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# A new methodology for uncertainties characterization in combustion diagnosis and thermodynamic modelling

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## Abstract

Combustion diagnosis based on in-cylinder pressure signals as well as 0D thermodynamic modelling, are widely used to study and optimize the combustion in reciprocating engines. Both approaches share some uncertainties regarding the sub-models and the experimental installation that, for the sake of accuracy, must be reduced as much as possible in order to obtain reliable results. A methodology, based on the sensitivity effect of such uncertainties on heat release and simulated pressure, is proposed to adjust their values. The methodology is capable of identifying the separate influence of each parameter and to provide a set of values thanks to the Multi-Variable linear regression (MLR) in motoring conditions. The method is flexible enough to deal with different number of uncertainties and can be applied to different engines and thermodynamic models. The final results of the adjustment is validated in combustion conditions, showing an improvement of the apparent combustion efficiency of about 7% with respect to the reference values.

*Keywords:* Combustion diagnosis, Thermodynamic modelling, Heat transfer, Pressure modelling, Heat release, Uncertainties adjustment

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## **Abbreviation**

<i>ACE</i>	Apparent combustion efficiency
<i>BBDC</i>	Before Bottom dead centre
<i>BTDC</i>	Before Top dead centre
<i>CI</i>	Compression ignition
<i>ICE</i>	Internal Combustion Engine
<i>MLR</i>	Multi-variable Linear Regression
<i>SI</i>	Spark ignition
<i>SOI</i>	Start of injection
<i>TDC</i>	Top dead centre

## **Nomenclature**

$CR$	Compression ratio	[-]
$C_{W1}$	Heat transfer coefficient 1	[-]
$C_{W2}$	Heat transfer coefficient 2	[-]
$D$	Cylinder bore	[m]
$EVO$	Exhaust Valve Opening	[°]
$h$	Heat transfer coefficient	[W/m <sup>2</sup> K]
$h_{f,inj}$	Specific enthalpy of the injected fuel	[J/kg]
$HR$	Heat Released	[J]
$imep$	Indicated Mean Effective Pressure	[bar]
$IVC$	Intake Valve Closing	[°]
$k_{def}$	Deformation coefficient	[-]
$m$	Mass	[kg], [mg]
$\dot{m}$	Mass flow rate	[g/s]
$n$	Engine speed	[rpm]
$p$	In-cylinder pressure	[bar]
$p_{max}$	Maximum in-cylinder pressure	[bar]
$p_{ref}$	Reference pressure	[bar]
$Q$	Heat transferred to the combustion chamber walls	[J]
$R$	Specific gas constant of the charge	[J/kgK]
$RoHR$	Rate of Heat Released	[J/°]
$r_w$	Relation between $C_{W1}$ and $C_{W2}$	[-]
$S$	Piston stroke	[m]
$T$	Temperature	[K], [°C]
$u_{f,g}$	Internal energy of the evaporated fuel	[J/kgK]
$V$	Volume	[m <sup>3</sup> ]
$\alpha$	Crank angle	[°]
$\Delta\alpha$	TDC position	[°]

## 1. Introduction

To fulfil the more and more stringent regulations of ICE, a well understanding of combustion process is essential, thus some researchers efforts have been aimed at improving both combustion diagnosis and predictive modelling.

Although there are many methods for combustion diagnosis based on different experimental variables such as exhaust pressure [1] or block vibration [2], in-cylinder pressure is the most reliable variable for combustion diagnosis, through the determination of the rate of heat released (RoHR) [3]. It has been widely used in recent works for different applications such as analysing the effect of fuel blends or catalyst [4, 5, 6, 7], developing NOx models based on RoHR aimed to control [8], or assessing the effect of different injection strategies on the engine performance, emissions and noise reduction [9].

On the other hand, thermodynamic predictive models are useful to obtain pressure and temperature evolution in the combustion chamber, allowing to estimate engine operation features in different applications such as engine design, control and performance prediction [10, 11, 12, 13, 14]. Moreover, they provide the boundary conditions for detailed combustion or emission models [15, 16, 17] with a high computational efficiency.

Combustion diagnosis and thermodynamic modelling can be seen as "opposite" methods [18]: in the first case, starting from pressure, the RoHR is obtained thus providing information of combustion development [19]; in the second case, if accurate RoHR is available (using a physical [15, 16, 17] or empirical [10, 20] combustion model), they provide an estimation of the pressure and temperature evolution in a determined operating condition. They have in common the thermodynamic processes in the chamber and the sub-models required for their determination. Different approaches range from simple models such as net heat release calculation [3] or pressure simulation based on isentropic  $pV^n$  evolution, to detailed analysis including blow-by, fuel injection, gas properties depending on temperature and composition, accurate heat transfer model, etc. [10, 21, 22, 23, 24].

The results of the thermodynamic analysis are affected by some uncertainties due to the sub-models imperfections and the inaccuracy of their fitting constants determination. On the other hand, some engine parameters, such as compression ratio may require to be determined. Several works dealing with the effect of such uncertainties and proposals to determine them can be found in the literature. A brief description includes:

- Pressure pegging: the different methods for its determination [25, 26, 27, 28] can be grouped in two categories: experimental methods based on the estimation of the reference pressure on the basis of an experimental measurement [27], or using thermodynamic methods such as the simulation of the polytropic evolution of the gas during the compression stroke in combustion tests or the compression and expansion stroke in motoring test

35 [28].

- 36
- 37 – Compression ratio: it is the main geometric uncertainty and affects the instantaneous volume calculation and  
38 thus the gas properties [29]. Klein [30, 31] evaluated four methods for the CR determination by comparing the  
39 real compression process with polytropic evolutions. Striker [32] proposed a methodology in which available  
40 sensors of production engines, a high gain observer and a volumetric efficiency model were combined. Lapuerta  
41 [33] used characteristic geometrical points to adjust CR with a symmetry criterion.

42

  - 43 – Engine deformations: the piston and connecting rod are slightly deformed due to the gas pressure in the cham-  
44 ber and the inertial forces. In general, its effect on engine performance or RoHR calculation uses to be smaller  
45 than the CR effect [29]. In previous works [10, 29] the authors used a simple model to determine the clearance  
46 variations taking into account the pressure and the inertial effects. Aronsson [34, 35] used a similar model in an  
47 optical engine, and measured the variation of the piston position by means of an optical window in the liner.

48

  - 49 – Heat transfer model fitting: a large amount of works dealing with the heat transfer in reciprocating engines  
50 can be found in the literature, being most of them focused on the heat transfer to the walls due to convection.  
51 Some of the most widespread proposals for heat transfer coefficient are based on the well-known Woschni [36],  
52 Annand [37] or Hohenberg [28] formulations. Nowadays, each author carries out a tuning process for a specific  
53 engine, based on experimental measurements or thermodynamic assumptions [38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43], in order  
54 to adapt the models to one specific engine.

55

  - 56 – TDC position: it can be obtained by means of experimental techniques [44, 45, 46] or thermodynamic methods.  
57 The last ones allow determining the angular interval ( $\Delta\alpha$ ) between the TDC and the trigger, on the basis of the  
58 effect of  $\Delta\alpha$  on some variables such as heat release [22], simulated pressure [31] or entropy [47]. In this work,  
59 the TDC is determined based on the Hohenberg proposal [28].
- 60

61 The stated uncertainties have a different effect on the results but in general they are all relevant for the thermo-  
62 dynamic analysis in the chamber. Although different approaches for the determination of one uncertainty have been  
63 presented, there are very few works dealing with the adjustment of several of them at the same time while taking into  
64 account the cross effects. This work is aimed at describing a global methodology for adjusting different uncertainties  
65 at the same time, separating their specific effects. The proposal is based on the thermodynamic analysis in motoring  
66 conditions, thus the effect of the uncertainties in the compression and expansion strokes can be assessed using the

67 apparent RoHR and the experimental and simulated pressure comparison. The methodology is based on the mini-  
68 mization of the errors in the RoHR calculation and in the pressure simulation. Although it has been developed using  
69 some specific sub-models, it is flexible enough to be used with different models and different engines.

