



Saturn V Stage I (S-IC) Overview

Objectives

□ Become familiar with the Saturn V Stage I (S-IC) major structural components:

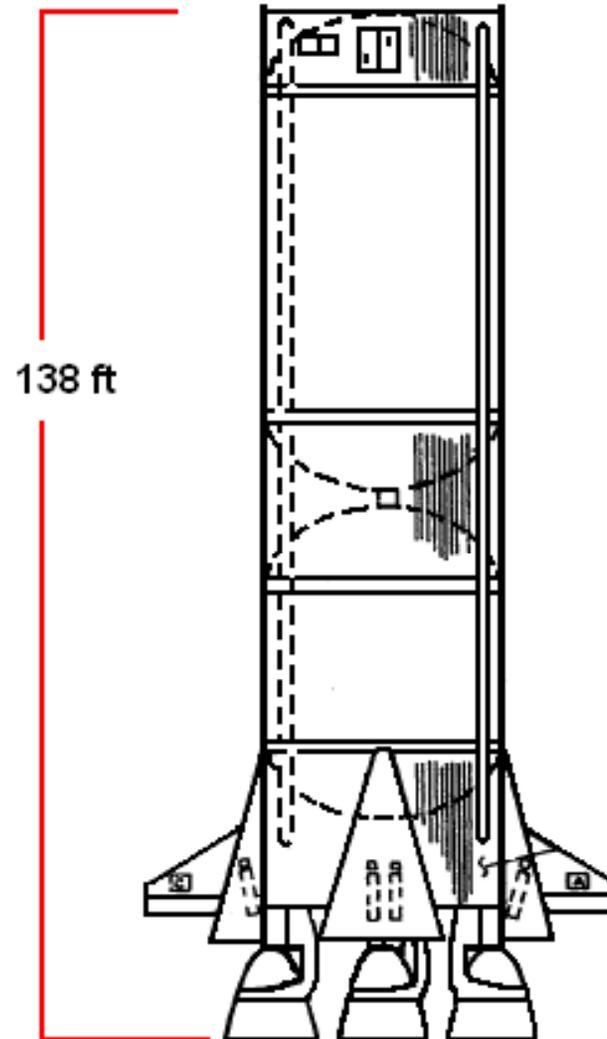
- Forward Skirt
- Oxidizer Tank
- Intertank
- Fuel Tank
- Thrust Structure

□ Gain a general understanding of the Stage I subsystems:

- Fuel
- Oxidizer
- Environmental Control
- Electrical
- Instrumentation
- Flight Control
- Control Pressure
- Ordinance

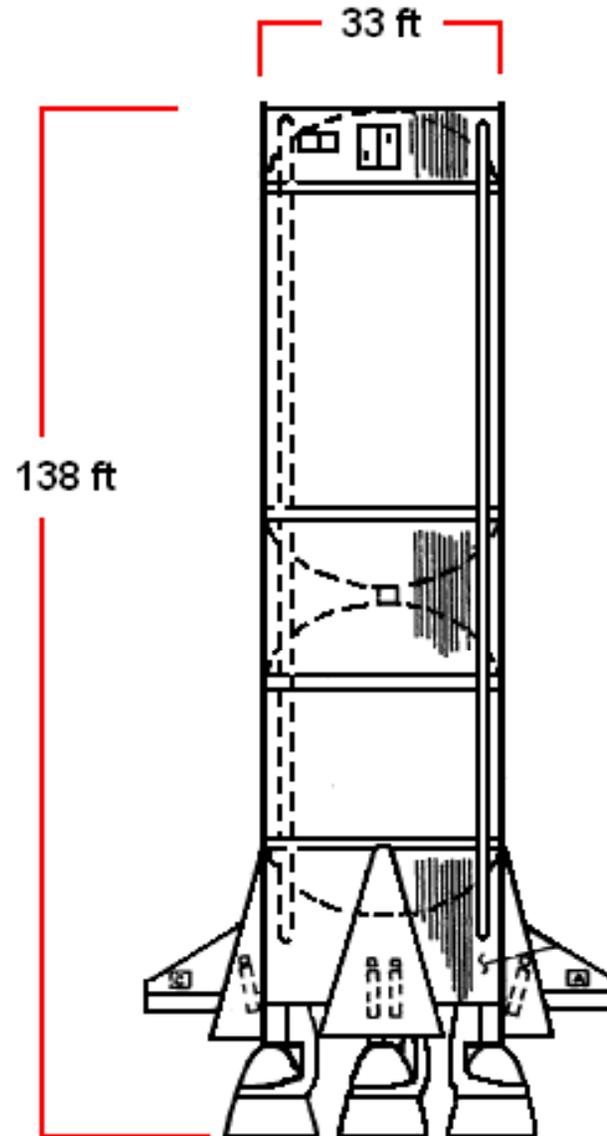
S-IC Stage Structure

- 138 feet/42 meters high



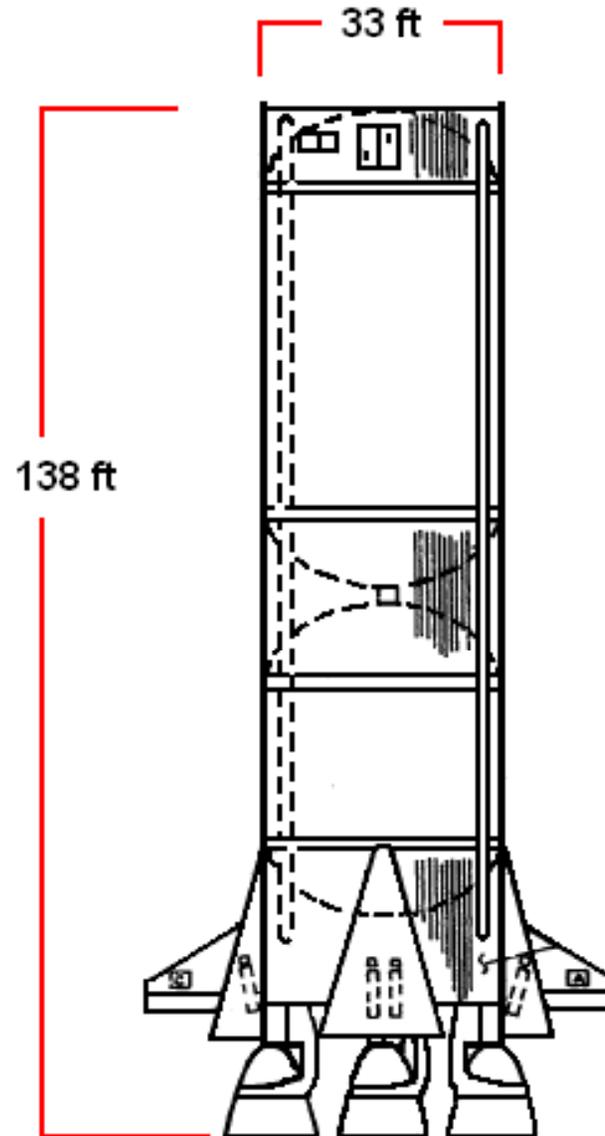
S-IC Stage Structure

- 138 ft/42 m high
- 33 ft/10 m in diameter



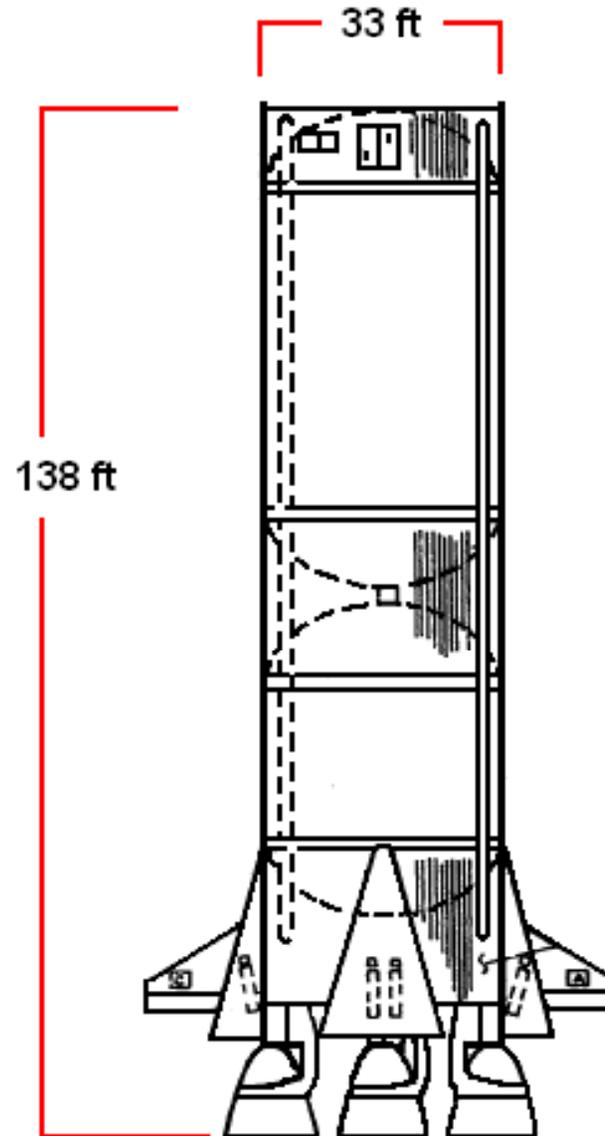
S-IC Stage Structure

- ❑ 138 ft/42 m high
- ❑ 33 ft/10 m in diameter
- ❑ Five F-1 engines manufactured by Rocketdyne



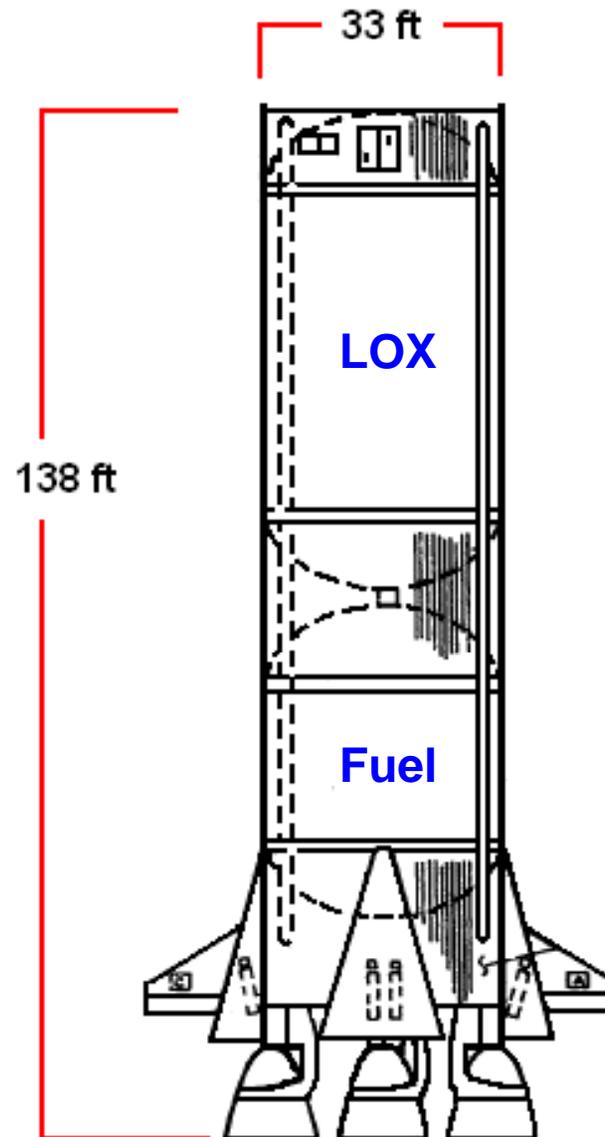
S-IC Stage Structure

- ❑ 138 ft/42 m high
- ❑ 33 ft/10 m in diameter
- ❑ Five F-1 engines manufactured by Rocketdyne
- ❑ Total Thrust = 7,610,000 lbs/
3,451,838 kilograms



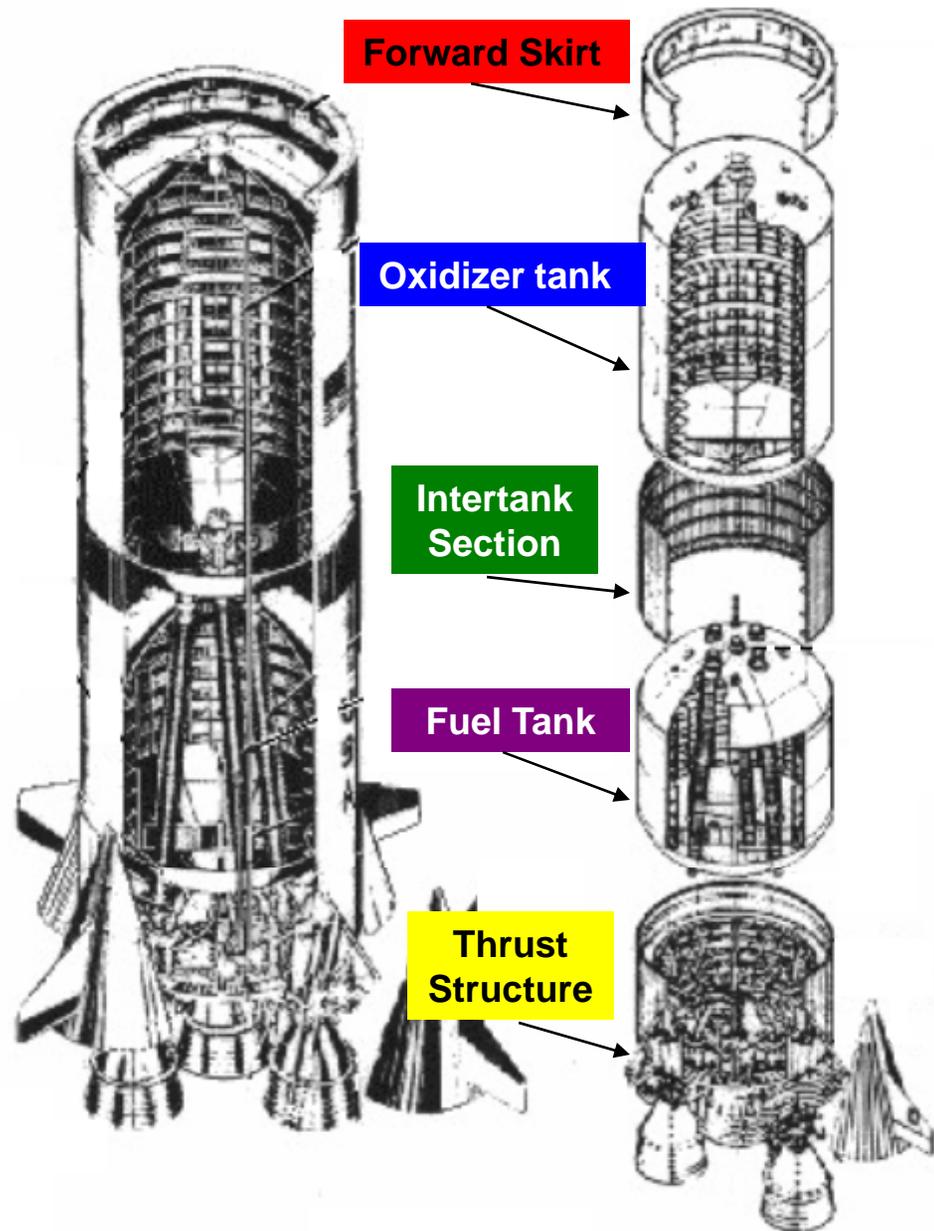
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- ❑ 33 ft/10 m in diameter
- ❑ Five F-1 engines manufactured by Rocketdyne
- ❑ Total Thrust = 7,610,000 lbs/
3,451,838 kilograms
- ❑ Two propellants
 - Liquid Oxygen (LOX or RJ-1)
 - Fuel/Kerosene (RP-1)



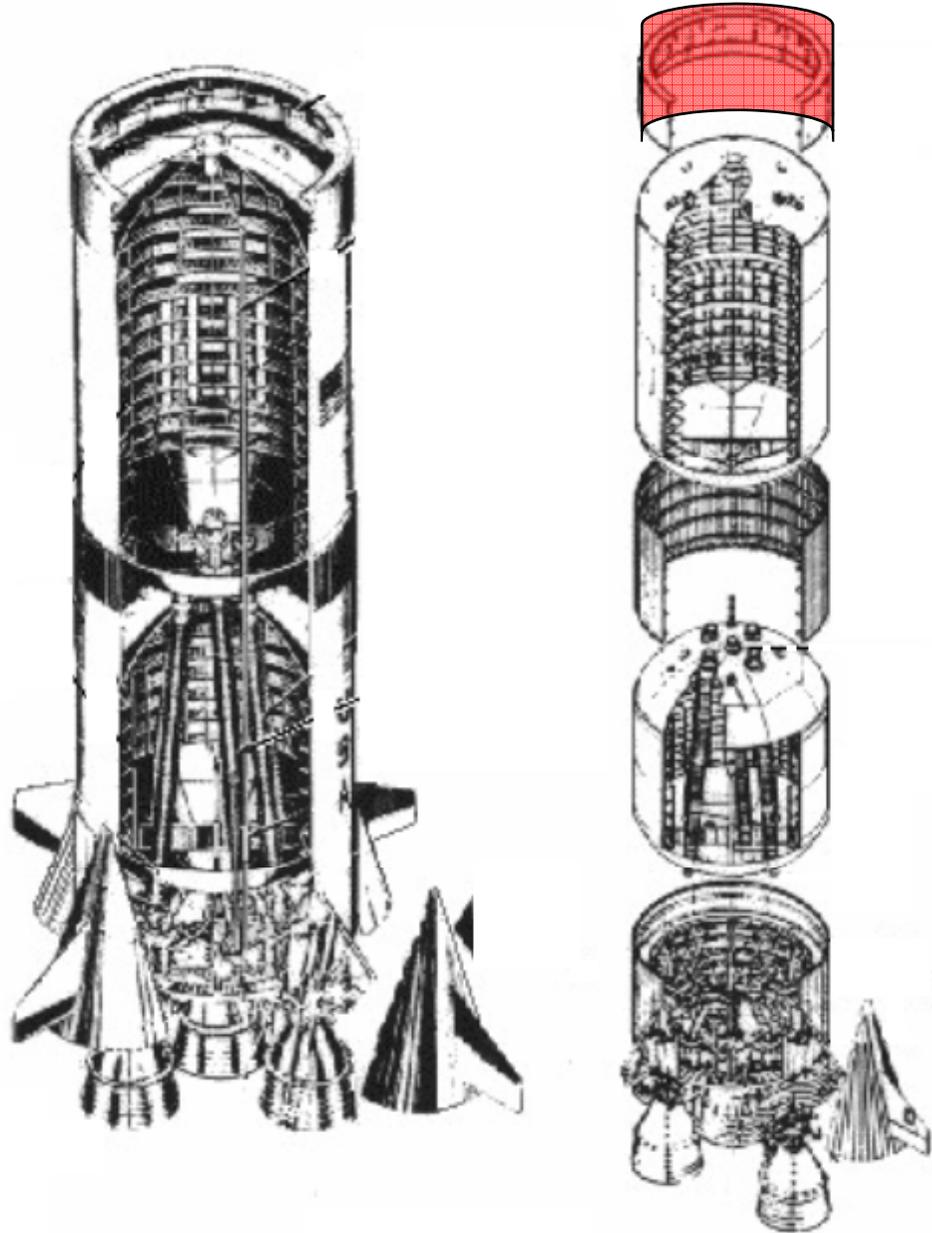
S-IC Stage Components

- ❑ Forward Skirt
- ❑ Oxidizer Tank
- ❑ Intertank Section
- ❑ Fuel Tank
- ❑ Thrust Structure



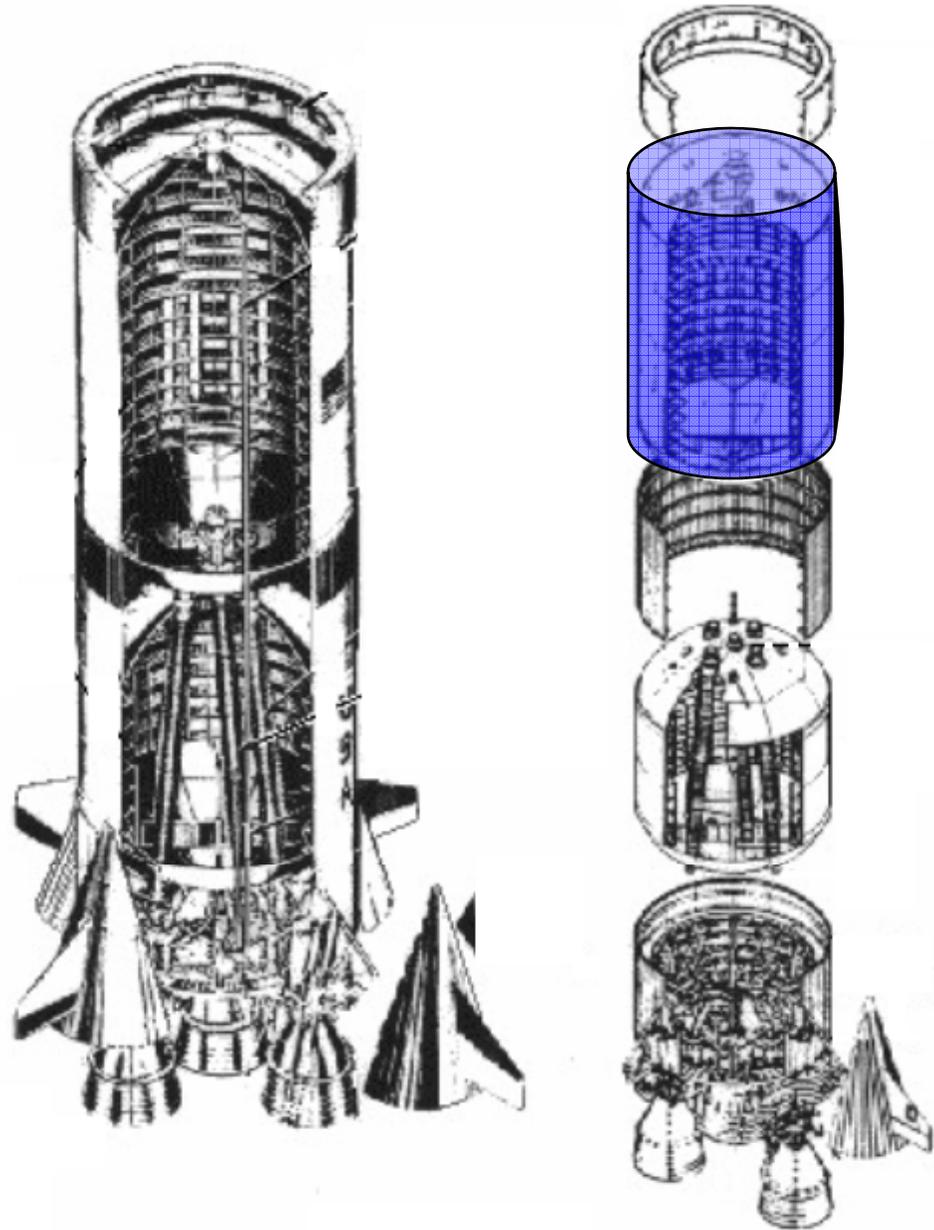
Forward Skirt

- ❑ Provides connecting link for First & Second Stage
- ❑ Accommodates:
 - Forward umbilical plate
 - Electrical canisters
 - Venting of LOX tank



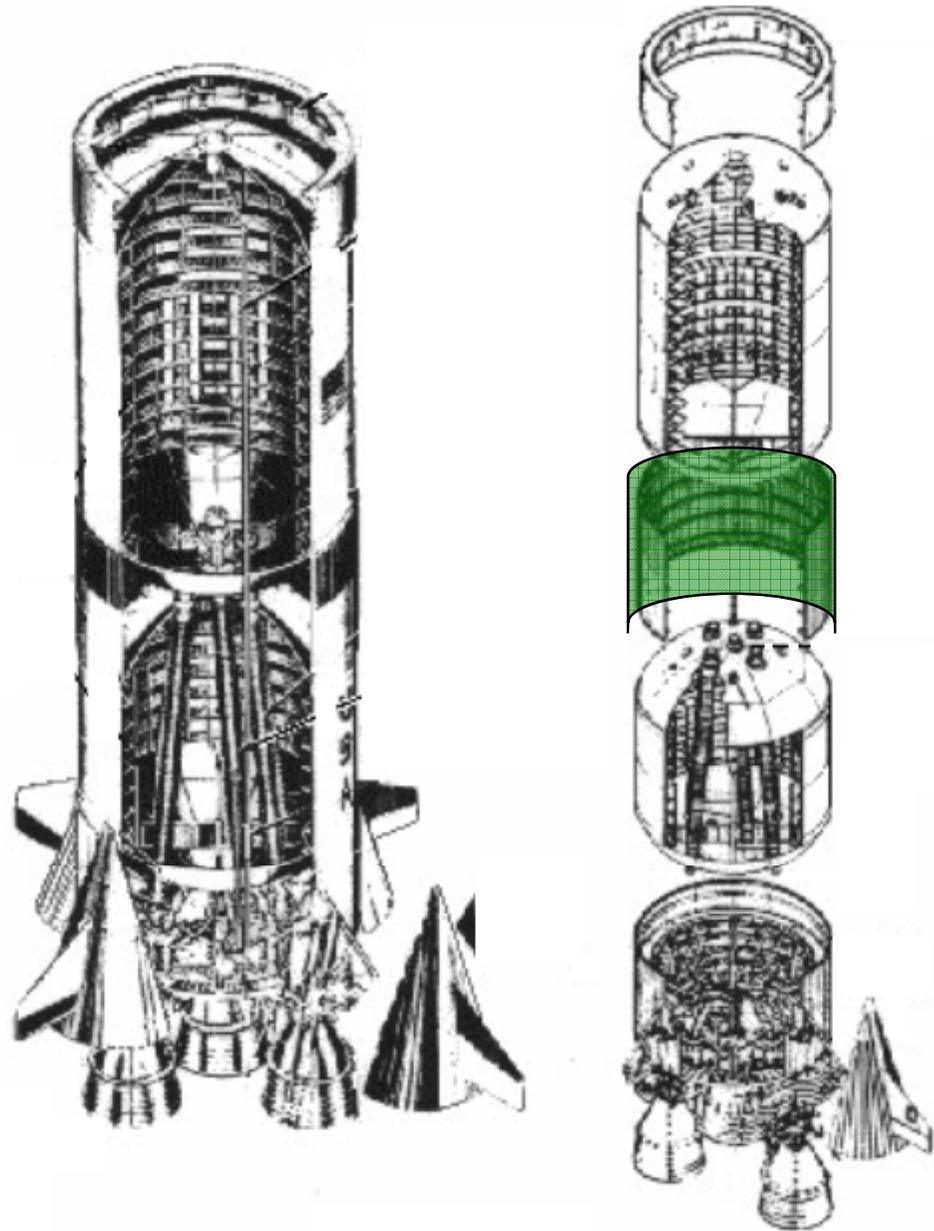
Oxidizer Tank

- ❑ Held 331,000 gallons/1,252,971 liters of liquid oxygen
- ❑ -297° F (-183° C)
- ❑ Contained ring baffles for structural stability
 - Reduced LOX sloshing
 - Supported Helium (He) bottles



