



# Effects analysis on soot oxidation performance in the diesel particulate filter based on synergetic passive-active composite regeneration methods

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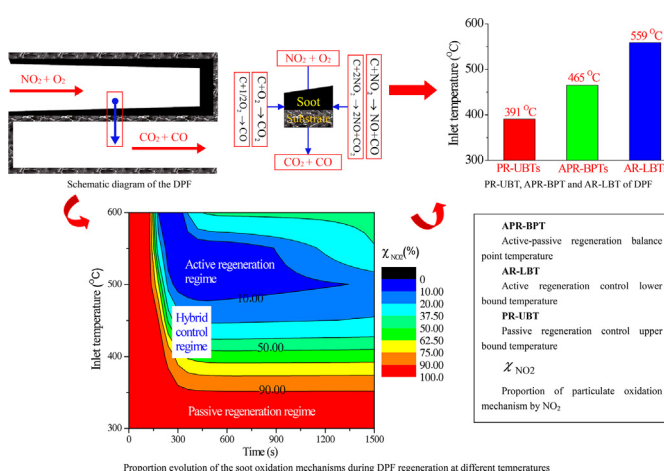
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## HIGHLIGHTS

- A coupled model of DPF passive and active regeneration is established.
- Control regime transition of DPF regeneration mechanisms is investigated.
- Key parameters affecting soot oxidation mechanisms are summarized.

## GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



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## ABSTRACT

Diesel particulate filters (DPFs) are standard components to control particulate emissions from diesel engine. Different DPF regeneration mechanisms, including passive regeneration and active regeneration, affect the performance of itself and downstream post-processing equipment. In order to study soot oxidation mechanism in DPF, DPF passive-active coupled regeneration model is established, and its kinetic parameters are verified. Active-passive regeneration balance point temperature (APR-BPT), passive regeneration control upper bound temperature (PR-UBT) and active regeneration control lower bound temperature (AR-LBT) are defined to study-three control regimes affected by two soot oxidation mechanisms. Additionally, the effect analysis of key parameters on APR-BPT, PR-UBT and AR-LBT is conducted to reveal the regeneration regime and the regeneration temperature boundary. The research on the soot combustion mechanisms under the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration of the DPF will provide a theoretical basis for DPF regeneration and its control.

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## Nomenclature

A	Area [m <sup>2</sup> ]
a <sub>c</sub>	Geometric surface area [m <sup>2</sup> ·m <sup>-3</sup> ]
c <sub>p</sub>	Specific heat capacity [J·(kg·K) <sup>-1</sup> ]
d	Channel diameter [m]
D <sub>w</sub>	Effective diffusion coefficient [m <sup>2</sup> ·s <sup>-1</sup> ]
E	Activation energy [J·mol <sup>-1</sup> ]
K	Number of components
k	Reaction rate constant [s <sup>-1</sup> ]
k <sub>m</sub>	Mass transfer coefficient [m·s <sup>-1</sup> ]
k <sub>soot</sub>	Permeability coefficient of soot layer [m <sup>2</sup> ]
k <sub>wall</sub>	Permeability coefficient of wall [m <sup>2</sup> ]
h	Heat transfer coefficient [W·m <sup>-2</sup> ·K <sup>-1</sup> ]
L	Channel length [m]
M <sub>C</sub>	Molar mass of carbon [kg·mol <sup>-1</sup> ]
M <sub>k</sub>	Molar mass of species k [kg·mol <sup>-1</sup> ]
p	Pressure [Pa]
r	Reaction rate [mol·s <sup>-1</sup> ·m <sup>-3</sup> ]
S	Specific surface of the particulate [m <sup>2</sup> ·m <sup>-3</sup> ]
t	Time[s]
T	Temperature [K]
v	Gas velocity[m·s <sup>-1</sup> ]
v <sub>w</sub>	Wall velocity [m·s <sup>-1</sup> ]
V	Volume [m <sup>3</sup> ]
y	Mass fraction

### Greek letters

τ	Tortuosity
λ	Thermal conductivity [W·m <sup>-1</sup> ·K <sup>-1</sup> ]
μ	Viscosity [Pa·s]
ρ	Density [kg·m <sup>-3</sup> ]

ρ <sub>soot</sub>	Particulate density in the channel gas flow [kg·m <sup>-3</sup> ]
ζ	Sum
ξ	Pressure drop loss coefficient
χ	Proportion of particulate oxidation mechanism
χ <sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub>	Proportion of particulate oxidation by O <sub>2</sub>
χ <sub>NO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Proportion of particulate oxidation by NO <sub>2</sub>
γ	Stoichiometric coefficient
ε <sub>S</sub>	Porosity
δS	Washcoat thickness of washcoat, particulate or filter wall [m]

### Subscripts and superscripts

0	Channel entrance
1	Inlet channel
2	Outlet channel
i	Species index
j	Reaction index
g	Gas
w	Washcoat
S	Solid

### Abbreviations

APR-BPT	Active-passive regeneration balance point temperature
AR-LBT	Active regeneration control lower bound temperature
DOC	Diesel oxidation catalyst
DPF	Diesel particulate filter
PM	Particulate matter
PR-UBT	Passive regeneration control upper bound temperature

