

Review on Exhaust Heat Recovery Systems in Diesel Engine

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Abstract— Exhaust heat recovery system converts the thermal losses in the exhaust zone in engines into energy for work. This technology also reduces exhaust emission from engines. This review paper extends the classification of various methodologies on EHR in diesel engine. In spite of their indigenous benefit for various technologies, it has some limitation over applications to different context. From the current researches the variation in usage of exhaust heat from the diesel engine is evaluated and compared to find which methodology is suitable to attain high efficiency in thermal recovery for power generation. Finally a novel method of an EHR system is proposed to increase high percentage of heat recovery from the exhaust gas in diesel engines.

Keywords— Exhaust heat recovery system, diesel engine.

I. INTRODUCTION

Diesel engines are used in varied applications and it is also a part of a widely networked global system defined by the concepts of “resources” and “environmental pollution”. It is based purely on energy and economics aimed at minimizing the heat losses that fails to satisfy present day demands specified by the ecological imperative according to which energy and material must always be converted with maximum efficiency while minimally polluting the environment [1]. Just like gasoline engines, diesel engines are, in principle, energy converters that convert chemically bound fuel energy into mechanical energy (effective work) by supplying the heat released by combustion in an engine to a thermodynamic cycle. The heat released from the engine can be recovered to appropriate work. Researchers confirm that more than 30–40% of fuel energy gets wasted from the exhaust and just 12–25% of the fuel energy converts to useful work [2,3]. On the other aspect the toxic emissions from the exhaust gases leads to public awareness of the finiteness of fossil fuel. It has receded into the background somewhat after being raised in the 1970s; the impact of pollutant and CO₂ input into the earth’s atmosphere is again making the need for a longer-range environmentally compatible energy policy with concrete goals evident to suppress the greenhouse effect. For a better future, both

challenges conserving resources and protecting the environment would require an approach that endeavors to take full advantage of the ample potentials to save energy and additionally intensify the utilization of inexhaustible energy sources. These challenges will necessitate the research on various waste heat recovery schemes that accumulate on diesel engine through various forms for conserving the primary energy of the fuel and protecting the environment.

Exhaust heat recovery system

Exhaust heat recovery system is an energy recovery heat exchanging process that recovers heat with high potential energy in sources like diesel engine for improving its efficiency. In the present scenario there is a substantial demand of energy for global applications, so the usage of conventional fuels and its toxic exhaust gases will increase the effect of global warming. With the aspect to dwindle the usage of fossil fuels many researchers attempt to recover the waste heat from diesel engines. Various forms of heat can be categorized from engines on their origin

- Heat losses from the exhaust gas through exhaust pipeline, [1]
- Waste heat produced as cooling energy to protect engine seize, [1]
- Waste heat from intercooling to boost engine power and net efficiency,
- Waste heat convected through the engine surface.

During combustion cycle in engines the exhaust gases are dissipated through gas exchange process at a range of 300-500°C. Other sources of waste heat from engine will be transferred to the surroundings with the aid of coolant. Heat transfer occurs through the coolant medium (air, water or oil) at various points of engine to recover its complex issues. The cooling energy is transferred through heat exchangers. In case of the exhaust gas loaded with particulate matter and soot particulates is more critical in heat transfer through HXs. Aerated heat from the under hood parts usually transfer heat through radiation and convection or heat pump which works on thermal absorption cycle. To implement the heat recovery for different temperature operating conditions in engines,

reach to 25.5% with ethanol as a substitute fluid. The composite fuel savings over the ESC 13-mode test cycle was up to 5%.

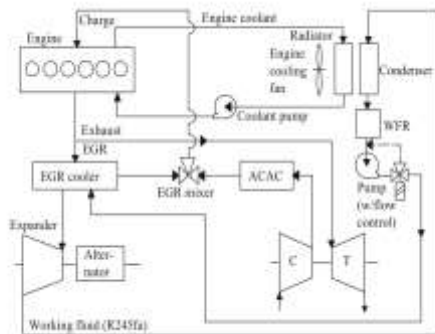


Fig.3: ARC system for waste heat recovery from diesel engine

Five stroke cycle

The concept of five-stroke engine, invented by Schmitz [15], does not reduce compression but increases expansion. The 5-stroke engine is a three-cylinder in which two cylinders perform a four-stroke cycle and alternatively a second expansion of the burnt gases is performed in the third cylinder. Turbocharger is adopted to deliver the boost pressure and the system is controlled by an innovative system called smart waste gate. It consist of variable valve timing of the two valves of the low pressure cylinder. [16].

