



ענף הנעה
המחלקה לאוירונאוטיקה
היחידה למו"פ-היחידה לתשתיות
מנהלת פיתוח אמל"ח ותשתיות
משרד הביטחון



המעבדה למנועי סילון וטורבינות גז
הפקולטה להנדסת אוירונאוטיקה וחלל
הטכניון, חיפה

<http://jet-engine-lab.technion.ac.il>



ענף הנעה
מחלקת מטוסים
להק ציוד
חיל האויר

יום העיון העשירי במנועי סילון וטורבינות גז

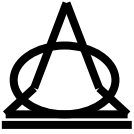
10th Israeli Symposium on Jet Engines and Gas Turbines

November 3 2011, Tehnion, Israel

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

יום ה', ו' בחשוון תשע"ב, 3/11/2011

8:00 – 17:30, אולם בטלר, בניין פורשהיימר, מוסד נאמן, הטכניון



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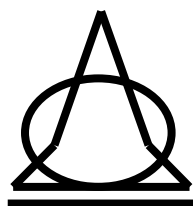
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תודות ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ברצוננו להודות לגופים ולמוסדות שתמכו בקיום יום העיון:



חיל האוויר



מפא"ת



טכניון – מכון טכנולוגי לישראל



רפא"ל

האגודה למדעי התעופה והחלל

בישראל



תודות לפרסום הכנס :



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המחלקה לאוירונטיקה
היחידה למו"פ-היחידה לתשתיות
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להק ציוד
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יום העיון הישראלי העשירי במנועי סילון וטורבינות גז

יום ה' ו' בחשוון תשע"ב 3/11/2011 (08:00-17:00), אולם בטלר, בניין פורשהיימר, מוסד נאמן (בניין 260), קריית הטכניון, חיפה

10th Israeli Symposium on Jet Engines and Gas Turbines

Butler Auditorium, Forchheimer Building, Neaman Institute (Building #260), Technion, Haifa.

CHAIRMAN: Professor Yeshayahou Levy*

08:00 - 09:15 הרשמה (Registration)

09:15 - 09:30 Opening:

- **Professor Yeshayahou Levy**, Chairman, Head, Turbo and Jet Engine Laboratory, Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Technion.
- **Professor Yoram Tambour**, Dean, Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Technion.
- **Lt. Roni Gordana**, Head, Propulsion Systems Branch, Aeronautical Division, MOD.
- **Lt.Col. Shlomi Konforty**, Head of Propulsion Branch, IAF.

9:30 - 12:40 מושב ראשון (First Session)

Session Chairman: Izhak Hofmann (Itche), Edmatech

1. **Technology and Tools for Reduced Total Cost of Ownership**, Mr. Tom Maxwell, General Manager, Military Propulsion Engineering & Mr. Gene E. Wiggs, Consulting Engineer, GE Aviation, USA
2. **Proactive Single Engine Flight Safety Risk Management**, Mr. David McDermott, Chief Engineer, F100, TF33, J52 Engine Programs, United Technologies / Pratt & Whitney, USA.

11:10-11:30 הפסקה וכיבוד קל (Break and refreshments)

3. **Low NOx Flameless Combustion for Jet Engines and Gas turbines**, Prof. Yeshayahou Levy, Technion, Israel
4. **Correction of time dependent engine parameters for analysis of transient effects**, Dr. Michael Lichtzinder, Bet Shemesh Engines Ltd.
5. **Turbocharging a commercial gas turbine**, Dr. David Lior, R-Jet Engineering

12:40 - 14:00 ארוחת צהריים (Lunch)

14:00 - 17:15 מושב שני (Second Session)

Session Chairman: Dr Valery Sherbaum, Technion

- **Professor Yeshayahou Levy**, Trends in Engine Development, Research Activities in the Jet Engine Laboratory and Student Scholarship Ceremony.
- 6. **Oil Priming Problem in Jet Engines**, Mr. Lev Dvoskin, Bet-Shemesh Engine Limited.
- 7. **System Integration of gas-turbine-driven electric generators in oil and gas production facilities in Siberia**, Mr. Yossi Lev, Consulting Engineer, LSI – Lev Systems Integration Ltd.
- 8. **Student's Design Project: 250 HP Engine for Unmanned Helicopter with Reduced Infrared Signature**, Jessica Yana, Yonatan Lobivikov & Akiva Marc Sharma (under the supervision of Dr. B. Glezer).

15:35 - 15:55 הפסקה וכיבוד קל (Break and refreshments)

9. **Jet Engines' test cells – Considerations in selecting level of automation**, Mr. Ze'ev Ben-Porath, MAGNUS Engineering and Maintenance LTD.
10. **Compressor failure in Marbore Engine**, Eyal Aronson, IAF.
11. **Improvements in Exhaust gas temperature measurement of Jet Engine**, Mr. Albert levy, Bet Shemesh Engines Ltd.
12. **Numerical Aspects of High Altitude Test Chamber for Engines**, Dr. Savely Khosid, Dr. Uri Katz, Mr. Itzhak Greenberg and Dr. Amiram Leitner.

17:15 - 17:20 דברי סיכום (Closure)

* Prof. Yeshayahou Levy:

E-mail: levyy@aerodyne.technion.ac.il

Tel: 04 8293807 Fax: 04 8121604 Mobile: 0547 355890.

Technology and Tools for Reduced Total Cost of Ownership

Mr. Tom Maxwell,

General Manager, Military Propulsion Engineering & Gene E. Wiggs, Consulting
Engineer, GE Aviation, USA

In today's environment of leaner acquisition budgets and sustainment resources, reduced total life cycle costs are imperative to maintain readiness in the military world and profitability in the commercial world. This talk will explore the impact of technologies that improve the affordability and availability of fielded and future aerospace propulsion systems by extending service life, ensuring flight safety, reducing sustainment costs, and ensuring mission readiness and capability.

In particular, the status and state-of-the-art in probabilistic fracture mechanics for lifing and design will be highlighted along with the potential advantages and benefits these tools bring. Other technologies that will be discussed include the planned introduction of a new class of high temperature ceramic matrix composites (CMCs) capable of withstanding temperatures several hundred degrees higher than that of current Ni-base alloys, approaches and methods for improved component efficiencies, advanced coatings for corrosion and harsh environment mitigation, and prognostics and health management (PHM). Finally, the status of GE's demonstrator engine programs, AATE & ADVENT, will be reviewed as they relate to developing and advancing these state-of-the-art technologies, tools, and methods.

Proactive Single Engine Flight Safety Risk Management

Mr. David McDermott

Chief Engineer, F100, TF33, J52 Engine Programs
United Technologies / Pratt & Whitney
East Hartford, CT USA
david.mcdermott@pw.utc.com

This paper contains forward-looking statements concerning future business opportunities. Actual results may differ materially from those described as a result of certain risks and uncertainties, including challenges in the design, development, production and support of advanced technologies; as well as other risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to those detailed from time to time in United Technologies Corporation's Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

ABSTRACT

Flight safety is a fundamental priority for a viable and successful aviation industry. There has been significant progress in reducing mishap rates since the beginnings of the jet age of aviation. Much of this progress has been achieved through more robust engineering, manufacturing and the benefits of lessons learned. As design and manufacturing methods continue to improve there is an emerging trend that shows human factors – mistakes made by a person – are becoming a larger proportion of today's mishaps. This presentation reviews flight safety trends in the US Air Force with a specific focus on the F100 engine, a long standing front line fighter engine in F-15 and F-16 aircraft operating around the world. The F100 engine has achieved a world class single-engine safety record through a proactive flight safety program that benefits from an ingrained safety culture and strict processes focused on mishap prevention. The presentation will highlight the usefulness of quantitative safety risk assessment tools and active field monitoring to achieve a closed-loop process. Closing the loop in the management of safety concerns provides information to key decision makers who can then make proactive adjustments to risk management plans to avoid mishaps lurking from latent, unsafe conditions.

Low NO_x Flameless Combustion for Jet Engines and Gas turbines

Prof. Yeshayahou Levy,

Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Technion, Israel

levy@aerodyne.technion.ac.il

New designs of gas turbines combustors and jet engines must exhibit low NO_x emissions in order to comply with the new environmental regulations. NO_x emission values have to be reduced by at least one order of magnitude, to about 20 ppm and below (parts per millions of the gases in the exhaust). Current low NO_x designs still suffer from combustion instability, flashback and low dynamic range. The present study is aimed toward understanding the basics of the low NO_x, flameless combustion technique. The flameless combustion is characterized by combustion stability at low equivalence (fuel) ratio (thus low NO_x), uniform temperature distribution, low turbulence and noise, low visibility and the requirement for relative large volume.

A high momentum central jet entrains gases from the surroundings of its nozzle, creating a large recirculation, recirculating combustion products to the vicinity of the air nozzle. Fuel is injected into the recirculated gases prior to their mixing with the fresh air. Whenever temperature of the mixed reactance (fuel + air + recirculated combustion products) exceeds the spontaneous ignition temperature and the equivalence ration will be above a certain minimum value (typically 0.3-0.5), stable combustion will occur.

Flameless combustion study is performed using a generic combustor assembly. Its objective is to gain better understanding of the physics involved. A combined theoretical – experimental study is performed together with the IST University in Lisbon, where the Technion is responsible for the theoretical aspect and IST performed the experimental part.

Different operational conditions were examined, that are relevant for gas turbines and jet engines. It was realized that it is difficult to achieve flameless conditions in practical systems unless heat extraction mechanism is incorporated from the combustion zone. Hence, the incorporation of heat transfer mechanism (fins) was also studied. Promising results were achieved, however yet, at the cost of larger weight and volume. During the presentation the basic of the combustion phenomena, the combustion system, the results and possible practical implementation will be described.

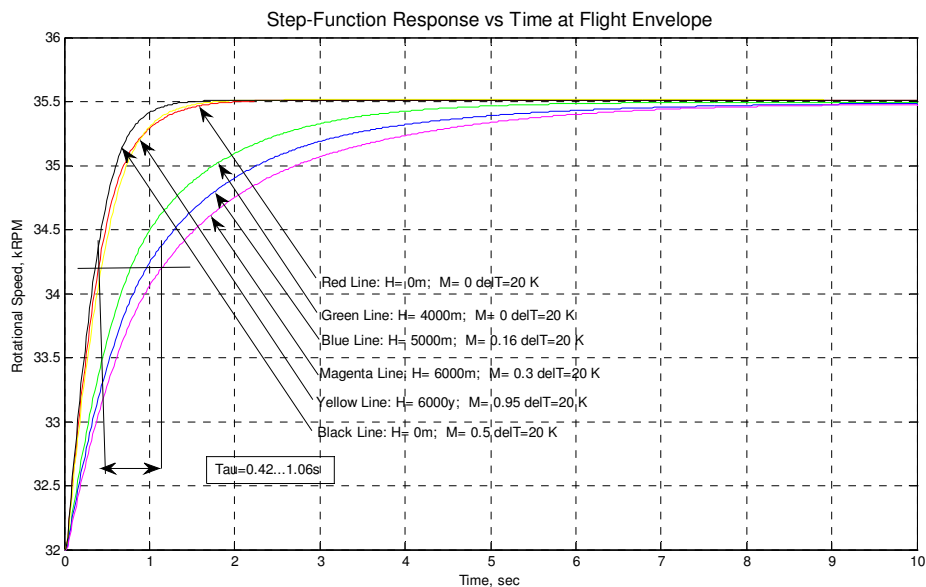
Correction of time dependent engine parameters for analysis of transient effects

Dr. Michael Lichtzinder, Bet Shemesh Engines Ltd.

קנה מידה של זמן לניתוח מנועי סילון במעטפת טיסה
ד"ר מיכאל ליכטצ'ינדר, מנועי בית שמש בע"מ

בניתוח מנועי סילון במצב מתמיד (steady state) משמשים פרמטרים מתוקנים כמו מהירות סיבוב, ספיקת אויר, ספיקת דלק, דחף וכו'. היתרון בשימוש בפרמטרים מתוקנים שהם בלתי תלויים בתנאי טיסה. התכונה הזאת מתקיימת בהנחה שנחירי המנוע (צנ"פ וטורבינה) חנוקים ו- פרמטרים לא משתנים משמעתית/.

בניגוד למצב מתמיד, במעבר פרמטרים מתוקנים (ולא מתוקנים) כפונקציה של זמן תלויים בתנאי טיסה כפי מוצג בציור.



ניתן להתגבר על התלות הזאת באמצעות הגדרת מושג "זמן מתוקן". פרמטרים מתוקנים כפונקציה של הזמן המתוקן בלתי תלויים בתנאי טיסה. היתרון של השלמת פרמטרים מתוקנים (רגילים) במשתנה זמן מתוקן בכך שבאמצעות אוסף הפרמטרים המתוקנים ניתן ליצור קשר בין דינאמיקת מנוע בקרקע ובטיסה.

- דוגמאות לשימוש בפרמטרים מתוקנים (כולל הזמן המתוקן) לפתרון בעיות דינאמיקת מנועי סילון:
- בניית DECK דינאמי מקורב פשוט שפועל בזמן אמת בניגוד ל" DECK-טבלאי" שבו קבעי זמן ומקדמי הינם מטריצות מסדר שלוש-ארבע.
- תיקון בקר של מנוע סילון בתנאי טיסה משתנים (adaptive control) התנעה, בקר, PID, הגבלות בקרה.
- אمولציית תמרון מנוע סילון במצב מעבר בתנאי טיסה באמצעות ניסוי קרקעי.

Turbocharging a commercial gas turbine,

Dr. David Lior, R-Jet Engineering

Turbocharging piston engines increases their power and sometimes thermal efficiency. Turbocharging a gas turbine is difficult due to the integral design of the combustor, also many modifications are required to the basic gas turbine ducts which are needed to convey the cold and hot flows between the turbocharger and gas turbine's compressor and turbine. This problem is even more complicated if a recuperator is integral within the gas turbine structure. Consequently all gas turbines are boosted by adding another compressor stage before the existing compressor and another turbine stage after the last turbine stage. Usually this modification entails a new shaft rotating concentric within the existing shaft—which becomes a major modification.

Since most of small gas turbines are recuperated the task of manifolding the ducts to and out of the recuperator is even harder.

An architecture of a new gas turbine the TG40 is presented which enables to add an automotive turbocharger with minor modification. The power is increased from 36kw to 120 kw electric, while the thermal efficiency is kept - about 35%. The electric output may be abstracted from any shaft chosen- but the recommended design is splitting the power between the 2 shafts. Thus - minor modifications are required for the original TG40.

The design is flexible -different power levels up to 180kw may be achieved with the same hardware by varying the turbocharger speed. An automotive turbocharger is easily adapted with an inter-cooler.

The thermodynamic cycle is presented including CHP performance.

Oil Priming Problem in Jet Engines,

Lev Dvoskin, Bet-Shemesh Engine Limited

מרצה: לב דבוסקי, מנועי בית שמש בע"מ

Lev Dvoskin, Bet Shemesh Engines Ltd

רקע

במהלך ניסויים של מנוע סילון התגלתה בעיה המתבטאת בכך שבעת התנעה, לחץ השמן אינו עולה מעל לאפס. כלומר, משאבת השמן לא מזרימה שמן לצרכנים. במצב כזה חייבים לכבות מיד את המנוע על-מנת למנוע כשל מיסבים.

כלי

במסגרת ההרצאה יוצג מבנה מערכת השמן ואופן התפקוד של משאבת השמן ויתר אביזריה. בהמשך יוצגו ממצאי חקירת המקרה והמסקנות באשר לסיבת התקלה.

ממצאים

התברר שבמספר מקרים המשאבות לא היו מספיק חזקות על-מנת להצליח בניקת השמן עד כניסתן ולכן לא הזרימו שמן לצרכנים.

מצבים של "בועת אוויר" בקו בין המיכל למשאבה יכולים להיווצר אחרי מילוי מחדש של מיכל שמן ריק או אף בהרכבת מנוע ראשונית.

למניעת מצבים כאלה הופעל נוהל אתחול מערכת שמן (PRIMING), בכל מנוע בו מוחלף השמן במיכל או אף במילוי ראשוני של מיכל שמן במנוע חדש מייצור. במסגרת נוהל זה מוודאים מילוי הצינור בין המיכל למשאבה בשמן.

סיכום

לסיכום, יפורטו מספר שינויים שהוצעו למניעת הצורך באתחול מערכת השמן ויתוארו הניסויים שבוצעו לבדיקת השינוי שאומץ לצמצום הבעיה.

System Integration of gas-turbine-driven electric generators in oil and gas production facilities in Siberia

Mr. Yossi Lev, Consulting Engineer, LSI – Lev Systems Integration Ltd.

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The projects to be described utilize associated petroleum gas, available as a by-product of the crude oil produced in a Siberian oil field, to generate electricity by gas-turbine-driven generators. Previously the unused gas was mostly burned in flares.

Turbine-generator packages are manufactured as almost standard units for the oil and gas industry, but still require customization for the local conditions. They include an industrial or aero-derivative gas-turbine engine, a reduction gearbox and a synchronous electrical generator inside an enclosure. Auxiliary equipment is provided to supply filtered air for combustion and ventilation, for lubricating oil cooling, and for command, control and safety. The differences between individual installations, that require specific design and integration, mainly result from the particular properties of the gas which is used as a fuel source and the conditions in which it is produced, from the interface between the turbo-generator and the electrical grid, and from the climatic conditions.

In production facilities in oil fields, the mixture of crude oil, water and gas that comes from the wells is separated by mostly physical means. The gases that are separated are much richer in heavier hydrocarbons than the pipeline-quality natural gas, which is often used as the fuel for gas turbines, and they contain considerable amount of moisture. The pressure at which the gas is separated is too low for supply to the gas turbine, and must be increased.

A gas compression system that combines flow, pressure and discharge-temperature closed-loop control was designed to overcome the problems of adapting the fuel gas to the limitation of gas turbine, and will be described, along with a brief survey of the alternatives.

The motivations for the projects are both economical – to reduce the amount of energy purchased from the local utility company, and environmental – to reduce the flaring of the gas. Operation of the gas-turbine generators in parallel with the utility grid is desirable, as it allows immediate backup by the utility in cases of faults and scheduled stops, but adds some complication by requiring synchronization with the grid, and additional protection for events of shorts in the utility electricity lines. Solutions to those problems are quite standard, but there exists a non-trivial problem of immediately identifying the moment in which the generator is disconnected from the utility grid by some remote protective action. Failure to do so may result in destructive damage to the turbine engine. A solution, based on the identification of a change in the dynamics of the generating set, will be described.

Some problems in the operation of the generating sets resulted from limitations in the oil cooling systems. The troubleshooting process and the unexpected reason for the problem will be described.

Some parts of the generating sets had premature wear. These will be described, along with the attempts for their early detection using predictive maintenance methods.

Student's Design Project: 250 HP Engine for Unmanned Helicopter with Reduced Infrared Signature

Jessica Yana, Yonatan Lobivikov & Akiva Marc Sharma, under the supervision of Dr. B. Glezer, Faculty of Aerospace Engineering, Technion

This work describes the 250 HP gas turbine design for an unmanned helicopter with reduced infra- red signature. The design goal was to design a turbo shaft engine to power light unmanned helicopter that will be able to autonomously fly to the battle field, provide fighting troops with ammunition and carry wounded soldiers out of the danger zone to rear hospital. The design was conducted by a team of 3 persons specialized in Aerothermodynamics, Stress, Combustion & heat transfer and Design and advised by the Dr. Boris Glazer. The gas turbine design began by establishing main goals and objectives; as helicopter mission, cost, weight, and size. After setting some input parameters, the thermodynamic cycle was programmed using MATLAB. During the whole design process, the thermodynamic cycle was enriched and iterated. Then, the selection of the main components of the engine as well as their specifications was performed. The next step was to determine the components geometry through aerodynamic and stress considerations .Later on, the cooling and its impact on the thermodynamic cycle; stress and design have been implemented. Finally, detailed design was produced, and materials and manufacturing methods were selected. The designed engine was about 60 cm in length, and 50 cm in diameter. The weight of the engine was 165 kg, 51 of which was the recuperator. The fuel consumption of the engine for steady 250HP output deployment was 40kg/hour. Relatively to its similar engines that are in production, listed at the end of this report, the engine design is very satisfying.

The design restrains were very simple:

- Net output power: 250 HP
- Standard atmospheric conditions,
- Mach 0.2

Jet Engines' test cells – Considerations in selecting level of automation

Mr. Ze'ev Ben-Porath, MAGNUS Engineering and Maintenance LTd.

Magnus engineering inc. specializes in the construction and maintenance of computerized test cells for over 20 years. The generic software package MCTC, developed by Magnus, is currently installed in more than 35 test cells worldwide, facilitating the testing of a variety of engines (over 60 engine types) for various applications (Military aircrafts, Civilian aviation, Helicopters, UAVs, tanks, buses etc.). Based on this experience, we identify 4 principal levels of test cell automation:

- 1- No automation (independent displays with no central computing function).
- 2- Centralized data acquisition (data acquired directly or from other subsystems, processed displayed and recorded in a central test cell computer).
- 3- Test procedure tracking.
- 4- Automated test execution.

In general, a higher level of automation facilitates a more exact execution of the required test (from an engineering point of view) and a reduction in the cost of on-going operation, at the price of a more expensive and more complex test cell.

The main factors affecting the appropriate level of automation are:

- 1 - Required accuracy.
- 2 - Test procedure complexity (duration, number of steps, rate of change, number of external devices controlled etc.).
- 3 – Work load.
- 4 – "Cost of error" (the cost of an engine problem not detected in the test cell or an untreated malfunction during the testing itself).

Test cells for simple engines (e.g. diesel engine, mostly in the vehicle business), are commonly automated to the maximum level (4). This is due to economic considerations based on the fact that the test procedure is relatively simple and the workload is high.

Most jet engine test cells, on the other hand, are currently at level 2 or 3. This can be attributed to the relatively high complexity of the test procedure (but not too complex to prevent manual operation) and the relatively low workload.

Research using the playback and analysis utilities of MCTC has shown that the quality of testing of jet engines can be improved by upgrading the automation level of

the test cells. Additionally, savings of [testing] time and money [fuel] is also expected – making such a decision economically viable.

In the lecture a simple method to estimate the expected savings (upper bound, lower bound, estimated actual saving) shall be described and demonstrated.

It is our experience that for engines similar in complexity to the F100-PW-229 and F110-GE-100 engines:

- * Upgrading from level 2 to 3, a 30-50% saving in test time and fuel is expected.
- * Upgrading from level 3 to 4, a 5-10% saving in test time and fuel is expected.

In the lecture the above issues shall be demonstrated by comparing actual run data from various test cells using MCTC analysis tools.

Finally, a hypothetical upgrade of an existing test cell (running MCTC) from level 3 to 4 is analyzed from an economic point of view.

Compressor failure in Marbore Engine,

Eyal Aronson, IAF.

”חקירת כשלון מנוע מרבורה בצוקית”

רס”ן אייל ארונסון, ר”צ חקירות מנועים (יא”א 22), חיל האוויר

במסגרת אימון לקראת מטס אוירובטי בקורס טיס, במהלך ריצת המראה של מטוס צוקית (Fouga Magister) נשמע פיצוץ וההמראה הופסקה. בבדיקת המטוס לאחר מכן נמצא כי מנוע שמאל מסוג MARBORE 6 כשל, חלקים פרצו את המעטפת המנוע ופאנלים הועפו על המסולול. האירוע, שהינו בעל פוטנציאל בטיחותי מדרגה ראשונה, הסתיים ללא נפגעים.

בחקירת המנוע, נמצא כי דיסק המדחס כשל, נשבר לשלושה חלקים עיקריים והוביל לפריצת מעטפת המנוע. חקירת הדיסק הראתה כי הכישלון נבע מעירור סדקים במנגנון שיתוך התעייפות (CORROSION FATIGUE), להם תרמו גם גומות שיתוך וחריגות במידות ייצור אשר הובילו לריכוז מאמצים ברדיוסי המעבר של השגמים בדיסק.

בבדיקת יתר מנועי החיל נמצאו סדקים דומים בדיסקים נוספים מה שמנע ככל הנראה אירועים נוספים.

Improvements in Exhaust gas temperature measurement of Jet Engine

Mr. Albert levy, Bet Shemesh Engines Ltd.

שיפור מדידת טמפרטורת גזי הפליטה במנוע סילון מרצה: דר. אלברט לוי, מנועי בית שמש בע"מ

רקע

גזי הפליטה ממנוע סילון הינם תוצרי בעירת הדלק בעודף אוויר ניכר ומתקבלים בטמפרטורה גבוהה, 500-1100 מ"צ, בתלות במהירות הסיבוב של המנוע ותנאי הטיסה. טמפרטורת גזי הפליטה T4/EGT מהווה מגבלת מנוע לתפעול ואינדיקציה למרווח הבטחון הקיים לעמידות הטורבינה, ושאר רכיבי החלק החם בתנאי התפעול באופן שוטף. דיוק המדידה מוגבל בהתאם לתכונות הפיזיקליות של המדיד ולהתקנה.

כללי

במסגרת ההרצאה יוצגו חלק מהגורמים לאי דיוק במדידת טמפרטורה של גזי הפליטה במנוע סילון והפעילות שבוצעה על מנת לבצע שיפור תכן של המדידים.

סקירה

ביישומים רבים אמצעי המדידה המשמש למדידת EGT הינו תרמוקפל – צמד מתכות המגיב ביצירת פוטנציאל מתח בהתאם לטמפרטורה אליה חשופה נקודת החיבור ביניהן. במסגרת הסקירה שבוצעה ביישום שנבדק, יוצגו מגבלות הדיוק התקניות של מדידת מסוג תרמוקפל וכן גורמים נוספים התורמים לאי הדיוק, וביניהם השפעת הולכה תרמית מממשק ההתקנה לגוף הנמדד, עומק ההתקנה, מידת חשיפת המדיד, פילוג הטמפרטורה (SPREAD) ועוד. תוצג סקירה של אופן התקנת מדידים במנועים מסוגים שונים ובהתאם השיקולים בקביעת תצורת המדידה המשופרת ליישום הספציפי במנוע הסילון.

סיכום

התקבלו לקחים לגבי שיפורי תכן נדרשים בהתקנת מדיד טמפרטורת גזי הפליטה במנוע סילון (וסוג, כמות, מיקום), אבי הטיפוס שנבדקו הראו שיפור בדיוק המדידה.

Numerical Aspects of High Altitude Test Chamber for Engines

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High altitude test facility serves rocket and turbojet engines development programs in Israel for more than 20 years. This facility provides large range of parameters for altitude simulation: 50 ton of compressed air at 200 atm pressure are heated and then delivered through the ejector (~200 kg/s) and reduces the pressure in the test cell up to the level of 0.03-0.3 atm, using supersonic flows. More than 30m of converging, diverging and cylindrical pipes are connected in order to provide a desired pressure field with shock waves at the necessary locations. The design of the facility was performed using basic relations for ejector and supersonic diffuser analysis. The working point was properly tuned and successfully achieved in a long series of experiments. However, the off-design operation of the high altitude facility remained questionable, and optimum conditions for maximum duration of experiments were unknown.

Numerical simulation of the complicated physical phenomena with modern tools allows understanding of the fluid dynamics inside the facility and helps us to optimize it. In our presentation we describe CFD analysis that has been conducted for the whole experimental installation. Clear picture of flow behavior and shock waves location was observed. Non-linear nature of the flow phenomena was demonstrated. Good comparison with large-scale experiments was achieved, and optimization of future experiments was proposed.

