

COMBUSTION DIAGNOSTICS

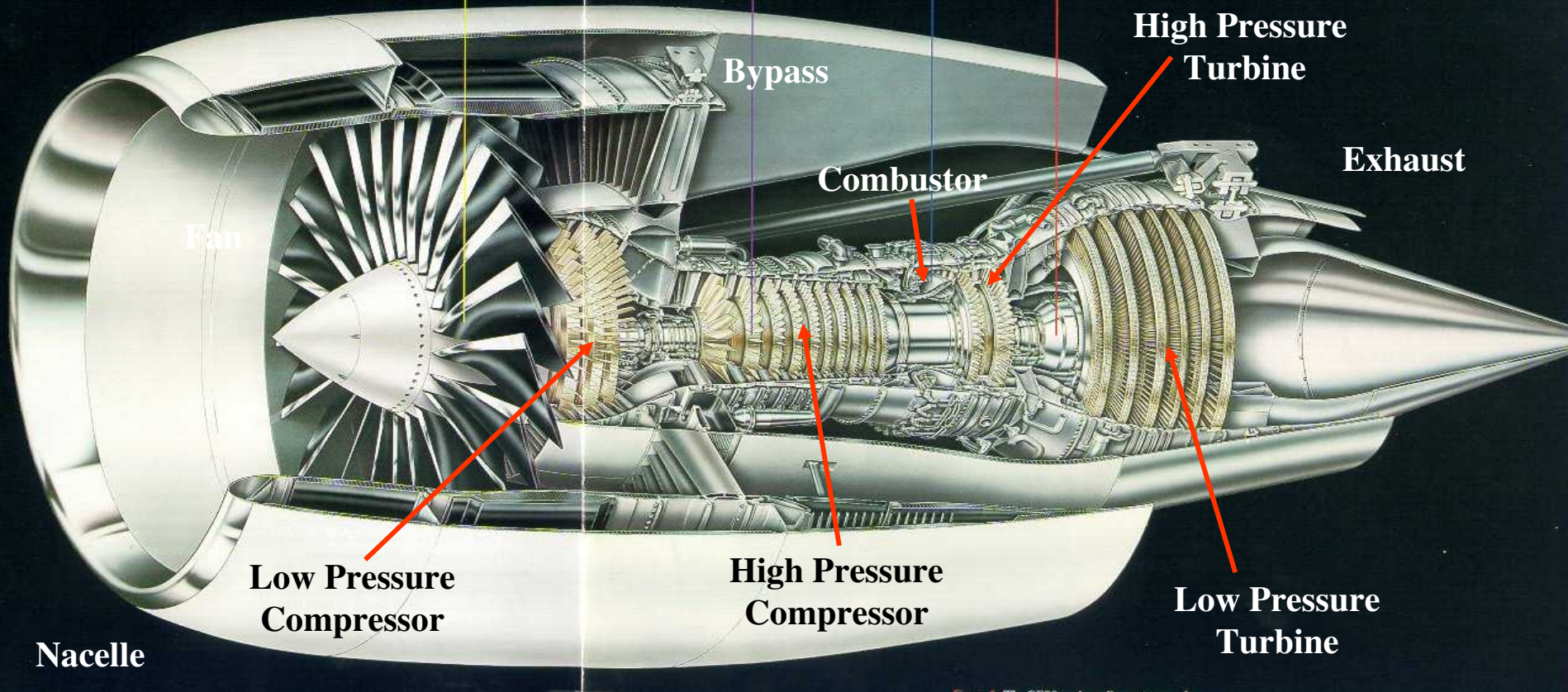


Onur Tunçer, PhD

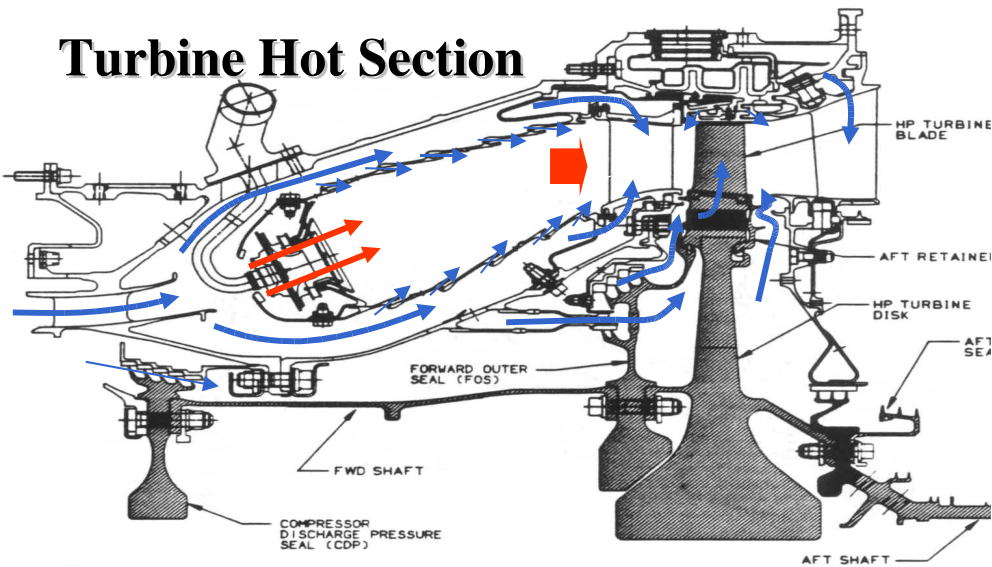
**Istanbul Technical University Aeronautical Engineering Seminar
Series**

February 13th, 2008

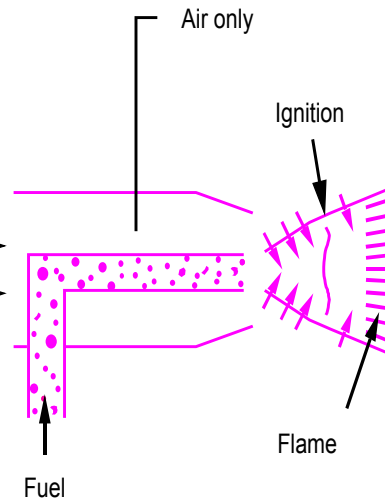




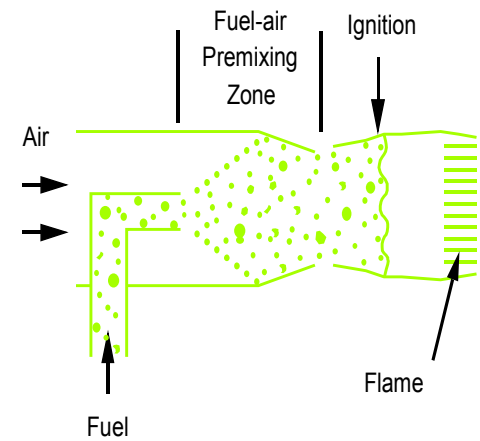
Turbine Hot Section



Diffusion Flame



Premixed Flame



PERFORMANCE METRICS

There are three basic performance metrics for a gas turbine combustor

- Fuel air mixing

Fuel air mixing is often quantified by pattern factors which is a measure of uniformity of the temperature distribution. The lower the pattern factor the better the fuel air mixing.

- Volumetric heat release

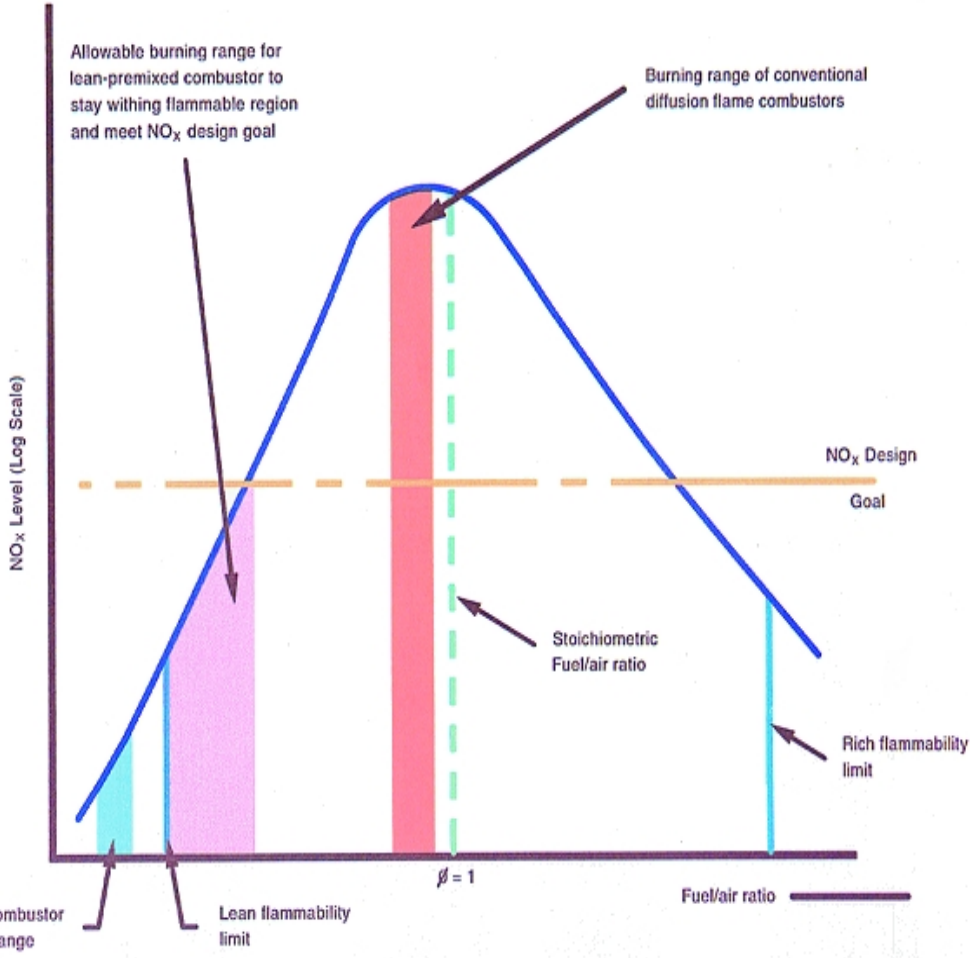
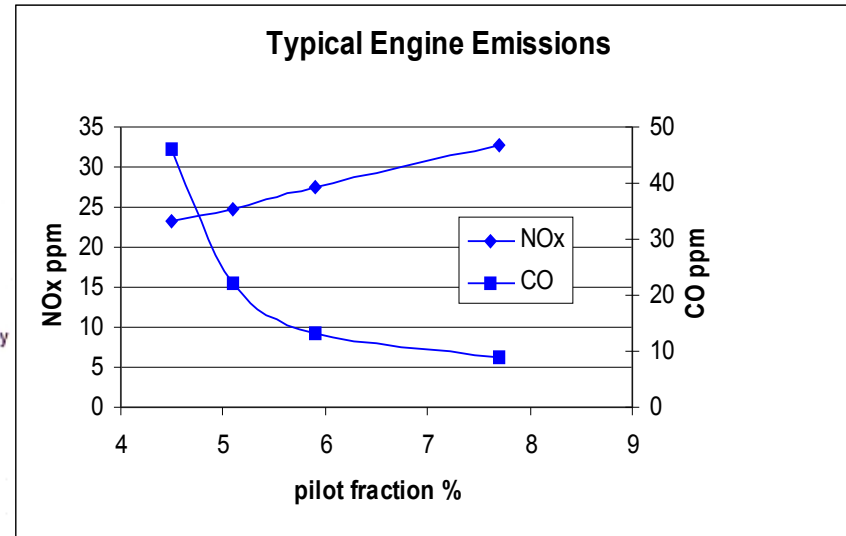
Higher volumetric heat release enables the design of more compact combustors. Volumetric heat release is also closely related with mixing.

- Emissions (NO_x, CO, UHC etc.)

Reducing emissions in order to meet legal criteria

Factors Affecting Emissions

- Stoichiometry
- Reaction zone residence time
- Turbulence-chemistry interactions



Beneficial for NO_x

- Low Flame Temperatures
- Uniform Fuel Air Mixtures
- Short Residence Times

Conflicting interests

Need to optimize

Beneficial for CO

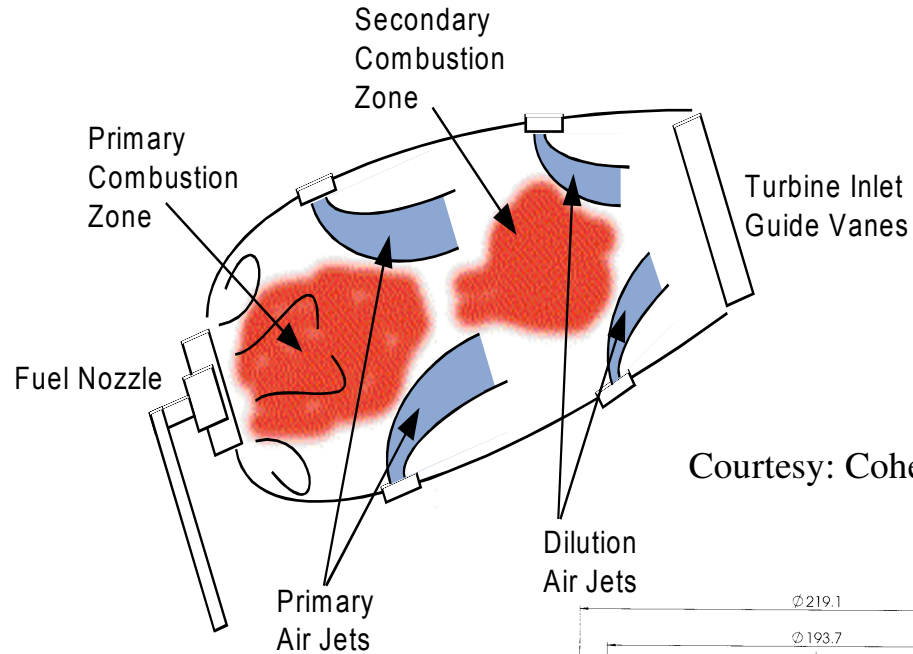
- Long Residence Times
- High Flame Temperatures
- Excess Oxygen

* Figures courtesy of Siemens-Westinghouse

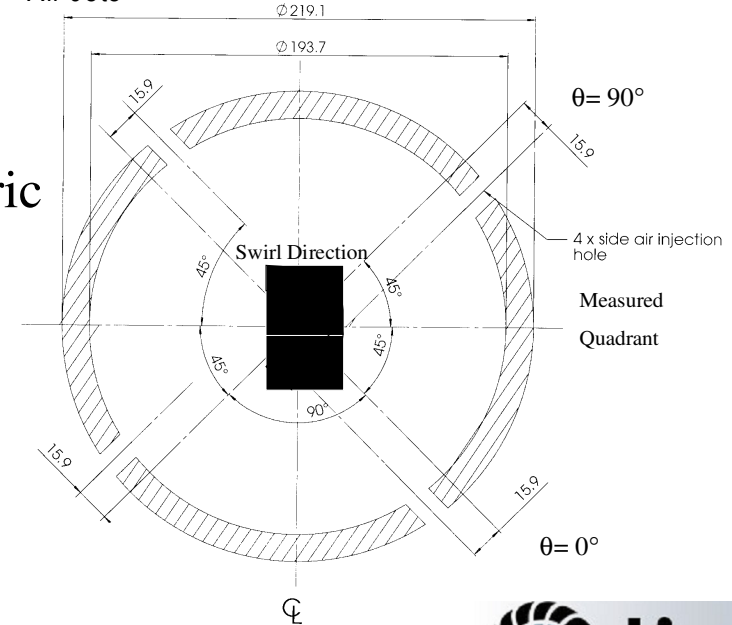
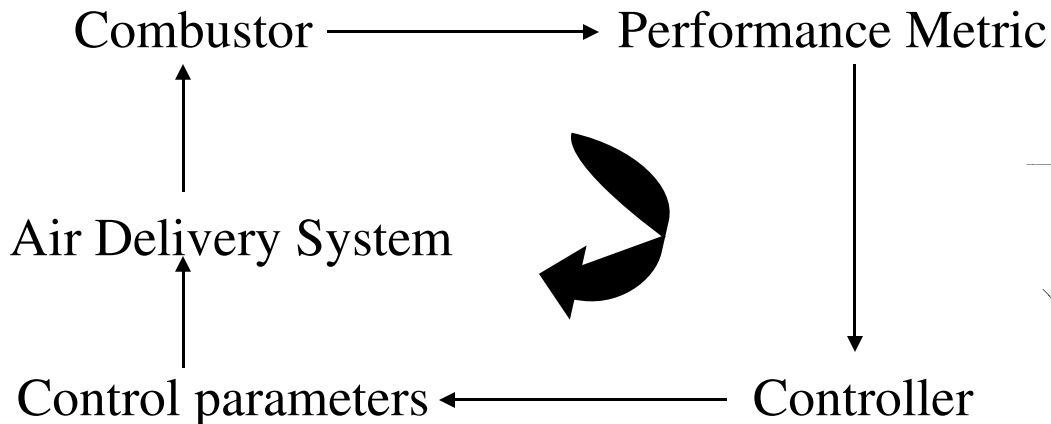


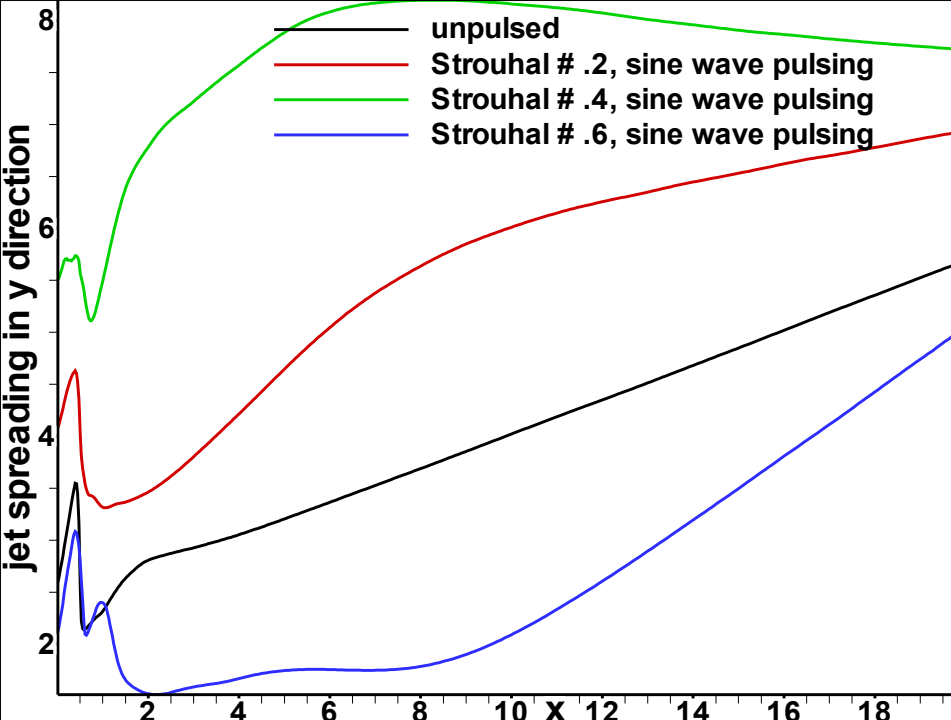
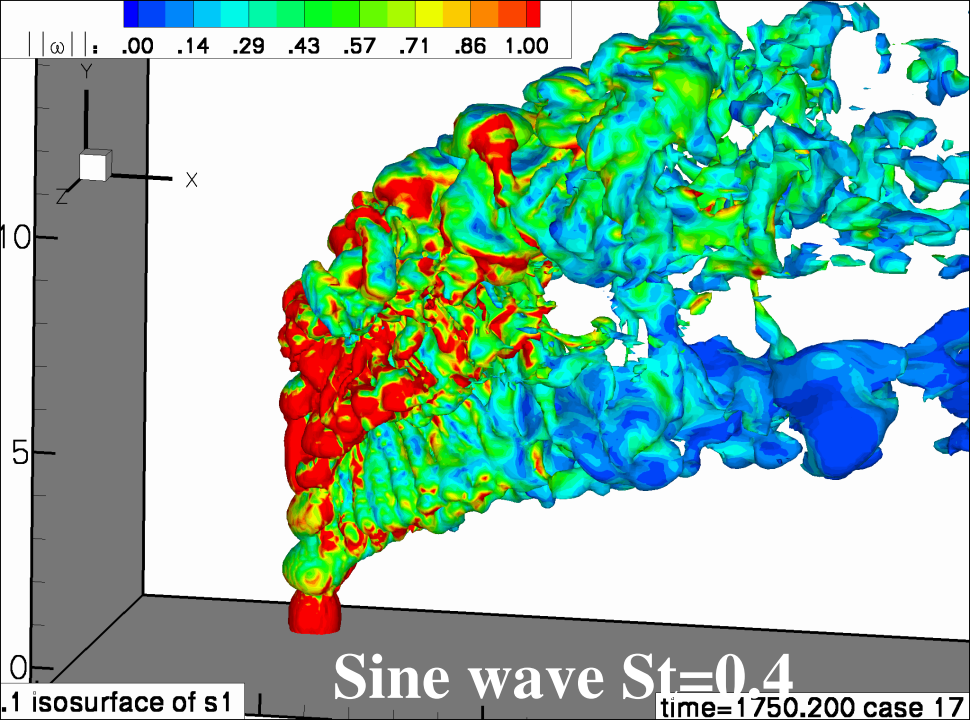
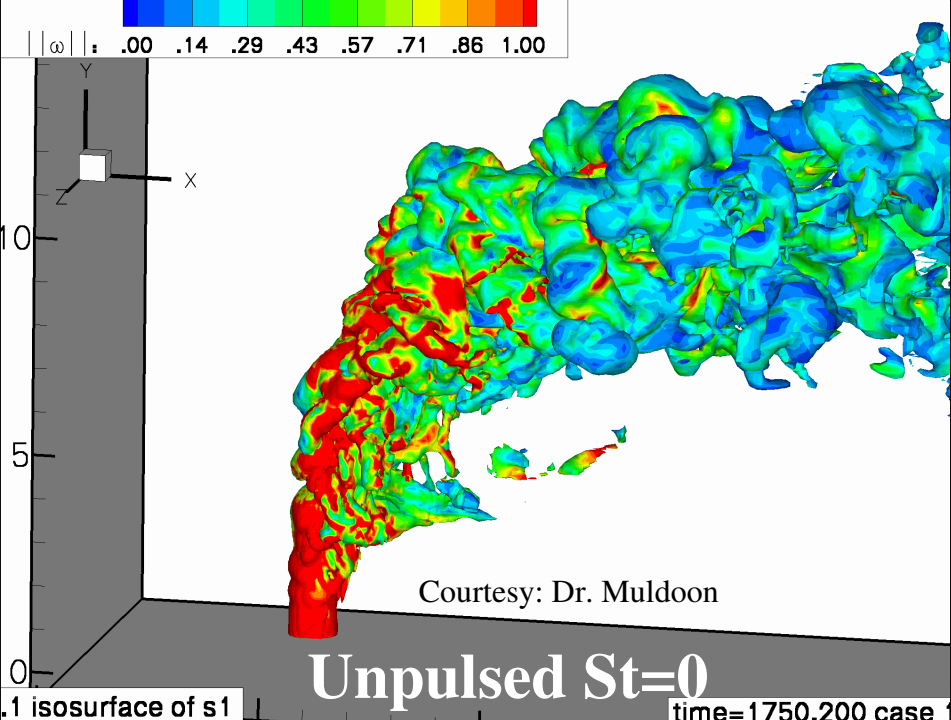
ACTIVE CONTROL OF SIDE AIR JETS

- Control parameters
 - Modulation frequency
 - Blowing Ratio
 - Equivalence Ratio



Courtesy: Cohen et al.

