

# Prechamber ignition also

## Results and Discussion

Various ammonia combustion concepts are employed at the test rig and evaluated in this study. Firstly, pilot fuel ignition is compared to reactive jet ignition using an optically accessible pre-chamber, see Figure 2. Secondly, ammonia and hydrogen as pre-chamber fuels are compared against each other to deliver a fundamental understanding of pre-chamber-ignited ammonia combustion.

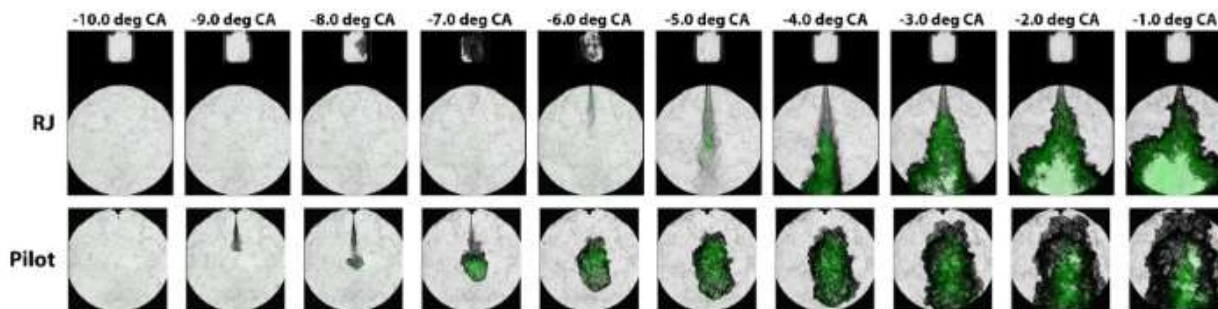


Figure 2. Superposition of simultaneously applied Schlieren and OH\*-chemiluminescence measurements of reactive jet (optical pre-chamber) vs. pilot fuel ignited ammonia combustion at operation parameters  $\lambda = 1.25$ ,  $p_c = 70$  bar,  $T_{in} = 150$  °C, SOI / SDC =  $-10^\circ$  CA.

## Conclusions

The results of the present investigations are expected to serve as an excellent basis for the selection of a ignition source and pre-chamber fuel, and further optimization of ammonia combustion systems for large marine engines as well as further engine types using ammonia as main fuel and pre-chambers as ignition sources. The optical data in combination with the thermodynamic data delivers a broad insight into ammonia combustion behaviours and the well-characterized test bench can be used to produce validation data for CRFD-Simulations. Under engine conditions, ammonia delivers higher flame speeds than expected from its laminar burning velocity. From a combustion perspective, ammonia thus serves as carbon-free fuel, at least for the maritime sector.



2<sup>nd</sup> Symposium on Ammonia Energy

Optical Investigation of Ammonia Combustion Concepts:  
Pilot Fuel vs. NH<sub>3</sub>- or H<sub>2</sub>-Filled Pre-chamber

