



# Impact of EGR on Soot Nanostructure and Reactivity

**Khalid Al-Qurashi and André Boehman**

**Department of Energy and Geo-Environmental Engineering  
The Penn State Energy Institute  
College of Earth and Mineral Sciences  
The Pennsylvania State University**

**Sponsors:**

**National Science Foundation  
National Energy Technology Laboratory  
Saudi Ministry of Education**



## Background

- **Vander Wal et al. published in *Combustion & Flame* in 2003 and 2004 papers demonstrating: (1) differences in the structure within soot primary particles with benzene, ethanol and acetylene, and (2) particles with less ordered structure provided higher oxidative reactivity**
- **Observations of a soot nanostructure-oxidative reactivity relationship, reported at DEER 2004, evidenced by lower regeneration temperature for biodiesel (B20) blends and greater oxidation rates in TGA/DSC measurements as well as in on-engine DPF regeneration tests – what is the source of this difference in PM regeneration process and how do these soots behave during oxidation ?**
- **Extensive observations by Song and Boehman on variations in soot reactivity with alternative fuels leading to significantly different behavior for B100-derived soot, reported at DEER 2005 and published in *Combustion & Flame* 2006**



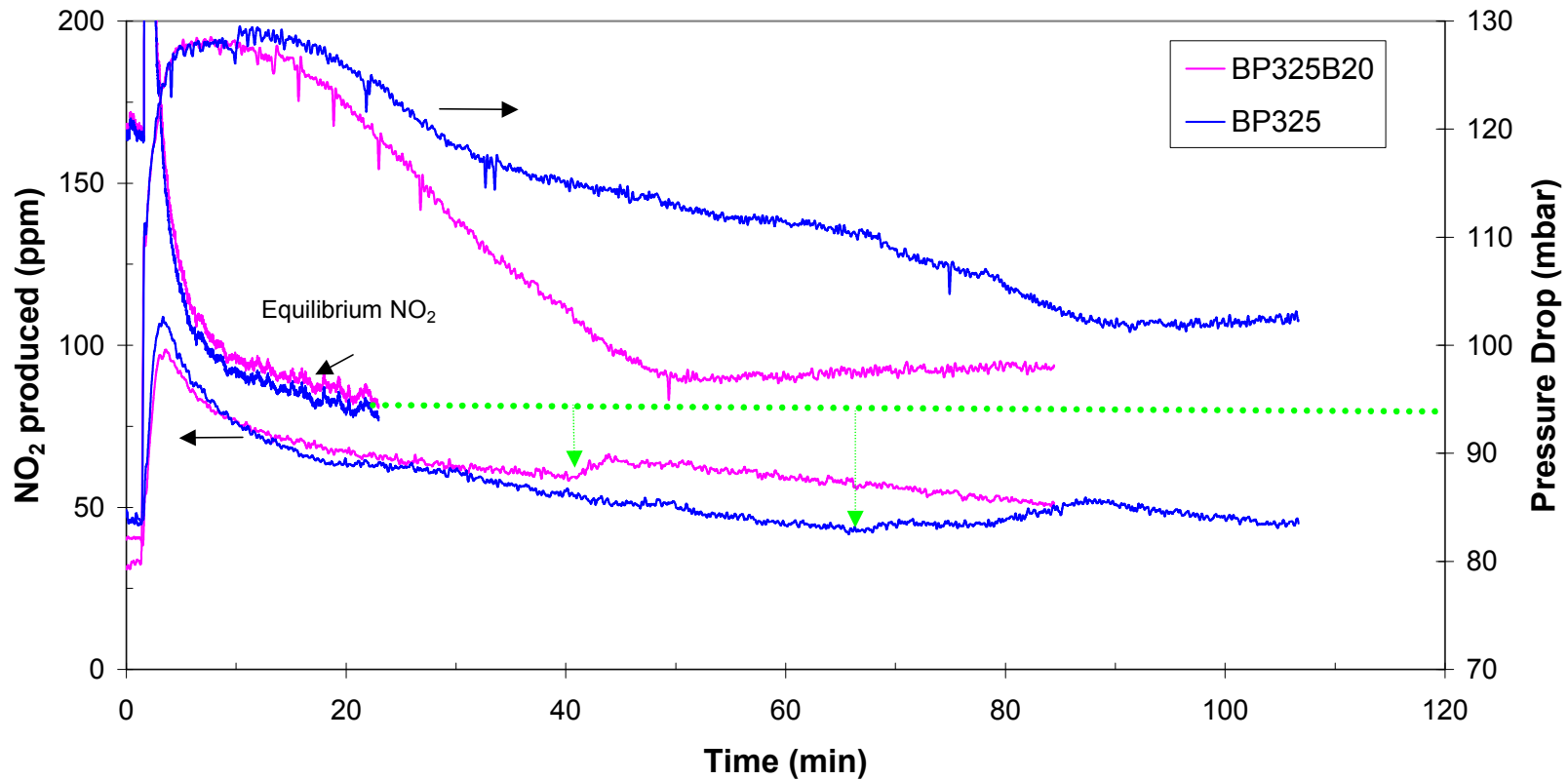
## Summary

- **Previous observations on impacts of fuel formulation on diesel soot nanostructure and reactivity**
  - ➔ **Enhanced reactivity of B100 soot arises from surface oxygen functional groups and leads to a unique oxidation process**
  - ➔ **Diesel soot (from neat F-T diesel) follows a “shrinking core” oxidation process**
- **How will EGR affect the formation and maturation of diesel soot?**
  - ➔ **Reduced temperature may affect the pool of soot precursors and alter the transition to an ordered and graphitic structure**
  - ➔ **Shift in gas composition from EGR (less O<sub>2</sub> and more CO<sub>2</sub>) may exert chemical effects on the soot formation process**
  - ➔ **i.e., three effects may be present – thermal, chemical and dilution**



# Fuel Composition Effects on Emissions

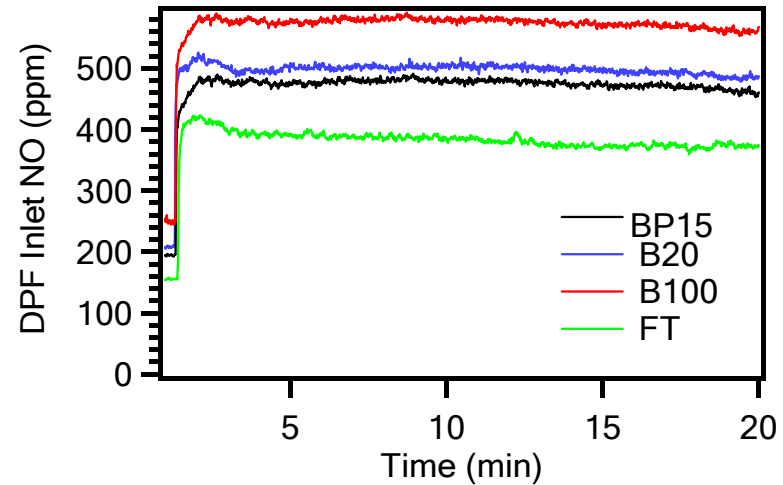
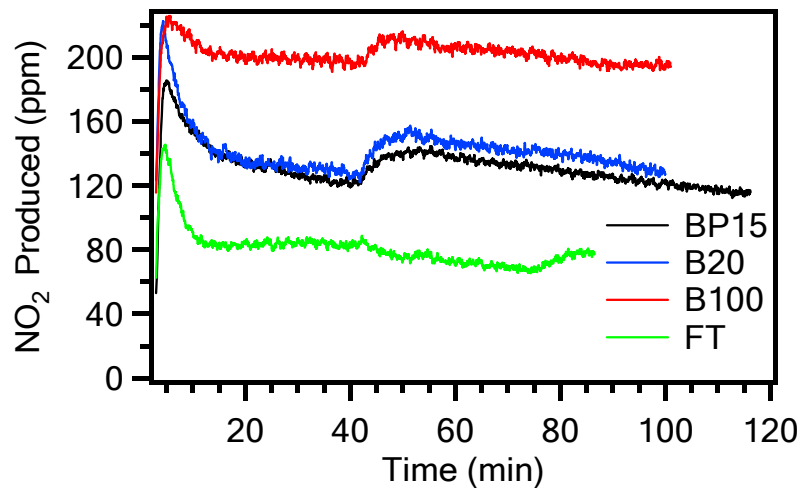
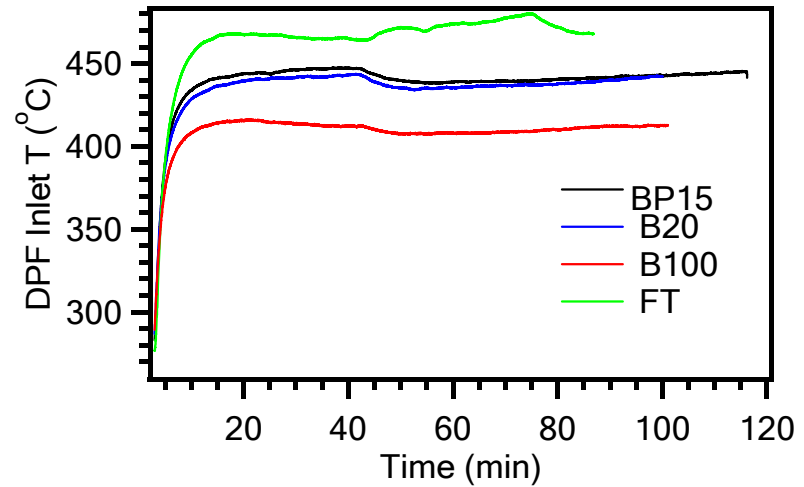
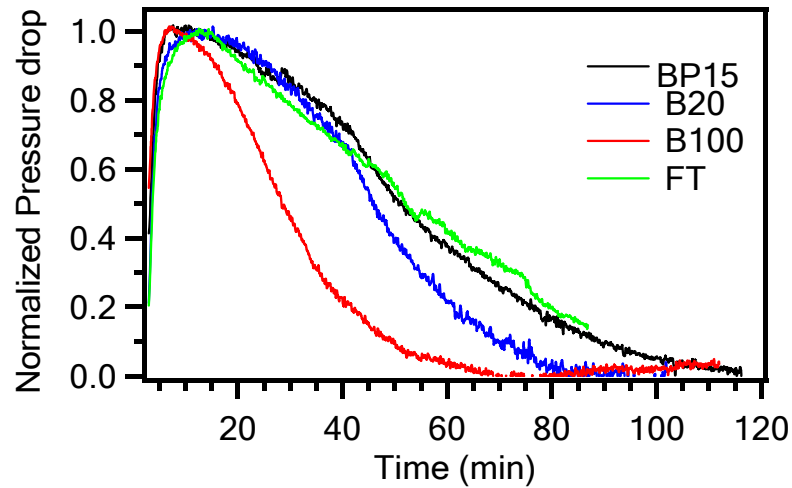
## BP-325 and BP-325/B20 Test Fuels in a High Temp Regeneration



