THE EFFECTS OF TWO SHAFT GAS TURBINE OPERATING CONDITIONS ON THE OVERALL PERFORMANCE

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Abstract:

In this research, we study the effect of some parameters (gas turbine speed, power turbine speed, mass flow rate of air, mass flow rate of fuel, compression ratio, air to fuel ratio and inlet compressor temperature) on the overall system efficiency, alternator efficiency and the overall heat efficiency of the two shaft gas turbine system, the working fluid was propane. Firstly we checked the experimental results by plotted the (T-S diagram) between the experimental and analytical solution and then we study the effect of the above parameters on the overall system efficiencies. Also we checked the effect of the inlet compressor temperature on the overall gas turbine performance. From these results, we can notes the increasing of the compression ratio and the power turbine speed will increase the overall efficiency, overall heat efficiency and decreasing the alternator efficiency, at the same time is increase the gas turbine efficiency.

Keyword: Gas Turbine, Power Turbine, Inlet Temperature, Compressor, Experimental
Nomenclature

\( C_p \) Constant pressure mass heat capacity (kJ/kg.K) \\
\( R \) Gas universal constant (kJ/kg.K) \\
\( C_v \) Constant volume mass heat capacity (kJ/kg.K) \\
\( \rho \) Air mass density in the measured upstream of the diaphragm (kg/m³) \\
\( \Delta h \) Differential alcohol manometer reading subscript (mm) \\
\( F_h \) Flowmeter correction factor for the feed pressure value of the used fuel \\
\( Q_{1} \) The heat power supplied to the fuel in the heater (kW) \\
\( S \) Entropy (kJ/K) \\
\( P \) Pressure (Pa) \\
\( \gamma \) Isentropic index \\
\( \rho \) Density (Kg/m³) \\
\( \eta \) Efficiency \\
\( a \) Air \\
\( \max \) Maximum value \\
\( \min \) Minimum value \\
\( st \) Stoichiometric \\
\( fb \) Fuel in bottle \\
\( s,TP \) System turbine \\
\( alt \) Alternator \\
\( gt \) Gas turbine \\
\( r \) Exhaust gases \\
\( ^{'} \) Average \\
\( ^{'}_{Exhaust} \) Exhaust \\
\( ^{'}_{Average} \) Average

Greek

\( \gamma \) Isentropic index \\
\( \eta \) Efficiency

Introduction

Power generation is an important issue today, The gas turbine unit is extensive use for electrical power generation, the gas turbine may be operated by the remote control and need little or no attendance while operating and no attendance when shutdown,( White,1956). Brayton cycle is the backbone of power generation, and then we must have deepened knowledge of how the Brayton cycle is applied at power generation plants,( Potter,1959). Gas turbine (GT) engines in power plants across the world provide much of the power used in commercial electrical grids. Depending on the operating environment, fuel quality, maintenance considerations, loading, and many other parameters, turnover maintenance intervals on GT engines can range in length from 6 months to 5 years or more. The thermodynamic analysis of the ideal gas turbine was analyzed in many researches and textbooks,( Dundas,2002), (Cengel,, Boles,2001), (Cohen ,2000), (Howard,2001), (Hazard,1999), (Bathie,2000), ( Daycock et al,2004), demonstrates how this new method has been implemented across a board range of gas turbine plant to improve profits. It is also described the benefits that have been achieved on the non-regulated side of the market by utilizing this approach to better predict production costs. (Albert and Jerzy , 2005), presented a concept for evolutionary development of power plants. Starting with a 20 kW Closed Brayton Cycle system for an initial lunar outpost connecting multiple modular units to a single for lunar bases, and the eventual deployment of multi-megawatt systems for lunar colonies is discussed. (Frank ,2006), presented reviews some of the basic thermodynamic principles of gas turbine operation and explains some of the factors that affect on its performance. (Dipippo,1999), discussed the design, performance and economics procedures for the small power plant. Much research has been done to characterize the degradation in performance of turbine system and especially the turbine blades,( Layne,2002).

In the present study, we used the experimental results and data to study the performance of the two shaft gas turbine and also we compared it with the ideal Brayton Cycle.

