.022784	0.012911	0.006455
0.26	0.058623	0.056530	0.045224	0.018622	0.010552	0.005276
0.28	0.048376	0.046649	0.037319	0.015367	0.008708	0.004354
0.30	0.040239	0.038802	0.031042	0.012782	0.007243	0.003622

Note that the *nanoscale biological fluid* flow system must always maintain the flow *Mach number* less than one as dictated by **Equation 7**. **Equation 7a-c** is the corollary of the **Equation 7** set for negating the undesirable *Sanal flow choking* and *streamtube flow choking* causing shock wave generation and pressure-overshoot. These equations (**Equation 7a-c**) are useful for deciding the *thermophysical* properties of *nanomaterials* and the corresponding base fluid for various nanoscale system design and developments, drug discovery and its applications.

$$M_{nanofluid} < 1 \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{\text{Fluid flow rate}}{\text{Vessel cross sectional area}} \sqrt{\frac{(\text{Prandtl Number})(\text{Thermal Conductivity})}{(\text{HCR})(\text{Density})(C_p)(\text{Dynamic Viscosity})(\text{Static Pressure})}} < 1 \quad (7a)$$

$$\frac{\text{Nanofluid flowrate}}{\text{Vessel cross sectional area}} \sqrt{\left(\frac{\text{Pr}}{\text{Nu}}\right)_{nanofluid} \frac{(h_x)_{nanofluid} x_{BL.length}}{\gamma_{nanofluid} \rho_{nanofluid} (C_p)_{nanofluid} \mu_{nanofluid} P_{static}}} < 1 \quad (7b)$$

$$\frac{Re_{nanofluid} v_{nanofluid}}{d_H} \left[ \frac{\rho_{nanofluid}}{\gamma_{nanofluid} (P_{static})_{nanofluid}} \right]^{1/2} < 1 \quad (7c)$$

The self-explanatory equations (**Equation 7a-c**), derived from the compressible flow theory, are highlighting herein for demonstrating the various influencing parameters and the conflicting requirements to prohibit the *Sanal flow choking* in the *nanoscale fluid* flow system. **Equation 7a** reveals that a disproportionate increase of the *thermal conductivity* of *nanofluid* increases the risk of *Sanal flow choking* leading to supersonic flow development followed by shock wave and pressure-overshoot in the nanoscale flow systems with sudden expansion or divergent region

(Figure 1a-c). Therefore, the condition set by Equation 7a must be satisfied while addition *nanomaterials* in the base fluid for reducing the risk of catastrophic failure of *nanoscale* systems. Admittedly, *in vitro* parametric studies of nano scale aerospace propulsion systems in gravity and micro gravity conditions must be carried out with caution because, as disclosed by the closed-form analytical models, relatively high and low fluid viscosity are risk factors for the *Sanal flow choking*. Note that a significant decrease of fluid viscosity increases *Reynolds number* and turbulence level leading to an early *Sanal flow choking* due to the enhanced BLB factor. Viscosity variations are depending on the shear rate or shear rate history of the fluid, which could vary due to the variations in the *thermophysical* properties of *nanomaterials* and local *effects* too. It is important to note that while adding *nanometer-sized materials* to the base fluid the HCR of the *nanofluid* should not decrease. It aims for negating the undesirable *Sanal flow choking* phenomenon as it generates shock waves and inherent pressure-overshoot, which could alter the thermoviscoelastic properties of the vessel wall.

Note that in a vascular system the boundary layer induced flow choking leads to the shock-wave generation and pressure-overshoot leading to *memory effect*, *aneurysm*, and *hemorrhagic stroke* as the case may be. This is a grey area in nano medicine,<sup>1,49-55</sup> which needs to be examined in detail through fluid-structural interactive multiphase, multispecies models, which is beyond the scope of this article. The *Sanal flow choking* for the diabatic condition presented herein is valid for all the real-world fluid flow problems for designing various *nanoscale fluid* flow systems and sub systems due to the fact that the model is untied from empiricism and any types of errors of discretization. Using Equation 1 and Equation 2 the chemical propulsion system designers could easily predict the likelihoods of *detonation* with the given inlet flow Mach number and the lowest value of the HCR of the leading gas coming from the upstream port of the chemical system.<sup>50</sup> In a

nutshell, the best choice of increasing the solid fuel loading in the nanoscale thruster design without inviting any undesirable *detonation* and catastrophic failures, is to increase the HCR of the working fluid. Further discussion on the nanoscale propulsion system design is beyond the scope of this letter.

