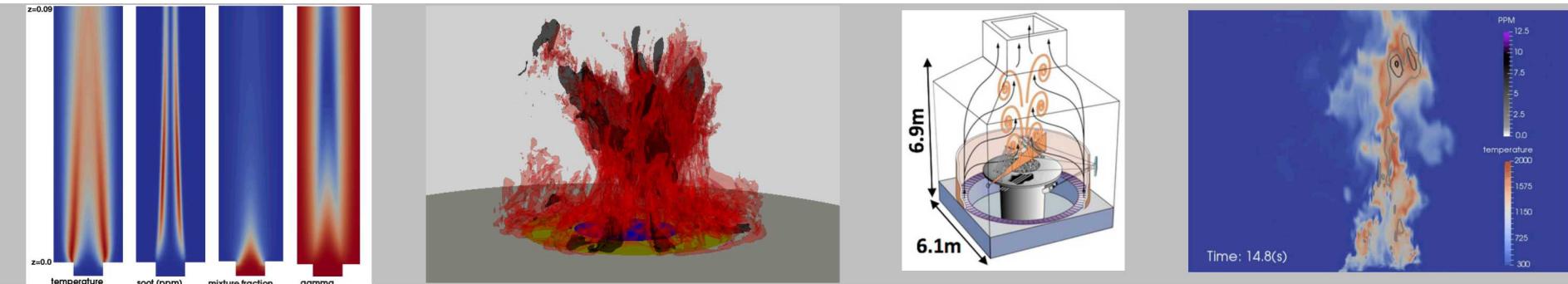




Fire Science & Technology



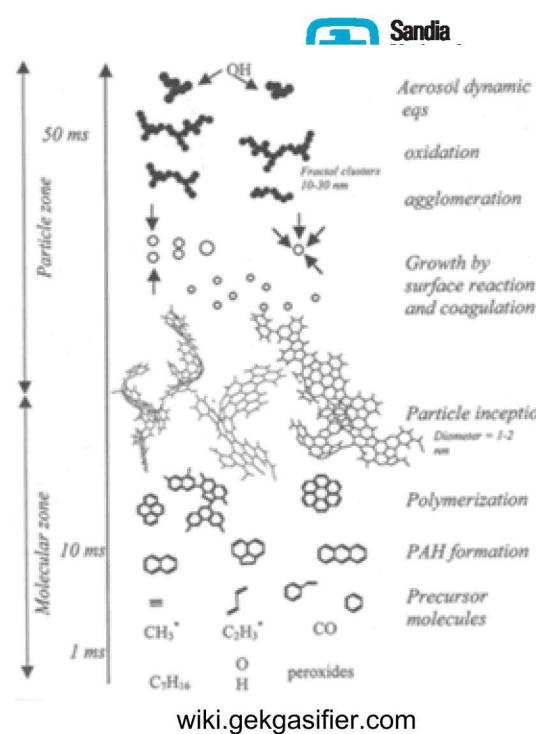
LES Soot-Radiation Predictions of Buoyant Fire Plumes

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Western States Section of the Combustion Institute Spring Meeting, 3/26/2018, Bend, OR

Challenges in Soot Modeling

- Soot formation & evolution involves many steps
 - Nucleation, surface reaction, coagulation, oxidation, etc.
- Slower evolution than combustion chemistry
 - Quasi-steady assumption is not adequate



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Challenges in Soot Modeling

- Soot formation & evolution involves many steps
 - Nucleation, surface reaction, coagulation, oxidation, etc.
- Slower evolution than combustion chemistry
 - Quasi-steady assumption is not adequate
- Limited success in soot modeling
 - 1-3, or more, parameters are carried:
 - Soot mass, number density, PAH, etc.
 - Ex> 2-equation model:

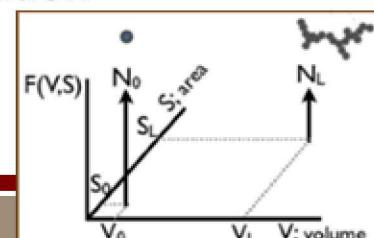
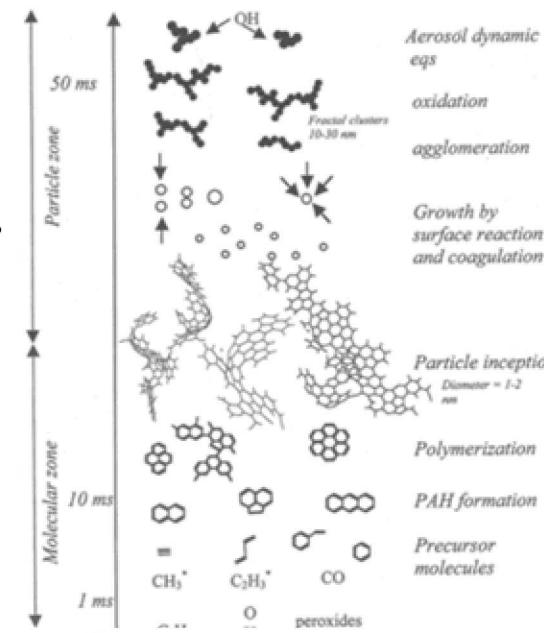
ρN : Number density, ρM : Mass concentration

$$\frac{\partial \rho N}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} N) = (\text{Nucl.}) - (\text{Coag.})$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho M}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} M) = W_p(\text{Nucl.}) + (\text{Surf.}) - (\text{Oxid.})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\text{Nucl.}) &= 54 N_A \frac{X_{C_2H_2} P}{R_0 T} e^{-21100/T} \\
 (\text{Coag.}) &= \left(\frac{24 R_0 T}{\rho_{SOOT} N_A} \right)^{1/2} d_p^{1/2} (\rho N)^2 \\
 (\text{Surf.}) &= 11700 \left(\frac{X_{C_2H_4} P}{R_0 T} \right) e^{-12000/T} * \text{AREA} \\
 (\text{Oxid.}) &= \left(500 \frac{X_{O_2} P}{R_0 T} T^{1/2} e^{-20000/T} + 4.2325 \frac{X_{OH} P}{R_0 T} T^{1/2} \right) * \text{AREA}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Each evolution steps contribute as a source
- Coefficients are heavily tuned for fuel and/or configuration
- May allow non-sphere and/or subfilter-PDF:

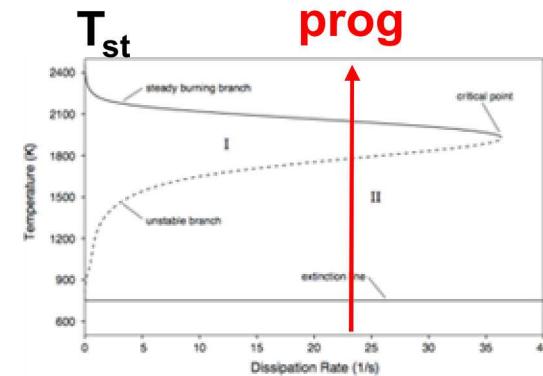
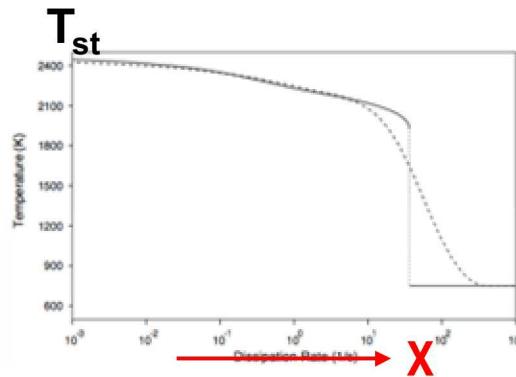


Flamelet Turbulent Combustion Models

$\phi = \{Y_F, Y_O, Y_{..}, T, H\}$

- $$\frac{\partial \rho \phi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{u} \phi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\rho D \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) + \dot{\omega} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \frac{\chi}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial Z^2} = \dot{\omega}$$

$$\chi = 2D \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial x} \right)^2$$
 - Adiabatic models: reactive field is represented by mixture fraction (Z) and dissipation rate (χ) or progress variable
 - Tabulated; Cost-effective; Well-studied in many turbulent combustion regimes

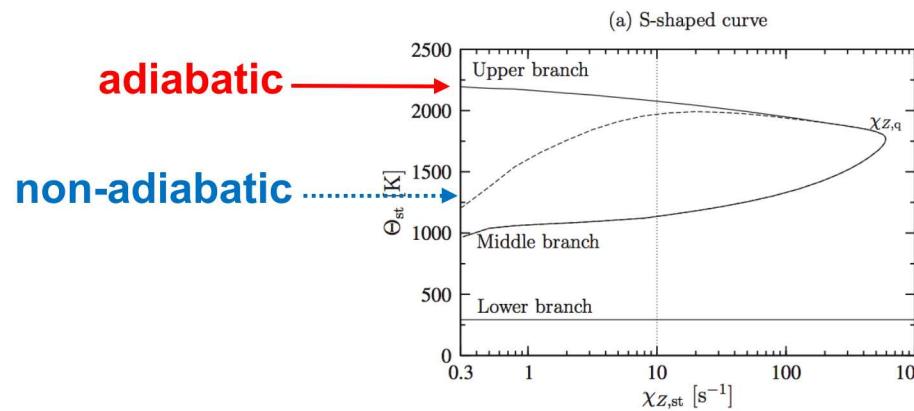


Non-Adiabatic Flamelet Model

$$\frac{\partial \rho \phi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{u} \phi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\rho D \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) + \dot{\omega} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \frac{\chi}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial Z^2} = \dot{\omega} \quad \phi = \{Y_F, Y_O, Y_{..}, T, H\}$$

$$\chi = 2D \left(\frac{\partial Z}{\partial x} \right)^2$$

- Adiabatic models: reactive field is represented by mixture fraction (Z) and dissipation rate (χ) or progress variable
- Tabulated; Cost-effective; Well-studied in many turbulent combustion regimes
- Non-adiabatic approaches add enthalpy defect, or radiative heat loss
 - T, or radiation, is important for soot prediction => *couple with a better rad. model*
 - Main flame chemistry: quasi-steady vs. soot & enthalpy: unsteady
 - Timescale for soot & enthalpy: $O(0.1\text{-}1\text{s})$ => *verify unsteadiness of the flamelet*
 - Temperature variation is limited when only gas-phase radiation is included
 - 1ppm of soot reduces T by 100K => *let enthalpy defect cover all T- χ space*



Objectives



- Develop a fully-quenched, non-adiabatic, dissipation rate-based unsteady flamelet
- Couple with a discrete ordinate radiation solver for radiation-flame-soot interaction
- Validate the model on laminar and turbulent sooting flames

