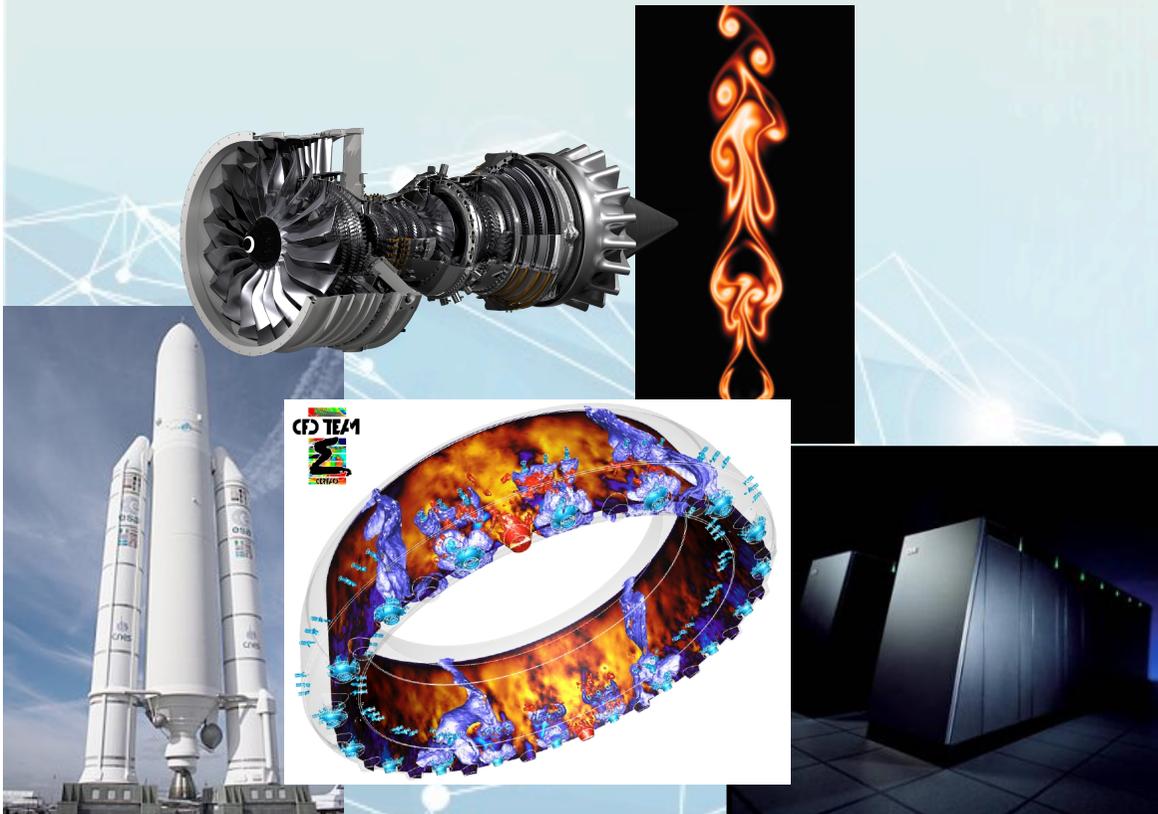


## Simulation of Turbulent Combustion : Models and Applications

*B.Cuenot & the CFD Team*



# Combustion is (almost) everywhere ...

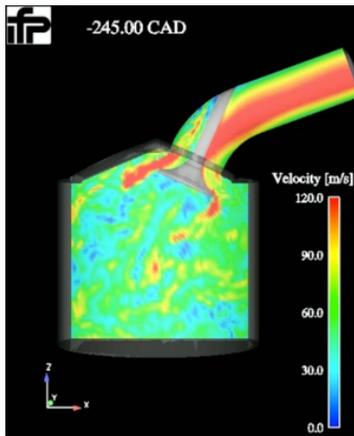
- Aeronautical engines (planes / helicopters)



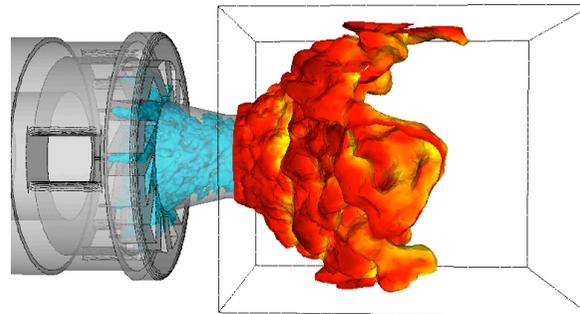
- Spatial launchers (solid and liquid propulsion)



