

# **Frontiers in Combustion Research, Sandia and Collaborators**

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*U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)*

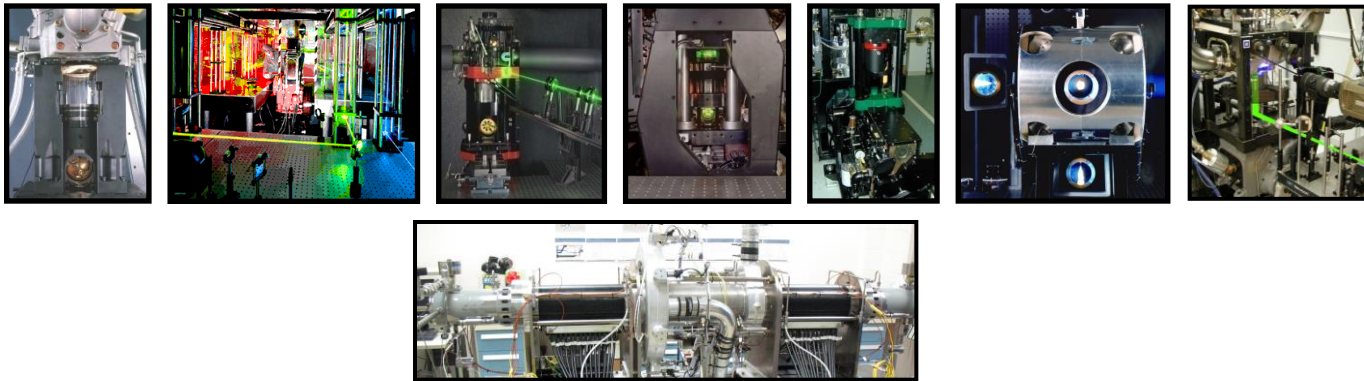
*Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program (EERE):*

## ***Engine Combustion Research Connects to Needs of Industry***

- Mission: Provide the combustion and emission science base needed by industry to develop high-efficiency, clean engines for future fuels.
- Integral part of DOE/industry advanced engine and fuels programs.
- Sponsor is DOE Office of Vehicle Technologies
- Strong collaborations with industry, universities, and other national labs.
- 25 staff, technologists and post docs; plus visitors

# *Working with industry to develop the science-base for next-generation engines for future fuels.*

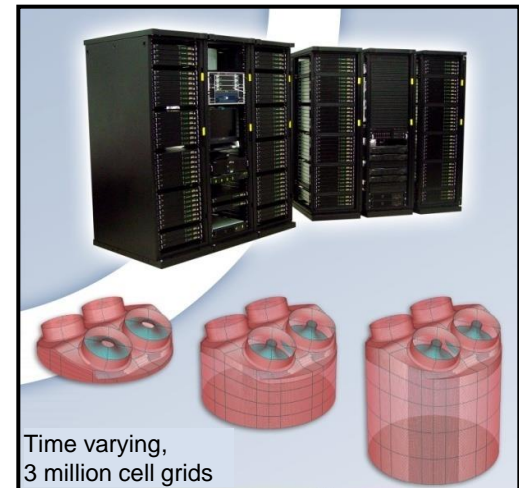
- Advanced combustion strategies for enabling high-efficiency engines
  - SI, Diesel, and Low-Temperature Combustion (HCCI, PCCI, ...)



- Future fuels
  - adv. Petroleum
  - bio-fuel
  - gas-to-liquid
  - oil sand and shale
  - natural gas & H<sub>2</sub>



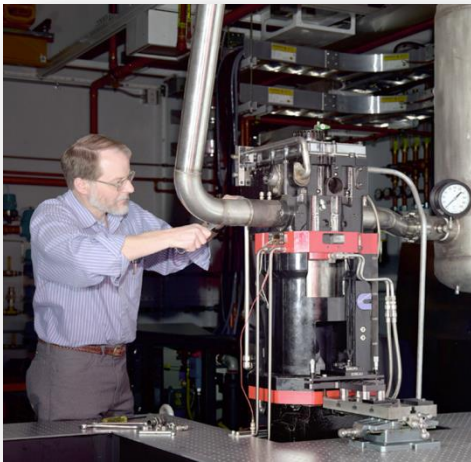
- Next generation computational tools
  - massively parallel machines



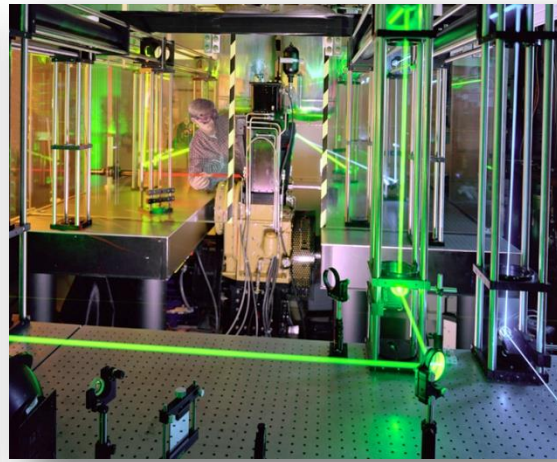




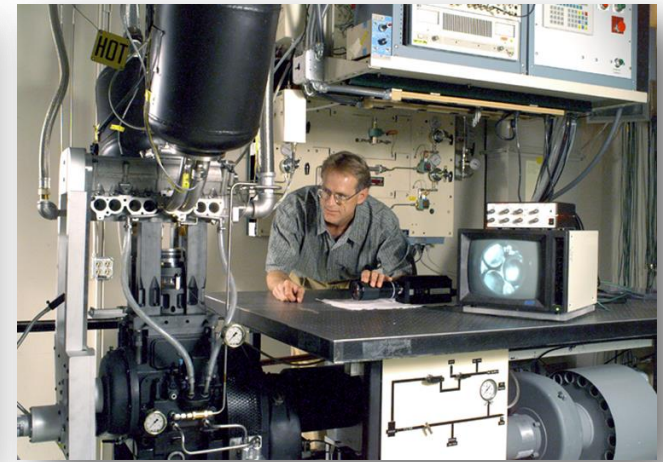
# ***Engines Research Focuses on Improving Efficiency, Reducing Emissions***



**Heavy-Duty Diesel Engines**

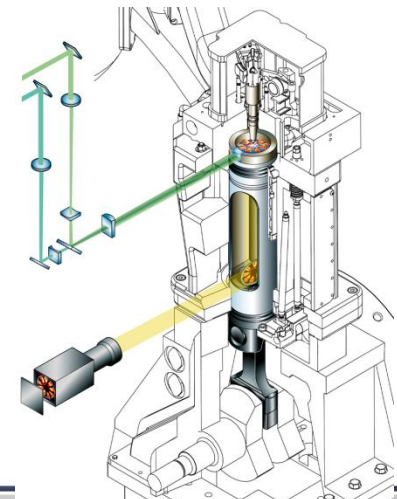


**Alternative Fuels**



**Gasoline Engines**

- Partnerships with industry characterize the program
- Laser-based optical diagnostics.
- Optically accessible, realistic engine conditions
- Simulation/modeling



