

Master's Thesis in Automotive Engineering

## 1D Simulation Modeling for an Exhaust Aftertreatment System

SCR Calibration Modeling in GT-SUITE

Puneeth Ramanjaneyalu September 2021

Division of Combustion and Propulsion Systems Department of Mechanics and Maritime Sciences

CHALMERS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY Gothenburg, Sweden 2021 www.chalmers.se

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### Abstract

The Euro legislative regulations are imposed successively to hold back toxic elements that are harmful to the environment. Carbon monoxide (CO), hydrocarbons (HC) and nitric oxide  $(NO_x)$  are the major toxic elements that cause serious health hazards for the living species. From many research works, selective catalytic reduction (SCR) is the most promising technology to address  $NO_x$ . The objective of this project is to develop a surface reaction mechanism model, reaction rate calibration for SCR catalyst and validation.

Firstly, building the SCR catalyst and surface reaction mechanism model in GT-SUITE. The reaction rate calibration or characterization is performed for six reaction rate expressions with 18 unknown parameters by applying physical properties of the catalyst for example diameter and area of the catalyst. Furthermore, the digital laboratory Simulink black-box is utilized to produce the target reaction rate curves for all chemical reactions to calibrate the parameters then to compare with simulated GT-model results. Finally, validation for steady state or urea stairs, US, conditions and transient driving cycle conditions against WHTC (world harmonized transient driving cycles) for the Euro V regulations using tail pipe, engine-out emissions, mass flow rate and temperature traces experiments data.

Overall, chemical kinetics modeling for SCR catalyst in GT-SUITE was successfully implemented and have reasonable results for urea stair cases, but the outcome can be further improved for transient cycles by extract information from 3D CFD to 1D in the future. Inevitably, simulations analysis is the best possible way to validate the results in quick time with low cost and it is a key factor during the development process.

Keywords: SCR, catalyst, chemical kinetics, validation, modeling, simulations, calibration and experiment data.

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### Nomenclatures

Ammonia
Water
Oxygen
Zeoliet
Vanadium
Carbon Monoxide
Nitric Oxide
Urea
Carbon Dioxide
Hydro Carbons
Nitrogen
Nitrogen Dioxide
Nitrogen Oxides
Ammonia
Copper
Surface Site
Isocyanic Acid

### Abbreviations

GT-SUITE	Gamma Technologies Engine Simulation Software
$\mathbf{CFD}$	Computational Fluid Dynamics
SCR	Selective Catalytic Reduction
ASC	Ammonia Slip Catalyst
DPF	Diesel Particulate Filter
ANR	Ammonia to NOx Ratio
CPSI	Cells per Square Inch
WHTC	World Harmonized Test cycle
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# 1 Introduction

With the clear evidence, the climb in the number of vehicle users rising now and then, there is always room for improvement in the developments of vehicle technology. The vast research and studies are still ongoing to optimize the engine and lower the emissions significantly worldwide. Since 1993 Euro regulations are successfully imposed, to control the emissions from vehicles that are immensely polluting the environment and causing serious health hazards. From the atmospheric studies, as the air pollution is significant especially from vehicles, this project makes a meaningful contribution to study the amount of harmful gas reduced from the engine before entering the atmosphere.

### 1.1 Europe Environmental Legislative Standards

The legislative standards are the law enforced by the legal act directives with in the Europe Union states. It is applicable for most of the land vehicles they are passenger cars, trucks, buses and two wheel vehicles. The emissions from heavy duty vehicles are increasingly stringent with respect to series of Euro regulation. From **Figure 1.1** the NO<sub>x</sub> was significantly limited to 0.2g/kWh for Euro V which is 95% cut-down compared to Euro I.



**Figure 1.1:**  $NO_x$  with respect to successive legislation[1]

However, it further leads to challenging investigations for the design of catalysts for the efficient aftertreatment systems for heavy duty vehicles. Ever since the Euro regulations are imposed to tighten the emissions for light and heavy-duty vehicles. It is a continuous effort and challenge to control the emissions coming out from the combustion engines, referring to the recent legislative emissions Euro VI for strengthening the emission standards for both particulate matter and nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) were tightened by 90% compared to Euro III. The new techniques redeemed to ensure the predictions of toxic gases from the engine out. The method of real driving emissions (RDE) test comported for the Euro VI vehicles are shown in **Figure 1.2**. The testing equipment Semtech–recostar gas analyser that as flow meter to measure the exhaust gas flow rate and also has non-dispersive infrared (NDIR) detector to sense NO<sub>x</sub>[2].



Figure 1.2: schematic representation of Euro VI heavy duty testing equipment system for emissions regulations<sup>[2]</sup>

The new era for emissions standards further to improve the air quality by introducing Euro VII standards for cars, buses and trucks. Association for emissions control by catalyst(AECC) propose principles to legislate actual tail pipe emissions to ensure health and well-being of everyone. Euro VII should also aim for applicationneutral stringency, despite vehicle design and function. Moreover, it is important to implement new techniques of control strategy for the powertrain with out consumer market distortion. In fact, the introduction of new technologies required to achieve ultra-low pollutant emissions are close commercialization. Technologies such as cylinder deactivation, EGR cooler bypass and 48-volt systems could anable better engine out  $NO_x$  control, faster catalyst warm-up and thermal management strategies. Apparently, introduction of new technologies leads to increase in costs of meeting Euro VII standards rough estimations will be between  $\in 1500$  and  $\in 4700$  in 2025 and between  $\in 1400$  and  $\in 4300$  in 2030 therefore it will increase between 2% and 5% relatively to the current price [4]. For the heavy duty vehicles, steady state and transient conditions emission limits of  $NO_x$ , PM, CO and HC are described in **Table 1.1** from each successive regulation, it is clear that  $NO_x$  is reduced to 0.46g/kWh.

