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THE COLLEGE OF AERONAUTICS CRANFIELD

VORTEX TUBE PERFORMANCE DATA SHEETS

by

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R. Westley

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THE COLLEGE OF AERONAUTICS

CRANFIELD



Vortex Tube Performance Data Sheets

-by-

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1. Introduction

Experiments to determine the effect of various operating and design parameters on the performance of a vortex tube are described in College of Aeronautics Note No. 30. The present note gives additional performance data on this tube and should be used as a supplement to Note No. 30.

These data sheets are intended as an aid to the estimation of the performance of vortex tubes and to the design of vortex tubes with given characteristics. In particular, the present note provides the optimum values of the vortex tube parameters which give maximum temperature drops.

Figures 12-53 give temperature drop and cold mass flow ratio characteristics, figures 54-61 give the cold mass flow ratios at maximum temperature drop whilst figures 62-65 give the optimum inlet and cold outlet sizes for maximum temperature drop.

Prepared under Ministry of Supply Contract 7/Expt1/565/R3

2. NOTATION

inlet pressure p; cold outlet pressure P_c hot outlet pressure p_h pressure differential across inlet flow meter Δp; 11 ŧŧ cold 59 Δp_c 11 hot 11 11 ** Δp_h inlet temperature T. T cold hot Th $\Delta T_{c} = (T_{i} - T_{c})$ $\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{1} \equiv \frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}} \text{ for } \frac{\partial \frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}}{\partial \mu} = 0.$ $\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{2} \equiv \frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}} \text{ for } \frac{\partial \frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}}{\partial \mu} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)}{\partial d_{c}} = 0.$ $\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{z} \equiv \frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}} \text{ for } \frac{\partial \frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}}{\partial \mu} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)}{\partial d_{c}} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)}{\partial d_{i}} = 0.$ $\frac{T_{c}}{T_{c}} = 1 - \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{c}}\right)_{T}$ $1 - \frac{\Delta T_{c \text{ isentropic}}}{T_{i}} = \left(\frac{p_{c}}{p_{i}}\right)^{\frac{y-1}{y}}, y = 1.40.$ $\Delta T_{c2} = \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right) \times T_{i} .$

$$\begin{split} & \Delta T_{c\bar{J}} = \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c\bar{J}}}{T_{1}}\right)_{\bar{J}}^{2} \times T_{\underline{i}} \\ & D & \text{diameter of vortex tube} \\ & d_{c} & \text{diameter of cold outlet} \\ & d_{1} & \text{equivalent inlet nozzle diameter} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{T_{c}} \frac{\text{Total inlet area}}{\pi}} \\ & \ell_{1} & \text{length of inlet slot} \\ & \left(\frac{d_{c}}{D}\right)_{1}^{2} = \frac{d_{c}}{D} \text{ for } \frac{\partial\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{1}}\right)}{\partial\mu} = 0, \quad \partial\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{1}}\right)_{4}^{4} = 0 \\ & \frac{\partial}{\partial D} \frac{\partial}{D} \\ & \frac{\partial}{\partial D} \frac{\partial}{D} \\ & \frac{\partial}{\partial D} \frac{\partial}{D} \\ & \frac{\partial}{\partial D} \\ & \frac{$$

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3. LIST OF FIGURES & DATA SHEETS

Inlet chamber and cold outlet. Fig.1.

Fig.2. Hot air outlet valve.

Fig. 3. Exploded view of cold cutlet diaphragm, inlet nozzle component and tube.

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Fig.4. Alternative vortex tube components.

Fig.5. Cold outlet diaphragm.

Fig.6. Inlet nozzles

Fig.7. General view of vortex tube apparatus.

Fig.8. General layout of vortex tube apparatus.

Fig.9. Vortex tube apparatus: General assembly, front view,

Fig. 10. Vortex tube apparatus: General assembly, plan view.

Fig.11. Thermocouple probe

Figs. 12-41. Variation of temperature drop ratio $\begin{pmatrix} \Delta T_c \\ T_i \end{pmatrix}$ with cold mass flow ratio (μ) for various pressure ratios $\begin{pmatrix} p_i \\ p_c \end{pmatrix}$

$\frac{d}{1} =$		anderse (S) - vestereliste			
$\frac{d}{dc} = \frac{1}{dc}$.266	. 376	.461	•532	•595
.167		Fig.18.	Fig.24.	Fig.31.	Fig.37.
.250	Fig. 12.	Fig.19.	Fig.25.	Fig. 32.	Fig.38
. 333	Fig.13.	Fig.20.	Fig.26.	Fig.33.	Fig.39.
.417	Fig.14.	Fig.21.	Fig.27.	Fig. 34.	Fig.40.
.500	Fig.15.	Fig.22.	Fig.28.	Fig.35.	Fig.41.
•583	Fig. 16.	6702	Fig.29.	Fig.36.	
.667	Fig.17.	Fig.23.	Fig. 30.		

$\frac{d_i}{D} =$.266	.376	.461	•532	•595
	Fig.42.	Fig.43.	Fig.44.	Fig.45.	Fig.46.

Fig. 47.

Variation of temperature drop ratio $\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{2}$ with pressure ratio $\binom{p_{i}}{p_{c}}$ for optimum

cold outlet diameter, optimum value setting and given inlet size $\begin{pmatrix} d \\ \underline{i} \end{pmatrix}$.

Fig. 48.

Variation of temperature drop ratio with inlet size for optimum cold outlet and valve setting, $\left(\frac{p_i}{p_o} = 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0\right)$.

Variation of temperature drop efficiency with pressure ratio at optimum cold outlet size, optimum valve setting and fixed inlet diameter.

$$\left(\frac{d_{i}}{D} = .266, .376, .461, .532, .595\right).$$

$$\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{\frac{2}{\Delta T_{c}}} \sim \frac{p_{i}}{p_{o}}.$$

Fig. 50.

Variation of refrigeration efficiency $\mu_{2}^{i} \left(\frac{-1c}{T_{1}}\right)_{2}$ with pressure ratio $\left(p_{1/p_{c}}\right)$ $\frac{\mu_{2}^{i} \left(\frac{-1c}{T_{1}}\right)_{2}}{\left(\Delta T_{c}\right)}$

at optimum valve setting and cold outlet diameter for maximum temperature drop ratio

 $\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{c} \sim \frac{di}{D}$

Variation of temperature drop ratio $\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{3}$ and refrigeration ratio $\left[\mu_{3}\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{3}\right]$ with pressure Fig. 51. ratio at maximum temperature drop and optimum conditions. Power law variation of temperature drop ratio and Fig 52. refrigeration ratio with pressure ratio $\left({}^{\mathrm{p}}\mathrm{i/p}\mathrm{_{c}} \right)$ at maximum temperature drop. Variation of temperature drop efficiency Fig. 53. $\left| \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}} \right)_{3} / \left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}} \right)_{TSFN} \right| \text{ and refrigeration efficiency}$ $\frac{\mu_{3}\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{3}}{\left(\frac{\Delta T_{c}}{T_{i}}\right)_{3}}$ with pressure ratio $\left(\frac{p_{i}}{p_{c}}\right)$ at maximum temperature drop. Fig. 54-58. Variation of cold mass flow ratio $\begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ with cold outlet diameter ratio $\begin{pmatrix} d \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ at optimum value setting $\frac{d_i}{D}$ =.266.376.461.532.595Fig.54.Fig.55.Fig.56.Fig.57.Fig.58. Variation of cold mass flow ratio $\begin{pmatrix} \mu_{2} \end{pmatrix}$ with inlet Fig. 59. diameter ratio $\begin{pmatrix} d \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ at optimum value setting and optimum cold outlet diameter. Fig. 60.

