Kinetic Energy Measurement of a 1kW Arcjet by Pitot Probe and Laser Absorption Spectroscopy



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Background Diagnostics of the high enthalpy flow •Laser Absorption Spectroscopy (LAS) Estimation of specific enthalpy

$$h_0 = \int_{T_{\text{ref}}}^{T} \underline{C_p dT} + \underline{h_{\text{chem}}} + \frac{1}{2} V^2$$

Thermochemical equilibrium calculation Assumption; Frozen flow at nozzle expansion



Arcjet

Recombination is not considered

Validation by experiment

Estimation of γ

 γ is also estimated on the assumption of the frozen flow



Specific heat ratio

For example... $Ar:O_2 = 4:1$ Plenum pressure; 0.55atm Total temperature; 4000K \geq Frozen flow $\gamma = 1.64$ \geq Full recombination $\gamma = 1.52$



To validate γ estimated by equilibrium calculation, it is necessary to estimate γ at the precision of less than $\pm 0.01^{\circ}$ by experiments.

Mach number measurement

Mach Probe



Mach Probe

$$M=\frac{1}{\sin\alpha}$$



Estimated error of Mach number

Pitot Probe



•Pitot probe is more feasible for the measurement of Mach number than Mach Probe

Objectives

Estimation of γ by comparison of Pitot probe measurement and LAS measurement
 Experimental validation of γ estimated by equilibrium calculation
 Validation of the assumption of frozen flow at the nozzle expansion

Arcjet



Schematic of Arcjet

Parameters	Values
Throat diameter, mm	2
Nozzle diameter, mm	30
nput power, kW	1.2(35A)
hermal efficiency	0.39
argon flow rate, slm	4

Working gas is pure argon. Specific heat ratio should be 5/3.

Pitot probe measurement



Miniature pitot probe; Bore diameter 2mm

•Assumption $p_{\text{static}} = p_{\text{ambient}} = 34 \text{Pa}$

Pitot probe results



Radial distribution of pressure ratio(x=43mm)

Radial distribution of Mach number(x=43mm, $\gamma = 5/3$)

At the center of the plume, $M = 2.17 \pm 0.03$

LAS Results



Mach Number





•Good agreement between Pitot probe and LAS Mach number by the probe is averagely 7% higher than Mach number by LAS.

Estimation of γ



At the center of the plume, $\gamma = 1.30$, $M_{\text{LAS}}/M_{\text{Pitot}} = 1 \pm 0.06$.

The deviation is too large to estimate γ .

Precision improvement of the γ estimation



In order to estimate γ at the precision of 2 decimal digits, the deviation of $M_{\text{LAS}}/M_{\text{pitot}}$ should be less than ± 0.001 . (Now ± 0.06) More accurate measurement is needed. $6\% \longrightarrow 0.1\%$



•Improvement of LAS measurement accuracy

Accuracy of LAS



•Error of temperature

$$\frac{\Delta T}{T} = 2 \frac{\Delta (\Delta v_{\rm D})}{\Delta v_{\rm D}}$$
$$\approx 2 \left\{ \frac{\Delta k}{k} + \frac{\Delta FSP}{\Delta v_{\rm D}} \right\}$$

$$\frac{\Delta k}{k} = \frac{\Delta (I/I_0)}{(I/I_0) \ln (I/I_0)}$$

Ar-O₂ Flow



Parameters	Values
Throat diameter, mm	2
Nozzle diameter, mm	30
input power, kW	0.70(35A)
gas flow rate, slm	Ar;4
	O ₂ ;1

 $\gamma = 1.54$ LAS $M = 4.03 \pm 0.03$ Pitot probe $M = 3.27 \pm 0.002$ γ ; Can't be estimated

Conclusion

•Good agreement between Pitot probe and LAS on the condition of pure argon. $M_{\rm LAS}$ is averagely 7% higher than $M_{\rm pitot}$. •The measurement error should be one order of magnitude smaller than now. •It is not able to estimate γ on the condition of argon and oxygen. •In order to estimate γ , to correct the pitot pressure would be necessary.



(Background)

Aerodynamic heating at the planetary entry Earth (N₂, O₂) Space plane Sample return mission



<u>Re-entry image of HOPE-X</u>

Development of Thermal Protection System (TPS)

