

In-Cylinder Processes of High-EGR Low-Load Diesel Combustion

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Sponsor: U.S. Dept. of Energy, Office of
FreedomCAR and Vehicle Technologies
Program Manager: Gurpreet Singh



In-cylinder processes for low-temperature combustion are not yet well explored

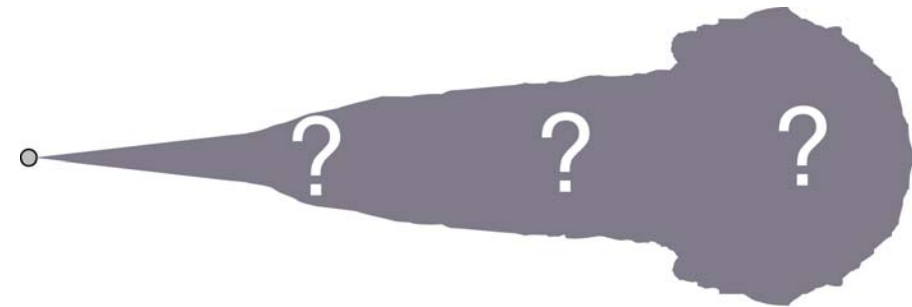
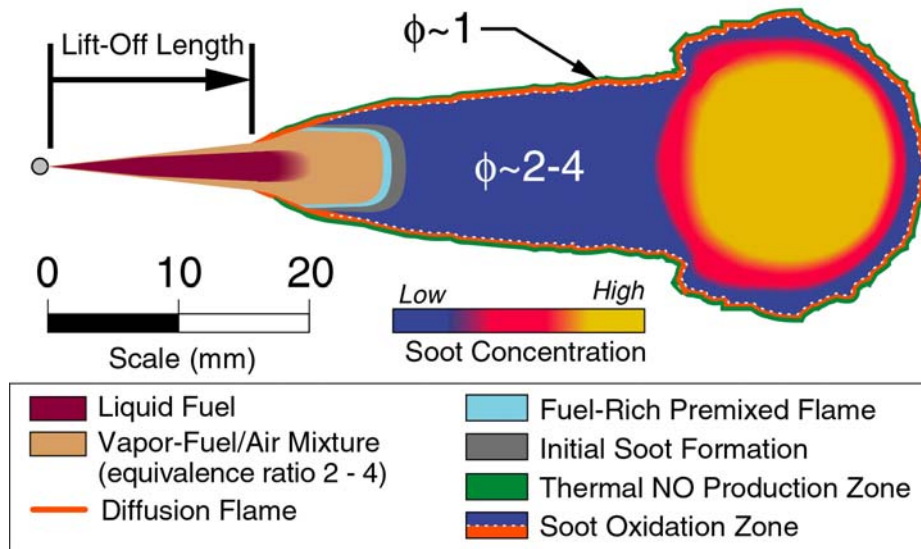


Conventional Diesel Combustion (CDC):

- No EGR, short ignition delay
- Diffusion flame (OH-PLIF) is in thin envelope surrounding jet
 - OH near $\phi \sim 1$
- Soot (LII) fills jet cross-section, where $\phi \sim 2-4$ (planar Rayleigh scattering)
 - Appearance of soot means $\phi > \sim 2$

Low-Temperature Combustion (LTC):

- High EGR (10-15% O_2)
- Injection earlier (PPCI) or later (MK) than conventional diesel combustion
- Long ignition delay = positive ignition dwell (ignition after end of injection)
- OH, soot, ϕ , UHC, CO, NO_x, etc. = ?



From SAE 970873, J. Dec,
Conceptual Model of Diesel Combustion

Compared to CDC, early-injection LTC has soot farther downstream and OH filling upstream jet



Near-TDC Inj. CDC (short ignition delay):

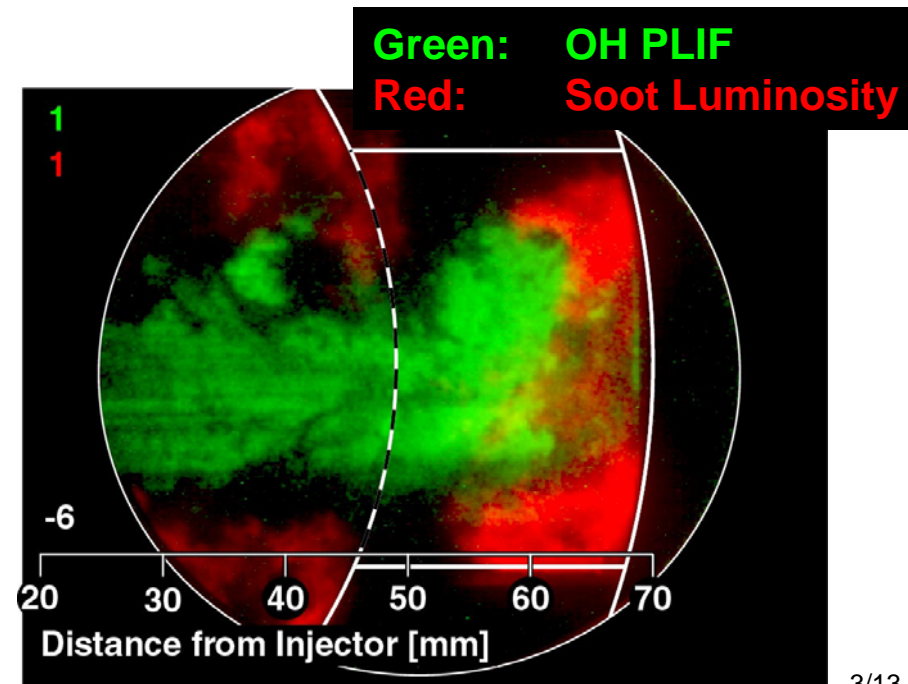
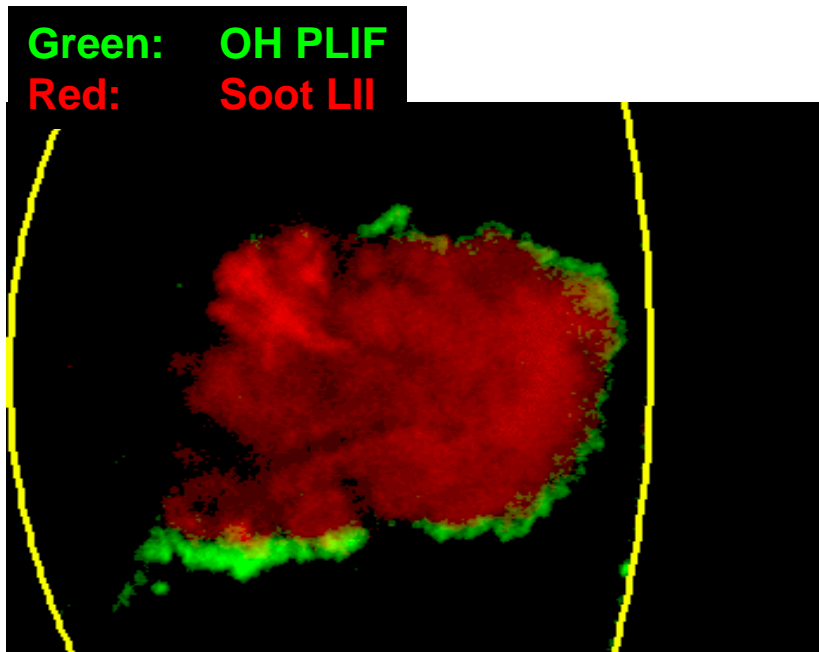
- SAE 2001-01-1295 (*Dec & Tree*)

- View through cylinder head window
- OH ($\phi \sim 1$, green) appears in thin envelope surrounding jet
- Soot ($\phi > 2$, red) fills the jet cross-section

Early-Injection LTC (long ignition delay):

- SAE 2006-01-0079 (*Musculus*)

- OH (green) throughout jet cross-section, with soot (red) only at head of jet
- OH appears where $\phi \sim 1$, and soot appears where $\phi > 2$, so upstream jet is relatively lean (even with EGR!), and downstream jet is rich