In order to study the effect of the variation inlet compressor temperature, we designed a small heat exchanger to heat the inlet air, this heat exchanger is made from a two concentric steel
pipes, the annulus area fill by water and electrical heater is immersed inside the water in annulus area. The schematic diagram for the heat exchanger is shown in the following figure:

**Experimental Study:**

The apparatus which are used in the present study is called (T200D) “Two Shaft Gas Turbine Unit”, this apparatus shown in the figure below:

This apparatus consists of three parts, the apparatus main parts include: the starting centrifugal fan, turbocharger, power turbine and alternate current generator with ohmic load; the apparatus secondary parts include: the transducer and gauges for temperature and pressure, while the third part is auxiliary parts which consist of lubrication circuit with oil pump, tank and the cooling circuit with oil water heat exchanger.

The temperatures reading are measured by thermocouples where all the temperature is in Celsius degree (°C). During the experiment, in order to specify rotation speed of the turbine connected to the compressor (gas turbine), we changed the rotation speed of the power turbine by means the fuel and load commands, and we carry out the test. Then we can change the speed of rotation of gas turbine and repeat the test so as to be able to compare the results obtained in different operating conditions.

Our experimental study is divided mainly into two sections: the first section is divided into four parts, the first part is concerned with the change of gas turbine speed and keeps the speed of the power turbine constant, the second part is concerned with keeps the speed of the power turbine constant and change of gas turbine speed, the third part was kept the mass flow rate of fuel and changing the mass flow rate of air while in the fourth part we changed the mass flow rate of fuel and kept the mass flow rate of air is constant. The second section is concerned with the changing of the compression ratio with the same previous experimental data (parts).

During the experiment, we took the following constant values:

\[ p_a = 101.325 \text{ kpa}, \quad \text{HCV} = 46400 \text{ kJ/kg} \]

The experimental results are shown below:

**Mathematical Model:**

The theoretical gas turbines are described thermodynamically by the Brayton or Joule cycle, (potter, 1959), which is composed of isentropic compression for air, combustion occurs at constant pressure and expansion over the turbine occur isentropically back to the starting pressure. The actual cycle differs from the ideal cycle because the characteristic of the actual gas in the cycle are distinguished from those of the check and in perfect gas used to build up the ideal cycle and because there are fluid dynamic, thermal and mechanical losses in the various mechanics that form the system.

For a perfect gas, the mass heat capacitance are constant where as the actual fluid the mass heat capacitance usually depending on the working pressure and temperature. To simply the calculation for the actual gas, we assume that the two systems have the same maximum pressure (p3) and maximum temperature (T3).

The two cycles are plotted in the results and discussion in Fig. (3); the actual cycle is indicated by points 1234, where as points 12’34’ indicate the ideal cycle.

In this study, the following analytical expression will be used to calculate the gas turbine performance. The constant pressure mass heat capacity for air,( Cengel,Boles,2001):

\[ \frac{1}{C_p} = 0.976 + 105 \times \frac{T_{\text{max}} + T_{\text{min}}}{2} \times 10^{-6} \quad (1) \]

Where \( T < 500 \text{ K} \)
The constant pressure mass heat capacity for exhaust gases, (Cengel and Boles, 2001):

\[
\bar{C}_p = 0.909 + 0.042 \times \frac{1 + A/F_{st}}{1 + A/F_{ratio}} + (239 + 75 \times \frac{1 + A/F_{st}}{1 + A/F_{ratio}}) \times \frac{T_{max} + T_{min}}{2} \times 10^{-6}
\] (2)

Where 500 K < T < 1000 K

The air universal constant is, \( R = 287 \) J/kg.K

and the exhaust gas constant is, \( R' = R(1 + 0.0021 \times \frac{1 + A/F_{st}}{1 + A/F_{ratio}}) \) (3)

The variation of the mass heat capacity with the temperature brings about the variation of the isentropically evolution (\( \gamma \)) exponent. In fact, by definition

\[
\gamma = \frac{C_p}{C_v} = \frac{C_p}{C_p - R}
\] (4)

**Fuel Metering (A/F ratio)**

It’s the ratio between the air and fuel mass rate of flow, which can be determined with the expression (14).

\[\frac{A/F_{ratio}}{m_a} = \frac{\dot{m}_a}{\dot{m}_f} \] (5)

