

## An appropriate Method and Analysis for Determination of Energy losses in Compressors

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**Abstract:** This work investigates the energy losses in compressors used in United Nigerian Textile Limited, Kaduna. Simulation was carried out using Hysys simulation software in order to validate the experimental results and simulated results obtained. From the Experiment carried out, it was discovered that the power wasted was 2.563kW. The annual energy and cost savings were found to be 11,700kWh/yr and ₦99450/yr respectively. The exit Temperature and Pressure were recorded as 172.8°C and 412.0kPa. The results are very helpful for validating the performance of any system.

**Significances of the Paper:** Evaluation of energy losses is very vital in determining the economic analysis of energy systems.

**Keywords:** Energy savings, Simulation, Compressor, Isentropic work and Polytropic compression.

### I. Introduction

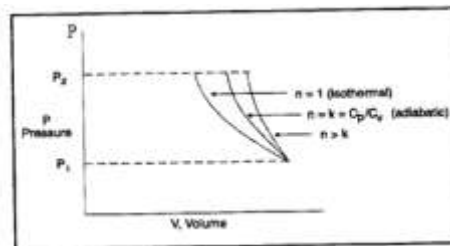
#### 1.1 Basic Calculations

For a compression process, the system pressure P is related to the volume V by:

$$PV^n = \text{Constant} \text{----- (1)}$$

Where:

n = Exponent



**Fig.1** polytropic compression curve

The curve denoted by n=1 is an isothermal compression curve. For an ideal gas undergoing adiabatic compression, n is the ratio of specific heat at constant pressure to that at constant volume, i.e.,

$$n = K = C_p / C_v \text{----- (2.)}$$

Where:

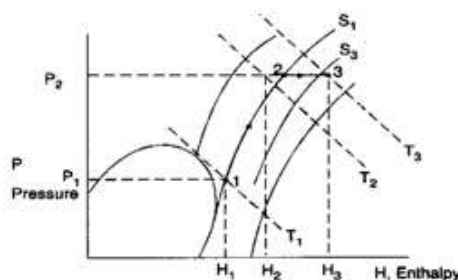
k = Ideal gas isentropic coefficient

c<sub>p</sub> = Specific heat at constant pressure

c<sub>v</sub> = Specific heat at constant volume

For a real gas, n > k.

The Mollier chart (Figure 2) plots the pressure versus the enthalpy, as a function of entropy and temperature. This chart is used to show the methods used to calculate the outlet conditions for the compressor as follows:



**Fig.2:** pressure versus the enthalpy

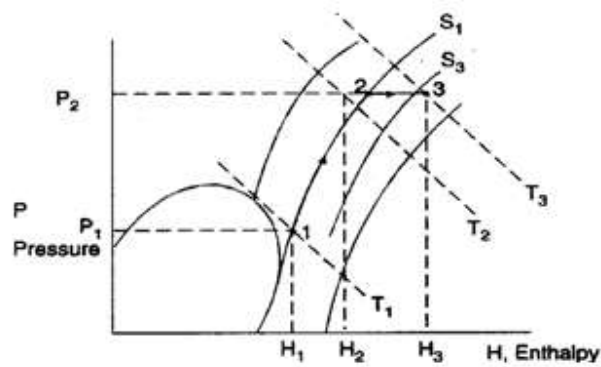


Figure 3 Typical Mollier chart for compression

A flash is performed on the inlet feed at pressure  $P_1$ , and temperature  $T_1$ , using a suitable  $K$ -value and enthalpy method. The entropy  $S_1$ , and enthalpy  $H_1$  are obtained and the point  $(P_1, T_1, S_1, H_1)$  are obtained. The constant entropy line through  $S_1$  is followed until the user-specified outlet pressure is reached. This point represents the temperature ( $T_2$ ) and enthalpy conditions ( $H_2$ ) for an adiabatic efficiency of 100%. The adiabatic enthalpy change  $\Delta H_{ad}$  is given by:

$$\Delta H_{ad} = H_2 - H_1 \text{----- (3)}$$

- If the adiabatic efficiency,  $\gamma_{ad}$ , is given as a value less than 100 %, the actual enthalpy change is calculated from:

$$\Delta H_{ac} = \frac{\Delta H_{ad}}{\gamma_{ad}} \text{----- (4)}$$

- The actual outlet stream enthalpy is then calculated using:

$$H_3 = H_1 + \Delta H_{ac} \text{----- (5)}$$

- Point 3 on the Mollier chart, representing the outlet conditions is then obtained. The phase split of the outlet stream is obtained by performing an equilibrium flash at the outlet conditions.
- The isentropic work ( $W_s$ ) performed by the compressor is computed from:

$$W_s = (H_3 - H_1) \times J = \Delta H_{ac} \times J \text{----- (6)}$$

Where:

$J$  = mechanical equivalent of energy

The isentropic power required is:

$$GHP_{ad} = \Delta H_{ad} \times 778 \times \frac{F}{33000} \text{----- (7)}$$

$$GHP_{ac} = \Delta H_{ac} \times 778 \times \frac{F}{33000} = \frac{GHP_{ad}}{\gamma_{ad}} \text{----- (8)}$$

$$HEAD_{ad} = \Delta H \times 778 \text{----- (9)}$$

Where:

$GHP$  = work, hP

$\Delta H$  = enthalpy change,

$F$  = mass flow rate,

$HEAD_{ad}$  = Adiabatic Head,

The factor 33000 is used to convert the units into horsepower.

The isentropic and polytropic coefficients, polytropic efficiency, and polytropic work can be calculated using one of the two methods; the method from the *GPSA Engineering Data Book*, and the method from the *ASME Power Test Code 10*.

### ASME Method

This method is more rigorous than the default GPSA method, and yields better results over a wider range of compression ratios and feed compositions.

For a real gas, as previously noted, the isentropic volume exponent (also known as the isentropic coefficient),  $n_s$ , is not the same as the compressibility ratio,  $k$ . The ASME method distinguishes between  $k$  and  $n_s$  for a real gas.

**Adiabatic Efficiency Given**

In this method, the isentropic coefficient  $n_s$  is calculated as:

$$n_s = \ln(P_2 / P_1) / \ln(V_1 / V_2) \text{----- (10)}$$

Where:

- $V_1 =$  Volume at the inlet conditions
- $V_2 =$  Volume at the outlet pressure and inlet entropy conditions
- $P_1 =$  Pressure at the inlet conditions
- $P_2 =$  Pressure at the outlet conditions

The compressor work for a real gas is calculated from equation (2.8), and the factor from the following relationship:

$$W_{ac} = 144[n_s / (n_s - 1)] \times f \times P_1 \times V_1 \times [(P_2 / P_1)^{(n_s-1)/n_s} - 1] \text{----- (11)}$$

The ASME factor  $f$  is usually close to 1. For a perfect gas,  $f$  is exactly equal to 1, and the isentropic coefficient  $n_s$  is equal to the compressibility factor  $k$ .

The polytropic coefficient,  $n$ , is defined by:

$$n = \ln(P_2 / P_1) / \ln(V_1 / V_2) \text{----- (12)}$$

The polytropic work, i.e., the reversible work required to compress the gas in a polytropic compression process from die inlet conditions to the discharge conditions is computed using:

$$W_p = 144 \left( \frac{n}{n-1} \times f \times P_1 V_1 \left\{ (P_2 - P_1) \times \frac{n-1}{n} - 1 \right\} \right) \text{----- (13)}$$

Where:

$W_p =$  polytropic work

For ideal or perfect gases, the factor  $f$  is equal to 1. The polytropic efficiency is then calculated by:

$$\gamma_p = \frac{W_s}{W_p} \gamma_p \text{----- (14)}$$

Where  $W_s =$  isentropic work

This polytropic efficiency will not agree with the value calculated using the GPSA method which is computed using  $\gamma_p = \{(n-1)/n\} / \{(k-1)/k\}$ .

**GPSA Method**

This GPSA method is the default method, and is more commonly used in the chemical process industry [9].