60. Variation of cold mass flow ratid $\begin{pmatrix} \mu_{z} \end{pmatrix}$ with pressure ratio $\begin{pmatrix} p_{i} \\ p_{c} \end{pmatrix}$ at optimum value setting and optimum cold outlet diameter.

mass

Fig. 61.

Variation of cold flow ratio with pressure ratio for optimum valve setting, optimum cold outlet dismeter and optimum inlet diameter

$$\mu_{3} \sim \frac{P_{i}}{P_{c}}$$

Fig. 62. Variation of optimum cold outlet diameter with inlet diameter $\left(\frac{p_i}{p_c} - 1.5, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\right)$. $\left(\frac{d_c}{D}\right)_1 \sim \frac{d_i}{D}$

Fig.63. Variation of optimum cold outlet diameter with pressure ratio for fixed inlet diameters, $\left(\frac{d_i}{D} = .266, .376, .461, .532 \& .595\right)$.

$$\left(\frac{d_{c}}{D}\right)_{1} \sim \frac{p_{i}}{p_{c}}$$

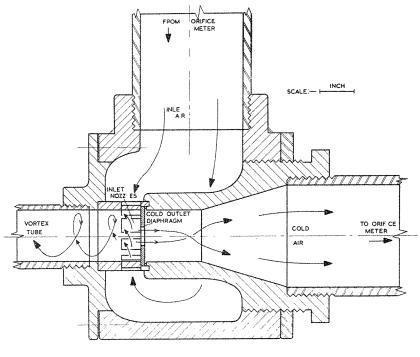
Fig. 64. Optimum inlet and cold outlet diameters for maximum temperature drop.

$$\left(\frac{d_{i}}{D}\right)_{1}^{*} \frac{p_{i}}{p_{c}}$$
$$\left(\frac{d_{c}}{D}\right)_{2}^{*} \frac{p_{i}}{p_{c}}$$

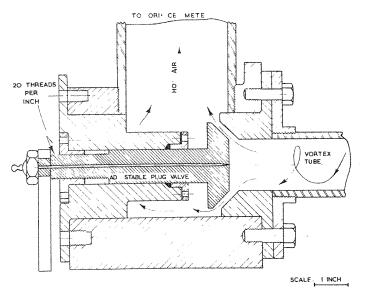
Fig. 65.

Optimum inlet and cold outlet areas for maximum temperature drop.

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{i} \\ \overline{A} \end{pmatrix} \sim \frac{p_{i}}{p_{c}}$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{c} \\ \overline{A} \end{pmatrix} \sim \frac{p_{i}}{p_{g}}$$



INLET CHAMBER AND COLD OUTLET FIG. 1



HOT AIR OUTLET VALVE

FIG. 2.

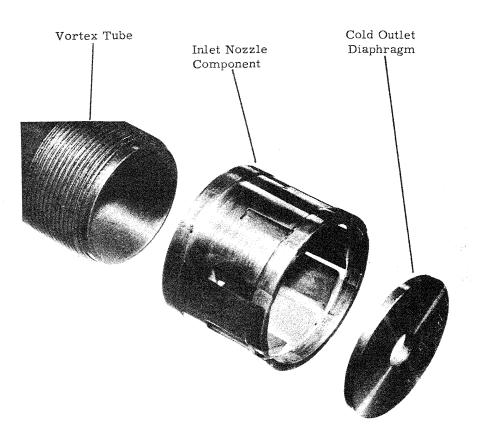


FIGURE 3. EXPLODED VIEW OF COLD OUTLET DIAPHRAGM, INLET NOZZLE COMPONENT AND TUBE.

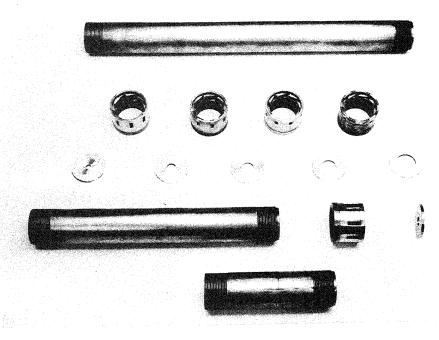
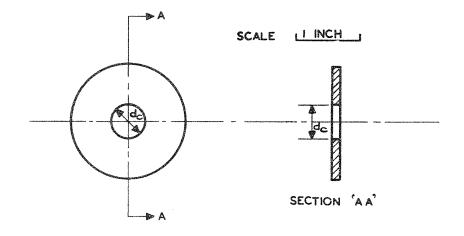
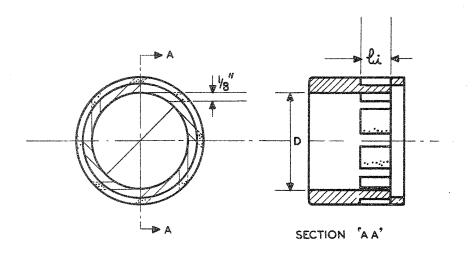


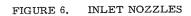
FIGURE 4 ALTERNATIVE VORTEX TUBE COMPONENTS



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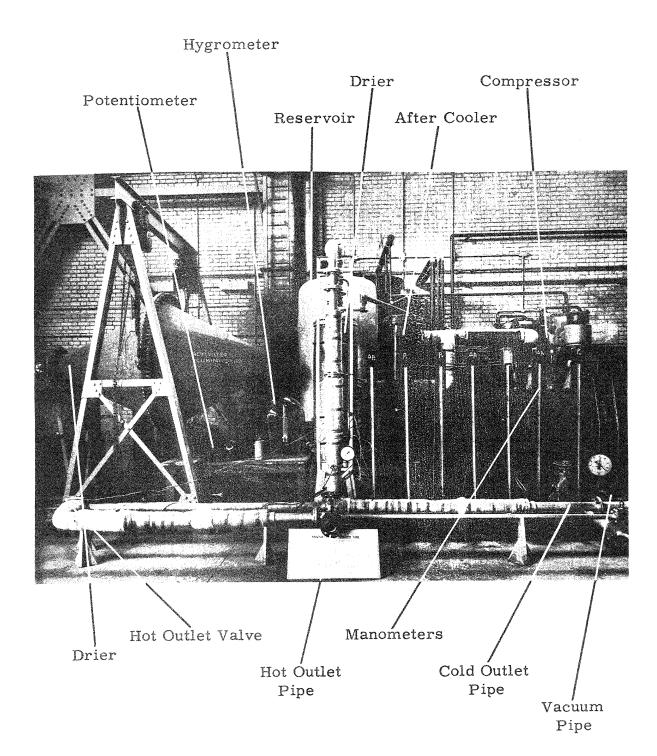