## 1. Introduction

Although the application of new energy power is now more widely (Huang et al., 2007; Zhao et al., 2020; Zhao et al., 2018), the traditional internal combustion engine is still the main force that cannot be ignored in the transportation market. With the increasingly stringent emission regulations, gasoline engines are developing in the direction of high efficiency and low emissions (Huang et al., 2006). While, diesel engines are still widely used due to greater torque, higher fuel economy and lower carbon dioxide emissions (Wu et al., 2018; Zhong et al., 2019). However, there are particulate matter (PM) emissions problems caused by the diesel engine due to incomplete combustion (Ni et al., 2020; Cheng et al., 2018). Diesel particulate filters (DPFs) are standard components to control particulate emissions from diesel engine (Caliskan and Mori, 2017; Chen and Wang, 2014). The continuous deposition of particles in the DPF causes an increase in the back pressure of the original engine and a decrease in its performance (Mikulic et al., 2010; Zhang et al., 2018), and thus needing to regenerate DPF (Ebrahimnataj et al., 2018). The DPF regeneration is divided into periodic active regeneration and full-time passive regeneration (Bai et al., 2016; Yamada et al., 2017). The active regeneration relies on the mechanism of soot combustion by O<sub>2</sub> at a temperature above 550 °C, while passive regeneration is based on the mechanism of soot oxidation by NO<sub>2</sub> at relatively low DPF temperature (Chen and Wang, 2012; Gorsmann, 2005). Temperature that triggers active regeneration is increased by means of traditional methods, such as post heaters or fuel late injections or specific post burners located upstream the DPF (Cordtz et al., 2011; Meloni and Palma, 2020), and innovative strategies, includ-

ing the use of nonthermal plasma (Nguyen et al., 2019; Guo et al., 2020) and the microwaves (Palma et al., 2013; Kurien et al., 2020; Zhang et al., 2016). In view of the diversity of operating characteristics of existing and new engines, active regeneration of diesel particulate filters is essential to improve its performance (Tadrous et al., 2010; Ko et al., 2016). Passive regeneration can increase the durability of the DPF and reduce the fuel loss associated with active regeneration (Tang et al., 2014; Singh et al., 2006). Furthermore, in the DPF regeneration process, soot oxidation by O<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> are a mutual process. Therefore, it is important to simulate the mechanism by which NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> oxidize particulates since a real-life DPF undergoes both modes of regeneration (Premchand et al., 2013).

Kinetic analysis of soot oxidation by NO<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> has been studied extensively (Leistner et al., 2012; Wang-Hansen et al., 2013; Matarrese et al., 2017). D. Smith et al. have conducted experimental research on real-time particulate emissions rates from active and passive heavy-duty DPF regeneration (Smith et al., 2019). Chen et al. have conducted experiment on the active and passive regeneration procedures of a DPF in a diesel methanol dual fuel engine (Chen et al., 2020). The effects of various washcoat technologies under active and passive regeneration conditions was performed using laboratory generated soot on a variety of SiC DPF formulations (Warner et al., 2010). Ishizawa et al. have investigated ash loading and its relationship to DPF active and passive regeneration (Ishizawa et al., 2009). The model has been developed to simulate various rates of NO<sub>2</sub>-soot and O<sub>2</sub>-soot oxidation at different engine operating conditions (Zhong et al., 2019). The characteristics of composite regeneration including active regeneration and passive regeneration have been studied, which also shows that the soot

oxidation rate is different under different regeneration modes (Jiao et al., 2017; Stanmore et al., 2001). A review article about the soot oxidation with carbon dioxide or nitrogen dioxide of experiments, mechanisms and models has been published by Stanmore et al. (Jacquot et al., 2000). The reactivity of nitrogen dioxide  $\text{NO}_2$  towards soot is far greater than that of oxygen at 500 °C and the same concentration (0.1 %) (Setiabudi et al., 2004). In the soot- $\text{NO}_2$ - $\text{O}_2$  reaction system, soot oxidation with  $\text{NO}_2$  is enhanced by the presence of  $\text{O}_2$  (Kandylas et al., 2002). Previous studies have analyzed soot combustion mechanisms in DPF, and a few have obtained the change of two soot oxidation mechanisms in DPF regeneration process caused by influencing factors.

However, the existing literature rarely deals with the quantitative representation and effect analysis on the proportion of the soot oxidation mechanisms in the DPF. In order to study the evolution of two soot oxidation mechanisms during synergetic passive-active composite regeneration, this work defines PR-UBT, APR-BPT and AR-LBT for the first time to study the influence of key parameters on the regeneration regime and the regeneration temperature boundary. The research on the regeneration regime and the regeneration temperature boundary during the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration provides a theoretical basis for coupled DPF regeneration and its control.

## 2. Mathematical model and model validation

### 2.1. Mathematical model

The one-dimensional modeling is sufficient to meet the requirements of modeling all the channels in the same way (Peters et al., 2004-01-1132; 2004; Jiang et al., 2016). Fig. 1 shows the schematic diagram of a single channel pair of DPF structure. The model fitted kinetic parameters of DPF passive and active regeneration is capable of describing momentum and heat transfer as well as reaction phenomena in the filter and being applied to actual cycles with time-related soot loading and temperature during the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration.

