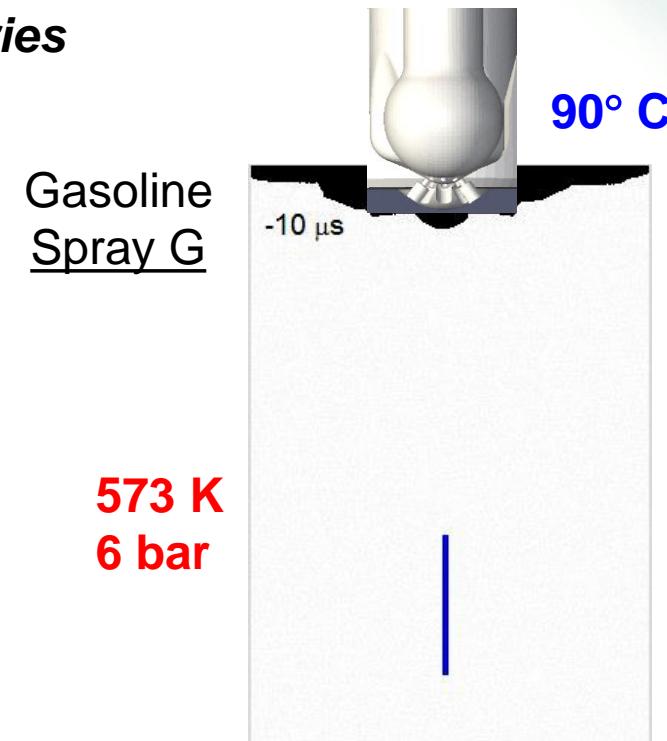
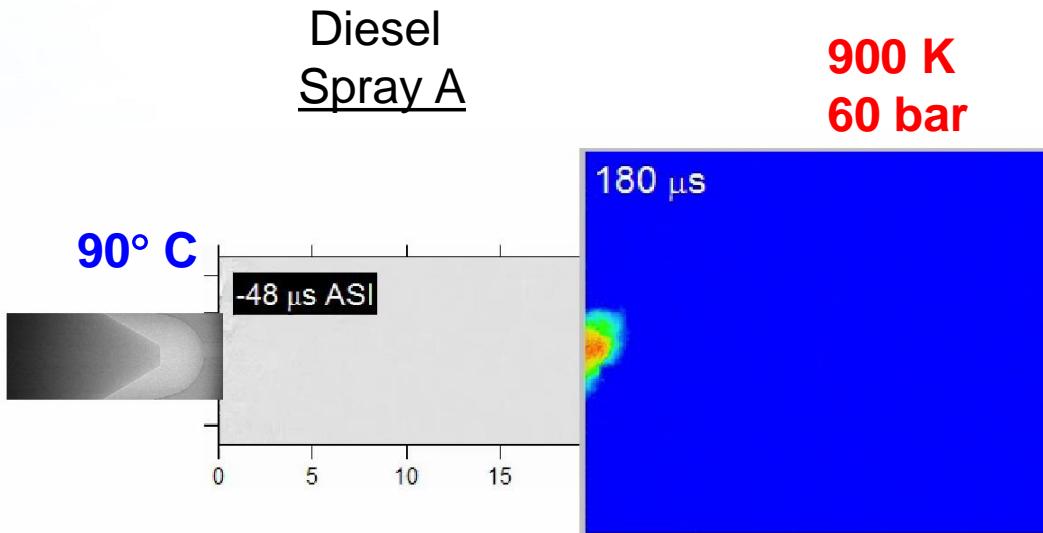


SAND2017-6296C



# Spray Combustion Research for the Engine Combustion Network

Lyle M. Pickett  
*Sandia National Laboratories*



# Acknowledgements

- Julien Manin, Scott Skeen, Mark Musculus, Amanda Andersen, Arif Ahmed, *Sandia National Laboratories*
- Gilles Bruneaux, Laurent Hermant, Louis-Marie Malbec, *IFP Energies nouvelle*
- Chris Powell, Alan Kastengren, Daniel Duke, Katie Matusik, Sibendu Som, Yuanjing Pei, Kaushik Saha, *Argonne National Laboratory*
- Cyril Crua, *U Brighton*
- Panos Sphicas, *Imperial College London*
- Yongjin Jung, *KAIST*
- Tim Bazyn and Glen Martin, *Caterpillar Inc.*
- Scott Parrish, Ron Grover, *GM R&D*
- Sanghoon Kook and Evatt Hawkes, *UNSW Australia*
- Raul Payri, Michele Bardi, Juan-Pablo Viera, Jose-Maria Garcia, *CMT Motores Térmicos*
- Maarten Meijer, Nico Dam, Bart Somers, *Tech. Univ. of Eindhoven*

# Acknowledgements

- Gurpreet Singh & Leo Breton, *Funding for Sandia contribution provided by US DOE Office of Vehicle Technologies*
- *French Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Sea*
- David Cook, Godehard Nentwig, Joel Oudart, Ed Knudsen, *Robert Bosch LLC, donation of injectors.*
- Dan Varble and Lee Markle, *Delphi, donation of injectors.*

# Racing to increase fuel economy

Thing 1



2014 Ford Focus SFE



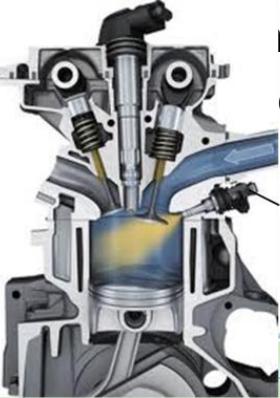
2962 lb curb weight

**EPA MPG:** 28 city / 40 hwy

**~Price:** \$20K

**Engine:**  
2.0 L, 4 cyl, var. cam.  
**direct injection**, nat. asp.  
CR = 12:1, 6 sp. auto

Gasoline direct injection



Energy.gov claims 25% in fuel savings over  
what is typed in fuel savings over  
what is typed in fuel savings over



23 mpg)

Intake

Fuel injector (100-200 bar)

Port fuel injection

Intake port

Spray

Intake valve

RCH FACILITY

Spark plug

Piston

2014 Chevrolet Cruze Eco

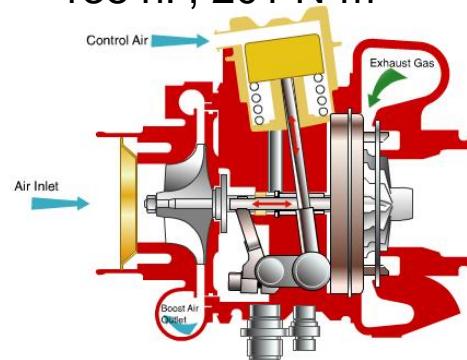


3029 lb curb weight

28 city / 42 hwy

\$20K

**1.4 L**, 4 cyl, Ecotec  
port injection, **turbocharged**  
CR = 9.5:1, 6 sp. manual  
138 hP, 201 N·m



Thing 2



A few other options:  
Honda Civic HF (29/41)  
Hyundai Elantra (29/40)  
Mazda3 (28/40)

# Racing to increase fuel economy

Thing 1



2016 Ford Focus SE



2960 lb curb weight

EPA MPG:

30 city / 42 hwy

~Price:

\$20K

Engine:

1.0 L, 3 cyl  
direct injection, turbocharged  
CR = 10:1, 6 sp. manual  
123 hP (6000 rpm), 169 N·m

Thing 2



2016 Chevrolet Cruze LT



2932 lb curb weight

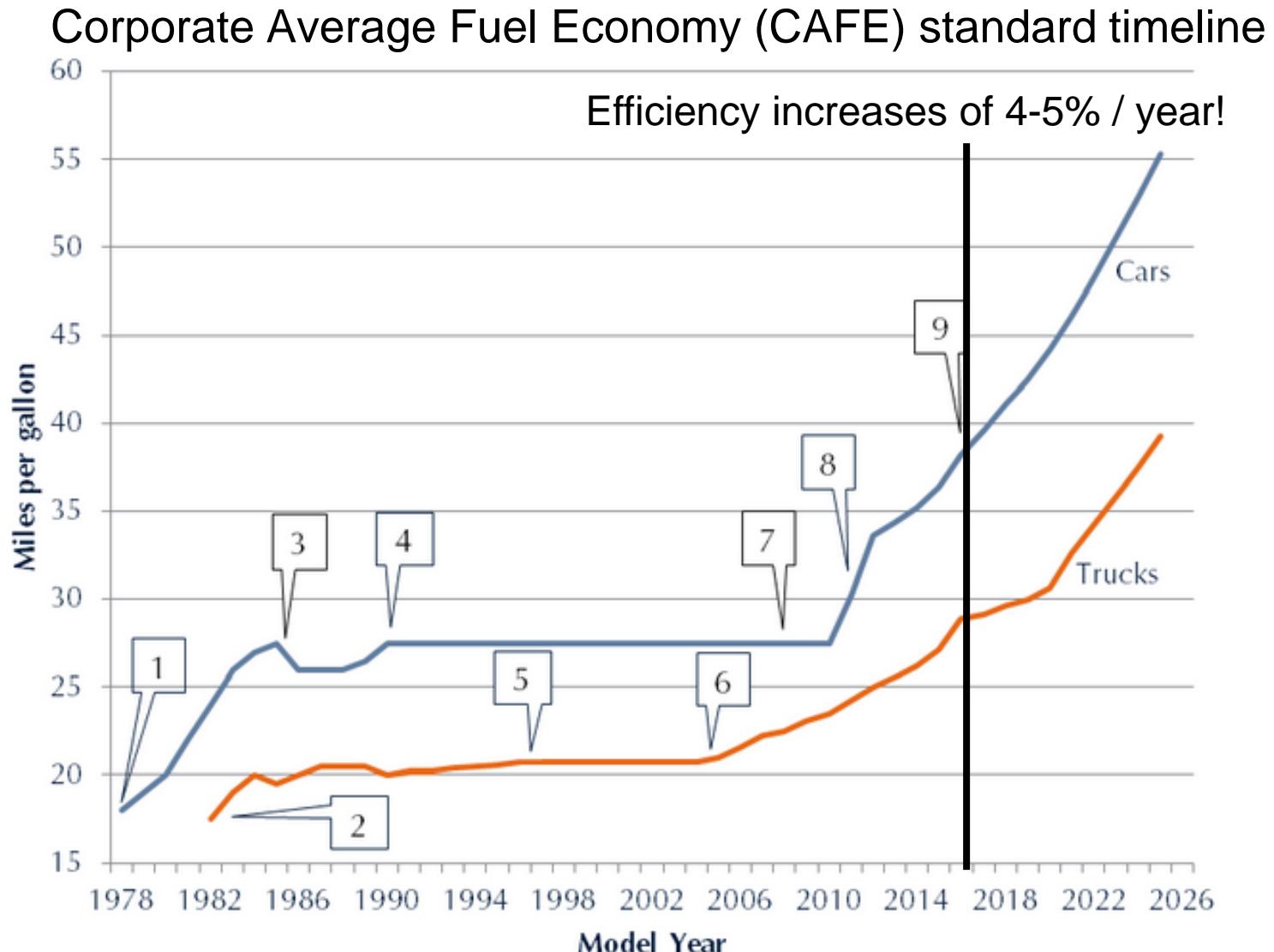
30 city / 42 hwy

\$20K

1.4 L, 4 cyl, “new” Ecotec  
direct injection, turbocharged  
CR = 10:1, 6 sp. auto  
153 hP (5600 rpm), 240 N·m

- Chevy announces that it will release a 1.6L Cruze diesel in 2017
  - 2014 2.0L diesel gets EPA 46 mpg hwy. Expect 48-50 mpg hwy for 1.6L?

# A time of innovation for vehicle development



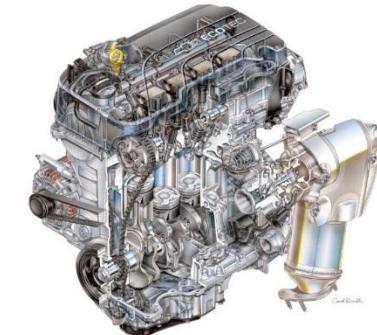
# The cost of engine development is enormous

- Typical vehicle development cycle
  - Performance, emissions, fuel economy, durability
  - Round-the-clock tests with 3 work shifts



GM Powertrain Engineering Development Center  
120 test cells completed in 2008: \$465 Million  
Expanded to include R&D, racing in 2016: \$200 Million

# How new engines are developed



GM 2016 news release on new Ecotec I4 engine:

Computer simulation and modeling were instrumental in developing the new engine. GM's engineers at Global Propulsion Systems centers around the globe were able to design and test parts virtually and immediately share the results with their colleagues.

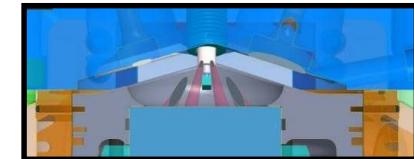
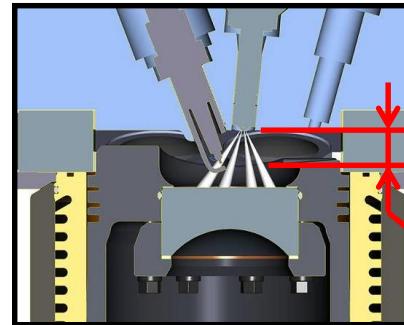
In addition to designing the engines' basic components electronically, friction, temperature, emissions, efficiency and other performance attributes were modeled and simulated multiple times to make the most of performance before the first physical components were produced. Modeling also helped cylinder block design and other components with structural and acoustic considerations.

Tom Sutter, GM Ecotec global chief engineer:

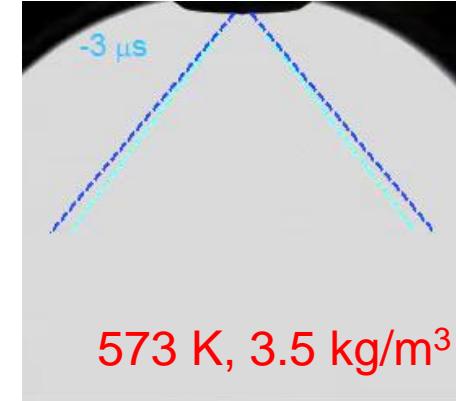
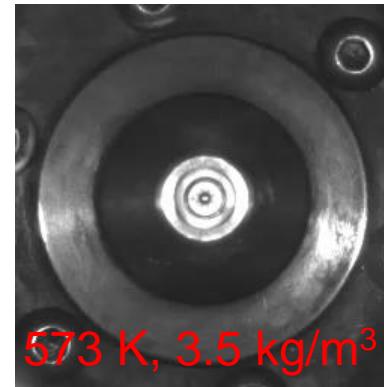
“By doing the majority of the development with math data, the time to design, validate and bring to market an all-new engine family was greatly reduced”

# But to date, the fuel spray processes are not adequately modeled

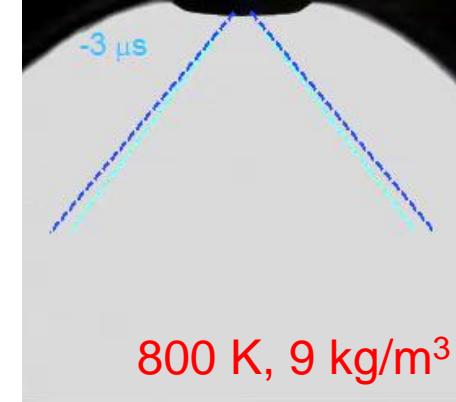
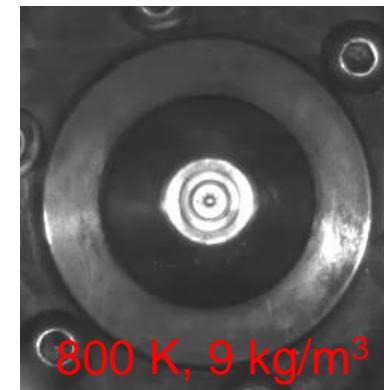
- Lack of predictive spray modeling is a barrier to high-efficiency gasoline
  - Particulate emissions
  - Engine knock or preignition
  - Slow burn rate or partial burn
  - Heat release control when using compression ignition
- Influence of direct-injection spray
  - Fuel films on piston/injector, rich pockets from plume collapse, and poorly atomized fuel
  - Affects temperature non-uniformities
  - Mixture/flow preparation near spark
  - Intentional control of stratification/residence time to stage heat release



8-hole, gasoline  
80° total angle  
~15mm



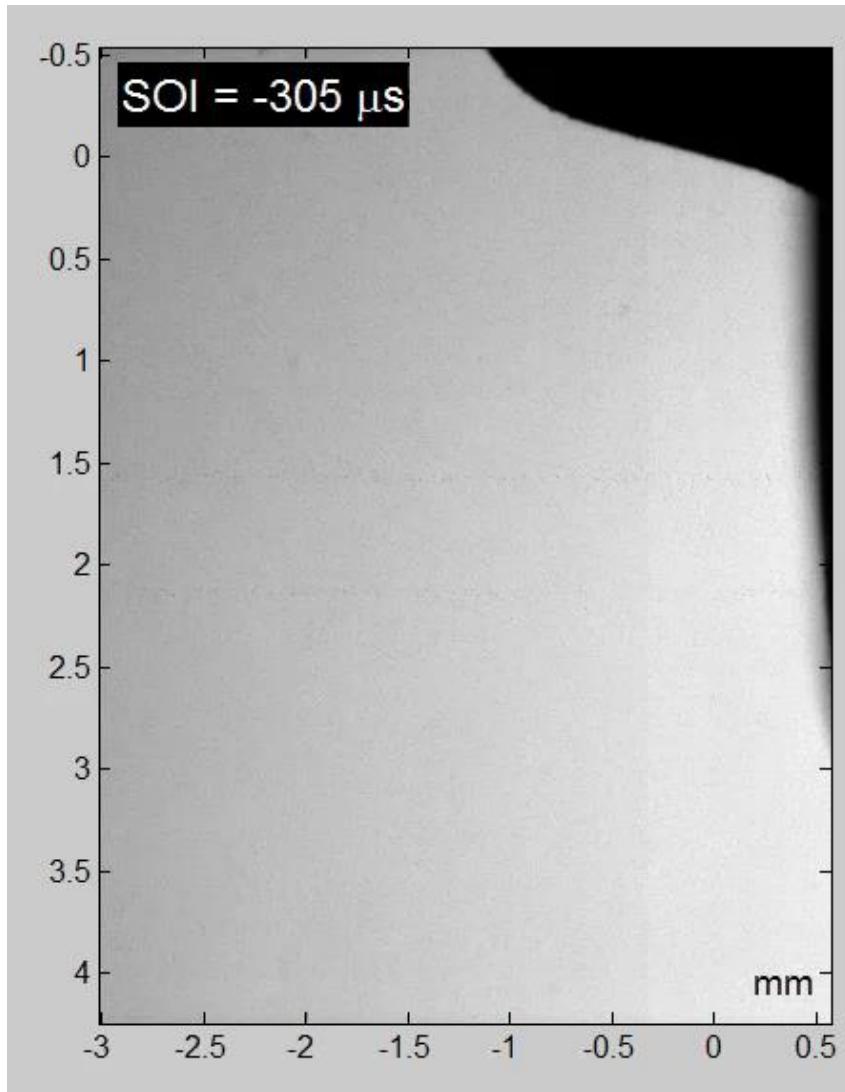
573 K, 3.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup>



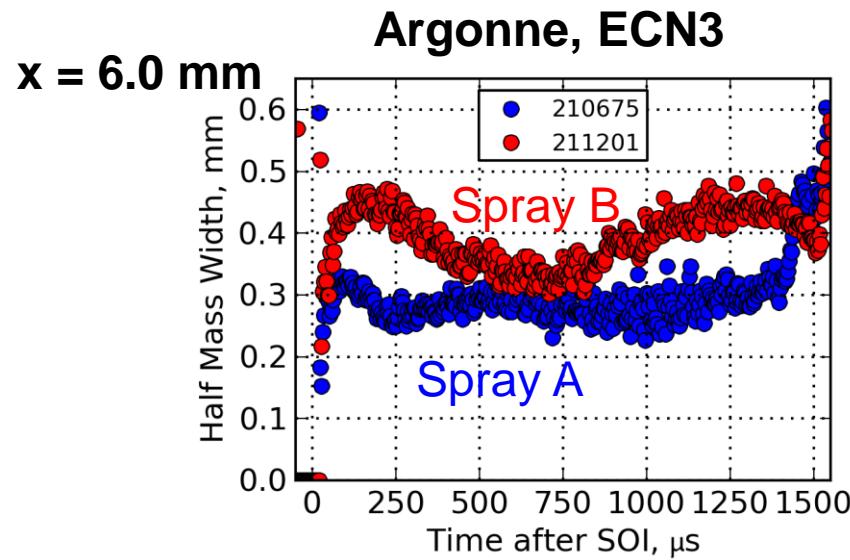
800 K, 9 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

# Example of spray modeling need

ECN Diesel Spray B



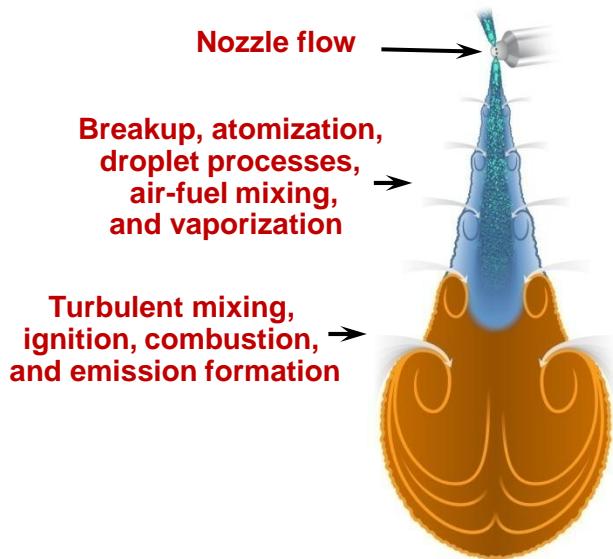
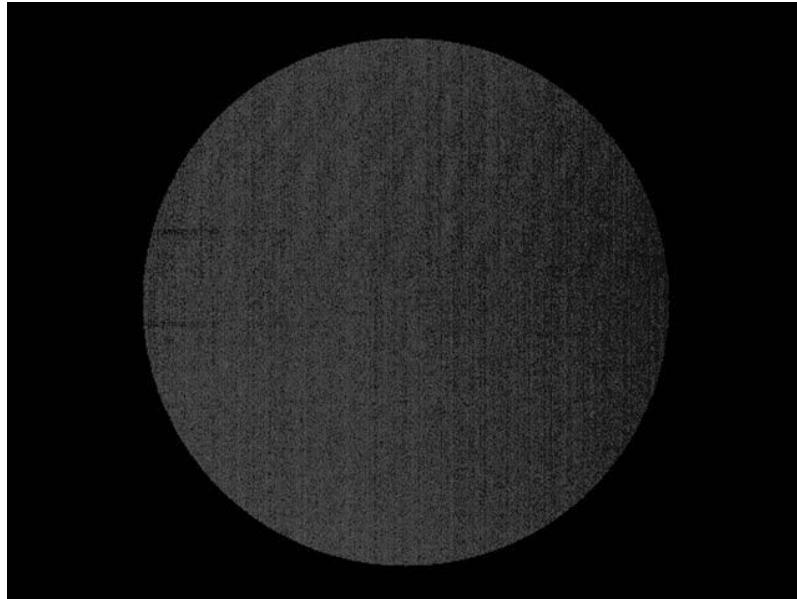
- Work is needed to model the transients of spray development
  - Causes for variation in spray dispersion with respect to time are often unknown
- and spray mixing generally
  - Still a need to simply understand “where the fuel goes”