FIGURE 7. GENERAL VIEW OF VORTEX TUBE APPARATUS

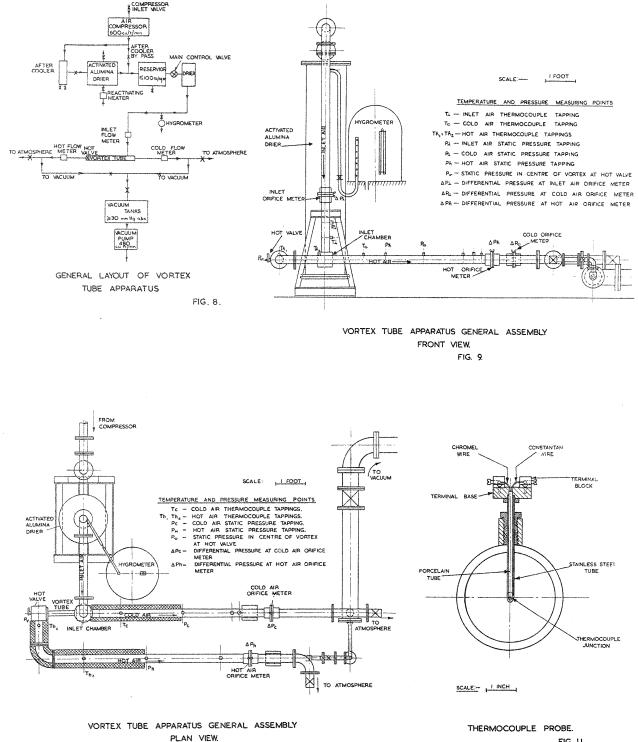
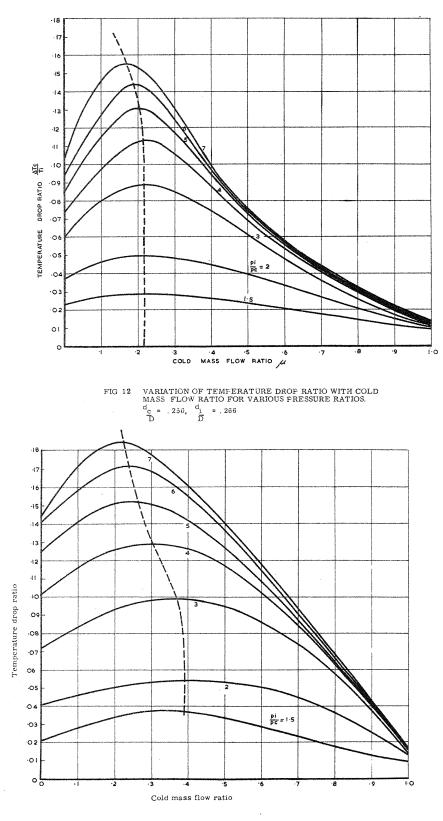
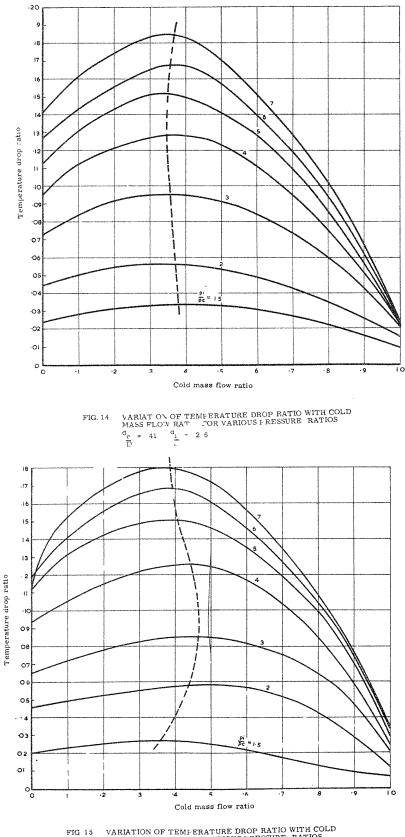




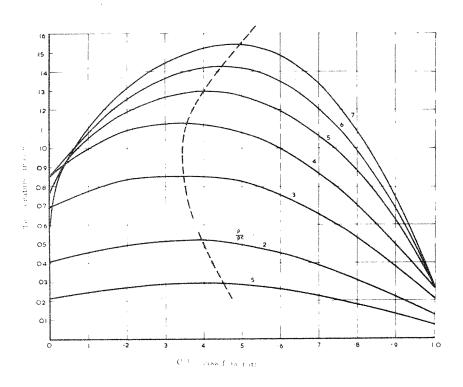
FIG. 11.