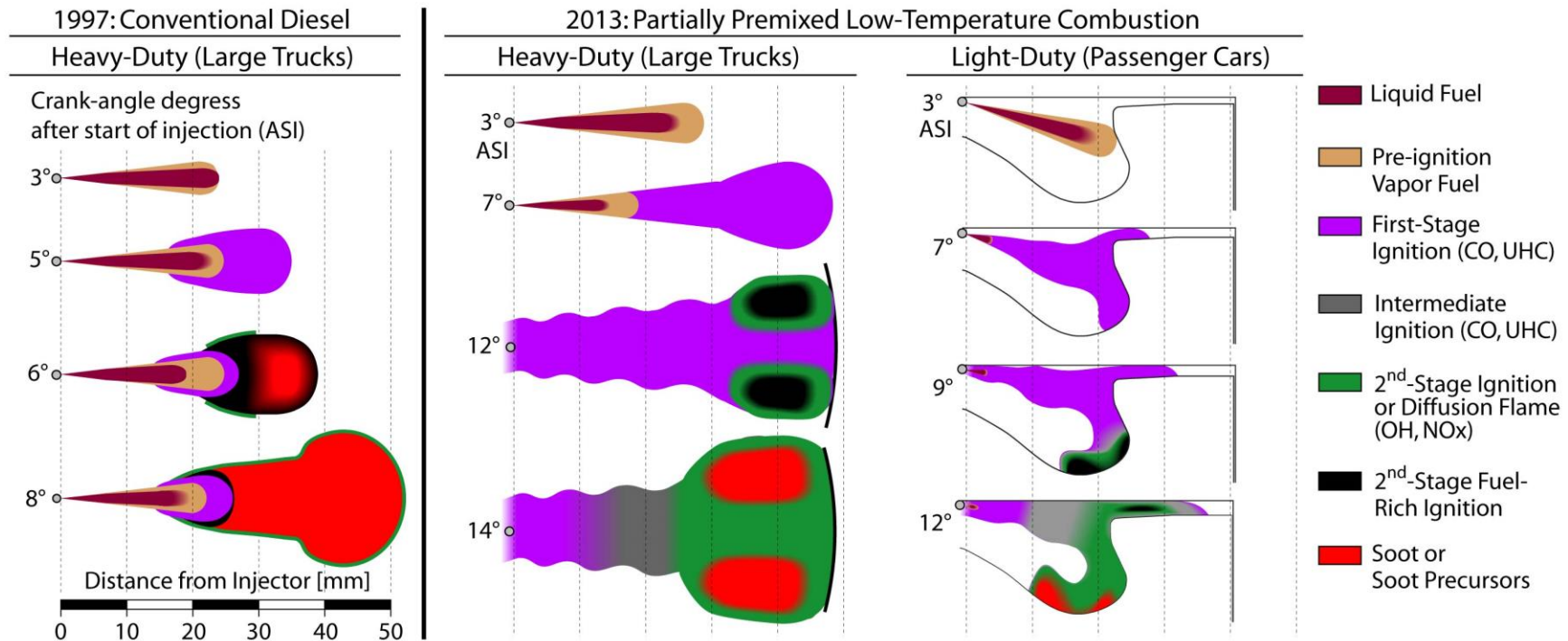
# Newly developed conceptual model for diesel LTC combustion describes in-cylinder processes (*SNL-Musculus*)

## Motivation:

- 1997: Conventional diesel conceptual model (left) is foundation of understanding for industry
- 2013: Need new conceptual model to aid development low-temperature combustion (LTC)

## Impact of new LTC conceptual model:

- Describes LTC operating condition effects on spray, mixing, combustion, efficiency, emissions
- Supported by years of optical data and simulations in heavy-duty (left) and light-duty (right)



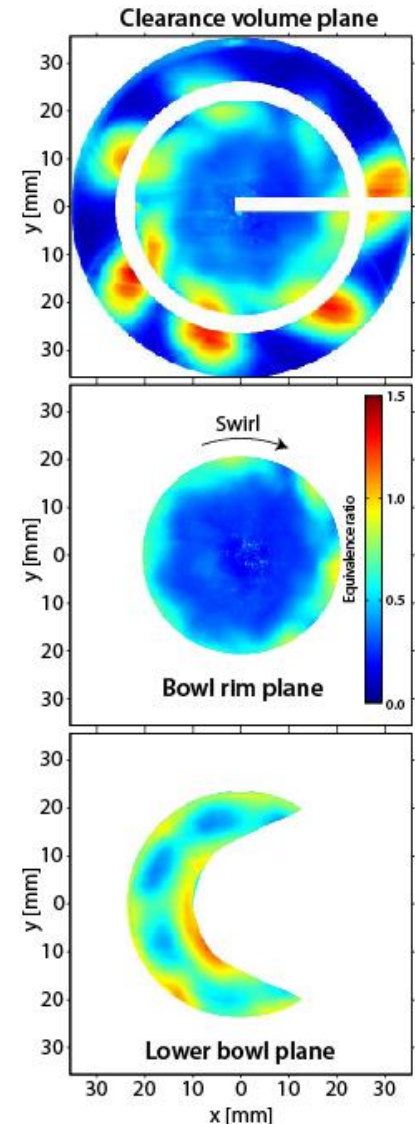
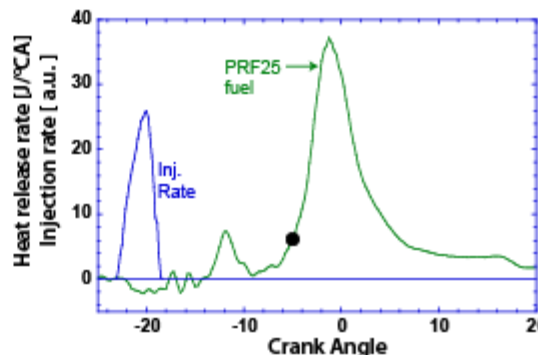
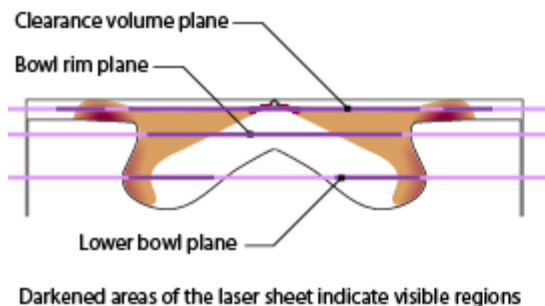
# Diesel LTC fuel-air distribution measurements clarify the mixing processes critical to operation (SNL-Miles)

## Motivation:

- Dominant sources of UHC and CO at light-load from LTC combustion include crevices and over-lean mixture formation
- First-of-kind, quantitative fuel-air distribution measurements in light-duty engines required to understand and verify UHC and CO sources, and provide model validation data for challenging swirl and wall interaction conditions

## Results on sources of UHV and CO:

- Substantial over-lean mixture exists in the upper-central regions of the bowl and clearance volume -
- Despite MBT timing, fuel penetrates to near the cylinder walls and will be forced into the ring-land crevice during high temperature heat release
- Fuel-rich mixtures persist within the squish volume with  $\langle \phi \rangle < 2$







# Planar-imaging thermometry shows the source of thermal stratification critical to HCCI operation (SNL-Dec)

## Motivation:

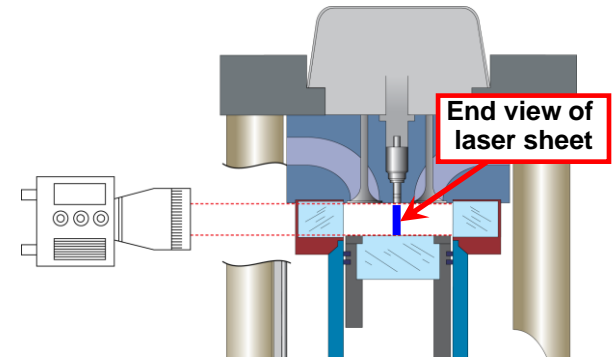
- Natural thermal stratification (TS) in an HCCI engine enables much higher loads
- Increasing TS has a high potential to extend the high-load limit and/or increase efficiency.
- An understanding of TS is required to realize potential

## Method:

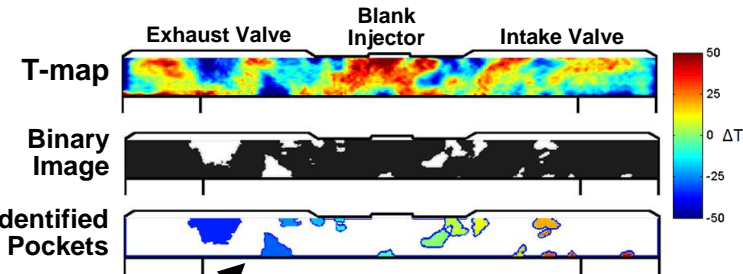
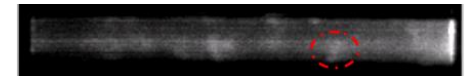
- Establish side-view technique to obtain thermal images of bulk gas & boundary layer simultaneously.

## Accomplishments:

- TS occurs as cold regions dispersed intermittently throughout the otherwise-hot bulk-gas.
  - Develops progressively during latter part of compression stroke.
- TS is turbulent in nature  $\Rightarrow$  no evidence of flows transporting cold wall-gas into central region.
- TS results from turbulent structures of cold gas extending from the walls into the bulk gas.
- Amount of TS varies with operating conditions.

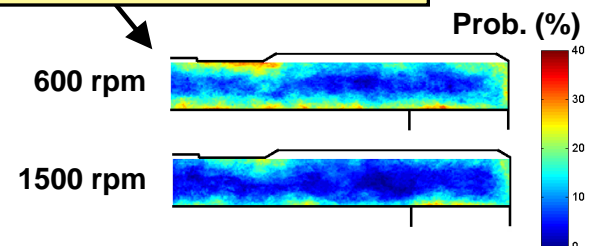


Raw Image



Almost all cold “pockets” are turbulent structures attached to firedeck or piston top.