# Spray combustion in an engine

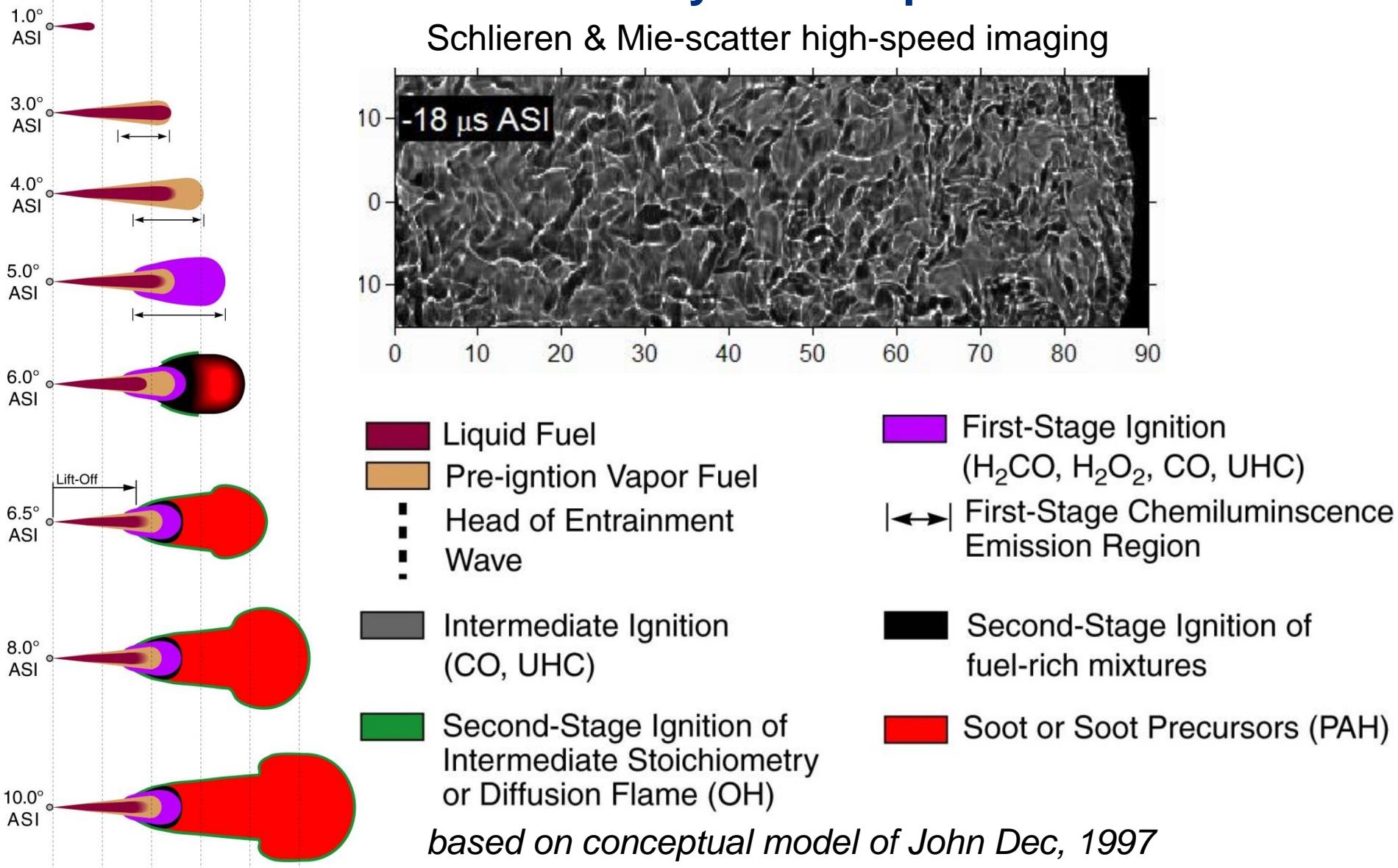
Diesel spray combustion imaging through transparent piston

Mark Musculus, Sandia



- Future high-efficiency engine concepts are all direct-injection
  - Diesel
  - Gasoline direct-injection
  - Partially-premixed gasoline compression ignition

# Current understanding of diesel combustion, summarized by a conceptual model

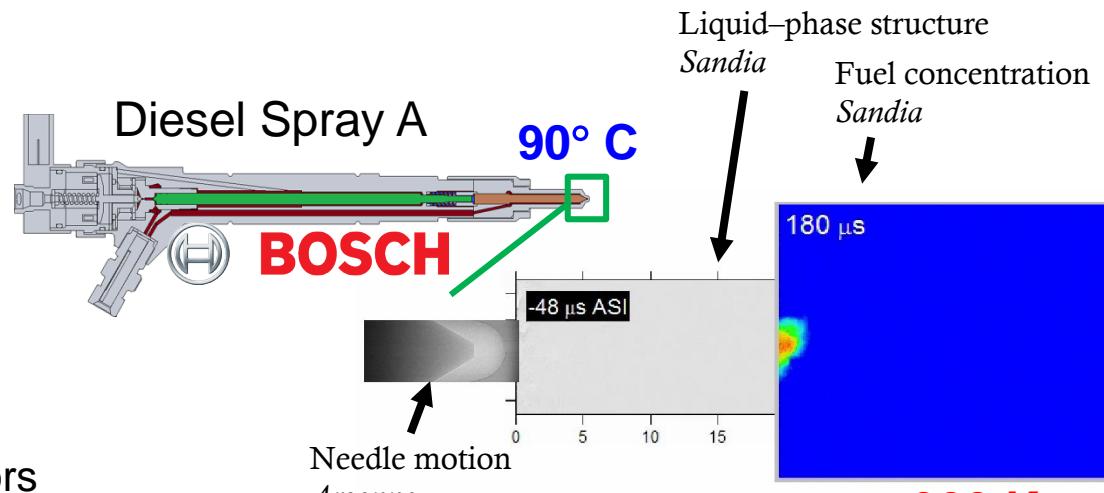


# Introducing the Engine Combustion Network

<https://ecn.sandia.gov>

## ECN Targets

- Develop diesel and gasoline target conditions with emphasis on CFD modeling shortcomings
- Comprehensive experimental and modeling contributions
- Diesel Spray A, B, C, D
- Gasoline Spray G
- Engine datasets using these injectors are now available online

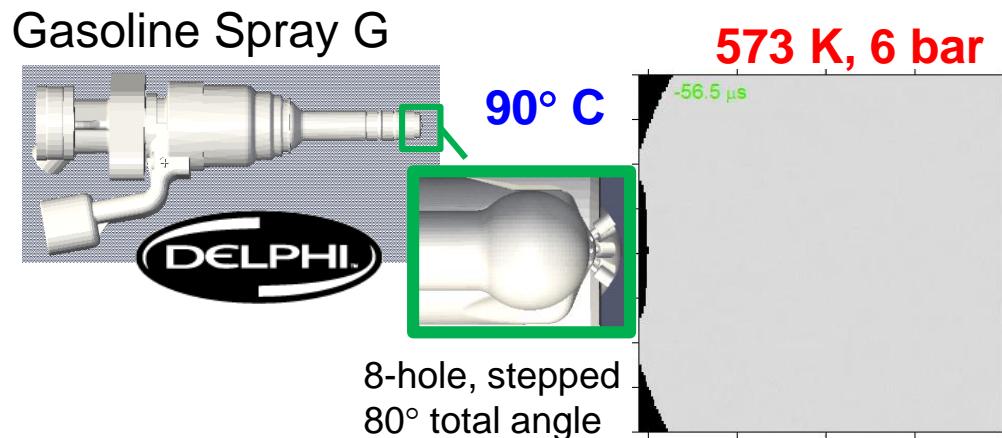


Needle motion  
Argonne

*>60 measurements/diagnostics  
contributed from >15 institutions*

## ECN workshop organization

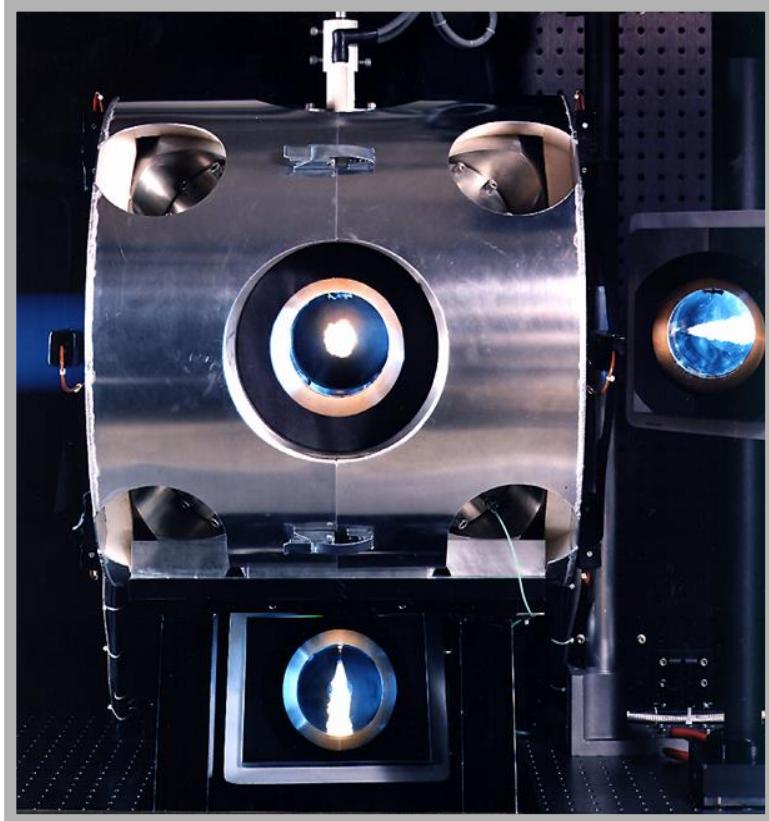
- Organizers gather experimental and modeling data, perform analysis, understand differences, provide expert review, in 10 different topics
- Monthly web meetings
- In-person workshop
  - ECN4 September 2015
  - ECN5 April 2017 at Wayne State (before SAE World Congress)



# ECN seeks to obtain quantitative (CFD validation) data, beyond a conceptual model understanding

- Liquid volume fraction and droplet size in the dense spray region and near the liquid length
- Mixture fraction (fuel/air ratio) distribution
- Velocity and turbulence
- Soot volume fraction and structure distribution, particularly during transients
- Ignition location and timing
- Internal injector geometry for working injectors
- Information about internal injector cavitation and flows
- Aerodynamics (velocity) of plume-plume interaction and collapse

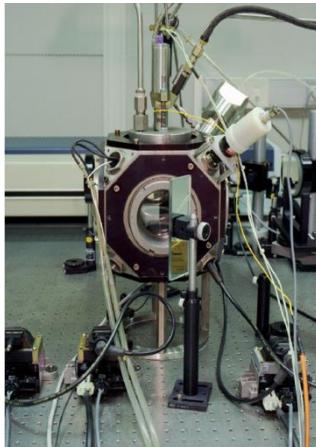
# Using a constant-volume chamber to mimic engine conditions for spray combustion studies.



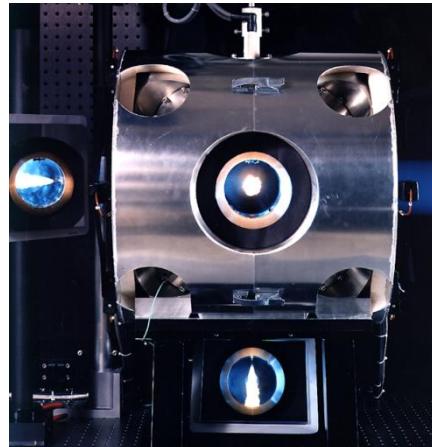
- Well-defined ambient conditions:
  - 300 to 1300 K
  - up to 350 bar
  - 0-21% O<sub>2</sub> (EGR)
- Injector
  - single- or multi-hole injectors
  - diesel or gasoline
- Full optical access
  - 100 mm on a side
- Boundary condition control needed for CFD model development and validation.
  - Better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

# Use multiple facilities to improve accuracy / remove uncertainties and leverage datasets

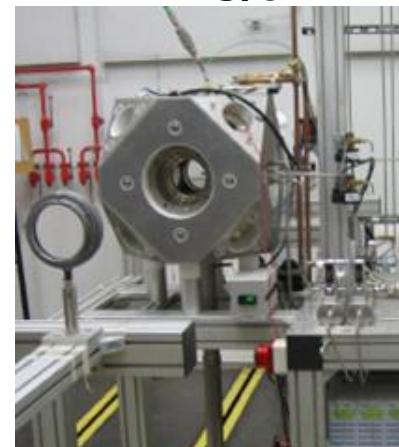
IFPEn



SNL



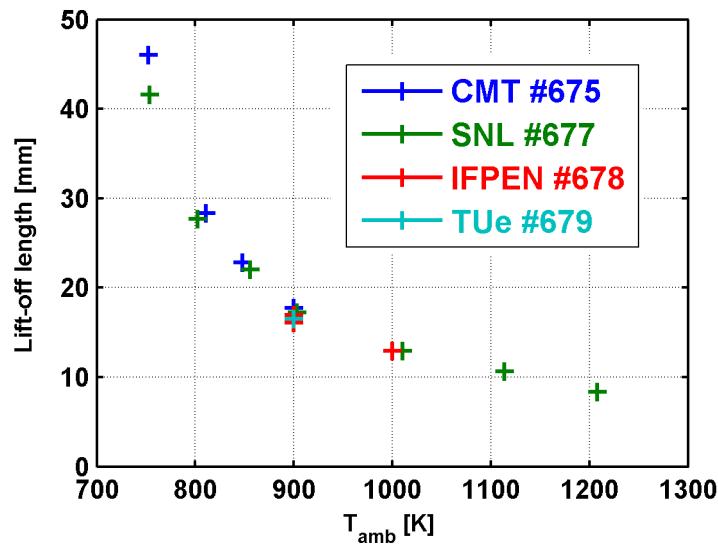
TU/e



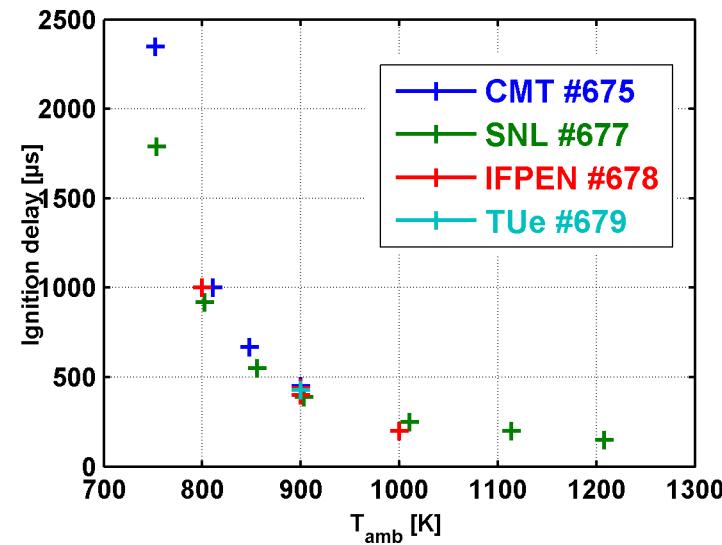
CMT



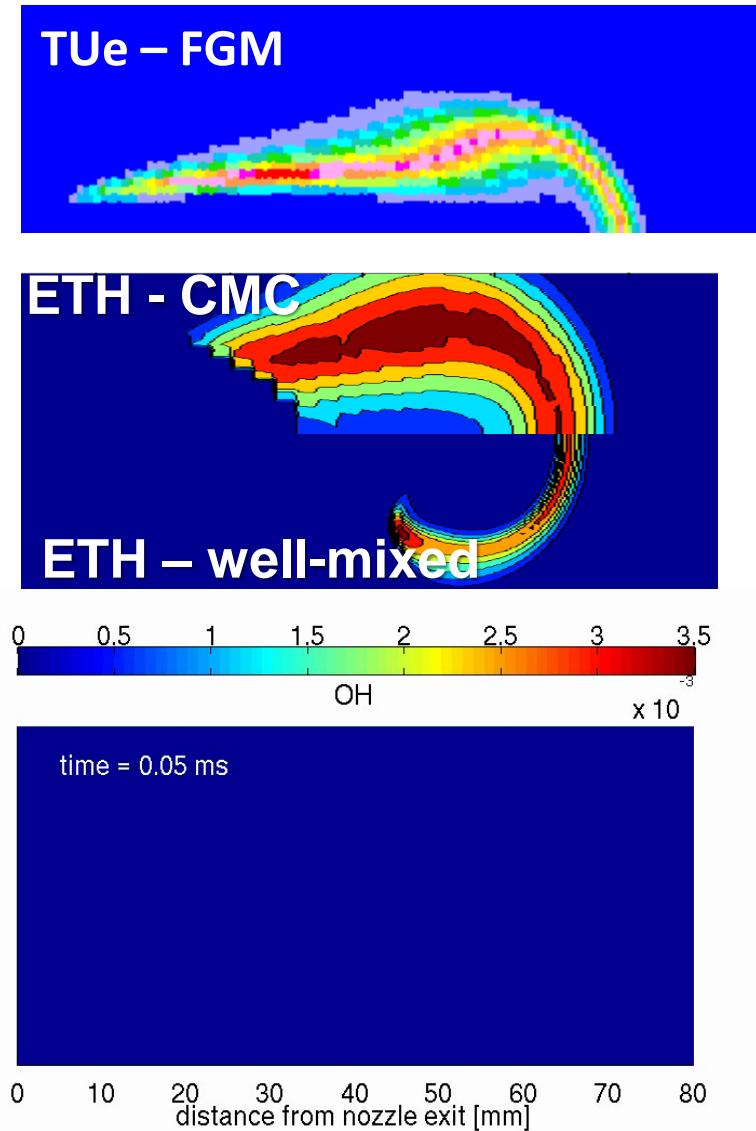
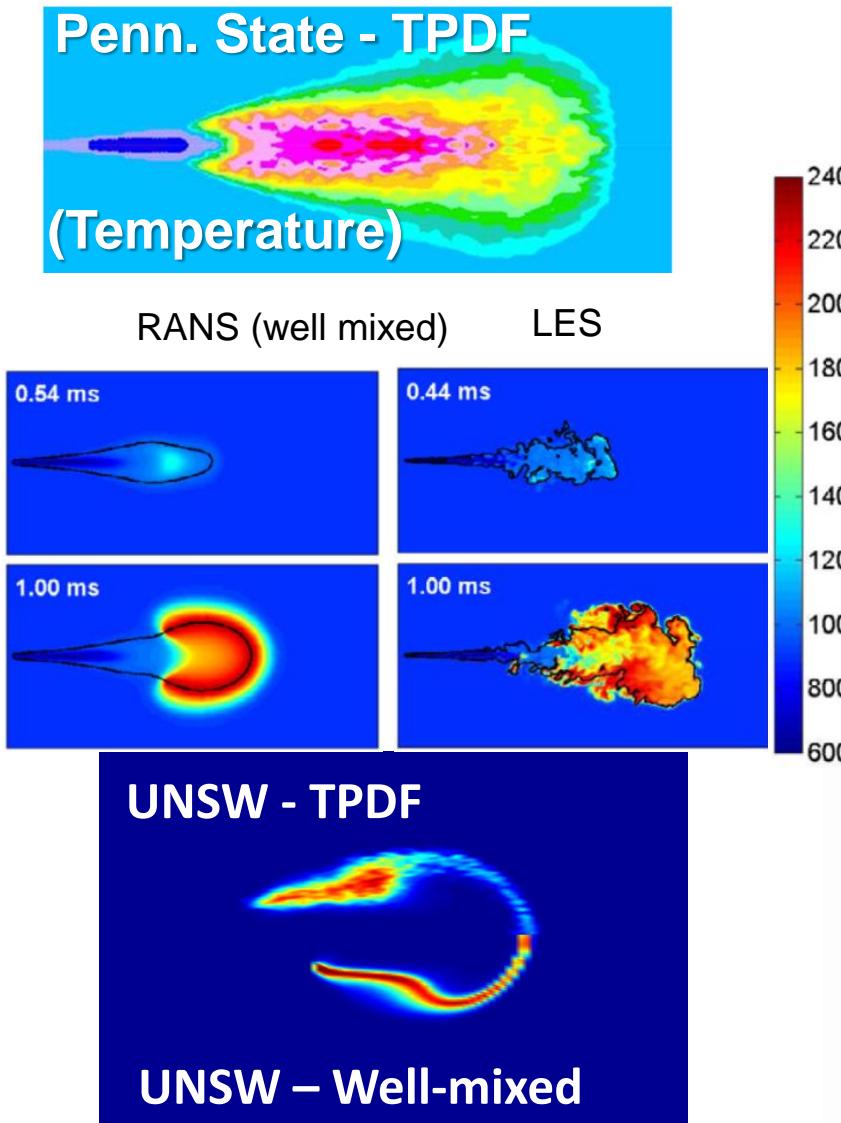
Lift-off length  $\rho = 22.8 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $P_{\text{rail}} = 150 \text{ MPa}$



