



IJRASET

International Journal For Research in
Applied Science and Engineering Technology



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR RESEARCH

IN APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Volume: 5 Issue: VI Month of publication: June 2017

DOI:

www.ijraset.com

Call:  08813907089

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Design and CFD Analysis of The Intake Manifold for the Suzuki G13bb Engine

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Abstract: *This paper deals with the improvement of the performance and to achieve the even distribution of flow at each cylinders, to select the best turbulence model for the analysis of intake manifold using computational fluid dynamics, to achieve the maximum mass flow rate through the runners, to maintain the equal pressure throughout the plenum, to propagate back the higher pressure column of air to intake port within the duration of the intake valve's closure. To achieve the even flow of distribution and improve the volumetric efficiency, author divided his analysis into three different parts. In each part, a different iteration of inlet manifold used in Maruti Gypsy's G13BB engine are used. In this analysis plenum size is kept constant to show the effects of shape of runners on output. Dividing the work into three different parts provide the greater refinement in result. Runner shape is determined by the operating conditions of the engine assembly in which the inlet manifold is used. The intake runner diameter influences the point at which peak power is reached while the intake runner length will influence the amount of power available at high and low RPM. To find the best results, author perform the experiments in Ansys Fluent for possible designs and find the effect of curved and helical shape runners were providing higher volumetric efficiency and even flow of distribution to each cylinder. For designing final intake manifold author select best design from all three parts and perform the experiment using computational fluid dynamics software Ansys Fluent.*

Keywords: Intake Manifold, Plenum, Restrictor, Cylinder Runner, Volumetric Efficiency, Computational Fluid Dynamics

I. INTRODUCTION

The main purpose of the intake manifold is to evenly distribute the combustion mixture to each intake port of the engine cylinder, unless the engine has direct injection [1]. Even distribution is important to optimize the volumetric efficiency and performance of the engine. There are various factors that influence the engine performance such as compression ratio, atomization of fuel, fuel injection pressure, and quality of fuel, combustion rate, air fuel ratio, intake temperature and pressure and also based on piston design, inlet manifold, and combustion chamber designs etc.

Geometrical design of intake manifold is one such method for the better performance of an I.C. Engine. Air swirl motion in engine influences the atomization and distribution of fuel injected in the combustion chamber. Intake manifolds provides Air motion to the chamber.

Almost every researchers and automotive industry is focused on improvement of intake manifold. However, there is always room for enhancement on intake system. The air intake system has seen many reiterations and improvements and substantially increased during the past years by controlling the dimension and shape, and permitting the engine to produce increasing amounts of power by improving their volumetric efficiency, best possible fuel consumption, reduced fuel emissions, and most of the research performed, by automotive researchers and engine manufacturers (i.e. Mazda, BMW, Audi, Ford, Renault etc.) [2]. Porsche in the 1980s developed an intake system to use on their vehicles that adjusted the length of the intake system by switching amongst the longer and shorter pair of tube utilizing a butterfly valve, developing some positive pressure, which usually enhances overall performance of the engine. Audi began to use a similar system in some cars in the 1990s and Ford Motor in 1997 [3].

II. NOMENCLATURE OF INTAKE SYSTEM

Intake system consists typically of throttle body, restrictor, inlet pipe, plenum, cylinder runner, fuel injectors, air temperature sensor and manifold pressure sensor. It composed of two main parts, in combination with the throttle body, which include the plenum and the cylinder runners. Air enters in to plenum due to vacuum created by engine, plenum stores the combustion air as reservoir and then transport the combustion air to engine through the cylinder runner.

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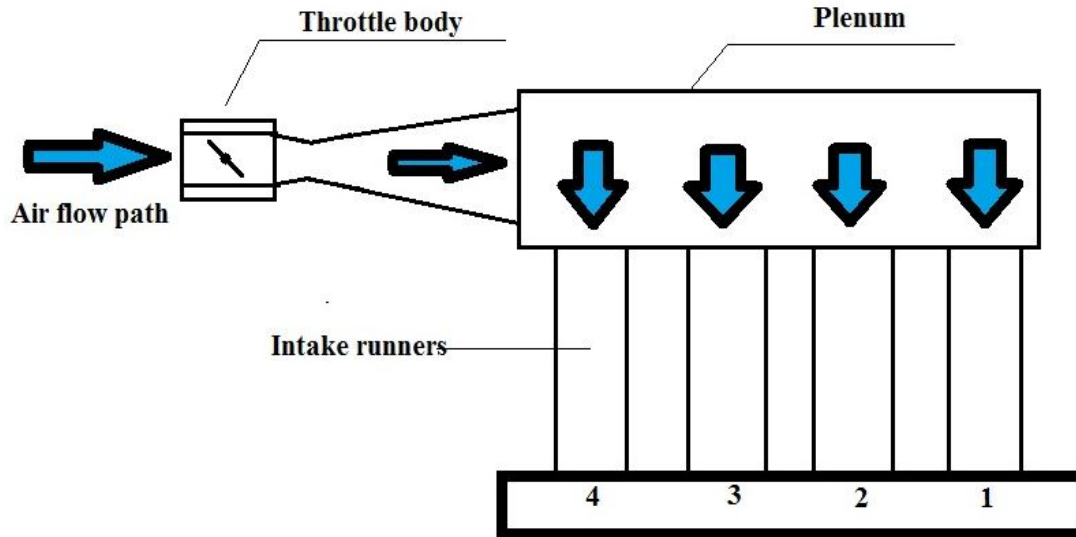


Figure 1: Body of Intake Manifold

The information of the work which has been done formerly on intake manifolds allow a more systematic discussion of intake system. On the basis of those information and facts, the basic of acoustic wave theory and general terminology of intakes will be the major field of study, the general terminologies of intake system, which can be used for improvement are:

- 1) *Plenum*: It is storage device which placed between throttle valve and cylinder runner. The function of the plenum is to equalize pressure for more even distribution air-fuel mixture in side combustion chamber, because of irregular supply or demand of the engine cylinder, sometime plenum chamber also work as an acoustic silencer device. There are two types of intake manifold on the basis of manifold dimension, fixed length intake manifold and variable length intake manifold.
- 2) *Cylinder Runner*: The cylinder runners are the parts of the air intake system which delivers air from plenum to the combustion chamber. In each runner, the principal phenomenon that governs its performance is actually, the effect of acoustic waves. As the purpose of the cylinder runner is distribution of air, performance to transport the maximum amount of air, and in the case of the engine, the successive enhancement in volumetric efficiency.

III. BASICS OF COMPUTATIONAL FLUID DYNAMICS (CFD)

Computational Fluid Dynamics, known as CFD, is defined as the set of methodologies that enable the computer to provide us with a numerical simulation of fluid flows. We use the word 'simulation' to indicate that we use the computer to solve numerically the laws that govern the movement of fluids, in or around a material system, where its geometry is also modeled on the computer. Hence, the whole system is transformed into a 'virtual' environment or virtual product. This can be opposed to an experimental investigation, characterized by a material model or prototype of the system, such as an aircraft or car model in a wind tunnel, or when measuring the flow properties in a prototype of an engine. This terminology is also referring to the fact that we can visualize the whole system and its behavior, through computer visualization tools, with amazing levels of realism, as you certainly have experienced through the powerful computer games and/or movie animations, which provide a fascinating level of high-fidelity rendering. Hence the complete system, such as a car, an airplane, a block of buildings, etc. can be 'seen' on a computer, before any part is ever constructed.

A. Virtual prototyping in CFD

To situate the role and importance of CFD in our contemporary technological world, it might be of interest to take you down the road to the global world of Computer-Assisted Engineering or CAE. CAE refers to the ensemble of simulation tools that support the work of the engineer between the initial design phase and the final definition of the manufacturing process. The industrial production process is indeed subjected to an accelerated evolution toward the computerization of the whole production cycle, using various software tools. The most important of them are: Computer-Assisted Design (CAD), Computer-Assisted Engineering (CAE)

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and Computer-Assisted Manufacturing (CAM) software. The CAD/CAE/CAM software systems form the basis for the different phases of the virtual prototyping environment. There are components of a computer-oriented environment, as used in industry to create, or modify toward better properties, of a product. This product can be a single component such as a cooling jacket in a car engine, formed by a certain number of circular curved pipes, down to a complete car. In all cases the succession of steps and the related software tools are used in very much similar ways, the difference being the degree of complexity to which these tools are applied.

IV. PHASES OF CREATION IN CFD

A. The Definition Phase

The first step in the creation of the product is the definition phase, which covers the specification and geometrical definition. It is based on CAD software, which allows creating and defining the geometry of the system, in all its details. Typically, large industries can employ up to thousands of designers, working full time on CAD software. Their day-to-day task is to build the geometrical model on the computer screen, in interaction with the engineers of the simulation and analysis departments.

