

# Manual for Optima++

Version 2.1.0

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`Optima++` is being developed at the ELTE Reaction Kinetics Laboratory, and development is active and ongoing as of this release.

## Operating systems

`Optima++` is currently developed under Ubuntu. It is tested under Windows 7 and Windows 10. The code is expected to run on unix-type systems (including OS X) but no extensive testing was carried out. Any reports of issues or successful usage on different systems is welcome.

## External libraries

`Optima++` uses the `tinyxml2` library (by Lee Thomason - [www.grinninglizard.com](http://www.grinninglizard.com)) for XML processing which is freely available under the zlib licence.

`Optima++` uses the `Eigen` library ([eigen.tuxfamily.org](http://eigen.tuxfamily.org)) for matrix-vector operations, which is freely available licensed primarily under MPL2 with certain components licensed under LGPL3+.

`Optima++` uses the `fmt` library (<https://github.com/fmtlib/fmt>) for text formatting which is distributed under the MIT license.

`Optima++` uses the `range-v3` library (by Eric Niebler - <https://github.com/ericniebler/range-v3>) which are under the Boost Software License.

`Optima++` uses the `yaml-cpp` library (<https://github.com/jbeder/yaml-cpp>) for processing input files of `Zero-rk` which is licensed under MIT license.

`Optima++` uses the `boost` C++ libraries (<https://www.boost.org/>, version 1.75.0) which is freely available under the Boost Software License.

The external libraries were added as submodules to the `Optima++` git repository and they are located in the `thirdparty` directory.

The licenses of the external libraries can be found in their respective directories of the `Optima++` source code distribution.

The graphical interface of `Optima++` uses the open source version of the `Qt Framework` (<https://www.qt.io/>) which uses the GNU Lesser General Public License v.3 (with some parts provided under GPL license).

The graphical interface of `Optima++` uses the `qcustomplot` library which is freely available under the GPL license.

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## Introduction

`Optima++` is a general framework for manipulating experimental data related to combustion chemistry, carrying out simulations of such experiments, performing model optimization and analysis, and providing auxiliary features for the above tasks. While the main focus is on combustion chemistry, most features should be applicable in any field of gas phase kinetics.

It is written in C++, and utilizes `FlameMaster` (<http://www.itv.rwth-aachen.de/en/downloads/flamemaster/>), `OpenSmoke++` (<http://creckmodeling.chem.polimi.it/111-category-most-recent-publications/354-most-recent-publications-cuoci-cpc2015>) or `Zero-rk` (<https://github.com/LLNL/zero-rk>) for simulations.

The code is developed and used primarily on unix-type systems, but is generally compatible with Windows systems too.

# Installation

## Installation using the online installer

**Step 1** Download the installer suitable for your operating system from <http://respecth.hu/>.

**Step 2** Run the installer and follow the installer's instructions.

**Step 3** After the installation process finishes, you can start the graphical user interface of `Optima++` by running `Optima++.exe` executable located in the `GUI\bin\` folder of your `Optima++` installation.

## Building from source

For compiling `Optima++` on unix-type systems (including OS X) a compiler which supports the c++17 standard is required. We suggest using `gcc-10 (g++)` or newer. The compilation of `Optima++` was also tested with `clang-9` on Ubuntu. On Windows `MinGW` is recommended which is a port of `gcc` and is most conveniently used together with `Code::Blocks` (On windows the `gcc-8` filesystem library seems to be broken, use `gcc-7` or `gcc-9` instead). Building the code can be performed using `ccmake` in a command line (or with the `cmake-gui` on windows).

The libraries used in `Optima++` are included in the distribution package and their path relative to the project directory is currently hardcoded in the `CMakeLists.txt`, so changing them is not recommended.

After compilation the executable file should be found in `bin/Release` directory. (If you build `Optima++` in a separate folder, copy the `bin/Release/OptimaPP` to the source directory.)

To use `FlameMaster` with `Optima++`, you first must download it from <http://www.itv.rwth-aachen.de/en/downloads/flamemaster/>, and compile it following the instructions in the `FlameMaster` package. To download `FlameMaster` you need to request a password from Prof. Heinz Pitsch. The request form is available on the `FlameMaster` download page.

**NOTE:** `Optima++` will only function correctly with `FlameMaster V4.0 BETA` or newer. Also, compilation must be carried out using the `-DOPTIMAPP=ON` option with `cmake`.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** The `ScanMan` executable of `FlameMaster` seems to behave incorrectly if compiled with “Release” build settings. If problems occur during compilation of mechanisms, try compiling `ScanMan` with “Debug” build settings.

After compilation, place the `FlameMan`, `ScanMan` and `CreateBinFile` executables into the `executables/` directory of the `Optima++` package. On Windows systems the executable names should have the `.exe` extension, and in case `CygWin` was used to compile `FlameMaster`, the `cygwin1.dll`, `cygstdc++-6.dll` and `cyggcc_s-seh-1.dll` files



should also be copied from the `/bin` subdirectory of `cygwin` to the `executables` directory, or added to the `PATH` system variable.

Compilation of `FlameMaster` mechanisms also required `perl` to be installed.

To use `OpenSmoke++` with `Optima++`, you must request the `OpenSMOKE++` 0.12.0 version from prof. Alberto Cuoci ([alberto.cuoci@polimi.it](mailto:alberto.cuoci@polimi.it)). Copy the content of `OpenSMOKE++` Suite bin folder to the `executables/opensmoke` directory. On linux the `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` of `OpenSmoke++` is hardcoded in `optima`, the content of `OpenSMOKE++` Suite lib folder should be copied to the `executables/opensmoke/lib` directory.

To use `Zero-rk` with `Optima++`, download the source code from <https://github.com/LLNL/zero-rk>, compile and install it according the `Installation Notes` section on their GitHub page.

After installation, set the path in the 5<sup>th</sup> line of

```
executables/zero-rk_steady.py
executables/zero-rk_unsteady.py
```

files to point to the python library folder of `Zero-rk`.

# Usage

Depending on the tasks to be performed **Optima++** may use four sources of information:

1. RKD Format XML files for the description of experimental conditions.
2. **Chemkin-II** or **FlameMaster** format chemical reaction mechanism files.
3. An **Optima++** input file describing the tasks to carry out.
4. Input file of the integrator settings.

## 1. RKD Format XML files

**Optima++** accepts all valid RKD Format XMLs up to version 2.3. The conformity of the file to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification is strictly checked when the files are read (to be more precise, only the structure of the XML will be verified). Only error free files are accepted. The current specification can be downloaded from this link: [http://respecth.chem.elte.hu/respecth/reac/ReSpecTh\\_Kinetic\\_Data\\_Format\\_Specification\\_v2.2.pdf](http://respecth.chem.elte.hu/respecth/reac/ReSpecTh_Kinetic_Data_Format_Specification_v2.2.pdf).

Thousands of RKDF XML files can be downloaded from the ReSpecTh repository: [www.respecth.hu](http://www.respecth.hu).

## 2. Chemical mechanism files

**Chemkin-II** or **FlameMaster** format chemical mechanism files are needed as the source of the chemical reaction, thermodynamic and transport information. For its specification please refer to the documentation of the appropriate solver package.

## 3. Optima++ input file

To carry out any task with **Optima++** either input files are required or there is a possibility to call **Optima++** from command line for limited tasks (see section [Calling Optima++ from command line](#)).

To run **Optima++** with the input file "INPUT\_FILE" navigate to the package directory and give the following command on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP INPUT_FILE
```

or on Windows

```
bin\Release\OptimaPP.exe INPUT_FILE
```

The executable should be run from the root directory of the package, as certain files are needed from the **res/** and **settings/** directories included in the release package, and the paths are currently hardcoded.

Input files are built from input blocks which are started with an appropriate keyword and terminated with an **END** keyword, with the exception of certain single-line blocks.

Each block has individual syntax, but they typically contain lines defining settings for the block and lines defining tasks to be carried out by `Optima++`.

**NOTE:** When referring to files in inputs of `Optima++` all paths should be relative to the directory from where `Optima++` is being run, which is not necessarily the directory where the executable is.

A typical layout of an input block is as follows:

```
BLOCK_KEYWORD
  SETTINGS_LINE_1 on
  SETTINGS_LINE_2 45

  DO_THIS ON_THIS
  DO_THIS ON_THIS_TOO
END
```

Any number of input blocks can be present in a single input file. Blocks are executed in strict order, meaning that every task will be completely executed in a block before moving onto tasks defined by the next block in the input file. This is so, that it is possible to have blocks depend on previous ones, without having to call `Optima++` multiple times. Such a strict ordering is not enforced for tasks within blocks, but is usually adhered to.

The individual input blocks are described in the following sections, with respect to their syntax and functionality.

## 4. Integrator settings

Many functions of `Optima++` involve simulations of combustion experiments. The solver packages that can be used for the simulations generally have several settings such as numerical tolerances for the integration that is performed during the simulations or parameters of the diffusion model used for 1D flame simulations.

`Optima++` is capable of reading, interpreting and utilizing integrator settings. At startup `Optima++` attempts to read the `res/SettingsList` file (path relative to the running directory), which should contain the list of integrator settings files that are to be read and interpreted, and potentially used in tasks. Such a `SettingsList` file is provided with the `Optima++` package, along with the settings files it refers to, that covers most typical cases and provides reasonable settings.

Each line of the `SettingsList` file should contain four string tokens, which are the path and name of a settings file, the settings tag associated with the file, the abbreviation of the respective solver package and the type of measurement for which the settings should be used.

Examples

```
! FM settings
settings/FM_0D_settings    default    FM    ignition
```

```

settings/FM_OD_settings  default  FM   conc_prof
! OS settings
settings/OS_OD_settings  default  OS   ignition
settings/OS_OD_settings  default  OS   outlet_conc
! CKII settings
settings/CKII_OD_settings default  CKII ignition
settings/CKII_OD_settings default  CKII outlet_conc

```

The files that are referred to on each line must contain all integrator settings for the appropriate model type according to the syntax of the respective solver package. The example files provided in the settings directory of the `Optima++` release package show all settings that are required.

**NOTE:** A single file can be used for multiple purposes, as in the above example.

The currently handled solvers are `FM` (`FlameMaster`), `OS` (`OpenSmoke++`) and `CKII` (`Chemkin-II`). The valid experiment type strings are the following:

```

ignition          0D ignition delay simulation
ignition_VTIM     0D ignition delay simulation with volume-time history (usually
                  RCM)
conc_prof         0D concentration-time profile simulation
outlet_conc      0D outlet concentration simulation
psr              perfectly stirred reactor simulation
burning_velocity 1D laminar flame simulation

```

All functions of `Optima++` that require chemical kinetic simulations or printing of input files will, by default, try to use the settings with the “`default`” tag that is for the appropriate solver and simulation type. This can be overridden with the `SETTINGS_TAG` keyword in any of the appropriate blocks, followed by the string tag that should be used. If no settings were read with the requested tag for the required solver package and/or simulation type then `Optima++` will attempt to use the “`default`” tag and if even those are not available, the “`inbuilt_default`” tag will be used, which refers to a set of hardcoded integrator settings (see class `IntegratorSettingsHandler` in the source code for the inbuilt defaults).

## Input blocks

In this section the individual input blocks of the **Optima++** input files are described. You can read information on the usage, the syntax, possible keywords, find examples and sometimes the description of their output.

### **TXT\_TO\_XML**

Create XML datafiles according to the ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification version 2.3 from simple and easy to edit plaintext files.

#### **Usage**

In a **TXT\_TO\_XML** block each line should contain two strings. The first should be the full path of the input plaintext file and the second the full path of the desired output file. If there are further strings within a line, the line will be ignored.

Each source file will be read individually, and if the source file defines a valid and complete RKD file then a new RKD file will be created with the given output path and name.

The path to the output files must exist, as no directories will be created based on this input block. The paths given in the block are relative to the directory from where the program is called.

Single files can also be processed using the alternate syntax that can be seen below.

Processing a single file

```
TXT_TO_XML path_to_input/text_file_1 path_to_output/xml_file_1
```

Processing multiple files