- Piston engines



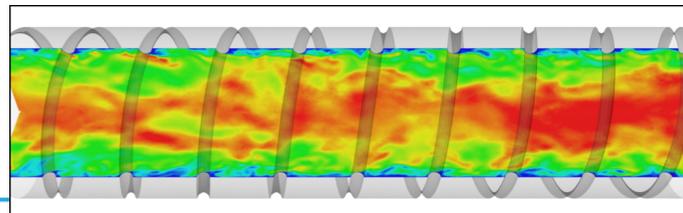
- Gas turbines



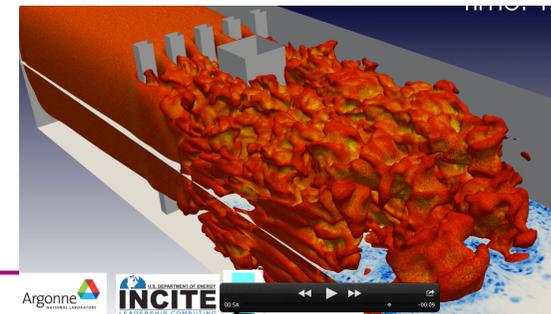
- Fires



- Petrochemistry



- Transition to detonation



# Why study Turbulent Combustion?

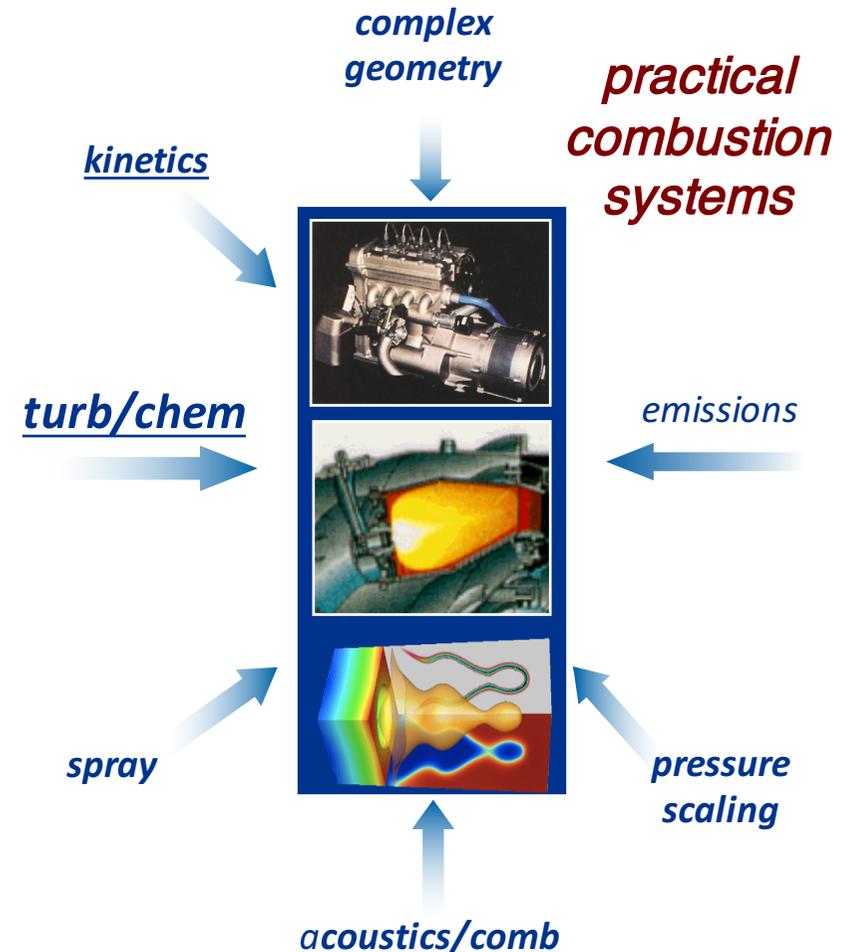
## Performances

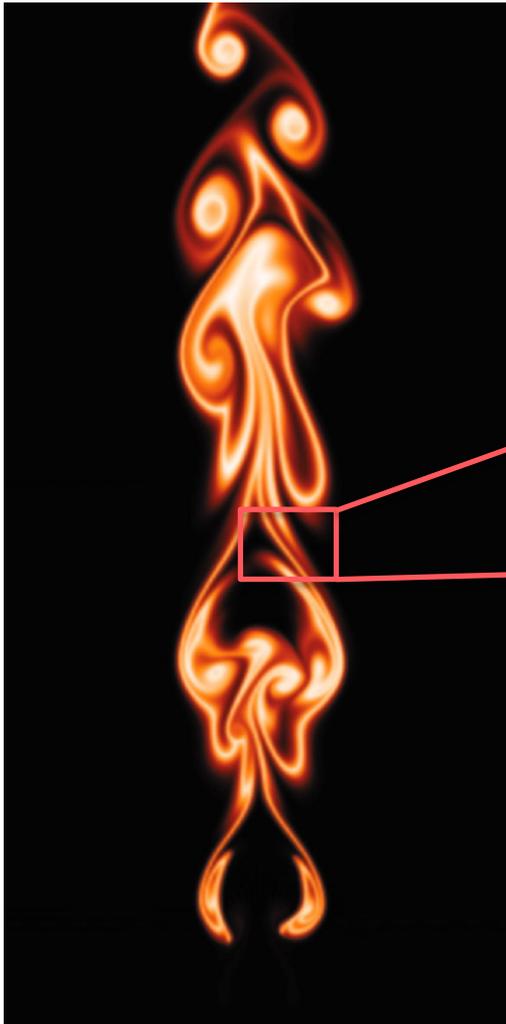
- Temperature field  $\implies$  Machine life cycle
- Efficiency & Emissions  $\implies$  NO<sub>x</sub>, CH<sub>x</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>,CO
- Wall temperature  $\implies$  Cooling systems
- Stability & ignition

## Technical challenges

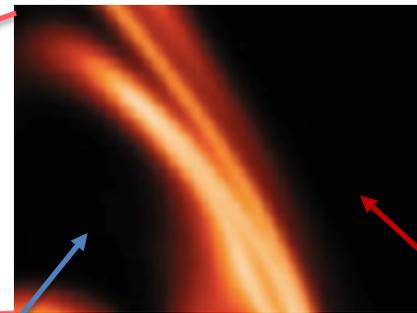
- Aerodynamics & mixing  
 $\implies$  swirl, jets in cross-flow, multiperf.
- Turbulence / chemistry interaction  
 $\implies$  kerosene kinetics, pollutants
- Two-phase flow  
 $\implies$  fuel flow physics & dynamics
- Heat transfer  
 $\implies$  cooling, thermal radiation

**Advanced CFD** and **Massively parallel** computer architectures offer a clear potential for time and cost reductions of the design process by providing **accurate predictions**





A flame is the combination of thermochemical processes and transport (mixing)



Reactants

flame  
zone

Products  
+  
Heat release

Flow model:

- variable density
