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THE EFFECTS OF ATMOSPHERIC HUMIDITY AND TEMPERATURE ON THE ENGINE POWER AND TAKE-OFF PERFORMANCE OF A HASTINGS I

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FOREWORD .-

The purpose of ICAO Circulars is to distribute information bearing upon the progress of ICAO's work more widely than would be possible for the ordinary series of documents,

The present circular publishes a national study on two of the important parameters affecting the performance of aeroplanes, namely the humidity and the temperature of the air, The effect of temperature on performance has already been the subject of one special ICAO meeting, and the effects of atmospheric humidity and temperature will be discussed again, together with other parameters affecting performance, at future meetings.

The report reproduced in this circular records work done in the United Kingdom. It was presented to ICAO by the Government of the United Kingdom with the suggestion that it might be published as ICAO Circular.

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Report No. A.A.E.E./Res/248

AEROPLANE AND ARMAlMENT EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT BOSCOMBE DOWN

The effects of atmospheric humidity and temperature on the **engine** power and take-off performance of a Hastings !

by G, Jackson, **B,A,, DoIaC,**

SUMMARY

Flight tests have been **made** to assess the effect of changes in humidity on the engine power, fuel flow and take-off performance of a Hastings 1. The investigation also enabled the effect of changes in air temperature to be deduced,

It has been established that engine power decreases with increasing humidity and that the reduction is greatest at take-off engine speed **and** boost, Independent meteorological information suggests that the specific humidity will rarely exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The investigation has shown that this degree of humidity causes a reduction in take-off power of approximately 10 per cent compared with operation in completely dry air at the same temperature. Two thirds of this reduction are accounted for by the displacement of dry **air and** the effective richening of the mixture; the remainder is attributed to the effect of humidity on the combustion process,

For $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent humidity the increase in take-off distance to clear a 50 **foat** screen is calculated to be **17** per cent.

For the specification of take-off conditions, humidity is a parameter of the **same** order of importance as temperature.

At constant humidity the **rate** of decrease of power **with** increase of temperature is not significantly dffferent **from** the **value given** by **the** standard formula below full throttle height.

No effect of humidity on fuel consumption has been detected. The rate of decrease of fuel consumption **with** increase of temperature is consistent with the assumption of constant indicated specific consumption except at take-off rating, when the decrease **is** greater than that corresponding **to** this assumption.

Report No. A.A. E. **E.** /~es/248

AEROPLANE AND ARMAMENT EXPERWNTAL ESTABLISHMENT BOSCOMBE DOWN

The effects of atmospheric humidity and temperature on the engine power and take-off performance of a Hastings 1

by G. Jackson, B.A., D.I.C.

1.- Introduction

During a meeting in **1947** arranged **by the** International Civil Aviation Organization¹, attention was drawn to the lack of information on the effect of atmospheric humidity on engine power and the consequent effect on take-off performance. The one modern flight investigation² on this subject, together with a **report** of **the** poor take-off performance of a Hastings aircraft **under** humid conditions³. indicated that the effect was of sufficient magnitude to **be** of importance in assessing the permissible take-off weight of **aircraft,**

To obtain quantitative information on **the** effects of humidity, flight tests have been made on a Hastings aircraft in various climatic conditions.

2.- Description of aircraft

&I *Oenera\$,.* **The testa** were **lirade on** a production Hastings **Mkol, number** TG_6503 **, fitted with cranked exhaust tail pipes (Mod. No. P536). The afr** supply fop both filtered **and ram ai~ was** taken fro= the leading **edge** entries.

Take-off weight was 72,500 lb. and take-off flap setting 20⁰.
arriage and flaps were left down for the take-off climb. Take-off Undercarriage and flaps were left down for the take-off climb. tests were made with the eooliq **gills** one third open and with filtered air; other tests with gills closed **and** ram **air,** A11 the tests were made with the superchargers in M_o gear.

J.

22 **Ewine** details **and** limitations, **The** aircraft **had** four Hercules 101 engines with Hobson $R_{a}A_{c}E_{c}$ injector carburettors. The port inner was changed in the course of the tests. Engine and injector numbers are given below,

The engine limitations at the time of the tests were as follows:

2.3 Propeller details. Fully feathering De Havilland metal propellers (Blade type XPB 41974) were fitted. The propeller numbers were:

2.4 Instrumentation. The instruments were divided into two groups. Those whose readings were required at short intervals throughout each test were mounted in an automatic observer and photographed; the remaining instruments were read visually by two observers,

 $2.4.1$ The following instruments were fitted in the automatic observer:

4 pressure gauges from Bristol oil-operated torque dynamometers (measuring the torque of each engine)

4 charge temperature thermometers (connected to ratiometer **bulbs** in the induction elbow of each engine)

4 air intake temperature thermometers (connected to ratiometer bulbs in the intake duct of each engine)

1 airspeed indicator

1 altimeter Mk. 140

1 clock

2.402 The **following** instruments were read visually:

4 engine speed indicators

4 boost gauges

4 Kent-type flowmeters

4 fuel temperature thermometers (connected to ratiometer bulbs at the flowmeter inlet of each engine)

4 gill position indicators

1 airspeed indicator

1 altimeter Mk. 140

1 Met, Office aircraft electrical psychrometer Mk. 1 (measuring wet and drg bulb temperatures)

1 balanced bridge thermometer, Met, Office type 2-2 with an **A.** & A.E.E. type element (measuring dry bulb temperature)

1 mercury capillary air thermometer *Mk,* 2 (measuring dry bulb temperature)

The thermometer elements **were mounted** under the fuselage **roughly** in line with the wing **leading** edge. Three air temperature thermometers **were used** to obtafn an accurate **assessment** of the ambient temperature **and** to **enable** a defective instrument to be identified. The wet bulb temperature was checked against independent meteorological observations whenever **possible,**

Ground level measurements of wet and dry bulb temperatures were taken on a whirling psychrometer.

