

tegration of viscous liquid sheets can be merged to allow the sizing and distribution of the droplets formed by colliding jets.⁴

This paper presents a method for the calculation of the initial droplet size distribution function and its moments (i.e., the Sauter mean diameter, the length mean diameter, the surface mean diameter, the surface-diameter mean, the volume mean diameter, the volume-diameter mean, and the geometric mean diameter), for, as it is well known, each one of them has its own preferred field of application. In particular the Sauter mean diameter, a parameter of wide application in the field of combustion, is shown to possess a minimum at a certain value of the impinging angle for several liquids.

Model Description

Consider two identical cylindrical liquid jets of radius R and velocity V_0 in a gaseous quiescent medium colliding obliquely at an angle 2θ , as sketched in Fig. 1. The sheet thus formed spreads away under the influence of the viscous, inertial, surface tension and pressure forces and, upon reaching a critical situation, disintegrates into fragments that contract themselves by surface tension, forming unstable ligaments that finally break into droplets.^{3,4}

The number of droplets of a given spherical volume V_d generated per second, $d\dot{n}$, between ϕ and $\phi + d\phi$ (i.e., in the angular differential element taken relative to the separation streamline) can be written

$$d\dot{n} = \frac{d\dot{V}_E}{V_d} \quad (1)$$

where $d\dot{V}_E$ is the volume flow rate streaming out of the sector $d\phi$ as shown in Fig. 1. Assuming the same flow pattern as in Ref. 2 which implies that the mass flow rate is conserved within the above mentioned angular differential element, then

$$d\dot{V}_E = 2d\dot{V}_e \quad (2)$$

where the subscripts E and e stand for the sheet and the jet cross sections, respectively. Hence $d\dot{V}_e$ can be written

$$d\dot{V}_e = V_0 \sin \theta \frac{dp}{2} q \quad (3)$$

where q is the polar radius of the ellipse formed by the intersection of the jet with a plane parallel to the sheet referred to the separation point as a pole, and dp is the perimeter

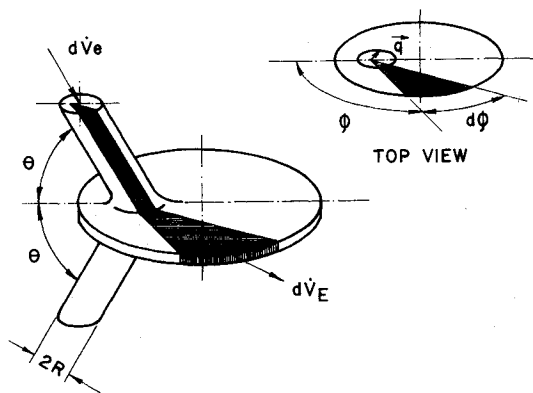


Fig. 1 Sheet formed by impinging jets.

Table 1 Mean diameters⁵

Mean diameter	Suggested field of application	Definition
Linear, \bar{X}_L	Evaporation	$\bar{X}_L = \frac{\sum x_{di} f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}{\sum f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}$
Surface, \bar{X}_S	Absorption, processes where surface area is controlling parameter	$\bar{X}_S = \sqrt{\frac{\sum x_{di}^2 f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}{\sum f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}}$
Volume, \bar{X}_V	Comparison of mass distribution in a spray	$\bar{X}_V = \sqrt[3]{\frac{\sum x_{di}^3 f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}{\sum f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}}$
Surface diameter, \bar{X}_{sd}	Adsorption	$\bar{X}_{sd} = \frac{\sum x_{di}^2 f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}{\sum x_{di} f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}$
Volume diameter, \bar{X}_{vd}	Evaporation, molecular diffusion	$\bar{X}_{vd} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum x_{di}^3 f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}{\sum x_{di} f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}}$
Volume surface or Sauter diameter, \bar{X}_{vs}	Mass transfer, chemical reactions	$\bar{X}_{vs} = \frac{\sum x_{di}^3 f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}{\sum x_{di}^2 f(\phi_i) \Delta \phi_i}$