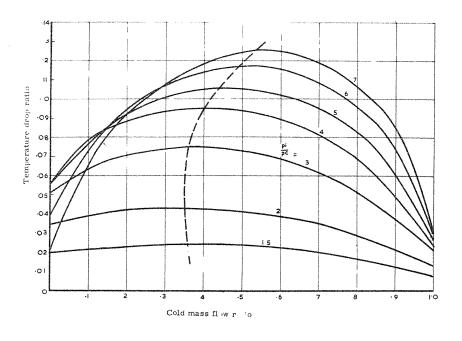
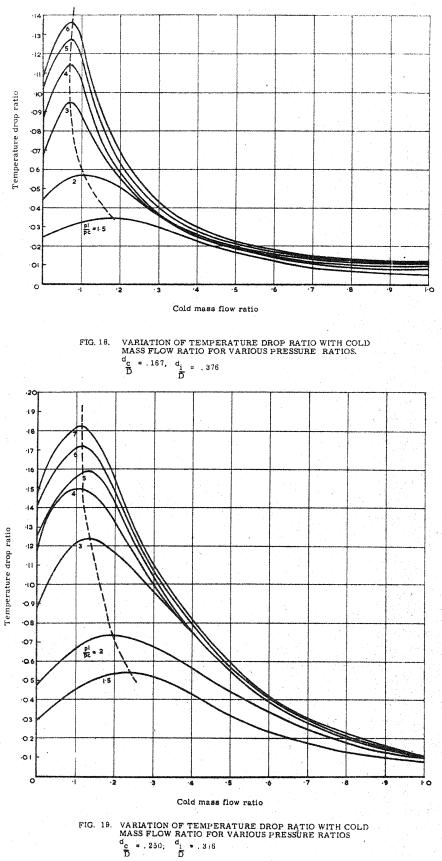
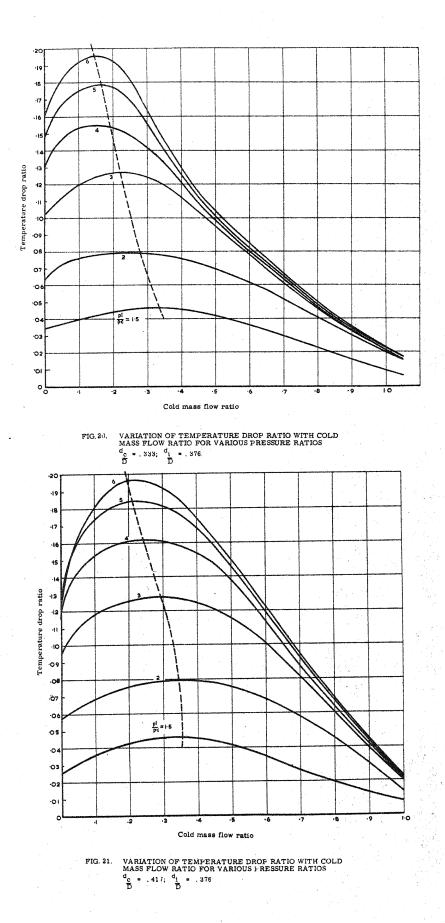
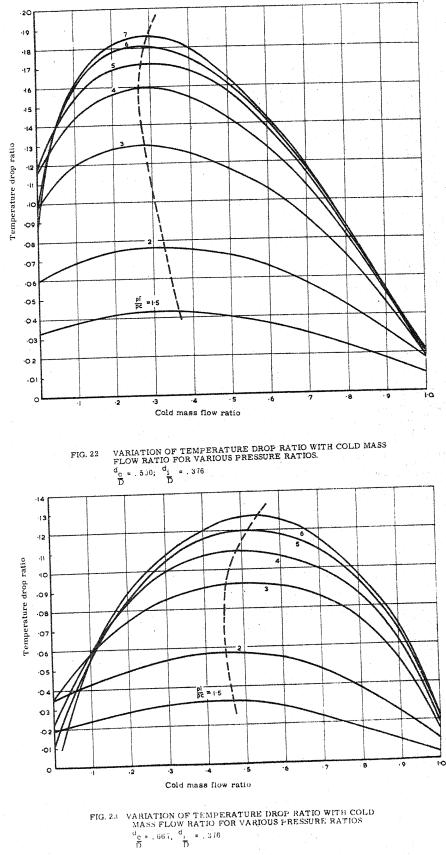
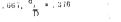


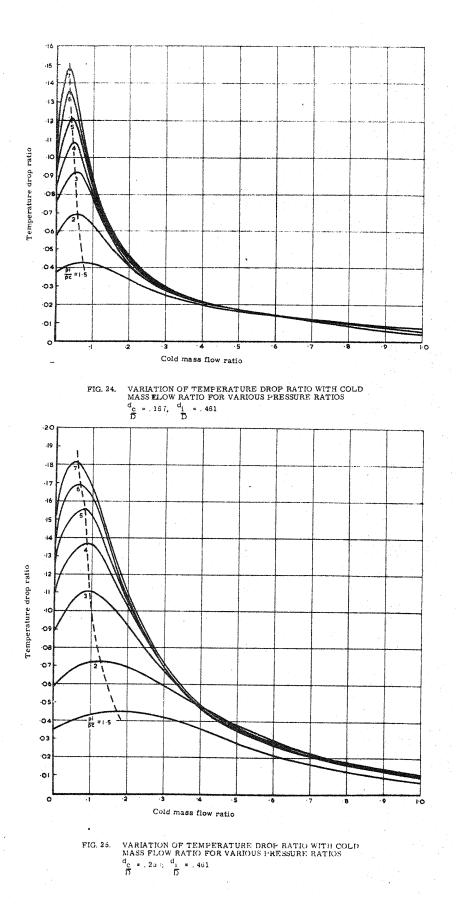
FIG. 1 / VARIATION OF TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH COLD MASS FLOW RATIO FOR VARIOUS FRESSURE RATIOS $\frac{d_c}{\overline{D}} = .6 \ell, \frac{d_1}{\overline{D}} = .266$



