220062 - Application of Matlab-Octave to Thermal Engineering Problems

Coordinating unit: 220 - ETSEIAT - Terrassa School of Industrial and Aeronautical Engineering
Teaching unit: 724 - MMT - Department of Heat Engines
Academic year: 2015
Degree: BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN AEROSPACE VEHICLE ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional)
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional)
BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING (Syllabus 2010). (Teaching unit Optional)
ECTS credits: 3
Teaching languages: English

Teaching staff
Coordinator: MANUEL SORIA GUERRERO
Others: YOLANDA CALVENTUS SOLE

Prior skills
Nothing special

Requirements
Laptop computer

Degree competences to which the subject contributes

Specific:
1. An understanding of, and skills for, the modelling and simulation of systems
2. An understanding of applied thermodynamics and heat transfer: basic principles and their application to solving engineering problems
3. An understanding of the fundamentals and applications of digital electronics and microprocessors
4. Applied knowledge of thermal engineering
5. The ability to solve mathematical problems that may arise in an engineering context. The ability to apply knowledge of linear algebra; geometry; differential geometry; differential and integral calculus; differential and partial differential equations; numerical methods; numerical algorithms; statistics and optimisation
6. Understanding and mastery of basic concepts about the general laws of mechanics, thermodynamics and electromagnetism fields and waves and their application to solving problems in engineering.

Transversal:
7. THIRD LANGUAGE. Learning a third language, preferably English, to a degree of oral and written fluency that fits in with the future needs of the graduates of each course.
8. TEAMWORK - Level 2. Contributing to the consolidation of a team by planning targets and working efficiently to favor communication, task assignment and cohesion.
Teaching methodology

The course is divided into parts:

- Theory classes
- Practical classes
- Self-study for doing exercises and activities.

In the theory classes, teachers will introduce the theoretical basis of the concepts, methods and results and illustrate them with examples appropriate to facilitate their understanding.

In the practical classes (in the classroom), teachers guide students in applying theoretical concepts to solve problems, always using critical reasoning. We propose that students solve exercises in and outside the classroom, to promote contact and use the basic tools needed to solve problems.

Students, independently, need to work on the materials provided by teachers and the outcomes of the sessions of exercises/problems, in order to fix and assimilate the concepts.

The teachers provide the curriculum and monitoring of activities (by ATENEA).

Learning objectives of the subject

Learn how to implement a thermodynamic model of a power cycle with Matlab-Octave
Learn how to open and process files with experimental data with Matlab-Octave
Learn how to write Matlab-Octave code for embedded systems to measure thermodynamic properties
Learn how to solve chemical equilibrium problems with Matlab-Octave
Learn how to solve ordinary differential equations with Matlab-Octave

Study load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total learning time: 75h</th>
<th>Theory classes:</th>
<th>30h</th>
<th>40.00%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>45h</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Content

### Module 1: Practical introduction to Matlab & Octave

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description:</th>
<th>The use of Matlab-Octave will be explained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related activities:</td>
<td>Exercise 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning time:</th>
<th>18h</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large group/Theory:</td>
<td>5h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>13h</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Module 2: Power cycles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description:</th>
<th>The main thermodynamic power cycles (Rankine, Brayton, Otto, Diesel) will be reviewed. An example will be implemented during the class. The cycles will be optimized using conventional methods and a open-source Matlab code.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related activities:</td>
<td>Exercise 2</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning time:</th>
<th>22h</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large group/Theory:</td>
<td>10h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>12h</td>
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</table>

### Module 3: Acquisition and processing of experimental data with Matlab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description:</th>
<th>Using an actual data file, the opening and processing of experimental data files with Matlab-Octave will be described. The use of a low-cost Raspberry-pi micro computer to run Octave will be explained in practice.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Related activities:</td>
<td>Exercise 2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning time:</th>
<th>20h</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large group/Theory:</td>
<td>10h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self study:</td>
<td>10h</td>
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</table>
Module 4: Gas combustion problems

<table>
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<th>Learning time: 15h</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large group/Theory: 5h</td>
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<tr>
<td>Self study : 10h</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Description:**
Thermodynamic properties of ideal gas mixtures
Chemical equilibrium as a Gibbs energy minimization problem
Matlab calculation of gas flame temperature and product composition

**Related activities:**
Exercise 2

Qualification system

The final grade depends on the following assessment criteria:

- Practical exercise 1: Implementation of a thermodynamic model of a power cycle. 50%
- Practical exercise 2: Exercise to be chosen by the students. 50%

The students will select one of the following exercises:
- Implementation of a combustion thermodynamic model
- Design of the software and display for an embedded throttling calorimeter with Raspberry Pi
- ODE modelling of a thermal system with Matlab

Bibliography

**Basic:**