70

71 The method has been developed for a multi-cylinder CI engine in motoring conditions and then the suitability  
72 of its application in combustion tests is assessed. As it will be shown, the available information is limited in these  
73 conditions, thus affecting the performance of the method. The validation of the adjustment is carried out through the  
74 combustion analysis at several operation conditions.

75

## 76 2. Methodology

77 The estimation of one parameter can be affected by the incorrect value of other uncertainties that are simultane-  
78 ously adjusted. Moreover, a combination of parameters can provide a low residual, according to one criteria, but not  
79 so good with other one. For example, the effect of an incorrect pressure pegging and CR have similar effect in terms of  
80 simulated peak pressure, but they are quite different in terms of heat release [29]. Thus, a methodology for determining  
81 simultaneously all the uncertainties (taking into account their specific effects) and considering more than one criteria,  
82 is recommendable to ensure accuracy.

83

84 The schema of the proposed process is shown in Fig. 1. It can be split in three main phases: The first deals with  
85 the adjustment of engine characteristics (CR, deformation and heat transfer models). In a second phase and after the  
86 adjustment of the heat transfer,  $\Delta\alpha$  is calculated using the Hohenberg proposal [28]. Finally, the third phase is aimed  
87 to the pressure pegging (different for each test). The processes during the first and third steps are similar, and can be  
88 summarised as follows:

- 89 1. Starting from a reference set of values, a sensitivity study is carried out to determine the effect during the closed  
90 cycle of each uncertainty (see section 5). The effect is analysed in terms of in-cylinder pressure and the error in  
91 the RoHR. In the first case the simulated pressure is compared with the experimental one, in the second case,  
92 a value different from zero is due to incorrect uncertainty values. The result of this step is the instantaneous  
93 evolution of the characteristic effects of each uncertainty in a set of motoring tests.
- 94 2. Using the information provided by the previous step, a minimization of the difference between real and simu-  
95 lated pressure and RoHR residuals is performed. For that, a Multi-variable Linear Regression (MLR) [48] is  
96 carried out as explained in section 6, thus obtaining a new set of values for the engine characteristics and new  
97 references for the pressure signals pegging.

98 As the effect of each parameter on pressure evolution and RoHR residuals can be slightly different for different  
99 values of the other parameters, an iterative process is performed until the variation of all the parameters, in comparison

100 with the previous iteration, becomes negligible.

101

102 The ROHR is calculated with CALMEC [29] and the pressure is calculated with the thermodynamic predictive  
103 model SICICLO [10]. Both of them are in-house developed tools which are briefly explained in section 4.

104

105 The result of the process is the optimal set of engine characteristics, ready to be used in the combustion analysis  
106 or cycle simulation, along with the pegged in-cylinder pressure in the motoring tests. Although these pressure signals  
107 will not be used any more, it is important to highlight that the correct pressure level is required to adjust correctly the  
108 rest of uncertainties.

109

### 110 **3. Experimental setup**

111 For the development and validation of the method, the experimental tests were carried out in a DI Diesel engine,  
112 whose main characteristics are given in Table 1. The schema of the test cell layout with the instrumentation for the  
113 engine is shown in Fig. 2.

114

115 The engine is directly coupled to an electric dynamometer that allows controlling the speed and torque. The  
116 in-cylinder pressure was measured with a Kistler 6055B glow-plug transducer with a range between 0 and 250 bar,  
117 and a sensitivity of 18.8 pC/bar. The pressure sensor was calibrated according to the usual method proposed in [49].  
118 The electrical charge yielded by the piezoelectric transducers is converted into a voltage signal by means of a Kistler  
119 5011B charge amplifier. A 0.5° sampling interval was used for the angle-synchronous acquisition of the in-cylinder  
120 pressure, which was performed using a Yokogawa DL708E oscillographic recorder with a 16 bits A/D converter mod-  
121 ule.

122

123 The mean variables required were measured at a low sample frequency of 100 Hz, using an AVL tests system. It  
124 collects the measurement signals of the different sensors and controls the electric dynamometer.

125

### 126 **4. Thermodynamic model**

127 Although the methodology has been developed with CALMEC [29] and SICICLO [10], it can be applied to other  
128 diagnosis and predictive models, with the only condition that they share the sub-models and hypotheses. Detailed  
129 description of these tools can be found in the stated references, being the main hypotheses the following:

130 – Chamber pressure and temperature are assumed to be spatially uniform.



- 131 – Ideal gas law is used to calculate gas temperature.
- 132 – A filling and emptying model is used to calculate the trapped mass [50].
- 133 – The specific heat of the gas depends on both temperature and composition [21].
- 134 – Blow-by model is based on the evolution of the gas in an isentropic nozzle [10].
- 135 – The chamber volume deformation is calculated by means of a simple deformation model [29]:

$$\Delta V = k_{def}(\Delta V_p + \Delta V_i) \quad (1)$$

136 where  $k_{def}$  is a deformation constant to be adjusted, and  $\Delta V_p$  and  $\Delta V_i$  are the volume variations due to pressure  
137 and inertia efforts respectively.

- 138
- 139 – Heat transfer to the chamber walls is calculated with a modified Woschni-like model [38], where the convective  
140 heat transfer coefficient is calculated using Eq. (2):

$$h = CD^{-0.2} p^{0.8} T^{-0.53} \left[ C_{W1} c_m + C_{W2} c_u + C_2 \frac{V_d T_{IVC}}{V_{IVC} p_{IVC}} (p - p_0) \right]^{0.8} \quad (2)$$

141 where  $C$  and  $C_2$  are constants whose values are 0.12 and 0.001,  $c_m$  is the mean piston speed,  $c_u$  is the instantane-  
142 ous tangential velocity of the gas in the chamber (see [38] for a detailed description of this term),  $p_0$  is the  
143 pressure in motoring conditions assuming a polytropic evolution, and  $C_{W1}$  and  $C_{W2}$  are constants, whose values  
144 must be adjusted for each engine. The ratio  $r_w$  between  $C_{W1}$  and  $C_{W2}$  was assumed to take a constant value of  
145 1.7 [18], therefore both constants are obtained at the same time. Since the method is developed in motoring  
146 conditions, the last term in Eq.(2) (accounting for the pressure variations due to combustion) is zero, and the  
147 expression can be written as follows:

$$h = CD^{-0.2} p^{0.8} T^{-0.53} C_{W1}^{0.8} [c_m + c_u/1.7]^{0.8} \quad (3)$$

148 In order to adjust the heat transfer and deformation models in a specific engine,  $C_{W1}$  and  $k_{def}$  must be adjusted  
149 simultaneously with CR.

150

## 151 5. Sensitivity study

152 By solving the first law of thermodynamics, the following expression for RoHR can be obtained [18]:

$$\text{RoHR} = \frac{dHR}{d\alpha} = m c_v \frac{dT}{d\alpha} + \frac{dQ}{d\alpha} + p \frac{dV}{d\alpha} - (h_{f,inj} - u_{f,g}) \cdot \frac{dm_{f,ev}}{d\alpha} + R T \frac{dm_{bb}}{d\alpha} \quad (4)$$

153 where  $m$  and  $c_v$  are the mass and specific heat,  $h_{f,inj}$  and  $u_{f,g}$  are the injected fuel enthalpy and the evaporated  
 154 fuel internal energy and  $R$ ,  $dm_{f,ev}$ ,  $dm_{bb}$  are the ideal gas constant, the variation of fuel injected and blow-by leakage  
 155 respectively. In motoring conditions, the RoHR is zero, however Eq. (4) can provide a non-zero value ( $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ ) due to  
 156 the uncertainties. In this conditions Eq.(4) leads to the following expression:

$$\varepsilon^{RoHR} = m c_v dT + dQ + p dV + R T dm_{bb} \quad (5)$$

157 SICICLO calculates the simulated motoring pressure by solving Eq.(5) for  $p$ , assuming that  $\varepsilon^{RoHR} = 0$ , thus  
 158 obtaining:

$$p_{sim} = - \frac{m c_v dT + dQ + R T dm_{bb}}{dV} \quad (6)$$

159 The determination of the predictive model results uncertainty is straightforward through the differentiation of  
 160 experimental and simulated pressures.

$$\varepsilon^p = p_{sim} - p_{real} \quad (7)$$

161 Although some experimental error and signal noise can affect  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ , it is assumed that the averaging of the 25  
 162 measured cycles and the filtering process reduce the signal noise sufficiently. It is also assumed that all the relevant  
 163 uncertainties have been considered, and any additional effect on  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  is due to random experimental uncertainties.

