



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

Jonathan Frank

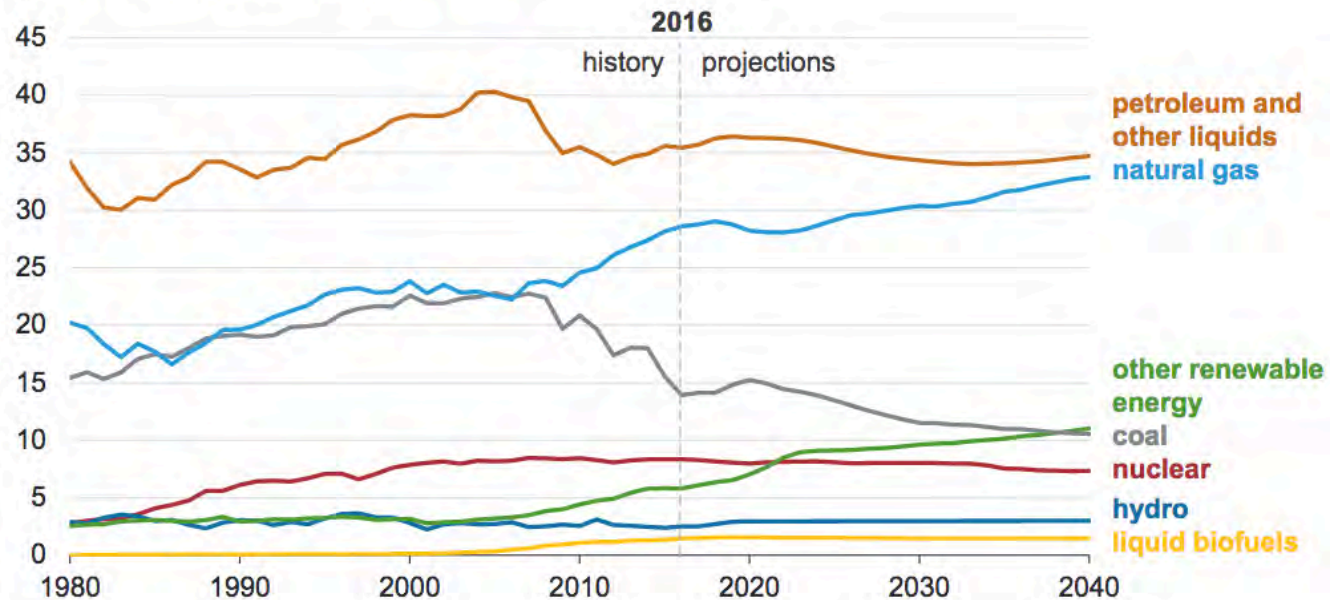
*Combustion Research Facility
Sandia National Laboratories
Livermore, CA*

Motivation

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

U.S. Energy Consumption (Reference Case)

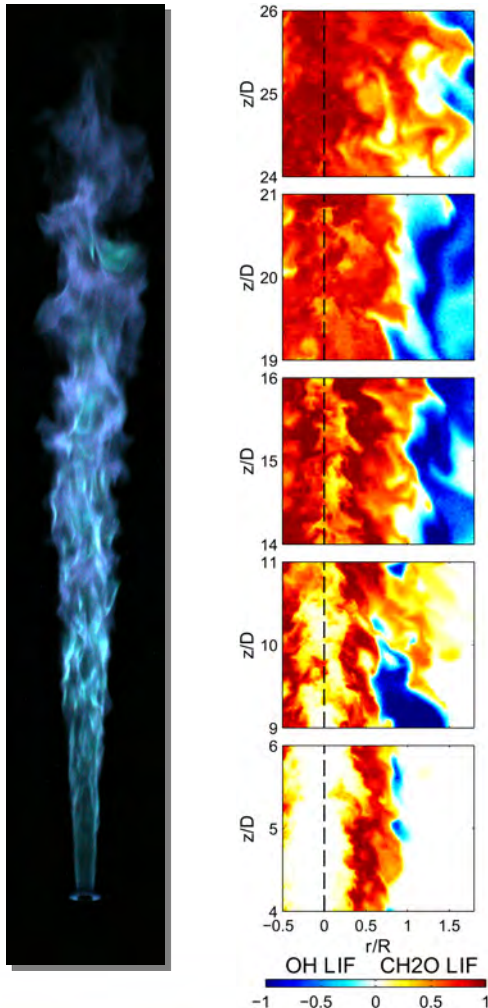
quadrillion British thermal units



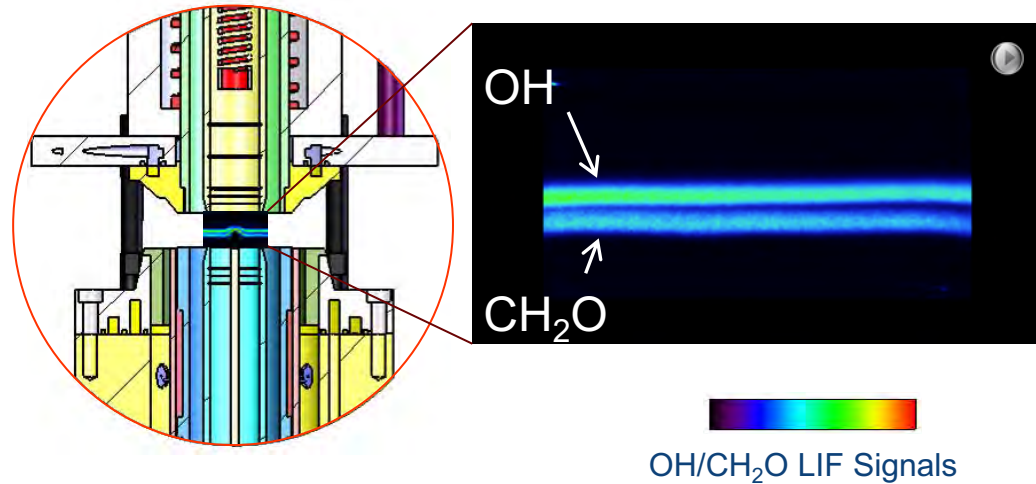
U.S. Energy Information Administration: Energy Outlook, Jan. 2017 (www.eia.gov/aeo)

Approaches to Studying Flow-Flame Interactions

Turbulent Flows in Canonical Geometries



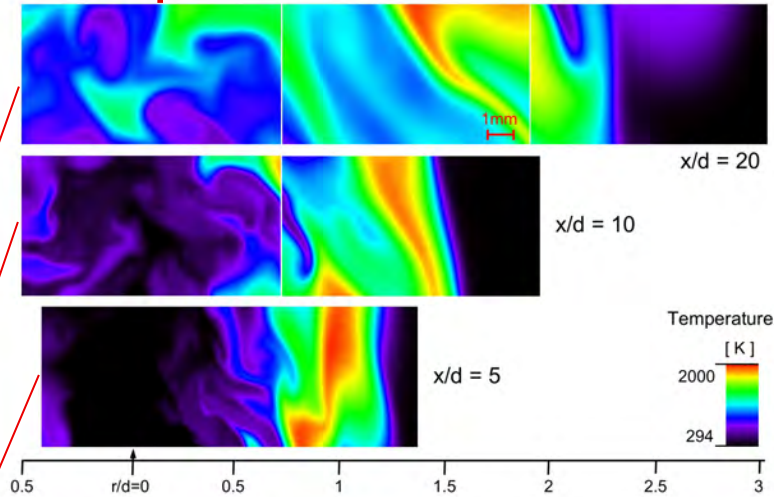
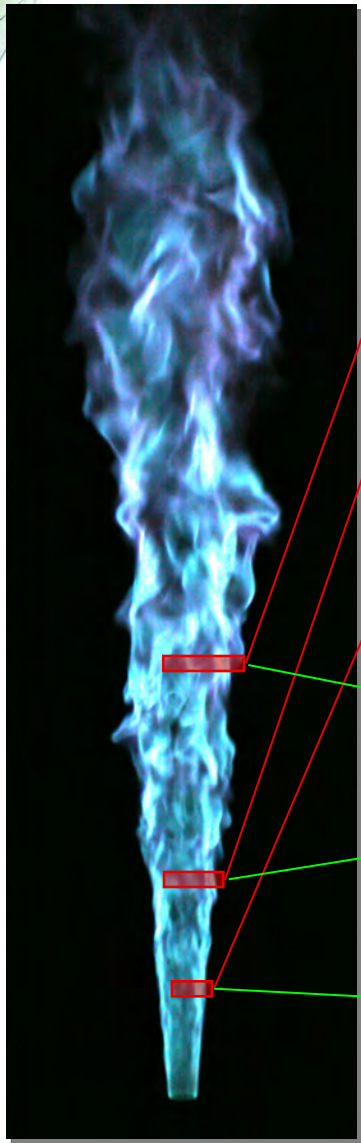
Isolated Repeatable Transient Flow-Flame Interactions



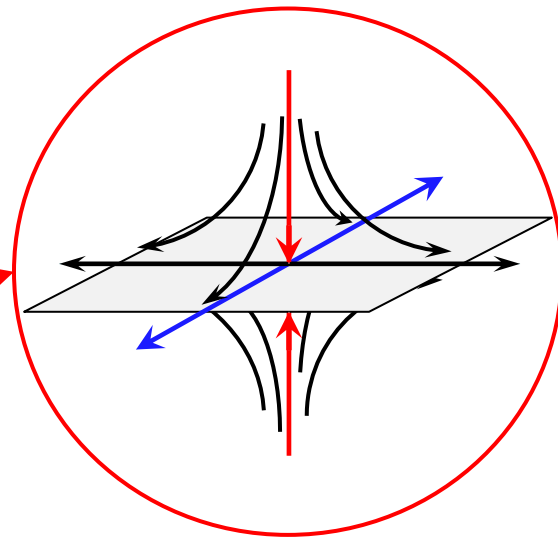
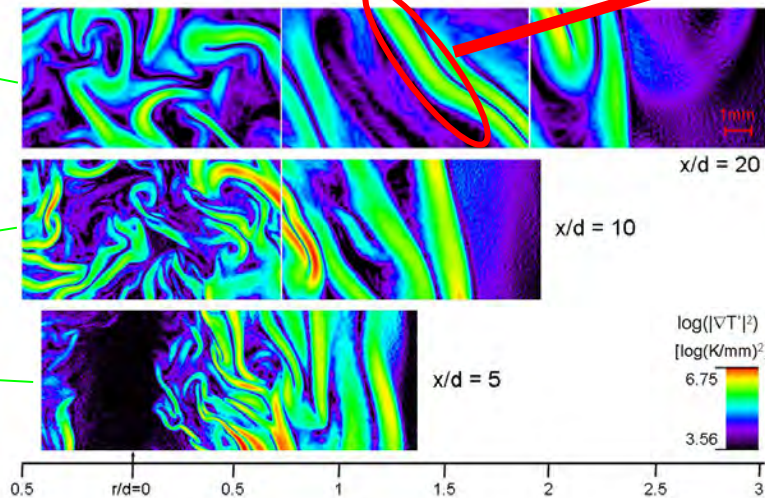
Structure of Turbulence

Impacts Rates of Molecular Mixing

Temperature

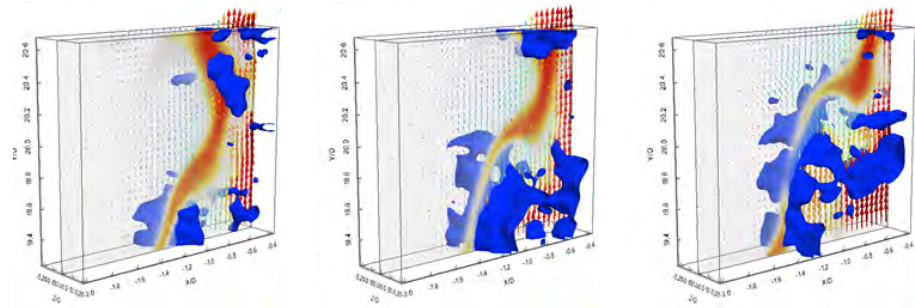


$\log (\nabla T)^2$

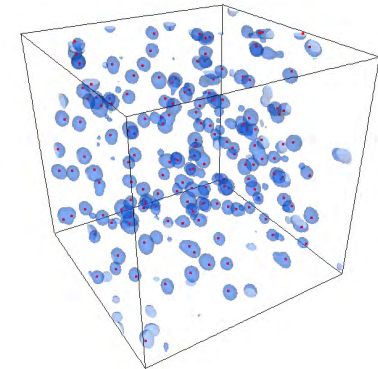
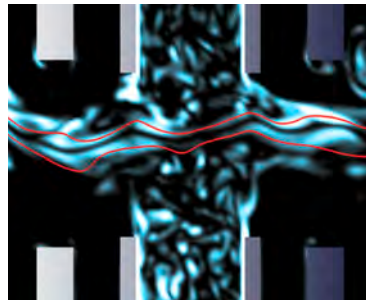


Outline

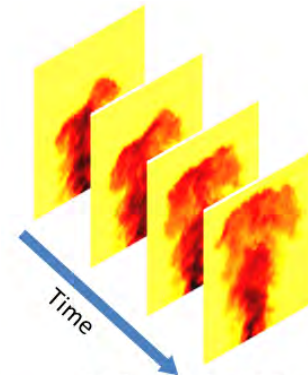
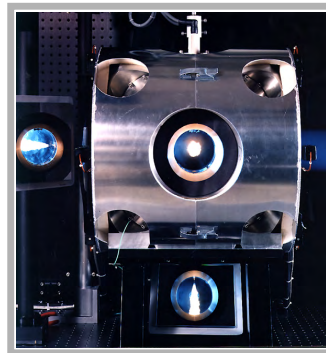
3-D Measurements of Flow Fields in Turbulent Flames



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

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



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

Time resolved at multi-kHz rates!

Strain Rate Measurements Enabled by Tomo-PIV

Rate of Strain Tensor

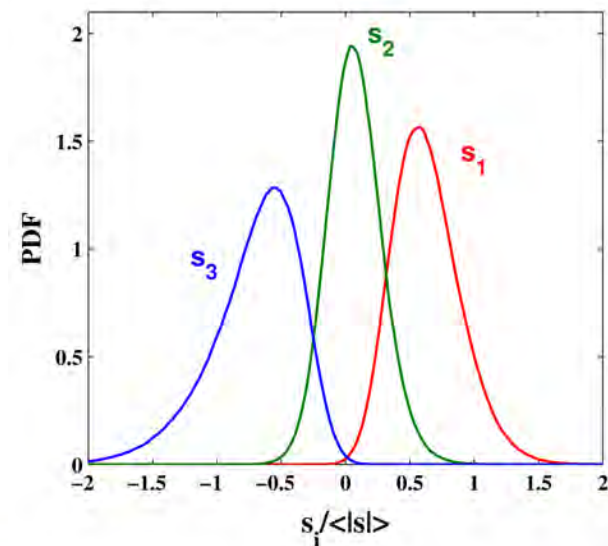
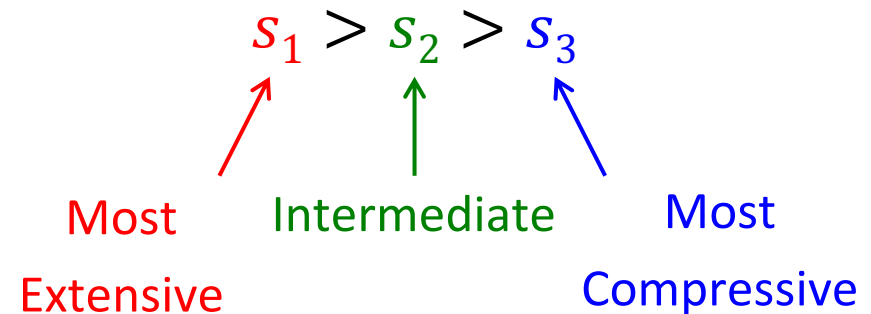
$$S = \begin{bmatrix} S_{11} & S_{12} & S_{13} \\ S_{21} & S_{22} & S_{23} \\ S_{31} & S_{32} & S_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

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

Divergence

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

Principal Strain Rates (Eigenvalues)



Data Acquisition and Processing - Overview -

Data Acquisition

Frame A

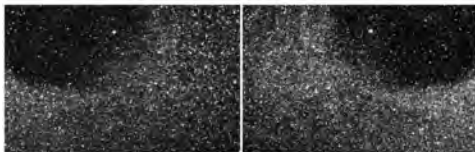
Camera 1

Camera 2



Camera 3

Camera 4



Frame B

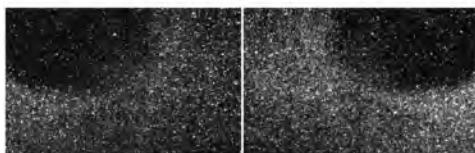
Camera 1

Camera 2

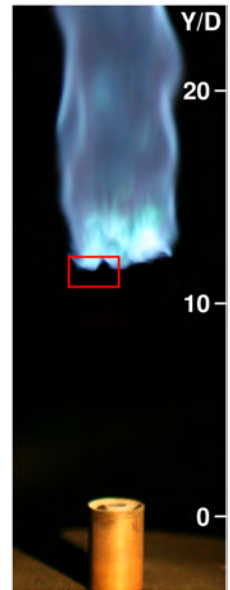
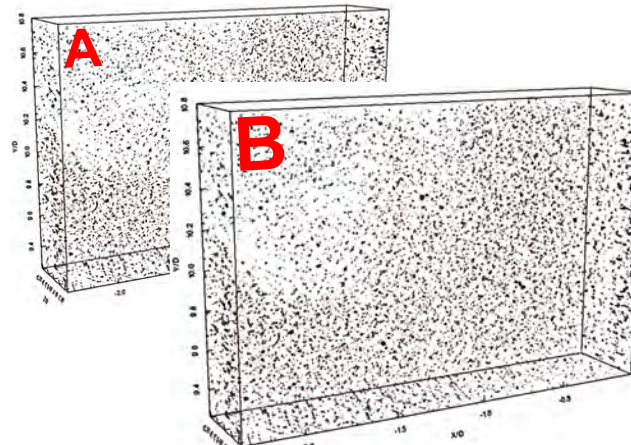


