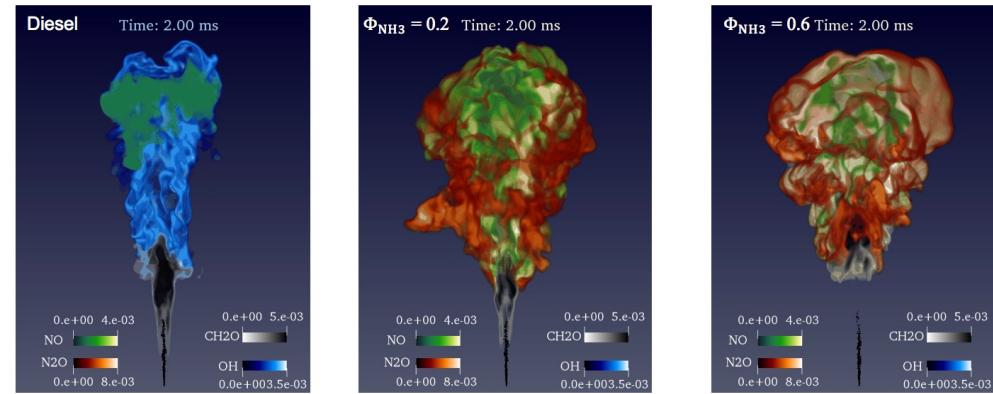




## Concepts of Ammonia/Hydrogen Engines for Marine Application – CFD modeling

Nordic Maritime Transport and Energy Research Programme  
Workshop, April 20-21, 2022



Xue-Song Bai, Leilei Xu, Mark Treacy, Lund University

[www.fm.energy.lth.se](http://www.fm.energy.lth.se)



# Outline

- ❑ CAHEMA - Concepts of Ammonia/Hydrogen Engines for Marine Application
- ❑ CFD study of ammonia/hydrogen/n-heptane RCCI engine performance
  - ❑ LES study of n-heptane/ammonia RCCI ignition
  - ❑ RANS study of a four-stroke n-heptane/ammonia/hydrogen RCCI engine
- ❑ Concluding remarks and future work

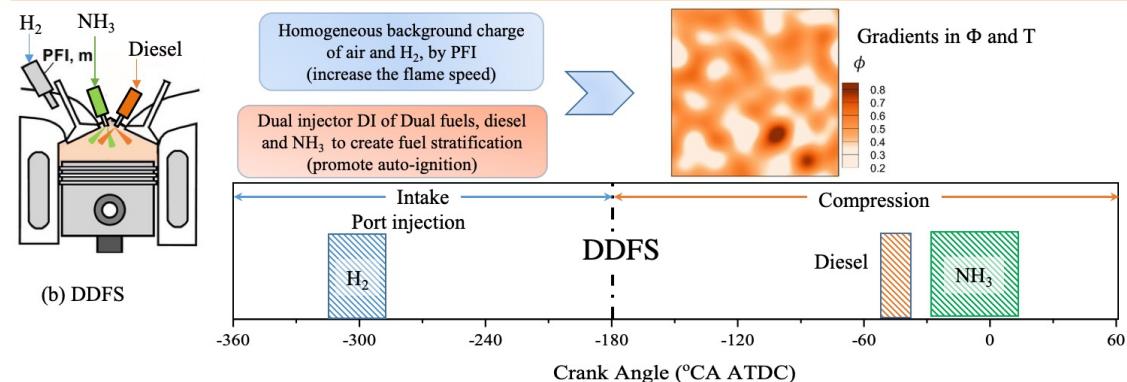
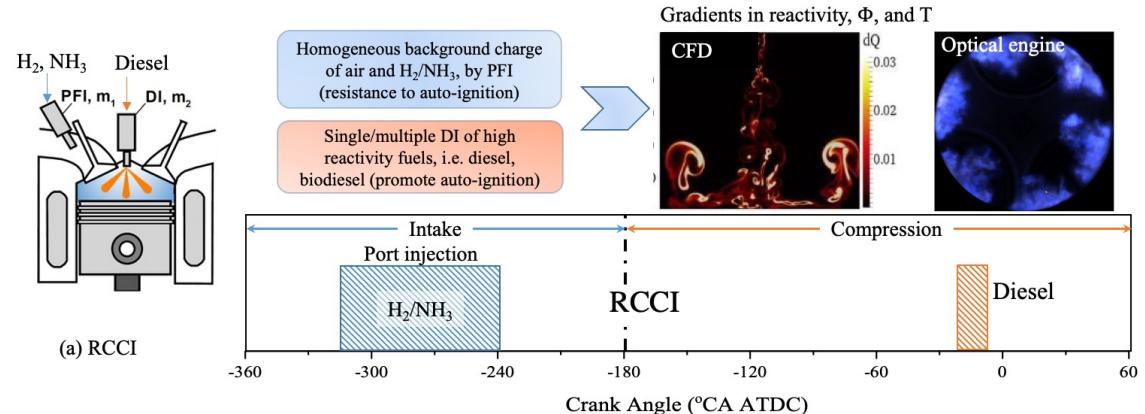
# Concepts of Ammonia/Hydrogen Engines for Marine Application

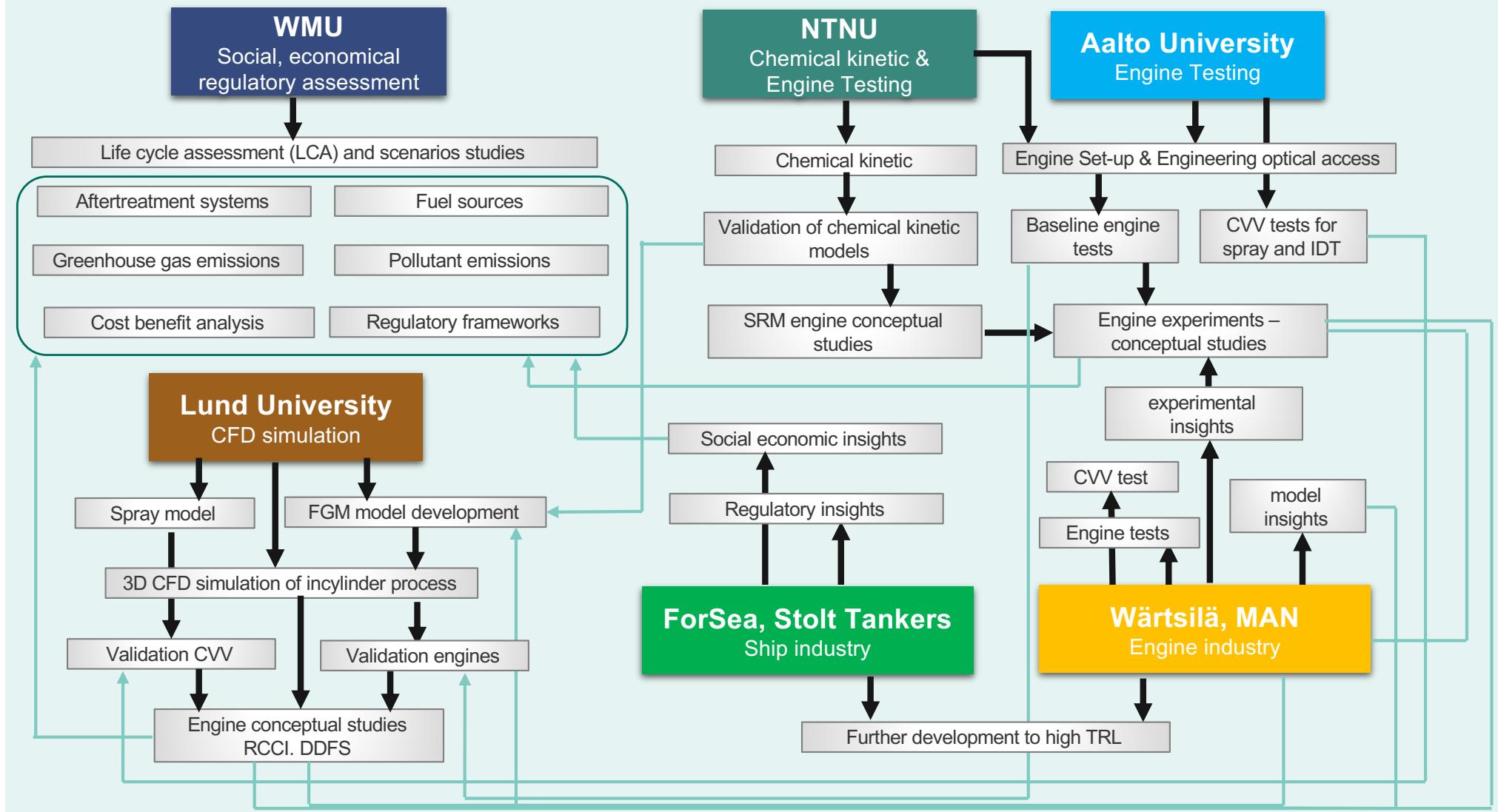


MAN ES AMMONIA ENGINE PROJECT - AENGINE



WÄRTSILÄ AMMONIA AND HYDROGEN RESEARCH







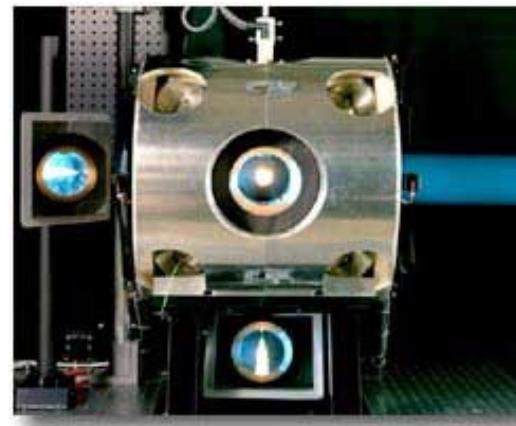
# LES of n-heptane spray in ammonia/air mixture under RCCI conditions

# Case Setup

ECN (engine Combustion Network) – test rig  
<https://ecn.sandia.gov/diesel-spray-combustion/sandia-cv/>



ECN Spray H	
Diameter (mm)	0.1
Injected fuel	N-heptane
Duration (ms)	6
Injection pressure (MPa)	150



Sandia CV

Ambient conditions (based on Spray H)	
Temperature (K)	900
Pressure (MPa)	3.81
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	15.0
$\Phi_a$ (ambient premixed NH <sub>3</sub> /air)	0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6

- Ambient gas temperatures from 450 K to 1300 K
- Ambient gas densities from 3 to 60 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Ambient gas oxygen concentrations from 0% to 21%
- Injection pressures above ambient from 40 to 200 MPa
- Nozzle sizes from 0.05 to 0.5 mm
- #2 diesel, single-component reference (n-heptane, cetane), and oxygenated fuels

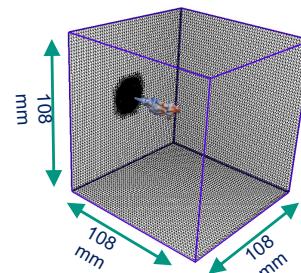
# Case Setup

## ECN Spray H

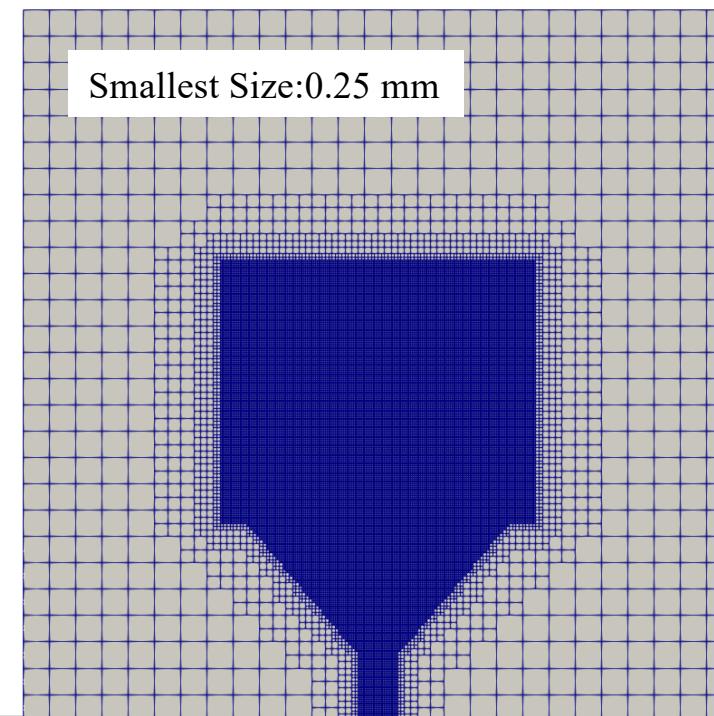
Diameter (mm)	0.1
Injected fuel	N-heptane
Duration (ms)	6
Injection pressure (MPa)	150

## Ambient conditions (based on Spray H)

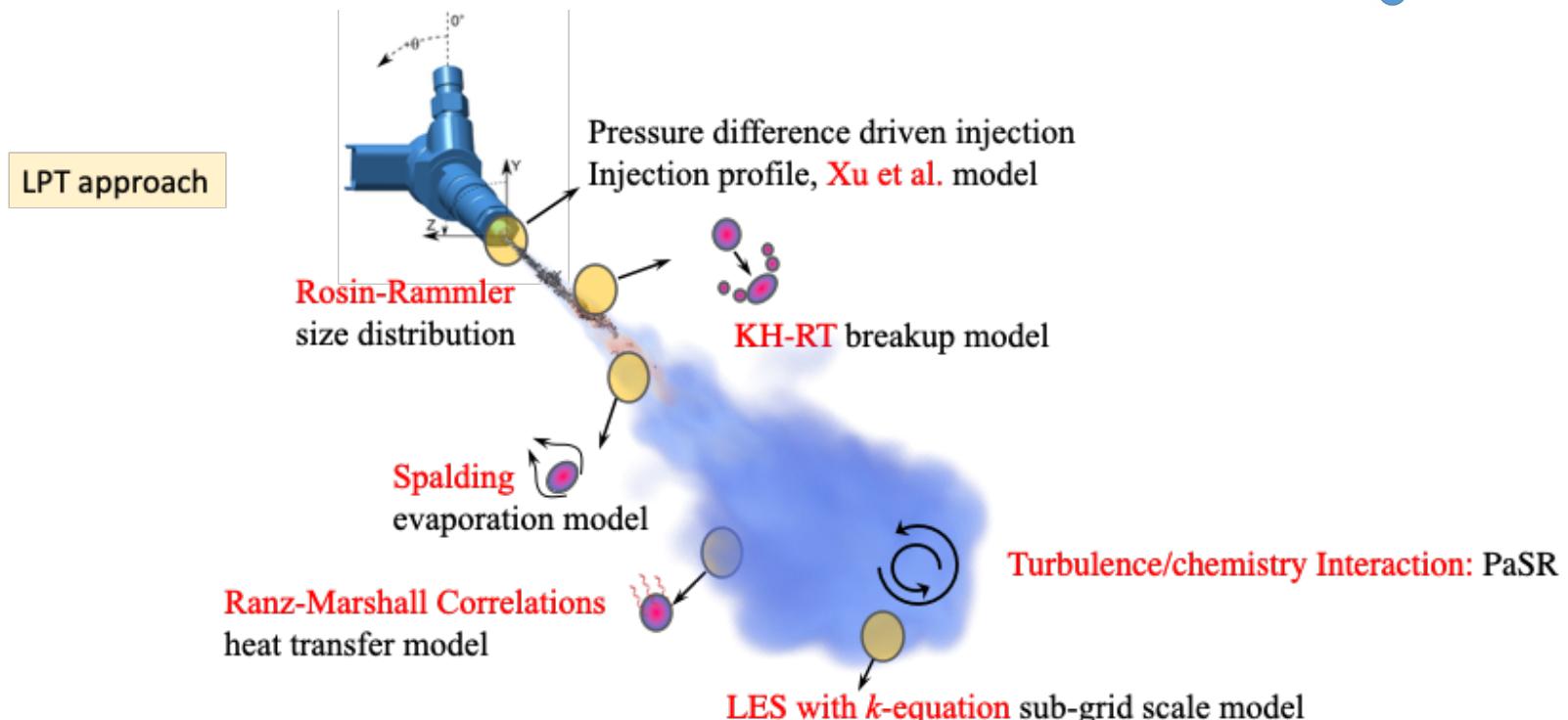
Temperature (K)	900
Pressure (MPa)	3.81
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	15.0
$\Phi_a$ (ambient premixed NH <sub>3</sub> /air)	0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6



Charging homogeneous  
and quiescent ammonia-air  
mixture



# LES model and chemical kinetics

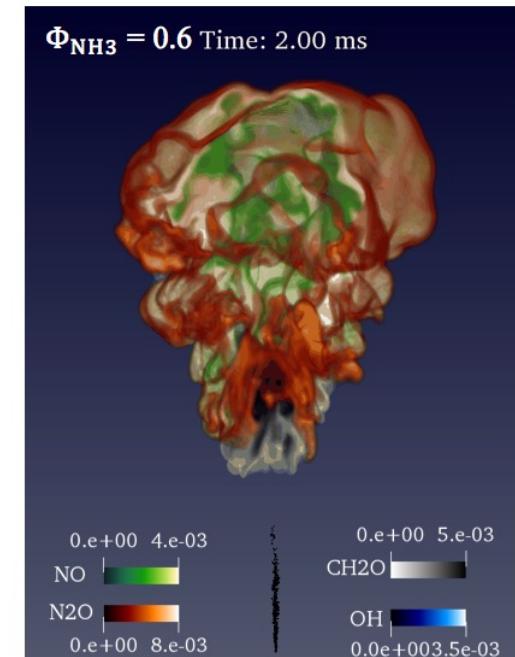
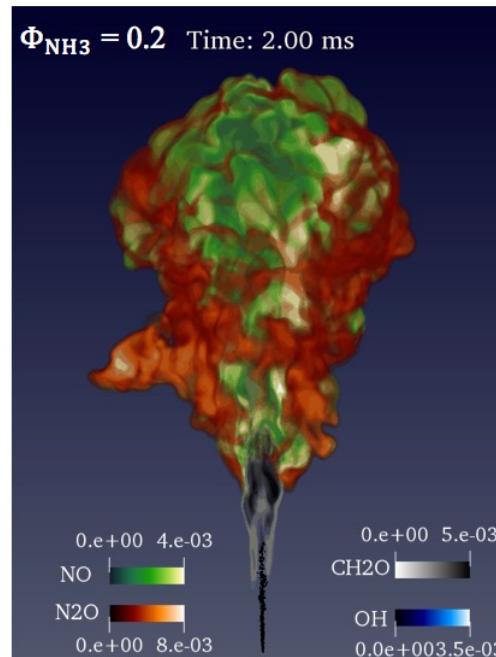
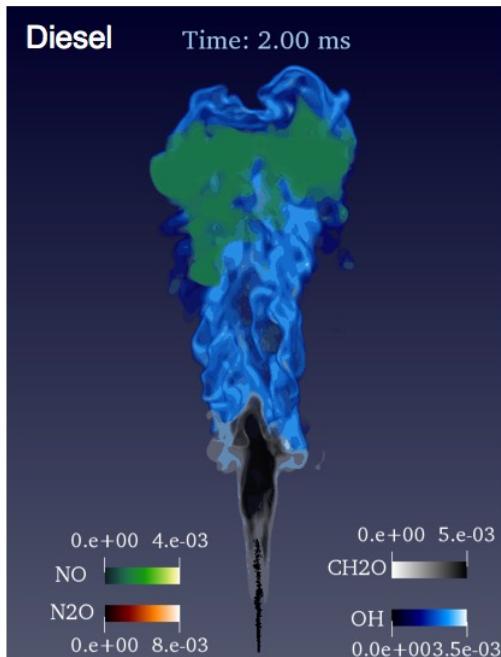


- Combustion mechanism: 69 species = 69 and 389 reactions.