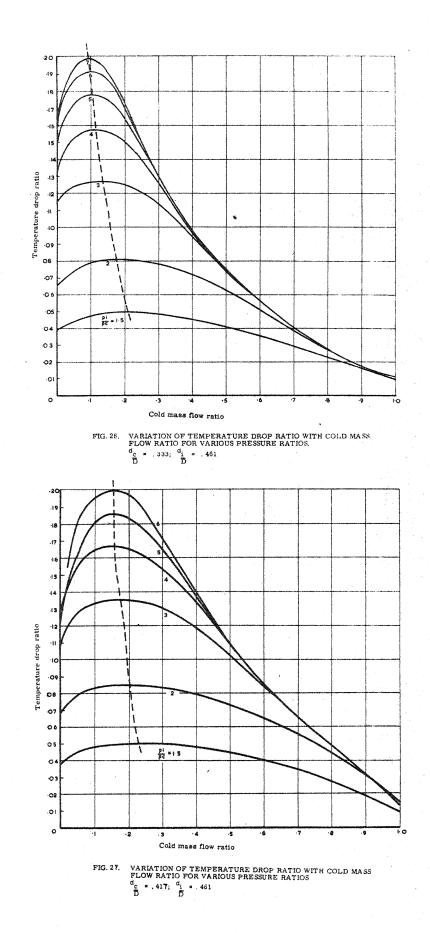


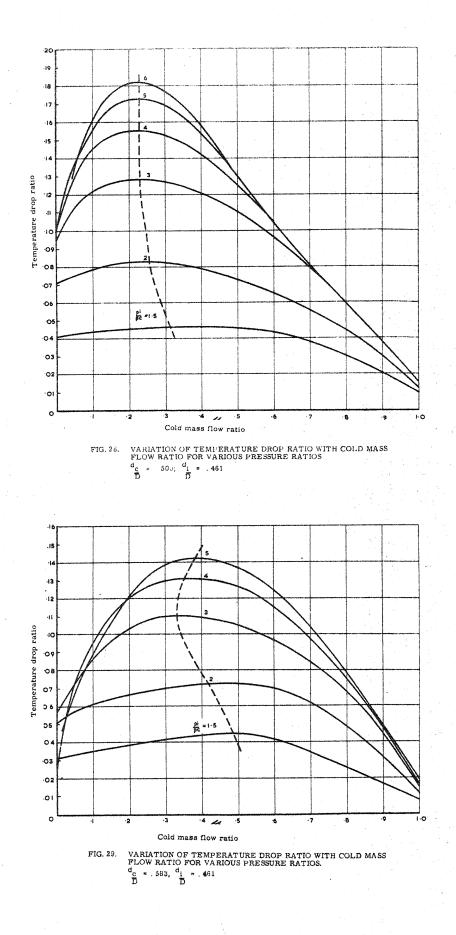


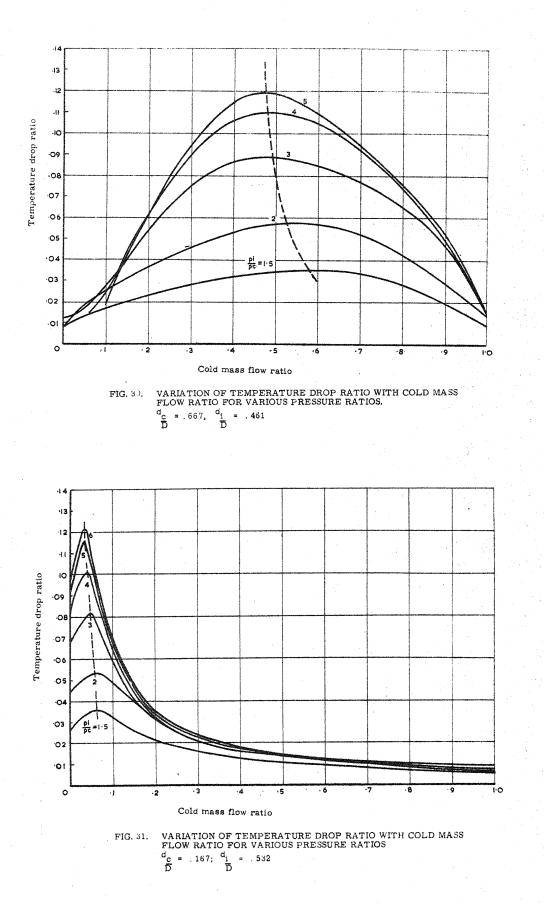




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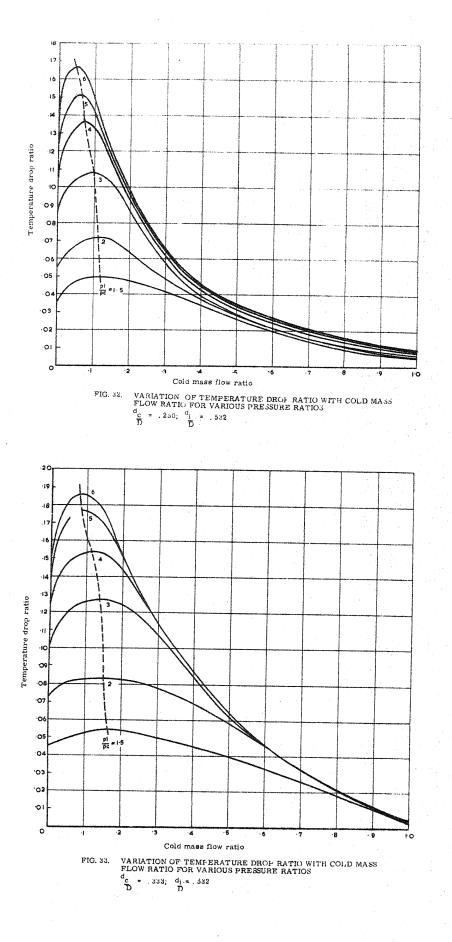


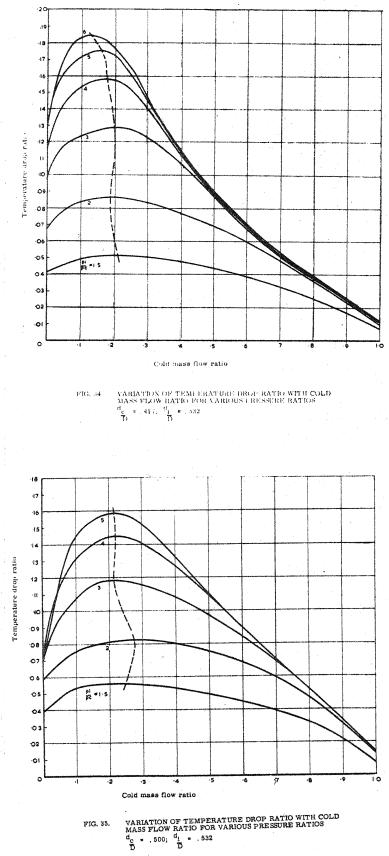


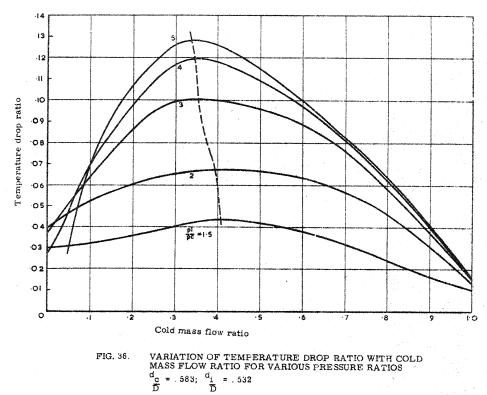


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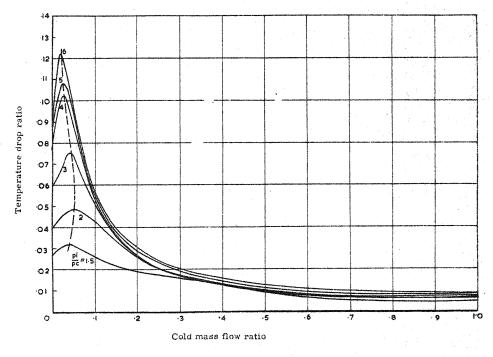
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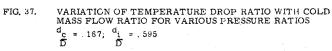


