



AN ALGORITHM FOR THE DESIGN OF AN AXIAL FLOW COMPRESSOR OF A POWER GENERATION GAS TURBINE

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ABSTRACT

This paper focuses on the development of an algorithm for designing an axial flow compressor for a power generation gas turbine and attempts to bring to the public domain some parameters regarded as propriety data by plant manufacturers. The theory used in this work is based on simple thermodynamics and aerodynamics principles in a mean stream line analysis that assumes that the flow conditions prevailing at the mean radius fully represent the flow at all other radii. Gas Turbine Unit II (GT-II) in Omotosho Power Plant Phase I located in Ondo state was used to validate this work. The specifications used include mass flow rate, rotational speed, number of stages, pressure ratio, ambient air temperature and pressure etc. A computer program was written based on the formulated algorithm and the code was implemented in Microsoft Excel. The axial velocity was obtained using an iterative process that converged to a value of 163.74m/s for the design condition. The blade camber angles for each stage of the compressor were also determined using iterative processes. The results showed a compressor overall stagnation temperature rise of 354.5 °C and work input of 51.5MW at an ambient air temperature of 15 °C. The stagnation temperature rise and compressor work input were computed to be 369 °C and 53.6MW respectively at an ambient air temperature of 27 °C and which agrees reasonably well with the measured values of 375 °C and 54.6MW in GT-II. The total to total efficiency was 0.86 for both ambient air temperature values.

Keywords: Algorithm, Ambient air temperature, Axial flow compressor, Gas turbine, Power generation

1. INTRODUCTION

The increasing demand for electricity in Nigeria has led to the building of several power stations all over the nation, especially gas driven power plants. The gas turbine power plants in Nigeria are sited in locations where the standard ambient air temperature condition of 15°C specified by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for rating them rarely occurs. The ambient air temperatures occurring in these locations which predominantly exceed 15°C cause a lower thermal performance of the power plants. The gas turbine or combustion turbine power plants were primarily preferred to other thermal plants because of their low capital cost, short installation period and abundant availability of natural gas [1]. Among the gas power plants is the Omotosho power plant, located in Ondo state. It has eight similar gas turbine units (GT-I to GT-VIII) with individual installed capacity of 42.1MW.

The various components of this plant, like all other power plants in Nigeria, are designed and manufactured by companies outside the country; foreign companies also largely undertake their assembling, installation and commissioning. The design parameters for the various components termed “proprietary information” or data are often not disclosed, making it difficult for the Nigerian engineer to carry out proper maintenance work on the plant. This invariably means that the Nigerian engineers are left in the dark as regards the true performance of the power stations in their care. This lack of knowledge of the design parameters of the major components of this plant and a poor maintenance culture have resulted in many units breaking down and hence requiring the attention of manufacturers.

When designing a new compressor, a good start is to create a preliminary design for the compressor. A good model can be generated by just a handful of design specifications.

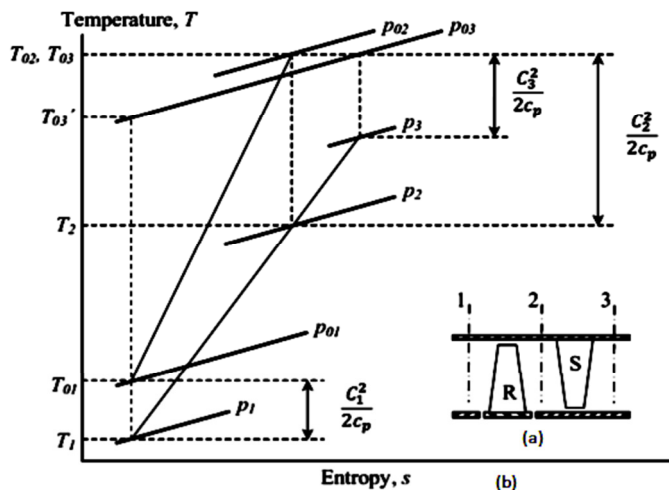


Figure 1: Compressor stage and T-s diagram

The modeling techniques used are based on thermodynamic and aerodynamic correlations. This base design will make up for about 60 – 70% of the finished design [2]. In this first stage of designing a new compressor, designs that would not work or have poor efficiency can be improved, therefore, creating a base design for an existing compressor, such as in GT-II. This will help the Nigerian engineer understand the compressor better, with a view to manufacturing a compressor or even the entire gas turbine in the country as enunciated in [3].

The performance of a gas turbine plant is a function of how well the three major components (compressor, combustion chamber and turbine) are designed. Creating a good and simple compressor base design will go a long way in improving the performance and efficiency of the gas turbine. This work is aimed at providing a simple but reliable method of carrying out a preliminary design of an axial flow compressor. The objective is to open up the otherwise shut doors to the design parameters of an axial flow compressor and to encourage the Nigerian engineer, especially those in the field of thermal power, to attempt the detailed design and modeling of an axial flow compressor. Dixon [4] and Saravanamutto et al. [5] have thoroughly treated the fundamentals and theory of axial flow compressors which are considered in this paper.