# NH<sub>3</sub>/n-heptane combustion under RCCI conditions

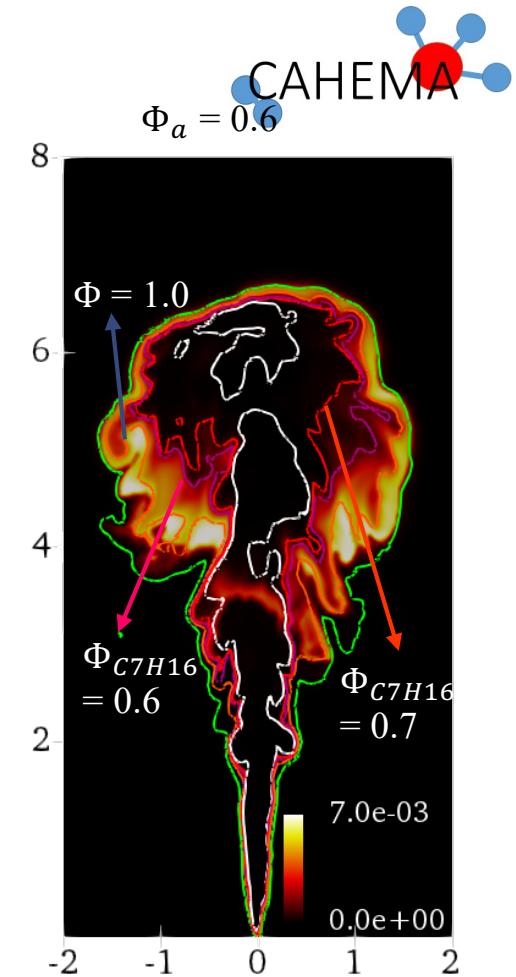
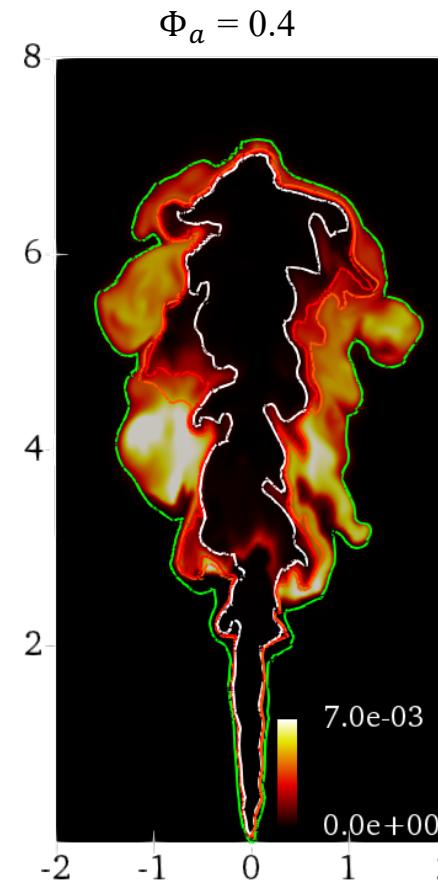
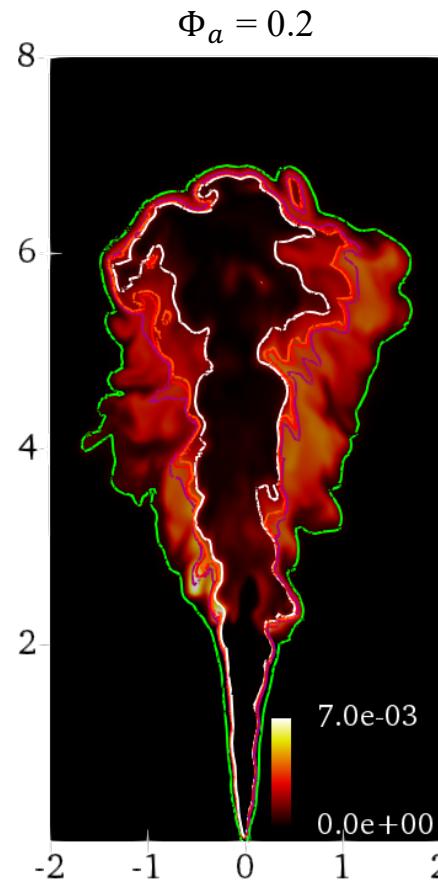
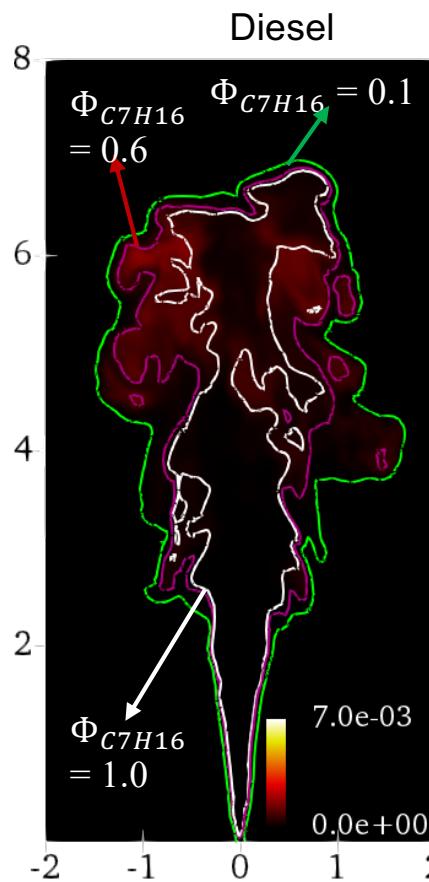


- CH<sub>2</sub>O: low temperature ignition
- OH: high temperature ignition
- NH<sub>3</sub> suppresses n-C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>18</sub> auto-ignition

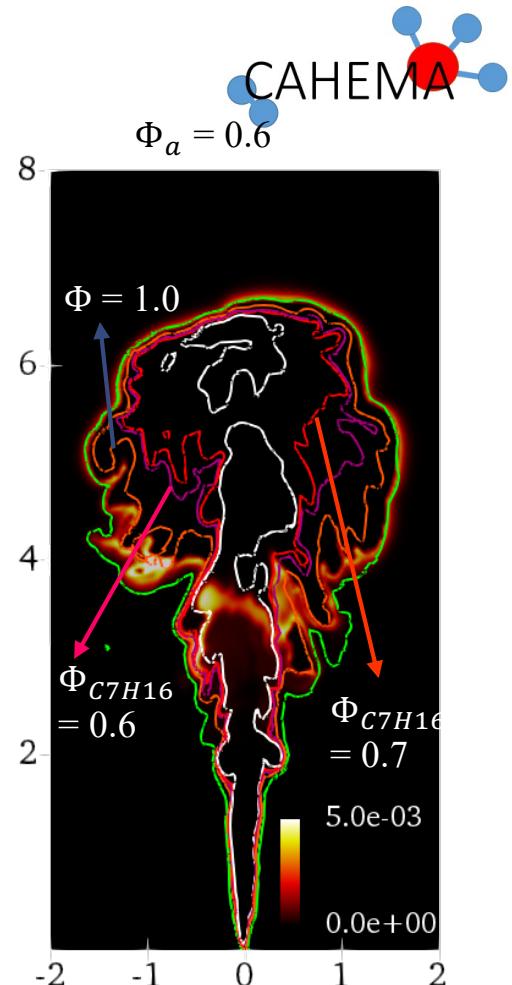
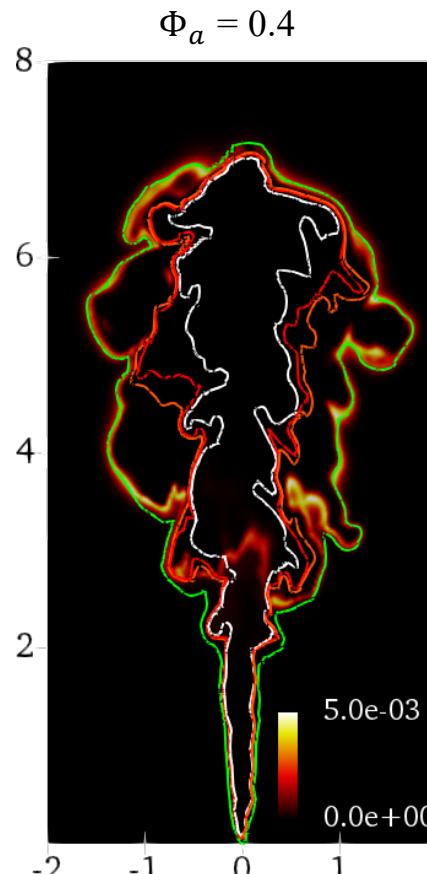
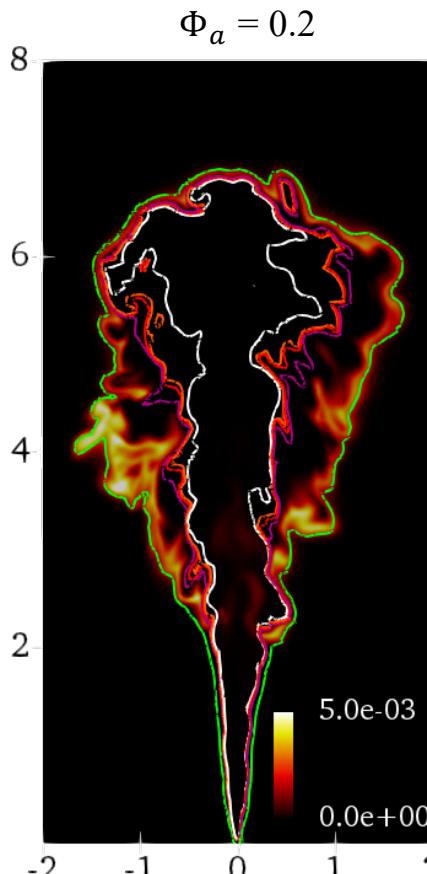
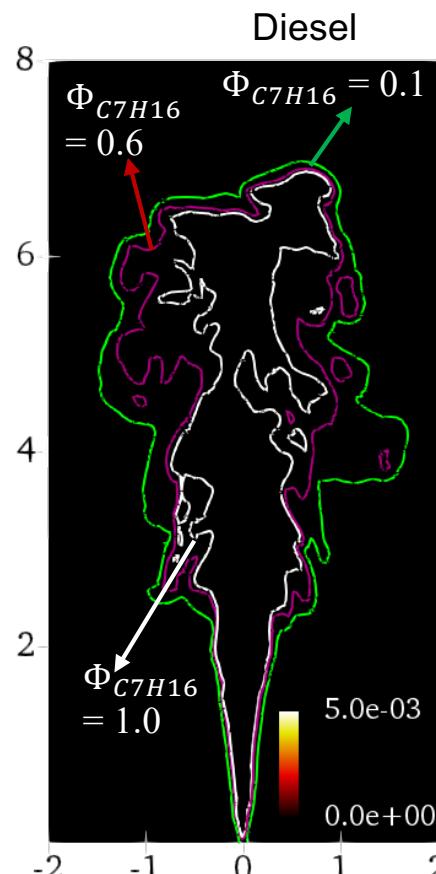


- Thermal NO: downstream high T
- N<sub>2</sub>O is formed prior to NO formation
- NH<sub>3</sub> increases the liftoff length

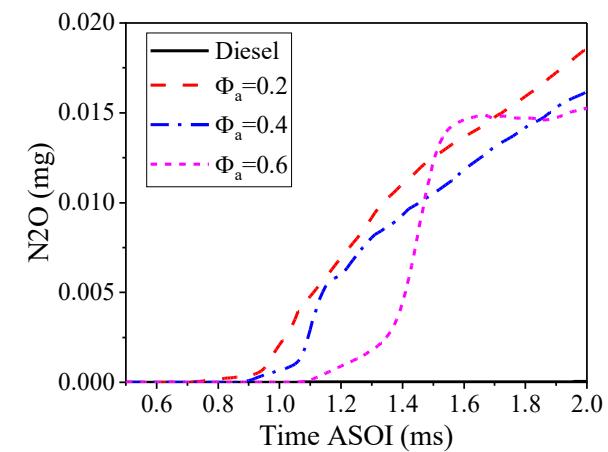
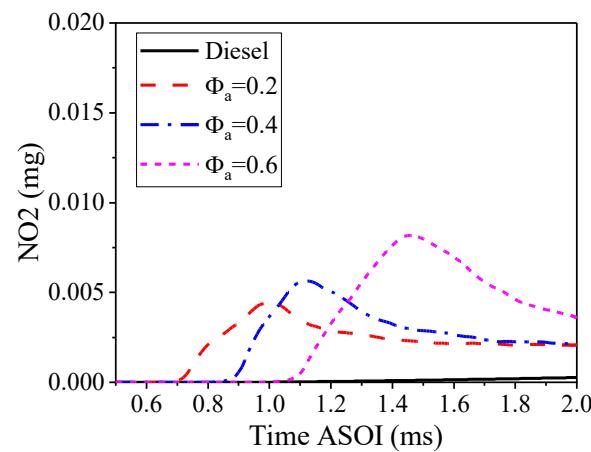
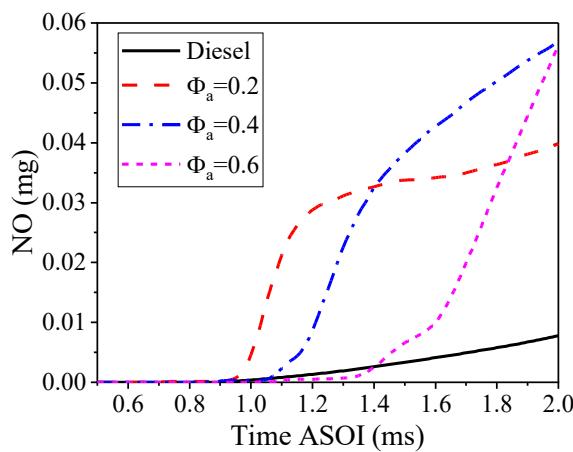
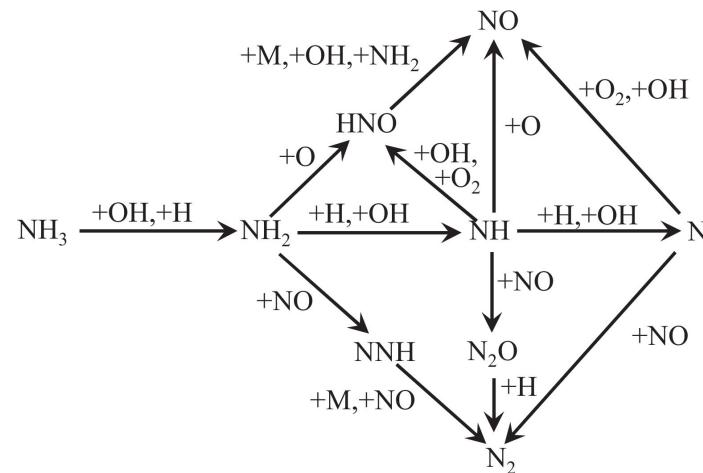
# NO



# N<sub>2</sub>O



# $\text{NO}_x$ ( $\text{NO}$ , $\text{NO}_2$ ) and $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ Emissions



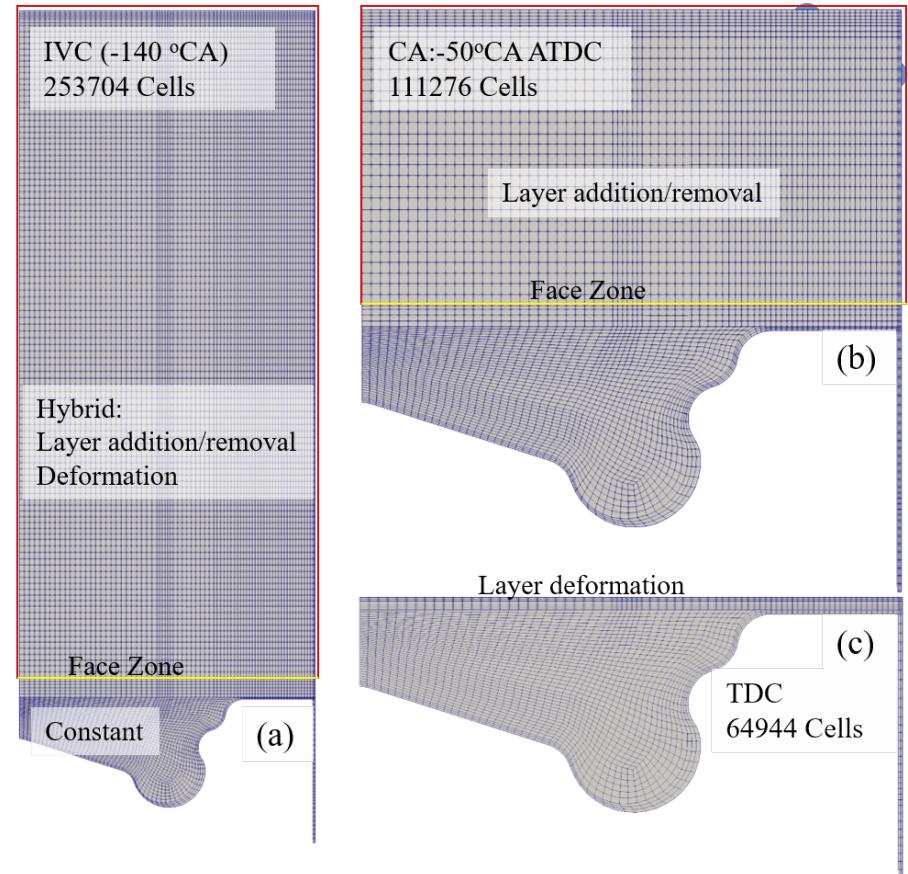
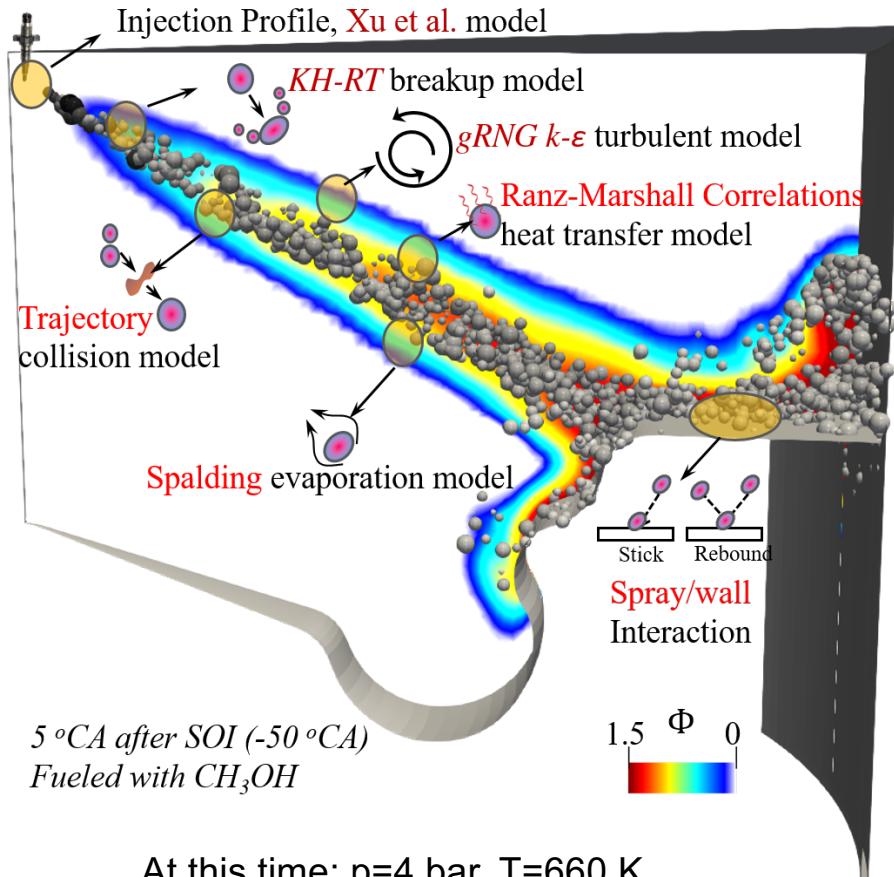
## LES results – major findings

