

SPACE TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS AND INNOVATIONS SYMPOSIUM (D2)  
Future Space Transportation Systems Technologies (5)

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DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSE-LOOP PRESSURIZATION SYSTEM USING CO<sub>2</sub>**Abstract**

In a conventional liquid engine system, a gas pressurization system or a turbo pump pressurization system is applied to pressure oxidant and fuel. In these system, it is required to equip a large tank to store the pressurization gas or a heavy turbo pump. In flight systems which requires weight saving, this heavy pressurization system is a restriction to design whole engine systems.

In order to break this situation, a new pressurization system using CO<sub>2</sub> has been developed by Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). This system is a kind of gas pressurization system. The pressurization source CO<sub>2</sub> is, however, stored in liquid phase. Compared to conventional pressurization systems, it can reduce a weight of a tank storing the pressurization source because the volume of the liquid source is small. During burning of the engine, LCO<sub>2</sub> is vaporized by regenerative cooling strategy and GCO<sub>2</sub> pressures oxidant and fuel. In order to control the pressure of CO<sub>2</sub>, this system has a instrument called charger. It is a kind of piston and it pressures CO<sub>2</sub>. There is a close-loop line in this system and the piston is driven by CO<sub>2</sub> itself. From a perspective of energy, kinematic energy to drive the piston is supplied through the regenerative cooling.

This paper shows a mathematical modeling of this close-loop pressurization system and a result of a demonstration experiment conducted in Akiruno, Japan. In order to drive this close-loop system stably, several tuning of parameters was required. By this demonstration experiment, a feasibility of this new pressurization system is shown. In future, this system is applied to a N<sub>2</sub>O/Ethanol liquid rocket engine which is now under development in JAXA.