```
TXT_TO_XML
```

```
SHOWWARNING
```

```
    path_to_input/text_file_1 path_to_output/xml_file_1
```

```
    path_to_input/text_file_2 path_to_output/xml_file_2
```

```
    path_to_input/text_file_3 path_to_output/xml_file_3
```

```
END
```

#### **List of TXT\_TO\_XML keywords**

```
SHOWWARNING
```

By default **Optima++** only reports the error messages of a **TXT\_TO\_XML** job, but in certain cases it could be useful to have all the warnings as well. The **SHOWWARNING** keyword enables the reporting of warnings.

In the single-line case it is not possible to use this keyword.

## Format of the input file

The input text files to be converted into XML files must follow the format described in this section. Example forms are provided in the release for all experiment types that are defined in the RKDFS v2.3.

The text files are processed line-by-line, and any text following a “!” or “%” character will be considered a comment and not interpreted.

The keywords and their usage is described in the table below. The arguments following the keywords are given in *italics*. Spaces in strings will be kept in the XML files. In case of species names, spaces can cause incorrect handling of species during the interpretation of XML files. Both decimal and scientific notations are accepted number formats.

---

File author: *string*

---

The string following the keyword will be used to identify the author of the XML file (which does not imply that the experimental data were obtained by this author).

---

File DOI: *string*

---

The string following the keyword will be used to specify a unique digital object identifier (DOI) that belongs to the dataset.

---

Specification version: *string*

---

The number following the keyword will be used to specify the ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification version the created file adheres to. The latest released specification version is 2.3. Two integers separated by a dot will be understood as `major_version.minor_version` and will be inserted into the XML file accordingly.

---

File version: *string*

---

The number following the keyword can be used to track the version history of a certain file. It should be set to 1.0 by default. A higher number should be chosen whenever a file was edited at a later stage. Two integers separated by a dot will be understood as `major_version.minor_version` and will be inserted into the XML file accordingly.

---

Reference description: *string*

---

The unformatted string following the keyword will be stored as the bibliographic reference of the measurements stored in the XML file. This may contain the name of the authors of the corresponding publication, journal name, page numbers, etc.

---

Reference DOI: *string*

---

The string following the keyword will be stored as the DOI of the corresponding publication. Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

Reference location: *string*

---

The string following the keyword may help the users of XML files to locate the data in the corresponding publication (e.g. “Main article” or “Supplementary Material”). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

**Reference table:** *string*

---

The string following the keyword may help the users of XML files to locate the data in the corresponding publication (e.g. “Table 1, high-pressure series”). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the the XML files.

---

**Reference figure:** *string*

---

The string following the keyword may help the users of XML files to locate the data in the corresponding publication (e.g. “Figure 2, blue circle”). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

**Experiment type:** *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to define the experiment type.

The allowed types are:

- ignition delay measurement
  - laminar burning velocity measurement
  - outlet concentration measurement
  - concentration time profile measurement
  - jet stirred reactor measurement
  - burner stabilized flame speciation measurement
  - rate coefficient determination
- 

**Apparatus:** *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to provide the apparatus type in which the experiment was carried out (e.g. shock tube). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

**Operation mode:** *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to provide the operating mode of the experimental apparatus in which the experiment was carried out (e.g. reflected shock). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

**Method:** *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to describe the experimental method that was used in a direct measurement (e.g. “laser photolysis, laser-induced fluorescence”) or the method used in a theoretical determination study (e.g. “VTST”). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

**Common experimental conditions:** *varied*

---

The keyword can be followed by multiple lines, each specifying an experimental condition that is common across all individual experiments that are described within the file.

The lines should follow the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

Name:*string*      Label:*string*      Source\_type:*string*      Species:*string*  
Value:*number*    Unit:*string*    Chemical\_name:*string*    CAS:*string*    InChI:*string*  
SMILES:*string*    Reference:*string*    Kind:*string*    Bound:*string*

The string after “Name:” defines what type of physical property is given (e.g. temperature, pressure).

The string after “Label:” is the short notation of the physical property (e.g. for a temperature property, the label is usually T).

The string after “Source\_type:” defines the source type of the given physical property (reported, digitized, estimated or calculated).

The string after “Species:” defines which species a composition or concentration type of property refers to. For other types of properties it should not be used.

The number after “Value:” provides the numeric value of the property, and the string after “Unit:” provides the corresponding unit.

Valid property types and corresponding units are summarized in the [table](#) at the end of this section.

If the property is concentration or composition type then the string after “CAS:”, “InChI:” and “SMILES:” can be used to identify species. The string after “Chemical\_name:” denotes the chemical name of a certain species.

If the property name type is “uncertainty”, the string after “Reference:” contains the name of the property to which the specified uncertainty refers, the string after “Kind:” describes the kind of uncertainty (absolute or relative), and the string after “Bound:” specifies the type of uncertainty bound(s) (plus, minus or plusminus).

The string after “Kind:” defines the nature of a physical property (e.g. if a pressure rise is relative).

---

Varied experimental conditions and measured results: *varied*

---

The keyword can be followed by multiple lines, each specifying an experimental condition that was varied between the individual experiments, or an experimental result.

The lines should follow the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

Name:*string*    Source\_type:*string*    Species:*string*    Unit:*string*    ID:*string*  
Chemical\_name:*string*    CAS:*string*    InChI:*string*    SMILES:*string*  
Reference:*string*    Kind:*string*    Bound:*string*    Label:*string*

The string after “Name:” defines what type of physical property is given (e.g. temperature, pressure).

The string after “Source\_type:” defines the source type of the given physical property (reported, digitized, estimated or calculated).

The string after “Species:” defines which species a composition or concentration type of property refers to. For other types of properties it should not be used.

The string after “Unit:” defines the unit for the numeric values that will be given later in the file.



The string after “ID:” provides an identifier for the property which will be used to identify which values correspond to which property.

The string after “Label:” defines a label for the species which is the suggested plot label for the given property. As no plotting is carried out by Optima++ providing a label is not necessary and the given label is not used (only stored in the XML files).

If the property is `concentration` or `composition` type then the string after “CAS:”, “InChI:” and “SMILES:” can be used to identify species. The string after “Chemical\_name:” denotes the chemical name of a certain species.

If the property name type is “`uncertainty`”, the string after “Reference:” contains the name of the property to which the specified uncertainty refers, the string after “Kind:” describes the kind of uncertainty (`absolute` or `relative`), and the string after “Bound:” specifies the type of uncertainty bound(s) (`plus`, `minus` or `plusminus`).

The string after “Kind:” defines the nature of a physical property (e.g. if a pressure rise is `relative`).

---

#### Varied values:

A header line must follow the keyword, which must contain the IDs that were defined for the varied properties. The order of the ID strings defines the order in which the numerical values are provided for the varied properties. Common ID names are e.g. “x1, x2,...”, but any name can be chosen.

The header line must be followed by lines with as many numerical values as many IDs were provided in the header, and in the corresponding order. Each line defines an experimental data point.

An example is provided below:

#### Varied values:

x1	x2
25.64	0.0466
37.34	0.0529
45.11	0.0591
49.89	0.0653
51.28	0.0713
50.00	0.0773
42.45	0.0832
33.30	0.0891
22.77	0.0948

---

#### Ignition definition:

The definition of the ignition delay can be specified with this keyword.

The keyword must be followed by a line with the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

MeasuredQuantity:*string*    Type:*string*    Amount:*number*    Unit:*string*

The string following “MeasuredQuantity:” defines what physical property was used to define the ignition delay. This can be pressure, temperature or the concentration of a species. These are to be denoted by “p”, “T”, and the name of the species (e.g. “OH”), respectively. Alternative names of excited species are accepted according the following lists:

Excited CH: CH\* CHEX CHV CH(E) CH(A)

Excited OH: OH\* OHEX OHV OH(E) OH(A)

Excited CO2: CO2\* CO2EX CO2V CO2(E) CO2(A)

In case there is no alternatively named species in the mechanism the non-excited species is used in the calculation of the ignition delay time (this fallback results a warning message only).

The string following type “Type:” defines which feature of the measured physical property is considered for the ignition delay. Valid values are summarized below:

- max
- d/dt max
- baseline max intercept from d/dt
- baseline min intercept from d/dt
- concentration
- relative concentration

See the RKD Format Specification for a detailed description of the types.

The number following “Amount:” defines the absolute or relative concentration value the target species has to reach for an ignition to occur. This attribute can only be used when the value of type is “concentration” or “relative concentration”. The string following “Unit:” defines the corresponding unit.

---

#### Time shift definition:

---

The time shifting procedure can be specified with this keyword for a concentration time profile measurement.

The keyword must be followed by a line with the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

MeasuredQuantity:*string* Type:*string* Amount:*number*

The string following “MeasuredQuantity:” defines what physical property was used to define the time shift. This must be the name of a single measured species.

The string following type “Type:” defines which part of the specified species profile is matched with the experiments. The valid types are summarized below:

- half
- inflexion
- relative

See the RKDFS manual for a detailed description of the types.

The number following “Amount:” defines the absolute or relative concentration value the target species has to reach for ignition to occur. This attribute can only be used when the value of type is “concentration” or “relative concentration”.

---

#### Volume-time profile:

---

A volume-time history can be defined with this keyword for an ignition delay experiment (usually an RCM experiment).

The keyword must be followed by lines defining a time and a volume property, in an identical way to property lines after “**Varied experimental conditions and measured results:**”.

These lines must be followed by “**Profile:**”, after which a header line must appear with the IDs defined here. This must be followed by the numeric values for the time–volume pairs.

An example can be seen below:

Volume-time profile:

dataGroupID: dg1    dataGroupLabel: V-t history    dataPointLink: 1

Type: time            Unit: s            ID: x4

Type: volume        Unit: cm3        ID: x5

Profile:

x4	x5
0.000000e+000	1.000000e+000
1.000000e-006	9.998782e-001
7.564500e-004	9.886456e-001
1.004150e-003	9.831007e-001

---

Reaction:

---

For direct rate coefficient determinations this keyword must be used to specify the reaction of which the rate coefficient is described.

The keyword must be followed by a line with the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

**Reaction** *string:string*    **Order:** *integer*    **Bulkgas:** *string*

The string following “**Reaction string:**” is the reaction string. The names of species on the same side of the reaction must be separated by “+” characters, and the reactant and product sides must be separated by an “=” sign, which can be bordered by “>” or “<” characters.

The reaction string must contain “LP” or “HP” before the first species separated by a space, if the rate coefficients measured are at the low pressure or high pressure limit respectively, for pressure dependent reaction rate coefficients (e.g. “LP H+O2+M=HO2+M”).

The integer following “**Order:**” defines the order of the reaction. This should match with the reaction string, including high/low pressure limit specification. For fall-off reactions use the lower order (i.e. that which corresponds to the high-pressure limit).

The string following “**Bulkgas:**” specifies the major diluent gas for the experiment/theoretical determination. This only has significance for pressure-dependent rate coefficients and low-pressure limit rate coefficients. When calculating the rate coefficient the bulkgas will be taken into account through third-body collision efficiency effects, as if the whole gas composition was made up by the bulkgas.

**NOTE:** It is also possible to define a detailed composition through the common or varied conditions, and in this case the bulkgas will be completely ignored.

---

## Summary of valid units

When printing XML files from text files, `Optima++` does not check explicitly if the specified units are valid within the RKDFS. As of version 2.1.0, the given units are printed into the XML files and if incorrect or unhandled units are given, then any solver input files printed from XML will not be correct or complete (a warning will be printed in such a case). Therefore it is important to use only those units that are handled within the RKDFS.

In the following table a summary of the unit strings that are currently handled within the RKDFS is given. Here all strings are given in the *exact way* as it should appear in the file. This means that exponents are not typed as superscript, and the micro ( $\mu$ ) prefix should be typed as “u” to guarantee that these can be typed in plain text files.

Property type	Valid units
temperature	K
pressure	Pa, kPa, MPa, Torr, torr, bar, mbar, atm
volume	m3, dm3, cm3, mm3, L
time	s, ms, us, ns, min
residence time	s, ms, us, ns, min
distance	m, dm, cm, mm
ignition delay	s, ms, us, ns, min
length	m, dm, cm, mm
density	g m-3, g dm-3, g cm-3, g mm-3, kg m-3, kg dm-3, kg cm-3, kg mm-3
flow rate	g m-2 s-1, g dm-2 s-1, g cm-2 s-1, g mm-2 s-1, kg m-2 s-1, kg dm-2 s-1, kg cm-2 s-1, kg mm-2 s-1
flame speed	m/s, dm/s, cm/s, mm/s, m s-1, dm s-1, cm s-1, mm s-1
composition	mole fraction, percent, ppm, ppb
concentration	mol/m3, mol/dm3, mol/cm3, mol m-3, mol dm-3, mol cm-3, molecule/m3, molecule/dm3, molecule/cm3, molecule m-3, molecule dm-3, molecule cm-3
rate coefficient	s-1, m3 mol-1 s-1, dm3 mol-1 s-1, cm3 mol-1 s-1, m3 molecule-1 s-1, dm3 molecule-1 s-1, cm3 molecule-1 s-1, m6 mol-3 s-1, dm6 mol-2 s-1, cm6 mol-2 s-1, m6 molecule-2 s-1, dm6 molecule-2 s-1, cm6 molecule-2 s-1
pressure rise	ms-1, s-1
all relative properties	unitless

## CHECK\_XML

Check the conformity of the XML datafiles to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification.

## Usage

There are two legal styles for a `CHECK_XML` job. The first is a single-line command, where one argument follows the keyword. The other one is a `CHECK_XML` block, where each line should contain one string: the full path of the input XML file.

In both cases if there are further strings within a line (after the removal of potential comments), the line will be ignored.

`Optima++` checks species appearing in the input XML files and their identifiers based on the `speciesDatabase.xml` file. The program warns if a given species is missing from the database or if there are conflicting identifiers.

Processing a single file

```
CHECK_XML path_to_input/xml_file_1
```

Processing multiple files

```
CHECK_XML
SHOWWARNING
  path_to_input/xml_file_1
  path_to_input/xml_file_2
  path_to_input/xml_file_3
END
```

## List of CHECK\_XML keywords

SHOWWARNING

By default `Optima++` only reports the error messages of a `CHECK_XML` job, but in certain cases it could be useful to have all the warnings as well. The `SHOWWARNING` keyword enables the reporting of warnings.

In the single-line case it is not possible to use this keyword.

## XML\_TO\_TXT

Create plain text files from ReSpecTh format files that can be used by TXT\_TO\_XML. The general purpose of this is to avoid directly editing XML files when data is to be modified, and rather edit more easily readable text files or convert the data in a non-tagged format which can be useful for people who are not familiar with XML files. The conformity of the file to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification is strictly checked during the conversion (to be more precise, only the structure of the XML will be verified).

### Usage

In an XML\_TO\_TXT block each line should contain two strings. The first should be the full path of the input XML file and the second the full path of the desired output file. If there are further strings within a line, the line will be ignored.

Each source file will be read individually. If the input file is a valid RKD file, then a plaintext file will be created with the requested output path. The file will contain the same information as the RKD input file and can be converted back using the TXT\_TO\_XML function of Optima++.

**NOTE:** When converting an RKD file using XML\_TO\_TXT and back with TXT\_TO\_XML the files might not be exactly identical, but semantically they will be the same. If `chemName`, `CAS`, `InChI` or `SMILES` for a species is missing Optima++ automatically adds this information based on the species' `preferredKey` if it can be found in the `speciesDatabase.xml`.

The path to the output files must exist, as no directories will be created based on this input block. The paths given in the block are relative to the directory from where the program is called.

Single files can also be processed using the alternate syntax that can be seen below.

Processing a single file

```
XML_TO_TXT path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output/txt_file_1
```

Processing multiple files

```
XML_TO_TXT
```

```
SHOWWARNING
```

```
    path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output/txt_file_1
```

```
    path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_output/txt_file_2
```

```
    path_to_input/xml_file_3 path_to_output/txt_file_3
```

```
END
```

The file `speciesDatabase.xml` is used by Optima++ to complement missing unambiguous identifiers for species. The `speciesDatabase.xml` file is located in the Optima++ main directory and can be extended by the users using any ASCII text editor.

Its format must follow this example:

```
<database>
<species preferredKey="C3H6">
  <chemName>propylene</chemName>
  <CAS>115-07-1</CAS>
  <InChI>1S/C3H6/c1-3-2/h3H,1H2,2H3</InChI>
  <SMILES>CC=C</SMILES>
</species>
<species preferredKey="C3H8">
  <chemName>propane</chemName>
  <CAS>74-98-6</CAS>
  <InChI>1S/C3H8/c1-3-2/h3H2,1-2H3</InChI>
  <SMILES>CCC</SMILES>
</species>
</database>
```

### List of XML\_TO\_TXT keywords

#### SHOWWARNING

By default Optima++ only reports the error messages of an XML\_TO\_TXT job, but in certain cases it could be useful to have all the warnings as well. The SHOWWARNING keyword enables the reporting of warnings.

In the single-line case it is not possible to use this keyword.

## XML\_TO\_CKII

Create Chemkin-II input files from ReSpecTh format files. Inputs can be created for SENKIN (ignition delay, outlet concentration and concentration-time profile measurements), JSR and PREMIX (only burning velocity measurements currently).

The conformity of the file to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification is strictly checked during the conversion.

**NOTE:** Direct rate coefficient determination type XMLs cannot be used to create Chemkin-II input files, as evaluating rate coefficients does not require a solver.

### Usage

In an XML\_TO\_CKII block each line should contain two strings. The first should be the full path of the input plaintext file and the second the path of the directory where the output files should be printed. The path to the output files must exist, as no directories will be created based on this input block.

**NOTE:** Unlike [TXT\\_TO\\_XML](#) and [XML\\_TO\\_TXT](#), here the path of the output directory must be specified and the name of the output file not. This is due to the fact that most RKD files contain the definition more than one experiment, therefore usually more than one output file will be produced.

The names of the output files will be assembled from the name of the input RKD file (without extension) and a `_p` tag followed by the index of the experiment in the file and `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `myExperiment_p3.inp` for the third experiment from `myExperiment.xml`.

Processing a single file

```
XML_TO_CKII path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output/output_directory
```

Processing multiple files

```
XML_TO_CKII
  path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output/output_directory
  path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_output/output_directory
  path_to_input/xml_file_3 somewhere/else
END
```



## XML\_TO\_FM

Create `FlameMaster` input files from `ReSpecTh` format files. Inputs can be created for 0D, PSR and freely propagating flame configurations.

**NOTE:** Direct rate coefficient determination type XMLs cannot be used to create `FlameMaster` input files, as evaluating rate coefficients does not require a solver.

### Usage

In an `XML_TO_FM` block each line should contain two strings. The first should be the full path of the input plaintext file and the second the path of the directory where the output files should be printed. The path to the output files must exist, as no directories will be created based on this input block.

**NOTE:** Unlike `TXT_TO_XML` and `XML_TO_TXT`, here the path of the output directory must be specified and the name of the output file not. This is due to the fact that most RKD files contain the definition more than one experiment, therefore usually more than one output file will be produced.

The names of the output files will be assembled from the name of the input RKD file (without extension) and a `_p` tag followed by the index of the experiment in the file and `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `myExperiment_p3.inp` for the third experiment from `myExperiment.xml`.

Processing a single file

```
XML_TO_FM path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output
```

Processing multiple files

```
XML_TO_FM
  path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output
  path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_output
  path_to_input/xml_file_3 path_to_output
END
```

## XML\_TO\_OS

Create `OpenSmoke++` input files from `ReSpecTh` format files. Inputs can be created for OD, PSR and freely propagating flame configurations.

**NOTE:** Direct rate coefficient determination type XMLs cannot be used to create `OpenSmoke++` input files, as evaluating rate coefficients does not require a solver.

### Usage

In an `XML_TO_OS` block each line should contain two strings. The first should be the full path of the input plaintext file and the second the path of the directory where the output files should be printed. The path to the output files must exist, as no directories will be created based on this input block.

**NOTE:** Unlike `TXT_TO_XML` and `XML_TO_TXT`, here the path of the output directory must be specified and the name of the output file not. This is due to the fact that most RKD files contain the definition more than one experiment, therefore usually more than one output file will be produced.

The names of the output files will be assembled from the name of the input RKD file (without extension) and a `_p` tag followed by the index of the experiment in the file and `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `myExperiment_p3.inp` for the third experiment from `myExperiment.xml`.

Processing a single file

```
XML_TO_OS path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output
```

Processing multiple files

```
XML_TO_OS
  path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output
  path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_output
  path_to_input/xml_file_3 path_to_output
END
```

## **EXP\_INFO**

Print the experimental conditions of measurements from ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification XML files.

### **Usage**

When using `EXP_INFO`, two output files (using `INFO_OUTPUT` and `RAW_OUTPUT` keywords) and a list of input XML files must be defined. The XML files must be given with their full paths.

### **List of EXP\_INFO keywords**

#### **INFO\_OUTPUT**

The file followed `INFO_OUTPUT` keyword will contain a summary of the experimental condition ranges, one line per XML file.

#### **RAW\_OUTPUT**

The file followed `RAW_OUTPUT` keyword will contain detailed print of conditions, one line per experimental point.

## MECHMOD

Read and manipulate complex chemical kinetic mechanisms. The mechanism modification capabilities of the MECHMOD block are similar to those of the MECHMOD program written by Tamás Turányi (downloadable from [www.respecth.hu](http://www.respecth.hu)) but not all features are available yet. A full coverage is planned for future releases of Optima++.

Apart from manipulation of mechanisms the MECHMOD block must be used to read and interpret mechanisms before they can be utilized by Optima++ for simulations.

### Usage

When using MECHMOD, a new mechanism must be defined with the USE\_NAME keyword followed by the name to be used for the mechanism. All operations within a MECHMOD block will be performed on this mechanism, and it can be referred to in subsequent blocks by the name assigned with USE\_NAME.

After defining a mechanism, contents must be read into the mechanism using MECH\_FILE followed by the path to a Chemkin-II format mechanism file. The file will be read and checked for errors. If no errors are found, then the interpreted mechanism will contain all species and reaction information and further operations will be possible on it.

Therefore, all MECHMOD blocks should follow the following basic layout:

```
MECHMOD
  USE_NAME myMechanism
  MECH_FILE path/myMechanismFile.inp
  !
  ! Do things with the mechanism here
  !
END
```

**NOTE:** Some mechanism contains negative  $A$  parameter. This is not allowed in Optima++ because this parameter is stored internally in logarithmic ( $\ln A$ ) form. By default, Optima++ terminates if a negative  $A$  parameter is found. You can change this behavior by passing the `-forceM` or `-forceMechRead` keyword as a commandline argument:

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP path/to/inputfile --forceMechRead
```

This is recommended only if you use precompiled mechanism, otherwise the negative  $A$  parameter will be passed to the solver as NaN.

## List of MECHMOD keywords

### USE\_NAME

Specify name for the mechanism to be used. This name can be used to refer to the mechanism in all subsequent blocks. `USE_NAME` must be used to carry out any task with `MECHMOD`.

### MECH\_FILE

Read and interpret a `Chemkin-II` format mechanism file. Currently this is the only way to read contents into a mechanism defined with `USE_NAME` and must be used before any further operations can be carried out.

**NOTE:** The mechanism file must contain the thermodynamic data for all defined species. This does not adhere exactly to the `Chemkin-II` format, where it is possible to provide thermodynamic data in separate files.

**NOTE:** Thermodynamic data is read only for species that are actually defined within the mechanism (in the `SPECIES` block). Further NASA polynomials will be ignored and not interpreted.

**NOTE:** Most, but not all features of the `Chemkin-II` format are supported. Apart from basic reaction definitions the following keywords of the `Chemkin-II` format are interpreted by `Optima++`: `DUPLICATE` (or `DUP`); `REVERSE` (or `REV`); `LOW`; `TROE`; `SRI`; `PLOG`. Special reactants `M` and `hν` are interpreted as generic third bodies and photons respectively. Photons in photochemical reactions are preserved as reactants or products, but otherwise photochemical reactions are not handled by `Optima++`.

Example

```
MECH_FILE path/mechanismFile
```

### TRAN\_FILE

Read and interpret a `Chemkin-II` format transport file. A mechanism must already be correctly read through `MECH_FILE` for this keyword to do anything, as the transport properties are assigned to species defined in the previously read mechanism file.

Example

```
TRAN_FILE path/transportFile
```

### PRINT\_CKII\_MECH

Write the mechanism into a file in `Chemkin-II` format, including all thermodynamic properties. In case no modifications were made to the mechanism read using `MECH_FILE` (and potentially `TRAN_FILE`), then the contents of the mechanisms should be identical, except that thermodynamic properties for non-defined species will not be written and the formatting of the files can differ slightly.

Example

```
PRINT_CKII_MECH path/targetMechanismFile
```

#### PRINT\_CKII\_THERMO

Write the thermodynamic properties of all species into a **Chemkin-II** format file. The thermodynamic properties of species will be given in NASA polynomial format, and order in the same way as they were in the mechanism. Also, NASA polynomials will be printed only for those species that were actually defined in the **SPECIES** block of the mechanism.

Example

```
PRINT_CKII_THERMO path/targetThermoFile
```

#### PRINT\_CKII\_TRAN

Write the transport properties of all species into a **Chemkin-II** format file. The transport properties of species will be ordered in the same way as they were in the mechanism. Also, transport data will be printed only for those species that were actually defined in the **SPECIES** block of the mechanism.

Example

```
PRINT_CKII_TRAN path/targetTransportFile
```

#### PRINT\_FM\_MECH

Write the mechanism into a file in **FlameMaster** format. Note that the **FlameMaster** mechanism file contains only the kinetic information, but no thermodynamic or transport data.

Example

```
PRINT_FM_MECH path/targetMechanismFile
```

#### COMPILE\_CKII

Compile the mechanism into a **Chemkin-II** format binary file. This does not include the transport properties, as **Chemkin-II** uses a separate binary file for transport properties.

**NOTE:** This functionality uses `ckinterp` to carry out the compilation, which is part of the **Chemkin-II** package. As **Chemkin-II** is not freely distributable, `ckinterp` is not provided in the **Optima++** package. To be able to use **Chemkin-II**, please place the `ckinterp` (or `ckinterp.exe` on Windows) into the **Optima++** package root.

**WARNING:** Currently it is not explicitly checked if the mechanism compilation was successful.

Example

```
COMPILE_CKII path/targetChemkinBinary
```

#### FORCE\_USE\_CKII\_BIN

Use precompiled Chemkin-II mechanism binary file from input.

Example

```
FORCE_USE_CKII_BIN path/inputChemkinBinary
```

#### COMPILE\_CKII\_TRANBIN

Create the Chemkin-II format binary output file containing transport properties.

Example

```
COMPILE_CKII_TRANBIN path/targetChemkinTransportBinary
```

#### FORCE\_USE\_CKII\_TRANBIN

Use precompiled Chemkin-II transport binary file from input.

Example

```
FORCE_USE_CKII_TRANBIN path/inputChemkinTransportBinary
```

#### COMPILE\_FM

Compile the mechanism into a FlameMaster format binary file. This includes transport properties if they were provided using TRAN\_FILE. It should be noted that the transport properties are not necessary for compiling a FlameMaster mechanism, but if they are not provided, the mechanism will only be usable for 0D simulations.

**WARNING:** Currently it is not explicitly checked if the mechanism compilation was successful.

Example

```
COMPILE_FM path/targetFlameMasterBinary
```

#### COMPILE\_FM\_FROM\_CKII

Compile a FlameMaster binary mechanism from Chemkin-II format mechanism file.

Example

```
COMPILE_FM_FROM_CKII path/targetFlameMasterBinary
```

#### FORCE\_USE\_FM\_BIN

Use precompiled FlameMaster binary mechanism file from input.

Example

```
FORCE_USE_FM_BIN path/inputFlameMasterBinary
```

#### COMPILE\_OS

Compile the mechanism into a OpenSmoke++ format xml file. This includes transport properties if they were provided using TRAN\_FILE. It should be noted that the transport properties are not necessary for compiling a OpenSmoke++ mechanism, but if they are not provided, the mechanism will only be usable for 0D simulations.

**WARNING:** Currently it is not explicitly checked if the mechanism compilation was successful.

Example

```
COMPILE_OS path/targetOpenSmokeKineticsFolder
```

**FORCE\_USE\_PRECOMPILED\_OS\_MECH**

Use precompiled `OpenSmoke++` mechanism folder from input. (The folder should contain the following two files: `kinetics.xml` and `reaction_names.xml`.)

Example

```
FORCE_USE_PRECOMPILED_OS_MECH path/inputOpenSmokeKineticsFolder
```

**SWITCH\_A\_UNIT**

Change the unit of the *A* Arrhenius parameters in the mechanism, and convert all parameter values appropriately. The valid units are those that are available in `Chemkin-II`. In all cases the volume units are  $\text{cm}^3$  and the time units are seconds.

**NOTE:** The exact units of the *A* Arrhenius parameters always depend on the order of the respective reaction.

Valid units are: `MOLES` ( $\text{cm}^3$  mols); `MOLECULES` ( $\text{cm}^3$  molecules).

Example

```
SWITCH_A_UNIT MOLECULES
```

**WARNING:** This keyword will only be usable with `PRINT_CKII_MECH` for writing `Chemkin-II` format mechanism files.

**SWITCH\_E\_UNIT**

Change the unit of the *E* Arrhenius parameters in the mechanism, and convert all parameter values appropriately.

Valid units are: `KELVINS`; `CAL/MOLE`; `KCAL/MOLE`; `JOULES/MOLE`; `KJOULES/MOLE`.

Example

```
SWITCH_E_UNIT KJOULES/MOLE
```

**WARNING:** This keyword will only be usable with `PRINT_CKII_MECH` for writing `Chemkin-II` format mechanism files.

**LUMPED\_MECH**

Store reactions containing nonintegral stoichiometric coefficients. (This feature is on by default from version 2.1.0.)

**NO\_LUMPED\_MECH**

Remove each reaction containing nonintegral stoichiometric coefficients from the mechanism.



## REMOVE\_SPECIES

Remove one or more species from the mechanism, including all thermodynamic and transport properties and all reactions in which it is a reactant or product.

Species to be removed must be named on the same line as the REMOVE\_SPECIES keyword and be separated by whitespace characters (except newline).

Example

```
REMOVE_SPECIES C3H8 C3H7 C3H6
```

## REMOVE\_REACTION

Remove one or more reactions from the mechanism.

