

Waste Heat Recovery from Combustion Engines Based on the Rankine Cycle

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Abstract— Maximum amount of energy in the fuel used in automotive internal combustion engines, these days is lost in form of waste heat. Theoretically some of this energy can be converted to increase fuel efficiency by employing a WHRS (waste heat recovery system) to the engine. This paper investigates into the design and functioning of WHRS based on Rankine Cycle for to improve the design of such kinds of systems. For the purpose, performance of some working fluids through a zero-dimensional model of the Rankine cycle. One expander model was employed to rank the comparative influence of boundary conditions.

Keywords: Waste Heat Recovery, Combustion Engines, Rankine Cycle

I. INTRODUCTION

Latest technology trends related to combustion engines & vehicle design are mostly driven by the pressing need to lower the overall consumption of fossil fuels and the resulting emissions of CO_x & SO_x. The greenhouse effect alters natural marine and terrestrial carbon cycles, lowering the nature's capacity for CO₂ storage. In year 2005, the transport sector was mostly responsible for slightly more than 23% of the world's CO₂ emissions, with road transport governing for 17%. The largest share of the globe's CO₂ emissions (45%) originated from fossil fuels used for energy generation. Overall CO₂ emissions have increased by 80% ever since 1970, contributing to an average atmospheric temperature increase of around 0.8°C over the same period.

A. The Rankine Cycle

This cycle is the model of a perfect steam-power cycle. It was first clarified by the Scottish designer William. While this hypothetical Rankine cycle depends on a succession of reversible procedures, genuine frameworks include irreversible changes of state in the siphon and the extension gadget. The corresponding isentropic efficiency η is for devices is defined according to following equations. The effect of irreversibility on the pumping and expansion processes is indicated in Fig. 1

$$\eta_{is, \text{ pump}} = w_{01, is} / w_{01}$$

$$\eta_{is, \text{ exp}} = w_{23} / w_{01, is}$$

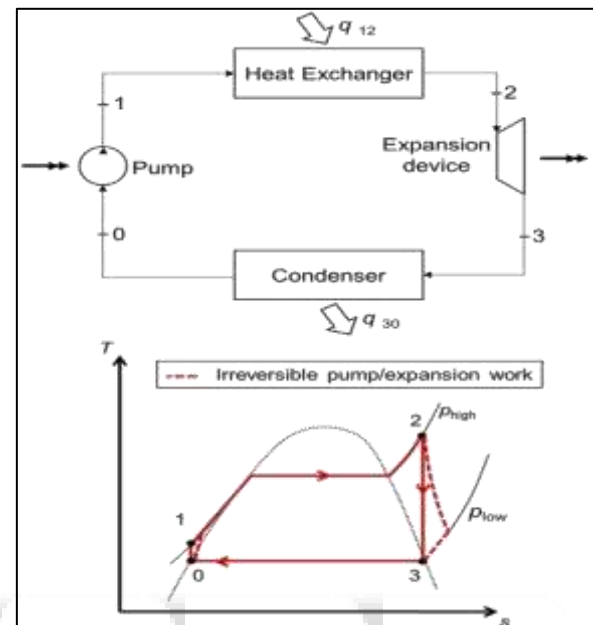


Fig. 1: Layout of an illustrative Rankine cycle-based heat recovery system (top) and a temperature-entropy (T-s) diagram showing the different stages of the cycle (bottom)

The thermal efficiency η_{th} of a Rankine cycle may be evaluated by considering its network output w_{net} and the heat input q_{12} , Eq. 3

$$\eta_{th} = w_{net} / q_{12} = [w_{23}] - [w_{01}] / q_{12}$$

Notably, Option has developed a heat-recovery system for ships that promises fuel savings of 5 – 10%.

II. DESIGN OF RANKINE CYCLES

Theoretical Rankine cycle may be employed to the boundary conditions of its desired working environment by finetuning some basic process parameters. Following part gives an overview of such parameters, especially emphasizing on WHRS.

