

Low Temperature Combustion Demonstrator for High Efficiency Clean Combustion

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DOE MERIT REVIEW

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National Energy Technology Laboratory
Department of Energy



Project ID ACE043

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 - Variable Valve Actuation
 - Fuel formulation impacts
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Goals and Objectives

Apply Low Temperature Combustion (LTC) to a production MD Diesel Engine
Demonstrate EPA 2010 emissions without NOx after-treatment
Improve BSFC by 5% over base engine

Barriers

Overcome combustion stability of LTC due to high EGR use
Lack of fundamental understanding of the LTC combustion process
Insufficient combustion diagnostic technologies that can be integrated onto production ECU

Budget

Total Project Funding:	DOE:	\$4,021,234		
	Contractor:	\$5,153,881		
DOE Funding Received in FY2009:	\$555,000	Navistar Funding:	\$850,000	
DOE Funding Planned for FY2010:	\$460,000	Navistar Funding:	\$567,000	

Partners

Navistar, controls system, engine testing
UCB, combustion detection
LLNL, CFD and chemical modeling of fuel spray and combustion
Siemens, fuel Injector design and procurement
ConocoPhillips, fuel formulation and supply
BorgWarner, turbocharger system design and procurement
Mahle, piston design and procurement

1. Demonstrate the application of LTC on a MD Diesel Platform

- Target 2010 emissions without NOx after-treatment
- Minimize soot (target 2007MY DPF loading requirements)
- Improve brake thermal efficiency to 5% over MY2007 baseline
- Generate technology in project to be capable for production
- Baseline engine is the Navistar's EPA compliance MY2007 6.4L V8 engine

2. Develop enabling technologies

- Charge air and EGR system designs
- Combustion feedback Control
- Variable Valve Actuation System

3. Technology integration roadmap on engine platform

4. Validate program under a present fuel variability

Phase

Budget Period

I Applied Research and Exploratory Development Engine Design Phase CFD parametric studies	October 2005 – May 2006
II Development of Technologies and Engine Build Boost System Procurement EGR and Cooling System Procurement Fuel Injection System Optimization and Procurement Engine Shakedown	June 2006 – May 2007
III Multi-Cylinder Engine Steady State Testing Combustion Feedback Development Low Temperature Combustion with 2010 EPA emissions Combustion System Optimization Design Variable Valve Actuation Technology	June 2007 – Jan 2009
IV Fuel Economy Optimization Load Extension Milestone Steady State BSFC improvement Milestone Transient and Fuel Economy Demonstration Fuel Variability Demonstration System Integration (ECU, VVA)	Feb 2009 – May 2010

BARRIERS AND TECHNOLOGY ROADMAP

Barriers	Technology Roadmap
High unburned hydrocarbons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Higher fuel injection pressure, multiple injections- Charge temperature control- Improve fundamental understanding of the combustion process (improved chemical mechanisms)
Fuel economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improved air system design- Minimize EGR driving pressure differential
Combustion stability <i>Cylinder-to-Cyl EGR and cooling variability</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fuel-Air modeling and control management- Implement combustion feedback- Variable Valve Actuation
Limited power density	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Improved vehicle cooling system (low temperature radiator)- Two stage turbo system- Increased cylinder pressure capability
Transient response	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Two stage turbo- CAC bypass
Accommodate fuel properties representative of US geography <i>Diesel fuels ranging from of 42-58 CN</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sensors- Combustion diagnostics

Collaborations	Technologies
Navistar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Principal Investigator- Controls system development- Variable Valve Actuation design- Engine testing
UCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Combustion detection
LLNL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CFD and chemical modeling of fuel spray and combustion
Siemens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fuel injector design and procurement
ConocoPhillips	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fuel supplier- Fuel formulation and kinetic modeling support
BorgWarner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Turbocharger system design and procurement
Mahle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Piston design and procurement

Approach

Combustion Modeling

1. Spray Model

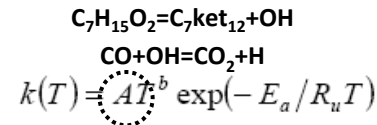
Used models from the literature that capture the liquid spray break up [1] to optimize injector and bowl configurations [2]

tetradecane
KH-RT breakup
Turbulent dispersion

[1] Reitz and Diwakar, SAE 870598
[2] de Ojeda and Karkkainen, 2006 DEER

2. Fuel Oxidation Chemistry

n-heptane (C_7H_{16})
Calibration of LTC
Reactions



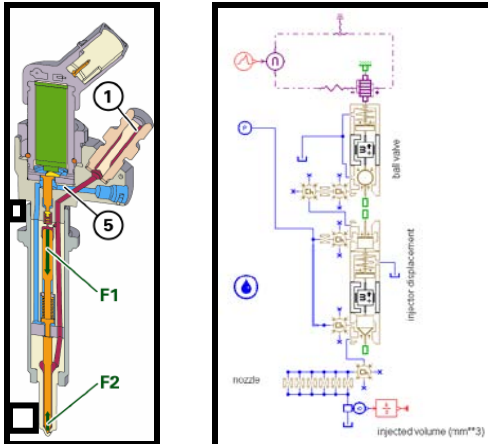
Patel et al, SAE 2004-01-0558

3. Emission Model

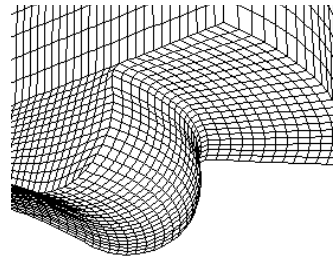
NOX RSC ~ 1.4
Soot asf ~ 200
(Hiroyasu and NSC model, C_2H_2 as precursor)

