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RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

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ALTITUDE PERFORMANCE OF $25\frac{1}{2}$-INCH-DIAMETER

ANNULAR-TYPE TURBOJET COMBUSTOR

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EFFECT OF DISTRIBUTION OF BASKET-HOLE AREA ON SIMULATED ALTITUDE

PERFORMANCE OF $25\frac{1}{2}$-INCH-DIAMETER ANNULAR-TYPE TURBOJET COMBUSTOR

By Walter T. Olson and Thomas T. Schroeter

SUMMARY

The performance of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor was investigated with 11 combustor-basket designs at conditions simulating static (zero ram) operation of the turbojet engine over a range of altitudes and engine speeds. The investigation was conducted to determine the effect of the distribution of basket-hole area on the altitude operational limits of the engine as imposed by the combustor. Total-pressure drop was recorded for each combustor configuration. In one of the basket configurations, the effect of fuel-nozzle spray angle and the effect of fuel-nozzle flow capacity on altitude operational limits was determined. Illustrative information was obtained with a few combustors on combustion efficiency, combustor-outlet temperature distribution, and fuel-manifold vapor-lock characteristics. General observations were made of all the configurations regarding the character and appearance of the flames, the extent of afterburning, and the durability of the baskets.

The results of the investigation indicate that the manufacturer's stepped cylindrical basket had altitude limits between 5000 and 12,000 feet higher throughout the engine speed range than the manufacturer's stepped conical basket. A study of systematic arrangements of the air passages in the walls of the stepped cylindrical basket indicated that highest altitude operational limits and best combustion efficiencies were achieved when the air passages were introduced gradually so that the first 20 percent of total basket-hole area was achieved in about half or more of the basket length. Varying the spray angle and flow capacity of the fuel nozzles from 45° to 80° and from 5 to 7.5 gallons per hour, respectively, made little difference on the altitude operational limits of one of the configurations.

INTRODUCTION

An investigation of the performance of turbojet engines with annular-type combustors in the NACA Cleveland altitude wind tunnel indicated that the combustors cannot supply the thermal energy required for engine operation above a limiting altitude for each engine speed. Consequently a general program to determine, to analyze, and to improve the altitude performance of various models of annular-type turbojet-engine combustors was instituted at the Cleveland laboratory. The performance characteristics of several models of annular combustors and of NACA modifications to those models have been determined at simulated altitudes; the combustors generally performed as described in reference 1.

The altitude performance of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular turbo-jet combustor with each of eleven combustor flame-tube or basket configurations was investigated during 1946 and is reported herein. Two of these eleven configurations were designed by the manufacturer and the other nine represent NACA modifications to one of the manufacturer's designs. The NACA modifications consisted in redistributing the air passages in the basket walls so that the effect of this design variable on performance might be studied.

The performance of these eleven configurations was investigated in a manner similar to that described in reference 1. The principal criterion for performance in each case was altitude operational limits; that is, each configuration was investigated over a range of simulated altitudes and engine speeds to determine the maximum altitude at each engine speed at which the combustor could produce the exhaust-gas temperature required by the turbine for engine operation. Combustor total-pressure drop was determined for each configuration. Data on the variation of combustion efficiency with simulated engine speed, with simulated altitude, and with fuel-air ratio and data on the gas temperature distribution at the combustor outlet are also included for certain specific configurations. In one of the basket configurations, the effect of fuel-nozzle spray angle and the effect of fuel-nozzle flow capacity on performance were examined. In addition, information concerning the flow characteristics of the fuel manifold, the character of the flames, the extent of afterburning, and the durability of the baskets is presented.

APPARATUS

A diagram of the combustor installation is shown in figure 1. The laboratory systems provided combustion air, which was metered

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with an adjustable orifice, fuel (AN-F-28, Amendment-3), which was
measured with a calibrated rotameter, and altitude exhaust.
Combustion-air flow and pressure were controlled by regulating
valves and the temperature of the combustion air was adjusted with
electric and fuel-fired heaters. A plenum chamber and a screen
installed in the setup provided a uniform velocity and temperature
distribution at the inlet to the combustor.

A longitudinal section of the annular combustor and auxiliary
ducting used in the investigation are shown in figure 2.

Instrumentation

Temperature- and pressure-measuring instruments were located
at four cross-sectional planes (fig. 2): (1) combustor inlet;
(2) combustor outlet corresponding to turbine inlet; (3) and (4)
exhaust section where thermocouples were installed to check for
afterburning. The orientation of the instruments in the four
planes is presented in figure 3, and construction details are
shown in figure 4. The thermocouples and total-pressure probes
were located at approximate centers of equal areas. Chromel-
alumel thermocouples (supplemented by iron-constantan thermo-
couples at plane 1), which were connected to calibrated self-
balancing indicating potentiometers, were used to measure
temperatures; common-well water manometers (connected to total-
head tubes or wall-static-pressure taps) were photographed to
record pressures.

Baskets

Diagrams of the longitudinal half sections and air-passage
arrangements of the 11 stepped-basket designs investigated are
shown in figures 5 and 6. The basket design types are designated
cylindrical (fig. 5(a)) and conical (fig. 5(b)). The cylin-
drical basket consists essentially of two concentric annular
chambers; the shells forming the chambers are composed of four
cylindrical sections connected by means of corrugated spacer
strips that admit cooling air parallel to the walls of the com-
bustion basket. At each successive section, the spacers increase
the width of each chamber by approximately 3/16 inch, of which
approximately one-third is open area. For admitting air into
the combustion chamber, the shells of the basket are perforated
with holes that increase progressively downstream from 7/32 to
11/16 inch in diameter (fig. 5(c)).

The hole arrangement in the stepped conical basket (fig. 5(b))
is the same as that in the stepped cylindrical basket; however, the
open area at each step is slightly larger than that in the cylin-
drical basket. The construction of the two baskets is similar, the
main differences being that the annular chambers of the conical
basket are 3/4 inch smaller at the upstream section than those of
the cylindrical basket $\left(1\frac{1}{2} \text{ as compared to } 2\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}\right)$ and that the
steps of the conical basket are tapered. The baskets used were
actual flight models.

Sketches of the 11 air-passage configurations investigated are
shown in figure 6. A total of 9 modifications were made to the
cylindrical basket by blocking rows of holes with Inconel strips
welded to the basket. In all the modifications, half of the first
open step formed by the corrugated spacer strip was blocked. In
modifications 7 and 9 the combined area of holes in the first
section was made approximately equal to the hole area of the first
row of holes in the unmodified cylindrical basket. In modifica-
tion 8, 72 additional rows of holes were added in the third and
fourth sections and the third open step was fully blocked. In
modification 9, the third section was 3 inches longer than the
section of the unmodified cylindrical basket between the first
and second rows of holes. The cumulative open area along the axis
of the baskets is shown in figure 7 for each of the basket air-
passage arrangements.

Fuel Manifolds

Each of the two annular chambers of the basket was provided
with a fuel manifold and the same manifolds were used throughout
this investigation. The fuel was supplied to the manifolds through
separate inlets located at the bottom of the combustor. Fuel was
injected through 60 hollow-cone, spray-type nozzles, 36 on the
outer manifold and 24 on the inner manifold. Fuel-injection
nozzles rated at 5 gallons per hour (at a pressure differential
of 100 lb/sq in.) with a 45° spray angle were used in all of the
runs except in the part of the investigation that was conducted
with 7.5-gallon-per-hour, 45°-spray-angle nozzles and 6-gallon-
per-hour, 45°- and 80°-spray-angle nozzles, as will be noted.

PROCEDURE

The combustor investigation was conducted with combustion-
air flow and combustor-inlet air temperature and pressure

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simulating zero-ram operation of the turbojet engine for altitudes
from 20,000 to 65,000 feet and for engine speeds from 4000 to
12,000 rpm. The combustor-inlet temperature and pressure, the
combustion-air flow, and the combustor-outlet temperature required
for operation of the turbojet engine at each altitude and engine
speed were estimated by the manufacturer and are presented in
figure 8.

The altitude operational limits were determined with fuel
nozzles having a 5-gallon-per-hour capacity and 45° spray angles
for each design except the conical basket. For the conical basket,
6-gallon-per-hour, 80°-spray-angle nozzles were used in every case.

The altitude operational limits of modification 2 were also
determined with fuel nozzles having flow capacities of 6 and
7.5 gallons per hour and a spray angle of 45°. In addition, the
operational limits with this modification were determined with
6-gallon-per-hour nozzles in the inner annulus and 7.5-gallon-per-
hour nozzles in the outer annulus, and also with fuel nozzles
having 6-gallon-per-hour capacity and an 80° spray angle. Addi-
tional miscellaneous nozzle changes were made, but the data for
the nozzles described are sufficient for illustrating the results.
In these tests of fuel nozzles, modification 2 was slightly
altered in that the first step in the basket was entirely open.

The variation of combustion efficiency with fuel-air ratio
and altitude was determined with the cylindrical basket at each
of the simulated engine speeds of 11,000 and 12,000 rpm (normal
and military rated engine speed, respectively). The variation of
combustion efficiency with altitude and engine speed was also
investigated with the stepped conical design and with modifica-
tion 9. The frictional-pressure drop for various inlet-air
velocities and densities was established from nonburning runs
with each basket design.

Ignition of a fuel-air mixture in the combustor was obtained
within the following range of conditions:

Air flow, pounds per second . . . . 2 - 3
Inlet-air pressure, inches of mercury gage . . . . -5 - 0
Fuel flow, pounds per hour . . . . 200 - 250

After ignition had been obtained, the combustion-air flow and
the inlet-air temperature and pressure were set at the desired test
condition with the fuel flow adjusted to maintain combustion. For
some of the combustion-efficiency runs, the fuel flow was varied
over a range within the combustible limits and for others an attempt

was made to obtain the required combustor-outlet temperatures
within close limits. During the altitude-operational-limit deter-
minations, the fuel flow was increased with all other conditions
maintained constant until either the required combustor-outlet
temperature rise was attained or the combustor-outlet temperature
decreased with a further increase in fuel flow.

Average inlet and outlet velocities were calculated from
measured air flow, areas, average static pressures, and average
temperatures at planes 1 and 2 (fig. 2), respectively. The fuel-
manifold pressure differential was taken as the difference between
the measured fuel-manifold pressure corrected for elevation of the
gage to the center of the manifold and the average static pressure
at plane 2 (fig. 2). The combustion efficiency is defined as the
ratio of the average gas-temperature rise through the combustor
to the theoretical temperature rise for the same fuel-air ratio.
Values of the theoretical temperature rise were obtained from
reference 2 for a fuel having a lower heating value of 18,700 Btu
per pound and a hydrogen-carbon ratio of 0.175. The fuel used was
AN-F-28, Amendment 3. The mean temperature deviation is defined as
the average of the arithmetic differences between the individual
and average thermocouple indications.

The following symbols are used:

ρ_1 air density at plane 1, pounds per cubic foot

ρ_2 gas density at plane 2, pounds per cubic foot

ΔP combustor total-pressure drop (plane 1 to plane 2), inches
         of mercury

q   inlet dynamic pressure, inches of mercury absolute

The inlet dynamic pressure was calculated from the combustion-air
flow, the average inlet-air temperature and static pressure, and
the maximum cross-sectional area of the combustor (420 sq in.),
which in the apparatus was equal to the cross-sectional area at
plane 1 (fig. 2).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Altitude Operational Limits

The results of the altitude-operational-limit determinations
for the 11 basket designs are presented in figure 9 and compared
in figure 10 in plots of simulated altitude against simulated

engine speed. In figure 9, the combustor-outlet temperatures
obtained at each point where data were recorded are included. In
each plot, the altitude operational limits are defined by a curve
that separates the altitudes for which the combustor can produce
the required combustor-outlet temperatures from the altitudes where
it cannot produce this temperature. The altitude-limit curves are
faired between the data points according to the temperature
required for operation of the engine. The minimum and maximum
limiting altitudes and the limiting altitude at 9000 rpm for the
11 basket designs are as follows:

Basket design	Engine speed range for minimum limiting altitude (rpm)	Minimum limiting altitude (ft)	Limiting altitude at 9000 rpm (ft)	Maximum limiting altitude (ft)
Cylindrical	4500-5000	36,000	56,000	59,000
Conical	4500-5000	28,000	48,000	54,000
Modification 1	4500-5500	39,000	54,000	55,000
Modification 2	5000-5500	41,000	54,000	56,000
Modification 3	5000-6000	39,000	54,000	(1)
Modification 4	5500-6500	36,000	48,000	(1)
Modification 5	5500-6500	35,000	53,000	(1)
Modification 6	5000-6500	41,000	54,000	(1)
Modification 7	4000-5500	43,000	57,000	59,000
Modification 8	4000	43,000	58,000	59,000
Modification 9	4000-5500	46,000	61,000	63,000

[1]No runs were made at engine speeds higher than 9000 rpm.

The comparatively low altitude limits obtained with the coni-
cal basket as compared with the cylindrical basket are attributed
to the decreased cross-sectional areas and resultant higher
velocities within the conical basket. On the basis of results
to be presented later in this report, the effect on performance
of using 6-gallon-per-hour, 80°-spray-angle fuel nozzles with the
conical design instead of the 5-gallon-per-hour, 45° spray-angle
fuel nozzles is considered insignificant.

Effect of axial air-passage distribution. - Some insight as
to the effect of the axial distribution of the air passages in the
basket walls on altitude operational limits can be obtained by
comparing the curves of figure 7 with the altitude operational

limits shown in figure 10 for the corresponding basket designs.
From figure 10 it is clearly evident that modifications 7, 8, and 9
have higher altitude limits over the engine speeds examined than
the other configurations and that modification 9 has the highest
altitude limit of all. According to figure 7, the outstanding
difference between modification 9 and the other configurations is
that in modification 9 the first 20 percent of the entire air-
passage area in the basket walls occurs in 63 percent of the basket
length as measured from the fuel-nozzle end of the combustor. In
the other modifications this first 20 percent of open area occurs
in between 42 and 46 percent of the basket length, and in the
original configurations, 20 percent of the open area is reached in
only 28 percent of the length. A further difference in axial dis-
tribution of air passages between modifications 7, 8, and 9 and
all the other configurations is that in modifications 7, 8, and 9
the initial open area is about 1 percent and is achieved in the
first 4.5 percent of length; whereas in the other configurations
the initial open area is 2 percent or more in the same length.
Modification 4 had lower altitude limits than most of the other
configurations and its air-passage distribution was unique in
that no area was open for 21 percent of the basket length and
that the greatest part of the open area was in the last 58 per-
cent of the basket length.

If these relations between axial distribution of air passages
and altitude operational limits are generalized, it appears that
for good altitude operational limits the air passages should be
introduced slowly and regularly and to the extent that 20 percent
of open area will be achieved in half or more of the basket length.
It appears that at any fuel flow that will be used, the combustor
should have a zone of fuel-air mixture favorable for combustion
and that this zone should be maintained for as long a time as
possible. This explanation seems reasonable when it is considered
that the combustor is required to operate stably and efficiently
over a range of fuel-air ratios that utilizes only 15 to 40 per-
cent of the total air flow for combustion; the rest of the air is
used for dilution and probably actually quenches combustion.

Effect of nozzle size and spray angle. - Figure 11 shows the
effect on altitude operational limits of varying fuel-nozzle flow
capacity in the range from 5 to 7.5 gallons per hour in modifica-
tion 2 and figure 12 shows the effect of varying the spray angle
from 45° to 80° in the nozzles having a capacity of 6 gallons per
hour. It may be seen that for the flow capacities and spray angles
investigated, variations in flow capacity and spray angle affected
the altitude operational limits only slightly, the observed results
being barely outside estimated experimental reproducibility of

about 1500 feet. If any trend is noticeable at all it is that the
operational limit of modification 2 increased as nozzle flow
capacity was increased. Miscellaneous investigations of different
fuel nozzles in some of the other modifications agreed with this
observation.

Combustion Efficiency

The combustion efficiency varied in the same manner as that
for other annular combustors (compare, for example, reference 1).
An increase in altitude or a decrease in engine speed resulted in
reduced efficiency. For each air flow corresponding to a simulated
altitude and engine speed, the combustion efficiency increased with
increasing fuel-air ratio to a maximum value and decreased with
further increase in fuel-air ratio.

Typical data illustrating the variation of combustion effi-
ciency with simulated altitude and engine speed are presented in
figure 13 for the conical basket, the unmodified cylindrical basket,
and modification 9. The efficiency decreases with increasing alti-
tude, the rate of decrease being larger as the operational limits
are approached. The data also indicate that an improvement in
altitude operational limits as a result of a design change usually
means an improvement in combustion efficiency as well.

The variations of combustion efficiency with fuel-air ratio
are illustrated in figure 14 for the unmodified cylindrical basket.
The fuel-air ratio that has been found by experimental results to
give the temperature rise required for engine operation is indi-
cated on each curve. The maximum combustion efficiency occurred
at fuel-air ratios of approximately 0.013 and between 0.016 and
0.017 for simulated engine speeds of 11,000 and 12,000 rpm,
respectively, at the simulated altitudes indicated.

Combustor-Outlet Temperature Distribution

Combustor-outlet temperature distribution for each of three
different combinations of simulated engine speed and altitude are
presented in figures 15(a) to 15(c) for the unmodified cylindrical
basket and in figures 15(d) to 15(f) for the modification with the
highest altitude limits, modification 9. One essential difference
between modification 9 and the unmodified basket is that in modi-
fication 9 the admission of secondary or dilution air is accom-
plished farther downstream in the basket than it is in the unmodi-
fied basket. From a comparison of figures 15(a) to 15(c) with

figures 15(d) to 15(f), it is evident that the shorter distance for
mixing of the gases before they leave the combustor has resulted in
a more uneven outlet temperature distribution for modification 9.