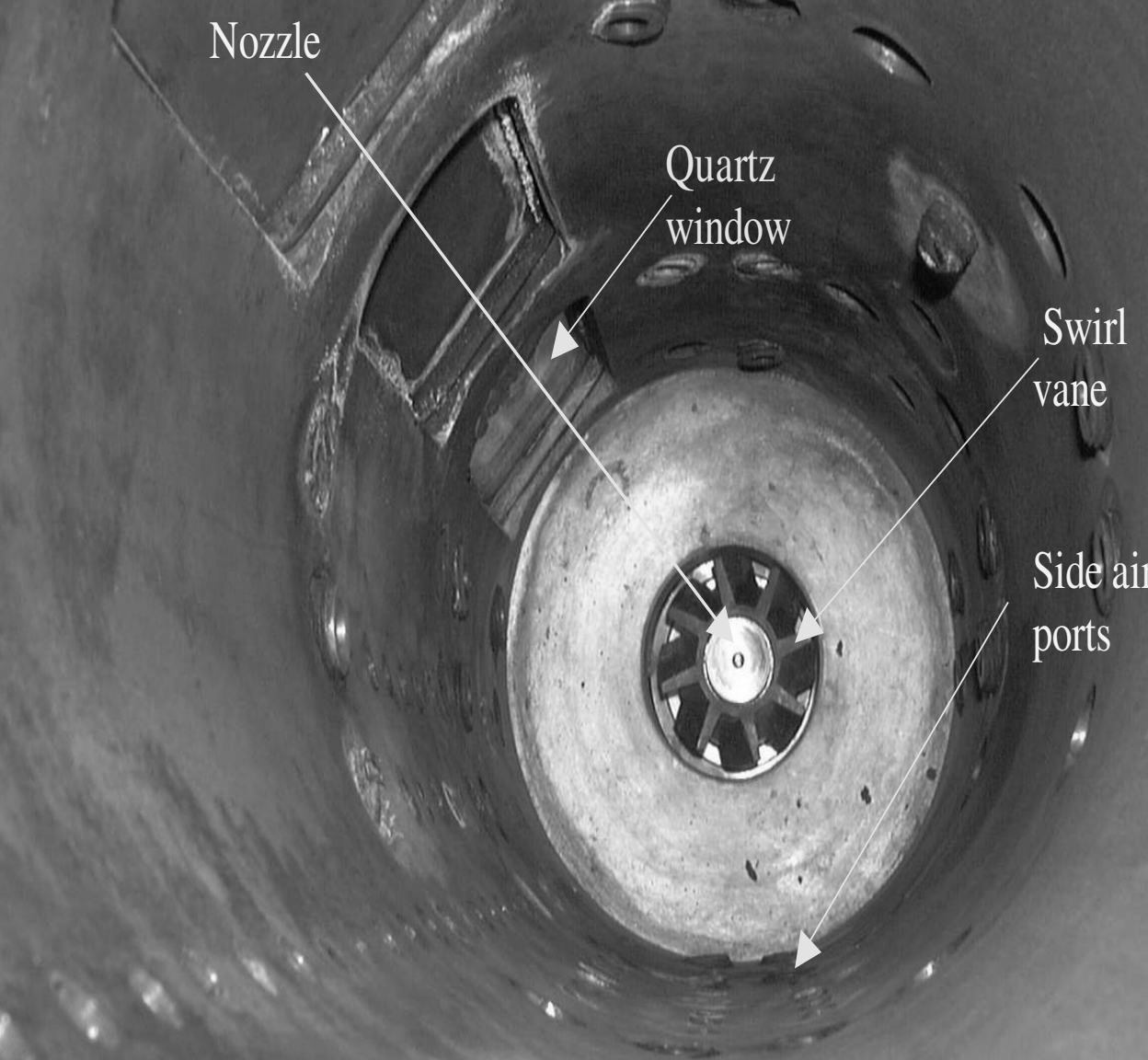




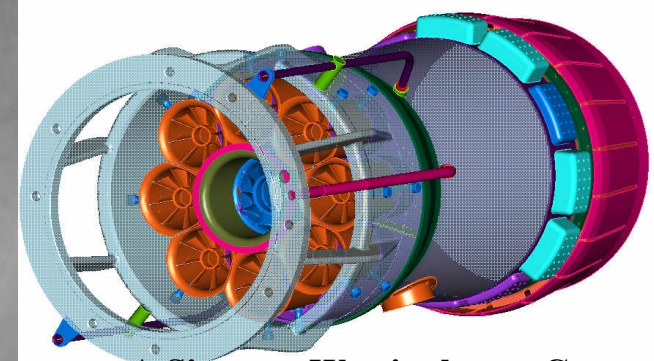
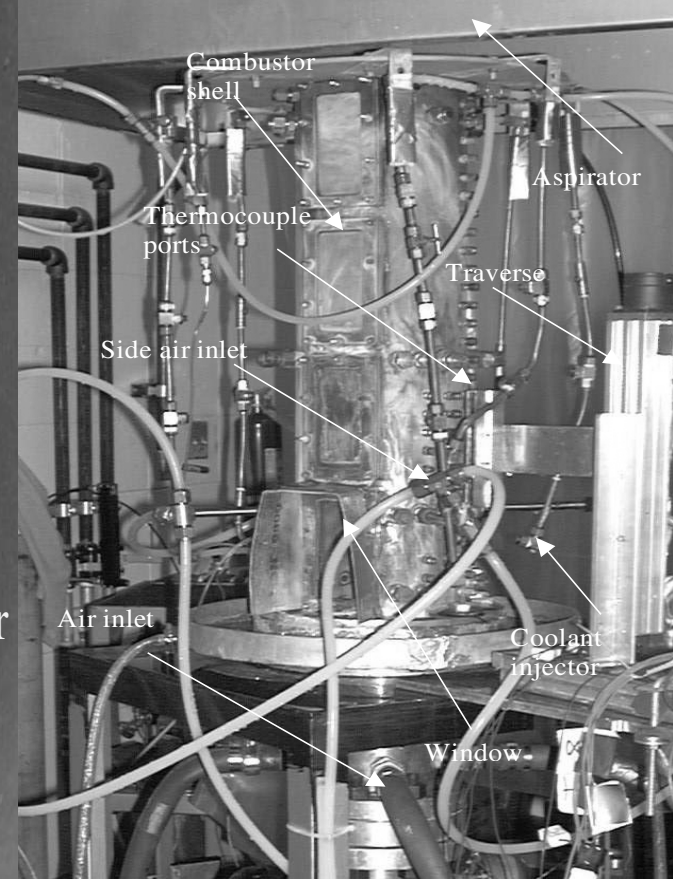
Some examples of experimental evidence on mixing enhancement of transverse jets due to forcing;

- ❖ Vermeulen, P. J., Yu, W. K. (1985) An Experimental Study of Mixing by an Acoustically Pulsed Axisymmetrical Air Jet, ASME Paper No. 85-GT-49
- ❖ Karagozian, A. R., M'Closkey, R. T., King, J. M., Cortelezzi, L. (2002) The Actively Controlled Jet in Crossflow, J. Fluid Mech., **452**, pp. 325-335
- ❖ Johari, H., Pacheco-Tougas, M. and Hermanson, J. C. (1999) Penetration and Mixing of Fully Modulated Turbulent Jets in Crossflow, AIAA Journal, **37**(7), pp. 842-850

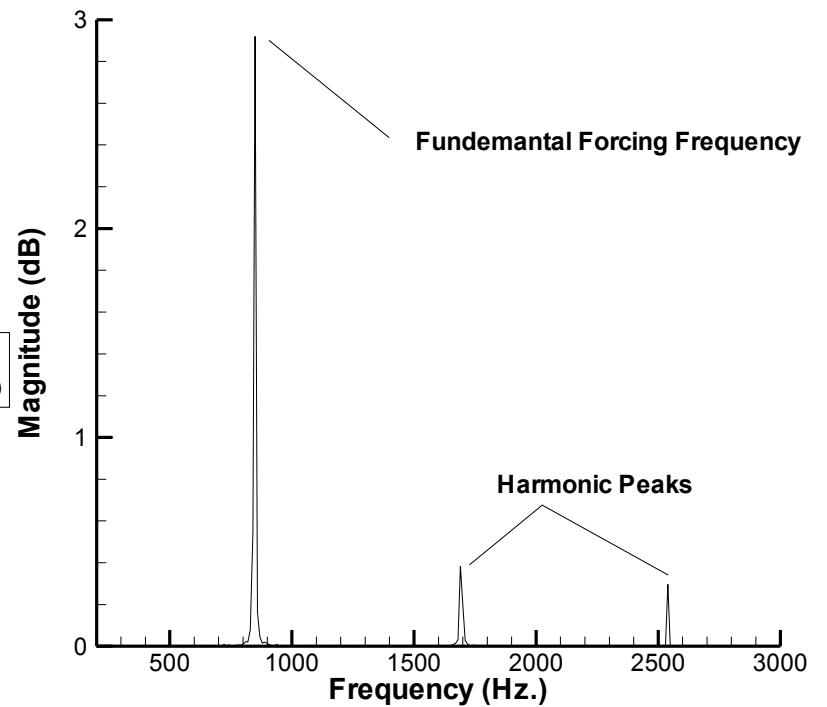
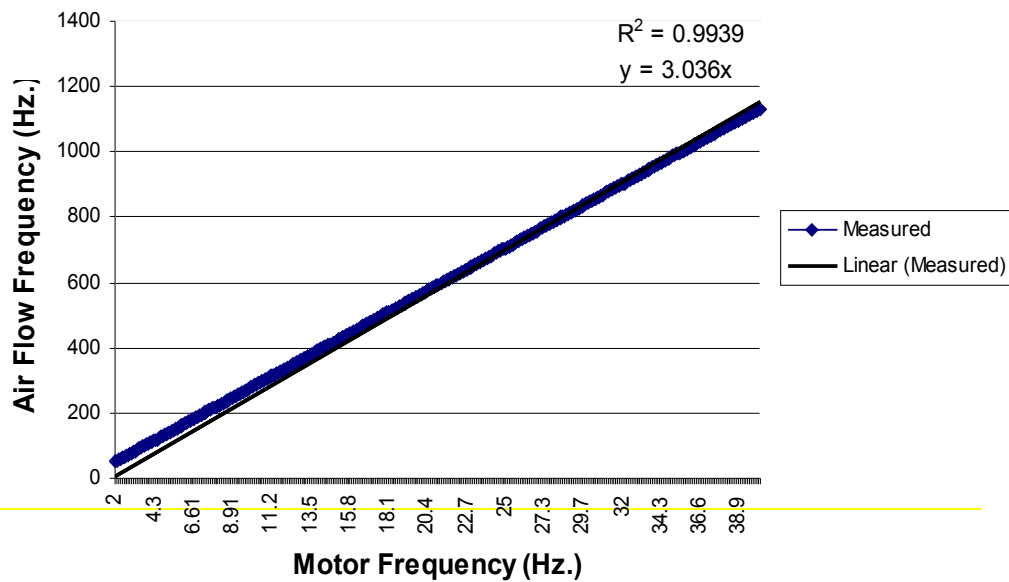
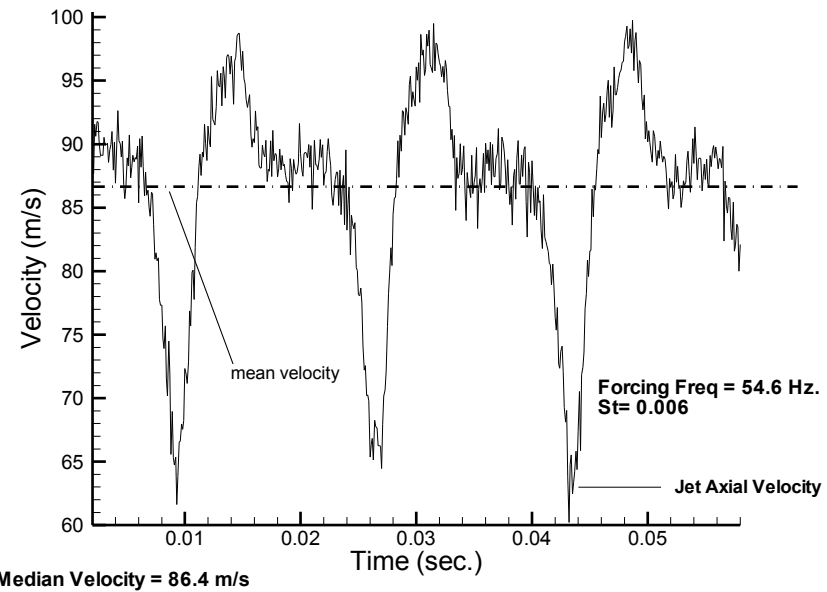
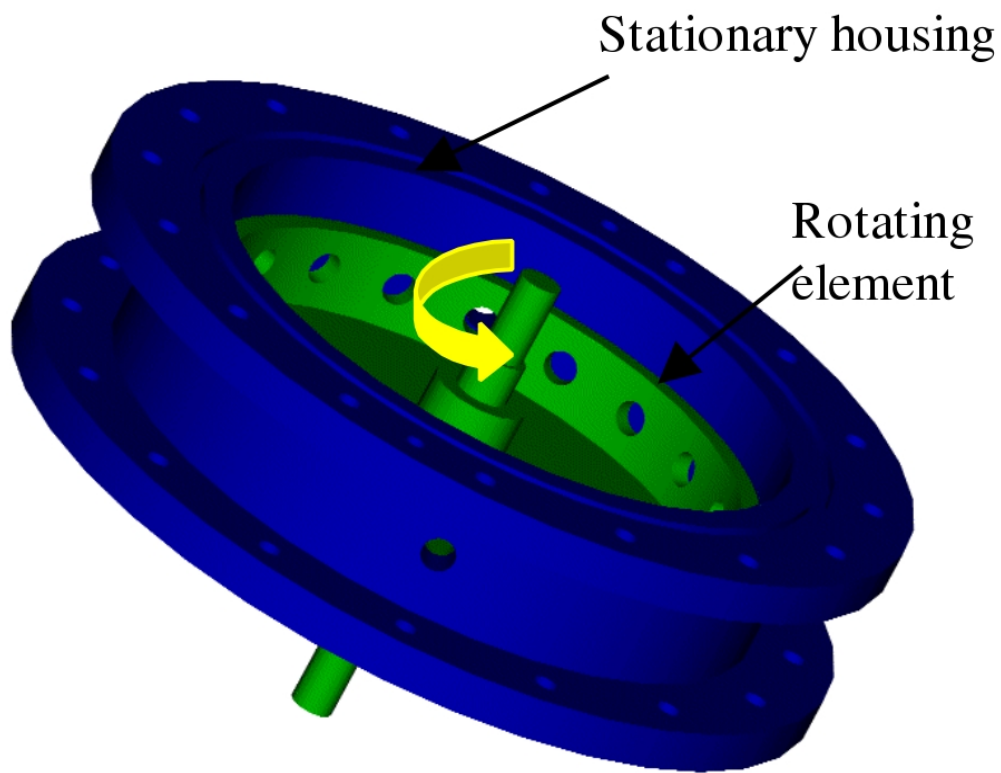


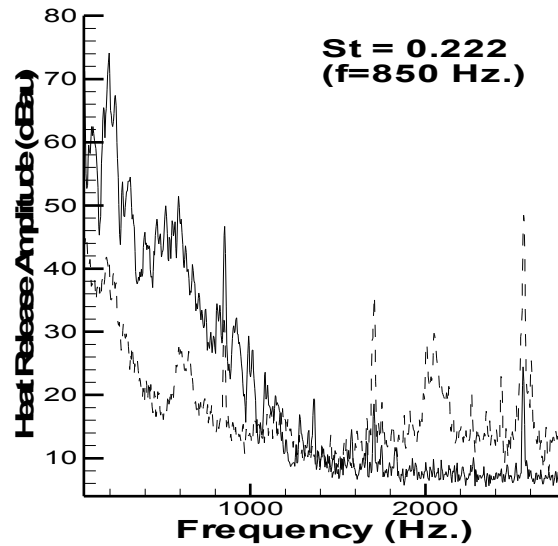
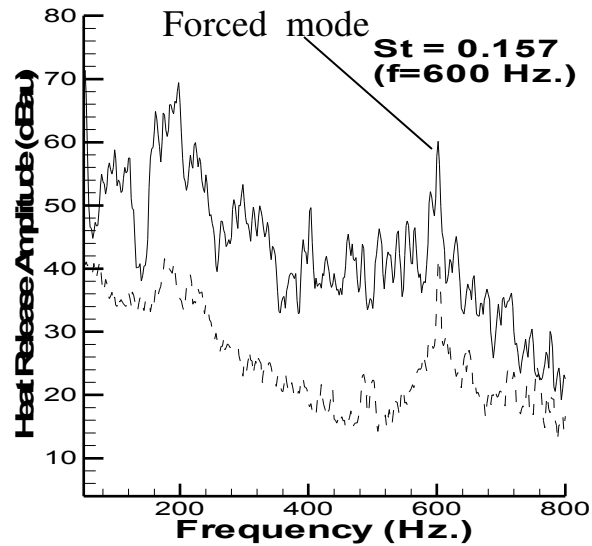
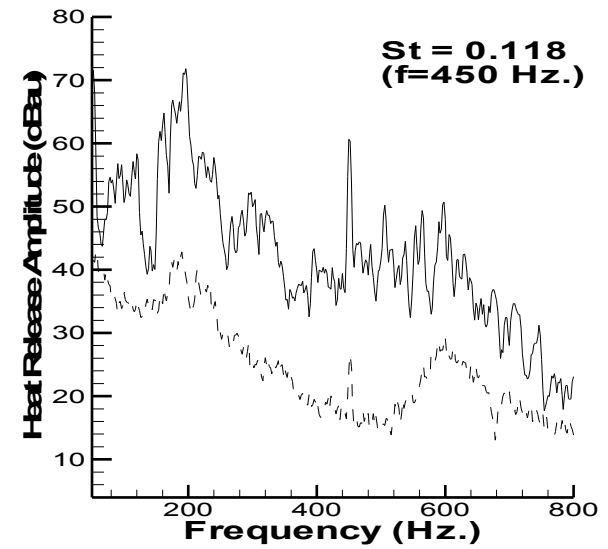
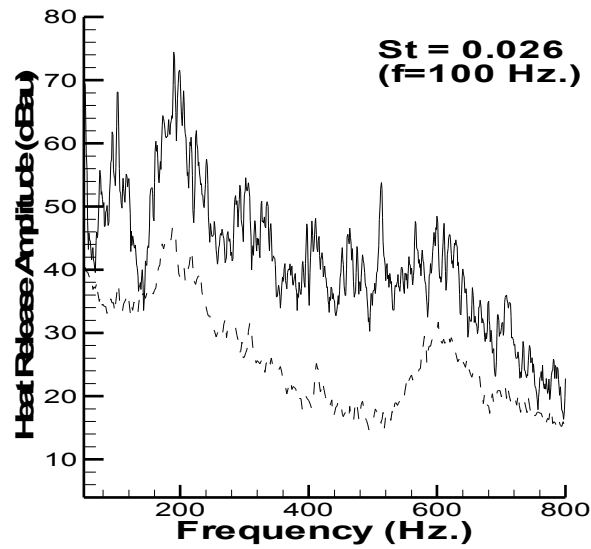
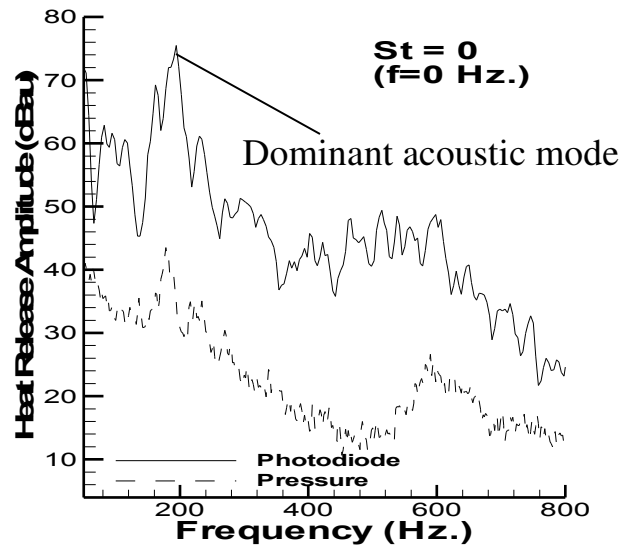