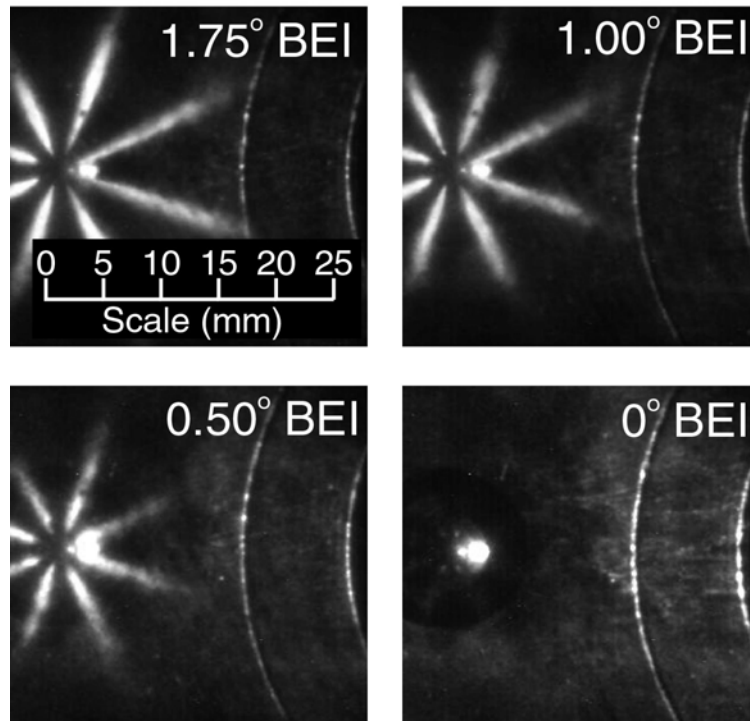
Both liquid- and vapor-fuel measurements indicate lean mixtures near injector after EOI



Liquid Fuel Near EOI (non-combusting)

- Unpublished, but 2008 COMODIA, Kook et al.
& 2009 SAE, Kook et al.

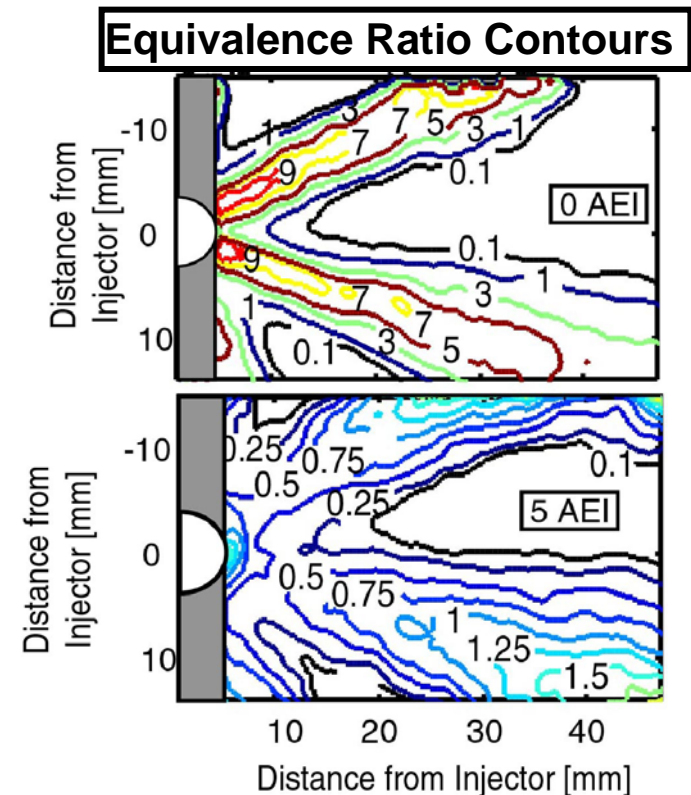
- Intake = 100% N₂, fuel = n-heptane
- During/after EOI, liquid fuel retreats back to injector
- Indicative of rapid leaning near/after EOI



Vapor Fuel Near EOI (non-combusting)

- SAE 2007-01-0907 Musculus et al.

- Intake = N₂, fuel = nC₇ + isoC₈ + C₇H₈
- After end of injection, mixtures near injector rapidly become fuel lean



Formaldehyde indicates partially burned fuel; OH indicates complete combustion



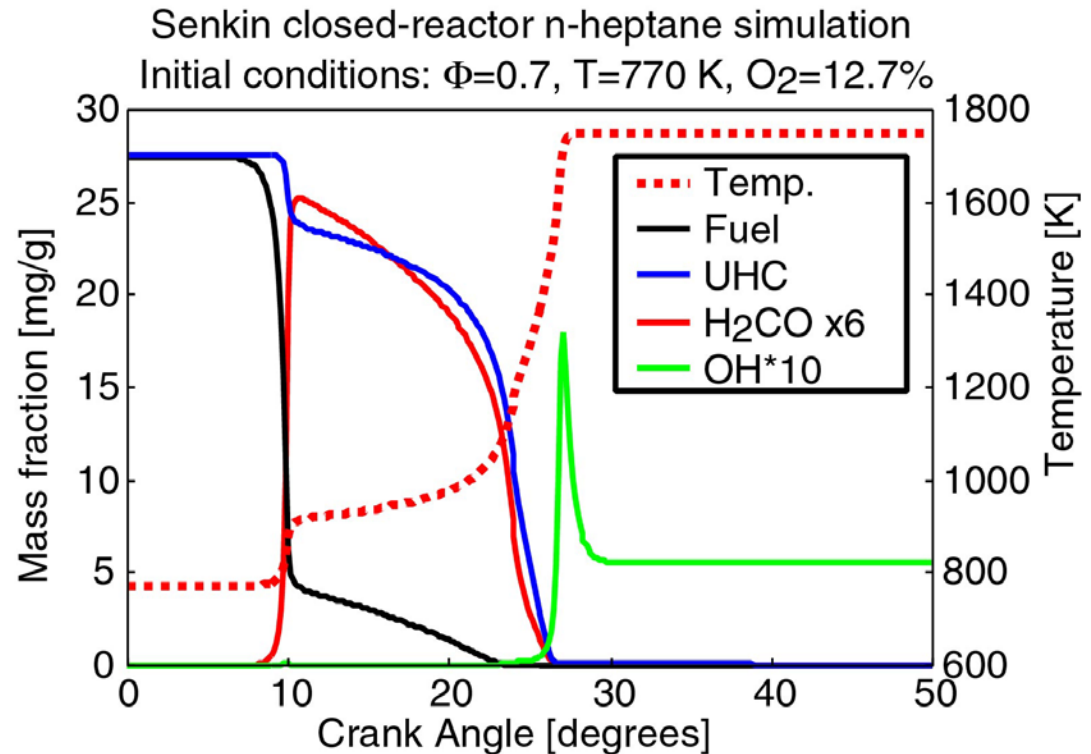
Closed-reactor CHEMKIN simulation of n-heptane ignition using the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories detailed mechanism of Curran, Pitz, and Westbrook

First-Stage (10 CAD):

- Much of parent fuel molecule (black) reacts, a “soup” of UHCs (blue) is formed
- **Formaldehyde (H_2CO , red) can track the soup of UHC (blue)**

Second-Stage (25 CAD):

- Nearly all UHC and H_2CO consumed
- **Appearance of OH (green) marks hot ignition and consumption of UHC**