Reactions to be removed must be named on the same line as the REMOVE\_REACTION keyword and be separated by whitespace characters (except newline). The reaction string must not contain whitespace characters, and each species name must be written out separated by “+” signs (i.e. “H+H” should be used instead of “2H”). The reactants and products must be separated by “=”, “=>” or “<=>”. The different separators between reactants and products are treated as identical (i.e. “H+O2=>OH+O” is equivalent to “H+O2=OH+O”).

The reactants and products can be given in an arbitrary order, and parantheses will be ignored. In case of duplicate reactions all instances will be removed.

Example

```
REMOVE_REACTION H+H+M=H2+M H02+OH=H2O+O2
```

## KEEP\_SUBMECH

Specify one or more species to keep in the mechanism. All reactions will be removed from the mechanism that contain none of the specified species. Therefore, it is generally expected that some reactions will remain in the mechanism that have not been specified after KEEP\_SUBMECH.

Species to be kept must be named on the same line as the KEEP\_SUBMECH keyword and be separated by whitespace characters (except newline).

Example

```
KEEP_SUBMECH H O OH
```

## RENAME\_SPECIES

Renames a species in the thermodynamic and transport properties and all reactions in which it is a reactant or product. This can be useful e.g. to match species names used in XML files.

The RENAME\_SPECIES keyword is followed by the old and the new name of the species, respectively. All three strings have to be separated by whitespace characters (except newline).

**NOTE:** Avoid using characters C, H and O in species names if they're not describing the elemental composition. This would affect the equivalence ratio calculated by the code, which is relevant for stepping in between conditions during the creation of a FLAME\_DATABASE.

Example

```
RENAME_SPECIES CH3HCO CH3CHO
```

## MECHTEST

MECHTEST can be used to perform simulations at the conditions of experiments using a detailed chemical mechanism.

The following experiment types can be used:

- Ignition delay measurement
- Laminar flame speed measurement
- Outlet concentration measurement
- Concentration time profile measurement
- Jet stirred reactor measurement
- Direct rate coefficient determination

Burner stabilized flame speciation measurement are not handled in the present release, but are planned for future releases.

## Usage

To use MECHTEST several things need to be defined, including the mechanism and integrator settings to be used. The mechanism to be used can be defined with MECHANISM followed by a mechanism name defined in MECHMOD block (see USE\_NAME).

## List of MECHTEST keywords

### MECHANISM

Specify the mechanism to be used for the simulation of the experiments. The name must match with one defined in a MECHMOD block with USE\_NAME. All modifications carried out on the mechanism are kept for the simulations.

To use a mechanism for simulations it must also have been compiled with an appropriate COMPILE keyword in the MECHMOD block.

### SOLVER

Specify solver package to be used. By default FlameMaster is used.

Accepted values are FM, OS and CKII, however CKII requires a modified version of the Chemkin-II package which is not distributed.

**NOTE:** The evaluation of direct rate coefficient determinations is independent of the selected solver package.

### SETTINGS\_TAG

Specify the settings tag to be used. See section 4. Integrator settings for details about configuration of solver settings. By default the “default” tag is used, and if such settings are not available the inbuilt defaults of Optima++ are used.

#### THREAD\_LIMIT

Specify the number of parallel threads to be used by `Optima++` for the simulations. Default value is 1.

#### GROUP\_BY\_POINTS

The content of the `mechtestResults` file will be ordered as the datapoints occurs in the xml file (or in the order of the point numbers if specified after the `POINTS` keyword).

#### GROUP\_BY\_SPECIES

The content of the `mechtestResults` file will be grouped by species. (This is the default behaviour.)

#### NOCLEANUP

`Optima++` can produce enourmously large number of temporary files in the `JOBS` and `FMLOGS` directories. By default these files are cleaned up after finishing the corresponding jobs, but in certain cases it could be useful to keep them for further investigation. This case use the `NOCLEANUP` keyword.

#### TIME\_LIMIT

Specify the maximum time in seconds allowed to the solvers. If the `TIME_LIMIT` is exceeded, the solver process is killed and the job is markes as `FAILED`.

**NOTE:** This option is enabled only if `Optima++` was compiled with `-DUSE_TIMELIMIT`. It works only on linux and with `OS` solver.

#### NODISK

By default, the input and output files used by the solver packages are saved to the `INPUTS`, `JOBS` and `LOGS` directories. With this option these files will be saved to a temporary filesystem in the memory without any physical disk usage.

**NOTE:** This option is limited to `FM` and `OS` solvers and works only on linux operating systems.

#### FORCE(\_NO)\_RCM\_SUB

During the postprocessing step of the `RCM` simulation's results the time point belonging to the minimum of the volume history is substracted from the final ignition delay only if the minimum point is not in the last 5% of the volume-time history. Whith the `FORCE_RCM_SUB` keyword this time shifting is always performed. Use the `FORCE_NO_RCM_SUB` keyword to disable the time shifting.

#### LOAD\_DATABASE

Laminar flame speed measurements require pre-existing solutions from a flame database. Use `LOAD_DATABASE` keyword to specify the name of the flame solution database to be used for the flame simulations. See [FLAME\\_DATABASE](#) for details on creating and utilizing flame databases.

## NAME

Mark experiments defined in an RKD datafile for simulation. The specified file must be a valid RKD Format file. The name of the file must be followed by the **POINTS** keywords and the numbers of the experimental datapoints (according to their order in the respective file) separated by non-newline whitespace characters. The “**all**” (or “**ALL**”) keyword can also be provided to use all datapoints from a file. The experimental datapoints can be selected by ranges (for example the “**1-10 15-20**” expression selects the first 10 datapoints and from the 15<sup>th</sup> point to the 20<sup>th</sup> point, respectively). The **POINTS** keyword optionally can be followed by **EXCLUDE** keyword and the numbers (or ranges) of the datapoints to be excluded from the calculations.

**NOTE:** Concentration-time profile measurements contain a single experiment and datapoints refer to different times at which concentrations were measured. This means that no matter how many points are selected, the same amount of simulation time is required, unlike other types of dataset where a single datapoint is a single experiment, and has to be simulated individually.

**NOTE:** The range expression should not contain any whitespaces between the range delimiter numbers and the “-” sign.

### Examples

```
NAME myDatafiles/experiment_1.xml POINTS 3 4 6 7
NAME myDatafiles/experiment_2.xml POINTS 1 2 3
NAME myDatafiles/experiment_3.xml POINTS 1-5
NAME myDatafiles/experiment_4.xml POINTS all
NAME myDatafiles/experiment_5.xml POINTS all EXCLUDE 2-5
```

## Output

A file called `mechTestResults` is created in the directory from where `Optima++` is called. If a file with the same name and path already exists then the new content will be appended to it.

First a header is printed describing the mechanism, integrator settings tag and solver package used for the simulations. Then the experimental and simulation results are printed line by line. On each line the name of the experiment file, the number of the current datapoint, the measured species (if applicable), and the measured and simulated values are given.

The units of the printed results (both measured and simulated) depend on the experiment type:

Experiment type	Unit of results
Ignition delay measurement	s
Laminar flame speed measurement	cm/s
Outlet concentration measurement Concentration time profile measurement	Depending on whether mole fractions or absolute concentrations are given in the respective RKD datafile: mole fraction OR mol/m <sup>3</sup>
Jet stirred reactor measurement	Depending on the order of the respective reaction: s <sup>-1</sup> OR cm <sup>3</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> OR cm <sup>6</sup> mol <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>

Example

Mechanism used: sandiego

Integrator settings collection used: default

Solver package used: FM

res/x00000066.xml	1	-	2.89000e-005	5.87242e-005
res/x00000066.xml	2	-	2.03500e-004	3.47538e-004
res/x00000066.xml	3	-	3.93500e-004	5.30334e-004

## SENSITIVITY

Carry out local sensitivity analysis of a given model at the conditions of selected experiments. The sensitivity analysis is carried out on the simulations of the measured values (i.e. the burning velocities if that was measured in a selected experiment) with respect to all  $A$  Arrhenius parameters in the selected model including low pressure limit Arrhenius parameters for falloff reactions. The calculations are performed using a brute-force method and the normalized sensitivity coefficients are provided.

The normalized sensitivity coefficients are calculated according to the following formula:

$$Sn_{ij} = \frac{A_j}{Y_i} \frac{Y_i' - Y_i}{A_j' - A_j},$$

where  $Y_i$  is the  $i$ -th simulation result on which the sensitivity analysis is carried out, and  $A_j$  is the  $j$ -th  $A$  Arrhenius parameter that is investigated.

### Usage

The `MECHANISM`, `LOAD_DATABASE`, `SOLVER`, `NODISK`, `SETTINGS_TAG`, `THREAD_LIMIT` keywords are to be used in the same way as in a `MECHTEST` block. The `NAME` keyword is also used in an identical way but here it marks experiments for sensitivity analysis. The `REACTION` block can be used in many new ways compared to that of described in [Reaction blocks of Optimization](#).

### List of SENSITIVITY keywords

Keywords with identical functions as in `MECHTEST` are not listed here.

#### SPLIT

In simulation tasks where a single experiment must be simulated using several different parameter sets `Optima++` uses a single thread by default. This means that simulations using different parameter sets are carried out one after another for a single experiment. In certain cases it can be beneficial to split the task so that simulation of a single experiment are also multithreaded.

`SPLIT` can be used to specify how many sub-sets to create from the complete parameter set. For example using `SPLIT 4` in a case where 200 parameter sets are to be simulated, results in 4 separate simulation tasks (that `Optima++` can run parallel) with 50 parameter sets each.

Using `SPLIT` only has an effect on how `Optima++` manages the simulations internally. All results, both numerically and format-wise, are independent of it.

By default no splitting of tasks is done (which is equivalent to `SPLIT 1`).

#### PERTURBATION

Specifies the perturbation factor used in the brute-force method local sensitivity analysis. For example, `PERTURBATION 0.10` represents a perturbation by 10%.

PERTURBATION is 0.05 by default (i.e. a perturbation by 5%) and the code also back to this value if nothing or a negative value is specified.

The perturbation factor used is printed to the output of the job. Note that “(default)” is added in brackets to mark that the code fell back to the default value. If PERTURBATION was specified correctly, only the used value is printed.

## REACTION

Specifies the reaction(s) and parameter(s) for which the sensitivity analysis will be performed. Without any REACTION block each preexponential factor in the reaction mechanism (including the low pressure ones) is perturbed.

The REACTION block should be constructed in the same way as described in [Reaction blocks of Optimization](#), but with the following differences:

- REACSTRING and PARAMETERS keywords are compulsory, REACNUM and RANGE are optional.
- REACSTRING may contain a POSIX type regular expression. Note, that matching of REACNUM and REACSTRING is checked after interpreting the POSIX type regular expression (if used).
- RANGE keyword can be used to specify a reaction number range.
- All specified parameters MUST exist in each selected reaction.

Possible types of REACSTRING:

- normal reaction string (e.g. H+O2=OH+O)
- species selector independently if it is a reactant or product (e.g. `${species C2H4}`)
- species selector among the reactants (e.g. `${reactant C2H4}`)
- species selector among the products (e.g. `${product C2H4}`)
- a POSIX type regular expression `${REGEXP}` (e.g. `${.*C[0-9]+.*}` fits to reactions in which any number follows character 'C')
- to select all reactions use `*`

### Example

```
! Selects all reactions which contain C2H4 as reactant
! and calculates sensitivity for parameters A and E
REACTION
REACSTRING  ${reactant C2H4}
PARAMETERS  A E
END
```

### Example

```
! Selects all reactions in the reaction number range 1 to 10 (inclusive)
! and calculates sensitivity for parameter E
REACTION
RANGE      1 10
```



```
REACSTRING *  
PARAMETERS E  
END
```

## NOCLEANUP

Optima++ can produce enourmously large number of temporary files in the `JOBS` and `FMLOGS` directories. By default these files are cleaned up after finishing the corresponding jobs, but in certain cases it could be useful to keep them for further investigation. This case use the `NOCLEANUP` keyword.

## Output

A file called `sensitivityResults` is created in the directory from where `Optima++` is called. If a file with the same name and path already exists then the new content will be appended to it.

Similarly to the [output of a MECHTEST block](#) first a header is printed. It describes the mechanism, integrator settings tag, solver package used for the simulations and the perturbation factor used for the sensitivity calculations.

In the following lines the basic information about the experiment, and the normalized sensitivity coefficients are printed. The output lines contain the name of the used RKD file, the number of the datapoint of the present experiment in the used RKD file, the name of the measured species if applicable, the measured result, the simulated result obtained with the unperturbed parameters and finally the normalized sensitivity coefficients.

The normalized sensitivity coefficients with respect to the  $A$ -factors are printed in the same order as the respective reactions occur in the used mechanism. These are followed by the low-pressure limit  $A$ -factors, again in the same order in which the respective falloff reactions occur (non-falloff reactions do not have a low-pressure limit  $A$ -factor).

The units of the experimental and simulated results are the same as in the output of a `MECHTEST` block. See the description of the [MECHTEST](#) block for details.

## OPTIMIZATION

### The objective function

Carry out the optimization of certain parameters of a model against selected data. The optimization algorithm used by `Optima++` is described in [1]. The algorithm involves the minimization of the least-squares type error function:

$$E(\mathbf{p}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{N_i} \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} \left( \frac{Y_{ij}^{\text{mod}}(\mathbf{p}) - Y_{ij}^{\text{exp}}}{\sigma(Y_{ij}^{\text{exp}})} \right)^2,$$

$$\text{where } Y_{ij}^{\text{mod/exp}} = \begin{cases} y_{ij}^{\text{mod/exp}} & \text{if } \sigma(y_{ij}^{\text{exp}}) \approx \text{constant for all } j \\ \ln y_{ij}^{\text{mod/exp}} & \text{if } \sigma(\ln y_{ij}^{\text{exp}}) \approx \text{constant for all } j \end{cases} \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

Here  $\mathbf{p}$  is the vector of the parameters selected for optimizations,  $N$  is the number of datasets and  $N_i$  is the number of data points in the  $i$ -th dataset. The values  $y_{ij}^{\text{exp}}$  and  $\sigma(y_{ij}^{\text{exp}})$  are the  $j$ -th measured (experimental) data point and its standard deviation, respectively, in the  $i$ -th dataset. For the indirect measurement data, the simulated (modeled) value is  $y_{ij}^{\text{mod}}$ , and is obtained from a simulation using the detailed mechanism investigated. For the direct measurements, the corresponding modeled value  $y_{ij}^{\text{mod}}$  is calculated at a given temperature, pressure, and bath gas composition. In the formula of  $E(\mathbf{p})$ , values  $Y_{ij}^{\text{mod}}$  and  $Y_{ij}^{\text{exp}}$  were compared, which were derived from  $y_{ij}^{\text{mod}}$  and  $y_{ij}^{\text{exp}}$  values depending on the nature of error distribution characteristic for the type of experiment in which data set  $i$  was determined.

