



**Oregon State**  
University



**Northeastern University**

# Assessing the impact of reaction rate variation on autoignition model performance: butanol

Kyle E Niemeyer  
& Morgan Mayer  
*Oregon State University*

Sai Krishna Sirumalla  
& Richard West  
*Northeastern University*

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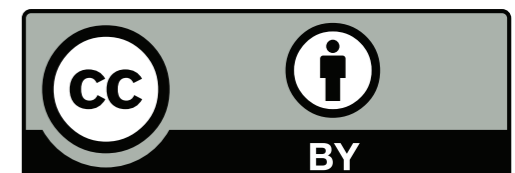


NSF grants 1403171  
and 1605568

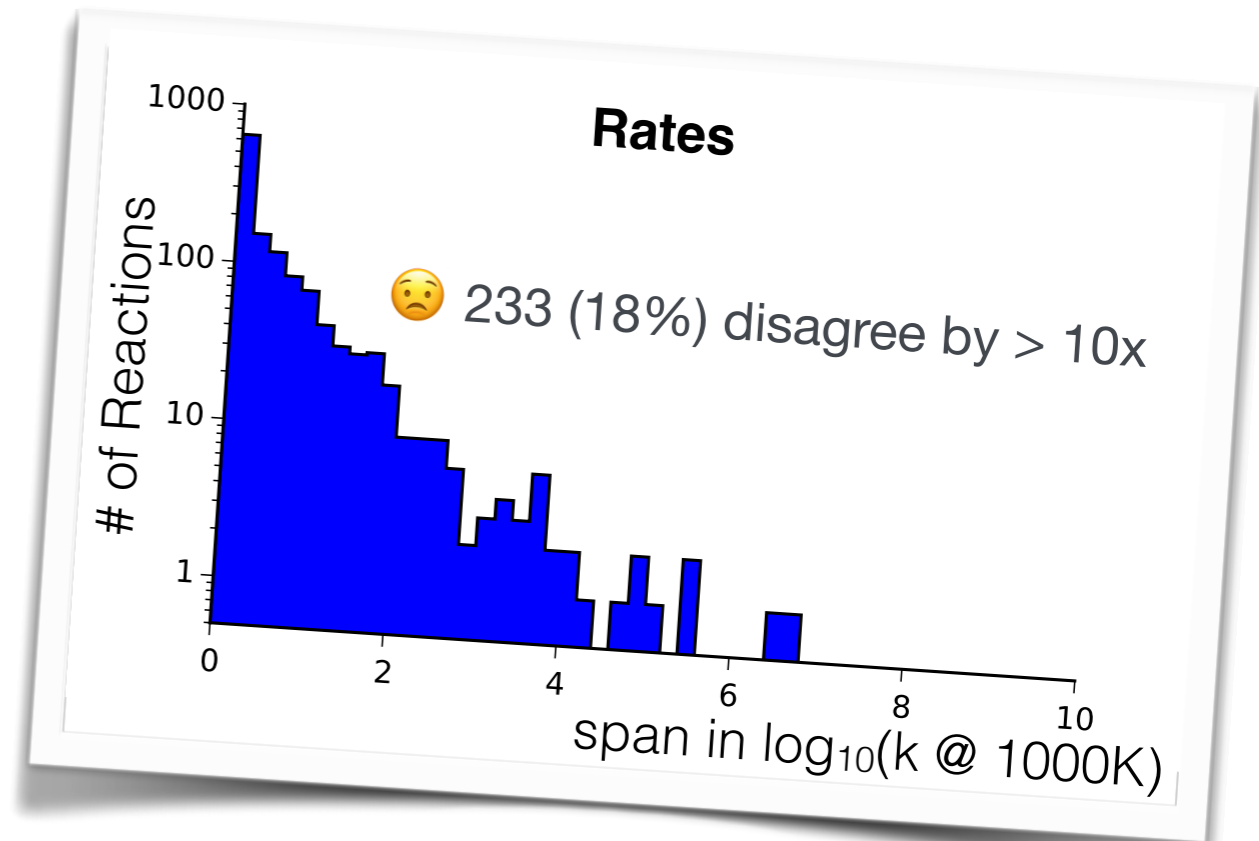
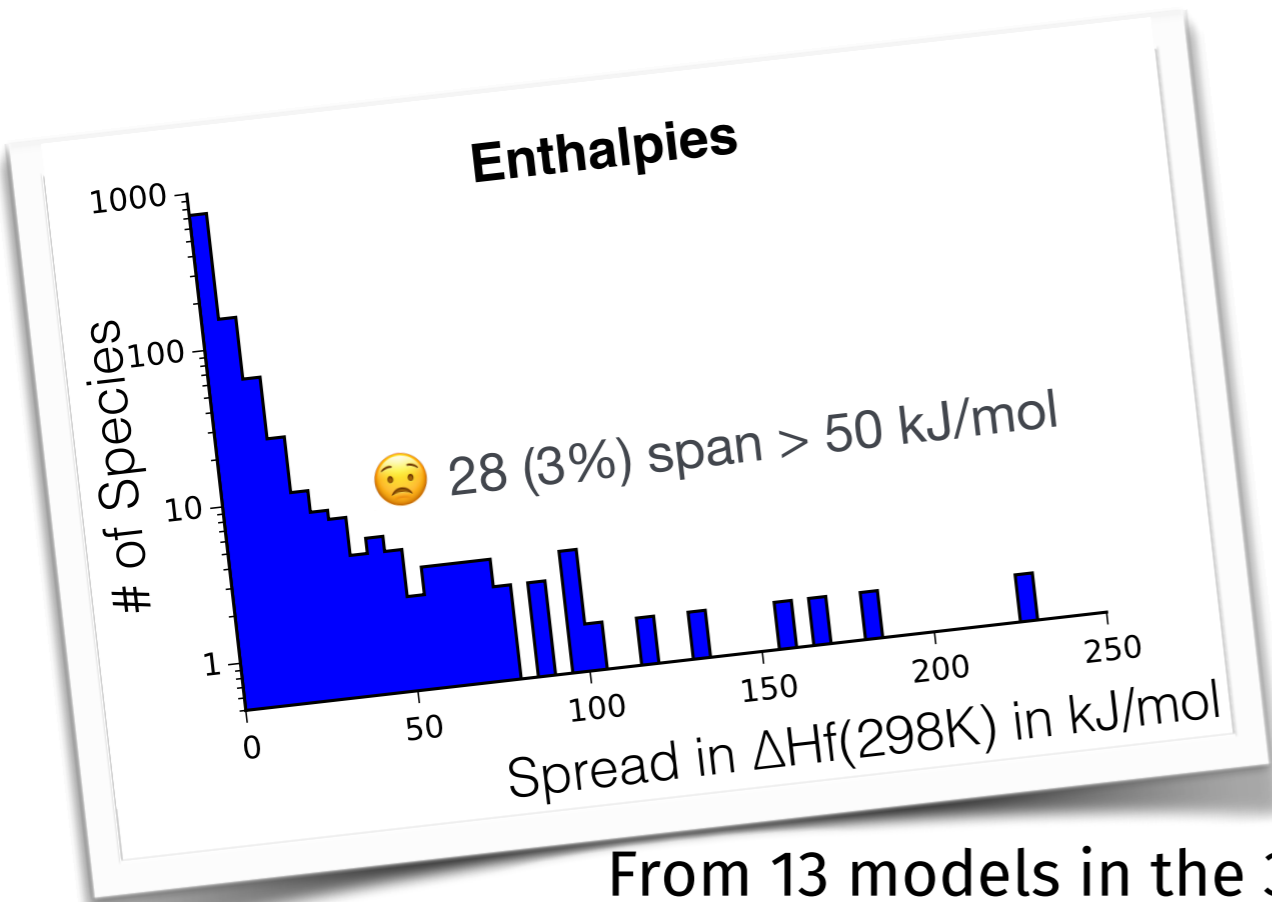
✉ [kyle.niemeyer@oregonstate.edu](mailto:kyle.niemeyer@oregonstate.edu)