Emission Regulations	Date	$\mathbf{NO}_x$	PM	CO	HC
Steady State		g/kWh	g/kWh	g/kWh	g/kWh
Euro I	1992	8	0.36	4.5	1.1
Euro II	October 1998	7	0.15	4	1.1
Euro III	October 2000	5	0.10	2.564	0.66
Euro IV	October 2005	3.5	0.02	1.5	0.46
Euro V	October 2008	3.5	0.02	1.5	0.46
Euro VI	October 2013	2	0.01	1.5	0.13
Transient Cycle	Date	g/kWh	g/kWh	g/kWh	g/kWh
Euro III	October 2000	5	0.16	5.45	-
Euro IV	October 2005	3.5	0.03	4	-
Euro V	October 2008	2	0.03	4	-
Euro VI	January 2013	0.46	0.01	4	-

Table 1.1: Euro regulations I to VI for heavy duty diesel engines[3]

#### 1.2 Industry Background

Scania is continuously working on the developments of the engine evolution to mainly optimize the performance and lower the emissions significantly to give the topclass vehicle experience to the user worldwide. Primarily giving prominence to the living nature to promote the eco-friendly environment, this raises the anticipation to resolve harmful gases coming out from the engine. However, this project work will extend and continue their research work on the exhaust aftertreatment system with a 1D simulation modeling tool GT-SUITE, including surface chemical reactions modeling of selective catalytic reduction (SCR). Scania manufactures leading design and productive aftertreatment system technology, especially for freight heavy-duty trucks. Working continuously for more than a decade on the emissions control strategy in 3D CFD simulations and 1D simulations the company now extends the efforts to address the new Euro VI and Euro VII regulations to target the emissions analysis to achieve in 1D simulation modeling in GT-Power. Furthermore, the earlier projects carried out about the methodology to combine 3D CFD simulations with the chemical reactions needed to model the SCR which includes the  $NO_x$  conversion and ammonia slip analysis. However, this project further extends the attempt to calibrate or optimize the reaction rate parameters for SCR catalyst modeling. The advantage of trusting 1D simulations mainly because it is possible to extract for all the load points with respect to time where as in 3D CFD it is limited to low, medium and high load points. Even today many development engineers attempt to run hundreds of simulations to evaluate the closest possibilities to apply for real-time experimental rig testing applications. Hence, the simulation analysis give results in quick time with low cost and it is a key factor during the development process.

### 1.3 Objective

The primary objective of this project work includes establishing the streamlined workflow which would be used in the future for the aftertreatment system development technology.

- Develop a 1D simulation model for an exhaust aftertreatment system which includes the surface reaction mechanism models of SCR.
- Calibration in GT-SUITE and GT-Power.
- Documentation of the workflow and validation of the simulated results with engine out and tailpipe measurement data.

### 1.4 Delimitations

As the duration of the project is 20 weeks the scope of this project is as followed.

- The work is focused on building selective catalytic reduction (SCR) catalyst and surface reaction mechanism model.
- Producing experimental data setup from simulink black-box model.
- Characterization of unknown parameters for several reaction rate expressions to match with experimental data.
- The modeling and simulations are carried out in engine simulation tool Gamma Technology GT-SUITE and GT-power.

# 2

## Theoretical and Modeling Background

#### 2.1 Exhaust Aftertreatment System

Exhaust aftertreatment systems are necessary for the automotive powertrains to address exhaust emissions. The Euro regulations are getting tougher and tougher referring to the very recent regulation Euro VI of harmful gas  $NO_x$ , nitrogen monoxide (NO) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is strictly prohibited from the vehicle manufacturers. Hence, this leads to investigate more closely to trace the problems. The adsorption and desorption of ammonia on the site elements strategy applied in this project to eliminate the amount of  $NO_x$  at the outlet successively.



Figure 2.1: Exhaust aftertreatment with split SCR

The calibration is performed for the SCR vanadium catalyst. The exhaust gas along with toxic NO<sub>x</sub> coming out from the engine are introduced through the SCR catalyst. From the external source adblue, typically 33% of urea and 67% of water solution injected just before the SCR [5]. The combination of chemical reactions takes place in the catalyst to reduce NO<sub>x</sub>. The NO<sub>x</sub> reacts with NH<sub>3</sub> with certain operating conditions to give out simple component N<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O that are not harmful to the nature. The two split SCR catalysts with the same physical properties are used for Euro V experimental validation and the arrangement is shown in **Figure 2.1**. The experimental data particularly for WHTC driving cycle which is a legislative transient test cycle from the global technical regulation (GTR) for heavy vehicles tests. The unreacted ammonia also called ammonia slip from the SCR are taken care by ammonia slip catalyst, ASC, has it is also dangerous if exposed to the environment.

#### 2.2 Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR)

The SCR technology was first applied in thermal power plants in Japan in the late 1970s and then slowly developed in Europe from the middle of 1980s, after a decade gradually it was popular in chemical processing industries[6]. Since 2005 urea-SCR technology was adopted in diesel engines, it is a form of converting the nitrogen oxides, NO<sub>x</sub> referred as both NO and NO<sub>2</sub> into nitrogen, N<sub>2</sub> and water, H<sub>2</sub>O with the aid of reducing agent for example, adblue or ammonia. Typically in the industries adblue is 33% of urea and 67% of water-diluted solution. The NO<sub>x</sub> reduction with ammonia is mainly controlled by three important reactions usually standard, fast and slow SCR reactions. The ammonia is stored on the porous site elements for example vanadium coated on the substrate layer, after diffusion-reaction the toxic component denitrification to give a simple harmless products. In this project the method of global reaction kinetic model is developed to predict the amount of NO<sub>x</sub> reduced at the catalyst outlet based on the experimental data sets. The detailed catalytic reduction is shown in the below **Figure 2.2**.