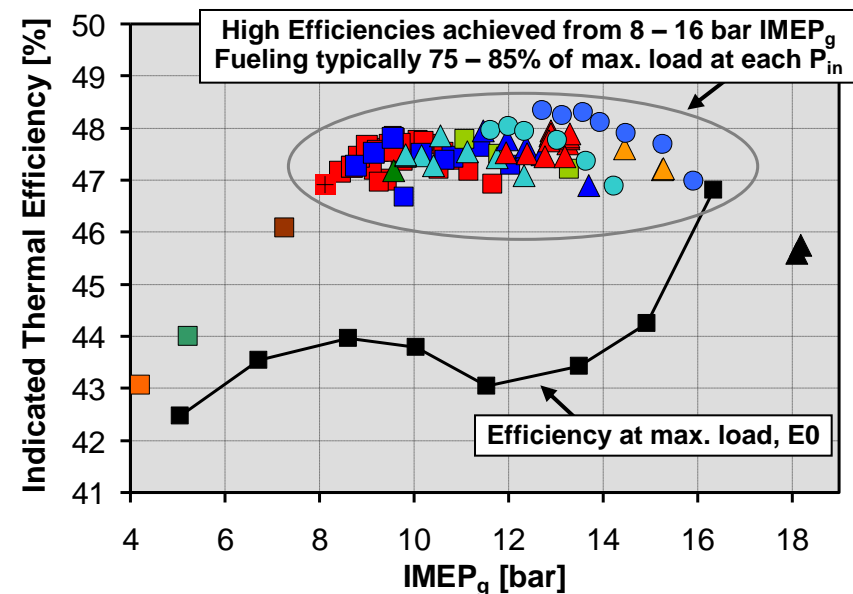
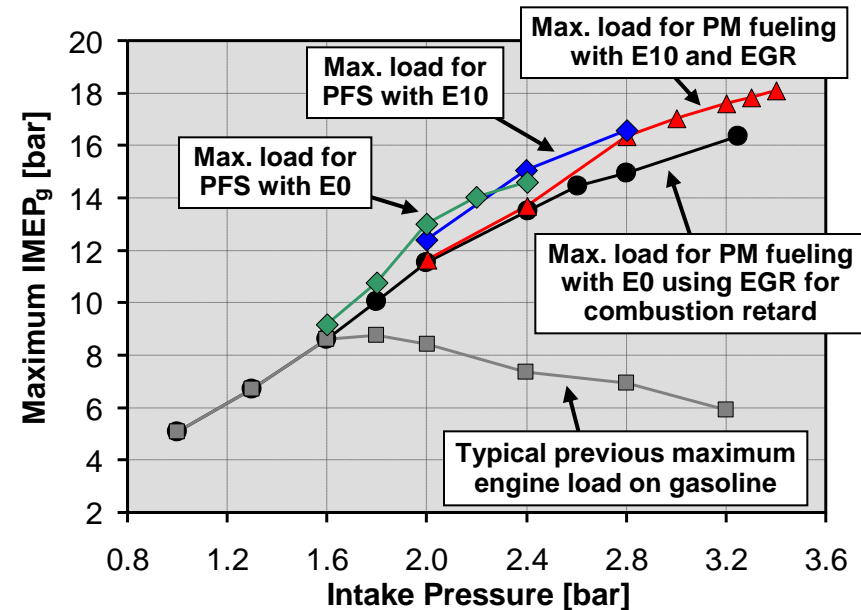
Probability of cold structures increases with decreased speed.





# Boosting and fuel stratification using E10 substantially increase HCCI load range and efficiency (SNL-Dec)

- **Previously:** Improved understanding of boosted HCCI enabled higher loads on conventional 87-octane gasoline (E0).
  - **Load limit = 16 bar IMEP<sub>g</sub>**, premixed (PM)
- **E10:** Blend 10% ethanol with gasoline.
  - Reduces EGR requirement with boost.
  - More air in cylinder allows higher fueling.
  - **Load limit = 18 bar IMEP<sub>g</sub>**, premixed
- **Partial Fuel Stratification (PFS)**
  - Gasoline (E10) becomes  $\phi$ -sensitive with boost allowing PFS to reduce heat release rate.
  - Provides higher loads without knock at lower boost pressure.
- **Thermal efficiency of 47 – 48% over 8 to 16 bar IMEP<sub>g</sub> range.**

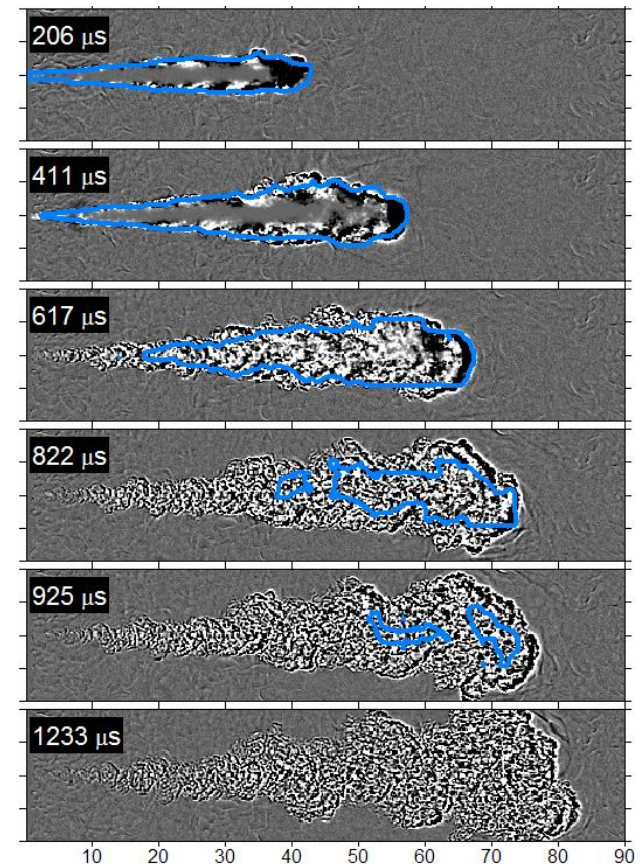




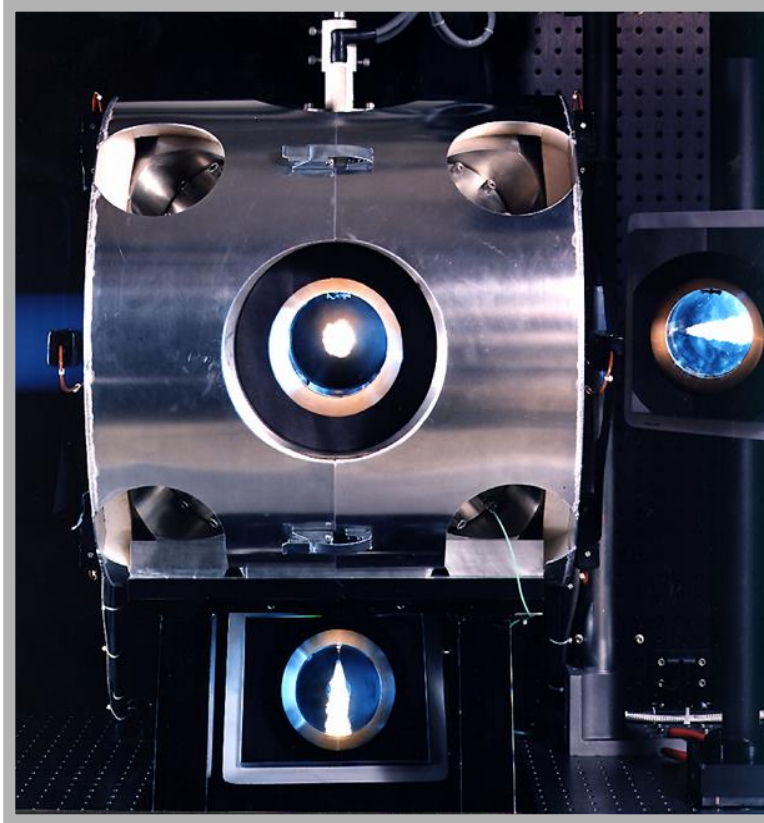
# The role of spray combustion research for high-efficiency engines.

