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IEA/GasNet Meeting Fall 2002

CO Emissions from Gas Engines Fueled by Producer Gas

Jesper Ahrenfeldt, Torben Kvist Jensen and Benny Gøbel Biomass Gasification Group, Technical University of Denmark

Agenda

- Nature of CO emissions formation in SI gas engines
- Experimental measurements
- Measurements from the Harboøre plant
- CO and global warming
- Conclusion

CO Emissions Formation from SI Gas Engines



Burned Gas

Flame Front Unburned Gas

Governing factors:

- Air-fuel ratio (λ)
 - Low combustion-end

temperature \Rightarrow CO+OH \neq CO₂+H

- Low flame speed \Rightarrow quenching of the flame \Rightarrow UHC or UCO
- Stoiciometric air-fuel ratio: NG=11:1 PG=1:1

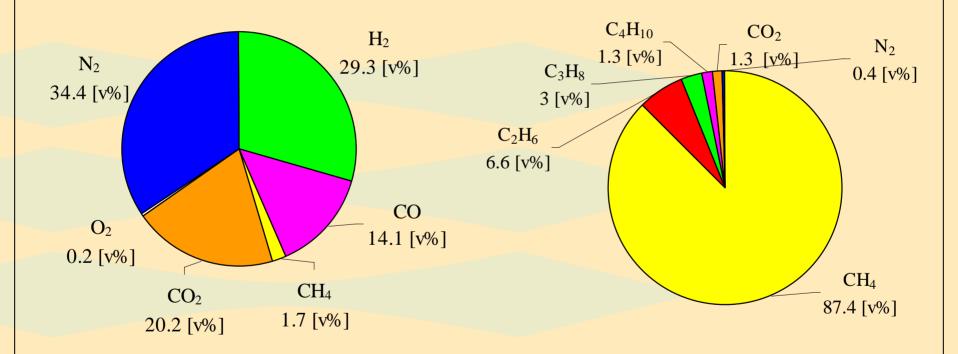
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Data for Test Engines

Engine data	BUKH	NISSAN
Bore	85 mm	108 mm
Stroke	85 mm	126 mm
Compression ratio	12:1	12.5:1
Valve per cylinder	2	2
Intake pressure	0.95 bar	0.70 bar
Ignition timing	MBT	-25 deg
Number of cylinders	1	4

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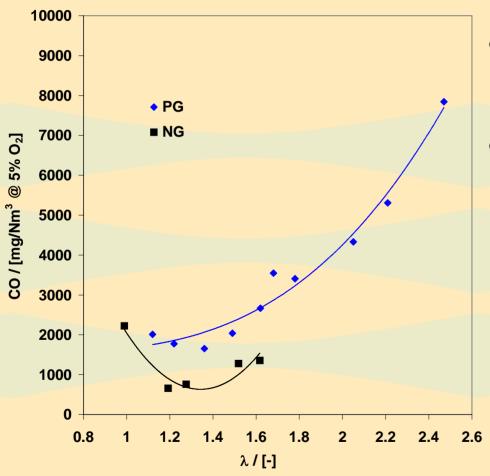
Gas Compositions



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5

CO Emissions (Bukh)

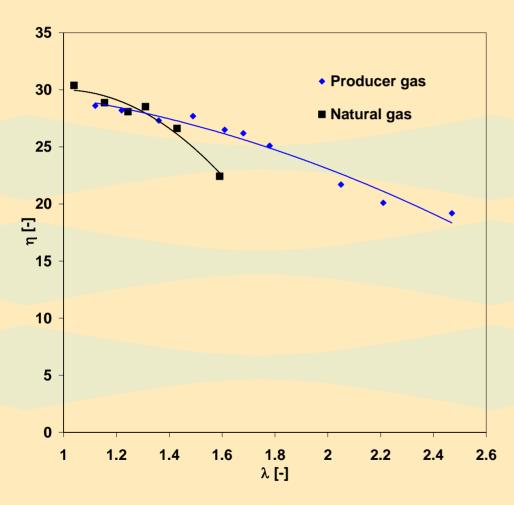


• Strong λ dependency

• Overall high UCO emissions from PG

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Break Efficiency (Bukh)



- Excellent lean burn fuel
- Stable operation for $1 < \lambda < 3$

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Effect of PG Fuel-CO on CO Emissions

Fuels:

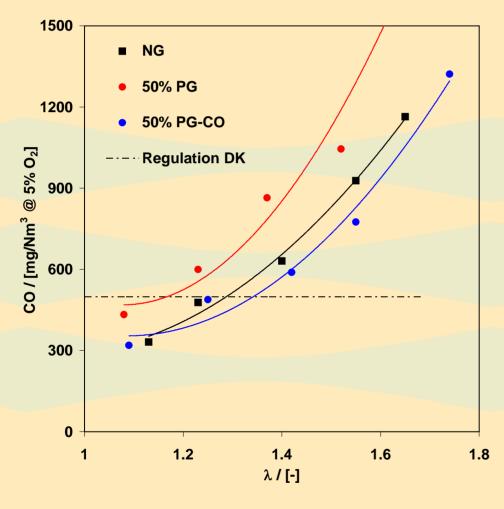
- Natural gas (NG)
- Mixture of 50% Vol. NG and 50% Vol. PG (50% PG)
- Mixture of 50% Vol. NG and 50% Vol. PG where the CO content has been replaced by N_2 (50% PG-CO).