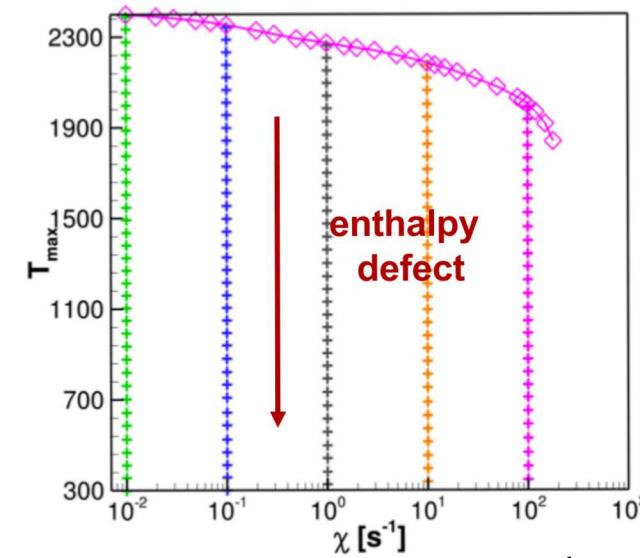
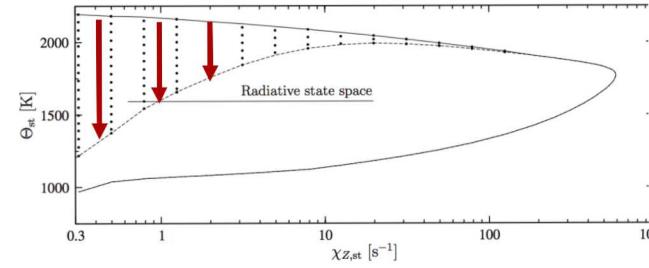
Enthalpy Defect & Unsteady Flamelets

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} + \frac{\chi}{2} \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial Z^2} = \omega_H$$

- Initially developed for NO prediction as a post-process (Pitsch et al. 1998)
- Later added as an additional flamelet dimension (Ihme Pitsch 2008)

$$\omega_H = 4\sigma(T^4 - T_\infty^4) \sum_i p_i a_i$$

- Moderate enthalpy defect for NO prediction
 - T does not go down further due to reactant mixing
 - As χ increases, effect of the sink term diminishes
- Soot prediction needs to cover all $T-\chi$ space
 - Unsteady radiative losses lead to significant cooling
 - May cross below S-curve middle branch
 - Similar approach proposed by Mueller Pitsch 2013
 - Potentially extendable for wall-cooled flame



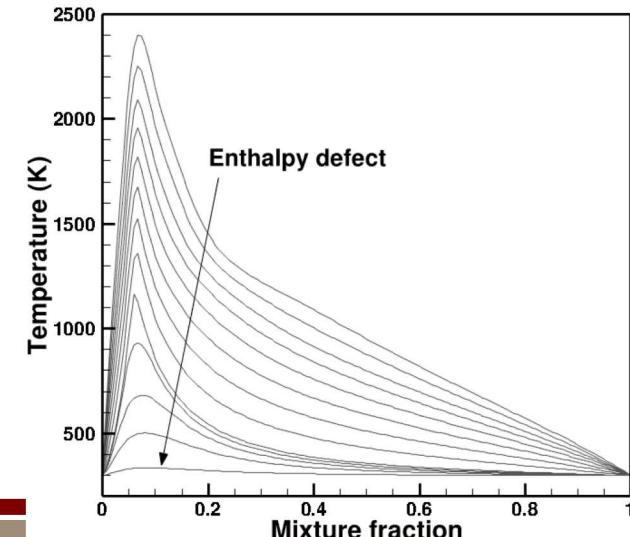
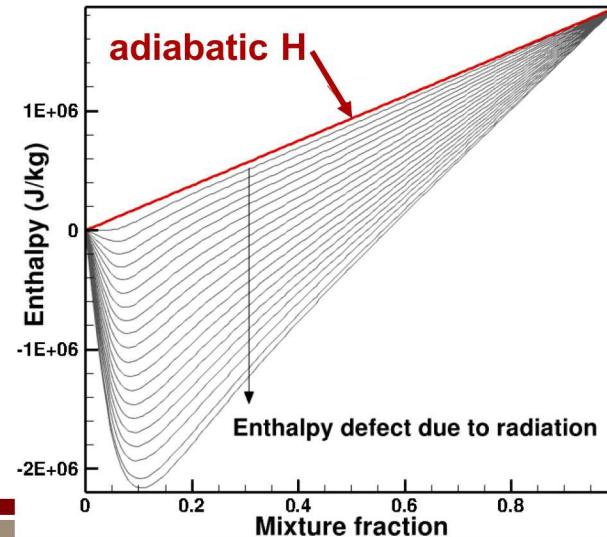
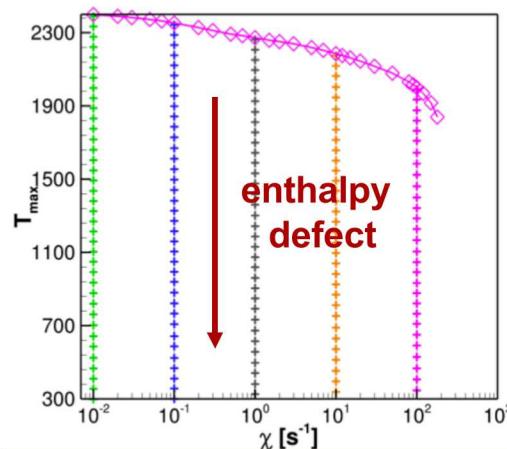
Non-Adiabatic Flamelets

- A new heat-loss term is proposed:
 - Proportional to χ for complete cooling
 - Linear to T for a better off-sto. coverage & potential wall-cooling capability
- With the larger sink term, flame cools down to ambient T
 - This is 'cooled product', not reactants mixing
- Enthalpy defect γ is introduced
 - γ is the difference between H and adiabatic H
 - To use well-developed enthalpy solver