Camera 3

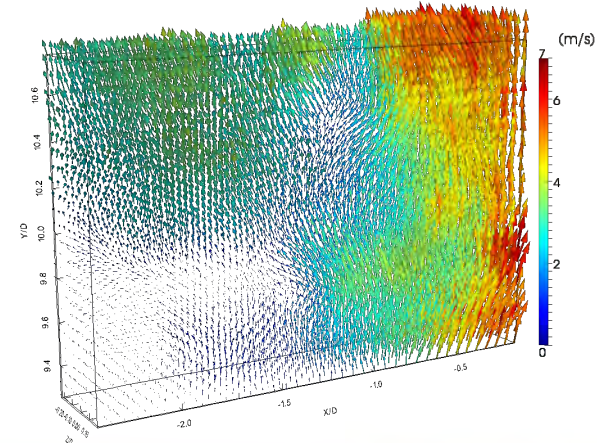
Camera 4



Probe Volume Reconstruction

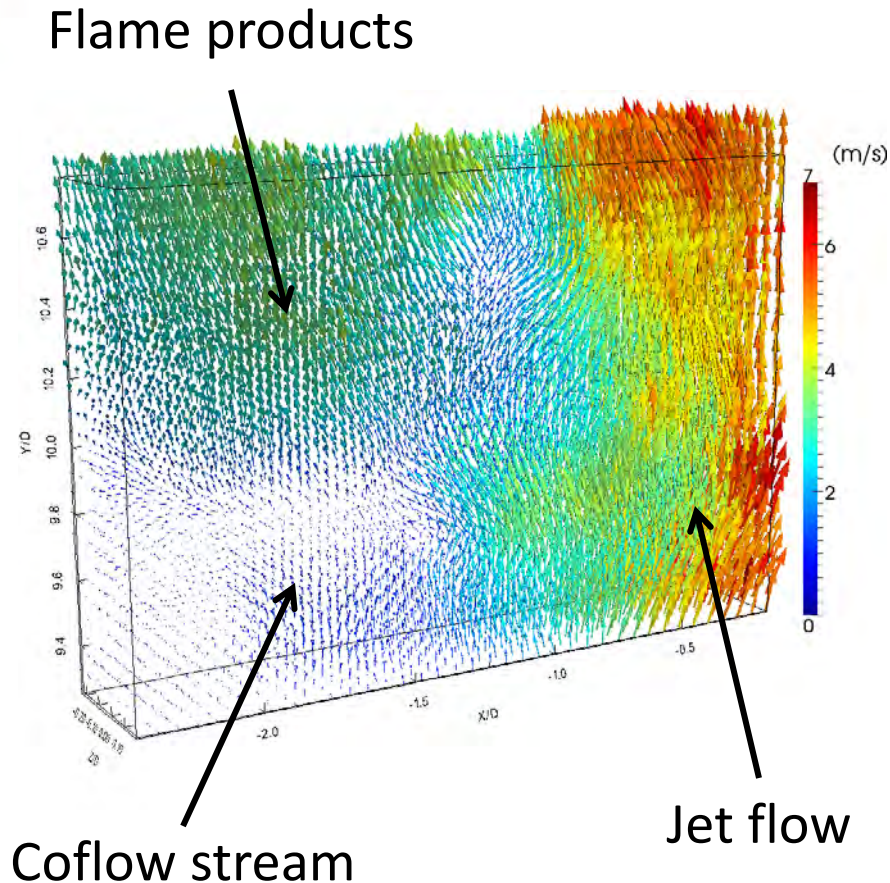


Volume Cross-Correlation



Data Processing

- Volume Cross-Correlation -



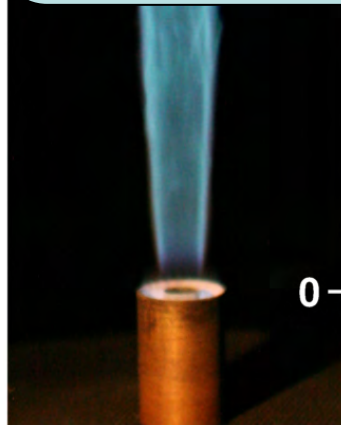
- Multi-pass cross-correlation analysis
- Final interrogation volume size:
 $413 \times 413 \times 413 \mu\text{m}^3$
 $24 \times 24 \times 24 \text{ vx}$
 with 75% overlap

1 out of 64 vectors plotted

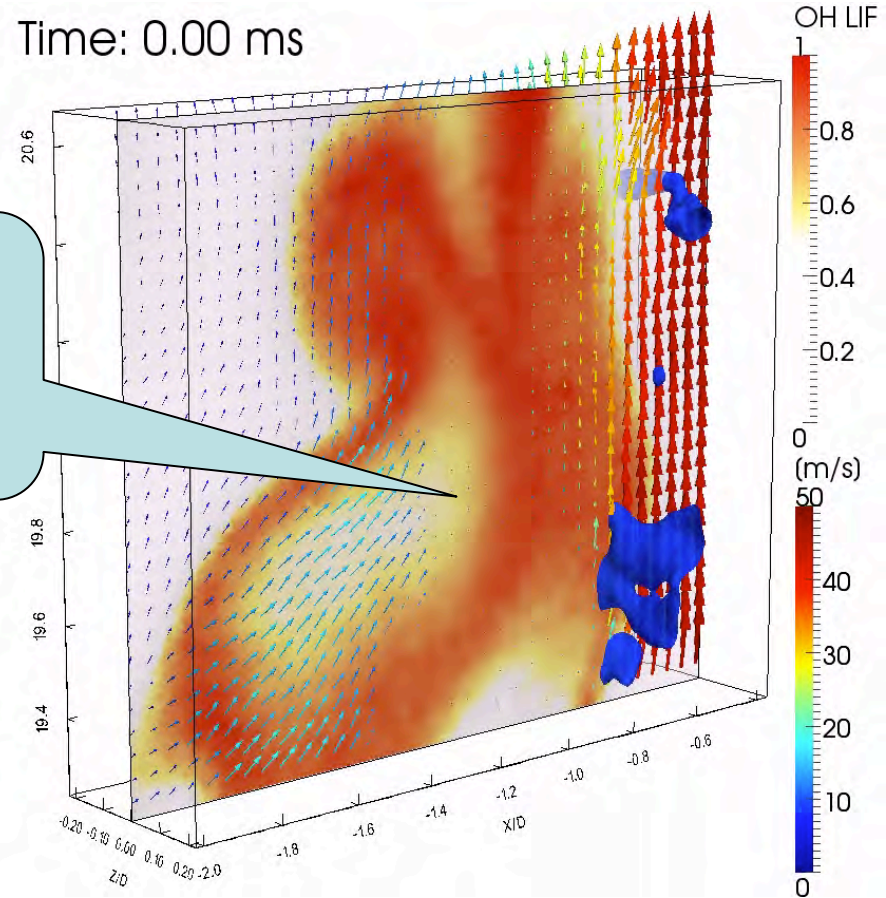
Effects of Intermittent Strain on OH in a Turbulent Partially-Premixed Jet Flame



How does heat release from chemical reactions affect turbulence?



Time: 0.00 ms



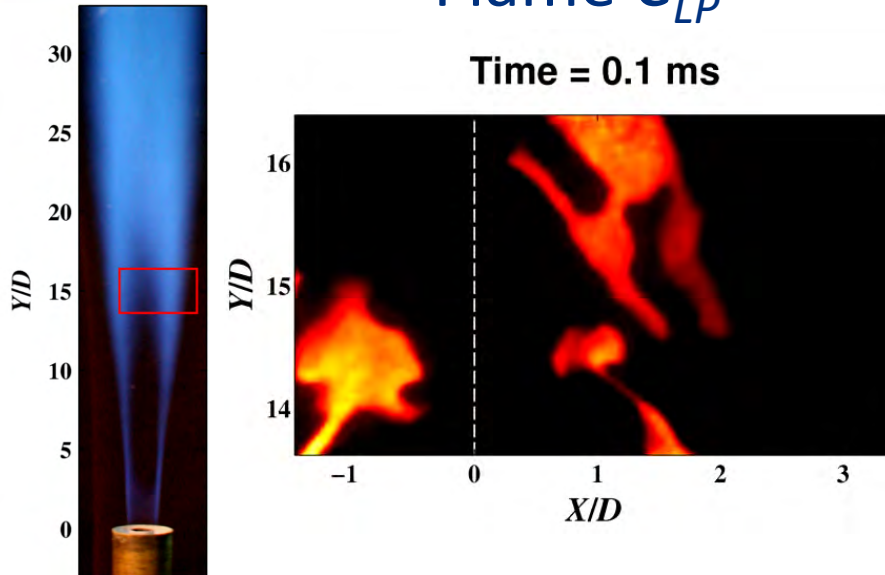
10 kHz PIV + OH LIF

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

Partially Premixed CH₄/Air Jet Flames with Different Amounts of Extinction 10 kHz OH LIF Imaging

Flame C_{LP}

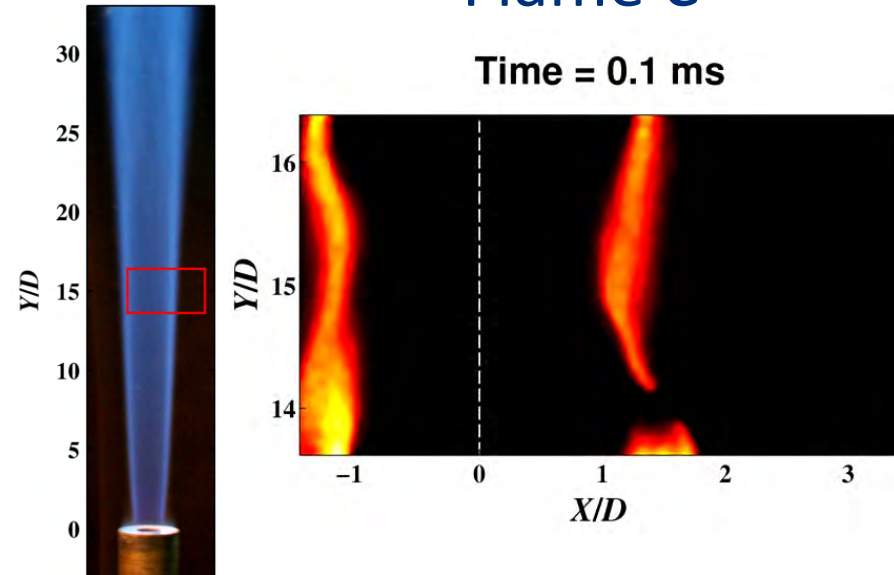
Time = 0.1 ms



High probability of localized extinction
and intermittent blowoff

Flame C

Time = 0.1 ms



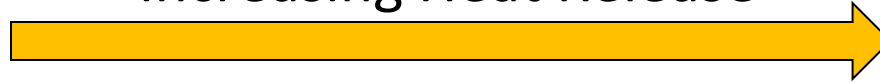
Flame is stable with rare extinction

Summary of flow conditions.

Cases	ϕ_{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

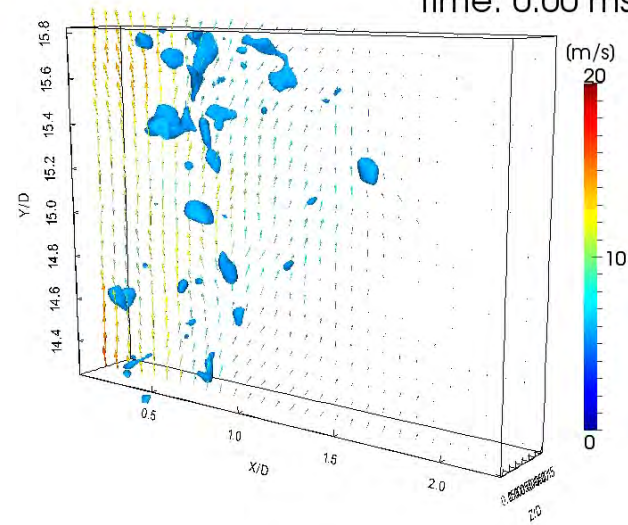
Effects of Heat Release on Strain Rate

Increasing Heat Release



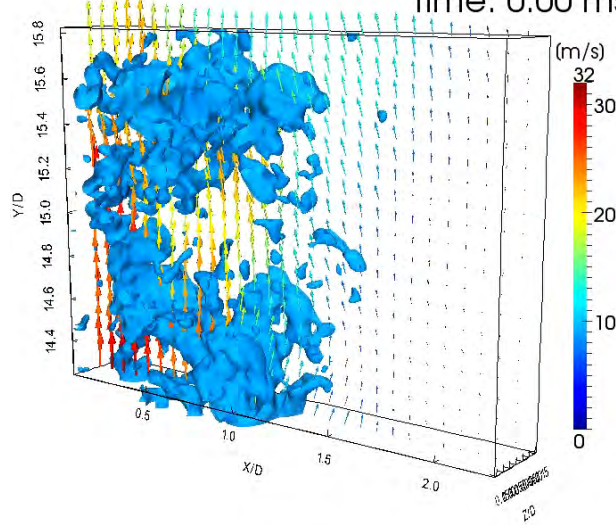
Air Jet

Time: 0.00 ms



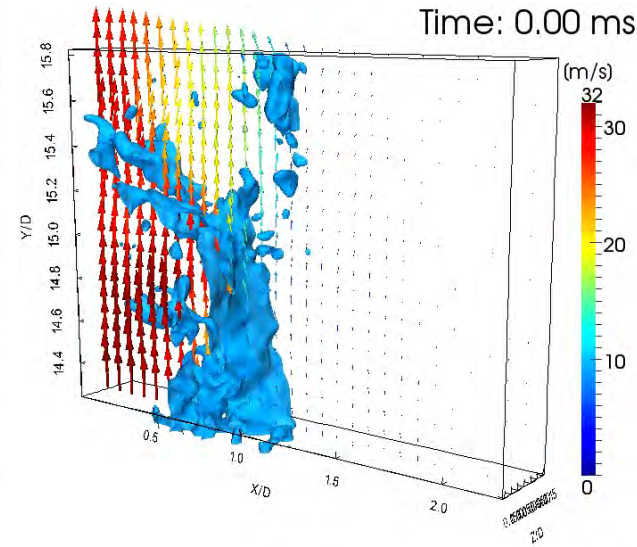
Flame C_{LP}

Time: 0.00 ms



Flame C

Time: 0.00 ms



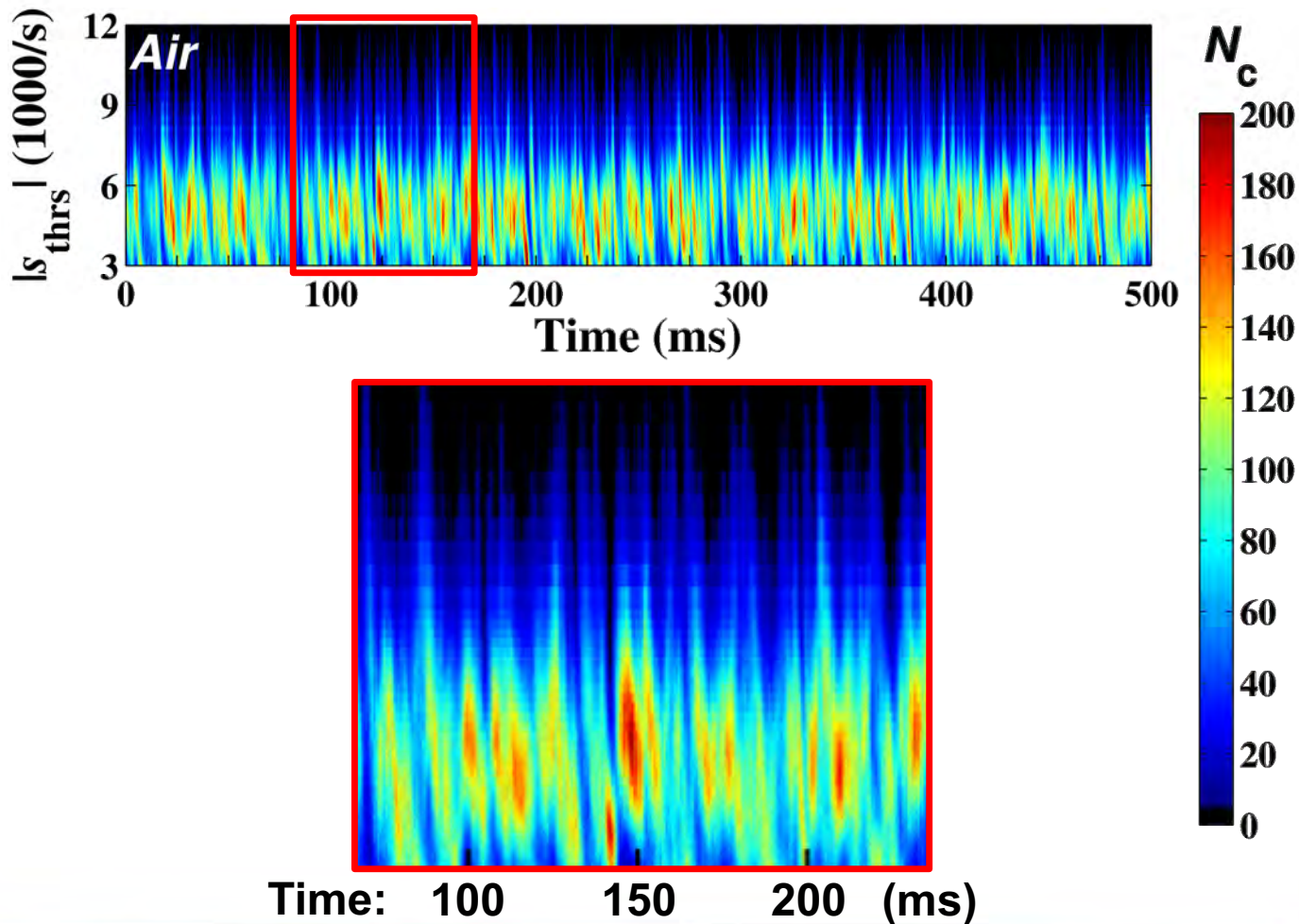
Isosurfaces for $|s_{thr}| = 7,000 \text{ s}^{-1}$

Probe volume
16.5 mm x 12.3 mm x 2.5 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

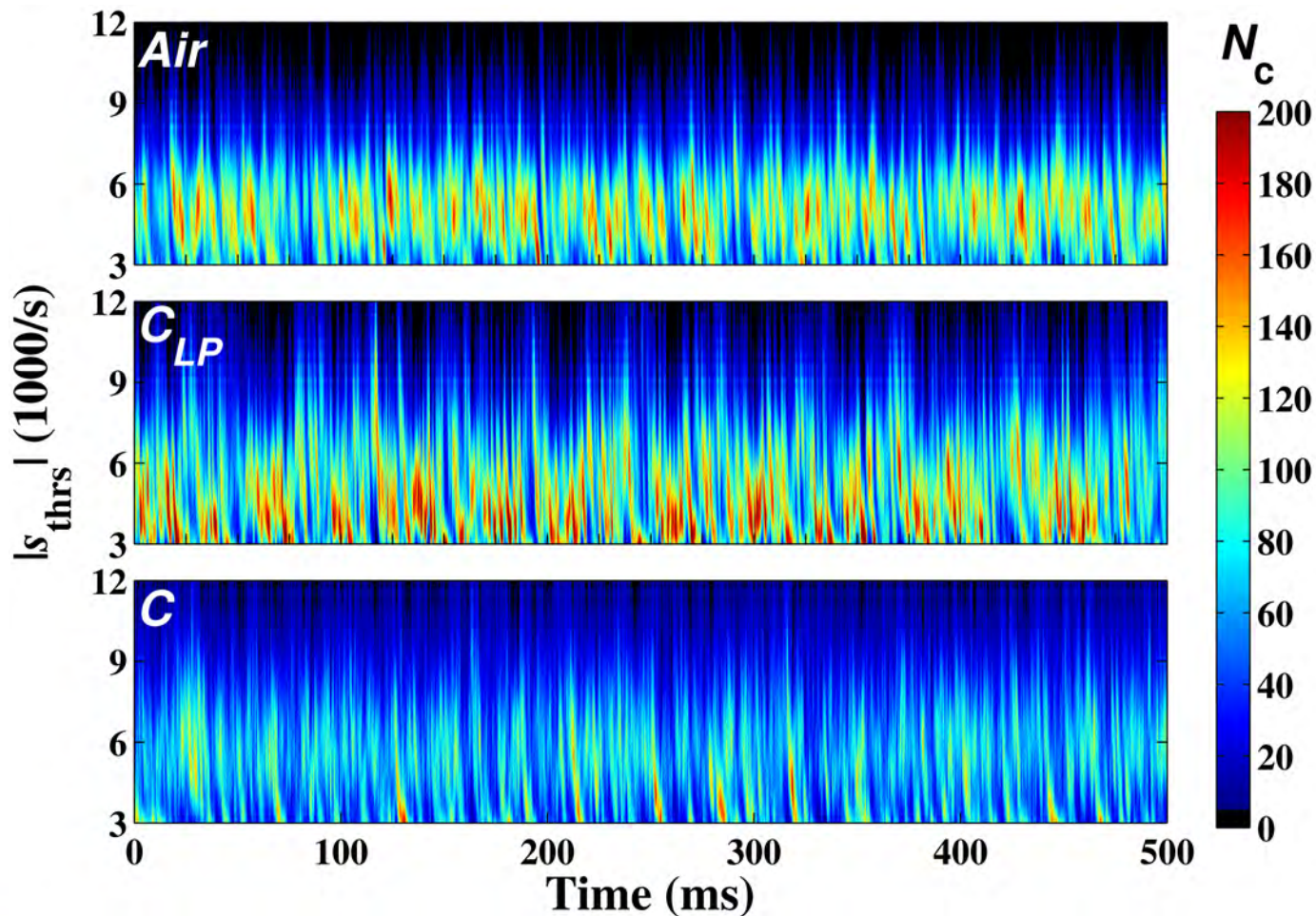
Time History of Strain Rate in Non-reacting Flow