We have established herein that, due to the evolving boundary layer and the corresponding area blockage in the upstream port of any internal *nanofluid* flow system with sudden expansion or divergent region, the creeping *diabatic nanoflow* ( $M_i \ll 1$ ) originated from the upstream port of the system could accelerate to the supersonic flow leading to an undesirable phenomenon of pressure-overshoot due to shock wave generation as a result of the *Sanal flow choking*. Through the proposed mathematical methodology, we could disprove the general belief of the impossibilities of internal flow choking in such real-world *nanoscale fluid* flow systems at the creeping inflow conditions. There was a general belief in the scientific community over the centuries that the subsonic/creeping flow would not be augmented up to supersonic flow without passing through a geometric throat, which we have disproved herein through the closed-form analytical model. Note that if the total-to-static pressure ratio at the *fluid-throat* is lower than the LCDI the *detonation* would not occur even if the blockage factor is relatively high in nanoscale fluid flow systems. The physical insight of the *Sanal flow choking* and *streamtube* flow choking presented in this letter sheds light on finding solutions to numerous unresolved scientific problems carried forward over the centuries in physical, chemical and biological sciences.<sup>51-56</sup>

## **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

**VRSK:** Conceptualization, analytical modeling, and *in silico* support, manuscript drafting; **VS:** Modeling and simulation support; **NC:** Modeling and simulation support, **SARMR:** analytical modeling support, **AS:** *In silico* simulation, **PKR:** Conceptualization and modeling support, **SKC:** Conceptualization and modeling support.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS**

3D-BLB, three-dimensional boundary-layer-blockage

CD, convergent-divergent

CPR, critical pressure ratio

$C_p$ , specific heat at constant pressure

DDT, deflagration to detonation transition

d, port diameter

$d_H$ , the hydraulic diameter of the duct

$\bar{f}$ , average friction coefficient

HCR, heat capacity ratio

$h$ , convective heat transfer coefficient

$Kn$ , Knudsen number

LCDI, lower critical detonation index

$l$ , length of the upstream port

$L^*$ , port length up to the *Sanal flow choking* location

$M$ , Mach number

$Pr$ , Prandtl number

$P_{static}$ , static pressure

$Nu$ , Nusselt number

$Re$ , Reynold number

$s$ , entropy

$x$ , the characteristic length in the direction of growth of the boundary layer

$\gamma$ , heat capacity ratio (HCR)

$\delta$ , boundary layer displacement thickness

$\mu$ , dynamic viscosity

$\nu$ , kinematic viscosity

$\rho$ , density

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**Data and materials availability:**

All data needed to evaluate the conclusions of the paper are available in the manuscript.