$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} + \frac{\chi}{2} \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial Z^2} = h_0 \chi \left[\frac{T(H, Z) - T_\infty}{T_{max} - T_\infty} \right]$$

$$\widetilde{H}_{ad} = H(0) + [H(1) - H(0)] \tilde{Z}$$

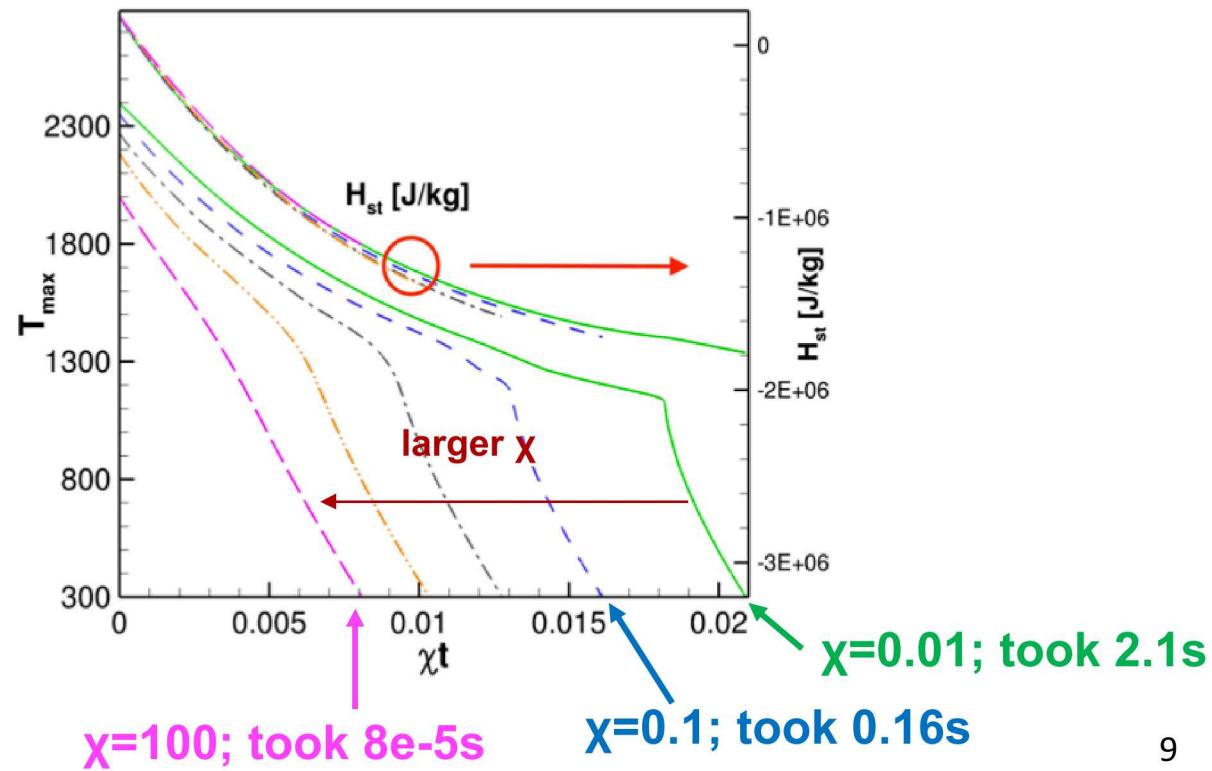
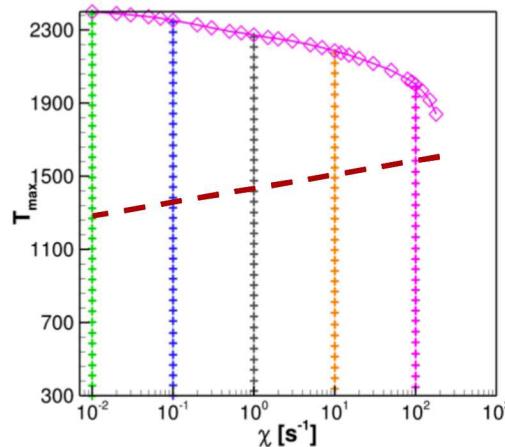
$$\tilde{\gamma} = \tilde{H} - \widetilde{H}_{ad}$$



Unsteady Effect

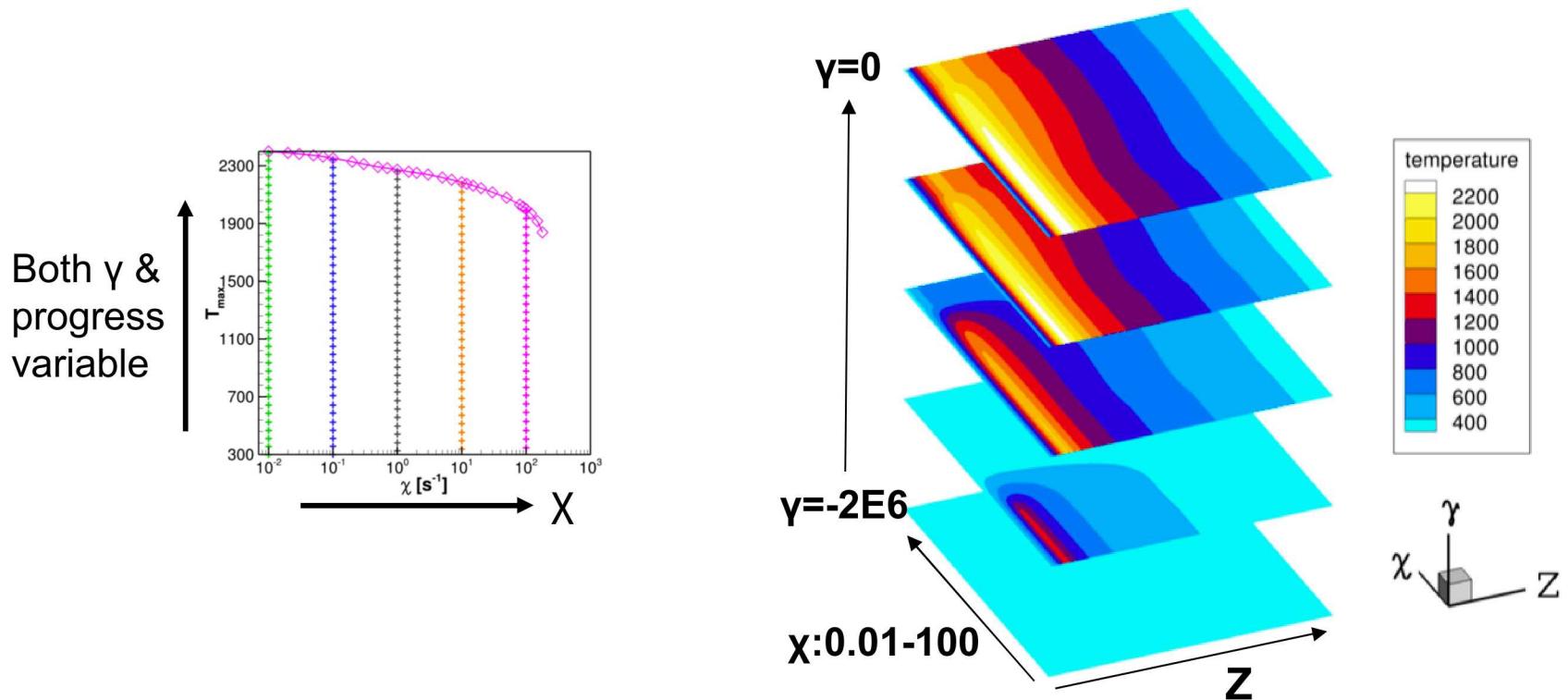
$$\frac{\partial H}{\partial t} + \frac{\chi}{2} \frac{\partial^2 H}{\partial Z^2} = h_0 \chi \left[\frac{T(H, Z) - T_\infty}{T_{max} - T_\infty} \right]$$

