

# Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

## Chemical Kinetic Models for Advanced Engine Combustion

William J. Pitz (PI)

Goutham Kukkadapu, Scott W. Wagnon, Kuiwen Zhang, Charles K. Westbrook

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

June 19, 2019



Project ID # ACE013

DOE National Laboratory Advanced Combustion Engine R&D Merit Review and Peer Evaluation

Washington, DC

This presentation does not contain any proprietary, confidential or otherwise restricted information

This work performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by  
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344

# Overview

## Timeline

- Project provides fundamental research to support DOE/ industry Advanced Engine Combustion projects
- Funded by 3-year Lab Call starting FY17

## Budget

Project funded by DOE/VT:

- FY17: 532K
- FY18: 500K
- FY19: 625K

## Barriers

- Increases in engine efficiency and decreases in engine emissions are being inhibited by an inadequate ability to accurately simulate in-cylinder combustion and emission formation processes
  - Chemical kinetic models for fuels are a critical part of engine simulation models

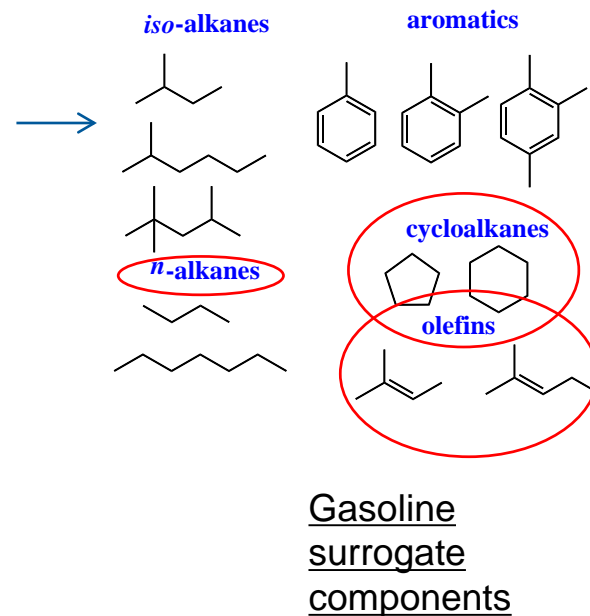
## Partners

- Project Lead: LLNL – W. J. Pitz (PI)
- Part of Advanced Engine Combustion (AEC) working group:
  - 15 Industrial partners: auto, engine & energy
  - 5 National Labs & 11 Universities
- UConn: RCM data on diesel surrogate mixtures
- ANL: RCM data for mechanism validation
- AVFL-18a working group of the Coordinating Research Council (CRC)

# Objectives and relevance to DOE objectives

- Project objectives:
  - Develop predictive chemical kinetic models for gasoline, diesel and next generation fuels so that simulations can be used to overcome technical barriers to advanced combustion regimes in engines and needed gains in engine efficiency and reductions in pollutant emissions

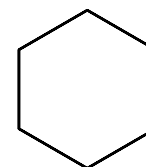
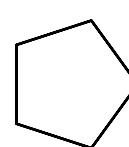
- FY19 Objectives:
  - Develop fuel surrogate kinetic models with more representative components for real fuels to increase accuracy of autoignition predictions and to cover a range of real fuels. Validate kinetic mechanisms over a range of temperature, pressure, and equivalence ratio relevant to engine combustion.



# Chemical kinetic milestones

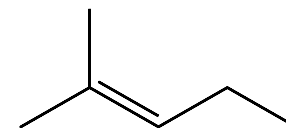
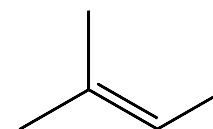
- Q2: Improved cycloalkane mechanisms (for 2-3 cycloalkane mechanisms) (improved cyclopentane complete; cyclohexane delayed until Q4)
- Q4: Improve C5-C6 iso-alkene kinetic models compared to fundamental experimental autoignition data from a rapid compression machine (RCM) on C5-C6 iso-alkenes and on a full boiling-range FACE-F gasoline. (On track)

## cycloalkanes



cyclopentane   cyclohexane

## Iso-alkenes



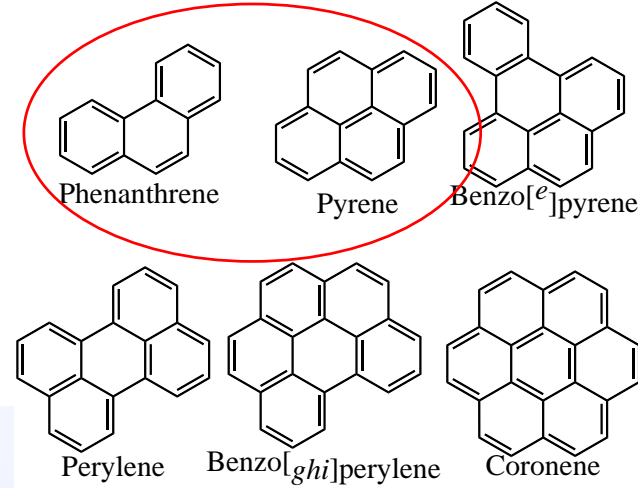
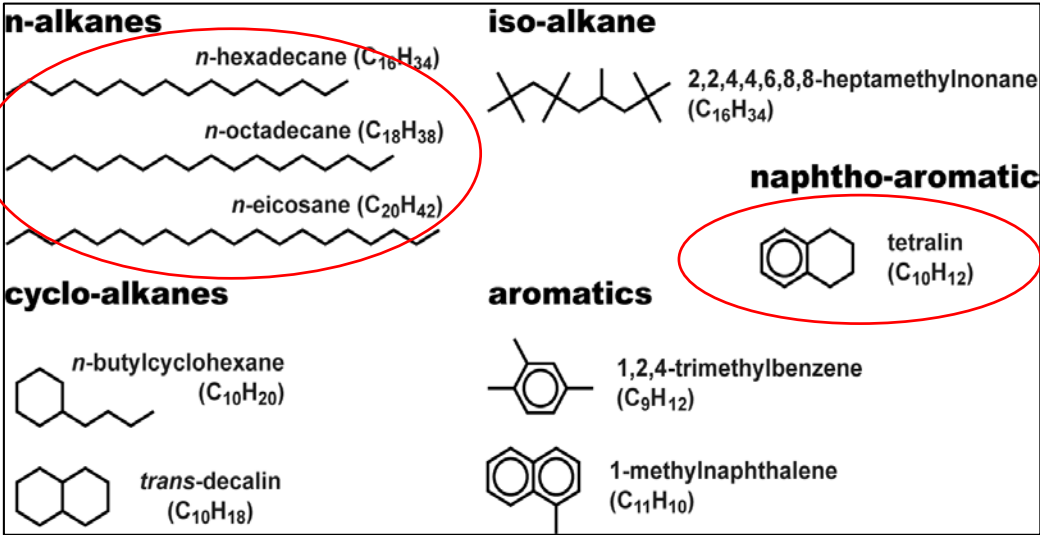
# Approach