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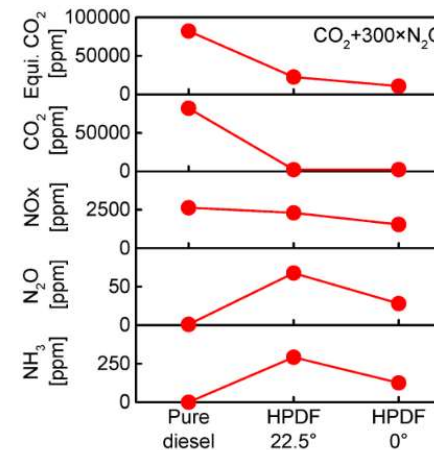
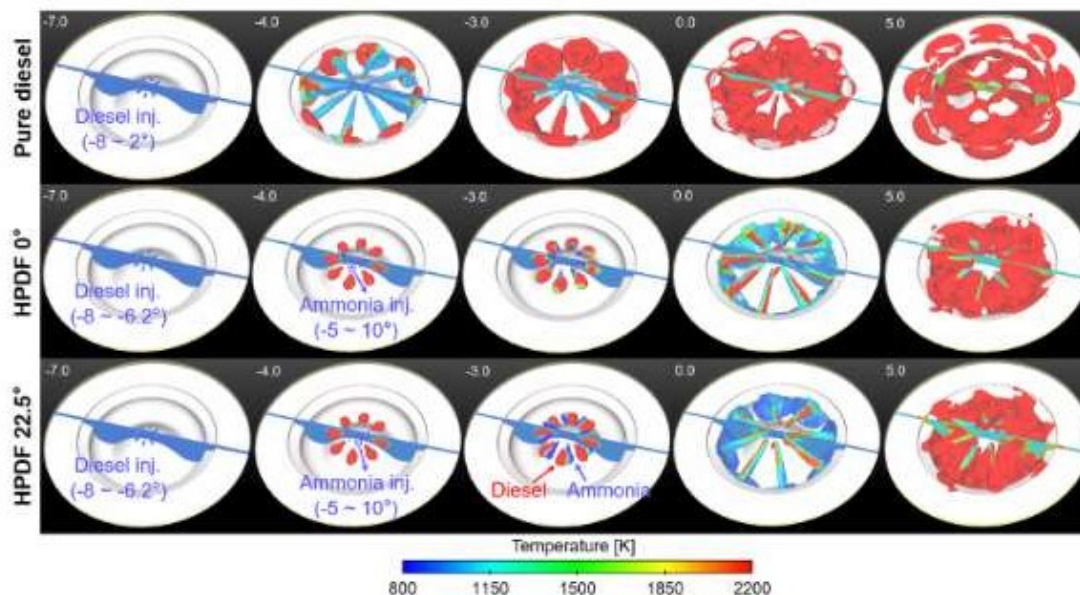
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# Can we simulate ammonia engine with high accuracy and predict ammonia combustion especially without experimental validations?

1

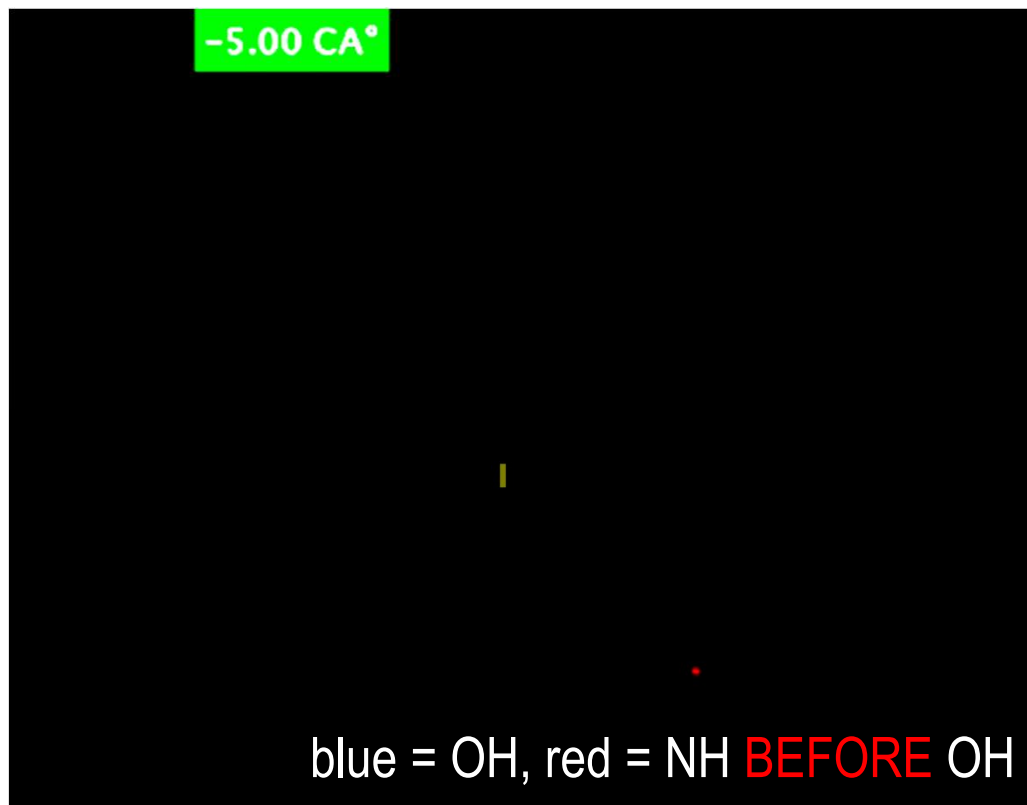
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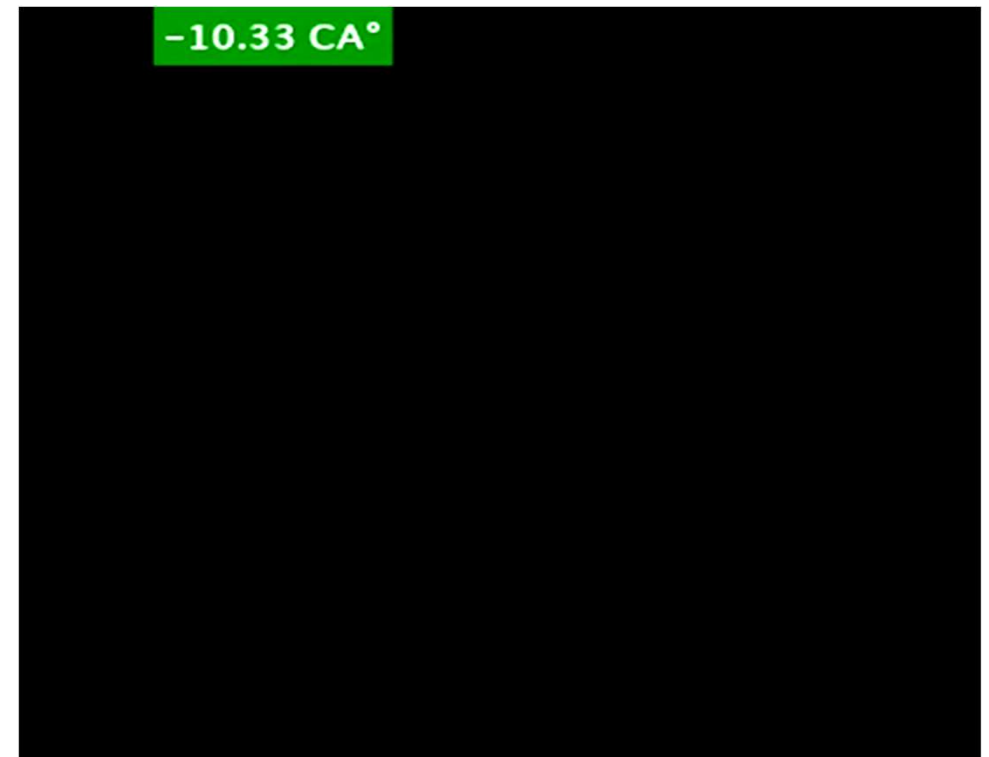