Many researchers have conducted various works on the design of axial flow compressors [6-12]. These are foreign research works that are suitable for the weather conditions in locations where the studies were carried out. A country such as Nigeria that is currently committing huge investments on building gas turbine power plants should motivate her

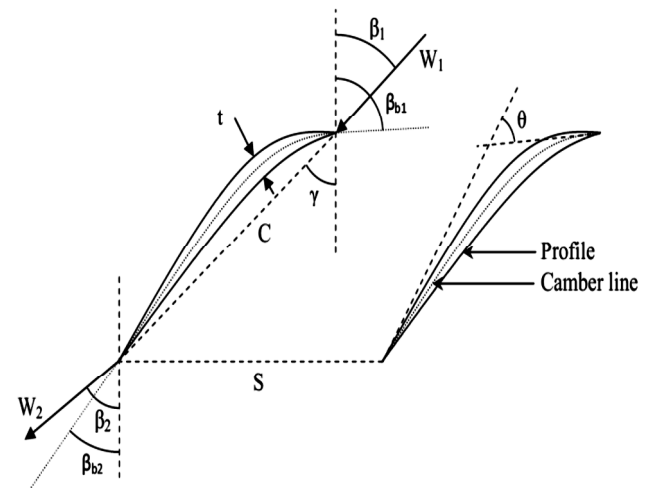


Figure 2: Compressor cascade geometry

engineers to embark on research work entailing the design, manufacture, installation, optimal operation and maintenance of these plants[1].

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Data Gathering

In designing a new compressor, a number of parameters must be chosen to specify the geometry and operating conditions for the compressor. Likewise in creating a base design, these parameters must be gathered. Data used for this work were collected by the authors from plant operating manuals, drawings and from a General Electric performance engineer (B. Kazeem, personal communication, June 2012). Some data were also taken from those engraved on the compressor.

2.2 Compressor Stage

A compressor stage is defined as a rotor row followed by a stator row. Multistage axial compressors may have as many as twenty stages [13] in some applications, making the machine rather lengthy. The rotor blades are fixed to the rotor drum and the stator blades to the casing. The inlet guide vanes are not regarded as part of the first compressor stage and are treated separately [4, 5]. All the power is absorbed in the rotor and the stator transforms the kinetic energy which has been absorbed by the rotor into an increase in static pressure. The stagnation temperature remains constant throughout the stator, since there is no work fed into the fluid. Figure 1a shows a sketch of a typical compressor stage with R indicating the rotor row and S the stator row. Figure 1b is the T-s diagram for the stage. Figure 2 illustrates the cascade geometry.

2.3 Calculation Procedure

The calculation procedure for the preliminary design of axial flow compressor consists of five major steps as follows:

- i) Inlet geometry calculations
- ii) Compressor exit geometry and temperature rise calculations
- iii) Stage by stage design calculations
- iv) Calculations of air angles from root to tip
- v) Blade design calculations.

Tables 1 and 2 show the input parameters used to carry out the preliminary design calculations for the axial flow compressor. Figure 3 is a flow chart illustrating the calculation procedure

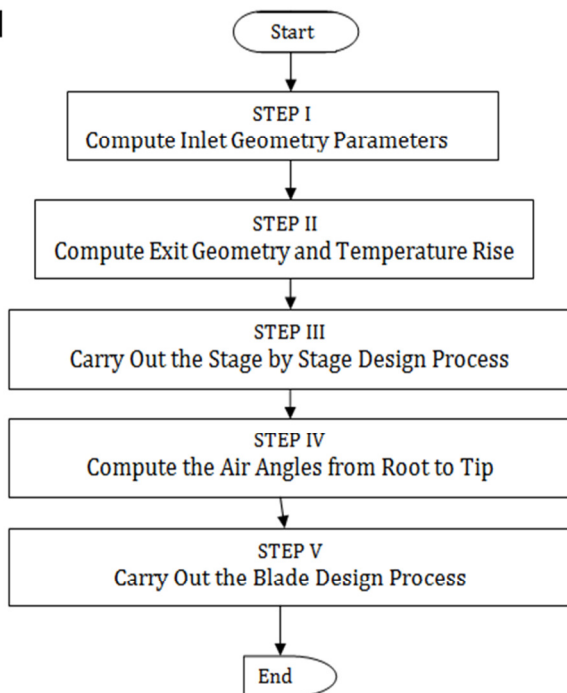


Figure 3: Calculation Procedure

Table 1: Main specification input parameters

Main Specification	
Type of compressor design	CMD
Mass flow	144.57kg/s
Number of stages	17
Pressure ratio	12.2
Rotational speed	5163rpm
Degree of reaction at mean radius	0.55
Inlet flow angle	15°
Stage flow coefficient	0.65
Root tip ratio	0.5
Ambient air temperature	15°C
Ambient pressure	1.01325bar
Polytropic efficiency	0.90

Table 2: Detailed specification input parameters

Detailed Specification	First Stage		Last Stage	
	Rotor	Stator	Rotor	Stator
Aspect Ratio, <i>AR</i>	2.4	3.7	1	1
Thickness Chord Ratio, <i>t/c</i>	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Work Done Factor, <i>λ</i>	0.98	0.98	0.83	0.83
Tip Clearance, <i>ε/c</i>	0.02	0	0.02	0

2.3.1 Step I: Inlet Geometry

To be able to determine the inlet geometry, the inlet flow velocity, *C_a*, must be known. Since this velocity is unknown, an iterative process must be used. By assuming the value of *C_a*, and using (1) to (9), a new inlet flow velocity can be calculated. This value is then compared with assumed value and the calculation is repeated until convergence is obtained. The calculation procedure is illustrated in Figure 4.

