# Design and Analysis of the Federal Aviation Administration Next Generation Fire Test Burner



# RUTGERS

#### Robert I. Ochs



Federal Aviation Administration







# **Next Generation Burner Development**



Pressurized JP8 Fuel Tank





# Particle Image Velocimetry









# Objective

- Measure non-reacting burner flow fields with PIV
  - Determine effect of stator, turbulator, nozzle on flow field
  - Compare measured flow fields with standard burner performance metrics
    - Flame temperature measurement
    - Material burnthrough time
  - Assess potential design improvements
    - Flow field
    - Flame temperature
    - Material burnthrough
- Identify critical parameters, components that have most significant effect on burner performance





# **PIV Test Chamber**

#### **Test Chamber**

#### NexGen Burner Seeding





- 1.2 x 1.2 x 2.4 meters
- 2.45 cubic meters volume
- Custom traversing mounts for laser, burner
- 3D computer controlled traverse for cameras

- Solid particle seeding system
- Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> particles, 15 µm



# 2D PIV Burner Exit Flow Measurements



Acquisition Properties:

- 2 x 500 image pair acquisitions
- Adaptive Correlation
  - 128 x 128 px initial IA
  - 64 x 64 px final IA
  - 50% overlap
  - Peak validation 1.2 x peak 2
  - Moving average 3x3 local validation
- Vector Statistics ensemble averaging







# Fuel Pipe - 2D PIV



- Asymmetric in-plane flow field, axial velocity profile
- Dogleg bend in fuel tube influences flow field



### **Off-Centerline Planes - 2D PIV**



 5 downstream locations were chosen from each cross-streamwise plane to visualize exit flow





2 Camera Raw PIV Images

# 3D Stereoscopic PIV – Turbulator Exit Flow





# 3D Stereoscopic PIV – Turbulator Exit Flow 3 Component Mean Velocity Fields

2 2.5

3.5





Peak Mean Axial Velocity Decay







Mean In-Plane Velocity Fields

# Swirl Number

- Swirl number defined as the ratio of axial flux of the tangential momentum to the axial flux of axial momentum times the nozzle radius
- For axial vane swirlers, the swirl number is proportional to the vane angle  $\phi$
- The stator has a vane angle of approximately 60°, resulting in an estimated swirl number of 1.15
- Flows with S<0.4 considered low swirl, S>0.6 high swirl with reverse flow
- Stator has high swirl on its own, turbulator is seen to reduce swirl and eliminate reverse flow

$$S = \frac{\int_0^R U W r^2 dr}{R \int_0^R U^2 r dr} \cong \frac{2}{3} \tan \phi^*$$



Stator vane angle - side view







### **Burner Airflow- Summary**

- The flow exiting the empty draft tube is non-symmetric, due to slight misalignment of the burner air inlet
- Insertion of a 90° elbow upstream of the burner provides a similar velocity profile to that of a straight air entry
- The fuel pipe is found to influence the air flow due to the dogleg bend near the burner inlet
- The stator was found to provide a flow field typical of a swirling jet with low and reverse flow on the burner axis. The velocity and degree of jet growth was found to be dependent upon the axial location of the stator
- The turbulator was found to increase exit velocity due to the area contraction and reduce the swirling effects created by the stator, reducing the growth of the swirling jet and creating a more uniform flow
- Stereoscopic measurements of the unconfined swirling flow show the evolution of the flow exiting the burner, eventually forming a round jet shape on the burner axis at 3 diameters downstream



# 2D PIV Symmetric Stator



4

6 8

2

10



# 2D PIV Symmetric Stator



 Symmetric stator provides greater jet growth, reverse flow







# Symmetric Stator Baseline Performance



#### Measured Flame Temperature

- Both stators tested at identical air, fuel flow rate
- Higher flame temperature found with symmetric stator
- Longer burnthrough times found with symmetric stator





# Symmetric Stator Position Refinement





 A series of rotations and translations were attempted to find a position yielding highest and most uniform flame temperature



