Ignition Delay Characteristics of Kerosene with Decomposed Hydrogen Peroxide

Sen Li[*] and Xiaolin Wei[†]

Chinese Academy of Sciences, 100190 Beijing, People's Republic of China

The ignition chemical delay of kerosene with decomposed hydrogen peroxide was simulated by using n-decane as a surrogate fuel for kerosene. The influences of H_2O_2 concentration, the H_2O_2 decomposition rate, and pressure on the chemical delay were investigated. The ignition delay time had the negative temperature coefficient phenomenon for a low H_2O_2 decomposition rate, and the increasing pressure weakened the negative temperature coefficient phenomenon, which nearly disappeared when the pressure was greater than 4 MPa. An R_{H2O2}-dependent coefficient of the ignition delay time was almost not influenced by H_2O_2 concentration and pressure when the pressure was less than 4 MPa, and R_{H2O2} had a noticeable influence on the ignition delay time at $R_{H2O2} < 80\%$. Increasing the H_2O_2 concentration effectively reduced the ignition delay time at $R_{H2O2} < 70\%$, but it had a slight effect on the ignition delay time at $R_{H2O2} > 70\%$.

Nomenclature

C_{H2O2}	=	H_2O_2 concentration, %
P	=	pressure, MPa
R_{H2O2}	=	H_2O_2 decomposition rate, %
ζ	=	R_{H2O2}-dependent coefficient of ignition delay time
τ_{ig}	=	ignition delay time, μs
τ_{max}	=	maximal ignition delay time, μs
τ_{min}	=	minimal ignition delay time, μs
τ_1	=	first-stage ignition delay time
τ_2	=	second-stage ignition delay time
φ	=	equivalence ratio

I. Introduction

IN RECENT years, to enhance safety and reduce the toxicity of liquid rocket engines, the green propellants have received wide attention, and the combination of kerosene with H_2O_2 is promising due to its high-density specific impulse, long-term storage capability, and low toxicity [1,2]. Many studies are focusing on developing H_2O_2/kerosene bipropellant liquid engines [3].

Rocket-grade hydrogen peroxide (RGHP) is characterized by a high mass ratio of hydrogen peroxide to water (usually greater than 85%) [4]. In a rocket engine, RGHP is passed through a catalyst bed (silver screens or other catalytic material) and aft-mounted injector, and the catalyst bed initiates RGHP decomposition [5–7]. Assuming that 90% H_2O_2 is decomposed, the decomposition reaction for this concentration can be written as

$$H_2O_2(l) + 0.21H_2O(l) \Rightarrow 1.21H_2O(g) + 0.5O_2(g) \qquad (1)$$
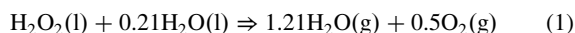
The RGHP decomposition mixture of high-temperature steam and oxygen leads to the automatic ignition of kerosene in a rocket engine, and the ignition delay is a critical kinetic parameter [3,7]. If the ignition does not occur on time, propellants can accumulate in the chamber and then spontaneously ignite, resulting in the chamber bursting and combustion instability, which leads to rocket engine failure [8]. The ignition delay of hypergolic propellants depends on the complex interactions between many chemical and physical factors, the process of ignition delay includes the physical delay (atomization, mixing, vaporization, and diffusion) and the chemical delay (gas phase reactions), and the characteristic times of each process combine to form a global ignition delay time [9–12]. The physical delay is greatly influenced by the injection technique, which varies with the injector configuration and injecting parameters, and the chemical delay is determined by the reaction potential of the two propellants (such as fuel structure, mixture composition, the fuel/air ratio, temperature, and pressure) [13].

There is relatively little information about the ignition delay characteristics of kerosene with the decomposed hydrogen peroxide. In this study, the ignition physical delay is not considered; the ignition chemical delay of kerosene with decomposed hydrogen peroxide is simulated by using n-decane as a surrogate fuel for kerosene; and the influences of C_{H2O2}, R_{H2O2}, and pressure on the chemical delay are investigated in a perfectly stirred reactor model.

II. Methodology

A. Reaction Mechanism for n-Decane

The commercial Jet-A1 is kerosene-type fuel, it is complex mixtures of a large number of different hydrocarbons, and the developing chemical kinetic models of kerosene combustion is of practical importance. Because of the very large chemical kinetic mechanisms and the associated computational resources required, the simulation of kerosene combustion is challenging [14]. Zeng et al. [15] and Dagaut and Cathonnet [16] used a surrogate fuel containing only n-decane to simulate kerosene combustion at 1–4 MPa. Chang et al. [17] developed a new skeletal mechanism including 40 species and 141 reactions for n-decane oxidation to simulate kerosene combustion, the mechanism for $C_2 - C_{10}$ was used to model the oxidation of heavy hydrocarbons for the prediction of the ignition characteristics, and it was extensively validated by comparing it to the experimental ignition delay data of n-decane oxidation under the low-to-high temperature and high-pressure conditions [18]. In the study, the skeletal mechanism developed by Chang et al. is used to simulate the ignition delay characteristics of kerosene with the decomposed hydrogen peroxide.

B. Homogeneous Reactor

To understand the ignition delay mechanism of kerosene with H_2O_2 decomposition gas in a rocket engine, the homogeneous, isobaric, and adiabatic combustion reactor model is employed to predict the ignition time, and it can qualitatively discover the effects of operating parameters on the ignition delay process.

The chemical kinetic behavior of reactants is modeled by Sandia National Laboratory's SENKIN program of CHEMKIN subroutines

*State Key Laboratory of High Temperature Gas Dynamics, Institute of Mechanics, 15 Beisihuanxi Road.

†State Key Laboratory of High Temperature Gas Dynamics, Institute of Mechanics, 15 Beisihuanxi Road.

[18,20]. The program solves the conservation equations for mass and energy, it can calculate the temporal evolution of mole fractions of species for a homogeneous mixture in a closed reactor, and it can account for finite-rate elementary chemical reactions. Therefore, the SENKIN model is appropriate to investigate the ignition chemical delay of kerosene with H_2O_2 decomposition gas in a closed chamber. In this reactor model, the reactive system is defined by specifying initial values of volume, temperature, pressure, and chemical compositions. Based on a steepest-increase criterion of the temperature, τ_{ig} is extracted. The reaction pathway flux analysis is performed using MixMaster (a Python program that is part of the Cantera suite) based on a conserved scalar of reaction fluxes [18].

