

Article

Optimization Research on the Heat Transfer Capacity of an Aircraft Fuel Thermal Management System

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Abstract: The thermal management system (TMS) for aircraft fuel is a critical component of integrated TMSs in aircraft. As such, its optimal design is necessary to ensure the efficient completion of flight missions. This study presents the model building of a numerical simulation model for the fuel TMS, with the objective of minimizing fuel return flow. Sensitivity analysis was performed using variance analysis. The genetic algorithm was utilized for the optimization of the model building, taking into consideration the system's geometric structure and performance parameters, which include the pipe length, the ram air-fuel HX's efficiency, and the ram air's volume flow rate in the ram air cooling subsystem, as design variables. The optimization solution for system design variables yielded a design scheme with the highest working efficiency for the fuel TMS. In this paper, the genetic algorithm in AMESim software is adopted, which can also effectively optimize the design parameters and achieve the optimization objective. Compared with the original TMS structure, the heat dissipation capacity of the fuel TMS is improved and reduced the return fuel flow by 67.4% after the optimization of system structure parameters.

Keywords: thermal management system; system optimization; numerical simulation; heat dissipation capacity



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1. Introduction

With the advancement of flight technology, aircraft speeds transitioned from subsonic to transonic, and now supersonic [1–4]. Increasingly, supersonic vehicles are being used for numerous supersonic cruise missions due to consistent performance enhancements [5–8]. These vehicles, however, face severe aerodynamic heating, subjecting the aircraft surface and system components to high temperatures. Furthermore, performance improvement leads to an increase in the number and power of onboard equipment, which in turn causes continuous heating of the aircraft's internal environment [9–14]. In this scenario, the fuel thermal management systems (TMSs) within the integrated aircraft TMS play a pivotal role in managing thermal load transfer between the aircraft and engine [15,16].

Efforts were made to improve the operating characteristics of fuel TMSs. For example, Yu et al. proposed a novel integrated fuel TMS that optimizes the use of resistance to high-temperature fuel for heat storage and satisfies the cooling requirements of the aircraft TMS [17]. Issacci et al. proposed a component-level optimization method based on minimizing energy and entropy generation in accordance with the second law of thermodynamics [18]. Xue et al. conducted a steady-state simulation on an aircraft fuel-integrated TMS for fighter jets and studied the temperature variations among different nodes of the fuel system at various Mach numbers and altitudes [19]. Tang et al. presented a system scheme for an aircraft integrated TMS that utilizes fuel as the aircraft heat sinks and employs both thermal insulation felt and evaporative coolant [20].

Despite these developments, in the design process of a TMS [21–28], the design parameters of each subsystem and related components typically remain constant throughout the flight,

directly impacting the system's cooling capacity being limited throughout mission conditions. Moreover, the existing method of optimizing these system design parameters based on TMS task requirements does not improve the heat dissipation capacity and fuel heat sink efficiency from the system design level. Meanwhile, the optimization of TMS rarely takes the fuel return flow rate and remaining heat dissipation capacity as optimization objectives. The remaining heat dissipation capacity can be controlled only by adjusting the system structure parameters. Therefore, in order to improve the heat dissipation capacity of the TMS more directly, it is necessary to pursue optimization research in this aspect.

In response, this paper aims to enhance the heat dissipation capacity of TMS by analyzing the optimal design parameters for a fuel TMS structure. We first conduct a sensitivity analysis using variance analysis to assess the influence of eight design parameters. We then use the genetic algorithm to optimize the system's design parameters, and provide the resulting optimal design parameters. Our research findings could significantly improve the heat transfer capacity of fuel TMSs. Lastly, we examine the optimization capability of the TMS.

2. System Architecture

2.1. System Modeling

As illustrated in Figure 1, the primary components of fuel TMSs include a hydraulic loop subsystem, a coolant loop subsystem, an oil loop subsystem, and a ram air-cooling subsystem.

