

Contents

Contents	i
List of Figures	v
List of Tables	xv
Nomenclature	xvii
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Motivation	1
1.2 Context	6
1.3 Thesis Objective	8
1.4 Thesis outline	9
References	10
2 Fundamentals and literature review	15
2.1 Introduction	15
2.2 Diesel-like spray combustion	16
2.2.1 Atomization	17
2.2.2 Evaporation and fuel-air mixing	21
2.2.3 Autoignition	24
2.2.4 Mixing-controlled combustion	26
2.3 OMEn-type fuels	29
2.3.1 Characterization	31
2.3.2 Use of OMEn-type fuels in ICEs	36
2.3.3 Reference spray flames of OMEn-type fuels	44
2.4 Summary	48
References	50
3 Tools and methodology	65
3.1 Introduction	65
3.2 Physical properties	67

3.3	Chemical mechanism	69
3.4	Chemiluminescence	72
3.5	Canonical combustion configurations	75
3.5.1	Closed homogeneous reactor	75
3.5.2	Laminar flamelets	77
3.6	CFD model implementation	82
3.6.1	Description of the numerical model	82
3.6.2	Equations of fluid motion	88
3.6.3	Turbulence modelling	89
3.6.4	Turbulence chemistry interaction	99
3.7	Fluid Age	109
3.8	Summary	113
	References	113
	Appendix	123
3.A	Reaction mechanism and thermodynamic properties of chemiluminescence species	123
	4 Canonical configuration results	127
4.1	Introduction	127
4.2	Closed homogeneous reactor	130
4.3	Laminar flamelets	133
4.4	Chemiluminescence species	138
4.5	A comparison of chemical mechanism and OMEn chain length .	140
4.6	Summary and conclusions	149
	References	151
	Appendix	155
4.A	Y _c definition influence	155
	5 Analysis of fuel effects for Spray A within a RANS framework	157
5.1	Introduction	157
5.2	Simulation methodology	158
5.3	Inert spray mixing characteristics	161
5.4	Global combustion parameters	164
5.5	Spray autoignition sequence	167
5.6	Flame structure at quasi-steady state	173
5.7	Summary and conclusions	176
	References	178
	6 Analysis of fuel and nozzle effects within a LES framework	181

6.1	Introduction	181
6.2	Simulation methodology	182
6.3	Inert spray mixing characteristics	184
6.4	Global combustion parameters validation	191
6.5	Validation of CFD spray combustion evolution by means of experimental diagnostics	196
6.6	Spray autoignition sequence	206
6.7	Analysis of lift-off length stabilization	214
6.8	Analysis of low temperature conditions	224
6.9	Summary and conclusions	231
	References	233
	Appendix	237
6.A	Particularities of OME1 ignition - SA vs SD	237
	7 Conclusions and future works	241
7.1	Introduction	241
7.2	Conclusions	242
7.3	Future works	247
	Global Bibliography	249