C. Simulation Conditions

Using a thermodynamic equilibrium model based on the minimization of Gibbs free energy, the dominant products of H_2O_2 decomposition are H_2O and O_2, the mass concentration sum of other productions is less than 10^{-5} in the operating conditions of catalyst beds using silver screens, and thus it is considered that the decomposition products are only H_2O and O_2. The effect of pressure on the H_2O_2 decomposition temperature was reported by General Kinetics [21]. According to the real gas specific heat and standard formation enthalpy of H_2O_2, O_2, and H_2O, the decomposition temperature is calculated [21,22], and Ge et al. [22] provided the calculation method and formula. Figure 1 shows the decomposition temperature of 87–92% H_2O_2 at 1 MPa.

For a given C_{H2O2}, when H_2O_2 is completely decomposed in the catalyst bed, the mass fractions of O_2 and H_2O in the high-decomposition gas mixture are

$$f_{O2} = 0.47037 C_{H2O2}/100 \tag{2}$$

$$f_{H2O} = 1 - 0.47037 C_{H2O2}/100 \tag{3}$$

To avoid catalyst bed overtemperature or the instability in the practical operation of the rocket engine, H_2O_2 is partly decomposed in the catalyst bed, and the residual H_2O_2 in the supercritical liquid state is injected into combustion chamber, which has no sufficient time to participate in the ignition due to the delay of the vaporization and decomposition process. Thus, it is necessary to investigate the effect of R_{H2O2} on the ignition delay of kerosene with the H_2O_2 decomposition gas. At given C_{H2O2} and R_{H2O2}, the mass fractions of O_2, H_2O, and the residual H_2O_2 in the high-decomposition mixture are

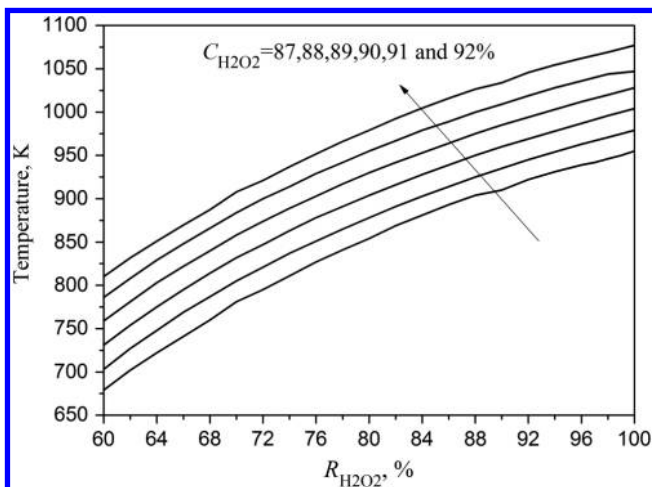$$f_{O2} = 0.47037 \times (C_{H2O2}/100) \times (R_{H2O2}/100) \tag{4}$$

$$f_{H2O} = (1 - 0.52963 \times R_{H2O2}/100) \times C_{H2O2}/100 \tag{5}$$

$$f_{H2O2} = (1 - R_{H2O2}/100) \times C_{H2O2}/100 \tag{6}$$

In the ignition simulation of kerosene with decomposed hydrogen peroxide at a given C_{H2O2}, R_{H2O2} influences the initial ignition temperature and φ, and φ is defined as

$$\varphi = \frac{(m_{C10H22}/m_{H2O2})_{\text{actual mixture}}}{(m_{C10H22}/m_{H2O2})_{\text{stoichiometric mixture}}} \tag{7}$$

where m_{C10H22} and m_{H2O2} are the mass contents of $C_{10}H_{22}$ and H_2O_2, respectively. In the study, m_{C10H22} is kept at a constant, φ is kept at a constant of 1.0 when H_2O_2 is completely decomposed ($R_{H2O2} = 100\%$), the actual amount of m_{H2O2} participating in the ignition reactions is equal to the product of stoichiometric H_2O_2 mass and $R_{H2O2}/100$, and then φ is derived from Eq. (7):

$$\varphi = 100/R_{H2O2} \tag{8}$$

As known from Eq. (8), decreasing R_{H2O2} means that the equivalence ratio decreases, and the ignition is under a fuel-rich atmosphere at $\varphi < 1.0$. In the study, the H_2O_2 concentration and decomposition rate vary from 87 to 92% and 60 to 100%, respectively.

III.   Results and Discussion

A.   Ignition Process Analysis

In the study, a high-temperature gas stream of the decomposed hydrogen peroxide mixes with n-decane, and the autoignition can be achieved. Ignition is an oxidizing fuel and increasing temperature process. Figure 2 shows the temperature history of the mixture as it undergoes ignition for various R_{H2O2} at 1 MPa and $C_{H2O2} = 87\%$, and it indicates that the entire period of the ignition delay is a two-stage temperature increment process (namely, two-stage ignition, 0-A and A-B) for low R_{H2O2} (64, 74, and 84%) or a single-stage temperature increment process (namely, single-stage ignition) for high R_{H2O2} (94 and 100%).

The behavior of two-stage ignition for low R_{H2O2} in Fig. 2 is further demonstrated in Fig. 3. With the increase of R_{H2O2}, τ_1 monotonically decreases, and τ_1 is nearly equal to 0 μs at $R_{H2O2} > 88\%$; τ_2 first increases at $R_{H2O2} < 88\%$ and then decreases; it indicates that the ignition delay is two stages at $R_{H2O2} < 88\%$ and a single stage at $R_{H2O2} > 88\%$; the total ignition delay time τ_{ig} is the sum of τ_1 and τ_2, and the ignition delay mainly results from the first-stage delay at $R_{H2O2} < 68\%$.

