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Chemical Rockets

Solid Rockets

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Oxidizer and fuel are chemically mixed together at the molecular level to form a solid fuel grain. Once ignited, they cannot be stopped, throttled, or restarted.

Liquid Rockets

In a bi-propellant liquid rocket, an oxidizer and fuel are mixed in the combustion chamber. Oxidizer is usually maintained at cryogenic temperatures, typically requiring turbo pumps. Mono-propellant liquid rockets use a material which combusts in the presence of a catalyst. Liquid rockets can be throttled, stopped, and restarted.

Hybrid Rockets

Possess features of both liquid and solid rockets. A hybrid consists of a solid fuel grain made from a polymeric material. The oxidizer is stored in a tank separate from the fuel grain, which is stored in a combustion chamber. Both propellants are inert and only combust when the fuel is converted to gaseous state and mixed with oxidizer in the combustion chamber. Like liquid rockets, hybrid rockets can be throttle, stopped, and restarted.









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Chemical Rocket Comparison

Feature	Liquid, Bipropellant	Solid	Hybrid
Safety	Potential for combustion instability, can explode, volatile propellants	Highly flammable significant explosion potential, DOT 1.1	Inert propellants, low explosion and transport risk
Toxicity	Ranges from non-toxic to highly toxic	Exhaust products highly toxic	Exhaust products non-toxic (CO ₂ , H ₂ O)
Fabrication Costs	Extremely expensive	Expensive, mostly due to handling difficulties	Inexpensive
Complexity/R eliability	Highly complex, moderate reliability	Simple-to-moderate complexity, high reliability	Moderate complexity, high reliability
Operation	Throttleable, restartable, high performance	No restart, throttle capability, high-to- moderate performance	Thottleable, restartable, moderate performance 3

UtahState UNIVERSITY Space Dev® Hybrid Powered "Spaceship 1"





• Built by Burt Rutan (Scaled Composites®) with Paul Allen's (Apple co founder) Money in Mojave CA SS1 wrote history, when the first private suborbital spaceflight was conducted on June 21, 2004 (with pilot Mike Melvill).

- SS1 won the <u>X-Prize</u> with flights on 29.09.2004 (Melville) and a follow up flight on 04.10.2004. (Brian Binneie)
- Powered by a 16700 lbf thrust Hybrid Motor (SpaceDev)



UtahState UNIVERSITY Birth of a New Medicenteel Configuration Transportation Industry?

Virgin Galactic, the British company created by entrepreneur Sir Richard Branson to send tourists into space and the State of New Mexico have entered into an agreement for the State to build a \$225 million spaceport. Virgin Galactic has also revealed that 38,000 people from 126 countries have expressed interest its commercial suborbital flights. A core group of 100 "founders" have paid the full initial \$200,000 ticket price and an additional 300 intrepid passengers have placed deposits.

Virgin Galactic was cleared for civil airspace operations in 2008 and is expected to initiate passenger services beginning in 2012.





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Hybrids Rockets are a Potentially Enabling Technology for the Emerging Commercial Spaceflight Industry

• NASA is contracting with commercial space hardware and launch service companies to fill the void left by the retirement of the Space Shuttle fleet.

• Well funded firms like Virgin Galactic, SpaceX, Blue Origin, Sierra Nevada Corp, Bigelow Aerospace, and others are pioneering a new era in spaceflight and space exploration.





SNC Dream Chaser Powered by SNC Hybrid Rocket Motor

Space X Falcon 9 Medium Lift Launcher

Masten Engineering's Hyb Winning Lunar Xprize Entry



Danish Suborbital's Tycho Brahe Spacecraft powered by Hybrid HEAT Rocket



Spaceship OneTM Hybrid Rocket Firing During Ansari X-prize Flight



Bigelow Aerospace Space Station Module



Virgin Galactic VSS Enterprise Powered by SNC Hybrid Rocket Motor

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Launch System Safety

Almost 70% of all space launch failures are attributable to either the solid or liquid rocket propulsion system, either as a result of their complexity (liquids) or their explosive nature (solids and liquids).



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Rocket Safety (2)

The below chart puts the potential explosive force of both liquid and solid rockets in perspective, and explains why their use for commercial space transport and many other applications are not recommended.



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Hybrid Rocket Motors

- Limited explosion potential, safer than liquid and pre-mixed solids
- Potential for restart and throttling
- Good Volumetric Efficiency, Bulk Density better than Liquid not quite as compact as solid motor
- Exhaust Products typically benign, unlike solid exhaust plumes
- Insensitive to cracks or aging of fuel grain ... almost infinite storability of fuel grain
- Low regressions rates compared to Solids ... allows for "controlled" impulse, but requires bigger port area for a given thrust
- Mixture ratio strongly influenced by port design ... fuel burn is generally incomplete ... lower effective mass fraction

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Fuel Materials

- ABS (Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene)
 - C_3H_2N (33% mass), C_4H_6 (34% mass), C_8H_8 (34% mass)
 - $\Delta H_f^0 = 1.169 MJ/kg$
 - $-\rho = 1040 \ kg/m^3$