Smith et al, GRIv3 - Mech 3.0
Kong et al, IECS 2005-1009
Hiroyasu and Kadota, SAE 760129

4. ROI Model

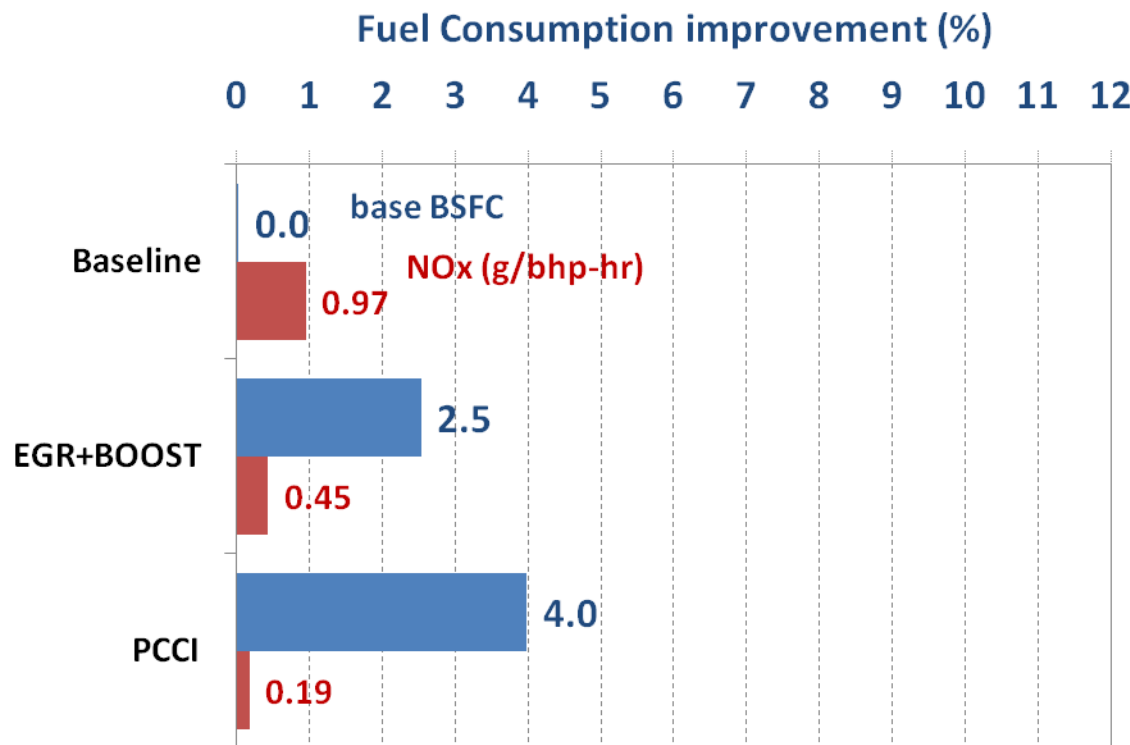


5. K3Prep used for grid generation



Designed Efficient LTC operation:

1. Boost-EGR Control: optimized combustion phasing
2. PCCI – premixed fuel injection strategies



Achievement in Phase III of project:

0.2gNOx engine out

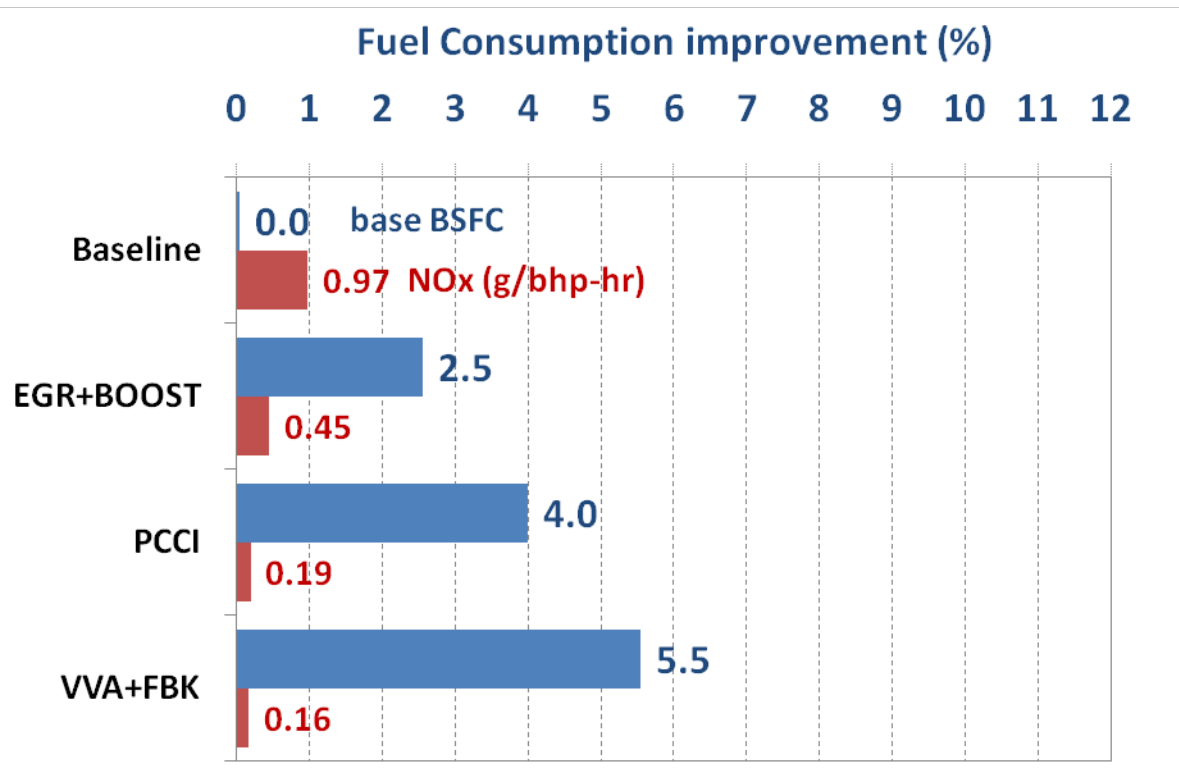
4% better cycle average fuel consumption