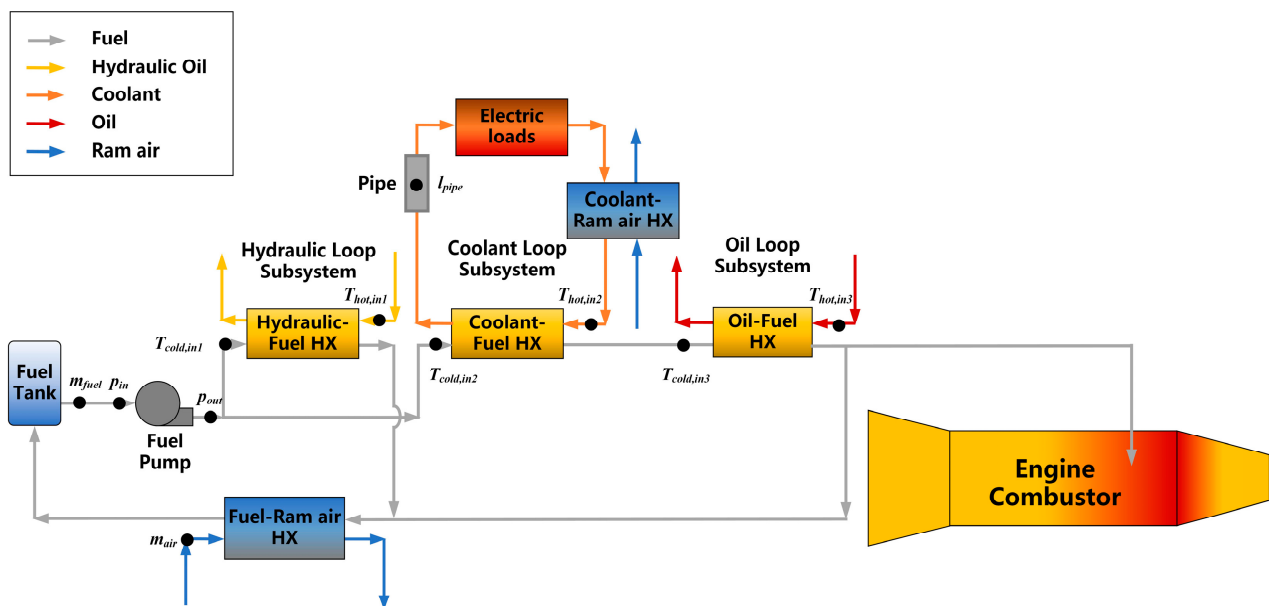


Figure 1. Fuel TMS.

Fuel, being the primary heat sink material, is utilized in TMSs to absorb and transfer heat away from the aircraft. Initially, fuel from a low-temperature tank is directed into the hydraulic loop subsystem, which is parallel to the fuel TMS. Here, the fuel is warmed in the hydraulic-fuel heat exchanger (HX), thus reducing the temperature of the hydraulic oil. The heated fuel then flows directly to the return line.

Simultaneously, another portion of the fuel enters the coolant loop subsystem, which is serially connected to the fuel TMS, excluding the hydraulic loop subsystem. In this subsystem, coolant fluid absorbs the heat load from electronic equipment. This heated coolant fluid first exchanges heat with the ram air in the coolant-ram air HX, after which the cooler coolant fluid transfers heat to the fuel in the coolant-fuel HX. The cooled coolant fluid is then circulated back to the electronic equipment via a pump.

The heated fuel subsequently flows into the next subsystem, the oil loop subsystem, which is connected in series with the fuel TMS. In the oil loop subsystem, the fuel exchanges heat with high-temperature oil via the oil-fuel HX, lowering the temperature of the oil. Upon absorbing this heat load, the even hotter fuel is directed into the engine.

Upon reaching the engine inlet, some of the high-temperature fuel is combusted in the engine, while the remaining excess fuel is cooled by a ram air-cooling subsystem and returned to the fuel tank. Before cooling, this high-temperature fuel is mixed with heated fuel from the hydraulic loop subsystem and enters the return fuel cooling subsystem. Here, low-temperature ram air exchanges heat with the fuel in the fuel-ram air HX, after which the cooled fuel returns to the tank.

In the fuel TMS, the low-temperature fuel in the fuel tank is pumped through a pipeline where it absorbs heat from other subsystems through heat exchangers. Ultimately, a portion of the high-temperature fuel is used for combustion, while the rest is cooled by ram air and returned to the fuel tank. Throughout this process, heat is primarily exchanged through pumps, pipelines, and heat exchangers.

2.2. Thermal Modeling

As shown in Figure 1, the thermal models of the aforementioned structures are established as follows:

(1) Pump

The outlet pressure of the pump (p_{out}) can be defined as:

$$p_{out} = p_{in} + \Delta p \quad (1)$$

The pump's efficient power (P_{eff}) is given by:

$$P_{eff} = Q \cdot \Delta p \quad (2)$$

The pump's shaft power is:

$$P_{mech} = \frac{P_{eff}}{\eta} \quad (3)$$

The rise in fuel temperature (ΔT) between the inlet and outlet of the pump can be calculated as:

$$\Delta T = \frac{P_{mech} - P_{eff}}{c_p \cdot q} \quad (4)$$

where p_{in} represents the inlet pressure, Δp stands for the pressure rise of the pump, Q is the volume flux, η signifies the pump's efficiency, c_p refers to the specific heat of the fuel, and q denotes the fuel flux.

