



Resonance User's Group Meeting

Gatlinburg, Tennessee
August 2022

Balancing Slow Speed Reciprocating Engines

The Old and the New

August 2, 2022

Kent Petersen, MMS LLC
Bryan Stewart, MMS LLC
Jim McCoy, Radical Combustion Technologies

Participant Handout



QR Code to download copy of presentation

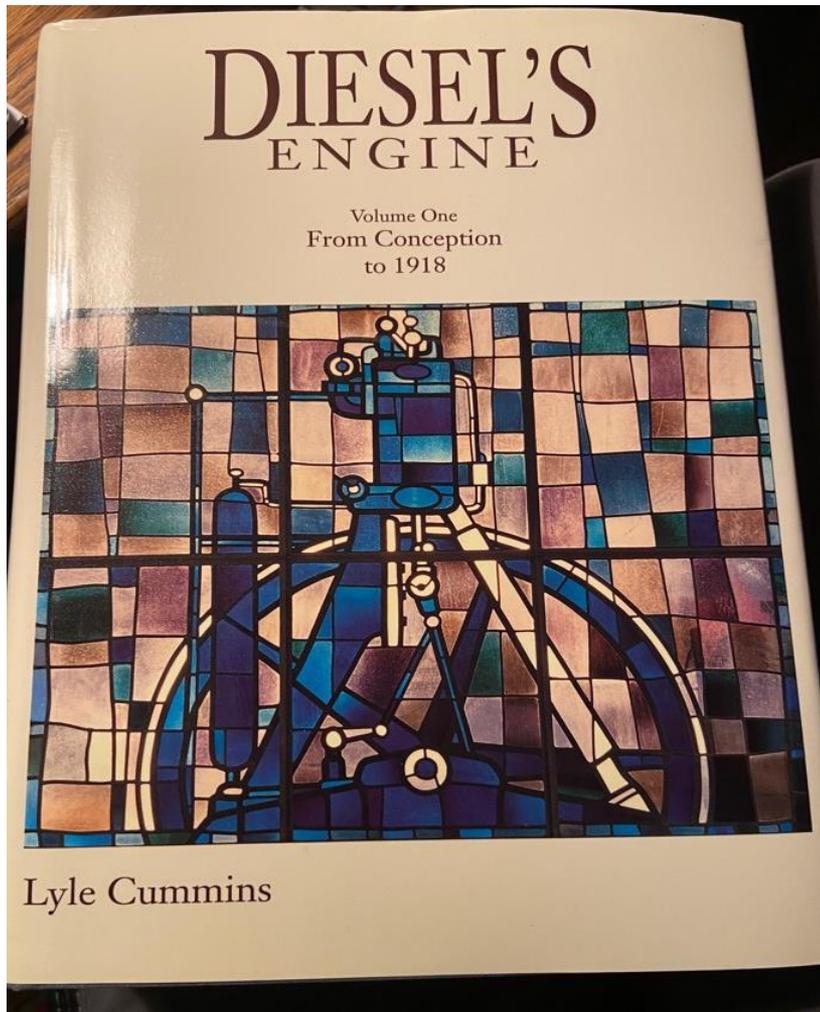


For notes if you hear anything interesting

QR Code to download Compressor Tech article on MMS/RCT partnership



To begin, a little history!



Historical Balancing Methods

Great Book!!

Historical Balancing Method

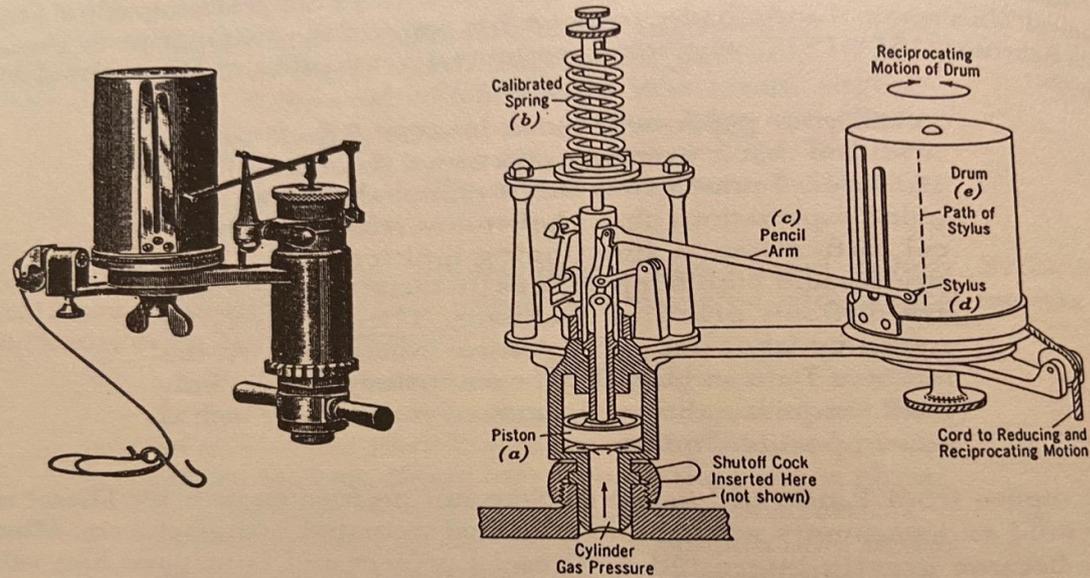
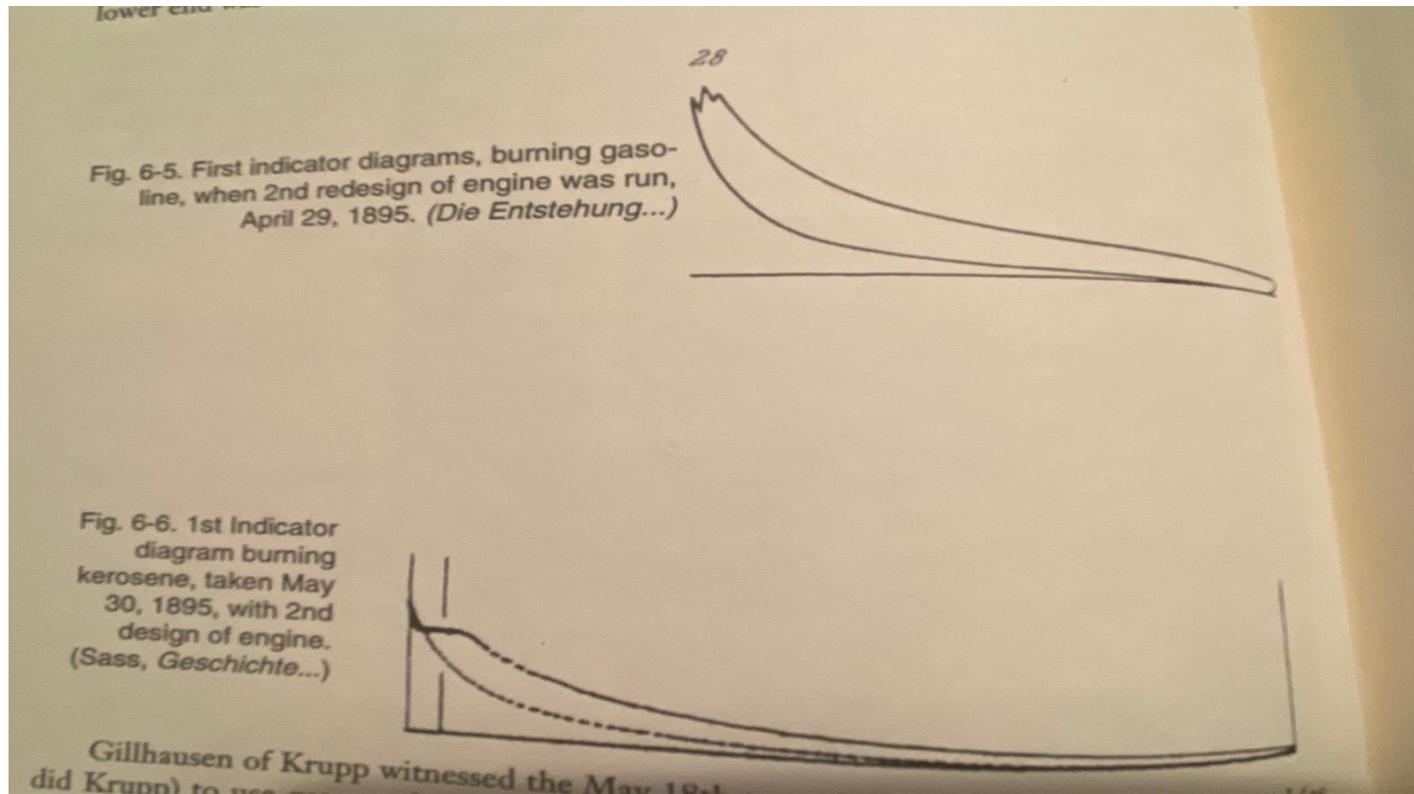


Fig. 3-4. Indicator for making a P-V diagram (indicator card). A pressure trace is made on paper wound on the drum as piston movement turns the drum. This provided a record of the cylinder pressure at each point in the piston stroke. (Hawkins' *Indicator Catechism*, 1903)

worry about how to "fatten" his diagrams. But I have not had time to do this in the

The first traces from the device when Rudolf Diesel first ran his engine in 1895!!





Rudolph Diesel

- In 1897 demonstrated a 25 HP, 4-stroke, single cylinder engine
- Fueled with peanut or vegetable oil
- By 1912, more than 70,000 diesel engines around the world
- In 1913, he disappeared from the Steamship Dresden while traveling from Antwerp, Belgium to Harwich, England to attend the opening of a new diesel engine factory
- Officially, deemed suicide by drowning



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Conspiracy Theories

- “Inventor thrown into sea to stop sale of patent to British Government”
- “Murdered by agents from big oil trusts”
- “Murdered by coal industrialists”

Leutert MSI-3 EPPI (Circa 1940)



