A Study of the Effect of Cavitation Induced by Underwater Explosion

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ABSTRACT

An underwater explosion near a free surface consists of an explosive gas-water-air system with a shock and a few free surface interactions as well as the presence of bulk and local cavitation regions. Bulk cavitation occurs near the free surface and can cover a relatively large area, while local cavitation occurs at the fluid-structure interface. The dynamic evolutions of bulk and local cavitations has significant influence on the nearby surfaces and thus have to be taken into consideration in the overall evaluation of the effect of an underwater explosion.

This thesis investigates the effect of bulk and local cavitations. The upper boundary and the lower boundary of a bulk cavitation zone are studied at first. And then the vertical kick-off velocities of ship structure in different drafts are estimated to study the local cavitation effects. Viable results provide the basis for further investigations into the use of fluid modeling in underwater explosion simulations.

Keywords : Underwater explosion, Shock wave, Cavitation, Free surface

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