Next barrier:

Improve combustion stability and robustness

Extension of Efficient LTC operation:

1. Boost-EGR Control: optimized combustion phasing
2. PCCI – premixed fuel injection strategies
3. Application of Variable Valve Actuation and Combustion Feedback



Achievements in Phase IV of project:

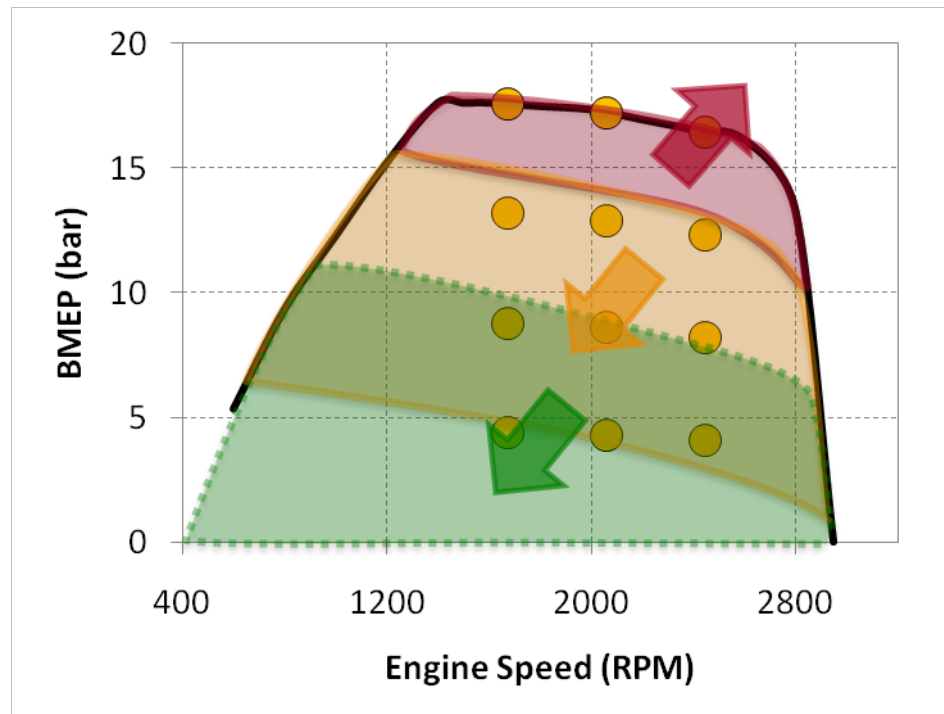
More robust combustion system attained with VVA

Introduced and engineering margin for 0.2g NOx target

Improved cycle average fuel consumption by 5.5%

Soot reduction was improved by 0.05g/bhp-hr

Enabling technologies for Efficient LTC operation



**Multi-Shot, EGR
enabled PCCI**

**Single-Shot, EGR
enabled PCCI**

**Enhanced PCCI
single-shot, EGR with
Variable Valve
Actuation**

Extension of Efficient LTC operation:

1. VVA provided greater control over the combustion process :
 - Reduced charge variability among cylinders
 - Allowed to extend the PCCI range (control over effective compression ratio)
2. Combustion diagnostics
 - Feedback was extended to VVA
 - Implementation did not tax the ECU performance.