Electronics Evolve

Beta-Trap

Windrock 6310 CA

Dynalco 6230

Windrock Autobalance™

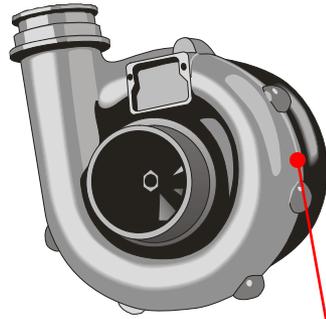
MMS Snapshot® Engine Balancer

Resonance Lenz Engine Kit

Hoerbiger/Cooper Hyperbalance III™

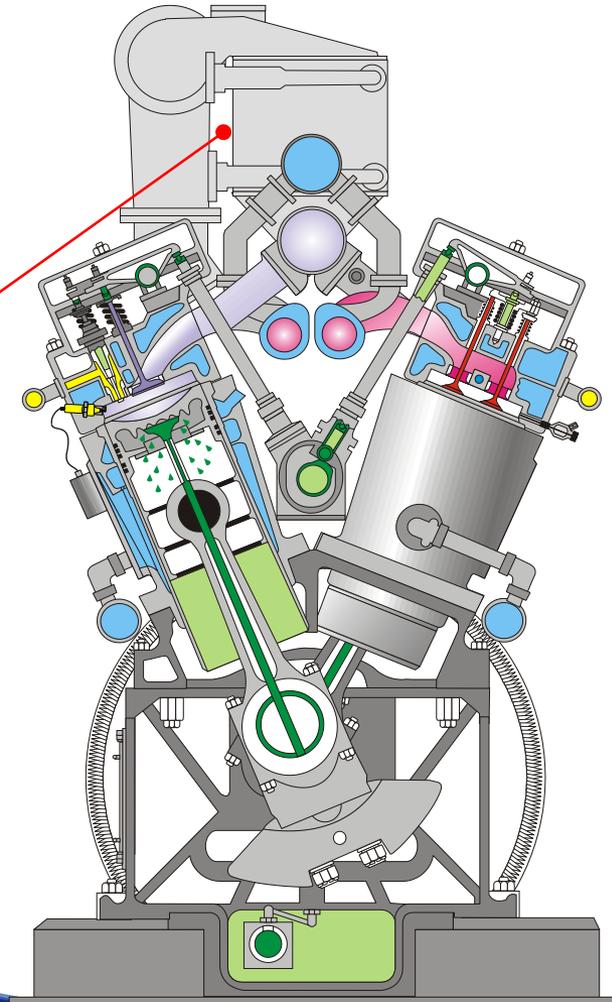
MMS ProBalance® / ProBalance® Plus

Engine Data Collection

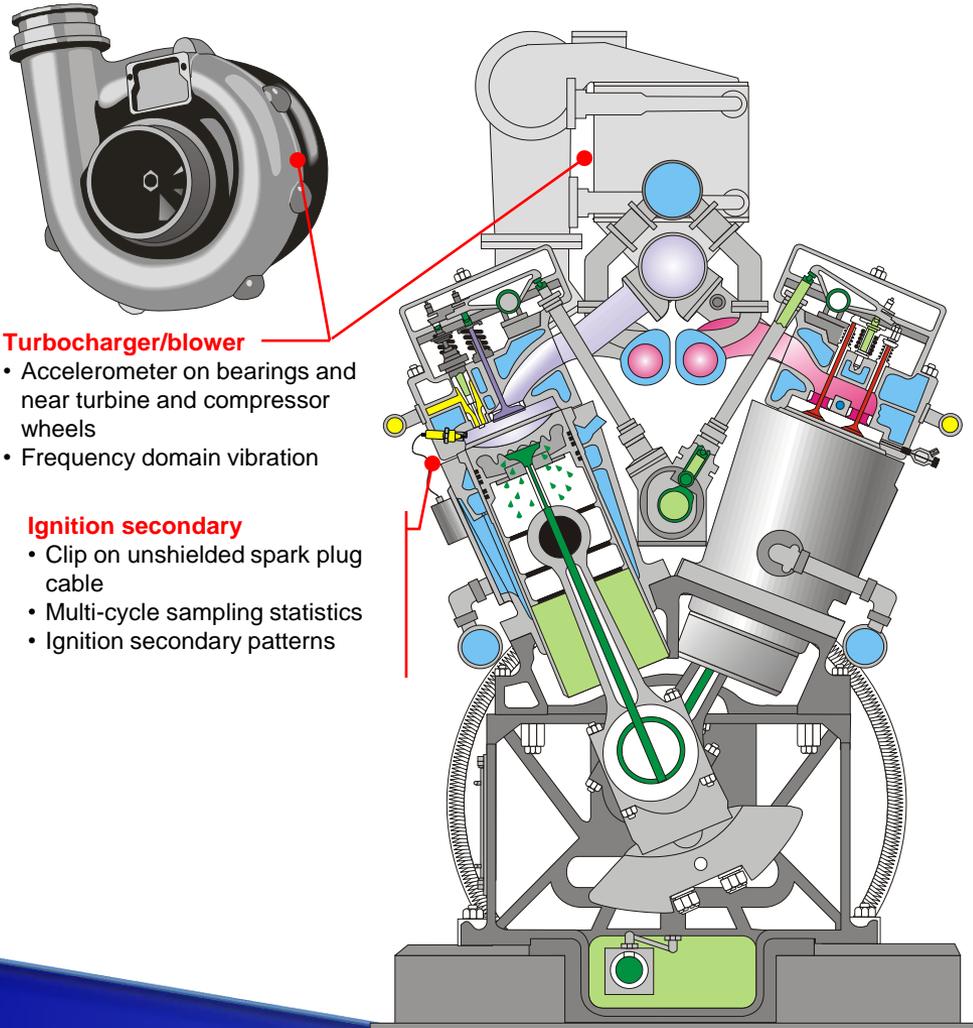


Turbocharger/blower

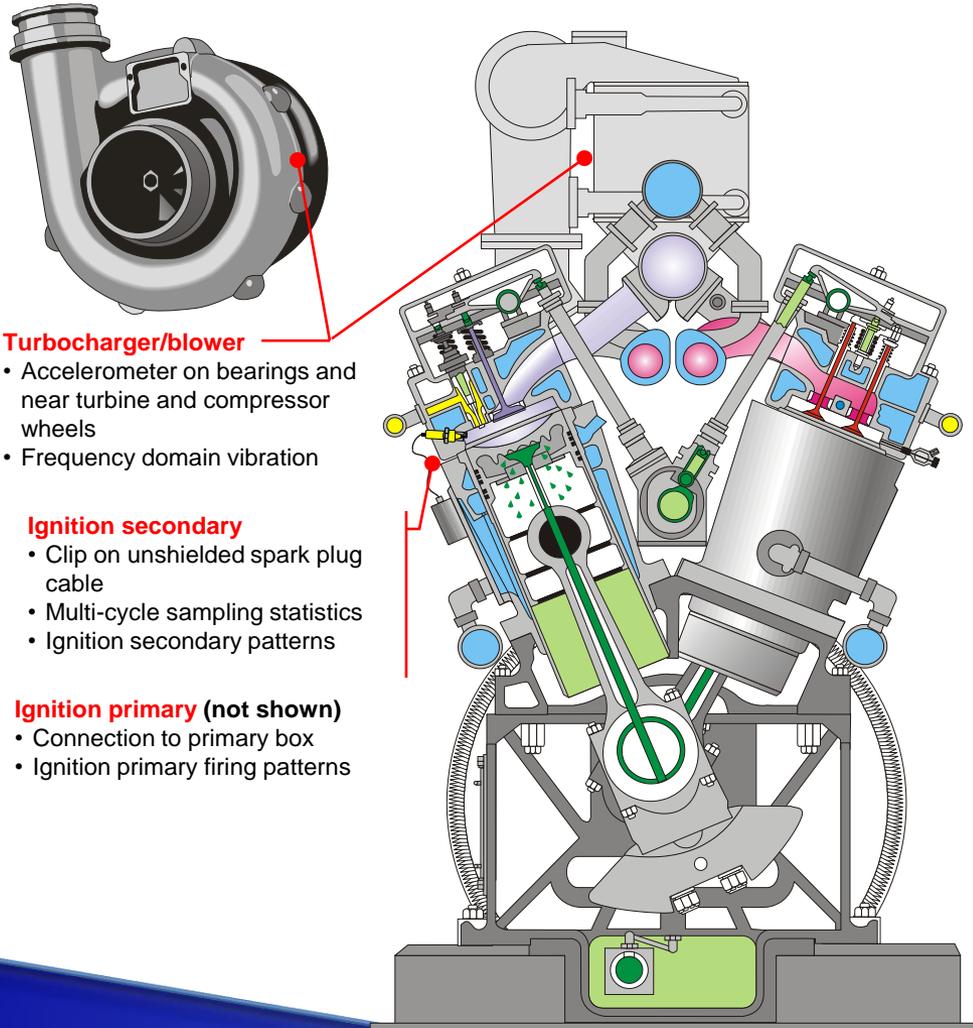
- Accelerometer on bearings and near turbine and compressor wheels
- Frequency domain vibration



Engine Data Collection



Engine Data Collection



Turbocharger/blower

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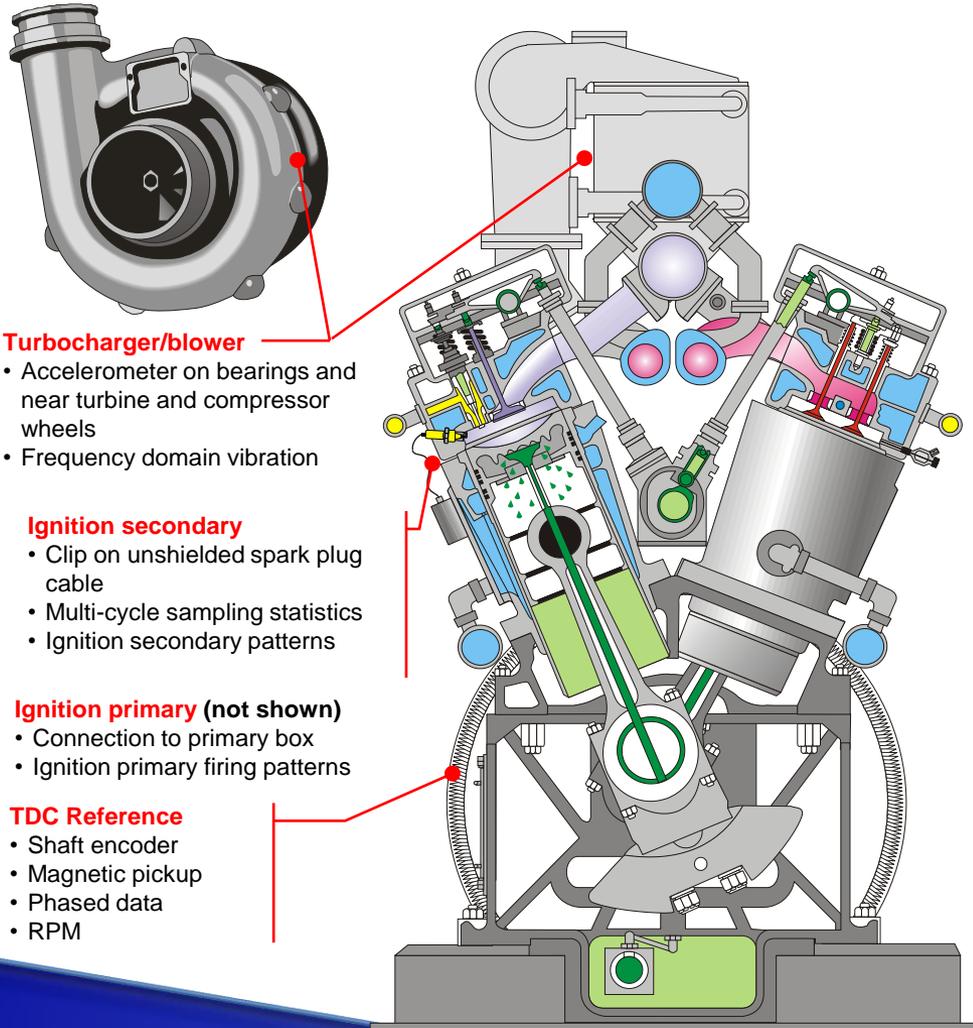
Ignition secondary

- Clip on unshielded spark plug cable
- Multi-cycle sampling statistics
- Ignition secondary patterns

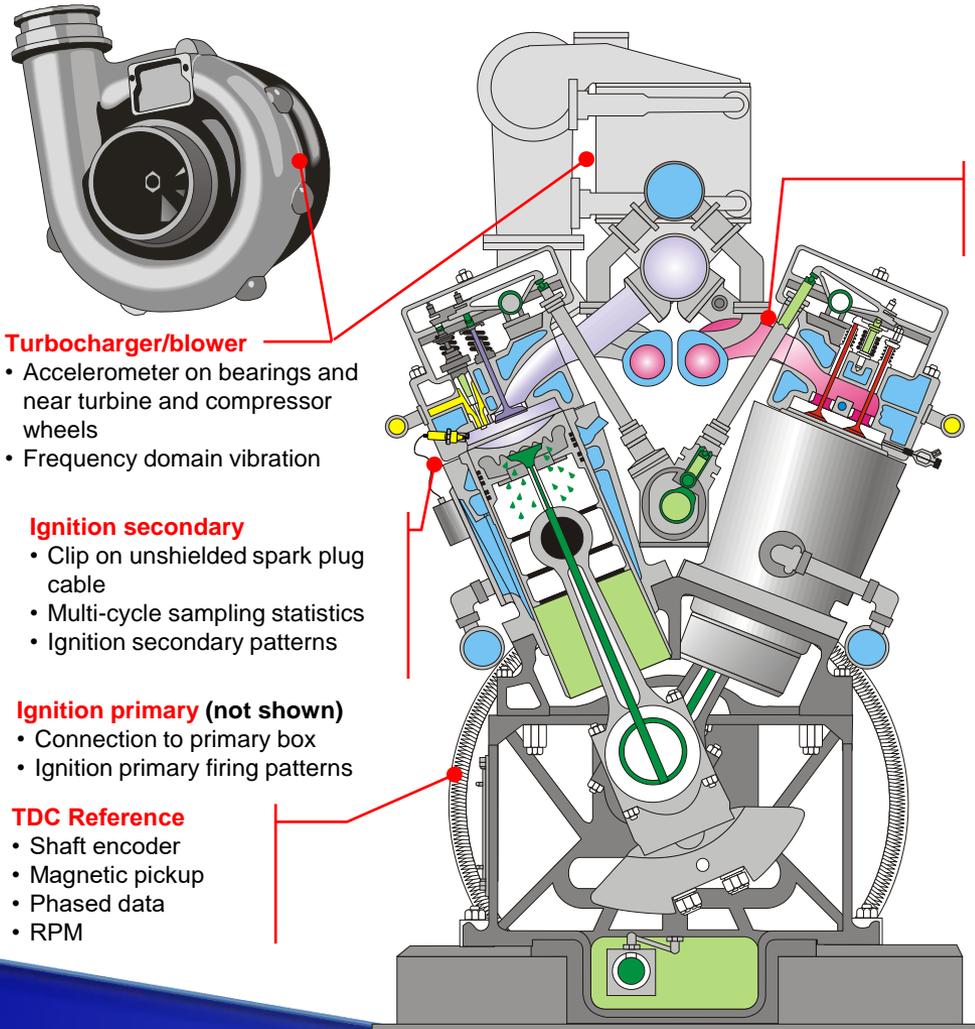
Ignition primary (not shown)