**Initial observation of soot reactivity enhancement with biodiesel**



## High Temperature Regeneration ( from 280 to 450 °C)

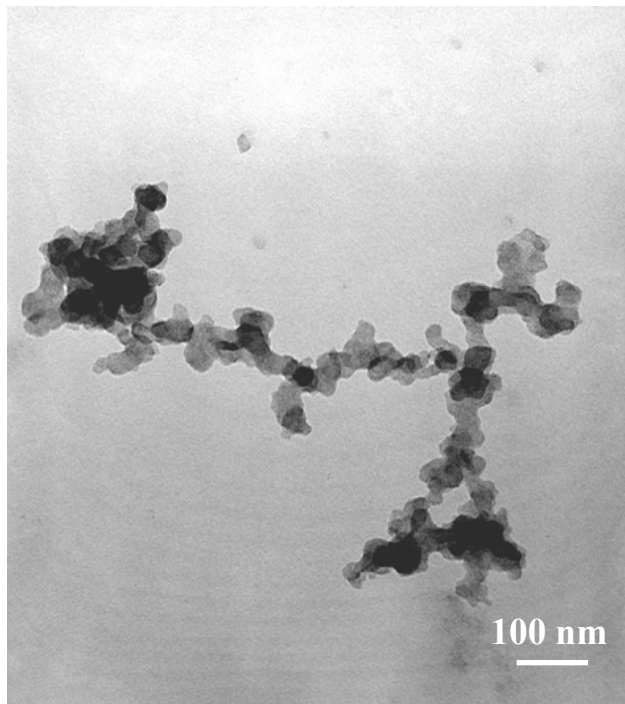


Follow-up observations with neat biodiesel and F-T

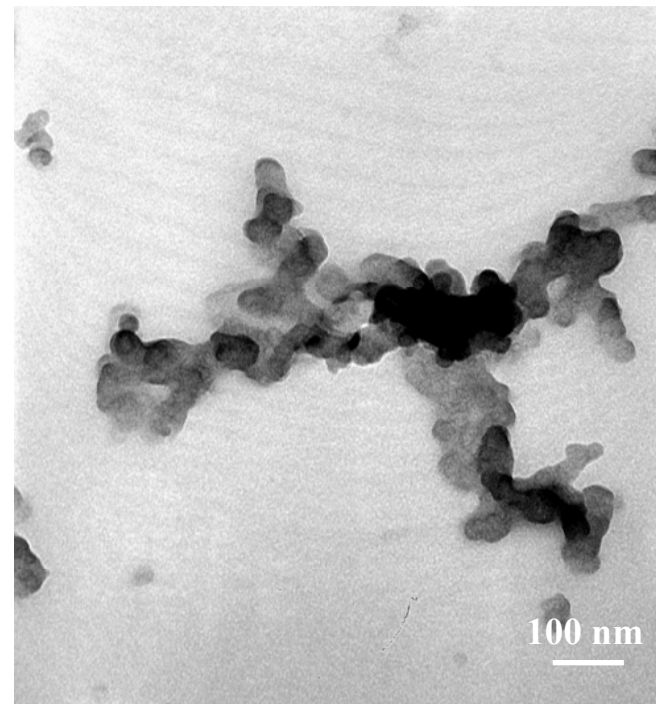


# Variation in Heavy Hydrocarbon Fraction

## Soot Morphology



(c) BP15 Derived PM

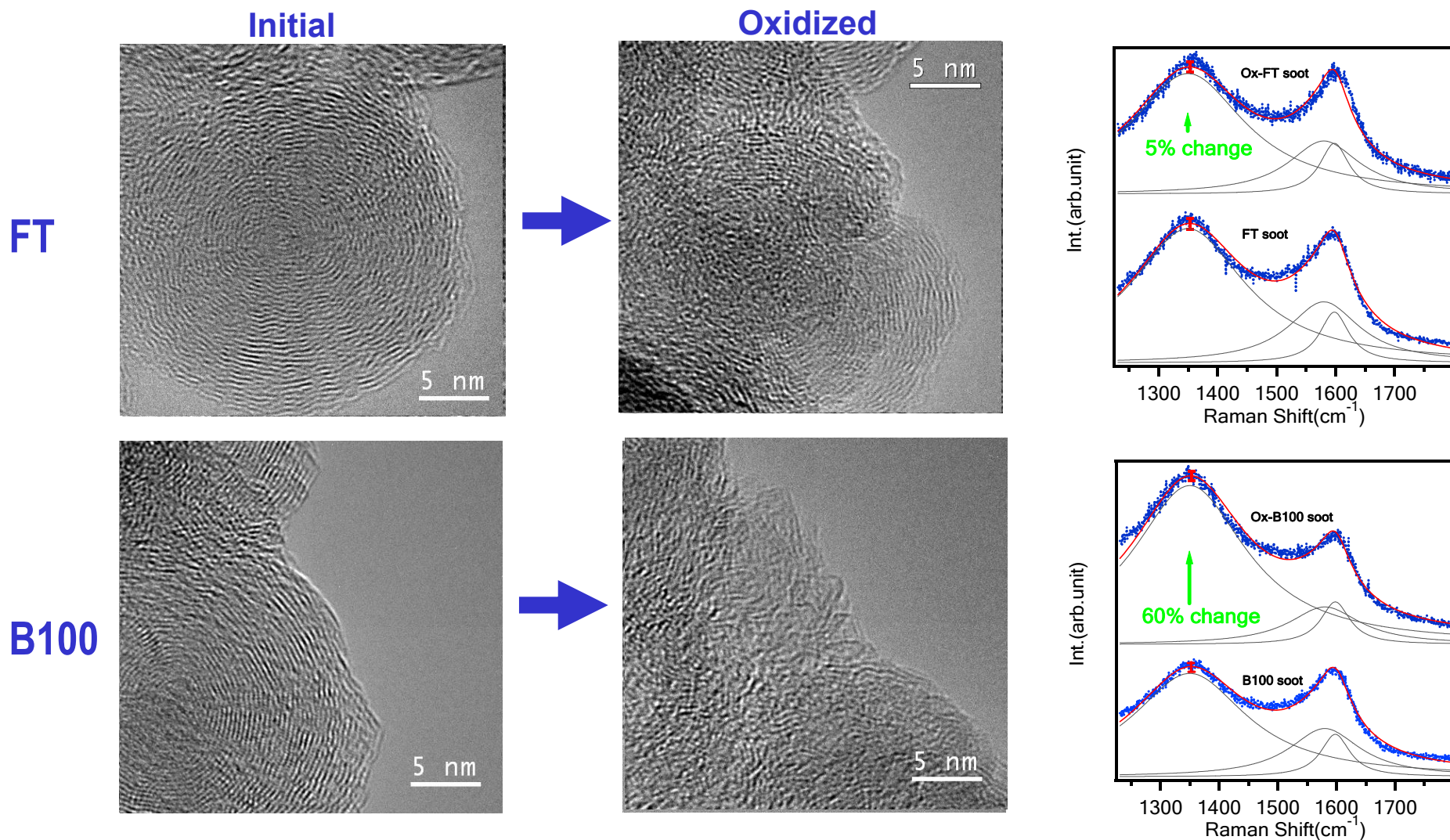


(d) BP15B20 Derived PM





## Structural Change During Early Stage of Oxidation (30min)





## Summary

- **B100 soot results in capsule type oxidation through internal burning, leading to a more ordered layer arrangement**
- **FT100 soot undergoes surface burning and less layer rearrangement than B100 soot, even at 75% burn off**
- **Early dramatic changes in inner structure and subsequent hollowing out of primary particles is a crucial factor in enhancing oxidation**
- **Surface reactivity involved in the early stage oxidation also seems to be responsible for a layer arrangement at later stage**