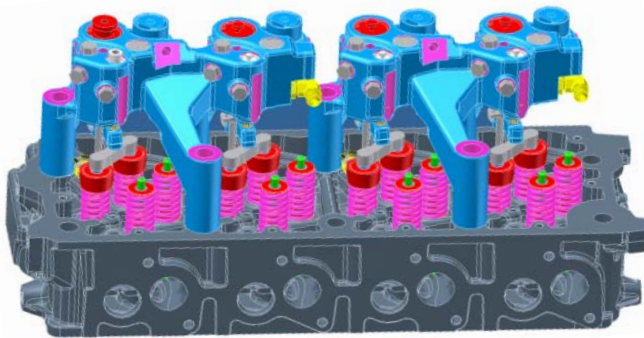
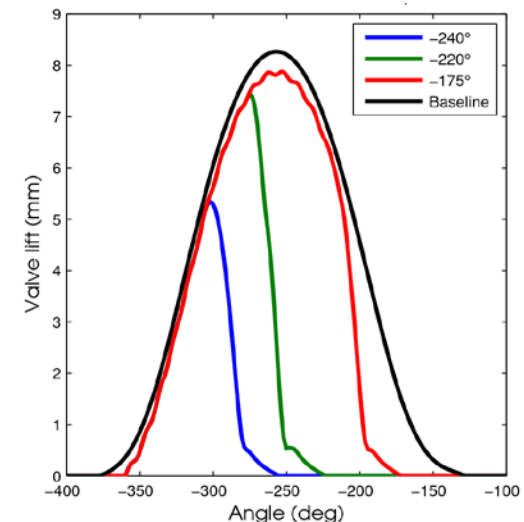
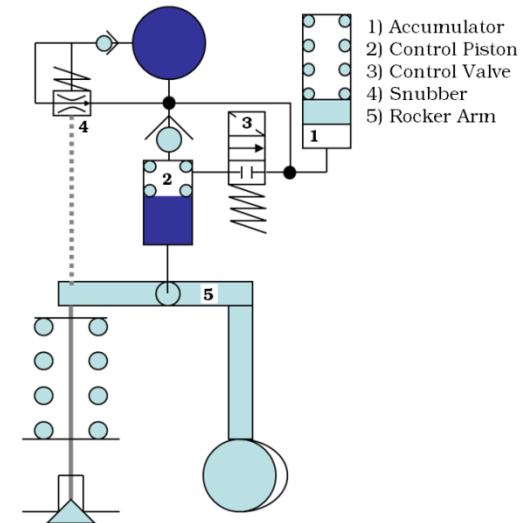
Accomplishments

Full integration of VVA

An Effective VVA Device

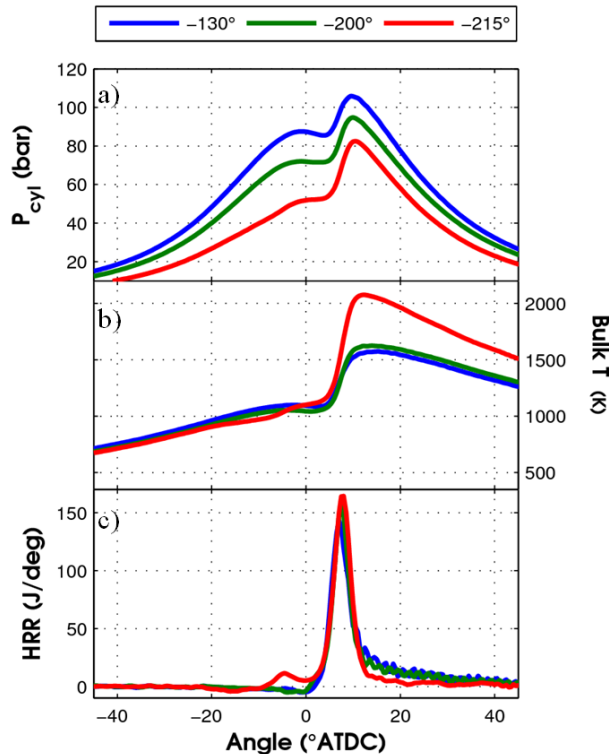
Advantages of Electro-Hydraulic System:

- Simple and Robust
- Fine resolution for IVC
- Cylinder to cylinder adjustment
- Cycle to cycle adjustments
- Simple package over baseline valve train



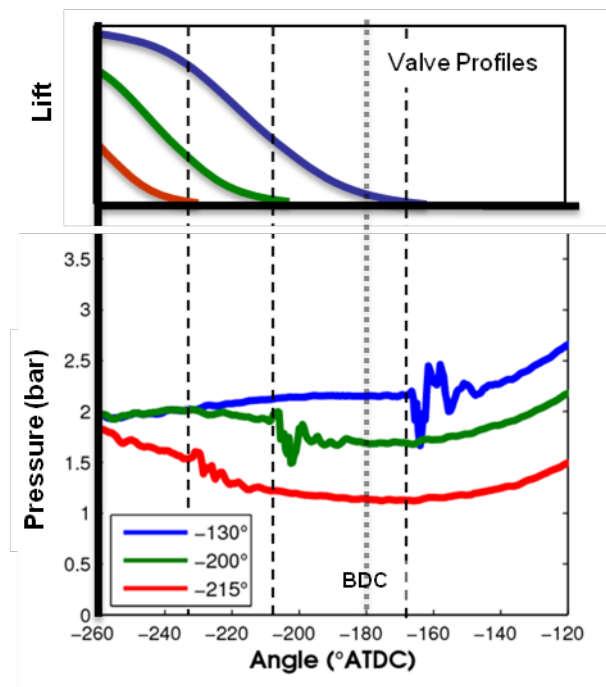
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lowered effective CR



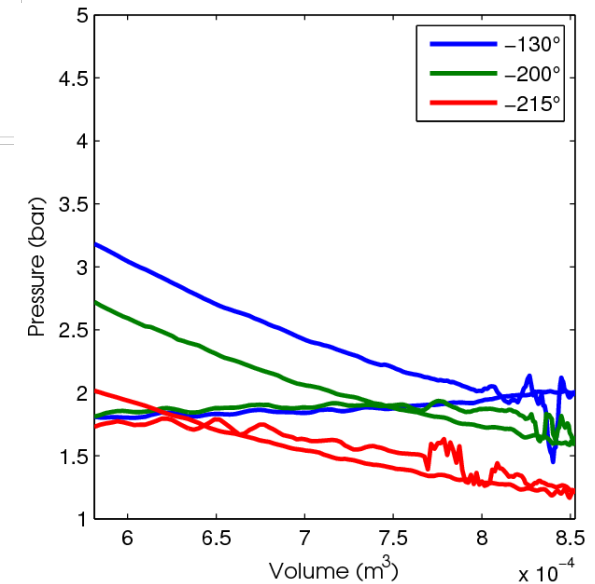
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Early intake valve closing (EIVC)
lowered in-cylinder pressure