A. Working fluid

1) Water

Conventional working fluid of Rankine cycle employed in power generation. It is considered by a lot of investigators for heat recovery in IC engines.

2) Ethanol

It is an organic fluid (alcohol) which is frequently used as a suitable alternate working fluid of the water for vehicles.

3) R245fa

It is also an organic fluid (hydro fluorocarbon) Which is one of the most important fluids in ORC applications. When considering isothermal vaporization (vap) of the fluid at saturation temperature, T_{sat} , the relation may be rewritten as presented in following equation-

$$\Delta s = Q / T_{sat}$$

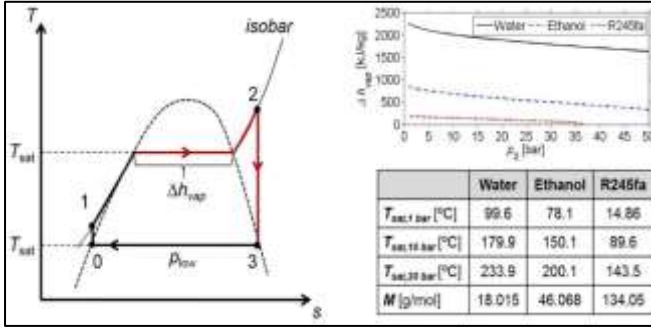


Fig. 2: Thermo physical properties for the three representative working fluids.

III. METHODOLOGY

One conventional heavy-duty Diesel engine (VolvoD13US10) was employed as the source of heat for the WHRS evaluated in this paper.

The 'average' formula of diesel is taken as $C_{12}H_{23}$.
 $C_{12}H_{23} + \lambda.17.75.4.762.(0.21.O_2 + 0.79.N_2) \rightarrow 12.CO_2 + 11.5.H_2O + \lambda.17.75.3.762.N_2 + 17.75.(\lambda-1).O_2$

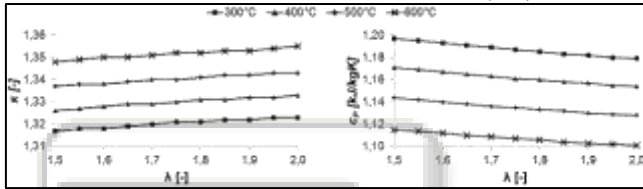


Fig. 2: specific heat ratio (left) and specific heat capacity c_p (right) of Diesel exhaust

A. Simulation Models

The process used initially in this paper is theoretical and depends on zero- and one-dimensional modelling methods. The results found using such system and component models developed in the first half of the work is then employed to eventually direct the design of the demonstrator test bench.

B. The Zero-Dimensional System Model

One zero-dimensional model of the Rankine cycle is developed through EES. No pressure losses are assumed to occur in the cycle. All cycle components have been assumed to be adiabatic. Exhaust gas may be considered as ideal gas. Constant isentropic efficiencies have also been assumed for the pump and expander. Condensation pressure is more than the atmospheric pressure. The temperature of the heat sink is denoted by T_0 .

$$N_s = N. VFR^{1/2}_{ex} / \Delta h^{3/4}_{is}$$

$$D_s = D. VFR^{1/2}_{ex} / \Delta h^{3/4}_{is}$$

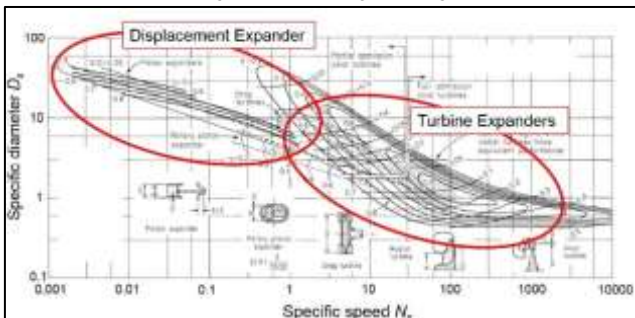


Fig.3 N_s - D_s turbine chart (imperial units), axis labels traced for better readability