🐦 @kyleniemeyer

🏠 <https://git.io/nrg>



# Models contain discrepancies that are hard to detect and quantify

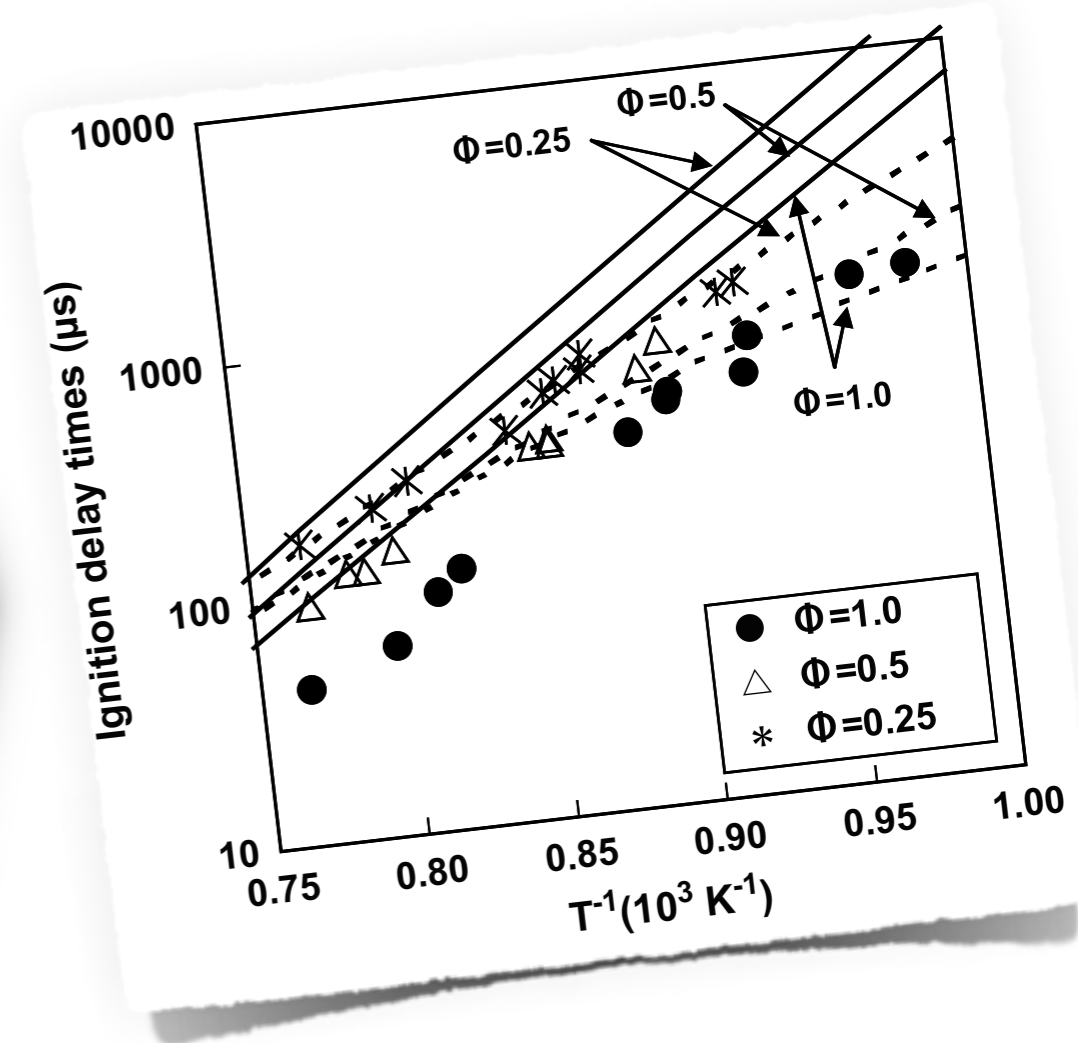
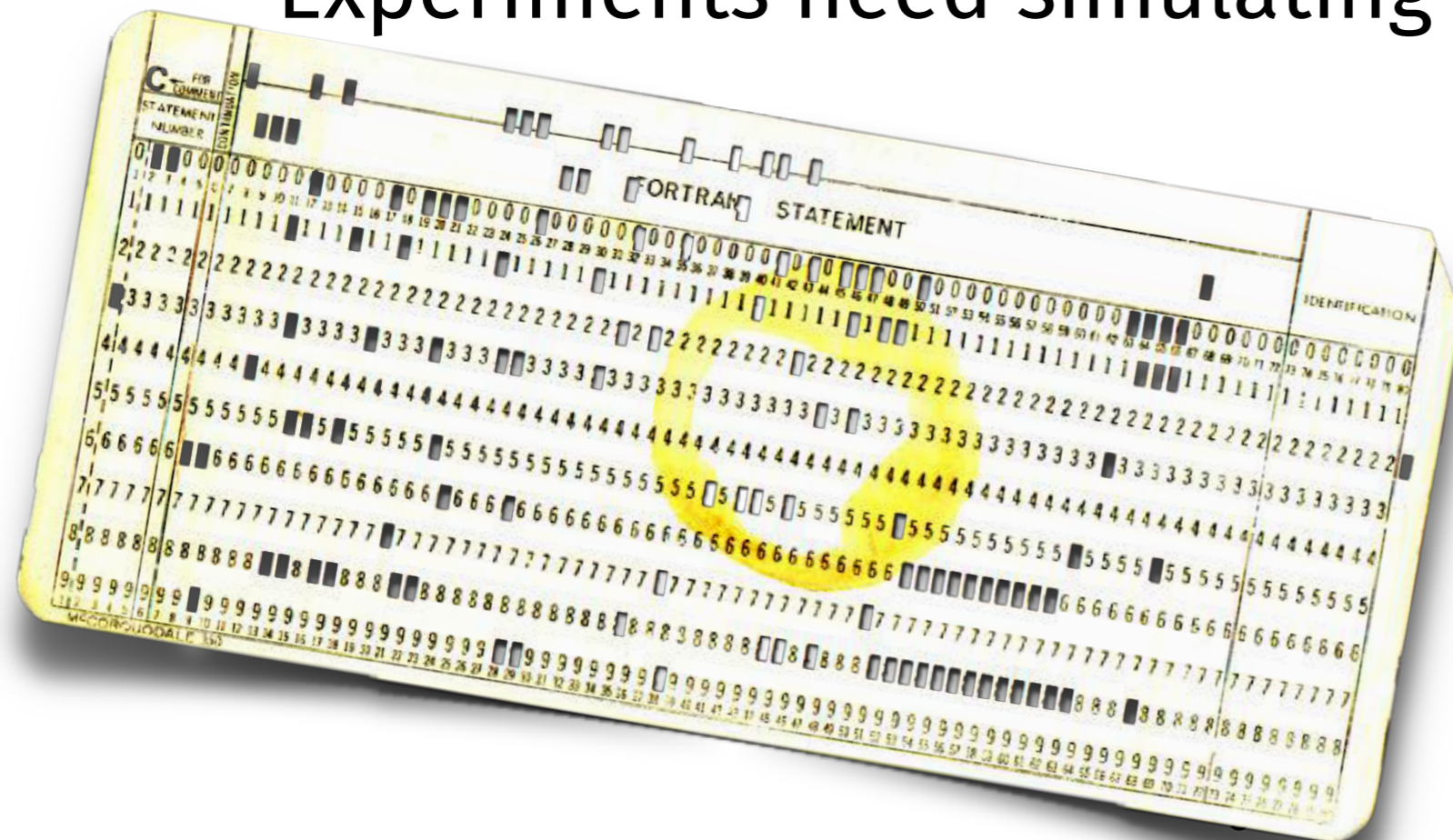


From 13 models in the 34th Symposium on Combustion

But so what?