# Ammonia flame propagation In ICE

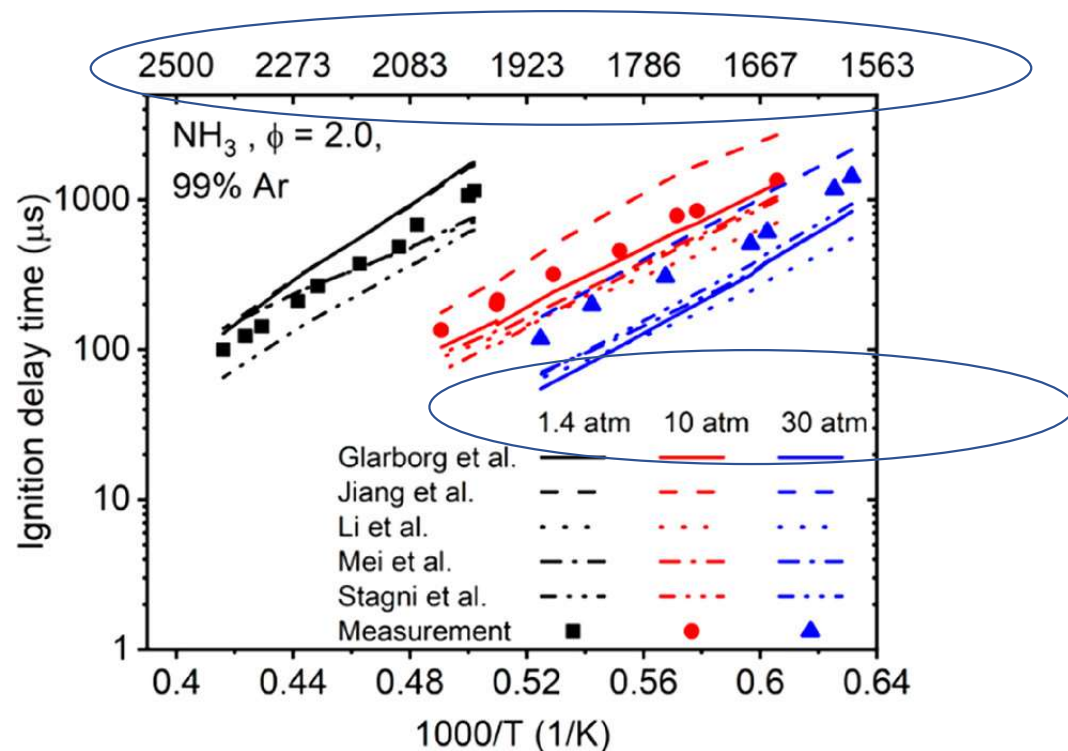
- Decane with ammonia (SOI 22 CAD bTDC)
- Minimum decane quantity : no OH from decane flame
- Decrease of decane quantity : NO OH, NO IGNITION