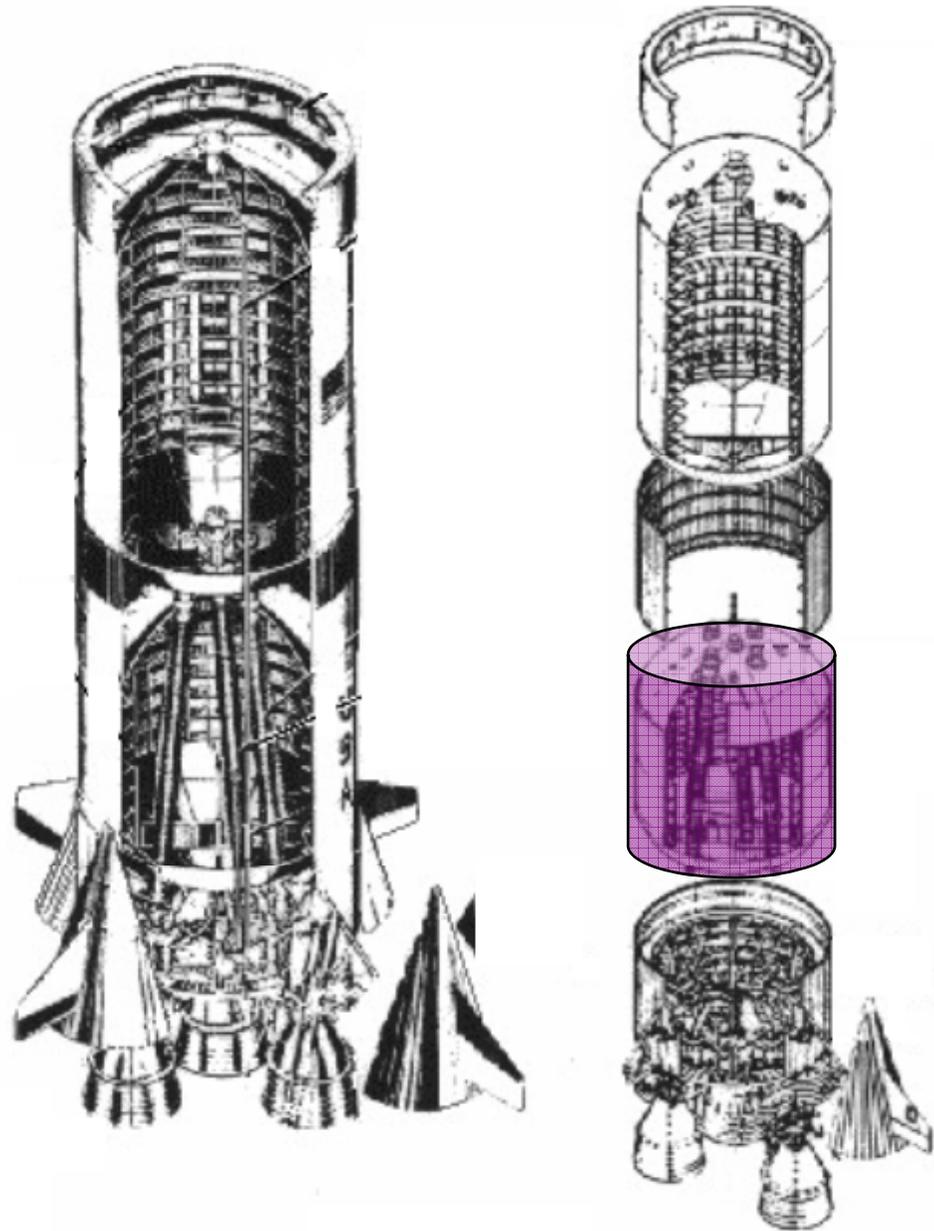
Intertank Section

- ❑ Provided structural continuity between LOX & Fuel Tank
- ❑ LOX fill & drain interface to intertank umbilical
- ❑ Vented the fuel tank



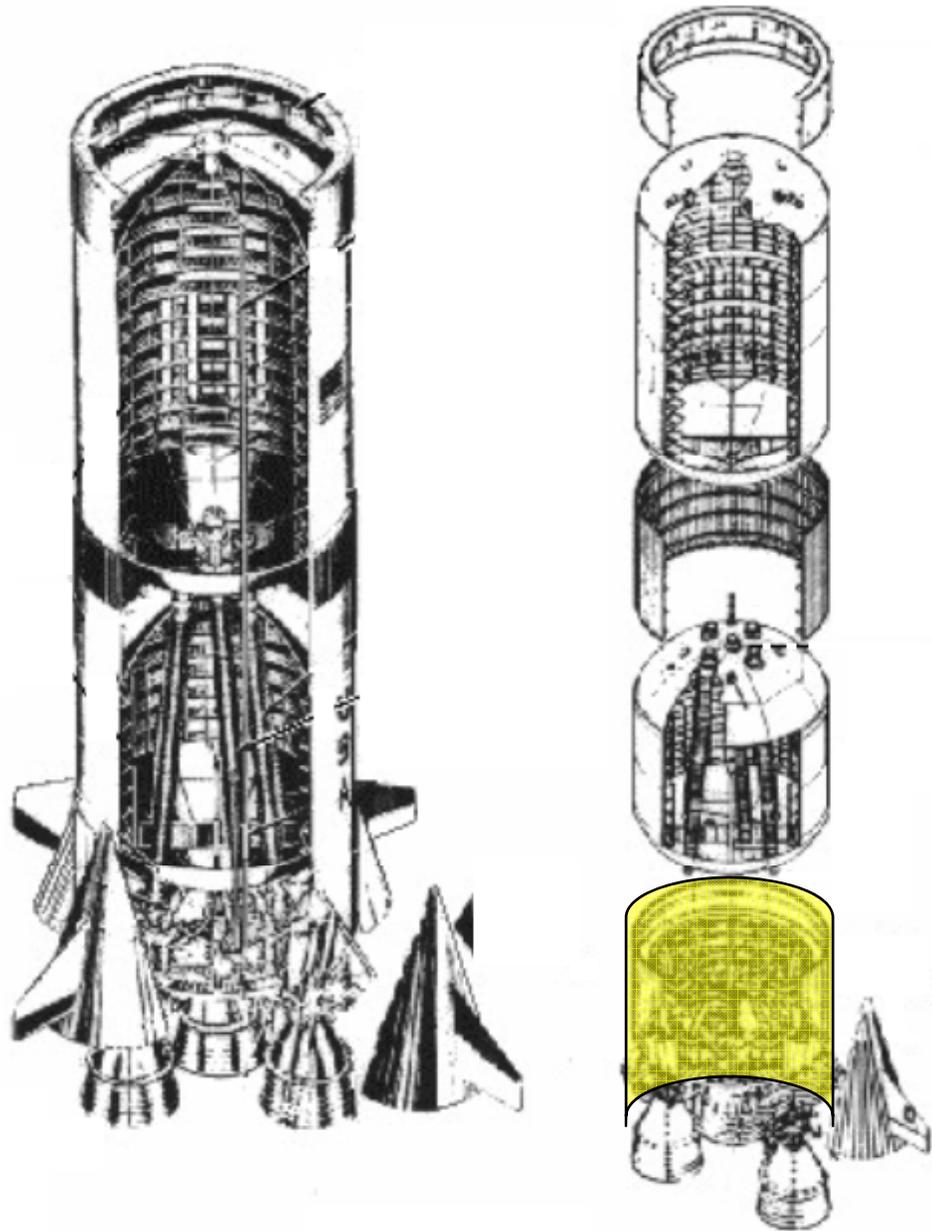
Fuel Tank

- ❑ Held 203,000 gallons/768,438 liters of RP-1
- ❑ Antislosh ring baffles on inner walls
- ❑ Antivortex ring baffles on lower bulkhead
- ❑ Five LOX ducts run from LOX tank through fuel tank



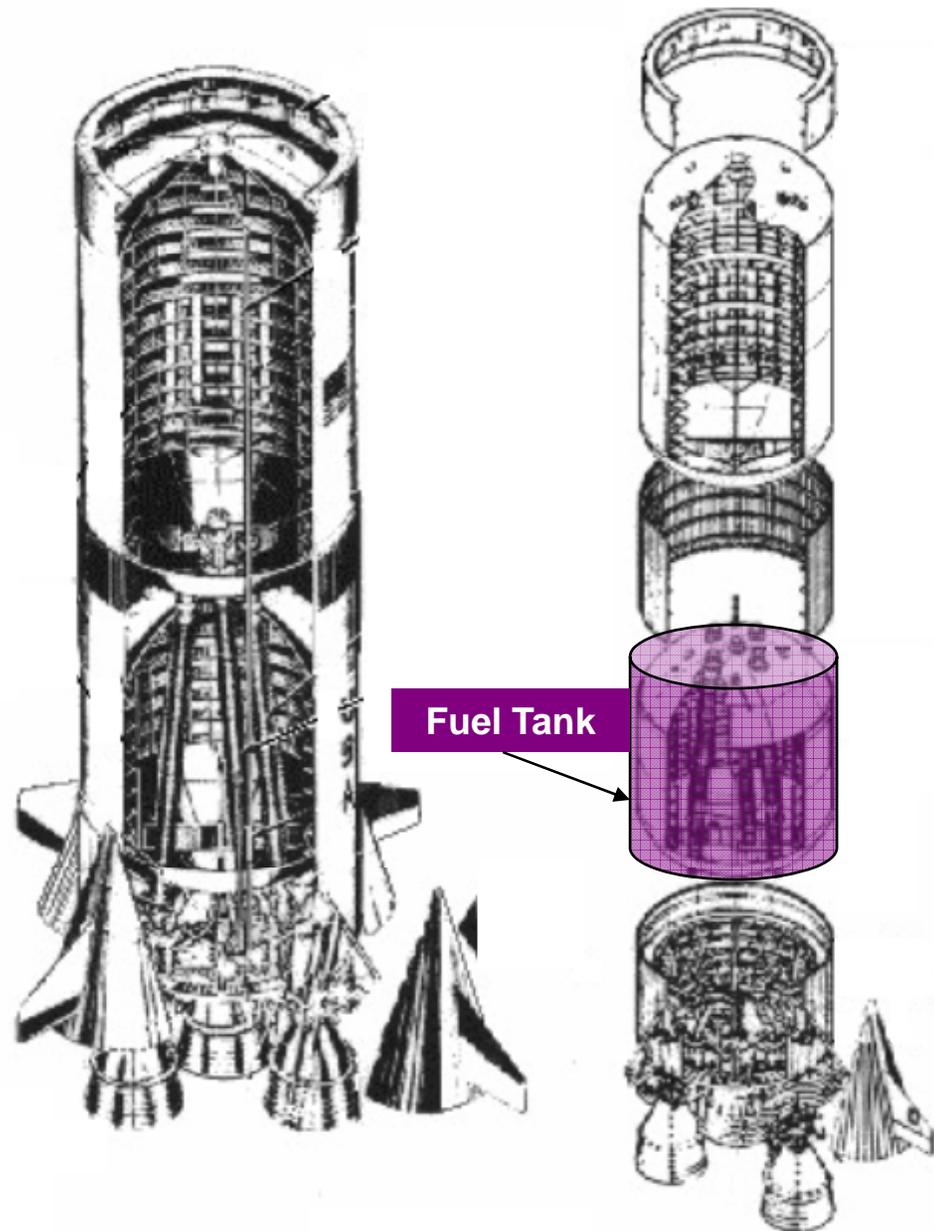
Thrust Structure

- ❑ Provided support for:
 - Base heat shield
 - Engine fairings & fins
 - Propellant lines
 - Retrorockets
 - Environmental control ducts
- ❑ Lower thrust ring had four hold-down points to restrain vehicle



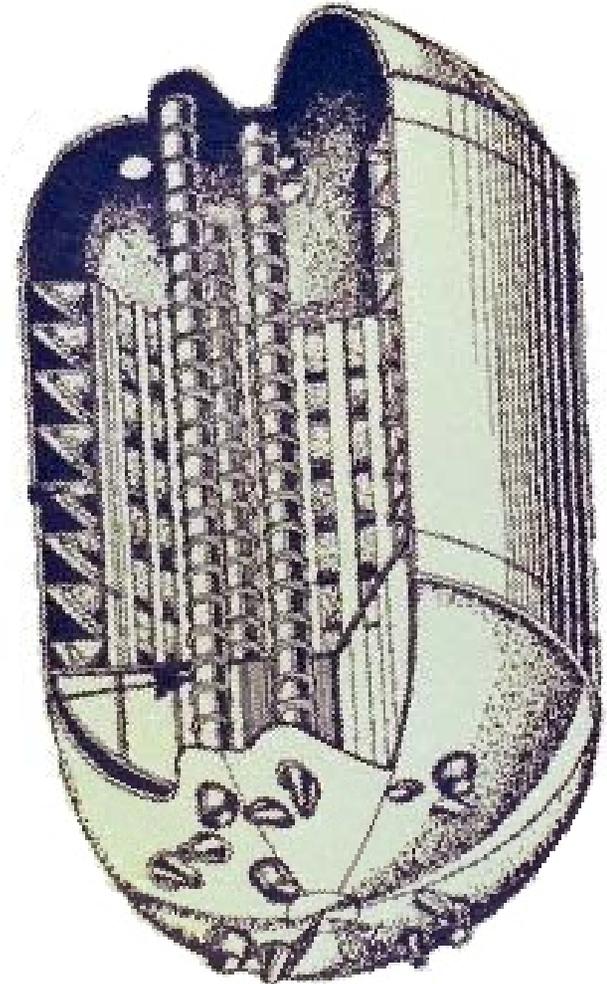
Stage I Subsystems

- ❑ **Fuel System**
- ❑ Oxidizer System
- ❑ Environmental Control System
- ❑ Electrical System
- ❑ Instrumentation System
- ❑ Flight Control System
- ❑ Control Pressure System
- ❑ Ordinance System



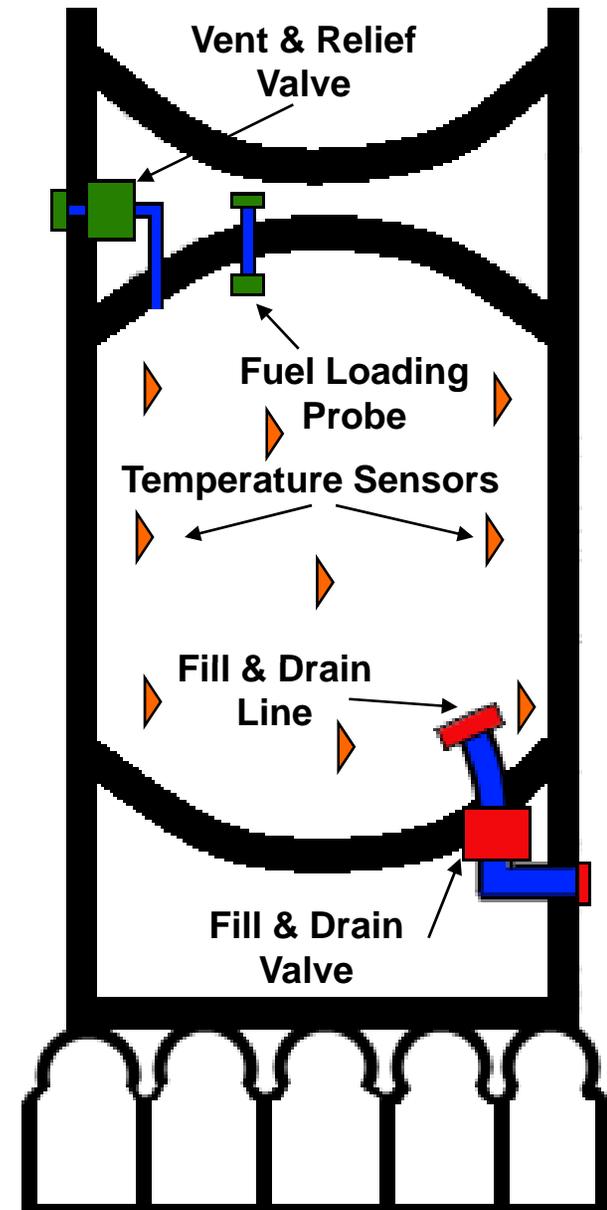
Fuel System

- ❑ Consisted of fuel tank, fuel feed lines, pressurization system, fill and drain components, & fuel conditioning system
- ❑ Held 203,000 gallons/ 768,438 liters of kerosene
- ❑ Provided 1,350 gallons/5,110 liters of fuel per second
- ❑ 10 fuel suction lines



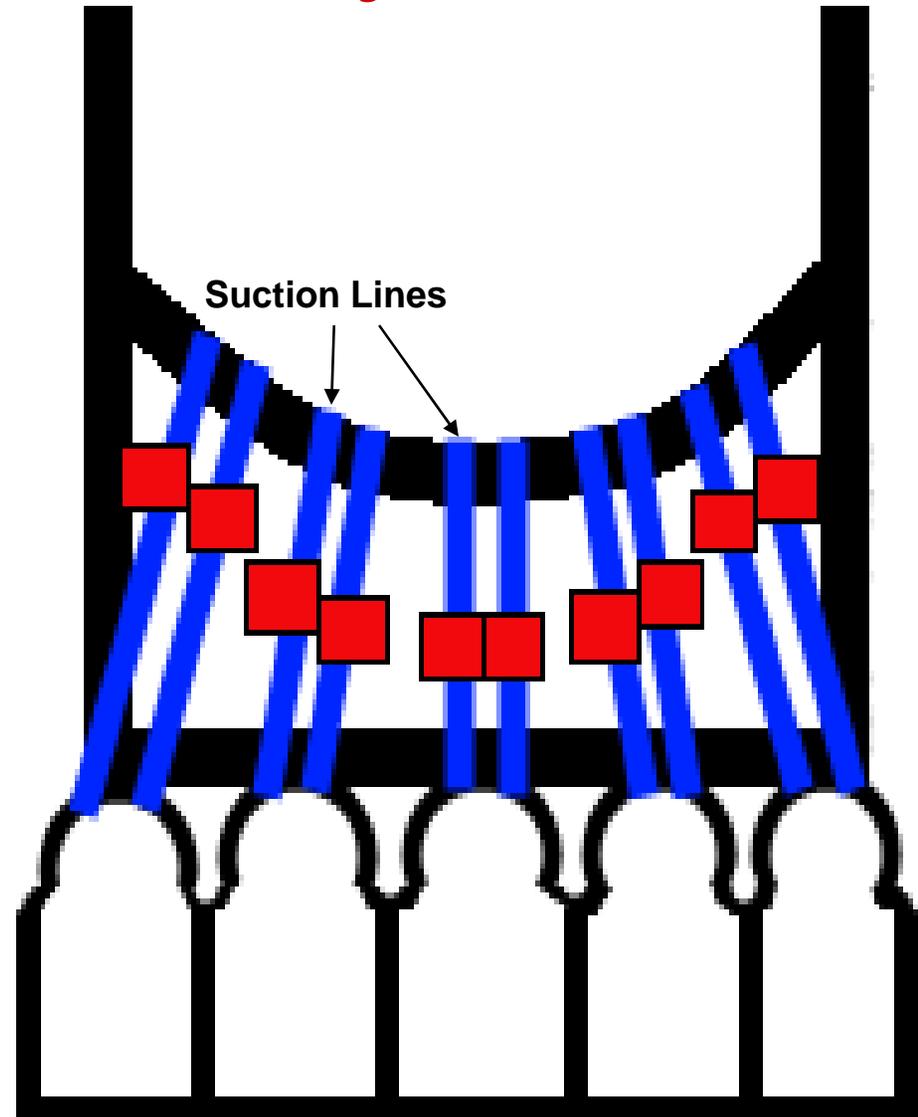
Fuel System: Fuel Fill & Drain System

- ❑ Filled through six-inch Fill & Drain Line
- ❑ Fill & Drain Valve provided fuel shutoff
- ❑ Temperature Sensors used to compute fuel density
- ❑ Tank level filled to 102%, then the Fuel Loading Probe indicated overload
- ❑ After adjustments, Fill & Drain Valve closed



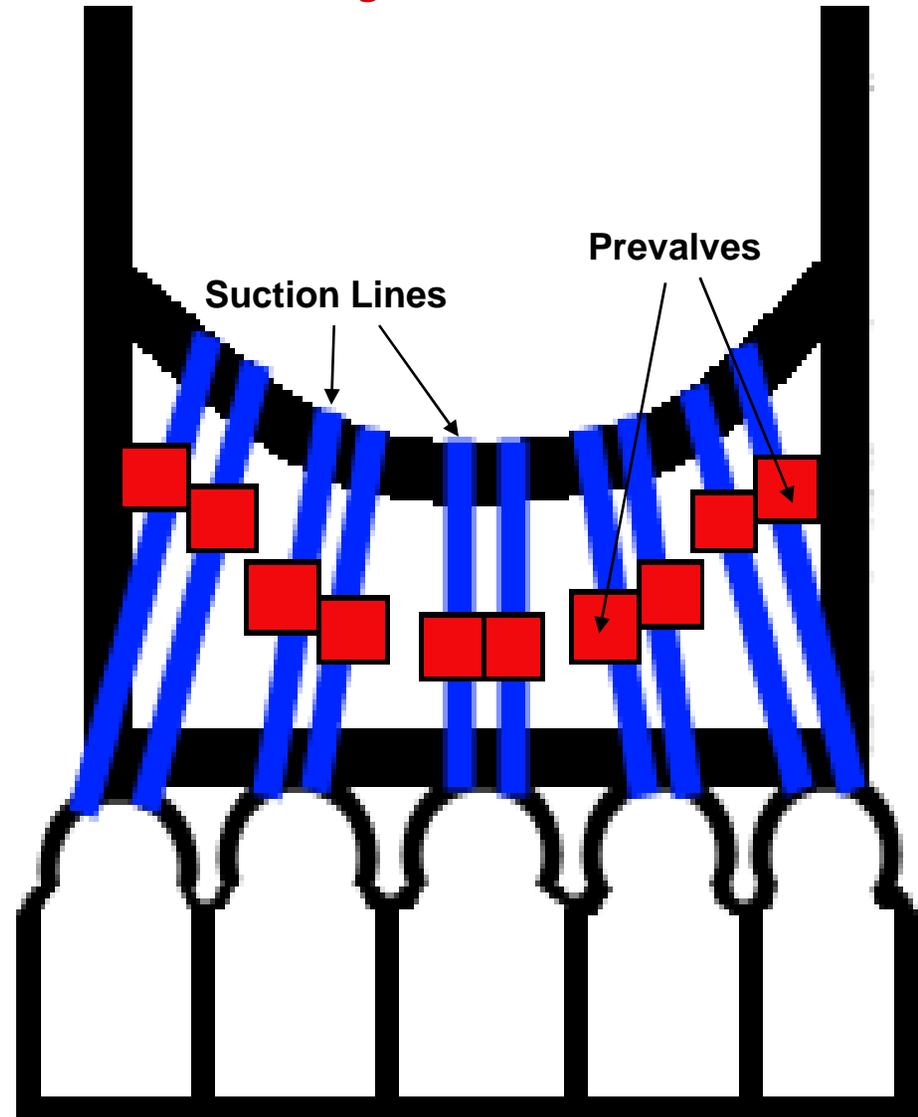
Fuel System: Fuel Feed

- 10 Fuel Suction Lines
 - Two/engine
 - Supplied fuel to F-1 engine inlets



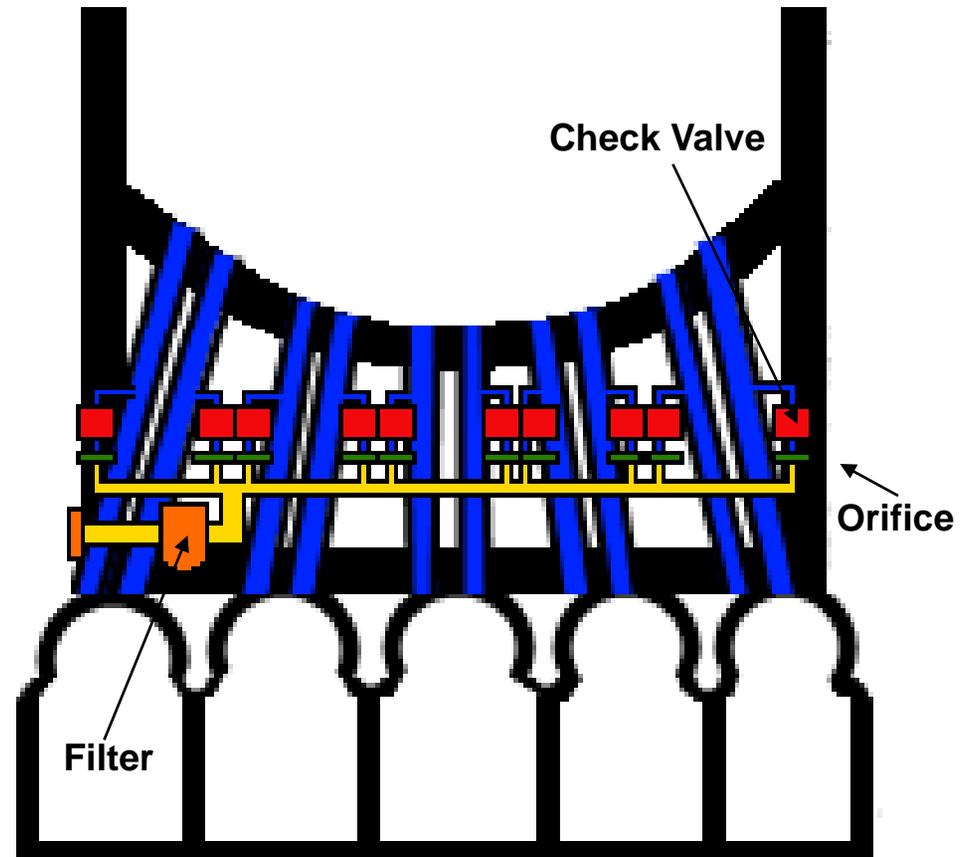
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- Each line had pneumatically controlled Prevalve



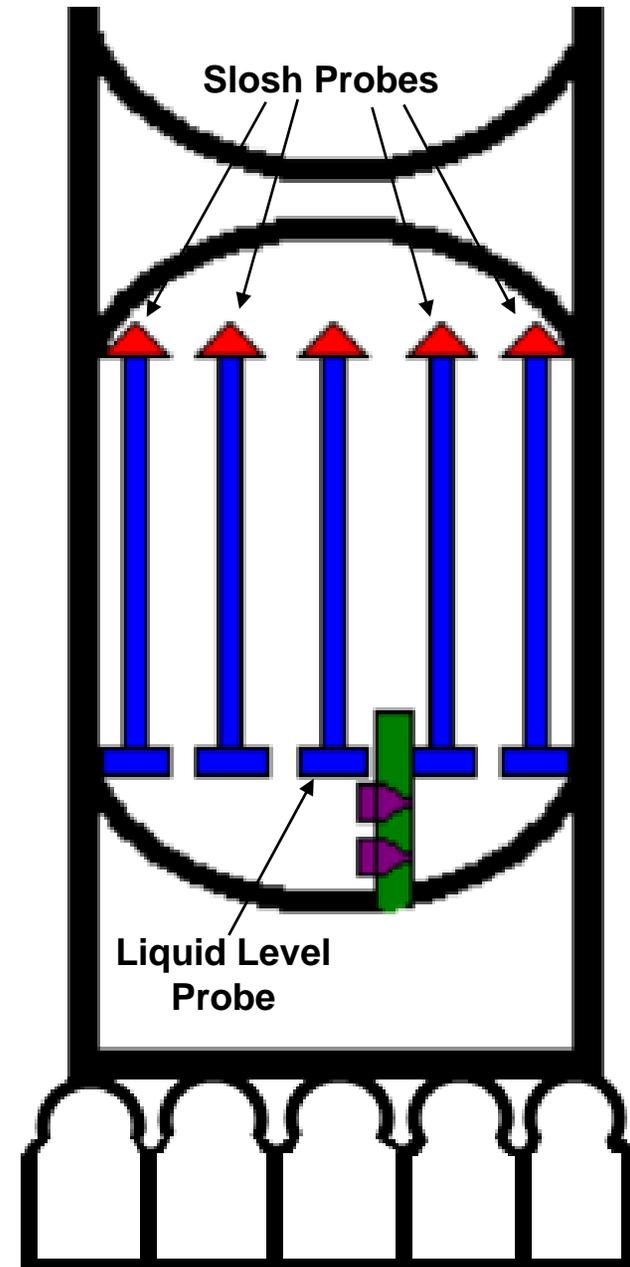
Fuel System: Fuel Conditioning

- ❑ Bubbled GN₂ through feed lines to prevent fuel temperature stratification prior to launch
- ❑ Wire mesh Filter prevented discharge of contaminants
- ❑ Check Valve prevented fuel from entering GN₂ lines
- ❑ Orifice provided proper GN₂ flow into each fuel duct