- Connection to primary box
- Ignition primary firing patterns

Engine Data Collection



Engine Data Collection



Turbocharger/blower

- Accelerometer on bearings and near turbine and compressor wheels
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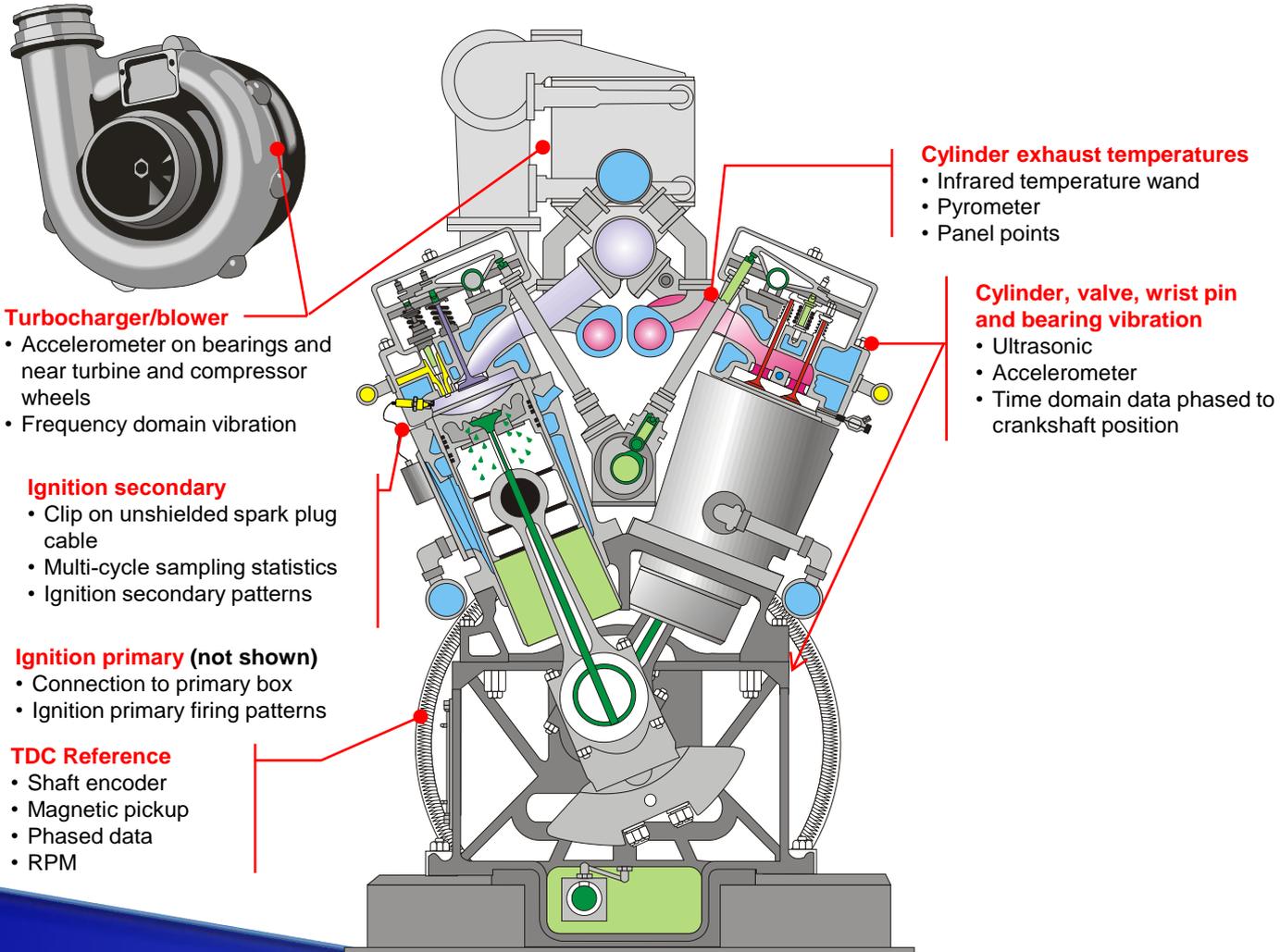
TDC Reference

- Shaft encoder
- Magnetic pickup
- Phased data
- RPM

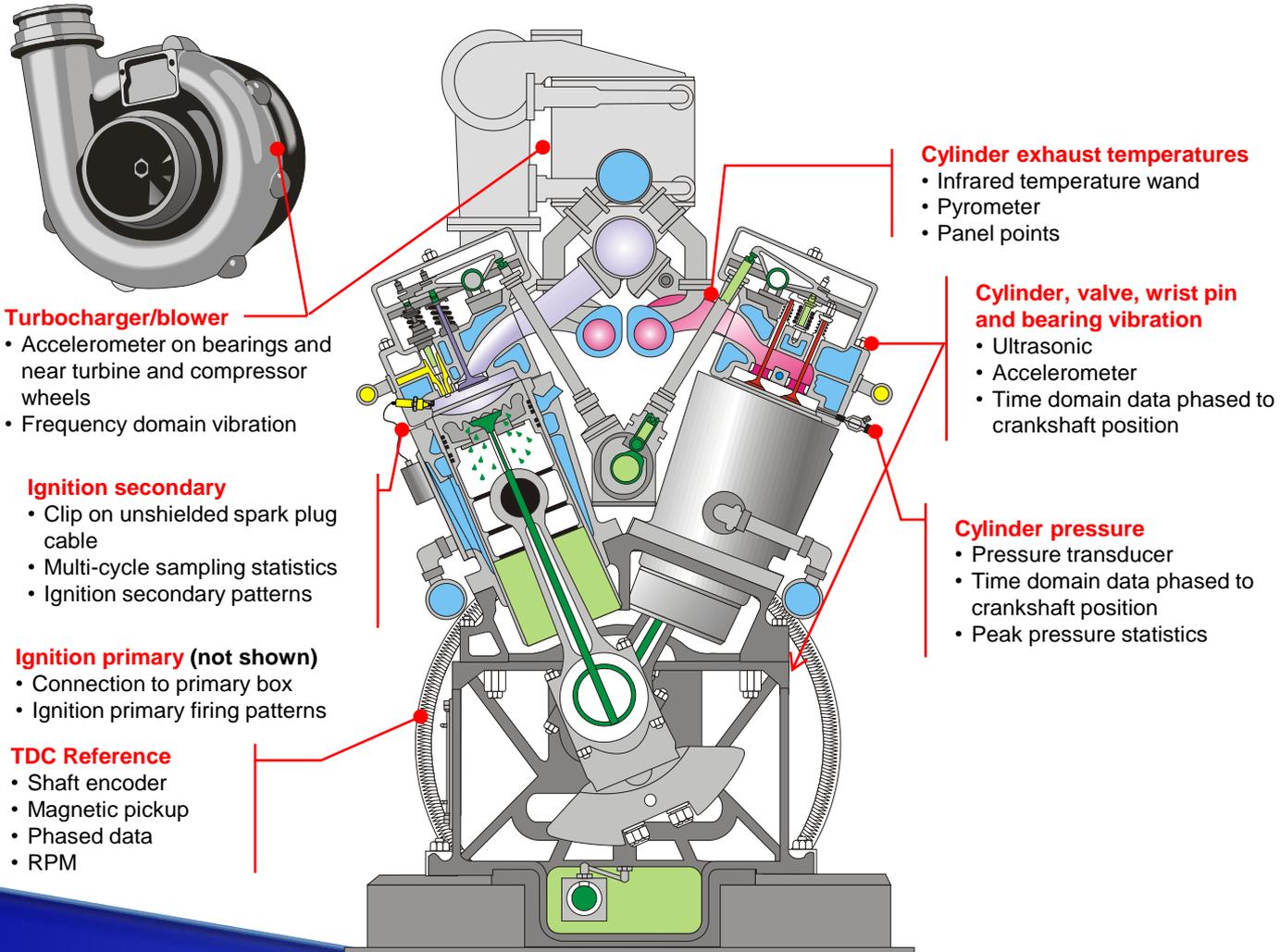
Cylinder exhaust temperatures

- Infrared temperature sensor
- Pyrometer
- Panel points

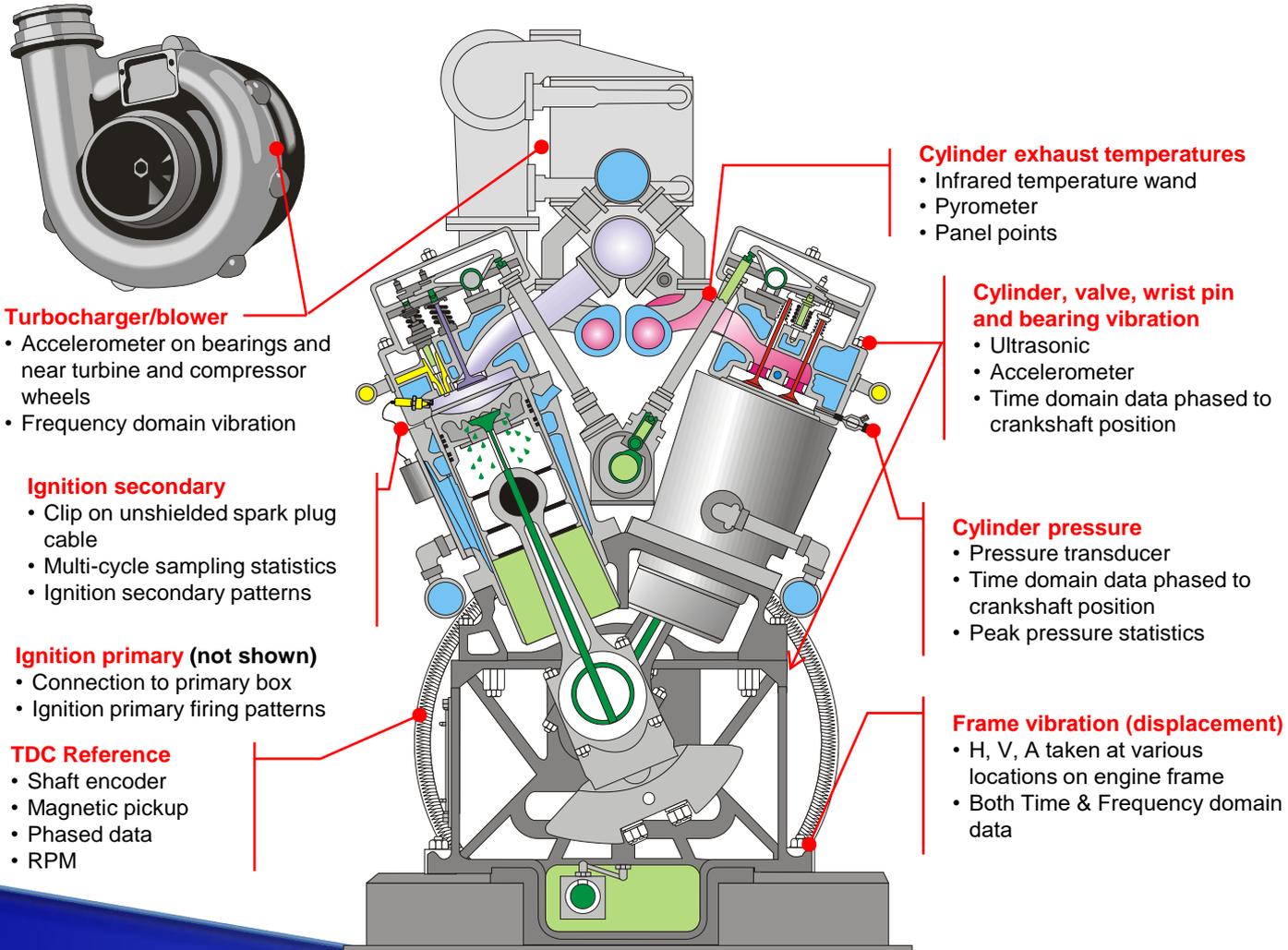
Engine Data Collection



Engine Data Collection



Engine Data Collection



Engine Concerns

- Ignition
- Fuel
- Combustion
- Mechanical condition
- Lubrication
- Cooling

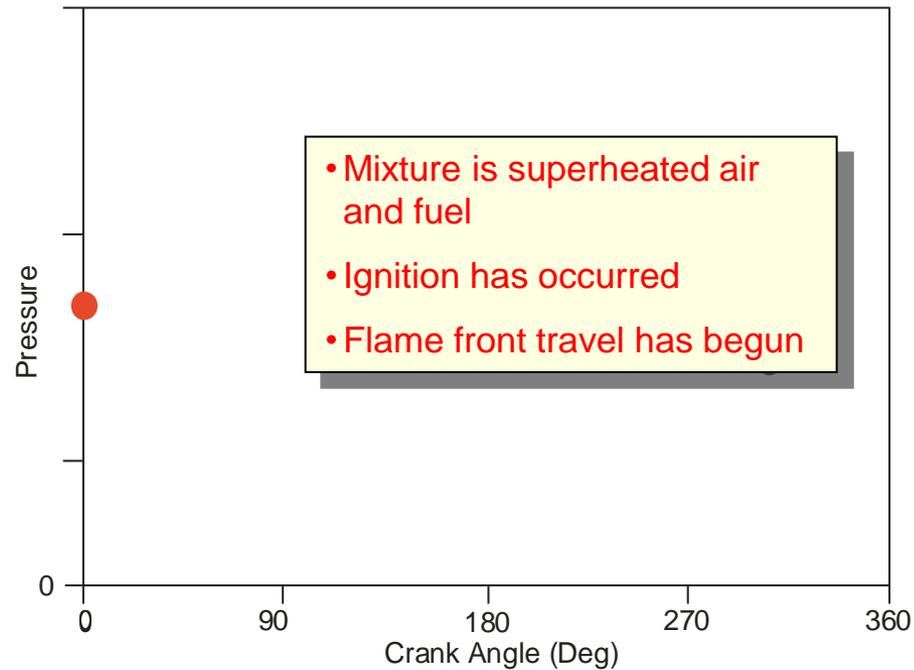
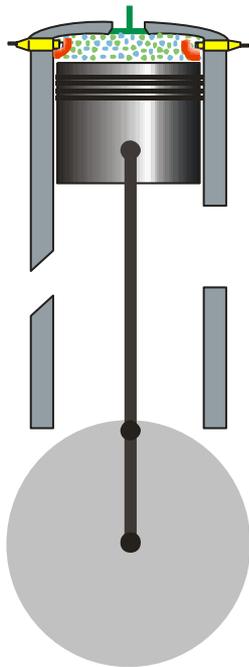


The Two-Stroke Engine

- The complete combustion cycle (compression, power, exhaust and intake) is accomplished in one revolution of the crankshaft
- Portions of both the intake and exhaust processes (**scavenging**) are accomplished at the end of the power stroke and the beginning of the compression stroke
- The fuel valve cam is driven at engine speed
- Cannot be naturally aspirated

