

How to give a chemical push to ammonia in a compression ignition engine?

Our expertise in combustion led us to examine the possibilities to help Ammonia in a compressive Ignition

→ the Additives

**Start of our project: tests on Rapid Compression Machine
→ Conclusive!**

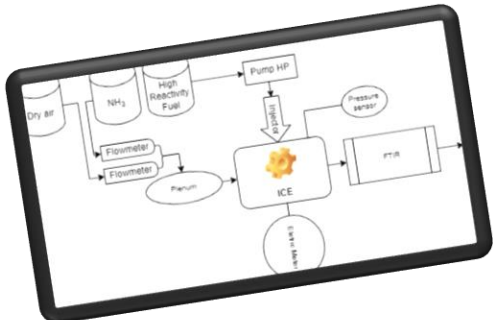


Move to tests on Research engine with additive in pilot (and ammonia at admission)

→ Additive in pilot makes combustion happens where it would otherwise misfire

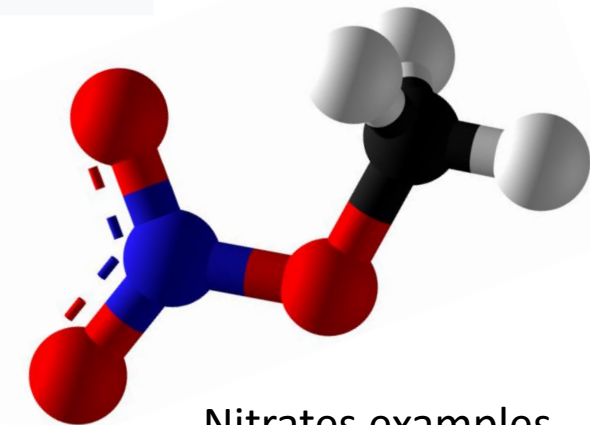
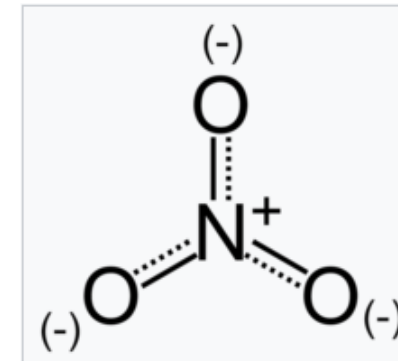
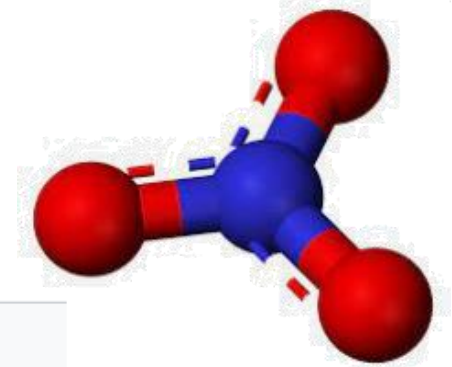
→ Additive in pilot improves pressure & Heat release in cylinder

→ Additive in pilot improves energetic efficiency during combustion cycle

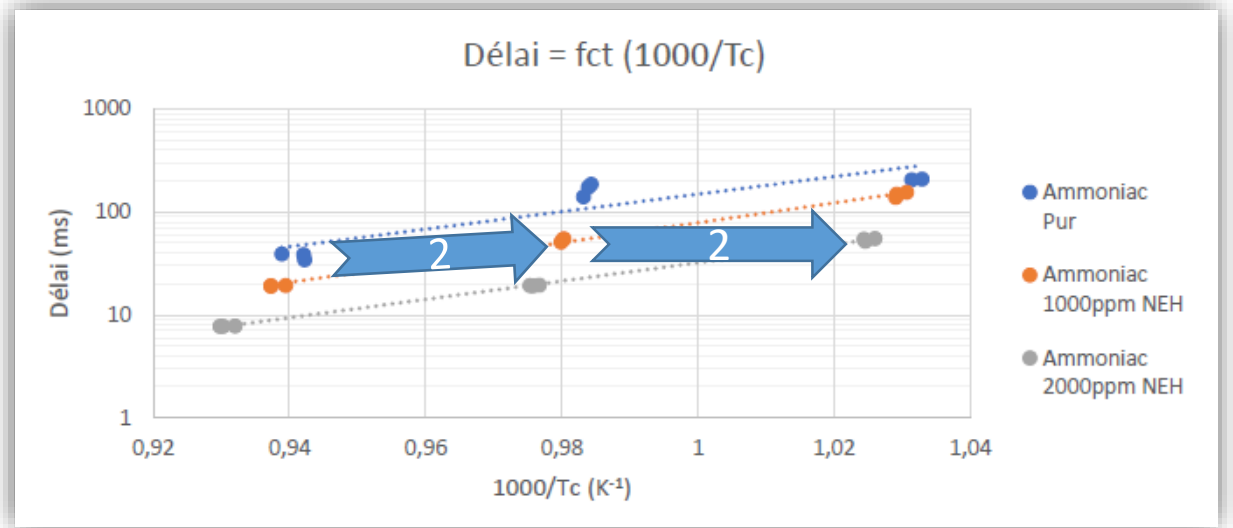
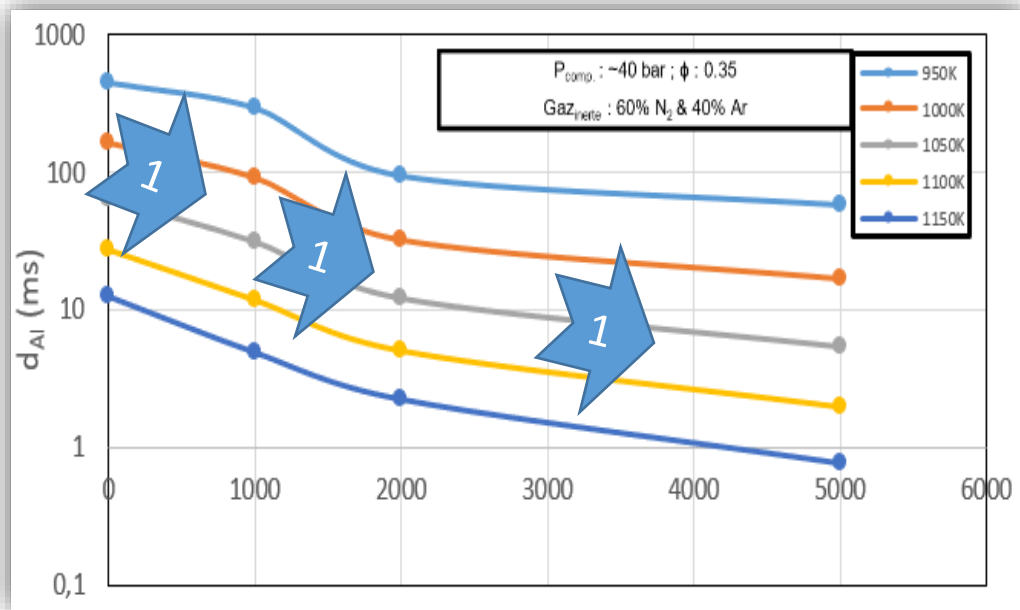