This CAD definition of the geometry is the required and unavoidable input to the CFD simulation task. Its application cover a very wide range of applications, industrial, environmental and bio-medical. Environmental studies of wind effects around a block of buildings, with the main objective to improve the wind comfort of the people walking close to the main buildings. In CAD definition of an aircraft, CFD study helps to simulate the flow around it. Several branches of the lung and the CFD analysis has as objective to determine the airflow configuration during inspiration and to determine the path of inhaled aerosols, typical of medical sprays, in function of the size of the particles. It is of considerable importance for the medical and pharmaceutical sector to make sure that the inhaled medication will penetrate deep enough in the lungs as to provide the maximal healing effect. A CFD analysis is applied in both cases to improve the operating characteristics of these components and define appropriate geometrical changes.

B. The Simulation and Analysis Phase

The next phase is the simulation and analysis phase, which applies software tools to calculate, on the computer, the physical behavior of the system. This is called virtual prototyping. This phase is based on CAE software (eventually supported by experimental tests at a later stage), with several sub-branches related to the different physical effects that have to be modeled and simulated during the design process. The most important of these are:

- 1) *Computational Solid Mechanics (CSM)*: The software tools able to evaluate the mechanical stresses, deformations, vibrations of the solid parts of a system, including fatigue and eventually life estimations. Generally, CSM software will also contain modules for the thermal analysis of materials, including heat conduction, thermal stresses and thermal dilation effects. Advanced software tools also exist for simulation of complex phenomena, such as crash, largely used in the automotive sector and allowing considerable savings, when compared with the cost of real crash experiments of cars being driven into walls
- 2) *Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)*: It is designated as the software tools that allow the analysis of the fluid flow, including the thermal heat transfer and heat conduction effects in the fluid and through the solid boundaries of the flow domain. For instance, in the case of an aircraft engine, CFD software will be used to analyze the flow in the multistage combination of rotating and fixed blade rows of the compressor and turbine; predict their performance; analyze the combustor behavior, analyze the thermal parts to optimize the cooling passages, cavities, labyrinths, seals and similar sub-components. A growing number of sub-components are currently being investigated with CFD tools; while the ultimate objective is to be able to simulate the complete engine, from compressor entry to nozzle exit.
- 3) *Other simulation areas* related to specialized physical phenomena are also currently applied and/or in development, such as Computational Aero-Acoustics (CAA) and Computational electromagnetics (CEM). They play an important role when effects such as reduction of noise or electromagnetic interferences and signatures are important design objectives.

V. PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

The geometric design of the intake system affects the volumetric efficiency of the engine, and thus directly affects the performance of the vehicle. The construction of the intake system has a major influence on how the engine performs at various RPM's. The challenge, therefore, was to optimize the design of the intake system and remap the fuel injection system. To achieve primary design goal of distributing equivalent amounts of air to each cylinder is impeccable. Geometry of 3D model of an intake manifold is generated in design software and modelled part is used for an analysis.

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A. Selection Turbulence Model

The CFD analyses were conducted using the regular k-e turbulent model, and a first order upwind difference scheme. This model employs two additional transport equations one for turbulence kinetic energy (k) and another one for the dissipation rate (e). These solver settings guaranteed existence of a fully converged solution for each set of parameters. The optimization technique required high CFD accuracy for the evaluation of objective and constrain functions to compute the sensitivity for each variable. The CFD mesh was kept relatively coarse. Near wall treatment is handled through generalized wall functions. This model is well established and the most widely validated turbulence model.

B. Selection Of A Base Inlet Manifold

Inlet manifold used in G13BB engine manufactured by Suzuki Motor Corporation. The Single overhead camshaft (SOHC) 16-valve G13BB (introduced in March 1995) has electronic Multi-point fuel injection MPFI, generating 56–63 kW (76–86 PS) and 104–115 Nm (77–85 lb. ft). Later G13BBs have two coil packs bolted directly to the valve cover, although early models still had the coil packs mounted to the left side of the head, where the distributor was traditionally located. This engine is equipped with MAP sensor to monitor pressure in manifold, unlike the G16 series. This engine has a non-interference valve train design.

C. Selection Of Best Cylinder Runner Size And Boundary Condition

This stage deals with design methodology of cylinder runner and their boundary condition. In this stage author divided his work two part, first part was geometrical design methodology of cylinder runner by using Ram Theory or Helmholtz Theory

1) *Ram theory*: Air flowing inside the intake manifold runner, past the intake valve and into the cylinder flows alike until the intake valve closes. After the closure of valve air strikes on the closed valve & high pressure wave is created. This high pressure wave oscillates in the inlet duct until the inlet valve opens for next stroke. The time after which inlet valve opens again if matches to the time of arrival of high pressure wave of air at inlet then Ram effect occurs causing highest possible air pressure at IVC. Tuning corresponds to adjusting the length of intake runner so that this pressure wave reaches exactly at the time when the inlet valve opens. This effect is also called as inertial ram effect and length is decided by Ram Theory.

2) *Helmholtz Resonator Theory* : This considers the volume of air inside the intake runner as spring which compresses & expands upon application of force to it. The air inside combustion chamber is considered as mass. Effective volume is considered to be the cylinder volume at the mid stroke. Following figure shows the arrangement.

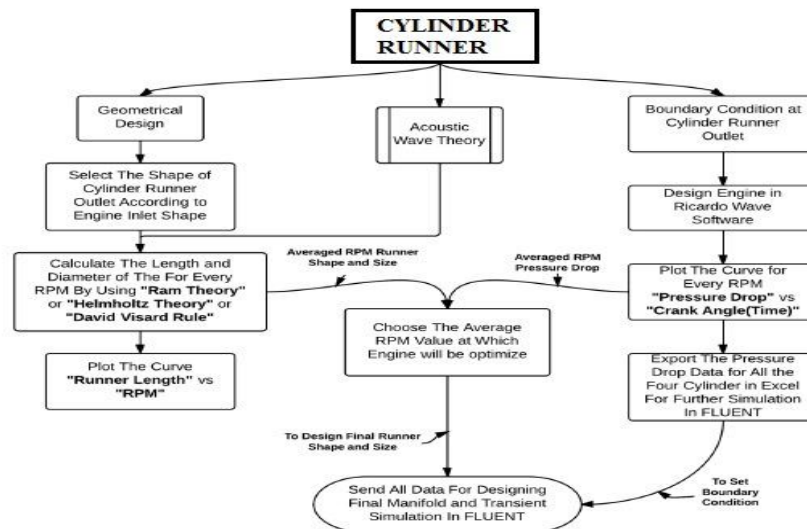


Figure 2: Designing techniques for intake manifold for computer simulation

D. Simulation Setup Method

For analysis of any intake manifold, design of the geometry is very important. Author design the intake manifold in CATIA, after designing the part, he open Ansys workbench and open the computational fluid dynamics module Fluid flow (CFX)

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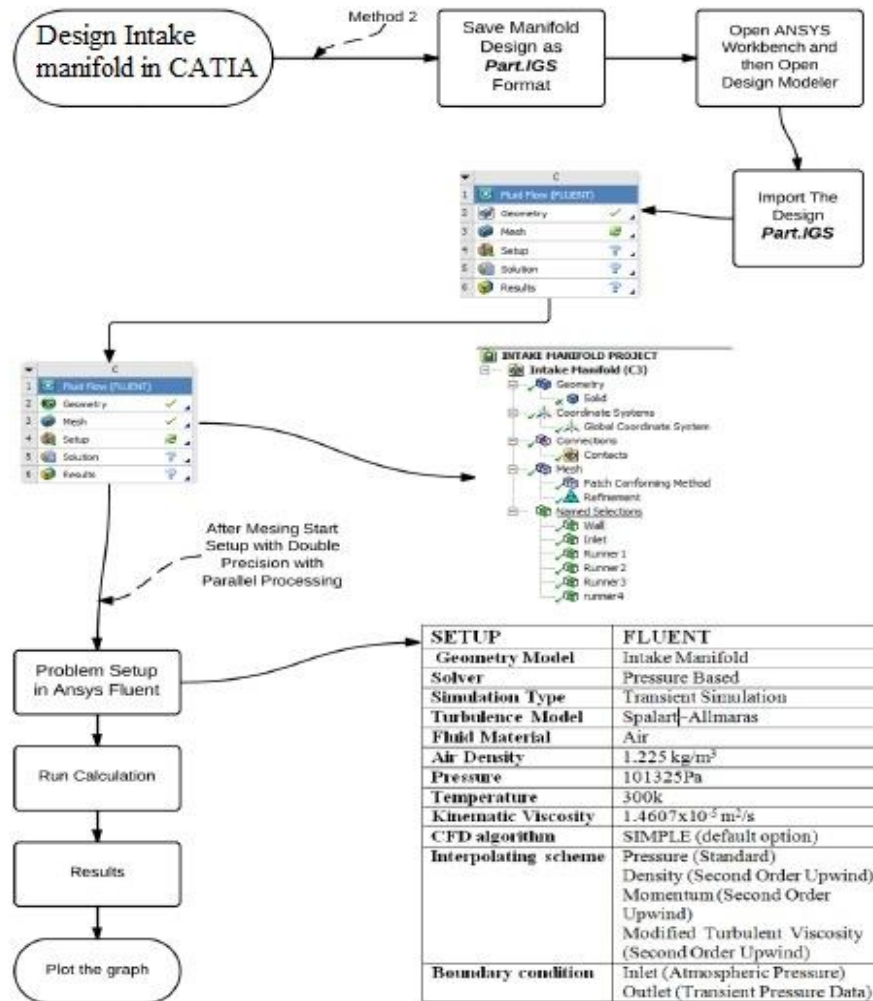


Figure 3: Simulation setup in Ansys Fluent

The flow pattern in the intake region is insensitive to flow unsteadiness and valve operation and thus could be predicted through steady flow test and computational simulation with reasonable accuracy.