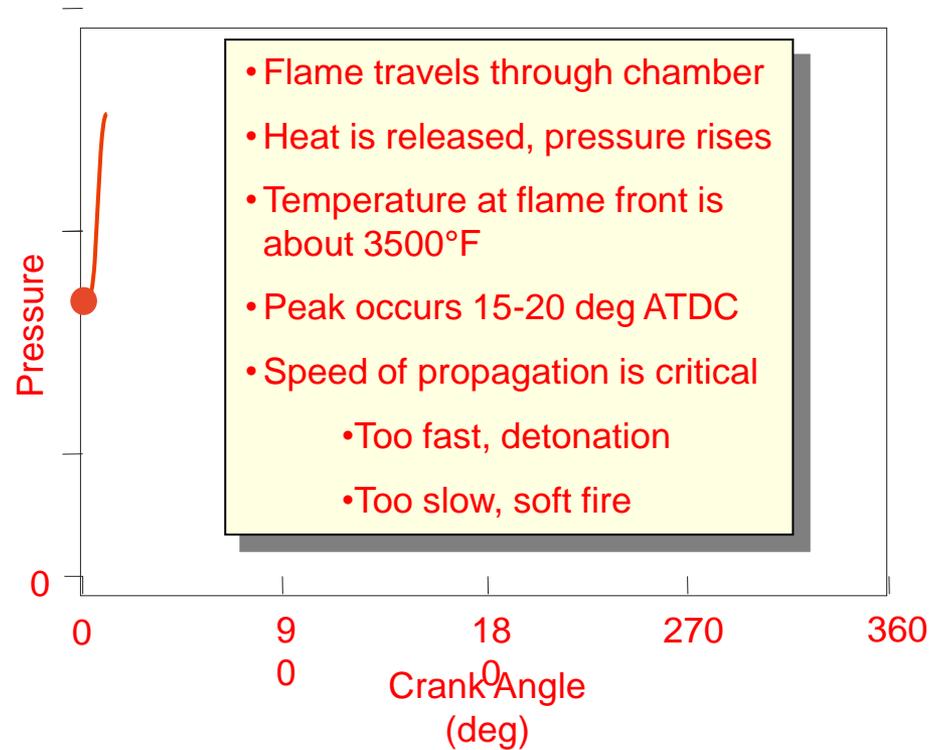
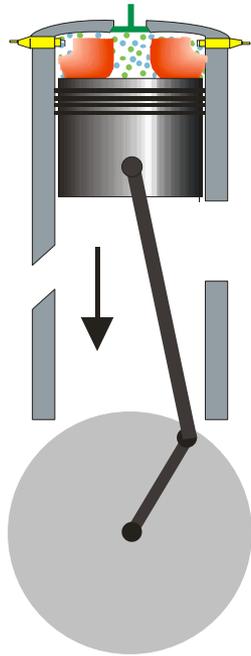
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: start of cycle



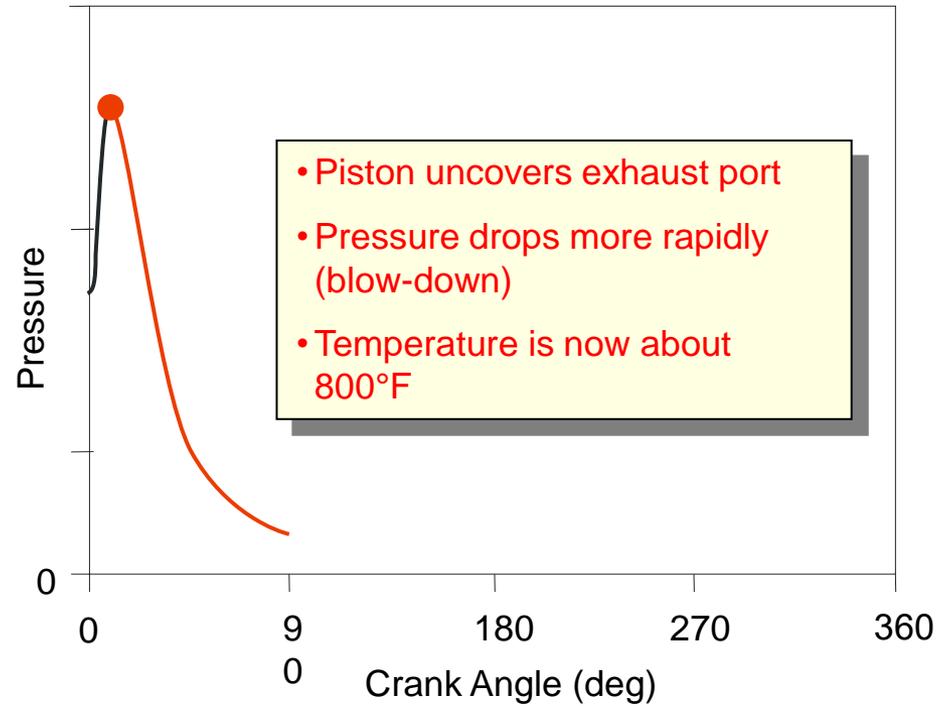
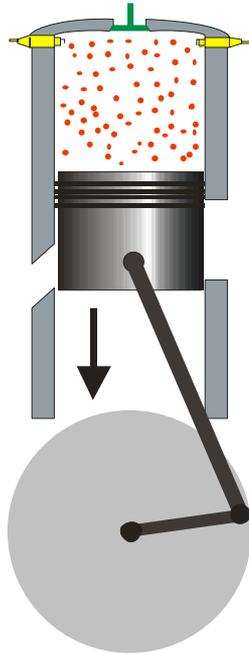
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: combustion



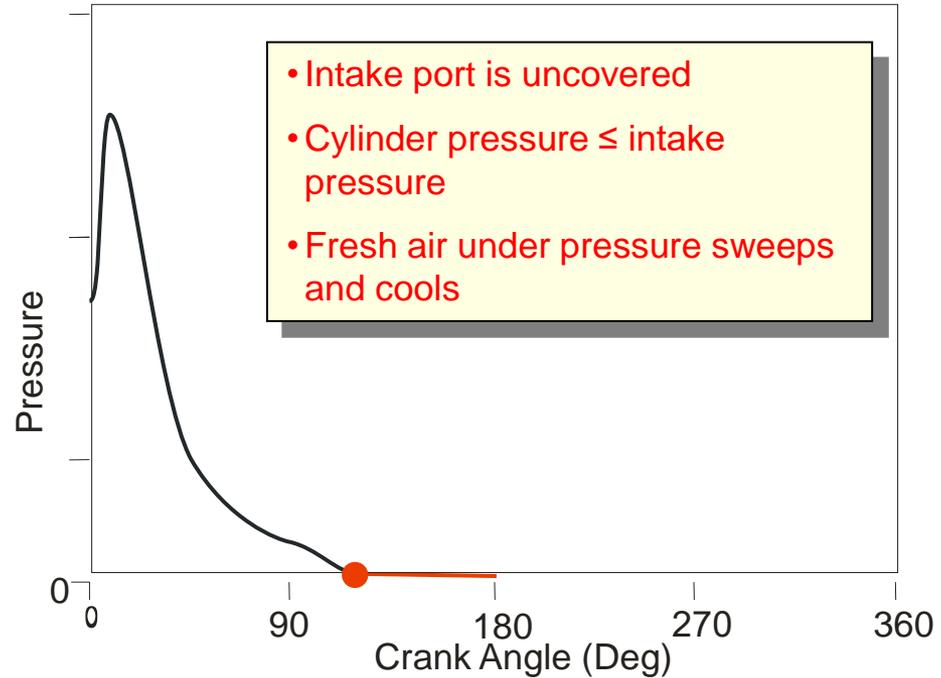
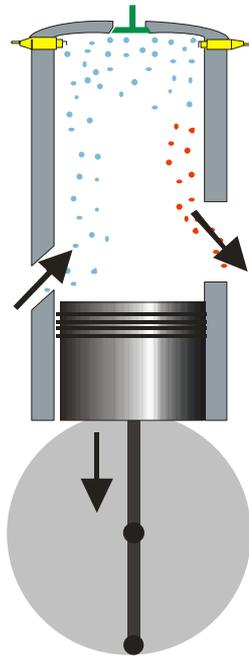
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: power



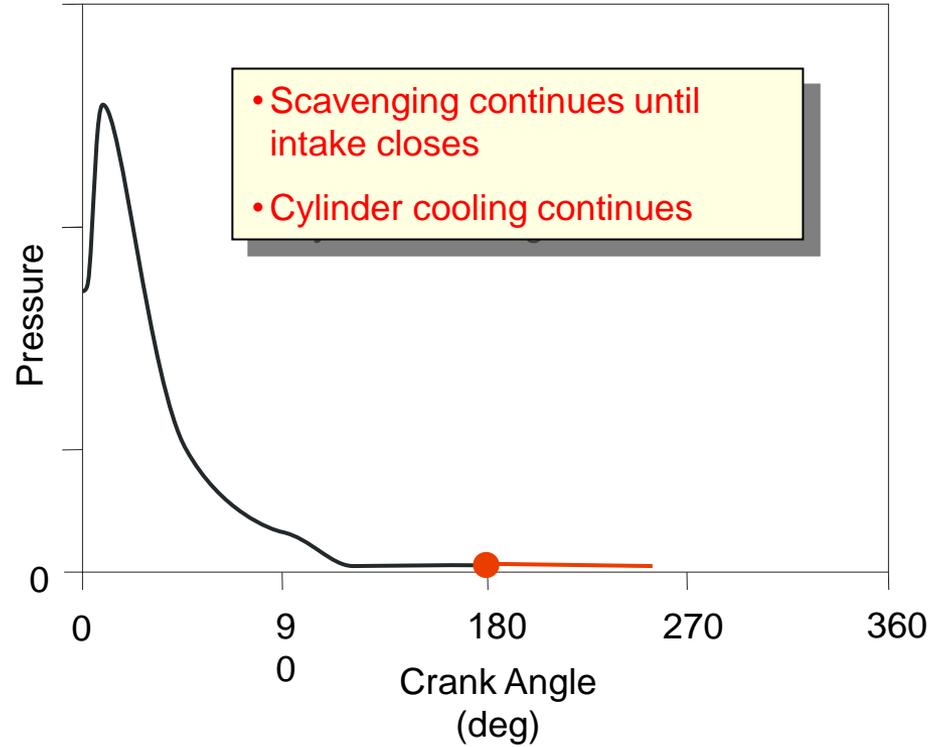
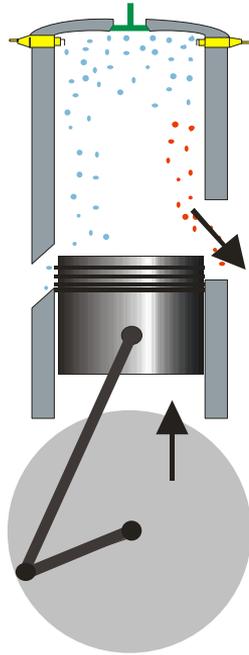
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: air intake



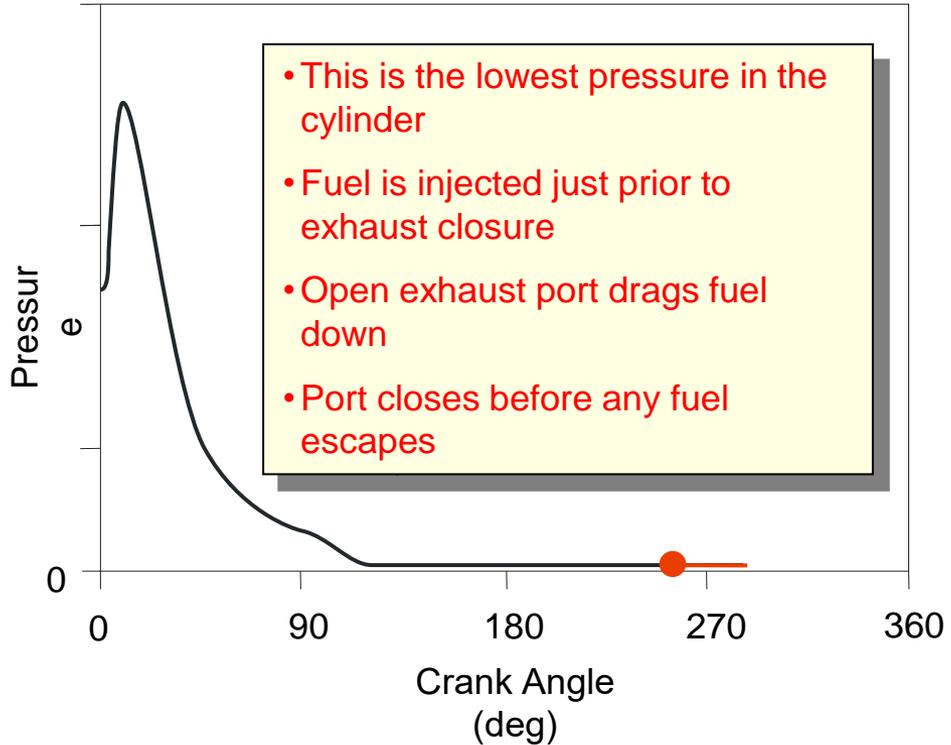
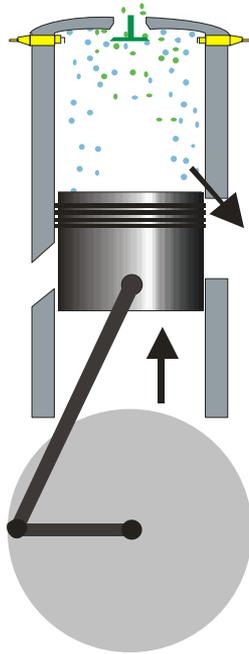
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: scavenging