- **One of our company's expertise is nitration**
- **Biggest maker of a 2-Ethylhexyl nitrate used to improve Diesel fuels ignition**
 - we have technical understanding of mechanisms this type of additives have with HC based fuels
- **Developed nitrates based products to enhance combustion of emerging renewable fuels:**
 - Bio-sourced
 - Was first targeting MeOH
 - Called "CEN" for Combustion Enhancer Nitrate
- **Have a working partnership with the Prisme Lab in Orléans developing expertise on ammonia engine**
 - We tried the developed product on Ammonia « just to try »

→ Results started this whole project for us



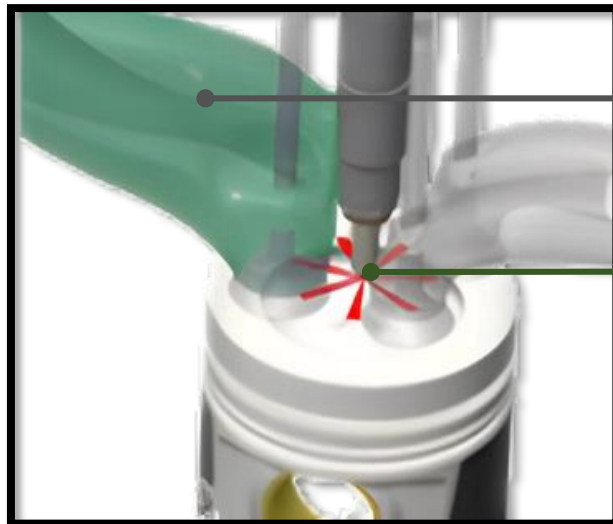
Nitrates examples



1. With additive reduction of ignition delay regardless of ignition temperature
2. With additive decrease of ignition temperatures

- Measures ignition delay of a combustible mixture
- Additive is mixed directly to NH_3
- Left: X axis \rightarrow additive in ppm (weight)
- Right: X axis reverse intake temperature
- Pressure is at 40 bars to have ignition of ammonia w/out additive at any temperature

- **Gaseous admission of Ammonia through intake**
- **Injection of a two types of pilot fuels with or without additives**



Low Reactivity Fuel : NH_3 (+ Air)

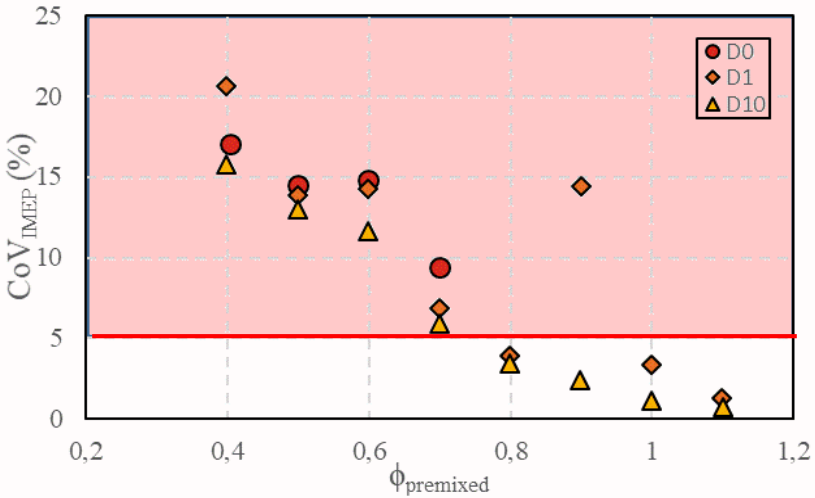
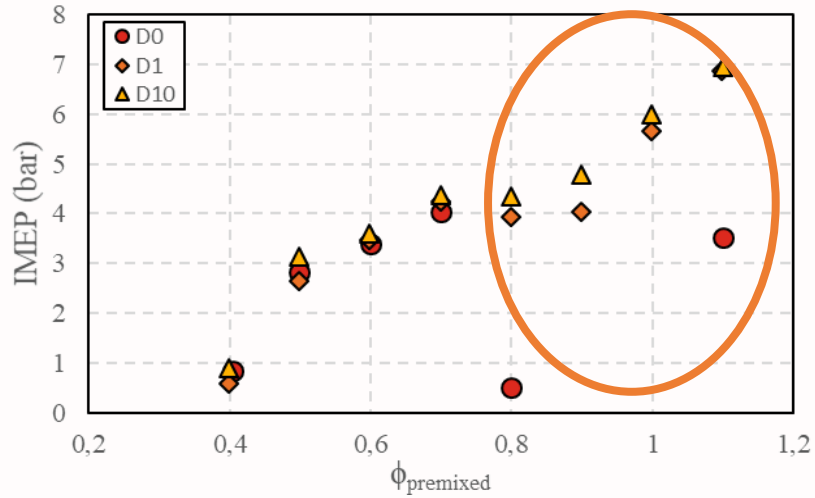
98%
energetic

Reactivity Fuel : $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{26}$ or HVO + CEN
 CEN : 0 – 1 – 10% volume fraction of HRF

2%
energetic

Fuels properties	Ammonia	Dodecane	HVO	CEN
Chemical Formula	NH_3	$\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{26}$	$\sim \text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{26}$	$-\text{NO}_3^*$
Density (g/L) – Std conditions	0.730 _{gas}	750 _{liquid}	785 _{liquid}	~ 950 _{liquid}
Molar mass (g/mol)	17	170	~ 170	-*
Cetane number	<5	73	-	-
Lower Heating Value (MJ/kg)	19	45	44	$\sim 30^*$

Blends (vol%)		Dod.	HVO	CEN
●	D0	100		0
◆	D1	99		1
▲	D10	90		10
●	H0		100	0
◆	H1		99	1
▲	H10		90	10



