

Modelling of SO₃ Formation in the Flame of a Heavy-oil Fired Furnace

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The accurate description of sulphur trioxide formation in the flame is a prerequisite for developing a realistic SO₃ model that could be used in an analysis of reduction of low-temperature corrosion in steam generators. The scope of this paper is limited only to SO₃ produced in the furnace by homogenous gas-phase reactions during heavy-oil fuel combustion and does not include heterogeneous catalytic reactions on heat exchanger's surfaces and ash particles. As a first attempt, SO₃ was modelled as a part of globally applied combustion model – the probability density function/equilibrium chemistry model. By comparison with known data, it was concluded that this model does not give realistic results. An extensive literature review revealed dominant reactions in which SO₃ participates. Further analysis showed that the SO₃ reactions could be considered as slow ones comparing to the main reactions during combustion, which means that the chemical equilibrium assumption could not be employed. Based on these reactions, a new SO₃ model, which takes into account finite kinetic character of reactions, was defined. It was implemented into the Fluent™ CFD code as a user subroutine. Such mathematical model was used for simulation of a full-scale furnace of the oil-fired steam generator. The accuracy of the model was assessed by comparison with measured data and available data from the literature. Satisfying conformance was established.

Keywords:

SO₃, numerical modelling, furnace, heavy-oil fuel combustion

Introduction

The necessity for the accurate prediction of SO₃ formation arose in a study of reduction of low-temperature corrosion in the oil-fired power plant steam generator.¹ During combustion of heavy-oil fuel, rich in sulphur, certain amount of produced SO₂ (typically 1–3 %) is being transformed into SO₃, which at lower temperatures (below approx. 580 °C), reacts with water vapour forming sulphuric acid²



If the temperature of flue gases, containing H₂SO₄ and H₂O vapours, lowers below the dew point, it results in condensation on the heat exchanger surfaces. Combination of H₂SO₄ and H₂O



with the surface metal creates an electrolytic system in which metals turn into their salts, i.e. the low-temperature corrosion, which impairs the steam generator components, occurs.

The sulphur trioxide primarily forms within the flame by homogenous gas-phase reactions involv-

ing oxygen radical. A proof for this statement could be found in the fact that there is no any SO₃ formed in stoichiometric combustion ($\lambda = 1.0$). Unfortunately, such combustion is not viable in commercial steam-generators due to the rise in CO and soot and therefore certain air surplus must exist. On the other hand, the heavy oil fuel of lower quality, which is typically used in power plants due to economical reasons, contains, besides sulphur, metals like vanadium (V) and iron (Fe). Those elements could react with the oxygen from combustion air surplus creating oxides of V₂O₅ and Fe₂O₃ that form layers on the heat exchanger's surfaces. The vanadium pentoxide (V₂O₅) acts as a catalyst in the temperature range of 500 and 800 °C accelerating the SO₃ formation. Thus formed SO₃ can exceed the SO₃ produced in the flame by factor two or three³. Since this study was limited to analysis of SO₃ formation in the furnace, it was assumed that the steam-generator in consideration was in its clean condition i.e. at the moment when the oxide scales on heat exchanger's surfaces are not yet formed.

Modelling of SO₃ formation has been investigated in context of a study of detailed 3D mathematical model of the furnace, which had been set using the Fluent™ CFD code.⁴ In version (v6.0) several different combustion models are at disposal,

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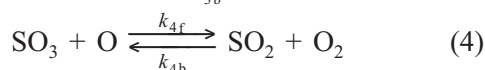
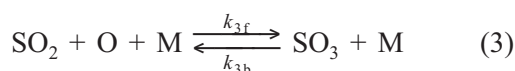
which could be used for description of sulphur trioxide generation. Generalized finite-rate models (Arrhenius finite-rate, Magnussen eddy dissipation and EDC model)⁵ do not accurately represent turbulent diffusion flames and also engage solving of up to the hundred chemical species' transport equations. That, apart from requirement for great processing power, also induces high non-linearity of solution and deteriorates convergence. Unlike those models, the probability density function model (PDF)⁶ is specifically developed for the simulation of turbulent diffusion flames and offers many benefits over the finite-rate formulation. The PDF model has also been chosen in the present study as the global combustion model. The effects of the turbulent fluctuations of main combustion variables (species concentrations, density and temperature) are accounted for with statistical approach of PDF. Reaction mechanism is not explicitly defined; instead, the reacting system is described by the equilibrium chemistry formulation,⁷ which implicates that the chemistry is fast enough to preserve chemical equilibrium at the molecular level. This assumption is valid for the main reactions and species in the combustion process but it fails in the case of slow kinetics like the one of NO_x and SO₃ formation. Better choice of combustion model would be the laminar flamelet model,⁸ which as extension of the PDF model could account for aerodynamic strain-induced departure from chemical equilibrium. The problem is that the present version of laminar flamelet does not include the unsteady concept, which could only be used for prediction of slowly reacting chemical species such as NO, CO, soot and SO₃ where unsteady effects are important.

These were reasons that urged a development of separate SO₃ formation model that was finally implemented into the global FluentTM CFD code.

Mathematical Model

Reaction mechanism

As it was said in the introduction, the present study focuses on sulphur trioxide produced within the flame by homogenous gas-phase reactions and does not include heterogeneous catalytic reactions on the heat exchanger's surfaces and ash particles. From a number of different reactions found in literature, two most important ones have been recognized⁹



where the recommended values¹⁰ for third body reactants M are: N₂ /1.3/, SO₂ /10.0/, H₂O /10.0/.

Proposed SO₃ model is based on the assumption that the sulphur trioxide could be examined independently of the complete reaction set, whereby all other molecular species (calculated with the PDF/equilibrium chemistry combustion model) are maintained at constant concentrations. That is correct for low conversion of SO₂ to SO₃ (lower than 5 %)⁹ as it is the case for typical combustion processes in furnace. The rate of change of SO₃ concentration for reactions (3) and (4) is

$$\frac{dc_{\text{SO}_3}}{dt} = k_{3f}c_{\text{SO}_2}c_{\text{O}}c_{\text{M}} + k_{4b}c_{\text{SO}_2}c_{\text{O}_2} - k_{3b}c_{\text{SO}_2}c_{\text{M}} - k_{4f}c_{\text{SO}_2}c_{\text{O}} \quad (5)$$

where k_{3f} , k_{4f} are the rate coefficients for forward reactions given by^{11,12}

$$k_{3f} = 9.2 \cdot 10^{10} \exp\left(\frac{-1200.38}{RT}\right) \quad (6)$$

$$k_{4f} = 2 \cdot 10^{12} \exp\left(\frac{-10064.95}{RT}\right) \quad (7)$$

The rates for reverse reactions (3) and (4) are obtained from the equilibrium constants $K_{c,i}$ for each chemical reaction i

$$k_{ib} = \frac{k_{if}}{K_{c,i}}, \quad i = 3,4 \quad (8)$$

which could be calculated from the molar Gibbs energy of considered reaction

$$K_{c,i} = (RT)^{-\sum_{k=1}^S (v_{k,i}^n - v_{k,i}^r)} \exp\left\{-\left[a_{1,i}^r (1 - \ln T) - \frac{a_{2,i}^r}{2} T - \frac{a_{3,i}^r}{6} T^2 - \frac{a_{4,i}^r}{12} T^3 - \frac{a_{5,i}^r}{20} T^4 + \frac{a_{6,i}^r}{T} - a_{7,i}^r \right]\right\} \quad (9)$$

The polynomial coefficients for reactions (3) and (4) $a_{l,i}^r$ ($l = 1, \dots, 7$) are given in Table 1. They were obtained from the polynomial coefficients¹³ for standard molar specific enthalpies and entropies of the species formation $a_{l,k}$ together with the stoichiometric coefficients v_{ki}

$$a_{l,j}^r = \sum_{k=1}^S (v_{ki}^n - v_{ki}^r) a_{l,k} \quad (10)$$

Special attention was given to calculation of O radical, which is (besides temperature) one of the most important factors that determine SO₃ production in the flame. Since, at present, there is no final conclusion on which approach to O modelling in

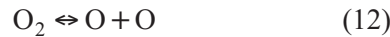
Table 1 – Polynomial coefficients for reactions (3) and (4)

Reaction	a_1^r	a_2^r	a_3^r	a_4^r	a_5^r	a_6^r	a_7^r
(3)	-6.41E-01	-6.27E-04	4.66E-07	-1.01E-10	7.52E-15	-1.78E+04	8.19E+00
	6.03E-01	-4.28E-03	2.40E-06	2.01E-09	-1.62E-12	-1.81E+04	1.99E+00
(4)	-7.46E-01	1.30E-03	-5.85E-07	1.10E-10	-7.78E-15	-4.19E+04	-1.48E+01
	-3.28E+00	8.69E-03	-7.81E-06	2.51E-09	-3.80E-14	-4.12E+04	-1.89E+00

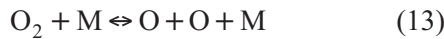
turbulent diffusion flames is the most appropriate, three different methods were investigated. According to Westenberg¹³, the O atom concentration can be calculated from the expression based on assumption of O in equilibrium with O₂

$$c_{\text{O}} = 3.97 \cdot 10^5 T^{-0.5} c_{\text{O}_2}^{0.5} \exp\left(\frac{-31090}{T}\right) \quad (11)$$

that corresponds to the reaction



This approach will be referred later in the text as the *full equilibrium O approach*. A modification of the previous method can be made by introducing third-bodies in the reaction (12)



The concentration of O in such dissociation-recombination process can be obtained from the expression

$$c_{\text{O}} = 36.64 T^{0.5} c_{\text{O}_2}^{0.5} \exp\left(\frac{-27123}{T}\right) \quad (14)$$

This approach is named after lying assumption of partial equilibrium of O with O₂ as the *partial equilibrium O approach*. The third approach is based on the hypothesis of the total equilibrium of all species in the mixture. Since combustion model employed (PDF/equilibrium chemistry model) uses the very same definition, the O concentration could be simply taken from converged solution of the global reactive system as

$$c_{\text{O}} = \bar{w}_{\text{O}} \frac{\rho}{M_{\text{O}}} \quad (15)$$

where the mean O mass concentration is now only a function of the mean mixture fraction, its variance and the enthalpy

$$\bar{w}_{\text{O},t} = \bar{w}_{\text{O}}(\bar{f}, \bar{f}'^2, \bar{H}^*) \quad (16)$$

This method will be considered as the *predicted O approach*. In the case of all three approaches all other species concentrations that appear in expression (5) (SO₂, O₂ and species representing third-bodies) are also taken from converged solution of the combustion model.

Transport equation

The steady-state transport equation for SO₃ is written in the following form

$$\rho u_i \frac{\partial w_{\text{SO}_3}}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{\mu_{\text{eff}}}{\sigma} \frac{\partial w_{\text{SO}_3}}{\partial x_i} \right) + \Gamma_{\text{SO}_3} \quad (17)$$

where Schmidt-Prandtl number $\sigma = 0.7$. The left hand side term of the equation (17) represents transport of SO₃ by convection, while the first term on the RHS is diffusion of SO₃. The second term Γ_{SO_3} in the equation is source of SO₃ by chemical reaction and it is defined as

$$\Gamma_{\text{SO}_3} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho w_{\text{SO}_3}) \quad (18)$$

Relation between the SO₃ mass fraction w_{SO_3} and the concentration c_{SO_3} is given by

$$w_{\text{SO}_3} = \frac{M_{\text{SO}_3}}{\rho} c_{\text{SO}_3} \quad (19)$$

Finally, one gets

$$\Gamma_{\text{SO}_3} = M_{\text{SO}_3} \frac{dc_{\text{SO}_3}}{dt} = M_{\text{SO}_3} (k_{3f} c_{\text{SO}_2} c_{\text{O}} c_{\text{M}} + k_{4b} c_{\text{SO}_2} c_{\text{O}_2} - k_{3b} c_{\text{SO}_3} c_{\text{M}} - k_{4f} c_{\text{SO}_3} c_{\text{O}}) \quad (20)$$

Model implementation

The SO₃ model is implemented into the Fluent CFD code as the User Defined Function routine. The global 3D mathematical model of the furnace comprises coupled gas flow and liquid spray physics in the non-premixed turbulent flame. Transport of mass, momentum, energy and chemical species (only NO, soot and SO₃) in the gas phase is ob-

tained by solving standard Favre-averaged Eulerian conservation equations⁵. Turbulent flow is modelled by the realizable $k-\varepsilon$ model. The pressure field is calculated from the continuity equation using the PISO algorithm. The heavy fuel oil spray is described as a discrete second phase using “particle-in-cell model”¹⁵ dispersed in continuous (gas) phase. Trajectories, mass, momentum and heat balance equations for the particles, i.e. fuel droplets, are solved in the Lagrangian frame of reference. The turbulent dispersion of droplets is predicted using the stochastic “random walk” (or “eddy lifetime”) model. The radiation heat transfer is described with the discrete ordinates radiation model, which could account for particulate effects between gas and droplets. The absorption coefficient of the mixture is calculated as the weighted-sum-of-grey-gases. The soot formation is modelled on the basis of the simple single-step model of Khan and Greeves¹⁶. The formation of NO_x is attributed to three reaction mechanisms: thermal (also known as extended Zeldovich mechanism¹⁷), prompt and fuel NO_x mechanism.

Taking the assumption of SO₃ concentration independency, the SO₃ UDF subroutine could be solved in post-processing stage, after converged solution of global CFD model is obtained. The linearized transport equation for SO₃ has a following form

$$a_P(w_{\text{SO}_3})_P = \sum a_{NP}(w_{\text{SO}_3})_{NP} + \Gamma_{\text{SO}_3} \quad (21)$$

A special attention has to be paid to linearization of the source term

$$\Gamma_{\text{SO}_3} = (\Gamma_{\text{SO}_3})_{\text{old}} + \frac{\partial \Gamma_{\text{SO}_3}}{\partial w_{\text{SO}_3}} [(w_{\text{SO}_3})_P - (w_{\text{SO}_3})_{P,\text{old}}] \quad (22)$$

where the implicit part of the source term should be prescribed as

$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\text{SO}_3}}{dw_{\text{SO}_3}} = \frac{d}{dw_{\text{SO}_3}} \left[\frac{d(\rho w_{\text{SO}_3})}{dt} \right] = \frac{\rho^2}{M_M} k_{3b} w_M - \rho k_{4f} w_O \quad (23)$$

The final form of linearized equation could be written as

$$\left(a_P - \frac{\partial \Gamma_{\text{SO}_3}}{\partial w_{\text{SO}_3}} \right) (w_{\text{SO}_3})_P = \sum a_{NB} (w_{\text{SO}_3})_{NB} + \left[(\Gamma_{\text{SO}_3})_{\text{old}} - \frac{\partial \Gamma_{\text{SO}_3}}{\partial w_{\text{SO}_3}} (w_{\text{SO}_3})_{P,\text{old}} \right] \quad (24)$$

where the subscripts P and NP indicate values of variable at the central and neighbouring nodes while subscript old signs value from the previous iteration.

Results and discussion

Described mathematical model has been applied to simulate the SO₃ formation in the furnace of the steam-generator of PP Sisak. The furnace has dimensions of 8.4 × 8.4 × 25.1 m and enables thermal input of 300 MW_t. On each side-wall of the chamber, at height of approx. 2 m, there are two oil burners. The burner consists of an axial/radial inflow type swirl generating register and a steam atomiser. The fuel is heavy-oil fuel of composition 84.69 % C, 11.53 % H, 0.78 % N, 0.78 % O and 2.23 % S. The oil preheated to 125 °C at 20 bar is atomised into fine mist by steam at 8.5 bar and 273 °C in so called Y-nozzles. Detailed description, with the furnace and burner geometry together with the boundary conditions, can be found in previous papers.^{1,4}

The results of simulations are compared to the data measured in operational conditions. The steam-generator operated at 73.3 % load. The air excess ratio had been increased from value that corresponds to 0.8 % O₂ measured in the flue gases up to 3.2 % O₂. SO₃ at the exit was measured with the GallenkampTM GC-220 sulphur oxide analyser according to EPA 8 method. The O₂ content, like the other main combustion parameters, was assessed by the standard flue gas analyser RBR-ECOMTM-SG^{PLUS}. Following picture (Fig. 1) shows the comparison of measured data with results of three different variants of SO₃ model that differ in approach to calculation of oxygen atom concentration. As it can be seen from the diagram, there is considerable scattering of measured data (hollow diamond markers), which is not unusual taking into account the nature

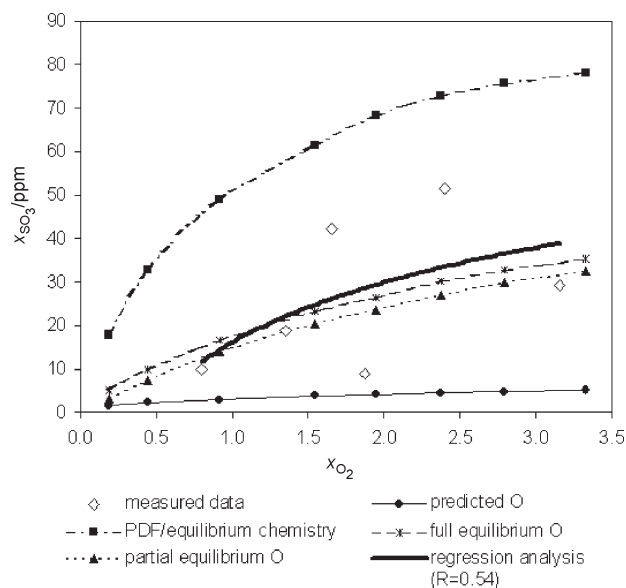


Fig. 1 – Predicted and measured SO₃ vs. O₂ mole fractions

of measuring method¹⁸. The regression analysis ($R = 0.54$) revealed expected^{2,18,19} trend of increase of SO₃ with the increase of air excess ratio, manifested in higher O₂ content. At that time it was not possible to determine what was the contribution of catalytic SO₃ in total measured SO₃ if it was such one. Therefore the absolute values of SO₃ must be taken with scrutiny while the trend of SO₃ increase can be accepted as valid. The SO₃ mole fractions obtained by the PDF/equilibrium chemistry combustion model (full square symbols) show significant deviation from the measured data. The mathematical model of SO₃ formation, in which the O concentration is taken from converged solution (predicted O approach), gives the mole fractions of sulphur trioxide that are much lower than the data measured on the steam-generator (solid line with full circle markers, Fig. 1). The values of SO₃, calculated by the models with full and partial equilibrium O approach (full triangle and asterisk symbols, respectively), are in far better accordance to the measured SO₃ mole fractions. Since the SO₃ model based on the assumption of full equilibrium of O offers slightly higher compliance, it was chosen as the model preferred in this study. Applying that model as the part of a global mathematical model of the furnace, the SO₃ profile along the furnace was calculated. Figure 2 shows the percentage of conversion of SO₂ to SO₃ plotted against the flue gas path through the furnace and horizontal connective channel. The graph refers to the case that corresponds to 3.3 % O₂ by volume at the exit.

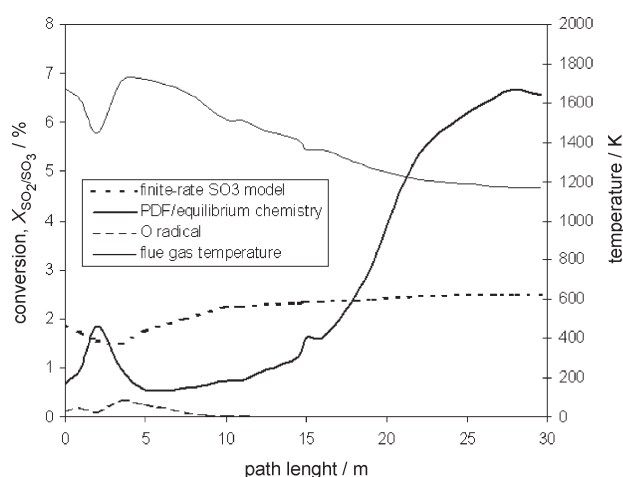


Fig. 2 – SO₃ conversion vs. flue gas path through the furnace and connective channel

The solid line represents the SO₃ conversion obtained by the PDF/equilibrium chemistry model while dotted line comprises the values calculated by the SO₃ model with the assumption of O in full equilibrium with O₂. The temperature and radical O profile are represented by thin solid and broken

line, respectively. All variables are averaged on cross-sections of furnace along the path of flue gases. At high temperatures in the flame (1400 to 1800 K), i.e. between 3 and 17 m of furnace height, the SO₃ content (also SO₃ conversion) calculated by model that takes into account the SO₃ reaction kinetics is higher than values obtained by PDF/equilibrium chemistry model. That could be explained by the fact that the actual O atom concentration in the flame is higher than the equilibrium one. At the same time, the equilibrium chemistry assumption implicates that all other species in the mixture are in equilibrium and all reactions are equilibrated. If one of the species, in particular CO, has a slower rate of reaction, the remaining much faster reactions assume different pseudo-equilibrium. When the main combustion reactions finish, the oxygen atom concentration returns to equilibrium with O₂, and SO₃ produced in the flame can be reconverted to SO₂.

At lower temperatures (1200 to 1300 K), i.e. above 17 m of furnace height, the amount of equilibrium SO₃ suddenly raises to almost 7 % of SO₃ conversion at the furnace exit. This is unrealistically high value, what it could be confirmed by data measured at the exit (Fig. 1) and also from the literature. Hedley has showed in his paper¹⁹ the measured (dotted line) and theoretical equilibrium (solid lines) SO₃ conversion data for a typical steam-generator (Fig. 3). A partial qualitative conformance could be observed. Quantitative differences were expected because Hedley's profiles extend over entire steam-generator (and different temperature range, consecutively), while the scope of this paper is the furnace. A significant discordance occurs at approx. 2 m of furnace height. A high peak on the equilibrium chemistry curve (thick solid line, Fig. 2) and the slight drop in the finite-rate SO₃ model curve (dotted line, Fig. 2), compared to the SO₃ conversion curves on Fig. 3, are due to lower temperatures (thin solid line,

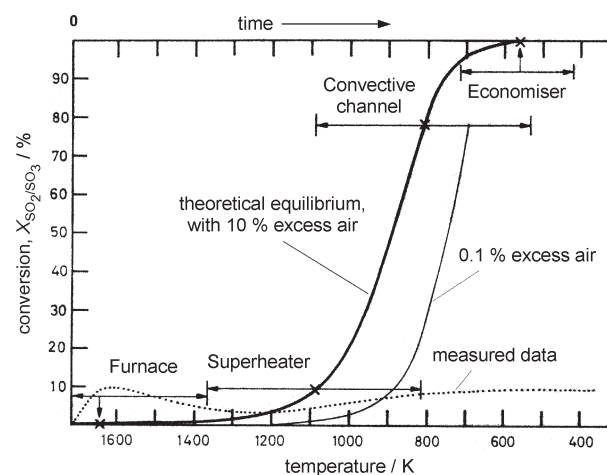


Fig. 3 – Measured and theoretical equilibrium SO₃ conversion for a typical steam-generator

Fig. 2) in front of the burners that supply furnace with relatively cold air ($T = 528$ K). The difference follows from the fact that the chosen variable for the abscissa in the Hedley's diagram is the temperature, while in graph on Fig. 2 it is the flue gas path length. Better agreement can be achieved comparing Hedley's measured data to the results of finite-rate SO₃ model plotted against the temperature (Fig. 4). The dotted line (with triangle markers) represents the SO₃ formation rate (Eq. 25) calculated as the difference of production P_p and destruction P_d of sulphur trioxide

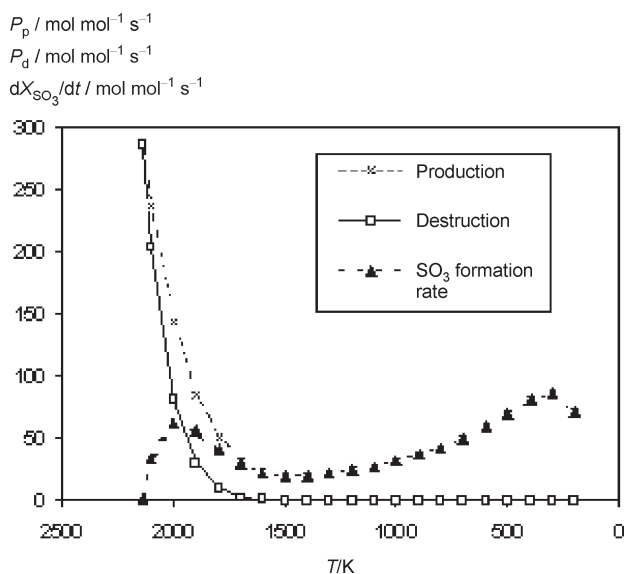


Fig. 4 – Temperature dependency of SO₃ formation rate

$$\frac{dx_{\text{SO}_3}}{dt} = P_p - P_d \quad (25)$$

where P_p and P_d follow from equation (5) whereby concentrations are expressed as mole fractions

$$P_p = \frac{p}{RT} \left(k_{3f} x_{\text{SO}_2} x_{\text{O}} x_{\text{M}} \frac{p}{RT} + k_{4b} x_{\text{SO}_2} x_{\text{O}_2} \right) \quad (26)$$

$$P_d = \frac{p}{RT} \left(k_{3b} x_{\text{SO}_3} x_{\text{M}} \frac{p}{RT} + k_{4f} x_{\text{SO}_3} x_{\text{O}} \right) \quad (27)$$

The production, destruction and formation rate of SO₃ are shown (Fig. 4) as a function of temperature with constant values of $x_{\text{O}} = 4.00\text{E-}9$, $x_{\text{O}_2} = 3.81\text{E-}2$, $x_{\text{SO}_2} = 1.10\text{E-}3$ and $x_{\text{M}} = 1$, for initial SO₃ molar fraction in $t = 0$ of $x_{\text{SO}_3} = x_{\text{SO}_3,0} = 2.83\text{E-}5$.

The O curve (dashed line, Fig. 2) possess local minimum at height that match burner plane what could be seen again to correspond to lower temperatures in the region. Since the calculation of O atom concentration is based on the full equilibrium approach, the equation (11) determines such temperature dependency. As the rate of change of SO₃ con-

centration (Eq. 5) is directly related to the O atom concentration, it can be stated that the SO₃ formation also depends on the amount of oxygen atoms.

The flow in the furnace is characterized by high turbulence (vorticity and recirculation) that determines complex 3D nature of SO₃ concentration pattern. Figure 5 shows the SO₃ mole fractions, calculated with the SO₃ finite-rate model, plotted in one vertical symmetry plane dividing furnace, two lateral and one horizontal plane that section furnace along burners axes.

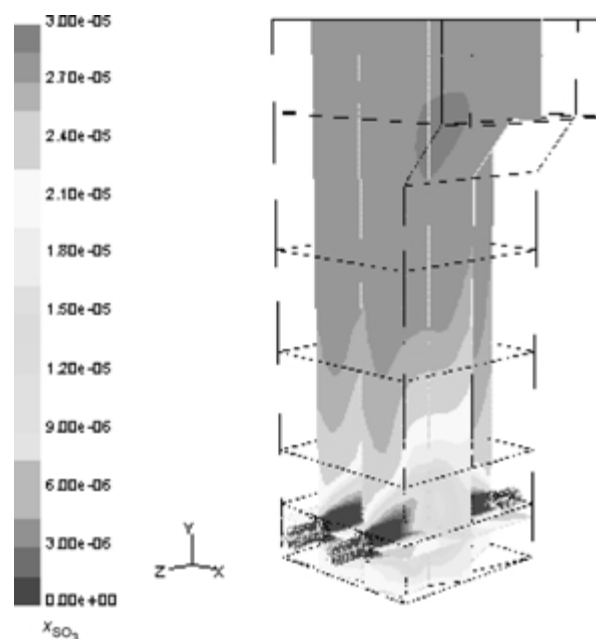


Fig. 5 – SO₃ amount fractions in vertical plane dividing furnace, two lateral and one horizontal plane that section furnace along burners axes

Conclusion

The in-flame SO₃ reaction mechanism was analysed. It was shown that the globally applied combustion model (PDF/equilibrium chemistry) could not be employed for description of the sulphur trioxide formation due to the finite kinetic character of SO₃ reactions. The finite-rate SO₃ model was defined and implemented into the Fluent™ CFD code as the UDF subroutine. The 3D mathematical model was used for simulation of the full-scale furnace of the oil-fired steam-generator. To avoid interference with the catalytically produced SO₃ a clean condition of the steam-generator was assumed.

Three different approaches to calculation of O radical were tested. The SO₃ model with full equilibrium O approach was chosen as the most representative one. Results obtained with that model rep-

licate the regression curve trend of measured SO₃ data with acceptable accuracy. The SO₃ conversion, temperature and O profiles along the furnace were presented. It was confirmed that the most important parameters influencing SO₃ formation are the temperature and availability of O atoms. Results of the model were qualitatively compared to the available data from the literature. Satisfying conformance was established. It could be concluded that proposed SO₃ model realistically simulate the SO₃ production in the flame. This model could be used as a base for the SO₃ model that would also include heterogeneous catalytic reaction mechanisms on the heat exchanger's surfaces and ash particles and that could be used in the analysis of reduction of the low-temperature corrosion in the steam-generators in real operating conditions.

Nomenclature

a	– coefficient
	– polynomial coefficient
c_i	– concentration of species i , kg m ⁻³
\bar{f}	– mean of the mixture fraction
\bar{f}'^2	– variance of the mixture fraction
\bar{H}^*	– mean of enthalpy, J kmol ⁻¹
k	– reaction rate coefficient, (cm ³ mol ⁻¹) ^{n} s ⁻¹
	– $n = 1$ for bimolecular reactions
	– 2 for third body reactions
K_C	– equilibrium constant, (mol m ⁻³) ^{Δm}
	– Δm is sum difference of stoichiometric coefficients
M	– molar mass, kg kmol ⁻¹
p	– pressure, Pa
P_d	– destruction of SO ₃ , mol mol ⁻¹ s ⁻¹
P_p	– production of SO ₃ , mol mol ⁻¹ s ⁻¹
R	– universal gas constant, $R = 1.987\text{e-}3$ kcal mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹ (8.314 J mol ⁻¹ K ⁻¹)
S	– total number of chemical species
t	– time, s
T	– temperature, K
u	– velocity, m s ⁻¹
x	– spatial coordinate, m
w_i	– mass fraction of species i , kg kg ⁻¹
x_i	– mole fraction of species i , mol mol ⁻¹

Greek Letters

σ	– Schmidt-Prandtl number
Γ_i	– source term of species i , kg m ⁻³ s ⁻¹
λ	– air excess ratio
ρ	– density, kg m ⁻³

μ	– dynamic viscosity, Pa s
ν	– stoichiometric coefficient

Subscripts

b	– backward reaction
eff	– effective
f	– forward reaction
NP	– neighbouring control volume
o	– initial value
old	– value from previous iteration
P	– central control volume

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