• PMMA (Poly Methyl-MethAcrylate) (Polycarbonate)

- $(C_5 H_8 O_2)_n$

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- $\Delta H_f^0 = -1.845 \text{ MJ/kg}$
- $-\rho = 1180 \ kg/m^3$

• HTPB (Hydroxyl-Terminated Polybutadiene)

- $OH(C_4H_6)_nOH$
- $\Delta H_f^0 = 0.674 \text{ MJ/kg}$
- $-\rho = 920 \ kg/m^3$
- PAI (Polyamide Nylon 6-6)
 - $C_{12}H_{22}O_2N_2$
 - $\Delta H_f^0 = 0.967 \, MJ/kg$
 - $-\rho = 1314 \ kg/m^3$
- PAI (Polyamide Nylon 6)
 - $C_6 H_{11} ON$

MDA18-T005

- $\Delta H_f^0 = 0.598 \, MJ/kg$
- $-\rho = 1150 \text{ kg/m}^3$

- PVC (PolyViny Chloride)
 - C_2H_3Cl
 - $\Delta H_f^0 = 3.537 \, MJ/kg$
 - $-\rho = 1380 \ kg/m^3$
- Paraffin (Carbonated Alkane)

-
$$C_{25}H_{52}$$

- $\Delta H_f^0 = -1.945 \text{ MJ/kg}$
- $\rho = 900 \text{ kg/m}^3$

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Hybrid Rocket Motors (cont'd)

- Fuels Polyamide (Nylon 6, Nylon6-6, Nylon 12)
 - Hydroxy-terminated polybutadiene $(C_4H_6)_n(OH)_2$
 - Acrylonitrile-Butadiene-Styrene (ABS)
 - Plexiglass --polymethly-methacrylate -- PMMA (C₅H₈O₂)
 - Burning enhancements include carbon or aluminum powder added to grain

• Oxidizers

- LOX (O_2)

- ... Higher I_{sp} , dangerous to handle
- ... Limited Storability
- Nitrous Oxide (N₂0)—
 - ... Lower I_{sp}, safe for handling
 - ... highly storable
- Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂)
 - ... Highest effective I_{sp} , very toxic
 - ... Highly storable



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Raw Material Cost

Material	Cost. £/kg	
Material	min	max
ABS	1,006	1,38
ABS (transparent)	1,57	2,07
Acetal (homopol)	1,63	1,89
Acetal (20% Glass Fibre)	2,01	2,77
Acrylic	1,42	-
Acrylic (Impact)	2,36	-
Nylon 66	1,76	2,11
PTFE	5,66	11,31
PFA	22,4	31,7
PVDF	8,55	11,31
PEEK (30% Glass fibre)	41,49	-
Polythene (LDPE)	1,18	1,28
Polythene (HDPE)	1,18	1,28
Polypropylene	1,06	1,29
Poystyrene	0,92	1,13
Poystyrene (Struct.Foam)	1,32	1,36
EPS	1,07	1,13
Polysulfone (30% Glass fibre)	7,0	7,07
Poyurethane (ester type)	2,33	3,21
PVC	0,77	0,91
Silicones	7,30	8,05

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Desirable Traits of Hybrid Oxidizers

- 1. High C^* , I_{sp} performance with common fuels,
- 2. High storage density,
- 3. Good combustion stability and burn efficiency characteristics,
- 4. Chemical stability, for safety and long term storage,
- 5. Low toxicity,

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- 6. Long duration storability (in the flight tank) with no boil-off (Non-cryogenic)
- 7. Adequate self-pressurizing for pressure fed systems (low vapor pressure, pump fed systems),
- 8. Low freezing point,
- 9. Easily ignitable with common fuels,
- 10. Ease of handling,
- 11. Low cost,
- 12. Compatibility with existing tank and feed systems and materials.



4 Practical "Green" Options for Hybrids









Available Green Options for Hybrid Oxidizers



- Liquid Oxygen (LOX)
 - Requires Cryogenic Storage
 - Cryo-Operations, Forbidden by MDA18-T005

• Hydrogen Peroxide (H₂O₂) Aqueous Solution, 85-90%

 Forbidden for Air Transport by Air Force Manual 24-204: Preparing Hazardous Materials for Military Air Shipment. 13 July 2017. <u>http://static.e-</u> <u>publishing.af.mil/production/1/af_a4/publication/afman24-204/afman24-204.pdf</u>, pg. 161 UN3149. Hazard Class 5.1

Gaseous Oxygen (GOX)

- *Air Shipment Allowable*, Cylinder and outer packaging must be marked and labeled in accordance with Subparts D, E of 49 CFR Part 172.
- Additional marking, "DOT31FP" is allowed to indicate that cylinder and outer packaging are capable of passing, as demonstrated by design testing, Thermal Resistance Test.
- Nitrous Oxide (N₂O)
 - Nitrous oxide, when transported by air, must comply with the requirements specified in either §§ 173.304, 173.314, or 173.315.