Intermittent appearances of high strain rate clusters

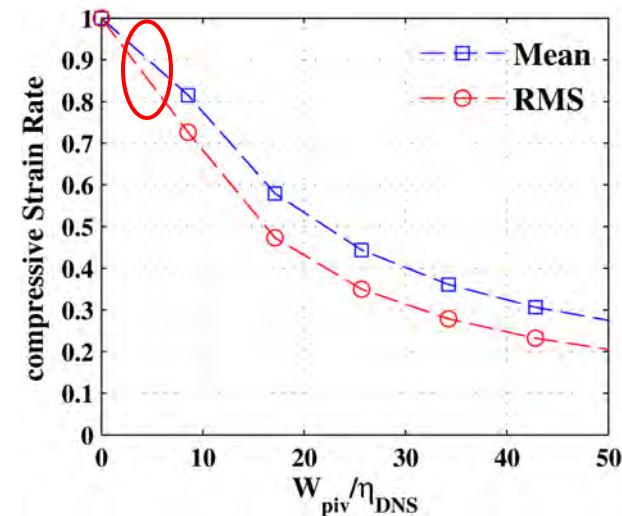
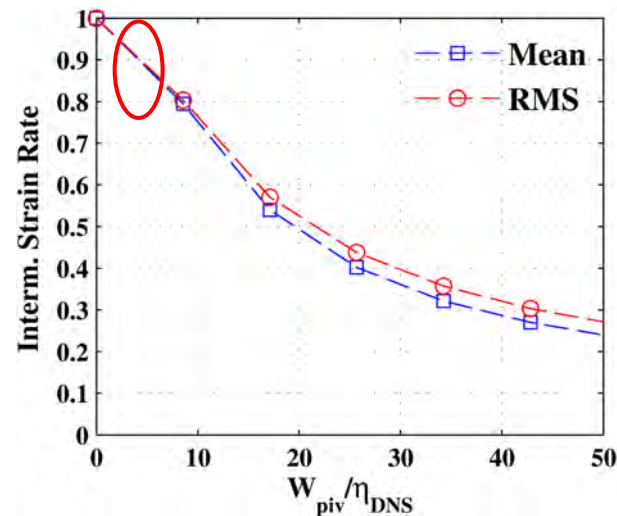
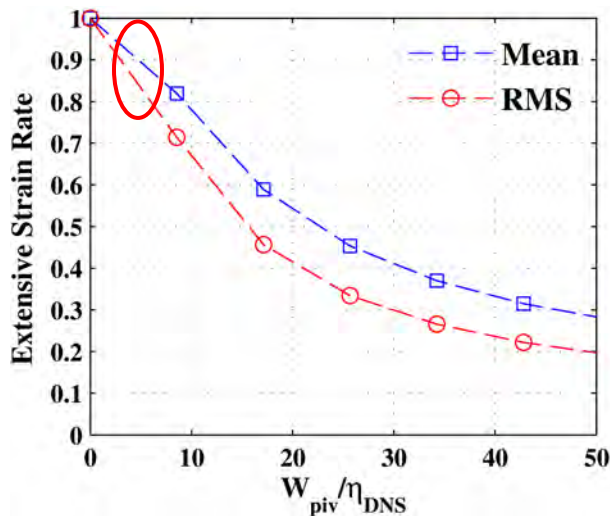


Effects of Chemical Reactions on Time History

Increasing Heat Release



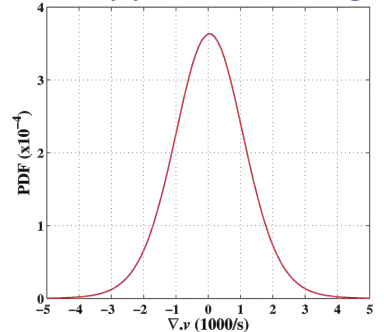
Effects of PIV Interrogation Window Size on Measured Strain Rate



- Apply PIV windowing to DNS of forced isotropic turbulence¹
- 10% under-estimation of mean strain rate for $W_{piv} = 5 \eta$

¹DNS results from Johns Hopkins Turbulence Databases (turbulence.pha.jhu.edu)

Measurement Uncertainty

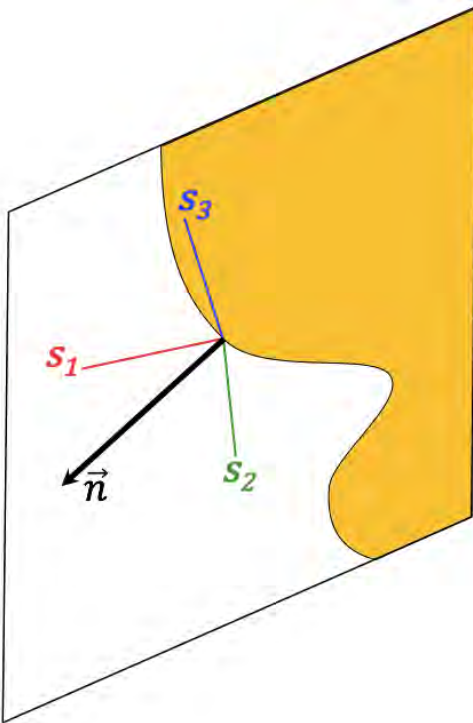
Sources of errors <i>(estimated based on measurements in...)</i>	Velocity uncertainty	Derivative uncertainty
Noise, Thermophoretic diffusion, Volume reconstruction errors <i>(Laminar counterflow flame)</i>	1-10 cm/s	$O(100) \text{ s}^{-1}$
Inherent spatial & temporal averaging of PIV, Apparent transport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

$$\rho \frac{DN_c}{Dt} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\rho D \frac{\partial N_c}{\partial x_j} \right)}_{\text{Diffusive Flux}} - \underbrace{2\rho D^2 \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \right) \right]^2}_{\text{Dissipation of Scalar Gradient}} + \underbrace{2\rho N_c [(\delta_{ij} - n_i n_j) s_{ij}]}_{\text{Dilatation + Turbulence-Scalar Interaction}} + \underbrace{2D \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial \dot{\omega}}{\partial x_i}}_{\text{Production by Chemical Reaction}}$$



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

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

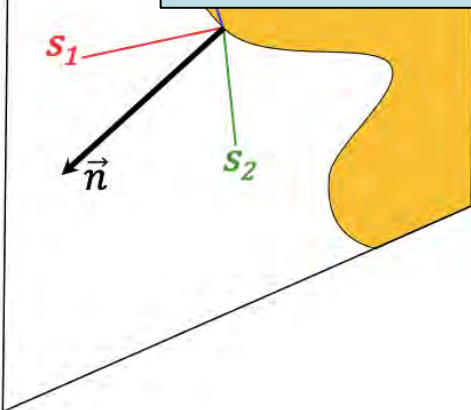
(Swaminathan & Bray, Combust. Flame 2005)

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Flame Tangential Strain

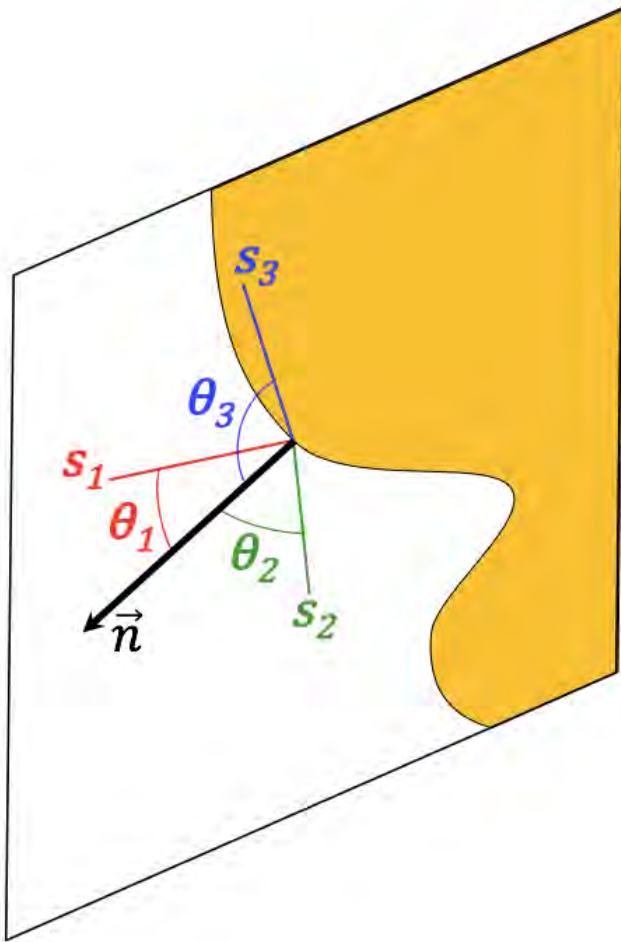
$$S_t = [(\delta_{ij} - n_i n_j) s_{ij}]$$

$$S_t = \Delta - S_n$$



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

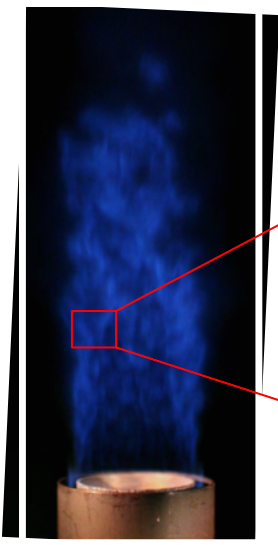


Turbulent Premixed Flames

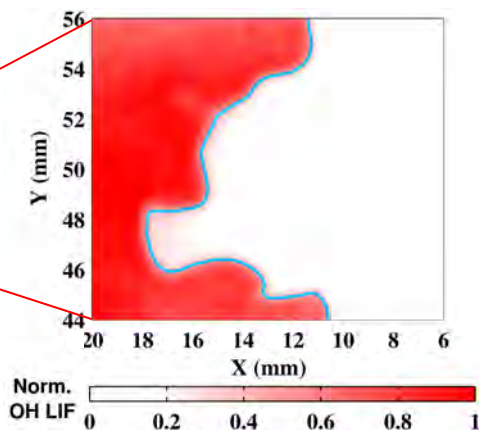
ϕ	τ	$S_L(m/s)$	u'/S_L	Da_t
0.65	4.8	0.15	4.1	1.7
0.80	5.8	0.24	2.6	3.0
1.00	6.5	0.34	1.8	5.1

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

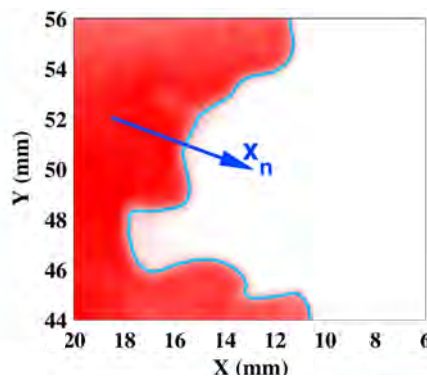
Flame Front and Strain Rate Analysis



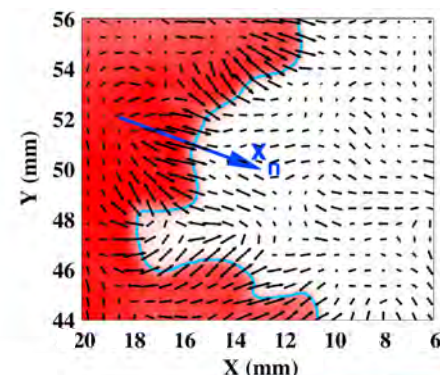
Flame front
contour



Flame front normal



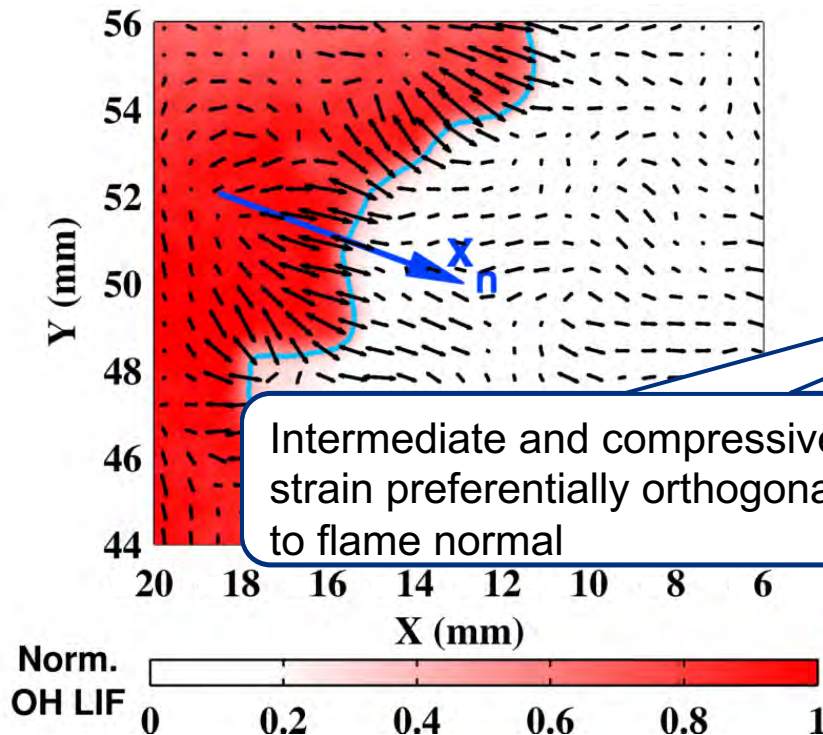
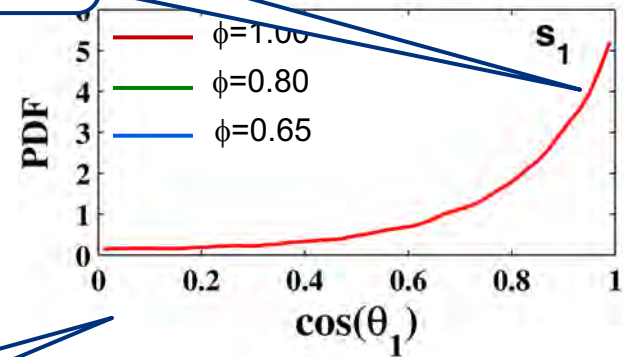
Strain rate
eigenvectors



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

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

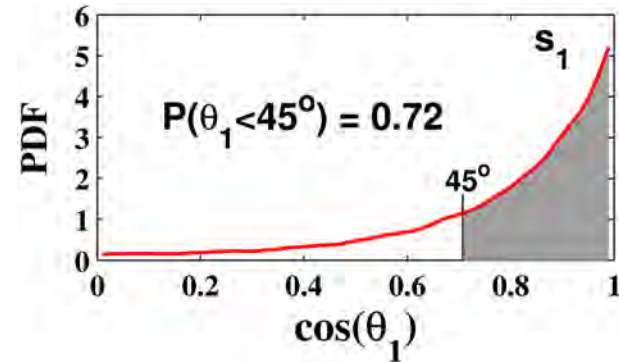
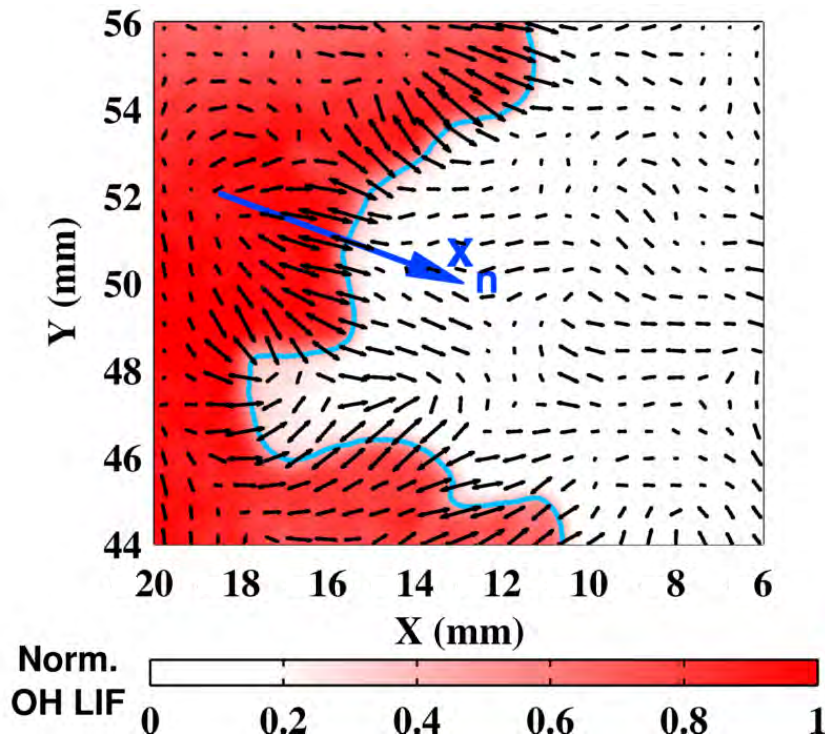
Extensive strain preferentially
parallel to flame normal



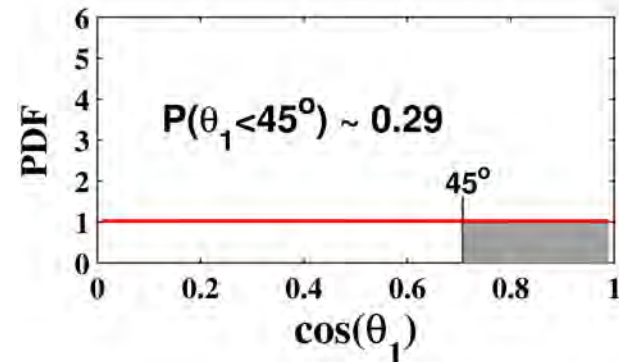
Intermediate and compressive
strain preferentially orthogonal
to flame normal

PDFs evaluated along flame front contour

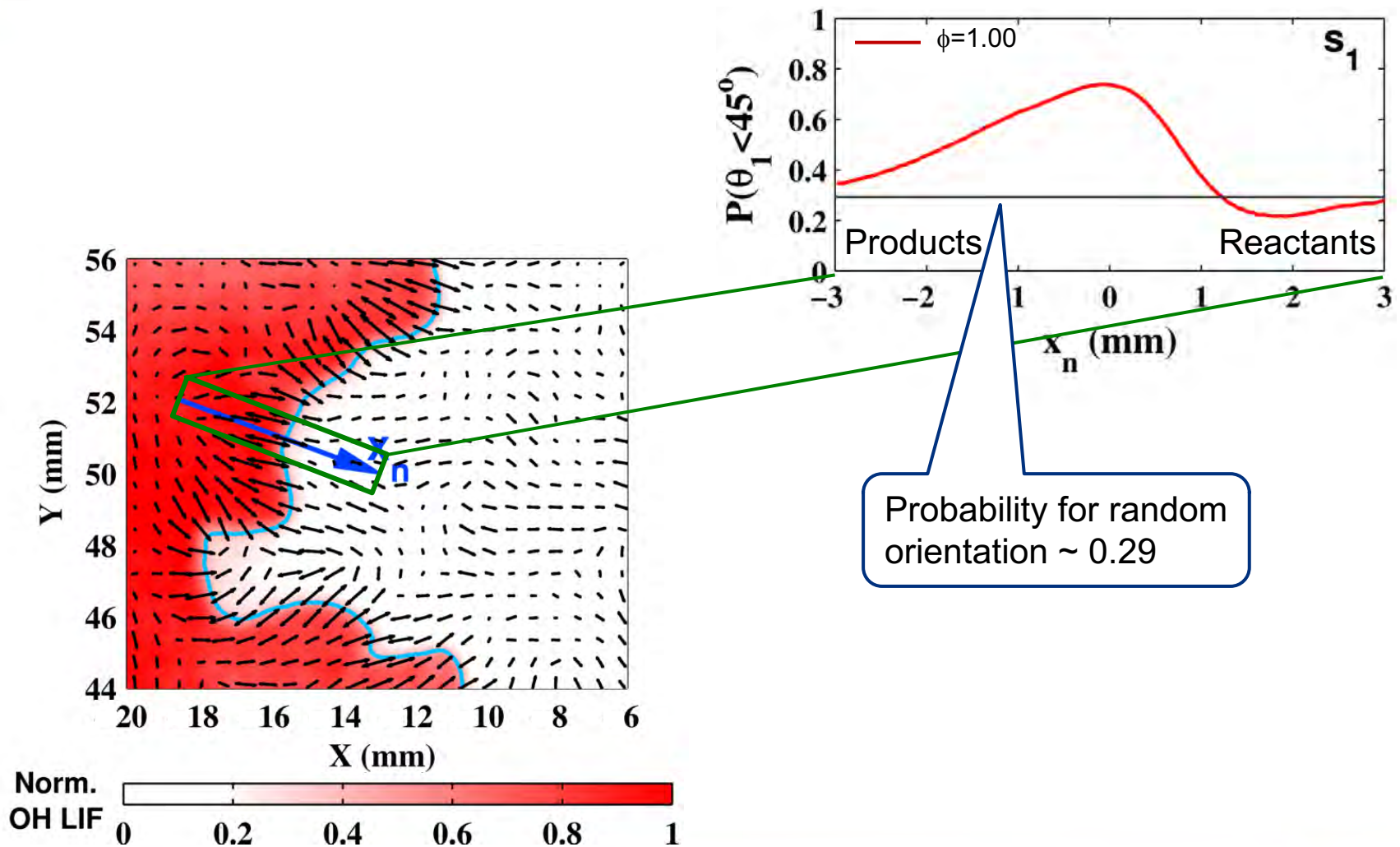
Orientation of Strain Rate Eigenvectors Relative to Flame-Front Normal Direction