# Symmetric Stator 0° 50.8 mm Performance



#### Measured Flame Temperature

- Highest flame temperature found with symmetric stator at this position
- Longest burnthrough times found with symmetric stator at this position

#### Material Burnthrough Time





# 2D PIV at 0° 50.8 mm

#### Mean In-Plane Velocity







 Symmetric stator found to consistently provide more spread out velocity profile





# Symmetric Stator - Summary

- Increased growth of the swirling jet and lower peak axial velocity.
- More symmetric and uniform temperatures and an overall higher average flame temperature.
- Longer burnthrough times for the symmetric stator than the original stator.
- Highest overall flame temperature and most uniform temperature profile was found at 0° 50.8 millimeters, but longest BT time



# Flame Retention Heads (FRH)

F-12	F-22	F-31		Units	F12	F22	F31	Turbulator
	Primary Slots		Center Hole Area	mm <sup>2</sup>	660.52	660.52	660.52	3739.28
			Primary Slots Area	mm <sup>2</sup>	260.17	260.17	260.17	
			Secondary Slots Area	mm <sup>2</sup>	903.85	1697.61	3206.29	
		- Secondary Slots	Total Area	mm <sup>2</sup>	1824.54	2618.30	<mark>4126.98</mark>	3739.28

Turbulator

- Flame retention heads used on modern oil burners
- Combination of swirl-creating primary slots and swirl-confining secondary slots
- One-component replacement of 2 components (stator & turbulator)
- Minimal specification for set up compared to stator, turbulator







0.2

 $y^0/d$ 

-0.2

-0.4

-0.6

F12, x/d = 1

---- F22, x/d = 1

-F31, x/d = 1

-0.8

-1

0.6

0.6

0.4

0.2

0

y/d

-0.2

-0.4

-0.6

-0.8

0.4

#### 2D PIV FRH Flow Field & Axial Velocity Profiles Burnthrough F12, x/d = 0.2F22, x/d = 0.2F31, x/d = 0.2

Material Burnthrough Times



- FRHs provide a wide range of velocity distributions
- The size of the secondary openings dictate magnitude of peak velocity
- A wide range of material BT times were obtained from the FRHs





# Correlation of BT Time w/ Velocity, Tavg

BT Time vs. Peak Axial Velocity @ x/d=1









# Flame Retention Heads - Summary

- Higher temperatures for the FRH vs. the stator-turbulator combination
- F12 yielded the fastest burnthrough time while the F31 yielded the longest, with the F22 being most comparable to the NexGen burner baseline.
- Similarly shaped axial velocity profiles at the draft tube exit, though significant variation in magnitude.
- A correlation between peak axial velocity at x/d=1 and material burnthrough time was made for original stator, symmetric stator, and FRH
- Average flame temperature did not correlate as well with material burnthrough time, indicating that



### 2D PIV Fuel Spray Measurement – Nozzle M



Nozzle M





- Measurements were spray only no airflow
- Nozzle spray pattern is highly asymmetric
- Nozzle spray pattern affects measured flame temperature

#### **Axial Velocity Profiles**



750

0

60

120

180

Angle (degrees)

240

300

360

420





# Spray Nozzle - Summary

- In-plane 2D PIV measurements of nozzle M indicate a strongly asymmetric hollow velocity field
- Rotation of the nozzle 180° results in a near mirror-image of the velocity profile, revealing circumferential asymmetry of the nozzle
- Flame temperature measurements of nozzle M rotated over 360° in increments of 20° indicate that the flame temperature profile is dependent upon the alignment of the high and low velocity regions of the spray cone. A single measurement location had a maximum variation of 11% over the range of rotation.