A new manifold needs to be designed to improve the performance of the engine. Two such configurations have been made as shown the figures 5 and 6. The first manifold is the original manifold. Second and third manifolds are made such that the curvature of runners in the second manifold provides both curved and helical runners branching together to provide for both low and high speed operation and in the third manifold radius of curvature of original inlet manifold is increased to provide a unrestricted air flow for high load engine operations. This gives the opportunity to observe the flow motion in each of the cases. The fillets on the manifold are chosen randomly. Internal volume solid or inverse volume of these of these manifolds are shown in figure 7. The first manifold is designated “model 1”, second manifold as “model 2” and the third manifold as “model 3”.

VI. RESULTS

A. CFD Simulation result

Figure 4: Model-1 (Actual Flow Model)

Figure 5: Model-2 (Model with branched helical runners)

Figure 6: Model-3 (Model without curve of runner part)

Velocity streamline view tells how the velocity streamlines flow inside the intake manifold and in which side or part more and less velocity of stream occurs.

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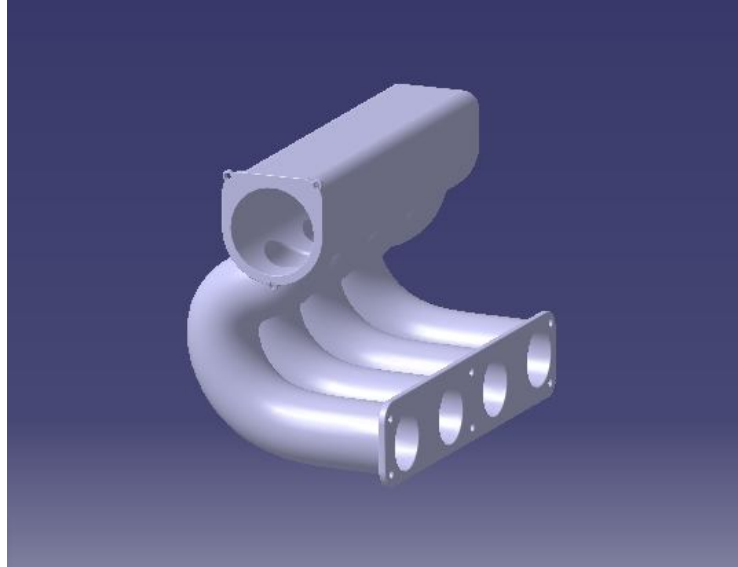


Figure 4: Model-1

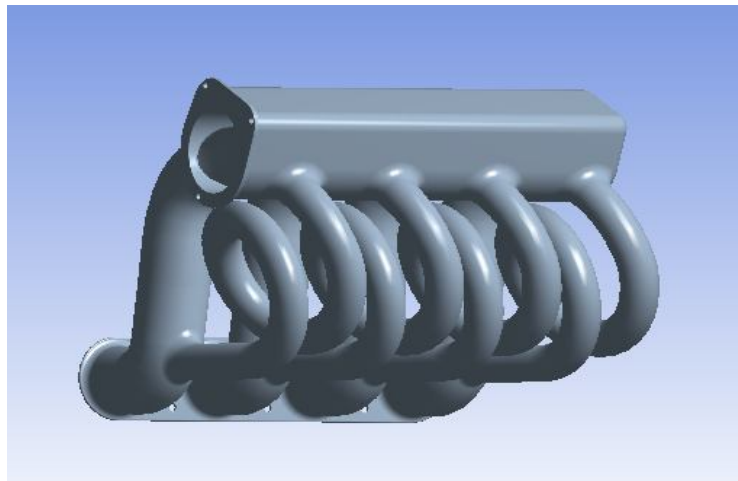


Figure 5: Model-2

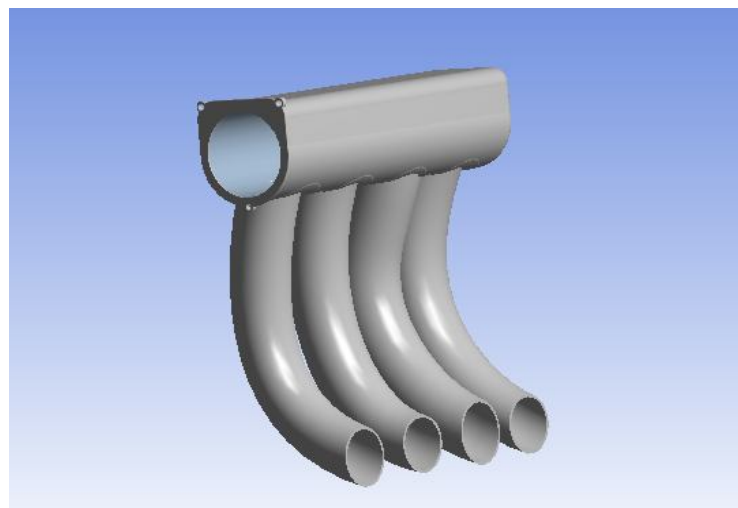


Figure 6: Model-3

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For CFD simulation the internal volume of these models are generated by Boolean expressions in CATIA™ also known as inverse volume of the design.

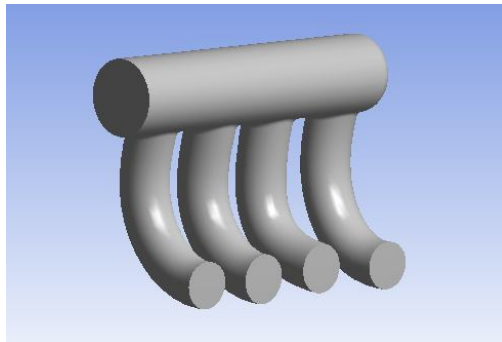
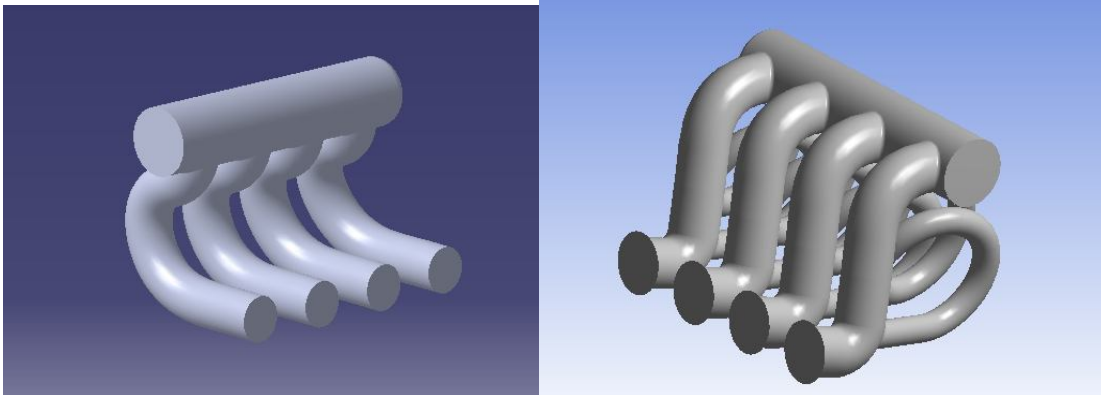


