

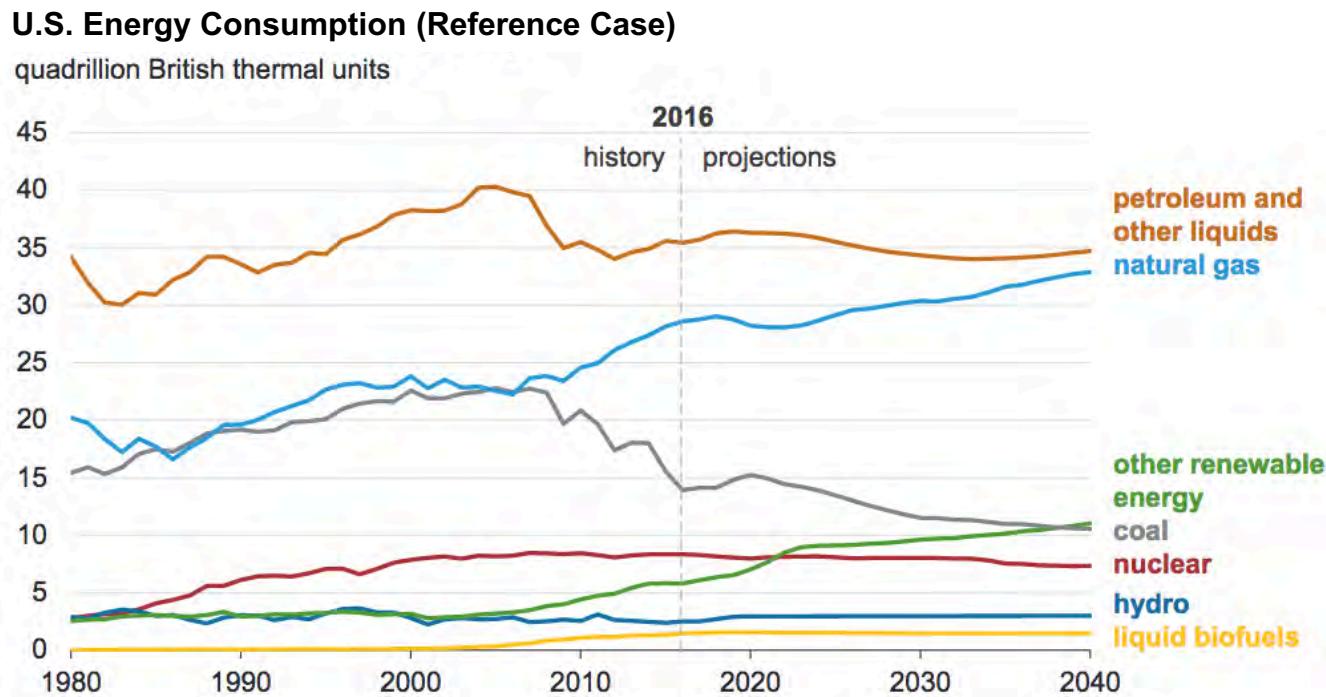
# Probing the Structure of Turbulent Flames with Tomographic PIV and High Speed Imaging

Jonathan Frank

*Combustion Research Facility  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Livermore, CA*

# Motivation

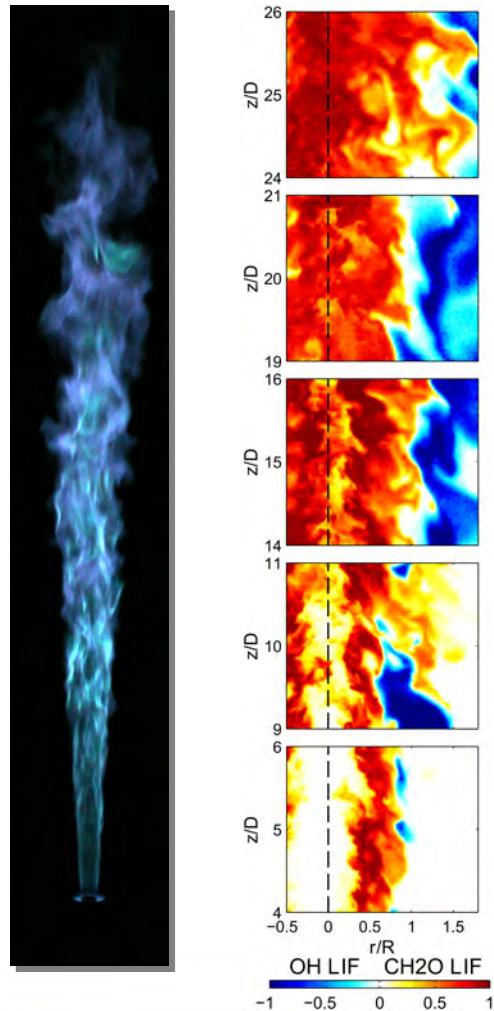
- Improved fundamental understanding of interactions between turbulence and combustion chemistry
- Demand for hydrocarbon combustion for foreseeable future



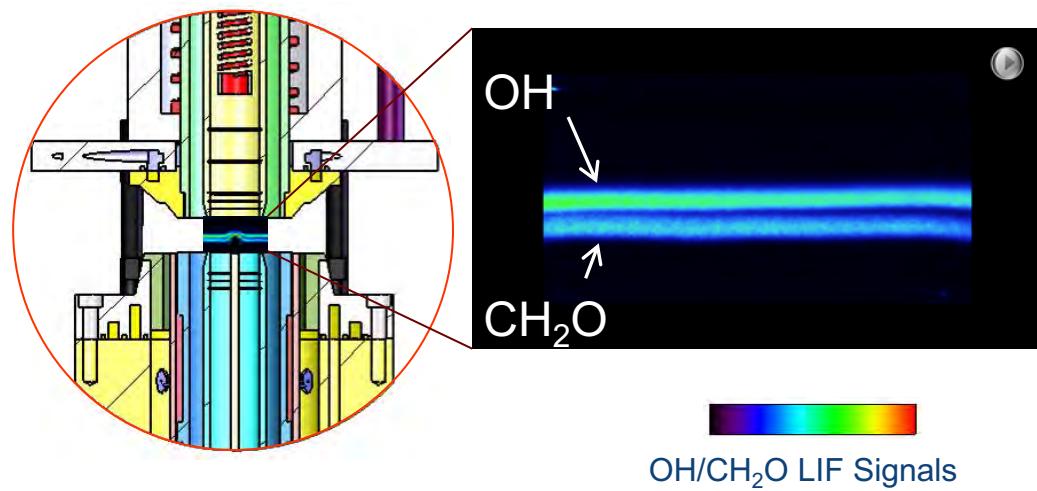
U.S. Energy Information Administration: Energy Outlook, Jan. 2017 ([www.eia.gov/aoe](http://www.eia.gov/aoe))

# Approaches to Studying Flow-Flame Interactions

## Turbulent Flows in Canonical Geometries



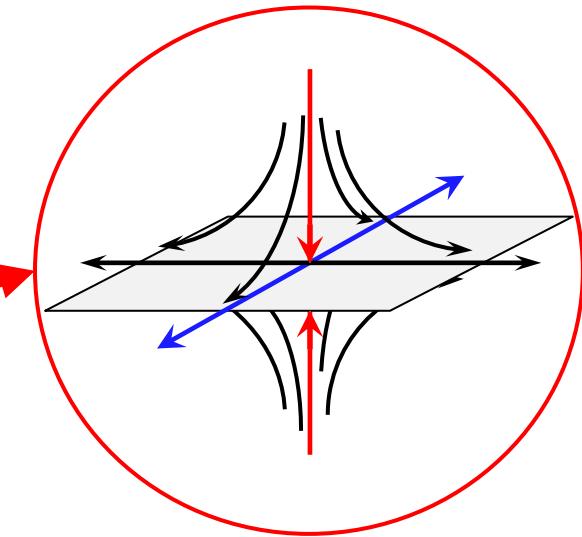
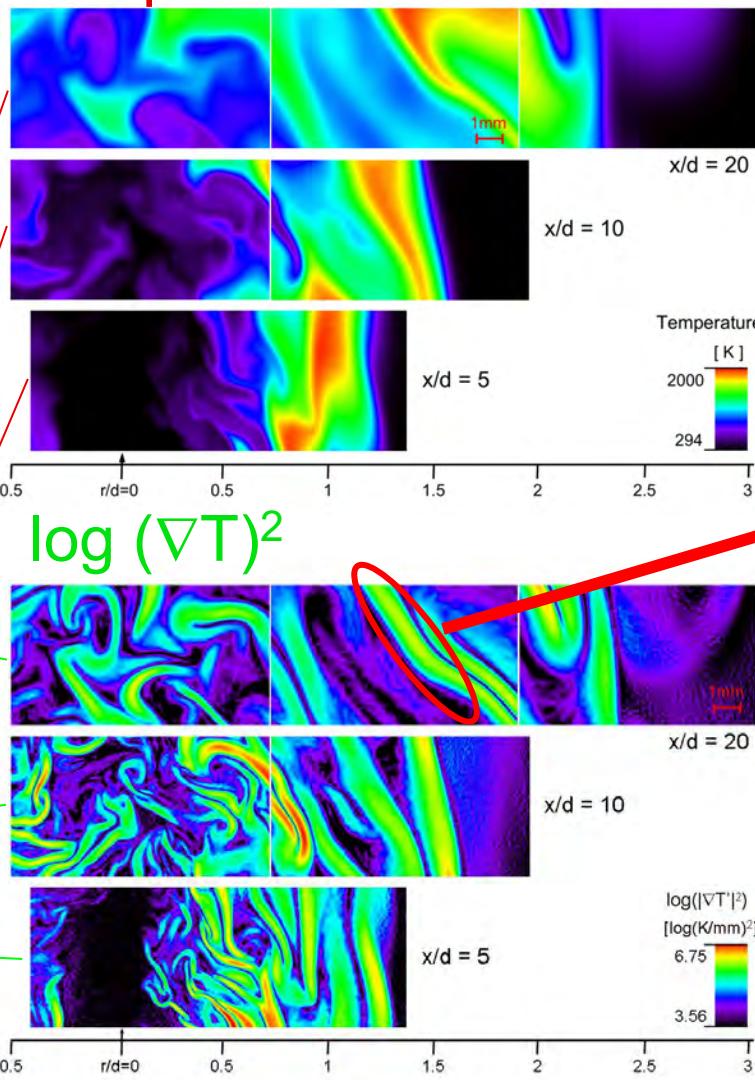
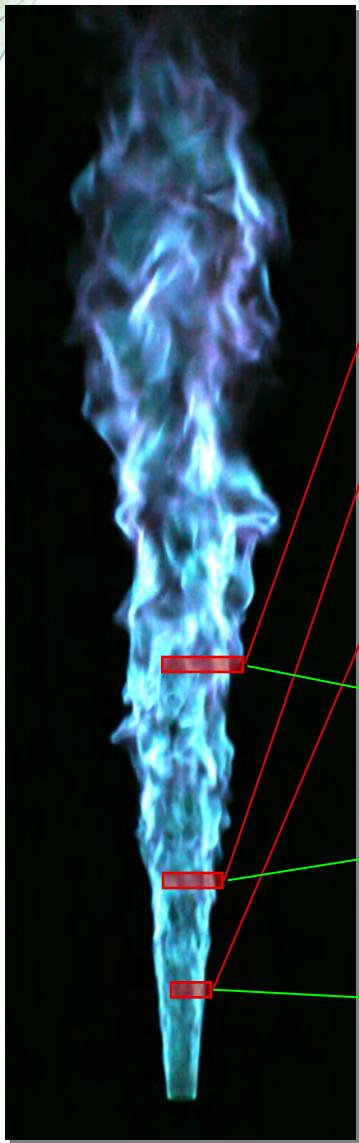
## Isolated Repeatable Transient Flow-Flame Interactions



# Structure of Turbulence

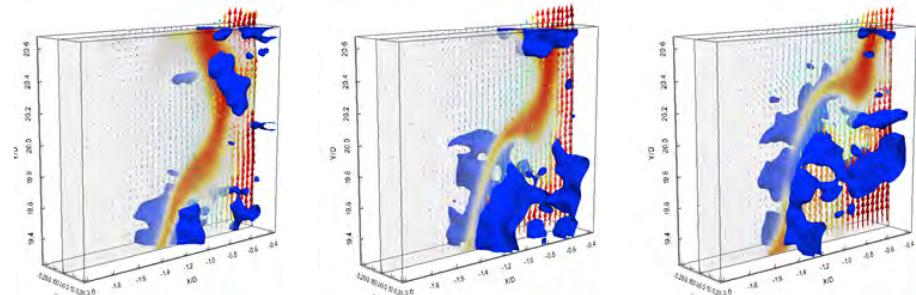
## Impacts Rates of Molecular Mixing

### Temperature

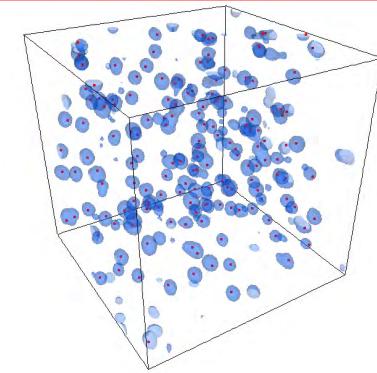
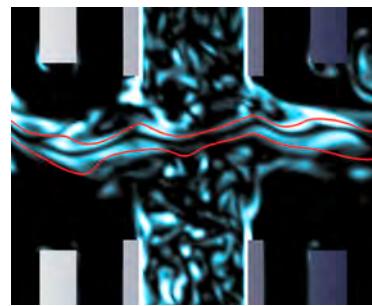


# Outline

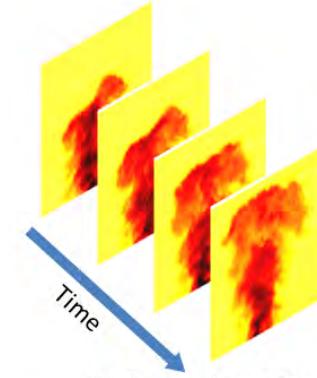
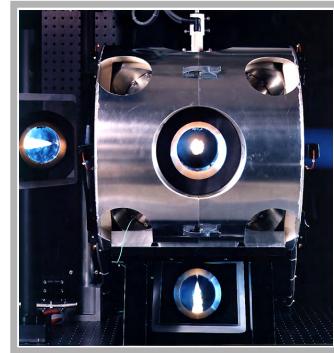
## 3-D Measurements of Flow Fields in Turbulent Flames



## Coupling Tomo-PIV with Large Eddy Simulations



## Imaging High-Pressure Fuel Injection Dynamics with Pulse-Burst Laser



# Measuring Structure of Turbulence

## Tomographic Particle Imaging Velocimetry (PIV)

3-Component Velocity Measurements in 3-D

$$\boldsymbol{v} = u\hat{i} + v\hat{j} + w\hat{k}$$



$$\nabla \boldsymbol{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \partial u / \partial x & \partial u / \partial y & \partial u / \partial z \\ \partial v / \partial x & \partial v / \partial y & \partial v / \partial z \\ \partial w / \partial x & \partial w / \partial y & \partial w / \partial z \end{bmatrix}$$

Time resolved at multi-kHz rates!

# Strain Rate Measurements Enabled by Tomo-PIV

Rate of Strain Tensor

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & S_{13} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & S_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

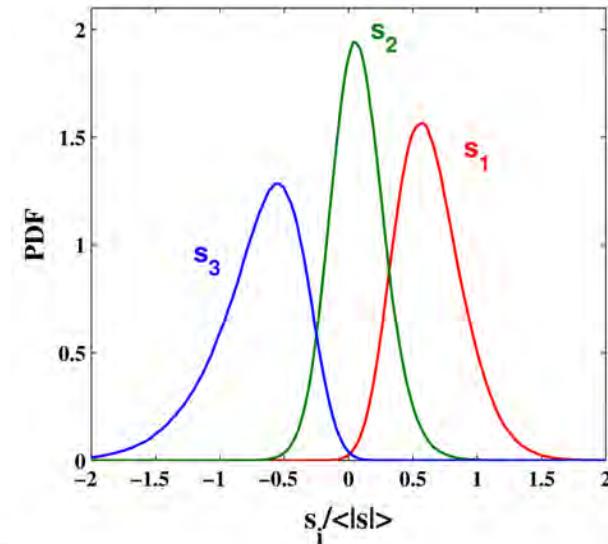
$$S_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

Divergence

$$\nabla \cdot u = s_1 + s_2 + s_3$$

Principal Strain Rates (Eigenvalues)

$s_1 > s_2 > s_3$   
 Most Extensive      Intermediate      Most Compressive



# Data Acquisition and Processing

## - Overview -

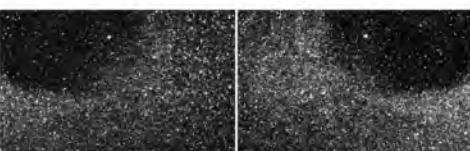
### Data Acquisition

#### Frame A

Camera 1      Camera 2

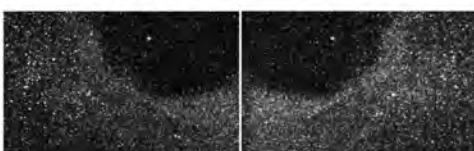


Camera 3      Camera 4



#### Frame B

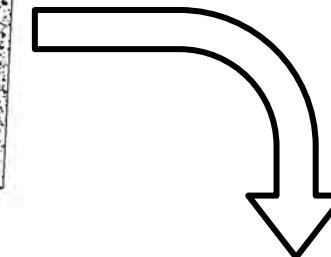
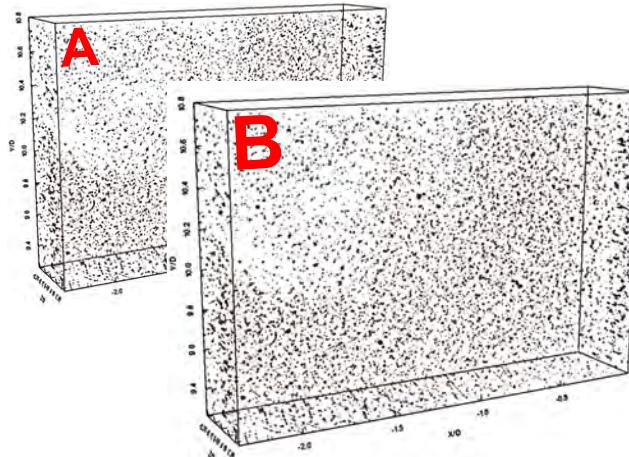
Camera 1      Camera 2



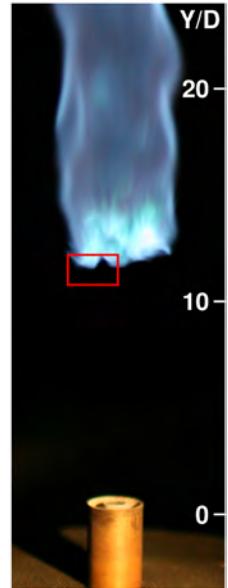
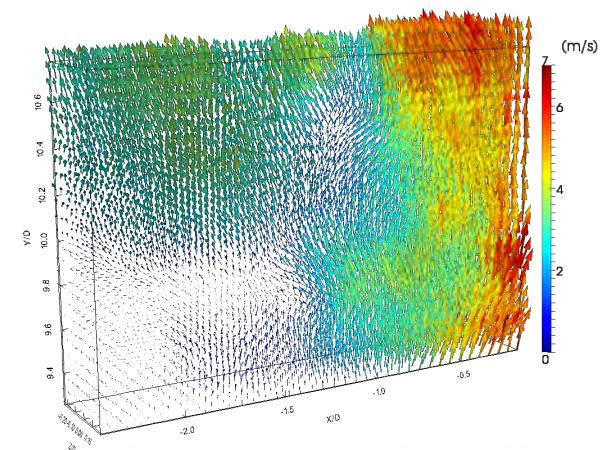
Camera 3      Camera 4