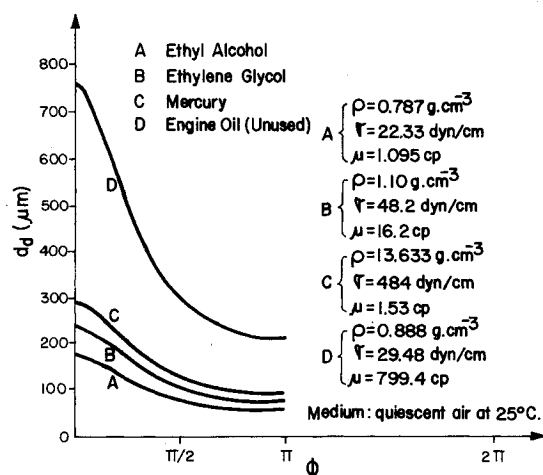


Fig. 2 Azimuthal droplet diameter distribution for a given configuration: $\theta = 45^\circ$, $U = 3000 \text{ cm.s}^{-1}$, $R = 0.05 \text{ cm}$ (taken from Ref. 4).

differential element, written as

$$dp = \frac{R}{\sin \theta} \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi} d\phi \quad (4)$$

Further

$$q = \frac{R \sin \theta}{1 - \cos \theta \sin \phi} \quad (5)$$

Then substituting Eqs. (3), (4), and (5) in Eq. (2), one obtains

$$d\dot{V}_e = \frac{V_0 R^2 \sin \theta}{1 - \cos \theta \cos \phi} \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi} d\phi \quad (6)$$

and Eq. (1) becomes

$$d\dot{n} = \frac{6V_0 R^2 \sin \theta}{\pi d_d^3 (1 - \cos \theta \cos \phi)} \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi} d\phi \quad (7)$$

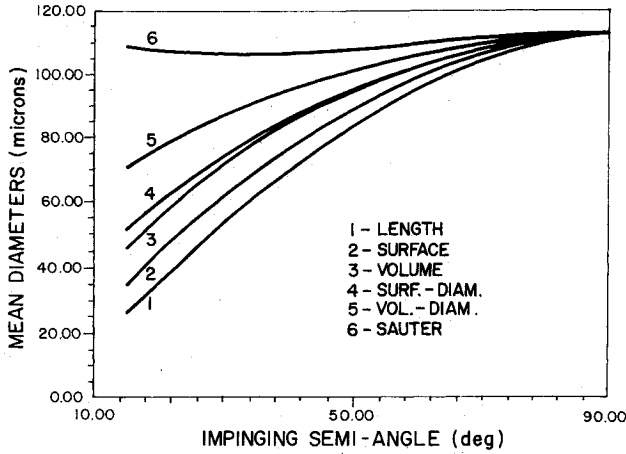


Fig. 3 Mean diameters [μm], versus impinging semiangle, θ [deg], for ethyl alcohol.

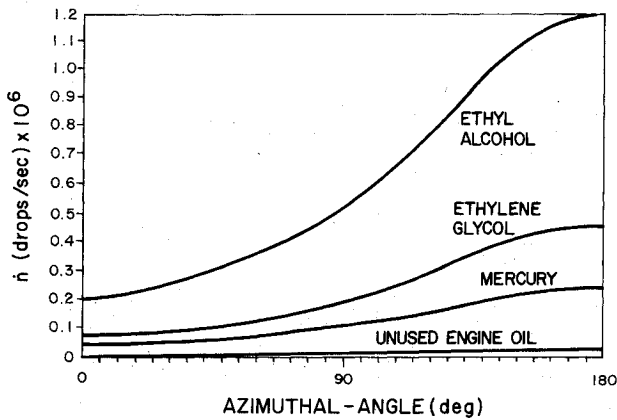


Fig. 4 Droplet formation rate, \dot{n} , vs azimuthal angle, ϕ [deg], for a given configuration ($\theta = 45$ deg, $U = 3000$ cm \cdot s $^{-1}$, $R = 0.05$ cm), in quiescent air at 25°C.