In the following table, the mean of the local temperature
deviations from the average combustor-outlet temperature at each of
a number of combinations of simulated altitude and engine speed is
listed for these two cylindrical baskets:

Altitude (ft)	Engine speed (rpm)	Mean temperature deviation at combustor outlet, °F	
		Unmodified basket	Basket modification 9
35,000	4,000	128	------------
	5,000	118	188
	8,000	----------	162
	11,000	165	------------
	12,000	200	------------
40,000	4,000	----------	215
	5,000	----------	197
	6,000	182	------------
	8,000	205	158
	11,000	201	------------
	12,000	202	------------
45,000	4,000	----------	224
	5,000	----------	196
	6,000	153	199
	7,000	115	188
	8,000	211	164
	10,000	230	------------
	11,000	240	255
	12,000	248	------------
50,000	8,000	225	180
	9,000	247	------------
	10,000	245	------------
	11,000	281	293
	12,000	275	------------
55,000	8,000	----------	195
	9,000	171	------------
	11,000	304	345
	12,000	355	------------
60,000	9,000	----------	255
	10,000	----------	308
	11,000	----------	335
	12,000	425	------------

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These data are representative of the trends for all the configurations investigated, and show that at any altitude temperature distribution is least uneven at engine speeds of about 7000 or 8000 rpm and is most uneven at the highest engine speeds. The data also show that temperature distribution is progressively more uneven as altitude is increased at a given engine speed. The tabulation also serves further to illustrate the greater outlet temperature deviations associated with basket modification 9 as compared with the unmodified cylindrical configuration.

For the conical basket, seven thermocouples per rake were employed instead of the usual four at stations 70°, 150°, 250°, and 330° from the top of the combustor (clockwise looking upstream). At each station, the points at which temperatures were recorded were radially placed so as to occupy centers of equal area. Combustor-outlet temperature is plotted in figure 16 against radial distance at each of these stations for the conical basket at simulated engine speeds of 8000 and 11,000 rpm and an altitude of 35,000 feet. These data serve to illustrate that two peaks appear in each outlet temperature traverse as a result of the double flame annulus.

Total-Pressure Drop

A correlation of combustor inlet-to-outlet total-pressure-drop data (planes 1 to 2, fig. 2) with the ratio of inlet-to-outlet density is presented in figure 17 for the conical basket. The correlation obtained is typical of those for the 11 basket designs and similar to those discussed in reference 1. Pressure drops for the 11 basket designs are compared in figure 18. There is no obvious correlation between pressure drop and altitude operational limits, and in view of the fact that air-passage distribution is different from basket to basket this lack of correlation is not surprising. It has been shown at the Cleveland laboratory in systematic experiments with a 60° segment of an annular combustor that air-passage distribution, quite independently of pressure drop, is a principal factor in determining the altitude performance of a turbojet combustor.

Fuel-Manifold Characteristics

In this investigation, vapor lock in the fuel manifold occurred frequently as a result of the higher altitudes investigated and the consequently low fuel flows and pressures. The reduction in fuel flow from the rated or calibration value for the

same pressure differential across the fuel manifold is considered a good index of the extent of vapor lock. In figure 19, the ratio of measured fuel flow to calculated fuel flow is plotted against fuel-manifold pressure for various inlet-air temperatures. The data serve illustrative purposes only, as the significant parameters of fuel temperature, inlet-air pressure, and inlet-air velocity were neither held constant nor varied systematically in these runs. The plot indicates that the tendency of the fuel manifold to have vapor lock increased regularly with an increase in inlet-air temperature and with a decrease in the pressure in the fuel manifold. In other words, some minimum manifold pressure must be maintained to prevent vapor lock at any inlet-air temperature.

Vapor lock engenders reduced altitude operational limits and reduced combustion efficiency and is particularly troublesome in that it produces very poor combustor-outlet temperature distribution as a result of uneven fuel distribution. This poor temperature distribution is aggravated by the fluid head in the fuel manifold. At low average fuel pressures in the manifold, the fluid head will cause even lower than average pressures in the top of the fuel manifold and will thus cause a more uneven fuel flow from the manifold.

Character of the Flames

Direct observation of combustion with the stepped baskets showed that the flames were steady and were yellow or white in color at low altitudes and gradually changed to blue at high altitudes, with the blue color appearing first at the upstream end of the basket. Cycling combustion, sometimes accompanied by uncontrollable pressure fluctuations, was often observed at high altitudes and high fuel-air ratios. The flames occasionally blew out during the runs but only at simulated altitudes above the operational limits and with fuel-air ratios above those resulting in the maximum obtainable combustor-outlet temperature. Combustion in the outer annulus was frequently intermittent and accompanied by afterburning at altitudes near the altitude operational limit. Comparisons of the average gas temperatures at planes 3 and 4 with the average combustor-outlet gas temperature at plane 2 are shown in figure 20 for all 11 basket designs. A previous investigation indicated that appreciable afterburning occurs only at conditions adverse for combustion, and the same trend is observed in figure 20 where most of the data follow the line of 45° slope. Any evidence of afterburning indicated in figure 20 is attributed to the relatively high altitudes at which most of these runs were conducted.

Durability of Baskets

The stepped baskets were designed to admit small amounts of cooling air parallel to the walls. The cooling air was provided to improve the durability of the baskets, which had been subject to considerable warpage and corrosion before the manufacturer incorporated the steps. Warpage of the stepped baskets during this investigation was confined almost completely to the area covered by blocking strips in various modifications and to the extremely narrow areas between the numerous holes in the downstream part of the basket of modification 8. A circumferential wrinkle that developed in each shell was much less pronounced than those that were observed in baskets without the step construction. The discoloration of the baskets was slight. The effectiveness of the basket cooling was demonstrated by the failure of a paper label on the outside of one basket to burn; most of the label was even uncharred after 17 hours of combustion runs.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The investigation of the altitude performance of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular turbojet combustor with different baskets indicated that:

1. The manufacturer's stepped cylindrical basket had altitude limits between 5000 and 12,000 feet higher throughout the engine speed range than the manufacturer's stepped conical basket.

2. A study of systematic arrangements of air passages in the walls of the stepped cylindrical basket indicated that highest altitude limits were achieved when air passages were introduced gradually and to the extent that 20 percent of the total open area was achieved in half or more of the basket length.

3. For a change in fuel-nozzle capacity from 5 to 7.5 gallons per hour and for a change in fuel-nozzle spray angle from 45° to 80°, the variation in altitude operational limits was only about 1500 feet.

4. Combustion efficiency for a given combustor decreased with an increase in altitude or a decrease in engine speed. Combustion efficiency was usually improved when altitude operational limits were increased by altering combustor configuration.

5. Combustor-outlet temperature distribution became more uneven as altitude was increased at a given engine speed.

Temperature distribution became more even as engine speed was
increased from a low speed up to an intermediate speed (8000 rpm)
and became progressively more uneven as the speed was increased to
maximum.

6. No obvious correlation between combustor total-pressure
drop and altitude operational limits was found. In view of the
fact that air-passage distribution differed from basket to basket
this lack of correlation is not surprising.

7. The tendency of the fuel manifold to have vapor lock
increased regularly with an increase in inlet-air temperature and
with a decrease in the pressure in the fuel manifold.

8. As altitude was increased at a given engine speed, the
combustion progressed regularly from steady combustion with yellow
or white flames at low altitudes to cycling or intermittent com-
bustion with blue flames frequently accompanied by afterburning at
high altitudes.

9. The walls of the stepped baskets appeared to be very
effectively cooled.

Flight Propulsion Research Laboratory,
        National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics,
                Cleveland, Ohio.

<div align="center">REFERENCES</div>

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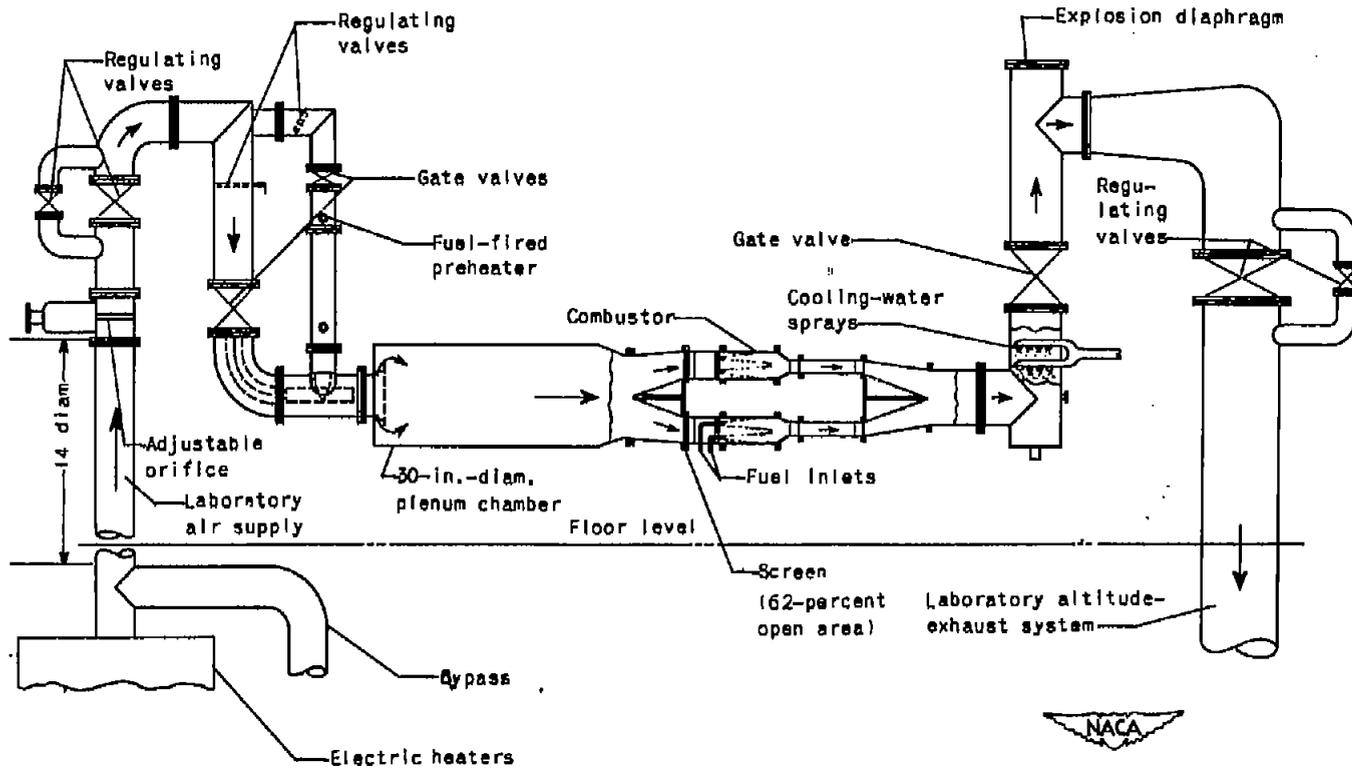
Figure I. — Diagrammatic sketch of general arrangement of test setup for $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor.
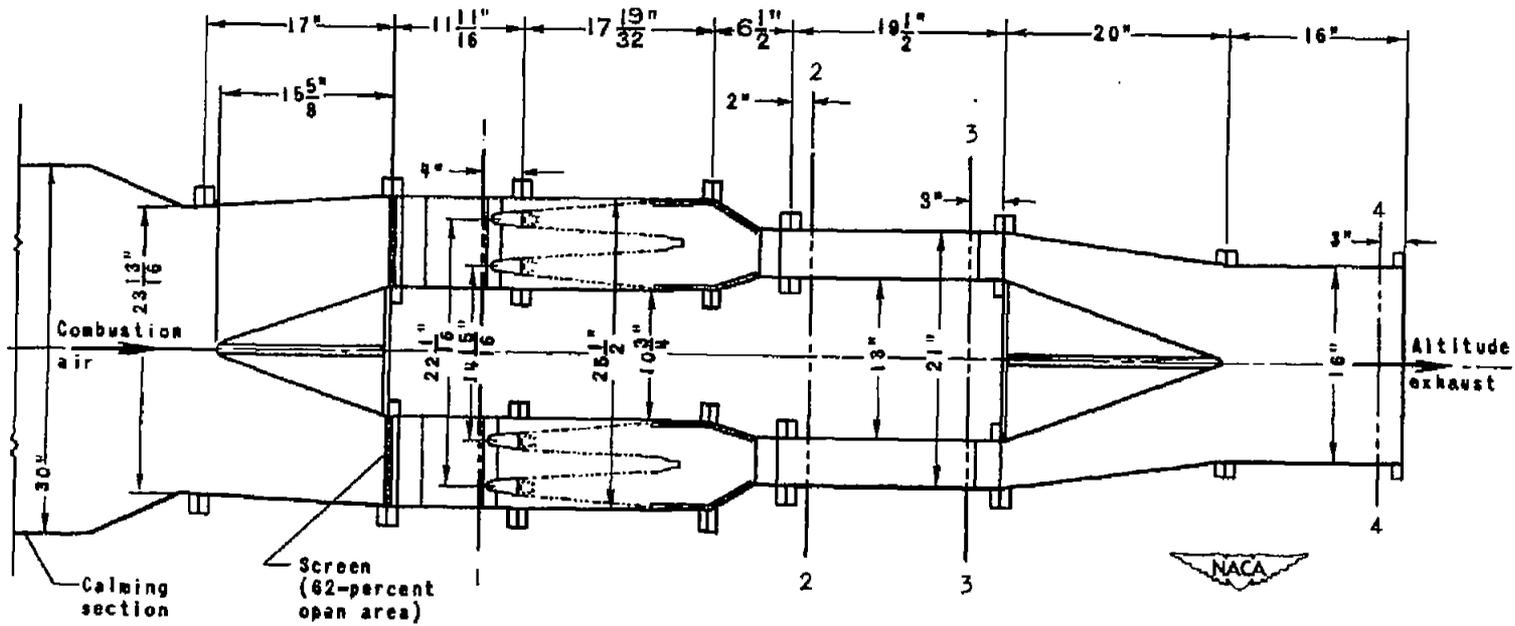
Figure 2. — Diagrammatic sketch of longitudinal section of $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor showing auxiliary ducting and instrumentation planes.

Plane 1,
combustor inlet

Plane 2,
combustor outlet

Plane 3

Plane 4

NACA

$+$ Thermocouple

O Total-pressure tube

Π Static-pressure tap
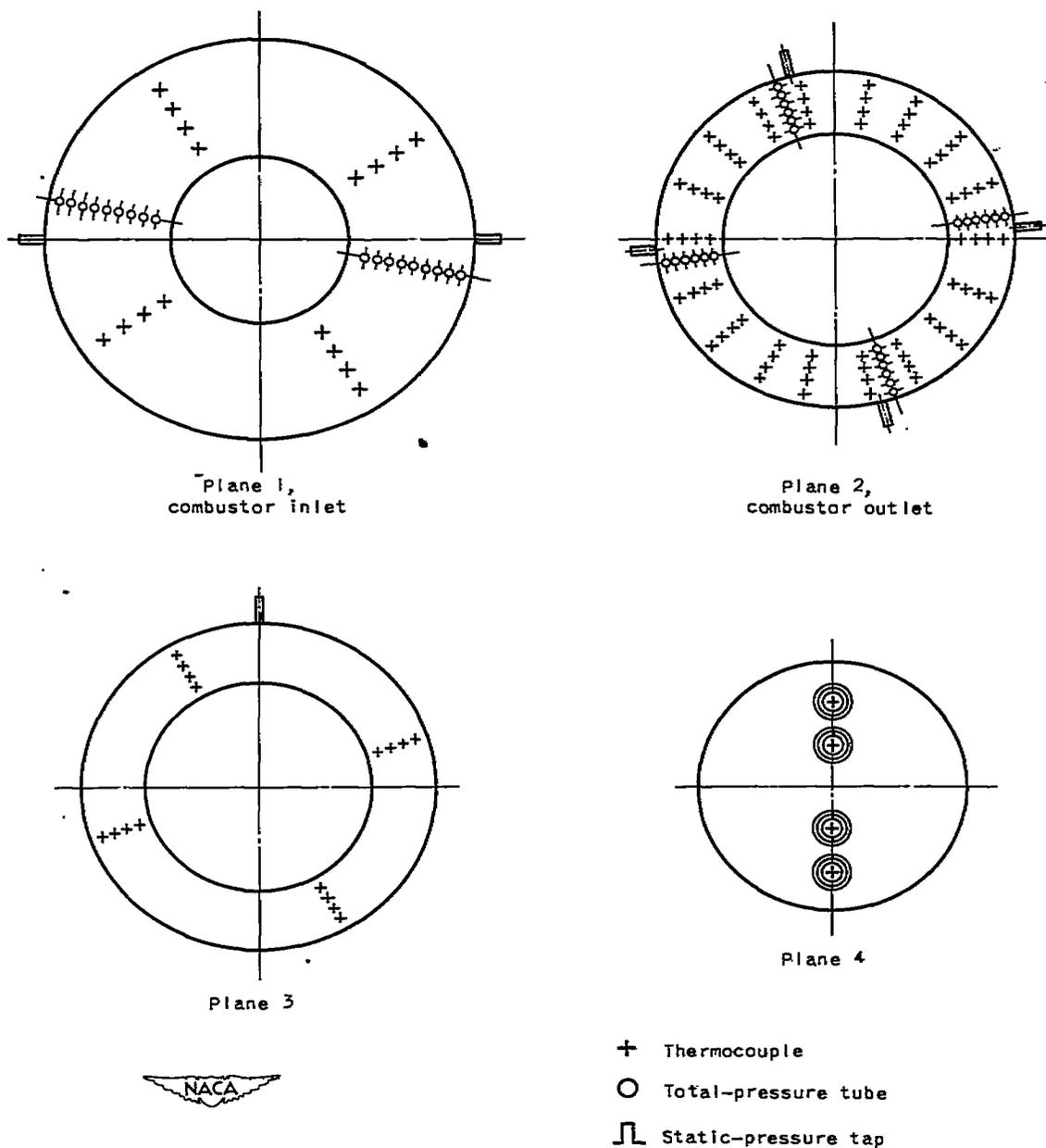
Figure 3. — Orientation (looking upstream) of temperature- and pressure-measuring instruments used in investigation of $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor.