Inside View of the 60 kW Experimental Can Combustor



A Siemens-Westingshouse Can Annular Combustor





For the dominant quarter-wave mode

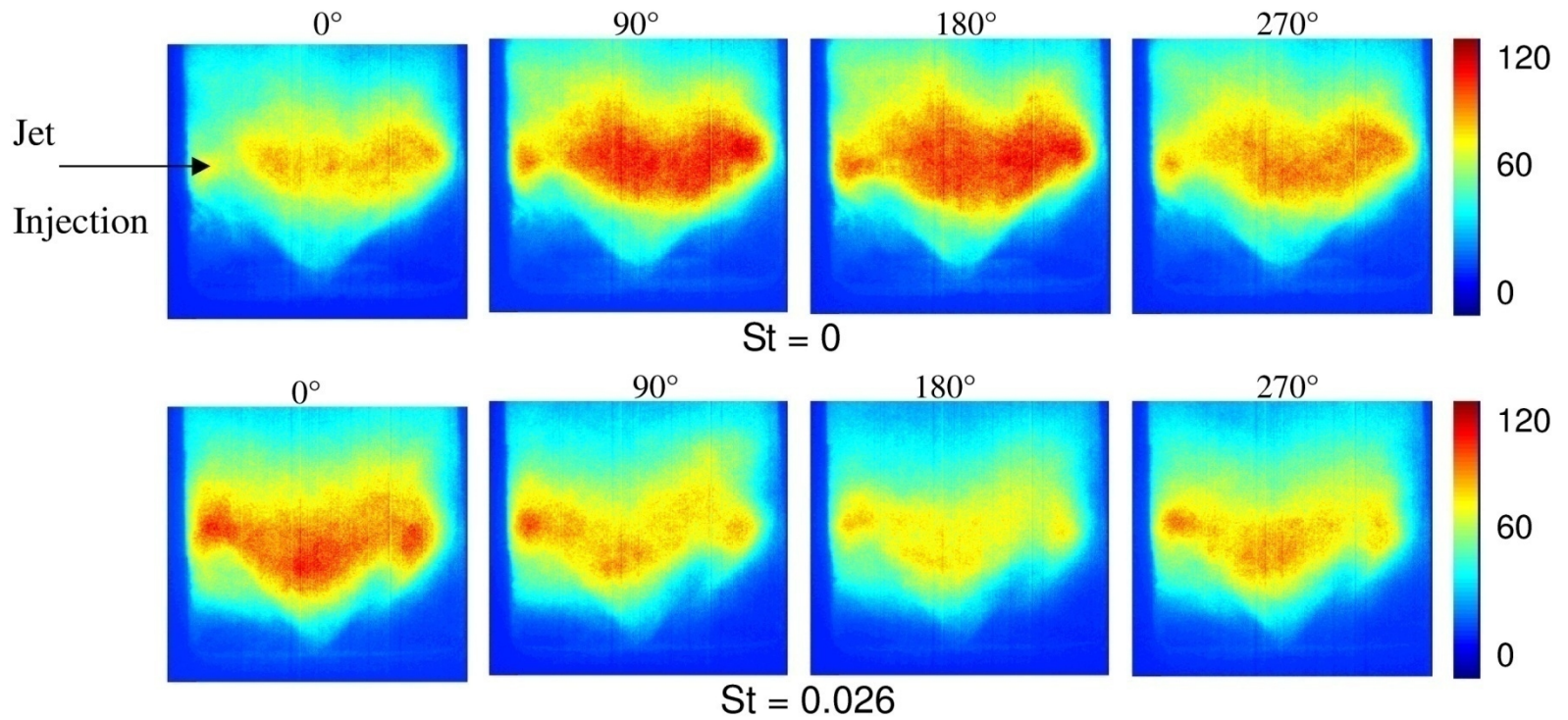
$$\lambda = 4H$$

$$f_{1/4} = \frac{c}{4H}$$

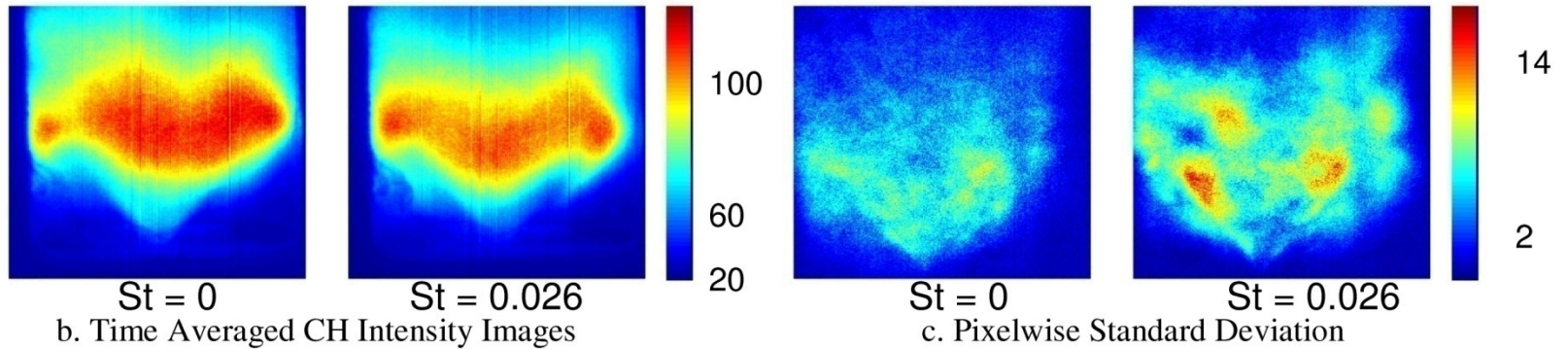
$$c = \sqrt{\gamma RT}$$

Pressure & Heat Release Spectra





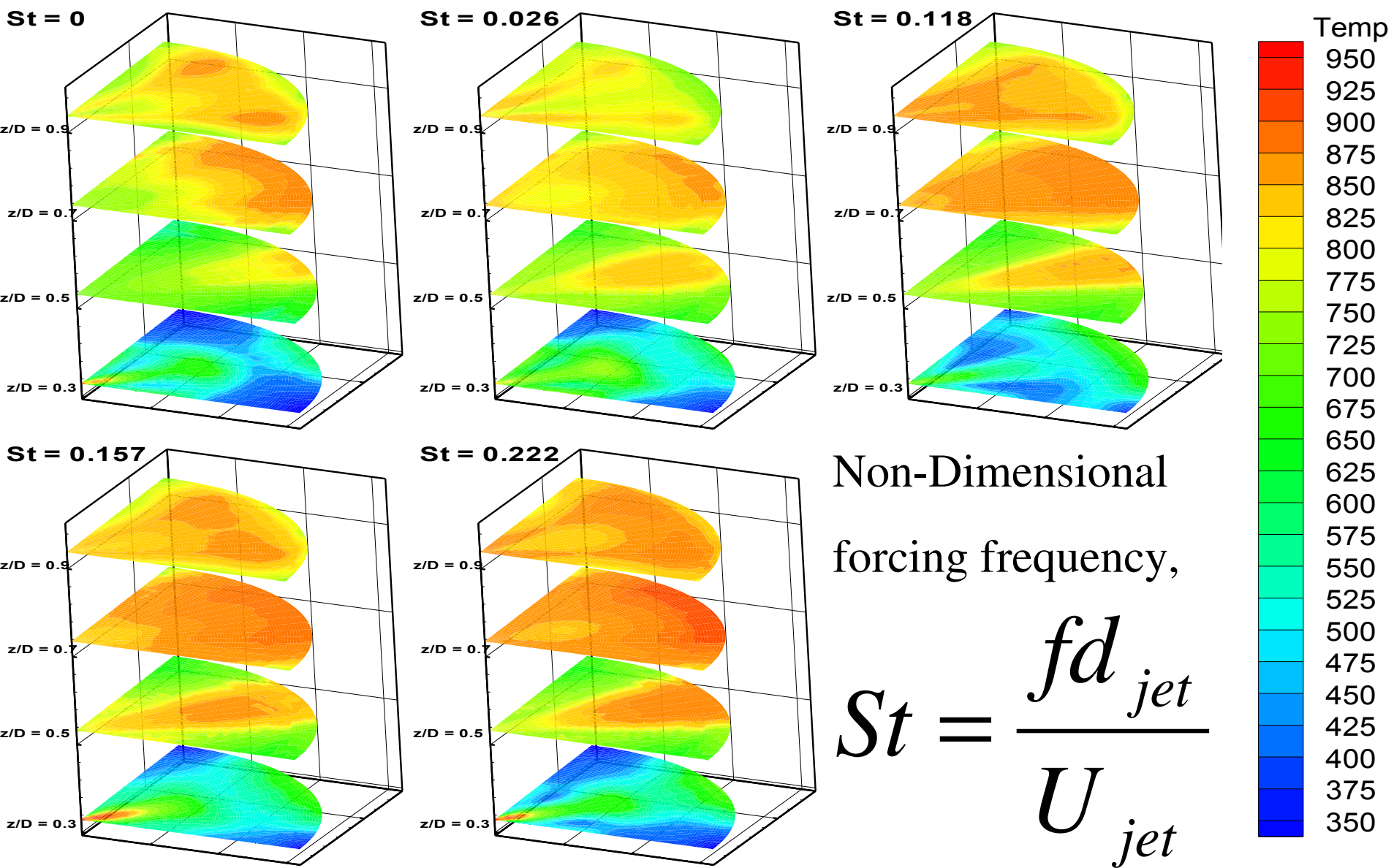
a. Phase Averaged CH Intensity



b. Time Averaged CH Intensity Images

c. Pixelwise Standard Deviation

CH Radical Images

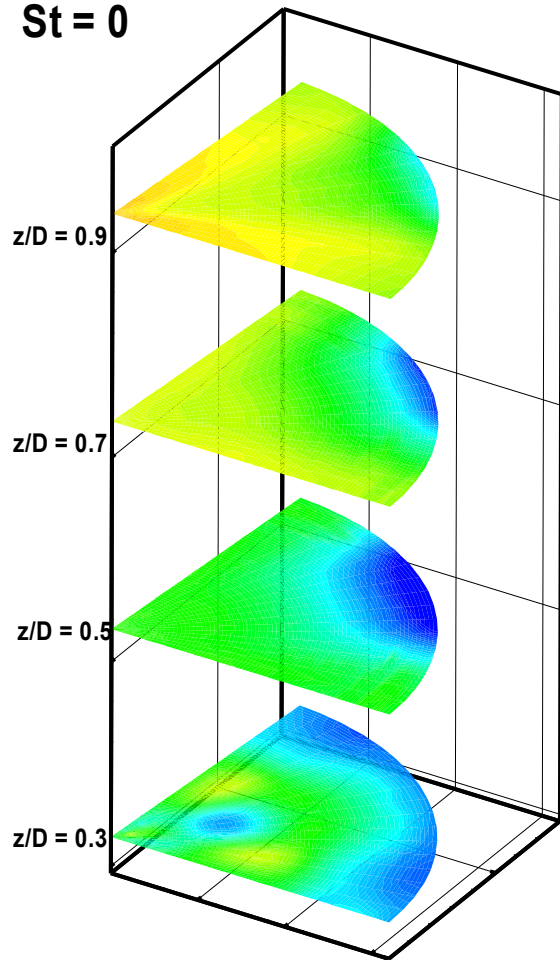


3-D Temperature Profiles as a Function of Forcing Frequency

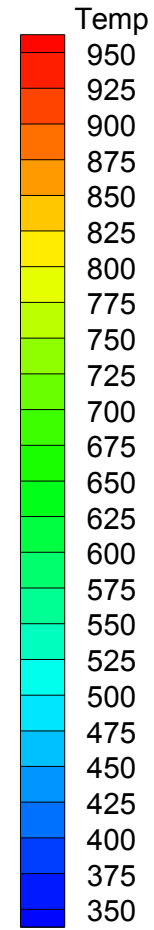
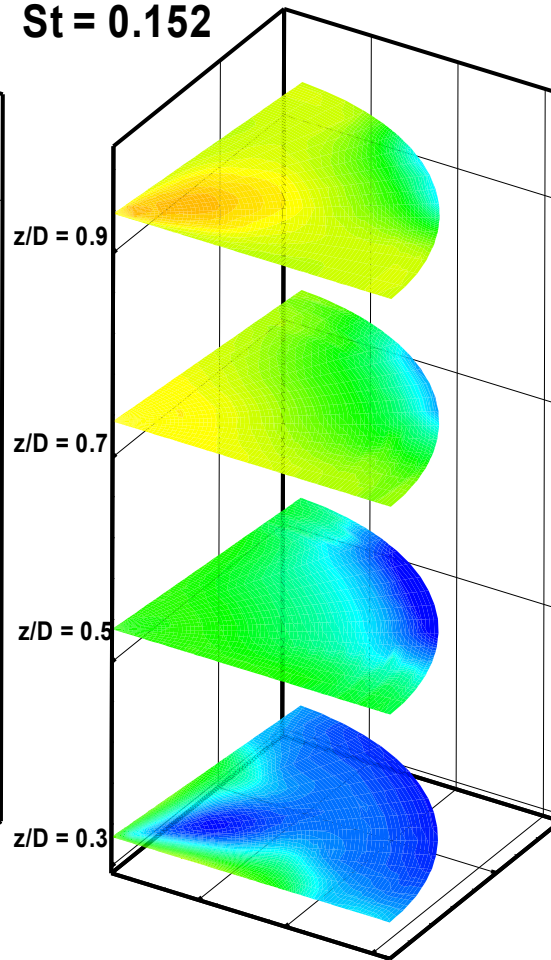
$\Phi=0.9, R=15$



St = 0

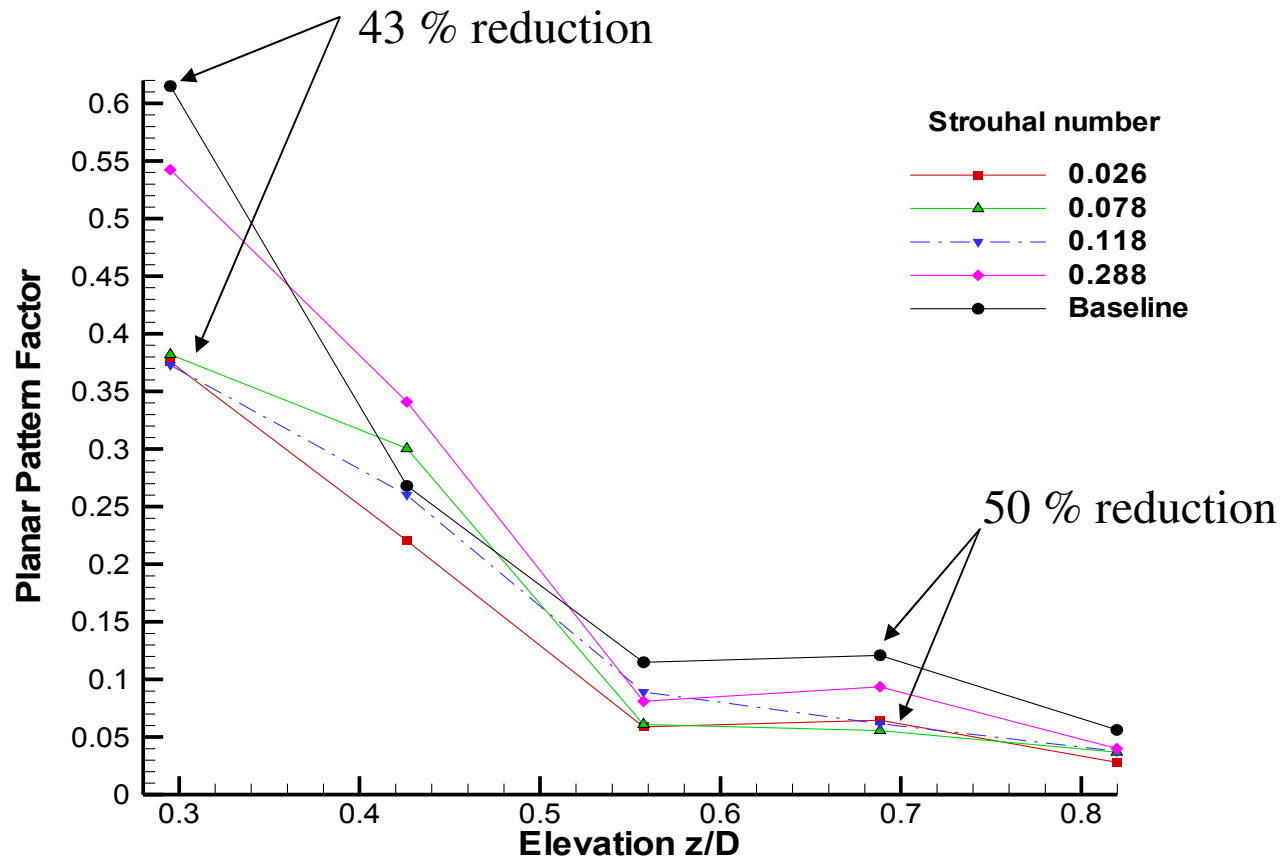


St = 0.152



$\Phi=0.9, R=10$

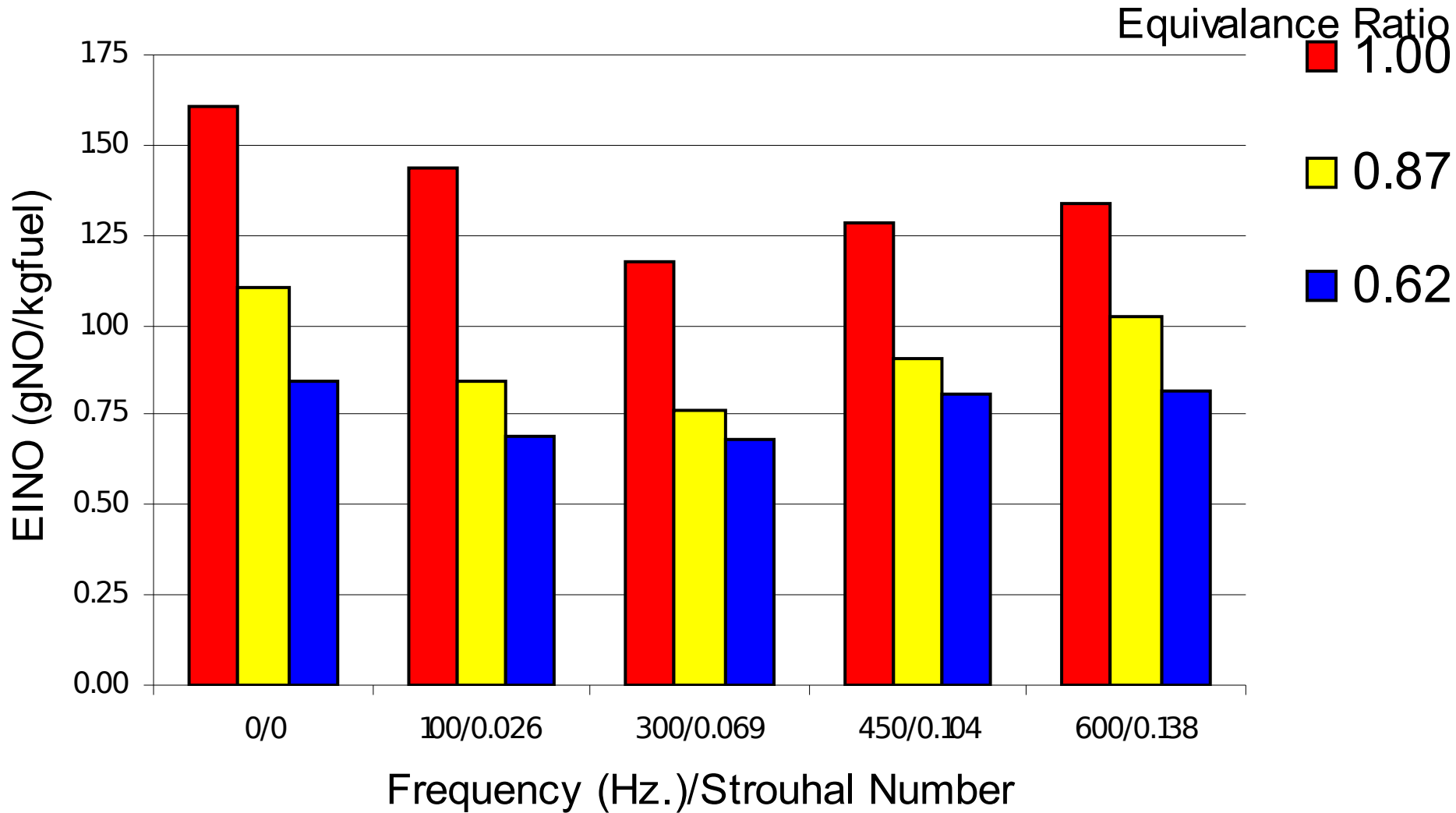
Define pattern factor as, $PF(z) = \frac{T_{\max}(z) - \bar{T}(z)}{\bar{T}(z) - T_o}$ where, $\bar{T}(z) = \frac{\iint T(r, \theta, z) r dr d\theta}{\iint r dr d\theta}$