### Probe Volume Reconstruction



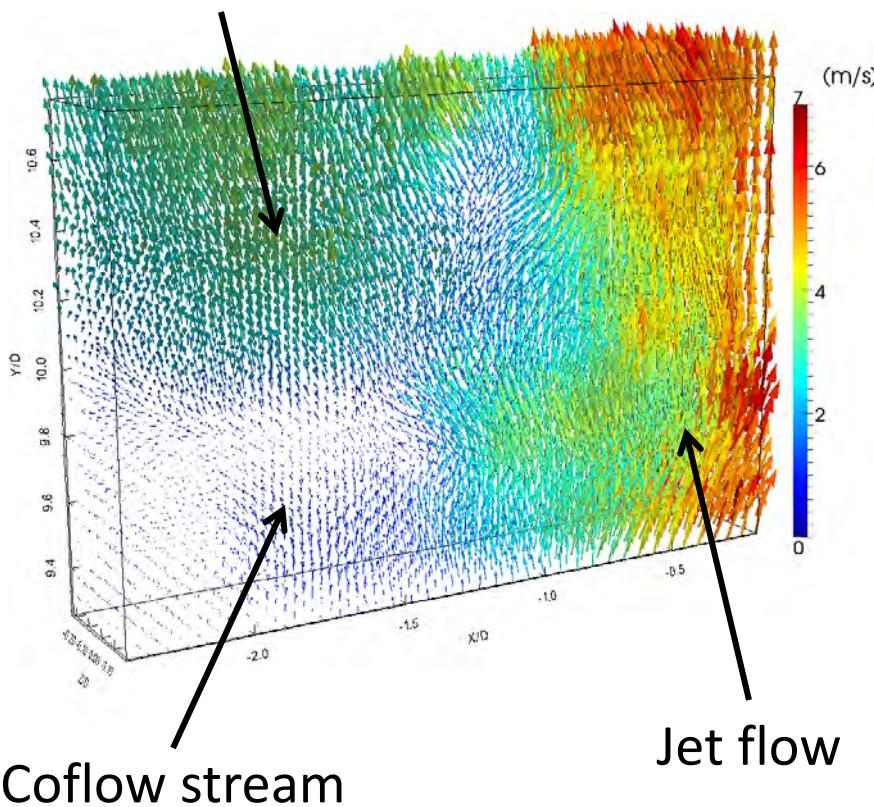
### Volume Cross-Correlation



# Data Processing

## - Volume Cross-Correlation -

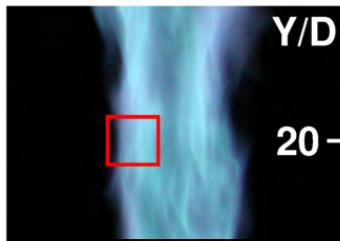
Flame products



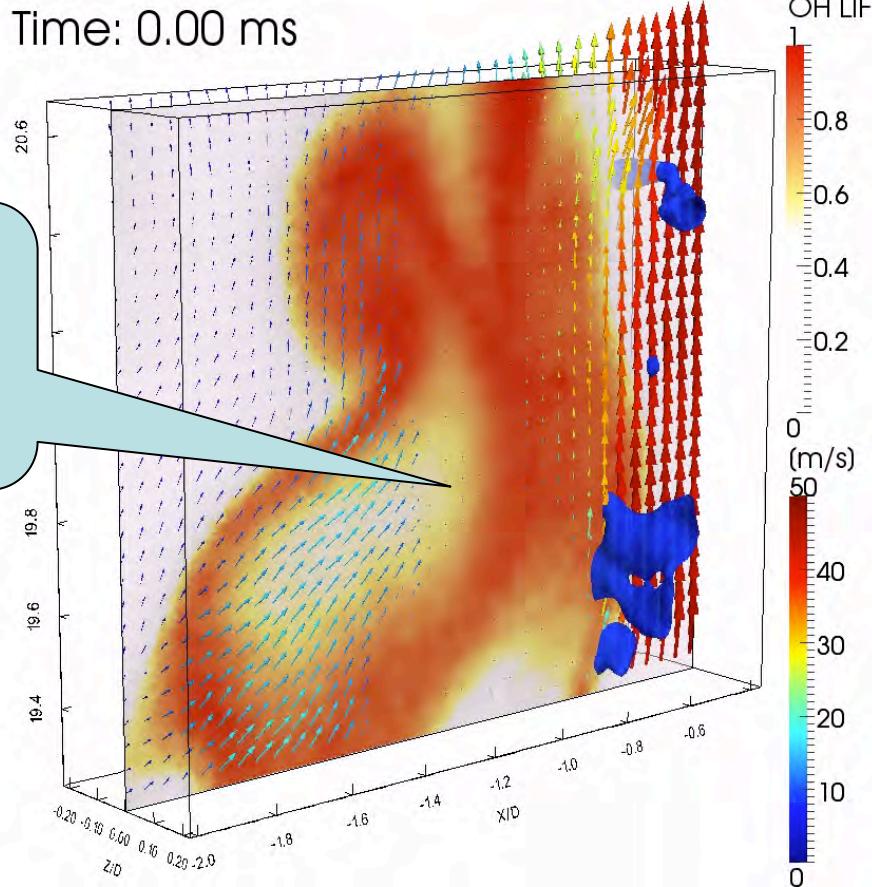
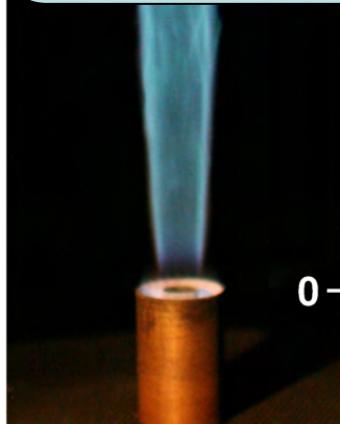
- Multi-pass cross-correlation analysis
- Final interrogation volume size:  $413 \times 413 \times 413 \mu\text{m}^3$   
 $24 \times 24 \times 24 \text{ vx}$   
with 75% overlap

1 out of 64 vectors plotted

# Effects of Intermittent Strain on OH in a Turbulent Partially-Premixed Jet Flame



How does heat release from chemical reactions affect turbulence?

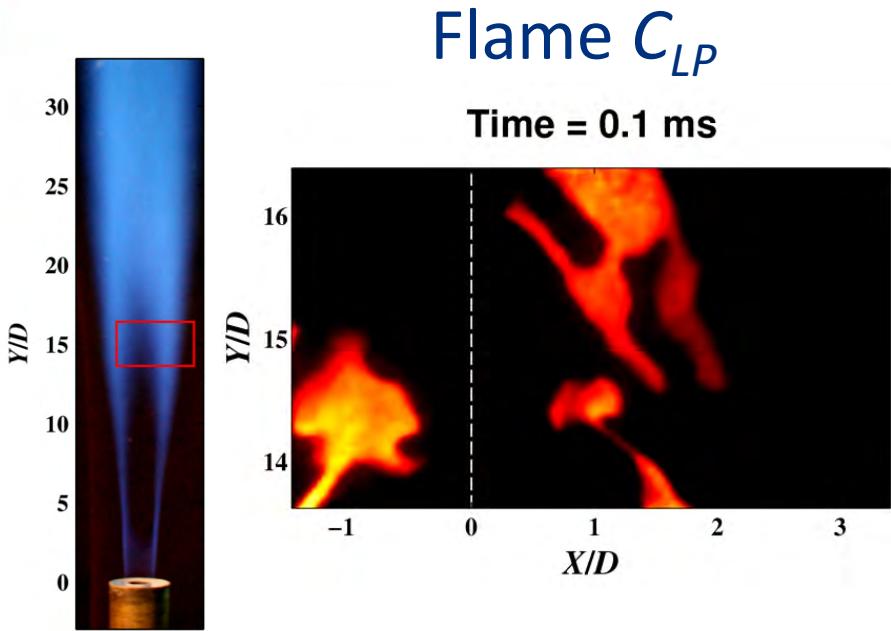


10 kHz PIV + OH LIF

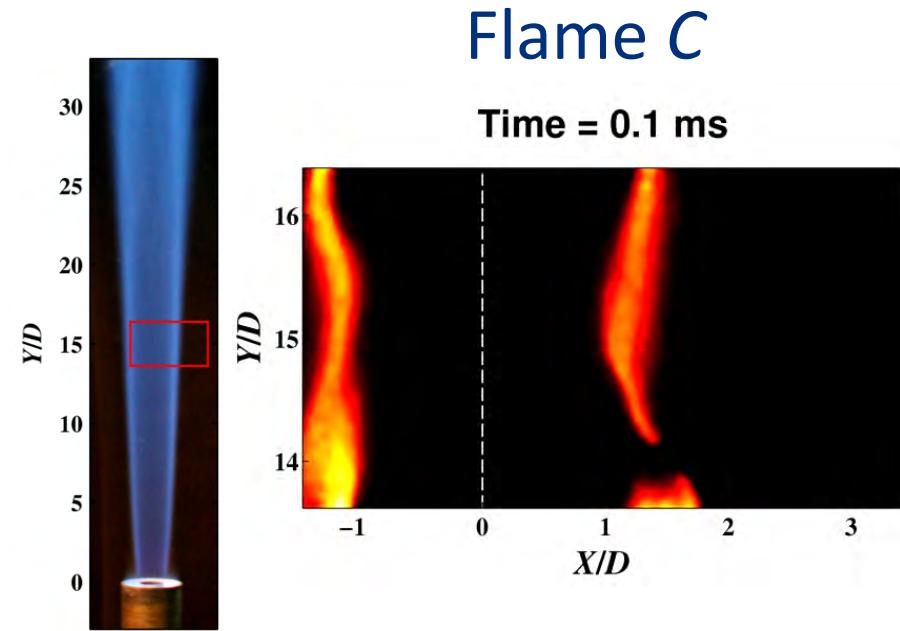
Blue isosurfaces:  $\Gamma^{3D} = -15,000 \text{ s}^{-1}$

# Partially Premixed $\text{CH}_4$ /Air Jet Flames with Different Amounts of Extinction

## 10 kHz OH LIF Imaging



High probability of localized extinction and intermittent blowoff



Flame is stable with rare extinction

Summary of flow conditions.

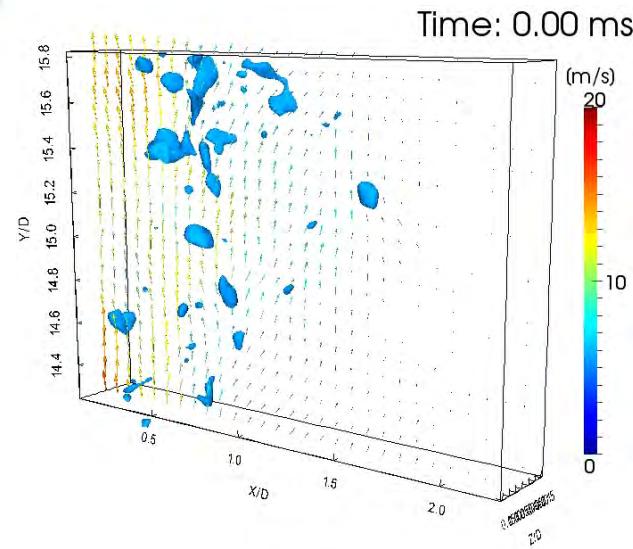
Cases	$\varphi_{jet}$	$Re_{jet}$	$V_{jet}$ (m/s)	$V_{Pilot}$ (m/s)
Air	0.0	13500	27.5	0.0
$C_{LP}$	6.0	13000	27.5	1.8
C	6.0	13000	27.5	6.8

# Effects of Heat Release on Strain Rate

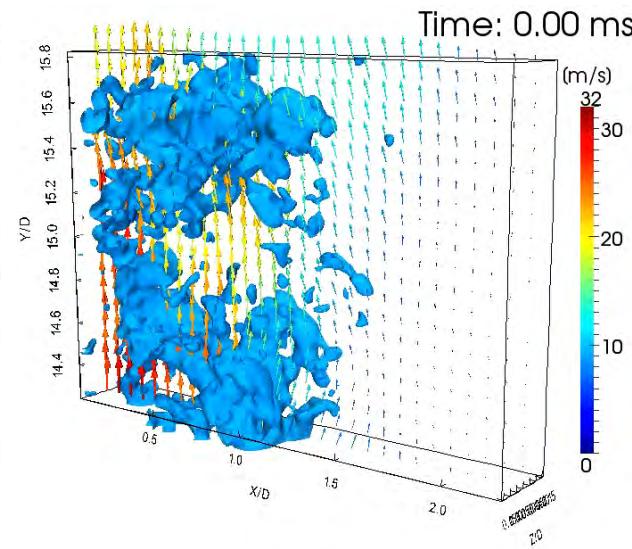
Increasing Heat Release



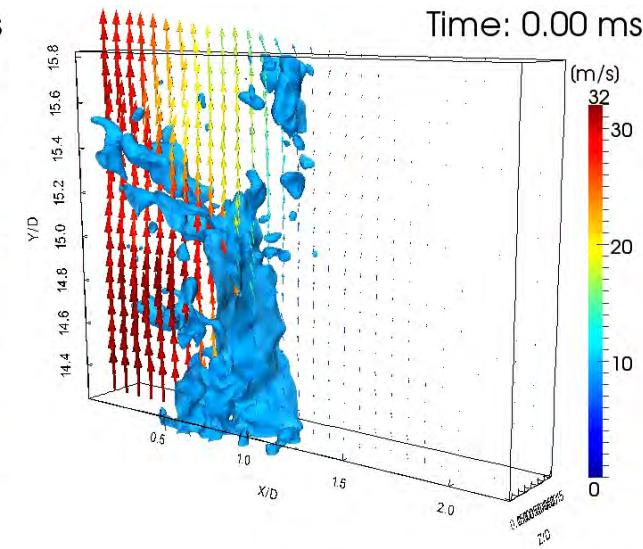
Air Jet



Flame  $C_{LP}$



Flame C



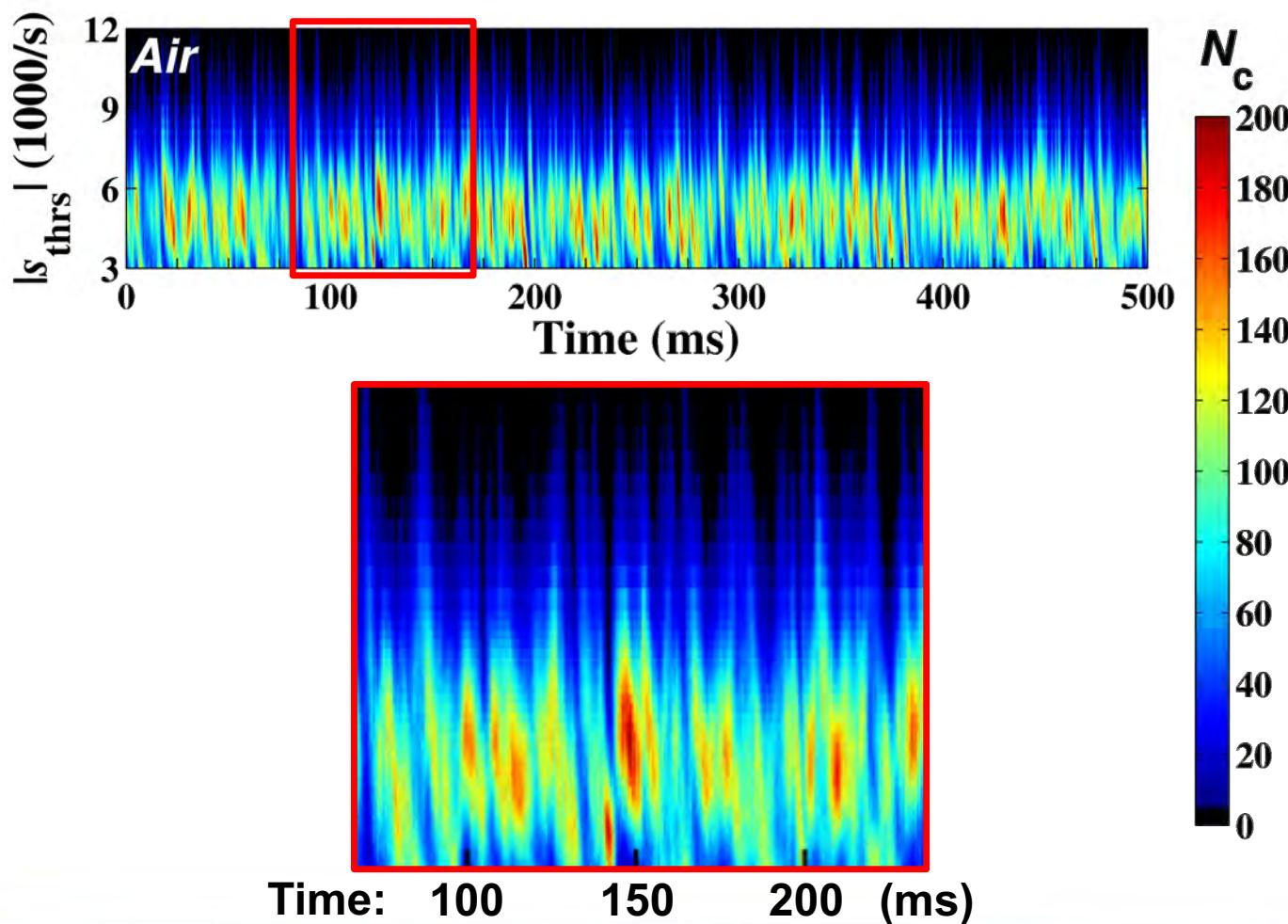
Isosurfaces for  $|s_{thrs}| = 7,000 \text{ s}^{-1}$

Probe volume  
 $16.5 \text{ mm} \times 12.3 \text{ mm} \times 2.5 \text{ mm}$

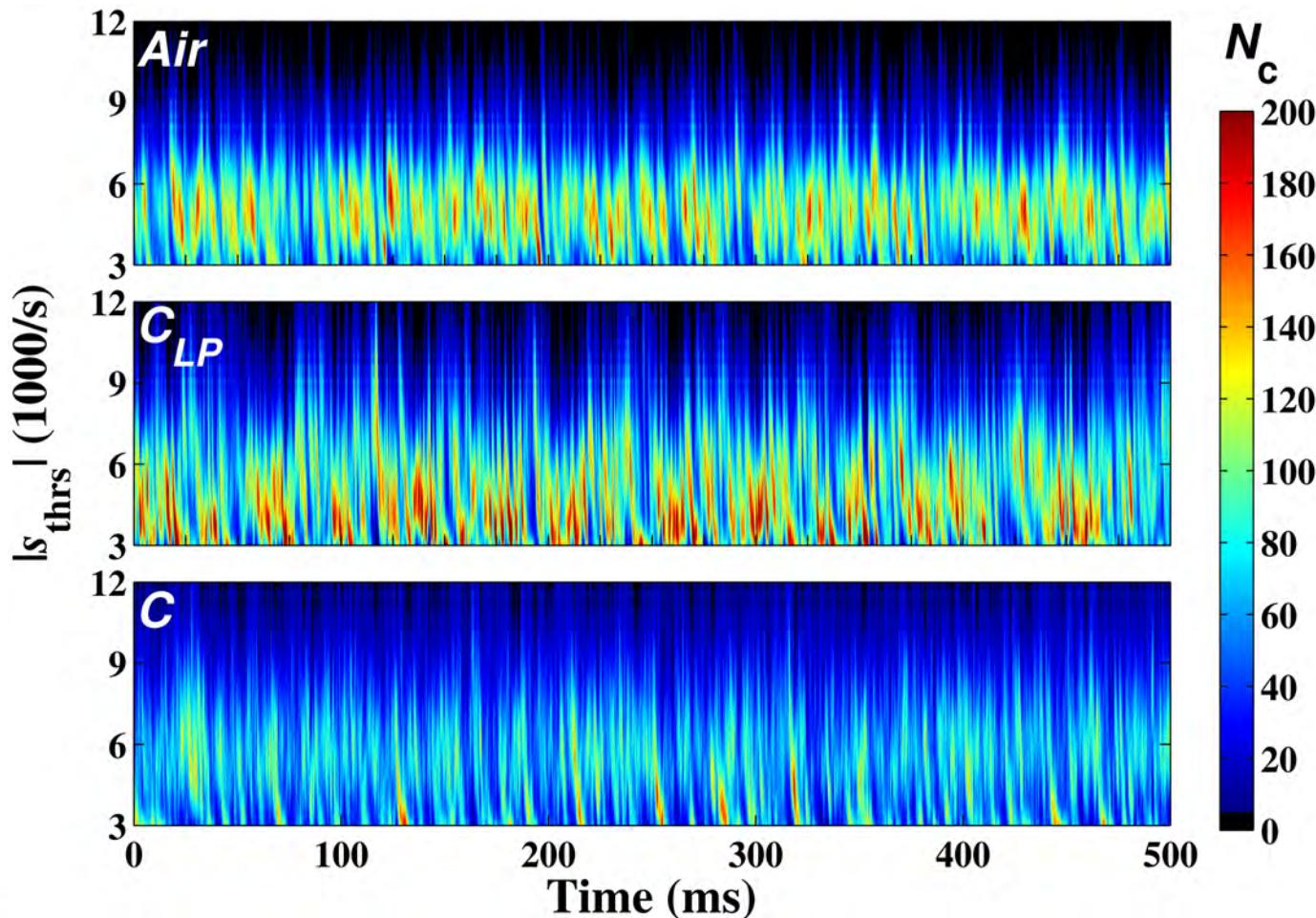
- Bursts of clusters
- Small fragmented structures in the core of the Air jet
- Large elongated structures in the flames
- Localized extinction in flame  $C_{LP}$  - features of the Air jet and Flame C

# Time History of Strain Rate in Non-reacting Flow

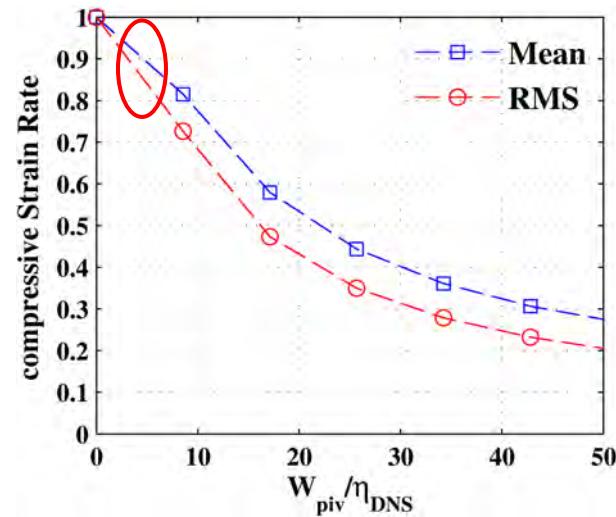
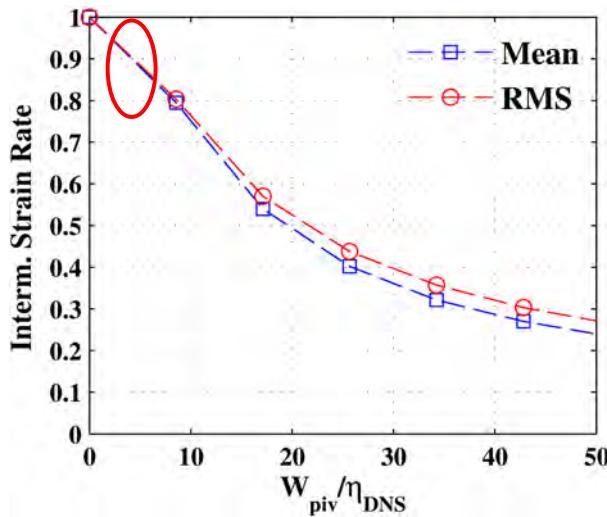
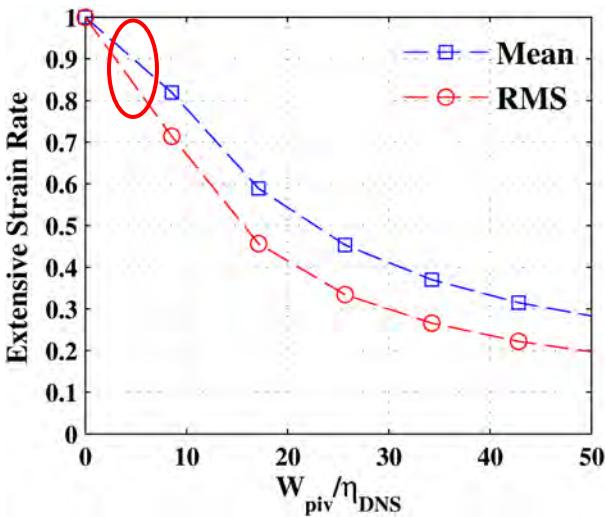
Intermittent appearances of high strain rate clusters