3

EIVC produces a nearly
isentropic expansion
(reduced losses)



4

increase ignition delay and
promote cool flame chemistry

Advancing Intake Valve Closing at 30% load

1 NO_x ~ 0.18g/bhp-hr held constant

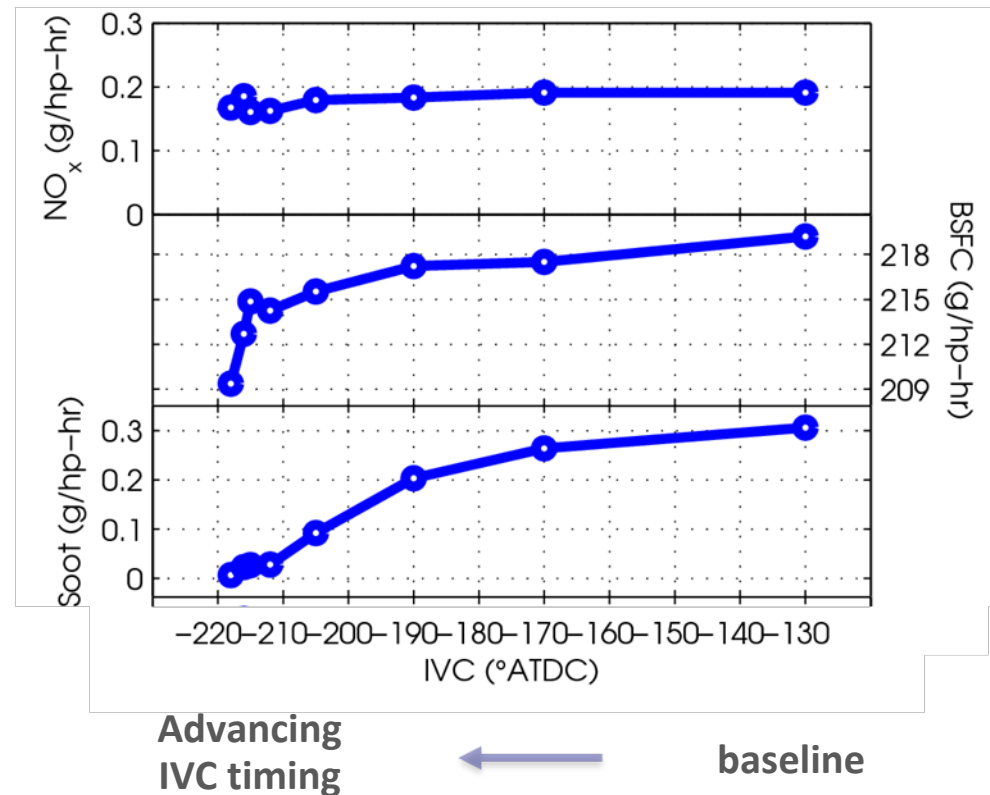
Combustion phasing ~ 7.5°
Accurate metering of EGR

2 BSFC is reduced ~ 5%

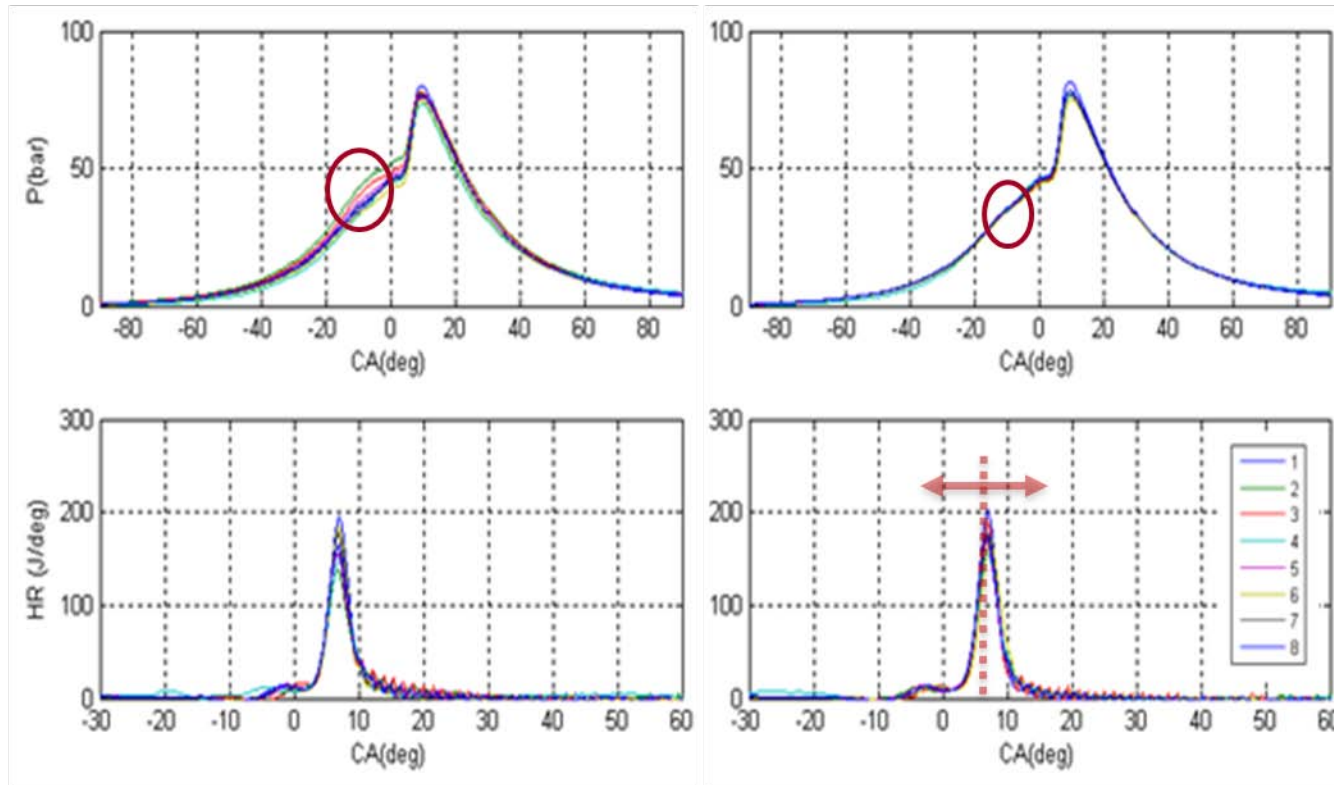
Reduced back-pressure
Offsets the increased CO and HC