- Ammonia replaced by N<sub>2</sub>
- Ignition of the Diesel Pilot !



# Auto-Ignition delay



Comparison between simulation results with the selected mechanisms and the measurements from Mathieu and Petersen(70) for ignition delay times of fuel-rich  $\text{NH}_3/\text{O}_2/\text{Ar}$  mixtures with at shock tube conditions. Lines, simulation; symbols, measurement.

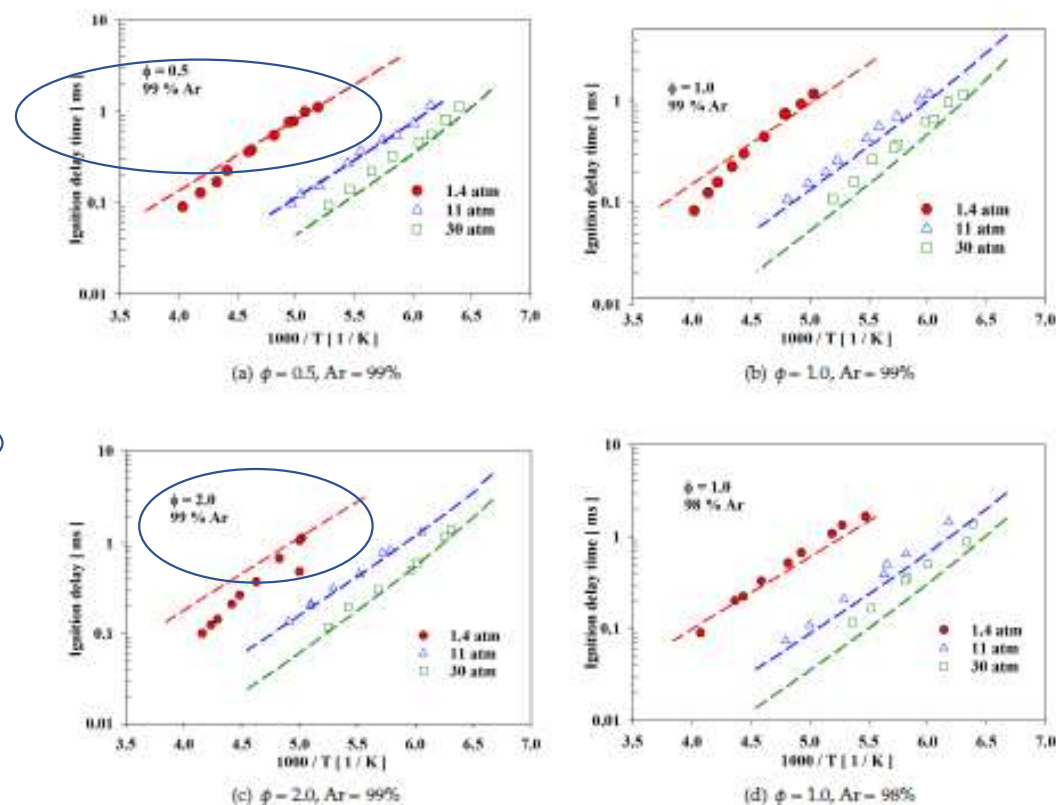


Figure 70: Ignition delay time of  $\text{NH}_3/\text{O}_2/\text{Ar}$  at  $\phi = 0.5, 1.0$  and  $2.0$  and at pressure of  $1.4, 11$  and  $30$  atm. Symbols: experimental data from [59], lines: this work.