- multi-species
- chemical source terms

# What are the equations?

Navier-Stokes equations:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho u_i)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho u_i u_j)}{\partial x_j} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial \tau_{ij}}{\partial x_j}$$

- steady / unsteady
- compressible / low-mach

Species conservation equations

$$\frac{\partial(\rho Y_k)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(\rho(u_i + V_{k,i})Y_k)}{\partial x_i} = \dot{\omega}_k$$

- thermodynamic and transport properties
- chemical kinetics

Energy equation

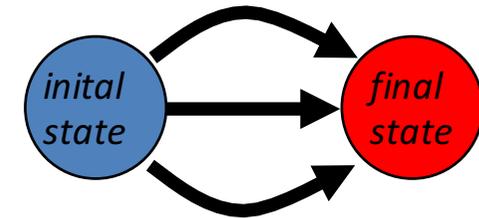
$$\rho \frac{DE}{Dt} = -\frac{\partial q_i}{\partial x_i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}(\tau_{ij} u_i) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(P u_i) + \dot{\omega}_T + \dot{Q}$$

**4 + N<sub>spec</sub>\* conservation equations**

Any chemical reaction is accompanied by an absorption or evolution of energy (heat)

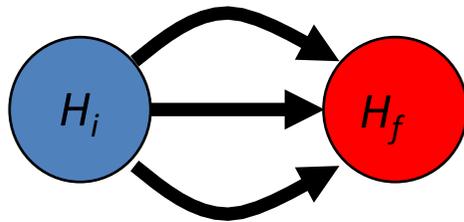
⇒ Thermodynamics of mixtures :

- The *total energy change* of a system is independent of the path taken to change state.
- The *internal energy* essentially depends on *temperature*, *pressure* and *composition*.