In this method, the adiabatic head is calculated from equations above. Once this is calculated, the isentropic coefficient  $k$  is computed by trial and error using:

$$HEAD_{ac} = \{(Z_1 + Z_2) / RT_1 / \{(k-1)\} \left\{ \left( \frac{P_2}{P_1} \right)^{9k-1/k} - 1 \right\} [39] \text{----- (15)}$$

Where:

- $Z_1, Z_2 =$  compressibility factors at the inlet and outlet conditions
- $R =$  gas constant
- $T_1 =$  temperature at inlet conditions.

This trial and error method of computing  $k$  produces inaccurate results when the compression ratio, becomes low. If the calculated compression ratio is less than a value set by the user, the value of  $k$  has to be calculated. If  $k$  does not satisfy  $1.0 \leq k \leq 1.66667$ , the isentropic coefficient, is calculated by trial and error based on the following:

$$T_2 = (Z_1 / Z_2) \times T_1 \times [(P_2 / P_1)^{(k-1)/k} \text{----- (16)}$$

The polytropic compressor equation is given by:

$$HEAD_p = [(Z_1 + Z_2) / 2] \times RT_1 / \{(n-1)/n\} \left\{ (P_2 / P_1)^{(n-1)/n} - 1 \right\}$$

Where  $Head_p$  is polytropic head

The adiabatic head is related to the polytropic head by:

$$\frac{HEAD_{ad}}{\gamma_{ad}} = \frac{HEAD_p}{\gamma_p} \text{----- (17)}$$

The polytropic efficiency  $n$  is calculated by:

$$\gamma_p = [n/(n-1)]/[k/(k-1)]\gamma_p \dots\dots\dots (18)$$

The polytropic coefficient, n, the polytropic efficiency  $\gamma_p$ , and the polytropic head are determined by trial and error method. The polytropic gas horsepower is then given by:

$$GHP_p = HEAD_p \times \frac{F}{33000} \dots\dots\dots (19)$$

### II. Material And Methods

The entropy data needed for these calculations are obtained from a number of entropy calculation methods. These include die Soave-Redlich-Kwong cubic equation of state, and the Curl-Pitzer correlation method. Thermodynamic systems may be used to generate entropy data. User-added subroutines may also be used to generate entropy data. Once the entropy data are generated, the condition of the outlet conditions from the compressor and the compressor power requirements are computed, using either a user-input adiabatic or polytropic efficiency.

### III. Results And Discussion

Table 1: Air Facility Reading for 75KI01

| Time           | Air Inlet Temp.(°c) | Oil Cooler L/D Temp (°c) | Oil Cooler L/D Outlet (°c) | After Air Cool Outlet Temp. (°c) | Turbine Inlet Steam Temp. (°c) | Turbine Inlet Steam Pressure (N/M <sup>2</sup> ) | Turbine Exhaust Pressure (N/M <sup>2</sup> ) |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 8:00 Hr        | 32                  | 52                       | 30                         | 34                               | 400                            | 41   | 17.1   |
| 9:00 Hr        | 30                  | 52                       | 32                         | 34                               | 400                            | 41   | 17.2   |
| 10:00 Hr       | 32                  | 53                       | 31                         | 34                               | 400                            | 42   | 17.3   |
| 11:00 Hr       | 30                  | 53                       | 31                         | 34                               | 400                            | 42   | 16.9   |
| 12:00 Hr       | 33                  | 52                       | 32                         | 34                               | 400                            | 42   | 17.0   |
| 13:00 Hr       | 32                  | 51                       | 32                         | 34                               | 400                            | 41   | 17.2   |
| 14:00 Hr       | 33                  | 51                       | 32                         | 34                               | 400                            | 41   | 17.3   |
| 15:00 Hr       | 33                  | 51                       | 30                         | 34                               | 400                            | 41   | 17.2   |
| 16:00 Hr       | 33                  | 52                       | 32                         | 34                               | 400                            | 42   | 17.2   |
| 17:00 Hr       | 33                  | 52                       | 31                         | 34                               | 400                            | 42   | 17.3   |
| 18:00 Hr       | 33                  | 52                       | 32                         | 34                               | 400                            | 42   | 17.3   |
| <b>Average</b> | <b>32.4</b>         | <b>51.9</b>              | <b>31.4</b>                | <b>34</b>                        | <b>400</b>                     | <b>41.5</b>                                      | <b>17.2</b>                                  |