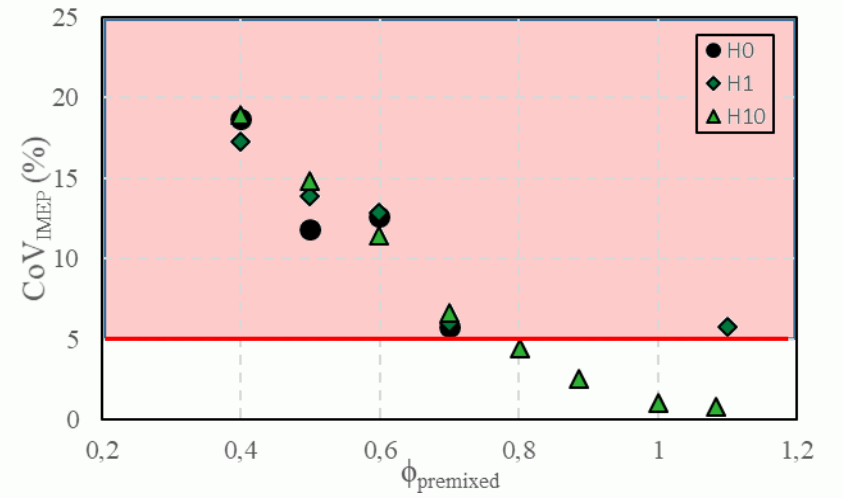
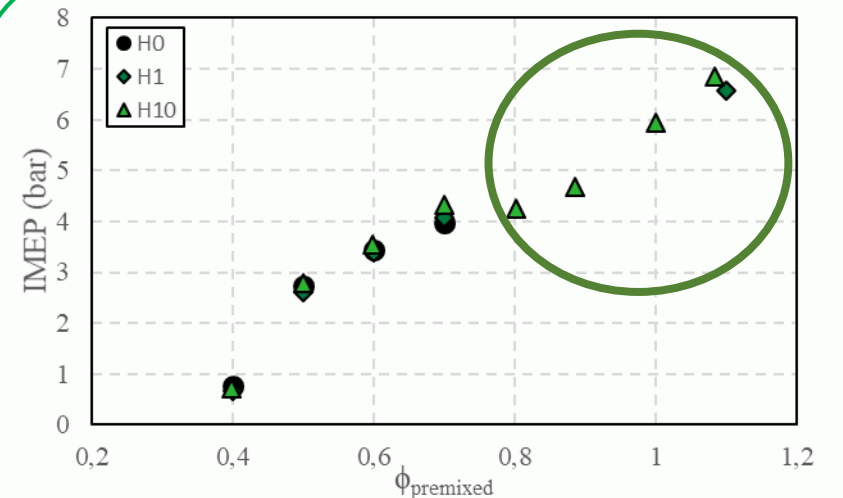
Dodecane



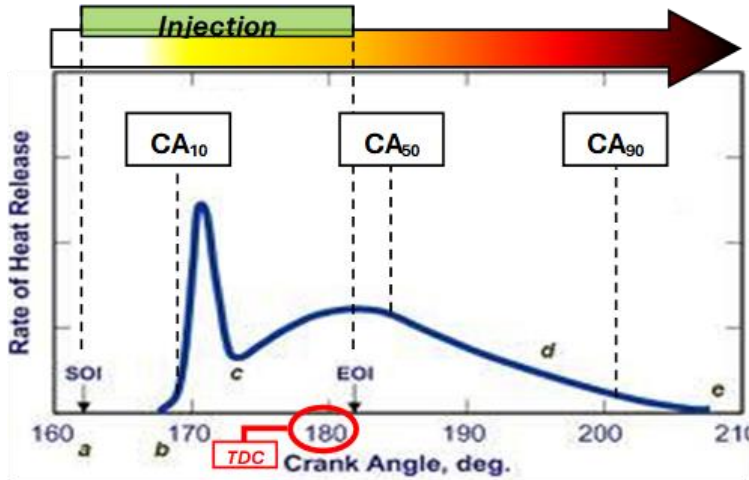
Unstable combustion at low F/A Ratio

Blends (vol%)	Dod.	HVO	CEN
D0	100	0	
D1	99		1
D10	90		10
H0		100	0
H1		99	1
H10		90	10

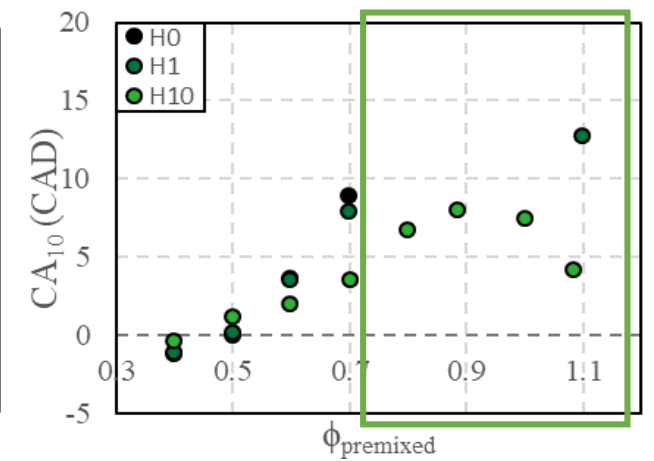
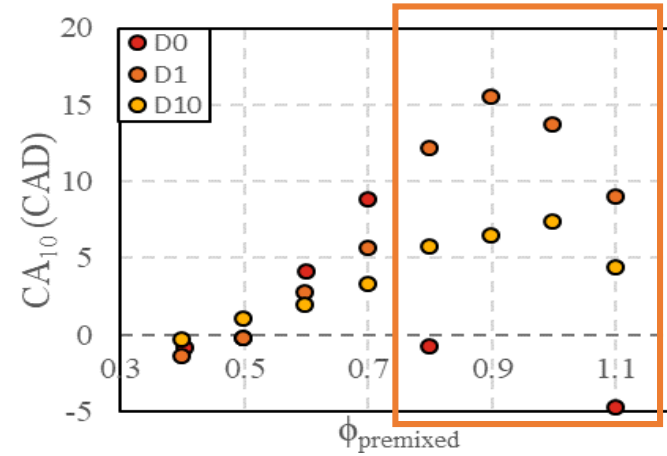
Stability (CoV < 5%) gained with F/A ratio > than 0,7



