

1. A method of operating an internal combustion engine comprising retarding the ignition of a gas/fuel mixture within at least one cylinder of the engine to after top dead centre (ATDC) in respect of the combustion cycle of said at least one cylinder of the engine and, while said ignition is so retarded, increasing the fuelling rate of said at least one cylinder to a level higher than that required when the engine is operating normally to thereby assist in increasing the exhaust gas temperature of the engine, the timing of the introduction of fuel into the at least one cylinder being maintained at before top dead centre (BTDC).

