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High-pressure low-temperature ignition behavior of syngas mixtures, ...et al.

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1. High-pressure, low-temperature ignition behavior of syngas mixtures

2. Effect of impurities on syngas combustion

3. Experimental study of OH time histories during syngas auto-ignition











High-pressure lowtemperature ignition behavior of syngas mixtures



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• Few studies of auto-ignition behaviors: syngas/H₂ [7-11]

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• Inhomogeneous behavior \rightarrow unpredicted decreases in τ_{ign} [5]



- 1. Where do certain auto-ignition behaviors happen?
- 2. Can we predict them?
- 3. How does it affect accuracy of typical homog. modeling?

- University of Michigan Rapid Compression Facility
- Combine results with previous; map as $f(P,T,\phi)$
- Identify strong ignition limit, compare to predictions
- Compare τ_{ign} to predictions from typical O-D modeling



Methods: Experimental & Computational

University of Michigan – Rapid Compression Facility

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*J. Li, Z. Zhao, A. Kazakov, M. Chaos, F.L. Dryer, J.J. Scire, Int. J. Chem. Kinet. 39 (2007) 109-136

Typical Pressure Time History

P(t)

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Homog. Ignition, ($\phi = 0.1$)



For each experiment:

- 1. Assigned state (P,T)
- 2. Calculated $\tau_{ign} \pm \Delta$
- 3. Classified auto-ign. behavior

Typical High Speed Imaging

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Homogeneous



 $(P = 3.3 \text{ atm}, T = 1043 \text{ K}, \varphi = 0.1)$

Inhomogeneous



 $(P = 9.2 \text{ atm}, T = 1019 \text{ K}, \phi = 0.5)$

Ignition Classification	Imaging Characteristics	Auto-Ignition Behavior
Strong	Spatially uniform only	Homogeneous
Weak	Flame-like structures only	Inhomogeneous
Mixed	Flame-like structures \rightarrow spatially uniform in unburned	Inhomogeneous \rightarrow homogeneous
Re-classified previous results [7-11]		

Ignition Behavior Map, $\phi = 0.5$

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Excellent agreement across devices, mixture variations
 Strong ignition limit identified; Function of φ, P, T
 First comprehensive integrated mapping

Prediction: Sankaran Criterion



- Criterion captures strong ign. limit, both ϕ , all P,T
 - First application to experimental data
 - > *A priori* prediction, from basic modeling $(\tau, s_L^0)!$

Behaviors and model accuracy

 $\varphi = 0.1$

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φ = 0.1: Excellent agreement, regardless of ign. behavior
 φ = 0.5: Poor agreement, worse as T ↑, all inhomog. Behavior
 Inhomogeneous behavior correlated to modeling error

The effects of impurities on syngas combustion



• Numerous impurities in real syngas, with significant impacts on reactivity [15-21]

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- Particular concern for Organic Si species
 - Silanols, Siloxanes increasing in concentration in landfill-based syngas [13]
 - Known to foul; effects on combustion?
 - SiH₄ has marked effect on H₂, likely also the case for syngas [25, 28]







[Pierce, 2005]

- 1. Effect of Trimethylsilanol (TMS) on syngas reactivity.
 - Unstudied impurity related to commonly found Sispecies in landfill-based syngas
- Compare ignition times to predictions from typical modeling
- Use model to interpret and analyze observations
- $P\sim 5$ & 15 atm, $T\sim 1010-1110~K$
- $\phi = 0.1$, ~Air Dil. with N₂ (CO₂, Ar)
- (1) syngas: 30% H₂, 70% CO
- (2) syngas + 10ppm TMS

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(3) syngas + 100ppm TMS

combustion LABORATORY 15 atm

Two-step ignition

Results: Typical Pressure Time Histories 5 atm

One-step ignition



- 2-step ignition never before reported
- Modeling trends indicate worse for higher P, more CO
- For each experiment, assigned:
 - Thermo. State (**P**,**T**), $\tau_{ign, 2}$ and $\tau_{ign, 1}$ (if 2-step)
 - Sources of uncertainty: direct meas. and post-processing filters

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5 atm

15 atm

Results: T_{ign,2}



- 10 ppm TMS ~ negligible
 100ppm TMS decrease by ~20-30%
 - **10 ppm TMS** ~ negligible?
 - 100ppm TMS decrease by ~50-70%

TMS effect consistent and drastically promoting at 100 ppm!