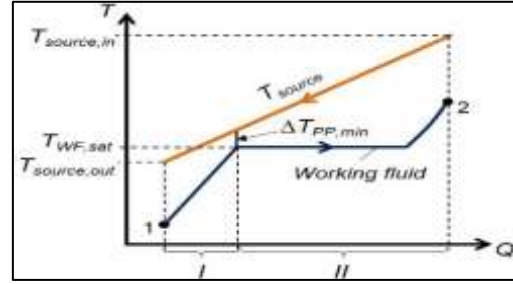


Fig. 4 Energy balance between a heat source and a working fluid (phase I – preheating; phase II - vaporization/superheating)

C. Expander Efficiency Terminology

Three measures of efficiency have been employed in connection with the expansion device here in this paper.

The *isentropic efficiency* η_{is}

$$\eta_{is} = w_{exp} / w_{exp, is} = w_{exp} / \Delta h_{is}$$

Mechanical efficiency

$$\eta_m = \eta_m. w_{exp, shaft} / w_{exp}$$

The *overall expander efficiency* η_o is the product of the above two efficiencies

$$\eta_o = \eta_m. \eta_m. w_{exp, shaft} / w_{exp} = w_{exp, shaft} / \Delta h_{is}$$

Number of expansion cylinders	2
Cylinder bore	90 mm
Cylinder stroke	60 mm
Inlet valve opening (IVO)	-17 °CA ATDC
Inlet valve closing (IVC)	34 °CA ATDC
Inlet valve diameter	23mm
Inlet valve max. lift	3.1 mm
Outlet port opening (EVO)	110 °CA ATDC
Outlet port closing (EVC)	-110 °CA ATDC
Outlet port diameter (1 per cylinder)	32 mm
Compression ratio (geometric)	21
Expansion ratio (TDC □ EVO)	15.67
TDC clearance	3 mm

Table 1: Geometric Data for the Reciprocating Piston Expander

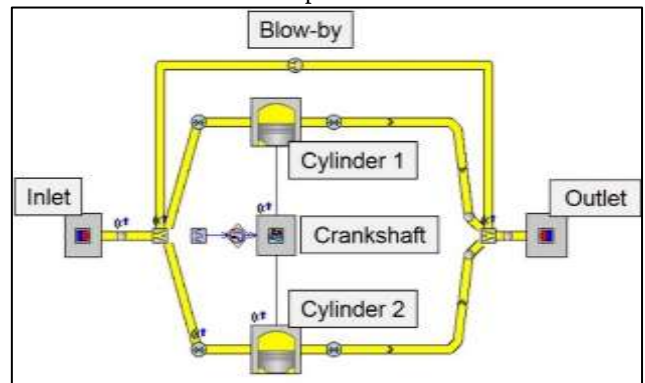


Fig. 5 1: D GT-SUITE model of the piston expander
 $FMEP = FMEP_{constant} + A.p_{cyl, max} + B.C_p, m + C.C^2_{pm}$

$$CD = m / m_{theor} = AE / AR$$

IV. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

While designing and building the experimental test rig, it was intended to create a resource in order to validate the shown 1D models. An additional and even more important

aim was to raise the understanding of the WHRS's behavior in "real world" conditions. Most published studies on heat recovery systems.



Fig. 6: Experimental setup of the heat recovery system in the engine test cell

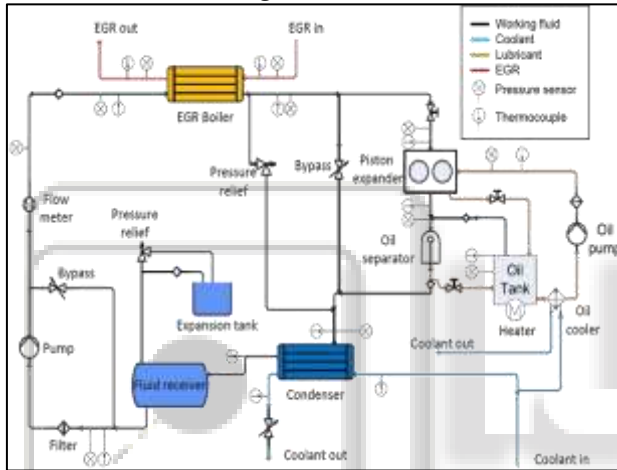


Fig. 7: Schematic layout of the heat recovery system

A. EGR Boiler

The EGR boiler is developed and supplied by Titan X which is one of the industrial partners in this research. Factors employed in its development included the EGR flow and temperature for the test rig.