Considering the impact of entry region, the Sieder-Tate correlation and the Hawthorn relation are respectively used to calculate heat transfer and mass transfer between the fluid in the channel and the filter wall. The remaining assumptions of the DPF model during the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration are expressed as follows:

(1) uniform distribution of flow at inlet, material and catalyst across all the channels; (2) negligible axial diffusion in the gas phase; (3) completely insulated outer wall in the radial direction; (4) negligible heat capacity and thermal conductivity of the gas in wall; (5) the particulate deposition in inlet channel is consistent with the axial flow distribution; (6) the particulate matter is assumed to be soot.

Based on the above assumptions, the main governing equations of the single channel model in the DPF during the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration are expressed as follows:

(1) Mass conservation equation for the gas species in the channels.

$$\frac{\partial(\rho_1 y_{i,1} d_1^2(z, t))}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(d_1^2(z, t) \rho_1 v_1 y_{i,1})}{\partial z} = -4d_1(z, t) \rho_1 v_{s,1} y_{i,1} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho_2 y_{i,2})}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho_2 v_2 y_{i,2})}{\partial z} = \frac{4}{d} \rho_2 v_{s,2} y_{i,2} \quad (2)$$

$$d_1(z, t) \rho_1 v_{s,1} y_{i,1} + d \delta_s \rho_{g,s} v_{s,i} \left( 1 - \exp \left( -a_c \sum_{j=1}^K \zeta_{ij} r_j \delta_s / v_{s,1} y_{i,1} \right) \right) = d \rho_2 v_{s,2} y_{i,2} \quad (3)$$

$$d_1(z, t) = d - 2\delta_{\text{soot}}(z, t) = \sqrt{d^2 - \frac{m}{n_{\text{channel}} L r_{\text{soot}}}} \quad (4)$$

$$\rho_2 v_{s,2} d = \rho_1 v_{s,1} d_1(z, t) \quad (5)$$

where S stands for particulate or filter wall, and i' stands for  $\text{NO}_2$  or  $\text{O}_2$ .

(2) Axial momentum conservation equation for the gas species in the channels.

$$\frac{\partial(\rho_1 v_1)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho_1 v_1^2)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial p_1}{\partial z} - F \mu v_1 - \frac{1}{d_1(z, t)} \rho_1 v_{s,1}^2 \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho_2 v_2)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho_2 v_2^2)}{\partial z} = -\frac{\partial p_2}{\partial z} - \frac{F \mu v_2}{d^2} + \frac{1}{d} \rho_2 v_{s,2}^2 \quad (7)$$

(3) Enthalpy balance equation for the gas species in the channels.

$$\frac{\partial(d_1^2(z, t) \rho_1 c_{p,g} T_1)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(d_1^2(z, t) \rho_1 v_1 c_{p,g} T_1)}{\partial z} = 4d_1(z, t) (h_1(T_s - T_1) - \rho_1 v_{s,1} c_{p,g} T_s) \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho_2 T_2)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho_2 v_2 T_2)}{\partial z} = \frac{4}{d} \left( \frac{1}{c_{p,g}} h_2(T_s - T_2) + \rho_2 v_{s,2} T_s \right) \quad (9)$$

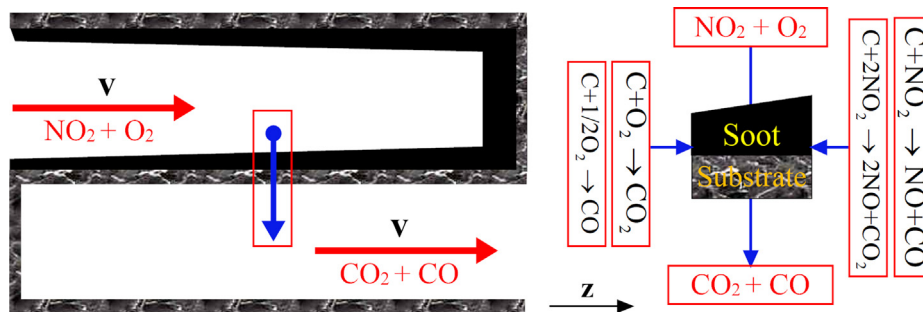


Fig. 1. Schematic physical diagram of DPF structure.

(4) Enthalpy balance equation of the solid phase.

$$\rho_s c_{p,s} \frac{\partial(1-\varepsilon_s)T_s}{\partial t} = (1-\varepsilon_s)\lambda_s \frac{\partial^2 T_s}{\partial z^2} + \sum_{j=1}^J \Delta_r H_{m,j}(T) r_j + h_1 a_c (T_1 - T_s) + h_2 a_c (T_2 - T_s) + c_{p,g} T_s (\rho_1 v_{s,1} - \rho_2 v_{s,2}) \quad (10)$$

(5) Soot mass balance equation.

$$\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} = -\frac{M_C \cdot d}{M_f} \int_0^L \rho_{g,s} v_{s,y_{f,1}} \left( 1 - \exp \left( -S \sum_{j=1}^K \zeta_{f,j} r_j \delta_s / v_{s,y_{f,1}} \right) \right) dz + 4d_1(z,t) L (\rho_1 v_{1,soot} |_{z=0}) \eta \quad (11)$$

where  $\eta$  is calculated in our previous work (Zouaoui et al., 2014).