- Future high-efficiency engines use direct injection.
  - Diesel, gasoline direct injection, partially-premixed compression ignition
- Complex interactions between sprays, mixing, and chemistry.
  - Two-phase system, including multiple injections
  - Spray-induced mixture preparation
  - Complicated internal flows within injectors
- Optimum engine designs discovered only when spray modeling becomes predictive.
  - Predictive modeling shortens development time and lowers development cost.
  - Makes efficient engines more affordable.
- Relevant to EERE Advanced Combustion Engine research and development goals.

Schlieren: vapor boundary  
 BLUE: liquid boundary



## Experimental approach utilizes well-controlled conditions in constant-volume chamber.



- Well-defined ambient conditions:
  - 300 to 1300 K
  - up to 350 bar
  - 0-21% O<sub>2</sub> (EGR)
- Injector
  - single- or multi-hole injectors
  - diesel or gasoline (cross-cut)
- Full optical access
  - 100 mm on a side
- Boundary condition control needed for CFD model development and validation.
  - Better control than an engine.
  - Easier to grid.



# Objectives/Milestones

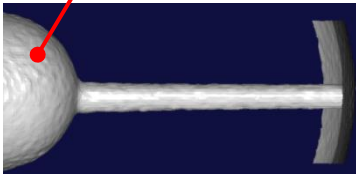
- Aid the development of computational models for engine design and optimization (ongoing).
  - Lead an experimental and modeling collaboration through the Engine Combustion Network with >100 participants (<http://www.sandia.gov/ECN>)
  - Target conditions specific to low-temperature diesel and DI gasoline.
    - ECN activities focus on quantification, standardization, leveraging, detailed analysis.
    - Provides a pathway from experimental results to more predictive CFD modeling.
    - Activities, progress, and future directions listed under ECN2 Workshop proceedings.
    - Represents major advances in terms of diagnostics, modeling tools, and so forth.
- (1) Expand datasets to a larger range of conditions for more extensive model evaluation, including
- (2) Apply quantitative soot diagnostics in optically thick diesel sprays, providing opportunity for needed improvement in PM predictions.
- (3) Evaluate liquid/vapor penetration and plume-plume interactions in DI gasoline sprays, forming unique model-target dataset.

# ECN collaborative research at specific target conditions



Injector

90° C, 1500 bar

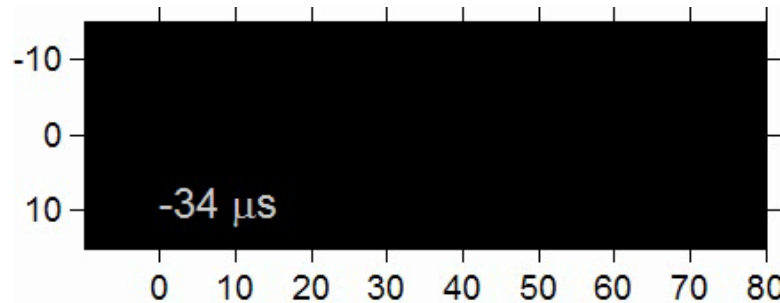


Internal nozzle geometry

Ambient

900 K, 60 bar

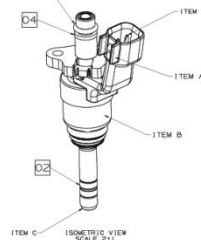
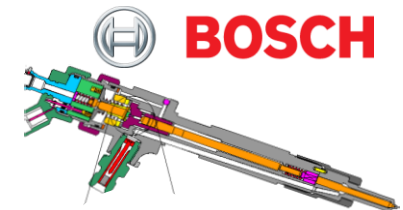
## Spray A



Other defined targets:

- Spray H (baseline n-heptane)
- Spray B (3-hole version of Spray A).
- Gasoline DI and engine flows.

- Opportunity for the greatest exchange and deepest collaboration.
  - Understanding facilities/boundary conditions.
  - Understanding diagnostics and quantification.
  - Standardize methodologies for post-processing.
- Leverages the development of quantitative, complete datasets.
  - Unique diagnostics to build upon past understanding.
  - Moves from “qualitative” to “quantitative”.
  - Sharing results/meshes/code/methods saves time and effort.
- Methodology now applied to parametric variants about Spray A.







# Measurements to date at Spray A conditions

26 types of experiments

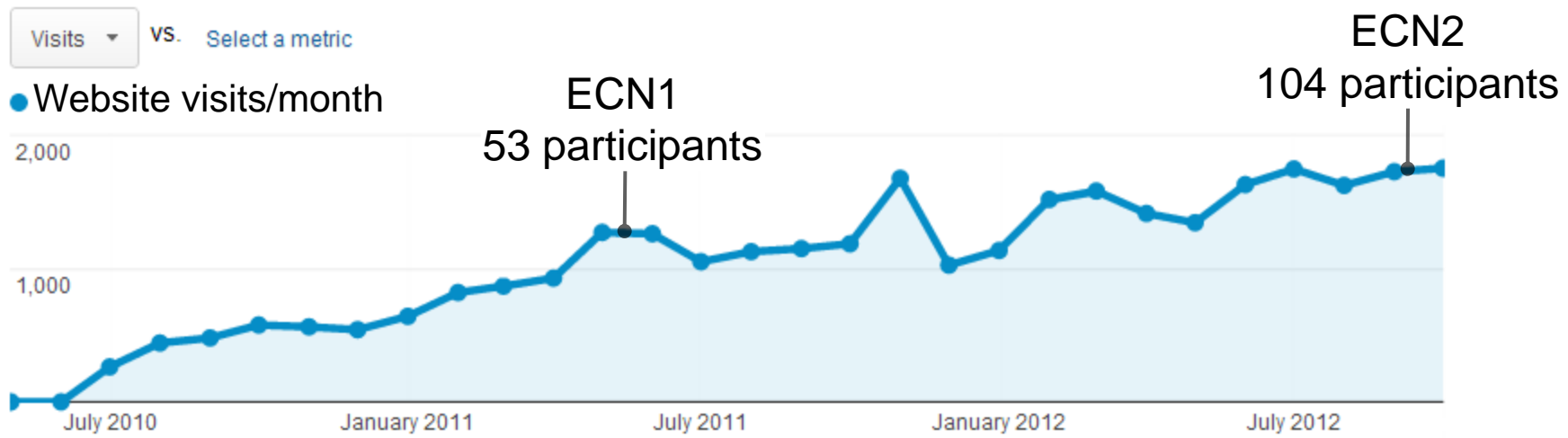
10 different international institutions

Past  
FY13

Quantity	Experiment	Contributors (Inst. and/or person)
Gas T distribution	fine-wire TC, variable diameter TC	CAT, CMT, Sandia, IFPEN, TU/e, KAIST, Chalmers
Nozzle internal temperature	thermocouple	Sandia, CAT, IFPEN, CMT, TU/e, Aachen, Chalmers
Nozzle surface temperature	laser-induced phosphorescence	IFPEN (Louis-Marie Malbec, Gilles Bruneaux)
Nozzle geometry	x-ray tomography	CAT (Tim Bazyn), Infineum (Peter Hutchins)
Needle movement/noz. geom.	phase-contrast imaging	Argonne (Alan Kastengren, Chris Powell)
Nozzle geometry	silicone molds	CMT (Raul Payri, Julien Manin)
Nozzle exit shape	optical microscopy, SEM	Sandia (Julien Manin, Lyle Pickett), TU/e
Mass rate of injection	bosch tube method	CMT, KAIST
Rate of momentum	force piezo	CMT, Sandia, CAT
Total mass injected	gravimetric scale	CMT, Sandia, IFPEN
Nozzle Cd, Ca	momentum + mass	CMT, Sandia
Liquid penetration	Mie scatter	IFPEN, Sandia, CMT, CAT, TU/e
Liquid penetration	Diffused back illumination (DBI)	Sandia, CMT, IFPEN, TU/e
Liquid optical thickness	laser extinction	Sandia (Julien Manin, Lyle Pickett)
Liquid structure	long-distance microscopy	Sandia, CMT (Julien Manin, Lyle Pickett)
Liquid vol. fraction (300 K)	x-ray radiography extinction	Argonne (Alan Kastengren, Chris Powell)
Vapor boundary/penetration	schlieren / shadowgraphy	Sandia, IFPEN, CAT, CMT, TU/e
Fuel mixture/mass fraction	Rayleigh scattering	Sandia
Velocity (gas-phase)	PIV	IFPEN (L.-M. Malbec, G. Bruneaux, M. Meijer)
Ignition delay	high-speed chemiluminescence	Sandia, CAT, CMT, IFPEN, TU/e
Lift-off length	OH or broadband chemilum.	Sandia, IFPEN, CAT, CMT, TU/e
Transient lift-off/ignition	intensified OH chemiluminescence	Sandia, IFPEN, CAT, CMT, TU/e
Pressure rise/AHRR	high-speed pressure	Sandia, IFPEN, TU/e
Soot luminosity/Radiation	high-speed luminosity imaging	Sandia, IFPEN, CAT, CMT, TU/e, DTU
Soot volume fraction	laser-induced incandescence, laser extinction, DBI	IFPEN/Duisberg-Essen, Sandia (Scott Skeen)