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Transient Operation Model For Hybrid Rockets

• Revisit General Model $\frac{\partial P_0}{\partial t} + P_0 \left[\frac{1}{V_c} \frac{\partial V_c}{\partial t} + \frac{A^*}{V_c} \sqrt{\gamma R_g T \left(\frac{2}{\gamma+1}\right)^{\frac{\gamma+1}{(\gamma-1)}}} \right] = \frac{R_g T_0}{V_c} \left[\frac{m_{propellant}}{m_{propellant}} \right]$

• For Hybrid Rocket Motors

$$\frac{\partial V_c}{\partial t} \neq 0$$



Valve

Transient Operation of Hybrid Rockets (cont'd)

• Following earlier analysis procedure used for solid motors

$$\frac{\partial P_0}{\partial t} + P_0 \left[\frac{1}{V_c} \frac{\partial V_c}{\partial t} + \frac{A^*}{V_c} \sqrt{\gamma R_g T \left(\frac{2}{\gamma + 1}\right)^{\frac{\gamma + 1}{(\gamma - 1)}}} \right] = \frac{R_g T_0}{V_c} \left[\frac{I}{m_{propellant}} \right]$$

 $\frac{\partial V_c}{\partial t} = A_{burn} r_{fuel} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A_{burn} = \text{Grain Surface Burn Area} \\ . \\ r = Grain \text{ Linear Regression Rate} \end{bmatrix}$

$$m_{propellant} = m_{ox} + \rho_{fuel} A_{burn} r_{fuel}$$

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Injector Design

$$V_{2_{actual}} = C_d \sqrt{2\left(\frac{p_1 - p_2}{\rho}\right)}$$
• Define Volumetric Flow as

$$Q_v = A_2 V_{2_{actual}} = A_2 C_d \sqrt{2\left(\frac{p_1 - p_2}{\rho}\right)}$$
• Finally Massflow is

$$\dot{m} = \rho Q_v = A_2 C_d \sqrt{2\rho(p_1 - p_2)}$$
• *Incompressible Discharge Coefficient Formula*

$$\dot{m} = \rho Q_v = A_2 C_d \sqrt{2\rho(p_1 - p_2)}$$
• *MAE 6430 - Propulsion Systems, II*



• Following earlier analysis procedure for Oxidizer mass flow

• Incompressible Discharge

$$m_{ox} = A_{ox}C_d \sqrt{2\rho_{ox}(p_{ox} - P_0)}$$
 Coefficient Formula

 $\frac{\partial P_0}{\partial t} = \frac{A_{burn} r_{fuel}}{V_c} \left[\rho_{fuel} R_g T_0 - P_0 \right] - P_0 \left[\frac{A^*}{V_c} \sqrt{\gamma R_g T_0 \left(\frac{2}{\gamma+1}\right)^{\frac{\gamma+1}{(\gamma-1)}}} \right] + \frac{R_g T_0}{V_c} A_{ox} C_{d_{ox}} \sqrt{2\rho_{ox} \left(p_{ox} - P_0\right)} \right]$



- Also need relation for combustion pressure for complete motor simulation
- Derived from simple mass balance

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Fuel Grain Regression Model for Hybrid Rockets

$$\frac{\partial P_0}{\partial t} = \frac{A_{burn} \dot{r}_{fuel}}{V_c} \left[\rho_{fuel} R_g T_0 - P_0 \right] - P_0 \left[\frac{A^*}{V_c} \sqrt{\gamma R_g T_0} \left(\frac{2}{\gamma + 1} \right)^{\frac{\gamma + 1}{(\gamma - 1)}} \right] + \frac{R_g T_0}{V_c} A_{ox} C_{d_{ox}} \sqrt{2 \rho_{ox} \left(p_{ox} - P_0 \right)} \right]$$

• Need *accurate expression for regression rate*, Saint Robert's Law is inaccurate and basically "incorrect" physical representation for Hybrid Rockets

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• Very Limited Pressure Coupling with Hybrid regression rate

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Enthalpy Balance Regression Model History

- Marxman and Gilbert outlined the basics of hybrid combustion in 1963
- Assumptions
 - Regression dominated by diffusion and not chemical kinetics
 - Flow is turbulent over entire fuel grain (early transition due to mass addition)
- Additional research has been completed for modes where radiation or kinetics dominate, but the diffusion relations remain mostly unaltered since their propellant grain conception





- Prandtl Number ... was assumed to be unity in initial Application of model
- Prandtl Number Definitely NOT Unity in practice

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The Classic Marxman and Gilbert Relation Total Mass Flux (Oxidizer + Fuel)

• Blowing Coefficient .. accounts for radial out gassing from fuel pryolysis ... pushes flame zone away from fuel surface ... reduces convective heat transfer, surface skin friction



Sutton, G. P., and Biblarz, O., *Rocket Propulsion Elements*, John Wiley and Sons, New York, 2001, Appendix 4, 5, pp. 731-737.