#### Figure 2.2: catalytic reduction

The chemical equation for the stoichiometric reaction with aquies ammonia is from the equation 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 respectively.

$$2NO + 2NH_3 + \frac{1}{2}O_2 \to 2N_2 + 3H_2O \tag{2.1}$$

$$NO_2 + 2NH_3 + \frac{1}{2}O_2 \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}N_2 + 3H_2O$$
 (2.2)

$$NO + NO_2 + 2NH_3 + \frac{1}{2}O_2 \rightarrow 2N_2 + 3H_2O$$
 (2.3)

#### 2.3 Chemical Reaction Rate Equations

Theoretically, we know that in the catalyst number of reactions happens, in this project kinetic modeling reaction rate calibration is carried for the most important chemical kinetics. For a chemical rate expression, representation of the general Arrhenius equation is shown in below equation 2.5.

$$Rate = k[X]^a[Y]^b \tag{2.4}$$

$$k = A * exp\left(\frac{-E_a}{RT}\right) * (conc) * (cov) * K(i)$$
(2.5)

where,  $A \rightarrow \text{pre-exponent multiplier}$ ,  $E_a \rightarrow \text{activation energy or temperature}$ ,  $R \rightarrow \text{universal gas constant}$ , 8.314j/mol K, (conc)  $\rightarrow$  concentration expressions, (cov)  $\rightarrow$  coverage expression, K(i)  $\rightarrow$  inhibition function,

All the reactions occur instantly at the same time, for simplifications of the modeling prediction the sequence of calibration methodology is described in chapter 3. The chemical reaction equation 2.6 and equation 2.7 are ammonia storage and desorption on the site elements respectively. The oxidation equation 2.8 some amount of ammonia is consumed or burned at higher temperatures. Then the most important DeNO<sub>x</sub> standard reaction, equation 2.9, consists of 90% of NO<sub>x</sub> through denitrification the toxic elements are converted to simple components water and nitrogen. Followed by, DeNO<sub>x</sub> fast and DeNO<sub>x</sub> slow reaction which consists of only 10% of NO<sub>x</sub> and occurs rarely.

R1 
$$\operatorname{NH}_3 + S \to NH_3(S)(2.6)$$

R2 
$$\operatorname{NH}_3(S) \to NH_3 + S(2.7)$$

R3 
$$4NH_3(S) + 3O_2 \rightarrow 2N_2 + 6H_2O(2.8)$$

R4 
$$4NH_3(S) + 4NO + O_2 \rightarrow 4N_2 + 6H_2O(2.9)$$

R5 
$$2NH_3(S) + NO + NO_2 \rightarrow 2N_2 + 3H_2O(2.10)$$

R6 
$$8NH_3(S) + 6NO_2 \rightarrow 7N_2 + 12H_2O(2.11)$$

The respective reaction rate expressions are shown below from equation 2.12 to 2.17 and it has several unknown terms to calibrate which defines the species outlet mole fraction curve.

$$\dot{r_1} = K_1 \cdot C_{NH_3}^L \cdot (Z_{NH_3,max} - Z_{NH_3})^m \tag{2.12}$$

$$\dot{r_2} = K_2 Z_{NH_3} \tag{2.13}$$

$$\dot{r}_3 = K_3 Z_{NH_3} \tag{2.14}$$

$$\dot{r}_4 = K_4.C_{NO}^L.Z_{NH_3}^*.\left[1 - exp\left\{\left(\frac{-Z_{NH_3}}{Z_{NH_3}^*}\right)\right\}\right]$$
 (2.15)

$$\dot{r}_5 = K_5 . C_{NO}^L . C_{NO_2}^L . Z_{NH_3}^* . \left[ 1 - exp \left\{ \left( \frac{-Z_{NH_3}}{Z_{NH_3}^*} \right) \right\} \right]$$
(2.16)

$$\dot{r_6} = K_6 \cdot C_{NO_2}^L \cdot Z_{NH_3}^* \cdot \left[ 1 - exp \left\{ \left( \frac{-Z_{NH_3}}{Z_{NH_3}^*} \right) \right\} \right]$$
(2.17)

where,

$$K_i = k_i^0 . exp\left\{ \left(\frac{-T_{A,i}}{T_{solid}}\right) \right\}$$
(2.18)

$$K_{2} = k_{2}^{0}.exp\left\{\left(\frac{-T_{A,2}.(1 - \epsilon . Z_{NH_{3}})}{T_{solid}}\right)\right\}$$
(2.19)

 $m \rightarrow adsorption order,$   $\in \rightarrow epsilon,$   $S \rightarrow site element,$   $C_{NH_3} \rightarrow respective concentration species,$   $Z_{NH_3,max} \rightarrow site coverage fraction,$   $Z_{NH_3}^* \rightarrow critical fraction.$  $C_i^L$  is the concentration of species 'i' in the respective surface layer

 $C_i$  is the concentration of species 1 in the respective surface ray.

#### 2.4 Simplex and Genetic Algorithm

To perform the characterization process to optimize the unknown parameters initially manual calibration is performed to quickly bring the values to fall into the objective function direction. The integrated design optimization tool is utilized in GT-SUITE to find the closest possible magnitudes. The Simplex algorithm is a local optimizer that will converge to a local minimum used for the linear problems but here though it is non-linear, with numerous factors and multiple constraints it aids in finding design space with minimum efforts. In addition, there are many 3rd party tools for the optimization process for example, Matlab and Simulink which is not used because it stands out side the project scope.

The widely used for highly complex problems is Genetic Algorithm.<sup>[7]</sup>

- It can be applied for several unknown parameters for most complex problems.
- It is a 'sweep factor' that can find a single optimized value for all cases.
- If more number of generations, for example, 200 generations will trace very high log space math functions.
- Wide parameter range can be assigned, despite high computational time, can find the minimum objective function comparatively.