HVO



CA₁₀



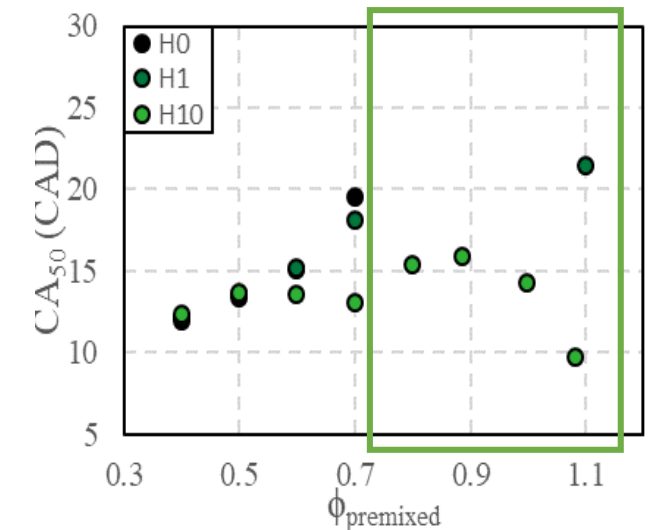
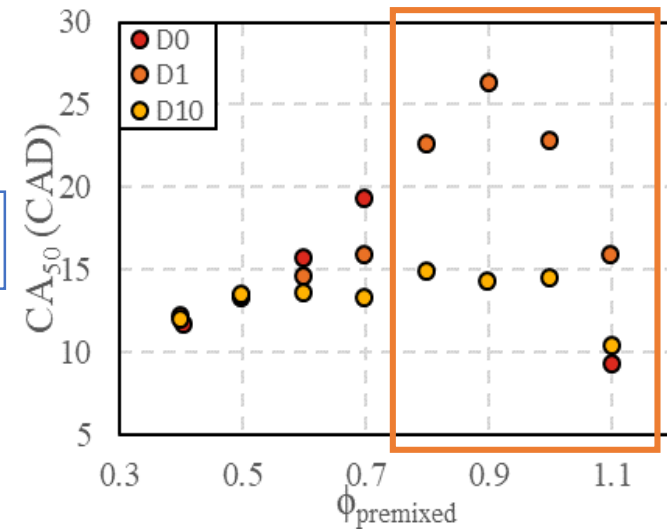
At F/A ratio above 0,7

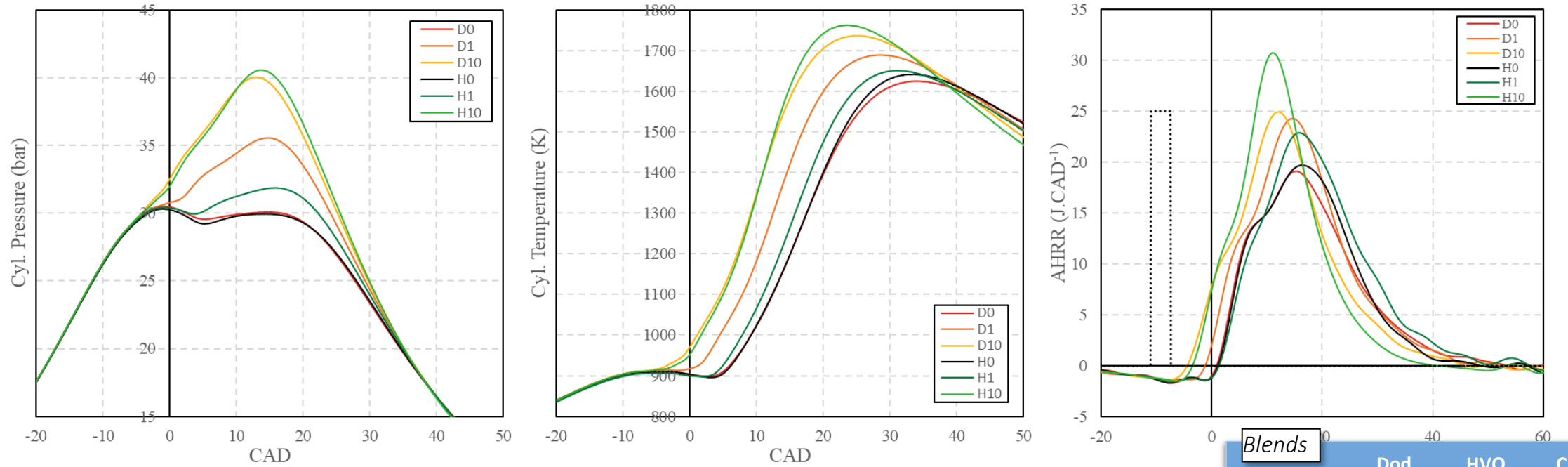
No combustion with pilot fuels not containing the additive

For HVO even requires 10% additive

→ The additive effect does not pertain to ignition enhancement of the pilot fuel

CA₅₀



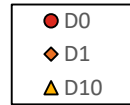
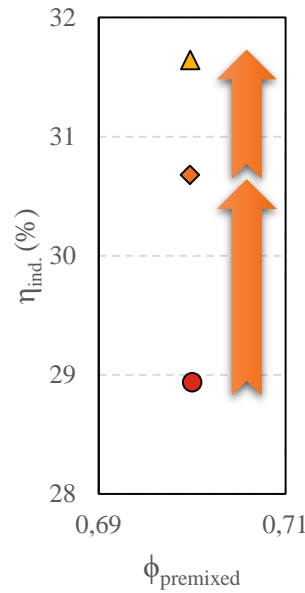


Very visible different behavior of NH_3 in the combustion chamber when the pilot contains the additive:

- ➔ Higher P_{cylinder}
- ➔ Higher T_{cylinder}
- ➔ Better AHRR (for slightly longer combustion event)

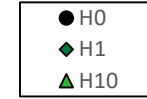
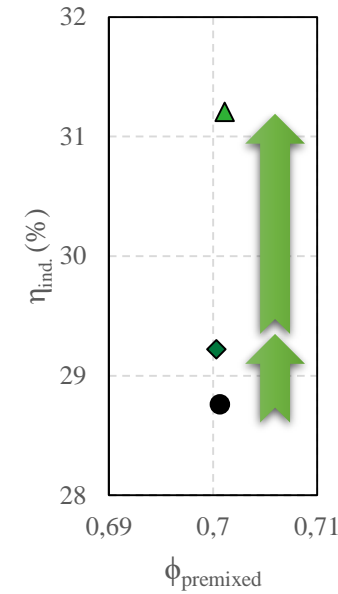
Blends		Dod.	HVO	CEN
●	D0	100		0
◆	D1	99		1
▲	D10	90		10
●	H0		100	0
◆	H1		99	1
▲	H10		90	10