R=15 (Blowing Ratio)

Pattern Factor as a Function of Elevation





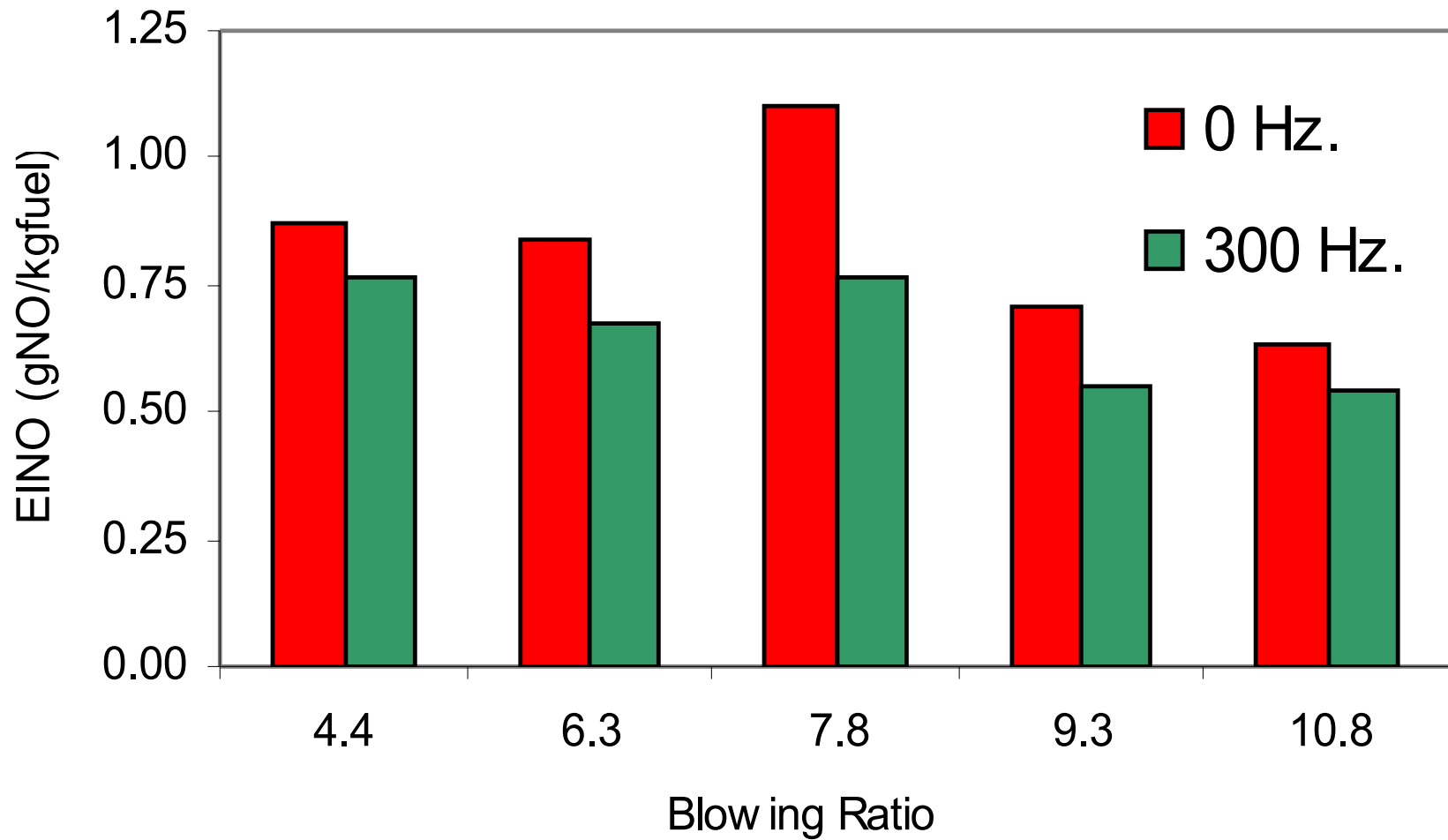
Emissions Index as a Function of Forcing Frequency

Definition: Emissions index is defined as the grams of nitric oxide generated per kilogram of fuel burnt

Note: Emissions measurements were made using K1 grade kerosene as liquid fuel.

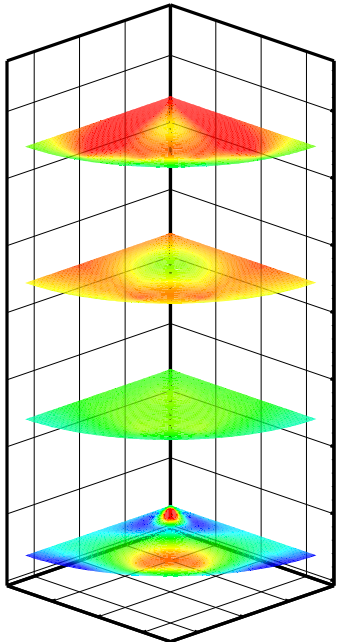
K1 grade kerosene is very close to Jet-A fuel in chemical composition.



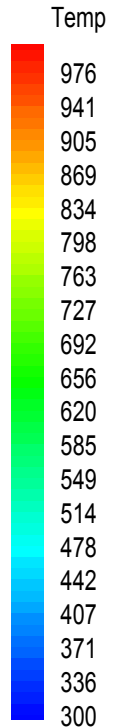
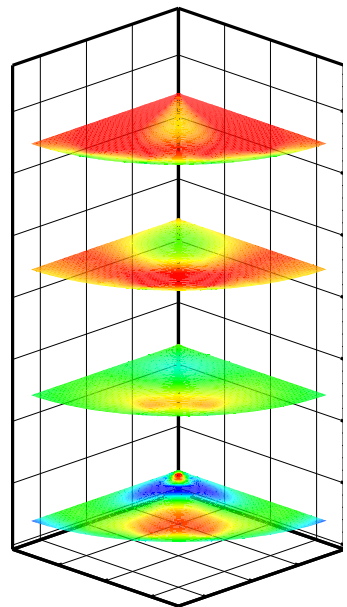


Emissions Index as a Function of Blowing Ratio

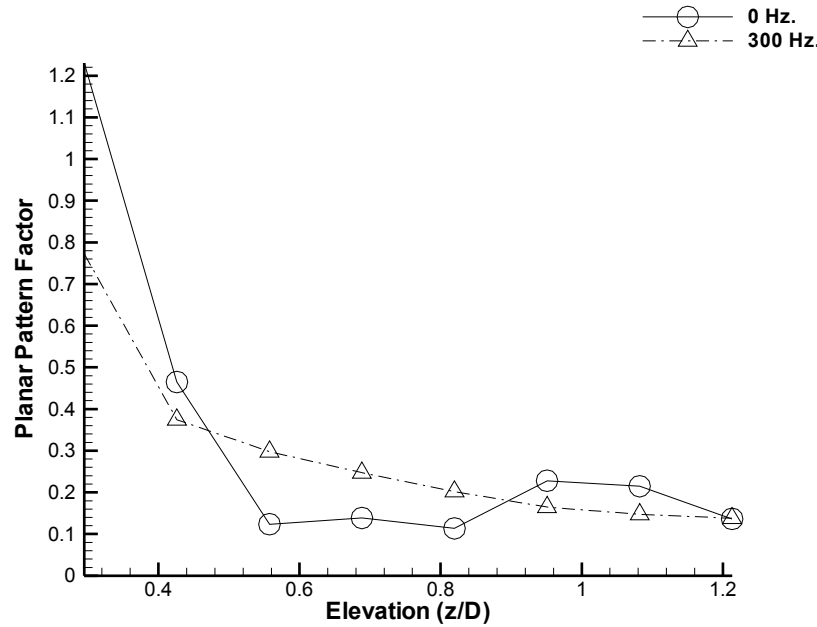
Freq= 0 Hz.



Freq= 300 Hz.



**Temperature Contours at $R=7.8$ and $\Phi=0.87$
(Temperatures in $^{\circ}\text{C}$)**



**Planar Pattern Factor as a Function of
Elevation at $R=7.8$ and $\Phi=0.87$**

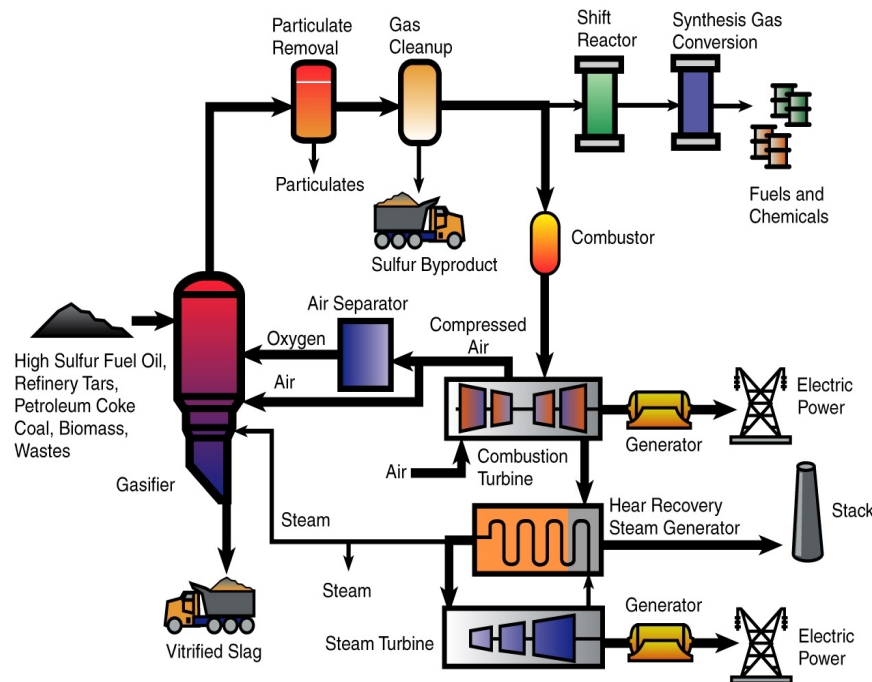


Syngas Combustion

- Synthesis gas (syngas) is a variable mixture of H₂ and CO and other some gases in trace amounts
 - Mostly used in combined cycles (IGCC) to increase efficiency
- Can be produced from the gasification of coal or biomass
- Composition depends on the gasification process

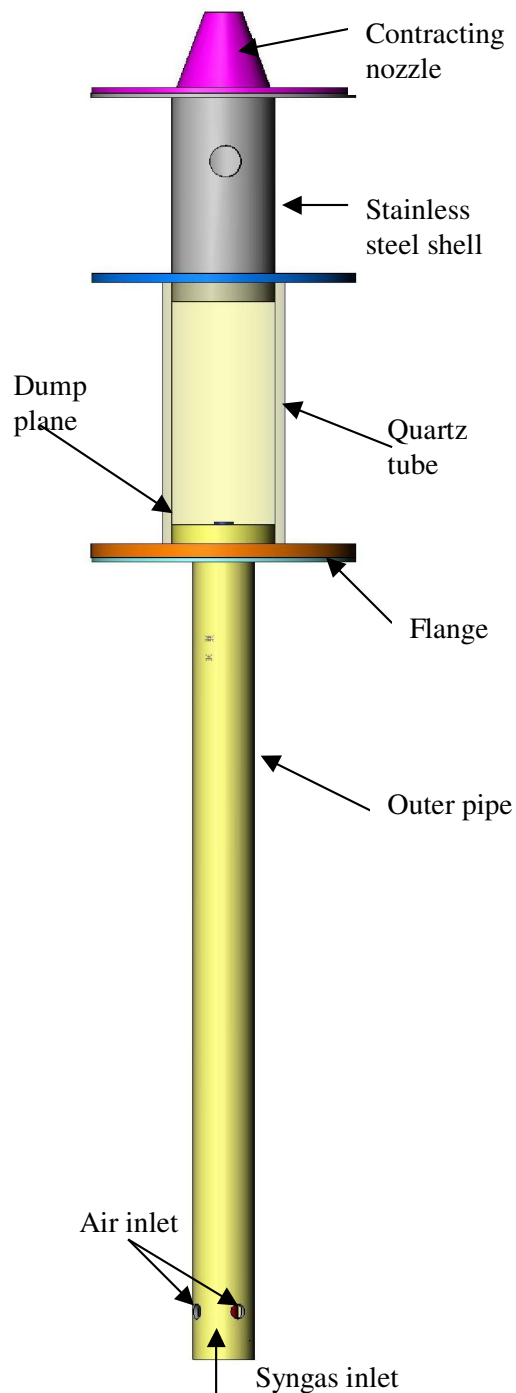
Important Issues

- Flame flashback
- Auto-ignition
- Emissions



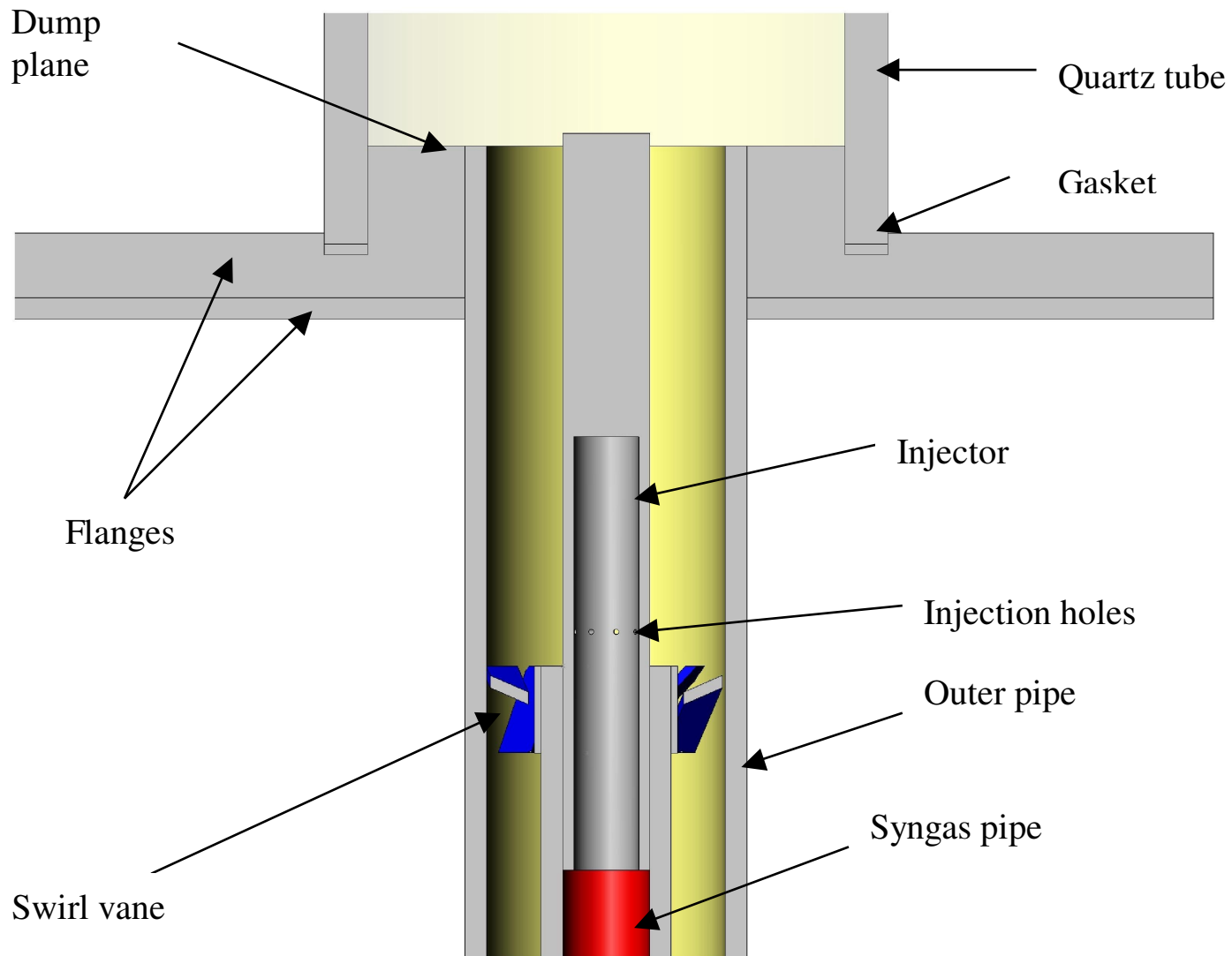
Motivation for Work

- Present low emissions technology mainly focuses on burning natural gas
- Natural gas cannot be relied upon as the exclusive source for fueling the clean power plants in the future
- Increasing demand due to new installations has caused substantial price volatility
- Concerns about future supplies
- Concern about energy security have motivated interest in utilizing coal-derived syngas or fuels from other sources, such as biomass, landfill gas, process gas and others.
- Technologies like integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) plants enable the combustion of coal and other solid or liquid fuels, while still maintaining aggressive emissions targets and high efficiency



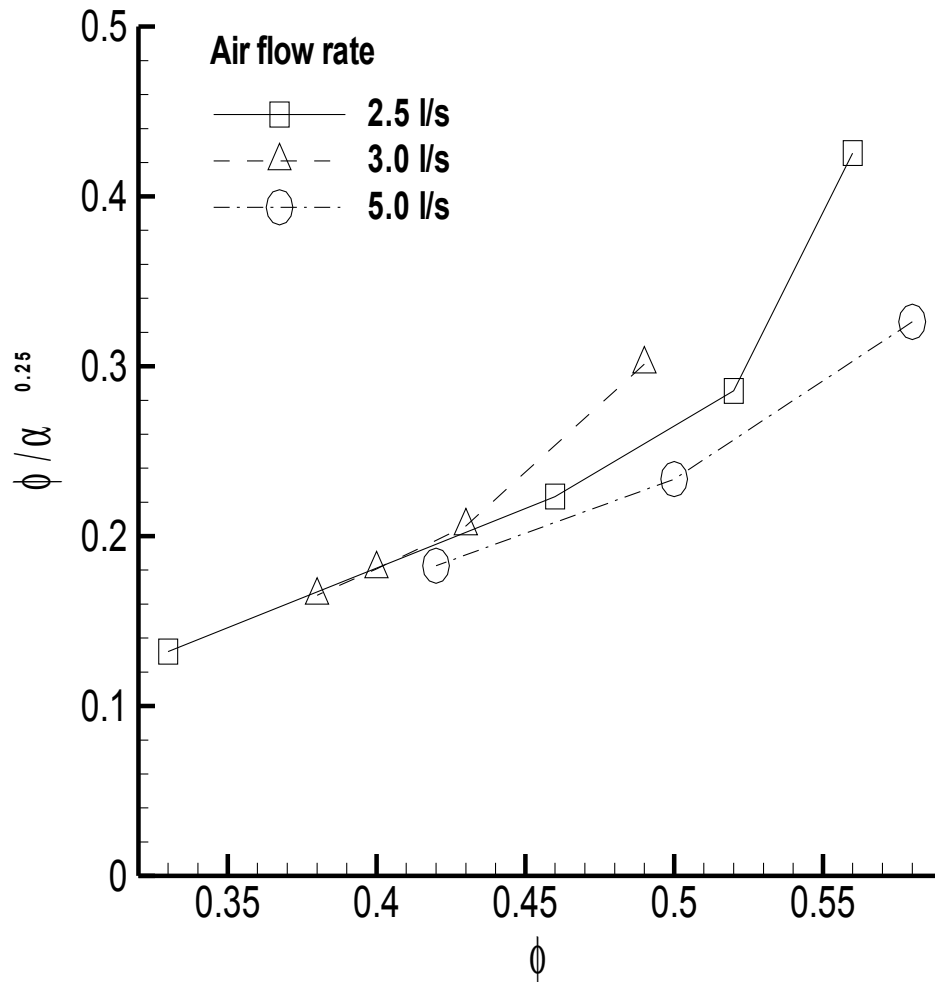
Reasons Causing Flame Flashback

- ❖ Low local speeds in the premixing section
 - ❖ Boundary layer propagation
 - ❖ Thermo-acoustic instability
 - ❖ Combustion induced vortex breakdown (CIVB)
-
- Challenge with syngas is high flame speeds associated with the hydrogen content of the mixture

