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Detonations in Hydrocarbon Fuel Blends

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Abstract

A study of detonations in high-molecular weight hydrocarbon fuels of interest to pulse detonation engine applications was performed in a 280 mm diameter, 7.3 m long facility. Detonation pressure, wave speed, and cell width measurements were made in JP-10 mixtures and in mixtures representative of the decomposition products of JP-10.

Experiments were performed in vapor-phase JP-10 mixtures at 353 K over a range of equivalence ratios ($0.7 \leq \phi \leq 1.3$), nitrogen dilutions (fuel-oxygen to fuel-air), and initial pressures (20-130 kPa). The cell widths of the JP-10 mixtures are found to be similar to those of propane mixtures. A fuel blend representative of thermally decomposed JP-10 was studied at 295 K. This blend consisted of hydrogen, carbon monoxide, methane, acetylene, ethylene, and hexane with varying fractions of oxygen and nitrogen. The measured cell width of the fuel blend-air mixture is about half that of JP-10-air. The addition of components of the fuel blend (acetylene, ethylene, and methane) to JP-10 in air at 353 K was characterized.

Nitrogen diluted mixtures of stoichiometric hexane-oxygen were studied and the cell widths for hexane-air and JP-10-air are found to be comparable. The addition of lower molecular weight fuels (hydrogen, acetylene, ethylene,

and carbon monoxide) to hexane-air was investigated. The measured cell width decreases, indicating increased sensitivity to detonation, with increasing fraction of hydrogen, acetylene, and ethylene, in order of effectiveness. The addition of a small fraction of carbon monoxide produces a small decrease in the cell width, but addition of more than about 75 % (by fuel mass) carbon monoxide results in a significant increase in cell width.

Carbon monoxide is a principal intermediate product of hydrocarbon combustion yet there are relatively little cell width data available. Cell width measurements were made in carbon monoxide-air mixtures with the addition of hydrogen or hydrocarbons (acetylene, ethylene, and hexane). A linear relationship is found between the cell width and the reaction zone length when it is defined as the location of the peak in hydroxyl mole fraction.

Introduction

Liquid hydrocarbons are the fuel of choice for aviation propulsion systems, including the pulse detonation engine (PDE) concept. Much of the published PDE research carried out up to the present time has used gaseous fuels, C_1 - C_3 hydrocarbons, due to the difficulty of creating uniform fuel-air mixtures with liquid hydrocarbon fuels and initiating detonation in these mixtures. The present investigation is part of a larger study that considers how liquid fuels can best be utilized in PDEs.

A liquid hydrocarbon fuel can be partially decomposed into smaller molecules (C_1 to C_5) by fuel-rich combustion or by thermal cracking. Fuel-rich catalytic combustion uses the presence of a catalyst to achieve combustion beyond the rich combustion limit, producing reactive molecules, high temperatures and relatively little soot. Catalytic combustion of JP-10 was studied by Brabbs and Merritt [1] in an effort to find a storable liquid fuel which had an ignition delay time that was less than the residence time in the combustion chamber of a hypersonic vehicle. The majority of the combustion products were low-molecular weight hydrocarbons that are also more susceptible to detonation, making this process an attractive possibility for PDE fuels. Smaller molecular weight products may act as “sensitizers” to the parent fuel, re-

ducing the critical energy required to initiate a detonation compared to the parent fuel. This study compares the characteristic detonation cell widths of JP-10 with fuel blends that are representative of the products of liquid fuel decomposition.

Experimental details

Experiments were performed in the gaseous detonation tube (GDT) ([2], [3]) shown in Fig.1. The stainless steel detonation tube is 7.3 m long and has an internal diameter of 280 mm. Before each shot, an aluminum sheet or “foil” (0.61 m by 0.91 m by 0.5 mm) is rolled, riveted to a steel ring, and covered in a light layer of soot. For experiments at elevated temperatures, the aluminum foils are first coated with a thin layer of Dow-Corning DC200 Silicon (viscosity 20 cs) to assist in retaining the soot. The foil is inserted into the downstream end of the tube and anchored in place. The entire tube is evacuated to about 10 Pa and then filled by the method of partial pressures. Pressure in the tube is measured by an electronic Heise 901a gauge which is accurate to ± 0.17 kPa. Liquid fuels may be injected into the evacuated tube through a septum. The partial pressure of hexane (vapor pressure of

20 kPa at 298 K) is low enough to ensure that the fuel had vaporized at room temperature. However, for the experiments involving JP-10, the facility is heated to between 353 and 373 K. Comparison with JP-10 vapor pressure data (Fig. 2) shows the temperature is sufficient to ensure the JP-10 is vaporized. The circulation lines (lines which are used to circulate the gas prior to the experiment to ensure the mixture is homogeneous) are maintained at a higher temperature than the detonation tube to ensure no fuel condenses in the lines. The temperature is monitored at 19 locations throughout the facility. For liquid fuels, the fuel is injected in small increments to ensure the rise in partial pressure is linearly proportional to the injected volume. Since the exact volume of the tube is unknown, this linear behavior is taken to show that, to within the accuracy of the gauge, no fuel is condensing.

Ignition is by an exploding wire which is created by discharging a 2 μ F capacitor (initially charged to 9 kV) through a copper wire. The exploding wire initiates a slug of oxygen-acetylene driver gas that is injected into the tube in the vicinity of the wire just prior to ignition. The initiation system is described in greater detail in Akbar [2]. The equivalent energy of the driver gas is calculated from the blast wave in air by the procedure described in Thibault et al. [4], and found to be 70-100 kJ, with the 100 kJ driver used

in CO and JP-10 experiments.

Three PCB pressure transducers, mounted along the tube, record the detonation pressure and time-of-arrival of the wave which is used to calculate the wave speed. The chemical equilibrium program STANJAN [5] is used to calculate the Chapman-Jouguet (CJ) wave speed, pressure, and temperature. The wave speed obtained from the pressure transducers is checked against the calculated value and is typically within $\pm 1\%$. In the case of the least-sensitive mixtures studied (cell width ≈ 100 mm) the velocity deficit is within $\pm 1.5\%$ of the CJ velocity between the second and third pressure transducers. So in all cases, the length of the tube is sufficient for cell measurements to be unaffected by the initiation transient. Two sets of pressure traces are shown in Fig. 3. On the left, Fig. 3a, the mixture has a detonation cell width of 100.3 mm and larger scale oscillations in pressure are evident in comparison to a pressure history from a mixture with much smaller cell width (Fig. 3b).

As the detonation propagates over the sooted foil, a cellular pattern is scoured in the soot. The cellular pattern is associated with the instability of the detonation front. The cells are a measure of the spacing of the transverse waves which perturb the front. The average width of the transverse wave spacing recorded on a sooted foil will be referred to in this paper as the

detonation cell width. There can be a spectrum of cell widths recorded for a particular mixture due to the inherent irregularity of the cells. About 10 measurements are made on each foil from which a minimum, a maximum, and an average cell width are recorded. To give an indication of the range of cell widths recorded for each experiment, the minimum and maximum cell width are presented in the form of “error bars” about the average value. Cell width measurements are subject to variation from observer to observer. These can be on the order of $\pm 50\%$ [6]. To minimize this, all present data were measured by one observer.

The measured cell width is independent of the facility dimensions only if the size of the facility is sufficient to accommodate several cells. The diameter of the tube used in the current study is 280 mm. Therefore cell widths of 100 mm or above are reported only to give an indication of the observed trend, and should not be taken as absolute values.

During the course of this study, the facility was modified to accommodate reflected pressures of up to 10 MPa; however, some data were obtained before this modification. These experiments were limited to mixtures producing reflected pressures of 5 MPa, the original design limit of the facility. In any case where the reflected pressure of the mixture would exceed the facility

design limit, the test was performed at the highest initial pressure possible, then the cell widths for 100 kPa initial pressure were estimated by assuming the cell width varies in inverse proportion to the initial pressure. These data are presented as “extrapolated”.

Cell width measurements

Vapor-phase JP-10 mixtures

Cell width measurements were made in mixtures with vapor-phase JP-10 at 353-373 K. The detonation wave velocity was recorded for comparison with the calculated CJ velocity. A sample comparison is shown in Fig. 4. The average cell size of stoichiometric JP-10-air is found to be 60.4 mm, with minimum and maximum cell widths of 39 and 84 mm recorded. Cell widths in JP-10-air mixtures with varying equivalence ratio are reported in Fig. 5. The minimum and maximum cell widths measured are indicated by the horizontal bars. The cell widths in JP-10 are comparable to data published in Akbar et al. [7] and are shown to be on the order of previous measurements of C₃H₈-air cell widths, suggesting that propane may be a useful surrogate fuel for preliminary pulse detonation engine studies.

The effect of varying initial pressure is shown in Fig. 6 in stoichiometric JP-10-air and JP-10-O₂ mixtures. In both cases, the cell width decreases with increasing pressure.

Fig. 7 shows cell widths in JP-10-O₂ with varying N₂ dilution, from no dilution ($\beta=0$) up to equivalent air ($\beta=3.76$), where β is the molar ratio of N₂ to O₂ concentration. The ratio of the cell widths of JP-10-air to JP-10-oxygen is around 60. The critical initiation energy has been shown to be proportional to the cube of the cell width for a spherical geometry ([8],[9]). For a planar initiation source, this model finds the critical initiation energy is linearly proportional to the cell width. In this way, we estimate the planar critical initiation energy is increased by two orders of magnitude if JP-10 is detonated in air rather than in oxygen.

Decomposed JP-10 surrogate (HCS)

Brabbs and Merritt [1] investigated the fuel-rich catalytic combustion of JP-10 for a range of equivalence ratios. We have used their results to create a mixture similar to the decomposition products and tested this mixture in our detonation tube. The mixture (Table 1) resulted from JP-10 combustion at an equivalence ratio of 5.06, with a reaction temperature of 1220 K . Group

2 hydrocarbons are those with three or more carbon atoms. The remaining fraction consisted of condensable products which were not analyzed.

A hydrocarbon surrogate (HCS) blend was made by omitting the O₂, N₂ and CO₂ from the mixture given in Table 1. Hexane was chosen as a representative larger hydrocarbon from Group 2. Four of the components of the blend (H₂, CO, CH₄, and C₂H₄) were premixed by the manufacturer to an accuracy of $\pm 2\%$ on each component. This was done to improve the repeatability of the tests.

The HCS blend was mixed with a stoichiometric amount of O₂ and diluted with N₂. Experiments were performed at 295 K and at the maximum pressure possible in the facility. The pressure was limited by the design strength of the tube. Table A2 lists the mixture composition and initial conditions for the experiments. Cell widths were measured for several β values (Fig. 8), and decrease from 27.6 mm for $\beta = 3.76$ (i.e. HCS blend-air) to 1.0 mm for $\beta = 0$ (i.e. HCS blend-oxygen). The cell width of HCS blend-air is about half that of JP-10-air, suggesting that catalytic combustion can be used to reduce the planar critical initiation energy of JP-10 by a factor of two. It should be noted, however, that CO₂, which comprises 3% of the initial JP-10 decomposition products, was omitted in this study.

The mixture with $\beta=4.66$ is the HCS blend together with the volume fraction of O_2 and N_2 remaining after catalytic combustion. Sufficient air is added so that the mixture is stoichiometric. Since there is excess N_2 in the catalytic combustion products, this results in a value of β greater than that of air. The cell width for this mixture is 55.8 mm which is close to the 60.4 mm cell width measured for JP-10-air. If the HCS blend is mixed with a stoichiometric amount of O_2 , and no N_2 is added beyond that which would remain after the catalytic combustion, $\beta = 1$ and the extrapolated cell width at 100 kPa is about 4 mm.

A study was made of the effects of adding some fuels which result from JP-10 decomposition to JP-10-air. Cell widths measured in mixtures of JP-10-air with C_2H_2 , C_2H_4 , and CH_4 are presented in Fig. 9. Such measurements should be of value in validating reaction mechanisms suitable for JP-10. A more systematic study of the effectiveness of adding low-molecular weight fuels as sensitizers to heavy hydrocarbon fuels was carried out in hexane mixtures.

C₆H₁₄ mixtures with O₂-N₂

The sensitivity of stoichiometric C₆H₁₄-O₂ to nitrogen dilution was investigated. Since the reflected detonation pressure for these mixtures initially at 100 kPa exceeded the facility limit, experiments were performed at 40 kPa or at the highest initial pressure possible in the facility for each mixture. The cell width at an initial pressure of 100 kPa was estimated from these two data points by assuming the cell width varies in inverse proportion to the initial pressure. The average cell width is plotted against β in Fig. 10, where β is the ratio of N₂ to O₂ concentration in the mixture ($\beta=3.76$ for air). The cell width increased from 1.7 mm at $\beta = 0$ to 51.1 mm at $\beta = 3.76$. Extrapolated cell widths were a factor of two smaller than those previously measured at 100 kPa by Beeson et al. [10]; however the present experimental measurement at 100 kPa agrees well with extrapolated values. Discrepancy between Beeson et al. and the present extrapolated results may be due to the differences in the facility size and initiation method. Also shown are data at elevated temperature from Tieszen et al. [6] and Zhang et al. [11].

A comparison was made between the hexane and other fuels (Table 2). Cell widths obtained at different β values are shown in Fig. 11 for C₂H₄, C₃H₈, and CH₄, all at 295 K and 100 kPa. ‘CIT’ refers to unpublished cell

width measurements previously made at Caltech in the GDT. Hexane cell widths also appear to be similar to those of propane.

Sensitization of C₆H₁₄-air

A series of investigations was made into the sensitizing effects of adding H₂, C₂H₂, C₂H₄ or CO to C₆H₁₄ at 295 K and 100 kPa. The amount of sensitizer was calculated as a mass fraction in the sensitizer-hexane mixture. The appropriate amount of air was added to maintain a stoichiometric mixture. Results are shown in Figs. 12 to 15, with cell width plotted against the percentage (by fuel mass) of sensitizer in the fuel mixture. H₂, C₂H₂, and C₂H₄ mixtures show a gradual decrease in cell width as the fraction of fuel additive increases; H₂ and C₂H₂ are more effective than C₂H₄. There is no significant variation in cell width for mixtures containing 10 - 70% CO. In mixtures with CO fractions increasing beyond about 75%, the cell width increases, indicating the CO acts as an inhibitor. Beyond about 95% CO, the cell width increases sharply. This agrees with the reaction zone length measurements of Lu et al. [12]. They report a sharp increase in reaction zone length in H₂-CO-O₂ mixtures when the CO concentration exceeds 75% of the total fuel volume (98% of the total fuel mass). These results are reasonable

in view of the sensitivity of CO mixtures to the presence of hydrogenous species, discussed in the next section.