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



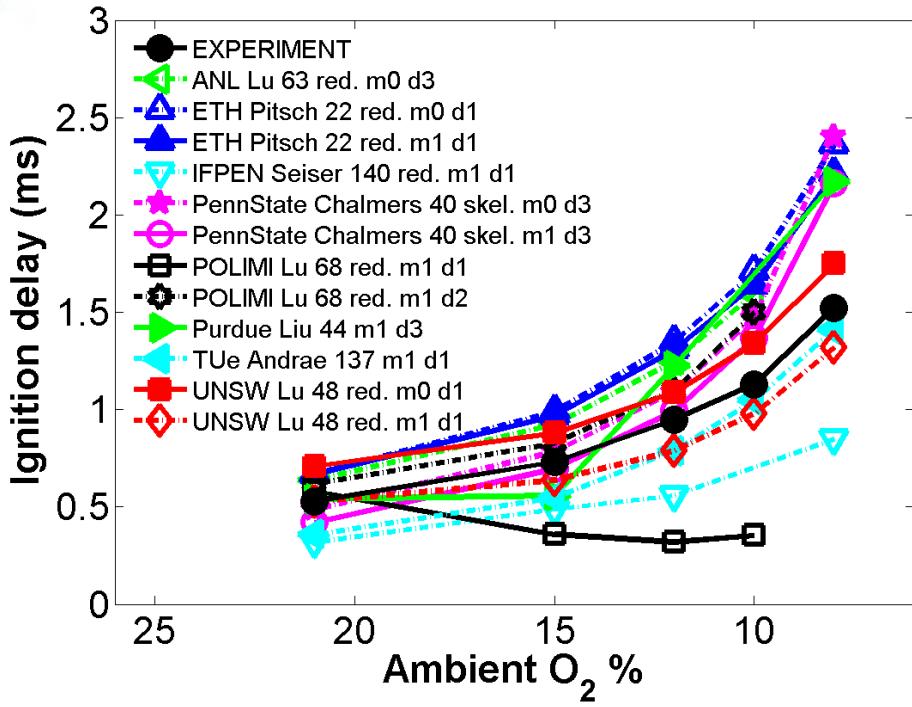
# Qualitative modeling comparison



# Ignition delay predictions at ECN2

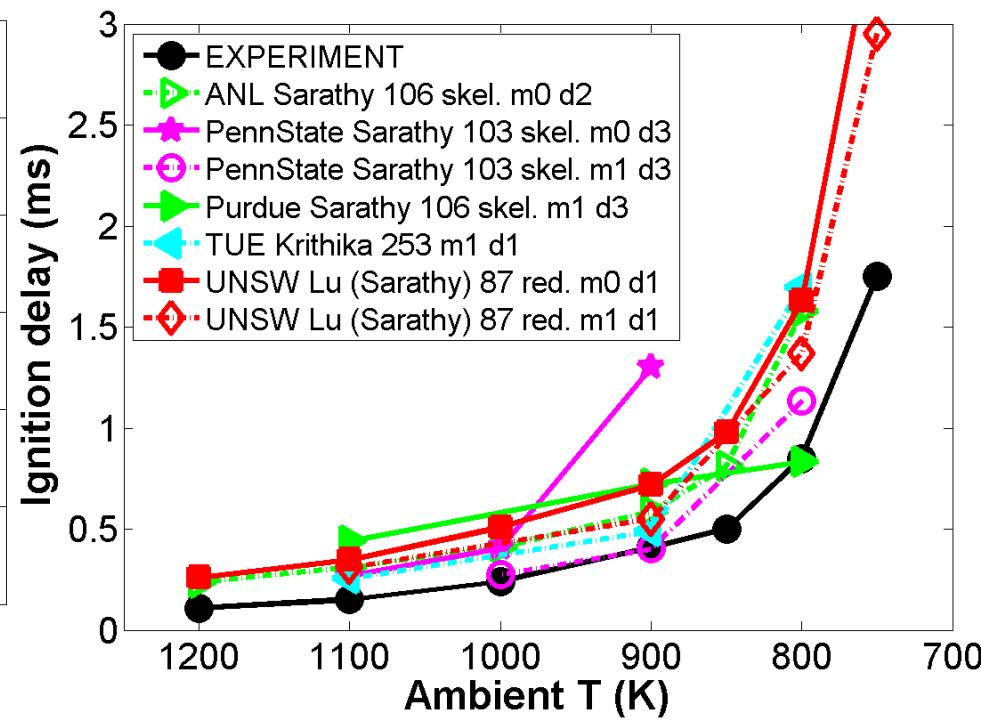
Spray H

C7H16, 1000 K, 14.8 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, 150 Mpa



Spray A

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



# Diesel ignition/combustion linked to transient mixing

Diesel “Spray A” conditions

Ambient Gas   Fuel

900 K

60 bar

15% O<sub>2</sub>

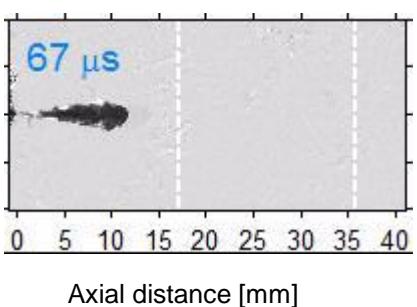
373 K

1500 bar

n-dodecane

90  $\mu\text{m}$  nozzle

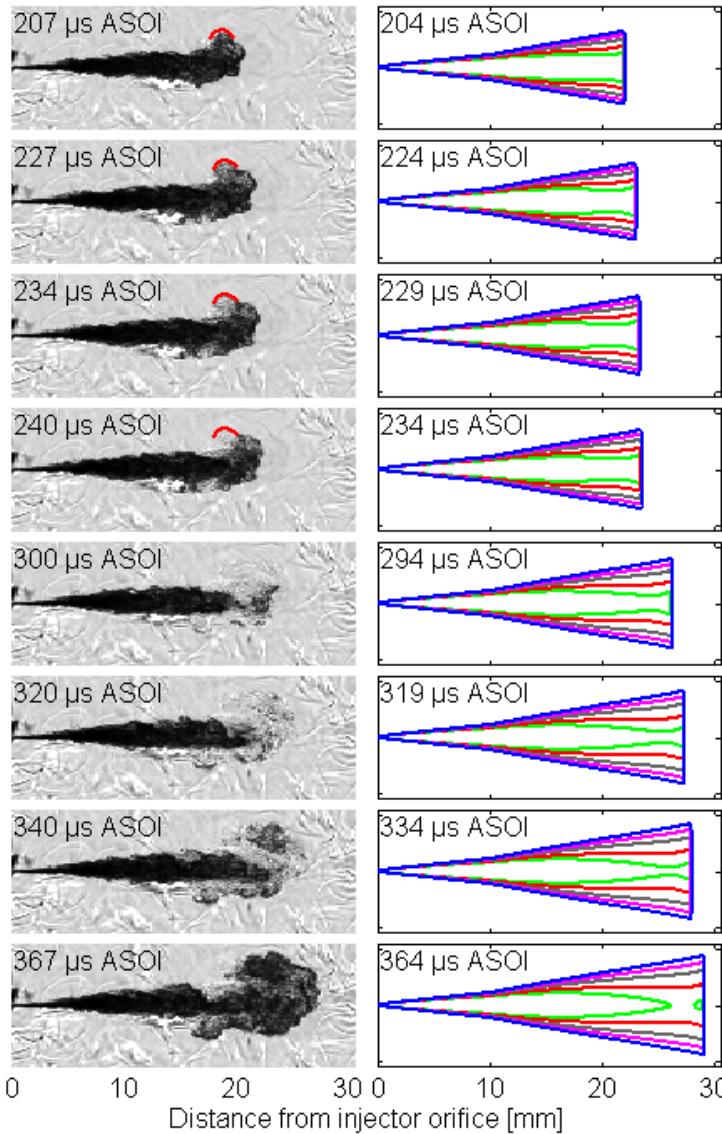
150 kHz schlieren imaging



- Cool flame initiates in radial periphery
  - schlieren “transparency” along a line-of-sight suggests large-scale organization
  - cool flame temperature close to 900 K
- High-temperature ignition occurs in the “head” region
  - low-density (2000 K) zones appear again
  - Flame “lift-off” stabilizes at approx. 17 mm
- Accurate CFD modeling of ignition is needed

## Schlieren

$\phi = 3.0$     $\phi = 2.0$     $\phi = 1.0$     $\phi = 0.5$     $\phi = 0.2$

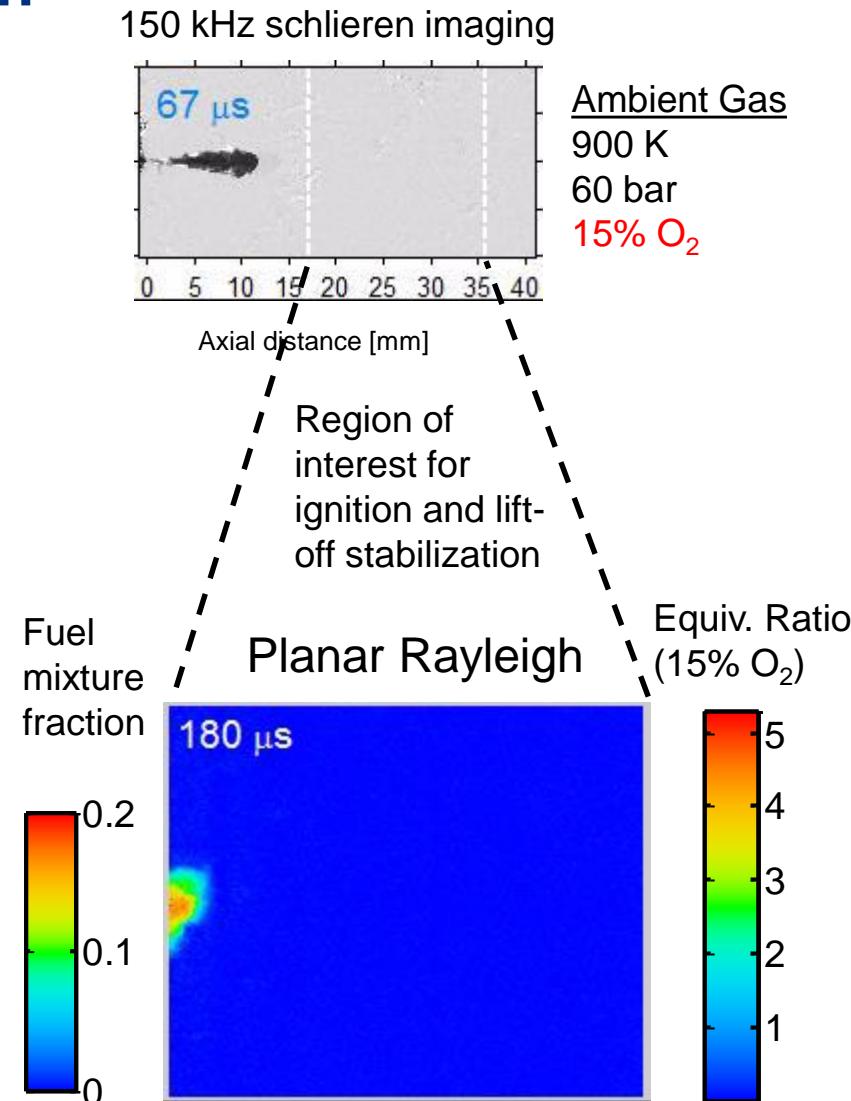


Jet Model Predictions  
of Equivalence Ratio

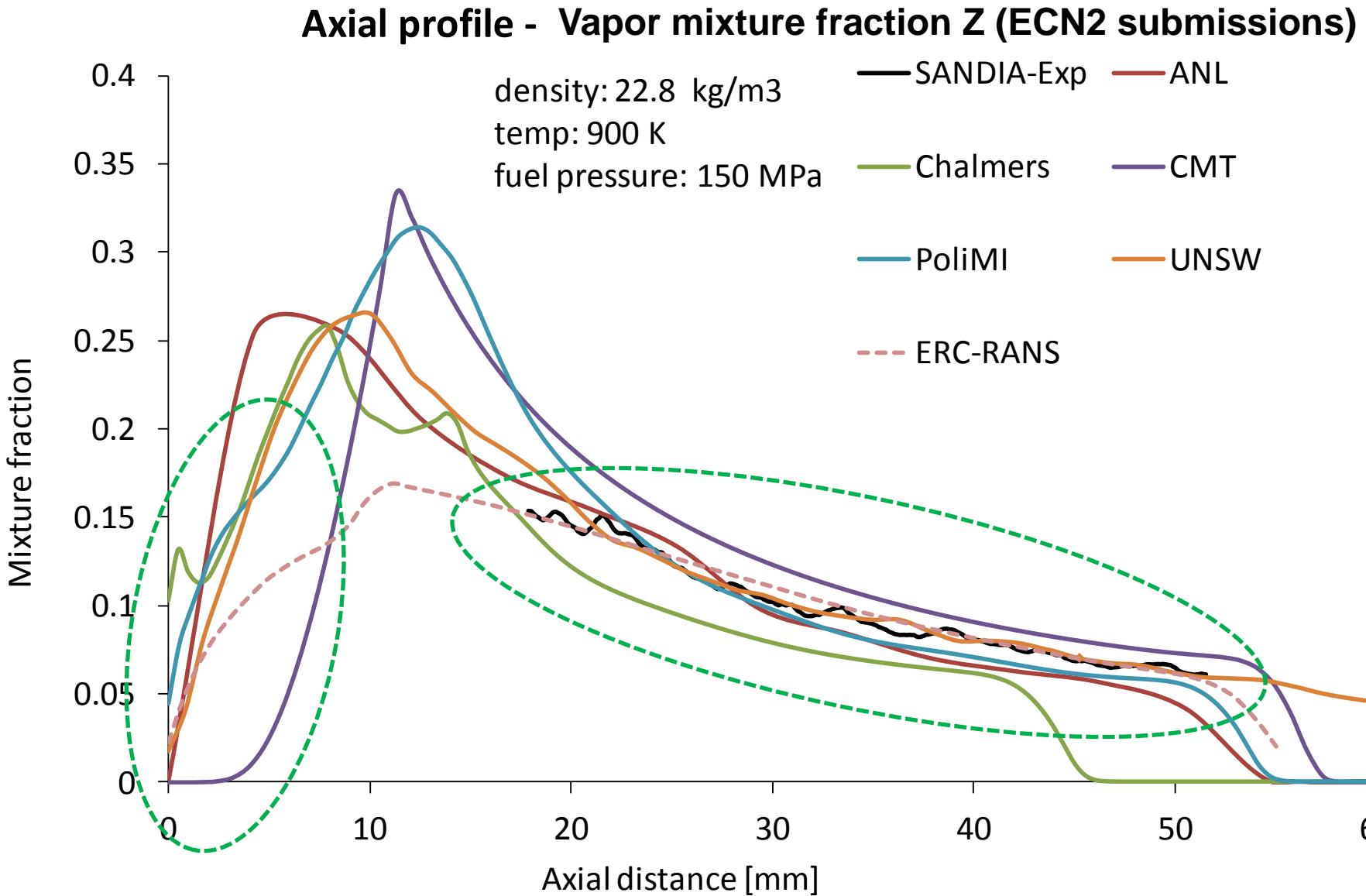
# Transient spray mixture fraction measured (non-reacting) in vaporized region

- Rayleigh imaging quantifies transient mixture fraction / equivalence ratio for the first time
  - Performed at 100 kHz
- Jet mixing characterized by large structures shed to the side and re-entrained
  - Larger residence time in hot mixtures
- Obvious target for high-fidelity LES studies
  - verify accurate mixing field as a preliminary step towards predicting ignition/combustion
  - quantify variance, intermittency, scalar gradients

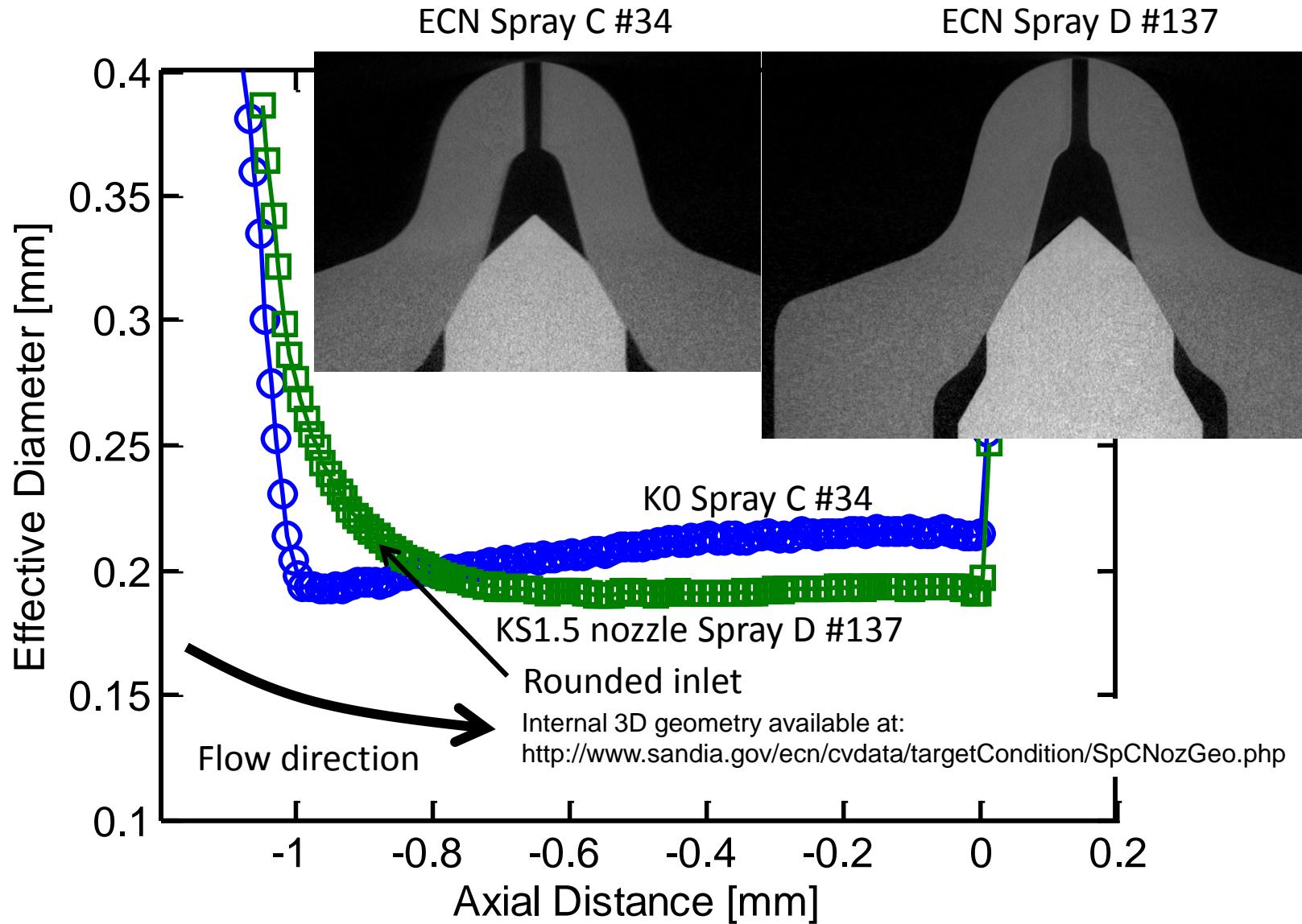
Ambient Gas  
900 K  
60 bar  
0% O<sub>2</sub>



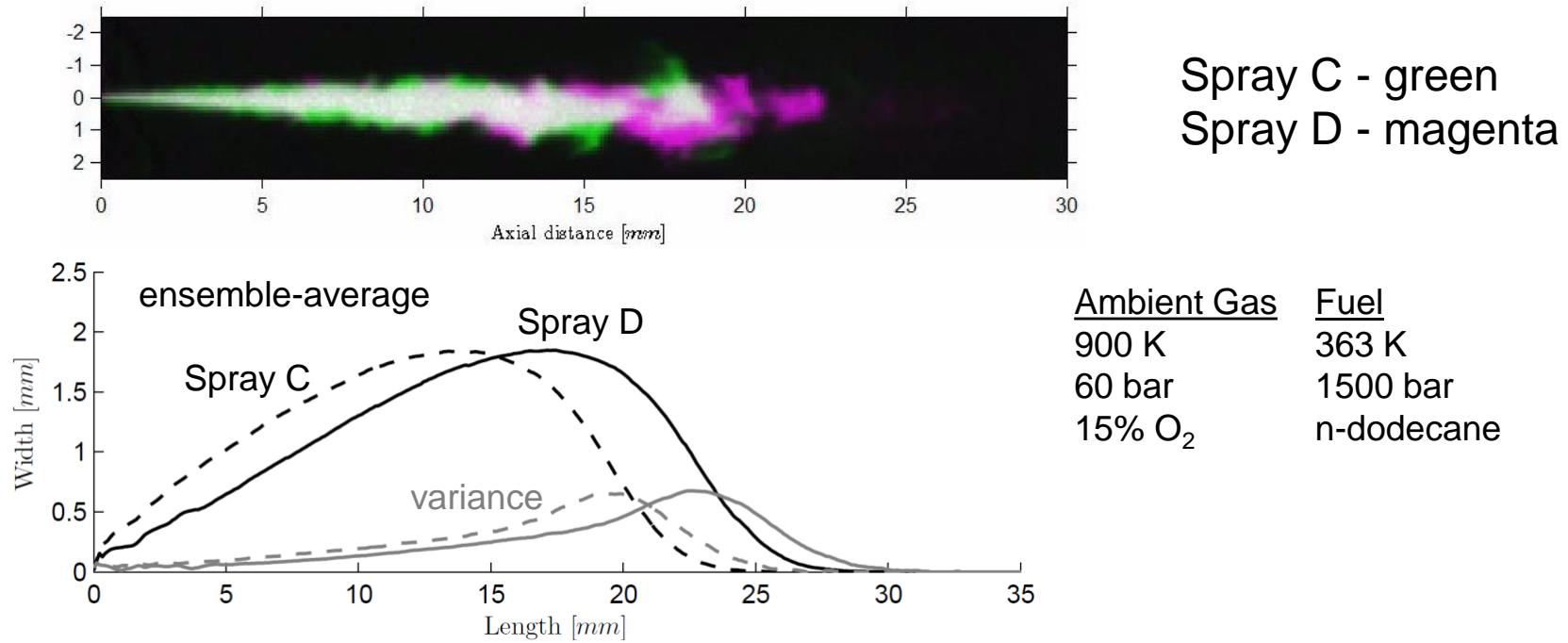
# Models show variance in near-nozzle region, self-similarity downstream of liquid length