- Develop fuel surrogate models for gasoline, diesel, and next-generation fuels to enable the prediction of the effect of fuel properties on advanced engine combustion
- Develop chemical kinetic reaction models for each individual fuel component of importance for surrogate fuels for gasoline, diesel, and next generation fuels
- Combine mechanisms for representative fuel components to provide surrogate models for practical fuels
  - diesel fuels
  - gasoline fuels
  - addition of ethanol and other blendstocks
- Reduce mechanisms for use in CFD engine simulation codes to improve the capability to simulate in-cylinder combustion and emission formation/destruction processes in engines
- Use the resulting models to simulate practical applications in engines, including diesel, advanced compression ignition and DISI, as needed
- Iteratively improve kinetic models as needed for applications
- Make kinetic models available to industry
- Addresses barriers to increased engine efficiency and decreased emissions by allowing optimization of fuels with advanced engine combustion

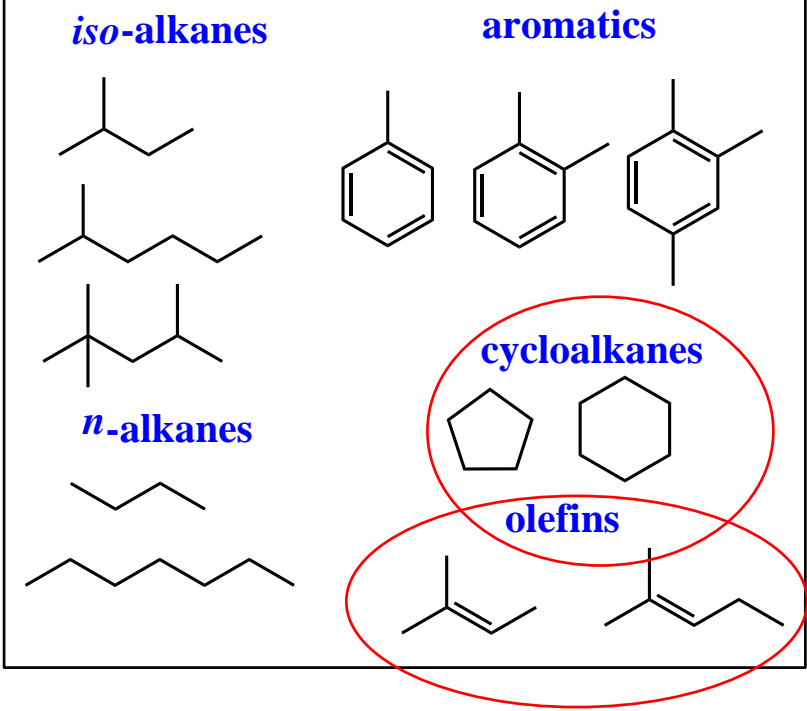


# Technical Accomplishments

## Diesel surrogate components

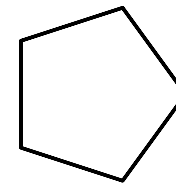


## Gasoline surrogate components



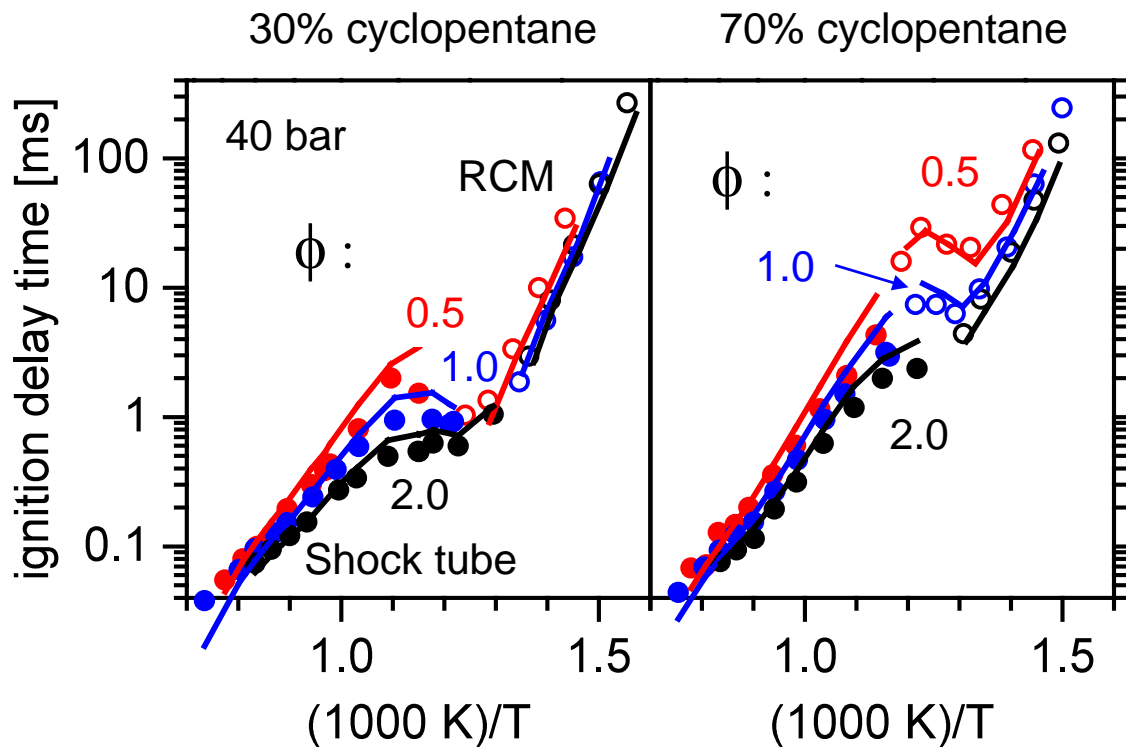
## Improved polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) model

# Improved kinetic model for cyclopentane and its blending behavior

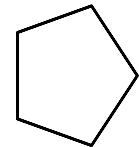


Gasoline  
surrogate  
components

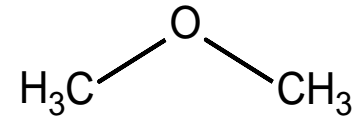
## Cyclopentane/DME ignition delay time comparisons:



Cyclopentane



+



dimethylether (DME)