Addition of H₂, C₂H₂, C₂H₄, and C₆H₁₄ to CO-air

Carbon monoxide is of fundamental importance as a principal intermediate product of hydrocarbon combustion. The reaction mechanism of CO oxidation is relatively simple and has been studied extensively [13]. In the presence of even trace amounts of hydrogen, the oxidation of CO takes place almost entirely by reaction (1) rather than by the spin-forbidden reaction (2).



Early reseachers found a dramatic increase in the reactivity of carbon monoxide with the addition of water vapor or other substances containing hydrogen ([14], [15], [16]). The hydroxyl radical promotes oxidation and drastically reduces the induction time.

The sensitizing effect of hydrogen addition to CO mixtures for detonations has been reported by several researchers. Kistiakowsky and Kydd [17] used x-ray absorption, White and Moore [18] used interferometry, and Lu et

al. [12] used schlieren photography to measure the detonation reaction zone length. The addition of CO to H₂-air mixtures has been shown to increase the reaction zone length in numerical calculations by Magzumov et al. [19].

There are very little detonation cell width data available in CO mixtures. Some soot foils obtained in a narrow channel are reported in Lu [20]. Libouton et al. [21] looked at the addition of halocarbons to CO-H₂-Ar mixtures in a study of the effect of inhibitors on detonation velocity and structure. A study of the sensitizing effect of increasing H₂ addition was also included. Some cell length data are reported, but were obtained in a narrow channel at low pressure.

Previous research has examined CO-O₂-H₂ mixtures but the present study is the first systematic effort to investigate different fuel types and their effect on the cell width. The fuels H₂, C₂H₂, C₂H₄, and C₆H₁₄ were chosen as representative of species important to hydrocarbon combustion and to study the effects of varying atomic hydrogen content and chemical structure. Detonation pressure, velocity and cell width measurements were made. All mixtures were stoichiometric and at an initial pressure of 100 kPa and an initial temperature of 295 K. Gases used were C.P. grade (99%) and no attempt was made to remove impurities. In these and all other experiments,

“air” was formed from one mole O_2 with 3.76 mole N_2 . This avoided using room air which contains uncontrolled quantities of moisture.

No detonation could be initiated in stoichiometric CO- O_2 . The limiting fraction of H_2 that was necessary to detonate CO-air was found to be between 0 and 2%(of fuel volume). Since the mixture CO-2% H_2 -air resulted in highly irregular cells, a nitrogen dilution series was performed in the mixture CO-5% H_2 (of fuel volume) with stoichiometric O_2 (Fig. 16).

Cell width measurements were made for varying mixture fractions (presented as % of total mixture volume) of H_2 , C_2H_2 , C_2H_4 and C_6H_{14} in CO-air (Fig. 17). In all cases, increasing the fraction of additive reduced the cell width. The decrease of cell width is largest for fuel addition of H_2 and C_2H_2 , followed by C_2H_4 , then C_6H_{14} . This is consistent with results from Tieszen et al. [6] who report a decrease in the cell width with increasing C-C bond strength in hydrocarbon-air mixtures.

A detonation could be initiated in mixtures with only very small fractions of C_6H_{14} (0.07% of the total mixture). This was the lowest fraction attempted since we were limited by the accuracy of the gauge used during the filling process. These results agree with the previously mentioned studies that report the extreme sensitivity of CO oxidation to the presence of

hydrogen. The hexane molecule contains more H atoms than the other hydrocarbons considered in this study. Therefore, in a mixture with a certain % fuel additive, hexane has the highest fuel hydrogen atom concentration, where fuel hydrogen atom concentration, $[H_f]$, is defined as n times the fuel concentration for the fuel C_mH_n . Fig. 18 shows the measured cell width against H_f concentration normalized by the initial CO concentration.

Reaction zone structure of CO-H₂/hydrocarbon mixtures

Fig. 18 shows the measured cell width is not merely a function of the fuel hydrogen atom concentration but also depends on fuel type, particularly at low concentrations (e.g. $[H_f]/[CO]=0.04$). To investigate this dependence on fuel type, reaction zone parameters such as species mole fractions and temperature were calculated using detailed chemical kinetics mechanisms. Mechanisms were first validated by comparing ignition delay times calculated assuming a constant volume explosion with experimental shock tube ignition delay times for the same mixtures. Mechanisms were validated for CO-H₂ mixtures and also for mixtures involving the hydrocarbon for which they were considered. The mechanism of Warnatz and Karbach [22] (34

species, 165 reactions) was chosen for mixtures containing H_2 , C_2H_2 , and C_2H_4 . The mechanism of Curran et al. [23] (550 species, 2500 reactions) was used for C_6H_{14} mixtures. Some validations are shown in Figs. 19, 20, and 21. Both mechanisms perform very well against the $\text{CO-H}_2\text{-O}_2$ data of Dean et al. [24]. The Curran mechanism underpredicts the experimental data of Burcat et al. [25] by a factor of two. Davidson et al. [26] compared ignition delay times calculated by the Curran mechanism with their shock tube data for heptane mixtures and found the same trends: the mechanism shows a similar temperature dependence as their data but the calculated ignition times are a factor of two shorter than the measured values. For acetylene mixtures, the Warnatz and Karbach mechanism was compared to the shock tube data of Edwards et al. [27] as these data are close to the detonation conditions (Fig. 21). At high temperature, the measured induction times are up to a factor of two greater than the calculated times. Recently, Varatharajan and Williams [28] found a similar underprediction when validating their mechanism against these data. A discussion of the range of validity of detailed reaction mechanisms for detonation conditions, possible sources of error in shock tube induction time data and the applicability of a constant volume calculation for the validation process is given in Schultz and Shepherd [29].

The validation of the Warnatz and Karbach mechanism for ethylene mixtures is also contained in that report.

A numerical solution of the one dimensional Zel'dovich-von Neumann-Doring (ZND) model [30] was used together with the validated mechanisms and CHEMKIN II [31] chemical kinetics subroutines to calculate the variation of temperature and species concentrations through the reaction zone. Sample calculations of species mole fractions through the reaction zone for mixtures with 2%, 5%, 10% and 30% H₂ (by fuel fraction) are shown in Fig. 22. Two regions of [H_f]/[CO] concentration are of interest: small values of [H_f]/[CO] where the additive may play a sensitizing role, and large values of [H_f]/[CO] where hydrogen or hydrocarbon fuel oxidation dominates the combustion chemistry. As the fraction of H₂ increases, the peak amount of OH produced increases. The time at which the peak OH mole fraction occurs decreases with increasing H₂ concentration. There is a difference of one order of magnitude in the time between the peak OH mole fractions in the 2% and 30% cases. Calculations were performed for the other mixtures studied and similar results were obtained.

The magnitude of the computed peak OH concentration is shown in Fig. 23 as a function of [H_f]/[CO] ratio for all fuels. For small [H_f]/[CO]

ratios, all mixtures produce about the same peak OH mole fraction for a given $[H_f]/[CO]$ ratio. This indicates that the difference in cell size at small $[H_f]/[CO]$ ratio that was noted in Fig. 18 is not due to differences in the peak levels of OH mole fraction. The post-shock temperatures of these mixtures were also calculated and found to be almost identical.

With the addition of larger amounts of hydrogen or hydrocarbon, differences between the fuels become apparent. The calculated peak OH mole fraction is highest for H_2 , C_2H_2 and C_2H_4 addition; C_6H_{14} mixtures produced the smallest peak mole fraction for a given $[H_f]/[CO]$ ratio. The species profiles for these C_6H_{14} mixtures show a peak in the CO mole fraction profiles (Fig. 24), since with the addition of a large fraction of C_6H_{14} , CO is being produced by the C_6H_{14} combustion.

In Fig. 22, differences can be observed in the time of the OH production. In view of this, the location of the peak OH mole fraction was investigated for the different fuels. Fig. 25 shows the location (relative to the shock front) of the calculated peak OH mole fraction as a function of the $[H_f]/[CO]$ ratio. This distance is greatest for mixtures with C_6H_{14} addition and is smallest for mixtures with C_2H_2 addition. This correlation suggests that the differences in cell size between the additives may be explained by the differences in the

location of the peak mole fraction of OH.

The reaction zone length is typically defined as the distance between the shock and the location of the maximum temperature gradient and can be related to the cell width by a constant of proportionality, A . This constant is different for fuel-O₂ and fuel-air mixtures [32] and also varies with the equivalence ratio [30]. However, both reaction zone length and cell width are approximately proportional for a wide range of mixtures and can be related to the critical initiation energy [33], so that either parameter is a useful measure of the sensitivity of a mixture to detonation.

Fig. 26 shows the measured cell width versus the reaction zone length. In Fig. 26a, the reaction zone length is defined based on the temperature profile as described above. There are some significant deviations from the expected linear relationship. In view of the significant role of OH in the reaction process, we have also considered an alternate definition of the reaction zone length as the location of the peak in OH mole fraction. The correlation with measured cell width is significantly better (Fig. 26b) for the OH-based reaction zone length than for the usual temperature-based reaction zone length (Fig. 26a). Fitting the results of Fig. 26b to a linear correlation, values between 25 and 35 were obtained for A . These values are

reasonable and similar to values of A obtained for other mixtures with the temperature-based definition of the reaction zone length ([30],[34]).

Summary and Conclusions

Detonation cell width measurements were made in a variety of hydrocarbon fuel mixtures of interest to aviation propulsion. Cell widths were measured in vapor-phase JP-10 mixtures at 353 K, varying equivalence ratio, initial pressure and dilution, and found to be comparable to those of propane and hexane mixtures. This result suggests that propane may be used as a surrogate fuel for JP-10 for preliminary studies of pulse detonation engines.

A hydrocarbon fuel blend representative of the decomposition products of JP-10 after catalytic cracking was studied at 295 K. The cell width of the fuel blend-air mixture is about half that of JP-10-air, indicating that the critical initiation energy is reduced by a factor of two if JP-10 is decomposed prior to injection into the combustion chamber. The minimum size of the chamber that is required for steady detonation propagation is also reduced by a factor of two. However, this reduction in cell width occurs only if JP-10 is catalytically combusted with oxygen. If the combustion is in

air, and the JP-10 decomposition products (including the remaining O_2 and N_2) are mixed with air to make a stoichiometric mixture in the combustion chamber, the cell width (55.8 μm) is approximately the same as the cell width for stoichiometric JP-10-air (60.4 μm).

Cell width measurements were made for mixtures of JP-10-air with C_2H_2 , C_2H_4 , CH_4 . Such data should be of use in validation studies for JP-10 reaction mechanisms.

The effectiveness of adding low-molecular weight hydrocarbon fuels, such as those resulting from JP-10 decomposition, to a representative liquid fuel, C_6H_{14} , was investigated. The addition of H_2 , C_2H_2 , and C_2H_4 resulted in a decrease in the measured cell width, in order of decreasing effectiveness. Addition of 25% H_2 (by fuel mass) resulted in a 50% reduction in the cell width. These results show a considerable amount of low-molecular weight fuel must be added before a significant decrease is observed in the cell width. Addition of less than 10% CO reduced the cell size slightly and the presence of more than 75% CO increased the cell size significantly. Between these limits, there was little effect on the cell width. Large quantities of CO may be produced by thermal or catalytic decomposition of liquid fuels. This study suggests that if CO is mixed with a vaporized liquid fuel, the effect on cell

width may be neglected as long as CO is less than 75% of total fuel mass.

Mixtures of CO with hydrogen or hydrocarbon in air were also studied. For all mixtures studied, the addition of increasing amounts of hydrogen or hydrocarbon reduced the cell width. The greatest reduction was due to the addition of C₂H₂ and H₂, followed by C₂H₄, then C₆H₁₄. Detonations could be initiated in mixtures with a very small fraction of C₆H₁₄ (0.07% of the total mixture). Temperature and radical species profiles were calculated through the reaction zone. Measured cell widths were compared with calculated reaction zone thicknesses. In these mixtures, if the reaction zone thickness is defined by the location of the peak in OH mole fraction, the cell width is directly proportional to the reaction zone thickness with slopes between 25 and 35. This relationship may be used to estimate the detonation cell width from the calculated reaction zone thickness for these mixtures.

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Table Captions

Table 1: Products (by % volume) of JP-10 catalytic combustion at $\phi = 5.06$, 1220K from Brabbs and Merritt [1].

Table 2: Comparison of cell width measurements of various stoichiometric fuel-air mixtures at 100 kPa.