3 Soot is reduced ~95%

Longer ignition delay
Lower temperatures at ignition



- Combustion Feedback (CBFK) was implemented in Phase III to control combustion phasing.
- CBFK was extended in **Phase IV** to **control the charge** via individual cylinder-to-cylinder valve timing control: *effective system to further extend the engine PCCI operation.*

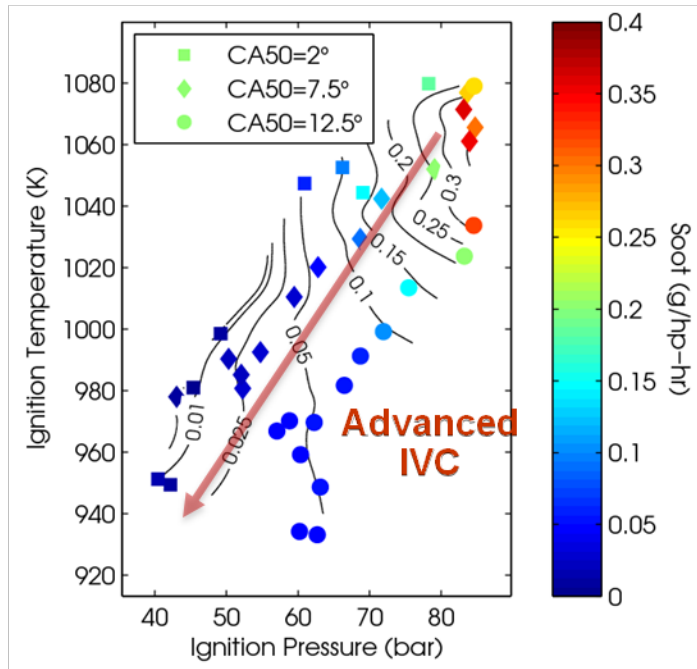


cylinder charge is controlled with VVA – eliminates variability under LTC conditions

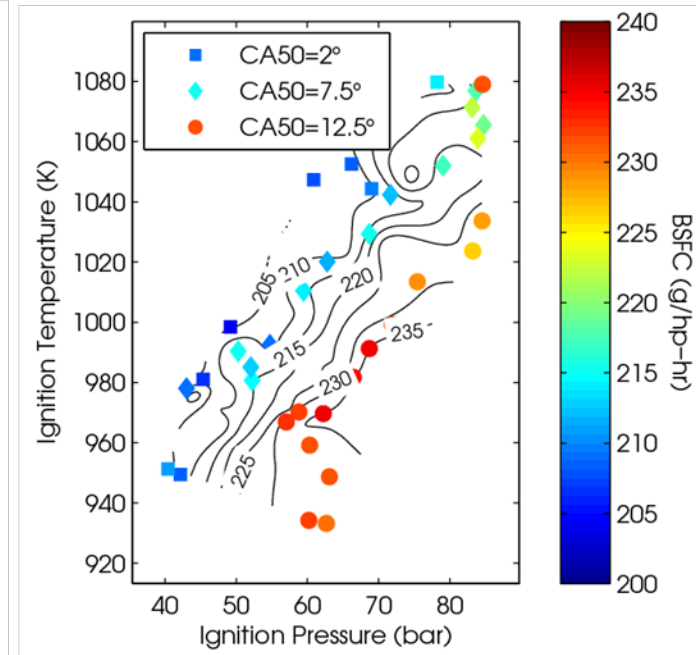
combustion phasing is controlled with fuel timing

VVA yielded simultaneous reduction of BSFC and PM
Comprehensive relationships in combustion parameters