# Effects of Chemical Reactions on Time History



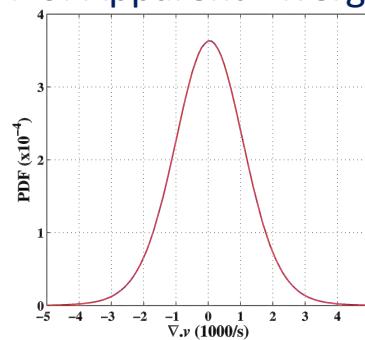
# Effects of PIV Interrogation Window Size on Measured Strain Rate



- Apply PIV windowing to DNS of forced isotropic turbulence<sup>1</sup>
- 10% under-estimation of mean strain rate for  $W_{\text{piv}} = 5 \eta$

<sup>1</sup>DNS results from Johns Hopkins Turbulence Databases ([turbulence.pha.jhu.edu](http://turbulence.pha.jhu.edu))

# Measurement Uncertainty

Sources of errors  <i>(estimated based on measurements in...)</i>	Velocity uncertainty	Derivative uncertainty
<b>Noise,</b> <b>Thermophoretic diffusion,</b> <b>Volume reconstruction errors</b> <i>(Laminar counterflow flame)</i>	1-10 cm/s	$O(100) \text{ s}^{-1}$
<b>Inherent spatial &amp; temporal averaging of PIV,</b> <b>Apparent transport of ghost particles</b> <i>(Turbulent Air jet)</i>	Max. uncertainty for unresolved eddies  $u' \left( \frac{\lambda_m}{2\delta} \right)^{1/3} \sim 0.8 \text{ m/s}$	$O(1,000) \text{ s}^{-1}$ <b>PDF of Apparent Divergence</b> 
<b>Beam steering</b> <i>(Turbulent jet flame)</i>	$< 1\%$ for $v$ $< 5\%$ for $u$ and $w$ <i>(Coriton et al., Exp. Fluids, 2014)</i>	$< 1,000 \text{ s}^{-1}$

# Strain Rate - Flame Front Alignment in Premixed Flames

## Transport Equation for Scalar Dissipation ( $N_c = D|\nabla c|^2$ )

(Swaminathan & Bray, Combust. Flame 2005)

$$\rho \frac{DN_c}{Dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \rho D \frac{\partial N_c}{\partial x_j} \right)$$

Diffusive Flux

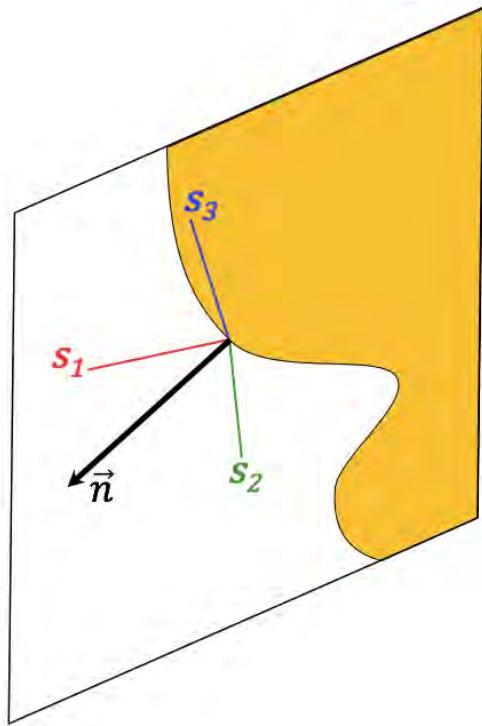
$$- 2\rho D^2 \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \right) \right]^2$$

Dissipation of  
Scalar Gradient

$$+ 2\rho N_c [ (\delta_{ij} - n_i n_j) s_{ij}] + 2D \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \dot{\omega}}{\partial x_i}$$

Dilatation +  
Turbulence-Scalar  
Interaction

Production by  
Chemical  
Reaction



$$\text{Flame Normal: } \mathbf{n} = - \frac{\nabla c}{|\nabla c|} \quad n_i = \mathbf{n} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}}$$



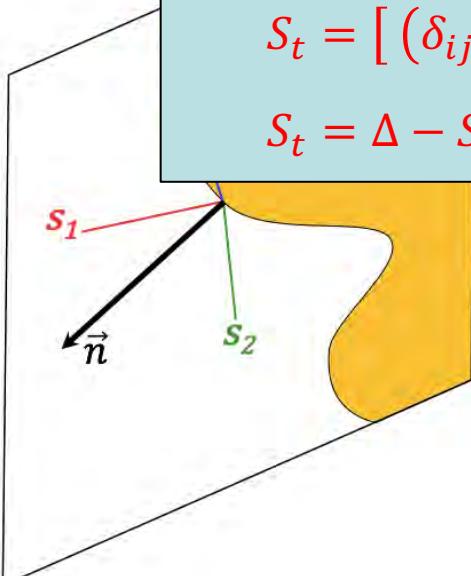
# Strain Rate - Flame Front Alignment in Premixed Flames

## Transport Equation for Scalar Dissipation ( $N_c = D|\nabla c|^2$ )

(Swaminathan & Bray, Combust. Flame 2005)

$$\rho \frac{DN_c}{Dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \rho D \frac{\partial N_c}{\partial x_j} \right) - 2\rho D^2 \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \right) \right]^2 + 2\rho N_c [ (\delta_{ij} - n_i n_j) s_{ij}] + 2D \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \dot{\omega}}{\partial x_i}$$

Diffusive Flux



Dissipation  
Scalar Gradient

Dilatation +  
Turbulence-Scalar  
Interaction

Production by  
Chemical  
Reaction

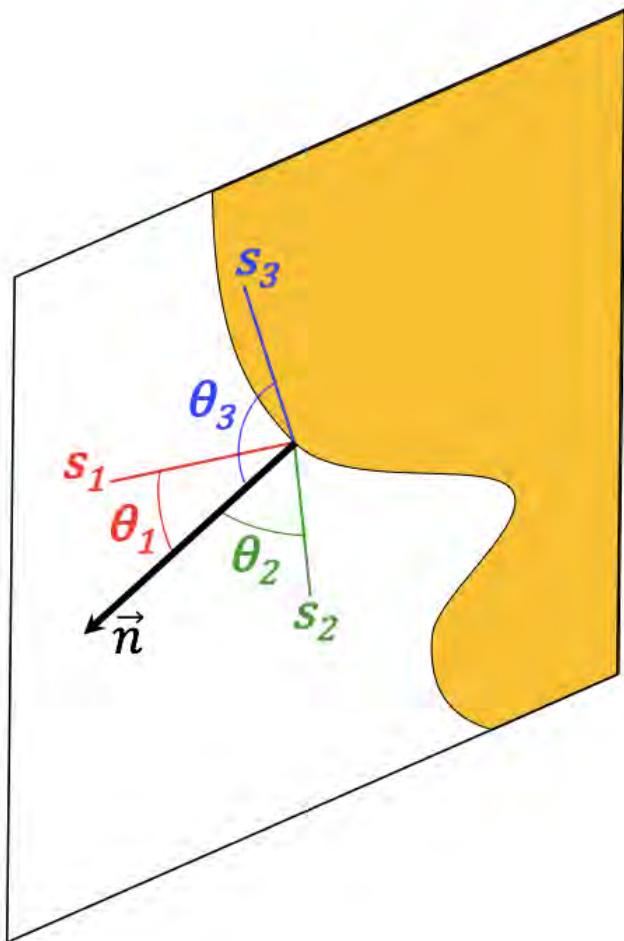
Flame Tangential Strain

$$S_t = [ (\delta_{ij} - n_i n_j) s_{ij}]$$

$$S_t = \Delta - S_n$$

Flame Normal:  $\mathbf{n} = -\frac{\nabla c}{|\nabla c|}$     $n_i = \mathbf{n} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{i}}$

# Strain Rate - Flame Front Alignment in Premixed Flames



Projection of strain along flame normal direction

$$S_n = s_1 \cos^2(\theta_1) + s_2 \cos^2(\theta_2) + s_3 \cos^2(\theta_3)$$

Divergence = Normal Strain + Tangential Strain

$$\Delta = S_n + S_t$$



# Flow Conditions for Strain Rate Alignment Measurements

Turbulent Non-reacting Flow

$u'(m/s)$	$u'/U$	$l'(mm)$	$\eta(mm)$	$Re_t$	$\langle  s  \rangle (1/s)$
0.62	8.2%	5.0	0.08	250	535

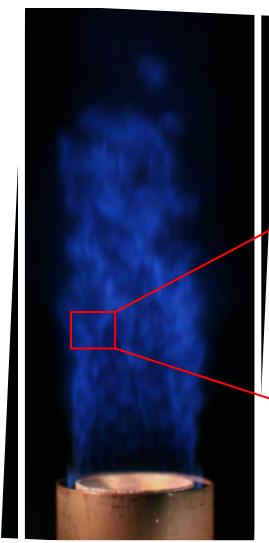


Turbulent Premixed Flames

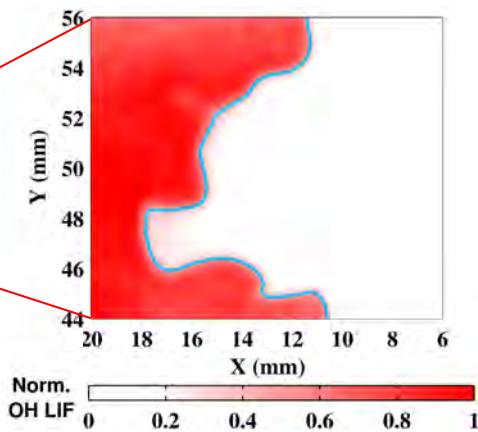
$\varphi$	$\tau$	$S_L(m/s)$	$u'/S_L$	$Da_t$
0.65	4.8	0.15	4.1	1.7
0.80	5.8	0.24	2.6	3.0
1.00	6.5	0.34	1.8	5.1

$$\tau = \frac{T_B - T_U}{T_U}$$

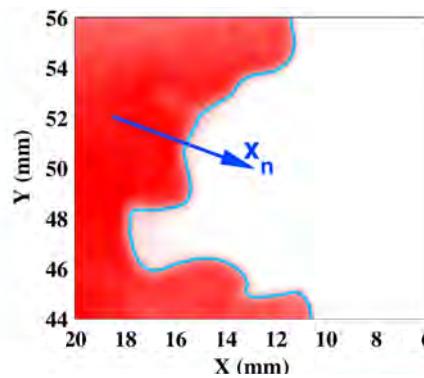
# Flame Front and Strain Rate Analysis



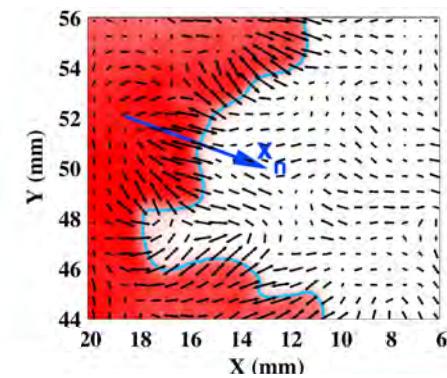
Flame front  
contour



Flame front normal

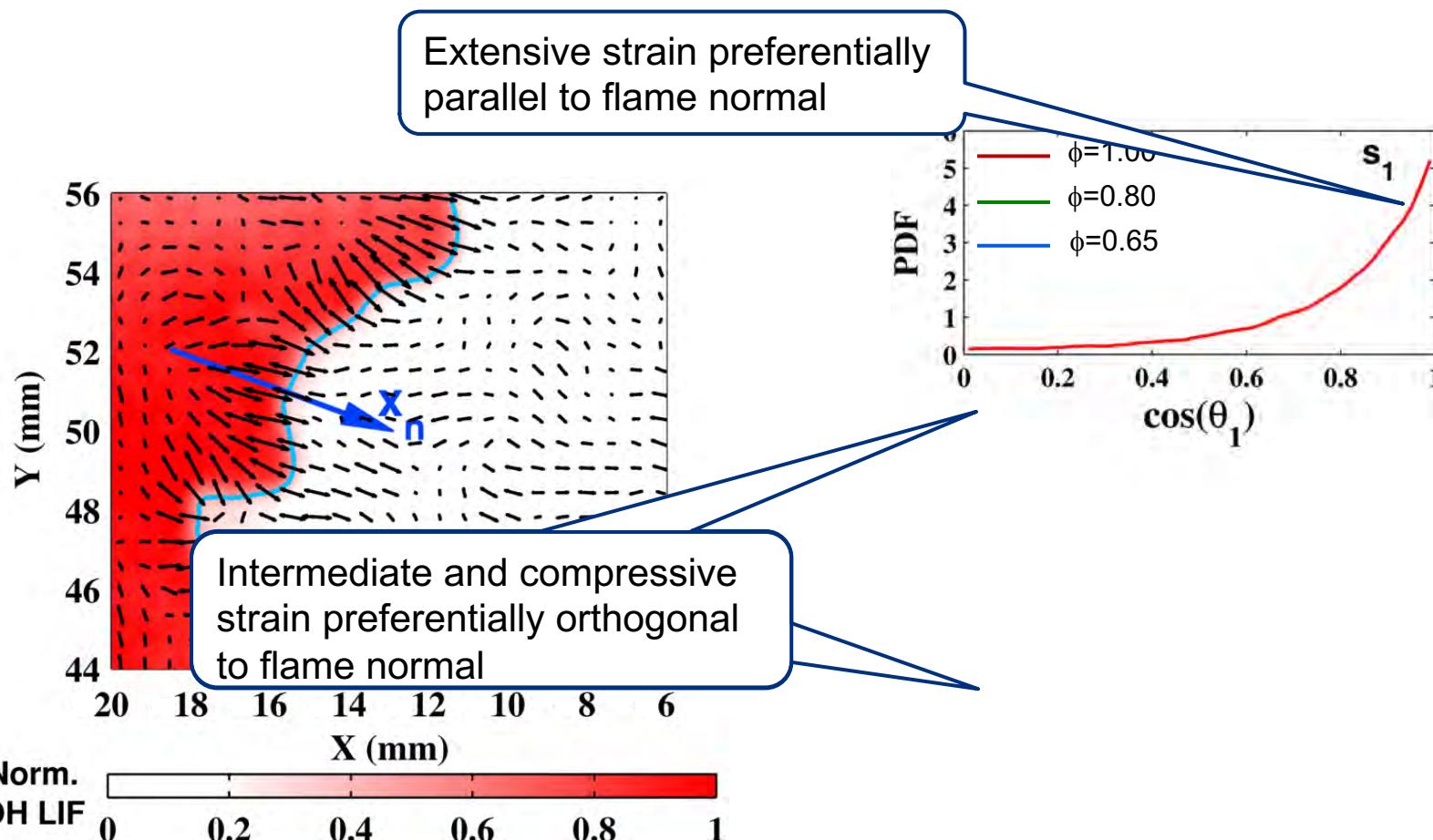


Strain rate  
eigenvectors



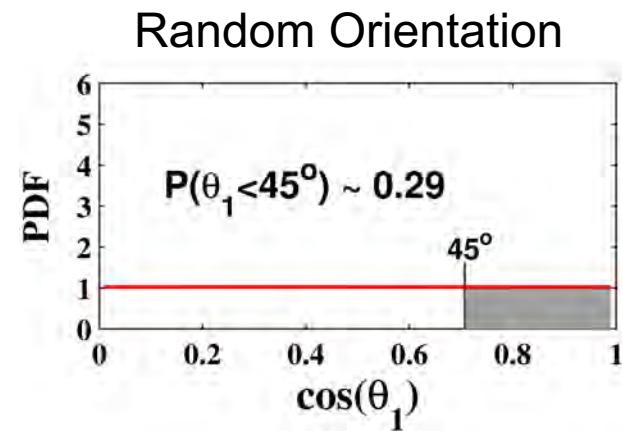
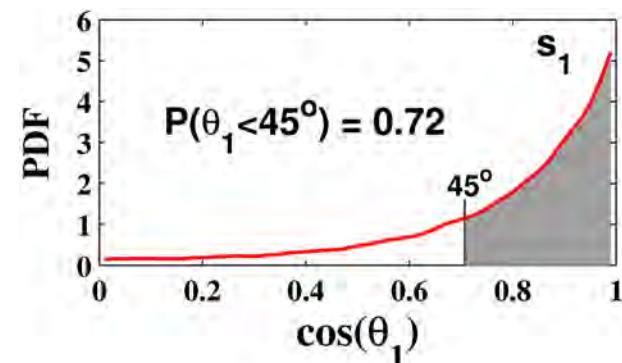
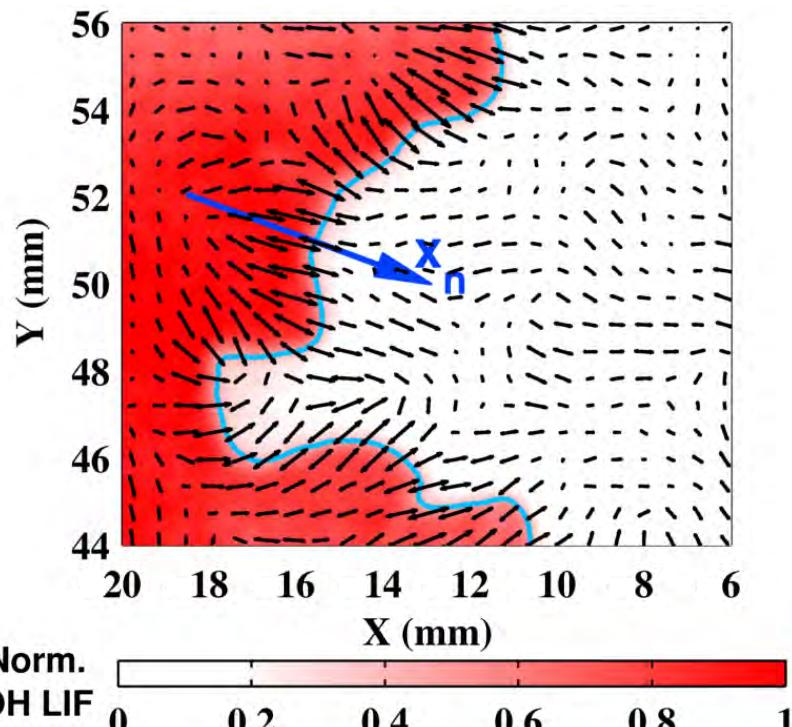
Strain-rate statistics analyzed from 5,000 single-shot TPIV measurements

# Orientation of Strain Rate Eigenvectors Relative to Flame-Front Normal Direction

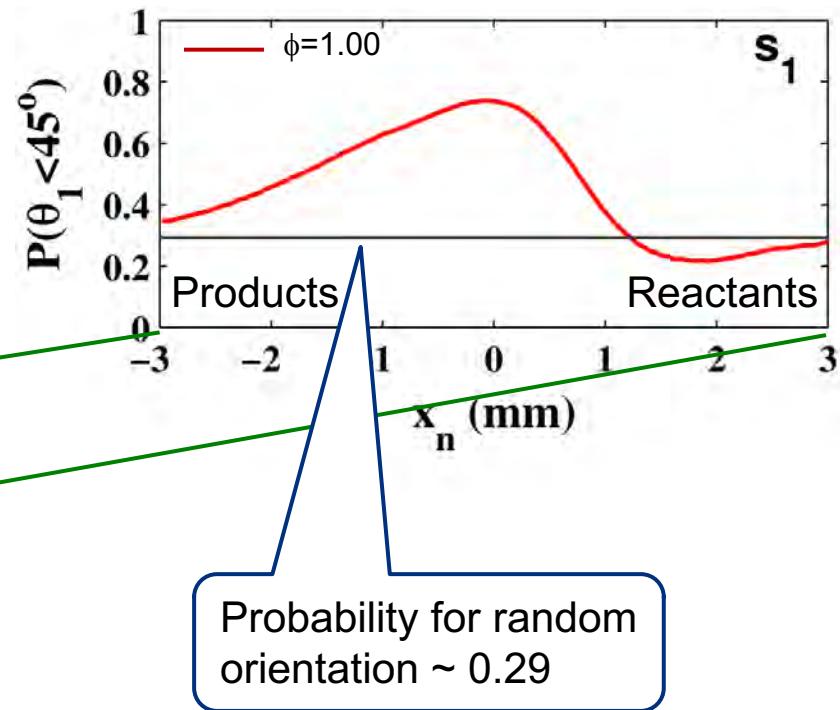
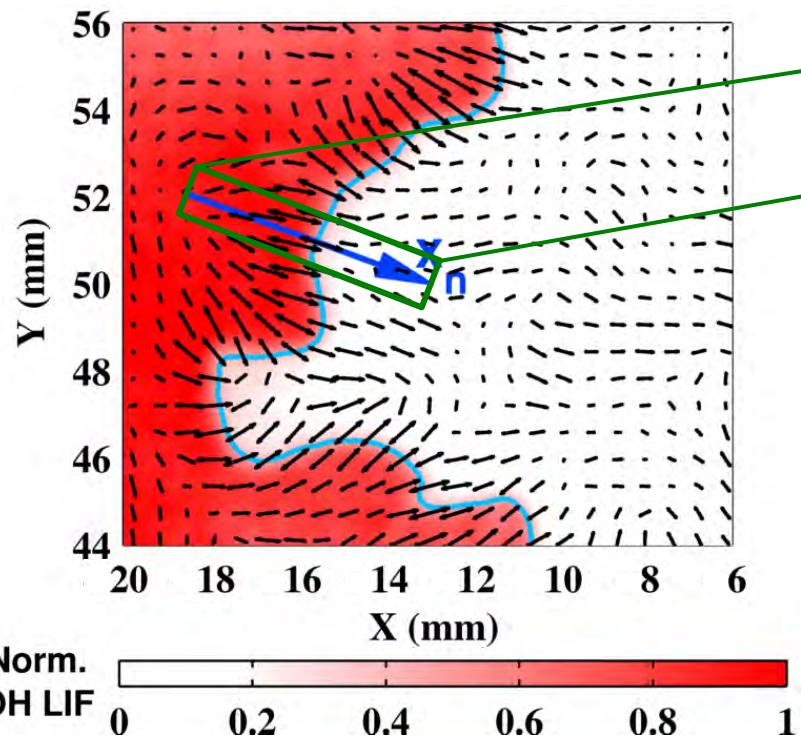