3.- Scope of tests

3,1 The test programme **was** planned **to** cover two types of test:

a) Measurement of take-off distance and **power, and** rate **of climb** immediately after take-off;

b) Measurement of power and fuel consumption of the **inner** engines with the aircraft flying at constant pressure height, **using** the **outer** engines to maintain a fixed indicated air speed.

3*2 The original intention **was** to compare the **resulta** of **these** tests made at Khartoum (Anglo-Egyptian **Sudan)** in a hot and dry climate and at Bahrein Island (Persian Gulf) in a humid climate with similar temperatures. Because atmospheric humidity does in general decrease with increasing altitude. the height **at** which the tesk **under** (b) **were** to be **made was** the lowest height at which level **speed** tests were possible at both **places. This wa8 an** ICAN pressure **height** of 2,000 **feet,** It became clear **at an** early stage in **the** tests that some modification of this programme **would** be **necearsary because** at Khartoum gradient above the Persian Gulf was so great that at 2,000 feet the humidity . **was lass** at Bahrein Island **than** at I(hartoum. **Consequently level flight** testa were made in high humidity at a pressure height of 700 feet over the Persian Gulf and at a third site, Habbaniya **(Iraq),** where the lower **altitude** tests **could** be repeated in low humidity.

The measurements of power on test take-offs **were** augmented by observations **made when taking** off **for** transit flights.

3.3 24x1 important **aspect** of **the** *progmmm* **was** the planning of the tests **to** show up any systematic **changes** in engine **performance** which might **accur** and **thereby mask:** comparatively mall **changes** vith **Mity.**

This was achieved by including several check tests under conditions **in** which the only variable to have changed by an appreciable amount was time, For this reason, **and** to establish the effect of temperature changes, tests were made in England, both before and after the overseas trials. These tests also provided data at intermediate humidities.

μ_{0} - Method of analysis of results

4.1 General. All the instrument readings have been corrected for instrument error,

 λ_0 2 **Air Temperature and humidity. It was assumed that for each** themmeter the relation between tihe indicated **and** actual temperatures was of the form

$$
T_{\hat{\mathbf{i}}} = T_{\mathbf{a}} + k \left(\frac{\mathbf{v}}{100}\right)^2
$$

where T_i = indicated temperature $({}^OK)$ T_{a} = actual temperature (°K)
 V = true airspeed (m.p.h.) $=$ true airspeed $(m, p, h,)$

k is a constant which was found experimentally for each thermometer installation.

It can be shown that engine power ia a function of absolute, and not relative, humidity, From the several parameters used to define humidity4 **the** specific humidity (or "moisture content") has been chosen as suitable. It is defined as the ratio by weight of water vapour to damp air in a particular volume of damp air and the percentage value calculated from the formula

$$
q = \frac{1.6455}{2.6455 \frac{0}{5} - 1} \times 100
$$

where $q =$ specific humidity **p** = total atmospheric pressme and **e = water vapour pressure**

e is **a** function5 of the wet and **dry** bulb temperatupes,

4.3 Power variation, Measurements of the take-off power of **all** engines were obtained during take-offs from the various airfields visited. The power of the two inner engines was also measwedin level flight at **240** m,p.h, A,S,I, at %he two nominal ICAN pressure heights of **'700** feet **and** 2,000 feet for each of the three limiting engine conditions listed in Paragraph 2.2, Small deviations from the nominal values of engine speed and boost pressure occurred because the maximum boost and **engine** speed settings varied slightly from engine to engine and because precise repetition of engine control settings was not always possible within a fairly short time. Changes in airfield height caused small changes in engine power **and,** in level flight at the low altitudes at which many of the tests were made, it was not always possible to maintain the exact **pressure** height specified.

Beeause these deviations could have systematic effects the measured powers **have** been adjusted to the values corresponding to the mean engine speed, boost and pressure height for each engine in each condition. Mean values were chosen so as to minimize the corrections. The corrections were obtained from bench tests by the Bristol Aeroplane Company on this type of engine, Corrections involved were small; three observations were adjusted by 2 per cent of the brake horse power, most by less than 1 per cent.

