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Experimental Study of the Effect of NO and NO₂ on the Oxidation of a Mixture of Primary Reference Fuels



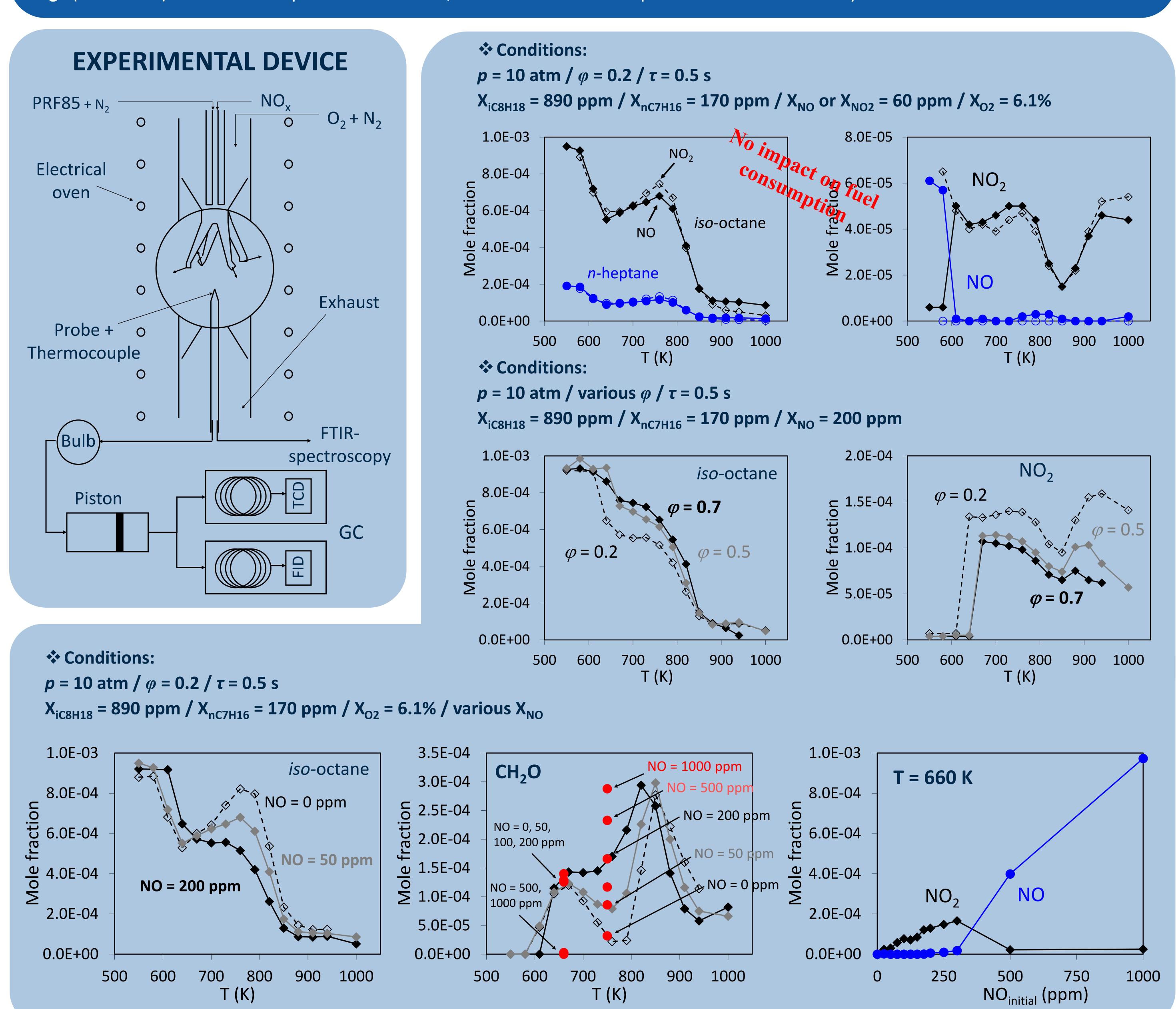
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Traces of nitric oxides (NO or NO₂) are now well known to promote the ignition of simple fuels. This promoting effect is important in several practical systems among which:

- the NO-NO₂ conversion by hydrocarbons in recent NOx-reduction strategies
- the modeling of combustion with exhaust-gas recirculation (EGR) in mild combustion

The complex interaction of nitric oxides and fuel mixtures is still poorly understood, especially at high level of NO_x .

New experimental results were obtained in Jet-Stirred Reactor (JSR) for the oxidation of a mixture of ca. 85% of iso-octane and 15% of n-heptane (PRF85) in presence (or not) of NO or NO₂ under fuel-lean conditions (ϕ = 0.2, 0.5, and 0.7), high pressure (10 atm) and over a wide temperature range (550-1000K). Concentration profiles of reactants, intermediates and final products were measured by GC and FTIR.



New data were obtained for the oxidation of a mixture of primary reference fuels (PRF85) in absence and presence of NO or NO₂. NO and NO₂ have very similar effects. When NO_x addition is increased, the Negative Temperature Coefficient (NTC) is erased. When NO_x addition is too high (> 200 ppm), the cool flame is erased. The oxidation of NO by HO₂ promotes the conversion of the fuel but, when the concentration of NO increases the cool flame tends to disappear due to the formation of alkoxy radicals via ROO + NO \rightarrow RO + NO₂ and possible stabilization of HONO (OH + NO \rightarrow HONO).