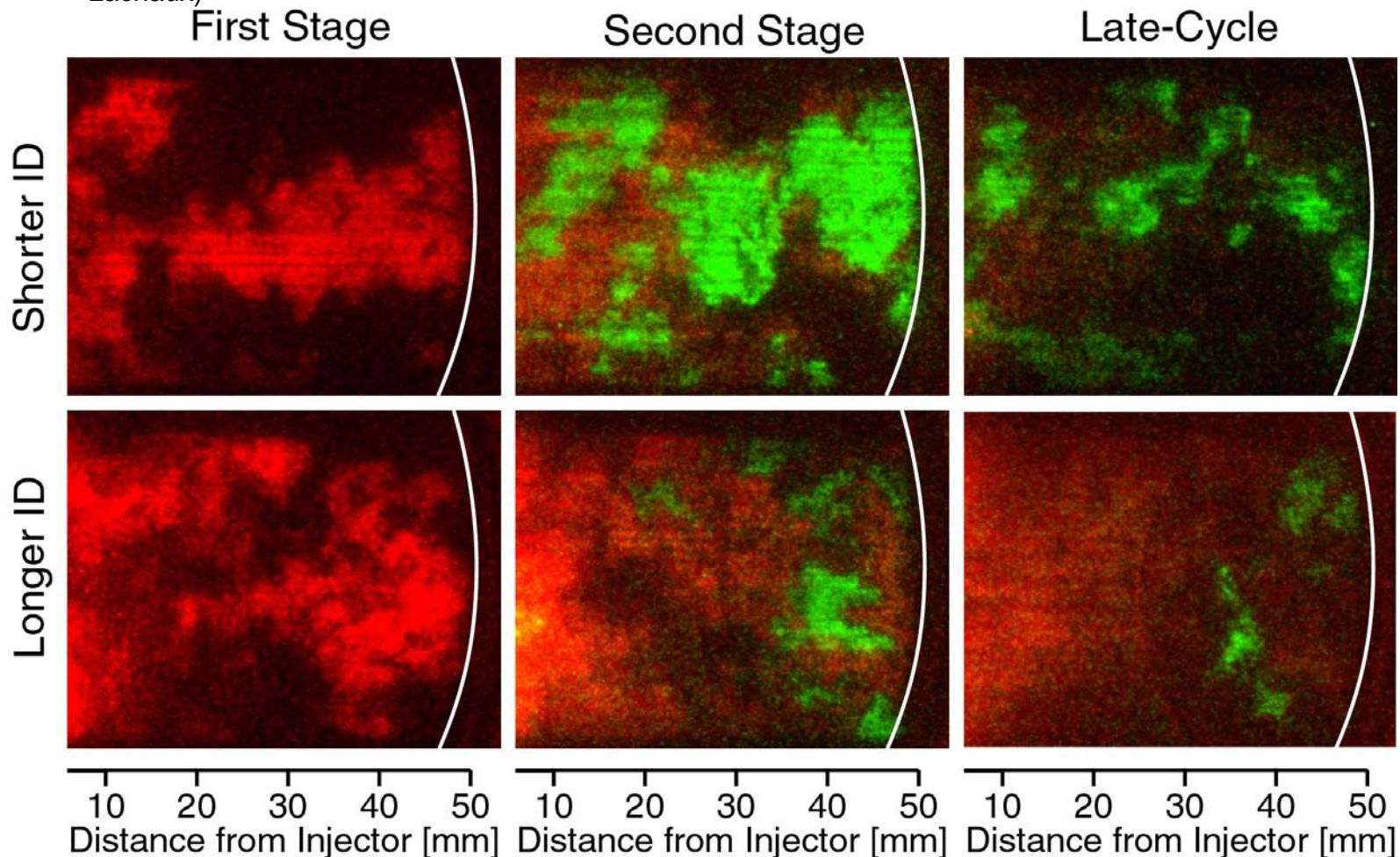
H₂CO and OH show late-cycle UHC remains near injector for conditions with long ignition delay



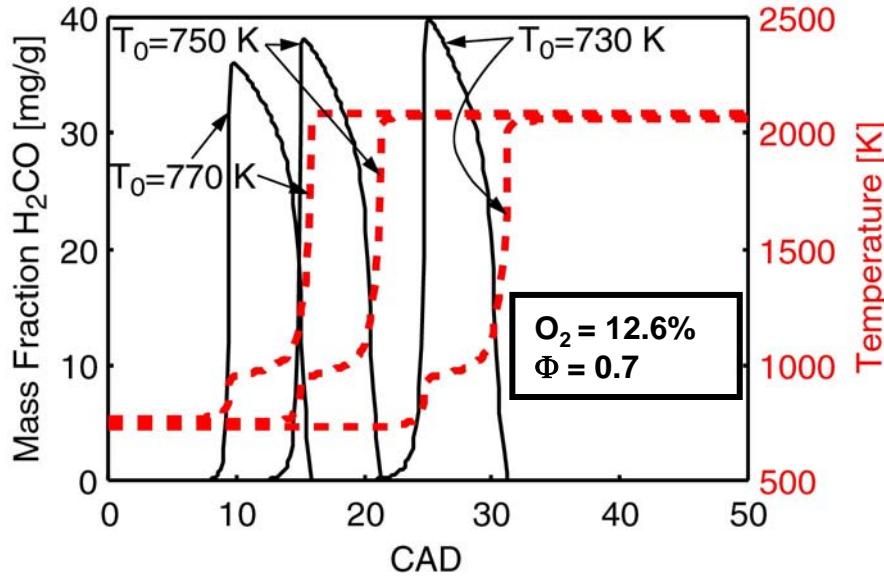
Red = Formaldehyde (H₂CO) fluorescence, Green = OH Fluorescence

For Shorter ID, OH appears as H₂CO & UHC near injector are consumed

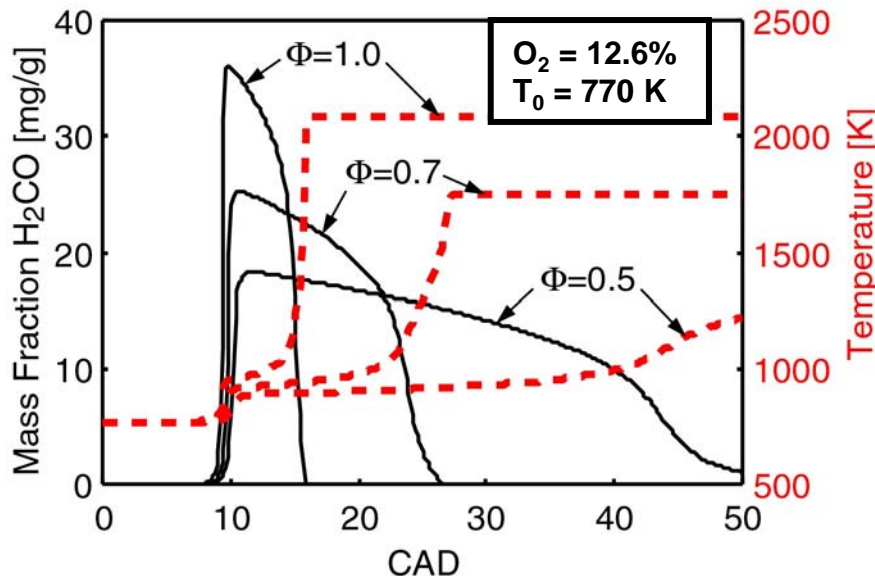
For Longer ID, OH appears only downstream and H₂CO & UHC remain late in the cycle, especially near injector – (Western States Comb. Inst. Meeting, 2007, Musculus & Lachaux)



Simulations show that formaldehyde persists in lean regions, but not necessarily in cool regions



- Q: Is late formaldehyde caused by (1) low temperatures or (2) lean mixtures?
- (1): As temperature is decreased, H_2CO appearance is delayed, but residence time is constant.
- (2): As equivalence ratio is decreased, H_2CO time of appearance is constant, but residence time is increased.
- **Therefore, regions that have long-lasting, late-cycle H_2CO fluorescence are likely lean (near injector, after injection).**

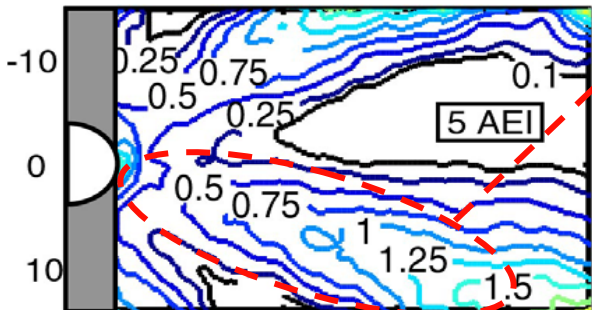
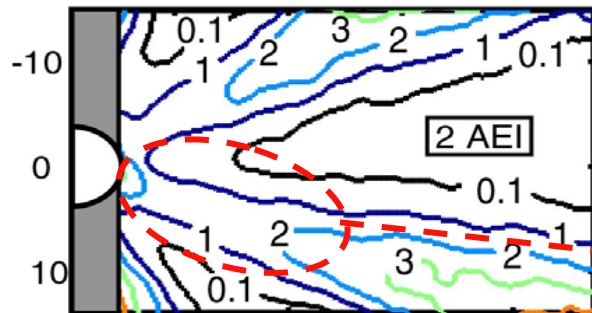
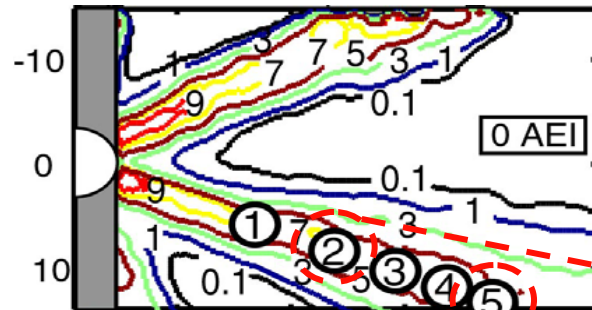


Closed-reactor CHEMKIN simulations of n-heptane ignition using the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories detailed mechanism of Curran, Pitz, and Westbrook



Mixing after EOI is more rapid than in a steady jet

(SAE 2007-01-0907, Musculus et al.)