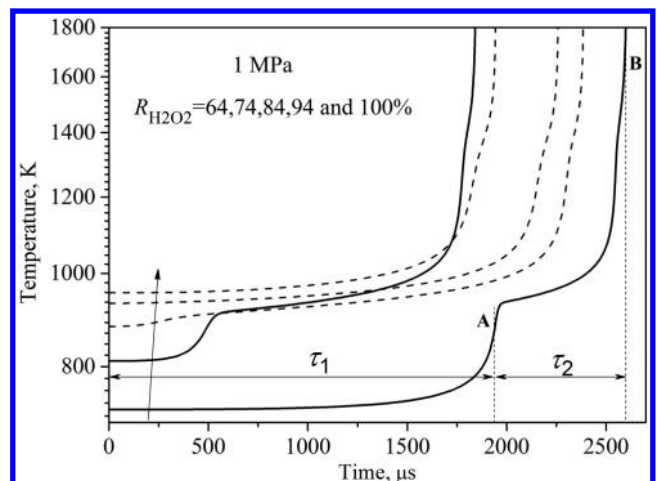Fig. 1   Effect of R_{H2O2} on decomposition temperature at 1 MPa.

Fig. 2   Temperature variations in the ignition process at 1 MPa and 87% C_{H2O2}.
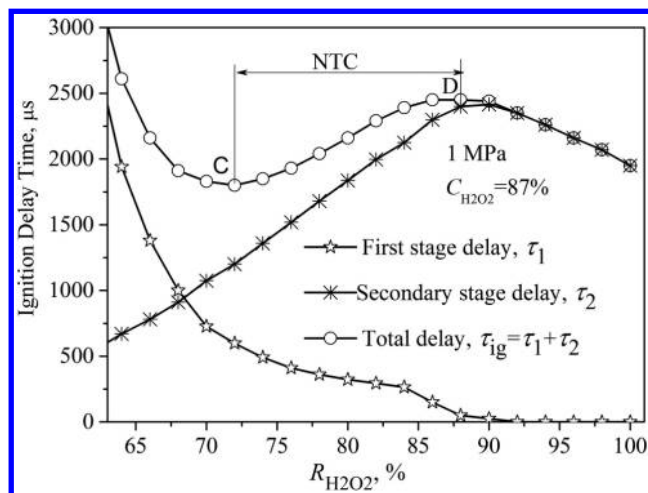
Fig. 3   Two-stage ignition process at 1 MPa.

Figure 3, with the increase of R_{H2O2}, τ_{ig} first decreases at $R_{H2O2} <$ 72% and then increases at $R_{H2O2} =$ 72–88%. As is known from Fig. 1, the temperature of the H_2O_2 decomposition gas increases with the increase of R_{H2O2}, and thus there is a negative temperature coefficient (NTC) phenomenon in the C-D region where τ_{ig} increases with the increase of the initial ignition temperature. Practically, the NTC phenomenon is of particular relevance to the intrinsically low-temperature phenomenon of ignition for the low-temperature oxidation of large hydrocarbons [23].

As is known from Figs. 2 and 3, the ignition process goes through two stages to achieve intense burning at $R_{H2O2} <$ 88%, but it goes through only one stage, controlled by low-temperature chemistry, at $R_{H2O2} >$ 88%. To understand the dominant chemical reaction mechanism of ignition at the points of A and B in Figs. 2 and 4 provides the species concentration variations with time in the ignition process for $C_{H2O2} =$ 87% and $R_{H2O2} =$ 64% at 1 MPa. In Figs. 4a and 4b, with the increase of time, these species except $C_{10}H_{22}$ gradually increase, there is a single peak of point A (at 1941 μs) where hydrocarbon species sharply decrease (see Figs. 4a and 4b) and the temperature rapidly increases to 822 K at point A (see Fig. 2), and thus the first-stage ignition occurs at point A. In the first-stage ignition, $C_{10}H_{22}$ is decomposed and oxidized with the slow increase of the temperature, the temperature increases from 722 to 822 K, and thus the first-stage ignition is governed by the low-temperature chemistry. At point B in Fig. 2 (at 2606 μs), the concentrations of hydrocarbon species dramatically decrease in Figs. 4c and 4d, the temperature sharply increases to 1828 K, and thus the secondary-stage ignition occurs at point B in Fig. 2, which is governed by the high-temperature chemistry.

To analyze the reaction mechanisms of the low-temperature chemistry and the high-temperature chemistry in the ignition process, the reaction paths are investigated at 1930 and 2548 μs, as shown in Fig. 5.

Figure 5 shows the low-temperature reaction path of the first-stage ignition at 1941 μs, and the low-temperature chain sequence is as follows. First, H is abstracted from $C_{10}H_{22}$ by OH and H radicals to form the heptyl radicals ($C_{10}H_{21}$):

$$C_{10}H_{22} + H \rightarrow C_{10}H_{21} + H_2 \tag{9}$$

$$C_{10}H_{22} + OH \rightarrow C_{10}H_{21} + H_2O \tag{10}$$
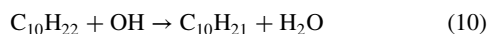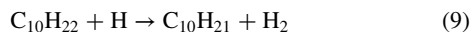
H and OH radicals attack $C_{10}H_{22}$ to result in H abstraction, and the major consuming fuel paths are exothermic reactions.

Second, the heptyl radical ($C_{10}H_{21}$) combines with O_2 to form the heptylperoxy radical ($C_{10}H_{21}OO$):

$$C_{10}H_{21} + O_2 \rightarrow C_{10}H_{21}OO \tag{11}$$
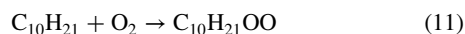
11 is one of the major heat release reactions in the low-temperature reaction of the first-stage ignition; 11 can process toward the inverse direction with the increase of temperature, and then it has an inverse temperature dependence.

Third, the isomerization of heptylperoxy ($C_{10}H_{21}OO$) forms the heptylhydroperoxy radicals ($C_{10}H_{20}OOH$):
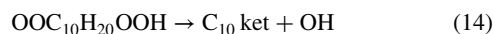
$$C_{10}H_{21}OO \rightarrow C_{10}H_{20}OOH \tag{12}$$

12 is an endothermic reaction.