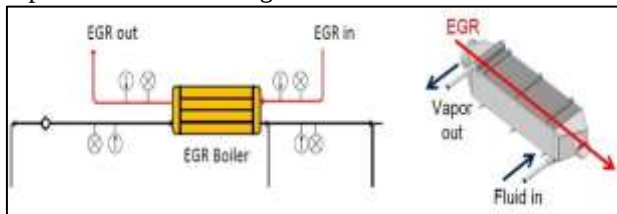


Fig. 12: The EGR boiler in the system layout (left) and as a CAD drawing (right)

B. Expander Subsystem

Volumetric/Mechanical efficiency: 43.9/72.5% at 1500 rpm and 120bar.

Pump speed range: 1000-3000rpm.

Max. Fluid temperature: 90°C.

C. Measurement Equipment

The Lab VIEW platform was employed to regulate the Rankine cycle test bench.

0	Sensor Principle	Range	Accuracy
Flow-rate (working fluid)	Carioles	0-2.72 kg/h	0.2% of reading
Flow-rate (coolant)	Turbine flow meter	0.8-80 liter/min	2% of reading
Temperature	Thermo-couple (K-type)	-40-1100 °C	< 2.4 °C @ max. 600 °C
Pressure	Piezo-resistive	0-10 bar, 0-60 bar	0.25% of range

Table 3: Sensor equipment installed on the test rig

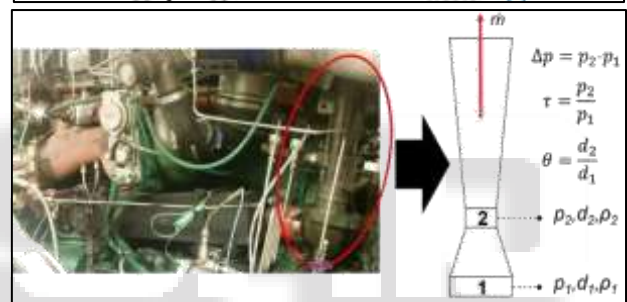
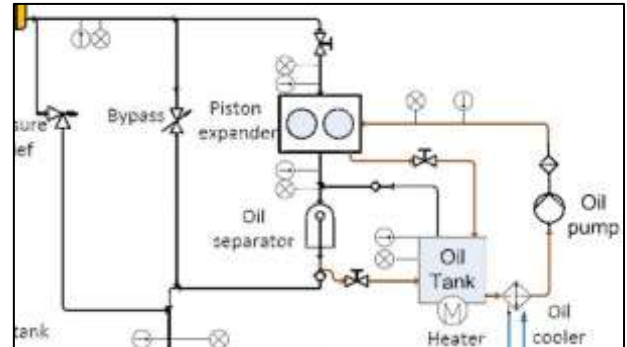


Fig. 13: EGR line with Venturi tube (left) and nomenclature for the Venturi pipe (right)

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This portion explains the data obtained through the analysis and the experimental work performed within the work. Important results obtained are explained briefly.

A. Zero-Dimensional System Model

The results found in the zero-dimensional model are explained basically arising from this work. The aim of these work is to:

- 1) Identify desirable working fluids to be used as Rankine cycle operating parameters and vehicle applicability.
- 2) Compare the expander results based on relevant heat boundary conditions, working parameters and working fluids.

