



*Better Decisions, Better Products
Through Simulation & Innovation*

ADDRESSING EMERGING MISSILE PROPULSION REQUIREMENTS WITH THE AIR-TURBO-ROCKET

**By
M.E. Thomas**

**Presented at
Rafael**

November 3, 2005

CFD Research Corporation

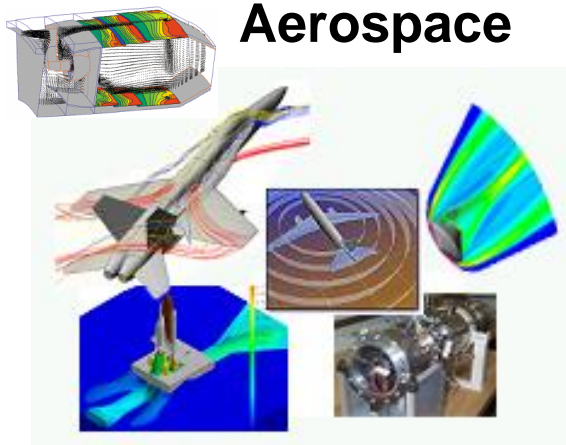
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Business Focus Areas



Aerospace



Aeromechanics - Combustion - Propulsion

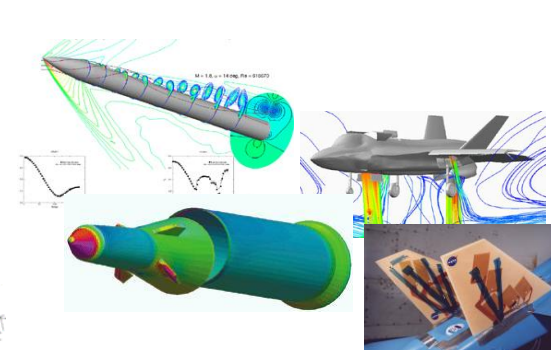
Space Electronics - Plasma

Bio-Medical & Life Sciences



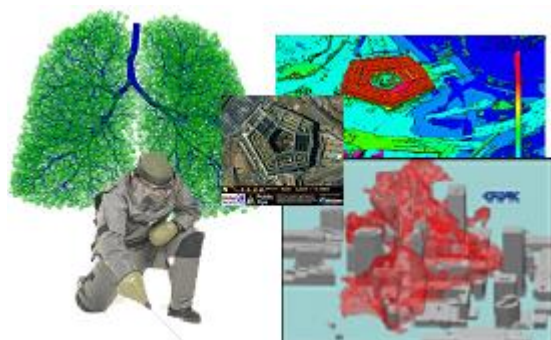
Drug delivery - Bio-Sensors - System Biology - Instruments

Defense



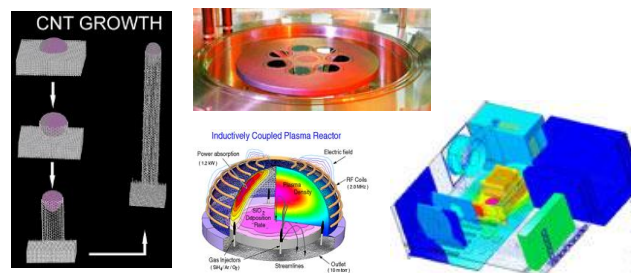
Missile Systems - Aircraft Systems - Space Systems - Radiation Effects - Human Safety

Homeland Security



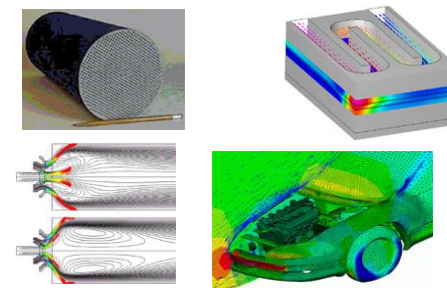
Threat Awareness - Risk Assessment - Sensor Technologies - Human Lethality

Materials and Processes



Semiconductors - IC Fabrication - Plasma - Compound Semiconductors - Nano-materials

Automotive, Chemical & Power



Fuel Cells - Laser Ignition - Climate Control - Industrial Equipment

References



- Monorotor Turbomachinery for Air-Turbo-Rocket Propulsion, M.E. Thomas, AIAA-1995-2804; ASME, SAE, and ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, San Diego, CA, 1995**
- Air-Turbo-Rocket Combustion, M. Thomas and A. Leonard, AIAA-1995-0813, Aerospace Sciences Meeting & Exhibit, Reno, NV, 1995**
- Air Turbo-Rocket Solid Propellant Development and Testing, M. Ostrander and M. Thomas, AIAA-1997-3258, AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, Seattle WA, 1997**
- Customized Turbomachinery for Solid-Propellant Air Turbo Rockets, J.A. Bossard and M.E. Thomas, AIAA-1997-3257, AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, Seattle, WA, 1997**
- The Influence of Turbomachinery Characteristics on Air Turbo Rocket Engine Operation, J.A. Bossard and M.E. Thomas, AIAA-2000-3308, AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, Huntsville, AL, 2000**

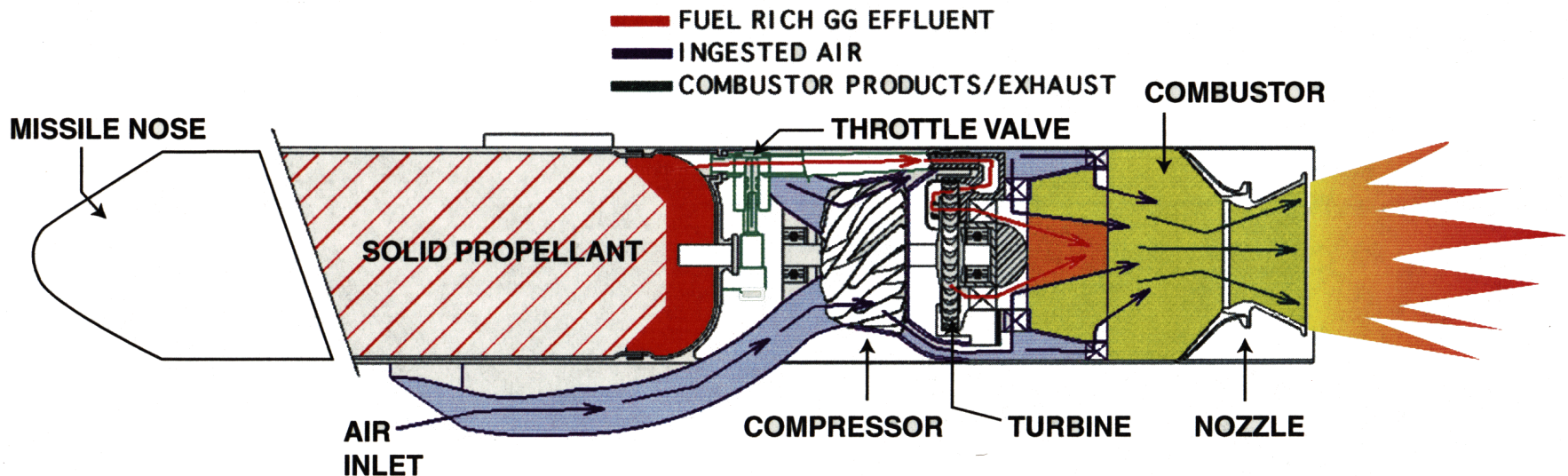
- Addressing Emerging Tactical Missile Propulsion Challenges with the Solid Propellant Air-Turbo-Rocket, M.E. Thomas, J.A. Bossard, and M. Ostrander, AIAA-2000-3309, AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, Huntsville, AL, 2000**
- Pintle Motor Challenges for Tactical Missiles, M.J. Ostrander, J.L. Bergmans, M.E. Thomas, and Burroughs, AIAA-2000-3310, AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, Huntsville, AL, 2000**
- Vehicle Performance Optimization Utilizing the Air Turbo-Ramjet Propulsion System; Methodology and Development and Applications, K. Christensen, Dissertation-University of Missouri-Rolla, 1997**
- Experimental Evaluation of an Air Turbo Ramjet, J.S. Lilley, S.E. Hecht, B.G. Kirkham, C.A. Eadon, AIAA-1994-3386, AIAA/ASME/SAE/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference & Exhibit, Indianapolis, IN, 1994**

The Air Turbo Rocket

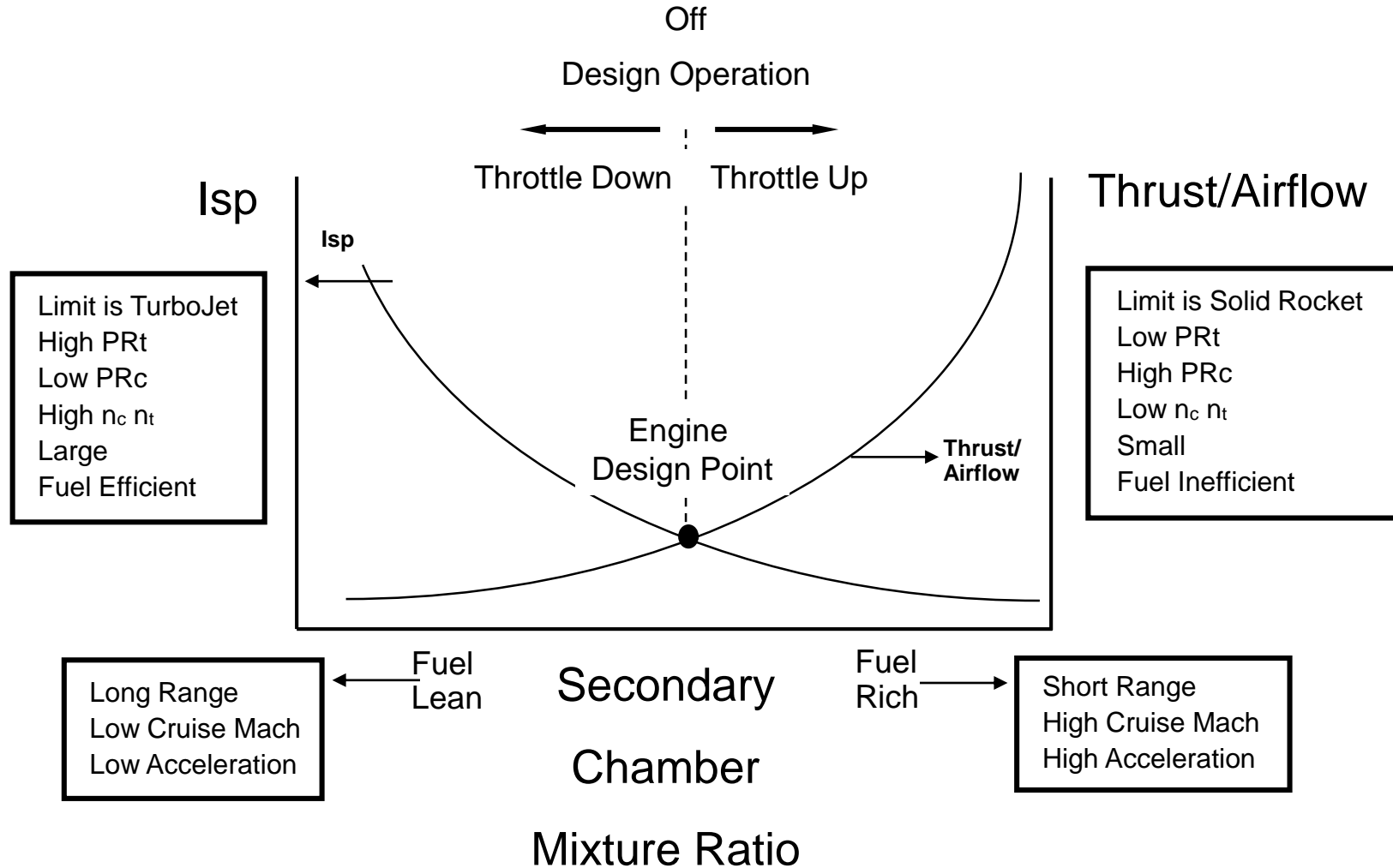
What Is It?

