Optimization of operating parameters for better performance and emission using DICI engine operated with diesel-pungamia biodiesel blend

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ABSTRACT

The increase in number of automobiles in recent years has resulted in great demand for petroleum products. Vegetable oils might provide a viable alternative to diesel since they are renewable in nature and environmentally friendly. In the present investigation biodiesel was prepared from pungamia oil and blended with diesel. The prepared biodiesel blend of 20% was used for the present investigation. Tests were conducted in a single cylinder direct injection diesel engine fueled with 20% biodiesel blend for compression ratios of 19:1, 17:5 and 16:1, injection timings of 27°bTDC, 24°bTDC and 21°bTDC and injection pressures of 240 bar, 220 bar and 200 bar. From the detailed analysis of performance and emission characteristics, the optimized operating parameters such as compression ratio of 19:1, injection timing of 27°bTDC and injection pressure of 240 bar are identified for the diesel engine fueled with 20% biodiesel blend. For these optimized operating parameters, highest brake thermal efficiency of (30.9%), lowest brake specific energy consumption of (11005 kJ / kW-hr) were observed. The heat release rate and harmful pollutants such as HC, CO are reduced in the 20% biodiesel blend compared to diesel fuel. At these optimized operating parameters, emission of nitric oxide increases marginally for 20% biodiesel blend compared to diesel fuel. Finally, it can be concluded that 20% biodiesel blend could be used as alternative fuel for optimized operating CI engine at compression ratio of 19:1, injection pressure of 240 bar and injection timing of 27°bTDC for better engine performance and lower emissions. The results reveal that the pungamia biodiesel blend can be used safely without any modification to the engine.

Keywords: biodiesel; diesel engine; combustion; emissions; Pungam Methyl Esters, DICI direct injection compression ignition.

INTRODUCTION

Due to rapid depletion of petroleum fuel, researchers throughout the world are looking for alternative fuels to run the engines. Of the various alternate fuels under consideration, biodiesel derived from vegetable oils, is the most promising alternative fuel to diesel due to the following reasons. Biodiesel can be used in the existing engine without any modifications. Biodiesel is made entirely from vegetable sources, it does not contain any sulfur, aromatic hydrocarbons, metals or crude oil residues. Biodiesel is an oxygenated fuel, emissions of carbon monoxide and soot tend to reduce. The use of biodiesel can extend the life of diesel engines because it is more lubricating than petroleum diesel fuel. Biodiesel is produced from renewable vegetable oils/animal fats and hence improves the fuel or energy security and economy independence and the correspondence properties have mentioned in Table 1. Many
investigators have used jatropha oil and pungamia oil methyl esters with various proportions as a CI engine fuel and the following conclusions have been made: Jatropha oil, diesel and their blends exhibited similar performance and emission characteristics under comparable operating conditions (Forson et al., 2004). Pungamia oil methyl ester and their blends exhibited lower unburned hydrocarbon, carbon monoxide and soot emissions with a penalty of higher nitric oxide emission (Lakshminarayanan et al., 2008). Jatropha methyl ester and its blends are a potential substitute for diesel. JTME produces lesser emissions than petroleum diesel, except NOx, and have satisfactory combustion and performance characteristics (Lakshminarayanan et al., 2007). Improvement in performance characteristics and reduction in emissions were observed by preheating jatropha oil (Palaniswamy et al., 2006). A significant improvement in the performance and emissions was observed by optimizing the injector opening pressure, injection timing, injection rate and enhancing the swirl level when a diesel engine is to be operated with neat jatropha oil (Reddy and Ramesh, 2006). Performance and emission characteristics of JTME are superior when compared to other methyl esters produced from other feedstock. Peak pressure is higher for jatropha methyl ester compared to diesel (Sundarapandian and Devaradjane, 2005). Hsiang & Lin, 2007; Jo et al., 2006). The objective of the present study is to analyze the behavior of metal flow and to optimize the process parameters such as billet temperatures, bearing lengths (mandrel length), convex die angle and container temperature (tooling temperature) to yield good mechanical properties (Saidur et al., 2008). Most of the above research works are concentrated on performance and emission characteristics of PME and very limited work has been done to analyze the combustion characteristics. The present study investigates the combustion characteristics by highlighting their effect on performance and emission characteristics. This paper provides complete understanding and comprehensive analysis of the combustion, performance and emission characteristics of PME-diesel blends. The objective of the project is to carry out experimental investigation on low heat rejection engine with raw jatropha oil, methyl ester of jatropha oil, methyl ester of jatropha oil–kerosene blend in the proportion of 70:30 and diesel. The results obtained indicate better performance and emission characteristics of the engine with methylester of jatropha oil.

