

ENERGETICS

DM 630/FEV - Analytical and experimental methodologies for the development of zero-CO₂ and near zero emissions propulsion systems based on H₂ DI ICEs

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Context of the research activity	The development of propulsion systems based on H₂-fueled DI ICEs targeting zero CO₂ levels and near-zero tailpipe emissions still presents relevant challenges, when a highly efficient, clean and fully controllable H₂ combustion process must be developed. Progetto finanziato dal PNRR a valere sul DM 630/2024 - CUP E14D24002370004
Objectives	In particular, FEV is interested in developing a methodology within 1D simulation environment which is capable of: - predicting knocking (self/auto-ignition) events, - predicting NO_x emissions, even at ultra-low levels, as functions of pressure, temperature, EGR/residuals and air-to-fuel (λ) distribution inside the cylinder. In particular, the last dependency (λ) becomes quite important in a DI ICE where it is quite challenging to guarantee a high homogeneity level of the mixture. To this purpose, a preliminary 3D-CFD study will be performed, based on which it will be possible to characterize the turbulence model within the 1D simulation environment. Once the turbulence is calibrated, a dedicated predictive combustion model will be designed to take into account the average air-to-fuel ratio at the IVC as well as the distribution of λ inside the cylinder (e.g. in radial direction from the spark plug position). A model will be eventually developed capable of determining the knock tendency. Finally, the NO_x emission model will be developed starting from literature models or via an innovative approach taking into account the air-to-fuel ratio distribution.

Each of the described steps will be fully supported either by a large H2 DI ICEs experimental database or by a dedicated testing activity using a single-cylinder engine, for calibration and validation of the developed models.

Skills and competencies for the development of the activity

- Excellent knowledge of fluid-dynamics and engine thermodynamics
- Knowledge of 1D/3D CFD simulation codes (such as GT-SUITE, CONVERGE CFD)
- Good command of Matlab