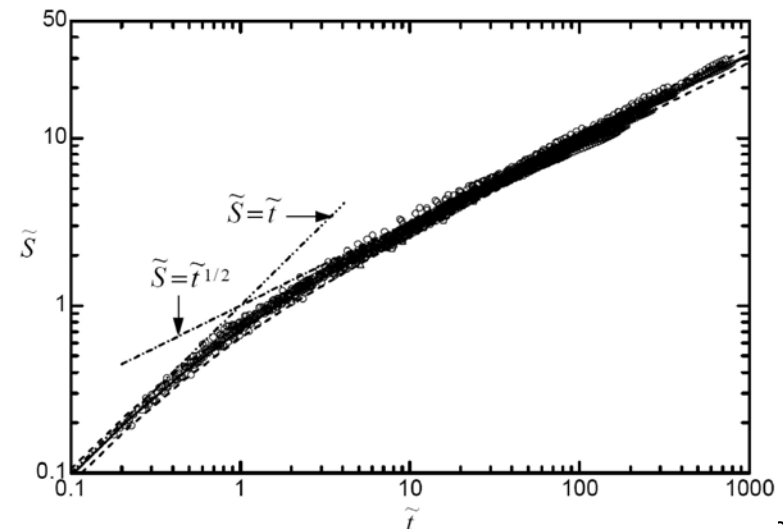
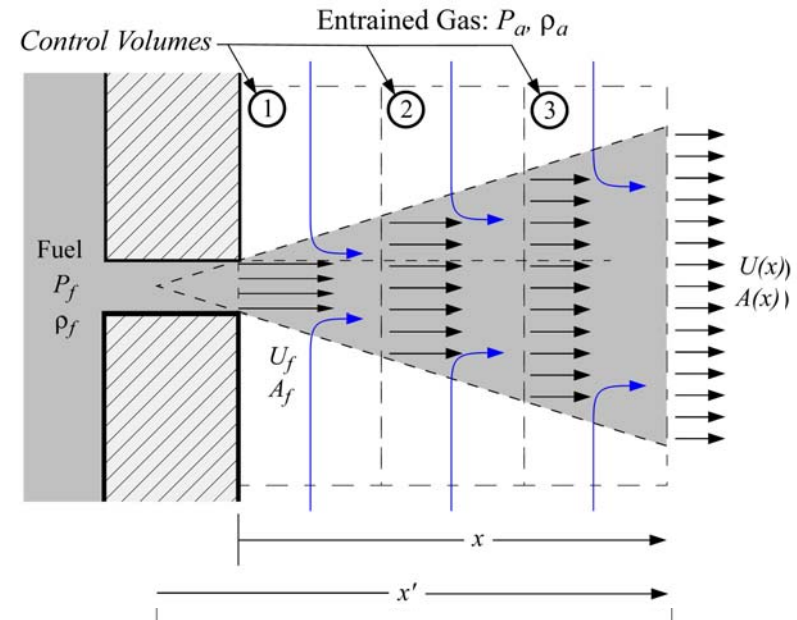
Distance from Injector [mm]

- At end of injection (0 AEI), mixtures are richer near injector ($\phi \sim 9$) and leaner downstream
- In the quasi-steady jet, from a Lagrangian perspective (moving with jet fluid at penetration rate):
 - After 2° crank angle, $\phi = 5$ to 7, and
 - After 5° crank angle, $\phi = 3$ to 5
- After end of injection, mixtures near injector are much leaner than expected for downstream transport in a steady jet
 - At 2 AEI, within 25 mm penetration, $\phi = 1$ to 3
 - At 5 AEI, within 45 mm penetration, $\phi = 0.5 - 1.5$
 - > Downstream mixtures agree with OH filling jet cross section ($\phi \sim 1$ for OH)
 - > Upstream mixtures near injector agree with late-cycle formaldehyde ($\phi \sim 0.5$)

Transient diesel-jet mixing may be analyzed using 1-dimensional control volume array



- Analytical control-volume solution for diesel jet penetration and mixing:
Naber and Siebers, SAE 960034
- Predicts experimental penetration over wide range of conditions
- No similar analytical control-volume solution for non-steady injection rates
- However, non-steady jets can be solved numerically
 - 1-dimensional control volume array
 - Assume radial profiles for velocity and fuel concentration
 - Solve transient mass and momentum transport between control volumes
 - Similar approach as CMT article
(*Fuel* 87, 2871-2885 (2008) "A 1D model for the description of mixing-controlled inert diesel sprays," Pastor et al.)

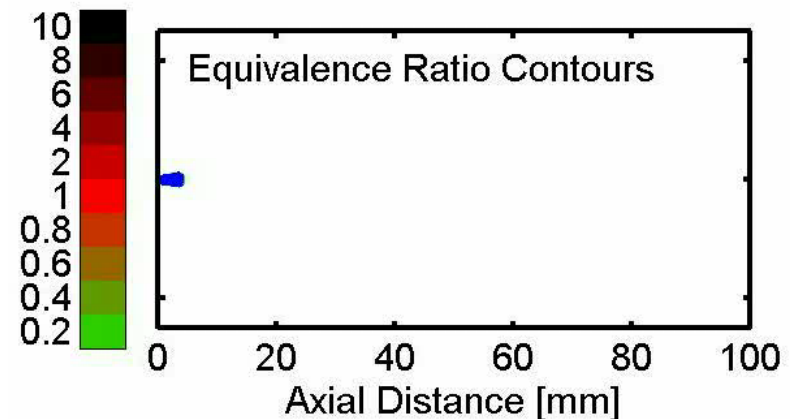
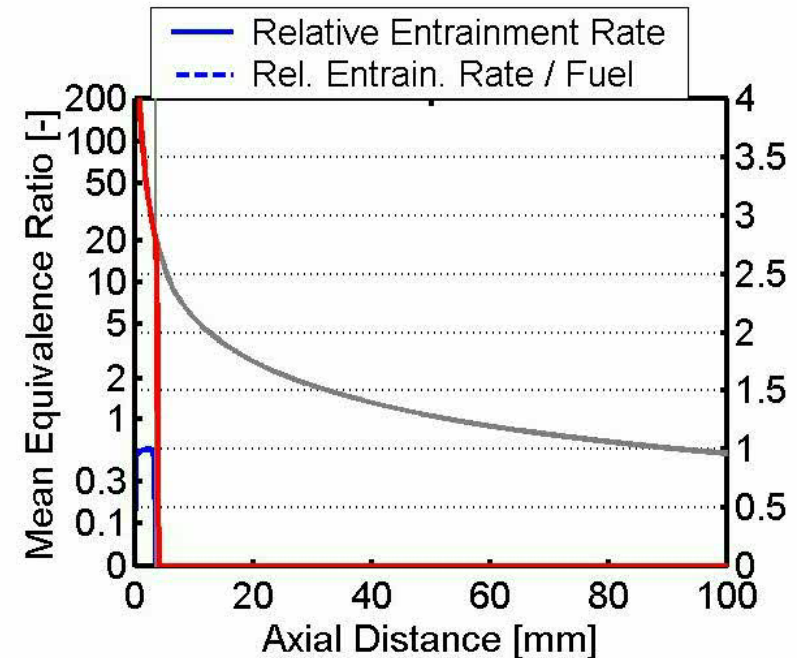


Model predicts that entrainment increases after the end of injection, in a wave that travels downstream



1-D Diesel Jet Model (SAE 2009, Musculus et al.)