In the simulation, the similarity law is applied. Under different rotational speeds, the rated conditions are determined according to the principle of a similar pump. Subsequently, the analogous results of flow, pressure increase, and power are obtained under varying situations:

Flow rate (q):

$$\frac{q}{q_0} = \frac{N \cdot D^3}{N_0 \cdot D_0^3} \quad (5)$$

Pressure (p):

$$\frac{p}{p_0} = \frac{\rho \cdot (N \cdot D)^2}{\rho_0 \cdot (N_0 \cdot D_0)^2} \quad (6)$$

Power (W):

$$\frac{W}{W_0} = \frac{\rho \cdot N^3 \cdot D^5}{\rho_0 \cdot N_0^3 \cdot D_0^5} \quad (7)$$

Here, N_0 is the rated speed, D_0 is the rated diameter, and ρ_0 is the fluid density. The parameters at the inlet and outlet of the pump structures and related performance parameters are further calculated based on these state parameters' results.

(2) Pipeline

The oscillating flow characteristics for the pipeline are given by:

$$dm = \rho c_p A \sqrt{\frac{2\Delta p}{\rho}} \quad (8)$$

The heat transfer characteristics for the pipeline are:

$$dmh = dm \cdot h \quad (9)$$

where dm represents the working fluid flow, Δp stands for the pressure drop, A is the sectional area, c_p signifies the heat capacity of the working fluid, and h denotes the specific enthalpy.

(3) Heat exchanger

The heat exchanger is calculated utilizing the ε -NTU method:

$$Q_{max} = C_{min} \cdot (T_{hot,in} - T_{cold,in}) \quad (10)$$

$$C_{min} = \min(|dm_{hot}| \cdot Cp_{hot}, |dm_{cold}| \cdot Cp_{cold}) \quad (11)$$

$$Q = \varepsilon \cdot Q_{max} \quad (12)$$

$$\varepsilon = f(NTU, Cr) \quad (13)$$

$$NTU = \frac{UA}{C_{min}} \quad (14)$$

$$Cr = \frac{C_{min}}{C_{max}} \quad (15)$$

Here, $T_{hot,in}$, and $T_{cold,in}$ represent the inlet temperature on the hot side and cold side, dm_{hot} and dm_{cold} stand for the mass flow on the hot side and cold side, C_{min} and C_{max} signify the smaller value and larger value of the water equivalent, respectively, U represents the overall heat transfer coefficient, which is determined by the structure of each HX, A stands for the heat transfer area of each HX, and ε denotes the heat exchange efficiency.

2.3. Model Validation

In order to verify the accuracy of the model simulation calculation by AMESim, before the model optimization calculation, the experimental data in [29] is taken as a reference, and the simulation calculation results are compared and analyzed. The experiments were carried out under four conditions, including that the experimental data are the outlet temperature of the fuel pump. The experimental results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Experimental results.

Condition	1	2	3	4
Experimental data/°C	134.2	140.7	134.9	136.6

With the same conditions, and the numerical simulation of the model was carried out. Compared with the experimental results, the numerical simulation results are shown in Figure 2. Among four conditions, the simulation results agree well with the experimental

data, and the maximum error is only 9.2%. Therefore, the simulation results obtained by mathematical model are reliable. Meanwhile, the TMS model is validated.

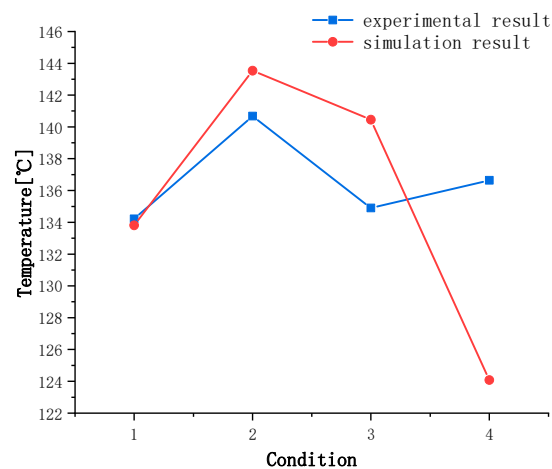


Figure 2. Model verification results.

3. Sensitivity Analysis and Optimization

3.1. Design of Experiment

Fuel TMSs boast intricate structures. Throughout the research process, we discovered numerous design variables that exert a significant impact on system operating characteristics. After weighing the effectiveness of various experimental design methods, we selected the orthogonal table for this study due to its superior efficiency. An orthogonal table is designated as $L_n(p^r)$, where 'n' denotes the number of experiments, 'p' signifies the factor level, and 'r' corresponds to the number of factors contained within the table.