#### Compressor Heat Loss

Assumption: air is an ideal gas. Steady operating condition exists. There is pressure losses:

$$W_{comp, in} = \frac{nRT_1}{\eta_{comp}(n-1)} \times \left( \left( \frac{P_2}{P_1} \right)^{\frac{(n-1)}{n}} - 1 \right) \dots\dots\dots (20)$$

$$W_{comp, in} = \frac{1.4 \times (0.287) \times 293}{0.8(1.4-1)} \times \left( \left( \frac{801}{101} \right)^{\frac{(0.4)}{1.4}} - 1 \right) = 296.9 KJ / Kg$$

$$A = \pi D^2/4 = \pi (3 \times 10^{-3} m^2)/4 = 7.069 \times 10^{-6} m^2$$

Air leaking through the hole is determined to be

$$m_{air} = C_{discharge} \left( \frac{2}{K+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{(k-1)}} \times \left( \frac{P_{line}}{RT_{line}} \right) A \times \sqrt{KR \left( \frac{2}{K+1} \right) T_{line}}$$

$$m_{air} = 0.65 \left( \frac{2}{1.4+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{(1.4-1)}} \times \left( \frac{801}{0.287 \times 297} \right) 7.069 \times 10^{-6} \times \sqrt{1.4 \times 0.287 \left( \frac{2}{1.4+1} \right) 297}$$

$$= 0.008632 kg/s$$

Then the power wasted by the leaking compressed air becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Power wasted} &= m_{air} \times W_{comp,in} \text{-----} (21) \\
 &= 0.008632 \times 296.9 \\
 &= 2.563\text{kW}
 \end{aligned}$$

The compressor operates for 4200 hours a year, and the motor efficiency is 0.92.

Then the annual energy and cost savings are:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Energy savings} &= \frac{\text{power saved} \times \text{operating hours}}{\eta_{motor}} \\
 &= \frac{2.563\text{kW} \times 4200}{0.92} \\
 &= 11,700\text{kWh/yr}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Cost savings} &= (\text{energy savings}) \times (\text{unit cost of energy}) \\
 &= 11700 \times \text{₹}8.50/\text{wh} \\
 &= \text{₹}99450/\text{yr}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Compressor Simulation Results:**

**Table 2:** compressor simulation

| S/No | Simulated Parameters   | Simulated Values |
|------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1.   | Duty (kW)              | 5.0684e+02       |
| 2.   | Polytropic Exponential | 1.626            |
| 3.   | Adiabatic Efficiency   | 71.72            |
| 4.   | Adiabatic Head (m)     | 7586             |
| 5.   | Isentropic Exponential | 1.402            |
| 6.   | Polytropic Efficiency  | 74.26            |
| 7.   | Polytropic Head (m)    | 7852             |
| 8.   | Polytropic Head Factor | 1.000            |

**Table 3:** Compressor Rating Curves

| S/NO. | Flow (ACT m³/h) | Head (m) | Efficiency (%) |
|-------|-----------------|----------|----------------|
| 1.    | 7812            | 7680     | 69.20          |
| 2.    | 8388            | 7575     | 72.00          |
| 3.    | 8964            | 7841     | 72.48          |
| 4.    | 9504            | 7347     | 72.58          |
| 5.    | 1.008e+004      | 7153     | 73.08          |
| 6.    | 1.062e+004      | 6717     | 72.46          |
| 7.    | 1.120e+004      | 5858     | 69.39          |
| 8.    | 1.148e+004      | 4957     | 62.91          |

**Table 4:** Compressor Flow Limits

| S/NO. | Flow Limits                    |          |
|-------|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1.    | Surge Curve:                   | Inactive |
| 2.    | Speed                          | Flow     |
| 3.    | Stone Wall Curve:              | Inactive |
| 4.    | Field Flow Rate (ACT_m³/h)     | 8330     |
| 5.    | Stone Wall Flow ---            |          |
| 6.    | Compressor Volume (m³)         | 10.00    |
| 7.    | Rotational inertia (kg/m²)     | 6.000    |
| 8.    | Radius of gyration (m)         | 0.2000   |
| 9.    | Mass (kg)                      | 150.0    |
| 10.   | Friction loss factor (rad/min) | 3.000    |