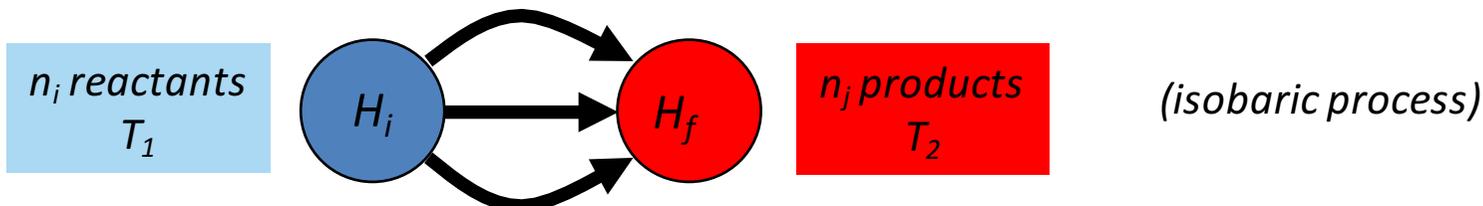
$$E = \sum_k Y_k E_k(T, P)$$

⇒ The heat released by reaction is equal to the change in enthalpy of the (open) system.



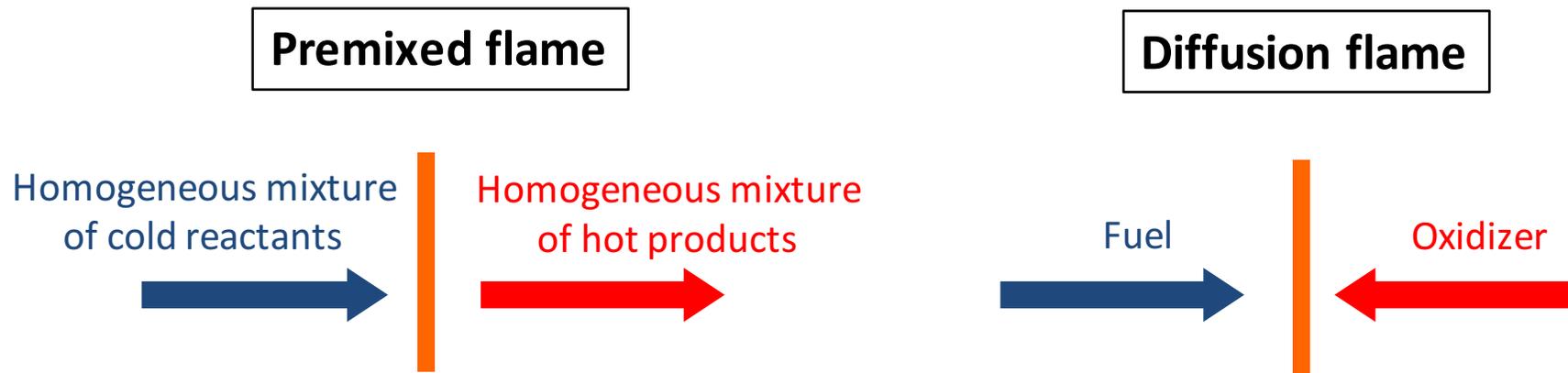
$$Q_p = -\Delta H = H_f - H_i$$

⇒ If combustion is complete:  $T_2 = T_{ad} = T_1 + Y_F Q_p / C_p$  is the adiabatic flame temperature



# Laminar flame structures

- Laminar flames with detailed measurements are useful to validate combustion chemistry.
- Laminar flames are generic cases at the basis of most turbulent combustion models.
- Laminar flames are reference solutions for complex flame analysis.

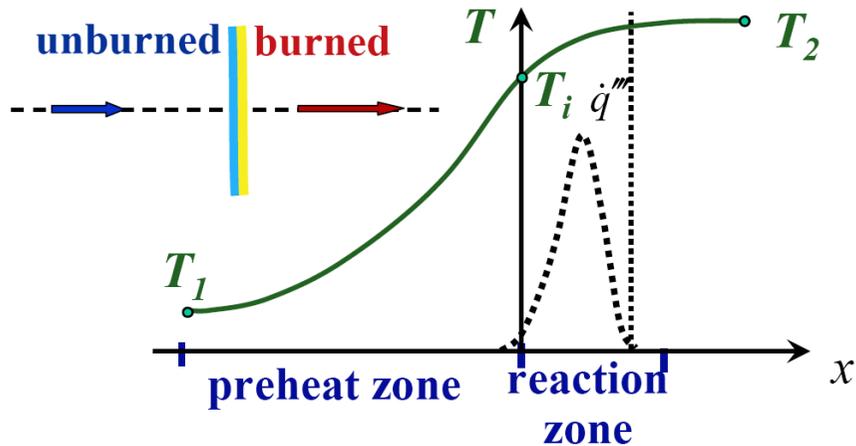


**Equivalence ratio:**

$$\phi = S \frac{Y_{Fuel}}{Y_{Oxyd}} = \frac{Y_{Fuel}}{Y_{Oxyd}} \frac{Y_{Oxyd}}{Y_{Fuel}} \Big|_{st} = S \frac{\dot{m}_{Fuel}}{\dot{m}_{Oxyd}}$$