### 2.5 Calibration Requirements

The important requirements for the calibration process are the amount of exhaust gas flow composition with temperature programmed profile (TPD) and the chemical rate expressions. Once the inlet section is considered with the boundary condition profiles, parameter tuning to match with the experimental data by utilizing optimization tools within GT-SUITE. To optimize the objective function initially manual or trial and error method is carried generally to find the appropriate kinetic modelling to result in local minimum followed by the search algorithm to find the complex functions for multiple unknowns. The name of the reactions calibrated consisting of unknown parameters and the target terms are shown in **2.1** above. Furthermore, the calibrated catalyst continued with validation process for many experimental conditions for steady state and transient cycles. The calibration requirements flow chart is shown in **Figure 2.3**.

	Reaction Name	Unknown Parameter	Target
R1	Adsorption	A, E, m, Site Density	ammonia adsorb
R2	Desorption	A, E, Epsilon	ammonia desorb
R3	Oxidation	A, E	ammonia with $N_2$ products
R4	$DeNO_x$ Standard	A, E, Critical Fraction	NO
R5	$DeNO_x$ Fast	A, E, Critical Fraction	NO and $NO_2$

Table 2.1: Reactions with parameters and targets

R6



Figure 2.3: The requirements for the calibration process

## Methodology

This chapter explains the project investigations in detail from building the SCR catalyst model in GT-SUITE v2020 to calibration steps involved and validation process. The flow chart below from the **Figure 3.1** represents the complete structure of the project. To begin with, the selective catalytic reaction (SCR) rate calibration is performed initially by applying physical properties of the catalyst for example diameter, length and area. Furthermore, either scat-rig data that is physically measured data or the digital laboratory Simulink black-box is utilized to generate target curve data for all the surface reaction mechanism method. Finally, the validation is performed using urea stairs and transient cycle experimental data against world harmonized transient driving cycles (WHTC) conditions.





### 3.1 Building SCR Catalyst in GT-SUITE

The steps involved in building the SCR Catalyst model in GT-SUITE are explained in the chapter Appendix workflow documentation. Firstly, target data is produced from the Simulink black-box model. Calibration optimization is about minimizing the error or objective function between the target curves and GT simulation data. The most important reactions are from equation 2.6 to equation 2.11 used in reaction rate calibration, built-in SCR catalyst model in GT-SUITE v2020 is shown in Figure 3.2 below.



Figure 3.2: SCR Catalyst in GT-SUITE

The SCR Calibration Mechanism steps are explained briefly,

Step 1: The exhaust gas mass flow rate, inlet gas composition species from the engine out are introduced to the inlet section with temperature programmed desorption (TPD) profile.

**Step 2:** The physical and thermal properties are represented in SCR catalyst. For instance frontal area, length, cell density and wall temperatures and so on.

**Step 3:** In the SCR mechanism template all the reaction rate equations and the storage capacity of the catalyst are defined from general Arrhenius reaction rate equation as in equation 2.5.

**Step 4:** The components linked for chemical and physical flow characteristics and model is ready to run.

**Step 5:** Tuning or optimizing the unknown parameters to compare against target curve data sets.

### 3.2 Target Data from Simulink Black-box

In this project, a digital laboratory called simplified Simulink black-box model provided by the suppliers is utilized in producing the target data curves and is a necessary requirement for chemical kinetics modeling. From the boundary condition synthetic gas or constant gas are considered at the inlet section to measure the outlet data. The arrangement of the Simulink black-box model is in **Figure 3.3** and is mainly divided into three sections as inlet, catalyst and outlet section. The mass flow rate, temperature and species composition boundary conditions for the inlet. The physical property data and initial temperature are entered in the catalyst eventually outlets are measured and noted. The details of the target curve extraction method is explained for all the reactions from the below sub-section 3.3.1 to 3.3.5.



Figure 3.3: Simple representation of Simulink black-box model

#### 3.2.1 Storage Target

For the storage calibration referred to the equation 2.6 and equation 2.7, constant temperatures 200°C, 300°C, 400°C and 500°C are considered, with the varied amount of ammonia concerning time as shown in **Table 3.1**. It is also important to respect the parameter limits provided by the suppliers hence the minimum amount of oxygen and water is taken into account. The outlet ammonia mole fraction data is collected for all the temperature conditions and the amount of oxygen and water shown below. **Table 3.1**: Inlet ammonia composition for all temperature ranges

Time, sec	$NH_3$ , ppm
0	0
100	0
100	1000
500	1000
500	500
700	500
700	250
1000	250
1000	0
1500	0
mass flow rat	e   0.002 kg/s
$O_2$	5000 ppm
$H_2O$	5000 ppm

#### 3.2.2 Oxidation Target

The constant ammonia is fed at the inlet section with water and oxygen for several constant temperature conditions 250°C, 300°C, 350 °C, 400°C, 450°C, 500°C and 550°C. Ammonia outlet mole fraction data is measured and collected at the outlet. The amount of inlet species are shown below.

mass flow rate	0.002  kg/s
$NH_3$	1230  ppm
$O_2$	75000  ppm
$H_2O$	75000  ppm

#### **3.2.3** DeNO $_x$ Standard Target

In the standard reaction rate equation referring to equation 2.15. NO concentration is the major species hence NO outlet mole fraction is collected. The experimental temperature ranges are same as that of the oxidation. The boundary condition inlet species are shown below.

mass flow rate	0.002  kg/s
$NH_3$	$600 \mathrm{~ppm}$
NO	$500 \mathrm{ppm}$
$O_2$	85400 ppm
$H_2O$	50000 ppm

#### **3.2.4** DeNO $_x$ Fast Target

In the DeNOx fast reaction equation, it contains of both NO and  $NO_2$  concentrations hence the outlet mole fractions of both NO and  $NO_2$  are measured. The boundary condition inlet species are shown below.