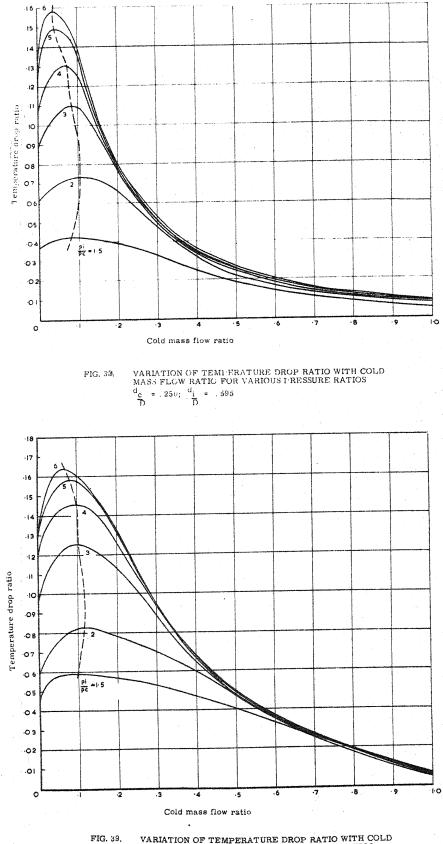




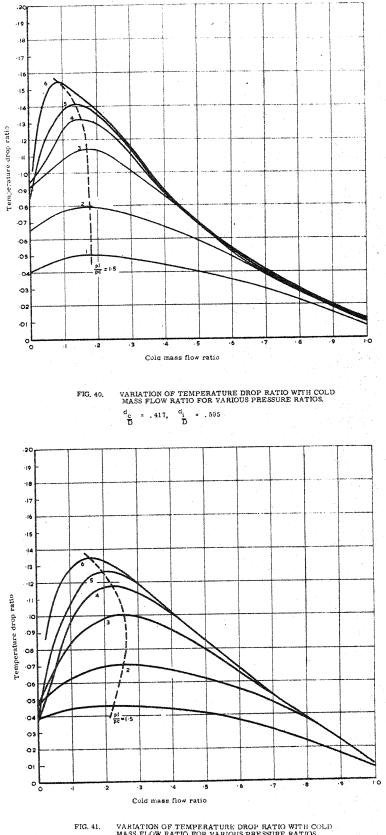








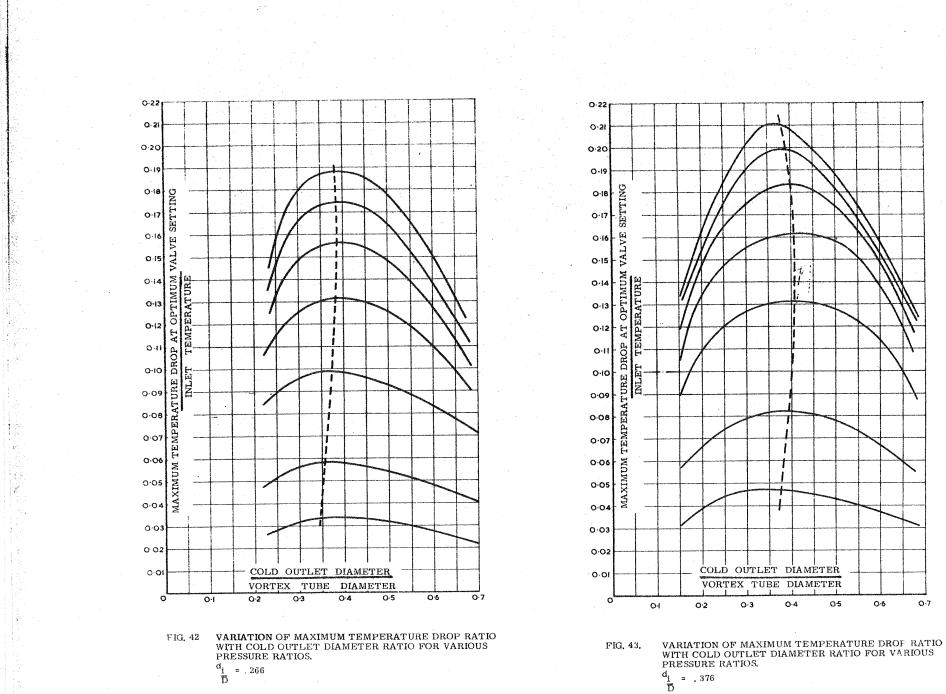
VARIATION OF TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH COLD MASS FLOW RATIO FOR VARIOUS PRESSURE RATIOS $d_c = 333; d_i = .595$ D D



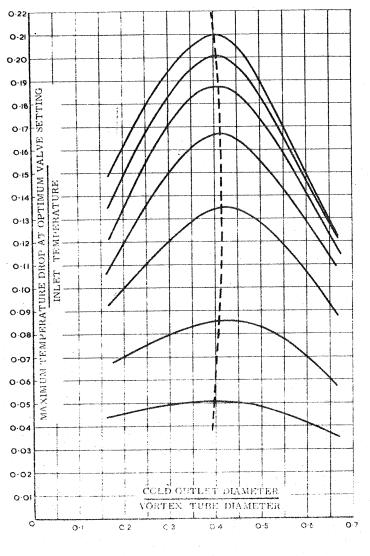


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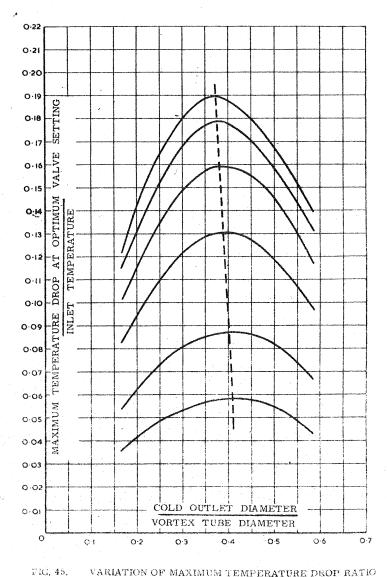
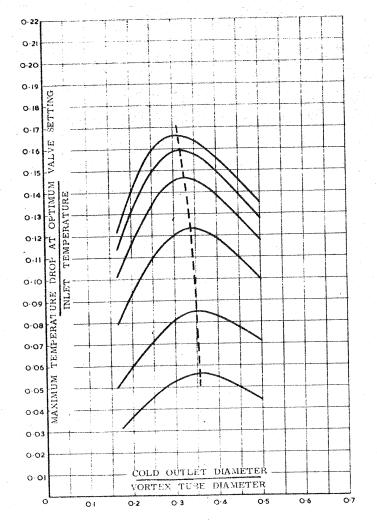


FIG. 44. VAPLATEDX OF MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH COLD SUPLIFY DIAMETER RATIO FOR VARIOUS PRIMATICS.

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VARIATION OF MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH COLD OUTLET DIAMETER RATIO FOR VARIOUS PRESSURE RATIOS.

d. 532 D.



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FIG. 46. VARIATION OF MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH COLD OUTLET DIAMETER RATIO FOR VARIOUS ERFSURE RATIOS $d_1 = .595$ T

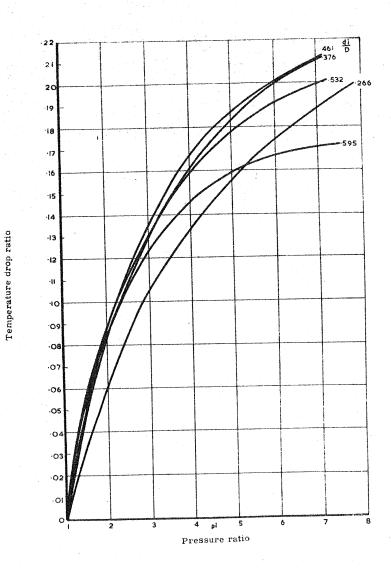


Fig. 47.