**Table 5:** Compressor inlet Conditions

|                               | Overall    |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Vapour/Phase Fraction         | 1.0000     |
| Temperature: (°C)             | 70.00      |
| Pressure: (kPa)               | 208.0      |
| Molar Flow (kgmol/h)          | 607.7      |
| Mass Flow (kg/h)              | 1.759e+004 |
| Std Ideal Liq Vol Flow (m³/h) | 20.00      |
| Molar Enthalpy (kJ/kgmol)     | 1283       |
| Mass Enthalpy (kJ/kg)         | 44.32      |
| Molar Entropy (kJ/kgmol-°C)   | 116.2      |
| Mass Entropy (kJ/kg-°C)       | 4.015      |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Heat Flow (kJ/h)                                | 7.797e+005 |
| Molar Density (kgmol/m <sup>3</sup> )           | 7.295e-002 |
| Mass Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )               | 2.112      |
| Std Ideal Liq Mass Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | 879.6      |
| Molar Heat Capacity (kJ/kgmol- <sup>0</sup> C)  | 29.00      |
| Mass Heat Capacity (kJ/kg- <sup>0</sup> C)      | 1.002      |
| Thermal Conductivity (W/m-K)                    | 2.775e-002 |
| Viscosity (cP)                                  | 2.093e-002 |
| Molecular Weight                                | 28.95      |
| Z Factor  | 0.9994     |
| Cp/Cv   | 1.406      |
| Act. Vol. Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /h)              | 8330       |

**Table 6:** Compressor Outlet Conditions

|   | <b>Overall</b> |
|---|----------------|
| Vapour/Phase Fraction                           | 1.0000         |
| Temperature: ( <sup>0</sup> C)                  | 172.8          |
| Pressure: (kPa)                                 | 412.0          |
| Molar Flow (kgmol/h)                            | 607.7          |
| Mass Flow (kg/h)                                | 1.759e+004     |
| Std Ideal Liq Vol Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /h)      | 20.00          |
| Molar Enthalpy (kJ/kgmol)                       | 4286           |
| Mass Enthalpy (kJ/kg)                           | 148.0          |
| Molar Entropy (kJ/kgmol- <sup>0</sup> C)        | 118.2          |
| Mass Entropy (kJ/kg- <sup>0</sup> C)            | 4.083          |
| Heat Flow (kJ/h)                                | 2.604e+006     |
| Molar Density (kgmole/m <sup>3</sup> )          | 0.1111         |
| Mass Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )               | 3.215          |
| Std Ideal Liq Mass Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) | 879.6          |
| Molar Heat Capacity (kJ/kgmol- <sup>0</sup> C)  | 29.60          |
| Mass Heat Capacity (kJ/kg- <sup>0</sup> C)      | 1.023          |
| Thermal Conductivity (W/m-K)                    | 3.421e-002     |
| Viscosity (cP)                                  | 2.524e-002     |
| Molecular Weight                                | 28.95          |
| Z Factor  | 1.000          |
| Cp/Cv   | 1.395          |
| Act. Vol. Flow (m <sup>3</sup> /h)              | 5471           |

**Table 7:** Compressor Sizing Input Details

**Unit operation type: Compressor**  
**Equipment type: Gas Compressor – Centrifugal Horizontal**  
**Compressor sizing input Details**

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Operating capacity         | 17591.48kg/h |
| Operating adiabatic head   | 7585.53m     |
| Operating polytropic head  | 7852.30m     |
| Adiabatic efficiency       | 71.7188      |
| Polytropic efficiency      | 74.2551      |
| Operating gas power        | 506.84 kW    |
| Capacity overdesign factor | 1,1000       |
| Head overdesign factor     | 1,1000       |

**Table 8:** Compressor Sizing Data Output

**Unit operation type: Compressor**  
**Equipment type: Gas Compressor – Centrifugal Horizontal**  
**Compressor sizing input Details**

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Design capacity        | 19350.63kg/h |
| Design adiabatic head  | 8344.1m      |
| Design polytropic head | 8637.5m      |
| Gas power              | 613.16kW     |
| Mechanical losses      | 10.93kW      |
| Design power           | 624.09kW     |
| Driver power           | 900hp        |