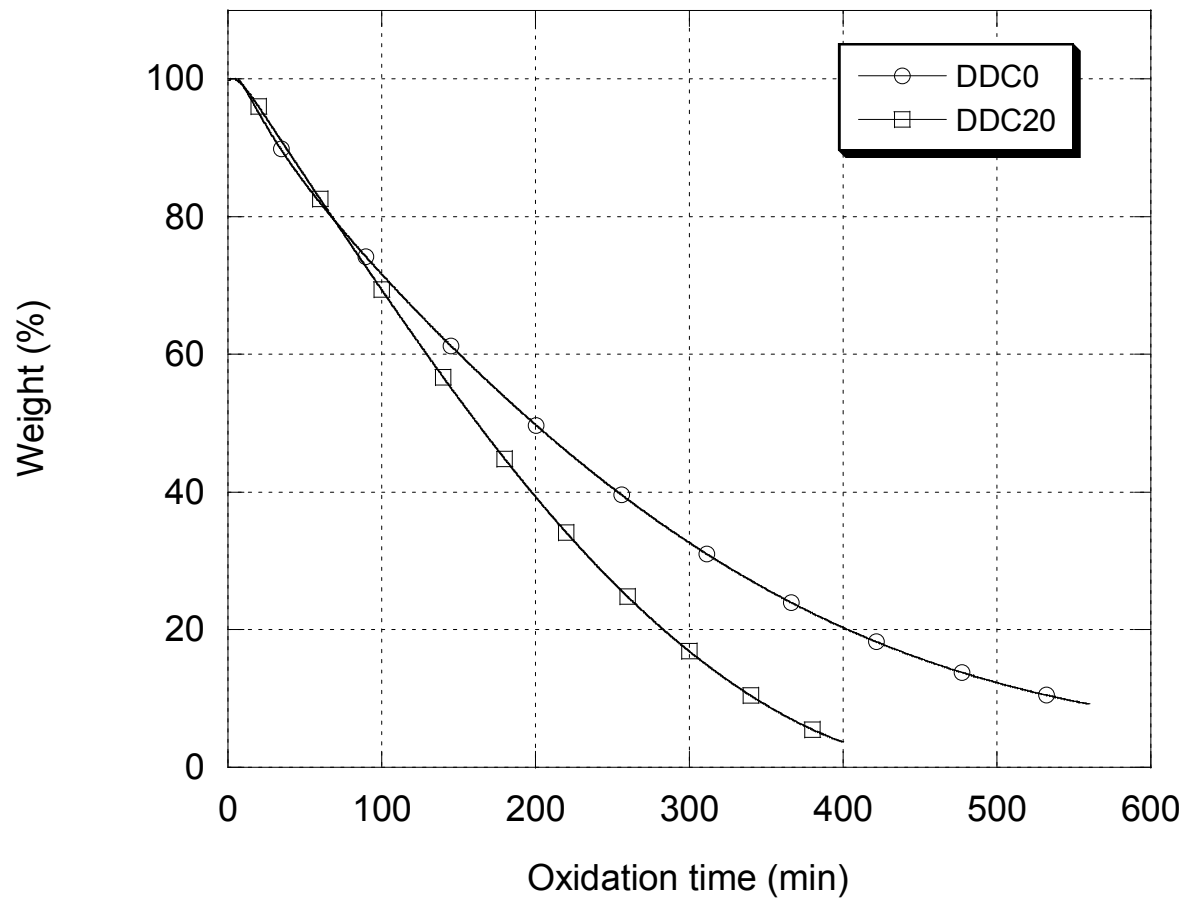
## Approach for Examination of the Impact of EGR

- **Examined the impact of EGR and “simulated EGR” in three different experimental systems**
  - ➔ **Co-flow laminar ethylene diffusion flame (a Santoro burner)**
  - ➔ **Yanmar LA70 5.8 hp DI naturally aspirated diesel engine**
  - ➔ **DDC/VM Motori 2.5L, 4 cyl, 16 valve, common rail diesel engine (referred to here as “DDC” engine)**
- **Focus in this presentation is on the 2.5L engine results**
  - ➔ **Impact of simulated EGR (dry CO<sub>2</sub> injection in the intake)**
  - ➔ **Impact of 20% EGR**
  - ➔ **Examined soot structure, reactivity and oxidation kinetics**



# Impact of EGR on Soot Oxidation Rate

2.5L VM Motori/DDC Turbodiesel, 1600 rpm, 60 lb-ft





# Changes in Active Surface Area with “EGR”

Soot Symbol	Soot Origin	Amount of Chemisorbed Oxygen	
		Oxygen Uptake (g <sub>oxygen</sub> / g <sub>soot</sub> )	ASA <sub>i</sub> (m <sup>2</sup> / g)
F0	Diffusion flame (0% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.00704	22.0
F15	Diffusion flame (15% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.0144	45.0
S0	Yanmar engine (0% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.00544	17.0
S8	Yanmar engine (8% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.01056	33.0
DDC0	DDC engine (0% EGR)	0.00352	11.0
DDC20	DDC engine (20% EGR)	0.00832	26.0

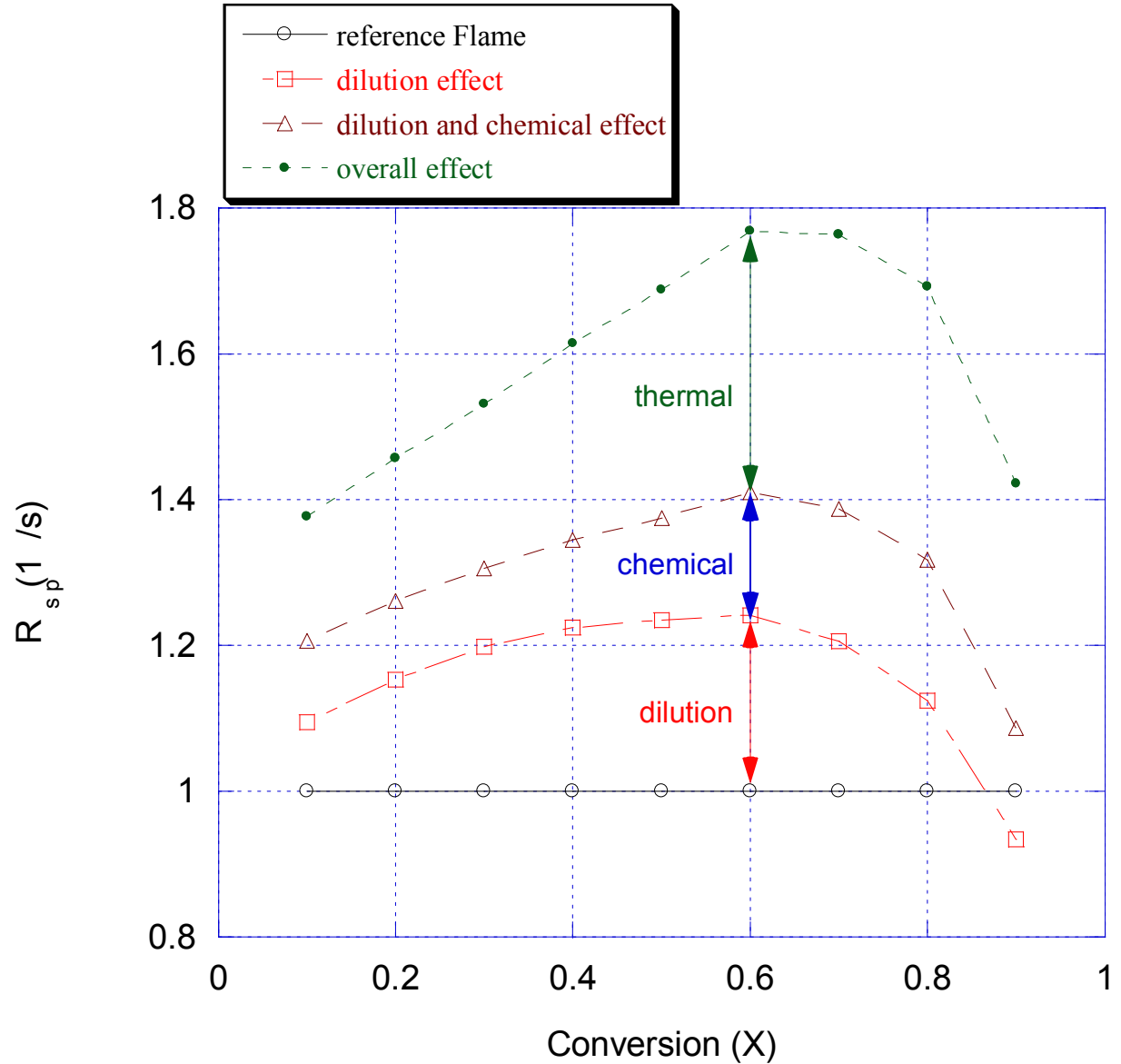


Deconvoluting the competing effects of "EGR" by combination of CO<sub>2</sub> and Ar addition to an ethylene diffusion flame