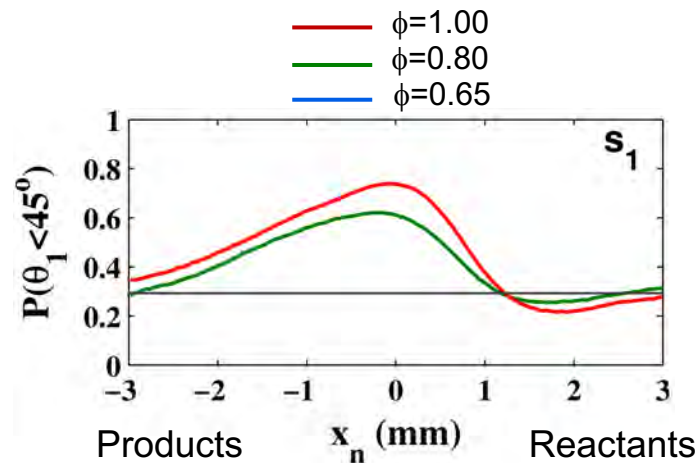
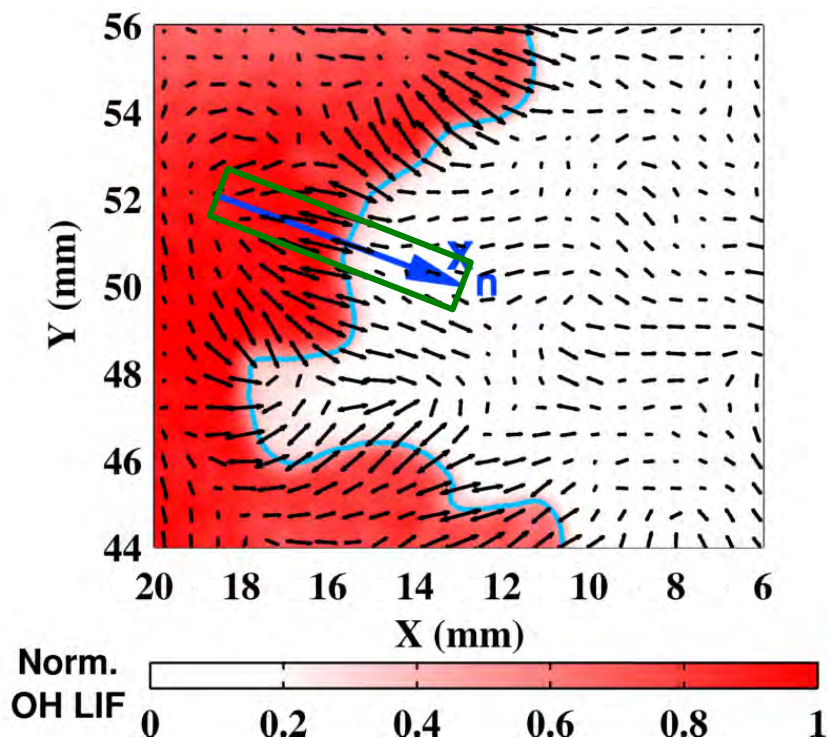
Random Orientation



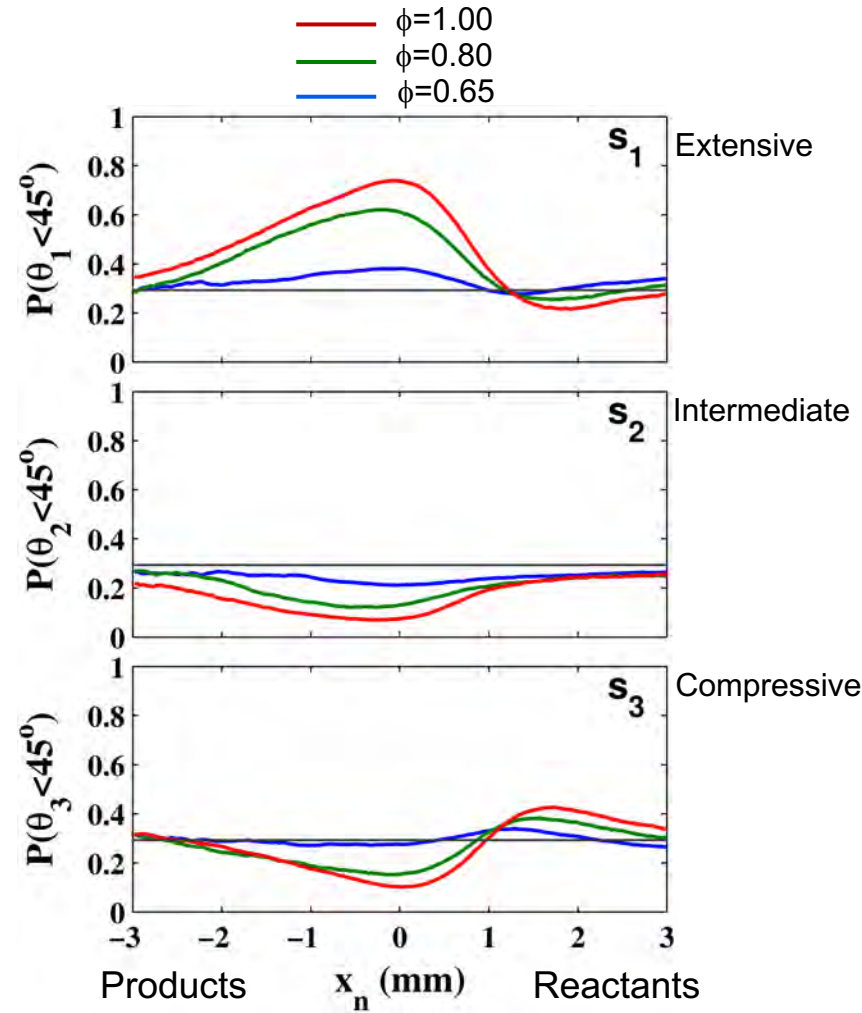
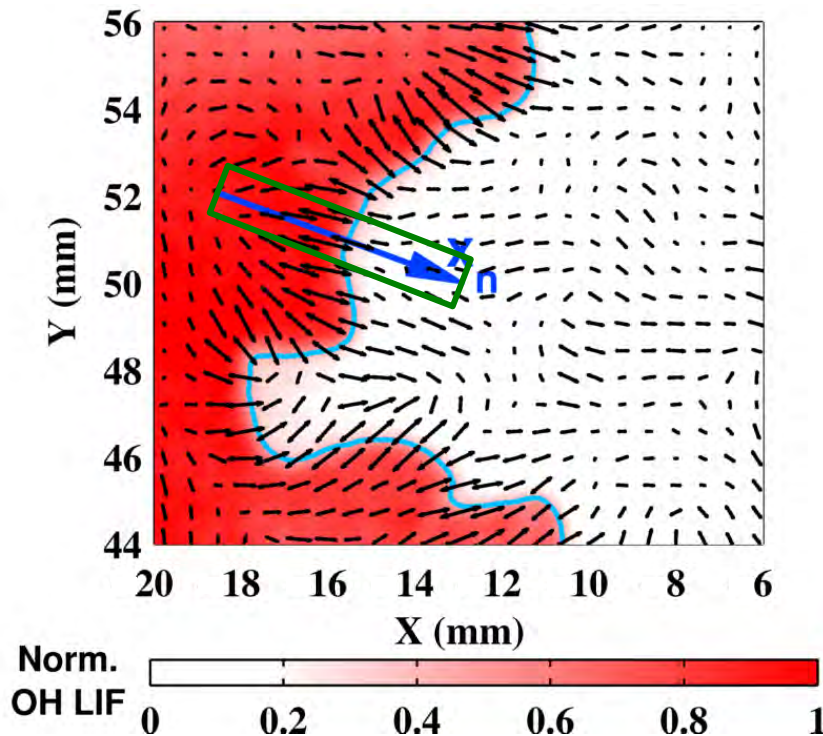
Probability of Extensive Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



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

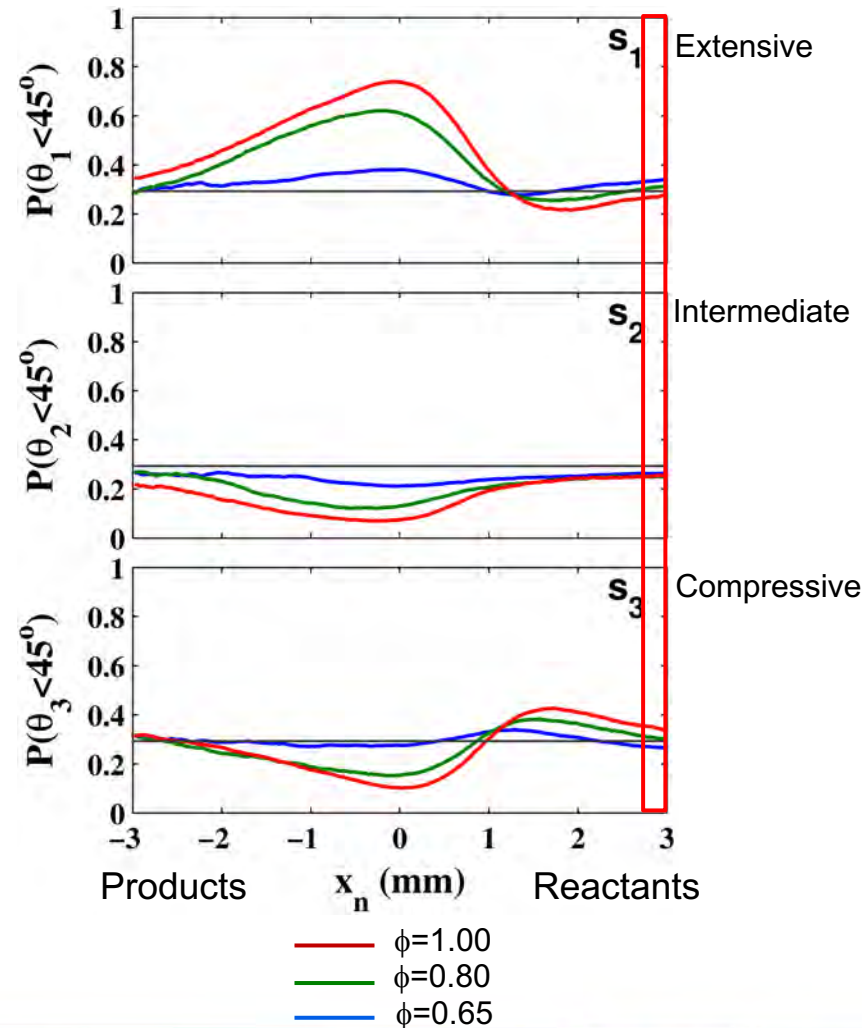
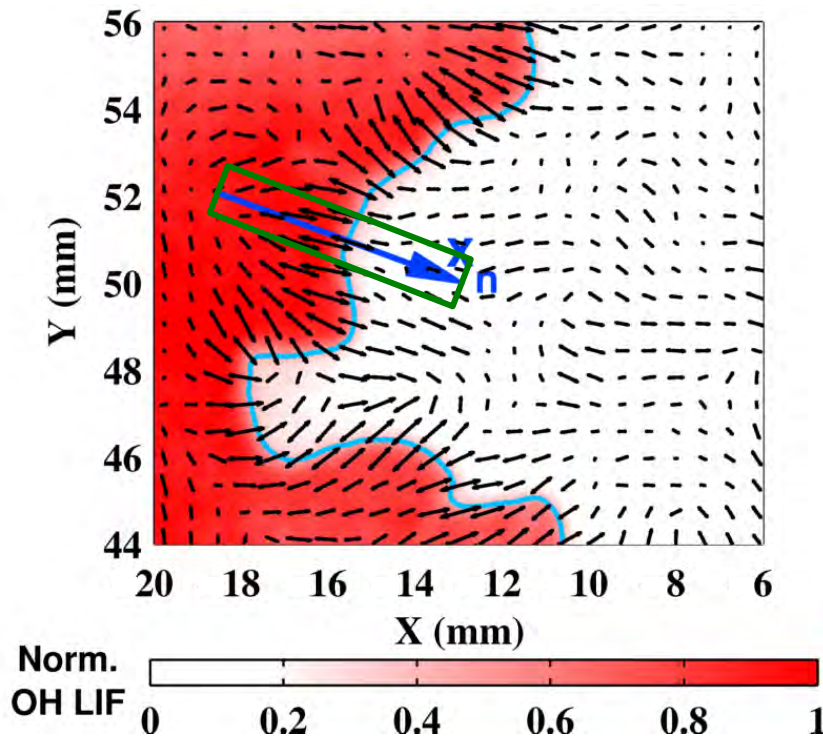


Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate



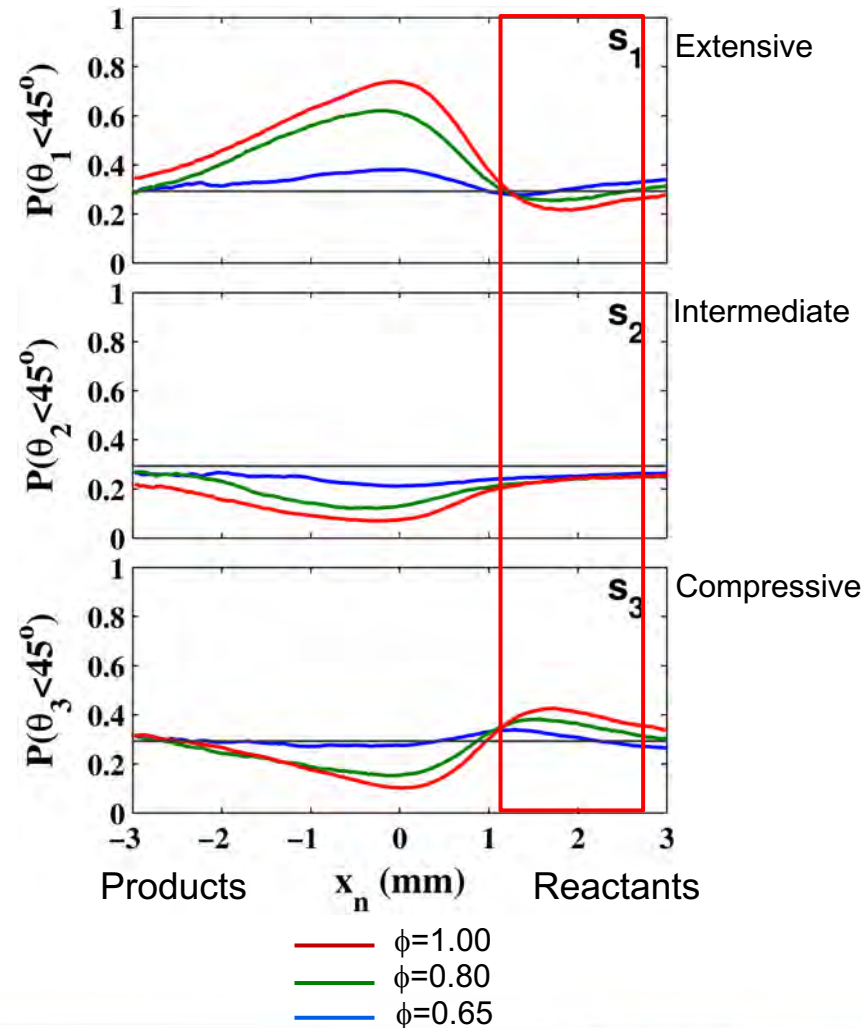
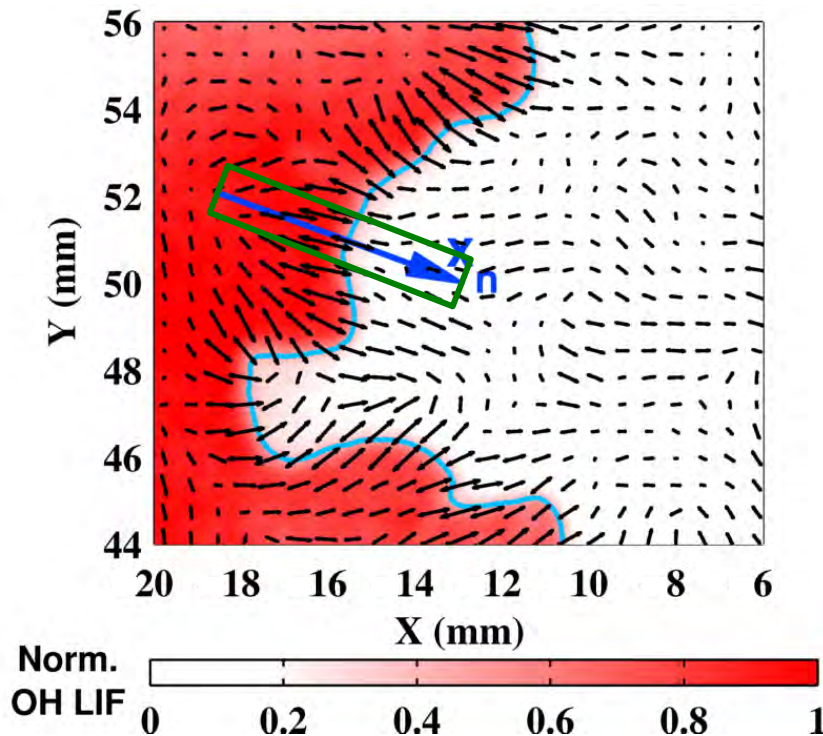
Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate

Nearly Random



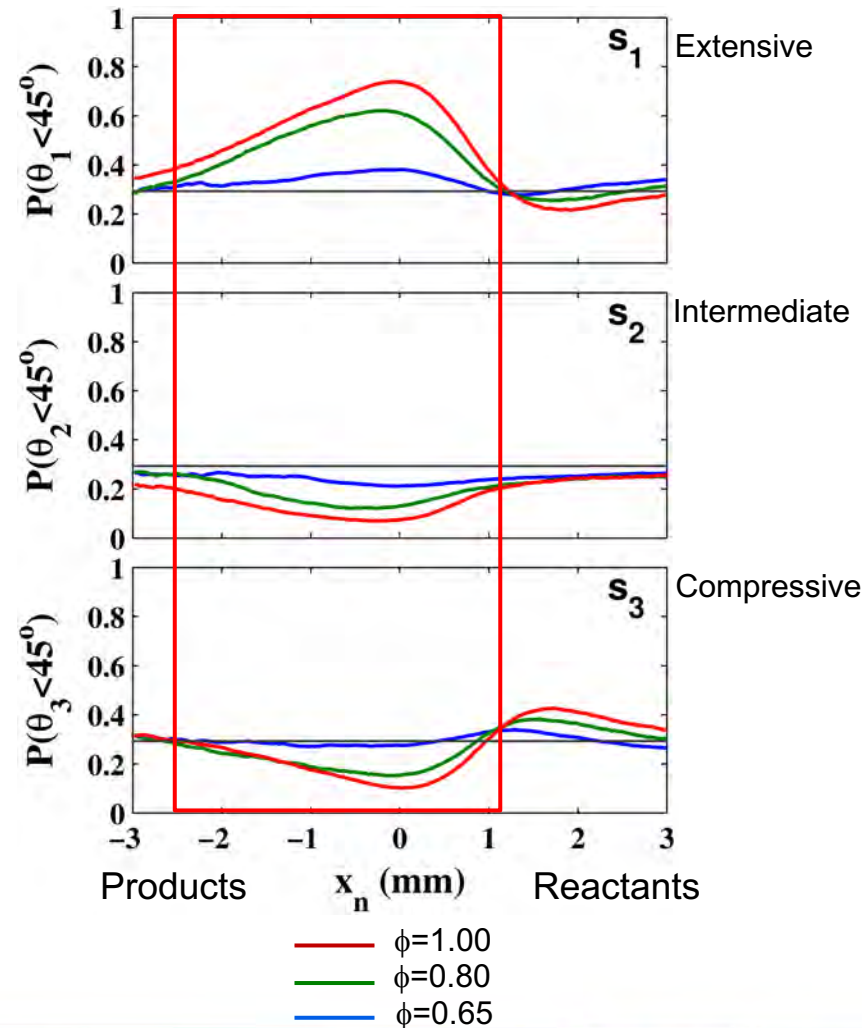
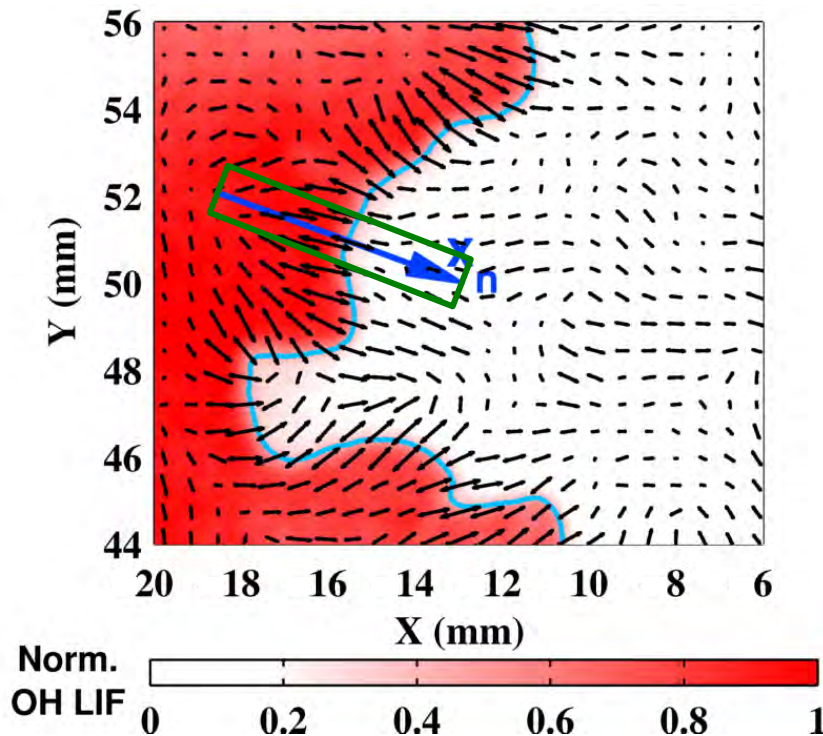
Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate

Preferentially Compressive



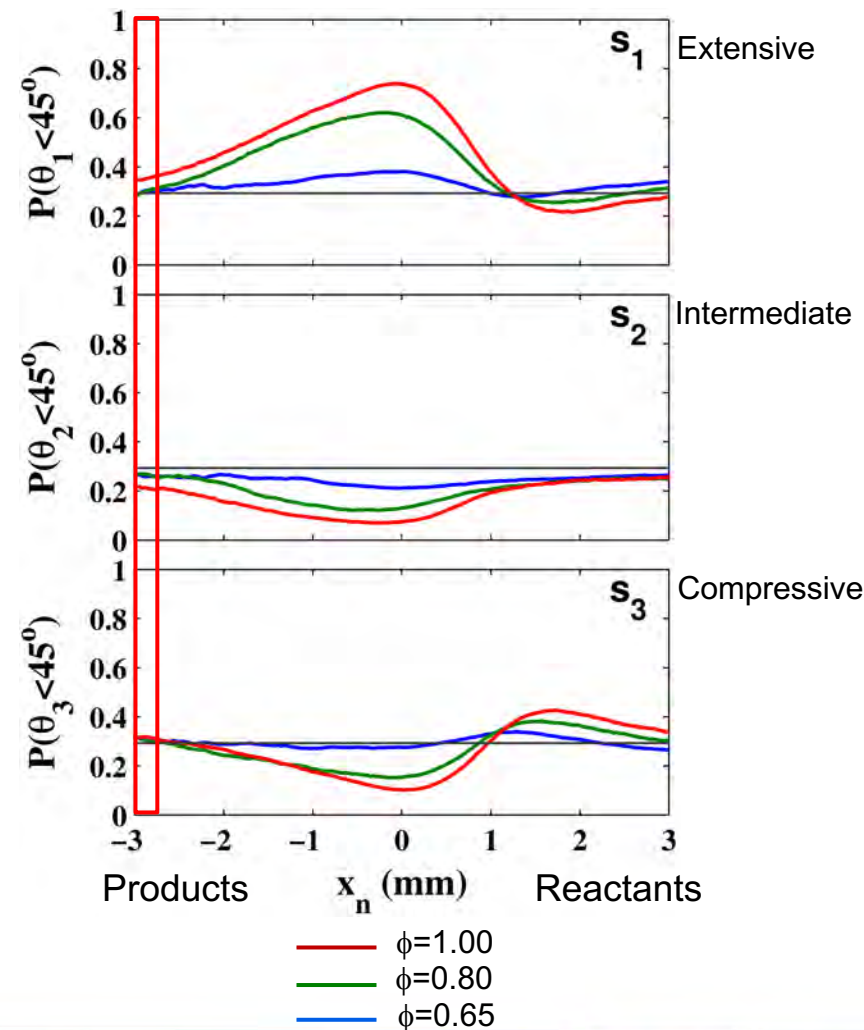
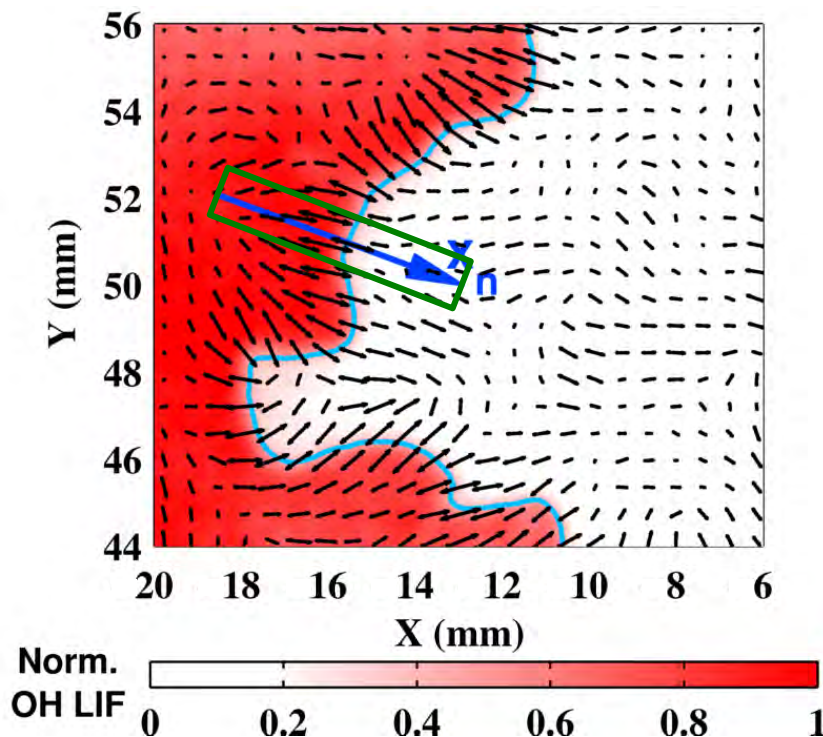
Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate

Preferentially Extensive

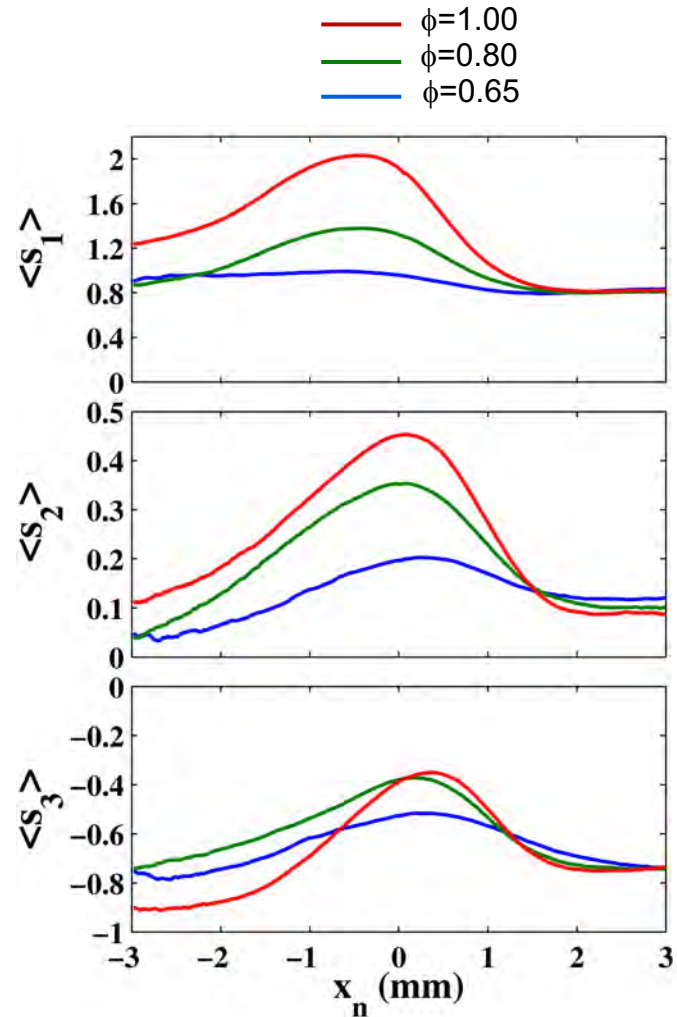
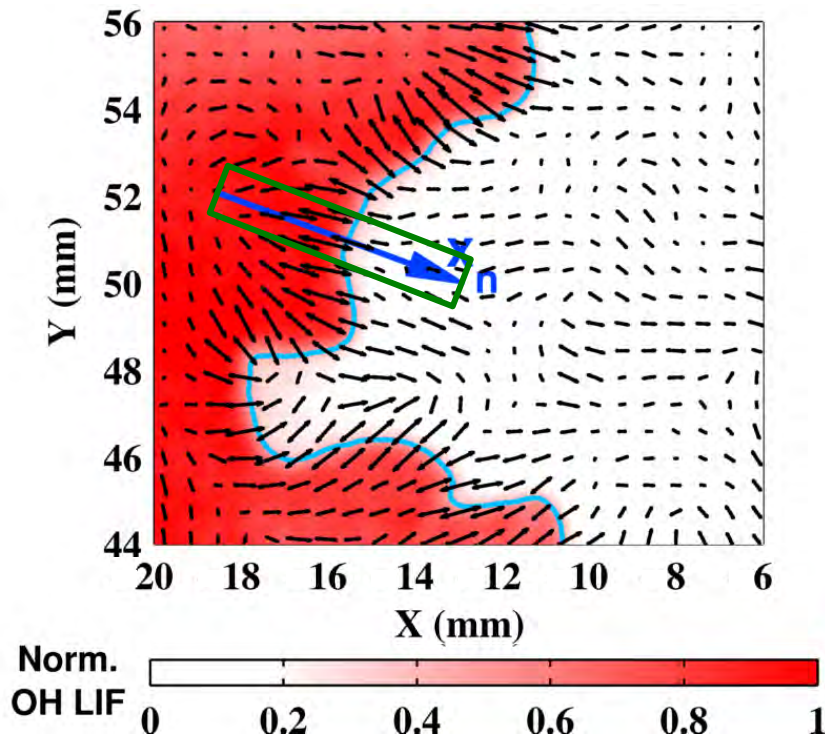


Probability of Strain Rate Orientation Conditioned on Local Flame Normal Coordinate

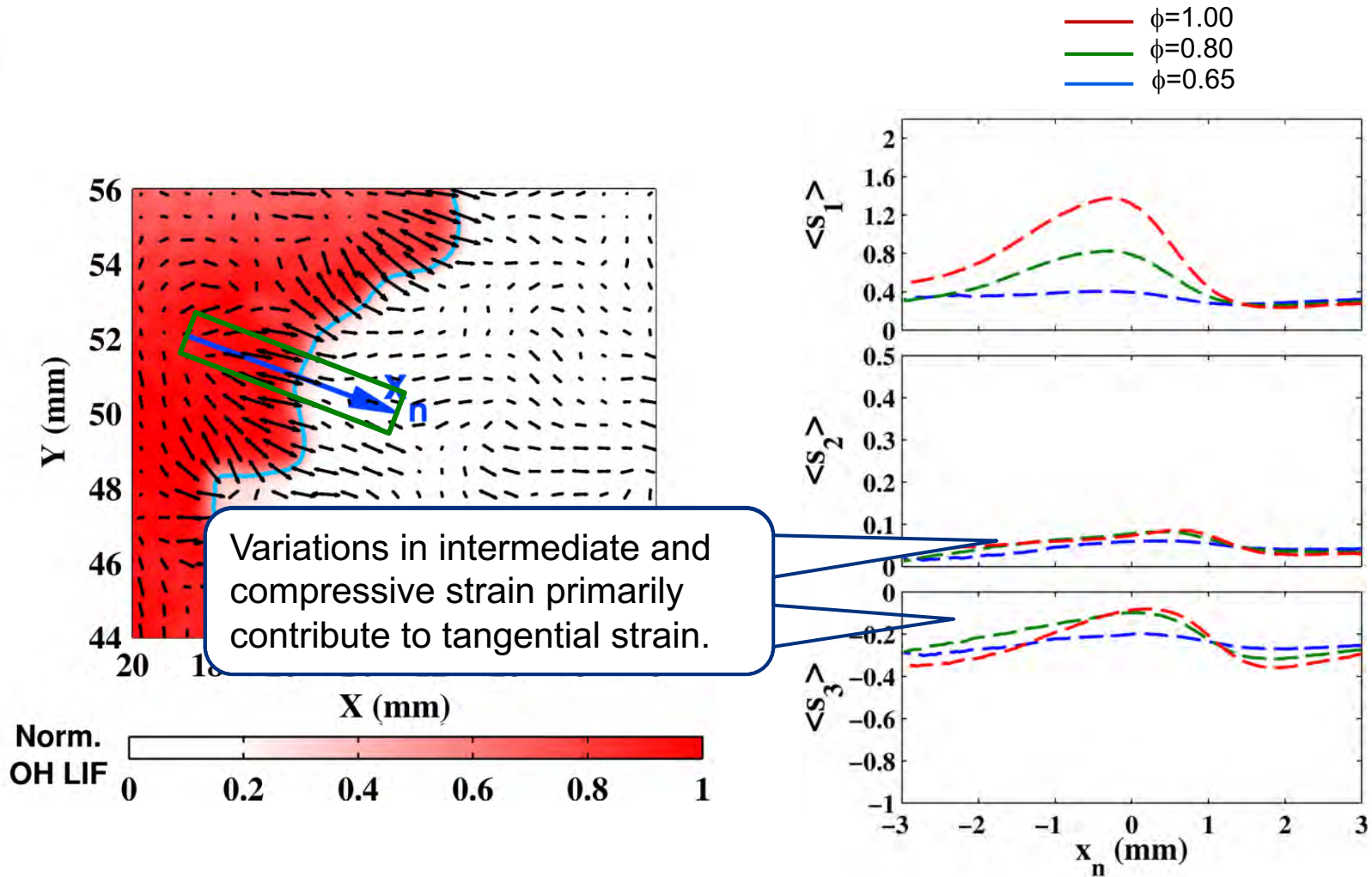
Nearly Random



Heat Release Effects on Principal Strain Rates along Flame Normal

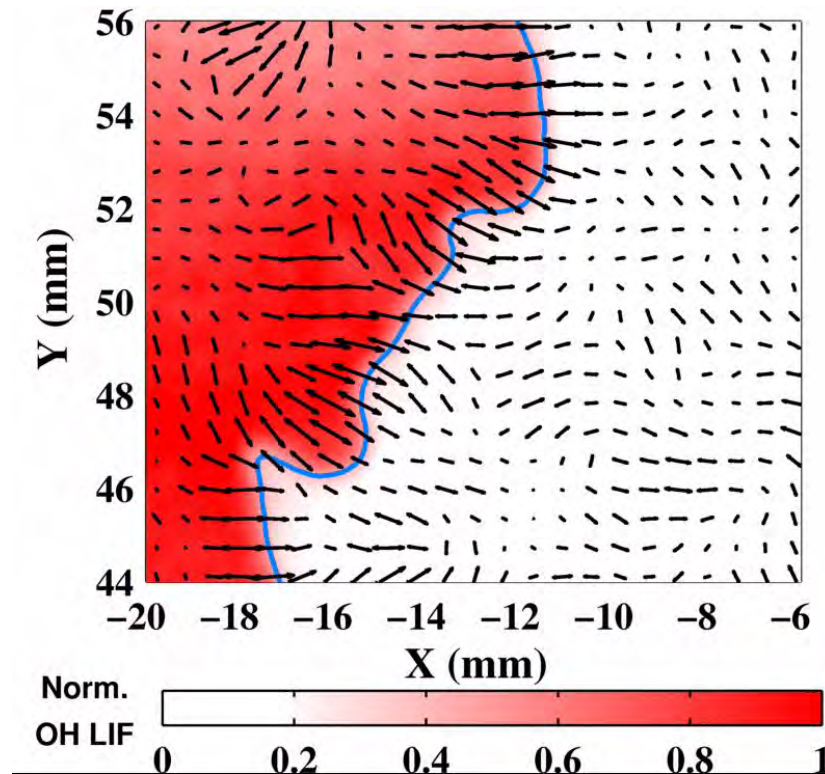


Projection of Principal Strain Rates onto Flame Normal Direction



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

OH LIF

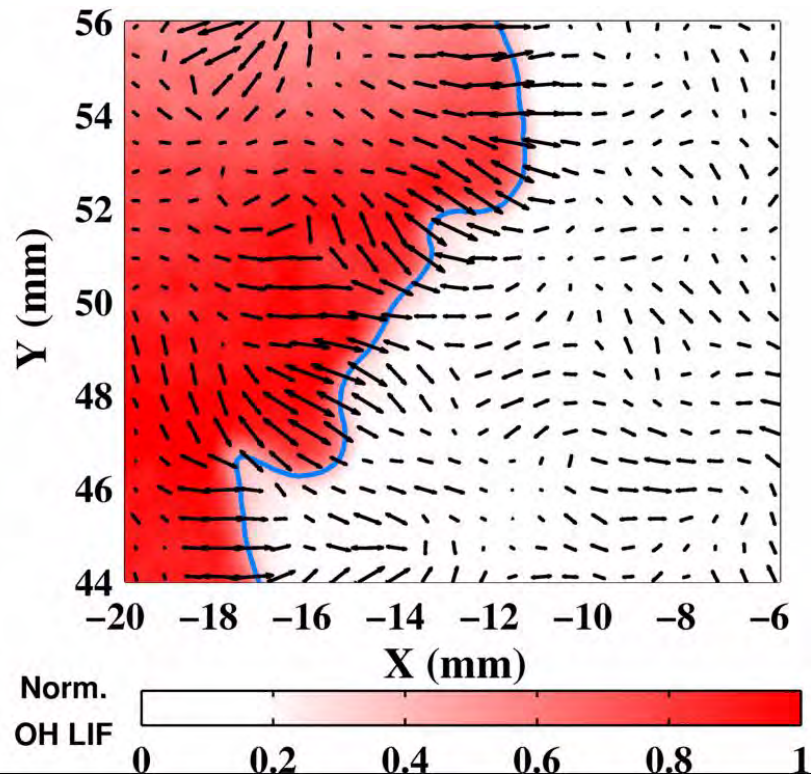


Flame contour (blue line)

