

# **Numerical Modeling of a Jet Ignition Direct Injection (JI DI) LPG Engine**

Albert Boretti \*

Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources,  
West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV 26506, USA.

Received 12 August 2016; received in revised form 29 August 2016; accepted 20 September 2016

## **Abstract**

The paper presents simulations of the operation of a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) engine fitted with Direct Injection (DI) and Jet Ignition (JI). The liquid propane rapidly evaporates and mixes with the air after injection in the main chamber (MC). The mixture in the MC may be much closer to stoichiometry than a diesel. Combustion within the MC is limited by the turbulent mixing rather than the vaporization and diffusion processes of the injected fuel of the diesel. The engine may have diesel like efficiencies and load control by quantity of fuel injected. The engine may also have a better specific power at the low engine speeds typical of the diesel. This design also works at the high engine speeds impossible for the diesel.

**Keywords:** internal combustion engines, direct injection, jet ignition, liquefied petroleum gas

## **References**

- [1] H. C. Watson, Internal combustion engine ignition device, U. S. patent, 5,611,307, Mar. 18, 1997.
- [2] Z. H. Kyaw and H. C. Watson, "Hydrogen assisted jet ignition for near elimination of NO<sub>x</sub> and cyclic variability in the SI Engine," Symposium (International) on Combustion, vol. 24, no. 1, pp. 1449-1455, January 1992.
- [3] G. Lumsden and H. C. Watson, "Optimum control of an S.I. engine with a Lambda -5 capability," Melbourne Univ., Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 950689, 1995.
- [4] N. Glasson, G. Lumsden, R. Dingli and H. C. Watson, "Development of the HAJI system for a multi-cylinder spark ignition engine," Melbourne Univ., Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 961104, 1996.
- [5] G. Dober, "Geometric control of HC emissions," Ph.D. dissertation, Dept. Mech. Eng., Melbourne Univ., Melbourne, VIC, 2002.
- [6] F. Hamori, "Exploring the limits of hydrogen assisted jet ignition," Ph.D. dissertation, Dept. Mech. Eng., Melbourne Univ., Melbourne, VIC, 2006.
- [7] P. Mehrani, "Predicting knock in a HAJI engine," Ph.D. dissertation, Dept. Mech. Eng., Melbourne Univ., Melbourne, VIC, 2008.
- [8] E. Toulson, "Applying alternative fuels in place of hydrogen to the jet ignition process," Ph.D. dissertation, Dept. Mech. Eng., Melbourne Univ., Melbourne, VIC, 2008.
- [9] A. Boretti and H. C. Watson, Lean burn direct injection jet ignition internal combustion engine, Australian patent, 2,009,901,639, Apr. 17, 2009.
- [10] A. Boretti and H. C. Watson, "Numerical study of a turbocharged, jet ignited, cryogenic, port injected, hydrogen engine," Melbourne Univ., Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 2009-01-1425, 2009.
- [11] A. Boretti and H. C. Watson, "Enhanced combustion by jet ignition in a turbocharged cryogenic port fuel injected hydrogen engine," International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, vol. 34, no. 5, pp. 2511-2516, 2009.
- [12] A. Boretti and H. C. Watson, "The lean burn direct-injection jet-ignition gas engine," International Journal of Hydrogen Energy, vol. 34, no. 18, pp. 7835-7841, 2009.

