Durability of Diesel Engine Particulate Filters

DOE 2009 Vehicle Technologies Annual Merit Review and Peer Evaluation Meeting

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Thomas Watkins, Amit Shyam, H.T. Lin and Edgar Lara-Curzio; *ORNL*

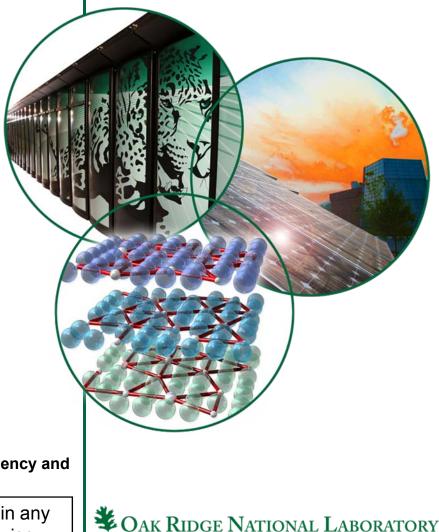
Randy Stafford, Tom Yonushonis and Cheryl Klepser; *Cummins Inc.*

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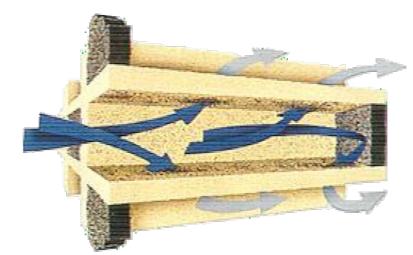
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Project ID: pm_09_watkins

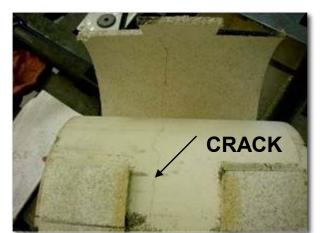


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Background



- Diesel Particulate Filters (DPFs) *already* play a key role in meeting stringent 2007 regulations and will continue to be key technology to meet the more stringent 2010 regulations.
- Reliable operation for 500,000 miles required. Reliability could be reduced due to thermal stresses induced in ceramic DPF during regeneration.
- Need for improved materials and designs along with life prediction models to optimize reliability and durability.



Overview

Timeline

- Start: June 2004
- End: Sept. 2010
- 76% complete

Budget

- Total Project funding
 - DOE-\$1.55M
 - Contractor-\$1.7M
- Funding received:
 - FY08 \$300k
 - FY09 \$149k
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Barriers*

- Design data & modeling tools
 - New test methods needed: porosity
 - Lifetime = f(properties) for models
- Performance
 - Increased thermal stresses due to active filter regeneration forced by lower NO_x standard

Targets

HD diesel engines compliant with 2010 EPA regulations

Partners

- Cummins Inc.
- Corning Inc.

^{*} FreedomCar and Vehicle Technologies Program, Multi-Year Program Plan 2006-2011, Sept 2006, pp. 3.4-9, 10, 21.

Objective

 Implement test techniques to characterize the physical and mechanical properties of ceramic diesel particulate filters (DPFs) and develop analysis and inspection tools for assessing their reliability and durability.



Milestones

• Milestone08: Determine the elastic moduli of coated DPFs as a function of time at temperature.

 Milestone09: Determine the change in thermal shock resistance of field tested DPFs and the thermal shock resistance of one alternate substrate DPF material.



Approach

- Rank the thermal shock resistance of candidate DPF substrates.
- Application of probabilistic design tools and non-destructive evaluation (NDE) techniques to DPF ceramic substrates.
- Refinement of DPF service lifetime prediction models based on characterization of field returned filters.



DPFs must withstand large temperature gradients associated w/ regeneration

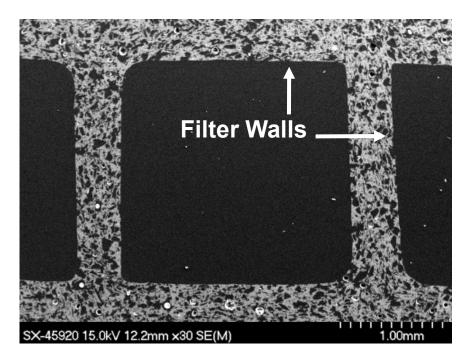
- Simple thermal shock parameter used for comparison
- Usual: $R_s = \sigma/\alpha E$, ($\sigma = strength$)
- Here: R_K=K_{IC}/αE
 - Easier to perform fracture toughness tests than strength (less material and fewer samples)