$$C = \frac{C_a}{\cos \alpha} \tag{1}$$

$$T = T_0 - \frac{C^2}{2c_p} \tag{2}$$

$$p = p_o \left(\frac{T}{T_0} \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} \tag{3}$$

$$\rho = \frac{p}{R T} \tag{4}$$

$$r_t = \left[\frac{\dot{m}}{\pi \rho C_a \left(1 - \frac{r_r}{r_t} \right)^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{5}$$

$$r_r = r_t \cdot \frac{r_r}{r_t}, \tag{6}$$

$$r_{rms} = \left(\frac{r_t^2 + r_r^2}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \tag{7}$$

$$U_{rms} = \frac{2\pi r_{rms} RPM}{60} \tag{8}$$

$$C_{a,new} = U_{rms} \phi \tag{9}$$

2.3.2 Step II: Compressor Exit Geometry and Stage Temperature Rise

With respect to Figure 1a, Figure 5 shows the velocity diagrams for flow entering and leaving the rotor. With the inlet geometry estimated, it is instructive now to estimate the annulus dimensions at exit from the compressor, and for these preliminary calculations it will be assumed that the mean radius is kept constant for all stages.

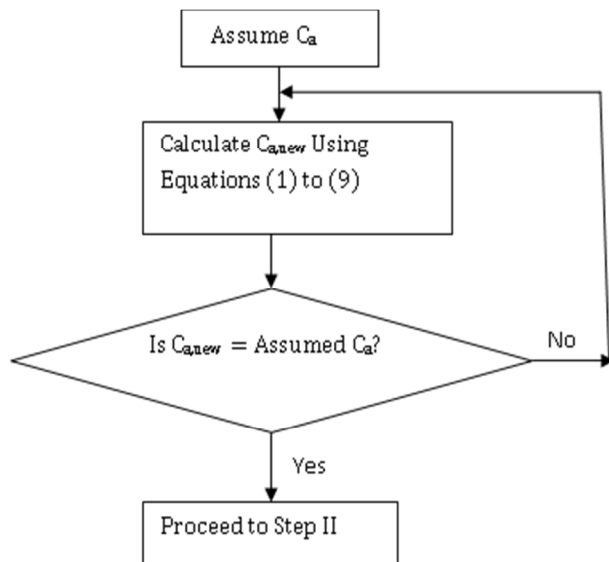


Figure 4: Step I calculation procedure

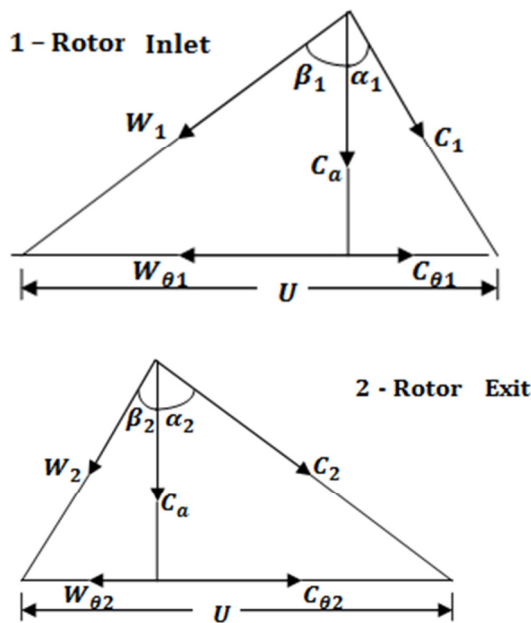


Figure 5: Velocity diagrams for flow at rotor inlet and exit

The compressor delivery pressure,

$$p_{0exit} = p_{01} \times r_p \tag{10}$$

To estimate the compressor exit temperature, a polytropic efficiency of 0.9 is assumed for the compressor [5]. Thus:

$$T_{0exit} = T_{01} \left(\frac{p_{02}}{p_{01}} \right)^{\frac{n-1}{n}} \tag{11}$$

$$\frac{n-1}{n} = \frac{1}{\eta_{poly}} \frac{\gamma-1}{\gamma} \tag{12}$$

The static temperature (T_{exit}), pressure (p_{exit}) and density (ρ_{exit}) at exit can readily be calculated using (2), (3) and (4) respectively.

The exit annulus area (A_{exit}) is given by (13);

$$A_{exit} = \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho_{exit} C_a} \tag{13}$$

The mean radius (r_m) is given by (14)

$$r_m = \frac{r_t + r_r}{2} \tag{14}$$

The blade height at exit, (H_{exit}) is computed using (15)

$$H_{exit} = \frac{A_{exit}}{2\pi r_m} \tag{15}$$

The radii at exit from the last section are calculated using (16) and (17).

$$r_t = r_m + \frac{H_{exit}}{2} \tag{16}$$

$$r_r = r_m - \frac{H_{exit}}{2} \tag{17}$$

The overall stagnation temperature rise through the compressor is calculated using (18).

$$\Delta T_0 = T_{0exit} - T_{01} \tag{18}$$

The average stage temperature rise ΔT_{0s} is calculated using (19).

$$\Delta T_{0s} = \frac{\Delta T_0}{N} \tag{19}$$

In (19), N is the number of stages

The parameters calculated using (10) to (19) are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Some computer parameters from step II

Temperature (K)	Height/radius (m)
T_{0exit}	637.5
T_{exit}	624.2
ΔT_0	349.4
ΔT_{0s}	20.55
Exit parameters	
p_{0exit} (bar)	12.362
p_{exit} (bar)	11.480
A_{exit} (m ²)	0.1378
ρ_{exit} (kg/m ³)	6.408