Figure 7: Inverse volumes of model 1, 2, 3

B. Dimensions of IM model

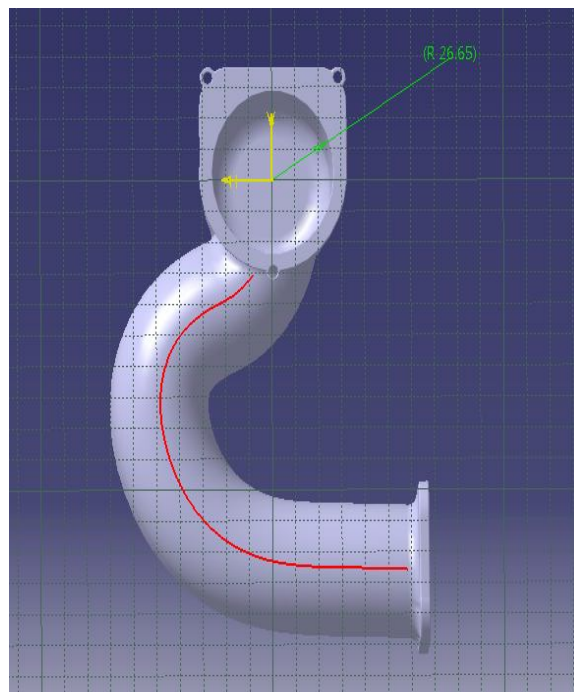
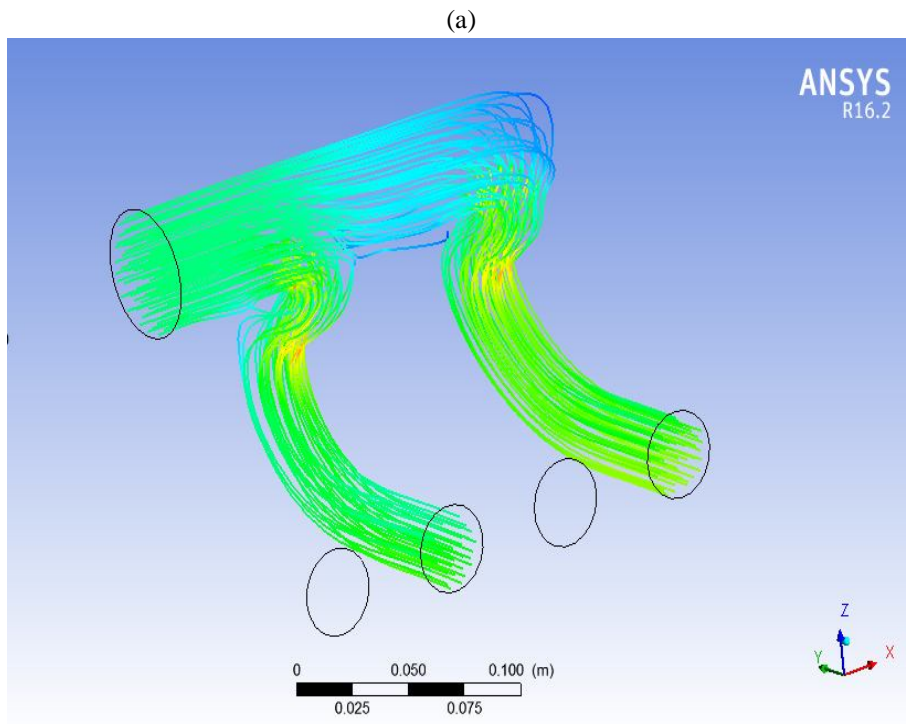


Figure 8: Measurement is done with designing software's measurement tool

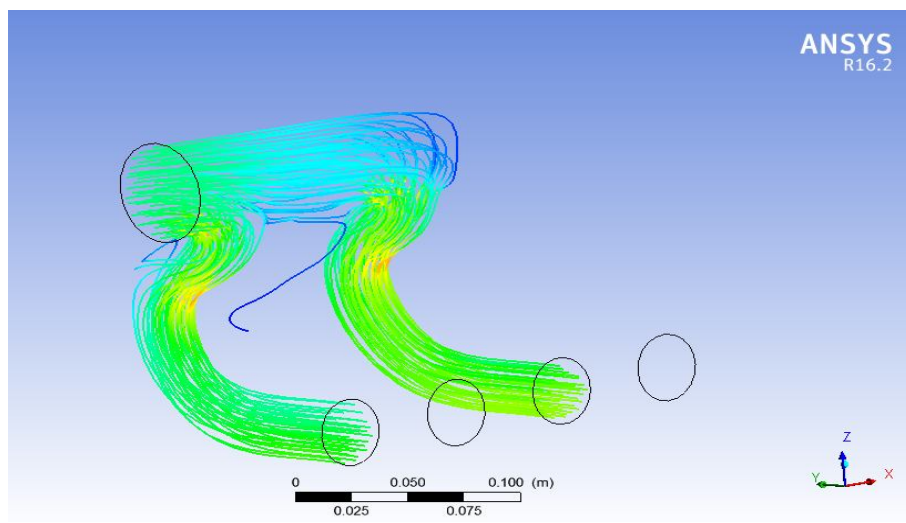
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Table 1: Dimensions of intake manifold models (in mm)

Parameters	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
Radius	26.15	28.05	26.15
Length of plenum	233.6	264.5	233.6
Radius of runner	18.1	25.078	31.9



(a) Streamlines for FO: 1-3 for the model-1



(b) Streamlines for FO: 2-4 for the model-1

Figure 9: (a) & (b)

So, at an instant, the outlets 4 and 2 would be open and ports 1 and 3 would be closed. And the reverse condition shall apply. The following were the possible configurations.

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Table 2: Intake Port Configurations

Configurations	Outlet 1	Outlet 2	Outlet 3	Outlet 4
FO: 1-3	Open	Close	Open	Close
FO: 2-4	close	Open	Close	Open

These configurations were investigated for each engine operating conditions by varying inlet velocities and outlet velocities were determined in CFD post. In CFD post, contours were created at inlet and outlet ports of the respective IM. Then using solution viewer, color pattern at the outlets was converted to numerical values of the outlet velocities in (m/s). Coordinates of the port was determined in the software itself. Inlet velocities at the inlet where outlet parameters are calculated are: 5m/s, 8.4 m/s, 11.2 m/s, 12.5m/s, 14m/s. For uniform charge distribution in all the runners the outlet is considered to be all the four runners since due to high speed the discharge would behave like it is occurring from all the four runners in same instant.

C. Model-1 flow simulation

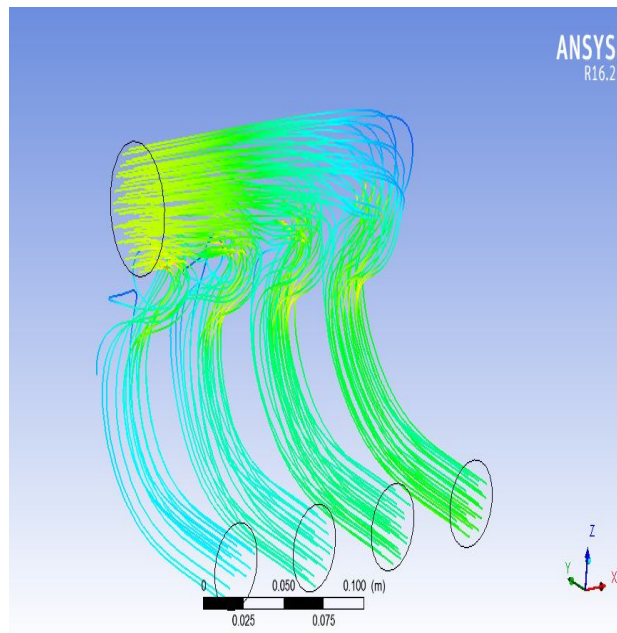


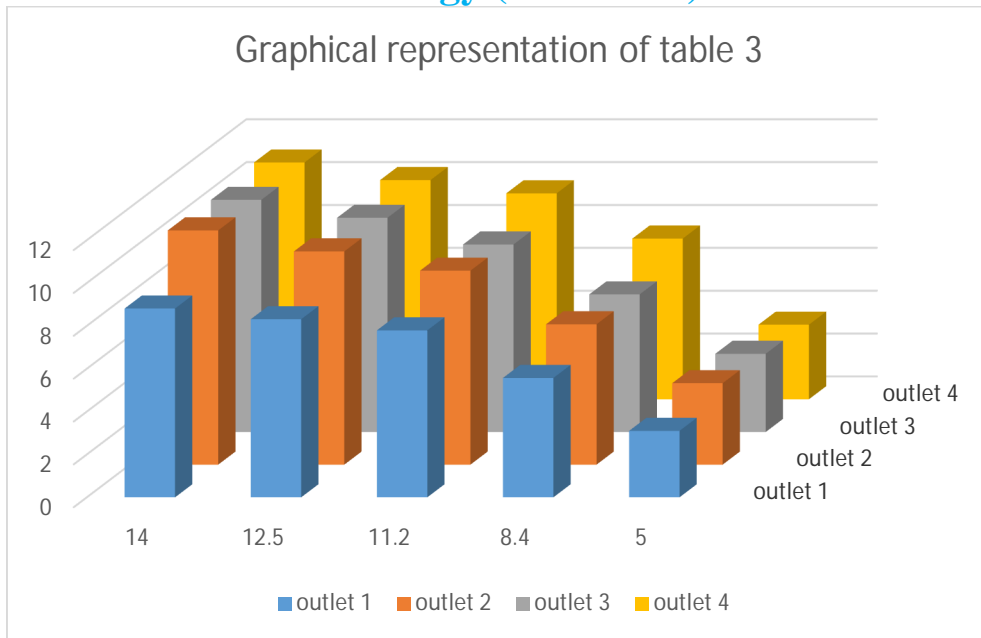
Figure 10: Streamlines inside the model-1

1) Results of model-1

Table 3:

	Outlet 1	Outlet 2	Outlet 3	Outlet4
14	8.811	10.93	10.83	11.05
12.5	8.31	9.9499	9.9934	10.2307
11.2	7.79	9.05	8.75	9.6114
8.4	5.57	6.55	6.4194	7.5
5	3.1	3.8794	3.65	3.48

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Graph 1 Velocities at the outlet of model 1