## Workshops organized with voluntary participation (for ECN2: 8 experimental, 16 modeling teams)

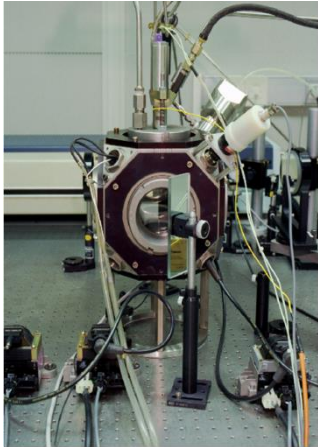


Organizers facilitate side-by-side comparison and analysis to provide an expert review of the current state of the art for diagnostics and engine modeling:

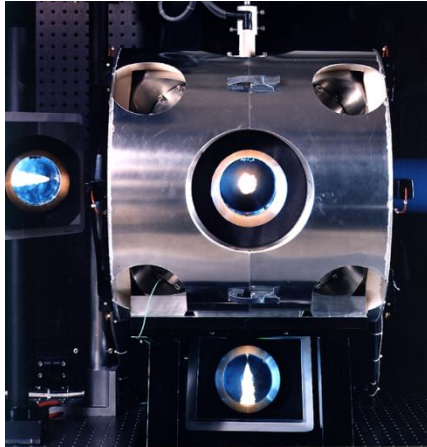
- ECN2 overall organization:
  - Gilles Bruneaux (IFPEN), Lyle Pickett (Sandia)
- Internal Nozzle Flow
  - Chris Powell (Argonne), David Schmidt (UMassAmherst), Marco Arienti (Sandia)
- Spray Development and Vaporization
  - Julien Manin (Sandia), Sibendu Som (Argonne), Chawki Habchi (IFPEN)
- Mixing and Velocity
  - Louis-Marie Malbec (IFPEN), Gianluca D'Errico (Pol. Milano)
- Ignition and Lift-off Length
  - Michele Bardi (CMT), Evatt Hawkes (UNSW), Christian Angelberger (IFPEN)
- Soot
  - Emre Cenker (Duisburg/IFPEN), Dan Haworth (Penn St.)
- Gasoline Sprays
  - Scott Parrish (GM)
- Engine Flows
  - Sebastian Kaiser (Duisburg-Essen)

# Ignition and lift-off length measurements are consistent for different types of HP-HT facilities.

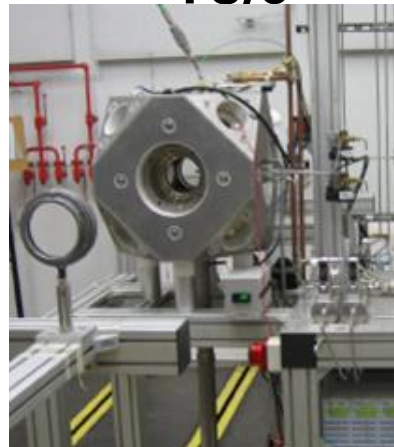
**IFPEN**



**SNL**



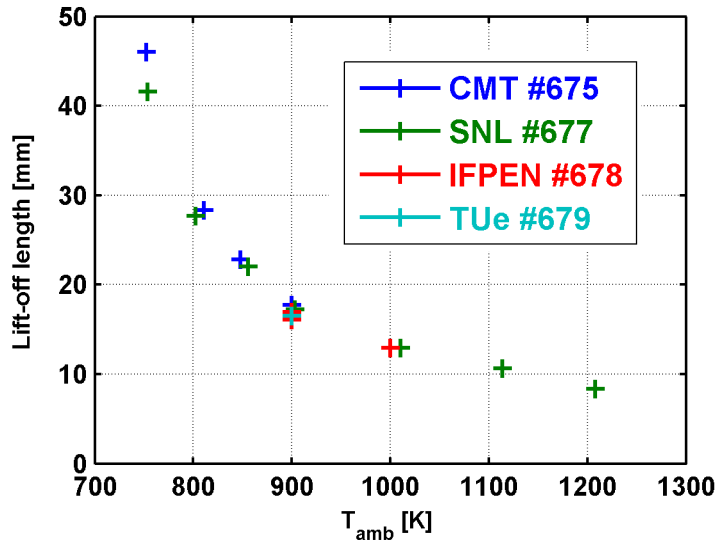
**TU/e**



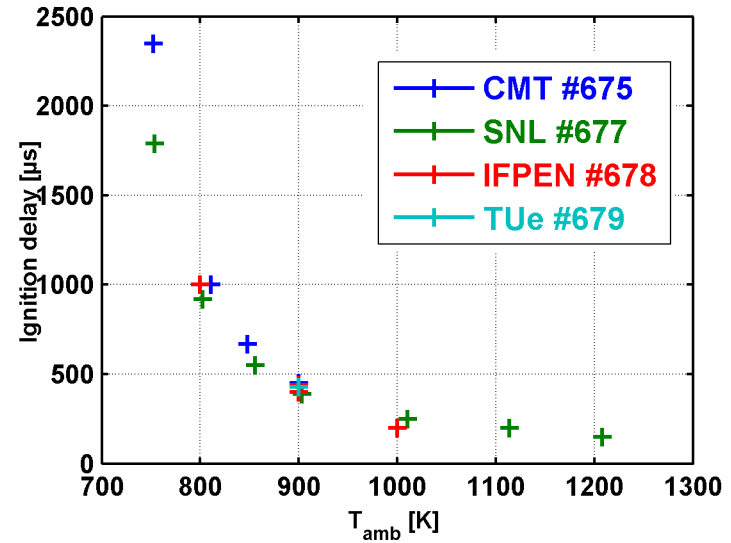
**CMT**



Lift-off length  $\rho = 22.8 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $P_{\text{rail}} = 150 \text{ MPa}$



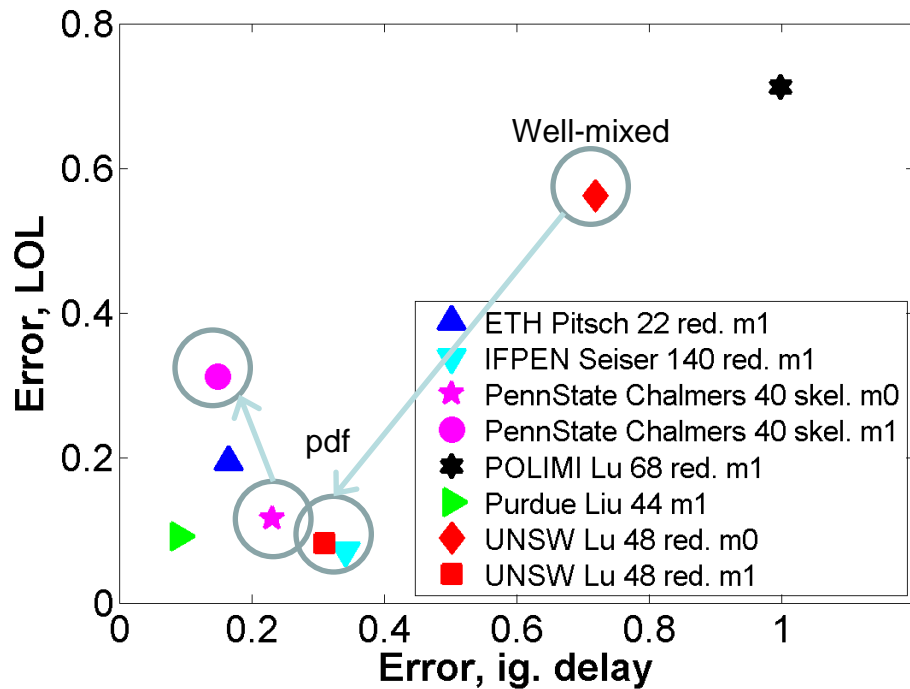
Ignition Delay  $\rho = 22.8 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $P_{\text{rail}} = 150 \text{ MPa}$