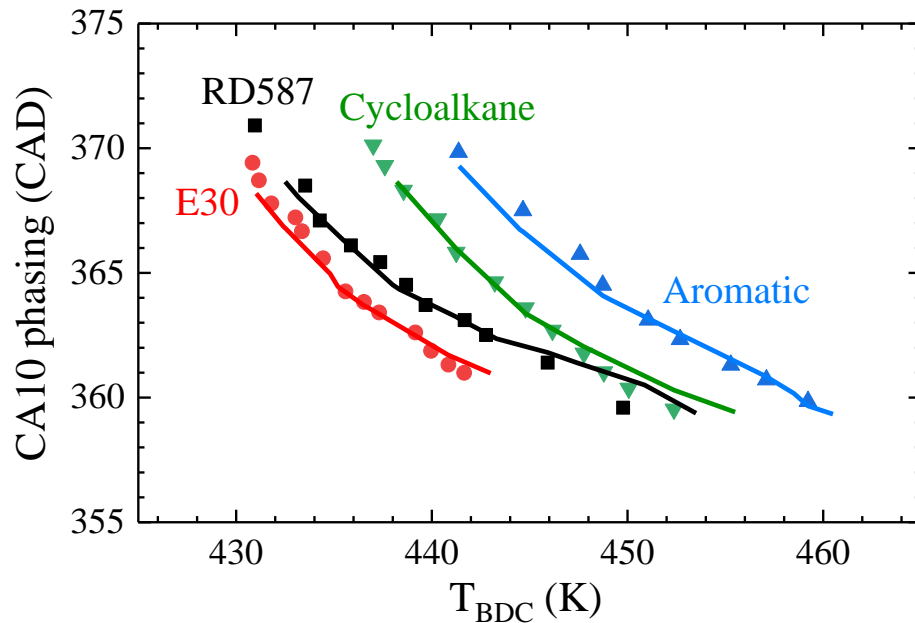
Experiments: Lokachari and Curran, Nat'l Univ. Ireland, Galway (NUIG)

Simulations: LLNL kinetic model

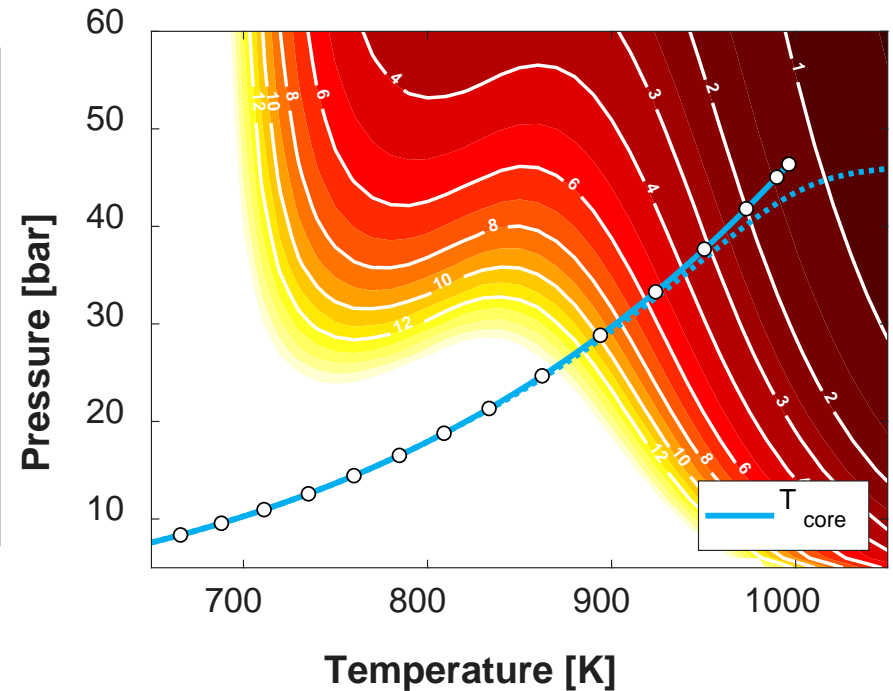
Wagnon et al. US National Combustion Meeting, 2019

# LLNL gasoline kinetic model: validation in engine and use in engine analysis

Ignition phasing predictions compare very well with measurements in HCCI engine by Lopez-Pintor and Dec at SNL



Used in methodology to help determine feasible range of operation for mixed-mode engine operation (SNL, Sjöberg)





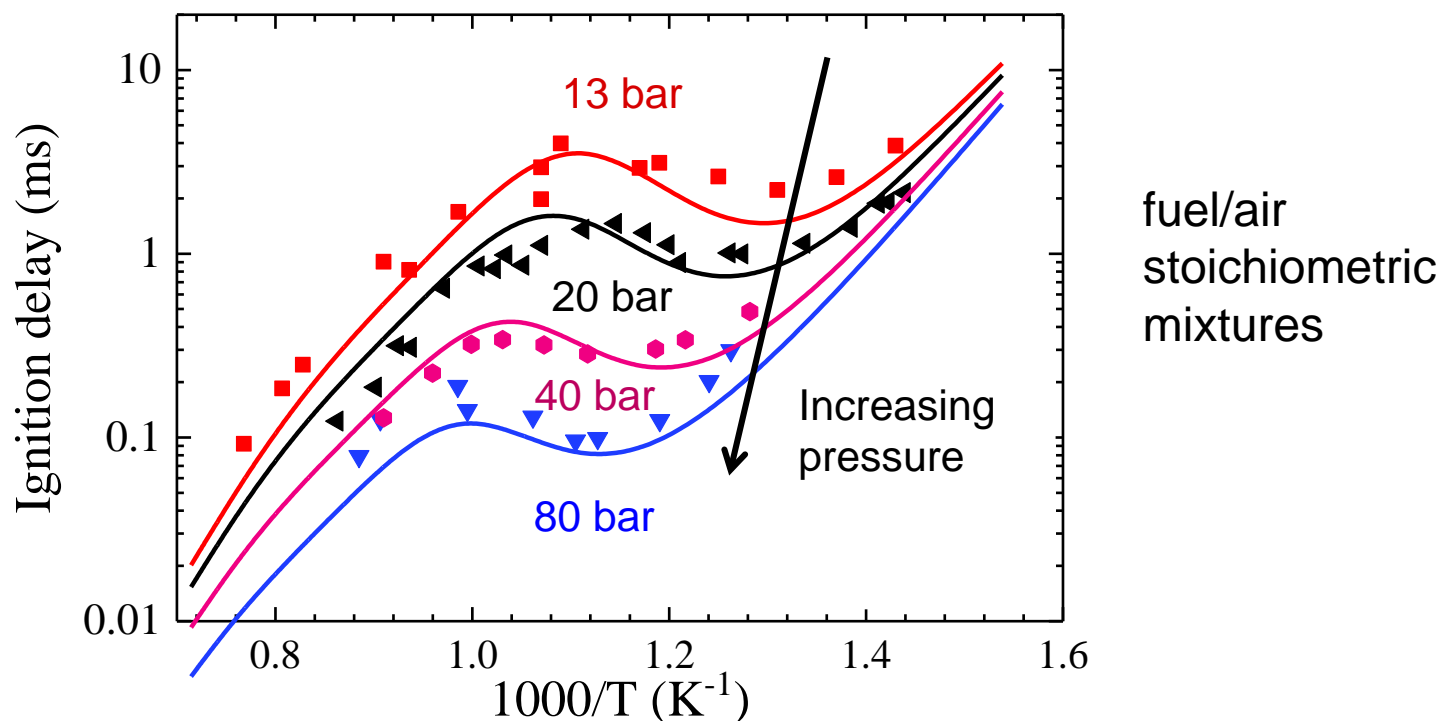
# Improved kinetic model well simulates effect of pressure on ignition of n-alkanes

n-decane



Diesel  
surrogate  
components

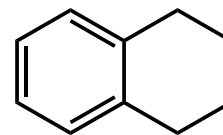
## Comparison of n-decane ignition delay times in shock tube