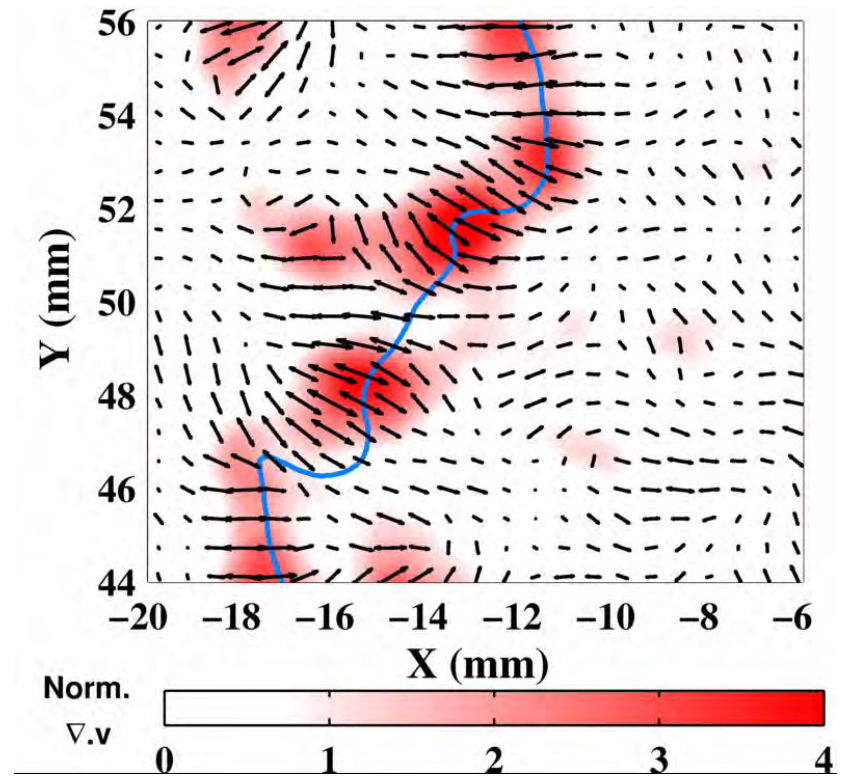
Vectors: s_1 axis

10 kHz TPIV and OH PLIF Recordings

OH LIF

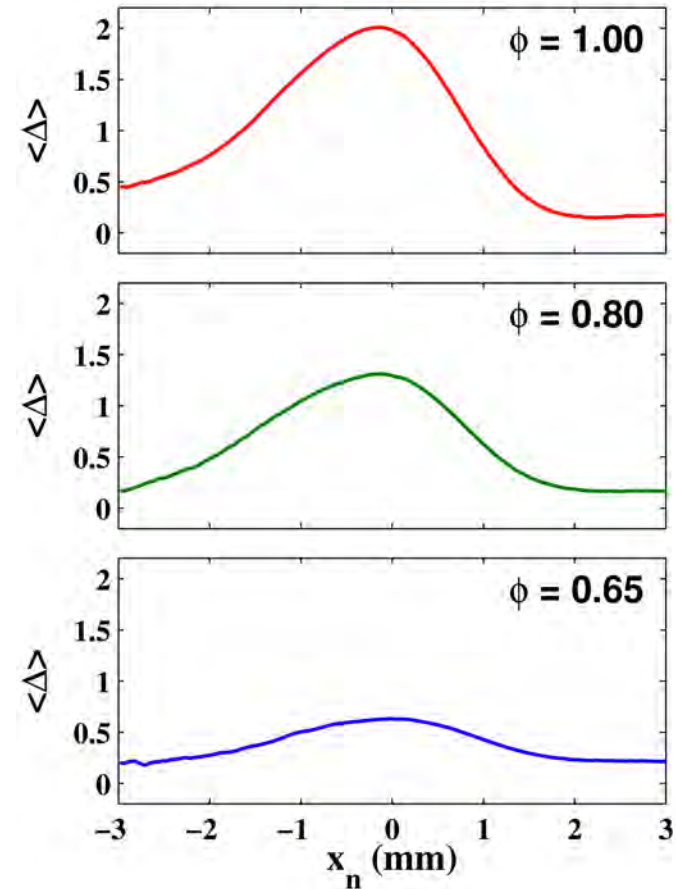
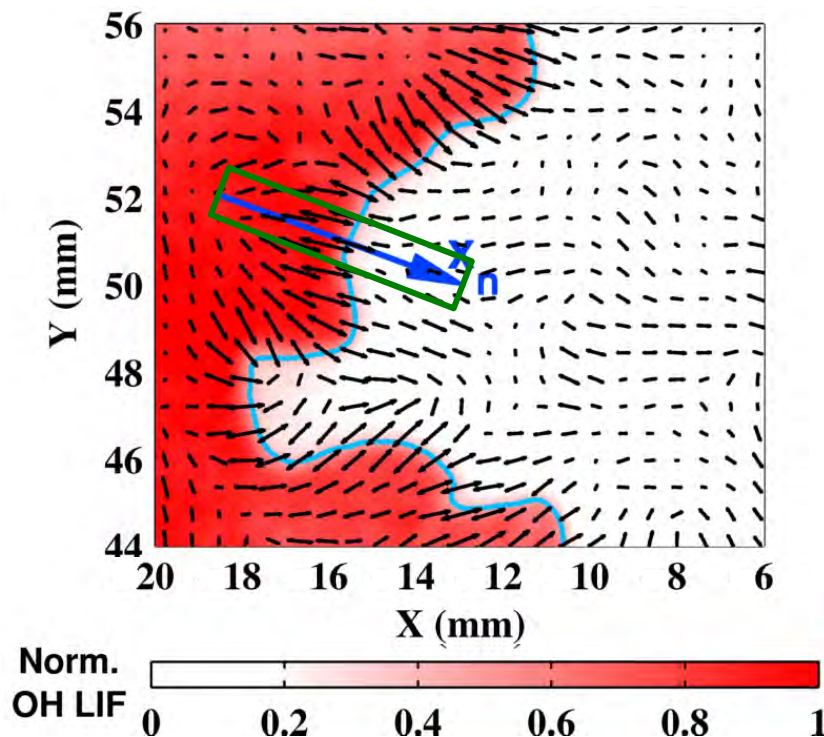


Divergence



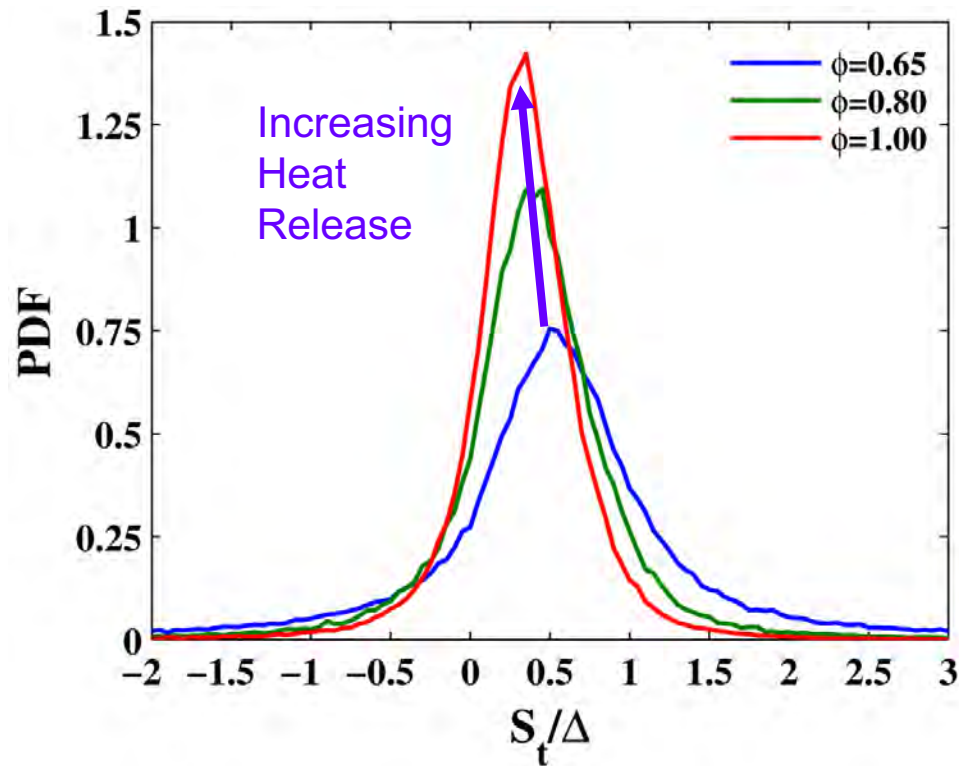
Flame contour (blue line)
 Vectors: s_1 axis

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



Δ increases more than S_t as a function of heat release.

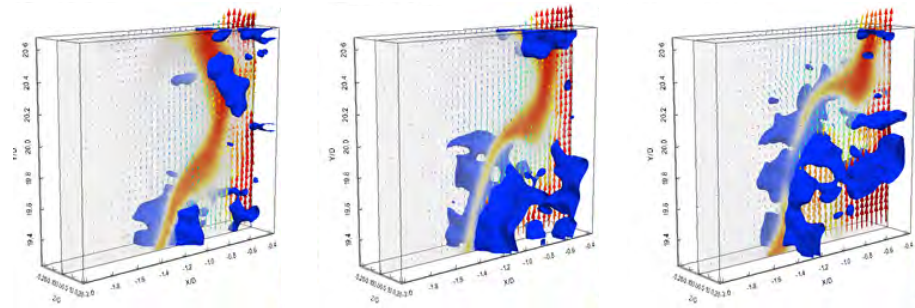


Summary

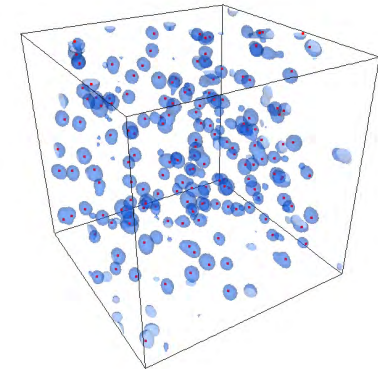
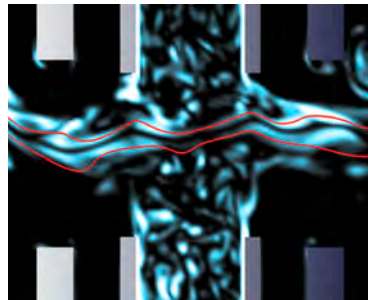
- Divergence and complete strain rate tensor measured in turbulent premixed flames and corresponding non-reacting flow using Tomo-PIV
- 3-D velocity field + OH-LIF imaging used to evaluate preferential alignment of principal strain rates relative to flame-normal direction
- Progression of local strain 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

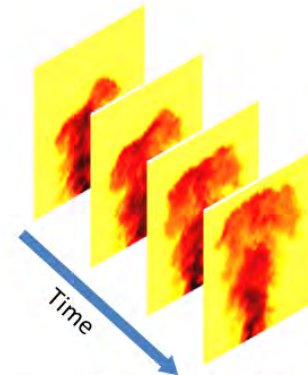
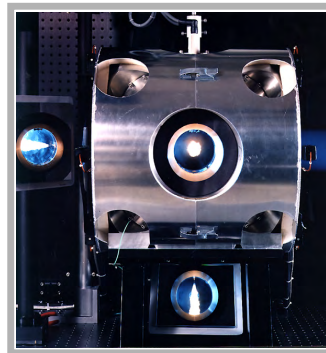
3-D Measurements of Flow Fields in Turbulent Flames



Coupling Tomo-PIV with Large Eddy Simulations

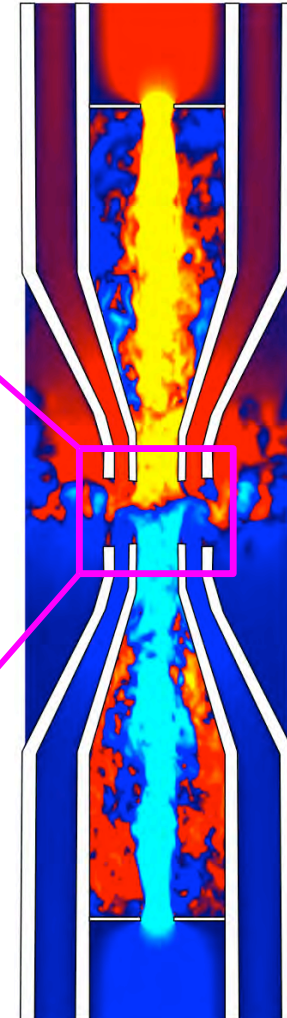
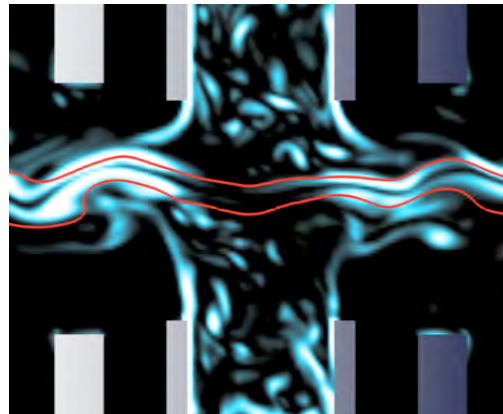
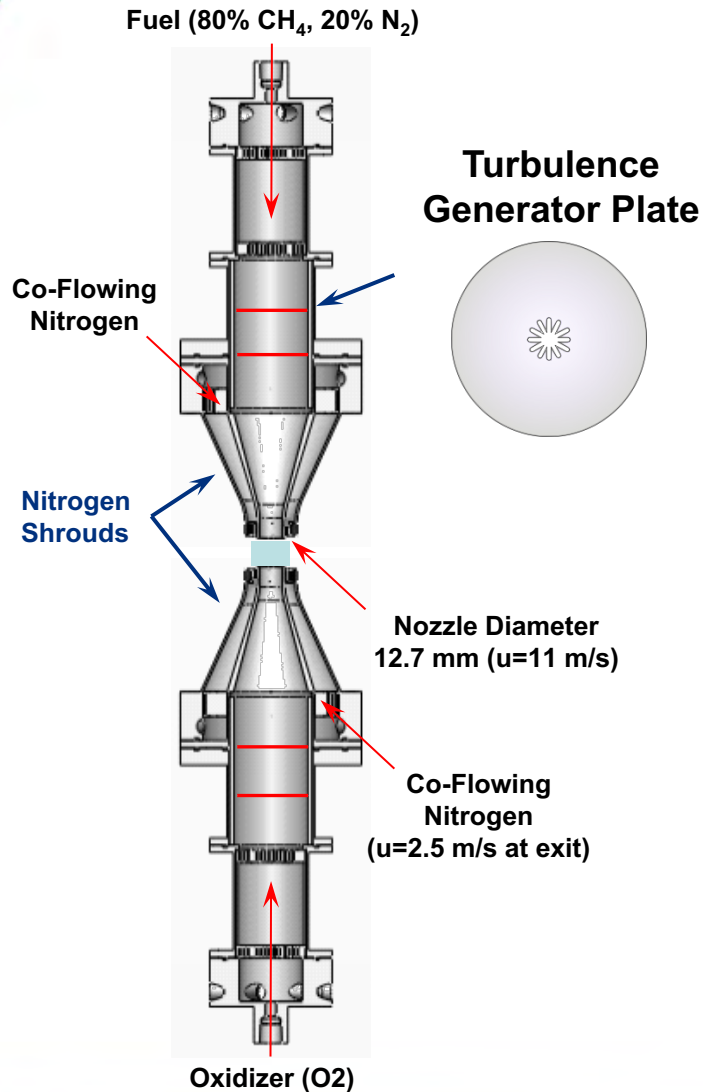


Imaging High-Pressure Fuel Injection Dynamics with Pulse-Burst Laser



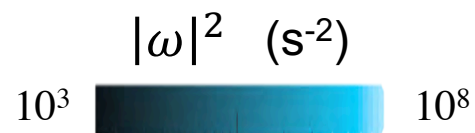
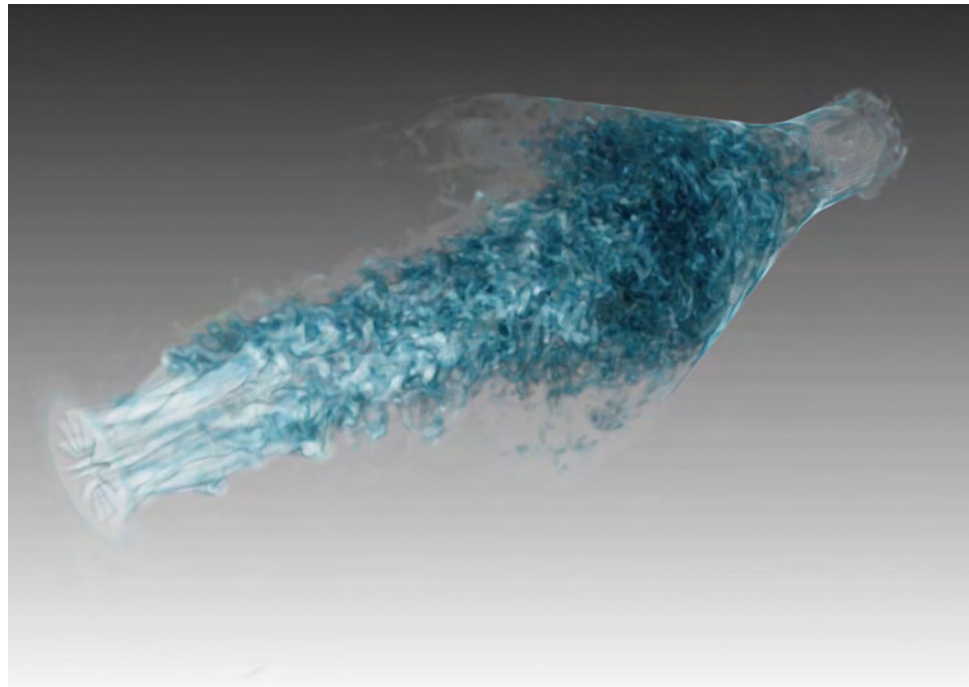
Coupling Experiments and Simulations