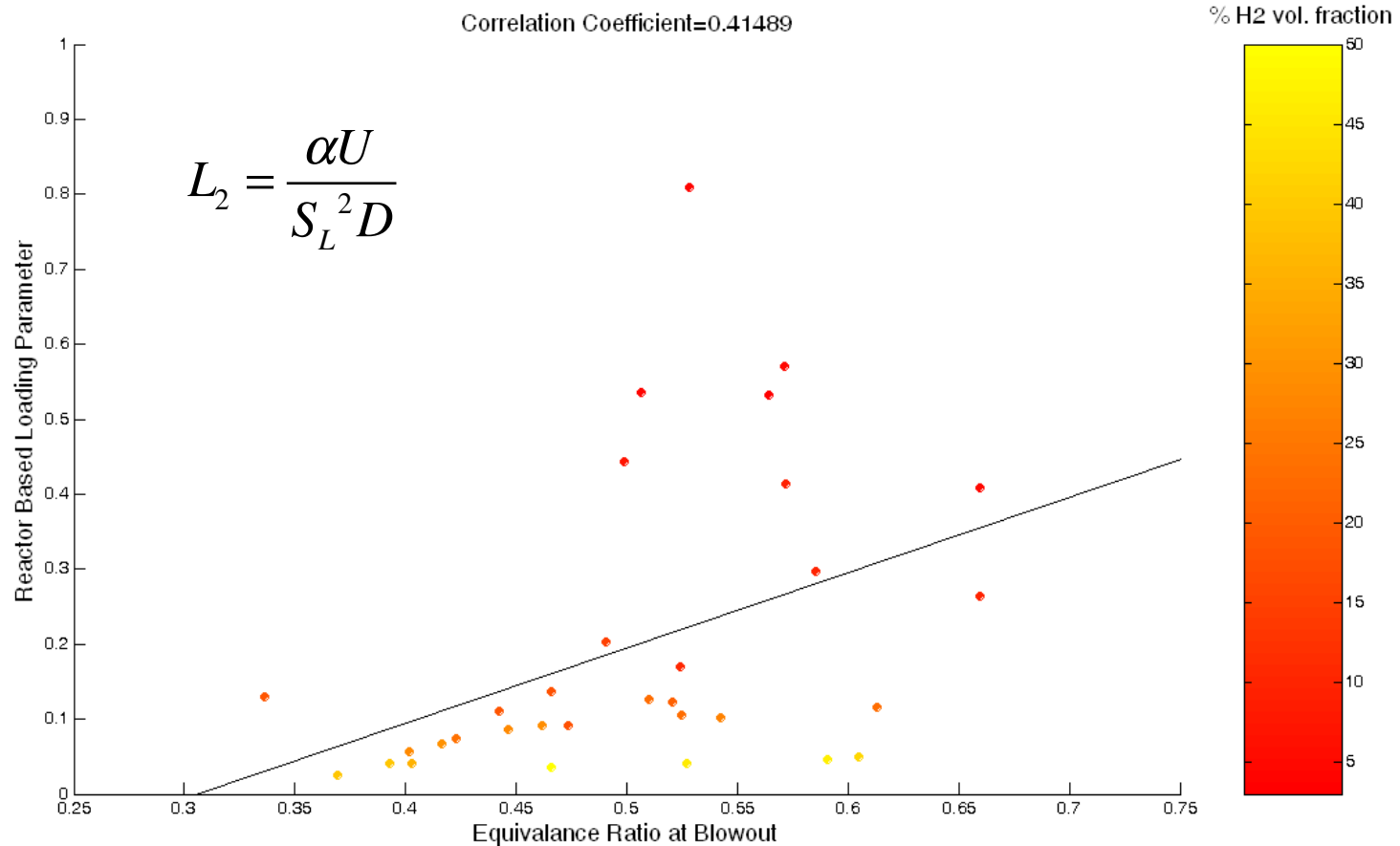


Schematic View of Fuel Delivery System

HYDROGEN ENRICHED COMBUSTION STUDIES



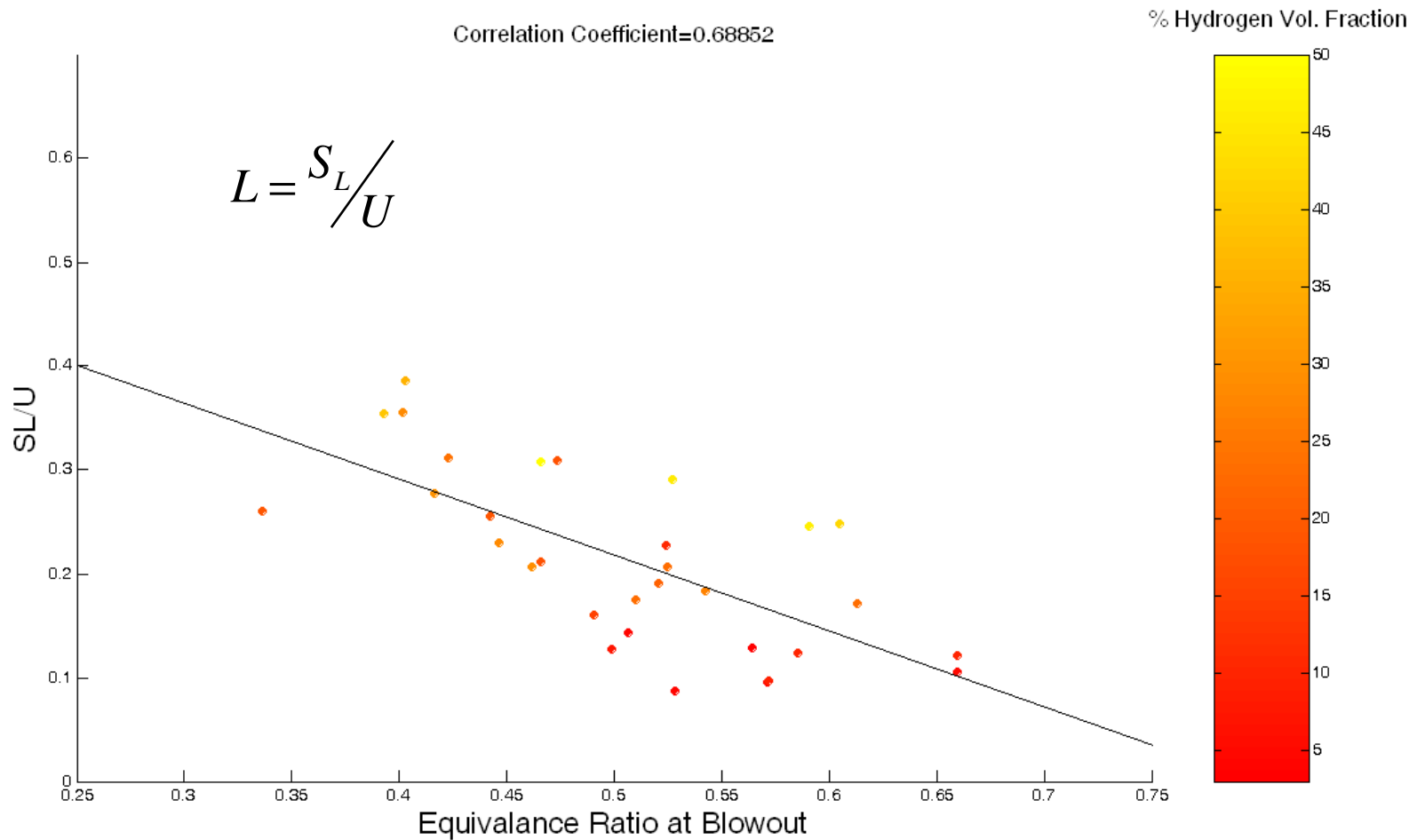
$$\phi = \frac{C_F / \left(\frac{C_A}{C_A} \right) - C_H / \left(\frac{C_H}{C_A} \right)_{st}}{\left(\frac{C_F}{C_A} \right)_{st}}$$



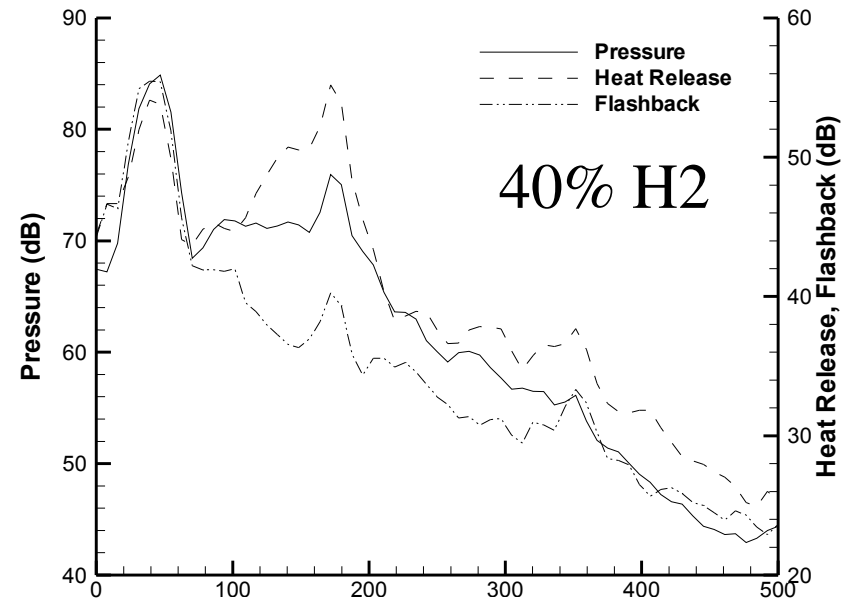
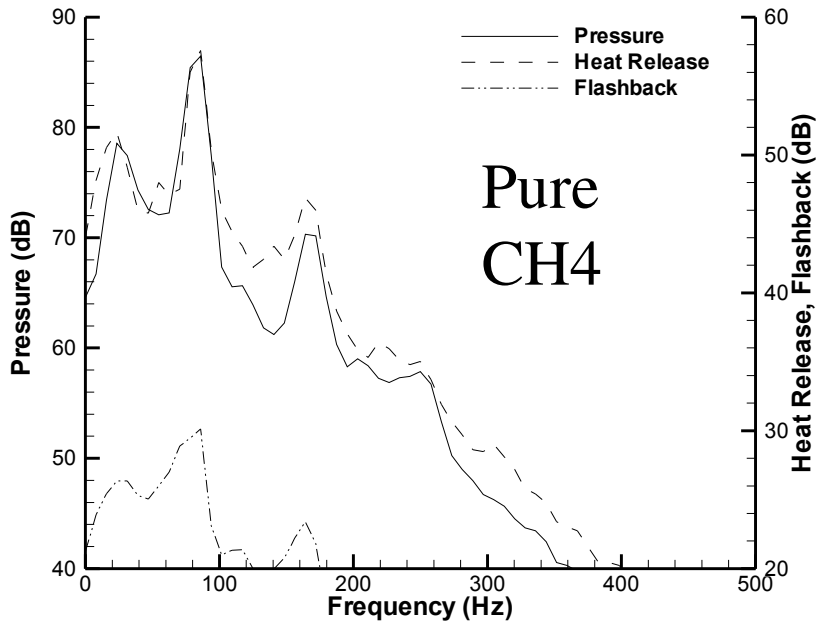
Relationship Between Blowout Equivalence Ratio and Reactor Based Loading Parameter

$$S_L = \frac{C_F}{C_F + C_H} S_{L,CH_4,\phi} + \frac{C_H}{C_F + C_H} S_{L,H_2,s}$$

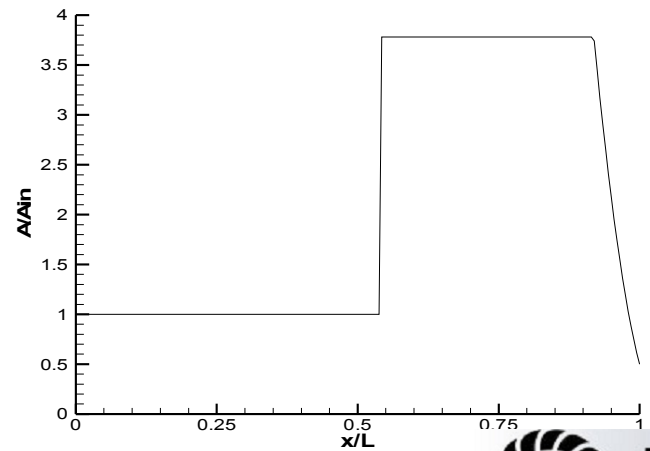
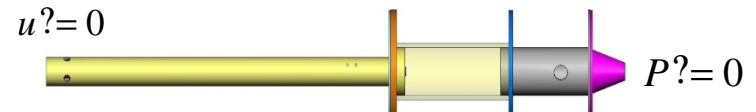
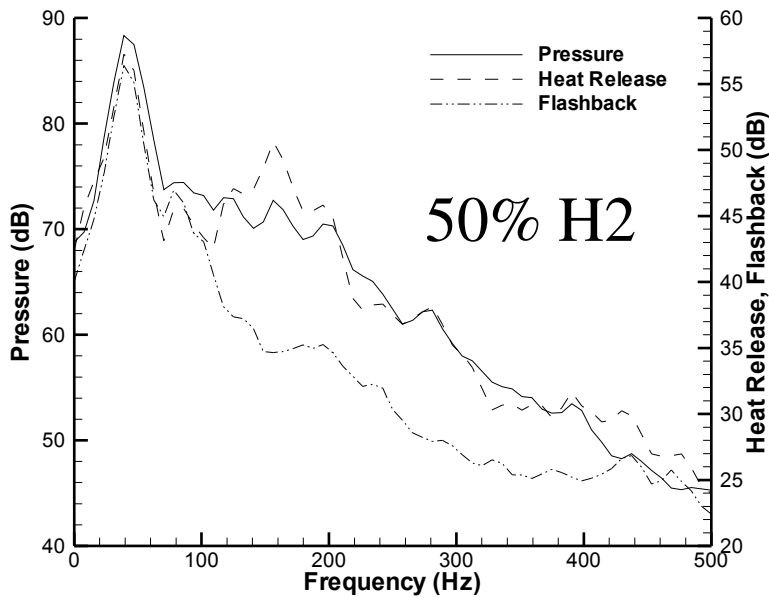


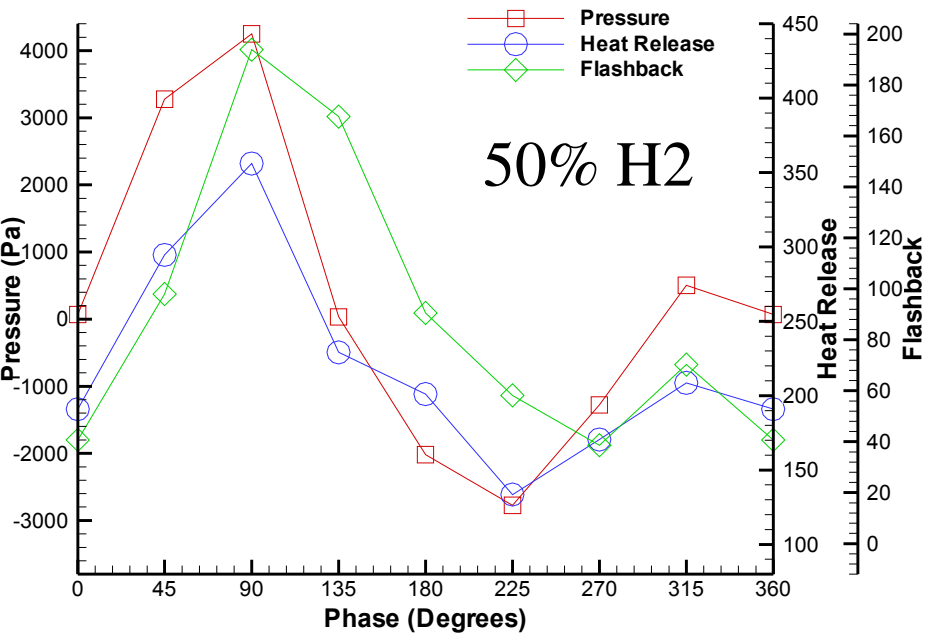
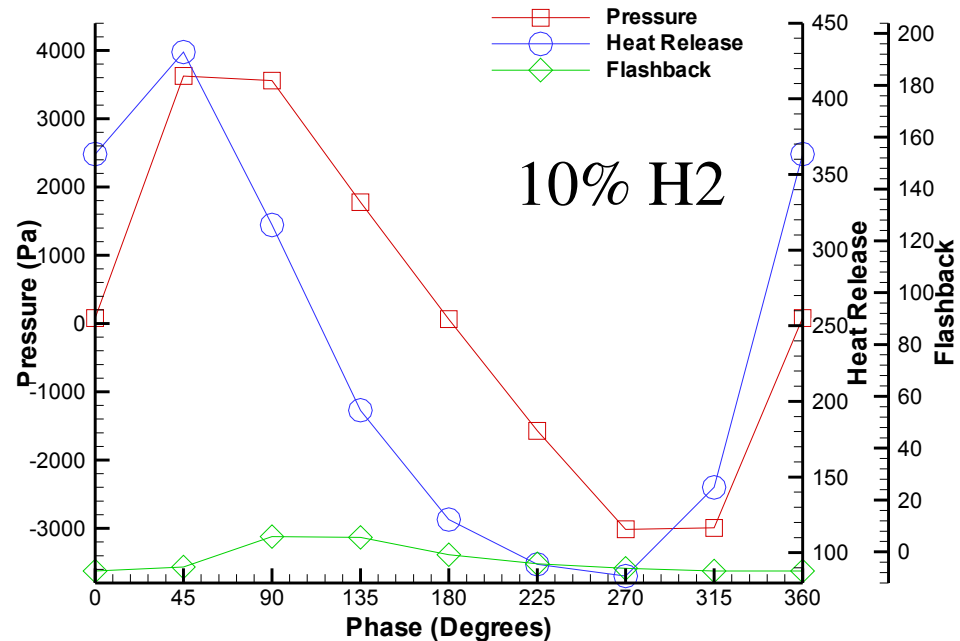
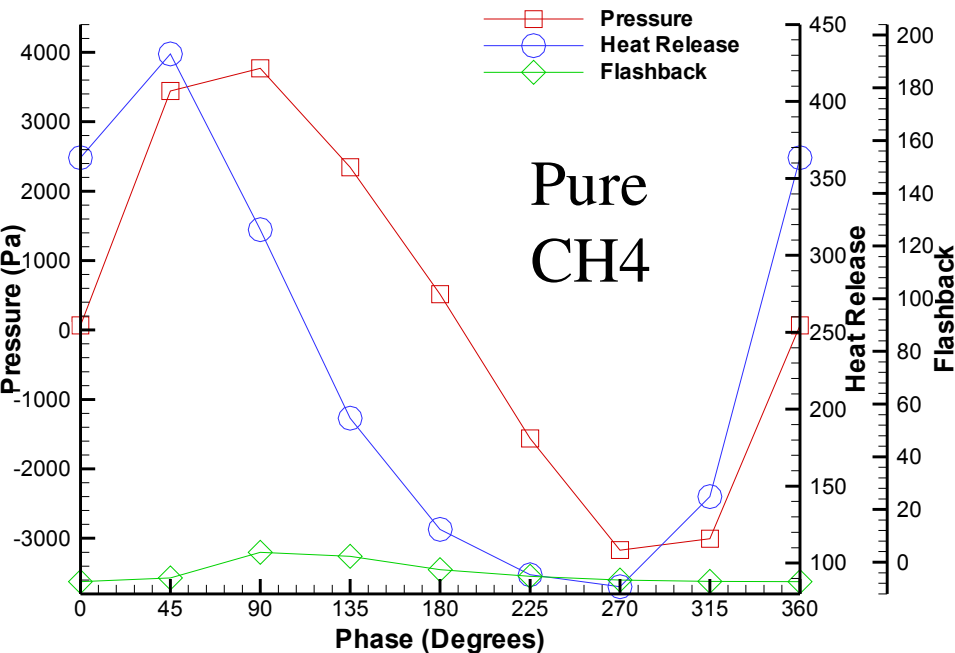


Relationship Between Blowout Equivalence Ratio and Flamelet Based Loading Parameter



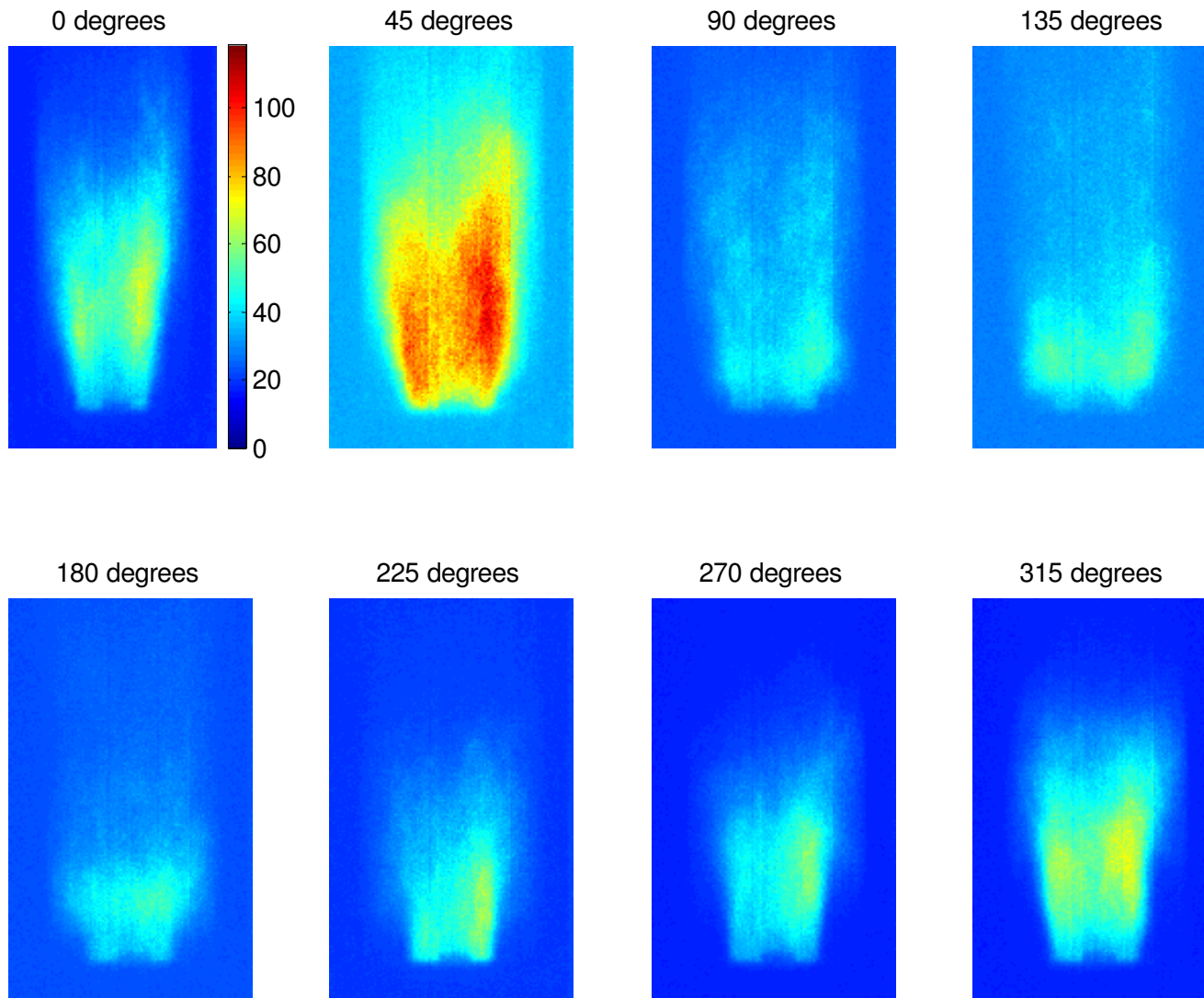
Pressure, Heat Release & Flashback Spectra