ATR - Air Turbo Rocket:

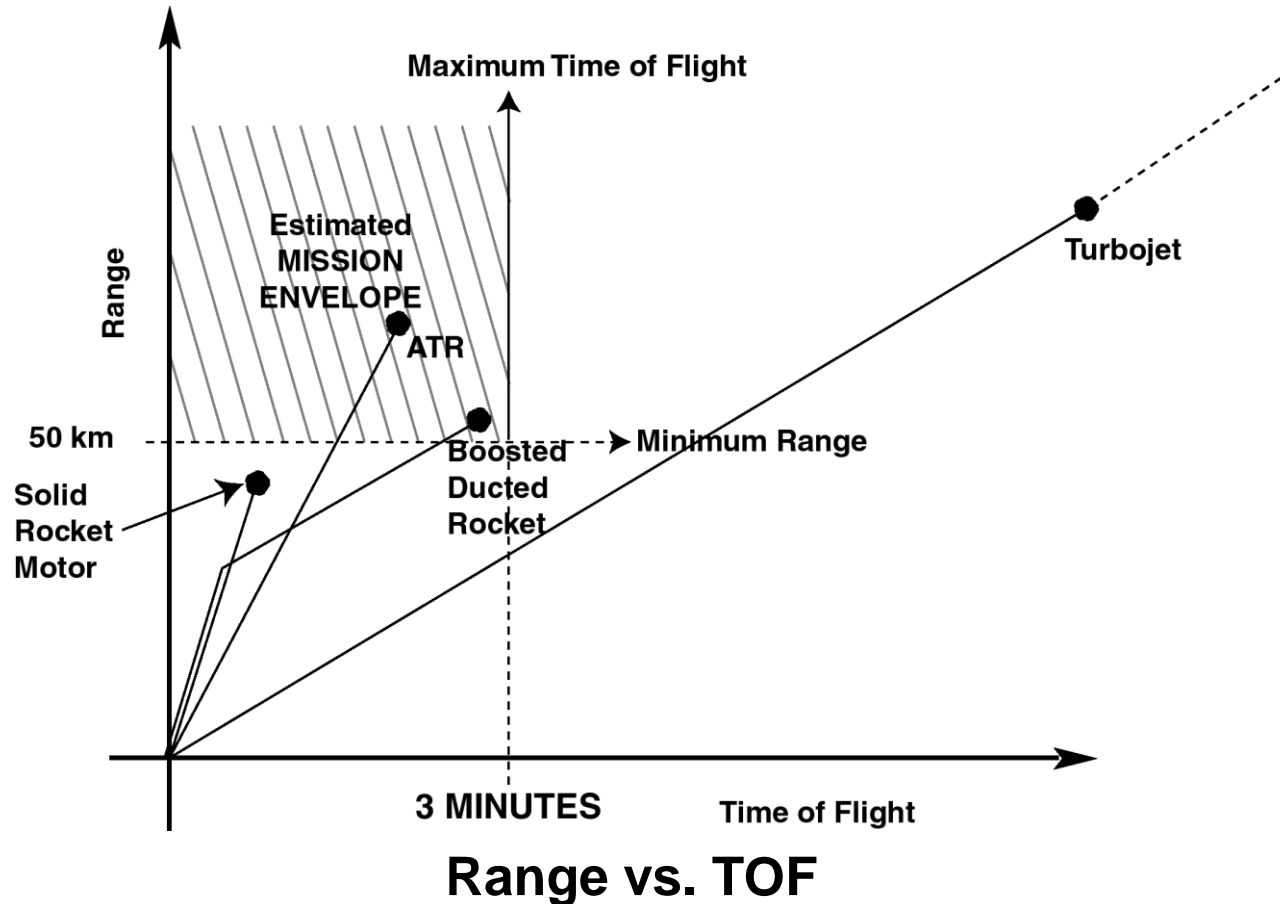
A Hybrid Propulsion System Blending the High Thrust of a Rocket with the Fuel Economy of a Turbojet



Performance Tradeoff



Special Attribute

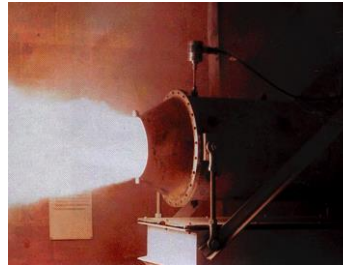


- Makes Range and TOF Constraints with Margin

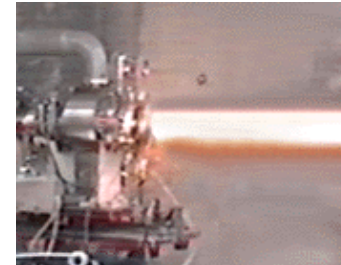
Technology Status

- **Prior ATR Demonstrations**
 - Solid (2)
 - Liquid Bipropellant (1)
 - Monopropellant (1)

Aerojet 1982 - 1989



AMCOM 1988 - 1991



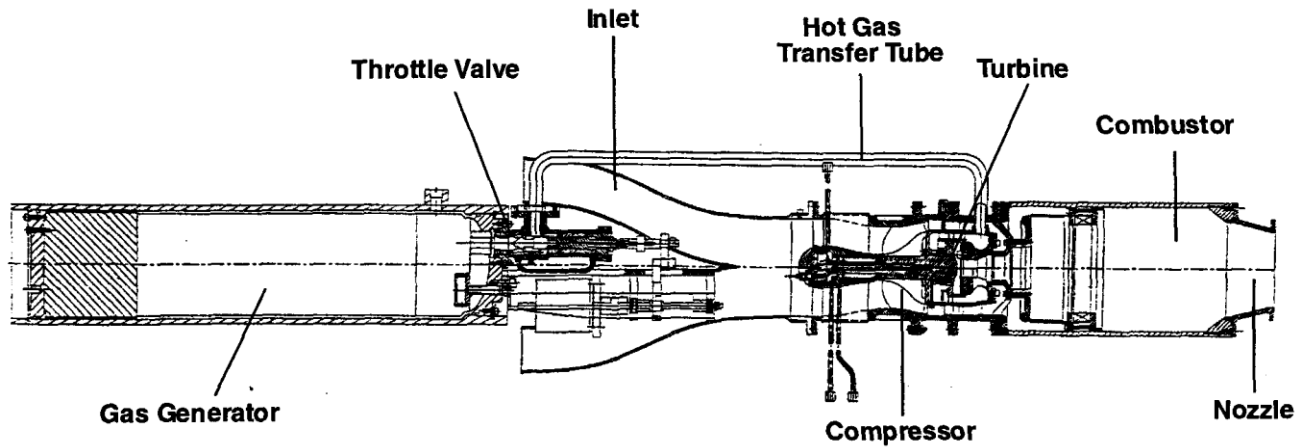
CFDRC 1995 - 2002



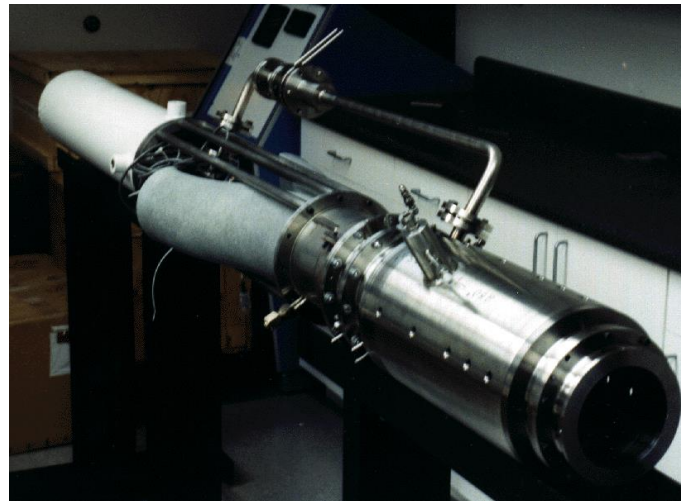
- **High-Performance Six-Inch Developed**
- **Critical Component Demonstrations Completed**
 - Propellant
 - Turbomachinery
 - Throttling
- **Studies on Smaller (3 inch Diameter) and Larger (>> 6 inch Diameter) ATRs Scaled from Current Demonstrator Completed**