The control equations solved with boundary and initial conditions:

$$\begin{cases} z = 0, v_1 = v_0, T_1 = T_0, v_2 = 0, \partial T_s / \partial z = 0 \\ z = L, v_1 = 0, p_2 = p_{atm}, \partial T_s / \partial z = 0 \\ t = 0, v_1 = v_2 = 0, p_1 = p_2 = p_{atm}, d_1 = d_2 = d \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

## 2.2. Model validation

For modeling convenience, except for  $O_2$  and  $NO_2$ , the effect of other exhaust components on the soot oxidation during the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration is negligible and the oxidation reaction order with respect to  $O_2$  and  $NO_2$  is first-order (Lee et al., 2008). The kinetic parameters of active regeneration and passive regeneration are separately from literature (Lee et al., 2009; Konstandopoulos and Kostoglou, 2000). Furthermore; the values of other parameters are:  $K_f = 0.02$ ,  $q_f = 0.21$ ,  $E_f / R = 3000$  K (Miyairi, et al., 2001).



The reaction rate expressions during the synergetic passive-active composite regeneration are expressed as follows:

$$r_1 = f_{co} K_1 e^{\left(\frac{-E_1}{RT}\right)} y_{O_2} \quad (17)$$

$$r_2 = (1 - f_{co}) r_1 / f_{CO} \quad (18)$$

$$r_3 = K_3 e^{\left(\frac{-E_3}{RT}\right)} y_{NO_2} \quad (19)$$

$$r_4 = K_4 e^{\left(\frac{-E_4}{RT}\right)} y_{NO_2} \quad (20)$$

and

$$f_{CO} = \frac{1}{1 + K_f y_{CO}^{q_f} e^{E_f/RT}} \quad (21)$$

As shown in Fig. 2, after the temperature reached 600 °C ( $t$  greater than 200 s), the calculated values agree well with the experimental values (Triana, 2005), indicating that the kinetics parameters of the thermal regeneration reaction are applicable to the model. During the preheating phase of the DPF ( $t$  less than 200 s), a large error in the wall temperature of the DPF rear section corresponds to the deviated heat transfer of the system in the model. In order to verify the kinetic model of DPF passive

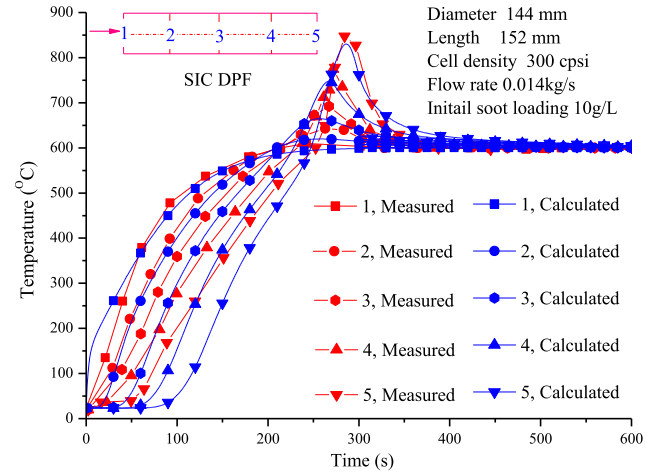


Fig. 2. Comparison of the calculated and measured (Triana, 2005) wall temperatures for active regeneration.

regeneration, under specific working conditions and DPF structure, the calculated value of soot loading during the DPF regeneration process is compared with the experimental value (Zhang et al., 2021), as shown in Fig. 3. These results indicate the ability of the DPF model to reliably predict the soot loading during DPF passive regeneration.

## 3. Results and discussions

The proportion of soot oxidized by  $O_2$  and  $NO_2$  is calculated as shown in Eq. (22) and Eq. (23), respectively. The average proportion of soot oxidized by  $O_2$  is calculated as shown in Eq. (24). The PR-UBT, APR-BPT and AR-LBT are presented in Eq. (25), Eq. (26) and Eq. (27), respectively. The calculation method of PR-UBT, APR-BPT and AR-LBT is to first calculate the proportion of soot oxidation mechanisms in a wide range of temperatures, and then narrow the range in subsequent calculations until the calculated temperature is at PR-UBT, APR-BPT or AR-LBT. If the temperature range ( $T_1 \sim T_2$ ) is reduced to 1 °C, and the proportion of soot oxidized by  $O_2$  is less than the specified standard value (10 %, 50 % or 90 %) at the temperature  $T_1$ , while the calculated value is greater at the temperature  $T_2$ , it is stipulated that at which temperature ( $T_1$  or  $T_2$ ) the absolute value of the difference between the proportion of soot oxidation mechanism and the specified standard value is less, the temperature is recognized as PR-UBT, APR-BPT or AR-LBT. In addition, if a certain soot oxidation mechanism accounts for more than 90 %, the DPF regeneration is in the control of the active or passive regeneration regime. While the proportion is less than 10 %, the regeneration method is negligible. When the proportion of the two soot oxidation mechanisms is 10 %-90 %, the DPF regeneration is in the hybrid regeneration regime.

$$\chi_{O_2} = \frac{\int_0^L (2r_1 + r_2) dz}{\int_0^L (2r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + 0.5r_4) dz} \quad (22)$$

$$\chi_{NO_2} = \frac{\int_0^L (r_3 + 0.5r_4) dz}{\int_0^L (2r_1 + r_2 + r_3 + 0.5r_4) dz} \quad (23)$$

where  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $r_3$  and  $r_4$  are expressed as Equations (17) to (21), respectively.