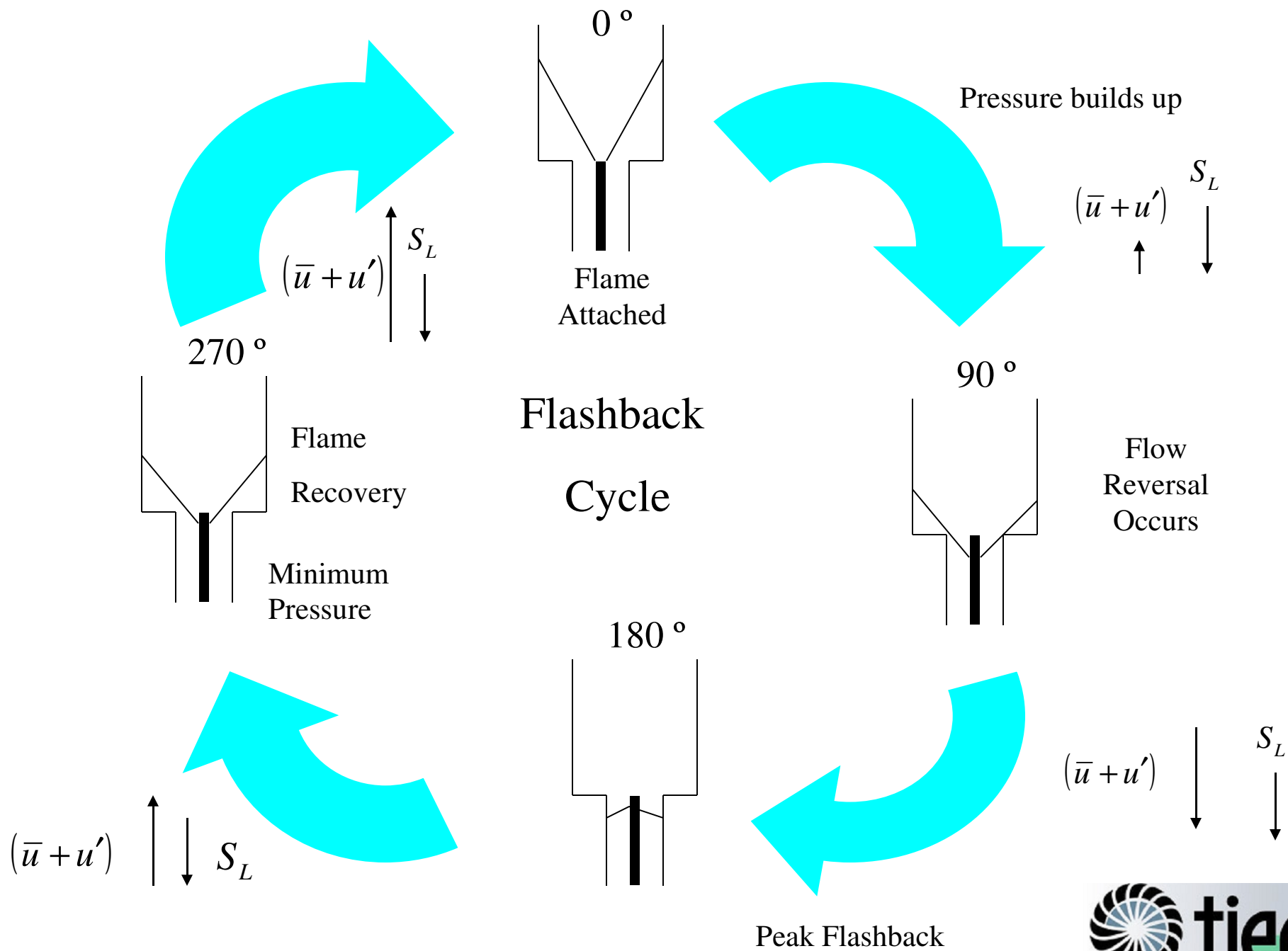
Phase Averaged Pressure, Heat Release & Flashback Signals
 $Q_{air} = 6.2 \text{ l/s}$, $\Phi = 0.7$





$Q_{air} = 5.7 \text{ l/s}$, $\Phi = 0.7$, 40% Hydrogen by Volume

Phase averaged CH radical images with Flashback

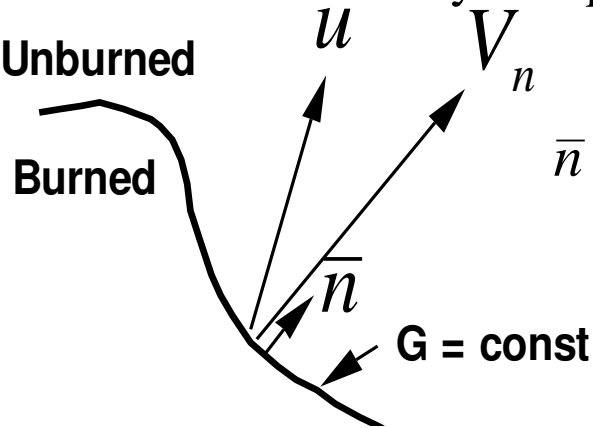


Flamelet Modeling

Many models based on “G-equation” (Kerstein et al. 1987)

Any curve of $G = C$ is a flame front ($G < C$ burned; $G > C$ unburned)

Flame advances by self-propagation and advances or retreats by convection

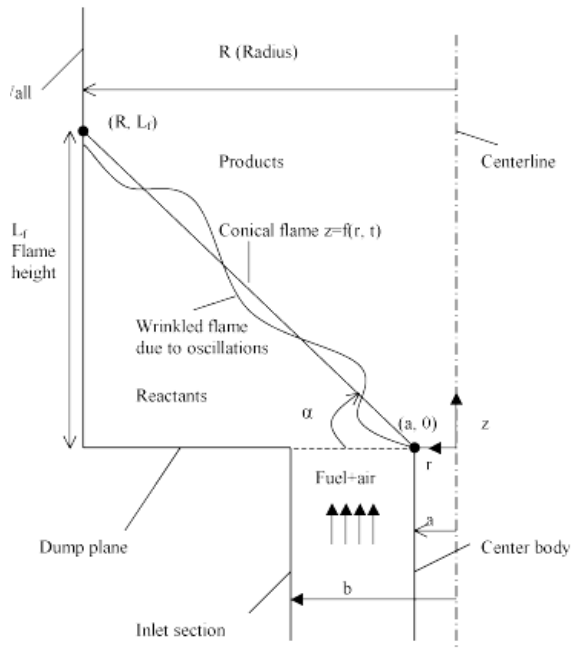


$$\bar{n} = \text{unit normal to front} = \frac{-\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \hat{i} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} \hat{j}\right)}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial y}\right)^2}} = \frac{-\nabla G}{|\nabla G|}$$

$$V_n = \text{flame speed in lab frame} = \frac{\partial G / \partial t}{|\nabla G|}$$

$$V_n - \bar{u} \cdot \bar{n} = \text{flame speed in lab frame} - \text{flow speed} = S_L$$

$$\frac{\partial G / \partial t}{|\nabla G|} + \frac{\bar{u} \cdot \nabla G}{|\nabla G|} = S_L \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\partial G}{\partial t} + \bar{u} \cdot \nabla G = S_L |\nabla G|$$



Combustor Acoustics

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial t^2} + c^2 \nabla^2 P = (\gamma - 1) \frac{\partial q'}{\partial t}$$

Acoustic field inside the gas turbine combustor can be assumed to be one-dimensional (i.e. wavelength of acoustic waves much larger than combustor diameter)

$$\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial t^2} + c^2 \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x^2} = (\gamma - 1) \frac{\partial q'}{\partial t}$$

$u'(x, t)|_{x=0} = 0$ Boundary condition at the closed inlet. Acoustic velocity is zero since particles adjacent to a wall cannot move

$P'(x, t)|_{x=L} = 0$ Boundary condition at the open outlet. Particles are free to move (i.e. zero acoustic pressure, maximum velocity)

$$P = \bar{P} \eta(t) \Psi(x)$$

$$u = \eta(t) \Psi'(x) k^{-2}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0} = 0 \quad \text{Inlet} \quad \psi|_{x=L} = 0 \quad \text{Outlet}$$

$$\ddot{\eta} + \omega^2 \eta = \frac{(\gamma - 1)}{\bar{P}} E^{-1} \psi(x_f) \frac{dq'}{dt} \quad \text{Governing oscillator equation} \quad E = \int_0^L \psi^2(x) dx$$



A sudden jump occurs in properties before and after the flame such that,

$$T(x) = \begin{cases} T_{in} & x < x_f \\ T_{ad} & x > x_f \end{cases}$$

$$c(x) = \begin{cases} c_u & x < x_f \\ c_d & x > x_f \end{cases}$$

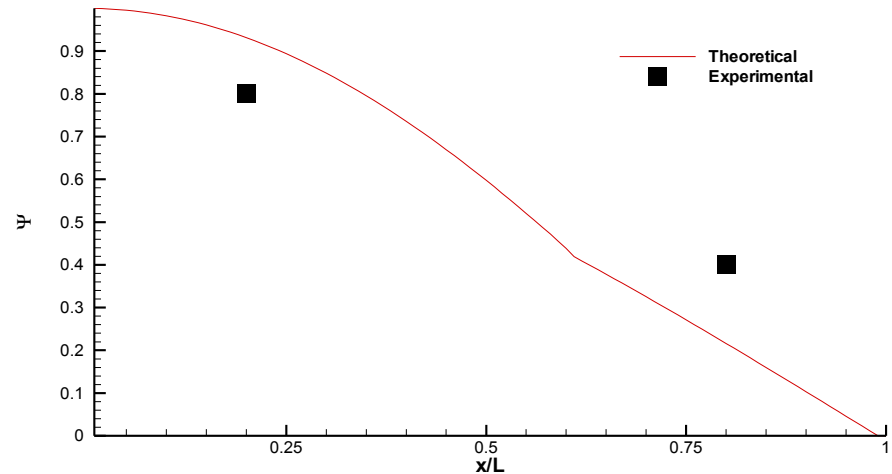
Associated change in the speed of sound

Therefore while solving for the mode shape one must consider the matching condition the interface

$$\psi(x_f^+) = \psi(x_f^-)$$

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} \cos\left(\frac{\omega x}{c_u}\right) & x \leq x_f \\ \frac{\cos(\alpha)}{\sin(\beta)} \sin\left(\frac{\omega(L-x)}{c_d}\right) & x > x_f \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha = \omega x_f / c_u \quad \beta = \omega (L - x_f) / c_d$$



Acoustic Mode Shape Along the Length of the Combustor

Solve for frequency ω from the roots of,

$$\tan \alpha \tan \beta = (\rho_u c_u) / (\rho_d c_d)$$



Limit cycle oscillations

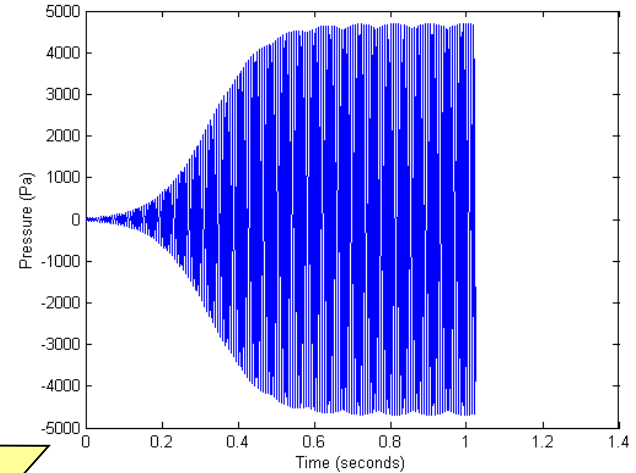
Linear Combustor Acoustics

η

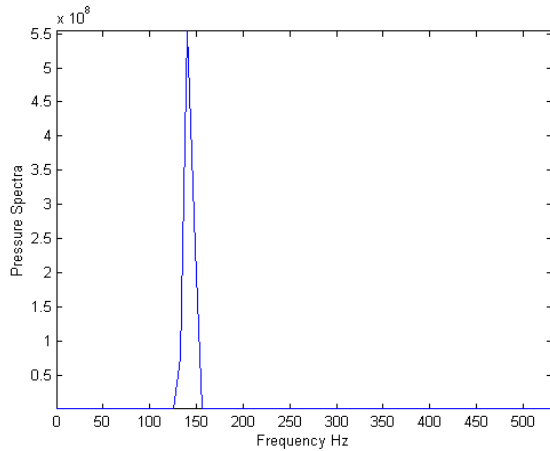
Thermo-Acoustic Feedback Loop

Non-Linear Heat Release Dynamics

\dot{q}'



Development of Limit Cycle Pressure Oscillations from an Arbitrary Initial Condition ($\phi=1.0$, $Q=540$ lt/min at $x/L=0.85$)



Corresponding Pressure Spectrum

Heat Release Dynamics

In order to close the thermo-acoustic feedback loop one needs to specify the heat release dynamics

Linear heat release model (Annaswamy et. al., 2002) derived from linearizing a well-stirred reactor model for the flame front with single step chemical kinetics

$$\dot{q}'(s) = \frac{\beta}{s + \alpha} \dot{m}'(s) \quad \text{Response of heat release fluctuations to mass flow rate perturbations (due to velocity fluctuations)}$$

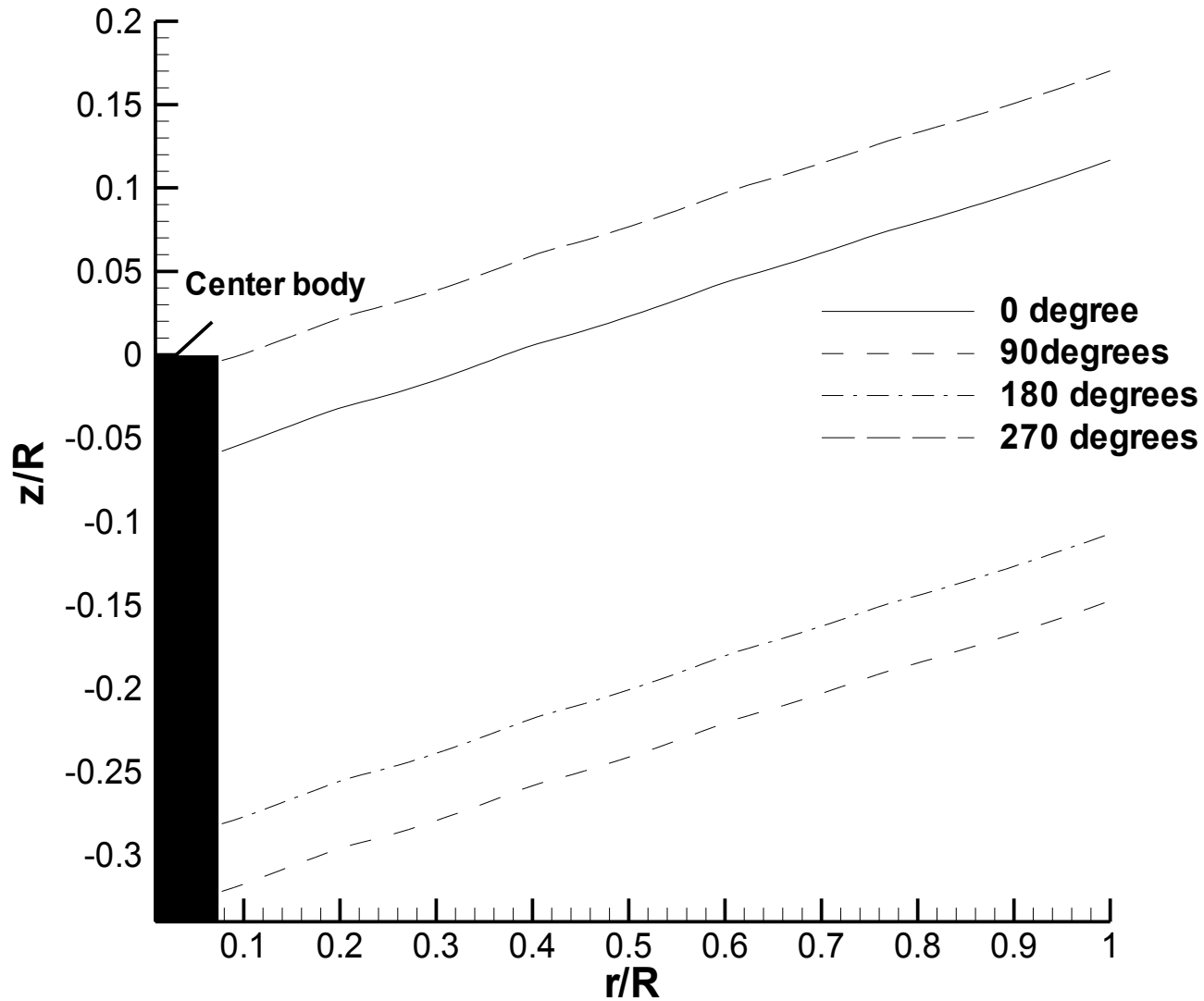
This linear model predicts linear stability characteristics of the flame but will not yield in a non-linear limit cycle. Instead for unstable conditions system output grows to infinity without an upper bound.