Optimization targets can be both indirect measurements either direct rate coefficient determinations (experimental or theoretical). The targets and the associated standard deviations must be defined using the `NAME` keyword, and each line with `NAME` defines one dataset. For details see the [keyword descriptions](#).

During optimization a random sample of the selected rate parameters is created, and the  $E$  error function is evaluated at each parameter set. This is done by performing the simulations of each optimization target with each parameter set. The parameter set which provided the lowest  $E$  value is selected as the currently best value, and the following round of sampling will use it as the mean value.

### Estimation of the covariance matrix

The estimation of the covariance matrix of the currently best parameters after each round of sampling and evaluation can be requested. If this is done, the new covariance matrix is used for the following round of sampling. The method for the calculation of the covariance matrix of parameters is described in [1] and the modifications introduced regarding the usage of systematic errors in [2] are also used in `Optima++`.

### Focusing during parameter sampling

The optimization algorithm also includes an additional scaling of the covariance matrix for sampling purposes, which is colloquially referred to in the code and keywords as

“**focusing**”. Before each random sampling of the parameters the standard deviations of each parameter is scaled with the following factor:

$$\log f_\sigma = -\frac{2N_{\text{focus}}}{N_{\text{parameters}}} \log N_{\text{sample}} \quad \text{or} \quad f_\sigma = N_{\text{sample}}^{-2N_{\text{focus}}/N_{\text{parameters}}},$$

where  $f_\sigma$  is the scaling factor with which the standard deviations of the sampled parameters are multiplied,  $N_{\text{sample}}$  is number of parameter sets generated within a sample,  $N_{\text{focus}}$  is the current “focus level”, and  $N_{\text{parameters}}$  is the number of parameters that are being sampled. After each iteration if none of the randomly generated parameter sets provided a smaller  $E$  error function value than in the previous iteration, then the focus level is increased, thus decreasing the range of the following random sampling. Conversely if the error function could be decreased, the focus level is decreased.

The keywords `FOCUSLEVEL`, `FOCUS_MIN`, `FOCUS_MAX`, `FOCUS_BACKSTEP` and `FOCUS_FORWARDSTEP` can be used to control the initial value of the focus level and the later changes. See the [description](#) of the keywords for details.

## Usage

The `MECHANISM`, `LOAD_DATABASE`, `SOLVER`, `SETTINGS_TAG`, `NODISK`, `TIME_LIMIT`, `THREAD_LIMIT` and `SPLIT` keywords are to be used in the same way as in a `MECHTEST` or `SENSITIVITY` block. The `NAME` keyword is used in a similar way, but in an `OPTIMIZATION` block information on the uncertainties of the data must also be provided.

Keywords with identical functions as in `MECHTEST` and `SENSITIVITY` are not listed here.

## Keywords in `OPTIMIZATION` block

### `SAMPLE_SIZE`

Specify the number of random samples to generate and use for simulations during a single optimization cycle.

### `SEED`

Specify the seed value for the initialization of the pseudo-random number generator. If it is 0 or not provided, the number of seconds since 00:00 hours, Jan 1, 1970 UTC will be used as seed value.

### `ITERATION`

Specify how many optimization cycles are to be carried out at maximum.

### `FOCUSLEVEL`

Specify the level of focusing at which to start the sampling. For details see the [Focusing subsection](#) of `OPTIMIZATION`.

#### FOCUS\_MIN

Specify the lowest focus level that can occur during the optimization process. For details see the [Focusing subsection](#) of OPTIMIZATION.

#### FOCUS\_MAX

Specify the highest focus level that can occur during the optimization process. For details see the [Focusing subsection](#) of OPTIMIZATION.

#### FOCUS\_BACKSTEP

Specify the degree of reducing the focus level after an optimization cycle in which the value of the error function could be decreased compared to the previous cycle.

#### FOCUS\_FORWARDSTEP

Specify the degree of increasing the focus level after an optimization cycle in which the value of the error function could not be decreased compared to the previous cycle.

#### CALCCOV

Request the calculation of a posterior covariance matrix of the parameters after each optimization cycle. The covariance matrix is calculated based on the currently best parameter set.

#### NOCLEANUP

Optima++ can produce enourmously large number of temporary files in the JOBS and FMLOGS directories. By default these files are cleaned up after finishing the corresponding jobs, but in certain cases it could be useful to keep them for further investigation. This case use the NOCLEANUP keyword.

#### NAME

Mark experiments defined in an RKD datafile to be used as optimization targets. The specification of the uncertainties and point selection within the file must be done on the same line on which NAME occurs. The points selected using a NAME keyword constitute one dataset, which has importance during the weighting of the error function.

Uncertainties must be assigned using the SIGM keyword followed by the numerical value of the assigned standard deviation of the experiment. If there are multiple measurements associated with a single experiment (e.g. H<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O concentrations were measured in a single experiment) then the same number of standard deviation values must be given.

The scale of the standard deviations must be defined using the SIGMSCALE keyword, followed by “abs” for absolute scale errors, or “absln” for absolute errors on a natural logarithmic scale. If absolute errors are used the units of the standard deviations must also be defined using the SIGMUNIT keyword followed by the appropriate unit string (for valid unit strings, see [Summary of valid units](#) subsection of TXT\_TO\_XML block

description). SIGMUNIT must not be used together with “absln” as in this case the assigned errors are unitless.

The points to be used from the specified file must be selected using the POINTS keyword followed by the listing of the numbers of the points to be used or “all” (or “ALL”). Point ranges and the EXCLUDE keyword can be used as described in the MECHTEST block.

#### Examples

```
! Typical setup for ignition measurement
NAME experiment_1.xml SIGM 0.15 SIGMSCALE absln POINTS 3 4 6 7
! Typical setup for concentration measurement with two measurements in one datapoint
NAME experiment_2.xml SIGM 1E-4 4E-5 SIGMSCALE abs SIGMUNIT mole fraction POINTS 1 2 3
! Typical setup for burning velocity measurements
NAME experiment_3.xml SIGM 2.50 SIGMSCALE abs SIGMUNIT cm s-1 POINTS all
NAME experiment_4.xml SIGM 2.50 SIGMSCALE abs SIGMUNIT cm s-1 POINTS all EXCLUDE 1 2
```

**NOTE:** The SIGM, SIGMSCALE and SIGMUNIT keywords can also be used inside the MECHTEST block and the error function values will be calculated for each datasets and will be written into the “errfValues” file in the output folder. The pointwise error function values will be saved to “errfValues\_by\_points” file.

## REACTION

Parameters can be selected for optimization using REACTION sub-blocks within an OPTIMIZATION block. Similarly to other input blocks in Optima++ it must begin with the keyword itself (i.e. REACTION) and terminated with an END keyword. Several features must be defined within a REACTION block, using keywords exclusive to it. See [Reaction blocks](#) subsection for details.

### Reaction blocks

Reaction blocks must be used to select parameters for optimization. Apart from selecting the parameters, initial values and uncertainty ranges must also be defined.

**NOTE:** Currently only parameters of reactions can be optimized, but optimization of thermodynamic and transport parameters is also planned for future releases.

### Keywords in REACTION blocks

#### REACNUM

Specify the number of the reaction in the mechanism that is defined in the present reaction block. The specified reaction from the mechanism that is being optimized will be checked if it has an equivalent reaction string as defined by the REACSTRING keyword within the reaction block.

#### Example

```
REACNUM 43      ! This is reaction 43 - CH4+OH=H2O+CH3
```

## REACSTRING

Specify the reaction string of the reaction that is defined in the present reaction block. The string will be checked if it matches with the reaction specified by **REACNUM** in the mechanism. The string does not need to match exactly with what appears in the mechanism, but must have the same meaning. E.g. “OH+OH=H<sub>2</sub>O+H” is considered equivalent to “2OH=H+H<sub>2</sub>O”, but not to “OH+OH=H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>”.

**NOTE:** Spaces are allowed in the reaction string. All non-comment strings on the line starting with the **REACSTRING** keyword will be considered to be part of the reaction string.

Example

```
REACSTRING CH4+OH=H2O+CH3      ! This is reaction 43 - CH4+OH=H2O+CH3
```

## PARAMETERS

Specify the parameters of the reaction that are to be optimized. The **PARAMETERS** keyword must be followed by the space separated list of the names of the selected parameters. The following strings are valid:

- A
- lnA
- n
- E
- LPA
- LPlnA
- LPn
- LPE
- m *thirdBodyName*

The A, n and E strings refer to the respective Arrhenius parameters. Parameters with an LP prefix refer to the low-pressure limit parameters.

**NOTE:** The low-pressure limit parameters can only be used for fall-off reactions, i.e. a reaction where both a high- and low-pressure limit rate coefficient is defined. If a reaction is defined with “+M” as a reactant but no fall-off behavior then the simple A, n and E parameters instead of LPA, LPn or LPE.

For A Arrhenius parameters, either A or lnA can be defined. The numerical values will have to be provided on the appropriate scale (linear or logarithmic, respectively), but otherwise the two types of definition are identical in function.

The m string refers to a third body collision efficiency parameter. It must be followed by the name of respective collider species as it appears in the used mechanism and separated with a space (in place of the “*thirdBodyName*” on the list above).

**NOTE:** The third body collision efficiency must already be defined in the mechanism for the respective species for the selected reaction, even if with unity efficiency.

### Examples

```
PARAMETERS A n E ! All Arrhenius parameters of a reaction
PARAMETERS A E LPA LPE! High- and low-pressure A and E
PARAMETERS LPlnA LPn LPE m AR ! LP params and a third body efficiency
```

### UNC\_MEAN

Define the mean of the uncertainty range within which the optimization of the parameters will be carried out.

UNC\_MEAN must be followed by as many numerical values as many parameters were defined in the reaction block, on the same line. As the number of parameters must be known, the PARAMETERS keyword must precede UNC\_MEAN.

#### Example

```
UNC_MEAN 1.60E+07 1.8 1400.0
```

### UNC\_COVMAT

Define the covariance matrix of the parameters that represents the uncertainty range around the mean value of the parameter values defined with UNC\_MEAN. Starting with the line after UNC\_COVMAT, an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix must be given, where  $n$  is the number of parameters defined in the reaction block. As the number of parameters must be known, the PARAMETERS keyword must precede UNC\_MEAN.

#### Example

```
UNC_COVMAT
 24.7803636544931   -3.09077749533357   3784.78679570716
-3.09077749533357   0.385646993305109  -473.059491605493
 3784.78679570716  -473.059491605493   584938.139905027
```

### INIT

Define the initial values of the parameters that will serve as the starting point of the optimization, i.e. the mean values for the first random sampling.

**NOTE:** While the meaning of INIT is different from UNC\_MEAN, the numeric values can be identical.

#### Example

```
INIT 1.60E+07 1.8 1400.0
```

### INIT\_COVMAT

Define the covariance matrix according to which the first round of random sampling will be carried out during the optimization.

#### Example

```
INIT_COVMAT
 24.7803636544931   -3.09077749533357   3784.78679570716
-3.09077749533357   0.385646993305109  -473.059491605493
 3784.78679570716  -473.059491605493   584938.139905027
```

## TEMPRANGE

Define the temperature range in which the uncertainty range of the rate coefficients (defined with `UNC_MEAN` and `UNC_COVMAT`) must be enforced during the random sampling.

The keyword `TEMPRANGE` must be followed on the same line by two numeric values which must be the lower and upper temperature limits respectively, given in K.

Example

```
TEMPRANGE 800 2500 ! 800-2500 K range
```

## SIGMARANGE

Define the cutoff range in terms of standard deviations for the sampled parameters.

**NOTE:** Using a `SIGMARANGE` of less than 2 is generally not recommended as it will become very difficult to obtain valid samples.

Example

```
SIGMARANGE 3
```

## UNIFORM

If the keyword `UNIFORM` appears in a reaction block, then the parameters will be sampled according to a uniform distribution. Otherwise, the sampling is done according to a normal distribution.

## Uncertainty and sampling of rate parameters

Optimization of detailed kinetic models typically involves the optimization of Arrhenius parameters of important reaction steps.

Such an optimization requires bounds on the investigated parameter space, however it is important to consider that the Arrhenius parameters themselves are not physically meaningful, only the rate coefficients defined by them. `Optima++` uses the characterization of the uncertainty parameters as described by Nagy and Turányi [3]. The uncertainty of rate coefficients is considered to be generally temperature dependent, but it can be characterized by the covariance matrix of its Arrhenius parameters which is temperature independent.