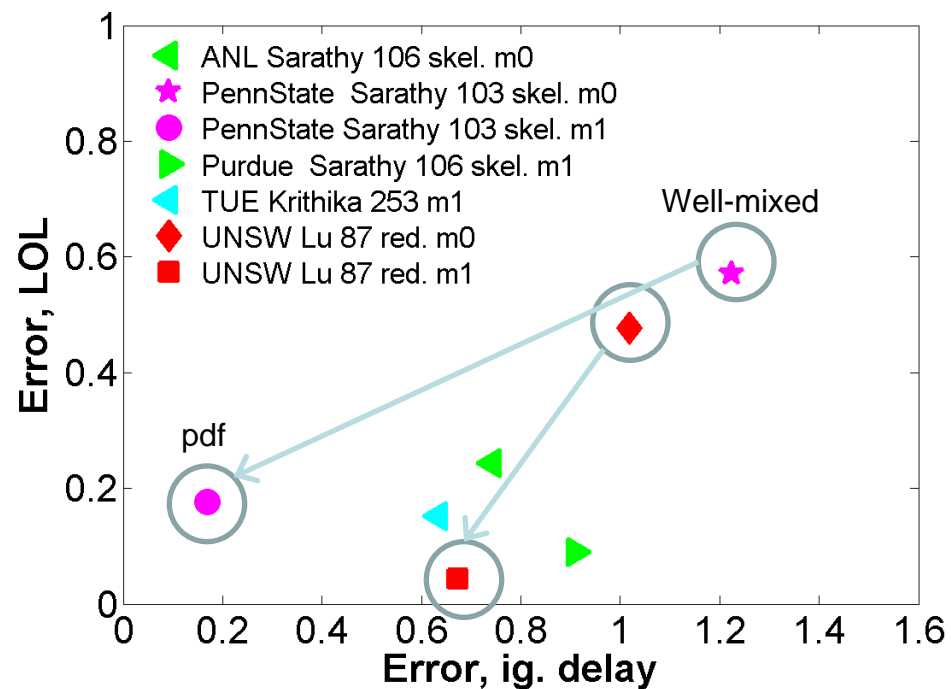


## ECN2 parametric variations show modeling improvement, but no superior combustion model.

C7H16, 21% O<sub>2</sub>, 14.8 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, 150 Mpa



C12H26, 15% O<sub>2</sub>, 22.8 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, 150 Mpa

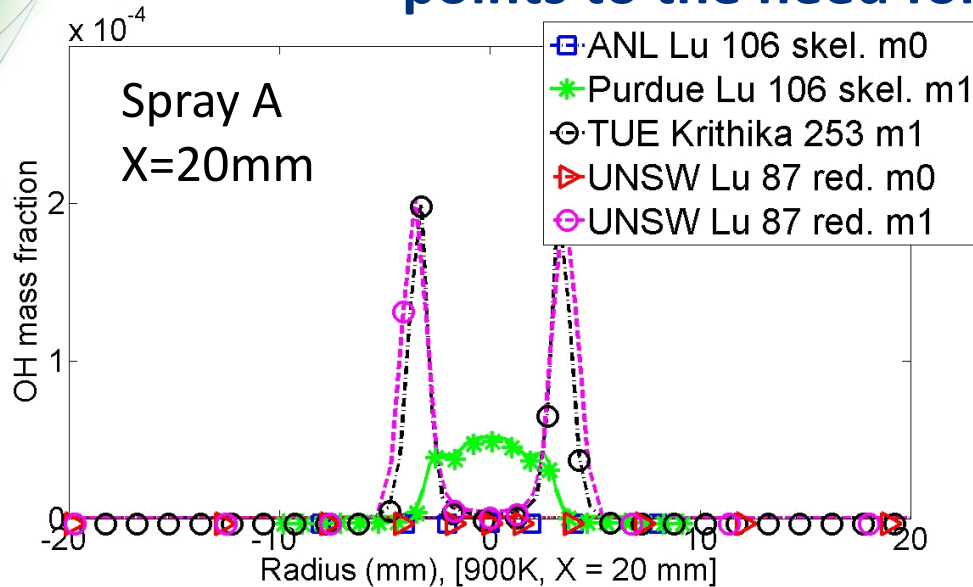


- Difficult to achieve predictive ignition delay and lift-off length.
  - Lift-off length predictions better than ignition delay.
  - Predictions better for n-heptane than n-dodecane.
- Serious questions remain about the chemical mechanisms and combustion models.
  - More advanced combustion models (pdf) show improvements for one set of data, but not others.
  - Errors of 20-40% could easily translate to sooting vs non-sooting sprays.

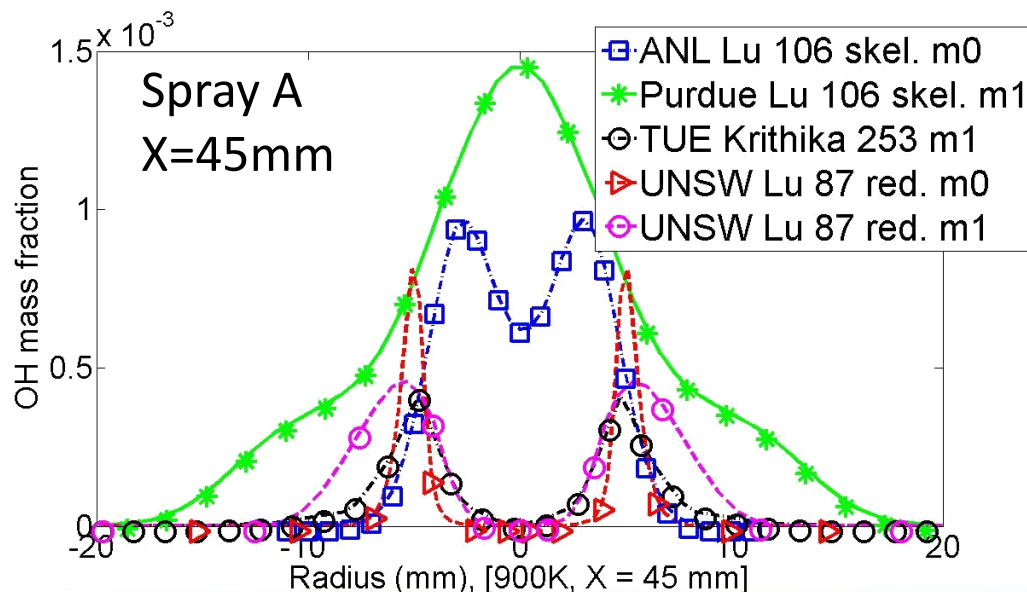
No ignition at 900 K  
at ECN1 !



# Side by side analysis reveals differences in models, and points to the need for further experiments.



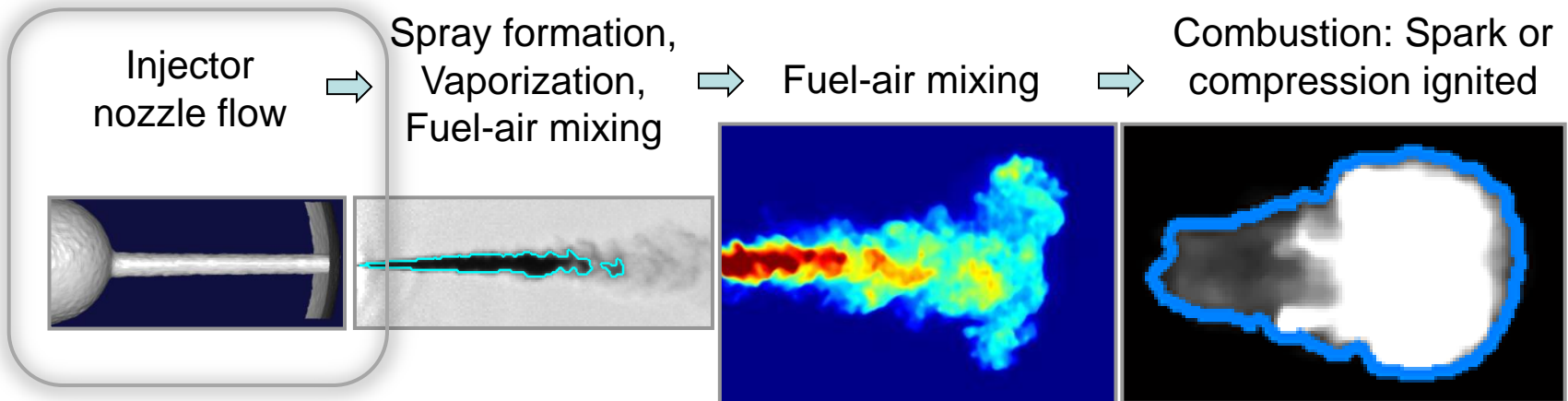
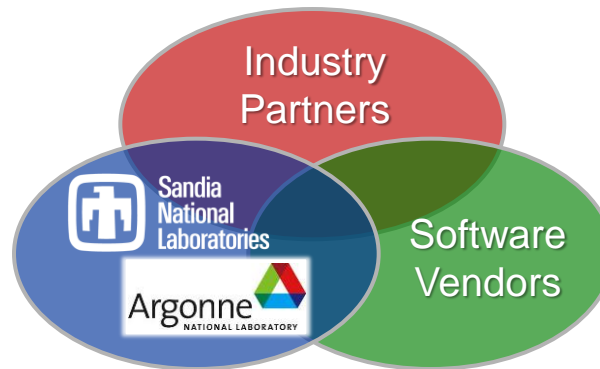
- Lift-off length:
  - Expt: 17.5 mm
  - ANL: 22.8 mm
  - Purdue: 20.3 mm
  - Tue: 18.1 mm
  - UNSW m0: 27.0 mm
  - UNSW m1: 16.8 mm