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



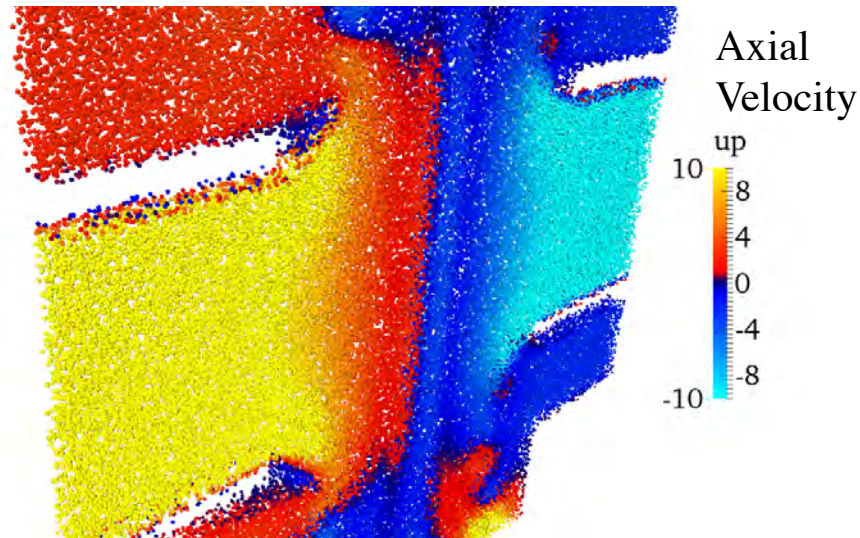


Full LES Domain Simulates Internal Flow Through Turbulence Generator Plate

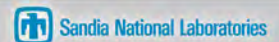


Parametric Studies of Tomo-PIV Uncertainty using Synthetic Particles in Counterflow

60 particles/mm³

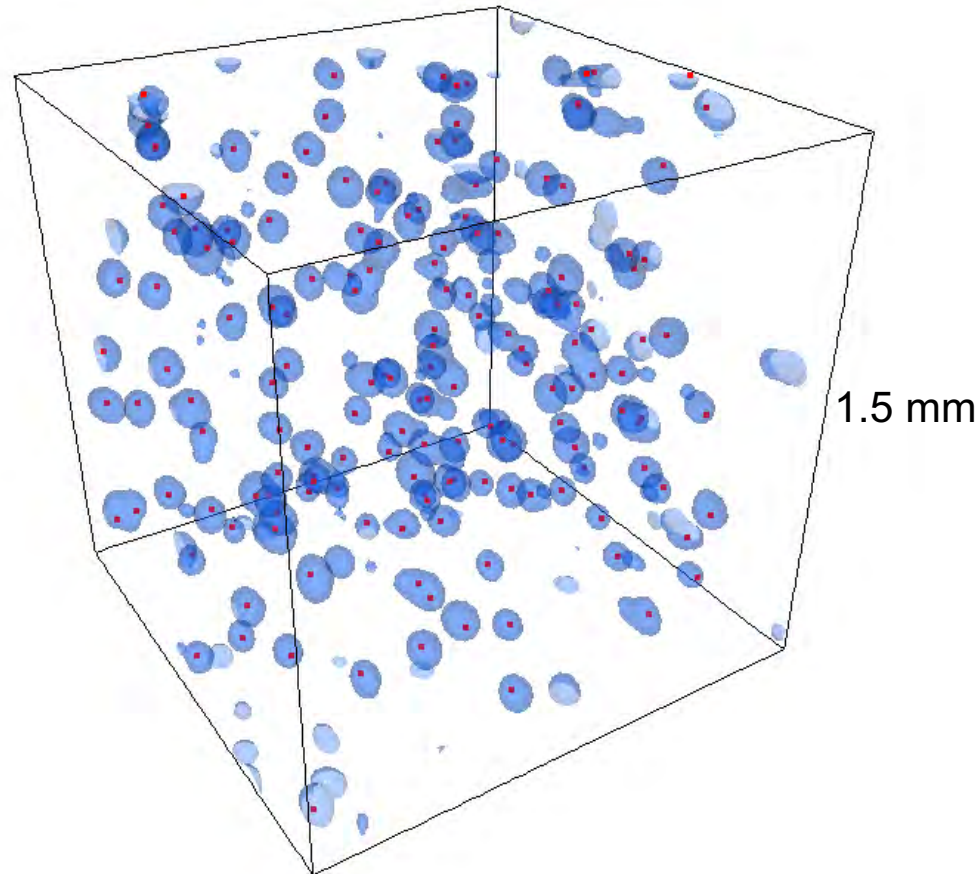


- Particles introduced after 10-20 flow-through times
- Aluminum oxide particles ($d = 0.3 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$)
- Trilinear interpolation used to calculate velocity of each particle
- LES cell size = $450 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$
- Tomo-PIV interrogation window = $413 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$.



Subset of Reconstructed Particle Field

Low
Seed
Density

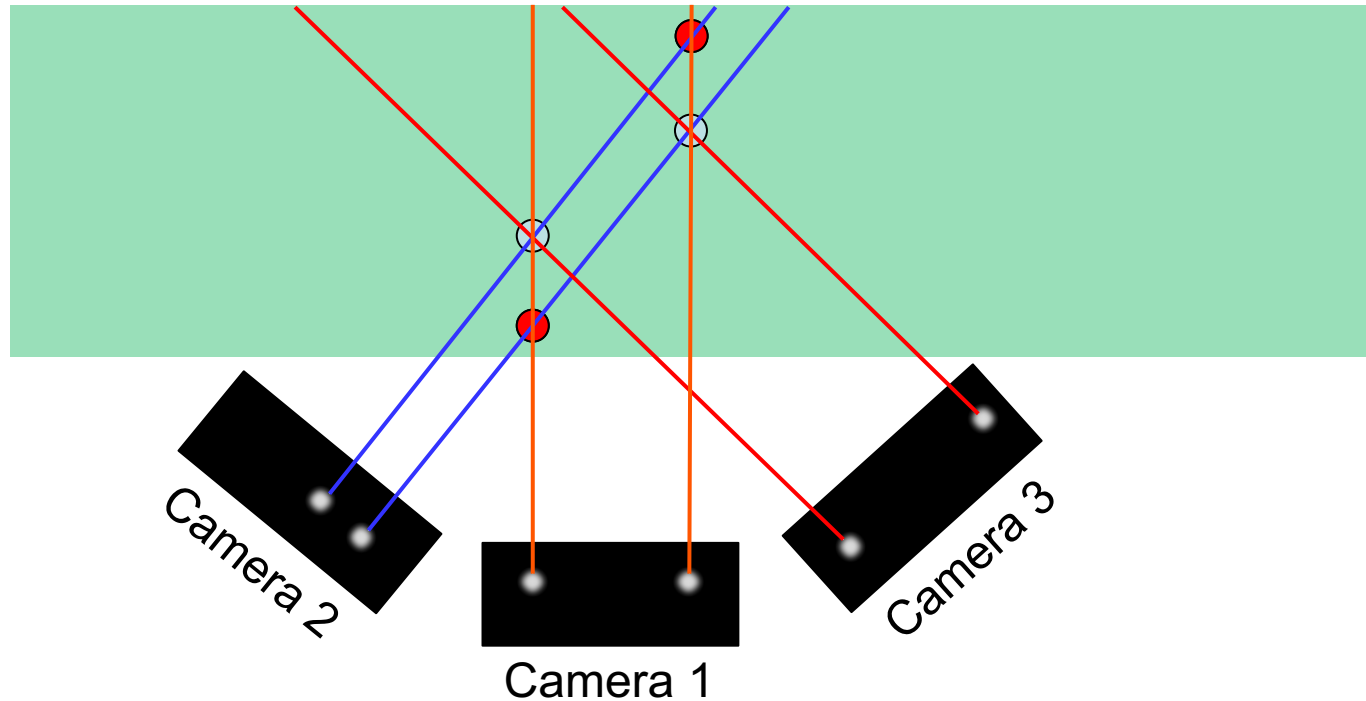


- Red dots = actual particle locations from LES
- Blue regions = tomographic reconstruction
- Ghost particles = blue regions without red dots

Source of Artifacts in Tomo-PIV

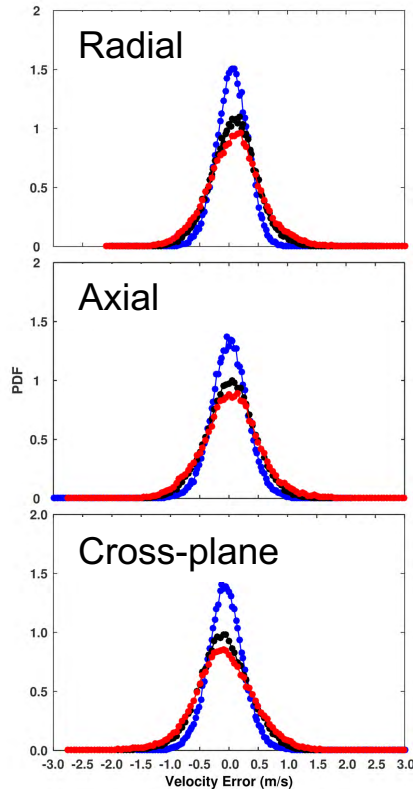
● = Artifacts ("Ghost Particles")

Laser beam
illumination
of particles



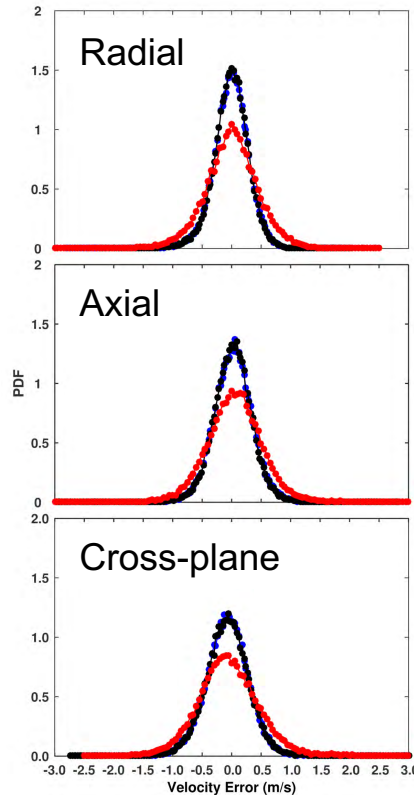
Parametric Studies of Uncertainty

Particle Number Density



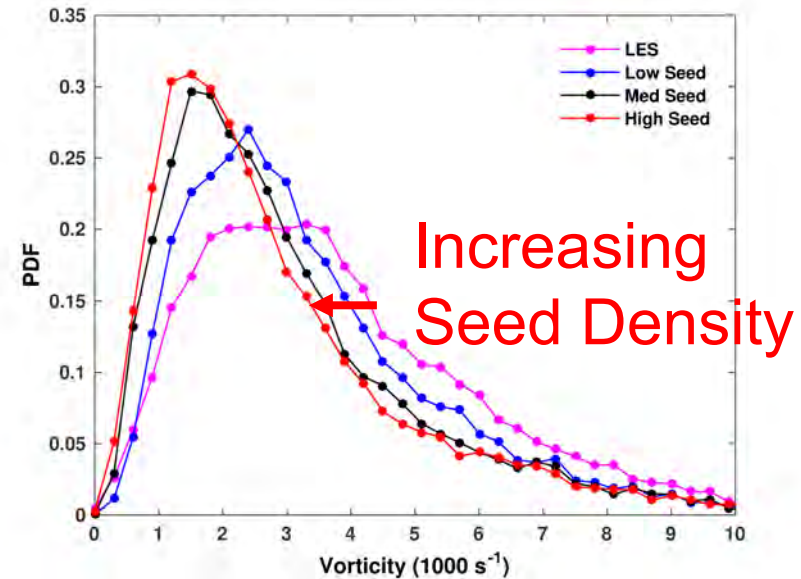
- Low
- Med
- High

Detector Noise



- Noiseless
- Camera Noise Added
- Noise x 10

Effect of Particle Number Density on Vorticity Magnitude



$$\omega = \nabla \times V$$



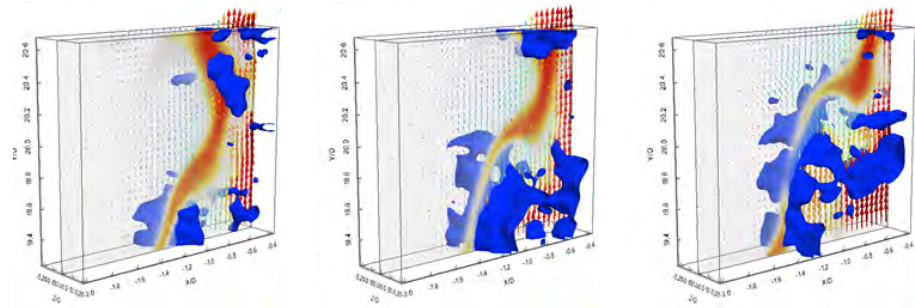
Summary

LES Evaluation of Tomographic PIV

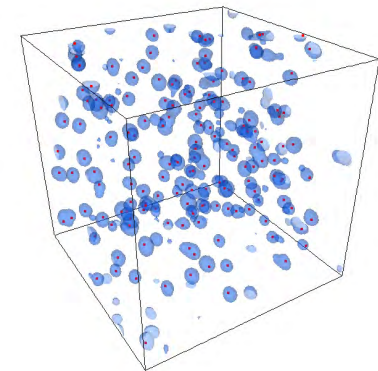
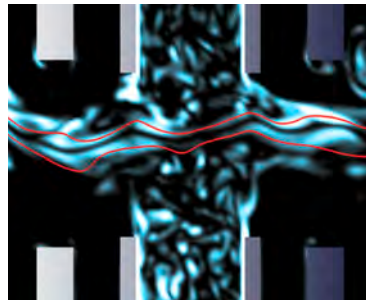
- Parametric numerical studies to assess uncertainties and improve Tomo-PIV processing in reacting flows
- Future investigations: RAPTOR code to simulate Tomo-PIV measurements using LES to near-DNS
- Uncertainty quantification analysis
- Ultimately, improve understanding of feedback between chemical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

Outline

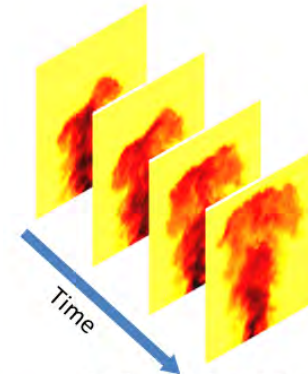
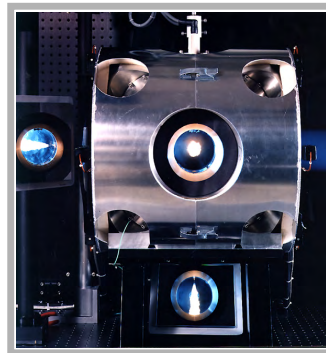
3-D Measurements of Flow Fields in Turbulent Flames



Coupling Tomo-PIV with Large Eddy Simulations

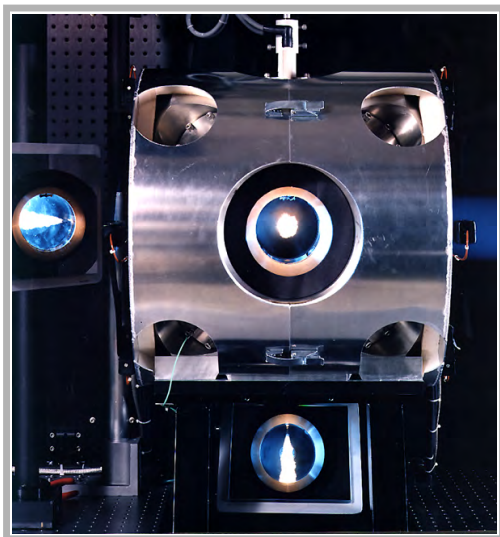


Imaging High-Pressure Fuel Injection Dynamics with Pulse-Burst Laser





Advances in Imaging Diagnostics Applied to High-Pressure Fuel Injection



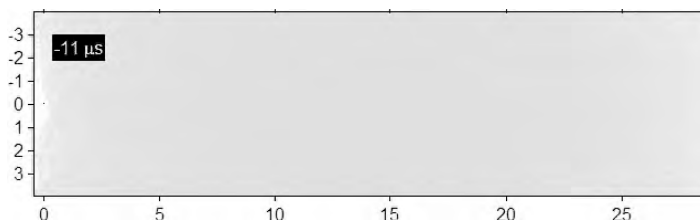
High-Pressure Fuel Injection
for IC Engines

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

Previous Imaging Capabilities

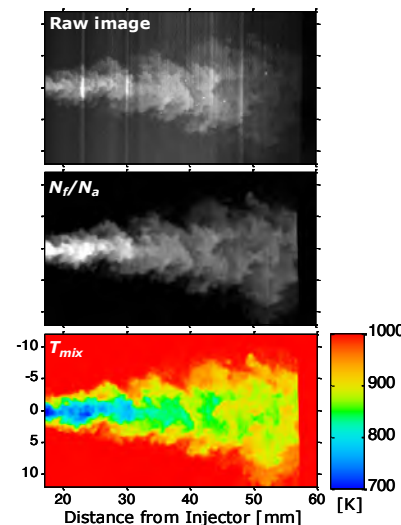
Line-of-sight Measurements

- Limited diagnostic techniques
- Difficult to interpret



Single-shot planar imaging

- Missing insight into dynamics



Diesel Ignition/Combustion Linked to Transient Mixing

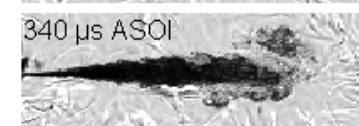
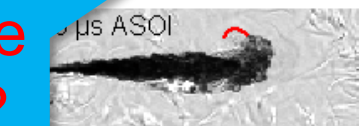
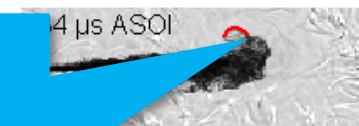
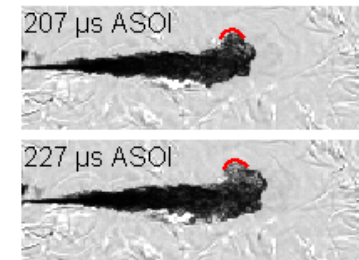
Diesel “Spray A” conditions

Ambient Gas	Fuel
900 K	373 K
60 bar	1500 bar
15% O ₂	n-dodecane
	90 μm nozzle

150 kHz schlieren imaging



Schlieren



0 10 20 30

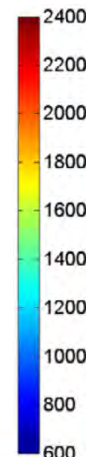
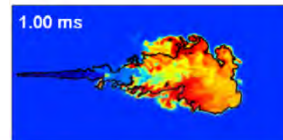
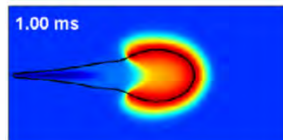
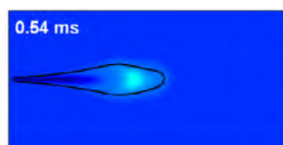
Distance from injector orifice [mm]

- Cool flame initiates in radiating zone
 - Schlieren “transparency” indicates large scale organization
 - Cool flame temperature ~ 1000 K
- 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

How does local mixture state evolve prior to autoignition?