- ❑ Ammonia suppresses the auto-ignition of diesel/n-heptane
  - ❑ The higher the ammonia/diesel ratio, the slower the diesel ignition
  - ❑ Implication to engine operation: earlier diesel injection
- ❑ NOx in the mixing layer
  - ❑ Thermal NO is formed in the downstream region of the flame
  - ❑ Fuel NO is several times of thermal NO
- ❑ N<sub>2</sub>O formation and consumption
  - ❑ N<sub>2</sub>O is formed prior to NO formation
  - ❑ N<sub>2</sub>O is consumed when forming NO



# RANS study of ammonia/hydrogen/n-heptane RCCI engine

# Numerical model

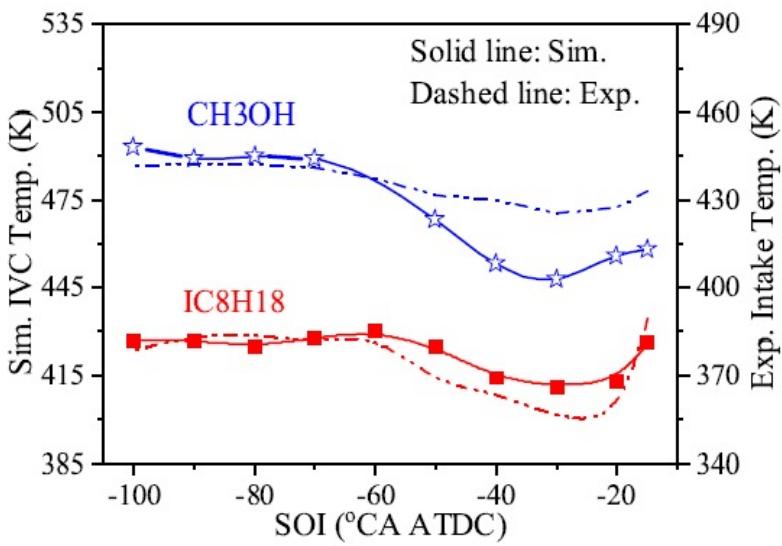


OpenFoam, sector mesh, 30 degree, 12 holes

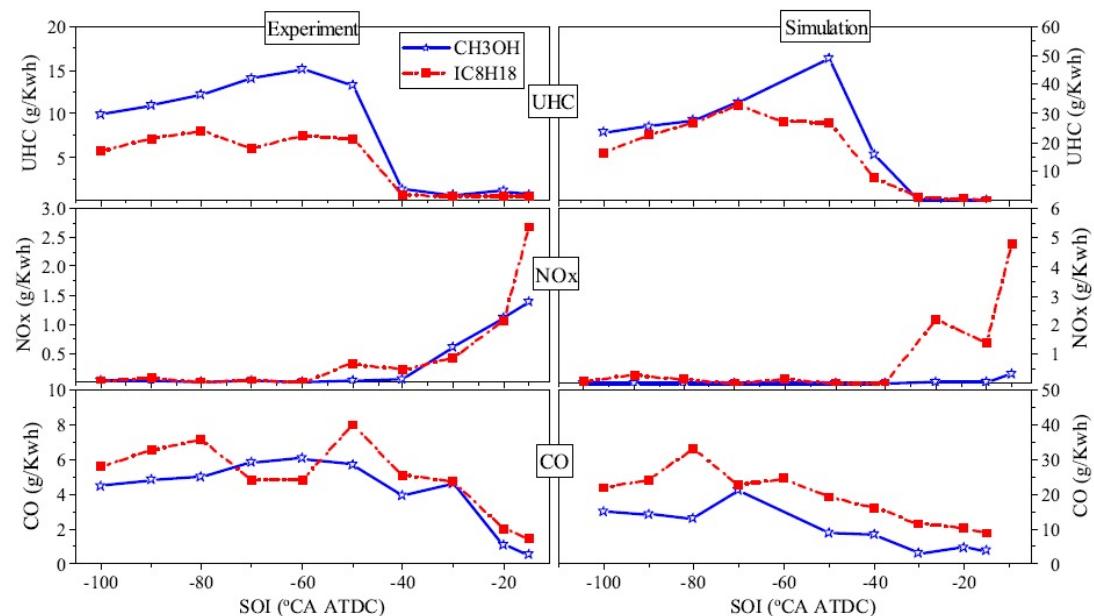
# Model Validation (methanol and iso-octane)



- Required **intake temperature** for marinating CA50 at 3 °CA ATDC for different SOIs



- Emissions** at the different SOIs for both fuels



# NH<sub>3</sub> engine Case setup



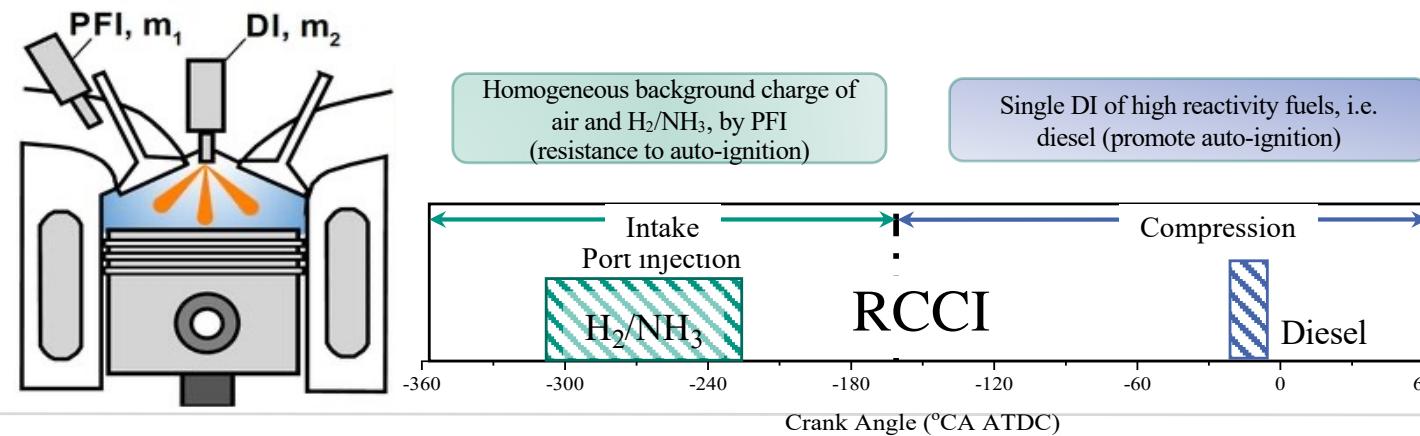
- ❑ RCCI concept, constant total energy (2kJ/cyc, engine load 4bar IMEP, similar to exp.);
- ❑ NH<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> is premixed with the air;
- ❑ IVC pressure: 1.16651 bar, IVC Temperature: 458 K;
- ❑ n-heptane (diesel) is injected at -7°CA ATDC (Injection delay time 3°CA @1200rpm)

EP (Energy Premixed):

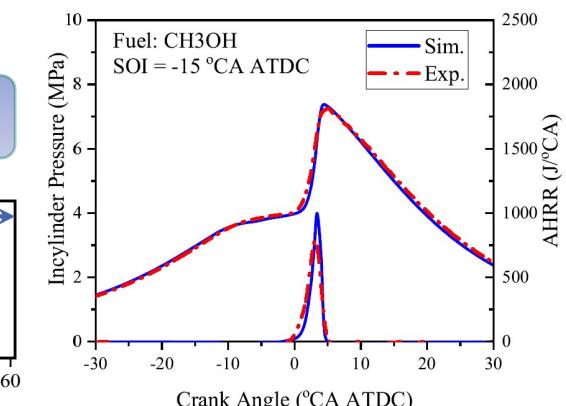
$$EP = \frac{m_{NH_3} * LHV_{NH_3} + m_{H_2} * LHV_{H_2}}{\text{Total Energy}}$$

$X_{NH_3}$  (NH<sub>3</sub> mole fraction):

$$X_{NH_3} = \frac{C_{NH_3}}{C_{NH_3} + C_{H_2}}$$



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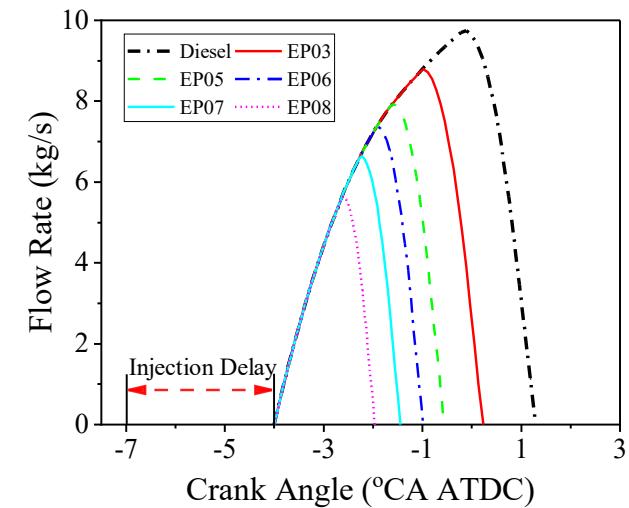
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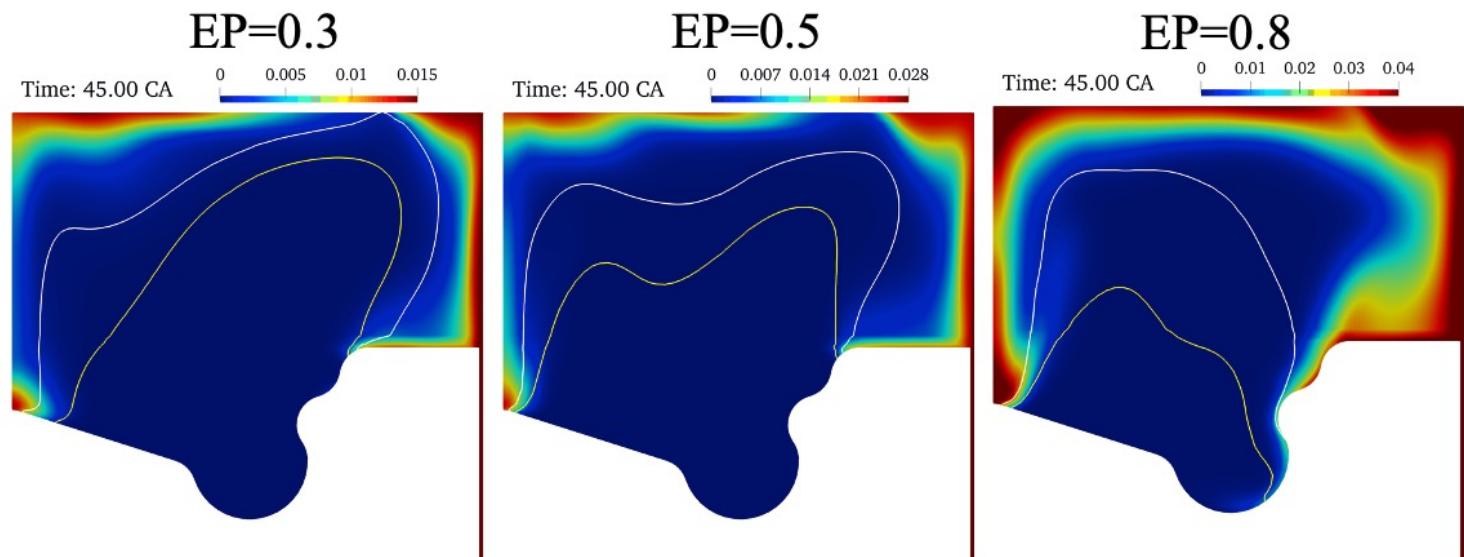
# NH<sub>3</sub> (premixed) + N-heptane (injected)

Total energy in the cylinder: 2000 J/cyc, 4 bar IMEP

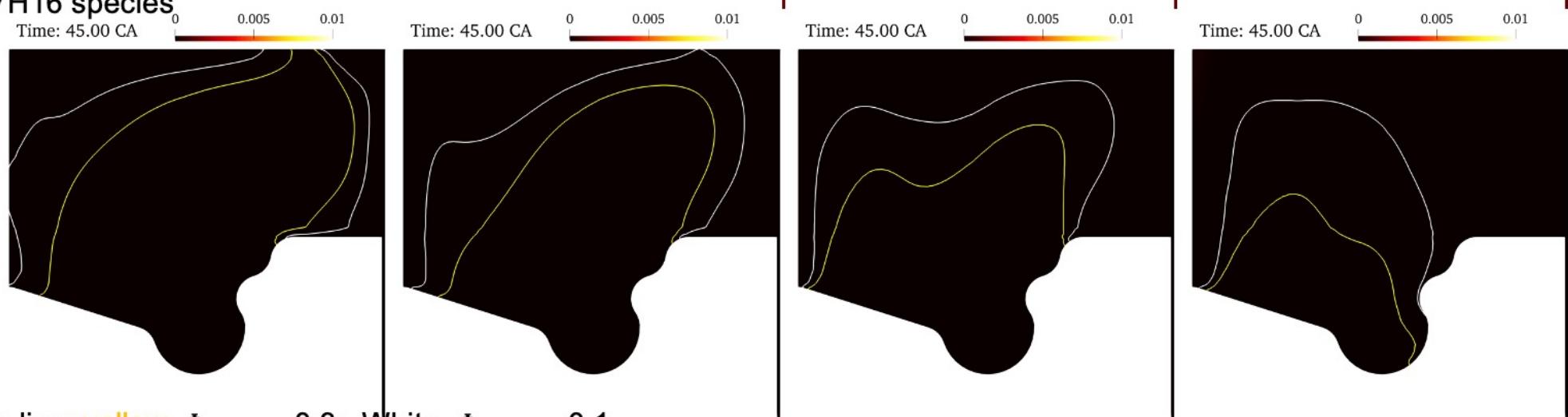
Case Name	EP	$X_{NH_3}$	$\Phi_0$ (premix)	Injected Duration °CA (N-heptane)	Description
Diesel	0	0	0	5.292	Diesel Engine
EP03	0.3	1	0.106	4.230	RCCI engine
EP05	0.5		0.177	3.438	
EP06	0.6		0.212	3.015	
EP07	0.7		0.248	2.556	
EP08	0.8		0.283	2.034	



NH<sub>3</sub> species



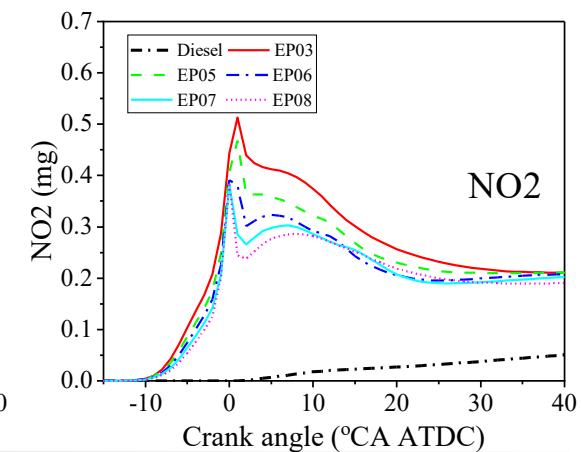
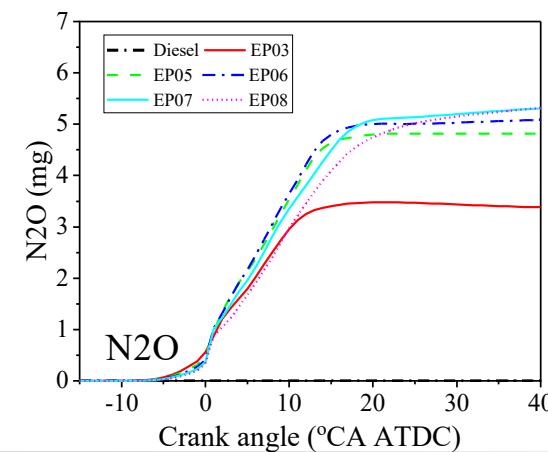
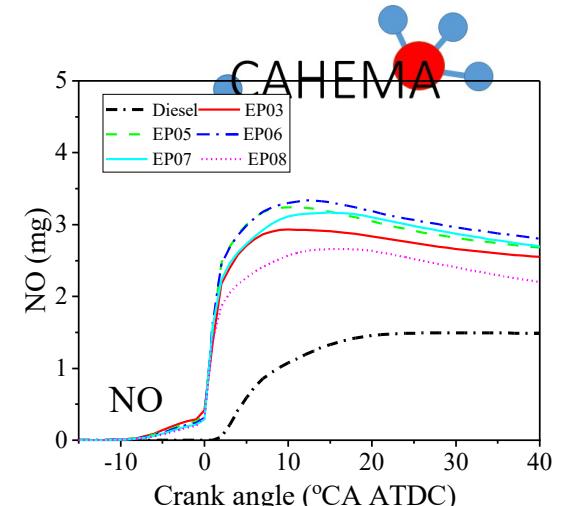
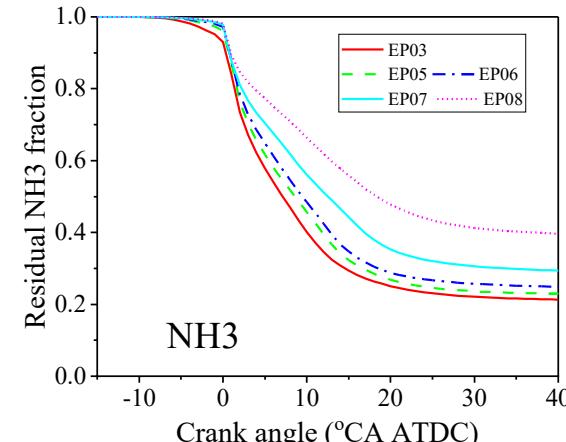
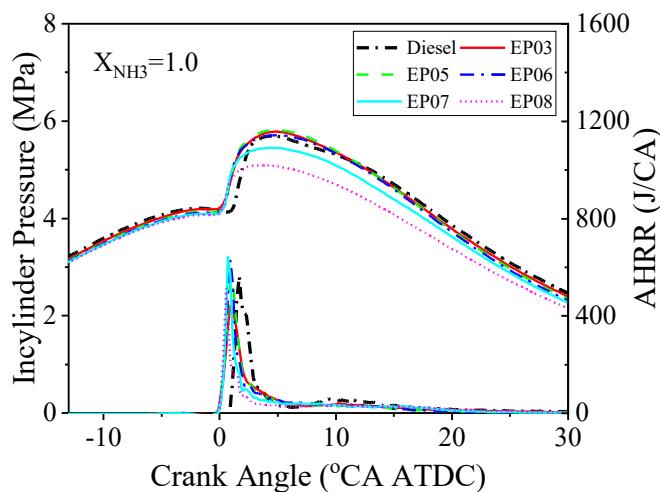
C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>16</sub> species



Iso-line: yellow,  $\Phi_{C7H16}=0.3$ ; White,  $\Phi_{C7H16}=0.1$

# NH<sub>3</sub> Engine performance

- ❑ The ignition delay time for the NH<sub>3</sub> RCCI engine is shorter due to the shorter injection;
- ❑ Ammonia is hardly burned completely;
- ❑ If the EP is greater than 0.5, the combustion efficiency of the ammonia becomes worse;
- ❑ N<sub>2</sub>O/NO<sub>2</sub>/NO emissions are much higher than that of diesel engine.



