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A KINETIC MODELING STUDY OF MIXTURES OF METHYL-ESTERS WITH ALCOHOL FUELS

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OBJECTIVE

Aim of this work is to discuss and verify the ability of a lumped kinetic model of methyl-esters to simulate the oxidation and combustion of mixtures of these components with alcohol fuels on a wide range of operating conditions.

Approach

The kinetic scheme is developed with a modular and hierarchical approach.



KINETIC SCHEME FEATURES

Simplification Methods

We use the lumped reduction method and the lever rule to decrease the number of species.



Pro's

- Kinetic model results more flexible and reliable over a wide range of operating conditions.
- It needs only few species for each fuel.
- The simplified structure permits to decrease the computational effort compared with detailed models.
- It is relativily simple to extend the methyl butanoate kinetic mechanism up to larger methyl esters.

METHYL DECANOATE'S KINETIC SCHEME

Development

Wide Range Validation

PRIMARY SCHEME (extension from MB scheme)







MODEL VALIDATION ON METHYL ESTERS-ALCOHOLS MIXTURE

CONDITIONS: JSR, P=10 atm, τ =0.7 s, T=560-1200 K, ϕ =0.5-2.

INLET FUEL: 80/20 and 50/50 Ester/Alcohol, 1% Methyl Ester.

Methyl Octanoate-Ethanol

Methyl Octanoate-Butanol





METHYL EPTANOATE OXIDATION OXIDATION (as 2/3 MB and 1/3 MD (as 1/2 MB and 1/2 MD mixture) mixture)



CONCLUSIONS

Despite the lumped approach and the use of the lever rule to emulate the combustion behavior of methyl octanoate, the proposed kinetic mechanism generally represents fairly well the experimental measurements of biodiesel-alcohol surrogate fuels. The present validation of the kinetic model of methyl-esters for the intermediate methyl octanoate lays the bases for its reasonable extension to the heavier methyl esters, real bio-fuels components.

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