Tables for Appendix A

Table A1: JP-10-O₂-N₂ mixtures with varying equivalence ration, initial pressure and N₂ dilution. (Initial temperature = 353 K, 'Air'=O₂+3.76N₂)

Table A2: HCS mixtures

Table A3: JP-10-additive-air mixtures (Initial temperature = 353 K, 'Air'=O₂+3.76N₂)

Table A4: C₆H₁₄-O₂-N₂ mixtures. (Initial temperature = 295 K)

Table A5: C₆H₁₄-additive-air mixtures. (Initial temperature = 295 K, 'Air'=O₂+3.76N₂)

Table A6: CO mixtures.('Air'=O₂+3.76N₂. ^a: cells unreadable)

CO ₂	H ₂	CO	CH ₄	C ₂ H ₂	C ₂ H ₄	Group 2	O ₂	N ₂
3.37	8.07	14.70	2.88	0.73	4.24	3.03	1.38	60.79

Table 1:

Fuel	Cell width (mm)	Reference
H ₂	10.9	CIT
CH ₄	280	[35]
C ₂ H ₂	10	[36]
C ₂ H ₄	22.8	CIT
C ₃ H ₈	51.3	CIT
C ₆ H ₁₄	51.1	CIT

Table 2:

Mixture	P_o (kPa)	λ (mm)		
		av	max.	min.
0.7C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	138.5	240	52
0.8C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	65.9	72	52
0.85C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	57.4	66	39
0.9C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	52.9	60	44
0.95C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	44.4	57	33
1.0C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	65.8	84	40
1.0C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	54.9	61	39
1.1C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	56.8	88	44
1.1C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	56.0	71	41
1.15C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	41.9	49	25
1.2C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	48.9	71	33
1.25C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	49.6	62	38
1.3C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	41.9	49	36
1.35C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	78.5	134	34
1.4C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	100	74.1	99	40
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	63.5	100.9	165	54
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14Air	130	40.8	54	29
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14O ₂	20	4.6	6	3
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14O ₂	50	2.0	3	1
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14(O ₂ -0.75N ₂)	100	5.1	7	3
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14(O ₂ -1.5N ₂)	100	9.3	13	5
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14(O ₂ -2.25N ₂)	100	19.4	22	14
C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -14(O ₂ -3N ₂)	100	43.6	68	29

H ₂	CO	Mixture Fractions						Pressure (kPa)	β	λ_{av} (mm)
		CH ₄	C ₂ H ₂	C ₂ H ₄	C ₆ H ₁₄	O ₂	N ₂			
0.025	0.046	0.009	0.002	0.013	0.009	0.188	0.707	100	3.76	27.6
0.03	0.053	0.011	0.003	0.015	0.011	0.219	0.658	100	3.0	15.5
0.035	0.064	0.013	0.003	0.018	0.013	0.262	0.591	90	2.25	10.6
0.044	0.080	0.016	0.004	0.023	0.016	0.327	0.490	85	1.5	6.4
0.058	0.105	0.021	0.005	0.030	0.022	0.433	0.345	75	0.75	2.9
0.087	0.157	0.031	0.007	0.045	0.032	0.641	0.0	65	0.0	1.5
0.021	0.039	0.007	0.002	0.008	0.008	0.161	0.751	100	4.66	55.8

Mixture	P _o (kPa)	λ (mm)		
		av	max	min
0.9C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.1C ₂ H ₂ -12.85Air	100	46.1	54	38
0.8C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.2C ₂ H ₂ -11.7Air	100	39.4	53	30
0.7C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.3C ₂ H ₂ -10.55Air	100	41.9	47	37
0.5C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.5C ₂ H ₂ -8.25Air	100	34.9	43	28
0.3C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.7C ₂ H ₂ -5.95Air	100	30.6	33	22
0.15C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.85C ₂ H ₂ -4.23Air	100	15.3	20	11
C ₂ H ₂ -2.5Air	100	4.0	6	3
0.9C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.1C ₂ H ₄ -12.9Air	100	48.0	58	38
0.85C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.15C ₂ H ₄ -12.35Air	100	43.0	50	33
0.5C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.5C ₂ H ₄ -8.5Air	100	40.7	50	35
0.9C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.1CH ₄ -12.8Air	100	45.9	61	36
0.8C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.2CH ₄ -11.6Air	100	48.6	57	38
0.7C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.3CH ₄ -10.4Air	100	47.7	59	38
0.5C ₁₀ H ₁₆ -0.5CH ₄ -8Air	100	60.6	70	46

Mixture	P _o (kPa)	λ(mm)		
		av	max	min
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5O ₂	40	1.7	2	1
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +0.75N ₂)	40	6.3	8	5
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +1.5N ₂)	40	16.0	19	14
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +2.25N ₂)	40	30.4	41	22
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +3.0N ₂)	40	50.5	65	37
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +3.76N ₂)	40	91.7	98	87
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +0.75N ₂)	55	6.1	8	4
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +1.5N ₂)	70	8.3	10	6
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +2.25N ₂)	80	19.7	24	15
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +3.0N ₂)	90	23.7	32	20
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5(O ₂ +3.76N ₂)	100	51.1	62	43

Mixture	P _o (kPa)	λ (mm)		
		av	max	min
C ₆ H ₁₄ +9.5Air	100	51.1	62	43
0.95C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.05H ₂ +9.05Air	100	39.2	53	28
0.9C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.1H ₂ +8.6Air	100	43.2	49	38
0.8C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.2H ₂ +7.7Air	100	42.7	55	31
0.7C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.3H ₂ +6.8Air	100	39.5	46	31
0.6C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.4H ₂ +5.9Air	100	38.5	46	29
0.5C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.5H ₂ +5.0Air	100	34.9	45	29
0.1C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.9H ₂ +1.4Air	100	27.3	33	22
0.05C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.95H ₂ +0.95Air	100	21.9	27	19
0.02C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.98H ₂ +0.68Air	100	13.5	16	11
0.01C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.99H ₂ +0.59Air	100	10.1	13	7
H ₂ +0.5Air	100	10.9	12	9
0.9C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.1C ₂ H ₂ +8.8Air	100	36.8	42	29
0.7C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.3C ₂ H ₂ +7.4Air	100	31.4	36	25
0.5C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.5C ₂ H ₂ +6.0Air	100	32.2	39	25
0.3C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.7C ₂ H ₂ +4.6Air	100	20.7	23	17
0.2C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.8C ₂ H ₂ +3.9Air	100	14.1	16	12
0.1C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.9C ₂ H ₂ +3.2Air	100	10.7	14	8
0.05C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.95C ₂ H ₂ +2.85Air	100	8.4	12	6
C ₂ H ₂ +2.5Air	100	6.2	8	4
0.9C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.1C ₂ H ₄ +8.85Air	100	46.4	59	41
0.8C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.2C ₂ H ₄ +8.2Air	100	35.3	44	29
0.7C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.3C ₂ H ₄ +7.55Air	100	37.7	50	32
0.6C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.4C ₂ H ₄ +6.9Air	100	35.8	42	27
0.5C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.5C ₂ H ₄ +6.25Air	100	36.4	42	31
0.3C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.7C ₂ H ₄ +4.95Air	100	24.7	34	19
0.2C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.8C ₂ H ₄ +4.3Air	100	24.7	32	19
0.1C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.9C ₂ H ₄ +3.65Air	100	20.6	24	16
0.05C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.95C ₂ H ₄ +3.33Air	100	19.2	23	16
0.02C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.98C ₂ H ₄ +3.13Air	100	17.0	20	14
C ₂ H ₄ +3Air	100	22.8	29	19

Mixture	P _o (kPa)	λ (mm)		
		av	max	min
9.5CO+0.5H ₂ +5O ₂	100	5.0	7	2
9.5CO+0.5H ₂ +5(O ₂ +1.5N ₂)	100	12.5	16	10
9.5CO+0.5H ₂ +5Air	100	48.4	57	41
0.995CO+0.005H ₂ +0.5Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.99CO+0.01H ₂ +0.5Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.99CO+0.01H ₂ +0.5Air	100	det ^a	-	-
0.99CO+0.01H ₂ +0.5Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.98CO+0.02H ₂ +0.5Air	100	100.3	121	87
0.95CO+0.05H ₂ +0.5Air	100	48.4	57	41
0.9CO+0.1H ₂ +0.5Air	100	32	43	21
0.7CO+0.3H ₂ +0.5Air	100	16.9	21	12
0.995CO+0.005C ₂ H ₂ +0.51Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.995CO+0.005C ₂ H ₂ +0.51Air	100	102.3	140	83
0.99CO+0.01C ₂ H ₂ +0.52Air	100	90.5	115	62
0.98CO+0.02C ₂ H ₂ +0.54Air	100	49.5	63	40
0.95CO+0.05C ₂ H ₂ +0.6Air	100	29.9	34	27
0.8CO+0.2C ₂ H ₂ +0.9Air	100	10.9	13	9
0.995CO+0.005C ₂ H ₄ +0.513Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.995CO+0.005C ₂ H ₄ +0.513Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.99CO+0.01C ₂ H ₄ +0.525Air	100	71.8	114	49
0.99CO+0.01C ₂ H ₄ +0.525Air	100	89.7	104	85
0.98CO+0.02C ₂ H ₄ +0.55Air	100	54.3	74	45
0.97CO+0.03C ₂ H ₄ +0.575Air	100	43.8	62	32
0.95CO+0.05C ₂ H ₄ +0.625Air	100	36.2	63	26
0.9CO+0.1C ₂ H ₄ +0.75Air	100	33.8	39	27
0.7CO+0.3C ₂ H ₄ +1.25Air	100	25.2	33	18
0.997CO+0.003C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.527Air	100	112.0	124	95
0.995CO+0.005C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.545Air	100	89.4	95	82
0.992CO+0.008C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.572Air	100	69.7	82	58
0.99CO+0.01C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.59Air	100	no det.	-	-
0.988CO+0.012C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.608Air	100	61.8	79	54
0.985CO+0.015C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.635Air	100	58.3	74	46
0.98CO+0.02C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.68Air	100	52.2	61	45
0.95CO+0.05C ₆ H ₁₄ +0.95Air	100	43.1	51	39
0.9CO+0.1C ₆ H ₁₄ +1.4Air	100	40.0	45	35
0.7CO+0.3C ₆ H ₁₄ +3.2Air	100	36.7	45	29
0.5CO+0.5C ₆ H ₁₄ +5.0Air	100	34.3	39	29
0.3CO+0.7C ₆ H ₁₄ +6.8Air	100	36.9	43	28
0.1CO+0.9C ₆ H ₁₄ +8.6Air	100	35.1	42	28

Figure Captions

Figure 1: GALCIT 280 mm diameter gaseous detonation facility.

Figure 2: Measured vapor pressure curve for JP-10. Error bars reflect the accuracy of the temperature and pressure gauges. The measurement procedure is as described in Shepherd et al. [37].

Figure 3: Example pressure histories are shown. On the left, Fig. 3(a), the mixture is $0.98\text{CO}+0.02\text{H}_2+0.5\text{Air}$, at 100kPa initial pressure. The average cell width for this mixture is 100.3 mm. On the right, Fig 3(b), the mixture is $0.9\text{CO}+0.05\text{H}_2+0.5\text{Air}$, at 100kPa initial pressure. The average cell width is 32 mm.

Figure 4: Measured and calculated wave speeds for JP-10-air mixtures with varying equivalence ratio. Measured wave speeds are the average of speeds obtained from three transducers located along the tube as shown in Fig. 1.

Figure 5: Measured cell width in JP-10-air with varying equivalence ratio. Comparison is made with data for propane mixtures.

Figure 6: Measured cell widths in JP-10-air and JP-10-O₂ with varying initial pressure.

Figure 7: Measured cell widths in JP-10-O₂ with varying N₂ dilution up to a concentration equivalent to air, where β is the ratio of N₂ to O₂ concentration. Initial pressure is 100 kPa, except where noted.

Figure 8: Cell width measurements for N₂ dilution of a hydrocarbon blend representative of decomposed JP-10. The initial pressure was increased with increasing N₂ dilution.

Figure 9: Measured cell widths in JP-10 with addition of C₂H₂, C₂H₄, and CH₄. Data points at 100% fuel additive are from Tieszen et al. [6]. Tieszen et al. [6] also report the cell width in CH₄-Air to be 260 mm.

Figure 10: Cell width measurements for N₂ dilution of C₆H₁₄-O₂ mixtures.

Figure 11: Comparison of cell width measurements for N₂ dilution of CH₄, C₂H₄, C₃H₈ and C₆H₁₄-O₂ mixtures. C₆H₁₄ data is the same as that presented in Fig. 10.

Figure 12: Cell width measurements for H₂ addition to C₆H₁₄ in air.

Figure 13: Cell width measurements for C₂H₂ addition to C₆H₁₄ in air.

Figure 14: Cell width measurements for C₂H₄ addition to C₆H₁₄ in air.

Figure 15: Cell width measurements for CO addition to C₆H₁₄ in air.

Figure 16: Cell width measurements for N₂ dilution of stoichiometric CO-5%(of fuel volume)H₂-O₂.

Figure 17: Cell width measurements for hydrogen or hydrocarbon addition to CO-air mixtures. Curves are interpolated from the cell widths of successful detonations. Error bars represent minimum and maximum measured cell widths. The detonation limit denotes a mixture where at least one failure was observed. About three experiments were performed for each mixture that failed to detonate.

Figure 18: Measured cell width as a function of [H_f]/[CO] ratio. Only successful detonations are shown.

Figure 19: Mechanism validation for CO-H₂-O₂-Ar mixtures. Shock tube data is for the mixture 0.049% H₂, 1.01% O₂, 3.28% CO, Ar

Figure 20: Mechanism validation for C₆H₁₄-O₂-Ar mixtures. Circles and dashed lines correspond to data and calculations respectively for mixture A. Squares and solid lines correspond to data and calculations respectively for mixture B.

Figure 21: Mechanism validation for C₂H₂-O₂-Ar mixtures. Circles and

dashed lines correspond to 63% N₂ dilution; squares and solid lines correspond to 74% N₂ dilution. Both mixtures are stoichiometric at 4 bar post-shock pressure.

Figure 22 : Calculated species mole fractions through the reaction zone in stoichiometric CO-H₂-air mixtures. The unmarked line is temperature. H₂ quantities are by fuel mole fraction. Note the differences in scale on the abscissa.

Figure 23: Magnitude of the peak OH mole fraction as a function of [H_f]/[CO] ratio.

Figure 24: Calculated species mole fractions through the reaction zone in stoichiometric CO-C₆H₁₄-air. Note the differences in scale on the abscissa.

Figure 25: Correlation of peak OH mole fraction location with the [H_f]/[CO] ratio. Species concentrations are calculated by a ZND code.

Figure 26: Cell width measurements versus reaction zone thickness in CO-O₂ mixtures with hydrogen/ hydrocarbon additive at 100 kPa. The reaction zone thickness is defined by a) the location of the maximum temperature gradient or b) by the location of the OH peak.