3.2. Variance Analysis

This paper employs the analysis of variance (ANOVA) method for sensitivity analysis, facilitating the examination of various influencing factors' effect degrees on the optimization objective. ANOVA decomposes the total variance square of deviance of observed values and their corresponding degrees of freedom into the respective squares of different variances and their degrees of freedom. Consequently, the population variance estimated values for these variances are acquired. Following this, the F test is performed on the calculated ratios to examine whether these samples' population means are equivalent, thus enabling a determination of each parameter's effect degree.

In this procedure, the sum of squares, degrees of freedom, and the F statistic method are as follows:

(1) Sum of squares:

Total sum of squares (S_T) is computed using Equation (16), where x_{ij} denotes the j 'th value of the i 'th total sample, and \bar{x} represents the total sample's average value.

$$S_T = \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x})^2 \quad (16)$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} x_{ij} \quad (17)$$

The total dispersion square sum can be broken down into intragroup (S_E) and intergroup (S_A) variances (Equations (18) and (19)). Here, \bar{x}_i is the average value of the i 'th total sample, S_E signifies the intragroup variance, representing the impact of random error, and S_A denotes Factor A 's intergroup variance, signifying the sample mean's difference sum.

$$S_T = S_E + S_A \quad (18)$$

$$\begin{cases} S_E = \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (x_{ij} - \bar{x}_i)^2 \\ S_A = \sum_{i=1}^r \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\bar{x}_i - \bar{x})^2 \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

(2) Degrees of freedom

The total degree of freedom (d_T) is equivalent to $n - 1$ (Equation (20)). The degrees of freedom for Factor A (d_i) and error (d_E) are calculated using Equations (21) and (22), respectively.

$$d_T = n - 1 \quad (20)$$

$$d_i = r - 1 \quad (21)$$

$$d_E = n - r \quad (22)$$

(3) F statistic method

Equation (23) is used to calculate the F statistic, with S_E/σ conforming to the chi-square distribution $\chi^2(n - r)$, and S_A/σ also conforming to $\chi^2(r - 1)$. If $F < F_{0.05}(d_i, d_E)$, this factor is considered not significant according to the F test.

$$F = \frac{S_A/(r - 1)}{S_E/(n - 1)} \sim F(r - 1, n - r) \quad (23)$$

(4) Probability P

Probability P serves as the measure to validate or contradict the initial hypothesis. A smaller probability provides stronger evidence against the initial hypothesis. A correlation higher than 95% is generally assumed when the p -value is less than 0.05. In such cases, the variable is considered highly correlated with the target; otherwise, the effect is considered insignificant.

3.3. Optimization Design Process

Aiming to acquire the optimum model building parameters, the optimization model building of the fuel TMS is studied. Five components are studied in the optimization design research process, including the state parameters, design variables, constraint conditions, target variables, and optimum design. The genetic algorithm used for optimization is presented in Figure 3 in detail.

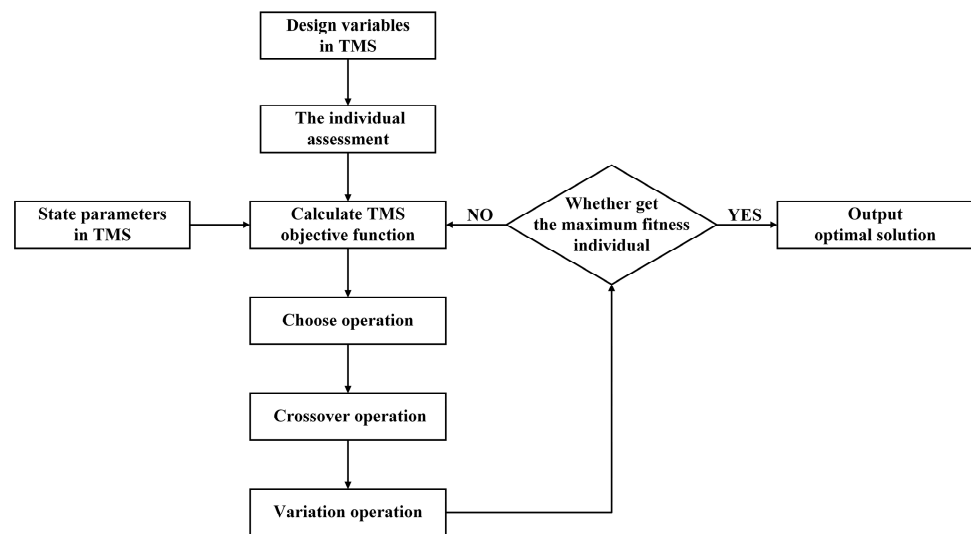


Figure 3. The genetic algorithm used for optimization.