2.3.3 Step III: Stage By Stage Design

The evaluation of blade speed, U , at the mean radius is calculated using (20). This is constant throughout the entire compressor stages

$$U = \frac{2\pi r_m RPM}{60} \tag{20}$$

Equation (21) which is stated in [5] is used to calculate the change in swirl velocity ΔC_θ .

$$\Delta C_\theta = \frac{c_p \Delta T_{0s}}{\lambda U} \tag{21}$$

Equations (22) to (28) can be obtained by analyzing Figure 5 trigonometrically.

$$C_{\theta 1} = C_a \tan \alpha_1 \tag{22}$$

$$C_{\theta 2} = \Delta C_\theta + C_{\theta 1} \tag{23}$$

$$\beta_1 = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{U - C_{\theta 1}}{C_a} \right) \quad (24)$$

$$\beta_2 = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{U - C_{\theta 2}}{C_a} \right) \quad (25)$$

$$\alpha_2 = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{C_{\theta 2}}{C_a} \right) \quad (26)$$

$$W_1 = \frac{C_a}{\cos \beta_1} \quad (27)$$

$$W_2 = \frac{C_a}{\cos \beta_2} \quad (28)$$

The de Haller number for the rotor (dH_{rotor}) is given by (29)

$$dH_{rotor} = \frac{W_2}{W_1} \quad (29)$$

The relationship between the stagnation pressure p_0 and stagnation temperature T_0 across the rotor is given by (30)

$$p_{02} = p_{01} \left(\frac{T_{02}}{T_{01}} \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} \quad (30)$$

Equation (31) which is stated in [5] can be used to calculate the stagnation pressure of air at end of the first stage of compression p_{03} .

$$p_{03} = \left(p_{01} + \frac{\eta_s \Delta T_{0s}}{T_{01}} \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} \quad (31)$$

where, η_s is the stage isentropic efficiency.

The temperature of the air at the end of the first stage of compression T_{03} is given by (32).

$$T_{03} = T_{01} + \Delta T_{0s} \quad (32)$$

The local sonic velocity, a , is given by (33).

$$a = \sqrt{\gamma RT} \quad (33)$$

The local Mach number for the flow, M is given by (34).

$$M = \frac{W}{a} \quad (34)$$

The relationship between the pressure rise coefficient κ and de Haller number,

dH , which is derived in [3] is given by (35).

$$\kappa = 1 - (dH)^2 \quad (35)$$

The relationship between the pitch chord ratio, s/c , to κ which is stated in [14] is given by (36).

$$\frac{s}{c} = 9(0.567 - \kappa) \quad (36)$$

The diffusion factor DF , which is stated in [2] is given by (37).

$$DF = 1 - \frac{W_2}{W_1} + \frac{|\Delta W_{\theta}|}{2\sigma W_1} \quad (37)$$

$$\Delta W_{\theta} = W_{\theta 2} - W_{\theta 1} \quad (38)$$

where $W_{\theta 1}$ and $W_{\theta 2}$ are the tangential components of W_1 and W_2 as indicated in Figure 5.

The relationship between the stagnation enthalpy h_{01} , h_{02} and h_{03} and stagnation temperature T_{02} and T_{01} is given by (39).

$$h_{03} = h_{02} = h_{01} + c_p (T_{02} - T_{01}) \quad (39)$$

The relationship between static and stagnation parameters of the flow are as follows:

For enthalpy,

$$h = h_0 - \frac{C^2}{2} \quad (40)$$

For pressure,

$$p = p_0 \left(\frac{T}{T_0} \right)^{\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1}} \quad (41)$$

The parameters computed using (20) to (41) are presented in Table 4.

2.3.4 Step IV Computation of Air Angles from Root to Tip

The air angles are computed using a free vortex design method [5]. Considering the first stage the blade speeds at the tip and root, U_{1t} and U_{1r} are computed using (20).

For a free vortex design, $C_{\theta} r = \text{constant}$ is stated in [5].

Thus

$$C_{\theta 1t} = C_{\theta 1} \cdot \frac{r_m}{r_{1t}} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{\theta 1r} = C_{\theta 1} \cdot \frac{r_m}{r_{1r}} \quad (42)$$

The angles β_{1t} and β_{1r} can be computed using (24).

The stagnation temperature and pressure at exit from the first stage, which were computed to be 306.15 K and 1.189bar respectively, can be seen in Table 4.

The stator exit parameters C_3 , T_3 , p_3 , ρ_3 , A_3 , H_3 , r_{3t} and r_{3r} which can be seen in Table 5 where computed using (1), (2), (3), (4), (13), (15), (16) and (17) respectively.

With negligible error it can be assumed that the radii at exit from rotor blades are the mean of those at rotor inlet and stator exit [5].

$$r_{2t} = \left(\frac{r_{1t} + r_{3t}}{2} \right) \quad (43)$$

$$r_{2r} = \left(\frac{r_{1r} + r_{3r}}{2} \right) \quad (44)$$

Table 4: Some computed parameters from step III

Velocity (m/s)	Ratio	Enthalpy (kJ/kg)			
U	238.98	dH_{rotor}	0.792	h_{01}	289.59
ΔC_{θ}	77.24	M_1	0.7678	h_{02}	307.68
$C_{\theta 1}$	43.87	M_2	0.5957	h_1	275.22
$C_{\theta 2}$	121.11	K	0.3726	h_2	286.94
W_1	254.72	s/c	1.7495	h_3	292.34
W_2	201.75	DF	0.4732		
a_1	331.71				
a_2	338				
Other parameters					
p_{03} (bar)	1.1894				
p_{02} (bar)	1.2263				
p_2 (bar)	0.9811				
β_1 (°)	49.5				
β_2 (°)	35.75				
α_1 (°)	36.49				
T_{03} (K)	306.15				

Table 5: Computed parameter from step IV

Height or Radius (m)	Velocity (m/s)		
r_{1t}	0.5874	U_{1t}	318.64
r_{1r}	0.2947	U_{1r}	159.32
r_{2t}	0.5824	$C_{\theta 1t}$	32.91
r_{2r}	0.3016	$C_{\theta 1r}$	65.81
r_{3t}	0.5755	C_3	175.11
r_{3r}	0.3086		
H_3	0.2669		
Other parameters			
β_{1t} (°)	60.19		
β_{1r} (°)	29.73		
p_3 (bar)	0.9945		
T_3 (K)	290.89		
ρ_3 (kg/m ³)	1.191		
A_3 (m ²)	0.7412		

The parameters computed in Step IV are shown in Table 5.

The blade tip and root values of U at exit from the rotor (U_{2t} and U_{2r}) are 314.885m/s and 163.079m/s while the corresponding values for the swirl velocities ($C_{\theta 2t}$ and $C_{\theta 2r}$) are 91.92m/s and 177.486m/s respectively.

The stator inlet, rotor exit and deflection angles calculated using (24), (25) and (26) are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Stator inlet, rotor exit and deflection angles

Angles	Values
α_{2t}	29.31°
α_{2r}	47.31°
β_{2t}	53.71°
β_{2r}	-5.03°
$\beta_{1t} - \beta_{2t}$	6.48°
$\beta_1 - \beta_2$	14.25°
$\beta_{1r} - \beta_{2r}$	34.76°

The degree of reaction (Λ) as stated in [5] is given by (45).

$$\Lambda = 1 - \frac{1}{R^2} (1 - \Lambda_m) \tag{45}$$

where the radius ratio, $R = \frac{r_2}{r_m}$ and Λ_m is indicated in Table 1.

The degrees of reaction for blade tip and root calculated using (45) are 0.741 and 0.443 respectively.

The entire stage is now fully defined. This process is repeated for the remaining stages.

2.3.5 Step V: Blade Design

In designing the blade, an iteration procedure is needed to calculate the blade angles. An initial value is assumed for the blade camber angle θ . Using this value of θ and empirical correlations taken from [2, 15], the incidence angle i , deviation angle δ are computed. From the incidence and deviation angles, a new value of θ is calculated and compared with the assumed value. This is then repeated until convergence is obtained.

The next thing is to determine the chord length which depends on the pitch, which itself is clearly dependent on the number of blades, N , in the row. When making a choice for this number, the aspect ratio of the blade has to be considered because of its effect on secondary losses.

The chord length is given by:

$$c = \frac{H}{AR} \tag{46}$$

Hence for values of blade height H and aspect ratio AR of 0.2947m and 2.4 respectively,

$$c_{rotor} = \frac{0.2947}{2.4} = 0.11279m$$

$$S_{rotor} = \left(\frac{S}{c}\right)_{rotor} \times c_{rotor} = 0.21482m \tag{47}$$

$$N_{rotor} = \frac{2\pi r_m}{S_{rotor}} = 12.93 \tag{48}$$

It is desirable to avoid numbers with common multiples for the blades in successive rows to reduce the likelihood of introducing resonant forcing frequencies. One method of doing this is to choose an even number for the stator blades and prime numbers for the rotor blades. An appropriate number for the rotor blades in this stage would therefore be 13; calculation in the reverse order gives

$S_{rotor} = 0.214m$, $C_{rotor} = 0.122m$ and $AR_{rotor} = 2.413$. The same process is followed for the stator row to give $C_{stator} = 0.07625m$, $S_{stator} = 0.21015m$ and $N_{stator} = 13.21535$

The corrections then become: $N_{stator} = 14$, $S_{stator} = 0.198m$, $C_{stator} = 0.0720m$ and $AR_{rotor} = 3.708$

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Results

The results of the preliminary design calculations are presented in Tables 7 to 11 and Figure 6. The static and stagnation properties of the air at various stages of the compressor, which were calculated using the computer program that was written based on the formulated algorithm are shown in Tables 7 and 8 respectively.