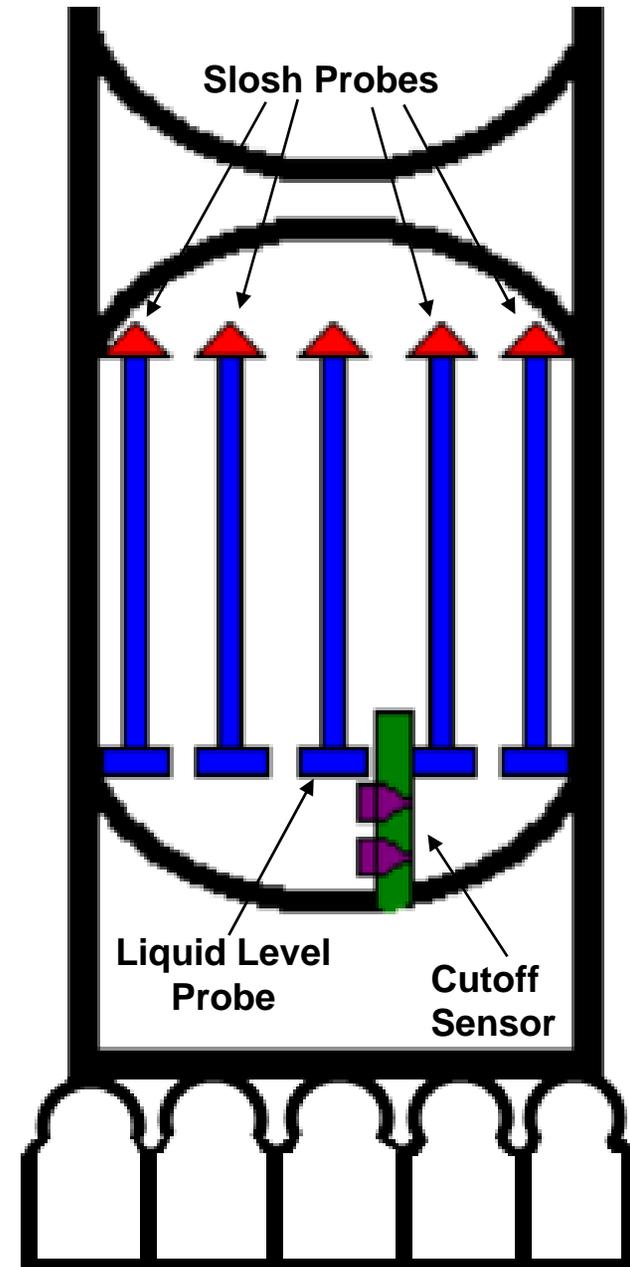
Fuel System: Fuel Level Sensing & Engine Cutoff

- Fuel measured by four fuel Slosh Probes & one Liquid Level Probe



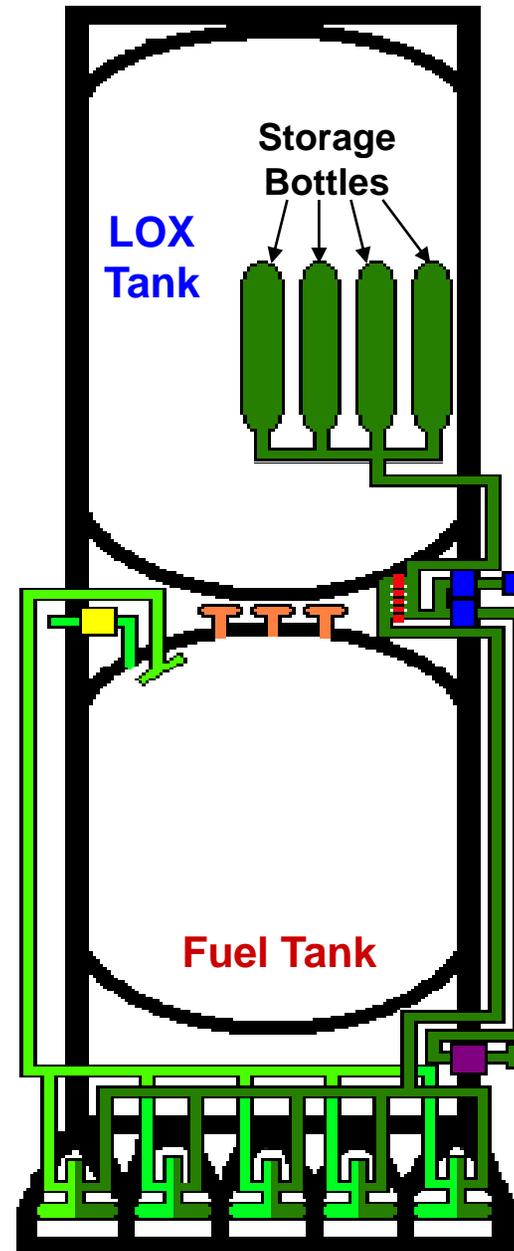
Fuel System: Fuel Level Sensing & Engine Cutoff

- ❑ Fuel measured by four fuel Slosh Probes & one Liquid Level Probe
- ❑ In case fuel depleted before LOX, fuel system will shut down engine
 - Cutoff Sensor provided signal voltages to shut off fuel
 - Cutoff Sensor initiated engine cutoff as fuel falls below two sensing points on probe



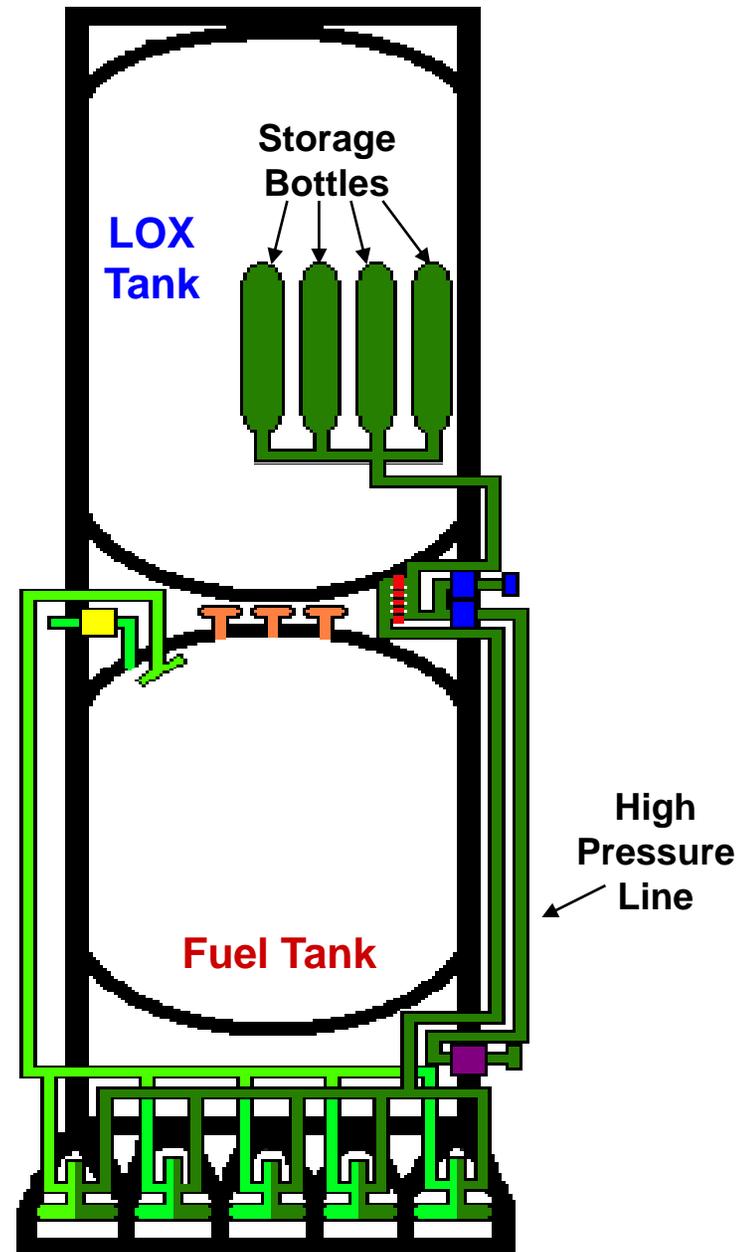
Fuel System: Fuel Pressurization System

- Four high pressure He Storage Bottles in LOX Tank Tank pressurized Fuel Tank ullage



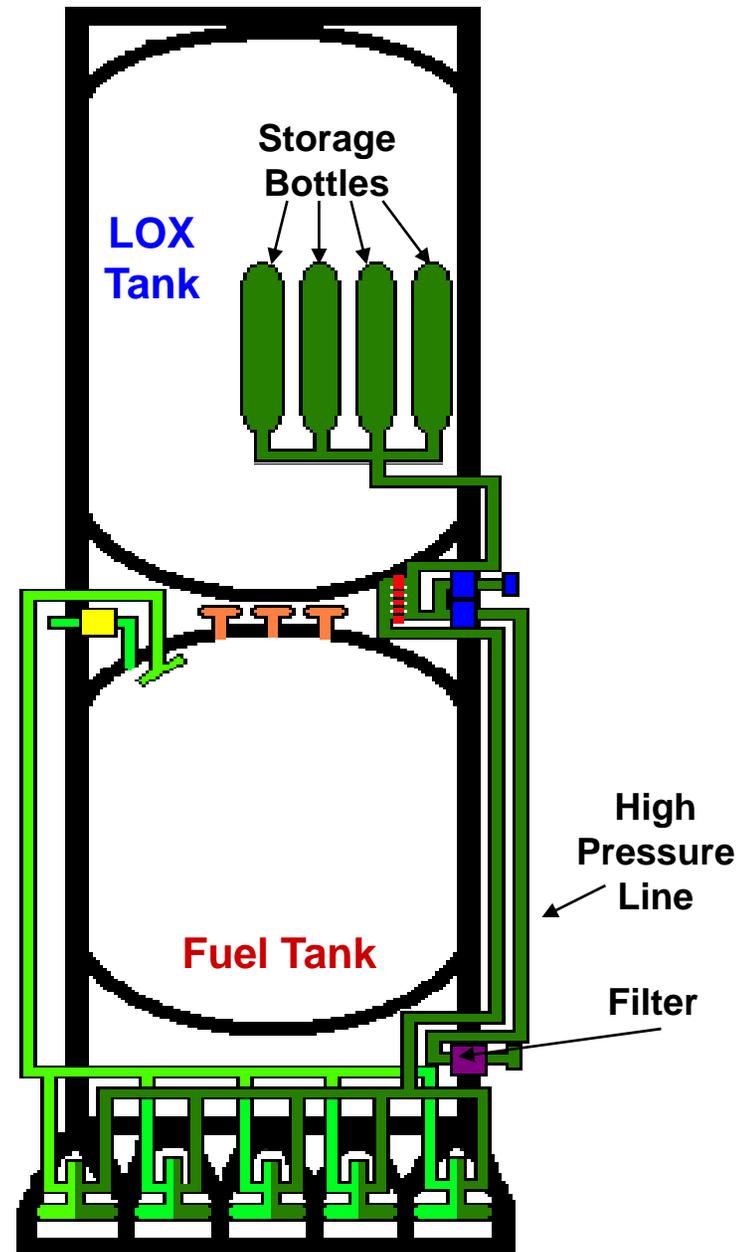
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- ❑ High Pressure Line used for filling Storage Bottles



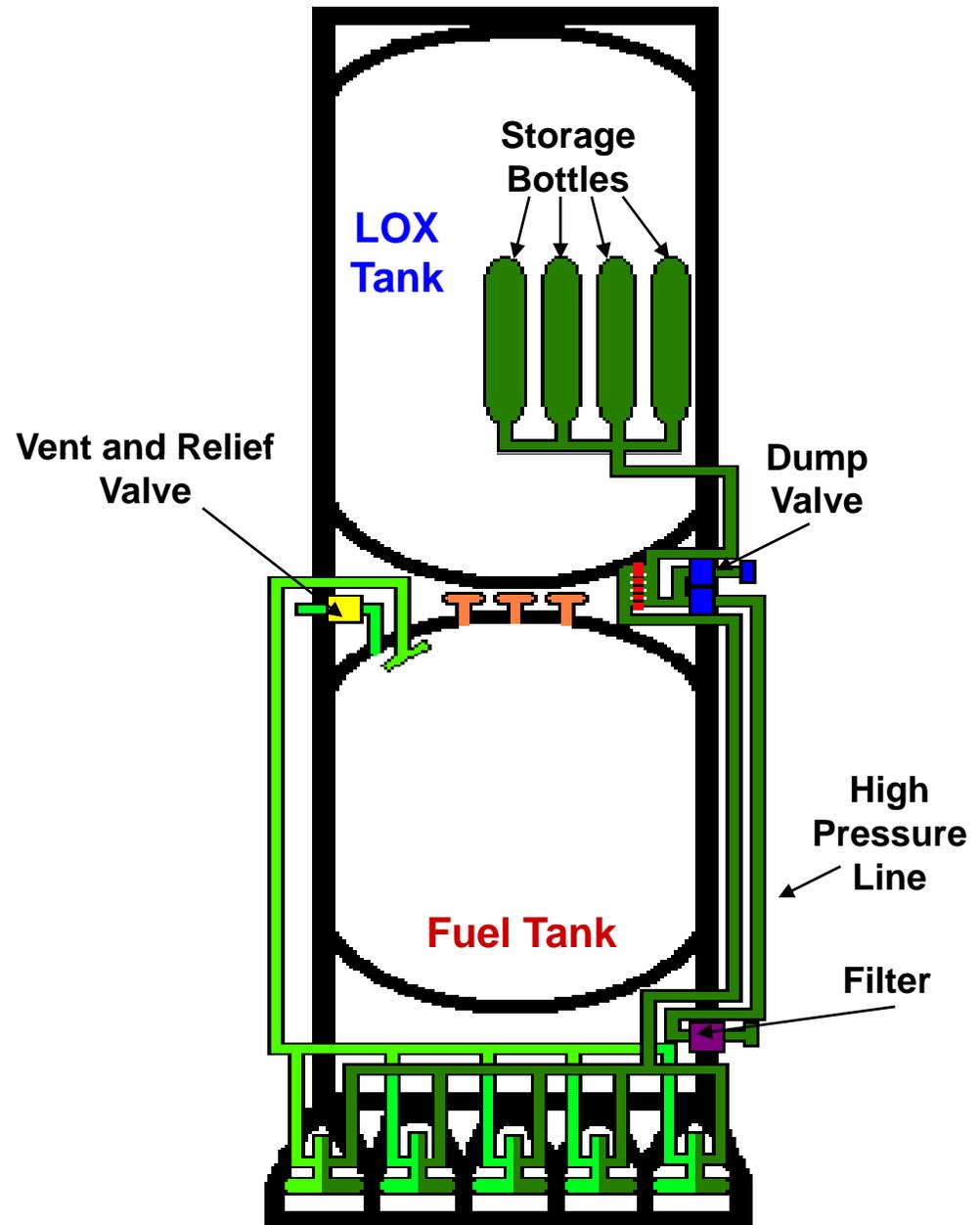
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- ❑ Filter in He fill line prevented contaminants from entering Flight Pressurization System



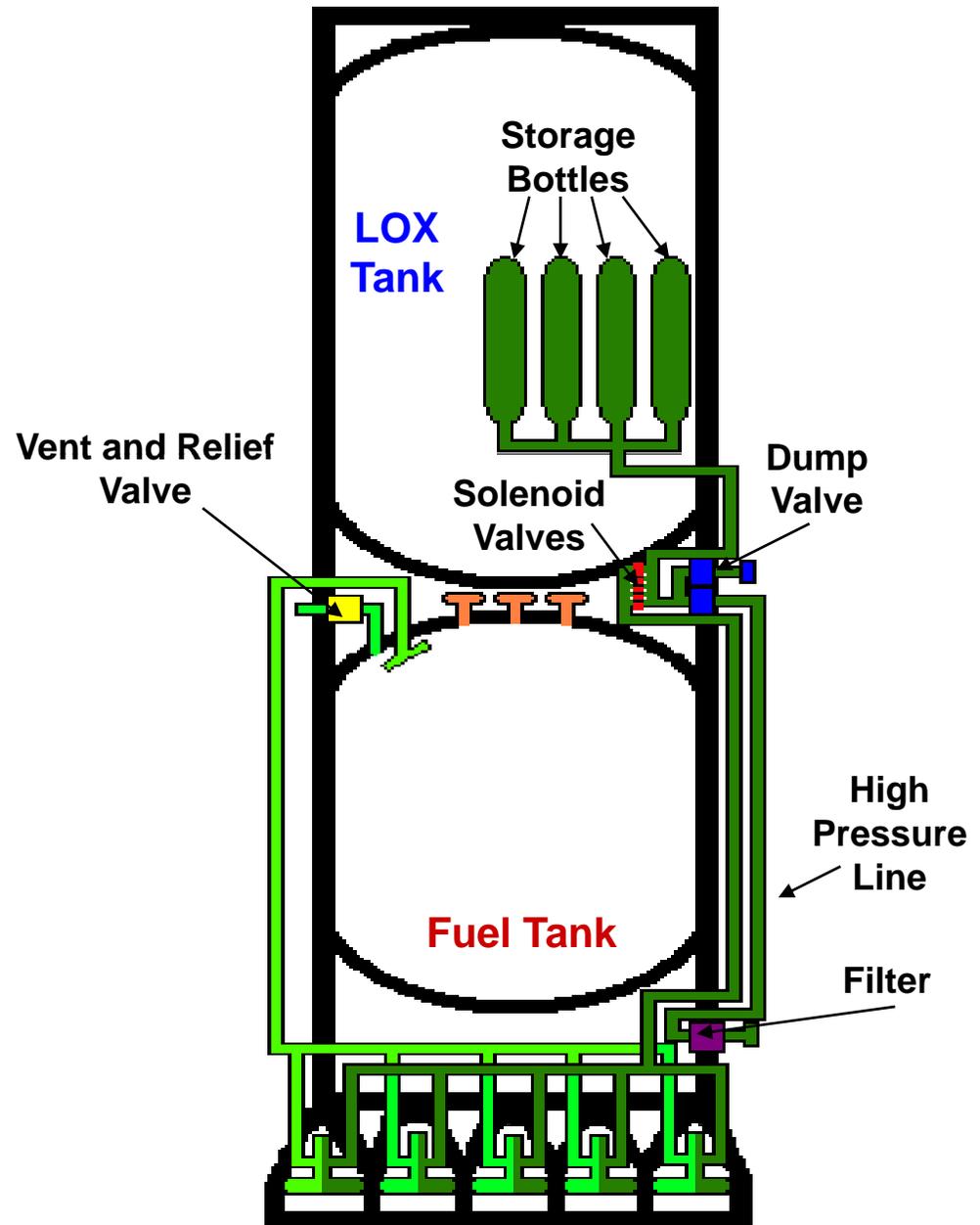
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- ❑ Dump Valve for emergencies



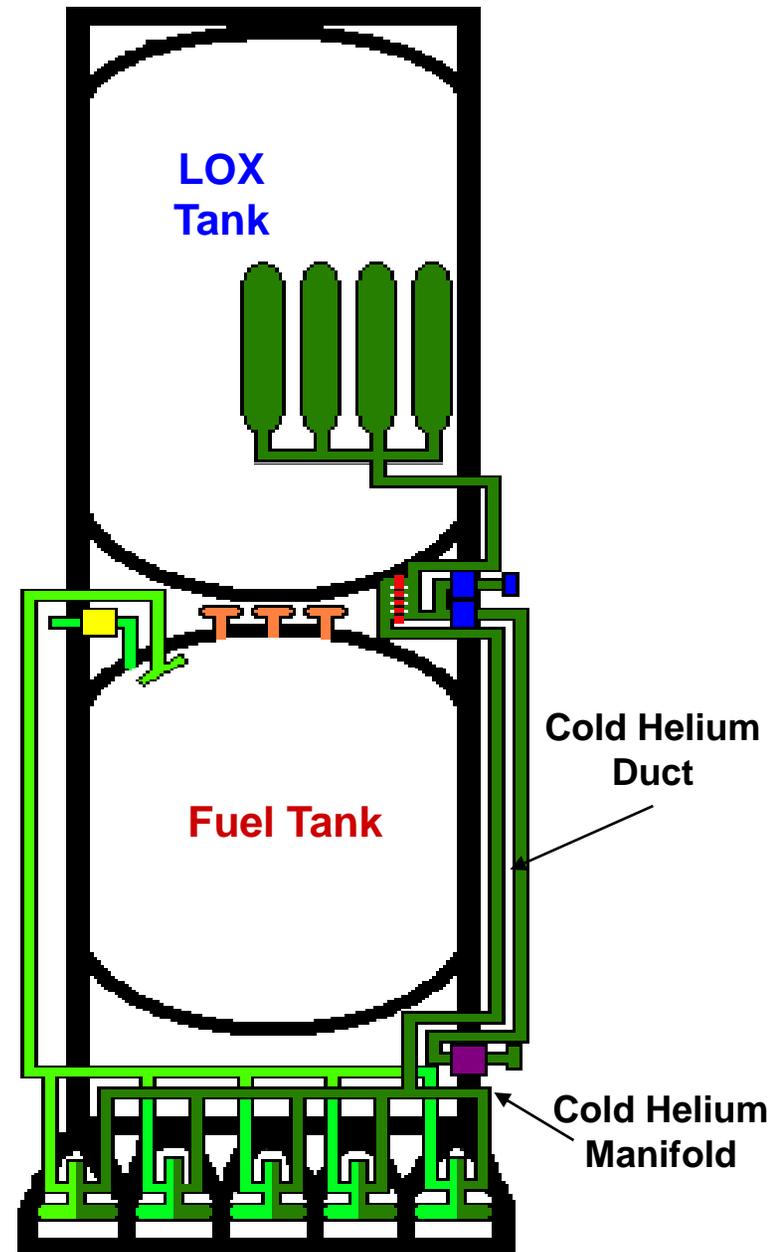
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- ❑ Dump Valve for emergencies
- ❑ Five Solenoid Valves in parallel to control He flow to Fuel Tank ullage