- Normalize by (Tmax-To) to retain the same magnitude of the source
- However, max temperature drops faster below unstable middle branch
- Timescale matches to the estimated enthalpy response delay
 - O(0.1-1s) for complete cooling at lower χ range



Tabulation

- Tabulation of χ -based enthalpy defect approach has an advantage for fire and similar scenarios over progress variable-based
 - Progress variable predicts ignition delay, local quenching/re-ignition
 - χ is orthogonal to γ : orthogonal tabulation
- Sub-filter PDF applied to the mixture fraction: a 4D table \tilde{Z} , $\widetilde{Z''^2}$, $\tilde{\chi}$, and $\tilde{\gamma}$



Radiation Model

- Full interaction between radiation and flame is important for an accurate temperature prediction
 - ..which approximated models such as optically thin assumption do not provide
- Discrete-ordinate radiative transport equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho H}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} H) = \nabla \cdot (\rho D \nabla H) - (4a\sigma T^4 - aG)$$

emission absorption

$$G = \int I(s) d\Omega \quad s \cdot \nabla I(s) + aI(s) = e$$

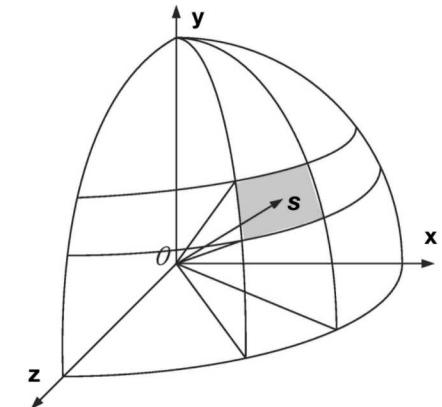
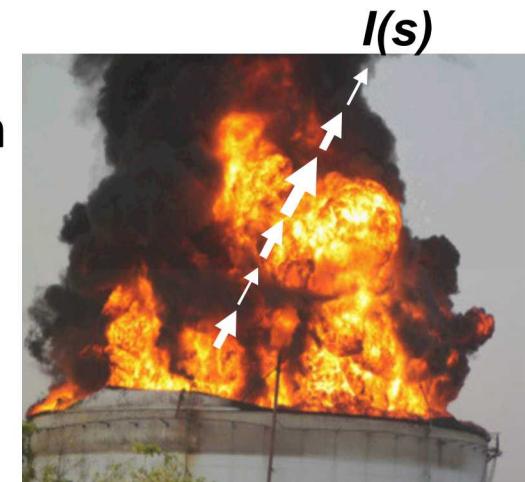
- Both gas and soot contribute on absorption and emission source to the wave

$$a = a_{gas} + a_{soot} \text{ and } e = e_{gas} + e_{soot}$$

$$a_{soot} = (-375000 + 1735T)\rho M / \rho_{SOOT}$$

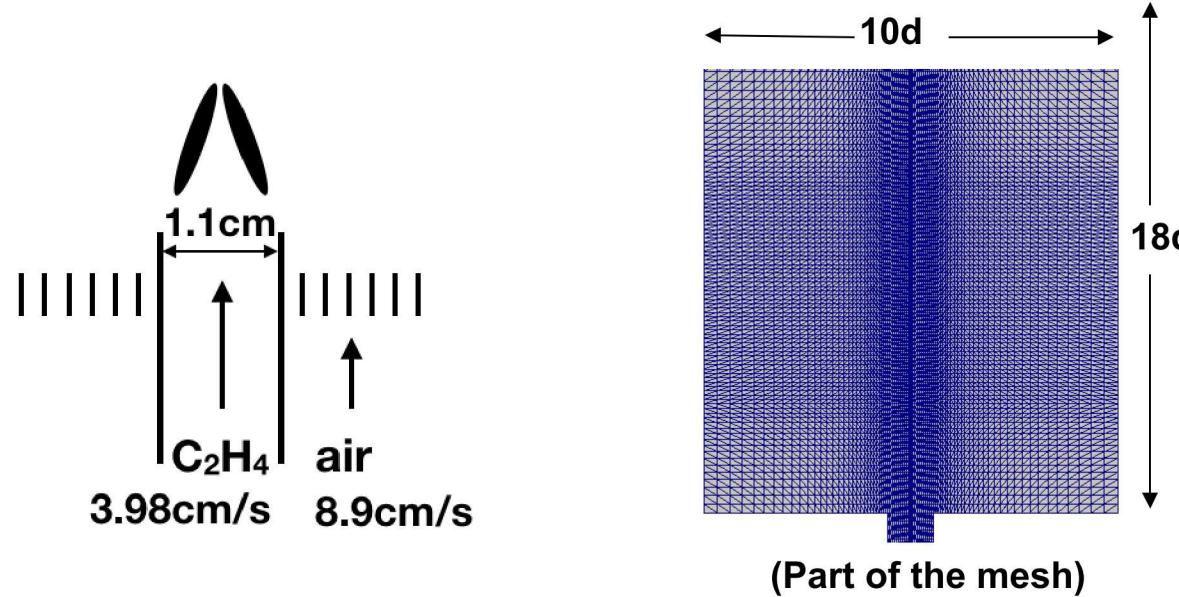
$$e_{soot} = a_{soot} \sigma T^4 / \pi$$