D. Model-2 flow simulation

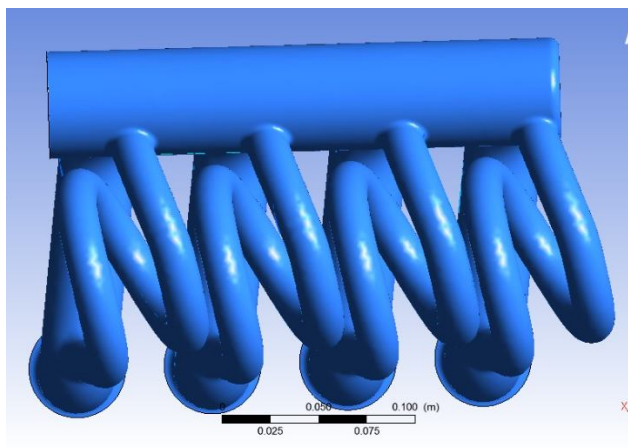


Figure 11: Velocity contours at boundary in the model-2

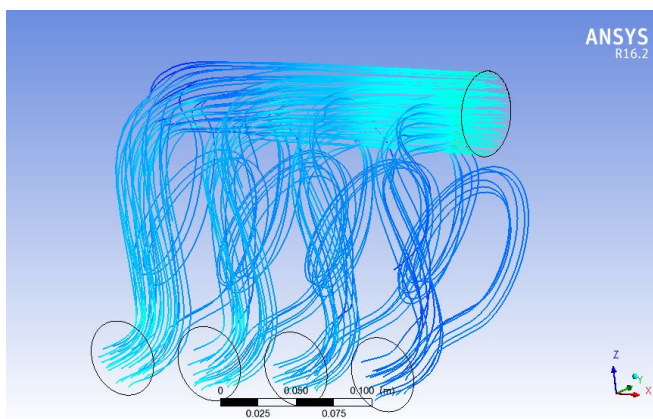


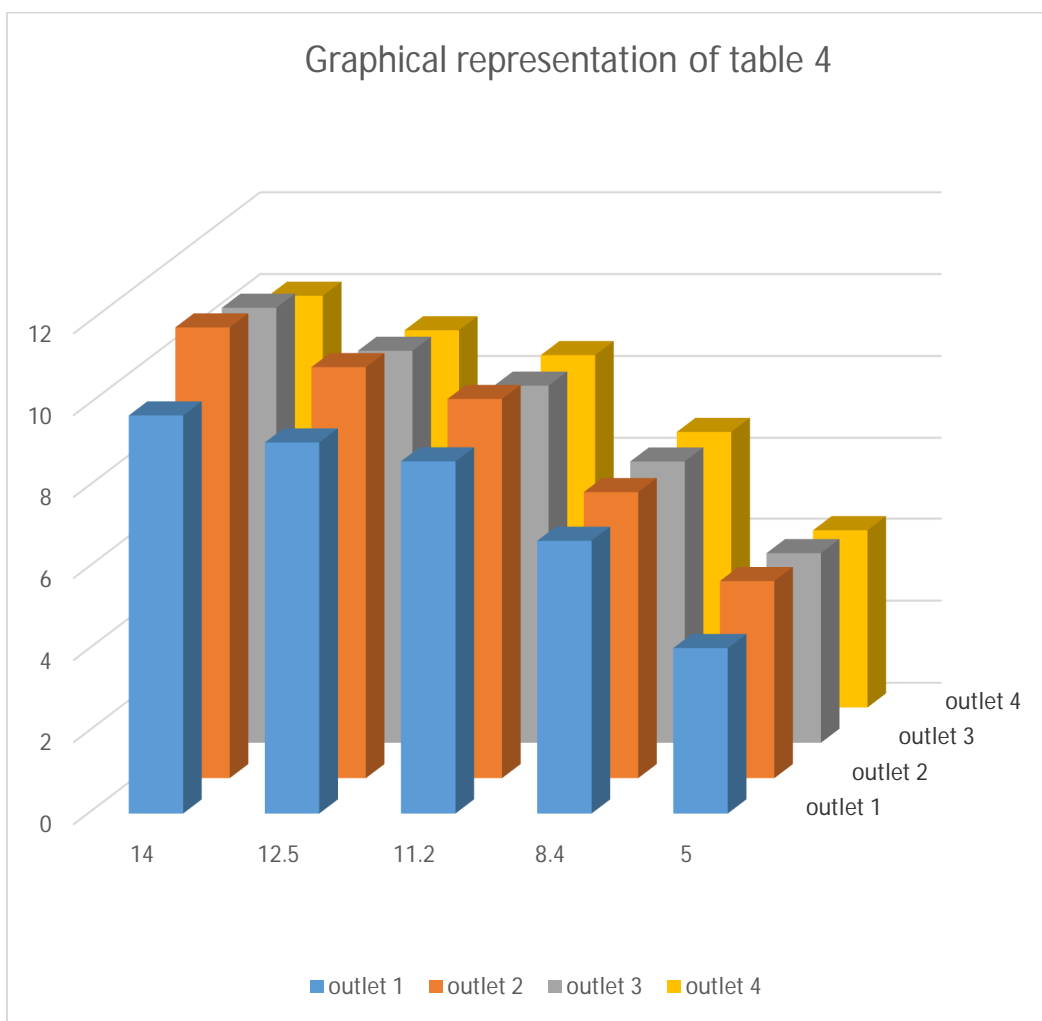
Figure 12: Streamlines inside model-2

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1) Results of model-2

Table 4:

	Outlet 1	Outlet 2	Outlet 3	Outlet 4
14	9.73	11.022	10.64	10.074
12.5	9.07	10.05	9.59	9.23
11.2	8.608	9.374	8.737	8.621
8.4	6.645	6.996	6.884	6.745
5	4.031	4.802	4.621	4.318