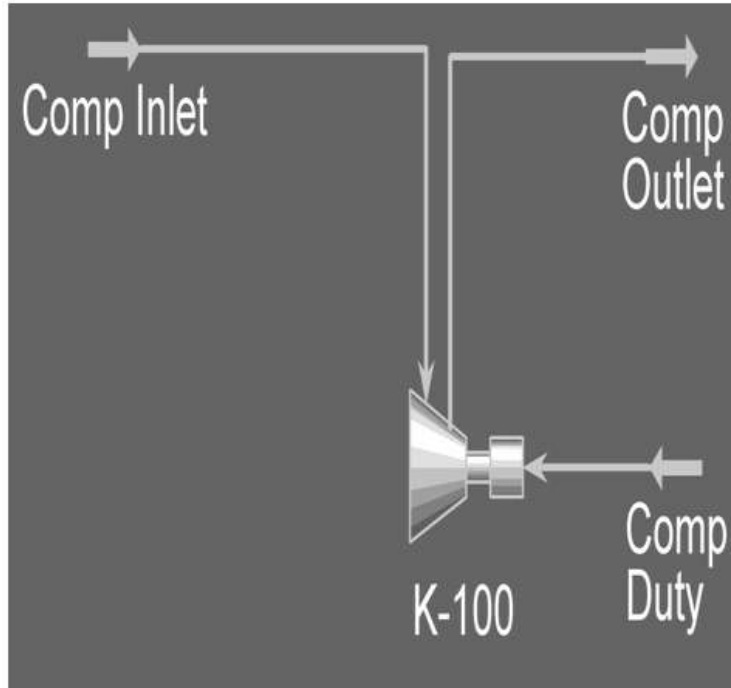


Figure .4: Compressor

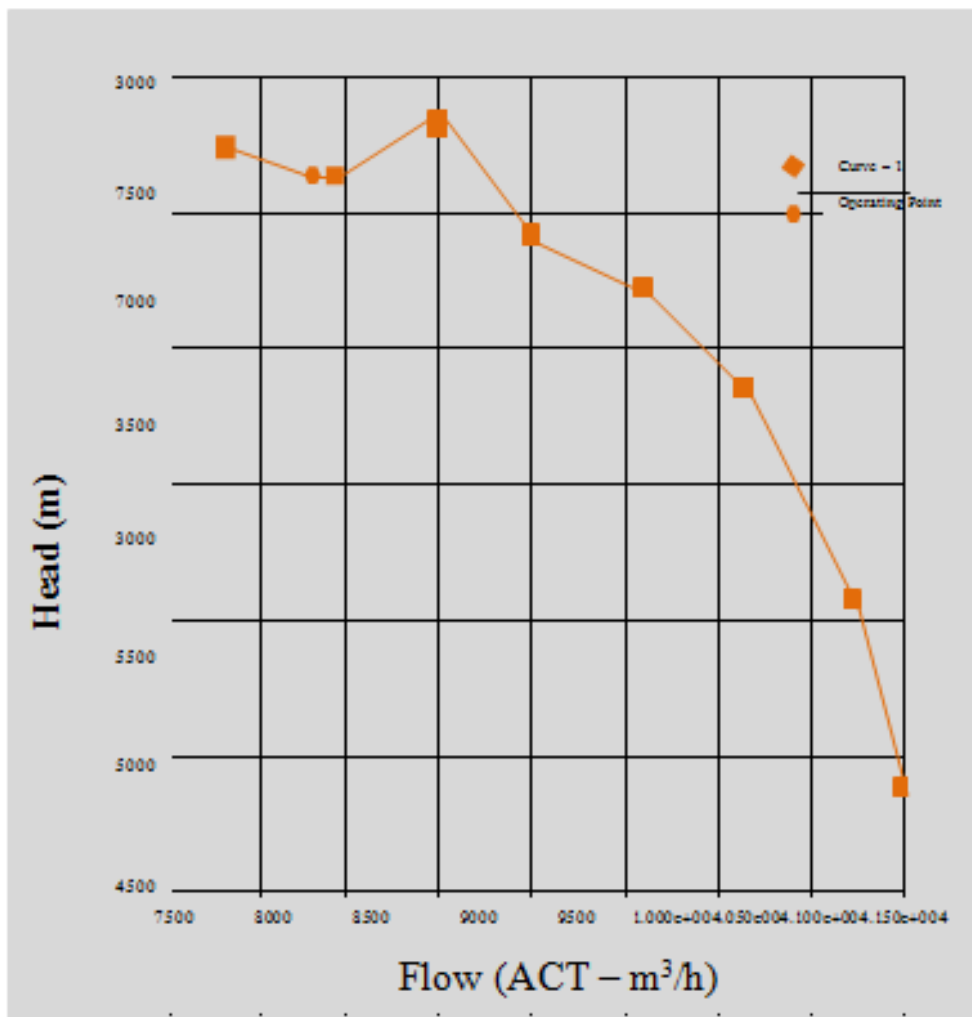


Figure 5: Head Curves of the Compressor

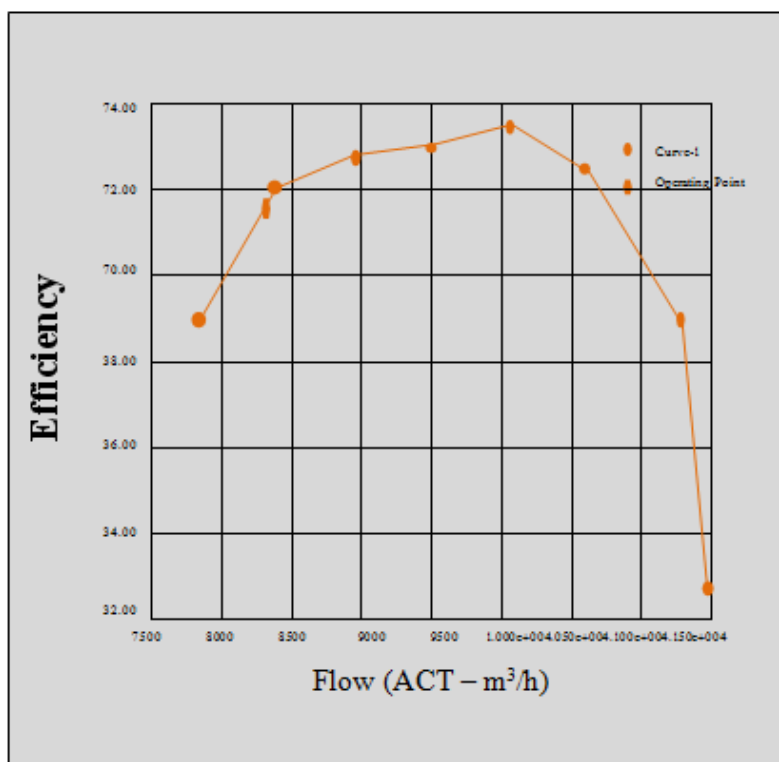


Fig. 6: Variation of Efficiency with Flow

#### IV. Discussion Of Results

##### Simulated Results

From figure 6 (efficiency curves of the compressor) the efficiency increases when the flow (m<sup>3</sup>/h) is high and reduces when the level of the flow (m<sup>3</sup>/h) decreases.

From table 2 the adiabatic efficiency was found to be 71.7% while the polytropic efficiency was 74.3%.

Also from table 4 (compressor flow limits) the friction loss factor was found to be 3.00 rad/min.

From the head curves of the compressor (figure 5), the head decreases when the flow (m<sup>3</sup>/h) increases.

The efficiency increases when the flow (m<sup>3</sup>/h) increases as shown in figure 6.

#### V. Conclusion

This work set out to achieve the main goal of exploring ways for an effective energy saving which is expected to reduce energy cost, generate higher profit and increase capacity utilization. Energy loss which affects the output of the system was minimized. The empirical process heat loss, the actual values heat loss and the simulation model heat losses were found to be 2.56Kw, 9.81kW and 10.93kW. The adiabatic efficiency and polytropic efficiency were found to be 71.7188% and 74.2551%. Moreover, the mechanical losses was found to be 10.93kW.

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