164

165 As stated, the identification of the specific effect of each parameter is a key issue to ensure their independence, and  
 166 to assess the characteristic behaviour of each uncertainty. Fig. 3 shows the effect of the parameters variation presented  
 167 in Table 2 on  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  (left) and  $\varepsilon^p$  (right), where the variation range is taken from a previous study [18].

168

169 The main conclusions of the sensitivity study are:

170

- 171 – CR: a CR increment leads to a lower combustion chamber volume. Although CR does not affect  $dV$ , it modifies  
 172 T through the application of the ideal gas law, thus affecting the specific heat and the heat transfer term in Eq.(5).  
 173 The main effect of CR on  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  (Fig.3a) is due to the variation of  $dT$  in the internal energy term, that can be  
 174 expressed as  $dT = - \frac{(n-1) p dV + T d(m R)}{m R}$ , being  $n = - \frac{dp/p}{dV/V}$  the politropic exponent. The CR affects  $n$ , producing  
 175 the asymmetric behaviour of  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ . Its effect is higher in the proximities of TDC, where the variation of the  
 176 chamber volume has a higher relative effect. On the other hand, a higher CR leads to a higher simulated pressure  
 177 and thus a positive  $\varepsilon^p$  as shown in Fig.3f.

178 –  $K_{def}$ : the  $k_{def}$  affects the volume calculation, and hence the temperature and the politropic exponent, however,  
 179 its effect is qualitatively different from CR. Whilst the CR change produces an error in the volume that remains  
 180 constant during all the cycle, deformations depend on pressure and acceleration, thus their effect vary during  
 181 compression and expansion, being more important near TDC (see Fig. 3b and g), where the pressure reaches  
 182 its maximum value. On the other hand, the higher the load, the higher the effect of the deformations, therefore  
 183  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$  will change slightly at different operation points.

184  
 185 –  $C_{W1}$ : the higher this constant is, the higher the heat transfer becomes. In Eq.(5) it is possible to see that the heat  
 186 transfer uncertainty is directly transferred to  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ , as can be seen in Fig. 3c. Contrary to CR and  $k_{def}$ , the error  
 187 in  $C_{W1}$  has almost a symmetric effect on RoHR, being more important as the pressure and temperature increase.  
 188 The effect on  $\varepsilon^p$  shows the opposite trend than  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ , because a less adiabatic evolution of the gas leads to a  
 189 lower simulated pressure, as shown in Fig. 3h. The symmetry in Fig. 3h is not perfect due to the fact that the  
 190 variation of the heat transfer during the compression stroke is not compensated in the expansion stroke.

191  
 192 – TDC: the thermodynamic gap between the peak pressure and TDC depends on the heat transfer [23], thus TDC  
 193 position determination  $\Delta\alpha$  cannot be considered independent of  $C_{W1}$ . However, for the sake of completeness,  
 194 it is interesting to analyse its effect on RoHR. The variation of  $\Delta\alpha$  leads to different  $p$  and  $dp$  for a determined  
 195  $\alpha$ , which results in errors in the work,  $T$  and  $dT$ , and thus in the heat transfer and the internal energy variation.  
 196 The combination of these effects produces the  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  shown in Fig. 3d. As  $p_{real}$  in Eq.(7) slightly affected by  
 197 the variation of  $\Delta\alpha$ , the effect on Fig. 3i is produced by the small change in the IVC pressure, and mostly by  
 198 the change of  $p_{real}$  for each crank angle.

199  
 200 –  $p_{ref}$ : it has two main effects: on the one hand it leads to temperature and specific heat variations, on the other  
 201 hand, the pressure variation results in uncertainties in the politropic exponent and hence in the work estimation.  
 202 The pegging pressure affects the whole compression and expansion strokes, being its effect on  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  higher far  
 203 from TDC (see Fig. 3e), because the relative effect is smaller when the cylinder pressure increases. In contrast,  
 204 the effect on  $\varepsilon^p$  is more important near the TDC (see Fig. 3j), because a small variation of the pressure level at  
 205 IVC is amplified during the compression.

## 207 6. Uncertainties determination based on Multiple Lineal Regression

208 Starting from the characteristic effects determined in the previous section, and assuming the hypothesis of linearity  
 209 [18], the total error in RoHR  $\varepsilon_{un}^{RoHR}$  and simulated pressure  $\varepsilon_{un}^p$  due to the uncertainties can be expressed as:

$$\varepsilon_{un}^{RoHR}(\alpha) \simeq c_1 \varepsilon_{CR}^{RoHR}(\alpha) + c_2 \varepsilon_{C_{w1}}^{RoHR}(\alpha) + c_3 \varepsilon_{K_{def}}^{RoHR}(\alpha) + c_4 \varepsilon_{P_{ref}}^{RoHR}(\alpha) \quad (8)$$

$$\varepsilon_{un}^p(\alpha) \simeq c_1 \varepsilon_{CR}^p(\alpha) + c_2 \varepsilon_{C_{w1}}^p(\alpha) + c_3 \varepsilon_{K_{def}}^p(\alpha) + c_4 \varepsilon_{P_{ref}}^p(\alpha) \quad (9)$$

210 where  $\alpha$  is the crank angle,  $\varepsilon_{CR}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{C_{w1}}$ ,  $\varepsilon_{K_{def}}$  and  $\varepsilon_{P_{ref}}$  are the effect of the uncertainties variation on RoHR and  
 211 pressure residuals, and  $c_1$  to  $c_4$  are weighting constants. The mathematical expressions for  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$  are similar,  
 212 thus Eq.8 and Eq.9 can be written as:

$$\varepsilon_{un,i}(\alpha) = \sum_{j=1}^m c_j \varepsilon_{un,i,j}(\alpha) \quad (10)$$

213 where  $\varepsilon_{un,i}$  is the error in RoHR or  $p$  produced by the  $m$  uncertainties considered at the operating point  $i$ .  $\varepsilon_{un,i,j}$  is the  
 214 specific error produced by the uncertainty  $j$  in the operating point  $i$ , and  $c_j$  the corresponding weighting constant. Note  
 215 that the possibility of including additional uncertainties (in case of using other sub-models) is implicitly considered.  
 216 The equation system Eq.(10) can be solved by knowing  $m$  equations, however, as a pressure signal has  $n \gg m$   
 217 samples, Eq.(10) is an over determined equation system that must be solved in order to minimize  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$  during  
 218 the closed cycle. This is done by means of Multi-variable Linear Regression (MLR) taking into account the considered  
 219 parameters, whose optimal solution is found by means of the least square method. For a determined operation point  $i$ ,  
 220 the instantaneous error in the RoHR or simulated pressure ( $\varepsilon_{exp,i}$ ) can be expressed as:

$$\varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha) = \varepsilon_{un,i}(\alpha) - \varepsilon_{res,i}(\alpha) \quad (11)$$