Measurements:

- CO emission
- UHC emission

CO Emissions

(Nissan)

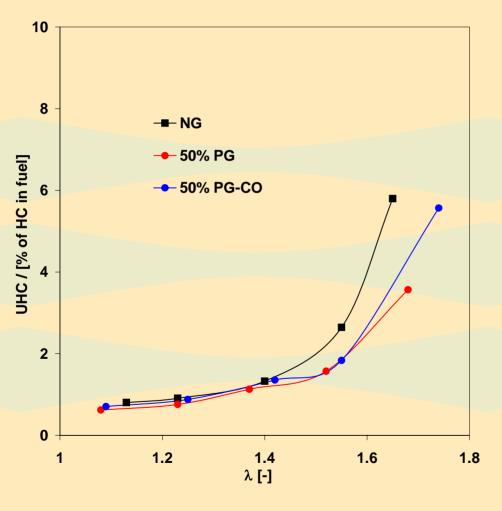


- Up to 30% higher CO emissions when fueled by 50% PG compared to NG.
- Reduction in emissions when fuel-CO is replaced by N₂.
- Difference due to UCO

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UHC Emissions

(Nissan)



- Addition of producer gas increases combustion efficiency at lean conditions.
- CO content has no significant influence on combustion efficiency.
- For λ>1.6 there is an reduction in UHC emissions of more than 50% compared to NG

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Measurements from the Harboøre Plant

PAH	PAH [µg/Nm³, dry] Be		fore ESP	After ESP		After Engine	
Nap	aphthalene 37,000		6,300		4.7		
Phe	nanthrene	9,800		<18		1	
Benz	zo(a)pyrene	500		<35		<0.12	
TOTAL PAH 6		68,0	000-70,000	6,600-6,800		6.4-7.1	
λ	CO (Before)		CO (After)		Reduction		
[-]	[ppm]		[ppm]		[%]		
2	1,717		413		76		

• High CO emissions

- Very low PAH emissions
- Catalytic reduction possible

Measurements of PAH and CO emissions for engine #1 at the Harboøre gasification plant in Denmark. Data from Babcock & Wilcox

Vølund R&D Centre - august 2001.

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11

CO and Global Warming

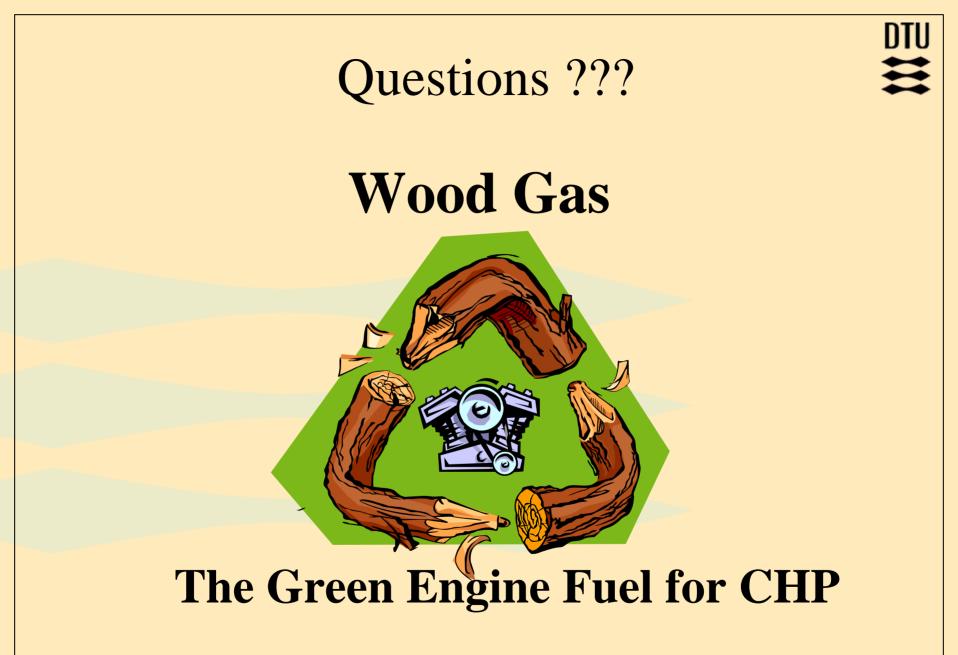
- CO leads to photochemical production of ozone in the presence of high NO_X concentrations *net:* $CO+2O_2+hv \Rightarrow CO_2+O_3$
- For low NO_x concentrations CO leads to ozone destruction

net:
$$CO + O_3 \Rightarrow CO_2 + O_2$$

 O₃ has about the same global warming potential (GWP) as CH₄

Conclusion

- The high CO emissions from engines fueled by producer gas are mainly due to unburned fuel-CO (UCO)
- Combustion efficiency is not influenced by fuel-CO
- High CO emissions do not equal high PAH emissions
- UCO emissions from producer gas engines are comparable to UHC emissions from natural gas engines, both in origin and in GWP
- Separate emissions standards are needed for producer gas engines both for CO and PAH emissions



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