Fourth, the $C_{10}H_{20}OOH$ proceeds to take the chain branching reaction with the second O_2 addition to form $OOC_{10}H_{20}OOH$:

$$C_{10}H_{20}OOH + O_2 \rightarrow OOC_{10}H_{20}OOH \tag{13}$$

$OOC_{10}H_{20}OOH$ then forms ketohydroperoxide (C_{10} ket) by releasing OH:

$$OOC_{10}H_{20}OOH \rightarrow C_{10}\,ket + OH \tag{14}$$

Moreover, the ketohydroperoxide molecule undergoes decomposition to form $C_5H_{11}CO$, olefin, and formaldehyde in reaction:

$$C_{10}\,ket \rightarrow CH_2O + C_5H_{11}CO + OH + C_3H_6 \tag{15}$$

The ketones (C_{10} ket) decomposition reaction of 15 is the most important low-temperature endothermic chain branching reaction. The $C_5H_{11}CO$ continues to decompose into $C_0 - C_3$ species:

$$C_5H_{11}CO + O_2 \rightarrow C_3H_7 + C_2H_3 + CO + HO_2 \tag{16}$$
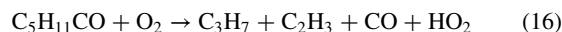
Finally, the carbonyl decomposition reactions generate smaller C_1 and C_2 radicals, which subsequently undergo further reactions:

$$C_2H_3 + O_2 \rightarrow CH_2O + HCO \tag{17}$$
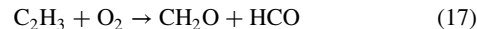
Specifically, it is noted that the isomerization and decomposition reactions have the dominant effect on the first ignition stage.

In the previous reactions, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 17 are important exothermic reactions, the concentration of OH radical originating from 14 and 15 increases with the increase of time at 1800–2020 μs, and this accelerates the reaction rate of 17 and the rise of temperature until the temperature rises to a value at which the 16 reaction becomes the important reaction:

$$C_{10}H_{21} + O_2 \rightarrow C10H_{20} + HO_2 \tag{18}$$

H_2O_2 is formed:

$$HO_2 + HO_2 \rightarrow H_2O_2 + O_2 \tag{19}$$
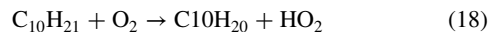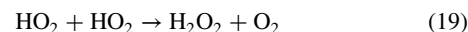
In the first-stage ignition process, the OH radical is largely consumed in the range of 1940 to 1960 μs, the temperature noticeably rises (see Fig. 2), 11 shifts toward the decomposition of the $C_{10}H_{21}OO$ radical, the production rate of OH decreases, and then the low-temperature chemistry of the first-stage ignition is shut down [23].

Since the reaction rates of 18 and 19 increase with the increase of temperature in the first-stage ignition, 18 competes with the reactions of 11, 13, 14, and 17; this suppresses OH radical formation and results in the decrease of the 10 reaction rate, and then 18 reaction becomes important, terminating the first-stage ignition when the temperature rises to 822 K (see point A in Figs. 2, 4a, and 4b).

In the second-ignition stage, initially, 18 becomes a dominant path reaction involving slightly exothermic process, it suppresses the formation of the OH radical, OH concentration begins to decrease after the first-stage ignition, the 10 reaction rate decreases, this results in the decrease of the $C_{10}H_{21}$ concentration (see Figs. 4a and 4b), and the temperature slowly rises (see Fig. 2) until 20 becomes an important reaction:
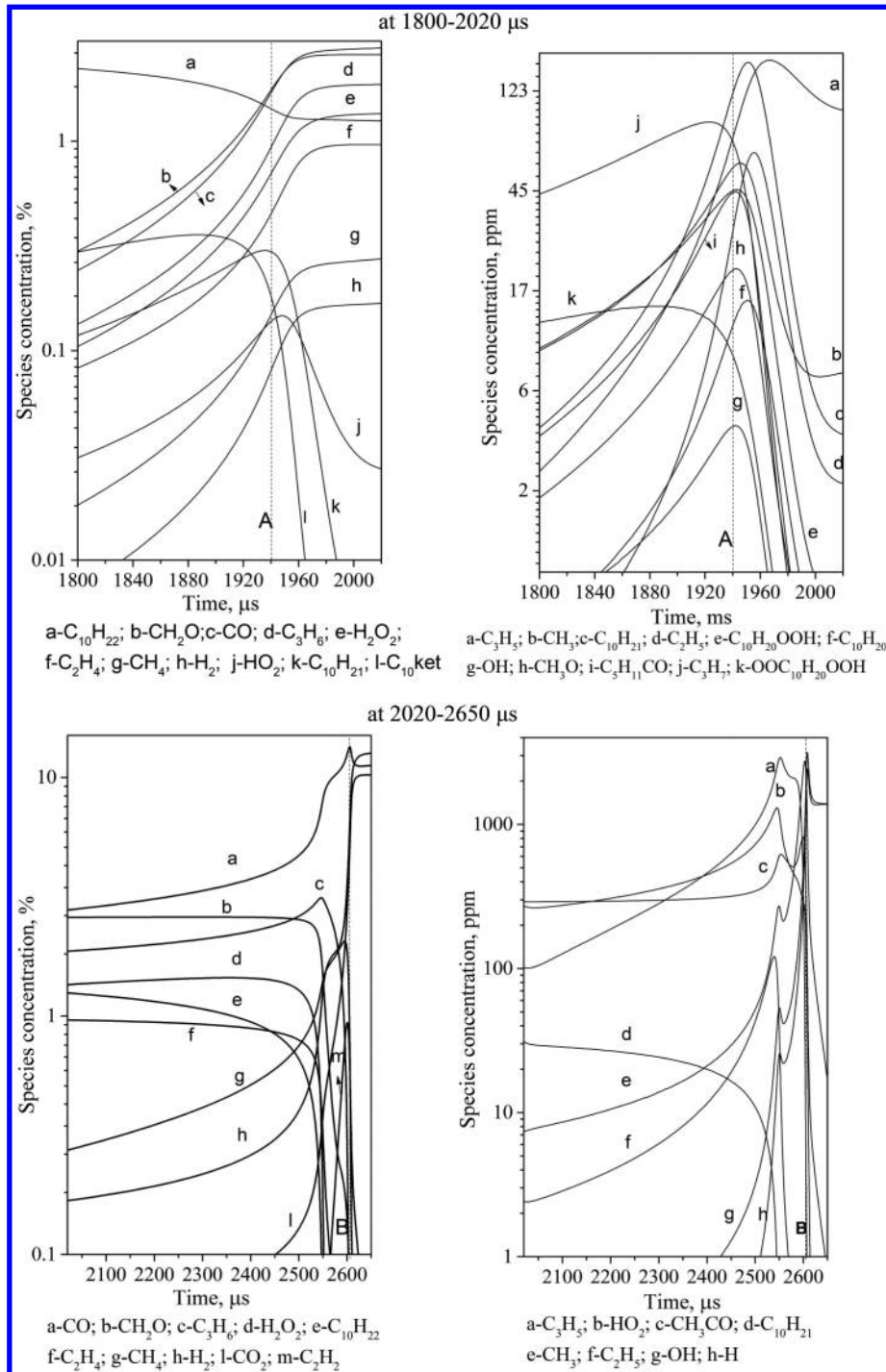
Fig. 4   Concentration variations of species in the ignition process at 87% C_{H2O2}, 64% R_{H2O2}, and 1 MPa.