Air Turbo Rocket

Engine Demonstrator

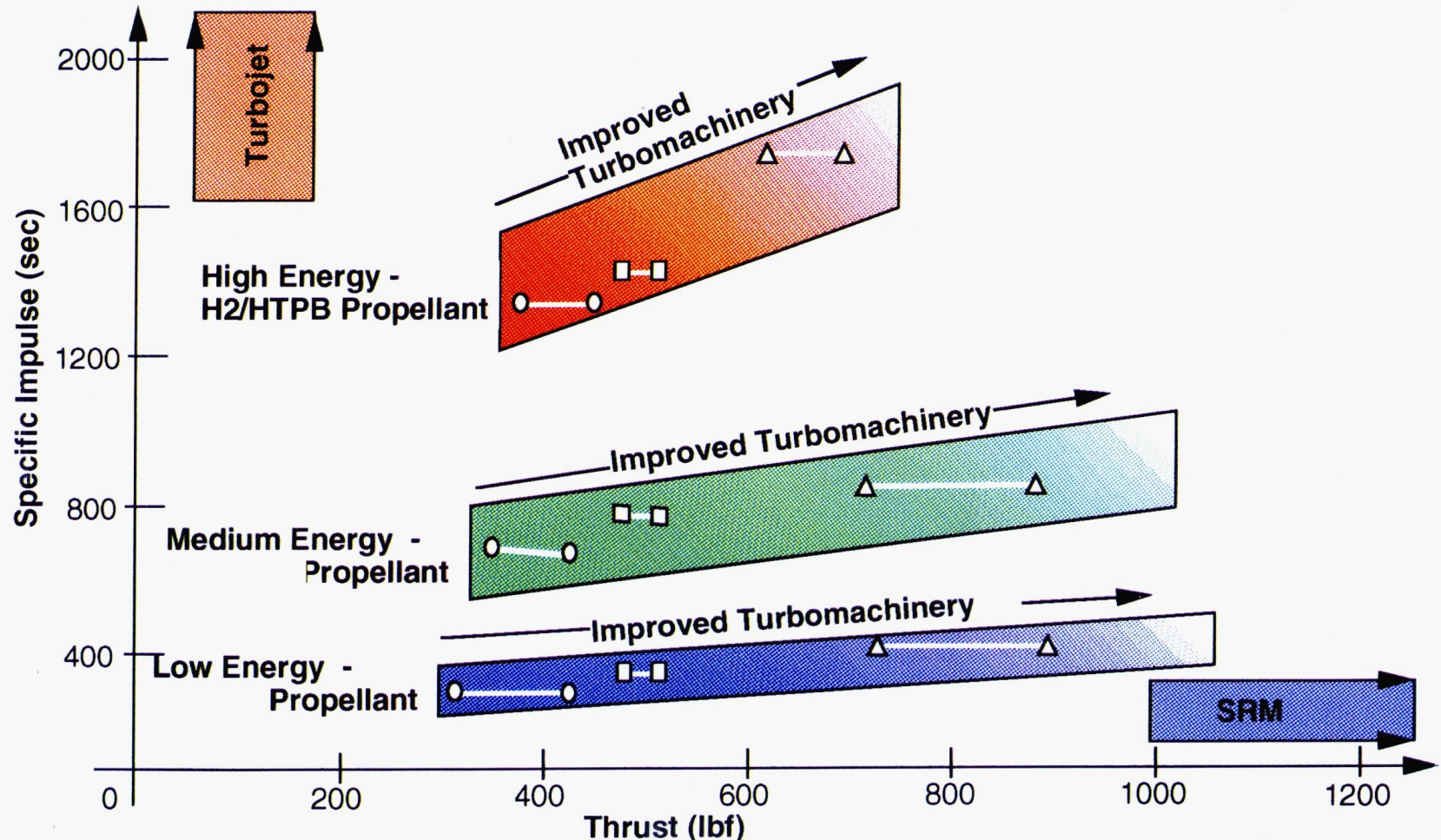


Hardware Schematic



Demonstrator Engine

Gas Generator/Turbomachinery Matching Critical

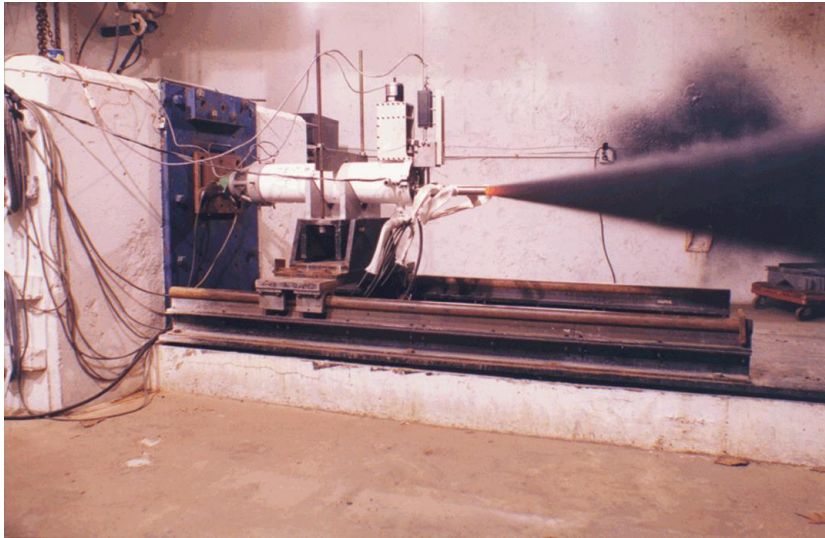


Air Turbo Rocket

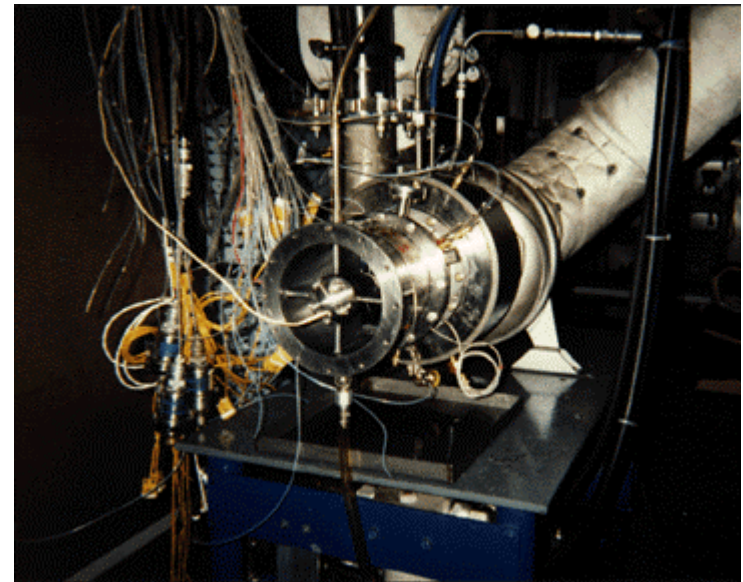
Component Testing



Solid Propellant Gas Generator



Turbomachinery



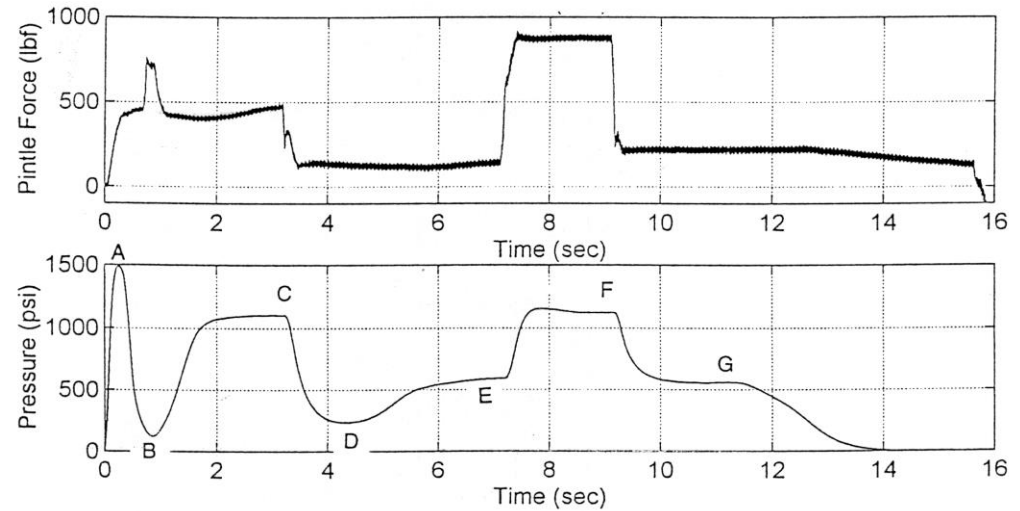
Air Turbo Rocket

Throttle Valve

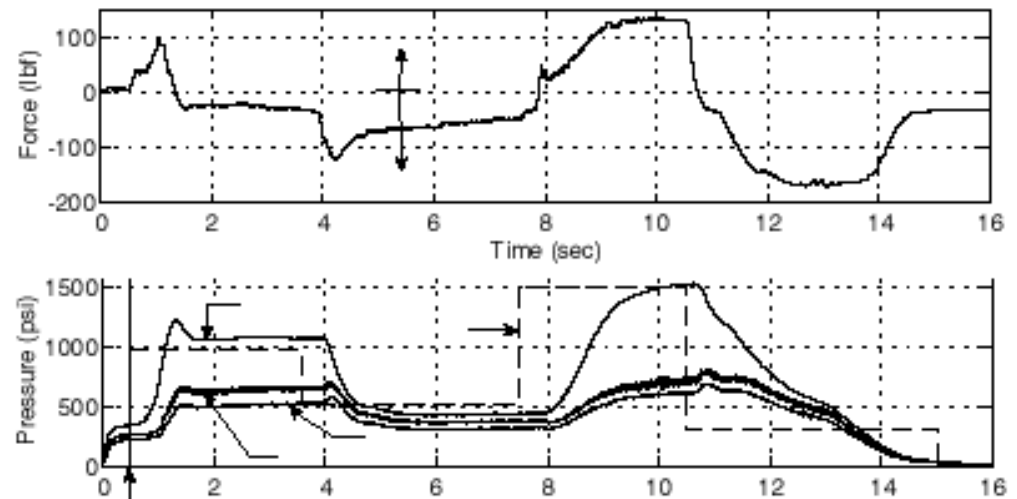


Prototype Throttle Valve

No Pressure Balance



Pressure Balance



Turbomachinery



Air Turbo Rocket

Compressor



Turbine



Diffuser

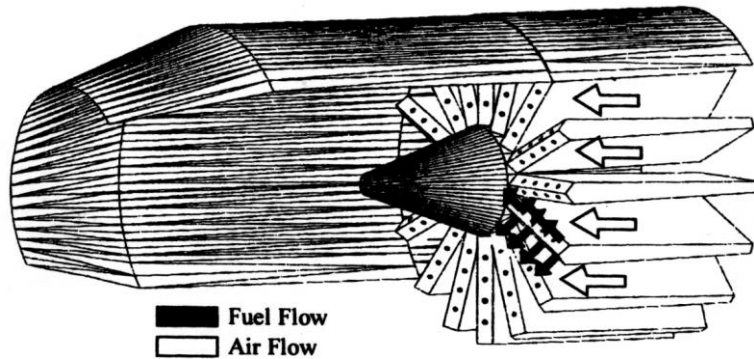


Re-Entry Manifold

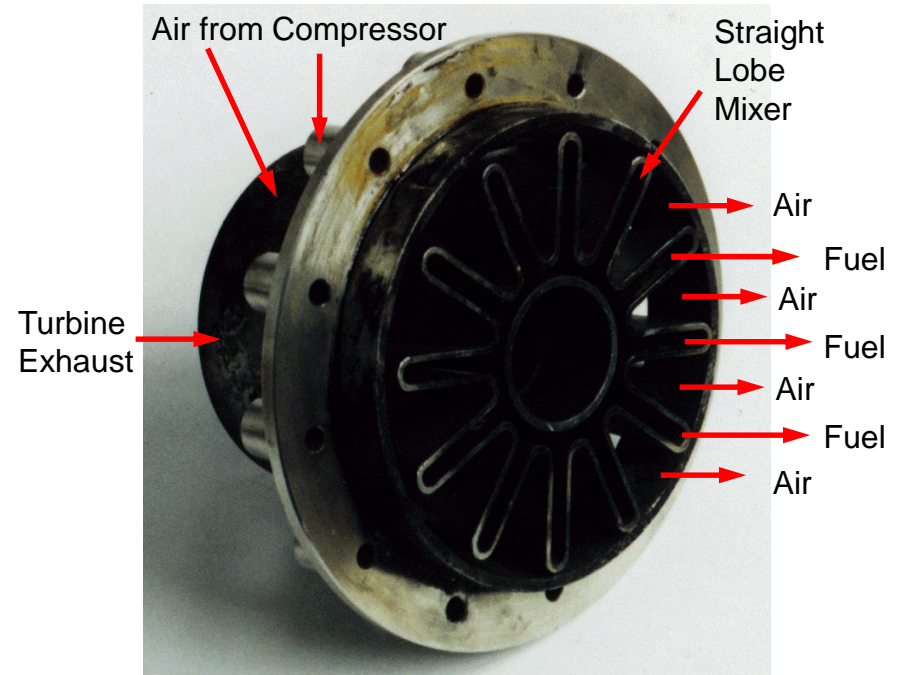


Air Turbo Rocket

Aerojet

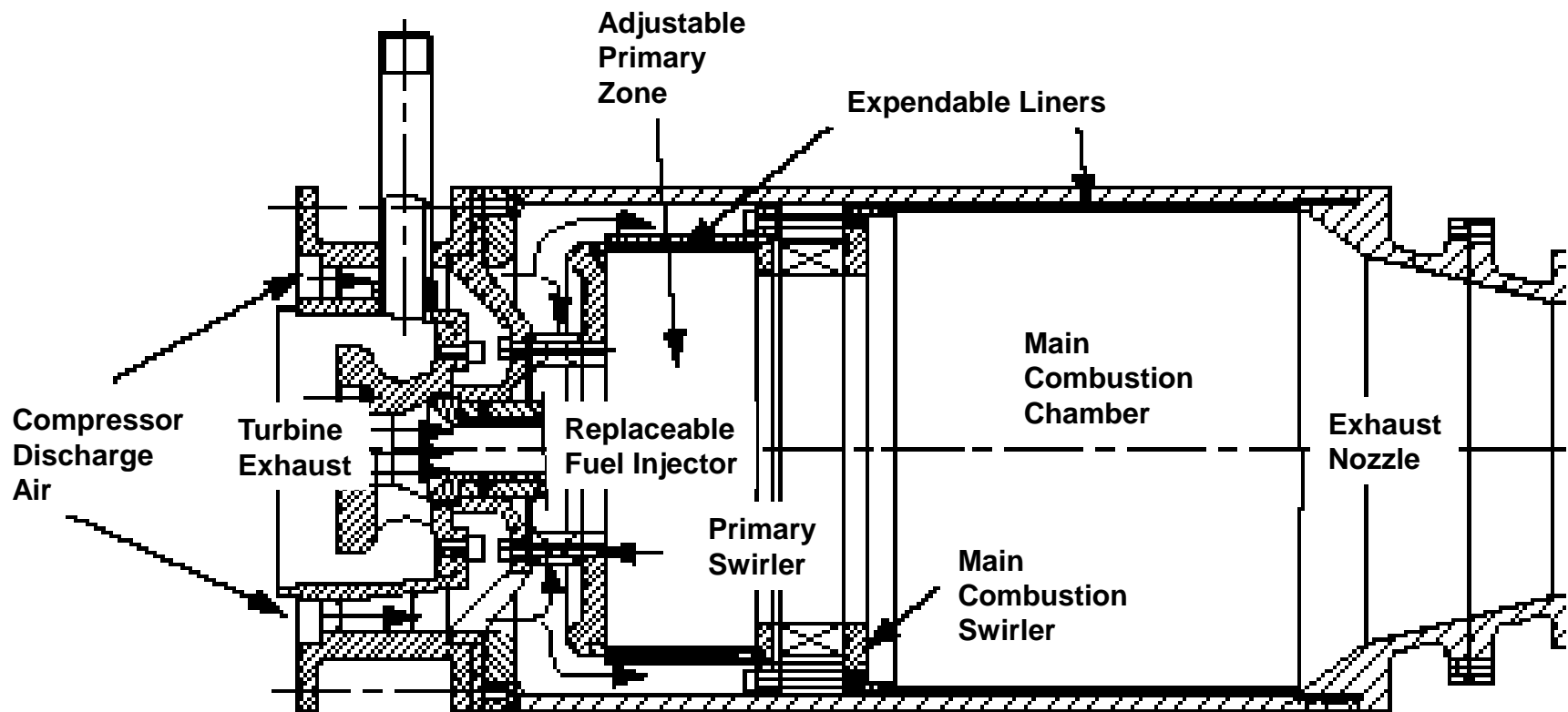


AMCOM



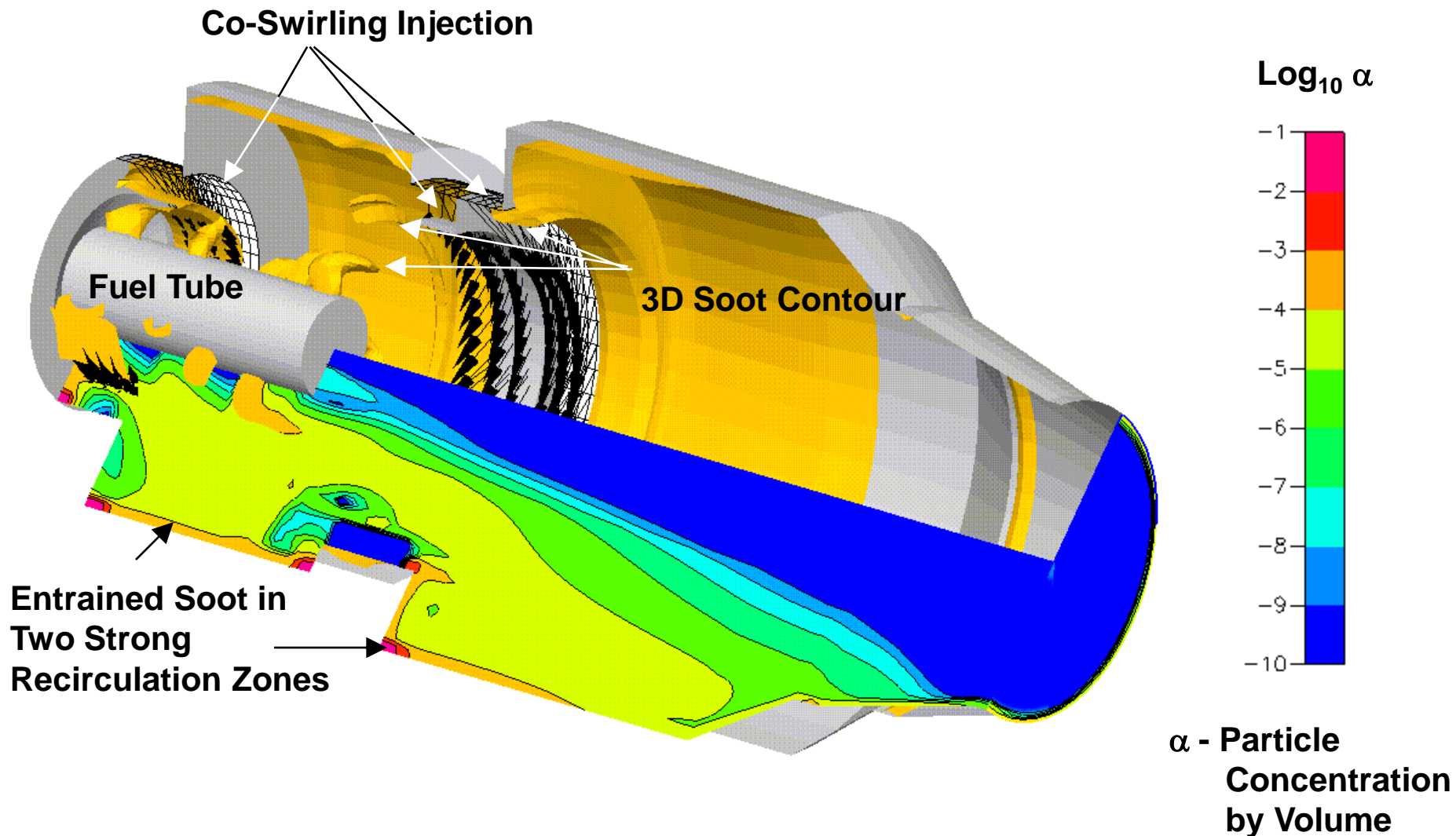
Swirl Stabilized Combustion

Mixing, Particulate Resident Time and Lean Stability Key Focuses



Air Turbo Rocket

Combustor Simulation



ATR Engine Analysis Software

Configuration Set-Up

Design Conditions

Mach	Altitude (ft)	Set
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Engine Core Diameter (In)	Set
<input type="text"/>	

Components

Propellant	Not Selected Yet
Inlet	Not Selected Yet
Compressor	Not Selected Yet
Turbine	Not Selected Yet
Combustor	Not Selected Yet
Nozzle	Not Selected Yet
Miscellaneous	Not Selected Yet

Execution

Write ATR Design Code Input File

File Edit Selections

INPUT	OUTPUT	DFL	SHORT
-------	--------	-----	-------



Execute Design Code

Design Output Data

Thrust (lbf)	Isp	Pgg (psi)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Air Flow (lbm/sec)	Fuel Flow (lbm/sec)	Equiv. Ratio
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