- Stoichiometry  $\phi = 1$
- Fuel rich  $\phi > 1$
- Fuel lean  $\phi < 1$

# Laminar (1D) premixed flame



Simplifying assumptions:

- $W_k = W, C_{p,k} = C_p$
- $D_k = D \Rightarrow Le = 1$
- $\dot{\omega}_T = -Q \dot{\omega}_F$

$$\rho u = Cst = \rho_1 u_1 = \rho_1 S_L$$

$$\rho_1 S_L \frac{dY_F}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \rho D \frac{dY_F}{dx} \right) + \dot{\omega}_F,$$

$$\rho_1 C_p S_L \frac{dT}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \lambda \frac{dT}{dx} \right) - Q \dot{\omega}_F,$$

$$CL: \quad u(x = -\infty) = u_1, \quad T(x = -\infty) = T_1, \quad Y_F(x = -\infty) = Y_{F,1}$$

**After integration:**  $\int \dot{\omega}_F dx = \Omega_F$

$$\rho_1 S_L Y_F^1 = \Omega_F$$

$$\rho_1 C_p S_L (T_2 - T_1) = Q \Omega_F$$

$$T_2 = T_1 + Q Y_F^1 / C_p$$



Adiabatic flame temperature

Reduced variables:  $Y = \frac{Y_F}{Y_F^1}, \quad \theta = \frac{T - T_1}{T_2 - T_1} = \frac{C_p (T - T_1)}{Q Y_F^1}$

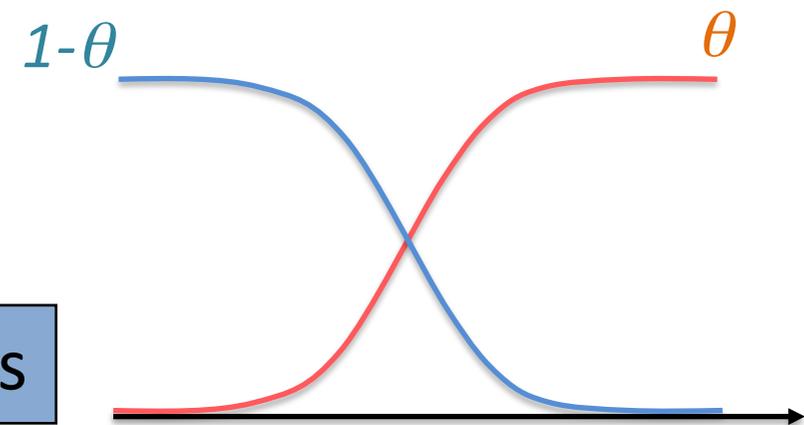
(1)  $\rho_1 S_L \frac{dY}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \rho D \frac{dY}{dx} \right) + \frac{\dot{\omega}_F}{Y_F^1}, \quad \text{with } Y(-\infty) = 1, Y(+\infty) = 0$

(2)  $\rho_1 S_L \frac{d\theta}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\lambda}{C_p} \frac{d\theta}{dx} \right) - \frac{\dot{\omega}_F}{Y_F^1}, \quad \text{with } \theta(-\infty) = 0, \theta(+\infty) = 1$

(1)+(2)  $\rho_1 S_L \frac{d}{dx} (Y + \theta) = \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \rho D \frac{d}{dx} (Y + \theta) \right] \quad \text{with } [Y + \theta](-\infty) = 1, [Y + \theta](+\infty) = 1$

⇒  $Y + \theta = 1$  everywhere

$(1-Y)$  or  $\theta$  are called progress variables



# Flame speed and thickness

In premixed lean flames:

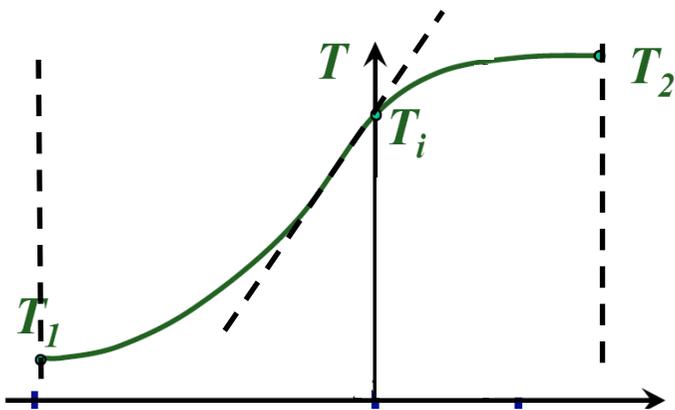
$$\rho_1 S_L \frac{d\theta}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\lambda}{C_p} \frac{d\theta}{dx} \right) - \frac{\dot{\omega}_F}{Y_F^1}$$

$S_L$  is determined by two competitive phenomena:

- thermal diffusion  $D_{th} = \lambda / C_p$
- chemistry

⇒ Asymptotic analysis yields:  $S_L \propto \sqrt{D_{th}^1 \mathcal{A}}$  ← pre-exponential factor

⇒ The same phenomena control the flame thickness:



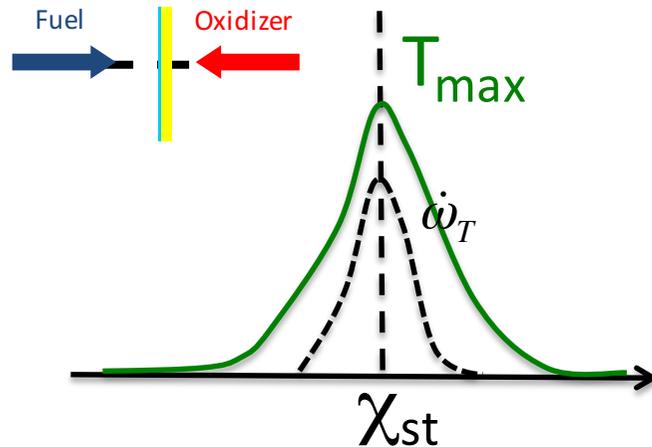
- From scaling laws

$$\delta_L = \frac{D_{th}^1}{S_L} \propto \sqrt{\frac{D_{th}^1}{\mathcal{A}}}$$

- From temperature profiles

$$\delta_L^0 = \frac{T_2 - T_1}{\max\left(\left|\frac{\partial T}{\partial x}\right|\right)}$$

# Laminar (1D) diffusion flame



Simplifying assumptions:

- $W_k = W, C_{p,k} = C_p$
- $D_k = D \Rightarrow Le = 1$
- $\dot{\omega}_O = s \dot{\omega}_F$  with,  $s = \frac{\nu_O W_O}{\nu_F W_F}$
- $\dot{\omega}_T = -Q \dot{\omega}_F$

$$\frac{\partial \rho Y_F}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho u_i Y_F) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho D \frac{\partial Y_F}{\partial x_i} \right) + \dot{\omega}_F,$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho Y_O}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho u_i Y_O) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho D \frac{\partial Y_O}{\partial x_i} \right) + s \dot{\omega}_F,$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho T}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho u_i T) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\lambda}{C_P} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x_i} \right) - \frac{Q}{C_P} \dot{\omega}_F.$$

Reactants diffuse and reaction occurs where they meet, at the optimum mixing conditions (ie., stoichiometry).

**Characteristic flame speed and thickness do not apply in this context.**

Define :

$$Z_1 = sY_F - Y_O, \quad Z_2 = \frac{C_P T}{Q} + Y_F, \quad Z_3 = s \frac{C_P T}{Q} + Y_O$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho Z}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\rho u_i Z) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho D \frac{\partial Z}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

⇒ Passive scalar

⇒ The problem is reduced to *1 variable*:

$$Y_k = f_k(Z), \quad T = T(Z)$$

In Z-space:

$$\rho D \left( \frac{\partial Z}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial Z}{\partial x_i} \right) \frac{\partial^2 Y_k}{\partial Z^2} = \dot{\omega}_k$$