However, it is experimentally observed that heat release saturates as the amplitude of input grows. One can incorporate that non-linear saturation effect as follows,

$$\dot{q}'(s) = \frac{\beta}{s + \alpha} \dot{m}'(s) \left(1 - \left| \frac{\dot{m}'(s)}{\dot{m}} \right| \right) \quad \text{Non-linear response of heat release fluctuations to mass flow rate perturbations}$$

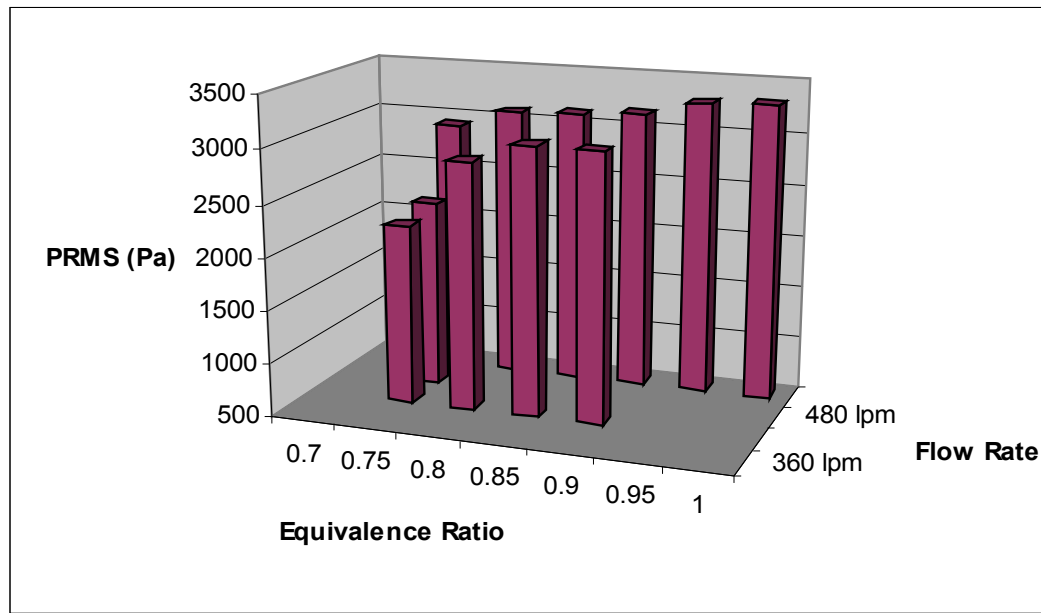
The amount of heat release must be bounded by the amount of fuel available to be burnt. Heat release saturation occurs due to this fuel consumption effect





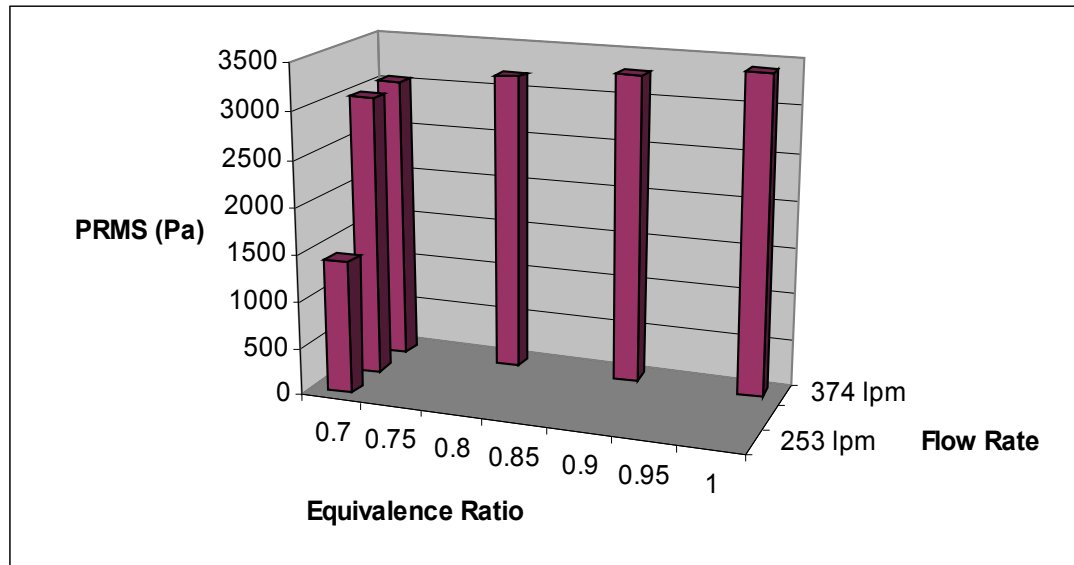
Flame Front Movement with Respect to Thermo-acoustic Instability Cycle
 Position of the Flame front Phase Locked with Pressure





RMS Amplitude of Limit Cycle Pressure Fluctuations

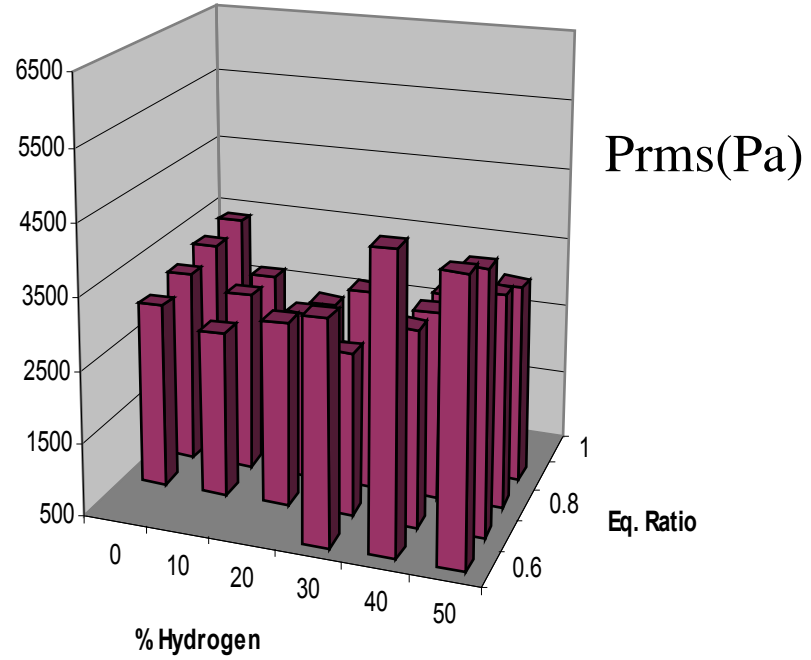
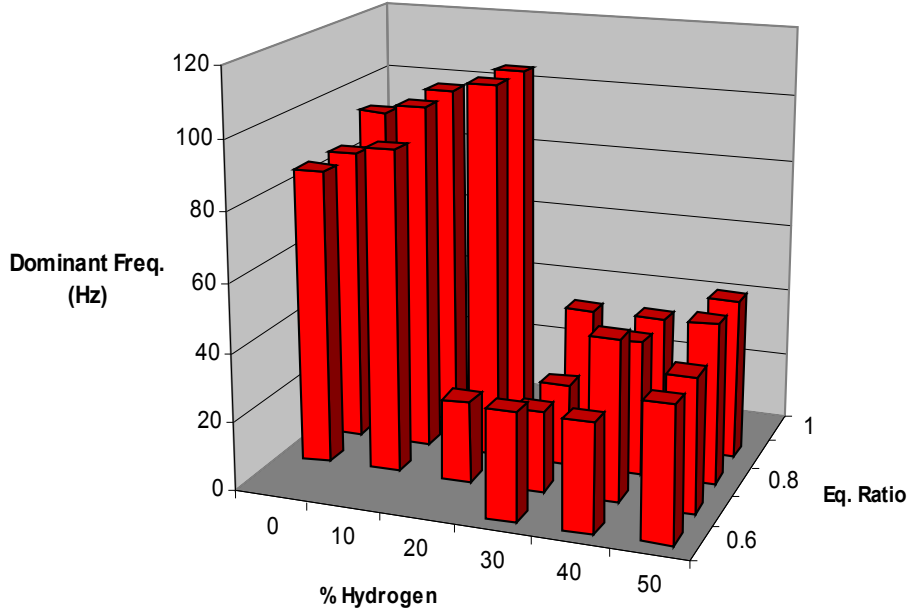
Obtained From Simulations as a Function of Air Flow Rate and Equivalence Ratio (Pure Methane, $x/L=0.80$)



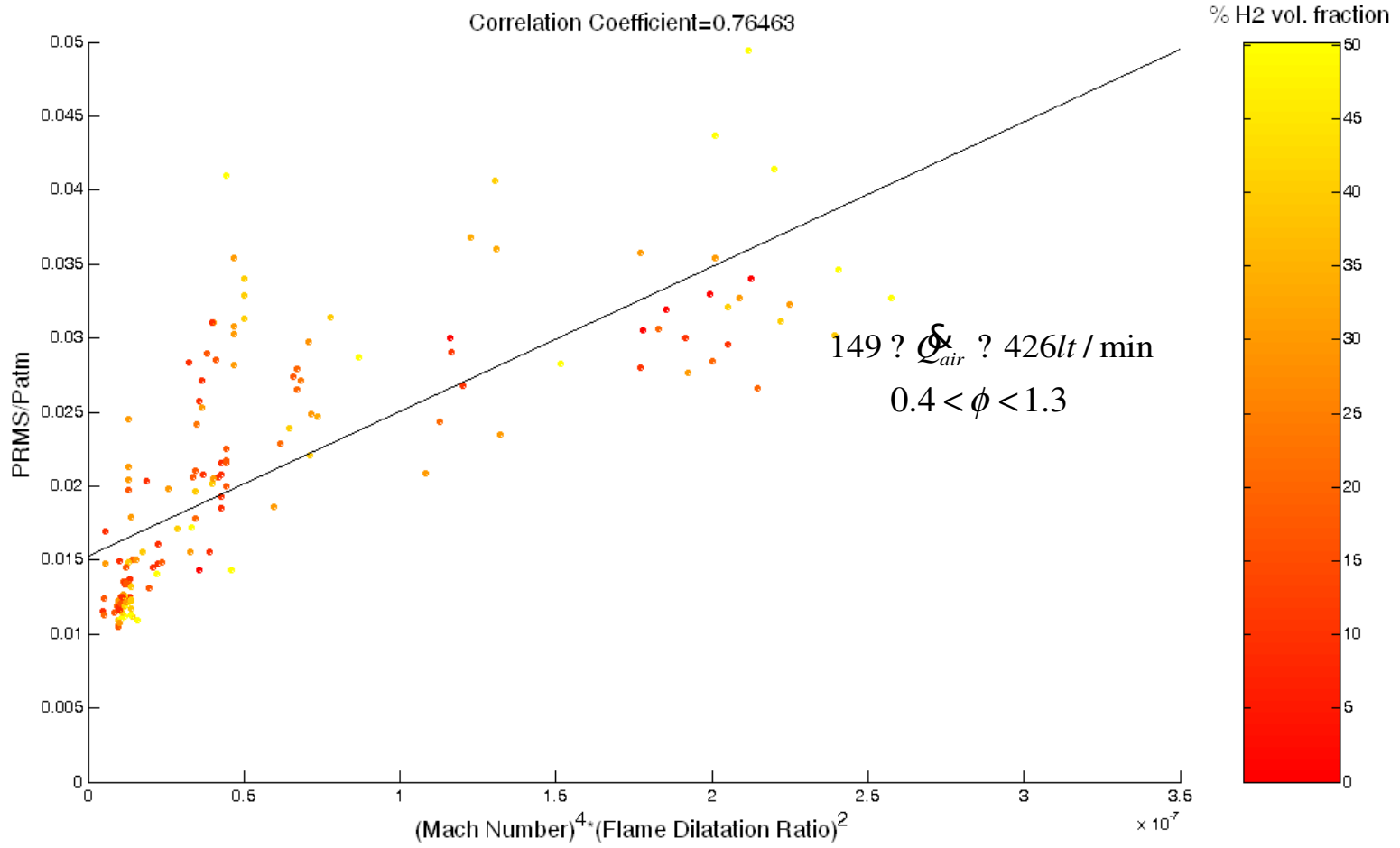
RMS Amplitude of Limit Cycle Pressure Fluctuations

Obtained From Experiments as a Function of Air Flow Rate and Equivalence Ratio (Pure Methane, $x/L=$



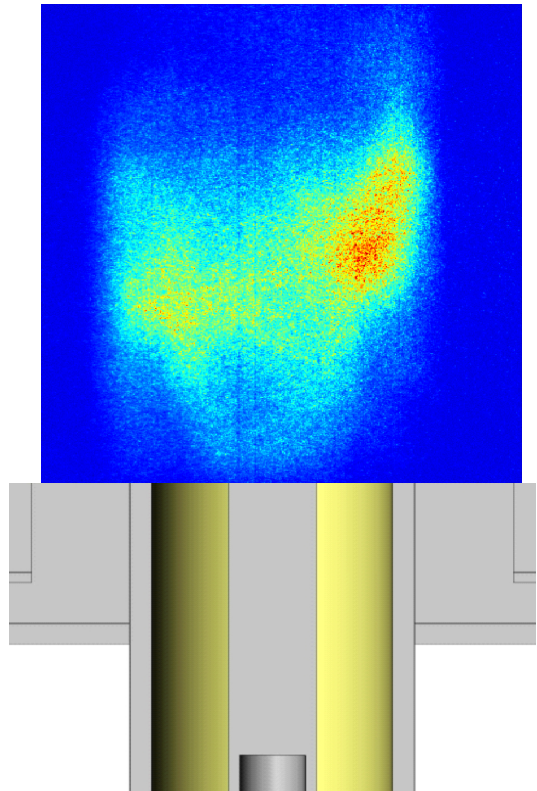


Effect of Hydrogen Volume Fraction and Equivalence Ratio on Dominant Frequency and RMS Pressure Level at a Fixed Air Flow Rate $Q_{air}=6.2$ l/s

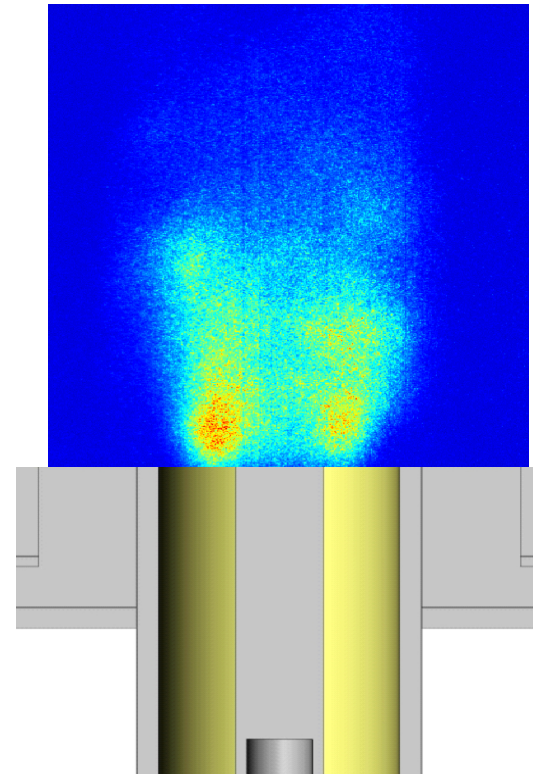


Scaling of RMS Pressure Level



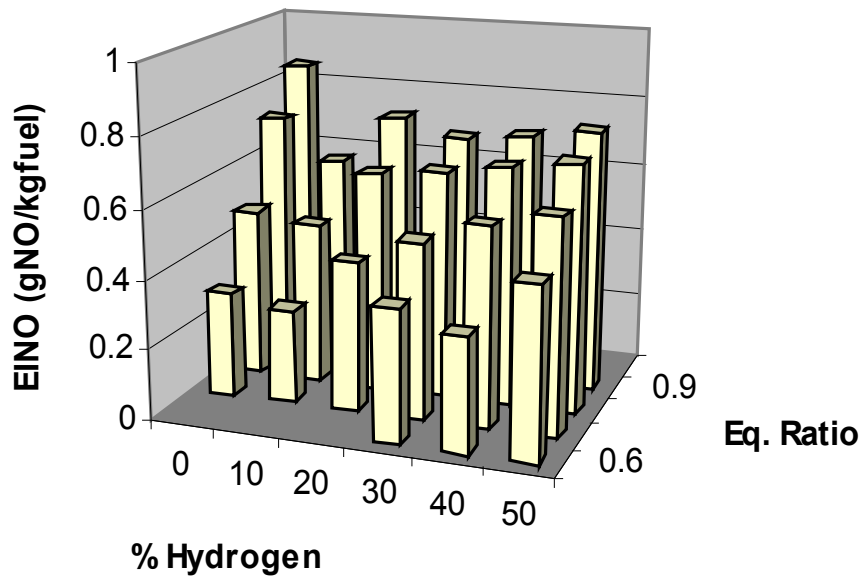


Pure Methane

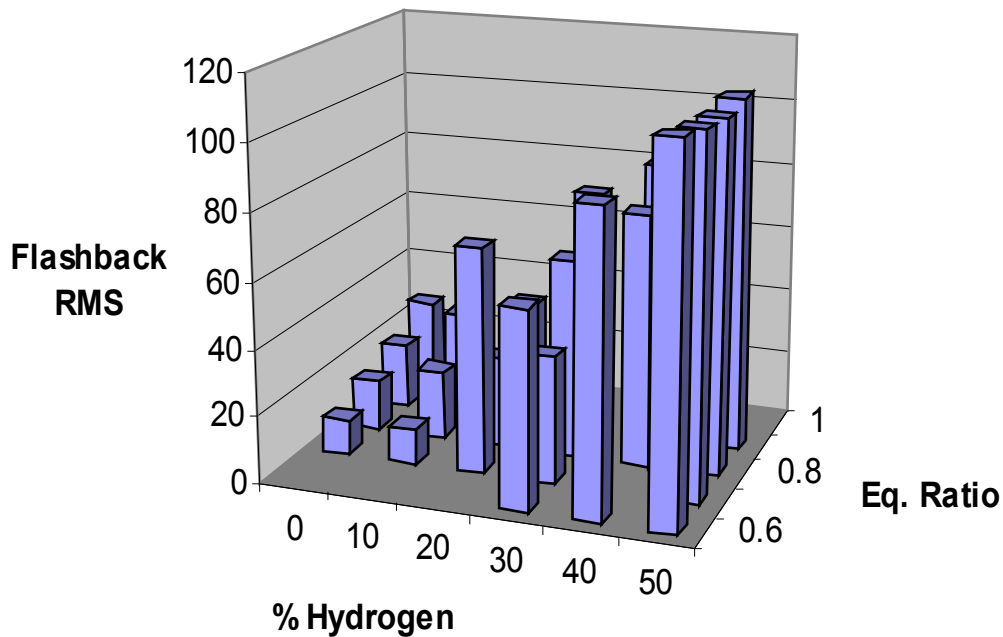


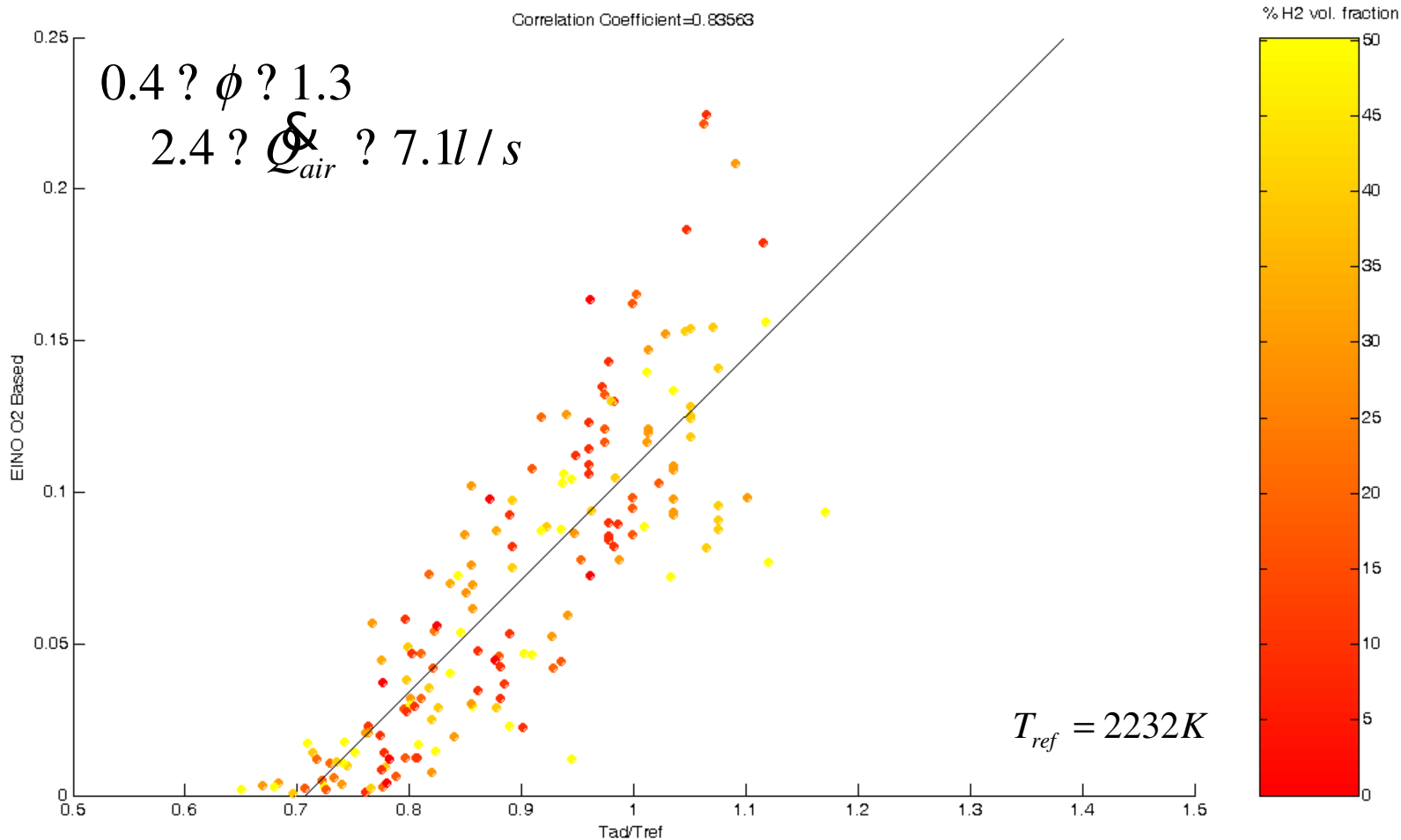
50% H₂ by volume

**OH* Chemiluminescence Images Demonstrating Effect of Fuel Composition on the Distance to the Flame Center of Mass at a Fixed Flow Rate and Equivalence Ratio
($Q_{air}=6.2$ l/s, $\Phi=0.7$)**