## Characterizing uncertainties of rate coefficients

Rate coefficients are expressed via the extended Arrhenius expression:

$$k = A \cdot T^n \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{E}{RT}\right).$$

It is practical to linearize the equation, by taking the logarithm of it:

$$\ln k = \ln A + n \ln T - \frac{E}{RT}.$$



Since the above equation is linear (at a given temperature), there must be a linear relationship between the variance of  $\ln k$  and the variances and covariances of the parameters of the equation, i.e.  $\ln A$ ,  $n$  and  $E$ . For convenience  $E/R$  can be used as a parameter instead of  $E$  to avoid dependence on the choice of energy units, and the following notations can be introduced:

$$\kappa := \ln k, \quad \alpha := \ln A, \quad \varepsilon := \frac{E}{R}.$$

Using the above notations, the covariance of the Arrhenius parameters can be written in the following form:

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{p}} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{\alpha}^2 & r_{\alpha n} \sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_n & r_{\alpha \varepsilon} \sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_{\varepsilon} \\ r_{\alpha n} \sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_n & \sigma_n^2 & r_{n \varepsilon} \sigma_n \sigma_{\varepsilon} \\ r_{\alpha \varepsilon} \sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_{\varepsilon} & r_{n \varepsilon} \sigma_n \sigma_{\varepsilon} & \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Where  $r$ -s denote the correlations between the respective parameters. The following vector can be introduced for convenience:

$$\Theta = [1 \quad \ln T \quad -T^{-1}]^{\top}.$$

The following relation exists between the covariance matrix of the Arrhenius parameters and the variance of the rate coefficient at a given  $T$  temperature:

$$\sigma^2(\ln k) = \Theta^{\top} \Sigma_{\mathbf{p}} \Theta.$$

The matrix-vector multiplications can be expanded, giving the following form for the above equation:

$$\sigma(\ln k)^2 = \sigma_{\alpha}^2 + \sigma_n^2 \ln^2 T + \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2 T^{-2} + 2r_{\alpha n} \sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_n \ln T - 2r_{\alpha \varepsilon} \sigma_{\alpha} \sigma_{\varepsilon} T^{-1} - 2r_{n \varepsilon} \sigma_n \sigma_{\varepsilon} T^{-1} \ln T.$$

Based on the above equations the variance and standard deviation of a rate coefficient can be calculated from the covariance matrix of its Arrhenius parameters. The same equation can be used if not all Arrhenius parameters are used for a particular rate coefficient (e.g. only  $A$  and  $n$  are non-zero), but in this case the variance of the non-used parameters can be considered to be zero and a truncated form of the respective equations can be used.

## Application of uncertainty ranges during optimization

In `Optima++` the uncertainty in which an optimization of Arrhenius parameter can be carried out is defined via a mean value of the parameters and a covariance matrix, by using the `UNC_MEAN` and `UNC_COVMAT` keywords. These can be used to calculate the standard deviation of the respective  $\ln k$  value at all temperatures. Additionally, a cutoff in terms of standard deviations has to be defined and a temperature range where the uncertainty range is considered valid. These can be defined with the `SIGMARANGE` and `TEMPRANGE` keywords, respectively.

Each parameter set that is generated by `Optima++` during the random sampling phase of an optimization is checked, if they provide rate coefficients that fall outside the uncertainty limits, then the respective element of the sample is discarded and a new one is generated, until all rate coefficients are within their respective uncertainty bounds at all temperatures within the specified temperature range.

## Random sampling of rate parameters

There are two sampling methods available for rate parameters in `Optima++`.

The first is sampling according to a normal distribution defined by the mean values of the parameters and their covariance matrix. After generating a normal sample the Arrhenius parameters belonging to the same reaction are grouped together and are used to calculate the corresponding rate coefficient in the temperature range of the uncertainty limits (see `TEMPRANGE`).

The second option is uniform sampling of the Arrhenius parameters. In this case the sampling is carried out, by creating uniform samples of rate coefficients at as many temperatures as many Arrhenius parameters are used for the respective rate coefficient.

In case of three parameters the temperature values are the two extreme values of the temperature range and the middle of it on the inverse temperature scale. For two parameters only the extreme values are used. If only the  $A$  Arrhenius parameter is sampled, the rate coefficient and its uncertainty is temperature independent and the chosen temperature is arbitrary.

The uniform rate coefficient samples are made into groups of 3 or 2 depending on the number of parameters, which define a set of Arrhenius parameters which provide a sample for the given reaction. It has been shown in [4] that the distribution of Arrhenius parameters generated this way is also uniform.

## Output

An output folder is created in the `outputs/` directory, with the same name as the input file. The different output contents are discussed in the following sections.

### `optimizationMonitor`

A file called `optimizationMonitor` is created in the output folder. After each iteration a line is printed into this file, with the number of the iteration, the current focus level, the lowest error function value that was achieved in the iteration and the relative improvement in percent. A similar line is also printed for the initial parameter set.

Example

<code>n_It</code>	<code>n_Focus</code>	<code>Errf_value</code>	<code>Improvement</code>
<code>init</code>	10	3.344485e+002	0.00000%
1	8	1.773861e+002	-46.96159%

### `optimalParameters`

A directory called `optimalParameters/` is created in the output folder, and files with the name `optResults_iterationNumber` are created during each iteration (with `iterationNumber` replaced by the appropriate number). These files contain the optimal

parameter set after an iteration and the corresponding covariance matrix that was used for sampling in that iteration (*not* the newly calculated one if it exists).

The order of the parameters is the same as they were provided in the **REACTION** blocks.

**NOTE:** If **CALCCOV** is not used, then the covariance matrix will be the same as provided with the **INIT\_COVMAT**-s of the **REACTION** blocks.

Example

Optimal parameters

```
3.694889967458e+001 -5.533827744981e-001 8.393545487220e+003
```

Previous covariance matrix

```
2.780392398426e+001 -3.462492639425e+000 4.194526761001e+003
-3.462492639425e+000 4.313436605710e-001 -5.234283631604e+002
4.194526761001e+003 -5.234283631604e+002 6.404338925486e+005
```

If **CALCCOV** is used, then the covariance matrices are printed into the `optResults_iterationNumber` file during each iteration (with `iterationNumber` replaced by the appropriate number).

In addition to the covariance matrix calculated during the iteration, the contributions from the statistic errors and the systematic errors are also printed to this file.

### **parameterSets**

A directory called `parameterSets/` is created in the output folder, and files with the name `errfValues_iterationNumber` are created during each iteration (with `iterationNumber` replaced by the appropriate number).

The files contain the parameter values of the sample, with one set on each line. The columns are in the same order as they are given in **REACTION** blocks.

### **errorFunctionValues**

A directory called `errorFunctionValues/` is created in the output folder, and files with the name `errfValues_iterationNumber` are created during each iteration (with `iterationNumber` replaced by the appropriate number).

In the first line the total error function values are printed for each parameter. The order of the values for the parameter sets is the same as in the `parameterSets/parameters_X` files. In the following lines the contributions to the total error function value from the individual datasets are printed.

Example

```
ErrfValue      1.676209e+002    5.025798e+002    1.605620e+002
x10000008     3.829500e+000    8.314917e+000    5.834598e-001
x10000025     1.355385e+001    2.481779e+001    8.122800e+000
```

## FLAME\_DATABASE

FLAME\_DATABASE can be used to build up a database of flame simulation solutions. In this version FLAME\_DATABASE can be used for FlameMaster and OpenSmoke++ simulations only.

For Chemkin-II simulations the user has to build up the collection of restart files outside of Optima++. The restart files have to place in the directory PREMIX\_RESTARTS and their naming must follow this convention: `rest.bin_m_USERNAME_f_EXPID`.

USERNAME: the name of the mechanism defined with `USE_NAME`

EXPID: the identifier of the experimental point including the name of the XML and the number of experimental point. E.g. use EXPID `x23003038_p4` for the 4th point of `x23003038.xml`.

### Usage

The `MECHANISM`, `SOLVER`, `SETTINGS_TAG`, `THREAD_LIMIT` keywords are to be used in the same way as in a `MECHTEST` block. The `NAME` keyword is also used in an identical way but here it marks experiments for flame simulations to be included in the solution database.

The first solution file has to be copied by the user to the database since FlameMaster can perform flame simulations only using an existing solution file. With OpenSmoke++, the calculation can be performed with empty database.

### List of FLAME\_DATABASE keywords

Keywords with identical functions as in `MECHTEST` are not listed here.

#### CREATE\_DATABASE

As a first step of flame simulations with FlameMaster the appropriate directory structure of a new database has to be created and at least one solution file have to be provided. Using `CREATE_DATABASE` Optima++ performs these tasks with the name given after the keyword. One sample solution file for a hydrogen flame coming with Optima++ is copied to the new database, but the user can replace it with more appropriate one(s) before using the database (modify file `solutions` and copy the new solution files in directory `solutionFiles`). Please, do not specify any simulations if you use `CREATE_DATABASE` keyword, they won't be performed.

#### FORCE\_RECALCULATE

By default if a solution file correspond to the conditions of a given experiment is found in the database Optima++ doesn't carry out a simulation, but takes the stored burning velocity from the database. Using `FORCE_RECALCULATE` Optima++ takes the most similar solution from the database as a guess, but performs the simulation.

#### LOAD\_DATABASE

Laminar flame speed measurements require pre-existing solutions from a flame

database. Use `LOAD_DATABASE` keyword in the `FLAME_DATABASE` block to utilize a flame database for the forthcoming `MECHTEST`, `SENSITIVITY` or `OPTIMIZATION` blocks. You have to specify the name of the flame solution database after this keyword.

#### `NUMBER_OF_RECALCULATIONS`

For properly converged flame simulations `FlameMaster` sometimes needs to run the simulations more than once. Use `NUMBER_OF_RECALCULATIONS` keyword to force `Optima++` for multiple calculations with `FlameMaster` for one condition. The default value is 1.

#### `NOCLEANUP`

`Optima++` can produce an enormous number of temporary files in the `JOBS` and `FMLOGS` directories. By default these files are cleaned up after finishing the corresponding jobs, but in certain cases it could be useful to keep them for further investigation. This case use the `NOCLEANUP` keyword.

#### `STORE_ONLY`

If specified, the solutions will be saved to the database, but the calculations are performed without using the database. By default `Optima++` takes the most similar solution from the database as a guess. If the conditions in the solution files of the database are far from the conditions defined in the given experiment(s), the `OpenSmoke++` calculation can be slower than without the guess solution. In this case, the `STORE_ONLY` keyword can be used.

#### `CONVERT_TO_FM`

If specified, after loading the database, all entries will be converted to `FlameMaster` style flame database elements. It must be used together with `SOLVER OS` keywords.

Example

```
CONVERT_TO_FM name_of_the_new_database
```

## XMLMOD

XMLMOD can be used to format, modify or update ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification xml files.

Example

XMLMOD

```
[[additional keywords]]
path_to_input/xml_file_1 path_to_output/xml_file_1
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_output/xml_file_2
path_to_input/xml_file_3 path_to_output/xml_file_3
path_to_input2/*.xml path_to_output_folder2/
```

END

Without any additional keyword, XMLMOD rearranges the xml files to a more easily readable format.

## List of XMLMOD keywords

COMPACT

Formats the xml files with the minimum number of white spaces.

UPDATE\_BIBLIOGRAPHY\_DETAILS

Updates or creates the <details> element in <bibliographyLink> block from a BibTeX file. The BibTeX entry is identified by the DOI number defined inside the <referenceDOI> text element. If the DOI occurs multiple times in the BibTeX file, a warning message is shown and the last occurrence is used in the updating process.

Example

```
UPDATE_BIBLIOGRAPHY_DETAILS path/to/bibtex_file.bib
```

UPGRADE\_TO\_V2.2

The UPGRADE\_TO\_V2.2 command performs some automatic upgrade from ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification version 1.0 to version 2.2.

- In the old version `preferredKey` attribute was used instead of `description` element in <bibliographyLink> block. The `description` tag is inserted automatically.
- The CAS, InChI, SMILES and `chemName` attributes are added to `speciesLink` elements.

DEFAULT\_VALUES

Sets the content or attribute of an xml entity to a specified text if the entity is not present in the xml file. The parameters can be provided by key-value pairs, separated with ':'. The key can be any txt form element (see [TXT\\_TO\\_XML](#) block for details) or an xml selector (see the [xml selectors](#) section).

Example

```
DEFAULT_VALUES
  ! set the file author to ELTE, Budapest, Hungary
  File author: ELTE, Budapest, Hungary
  ! set the file version to 2.0
  File version: 2.0
  Specification version: 2.2
  Source_type: TODO
  ! set the file DOI to '10.24388/' followed by the name of the xml file
  File DOI: 10.24388/${xmlName}
  ! add a comment with the current date
  Comment: Updated on ${exec date}
END
```

## OVERRIDE

Overwrites content or attribute of an xml entity with a specified text. The possible parameters are identical to the parameters described in [DEFAULT\\_VALUES](#) block.

Example

```
OVERRIDE
  ! change the label attribute of each temperature property to 'T'
  ${?property[name=temperature]}Label: T
  ! replace the preferredKey attribute AR with Ar in each
  ! speciesLink element
  ${?speciesLink[preferredKey=AR]}Name\ : composition Species: Ar
END
```

## DATA\_FILE

The update information can be provided in a csv file. The first column contains the the name of the xml file and from the second, each column contains the text to be inserted into the file. The first line contains the updateable property. It can be any txt form element or an xml selector.

Example

```
xml      ; Reference DOI:                ; ${?property[id=x1]}Source_type:
x10004001 ; 10.1016/s0010-2180(70)80008-6 ; reported
x10004002 ; 10.1016/s0010-2180(70)80008-6 ; digitized
x10004003 ; 10.1016/s0010-2180(70)80008-6 ; reported
x10004017 ; 10.1007/s001930100108          ; calculated
```

## Descripton of the possible xml selectors/commands

Each command should be surrounded by "\${" and "}". It is evaluated for each xml and the \$ expression is substituted with the evaluation result.

### Query selector (\${?expr})

If the expression is true, then the substitution is applied.

```
${?dataGroup>property[id=x1]}Source_type
```

For example, the expression above is applied only for the `Source_type` elements which are inside a property tag with `id="x1"` attribute wich has a `dataGroup` parent element.

### Text selector (\${&expr})

Inserts the content of the selected xml element. The parent ("`>`") and attribute ("`[]`") selectors can also be used.

Example

```
${&fileAuthor} ! insert the text inside <fileAuthor> tag.
```

### `${xmlName}`

Returns the name of the current xml file without extension.

### `${exec command}`

Executes `command` as a shell command and returns the result. This is available only on linux.

Example

```
${exec date} ! insert the current date
```



## ATOMFLOW

Fluxes of elements from species to species are calculated and written into file using the input format of the FluxViewer visualisation tool.