221 where  $\varepsilon_{res,i}$  accounts for the effect of the terms not considered specifically with the stated uncertainties, such  
 222 as some experimental uncertainties or signal noise. In order to diminish the residual, a swept of engine speed was  
 223 considered in motoring conditions, taking into account several cycles, so that the addition of the error in RoHR or  
 224 simulated pressure in all tests at a defined crank angle will be:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha) = \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{un,i}(\alpha) - \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{res,i}(\alpha) \quad (12)$$

225 Taking into account the differentiation between engine characteristics and pressure pegging described in section  
 226 2, Eq.(12) can be written as:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha) = \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^{tests} c_j \varepsilon_{un,i,j}(\alpha) + \sum_{i=1}^{tests} c_i \varepsilon_{p_{ref,i}}(\alpha) - \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{res,i}(\alpha) \quad (13)$$

227 On the one hand, the error due to the neglected uncertainties and noise is aleatory, therefore the addition of different  
 228 operation points compensates it, being  $\varepsilon_{res}(\alpha) \approx 0$ . On the other hand, as described in section 2,  $p_{ref}$  is adjusted for  
 229 each operating point in a second phase after the engine characteristic adjustment, therefore it can be assumed that after  
 230 a number of iteration  $\sum_{i=1}^{test} c_i \varepsilon_{p_{ref,i}} \approx 0$  in Eq.(13), thus:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha) = \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^{tests} c_j \varepsilon_{um,i,j}(\alpha) \quad (14)$$

231 If Eq.(14) is written for each crank angle, the following matrix is obtained:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha_1) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha_2) \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{exp,i}(\alpha_n) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{i,1}(\alpha_1) & \dots & \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{i,m-1}(\alpha_1) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{i,1}(\alpha_2) & \dots & \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{i,m-1}(\alpha_2) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{i,1}(\alpha_n) & \dots & \sum_{i=1}^{tests} \varepsilon_{i,m-1}(\alpha_n) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_{m-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (15)$$

232 The solution of this matrix results in a set of correction parameters  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{m-1}$ , that weight the effect of each  
 233 specific uncertainty on the RoHR or simulated pressure errors. The iterative process is carried out by applying the  
 234 following correction at each step:

$$P_{j,k} = P_{j,k-1} + c_{j,k} \Delta P_j \quad (16)$$

236 Where  $P_{j,k}$  is the estimation of the  $P_j$  parameter ( $CR$ ,  $K_{def}$  and  $C_{W1}$ ) in the  $k$  iteration,  $c_{j,k}$  is the correction factor  
 237 obtained by the MLR in the  $k$  iteration, and  $\Delta P_j$  is the variation of each parameter in the sensitivity study as detailed  
 238 in Table 2. The procedure can be performed only in one step, however it was checked that the process provides more  
 239 accurate results when an iterative process is used, due to the fact that the effect of each uncertainty on  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$   
 240 can vary slightly depending on its value. It was found that after the third iteration, the variation of the parameters is  
 241 lower than 1%, which was assumed to be an acceptable variation.

242  
 243 Since both the effect of RoHR and simulated pressure are considered, the process is carried to find the optimal  
 244 values that minimize separately  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$ . Finally the optimal values are averaged.

## 246 7. Results and discussion

### 247 7.1. Adjustment with motoring tests

248 The operating points used for this study are shown in Table 3. Three repetitions of each operating point were  
 249 measured and the average results are presented. The initial values of the parameters to be adjusted are shown in the  
 250 "reference" column of Table 4. The initial TDC position was assumed to be at the peak pressure in motoring condi-  
 251 tions, the initial CR value is the one provided by the engine manufacturer,  $k_{def}$  is the average value obtained in several  
 252 engines used in a previous work [18], and  $C_{W1}$  is the value proposed by Woschni [36]. The pressure pegging was  
 253 initially carried out assuming that the pressure at the BDC coincides with the pressure at the inlet manifold. It was

254 checked that the final values provided by the proposed method do not depend on the initial values, however, they must  
255 lie in an limited range around the actual value, so that the hypothesis of linear and independent behaviour of the effect  
256 is accomplished. If the initial values are too far from the actual ones, the iterative method can provide results with no  
257 physical meaning or not converge at all. In both cases the problem can be detected.

258

259 The values of the parameters adjusted are presented in the "motoring" column of Table 4. The errors obtained with  
260 the initial and the adjusted parameters are shown in Table 5, where the RMSE of  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and the difference between the  
261 modelled and measured peak pressure are shown. The difference between the initial TDC position and the adjusted  
262 value is  $0.9^\circ$ . This phase gap uses to be longer in smaller engines because they use to be less adiabatic as Hohenberg  
263 reported [23]. It is interesting to highlight the importance of the TDC position correction provided by the method.  
264 Indeed, assuming that TDC is located at the peak pressure would lead to *imep* errors that only can be admissible at  
265 full load. However, a deviation of  $0.5^\circ$  at mid load could lead to *imep* errors about 3% [29] and much higher at low  
266 load. The CR correction obtained with the method is 0.1. This variation leads, in the worst case, to a deviation in the  
267 simulated peak pressure of about 3 bar. This error can increase in the case of combustion simulation where the inlet  
268 pressure will be higher. Regarding  $k_{def}$ , the correction obtained is  $\pm 0.9$  with respect to the reference value. Although  
269 having a lower effect than CR, the effect of this correction can lead to variations in the volume at the TDC about 2%  
270 at full load, where the high pressure produces important deformations. The uncertainty in the volume would directly  
271 affect the in-cylinder temperature calculation thus affecting the RoHR (in the combustion diagnosis) and the pressure  
272 evolution (in case of thermodynamic simulation). Finally, the  $C_{w1}$  correction, 0.54, can produce a maximum variation  
273 of the heat transfer peak in combustion about 14%, leading to 3 bar error in the peak pressure in motoring conditions  
274 (higher in combustion). The effect of the heat transfer change on cumulated HR can reach 1-2% of the fuel energy at  
275 low speed and load, where the heat transfer to the chamber walls is about one third of the fuel energy [51].

276

277 As shown in Table 5, the adjusted parameters provide a lower error in the two observed variables in almost all  
278 the operating conditions. Since the method optimizes the global results, for the sake of the accuracy in most of the  
279 operating conditions slightly worse results can be obtained in some specific tests. Thus, the RoHR at 1000 rpm shows  
280 a higher residual than that obtained with the original values. For the sake of brevity the analysis is presented for one  
281 engine, however the method showed similar trends in other Diesel engines tested. As seen in Table 5, the performance  
282 of the method is even better if the simulated pressure is considered: the difference between the simulated and experi-  
283 mental peak pressure diminishes from 9% to less than 1% after the adjustment.

284

285 In order to evidence the effect of the adjustment on the instantaneous evolution of a compression cycle, Fig.4  
286 shows  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$  in four motoring tests used for the adjustment. The mid frequency oscillations of  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  due to the  
287 signal noise remain in  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ , but they are centred around zero because the low frequency deviation, due to incorrect  
288 parameters, are almost completely removed. In the case of  $\varepsilon^p$  the pressure error is clearly reduced.

## 290 7.2. Adjustment with late SOI tests

291 Once the methodology was developed and tested in motoring conditions, the viability to be applied in combustion  
 292 tests, with late SOI, was evaluated. The main potential advantage of using combustion tests instead of motoring tests  
 293 is the similar thermal and thermodynamic conditions (gas and wall temperatures, pressure and gas composition) with  
 294 respect to the nominal combustion tests. The main drawback is the smaller crank angle slot in which the thermody-  
 295 namic analysis can be applied: about half the duration than in motoring conditions, because it can be applied only  
 296 between IVC and SOI.