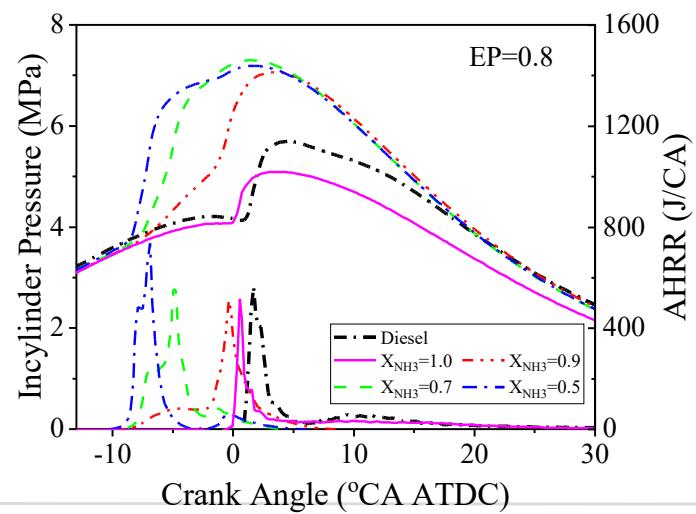
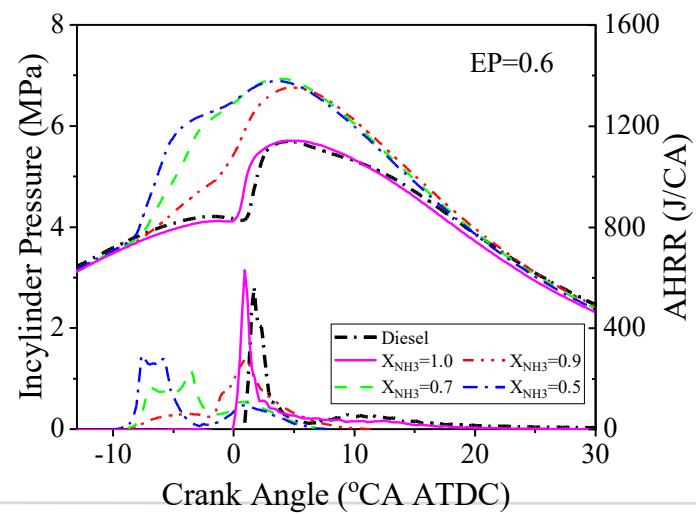
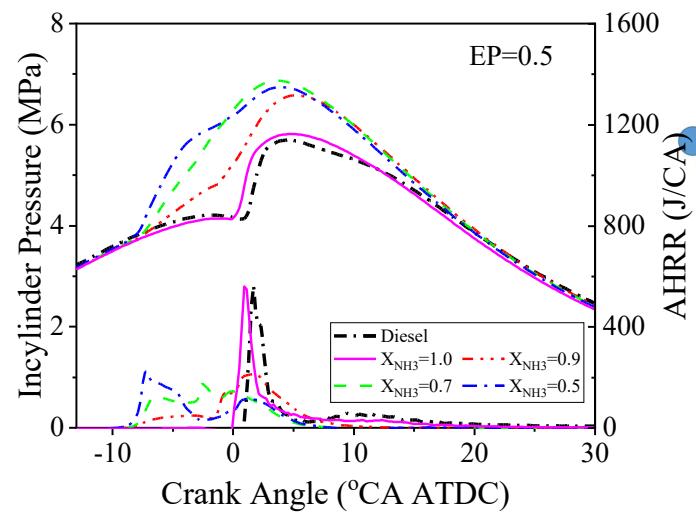
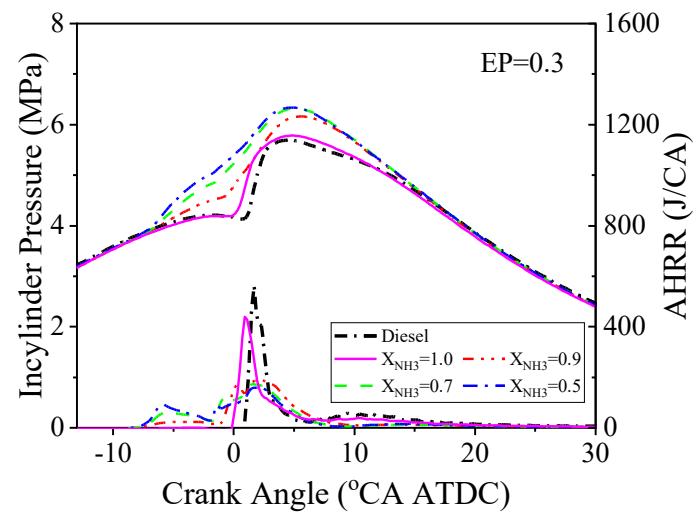
# NH<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> (premixed) + N-heptane (injected)



$X_{NH_3}$  (**NH<sub>3</sub> mole fraction**):

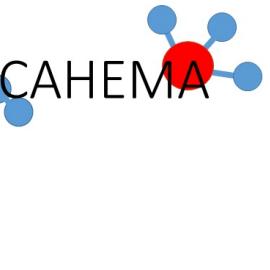
$$X_{NH_3} = \frac{C_{NH_3}}{C_{NH_3} + C_{H_2}}$$

Case Name.	EP	Injected Duration °CA (N-heptane)	$X_{NH_3}$	$\Phi_0$ (premix)	$X_{NH_3}$	$\Phi_0$ (premix)	$X_{NH_3}$	$\Phi_0$ (premix)
EP03	0.3	4.230	0.9	0.105	0.7	0.103	0.5	0.101
EP05	0.5	3.438		0.175		0.172		0.168
EP06	0.6	3.015		0.210		0.206		0.201
EP07	0.7	2.556		0.245		0.240		0.235
EP08	0.8	2.034		0.280		0.275		0.268

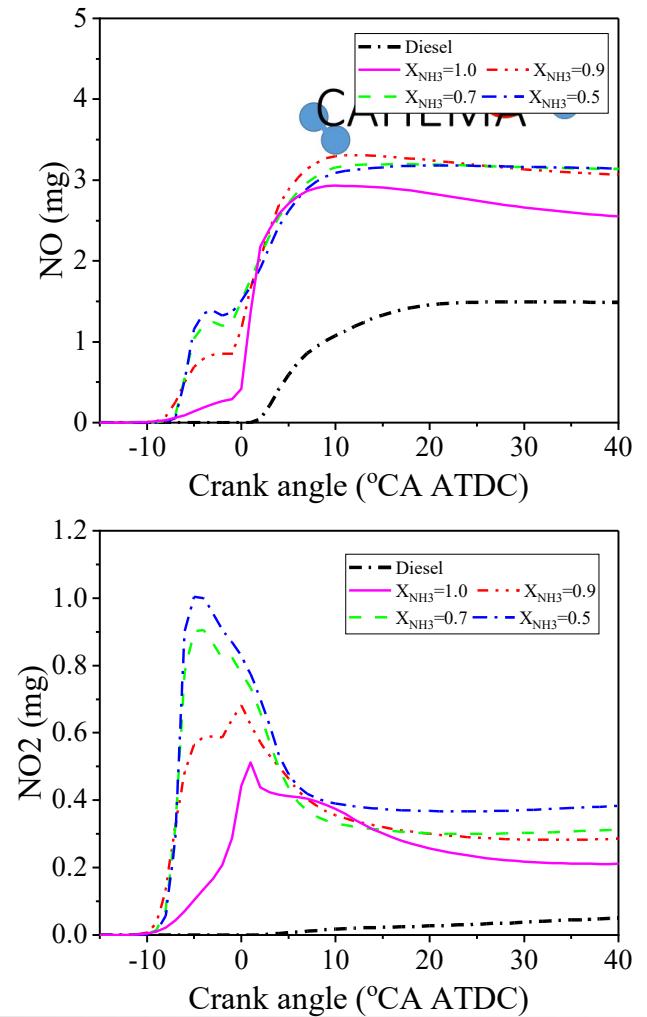
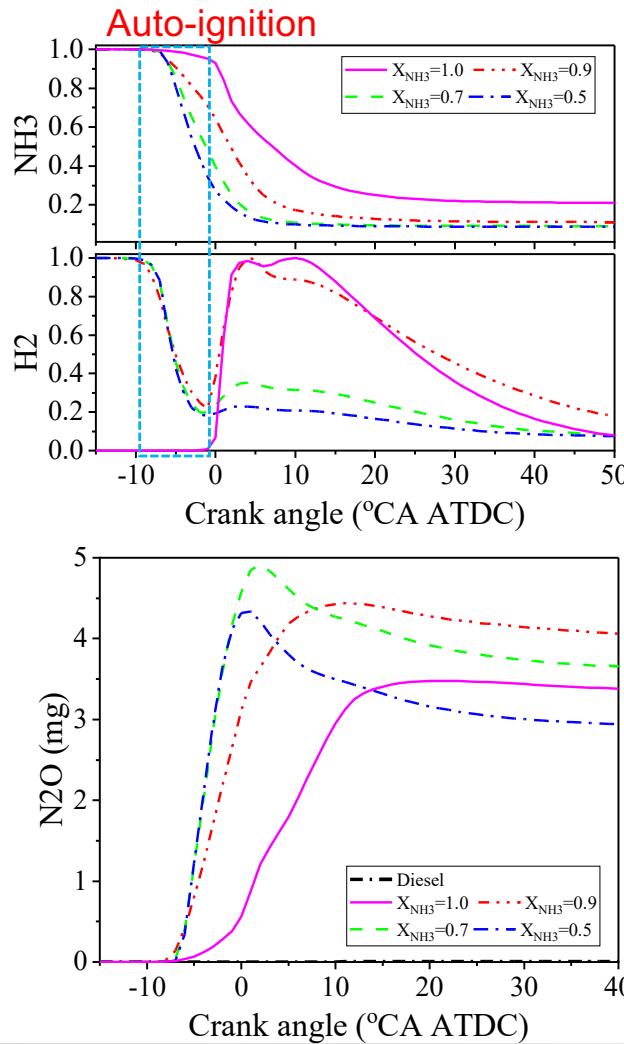
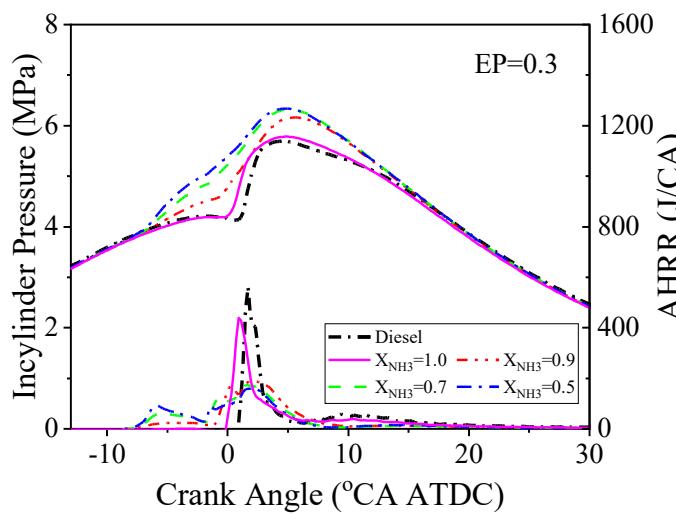


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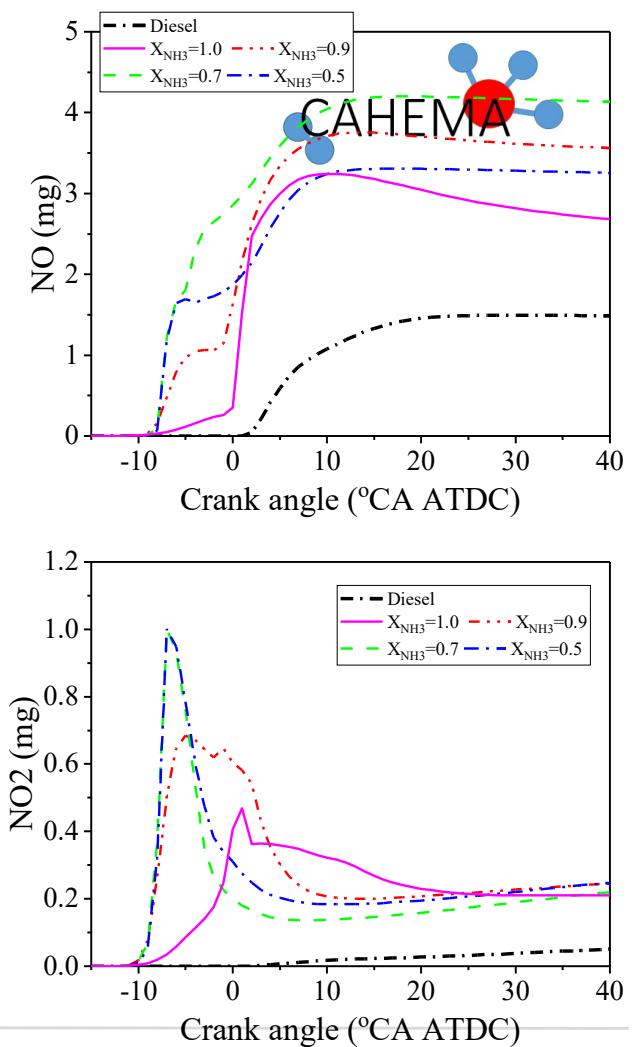
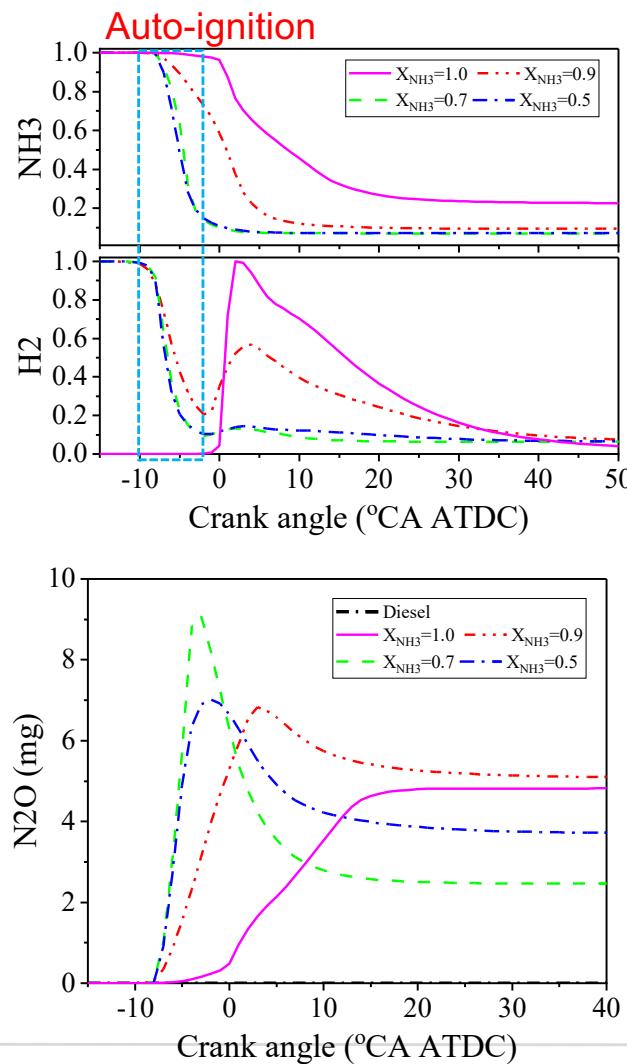
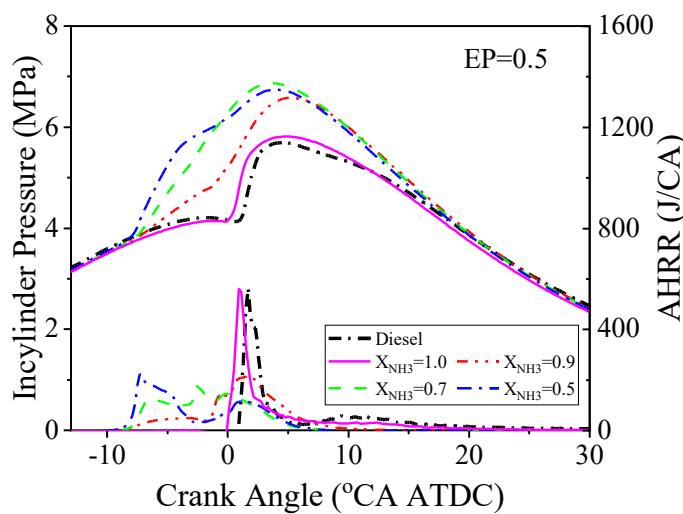
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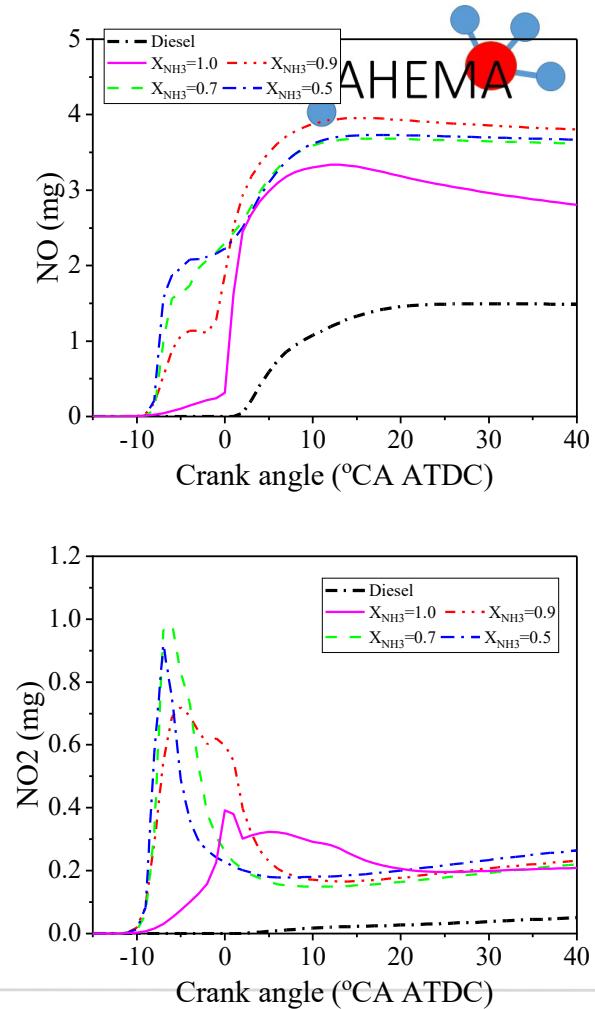
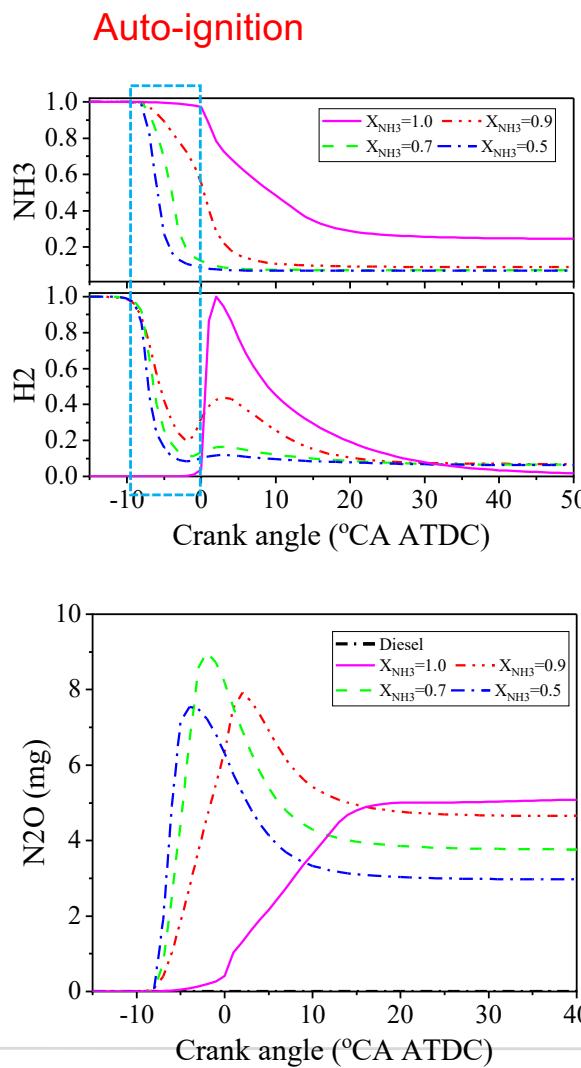
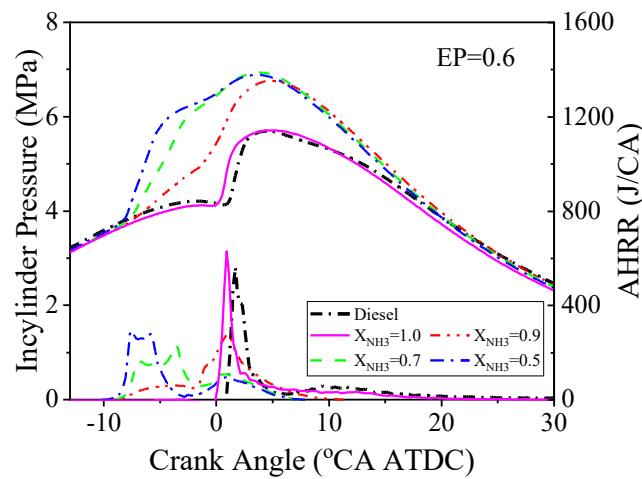
**EP=0.3**