The air mass rate of the flow determined by using the following expression (Didatta,2001):

\[\dot{m}_a = 0.01027 \sqrt{\Delta h \rho_1} \] (6)

Where

\( \Delta h = \) differential alcohol manometer reading subscript (mm)

\( \rho_1 = \) air mass density in the measured upstream of the diaphragm (pressure gauge U-Shape) (kg/m³)

Where diaphragm intake section density is:

\[ p_1 = p_a, \quad \rho_1 = \frac{P_1}{R T_1} \] (7)

The mass rate of flow of the gaseous fuel, (propane used in the present study), is determined by using flux meter variation. The value indicated by this instrument must be corrected when the gas supply conditions differ from those set (in our work \( p = 1.5 \) bar, \( t = 15 \) °C).

Then, the fuel mass rate of the flow is, (Didalta, 2001):
m_f = \hat{m}_f \times 10^{-3} = \hat{m}_f \frac{f_{th}}{1.581} \times 10^{-3} \tag{8}

Where: f_{to} = flowmeter setting factor for the serial plate valve =1.581.

f_{tb} is the flowmeter correction factor for the feed pressure value of the used fuel, (Didalta,2001),
to correct a feed temperature that differs from that set; this approximating expression can be used.

\begin{align*}
m_f &= \hat{m}_f \sqrt{\frac{T}{T_b}} = \hat{m}_f \sqrt{\frac{15 + 273}{T_b + 273}} \\
&= \hat{m}_f \sqrt{\frac{288}{T_b}} \times 10^{-3} \tag{9}
\end{align*}

The resulting expression that takes into account the pressure and temperature correction can be written as:

\begin{align*}
m_f &= \hat{m}_f \frac{f_{tb}}{f_{to}} \frac{288}{T_b} \times 10^{-3} \tag{10}
\end{align*}

The stoichiometric metering for the fuel that has the generic formula \((C_aH_b)\) it can be expressed using the formula (5):

\begin{align*}
A/F_{st} &= \frac{8(b + 4a)}{0.23(12.01a + 1.008b)} \tag{11}
\end{align*}

Which for propane (that used in the present experimental) \(C_3H_8\) \((a =3, b=8)\) is \(A/F_{st} = 15.6745\)

**Performance of the Gas Turbine System**

From the experimental results data that obtained, it’s possible to determine the overall efficiency of the heater as following, (Howard,2001):

\begin{align*}
\eta_{heat} &= \frac{C_p'(T_2 + T_3)(T_3 - T_2)}{HCV} \frac{1 + (A/F)_{ratio}}{}
\end{align*}

The system efficiency is given as

\begin{align*}
\eta_s &= \frac{P_{s,TP}}{Q_1} = \eta_{O_{TP}} \frac{P_{1,TP}}{Q_1} \tag{13}
\end{align*}
Where, $\dot{Q}_1$ is the heat power supplied to the fuel in the heater, it’s given as following:

$$\dot{Q}_1 = \dot{m}_a \frac{1 + A/F_{\text{ratio}}}{A/F_{\text{ratio}}} C_{p} T_{2+T_{3}} (T_3 - T_2)$$  \hspace{1cm} (14)

$P_{\text{i,TP}}$ is the internal power supplied, which is given as following:

$$P_{\text{i,TP}} = \dot{m}_a \frac{1 + A/F_{\text{ratio}}}{A/F_{\text{ratio}}} C_{p} T_{4+T_{5}} (T_4 - T_5)$$  \hspace{1cm} (15)

and $\eta_{\text{OTP}}$ is the organic efficiency of the turbine, in the present experimental apparatus, it’s within the range (0.9-0.94), (Didacta, 2001).

The system overall efficiency is given as

$$\eta_{\text{overall}} = \eta_{\text{heat}} \eta_{s}$$  \hspace{1cm} (16)

The alternator efficiency is given as

$$\eta_{\text{alt}} = \frac{P_{\text{alt}}}{P_{\text{i,TP}}} = \frac{P_{\text{alt}}}{\eta_{\text{OTP}} P_{\text{i,TP}}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (17)

Where the alternator electrical power is

$$P_{\text{alt}} = V I$$  \hspace{1cm} (18)

**Comparison Between the t-s Diagram for Actual and Ideal Cycle**

Firstly, we must check the experimental data by plotting the (T-S) diagram for both ideal and actual cycle and then we made comparison between them. The mathematical formulations that used to find the (T-S) diagram for ideal and actual systems as mentioned below, where the actual cycle is indicated by points 1234, where as points 12’34’ indicate the ideal cycle. We assumed the maximum and minimum temperatures and pressures are same (points (1) and (3)) for both theoretical and experimental study.

