

Improvement in Thermal Efficiency and Emission Control of Domestic Cook Stoves

A THESIS

submitted by

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of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

(by Research)



School of Engineering

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Mandi, Himachal Pradesh- 175005

June 2019

Dedicated to the

Countryside

who always wishes to be better off

DECLARATION

This is to certify that the thesis titled “**Improvement in Thermal Efficiency and Emission Control of Domestic Cook Stoves**” submitted by me, to Indian Institute of Technology Mandi for the award of the degree of **Master of Science (by research)**, is a bona fide record of the research work carried out by me in the School of Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi, under the supervision of Dr. Satvasheel Powar and Dr. Atul Dhar. The contents of this thesis, in full or in parts, have not been submitted to any other Institute or University for the award of any degree or diploma.

IIT Mandi
June 2019

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THESIS CERTIFICATE

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ABSTRACT

Biomass holds substantial importance to cater day to day energy demands of people worldwide. Around three billion people globally rely on biomass viz. wood, crop residue, etc. to meet their energy requirements. Utilization of biomass as a source of energy started a long back when our ancestors learned the secret of fire. They started it with open fires and three-stone methods of cooking. These conventional methods were poor in terms of thermal efficiency and pollutants' emission. Pollutants emitted from these cook stoves pose serious threats to the health of people working nearby. However, as the time progressed subsequent modifications kept on taking place and various cook stove designs have evolved since their inception in domestic use.

After mid of the twentieth century, intensive research has been carried out to improve the performance of cook stoves. The new concepts like provision of primary and secondary air, natural and forced draft establishment in the chimney, etc. sprung up. Significant improvements in thermal efficiency and pollutants emissions have been recorded in these cook stoves. Presented work in this thesis is an extension of these advancements. A design of cook stove well-equipped with the provision of primary and secondary air has been proposed. Multiple cook stove prototypes based on this design have been fabricated and an experimental test facility as per Bureau of Indian Standards has been set up. These prototypes have been tested in this test facility for thermal efficiency and emissions' measurement. A comparison has been made on the performance parameters of these prototypes. Furthermore, these prototypes have been compared with the existing cook stoves in literature.

Results have shown good performance parameters for thermal efficiency and pollutants' emission in fabricated cook stoves. The highest thermal efficiency of 32.04% has been achieved, which falls in reasonably impressive range among existing cook stoves. Simulation techniques have been used to optimize certain parameters, whose analysis through experiments was challenging. Cook stove combustion chamber has been simulated for varying air supplies distributed between primary and secondary air inlets. The thesis concludes with the optimization of air supplies and primary to secondary air ratio of 50:50 has yielded best results for the proposed design.

Keywords: Cook stove, species transport, wood volatiles, thermal draft, primary air, secondary air, mass-depreciation, Adiabatic Flame Temperature, de-volatilization, computational domain, heat of formation, eddy-dissipation.

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CONTENTS

DECLARATION	i
THESIS CERTIFICATE	iii
ABSTRACT	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	xv
LIST OF TABLES	xvii
NOMENCLATURE	xix
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
1.1 Health hazards due to smoke of cook stoves	2
1.2 Evolution of cook stoves.....	3
1.3 Overview of the present work.....	3
1.4 Thesis Organization.....	5
Chapter 2 Literature Review.....	7
2.1 Introduction.....	7
2.2 Biomass as a fuel.....	7
2.3 The phenomenon of wood combustion	9
2.3.1 Chemistry involved in wood combustion	9
2.3.2 The phenomenon of wood combustion in cook stoves.....	12
2.3.3 Chain Reactions.....	13
2.4 Various Designs of cook stoves	14
2.4.1 Natural draft type cook stoves.....	14
2.4.2 Forced draft type cook stoves.....	15
2.5 Improvements in cook stoves performance through various researches	15
2.6 Current status of cook stoves	17

2.7 Objectives of the thesis	20
Chapter 3 Experiments: Materials and Methods.....	21
3.1 Introduction.....	21
3.2 Design of cook stove	22
3.3 Fabricated prototypes	23
3.4 Geometric features of fabricated prototypes.....	25
3.5 Components of the experimental setup	26
3.5.1 Chimney hood	26
3.5.2 Dilution tunnel.....	27
3.5.3 Gas Analyzer	28
3.5.4 Fan/ Blower	29
3.5.5 Other equipment used	30
3.6 Standard operating procedures for various tests	32
3.6.1 Preparation of feedstock.....	32
3.6.2 Determination of wood burning rate and energy release rate	32
3.6.3 Power output and thermal efficiency of the cook stove.....	33
3.6.4 Determination of emissions' concentration	35
Chapter 4 Experimental Results	37
4.1 Introduction.....	37
4.2 Mass depreciation curves for various prototypes.....	37
4.3 Comparison of various emissions among different cook stoves.....	39
4.4 Comparison of cook stoves on gross performance parameters.....	42
4.5 Thermal efficiency	45
4.6 Comparison among various cook stoves from literature	46
Chapter 5 Simulation Study of Cook Stove Combustion.....	49

5.1 Introduction.....	49
5.2 Simulation model	50
5.3 Computational domain	54
5.3.1 Boundary conditions	55
5.4 Validation.....	57
5.5 Grid independency test	59
5.6 Simulation Results.....	60
5.6.1 Contours of various parameters for computational domain with feedstock inlet in the front	60
5.6.2 Contours of various parameters for computational domain with feedstock inlet corresponding to pyrolysis regime	63
Chapter 6 Conclusions and Future Work	69
6.1 Conclusions.....	69
6.2 Future work.....	71
6.2.1 Quantification of air supplies through experiments.....	71
6.2.2 Quantification of heat that goes to the thermal mass of cook stove	71
6.2.3 Optimization of various influencing parameters	72
6.2.4 Study of effect of geometric features through simulations	72
6.2.5 Prediction of NO _x and other emissions through simulations	72
References	73