\* Corresponding author. E-mail address: a.a.boretti@gmail.com

- [13] A. Boretti, H. C. Watson and A. Tempia, "Computational analysis of the lean burn direct-injection jet-ignition hydrogen engine," *Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Part D: Journal of Automobile Engineering*, vol. 224, no. 2, pp. 261-269, 2009.
- [14] A. Boretti, R. Paudel and A. Tempia, "Experimental and computational analysis of the combustion evolution in direct injection spark controlled jet ignition engines fuelled with gaseous fuels," *Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Part D: Journal of Automobile Engineering*, vol. 224, no. 9, pp. 1241-1261.
- [15] A. Boretti, "Diesel-like and HCCI-like operation of a truck engine converted to hydrogen," *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, vol. 36, no. 23, pp. 15382-15391, 2011.
- [16] A. Boretti, "Simulations of multi combustion modes hydrogen engines for heavy duty trucks," *International Journal of Engineering and Technology Innovation*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 13-30, 2012.
- [17] A. Boretti, "Stochastic reactor modelling of multi modes combustion with diesel direct injection or hydrogen jet ignition start of combustion," *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, vol. 37, no.18, pp. 13555-13563, 2012.
- [18] A. Boretti, "Latest concepts for combustion and waste heat recovery systems being considered for hydrogen engines," *International Journal of Hydrogen Energy*, vol. 38, no. 9, pp. 3802-3807, 2013.
- [19] E. Toulson, H. Schock, and W. Attard, "A review of pre-chamber initiated jet ignition combustion systems," *Michigan State Univ., Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 2010-01-2263*, 2010.
- [20] W. Attard, N. Fraser, P. Parsons, and E. Toulson, "A turbulent jet ignition pre-chamber combustion system for large fuel economy improvements in a modern vehicle powertrain," *SAE International Journal of Engines*, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 20-37, 2010.
- [21] W. Attard, and H. Blaxill, "A gasoline fueled pre-chamber jet ignition combustion system at unthrottled conditions," *SAE International Journal of Engines*, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 315-329, 2012.
- [22] W. Attard, H. Blaxill, E. Anderson, and P. Litke, "Knock limit extension with a gasoline fueled pre-chamber jet igniter in a modern vehicle powertrain," *SAE International Journal of Engines*, vol. 5, no. 3, pp. 1201-1215, 2012.
- [23] "Mahle Jet Ignition," [www.mahle-powertrain.com/en/experience/mahle-jet-ignition/](http://www.mahle-powertrain.com/en/experience/mahle-jet-ignition/), visited August 12, 2016.
- [24] H. Blaxill, "MAHLE Jet Ignition for Ferrari F1 as well as sub-200 g/kWh BSFC in light-duty engine; on-road and stationary applications," [www.greencarcongress.com/2016/07/20160711-mahle.html](http://www.greencarcongress.com/2016/07/20160711-mahle.html), July 11, 2016.
- [25] "STAR-CCM+," [www.cd-adapco.com/products/star-ccm](http://www.cd-adapco.com/products/star-ccm), visited August 12, 2016.
- [26] "The SRM Engine Suite," [www.cmclinnoventions.com/srm/](http://www.cmclinnoventions.com/srm/), visited August 12, 2016.
- [27] "GT-SUITE," [www.gtisoft.com](http://www.gtisoft.com), visited August 12, 2016.
- [28] "WAVE," [www.ricardo.com/en-GB/What-we-do/Software/Products/WAVE/](http://www.ricardo.com/en-GB/What-we-do/Software/Products/WAVE/), visited August 12, 2016.
- [29] N. Blizard and J. Keck, "Experimental and theoretical investigation of turbulent burning model for internal combustion engines," *M. I. T., Dept. of Mech. Eng., Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 740191*, 1974.
- [30] S. Hires, R. Tabaczynski, and J. Novak, "The prediction of ignition delay and combustion intervals for a homogeneous charge, spark ignition engine," *Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 780232*, 1978.
- [31] R. J. Tabaczynski, F. H. Trinker and B. A. S. Shannon, "Further refinement and validation of a turbulent flame propagation model for spark-ignition engines," *Combustion and Flame*, vol. 39, no. 2, pp. 111-121, 1980.
- [32] T. Morel, C. Rackmil, R. Keribar, and M. Jennings, "Model for heat transfer and combustion in spark ignited engines and its comparison with experiments," *Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 880198*, 1988.
- [33] S. Wahiduzzaman, T. Morel, and S. Sheard, "Comparison of measured and predicted combustion characteristics of a four-valve S. I. engine," *Society of Automotive Engineering (SAE) Technical Paper 930613*, 1993.
- [34] D. B. Spalding, "Mixing and chemical reaction in steady confined turbulent flames," *Symposium (International) on Combustion*, vol. 13, no. 1, pp. 649-657, 1971.
- [35] B. F. Magnussen and B. H. Hjertager, "On the mathematical modeling of turbulent combustion with special emphasis on shoot formation and combustion," *Symposium (International) on Combustion*, vol. 16, no. 1, pp. 719-729, 1976.
- [36] A. Boretti and C. Grummish, "World's first 100 % LPG long haul truck conversion," *Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering*, vol. 189, pp. 457-473, 2013.