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Classical Model Problems

- Empirical observations have shown that depending on the propellants used, regression exponent *n* not exactly as predicted by the Marxman model
- Instead *n* tends to range between 0.3 to 0.8.
 Values less than n = 0.3 or greater than n = 0.8 are not typically observed.
- Simplified empirical relation is often used instead of complete formulation
- Empirical Correlations
 - Do not scale well
 - Based upon configuration specific empirical data





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UtahState Enthalpy-Balance Fuel Grain Regression Model for Hybrid Rockets

- In hybrids separation of oxidizer and fuel into two different states leads to combustion different from that of either solid or liquid rockets.
- Combustion occurs as a macroscopic diffusion flame in which oxidizer-to-fuel ratio varies down length of solid grain.
- Hot gases cause vaporization of a small layer of solid.
- Vaporized solid reacts with rest of injected Ox component.
- •Eventually, self-sustained combustion occurs.





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Stanton Number

The **Stanton number**, *St*, is a <u>dimensionless number</u> that measures the ratio of heat transferred into a fluid to the <u>thermal capacity</u> of fluid. The Stanton number is named after <u>Thomas Stanton (engineer)</u> (1865–1931 It is used to characterize <u>heat transfer</u> in forced <u>convection</u> flows. H H



$$S_t = \frac{H}{G_e \cdot C_{p_e}} = S_t = \frac{H}{\rho_e \cdot U_e \cdot C_{pe}}$$

- → "e" = Edge of Boundary Layer where
- H = convection heat transfer coefficient
 - ρ = density of the fluid
 - cp = specific heat of the fluid
- U = velocity of the fluid

$$\dot{q}_{conv} = H \cdot \left(T_{flame} - T_{surface}\right) = S_t \cdot \rho_e \cdot U_e \cdot C_{p_e} \cdot \left(T_{flame} - T_{surface}\right)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Dimensional \\ Analysis \end{array} \sim \frac{k_g}{m^3} \cdot \frac{m}{\sec} \cdot \frac{kJ}{k_g - K} \cdot K = \frac{kJ}{m^2 - \sec} \rightarrow "Heat \ flux"$$

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Medicinies Crarcepters Engineering UtahState Reynold's (Colburn) Analogy The Reynolds Analogy is popularly known to **relate turbulent momentum and heat** transfer. That is because in a turbulent flow (in a pipe or in a boundary layer) the transport of momentum and the transport of heat largely depends on the same turbulent eddies: the velocity and the temperature profiles have the same shape. --V $u(\mathbf{y}) \blacktriangleright \overline{}$ Ue momentum heat Osborne Reynold's $S_t = \frac{C_f}{2} P_r^{-2/3} \rightarrow$ C_f = skin friction coefficient, Pr = Prandtl Number Prandtl Number .. Factor of proportionality 26 MAE 6430 - Propulsion Systems, II



Reynold's (Colburn) Analogy (2)

• Reynold's Analogy ... correlation of heat transfer (S_t) to skin friction (C_f)

• Hard to Prove ... easy to use

• Turbulent eddy transports momentum from core flow to fluid near wall .. It also transports heat

 $S_{t} = \frac{C_{f}}{2} P_{r}^{-2/3} \rightarrow$ $C_{f} = \text{skin friction coefficient, Pr} = \text{Prandtl Number}$ $Pr \qquad \dots \text{ assesses the relation between momentum transport and thermal transport capacity of a fluid}$ $P_{r} = \frac{\text{momentum transport}}{\text{heat transport}} = \frac{C_{p} \cdot \mu}{k}$ $\frac{N-m}{-sec}$

Dimensional Analysis
$$\sim \frac{J}{k_g - K} \cdot \frac{Pa - \sec}{\frac{W}{m - K}} = \frac{J}{k_g - K} \cdot \frac{\frac{W - M}{\sec^2 \cdot m^2} - \sec}{\frac{J / \sec}{m - K}} \rightarrow non - dimensional$$



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Zerah Colburn

 $0.5 \le P_r \le 1.0$ for turbulent flow

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Enthalpy Balance Regression Model Derivation (3)

• Modified Reynolds Analogy Used to Relate Turbulent Heat Transfer to Surface Skin Friction (*Non-unity Prandtl Number*)

$$\rho_{fuel} r h_{v} = H \Big[T_{flame} - T_{surface} \Big] = S_{t} \rho_{e} U_{e} C_{p_{e}} \Big[T_{flame} - T_{surface} \Big]$$
Reynold's Analogy
$$S_{t} = \frac{C_{f}}{2} P_{r}^{-2/3} \rightarrow \qquad \bullet \text{ Reynold's Analogy } \dots \text{ correlation of heat transfer to skin friction}$$

$$\bullet Solve \text{ for regression rate}$$

$$\bullet = \left(\frac{C_{f}}{2} P_{r}^{-\frac{2}{3}} \right) \Big(\frac{\rho_{e} \cdot U_{e}}{\rho_{fuel}} \Big) \Big(\frac{\Delta h_{flame}}{h_{f}} \Big) = \left(\frac{C_{f}}{2} P_{r}^{-\frac{2}{3}} \right) \Big(\frac{\rho_{e} \cdot U_{e}}{\rho_{fuel}} \Big) \Big(\frac{\Delta h_{flame}}{h_{f}} \Big)$$

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Enthalpy Balance Regression Model Derivation (4)