2,9% ITE gain with additive in pilot fuel



Increased ITE with usage of additive in both pilot fuels

Activity is different from one pilot to other



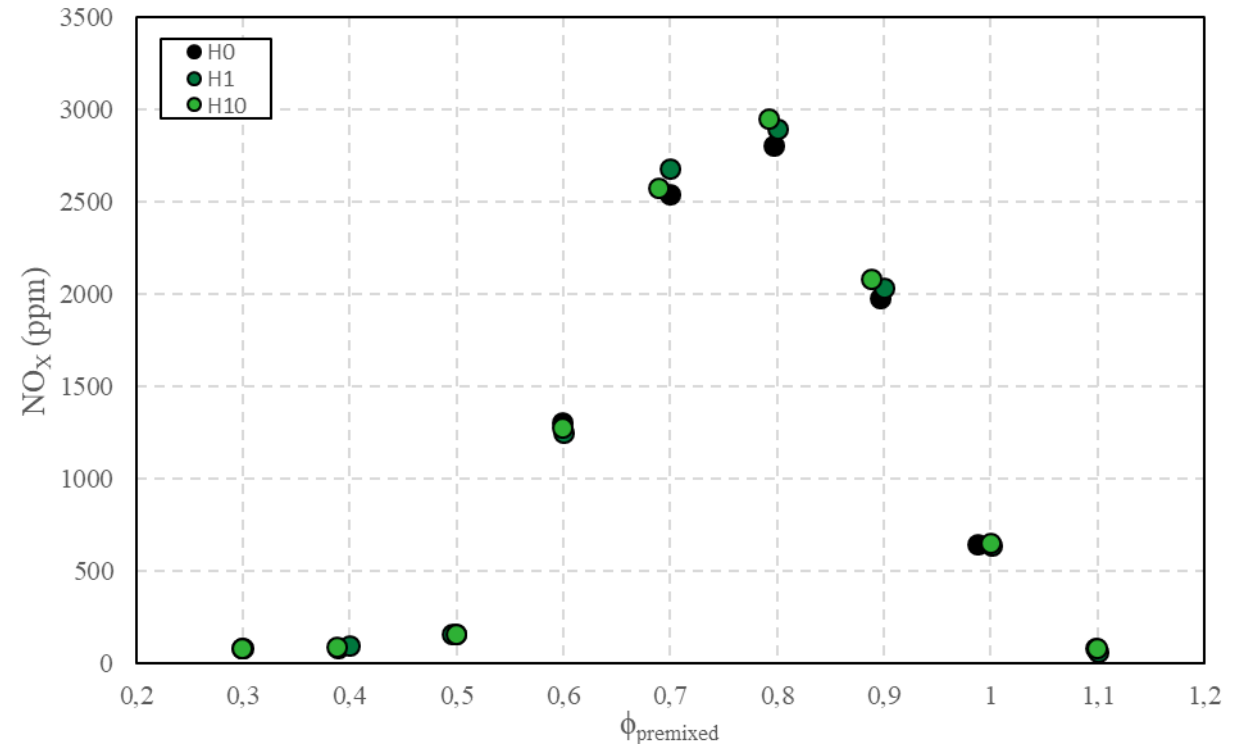
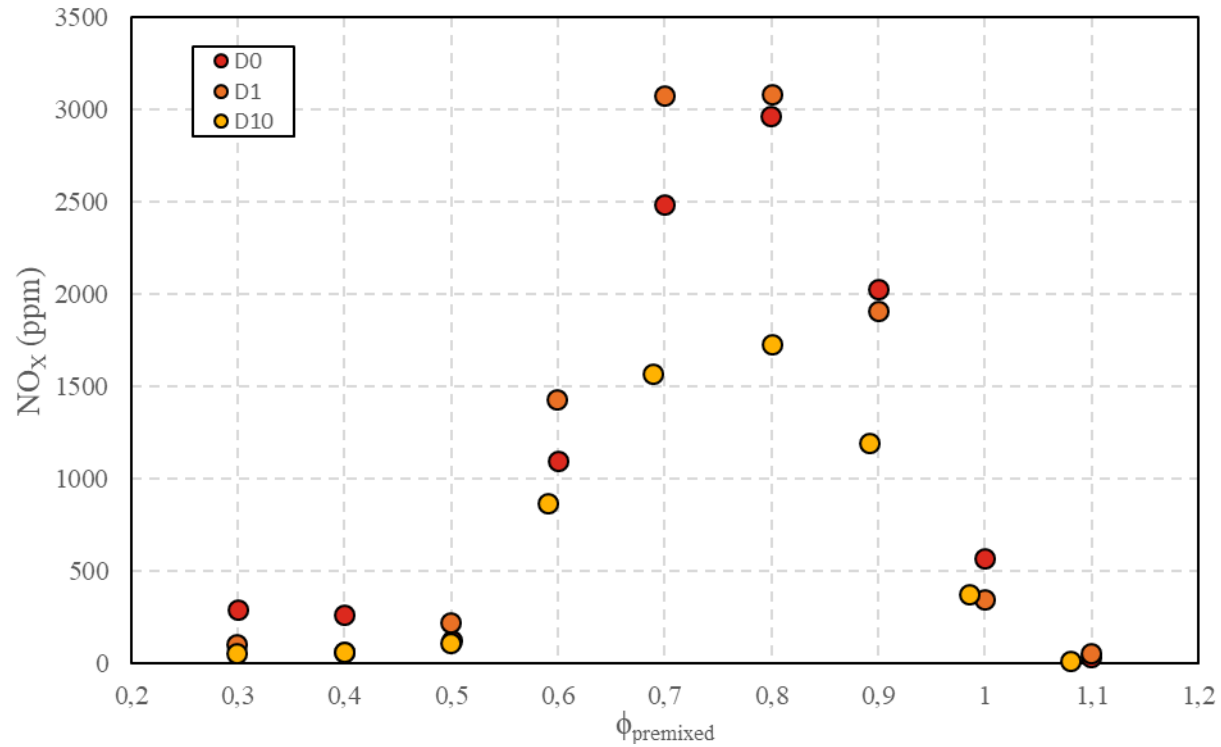
2,5% ITE gain with additive in pilot