where d_d , the droplet diameter, can be written as³

$$d_d = \left(\frac{3\pi}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^{1/3} d_L \left[1 + \frac{3\mu}{(\rho_L \sigma d_L)^{1/2}} \right]^{1/6} \quad (8)$$

where μ (cp) is the viscosity, σ (dyn \cdot cm $^{-1}$) the surface tension, ρ_L (g \cdot cm $^{-3}$) the liquid density, and d_L (cm) is the ligament diameter given by Ref. 3

$$d_L = 0.9614 \left[\frac{K^2 \sigma^2}{\rho \rho_L U^4} \right]^{1/6} \left[1 + 2.60 \mu^3 \sqrt{\frac{K \rho^4 U^7}{72 \rho_L^2 \sigma^5}} \right]^{1/5} \quad (9)$$

where ρ (g \cdot cm $^{-3}$) is the density of the gaseous medium, U can be taken nearly equal to the jet velocity,^{3,4} and K is written as⁴

$$K = \frac{R^2 \sin^3}{(1 - \cos \phi \cos \theta)^2} \quad (10)$$

Then the distribution function, taken as $f(\phi) = d\dot{n}/d\phi$ can be written as

$$f(\phi) = \frac{6V_0 R^2 \sin \theta}{\pi d_d^3 (1 - \cos \theta \cos \phi)} \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi} \quad (11)$$

The moments of the above distribution function can then be calculated using Eq. (11) along with Eqs. (8–10). In par-

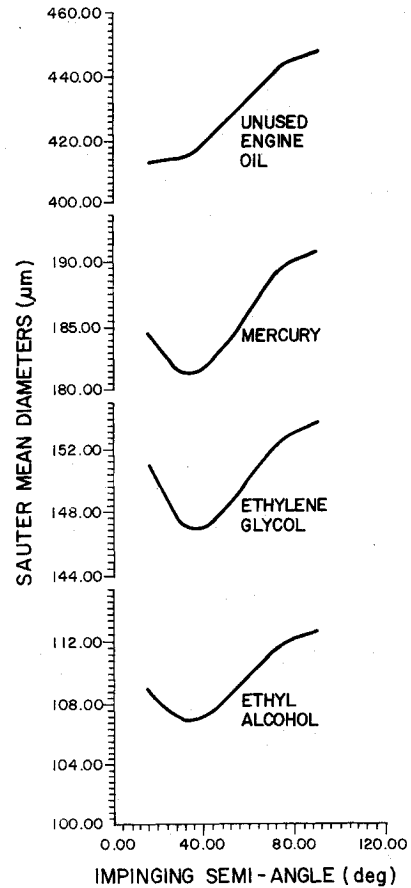


Fig. 5 Sauter mean diameter for various liquids vs impinging semi-angle θ for a given configuration ($R = 0.05$ cm, $U = 3000$ cm \cdot s $^{-1}$).

ticular, it is worthwhile to evaluate the several existing "mean diameters" which are used in different fields of application.

These diameters, along with their definitions and most common applications are listed in Table 1, taken from Marshall.⁵

Results

Figure 2, taken from Ref. 4, shows the azimuthal droplet diameter distribution for a given configuration and various liquids, and it is built using Eqs. (8–10). These equations plus Eq. (11) allow the construction of the curves shown in Fig. 3, in the case of ethyl alcohol, for the several mean diameters as defined in Table 1, vs the impingement semiangle θ .

Equation (7), along with Eqs. (8–10), yields the droplet formation rate, \dot{n} , for given increments of the azimuthal angle ϕ . This is presented in Fig. 4 for a given configuration and the same conditions and liquids as those used to plot Fig. 2.

Notice that the Sauter mean diameter \bar{X}_{vs} plotted in Fig. 3 for ethyl alcohol shows a minimum value for a given θ . This situation is shown more precisely in Fig. 5 along with results for other liquids.

Concluding Remarks

A very interesting feature can be seen in the Sauter mean diameter vs θ curve (Fig. 5): the ethyl alcohol, the ethylene glycol, and the mercury curves show a minimum value around $\theta = 35$ deg, while for the unused engine oil, a point of inflection occurs for nearly the same value of θ . This suggests a useful datum to be considered in the design of the injectors considered here, i.e., the best total impinging angle for sprays generated by impinging jets is around $2\theta = 70$ deg. This is so because by attaining a minimum \bar{X}_{vs} one guarantees a maximum fuel evaporation rate.

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