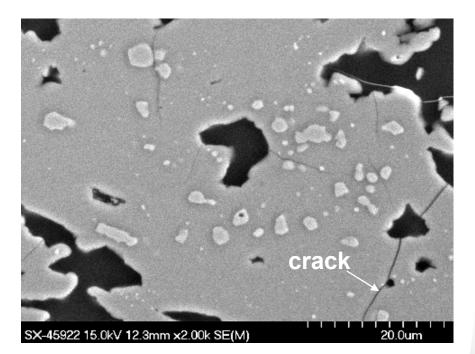
Properties measured

- K_{IC}, Fracture Toughness (at room temperature) Double Torsion
- α, Coefficient of Thermal Expansion up to 1000°C TMA
 - CTE analyzed parallel and perpendicular to extrusion
- E, Elastic Modulus (up to 1000°C) RUS



Microstructure: >50% porosity and microcracks

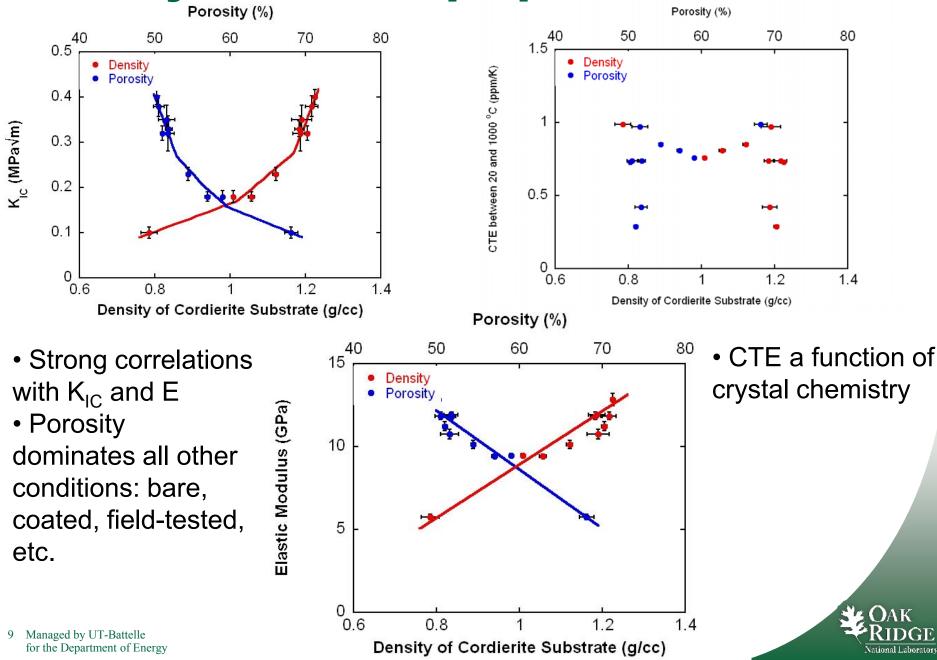




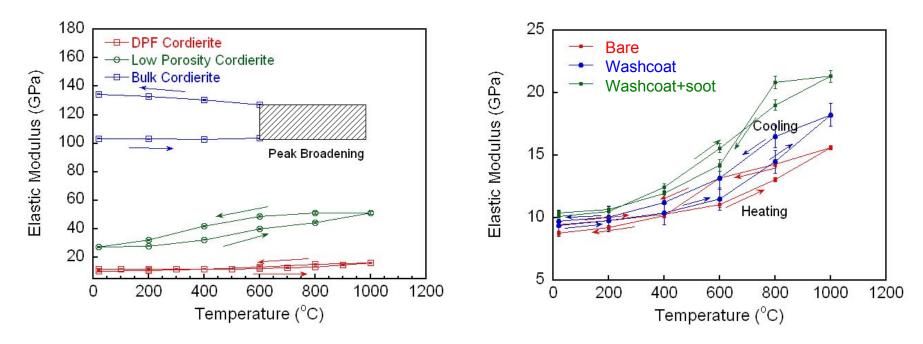
- Cordierite: 2MgO•2Al₂O₃•5SiO₂
- Anisotropic parallel and perpendicular to extrusion direction