PDFs evaluated along flame front contour

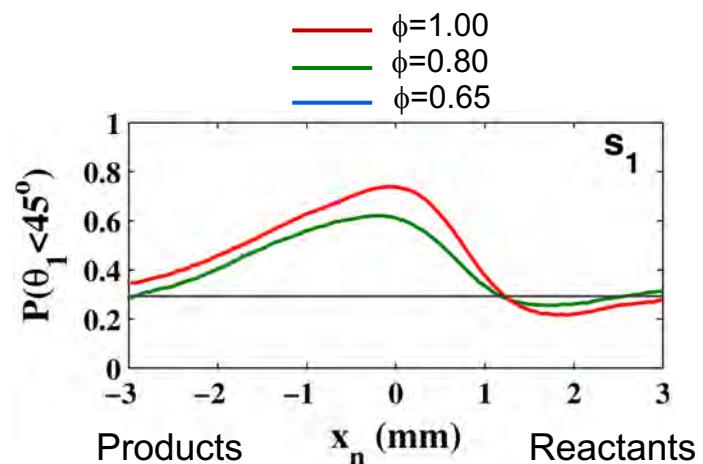
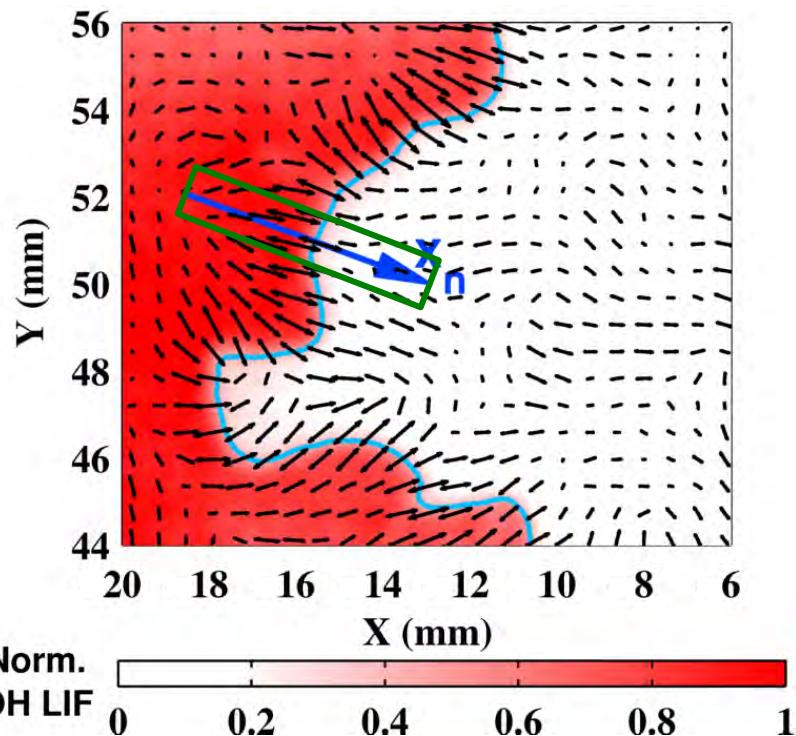
# Orientation of Strain Rate Eigenvectors Relative to Flame-Front Normal Direction



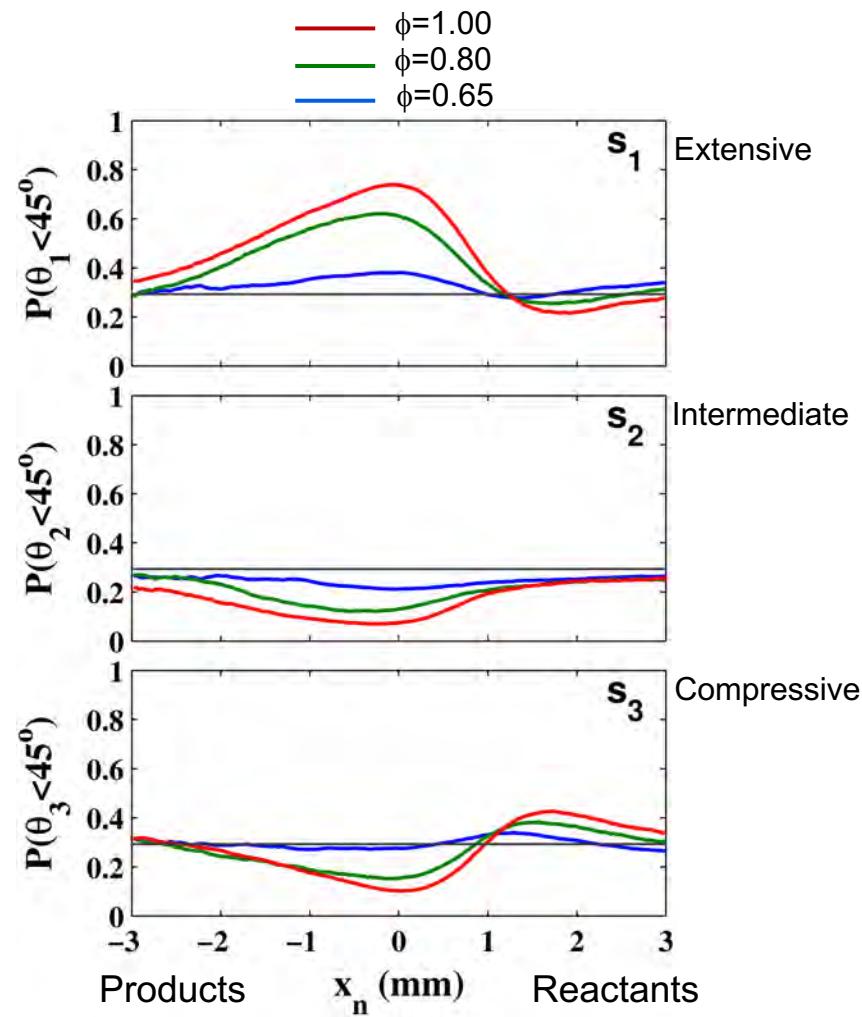
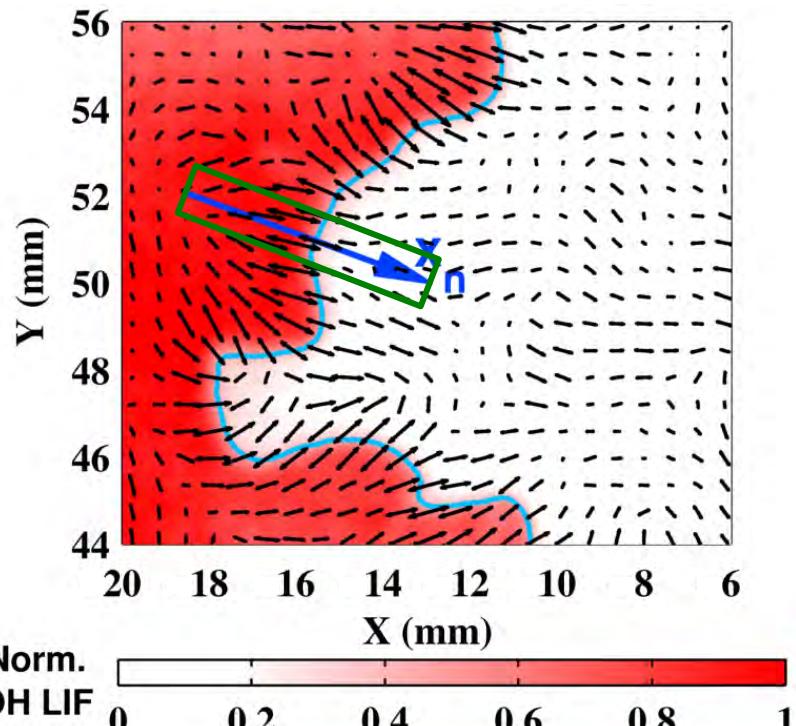
# Probability of Extensive Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



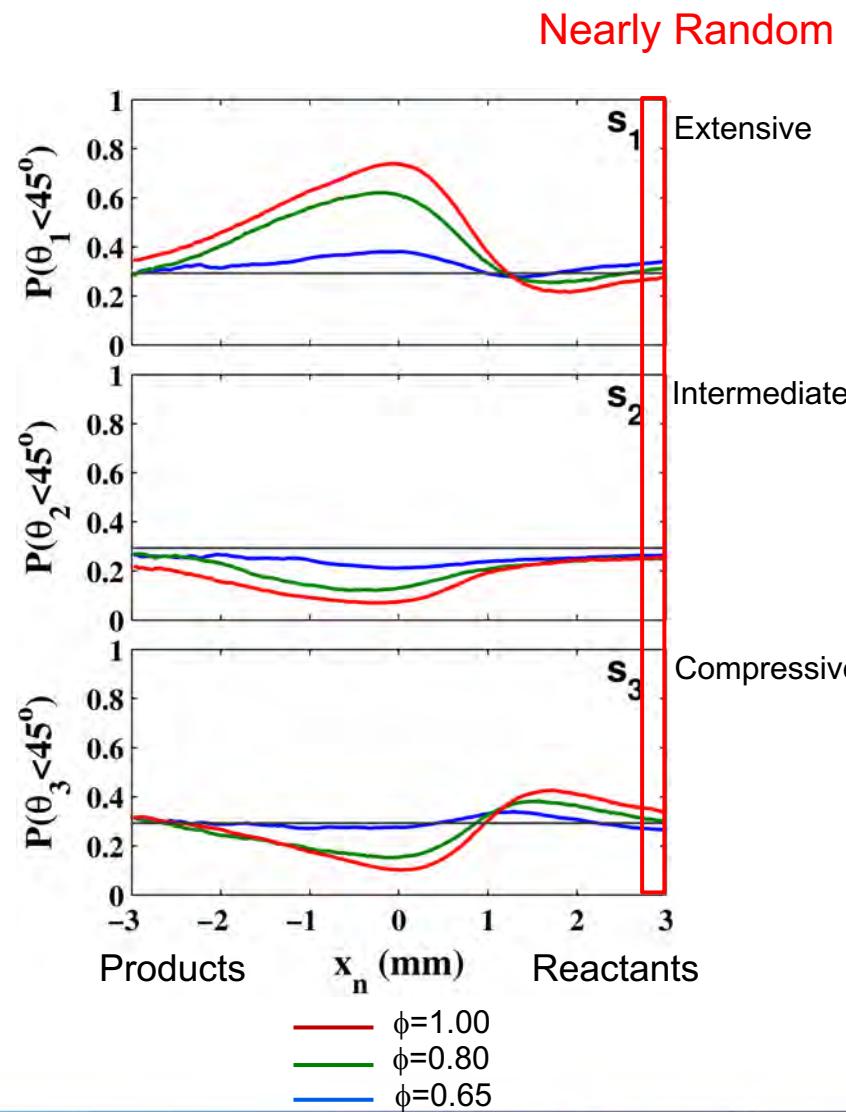
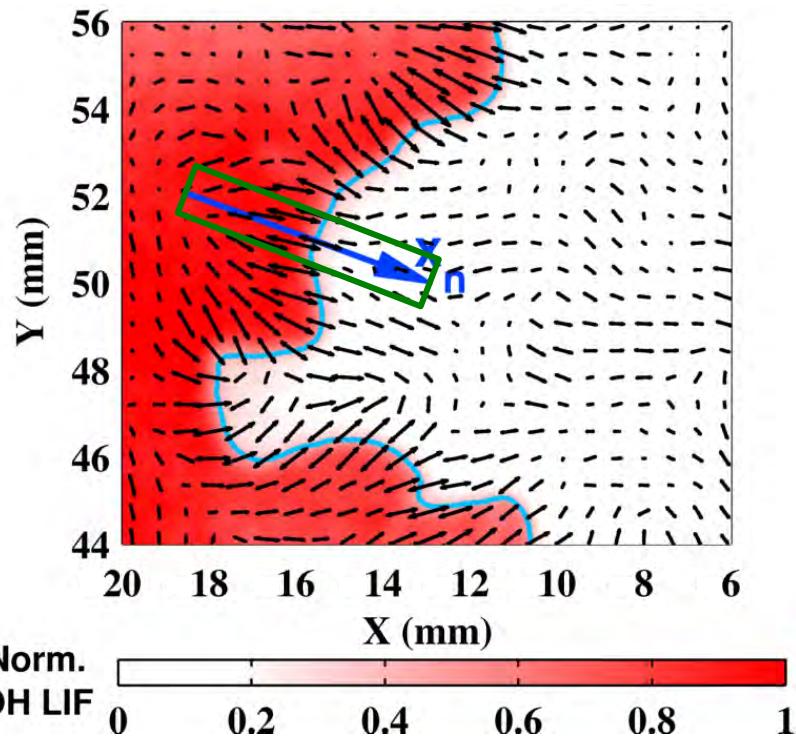
# Probability of Extensive Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



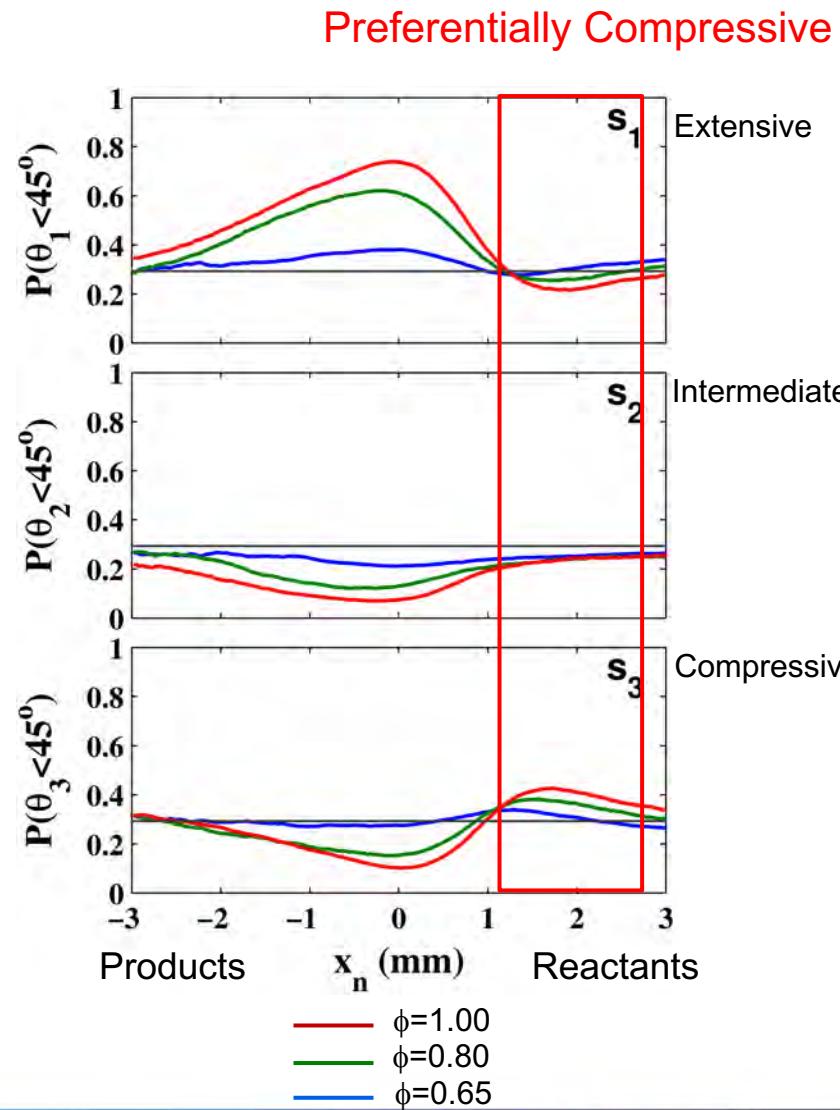
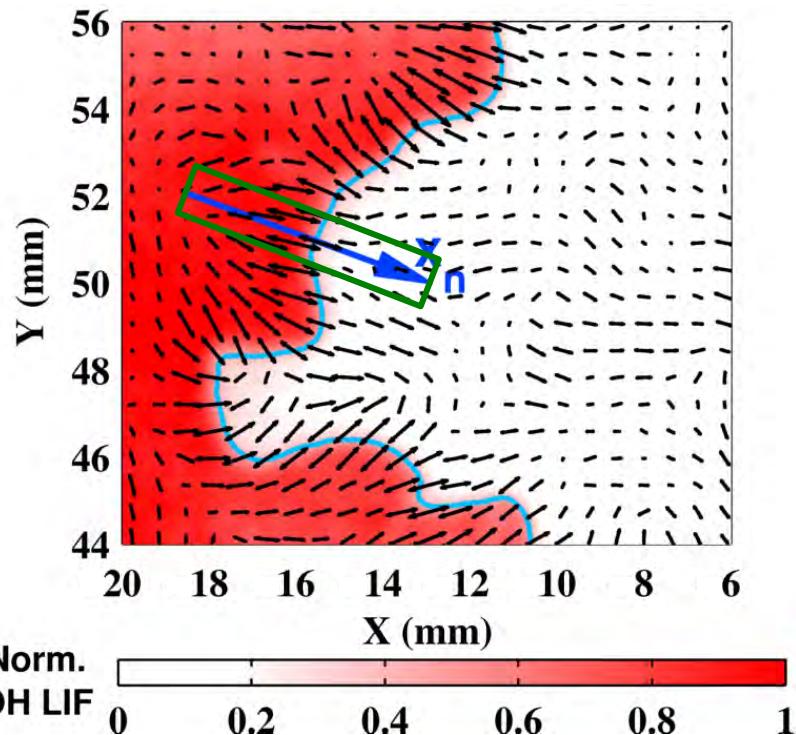
# Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



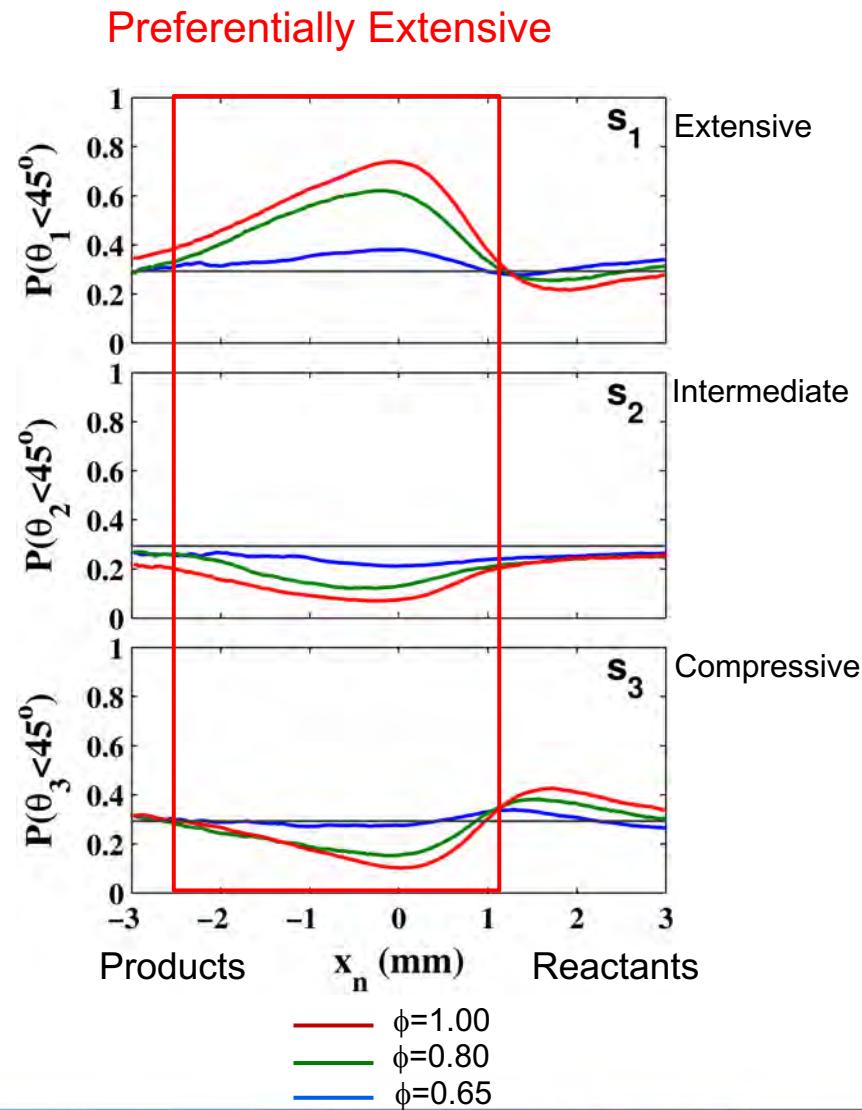
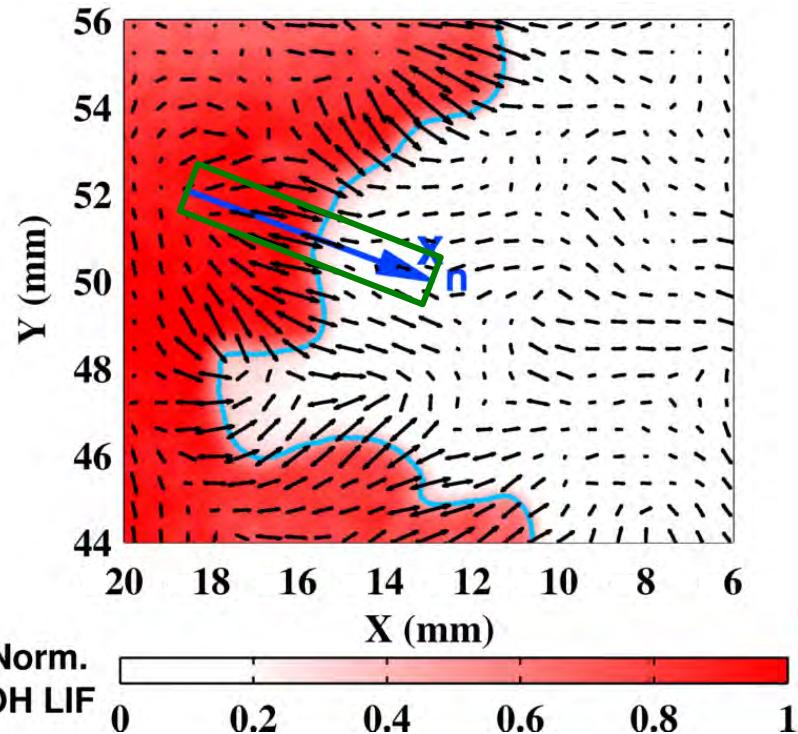
# Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