All data at 0.2gNO_x/bhp-hr



**Significant soot
reduction (~95%)**



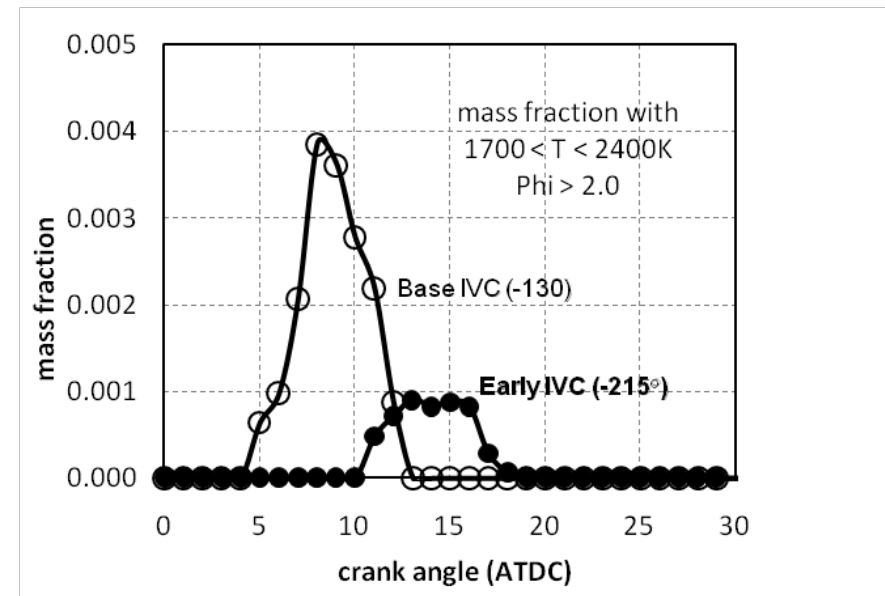
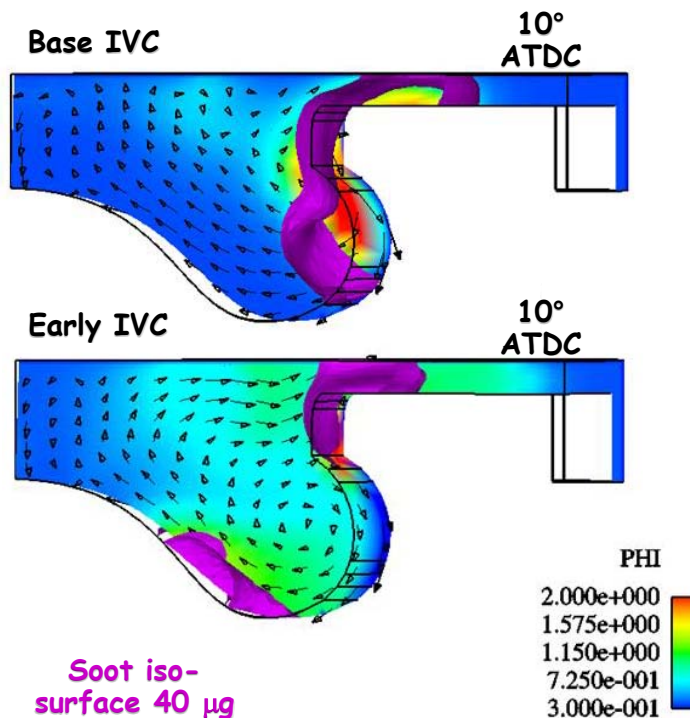
**Simultaneous with reduction in
fuel consumption (~5%)**

Approach

Combustion Modeling

The simulations helped diagnose the soot reduction mechanisms with advanced IVC:

- * better mixture characteristics
- * Dependency on local equivalent ratio

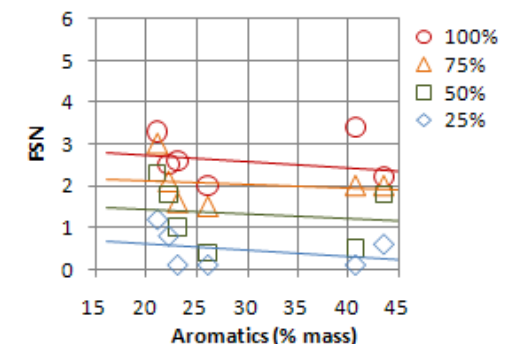
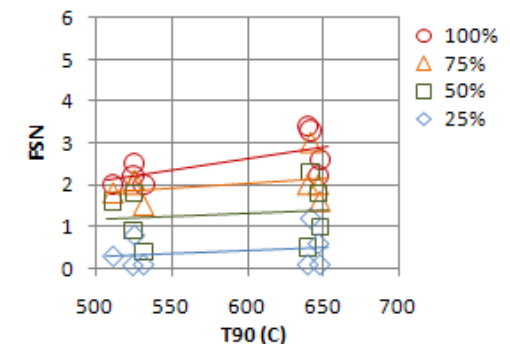
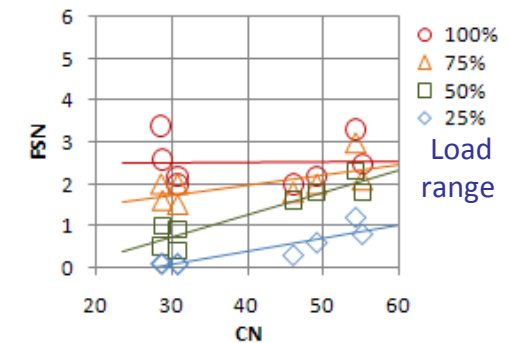