- ➔ Thermal
- ➔ Dilution
- ➔ Chemical

Relative impact on oxidative reactivity

thermal > dilution >> chemical

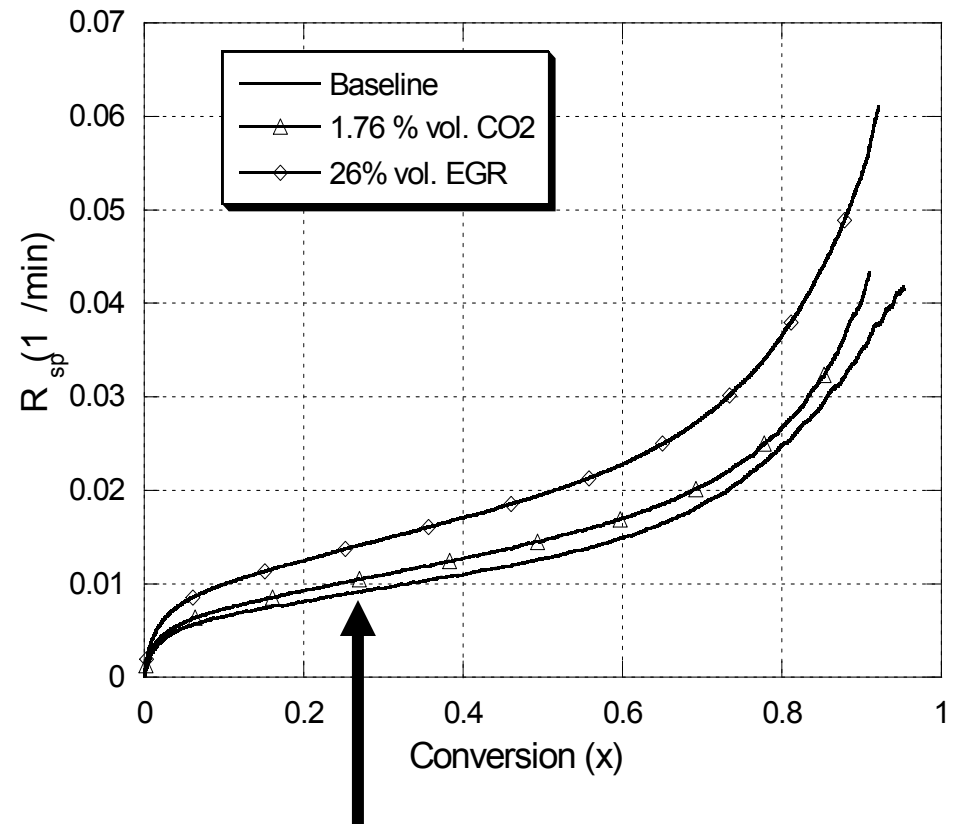




# Chemical Impact on Soot Oxidation Rate

Comparing 1.76% CO<sub>2</sub> Addition vs. 26% EGR

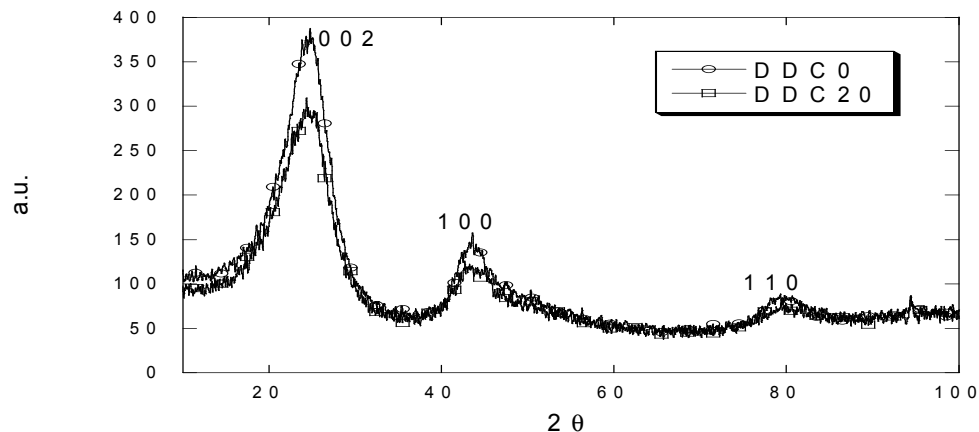
Engine Speed	1500 rpm	
Engine Torque	50 lb-ft.	
Start of Pilot Injection (°BTDC)	31	
Start of Main Injection(°BTDC)	-3	
Intake Gas Temperature (°C)	0% EGR	38
	CO <sub>2</sub> Addition	36
	EGR	78
Exhaust Temperature (°C)	0% EGR	215
	CO <sub>2</sub> Addition	212
	EGR	241



Chemical effect (from CO<sub>2</sub>) is small, confirming the flame results



XRD spectra



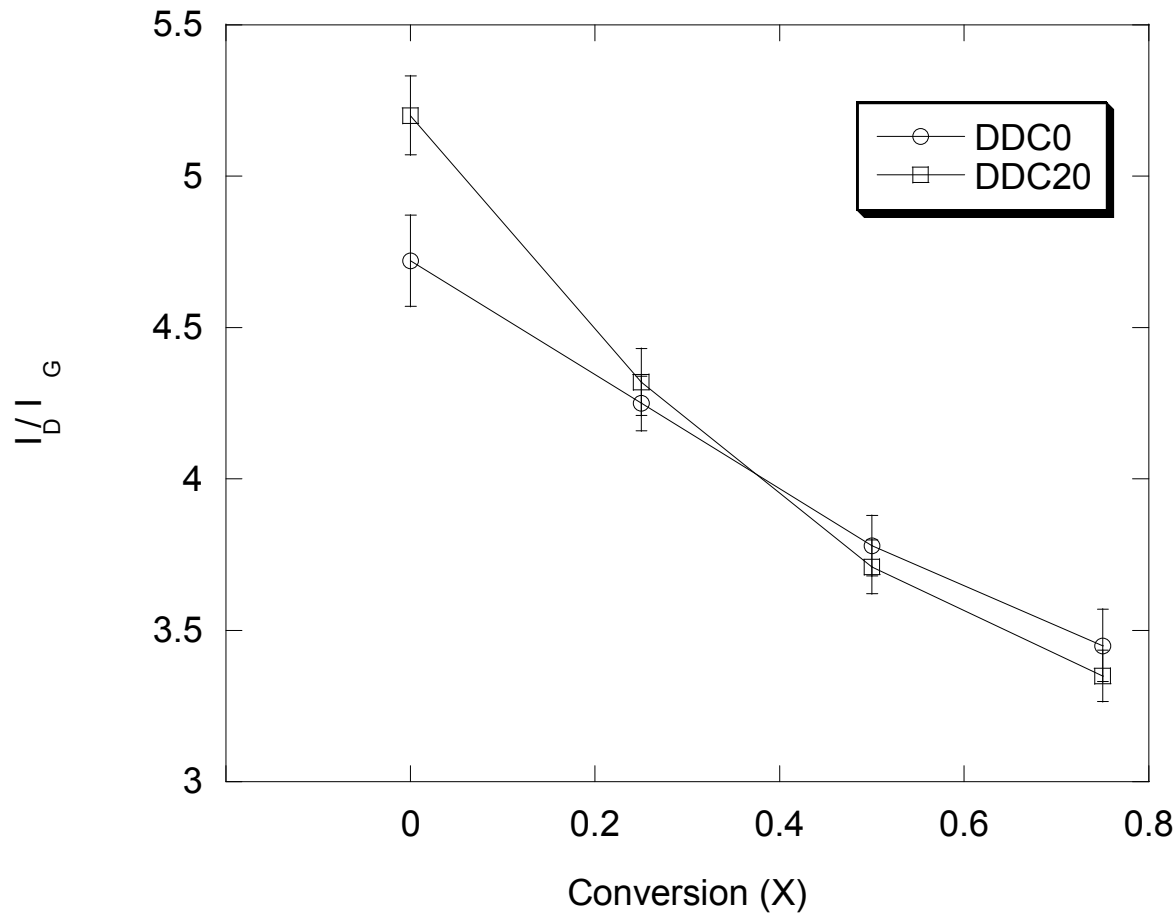
Structural characteristics from the XRD spectra

Soot Symbol	Soot Origin	$d_{002}$ (nm)	$L_c$ (nm)	$L_a$ (nm)	k (layers)	R
F0	Diffusion flame (0% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.356	1.321	2.587	~ 5	4.01
F15	Diffusion flame (15% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.358	1.183	2.049	~ 4	3.01
Y0	Yanmar engine (0% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.355	1.237	3.030	~ 5	4.68
Y8	Yanmar engine (8% CO <sub>2</sub> )	0.357	1.213	2.477	~ 4	4.22
DDC0	DDC engine (0% EGR)	0.349	1.345	2.919	~ 5	4.56
DDC20	DDC engine (20% EGR)	0.351	1.207	2.526	~ 4	3.97