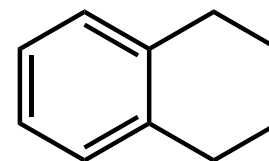
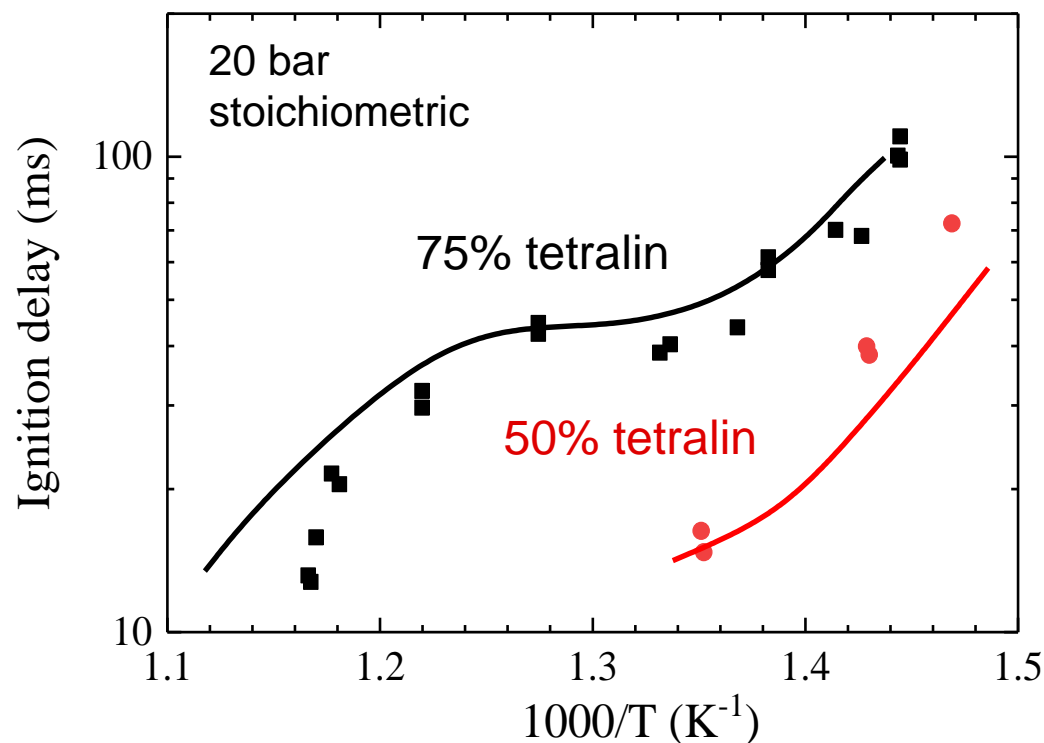
Symbols: experimental data, Pfahl et al. 1996, Tekawade et al. 2017, Zhukov et al. 2008

Curves: simulations, LLNL kinetic model

# Improved kinetic model for tetralin and its blending behavior

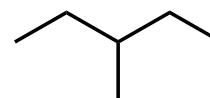


Diesel  
surrogate  
components



tetralin

+



3-methyl pentane

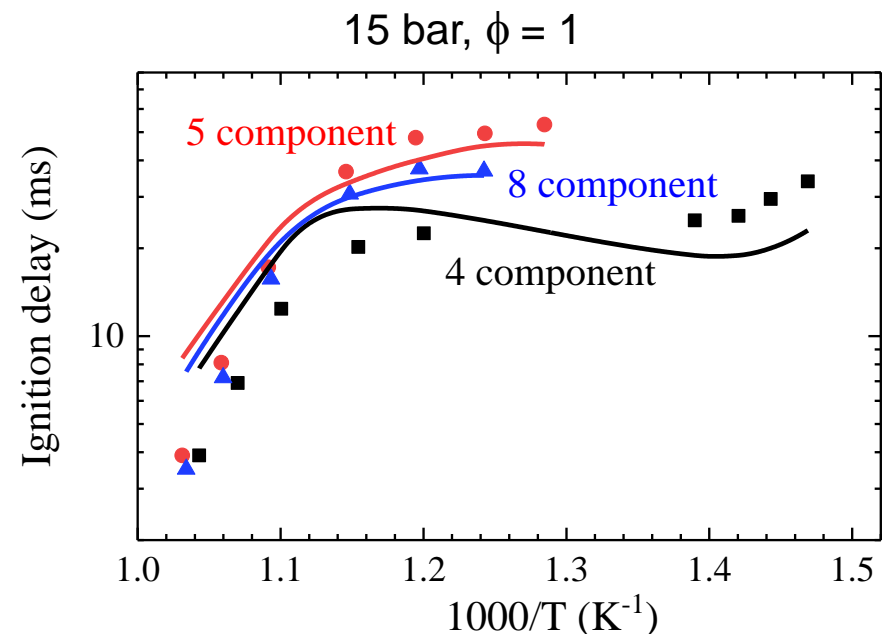
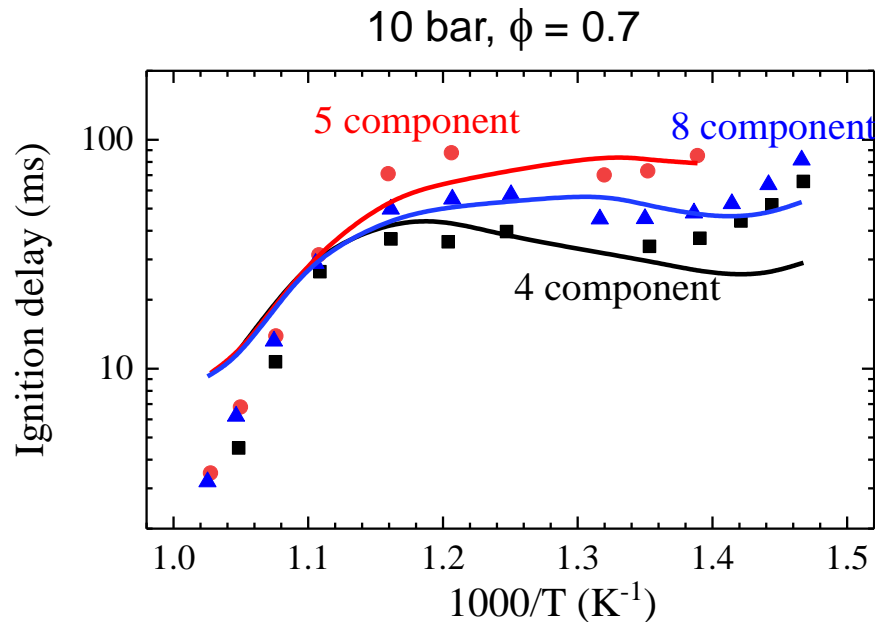
Symbols: experimental RCM data, Farooq's group, KAUST, Djebbi et al. 2019 (in preparation)