VARIATION OF TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH PRESSURE RATIO FOR OPTIMUM COLD OUTLET DIAMETER, OPTIMUM VALUE SETTING AND GIVEN INLET SIZE $\begin{array}{c}1\\1\\D\end{array}$

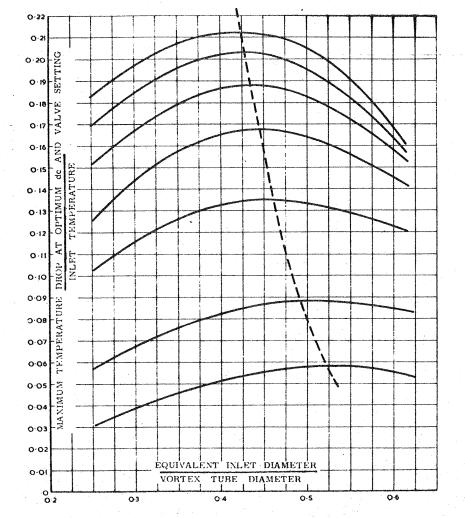
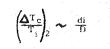


FIG. 48. VARIATION OF TEMPERATURE DROP RATIO WITH INLET SIZE FOR OFTIMUM COLD OUTLET AND VALVE SETTING

 $\frac{P_1}{P_c} = 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0$



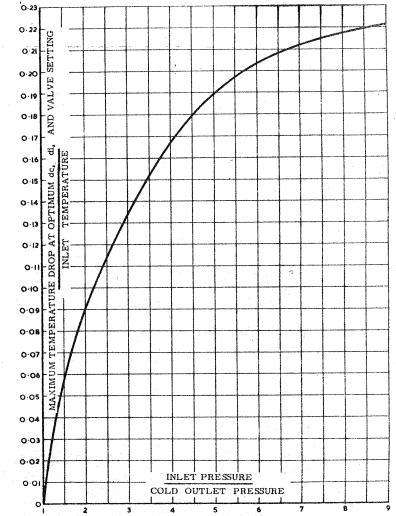
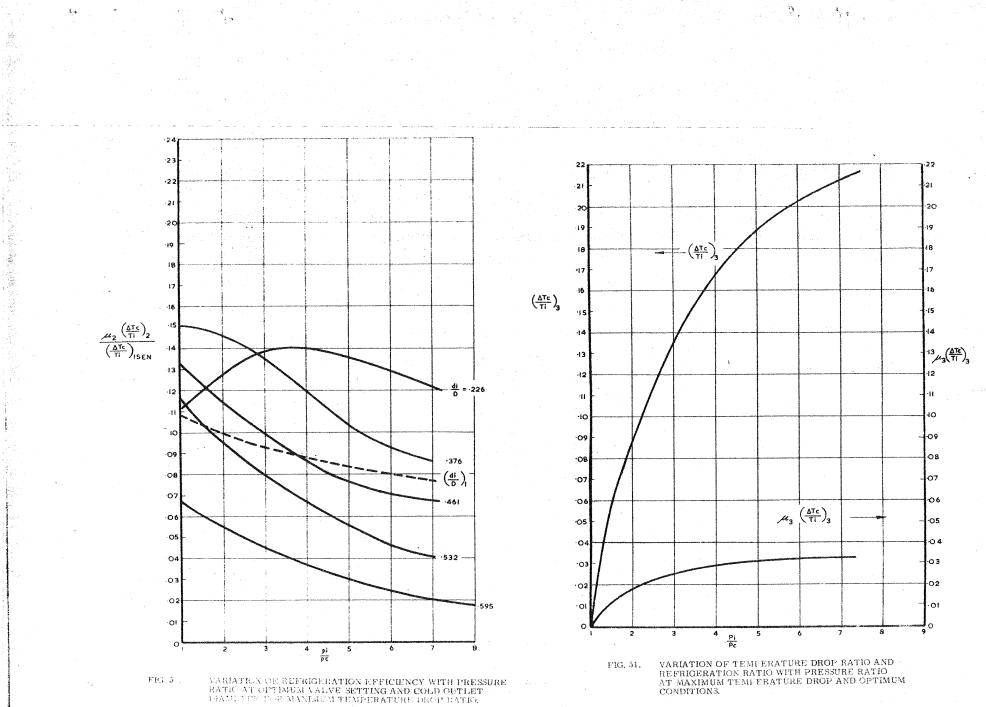
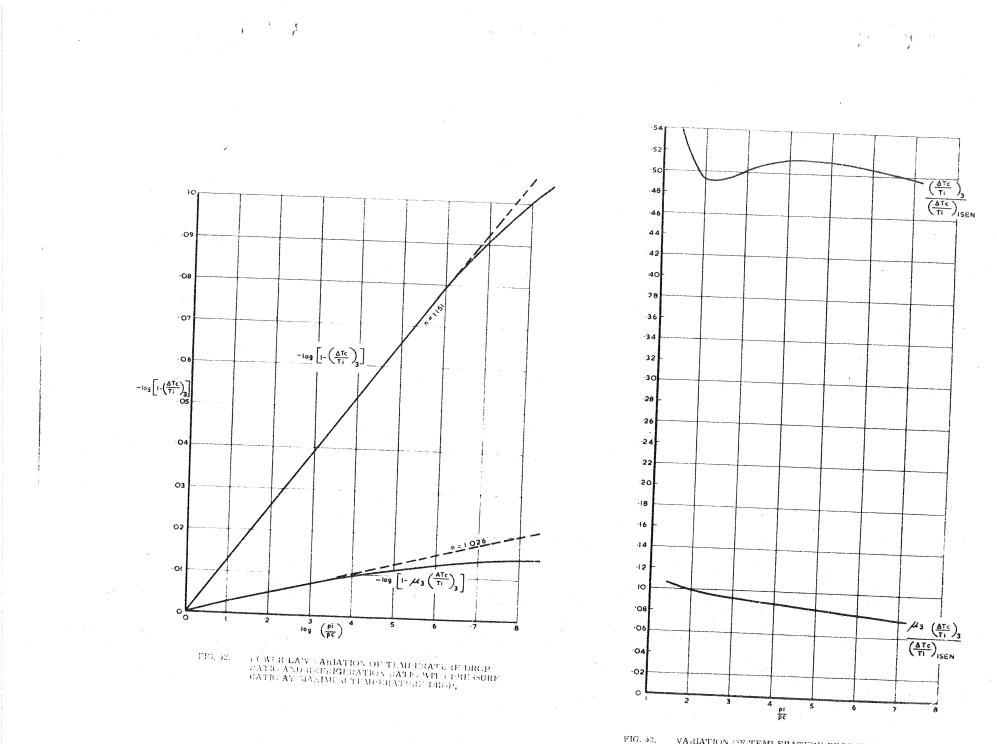


FIG. 49. VARIATION OF TEMPERATURE DROP EFFICIENCY WITH PRESSURE RATIO AT OPTIMUM COLD OUTLET SIZE, OPTIMUM VALVE SETTING AND FIXED INLET DIAMETER.

^di = .266, .376, .461, .532, .595 D $\frac{\Delta T_{c_2}}{\Delta T_{c \text{ ISEN}}} \sim \frac{P_i}{P_c}$

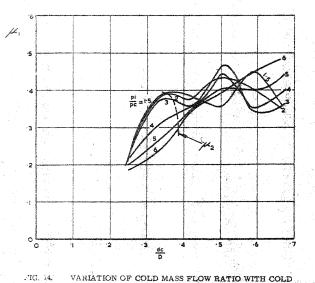




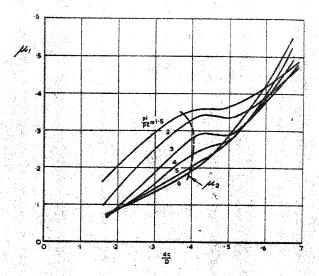
. 52. VARIATION OF TEMI ERATURE DROP EFFICIENCY AND REFRIGERATION EFFICIENCY WITH PRESSURE RATIO AT MANIMUM TEMPERATURE DROP.