Indicates more edge sites which means higher reactivity ↑



2.5L VM Motori/DDC Turbodiesel, 1600 rpm, 60 lb-ft

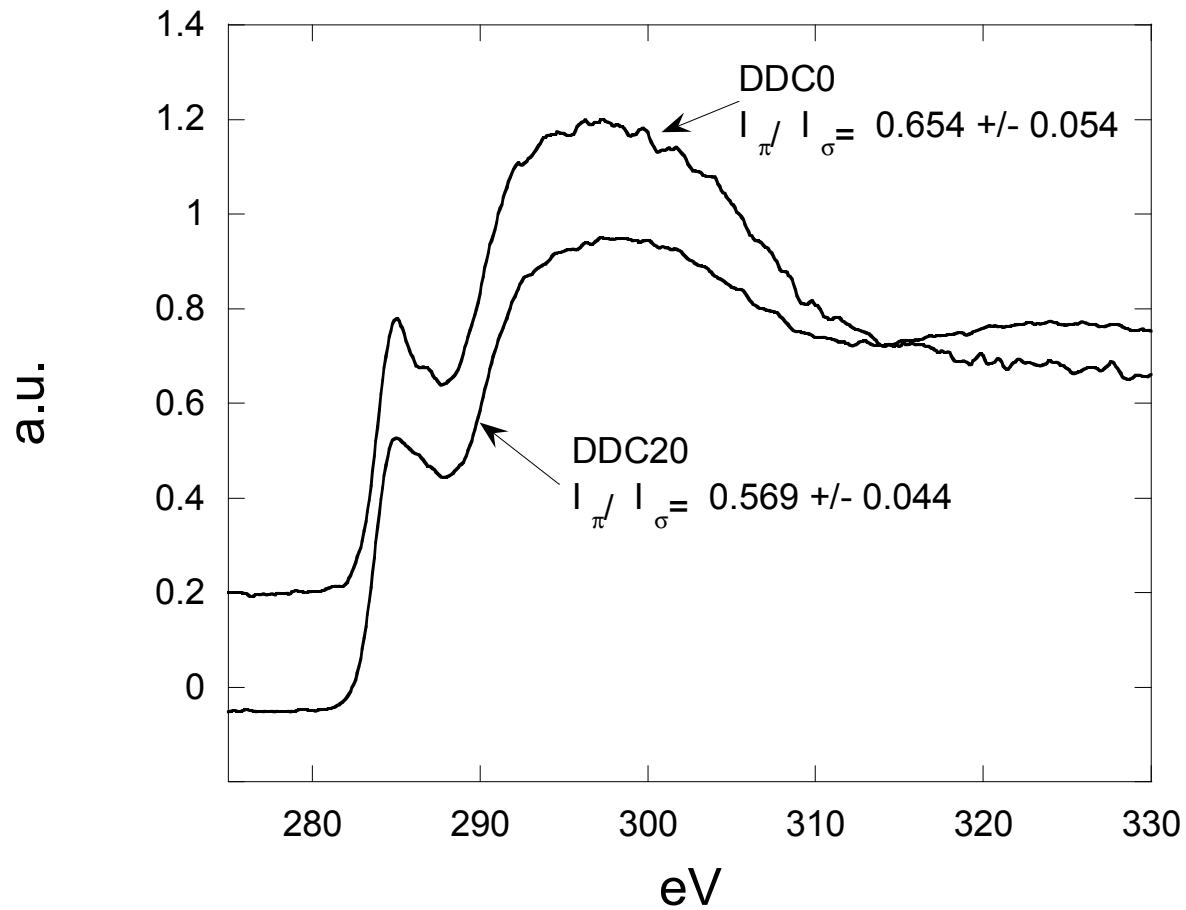


No clear trend with extent of oxidation





2.5L VM Motori/DDC Turbodiesel, 1600 rpm, 60 lb-ft

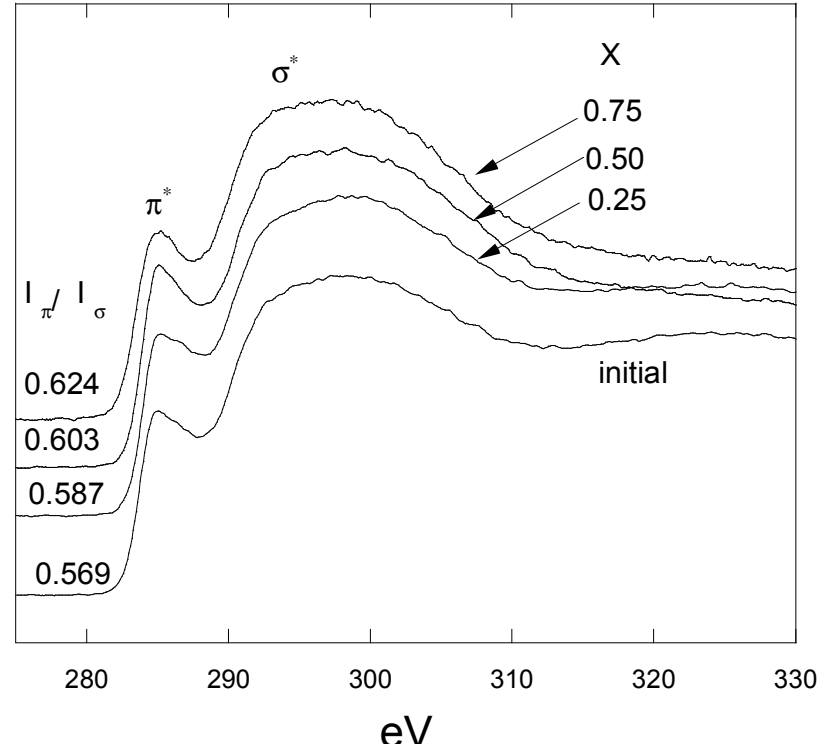
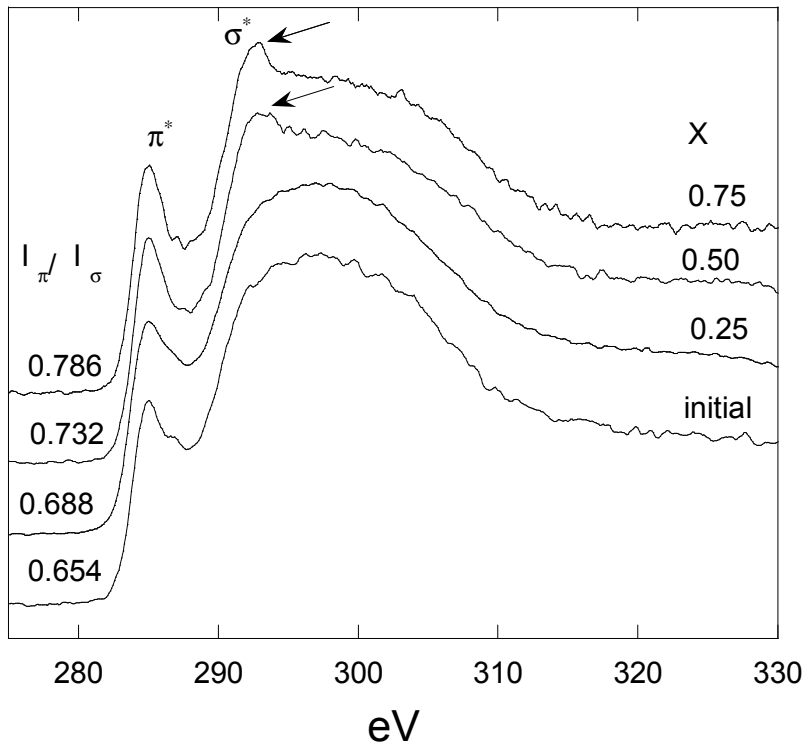


Initial difference in the  $\pi$  peak indicates greater disorder in the EGR soot