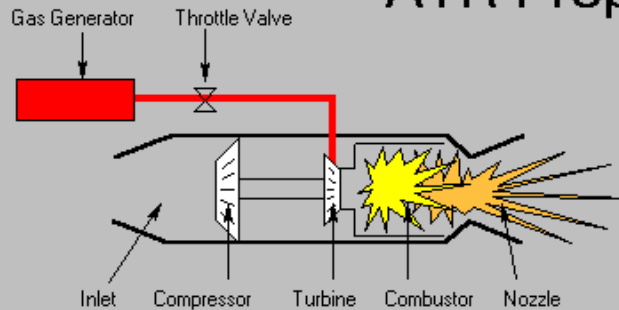
Plot Organization ☐ Show ☒ Hide

Run ATR Off-Design Code

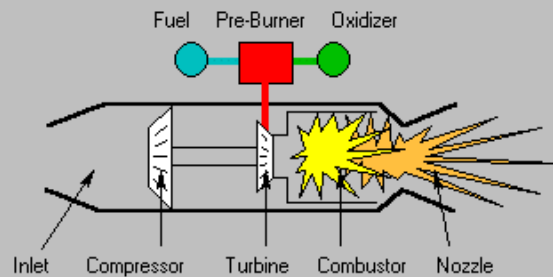
Create Map

Single Point

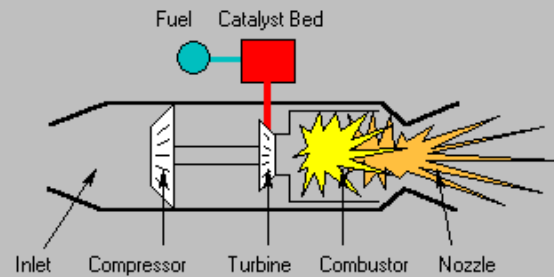
ATR Propellant Selection



Solid Propellant



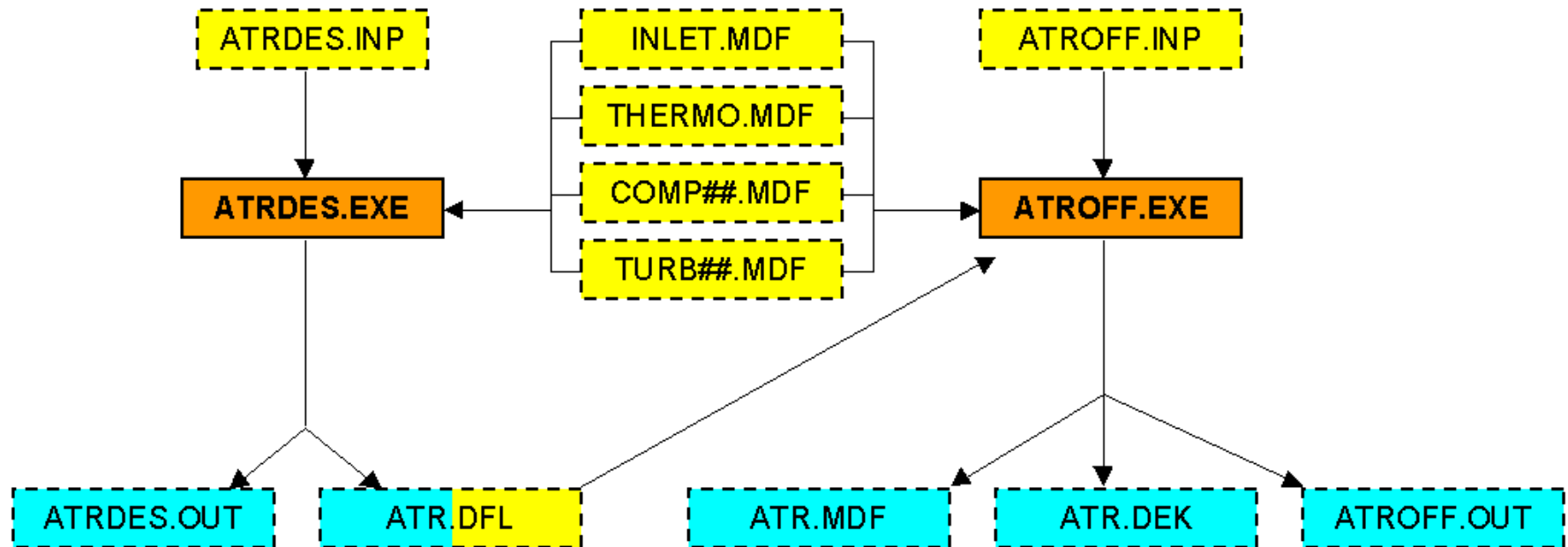
Liquid Bi-Propellant



Liquid Mono-Propellant



File Structure



Air Turbo Rocket

Off-Design Execution



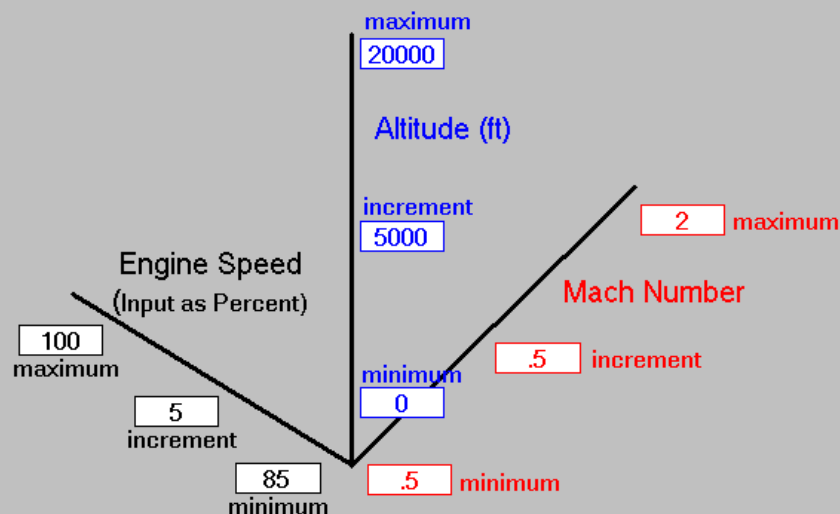
Run using executable:

D:\PROJECTS\ATR_NAIC\ATRCODES\COMPILE\DEBUG\
ATROFF.EXE

Run in this directory...

D:\PROJECTS\ATR_NAIC\GUI

An engine map is created by specifying a three-dimensional set of Mach numbers, altitudes, and engine speeds. You will enter values for the minimum and maximum of each of these three parameters, as well as the increment between the two extremes.