# 2D PIV Nozzle D







# Nozzle D – Burner Performance

#### Measured Flame Temperature Material Burnthrough Time 1050 350 305.5 298.4 1000 300 256.25 244.3 250 Burnthrough Time, sec. 950 Baseline Nozzle M 200 T (°C) Nozzle D 900 150 $\rightarrow$ TC 4 100 850 50 800 0 PAN-8579 PAN-8611 Sample Identification Tag 750 0 60 120 180 240 300 360 420 Angle (°)

Flame temperatures less sensitive to spray asymmetry 

Material burnthrough times similar to Nozzle M





# Nozzle D - Summary

- A series of 6 rotations of the nozzle reveal spray pattern asymmetry in each plane similar to the standard NexGen nozzle.
- Flame temperature measurements reveal less rotational sensitivity to spray asymmetry than the standard nozzle
- Material burnthrough testing indicates burnthrough times similar to the standard nozzle, indicating less dependence of material burnthrough on spray pattern when impinging upon a large, flat test sample.



#### 2D PIV Cone Exit Flow Measurement





- Largely axial flow
- Highly irregular flow pattern
- Reverse flow near cone exit plane



# **3D PIV Cone Exit Flow Measurement**



• Cone exit flow drastically altered by cone geometry





# Effect of Cone Exit Flow on Soot Formation



- Soot formation higher near TC1 due to
  - Low velocity increased residence time
  - Increased fuel/air ratio due to low air flow







# Cone Exit Flow - Summary

- Flow exiting the burner cone is irregular in both magnitude and direction across the entire exit plane and up to one draft tube diameter downstream.
- The low velocity region coincides with the measurement location for thermocouple #1. The combination of low air flow with high fuel flow can result in an overly fuel rich region near thermocouple #1 causing soot to form on the thermocouple sheath.
- The unconfined swirling airflow is altered significantly when confined with the burner cone as evidenced by the cone exit plane measurements.
- Previous studies on swirling flow in circular-to-round transition ducts have also found that the shape of the transition results in a skewed velocity distribution due to the flow impinging on the top and bottom surfaces of the duct.



# 2D PIV External Cone Flow





# External Cone Flow - Summary

- The measurements made on the exterior of the cone indicate entrainment of the surrounding ambient air into the cone exit flow. Instantaneous and mean vorticity data show vortical structures exiting the burner cone indicating high turbulence
- The entrainment and mixing of surrounding air is evidenced by the counter-rotating structures and by the decay of the mean vorticity and growth of the cone exit flow field.





## 2D PIV – Reinforced Cone







# Reinforced Cone – Burner Performance



Measured Flame Temperature

- Comparison of two identical, never-used cones
  - Standard cone
  - Ring cone
- Similar flame temperatures found with both cones
- Ring cone provided overall faster BT times



#### Material Burnthrough Time





# Reinforced Cone - Summary

- PIV measurements of the area above the cone top surface indicate the ring prevents surrounding air from being entrained into the cone exit flow.
- The ring is also found to create large scale vortices just downstream.
- Flame temperature measurements from a new standard cone and a new ring cone reveal only slight differences in temperature magnitude and profile.
- Material burnthrough tests indicate the ring cone provides a more severe configuration as burnthrough times were faster than the standard cone for both materials.
- The ring cone is speculated to block entrained cool air and increase turbulence downstream, resulting in mechanical stressing of the test material





# **Concluding Remarks**

- Flow field, flame temperature, and material burnthrough measurements were made on the NexGen burner
- The most significant parameter for material burnthrough was found to be the magnitude of the peak velocity exiting the draft tube
- Fuel spray asymmetry was found to be influential on flame temperature measurements but not material burnthrough
- Flame temperature measurements do not necessarily indicate burner severity
- The exit flow field of the cone is highly irregular due to the growth of the swirling burner flow and the internal geometry of the burner cone





# Contributions

- Knowledge of the effect of air flow field on material burnthrough will contribute to a more specified burner configuration
- Future burner designs can incorporate flame retention heads to simplify set up and operation
- A spray nozzle should be found that provides more symmetric spray pattern
- Flame temperature measurements should not be required for testing, but should be recommended for burner check-ups





# Recommendations for Future Work

- 3D PIV on flame retention head air flow
- Droplet size and distribution measurements on spray nozzles; correlation of drop size with burner performance
- Reacting flow PIV measurements, impingement of flame on test samples (insulation, seat cushion, cargo liner) and assessment of velocity field around thermocouples during temperature measurement



#### Thank You





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### Questions, Comments, Suggestions?

