
Contents

Contents	i
List of Figures	vii
List of Tables	xviii
Nomenclature	xxiii
1 Introduction	1
1.1 General Context	1
1.2 Objectives and Methodology	7
1.3 Thesis Outline	9
References	11
2 Fundamentals of the ICE and Fuel Delivery	17
2.1 Introduction	17
2.2 Description and Classification of ICEs	19
2.3 Fuel Injection Systems	22
2.3.1 Diesel engines	22
2.3.2 Gasoline engines	24
2.4 Gasoline Direct Injection	29
2.4.1 Introduction	29
2.4.2 Overview of direct injection gasoline engines	30
2.4.3 Operating strategies in GDI engines	32
2.4.4 Advances in GDI engine technology	37
References	40

3	Fuel Injectors in GDI Engines	45
3.1	Introduction	45
3.2	Common-rail Gasoline Injection System	46
3.3	Evolution and Types of GDI Injectors	47
3.4	Internal Nozzle Flow	53
3.4.1	Forced internal flow	53
3.4.2	Geometry of the injector nozzle	56
3.4.3	Hydraulic characterization of the nozzle	61
3.4.4	Cavitation phenomenon	67
3.4.5	Flash boiling phenomenon	70
3.5	GDI Spray Formation	77
3.5.1	Atomization process	79
3.5.2	Evaporation process	89
3.5.3	Spray characterization	91
3.5.4	Spray collapse	97
	References	100
4	State of the Art	113
4.1	Introduction	113
4.2	Experimental Background on GDI Studies	114
4.2.1	Internal and near nozzle flow	114
4.2.1.1	Injector characterization	114
4.2.1.2	Injection process phenomena	117
4.2.2	External flow	120
4.2.2.1	Spray pattern characterization	120
4.2.2.2	Spray pattern influence on engine performance	124
4.3	Numerical Background on GDI Studies	128
4.3.1	Internal and near nozzle flow	130
4.3.1.1	Multi-fluid Eulerian models	130
4.3.1.2	Homogeneous Eulerian models	132
4.3.1.3	Interface tracking and capturing models	135
4.3.2	External flow	148
4.3.2.1	Introduction and basic descriptions	148
4.3.2.2	External flow analysis in gasoline nozzle flow applications	153
4.3.2.3	Coupling strategy in gasoline nozzle flow applications	157
4.4	Summary and Conclusions	160
	References	162

5	Computational Methodology	177
5.1	Introduction	177
5.2	Computational Fluid Dynamics Modeling	179
5.2.1	Navier-Stokes equations	180
5.2.2	Turbulence modeling	181
5.2.2.1	Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS)	184
5.2.2.2	Large Eddy Simulations (LES)	192
5.2.3	Internal nozzle flow	196
5.2.3.1	Volume-of-Fluid (VOF)	196
5.2.3.2	Homogeneous Relaxation Model (HRM)	198
5.2.4	Spray modeling	201
5.2.4.1	Discrete Phase Modeling (DPM)	201
5.2.4.2	Drop drag and liquid/gas coupling	202
5.2.4.3	Atomization and drop breakup modeling	203
5.2.4.4	Drop turbulent dispersion modeling	213
5.2.4.5	Drop collision and coalescence modeling	215
5.2.4.6	Drop evaporation modeling	217
5.2.4.7	Configuration of the spray model	218
5.2.5	VOF-spray one-way coupling. Mapping	218
5.2.6	Numerical methods	221
5.2.6.1	Rhie-Chow algorithm	226
5.2.6.2	Iterative linear solvers	226
5.2.6.3	Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy (CFL) numbers	227
5.2.6.4	Configuration of the solver	227
5.3	Pre-processing	229
5.3.1	Geometry	229
5.3.1.1	ECN Spray G injector	229
5.3.1.2	Production Injector Unit (PIU) injector	230
5.3.2	Operating conditions	231
5.3.2.1	Spray G injector	232
5.3.2.2	PIU injector	233
5.3.3	Fuel properties	233
5.3.3.1	CONVERGE™ cases	235
5.3.3.2	StarCCM+ cases	236
5.3.4	Computational domain. Boundary and Initial conditions	237
5.3.4.1	CONVERGE™ domain. Boundary and Initial conditions	237
5.3.4.2	StarCCM+ domain. Boundary and Initial conditions	246
5.3.5	Computational grid	252

