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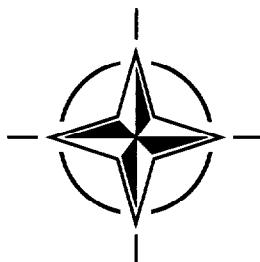
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RTO LECTURE SERIES 211

Integrated Multidisciplinary Design of High Pressure Multistage Compressor Systems

(la Conception intégrée des compresseurs multi-étage à haute performance)

The material in this publication was assembled to support a Lecture Series under the sponsorship of the Applied Vehicle Technology Panel and the Consultant and Exchange Programme of RTO presented on 14-15 September 1998 in Lyon, France, on 17-18 September 1998 in Cologne, Germany, and on 22-23 September 1998 in Cleveland, USA.



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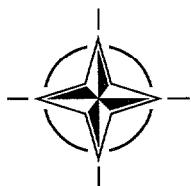
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RTO is the single focus in NATO for Defence Research and Technology activities. Its mission is to conduct and promote cooperative research and information exchange. The objective is to support the development and effective use of national defence research and technology and to meet the military needs of the Alliance, to maintain a technological lead, and to provide advice to NATO and national decision makers. The RTO performs its mission with the support of an extensive network of national experts. It also ensures effective coordination with other NATO bodies involved in R&T activities.

RTO reports both to the Military Committee of NATO and to the Conference of National Armament Directors. It comprises a Research and Technology Board (RTB) as the highest level of national representation and the Research and Technology Agency (RTA), a dedicated staff with its headquarters in Neuilly, near Paris, France. In order to facilitate contacts with the military users and other NATO activities, a small part of the RTA staff is located in NATO Headquarters in Brussels. The Brussels staff also coordinates RTO's cooperation with nations in Middle and Eastern Europe, to which RTO attaches particular importance especially as working together in the field of research is one of the more promising areas of initial cooperation.

The total spectrum of R&T activities is covered by 6 Panels, dealing with:

- SAS Studies, Analysis and Simulation
- SCI Systems Concepts and Integration
- SET Sensors and Electronics Technology
- IST Information Systems Technology
- AVT Applied Vehicle Technology
- HFM Human Factors and Medicine

These Panels are made up of national representatives as well as generally recognised 'world class' scientists. The Panels also provide a communication link to military users and other NATO bodies. RTO's scientific and technological work is carried out by Technical Teams, created for specific activities and with a specific duration. Such Technical Teams can organise workshops, symposia, field trials, lecture series and training courses. An important function of these Technical Teams is to ensure the continuity of the expert networks.

RTO builds upon earlier cooperation in defence research and technology as set-up under the Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development (AGARD) and the Defence Research Group (DRG). AGARD and the DRG share common roots in that they were both established at the initiative of Dr Theodore von Kármán, a leading aerospace scientist, who early on recognised the importance of scientific support for the Allied Armed Forces. RTO is capitalising on these common roots in order to provide the Alliance and the NATO nations with a strong scientific and technological basis that will guarantee a solid base for the future.

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Integrated Multidisciplinary Design of High Pressure Multistage Compressor Systems

(RTO EN-1)

Executive Summary

Today's aircraft gas turbine engines have remarkable performance characteristics. They provide thrust and avoid flame-out during the most demanding manoeuvres. There is also, amongst other attributes, a permanent improvement in fuel economy. Future aircraft will exceed by far today's performance envelopes.

These improvements have been made possible principally due to compressor performance. This Lecture Series covers the recent advances in the process of performing integrated design of high performance multistage compressors.

The purpose is to broaden the compressor designer's understanding beyond traditional fluid dynamics and to include the multidisciplinary systems approach required by modern gas turbine engines for longer life, lower acquisition and maintenance costs.

The design process requires an optimization of the entire machine, which may be significantly different from the best aerodynamic design of each stage or blade row. In addition, many modern engines are simultaneously increasing compressor performance, and reducing machine length, which reinforces the fluid and structure interactions. Finally, in order to reduce both production and maintenance costs, manufacturing constraints have to be taken into account in the initial phase of the design process.

The Lecture Series will underline the role of computational fluid dynamics, as well as solid mechanics and vibration simulations. The need for compressor designs to consider and model mechanical interactions and manufacturing concerns will be a central focus.

Keeping engine development ongoing and joining forces with the Nations is of utmost importance because tomorrow's engines can no longer be developed with today's simulation tools. It must also be seen that present reductions in research oriented budgets endanger the further development. This is another reason for bringing the latest state of the art information to the development engineers of as many NATO Nations as possible and to give them a forum for exchange and discussion, enabling them to further the development with coordinated forces.

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La conception intégrée des compresseurs multi-étage à haute performance

(RTO-EN-1)

Synthèse

Les turbomoteurs modernes ont des caractéristiques de performance remarquables. Ils fournissent la poussée nécessaire et évitent l'extinction du réacteur même pendant les manœuvres les plus difficiles. Parmi d'autres qualités, ils permettent de faire des économies durables au niveau de la consommation du carburant. Les enveloppes de performances d'aujourd'hui seront largement dépassées par les avions de combat de demain.

Ces améliorations sont principalement dues aux performances des compresseurs. Ce cycle de conférences couvre les avancées récentes dans le domaine de la conception intégrée de compresseurs multi-étage à hautes performances.

La conférence a pour objectif de permettre aux concepteurs de compresseurs d'élargir leurs connaissances, traditionnellement axées sur la dynamique des fluides, vers les systèmes pluridisciplinaires dans le but d'augmenter la durée de vie des turbomoteurs modernes et de diminuer les coûts d'acquisition et de maintenance.

Cette méthode de conception, qui exige d'optimiser intégralement le propulseur peut s'avérer tout à fait différente de l'optimisation aérodynamique de chaque étage ou de chaque grille d'aubes. En outre, pour de nombreux moteurs modernes, l'accroissement des performances en matière de compression va de pair avec une diminution de la taille, ce qui a pour effet d'améliorer les interactions entre le fluide et la structure. Enfin, il faut également tenir compte des contraintes de fabrication lors de la phase initiale de conception, afin de réduire les coûts de production et de maintenance.

Ce cycle de conférences soulignera le rôle de l'aérodynamique numérique dans ce processus, ainsi que celui de la mécanique des solides et de la simulation des vibrations. La prise en compte et la modélisation des interactions mécaniques, ainsi que les aspects industriels, constitueront le thème central de la conférence.

Il est d'une importance capitale de maintenir les activités de développement des moteurs d'avion en rassemblant les efforts des différents pays de l'OTAN, car il n'est plus envisageable de développer les moteurs de demain avec les moyens de simulation d'aujourd'hui. Cependant, les diminutions actuelles des budgets de recherche risquent de compromettre ces activités. Pour toutes ces raisons, il est important de mettre les dernières connaissances techniques à la disposition des ingénieurs concepteurs du plus grand nombre des pays de l'OTAN, et de leur offrir un forum pour des discussions et des échanges, leur permettant de coordonner et de faire avancer leur travaux de développement.

Les textes contenus dans cette publication ont été présentés lors d'un cycle de conférences organisé par la commission RTO des technologies appliquées aux véhicules, sous l'égide du programme des consultants et des échanges, du 14 au 15 septembre 1998 à Lyon en France, du 17 au 18 septembre 1998 à Cologne en Allemagne, et du 22 au 23 septembre 1998 à Cleveland aux Etats-Unis.

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