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# Figures

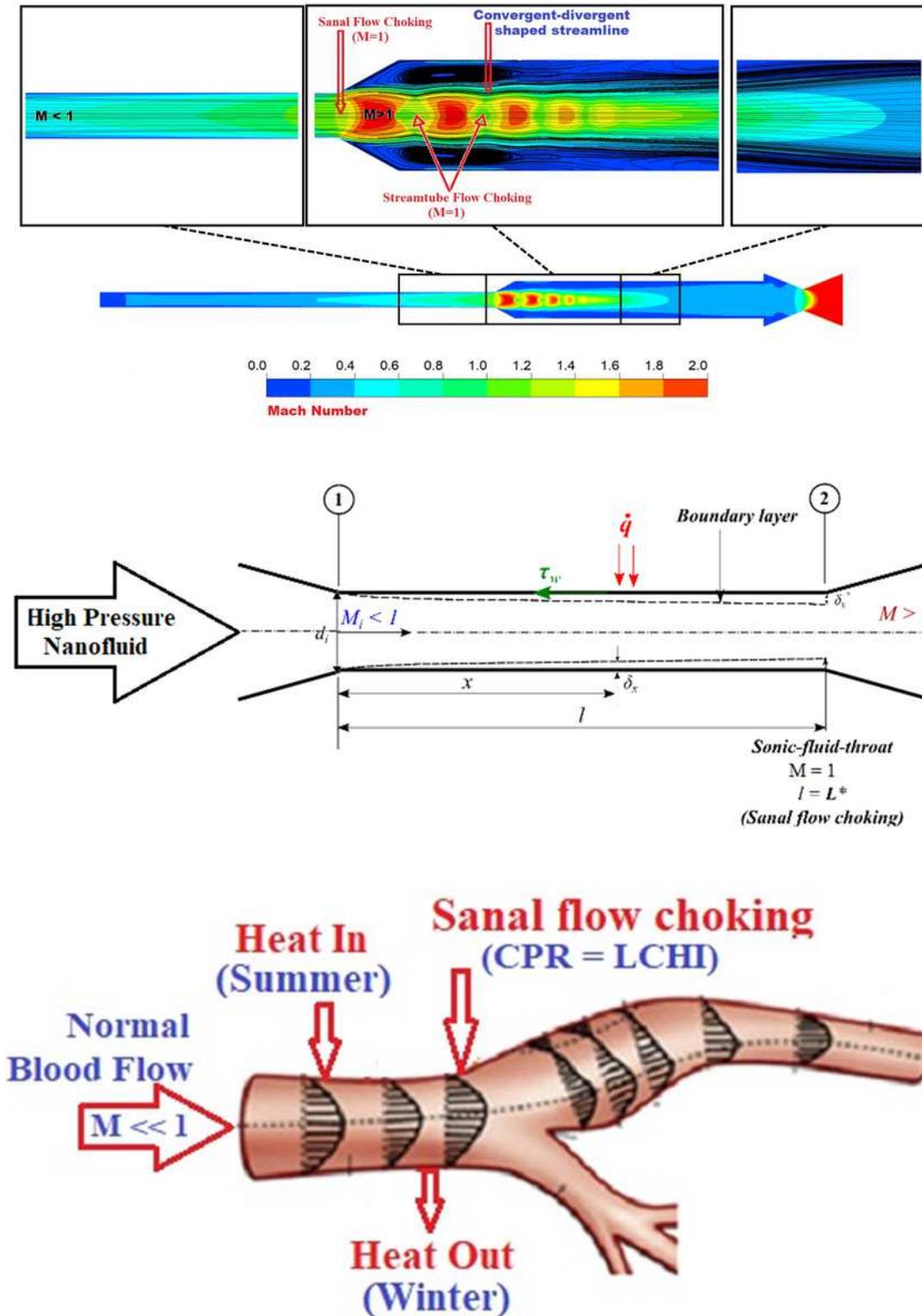


Figure 1

a. The enlarged view of the Sanal flow choking and the streamtube flow choking phenomena in an idealized physical model of an internal fluid flow system <Movie: <https://youtu.be/bv3ZDcPKMSI>>. b. Demonstrating the Sanal flow choking condition in an idealized physical model of an internal nanoscale

fluid flow system. c. Seasonal variations and the Sanal flow choking in an artery with bifurcation and without any plaque