5.3.5.1	CONVERGE™ mesh strategy	253
5.3.5.2	StarCCM+ mesh strategy	258
5.3.6	Summary of numerical algorithms and discretisation schemes	264
5.3.6.1	Numerical setup in CONVERGE™	265
5.3.6.2	Numerical setup in StarCCM+	267
5.4	Post-processing	268
5.4.1	Internal nozzle flow	268
5.4.1.1	ROI and ROM calculation	268
5.4.1.2	Spray angle and plume direction calculation	270
5.4.2	External flow. Macroscopic parameters	270
5.4.2.1	Liquid and vapor penetration calculation	270
5.4.2.2	Spray angle calculation	272
	References	274
6	Internal and Near Nozzle Flow Characterization	281
6.1	Introduction to the Steady State Analysis	281
6.2	Spray G Injector. CONVERGE™ software. Steady State Analysis	282
6.2.1	Determination of the steady state condition	282
6.2.2	Mesh sensitivity and validation	283
6.2.3	Comparison between submerged and non-submerged conditions	285
6.2.4	Discharge volume sensitivity	287
6.2.5	RANS turbulence model selection	291
6.2.6	Influence of the phase change model parameters	293
6.3	Spray G Injector. StarCCM+ software. Steady State Analysis	297
6.3.1	Mesh sensitivity and validation	297
6.3.1.1	Hexahedral mesh	297
6.3.1.2	Polyhedral mesh	299
6.4	Spray G Injector. Steady State Validation	301
6.4.1	Results and discussion	301
6.5	PIU Injector. Steady State Analysis and Validation	310
6.5.1	Mesh strategy and validation	311
6.5.2	Scalability study	313
6.5.3	Symmetry simulation assessment	314
6.5.4	Needle lift dependence	319
6.5.5	Steady state results for PIU injector	320
6.6	Spray G Injector. Transient State Analysis and Validation	325
6.6.1	Transient analysis under different software	326

6.6.2	Influence of different surrogate fuels on the transient injection performance	331
6.6.2.1	Iso-Octane validation and discussion	332
6.6.2.2	Iso-Octane and E00 comparison	339
6.6.2.3	Surrogate fuels comparison	343
6.6.3	Influence of the geometry on the transient injection performance	349
6.6.3.1	Phase change model parameters influence under generation 3 geometry	353
6.6.4	Multiple Injections Analysis	357
6.6.4.1	Specific methodology for multiple injection strategy	359
6.6.4.2	Multiple injection model validation	361
6.6.4.3	Pilot injections analysis	366
6.6.4.4	Post injections analysis	369
6.6.5	High fidelity simulations. LES approach	371
6.6.5.1	LES quality assessment	373
6.6.5.2	LES sub-grid model comparison	375
6.6.5.3	Transient nozzle flow analysis using LES	379
6.7	PIU Injector. Transient State Analysis and Validation	392
6.7.1	Nozzle analysis and comparison	392
6.7.2	Simulation strategy	395
6.7.3	Results and validation	400
6.7.3.1	Validation	400
6.7.3.2	Parametric variation: effect of injection pressure (PIU)	405
6.8	Summary and Conclusions	408
6.8.1	Spray G injector steady state conclusions	408
6.8.2	PIU injector steady state conclusions	409
6.8.3	Spray G injector transient state conclusions	411
6.8.3.1	Transient analysis conclusions	411
6.8.3.2	Surrogate fuels conclusions	412
6.8.3.3	Geometry influence conclusions	413
6.8.3.4	Multiple injections conclusions	415
6.8.3.5	LES approach conclusions	416
6.8.4	PIU injector transient state conclusions	417
	References	419
7	External Flow Analysis	425
7.1	Introduction	425

7.2	Sensitivity Analyses	426
7.2.1	Domain independence	426
7.2.2	Mesh independence	427
7.2.3	Break-up model and turbulence influence	429
7.2.4	Mesh orientation influence	430
7.3	Spray G Condition. Validation and Discussion	431
7.4	Influence of the Operating Condition on the Spray Patterns	434
7.5	Spray Patterns through Large Eddy Simulations	437
7.6	Summary and Conclusions	440
	References	442
8	External Flow Analysis. Coupling Strategy	445
8.1	Introduction	445
8.2	Spray G Injector. One-way Coupling	446
8.2.1	One-way coupling. Validation and discussion	447
8.2.2	Multiple injection strategy. One-way coupling	448
8.2.3	Influence of the surrogate fuels on the spray patterns	450
8.2.4	Spray G injector. Mapping strategy	453
8.3	PIU Injector. One-way Coupling	456
8.3.1	One-way coupling specific methodology	456
8.3.2	Turbulence model and constants analysis	460
8.3.3	Spray atomization model calibration	461
8.3.4	One-way coupling results	463
8.4	Summary and Conclusions	468
8.4.1	Spray G injector. Coupling discussion	469
8.4.2	PIU injector. One-way coupling discussion	470
	References	471
9	Conclusions and Future Work	475
9.1	Conclusions	475
9.2	Future work	481
	References	484
	Global Bibliography	485