With Dodecane

- Gain of about 1,9% with 1% additive
- + 1 more % with 10% additive

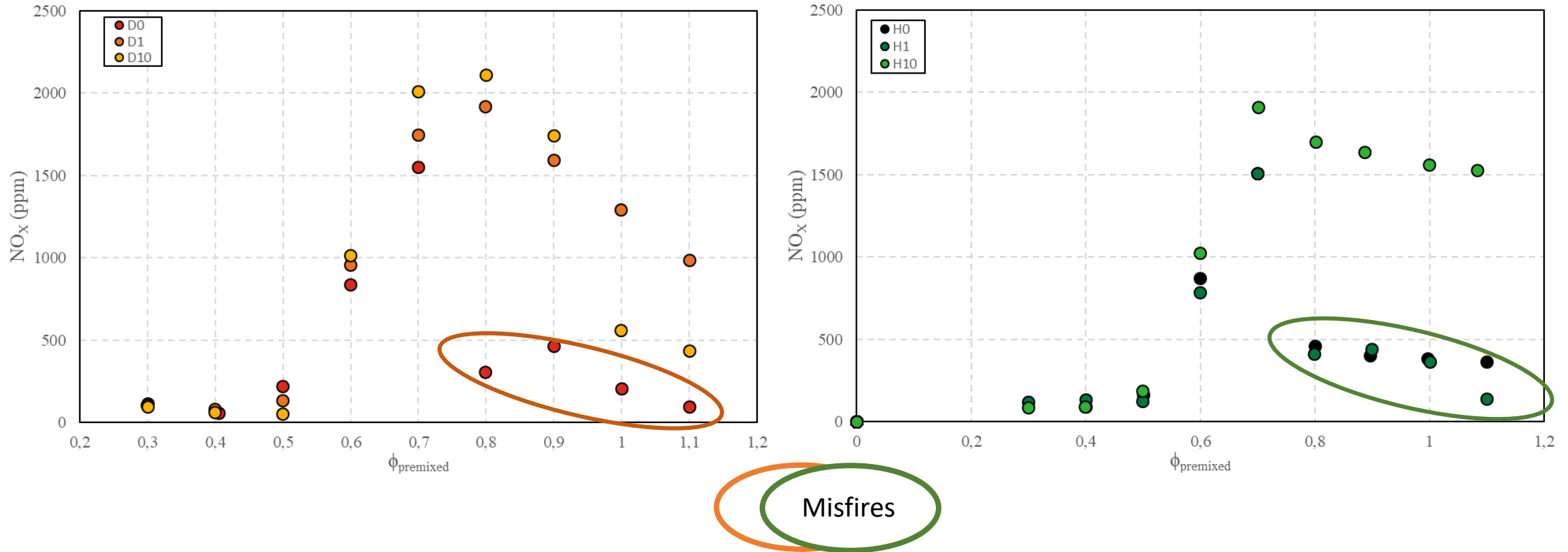
With HVO

- Gain of about 0,5% with 1% additive
- + 2 more % with 10% additive



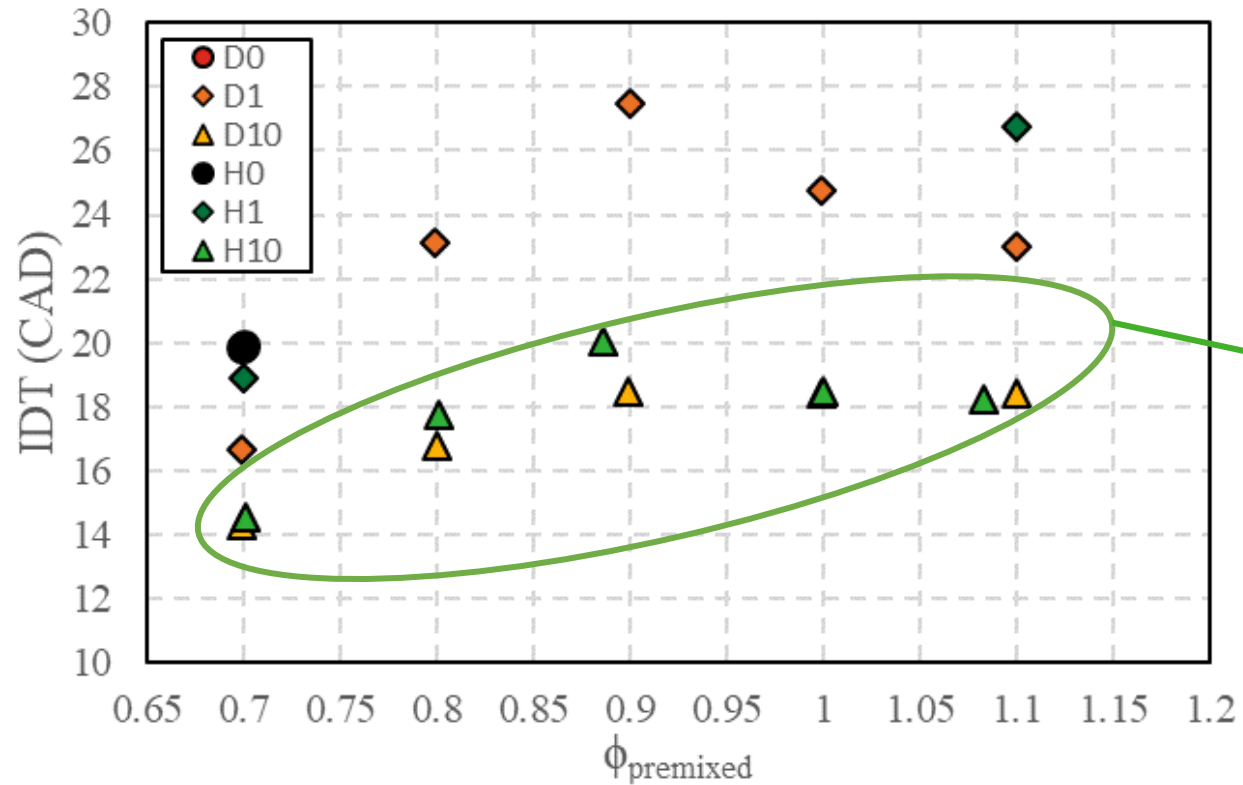
At high IMEP, no sign of help from the additive on NOx reduction for HVO

At high IMEP, in misfiring areas clear reduction of NOx emission, by having additive in dodecane