Graph 2 Velocities at the outlets of model 2

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E. Model-3 flow simulation

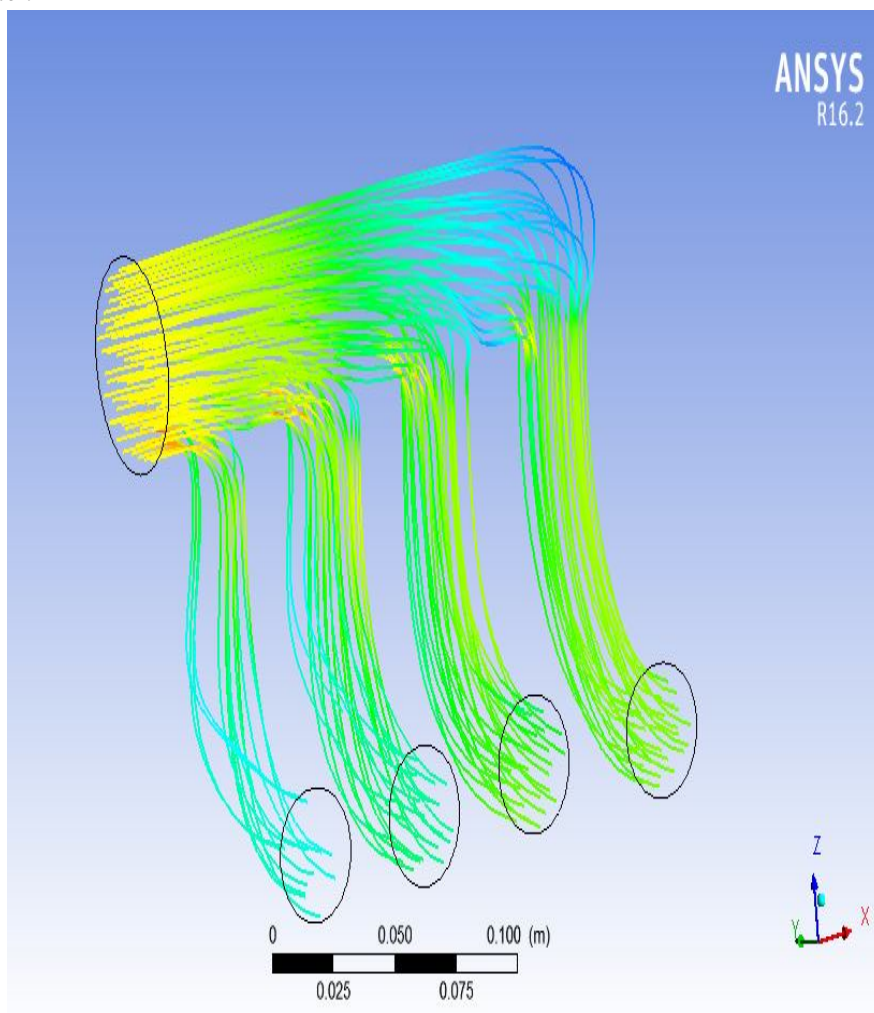


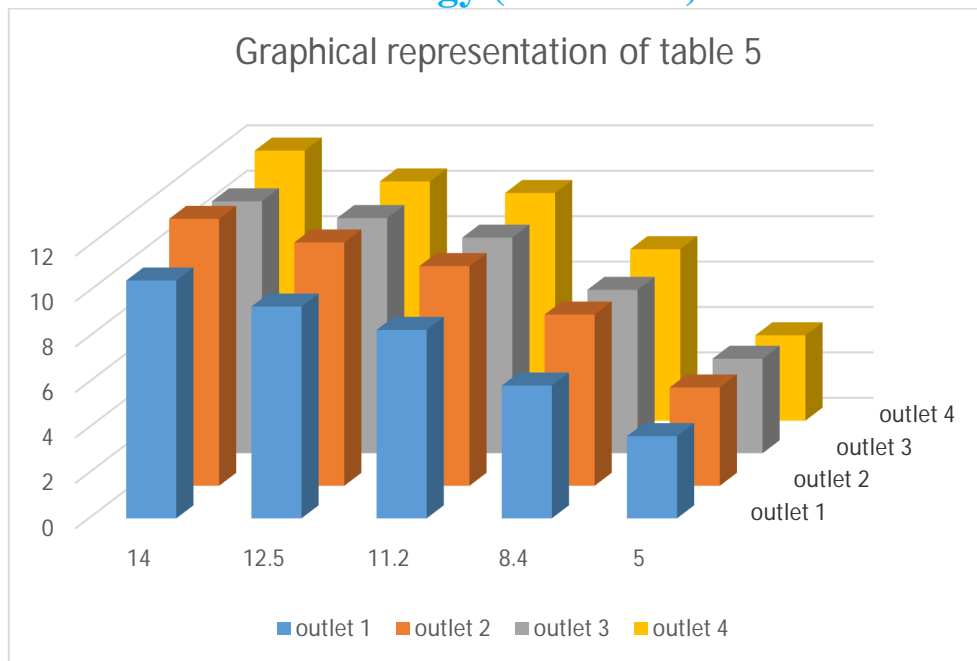
Figure 13: Streamlines inside the model-3

1) Results of model-3:

Table 5:

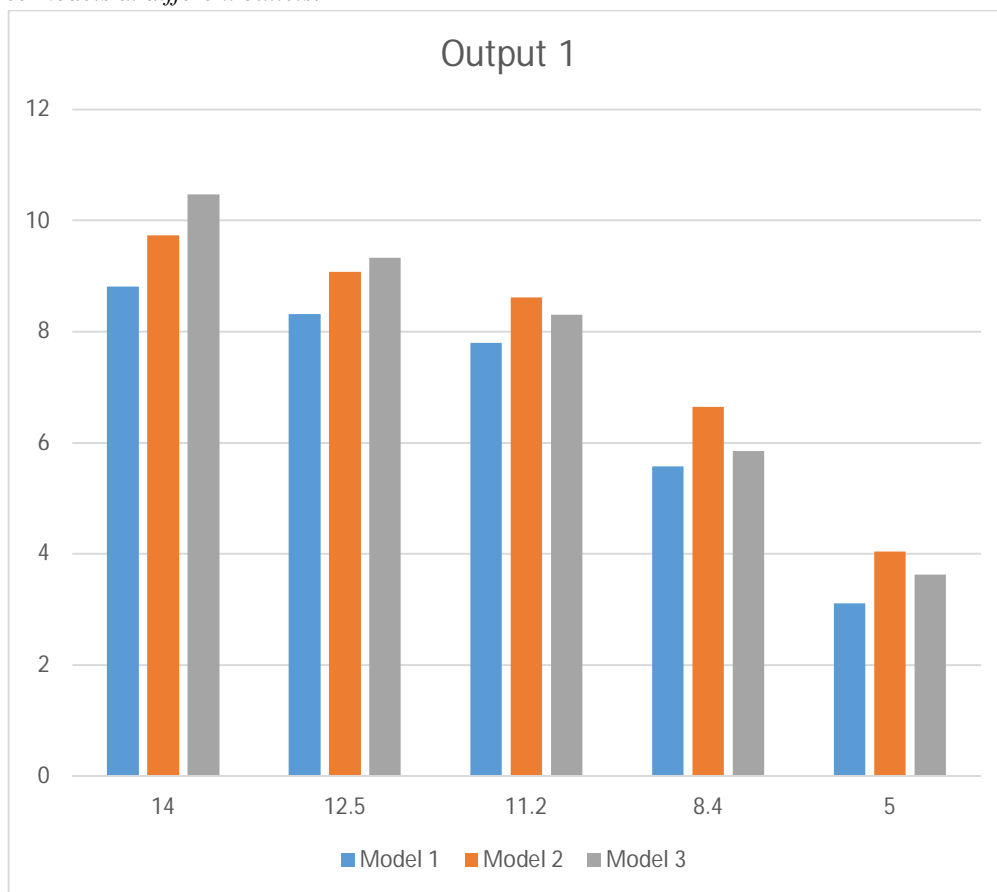
	Outlet 1	Outlet 2	Outlet 3	Outlet 4
14	10.47	11.7486	11.0876	11.8862
12.5	9.323	10.71	10.35	10.53
11.2	8.295	9.6714	9.49	10.02
8.4	5.843	7.536	7.194	7.5458
5	3.6168	4.33	4.16	3.760

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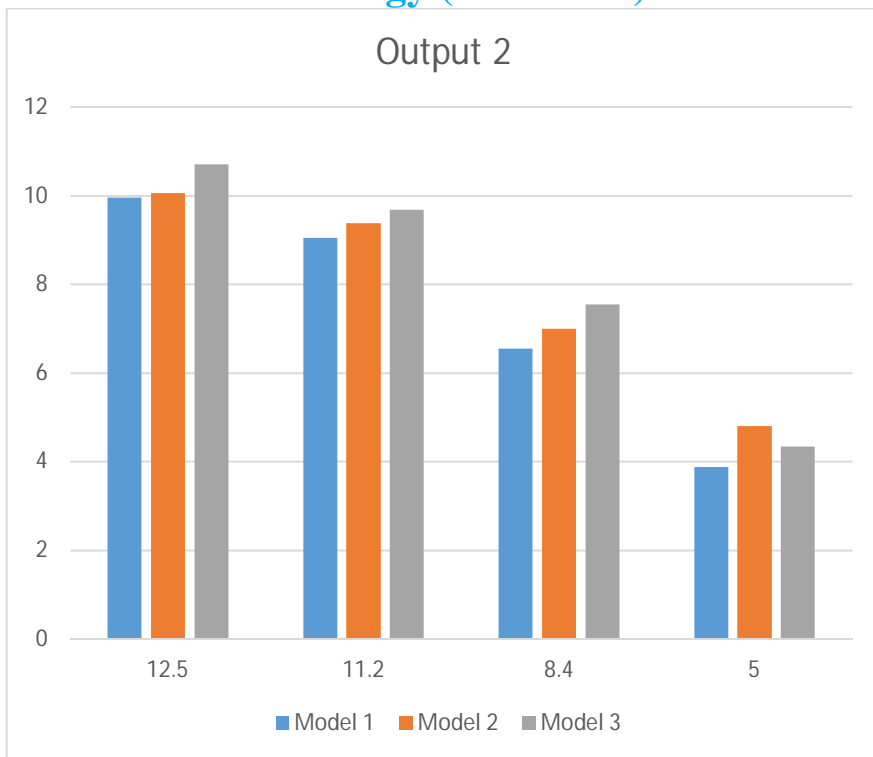
Graph 3 Velocity at outlets of model 3

