

# Exploration of heat management concepts for a hydrogen fuelled midrange commercial aviation engine

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# Thermal Management – Background



Intercooling / Recuperation

- Huge cycle benefits
- Smaller Core
- Large and heavy HX

https://www.enginehistory.org/Piston/Napier/NapierNoma dll/NapierNomadll.shtml



Piston Topping

- Cycle Benefits, OPR
- Complexity
- Large and heavy piston systems



Liquid Hydrogen

- Huge, cold heat sink
- Keeps enthalpy in the system
- ~10% of lower heating value





# **Thermal Management of Hydrogen**

### Mature, Down-select & Optimise thermal management solutions

#### Objectives

- Define thermal management requirements and specifications (T3.1, T3.3).
- Develop conceptual design tools for heat management components (T3.1).
- Mature LH2 enhanced intercooling concept to TRL 3 (T3.2).
- Down-select and optimize compact high performance thermal management solutions tailored for the specifications of the candidate CCE concepts (T3.3).



## Intercooling - Form Factor

Using fuel as thermal sink, single loop: Simplicity, low weight, thermal authority (depending on mass flow constraints), **risk** 

> By-pass air as thermal sink, single loop Simplicity, low risk, thermal authority, weight

One of many concept of location of HX in the core

#### Using Both

Safety, thermal authority, comprehensiveness, more flexible, possible redundancy and risk containment, complexity, weight, cost, failure modes



# Intercooling - Design tool

- Creating feasible HX configuration maps
- Reaction Engines: ATOM: In-house design tool

Example:

- Low aspect ratio, involute spiral, high DP tubes configuration
- Other types HX Turning HX (CTH)





# Maturing Intercooling Concepts

- Intercooling integration
- Detailed CFD studies



### Experimental Verification TRL3



- 2.5 Stage Compressor
- Large-scale
- Stable Operation;
- Aerothermal Investigation;
- Designed for heatmanagement integration studies;



## CCE components - Thermal Management

Novel piston configuration duct diverting bypass air for intercooler Cooling requirements Similar approach as for intercooling • [COCO 0D-1D model]  $\rightarrow$ Surrogate Models  $\rightarrow$ CFD → turbo compressor Experiments - TRL3.

> Kaiser, S., Schmitz, O., and Klingels, H. (January 13, 2021). "Aero Engine Concepts Beyond 2030: Part 2—The Free-Piston Composite Cycle Engine." ASME. *J. Eng. Gas Turbines Power*. February 2021; 143(2): 021002. https://doi.org/10.1115/1.4048993

optional

intercooler

free piston units



# **Additional Thermal Management**

Additionally, heat management concepts having a direct impact on non-CO2 emissions such as intercooling with LH2 will be matured to TRL 3. The selection of technologies includes:

- The direct use of core air for cooling and lubrication.
- The use of cryo-cooling concepts for LH2 heat-management
- Phase-change cooling concepts, such as hybrid nucleate boiling



## **Final Remarks**

WP in conceptual stage:

- Various intercooling strategies have been identified and a modelling tool capable of performing optimisations has been developed.
- Air-to-Air HX potentially capable of delivering the desired cooling at the cost of mass and volume; an Air-to-H2 HX offers mass and volume saving opportunities but with potential thermal authority limitations depending on the cycle characteristics, eg: H2 mass flow.
- An additional fluid might be required to mitigate the H2 related risks.
- Mixed solution might provide a suitable solution but a more complex system



# Thank you !

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