Plane 1

Plane 2

Plane 4

(a) Thermocouples.
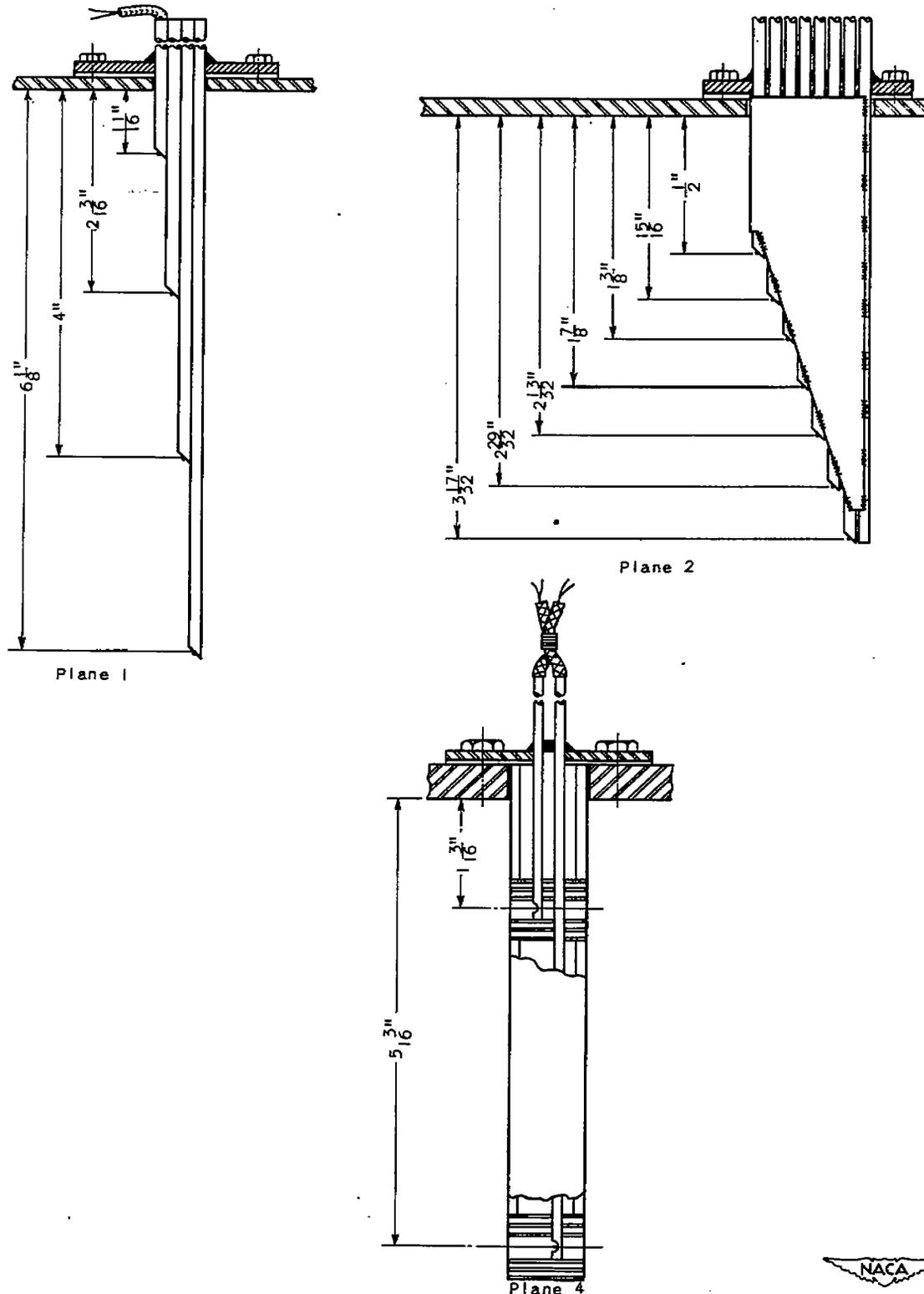
Figure 4. – Construction details of temperature– and pressure–measuring instruments used in investigation of $25\frac{1}{2}$–inch–diameter annular–type turbojet combustor.

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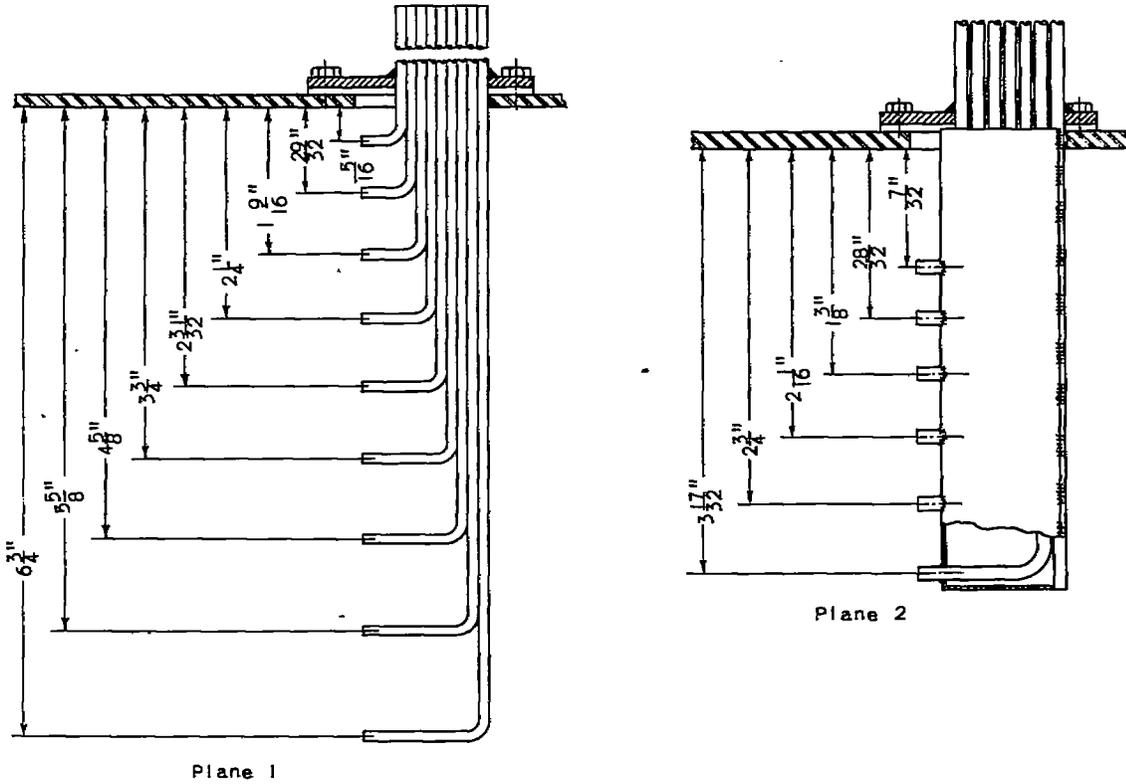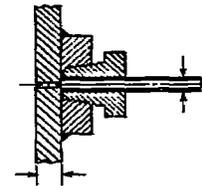
Plane 1

Plane 2

Planes 1, 2, and 3

(b)   Total-pressure tubes and static-pressure taps.

Figure 4. - Concluded. Construction details of temperature- and pressure-
   measuring instruments used in investigation of $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter
   annular-type turbojet combustor.

(a) Longitudinal half section of cylindrical design.

(b) Longitudinal half section of conical design.

(c) Unmodified designs.
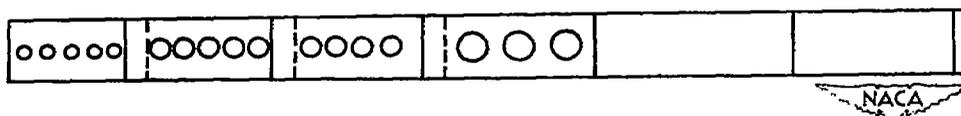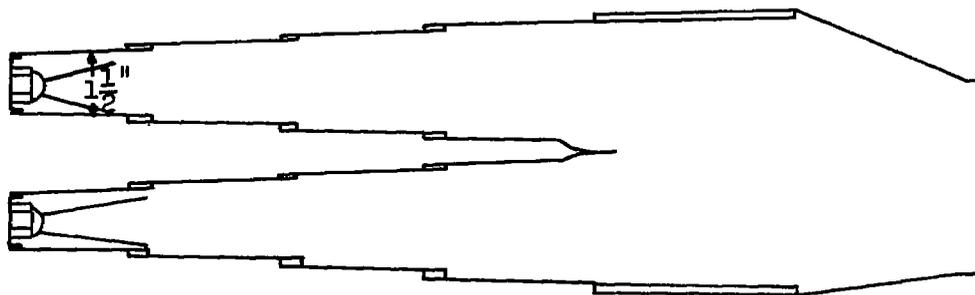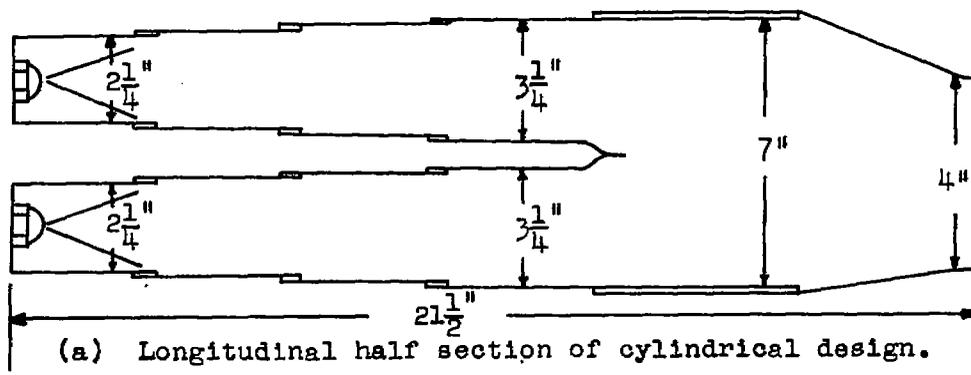
Figure 5. - Diagrammatic sketch of longitudinal sections and sections
   of air-passage arrangement of outer shell of stepped baskets for
   $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor.

(a) Modification 1.

(b) Modification 2.
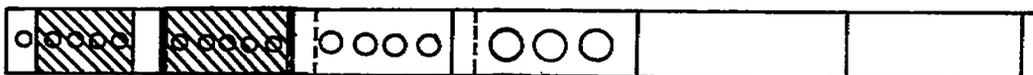
(c) Modification 3.
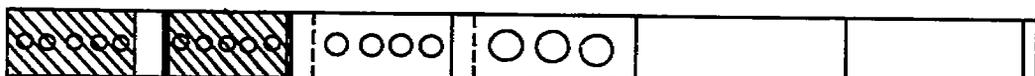
(d) Modification 4.
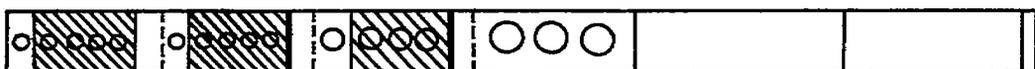
(e) Modification 5.
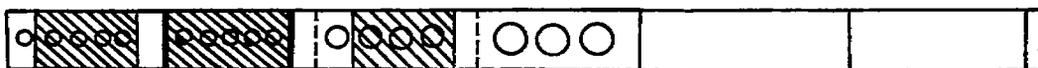
(f) Modification.6.
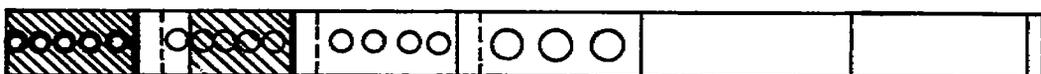
(g) Modification 7.

(h) Modification 8.
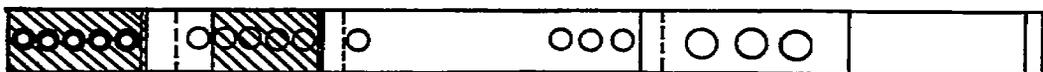
(i) Modification 9.

Figure 6. - Diagrammatic sketch of air-passage arrangements
   of outer shell of stepped cylindrical baskets for a
   $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor. Hatching
   indicates blocked area.
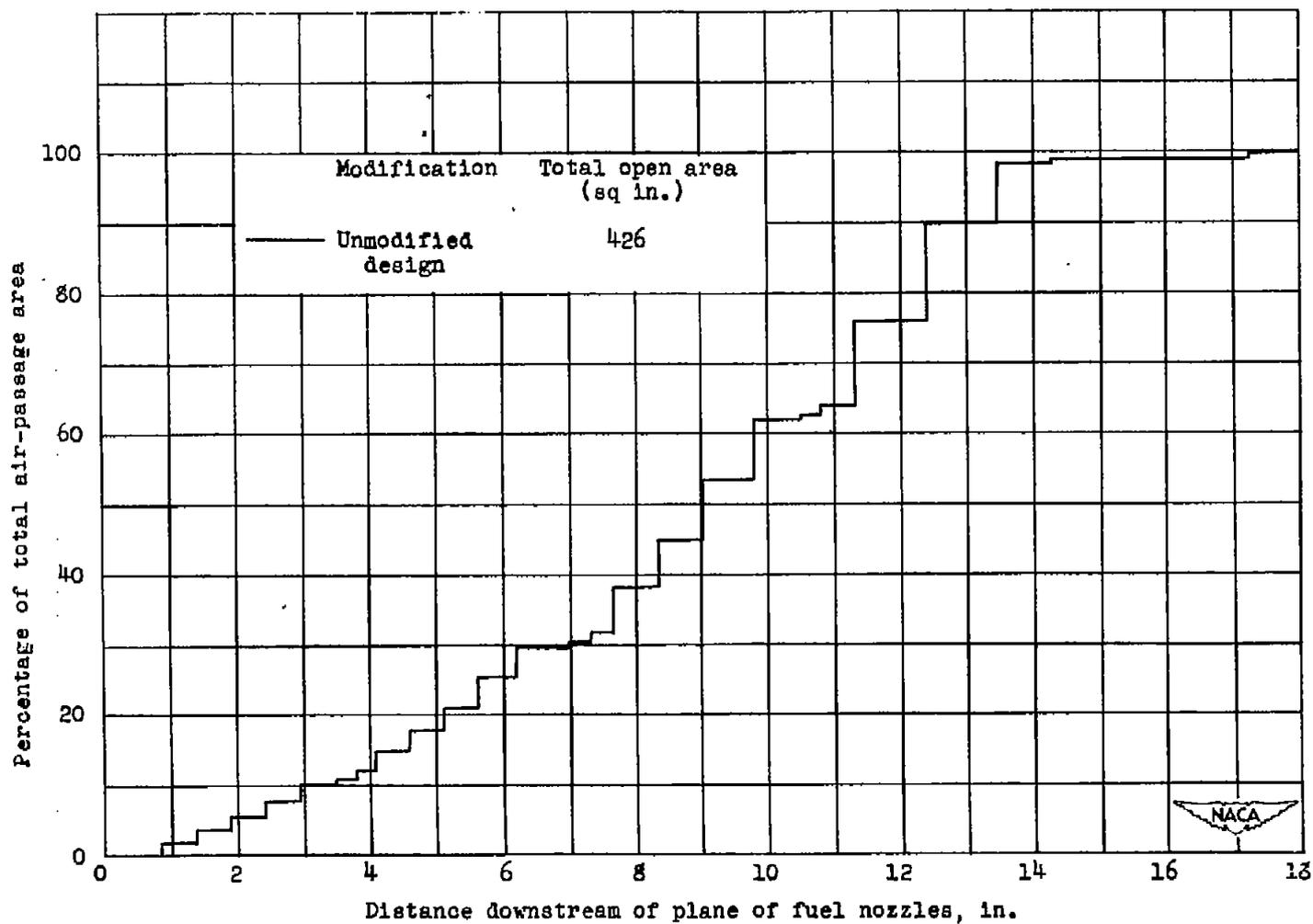
(a) Unmodified design.

Figure 7. — Axial distribution of basket air-passage area for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbo-jet combustor equipped with stepped cylindrical baskets.

Modification Total open area
(sq in.)

1   383
2   360
3   347

Percentage of total air-passage area

100

80

60

40

20

0

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16   18

Distance downstream of plane of fuel nozzles, in.
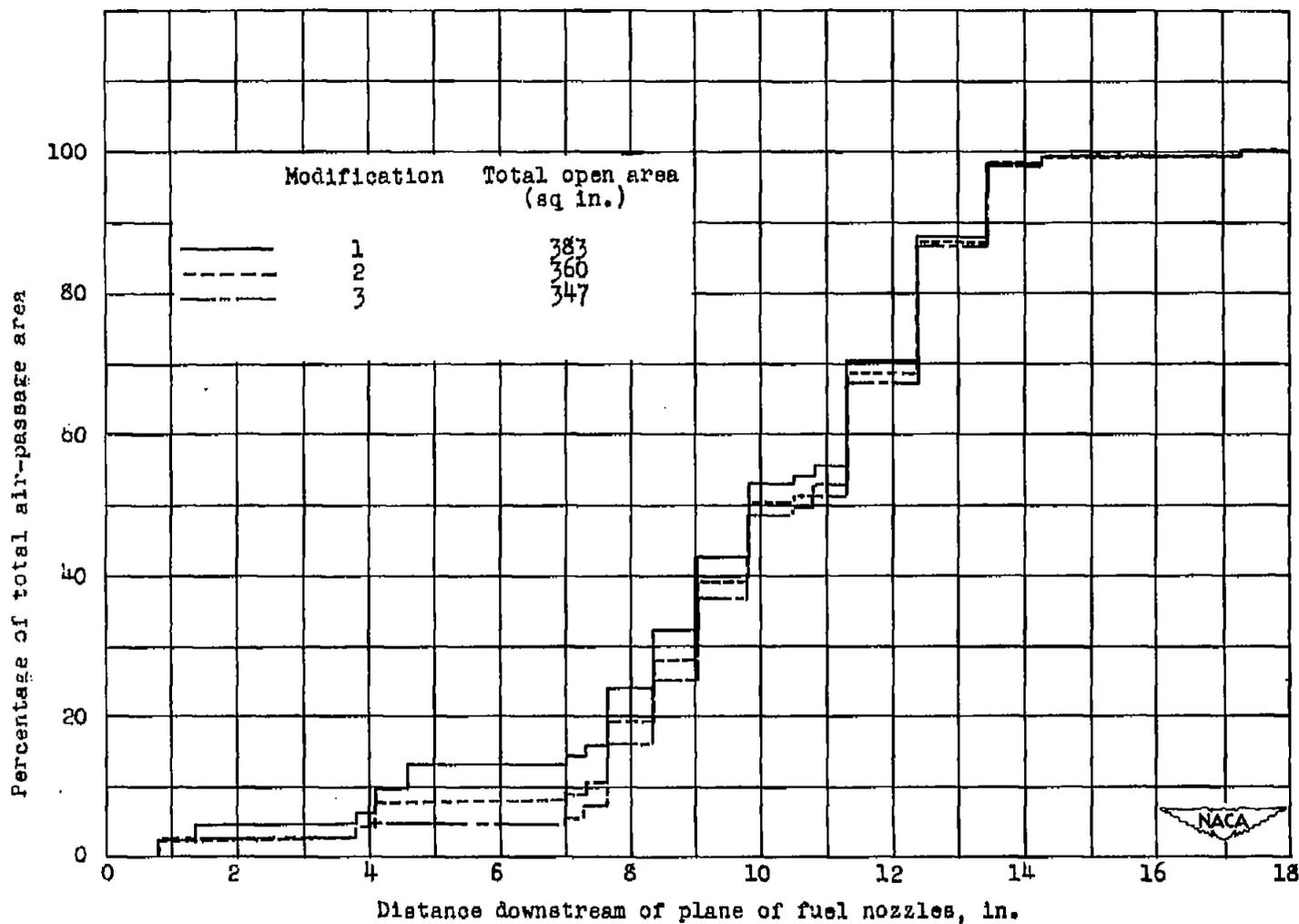
(b) Modifications 1, 2, and 3.