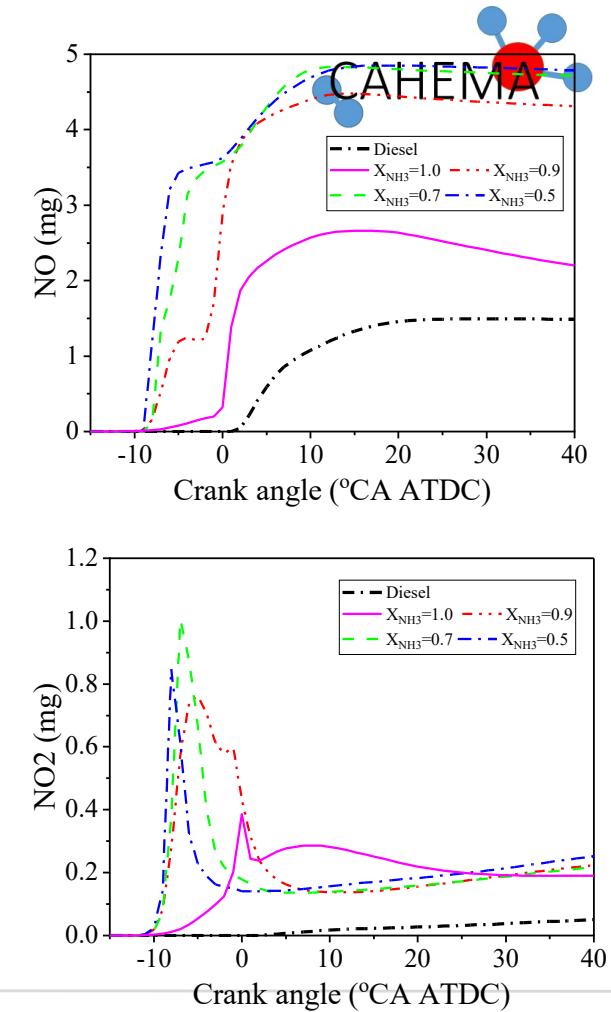
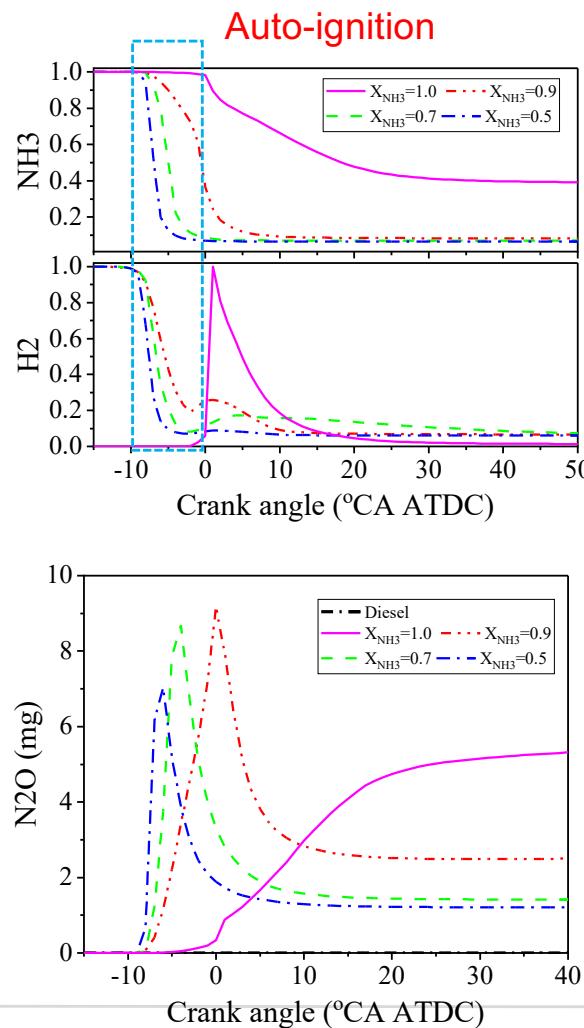
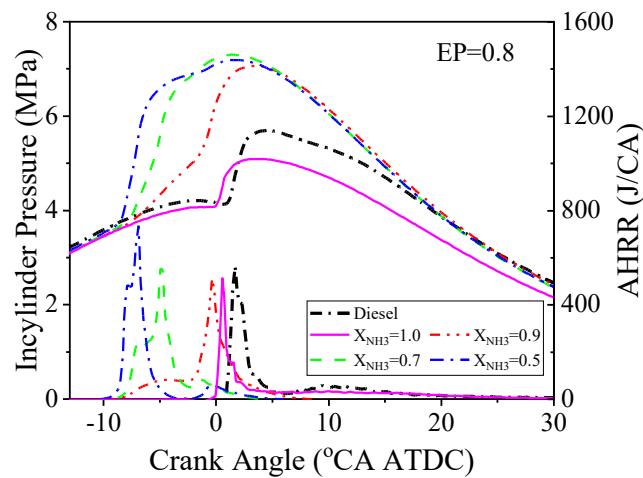
**EP=0.5**



**EP=0.6**



**EP=0.8**





# NH<sub>3</sub> RCCI engine (Medium load)

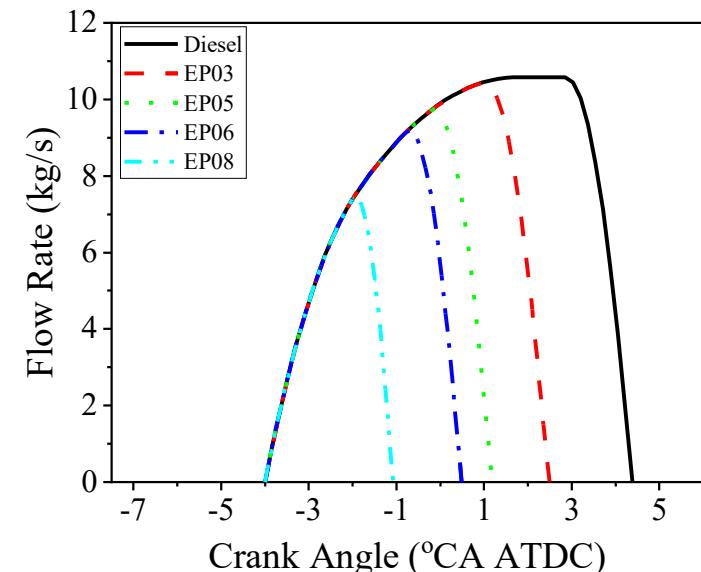
## Medium load:

Total energy in the cylinder: 5000 J/cyc, IMEP 10bar

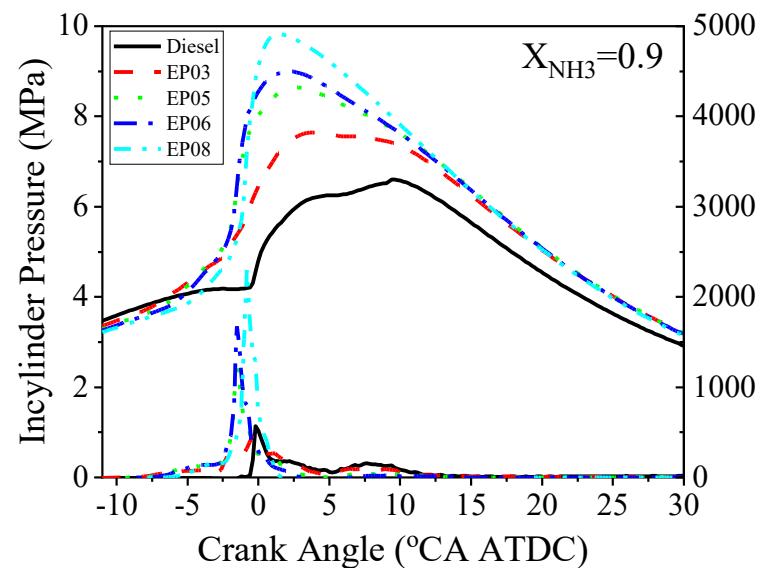
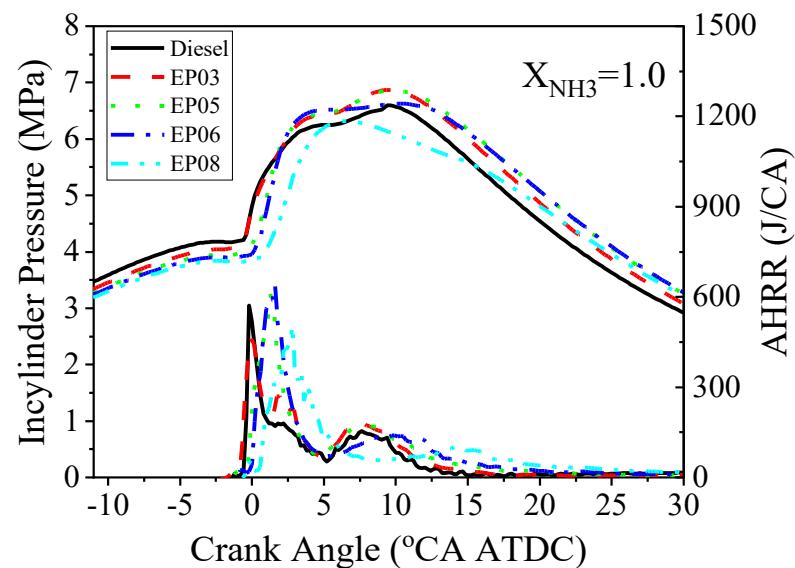
Case Name	EP	$X_{NH_3}$	$\Phi_0$ (premix)	Injected Duration °CA (N-heptane)	Description
Diesel	0	0	0	8.393	Diesel Engine
EP03	0.3	1	0.265	6.494	RCCI engine NH <sub>3</sub> premixed
EP05	0.5		0.442	5.184	
EP06	0.6		0.530	4.493	
EP08	0.8		0.707	2.923	

NH<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> mixture premixed

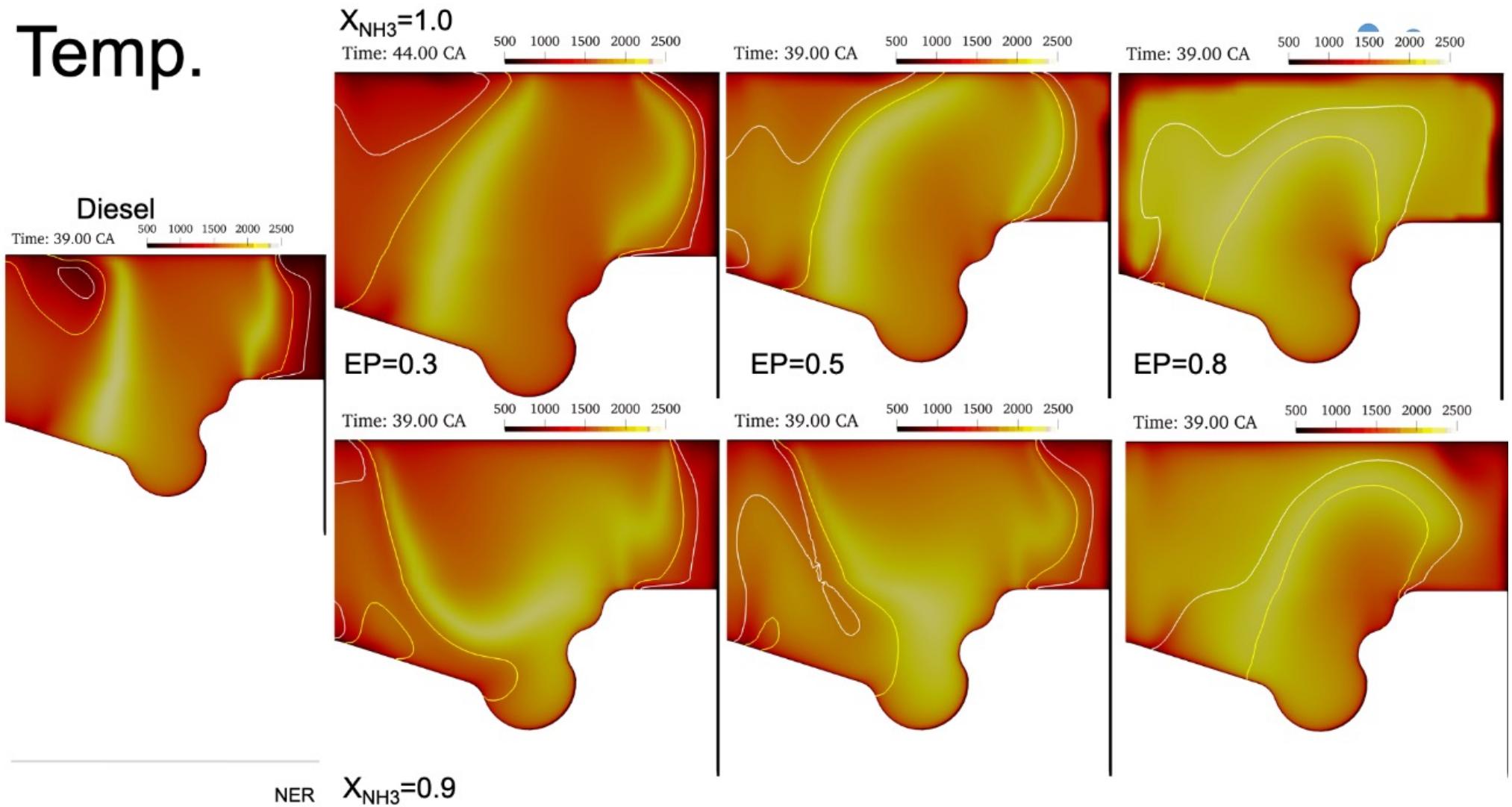
EP03	0.3	0.9	0.263	6.494	NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> premixed
EP05	0.5		0.438	5.184	
EP06	0.6		0.525	4.493	
EP08	0.8		0.701	2.923	