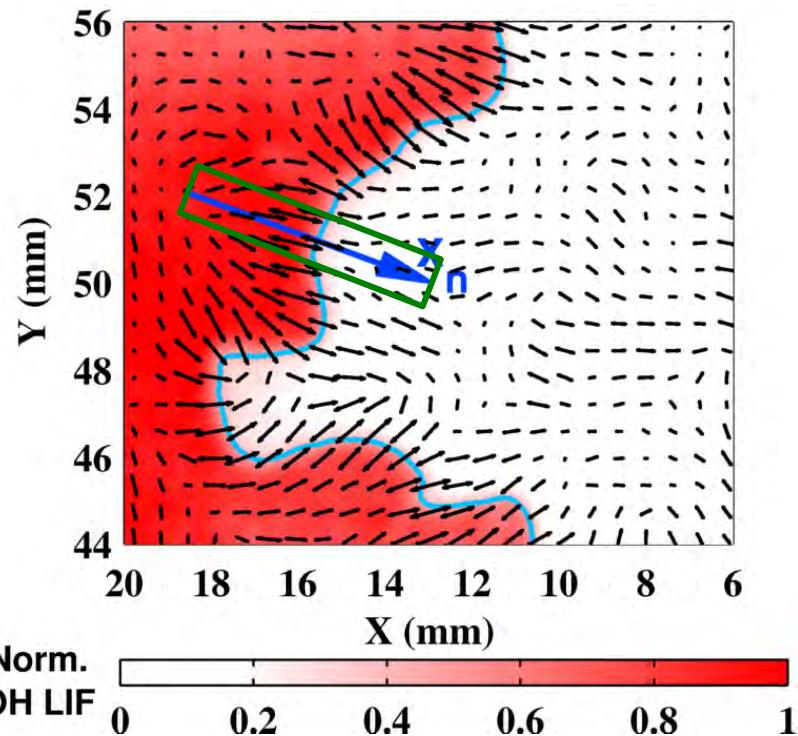
# Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



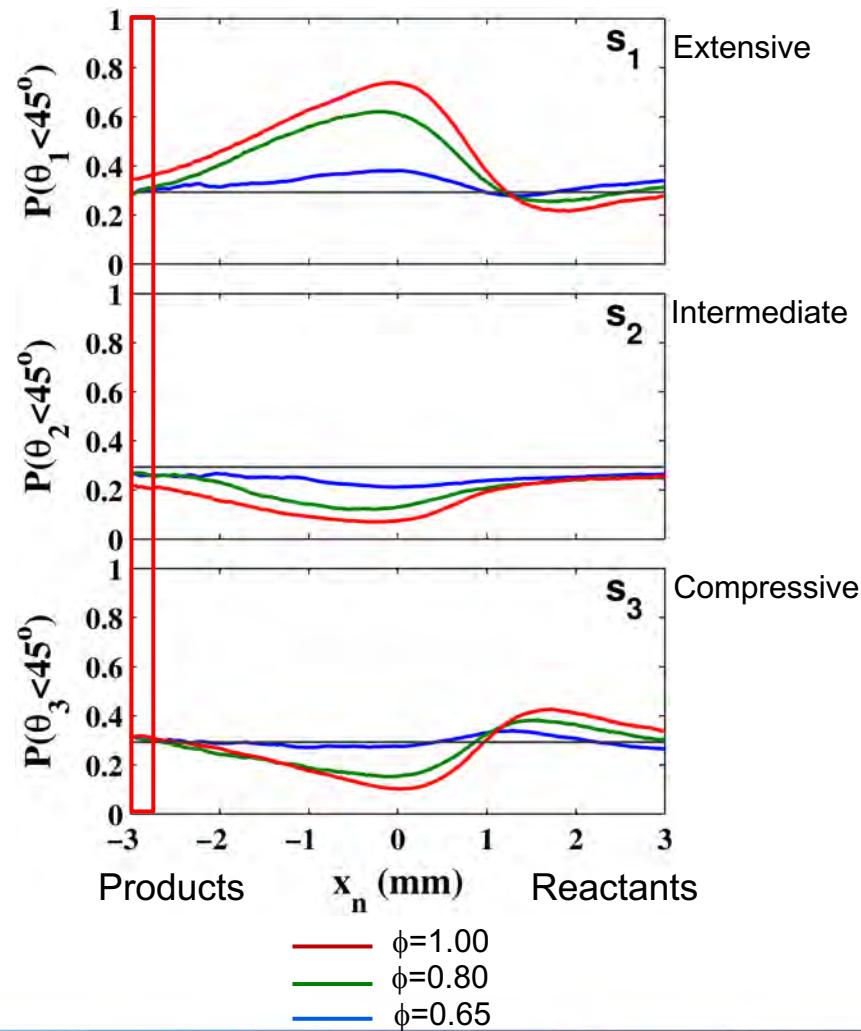
# Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



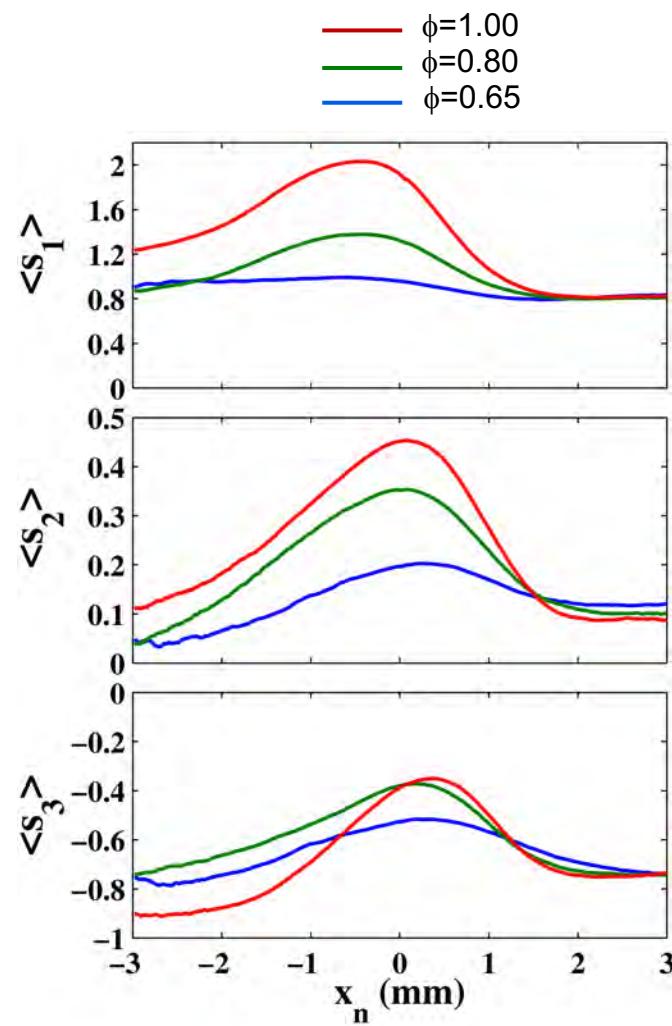
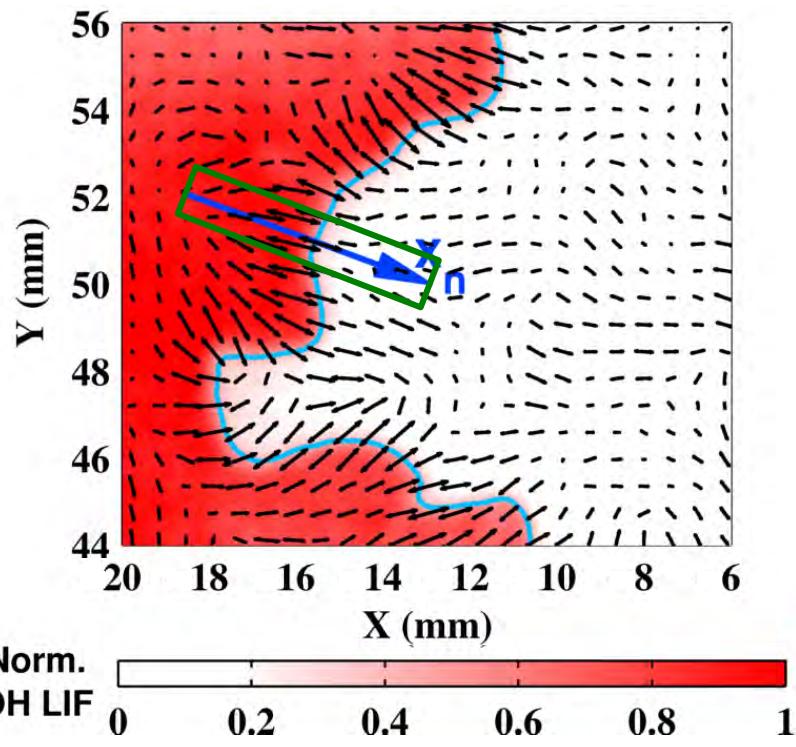
# Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



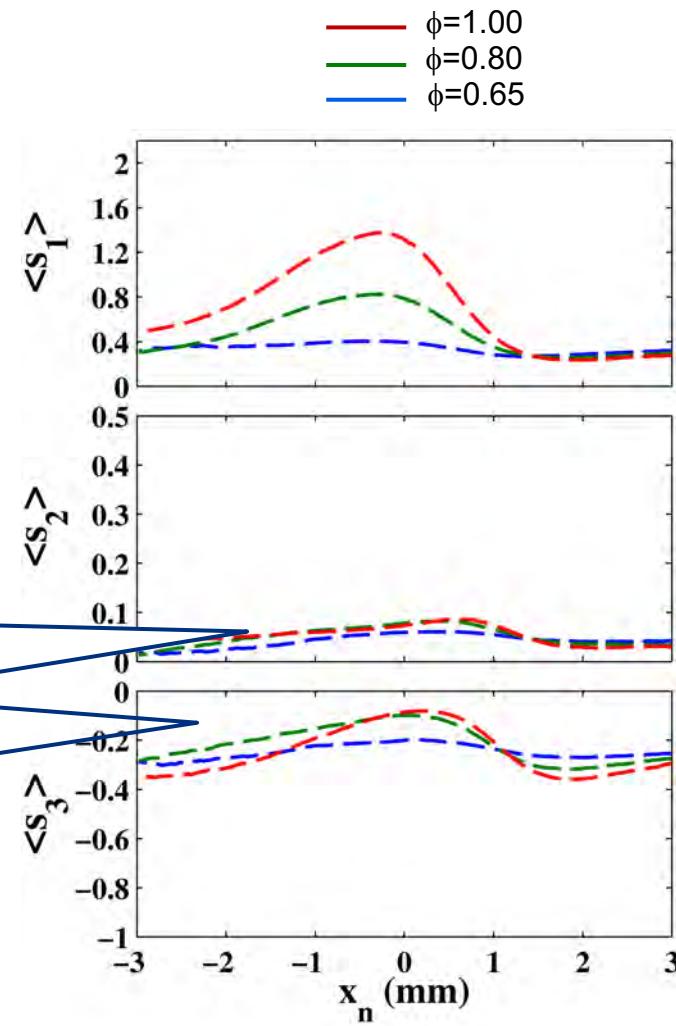
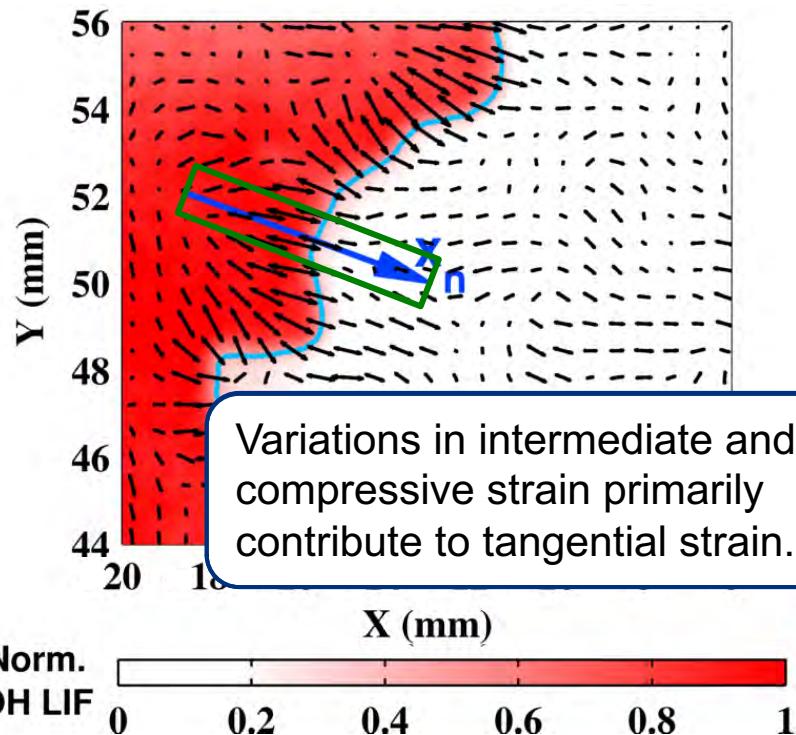
Nearly Random



# Heat Release Effects on Principal Strain Rates along Flame Normal

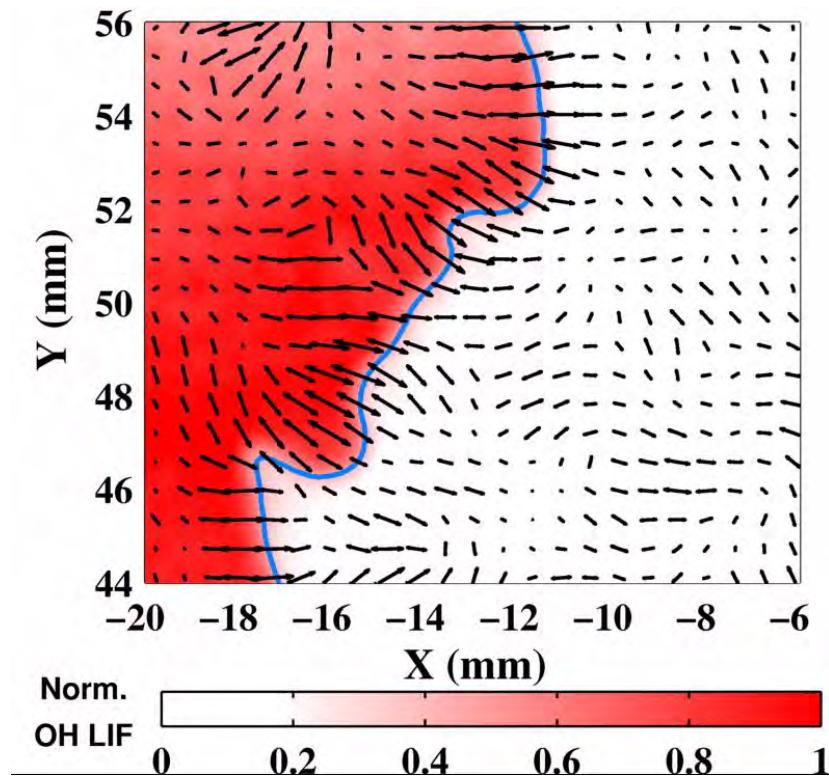


# Projection of Principal Strain Rates onto Flame Normal Direction



# 10 kHz Measurement of Extensive Strain Rate Eigenvector Relative to Flame Front

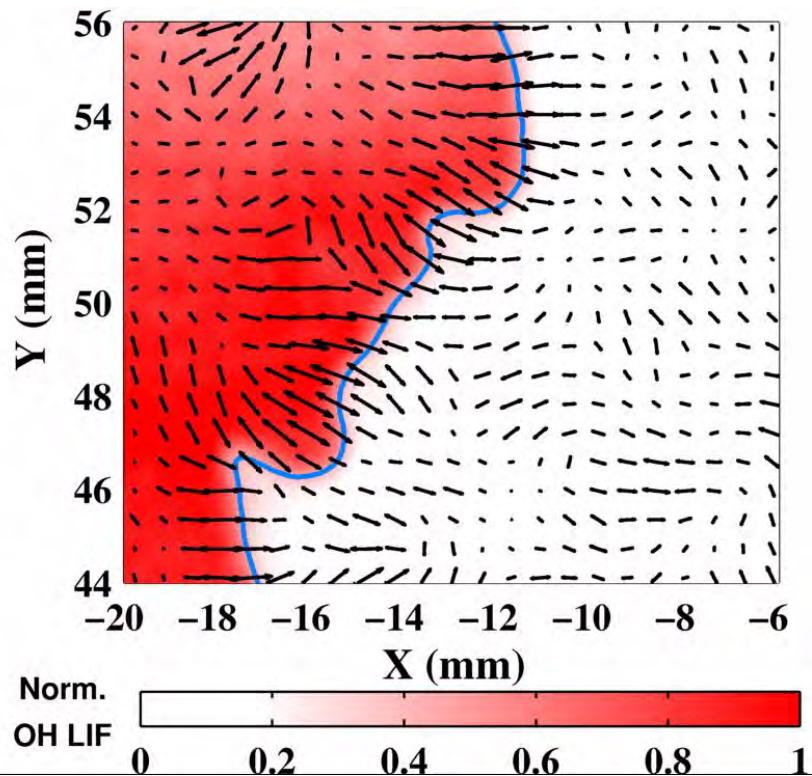
*OH LIF*



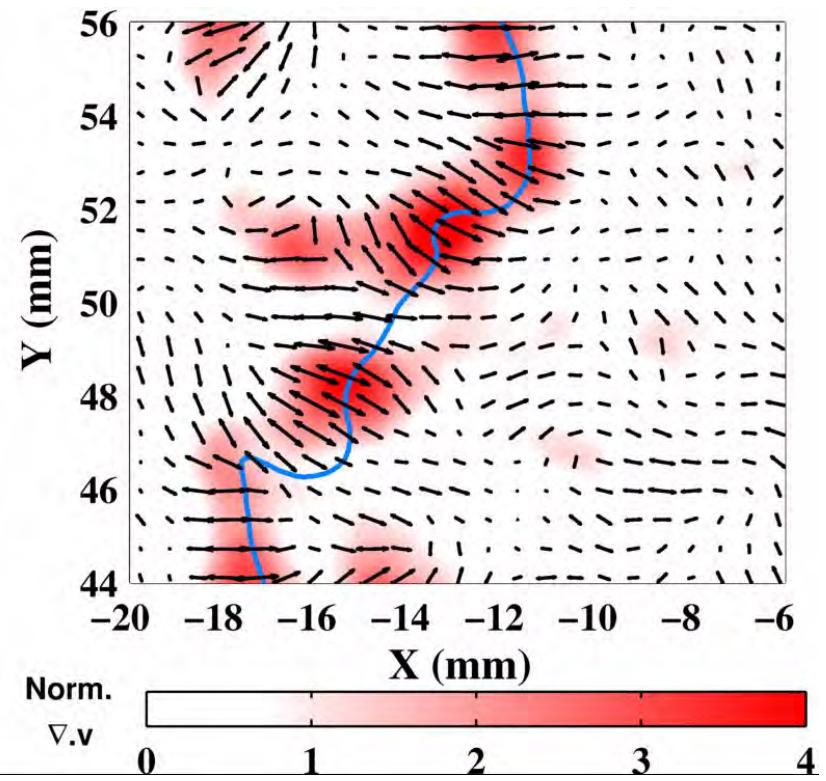
Flame contour (blue line)  
Vectors:  $s_1$  axis