- Solves conservation of mass and momentum for 1-D control volume array

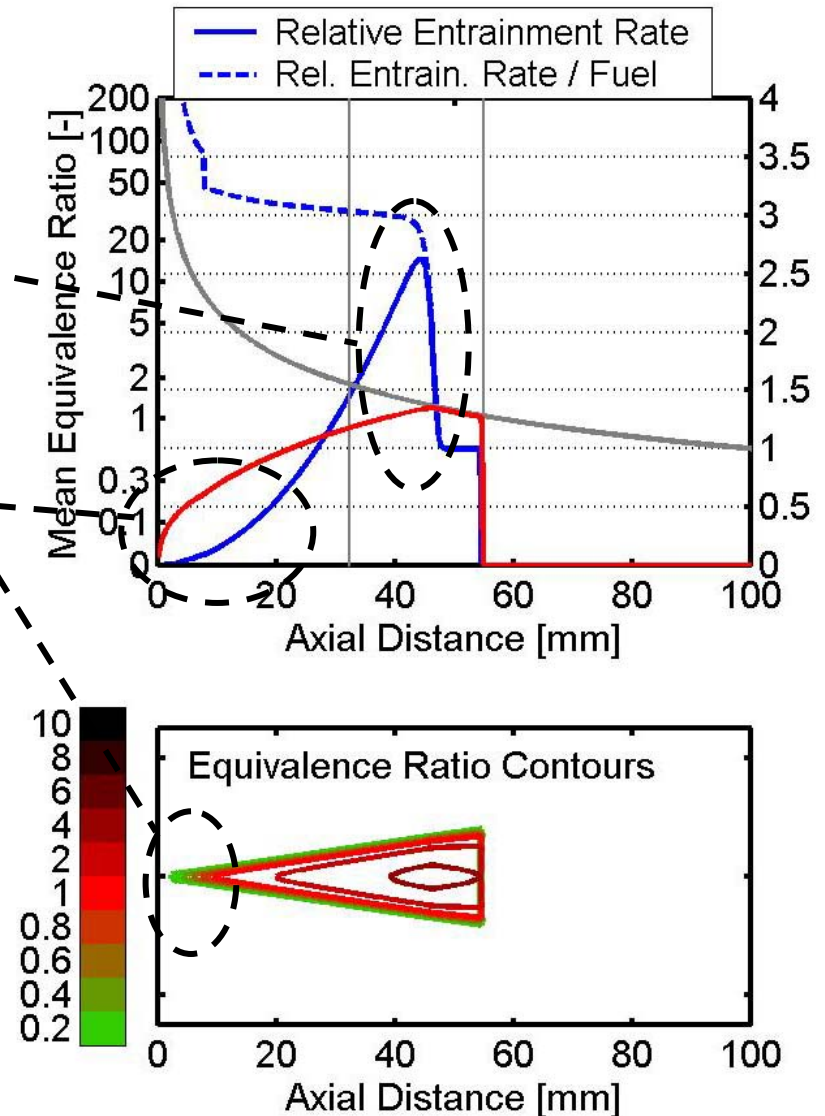
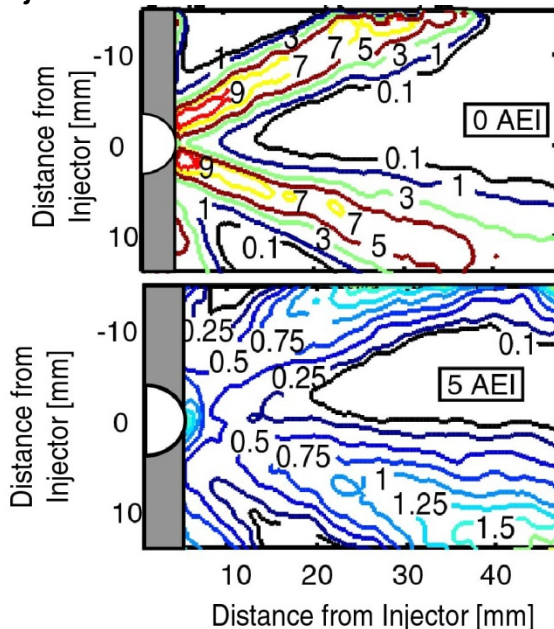


The “entrainment wave” concept explains many observed phenomena in ending diesel jets



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- Prediction: An “entrainment wave” travels downstream after EOI, with higher mixing
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 - 1. Explains rapid leaning of mixtures near injector that contribute to exhaust UHC

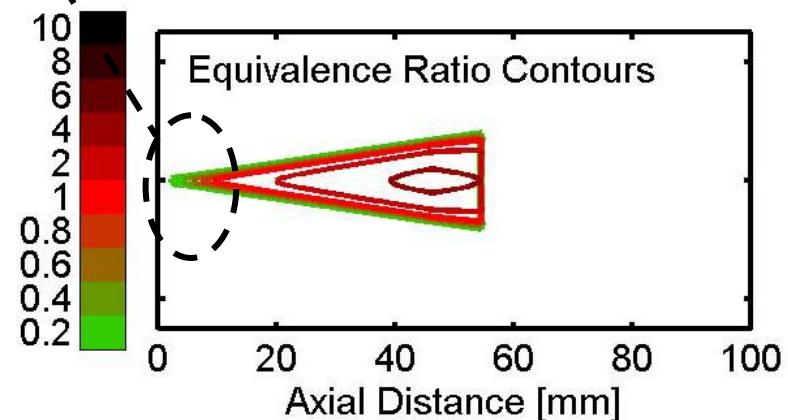
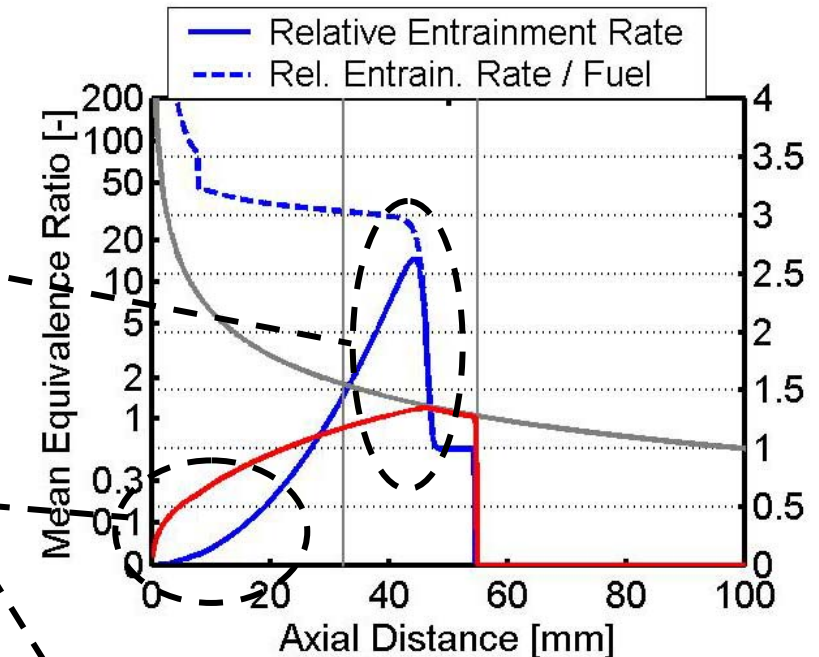
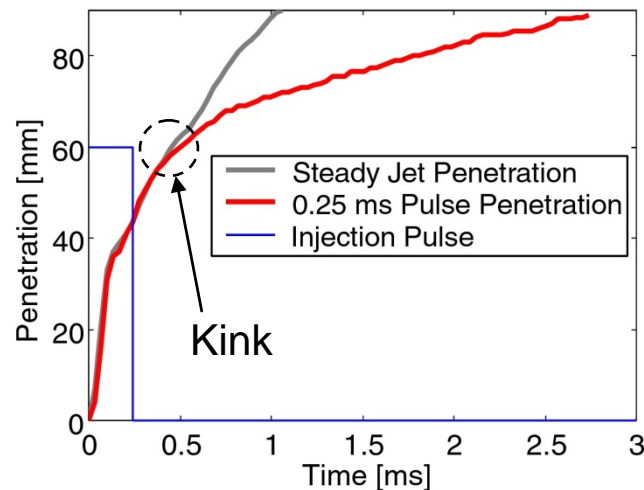