- Similar lift-off length but very different OH profiles.
- ECN experimental participants plan to perform planar OH measurements.

# A proposed Spray Combustion Consortium (SCC)

*“Delivering Experimentally-Validated, Predictive  
Nozzle Flow Models and Understanding”*





# Overview of the proposed consortium

- An industry funded consortium enabling highly leveraged outcomes.
- Primary outcomes:
  - Validated nozzle flow models that couple to spray/combustion models
  - New understanding of nozzle flows
- Partners: Industry, software vendors, and key national labs in the field.
  - Team provides direct path from understanding to validated models.
- Major benefits to partners:
  - Multi-year lead-time in a critical technology area for future engines & injectors.
  - Firsthand understanding of the design implications
  - Comprehensive understanding of new modeling tools that are developed and a multi-year lead time with respect to their development and use.
  - A highly leveraged investment, through partner funding and use of DOE resources.
  - Access to state-of-the-art expertise, research tools, software, and a high-performance computing cluster.
  - A showcase for software vendors.
- Funding /duration: \$3.6M over 3 years ~ 8 partners at \$150K/year/partner.



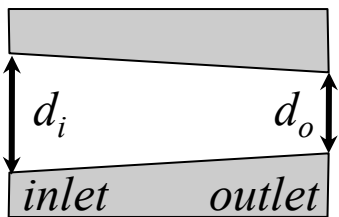
# Why now is right time to pursue internal nozzle flow research.

- Nozzle exit flow conditions critical to predictive spray modeling.
- Offers new combustion control possibilities through injector design.
- New enabling research capabilities are emerging:
  - Real-size, real-condition transparent nozzle research (1500 bar).
  - High-speed long-distance microscopy imaging using unique, pulsed lighting (<50 ns, >200 kHz).
  - Quantitative diagnostics for vapor fraction using x-ray beams with high spatial resolution (5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) - Argonne.
  - Internal nozzle geometry and needle movement characterization with unprecedented accuracy.
  - High-fidelity LES employing accurate numerical methods and unique capabilities for treating:
    - compressible flows
    - real-fluid properties
    - large-density gradients (cavitation, flash vaporization)
    - dense-fluid phenomenon, including supercritical conditions at orifice exit



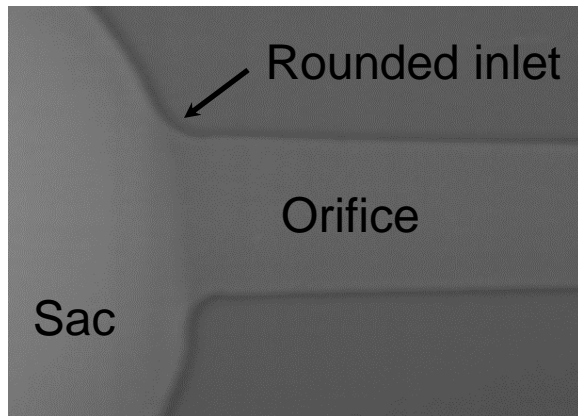
# Focus on critical nozzle flow processes.

