

University of Thessaly

Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Department
Laboratory of Thermodynamics &
Thermal Engines

Automotive Exhaust Aftertreatment

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Catalytic Converter Simulation

Optimization with Computer-Aided Engineering

CATRAN

Mathematical Modeling of Automotive Catalytic Converters

Computer Aided Engineering Approach

Efficient design optimization of catalytic converters requires CAE assistance, to take into account complex transport and reaction phenomena. CATRAN simulates the steady-state and transient converter's thermal and chemical be-

INPUT

Exhaust gas

havi

- ✓ Temperature
- ✓ Flow rate
- ✓ Composition

Catalyst

- ✓ Geometry
- ✓ Kinetics

CATRAN

> CATRAN Modular Software

CATRAN can be customized to be applicable to a wide range of gasoline, diesel or GDI catalytic converters

- ✓ 3-way Catalytic Converters
- ✓ Diesel Oxidation and lean-NOx Catalysts
- ✓ NO_x adsorber Catalysts
- ✓ Hydrocarbon Adsorbers

OUTPUT

Exhaust gas

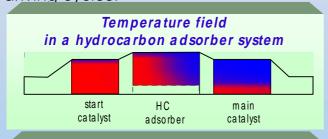
- ✓ Temperature field
- ✓ Pressure field
- ✓ Composition field

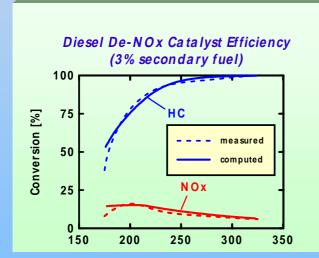
Catalyst

- ✓ Conversion efficiency
- ✓ Temperature field

> Almost "Real-Time" running

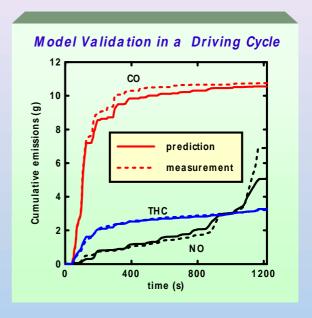
Mathematical modeling of the physicochemical catalyst behavior is an extremely complicated task. Our modeling philosophy identifies and models the dominating phenomena. Extensively validated, which fast simulation of full driving cycles.





Wide Applicability in Design

- ✓ sizing & positioning
- ✓ substrate design (cpi, sizing)
- ✓ washcoat selection
- ✓ manifold & piping design
- ✓ close-coupled catalyst design
- ✓ EHC design & management
- ✓ flow pattern effects
- ✓ fuel management optimization
- ✓ On-Board Diagnostics



Model Tuning approach

Our modelling is based on simplified reaction schemes and apparent kinetics, with reduced, net reaction rates instead of elementary reactions. This allows successful modelling for a variety of washcoat formulations, fresh and aged. Required input is supplied by standardized tests for model tuning.