# EELS Analysis of Oxidized Soot Structure

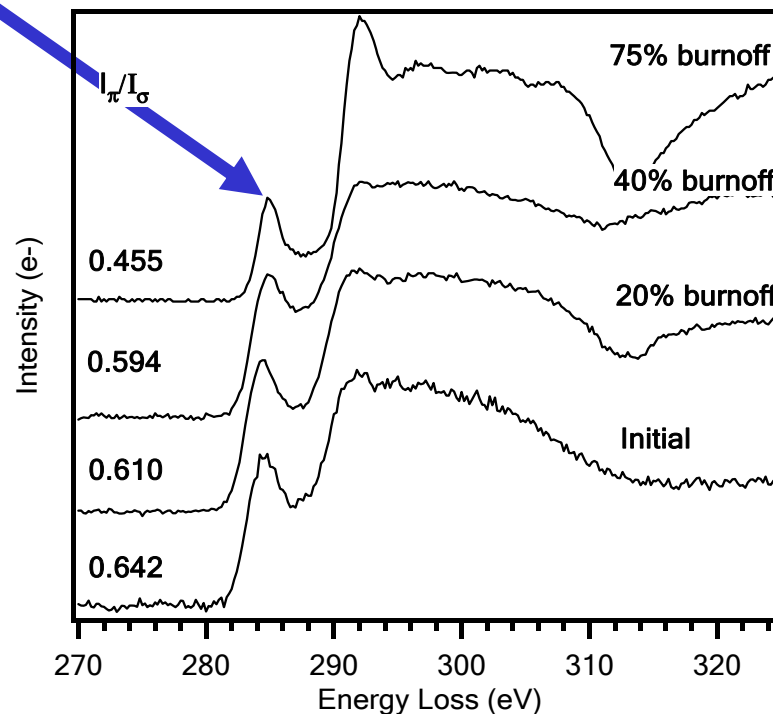
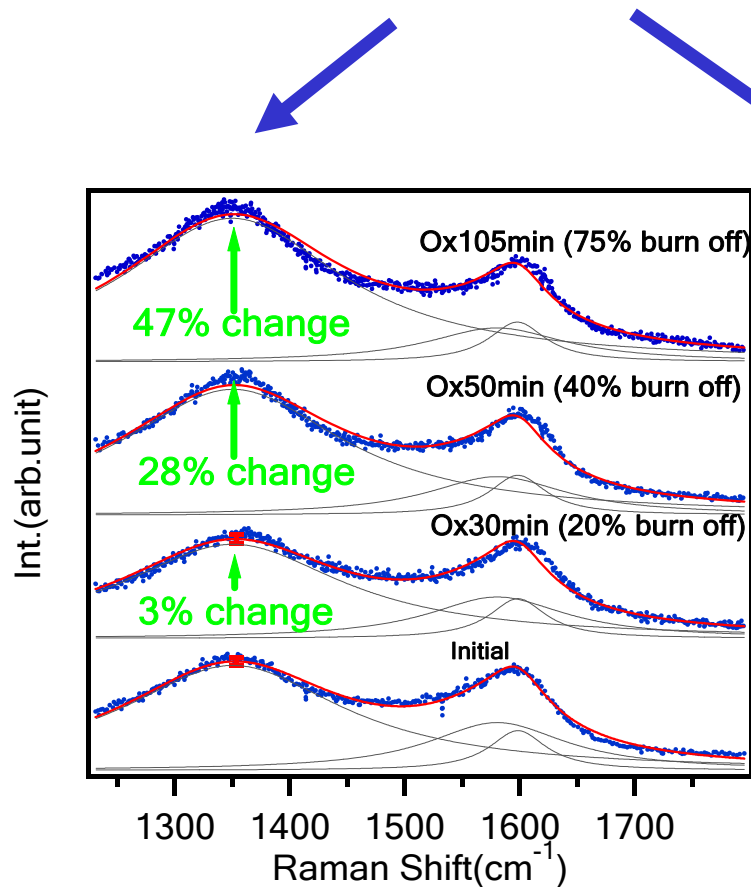
2.5L VM Motori/DDC Turbodiesel, 1600 rpm, 60 lb-ft



Presence of  $\sigma^*$  peak in 0% EGR soot indicates graphitization of the 0% EGR soot during oxidation



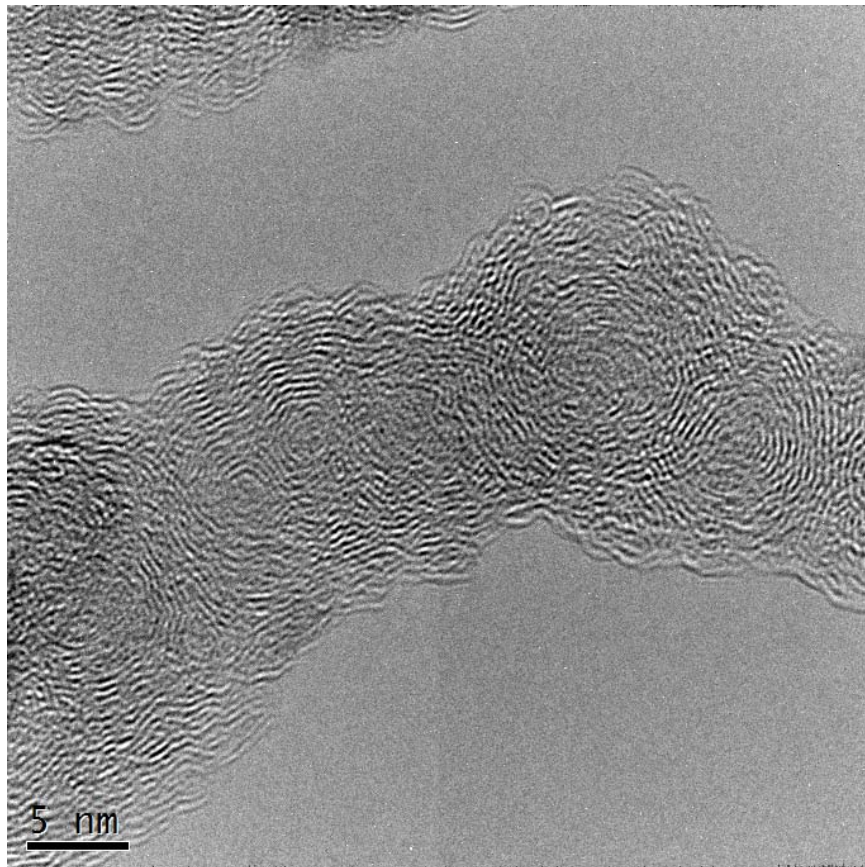
Gradual increase in D band and decrease in relative ratio of graphitic peak suggesting a tendency toward disordered state



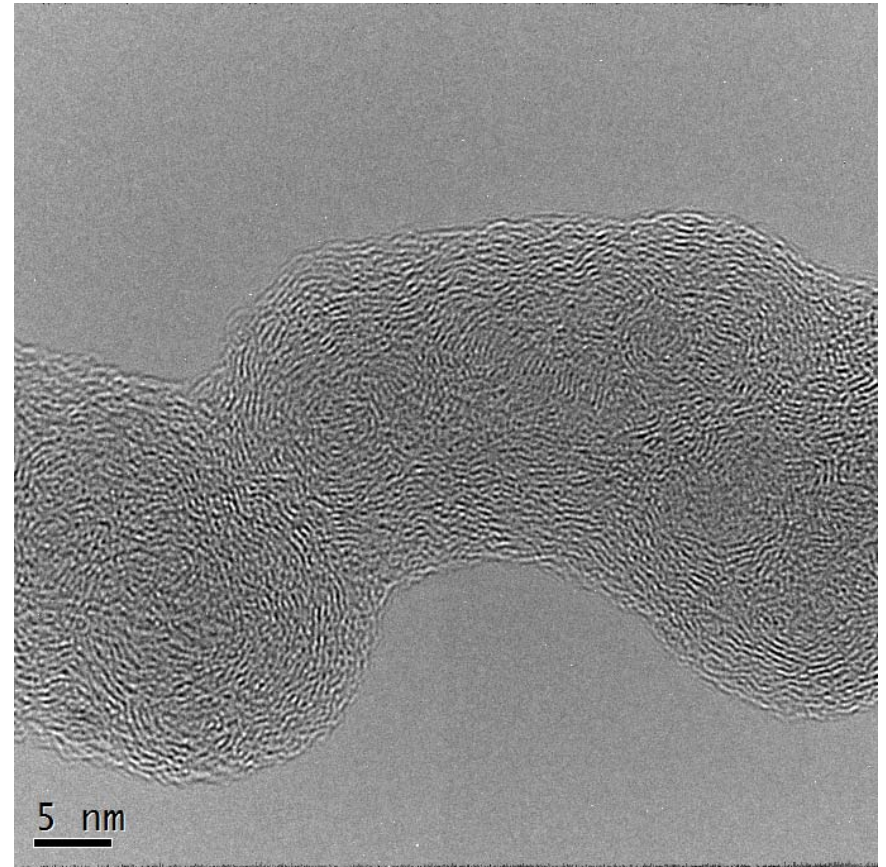
From previous analyses of FT100 soot (DEER 2005)



