

DEPARTMENT OF AUTOMOTIVE AND AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING

NOx Emissions of the 50 Most Used Engines for Passenger Aircraft

Task for a Project (Master studies)

Background

Nitrogen oxide is produced when nitrogen (N) and oxygen (O) are heated. NOx stands for any combination of N and O as explained here in detail. Inhalation of the pure NO and NO2 is rapidly fatal. Nitrogen oxides form by natural and technical combustion processes. Chemically bound nitrogen from fuels (such as kerosene) also reacts with oxygen during combustion to NOx. Elevated levels of nitrogen dioxide can cause damage to the human respiratory tract and can lead to asthma. NOx forms acid rain, smog (haze) and contributes to particulate matter and ozone. At higher altitudes NOx is a potent greenhouse gas. As such, NOx from aircraft lead to local air pollution near airports. NOx emitted at altitude in cruise flight contributes to global warming.

Task

The task of this project is to determine, list and compare the NOx emissions of the 50 most used engines in commercial passenger aircraft. The subtasks are:

- Provide short(!) background information to the task: What are NOx? How do aircraft produce NOx? How do NOx cause damage? How can NOx be reduced? What are the trade-offs in NOx reduction? What are legal NOx limits for aviation?
- Determine the 50 most used engines for passenger aircraft.
- Determine the NOx emissions from the selected aircraft engines: Landing and Take Off Cycle; Cruise.
- Produce statistics: How do NOx emissions compare to legal limits? How do NOx emission depend on other aircraft parameters? Estimate the relationships between parameters with regression analysis.
- Discuss your findings and draw conclusions.

The report has to be written in English based on German or international standards on report writing.