Table 7: Static properties

Stage	T ₁ K	T ₂ K	T ₃ K	p ₁ bar	p ₂ bar	p ₃ bar	h ₁ kJ/kg	h ₂ kJ/kg	h ₃ kJ/kg	ρ ₁ kg/m ³	ρ ₃ kg/m ³
1	273.85	285.51	290.89	0.84794	0.98117	0.99453	275.22	286.94	292.34	1.0789	1.1912
2	290.89	302.16	311.92	0.99453	1.13602	1.24140	292.34	303.67	313.48	1.1912	1.3867
3	311.92	323.09	332.94	1.24140	1.40418	1.52712	313.48	324.71	334.61	1.3867	1.5981
4	332.94	344.03	353.97	1.52712	1.71258	1.85476	334.61	345.75	355.74	1.5981	1.8257
5	353.97	364.96	375.00	1.85475	2.06424	2.22740	355.74	366.78	376.87	1.8257	2.0696
6	375.00	385.89	396.03	2.22740	2.46219	2.64822	376.87	387.82	398.012	2.0696	2.3299
7	396.03	406.81	417.05	2.64822	2.90931	3.12016	398.01	408.84	419.18	2.3299	2.6066
8	417.05	427.75	438.08	3.12016	3.40929	3.64659	419.14	429.88	440.27	2.6066	2.9003
9	438.08	448.67	459.11	3.64659	3.96463	4.23064	440.27	450.92	461.40	2.9003	3.2107
10	459.11	469.60	480.14	4.23064	4.57867	4.87551	461.40	471.94	482.54	3.2107	3.5381
11	480.14	490.52	501.17	4.87550	5.25457	5.58444	482.54	492.97	503.67	3.5381	3.8825
12	501.17	511.44	522.20	5.58444	5.99548	6.36070	503.67	514.00	524.81	3.8825	4.2441
13	522.20	532.36	543.23	6.36070	6.80461	7.20757	524.81	535.02	545.94	4.2441	4.6230
14	543.23	553.27	564.26	7.20757	7.68515	8.12834	545.94	556.04	567.08	4.6230	5.0193
15	564.26	574.19	585.29	8.12834	8.64034	9.12633	567.08	577.06	588.21	5.0193	5.4330
16	585.29	595.10	621.14	9.12633	9.67339	11.10543	588.21	598.08	624.25	5.4330	6.2296
17	606.4	616.22	642.60	10.20977	10.80052	12.36165	624.25	619.30	645.82	5.8664	6.7027

Table 8: Stagnation properties

Stage	p ₀₃ /p ₀₁	p ₀₃ bar	p ₀₂ bar	T ₀₂ =T ₀₃ K	h ₀₁ kJ/kg	h ₀₂ =h ₀₃ kJ/kg
1	1.17381	1.18936	1.25263	306.15	289.59	307.68
2	1.23326	1.46679	1.50023	327.15	307.68	328.79
3	1.21723	1.78542	1.82363	348.15	328.79	349.89
4	1.20325	2.14831	2.19164	369.15	349.89	371.00
5	1.19096	2.55855	2.60734	390.15	371.00	392.10
6	1.18007	3.01926	3.07386	411.15	392.10	413.21
7	1.17035	3.53358	3.59435	432.15	413.21	434.31
8	1.16162	4.10470	4.17197	453.15	434.31	455.42
9	1.15375	4.73579	4.80993	474.15	455.42	476.52
10	1.14660	5.43007	5.51145	495.15	476.52	497.63
11	1.14009	6.19078	6.27975	516.15	497.63	518.73
12	1.13413	7.02117	7.11810	537.15	518.73	539.84

Stage	p_{03}/p_{01}	p_{03} bar	p_{02} bar	$T_{02}=T_{03}$ K	h_{01} kJ/kg	$h_{02}=h_{03}$ kJ/kg
13	1.12866	7.92453	8.02978	558.15	539.84	560.94
14	1.12362	8.90415	9.01808	579.15	560.94	582.05
15	1.11896	9.96334	10.08633	600.15	582.05	603.15
16	1.11463	11.10544	11.23785	621.15	603.15	624.26
17	1.11313	12.36165	12.50722	642.60	624.26	645.82

Table 9: Variation of air angles from root to tip

Stage	α_1			α_2			β_1			β_2		
	Tip	Mean	Root	Tip	Mean	Root	Tip	Mean	Root	Tip	Mean	Root
1	11.36	15.00	21.90	29.31	36.49	47.31	60.19	50.00	29.73	53.71	35.75	-5.03
2	16.23	20.76	28.50	36.12	43.06	52.41	58.14	47.21	25.45	48.73	27.70	-13.99
3	16.64	20.63	26.94	37.03	43.14	51.04	56.99	47.28	29.80	46.63	27.58	-7.44
4	16.97	20.50	25.75	37.81	43.22	49.98	56.00	47.35	32.97	44.75	27.46	-2.26
5	17.23	20.36	24.80	38.49	43.30	49.16	55.17	47.42	35.37	43.08	27.34	1.84
6	17.42	20.22	24.03	39.08	43.39	48.51	54.45	47.50	37.24	41.57	27.22	5.11
7	17.56	20.06	23.36	39.60	43.48	48.00	53.84	47.58	38.74	40.21	27.08	7.72
8	17.68	19.94	22.82	40.06	43.56	47.57	53.31	47.64	39.94	39.01	26.96	9.88
9	17.75	19.79	22.33	40.47	43.64	47.24	52.86	47.72	40.95	37.91	26.83	11.64
10	17.79	19.64	21.89	40.84	43.73	46.97	52.48	47.80	41.80	36.91	26.69	13.08
11	17.80	19.48	21.50	41.18	43.82	46.75	52.15	47.87	42.53	36.00	26.55	14.29
12	17.79	19.33	21.13	41.49	43.92	46.58	51.87	47.95	43.16	35.16	26.41	15.30
13	17.76	19.16	20.79	41.78	44.01	46.44	51.62	48.04	43.72	34.40	26.27	16.14
14	17.72	19.00	20.47	42.05	44.11	46.33	51.42	48.12	44.21	33.69	26.12	16.85
15	17.65	18.83	20.17	42.30	44.20	46.25	51.25	48.20	44.64	33.03	25.96	17.45
16	17.57	18.66	19.88	42.58	44.30	46.13	51.10	48.29	45.04	32.25	25.81	18.20
17	17.02	17.99	19.09	43.08	44.68	46.37	51.18	48.61	45.68	31.32	25.21	18.08

Table 10: de Haller number, static pressure rise coefficient and diffusion factor