The power variation of each engine with temperature and humidity is assumed to be represented **by** an equation of the form

P=a+bt+cq .OQeO.Q.OO e...... (1)

where $t = air$ temperature $(°c)$

 $q =$ specific humidity (x)

 \vec{P} = engine power at (t, q)

a, b and c are constant coefficients and the best values of a, b **and** c have been found in each case by the method of least squares,

A typical set of results (measurements **made** on the starboard outer engine at take-off) has been examined by fitting the **best** quadratic relation by the method of least squares, There is no significant reduction in the scatter of the experimental points and the accuracy of the test results does not appear to justify the assumption that engine power is dependent on powers of temperature and humidity higher than the first.

nd humidity higher than the first.
The mean fractional rates of change of power $\frac{1}{P}$ $\frac{\partial P}{\partial 1}$ and **PI4** 3%

where P_M is the engine power at the mean temperature and humidity of the tests, follow since

 $\frac{\partial P}{\partial t}$ = b and $\frac{\partial P}{\partial a}$ = c.

The best⁶ combined estimate for each group of results at a particular power setting is the mean with the separate values weighted in proportion to the reciprocals of their variances.

It is convenient for the discussion of the final rates of variation to quote them in terms of P_o , the mean power at zero humidity and the mean test temperature. The mean values of $\frac{1}{P}$ $\frac{\partial P}{\partial A}$ and $\frac{1}{P}$ $\frac{\partial P}{\partial a}$ have therefore been Po **aq** obtained from the above derivatives by multiplying the factor

$$
\frac{P_M}{P_O} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{P_M} \frac{\partial P}{\partial q} x q_m}
$$

where q_m is the mean humidity of the tests.

4.4 **Variation of take-off distances.** For convenience in analysis, the take-off distance from the start of the run to a height of 50 feet above the unstick point has been divided into three parts, These parts **are3**

1) Ground run measures from start to unstick. The unstick speed for the aircraft as **tested ia** approximately 115 m,p,h,;

2) Transition distance measured from the **end** of the ground run to the point at which the aircraft begins to climb **away** from the runway;

3) Climbing distance, which is the horizontal distance travelled whilst climbing to 50feetabove the unstick point at a constant speed **(I40** mepeh. E.AoSo)e

The three parts are treated separately.

 $4.4.1$ Ground run. The measured values of the ground run are for the same reasons as given in Yaragraph *4,3* subject to variations in addition to those caused by temperature and humidity, The corrections necessary to eliminate these-variations have been applied by using the relation given in Appendix I *Lequation* (7).

Corrections have also been applied to give the results appropriate to zero headwing and zero runway gradient. No allowance has been made for the effect of the difference in runway surfaces or for the change of an engine **(see** Paragraph 6.4).

The effect of small variations in unstick speed has been eliminated by using the measured distance to 115 $m_{\circ}p_{\circ}h_{\circ}$ $E_{\circ}A_{\circ}S_{\circ}$

We may assume that the ground run is linearly related to temperature and humidity

> 1.e. $S_G = d + et + f_G$ $\bullet \circ \circ \bullet \circ \circ \circ \bullet \circ \circ \circ \bullet \circ \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet (2)$

where $S_G = \text{ground run at } (t, q)$.

The best **values** of the three constants d, e **and f** cowistent **with** the experimental results have been calculated by the method of least squares and The best values of the three constants d , experimental results have been calculated by the the values of $\frac{1}{S_{GO}} \frac{\partial S_G}{\partial t}$ and $\frac{1}{S_{GO}} \frac{\partial S_G}{\partial q}$ obtained.

sGo is the grotad run at the **mean** temperature and humidity of the tests,

4.402 Transition distance, The apparatus **wed** for nzeaauping take-off distances generally ceased to function before the climb was begun so that no accurate measure of' the transition distance **and** its variation **has** been obtained. Probable values of the rate of varfation **are** obtained below (Paragraph *6.41,*

4642 Climbing distance, **The cllppbbg** distance has been investigated indirectly by measuring the rate of climb immediately after take-off, The **man true** rate of climb was obtained **fiom** altimeter readings taken at 10-second intervals during a **clirab** through 1,500 feet, Corrections have been made on the basis of equation (10) of **Appendfx** I to give the rate of clirab appropriate to a mean ICAN pressure height of 1,250 feet and the mean values of engine speed and boost.

The statistically best coefficients of an **assumed** linear relation between rate of climb, temperature **and** humidity have been calculated, It is shown in **Appendfx** I, Section **B,** that the variation of the climbing distance can be expressed in terms of the variation of rate of climb.

4.5 **Variation of fuel consumption. Fuel consumption was measured** on the inner engines during the level flight tests. Each value quoted in the report is the mean of at least five observations. Measured volumetric rates of flow have been converted to mass flow, on which the engine behaviour depends, using the following standard A, & **A.E.E.** expression for **the** specific gravity of the fuel,

 $S_eG_e = 0.7421 - 0.00097$ **x** (fuel temperature ^oC)

The suitability of this relation was confirmed by **making** several measurements of the temperature-density relation for the fuel used.

Fuel consumptions have been corrected to the appropriate **mean** values of boost, engine speed and height assuming the indicated specific fuel consumption to remain constant for the *small* changes of power involved.

It is shown below that fuel consumption is not dependent on humidity, The results on each engine at each height have been analyzed by the method of least squares to give the constants g and h in the linear relation

 $Q = g + ht$

where $Q =$ mass fuel consumption at temperature t.