☐ Debug Output
☒ Standard Output

Run Off-Design

Edit Options

ATR.DFL

ATROFF.INP

ATROFF.OUT

ATR.DEK



Engine Analysis Software Validation

Utilize AMCOM Solid and Monopropellant Test Data

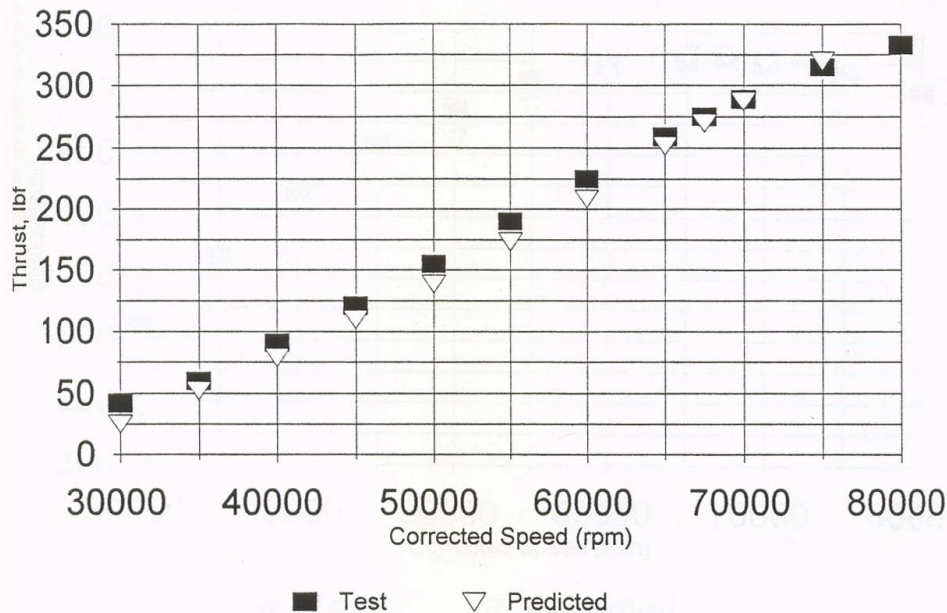


Air Turbo Rocket

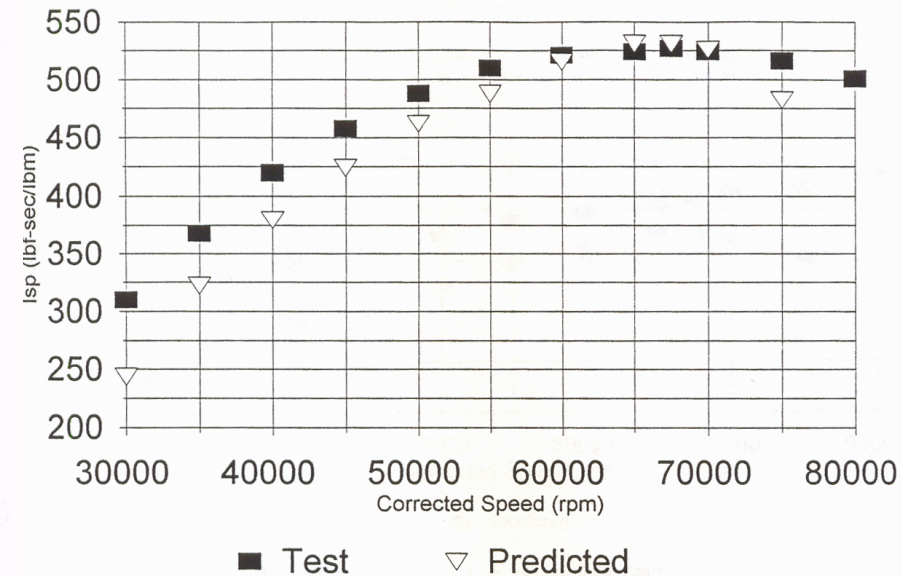
System Software Validation



Thrust



Isp



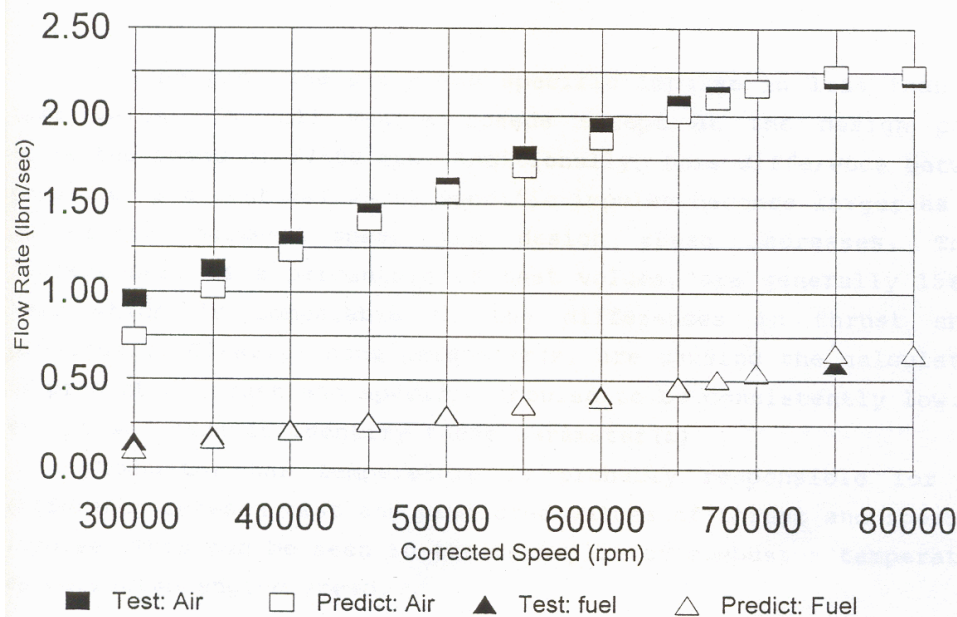
- 1991 AMCOM Test Data

Air Turbo Rocket

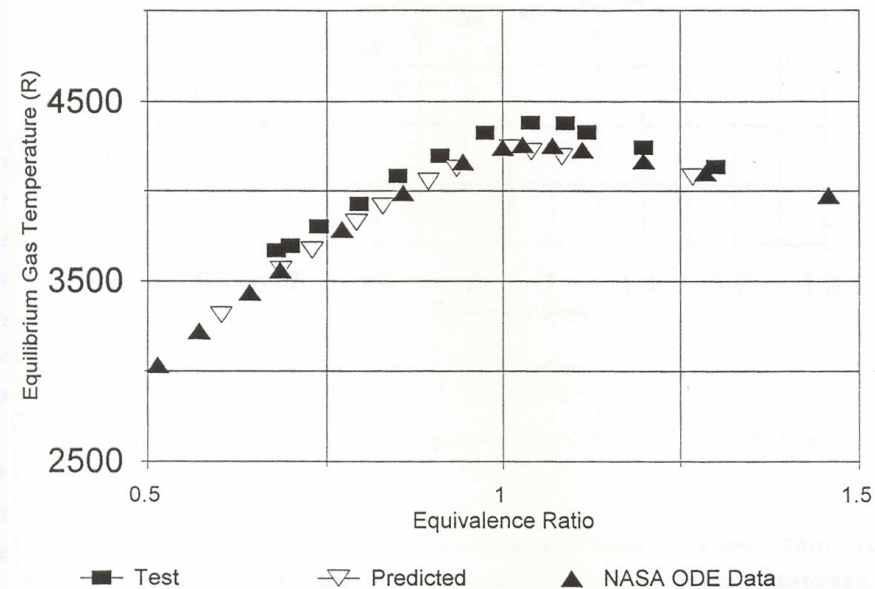
System Software Validation



Flow Rate



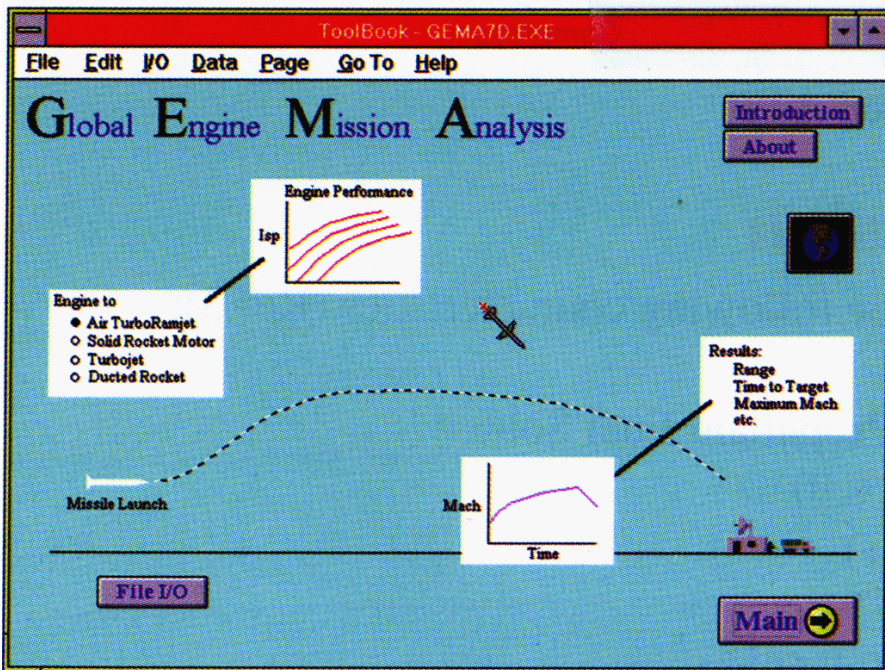
Equilibrium Gas Temp



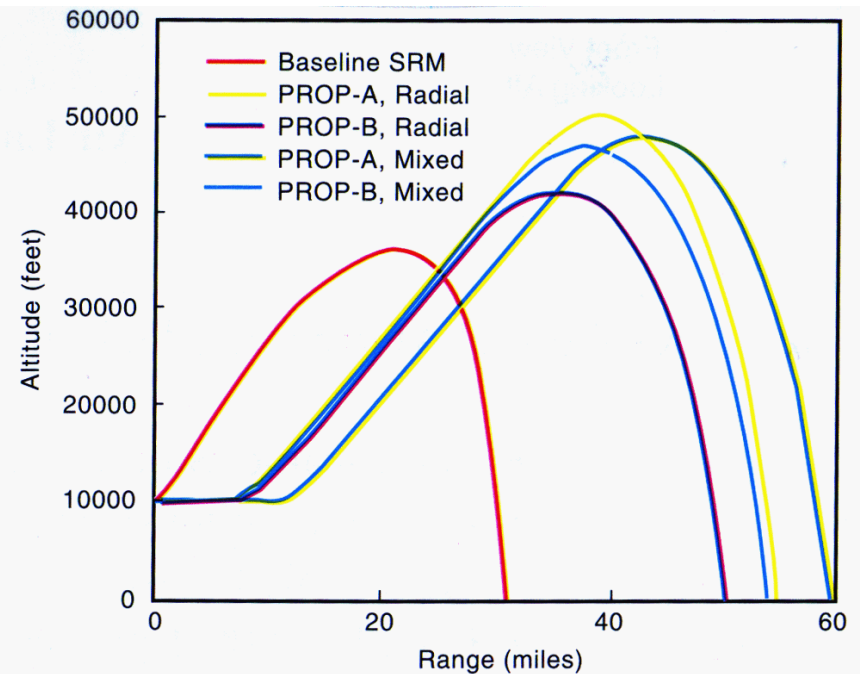
- 1991 AMCOM Test Data

Air Turbo Rocket

Trajectory Analysis Software Output



GEMA Graphical User Interface



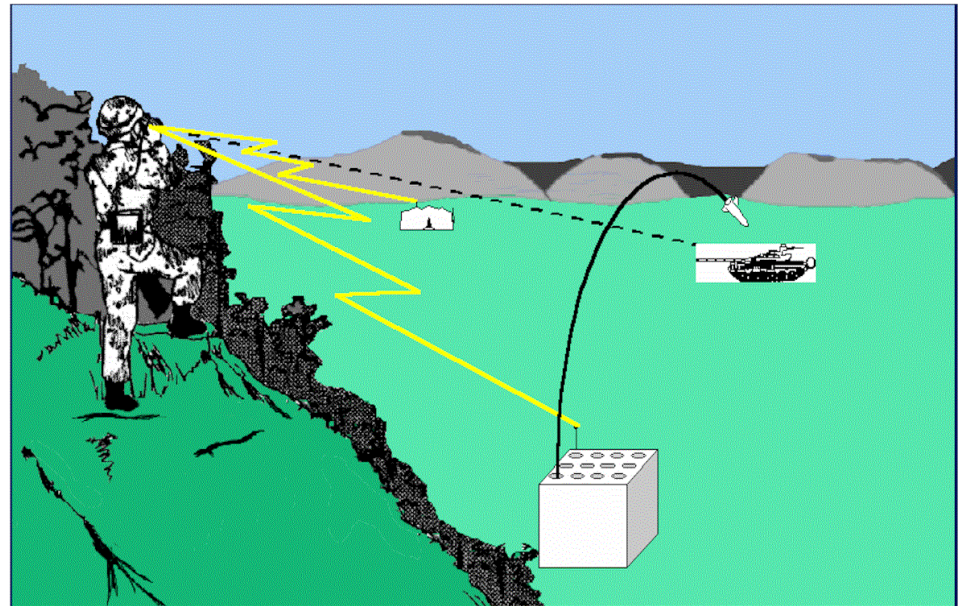
Sample Results Showing Propellant/
Compressor Influences on Vehicle Range

Vehicle/Trajectory Analysis

- **Ground Launched Fire Support (GLFS)**
- **Air to Ground (ATG)**
- **Low-Cost Cruise Missile Defense (LCCMD)**

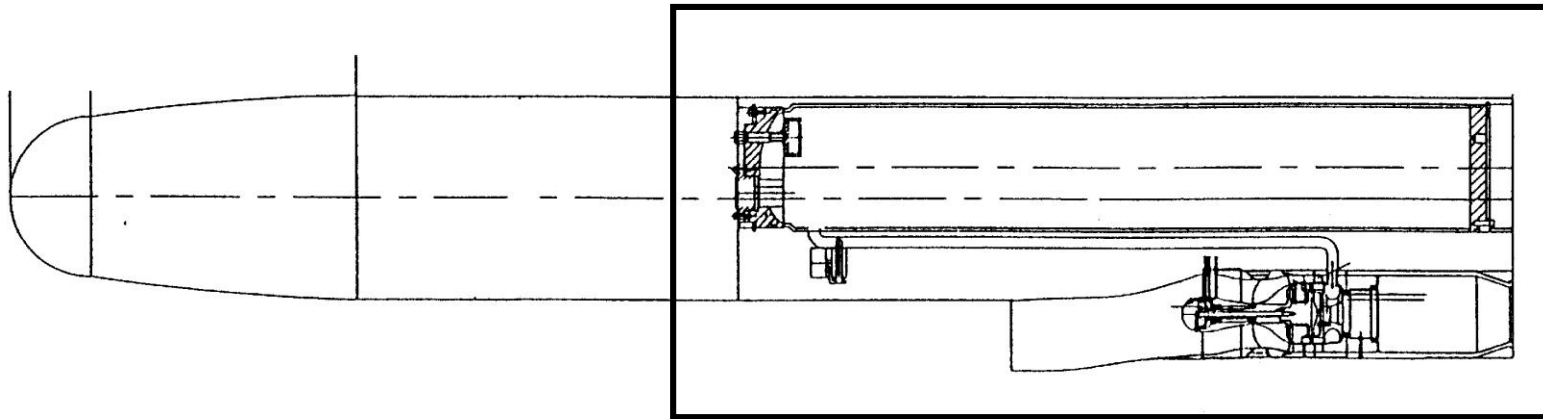
Missile System Features:

- Containerized Packaging
- Vertical Launch
- Multi-Mission Capability
- Rapid Response



Baseline Configuration

Same Propulsion Volume as a Pintle Motor Baseline



**Established
Propulsion
Volume**

Results:

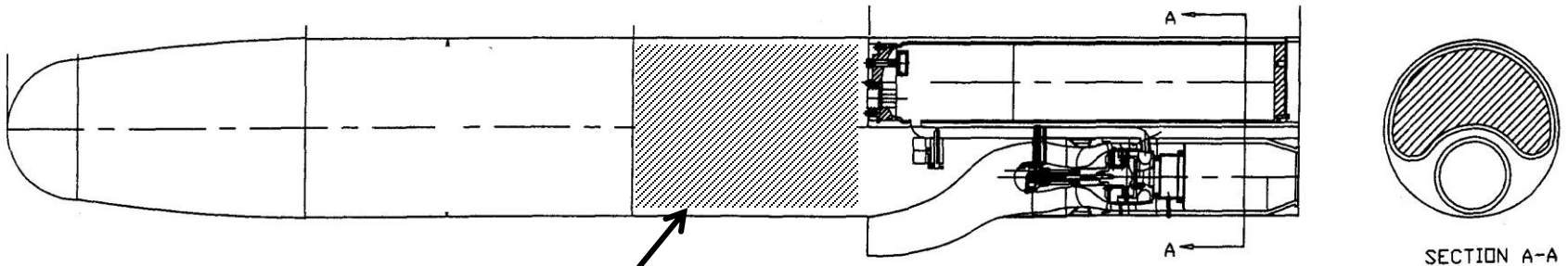
- **2-3 Times the Range of a Baseline Pintle Motor Depending Upon Propellant**
- **30% Increased Cost Over a Conventional SRM**
- **Maximum Mission Flexibility**

Fly-Out Results – 2 Profiles

	ATR	PM
Horizontal Cruise	40 km	13.2 km
Boost/Glide	237 km	50 km

An Alternate Configuration

ATR Propulsion Volume Sized to Deliver Pintle Motor Range



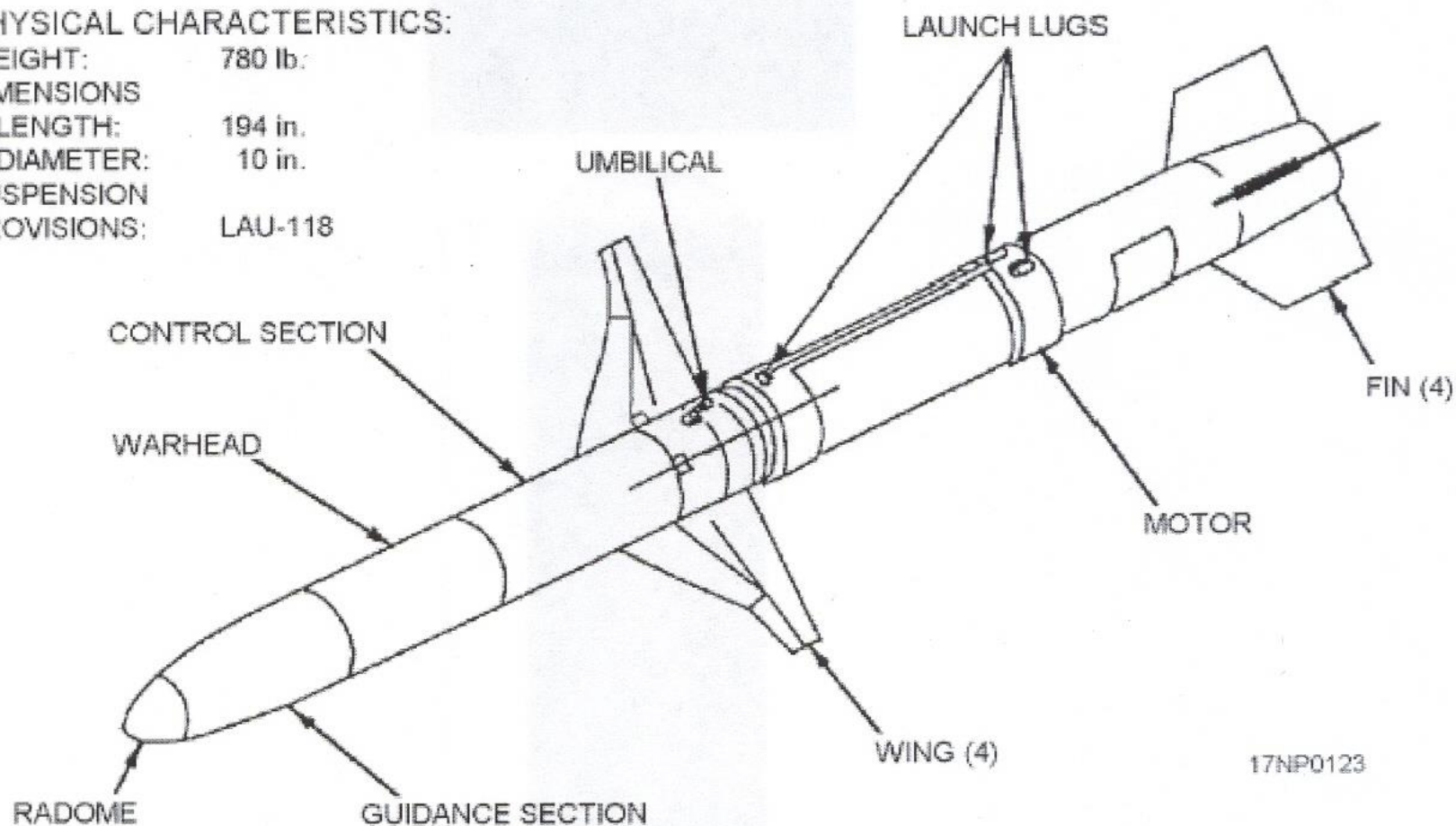
- **Increased Available Payload Volume - 36%**
- **Increased Available Payload Weight - 19 Pounds**
- **Comparable Mission Flexibility to Pintle Motors and Gels**

Air-To-Ground (ATG)



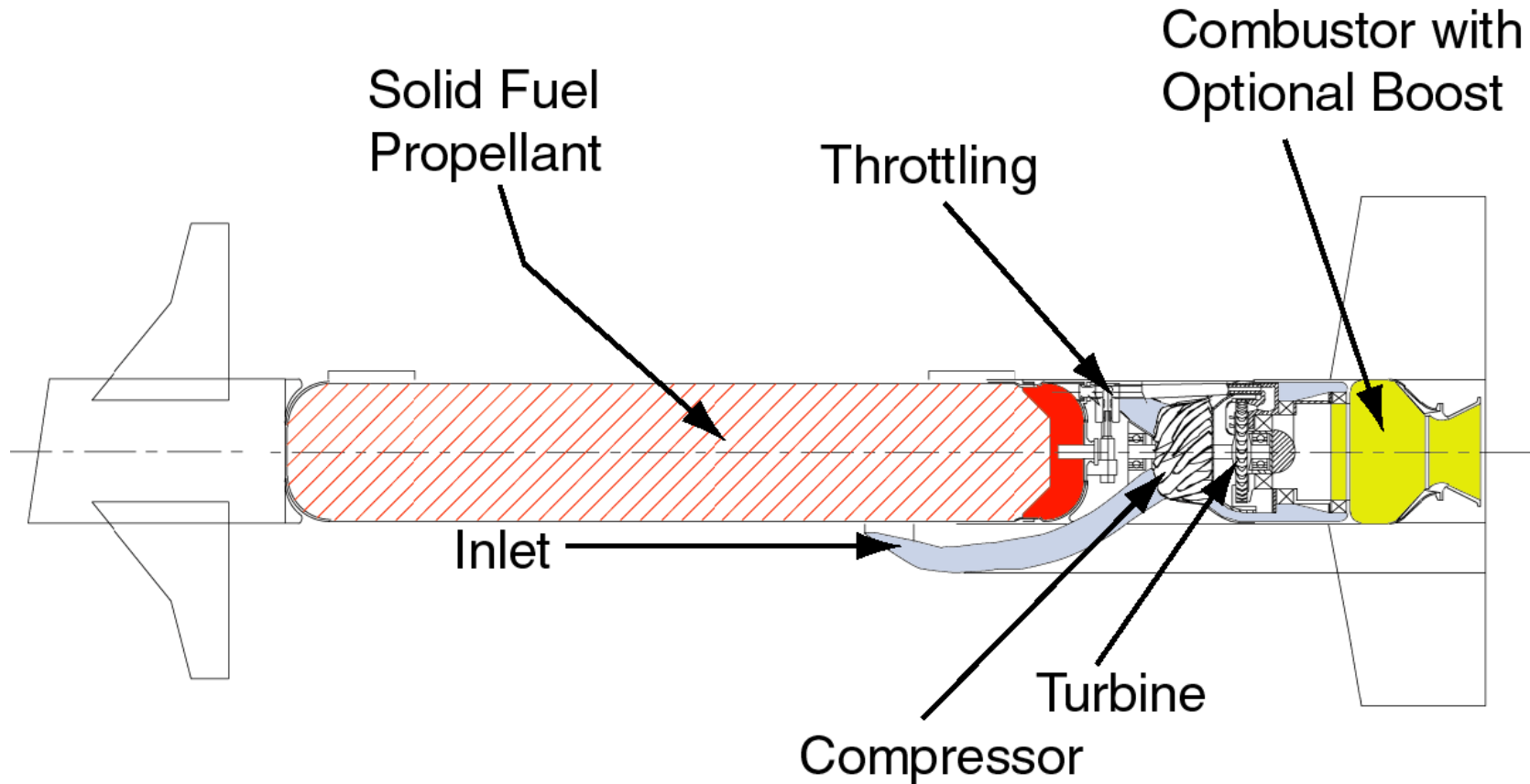
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

