2012-2013 EUSpEC Devin Jacobson

- JSETEC International participation
- EUSpEC competition
- EUSpEC Presentations
- International Competition Status

JSETEC International participation

SPICE introduction

Delivery Systems: Engineers from the University of Cambridge and Marshall Aerospace will test the feasibility and design of using a tethered-balloon to inject particles into the stratosphere. They will be using the data obtained from the test-bed project in computer models to examine how a full-scale system might work at an altitude of 20km.

SPICE Project



JSETEC International participation

- Cambridge University SPICE research project
 - 2 members of the experimental tether design team participated
 - Studying and verifying system vibration models for tethered balloon
 - Used master thesis image analysis software to verify models
 - Shared detailed weather data for the competition site for 2 days

JSETEC International participation

- No international climber teams in 2012
- Hopefully we will be able to get some more international team participation (also from Asia) in 2013/2014

EUSpEC Competition details

• Scoring:

- Potential Energy vs Consumed Energy mass * gravity * height / (Energy used)
- Payload ratio: Mass Payload / Mass total
- These are both Primary reasons for considering Space Elevator over Rockets





EUSpEC Competition details

- Participant Handbook (Pg 7-9)
- Considerations and Results Ein_Bericht.pdf

(Pg 4 specs, Pg 5 formula calcs, Results Pg 11)



EUSpEC Competition Highlights OOPS





EUSpEC Competition Highlights

- The energy efficiency of several climbers was above 90%.
- Regarding the load factor still much room for improvement.

On average the climbers carried 10% of their own weight as payload.

Prizes

- Technology Award 2012 Aoki Lab B
- Innovation Award 2012 Irie Lab
 - Noted Innovative Structural body design

- 2011 Innovation Award Egami Laboratory
 - Noted dynamic adjustment based on slip feedback





Energy Efficiency

(*random sources/studies found on web)

- Rockets Mostly propellant so even if 0% loss still effectively only 20% or less efficient.
 - Obviously there is Engine loss
- Space Elevator? Too Many unknowns
 - with/without Laser Delivery system?
- Cars (Combustion Engine) 15-30% *
 - Currently > 50% Engine loss
- Current High-speed Trains/Rail system 80% *
- Electric Car drive train 90% *
- Electric Transformers 98% *

Payload Ratios



Payload Ratios Rocket Technologies

- Assume an exhaust velocity of 4.5 km/s and a \ Delta v of 9.7 km/s for LEO
- Of Initial mass what percent must be propellant
 1 e ^(-9.7/4.5) = 88.4%
- Liquid Propellant not feasible, but other methodologies may be. Unfortunately I need to study more

VASIMR or Ion Thruster could look like this (50km/s exhaust velocity):

 $1 - e^{(-9.7/50)} = 18.3\%$

In far future maybe this allows for a payload ratio of around 50% to LEO

Payload Ratios Current Status

- Space Shuttle:
- fueled weight at liftoff: 1,708,500 kg
- dry weight at liftoff: 342,100 kg
- Given these numbers, the propellant mass fraction is \displaystyle 1-(342,100/1,708,500) = 0.7998. (80% propellant to LEO)
- Effective Payload ratio of Space Shuttle to only LEO:
 - 22,700 kg payload / 1,708,500 kg
 - = 1.3% Payload Ratio

Payload Ratios Current Status

- Ariane 5
 - fueled weight at liftoff: 777,000 kg
 - Payload to LEO: 16,000 kg
- Effective Payload ratio of Ariane 5 to only LEO: 16,000 kg payload / 777,000 kg
 = 2.1% Payload Ratio

EUSpEC Notable presentations

- Andreas Hein Space Elevator Feasibility
 - Original Space Elevator baseline not realistic.
 - Only option is INSITU (Near Earth Object) tether production







Upcoming Competitions and conferences

- Seattle, WA Tether competition and conference in US August 23-25 2013
 - Continue NASA Tether competition Zylon (PBO) 1340 kg/m^3, 5 GPa
 - Focus on Tether Climbers (perhaps benefit from some participation from JSEA)
- EUSpEC Muenchen Europe 2013
 - Dates unknown

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