• Solve for regression rate



 $C_f \rightarrow$ need to account for "Wall Blowing" doe to Surface Pyrolysis



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Wall Blowing Correction

• Blowing Coefficient .. accounts for radial out gassing from fuel pryolysis ... pushes flame zone away from fuel surface ... reduces convective heat transfer, surface skin friction



$\beta =$	Wall Shearing Force Due to Radial Outflow	$DW _ \dot{m}_{fuel} \cdot U_{e}$	
p = -	Wall Shearing Force Due to Skin Friction	$n = \overline{\tau_{_{wall}} \cdot A_{_{wall}}}$	27
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Wall Blowing Correction (3)

$$\beta = \left(\frac{\rho_{fuel} \cdot \dot{r}}{\rho_e \cdot U_e}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{C_f / 2}$$

Reynold's Analogy $\rightarrow C_f / 2 = S_t \cdot P_r^{2/3} \rightarrow \beta = \left(\frac{\rho_{fuel} \cdot \dot{r}}{\rho_e \cdot U_e \cdot S_t \cdot P_r^{2/3}}\right)$

$$But from \ Earlier \to \rho_e \cdot U_e \cdot S_t = \frac{\rho_f \cdot \dot{r} \cdot h_v}{c_p \left[T_0 - T_{\text{fuel}} \right]} \to \frac{\rho_f \cdot \dot{r}}{\rho_e \cdot U_e \cdot S_t} = \frac{h_v}{c_p \left[T_0 - T_{\text{fuel}} \right]}$$

$$Solving \ for \to \beta = \frac{\rho_{fuel} \cdot \dot{r}}{\rho_e \cdot U_e \cdot S_t} \frac{1}{P_r^{2/3}} = \frac{h_v}{c_p \left[T_0 - T_{\text{fuel}} \right]} \frac{1}{P_r^{2/3}} = \frac{h_v}{\Delta h_{flame}} \cdot \frac{1}{P_r^{2/3}}$$

$$(29)$$

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Wall Blowing Correction (4)

- --> Correction for surface blowing
- Lee's Empirical Correlation -- Appendix 4, Sutton and Biblarz.
- Blowing Reduces the surface skin friction compared to "normal" boundary layer skin friction

$$\beta = \frac{h_v}{\Delta h_{flame}} \cdot \frac{1}{P_r^{2/3}}$$



 $0.5 \le P_r \le 1.0$ for turbulent flow $\rightarrow 1 \le P_r^{-0.0133} \le 1.00929 \approx 1$

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Wall Blowing Correction (5)

Allowing blowing-corrected skin friction to substitute for local skin friction coefficient "blowing adjusted" regression rate



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Wall Blowing Correction (6)

Allowing blowing-corrected skin friction to substitute for local skin friction coefficient "blowing adjusted" regression rate model

$$\dot{r} = \left(\frac{0.635}{\frac{2}{P_r^3}}\right) \left(\frac{\rho_e \cdot U_e}{\rho_{\text{fuel}}}\right) \left(\frac{\Delta h_{flame}}{h_f}\right)^{0.23} C_{f_0}$$

 $C_{f_0} \rightarrow$ Skin Friction for Normal Boundary Layer Flow

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Skin Friction Coefficient Model

• Blasius formula for turbulent wall shear stress

 $C_{f_{x}} = \frac{\tau_{wall_{x}}}{\frac{1}{2}\rho U_{e}^{2}} = \frac{0.0465}{\left(R_{e_{x}}\right)^{1/4}} = \frac{0.0465}{\left(\frac{\rho U_{e}\delta_{x}}{U_{e}}\right)^{1/4}}$

White, Frank M., Viscous Fluid Flow, McGrawHill, Inc., New York, 1991, pp. 485-486.

• Schoenherr-Schlicting Model for Turbulent Boundary Layer Thickness

$$\delta_{x} = \frac{0.38x}{\left(R_{e_{x}}\right)^{1/5}} = \frac{0.38x}{\left(\frac{\rho U_{e} x}{\mu}\right)^{1/5}} \qquad C_{f_{x}} = \frac{0.0465}{\left(\frac{\rho U_{e} \delta_{x}}{\mu}\right)^{1/5}} = \frac{0.04657(0.38)}{\left(\frac{\rho U_{e} x}{\mu}\frac{1}{\left(\frac{\rho U_{e} x}{\mu}\right)^{1/5}}\right)^{1/4}} = \frac{0.0592}{\left(\frac{\rho U_{e} x}{\mu}\right)^{1/5}}$$

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Skin Friction Coefficient Model (2)

• Substitute into Regression Rate Equation





• Compare to Original Marxman Correlation Equation

$$\dot{r} = \frac{.036}{\rho_f} \left(\frac{\mu_{\infty}}{x}\right)^{0.2} \frac{G^{0.8}B^{.23}}{Pr^{0.7}}$$

Very Close Comparisons and Based on First Principles







- Model derived in a form suitable for easy integration.
- Result is nearly identical to Marxman and Gilbert correlation



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How Do We Justify a "Flat Plate" Skin Friction Model?

... Look at the evidence? (2)

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How Do We Justify a "Flat Plate" Skin Friction Model?