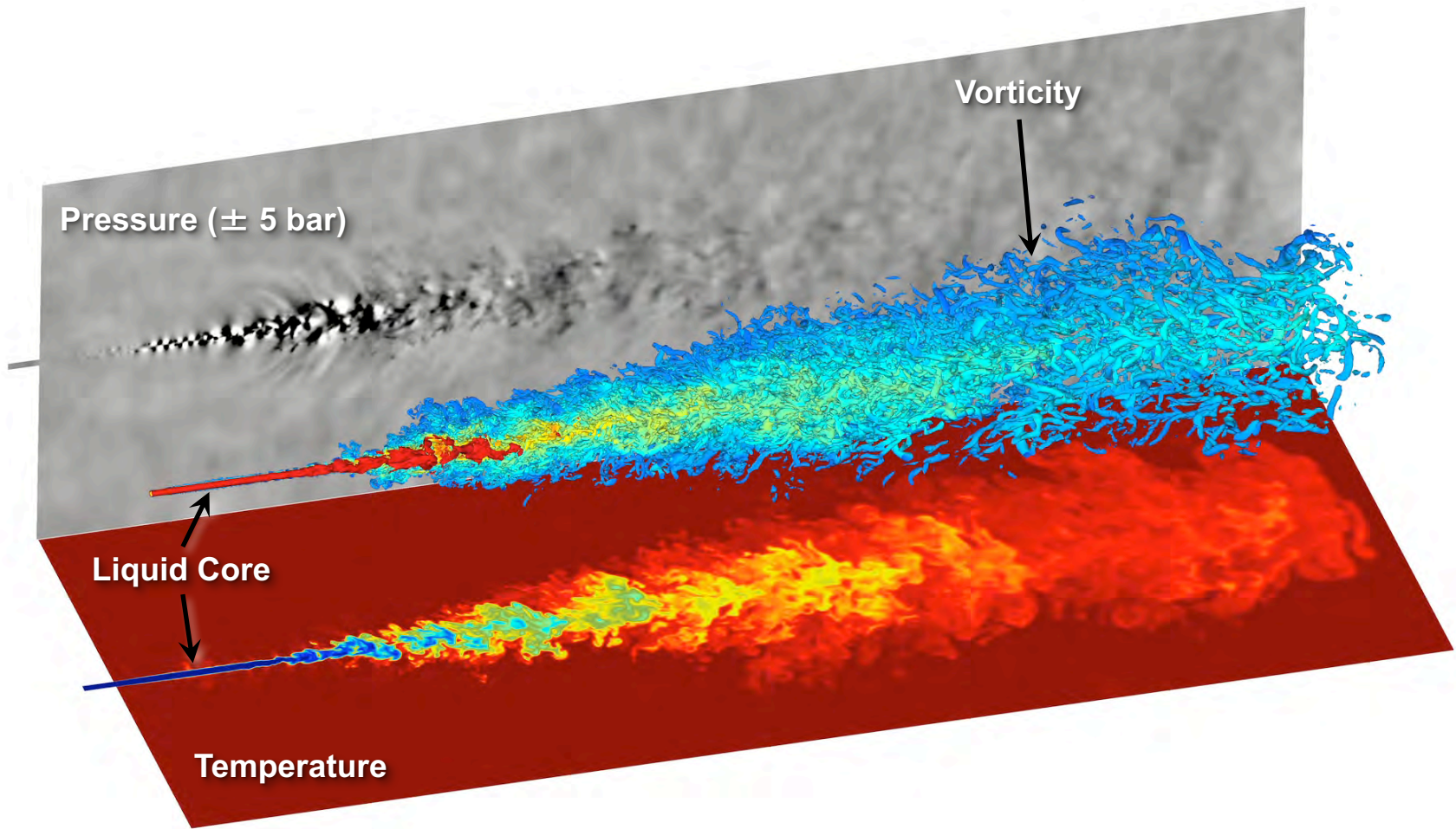
RANS

LES



Pei et al.
Combust. Flame
in press

Transient Evolution of Jet Shows Detailed Structural Flow Interactions



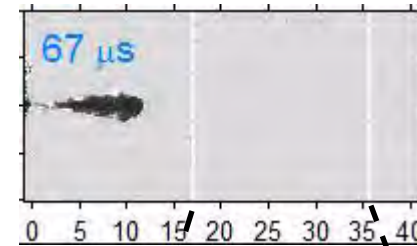
Large Eddy Simulation by Joe Oefelein, Guilhem Lacaze

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% O₂

150 kHz schlieren imaging



Ambient Gas
900 K
60 bar
15% O₂

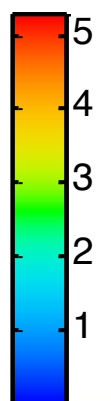
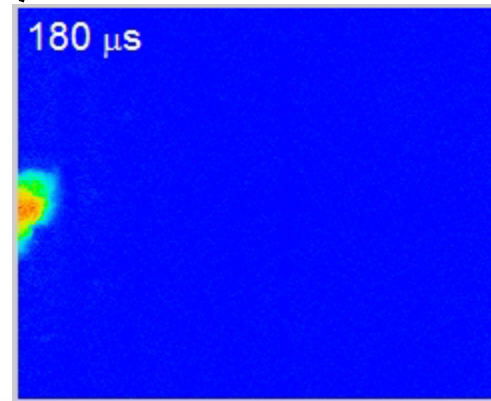
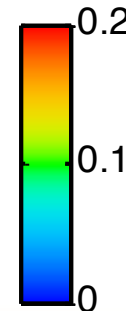
Axial distance [mm]

Region of interest for ignition and lift-off stabilization

Fuel mixture fraction

Planar Rayleigh

Equiv. Ratio (15% O₂)



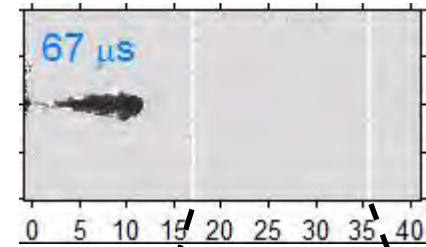
Transient Temperature History

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% O₂

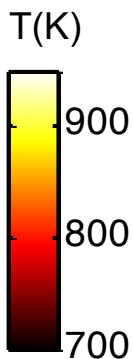
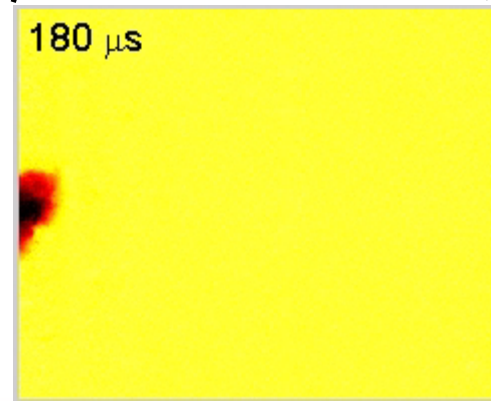
150 kHz schlieren imaging



Ambient Gas
900 K
60 bar
15% O₂

Axial distance [mm]

Region of
interest for
ignition and lift-
off stabilization



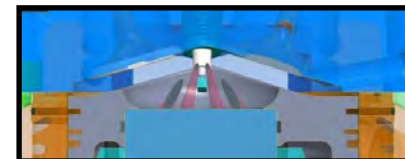
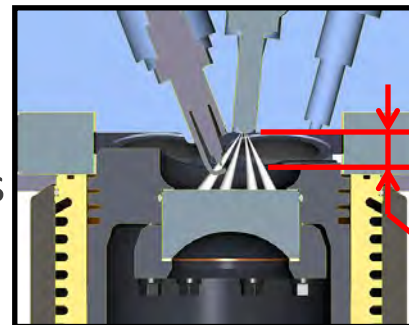
Fuel spray mixing is important to efficiency

- Barriers for high-efficiency gasoline engines

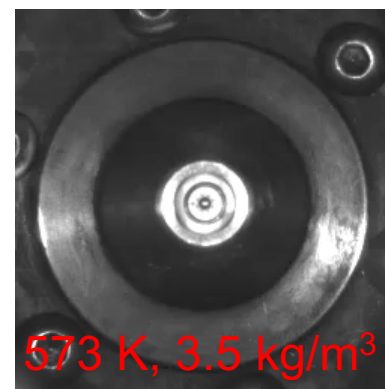
- Particulate emissions
- Engine knock or preignition
- Slow burn rate or partial burn
- Heat release control when using compression ignition
- Lack of predictive CFD tools

- Influence of direct-injection spray

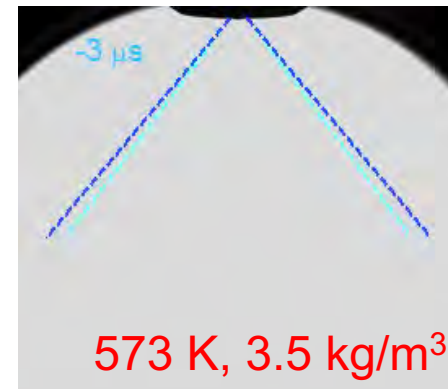
- Temperature non-uniformities
- Mixture / flow preparation near spark



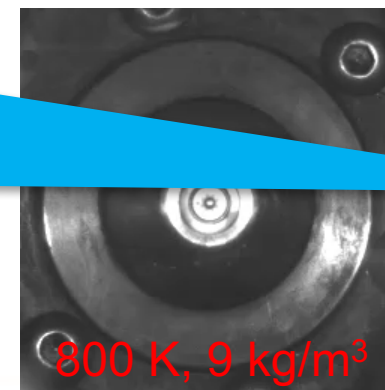
8-hole, gasoline
80° total angle
~15mm



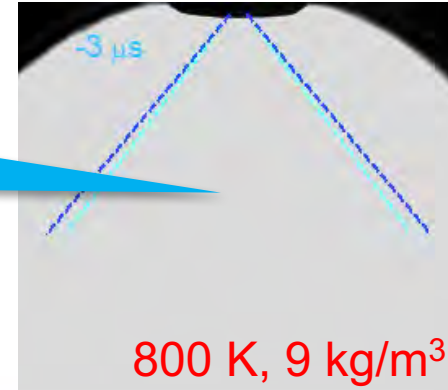
573 K, 3.5 kg/m³



573 K, 3.5 kg/m³



800 K, 9 kg/m³

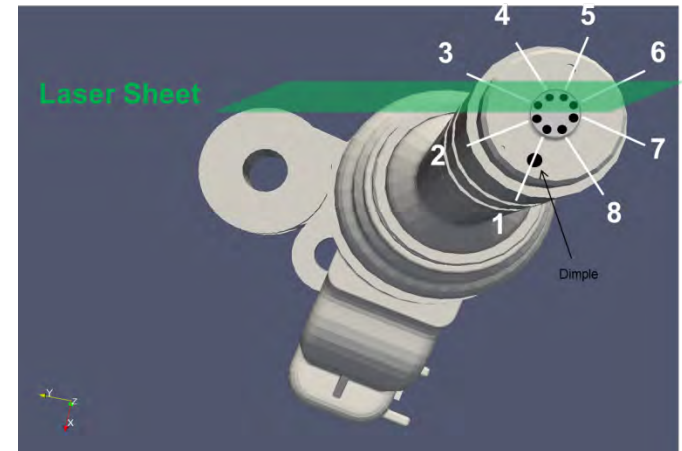
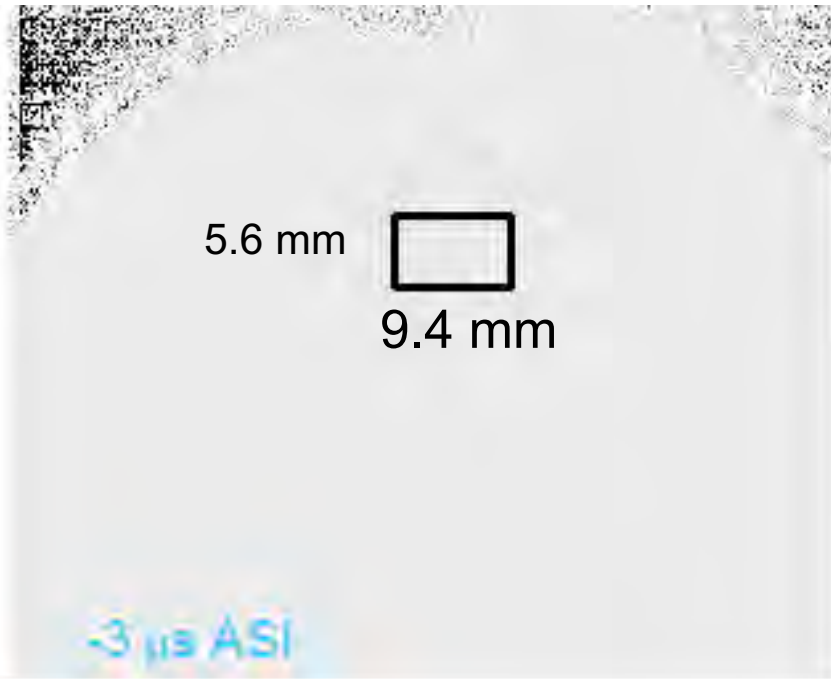


800 K, 9 kg/m³

Plume collapse limits mixing of fuel with air.

Velocity measurements using PIV

Measurement plane between plumes to probe critical region



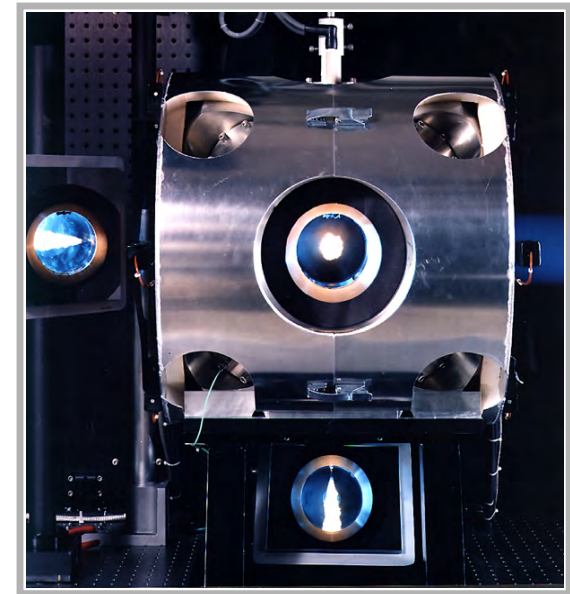
Ambient Gas	Fuel
573 K	363 K
6 bar	200 bar
3.5 kg/m ³	iso-octane
0% O ₂	170 μm nozzle

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

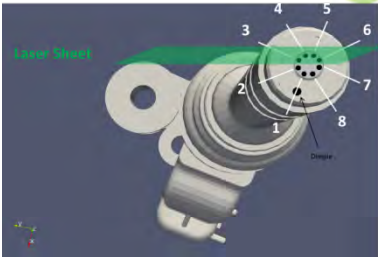
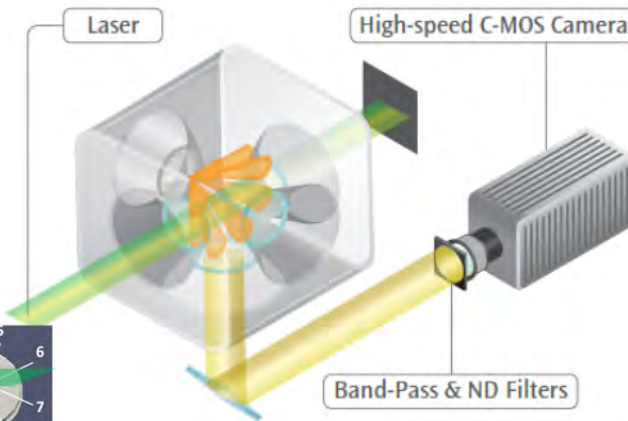


100 kHz PIV Measurements of Flow in Center of Injection Cone

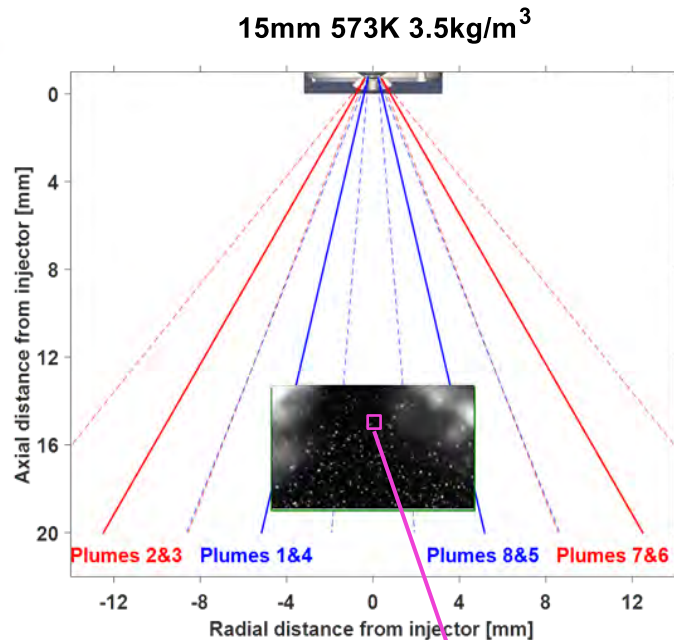
- Custom pulse-burst laser system
 - 100 kHz pulse pairs
 - 500 pulse pairs (5 ms burst)
 - 15 mJ/pulse at 532 nm
- Applied PIV
 - 1 μm zirconia seed in gas phase
 - 200 kHz imaging
 - Liquid-phase avoided by probing between plumes and moving downstream



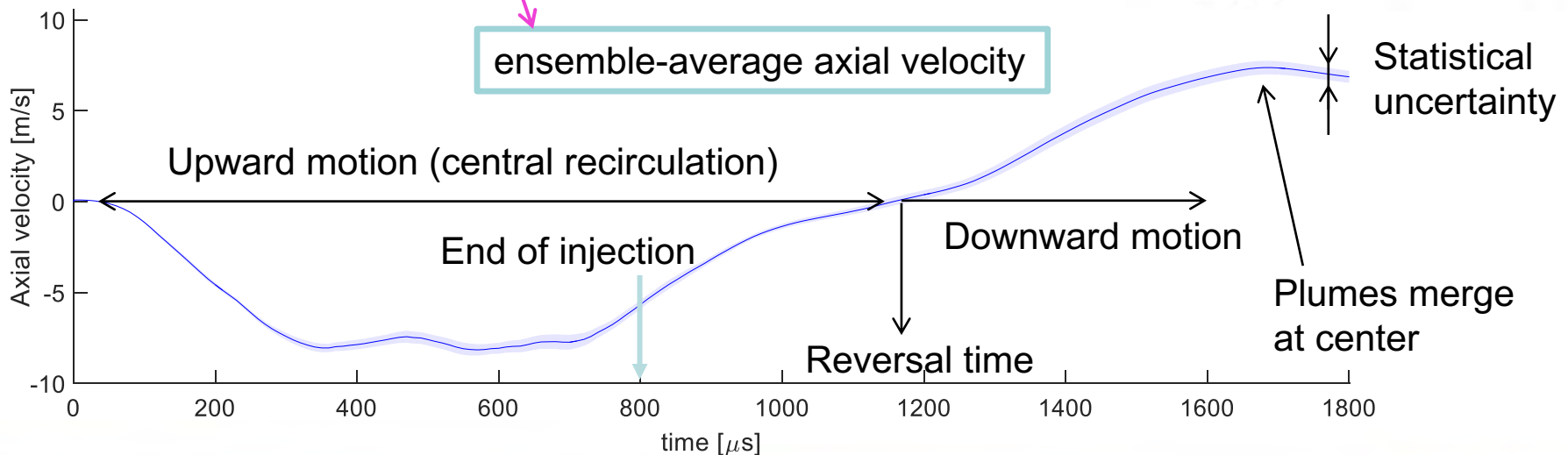
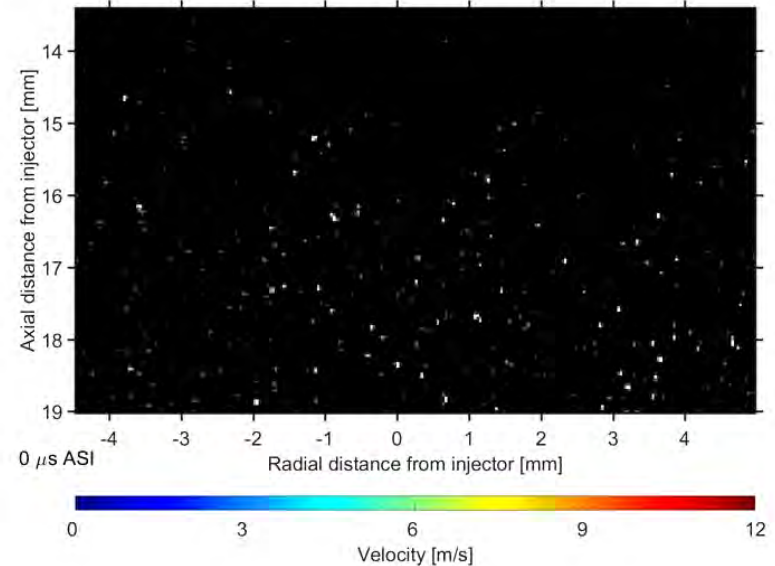
High-Pressure Chamber



Time evolution of velocity between plumes



processed velocity using
sliding sum of correlations





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*