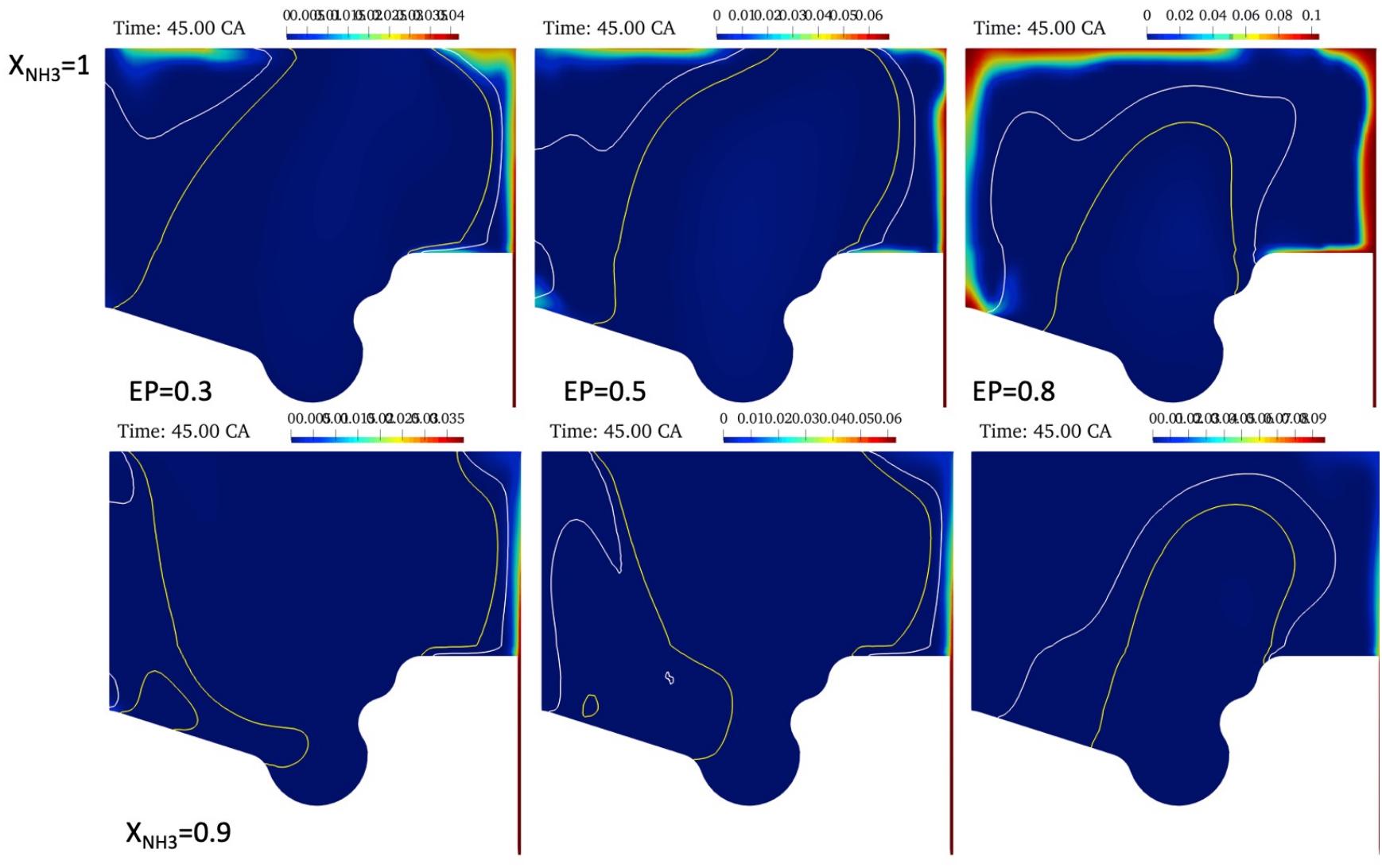
# Engine performance



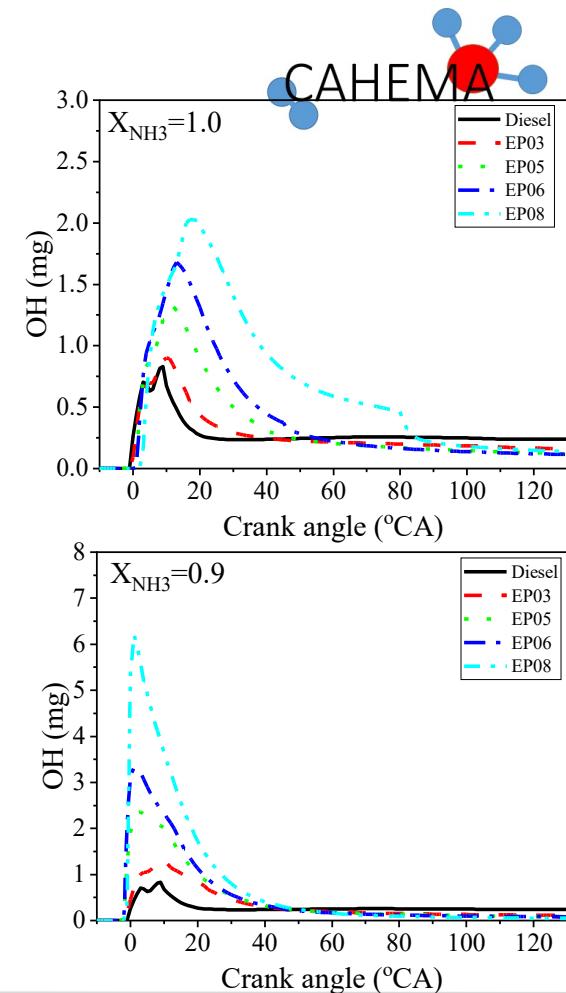
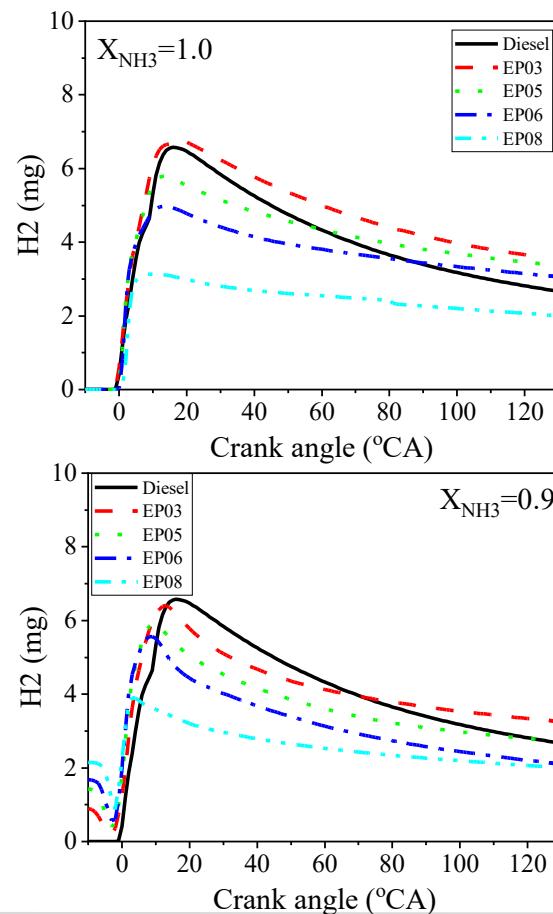
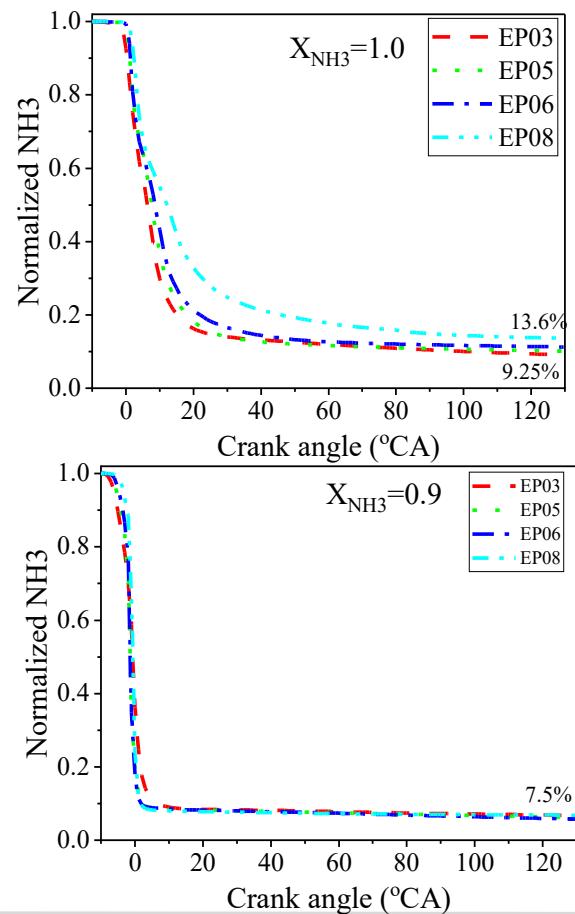
**Temp.**



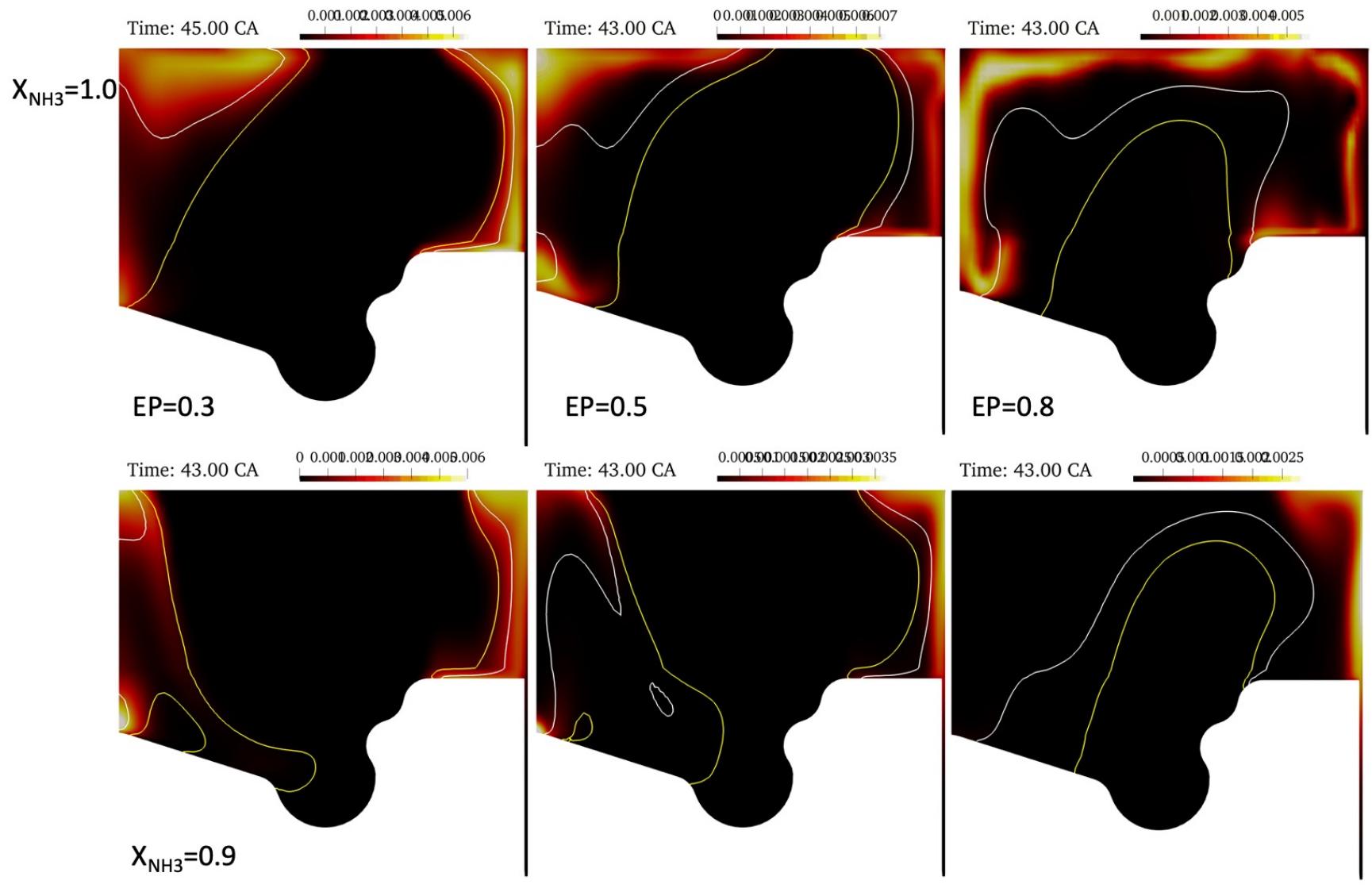
# NH<sub>3</sub>



✓ Automatic	⌘U
Hidden	⌘I
Visible	⌘A
Pen	⌘P
Laser Pointer	⌘L
Highlighter	
Eraser	
Erase Pen	⇧E
Pen Colour	▶
Laser Colour	▶



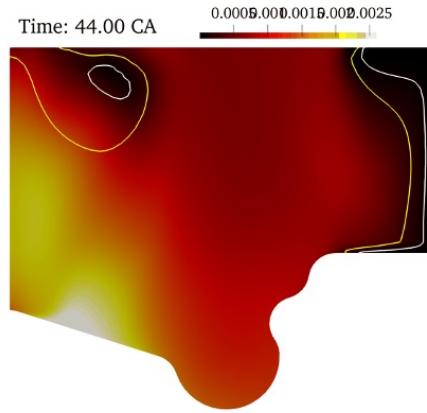
# N<sub>2</sub>O



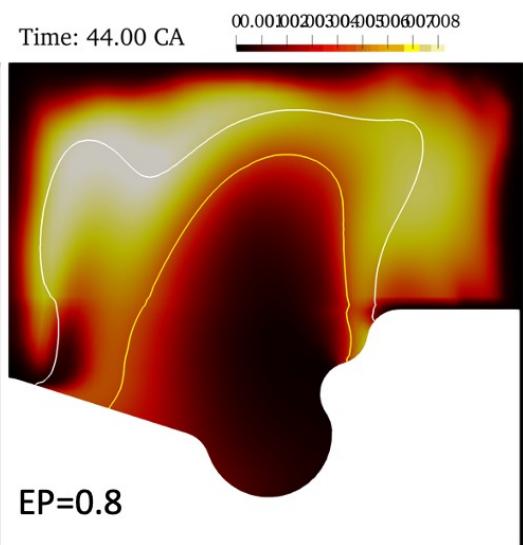
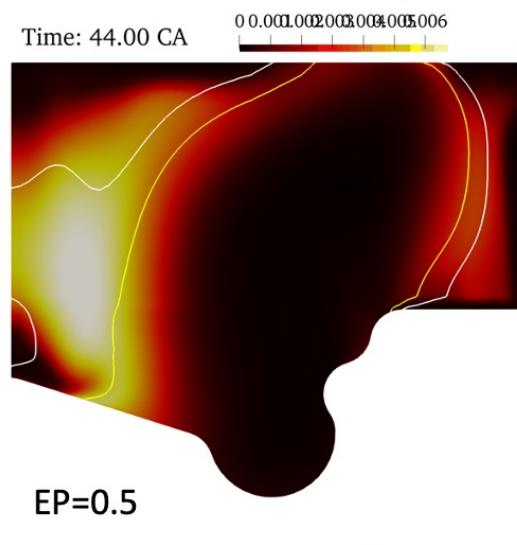
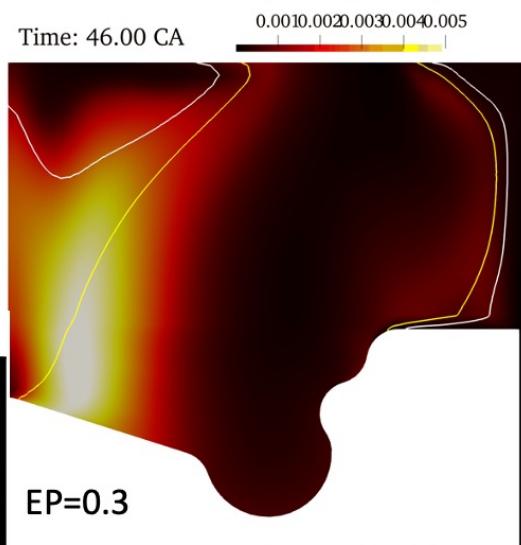
✓ Automatic	⌘ U
Hidden	⌘ I
Visible	⌘ A
Pen	⌘ P
Laser Pointer	⌘ L
Highlighter	
Eraser	
Erase Pen	⇧ E
Pen Colour	▶
Laser Colour	▶

# NO

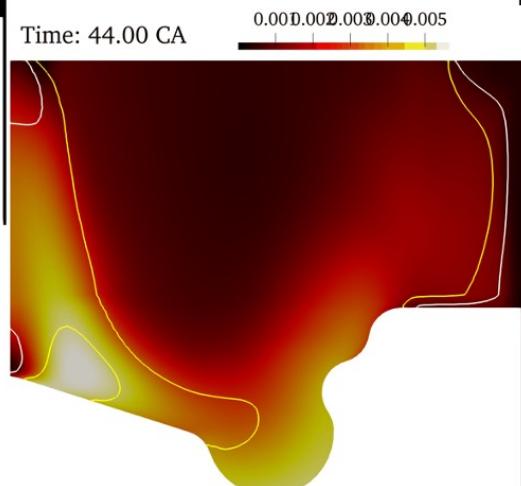
Diesel



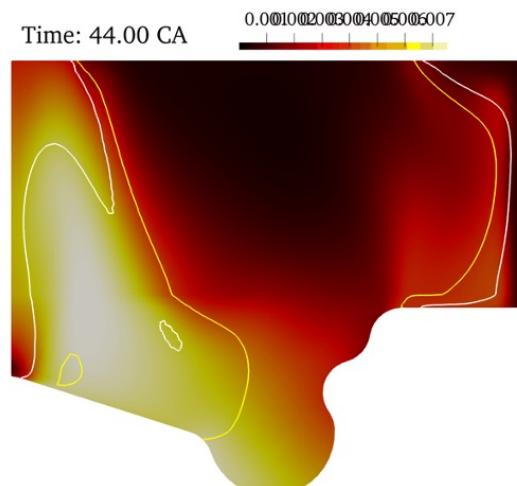
$X_{NH_3}=1.0$



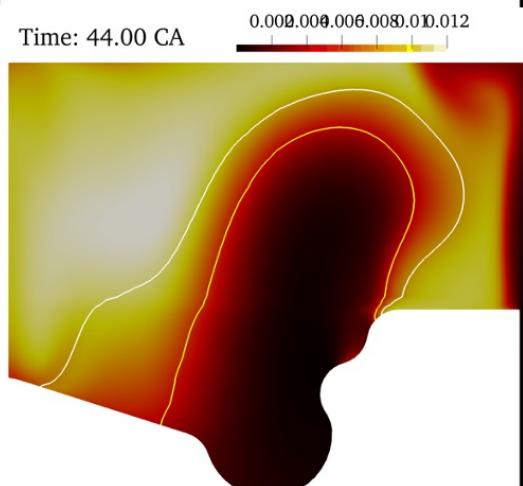
EP=0.3



EP=0.5

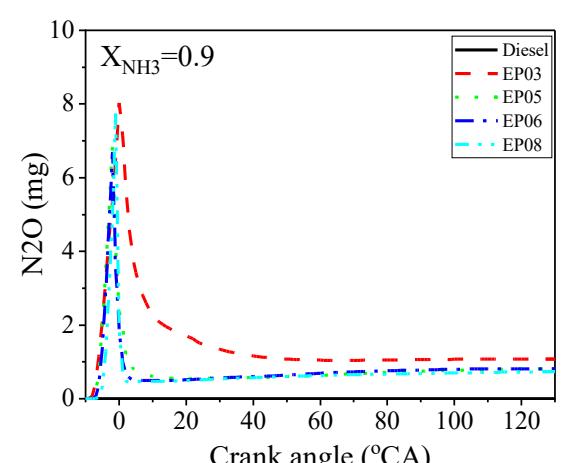
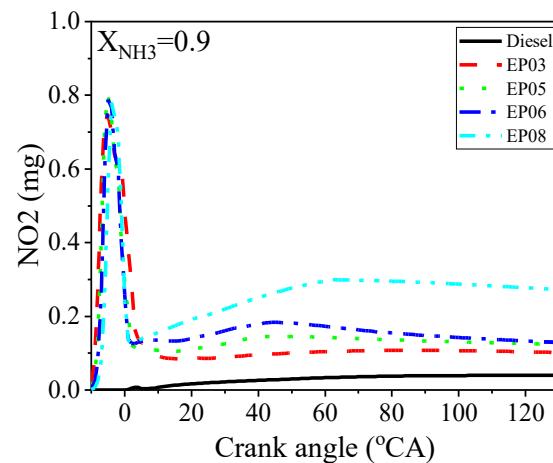
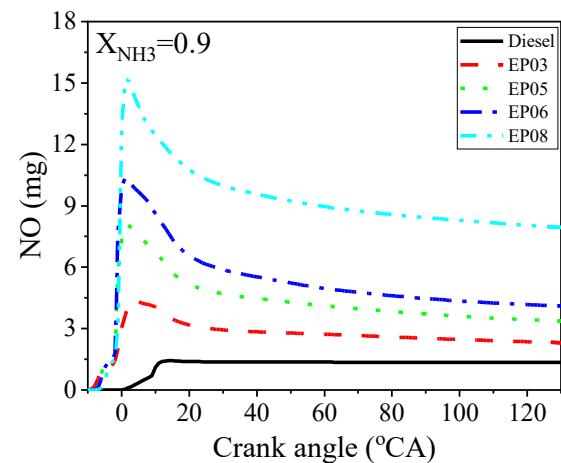
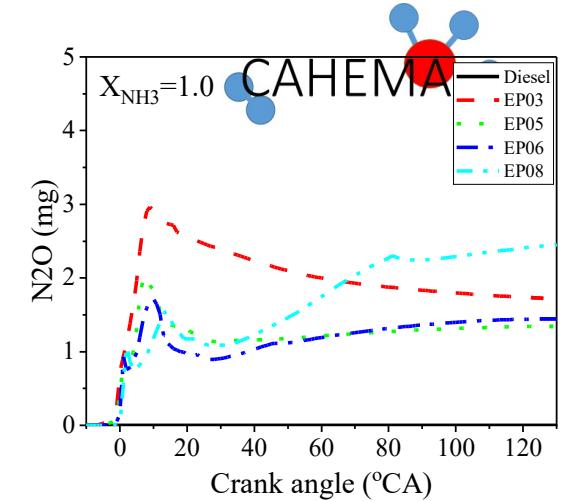
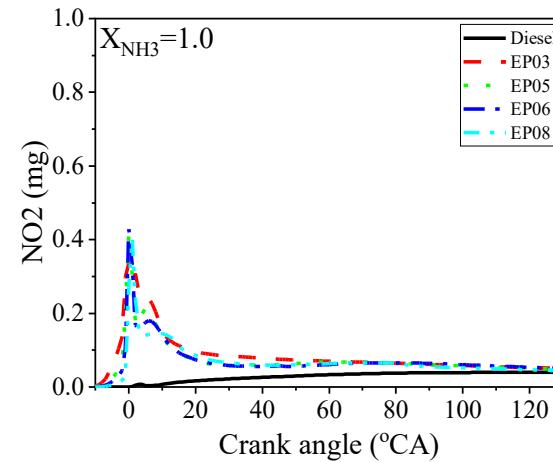
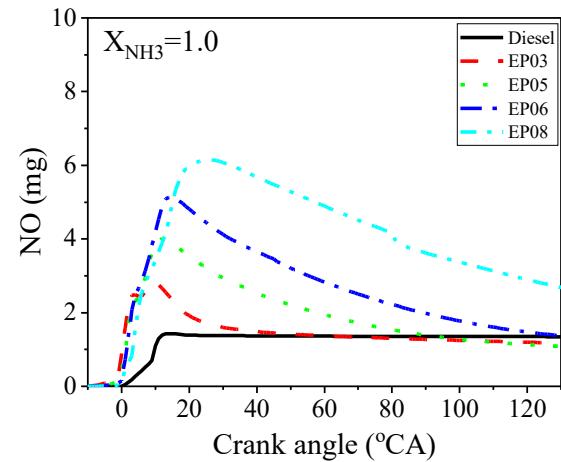