Mean values of J dQ haw been obtained, **Q,** fs the fuel consumption Qo dt at the mean temperature of the tests,

5,- Results

5.1 General, The test results are tabulated at the **end** of the report, For the take-off tests, where the largest of the corrections described in Paragraph 4 are applied, the results **am** quoted both before and after correction, Corrected values only are given for the level flight tests.

5,2 Deterioration cheek, The change of one engine in the middle of the tests makes it impossible to obtain conclusive deterioration checks on this engine and its replacement. Furthermore, power was measured on all the engines, but fuel flow on the inner engines only, so that only one engine (the starboard inner) can be examined for consistency of fuel flow, The checks made show no evidence of deterioration. The behaviour of all the engines is similar in the final analysis and all the results have therefore been included. Details of the deterioration checks are given below.

5.2,1 Check on **mwer,** Power measurements at take-off provide the best checks for all but the port inner engines, A typical set of observation is shown in Figure 2; the other engines give similar results. In this and other figures open and solid symbols of the sane shape correspond **to** tests made on first and second visits to a particular airfield. Comparison of these results shows that the original **and** repeated measurements are in good agreement, Additional checks can be made for the starboard inner engine from the level

flight results, comparing tests at 700 feet at Bahrein before and after visiting Iiabbaniya (Figure 1) and at 2,000 **feet** at Boscombe Down at the **beginning** and end of the programme, There is no check an the first port inner; a partial check for the second port inner is the comparison of the take-off powers for the two visits to Habbaniya,

5.2.2 Check on fuel consumption. Checks for consistency of fuel consumption were obtained for the starboard inner engine from the level flight tests. At 2,000 feet tests were made at Boscombe Down at the beginning and end of the tests; at 700 feet tests were made at Bahrein both before and after visiting Habbaniya. Comparison of these results shows a good consistency. Figures 3 and 4 **are** typical illustrations of the results obtained,

5.3 **Engine power**. Two of the sets of power measurements are illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2 with their calculated best fitting lines, No significant difference **has been** measured between **the** derivatives for different engines and different heights and the figures illustrate typical results. The analysis is summarized in Table 6. The best estimates and **92** per cent limits of accuracy of the rates of variation of power are **given** ber cent limits of accuracy of the rates of variation of power are given
below as proportions of the power P_0 at the mean temperature $(28\frac{1}{2}^{\circ})$ and zero humidity for each **engine** condition,

The relationships between the reduction in brake horse power **and** the specific humidity, together with the experimental limits of accuracy, are shown by the full lines in Figure 7.

5ed Take-off distance,

5.401 Ground run, The experimental results are illustrated in Figure 5. The best values of the rates of change of the ground run and their 95 per cent limits of accuracy **are**

$$
\frac{1}{S_{G_O}} \frac{\partial S_G}{\partial t} = +0.00573 \pm 0.00867
$$

$$
\frac{1}{S_{G_O}} \frac{\partial S_G}{\partial q} = +0.1203 \pm 0.1125
$$

5.402 Take-off rate of **climb.** The experimental rates of climb are illustrated in Figure *6,* The best estimates of the variation of rate of climb and their 95 per cent limits of accuracy are

$$
\frac{1}{V_{C_O}} \frac{\partial V_C}{\partial t} = -0.00564 \pm 0.01134
$$

$$
\frac{1}{V_{C_O}} \frac{\partial V_C}{\partial q} = +0.0121 \pm 0.1386
$$

It will be seen that the random variation of ground run and rate of **climb** overwhelm any systematic effects of temperature and humidity.

5~5 Fuel consumption. Two sets of test results are illustrated in Figures **3 and** 4, The scatter of the observations is typical of the results from the various engines and conditions, and there is no indication of *any* systematic variation of he1 consuption with humidity. The several **values** of the coefficient $\frac{1}{\alpha}$ $\frac{dQ}{dt}$ and their 95 per cent limits of accuracy are given in Table 7. in Table 7.

6.- Discussion

6.1 Practical range of humiditx, Because the sources of water vapour are at the earth's surface and because the capacity of air for water vapour decreases with decreasing temperature, the specific humidity of **the** atmosphere generally decreases rapidly with increasing height. At normal cruising altitudes humidity is so low that **any** effects on the aircraft are negligible; thus it is necessary to consider only surface conditions,

On the basis of information (Appendix III) supplied by the Meteorological Wice it appears that the specific humidity of the atmosphere will **very** rarely exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The upper limit to the change in humidity when moving at any time from any one place to any other on the earth's surface can therefore be **taken as 2*** per cent, This estimate is conservative since the humidity will rarely, if ever, be zero. Mean humidities and standard deviations **vary** considerably from place to place and from time to time^t. In the British Isles, for example, the humidity is usually in the range $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, so that when moving from the British Isles the increase in humidity will rarely be more than **2+** per cent,

6.2 Variation of power with humidity at constant temperature.

 $6.2.1$ It may be seen from Figure 7 that the decrease of power is greatest at the take-off rating. The measured decrease of climbing power, although smaller, is still significant; the decrease in cruising power has not been established as significantly different from zero. The discussion which follows is restricted to the measured changes in take-off power since humidity effects are of most importance for this rating.