## Electron Microscopy of Initial Soot Nanostructure

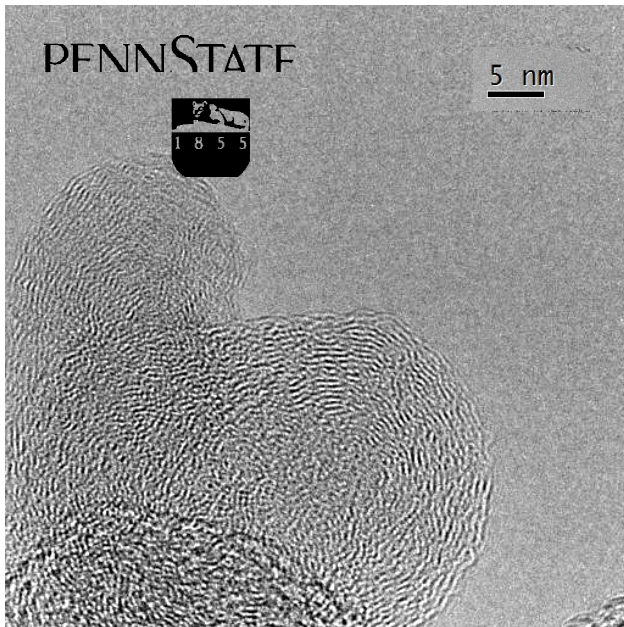


**(a) BP15 Derived Soot  
(Yanmar Engine)  
without CO<sub>2</sub>**

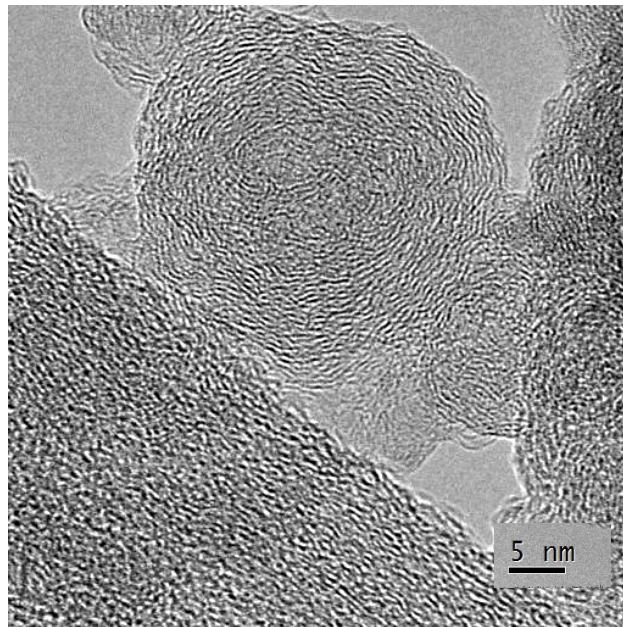


**(b) BP15 Derived Soot  
(Yanmar Engine)  
with CO<sub>2</sub>**

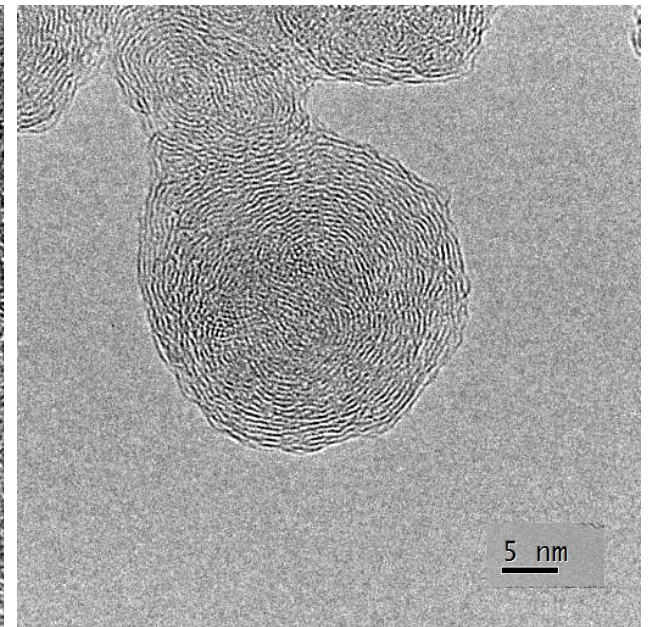




0%EGR - 0BO

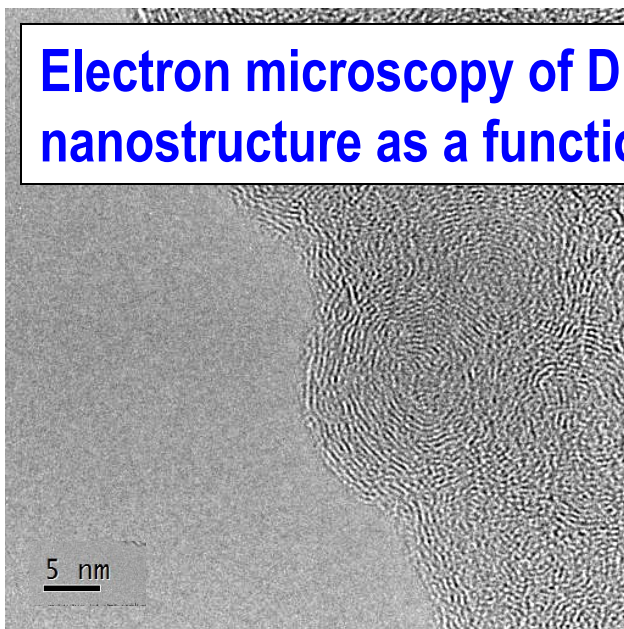


0%EGR-25BO

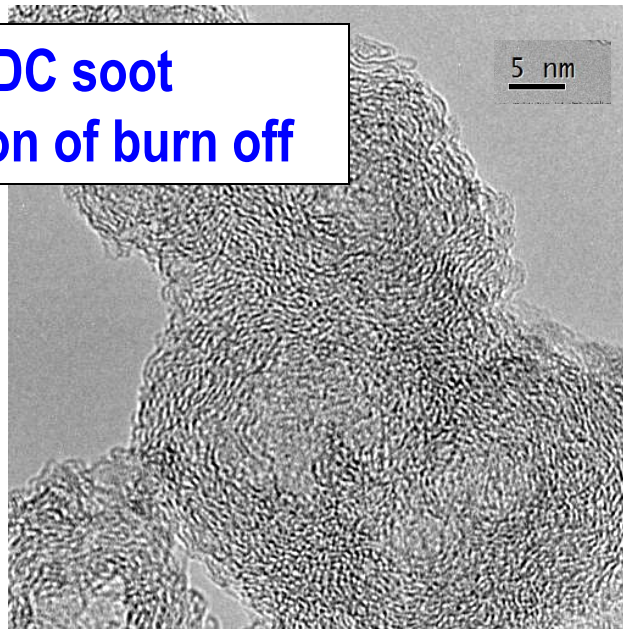


0%EGR-75BO

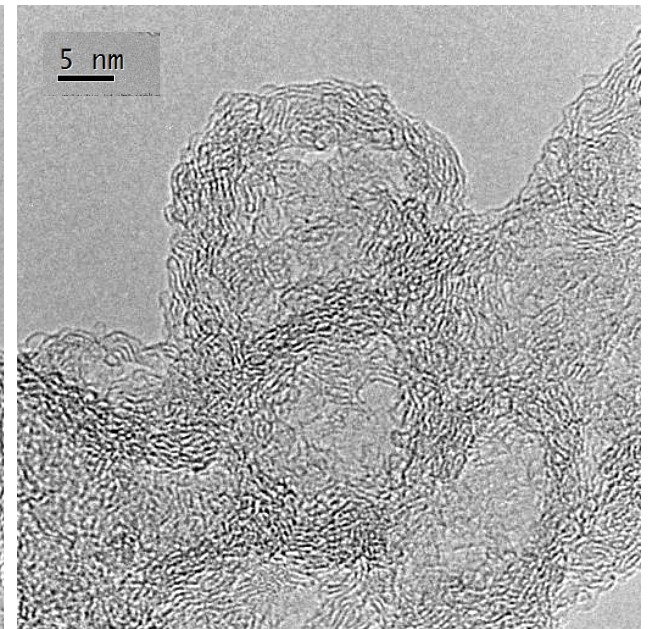
**Electron microscopy of DDC soot nanostructure as a function of burn off**



20%EGR - 0BO

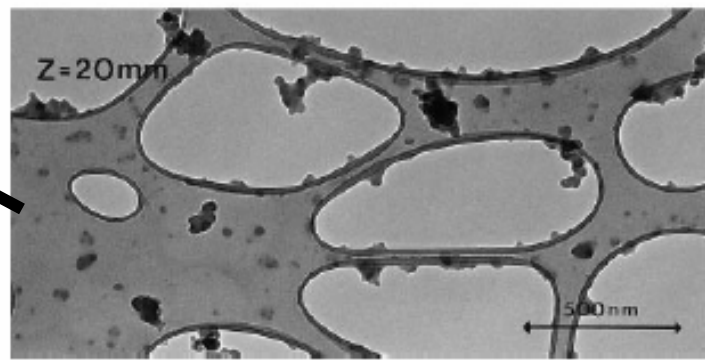
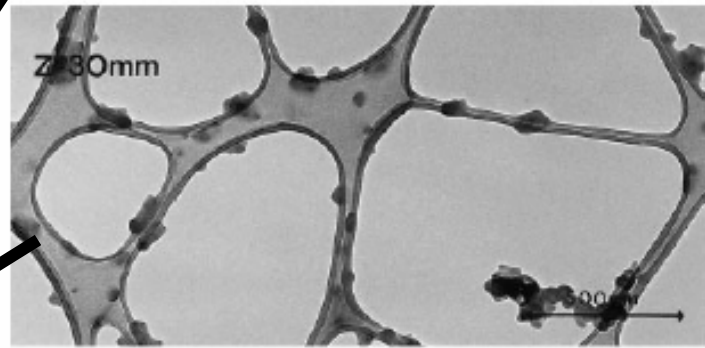
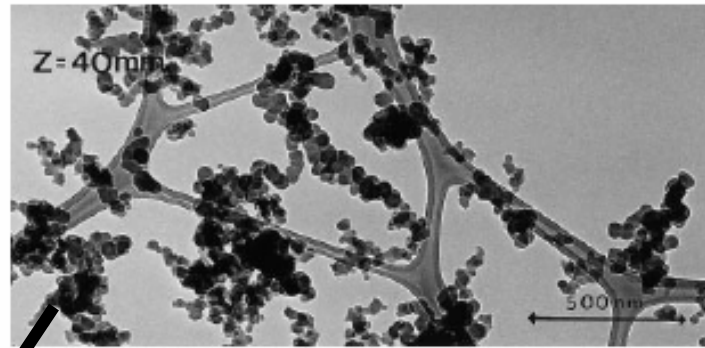
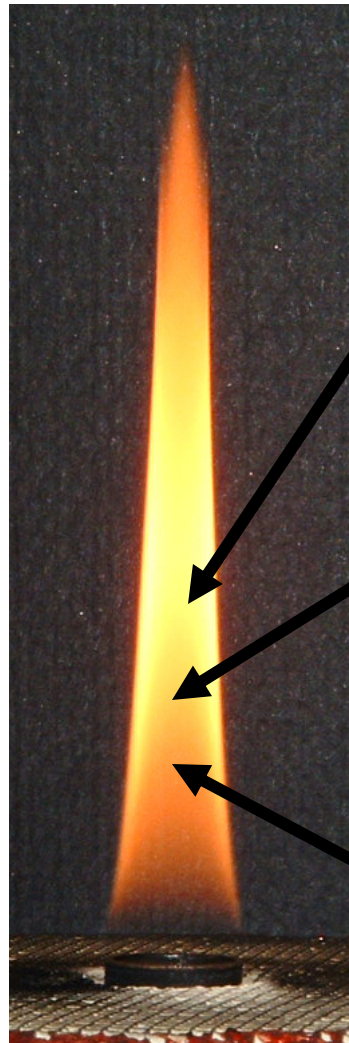