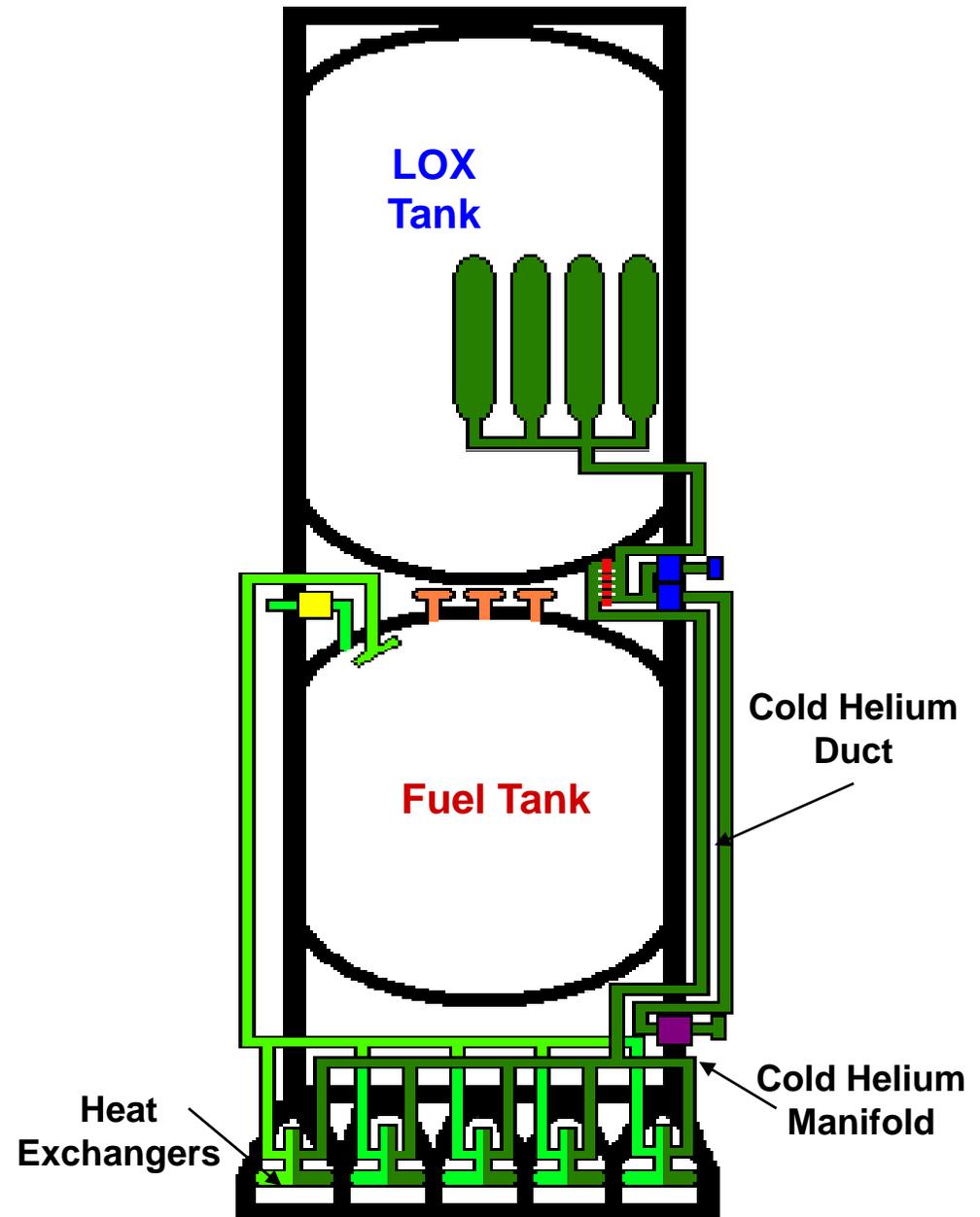
Fuel System: Fuel Pressurization System

- ❑ Cold He Duct routed He from Flow Controller to Cold He Manifold



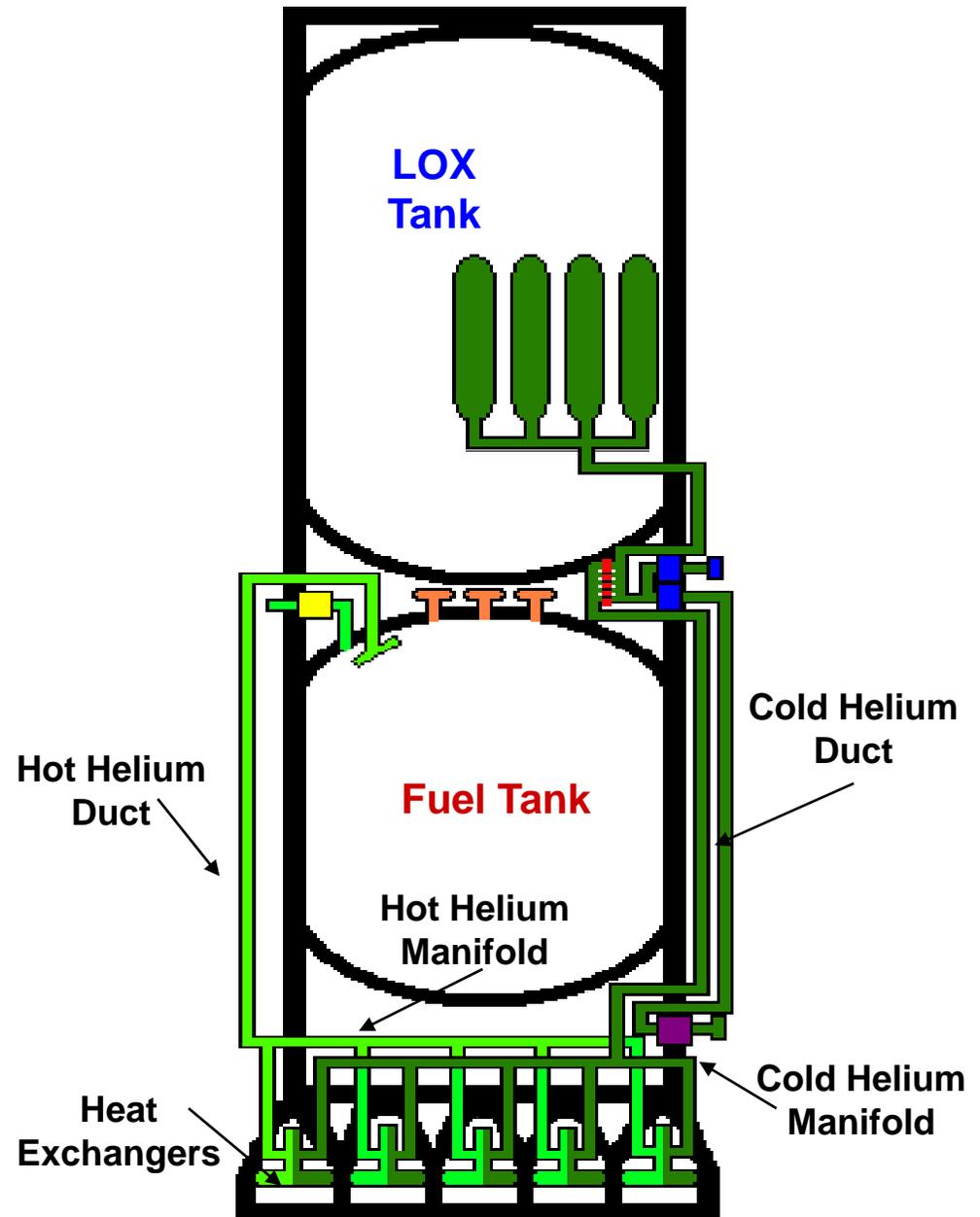
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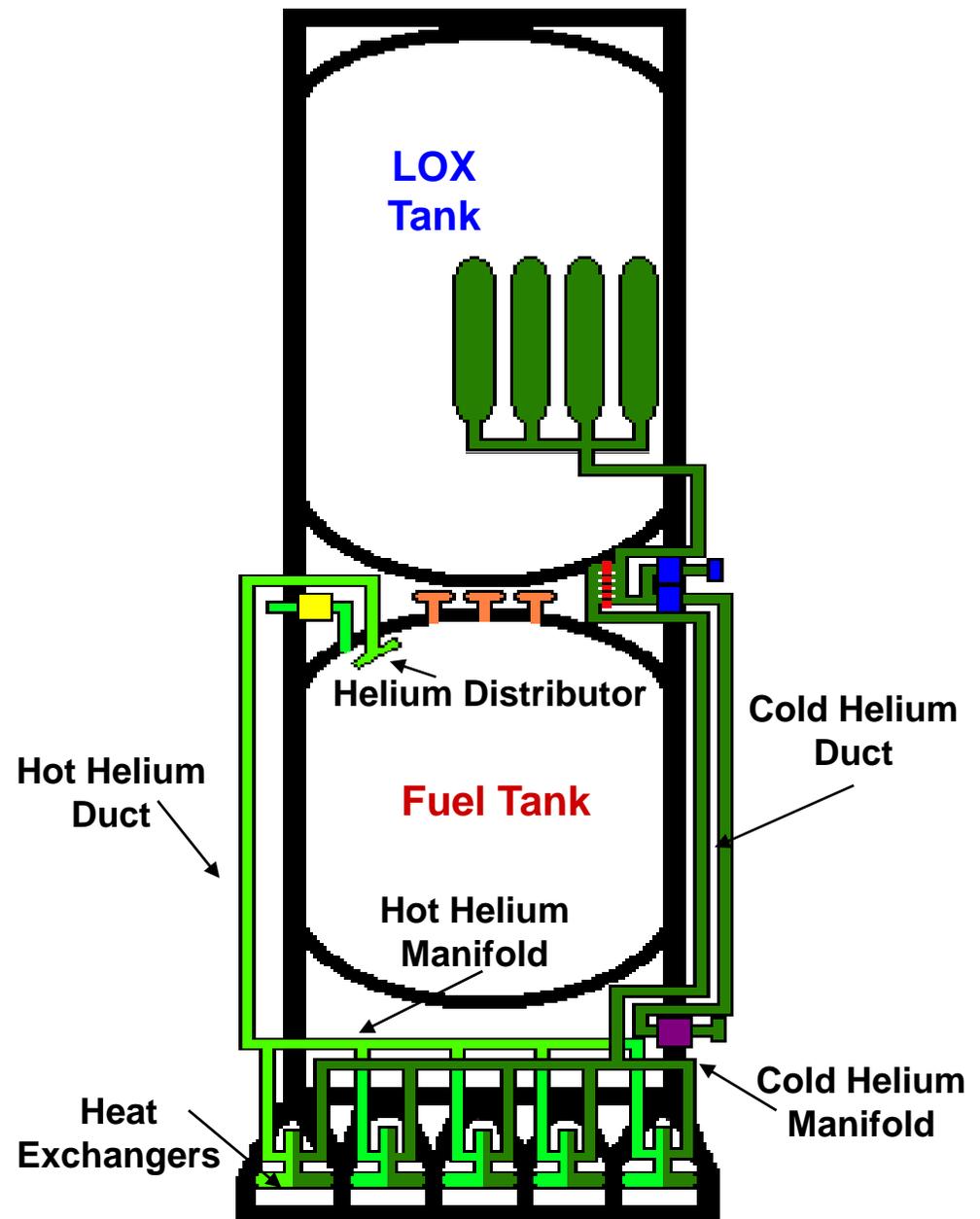
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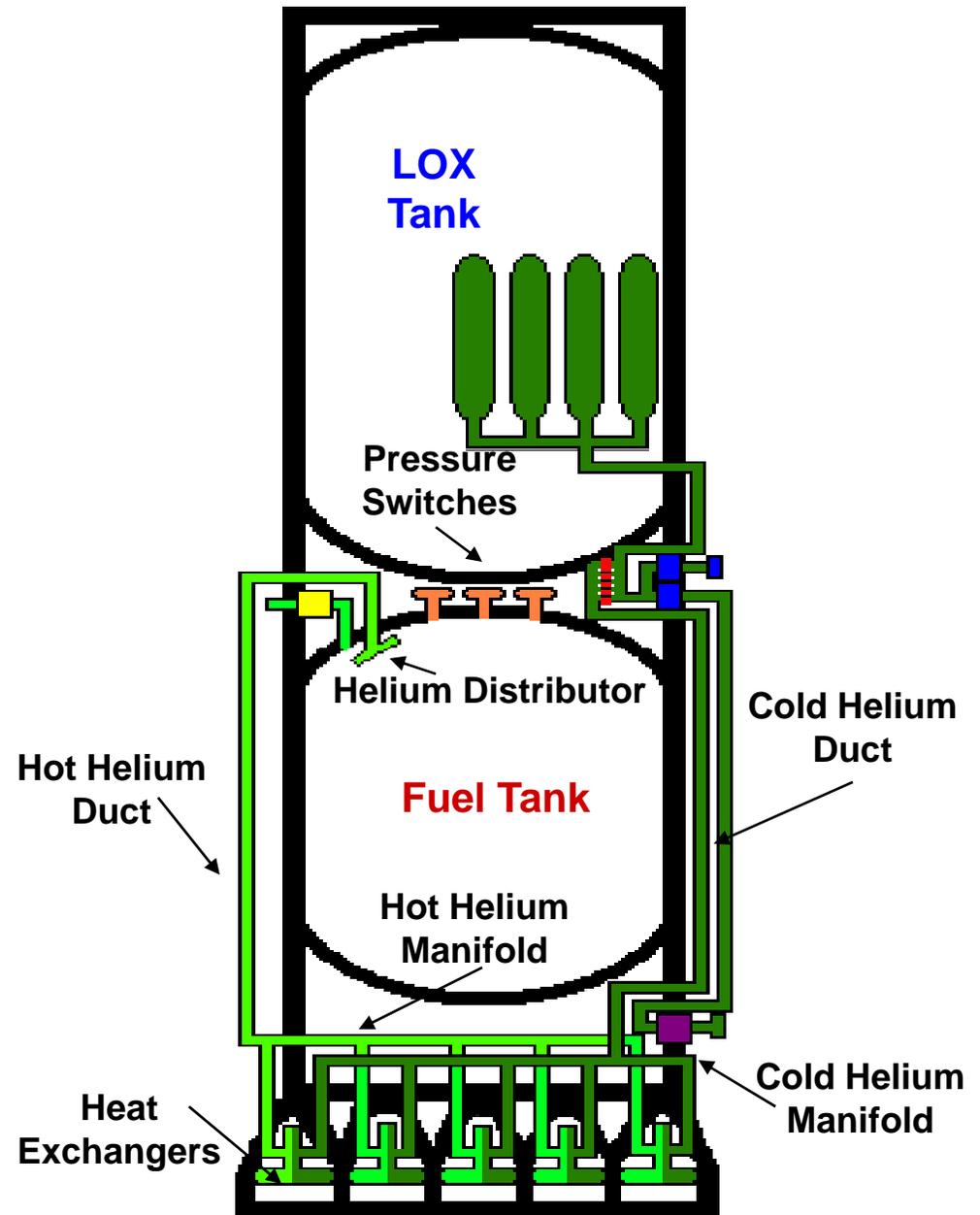
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- ❑ He carried through He Distributor & into Fuel Tank



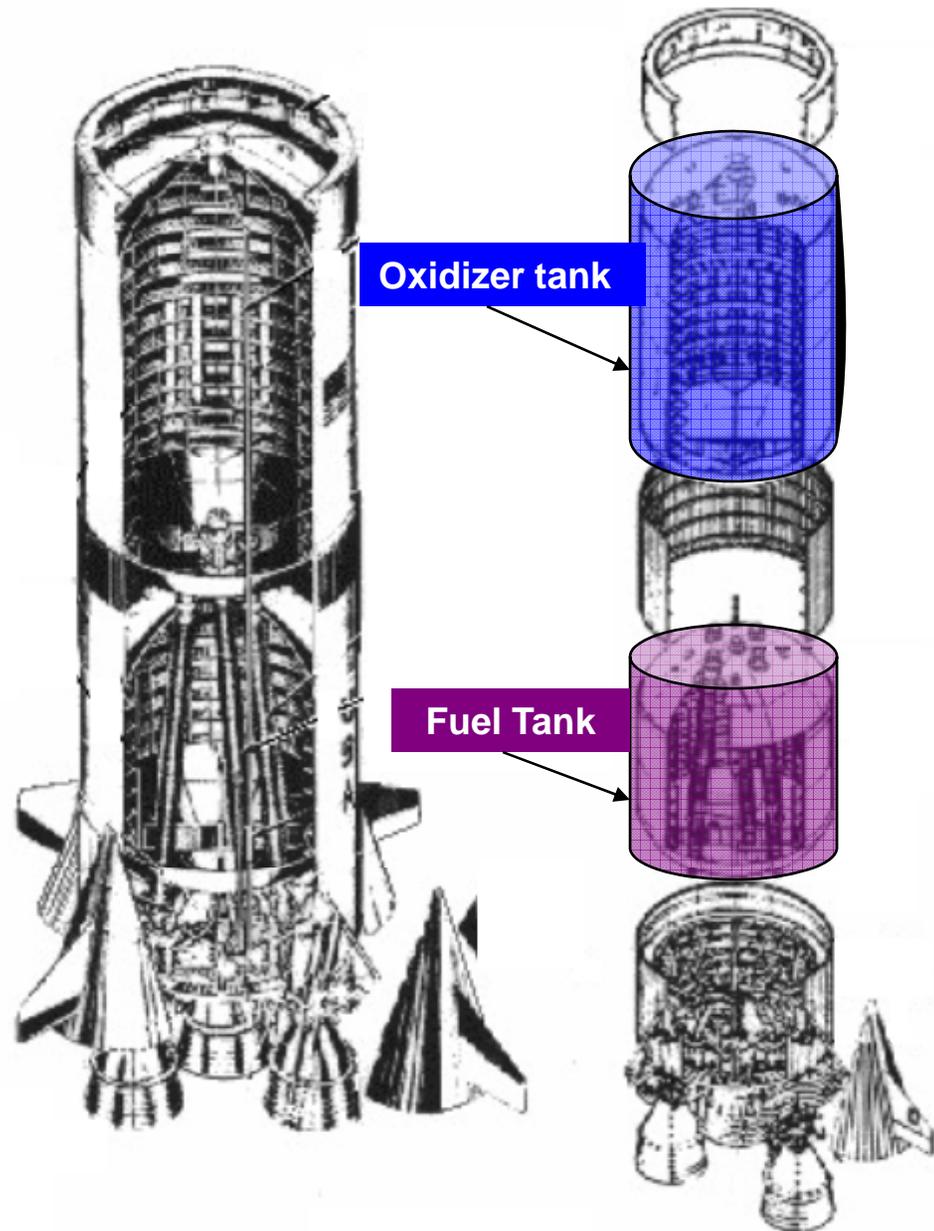
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- ❑ He carried through He Distributor & into Fuel Tank
- ❑ Three Pressure Switches monitored and controlled Fuel Tank pressurization



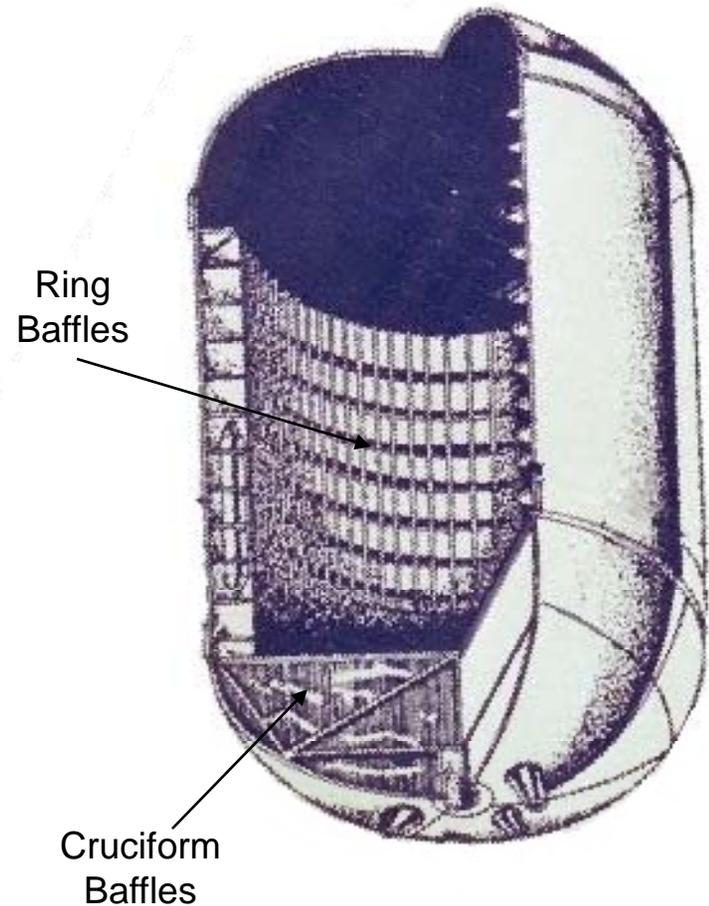
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- ❑ Fuel System
- ❑ **Oxidizer System**
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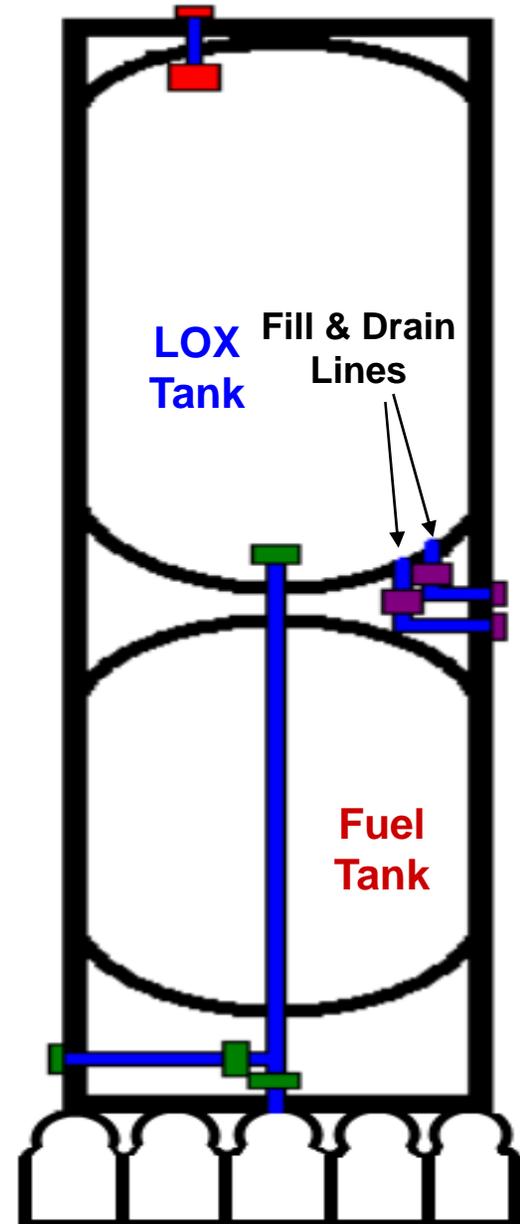
Oxidizer System

- ❑ Consisted of LOX tank, fill & drain components, LOX suction lines, pressurization subsystem
- ❑ Tank contained ring baffles to prevent sloshing
- ❑ Cruciform baffle limited swirling
- ❑ Four LOX liquid level probes monitored LOX level in tank



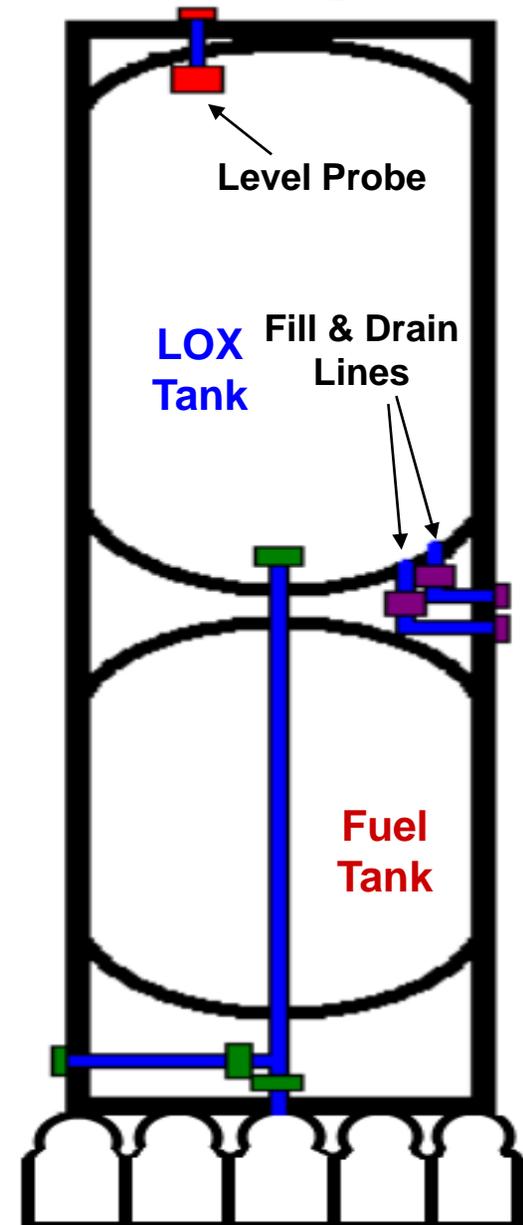
Oxidizer System: LOX Fill & Drain System

- Two six-inch Fill & Drain Lines



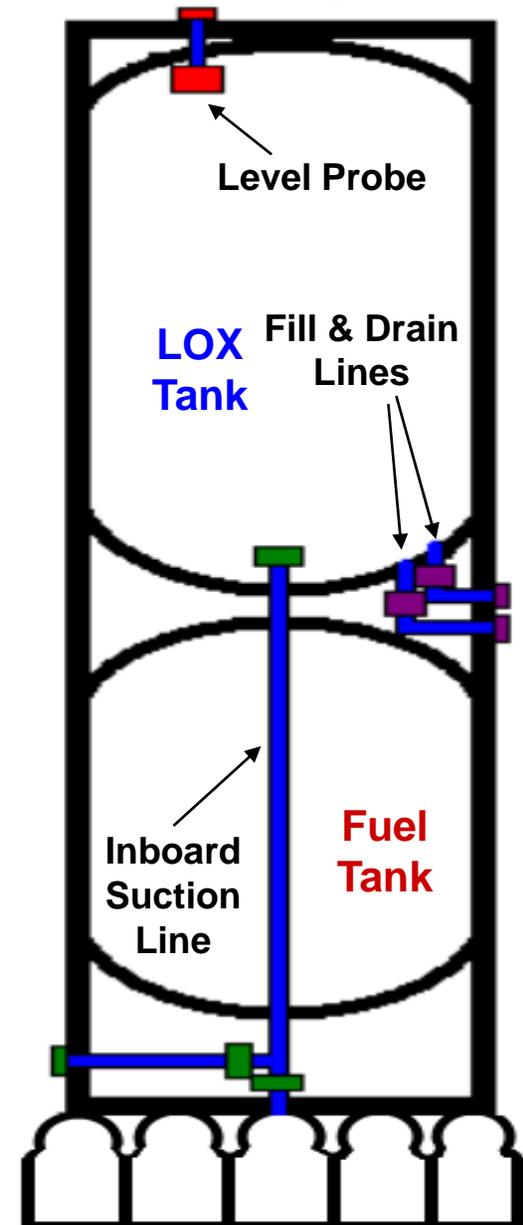
Oxidizer System: LOX Fill & Drain System

- ❑ Two six-inch Fill & Drain Lines
- ❑ Level Probe sensed full tank



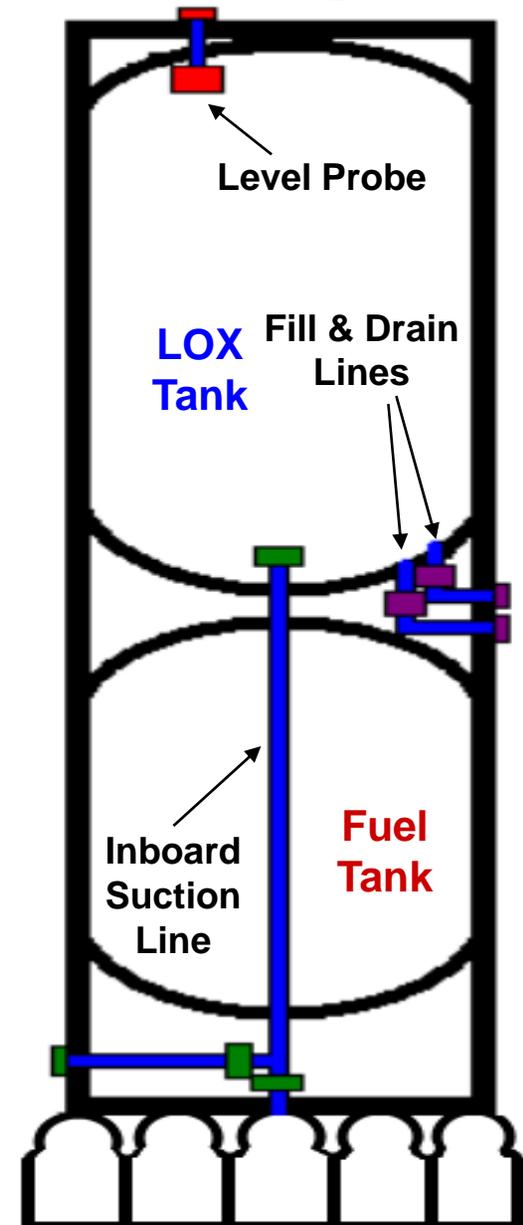
Oxidizer System: LOX Fill & Drain System

- ❑ Two six-inch Fill & Drain Lines
- ❑ Level Probe sensed full tank
- ❑ Third line available to fill tank through Inboard Suction Line



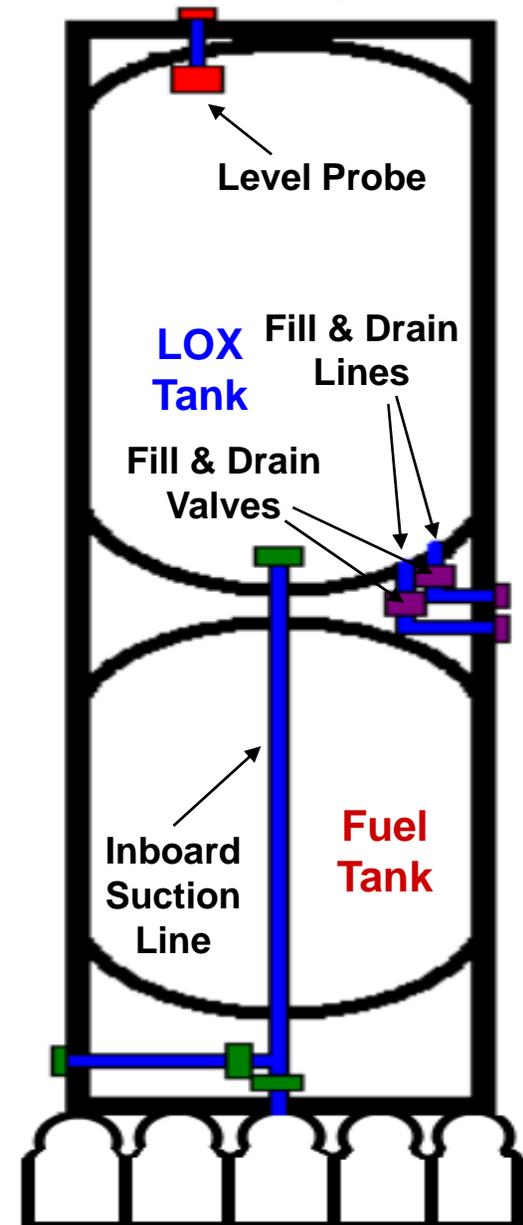
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- ❑ Two six-inch Fill & Drain Lines
- ❑ Level Probe sensed full tank
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- ❑ LOX boiled to maintain temperature of -297°F (-183°C)



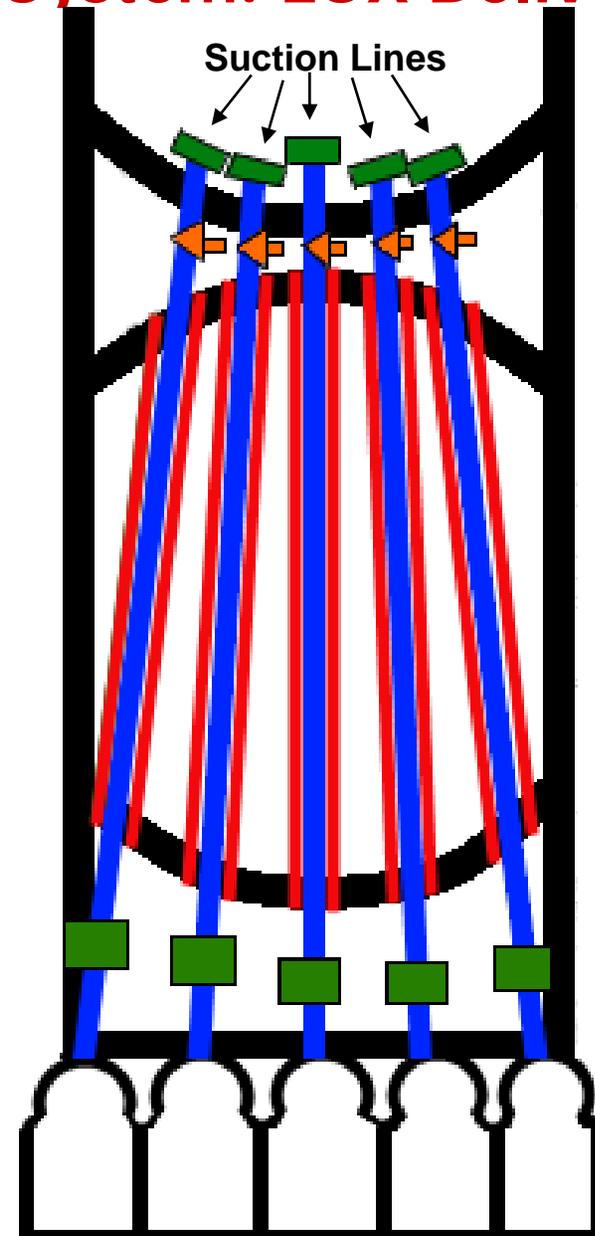
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- ❑ LOX boiled to maintain temperature of -297°F (-183°C)
- ❑ Fill & Drain Valves opened to complete drainage of LOX Tank