Evolving pipe flow with radial injection skin friction shear stress coefficient compared to turbulent flat plate profile

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Regression Rate Equation Examined

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Weighted State
Instantaneous mixture (O/F) ratio (3)
for near-cylindrical port
$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A_{burn} = \pi \cdot D \cdot L \\ A_{c_{chomber}} = \frac{\pi}{4}D^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

As motor burns ... $D = D_0 + 2\int_0^r \dot{r} \cdot dt$
 $M_{O/F}(t) = 5.58244 \cdot P_r^{2/3} \cdot \left(\frac{h_{v_{solid}}}{\Delta h_{flame}}\right)^{0.23} \cdot \left(\frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\mu_e \cdot L}\right)^{1/5} \left(\frac{D_0 + 2 \cdot \int_0^t \dot{r}_{(\tau)} \cdot d\tau}{L}\right)^{3/5}$

O/F positive shift is inherent to hybrid rockets with cylindrical port, And in general over the course of a burn at a fixed oxidizer mass flow rate there is a tendency for the oxidizer to fuel (O/F) ratio to shift to higher values as the port opens up.

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Instantaneous mixture (O/F) ratio (4)

for near-cylindrical port $\rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} A_{burn} = \pi \cdot D \cdot L \\ A_{c_{chamber}} = \frac{\pi}{4}D^2 \end{vmatrix}$

In terms of generic model... $\dot{r}_x = a \cdot G_{ox}^{\ n} \cdot x^m \approx a \cdot G_{ox}^{\ n} \cdot x^{1-n}$



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Instantaneous mixture (O/F) ratio (5)

Consequences of O/F shift

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- ... reduced motor performance
- ... potential for combustion instability
- ... nozzle or port erosion
- ... decreased duty cycle lifetime
- ... More oxidizer (typically least volumetric efficient component) required

 $n = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow No O/F shift !$

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Instantaneous mixture (O/F) ratio (6)

Regression Rate Data for Various Hybrid Propellants



HTPB/LOX:

 $\dot{r} = 3.043 \ 10^{-2} G_{ox}^{0.681}$

HTPB/Escorez/LOX

 $\dot{r} = 2.061 \, 10^{-2} \, G_{ox}^{0.68}$

- HDPE/LOX $\dot{r} = 2.340 \, 10^{-2} G_{ox}^{0.62}$
- Paraffin/LOX $\dot{r} = 11.70 \ 10^{-2} G_{ox}^{0.62}$ • Paraffin/N2O $\dot{r} = 15.50 \ 10^{-2} G_{ox}^{0.50}$

(Units are mm/sec and kg/m²-sec)

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Example Calculation

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LOX/ HTPB Hybrid Numerical Example

- Design Hybrid Rocket Motor, Nominal Thrust 8.4 kNt
- Approximate Dimensions Below
- LOX/HTPB Propellants, Operate Near Optimal O/F Ratio
- Cylindrical Grain Pattern, Initial Diameter, 5.6 cm
- Nozzle Throat Diameter, 4.98 cm
- Nozzle $A/A^* = 8.0$



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LOX/ HTPB Hybrid Numerical Example (cont'd)

• Combustion Properties

NASA CEA (chemical equilibrium with applications) –NASA Reference Publication 1311 (June 1996)

CEA can be obtained for free -http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/CEAWeb/

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Sample CEA Calculation

HTPB ... solid form $(C_4H_6)_n(OH)_2$

... A hydrocarbon butadiene molecule has two C=C double bonds

... Polybutadiene is a synthetic rubber that has a high resistance to wear and is used especially in the manufacture of tires.

... Polybutadiene can be formed from many 1,3-butadiene monomers radical polymerization to make a much longer undergoing free polymer chain molecule.



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Sample CEA Calculation (cont'd)

• Example for 8:5 to one Mixture ratio, Nitrous Oxide + HTPB

HTPB ... solid form $(C_4H_6)_n(OH)_2$

Hydroxy-terminated polybutadiene (HTPB) is a polymer of butadiene terminated at each end with a hydroxyl functional group

The effect is increased functionality of the polybutadiene on mechanical properties, thermal behavior (*lower glassification* or *embrittlement* temperature) and hydrolytic resistance (moisture absorption).



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LOX/ HTPB Hybrid Numerical Example (cont'd)

• Sample CEA Computation



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LOX/ HTPB Hybrid Numerical Example (cont'd)

• Sample CEA Computation Look at O/F Ratio of 2.5

$$\frac{moles_{O_2}}{moles_{C_4H_6}} = 1.6875 \times 2.5 \rightarrow 4.21875 \ O_2 + C_4H_6 \rightarrow 0$$

Combustion Product Mole fractions	
CO	0.35492
CO2	0.15747
COOH	0.002
Н	0.03513
HCO	0.003
HO2	0.012
H2	0.06871
H2O	0.26134
H2O2	0.001
0	0.02002
OH	0.07323
O2	0.02900

 Mean Exhaust Gas Properties 	s:
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$$\gamma = 1.1362$$

 $C^* = 1775.7$ m/sec
 $M_W = 24.253$



Stoichiometric O/F near 2.5 Best Cstar O/F Ratio Near 2.0









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LOX/ HTPB Hybrid Numerical Example (cont'd)

BURNER TEMPERATURE

BURNER PRESSURE



• Burn Time ~ 18 seconds
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LOX/ HTPB Hybrid Numerical Example (cont'd)



• Burn is Slightly Regressive



Correcting for Total Port Massflux

• Original Model based on Oxidizer massflow... works well for propellants with naturally high required O/F ratio ... i.e.