Figure 7. - Continued. Axial distribution of basket air-passage area for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped cylindrical baskets.

Modification   Total open area
(sq in.)

Modification	Total open area (sq in.)
4	338
5	248
6	234

Percentage of total air-passage area

Distance downstream of plane of fuel nozzles, in.

NACA
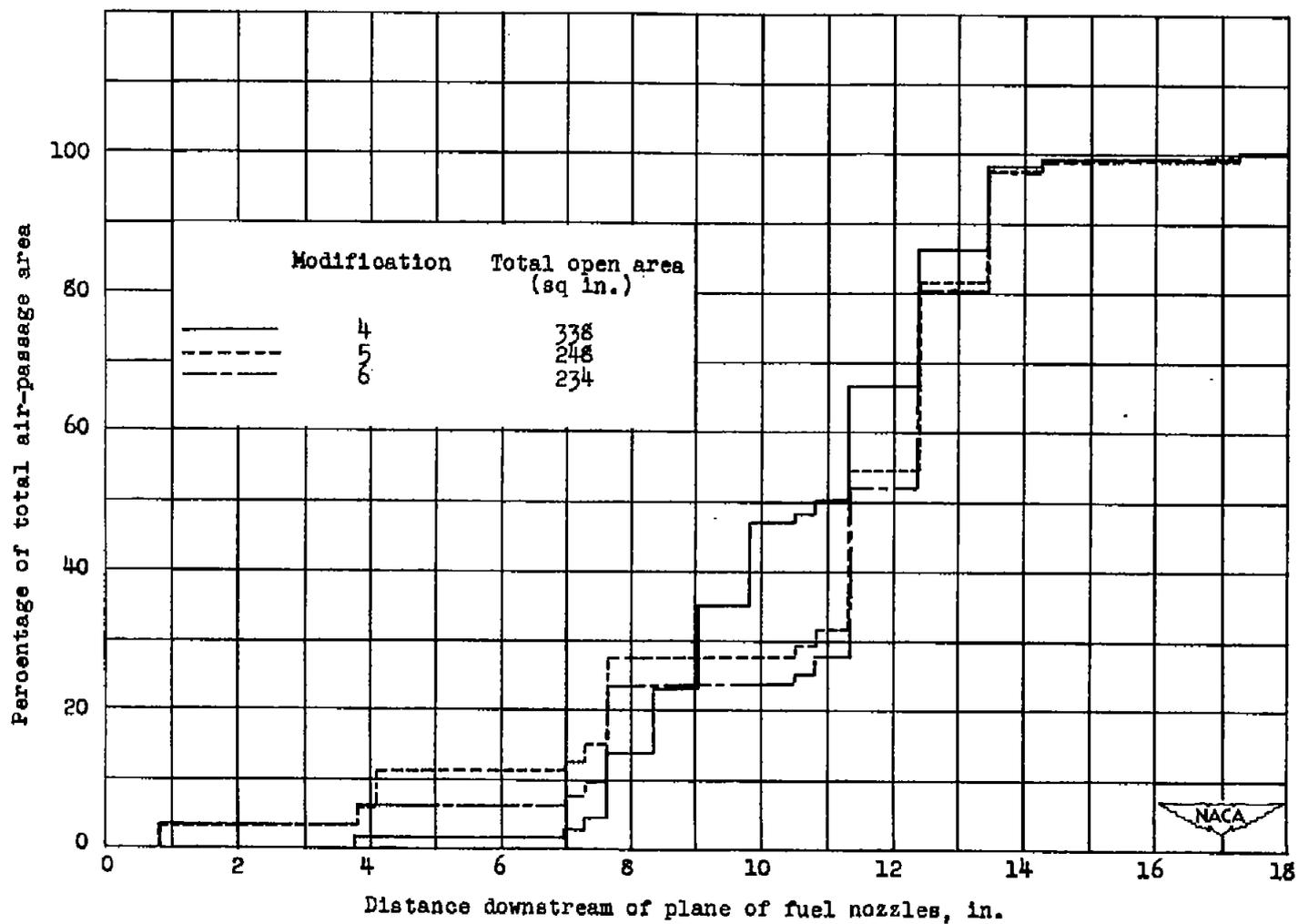
(c) Modifications 4, 5, and 6.

Figure 7. - Continued. Axial distribution of basket air-passage area for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped cylindrical baskets.
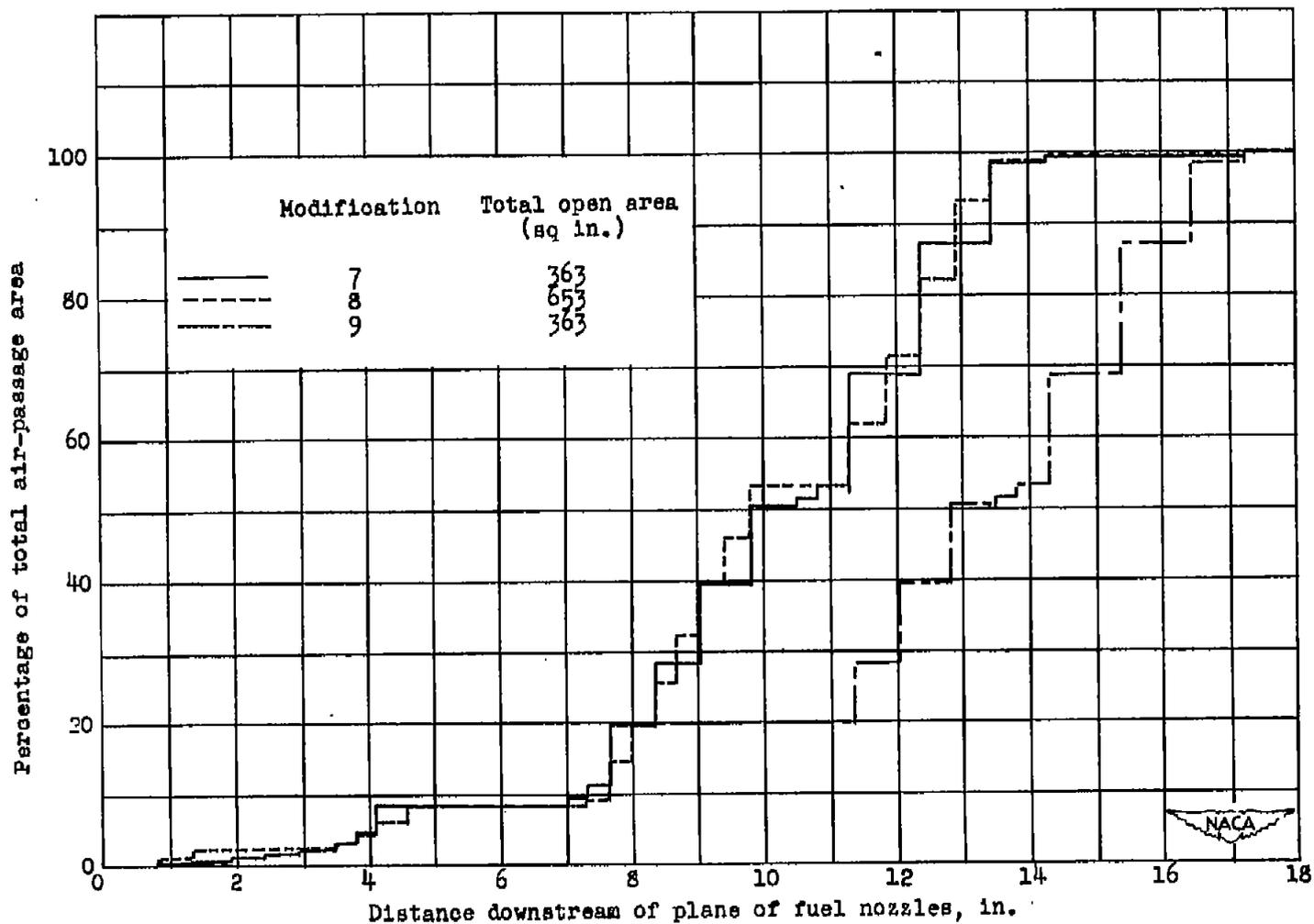
(d) Modifications 7, 8, and 9.

Figure 7. - Concluded. Axial distribution of basket air-passage area for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped cylindrical baskets.
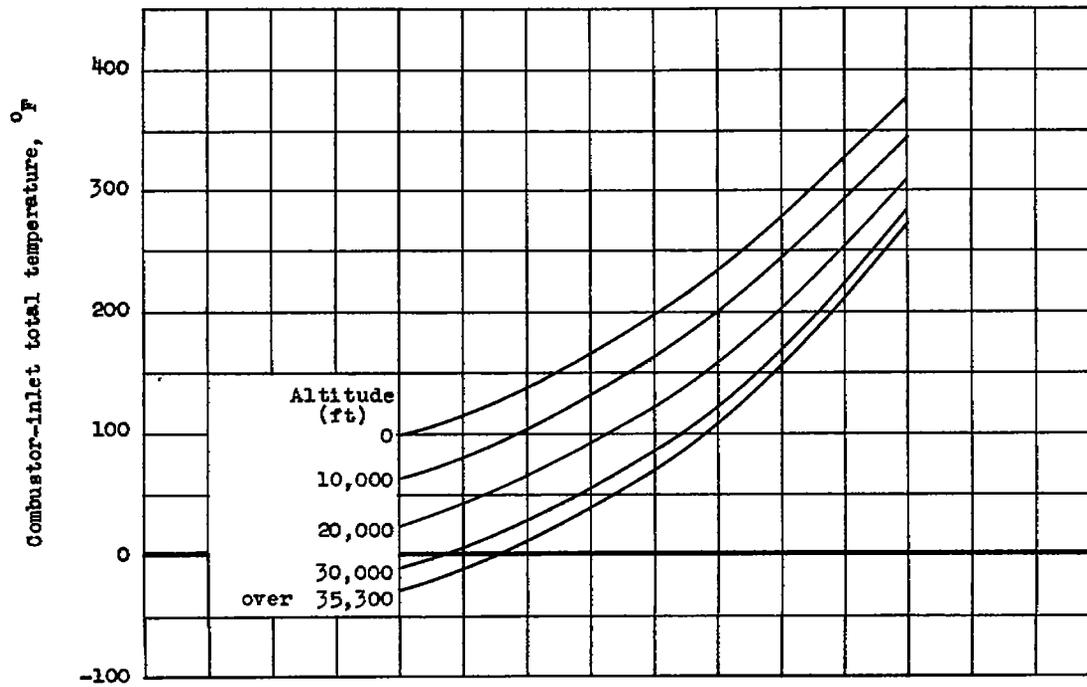
(a)   Combustor-inlet total temperature.
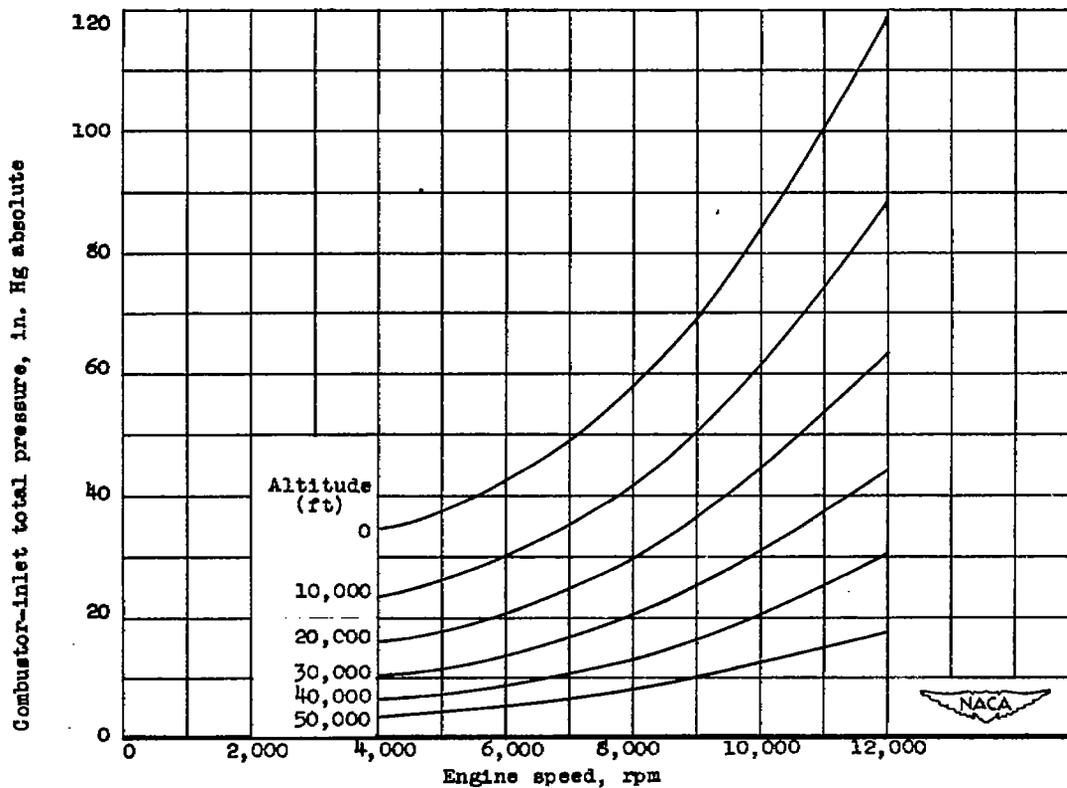
(b)   Combustor-inlet total pressure.

Figure 8. - Variation of combustor operating conditions with engine speed for various
altitudes at zero ram from performance estimates of the engine by the manufacturer.
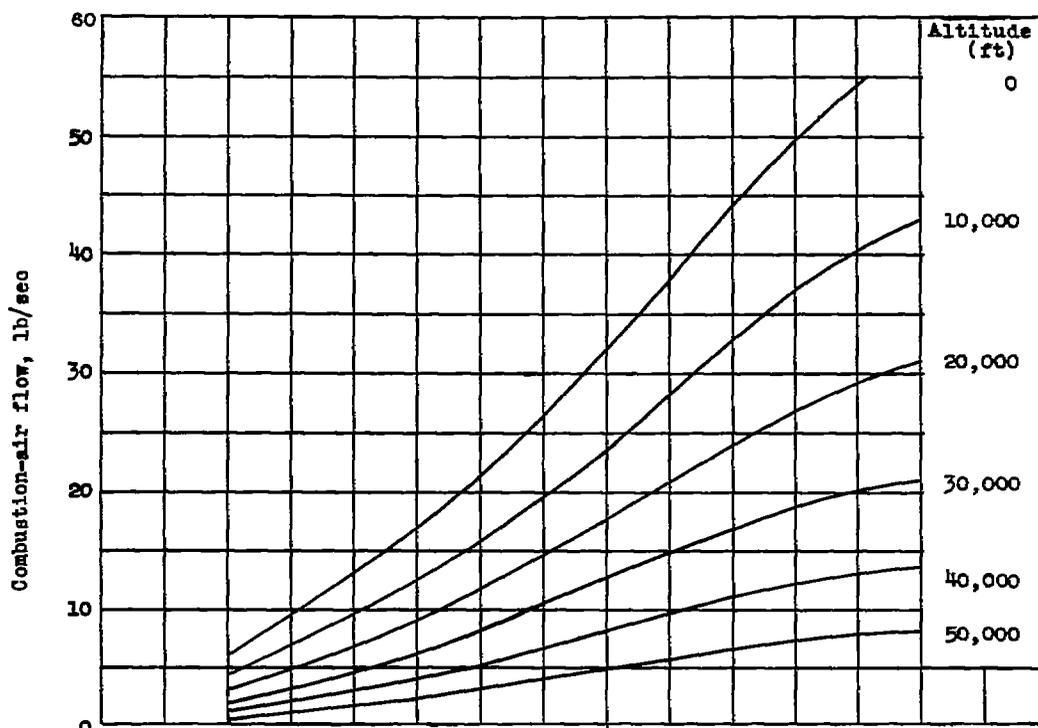
(c) Combustion-air flow.
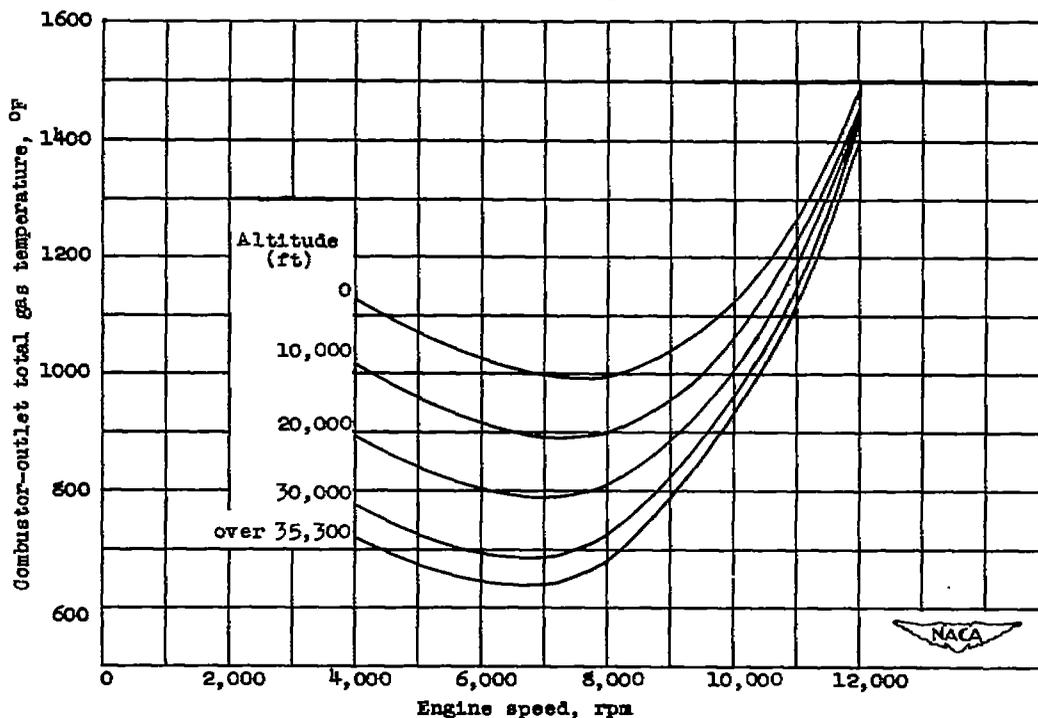
(d) Required combustor-outlet total gas temperature.