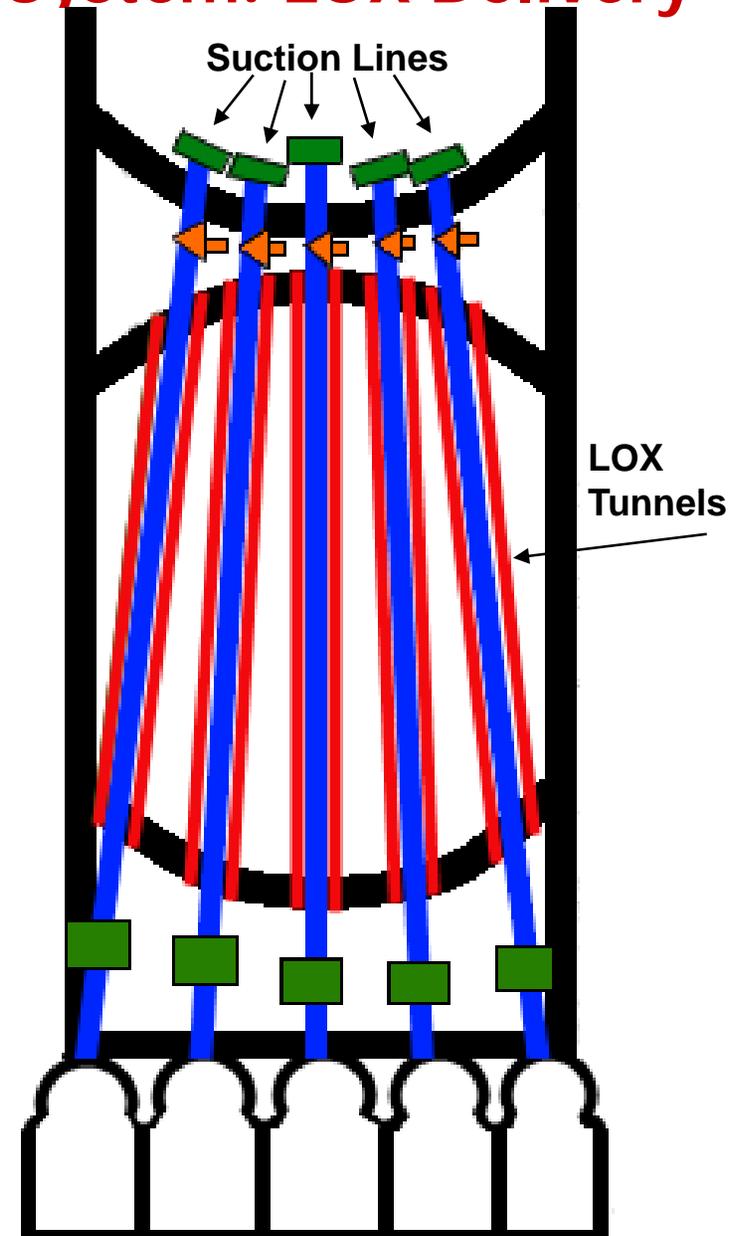
Oxidizer System: LOX Delivery

- Five 17-inch Suction Lines



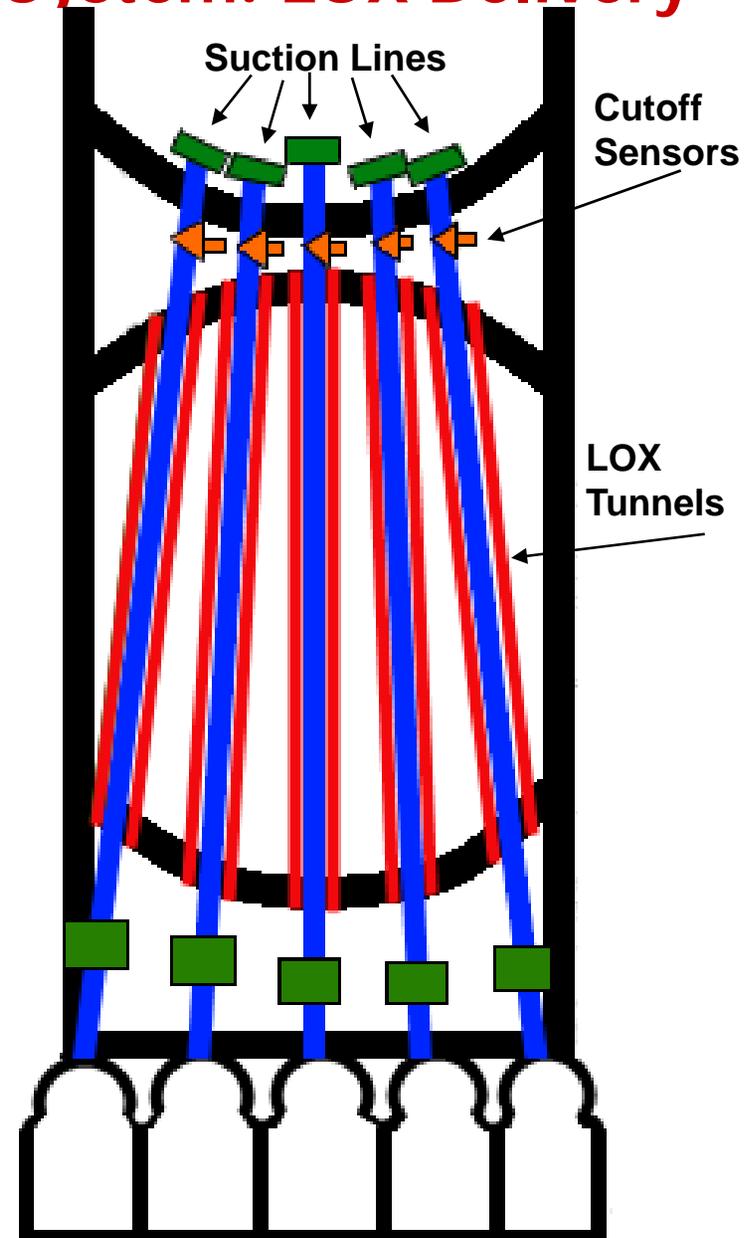
Oxidizer System: LOX Delivery

- ❑ Five 17-inch Suction Lines
- ❑ Suction lines passed through Fuel Tank in five LOX Tunnels



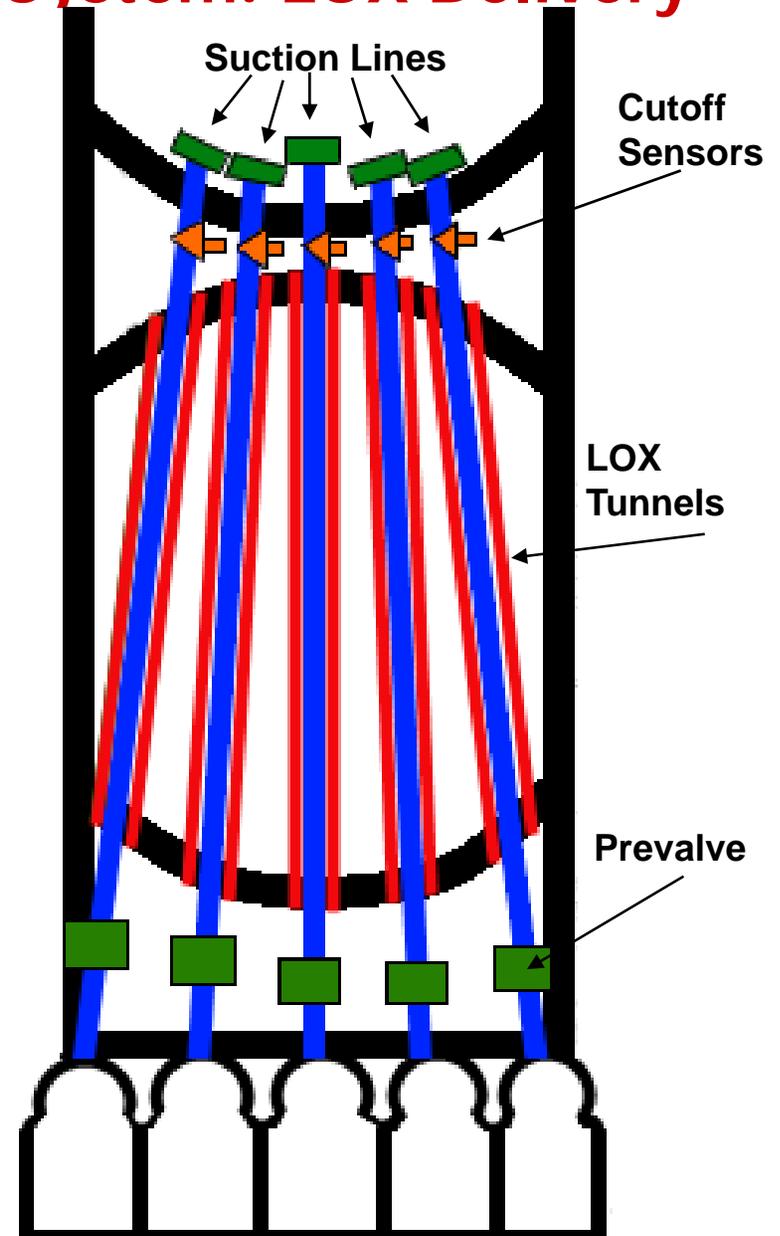
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- ❑ Five 17-inch Suction Lines
- ❑ Suction lines passed through Fuel Tank in five LOX Tunnels
- ❑ Inside LOX Tunnels, air acted as insulation between LOX lines & fuel lines
- ❑ Cutoff Sensors assured safe engine shutdown



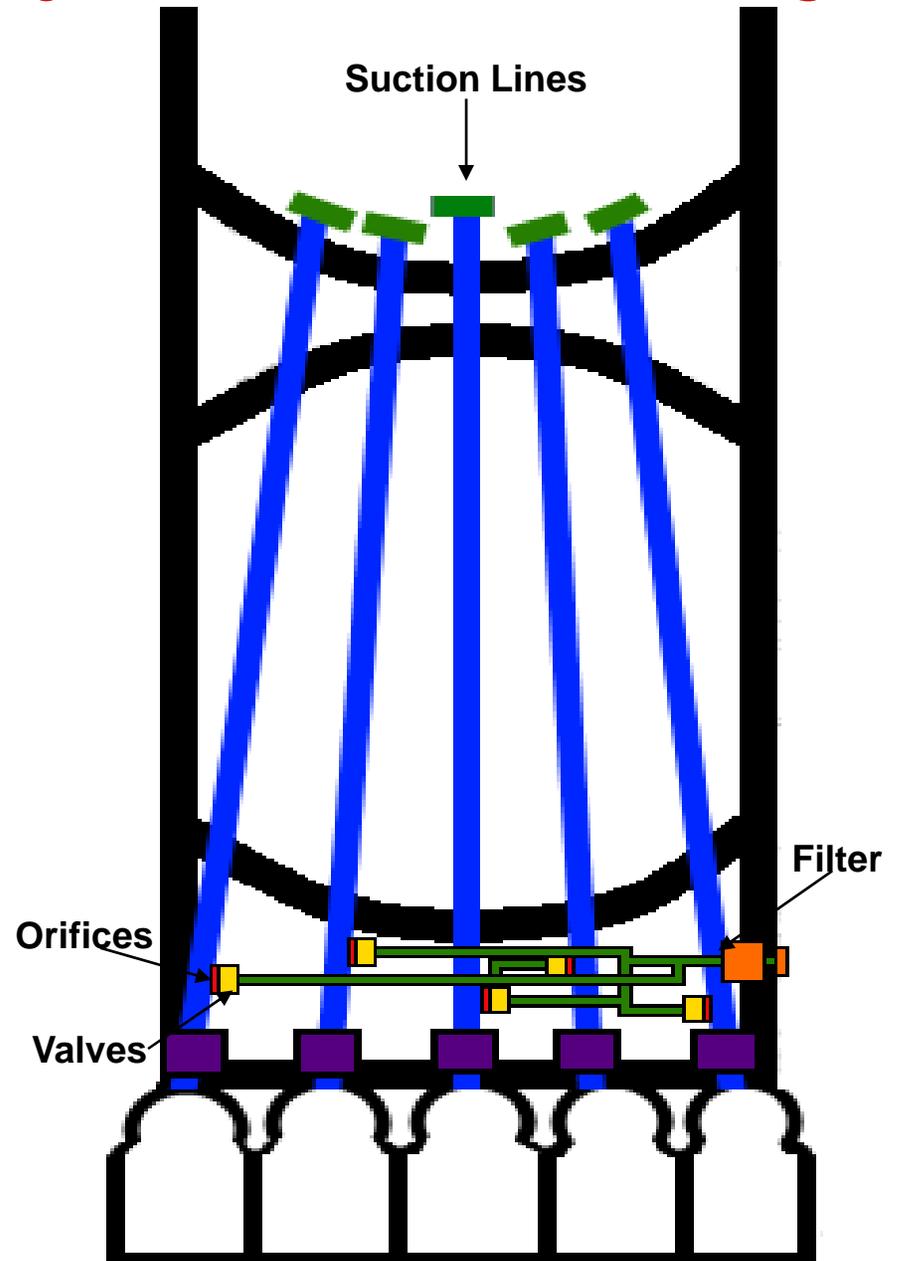
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- ❑ Inside LOX Tunnels, air acted as insulation between LOX lines & fuel lines
- ❑ Cutoff Sensors assured safe engine shutdown
- ❑ Prevalves can stop flow of LOX to engine in emergency



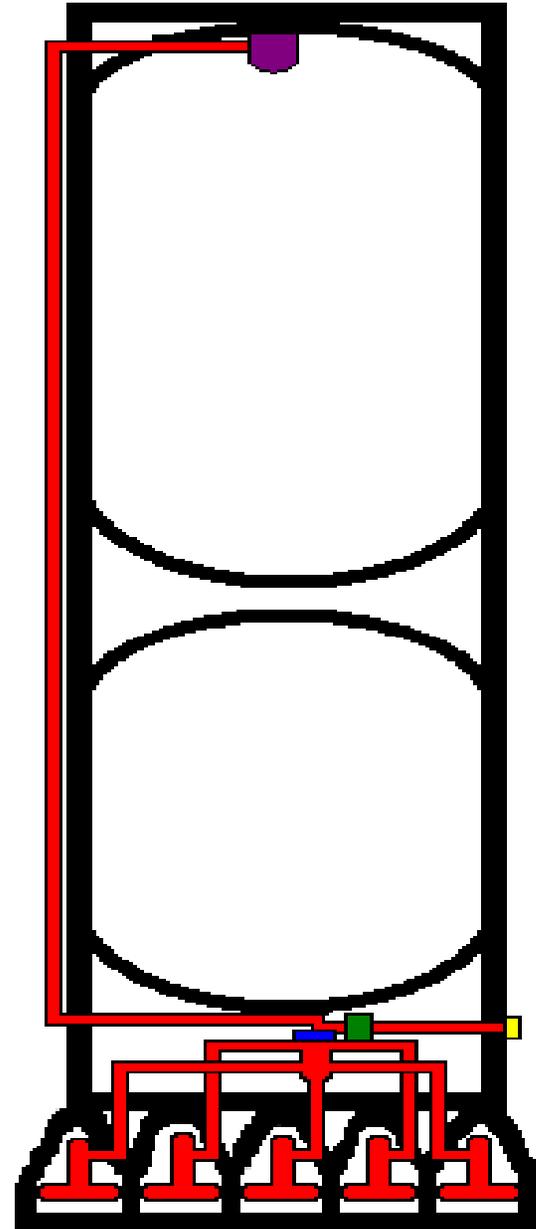
Oxidizer System: LOX Conditioning

- ❑ LOX cannot exceed -297°F (-183°C) or it will result in gaseous oxygen (GOX)
- ❑ Emergency bubbling corrected GOX situation
 - Bubbling technique sent He into five Suction Lines to cool LOX
- ❑ Filter Valves & Orifices controlled flow of He into Suction Lines



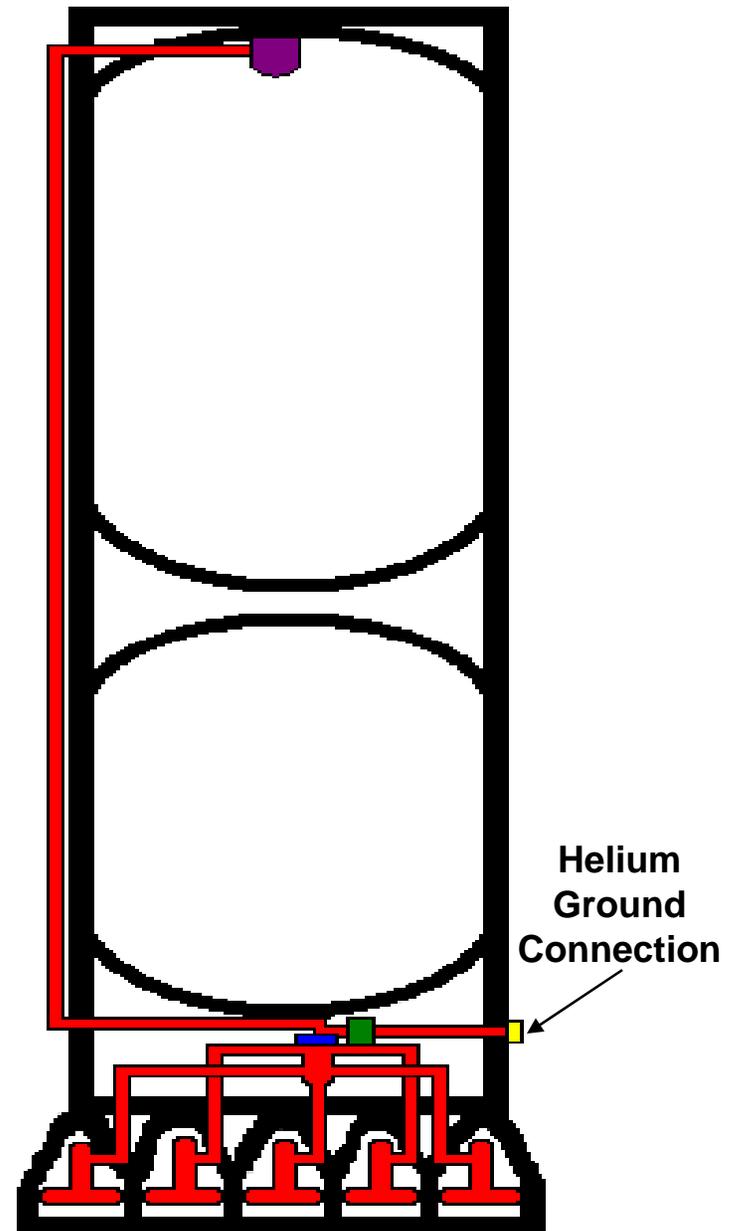
Oxidizer System: LOX Pressurization

- Pressurization occurred at T-45 seconds



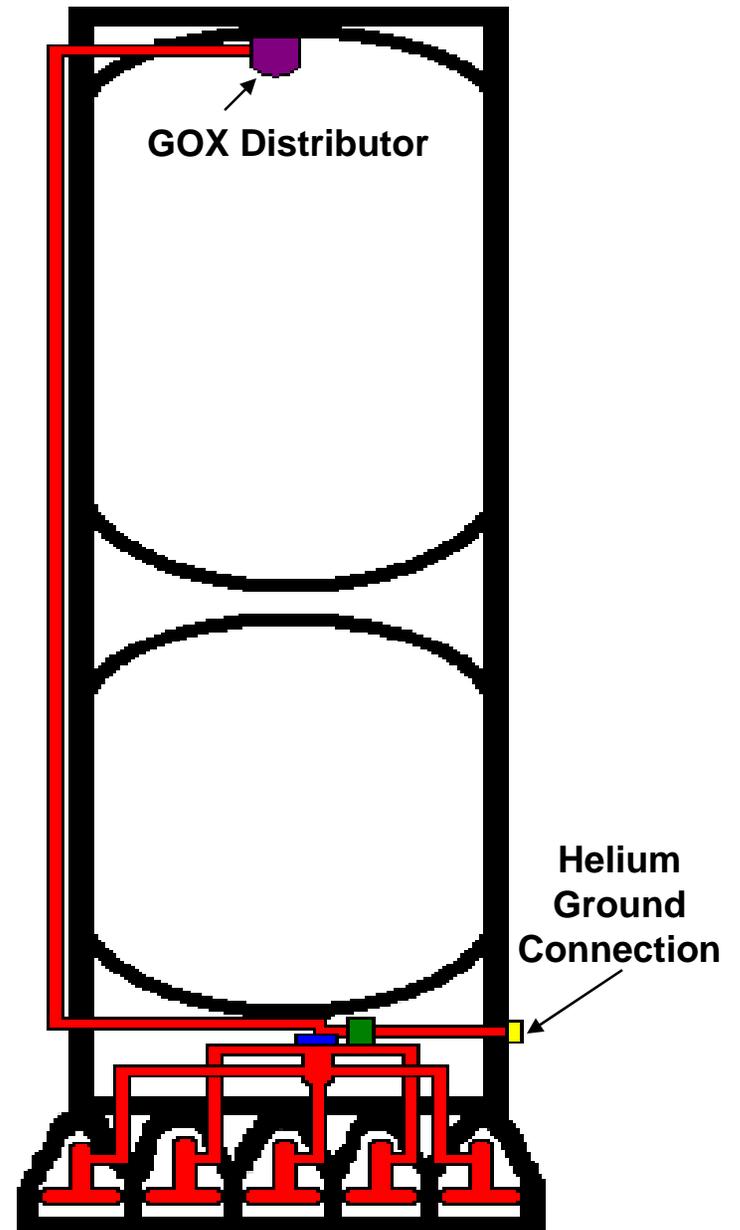
Oxidizer System: LOX Pressurization

- ❑ Pressurization occurred at T-45 seconds
- ❑ He was supplied by GSE through He Ground Connection



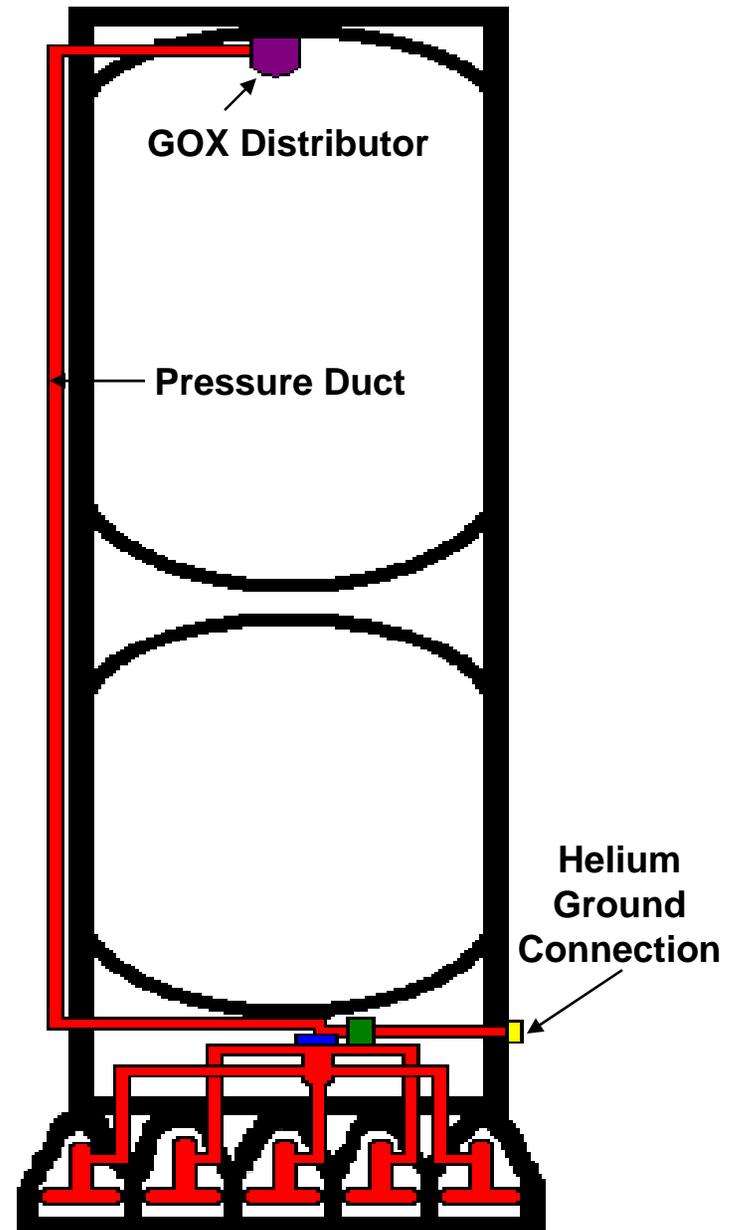
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- ❑ He proceeded up GOX line into LOX tank through GOX Distributor



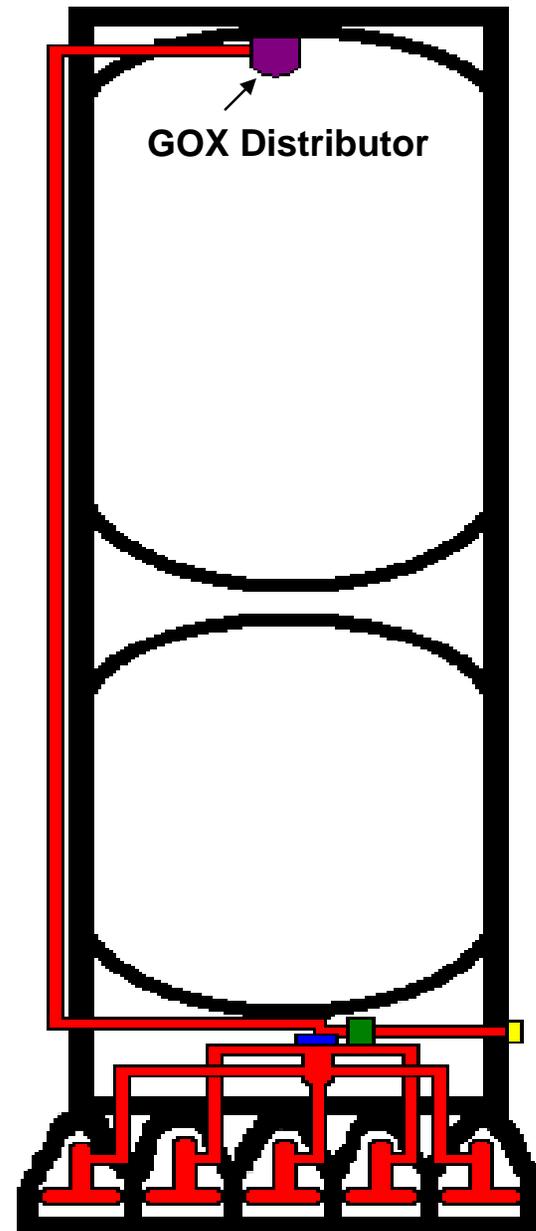
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- ❑ Pressure Duct monitored flow of He