mass flow rate	0.002  kg/s
$NH_3$	600  ppm
NO	250  ppm
$NO_2$	250  ppm
$O_2$	$85400~\rm ppm$
$H_2O$	$50000~\rm ppm$

#### **3.2.5** DeNO $_x$ Slow Target

During slow reaction rate calibration only  $NO_2$  concentration species are captured and the inlet conditions are shown below.

mass flow rate	0.002  kg/s
$NH_3$	$600 \mathrm{ppm}$
NO	$125 \mathrm{ppm}$
$NO_2$	$375 \mathrm{ppm}$
$O_2$	$85400 \mathrm{ppm}$
$H_2O$	50000ppm

### 3.3 Calibration Process

The selective catalytic reduction (SCR) seems the most promising technology to eliminate toxic emissions nitrogen dioxide  $NO_x$  from diesel engines with the aid of reducing agent ammonia or urea or adblue. The reaction rate calibration is performed by modeling surface reaction kinetics for six rate expressions and 18 unknown parameters to calibrate as shown in **Table 2.1**. All the reaction rate calibration process are described from the below section 3.4.1 to section 3.4.6.

#### 3.3.1 Thermal Calibration

The temperature of the catalyst is directly proportional to the chemical reactions because it influences the start of the reaction or activation rate of reaction. Hence, SCR catalyst model is tested to study the thermal behaviours to match with the output from the experiments, by feeding the same amount of temperature ramp for both GT-Model and Simulink as shown below table. The intrinsic density of substrate cordierite material is tuned or adjusted to match with the output from Simulink experiments, blue line and compared with the GT-model, red line, in below **Figure 3.4**.

		Time, sec	Temperature,°C	
		0	20	
		500	400	
7	Thermal Calibration 			
6	500 -			
5	500			
4	400 -			
3	300			
2	200 o 10	00 200	300 Time [s]	400 5

Figure 3.4: Thermal calibration

#### **3.3.2** Storage Calibration (Adsorption Desorption)

The arrangement of SCR catalyst model along with surface reaction mechanism model is shown in the **Figure 3.5** below. For the chemical reaction to happen initially ammonia has to be stored on the surface of the catalyst. The chemical rate expression is shown in equations 2.10 and 2.11 respectively. There are seven parameters to calibrate during storage calibration they are,

active site density  $|A_1| |E_1| |A_2| |E_2|$  m, adsorption order  $| \in$  , epsilon



Figure 3.5: SCR Catalyst in GT-SUITE

The active site density in mole/cm<sup>3</sup> indicates the amount of ammonia it can store and so is a parameter. During storage of ammonia, it can also desorb mainly because when the site element is becoming full, if the temperature and pressure conditions are satisfied some amount of ammonia consumed. From the external pipe ammonia is sprayed to mix with exhaust gas flow and  $NH_3$  settles on the porous site elements of the catalyst. The experiments are conducted for constant temperature ranges 200°C, 300°C, 400°C and 500°C respectively by activating respective rate equations. In the inlet section, the constant mass flow rate 0.002 kg/s, constant temperature 200°C and gas composition from **Table 3.3** is the boundary condition. The outlet ammonia mole fraction captured is referred from the **Figure 3.6**, initially ammonia is adsorbed up to 220sec so the curve is steep and reaches a constant of about 1000ppm and ammonia is stored untill 500sec then desorption starts from 500sec to reach zero gradually. The green line is the inlet ammonia profile, the experimental outlet species data, red line, overlaps closely with the GT simulation outlet species, blue line.

Initially, the model run with approximate parameter values with respect to target profile data, simulation dashboard successfully generates the GT-Power file eventually necessary results are compared. After several manual trials, integrated design optimizer; simplex and genetic search algorithm is utilized to optimize the unknown parameters in quick time, up-to 500 runs iteration to find the closest possible parameter values to match with the experimental data. In other words, these parameter values defines the outlet mole fraction curve.



 Table 3.2: Inlet composition in mole fraction for storage calibration

Figure 3.6: Ammonia Storage at 200°C

All the set up remains same and observed that target curve data closely match with the GT-model output for 300°C and is shown in **Figure 3.7**.



Figure 3.7: Ammonia Storage at 300°C

At high constant temperature experimental condition 400°C and 500°C in below **Figure 3.8** and **Figure 3.9** represents the outlet ammonia species experimental profiles respectively. The ammonia is consumed at very high temperatures after 350°C because of oxidation effect.







Figure 3.9: Ammonia Storage at 500°C

#### 3.3.3 Oxidation Reaction Rate Calibration

The arrangement of the SCR catalyst in the GT model remains unchanged but the experimental inlet conditions vary. In the oxidation reaction rate calibration experiment, constant inlet conditions are referred to the **Table 3.4**. The seven parameters values obtained in the previous step are fixed, so  $A_3$  pre-exponent multiplier and  $E_3$  activation energy are two parameters from equation 2.12. The adsorption, desorption and oxidation rate expressions are active in the surface mechanism templet. The optimal temperature condition ranges from 250°C to 550°C are performed, **Figure 3.10** is the comparison of ammonia outlet mole fraction against temperatures, where  $NH_3$  inlet, green line,  $NH_3$  outlet from experiments, black line, and GT model simulations, orange line. The oxidation is highly active at higher temperatures after 350°C.

 Table 3.3: Inlet composition during oxidation reaction rate calibration

Time, sec	$N_2$	$O_2$	CO	$NH_3$	NO	$NO_2$	$H_2O$	$N_2O$
0	0.873	0.075	0	0.00123	0	0	0.05	0
500	0.873	0.075	0	0.00123	0	0	0.05	0



Figure 3.10: Oxidation outlet molefraction comparision

#### 3.3.4 DeNO<sub>x</sub> Standard Reaction Rate Calibration

The standard rate expression from equation 2.13 consists of concentration of nitrogen oxide NO hence during standard reaction rate calibration toxic substance  $NO_x$ are dismantled into harmless simple component significantly. The experimental temperature remains same as that of oxidation and inlet composition are in **Table 3.5** below.