20%EGR - 25BO



20%EGR - 75BO

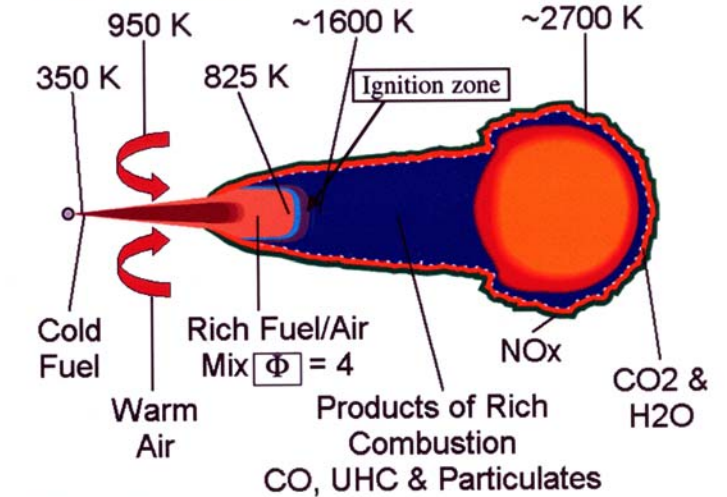




R. A. Dobbins

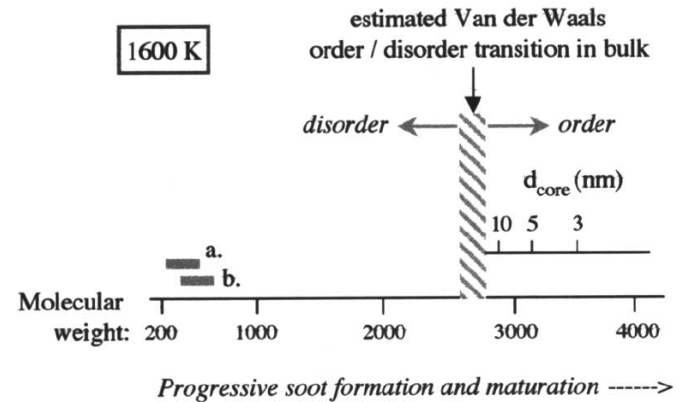
Fig. 1. Micrographs of particulate material captured on lacy carbon grids sampled from the centerline of the ethene diffusion flame. The transition from precursor particles to soot aggregates occurs between  $Z = 30$  and  $40$  mm.

Temperatures



Chemistry

C. K. Westbrook



R.H. Hurt



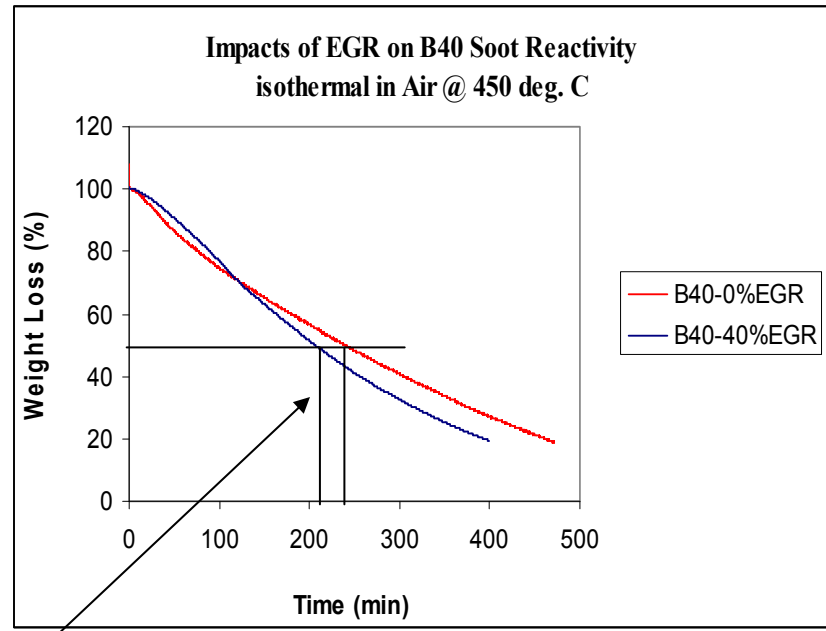
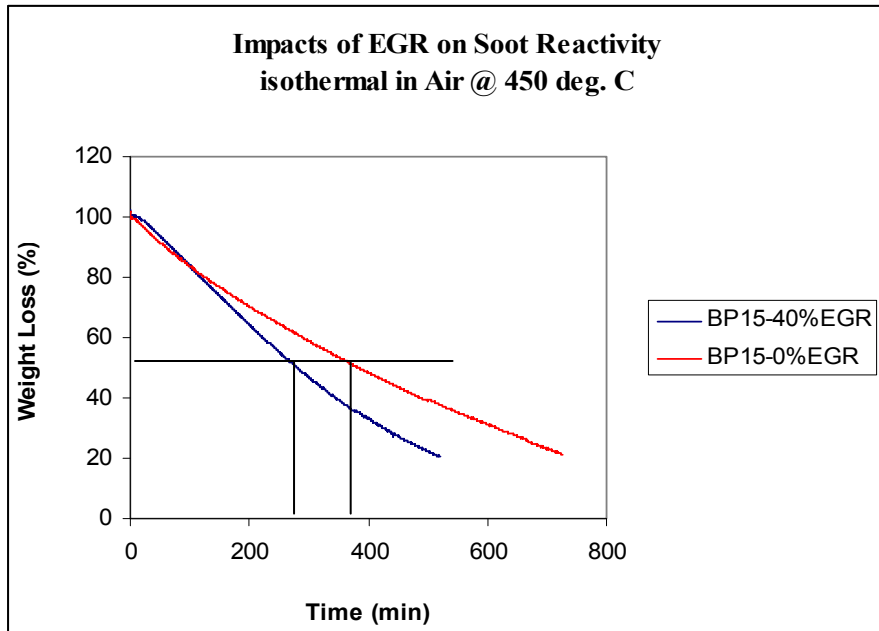
## Conclusions

- EGR yields a less ordered initial soot nanostructure and enhanced reactivity due to a greater population of active sites for oxygen chemisorption
- The effect of EGR and simulated EGR is consistent between soot samples from ethylene diffusion flames and various diesel engines
- Raman spectroscopy alone may not be sufficient to clearly identify trends in soot structure as a function of extent of oxidation, but a combination of XRD, Raman and EELS can provide a detailed picture of variations in soot nanostructure
- (Not shown here but presented at the Fall 2006 Biodiesel Technical Workshop) The effects of EGR and Biodiesel on soot reactivity are additive! Both enhance reactivity



# Impact of EGR on Diesel Soot Reactivity

Low Load Condition ( Indicated Pilot SOI: 25° BTDC, Indicated Main SOI: -2° BTDC)



Shortest time to reach 50% burnoff for B40+EGR

**B40 and EGR Combined to Enhance of Soot Reactivity: B40+EGR > BP15+EGR ~ B40 > BP15**



## Acknowledgment and Disclaimers

- project manager) of National Science Foundation Grant
- 
- ation and Umm Al-Qura University
- Ryan Harrier and Keith Cavallini of CAV Engineering
- Barry Dobar and Diana Dupuie of VM Motori NA
- Yu Zhang, Vince Zello, Dr. Joe Kulik (MRI) and Prof. John Badding (Dept. of Chemistry) of Penn State University
- This presentation was prepared with partial support from the U.S. Department of Energy under Contract No. Grant DE-FC26-03NT418 28. The Government reserves for itself and others acting on its behalf a royalty-free, nonexclusive, irrevocable, worldwide license for Governmental purposes to publish, distribute, translate, duplicate, exhibit, and perform this copyrighted paper.