Porosity dominates properties



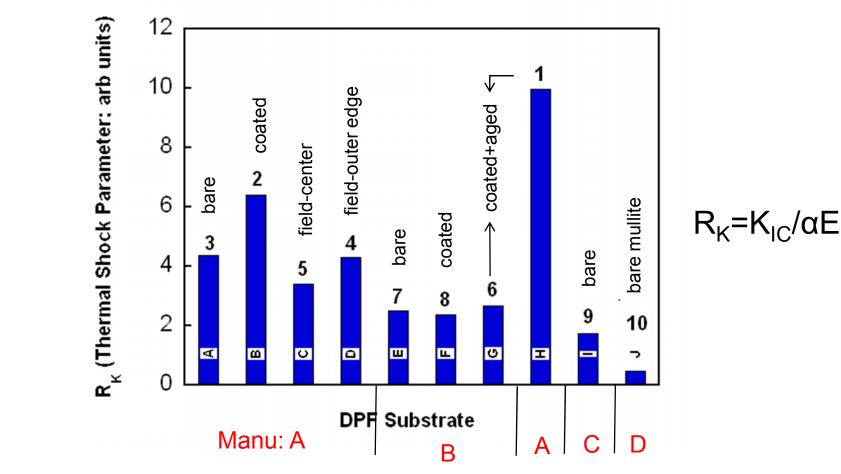
Elastic moduli: hysteresis observed on heating & cooling



- Elastic moduli low relative to dense cordierite due to porosity
 - Measured using resonant ultrasound spectroscopy
- Hysteresis attributed to microcrack healing and re-cracking
- Washcoat and soot increase elastic moduli



Thermal shock ranking methodology developed

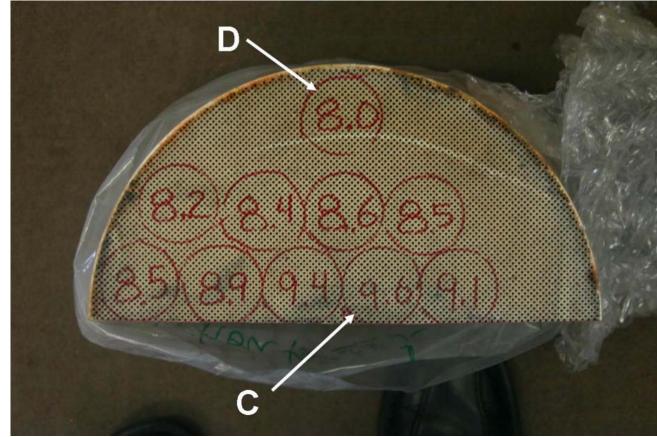


- Note that the above analysis is highly simplified; assumes:
 - Homogeneity
 - Isotropy



Cummins NDE: Pulse echo for variations from core to outside diameter; borescope for cracks

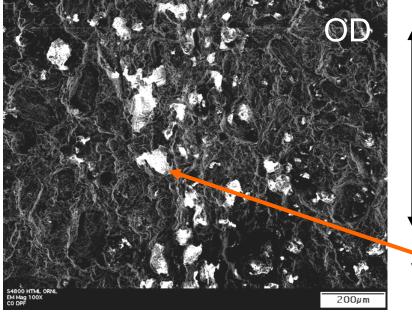
velocity² $\propto \frac{E}{\rho}$



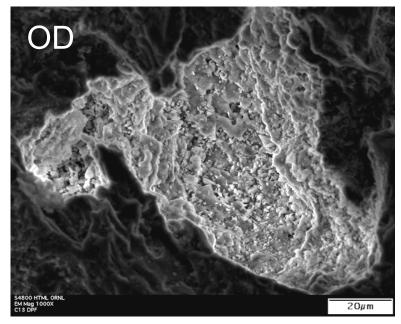
- Measured time Ψ , velocity Λ , apparent length Ψ
- E/p ↑ from core to OD



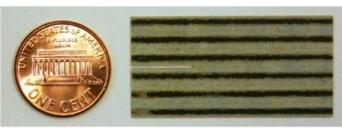
Modeling: Service changes apparent properties



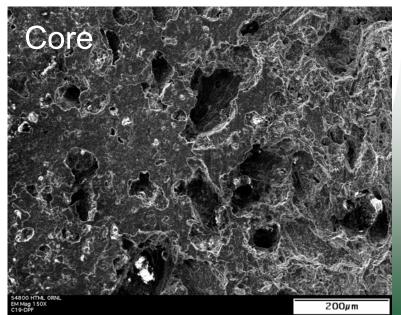
Extrusion direction	
Ļ	
Soot	
particles)