(1) State parameters

These are the environmental and operational conditions of the fuel TMS. They include flight conditions, thermal loads from subsystems such as onboard electronic equipment, and the engine's specific fuel consumption. The specific settings for these parameters are displayed in Table 2.

Table 2. State parameters.

	Value	Unit
flight phase	set out	
altitude	11,000	m
indicated airspeed Ma	0.7	
specific fuel consumption	0.3038	kg/s
thermal load of the hydraulic system	5250	W
thermal load of the lubricating oil system	11,926	W
thermal load of the liquid cooling system	5662	W

(2) Design variables

These are the variables we can control within the fuel TMS. Based on sensitivity analysis, these variables, including pipe length, the efficiency of the ram-air fuel heat exchanger (HX), and the ram air volume flow rate, have strong correlations with the results. Given the direct impact of the supply fuel flow on the return fuel temperature, it is considered an optimal design variable.

(3) Constraint conditions

These constraints must meet the heat dissipation requirements of each heat source and the value range of the design variables. The specifics are in Table 3. During optimization, we must consider the high temperature's effect on the fuel's physical properties and the fuel TMS. As such, fuel temperature must not exceed 100 °C, and return fuel temperature should not exceed 50 °C.

Table 3. Range of variables.

Variable	Fuel Flow Rate	Pipe Length	Ram Air Flow Rate
Unit	kg/s	m	g/s
Lower limit	0.01	10	100
Upper limit	3	30	1000

(4) Objective functions

Based on system simulation results, the primary objective function is the return fuel flow. That is, ensuring the return fuel and supply fuel do not overheat, we aim to minimize the return fuel flow in the optimal design of the TMS. Because there is less return fuel flow, more fuel flow for engine combustion can ensure the engine combustion needs, which also improve the efficiency of fuel heat dissipation.

4. Results and Discussion

The purpose of this paper is to optimize the design parameters of the TMS and improve the heat dissipation capacity of the system at a certain state point. Therefore, in the process of research, the heat loss generated by environmental parameters and the heat transfer of other components in the system are simplified. Figure 4 shows the process of optimizing the aircraft fuel thermal management model building.

4.1. Sensitivity Analysis

We established table L27(3⁸) for a multiparameter sensitivity analysis, which is presented in Table 4. In this context, '27' denotes the number of experimental times, '3' stands for the number of factors, and '8' represents the level of each factor. We used the numerical

simulation method to calculate the target return fuel temperature parameter, which is listed in the final column of the table.

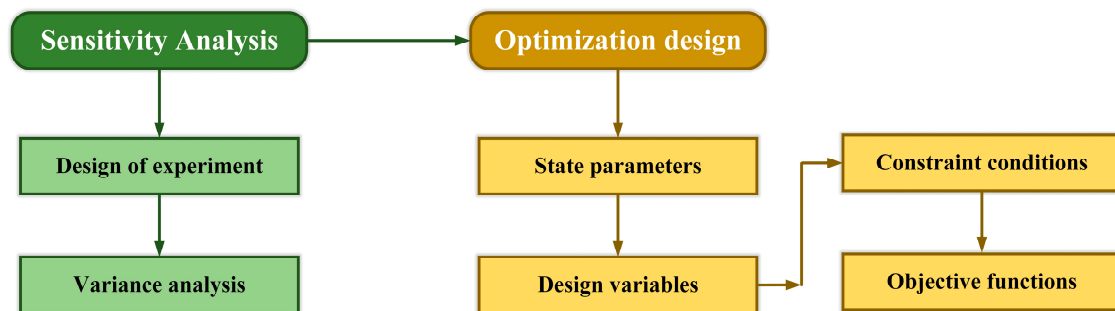


Figure 4. Process of the model building optimization.

Table 4. L27 (3^8) orthogonal experiments.