# 10 kHz TPIV and OH PLIF Recordings

*OH LIF*

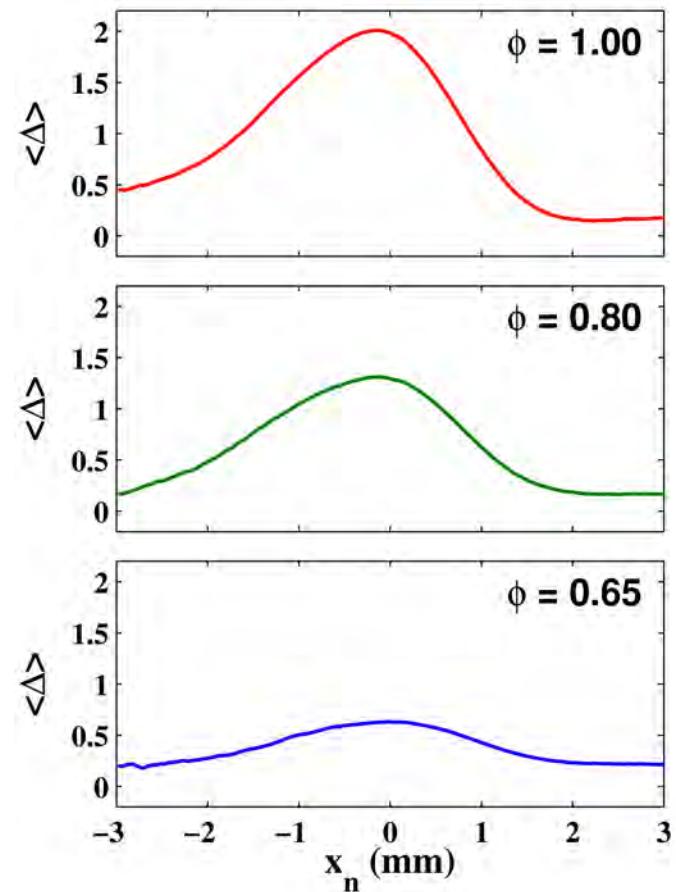
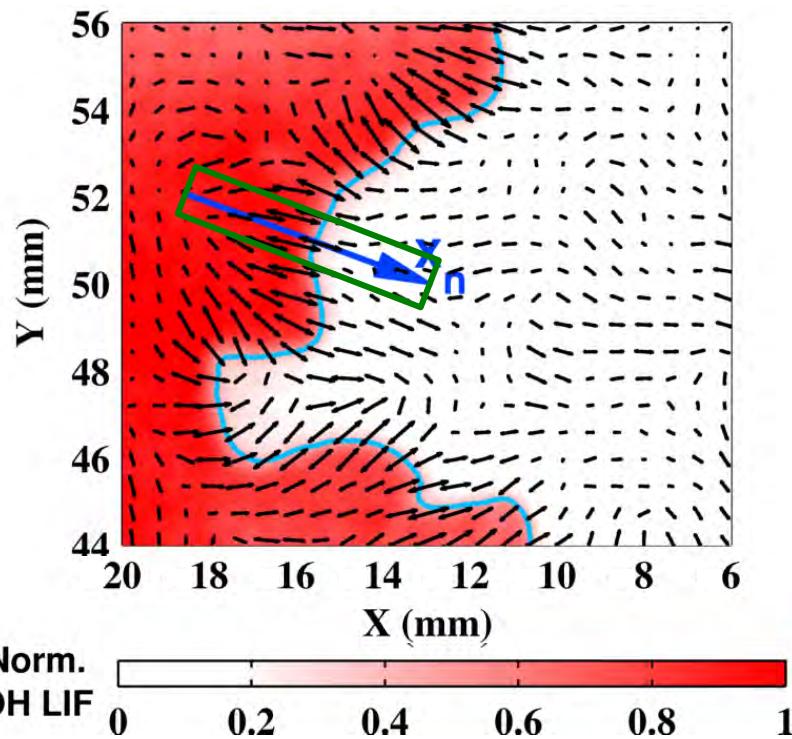


*Divergence*



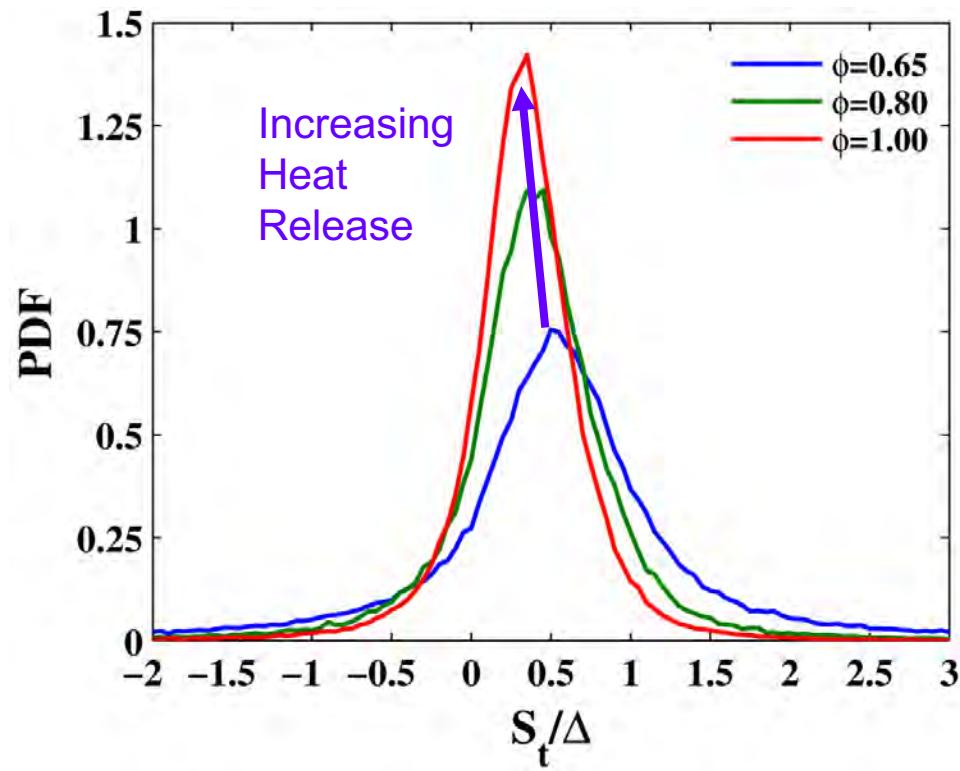
Flame contour (blue line)  
Vectors:  $s_1$  axis

# Conditional Mean Profiles of Divergence, Normal Strain, and Tangential Strain



Values normalized by mean strain rate norm in non-reacting flow:  $\langle |s| \rangle = 535 \text{ s}^{-1}$

# Effect of Heat Release on Ratio of Tangential Strain to Divergence at Flame Front



$\Delta$  increases more than  $S_t$  as a function of heat release.

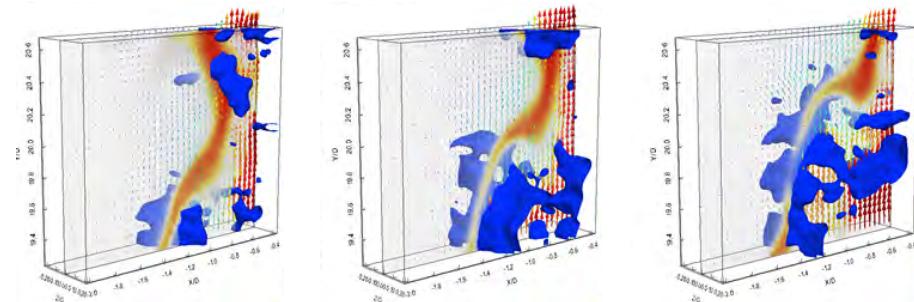


# Summary

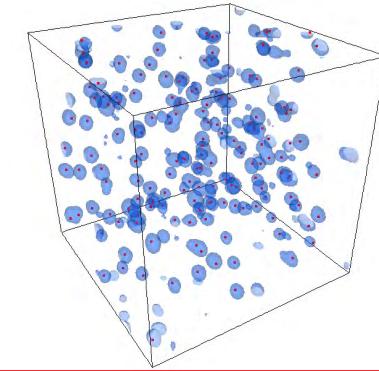
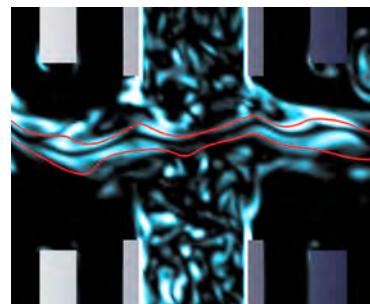
- Divergence and complete strain rate tensor measured in turbulent premixed flames and corresponding non-reacting flow using Tomo-PIV
- 3-D velocity field + OH-LIF imaging used to evaluate preferential alignment of principal strain rates relative to flame-normal direction
- Progression of local strain rate alignment with flame normal
  - Nearly random orientation 3 mm on either side of flame front
  - Compressive strain favored 1-3 mm on reactant side
  - Extensive strain favored in ~3 mm region straddling flame front
- Determined degree of heat release dependence for divergence, normal strain, and tangential strain – implications for transport equations

# Outline

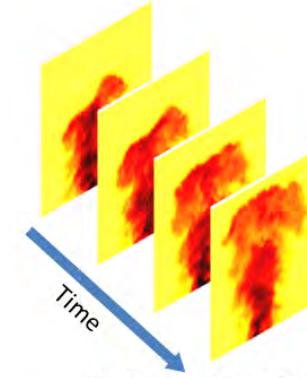
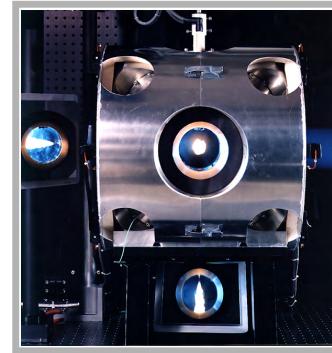
## 3-D Measurements of Flow Fields in Turbulent Flames



## Coupling Tomo-PIV with Large Eddy Simulations

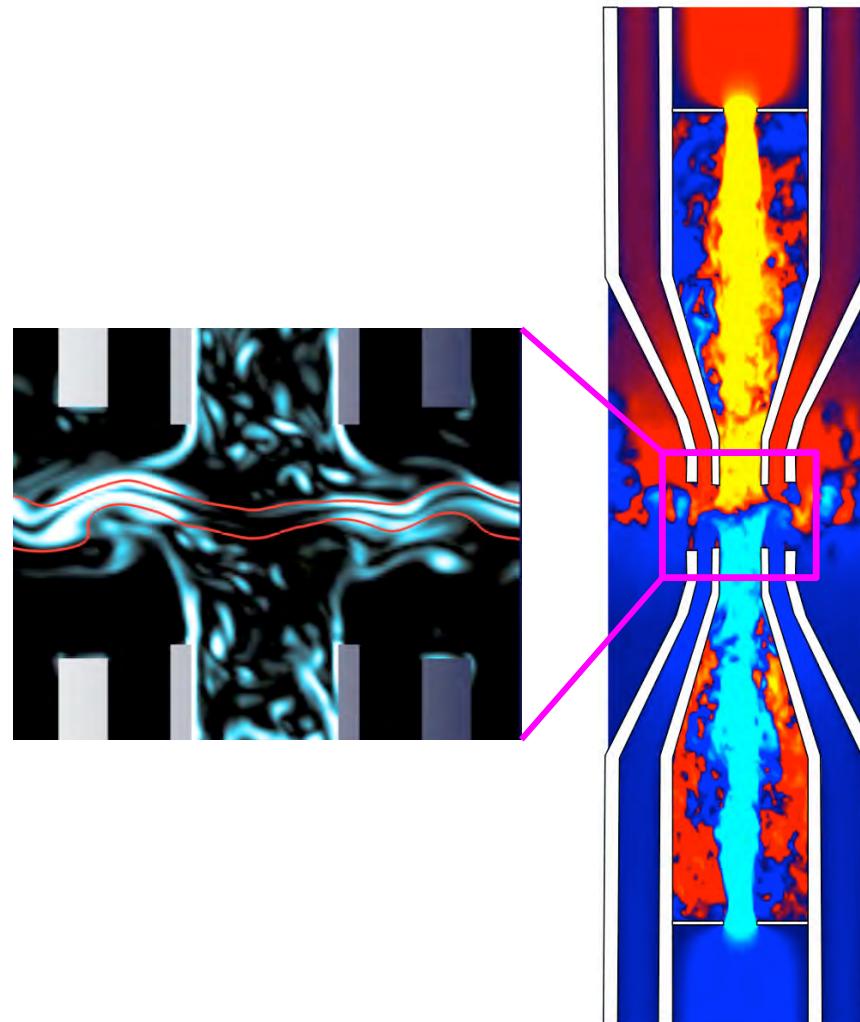
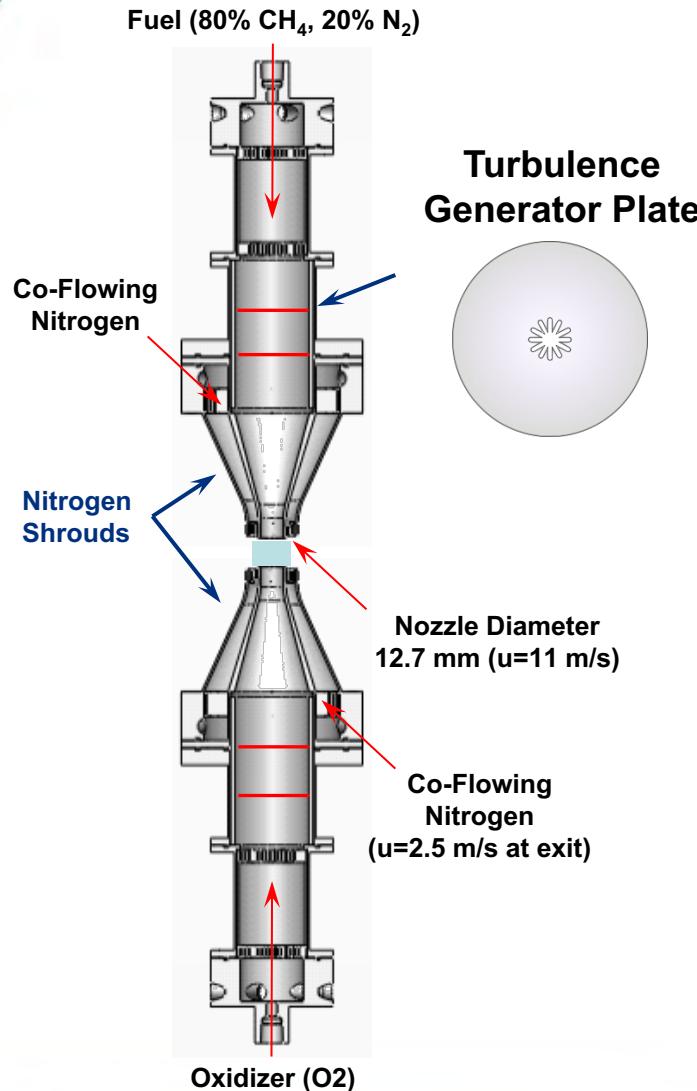


## Imaging High-Pressure Fuel Injection Dynamics with Pulse-Burst Laser

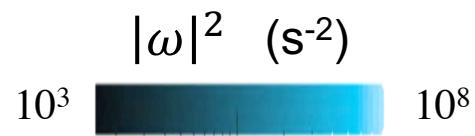
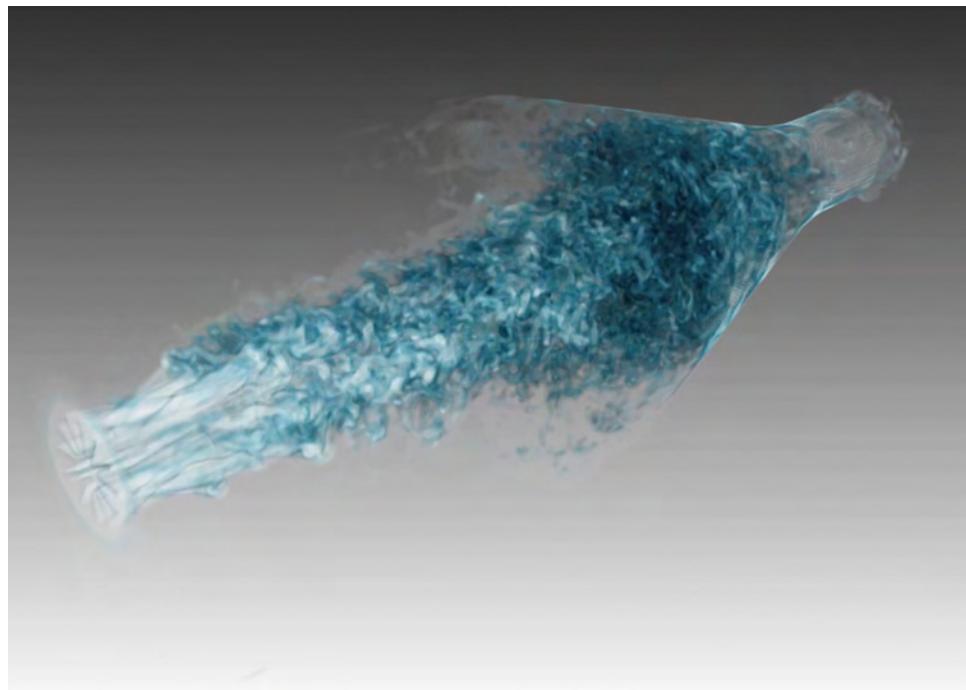


# Coupling Experiments and Simulations

Requires detailed simulation of actual experimental configuration and sufficient run times for converged statistics

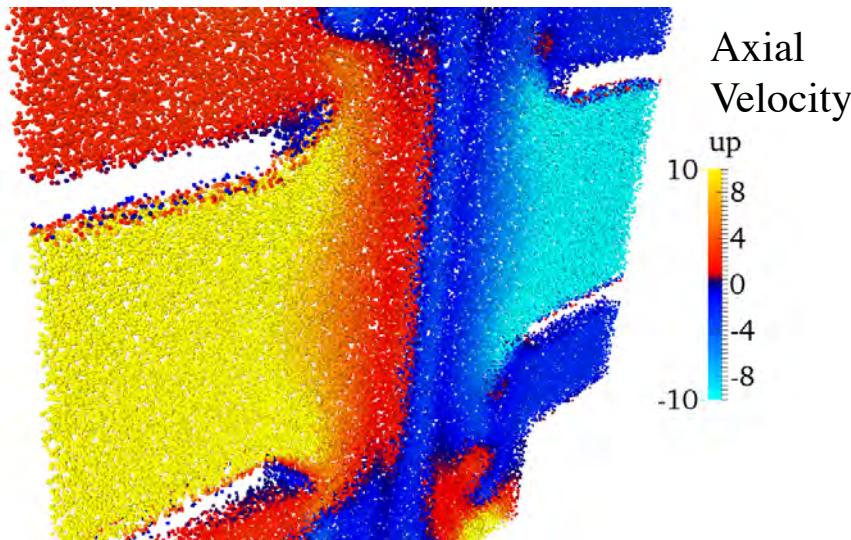


# Full LES Domain Simulates Internal Flow Through Turbulence Generator Plate



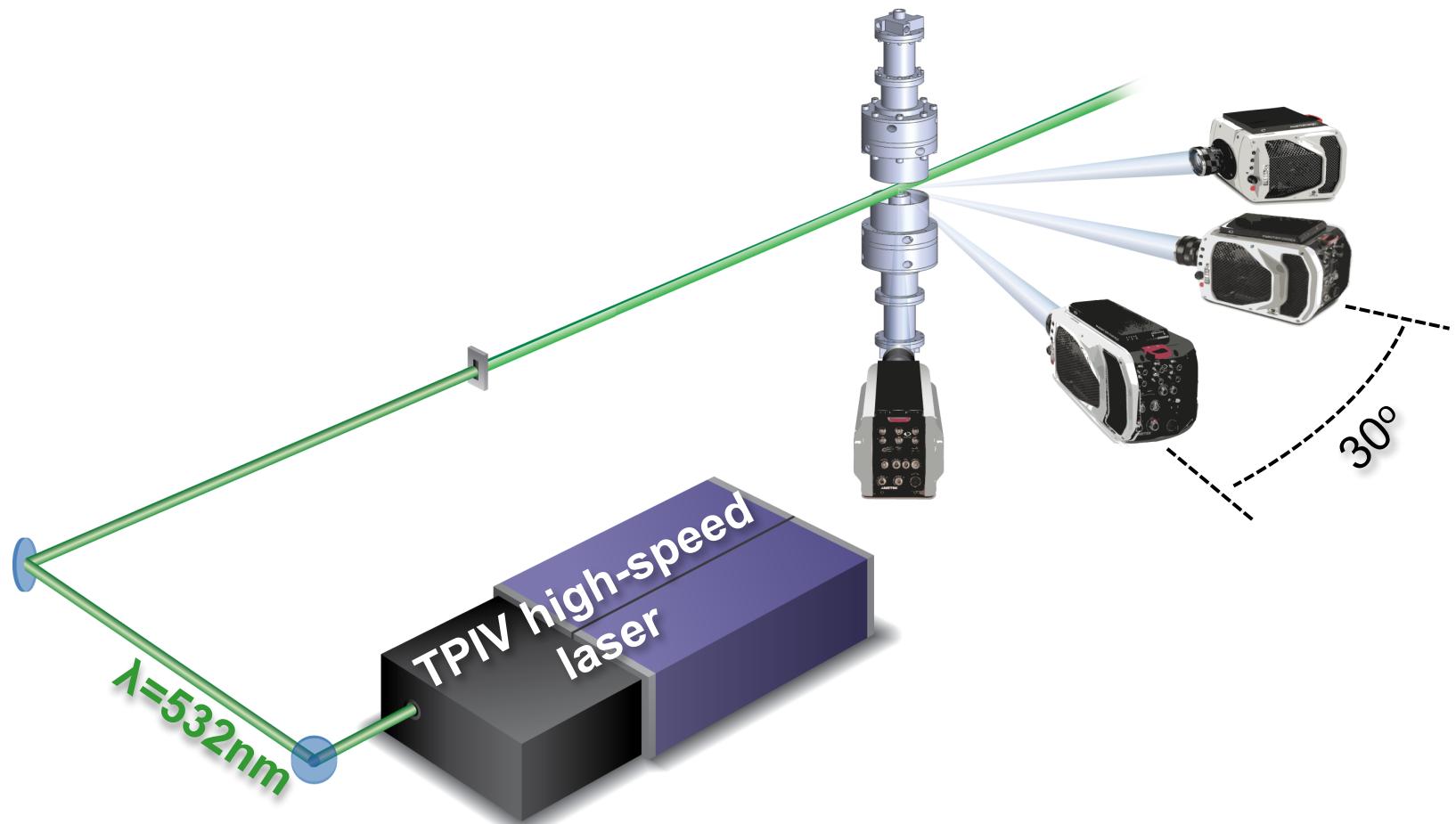
# Parametric Studies of Tomo-PIV Uncertainty using Synthetic Particles in Counterflow

60 particles/mm<sup>3</sup>



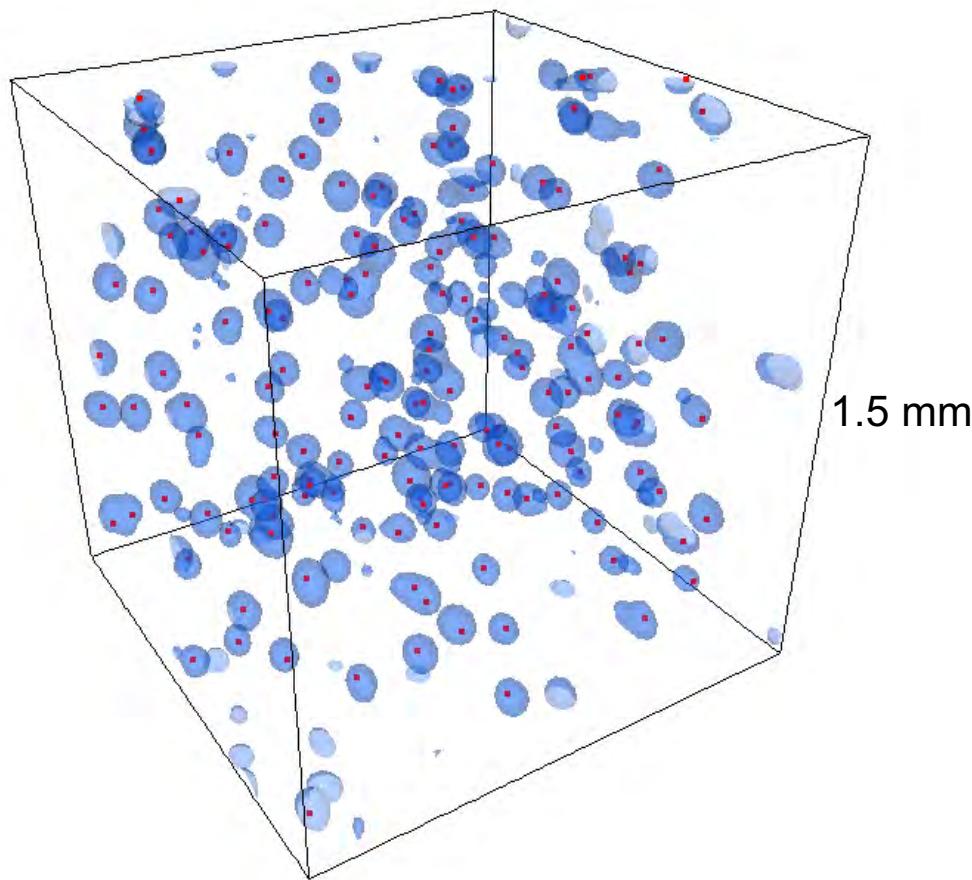
- Particles introduced after 10-20 flow-through times
- Aluminum oxide particles ( $d = 0.3 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ )
- Trilinear interpolation used to calculate velocity of each particle
- LES cell size = 450  $\mu\text{m}$
- Tomo-PIV interrogation window = 413  $\mu\text{m}$ .

