

CFD Analysis of Ammonia/Hydrogen Combustion Performance under Partially Premixed and Non-premixed Modes with Varying Inlet Characteristics

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Abstract : Ammonia (NH_3) is the alternative carbon-free fuel of the future for its promising applications. Investigations on NH_3 -fuel blends recommend using hydrogen (H_2) to increase the heating value of NH_3 , promote combustion performance, and improve NO_x efflux mitigation. To further examine the effects of this concept, the study analyzed the combustion performance, in terms of turbulence, combustion efficiency (CE), and NO_x emissions, of NH_3 /fuel with variations of combustor diameter ratio, H_2 fuel mole fraction, and fuel mass flow rate (\dot{m}). The simulations were performed using Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) modeling to represent a non-premixed (NP) and partially premixed (PP) combustion under a two-dimensional ultra-low NO_x Rich-Burn, Quick-Quench, Lean-Burn (RQL) combustor. Governed by the Detached Eddy Simulation model, it was found that the diameter ratio greatly affects the turbulence in PP and NP mode, whereas \dot{m} in PP should be prioritized when increasing CE. The NO_x emission is minimal during PP combustion, but NP combustion suggested modifying \dot{m} to achieve higher CE and Reynolds number without sacrificing the NO generation from the reaction.

Keywords : combustion efficiency, turbulence, dual-stage combustor, NO_x emission

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