Scalar dissipation rate:  $1/2 \chi$

# Infinitely fast chemistry

**Burke-Schumann solution:** reaction occurs only at  $Z_{st} = \frac{1}{1 + sY_F^0 / Y_O^0}$

$$\implies \frac{\partial^2 Y_k}{\partial Z^2} = 0$$

- Fuel side:  $Z > Z_{st}$

$$Y_F(Z) = Z Y_F^0 + (Z - 1) \frac{Y_O^0}{s} = Y_O^0 \frac{Z - Z_{st}}{1 - Z_{st}},$$

$$Y_O(Z) = 0,$$

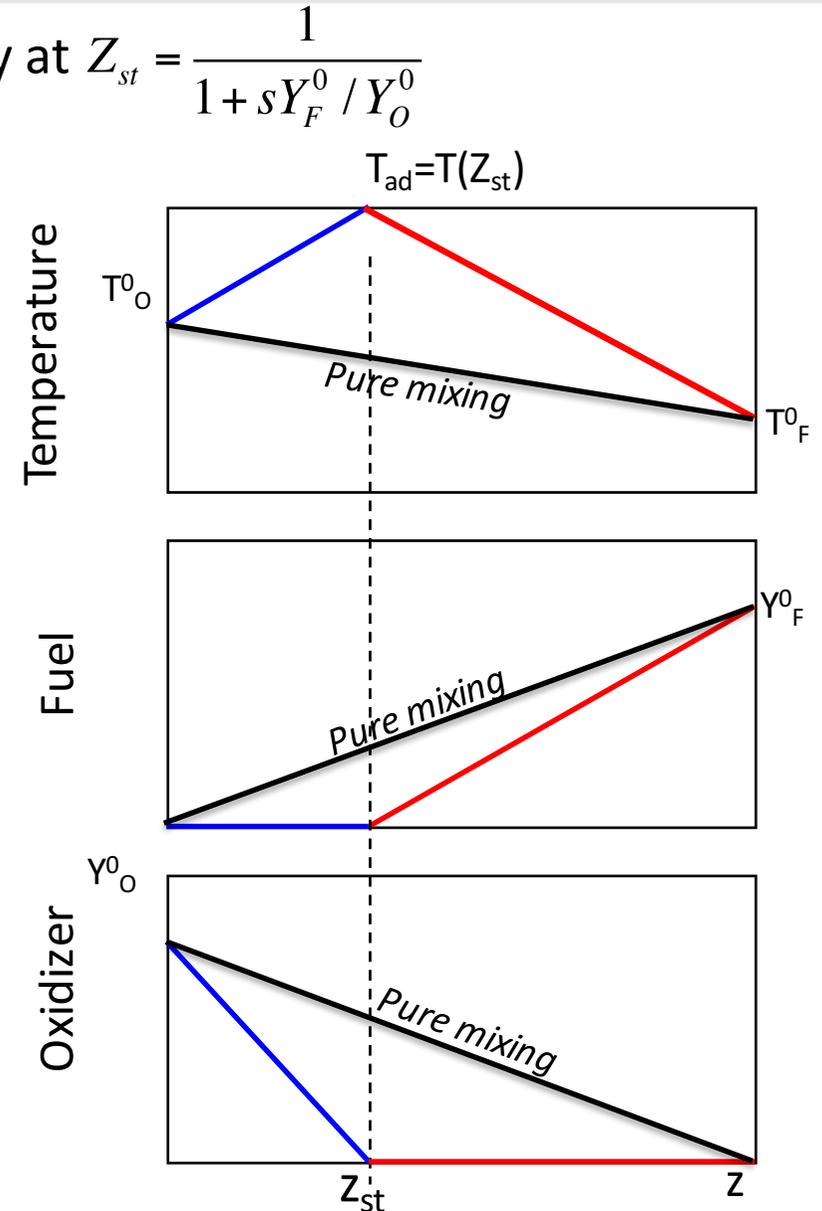
$$T(Z) = Z T_F^0 + (1 - Z) T_O^0 + \frac{Q Y_F^0}{C_P} Z_{st} \frac{1 - Z}{1 - Z_{st}},$$