<i>num</i>	<i>m</i>	Q_e	<i>d</i>	<i>l</i>	μ	η_l	η_a	Q_{air}	T_{fuel}
1	0.5	300	18	8	0.0001	0.4	0.4	666	37.93
2	0.8	100	9	15	0.0001	0.7	0.2	1000	44.86
3	1	100	9	8	0.00005	0.7	0.4	666	40.63
4	0.5	100	36	4	0.00005	0.4	0.2	666	51.38
5	1	300	9	15	0.00005	0.2	0.4	333	50.31
6	0.5	300	36	8	0.00005	0.7	0.2	333	51.1
7	0.8	100	36	15	0.00001	0.4	0.4	333	50.95
8	0.5	300	9	8	0.00001	0.2	0.7	1000	6.57
9	0.8	300	18	4	0.00005	0.4	0.7	333	40.31
10	1	200	36	4	0.0001	0.2	0.7	333	42.32
11	0.5	200	18	15	0.0001	0.7	0.4	333	48.98
12	0.8	300	36	4	0.00001	0.7	0.4	1000	27.25
13	1	300	36	15	0.0001	0.7	0.7	666	21.74
14	0.8	200	36	8	0.00001	0.2	0.4	666	39.56
15	0.8	100	18	15	0.00005	0.2	0.7	666	25.27
16	1	100	18	8	0.00001	0.2	0.2	333	56.03
17	0.8	200	9	8	0.0001	0.4	0.2	333	53.96
18	0.8	200	18	8	0.00005	0.7	0.7	1000	5.64
19	0.5	200	9	15	0.00001	0.4	0.7	666	24.82
20	1	200	18	4	0.00001	0.7	0.2	666	49.04
21	0.5	100	18	4	0.0001	0.2	0.4	1000	31.01
22	1	100	36	8	0.0001	0.4	0.7	1000	7.35
23	1	200	9	4	0.00005	0.4	0.4	1000	29.35
24	0.8	300	9	4	0.0001	0.2	0.2	666	49.79
25	0.5	200	36	15	0.00005	0.2	0.2	1000	44.72
26	0.5	100	9	4	0.00001	0.7	0.7	333	43.99
27	1	300	18	15	0.00001	0.4	0.2	1000	42.68

We define several variables in our study. The fuel mass flow is represented by '*m*'. ' Q_e ' refers to the volume flow rate of ram air in the coolant loop subsystem, while '*d*' and '*l*' are the pipe diameter and length, respectively. The efficiency of the coolant-ram air HX is represented by ' η_l ', and ' η_a ' stands for the efficiency of the ram air-fuel HX. ' Q_{air} ' represents the volume flow rate of ram air in the ram air-cooling subsystem. Lastly, ' T_{fuel} ' is the temperature of the return flow fuel.

The results of our calculations using variance analysis are presented in Table 5. Based on our statistical method, the variables with a strong correlation are the pipe length, the ram air-fuel HX's efficiency, and the ram air's volume flow rate in the ram air cooling subsystem as shown in Figure 1. The performance of the TMS's return fuel heat exchanger is directly affected by the ram air-fuel HX's efficiency and the ram air's volume flow rate, establishing a strong correlation between these factors.

Table 5. Variance analysis of the mean.

	<i>St</i>	<i>dt</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>P</i>
<i>m</i>	0.483	2	0.24	0.010	0.990
<i>Q_e</i>	31.546	2	15.77	0.658	0.539
<i>d</i>	4.35	2	2.17	0.091	0.914
<i>l</i>	277.84	2	138.92	5.799	0.021
<i>μ</i>	0.52	2	0.26	0.011	0.989
<i>η_l</i>	8.507	2	4.25	0.178	0.840
<i>η_a</i>	2873.251	2	1436.62	59.972	0
<i>Q_{air}</i>	2189.615	2	1094.80	45.703	0

The pipe length of the liquid-cooling system also significantly affects the system's heat dissipation capacity due to heat exchange with the surrounding environment. A longer pipe length enhances this capacity, improving the heat exchange between the coolant cooling subsystem and the fuel, which in turn impacts the return fuel temperature.

4.2. Optimization Design

An important consideration in this study is the selection of an optimization method, as it significantly influences the credibility and efficiency of the process. For the purpose of aircraft design optimization, we adopted the widely applied genetic algorithm. In this research, we utilize the genetic algorithm to optimize the design based on simulation optimization and the computation capacity of AMESim software. The detailed description of the TMS model can be found in the System Modeling section of the paper and the simulation condition in the current study is listed in Table 2. Table 6 presents the corresponding optimization results. Under this simulation condition, the subsystems in the TMS can cooperate with each other and fully reflect the working ability of the integrated system.

Table 6. Optimized design variables.

	Fuel Flow Rate	Pipe Length	Ram Air Flow Rate
unit	kg/s	m	g/s
value	1.144	30	186.8

Based on the optimized conditions mentioned above, we reparameterize the fuel TMS and calculate the system performance, as depicted in Figure 5. In order to use more fuel for TMS heat dissipation, the optimization algorithm is used to improve fuel efficiency for less fuel return flow. The calculation results show that, in the optimized fuel TMS, the return fuel flow decreases from 2.58 kg/s to 0.84 kg/s, representing a 67.4% decrease. Because of the decrease in the fuel flow, the fuel temperature rises higher. However the temperature limits are 100 °C to burn and 50 °C to return fuel, which ensure that fuel can work normally and the tank temperature does not overheat. Therefore, the temperature of the return fuel increases from 48.1 °C to 49.9 °C, as shown in Figure 6, which is within the temperature limit.