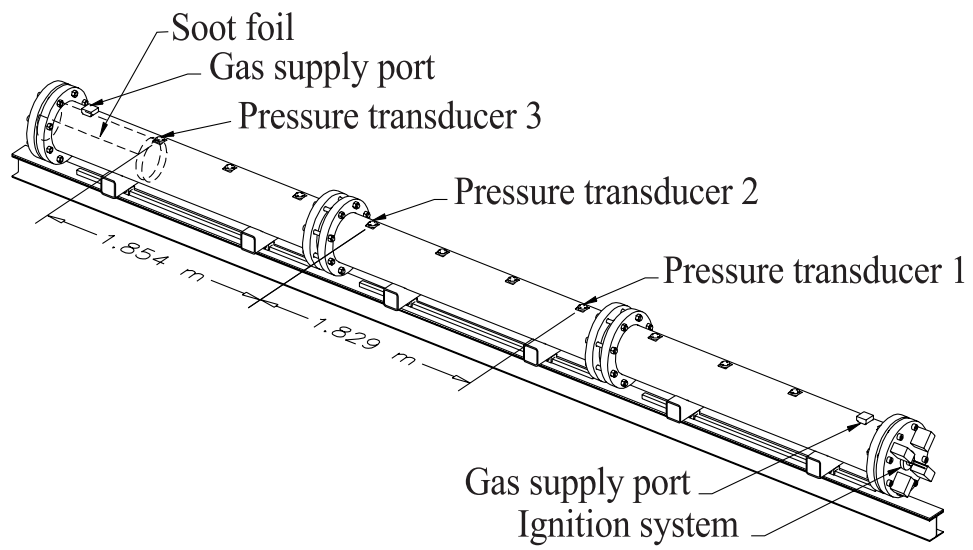


Figure 1:

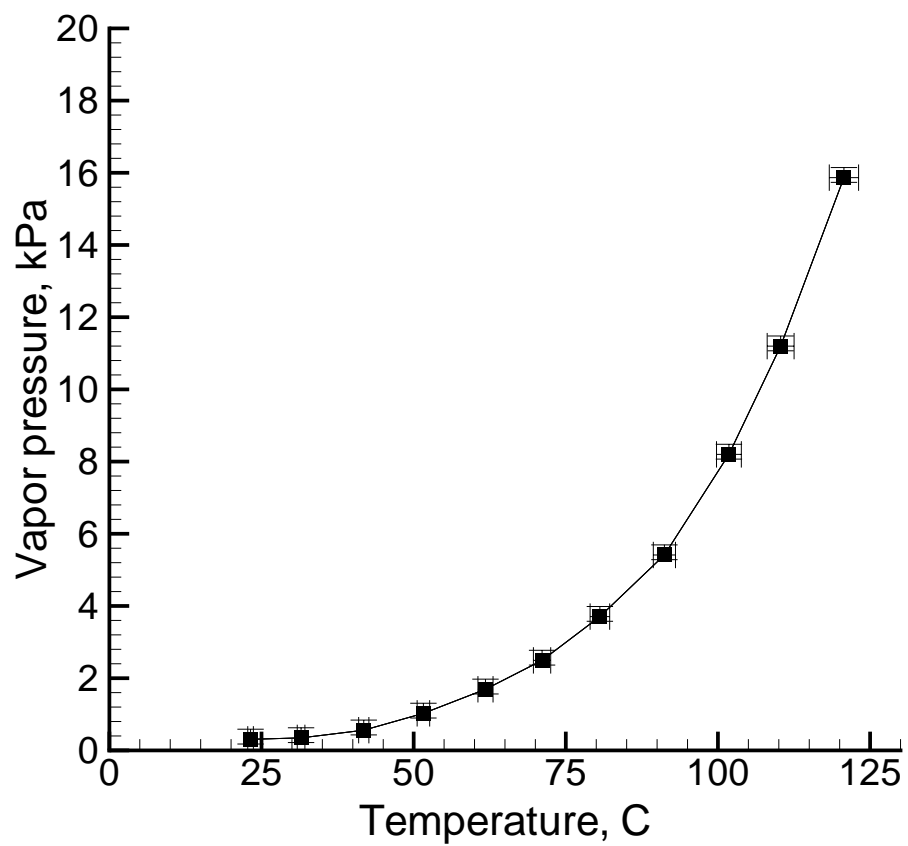
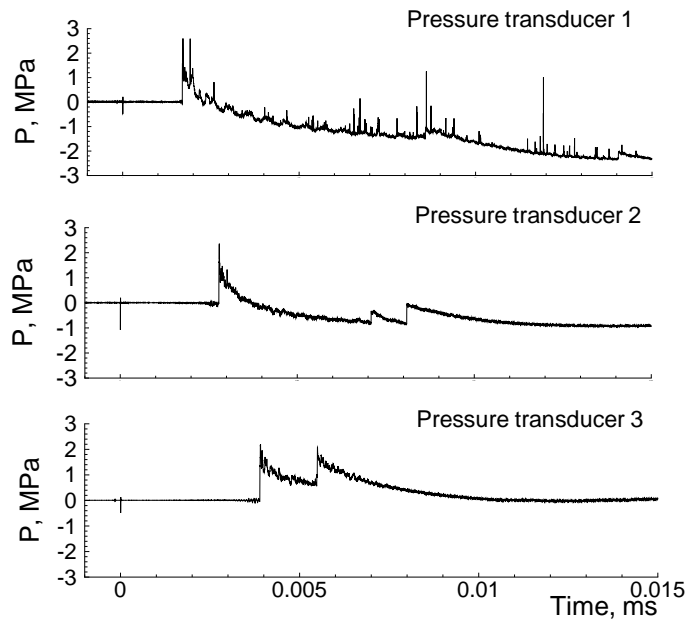
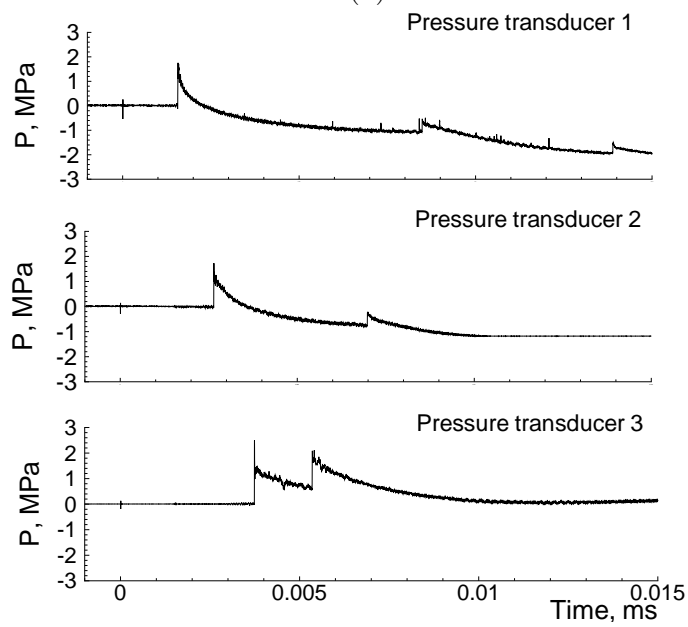


Figure 2:



(a)



(b)

Figure 3:

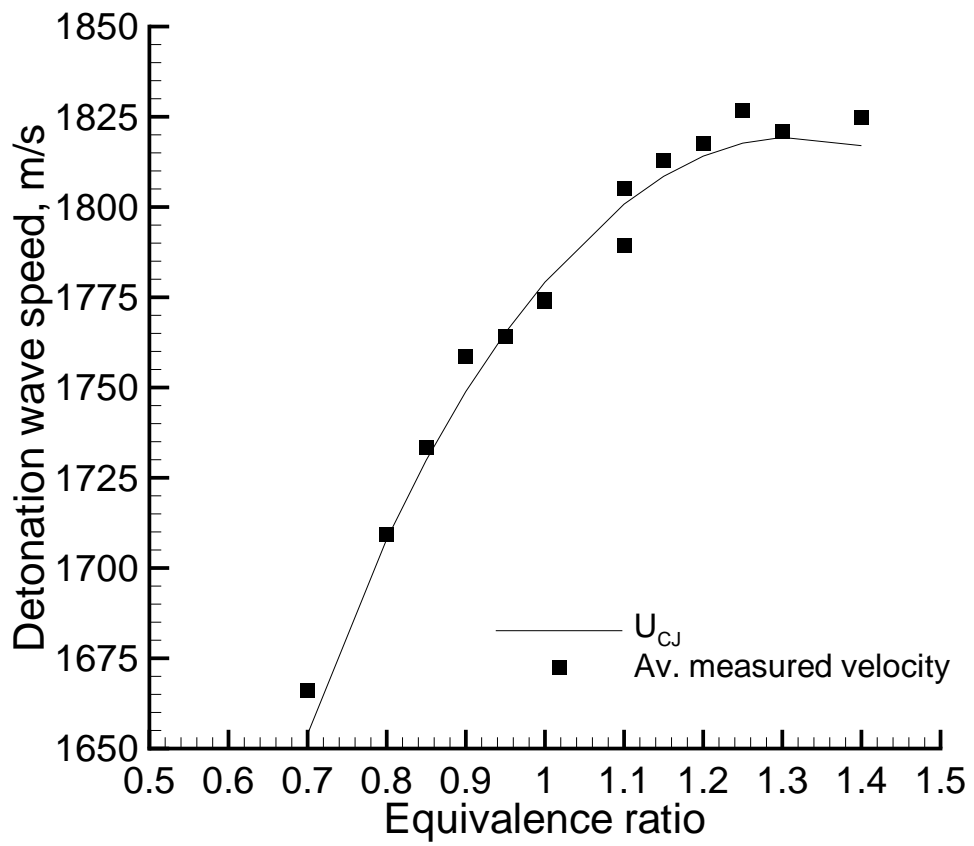


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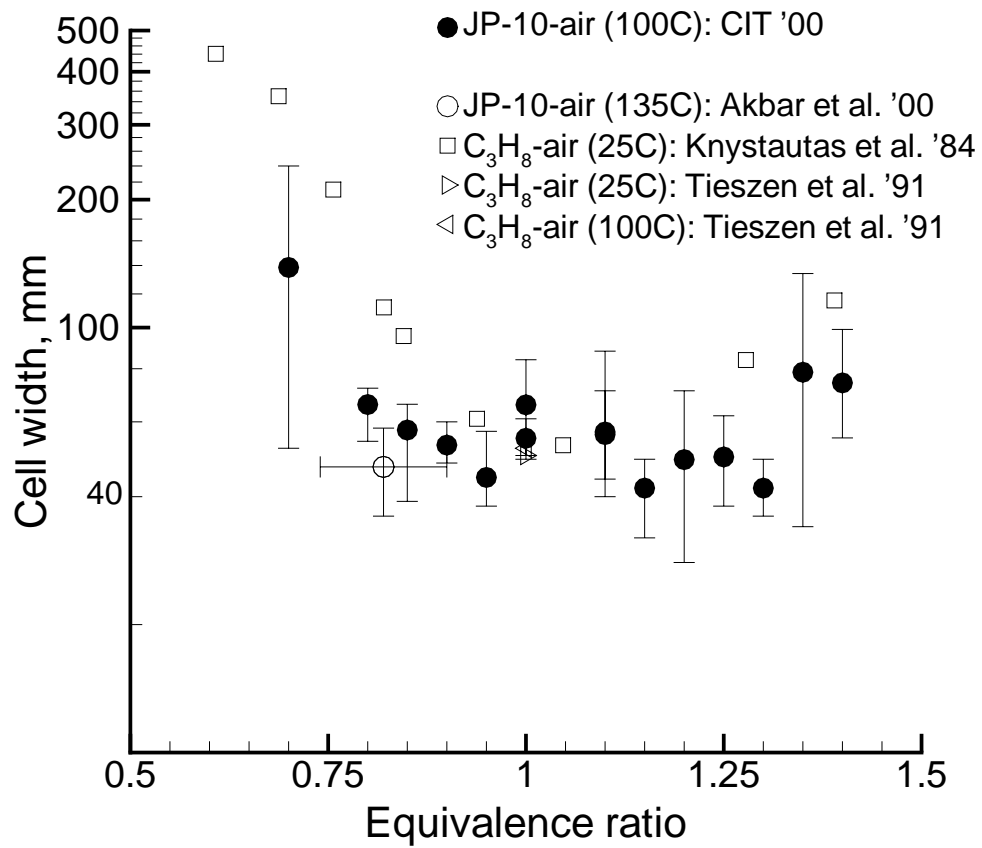


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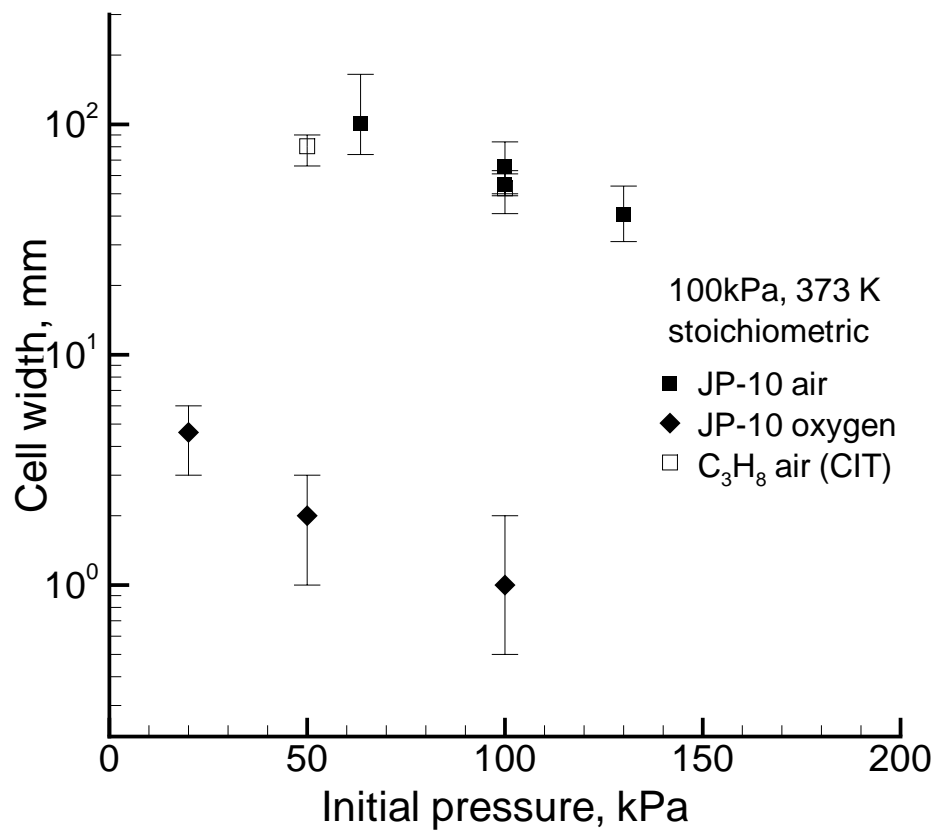