## Orifice shape



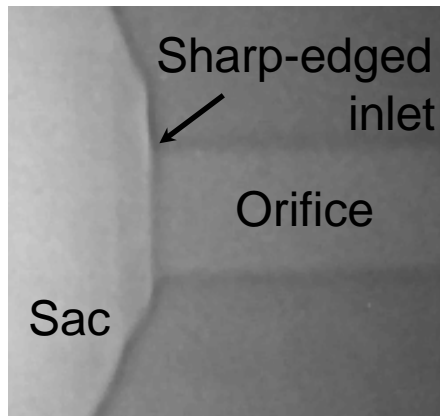
$$K = \frac{d_i - d_o}{10} [\mu m]$$

**KS:**  $K = 1.5$ , smooth



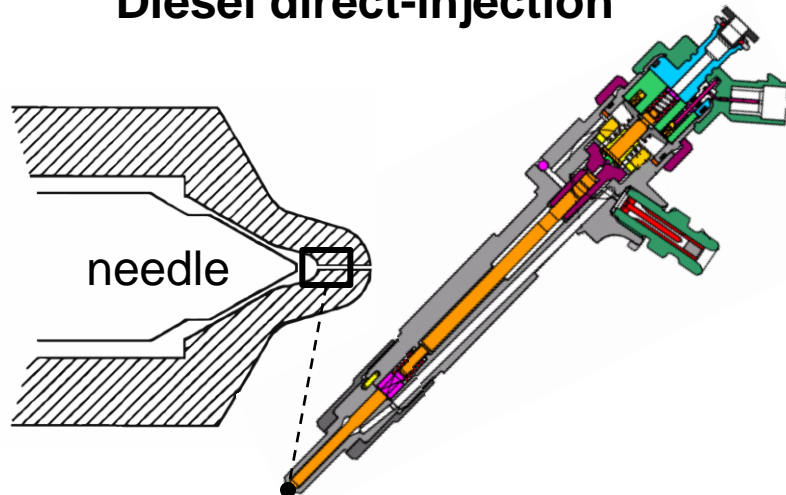
*Minimal cavitation expected*

**K0:**  $K = 0$ , sharp

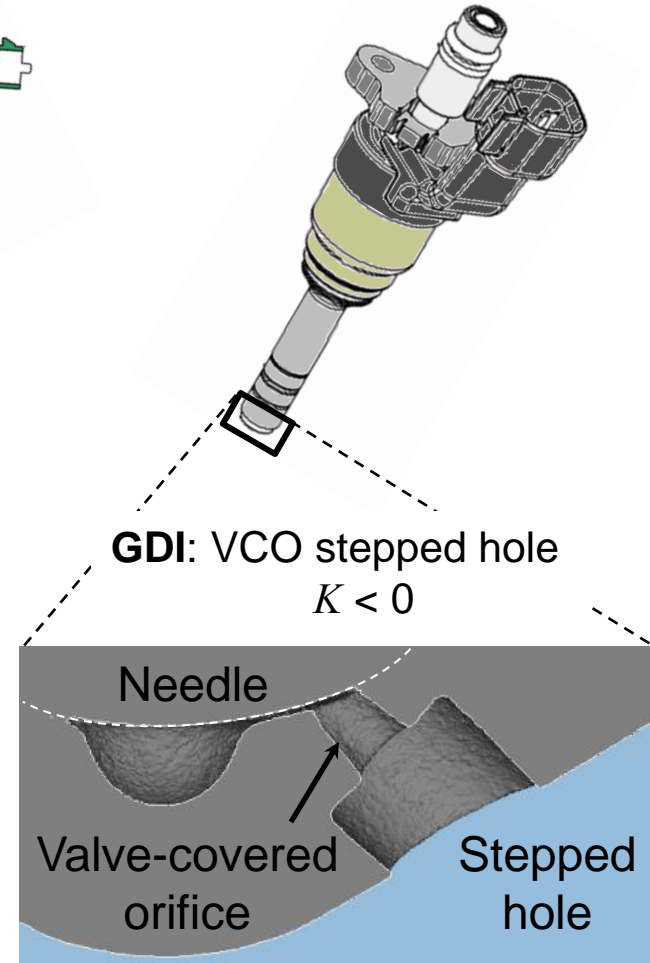


*Cavitation expected*

## Diesel direct-injection



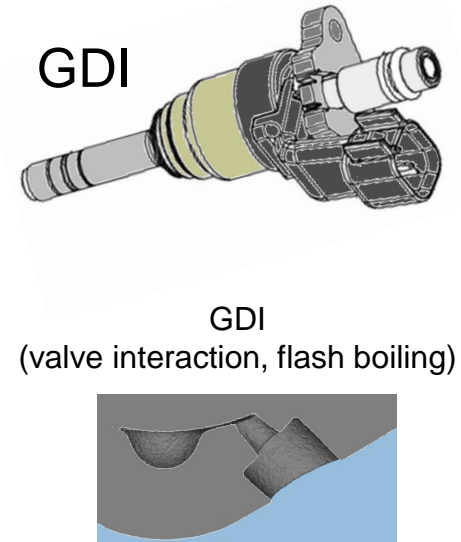
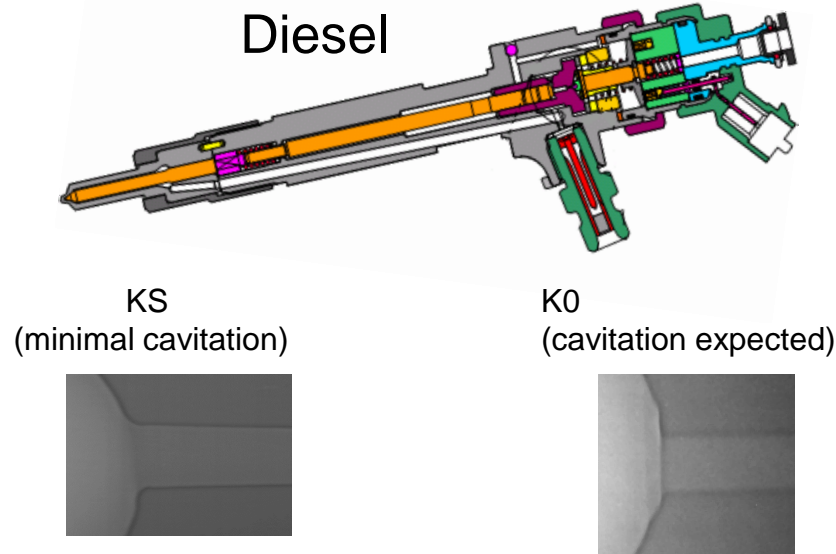
## Gasoline direct-injection



**GDI:** VCO stepped hole  
 $K < 0$

*Valve interaction  
Flash boiling*

# Experimental Scope

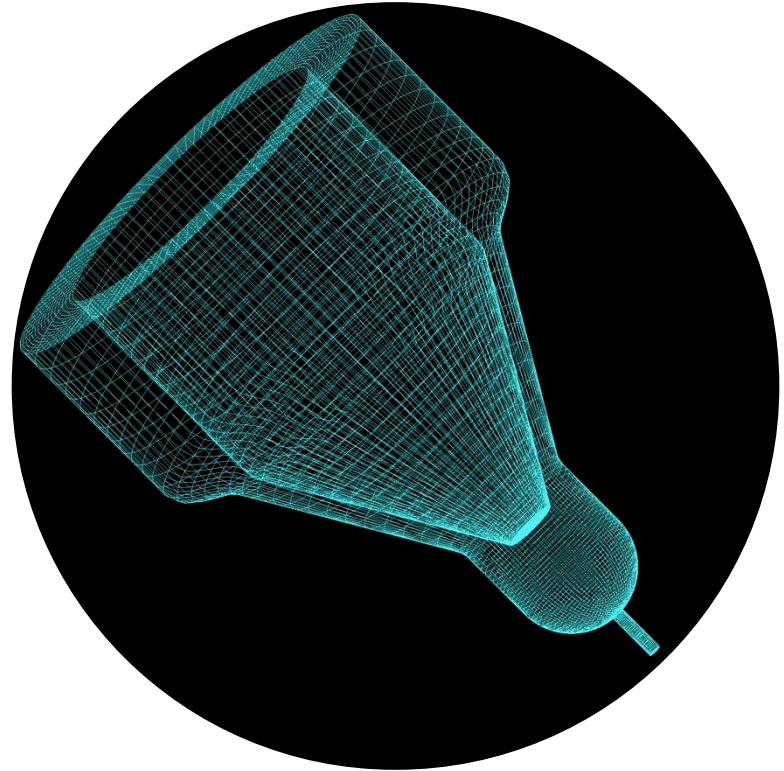


- Three real-scale transparent injector nozzle types with metal counterparts.
  - Metal counterparts will be Engine Combustion Network (ECN) targets, providing leveraging of all ECN work focused on downstream spray research.
- Fabricate nozzles and prepare optical (Sandia) and x-ray (Argonne) experiments.
- Develop first-of-kind database for model development/validation:
  - Characterize nozzle geometries, needle movement, flow performance, ...
  - Quantification of vapor and fuel distribution inside and at the exit of nozzles

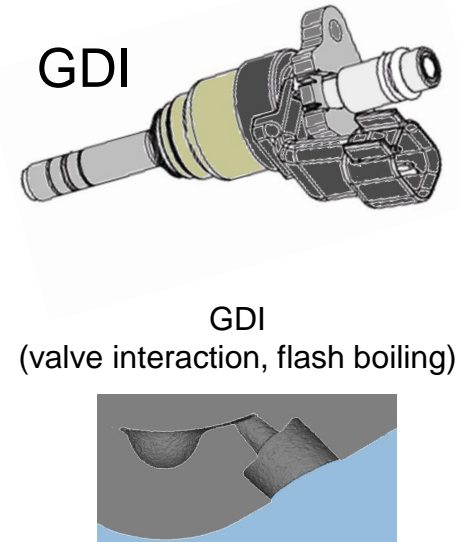
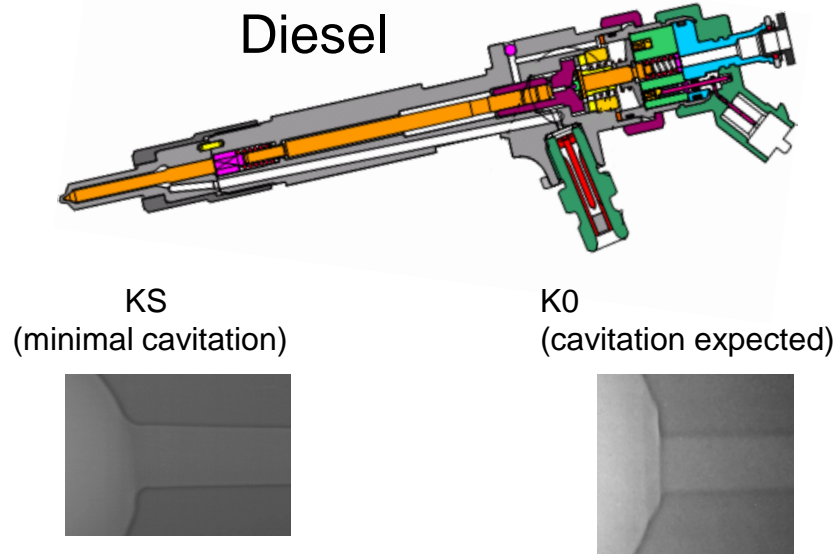


# Sandia's high-fidelity LES modeling provides powerful complement to the experiments.

- Theoretical framework ... (Comprehensive physics)
  - Fully-coupled, compressible conservation equations
  - Real-fluid equation of state (high-pressure phenomena)
  - Detailed thermodynamics, transport and chemistry
  - Multiphase flow, spray
  - Dynamic SGS modeling (no tuned constants)
- Numerical framework ... (High-quality numeric's)
  - Dual-time stepping with generalized preconditioning (all-Mach-number formulation)
  - Staggered finite-volume differencing (non-dissipative, discretely conservative)
  - Massively-parallel
- Extensively validated, ported to all major platforms



# Modeling Scope



- Commission computer cluster (>1000 cores) and initiate high-fidelity LES
  - Near first principles simulation (compressible flow, real fluid properties, cavitation, wall effects, flash boiling, moving geometries, geometric details).
  - Model smooth (KS) to complex (K0, GDI) nozzles
  - Extends experimental database and understanding
- Detailed LES and engineering model comparisons establish best practices
- **Software vendors develop improved engineering models for commercial codes**
  - **Release periodic updates to partners**