The optimization results of backflow fuel flow and temperature are useable, but they cannot fully show the improvement of heat dissipation capacity of TMS. Therefore, a new concept needs to be introduced to show the optimization degree of TMS's capacity.

We calculate the remaining heat dissipation capacity of the fuel thermal management system using the return fuel temperature, return fuel flow, and fuel temperature threshold. While ensuring the heat dissipation requirements of the system, the heat dissipation capacity of the TMS increases, but the remaining heat dissipation capacity decreases.

The remaining heat dissipation capacity can be calculated using the formula:

$$\phi = \dot{m}_{fuel} c_{p,fuel} (T_{threshold} - T_{fuel}) \quad (24)$$

Here, \dot{m}_{fuel} represents the return fuel flow, $c_{p,fuel}$ denotes the specific heat capacity of fuel, $T_{threshold}$ is the fuel temperature threshold (set at 100 °C), and T_{fuel} represents the return fuel temperature. Figure 7 showcases the calculation results, indicating a decrease in the remaining heat dissipation capacity of the fuel from 281.2 kW to 88.4 kW, corresponding to a 68.6% decrease.

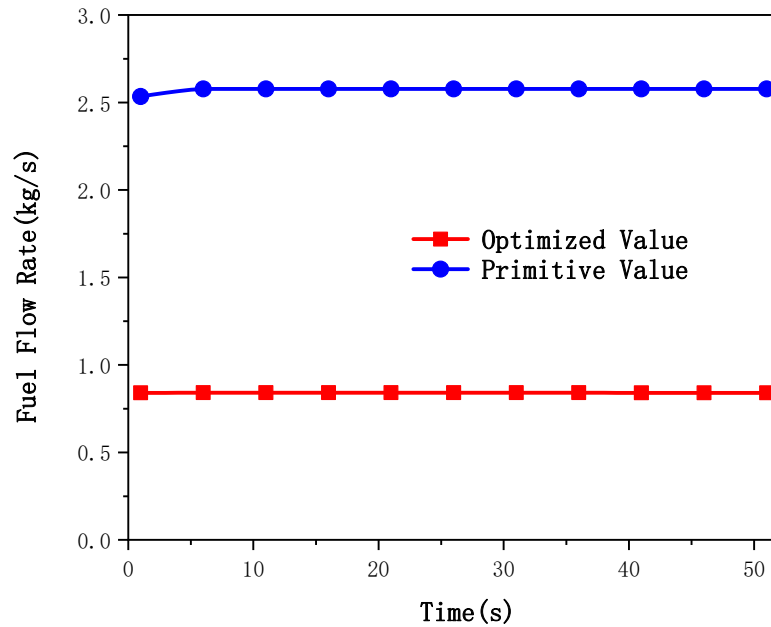


Figure 5. Backflow fuel flow rate results comparison.

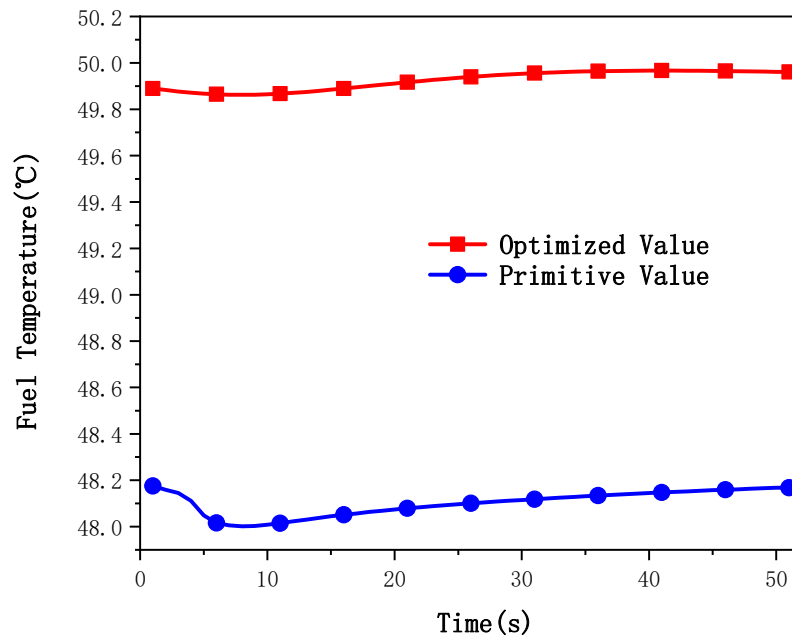


Figure 6. Backflow fuel temperature results comparison.

The optimization results have two main implications. Firstly, they achieve the goal of utilizing less fuel flow to increase the efficiency of fuel heat dissipation within the temperature range, thereby meeting typical fuel requirements. Secondly, with less fuel flow required for thermal management, more fuel is available for burning, leading to an increase in flight time.