6.22 For the maximum humidity given above, the reduction in takeoff power is **9,8** per cent **21,9** per cant of the power in dry air, The difference between the humidity of the British Isles and **the** world-wide maximum could cause a power reduction of 8.8 per cent 1.6 per cent. A power reduction of 8,8 per cent corresponds to a temperature rise of 4@C, below full throttle height, so that it is possible for humidity changes to be equal in importance with changes in temperature. It must, however, be emphasized that large changes in humidity are encountered much less frequently than large changes in temperature, High values of absolute humidity occur only in the lower levels of the atmosphere, in areas of comparatively small extent and in certain seasons of the year (Figures 9 and 10) whereas high temperatures exist for long periods over wide areas,

L2.3 Considering conditions with the British Isles, the humidity variation (Paragraph 6.1) will cause variations in take-off power of up to approximately 5 per cent at a given temperature. This maximum power variation would be caused by a temperature change of 23°C and since the actual temperature range is of this order corrections for humidity and temperature **are** of the same order of importance,

6.2.4 The experimental results give only a neasure of the overall reduction in power for the type of engine tested. We may assess the generality of the results by considering separately some of the effects which would be
Variations in humidity are often related with variations in tempera of the results by considering separately some of the effects which would be

expected. First, the presence of water vapour necessitates the displacement of dry air and indicated horse power depends on the dry air consumption. When dry air consumption is the only variable, indicated power is directly proportional to dry air pressure. Consequently power would be expected to be less in humid air than in dry air by the same proportion for any reciprocating engine, The loss in power is generally referred to **as** the displacement loss, Secondly, for the particular carburation system tested, the fuel flow has been shown (Paragraph **5,5)** to be unaffected by changes in humidity. Hence as humidity increases and the proportion of dry air in the total flow to the engine decreases, so the dry-air/fuel ratio decreases. When air/fuel ratio is the only variable the effect of a change in air/fuel ratio depends on the shape of and operating point on the consumption loop for the engine. Richening of the mixture causes a power loss when running at a richer and an increase at a weaker mixture than that for maximum power. The magnitude of the power change due to this richening effect may be expected to vary for different engine types and carburation systems,

The magnitudes of these two effects on the engines tested are discussed ia Appendix II and compared with the mean experimental **valnes** in Figure 7 and in the following table, It will be seen that the measmd effect is **only** partly accounted for in this **way;** the difference is given in the final column of the table.

Only at take-off power is the residual loss significantly different from zero (see Figure 7). In this case it amounts to 50 per cent of the sum of the displacement and richening losses. This additional loss has been observed in previous tests²and ascribed to a decrease in thermal efficiency caused by the presence of water vapour during the combustion process. Such a loss would be expected to **vary** with &/fuel ratio but the evidence obtained on this variation is not significant, It is also probable that the residual loss would **varg** for different engines (and possibly for different installations) because of the different pressures and temperatures within the engines.

Variation of power with temperature at constant humidity. 6.3 The mean rates of change of power with temperature are not significantly different from the value of -0.00257 given by the standard formula for an engine operating below full throttle height

$$
\frac{1}{P} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = - \frac{1.1}{400 + t}
$$

at the temperature 28¹⁰_c.

Variation of take-off distance. The limits of accuracy of 6.4 the measurements of ground run and take-off rate of climb are very wide. It is a common experience to find that take-off distances and speeds are subject to large random variations, particularly in the tropics where high temperatures often produce disturbed conditions at and near ground level. In examining the results, no allowance has been made for the change of an engine or for the variability of the runway coefficient of friction. The effect of the first factor is small (0.4 per cent decrease in total power) and insufficient data is available to make accurate allowance for the second. Brief descriptions of the runway surfaces are given in Table 9.

Because of the wide limits of the direct measurements the rates of change of take-off distance with temperature and humidity have also been derived indirectly from the measured changes of take-off power using the relations deduced in Appendix I. The derived values are given below. The limits represent the 95 per cent limits of accuracy of the measured power changes.

These values do not differ significantly from the experimental results and probably give better estimates of the mean rates of change. Accepting these values and taking a typical test take-off as having ground run, transition distance and climbing distance in the proportions^t 3:6:1, the total increase of take-off distance to clear **50** feet would be 16,6 per cent 22,5 per cent as the humidity rose from zero to 2.5 per cent. The increase in distance varies but little with variation in the proportiona of the three parts of the takeoff3 the **more** usual proportiona 28181 would lead to an increase 17,5 per cent - +2,7 per cent,

An increase in temperature **by** l50C would increase **the** take-off distance by a further 12.4 per cent 1.4 , per cent.

The full lines drawn in **Figure** 5 **and** Figure 6 are fitted about the **man** experimental values at the mean slopes deduced from the power changes. broken lines indicate saturation at each particular temperature. The fact that some points lie **beyond** this line means no more than that the scatter of distance and rate of climb measurements is large.

 6.5 Variation of fuel consumption. Under the conditions of constant boost, pressure height and engine speed in which fuel consumption was masured, the fuel flow delivered by **the** Hobson - **R,A,E,** injectors would not be expected to **vary** with humidity, No variation has been detected.