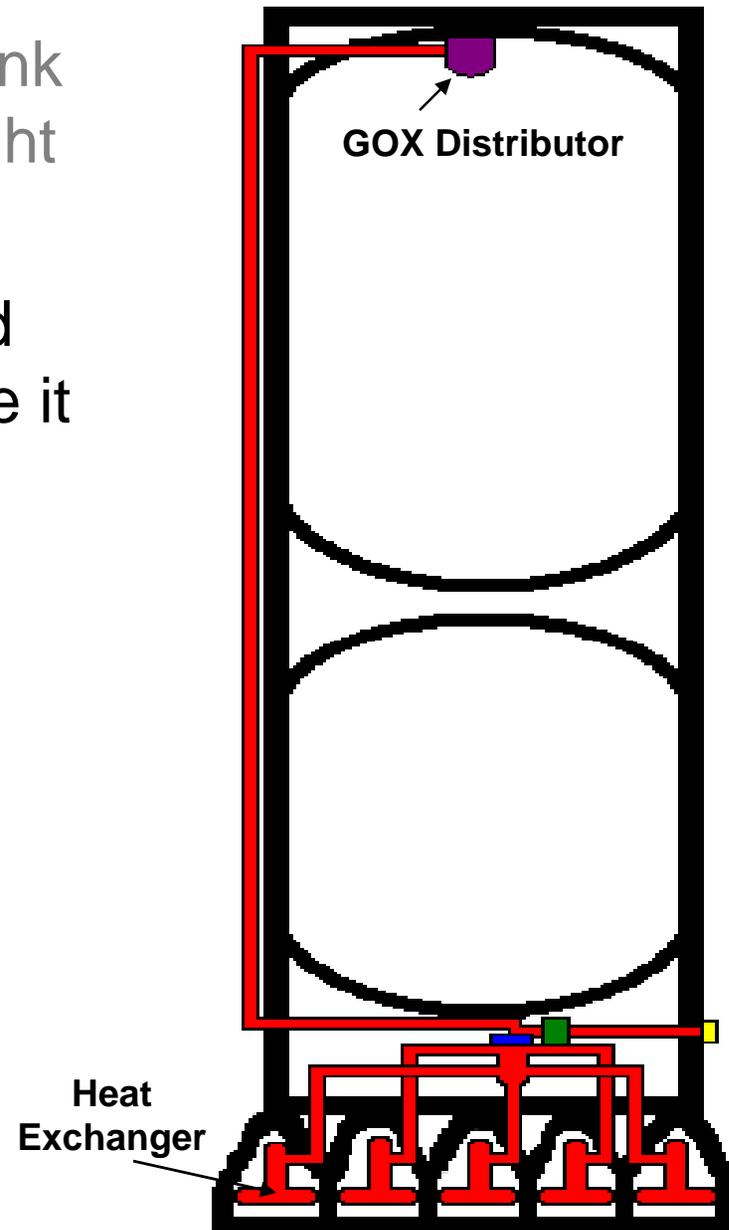
Oxidizer System: LOX Pressurization

- GOX was added to LOX Tank for pressurization during flight



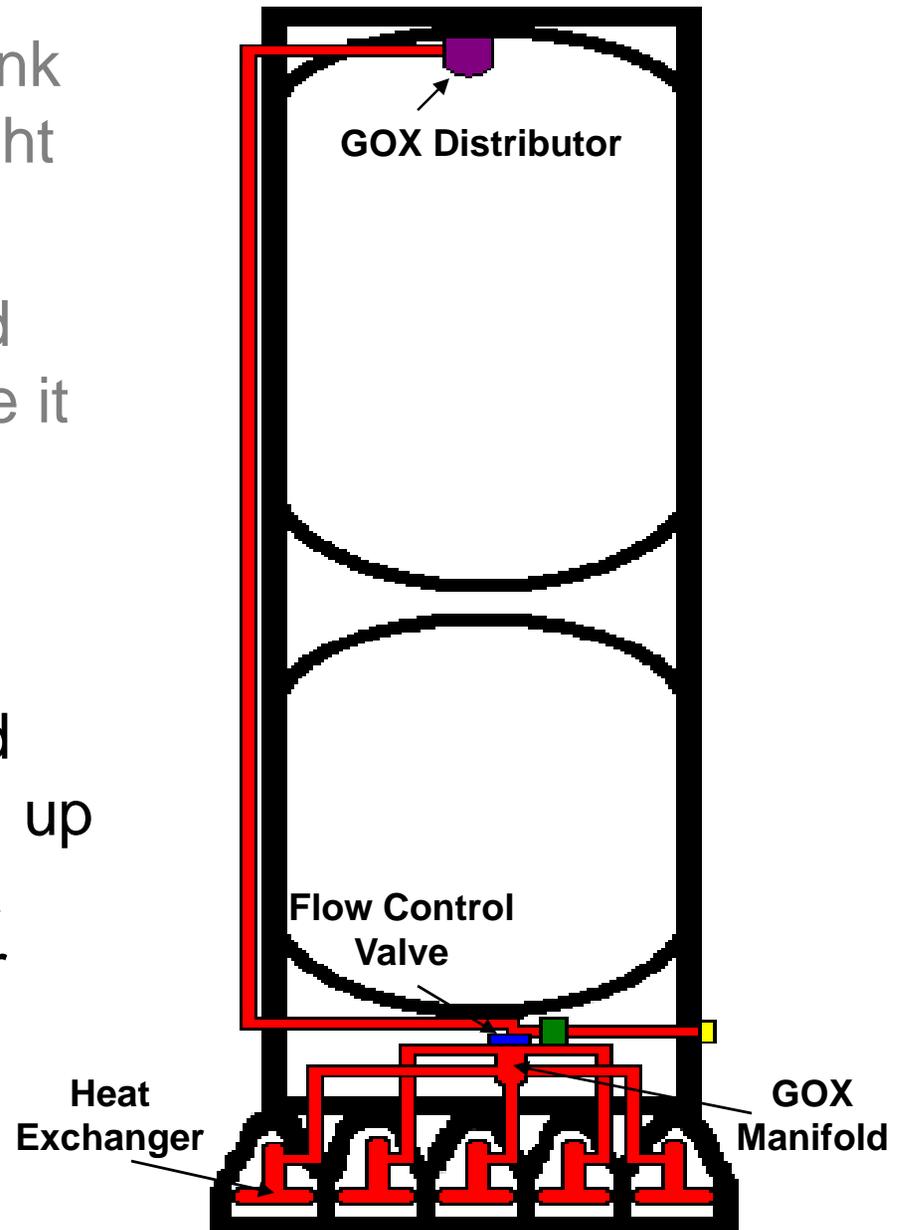
Oxidizer System: LOX Pressurization

- ❑ GOX was added to LOX Tank for pressurization during flight
- ❑ Portion of LOX was diverted into Heat Exchangers where it was transformed into GOX



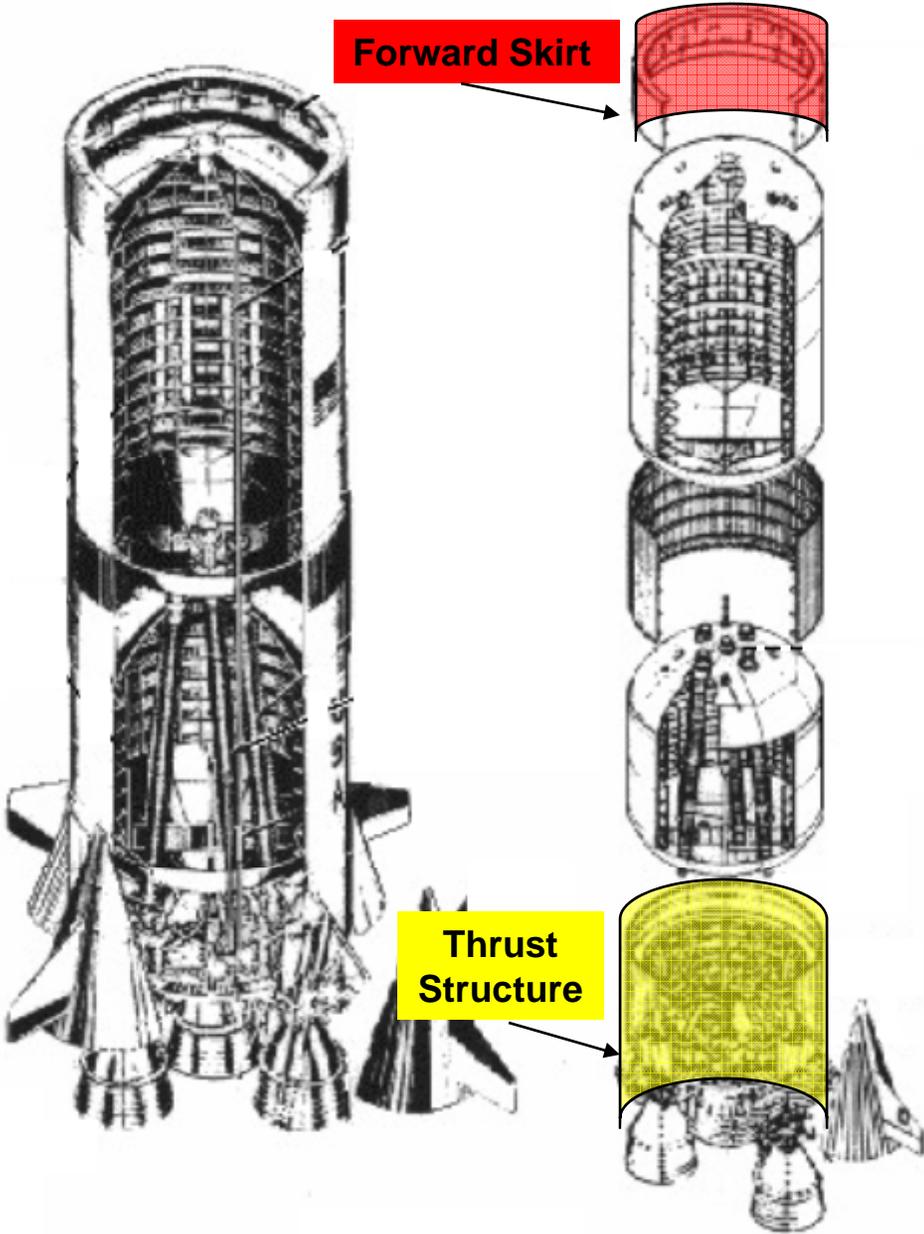
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- ❑ Portion of LOX was diverted into Heat Exchangers where it was transformed into GOX
- ❑ GOX flowed from Heat Exchanger to GOX Manifold through Flow Control Valve, up GOX Line, & into LOX Tank through the GOX Distributor



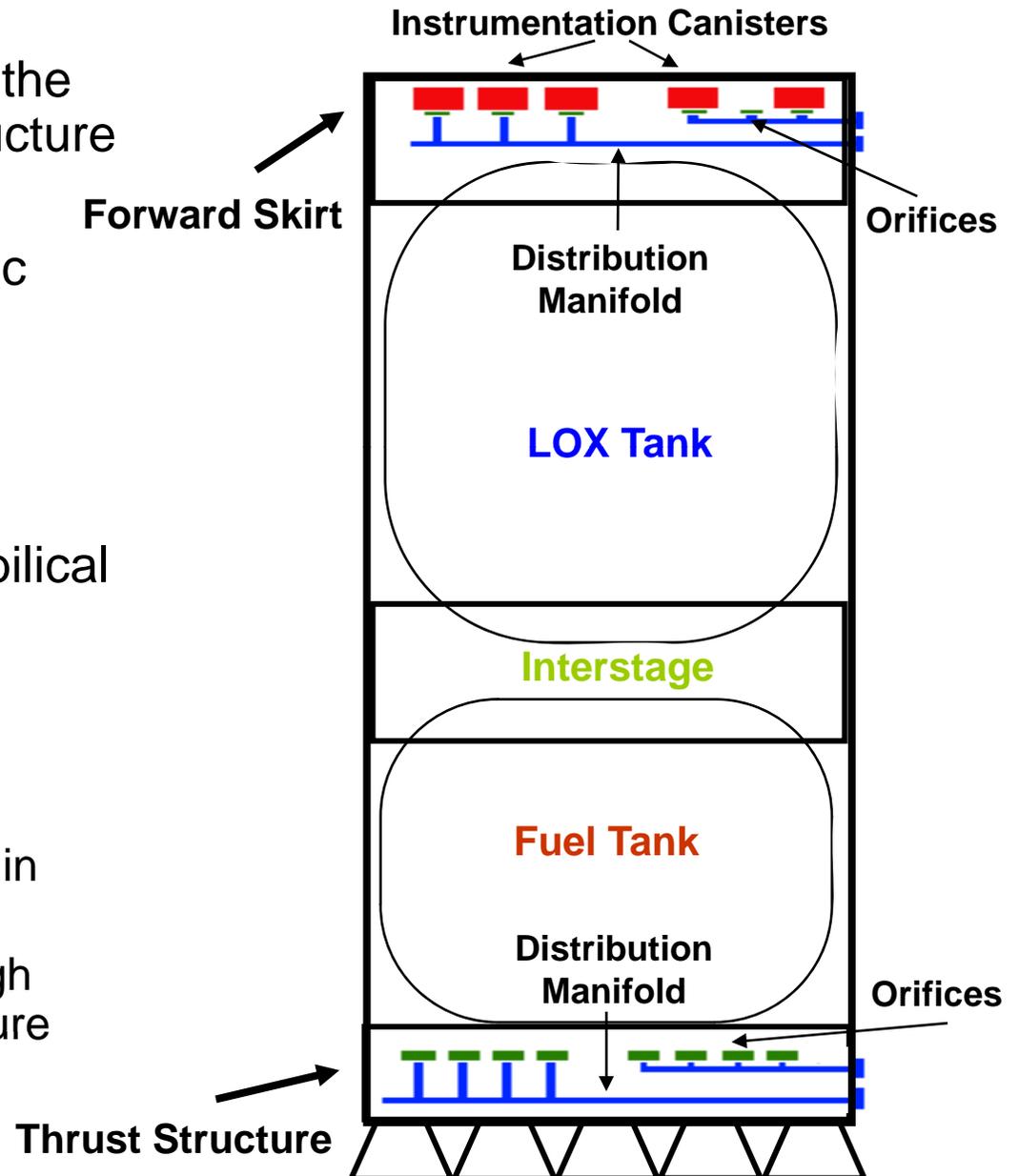
Stage I Subsystems

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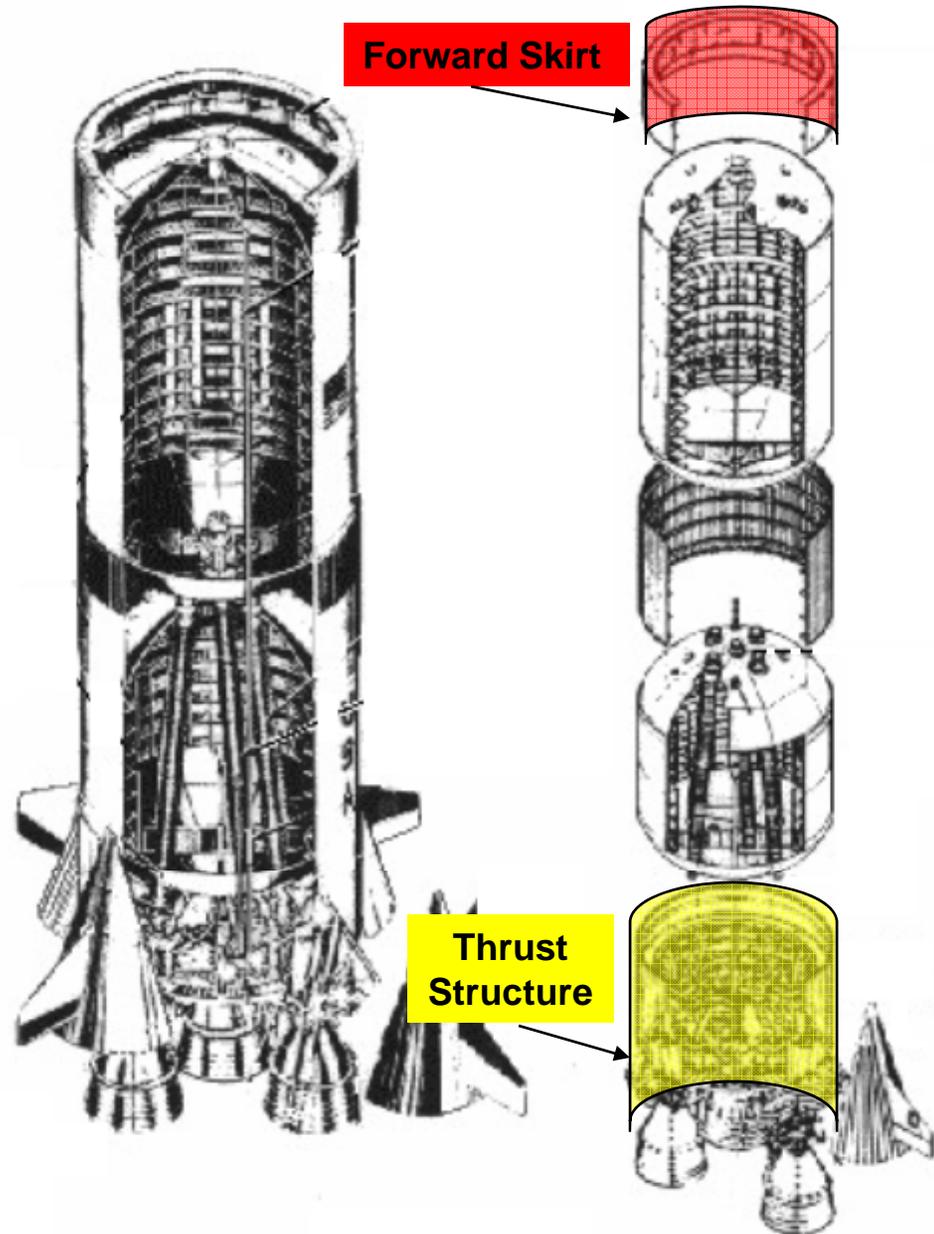
Environmental Control System (ECS)

- ❑ Forced conditioned air into the Forward Skirt & Thrust Structure
- ❑ 20 minutes before cryogenic loading, flow switched from conditioned air to gaseous nitrogen (GN_2)
- ❑ GN_2 flow terminated at umbilical disconnect (liftoff)
- ❑ Distribution Manifolds
 - Distributed air & GN_2 to Instrumentation Canisters in Forward Skirt
 - Vented air and GN_2 through Orifices into Thrust Structure

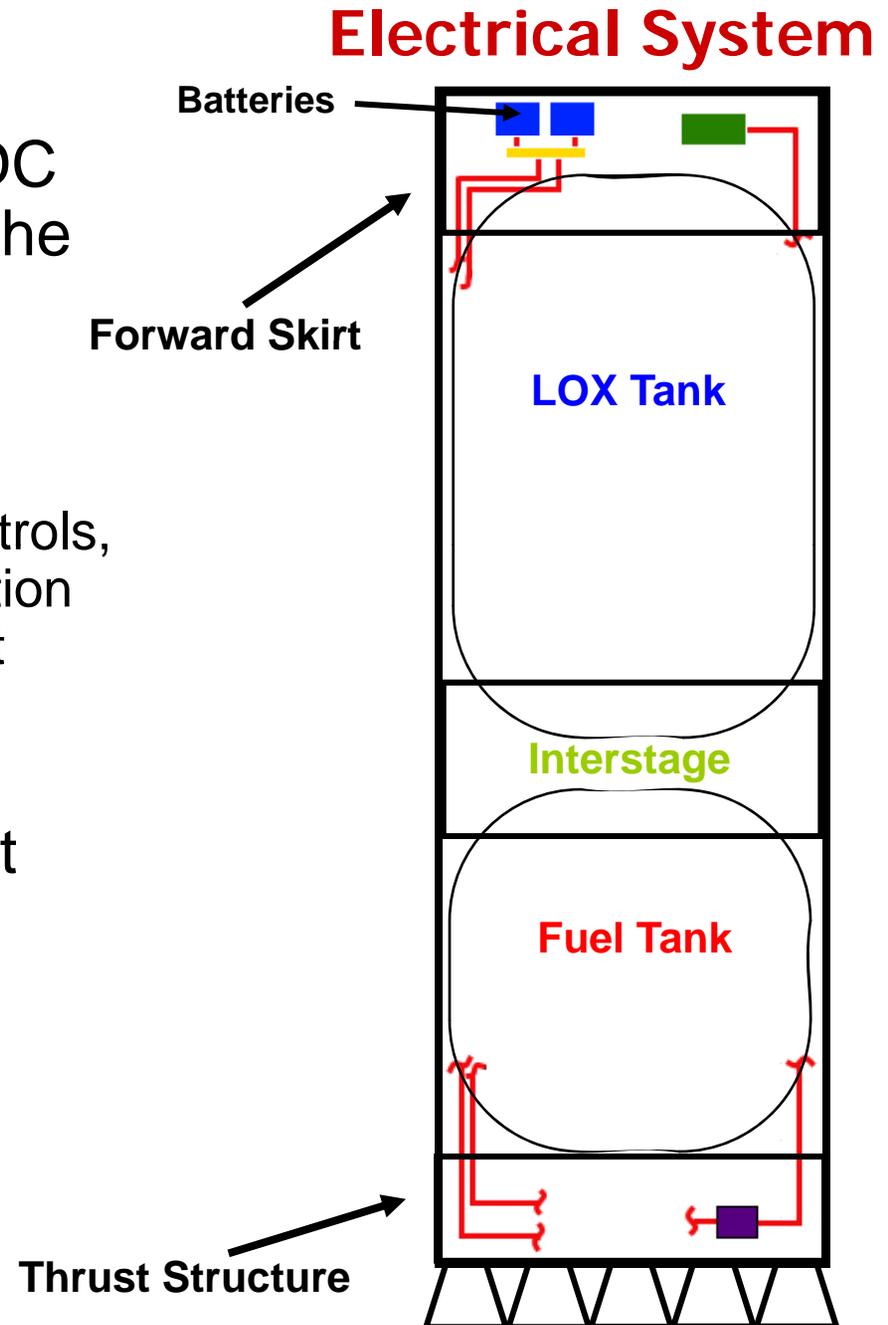


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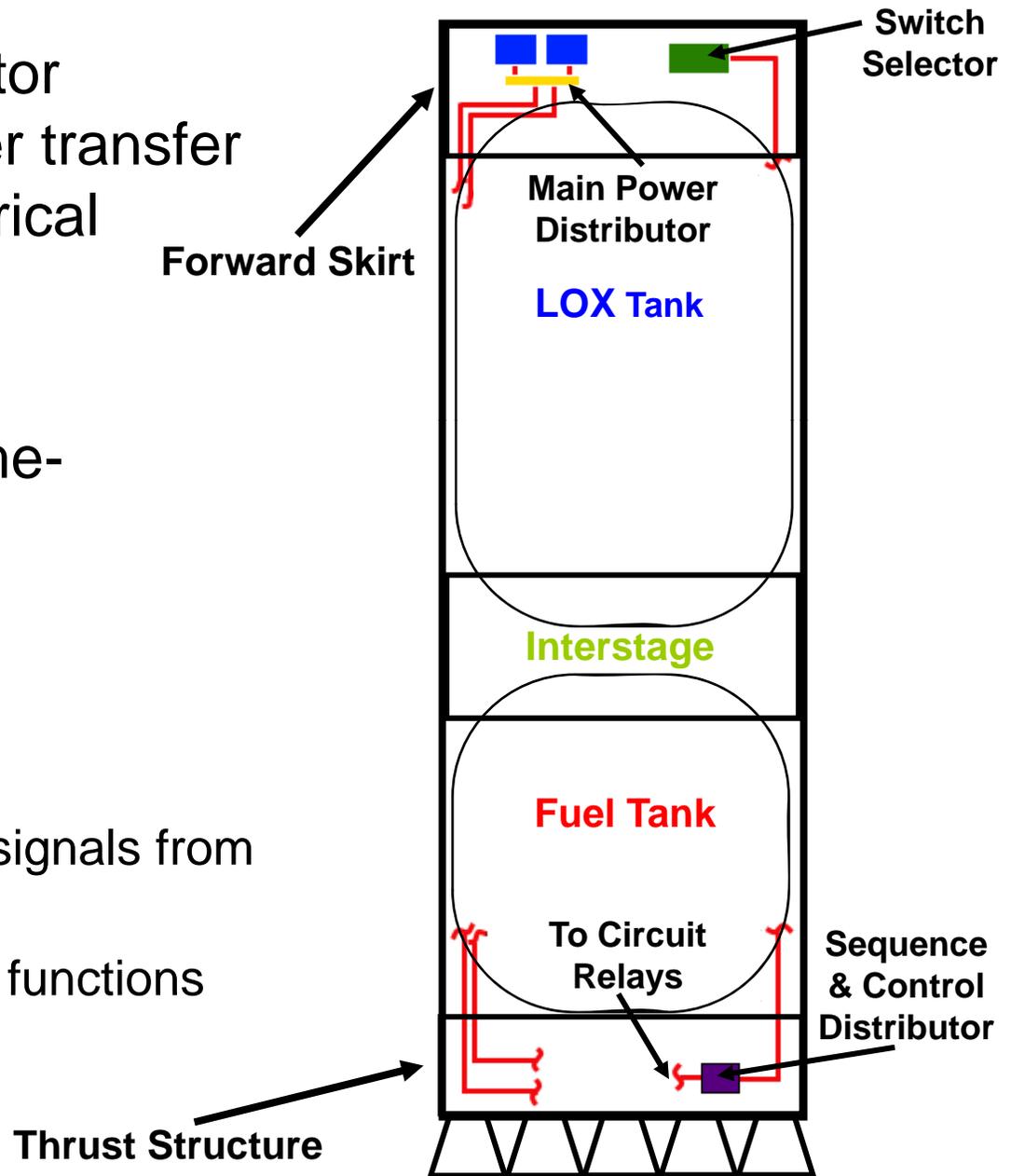


- ❑ Two independent 28-volt DC power systems located in the Forward Skirt
- ❑ Battery # 1 – Operational power system battery
 - Supplied power to valve controls, venting systems, pressurization systems, sequencing & flight control
 - Controlled solenoids
- ❑ Battery # 2 – Measurement power system battery
 - Supplied power to telemetry systems, transducers, multiplexers, & transmitters



