Hydrothermal aging modeling for SCR catalysts

Simon Dosda 2015 CLEERS WORKSHOP







Interest of SCR modeling for control purpose

- Urea-SCR is one of the most common technology used by car and truck manufacturers to meet the latest NO_x emission standards
 - requires to optimize urea injection in order to limit ammonia slip while keeping a good NO_x reduction efficiency



- In this context, system simulation has significant advantages to set up optimal injection strategy:
 - Physical modeling: modeling level is adapted for control laws design in order to obtain accurate and consistent results in every real life case
 - Fast calculation time: about 10 times faster than the real time for a complex exhaust line coupled with a high frequency control



Importance of aging on SCR performances

- During engine lifetime, performance degradation of the SCR catalyst is observed due to harsh exhaust conditions
 - frequent filter regeneration subjects the SCR catalyst to high temperatures
 - hydrothermal aging will strongly decrease DeNOx and NH₃ storage properties of the catalyst
- Modeling hydrothermal aging impact on the catalyst allows to adapt urea injection strategy and avoid excessive amount of ammonia slip
 - only way to adapt injection strategy over the complete vehicle lifetime

Is there a way to model efficiently hydrothermal aging impact on a SCR catalyst ?





1 - Fresh SCR model set up and validation:

- a SCR model is calibrated on specific Synthetic Gas Bench tests
- b SCR model is integrated in a complete exhaust line simulator and validated on chassis dynamometer on test cycles
- **2** Aging model set up from SGB tests for various aging conditions
- *3 Aging model validation* on dyno on test cycles using an aged SCR





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Fresh SCR model presentation – Reactor scale

LMS Imagine.Lab Amesim model of SGB SCR using IFP-Exhaust library



- reactions considered: NH₃ adsorption/desorption, DeNOx reactions (standard, fast & NO₂ SCR) and NH₃ oxidation
- isolated sample: no thermal exchanges considered
- SCR sample geometry: length = 3 inches, diameter = 2 inches, 350 cpsi



SCR modeling set up for NH₃ storage on SGB test

From NH₃ TPD observation, two adsorption sites can be considered



SGB test - NH3 TPD - Tinlet 175°C

- NH₃ adsorption reaction for each adsorption site:
 - $\blacksquare \mathsf{NH}_3 + \mathsf{Si} \leftrightarrow \mathsf{NH}_3 \mathsf{S}_i$

$$\mathbf{r}_{ad} = \mathbf{k}_{ad} \times [NH_3] \times (1 - \theta_{NH3}) - \mathbf{k}_{de} \times e^{-\frac{Ede \times (1 - alpha \times \theta_{NH3})}{R \times T_s}} \times \theta_{NH3}$$



SCR model calibration for NH₃ storage on SGB test

NH₃ storage calibration is done on NH₃ TPD tests with various inlet temperature





SCR model calibration for DeNOx reaction on SGB test

- Standard SCR reaction calibration:
 - $4 \text{ NH}_3 \text{S}_i + 4 \text{ NO} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 4 \text{ N}_2 + 6 \text{ H}_2 \text{O} + 4 \text{ S}_i$
 - $r_{std} = k_{std} \times e^{-\frac{E_{std}}{R \times T_s}} \times [NO] \times \theta_{NH3}$
 - Calibration is done on DeNOx SGB test with an upstream NO₂/NOx ratio of 0 %





SCR model calibration for DeNOx reaction on SGB test

- Fast SCR reaction calibration:
 - **2** $NH_3-S_i + NO + NO_2 \rightarrow 2N_2 + 3H_2O + 2S_i$

$$r_{fast} = k_{fast} \times e^{-\frac{E_{fast}}{R \times T_s}} \times [NO] \times [NO_2] \times \theta_{NH3}$$

- calibration is done on DeNOx SGB test with an upstream NO₂/NO_x ratio of 50 %
- NO₂ SCR reaction calibration:
 - 4 NH₃-S_i + 3 NO₂ → 5,5 N₂ + 6 H₂O + 4 S_i

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$$r_{NO2} = k_{NO2} \times e^{-\frac{E_{NO2}}{R \times T_s}} \times [NO_2] \times \theta_{NH3}$$

calibration is done on DeNOx SGB test with an upstream NO₂/NO_x ratio of 100 %



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SCR model calibration for DeNOx reaction on SGB test

Ammonia oxidation reaction calibration:

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$$4 \text{ NH}_3 - \text{S}_i + 3 \text{ O}_2 \rightarrow 2 \text{ N}_2 + 6 \text{ H}_2 \text{O} + 4 \text{ S}_i$$

$$\boldsymbol{r}_{NH3ox} = \boldsymbol{k}_{NH3ox} \times \boldsymbol{e}^{-\frac{E_{NH3ox}}{R \times T_s}} \times [\boldsymbol{O}_2] \times \boldsymbol{\theta}_{NH3}$$

calibration is done on DeNOx SGB test with an high upstream temperature

This calibration allows to obtain consistent results on the overall test data









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Exhaust line model presentation

LMS Amesim model of a complete exhaust line composed of a DOC, a DPF and a SCR using IFP-Exhaust library coupled with a Simulink control platform



- Upgrade from SGB models:
 - convective and radiative heat transfer modeled
 - light adjustment of catalysts calibration



Fresh SCR cycle simulation results on NEDC cycle







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Hydrothermal aging effects on SCR catalyst : Cu-Zeolite



Catalyst changes with aging:

- at low aging, copper migrates from exchanged positions to form copper oxide aggregates in the zeolite porosity
- during this phase, copper in exchanged positions protects the zeolite structure against dealumination
- with increasing aging, copper is completely removed from exchanged positions and dealumination occurs.

Ref.

« Hydrothermal aging effects on Cu-zeolite NH₃-SCR catalyst » *M. Valdez Lancinha Pereira, A. Nicolle, D. Berthout, IFPEN* doi:10.1016/j.cattod.2015.03.027



Hydrothermal aging effects on SCR catalyst : Cu-Zeolite

Aging model description:

loss of copper and aluminum ions contributes to a loss of catalytic sites: modeled by a coefficient on active surface and on NH₃ capacities

 $S_{active} aged = Coeff_{Cu} \times Sact_{ive} fresh$ $\Omega_{NH3site1}$ aged = Coeff_{site1} × $\Omega_{NH3site1}$ fresh $\Omega_{NH3site2}aged = Coeff_{site2} \times \Omega_{NH3site2}fresh$



CuO aggregates promote NH₃ oxidation: modeled by a coefficient on *NH*₃ oxidation activation energy $\frac{Coeff_{cuo} \times E_{NH3ox}}{R \times T_s} \times [\boldsymbol{O}_2] \times \boldsymbol{\theta}_{NH3}$

 $r_{NH3ox} = k_{NH3ox} \times e$

no other changes in the calibration of the kinetic constants (k_i, Ea_i) determined on the fresh sample



Aging impact set up for NH₃ storage - Reactor scale



- NH₃ storage capacity reduction with aging is observed on SGB NH3 TPD tests
 - hydrothermal impact on NH₃ capacity is higher on "low temperatures" NH₃ storage sites
- Desorption reaction rate reduction due to active surface reduction with hydrothermal aging temperature is well modeled



Aging impact set up for DeNOx reaction - Reactor scale



- At low hydrothermal aging temperature, main aging impact is a loss of catalyst efficiency at high temperature due on NH₃ oxidation
 - impact of CuO aggregates
- DeNOx reactions rates reduction is well represented by the reduction of the active surface in the model





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5h 1000°C aged SCR cycle simulation results - NOx



- NEDC cycle is realized with an aged SCR
 - hydrothermal aging of 5h at 1 000°C
- Coefficients from previous aging model are used:
 - Active surface: 2 %
 - NH₃ capacity of site 1: 0,5 %
 - NH₃ capacity of site 2: 1 %
 - NH₃ oxidation activation energy: 85 %

Impact on DeNOx efficiency is well modeled



5h 1000°C aged SCR cycle simulation results - NH₃



- Impact on NH₃ slip is well modeled : right timing and level of release
- While NH₃ slip for the fresh SCR was almost inexistent, more than half of NH₃ injected quantity is released in the atmosphere for the aged SCR
- Injection strategy can be optimized





Summary

- Simple hydrothermal aging model with reduced parameterization:
 - one coefficient for active surface reduction
 - two coefficients for NH₃ storage capacities, close to active surface coefficient
 - one coefficient for NH₃ oxidation activation energy
- Need only SGB data
- Consistency in results on NO_X and NH₃
- Efficient methodology to model SCR aging impact from a fresh SCR calibration
- → This hydrothermal aging model will be integrated in IFP-Exhaust library for the next LMS Amesim release



Innovating for energy

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Back up: IFP-Exhaust Library

Library dedicated to the after-treatment devices modeling MiL, SiL and HiL capabilities

Catalysts and Filters

(DOC, DPF, LNT, SCR, SCR-F & 3WC)















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Heat transfer (free and forced convection)

Sensors and Sources (temperature, pressure, species)