# Characterizing spray combustion with nozzles of different shape

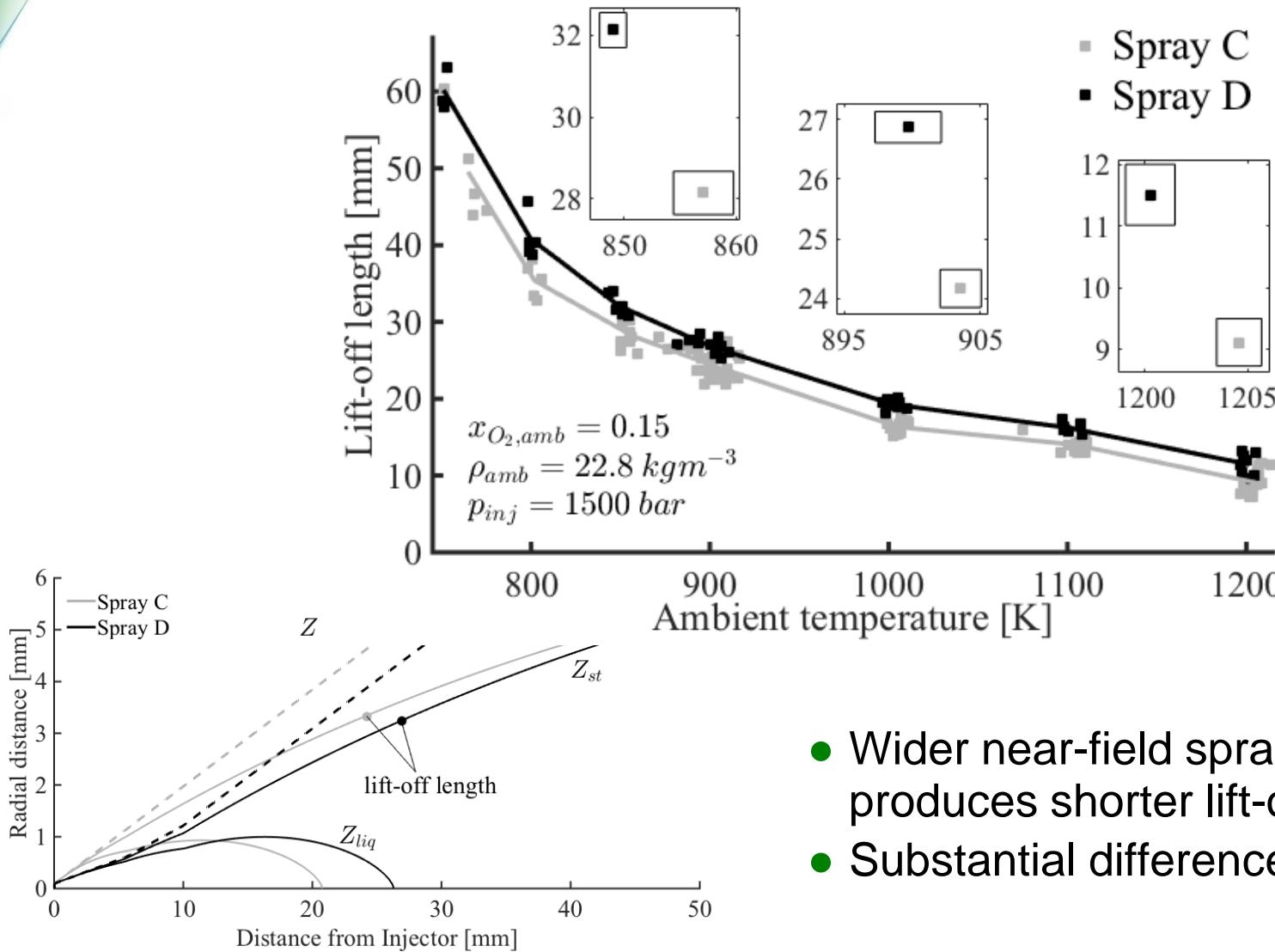


# Comparison of liquid penetration and evaporation



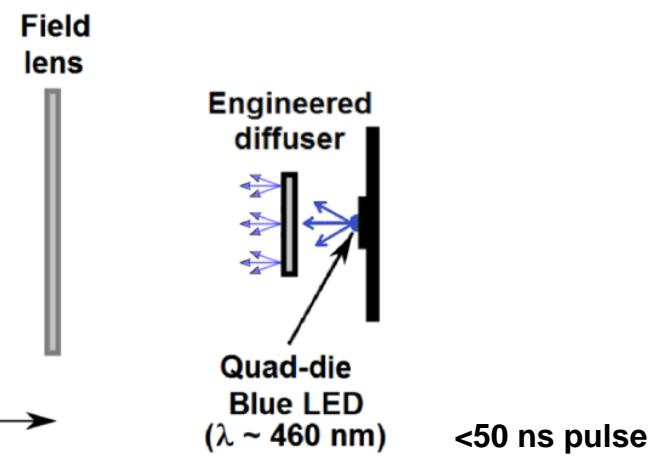
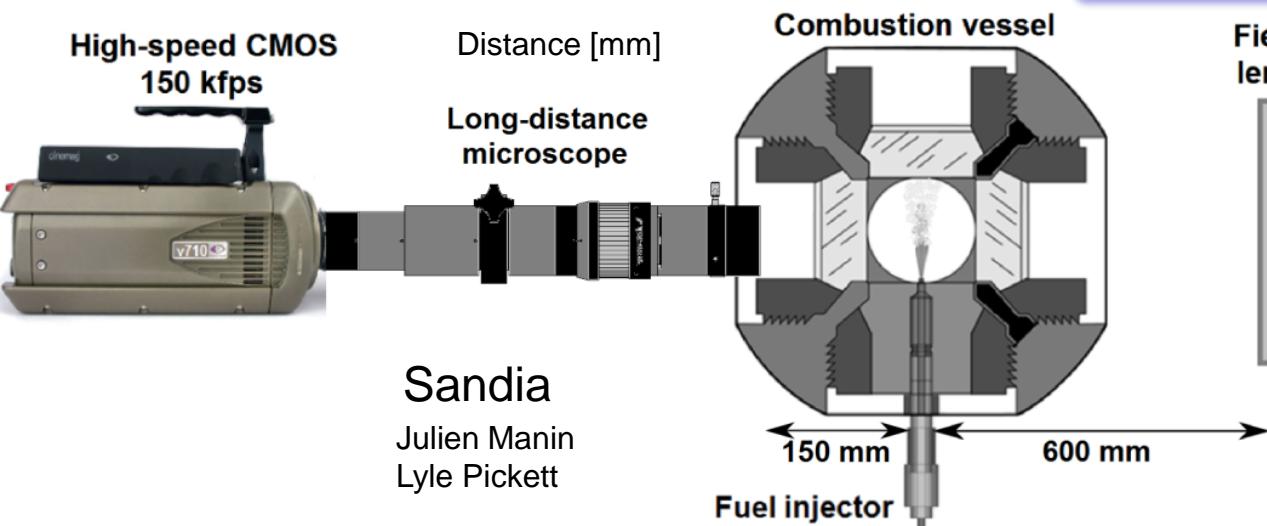
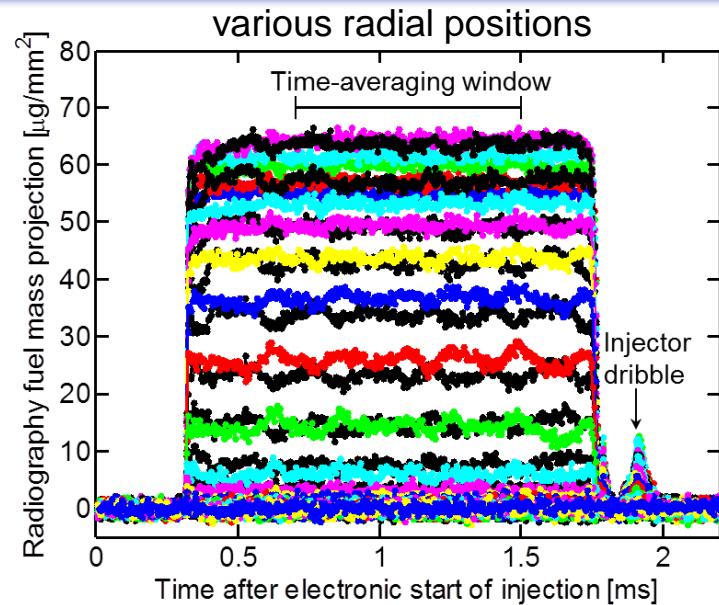
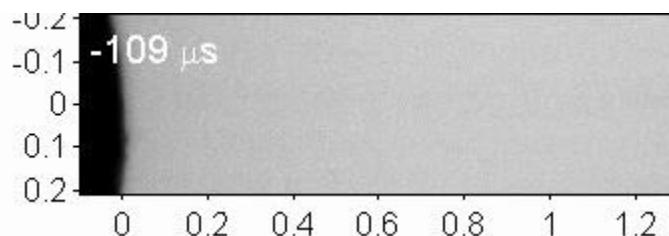
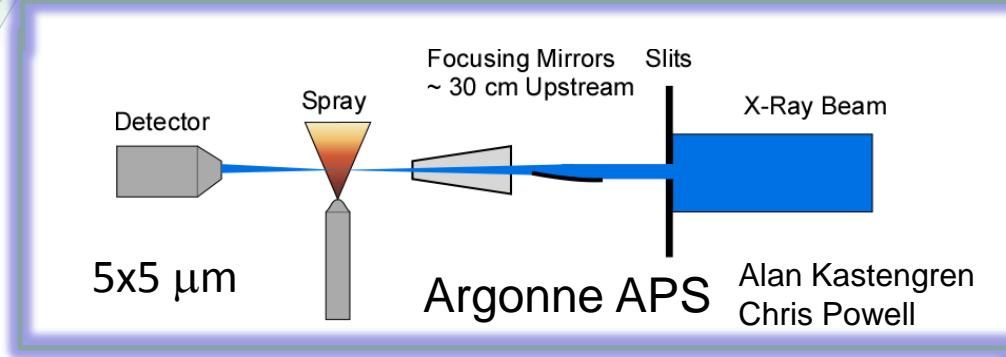
- Liquid/vapor boundary is wider and more deformed closer to the nozzle for Spray C
- Width of spray correlates with magnitude of variance at the boundary

# While ignition delay is essentially equal, there is an offset in lift-off length that persists over a wide parameter space



- Wider near-field spray ultimately produces shorter lift-off length
- Substantial difference!

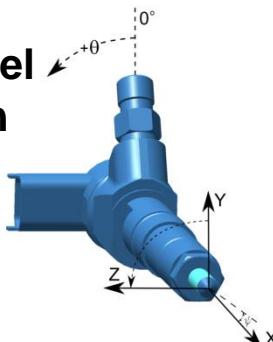
# ECN study of near-field of Spray A using optical microscopy (Sandia) and radiography (Argonne)



# x-ray radiography mixing measurements performed in dense region of the spray (and further downstream)

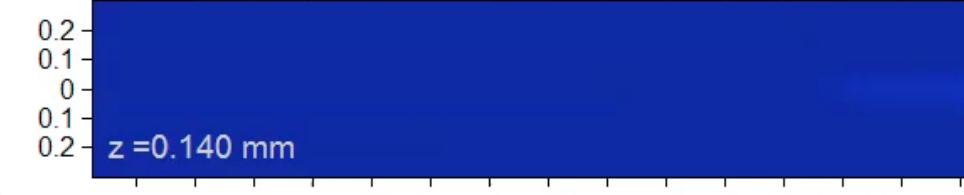
## Measured fuel distribution

Azimuthal perspective variation

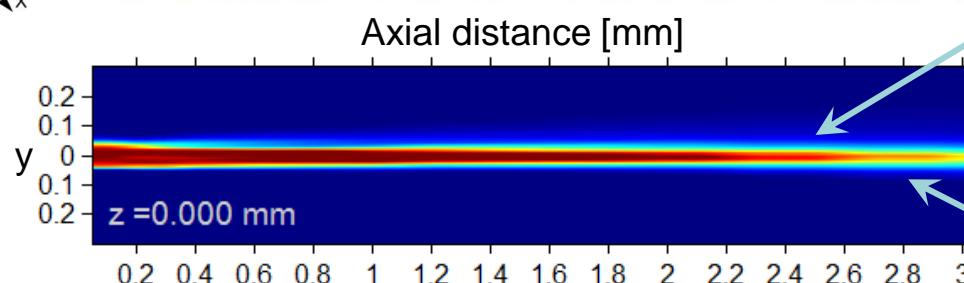


Fuel density visualization with "ramp-up" transparency

"Fly through" of slices in z direction



Mean of the steady-state period of injection



Layer growth stronger on top of spray (linked to hole geometry)

Intact liquid core broken up by 3 mm (ensemble- average)

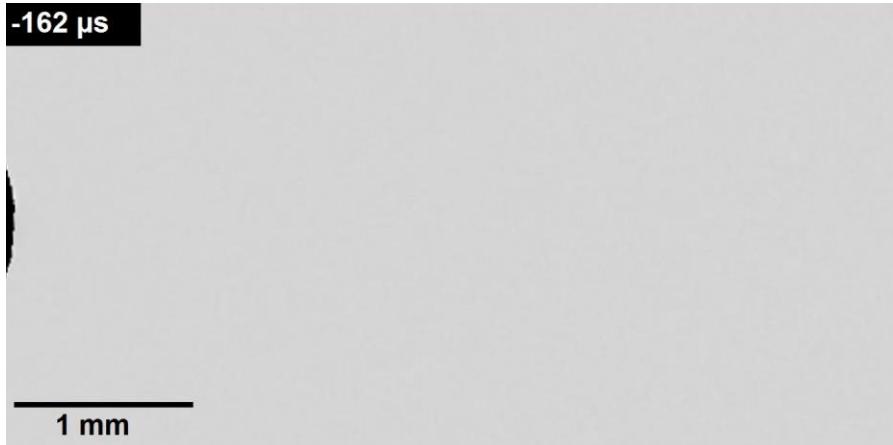
Experiment by Chris Powell & Alan Kastengren, Argonne Nat. Lab

- 3D fuel distribution extracted from tomographic reconstruction of line-of-sight radiography at 4 different angles
- External-nozzle radiography applied at many axial distances (>10 mm):
  - High liquid density "hot spots" identified with consistency along axis.
  - Elliptical spray shape originating from nozzle geometry persists downstream.

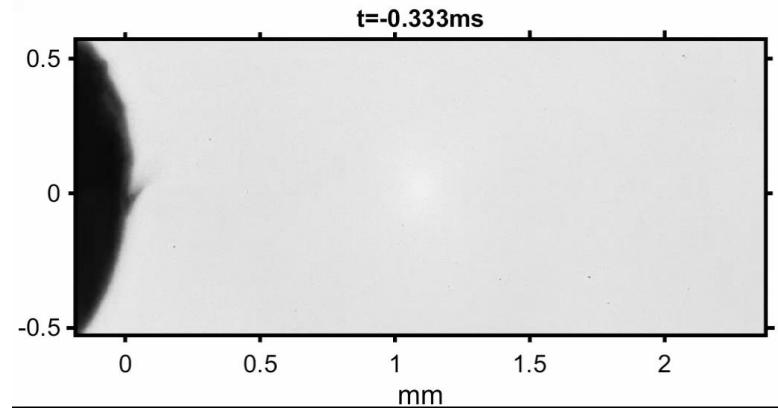
# Example of spray modeling need

- Supercritical mixing processes
  - For C16: the same spray shows liquid structures that do or do not exhibit surface tension
  - For C7: No surface tension. Fluid blobs stretch, but no elastic behavior is observed

**105 bar, 1200 K, 90% N<sub>2</sub>, 6% CO<sub>2</sub>, 4% H<sub>2</sub>O, 0% O<sub>2</sub>**



n-hexadecane 363 K fuel spray

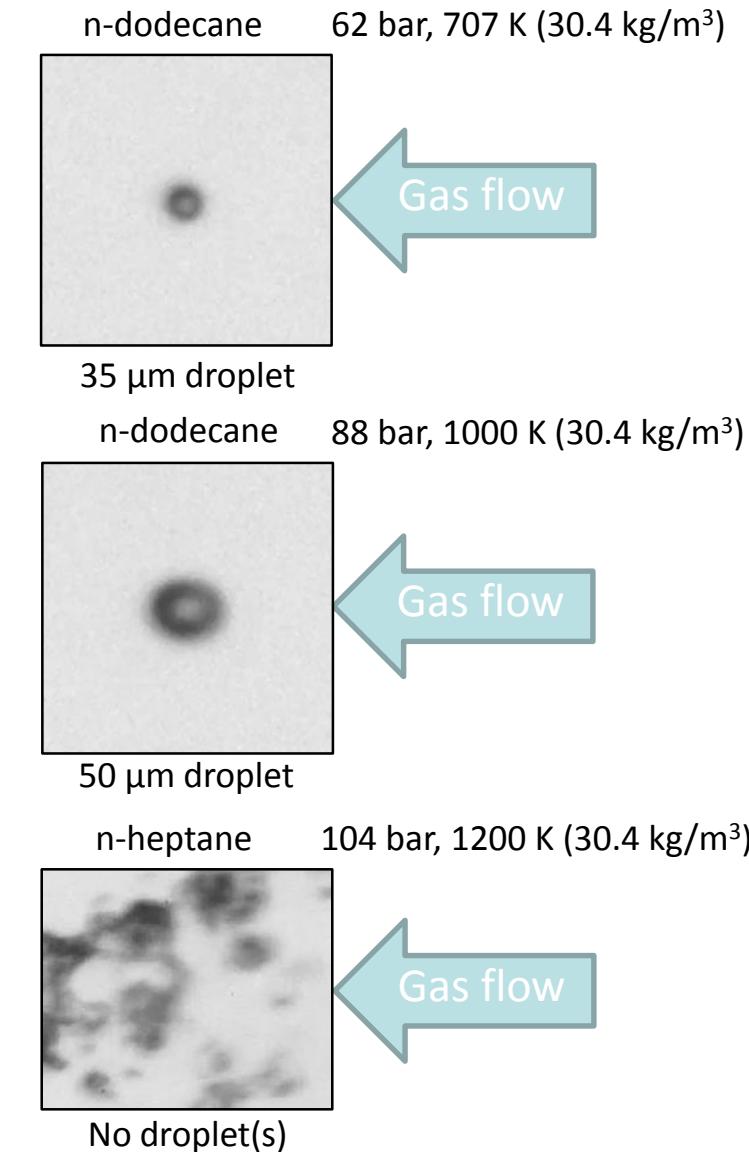


n-heptane 363 K fuel spray

Microscopy in Sandia high-T, high-P chamber: Julien Manin, Lyle M. Pickett, *Sandia*; Cyril Crua, *Brighton*

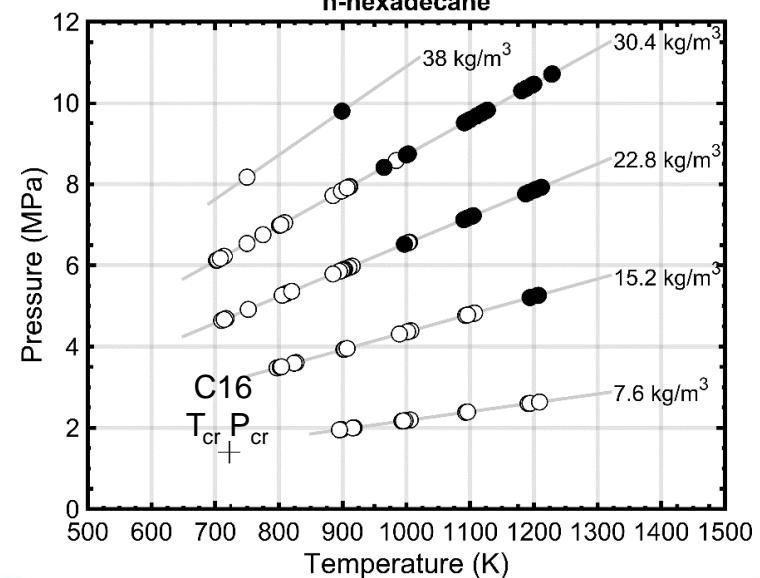
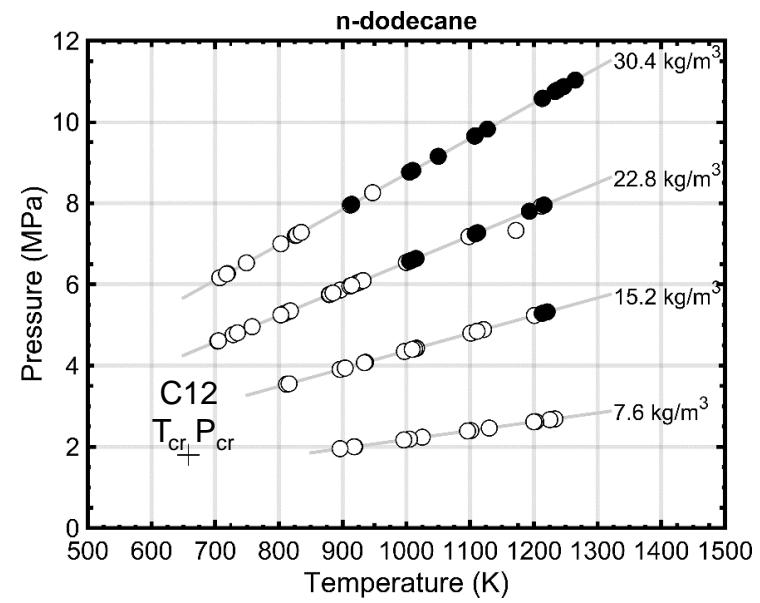
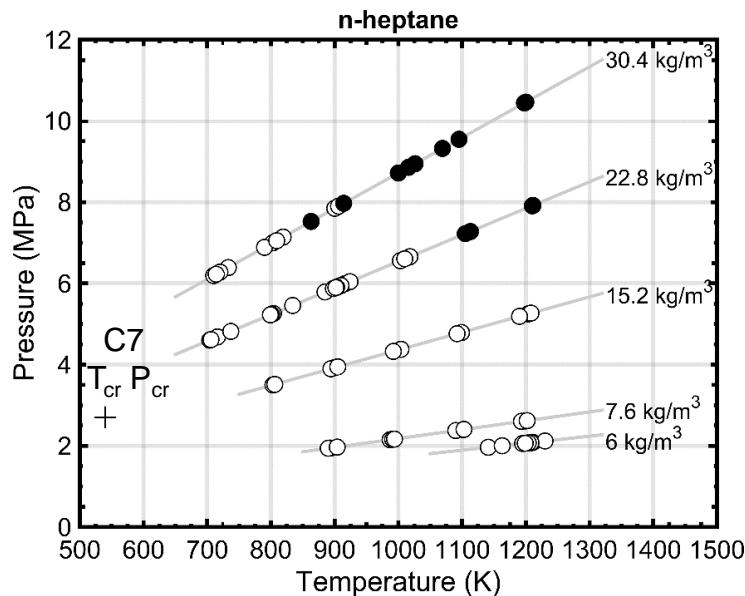
# Atomization and miscible mixing

- Classical evaporation:
  - Vaporization happens on the surrounding of the droplet
  - Progressive mass transfer from liquid to gas
- Evaporation and miscible mixing
  - Rapid transition from spherical fluid spheroid into stretched fluid
  - Deforms easily and quickly disappears
- Miscible mixing
  - Fluid stretches without a clear elastic behavior (lacks surface tension)
  - Fluids with different densities mix together
  - Mixing happens quickly



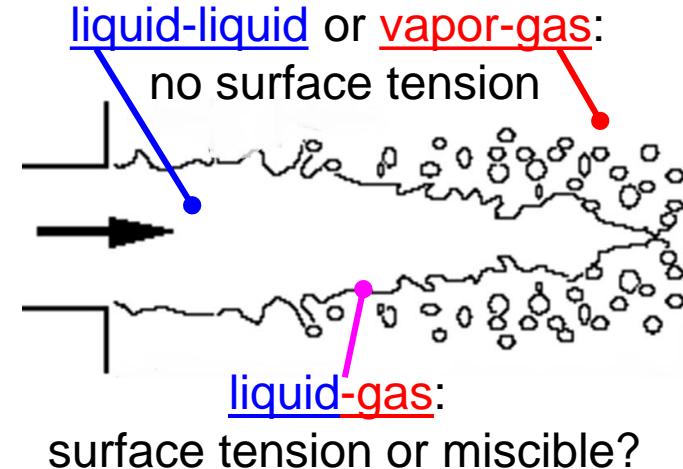
# Conditions where a transition to miscible mixing is evident are well above the critical P and T