297

298 The result of the test carried out are presented in Fig.5, where the behaviour of the errors during the compression  
 299 are in agreement with those described for the motoring test, having an important reduction in both  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  and  $\varepsilon^p$ .  
 300 However, despite the good performance in the reduction of the instantaneous errors, the values of  $CR$ ,  $C_{W1}$  and  $k_{def}$   
 301 obtained (see "late SOI 1" column in Table 4), are not in agreement with that obtained in motoring conditions. This  
 302 difference can be explained through the observation of the sensitivity effects shown in Fig.3: when comparing the  
 303 effect of each uncertainty, they have a similar trend up to  $-20^\circ$  BTDC and is in the range  $\pm 20^\circ$  where the character-  
 304 istic behaviour of each parameter is more evident. As only some part of these region is available for the analysis,  
 305 the method can not differentiate correctly their effects, thus providing results that adjust reasonably the compression  
 306 stroke but that are not coherent. Hence, it can be stated that if the information of the complete closed cycle (or at least  
 307 most of it) is not available, the assumption of independent effects is not fulfilled and the method does not work prop-  
 308 erly. According to this results it can be concluded that the use of the late SOI is not useful to adjust all the uncertainties  
 309 at the same time. Taking into account this limitation, the method was tested for determining only the CR. This can  
 310 be a convenient solution taking into account that  $C_{W1}$  and  $k_{def}$  are parameters that remain constant during the engine  
 311 life and do not change for different cylinders. Thus, if they were obtained previously using a set of motoring tests,  
 312 the TDC position could be obtained knowing the heat transfer, and the CR could be determined with the proposed  
 313 method. This can be useful if the chamber geometry is modified. As shown in "late SOI 2" column in Table 4, the  
 314 method performs properly and the RC value is the same than that obtained in motoring conditions.

315

## 316 7.3. Combustion validation and results

317 In order to validate the performance of the method, the apparent combustion efficiency (ACE), defined as the ratio  
 318 between the maximum cumulated heat release and the total energy of the fuel, was analysed in a set of combustion  
 319 tests. The ACE can be seen as a control parameter that provides an assessment of the models and measurement global  
 320 accuracy. In case of complete combustion, its value is always slightly different from 100%, ranging ideally  $100 \pm 2\%$ ,

321 and usually  $100\pm 5\%$ . Fig.6 shows the ACE of a complete speed and load sweep, where the nearly complete combus-  
322 tion was corroborated by the low CO and HC values. It is possible to see that after the adjustment, the ACE is clearly  
323 better than using the original parameter: the mean value is 101%, indicating a good accuracy of the models, and an  
324 improvement of 8% with respect to the initial values. The cumulated HR obtained in both cases, at four operating  
325 conditions, is shown in Fig.7. It can be stated that the HR is overestimated with the initial parameters, being the high  
326  $C_{W1}$  and the incorrect TDC position the main reasons of this error, because their effect is not compensated during the  
327 compression-expansion strokes (see Fig. 3).

328

329 For the sake of brevity the analysis is completed only with two additional parameters. Thus, Figs. 8 and 9 show  
330 the difference of the indicated efficiency and peak temperatures calculated with the adjusted and the initial parameters  
331 in the complete engine map. On the one hand, it can be seen that the initial parameters (mainly TDC position) lead to  
332 overestimating the indicated efficiency more than 4% at low load, where the maximum error takes place. On the other  
333 hand the variations of the peak temperature is a key parameter for both the thermal behaviour of the engine, and NOx  
334 formation. As shown, the maximum variations reach 57°C at high load, being the relative effect more important at low  
335 speed. This variation can lead to heat transfer errors up to 9%. Moreover, in case that the chamber conditions were  
336 used as boundary condition for a combustion model, this variation would have an important effect on NOx modelling.

337

## 338 8. Conclusions

339 It has been shown that different uncertainties (CR, TDC position, heat transfer model constant  $-C_{W1}$ -, deformation  
340 model constant  $-k_{def}$ - and pressure pegging) can affect the results of the thermodynamic analysis in both combustion  
341 diagnosis and cycle simulation. Taking into account the necessity of adjusting all of them simultaneously, a global  
342 methodology has been proposed. It is based on the identification of the characteristic effect of each parameter on  
343 the RoHR and the simulated pressure. The method follows an iterative procedure which allows calculating the opti-  
344 mal set of parameters that minimises both RoHR and a simulated pressure errors in motoring conditions, using the  
345 Multi-Variable Linear Regression. Although the method is developed for a multi-cylinder DI Diesel engine and some  
346 specific sub-models, it is flexible enough to be used with different ones.

347

348 The analysis is completed with the evaluation of the method when it is applied to combustion operation with late  
349 SOI. It was found that the adjustment in motoring condition is a stable process but when the adjustment is carried  
350 out with late combustion, the reliability of the process is limited due to the smaller angular slot available to apply the  
351 thermodynamic analysis. In this case only the CR can be determined, if the other uncertainties have been previously  
352 adjusted.

353



354 The method allows reducing the RMSE of RoHR error between 20% and 70% and the error in the maximum pres-  
355 sure modelled from 9 to 1% for the tested engine. The performance of the adjusted parameters is validated through  
356 the combustion analysis in which the heat release and the apparent combustion efficiency was analysed, obtaining a  
357 global improvement of about 7% of the fuel energy with respect to reference values, with a final residual of about 1%.  
358 Finally, the effect of the new engine characterisation is analysed in terms of indicated efficiency and gas temperature  
359 variation, showing a variation in the first case higher to 4% and in the second case higher than 50°C.

360

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## 9. Figures

Figure 1. Adjustment procedure.

Figure 2. Test cell schema.

Figure 3. Sensitivity study, left:  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$ , right:  $\varepsilon^p$ .

Figure 4.  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  (left) and  $\varepsilon^p$  (right) for the motoring measurement.

Figure 5.  $\varepsilon^{RoHR}$  (left) and  $\varepsilon^p$  (right) for the late SOI test.

Figure 6. ACE of a set of combustion measurements using the initial and the adjusted parameters.

Figure 7. Cumulative HR with the initial parameters and the adjusted ones.

Figure 8. Indicated efficiency comparison between initial and adjusted parameters.

Figure 9. Maximum temperature deviations using initial and adjusted parameters.