Figure 8. — Concluded. Variation of combustor operating conditions with engine speed
for various altitudes at zero ram from performance estimates of the engine by the
manufacturer.
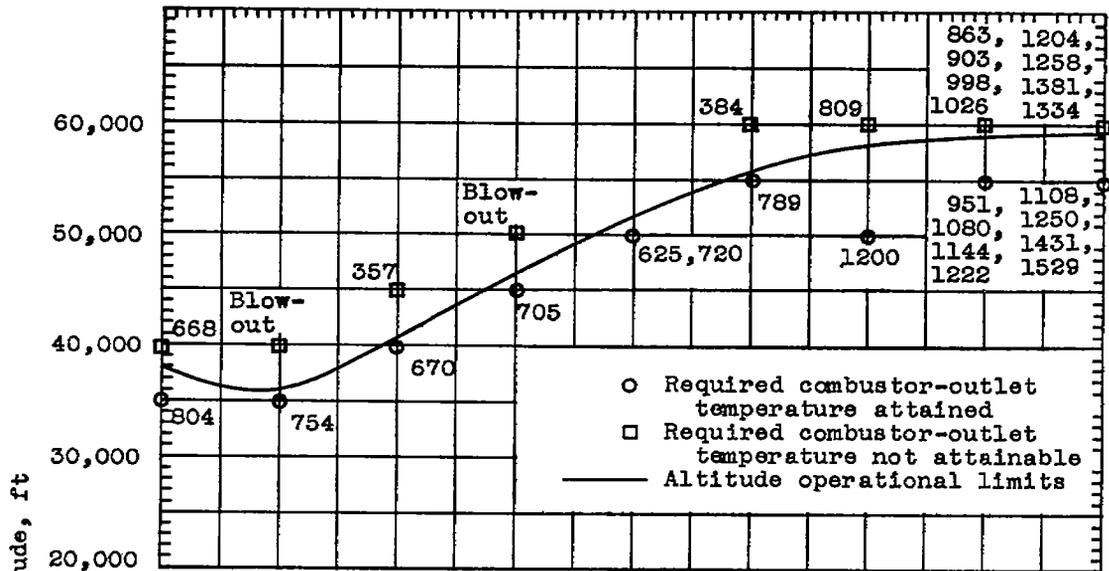
(a)   Unmodified cylindrical basket.
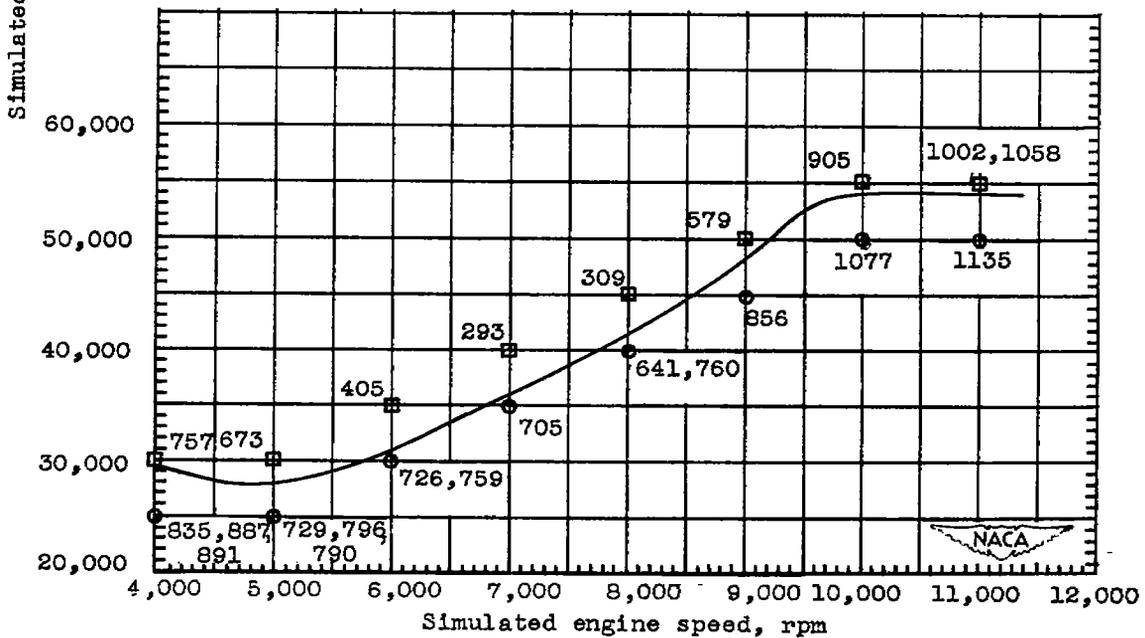
(b)   Unmodified conical basket.

Figure 9. - Results of altitude-operational-limit determination of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped baskets. Numbers refer to combustor-outlet temperatures ($^{\circ}$F).

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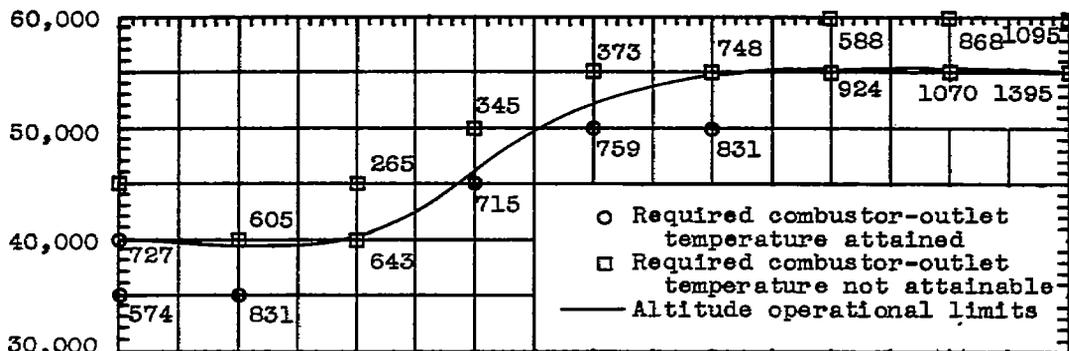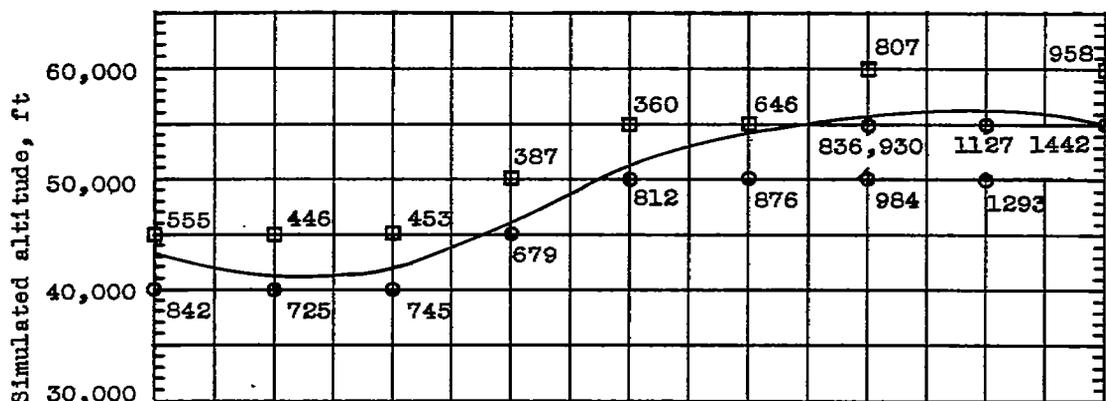
(c) Modification 1.

(d) Modification 2.
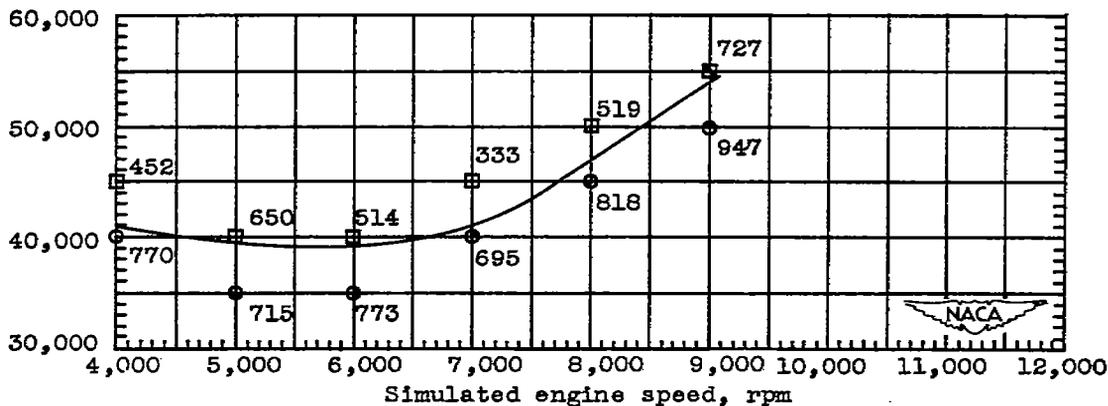
(e) Modification 3.

Figure 9. — Continued. Results of altitude-operational-limit determination
of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with
stepped baskets. Numbers refer to combustor-outlet temperatures ($^\circ$F).
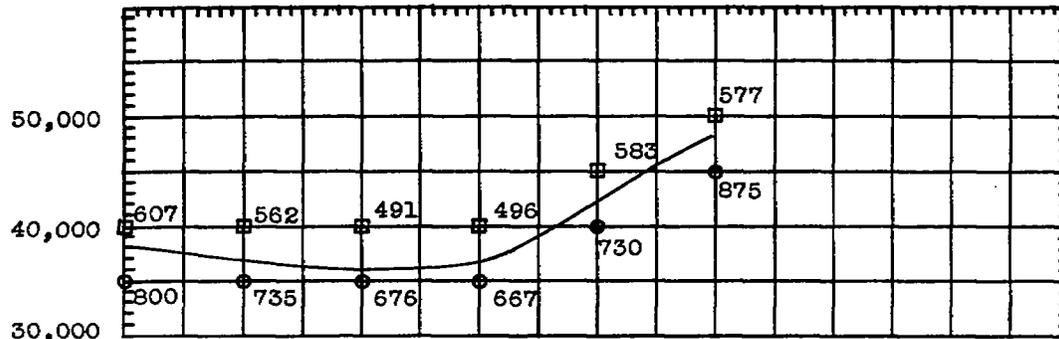
(f) Modification 4.

(g) Modification 5.

o Required combustor-outlet
  temperature attained
□ Required combustor-outlet
  temperature not attainable
——Altitude operational limits

Simulated engine speed, rpm
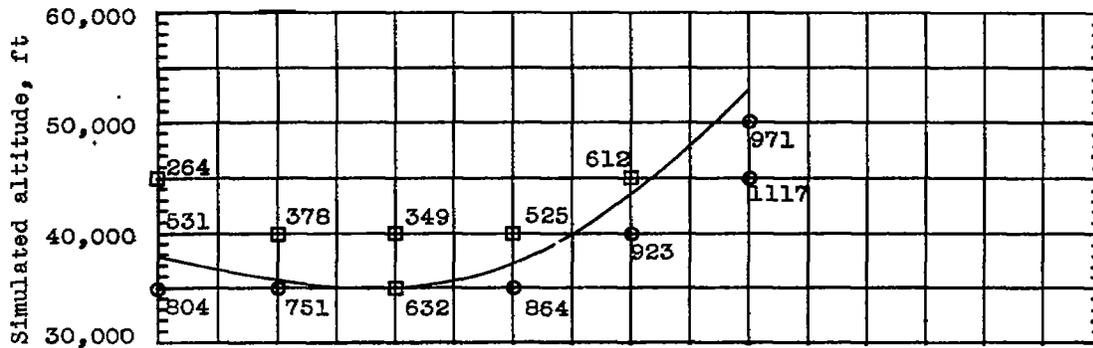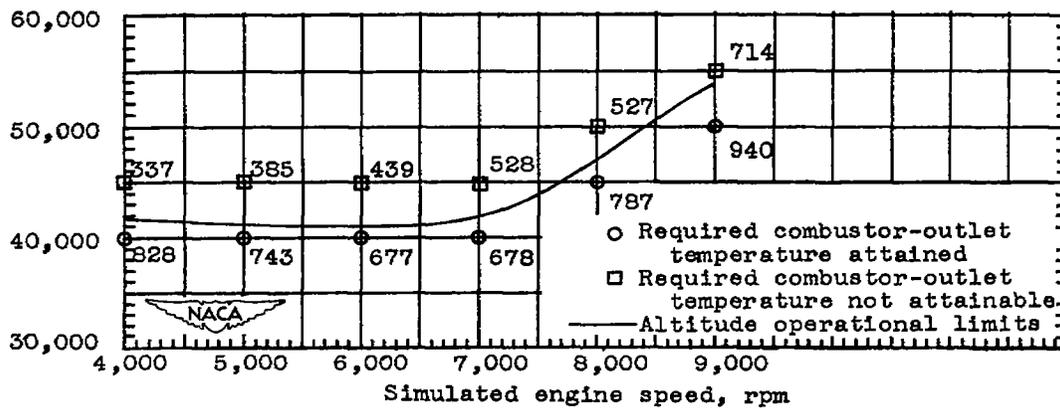
(h) Modification 6.

Figure 9. - Continued. Results of altitude-operational-limit determination
of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with
stepped baskets. Numbers refer to combustor-outlet temperatures (°F).
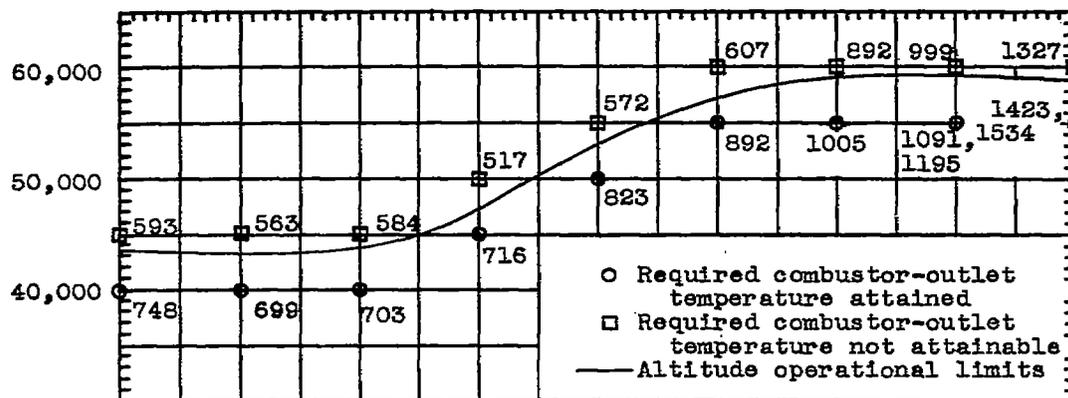
(i) Modification 7.
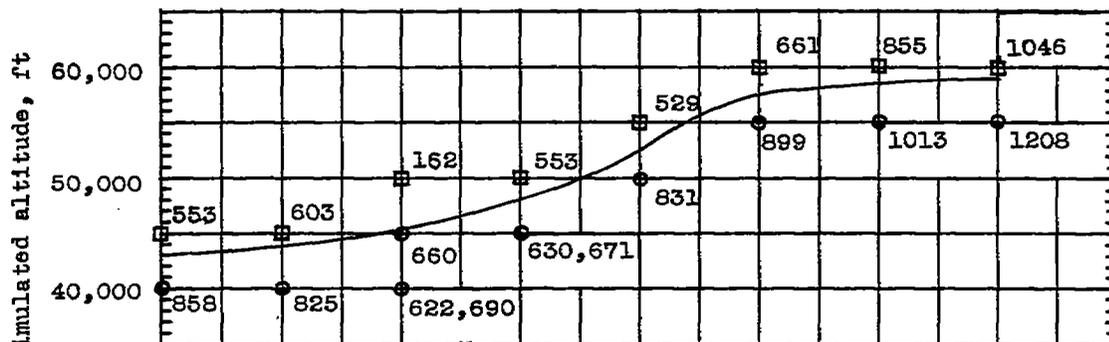
(j) Modification 8.
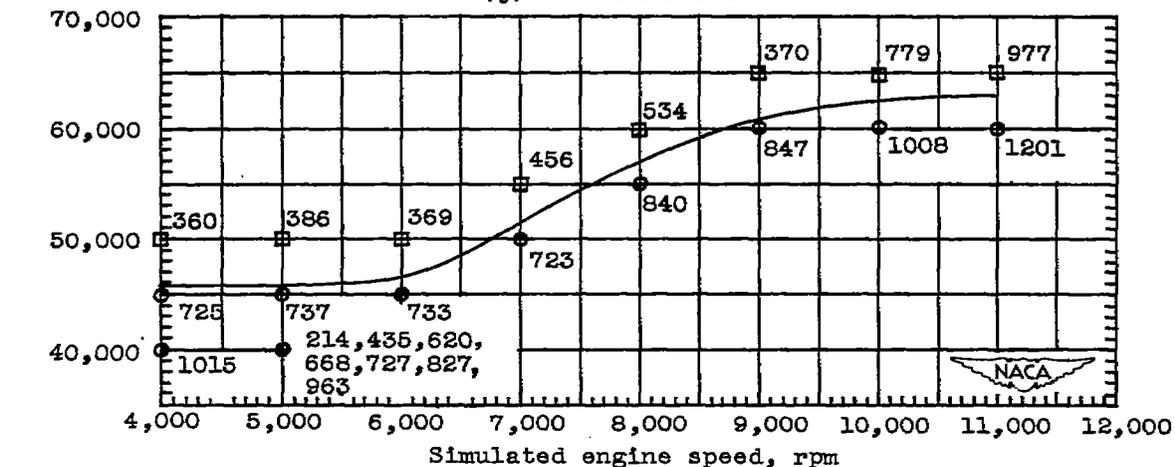
(k) Modification 9.