EP=0.8



$X_{NH_3}=0.9$

✓ Automatic	⌘ U
Hidden	⌘ I
Visible	⌘ A
Pen	⌘ P
Laser Pointer	⌘ L
Highlighter	
Eraser	
Erase Pen	⏏ E
Pen Colour	▶
Laser Colour	▶



# NH<sub>3</sub> RCCI engine (high load)

**High load:** total energy in the cylinder: 7500 J/cyc, IMEP 15bar

The global  $\Phi \sim 1.3$ , Thus, increasing the intake pressure (**supercharging**)

Intake pressure: 1.2 bar → 1.6 bar  
 $T_{in}$ : 458K → 330K

→ Increase the mass of intake air

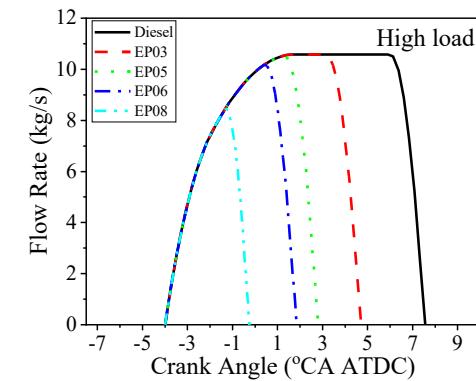
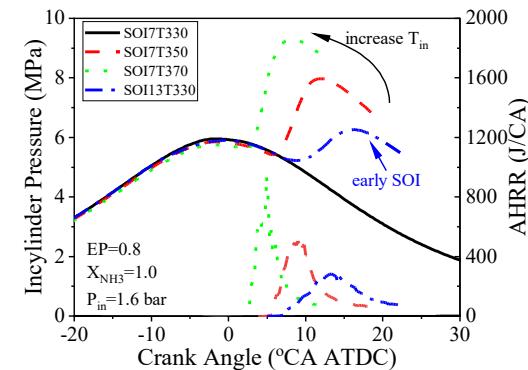
SOI: -7 °CA ATDC → -13 °CA ATDC

→ Promote the ignition of diesel

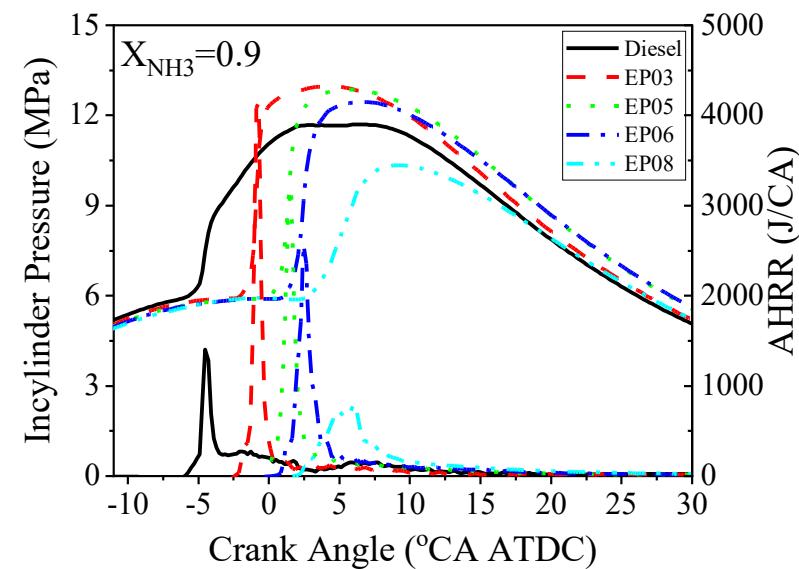
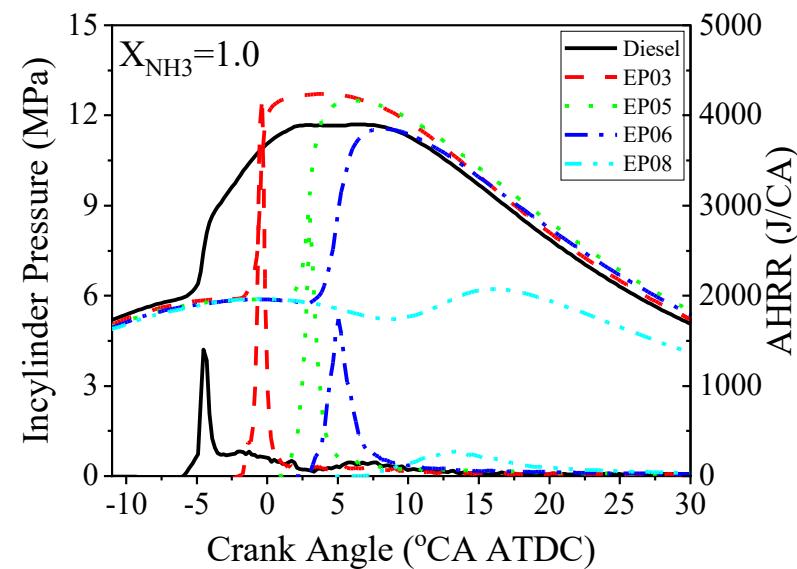
Case Name	EP	$X_{NH_3}$	$\Phi_0$ (premix)	Injected Duration °CA (N-heptane)	Description
Diesel	0	0	0	11.556	Diesel Engine
EP03	0.3	1	0.209	8.712	RCCI engine NH <sub>3</sub> premixed
EP05	0.5		0.348	6.811	
EP06	0.6		0.418	5.846	
EP08	0.8		0.557	3.751	

NH<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>2</sub> mixture premixed

EP03	0.3	0.9	0.207	6.494	NH <sub>3</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> premixed
EP05	0.5		0.345	5.184	
EP06	0.6		0.414	4.493	
EP08	0.8		0.552	2.923	



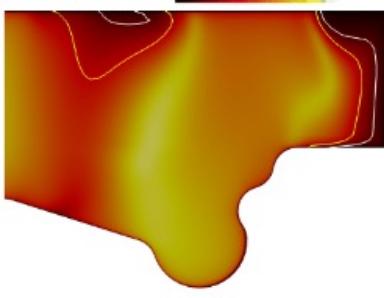
# Engine performance



# Temp.

Diesel

Time: 37.00 CA



$X_{NH_3}=1.0$

Time: 35.00 CA



Time: 35.00 CA

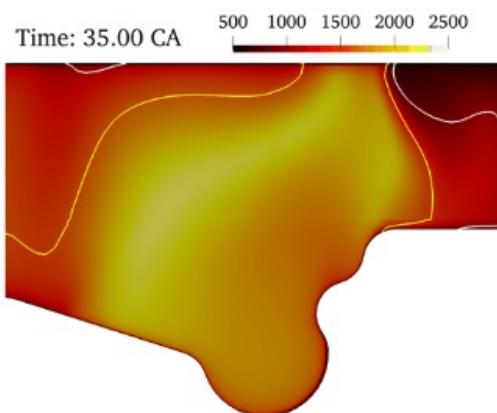


Time: 35.00 CA



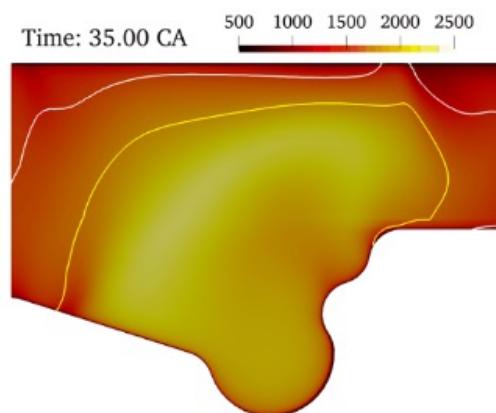
EP=0.3

Time: 35.00 CA



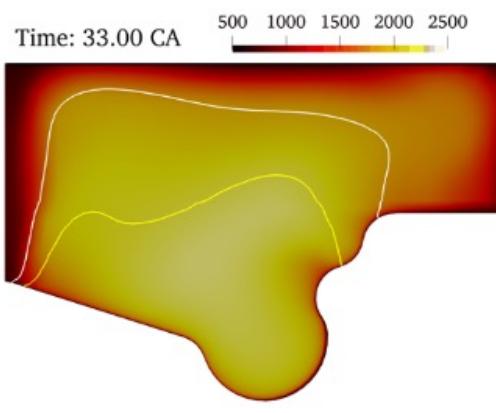
EP=0.5

Time: 35.00 CA



EP=0.8

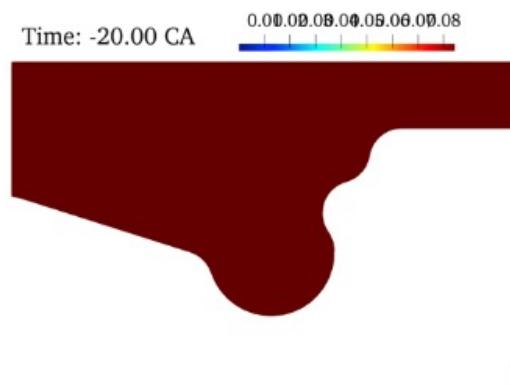
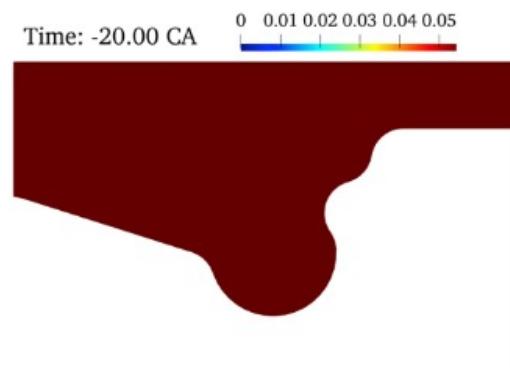
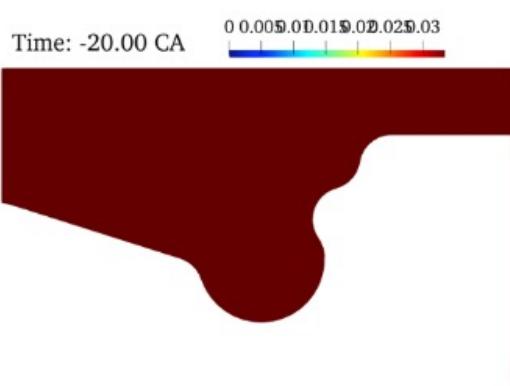
Time: 33.00 CA



NEF  $X_{NH_3}=0.9$

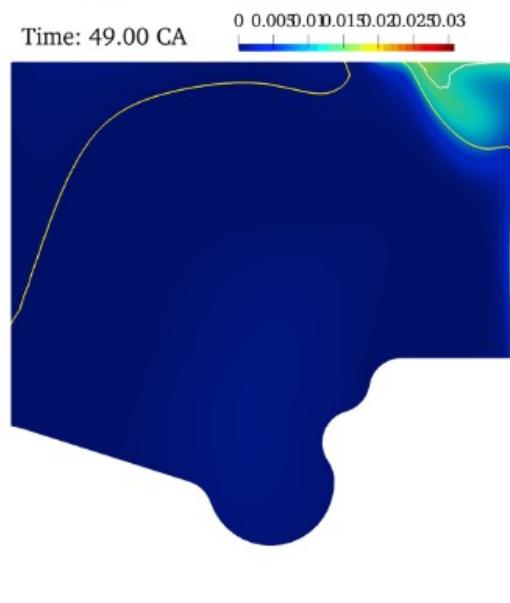
# NH<sub>3</sub>

$X_{\text{NH}_3}=1.0$



EP=0.3

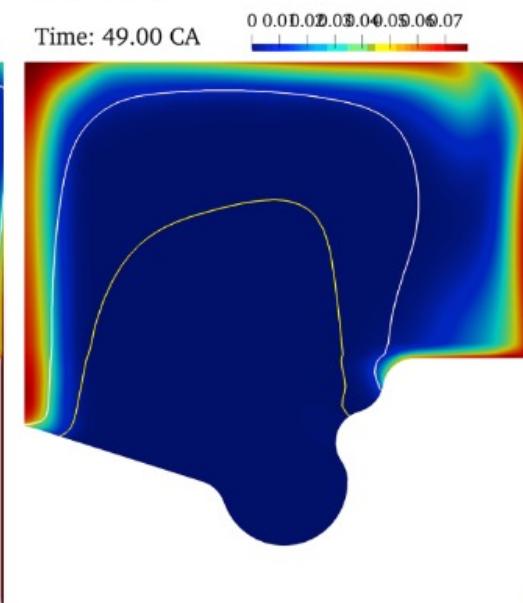
$X_{\text{NH}_3}=0.9$



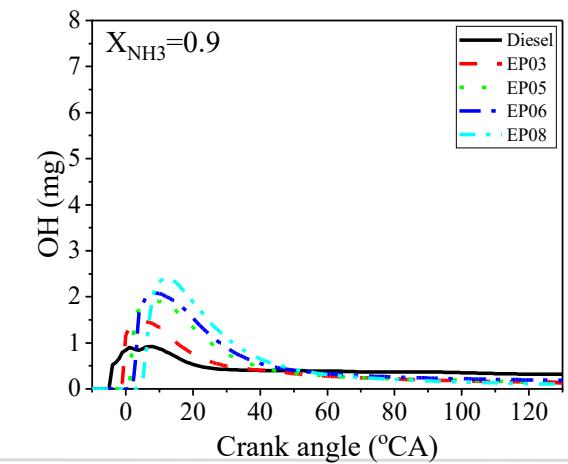
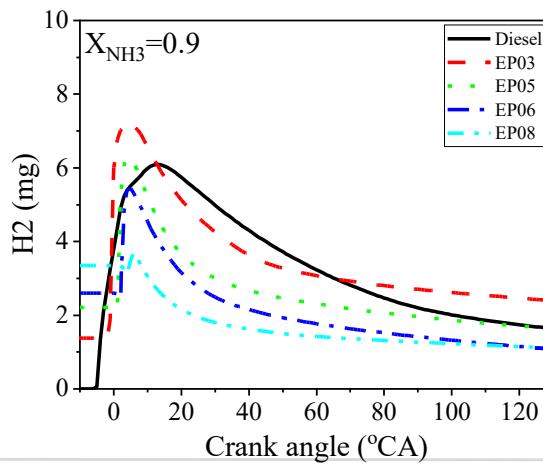
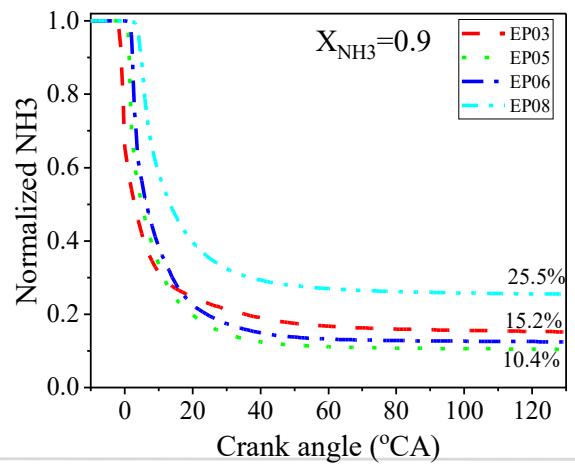
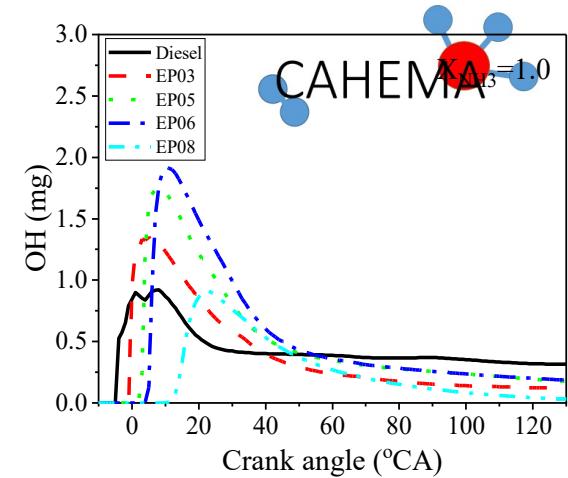
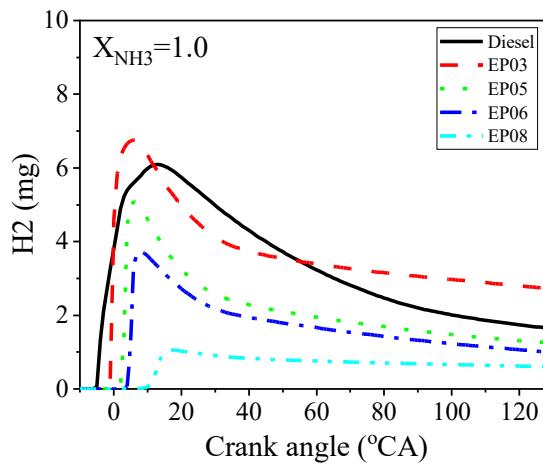
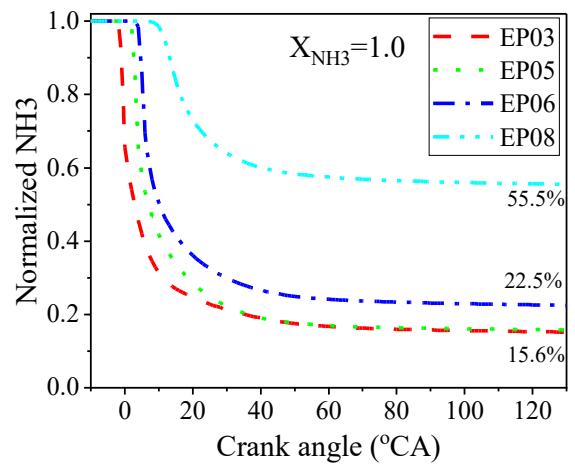
EP=0.5