- Dark symbols are when miscible mixing behaviour was observed, but droplets and surface tension may also be present for a limited time
- Difficult to classify dense region of spray during fast periods of injection
  - > Must track structure evolution (using high-speed imaging) to make classification

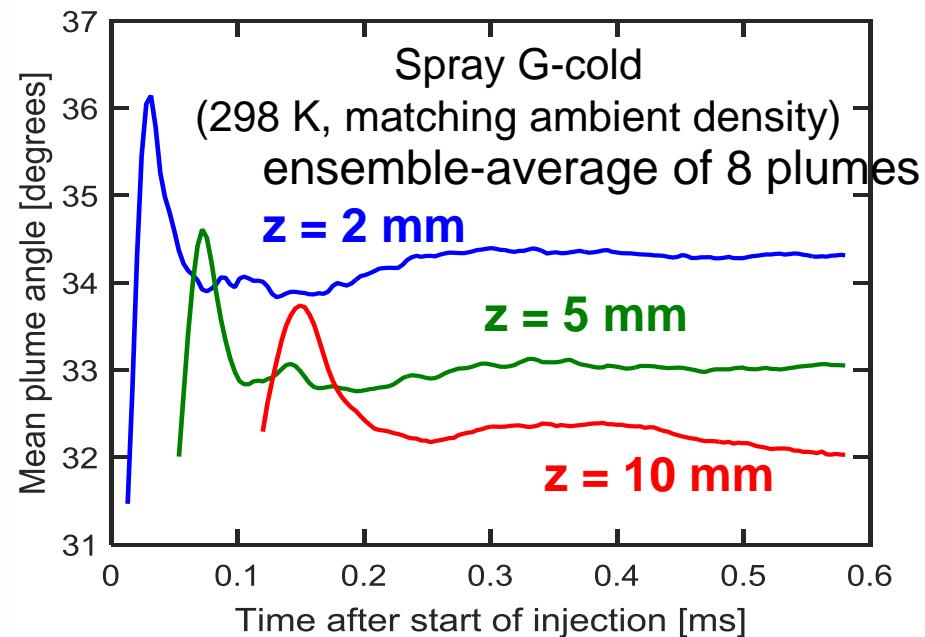
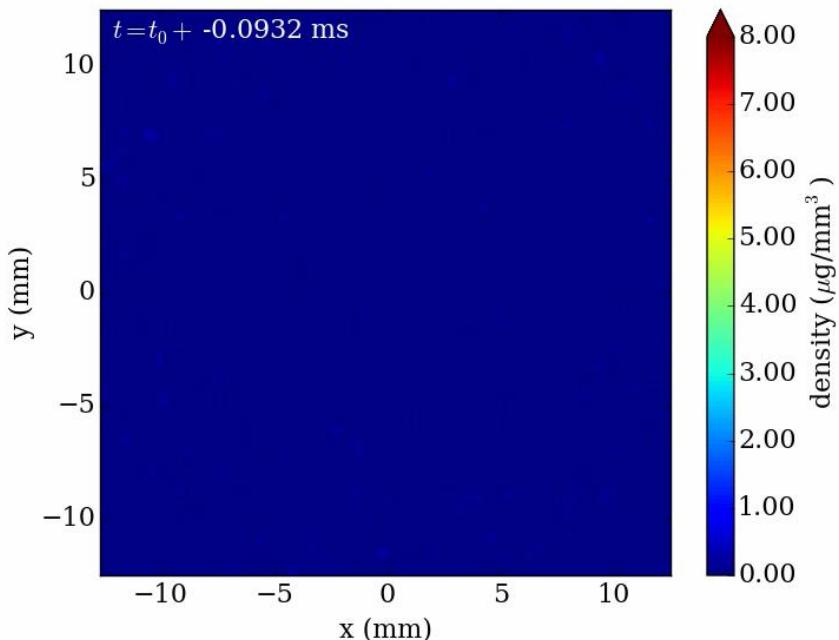


# How this discovery could affect engine spray modeling:

- Classic spray modeling assumes liquid breakup with surface tension forces and vaporization rates based on droplet-gas dynamics
- Dense fluid modeling assumes no effects of surface tension—Navier/Stokes equations apply throughout
- Our results show that a transition to miscible mixing is not sudden
  - Surface tension effects and “miscible mixing” zones exist *in the same spray* at a given ambient gas pressure and temperature
    - > Fluid near the nozzle exhibits surface tension while downstream liquid does not
    - > Suggests a finite timescale for transition
  - Transition with increasing P and T is also not immediate
    - > Solely miscible-mixing occurs only at highest P and T (with n-heptane)
  - A “continuum” towards miscible mixing suggests that even droplet-dominant regimes may experience effects (faster evaporation) that depart from classic low-P theories
- Are there unexplained benefits of high-pressure engine combustion that can be linked to miscible mixing?
  - better mixing, less isolated droplet combustion, more complete combustion



- Argonne non-vaporizing mixing measurements in the near-field using x-ray radiography and tomographic reconstruction

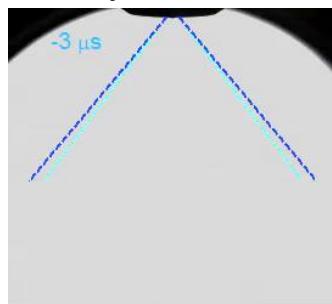


- Gradual shift of plume direction to injector axis while moving downstream
- Marked transient period at higher angle

# Observations of Spray G using planar imaging

side-view liquid extinction imaging

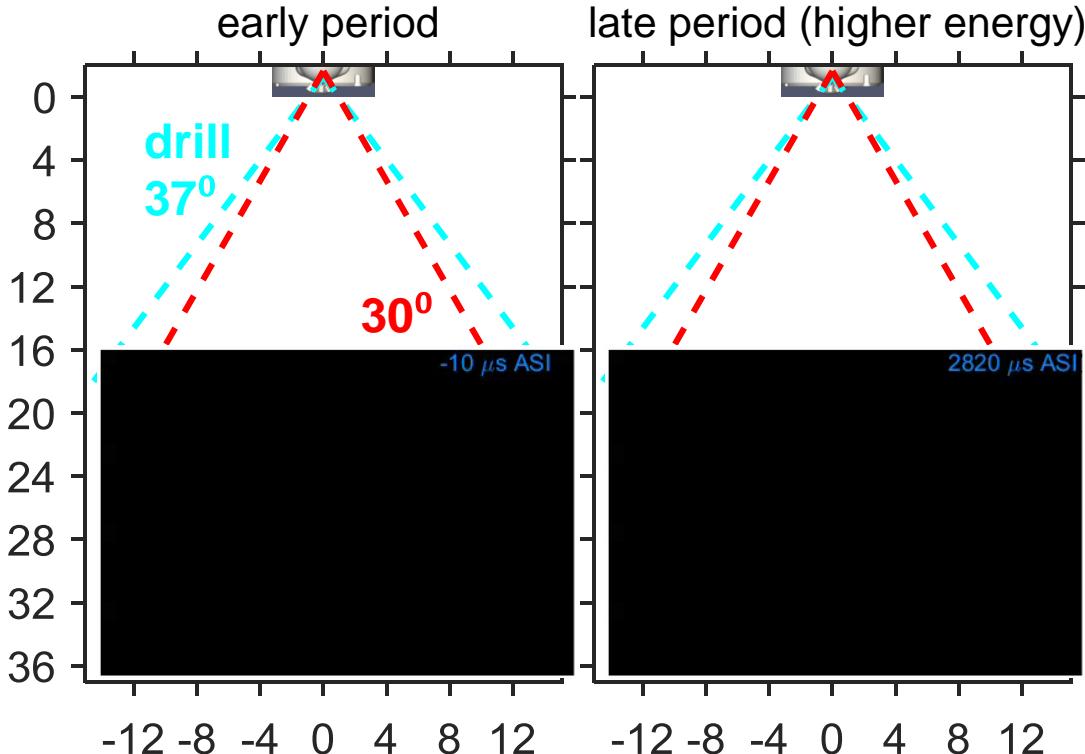
Injector #28



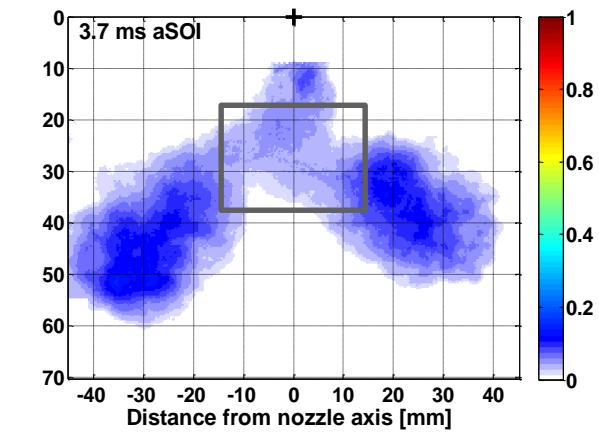
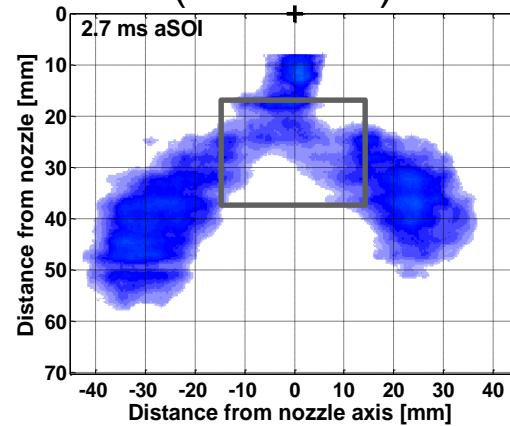
Ambient Gas  
573 K  
6 bar  
0% O<sub>2</sub>

Fuel  
363 K  
200 bar  
iso-octane  
170 μm nozzle  
0.8 ms injection

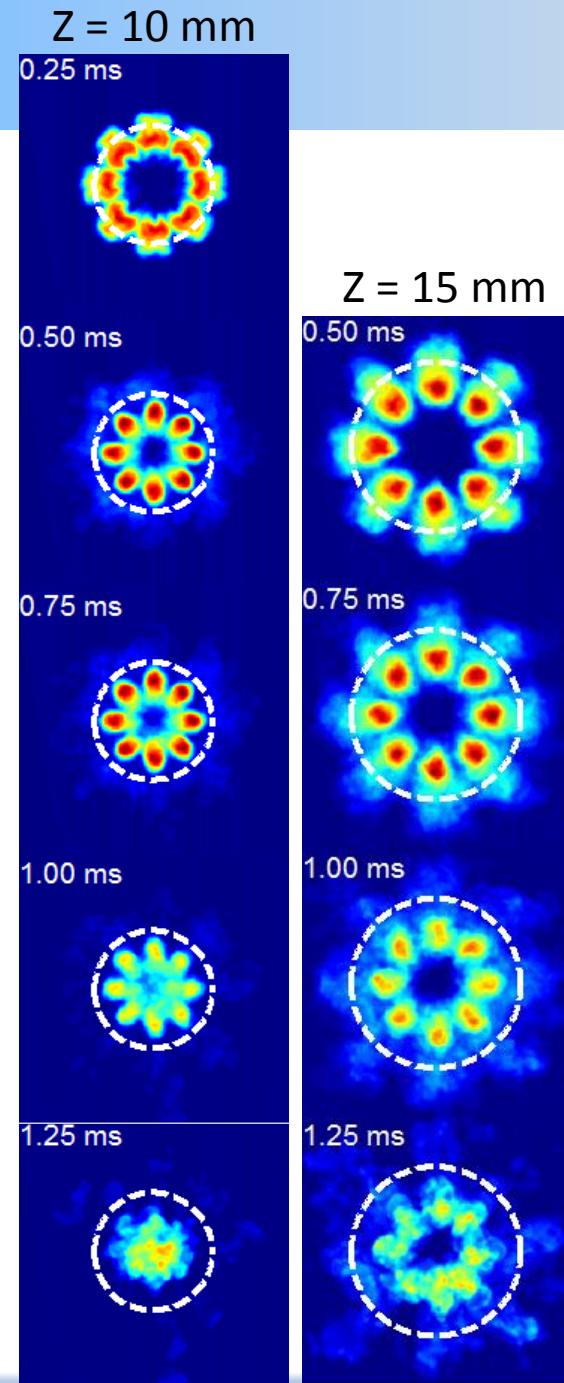
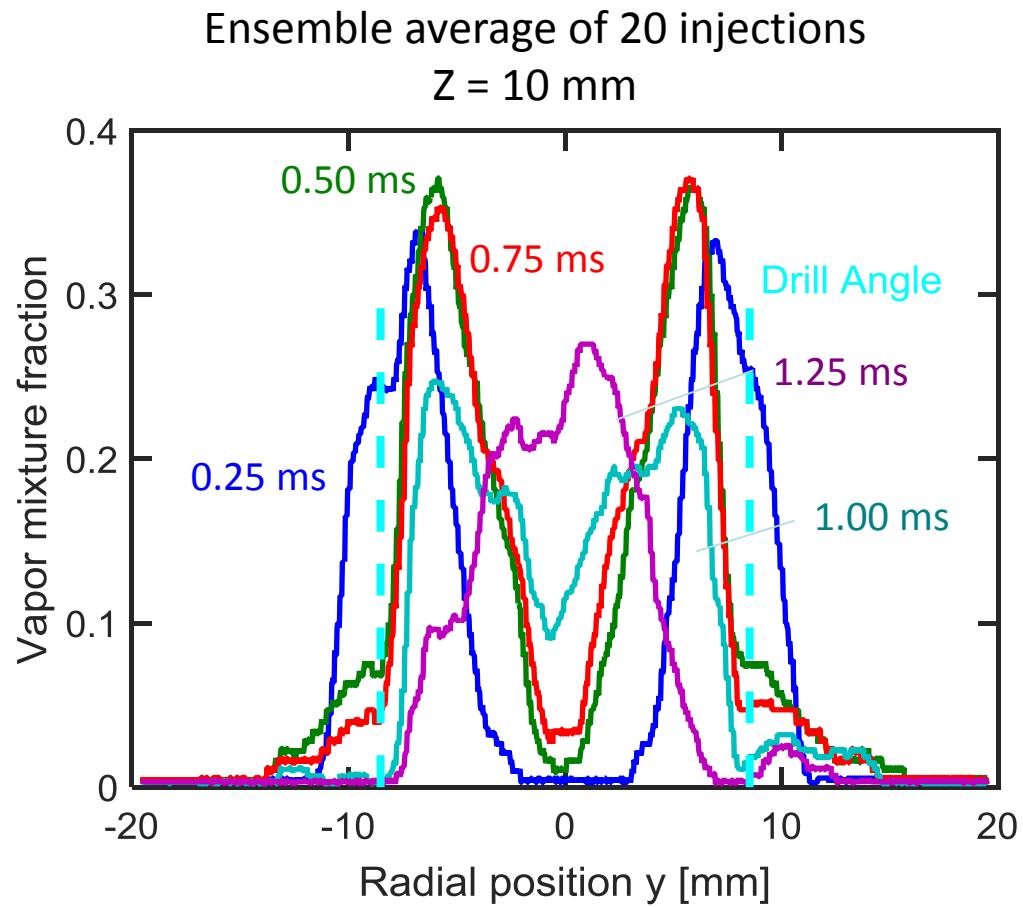
100 kHz Planar Imaging  
early period      late period (higher energy)



Planar LIF, IFPEN  
(after EOI)



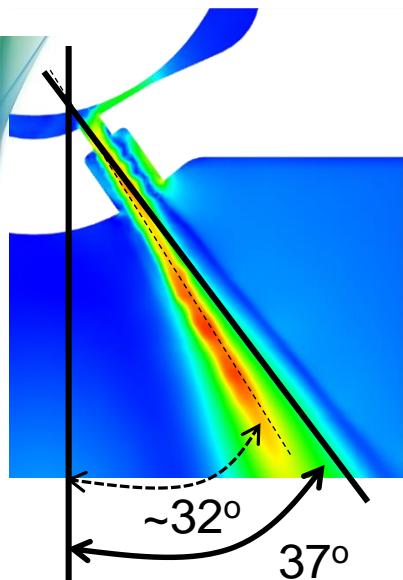
SAE 2015-01-1902



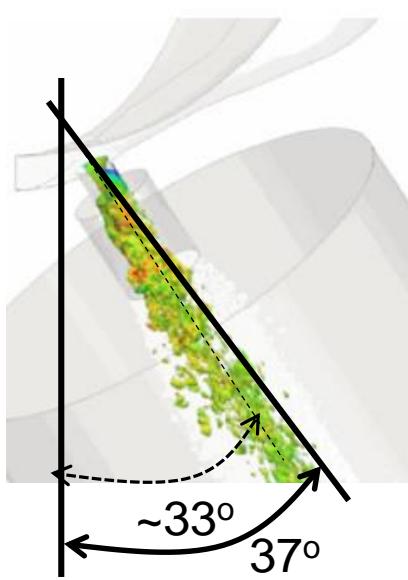


# ECN Does plume direction change because of internal flow effects?

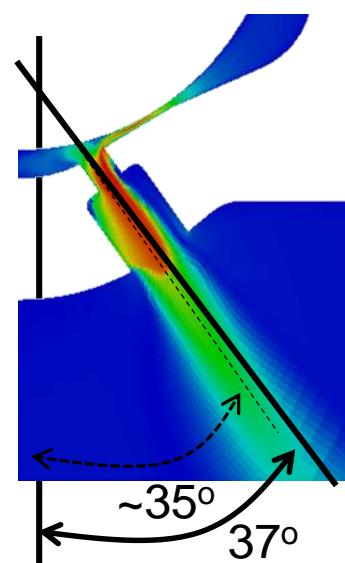
ANL



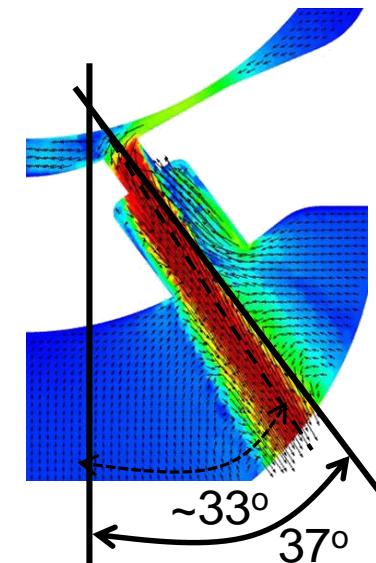
DELPHI



PoliMi



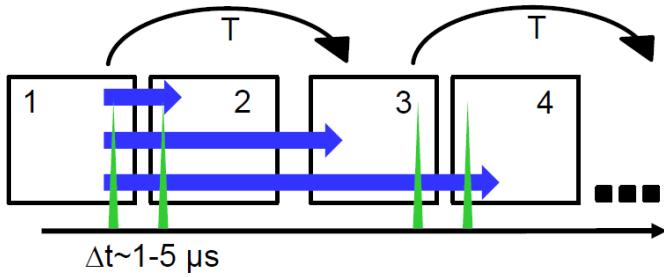
UMass/GM



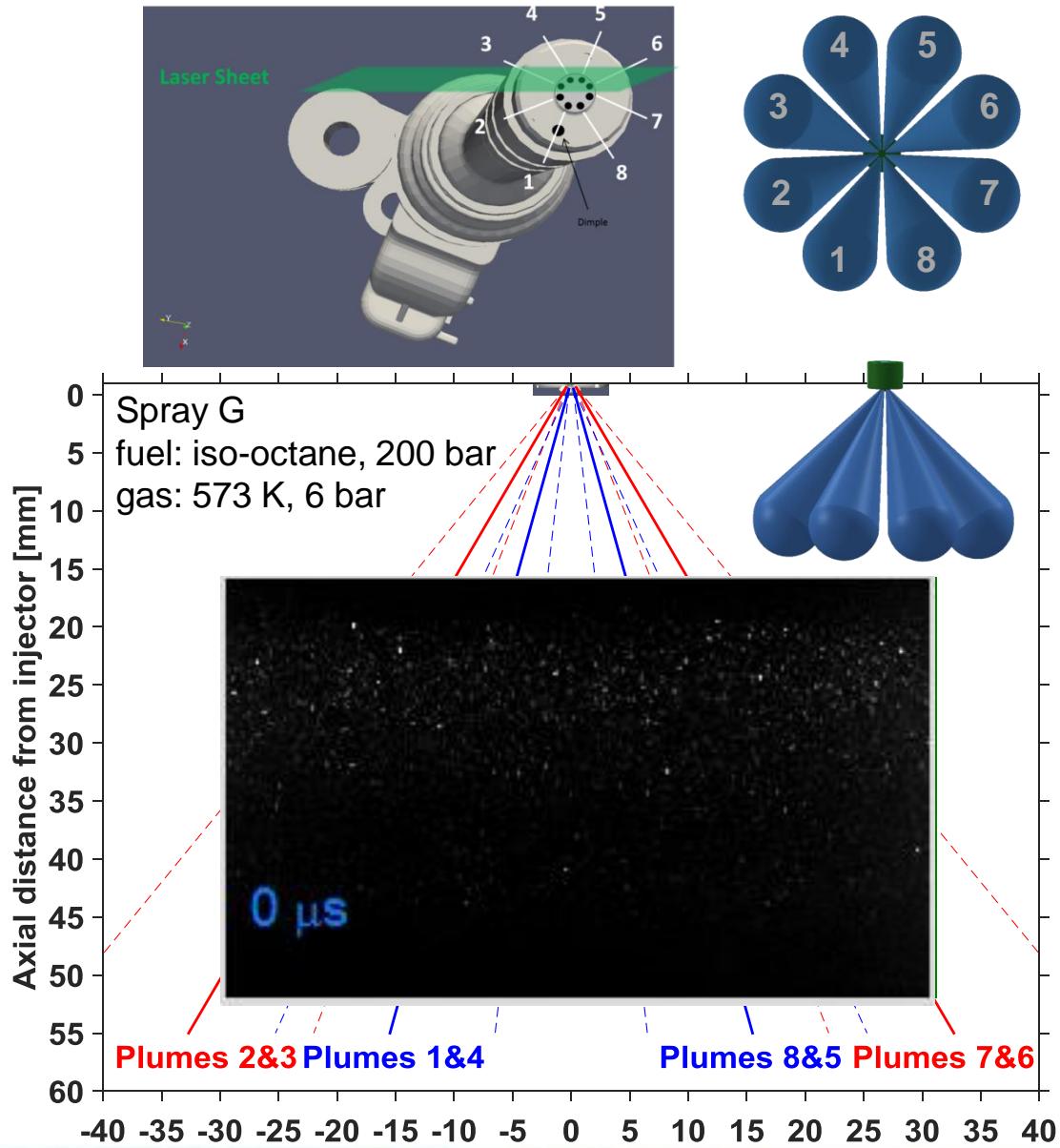
- Flow in the nozzle causes plume to diverge from drill angle, towards the injector axis and neighboring plumes
- Should not use drill angle for Lagrangian spray models