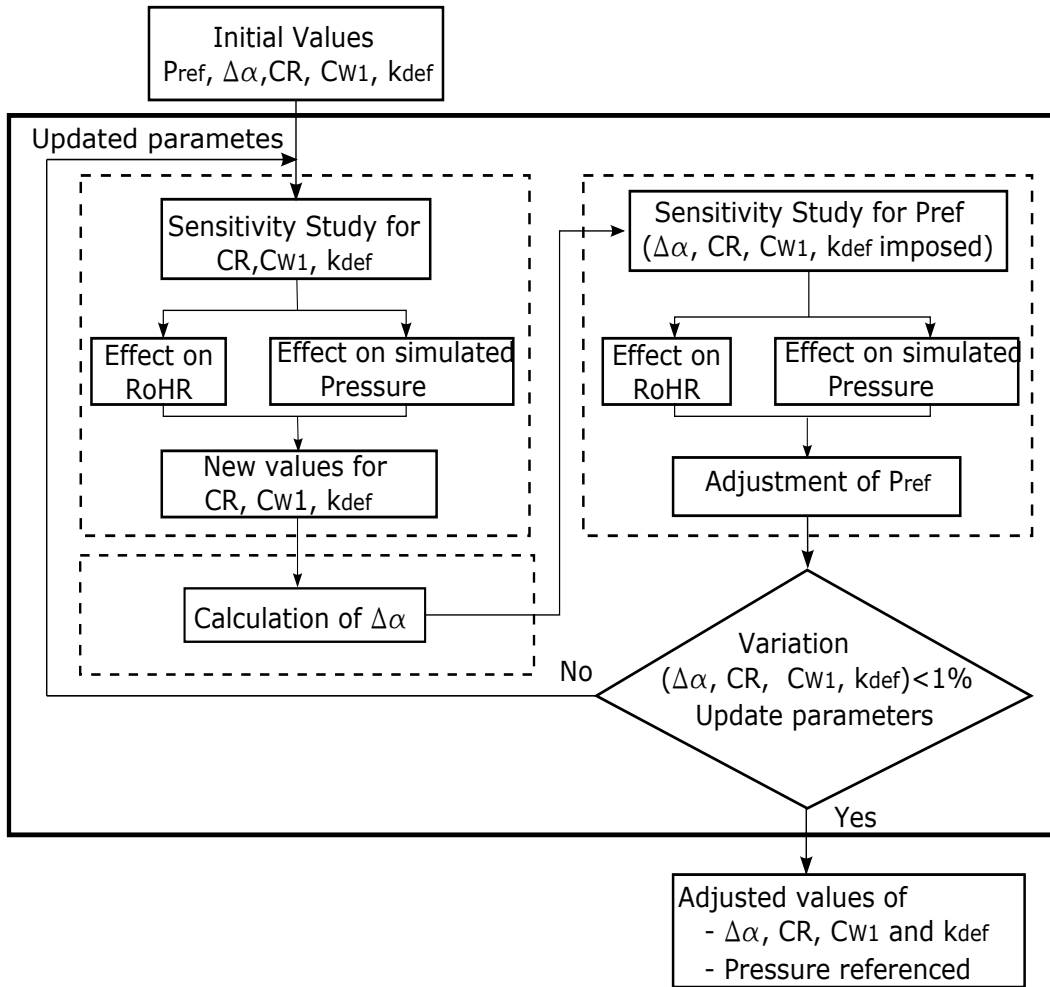


Figure 1: Adjustment procedure

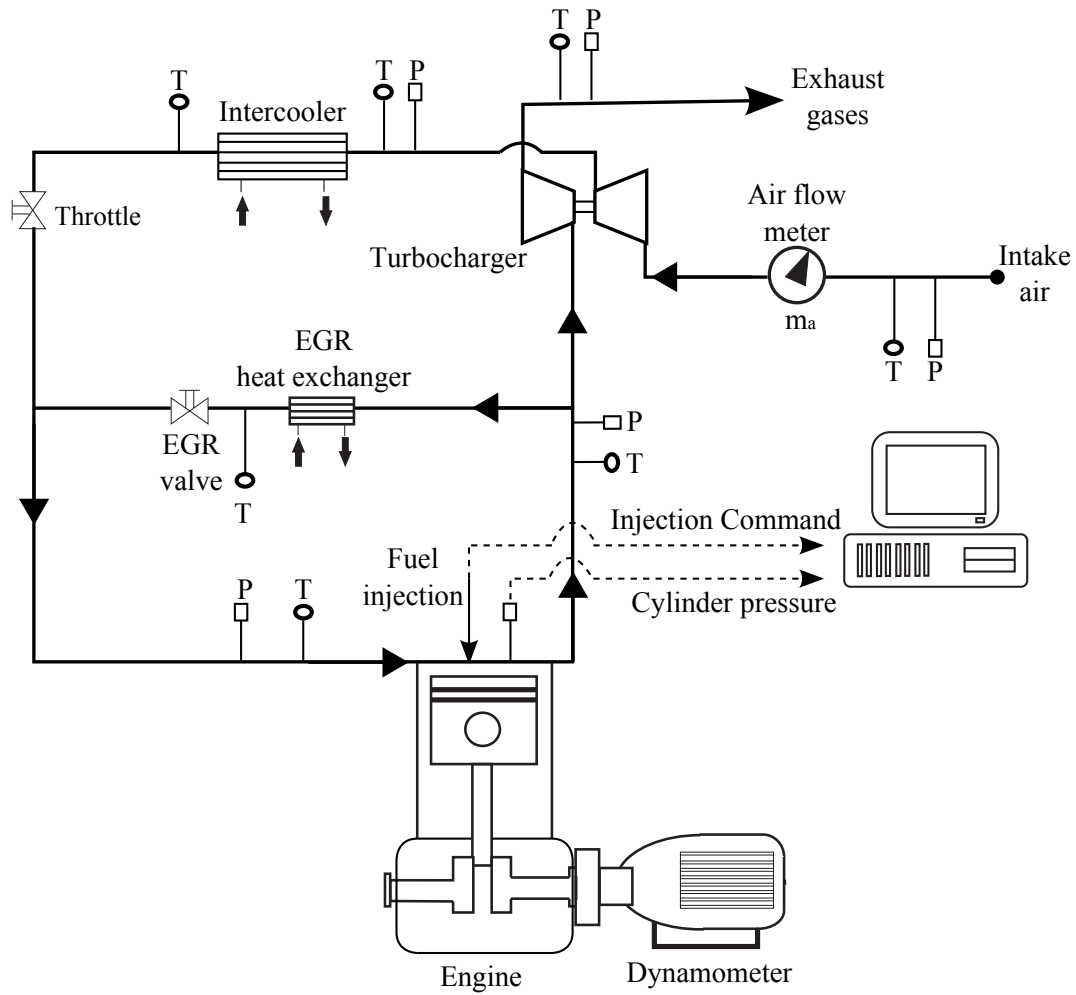


Figure 2: Test cell schema

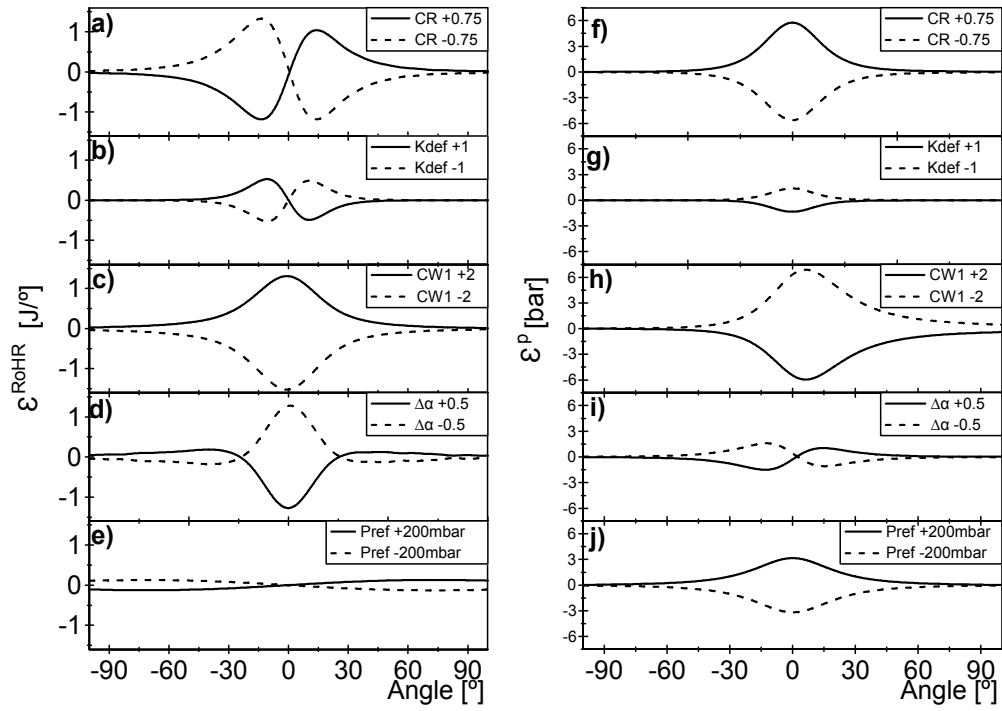


Figure 3: Sensitivity study, left:  $\epsilon^{RoHR}$ , right:  $\epsilon^P$

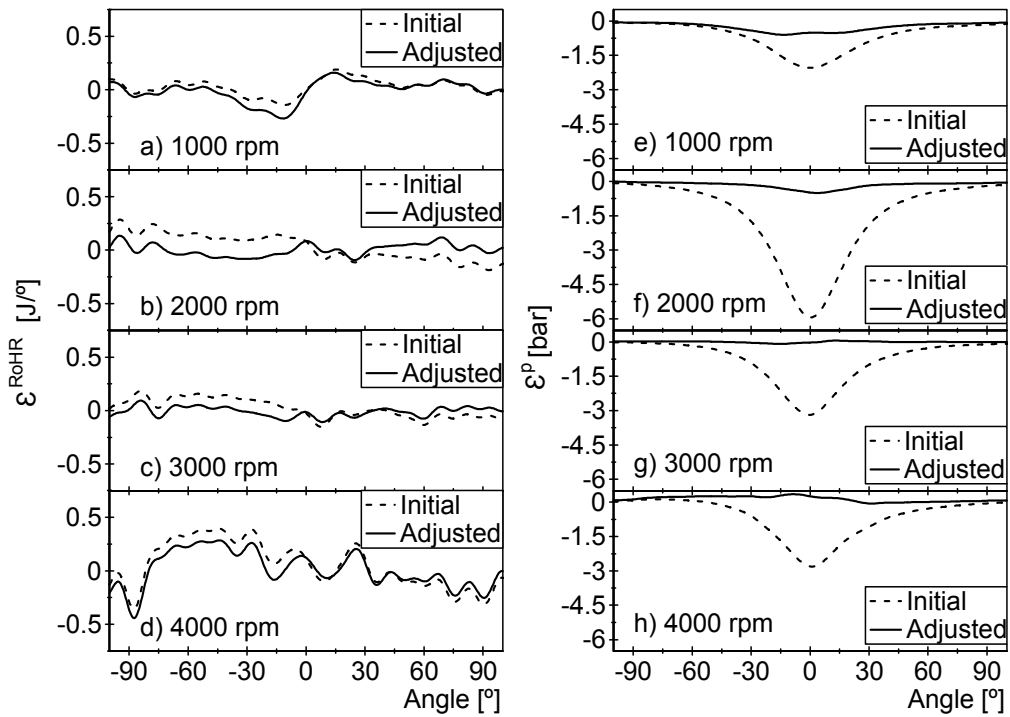