# Emulate Experimental Configuration with Synthetic Tomographic Projections



# Subset of Reconstructed Particle Field

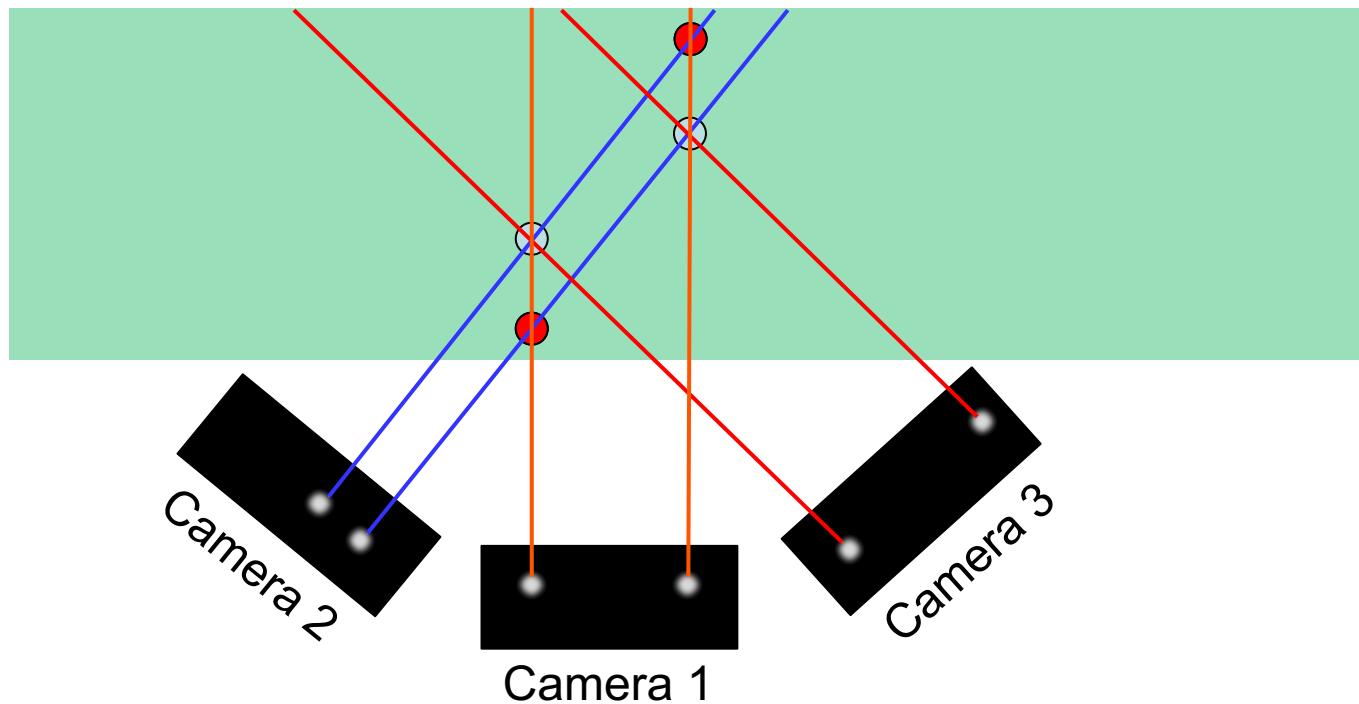
Low  
Seed  
Density



- Red dots = actual particle locations from LES
- Blue regions = tomographic reconstruction
- Ghost particles = blue regions without red dots

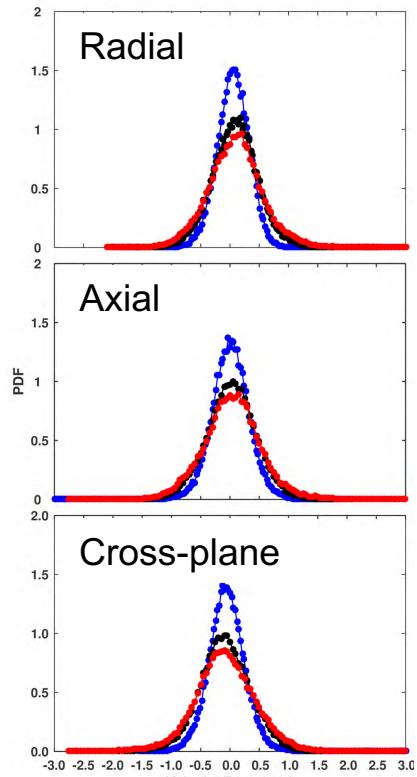
# Source of Artifacts in Tomo-PIV

Laser beam  
illumination  
of particles



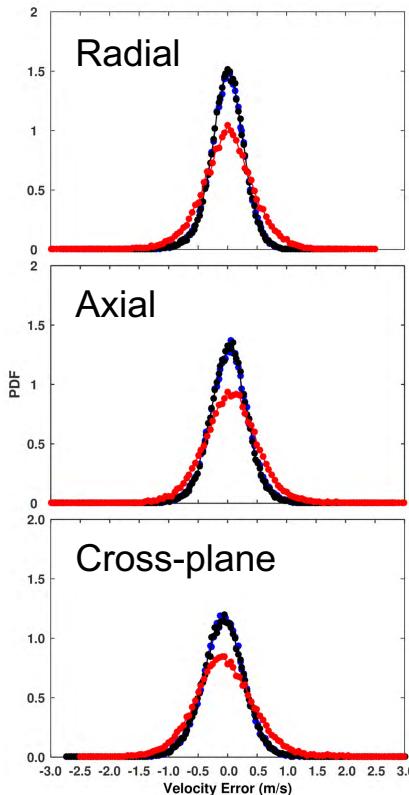
# Parametric Studies of Uncertainty

## Particle Number Density



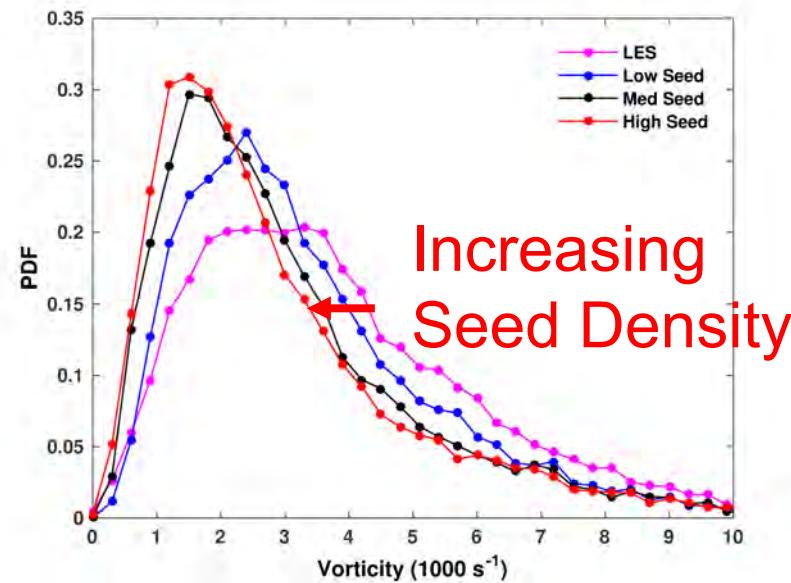
—●— Low  
—●— Med  
—●— High

## Detector Noise



—●— Noiseless  
—●— Camera Noise Added  
—●— Noise x 10

## Effect of Particle Number Density on Vorticity Magnitude



$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \nabla \times \mathbf{V}$$



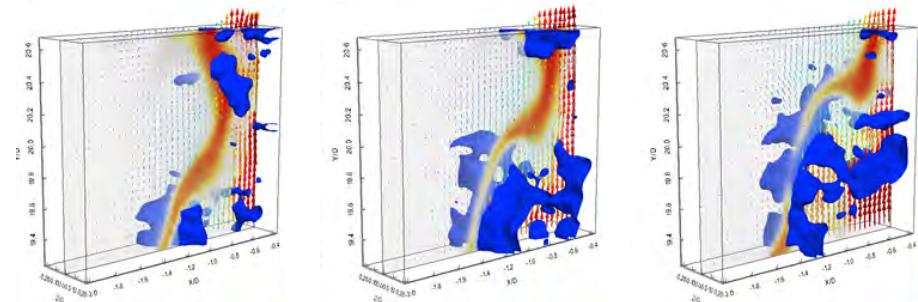
## Summary

# LES Evaluation of Tomographic PIV

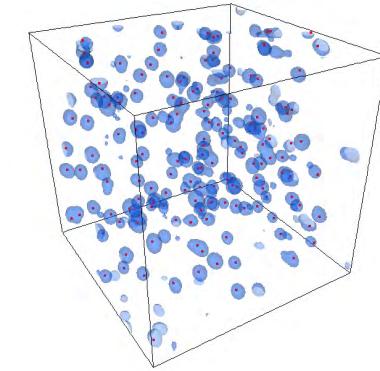
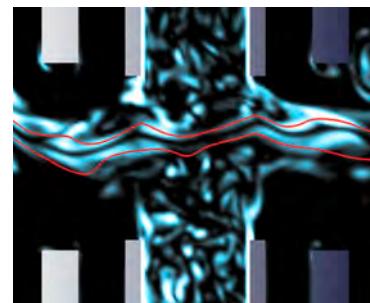
- Parametric numerical studies to assess uncertainties and improve Tomo-PIV processing in reacting flows
- Future investigations: RAPTOR code to simulate Tomo-PIV measurements using LES to near-DNS
- Uncertainty quantification analysis
- Ultimately, improve understanding of feedback between chemical reactions and physics of turbulence

# Outline

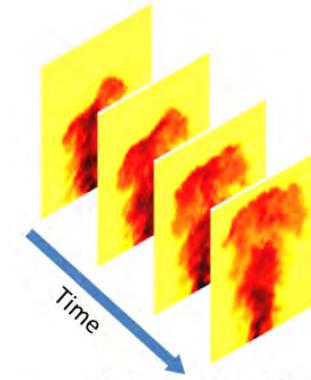
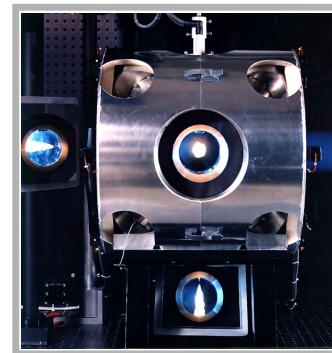
## 3-D Measurements of Flow Fields in Turbulent Flames



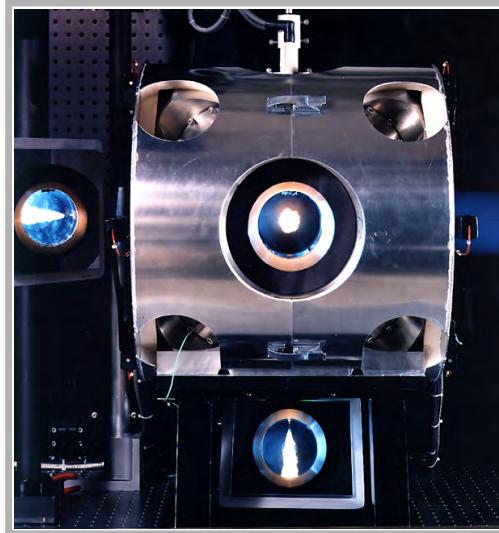
## Coupling Tomo-PIV with Large Eddy Simulations



## Imaging High-Pressure Fuel Injection Dynamics with Pulse-Burst Laser



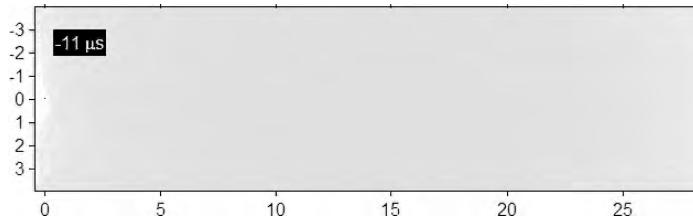
# Advances in Imaging Diagnostics Applied to High-Pressure Fuel Injection



## Previous Imaging Capabilities

### Line-of-sight Measurements

- Limited diagnostic techniques
- Difficult to interpret

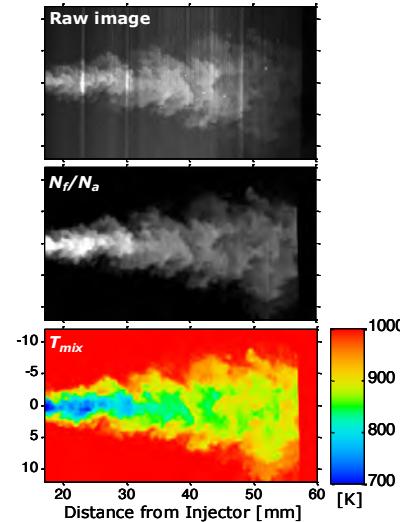


### Single-shot planar imaging

- Missing insight into dynamics

## High-Pressure Fuel Injection for IC Engines

Need high-speed planar imaging capability  
and improved high-pressure diagnostics



# Diesel Ignition/Combustion Linked to Transient Mixing

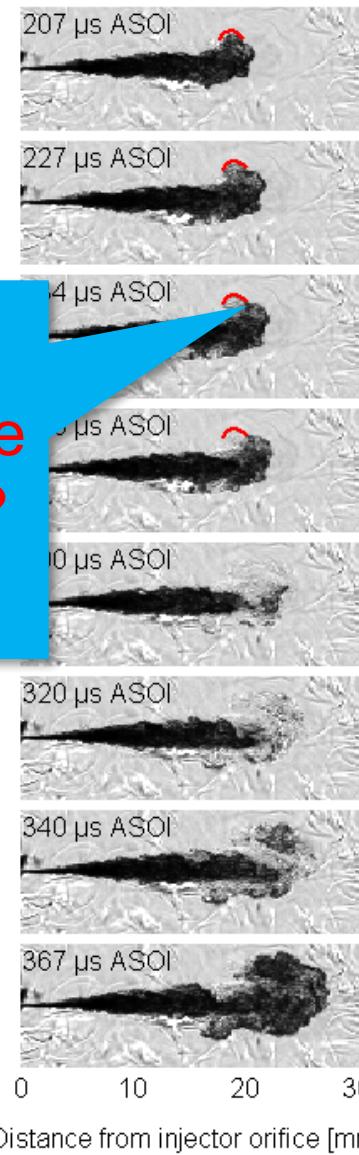
Diesel "Spray A" conditions

Ambient Gas	Fuel
900 K	373 K
60 bar	1500 bar
15% O <sub>2</sub>	n-dodecane
	90 $\mu$ m nozzle

150 kHz schlieren imaging



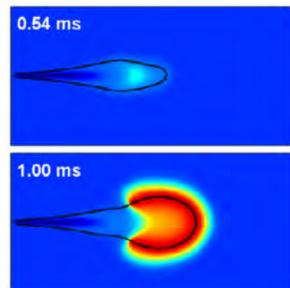
Schlieren



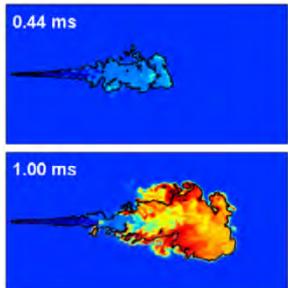
How does local mixture state evolve prior to autoignition?

- Cool flame initiates in radial regions
  - Schlieren "transparency" scale organization
  - Cool flame temperatures
- High-temperature ignition
  - Low-density (2000 K) zones appear again
  - Flame "lift-off" stabilizes at approx. 17 mm
- Accurate CFD modeling of ignition is needed