The state of the fluid in the points (2’3’4’1’) is determined as following, (Potter, 1959):

The value of

$$T_2' = T_1 \left( \frac{r_c}{T} \right)^{\frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma}}$$  \hspace{1cm} (19)

Where $r_c$ is the compression ratio, $r_c = \frac{p_2'}{p_1}$, $p_2' = p_1$ and $S_2' = S_1$  \hspace{1cm} (20)

The value of

$$T_4' = \frac{T_3}{\left( \frac{r_c}{T} \right)^{\frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma}}}$$, \hspace{1cm} (p_4' = p_1 \text{ and } S_4' = S_3$$  \hspace{1cm} (21)

In order to plot the actual cycle on the (T-S) diagram, it is necessary to determine the entropy state function for the air at the termination of compression, (Cohen et al, 2000).
\[ S_2 - S_1 = \overline{C_T}p_{T_1-T_2} \ln\left(\frac{T_2}{T_1}\right) - R \ln\left(\frac{p_2}{p_1}\right) \] (22)

And for the exhaust gas at the heater outlet

\[ S_3 - S_2 = \overline{C_T}p_{T_2-T_3} \ln\left(\frac{T_3}{T_2}\right) - R' \ln\left(\frac{p_3}{p_2}\right) \] (23)

Finally, the ideal cycle efficiency \((\eta_{id})\) can be written as, \((\text{Potter, 1959})\)

\[ \eta_{id} = 1 - \frac{Q_{\text{remove}}}{Q_{\text{added}}} = 1 - \frac{T_1 (T_4 / T_1 - 1)}{T_2 (T_3 / T_2 - 1)} \] (24)

Then in order to check the accuracy of the experimental study, we plotted the \((T-S)\) diagram for both ideal and actual cycle in Fig. (3), we can note the experimental data are approximately accepted and accurate.

**Results and Discussion**

The effects of the power turbine speed on the overall system efficiency for different values of compression ratio are shown in Fig. (4). We can note the increasing of the power turbine speed will increase the overall efficiency by increasing the generated power, and then increase the useful power, A/F ratio. The increasing of the compression ratio will increase the overall system efficiency because the increasing of the compression ratio will increase the maximum pressure, the heat added and then the overall system efficiency. From this figure also we can note, for small values of the compression ratio, the increasing of the power turbine speed will increase the overall system efficiency sharply at small and large values of the power turbine speed but the increasing of the power turbine speed at large values of the compression ratio will become not noticeable effect on the overall system efficiency at large values of the power turbine speed. Also, the effect of the fuel flow rate on the overall system efficiency for different values of the gas turbine speed are plotted in the Fig. (5), the increasing of the fuel flow rate will increase the heat added and then increase the overall system efficiency, but for the large values of the fuel rate, the increasing in the fuel flow rate will cause lower and not noticeable increasing in the overall system efficiency because it is increased the consumable fuel and then increase the heat in the combustion chamber. Also, from this figure, the increasing of the fuel flow rate become more effective at large values of the gas turbine speed and also we can note the increasing of the gas turbine speed also increase the overall system efficiency. We are used a spline smoothing curves in some figures due to the scattering of some experimental results, because the experimental results depend on the environmental conditions. The variation of the \((A/F)_{\text{ratio}}\) on the system overall efficiency are discussed in Fig. (6) with different values of the compression ratio, the increasing the \((A/F)_{\text{ratio}}\) will increase the overall system efficiency by increasing the useful power due to increase the air mass flow rate. Also, from this figure, we can note the increasing of the compression ratio will increase the overall system efficiency. At large values of the compression ratio, the increasing in overall system efficiency is not noticeable at large values of the \((A/F)_{\text{ratio}}\).