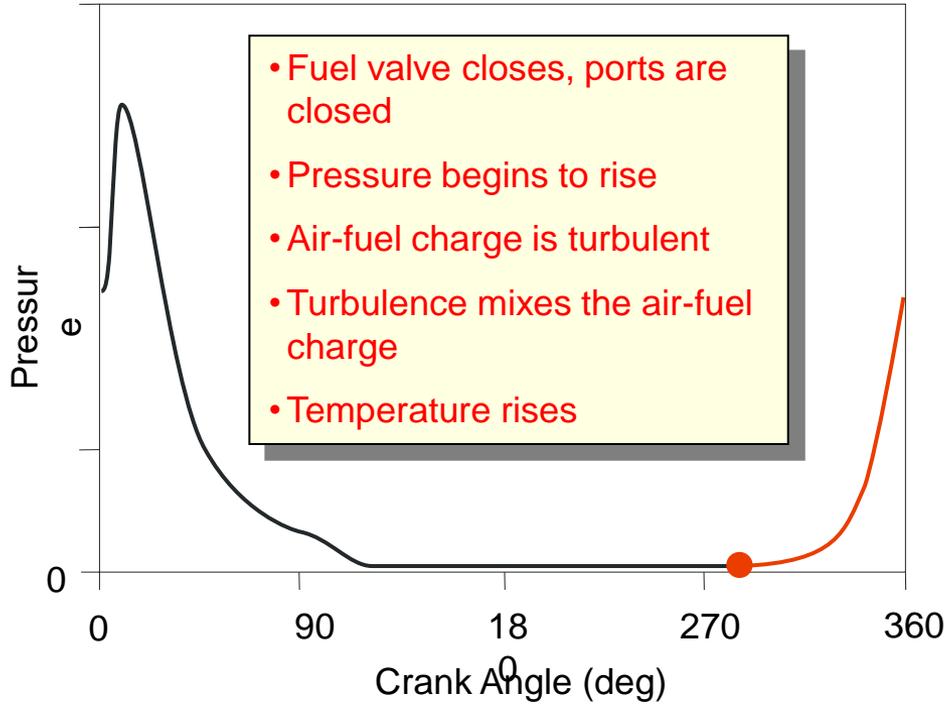
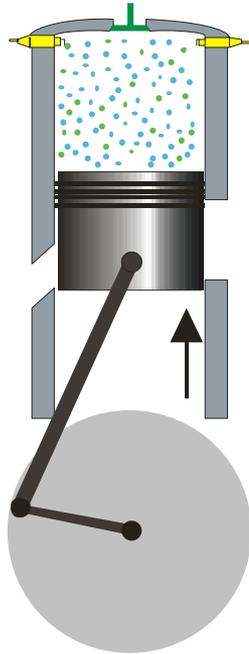
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: fuel intake



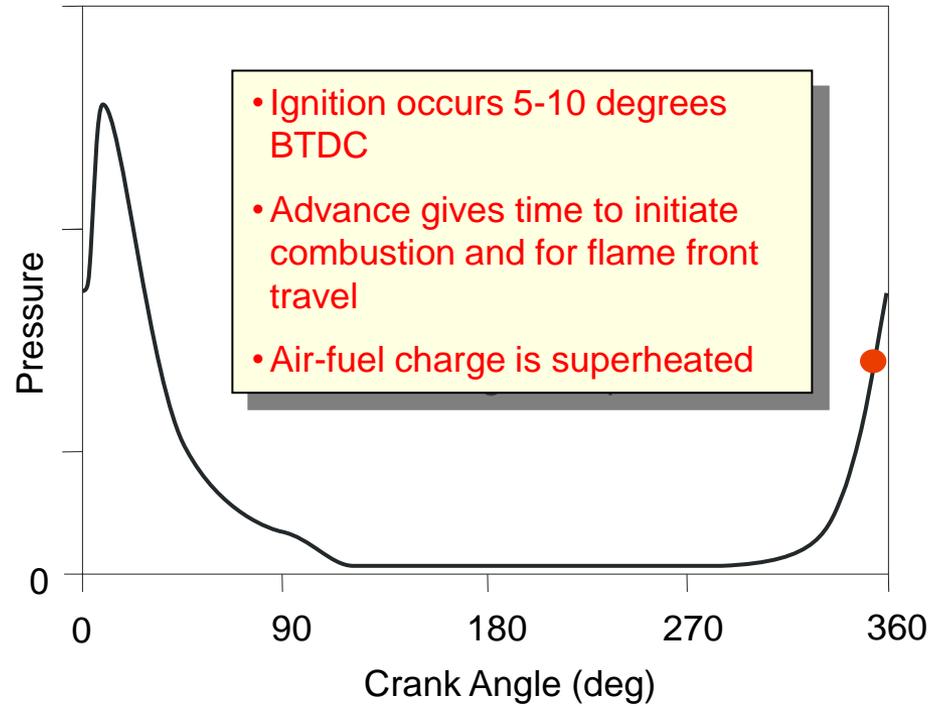
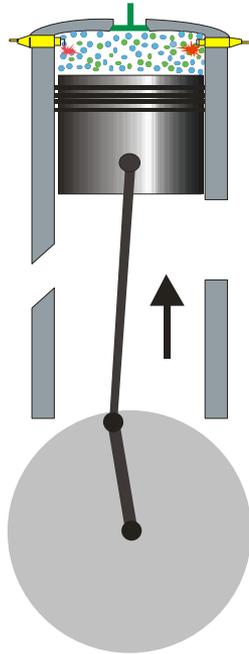
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: compression



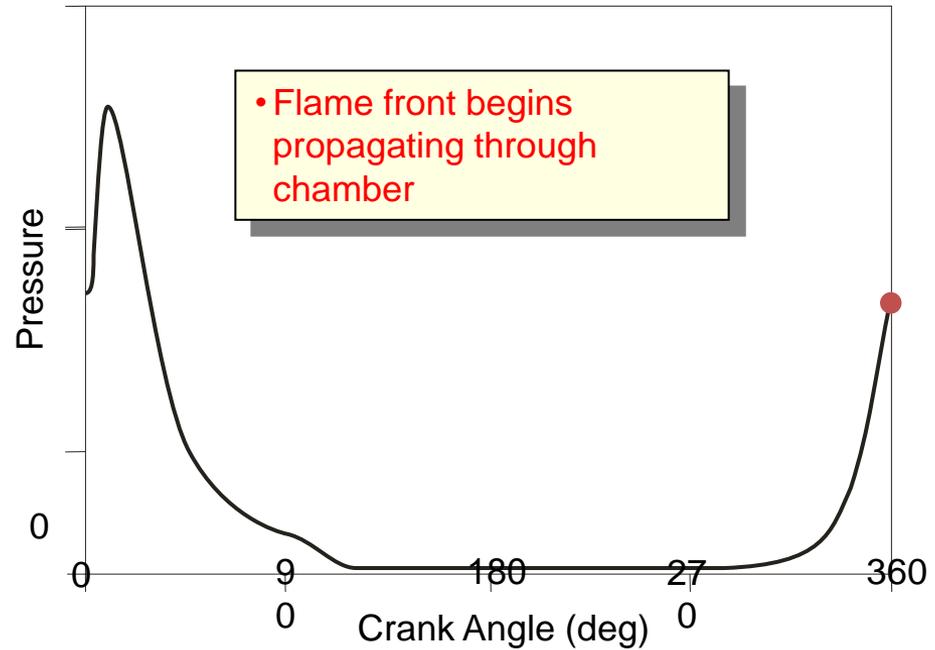
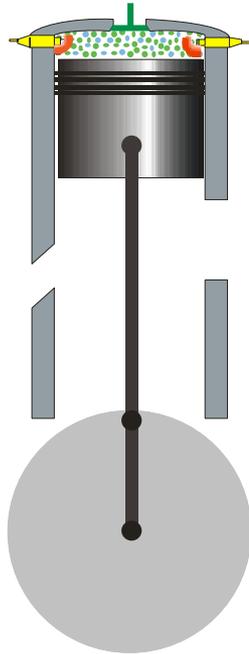
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: ignition



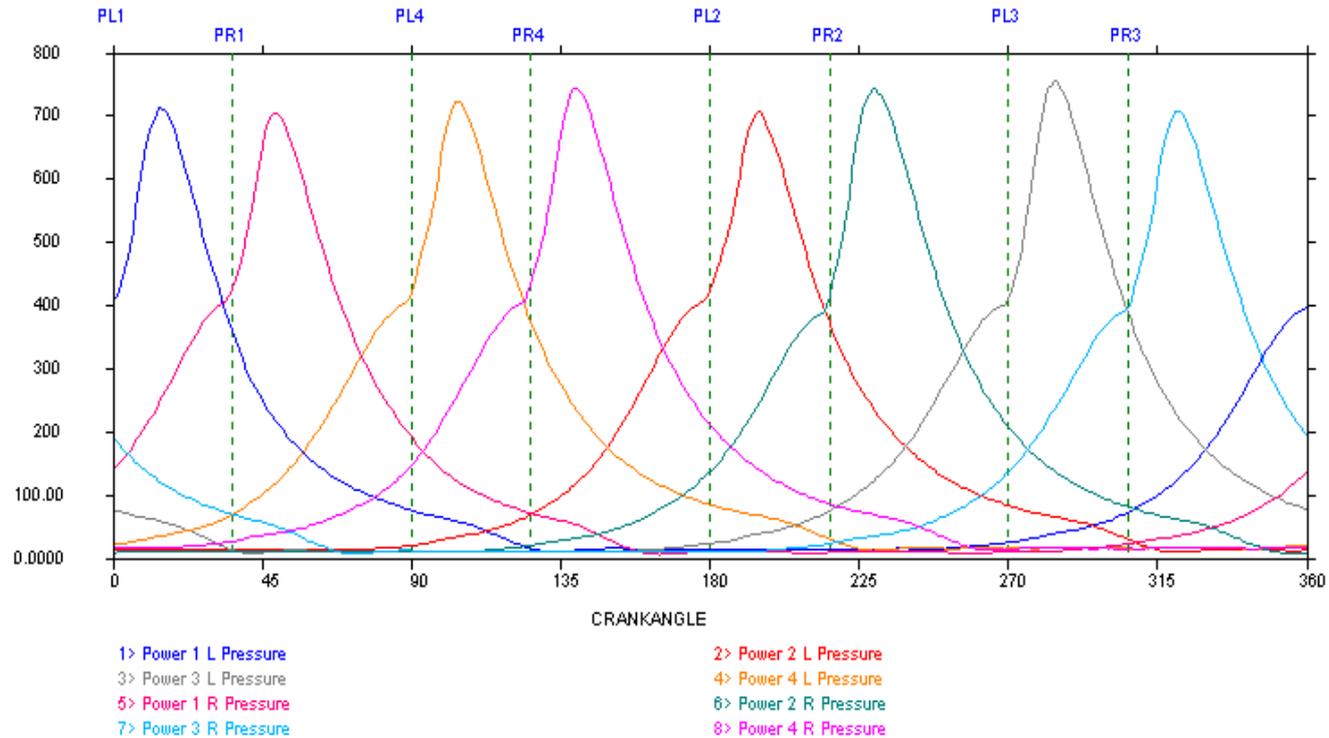
Sequence of events for a 2-stroke engine