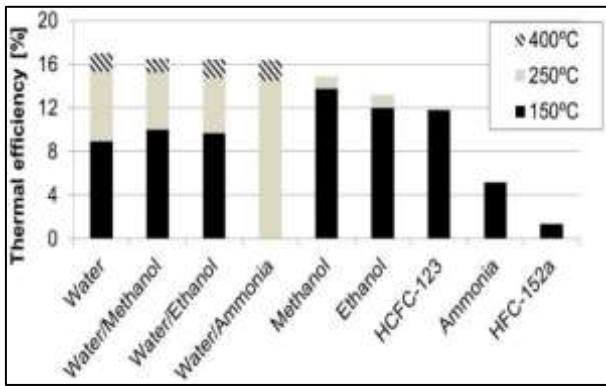


Fig. 8: Thermal efficiencies for chosen working fluids at three different temperatures

VI. BYPASSED SYSTEM

A major discovery of the set is that the WHRS did not cause major EGR cooling, resulting in post-boiler EGR temperatures nearly 200°C as compared to 80°C with the original EGR cooler.

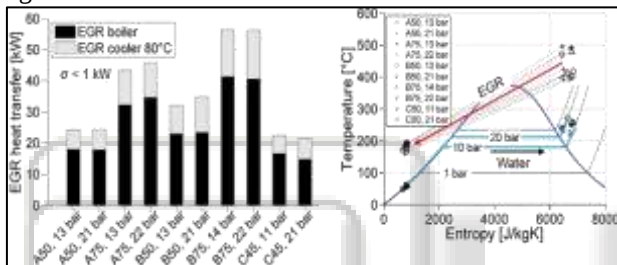


Fig. 9: EGR boiler heat transfer (left) and T-s diagram (right) at various ESC operating points and boiling pressures

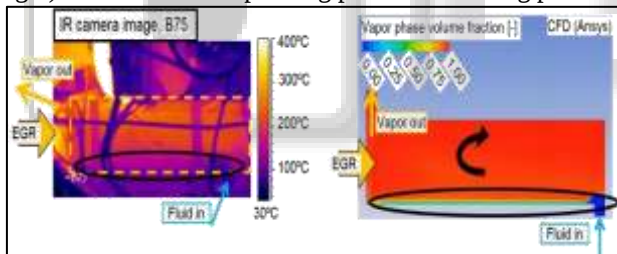


Fig. 10: IR image (left) and CFD result (right) provided by TitanX for the EGR boiler

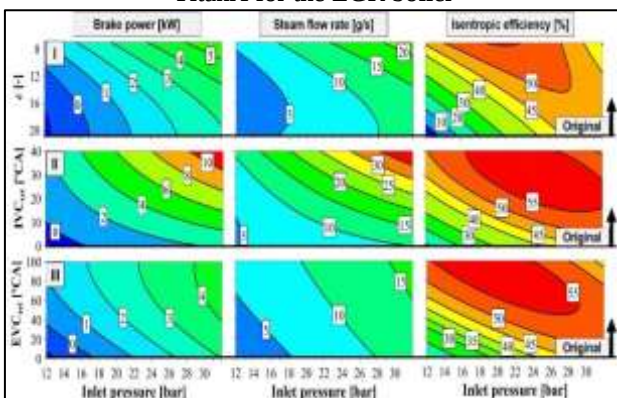


Fig. 11: Influence of compression ratio ϵ (I), retarded IVC (II) and retarded EVC (III) on expander bp, steam flow rate & isentropic efficiency (speed 600 rpm)

VII. CONCLUSION

The IC engine is the most important heat engine but still has one major drawback: most of the current engine designs loose more than 50% of the supplied fuel energy as heat losses. There is an important need to raise the efficiency due to the danger of climate change and the earth's diminishing fossil fuel reserves, making the use of WHRS for IC engines more and more attractive.

This paper addresses a lot of key design challenges associated with the design of a vehicular WHRS based on the Rankine cycle, including the selection of a suitable working fluid and evaluation of the inter connections between the fluid choice, the cycle parameters and the expansion device.

It was considered important for the project to include an experimental component which could provide data to determine the quality and reliability of the conclusions drawn from the theoretical models. A full-scale demonstrator test rig using a Rankine cycle was designed based on predicted operating parameters from the simulations.

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