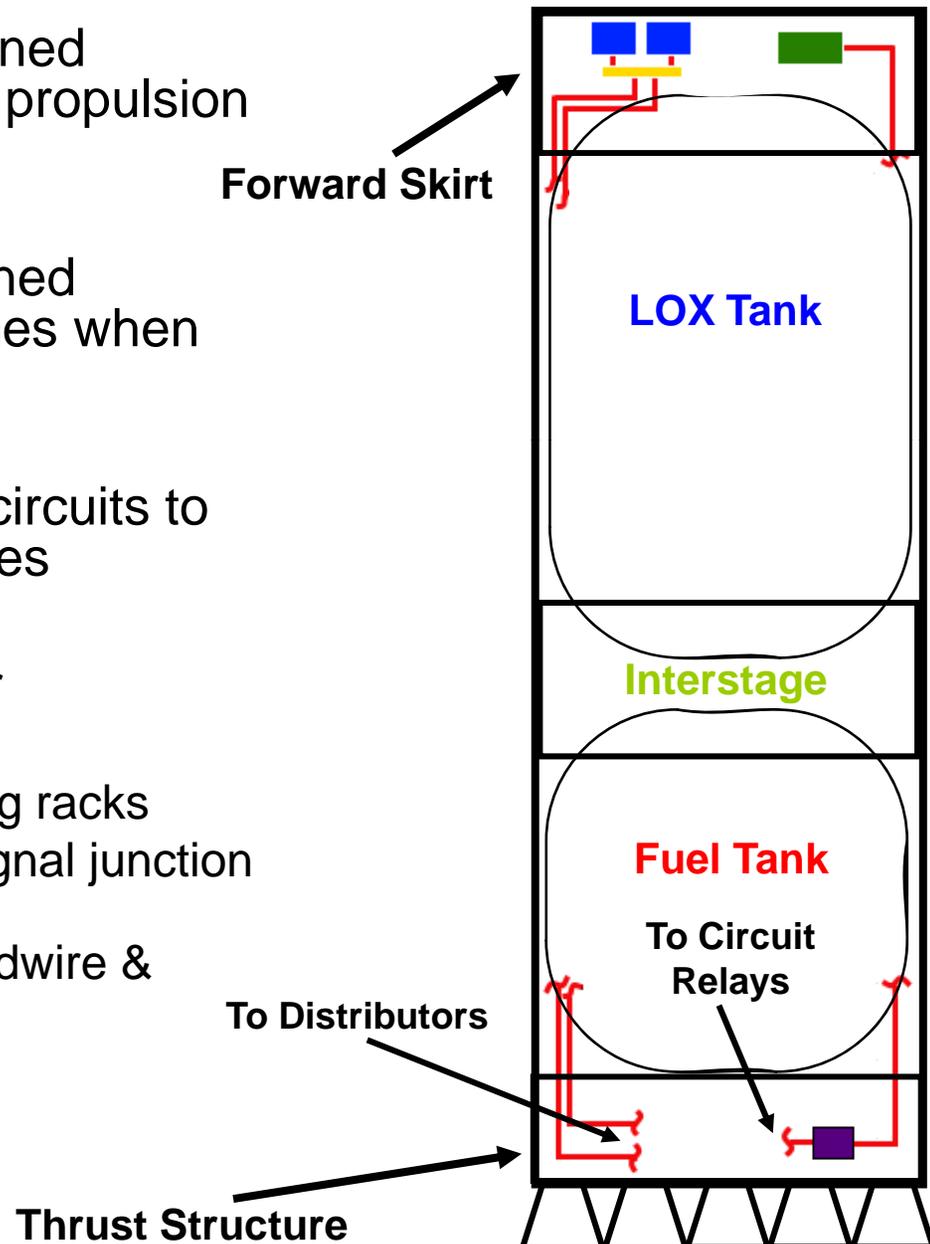
Electrical System

- ❑ Main Power Distributor housed relays, power transfer switch, & other electrical equipment
- ❑ Relays controlled time-programmed circuits
- ❑ Sequence & Control Distributor
 - Accepted command signals from Switch Selector
 - Commanded staging functions



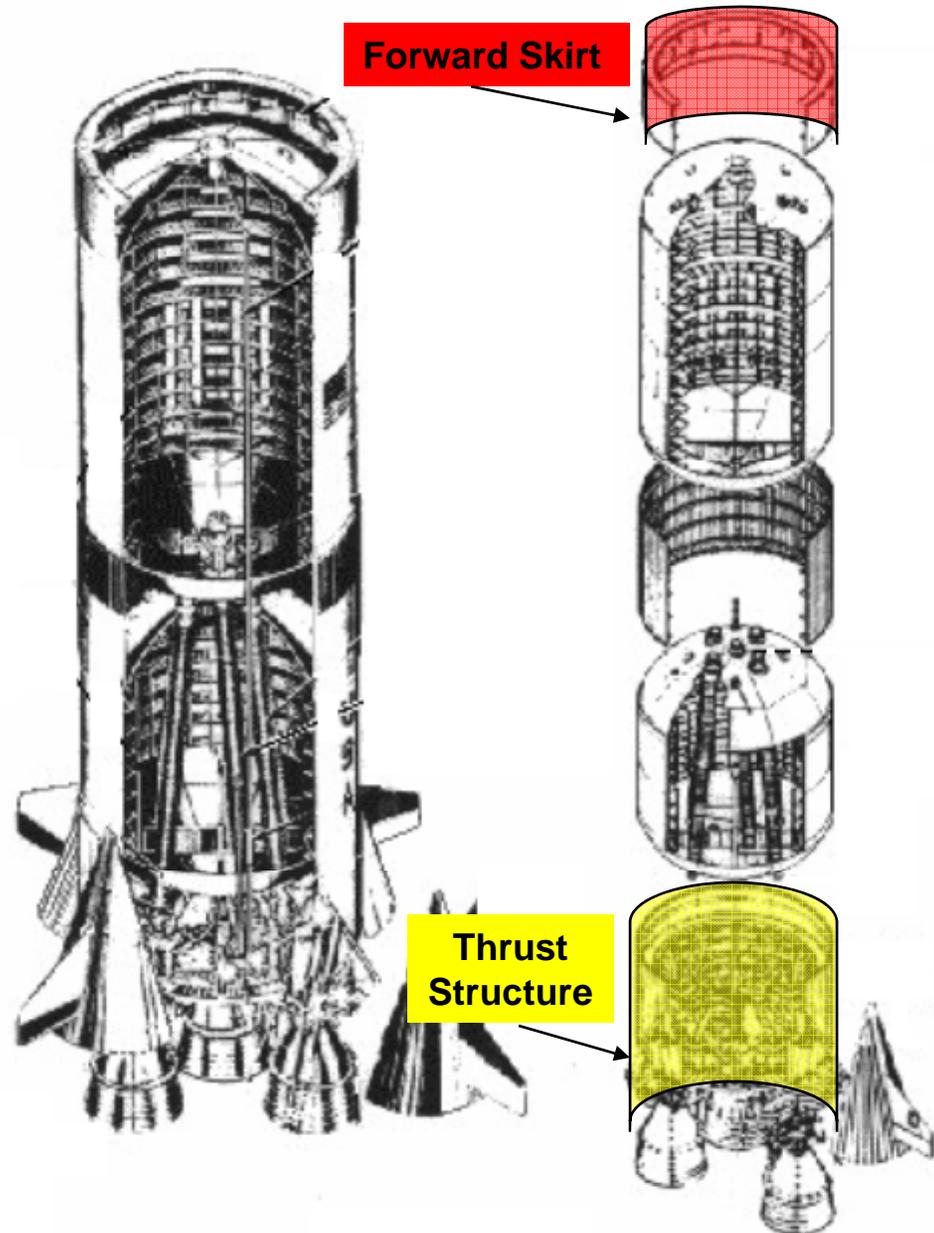
Electrical System

- ❑ Propulsion Distributor contained monitor & control circuits for propulsion system
- ❑ Thrust OK Distributor contained circuits that shut down engines when thrust was inadequate
- ❑ Timer Distributor contained circuits to delay operation of relay valves
- ❑ Measuring Power Distributor
 - Contained electrical buses
 - Routed data from measuring racks
 - Served as measurement signal junction box
 - Switched data between hardwire & telemetry



Stage I Subsystems

- ❑ Fuel System
- ❑ Oxidizer System
- ❑ Environmental Control System
- ❑ Electrical System
- ❑ **Instrumentation System**
- ❑ Flight Control System
- ❑ Control Pressure System
- ❑ Ordnance System



Instrumentation System

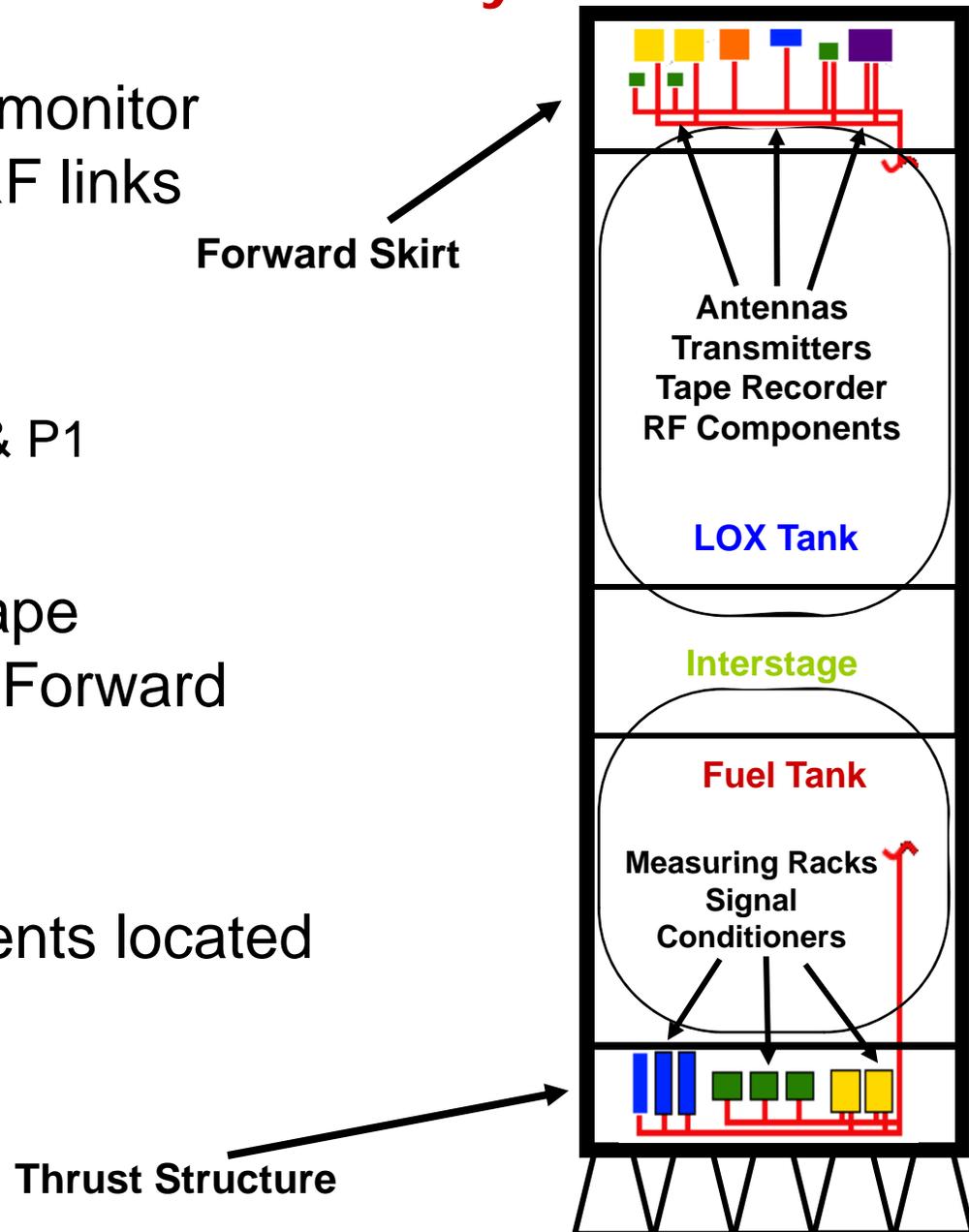
- ❑ Reported information on stage systems & components
- ❑ Provided data on internal & external environments
- ❑ Monitored approximately 900 Stage I (SI-C) measurements
- ❑ Measurements were telemetered by
 - Coaxial cable to GSE preflight
 - Radio Frequency (RF) transmission to ground stations during flight

Instrumentation System: Measurement

- ❑ Used transducers, signal conditioners, measuring rack assemblies, measuring distributors, & the onboard portion of the remote automatic calibration system
- ❑ Measured acceleration, acoustics, current, flow, flight angles, valve position, pressure, RPM's, stress, temperature, vibration, & separation

Instrumentation System: Telemetry

- ❑ Method to remotely monitor flight data through RF links
- ❑ Six RF links
 - F1, F2, F3, S1, S2, & P1
- ❑ RF Assemblies & Tape Recorder located in Forward Skirt
- ❑ Remaining components located in Thrust Structure



Instrumentation System: Telemetry

□ Links F1, F2, & F3

- Transmitted narrow-band, frequency-type data such as strain gages, temperature gages, & pressure gages
- Could handle 234 measurements on time-sharing basis & 14 measurements transmitted continuously

□ Links S1 & S2

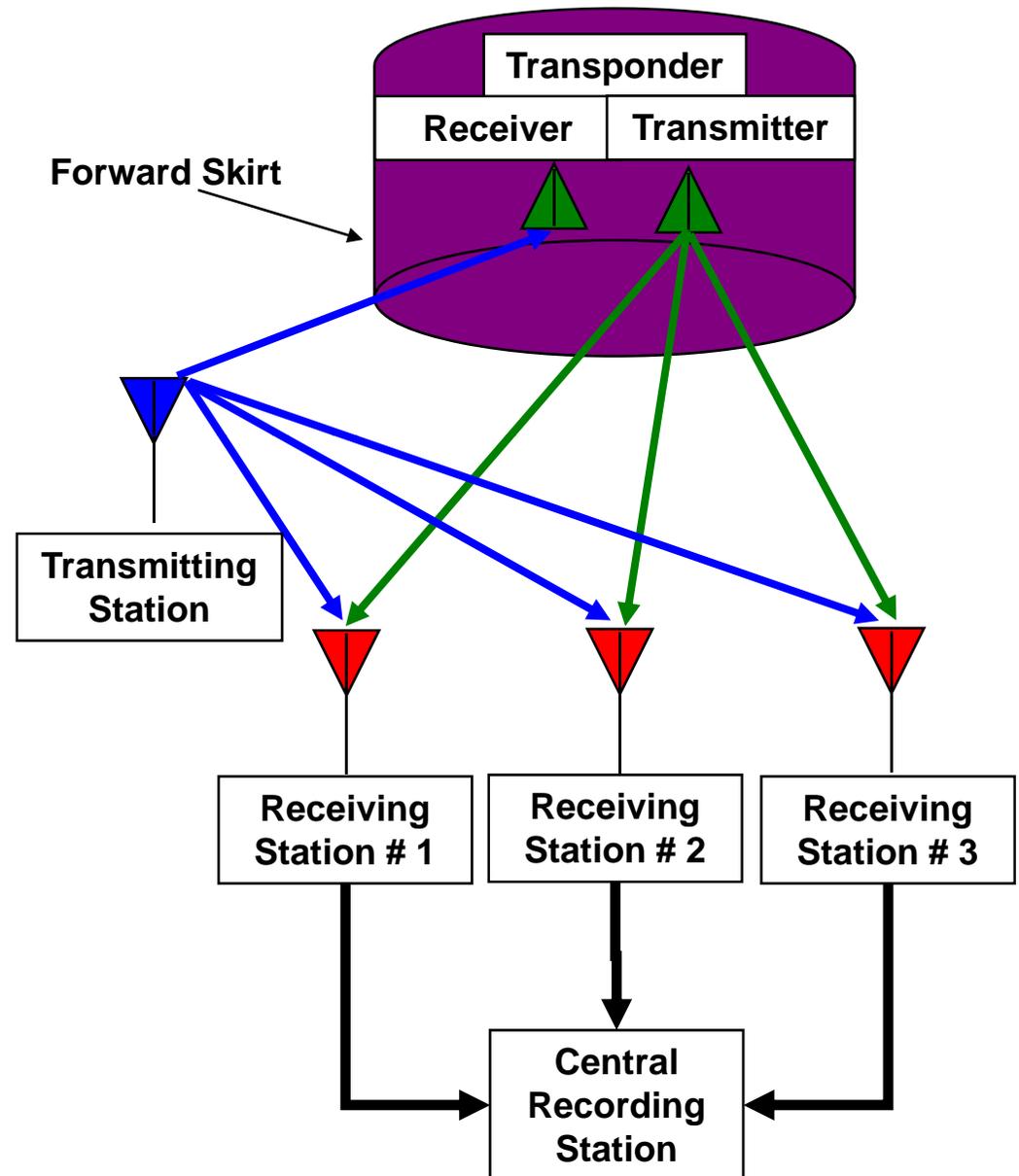
- Transmitted wide-band, frequency-type data generated by vibration sensors
- Each provided 15 continuous channels or max of 75 multiplexed channels

□ Telemeter P1

- Transmitted either pulse code-modulated or digital type data

Offset Doppler Tracking (ODOP) System

- ❑ Measured rate of motion the vehicle was moving away from/toward a Tracking/Receiving Station
- ❑ Signal was received by transponder, modified, and retransmitted back to ground
- ❑ Retransmitted signals were received by three Receiving Stations
- ❑ Separate antennas on stage were used for receiving and retransmitting the signals



Instrumentation System: Separation System

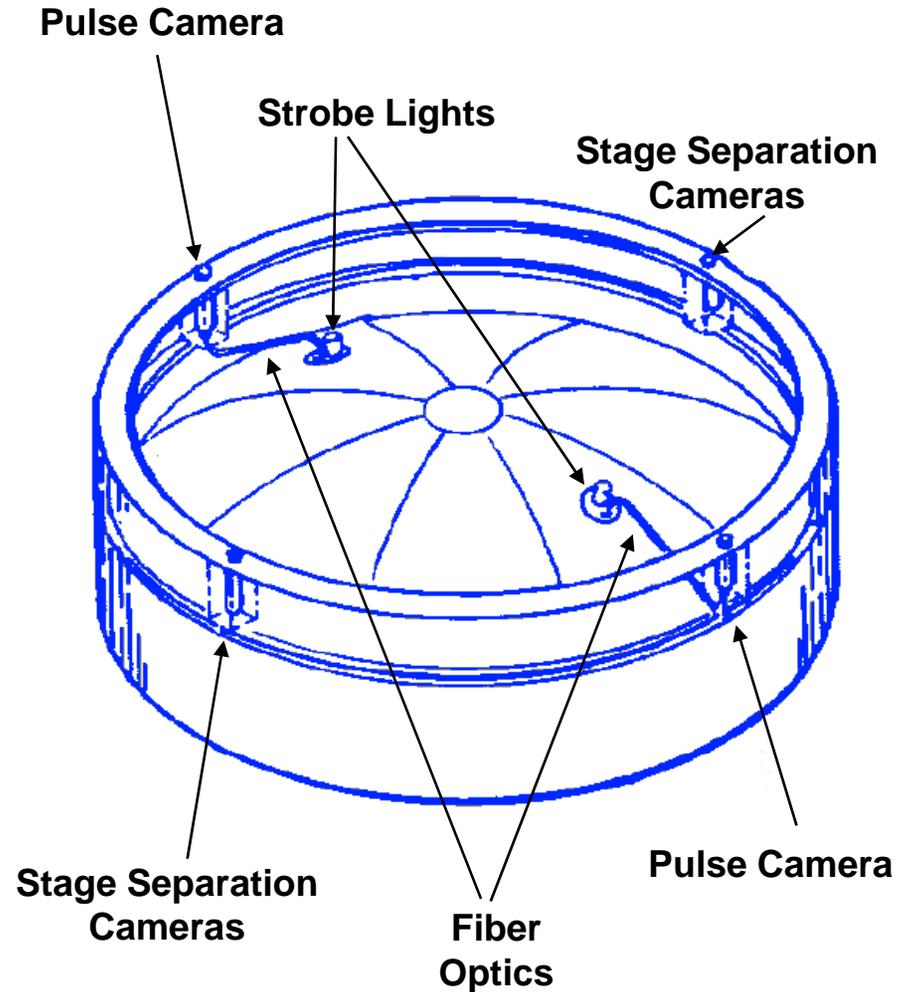
- ❑ Redundant ignition system activated separation of First Stage from Second Stage

- ❑ Command signal for arming & firing initiation systems were generated by Instrumentation Unit (IU) computer
 - The IU is located above the Third Stage (S-IVB) and below the Apollo Spacecraft (CSM/LM)

- ❑ After LOX depletion, the IU signaled the Switch Selector and Sequence & Control Distributor to activate the exploding bridgewire firing units (explosive devices) to initiate the staging sequence

Visual Instrumentation: Film Cameras

- ❑ Four film cameras, each in a recoverable capsule
- ❑ Two LOX tank-viewing Pulse Cameras, provided motion pictures to show:
 - Behavior of LOX
 - Possible wave or slosh motions
 - Cascading or waterfall effects of liquid from internal tank structure
- ❑ Two Strobe Lights illuminated interior of LOX tank for Pulse Cameras
- ❑ Two direct-viewing Stage Separation Cameras
- ❑ The nine ft (3 m) Fiber Optics, the coupling lens, and the objective lens connected the remotely located camera capsules and flash head

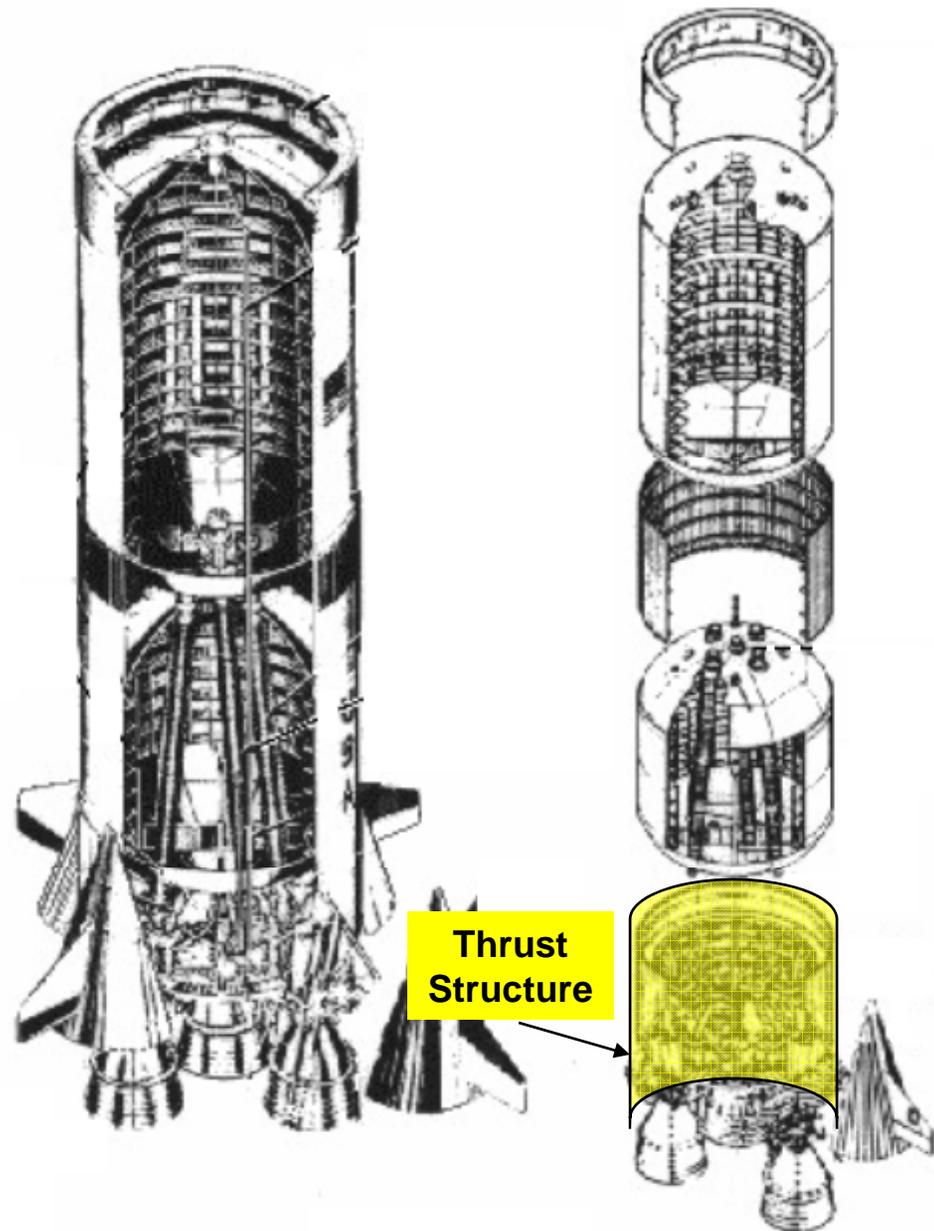


Visual Instrumentation: Television System

- ❑ Airborne Television System provided in-flight, real-time visual performance information on all five First Stage F1 engines
- ❑ Also stored televised pictures from fueling through First Stage separation
- ❑ System utilized two split fiber optic viewing systems & two cameras
- ❑ Fiber optic bundles transmitted images to the cameras located in Thrust Structure

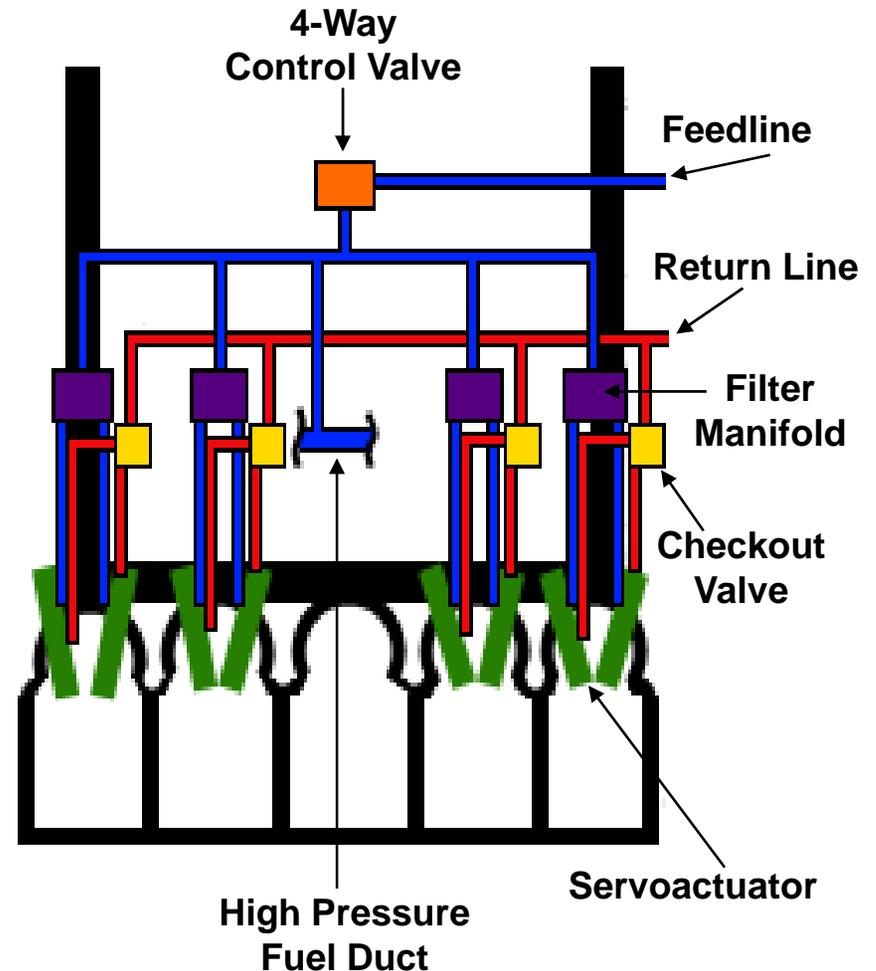
Stage I Subsystems

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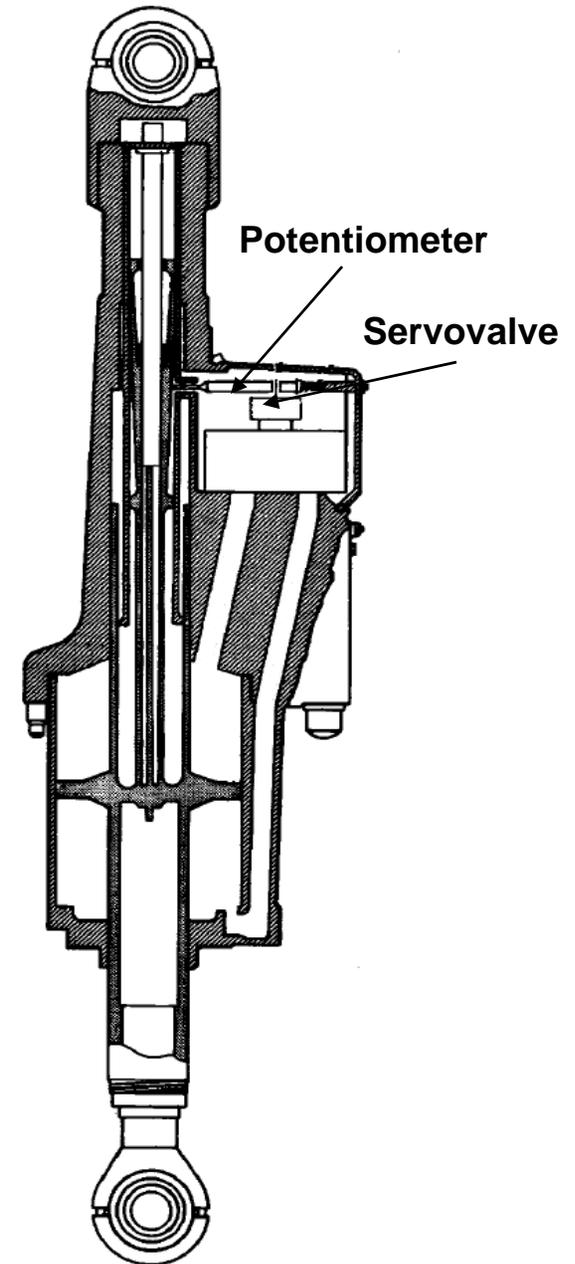
Flight Control System: Fluid Power System