# Auto-ignition delay

## □ Impact of ammonia on n-heptane ID

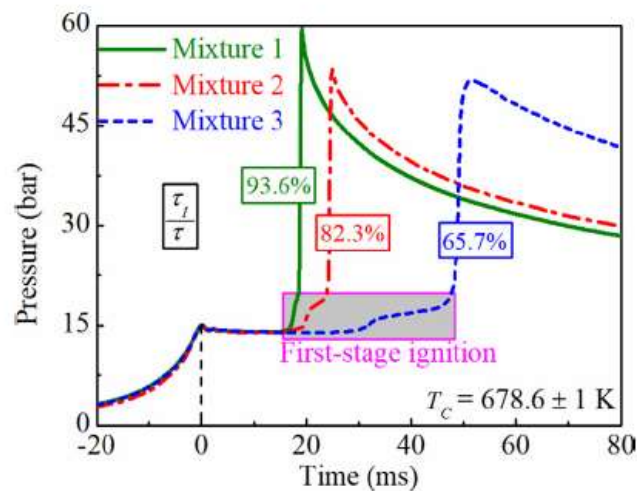
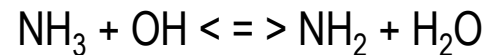
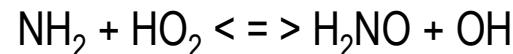


Fig. 4. Comparison of the experimental autoignition pressure curves of n-heptane/ $\text{NH}_3$  blending fuels with  $\text{NH}_3$  fractions of 0% (mixture 1), 20% (mixture 2), and 40% (mixture 3).



- the largest negative sensitivity at 20% and 40%  $\text{NH}_3$  blends (as expected).
- Consumption of lot of radicals, lower rate of the low- T reaction of n-heptane, thus **greatly delaying the first-stage ignition**



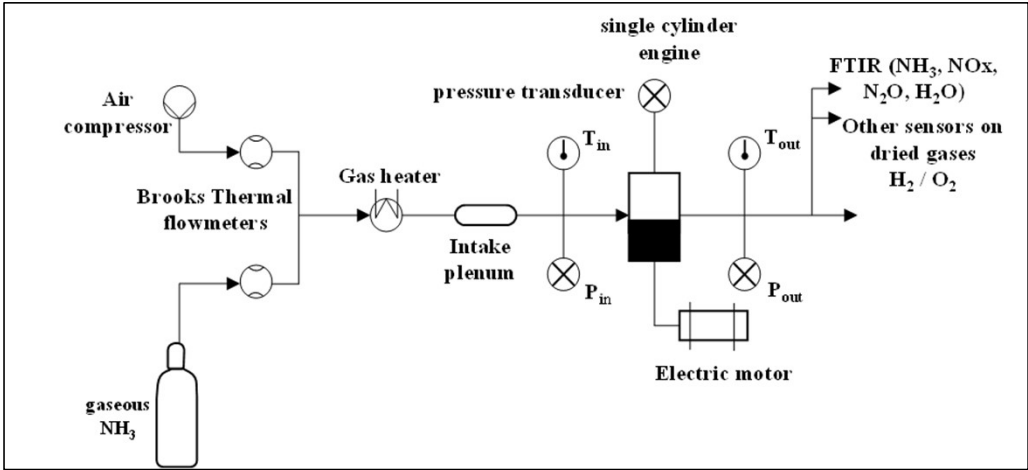
- Unique positive sensitivity reaction of the  $\text{NH}_3$  subset
- Consumption  $\text{HO}_2$  radical, production of active OH radical
- Promoting the autoignition of  $\text{NH}_3$  /n-heptane blend.