PT: end of cycle

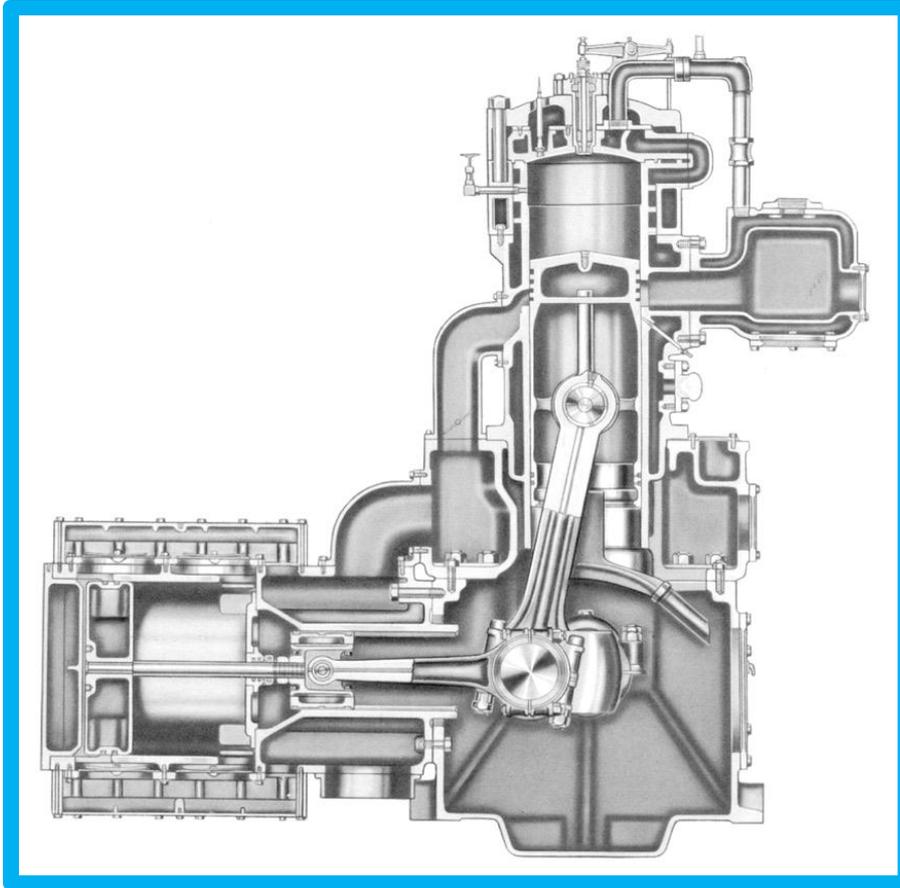


2-Stroke Pressure Parade

Averaged Pressure Trace



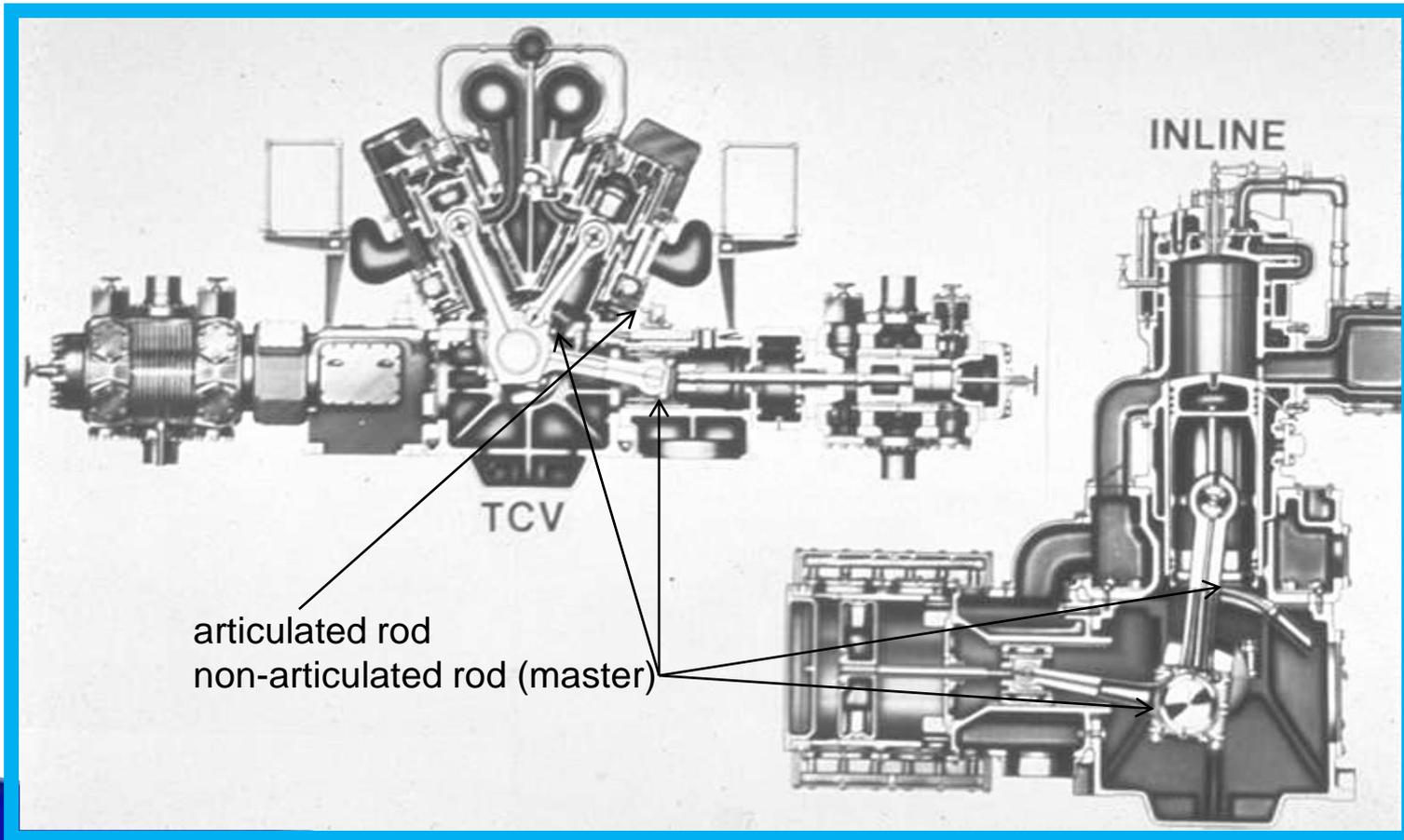
2 Stroke Scavenged Engine



Integral types have a common crankshaft shared between the power cylinders and compressor cylinders.

Dresser-Rand (Clark) RA, 2-stroke integral gas engine & compressor with non-articulated power connecting rods

2 Stroke Integral (Vee & Inline)



Combustion Types

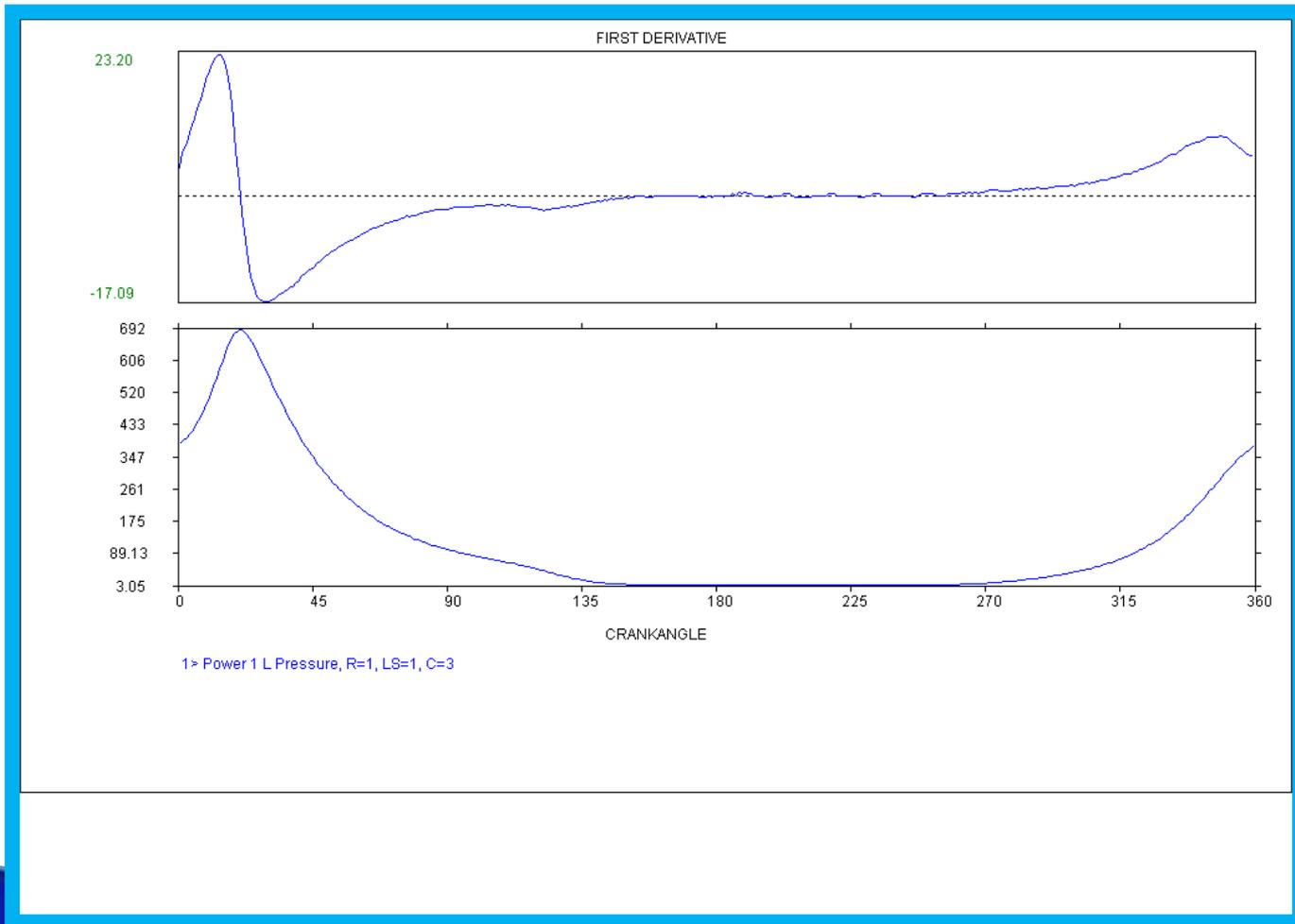
(2 & 4 Stroke)

- Normal ✓
- No Ignition X
- Early Ignition X
- Late Ignition X
- Detonation X
- Pre-ignition X
- Intermittent Firing X

Normal Combustion Requirements

- Correct amount of fuel with the proper BTU
- The right amount of air at the right pressure and temperature to control the combustion rate
- Proper amount of ignition energy at the right degree of crankshaft rotation

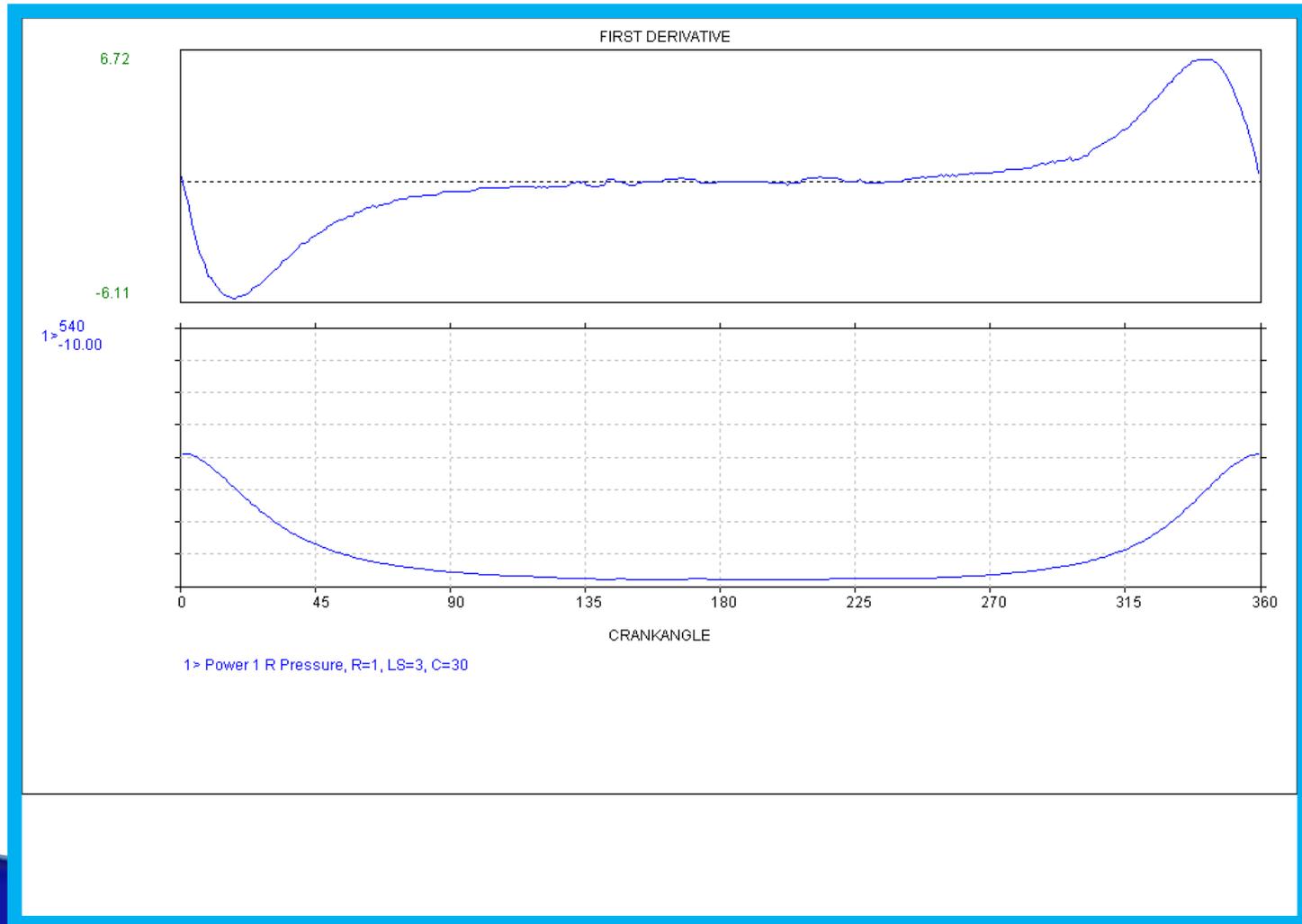
Normal Combustion



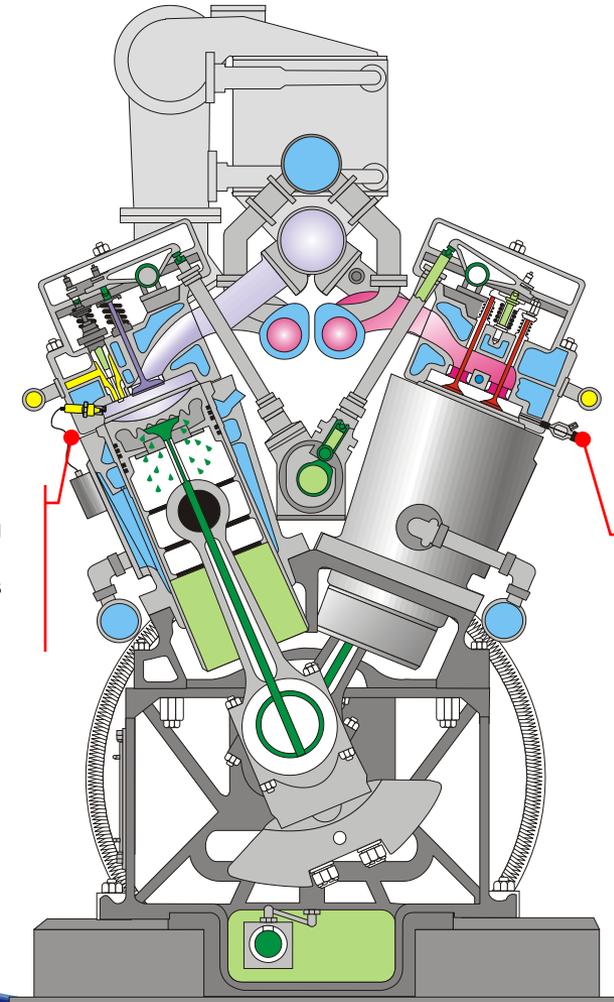
No Combustion

- The air/fuel charge does not ignite and there is no pressure rise except from the compression process
- Negative horsepower results due to pumping losses
- Caused by problems with air, fuel, foreign material or defective ignition