EP=0.8

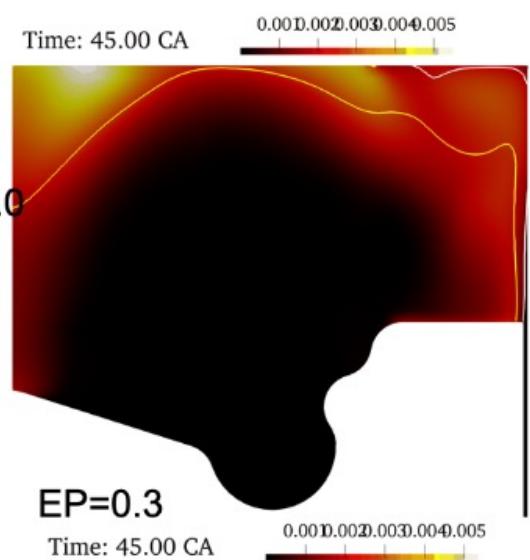


N

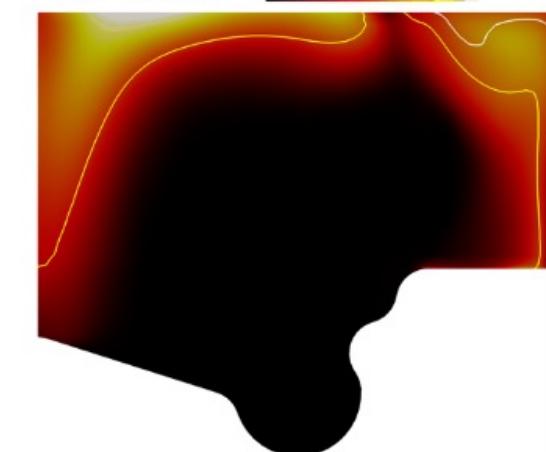


# N<sub>2</sub>O

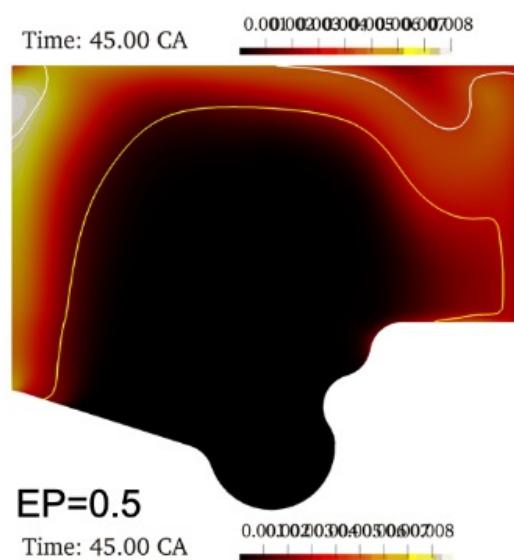
$X_{NH_3}=1.0$



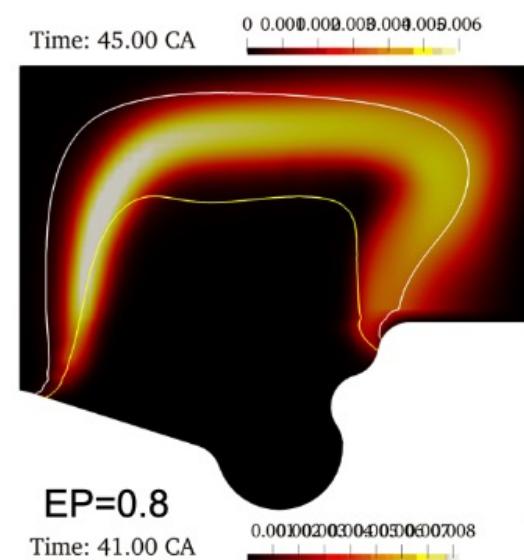
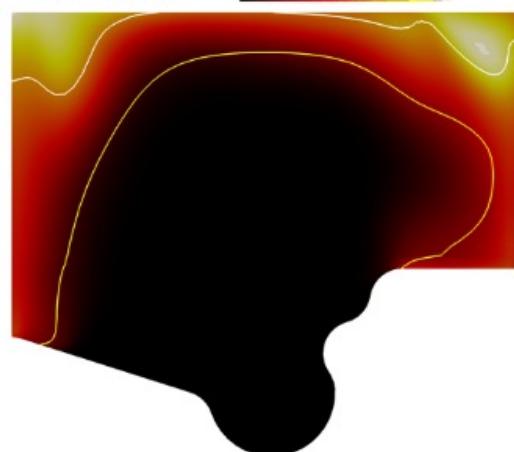
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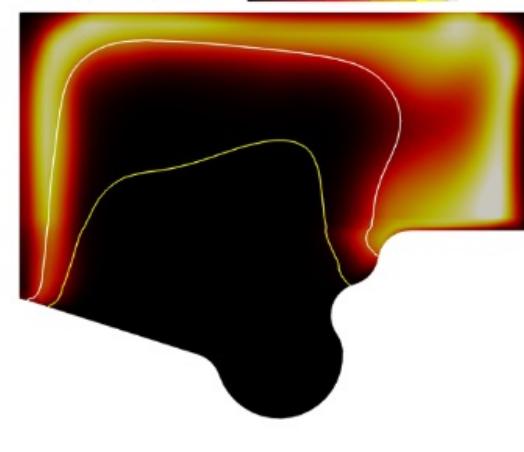
$X_{NH_3}=0.9$



EP=0.5



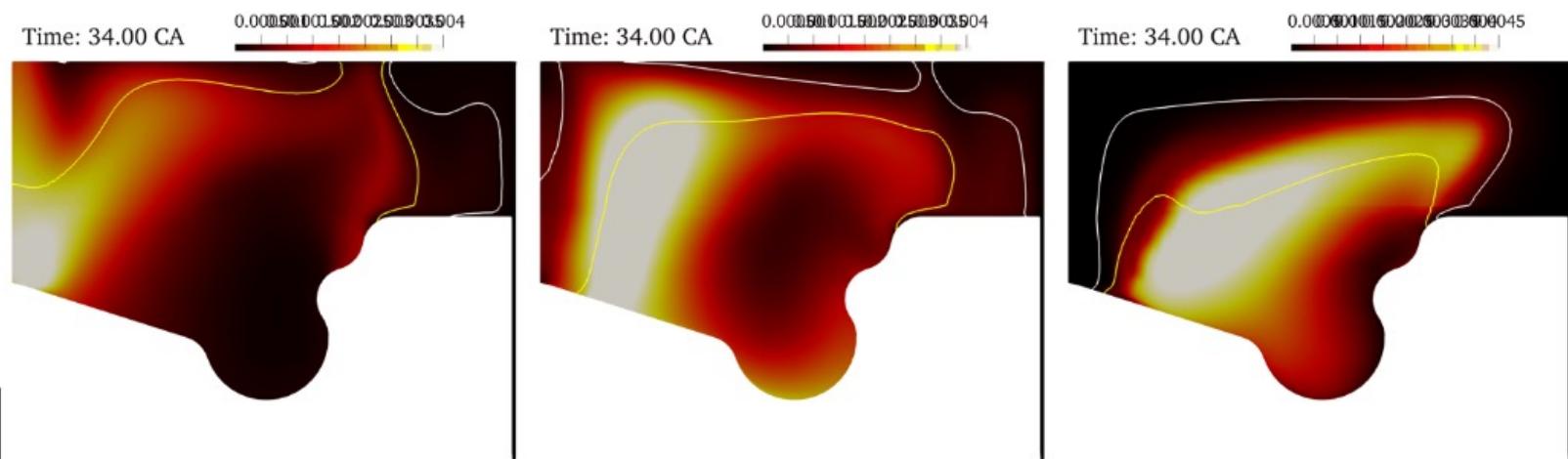
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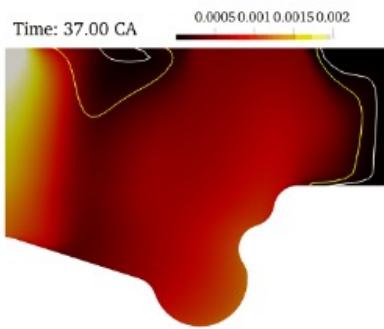
ity

# NO

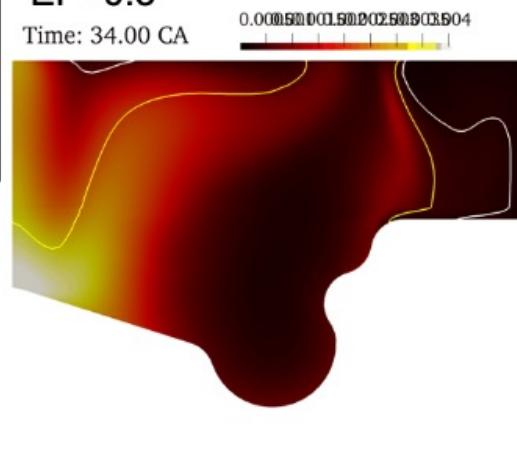
$X_{NH_3}=1.0$



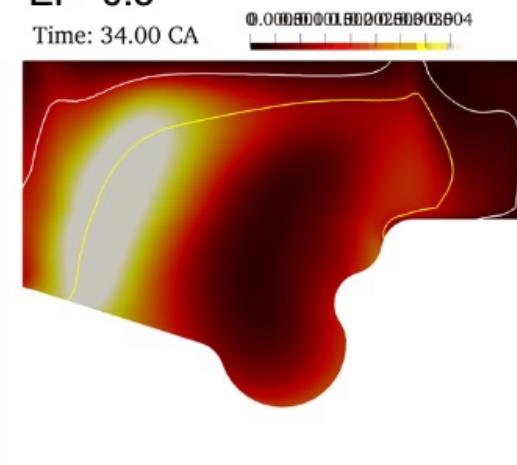
Diesel



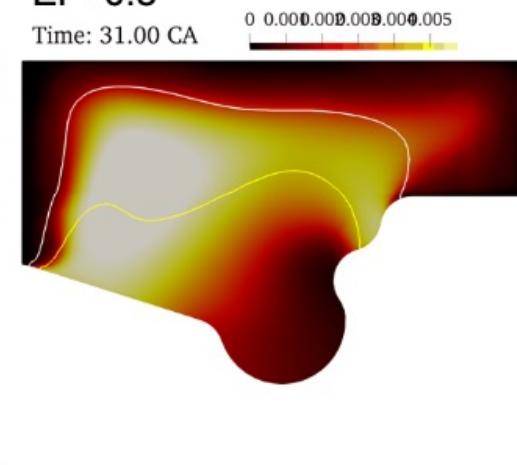
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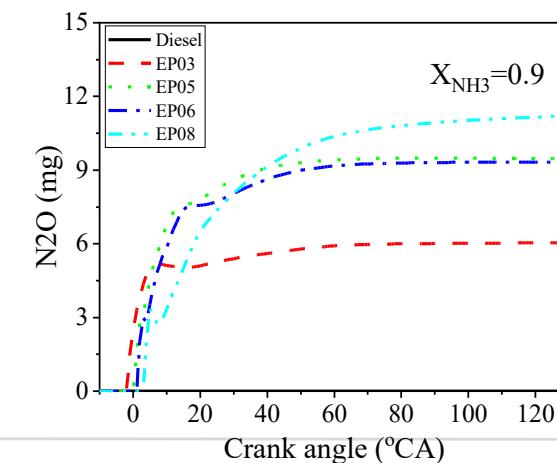
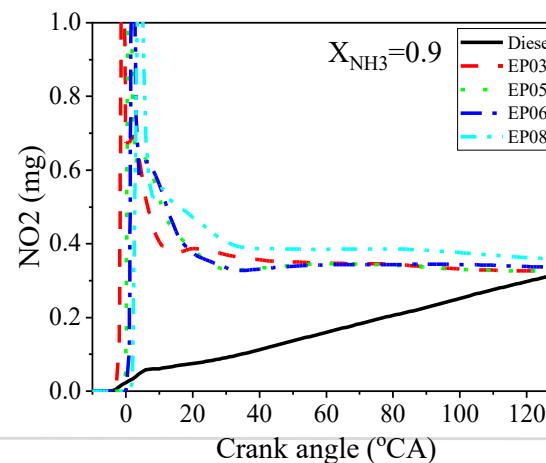
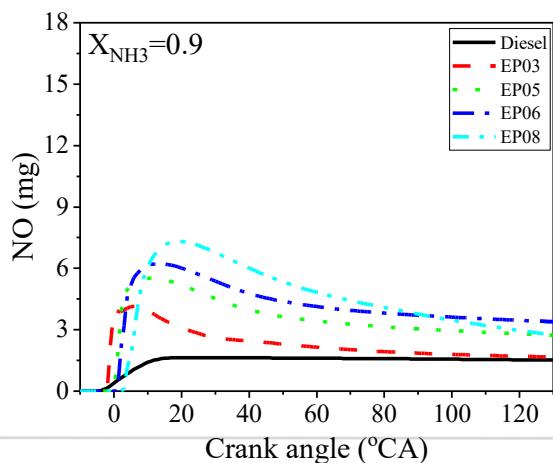
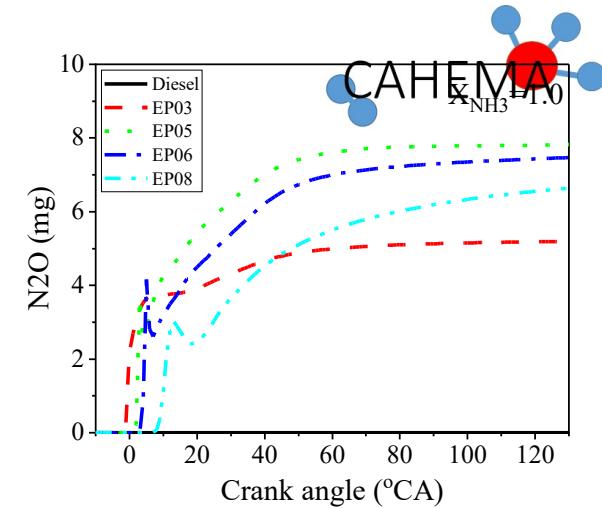
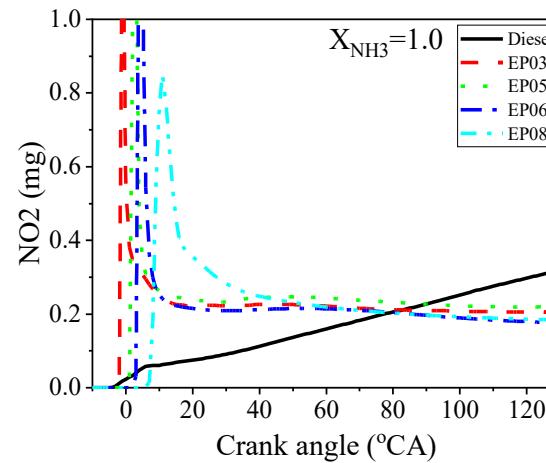
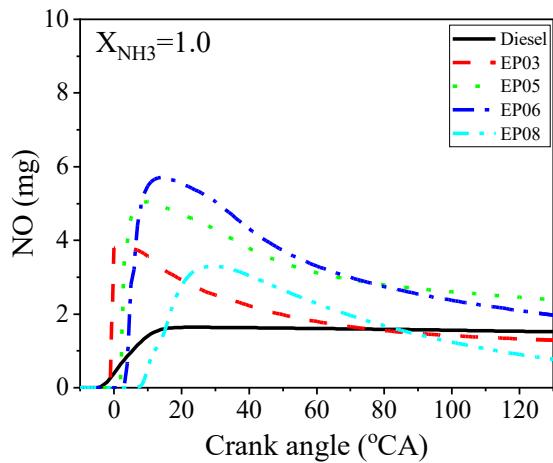


EP=0.8



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$NX_{NH_3}=0.9$



NER Workshop, 2022-04-20

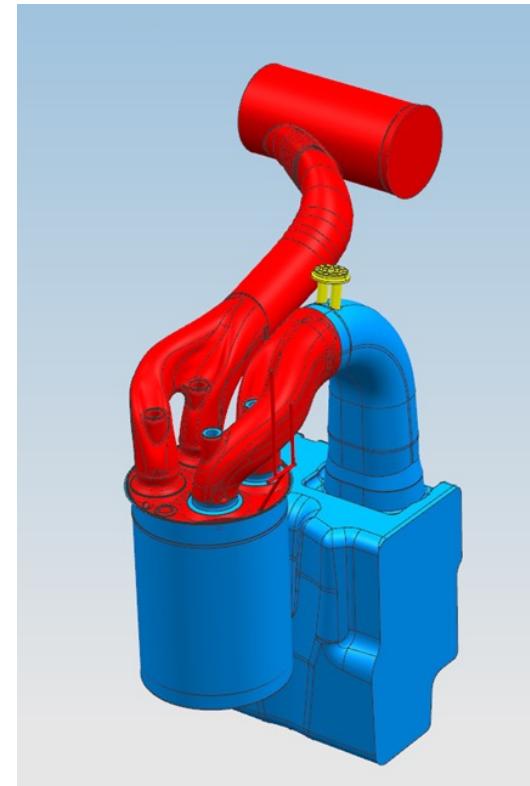
Dept of Energy Sciences, Lund University

# Summary and future work

- ❑ LES of n-heptane/ammonia RCCI ignition
  - ❑ Fuel chemistry interaction – suppression of auto-ignition
  - ❑ NO and N<sub>2</sub>O flame structures
- ❑ CFD simulation of diesel/ammonia/hydrogen RCCI engine performed
  - ❑ Baseline engine tested for gasoline and methanol
  - ❑ Engine performance simulated
    - ❑ Three different loads
    - ❑ NH<sub>3</sub>, NO, N<sub>2</sub>O emissions
    - ❑ Effect of H<sub>2</sub> on ammonia combustion
- ❑ Engine validation
  - ❑ NTNU/Aalto
  - ❑ Wärtsilä engine

## Summary and future work

- ❑ CFD simulation of Wärtsilä four-stroke engine
  - ❑ Ongoing experiments at Wärtsilä
  - ❑ NDA signed
  - ❑ CFD meshing of engine geometry in progress
  - ❑ RCCI concept
  - ❑ DDFS concept
- ❑ CFD simulation of MAN two-stroke engine





## Thank you for your support



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