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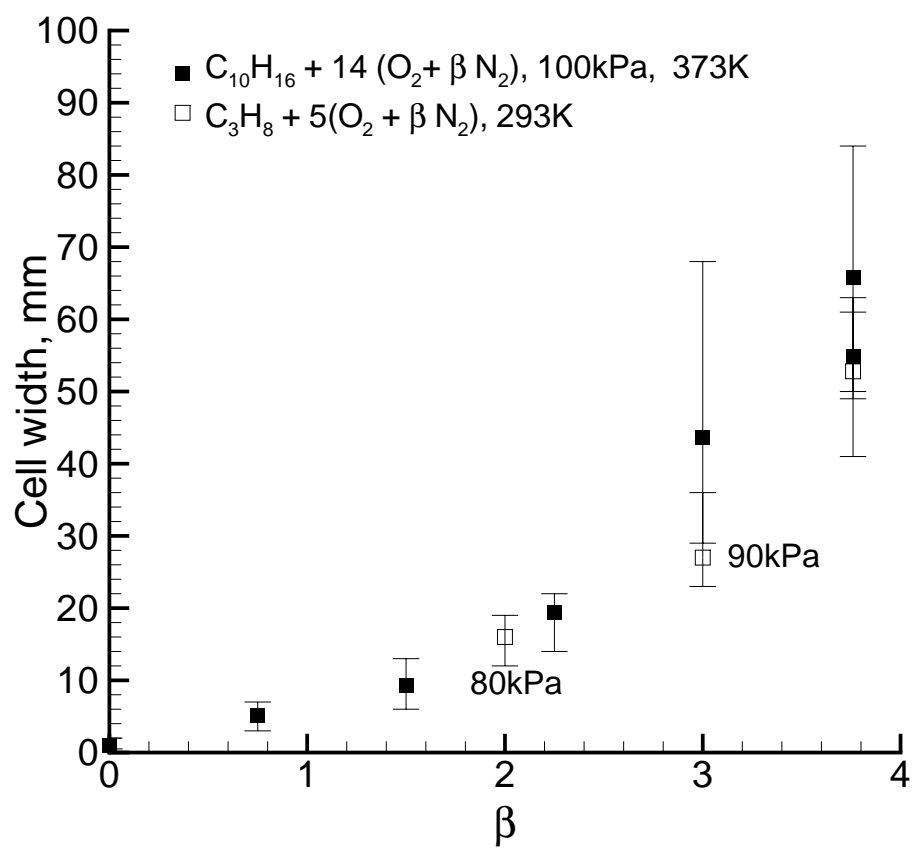


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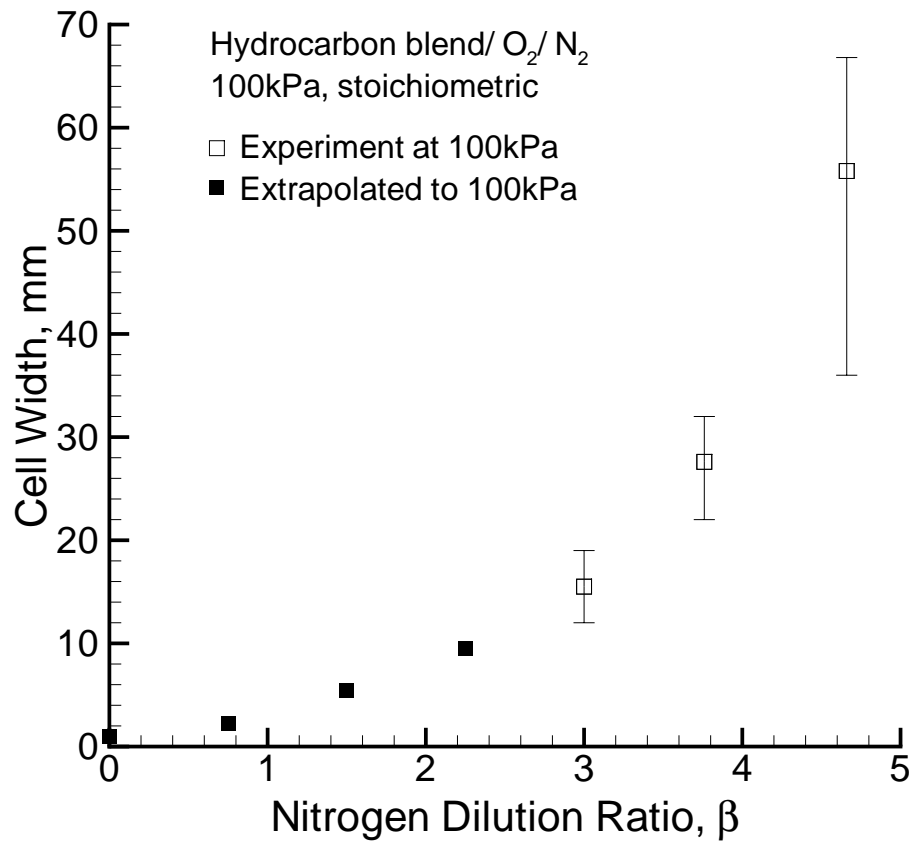


Figure 8:

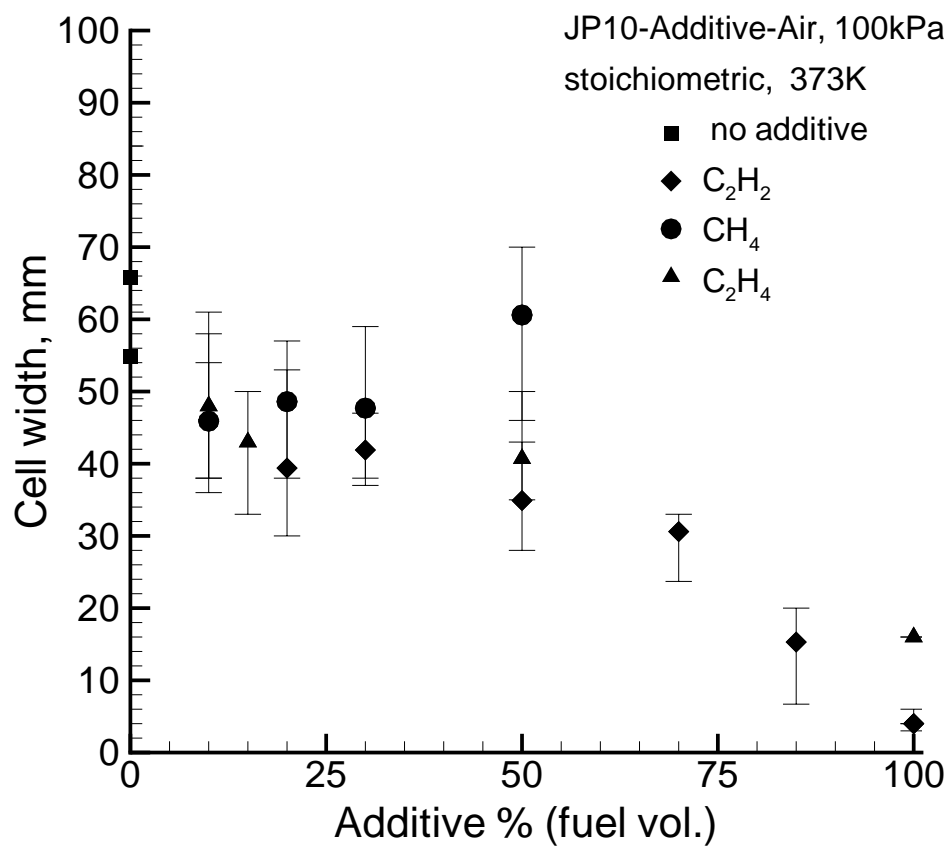


Figure 9:

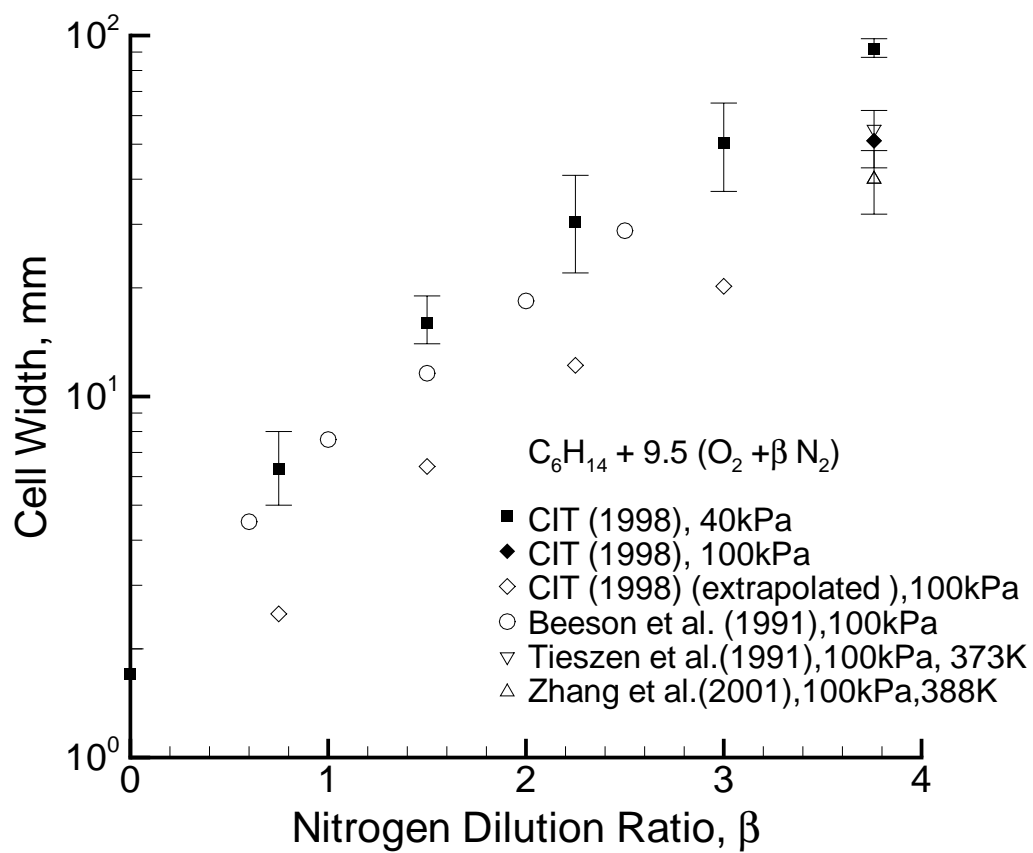


Figure 10:

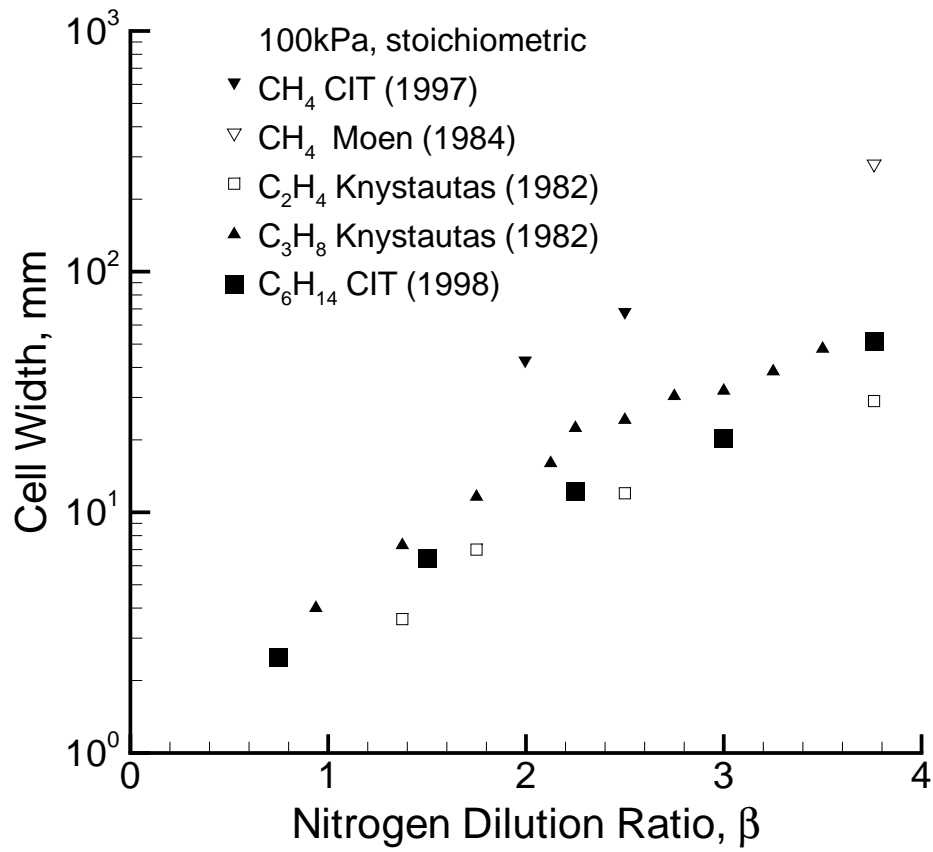


Figure 11:

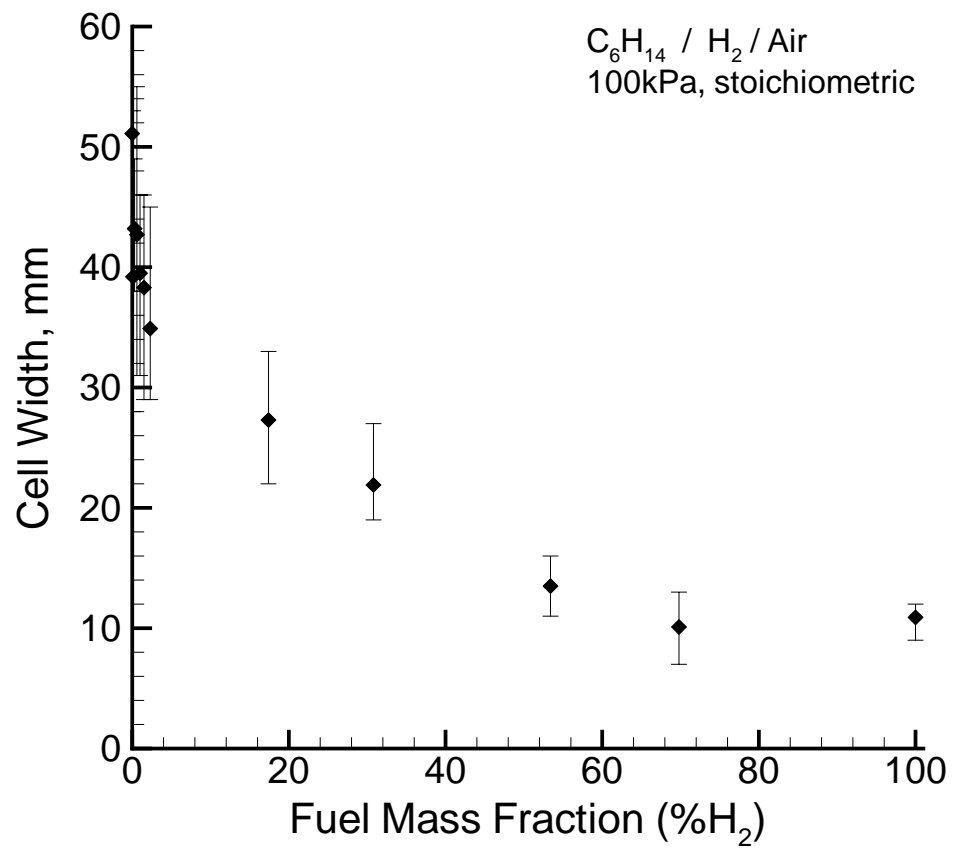


Figure 12:

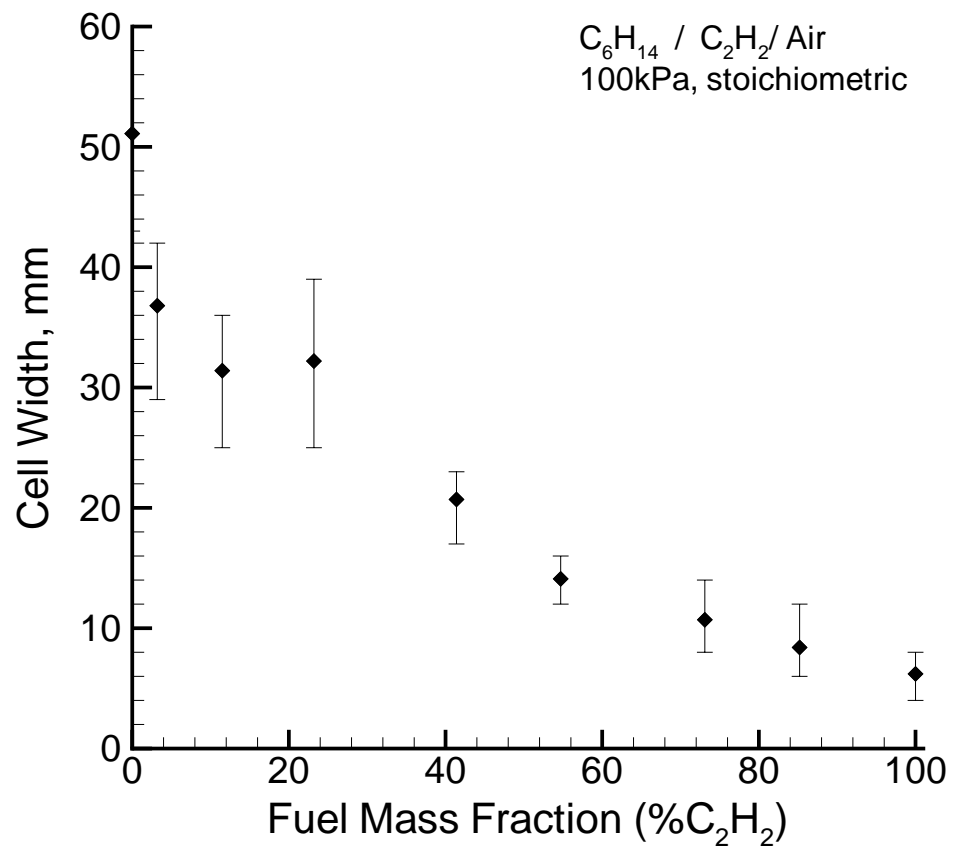


Figure 13:

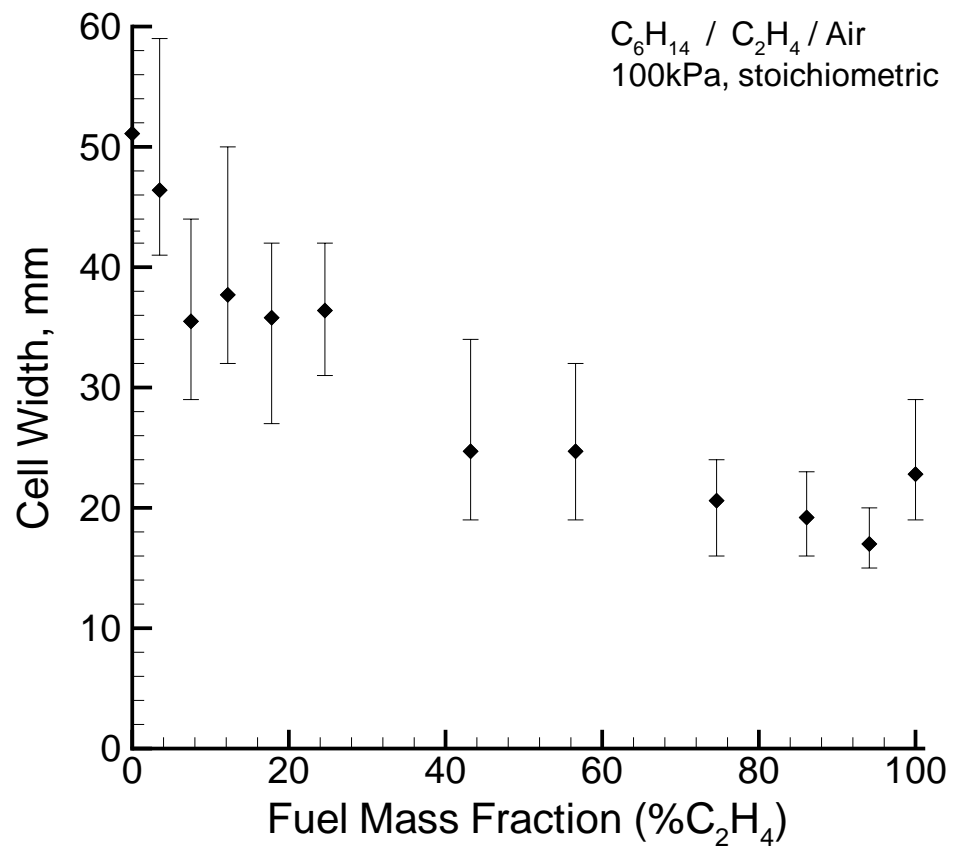


Figure 14:

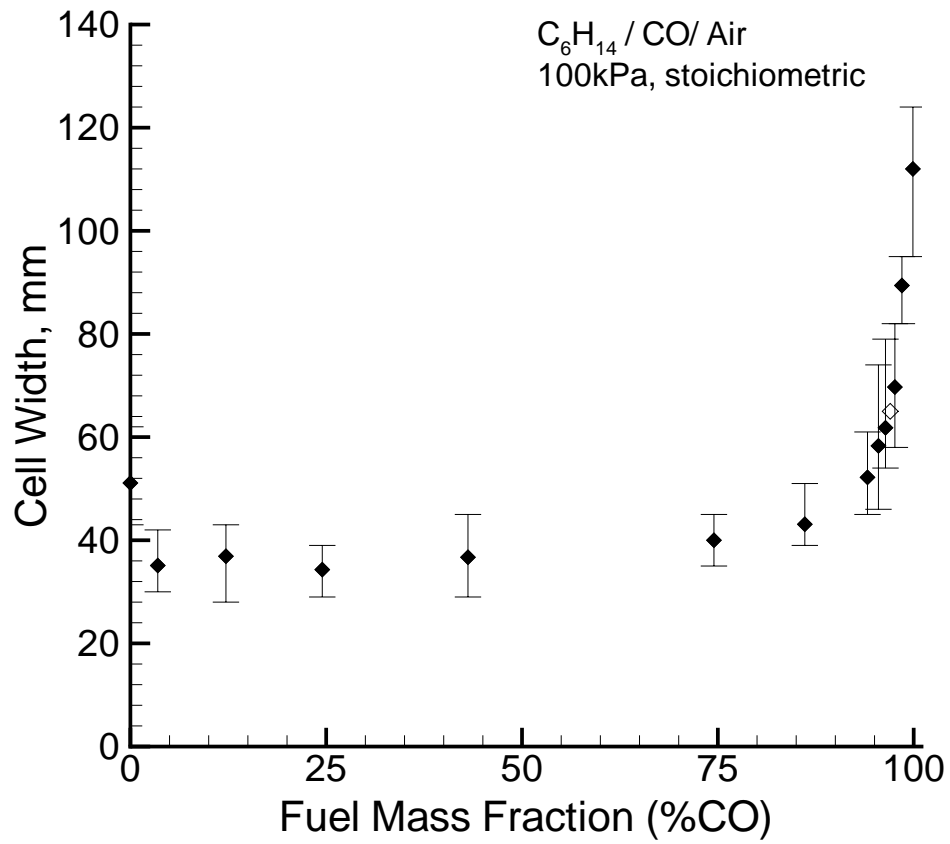


Figure 15:

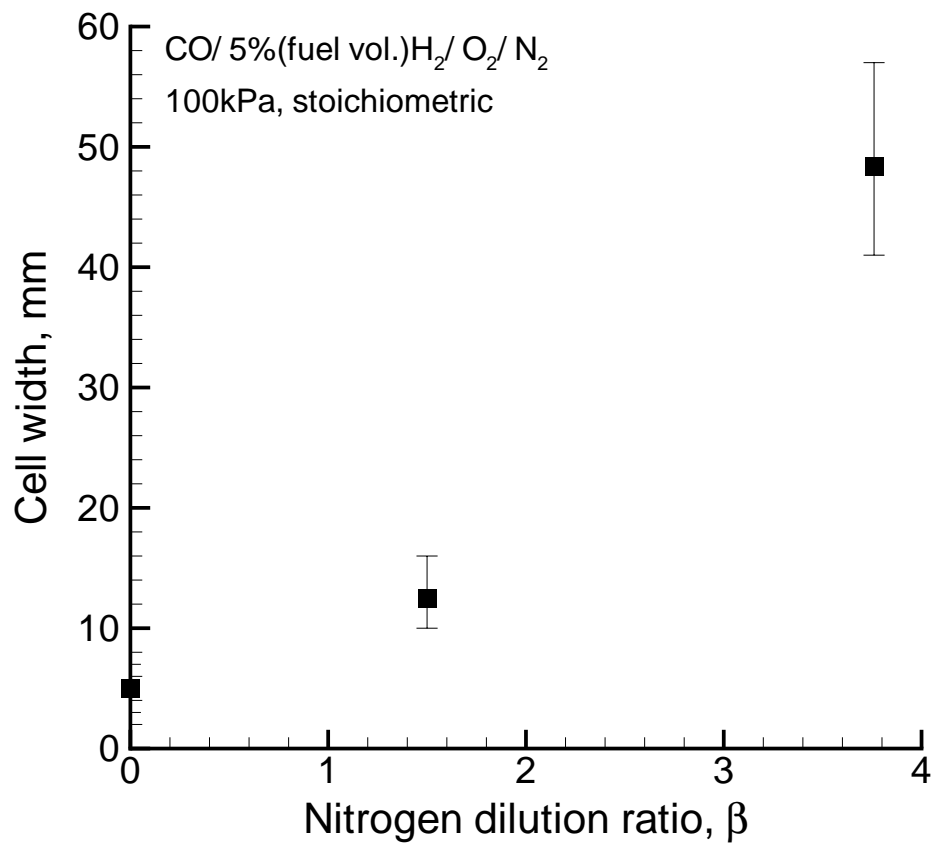
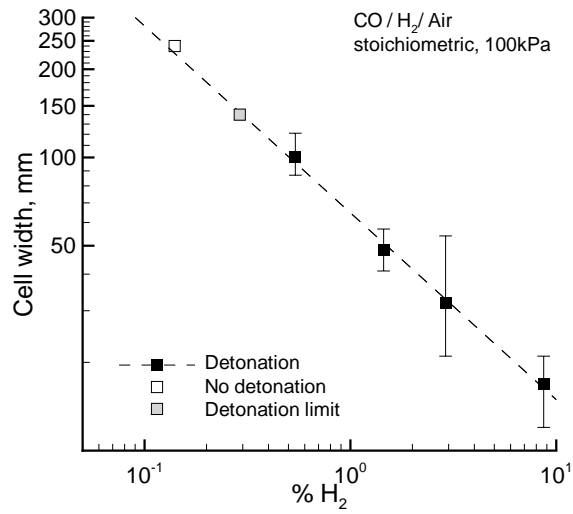
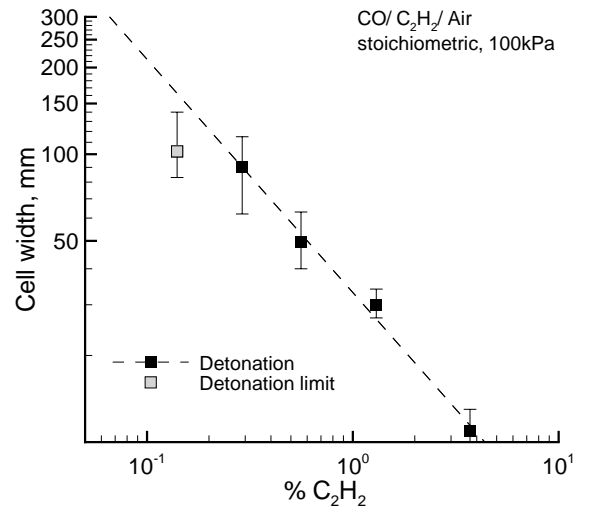