**EXPERIMENTAL SECTION**

Figure 1 shows the schematic line diagram of the experimental set up and its specification and operating ranges are given in Table 2 and Table 3. A Electrical dynamometer was used to apply the load on the engine. A water rheostat with an adjustable depth of immersion electrode was provided to dissipate the power generated. Tests were carried out at various loads starting from no load to full load condition at a constant rated speed of 1500 rpm.

![Figure 1 Pictorial view of Experimental setup](image-url)

At each load, the fuel flow rate various constituents of exhaust gases such as Hydrocarbon (HC), carbon monoxide (CO) and nitrogen oxides (NOx), were measured with a 5-gas MRU Delta exhaust gas analyzer. The analyzer uses the principle of non-dispersive infrared (NDIR) for the measurement of CO and HC emissions while NOx,
measurement was by means of electrochemical sensors. Combustion analysis was carried out by means of an AVL 615 pressure pick-up fitted on the cylinder head and a TDC encoder fixed on the output shaft of the engine. The pressure and the crank angle signals were fed to a pentium personal computer. Various combustion parameters like heat release rate, cumulative heat release rate and peak pressure and its accuracy were obtained using data acquisition system. The engine was first operated with diesel oil to generate the baseline data followed by Methyl Esters of pongamia oil and their blend such as PME20.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 1. COMPARISON OF BIODIESEL PROPERTIES WITH DIESEL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Properties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cetane No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Density (kg/m³)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viscosity (cSt)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calorific value (MJ/kg)</td>
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<td>Flash point °C</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>TABLE 2. SPECIFICATIONS OF ENGINE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Make</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bore × Stroke (nm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compression ratio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cubic capacity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rated power</td>
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<td>Rated speed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start of injection</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecting rod length</td>
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<tr>
<td>Injector operating</td>
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</table>

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<tr>
<th>TABLE 3. OPERATING PARAMETERS CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENT INVESTIGATIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Load</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speed (rev/min)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compression ratio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injection Timing (°bTDC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Injection Pressure (bar)</td>
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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tests were carried out at different compression ratio, injection timing and injection pressure and its details are mentioned in Table 3. At injector opening pressure of 200bar and 220bar and injection timing of 21°bTDC and 24°bTDC and compression ratio of 17.5:1 and 16:1 were tried for PME20 but from the investigation it was found that the performance was very poor. Further the engine were set to run at higher compression ratio of 19:1, advanced injection timing of 27°bTDC and higher injector opening pressure of 240bar it arrives at the optimum range operating parameters PME20. It was observed that PME20 it gives better performance for the optimized operating parameters.

Figure 2 shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power for PME20. The maximum brake thermal efficiency obtained is about 30.9% for PME20 at compression ratio of 19:1. Increase in thermal efficiency is due to the increase in peak pressure and increases in combustion temperature. The other compression ratio of 16:1 and 17.5:1 offers relatively lower brake thermal efficiency than that of 19:1.

Figure 3 shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power for PME20. It is observed that the increase in injection timing increases the brake thermal efficiency and the maximum brake thermal efficiency occurs at 27°bTDC. The main reason for higher brake thermal efficiency at this particular timing is that the peak pressure occurs closer to TDC also fuel releases all the heat is shorter duration of combustion and resulting in improved performance.
Figure.2.Effect of compression ratio on the variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power

Figure.3.Effect of injection timing on the variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power

Figure.4.shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power for PME20. It was observed that the increase in brake thermal efficiency with increase in injection pressure may due finer spray and better entrainment.

Figure.5.shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of brake specific energy consumption with brake power for PME20. From the results it is found that PME20 offers comparatively lower BSEC for compression ratio of 19:1 compare to other 16:1 and 17.5:1. This is due to better combustion of PME20 due to presence of high cetane of PME.

Figure.6.shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of brake specific energy consumption with brake power for PME20. It is observed that the change in injection timing changes the occurrence of peak pressure and changes the duration of combustion. The injection timing 27°bTDC produces peak pressure closer to TDC and offers
sufficient time to release heat, hence this particular timing offers lower BSEC compare to other injection timing 21°bTDC and 24°bTDC.