First kinetics mechanism

# Comparison between Spark Ignition and Pilot Reactive fuel ignition

- Same engine with premixed gaseous  $\text{NH}_3$ /air intake
  - no injector
- 2 configurations :
  - Original CRI Bosch injector
    - Minimum diesel content/ optimum engine stability
    - Injection Pressure 200 bar, duration : 350-1000  $\mu\text{s}$
  - Spark plug
    - Ignition timing set for same CA50

Engine	DW10
Displaced Volume [ $\text{cm}^3$ ]	499.4
Stroke [mm]	88
Bore [mm]	85
Compression ratio [-]	16.4:1
Number of valves [-]	4
Swirl ratio (50 CAD BTDC)	2.0
Bowl type (baseline)	Re-entrant



# Comparison between Spark Ignition and Pilot Reactive fuel ignition MariNH<sub>3</sub>

Clean, green ammonia  
engines for maritime

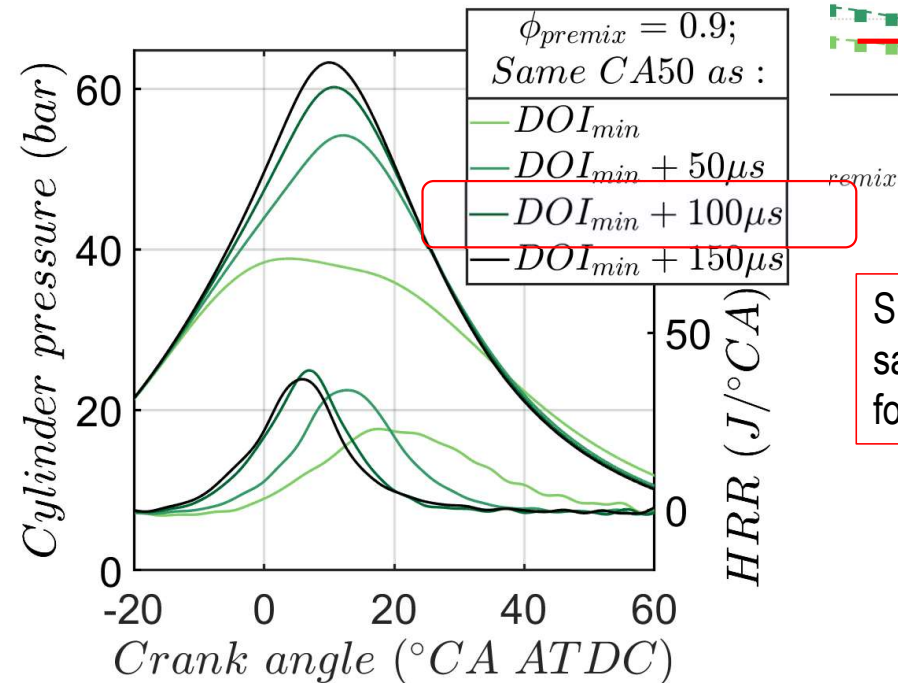
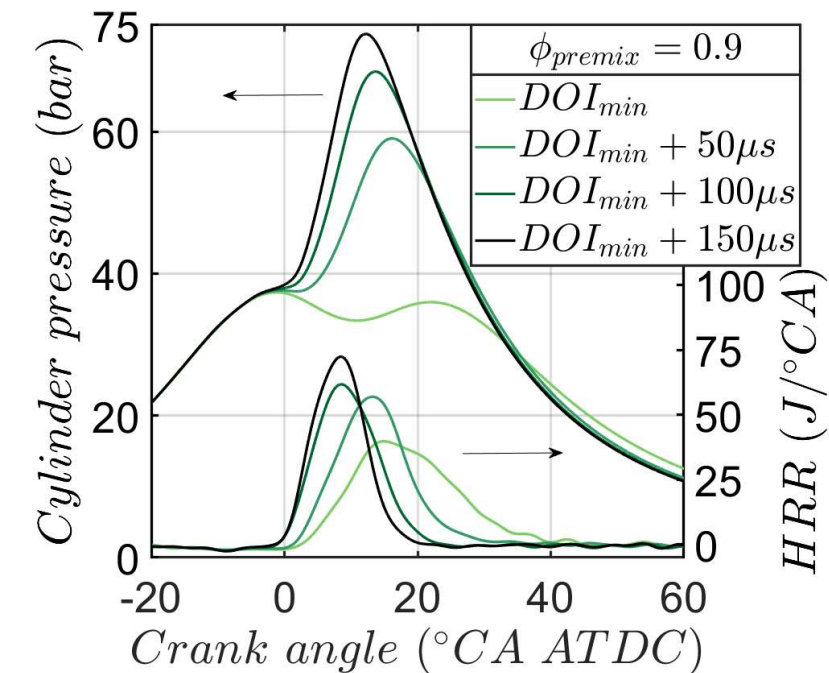
• N=1000 rpm, intake pressure: 1 bar, intake temperature :100°C

• RCCI : possible until premixed NH<sub>3</sub>/air ER 0.25 !