 Table 3.4:
 Inlet composition during standard reaction rate calibration

Time, sec	$N_2$	$O_2$	CO	$NH_3$	NO	$NO_2$	$H_2O$	$N_2O$
0	0.8635	0.0854	0	0.0006	0.0005	0	0.05	0
500	0.8635	0.0854	0	0.0006	0.0005	0	0.05	0

There are three parameters to calibrate,  $A_4$ ,  $E_4$  and B - critical fraction. The **Figure 3.11** is the outlet conversion rate for the NO mole fraction comparison between experimental or Simulink black-box data, black line and GT-simulations data orange line. Noticeably, at low temperature 250°C outlet mole fraction is slightly higher in simulations and is almost negligible.



Figure 3.11:  $DeNO_x$  standard outlet NO conversion rate comparison

#### 3.3.5 DeNO<sub>x</sub> Fast Reaction Rate Calibration

The fast expression rate equation 2.14 consists of NO and  $NO_2$  concentrations so outlet mole fractions of both NO and  $NO_2$  are captured and the conversion rates comparison are shown in **Figure 3.12** and **Figure 3.13** respectively.  $A_5$ ,  $E_5$  and B critical fraction are the unknown parameters. At very high temperature after 450°C simulation outlet mole fraction, orange line is quite off for NO, from experiments data we know that the operating boundary condition temperatures are below  $400^{\circ}$ C and is focused on low temperatures to move with validation. The inlet composition conditions are shown in **Table 3.6**.



 Table 3.5: Inlet composition during fast reaction rate calibration

Figure 3.12: DeNO $_x$  fast outlet NO conversion rate comparision



Figure 3.13: DeNOx fast outlet  $NO_2$  conversion rate comparision

#### 3.3.6 DeNO<sub>x</sub> Slow Reaction Rate Calibration

From equation 2.15,  $NO_2$  is the major composition species. However,  $NO_2$  outlet mole fraction conversion is shown in **Figure 3.14** and the simulated curve almost fits with the experiments.

 Table 3.6: Inlet composition during slow reaction rate calibration



Figure 3.14: DeNOx slow outlet  $NO_2$  conversion rate comparision

### 3. Methodology

## 4

### Validation

This chapter describes the validation method basically to accomplish the requirements of typical driving conditions for heavy-duty Euro V legislative regulation certifications. The calibrated chemical kinetics model connected to the SCR catalyst to perform several experiments for urea stairs, US, cases and transient driving cycle analysis. In the validation model engine-out exhaust gas composition, temperature profile and mass flow rate boundary conditions are introduced at the inlet, followed by adblue dosing unit and two split SCR connected with calibrated chemical kinetics model to measure the amount of  $NO_x$  reduced at the outlet. Moreover, the monitor reads all the signals from inlet to outlet. **Figure 4.1** shows the arrangement of the exhaust aftertreatment validation model in GT-SUITE. Here, adblue solution is injected through a global templet external source connected just before SCR, where there is no desire to capture thermolysis and hydrolysis kinetics.



Figure 4.1: GT-SUITE validation model

The approach to achieve 100% adblue decomposition by setting up the activation energy to zero and pre-exponent multiplier is adjusted to large enough number to ensure all conversion at all times from adblue to urea to  $NH_3$  in the global reaction templet. The global reaction is shown in equation 4.1 below.

$$UreaSolution, 0.2524NH_3 + 0.1262CO_2 \rightarrow 2N_2 + 0.7476H_2O(vapor)$$
 (4.1)

#### 4.1 Steady State or Urea Stairs Validation

The several experiments for different mass flow rates and temperature urea stairs, US, conditions performed for the analysis of the Euro V validation and description are explained below.

#### 4.1.1 Steady State Experiment 1: Low Mass Flow Rate

The engine-out exhaust gas composition, temperature profiles and mass flow rate are the inlet boundary condition data. Followed by adblue dosing through global template injection pipe, chemical kinetics are attached to the SCR to study the amount of  $NO_x$  reduced at the outlet. Evidently, with the increase in dosage of adblue injection high chance to reduce  $NO_x$  significantly. The outlet ammonia slip and outlet  $NO_x$  reduction conversion rate in percentage for different steps were compared in **Figure 4.2** below. The X-axis is the experimental steps and the yaxis, left, is outlet  $NO_x$  in % and y-axis, right,  $NH_3$  slip in %. During low mass flow rate 540C kg/h the ammonia slip in the GT model is well captured except at step eight. Also, the  $NO_x$  in the GT-model overlaps with the experimental outlet  $NO_x$ , but minor error at step two, assuming because of inlet composition error or an unknown error in the model but later it overlaps with the experiments. The dash black line are experiments  $NH_3$  and  $NO_x$ , light green is  $NH_3$  slip and brick red is  $NO_x$  GT respectively referring to the **Figure 4.2**.



240C & 540C kg/hr

Figure 4.2: Low mass flow rate comparison

#### 4.1.2 Steady State Experiment 2: Medium Mass Flow Rate

In the experiment 2,  $NH_3$  slip is early from step two but with high discrepancy compared to the previous experiment case this is mainly because of high mass flow rates 1350kg/h and 1660kg/h. The outlet  $NO_x$  is well captured in GT model for 1350kg/h but the  $NO_x$  over predicts for 1660kg/h and shown in the **Figure 4.3**.