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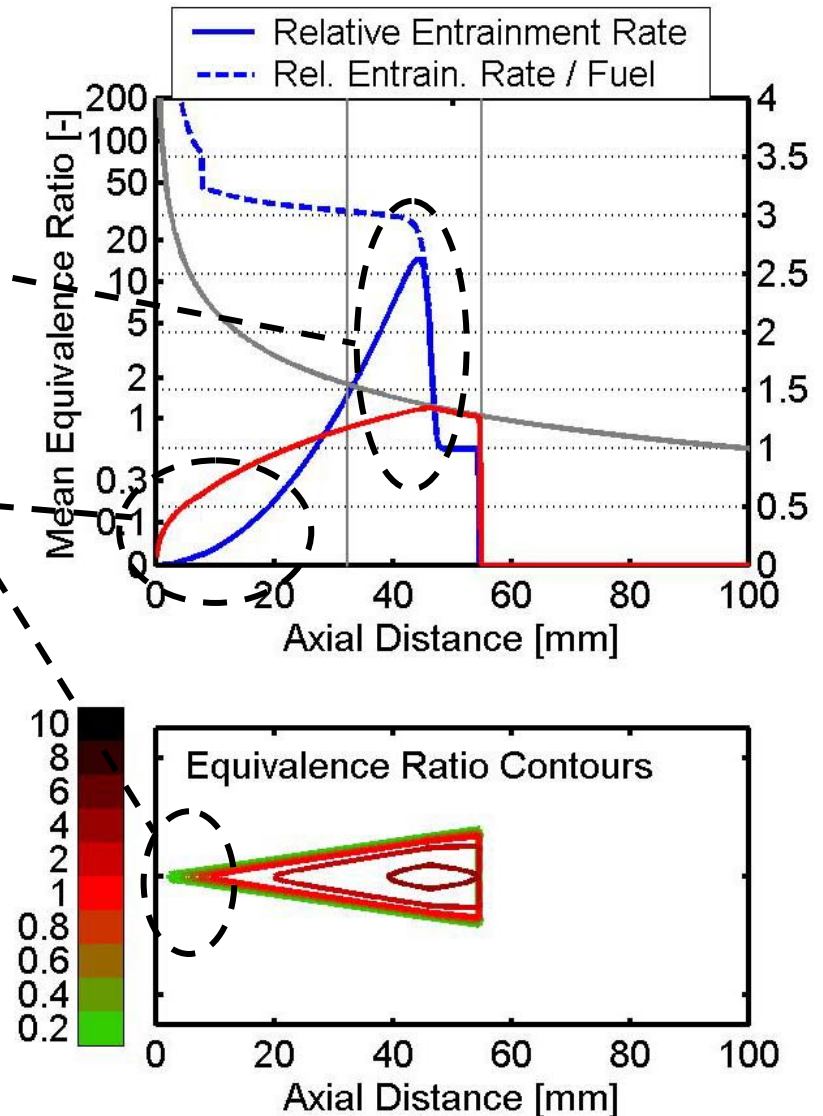
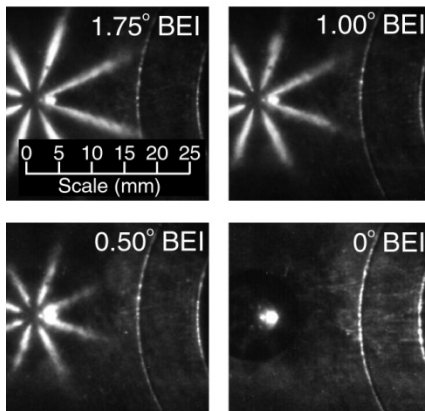


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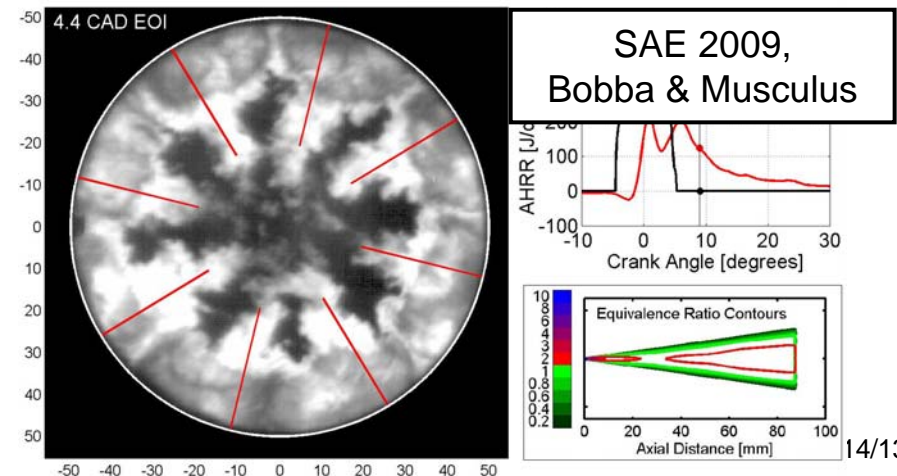
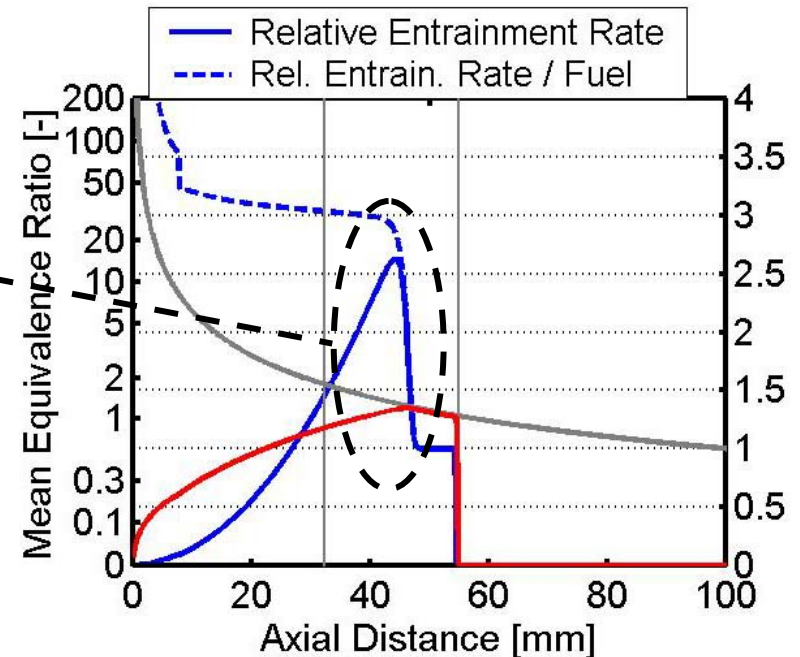


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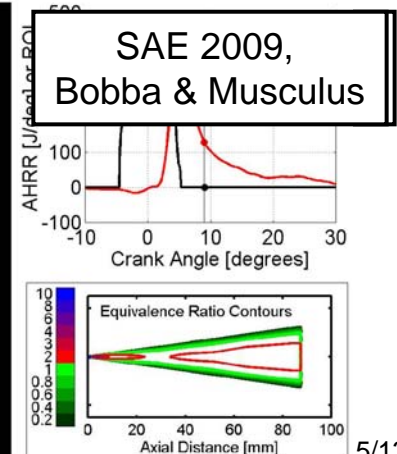
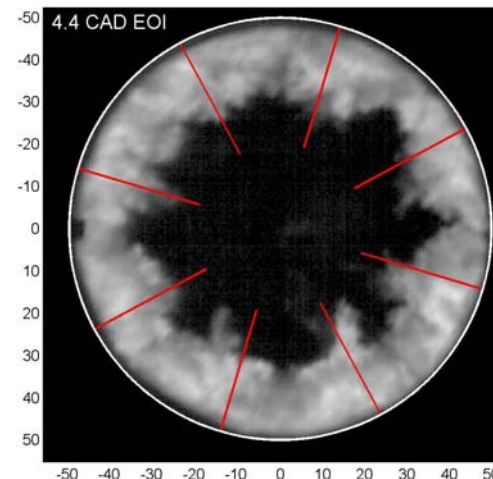
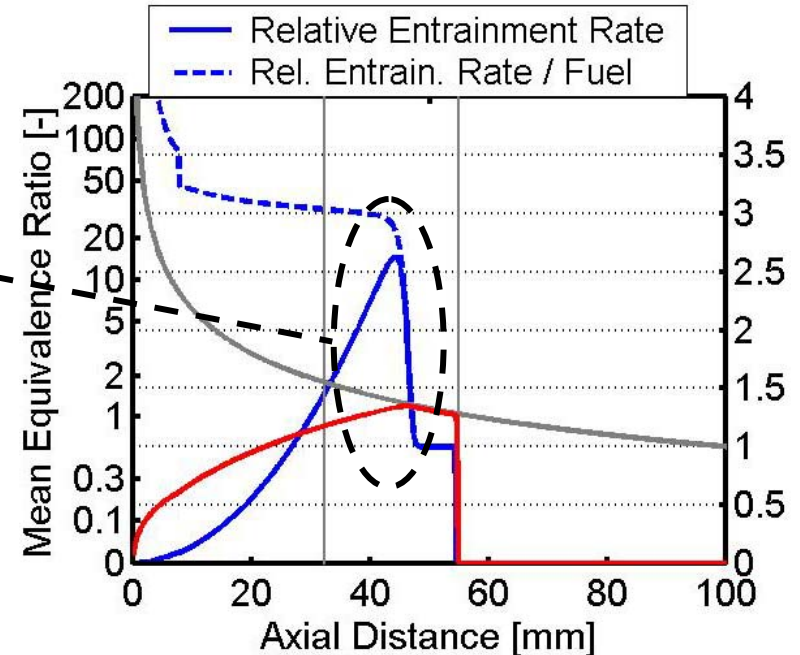