The flux of element A from species  $j$  to species  $k$  through reaction step  $i$  is defined by

$$A_{ijk} = \frac{n_{A,j}n_{A,k}r_i}{N_{A,i}} \quad (1)$$

where  $n_{A,j}$  and  $n_{A,k}$  are the number of A atoms in species  $j$  and  $k$ , respectively,  $N_{A,i}$  is the number of A atoms on either side of reaction step  $i$  and  $r_i$  is the rate of reaction step  $i$ . The overall fluxes between two species at a given time or distance are the sum of the element fluxes calculated in each reaction step:

$$A_{jk}(t) = \sum_i A_{ijk}(t) \quad (2)$$

Example

```
ATOMFLOW
```

```
  MECHANISM mech
```

```
  THREAD_LIMIT      4
```

```
  ELEMENTS H C O
```

```
  NAME path_to_input/xml_file_1 POINTS ALL
```

```
  NAME path_to_input/xml_file_2 POINTS 1 2 3
```

```
  NAME path_to_input/xml_file_3 POINTS ALL EXCLUDE 3 4
```

```
END
```

The FluxViewer input file is saved to the `xml_p_n_fluxviewer.txt` file in the output folder, where `xml` is the name of the RKD xml file and `n` is the corresponding datapoint in the xml file.

### List of ATOMFLOW keywords

The [MECHANISM](#), [SETTINGS\\_TAG](#), [NODISK](#), [TIME\\_LIMIT](#) and [THREAD\\_LIMIT](#) keywords are to be used in the same way as in a [MECHTEST](#) or [SENSITIVITY](#) block.

**ELEMENTS**

Defines the list of elements for which the element fluxes are calculated.

Format	Whitespace separated list of strings
Default value	None
Type	Compulsory

Example

```
ELEMENTS C H O
```

Elements C, H and O are selected.

## T\_INC

Define the temperature increment of the ATOMFLOW output.

Format	Real number
Default value	0.0 (Each point is printed)
Unit	K
Type	Optional

### Example

```
T_INC 30
```

The output is printed with 30 K temperature step.

## THRESHOLD

Define the minimum value of element flux that will be printed.

Format	Real number
Default value	1e-30
Unit	mole/(cm <sup>3</sup> sec)
Type	Optional

### Example

```
THRESHOLD 1e-20
```

Only  $A_{jk}(t) > 10^{-20}$  will be printed.

## Calling Optima++ from command line

In this section the keywords of the Optima++ command line inputs are described. You can read information on the usage, the syntax, and find examples.

The path for the output files will be a subdirectory of the `outputs/commandLineJobs/` directory.

To call Optima++ from the command line with the command “COMMAND” navigate to the package directory and give the following command on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP COMMAND
```

or on Windows

```
bin\Release\OptimaPP.exe COMMAND
```

The executable should be run from the root directory of the package, as certain files are needed from the `res/` and `settings/` directories included in the release package, and the paths are currently hardcoded.

The command “COMMAND” should include at least one Optima++ keyword and at least one input file.

There are different legal styles for “COMMAND”, depending on the task.

The first is:

```
COMMAND = [optimapp_keyword] [input_file(s)] {-o [output folder]}
optimapp_keyword = TXT_TO_XML | CHECK_XML | XML_TO_TXT
                  | XML_TO_CKII | XML_TO_FM | XML_TO_OS | EXP_INFO
```

**NOTE:** The “{-o [output folder]}” part is optional and it cannot be used for the CHECK\_XML keyword because it does not create output file.

The second is:

```
COMMAND = [optimapp_keyword] [targetMechanismFile]
optimapp_keyword = COMPILE_CKII | COMPILE_FM | COMPILE_OS
```

The last one is:

```
COMMAND = [PRINT_CKII_MECH | PRINT_FM_MECH] [targetMechanismFile] \
          [expression_ckii_mech | expression_fm_mech]
expression_ckii_mech = REMOVE_SPECIES [species]
                    | REMOVE_REACTION [reactions]
                    | KEEP_SUBMECH [species]
                    | SWITCH_A_UNIT [unit]
                    | SWITCH_E_UNIT [unit]
expression_fm_mech = REMOVE_SPECIES [species]
                  | REMOVE_REACTION [reactions]
                  | KEEP_SUBMECH [species]
```

## TXT\_TO\_XML

Create XML datafiles according to the ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification version 2.3 from simple and easy-to-edit plaintext files.

### Usage

In a `TXT_TO_XML` command the input line should contain two or more strings. The first should be the `TXT_TO_XML` keyword and the further are the full paths of the input plaintext files.

Each source file will be read individually, and if the source file defines a valid and complete RKD file then a new RKD file will be created in the directory specified after the `-o` option, if it is not specified the default `outputs/commandLineJobs/TxtToXml` output directory will be used. The file will contain the same information as the RKD input file and can be converted back using the `XML_TO_TXT` function of `Optima++`.

The name of the output files will be almost the same as the appropriate input files, only the file extension will be `.xml`.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP TXT_TO_XML path_to_input/text_file \  
    -o path_to_output_folder
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP TXT_TO_XML path_to_input/text_file1 \  
path_to_input/text_file2 path_to_input/text_file3 \  
-o path_to_output_folder
```

The input text files to be converted into XML files must follow the format described in section [Format of the input file](#).

## CHECK\_XML

Check the conformity of the XML datafiles to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification.

### Usage

In a `CHECK_XML` command the input line should contain the keyword followed by one or more strings which should contain the full path of the input XML files.

`Optima++` checks species appearing in the input XML files and their identifiers based on the `speciesDatabase.xml` file. The program warns if a given species is missing from the database or if there are conflicting identifiers.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP CHECK_XML path_to_input/xml_file_1
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP CHECK_XML path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_input/xml_file_3
```

## XML\_TO\_TXT

Create plain text files from ReSpecTh format files that can be used by TXT\_TO\_XML. The general purpose of this is to avoid directly editing XML files when data is to be modified, and rather edit more easily readable text files or convert the data in a non-tagged format which can be useful for people who are not familiar with XML files. The conformity of the file to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification is strictly checked during the conversion (to be more precise, only the structure of the XML will be verified).

### Usage

In an XML\_TO\_TXT command the input line should contain the keyword followed by one or more strings which should contain the full path of the input XML files.

Each source file will be read individually. If the input file is a valid RKD file, then a plaintext file will be created in the directory specified after the `-o` option, if it is not specified the default `outputs/commandLineJobs/XmlToTxt` output path will be used. The file will contain the same information as the RKD input file and can be converted back using the TXT\_TO\_XML function of Optima++.

**NOTE:** When converting an RKD file using XML\_TO\_TXT and back with TXT\_TO\_XML the files might not be exactly identical, but semantically they will be the same. If `chemName`, `CAS`, `InChI` or `SMILES` for a species is missing Optima++ automatically adds this information based on the species' `preferredKey` if it can be found in the `speciesDatabase.xml`.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_TXT path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
-o output_folder
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_TXT path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_input/xml_file_3 \  
-o output_folder
```

## XML\_TO\_CKII

Create Chemkin-II input files from ReSpecTh format files. Inputs can be created for SENKIN (ignition delay, outlet concentration and concentration-time profile measurements), JSR and PREMIX (only burning velocity measurements currently).

The conformity of the file to the appropriate ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification is strictly checked during the conversion (to be more precise, only the structure of the XML will be verified).

**NOTE:** Direct rate coefficient determination type XMLs cannot be used to create Chemkin-II input files, as evaluating rate coefficients does not require a solver.

### Usage

In an XML\_TO\_CKII command the input line should contain at least one string after the keyword, which should be the full path of the input plaintext file(s). The path of the directory where the output files will be printed is the directory specified after the -o option, if it is not specified the default outputs/commandLineJobs/TxtToCKII output directory will be used.

The names of the output files will be assembled from the name of the input RKD file (without extension) and a \_p tag followed by the index of the experiment in the file and .inp as an extension. E.g. myExperiment\_p3.inp for the third experiment from myExperiment.xml.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_CKII path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
-o output_folder
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_CKII path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_input/xml_file_3 \  
-o output_folder
```

## XML\_TO\_FM

Create **FlameMaster** input files from **ReSpecTh** format files. Inputs can be created for 0D, PSR and freely propagating flame configurations.

**NOTE:** Direct rate coefficient determination type XMLs cannot be used to create **FlameMaster** input files, as evaluating rate coefficients does not require a solver.

### Usage

In an **XML\_TO\_FM** command the input line should contain at least one string after the keyword, which should be the full path of the input plaintext file(s). The path of the directory where the output files will be printed is the directory specified after the **-o** option, if it is not specified the default **outputs/commandLineJobs/TxtToFM** output directory will be used.

The names of the output files will be assembled from the name of the input **RKD** file (without extension) and a **\_p** tag followed by the index of the experiment in the file and **.inp** as an extension. E.g. **myExperiment\_p3.inp** for the third experiment from **myExperiment.xml**.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_FM path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
-o output_folder
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_FM path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_input/xml_file_3 \  
-o output_folder
```



## XML\_TO\_OS

Create `OpenSmoke++` input files from `ReSpecTh` format files. Inputs can be created for OD, PSR and freely propagating flame configurations.

**NOTE:** Direct rate coefficient determination type XMLs cannot be used to create `OpenSmoke++` input files, as evaluating rate coefficients does not require a solver.

### Usage

In an `XML_TO_OS` command the input line should contain at least one string after the keyword, which should be the full path of the input plaintext file(s). The path of the directory where the output files will be printed is the directory specified after the `-o` option, if it is not specified the default `outputs/commandLineJobs/TxtToOS` output directory will be used.

The names of the output files will be assembled from the name of the input RKD file (without extension) and a `_p` tag followed by the index of the experiment in the file and `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `myExperiment_p3.inp` for the third experiment from `myExperiment.xml`.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_OS path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
-o output_folder
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP XML_TO_OS path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_input/xml_file_3 \  
-o output_folder
```

## EXP\_INFO

Print the experimental conditions of measurements from ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification XML files.

### Usage

When using `EXP_INFO`, a list of input XML files must be defined. The XML files must be given with their full paths. Two output files will be created in the directory specified after the `-o` option, if it is not specified the default `outputs/commandLineJobs/ExpInfo` path will be used. The `ExpInfo_info` file will contain a summary of the experimental condition ranges, one line per XML file (see `INFO_OUTPUT` keyword of the `EXP_INFO` block), and `ExpInfo_raw` will contain detailed print of conditions, one line per experimental point (see `RAW_OUTPUT` keyword of the `EXP_INFO` block).

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP EXP_INFO path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
-o output_folder
```

Processing multiple files on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP EXP_INFO path_to_input/xml_file_1 \  
path_to_input/xml_file_2 path_to_input/xml_file_3 \  
-o output_folder
```

## MECHMOD-type keywords

For details see [MECHMOD](#).

### Usage

When using MECHMOD-type keywords, a Chemkin-II format mechanism file must be defined as a command line argument preceded by the appropriate keyword. The file will be read and checked for errors.

### COMPILE\_CKII

Compile the mechanism into a Chemkin-II format binary file. This does not include the transport properties, as Chemkin-II uses a separate binary file for transport properties.

**NOTE:** This functionality uses `ckinterp` to carry out the compilation, which is part of the Chemkin-II package. As Chemkin-II is not freely distributable, `ckinterp` is not provided in the Optima++ package. To be able to use Chemkin-II, please place the `ckinterp` executable (or `ckinterp.exe` on Windows) into the Optima++ package root.

**WARNING:** Currently it is not explicitly checked if the mechanism compilation was successful.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP COMPILE_CKII path/targetMechanismFile.inp
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/CompileCKII`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) followed by `.bin` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile.bin` from `targetMechanismFile.inp`.

### COMPILE\_FM

Compile the mechanism into a FlameMaster format binary file. This includes transport properties if they were provided as an input too. It should be noted that the transport properties are not necessary for compiling a FlameMaster mechanism, but if they are not provided, the mechanism will only be usable for 0D simulations.

**WARNING:** Currently it is not explicitly checked if the mechanism compilation was successful.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems without transport properties

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP COMPILE_FM path/targetMechanismFile.inp
```

Processing a single file on unix-type systems with transport properties

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP COMPILE_FM path/targetMechanismFile.inp \  
path/transportFile.tran
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/CompileFM`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) followed by `.pre` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile.pre` from `targetMechanismFile.inp`.

### **COMPILE\_OS**

Compile the mechanism into a `OpenSmoke++` format kinetics folder. This includes transport properties if they were provided as an input too. It should be noted that the transport properties are not necessary for compiling a `OpenSmoke++` mechanism, but if they are not provided, the mechanism will only be usable for 0D simulations.

**WARNING:** Currently it is not explicitly checked if the mechanism compilation was successful.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems without transport properties