$$H_2O_2(+M) \rightarrow OH + OH(+M) \qquad (20)$$

20 accelerates H abstraction from $C_{10}H_{22}$ by 10 and promotes 18 reaction, and the temperature rapidly rises. At high temperature, the pyrolysis reaction becomes important:

$$C_{10}H_{21} \rightarrow 2C_3H_6 + C_2H_5 + C_2H_4 \qquad (21)$$

As is known from Fig. 5 at 2606 μs, $C_1 - C_3$ hydrocarbons are rapidly oxidized to CO_2 by O_2 and the free radicals of HO_2 and OH. With the acceleration of the oxidization reactions, the temperature sharply rises to 1828 K at 2606 μs (see point B in Fig. 2), and the second-stage ignition process is terminated.

B.   Effects of Pressure, H_2O_2 Decomposition Rate, and H_2O_2 Concentration on Ignition Delay

In the ignition simulation of H_2O_2/kerosene, at a given C_{H2O2}, R_{H2O2} influences the initial ignition temperature and φ. The temperature of the decomposition gas mixture increases with the increase of R_{H2O2}, C_{H2O2}, and pressure [21,22]. As is known from Eq. (8), φ decreases in the ignition stage with the increase of R_{H2O2}.

Figure 6 shows the effects of pressure, C_{H2O2}, and R_{H2O2} on the ignition delay time. With the increase of pressure, the ignition delay time rapidly decreases in the range from 1 to 4 MPa (see Figs. 6a and 6c) and slowly decreases at $P > 4$ MPa (see Figs. 6b and 6d), and this phenomenon is directly related to the oxidation of the alkyl radicals (see 11). With the increase of pressure, the equilibrium of 11 shifts toward the formation of the $C_{10}H_{21}OO$ radical, the reaction releases a large amount of heat in the low-temperature reaction of the first-stage
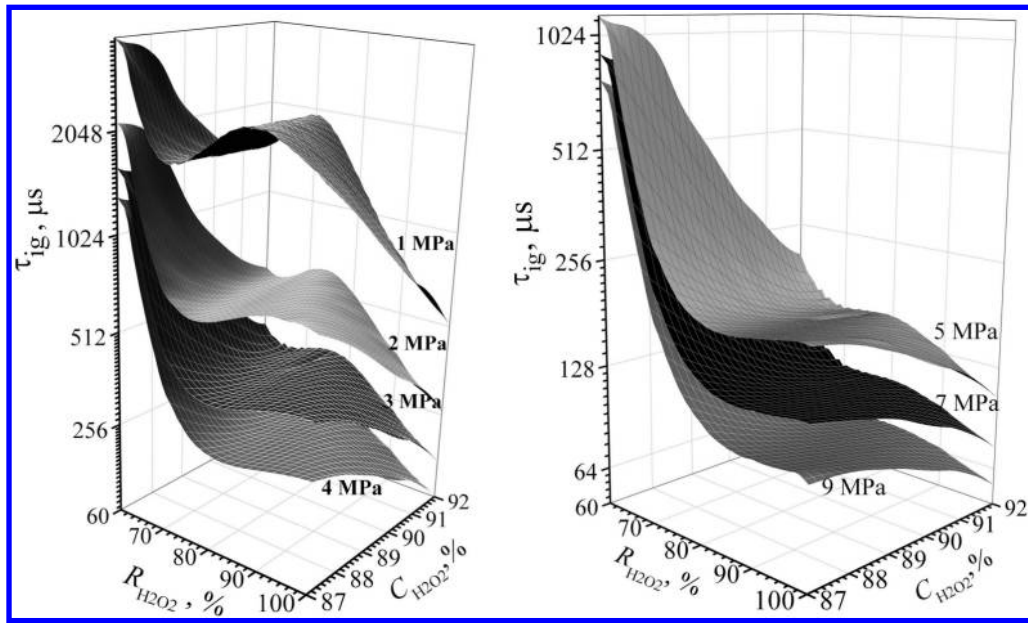
Fig. 5   Reaction path analysis of the first-stage ignition at 87% C_{H2O2}, 64% R_{H2O2}, and 1 MPa.

ignition, and this effectively reduces τ_1 when the pressure increases from 1 to 4 MPa. Since the H_2O_2 decomposition temperature increases with pressure, the ignition time decreases with the further increase of pressure from 4 to 9 MPa, but 11 will process toward the inverse direction with the increase of temperature, and thus the variation of the ignition delay time with the increase of pressure becomes slow (see Figs. 6b and 6d).

Since the low-temperature chain reactions produce a large amount of H_2O_2 by 19, H_2O_2 decomposition leads to the termination of the NTC process through 21, which is pressure-dependent reaction, and thus the H_2O_2 decomposition rate is greater at higher pressures. Therefore, increasing the pressure makes the NTC region shift to a higher R_{H2O2} range, and the corresponding NTC region becomes narrow, as shown in Fig. 7.

To investigate the influencing extent of C_{H2O2} and pressure on the NCT region, the difference of τ_{min} and τ_{max} is defined as

$$\Delta\tau = \tau_{max} - \tau_{min} \tag{22}$$

where τ_{min} and τ_{max} are, respectively, the minimal and maximal ignition delay times corresponding points C and D of the NCT region

in Fig. 3. If the value of $\Delta\tau$ is great, the variation extent of the NCT region is noticeable. Figure 8 shows the influencing extent of C_{H2O2} and pressure on the NCT region corresponding to Fig. 7; the increase of pressure weakens the variation extent of the NTC. As is known from Fig. 6, at $P > 4$ MPa, the NTC phenomenon of ignition nearly disappears, and the ignition process goes through only one stage governed by low-temperature chemistry [23].