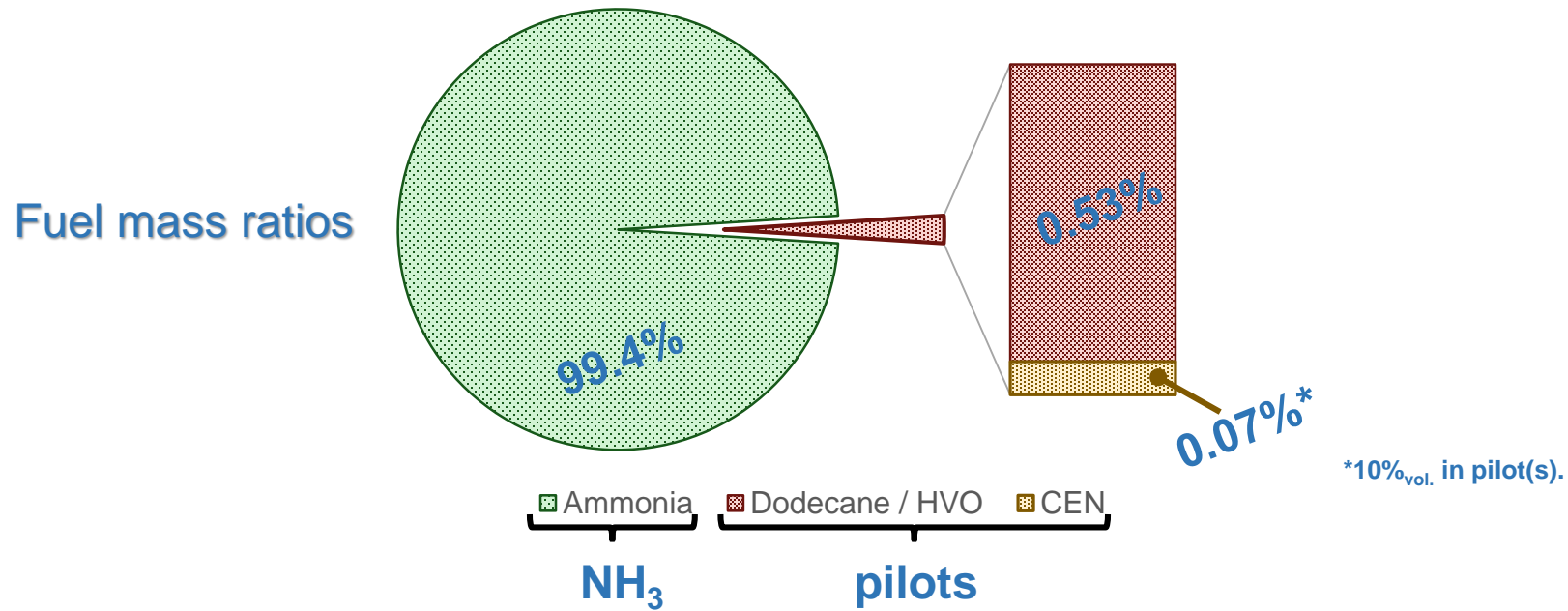
At Low IMEP, clear help from the additive on NOx reduction for HVO at higher F/A
At Low IMEP, slight Increase of NOx with the additive for Dodecane at higher A/F
Impossible to directly conclude on impact of additive on NOx emissions

CEN addition in the pilot fuel promotes the inflammation and the combustion ($CA_{10} \rightarrow$ IDT).

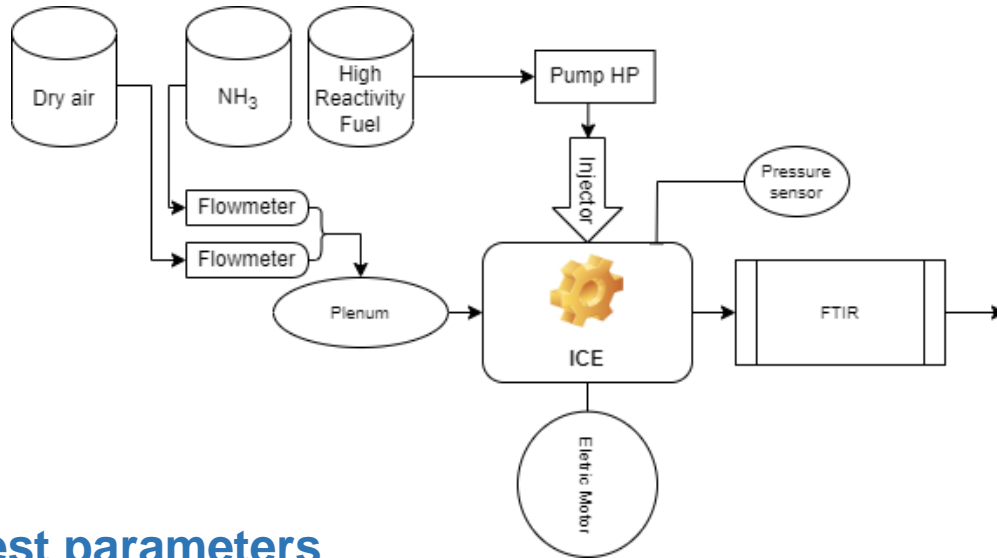


10 vol % additive in pilot = <0,1% of total mass of fuels

Less than 0,1 mass % of CEN give a significant chemical push to ammonia in a Compression Ignition situation



Engine installation



Engine configuration

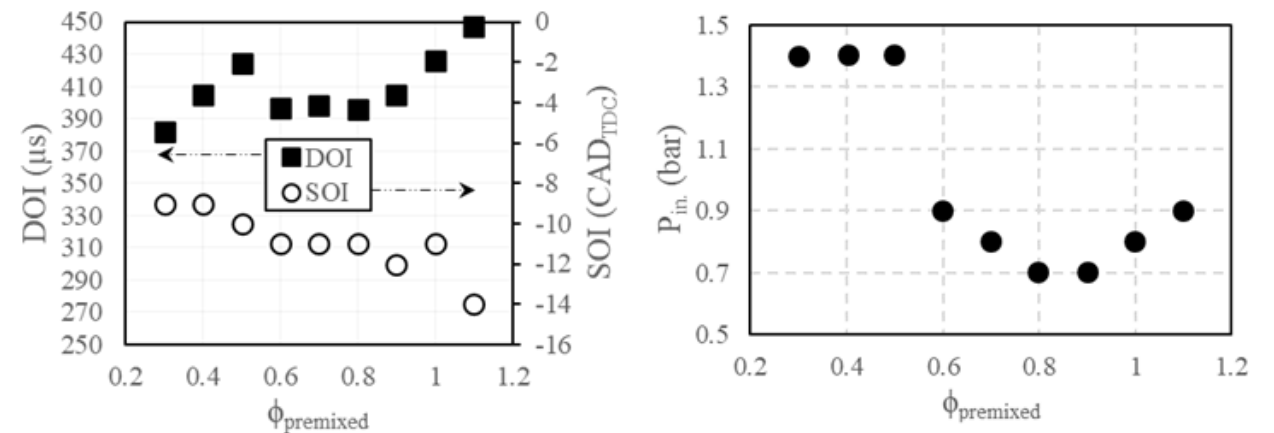
Engine (single-cylinder)	DW10F
Displaced Volume (cc)	499
Stroke (mm)	88
Bore (mm)	85
Compression Ratio	16.4 : 1
Number of Valves	4
Speed (rpm)	1500
Number of nozzle holes (Injector)	7