Figure 4.3: Medium range mass flow rate comparison

#### 4.1.3 Steady State Experiment 3: High Mass Flow Rate

In the experiment 3, further increase in mass flow rate discrepancy also increases comparatively to low and high mass flow rate experiments. From **Figure 4.4** the  $NO_x$  in GT-model simulations from step three is quite off and also ammonia slip is high in experiments. The factors aiding discrepancy at higher mass flow rate are explained in the section 4.3.

Overall, for the steady state experimental results, there is no temperature effect for  $NO_x$  and  $NH_3$  slip capturing but high mass flow rate affecting majorly to influence the discrepancy between simulated data and experimental data. There might be several reasons causing this discrepancy at higher mass flow rates and is clearly explained in section 4.3 and section 4.3.1



Figure 4.4: High range mass flow rate comparison

### 4.2 Transient State Validation

The validation is performed for several WHTC transient cycles for different ammonia  $NO_x$  ratio (ANR), conditions.

#### 4.2.1 Ammonia $NO_x$ ratio, ANR, 0.8

The experimental set up for varying temperature profile, exhaust mass flow rate and inlet gas composition is boundary condition at the inlet section. Followed by the adblue injection profile in the global reaction templet and mass flow rate are displayed in **Figure 4.5**. The blue colour is for  $NO_x$  and  $NH_3$  from GT simulations where as orange line is from experiments. The outlet  $NO_x$  from GT is quite high compared to experiments but the  $NH_3$  slip follows the same as that of experiments.



Figure 4.5: Ammonia  $NO_x$  ratio 0.8

#### 4.2.2 Ammonia $NO_x$ ratio, ANR, 0.9

The increase in adblue injection has an effect of more  $NH_3$  slip in GT-model but the  $NO_x$  has significantly reduced. The  $NO_x$  and  $NH_3$  slip trend is shown in the **Figure 4.6**. There is almost zero  $NO_x$  in GT around 500sec, the reasons causing this discrepancy are explained later in the section 4.3 and section 4.3.1.



Figure 4.6: Ammonia  $NO_x$  ratio 0.9

#### 4.2.3 Ammonia $NO_x$ ratio, ANR, 1.1

Further increase in the adblue injection the outlet  $NO_x$  almost reduced to zero and outlet ammonia slip also follows the same trend as that of the experiments. The **Figure 4.7** compares the results for this experimental condition.



Figure 4.7: Ammonia  $NO_x$  ratio 1.1

### 4.3 Source of error at high mass flow rates

The considerable reasons impact the difference between the simulation results and the experiment results, the most important are highlighted here.

- **Temperature:** of course, temperature plays an influential role for the chemical reaction rate and as it is 1D modeling it is captured well in GT model. Overall, for all steady state experiments, the temperature doesn't influence much even for higher mass flow rate conditions. Refer to the **Figure** 4.3
- Frontal area of the catalyst: At higher mass flow rates because of high speed gas flow, the ammonia particles does not travel to the corner pores sites so high chance of improper utilization of the open frontal area of the catalyst. Hence, insufficient amount of ammonia to react with  $NO_x$ .
- Ammonia  $NO_x$  Ratio (ANR): It is defined as the ratio of one mole of ammonia reacts with one mole of  $NO_x$  during the chemical reaction for perfect mixing efficiency. At a low ANR scenario, insufficient amount of ammonia to react with  $NO_x$  hence one can expect low conversion efficiency, this causes discrepancy in experimental data compared to GT-model results.
- <u>Distribution Problems</u>: In reality, it is challenging to split the exhaust gas flow equally between the two SCR, this causes uneven flow of exhaust gas, uneven mixing so unreacted excess  $NH_3$  left out at the outlet. This can be

addressed in the future projects, by implementing mixing and distribution models by extracting information from 3D CFD to 1D to achieve better model results.

## 4.3.1 Other factors for discrepancy between experiments and simulation results

The other non-negligible factors aiding discrepancy might also include as followed,

- Further improve in accuracy of reaction rate calibration especially at low temperature, will push the GT-model results much closer towards accuracy.
- The chemical reactions might occur in different forms, by introducing more chemical rate calibration reactions can predict better at the outlet  $NO_x$  in the catalytic reaction.
- The pressure and temperature drop calibrations in each components of the aftertreatment components, can surely effect the outcome of results because temperature is a dependent variable for the reaction rate. Also , during 1D modeling, it is important to care temperature and pressure drop between the components during gas flow.
- During physical measurements, it is difficult for the sensor's to capture the peak signals, especially for WHTC transient cycles because of high oscillation frequencies.
- Normally, measurement sensor devices are placed on the surface of the tail or engine out pipes which creates imprecise estimates in the pipe center.
- The utilization of different chemical solvers can improve the overall results.
- Gen 3 v/s Gen 4 catalyst: In this project, the tailpipe and engine out experiments were conducted for generation 4 catalyst, where as Simulink produces the experiments for generation 3. Though it is almost the same catalyst but the different one.
- Improved inlet conditions data: For the accuracy of the model results, it is also most important to collect the data requirements for the simulations, for instance, inlet gas composition and initial loading of  $NH_3$  in the catalyst during several transient trials.
- The approach to convert use solution to ammonia by capturing thermolysis and hydrolysis kinetics method can well define the amount of  $NH_3$  needed to react with a toxic component in the catalyst. Implementing this models in GT will definitely improve the results in future to strengthen the arguments.

## Conclusion

- This project is a strong foundation for the exhaust aftertreatment system development projects for the future.
- Overall, for the SCR calibrated catalyst we have reasonable results for the steady state or urea "trappa" conditions but results can be further improved for transient state conditions by implementing mixing and distribution models in the future.
- The work flow was quite smooth through out the project, but there was delay in receiving the black box model at the beginning of the project and later in the second half we are able to expand the contacts with GT-support team, suppliers and other adjacent groups with in Scania. Hopefully, this will help for the projects in the future.