Figure 4:  $\epsilon^{RoHR}$  (left) and  $\epsilon^P$  (right) for the motoring measurement

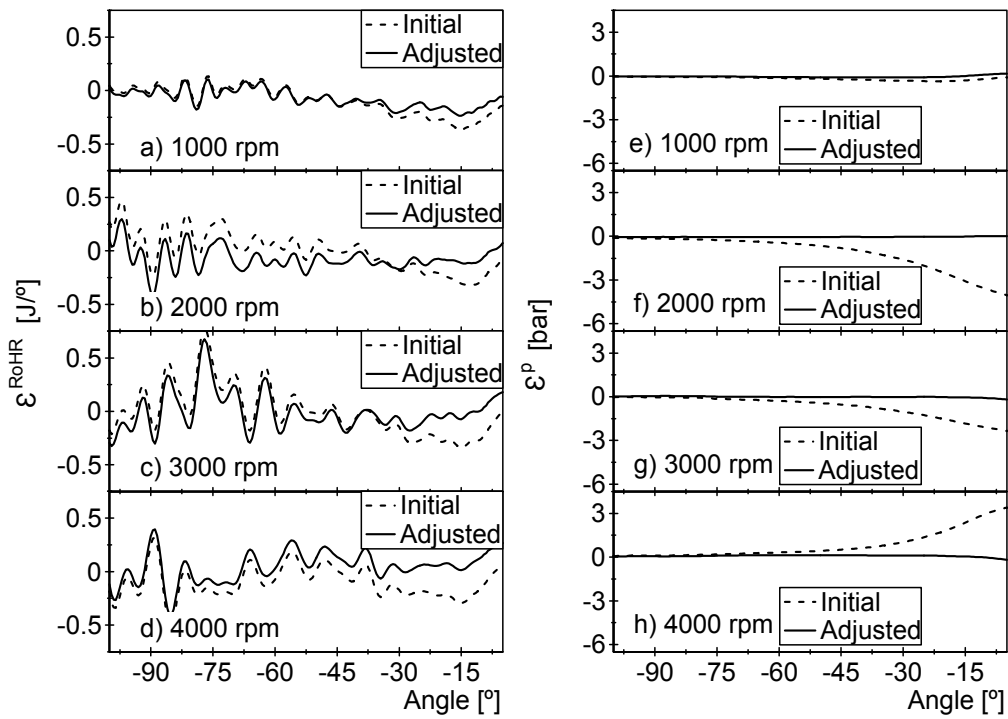


Figure 5:  $\epsilon^{RoHR}$  (left) and  $\epsilon^P$  (right) for the late SOI test

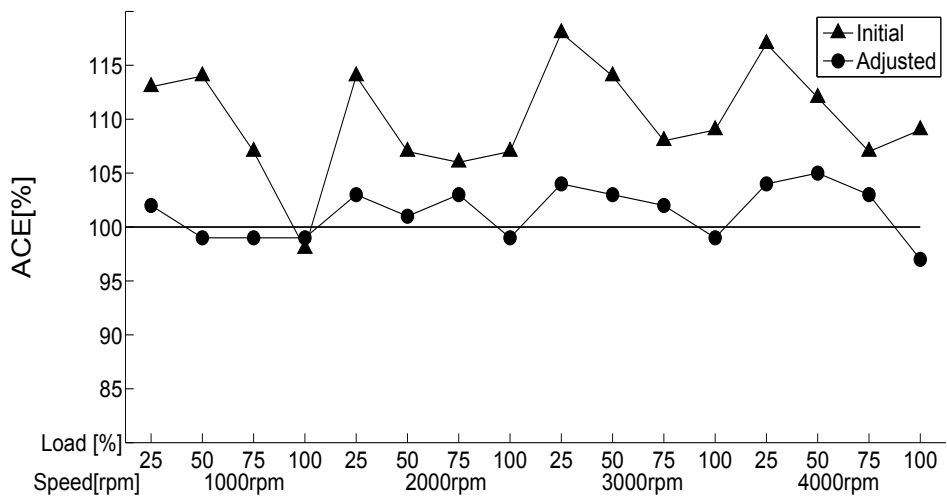


Figure 6: ACE of a set of combustion measurements using the initial and the adjusted parameters