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Correcting for Total Port Massflux (2)

• Rewrite regression rate equation in Generic form

$$\dot{r}_x = a \cdot G_{total}^n \cdot x^m$$

• Where
$$\underline{G(x)_{total}} = \underline{G(x)_{ox}} + \frac{\rho_{fuel}}{A_{port}} \cdot \int_{0}^{x} C_{port} \cdot \dot{r}(s) ds$$

 C_{port} = port circumference at station x

• Rewrite in terms of massflow

$$\dot{m}(x)_{total} = \dot{m}(x)_{ox} + \rho_{fuel} \cdot \int_{0}^{x} C_{port} \cdot \dot{r}(s) ds$$

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Correcting for Total Port Massflux (3)

• Convert to differential form

$$\frac{\partial \dot{m}(x)_{total}}{\partial x} = \rho_{fuel} \cdot C_{port} \cdot \dot{r}(x) \rightarrow \dot{m}(x)_{ox} \equiv constant$$

Substitute for $\dot{r}(x)$

$$\frac{\partial \dot{m}(x)_{total}}{\partial x} = \rho_{fuel} \cdot C_{port} \cdot \frac{a \cdot G(x)^n \cdot x^m}{\sqrt{2}}$$

• Rewrite massflow of massflux by dividing by port area

$$\frac{\partial G(x)_{total}}{\partial x} = \frac{\rho_{fuel} \cdot C_{port} \cdot a \cdot G(x)^n \cdot x^m}{A_{port}}$$

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Correcting for Total Port Massflux (4)

- Assume Cylindrical port and sub into previous equation
- $C_{port} = 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r(x)$ $\frac{\partial G(x)_{total}}{\partial x} = \frac{\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r(x) \cdot a \cdot G(x)^n \cdot x^m}{\pi \cdot r(x)^2} =$ $A_{port} = \pi \cdot r(x)^2$ $\frac{2 \cdot \rho_{fuel} \cdot \left(a \cdot G(x)^n \cdot x^m\right)}{2 \cdot p_{fuel} \cdot \left(a \cdot G(x)^n \cdot x^m\right)}$ r(x)
- Divide by mass flux

$$\frac{G(x)_{total}}{G(x)^n} = \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r(x)} \cdot x^m \partial x$$

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Correcting for Total Port Mass flux (5) Replace local port radius by mean longitudinal average

$$\rightarrow r(x) \approx r_L = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L r(s) \cdot ds$$
$$\frac{\partial G(x)_{total}}{\partial x} = \frac{2 \cdot \rho_{fuel} \cdot \left(a \cdot G(x)^n \cdot x^m\right)}{r_L}$$

• Separate Variables

$$\frac{\partial G(x)_{total}}{G(x)^n} = \left(\frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r_L}\right) \cdot x^m \,\partial x$$

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Medianteal & Flarospace Engineering Correcting for Total Port Mass flux (5) • Integrate both sides to get solution $\frac{G(x)^{1-n}}{1-n} = \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r_L} \cdot \frac{x^{m+1}}{m+1} + C$ Apply Boundary Condition

$$= 0 \longrightarrow G(x) = G_{ox} \longrightarrow C = \frac{G_{ox}^{1-n}}{1-n}$$

$$\underbrace{G(x)^{1-n}}_{1-n} = \frac{G_{ox}^{1-n}}{1-n} + \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r} \cdot \frac{x^{m+1}}{m+1} \longrightarrow \underline{G(x)^{1-n}} = G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{m+1}\right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r} \cdot x^{m+1}$$

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Solve for Mean Longitudinal Port Massflux

mean longitudinal mass flux
$$\rightarrow \overline{G}^{1-n} = \frac{1}{L} \int_{0}^{L} \left[G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{m+1} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{\overline{r}} \cdot x^{m+1} \right] \cdot dx = 1$$

$$G_{ox}^{1-n} + \frac{1}{L} \left\{ \left(\frac{1-n}{m+1} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{\overline{r}} \cdot \frac{x^{m+1} \cdot x}{m+2} \right\}_{0}^{L} = G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{m+1} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{\overline{r}} \cdot \frac{L^{m+1}}{m+2}$$

$$\boxed{\overline{G} = \left[G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{(m+1)\cdot(m+2)}\right)\frac{2\cdot a\cdot \rho_{fuel}}{\overline{r}}\cdot L^{m+1}\right]^{\frac{1}{1-n}}}$$

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Correcting for Total Port Mass flux (6)

• Solve for Total Massflux

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$$G(x) = \left(G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{m+1}\right)\frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r_L} \cdot x^{m+1}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-n}}$$