- ❑ Used RP-1 and RJ-1 as hydraulic fluid
 - Same type of fuel used for stage fuel system
- ❑ Ground supply of RJ-1 routed to all five F1 engines
- ❑ After ignition, RP-1 routed from High Pressure Fuel Duct to Servoactuators
- ❑ Center Engine directed hydraulic fluid through Feedline & 4-way Hydraulic Control Valve to supply pressure to closing ports of Gas Generator, Main Fuel Valves, & Main LOX Valves
- ❑ The four outboard engines directed RJ-1 through Servoactuators to ground Checkout Valve where it was returned through coupling to ground supply



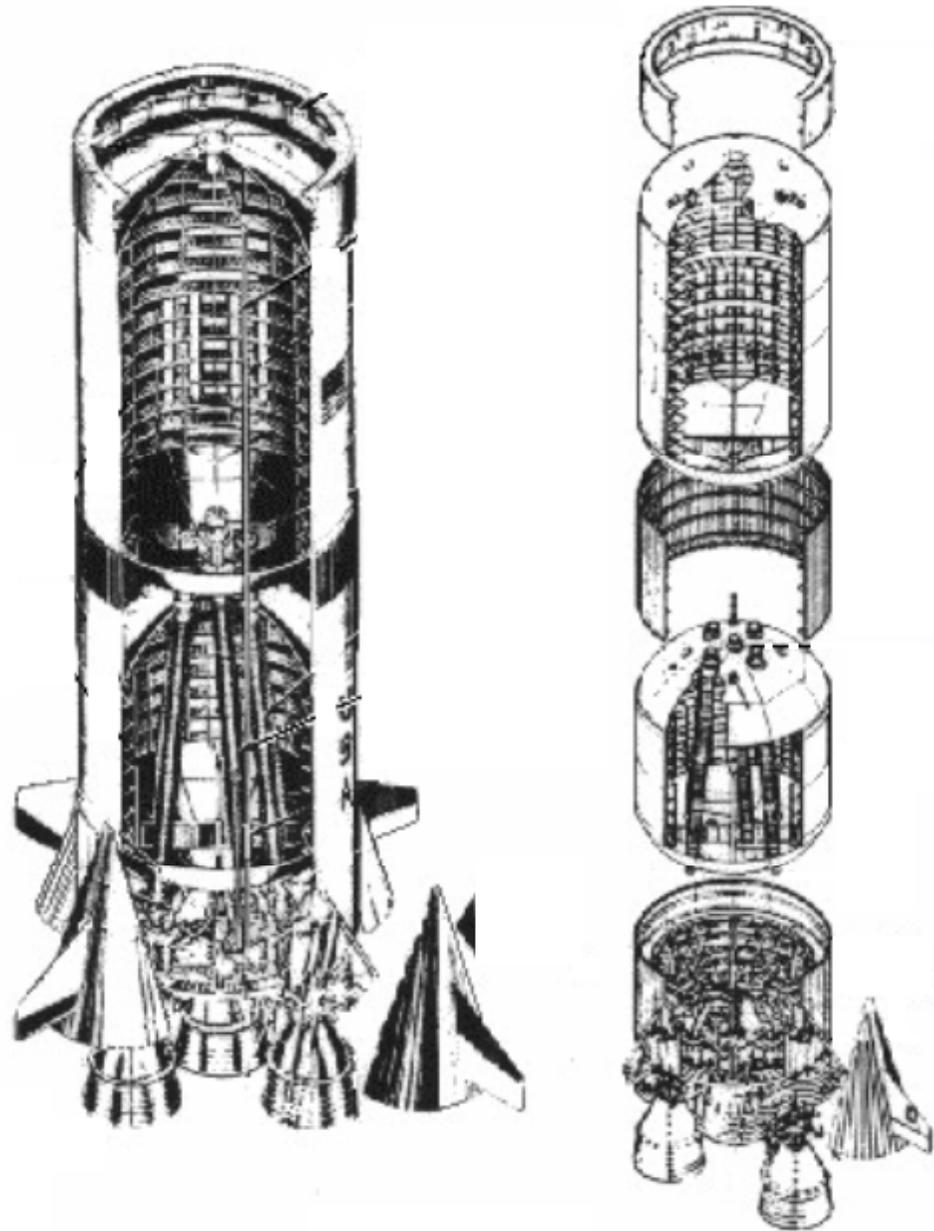
Flight Control System: Hydraulic Servoactuator

- ❑ Power control unit for converting electrical command signals & hydraulic power into mechanical outputs to gimbal engines
- ❑ The engine gimbaling was a closed loop system
 - IU received inputs from its guidance system and sent signals to Servoactuators to gimbal the engines
 - Potentiometer sensed Servoactuator position and transmitted that feedback (engine piston position) to the IU
 - IU modified effect of control signal to continue to gimbal the engines in the required direction



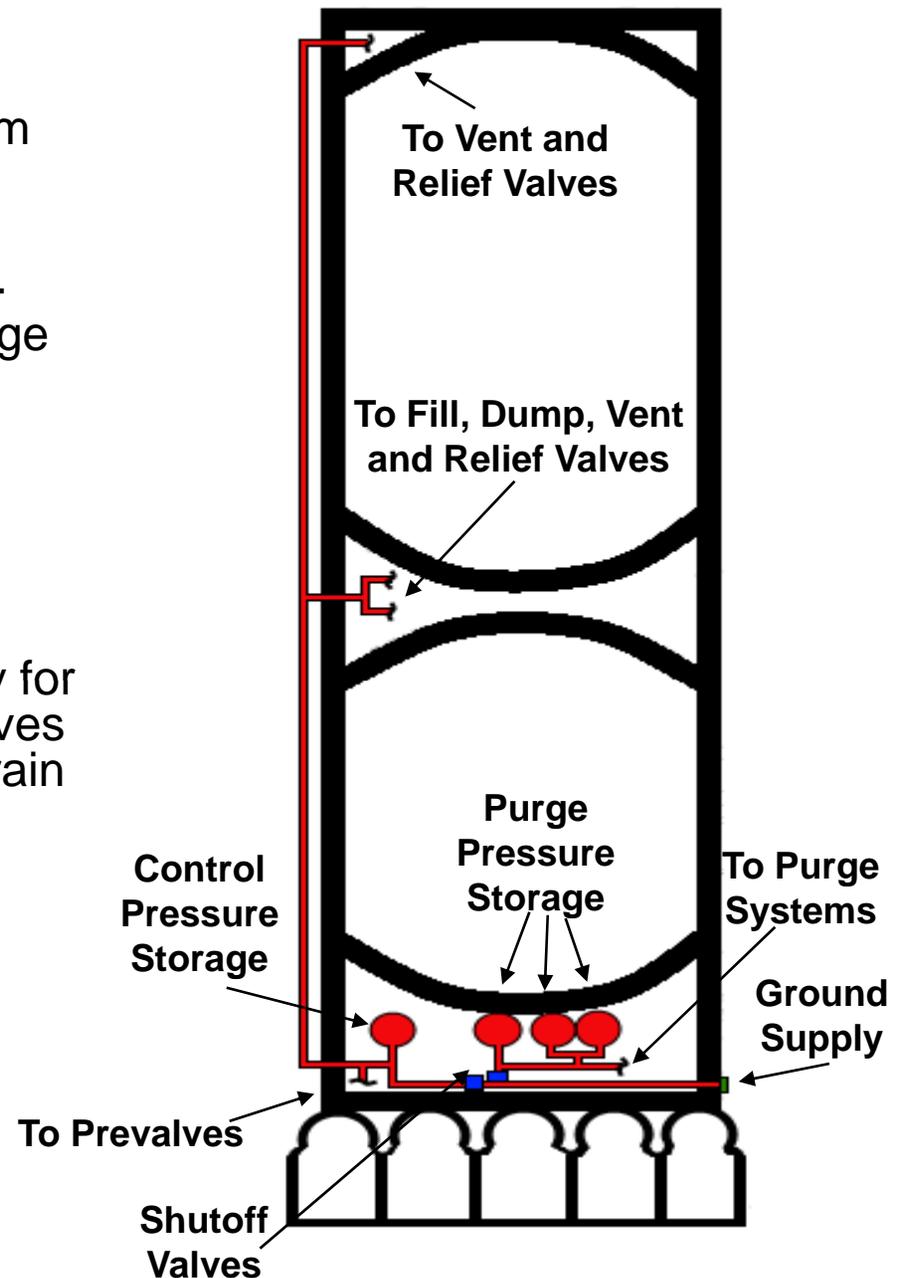
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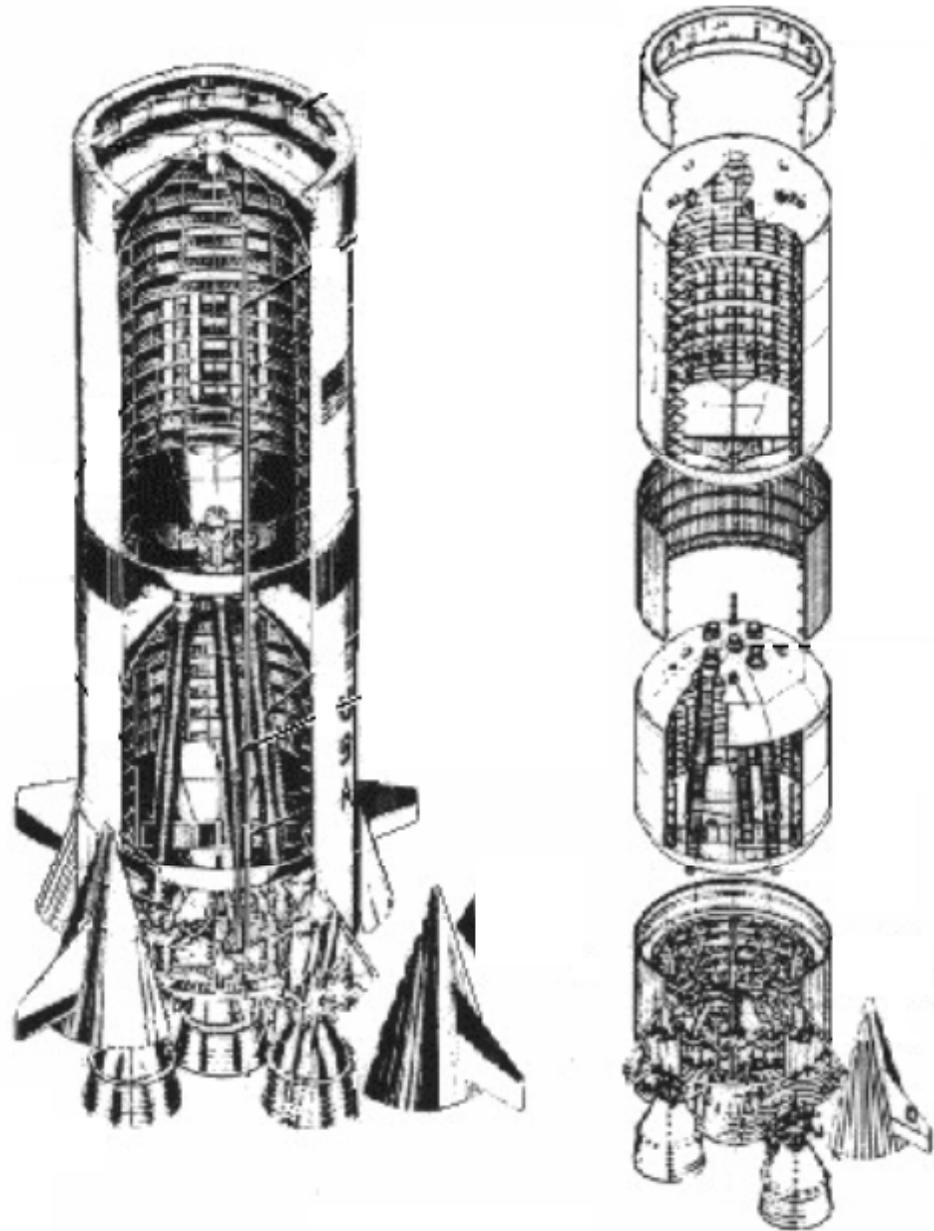
Control Pressure System

- ❑ Supplied pressurized GN₂ to pneumatically actuate propellant system valves & purge the F-1 engines
- ❑ **Onboard Control Pressure System** – contained high pressure nitrogen storage bottle, an umbilical coupling & tubing assembly for filling bottle, manifold assembly, & control valves at terminal ends of nitrogen distribution lines
- ❑ **Ground Control Pressure System** – provided direct ground pressure supply for First Stage pneumatically-actuated valves that were involved with propellant fill/drain & emergency engine shutdown system operations
- ❑ **Onboard Purge Pressure System** – expelled propellant leakage



Stage I Subsystems

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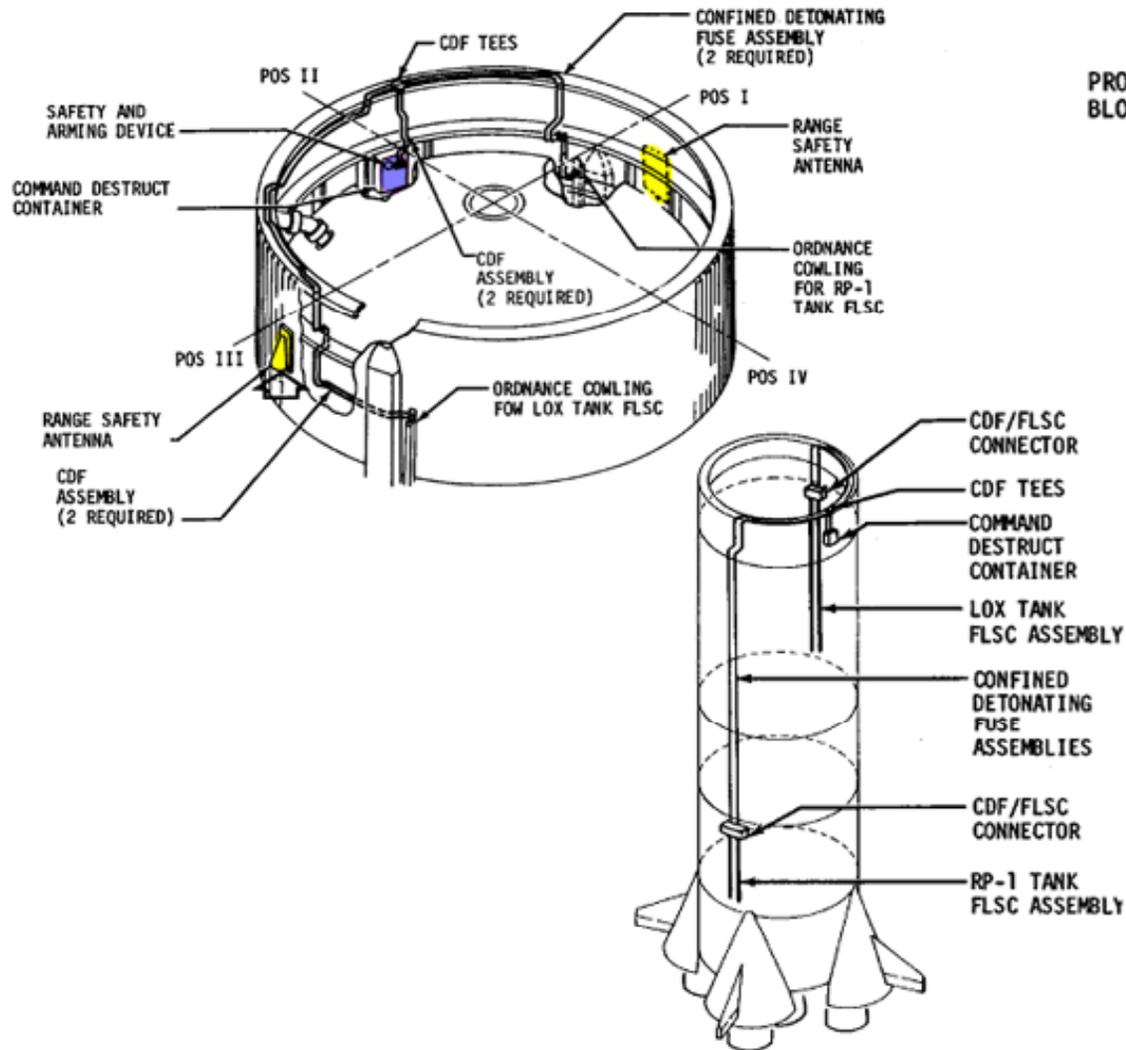
Ordnance System: Propellant Dispersion System (PDS)

- ❑ Terminated flight of Saturn V if it strayed from flight path or if it became a safety hazard

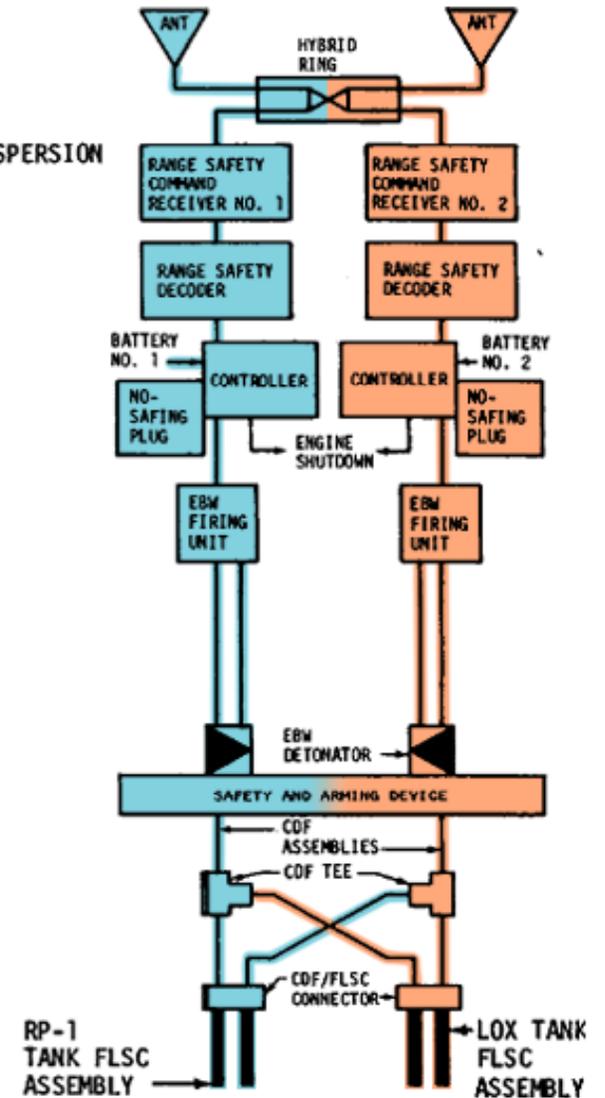
- ❑ PDS was a dual channel, parallel redundant system composed of two segments
 - Radio frequency segment received, decoded, & controlled propellant dispersion commands
 - Ordnance train segment consisted of two exploding bridgewire (EBW) firing units, two EBW detonators, one safety & arming (S&A) device, six confined detonating fuse (CDF) assemblies, two CDF tees, two CDF/flexible linear shaped charge (FLSC) connectors, & two FLSC assemblies

Ordnance System: PDS

PROPELLANT DISPERSION



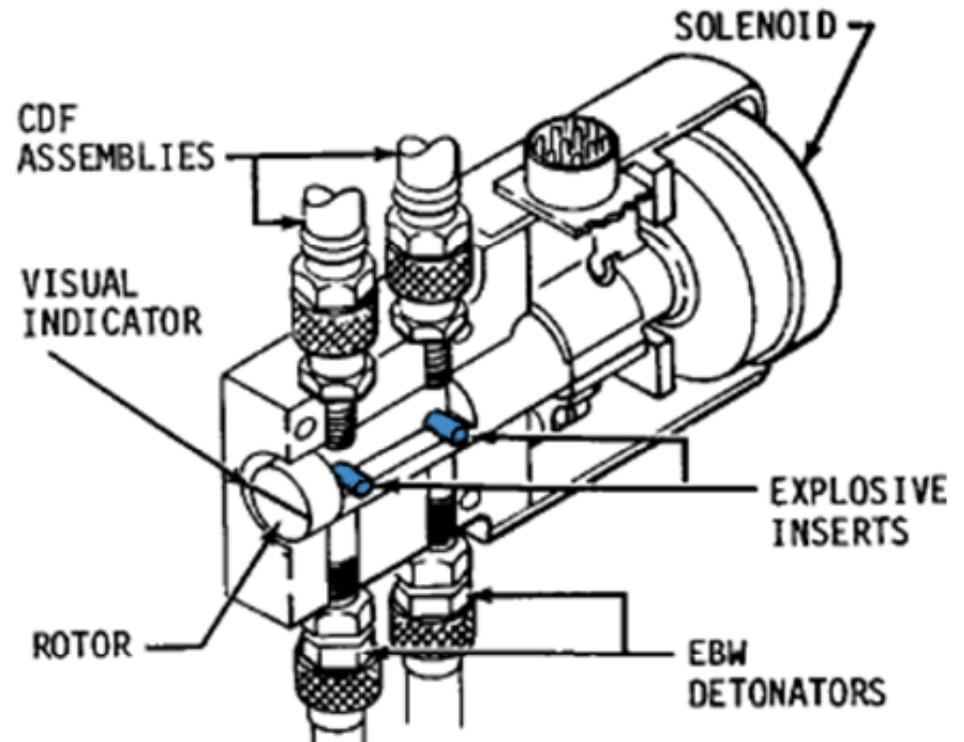
PROPELLANT DISPERSION BLOCK DIAGRAM



For detailed view, select presentation under References below

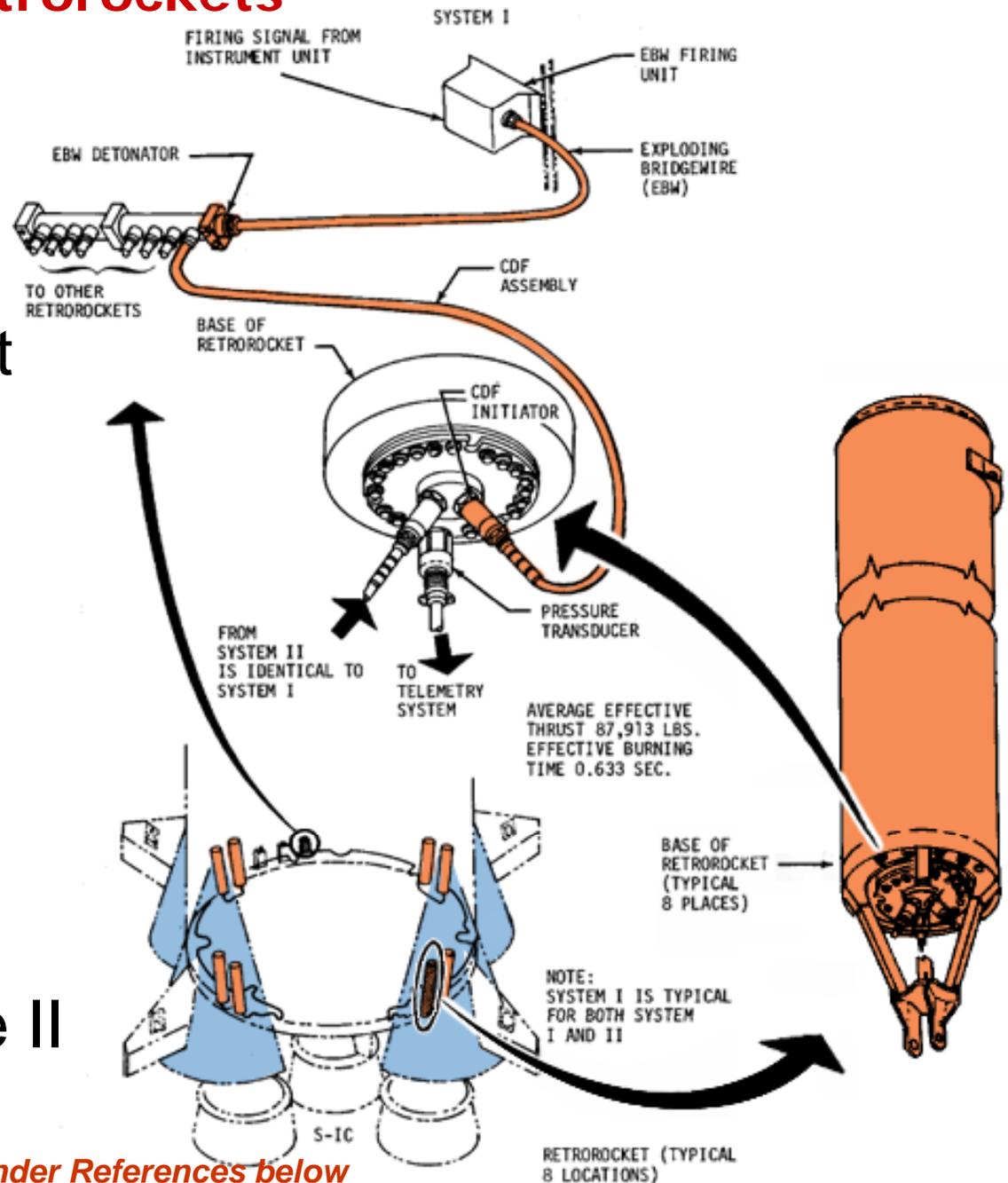
Ordnance System: Safety and Arming Device (S&A)

- ❑ Remotely controlled electro-mechanical ordnance device
- ❑ Used to make safe & to arm S-IC, S-II, and S-IVB stage PDS's
- ❑ Completed & interrupted explosive train by remote control
- ❑ Provided position indications to remote monitoring equipment



Ordnance System: Retrorockets

- The eight retrorockets provided separation thrust after Stage S-IC burnout
- Propelled Stage S-IC away from the rest of the launch stack as it progressed through to Stage II



For detailed view, select presentation under References below

Saturn V Stage I Summary

□ Become familiar with the Saturn V Stage I (S-IC) major structural components:

➤ Forward Skirt

➤ Fuel Tank

➤ Oxidizer Tank

➤ Thrust Structure

➤ Intertank

□ Gain a general understanding of the Stage I subsystems:

➤ Fuel

➤ Instrumentation

➤ Oxidizer

➤ Flight Control

➤ Environmental Control

➤ Control Pressure

➤ Electrical

➤ Ordinance

For More Information

□ Apollo Mission Familiarization for Constellation Personnel

- [Apollo-Saturn Wiki](#)

□ References

- Saturn V News Reference, August 1967
- Saturn V Flight Manual, SA 503, 1 November 1968
- Technical Information Summary Apollo-10 (AS-505), 1 May 1969