# Comparing models and data is harder than it should be

- Models in “Chemkin” format
- Data reported in PDFs
- Experiments need simulating



# Goals

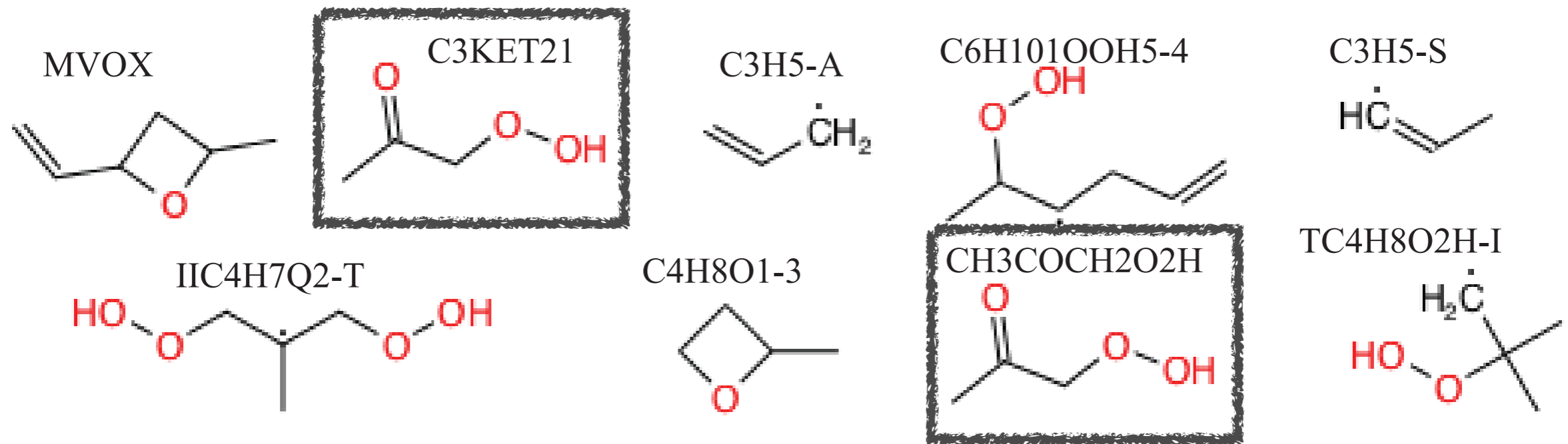
- Common platform for experiments
- Common platform for models
- Tool to make them speak to each other, simplifying “validation” & improvement workflow
- Example: n-butanol

# NASA (Chemkin) format is very dense – not much room for species identifiers

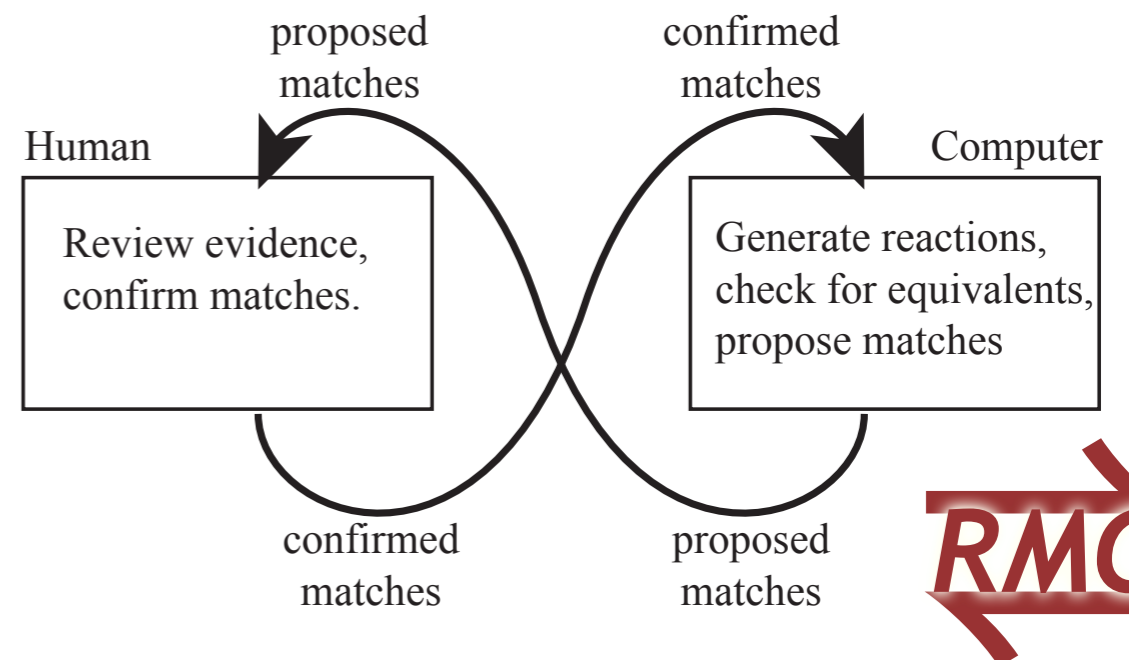
Species Name    Chemical Formula    Parameters for H(T), S(T)

<u>ch3chocho</u>	11/14/95	<u>thermc</u>	3h	5o	2	0g	300.000	5000.000	1395.000	21
	1.27827539e+01	1.21529347e-02	-4.21228103e-06	6.59844007e-10	-3.85228684e-14					2
	-2.15946846e+04	-3.94512036e+01	5.06096897e-01	4.26121702e-02	-3.37628379e-05					3
	1.39422914e-08	-2.35317319e-12	-1.74952136e+04	2.58742916e+01						4
<u>ch3chcho</u>	12/ 1/99	<u>thermc</u>	3h	5o	1	0g	300.000	5000.000	1385.000	21
	1.02647528E+01	1.17295061E-02	-4.06267561E-06	6.36086751E-10	-3.71220190E-14					2
	-7.25910488E+03	-2.91646638E+01	1.54196914E+00	3.03297391E-02	-1.88922690E-05					3
	5.92263358E-09	-7.53762316E-13	-4.01761098E+03	1.83707011E+01						4
<u>sc3h5cho</u>	11/15/95	<u>therc</u>	4h	6o	1	0g	300.000	5000.000	1390.000	21
	1.31695904e+01	1.42484434e-02	-4.90843998e-06	7.65789041e-10	-4.45834896e-14					2
	-2.04032613e+04	-4.43673205e+01	4.35795171e-01	4.48719314e-02	-3.36582931e-05					3
	1.33066870e-08	-2.17839128e-12	-1.60394651e+04	2.37597452e+01						4
<u>sc3h5co</u>	11/15/95	<u>thermc</u>	4h	5o	1	0g	300.000	5000.000	1392.000	21
	1.25514754e+01	1.22521948e-02	-4.22382101e-06	6.59184896e-10	-3.83818826e-14					2
	-4.25349795e+03	-4.02864145e+01	1.74191343e+00	3.97229536e-02	-3.20061901e-05					3
	1.38227925e-08	-2.46272017e-12	-6.64428100e+02	1.70762023e+01						4
<u>ic3h6cho</u>	2/22/96	<u>thermc</u>	4h	7o	1	0g	300.000	5000.000	1390.000	31
	1.33102250e+01	1.62097959e-02	-5.57575891e-06	8.69003718e-10	-5.05554202e-14					2
	-7.62177931e+03	-4.25050854e+01	5.21481767e-01	4.43114357e-02	-2.86617314e-05					3
	9.30319894e-09	-1.20761563e-12	-2.99677086e+03	2.68182130e+01						4
<u>c3h6cho-1</u>	9/27/95	<u>thermc</u>	4h	7o	1	0g	300.000	5000.000	1379.000	31
	1.30322054e+01	1.62418273e-02	-5.54388124e-06	8.50722685e-10	-4.08450726e-14					2

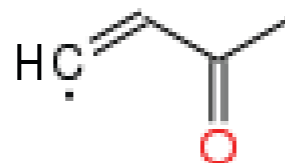
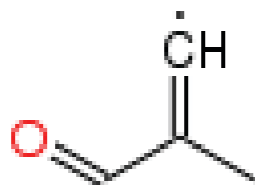
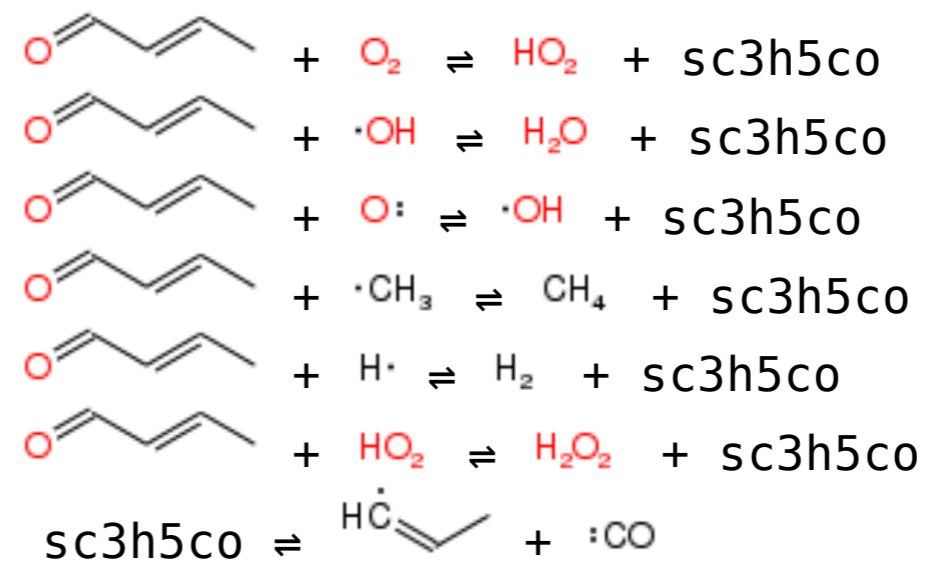
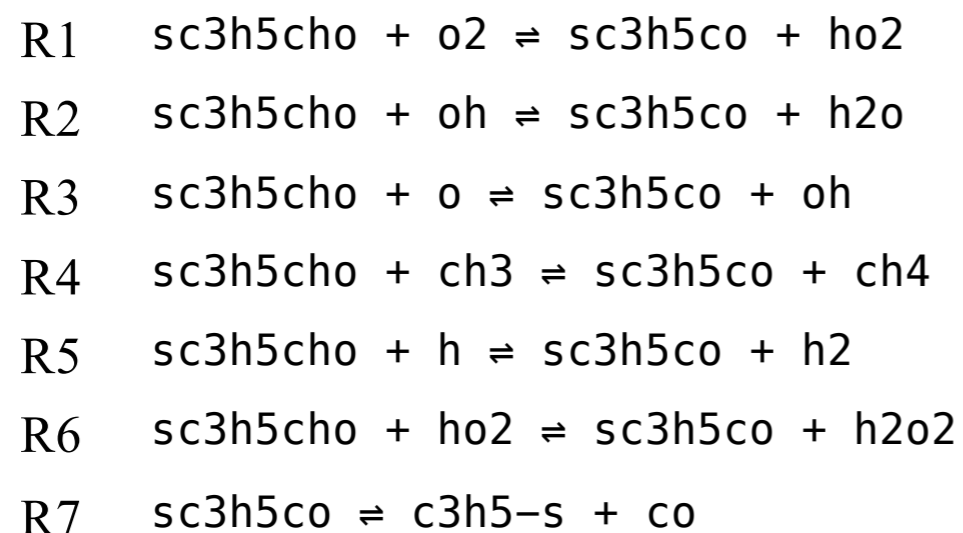
# Space constraints led to “creative” naming schemes



Our tool uses chemical knowledge from RMG to help interpret mechanism and identify species

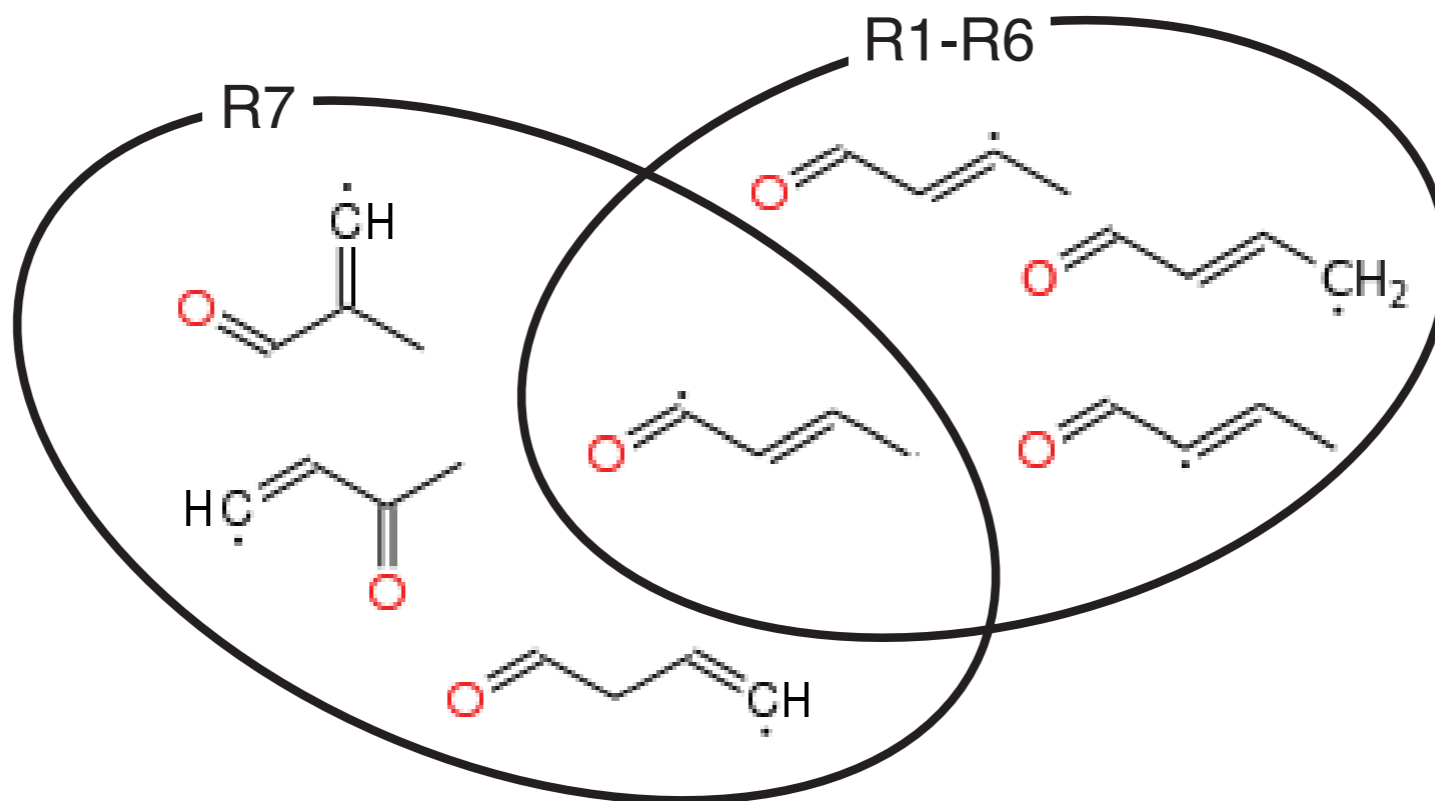
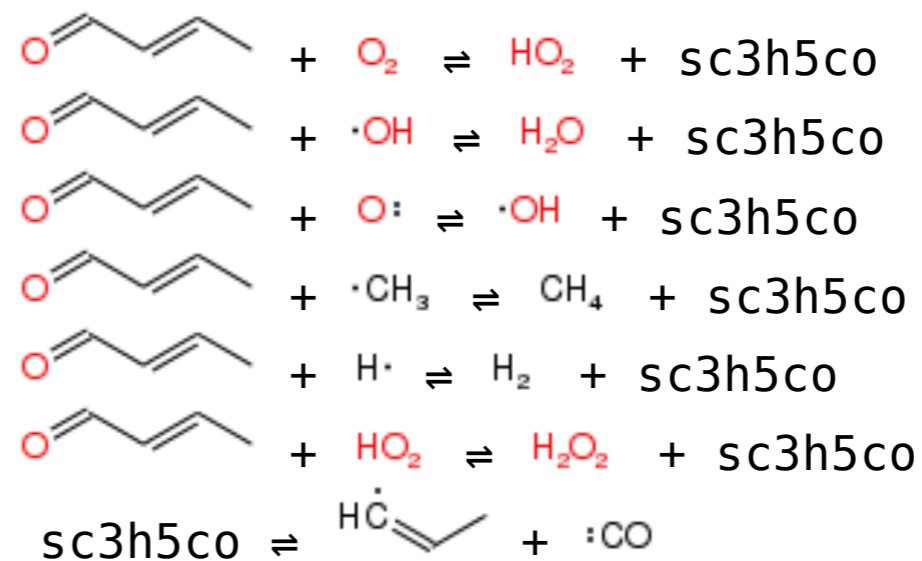


# Identifying 'sc3h5co' from its reactions



# Identifying 'sc3h5co' from its reactions

- R1  $\text{sc3h5cho} + \text{o2} \rightleftharpoons \text{sc3h5co} + \text{ho2}$   
 R2  $\text{sc3h5cho} + \text{oh} \rightleftharpoons \text{sc3h5co} + \text{h2o}$   
 R3  $\text{sc3h5cho} + \text{o} \rightleftharpoons \text{sc3h5co} + \text{oh}$   
 R4  $\text{sc3h5cho} + \text{ch3} \rightleftharpoons \text{sc3h5co} + \text{ch4}$   
 R5  $\text{sc3h5cho} + \text{h} \rightleftharpoons \text{sc3h5co} + \text{h2}$   
 R6  $\text{sc3h5cho} + \text{ho2} \rightleftharpoons \text{sc3h5co} + \text{h2o2}$   
 R7  $\text{sc3h5co} \rightleftharpoons \text{c3h5-s} + \text{co}$





'sc3h5co' is but-2-enoyl



# Over 70 models collected from published Chemkin files

Combustion and Flame, Symposium Proceedings,  
Institutional Websites, email...

PCI2013/353-Malewicki  
PCI2017/037-Sakai  
PCI2017/032-Cheng  
PCI2017/082-Hemken  
PCI2017/111-Jin  
PCI2017/052-Stagni  
PCI2017/022-Thion  
PCI2017/052-Li  
PCI2017/058-Sun  
PCI2017/024-Bohon  
PCI2017/145-Sun  
PCI2017/051-Pelucchi  
PCI2017/012-Felsmann  
PCI2017/047-Rodriguez  
PCI2017/038-Labbe-  
Zhao(30Torr-10Atm)  
PCI2017/087-Tran  
PCI2017/036-Rashidi  
PCI2017/025-Sudholt  
EL24115  
CombFlame2013/2712-Sarathy  
CombFlame2013/1958-Zhao  
CombFlame2013/487-Schenk  
CombFlame2013/1541-Zhang

CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki  
CombFlame2013/1315-Chang  
CombFlame2013/1939-Cai  
CombFlame2013/2291-Somers  
CombFlame2013/1609-Veloo  
CombFlame2013/2680-Vranck  
MB-Dooley  
Narayanaswamy  
Shamel-Propane  
Reduced-DRG-GRI-mech  
PCI2015/0409-Zhang  
PCI2015/0325-Nawdiyal  
PCI2015/0153-Marshall  
AramcoMech\_1.3  
USC\_Mech\_ii  
n-Heptane  
CombFlame2015/3755-Konnov  
Chernov  
MB-Farooq  
GRI-mech-3.0  
CombFlame2014/405-Gai  
CombFlame2014/65-Darcy  
CombFlame2014/885-Xiong  
CombFlame2014/1135-Dames

CombFlame2014/84-Wang  
CombFlame2014/657-Jin  
CombFlame2014/798-Cai  
CombFlame2014/818-Zhang  
AramcoMech\_2.0  
Biomass  
MB-Fisher  
MatheuCH4  
Gasoline\_2  
GRI-17-species-mech  
Gasoline\_Surrogate  
IJCK2013/638-Metcalf  
PCI2013/269-Matsugi  
PCI2013/401-Liu  
PCI2013/335-Wang  
PCI2013/325-Husson  
PCI2013/297-Herbinet  
PCI2013/361-Malewicki  
PCI2013/599-Veloo  
PCI2013/259-Labbe  
PCI2013/225-Somers  
PCI2013/527-Sheen  
PCI2013/411-Darcy  
PCI2013/289-Dagaut

55k instances of  
13k rates for  
6k reactions in  
74 models



# ChemKED kinetics experiment data format written in YAML

Human- **AND** machine-readable!

Parsers and libraries for nearly every programming language!

```
file-author:
  name: Kyle E Niemeyer
  ORCID: 0000-0003-4425-7097
file-version: 0
chemked-version: 0.0.1
reference:
  doi: 10.1016/j.ijhydene.2007.04.008
  authors:
    - name: N. Chaumeix
    - name: S. Pichon
    - name: F. Lafosse
    - name: C.-E. Paillard
  journal: International Journal of Hydrogen Energy
  year: 2007
  volume: 32|
  pages: 2216-2226
  detail: Fig. 12., right, open diamond
experiment-type: ignition delay
apparatus:
  kind: shock tube
  institution: CNRS-ICARE
  facility: stainless steel shock tube
common-properties:
  pressure: &pres
    - 220 kilopascal
```

# ChemKED schema is free & libre, PyKED software enforces it

- The ChemKED schema is also a YAML-formatted file
- PyKED ensures required data are present, have appropriate units and bounded values, etc.
- Ensures reference information is correct if DOI is provided

```
# Common reference for authors' information
author: &author
  type: dict
  required: true
  invalid_orcid: true
  schema:
    ORCID:
      type: string
    name:
      required: true
      type: string

# Common reference for value-unit schema
value-with-uncertainty: &value-with-uncertainty
  invalid_uncertainty: true
  items:
    - type: string
    - type: dict
      schema:
        uncertainty-type:
          required: true
          type: string
          allowed:
            - absolute
            - relative
        uncertainty:
          required: true
          anyof_type:
            - string
            - float
          excludes:
            - upper-uncertainty
            - lower-uncertainty
        upper-uncertainty:
          required: true
          anyof_type:
            - string
            - float
          excludes:
            - uncertainty
```

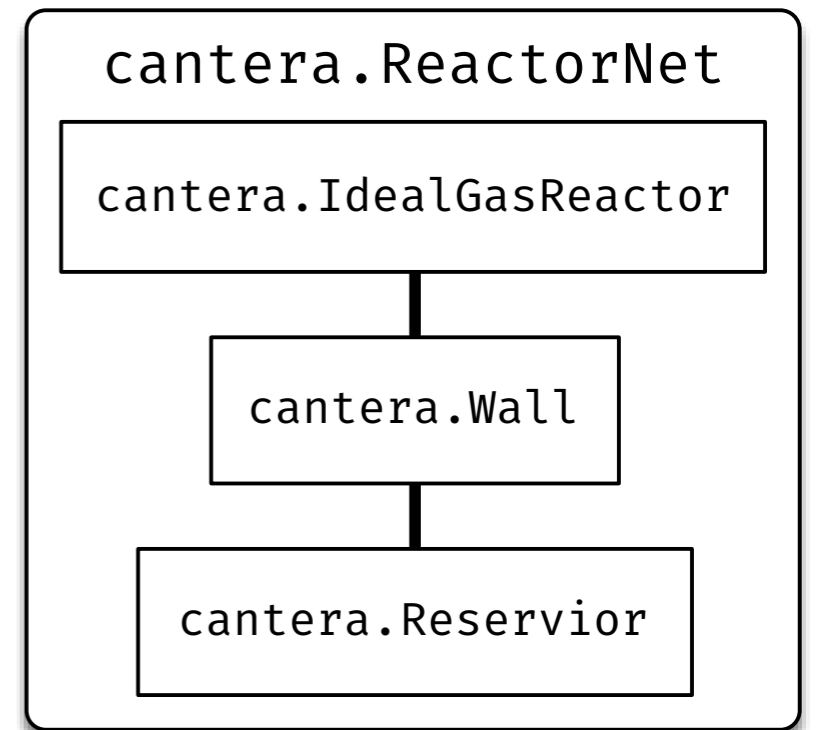
# PyTeCK: Python tool for Testing Chemical Kinetics

- Reads ChemKED experimental data
- Imports Cantera kinetic model
- Runs (autoignition) simulations
- Quantifies error of model

# Straightforward autoignition simulations (for now)

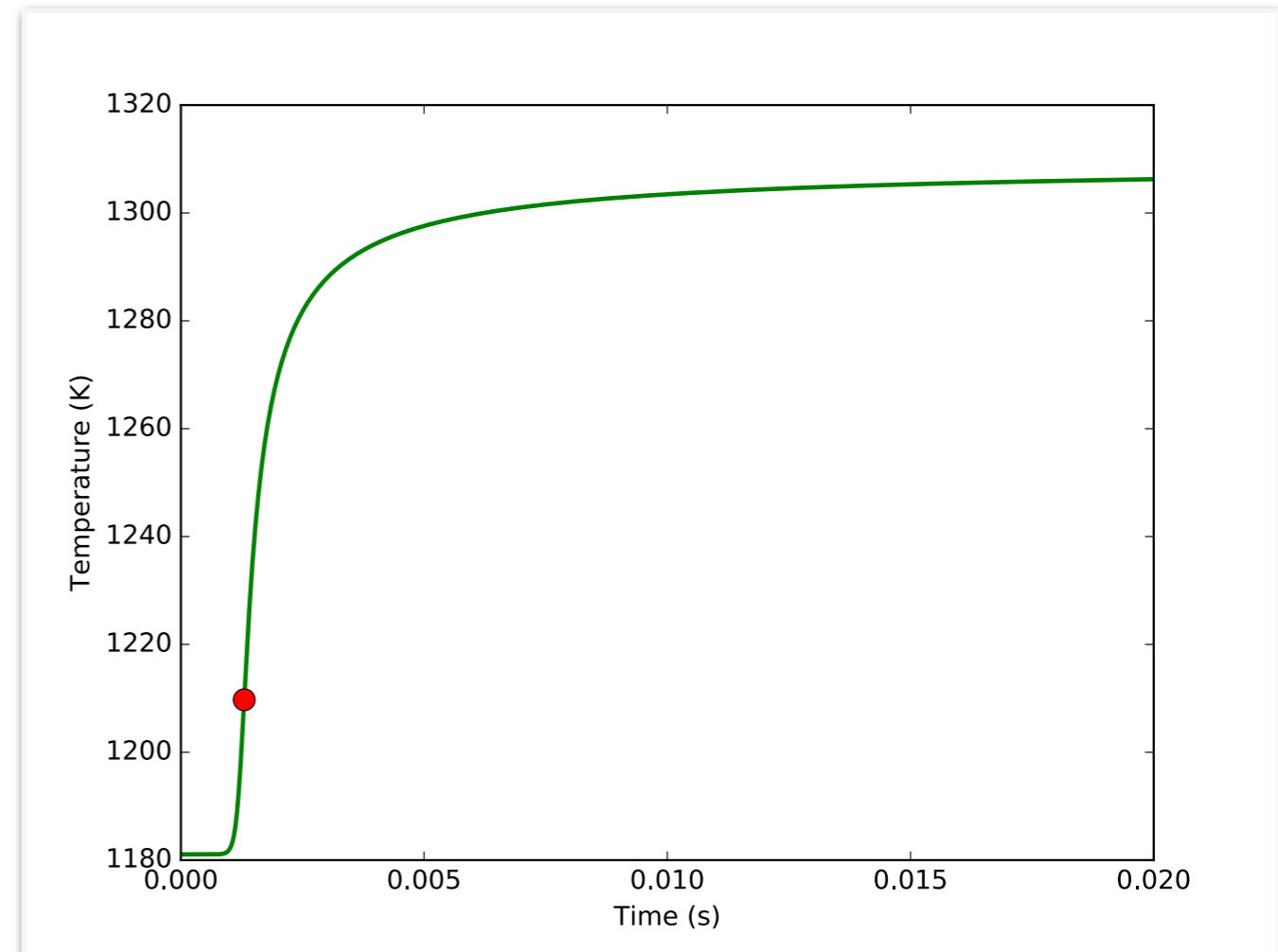
$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{-1}{c_v} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{sp}}} e_i \frac{dY_i}{dt} + p \frac{dv}{dt} \right)$$

$$\frac{dY_i}{dt} = \frac{1}{\rho} W_i \dot{\omega}_i \quad i = 1, \dots, N_{\text{species}}$$



# Simulation.process\_results()

- Have: time history (HDF5)
- Need: ignition delay time
- detect\_peaks
- Options:
  - Max, d/dt max
  - P, T, OH, CH



# Error function

Dataset error function:  $E_i = \frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} \left( \frac{\log \tau_{ij}^{\text{exp}} - \log \tau_{ij}^{\text{sim}}}{\sigma(\log \tau_{ij}^{\text{exp}})} \right)^2$

Overall error function:  $E = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N E_i$

Lower is better, 1.0 is perfect.



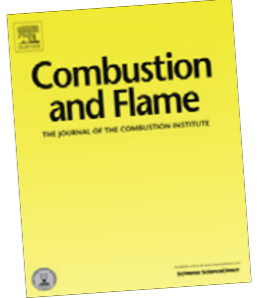

# Base model for butanol: comprehensive and well validated

Combustion and Flame 159 (2012) 2028–2055

Contents lists available at [SciVerse ScienceDirect](#)

**Combustion and Flame**

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/combustflame](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/combustflame)



A comprehensive chemical kinetic combustion model for the four butanol isomers

S. Mani Sarathy<sup>a,\*</sup>, Stijn Vranckx<sup>b</sup>, Kenji Yasunaga<sup>c</sup>, Marco Mehl<sup>a</sup>, Patrick Oßwald<sup>d</sup>,  
Wayne K. Metcalfe<sup>e</sup>, Charles K. Westbrook<sup>a</sup>, William J. Pitz<sup>a</sup>, Katharina Kohse-Höinghaus<sup>d</sup>,  
Ravi X. Fernandes<sup>b</sup>, Henry J. Curran<sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Physical and Life Sciences Directorate, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94550, USA  
<sup>b</sup> Physico Chemical Fundamentals of Combustion, RWTH Aachen University, Templergraben 55, 52056 Aachen, Germany  
<sup>c</sup> Department of Applied Chemistry, National Defense Academy, 1-10-20 Hashirimizu, Yokosuka, 239-8686, Japan  
<sup>d</sup> Bielefeld University, Department of Chemistry, Universitaetsstrasse 25, D-33615 Bielefeld, Germany  
<sup>e</sup> Combustion Chemistry Centre, School of Chemistry, NUI Galway, Ireland

Sarathy et al., Combust. Flame, 2012

# 1,606 alternate models generated by “fuzzing” parameters

- Original model: 431 species and 2346 reactions
- Feasible swap:  
any rate appearing in 2+ other models
- 784 reactions with feasible swaps  
(484 with 2+ swaps), total 1281 kinetic variations
- Only one swap at a time (for now)
- Likewise 325 thermochemistry variations

# Initial screen to select 20 interesting candidate models

- 6,424 ignition simulations
- 1606 variants x 4 isomers (n-, sec-, tert-, iso-butanol)
- All at P=42 atm, T=1200K,  $\phi=1$

	Kinetics	Thermo
Speed up n-butanol	5	5
Slow down n-butanol	5	5

# 10 rate substitutions

Rxn.sub	Reaction	#	Models using alternative
273.2	$\text{ch}_2\text{cho} + \text{o}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_2\text{o} + \text{co} + \text{oh}$	7	MB-Farooq, MB-Dooley, MB-Fisher, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, Shamel-Propane, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, PCI2013/361-Malewicki
145.2	$\text{ch}_3 + \text{ho}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_3\text{o} + \text{oh}$	6	PCI2013/325-Husson, PCI2013/297-Herbinet, Chernov, PCI2017/047-Rodriguez, CombFlame2013/487-Schenk, PCI2015/0325-Nawdiyal
145.1	$\text{ch}_3 + \text{ho}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_3\text{o} + \text{oh}$	7	CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, USC_Mech_ii, CombFlame2014/1135-Dames, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, PCI2013/527-Sheen, CombFlame2014/657-Jin, CombFlame2013/1958-Zhao
146.1	$\text{ch}_3 + \text{ho}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_4 + \text{o}_2$	9	CombFlame2013/1609-Veloo, CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, GRI-17-species-mech, USC_Mech_ii, CombFlame2014/1135-Dames, PCI2013/259-Labbe, PCI2013/527-Sheen, GRI-mech-3.0
334.2	$\text{c}_2\text{h}_3 + \text{o}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_2\text{cho} + \text{o}$	7	CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, USC_Mech_ii, CombFlame2014/1135-Dames, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, PCI2013/527-Sheen, CombFlame2014/657-Jin, CombFlame2013/1958-Zhao
302.2	$\text{c}_2\text{h}_4 + \text{oh} \rightleftharpoons \text{c}_2\text{h}_3 + \text{h}_2\text{o}$	9	Gasoline_Surrogate, PCI2013/335-Wang, PCI2017/038-Labbe-Zhao(30Torr-10Atm), CombFlame2013/1541-Zhang, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, n-Heptane, Shamel-Propane, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, PCI2013/361-Malewicki
269.2	$\text{ch}_2\text{cho} \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_2\text{co} + \text{h}$	4	Gasoline_Surrogate, PCI2013/335-Wang, CombFlame2013/1541-Zhang, n-Heptane
577.1	$\text{c}_3\text{h}_5\text{-a} + \text{ho}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{c}_3\text{h}_5\text{o} + \text{oh}$	5	PCI2017/082-Hemken, PCI2017/052-Li, PCI2017/036-Rashidi, AramcoMech_2.0, PCI2017/087-Tran
128.2	$\text{ch}_3 + \text{h} \rightleftharpoons \text{ch}_4$	4	CombFlame2014/405-Cai, CombFlame2013/2680-Vranckx, PCI2017/025-Sudholt, Narayanaswamy
302.1	$\text{c}_2\text{h}_4 + \text{oh} \rightleftharpoons \text{c}_2\text{h}_3 + \text{h}_2\text{o}$	11	CombFlame2013/1609-Veloo, CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, PCI2017/111-Jin, PCI2015/0409-Zhang, PCI2013/599-Veloo, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, USC_Mech_ii, PCI2013/527-Sheen, CombFlame2014/657-Jin, CombFlame2013/1958-Zhao, GRI-mech-3.0

# 10 thermochemistry substitutions

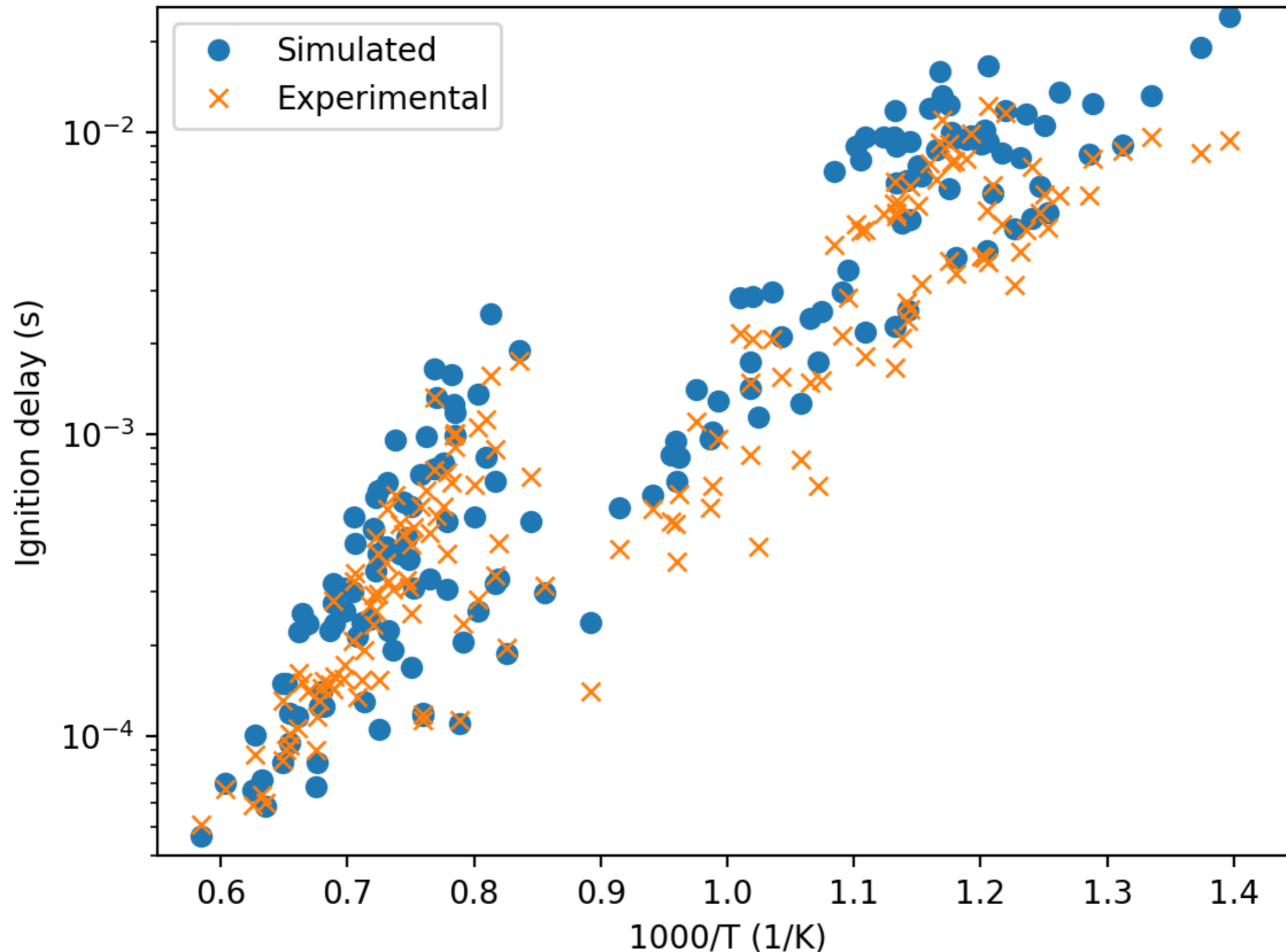
Sp.sub	Species	#	Models using alternative
40.2	c2h3	8	MB-Farooq, MB-Fisher, PCI2015/0325-Nawdiyal, CombFlame2013/487-Schenk, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, PCI2013/361-Malewicki, CombFlame2013/1315-Chang
50.1	ch2co	14	Gasoline_Surrogate, MB-Farooq, MB-Dooley, PCI2013/335-Wang, PCI2013/361-Malewicki, MB-Fisher, CombFlame2013/487-Schenk, CombFlame2013/1541-Zhang, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, n-Heptane PCI2015/0325-Nawdiyal, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, GRI-
264.1	c4h7oh1-4	2	CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, CombFlame2014/657-Jin
50.2	ch2co	8	CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, PCI2017/111-Jin, PCI2015/0409-Zhang, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, USC_Mech_ii, PCI2013/527-Sheen, CombFlame2014/657-Jin, CombFlame2013/1958-Zhao
29.1	ch3o2	5	MB-Farooq, MB-Fisher, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, PCI2013/361-Malewicki
46.2	ch3co	8	PCI2017/051-Pelucchi, MB-Farooq, CombFlame2014/405-Cai, MB-Fisher, PCI2013/289-Dagaut, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, PCI2013/361-Malewicki
65.1	c2h3o1-2	12	Gasoline_Surrogate, MB-Farooq, MB-Dooley, PCI2013/335-Wang, MB-Fisher, PCI2013/599-Veloo, CombFlame2013/1541-Zhang, PCI2013/353-Malewicki, n-Heptane, PCI2013/401-Liu, CombFlame2013/17-Malewicki, PCI2013/361-Malewicki
40.1	c2h3	15	CombFlame2013/1609-Veloo, CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, PCI2017/111-Jin, PCI2015/0409-Zhang, CombFlame2014/405-Cai, CombFlame2014/1135-Dames, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, USC_Mech_ii, PCI2013/259-Labbe, PCI2017/038-Labbe
90.1	c3h6	11	CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, PCI2017/111-Jin, PCI2015/0409-Zhang, CombFlame2014/1135-Dames, CombFlame2014/84-Wang, USC_Mech_ii, PCI2013/259-Labbe, CombFlame2013/487-Schenk, PCI2013/527-Sheen, CombFlame2014/657-
232.1	c3h5oh	14	CombFlame2013/1939-Cai, Gasoline_Surrogate, MB-Farooq, PCI2013/335-Wang, PCI2017/111-Jin, PCI2017/022-Thion, PCI2015/0409-Zhang, MB-Fisher, CombFlame2013/1541-Zhang, MB-Dooley, n-Heptane, CombFlame2014/657-

# n-Butanol: data input from 4 papers

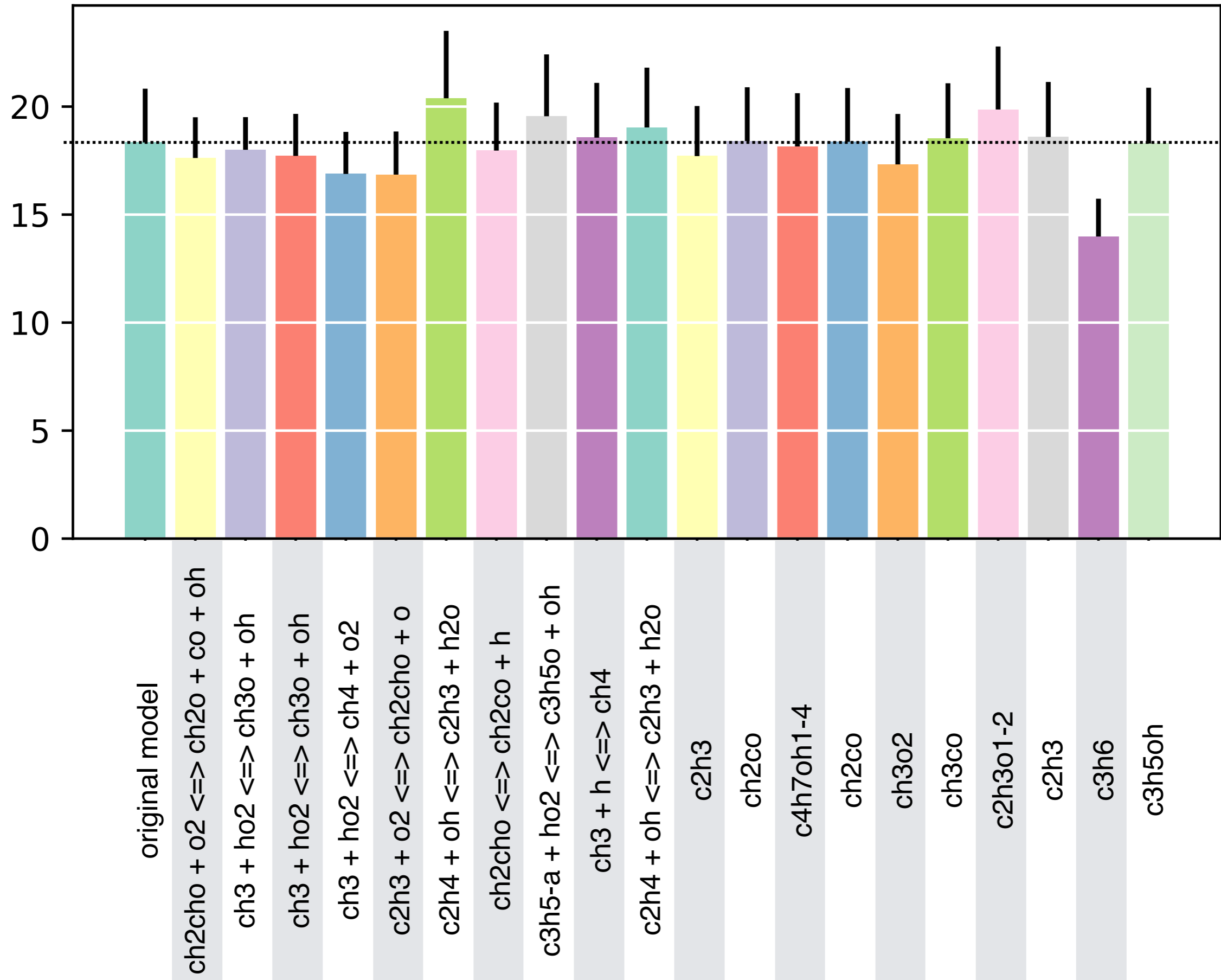
716–1711 K, 0.91–45.12 atm,  $\phi$ : 0.25–3.34

- Moss JT, Berkowitz AM, Oehlschlaeger MA, Biet J, Warth V, Glaude P-A, et al. An Experimental and Kinetic Modeling Study of the Oxidation of the Four Isomers of Butanol. *J Phys Chem A* 2008;112:10843–55. doi:10.1021/jp806464p
- Stranic I, Chase DP, Harmon JT, Yang S, Davidson DF, Hanson RK. Shock tube measurements of ignition delay times for the butanol isomers. *Combust Flame* 2012;159:516–27. doi:10.1016/j.combustflame.2011.08.014
- Bec ILR, Zhu Y, Davidson DF, Hanson RK. Shock Tube Measurements of Ignition Delay Times for the Butanol Isomers Using the Constrained-Reaction-Volume Strategy. *Int J Chem Kinetics* 2014;46:433–442. doi:10.1002/kin.20859
- Zhu Y, Davidson DF, Hanson RK. 1-Butanol ignition delay times at low temperatures: An application of the constrained-reaction-volume strategy. *Combust Flame* 2014;161:634–643. doi:10.1016/j.combustflame.2013.06.028

# The 20 variations have varying effects on different experimental data points



# Some have much bigger effects than others





# Prometheus

- Goal: community database for experimental data, models, and calculations
- **Initial** team:
  - Kyle Niemeyer (Oregon State)
  - Bryan Weber (Univ. Connecticut)
  - Richard West (Northeastern)
  - Nicole Labbe (CU Boulder)
  - Growing!



<https://pr.omethe.us/>

<https://github.com/pr-omethe-us>

# Contributions

- Common platform for experiments
- Common platform for models
- Tool to make them speak to each other, simplifying “validation” workflow
- Example: butanol
- Data and code: <https://github.com/pr-omethe-us>

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