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP COMPILE_OS path/targetMechanismFile.inp
```

Processing a single file on unix-type systems with transport properties

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP COMPILE_OS path/targetMechanismFile.inp \  
path/transportFile.tran
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/CompileOS`.

The name of the output mechanism folder will be the name of the input file without extension.

### **PRINT\_CKII\_MECH with REMOVE\_SPECIES**

Remove one or more species from the mechanism, including all thermodynamic and transport properties and all reactions in which it is a reactant or product, and write the mechanism into a file in `Chemkin-II` format, including all thermodynamic properties.

Species to be removed must be preceded by the `REMOVE_SPECIES` keyword and be separated by whitespace characters.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_CKII_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
REMOVE_SPECIES C3H8 C3H7 C3H6
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintCKIIMech`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_reduced_CKII` followed by `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile_reduced_CKII.inp`.

### **PRINT\_CKII\_MECH with REMOVE\_REACTION**

Remove one or more reactions from the mechanism, and write the mechanism into a file in Chemkin-II format, including all thermodynamic properties.

Reactions to be removed must be preceded by the **REMOVE\_REACTION** keyword and be separated by whitespace characters. The reaction string must not contain whitespace characters, and each species name must be written out separated by “+” signs (i.e. “H+H” should be used instead of “2H”). The reactants and products must be separated by “=”, “=>” or “<=>”. The different separators between reactants and products are treated as identical (i.e. “H+O2=>OH+O” is equivalent to “H+O2=OH+O”).

The reactants and products can be given in an arbitrary order, and parantheses will be ignored. In case of duplicate reactions all instances will be removed.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_CKII_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
REMOVE_REACTION H+H+M=H2+M HO2+OH=H2O+O2
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintCKIIMech`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_reactions_removed_CKII` followed by `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile_reactions_removed_CKII.inp`.

### **PRINT\_CKII\_MECH with KEEP\_SUBMECH**

Specify one or more species to keep in the mechanism, and write the mechanism into a file in Chemkin-II format, including all thermodynamic properties.

Species to be kept must be preceded by the **KEEP\_SUBMECH** keyword and be separated by whitespace characters. All reactions will be removed from the mechanism that contain none of the specified species.

Therefore, it is generally expected that some reactions will remain in the mechanism that have not been specified after **KEEP\_SUBMECH**.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_CKII_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
KEEP_SUBMECH H O OH
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintCKIIMech`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_submech_CKII` followed by `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile_submech_CKII.inp`.

### **PRINT\_CKII\_MECH with SWITCH\_A\_UNIT**

Change the unit of the *A* Arrhenius parameters in the mechanism, convert all parameter values appropriately, and write the mechanism into a file in Chemkin-II format, including all thermodynamic properties. The valid units are those that are available in Chemkin-II. In all cases the volume units are cm<sup>3</sup> and the time units are seconds.

**NOTE:** The exact units of the *A* Arrhenius parameters always depend on the order of the respective reaction.

The new unit must be preceded by the SWITCH\_A\_UNIT keyword.

Valid units are: MOLES (cm<sup>3</sup> mols); MOLECULES (cm<sup>3</sup> molecules).

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_CKII_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
SWITCH_A_UNIT MOLECULES
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintCKIIMech.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_A_unit_` followed by the new unit and the tag `_CKII` and `.inp` as an extension. E.g. targetMechanismFile\_A\_unit\_MOLECULES\_CKII.inp.

### **PRINT\_CKII\_MECH with SWITCH\_E\_UNIT**

Change the unit of the *E* Arrhenius parameters in the mechanism, convert all parameter values appropriately, and write the mechanism into a file in Chemkin-II format, including all thermodynamic properties.

The new unit must be preceded by the SWITCH\_E\_UNIT keyword.

Valid units are: KELVINS; CAL/MOLE; KCAL/MOLE; JOULES/MOLE; KJOULES/MOLE.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_CKII_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
SWITCH_E_UNIT KJOULES/MOLE
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintCKIIMech.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_E_unit_` followed by the new unit and the tag `_CKII` and `.inp` as an extension. E.g. targetMechanismFile\_E\_unit\_KJOULESperMOLE\_CKII.inp.

### **PRINT\_FM\_MECH with REMOVE\_SPECIES**

Remove one or more species from the mechanism, including all reactions in which it is a reactant or product and write the mechanism into a file in FlameMaster format.

Note that the `FlameMaster` mechanism file contains only the kinetic information, but no thermodynamic or transport data.

Species to be removed must be preceded by the `REMOVE_SPECIES` keyword and be separated by whitespace characters.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_FM_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
REMOVE_SPECIES C3H8 C3H7 C3H6
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintFMMech`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_reduced_FM` followed by `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile_reduced_FM.inp`.

#### **PRINT\_FM\_MECH with REMOVE\_REACTION**

Remove one or more reactions from the mechanism, and write the mechanism into a file in `FlameMaster` format. Note that the `FlameMaster` mechanism file contains only the kinetic information, but no thermodynamic or transport data.

Reactions to be removed must be preceded by the `REMOVE_REACTION` keyword and be separated by whitespace characters. The reaction string must not contain whitespace characters, and each species name must be written out separated by “+” signs (i.e. “H+H” should be used instead of “2H”). The reactants and products must be separated by “=”, “=>” or “<=>”. The different separators between reactants and products are treated as identical (i.e. “H+O2=>OH+O” is equivalent to “H+O2=OH+O”).

The reactants and products can be given in an arbitrary order, and parantheses will be ignored. In case of duplicate reactions all instances will be removed.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_FM_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
REMOVE_REACTION H+H+M=H2+M HO2+OH=H2O+O2
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintFMMech`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_reactions_removed_FM` followed by `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile_reactions_removed_FM.inp`.

#### **PRINT\_FM\_MECH with KEEP\_SUBMECH**

Specify one or more species to keep in the mechanism, and write the mechanism into a file in `FlameMaster` format. Note that the `FlameMaster` mechanism file contains only the kinetic information, but no thermodynamic or transport data.

Species to be kept must be preceded by the `KEEP_SUBMECH` keyword and be separated by whitespace characters. All reactions will be removed from the mechanism that contain none of the specified species.

Therefore, it is generally expected that some reactions will remain in the mechanism that have not been specified after `KEEP_SUBMECH`.

Processing a single file on unix-type systems

```
bin/Release/OptimaPP PRINT_FM_MECH path/targetMechanismFile \  
KEEP_SUBMECH H O OH
```

The path of the directory where the compiled mechanism file will be printed is `outputs/commandLineJobs/PrintFMMech`.

The name of the output mechanism file will be assembled from the name of the input file (without extension) and a tag `_submech_FM` followed by `.inp` as an extension. E.g. `targetMechanismFile_submech_FM.inp`.



## References

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- [2] T. Varga, C. Olm, T. Nagy, I. G. Zsély, É. Valkó, R. Pálvölgyi, H. J. Curran, T. Turányi, *Int. J. Chem. Kinet.* (2016), in press.
- [3] T. Nagy, T. Turányi, *Int. J. Chem. Kinet.*, **43**, pp. 359–378 (2011).
- [4] T. Nagy, É. Valkó, I. Sedyó, I. G. Zsély, M. J. Pilling, T. Turányi, *Combust. Flame*, **162**, pp. 2059–2076 (2015).

# Appendices

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## TXT\_TO\_XML for ReSpecTh version 1.0 files

### Format of the input file

---

Author: *string*

---

The string following the keyword will be used to identify the author of the XML file (which does not imply that the experimental data were obtained by this author).

---

Specification version: *string*

---

The number following the keyword will be used to specify the ReSpecTh Kinetics Data Format Specification version the created file adheres to. The latest released specification version is 2.3. Two integers separated by a dot will be understood as `major_version.minor_version` and will be inserted into the XML file accordingly.

---

Source reference: *string*

---

The string following the keyword will be stored as the bibliographic reference of the measurements stored in the XML file.

---

Experiment type: *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to define the experiment type.

The allowed types are:

- Ignition delay measurement
  - Laminar flame speed measurement
  - Outlet concentration measurement
  - Concentration time profile measurement
  - Jet stirred reactor measurement
  - Burner stabilized flame speciation measurement
  - Direct rate coefficient measurement
- 

Apparatus: *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to provide the apparatus type in which the experiment was carried out (e.g. shock tube). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

Operation mode: *string*

---

The string following the keyword is used to provide the operating mode of the experimental apparatus in which the experiment was carried out (e.g. reflected shock). Providing this information is optional, and will not influence the interpretation of the XML files.

---

---

Common experimental conditions: *varied*

---

The keyword can be followed by multiple lines, each specifying an experimental condition that is common across all individual experiments that are described within the file.

The lines should follow the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

Type:*string* Species:*string* Value:*number* Unit:*string*

The string after “Type:” defines what type of physical property is given (e.g. **temperature**, **pressure**).

The string after “Species:” defines which species a composition or concentration type of property refers to. For other types of properties it should not be used.

The number after “Value:” provides the numeric value of the property, and the string after “Unit:” provides the corresponding unit.

Valid property types and corresponding units are summarized in the [table](#) at the end of this section.

---

Varied experimental conditions and measured results: *varied*

---

The keyword can be followed by multiple lines, each specifying an experimental condition that was varied between the individual experiments, or an experimental result.

The lines should follow the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

Type:*string* Species:*string* Unit:*string* ID:*string* Label:*string*

The string after “Type:” defines what type of physical property is given (e.g. **temperature**, **pressure**).

The string after “Species:” defines which species a composition or concentration type of property refers to. For other types of properties it should not be used.

The string after “Unit:” defines the unit for the numeric values that will be given later in the file.

The string after “ID:” provides an identifier for the property which will be used to identify which values correspond to which property.

The string after “Label:” defines a label for the species which is the suggested plot label for the given property. As no plotting is carried out by **Optima++** providing a label is not necessary and the given label is not used (only stored in the XML files).

---

---

**Varied values:**

---

A header line must follow the keyword, which must contain the IDs that were defined for the varied properties. The order of the ID strings defines the order in which the numerical values are provided for the varied properties. Common ID names are e.g. “x1, x2,...”, but any name can be chosen.

The header line must be followed by lines with as many numerical values as many IDs were provided in the header, and in the corresponding order. Each line defines an experimental data point.

An example is provided below:

**Varied values:**

x1	x2
25.64	0.0466
37.34	0.0529
45.11	0.0591
49.89	0.0653
51.28	0.0713
50.00	0.0773
42.45	0.0832
33.30	0.0891
22.77	0.0948

---

**Ignition definition:**

---

The definition of the ignition delay can be specified with this keyword.

The keyword must be followed by a line with the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

**MeasuredQuantity:***string*    **Type:***string*    **Value:***number*    **Unit:***string*

The string following “MeasuredQuantity:” defines what physical property was used to define the ignition delay. This can be pressure, temperature or the concentration of a species. These are to be denoted by “p”, “T”, and the name of the species (e.g. “OH”), respectively.

The string following type “Type:” defines which feature of the measured physical property is considered for the ignition delay. Valid values are summarized below:

- max
- d/dt max
- baseline max intercept from d/dt
- baseline min intercept from d/dt
- concentration
- relative concentration

See the RKD Format Specification for a detailed description of the types.

The number following “Value:” defines the absolute or relative concentration value the target species has to reach for an ignition to occur. This attribute can only be used when the value of type is “concentration” or “relative concentration”. The string following “Unit:” defines the corresponding unit.

---

---

**Time shift definition:**

---

The time shifting procedure can be specified with this keyword for a concentration time profile measurement.

The keyword must be followed by a line with the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

**MeasuredQuantity:***string*    **Type:***string*    **Value:***number*

The string following “**MeasuredQuantity:**” defines what physical property was used to define the time shift. This must be the name of a single measured species.

The string following type “**Type:**” defines which part of the specified species profile is matched with the experiments. The valid types are summarized below

- **half**
- **inflexion**
- **relative**

See the RKDFS manual for a detailed description of the types.

The number following “**Value:**” defines the absolute or relative concentration value the target species has to reach for ignition to occur. This attribute can only be used when the value of type is “**concentration**” or “**relative concentration**”. The string following “**Unit:**” defines the corresponding unit.

---

**Volume-time profile:**

---

A volume-time history can be defined with this keyword for an ignition delay experiment (usually an RCM experiment).

The keyword must be followed by lines defining a time and a volume property, in an identical way to property lines after “**Varied experimental conditions and measured results:**”.

These lines must be followed by “**Profile:**”, after which a header line must appear with the IDs defined here. This must be followed by the numeric values for the time–volume pairs.

An example can be seen below:

**Volume-time profile:**

**Type:** time            **Unit:** s            **ID:** x4

**Type:** volume        **Unit:** cm3        **ID:** x5

**Profile:**

x4	x5
0.000000e+000	1.000000e+000
1.000000e-006	9.998782e-001
7.564500e-004	9.886456e-001
1.004150e-003	9.831007e-001

---

---

**Reaction string:**

---

For direct rate coefficient determinations this keyword must be used to specify the reaction of which the rate coefficient is described.

The keyword must be followed by a line with the following format (the order of the sub-keywords is arbitrary):

**Reaction string:***string*    **Order:***integer*    **Bulkgas:***string*

The string following “**Reaction string:**” is the reaction string. The names of species on the same side of the reaction must be separated by “+” characters, and the reactant and product sides must be separated by an “=” sign, which can be bordered by “>” or “<” characters.

The reaction string must contain “LP” or “HP” before the first species separated by a space, if the rate coefficients measured are at the low pressure or high pressure limit respectively, for pressure dependent reaction rate coefficients (e.g. “LP H+O2+M=HO2+M”).

The integer following “**Order:**” defines the order of the reaction. This should match with the reaction string, including high/low pressure limit specification. For fall-off reactions use the lower order (i.e. that which corresponds to the high-pressure limit).

The string following “**Bulkgas:**” specifies the major diluent gas for the experiment/theoretical determination. This only has significance for pressure-dependent rate coefficients and low-pressure limit rate coefficients. When calculating the rate coefficient the bulkgas will be taken into account through third-body collision efficiency effects, as if the whole gas composition was made up by the bulkgas.

**NOTE:** It is also possible to define a detailed composition through the common or varied conditions, and in this case the bulkgas will be completely ignored.

---



## Summary of valid units

When printing XML files from text files, `Optima++` does not check explicitly if the specified units are valid within the RKDFS. The given units are printed into the XML files and if incorrect or unhandled units are given, then any solver input files printed from XML will not be correct or complete (a warning will be printed in such a case). Therefore it is important to use only those units that are handled within the RKDFS.

In the following table a summary of the unit strings that are currently handled within the RKDFS is given. Here all strings are given in the *exact way* as it should appear in the file. This means that exponents are not typed as superscript, and the micro ( $\mu$ ) prefix should be typed as “u” to guarantee that these can be typed in plain text files.

Property type	Valid units
temperature	K
pressure	Pa, kPa, MPa, Torr, torr, bar, mbar, atm
volume	m3, dm3, cm3, mm3, L
time	s, ms, us, ns, min
residence time	s, ms, us, ns, min
distance	m, dm, cm, mm
ignition delay	s, ms, us, ns, min
length	m, dm, cm, mm
density	g m-3, g dm-3, g cm-3, g mm-3, kg m-3, kg dm-3, kg cm-3, kg mm-3
flow rate	g m-2 s-1, g dm-2 s-1, g cm-2 s-1, g mm-2 s-1, kg m-2 s-1, kg dm-2 s-1, kg cm-2 s-1, kg mm-2 s-1
flame speed	m/s, dm/s, cm/s, mm/s, m s-1, dm s-1, cm s-1, mm s-1
composition	mole fraction, percent, ppm, ppb
concentration	mol/m3, mol/dm3, mol/cm3, mol m-3, mol dm-3, mol cm-3, molecule/m3, molecule/dm3, molecule/cm3, molecule m-3, molecule dm-3, molecule cm-3
rate coefficient	s-1, m3 mol-1 s-1, dm3 mol-1 s-1, cm3 mol-1 s-1, m3 molecule-1 s-1, dm3 molecule-1 s-1, cm3 molecule-1 s-1, m6 mol-3 s-1, dm6 mol-2 s-1, cm6 mol-2 s-1, m6 molecule-2 s-1, dm6 molecule-2 s-1, cm6 molecule-2 s-1