The carburation system is designed to maintain a constant indicated specific consumption, The fuel consumption should therefore **vary** according to the relation From 1s designed to maintain a

The fuel consumption should ther
 $\frac{1}{\alpha} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{H P - s/c H P} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t}$

where **IHP** = indicated horse power, s/c HP = supercharger horse power
is assumed that s/c HP \propto IHP. and it is assumed that s/c HP α

Using the powers tabulated in Appendix **11,** Section A, the design variations of fuel consumption for the measured power changes have been calculated and are compared with the experimental values in the following table,

 $\mathbf{\hat{z}}$ The transition distance, defined in Paragraph 4.4, is long because the climbing speed chosen $(140 \text{ m},\text{p},\text{h})$ is high compared with the unstick speed $(115 m_ep_eh_e)_e$ The proportions are based on a small number of approximate measurements of transition distance,

The two values are significantly different only at take-off engine speed and boost, when the experimental variation is numerically the larger,

It may be noted that the standard formula for a temperature compensated carburettor at constant **hoost**.

$$
\frac{1}{9} \frac{d0}{dt} = - \frac{1}{400 + t} ,
$$

gives the value -0.00234 at 28^{$+$ 6}C. Numerically, this is significantly smaller than the experimental values at both take-off and climb ratings, but not significantly different from the experimental value in the cruise condition, for which it is mainly used,

7.- Conclusions

7.1 It **has** been established that brake horse power decreases with increasing humidity and that **the** greatest fractional rate **afdscrsaae is at** take-aff **power.** As the specific humidity increases at constant temperature from zero to the maximum probable value of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, the take-off power of the engines tested decreased by approximately 10 per cent. This reduction is approximately **50** per cent greater than the sum of the displacement and richening losses.

7.2 **The rate of decrease of cruising power with increasing humi**dity at constant temperature has not been established as significantly different **fron** aero, **Any** decrease would generally be unimportant since **humidity** is low at normal cruising alltitudes,

 7.3 For $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent humidity, the increase in take-off distance to clear a 50 foot screen corresponding to the measured decrease in power is approximately 17 per cent at constant temperature.

7-4 The rate of **change** of power with teropersture alone is not significantly different from the standard value.

'7.5 Both the extreme range of humidity and the vzriatlons within the British Isles are sufficiently large for the effects on take-off power and performance to be as important as the effects expected from changes in temperature.

7,6 No effect of humidity on fuel consurn2tion has **been** observed. At constant humidity the measured effect of temperature on fuel consumption may be represented by the design condition of constant indicated specific fuel consumption except at take-off power, when the rate of decrease would be underestimated.

References

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and the control of the control of

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 $\sim 10^{-1}$

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$, $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

 $\ldots \ldots \ldots (1)$

APPENDIX I

VARIATION OF TAKE-OFF DISTANCE WITH POWER AND AIR DENSITY

A. Take-off distance from start to climb-away

To find the variation of take-off distance with air density and engine power we may assume that the acceleration is constant during take-off. This approximation can be made for both the distance up to unstick and the distance between the unstick point and the start of the climb away. The acceleration has different values for the two stages. ximation can be made for bo
en the unstick point and the
ifferent values for the two
Thus, assume $S \propto \frac{1}{\sigma - a}$

Thus, assume
$$
S \propto \frac{1}{\sigma - a}
$$

where $S =$ distance,

cr = relative density of air

and $a = acceleration$.

and
$$
a =
$$
 acceleration.
Then $\frac{\sigma}{S} \frac{dS}{d\sigma} = -\frac{\sigma}{a} \frac{da}{d\sigma} - 1$

W

Now $a = \frac{T - D}{T}$

where $T =$ mean thrust,

$$
D = \text{mean drag}
$$

and $W =$ aircraft weight.

and
$$
W = \operatorname{aircuit weight.}
$$

\nHence $\frac{\sigma}{a} \frac{da}{d\sigma} = \frac{T}{T - D} \frac{\sigma}{T} \frac{dT}{d\sigma}$ (2)
\nBut $TV = NP \sqrt{\sigma}$

where
$$
V_i
$$
 = mean equivalent airspeed (assumed constant),
\n η = air screw efficiency

and $P =$ engine power.

$$
\therefore \frac{\sigma}{T} \frac{dT}{d \sigma} = \frac{\sigma}{\eta} \frac{d \eta}{d \sigma} + \frac{\sigma}{P} \frac{d P}{d \sigma} + \frac{1}{2} \qquad \qquad (3)
$$

Since **Q** is **a** function of the airscrew parameters Cp and **J** ,

$$
\frac{\sigma}{\eta} \frac{d\eta}{d\sigma} = \frac{c_P}{\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial c_P} \frac{\sigma}{c_P} \frac{d c_P}{d\sigma} + \frac{J}{\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial J} \frac{\sigma}{J} \frac{dJ}{d\sigma} \qquad \qquad (4)
$$

From the definitions of Cp and **J** ,

$$
\frac{\sigma}{C_{P}} \frac{dC_{P}}{d \sigma} = \frac{\sigma}{P} \frac{dP}{d \sigma} - 1\n\nand
$$
\frac{\sigma}{J} \frac{dJ}{d \sigma} = -\frac{1}{2} \text{ at constant } V_{\mathbf{i}} \quad \text{(5)}
$$
$$