F. Examine the three models at different outlets:

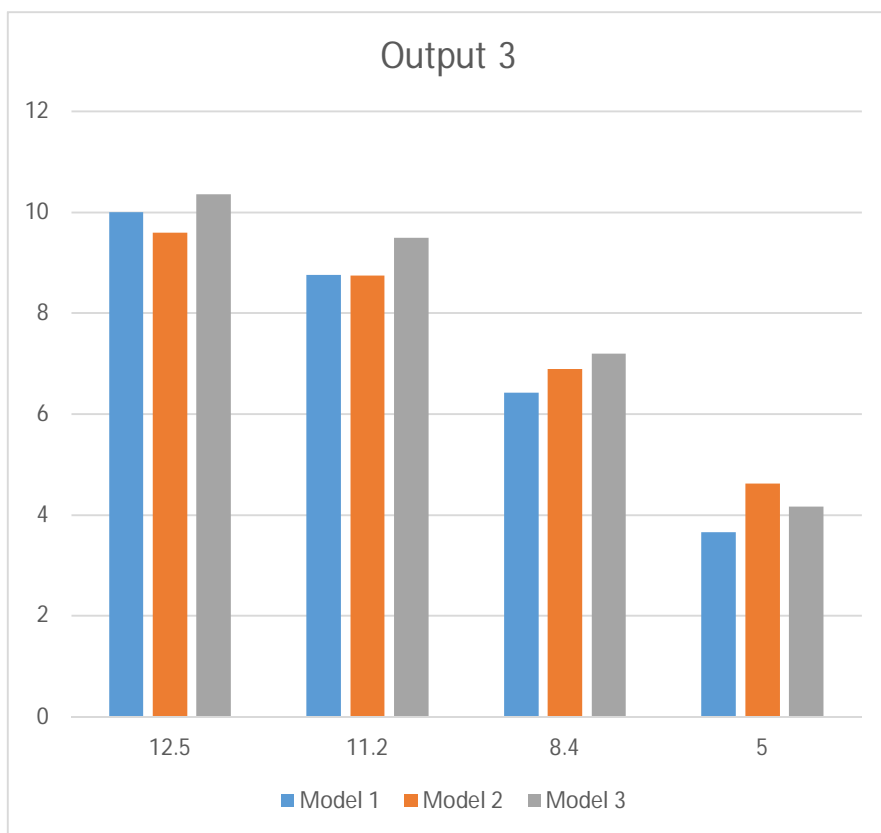


Graph 4: Outlet vs. inlet velocities at outlet-1 of all 3 Models

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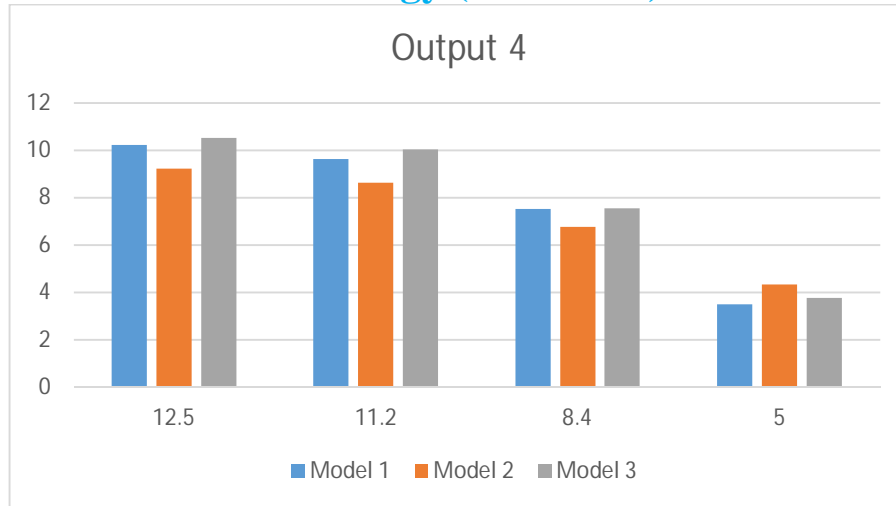


Graph 5: Outlet vs. inlet velocities at outlet-2 of all 3 Models



Graph 6: Outlet vs. inlet velocities at outlet-3 of all 3 Models

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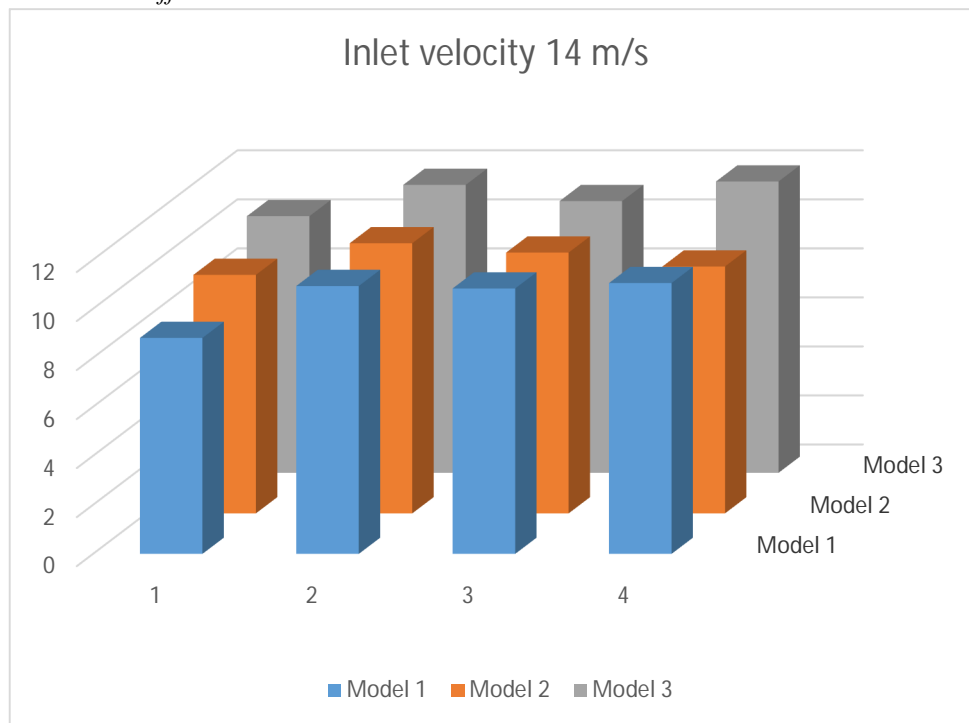


Graph 7: Outlet vs. inlet velocities at outlet-4 of all 3 Models

- 1) *Outlet 1:* Model-1 shows lowest velocity among three models and lowest velocity among four runner also, it shows high radius of curvature in runner geometry has actual bad design configuration for high load vehicles.
- 2) *Outlet 2 and Outlet 3:* Graph shows difference in outlet velocity in Model-1 (actual model) and Model-3(model without curve) while the Model-2(model only with branched runners) show slight high value because of good design of curves at end of runners.
- 3) *Outlet 4:* At outlet 4 model-3 shows highest velocity among two models, the results at outlet 4 shows that may be the inside path of the flow inside the runner plays a significant role and helps in improving results of intake manifold

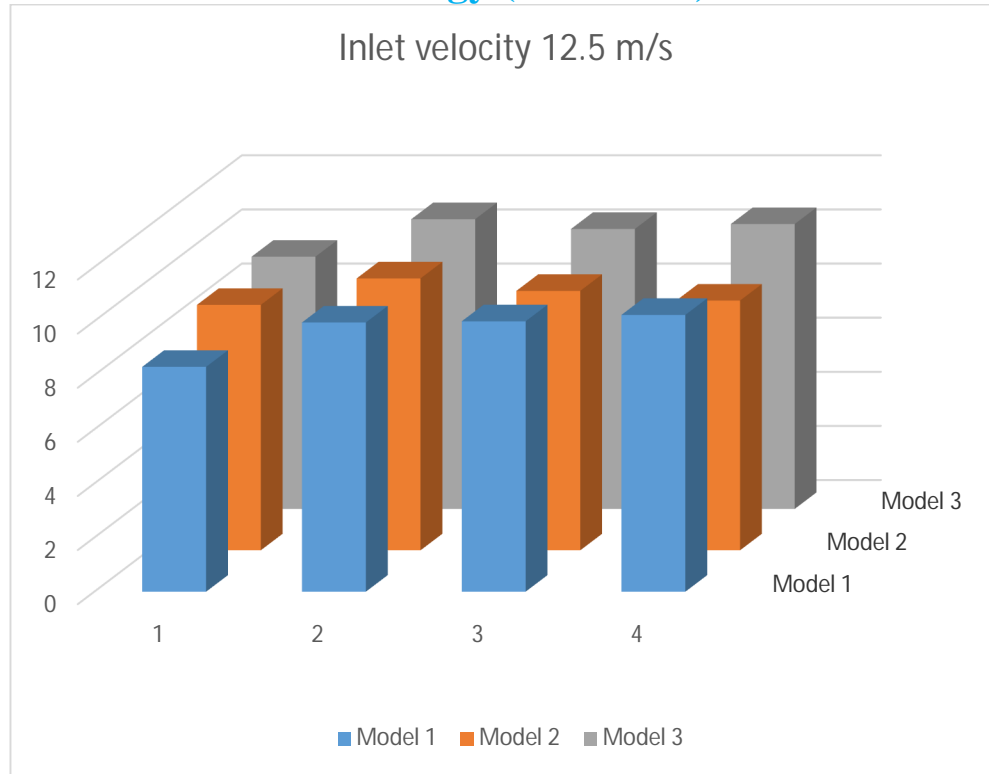
From the above charts we noticed that the model is good at the curving parts of runners and it helps in simulating the velocity equally at the four outlets.

