

RESULT OF TESTS OF A MODEL OF THE PROPOSED FLOATING DRY DOCK



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Experiments with the model of the proposed floating dry dock have been made throughout the year as occasion permitted. The model was fitted with alternative sterns, one adapted to propulsion by propellers in midship tunnels and the other with propellers at the stern. The sketch appended shows an outline of the different experimental tunnels in profile and in section, the tunnels originally planned being marked No. 1.

The model was made 30 feet long, fitted with the usual apparatus for self-propulsion and run at speeds up to 2.1 knots, corresponding to a speed of 12 knots for the dry dock. The propellers used were dimensioned as follows:-

Propellers No. 386 and 387 Diameter = 5.84 inches Pitch = 6.00 inches $\frac{\text{Developed area}}{\text{Disc area}} = 0.41$

The case of midship tunnels was first tried out and in th first three experiments the model was run at drafts correspondin to 15, 20 and 25 feet and the results are shown on Sheets No. 1, II and III, respectively.

The outstanding feature of these tests was the low propulsive efficiency. This is due to three factors; the very high sl the small wake fraction and the very great thrust deduction.

It was considered improbable that the wake could be increased the tunnels were near the midship section of the model, but attempts were made to improve the other two detrimental factors.

The first attempt was to try to decrease the slip by using propellers with wider blades. With this in view, the model was agai run at the same draft as in Experiment No. 1, but with propellers of the following dimensions:-

> Propellers No. 388 and 389 Diameter = 5.84 inches Pitch = 6.00 inches $\frac{\text{Developed area}}{\text{Disc area}} = 0.56$

The results, on Sheet IV, show the slip increased instead of diminished and the efficiency practically unchanged as compared with Sheet No. 1.

Propellers of a smaller pitch were then tried in a second attempt to reduce the slip.

Propellers No. 382 and 383 Diameter = 5.84 inches Pitch = 4.50 inches $\frac{\text{Developed area}}{\text{Disc area}} = 0.56$

In this experiment the slip was reduced as hoped, but the efficiency was not improved. See Sheet V.

Experiments were then conducted to see if the thrust deductio could not be reduced by a change in the shape of the tunnels. Propellers No. 388 and 389, with the dimensions as given above were the used, and the draft retained as in Experiment No. 1, but the tunnels forward of the propellers, were widened out as shown in the sketch

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for tunnel No. 2. Sheet VI gives the results of this experiment and a smaller thrust deduction is at once apparent as compared w Sheet No. 1. A slight increase of efficiency is also indicated.

The next step was to enlarge the tunnels aft of the propell in the same way, as shown on sketch for tunnel No. 3. The model was run with the same propellers and at the same draft as in the previous experiment with results as shown on Sheet VII. These indicate sufficient drop in the slip to offset a small rise in the thrust deduction and to increase the efficiency.

An attempt to lessen the thrust deduction was then made by changing the length of the tunnels aft of the propellers. The length was doubled but the sections were changed back to the original shape as shown in sketch for tunnel No. 4.

The results of this change, other conditions remaining the same, is shown on Sheet VIII. The thrust deduction was reduced so much that there was a noticeable increase in the efficiency even though the slip was made somewhat greater.

The last experiment was to try the effect of increasing the diameter of the propellers. The tunnels were enlarged as per tunnel No. 5, on the sketch and the model run with:-

Propellers No. 412 and 413 Diameter = 6.70 inches Pitch = 7.00 inches $\frac{\text{Developed area}}{\text{Disc area}} = 0.57$

The results, on Sheet IX, indicate such an increase in thrus deduction that although the slip was lessened, there was a loss a efficiency.

Finally, the alternative stern was used, requiring much less power, but still with low efficiency as is shown on Sheet X.

It is concluded that the propellers were all too small for both types of sterns, resulting in low efficiency, but that larger propellers in correspondingly larger tunnels, at least at amidship would not increase the efficiency, and in the full sized dry dock might fall down to a greater extent than in the model tests.

Conditions I, II, III, V, IX and X, were worked up for the full sized dock and the results are shown on Sheets I_s , II_s , III_s , V_s , IX_s , and X_s .





























SHEET IX

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