Stages	dH_{rotor}	dH_{stator}	K_{rotor}	K_{stator}	DF
1	0.792	0.860	0.373	0.261	0.473
2	0.767	0.781	0.411	0.391	0.497
3	0.765	0.779	0.414	0.393	0.496
4	0.764	0.777	0.417	0.396	0.495
5	0.762	0.776	0.420	0.399	0.494
6	0.760	0.774	0.423	0.401	0.493
7	0.758	0.772	0.426	0.404	0.492
8	0.756	0.770	0.429	0.407	0.491
9	0.754	0.768	0.432	0.410	0.490
10	0.752	0.766	0.435	0.413	0.488
11	0.750	0.765	0.438	0.415	0.487
12	0.748	0.763	0.441	0.418	0.485
13	0.746	0.761	0.444	0.421	0.483
14	0.744	0.759	0.447	0.424	0.481
15	0.741	0.757	0.450	0.428	0.479
16	0.739	0.752	0.454	0.434	0.477
17	0.731	0.748	0.466	0.441	0.469

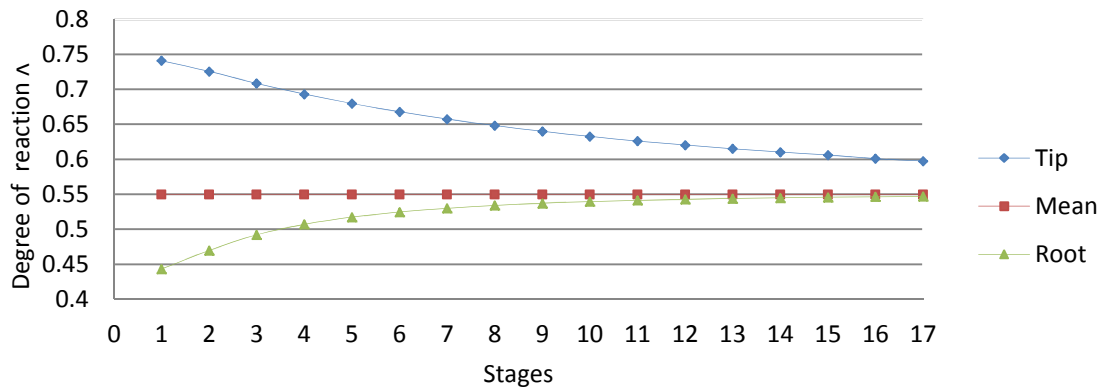


Figure 6: Variation of degrees of reaction ratios

Table 11: Blade geometry

Stage	N _{rotor}	S _{rotor} m	C _{rotor} m	AR _{rotor}	N _{stator}	S _{stator} m	C _{stator} m	AR _{stator}	i _{ref}	δ _(i=iref)	β _{b1}	β _{b2}	θ
1	13	0.214	0.122	2.413	14	0.198	0.072	3.708	-7.21	16.23	57.20	19.52	37.68
2	17	0.163	0.117	2.287	26	0.107	0.067	3.409	-5.91	12.76	53.12	14.94	38.18
3	19	0.146	0.106	2.157	28	0.099	0.063	3.138	-5.78	12.47	53.06	15.12	37.94
4	23	0.121	0.089	2.224	32	0.087	0.056	3.091	-5.64	12.18	52.99	15.29	37.70
5	27	0.103	0.077	2.242	34	0.082	0.054	2.851	-5.49	11.89	52.92	15.45	37.46
6	29	0.096	0.074	2.082	38	0.073	0.049	2.783	-5.34	11.60	52.84	15.62	37.22
7	31	0.090	0.071	1.933	40	0.069	0.047	2.573	-5.17	11.28	52.75	15.80	36.95
8	37	0.075	0.060	2.023	42	0.066	0.046	2.389	-5.03	11.02	52.67	15.94	36.73
9	37	0.075	0.062	1.779	44	0.063	0.045	2.221	-4.86	10.73	52.58	16.10	36.48
10	31	0.068	0.057	1.741	46	0.060	0.043	2.069	-4.69	10.44	52.48	16.25	36.23
11	41	0.068	0.058	1.543	48	0.058	0.042	1.930	-4.50	10.15	52.38	16.41	35.97
12	43	0.065	0.057	1.439	50	0.056	0.042	1.803	-4.31	9.86	52.27	16.55	35.71
13	47	0.059	0.053	1.403	50	0.056	0.042	1.622	-4.11	9.57	52.15	16.70	35.45
14	47	0.059	0.055	1.255	50	0.056	0.043	1.463	-3.90	9.27	52.02	16.84	35.17
15	49	0.057	0.054	1.172	50	0.056	0.044	1.323	-3.67	8.98	51.88	16.98	34.89
16	51	0.054	0.053	1.096	52	0.053	0.045	1.146	-3.44	8.69	51.72	17.12	34.60
17	57	0.049	0.054	1.011	52	0.053	0.047	1.007	-2.43	7.63	51.05	17.58	33.46

Table 12: Validation of Results

	Calculated		GTII 27°C ambient
	15°C ambient	27°C ambient	
Overall stagnation temperature rise, ΔT ₀	354.46°C	368.98°C	375.88°C
Compressor work done, WD	51.5MW	53.6MW	54.6MW
Total to Total efficiency, η _{tt}	0.86	0.86	

3.2 Discussion

Table 7 indicates the values of the static properties as the flow progresses from stage 1 to stage 17 of the axial flow compressor. The values of the static pressure (p), enthalpy (h) and density (ρ) of the air increase gradually across the compressor stages. These rises in static pressure and enthalpy are the result of the transfer and transformation of kinetic

energy. The static property rises are as expected in the behavior of a compressor cascade as the rotor and stator blades are designed to diffuse the working fluid (air).

