Combustion Stoichiometry

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Air:} & \text{Oxygen 21\%, Nitrogen (nitrogen + argon) 79\%} \\ \textbf{Fuel:} & \text{Hydrocarbons } (C_aH_b), \text{oxygenates } (C_aH_bO_c) \\ \end{array}$

Examples: <u>LHV</u> Gasoline $C_n H_{1.87n} \\$ 44 MJ/kg 43 MJ/kg Diesel fuel $C_nH_{1.75n}\\$ 45 MJ/kg Natural gas (mostly methane) CH_{3.8} Coal 30 MJ/kg $C_nH_{0.8n}$ 20 MJ/kg Methanol CH₃OH C₂H₅OH Ethanol 26 MJ/Kg

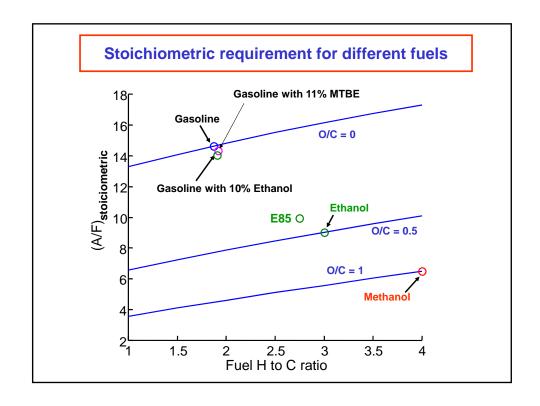
(LHV = Energy released per unit mass of fuel without recovery of the heat of vaporization of the water vapor in the combustion products)

Stoichiometric Combustion

$$\begin{split} &C_{a}H_{b}O_{c}+\frac{1}{2}\bigg(2a+\frac{b}{2}-c\bigg)\!\big(O_{2}+3.773\;N_{2}\big)\\ &\to aCO_{2}+\frac{b}{2}H_{2}O+\frac{1}{2}\bigg(2a+\frac{b}{2}-c\bigg)x3.773\;N_{2} \end{split}$$

For typical petroleum based fuel (c=0):

 $(A/F)_{stoich} \sim 14.6$ (range 14.2 to 15)



Lean and rich combustion

Fuel-lean combustion

major products: CO₂, H₂O, O₂, N₂
minor products: HC, CO, H₂, NO

Fuel-rich combustion

- major products: CO₂, H₂O, CO, H₂, N₂

- minor products: HC, O₂, NO

Equivalence ratio: Normalized A/F or F/A ratios:

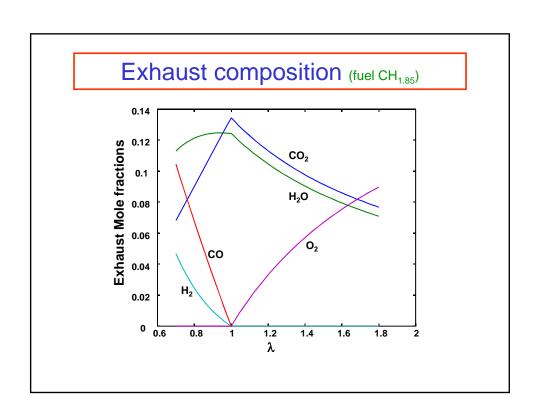
Fuel-air equivalence ratio, Φ

$$\Phi = \frac{\mathsf{F}/\mathsf{A}}{(\mathsf{F}/\mathsf{A})_{\mathsf{stoichiometric}}}$$

Relative air-fuel ratio $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$

$$\lambda = \frac{A/F}{(A/F)_{\text{stoichiometric}}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\Phi}$$



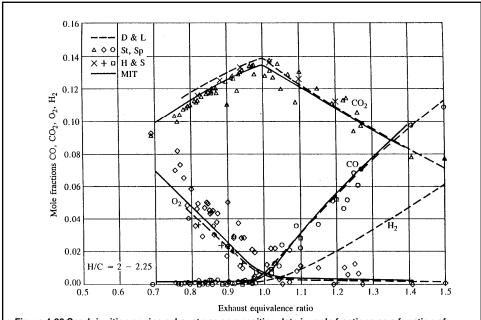


Figure 4-20 Spark-ignition engine exhaust gas composition data in mole fractions as a function of fuel/air equivalence ratio. Fuels: gasoline and isooctane, H/C 2 To 2.25. (From D'Alleva and Lovell, 24 Stivender, 25 Harrington and Shishu, 26 Spindt, 27 and data from the author's laboratory at MIT.)