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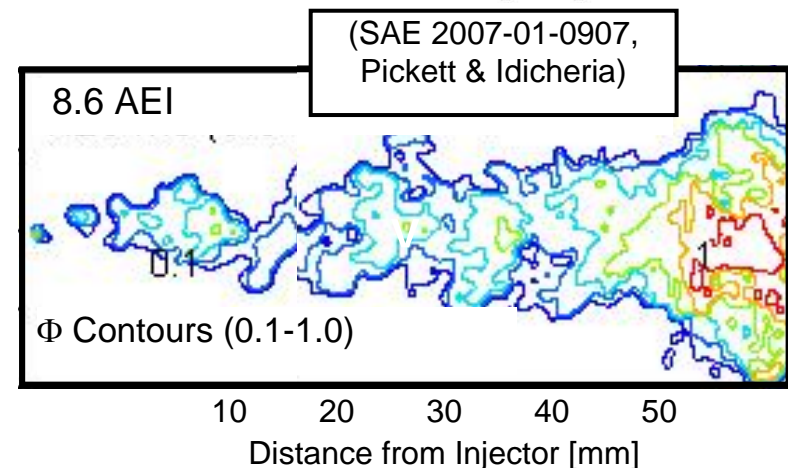
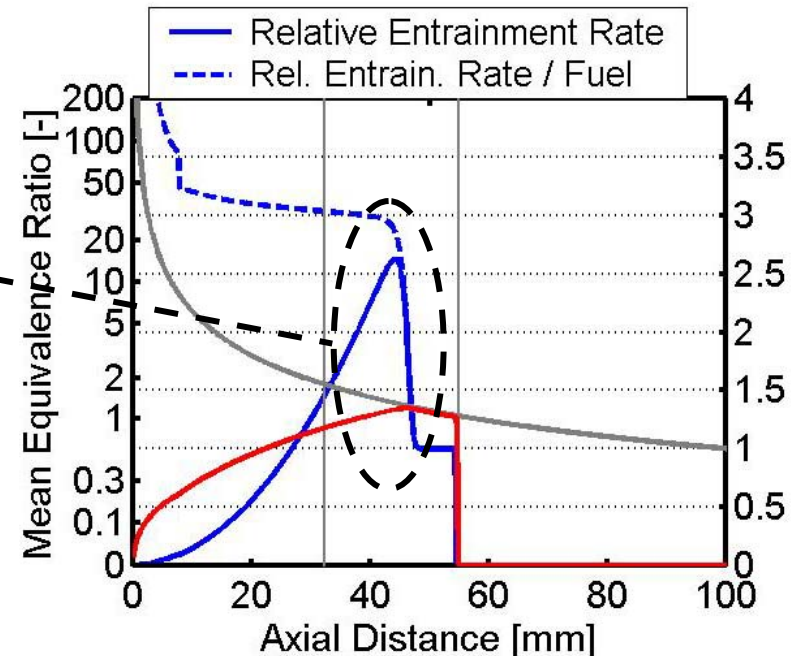


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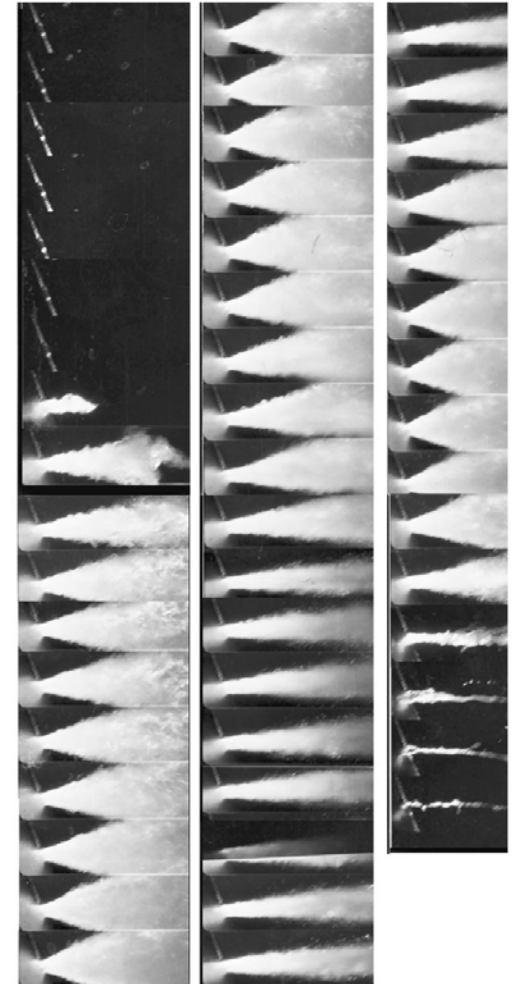
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 - 5. Explains lack of soot formation in upstream jet with long ignition dwell
 - 6. Explains stagnant region near injector after end of injection



To fully realize the potential of LTC, we need better understanding of diesel-jet mixing during/after EOI



- Mixing after the end of injection is critical for preparing mixtures prior to ignition
 - Increased mixing of fuel with ambient gas is essential to reduce soot formation, but ...
 - Too much mixing can lead to over-lean mixtures, incomplete combustion, and UHC + CO emissions
- The end-of-injection transient diesel spray can be very different from the quasi-steady spray
- During and after the end of injection,
 - How/why does the spray angle change?
 - How/why does entrainment increase?
 - How/why do the velocity and flow area change?
 - How/why does the shape of the end-of-injection ramp-down affect mixing?
 - How/why do in-cylinder turbulence and bulk flow structures affect mixing?
 - How/why do all of these phenomena vary for different injectors and facilities?