Curves: simulations, LLNL kinetic model

# Improved diesel surrogate model compares well with RCM experiments

Diesel  
surrogates

Direct comparison of model and experiments of CRC diesel surrogates:

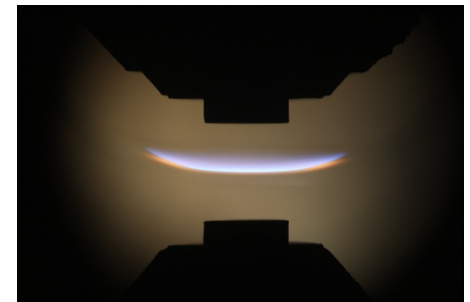
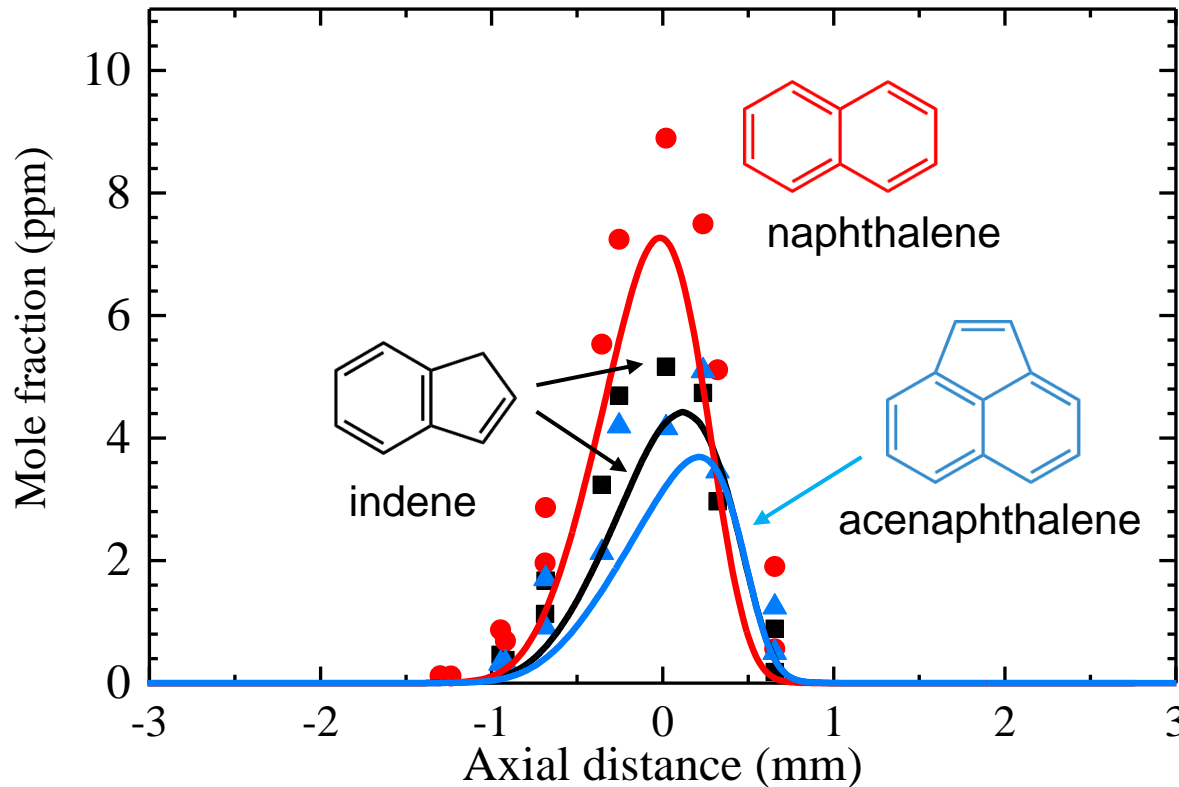


Coordinated Research Council (CRC) supported diesel surrogate RCM experiments at Univ. of Connecticut (UCONN) and provided surrogate fuels

Wang, Kukkadapu, Zhang, Wagnon, Mehl, Pitz, Westbrook and Sung,  
US National Combustion meeting, 2019



# Improved PAH kinetic model: Predictions compare well with measurements in counterflow diffusion flame for ethylene



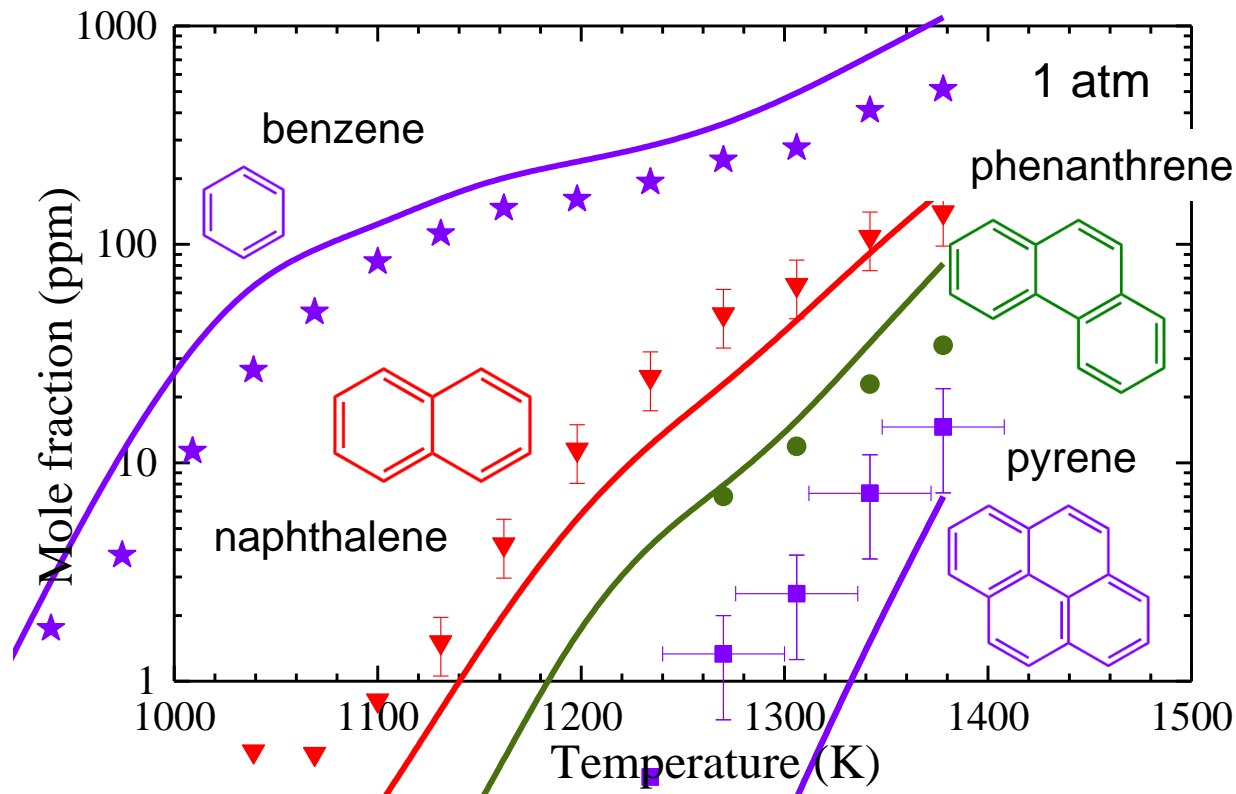
Yale counterflow  
diffusion flame  
burner