RANS

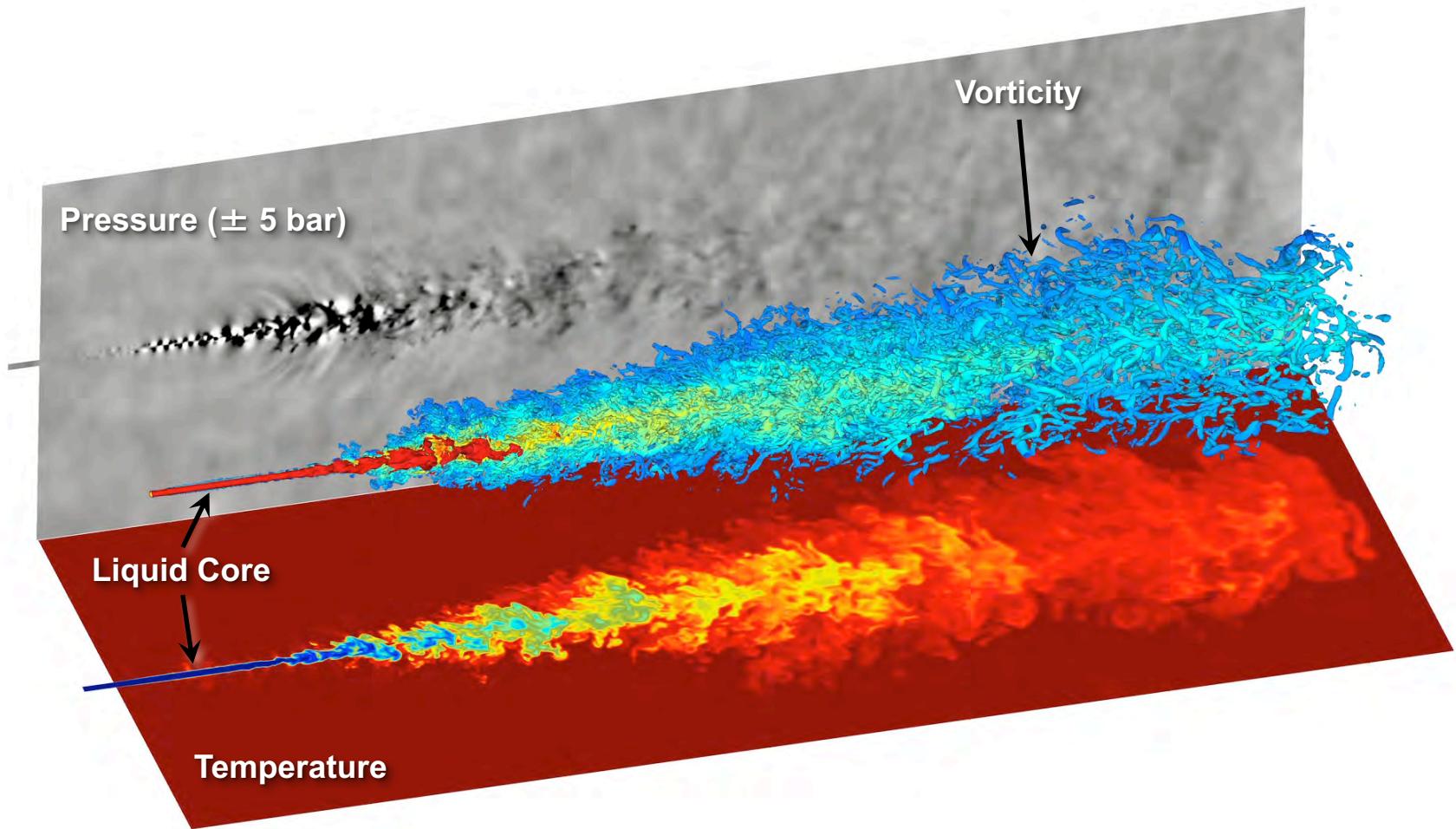


LES



Pei et al.  
Combust. Flame  
in press

# Transient Evolution of Jet Shows Detailed Structural Flow Interactions

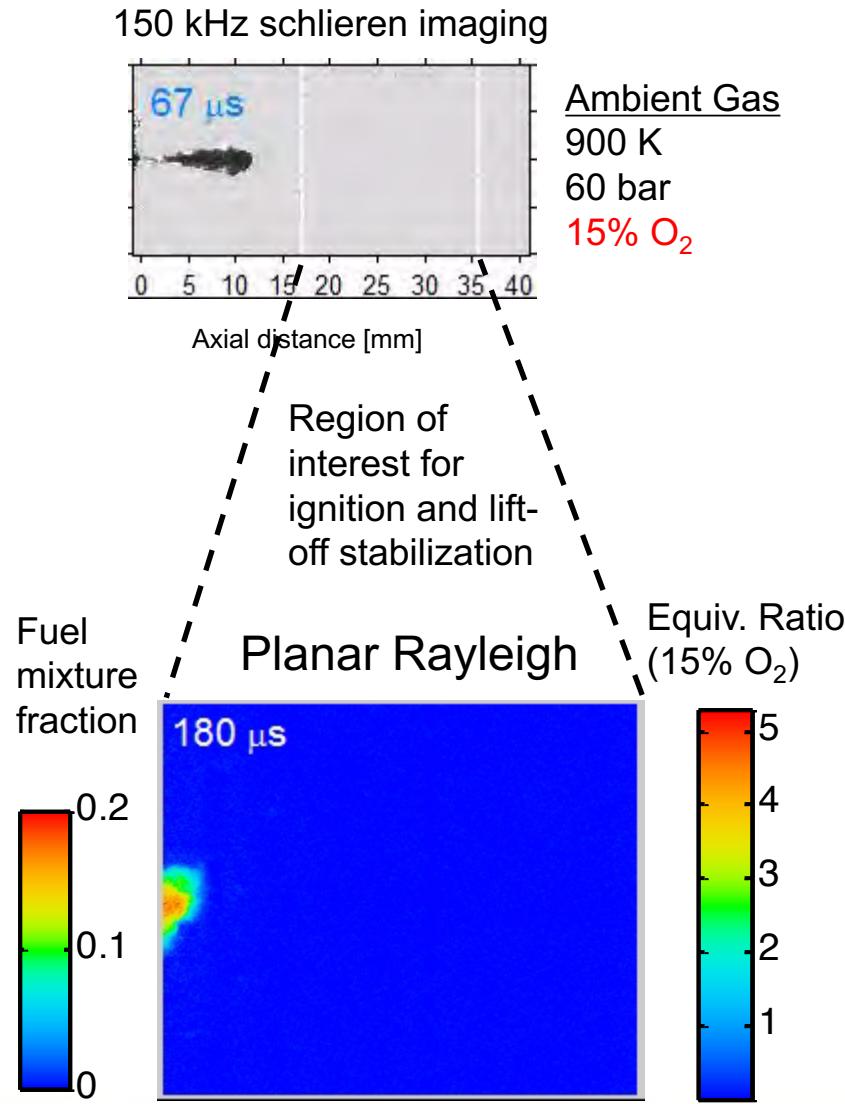


Large Eddy Simulation by Joe Oefelein, Guilhem Lacaze

# Transient spray mixture fraction measured in vaporized region of non-reacting injection

- Rayleigh scattering quantifies transient mixture fraction / equivalence ratio
  - Target condition Spray A has massive research effort to understand engine spray combustion
- Jet mixing - large structures shed to side and re-entrained
  - Larger residence time in hot mixtures
- Target for high-fidelity LES studies
  - Verify accurate mixing field as preliminary step towards predicting ignition/combustion
  - Quantify variance, needed input for CFD

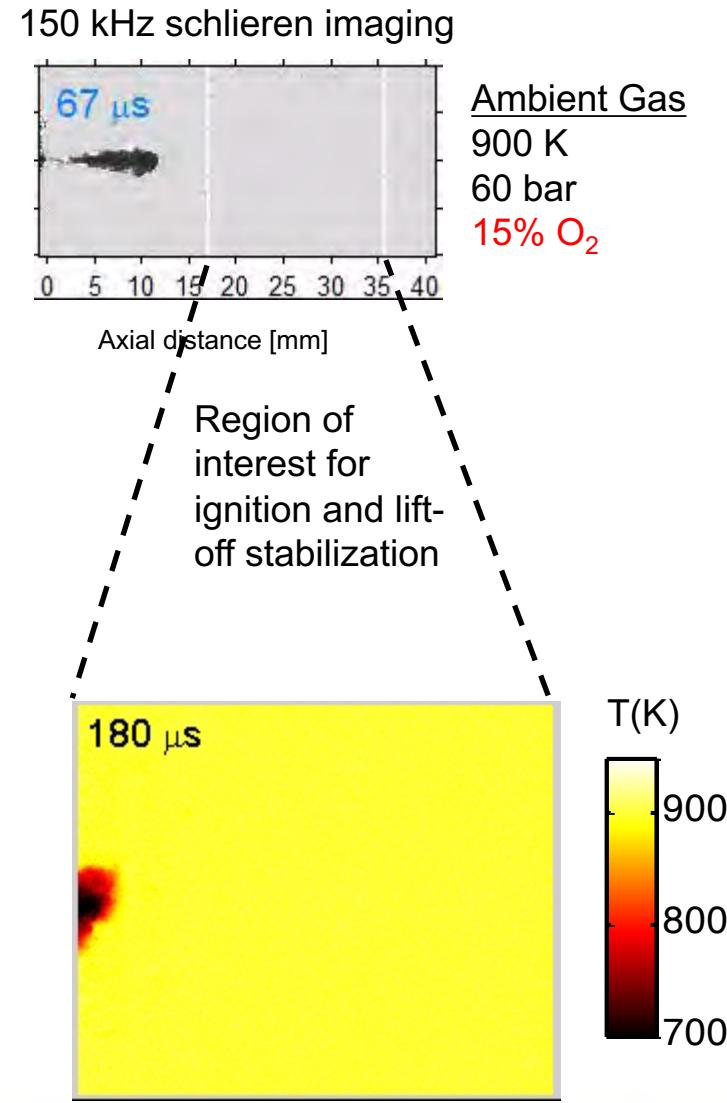
Ambient Gas  
900 K  
60 bar  
0% O<sub>2</sub>



# Transient Temperature History Important for Ignition

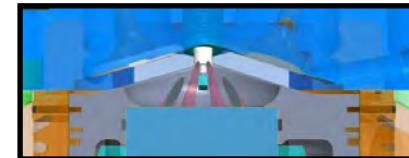
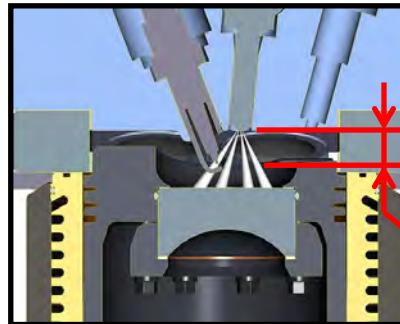
- Rayleigh imaging quantifies transient mixture fraction / equivalence ratio for the first time
  - Target condition Spray A has massive research effort to understand engine spray combustion
- Jet mixing - large structures shed to side and re-entrained
  - Larger residence time in hot mixtures
- Obvious target for high-fidelity LES studies
  - Verify accurate mixing field as preliminary step towards predicting ignition/combustion
  - Quantify variance, needed input for CFD

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

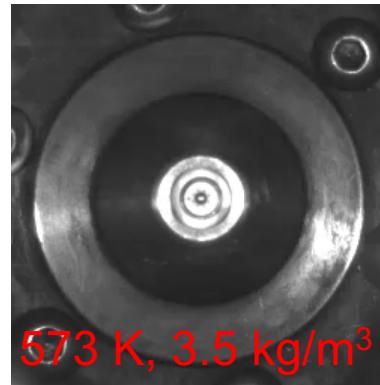


# Fuel spray mixing is important to efficiency

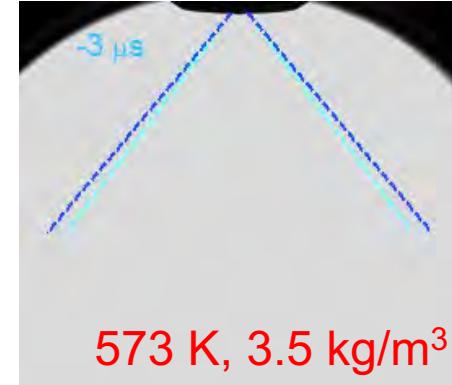
- Barriers for high-efficiency gasoline engines
  - Particulate emissions
  - Engine knock or preignition
  - Slow burn rate or partial burn
  - Heat release control when using compression ignition
  - Lack of predictive CFD tools
- Influence of direct-injection spray
  - Temperature non-uniformities
  - Mixture /flow preparation near spark



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



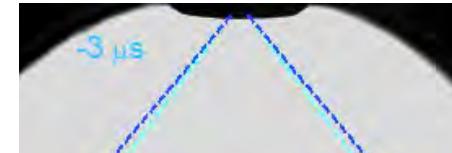
573 K, 3.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup>



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



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

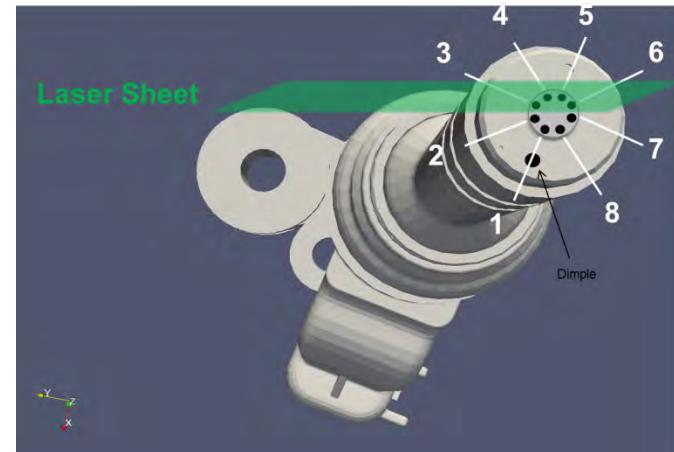
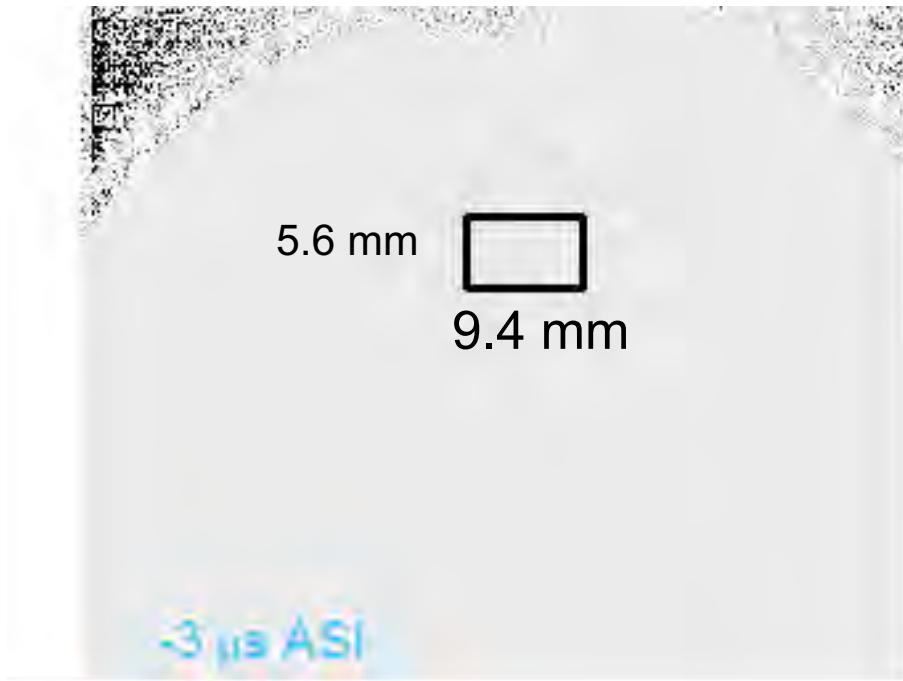


800 K, 9 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Plume collapse limits mixing of fuel with air.**

# Velocity measurements using PIV

Measurement plane between plumes to probe critical region



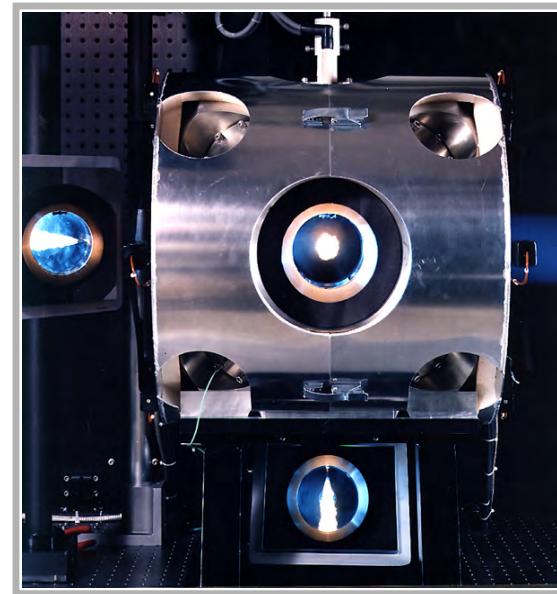
Ambient Gas	Fuel
573 K	363 K
6 bar	200 bar
3.5 kg/m <sup>3</sup>	iso-octane
0% O <sub>2</sub>	170 μm nozzle

Plumes remain separate during injection but then merge at the end of injection

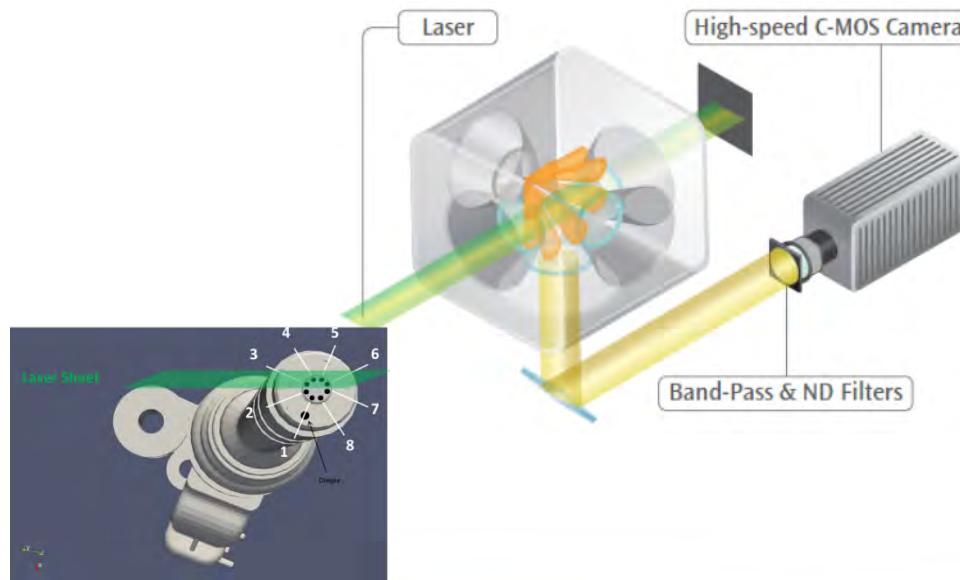
# 100 kHz PIV Measurements of Flow in Center of Injection Cone



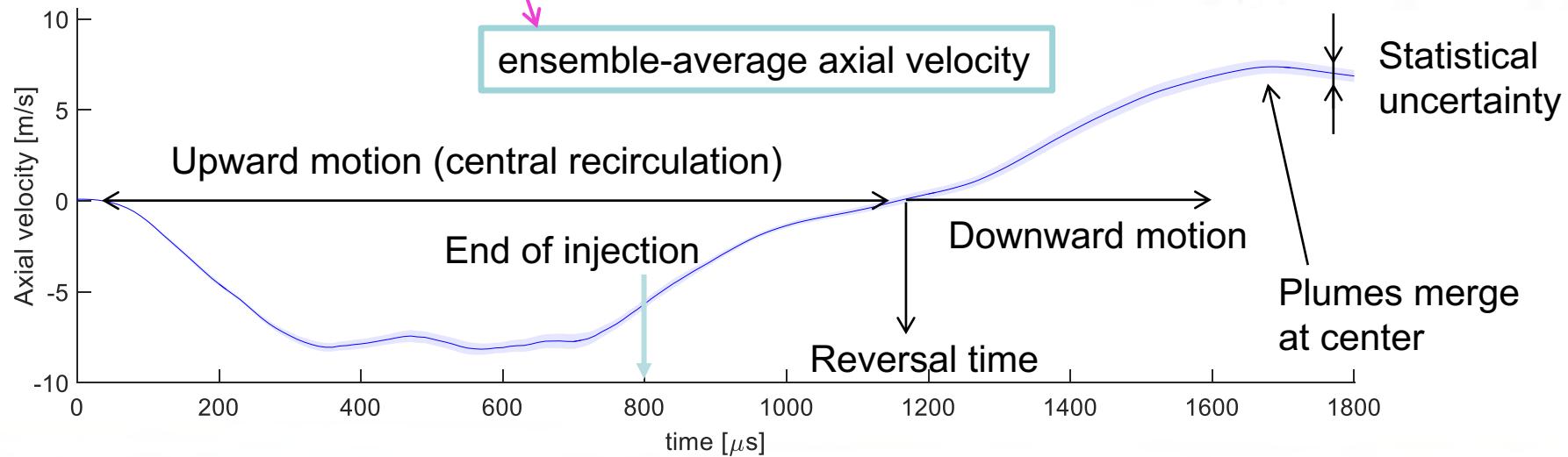
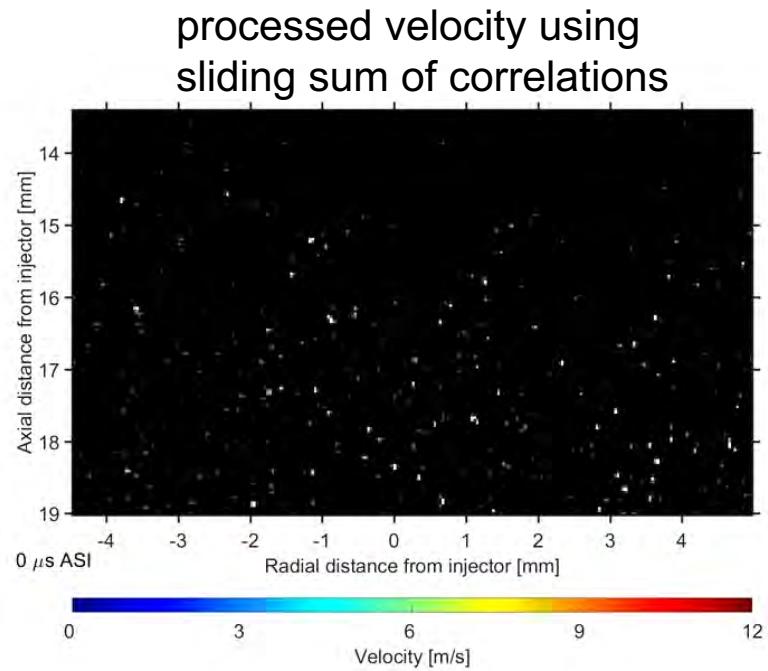
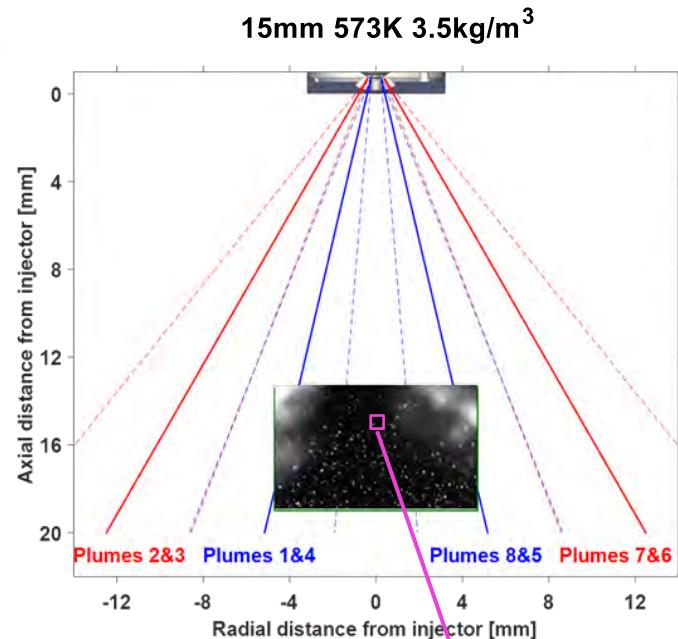
- Custom pulse-burst laser system
  - 100 kHz pulse pairs
  - 500 pulse pairs (5 ms burst)
  - 15 mJ/pulse at 532 nm
- Applied PIV
  - 1  $\mu\text{m}$  zirconia seed in gas phase
  - 200 kHz imaging
  - Liquid-phase avoided by probing between plumes and moving downstream



High-Pressure Chamber



# Time evolution of velocity between plumes





## Summary

# Imaging of High-Pressure Fuel Injection with Pulse-Burst Laser

- Planar imaging at 100 kHz at elevated pressures and temperatures
- Rayleigh scattering imaging of n-dodecane mixing
- Development of method for treating beam-steering
- PIV of iso-octane mixing in gasoline injector
- Captured flow reversal leading to plume collapse
- Ongoing investigation of different injection conditions and further planar imaging diagnostics



# Acknowledgements

## *Tomo-PIV, High-Speed Imaging,*

## *Pulse-burst Laser Development*

Bruno Coriton

Adam Ruggles

Scott Bisson

Brian Patterson

Erxiong Huang

## *Large Eddy Simulations*

Joe Oefelein

Anthony Ruiz

## *Engine Research*

Lyle Pickett

Scott Skeen

Julien Manin

Panos Sphicas

*Division of Chemical Sciences, Geosciences, and Biosciences*

*Office of Basic Energy Sciences*

*U.S. Department of Energy*

*Sandia Laboratory Directed Research and  
Development Program*