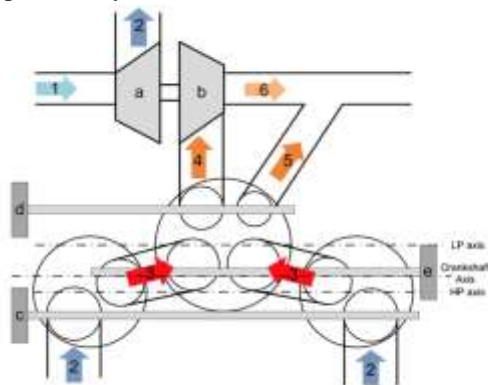


Fig.4: Architecture of the 5-stroke engine showing the valves location and the smart waste gate

Six stroke cycle

The six-stroke engine is a type of internal combustion engine based on the four-stroke engine but with additional complexity intended to make it more efficient and reduce emissions. Three types of six-stroke engines have been developed since the 1890s [17], but in one of them proposed by Conklin and Szybist [18], the engine captures the heat lost from the four-stroke diesel engine and uses it to generate an additional power without more fuel consumption. A schematic of the operation of this engine is shown in Fig. 3. As seen, there are two power strokes: one with fuel, the other with water injection by

using the waste heat of burned gases in the previous stroke. Water injection is occurred after compressing the burned gases from first stroke when the crank shaft angle is 720° . Mean effective pressure (MEP) of these engines will be increased by increasing the injected water amount. The main advantages of this engine is reducing the emissions and using from two main waste heat sources because injected water can be preheated by using an exhaust heat exchanger.

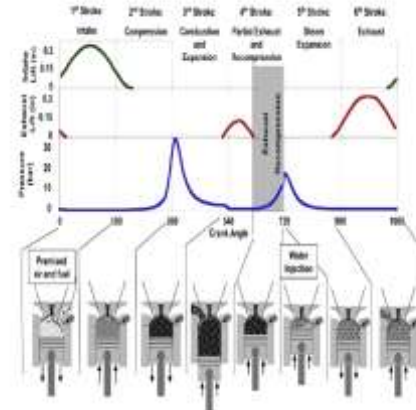


Fig.5: Six stroke engine cycle

Turbo charging

Dr. Alfred J. Buchi proposed the first idea of turbochargers in 1915, which he developed it on a diesel engine. Actually, a turbocharger is a supercharger driven with exhaust gases energy and increases the engine power by compressing the inlet air to engine. Fig. 4 shows a turbocharger with its appurtenances. A turbocharged engine is more powerful and efficient than a naturally aspirated engine because the turbine forces more air and proportionately more fuel into the combustion chamber than atmospheric pressure alone, but it has some shortcomings. Turbo- lag i.e., (hesitation or transient response) during low speed acceleration and major concerns with heated bearings are two main shortcomings in turbochargers which are approximately solved by using two stages turbochargers and variable geometry turbines (VGT) [19]. Another concern in turbochargers is increasing the intake air temperature due to its pressure increase. The warmer intake air has the less density and the less oxygen is available for the combustion event which reduces volumetric efficiency, it also leads to engine knock or detonation known as a destructive factor in engines. So, turbocharger units often use an intercooler (also known as a charge air cooler) to cool down the intake air as shown in Fig. 4. Recently, a novel exhaust steam recovery system (steam turbocharging) is presented by Fu et al [20]. They set a Rankine steam cycle system coupled on engine exhaust pipe, which utilizes the exhaust energy of engine in order to generate steam and

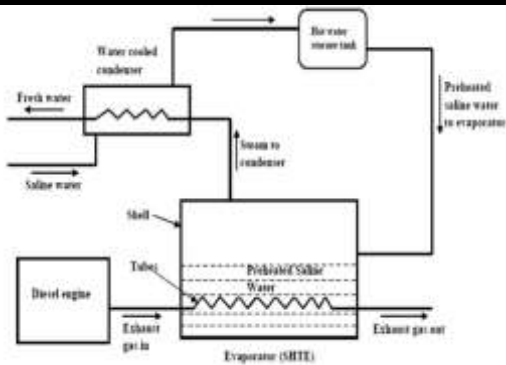


Fig.7: Circuit view of thermal distillation from EHR system

Internal combustion (IC) engine supercharging. The setup consists of IC engine working cycle and bottom cycle of waste heat recovery (WHR). IC engine exhaust gas is used to run the bottom cycle and its power used to drive the gas compressor. Numerical calculation were performed for both the heat transfer and thermodynamic processes of combined air cycle for different cycle parameters and IC engine operating conditions. Results show that the cycle efficiency and exhaust gas energy recovery efficiency depend largely on the working pressure and their maximum values appear at the working pressure of 0.35 MPa and 0.2 MPa respectively. This approach can make the fuel utilization efficiency of IC engine increase by 8.9% points and 4.1% points at most respectively compared with the naturally aspirated (NA) engine and turbocharging engine due to the reduction of exhaust gas pressure. [31]. Gao et al. [32] have proposed a WHR system where a high speed turbocharged diesel engine acts as the topper of a combined cycle with exhaust gases used for a bottoming Rankine cycle. And the result shows that heat recovery system can increase the engine power output by 12%, when diesel engine operates at 80 kW/2590 rpm.