Combining equations (1) to (5) .

$$
\frac{\sigma}{s}\frac{ds}{d\sigma} = -1 + \frac{T}{T-D}\left[\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{J}{\eta}\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial J} - 1\right) + \frac{C_P}{\eta}\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial C_P} - \frac{\sigma}{P}\frac{dP}{d\sigma}\left(1 + \frac{C_P}{\eta}\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial C_P}\right)\right] \dots (6)
$$

Substituting the appropriate numerical values (Table 8) in equation (6) **and** expressing **cr** in terms of pressure p, temperature t and percentage specific humidity **q, we have for the ground run S_G** between start and unstick Substituting the appropriate numerical values (Table 8) in equation (6)
pressing σ^- in terms of pressure p, temperature t and percentage
ic humidity q, we have for the ground run S_G between start and unstick
 $\frac{dS_G}{$

$$
\frac{dS_G}{S_G} = -1.66 \left[\frac{dp}{p} - \frac{dt}{t + 273} - \frac{dq}{164.55} \right] -1.26 \frac{dP}{p} \qquad \qquad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (7)
$$

and for the transition distance S_T between unstick and the start of the **climb**

$$
\frac{dS_T}{S_T} = -1.60 \left[\frac{dp}{p} - \frac{dt}{t + 273} - \frac{dq}{164.55} \right] -1.42 \frac{dP}{p} \dots \dots \dots \dots (8)
$$

Be Rate of climb **and** climbing distance

For climbs at constant equivalent atrspeed and weight, we have

$$
\frac{dS_T}{S_T} = -1.60 \left[\frac{dp}{p} - \frac{dt}{t + 273} \right]
$$

Rate of climb and climbing di-
For climbs at constant equiva:

$$
V_C \propto \frac{T - D}{\sqrt{\sigma}}
$$

where $V_C = \frac{V}{T}$ rate of climb,

 σ = mean air density during climb

and T **and D are** the mean thrust and drag during the clinb.

By a similar method to that used in Section A above, it **can** be shown that

$$
\frac{\sigma}{v_C} \frac{dV_C}{d\sigma} = \left[\frac{1}{2} \frac{p}{T-D} - \frac{T}{T-D} \left(\frac{C_P}{\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial C_P} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{J}{\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial J} \right) \right] + \frac{T}{T-D} \left(1 + \frac{C_P}{\eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial C_P} \right) \frac{d\sigma}{P} \frac{dP}{d\sigma} \dots (9)
$$

For the aircraft tested, this **equation** becomes

$$
\frac{dV_C}{V_C} = 0.36 \left[\frac{dp}{p} - \frac{dt}{t + 273} - \frac{dq}{164.55} \right] + 2.34 \frac{dP}{P} \qquad \qquad (10)
$$

The distance S_G covered in climbing through a fixed height interval at a fixed **equivalent** airspeed **varies** according to the relation

$$
S_C \propto \frac{1}{V_C \sqrt{\sigma}}
$$

 $S_C \propto \frac{1}{V_C \sqrt{\sigma}}$

Hence $\frac{dS_C}{S_C} = -0.86 \left[\frac{dp}{p} - \frac{dt}{t + 273} - \frac{dq}{164.55} \right] - 2.34 \frac{dP}{P}$

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APPENDIX II

CALCULATION OF COWONENT EFFECTS OF HUMIL)ITY ON ENGDJE: **POWER**

A_0 - **Displacement** Loss

Indicated horse power is proportional to dry air consumption if humidity alone is varying, dry-air/fuel ratio and thermal efficiency being assumed constant,

i.e. $\frac{d(ImP)}{ImP_o} = -\frac{q}{p}$

where $e =$ water vapour pressure

 $p =$ total atmospheric pressure

and $IHP_{\alpha} = \text{indicated horse power in dry air.}$

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}\n\text{1.e.} & \frac{\text{d(BHP)}}{\text{BHP}_0} & = & -\frac{\text{e}}{\text{p}} \frac{\text{IHP}_0}{\text{BHP}_0} \\
& = & -\frac{2.6455}{\frac{164.55}{\text{q}} + 1} \frac{\text{IHP}_0}{\text{BHP}_0}\n\end{array}
$$

where $q =$ specific humidity (per cent)

The mean ratio of indicated horse power to brake horse power for the engines tested is calculated as in the following table, Pumping losses are neglected,

The change in brake horse power can now be calculated for any value of humidity. Some results are given below.

The practical range of humidity is so small that the relation between power and humidity may be taken as linear.

B.- Effect of Variation in Mixture Strength

The ratio by weight of dry air to fuel is reduced by the factor $(1 - \frac{q}{100})$ when the specific humidity is $q\%$.

The air/fuel ratio can be obtained from the measured values of power and fuel consumption by calculating first the indicated specific fuel consumption. The consumption loop for the engine type then gives directly the effect on IHP of a change in air/fuel ratio.

Some values for the engines tested are given below. The change in power is expressed in terms of the BHP at zero humidity as in Section A above.