• Solve for regression rate

$$\dot{r}_{x} = \underline{a} \cdot \left(G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{m+1} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r_{L}} \cdot x^{m+1} \right)^{\frac{n}{1-n}} \cdot \underline{x}^{m}$$

• Mean Longitudinal Regression rate

$$\left| \overline{\dot{r}} = \underline{a \cdot \overline{G}^n \cdot L^m} = \underline{a \cdot \left[\underbrace{G_{ox}^{1-n}}_{(m+1) \cdot (m+2)} + \left(\frac{1-n}{(m+1) \cdot (m+2)} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{\overline{r}} \cdot L^{m+1} \right]^{\frac{n}{1-n}} \cdot L^m$$

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Correcting for Total Port Mass flux (8)

- Compare to Oxidizer-flux Only Model
- Total Mass flux

$$\overline{\dot{r}} = \left(\frac{0.047}{P_r^{2/3} \cdot \rho_{fiel}}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta h_{flame}}{h_v}\right)^{0.23} \cdot \left(G_{ox}^{-1/5} + \frac{5}{9} \cdot \left(\frac{0.047}{P_r^{2/3}}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta h_{flame}}{h_v}\right)^{0.23} \cdot \left(\frac{\mu}{L}\right)^{1/5} \cdot \left(\frac{L}{D_{port}}\right)\right)^4 \cdot \left(\frac{\mu}{L}\right)^{1/5}$$

• Oxidizer-Only Mass Flux

$$\overline{\dot{r}} = \left(\frac{0.047}{P_r^{2/3} \cdot \rho_{fiel}}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta h_{flame}}{h_v}\right)^{0.23} \cdot G_{ox}^{4/5} \cdot \left(\frac{\mu}{L}\right)^{1/5}$$

Maahanleel & Flare Revisit O/F Shift with Total Flux Model • Compare to Oxidizer-flux Only Model $O/F = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\dot{m}_{fuel}} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_L \cdot \dot{r}_L \cdot L} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_L \cdot L \cdot a \cdot \left(G_{ox}^{-1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{(m+1)(m+2)}\right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r_L} \cdot L^{m+1}\right)^{\frac{n}{1-n}} \cdot L^m$ Multiply numerator and denominator by $(\pi \cdot r_L^2)^n$ $\dot{m}_{ox} \cdot (\pi \cdot r_L^2)^n$ O/F = - $\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_L \cdot a \cdot \left(\left[G_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{(m+1)(m+2)} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r} \cdot L^{m+1} \right] \cdot \left(\pi \cdot r_L^{2} \right)^{1-n} \right)^{\frac{n}{1-n}} \cdot L^{1+m}$ $\dot{m}_{ox} \cdot \left(\pi \cdot r_L^2\right)^n$ $\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_{L} \cdot a \cdot \left(\dot{m}_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{(m+1)(m+2)} \right) \frac{2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel}}{r_{L}} \cdot L^{m+1} \cdot \left(\pi \cdot r_{L}^{2} \right)^{1-n} \right)^{\frac{n}{1-n}} \cdot L^{1+m}$ $\dot{m}_{ox} \cdot \pi^{n-1} \cdot r_L^{2n-1}$ $\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot a \cdot \left(\dot{m}_{ox}^{1-n} + \left(\frac{1-n}{(m+1)(m+2)} \right) \pi^{1-n} \cdot 2 \cdot a \cdot \rho_{fuel} \cdot L^{m+1} \cdot r_{L}^{1-2n} \right)^{\frac{n}{1-n}} \cdot L^{1+m}$ 78 MAE 6430 - Propulsion Systems, II

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Instantaneous mixture (O/F) ratio (4)
for near-cylindrical port
$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A_{hearn} = \pi \cdot D \cdot L \\ A_{c.tamber} = \frac{\pi}{4} D^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

In terms of generic model based on $G_{ox} \dots$ $\dot{r}_x = a \cdot G_{ox}^{-n} \cdot x^m$
 $O/F = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\dot{m}_{fuel}} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot (2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_L \cdot L) \cdot \dot{r}_L} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot (2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_L \cdot L) \cdot a \cdot G_{ox}^{-n} \cdot L^m} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}^{-1-n} \cdot r_L^{-2n-1}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot (2 \cdot \pi \cdot r_L \cdot L) \cdot a \cdot (\frac{\dot{m}_{ox}}{\pi \cdot r_L^2})^n \cdot L^m} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}^{-1-n} \cdot r_L^{-2n-1}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot a \cdot L^{1-m}}$
 $r_L = \frac{D_{port}}{2} \rightarrow O/F = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}^{-1-n} \cdot r_L D_{port}^{-2n-1}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot 2 \cdot 2^{2n-1} a \cdot L^{1-m}} = \frac{\dot{m}_{ox}^{-1-n} \cdot r_L D_{port}^{-2n-1}}{\rho_{fuel} \cdot 4^n a \cdot L^{1-m}}$
 $n = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow \text{No O/F shift }!$ 79



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Questions??

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