Material	Average CTE (ppm/K)	Elastic Modulus (GPa)	K _{IC} (MPa√m)	Density (g/cc)
Virgin (not coated)	0.42	11.91 <u>+</u> 0.15	0.32 <u>+</u> 0.04	1.19 <u>+</u> 0.02
C coated	0.97	10.74 <u>+</u> 0.29	0.35+0.03	1.19 <u>+</u> 0.03
D coated	0.73	12.84 <u>+</u> 0.37	0.40 <u>+</u> 0.02	1.23 <u>+</u> 0.02

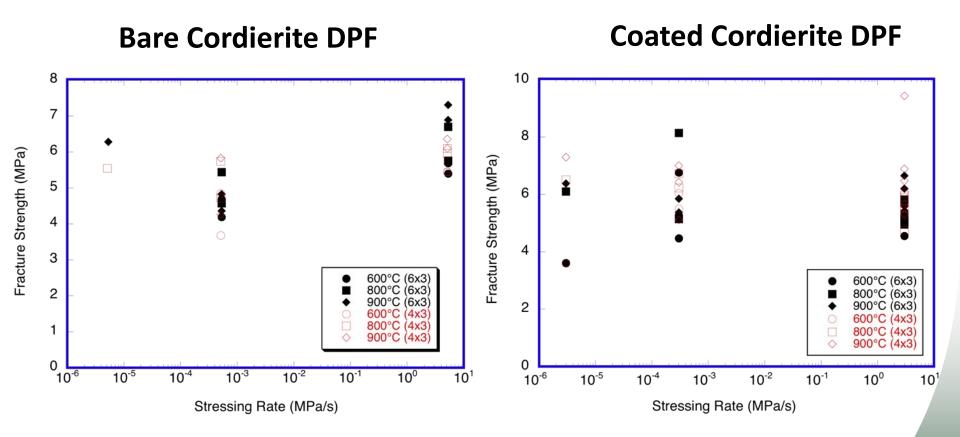


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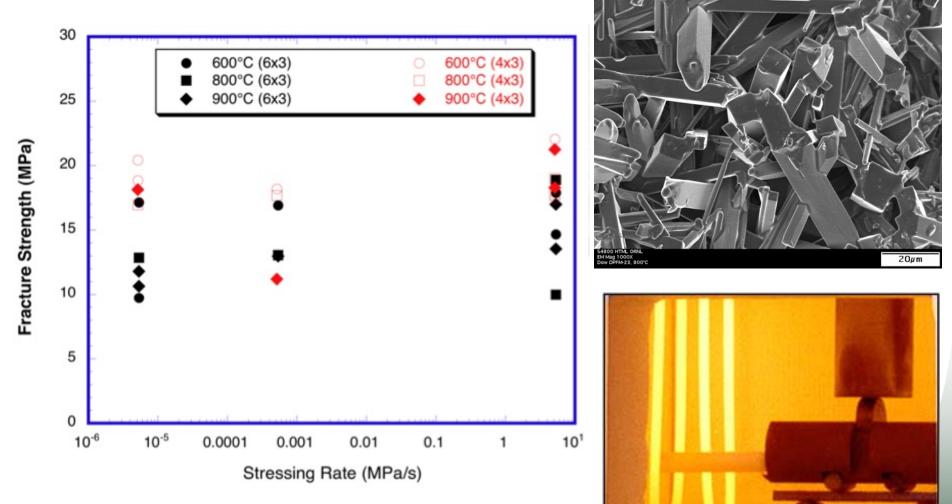
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Probabilistic design: Dynamic Fatigue Response is not Influenced by the Applied Catalytic Coating



Dynamic fatigue: 3 x 10⁻⁵ – 3 MPa/s,
600, 800 and 900°C, in air

Probabilistic design: Little Stress Rate Effect Observed in the Mullite DPF



However, there is a minor effect on the specimen size on the fracture strength due to the difference in flaw population

Future Work

- Continue interaction of washcoat, soot and substrate on properties
- Continue determining properties as a function of location in DPF (core vs. outer)
- Collaborate with Dr. Sampath at SUNY-Stony Brook on further development of NDE technique
- Characterize the dynamic and static fatigue response Aluminum-titanate and SiC DPFs



Summary

- Carried out physical and mechanical property measurements on several coated and uncoated substrates and ranked their relative thermal shock resistance (continued from FY2007).
- Identified the relationship between porosity and the elastic-fracture properties for diesel particulate filter substrates.
- Characterized field returned diesel particulate filters and compared their properties to virgin filters. This information would be utilized to refine the DPF service lifetime prediction models.