Figure 9. - Concluded. Results of altitude-operational-limit determination
of a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with
stepped baskets. Numbers refer to combustor-outlet temperatures (^{o}F).
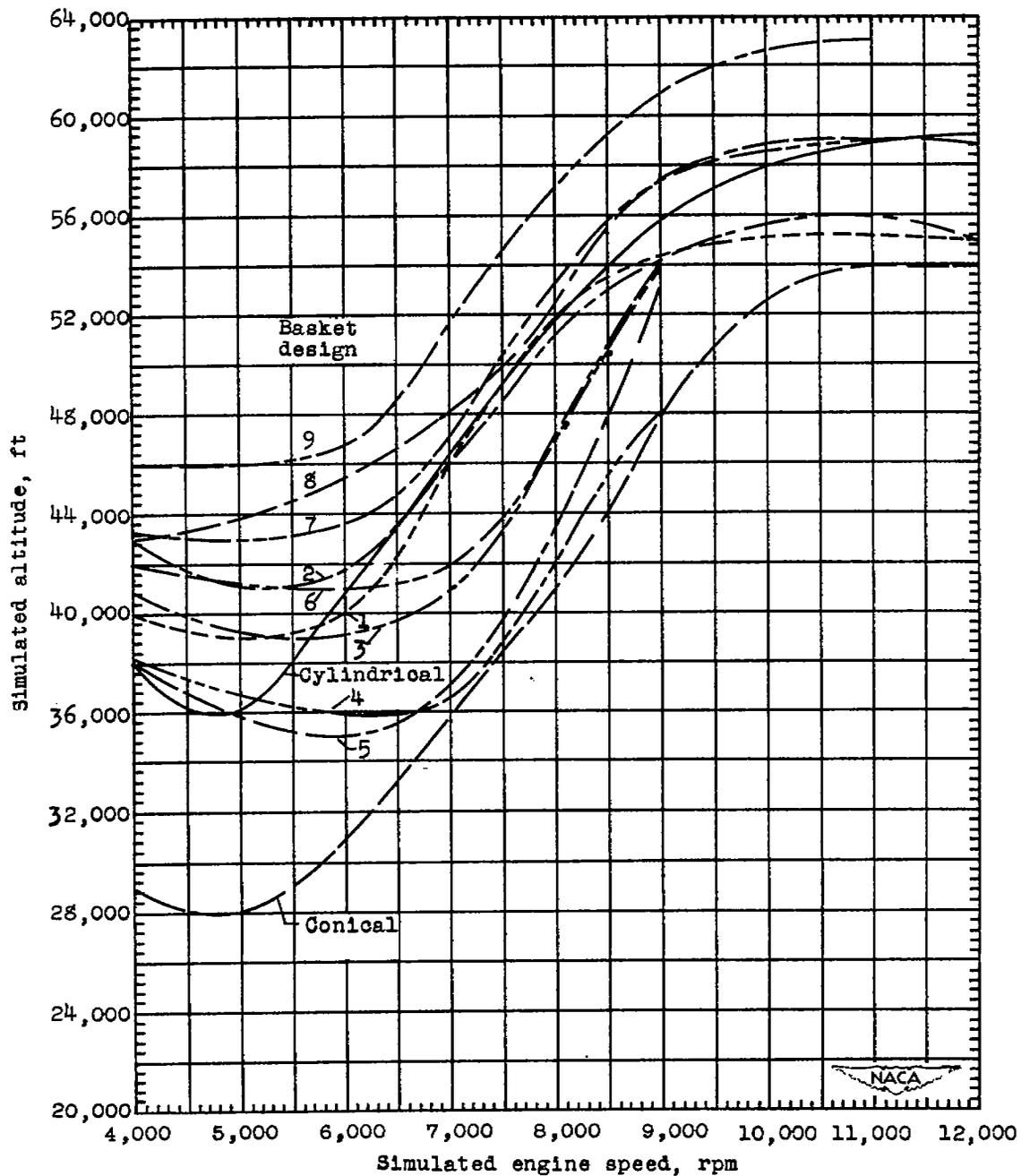
Figure 10. – Comparison of altitude operational limits for modified stepped
baskets in a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor with limits
for unmodified stepped cylindrical and conical baskets.

(a)   Flow capacity, 5 gallons per hour.

(b)   Flow capacity, 6 gallons per hour.

(c)   Flow capacity, 7.5 gallons per hour.

○ Required combustor-outlet
    temperature attained
□ Required combustor-outlet
    temperature not attainable
── Altitude operational limits

Simulated engine speed, rpm

(d)   Flow capacity: 6 gallons per hour (inner annulus);
                      7.5 gallons per hour (outer annulus).

Figure 11. - Effect of flow capacity of fuel nozzles on altitude operational limits for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-
diameter annular-type turbojet combustor. Modification 2; spray angle, 45°.

(a) Spray angle, 45°.

(b) Spray angle, 80°.

Figure 12. - Effect of spray angle of fuel nozzles on altitude operational limits for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor. Modification 2; flow capacity, 6 gallons per hour.

(a)   Flow capacity, 5 gallons per hour.

(b)   Flow capacity, 6 gallons per hour.

(c)   Flow capacity, 7.5 gallons per hour.

O   Required combustor-outlet
      temperature attained
□   Required combustor-outlet
      temperature not attainable
——Altitude operational limits

(d)   Flow capacity: 6 gallons per hour (inner annulus);
                      7.5 gallons per hour (outer annulus).

Figure 11. - Effect of flow capacity of fuel nozzles on altitude operational limits for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor. Modification 2; spray angle, 45°.

(a) Spray angle, 45°.

(b) Spray angle, 80°.

Figure 12. - Effect of spray angle of fuel nozzles on altitude operational limits for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor. Modification 2; flow capacity, 6 gallons per hour.

(a) Conical basket.

(b) Cylindrical basket (unmodified).

(c) Modification 9.

Figure 13. – Variation of combustion efficiency with simulated altitude and engine speed for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor with stepped baskets.

(a) Engine speed, 11,000 rpm.

(b) Engine speed, 12,000 rpm.
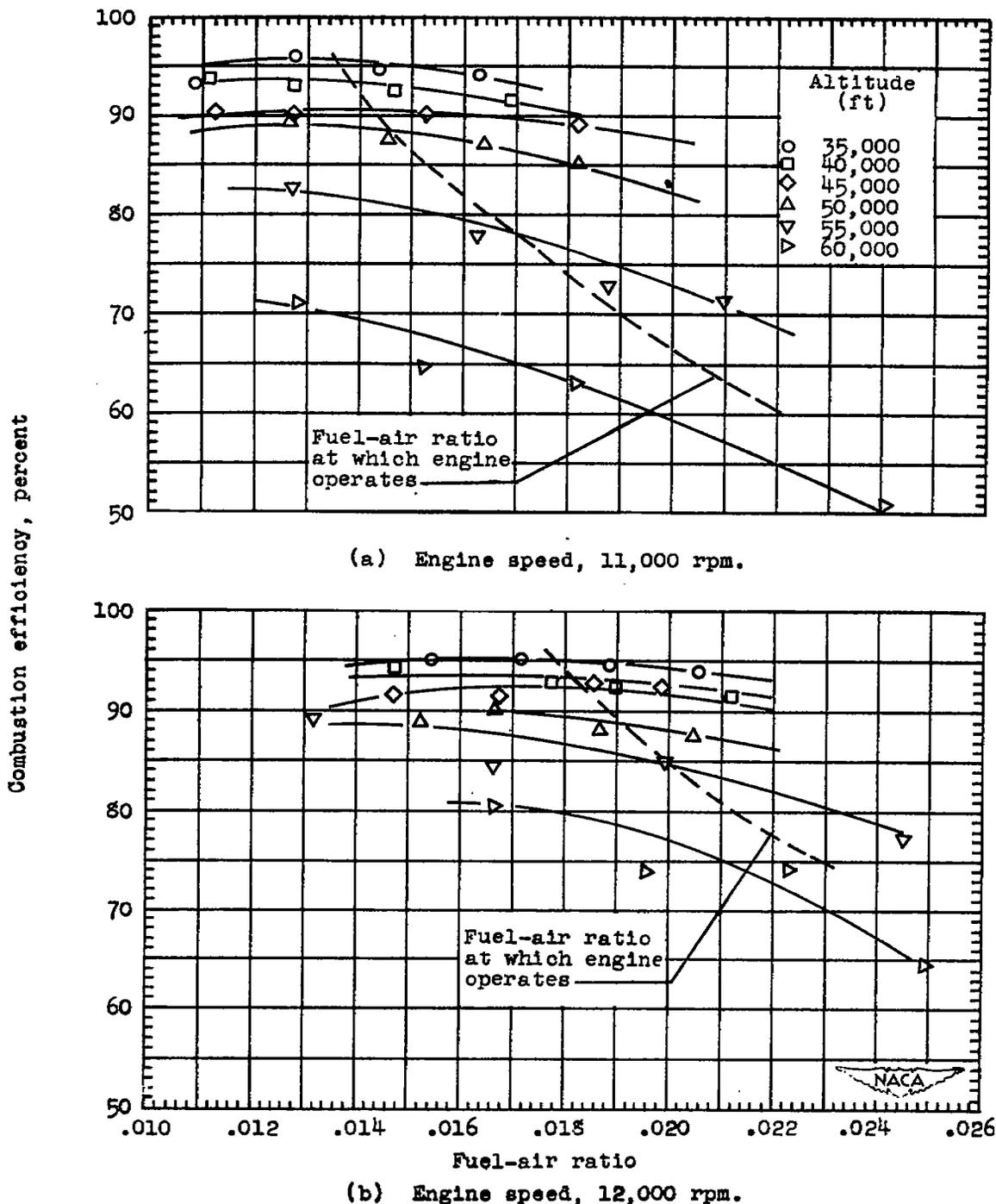
Figure 14. - Variation of combustion efficiency with fuel-air ratio for a
$25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped
basket of cylindrical design (unmodified).
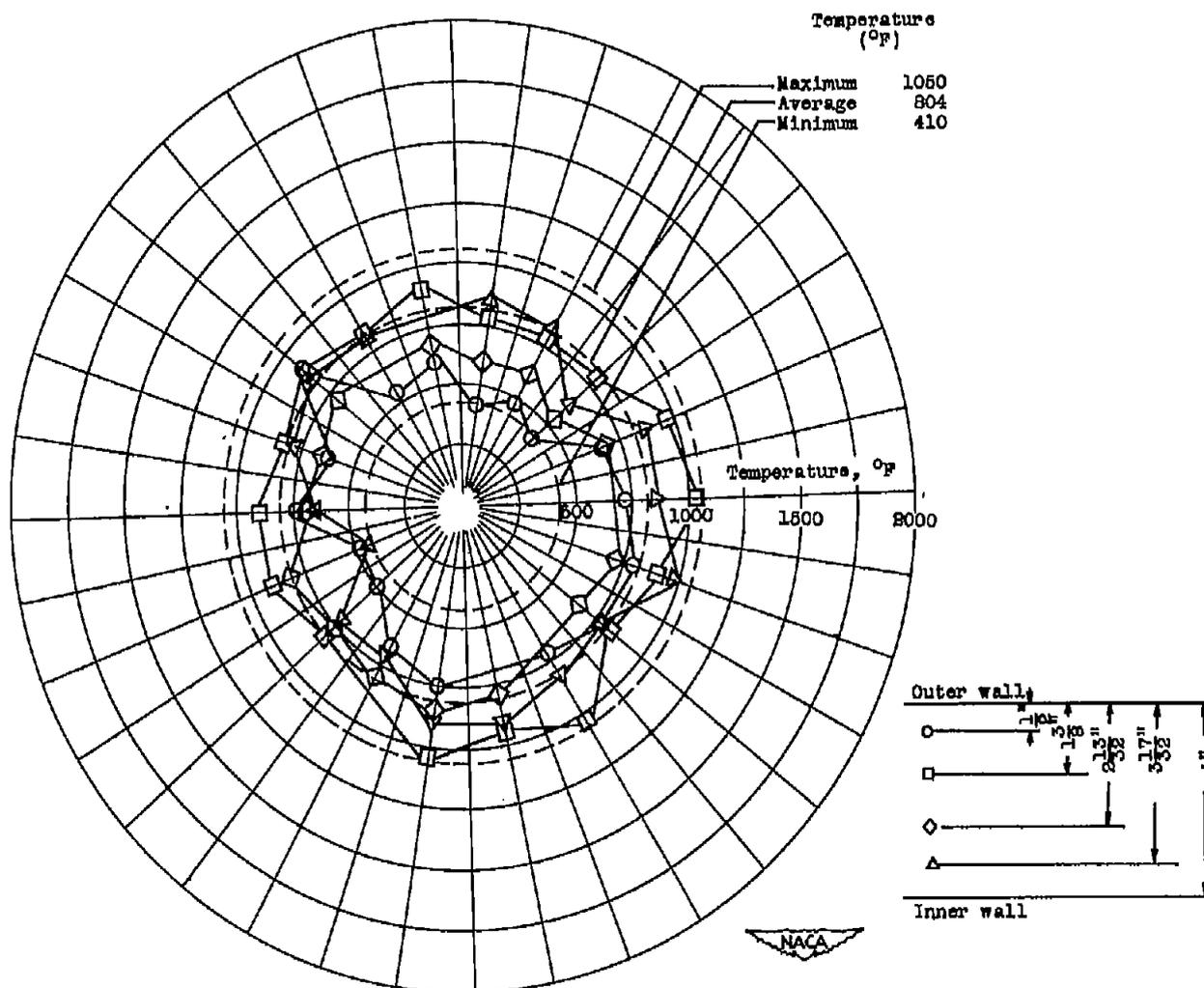
(a) Unmodified basket. Simulated altitude, 35,000 feet; simulated engine speed, 5000 rpm.

Figure 15. — Temperature distribution at combustor outlet (looking upstream) for stepped cylindrical basket.
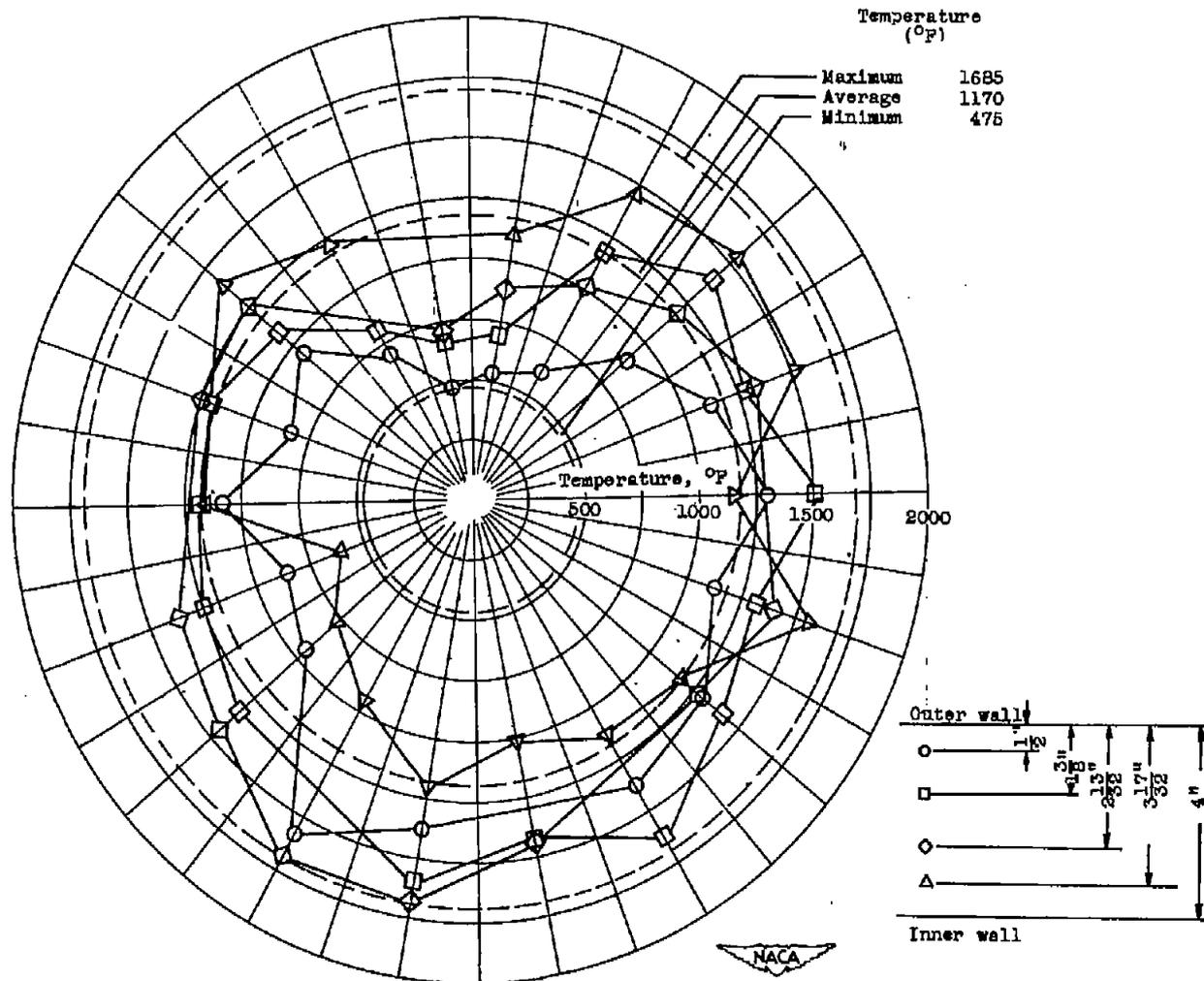
(b) Unmodified basket. Simulated altitude, 45,000 feet; simulated engine
speed, 11,000 rpm.