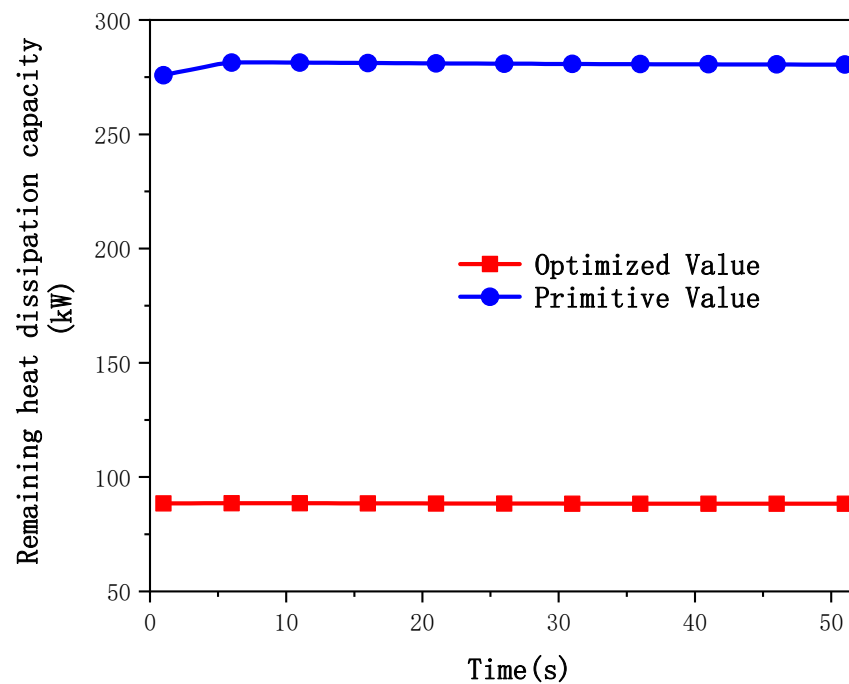


Figure 7. Remaining heat dissipation capacity.

5. Conclusions

This paper focuses on the optimization of design parameters for a fuel thermal management system (TMS). Initially, a brief review of research progress on TMSs is provided, followed by the establishment of a numerical calculation model for the TMS. The complexity of the TMS design parameters is assessed through an orthogonal experimental design and sensitivity analysis using variance analysis. To optimize the system model building, a genetic algorithm is employed, leading to the obtained optimization results for the fuel TMS. With the simulation calculation capability of AMESim, the simulation results of TMS are obtained. In addition, the genetic optimization algorithm is also realized in this software, and achieves the optimization of system design parameters. Based on these findings, the following conclusions are drawn:

(1) This paper introduces an optimization method for aircraft fuel TMS based on sensitivity analysis and the genetic algorithm. The method optimizes the design parameters of the fuel thermal management, resulting in a significant reduction in the return fuel flow of the TMS.

(2) The orthogonal experimental method and variance analysis prove to be suitable for conducting sensitivity analysis on the influencing parameters of the fuel TMS in this study. The three most influential variables identified are the pipe length, the efficiency of the ram air-fuel HX, and the volume flow rate of the ram air in the ram air-cooling subsystem.

(3) The optimization model building significantly enhances the heat dissipation characteristics of the TMS. Based on the 67.4% decrease in the return fuel flow from 2.58 kg/s to 0.84 kg/s, the efficiency of fuel heat dissipation is increased. At the same time, the TMS still meets the heat dissipation requirements of the system, and the fuel operating temperature remains within normal limits.

(4) The remaining heat dissipation capacity of the fuel experiences a 68.6% decrease, which means the efficiency of fuel heat dissipation is improved from 281.2 kW to 88.4 kW. As a result, more fuel can be utilized for engine combustion, increasing the flight time. Additionally, this parameter optimization method for system design parameters can be applied to the design of other aircraft TMSs.

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Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Nomenclature

A	the area
C_{min}	the minimum water equivalent value
C_{max}	the maximum water equivalent value
c_p	the specific heat of fuel
D_0	the rated diameter
dm	the working fluid flow
dm_{hot}	the mass flow on the hot side
dm_{cold}	the mass flow on the cold side
E	the heat exchange efficiency
h	the specific enthalpy
N_0	the rated speed
NTU	the number of transfer units
p_{out}	the outlet pressure
p_{in}	the inlet pressure
Δp	the pressure rise of the pump
Q	the volume flux
q	the fuel flux
$T_{hot,in}$	the inlet temperature on the hot side
$T_{cold,in}$	the inlet temperature on the cold side
T_w	solid wall temperature
T_∞	liquid temperature
ρ_0	the fluid density

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