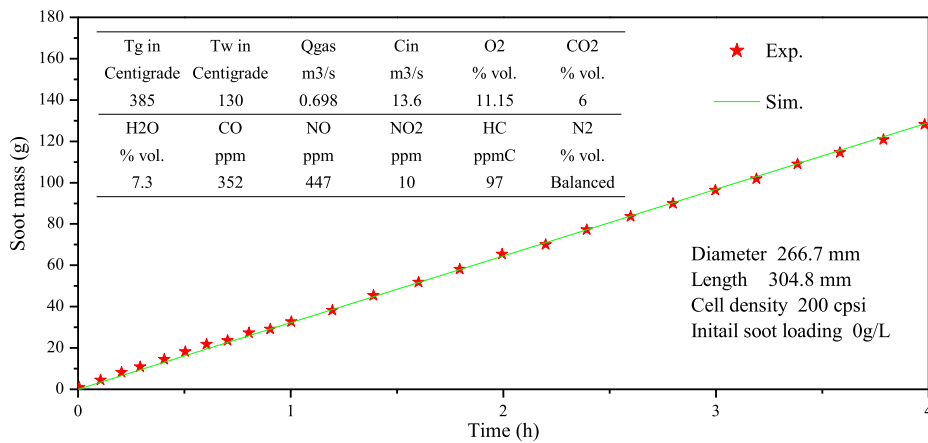


Fig. 3. Comparison of the calculated and measured (Zhang et al., 2021) soot mass for passive regeneration.

$$\overline{\chi_{O_2}}(T) = \int_0^{t_{AP}} \int_0^L \left( \frac{K_3 e^{\left(\frac{-E_3}{RT}\right)} y_{NO_2} + 0.5K_4 e^{\left(\frac{-E_4}{RT}\right)} y_{NO_2}}{f_{co} K_1 e^{\left(\frac{-E_1}{RT}\right)} y_{O_2} + K_3 e^{\left(\frac{-E_3}{RT}\right)} y_{NO_2} + 0.5K_4 e^{\left(\frac{-E_4}{RT}\right)} y_{NO_2}} \right) dz dt \times 100\% \quad (24)$$

where  $t_{AP}$  is the limitation time, which is defined as the time it takes for 99 % of the soot to be consumed or to reach a balance between soot deposition and soot consumption.

Let  $T = PR-UBT, APR-BPT$  or  $AR-LBT$ , then:

$$\overline{\chi_{O_2}}(PR - UBT) = 10\% \quad (25)$$

$$\overline{\chi_{O_2}}(APR - BPT) = 50\% \quad (26)$$

$$\overline{\chi_{O_2}}(AR - LBT) = 90\% \quad (27)$$

As shown in Fig. 4(a), before 100 s, because of the thermal resistance upstream of the DPF, the reaction of soot with  $NO_2$  and  $O_2$  is extremely slow, but the former has a higher reaction rate. Therefore, the soot oxidation is in the control of passive regeneration regime. After 100 s, when the inlet temperature is low ( $\leq 350^\circ\text{C}$ ), the reactivity of  $NO_2$  towards soot is far greater than that of  $O_2$ , and thus the proportion of soot oxidized by  $NO_2$  exceeds 90 %. Therefore, the DPF is under passive regeneration control. When the inlet temperature is high ( $\geq 400^\circ\text{C}$ ), soot- $O_2$  reaction is accelerated, and the soot oxidation will enter the hybrid regeneration regime successively. And as the temperature rises, the faster it will enter the hybrid regeneration regime. When the inlet temperature is  $400^\circ\text{C}$  or  $450^\circ\text{C}$ , the soot oxidation only enters the hybrid regeneration regime; while at the inlet temperature of  $500^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $550^\circ\text{C}$  or  $600^\circ\text{C}$ , the soot oxidation enters the hybrid regeneration regime first, and then the proportion of soot oxidized by  $O_2$  exceeds 90 %, entering the active regeneration regime, and finally enters the hybrid regeneration regime again. It may be because with the decreased particulate concentration in the DPF, although the oxygen concentration in the exhaust is greater than the  $NO_2$  concentration, the pre-exponential factor of the soot- $NO_2$  reaction in the model is greater than that of soot- $O_2$  reaction. Therefore, the rate of soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  increases, and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $O_2$  mechanism decreases. As shown in Fig. 4(b) and 4(c), as DPF regeneration continues, when the inlet temperature is low ( $\leq 350^\circ\text{C}$ ), DPF is still under the control of passive regeneration. When the inlet temperature is  $400^\circ\text{C}$ , the proportion of soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  mechanism increases until it exceeds 90 %, and thus the DPF regeneration is in the passive regeneration regime. When the inlet temperature is higher than  $450^\circ\text{C}$ , the proportion of soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  mechanism increases but does not exceed 90 %, and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $O_2$  mechanism decreases but does not less than 10 %, and thus the soot oxidation is in the hybrid regeneration regime. In addition, when the regeneration time is long enough, the particulates are continuously consumed and deposited, and the proportion of the soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  and  $O_2$  will tend to an asymptotic value.