#### 5. Conclusion

## **Future Work**

In the future it would be interesting to improve the WHTC transient cycles results for the calibrated SCR catalyst by implementing the information from 3D to 1D this will include mixing and distribution modeling.

The calibration will be continued for other ammonia slip catalyst (ASC) and diesel particulate filter (DPF) to study the Euro 6 steady-state and transient state cycle validation.

The approach of handling urea solution can be better implemented by capturing thermolysis and hydrolysis kinetics. Hence conversion of urea to ammonia will be better handled to ensure no excess ammonia slip at the outlet and improves overall results of the validation process.

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# Appendix



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GT-SUITE COM **Building SCR Model in GT-SUITE** SOT ✓ The model is built with reference to the GT-tutorial  $\checkmark^{\prime}$  Adsorption, Description and Oxidation are calibrated at the same time Standard reaction rate equation is calibrated alone -10-2 Bescent 1 0 Dura I ✓ Fast and Slow equations are calibrated together. é ø

Reactions	Parameters	Equations	Target		
1) Adsorption	A, E, M, site density	V+NH3+ VNH3	NH3 storage		
2) Descrption	A, E, Epsilon	VNH3 V+NH3	NH3 desorbtion		
i) Oxidation	A,E	4VNH3+302 -+ 2N2 +6H2O+4V	NH3 target, Oxdation with N2 product		
4) DeNox Standard	A, E, B	4VNH3+4NO+O2	NÓ		
5) DeNox Fast	A, E, B	4VNH3+2NO+2NO2 -+4N2+6H2O+4V	NO & NO2		
6) DeNox Slow	A, E, B	8VNH3+6NO2	NO2		

- A Pre-exponent multiplier
- E Activation temperature or energy in  $\kappa$

M - Adsorption order

B - Critical fraction



#### Steps involved in building an SCR model



#### Building the flow components

Open GT-SUITE and create a new GT-project map, go to File > Resources > Create New Model (Ctrl+N). In the model file, select GT-Model and choose either

GT-Suite or GT-Power license. In the applications select exhaust after-treatment system for the preloading templets then finish.

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1.1 Inlet section

o The very first step is to create a new 'EndFlowinietSpecies' templet by double-clicking in the project library. Nameas 'Iniet' entermass flow rate, temperature

and composition. To create a temperature profile right click and choose value selector or press the value selector button (boxwith three dots...) and then create

new ProfileTransient object named temperature or open the square bracket and put the constant temperature for instance100, 200, 300 and so on in the case setup,



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o To the attribute composition time series from the value selector create a new XYTableMulti

to go to the GT-library and choose n2-NASA hit ok and so on.

and name it as Comp\_TPD. In the first row of the XYTableMulti array, click on the three dots[...]

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#### 1.2 Pipe between inlet, outlet and catalyst



 The cone is identical, from the project library double-dick on 'FlowSplitGeneral' and name it as 'Cone' for the initia state name, use valve selector to create new FluidinitialState refinence object named initial enter pressure and temperature for initial conditions.

5



#### 1.3 SCR Catalyst Brick

© From the libraries click on "CatalystBrick", punch in the physical and thermal properties of the catalyst. In the thermal tab, for substrate thermal properties object



1.4 Surface Reaction Mechanism

- o. Primarily there are seven equations to calibrate, all the equations with respective parameters are represented in the table in slide4.
- From the library click on SurfaceReactions template and name it SCR\_Mechanism, in the main tab for the species settings object creat translation choose the fluid reference object name for instance, o2-NASA, n2-NASA for the species name O2, N2 respectively. In the solver options the advanced adaptive is recommended for the efficient storage capabilities.



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#### 1.5 Monitor

Monitor acts as a sensing device it dispalyes all the species signals from instet and outlet. Drag and drop two 'def' SensorComparts as shown in the figure below, in the composition set species mole farction and radio button click user-defined sensed species name, in the ... (three dots) library look for the species' based on the requirements.

o. From the Project Library doublectick on the monitorsignal name as for example NH3 Monitor, drag the monitor to place on the main page and connect as shown in the figure.

#### 1.6 Flow Connections

Finally, drag and drop components to main page to connect all the flow components, eventually the SCR model should look similar to the figure below.



8





#### Steps involved in SCR calibration methodology









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Consider same inlet composition and temperature programmed desorption (TPD) profile in both GT and Simulink black-box

## 2. Ad/Desorption Calibration

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Step 1: Inlet section

mass flow rate of the exhaust gas and constant temperature 200C, 300C, 400C and 500C or temperature
programmed profile (TPD).

Varied inlet ammonia composition with the amount of water and oxygen.

Adsorption, desorption and oxidation equations are calibrated at the same time.

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Step 2: Pipe

- The flow pipe between the inlet and SCR is adiabatic.
- > Physical properties are as shown in the figure

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## GT-SUITE CORE

#### Step 5: Case setup



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#### Step 6: Optimization

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## GT-SUITE COM

#### 3. Oxidation Calibration

#### Step 1: Inlet Composition



> For the oxidation calibration the inlet composition ammona is supplied constant with some percentage of water and oxygen.





The target profile also varies as the iniet composition changes for oxidation so, from GTlibrary select ProfileTransient creat new object for example NH3\_Target\_200C here the array of time and mole fraction data instored.

The attributes which changes continuesly are assigned as a parameter so that it can easely be changed in case setup.

Respective target profile is chosen in the case setup to run the optimizer. All the remaining setup is unchanged in the model and is redy to run.

#### 4. DeNOx Calibration

> The inlet composition and target profile is replaced for the DeNox calibration.

> For the DeNox standard, fast and slow equations same calibration procedure is applied by adding the reaction rate equation in surface chemical mechanism.

> The procedure remains same for the remaining reaction equations i.e standard, fast and slow.