G. Examine the three models at different inlet velocities:

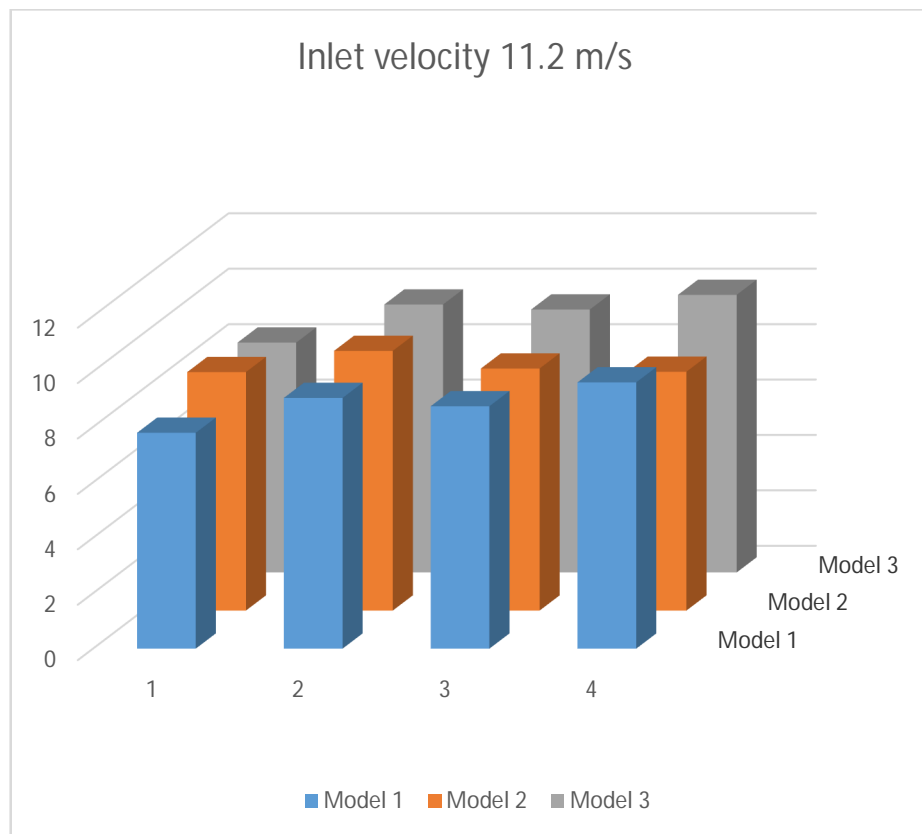


Graph 8: Velocity at outlets vs. outlets of 3 models at Inlet velocity 14m/s

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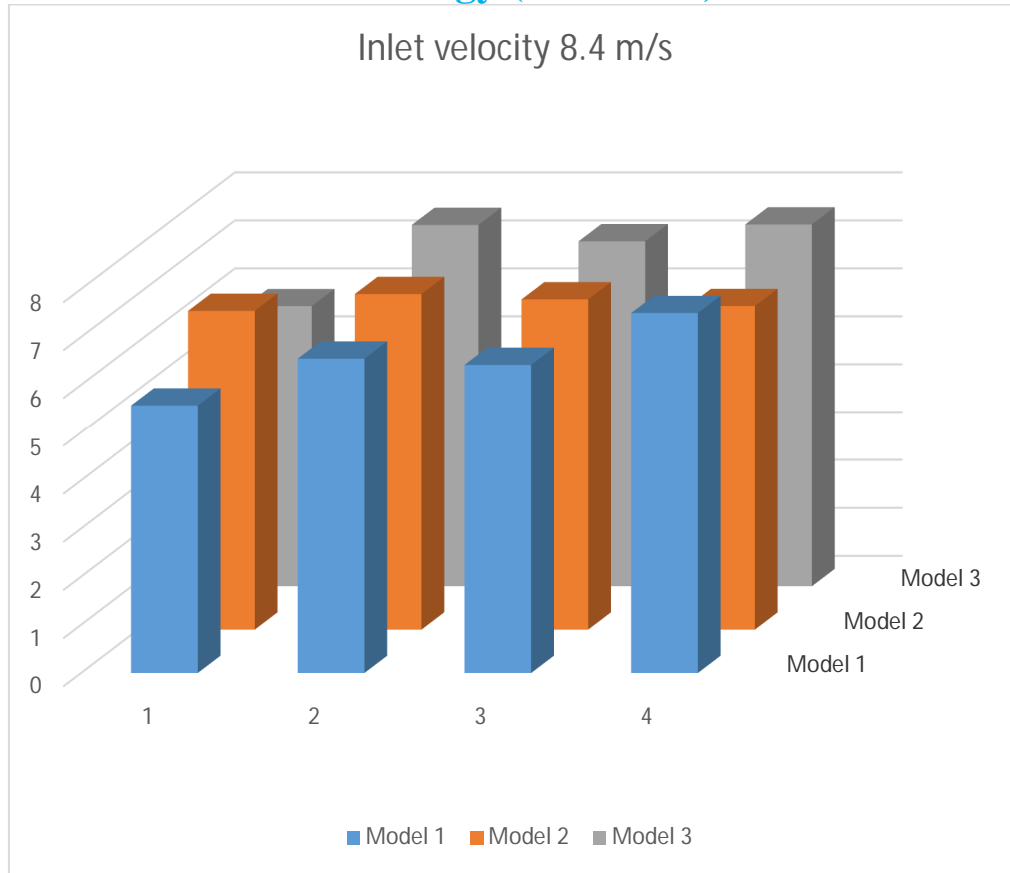


Graph 9: Velocity at outlets vs. outlets of 3 model at Inlet velocity 12.5 m/s

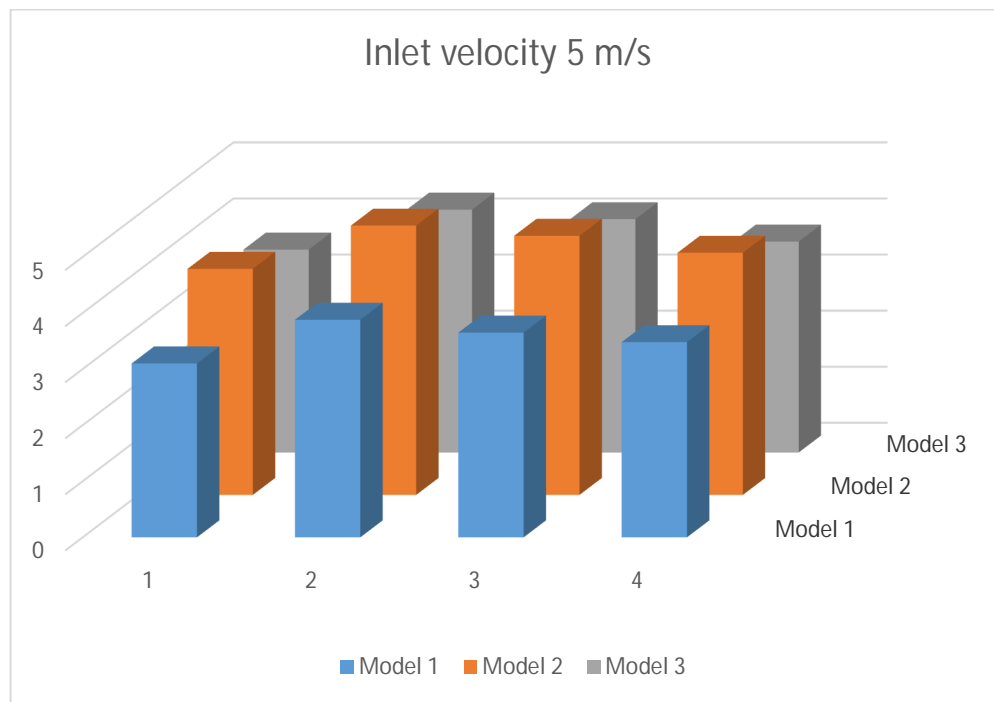


Graph 10: Velocity at outlets vs. outlets of 3 models at Inlet velocity 11.2 m/s

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Graph 11: Velocity at outlets vs. outlets of 3 models at Inlet velocity 8.4 m/s



Graph 12: Velocity at outlets vs. outlets of 3 models at Inlet velocity 5 m/s

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Table 6: Percentage change in outlet velocity in model 2 with respect to model 1

	Outlet 1	Outlet 2	Outlet 3	Outlet 4
14	10.430	0.840	-1.750	- 8.830
12.5	9.150	1.006	-4.036	-9.781
11.2	10.500	3.580	-0.148	-10.304
8.4	19.299	6.809	7.237	-10.066
5	30.0322	23.782	26.602	24.080

Table 7: Percentage change in outlet velocity in model 3 with respect to model 1

	Outlet 1	Outlet 2	Outlet 3	Outlet 4
14	18.828	7.489	2.378	7.567
12.5	12.190	7.639	3.568	2.925
11.2	6.482	6.866	8.457	4.251
8.4	4.901	15.053	12.066	0.610
5	16.670	11.615	13.972	8.045

Maximum percentage change in outlet velocity in model 2 with respect to model 1= 30.0322 at 5m/s and outlet 1.

Maximum percentage change in outlet velocity in model 3 with respect to model 1= 18.828 at 14m/s and outlet 1.

VII. CONCLUSION

After reviewing work of different authors as above it can be easily concluded that intake geometry made a considerable impact on outlet velocity. The main impact is on the volumetric efficiency of the engine which ultimately affects the torque & power produced at different engine speed. The intake manifold model 2 provides a straight and helical path for air to flow and due to combination of these two outlets there is a high percentage increase of outlet velocity in model 2. Intake manifold model 3 is designed with less curvature at the runners. This is shown in results as there is a percentage increase in outlet velocity as compared to actual model. These 3 iterations of intake manifold for G13BB engine have to be selected accordingly in engines operating speed range. Longer intake manifolds give higher torque at lower RPMs while shorter intake manifold tends to give peak torque at high engine RPM. Author's intention is towards studying the effect of shape of inlet manifold runners on outlet velocity and volumetric efficiency of the engine by theoretical & simulation methodologies.

Design software CATIA™ served as a platform to obtain the configuration of the manifolds with different runner curvature and same plenum dimensions, while the CFD simulations enabled to visualize the flow within the manifold. Such simulations give better insight of flow within the manifolds. Design modifications could be done using CFD simulations to enhance the overall performance of the system. Using this method, a better design of manifold giving volumetric efficiency could be achieved.

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude and respect to my mentor Prof. Dr. A.C Tiwari, for his excellent guidance and suggestions. I express my gratitude towards our coordinator Dr. Rakesh Singhai for his insightful comments and contributions. I thank him for his kind help in preparation and presentation of this work.

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