- Radiation sources are precomputed in the table
- Radiative transport equation is solved for 48 directions



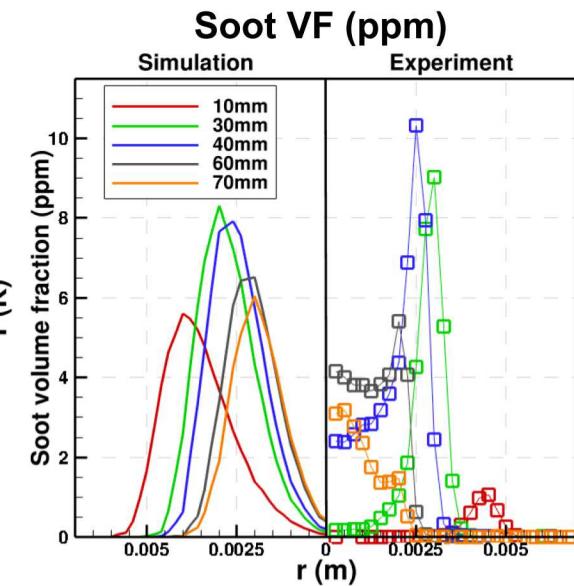
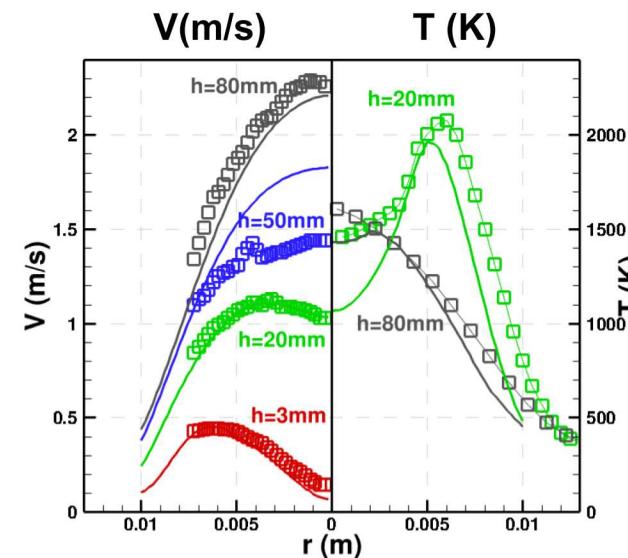
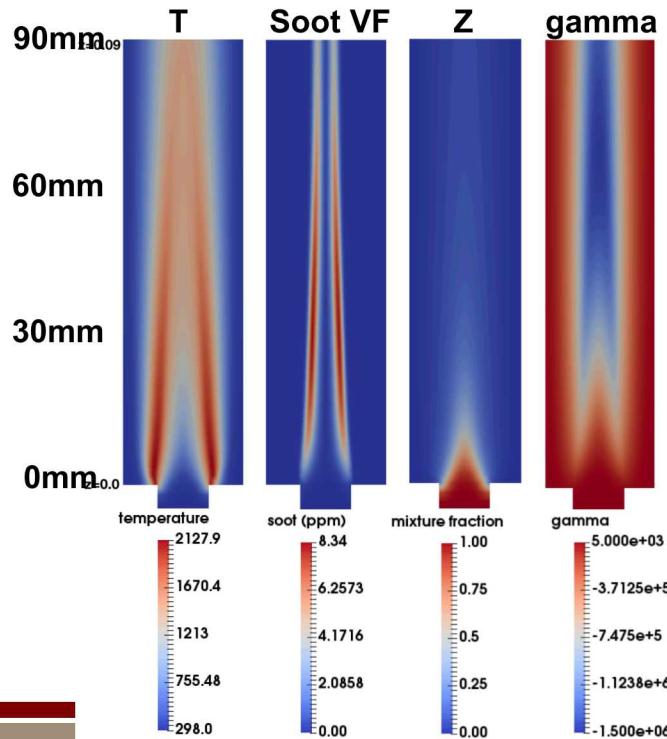
Model Validation - Laminar Flame

- SIERRA/Fuego was used for model implementation and simulations
 - SIERRA: Sandia's engineering mechanics simulation code suite
 - Fuego: low-Ma reacting turbulent flow solver
- Validation study on a laminar flame
 - Ethylene coflow sooting jet (Santoro et al. 1983, Smyth 1999)
 - Needed a 3D mesh for the radiation solver, ~10000 cells at a symmetric plane