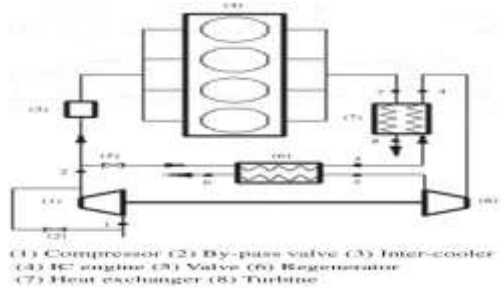


Fig.8: Schematic view of combined air cycle EHR system

Thermal storage system

Schatz [33] introduced the concept of a heat battery to store the engine waste heat using a PCM. They reported that the possible way of recovering the waste heat from the IC engine coolant and storing the heat in a PCM heat battery through experiments. This stored heat is used

during engine cold start condition by transferring heat from PCM to the engine coolant, which ensures the engine to attain operating temperature substantially faster. The energy available in the exit stream of many energy conversion devices goes as waste, if not utilized properly. The exhaust gas from an internal combustion engine carries away about 30% of the heat energy of combustion. The major technical constraint that prevents successful implementation of waste heat recovery is due to its intermittent and time mismatched demand and availability of energy. In the present work a shell and finned tube heat exchanger combined with an IC engine setup to is used to recover the heat from the exhaust gas and a thermal energy storage tank used to store the excess energy available is investigated in detail. A combined sensible and latent heat storage system is designed, fabricated and tested for thermal energy storage using cylindrical phase change material (PCM) capsules. The performance of the engine with and without heat exchanger is evaluated. Results shows that nearly 10–15% of fuel power is stored as heat in the combined thermal storage system. The performance parameters pertaining to the heat exchanger and the storage tank such as amount of heat recovered, heat lost, charging rate, charging efficiency and percentage energy saved are evaluated and reported in this paper [34].

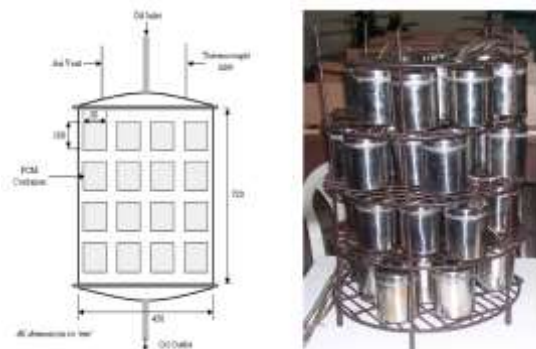


Fig.9: Layout setup of thermal storage PCM tank

Proposed methodology

The proposed methodology is an integration of thermoelectric generator with shell and tube heat exchangers for exhaust heat recovery system. The model consists of a shell and tube heat exchanger with a modified slot for TEG device i.e. (current conducting medium) placed on the middle of heat exchanger. The surface of the p-n junction device will be in contact with the thermo-electric fluid (ionic fluid) acts as a carrier medium. This absorbs the heat losses from the exhaust gas produced in the diesel engine and the cold fluid from the radiator outcome. With this integration effect, we can achieve a greater efficiency in HER system. The typical circuit of the proposed heat exchanger is shown in Fig.10.

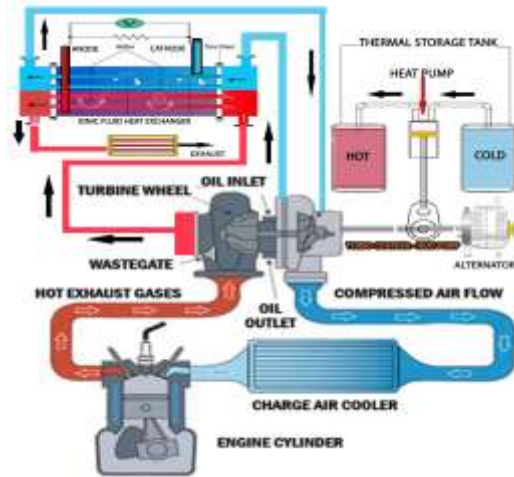


Fig.10: Layout of proposed pumping heat recovery system

II. CONCLUSION

In this paper, a short review of heat recovery technologies in engines and heat exchangers has been presented. It seems that in most of these technologies (ORC, TEG, EGR, and turbo-charging), heat exchangers have an important role to transfer heat for recovering process, so a suitable design for heat exchanger should be applied in accordance with this fact that heat transfer increases when pressure drop is in the allowable limit. Some experimental and numerical researches about various heat exchangers designs existed in the literature which all of them have been reviewed here. It can be concluded that using fins is more applicable and appropriate than foams and porous materials due to the lower pressure drop and higher heat transfer rate. Also, it seems that other methods for increasing the heat transfer such as vortex generators, nanofluids, using the PCM as heat storage source, etc., in addition to lower TEGs in downstream of HEX, design parallel HEXs or HEX with one inlet and two outlets, selecting the best solid materials, TEGs material and working fluids can enhance the exhaust heat recovery and save the fuel costs for future works.

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