In the study, when H_2O_2 is completely decomposed by catalysis ($R_{H2O2} = 1$), the equivalence ratio is kept at 1. If H_2O_2 is partly decomposed by catalysis, the equivalence ratio decreases with the decrease of R_{H2O2}, and the decomposition temperature decreases. In Fig. 6, R_{H2O2} has complex effects on the ignition delay time: at low R_{H2O2}, increasing R_{H2O2} makes τ_{ig} rapidly decrease; in the NTC region, τ_{ig} increases with R_{H2O2}; and at high pressure, τ_{ig} monotonically decreases with the increase of R_{H2O2}.

To further investigate the effect of R_{H2O2} on τ_{ig}, the R_{H2O2} dependent coefficient of the ignition delay time is defined as

$$\zeta = \frac{(\tau_{i+1} - \tau_i)/\tau_1}{\Delta R/R_1} \tag{23}$$

Fig. 6 Effects of pressure, R_{H2O2}, and C_{H2O2} on the ignition delay time.
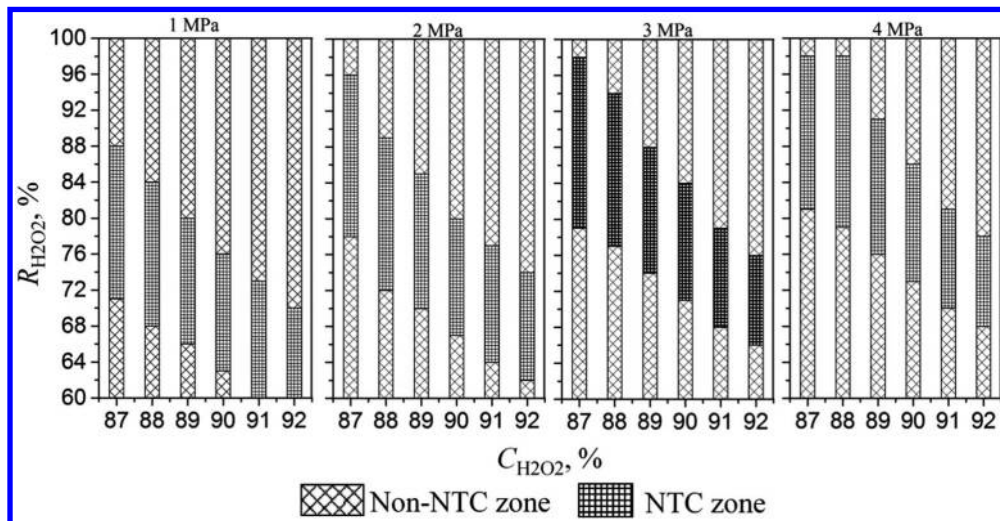

Fig. 7 Effects of pressure, R_{H2O2}, and C_{H2O2} on the NTC region.

where R_1 and τ_1, respectively, denote 60% R_{H2O2} and the corresponding ignition delay time; ΔR is the increment interval of R_{H2O2}; and τ_i and τ_{i+1} are, respectively, the ignition delay times at $R_{H2O2} = (60 + i\Delta R)$ and $R_{H2O2} = 60 + ((i + 1)\Delta R)$. As is known from Eq. 23, if ζ is negative, this means that the ignition delay time decreases with the increase of R_{H2O2}.

Figure 9 presents R_{H2O2}-dependent coefficients of the ignition delay time at different R_{H2O2}; the coefficients are almost similar when pressure is less than 4 MPa, and thus it can be considered that ζ is almost only dependent on R_{H2O2} but independent of C_{H2O2} and pressure. At $R_{H2O2} < 80\%$, ζ rapidly varies with R_{H2O2}, and it indicates R_{H2O2} has a great influence on τ_{ig}. At $R_{H2O2} > 80\%$, ζ slowly varies with R_{H2O2}, and it indicates that the influence of R_{H2O2} on τ_{ig} decreases. Since the initial ignition temperature and the equivalence ratio are low at $R_{H2O2} < 80\%$, increasing R_{H2O2} can effectively reduce the first-stage ignition delay time (see Fig. 4), the ignition delay time rapidly decreases with the increase of R_{H2O2}, and the R_{H2O2}-dependent coefficient of the ignition delay time rapidly increases (see Fig. 9).

In Fig. 9, the range of positive value ζ is the corresponding NTC region. Since the temperature of the H_2O_2 decomposition gas increases with R_{H2O2}, the initial ignition temperature also rises with R_{H2O2} (see Fig. 1); this can effectively reduce the first-stage ignition time, but the released heat at the end of the first-ignition stage
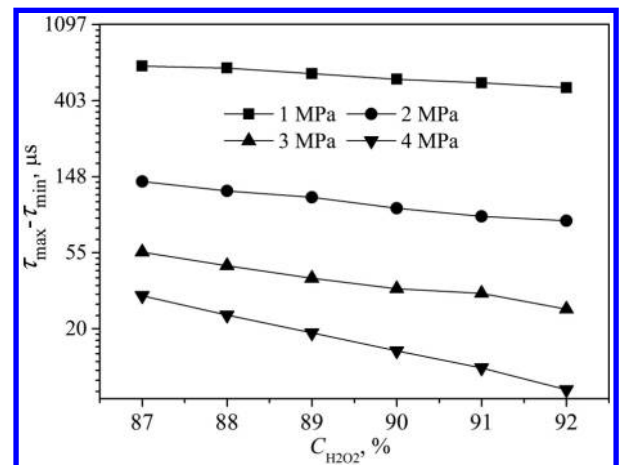

Fig. 8 Effect of C_{H2O2} and pressure on the ignition delay extent corresponding to Fig. 7.