The LTC process was validated across a range of fuel properties:

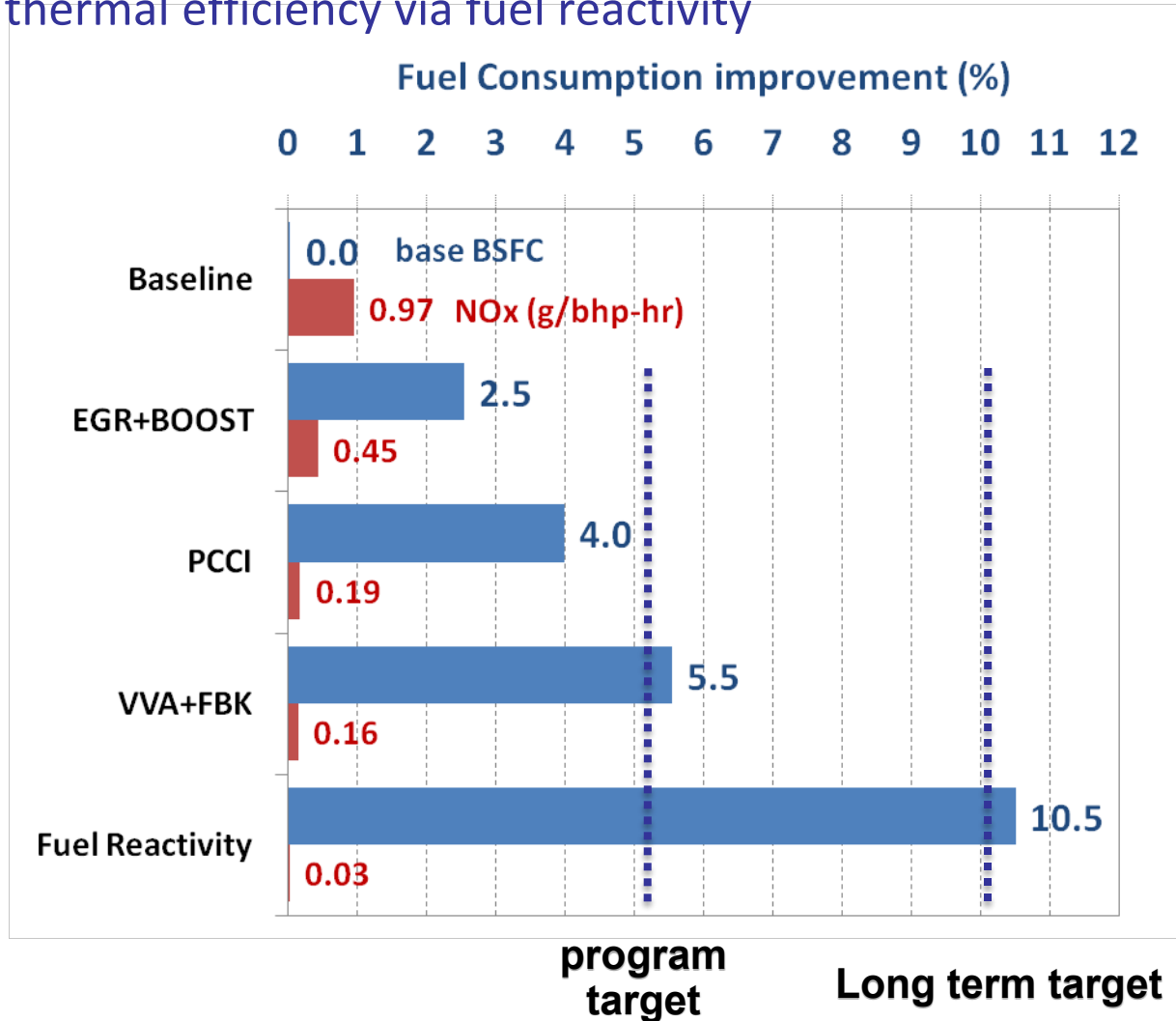
- Properties spanned CN, boiling point and aromatics*.
- The combustion was robust across the fuel ranges.
- Fuel reactivity has an impact over performance:
 - Efficiency improvements of 5% are possible.
 - Soot emissions can be greatly reduced.

The potential for improved performance was identified. This is a potential area for further development (see next slide).

* Ref. FACE Fuels Program



Extend the thermal efficiency via fuel reactivity



- Applied low temperature combustion (LTC) to the ITEC 6.4L V8 production engine:
 1. **Load:** Extended LTC operation to 16.5 BMEP.
 2. **Fuel Economy:** Improvements were increased from 4% to 5.5% by extending the application of PCCI by means of Variable Valve Actuation and combustion feedback.
 3. **NOx:** Engine out NOx was maintained below the 0.2g/bhp-hr target.
 4. **Soot:** 90% soot reduction was demonstrated at low to mid loads.
- Engine testing was coupled to combustion fundamentals:
 - ✓ Simulation was used to understand relation between LTC and the effective compression ratio.
 - ✓ Simulation was used optimize the implementation of VVA.
- Capability for production implementation:
 - ✓ A production ECU like module was developed to perform in-cylinder combustion control
 - ✓ Controller performs cycle-to-cycle and cylinder-to-cylinder adjustments on the fuel and VVA systems.