WEIGHT: 780 lb.
DIMENSIONS
LENGTH: 194 in.
DIAMETER: 10 in.
SUSPENSION
PROVISIONS: LAU-118



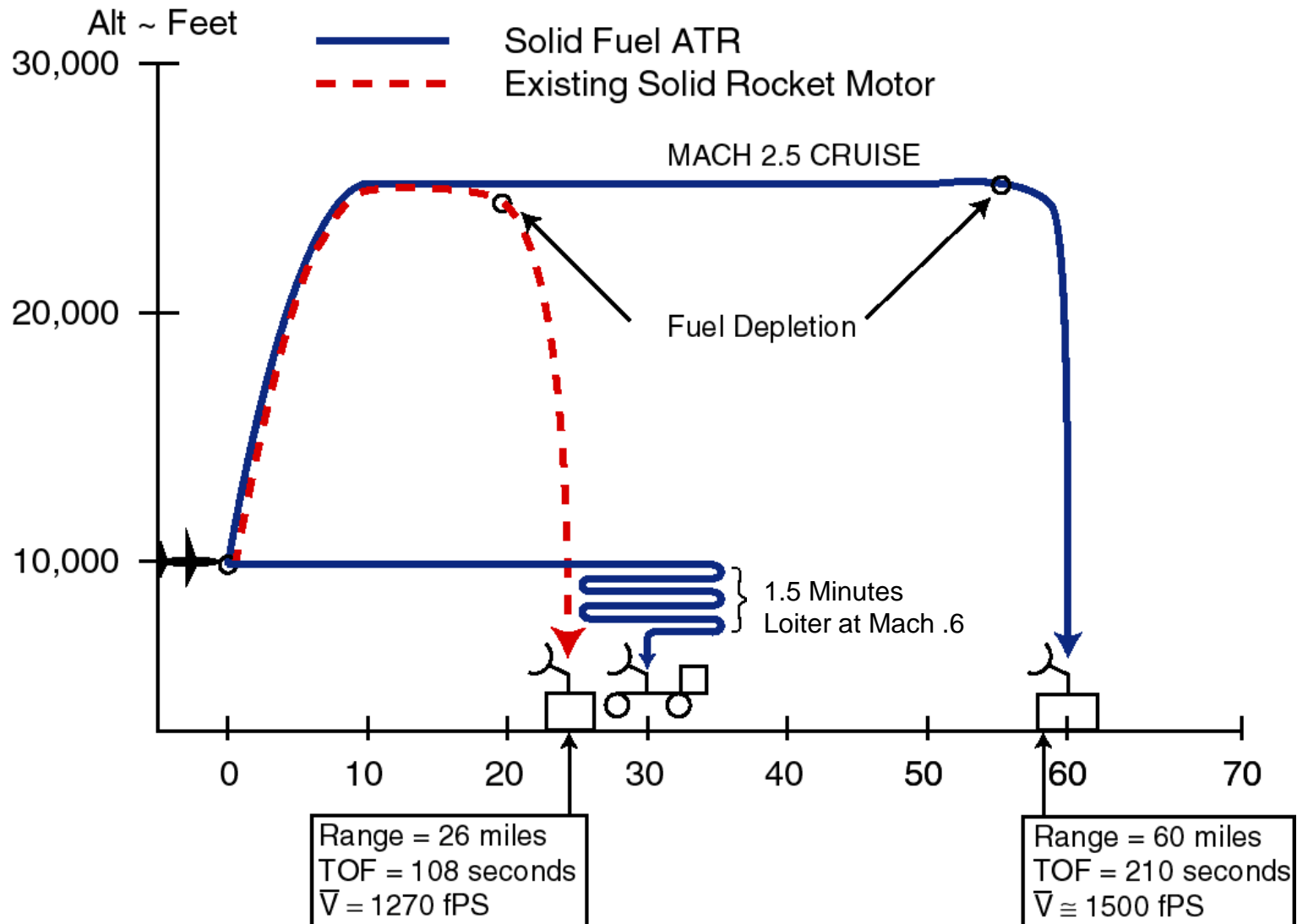
17NP0123

Missile Integration

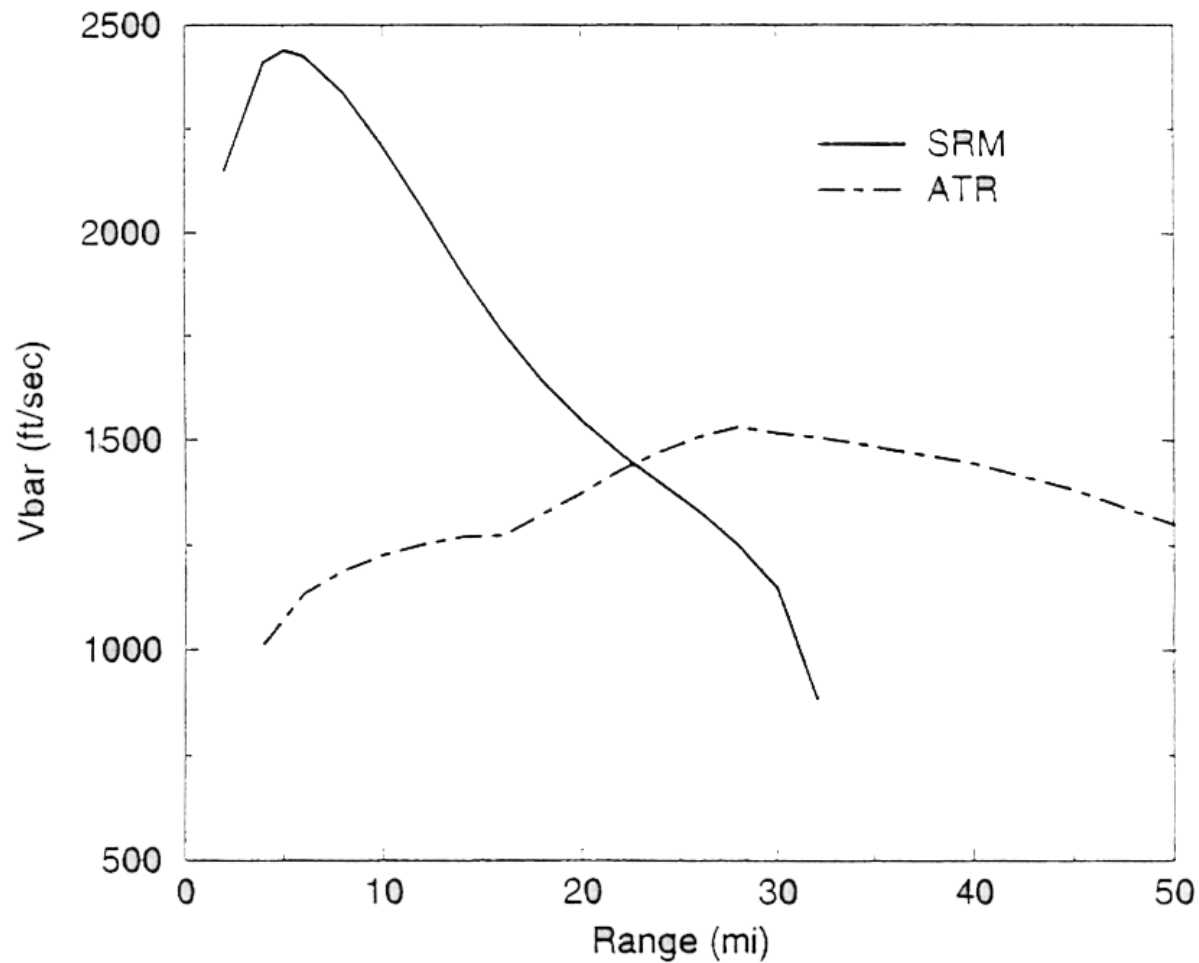


Air Launched Missile Integration

Fly-Out Results – 3 Profiles



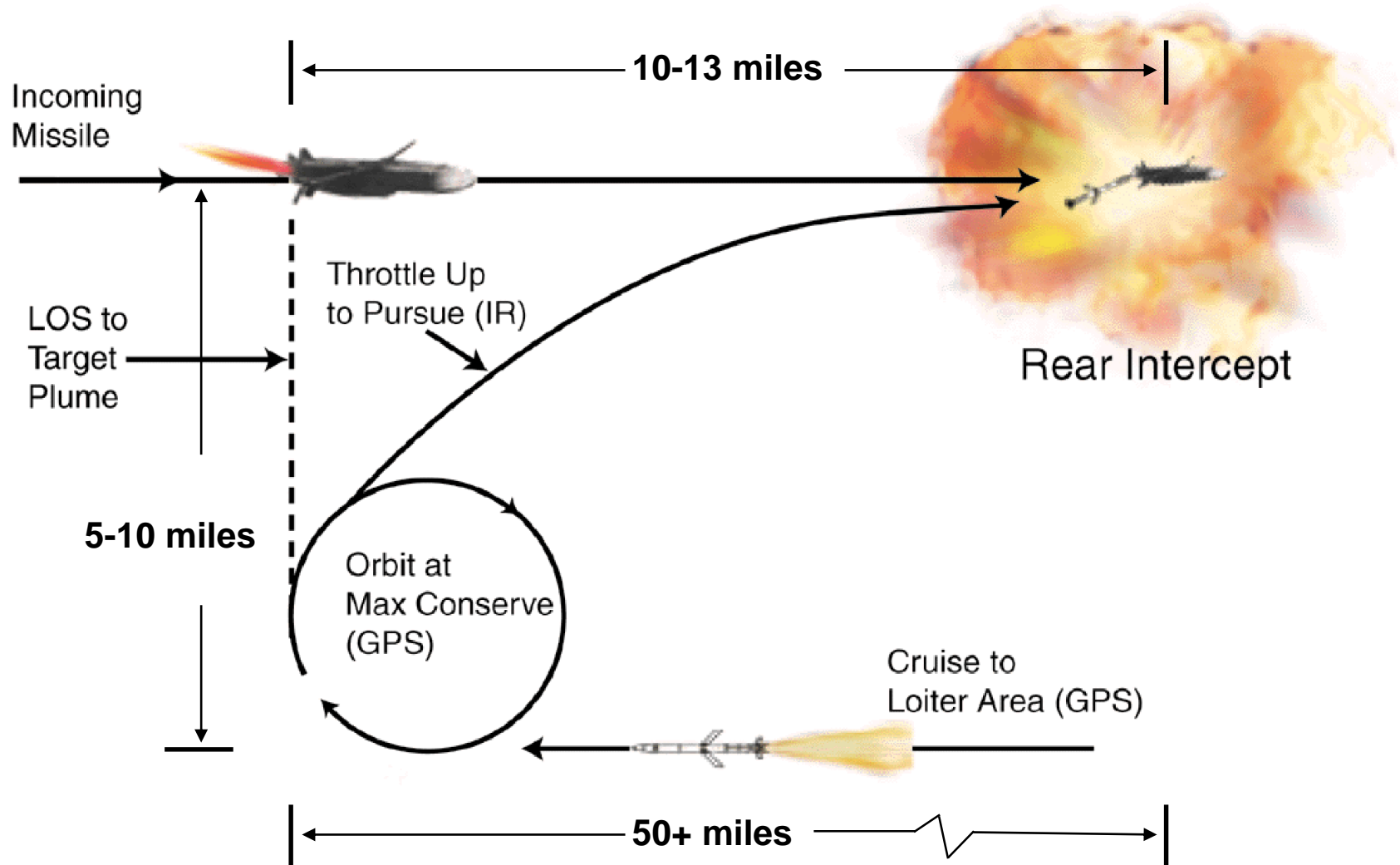
Velocity/Range Tradeoff



Cruise Missile Defense



Fly-Out Result



Technology Summary

- **Excellent Specific Impulse (2-4 times greater than rocket)**
- **Superior Static Air Breathing Specific Thrust (150-200 lbf-s/lbm)**
- **Independent Turbine Drive with Deep Throttling Provides Maximum Mission Flexibility**
- **Castable Monorotor Turbomachinery, IM Propellants, Tubular Combustor and Simple Feedback Control Minimizes Cost**
- **Turboelectric Power for All Missile Seeker, Fin Battery, etc.**

Technology Summary

There are at least three mission types for which ATR propulsion may be optimum

- **Short and Moderate Range Ground Launched Fire Support**
- **Extended Range and Target Acquisition Air-to-Ground Missions**
- **Cruise Missile Defense**

- **The Air Turbo Rocket has Matured to the Point that it should Receive Serious Consideration in Future Missile System Development Initiatives**
- **The ATR Offers the Maximum Mission Flexibility (i.e., increased payload capacity, reduced missile weight, increased range, loiter capability >> pintle motor)**
- **The ATR's Low Cost Turbomachinery Allows it to be Cost Competitive with All Other Throttleable Missile Propulsion Systems**
- **The Scalability of the ATR will Allow Maximum Growth Potential (i.e., family of munitions,)**