No Combustion



Routine Engine Balancing



Ignition secondary

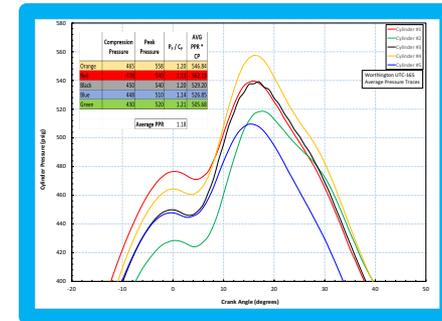
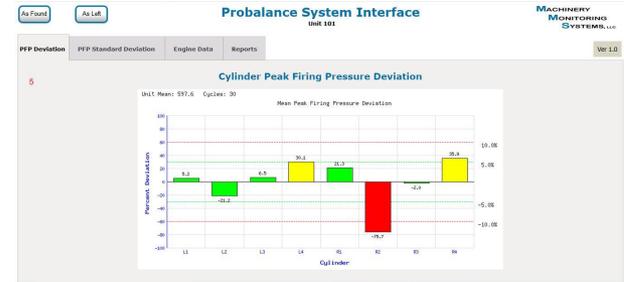
- Clip on unshielded spark plug cable
- Multi-cycle sampling statistics
- Ignition secondary patterns

Cylinder pressure

- Pressure transducer
- Time domain data phased to crankshaft position
- Peak pressure statistics

Engine Balance Methods

- Peak Firing Pressure (PFP)
- Peak Pressure Ratio (PPR)



Peak Firing Pressure Balancing

- **Peak Firing Pressure (PFP)** is the most common balancing method – probably due to the history of balancing – it was easy to measure.
- It is accomplished by measuring the firing pressures of all the cylinders, calculating the mean PFP for the engine, and adjusting the cylinder firing pressures as close to that mean pressure as possible.

PFP Balancing

As Found

As Left

Probalance System Interface Unit 101

MACHINERY
MONITORING
SYSTEMS, LLC

PFP Deviation

PFP Standard Deviation

Engine Data

Reports

Ver 1.0

5

Cylinder Peak Firing Pressure Deviation



MACHINERY
MONITORING
SYSTEMS, LLC

PFP Balancing

As Found

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Probalance System Interface Unit 101

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Cylinder Peak Firing Pressure Deviation



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Unit 101

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Cylinder Peak Firing Pressure Deviation



Engine
Average
(597 psi)

MACHINERY
MONITORING
SYSTEMS, LLC

PFP Balancing

As Found

As Left

Probalance System Interface Unit 101

MACHINERY
MONITORING
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PFP Deviation

PFP Standard Deviation

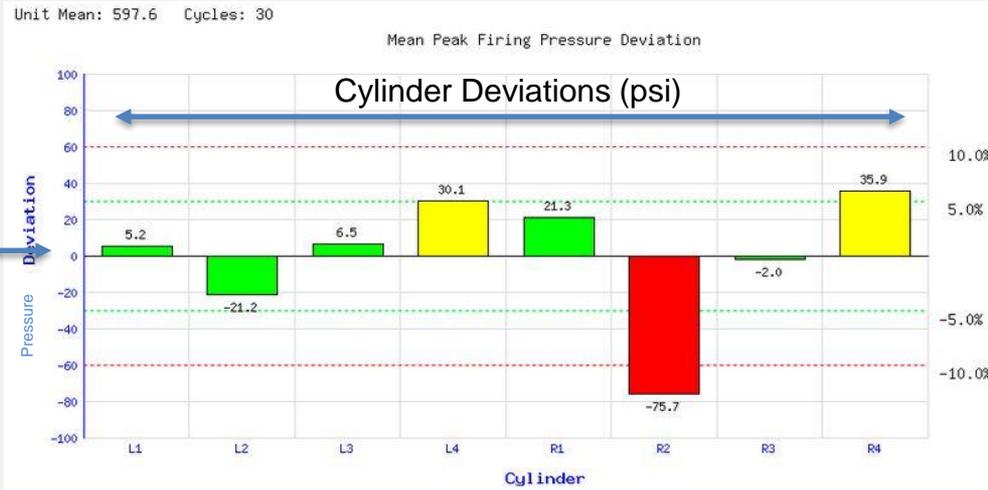
Engine Data

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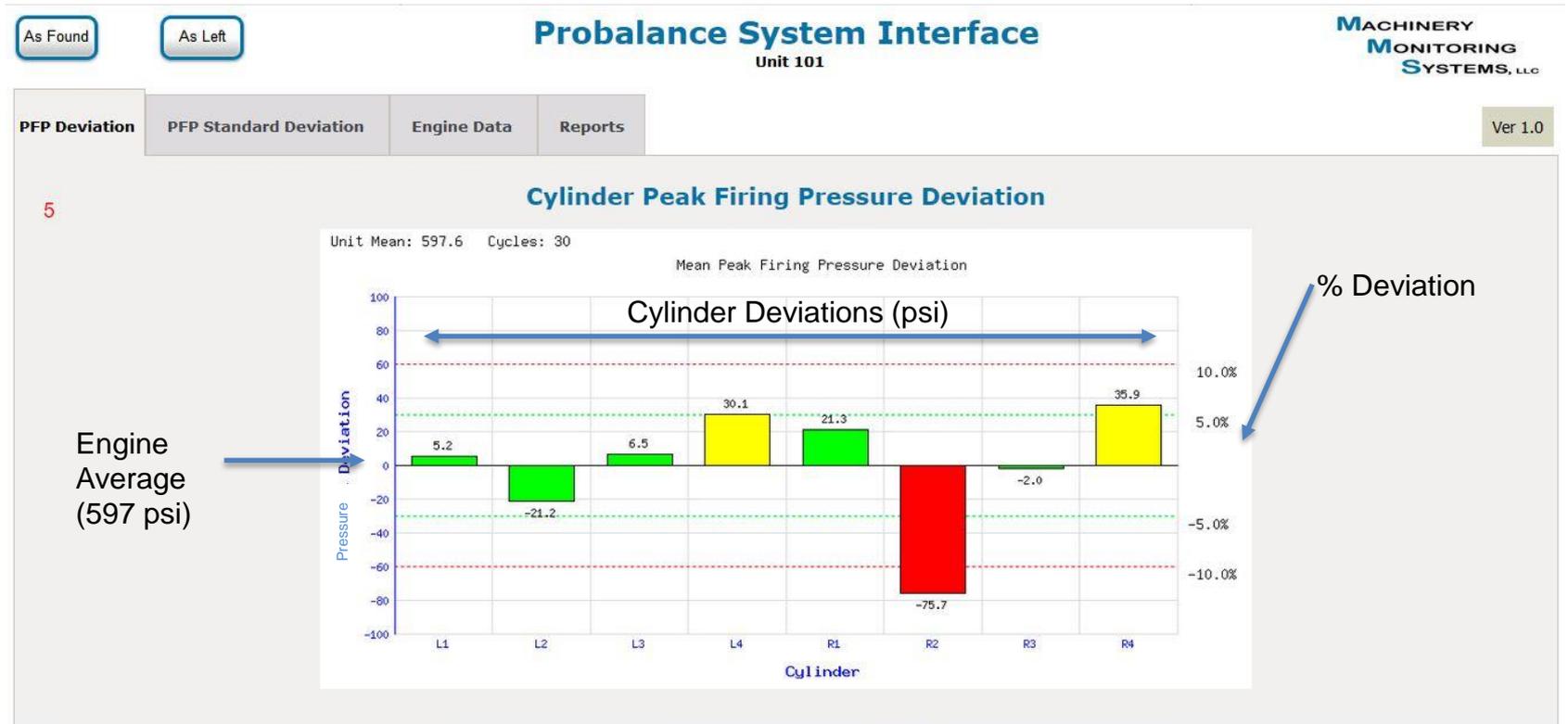
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Cylinder Peak Firing Pressure Deviation



Engine
Average
(597 psi)

PFP Balancing



PFP Balance Procedure

- Measure PFP for each cylinder
- Calculate mean PFP for the engine & deviations of each cylinder from the engine mean (As-Found)
- Identify which fuel modulators need to be increased/decreased
- Make adjustments
- Re-measure each cylinder's PFP (As-Left...hopefully!)



Peak Pressure Ratio Balancing

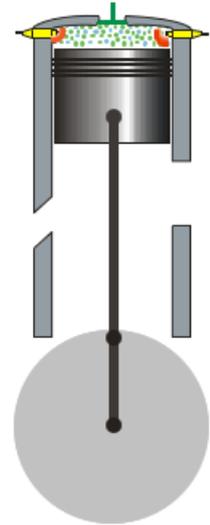
- **Peak Pressure Ratio (PPR)** is a method suggested in EPPL / SWRI / DOE study in 2008. In this method, the PFP and the running Compression Pressure (C_p) of each cylinder is measured.
- The compression pressure is an indication of how much air is trapped in the cylinder. Since we cannot change that, by inputting the proper amount of fuel into each cylinder, we can control the equivalence ratio, which influences the combustion process.

