

# Numerical approach to one-dimensional CH<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> detonation with the reduced chemical kinetic model DRG30

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Received : November 18, 2011 Accepted : June 5, 2012

## Abstract

In order to understand the effect of the CH<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> chemical kinetic models for detonation phenomena, the numerical calculations use one detailed chemical kinetic model k311 and four reduced chemical kinetic models such as DRG30 model, DRG23 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrisno model. At first, the calculations of laminar flame velocity and one-dimensional ZND model are performed to compare with k311 model. Then, it is shown that DRG30 model is the most reliable reduced chemical kinetic model in four reduced kinetic models in these conditions. Next, the one-dimensional Euler simulations are performed with k311 model, DRG30 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrisno model. The results are discussed about detonation velocity history, and instantaneous pressure and temperature profiles. The detonations using k311, DRG30, and Petersen & Hanson models can propagate unstably, but Soetrisno model cannot reproduce a detonation. As a result, the similar features appear between the results with k311 model and DRG30 model.

**Keywords** : methane, detonation, CFD, chemical kinetic model

## 1. Introduction

Detonation is a shock-induced combustion wave propagating through a reactive mixture and has been studied from the safety engineering for long time. The detonation propagation limit is especially important to understand detonation phenomena and to prevent the detonation from propagating. The spinning detonation, which occurs near the limit states, is studied by experiments<sup>1)</sup> and numerical simulations<sup>2)</sup>. It is difficult to observe the detonation phenomena in detail by

experiments because of its supersonic propagating velocity. Therefore, as for hydrogen fuel, three-dimensional detonation was simulated using a H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> detailed reaction model by Tsuboi et al.<sup>3)</sup>, and the pressure dependence and the structures of spinning detonation were discussed in this work. However, as for hydrocarbon fuel, the oscillating behavior of detonation, which cannot be observed for hydrogen fuel, was reported<sup>4)</sup> and six modes were classified depending on the stabilities of detonation velocity<sup>5)</sup>. In this paper, the methane fuel

detonation is discussed because it's the simplest hydrocarbon and is important as a next generation fuel. The experiments of methane detonation near the limit were reported by our group<sup>6</sup>. Methane detonation also has oscillating behavior. Then, to understand the phenomena in detail, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) simulation have to be performed.

The problems of numerical simulation of methane fuel with a detailed reaction model requires more computational time than the case of  $H_2/O_2$  gas mixture, because the computational time increases with almost square of the chemical species. In order to reduce Computational time, one step model is used to calculate the detonation wave for hydrocarbon/oxygen gas mixture<sup>7</sup>. However, calculation with one step model cannot predict the detonation limit because the heat release rate is important around the detonation propagating limit. Therefore, a reliable reduction model is necessary to reduce computational time and to understand the detonation limit for hydrocarbon/oxygen gas mixture.

The objective of this work is to calculate  $CH_4/O_2$  detonation to show the difference of chemical kinetic models. First of all, the calculations of laminar flame velocity and ZND model<sup>8</sup> with the proposed reduction model are discussed and compared with other reaction models. Finally, one-dimensional detonation simulations of  $CH_4/O_2$  gas mixture are performed with three reduced kinetic models to show the effect of the reaction models on the detonation structure.

## 2. Numerical method and conditions

### 2.1 Chemical reaction models

The reduced chemical kinetic models DRG30 model and DRG23 model based on the detailed chemical reaction model k311 model<sup>9</sup> is constructed using Direct Relation Graph method<sup>10</sup> (DRG) to reduce computational time. This models are reduced to be fitted to the experimental laminar flame velocity at  $1.01325 \times 10^5$  Pa<sup>11</sup>, in order to study the methane fuel detonation under low-pressure environments. The other reduction models, Petersen & Hanson model<sup>12</sup> and Soetrisno model<sup>13</sup>, are also chosen to be compared with DRG30 model and DRG23 model, because these reduced chemical kinetic models were constructed for the numerical simulations under high pressure states. The numbers of speceis and elementary reactions are shown in Table 1, respectively.

**Table 1** Number of species and elementary reactions in chemical kinetic models.

Models	Species	Elementary reactions
k311	68	334
DRG30	30	150
DRG23	23	99
Petersen & Hanson	21	34
Soetrisno	12	19

### 2.2 One-dimensional numerical simulation using ZND model

The one-dimensional numerical simulation using ZND model is performed in order to estimate the difference of these models. The gas mixture is stoichiometric  $CH_4/O_2$ . Initial pressures are  $1.01325 \times 10^4$  Pa and  $1.01325 \times 10^5$  Pa, and initial temperature is 298 K. Chapman-Jouguet (CJ) values are calculated with AISTJAN<sup>14</sup>. The chemical kinetic models are k311 model, DRG30 model, DRG23 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrisno model as shown in Table 1.

### 2.3 Numerical simulation of one-dimensional $CH_4/O_2$ detonation

Four chemical kinetic models (k311 model, DRG30 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrisno model) in Table 1 are used for one-dimensional reactive flow simulation in order to study the difference of models in more detail than ZND model. The governing equations are the Euler equations with 68, 30, 21, and 12 chemical species, respectively. They are explicitly integrated using 3<sup>rd</sup>-order Total Variation Diminishing Runge-Kutta method<sup>15</sup>. The chemical reaction source term is integrated by the stiff solver Variable-Coefficient Ordinary Differential Equations solver<sup>16</sup> in order to avoid a stiff problem. Advection Upstream Splitting Method flux Difference and flux Vector scheme<sup>17</sup> with 2<sup>nd</sup>-order Monotone Upstream-centered Scheme for Conservation Laws<sup>18</sup> and minmod limiter is used for the numerical flux in the convective terms. The number of computational grid is 40,000 with the grid size of  $5 \mu\text{m}$  and ignition zone uses 1000 grids. The gas mixtures are stoichiometric  $CH_4/O_2$ . Initial pressure and temperature are  $1.01325 \times 10^4$  Pa and 298.15 K. Ignition pressure and temperature are  $8.106 \times 10^5$  Pa and 1800 K.

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1 Numerical results of the laminar flame velocities

The numerical results of the laminar flame velocities using the chemical kinetic models are in Figure 1. DRG30 model and DRG23 model are much more reliable reaction model than Petersen & Hanson model and Soetrisno model, because the results with Petersen & Hanson and Soetrisno models have twice value compared with the Rozenchan's experimental data in Figure 1.

### 3.2 One-dimensional numerical simulation with ZND model

The results with ZND model are shown in Figures 2 and 3. The temperature profiles for DRG30 model and k311 model show more similar feature than other reduced chemical kinetic models. Especially, the results with Petersen & Hanson model and Soetrisno model require larger ignition time to become a constant temperature, comparing with the results with k311 model. In addition, comparing the results for DRG30 model with DRG23 model, 23 chemical species at least are required for the reduced kinetic model, in order to fit the order of ignition time to become a constant temperature to that of k311

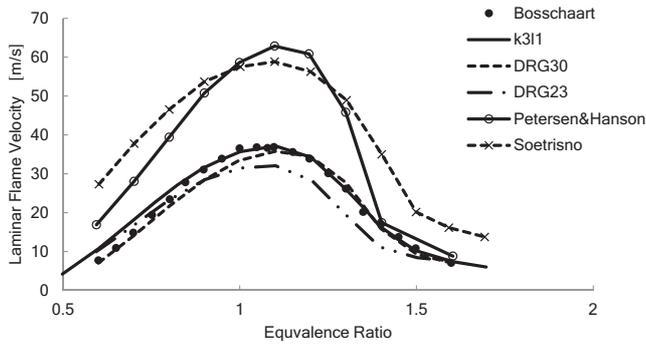


Figure 1 One-Dimensional laminar flame velocity of CH<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> for 1.01325x10<sup>5</sup> Pa.

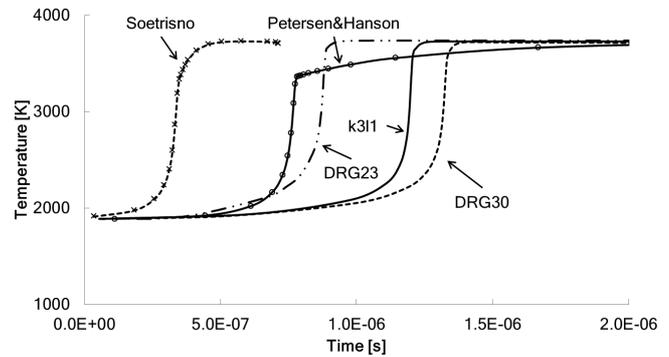
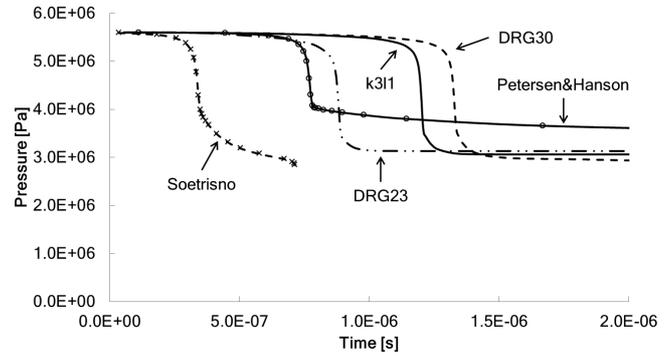


Figure 3 The pressure and temperature profiles for 1.01325x 10<sup>5</sup> Pa.

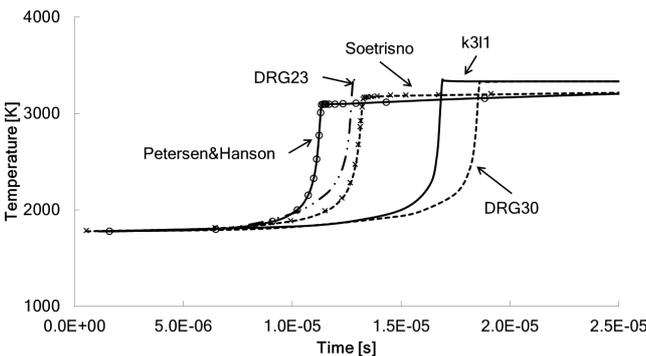
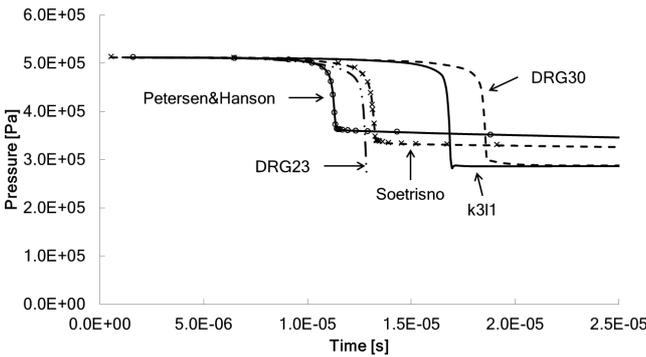


Figure 2 The pressure and temperature profiles for 1.01325x 10<sup>4</sup> Pa.

model. DRG30 model is more reliable reduced chemical kinetic model than DRG23 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrisno model in these conditions. And from referring the experiences, the difference between k311 model and DRG30 model does not dominantly affect the results of CFD simulations. Therefore, we conclude DRG30 model can replace k311 model in these conditions.

### 3.3 Numerical simulation of one-dimensional CH<sub>4</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> detonation

The comparison of computational time ratio for DRG30 is shown in Figure 4. The computational times depend on the number of species. The results of detonation velocities are shown in Figure 5. The velocities for k311 model, DRG30 model, and Petersen & Hanson model are higher than CJ velocity, at first. After some strong peaks, however, the velocity becomes lower than CJ velocity. The strong peaks appear because the reaction and shock fronts closely interact. The one-dimensional detonation without a piston support is known that the detonation cannot self-sustain because of instability of fluids<sup>19</sup>. Therefore, the reaction

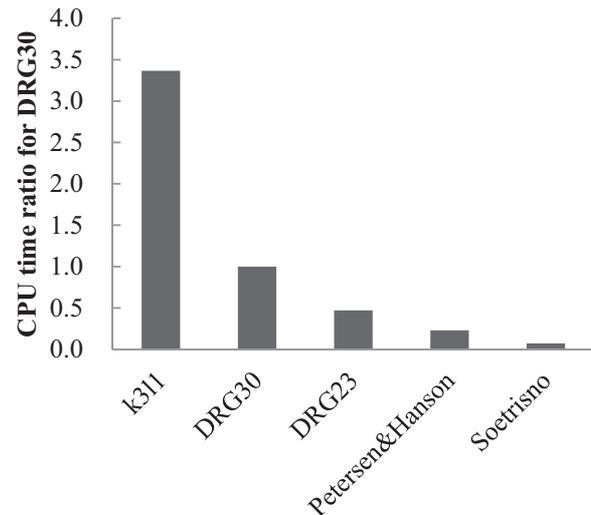
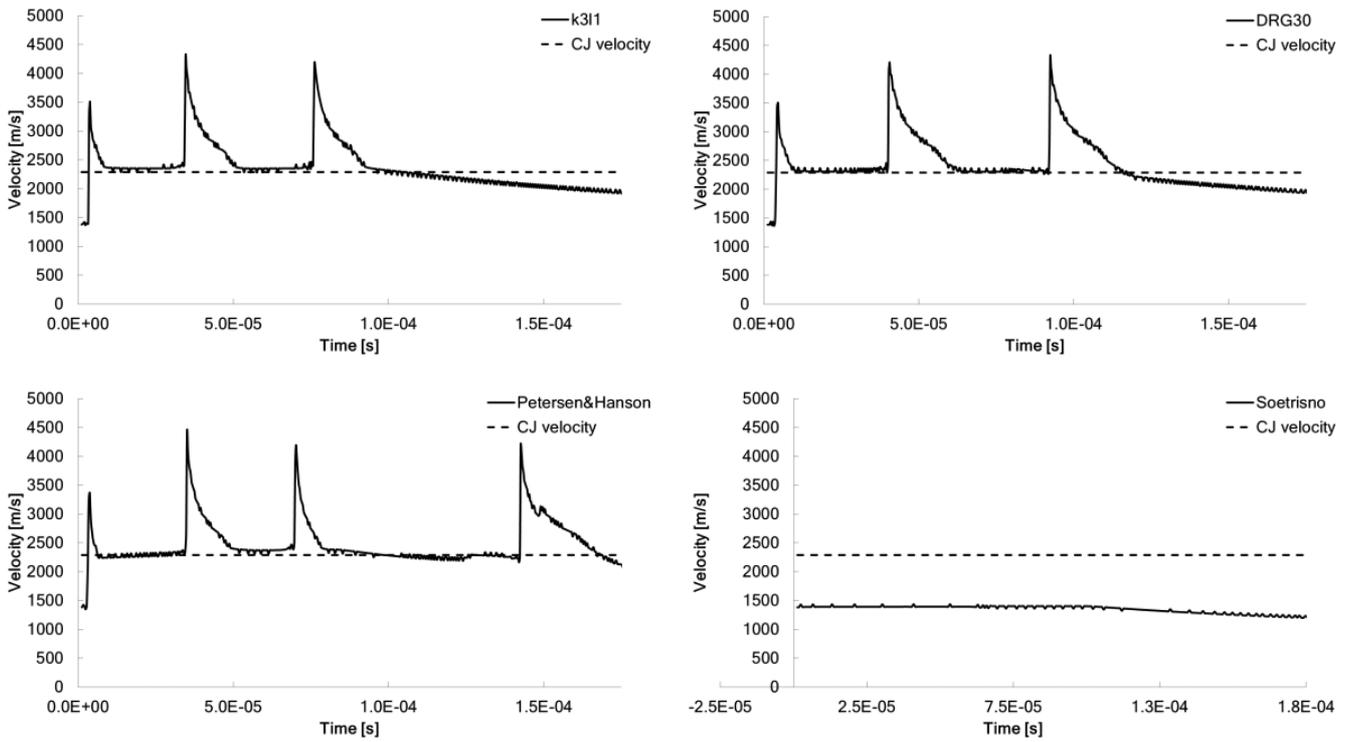


Figure 4 Comparison of computational times for DRG30.

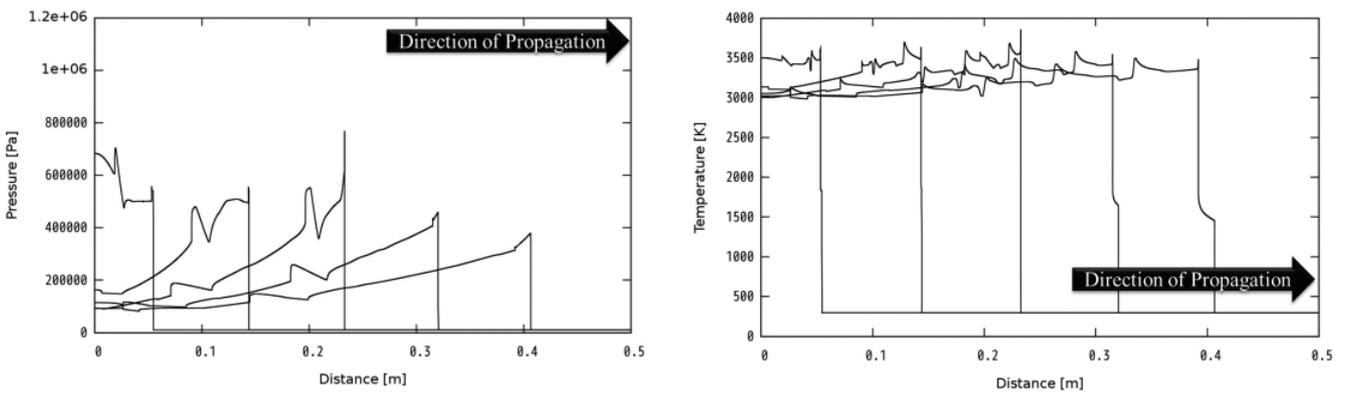
and shock fronts are decoupled and its velocity becomes lower than CJ velocity. The results with Soetrisno model show the detonation wave can't propagate under this condition.

The results of instantaneous pressure and temperature with k311 model, DRG30 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrisno model are plotted in Figures 6-9. In Figures 6-8, the some pressure profiles have strong peaks near the wave front. The peak pressures appear just after the detonation velocities have the strong peaks. In Figures 6-8, the some temperature profiles have the peaks in the detonation front. They also appear just after the detonation velocities have the strong peaks. As shown in temperature profiles, it is clear that shock wave and combustion front are closely coupled during a detonation, but they are decoupled after the detonation disappeared.

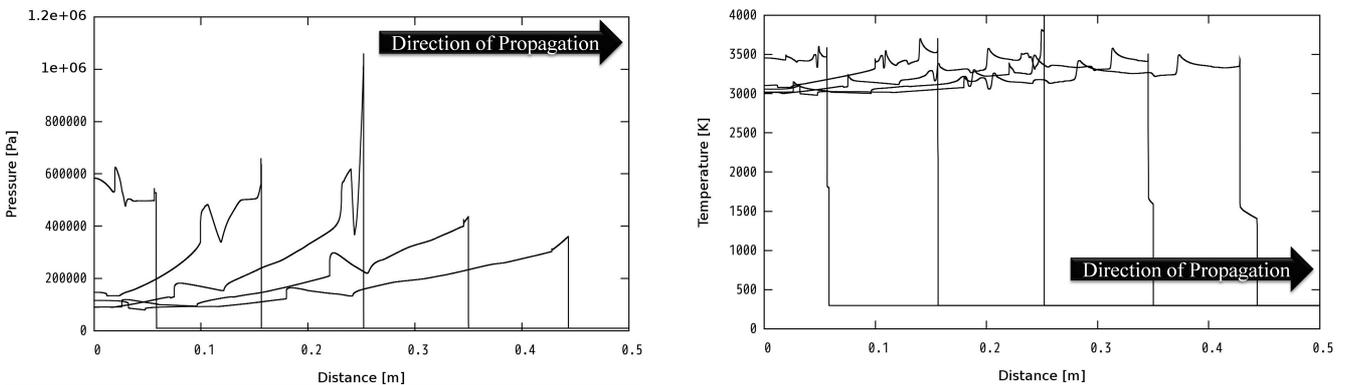




**Figure 5** Comparison of detonation velocity between various chemical kinetic models. CJ velocity is 2290 m/s.



**Figure 6** Instantaneous pressure and temperature profiles for k311 model at  $1.83 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $5.20 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $8.62 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $1.24 \times 10^{-4}$ , and  $1.66 \times 10^{-4}$ s.

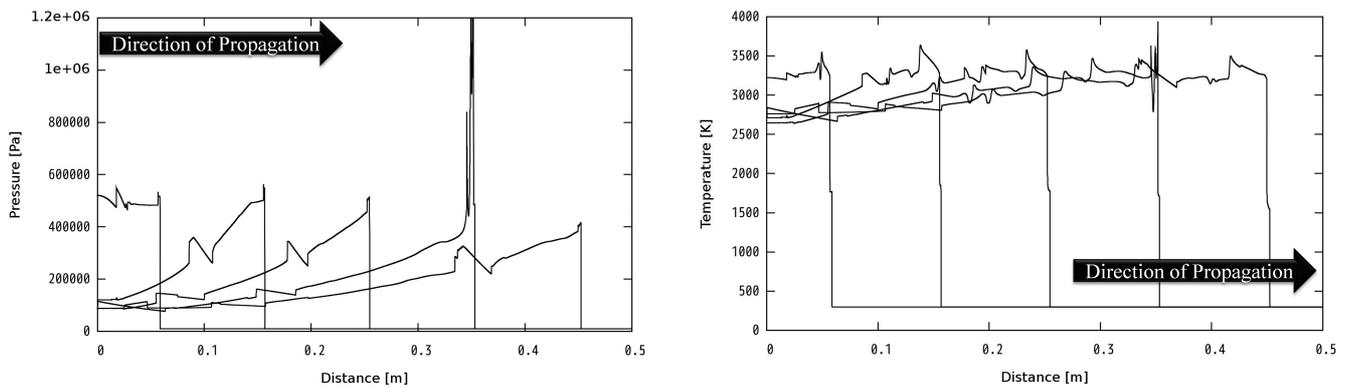


**Figure 7** Instantaneous pressure and temperature profiles for DRG30 model at  $2.02 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $5.68 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $9.56 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $1.35 \times 10^{-4}$ , and  $1.82 \times 10^{-4}$ s.

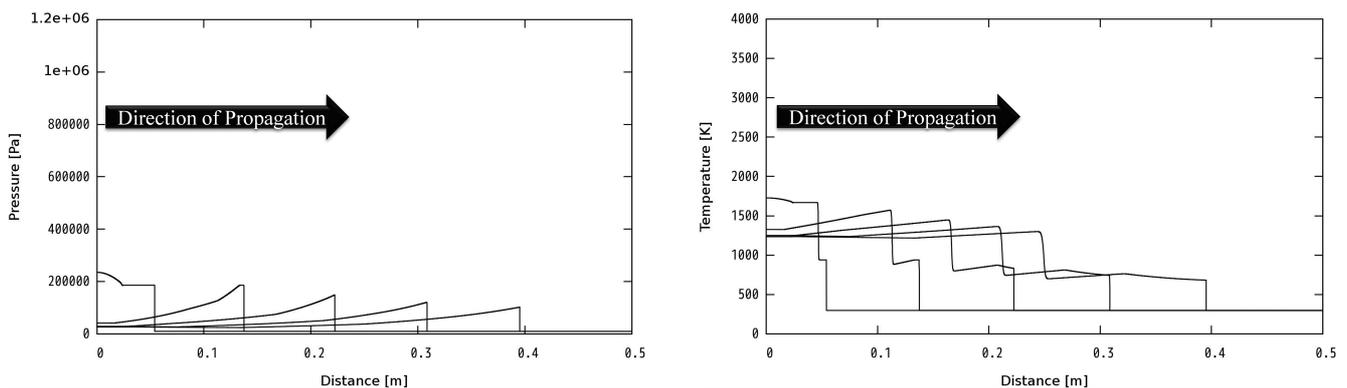
As for Soetrisno model, the detonation does not appear in these conditions because there are no peaks in Figure 9.

Detonation is multi-dimensional phenomena and the two-dimensional simulations are required to understand the effects of the chemical reaction models. Then, it's

difficult to understand the effects of the chemical reaction models. However, the results with DRG30 model are almost similar with the results with k311 model. Then, the one-dimensional detonation in  $\text{CH}_4/\text{O}_2$  gas mixture using the reliable reduction model DRG30 is successfully



**Figure 8** Instantaneous pressure and temperature profiles for Petersen & Hanson model at  $2.09 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $5.89 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $9.82 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $1.42 \times 10^{-4}$ , and  $1.80 \times 10^{-4}$ s.



**Figure 9** Instantaneous pressure and temperature profiles for Soetrismo model at  $2.97 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $8.95 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $1.53 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $2.26 \times 10^{-4}$ , and  $3.06 \times 10^{-4}$ s.

simulated.

#### 4. Conclusions

The numerical simulation on  $\text{CH}_4/\text{O}_2$  detonation with the chemical kinetic models, k311 model, DRG30 model, DRG23 model, Petersen & Hanson model, and Soetrismo model, are estimated in order to understand the effects of chemical kinetic models. The laminar flame velocity and ZND calculations with DRG30 model are more similar to those of k311 model. However, the results with Petersen & Hanson model and Soetrismo model don't agree well with those of k311 model. Therefore, DRG30 model is a reliable reaction model to simulate detonation in these conditions.

As for the one-dimensional simulation, the results with k311 model, DRG30 model, and Petersen & Hanson model can propagate as a detonation wave. In the present simulation conditions, Soetrismo model cannot reproduce a detonation. As for results of instantaneous temperature and pressure profiles, there are similar features between k311 and DRG30 models. As a result, the simulations with DRG30 model can get more reliable results comparing with the results of other reduced chemical kinetic models, and can replace k311 model in these conditions.

#### Acknowledgement

This research is carried out with the super computer system in Kyushu University. This research is also supported by Sumitomo Foundation and partially by the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, 23360380.

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## 簡略化モデルDRG30を用いた 一次元メタン酸素デトネーションの数値解析に向けた研究

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メタン酸素の化学反応モデルが爆轟現象に与える影響を調査するために、詳細化学反応モデルのk3llとDRG30, DRG23, Petersen & Hanson, Soetrisnoの4つの簡略化モデルを用いて計算を行った。まず初めに、層流火炎速度及びZNDモデルの計算を行い、詳細化学反応モデルk3llで得られた結果との比較を行った。結果としてDRG30モデルは選択した4つのモデルの中では十分信頼性が高いことが分かった。次に一次元Euler方程式を解くことにより比較を行った。結果として、k3llモデル、DRG30モデル、DRG23モデルはデトネーションとして伝播することが確認できたが、Soetrisnoモデルを持ちいた解析ではデトネーションとして伝播しなかった。比較の結果、DRG30モデルは詳細化学反応モデルk3llとよく一致することが示され、メタン酸素爆轟計算においてDRG30モデルは十分利用可能であることが分かった。

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