Symbols: experiments, Carbone, Gleason, Gomez, Proc. Combustion Inst., 2017

Curves: simulations, LLNL kinetic model

# Improved PAH kinetic model: Predictions compare well with measurements for simple gasoline surrogate

Pyrolysis in simple gasoline surrogate in a flow reactor  
(n-heptane/iso-octane/toluene blend)



Symbols: experiments, Shao et al., Proc. Combust. Inst. (2019)  
Curves: simulations, LLNL kinetic model

# Mechanisms are available on LLNL website and by email

<https://combustion.llnl.gov>

## Mechanisms

### Alcohols

Ethanol  
Butanol Isomers  
Iso-pentanol

### Alkanes

2-Methyl and n-Alkanes  
Heptane, Detailed Mechanism,  
Version 3.1  
iso-Octane, Version 3  
2,2,4,4,6,8,8-Heptamethylnonane

### Alkenes

C5 alkene

### Surrogates

#### Biodiesel Surrogates

Real Biodiesel  
C10 methyl ester surrogates for  
biodiesel

Gasoline Surrogate

Diesel PRF  
Diesel surrogate, detailed and reduced

### Alkyl-Carbonates

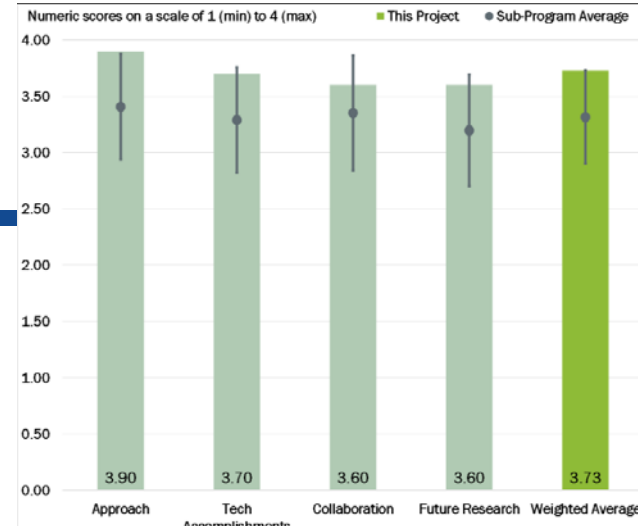
Dimethyl Carbonate  
Diethyl Carbonate  
Cyclopentane

Gasoline Surrogate

# FY2018 Reviewer's comments and our responses

Overall, the reviewer's comments were very positive

- The reviewer commented: “as the number of surrogate components increases there will be point of diminishing return.”
- Response: “There is a need to have enough components to cover the distillation curve because early or late vaporization of components could affect ignition delay and soot formation. We are trying to manage the size of the model by choosing fuel components with symmetrical molecular structures and avoiding inclusion of unnecessary reaction classes when possible.”
- The reviewer commented: “On the log scale, the [ignition delay] difference can be as high as a factor of two. The reviewer questioned what the strategy is for closing the gap.”
- Response: “We have been steadily reducing the uncertainty in predictions like ignition delay and flame speed by including rate constants fits and thermodynamic properties from fundamental quantum chemistry calculations from collaborators and from the literature.”



**Chemical Kinetic Models for Advanced Engine Combustion:**  
**Bill Pitz (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) - ace013**

**Presenter**

Bill Pitz, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

# Collaborations

- Our major current industry collaboration is via the DOE working group on Advanced Engine Combustion
  - All results presented at Advanced Engine Combustion Working group meetings (Industry, National labs, Universities)
  - Multiple exchanges of chemical kinetic models with industry
  - Collaboration on engine experiments:
    - John Dec on HCCI and Magnus Sjöberg on SACI engines
    - Jim Szybist, boosted SI, ORNL
  - Collaboration at ANL with Scott Goldsborough on RCM experiments and Sibendu Som on gasoline and diesel CFD simulations
- Second interaction is collaboration with many universities:
  - Prof. Curran at Nat'l Univ. of Ireland on gasoline and diesel fuel components in RCM and shock tube
  - Prof. Sung's group, Univ. of Conn., and Prof. Sarathy, KAUST
- Participation in other working groups with industrial representation
  - CRC Fuels for Advanced Combustion Engines (FACE) Working group and CRC AVFL-18a (Improved diesel surrogate fuels for engine testing and kinetic modeling)



# Remaining Challenges and Barriers

- Improve accuracy of chemical kinetic mechanisms so that desired predictability needed by engine designers can be achieved
- More accurately simulate the fuel effects with changing exhaust gas recirculation (EGR), equivalence ratio, and fuel composition
- Chemical models for that accurately predict fuel blending compared to shock tube and RCM experimental data
- Predictive models for diesel surrogates, particularly new versions of diesel surrogates that can better represent diesel fuel properties
- Reduced kinetic models that work with sufficient accuracy for computational fluid dynamic (CFD) simulations of engine combustion
- Sufficient accuracy of kinetic models and other submodels needed to predict cycle-to-cycle variation in engines