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VARIATION OF COLD MASS FLOW RATIO WITH COLD OUTLET DIAMETER RATIO AT OPTIMUM VALVE SETTING $d_{i}^{}$ = . 265 D



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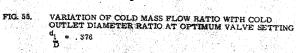
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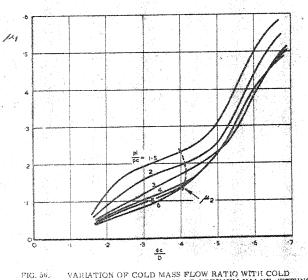
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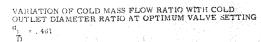
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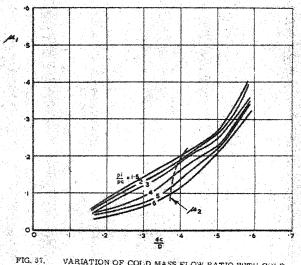


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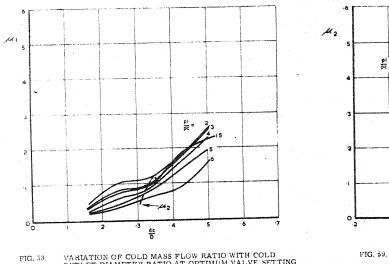
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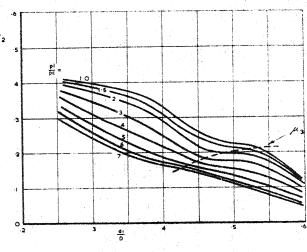


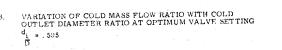


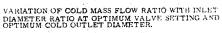


VARIATION OF COLD MASS FLOW RATIO WITH COLD OUTLET DIAMETER RATIO AT OPTIMUM VALVE SETTING $d_1 = .532$









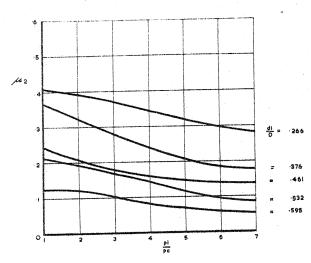


FIG. 60.

VARIATION OF COLD MASS FLOW RATIO WITH PRESSURE RATIO AT OPTIMUM VALVE SETTING AND OPTIMUM COLD OUTLET DIAMETER.

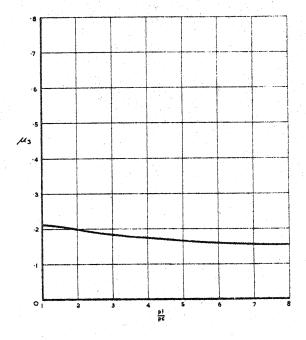


FIG. 61.

VARIATION OF COLD MASS FLOW RATIO WITH PRESSURE RATIO FOR OPTIMUM VALVE SETTING, OPTIMUM COLD OUTLET DIAMETER RATIO AND OPTIMUM INLET DIAMETER

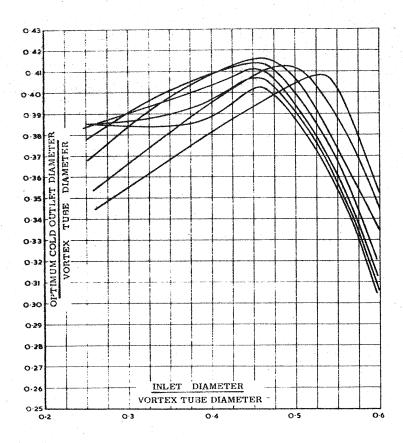
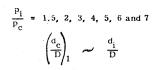
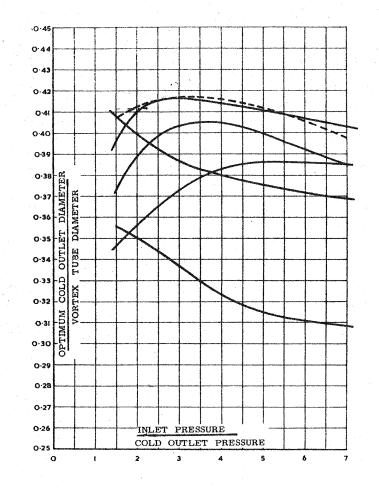


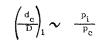
FIG. 62. VARIATION OF OPTIMUM COLD OUTLET DIAMETER WITH INLET DIAMETER

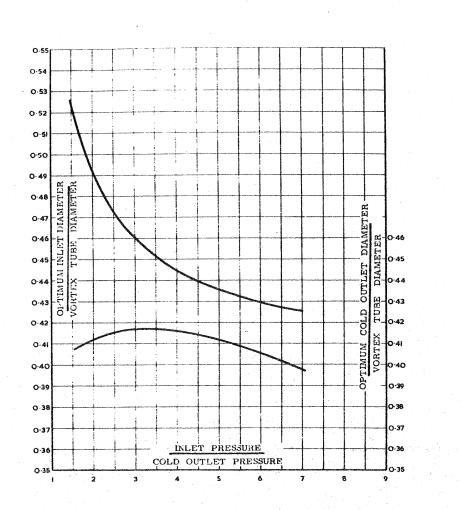




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FIG. 63. VARIATION OF OPTIMUM COLD OUTLET DIAMETER WITH PRESSURE RATIO FOR FIXED INLET DIAMETERS, $d_1 = .266$, .376, .461, .532 & .595 D





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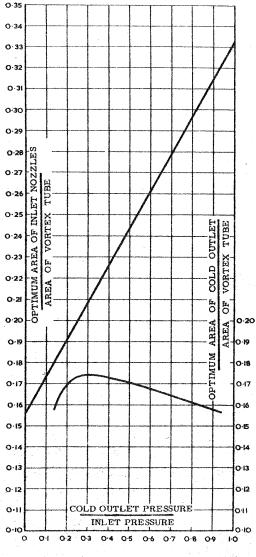


FIG. 64 OF TIMUM INLET AND COLD OUTLET DIAMETERS FOR FOR MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE DROF $\begin{pmatrix} d_1 \\ D_1 \end{pmatrix} \sim \frac{P_1}{P_c}$

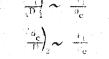


FIG. 65. OPTIMUM INLET AND COLD OUTLET AREAS FOR MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE DROP.

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 $\begin{pmatrix} A_i \\ \overline{A}_i \\ \overline{A}_i \end{pmatrix} \sim \frac{p_i}{p_c}$ $\begin{pmatrix} A_c \\ \overline{A}_c \\ \overline{A}_c \end{pmatrix} \sim \frac{p_i}{p_c}$