# High-speed velocity diagnostic applied

- Custom pulse-burst laser system developed
  - 100 kHz pulse pairs
  - 500 pulse pairs (5 ms burst)
  - 15 mJ/pulse at 532 nm
  - Funded by internal Sandia project (PI J. Frank)

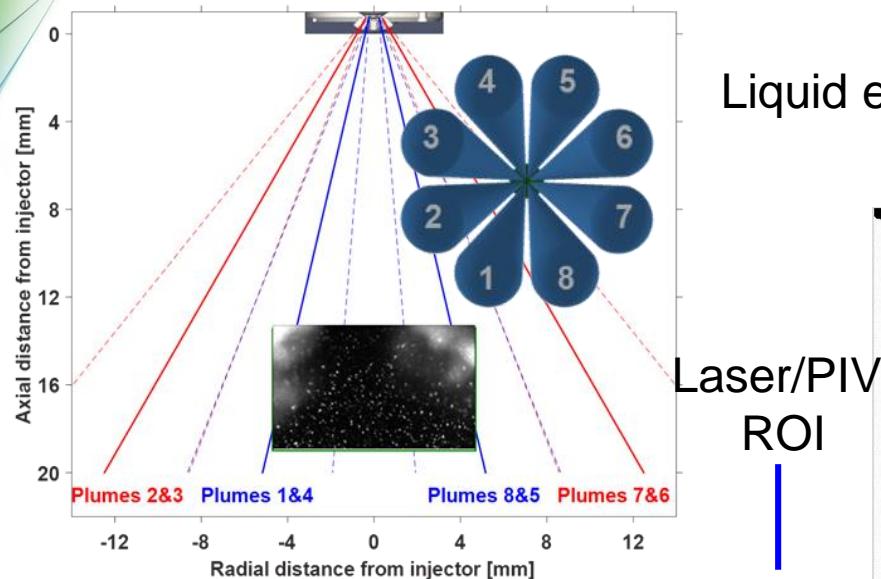


- Applied PIV (Panos Sphicas, Imperial College)
  - 1 μm zirconia seed in gas phase
  - 200 kHz imaging
  - Liquid-phase avoided by probing between plumes and moving downstream



# Move closer to injector tip to probe flow between plumes

PIV setup

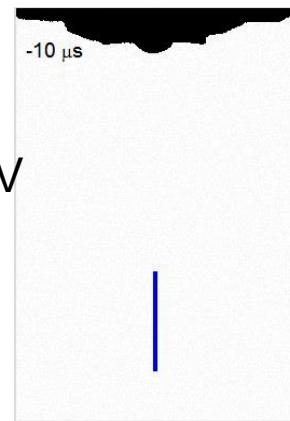


573 K

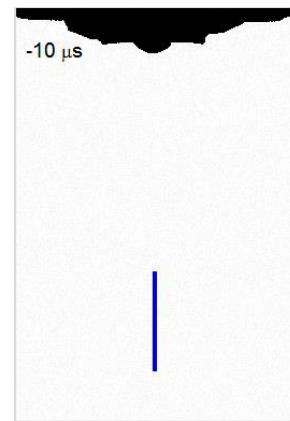


Liquid extinction imaging. Ambient density: 3.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

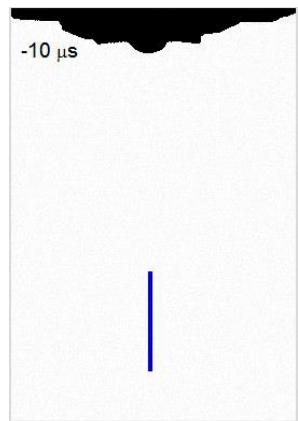
450 K



573 K

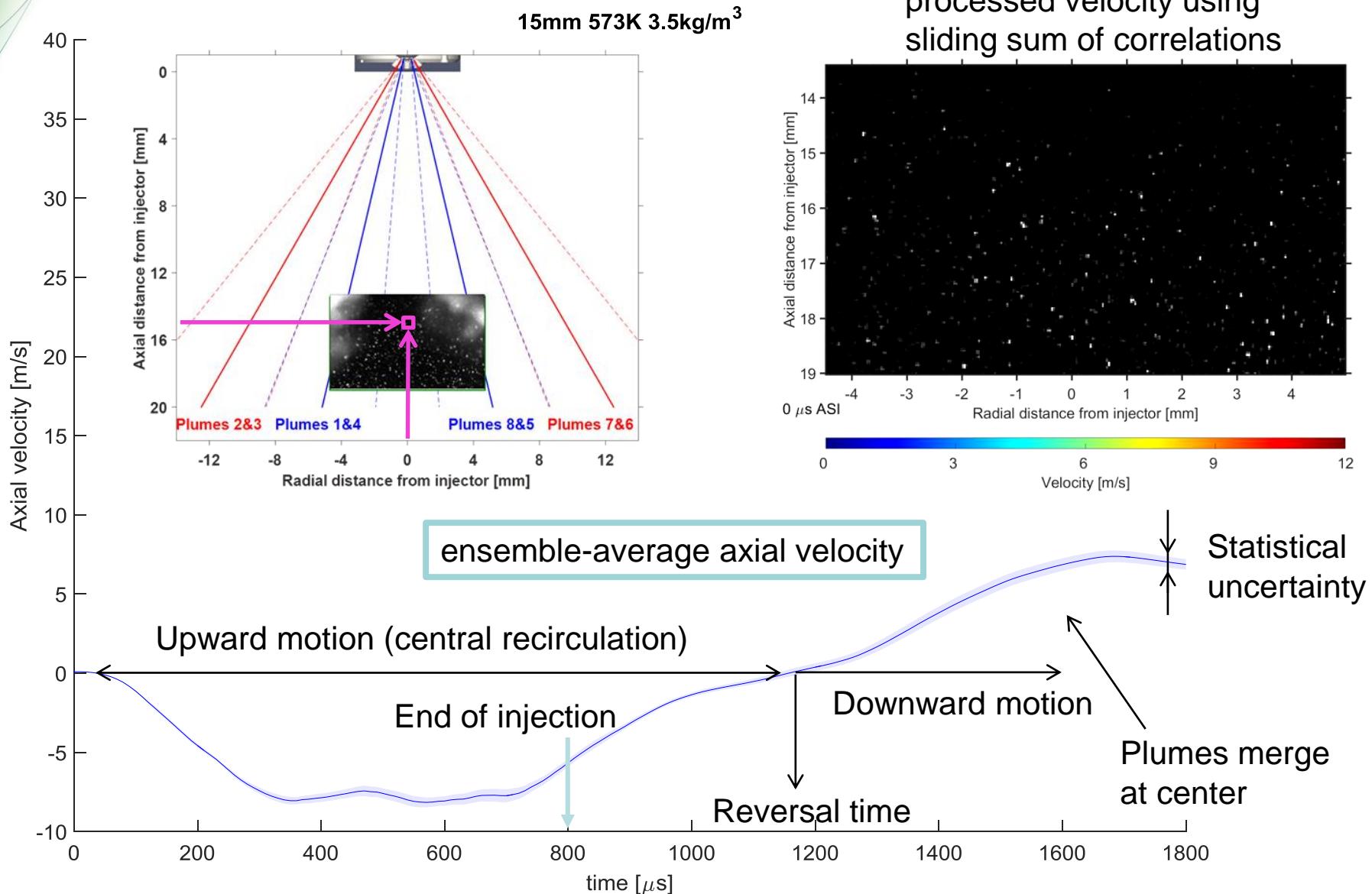


1000 K



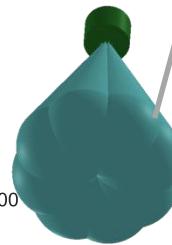
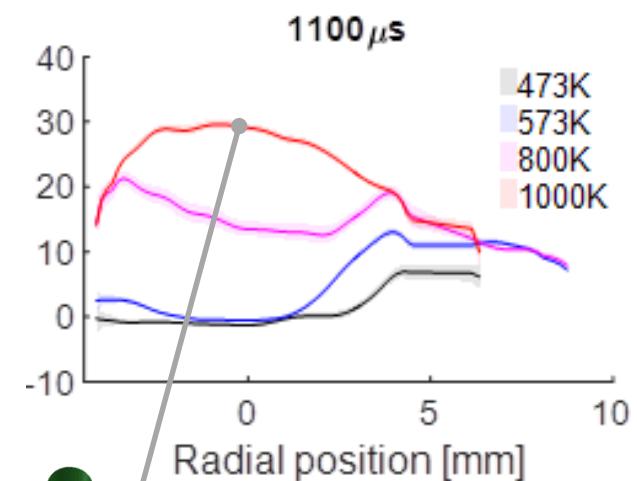
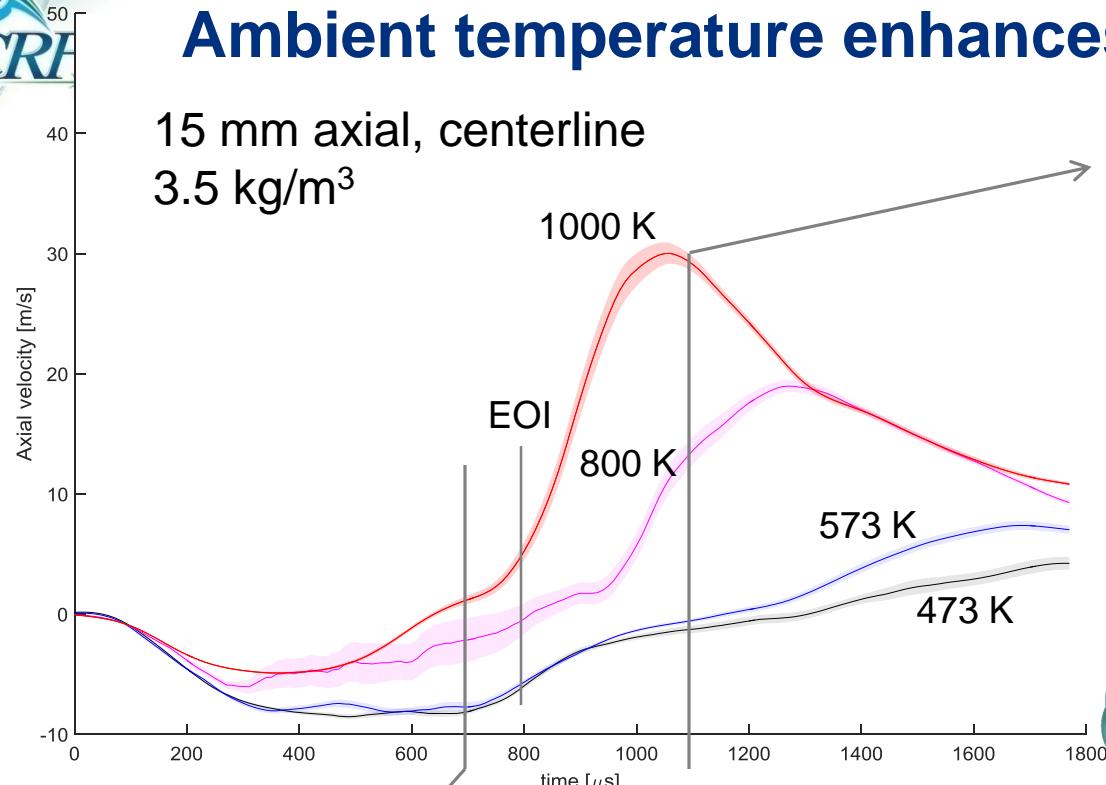
$I/I_0$  range: 0.7 to 1.1

# Time evolution of velocity between plumes

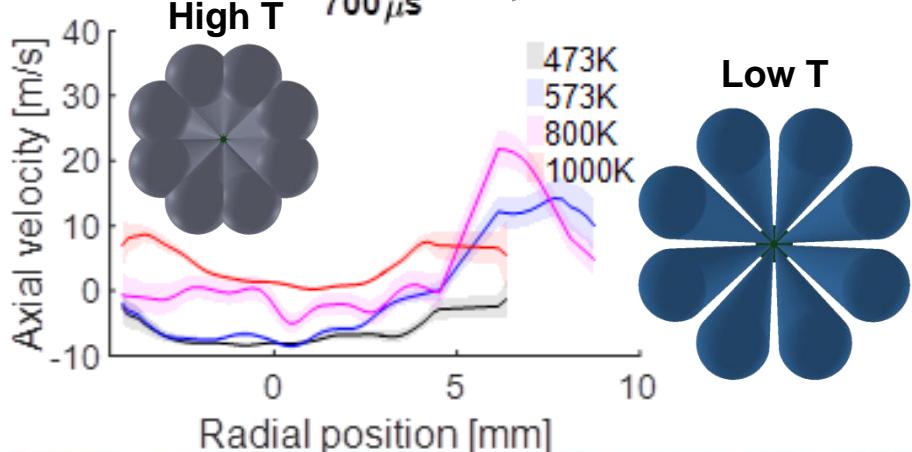


# Ambient temperature enhances plume interaction

15 mm axial, centerline  
3.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup>



**Full collapse at high temperature**

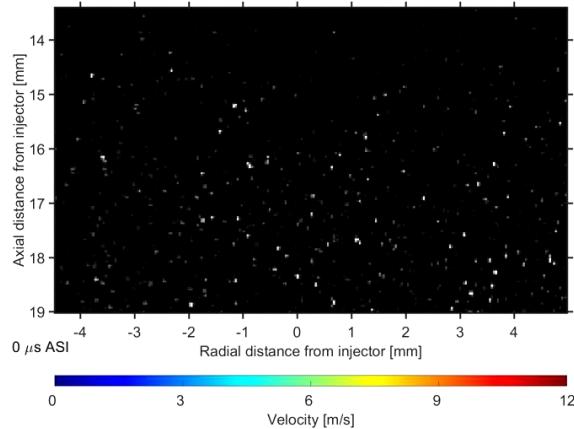


- Plume interaction modified by increasing ambient temperature
  - lower central recirculation velocities
  - faster merging of plumes
  - plume direction towards centerline
- Late-stage fuel delivery is entirely different
  - Fast-moving central plume at higher temperatures

# Effect of ambient temperature on plume collapse

Ambient density: 3.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

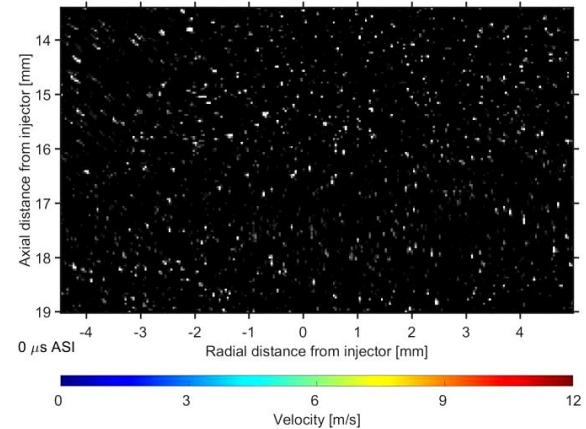
573 K



Maintains some radial dispersion

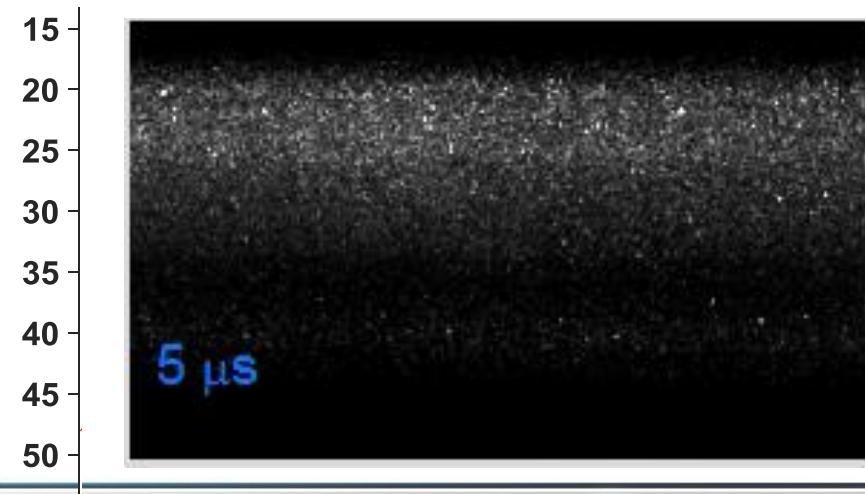


1000 K



Downstream region reflects fate of upstream activity

Full collapse with high axial momentum



## Many technical advances are needed to improve fuel economy

- Lightweighting materials
- Hybridization/electrification
- Controls and transients
- Transmission efficiency
- Driverless automation



# Summary

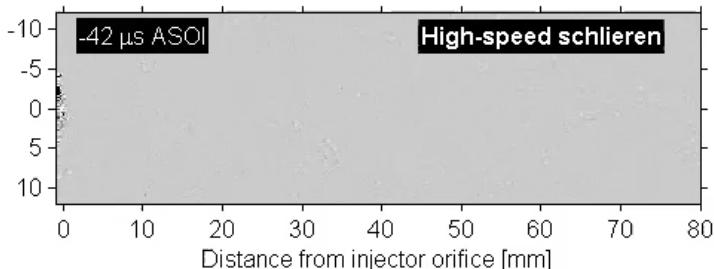
- Combustion and spray model improvements will continue to pay high dividends towards improved engines and shortened development times



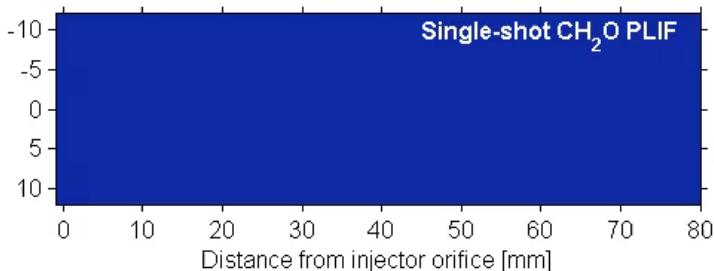
# Questions

# Combine high-speed schlieren with planar formaldehyde LIF to characterize diesel ignition, temporally and spatially

**Schlieren  
(150 kHz)  
line-of-sight**

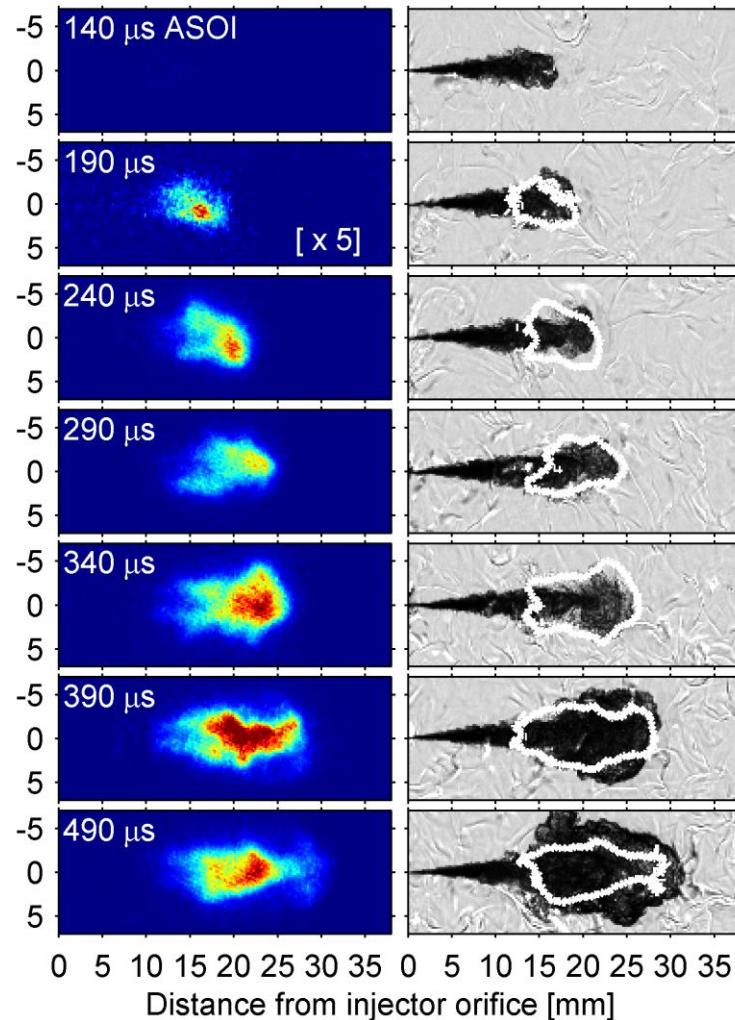


**355-nm LIF  
(single-shot)  
planar**



- Refractive index gradients in schlieren soften when formaldehyde forms.
- Formaldehyde LIF occurs slightly before schlieren “softening” (expected difference between planar and line-of sight diagnostics).
- Formaldehyde disappears where high-T ignition occurs (sharp T gradient in schlieren).
- Fast (150 kHz) ign. diag. capabilities clarified.