decreases, which leads to a longer delay time for the second-stage ignition, and consequently the entire ignition delay time becomes longer with R_{H2O2} in the NTC region, as shown in Fig. 3.
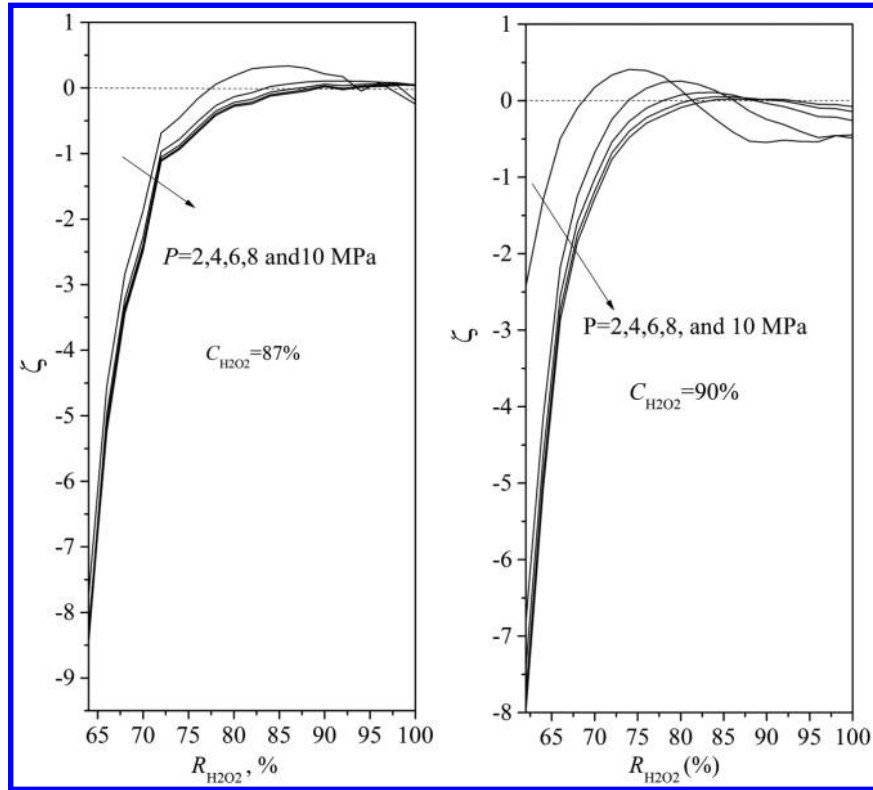
Fig. 9 R_{H2O2}-dependent coefficient of the ignition delay time at different C_{H2O2} and pressures.
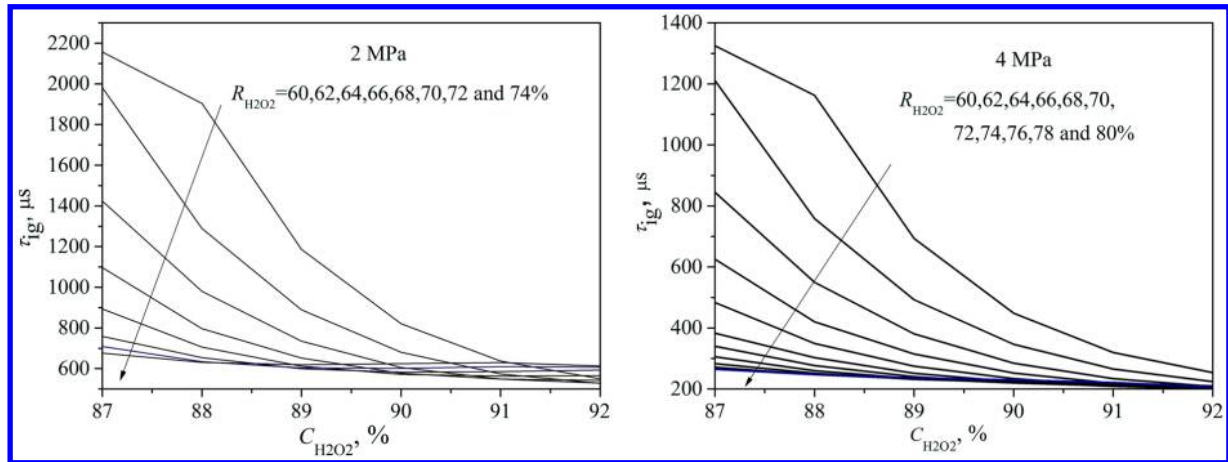

Fig. 10 Effect of C_{H2O2} on the ignition delay time.

Figure 10 shows the effect of H_2O_2 concentration on the ignition delay time, and it indicates that at $R_{H2O2} < 70\%$ the increase of the H_2O_2 concentration can effectively reduce ignition delay time and at $R_{H2O2} > 70\%$ the H_2O_2 concentration has a slight effect on the ignition delay time. In the study, the increasing H_2O_2 concentration means the increase of the initial ignition temperature and O_2 concentration in the H_2O_2 decomposition mixture gas, and thus the ignition delay rapidly decreases with the C_{H2O2} at $R_{H2O2} < 70\%$.

IV. Conclusions

In this study, fuel *n*-decane is used as a surrogate fuel for kerosene; the effects of C_{H2O2}, R_{H2O2}, and pressure on the ignition chemical delay are investigated; and the reaction paths of the ignition process are provided.

The ignition delay time has the negative temperature coefficient (NTC) phenomenon for a low H_2O_2 decomposition rate, τ_{ig} increases with R_{H2O2} in the NCT region, the increasing pressure makes the NTC region shift to a higher R_{H2O2} range and weakens the variation

extent of the NTC, the corresponding NTC region becomes narrow, and the NTC phenomenon of ignition delay nearly disappears when pressure is greater than 4 MPa. The R_{H2O2}-dependent coefficient of the ignition delay time is almost independent of C_{H2O2} and the pressure when the pressure is less than 4 MPa, and R_{H2O2} has a great influence on τ_{ig} at $R_{H2O2} < 80\%$. Increasing the H_2O_2 concentration can effectively reduce the ignition delay time at $R_{H2O2} < 70\%$, and the H_2O_2 concentration has a slight effect on the ignition delay time at $R_{H2O2} > 70\%$.

Acknowledgments

References

[1] Cervone, A., Torre, L., d'Agostino, L., Musker, A. J., Roberts, G. T., Bramanti, C., and Saccoccia, G., "Development of Hydrogen Peroxide Monopropellant Rockets," AIAA Paper 2006-5239, 2006.