The effect of the gas turbine speed and the fuel flow rate on the alternator efficiency is discussed in the Figs. (7) and (8), we can note the increasing of the gas turbine speed and the fuel flow rate will reduce the alternator efficiency because the increasing in the alternator power is lower compared with
the increasing of the turbine power. The increasing in the gas turbine speed will increase the air flow rate and then increase the turbine power sharply compared with increasing in the alternator power.
The overall heat efficiency was examined for different values of the gas turbine speed and the fuel flow rate in Figs. (9) and (10); the increasing of the gas turbine speed and the fuel flow rate will increase maximum temperature (T₃) and pressure (p₃) and then increase the system heat efficiency.
The variation of the gas turbine speed with the power turbine speed are plotted in Fig. (11), the increasing of the power turbine speed will increase the gas turbine speed, this is fact, because the increasing in the gas turbine speed will produce more exhaust gases and these gases will pass through the power turbine and then increase the power turbine speed.
Finally we plotted the effect of the inlet temperature on the heat rate (heat power supplied), power supplied and exhaust temperature in Fig.(12). The increase of the intake temperature above the design value (15 °C), the heat rate increase and the power supplied is decreased, then the efficiency of the system is decreased as inlet temperature increase. The increase of the intake temperature will increase the exhaust temperature due to increase of the heat rate. The decreasing of the intake temperature below the design temperature value, the overall effectiveness is increased due to increase of the power supplied.

Conclusions

This present study conducts performance of the two shaft gas turbine unit experimentally. The conclusion as following:
1- The present study examined mainly the gas turbine speed, power turbine speed, mass flow rate of air, mass flow rate of fuel, compression ratio and air to fuel ratio on the overall performance, alternator efficiency and the overall heat efficiency of the two shaft gas turbine system.
2- The overall system efficiency and the heat efficiency increased by increasing the A/F, gas turbine speed, power turbine speed and the comparison ratio while the alternator efficiency is behavior inversely with overall system efficiency.
3- At large values of the compression ratio, the increasing of the overall system efficiency become not noticeable at large values of the A/F ratio and fuel flow rate.
4- The increase of the intake temperature will decrease the system efficiency, and also decrease this value will increase the system efficiency.
References


### Table 1: The results of the first experimental part

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<tr>
<th>N_Rp</th>
<th>t1 (°C)</th>
<th>t2 (°C)</th>
<th>t3 (°C)</th>
<th>t4 (°C)</th>
<th>t5 (°C)</th>
<th>D_h (mmH2O)</th>
<th>p2 (bar)</th>
<th>p3 (bar)</th>
<th>p4 (bar)</th>
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### Table 5: The correction factors of the flowmeter reading as a function of the fuel feeding pressure (Didalta, 2001).

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**Fig. (1): Schematic Diagram of The heat exchanger**

- **A**: Differential Manometer
- **B**: Gas Feeding Flowmeter
- **C**: Gas Turbine
- **D**: Power Turbine
- **E**, **F**, **G**, **H**: Pressure Gauges
- **I**, **L**, **M**, **N**: Thermometer
- **O**: Power Generation Electronic Instrument
- **P**: Adjustment of Alternator Extension
- **Q**: Static Centrifugal Fan
- **R**: Oil Heat Exchanger
- **S**: Gas Bottle
- **T**: Combustion Chamber
- **U**: Gas Exhaust
- **V**: Oil Filter

**Fig. (2): Schematic Diagram of The Two Shaft Gas Turbine Apparatus**
Fig. (3): The comparison between the actual and the ideal efficiency for the first test.

Fig. (4): The effect of the power turbine speed and the compression ratio on the overall efficiency.
Fig. (5): The effect of the fuel flow rate and the gas turbine speed on the overall efficiency

Fig. (6): The effect of the A/F)ratio and the compression ratio on the overall efficiency
**Fig. (7): The effect of the gas turbine on the alternator efficiency**

**Fig. (8): The effect of fuel flow rate on the alternator efficiency**
Fig. (9): The effect of gas turbine speed on the overall heat efficiency

Fig. (10): The effect of fuel flow rate on the overall heat efficiency
Fig. (11): The variation of the gas turbine speed and the power turbine speed

Fig. (12): The variation of the gas turbine speed and the power turbine speed