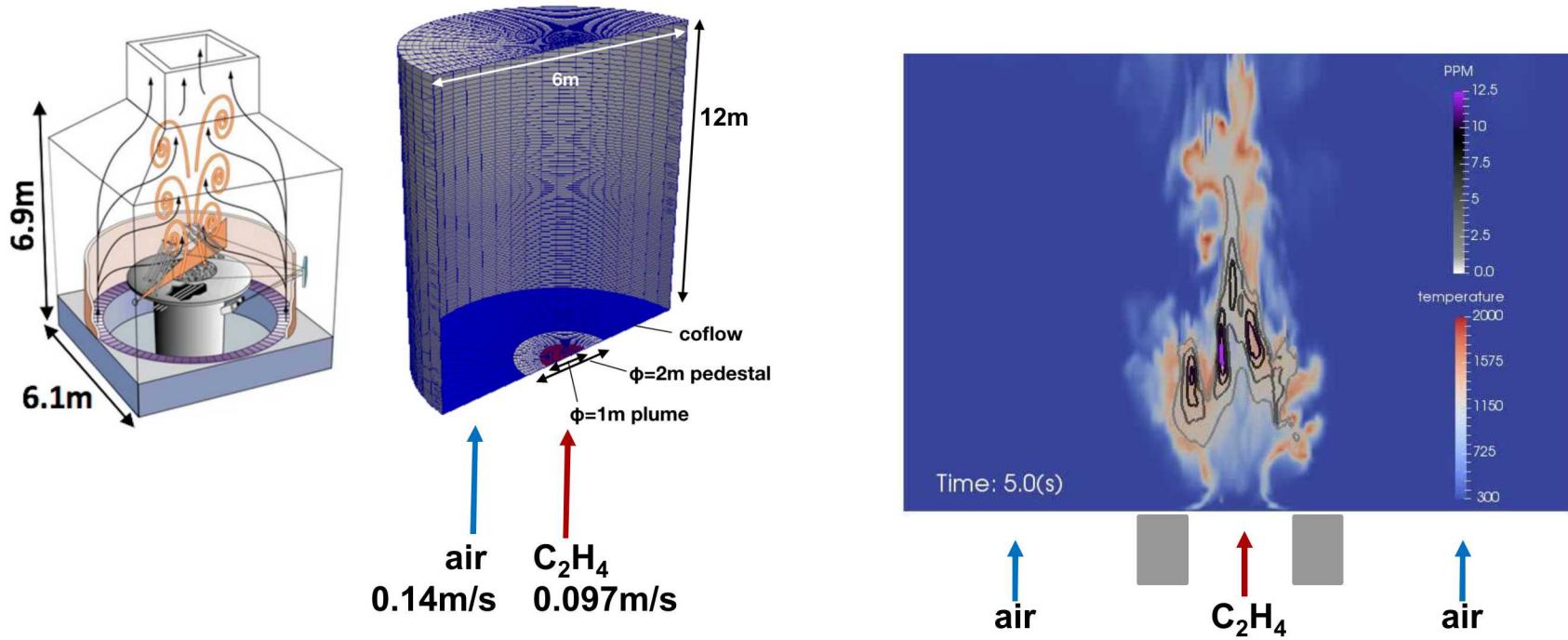
Laminar Flame Results

- Temperature matches in the downstream
 - Enthalpy defect (radiation source) is correctly modeled
- Maximum soot volume fraction agrees well with the experiment
 - Soot develops earlier and not fully oxidized
 - Conventional model coefficients for ethylene were used - there are better predictions elsewhere where coefficients & model forms were tuned



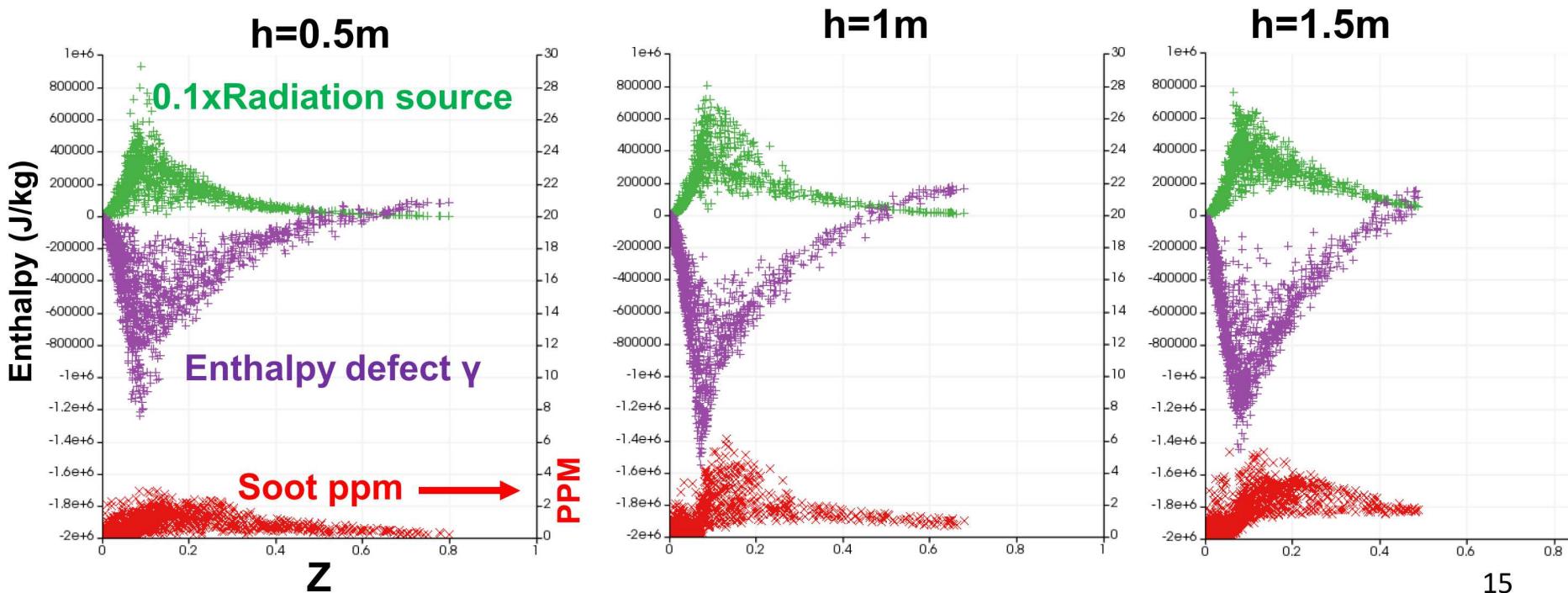
Turbulent Fire Plume

- Configuration follows the previous study (WSSCI 2017 Fall)
 - FLAME, a large-scale high-fidelity indoor pool fire/fire plume test facility
 - Mesh/domain sensitivity was studied on the soot-free methane plume (MaCFP)
 - Fuel was replaced by ethylene
 - LES closure: sub-filter kinetic energy one-equation model
 - A total of 1.3M meshes (smallest cell size=2cm) was used