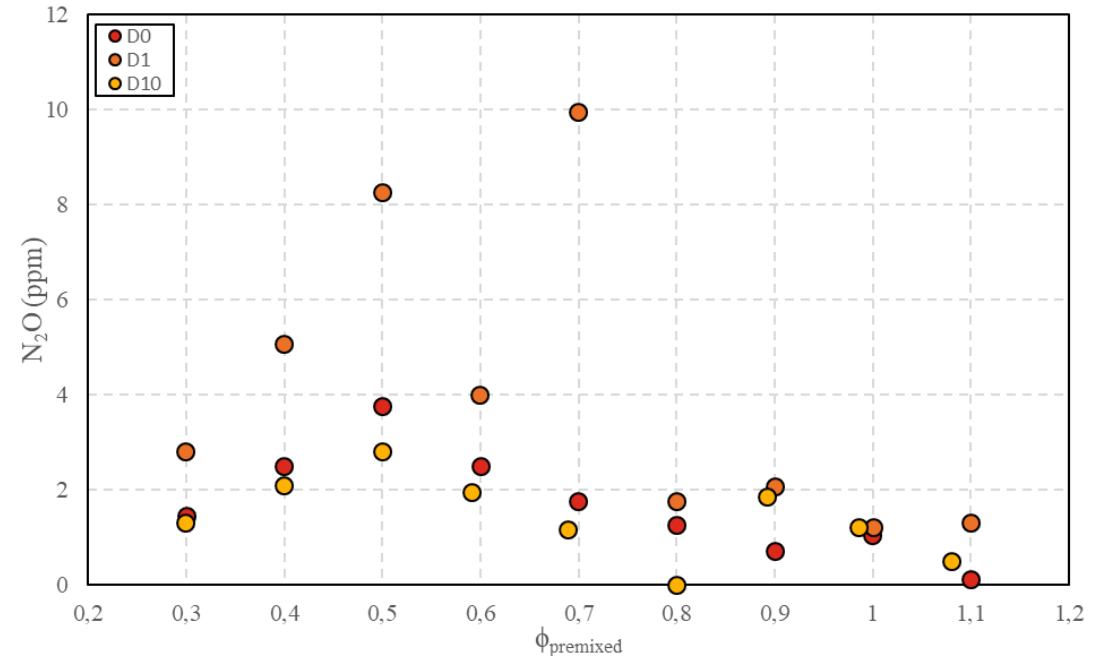
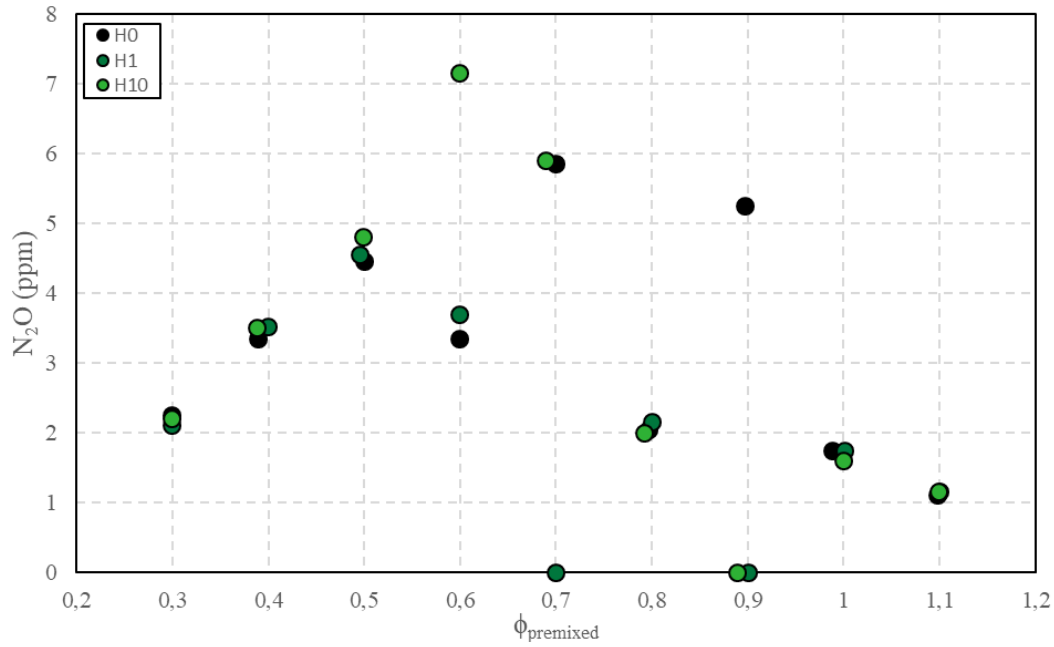
Test parameters

Parameters	Value
$P_{in.}$ (bar)	Variable
$T_{in.}$ (°C)	80
$P_{inj.}$ (bar)	200
DOI (μ s)	Fct of $\frac{\theta_{LRF}}{(\theta_{LRF} + \theta_{HRF})} = 0.98$
SOI (CAD)	Copied from previous tests ⁴

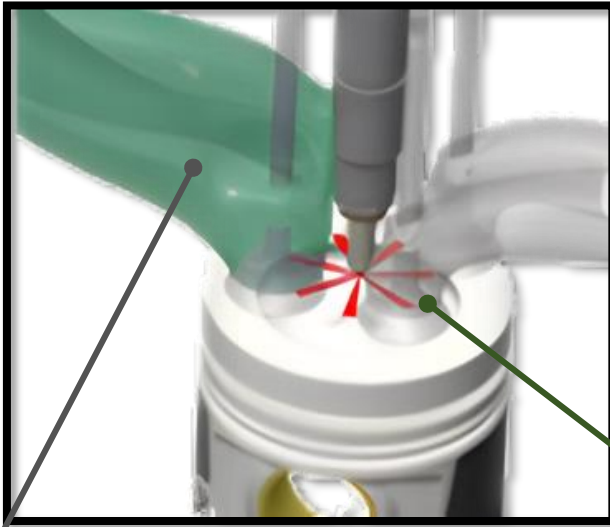
⁴: Experimental study of RCCI engine – Ammonia combustion with diesel pilot injection, A. Dupuy et al., 2023

Injection and intake port parameters (IMEP : 4bar)





Low N₂O emissions, difficult to conclude as the levels are too low for the detection limit



- For different air-fuel equivalence ratios (AFR)
- Expose performance of base LRF/HRF blends
- Add CEN to show effects on performance (and combustibility)
- *All tested points are comparable in terms of introduced quantities.*