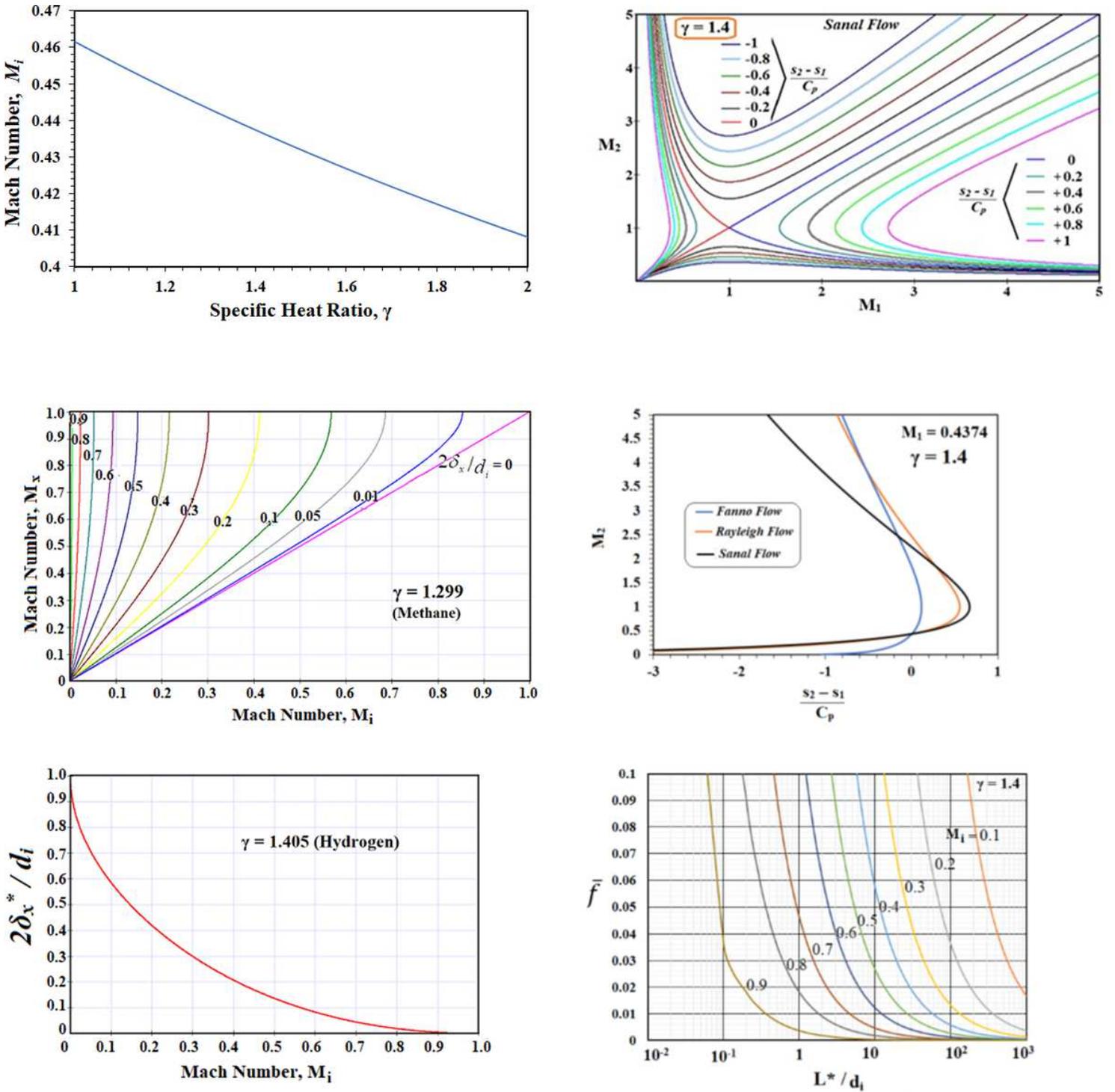


Figure 2

a. The inlet Mach number prediction of different gases with different HCR ( $\gamma$ ) for achieving Sanal flow choking condition for diabatic nano scale flows. b. The solution curve of Equation 2a is showing the 3D blockage factor with Methane as the working fluid. c. The solution curve of Equation 2b is showing the 3D blockage factor in the sonic-fluid-throat of a nano scale fluid flow system with hydrogen as the working fluid. d. The demonstration of the Sanal flow choking in diabatic nano scale fluid flows. (Solution

curves of Equation 4). e. Mach Number-Entropy chart of Fanno, Rayleigh and Sanal flow models at the choked flow condition. f. Analytical predictions of the average friction coefficient at the Sanal flow choking condition of different nanotubes at different inlet conditions.