# Future work

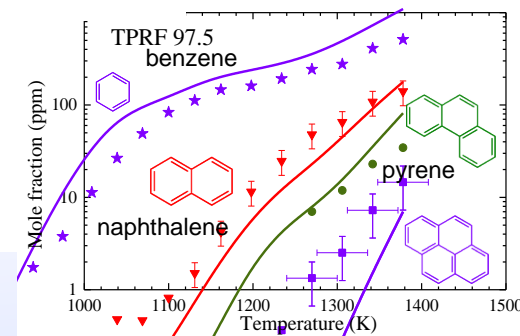
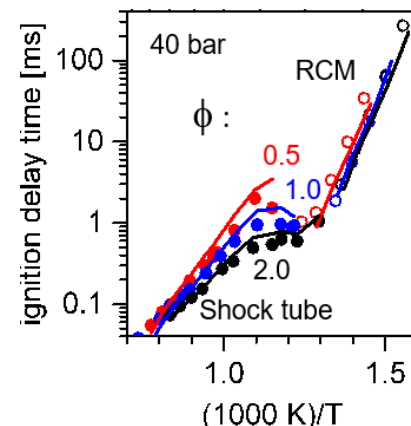
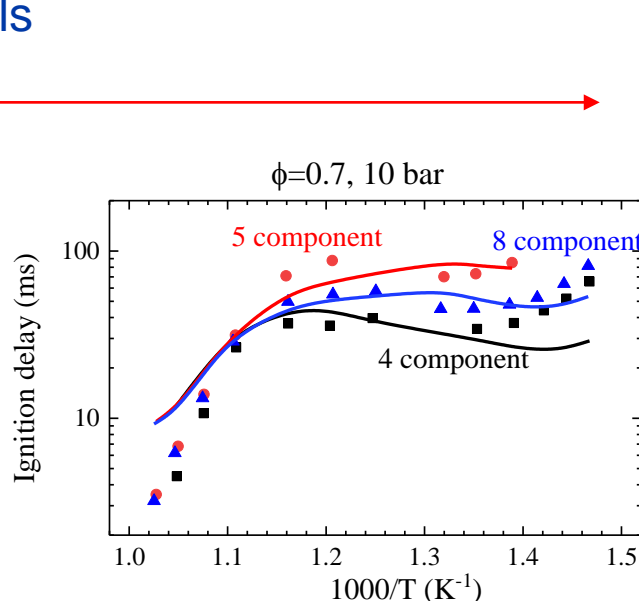
- EGR: Improve fuel surrogate kinetic models for accurate and validated predictions of autoignition with EGR over a range of temperature, pressure, and equivalence ratio relevant to engine combustion
  - Improve model behavior for flame speeds with added EGR to better simulate early flame kernel development
  - Validate kinetic models for effects of  $O_2$ ,  $H_2O$ ,  $CO_2$ ,  $NO$  in EGR
- Interface PAH model with soot model and validate compared to soot measurements from fundamental shock-tube and flame experiments, and spray-chamber combustion experiments (e.g. spray A, G).
- Develop fuel surrogate kinetic models for new components to cover volatility and reactivity range of real gasolines and diesel.

(Any proposed future work is subject to change based on funding levels)

# Detailed chemical kinetic modeling summary

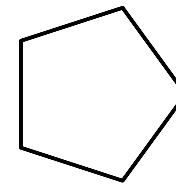
Developing fuel surrogate models for gasoline and diesel fuels to enable accurate advanced engine combustion simulations with fuel effects

- Improved component submodels
  - cyclopentane blending
  - C8 to C20 n-alkanes
  - tetralin
- Improved & validated diesel surrogate kinetic model
- Improved PAH submodel for soot modeling applications

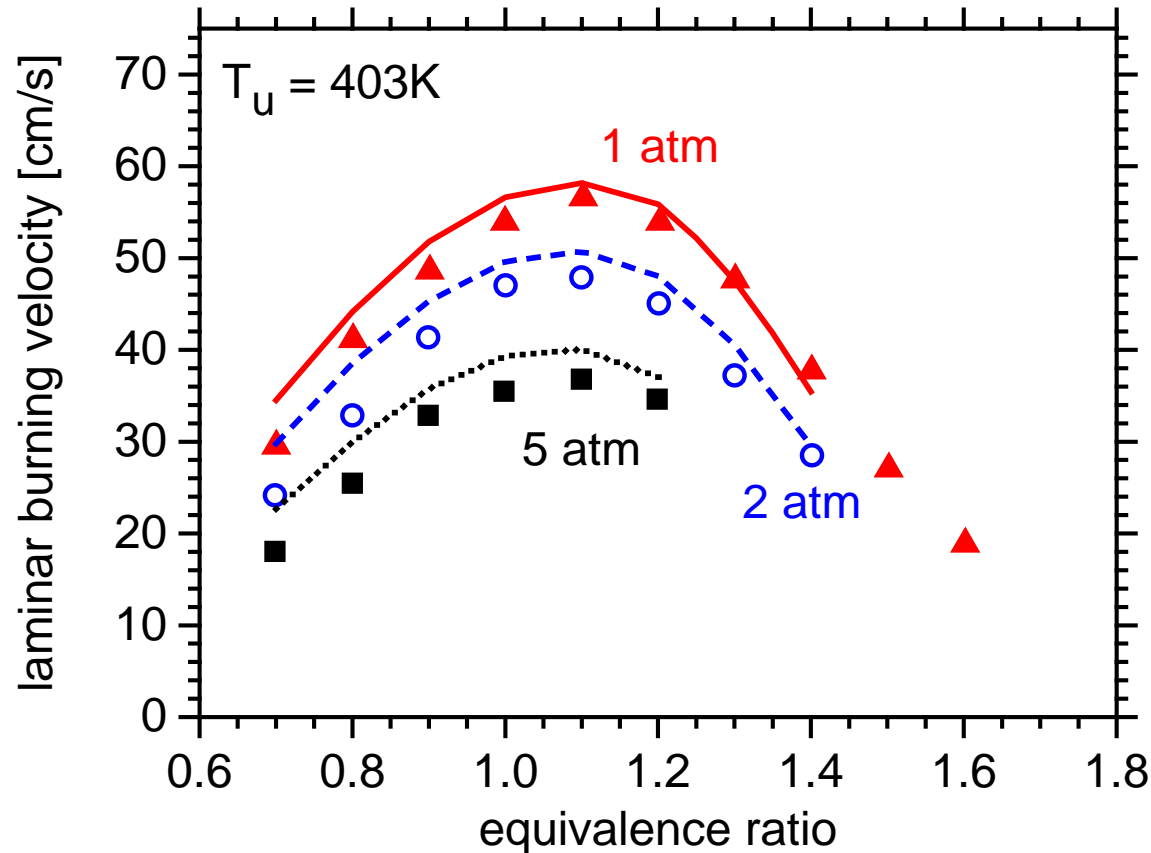


# Technical Back-Up Slides

# Improved kinetic model for cyclopentane flame speeds



Gasoline  
surrogate  
components

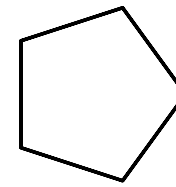


Symbols: experimental data, Zhao et al., Fuel (2018)