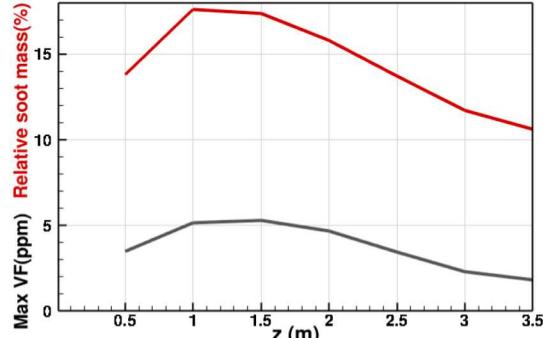


Evolution of Enthalpy Defect

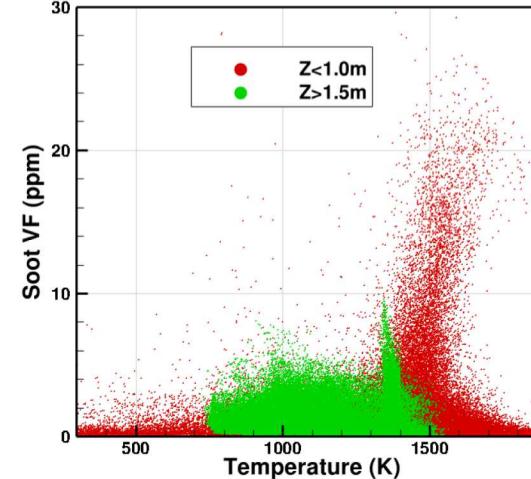
- Scatter plots show $O(0.1s)$ timescale between radiation source and γ
 - γ reaches $-1.6E6$, approx. 1000K lower Tmax than adiabatic profile
 - Plots confirm significant soot contribution to the radiation source
 - γ could be positive due to radiation absorption by fuel
 - Soot develops at fuel rich condition



Soot Statistics

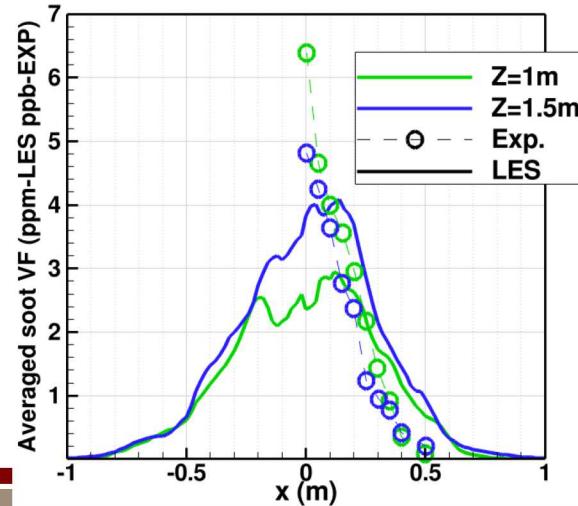
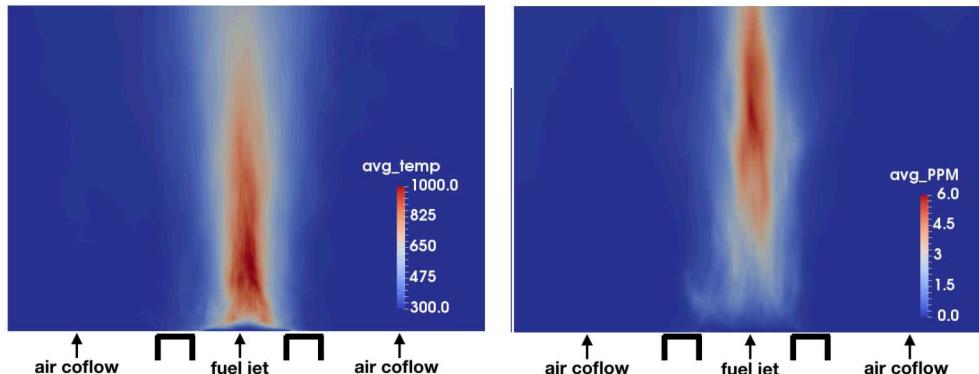


Up to 18% of fuel became soot



At upstream, higher T incurs more soot growth
At downstream, higher T means more oxidation

- Qualitative comparison to an experiment
 - Soot measure is available only for methanol blended by 10% toluene
 - Qualitative comparison was made for a case with different phase, fuel, slightly different geometry: sooting location is well captured with $O(10^3)$ mag. difference



Conclusion

- An enthalpy-defect, dissipation rate-based flamelet is developed for sooting flames
 - Transient flamelet-generation allows the flame temperature from adiabatic to the surrounding temperature
 - Not only radiation: potentially suitable for wall-cooling/heating application
- A two-equation soot model is coupled to the non-adiabatic flamelet approach in laminar/LES context with full discrete ordinate radiation model
- The model is demonstrated on sooting flames
 - Effect of the modeled radiation and enthalpy defect matches well to the measured temperature
 - Soot magnitude is well predicted while oxidation is underpredicted
 - Strong interaction between soot evolution and radiation is observed in the turbulent flame