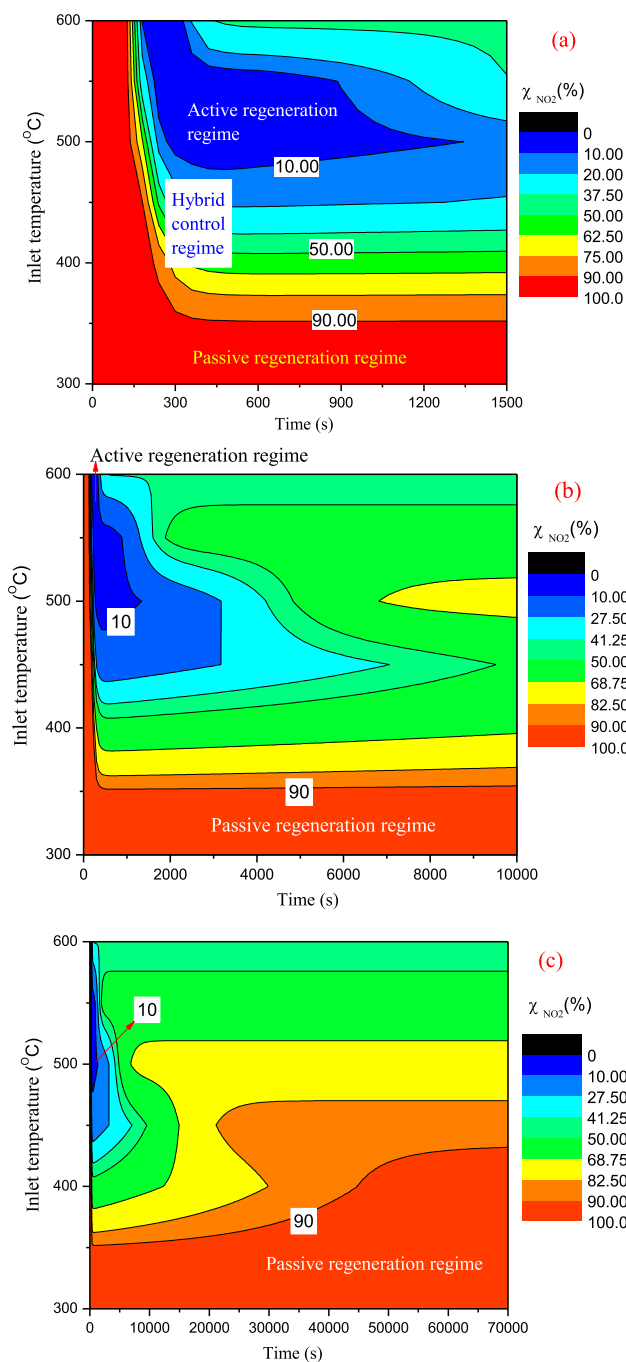
and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $O_2$  mechanism decreases but does not less than 10 %, and thus the soot oxidation is in the hybrid regeneration regime. In addition, when the regeneration time is long enough, the particulates are continuously consumed and deposited, and the proportion of the soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  and  $O_2$  will tend to an asymptotic value.

The PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs of the DPF at different inlet  $O_2$  concentration are shown in Fig. 5. When the inlet oxygen concentration is 5 %, 10 %, and 15 %, the passive regeneration regime is  $\sim 391^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\sim 372^\circ\text{C}$  and  $\sim 344^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively; the hybrid regeneration regime is  $391 \sim 559^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $372 \sim 525^\circ\text{C}$  and  $344 \sim 514^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively; the active regeneration regime is  $559^\circ\text{C} \sim 525^\circ\text{C}$  and  $514^\circ\text{C} \sim 514^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively. With the increase of inlet  $O_2$  concentration, PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs decrease, the passive regeneration regime is narrowed, while the active regeneration regime is expanded. It shows that as the inlet  $O_2$  concentration increases, the proportion of soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  mechanism decreases and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $O_2$  mechanism increases. This is because the increase in inlet  $O_2$  concentration is beneficial to the soot- $O_2$  reaction, but has very limited effect on the soot- $NO_2$  reaction.

The PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs of the DPF at different inlet flow rates are shown in Fig. 6. When the inlet flow rate is 0.007 kg/s, 0.014 kg/s and 0.021 kg/s, the passive regeneration regime is  $\sim 358^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\sim 372^\circ\text{C}$  and  $\sim 381^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively; the hybrid regeneration regime is  $358 \sim 512^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $372 \sim 525^\circ\text{C}$  and  $381 \sim 537^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively; the active regeneration regime is  $512^\circ\text{C} \sim 525^\circ\text{C}$  and  $537^\circ\text{C} \sim 537^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively. With increasing inlet flow rate, PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs increase, the passive regeneration regime expands, while the active regeneration regime narrows. It shows that with the increase of the inlet flow rate, the proportion of soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  mechanism increases and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $O_2$  mechanism decreases. This is because in a relatively fast reaction, although the increase in flow rate is not conducive to the full contact of the reactant gas and the particulates, the amount of  $O_2$  and  $NO_2$  flowing through the particulate layer and the filter wall per unit time increases. However, it is possible that for a given concentration of  $O_2$  and  $NO_2$ , soot oxidation by  $O_2$  (Eq. (12) and Eq. (13)) needs more carbon (soot) than soot oxidation by  $NO_2$  (Eq. (14) and Eq. (15)). Thus, the lesser the remaining soot mass in the filter surface, the lesser the weight of  $O_2$ -assisted oxidations, compared to  $NO_2$ -assisted.

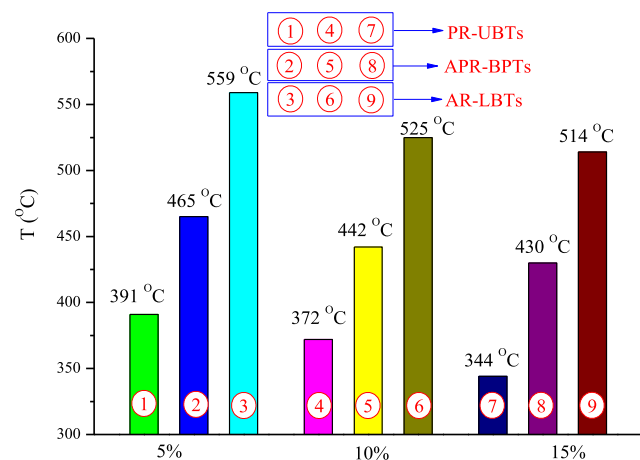
The diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC) located in upstream of the DPF will increase the inlet  $NO_2$  concentration of the DPF [52]. Therefore, it is important to study the influence of the large inlet  $NO_2$  concentration on the proportion of the regeneration mechanism. Increasing  $NO_x$  concentration and  $NO_2/NO_x$  ratio at



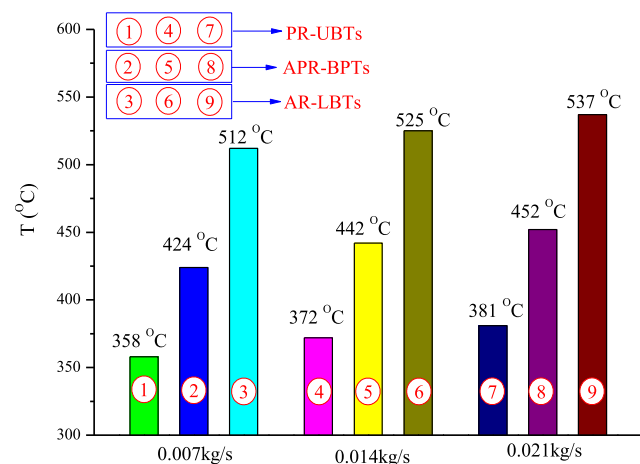


**Fig. 4.** Proportion evolution of the soot oxidation mechanism in DPF at different temperatures (a) First 1500 s; (b) First 10,000 s; (c) 70,000 s (10 % O<sub>2</sub>, 0.014 kg/s, 10 % NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub>, 10 g/L initial soot loading).

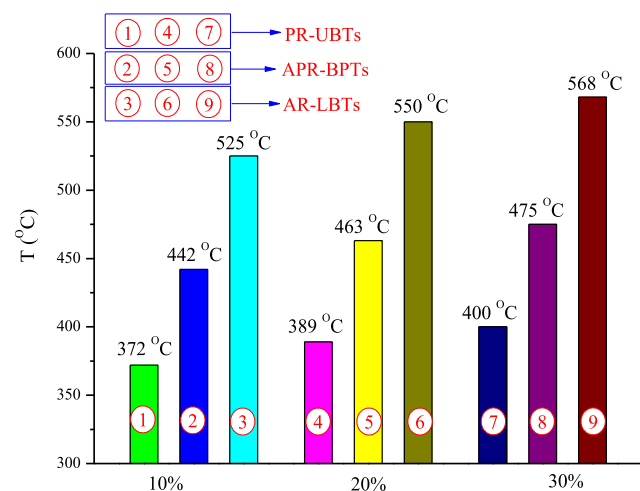
aftertreatment system both increase the inlet NO<sub>2</sub> concentration of the DPF. Therefore, only the increase in the NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio has been discussed here. The PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs of the DPF at different inlet NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratios are shown in Fig. 7. When the inlet NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio is 10 %, 20 %, and 30 %, the passive regeneration regime is ~ 372°C, ~389°C and ~ 400°C, respectively; the hybrid regeneration regime is 372 ~ 525°C, 389 ~ 550°C and 400 ~ 568°C, respectively; the active regeneration regime is 525°C~ 550°C~ and 568°C, respectively. With the increase of inlet NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio, PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs increase, the passive regeneration regime enlarges, and the active regeneration regime diminishes. It shows that as the inlet NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio



**Fig. 5.** PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs under different inlet O<sub>2</sub> concentration.



**Fig. 6.** PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs under different inlet flow rate.



**Fig. 7.** PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs under different inlet NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio.

increases, the proportion of soot oxidation by NO<sub>2</sub> mechanism increases and the proportion of soot oxidation by O<sub>2</sub> mechanism decreases. This is because the increase in the inlet NO<sub>2</sub>/NO<sub>x</sub> ratio increases the concentration of inlet NO<sub>2</sub>, which is beneficial to the soot-NO<sub>2</sub> reaction, but has no effect on the soot-O<sub>2</sub> reaction.

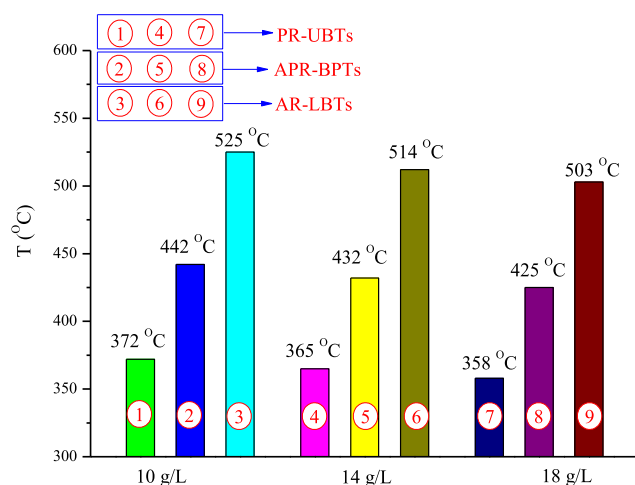


Fig. 8. PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs under different initial soot loading.

The PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs of the DPF at different initial soot loading are shown in Fig. 8. When the initial soot loading is 10 g/L, 14 g/L, and 18 g/L, the passive regeneration regime is  $\sim 372^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\sim 365^\circ\text{C}$  and  $\sim 358^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively; the hybrid regeneration regime is  $372 \sim 525^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $365 \sim 514^\circ\text{C}$  and  $358 \sim 503^\circ\text{C}$ , respectively; the active regeneration regime is  $525^\circ\text{C} \sim$ ,  $514^\circ\text{C} \sim$  and  $503^\circ\text{C} \sim$ , respectively. With the increase of the initial soot loading, PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs decrease, the passive regeneration regime narrows, and the active regeneration regime expands. It shows that as the initial soot loading increases, the proportion of soot oxidation by  $\text{NO}_2$  mechanism decreases and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $\text{O}_2$  mechanism increases. This is because the  $\text{O}_2$  concentration in exhaust is much greater than the  $\text{NO}_2$  concentration, and the increase in the initial soot loading results in the faster soot- $\text{O}_2$  reaction while a small impact on the soot- $\text{NO}_2$  reaction.

#### 4. Conclusions

Different DPF regeneration mechanisms, including passive regeneration and active regeneration, affect the performance of itself and downstream post-processing equipment. In order to study soot combustion mechanism in DPF, a coupled model of DPF passive and active regeneration is established, and its kinetic parameters are verified. APR-BPT, PR-UBT and AR-LBT are defined for the first time to study three control regimes. The three control regimes, including the passive regeneration regime, the hybrid regeneration regime and the active regeneration regime, are affected by two soot oxidation mechanisms (soot oxidation by  $\text{NO}_2$  and soot combustion by  $\text{O}_2$ ). Additionally, the effect analysis of key parameters on APR-BPT, PR-UBT and AR-LBT is conducted to reveal the evolution of the two soot oxidation mechanisms. The main results show that with increase of the initial soot loading and inlet  $\text{O}_2$  concentration, PR-UBTs, APR-BPTs and AR-LBTs decrease, the passive regeneration regime narrows, and the active regeneration regime expands. It means the proportion of soot oxidation by  $\text{NO}_2$  mechanism decreases and the proportion of soot oxidation by  $\text{O}_2$  mechanism increases. While, the increase of inlet flow rate and inlet  $\text{NO}_2/\text{NO}_x$  ratio respond to the opposite trend. The research on the soot combustion mechanism during DPF regeneration provides a theoretical basis for coupled DPF regeneration and its control. The future work will focus on heating time control during soot combustion process inside DPF.

#### CRediT authorship contribution statement

**Chao Zhong:** Resources, Project administration, Software, Data curation, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing. **Jingwei Liang:** Software, Data curation, Writing – review & editing. **Yun Zhu:** Software, Data curation, Writing – review & editing. **Hongyan Zuo:** Supervision, Conceptualization, Writing – review & editing. **Shaoli Wang:** Data curation, Writing – review & editing. **Bo Chen:** Writing – review & editing. **Xin Wu:** Writing – review & editing. **Chenxi Wu:** Writing – review & editing.

#### Data availability

Data will be made available on request.

#### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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