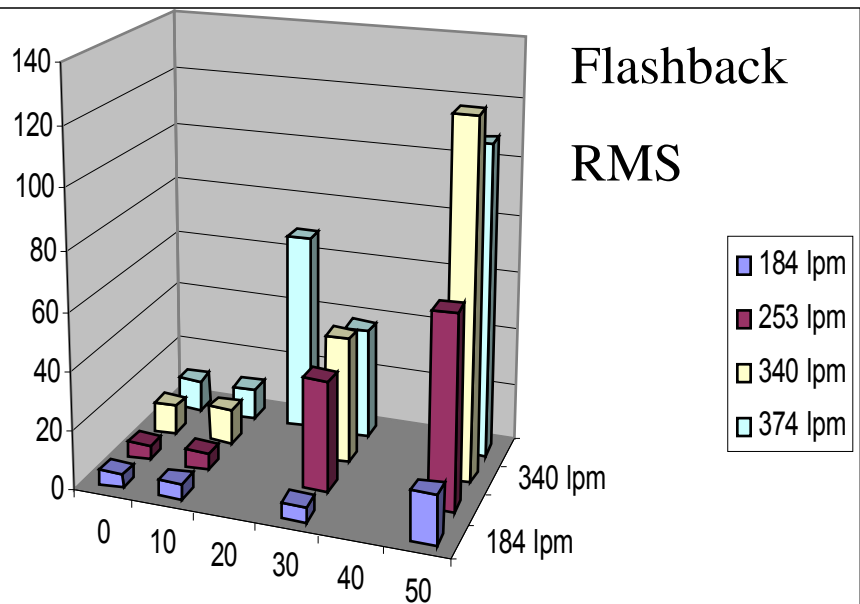
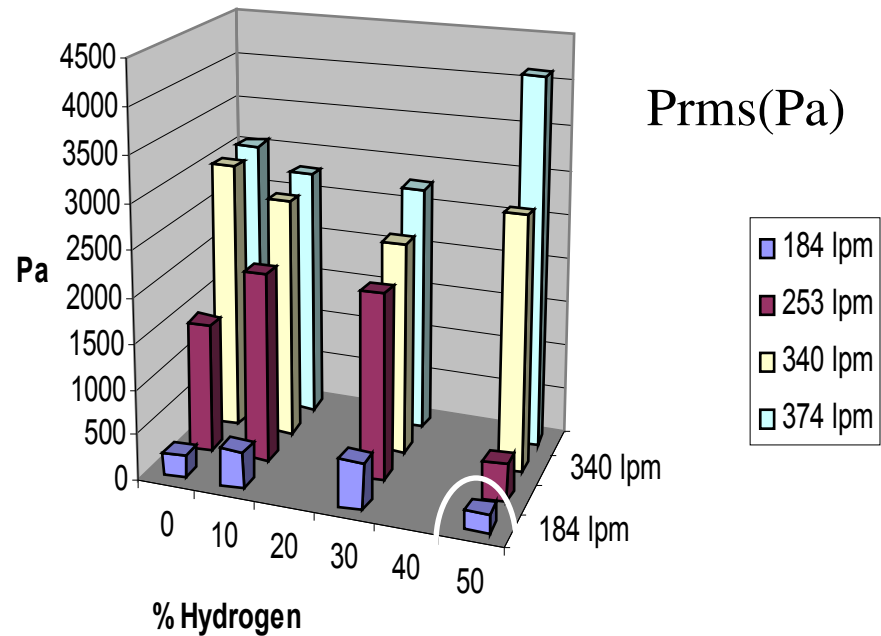
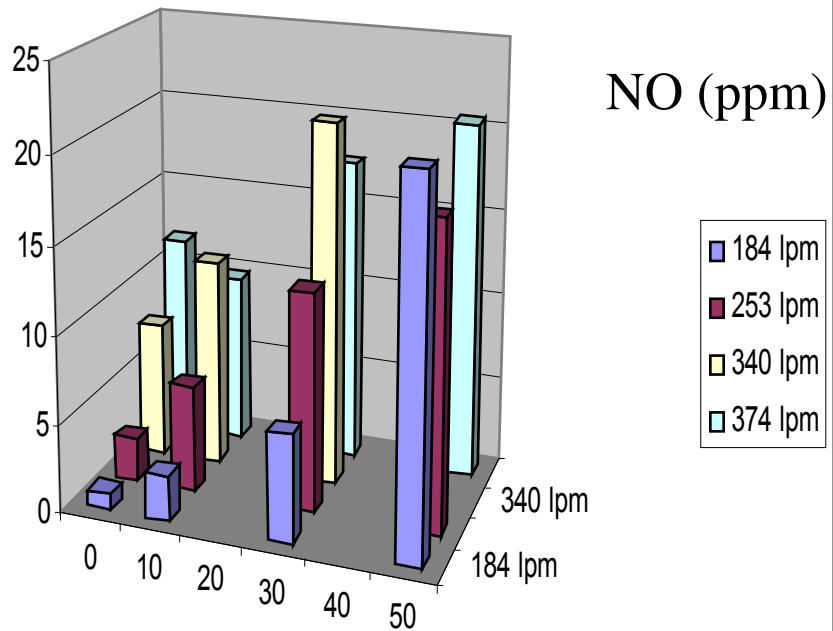


Effect of Hydrogen Volume Fraction and Equivalence Ratio on Dominant Frequency and RMS Pressure Level at a Fixed Air Flow Rate $Q_{air}=6.2$ l/s

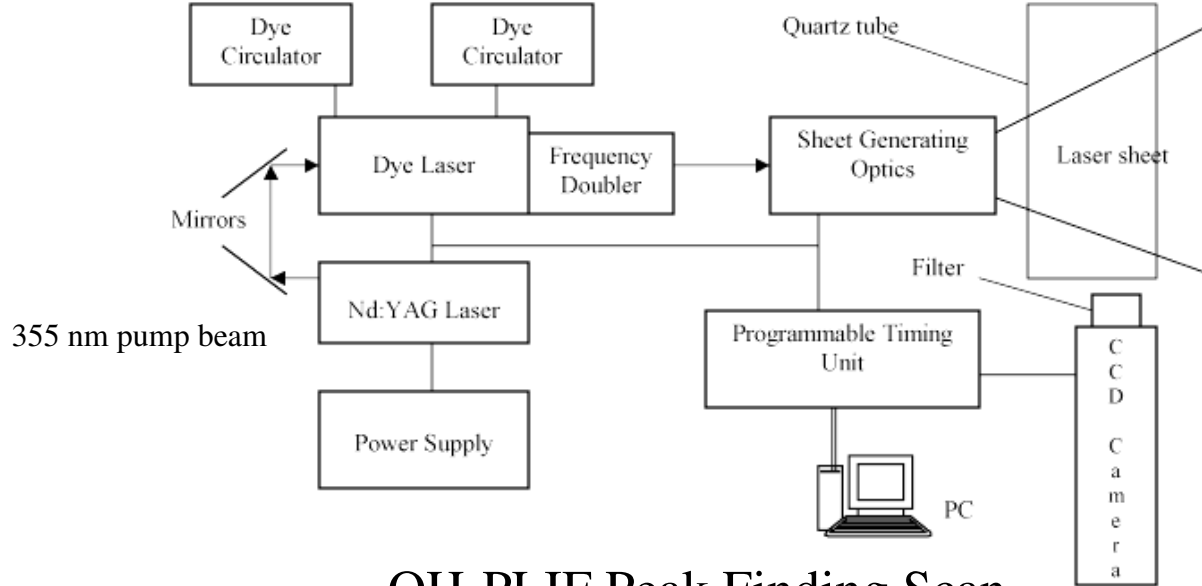




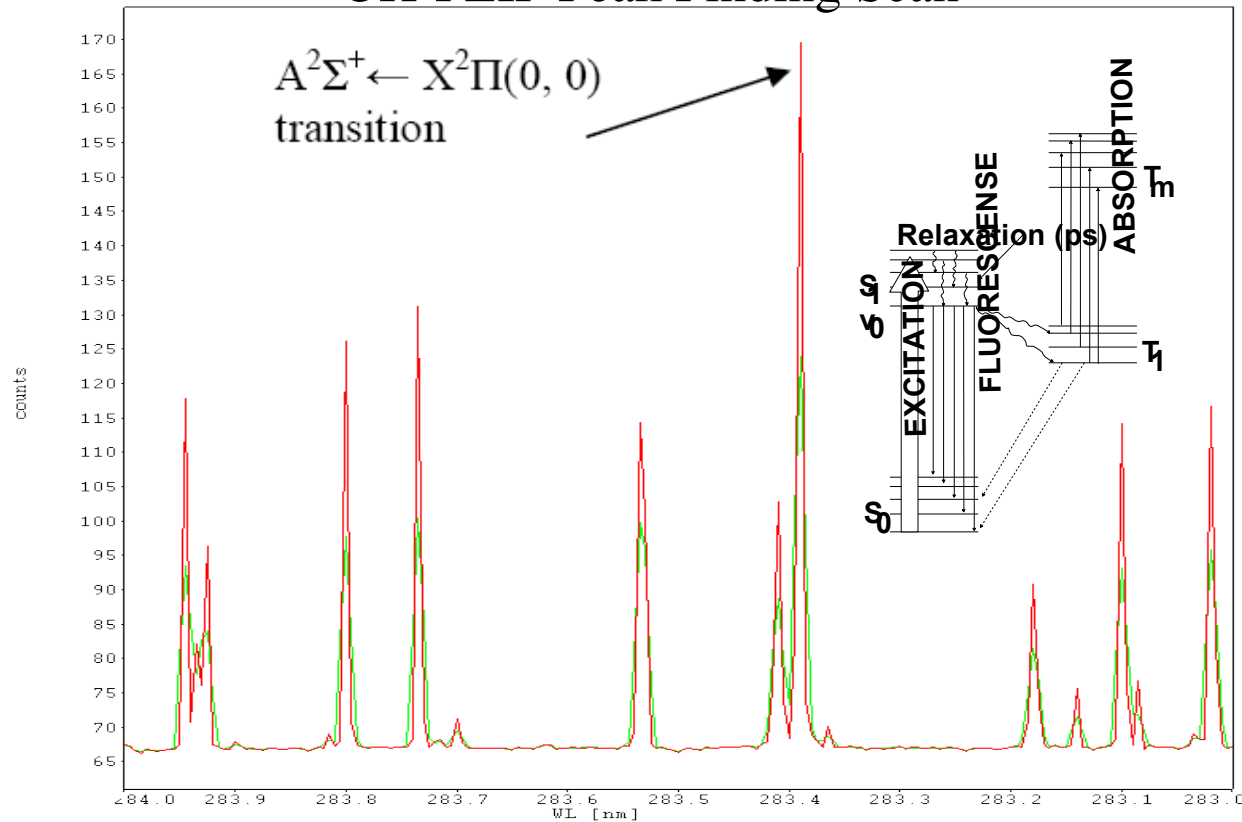
Relationship Between Adiabatic Flame Temperature and Emissions Index

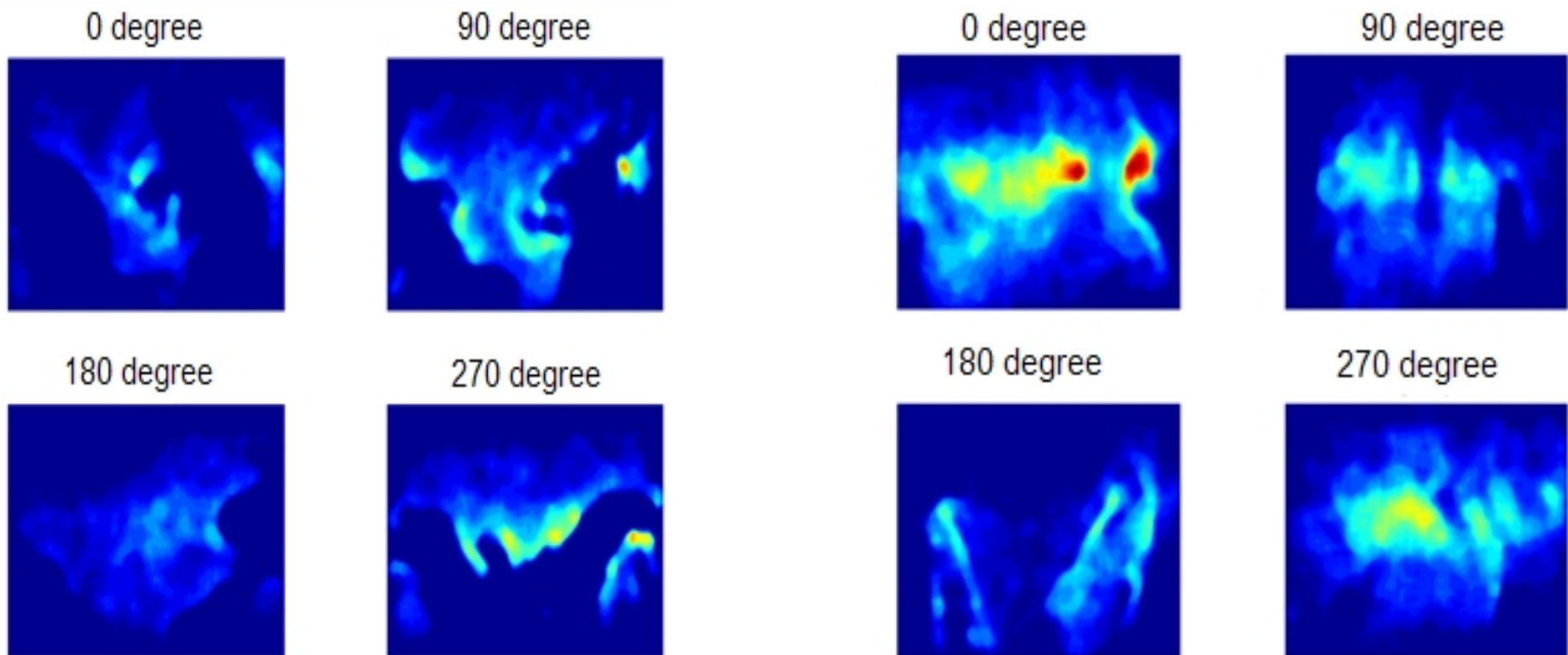


Effect of Flow Rate



OH-PLIF Peak Finding Scan

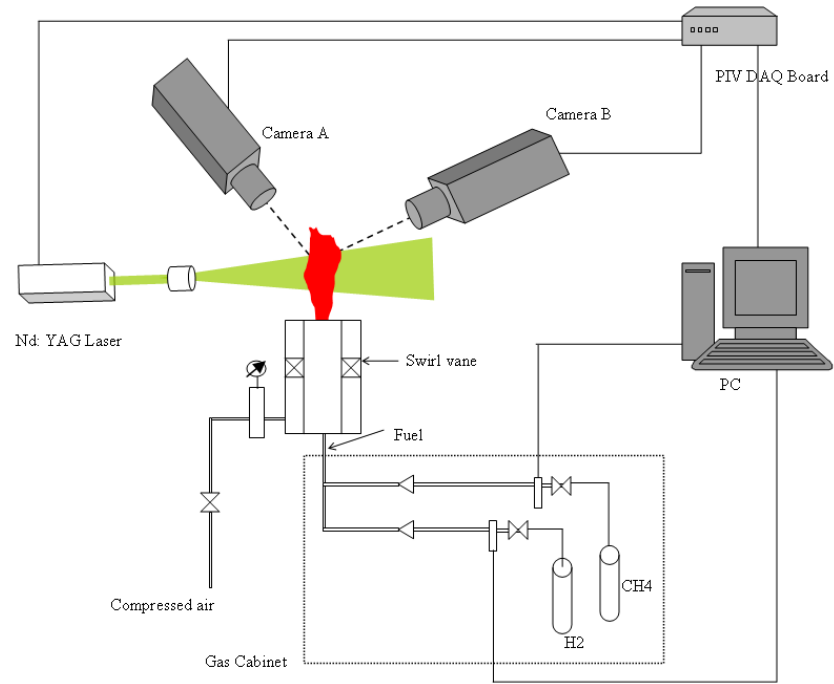




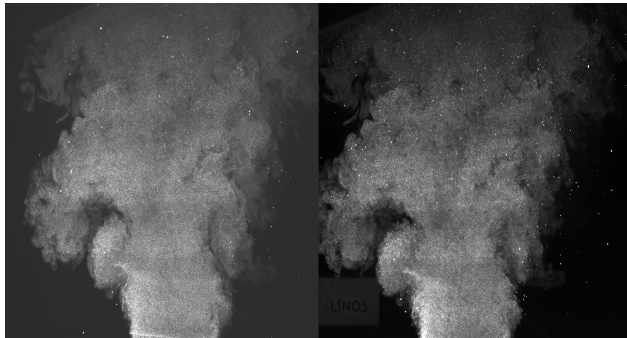
Pure Methane

50% H₂ by volume

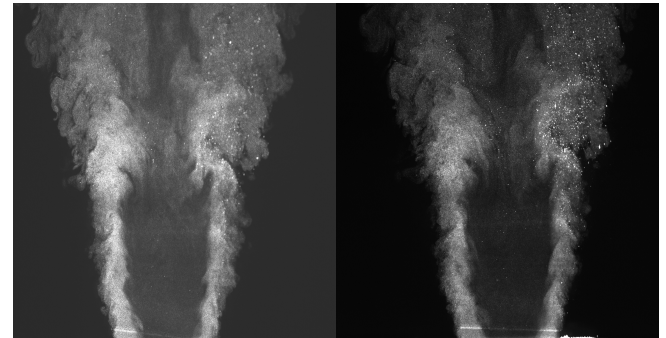
Phase Locked OH-PLIF Images
($Q_{\text{air}}=6.2$ l/s, $\phi=0.8$)



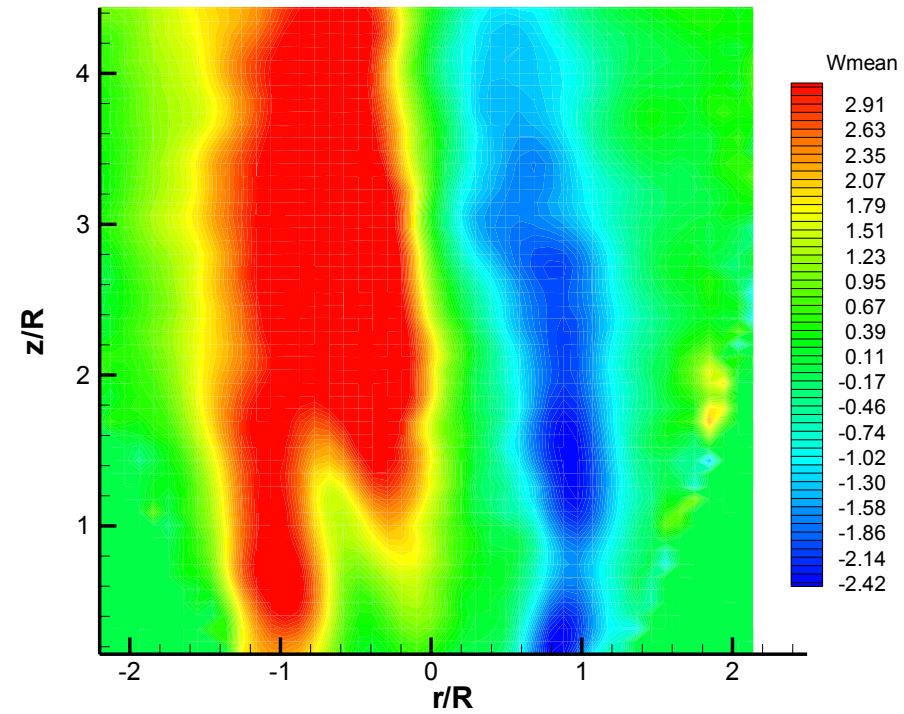
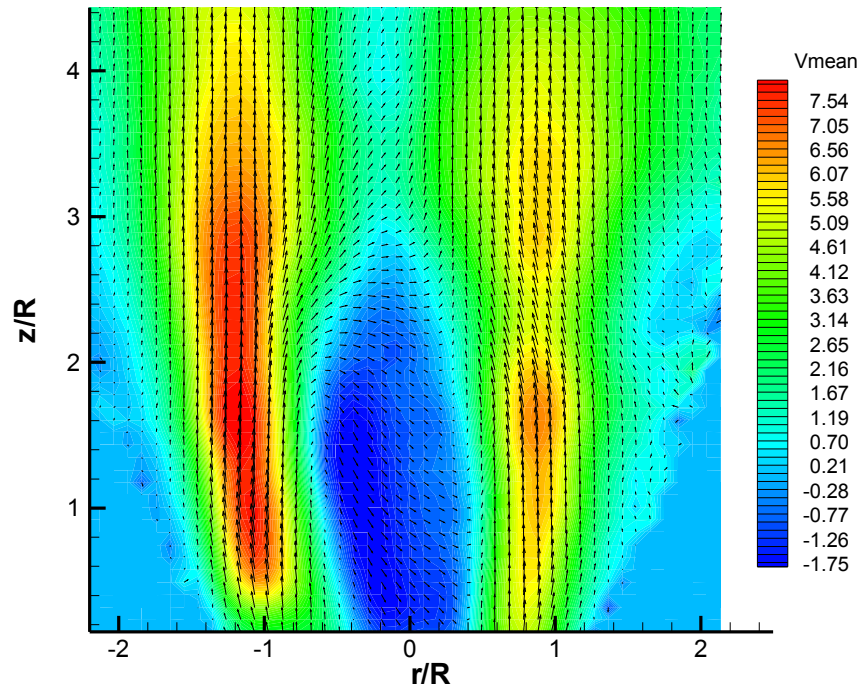
Experimental Setup for PIV



Cold Flow



Reacting Flow



In Plane Velocity Components

Swirl Velocity

$(Q_{\text{air}}=6.2 \text{ l/s}, \phi=0.7)$

CONCLUSIONS

- An experimental setup has been developed for studying synthesis gas combustion with a focus on hydrogen enrichment studies
- A mathematical model has been developed
- Hydrogen addition considerably extends lean flammability limits
- Very lean combustion enables near zero nitric oxide emissions
- Wobbe index (as often used with gaseous fuel mixtures) is not a good scaling parameter for hydrogen/methane mixtures
- Hydrogen rich mixtures pose a significant flame holding problem and can also induce a sudden change in the dominant thermo-acoustic mode
- Flashback is primarily triggered by thermo-acoustic instability
- Some passive strategies employed for flashback control (i.e. changes in injector & pre-mixer geometries) , however active control strategies may be employed as well
- Several blowout mechanisms have been examined

Questions?