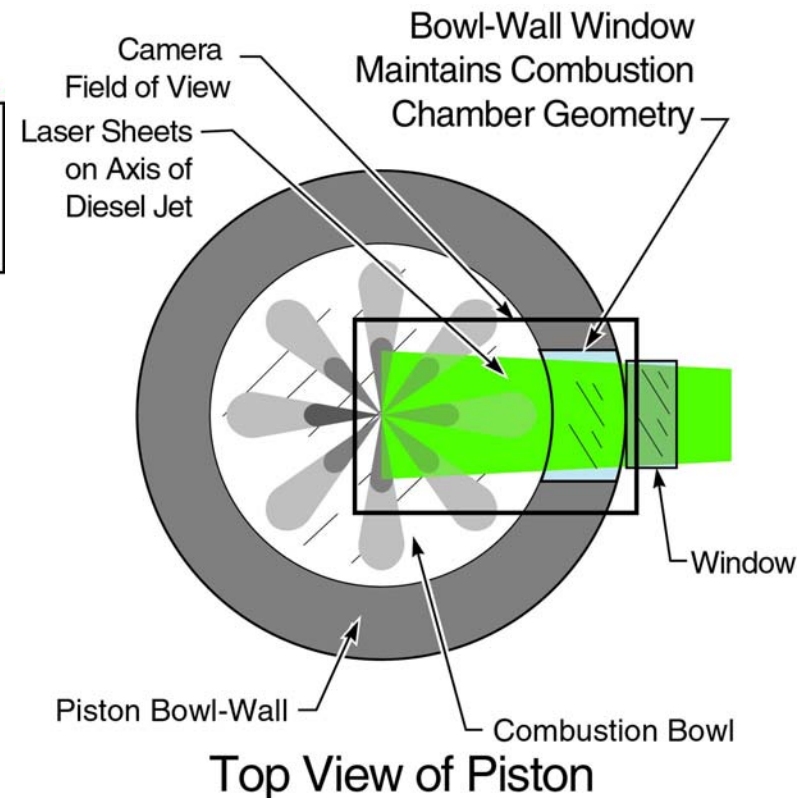
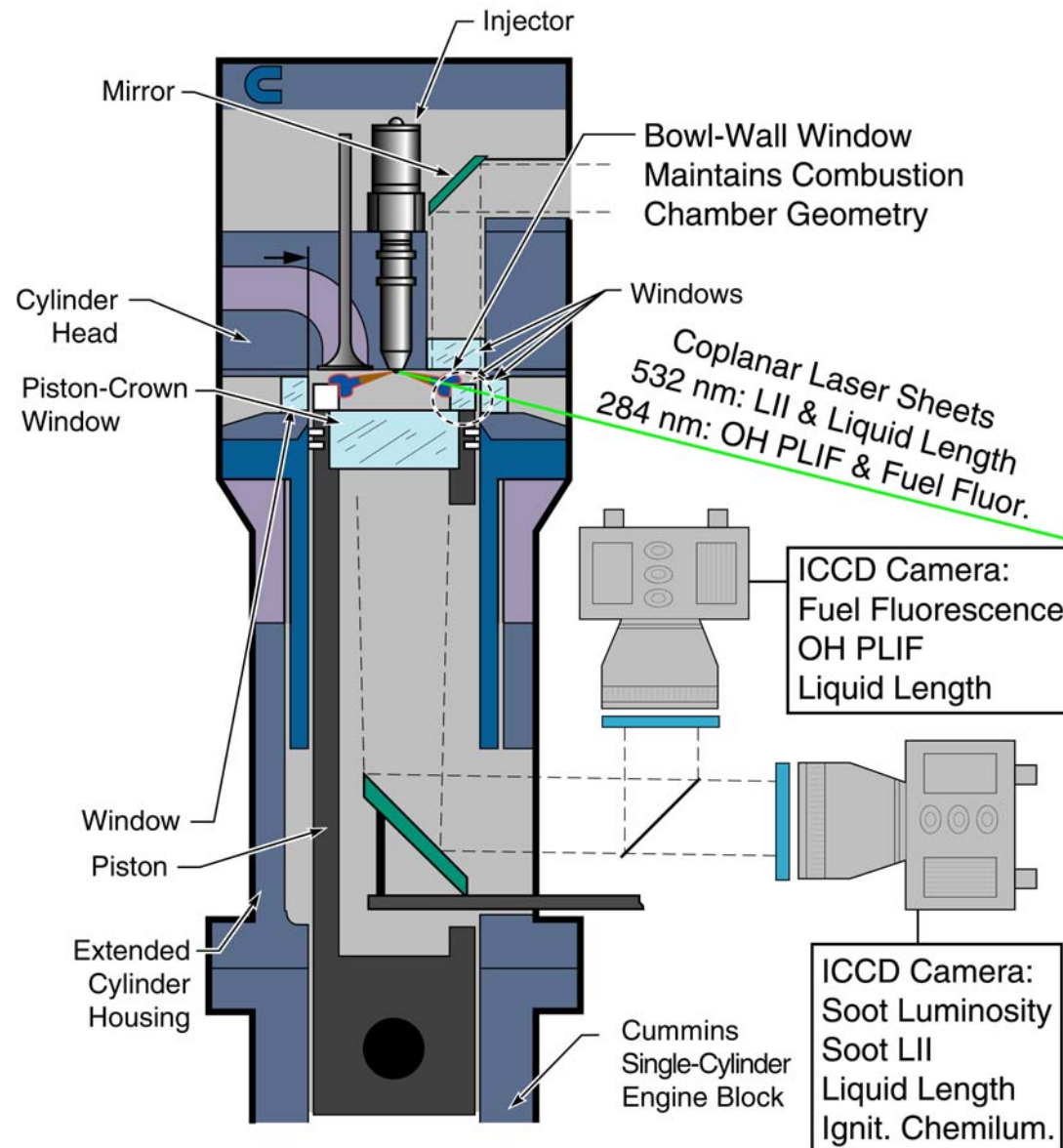
From SAE 2000-01-1256, Han et al.
(Wayne State University, USA)



Simultaneous Diagnostics

Use two laser-sheets and two cameras for simultaneous imaging

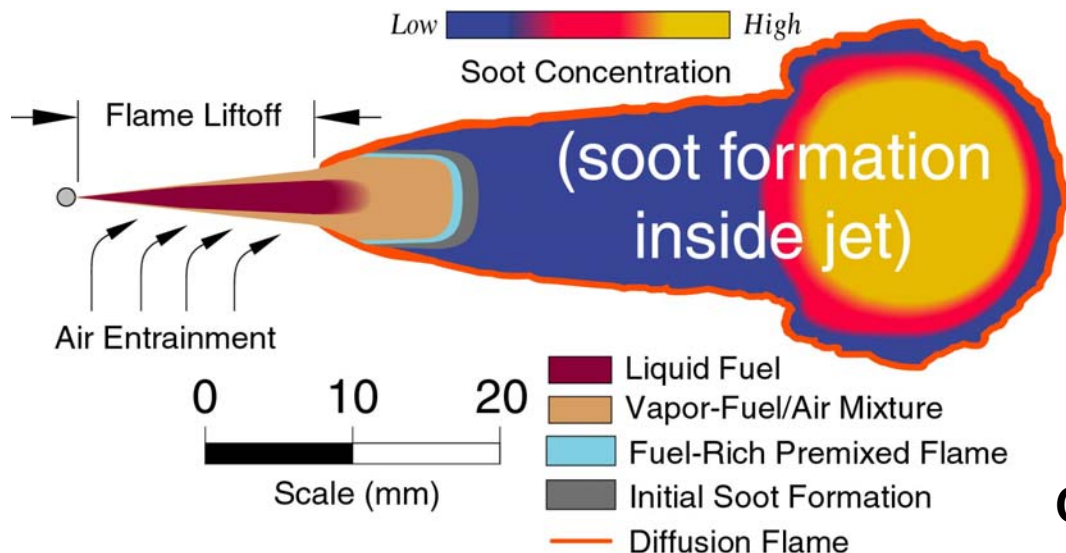
Can use either a cut-out or a window in the piston bowl-wall to allow laser access within piston bowl of combustion chamber



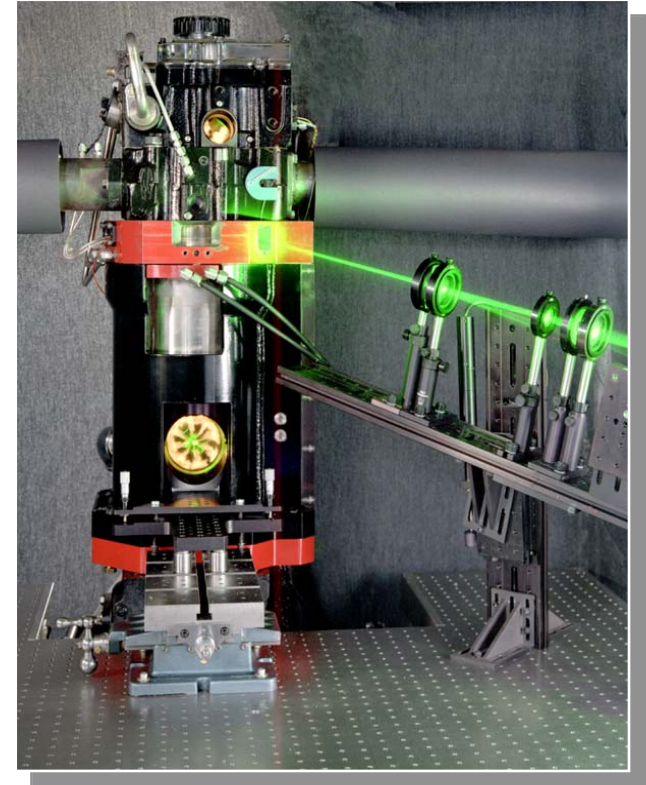
Project Overview: Sandia/Cummins Heavy-Duty Optical Engine



Background: Since late 1980's, in-cylinder diesel spray, combustion, and pollutant formation has been studied at Sandia with multiple laser/optical diagnostics. Data is basis of conceptual model of conventional diesel combustion.



*From SAE 970873, J. Dec,
Conceptual Model of Diesel Combustion*



Current Status: New high-pressure common-rail fuel-injection system, enabling study of advanced, low-temperature, multi-mode combustion schemes.