Results: TMS and P Dependence

τ_{ign,2}

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<u>Syngas</u>

- 5 to 15 atm \rightarrow ~ 100% increase in $\tau_{i,2}$

Syngas + 100ppm TMS

- 5 to 15 atm \rightarrow ~ negligible increase

- 100ppm TMS virtually eliminates P dependence
- Suggests TMS effect is on HO₂/ H₂O₂ chemistry: supported by modeling
- Very similar effects seen for another Si compound, SiH_4 , in H_2 [petersen][mclain]
- Dangerous trend for Si species? Warning for future syngas with more Si





Molecule images: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/





Experimental study of OH time histories during syngas auto-ignition

New OH Laser Absorption System

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Goal

Measure $\chi_{OH}(t)$ during syngas auto-ignition.

Conditions

 $\begin{array}{l} P\sim 5 \; atm, \; T\sim 1000\text{--}1090 \; K \\ \phi=0.1, \; \text{-}Air \; Dil., \; N_2 \; (Ar) \\ Fuel: \; 30\% \; H_2, \; 70\% \; CO \end{array}$

Computations

Li 2007 mech. NUIG 2013 mech. [19]

- Low precision targets dominate $(\tau i_{gn}, s_L^0)$ available kinetic data
- Important O, OH, H radical data very limited for H₂ (high-T, low-P, ultra dilute) [29], unstudied for syngas

Typical XOH time history



- Clear absorption feature
- > Excellent agreement between measured and predicted $\chi_{OH}(t)$
- Interrogation of multiple features possible (magnitudes, slopes), to improve chemical kinetics

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Thank you! Questions/Comments?



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BACKUP SLIDES

We mapped the strong ignition limits ...can we predict their location *a priori*?

- **Previous attempts** (800 1300K, < 3 atm)
 - 2nd explosion limit; Voevodsky and Soloukhin, 1965
 - Thermal sensitivity, $(d\tau_{ign}/dT)_p$; Meyer and Oppenheim, 1971
- New method here, based on computational work
 - Sankaran Criterion; Sankaran, Im, Hawkes, Chen, 2005

 $s_L^0(P, T, ...) = u_{prop}(P, T, ...) \rightarrow$ strong ignition limit

Distributed thermal gradients drive local prop. fronts

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$$\mathbf{u}_{prop} = \left(\frac{d\tau_{ign}}{dT}\frac{dT}{dx}\right)$$

H₂/O₂ 2nd Explosion Limits



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- P < 5 atm: explosion limits ~ capture strong ign. limit
- P > 5 atm: Poor correlation
- Chemistry is important, but its not the whole story

Thermal sensitivity, $(d\tau_{ign}/dT)_p$





- P < 5 atm: Crit. iso-contour captures strong ign. limit
- P > 5 atm: OK agreement, not quite

> Improvement, but not purely predictive; need to *find* critical value

Measurements v. Model Predictions

Predicted P-t history

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- Modeling accurately predicts 2-step ignition at 15 atm, 1-step 5 atm
- $τ_{ign,1\&2}$ predictions in excellent agreement for both P, syn. & syn. + CH₄
- System well represented by Li 2007 mech. and CHEMKIN homog. reactor model



15 atm

5 atm



Discussion: Why 2-step Ignition?

Predicted P-t trends

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- 2-step behavior minimal at 5 atm, pronounced at 15 atm for high χ_{CO}

Why 2-step ignition?

(ROP and sensitivity analysis)

- $CO + OH = CO_2 + H$ dominates
- OH lag after step 1, H₂ exhausted
- $H + O_2 = OH + Ov. H + O_2(+M) = HO_2(+M)$
- Explains P and H₂:CO (T_{step1}) dependence

Predicted χ_i-t history



⁽Pure syngas, 15 atm, 1066 K)

Discussion: Why promoting effect of TMS?

- Can't investigate directly...

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- Jachimowski & McLain and Petersen:
 - SiH₄ in H₂ disrupts formation and/or enhances consumption HO_2
- Simulated these effects using current model with Li 2007 mechanism
 - $H + O_2(+M) = HO_2(+M) (A \times 10^{1,-1,-3})$
 - $HO_2 + HO_2 = H_2O_2 + O_2$ (A x 10^{1,-2})
- Trends of increased reactivity and lowered pressure dependence replicated, but smaller magnitude
- HO₂ interaction likely part of TMS effect
- Good qualitative agreement with other Sibase impurity, SiH₄