**Figure 4.** Effect of injection pressure on the variation of brake thermal efficiency with brake power

**Figure 5.** Effect of compression ratio on the variation of brake specific energy consumption with brake power

Figure 7. shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of brake specific energy consumption with brake power for PME20. It was observed that BSEC decreased with increase in injection pressure. The minimum BSEC was observed in PME20 at injection pressure 240bar whereas the maximum BSEC was obtained at injection pressure 200bar. This is due to finer spray, rapid heat release and shorter duration of combustion. Usually, finer spray and improved air entrainment cause lower BSEC for 240bar.

Figure 8. shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of cylinder pressure with crank angle for PME20. From the results it is clear that peak pressure increases with increase in compression ratio. This is due to increased combustion temperature and shorter duration of combustion.
Figure 6. Effect of injection timing on the variation of BSEC with brake power

Figure 7. Effect of injection pressure on the variation of BSEC with brake power

Figure 9. shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of cylinder pressure with crank angle for PME20. The change in injection timing changes the occurrence of peak pressure and combustion duration. The injection timing of 27°bTDC produces peak pressure few degree before TDC and utilizes the heat energy well before the completion of power stroke and hence the timing offers maximum peak pressure compare to other timing. This is the main reason for higher brake thermal efficiency of 27°bTDC.

Figure 10. shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of cylinder pressure with crank angle for PME20. It was observed that cylinder pressure increases with increase in injection pressure. The change in injection pressure causes change in spray parameters and changes the air entrainment behaviour. The higher injection pressure of 240bar produces finer spray and causes better air entrainment. This is the main reason for higher peak pressure for this injection pressure.
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Figure.8. Effect of compression ratio on the variation of cylinder pressure with crank angle

Figure.9. Effect of injection timing on the variation of cylinder pressure with crank angle

Figure.11. shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of heat release rate with crank angle for PME20. It is seen that the height of premixed phase of combustion decreases with respect to increase in compression ratio. Also the compression ratio increases change the duration of combustion. Usually higher compression ratio offers shorter duration of combustion and cause better performance.

Figure.12. shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of heat release rate with crank angle for PME20. The injection timing of 27°bTDC offers comparatively shorter duration of combustion and produces peak heat release rate closer to diesel baseline operation. Hence this particular timing offers better performance compared to other injection timing of 21°bTDC and 24°bTDC.

Figure.13. shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of heat release rate with crank angle for PME20. The injection pressure of 240bar increases spray and mixing property and causes better combustion. Hence it is seen that higher injection pressure offers shorter duration of combustion and rapid rate of heat release than that of other injection pressure of 200bar and 220bar.
Figure 10. Effect of injection pressure on the variation of cylinder pressure with crank angle

Figure 11. Effect of compression ratio on the variation of HRR with crank angle

Figure 14. shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of cumulative heat release rate with crank angle for PME20. It is seen that the height of premixed phase of combustion decreases with respect to increase in compression ratio. Also the compression ratio increases change the duration of combustion. Usually higher compression ratio offers shorter duration of combustion and cause better performance.

Figure 15. Shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of cumulative heat release rate with crank angle for PME20. The injection timing of 27°bTDC offers comparatively shorter duration of combustion and produces peak heat release rate closer to diesel baseline operation. Hence this particular timing offers better performance compare to other injection timing of 21°bTDC and 24°bTDC.

Figure 16. Shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of cumulative heat release rate with crank angle for PME20. The injection pressure of 240bar increases spray and mixing property and causes better combustion. Hence it is seen that higher injection pressure offers shorter duration of combustion and rapid rate of heat release than that of other injection pressure of 200bar and 220bar.
Figure.12. Effect of injection timing on the variation of HRR with crank angle

Figure.13. Effect of injection pressure on the variation of HRR with crank angle

Figure.17. Shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of hydrocarbon with brake power for PME20. It was observed that the maximum rate of hydrocarbon is 35ppm for compression ratio at 19:1. It is also found that the hydrocarbon of 0.112 g/kW-hr for compression ratio at 17.5:1 decreases with increase in concentration of the biodiesel blend. This may be due to improved combustion because of increased in injection pressure and advanced injection timing.

Figure.18. Shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of hydrocarbon with brake power for PME20. It was observed that the maximum rate of hydrocarbon is 0.129g/kW-hr for injection timing at 27deg bTDC. It is also found that the hydrocarbon of 0.122g/kW-hr for injection timing at 24deg bTDC decreases with increase in concentration of the biodiesel blend. This may be due to improved combustion because of increased in injection pressure and increase in compression ratio.

Figure.19. Shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of hydrocarbon with brake power for PME20. It was observed that the maximum rate of hydrocarbon is 38ppm for injection pressure at 240bar. It is also found that the hydrocarbon of 0.122g/kW-hr for compression ratio at 200bar decreases with increase in concentration of the
biodiesel blend. This may be due to improved combustion because of increased compression ratio and advanced injection timing.

Figure.14. Effect of compression ratio on the variation of CHRR with crank angle

![Figure 14](image)

Figure.15. Effect of injection timing on the variation of CHRR with crank angle

![Figure 15](image)

Figure.20. Shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of carbon monoxide with brake power for PME20. It was noticed that CO emission of 0.968 g/kW-hr for compression ratio at 19:1. CO emissions decreases with increase in JME in the blend had sufficient time for combustion process because of advanced injection pressure.

Figure.21. Shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of carbon monoxide power for PME20. It was noticed that CO emission of 1.343 g/kW-hr for injection timing 27° bTDC because due to presence of oxygen in the biofuel. CO emissions decreases with injection timing at 21° bTDC of 0.948 g/kW-hr.

Figure.22. Shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of carbon monoxide brake power for PME20. It was noticed that CO emission of 1.343 g/kW-hr for injection pressure at 240 bar. CO emissions decreases with injection pressure at 200 bar of 0.124 g/kW-hr. Reduced CO emissions were maintained, probably, owing to the oxygen inherently present in the biofuel.
Figure 16. Effect of injection pressure on the variation of CHRR with crank angle

Figure 17. Effect of compression ratio on variation of Hydrocarbon with Brake Power

Figure 23. Shows the effect of compression ratio on the variation of nitric oxide brake power for PME20. It can be observed that NOx emissions increases for PME20 49.3g/kW-hr at compression ratio 19:1 compare to compression ratio at 16:1 42.1g/kW-hr. Due to the advancement of compression ratio and pressure all the injected fuel burnt as a result higher combustion temperature is attained. The higher temperature promotes NOx formation.

Figure 24. Shows the effect of injection timing on the variation of nitric oxide brake power for PME20. It can be observed that NOx emissions increases for PME20 43.9g/kW-hr at injection timing 27deg bTDC compare to injection timing at 21deg bTDC 21.05g/kW-hr. This is due to the advancement of injection timing and pressure all the injected fuel burnt as a result higher combustion temperature is attained. The higher temperature promotes NOx formation.

Figure 25. Shows the effect of injection pressure on the variation of nitric oxide with brake power for PME20. It can be observed that NOx emissions increases for PME20 46.8g/kW-hr injection pressure at 240bar compare to injection pressure at 200bar 42.8g/kW-hr. Due to the advancement of injection timing and pressure all the injected fuel burnt as a result higher combustion temperature is attained. The higher temperature promotes NOx formation.
Figure 18. Effect of injection timing on the variation of hydrocarbon with brake power.

Figure 19. Effect of injection pressure on the variation of Hydrocarbon with Brake Power.
Figure 20. Effect of Compression ratio on the variation of Carbon monoxide with Brake Power

Figure 21. Effect of Injection timing on the variation of Carbon monoxide with Brake Power
Figure 22. Effect of Injection pressure on the variation of Carbon monoxide with Brake Power

Figure 23. Effect of compression ratio on the variation of Nitric Oxide with Brake Power
Following are the conclusions based on the experimental results obtained while operating single cylinder diesel engine fuelled with PME20. The maximum brake thermal efficiency (30.9%) is found to be PME20 injection timing at 27°bTDC, Injection pressure at 240bar and compression ratio at 19:1.

It is found that the combined increase of compression ratio, injection timing and injection pressure increases the Brake Thermal Efficiency and reduces Brake Specific Energy Consumption (11950 kJ/kW-hr) while having lower emissions.
Due to the advancement of injection timing, injection pressure and compression ratio all the injected fuel burnt as a result higher combustion temperature is attained. The higher temperature promotes NOx (1535ppm) formation.

Good mixture formation and lower smoke emission are the key factors for good CI engine performance.

Finally it can be concluded that PME20 could be used as alternative fuel for operating CI engine at compression ratio of 19:1, higher injector opening pressure of 240 bar and advanced injection timing of 27ºbTDC for better engine performance and lower emissions.

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REFERENCES