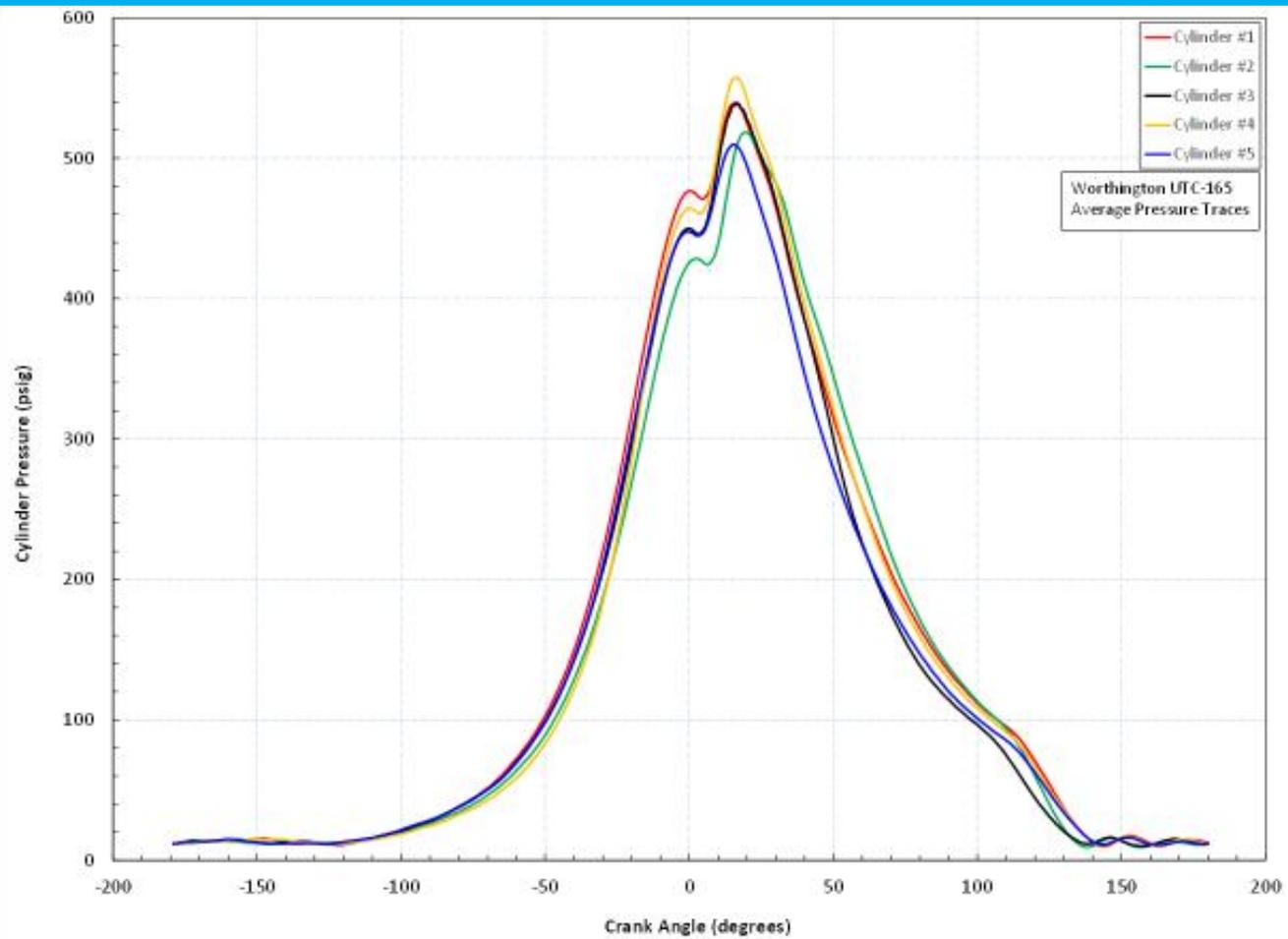
Peak Pressure Ratio Balancing

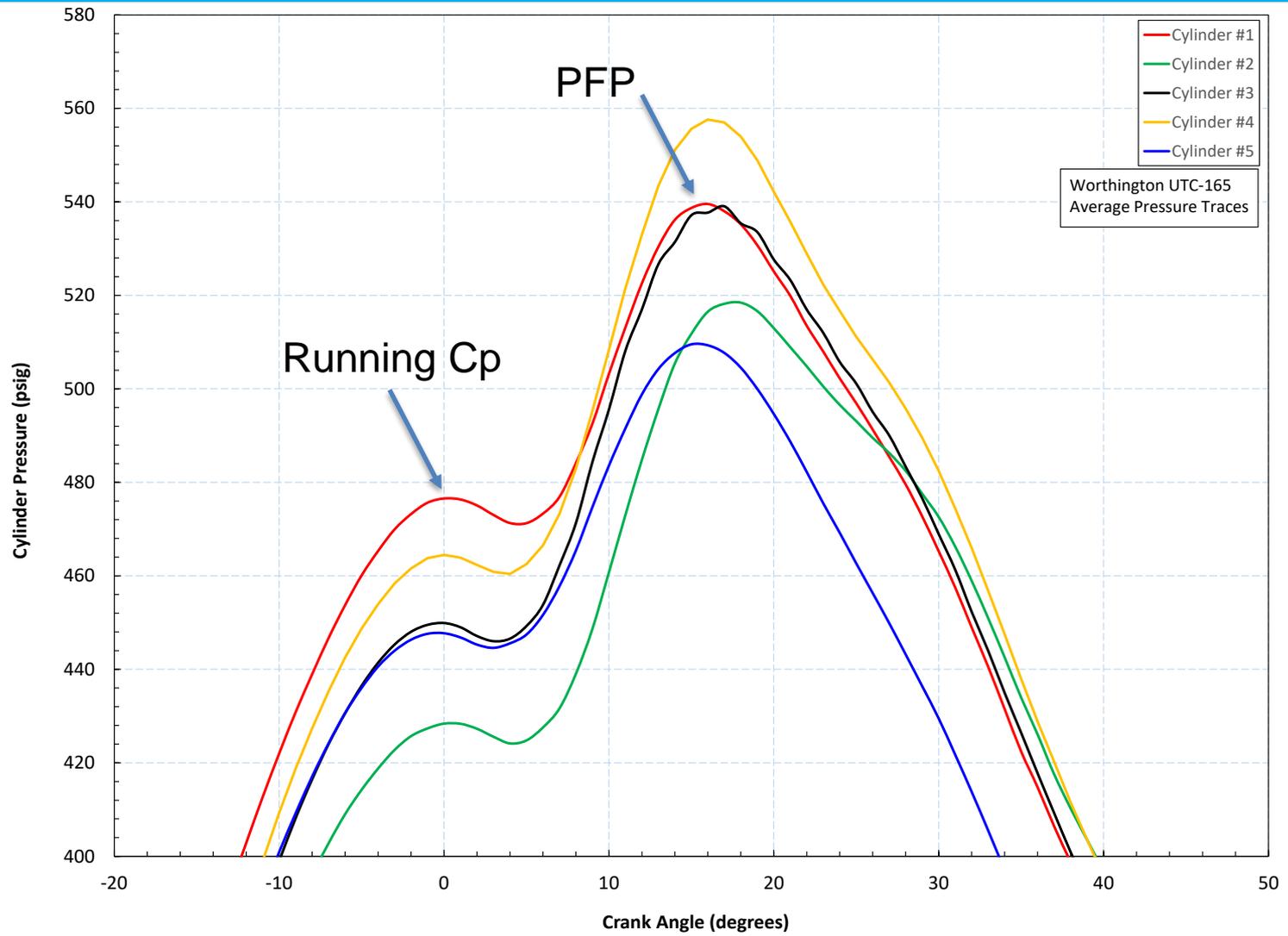
- The PFP is divided by the C_p establishing the PPR.

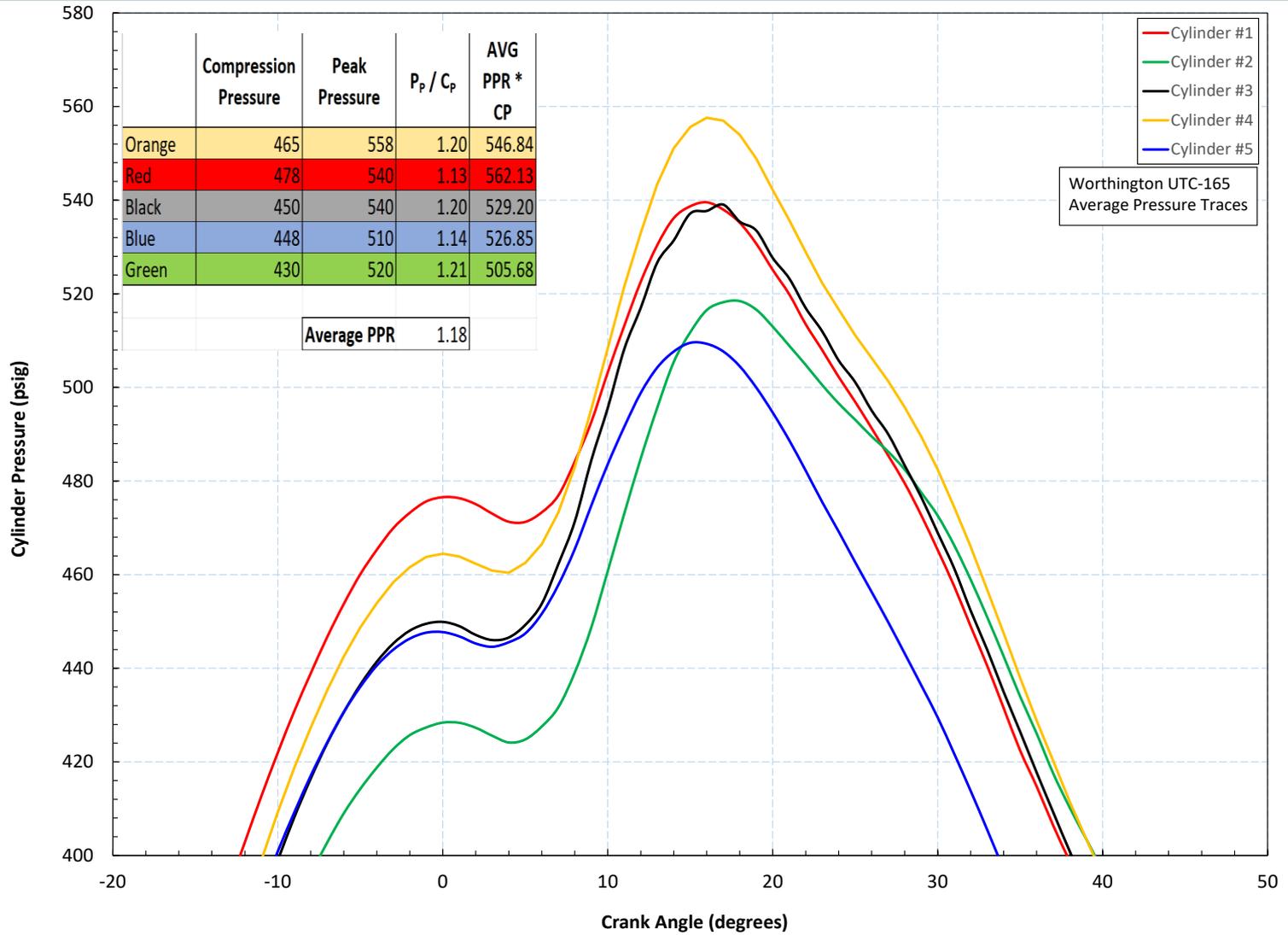
$$PPR = PFP / C_p$$

- Multiplying the engine average PPR by the individual cylinder C_p 's generates the target PFP for that cylinder.





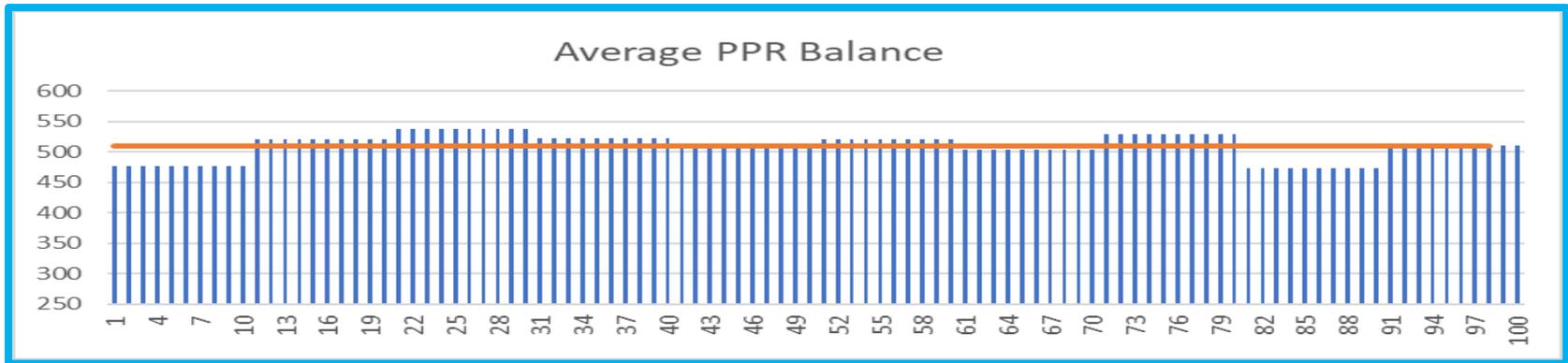
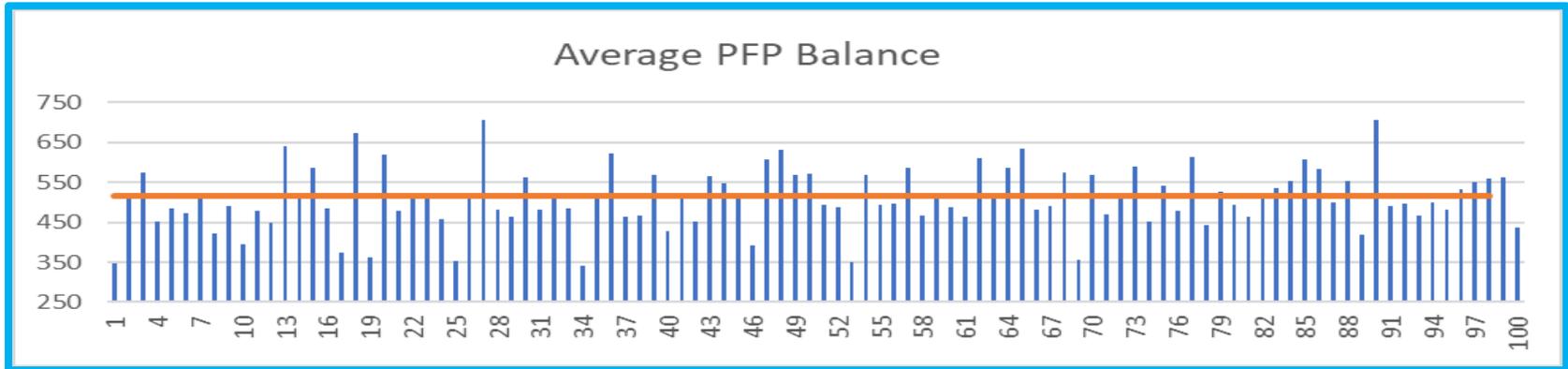




PPR Balance Procedure

- Measure PFP for each cylinder
- Calculate each cylinder's PPR (PFP / C_p) and then engine's average PPR_{avg}
- Use the Engine Average PPR to calculate each cylinder's target PFP
$$\text{Target PFP} = \text{Cyl } C_p \times PPR_{avg}$$
- Bar chart the cylinder's differences between the as-found PFPs and their target PFPs (As-Found Balance)
- Identify which fuel modulators need to be increased/decreased (e.g +/- 5% from their target PFP)
- Make adjustments
- Re-measure each cylinder's PFP, plot differences between measured PFP & Target PFP (As-Left...hopefully!)

PFP to PPR Comparison



Bottom Line

My Awesome Company
PROFIT AND LOSS
January - December 2018

	TOTAL
Income	\$87,763.99
Cost of Goods Sold	\$9,328.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$78,435.99
Expenses	\$5,707.06
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$72,728.93
Other Income	\$43.12
Other Expenses	\$10,721.88
NET OTHER INCOME	\$-16,678.76
NET INCOME	\$82,050.17

- Research has shown that utilization of the PPR method reduces NO_x, COV's and associated crankshaft stresses induced by rapid variations in angular velocities imparted by unbalance and misfires*.

Next Steps

- **Education** – End users need to understand the benefits of PPR. How do you explain it to your Ops Supervisors!
- **Implementation** – MMS is working to incorporate the PPR method (as an option) in our portable balancer (Snapshot Engine Balancer) as well as our online products (ProBalance & ProBalance Plus).

Thank you
Questions?