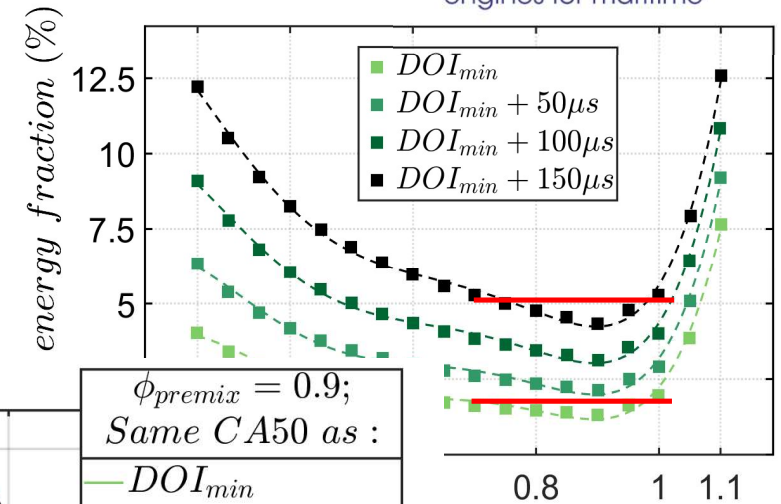
• SI : not possible ER < 0.75 :