Figure 18. - Continued. Temperature distribution at combustor outlet (looking
upstream) for stepped cylindrical basket.

(c) Unmodified basket. Simulated altitude, 55,000 feet; simulated engine speed, 11,000 rpm.

Figure 15. – Continued. Temperature distribution at combustor outlet (looking upstream) for stepped cylindrical basket.

Temperature
(°F)

Maximum   1310
Average   728
Minimum   120

Temperature, °F

500   1000   1500   2000

Outer wall

Inner wall
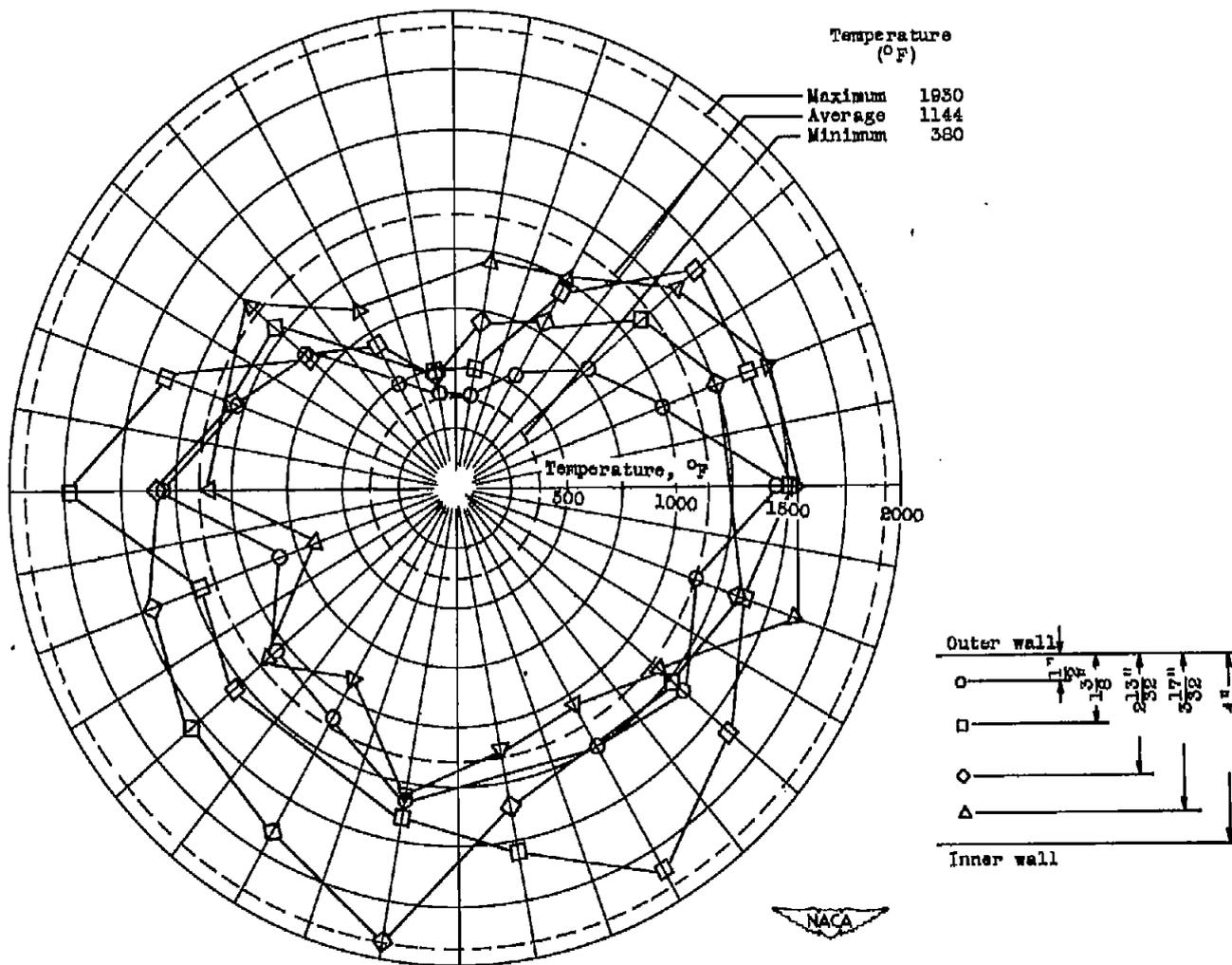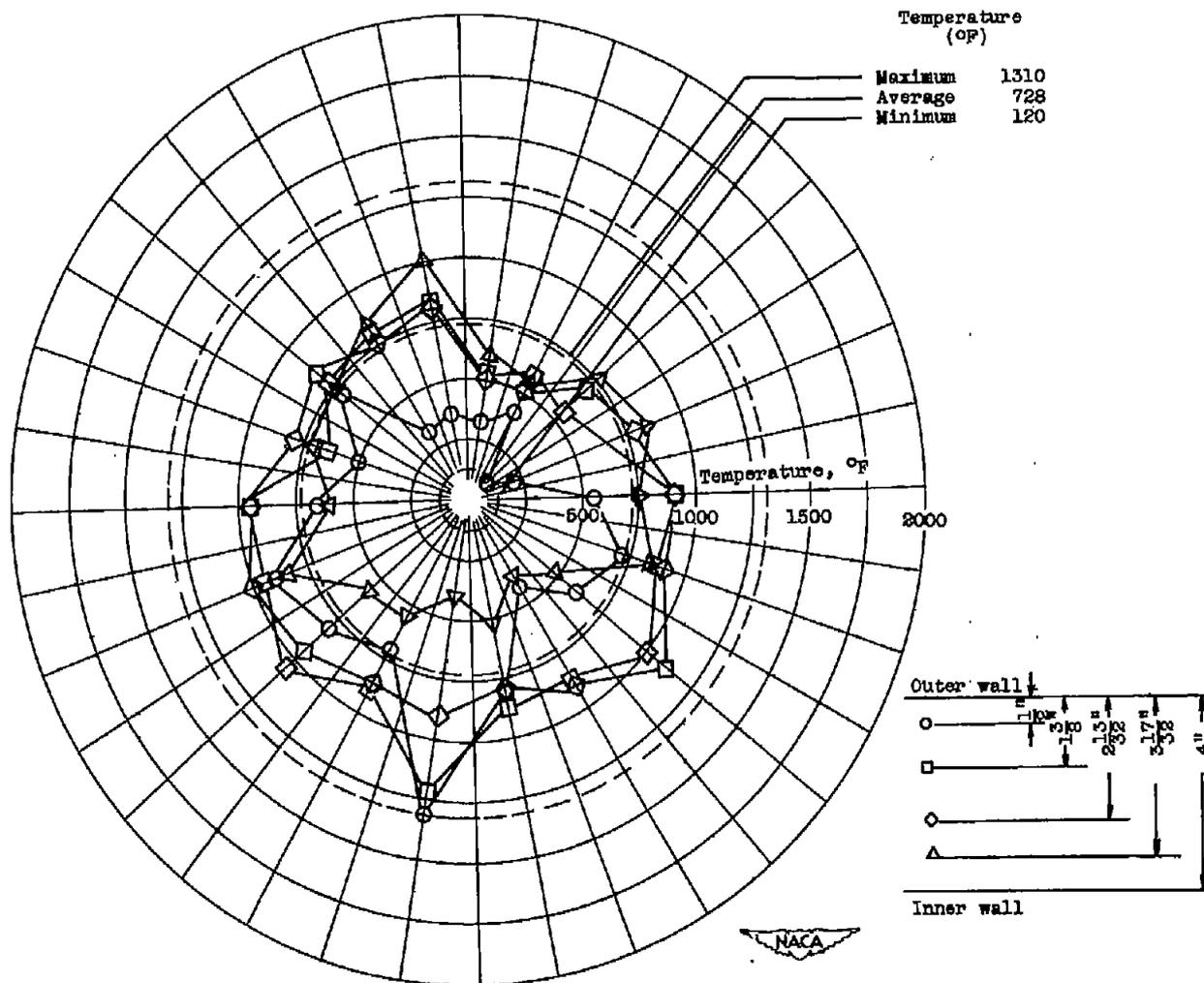
(d)   Modification 9.   Simulated altitude, 35,000 feet; simulated engine
speed, 5000 rpm.

Figure 18. - Continued.   Temperature distribution at combustor outlet (looking
upstream) for stepped cylindrical basket.

(e) Modification 9. Simulated altitude, 45,000 feet; simulated engine
speed, 11,000 rpm.

Figure 15. - Continued. Temperature distribution at combustor outlet (looking
upstream) for stepped cylindrical basket.

Temperature
(^{o}F)

——— Maximum   2000
——— Average   1138
——— Minimum   330

Temperature, ^{o}F

500   1000   1500   2000

Outer wall

Inner wall
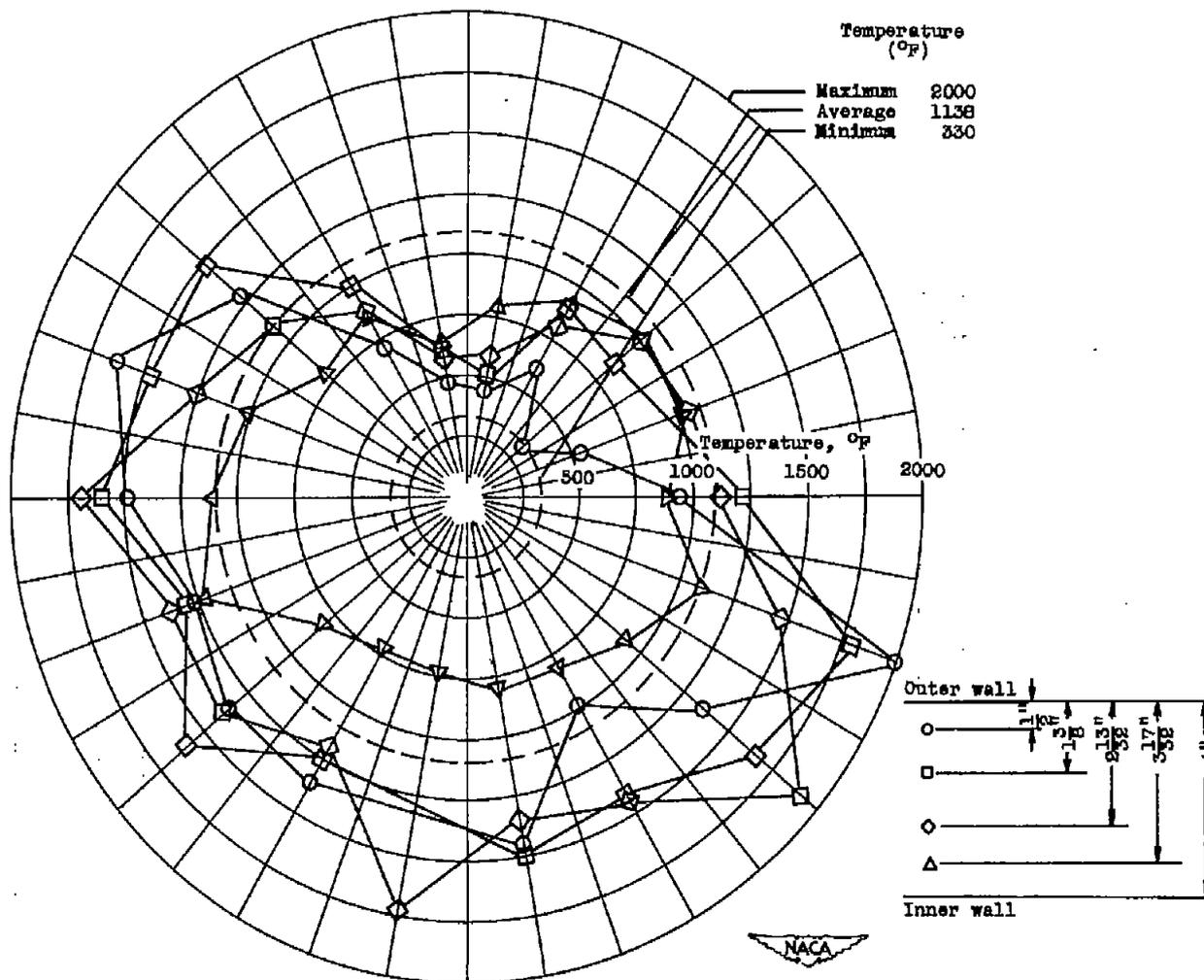
(f) Modification 9. Simulated altitude, 55,000 feet; simulated engine
speed, 11,000 rpm.

Figure 15. - Concluded. Temperature distribution at combustor outlet (looking
upstream) for stepped cylindrical basket.
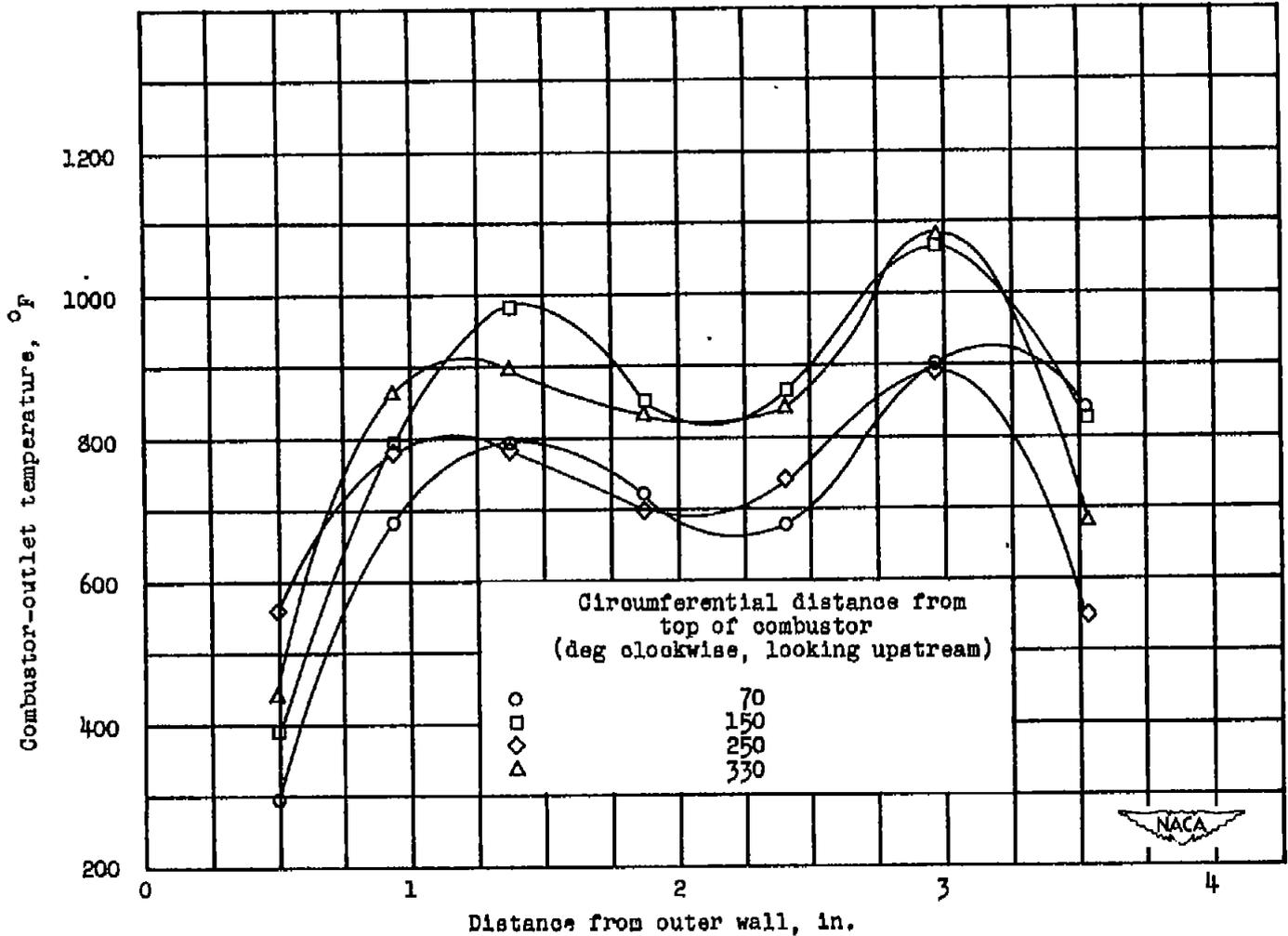
(a) Simulated engine speed, 8000 rpm.

