Turbo Chargers, Super Chargers, and Performance Enhancing Devices

Brian Peters & Joe Frascati

Introduction * Basics * How they work * Design Considerations * Features

Basics of Turbochargers



- To increase performance increase the inlet density.
 - Done by manifold tuning or forced induction.
- Pack more air into cylinders.
- Typical boost of 6 to 8 psi provided.
- Significantly raise horsepower without significant weight gain.

How Turbochargers Work



- Turbocharger is a dynamic device.
- Exhaust flow from engine spins a turbine.
- Turbine spins an air compressor.
- Compressor pressurizes the air.
- Air is pumped into cylinders.

Centrifugal Rotor



- The torque exerted on the air by the rotor equals the rate of change of the angular momentum
- The pressure different
 between the top and
 bottom of the wing is
 proportional to the square
 of the speed.

Operation of Compressor or Turbine



The T-S diagram
 shows the operation of
 the compressor and
 turbine.

$$W = h_{in} - h_{out}$$
$$W = h_3 - h_4$$

 $H W_c = h_2 - h_1$

Isentropic Efficiency

From the work the isentropic efficiency can be found.

* $\eta_c = (T_{2s} - T_1)/(T_2 - T_1)$ * $\eta_t = (T_3 - T_4)/(T_3 - T_{4s})$

Compressors

- * In an isentropic process the inlet and outlet temperatures and pressures can be related by $T_{2s}/T_1 = (P_2/P_1)^{(\gamma-1)/\gamma}$
- * The power required to drive a compressor is $Power_c = mass flow rate_{air} * c_{Pair} * (T_2 - T_1)$

Turbines

If the turbine is isentropic then the following relationship holds

 $T_{4s}/T_3 = (P_4/P_3)^{(\gamma-1)/\gamma}$

* The turbine power can be calculated by $Power_t = mass flow rate_{ex} * c_{Pex} * (T_3 - T_4)$

Characteristics of positive displacement compressors.



Critical mass flow rate Vs. Pressure ratio.
For roots and lysholm blowers.

Performance Map



- Graph of different engine speeds and efficiencies.
- Bounded by choking on the right and surge on the left.

Characteristics of Dynamic Compressor



Critical mass flow rate Vs. Pressure ratio.

Surge

- When designing a turbine you want to stay away from surge and choking.
- * To the left of the surge line is an area of unstable operation.
- * The position of the surge line is influenced by the installation of the turbo

Flow in the Turbine

- Turbines will have a greater efficiency if the flow is smooth
- Engine exhaust is not smooth it has pulses
 Pulses can be handled different ways.
 Waves will be reflected in different ways.

Pulses will depend on pipe junctions

Bmep of Turbo Charger



 Power of Naturally aspirated and turbocharged engine.
 Turbo line flattens out due to waste gate.

Waste Gate



Used to control the level of boost in the engine.

Intercoolers



- An intercooler is a form of a heat exchanger.
- It is used to cool the air compressed from the turbo before it enters the intake manifold.
- It is usually mounted in front of the radiator, at the pressure outlet of the turbo charger.

Why Use an Intercooler * Cooling the compressed air.

* If the air is not cooled it may also cause knocking.

How an Intercooler Works

- * Hot air from the turbo enters the intercooler and travels through the tubs allowing heat transfer to take place and cool down the turbo air.
- Overall heat transfer
 - $Q=U*A*(T1-T2)*(F/ln(T_1/T_2))$
- Heat loss or gained by fluid on one side of intercooler
 - Q=mCp∆T

Effectiveness of Intercooler

 ★ E=(actual heat transfer)/(max possible heat transfer)
 ★ E=(T₂-T₃)/(T₂-T₁)

Intercooler



- Effect on charge cooling on the density ratio is seen on the graph for a typical isentropic compressor efficiency of 70% and an ambient temperature of 20 deg C.
- Heat transfer is proportional to pressure drop.

Effects of Intercooling on Performance

- Inter cooling increases the airflow rate and weakens the air/fuel ratio for a fixed fueling rate.
- Decreases temperatures through all cycles including exhaust cycle.
- * Turbine output is reduced.
- Gains are greatest at low flow rates where inter cooler is most effective.

Superchargers



Driven by pulley attached to crankshaft.

- ✗ Does not suffer lag.
- Positive displacement device.
 - No direct connection between inlet and outlet.

Superchargers

- Mass flow rate is proportional to the shaft speed.
 Mass flow rate is proportional to engine speed.
 Superchargers density ratio is fixed by ratio of displacement and rotational speed of the engine
- displacement and rotational speed of the engine and blower.
- * Therefore bmep will be the same for all engine speeds.

Types of superchargers

Vane compress



Roots blower



* Roots blower* Vane compressor* Screw compressor

Roots Blower

***** Rotors not in contact.

* Air is not compressed until it leaves the housing.

* Efficiency is lower then other blower types.

** Positive displacement units, which means every rev of the blower pumps out a fixed volume of air, regardless of the blower's rpm. Result is that boost comes on early. Most application produce full boost at 2000-2500rpm.

Vane Compressor

 Most popular type for fuel injected engines.
 Provides airflow proportional to blower rpm, thus full boost comes as high rpm.

Screw Compressor

* Positive displacement, similar to roots. differences: uses twin screws instead of lobed rotors to compress air.

Summary

* Forced induction systems significantly increase the output and efficiency of I.C. engines.

Only small increase in engine weight.
Ensure compressor is operating away from surge and choke line.