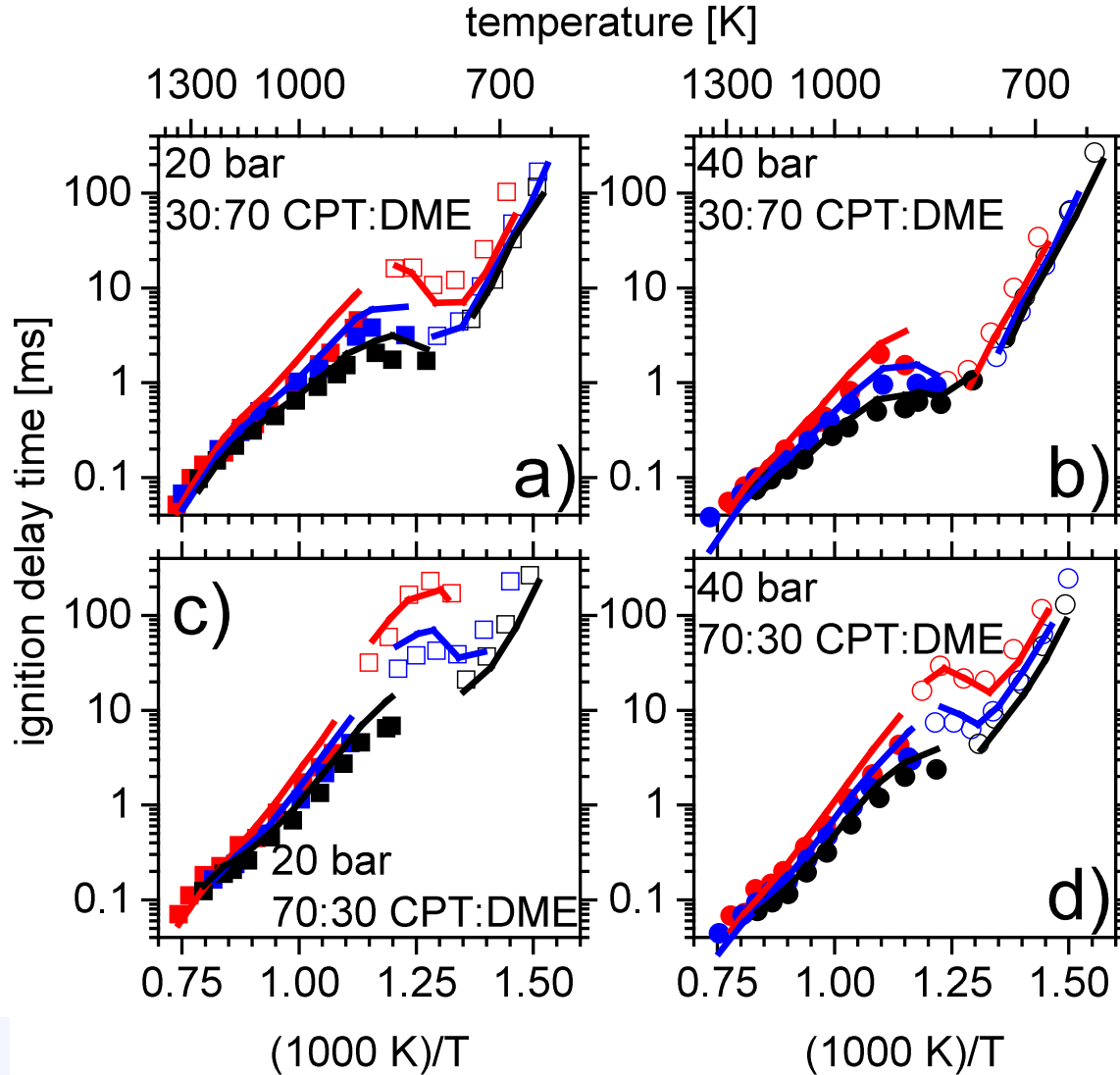
Curves: simulations, LLNL kinetic model

Important to predict flame speeds to simulate multimode engines

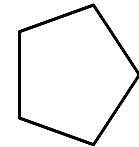
# Improved kinetic model for cyclopentane model & its blending behavior



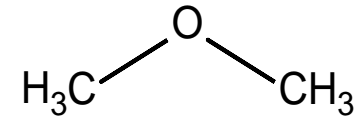
Gasoline  
surrogate  
components



Cyclopentane (CPT)



+



dimethylether (DME)

# CRC diesel surrogate fuel compositions

Palette Compound Abbrev.	V0a (4-comp.)		V0b (5-comp.)		V1 (8-comp.)		V2 (9-comp.)	
	mol %	wt %	mol %	wt %	mol %	wt %	mol %	wt %
NHXD	27.8	32.2	0	0	2.7	3.2	0	0
NOD	0	0	23.5	32.1	20.2	27.3	10.8	15.2
NEI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.8	1.2
HMN	36.3	42.0	27.0	32.8	29.2	35.1	0	0
2MHPD	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.3	10.2
NBCX	0	0	0	0	5.1	3.8	19.1	14.8
TIPCX	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.0	12.8
TDEC	14.8	10.5	0	0	5.5	4.0	0	0
PHP	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.0	6.4
TMB	0	0	12.5	8.1	7.5	4.8	0	0
TIPB	0	0	0	0	0	0	14.7	16.6
TET	0	0	20.9	14.8	15.4	10.8	16.4	12.0
1MN	21.1	15.3	16.1	12.3	14.4	10.9	13.9	10.9

C. J. Mueller, W. J. Cannella, J. T. Bays, T. J. Bruno, K. DeFabio, H. D. Dettman, R. M. Gieleciak, M. L. Huber, C.-B. Kweon, S. S. McConnell, W. J. Pitz, and M. A. Ratcliff, "Diesel Surrogate Fuels for Engine Testing and Chemical-Kinetic Modeling: Compositions and Properties," *Energy and Fuels* 30 (2), 1445-1461 (February 2016).

1,2,4 TMB: 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene

NBCX: *n*-Butylcyclohexane

TDEC: *trans*-Decalin

TET: Tetralin

1-MN: 1-Methylnaphthalene

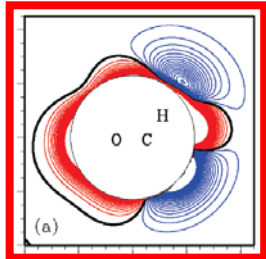
NHXD: *n*-Hexadecane

NEI: *n*-Eicosane

HMN: *iso*-Cetane (2,2,4,4,6,8,8-Heptamethylnonane)

NOD: *n*-Octadecane

# Chemical kinetic model development for practical fuels:



Ab initio calculations

Accurate  
reaction rates

Species  
thermodynamic  
properties

Reaction  
paths

Reaction rate  
rules

Detailed  
Chemical  
Kinetic Models

Application  
to engines

Model  
Reduction

Validation against  
fundamental  
combustion data

Fast Solvers



Fundamental  
Experiments



ANL, NUIG,  
UCONN, KAUST,  
UCF



LLNL - Numerics





# Fuel component and surrogate models validated and improved by comparison to fundamental experimental data

Jet Stirred Reactors

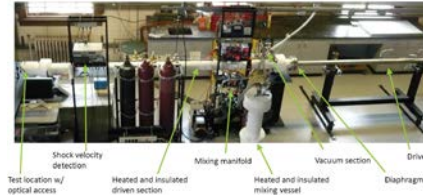


Premixed Laminar Flames



Twin premixed flames

Shock tube



## Combustion Parameters

Temperature

Pressure

Mixture fraction (air-fuel ratio)

Mixing of fuel and air

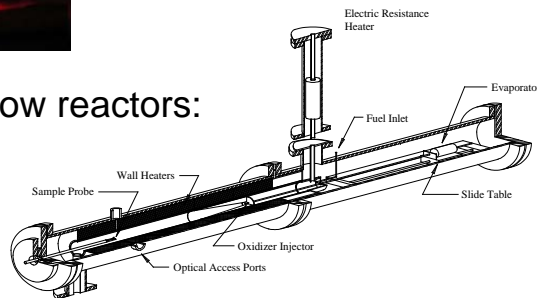
Non Premixed Flames



Rapid Compression Machine



High pressure flow reactors:



Engine  
Combustion