C.- Effect on Supercharger

Changes in total **mass flow of air, water vapour and fuel through the** engine and changes in density and specific heat of this mixture will cause **small changes in supercharger performance and the driving power required, These effects are small and have been neglected in the analysis,**

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 $\sim 10^7$

 \mathcal{A}

APPENDIX III

NOTES ON THE DISTRIBUTION AND VARIATION OF ATMOSPHERIC HUMIDITY

Two charts showing the distribution of the average specific humidity (or moisture content) of the atmosphere in gm/m_e at mean sea level between 40° N and 40^oS for January (Figure 9) and **July (Figure 10) are reproduced in this** reporte Eiigh specific humidity is necessarily associated with **high** temperature (Figure 8) so that the highest values occur at the surface in hot climates,

Figures 9 and 10 have been constructed from charts of average vapour pressure at **man** sea level by *means* of the formula

$$
q = \frac{.622}{p - .378e} = \frac{1.6455}{2.6455 p/e - 1} \qquad \qquad \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots (1)
$$

where q is the specific humidity in gm/m

p is the atmospheric pressure

e is the vapour pressure.

For the approximate vaiues given on the chart it has been assumed that the atmospheric pressure at **mean** sea level is constant and equal to 1000 **mb,**

In compiling the original charts of vapour pressure the long-period averages of observed vapour pressure at station level were reduced to sea level by means of the empirical formula

$$
e_h = e_o \t (1 - 0.000076h)
$$

where e_h is the vapour pressure at station level \mathbf{e}_o^H is the vapour pressure at \mathbf{M}_s \mathbf{S}_s \mathbf{L}_s

h is the height of the station above **M.S.L.** in feet.

This formula is appliczble **only** to averages and not to individual values.

To obtain the average specific humidity **qh** at height h at **any** given place the value of q_o is read from the chart for the appropriate month, e_o is computed from equation (1) assuming that $p = 1000$ mb., e_h is then computed from equation (2) and **qh** is obtained from equation **(1)** using this value of eh **and** substituting the average station level pressure for **p,** If frequent computations are to be made tables of equivalent values of q_o and e_o can be compiled, from equation (1) and similarly values of e_b for different values of e_0 and h .

The table overleaf gives the average vapour pressure and its standard deviation in each of the four seasons and hence shows the fluctuations likely to be experienced from day to day, A measure of the average variation during the day is given by the values of the diurnal range, The table refers to a few typical stations with high humidity,

The highest average vapour pressure shown in the table is 31.8 mb. at Bahrein in July with a standard deviation of 4.7 mb. If the distribution were normal then on one occasion in twenty the vapour pressure would be expected to exceed **&Leo mb.,** the correspon6ing specific humidity **being 25,9** gm/kg. Thus since so high a humidity eccurs only rarely and only within a limited area, a **value** of 25 **@/kg may** be taken as a convenient figure for the maximum specific **humidity,**

The meteorological data discussed in this **Appendix** were provided by the Neteorological Office and are reproduced by permission of the Director.

VAPOUR PRESSURE AT SELECTED TROPICAL STATIONS

Averages at the afternoon hour of observation for January, April, July and October and their standard deviations; also the diurnal ranges

Notes 1.- Some of the frequency curves, particularly those with high values of the standard deviation, are not strictly normal, so that for these the standard deviations do not give an accurate estimate of the extremes.

2.- For an atmospheric pressure of 1,000 mb., moisture contents of 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 percent correspond to vapour pressures of approximately 16, **24** and 32 respectively.

3.- This table is reproduced by permission of the Meteorological Office.

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 $\sim 10^{11}$ km $^{-1}$

 $\sim 10^{11}$

 \sim

TABLES OF RESULTS

Table 1.- Take-off distance and power measured at take-off

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Table 2.- Rate of climb at 140 m. p.h. A.S.I.

Table 4.- Power and fuel **flow measured** in level flight. **(o)** Maxinwn climbiaa power

Table 5.- Power **and** fuel **flow measured in level** flight, (c) **Maximum pontinuous cruising power /'(weak mixture)**

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Table 7. - Variation of fuel consumption with temperature

Table 8.- Calculated efficiency derivatives for Hastings propellers

 $\frac{c_p}{\eta}$ $\frac{J}{n}$ $\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial J}$ ðη $\overline{\partial^c P}$ -0.16 Ground Run $+$ 0.44 Transition $+0.30$ -0.05 $Climb$ $+0.27$ \mathbf{O}

(Calculated from propeller manufacturer's data)

Table 9.- Brief descriptions of runways used for measured take-offs

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Figure 2

Fimtres 3 and 4

VARIATION OF FUEL CONSUMPTION WITH **TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY**

Figures 5 and 6

VARIATION OF GROUND RUN AND TAKE-OFF RATE OF CLIMB WITH TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY

Figure 7

VARLATION OF POWER WITH HUMIDITY AT CONSTANT TEMPERATURE

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WHERE e_{max} saturation vapour pressure (mb)

VARIATION OF MAXIMUM SPECIFIC HUMIDITY WITH AIR TEMPERATURE AT 1,000mb TOTAL PRESSURE

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