Table 8 indicates the stagnation properties of the air across the entire compressor stages. The stagnation pressures in the rotor (p₀₂) and stator (p₀₃) blades as well as the stagnation temperature (T₀₂ or T₀₃) increase across the length of the compressor cascade. This indicates that there is work done by the compressor on the working fluid.

Table 9 indicates the values of the air angles α₁, α₂, β₁ and β₂ at the tip, mean and root of the rotor radii for the entire stages 1to 17 of axial flow compressor.

Table 10 shows the values of de Haller number, static pressure rise coefficient (κ) and rotor diffusion factor for flow through the compressor. The de Haller

number in the rotor or stator varies from 0.731 to 0.86. These values are greater than 0.72 which is the recommended minimum value for a good design with minimum likelihood for boundary layer growth and wall stall [16, 17]. An examination of Figure 10 shows a sharp increase in the value of κ occurs in both the stator and rotor between stages 1 and 2. This sharp increase will result in higher losses and surge in these stages. However, the losses in all other stages in the Korch surge curve are conservative and this agrees closely with the work of [2]. The diffusion factors for the rotor in the various stages are lower than 0.6. Designs of axial flow compressors are usually limited to diffusion factors less than or equal to 0.6 [18].

Figure 6 shows the degree of reaction (Λ) at the root, mean and tip of the rotor radii for entire length of the compressor cascade. The degree of reaction at the root and tip converges towards the Λ_m value of 0.55 at the mean radius as it moves from stage 1 to 17. While the tip degree of reaction reduces across the stages, the root degree of reaction increases. The convergence towards 0.55 of the tip and root degrees of reaction indicates a more uniform load distribution across the compressor cascade.

Table 11 shows various parameters obtained from the blade design calculations. The number of blades (N), pitch (s), chord length (c), aspect ratio (AR) for both rotor and stator are indicated for all stages of the axial flow compressor. The blade camber angle (θ) for each stage is also shown.

Table 12 presents some performance data of the axial flow compressor installed in Omotosho Phase I Gas Turbine Unit II as well as results obtained from the computer program that was written based on the formulated algorithm. The values obtained at 27 °C ambient temperature agrees reasonably well with that obtained from the plant manufacturers. Therefore the algorithm is valid and can be applied to design compressors for similar weather conditions as in Omotosho.

4. CONCLUSION

The paper has presented the development of an algorithm that can be used for the preliminary design of an axial flow compressor of a power generation gas turbine. Various parameters have been considered in the algorithm and the designed compressor is conservative in terms of losses as the de Haller number obtained for both rotor and stator blades along the seventeen stages are greater than the minimum recommended value of 0.72. The diffusion

factor which is a measure of the amount of diffusion was less than 0.6. The power input to the compressor at 27°C ambient air temperature for the preliminary design is 53.6MW which is in good agreement with the value of 54.6MW for the compressor of Unit GT-II in Omotosho Phase I Thermal Power Station. This validates the design procedure and parameters obtained. Data such as stage by stage performance and blade design parameters that were computed in this work are not published in the open literature by manufacturers of gas turbine axial flow compressors. Finally, it must be stated that the successful design of an axial flow compressor is an art, and all major manufacturers of gas turbine compressors have developed a body of knowledge which is kept proprietary for commercial reasons.

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NOMENCLATURE

Symbol	Description
A	Area [m ²]
a	Sonic velocity [m/s]
AR	Aspect ratio
C	Absolute velocity [m/s]
C	Chord length [m]
c _p	Specific heat capacity at constant pressure [kJ/kgK]
DF	Diffusion factor
dH	de Haller number
H	Blade height [m]
h	Static enthalpy [kJ/kg]
h _o	Stagnation enthalpy [kJ/kg]
I	Incidence angle [°]
M	Mach number
m	Mass flow rate [kg/s]
N _b	Number of blades
N _s	Number of stages
n	Index of compression
p	Static pressure [bar]
p _o	Stagnation pressure [bar]
R	Specific gas constant [J/kgK]
RPM	Rotational speed [rev/min]
r	Radius [m]
r _p	Pressure ratio
S	Staggered spacing [m]
s	Specific entropy [kJ/kgK]
T	Static temperature [K]
T _o	Stagnation temperature [K]
t	Maximum blade thickness [m]
U	Blade speed [m/s]
W	Relative velocity [m/s]

Greek Symbols

Symbol	Description
A	Angle between absolute velocity and axial direction [°]
B	Angle between relative velocity and axial direction [°]
Γ	Specific heat capacity ratio
Δ	Change
Δ	Deviation angle [°]
E	End wall clearance [m]
η_p	Polytropic efficiency
Θ	Blade camber angle [°]
K	Pressure rise coefficient
Λ	Degree of reaction
P	Density [kg/m ³]
Σ	Solidity
Φ	Stage flow coefficient

Subscripts

0	Stagnation property
1	Rotor inlet property
2	Rotor outlet or Stator inlet property
3	Stator outlet property
A	Axial component
B	Blade
exit	Axial compressor outlet parameter
M	Mean
R	Root
ref	Reference
rms	Root mean square
S	Stage
T	Tip
Θ	Tangential component

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