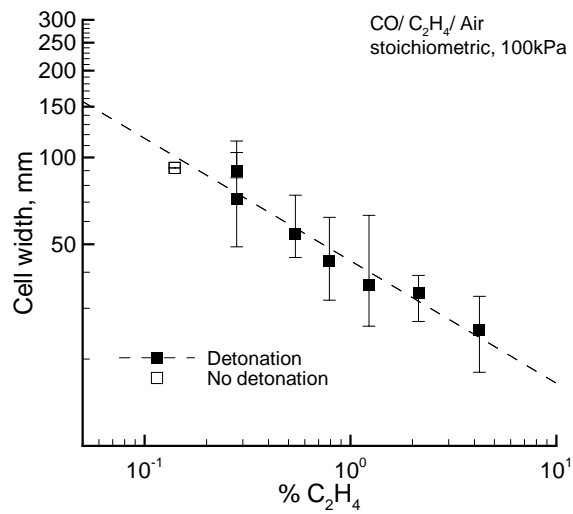
Figure 16:



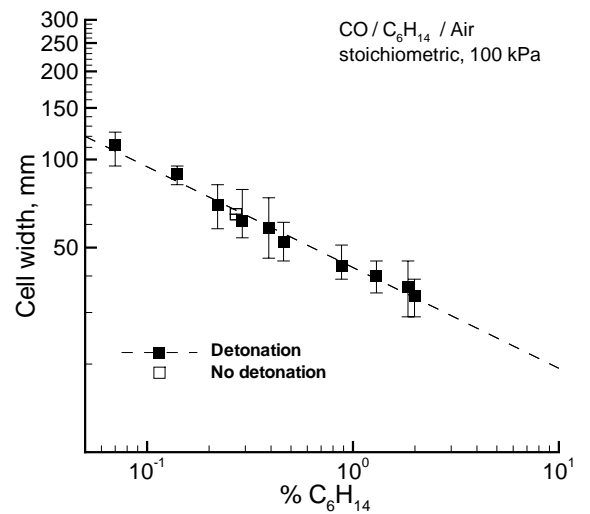
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Figure 17:

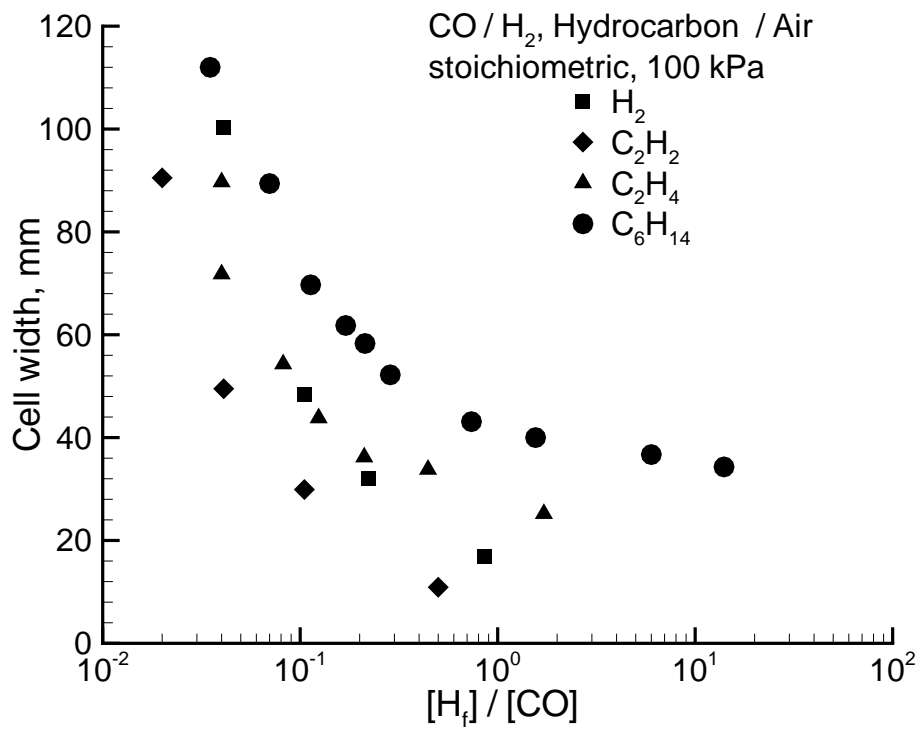


Figure 18:

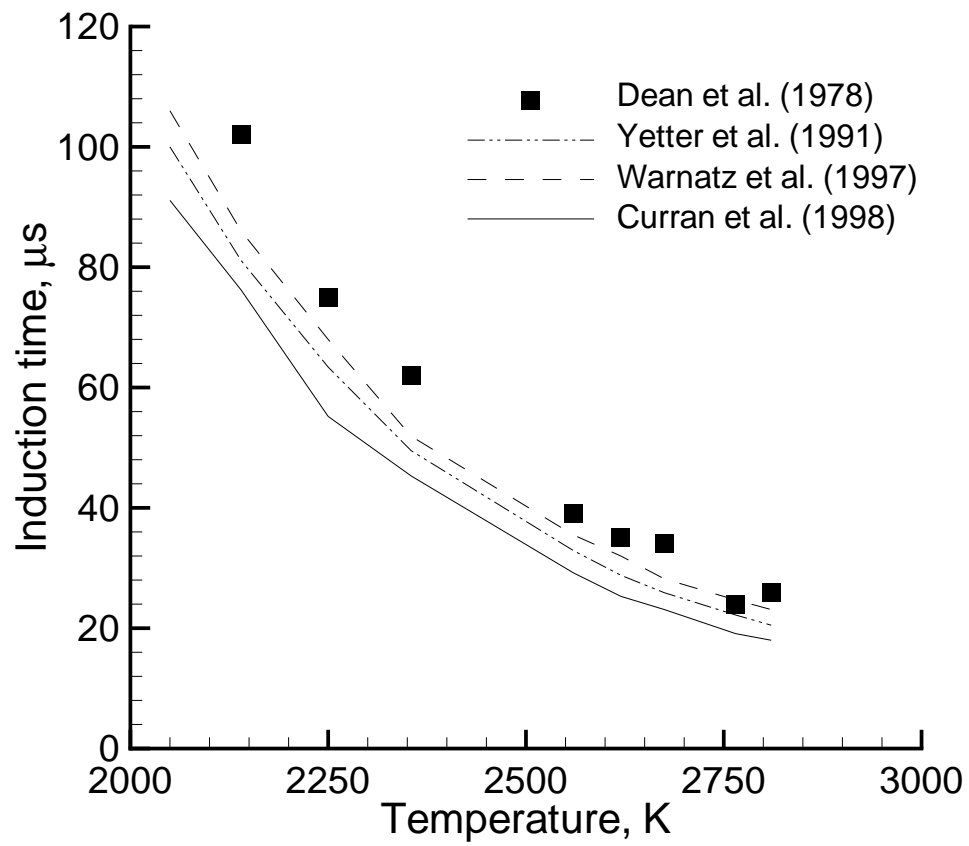


Figure 19:

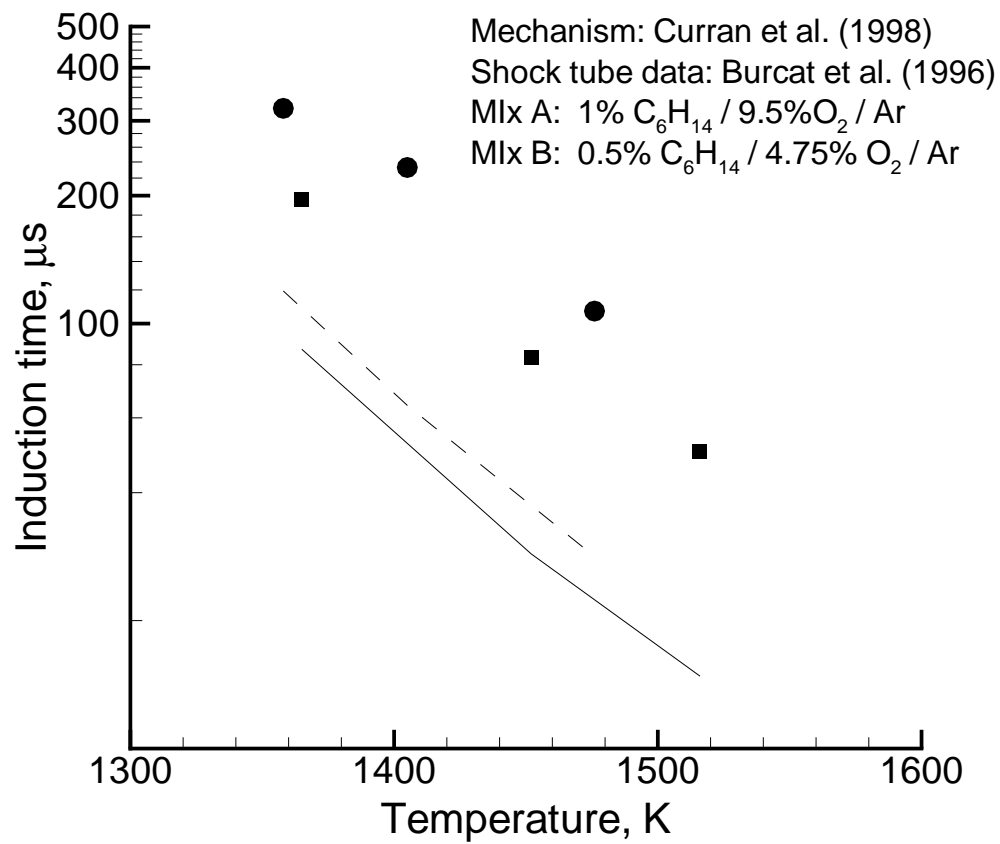


Figure 20:

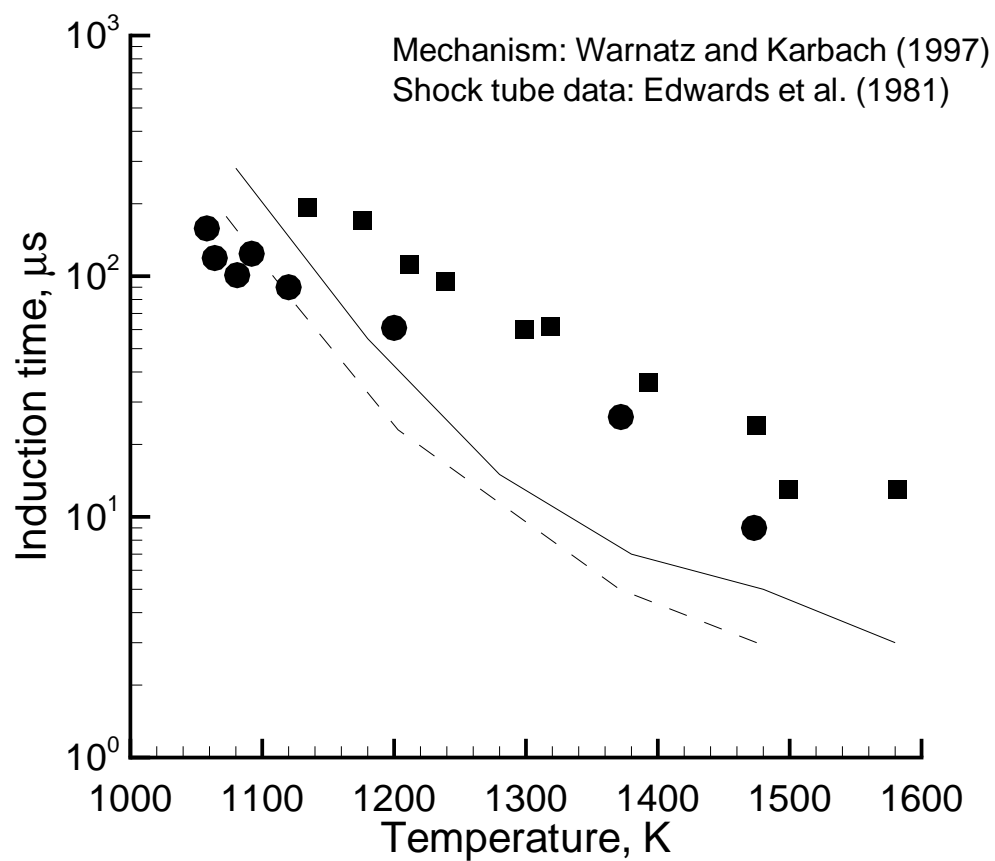


Figure 21:

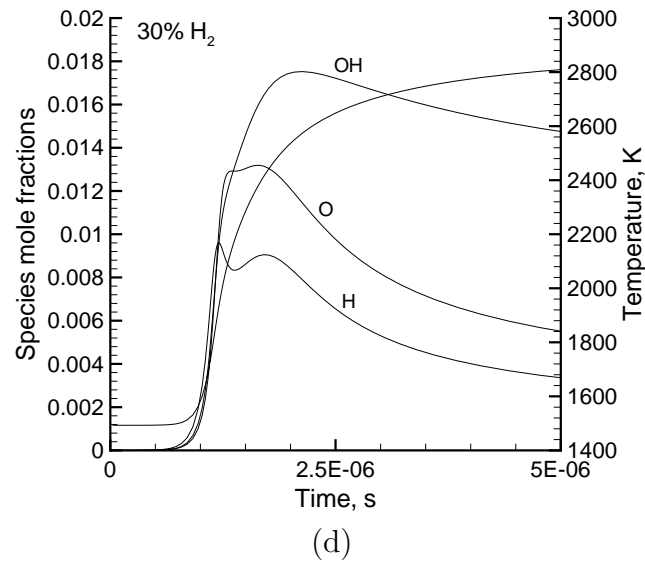
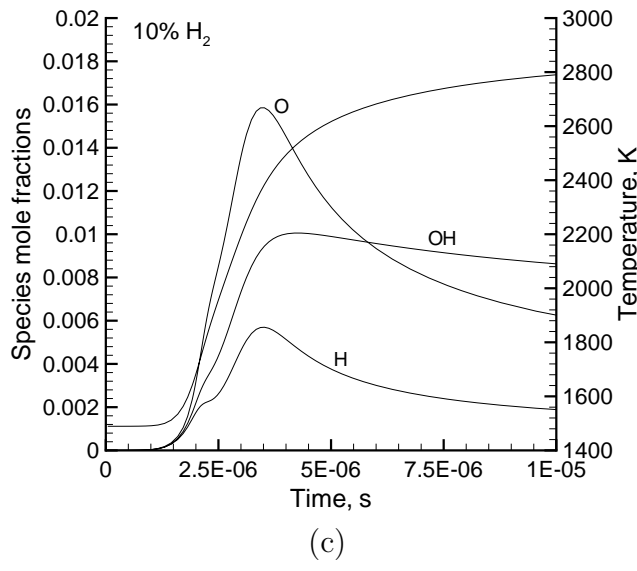
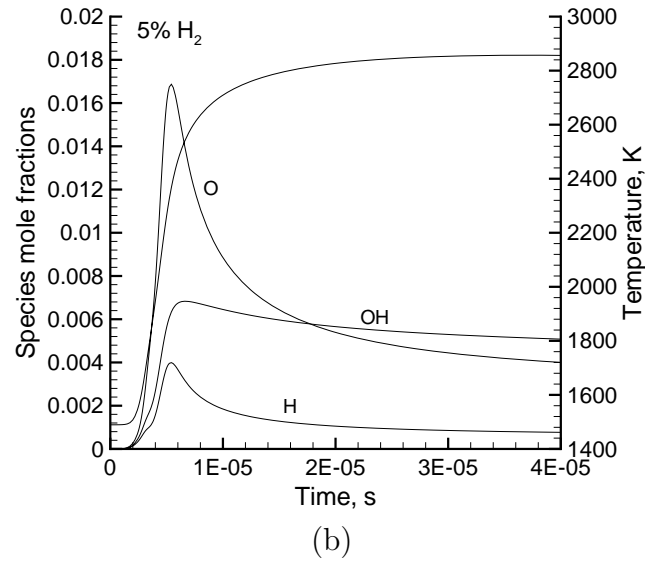
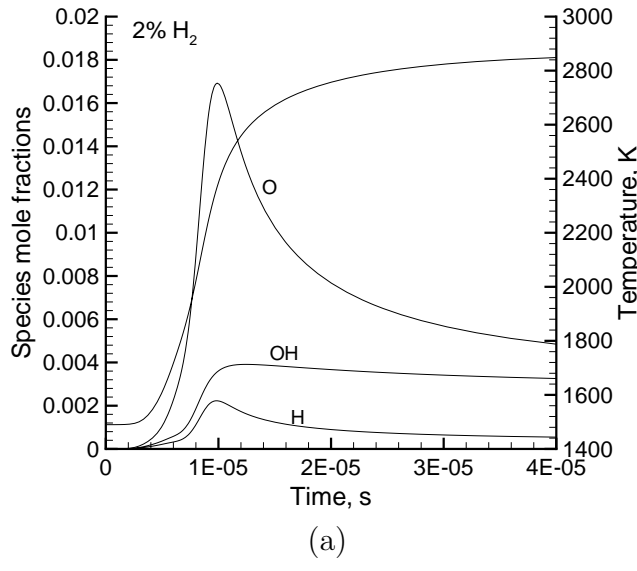


Figure 22:

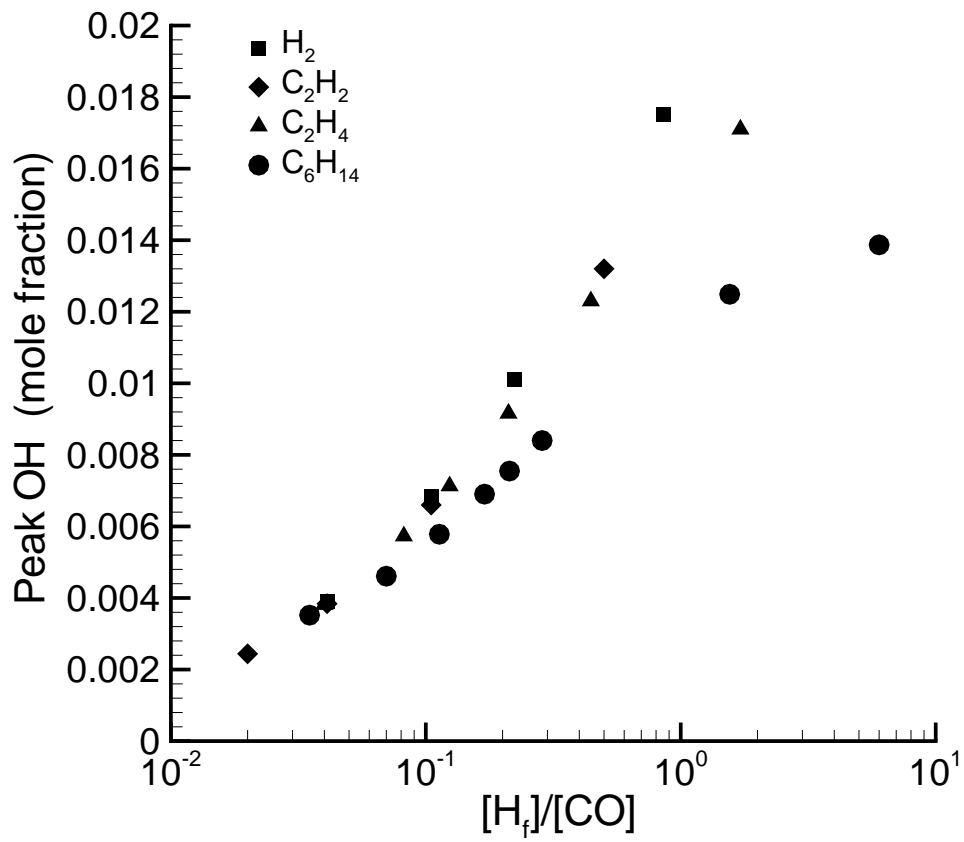
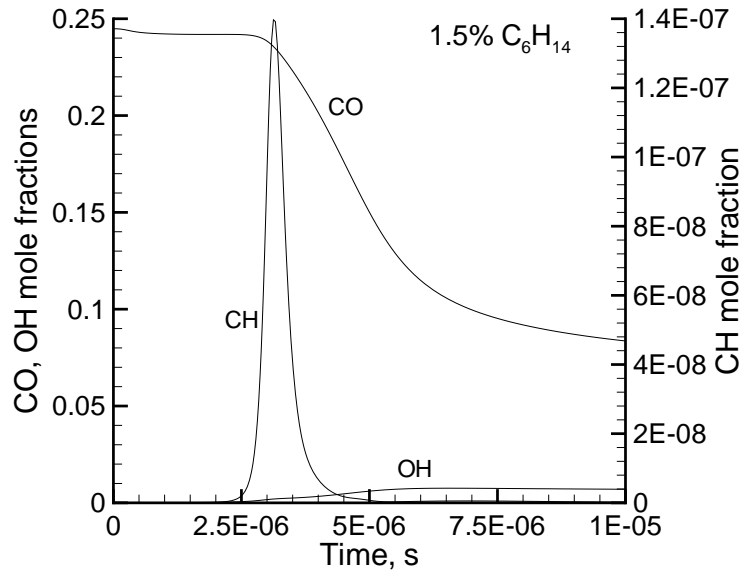
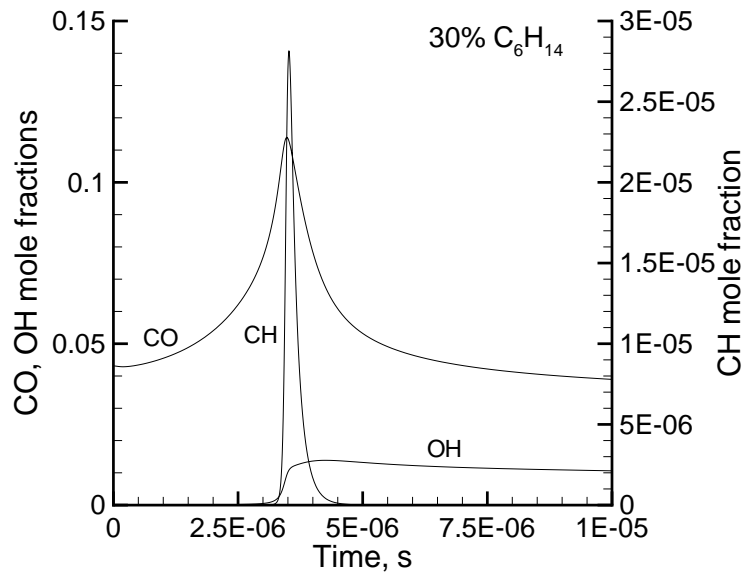


Figure 23:



(a)



(b)

61
Figure 24:

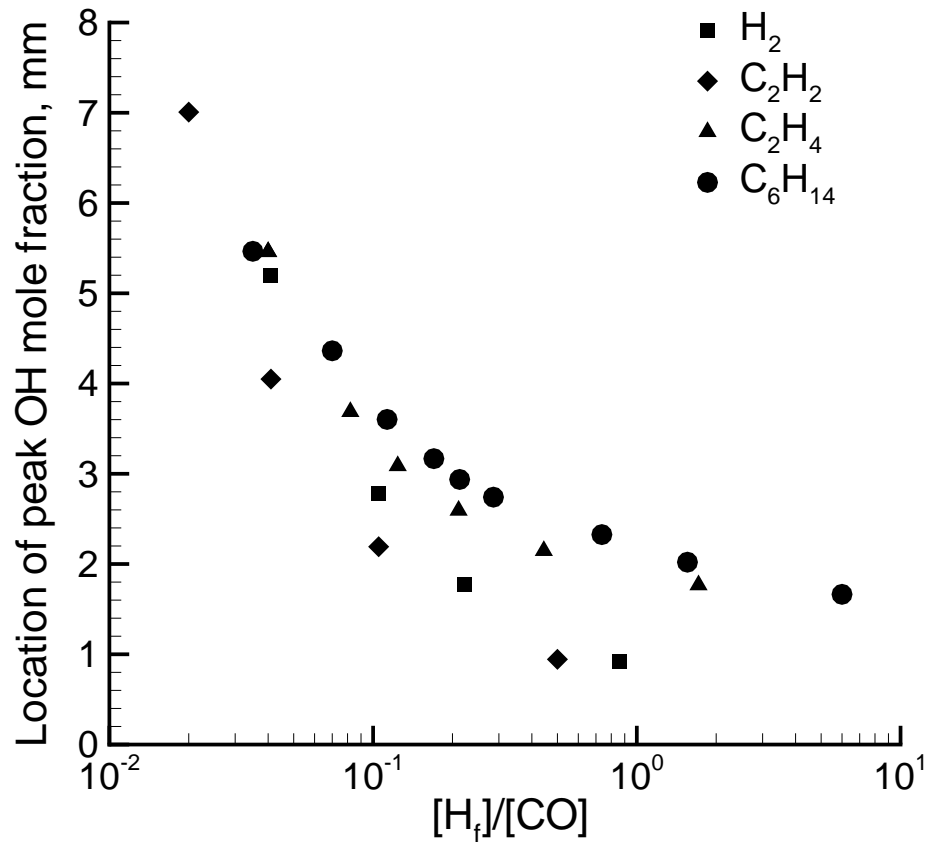
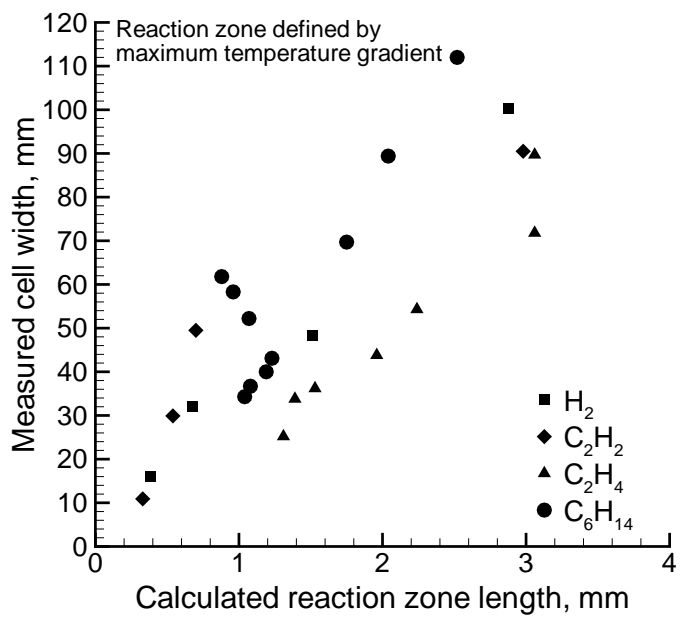
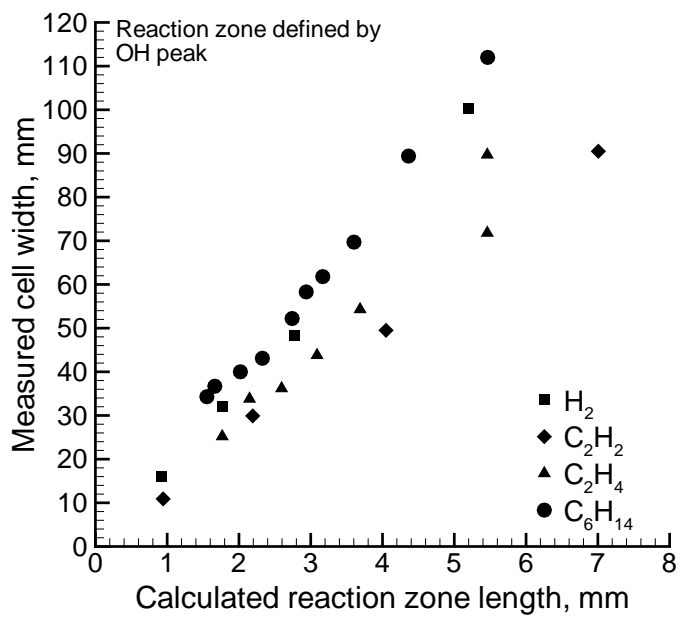


Figure 25:



(a)



(b)

Figure 26: