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Response Surface Optimization of Brake Thermal Efficiency and Specific Fuel Consumption of Spark-Ignition Engine Fueled with Gasoline-Pyrooil and Gasoline-Pyrooil-Ethanol Blends

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Abstract

The present study explores the performance of high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pyrooil and ethanol blends with gasoline in SI engine using statistical modeling and analysis using response surface methodology (RSM) and the Anderson-Darling (AD) residual test. The pyrooil was extracted from HDPE through pyrolysis at 450°C and then distilled to separate the liquid fraction. Two blends were prepared by combining pyrooil and gasoline, and pyrooil-ethanol mixture (volume ratio of 9:1) and gasoline, both at volumetric concentrations ranging from 2% to 8% to evaluate brake thermal efficiency (BTE) and specific fuel consumption (SFC) in a SI engine. An experimental matrix containing speed, torque, and blend ratio as independent variables for both blends were designed, analyzed, and optimized using the RSM. The results show that a 4% blend of pyrooil with gasoline (P4) and a 6% blend of pyrooil-ethanol mixture with gasoline (P6E) were optimum for an SI engine. Also, the experimental findings show that the P6E blend exhibits 11% higher BTE and 11.82% lower SFC compared to base fuel (pure gasoline), and 7.55% higher BTE and 6% lower SFC than P4. From the AD test, the residuals for BTE and SFC follow a normal distribution. The results conclude that distilled HDPE pyrooil could be used in SI engines at concentrations of P4 and P6E without requiring engine modification.

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