**Planar  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$**       **Schlieren  
with  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  border**

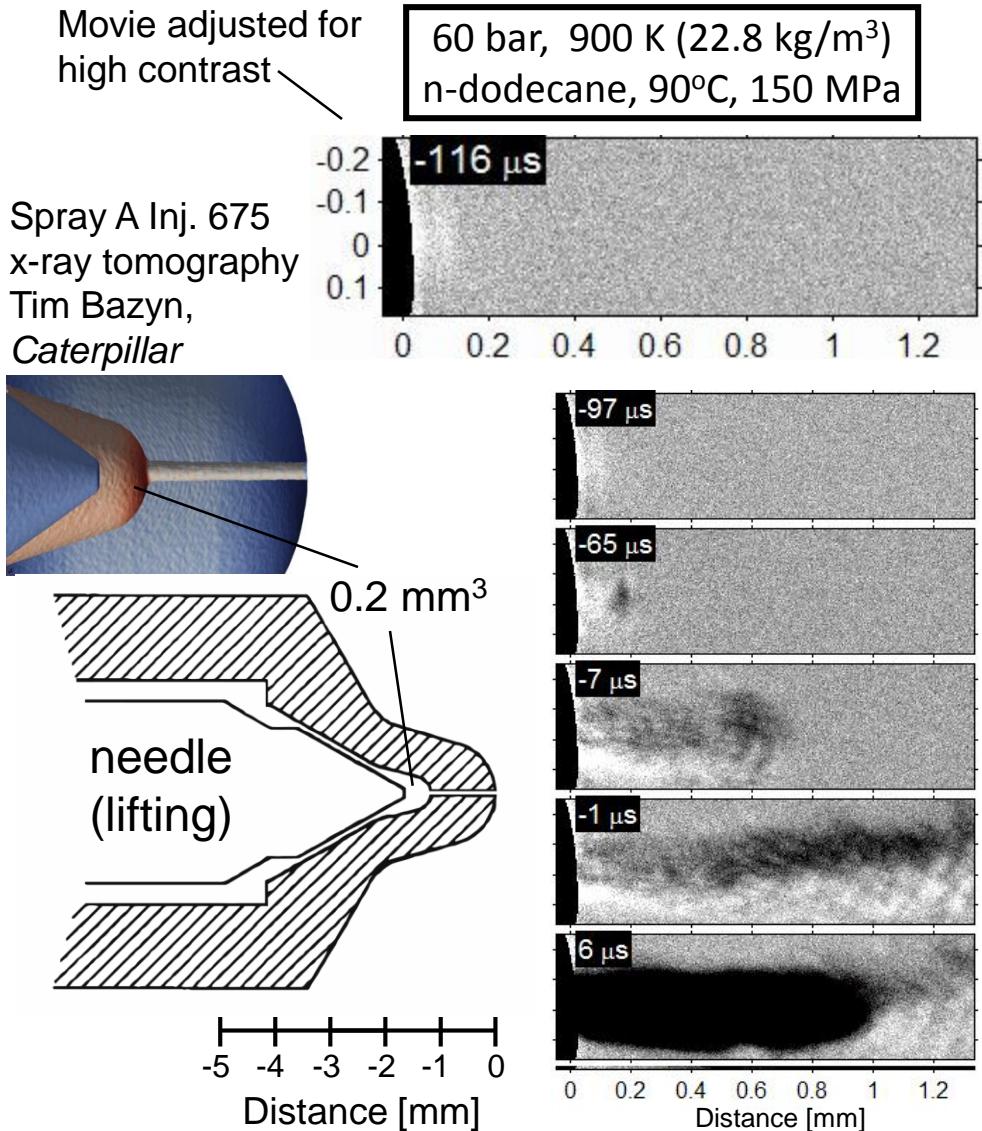


# What QUANTITATIVE data do we lack at engine (high-T, high-P) conditions?

- Almost everything, at high-temperature engine conditions (>900 K).
- Liquid volume fraction and droplet size in the dense spray region and near the liquid length.
- Mixture fraction (fuel/air ratio) distribution.
- Velocity and turbulence.
- Soot volume fraction and structure distribution, particularly during transients.
- Internal injector geometry for working injectors.
- Information about internal injector cavitation and flows.
- Can we build this type of dataset?

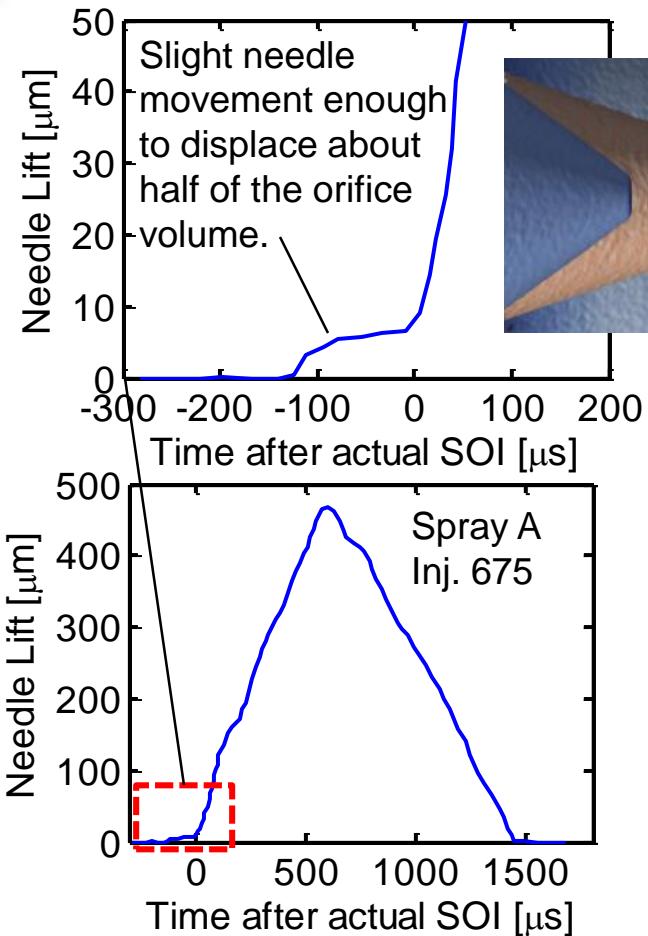
# The beginning stages of injection show a vapor injection leading a liquid injection.

- What is the status of the sac volume at the start of injection?
  - Voids will be pressurized during compression cycle in an engine.
- Gases in the sac are pushed out by incoming liquid as the needle valve opens.
  - Vapor jet precedes liquid by approximately 10  $\mu$ s.
  - Some venting/gas exchange starts at about -70  $\mu$ s.
  - Volume of the early vapor injection appears similar to that of the 1-mm long orifice.
  - Will affect initial rate of injection and penetration.
    - > Typical targets for experimental/ modeling comparison.



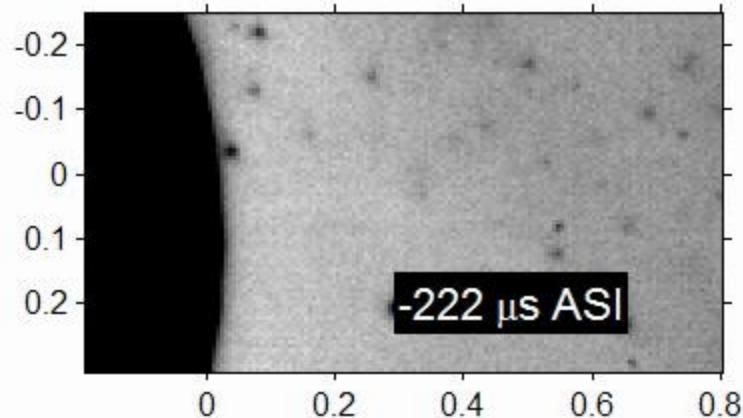
Leading vapor injection also shown recently by Crua et al. [SAE 2010-01-2247]

# Needle movement actually pulls gas into the sac/orifice during first opening.



Multiple injection situation:  
earlier injections have left  
droplets inside the chamber.

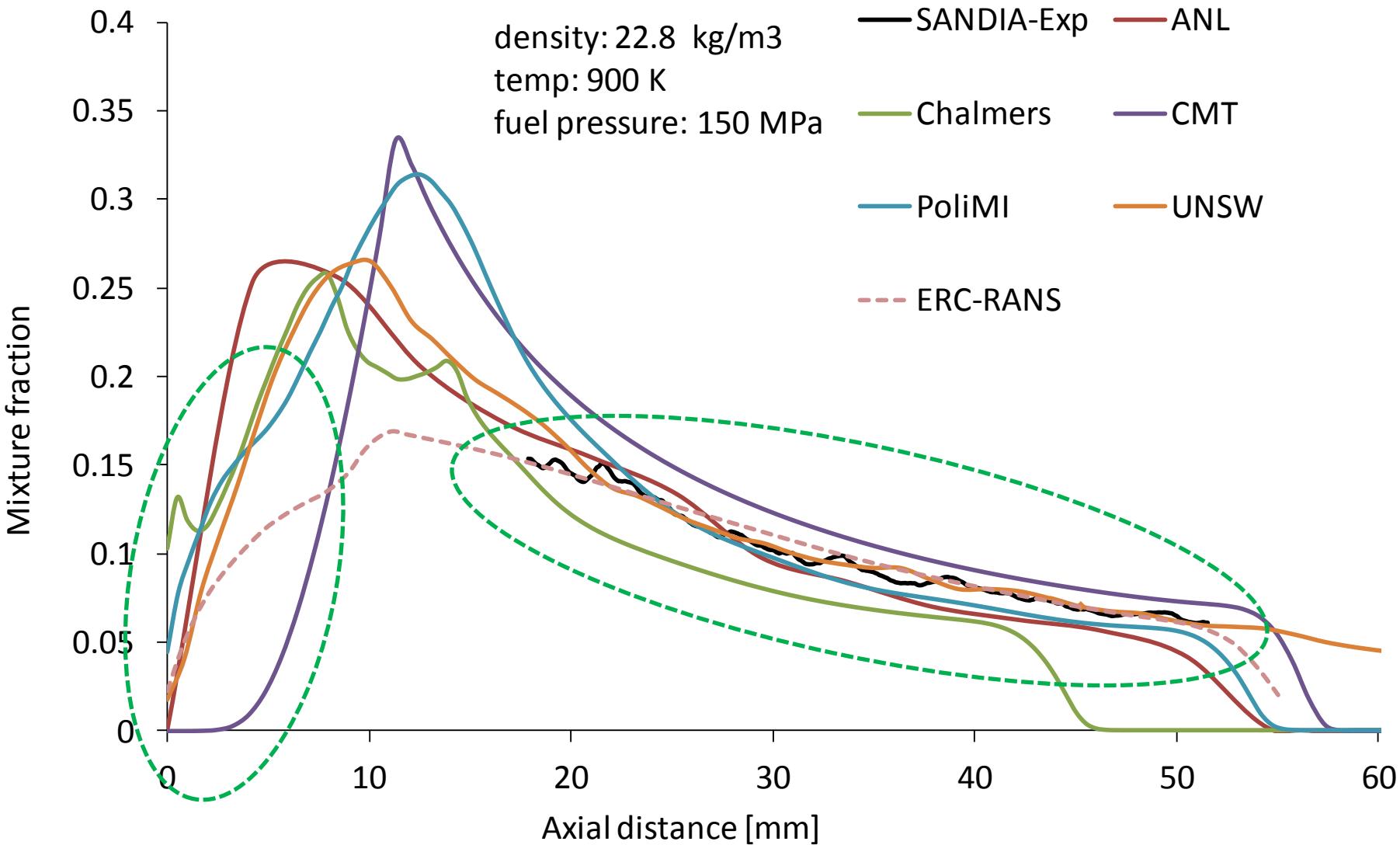
440 K, 29 bar



- Early needle movement momentarily creates a vacuum to pull droplet (and ambient gases) into the injector.
  - Gas transfer into the sac could draw soot particles or other debris into the sac or orifice.

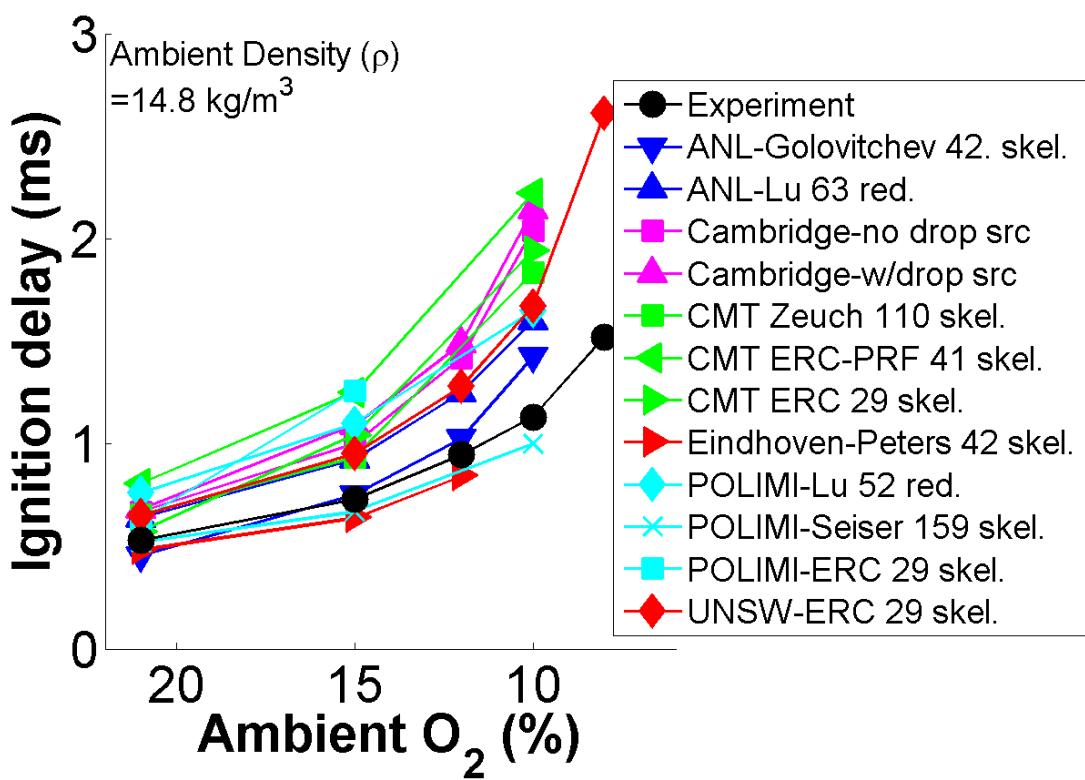
# Models show variance in near-nozzle region, self-similarity downstream of liquid length

## Axial profile - Vapor mixture fraction Z



# Evolution of model predictions between ECN1 and ECN2

## n-heptane “Spray H”

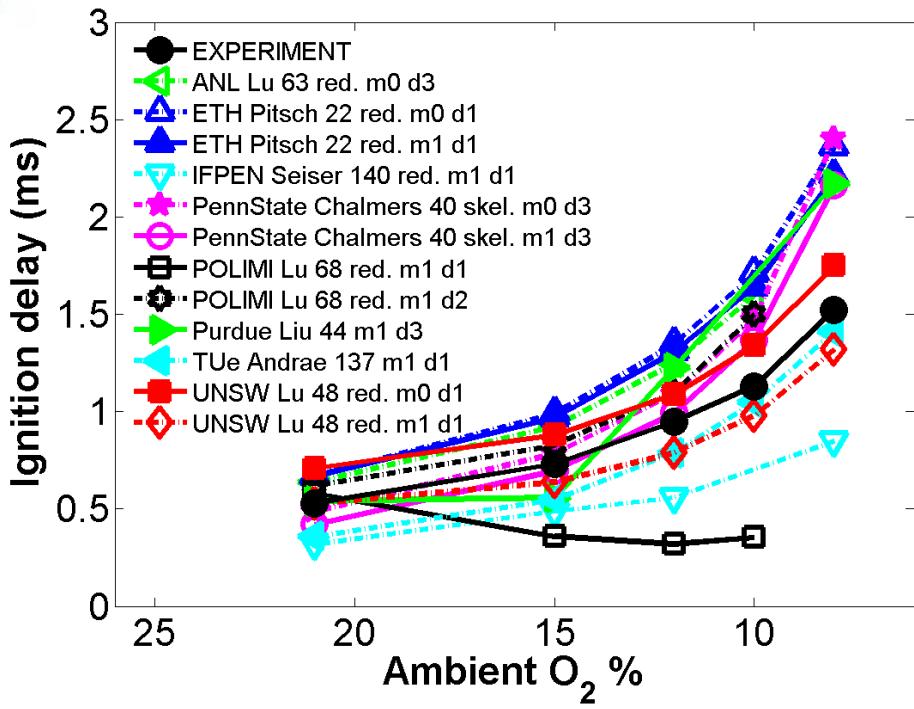


- At ECN1:
- Submissions did not necessarily have consistent definitions.
- No group successfully predicted ignition for “Spray A” using developed n-dodecane chemistry.

# Ignition delay at ECN2

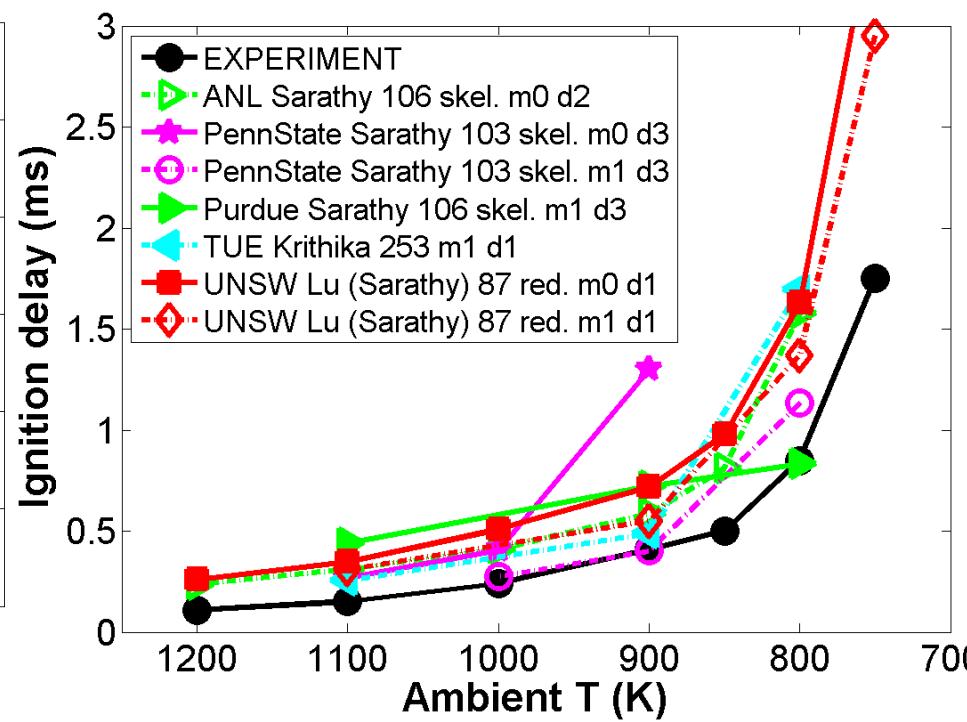
## Spray H

C7H16, 1000 K, 14.8 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, 150 Mpa

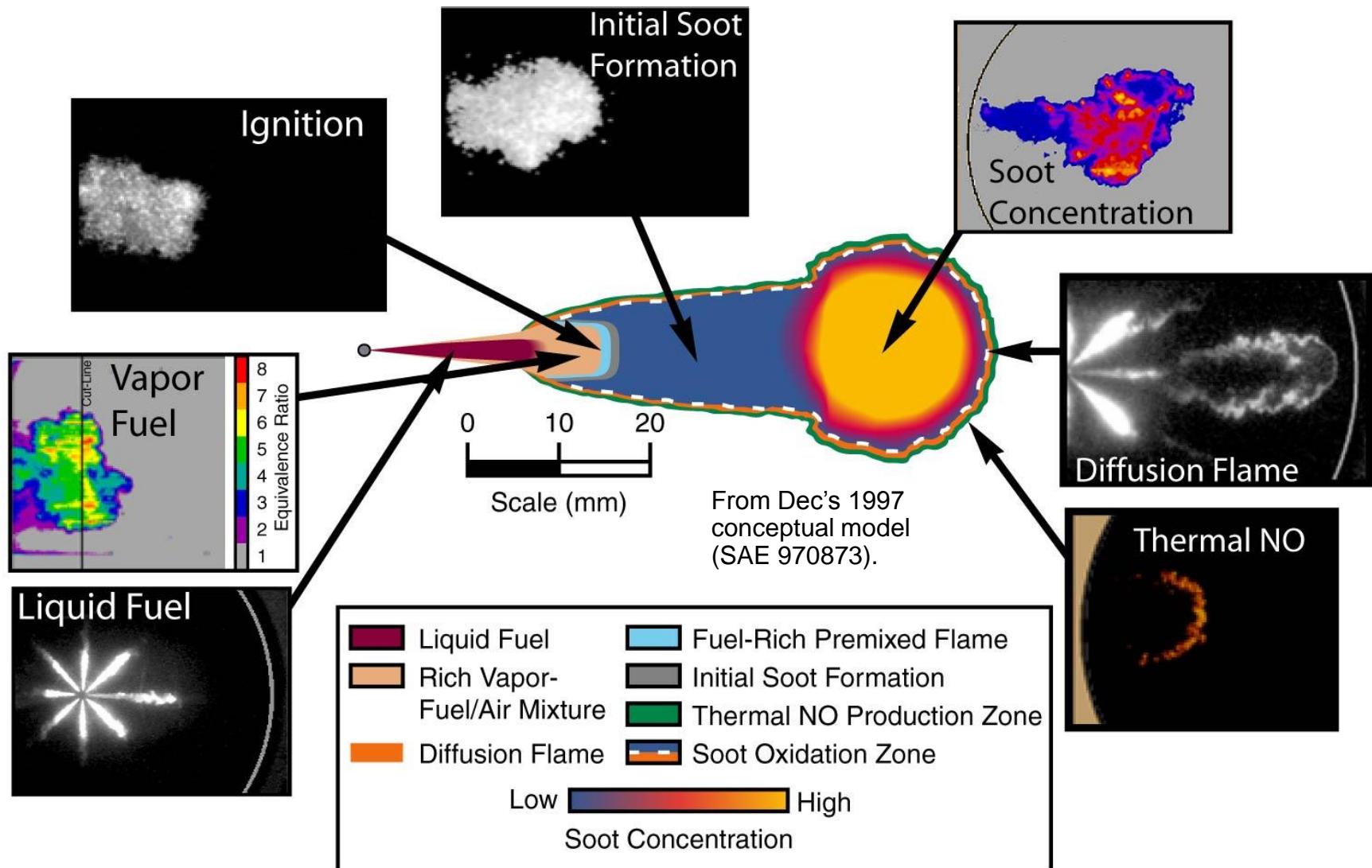


## Spray A

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

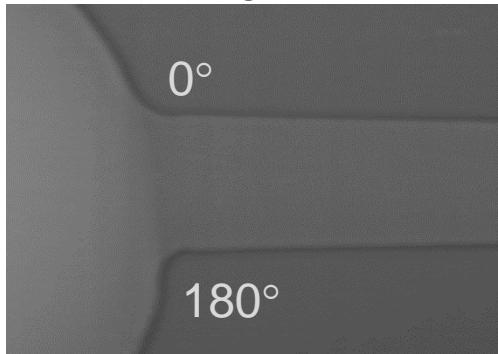


# Laser diagnostics of diesel combustion (John Dec and coworkers)

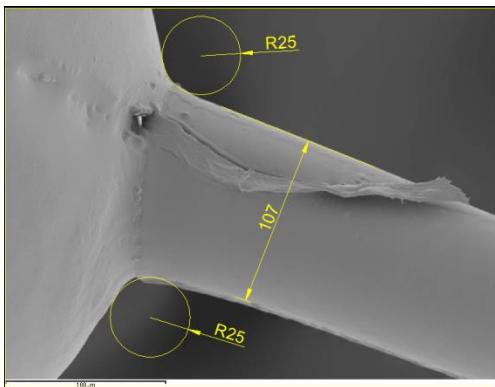


# Nozzle internal geometry measurements

x-ray phase-contrast  
(Argonne)



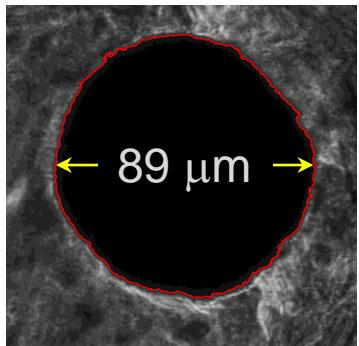
silicone molds (CMT)