Figure 16. - Radial temperature traverses at combustor outlet (plane 2, fig. 2) in four circumferential positions with simulated altitude of 35,000 feet for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped conical basket.
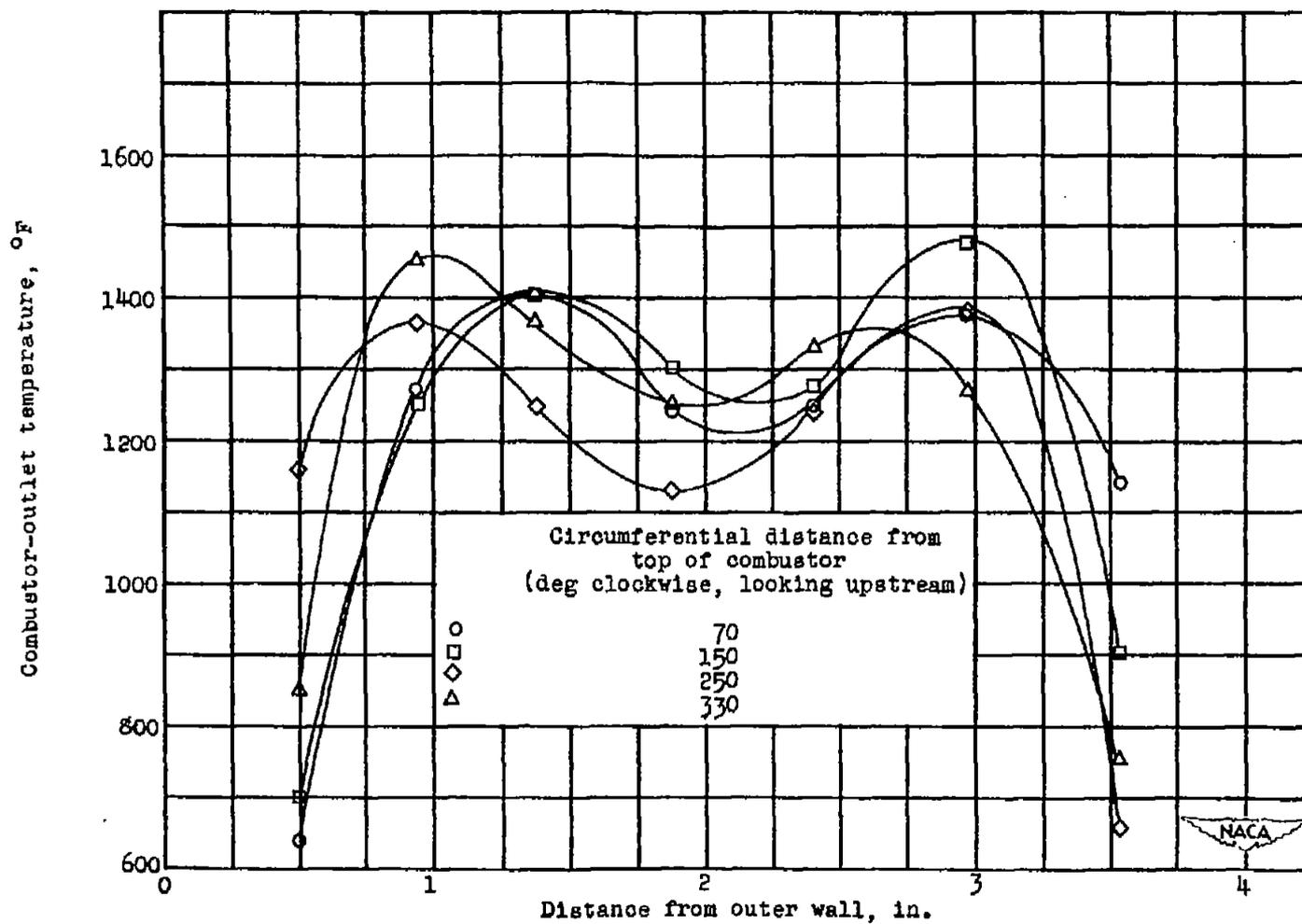
(b) Simulated engine speed, 11,000 rpm.

Figure 16. - Concluded. Radial temperature traverses at combustor outlet (plane 2, fig. 2) in four circumferential positions with simulated altitude of 35,000 feet for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped conical basket.
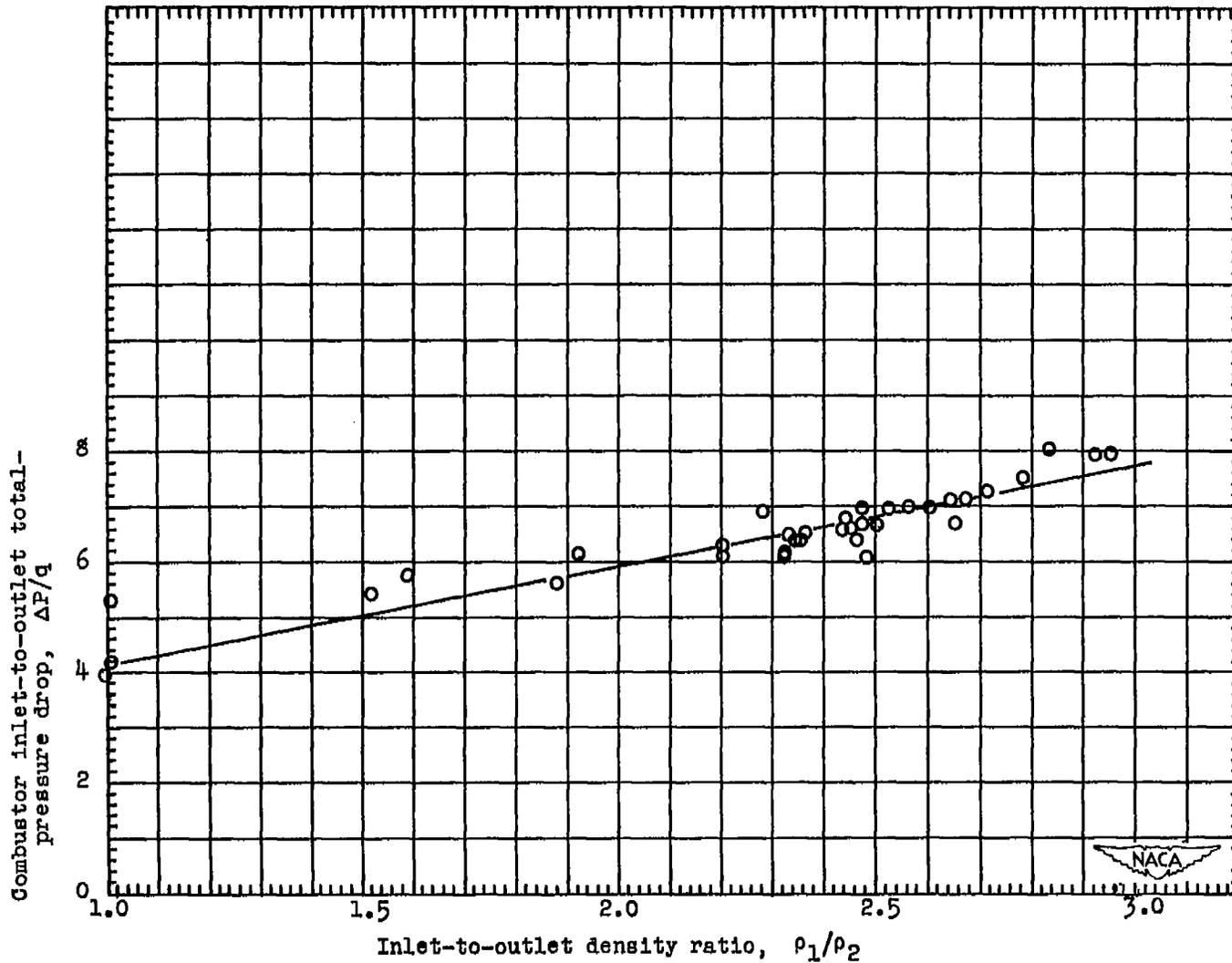
Figure 17. - Correlation of combustor total-pressure drop with inlet-to-outlet density ratio (planes 1 to 2, fig. 2) for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped conical basket.
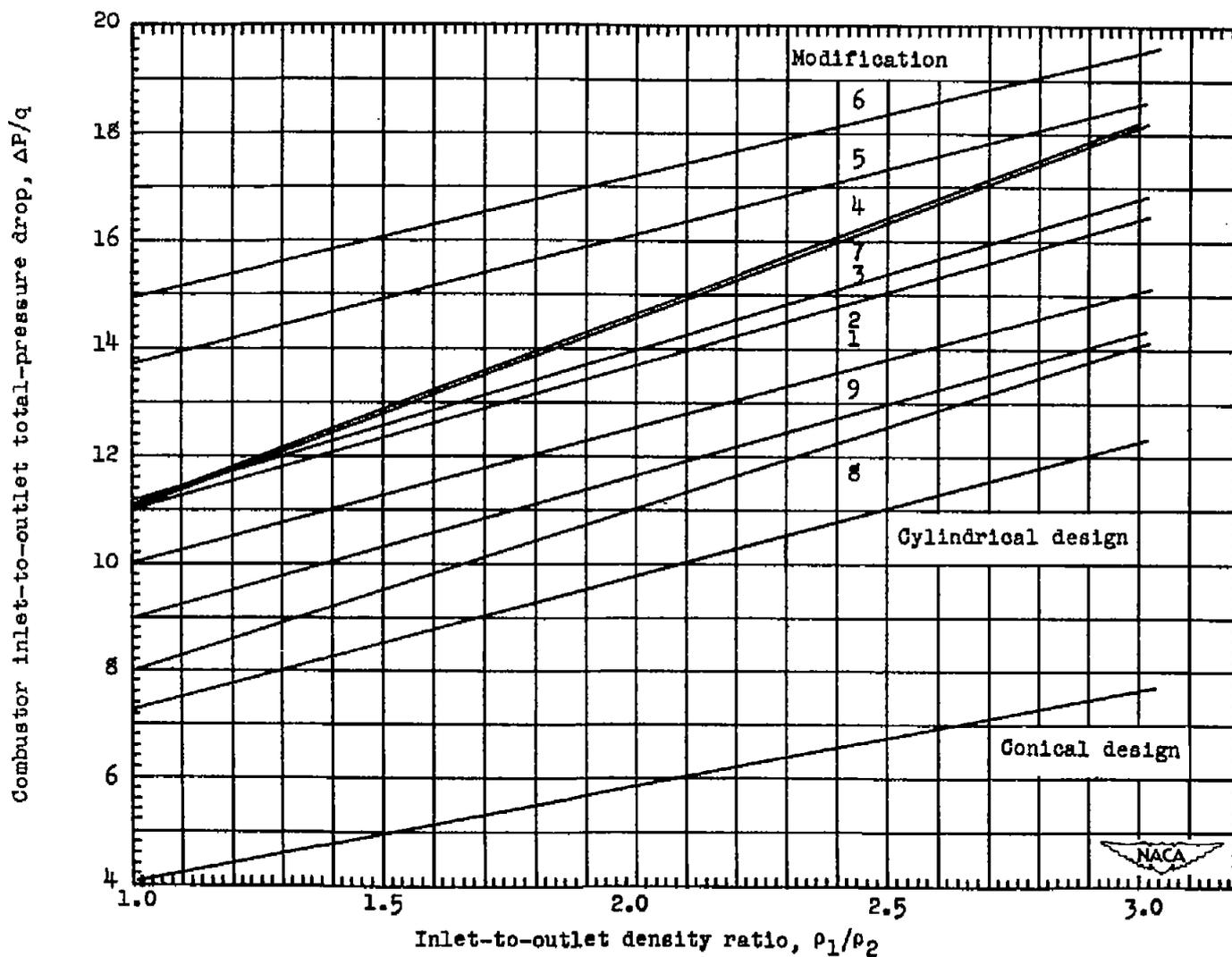
Figure 18. – Total-pressure drop for stepped cylindrical basket and modifications and for stepped conical basket in a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor.
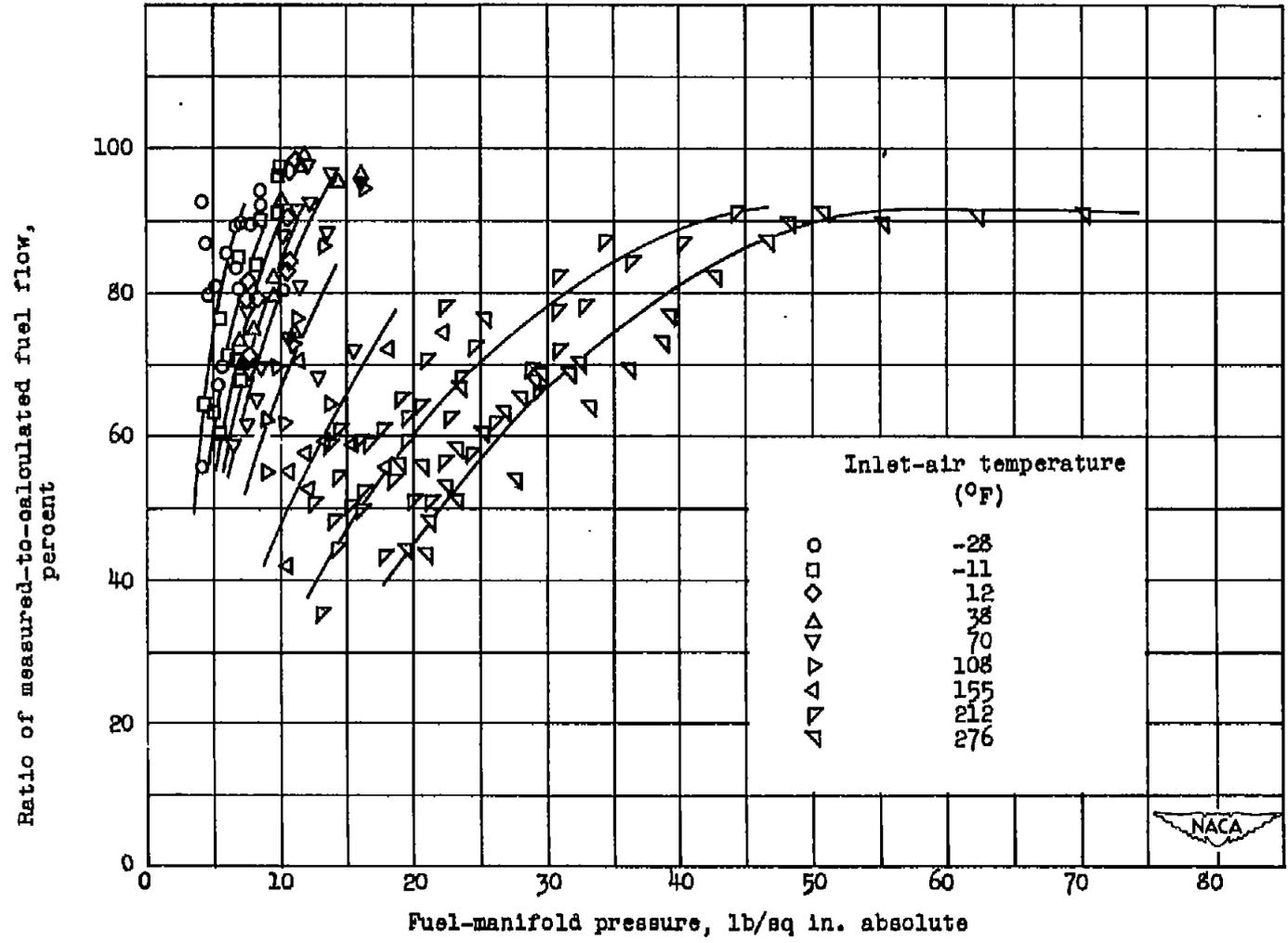
Figure 19. - Variation of measured-to-calculated fuel-flow ratio with fuel-manifold pressure for various inlet-air temperatures in a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped baskets.
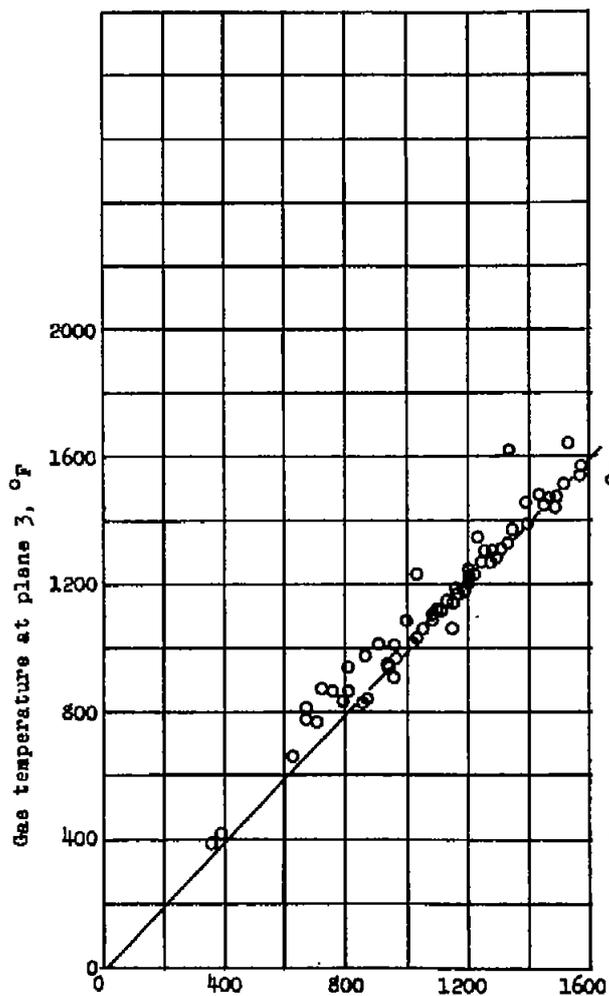
(a) Plane 3.
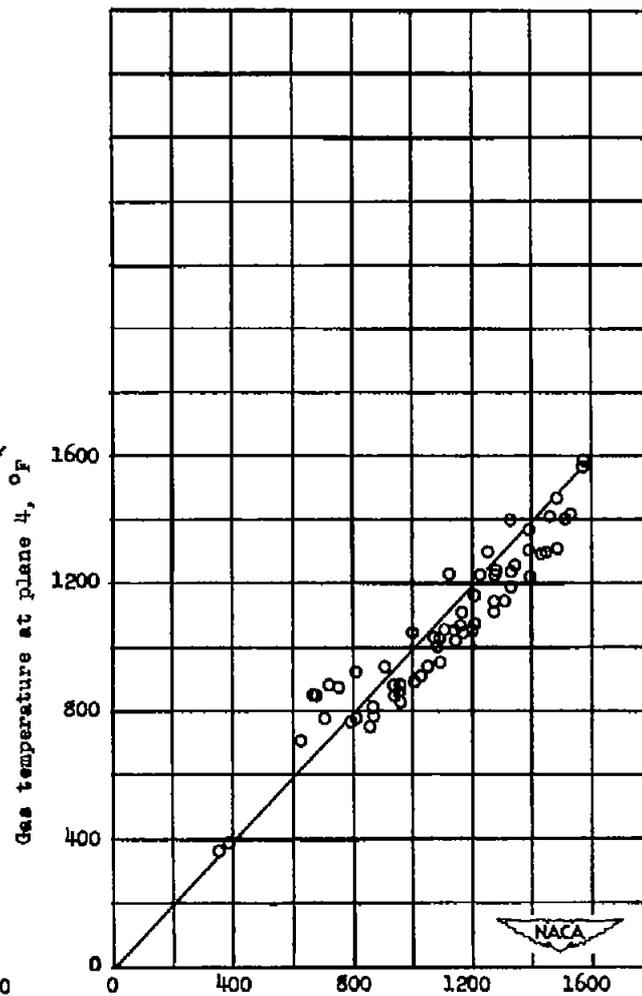
(b) Plane 4.

Figure 20. - Comparison of average gas temperature at planes 3 and 4 with average combustor-outlet gas temperature at plane 2 (fig. 2) for a $25\frac{1}{2}$-inch-diameter annular-type turbojet combustor equipped with stepped baskets.