[2] Zhang, T., Cong, Y., and Li, T., "Propulsive Performance of Hypergolic H_2O_2/Kerosene Bipropellant," *Journal of Propulsion and Power*, Vol. 31, No. 6, 2004, pp. 83–86.
doi:10.2514/1.9189

[3] Krishnan, S., Ahn, S. H., and Lee, C. W., "Design and Development of a Hydrogen-Peroxide Rocket-Engine Facility," *Journal Mekanikal*, Vol. 30, No. 6, 2010, pp. 24–36.

[4] Musker, A. J., Rusek, J. J., and Kappenstein, C., "Hydrogen Peroxide: From Bridesmaid to Bride," *3rd ESA International Conference on Green Propellants for Space Propulsion*, ESA Paper E11690/635, Sept. 2006.

[5] Moon, Y. J., Park, C., Jo, S., and Kwon, S., "Design Specifications of H_2O_2/Kerosene Bipropellant Rocket System for Space Missions," *Aerospace Science and Technology*, Vol. 33, No. 6, 2014, pp. 118–121.
doi:10.1016/j.ast.2014.01.006

[6] Heister, S. D., Anderson, W. E., and Corpening, J. H., "A Model for Thermal Decomposition of Hydrogen Peroxide," *40th AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference and Exhibit*, AIAA Paper 2004-3373, 2004.

[7] Palmer, M. J., Musker, A. J., and Roberts, G. T., "Experimental Assessment of Heterogeneous Catalysts for the Decomposition of Hydrogen Peroxide," *47th AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference and Exhibit*, AIAA Paper 2011-5695, Aug. 2011.

[8] Sébastien, M. C., "Combustion Instabilities Coupled by Pressure Waves and Their Active Control," *Symposium (International) on Combustion*, Vol. 24, No. 6, 1992, pp. 1277–1296.
doi:10.1016/S0082-0784(06)80150-5

[9] Timothe′e, L. P., and William, E. A., "Hypergolic Reaction Mechanisms of Catalytically Promoted Fuels with Rocket Grade Hydrogen Peroxide," *Combustion Science and Technology*, Vol. 179, No. 10, 2007, pp. 2107–2133.
doi:10.1080/00102200701386149

[10] Saksena, P., Tadigadapa, S., and Yetter, R. A., "Study of Hypergolic Propellants Using Micro-Reactors," *15th International Conference on Miniaturized Systems for Chemistry and Life Sciences*, Curran Associates, Inc., New York, Oct. 2011, pp. 1594–1596.

[11] Galfetti, L., Nasut, F., Pastrone, D., and Russo, A. M., "An Italian Network to Improve Hybrid Rocket Performance: Strategy and Results," *Acta Astronautica*, Vol. 96, Nos. 3–4, March–April 2014, pp. 246–260.
doi:10.1016/j.actaastro.2013.11.036

[12] Shahabuddin, M., Liaquat, A. M., Masjuki, H. H., Kalam, M. A., and Mofijur, M., "Ignition Delay, Combustion and Emission Characteristics of Diesel Engine Fueled with Biodiesel," *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, Vol. 21, No. 5, May 2013, pp. 623–632.
doi:10.1016/j.rser.2013.01.019

[13] Culick, F. E. C., "Unsteady Motions in Combustion Chambers for Propulsion Systems," California Inst. of Technology, Rept. AC/323 (AVT-039), Pasadena, CA, 2006.

[14] Zeng, W., Liu, J. C., Chen, X. X., and Ma, H. A., "A New Reduced Reaction Mechanism of a Surrogate Fuel for Kerosene," *Canadian Journal of Chemical Engineering*, Vol. 91, No. 3, 2013, pp. 483–489.
doi:10.1002/cjce.21674

[15] Zeng, W., Liang, S., Li, H. X., and Ma, H. A., "Chemical Kinetic Simulation of Kerosene Combustion in an Individual Flame Tube," *Journal of Advanced Research*, Vol. 5, No. 3, 2014, pp. 357–366.
doi:10.1016/j.jare.2013.06.002

[16] Dagaut, P., and Cathonnet, M., "The Ignition, Oxidation, and Combustion of Kerosene: A Review of Experimental and Kinetic Modeling," *Progress in Energy and Combustion Science*, Vol. 32, No. 6, 2006, pp. 48–92.
doi:10.1016/j.pecs.2005.10.003

[17] Chang, Y. C., Jia, M., and Liu, Y. D., "Development of a New Skeletal Mechanism for n-Decane Oxidation Under Engine-Relevant Conditions Based on a Decoupling Methodology," *Combustion and Flame*, Vol. 160, No. 8, 2013, pp. 1315–1332.
doi:10.1016/j.combustflame.2013.02.017

[18] Goodwin, D. G., "Object-Oriented Software for Reacting Flows Network," California Inst. of Technology, Pasadena, CA, 2011, http://www.cantera.org/docs /sphinx/html/index.html.

[19] Kee, R. J., Rupley, F. M., and Meeks, E., "A FORTRAN Chemical Kinetics Package for the Analysis of Gas Phase Chemical Kinetics," Sandia National Lab., UC-40 SAND96-8126, Livermore, CA, 1996.

[20] Lutz, A. E., Kee, R. J., and Miller, J. A., "SENKIN: A FORTRAN Program for Predicting Homogeneous Gas Phase Chemical Kinetics with Sensitivity Analysis," Sandia National Lab., SAND87-8248, Livermore, CA, 1997.

[21] Walsh, R. F., and Sutton, A. M., "Pressure Effects on Hydrogen Peroxide Decomposition Temperature," *5th International Hydrogen Peroxide Propulsion Conference*, Purdue Univ., Lafayette, IN, Sept. 2002, pp. 1–13.

[22] Ge, M. L., Li, Q., and Liu, Y. K., "A Calculation Method of Decomposing Hydrogen Peroxide from Silver Catalyst Bed," *Journal of Rocket Propulsion*, Vol. 35, No. 5, 2009, pp. 39–45 (in Chinese).

[23] Law, C. K., and Zhao, P., "NTC-Affected Ignition in Nonpremixed Counterflow," *Combustion and Flame*, Vol. 159, No. 3, 2012, pp. 1044–1054.
doi:10.1016/j.combustflame.2011.10.012

L. Maurice
Associate Editor