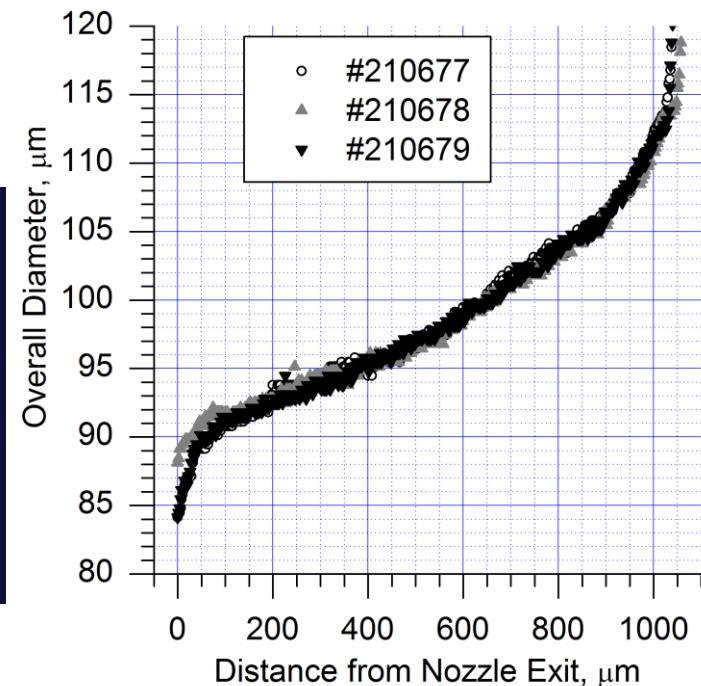
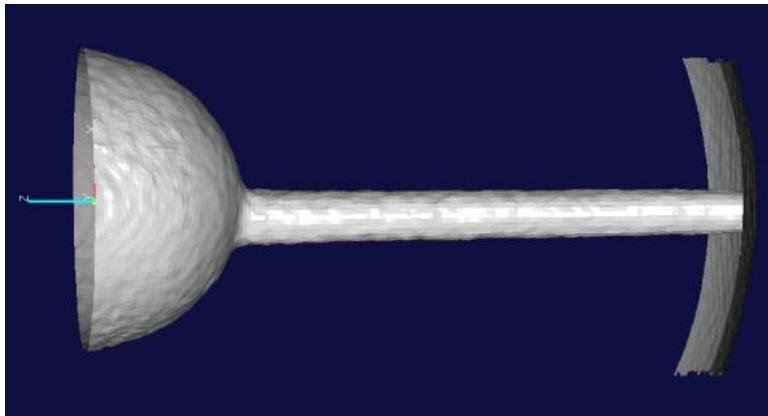
x-ray tomo. (ESRF)



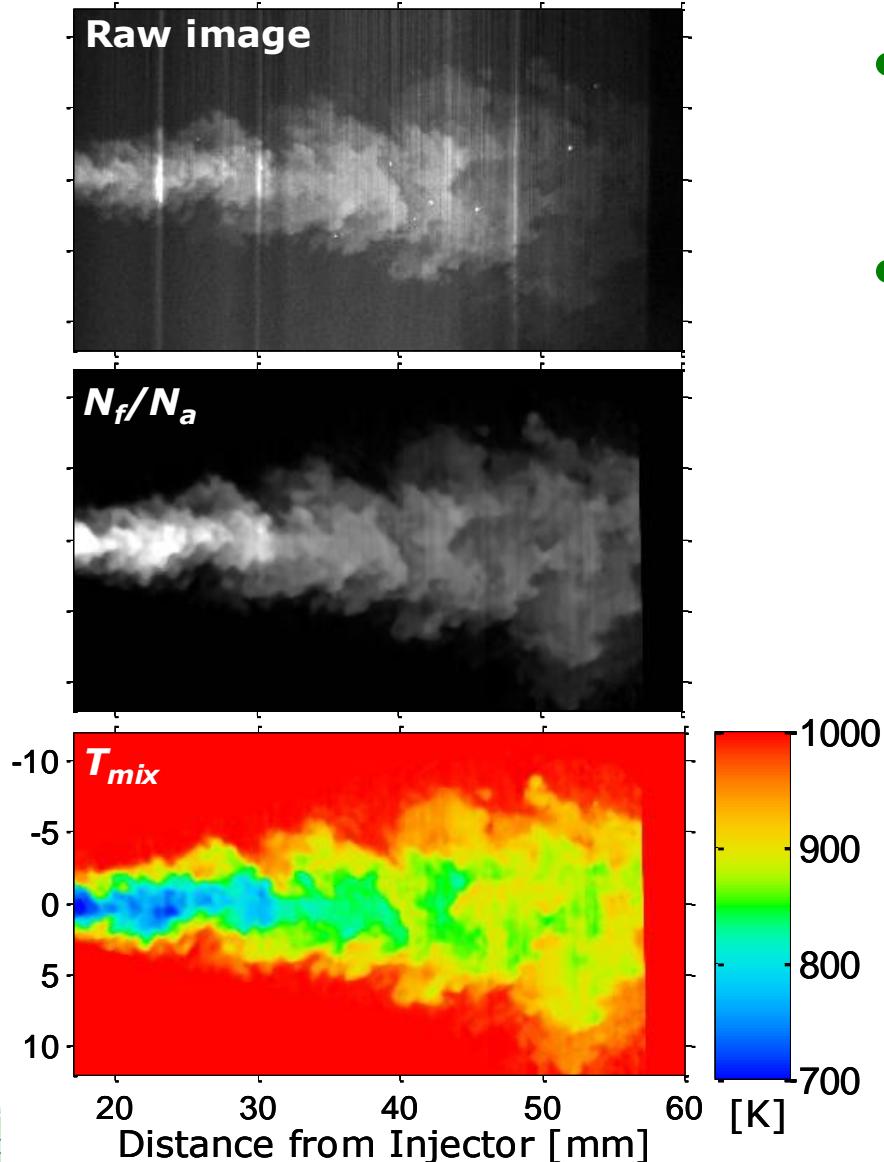
Optical  
(Sandia)



x-ray tomography  
(Caterpillar)

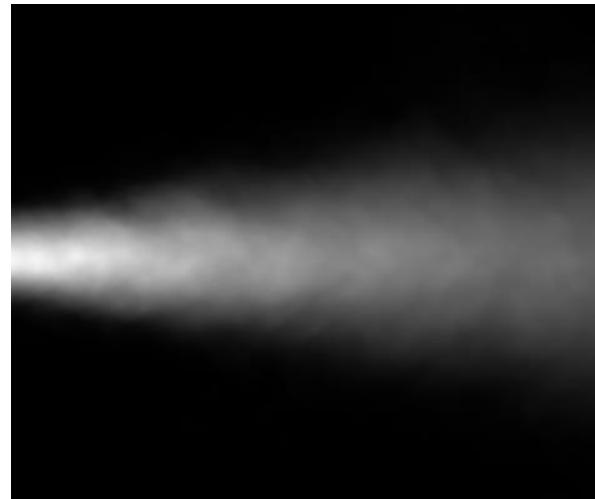


# Rayleigh scattering performed to quantify mixing.



- Measurement provides
  - Fuel mixture fraction (mass fraction)
  - Mixture temperature
- Performed at Sandia
  - see SAE 2011-01-0686.

Mean mixture fraction

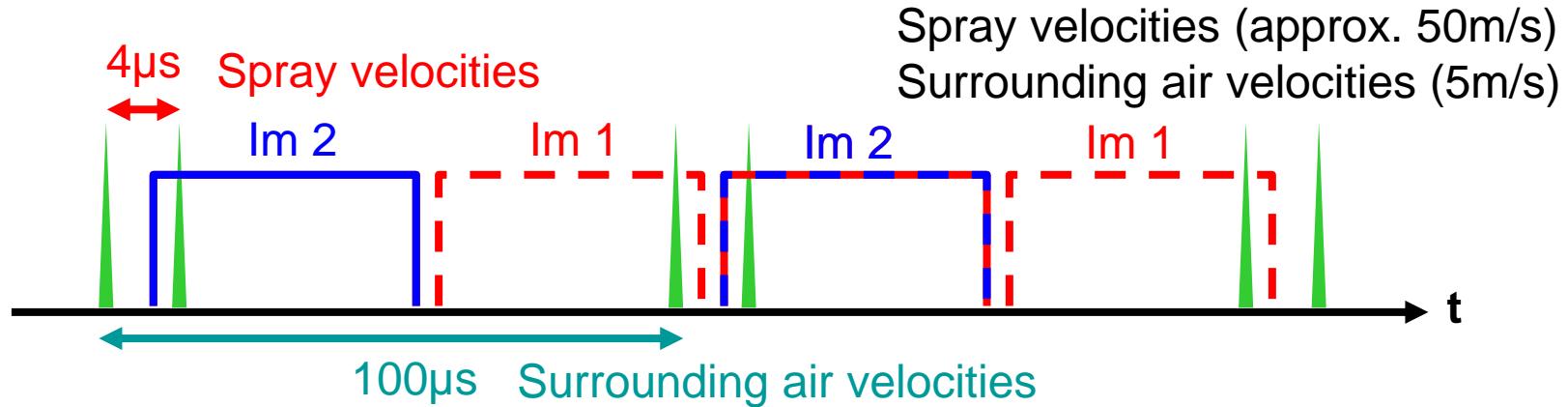
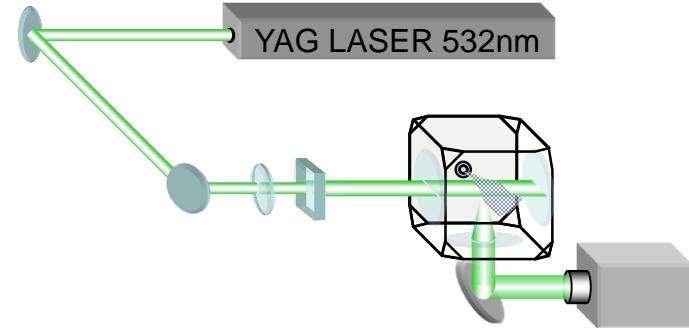


# PIV measurements at IFPEN

Louis-Marie Malbec, Gilles Bruneaux

- ❖ High speed time-resolved PIV (10000 Hz)

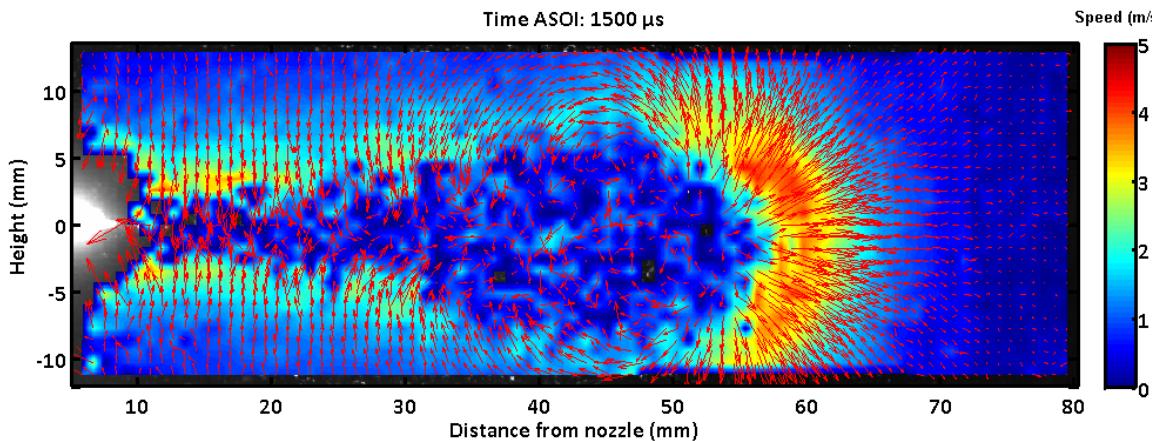
- ❖ Camera Photron SA1
- ❖ YAG Laser 532nm (2 mJ per pulse)
- ❖ Seeding particle: zirconium oxide,  $<5\mu\text{m}$



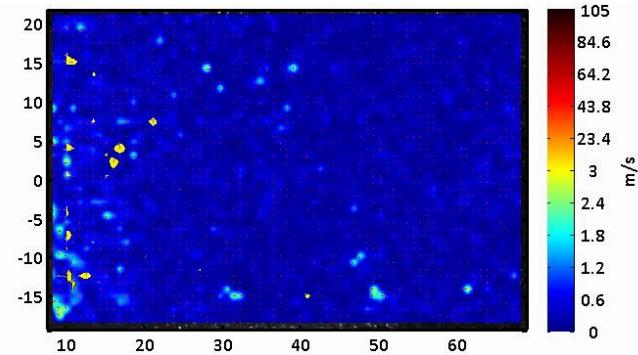
⇒On a single injection event, 2 ranges of velocities can be resolved

# Velocity measurements performed downstream of the liquid region

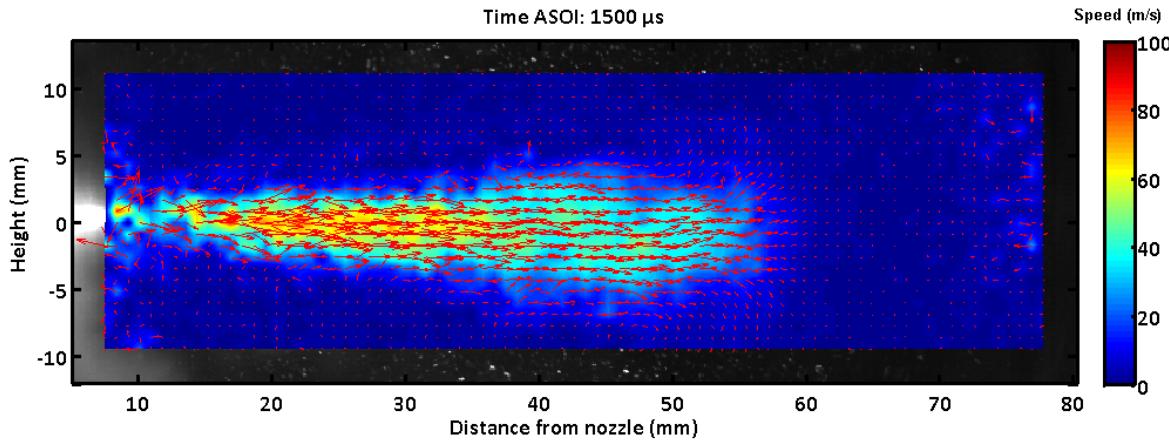
Jet velocity



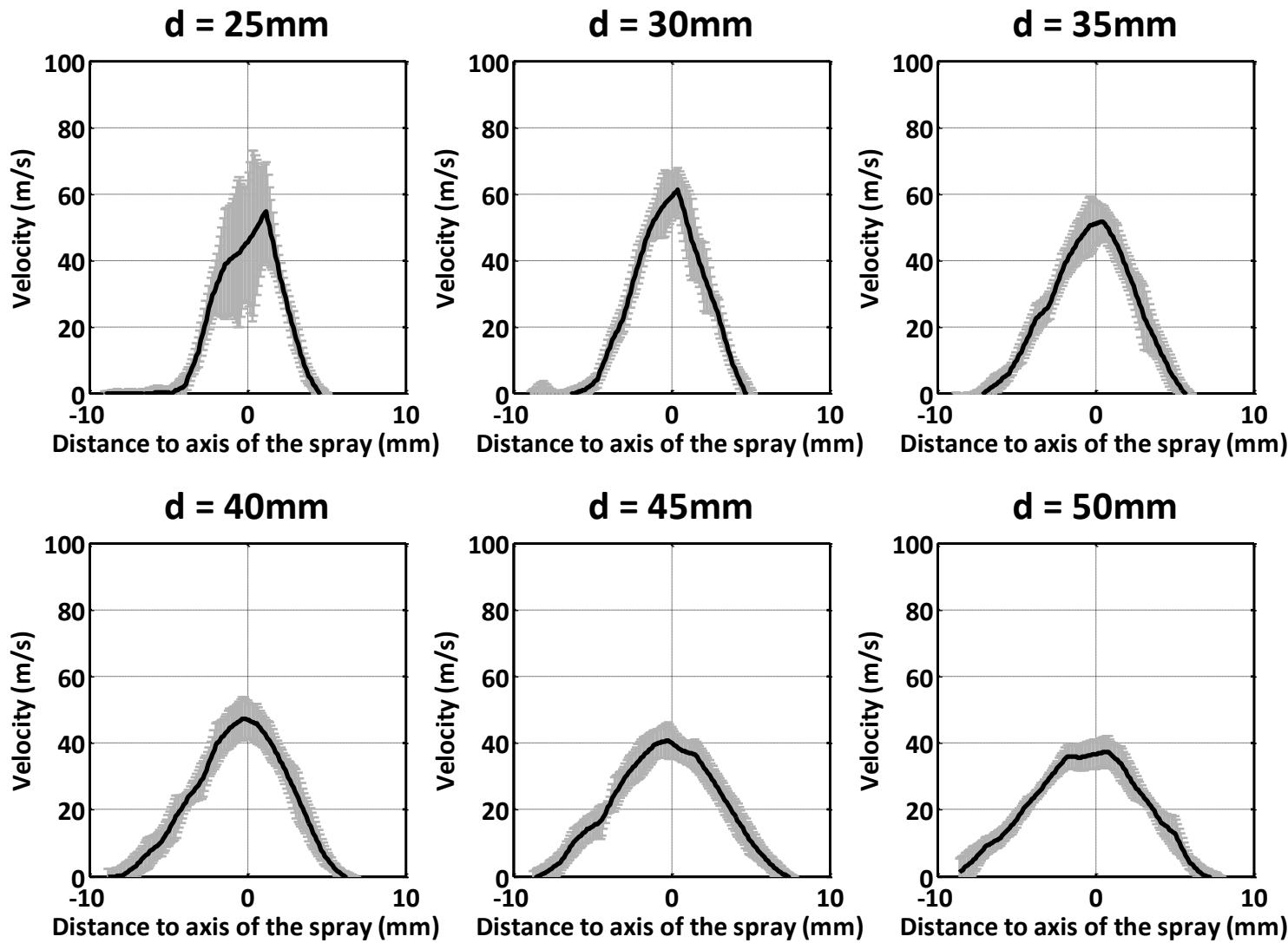
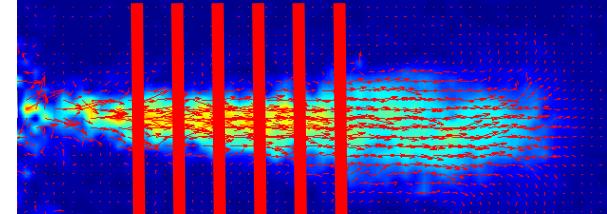
Velocity data “joined”



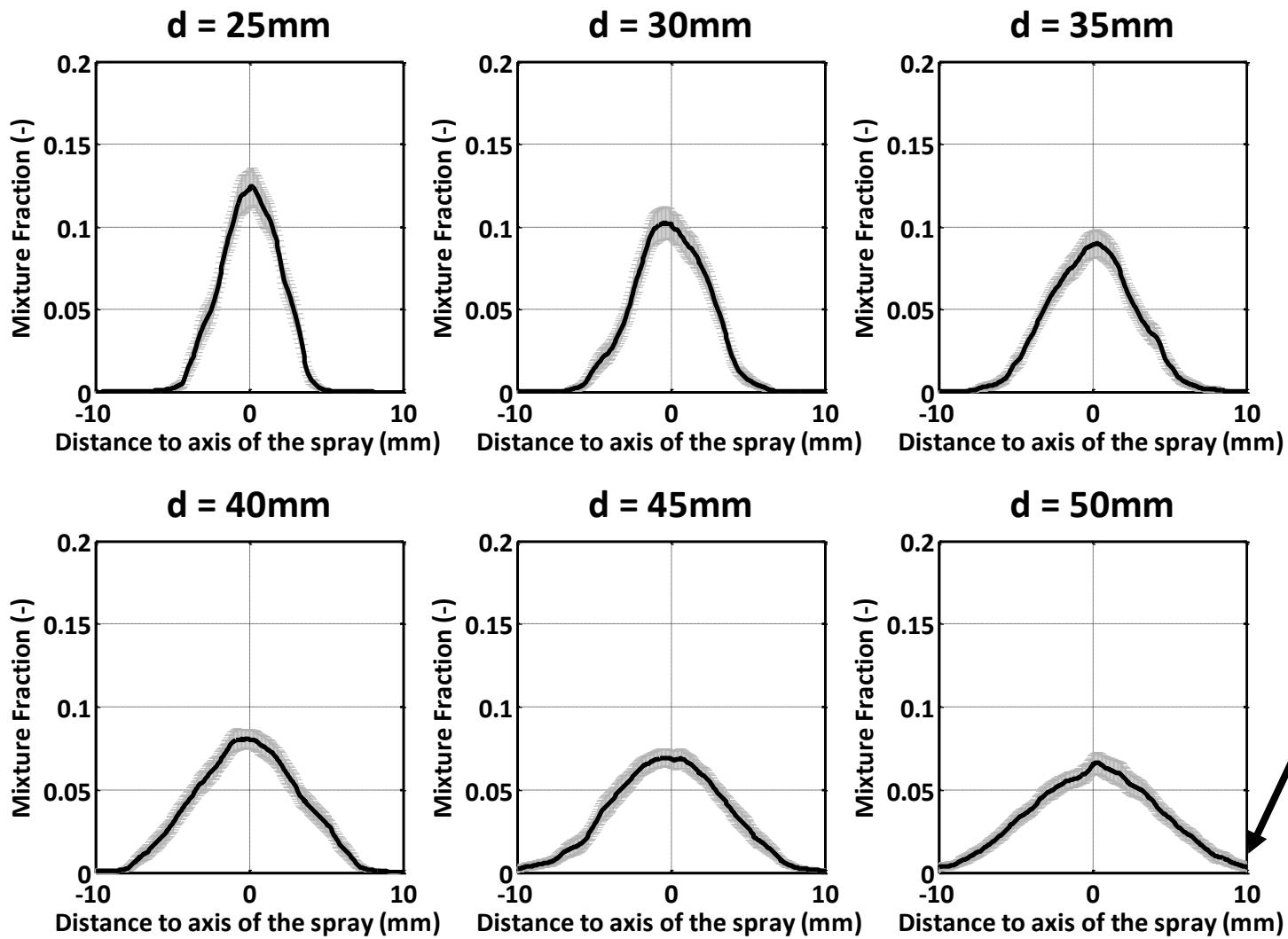
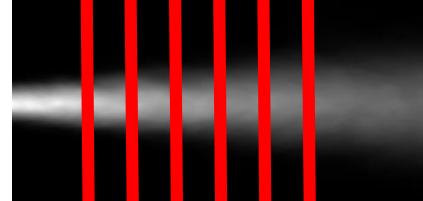
Surrounding air velocity



# Radial profiles of axial velocity in steady-state



# Mixing and velocity fields are self-consistent.



schlieren border