• Common ER range 0.75 to 1

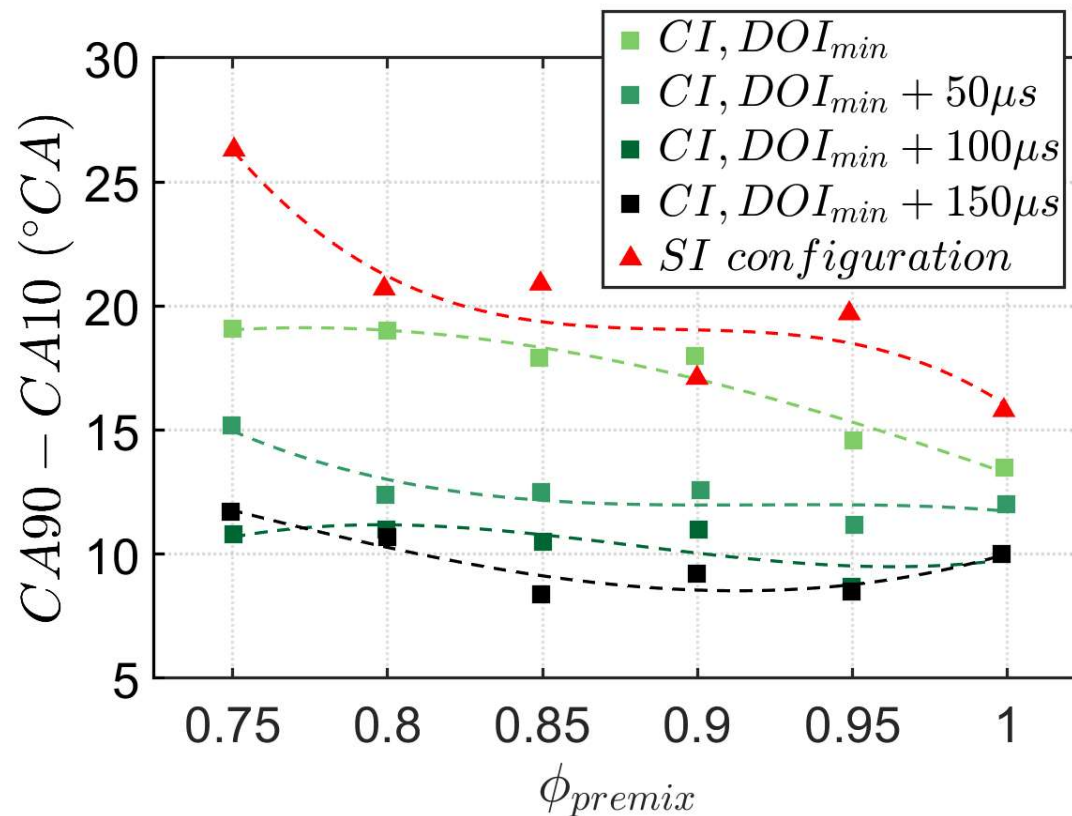
• Diesel energy content : 0.8 to 5%



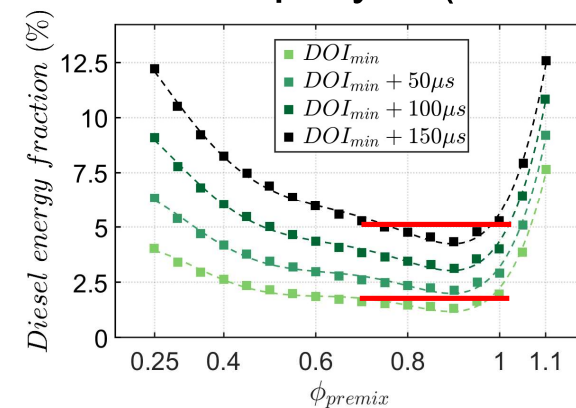
SIT to obtain  
same CA50 than  
for DOI+100  $\mu s$



# Comparison between Spark Ignition and Pilot Reactive fuel ignition



- Higher load for RCCI due to diesel fraction
- Longer combustion duration for SI
  - strong enhancement by diesel combustion
- By turbulent spray ? (low  $P_{inj}$ ...)



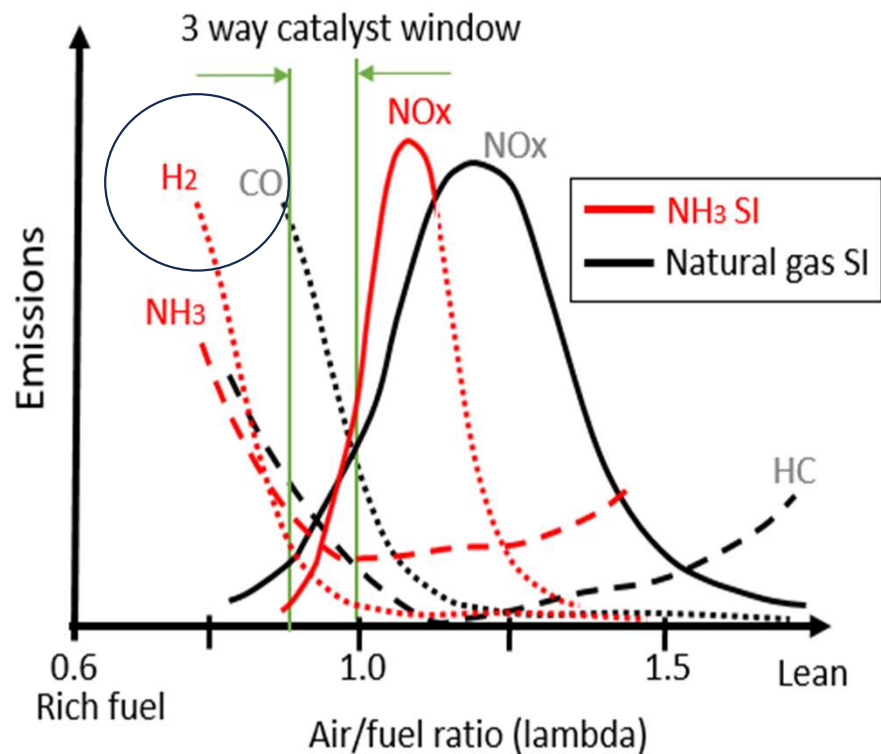


# Last important question :

What emissions for what engine fuelled with ammonia ?

Premixed ammonia SI engine

➤ Similar trends as usual SI engine



## □ NO<sub>x</sub>

- 🔗 Minimum for **rich mixture**, Maximum around 0.7-0.8 until 5000 ppm !
- 🔗 Increase with H<sub>2</sub> addition

## □ NH<sub>3</sub>

- 🔗 Minimum for lean mixture/stoichiometry, max can be 4%
- 🔗 Function of engine design ! Crevice trap !
- 🔗 H<sub>2</sub> emissions due to 'in situ' cracking of NH<sub>3</sub>