Study and Development of a H_2O_2 based Liquid Rocket Engine

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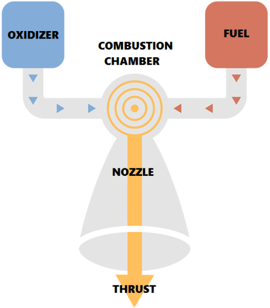
Introduction to Liquid Rocket Motors



Advantages

- High specific impulse
- Operation flexibility
  - Multiple shut down and re-ignition
  - Mass flow throttling
  - Mixture ratio control
- Long burning times

Disadvantages

- High manufacturing costs
- Technological complexity

Main characteristics

- Oxidizer and fuel stored in tanks
- Two controllable feeding lines
- Different cooling system solutions

Cooling systems

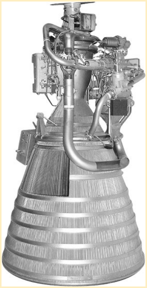
Passive methods

- Very expensive materials
- Small scale thruster

200N Bipropellant Thruster,Orbital Propulsion Centre, Lampoldshausen, Germany

Active methods

- Regenerative cycle
- Technological complexity
- Larger scale engine



RL10, Aerojet Rocketdyne

Why Hydrogen Peroxide?

$$H_2O_2 \leftrightarrow H_2O + 1/2O_{2(g)} + 98kJ/mol$$

Main characteristics

- No toxicity
- High volumetric specific impulse
- Easy storable at room temperature

$\Downarrow$

Reduced management,storage and processing costs

HTP (High Test Peroxide)
Concentration $> 80\%$

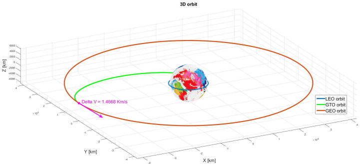
Versatility:

- Monopropellant
- Bipropellant $\rightarrow$ combustion reaction with fuel

$\Downarrow$

$$Isp_{MMH/N_2O_4} \backsimeq Isp_{HTP/Kerosene}$$

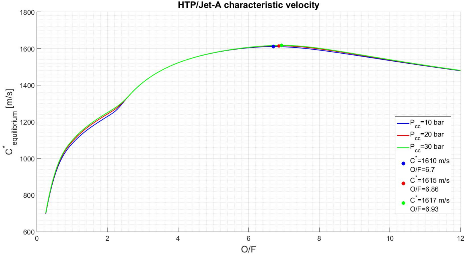
Project parameters

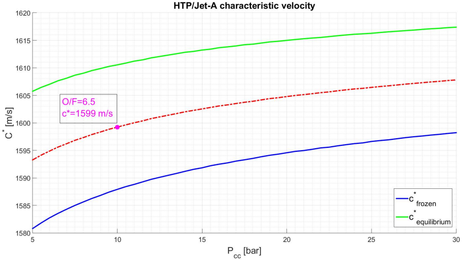


$$Isp = \frac{c^* c_f}{g_0} \ , \ T = g_0 \dot{m} Isp$$

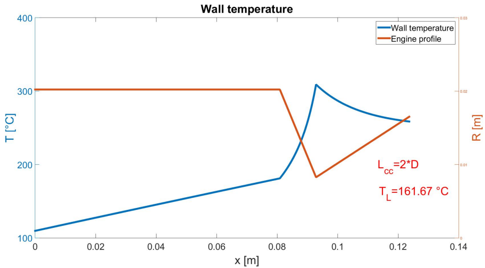
Kick apogee motor

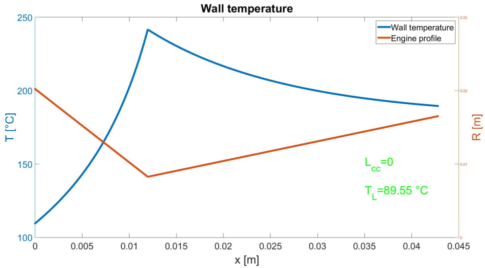
Oxidizer mass flow	120 $[g/s]$
Oxidizer	HTP
Fuel	Kerosene
O/F	6.5
MEOP	10 $[bar]$
Throat diameter	16.8 $[mm]$
c^*	1599 $[m/s]$
ε	220 – 330
Thrust vacuum	420 – 440 $[N]$
Isp	310 – 330 $[s]$
ΔV	1.4688 $[km/s]$
t_b	1.456 $[hours]$





Preliminary design

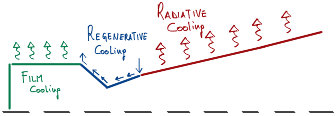




HTP

- $T_L max = 120° C$
- $\dot{m}_{cool} = \dot{m}_{ox}$

$$\Downarrow$$



Engine design

Main characteristics

- Battleship design
- Multiple configurations
- High safety factor
- 3D printed components

Engine configurations

Short burning time

- Uncooled nozzle
- Fuel injection investigation

Long burning times

- Nozzle cooling
- H_2O coolant

Fuel injector configurations

Commercial injector

- Single injector
- Axial injection
- Full cone spray configuration

Custom configuration

- Multiple injection ports
- Radial injection
- 3D printed plate

Work done

- Preliminary design of the engine
- CFD analysis of the flow structure
- Design the engine
- Implementation of the fuel feeding line

Future work

- Conclusion of the test bed implementation
- Engine production
- Numerical investigation
- First fire test campaign

Thank you! Any questions?