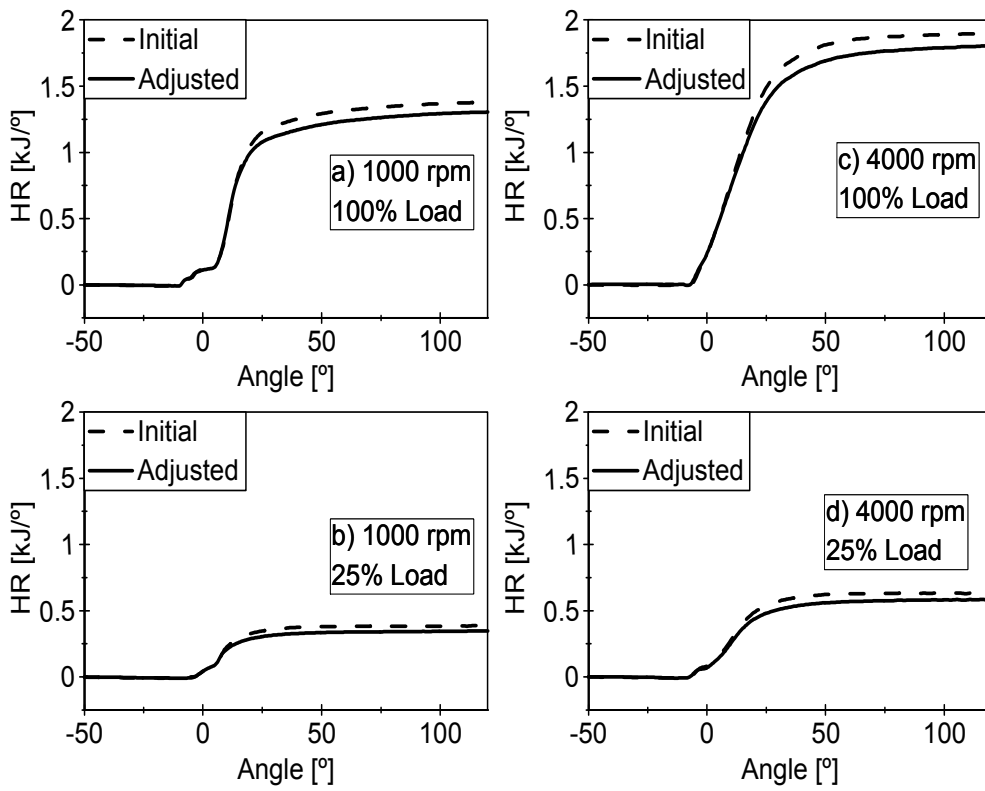


Figure 7: Cumulative HR with the initial parameters and the adjusted ones

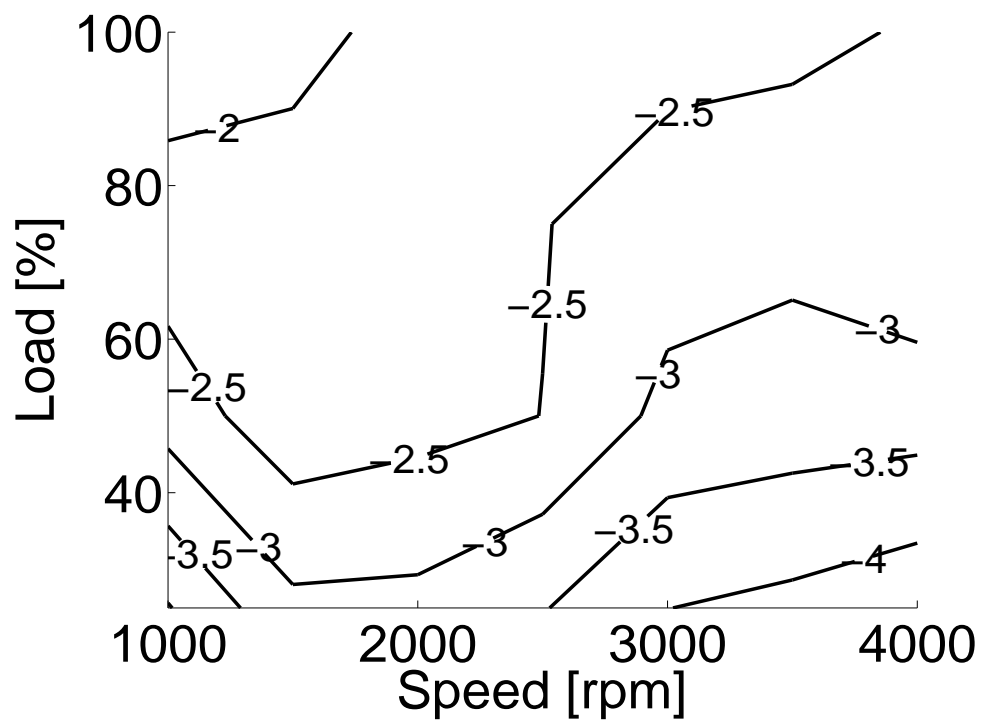


Figure 8: Indicated efficiency comparison between initial and adjusted parameters

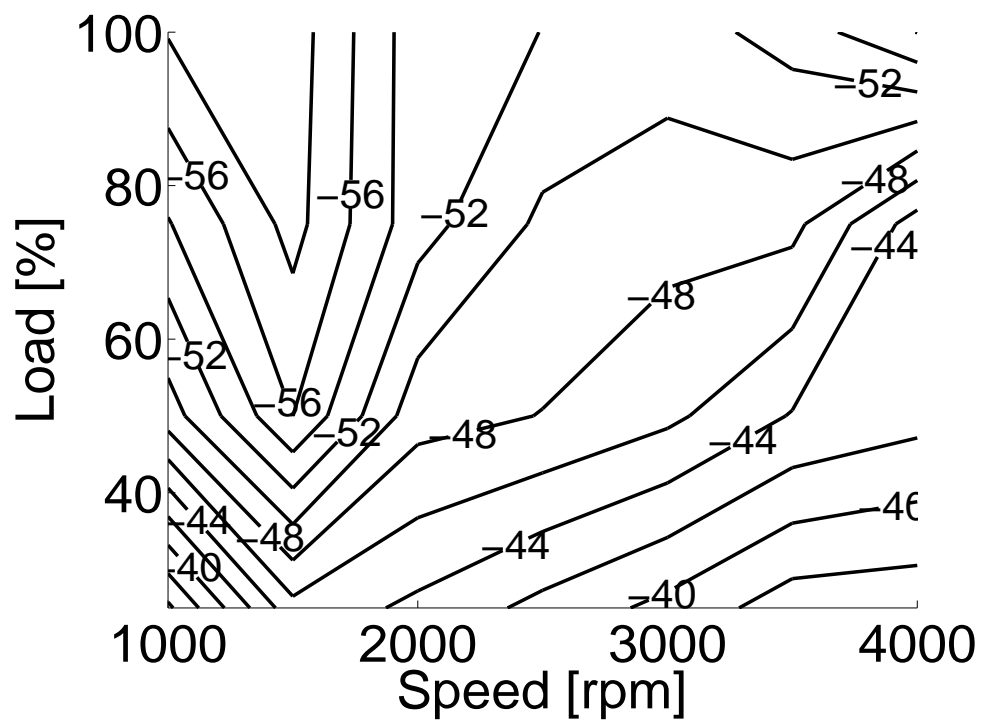


Figure 9: Maximum temperature deviations using initial and adjusted parameters

## 10. Tables

Table 1. Tested engine characteristics.

Table 2. Parameter variations.

Table 3. Measured operational points.

Table 4. Adjustment of the tested engine.

Table 5. Error in RoHR and simulated  $p_{max}$ .

Table 1: Tested engine characteristics

Cylinders	4
Strokes	4
Bore	75 mm
Stroke	88 mm
Displacement	390 cm <sup>3</sup>
Nominal CR	16:1

Table 2: Parameter variations

Parameter	Variation
CR	$\pm 0,75$
$k_{def}$	$\pm 1$
$C_{w1}$	$\pm 2$
$\Delta\alpha$	$\pm 0,5^\circ$
$p_{ref}$	$\pm 100$ mbar

Table 3: Measured operational points

Speed [rpm]	Load [%]	SOI [° ATDC]
1000	Motoring	-
1500	Motoring	-
2000	Motoring	-
2500	Motoring	-
3000	Motoring	-
3500	Motoring	-
4000	Motoring	-
1000	50	1,7
2000	50	2,9
3000	50	4,9
4000	50	0,8

Table 4: Adjustment of the tested engine

	Reference	Motoring	Delayed SOI 1	Delayed SOI 2
CR	16:1	15,9:1	15,4:1	15,9:1
$k_{def}$	2,20	1,29	1,25	1,29
$C_{W1}$	2,28	1,74	0,65	2,04
$\Delta\alpha$	369,0	369,9	369,6	369,9

Table 5: Error in RoHR and simulated  $p_{max}$ 

Speed rpm	RMSE of RoHR		Error in $p_{max}$	
	Initial J/°	Final J/°	Initial %	Final %
1000	0,09	0,11	5,5	1,1
1500	0,17	0,13	9,0	0,5
2000	0,10	0,07	8,9	0,8
2500	0,15	0,11	8,7	0,8
3000	0,10	0,06	8,7	0,8
3500	0,14	0,07	9,0	0,7
4000	0,21	0,17	8,7	0,5