- Oxidizer side:  $Z < Z_{st}$

$$Y_F(Z) = 0,$$

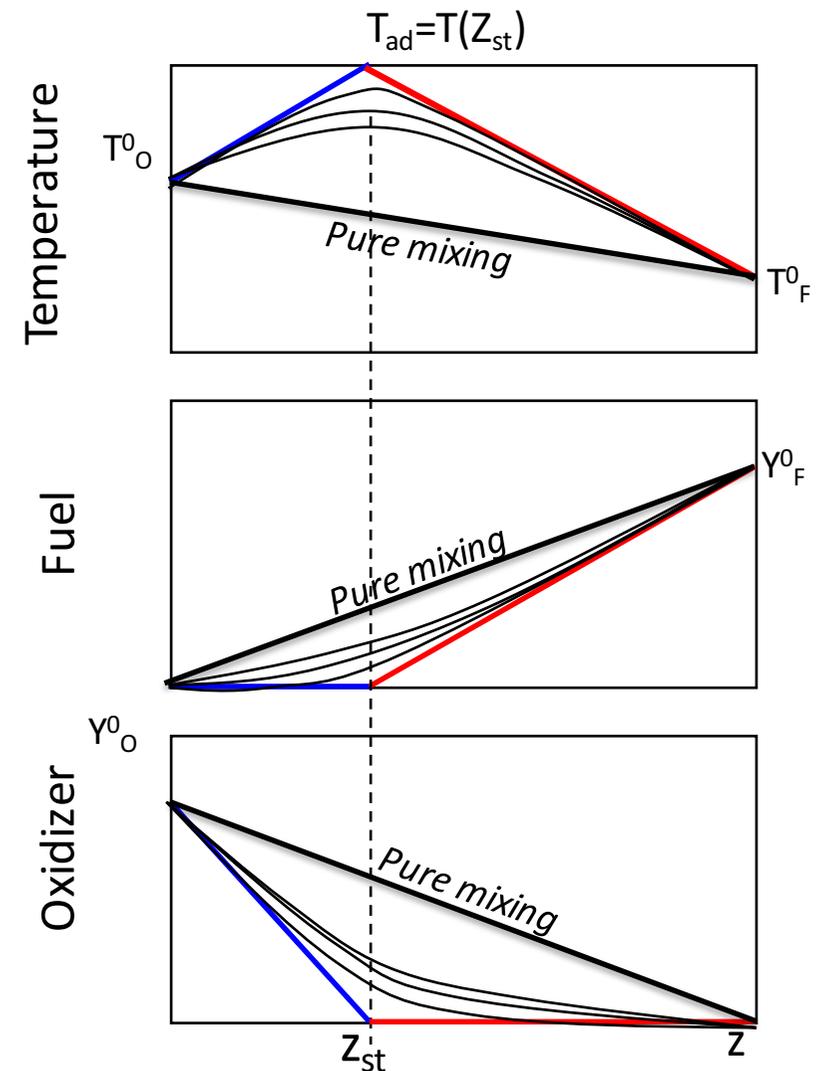
$$Y_O(Z) = Y_O^0 \left(1 - \frac{Z}{Z_{st}}\right),$$

$$T(Z) = Z T_F^0 + (1 - Z) T_O^0 + \frac{Q Y_F^0}{C_P} Z,$$



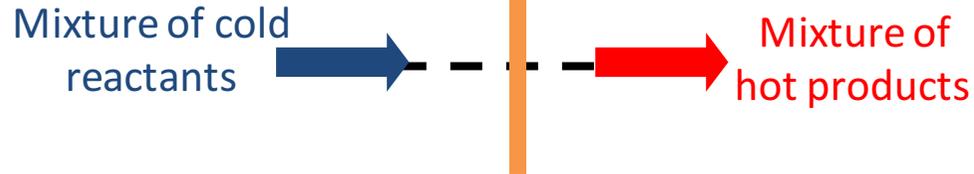
$$\Rightarrow \rho \frac{\chi}{2} \frac{\partial^2 Y_k}{\partial Z^2} = \dot{\omega}_k$$

- $\chi$  controls mixing: if known, the *flamelet equation* can be solved in  $Z$ -space to provide the flame structure.
- A characteristic length representative of the mixing layer reads:  $\sqrt{D/\chi}$
- When flame strain rate increases,  $\chi$  increases



# Laminar flames : synopsis

## Premixed flames

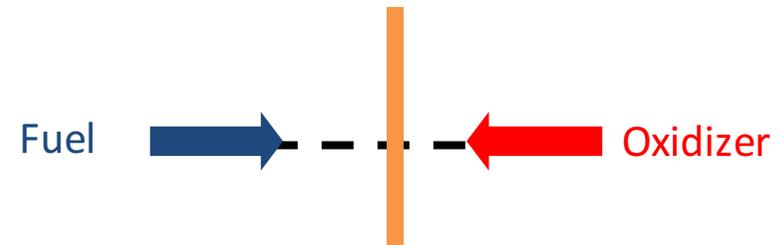


- Chemistry dominated
- Flame speed and thickness:

$$S_L \propto \sqrt{D_{th}^1 \mathcal{A}} \quad \delta_L = \frac{D_{th}^1}{S_L} \propto \sqrt{\frac{D_{th}^1}{\mathcal{A}}}$$

- Progress variable:  $(1-Y)$  or  $\theta$
- Influence by stretch:  $\kappa$

## Diffusion flames

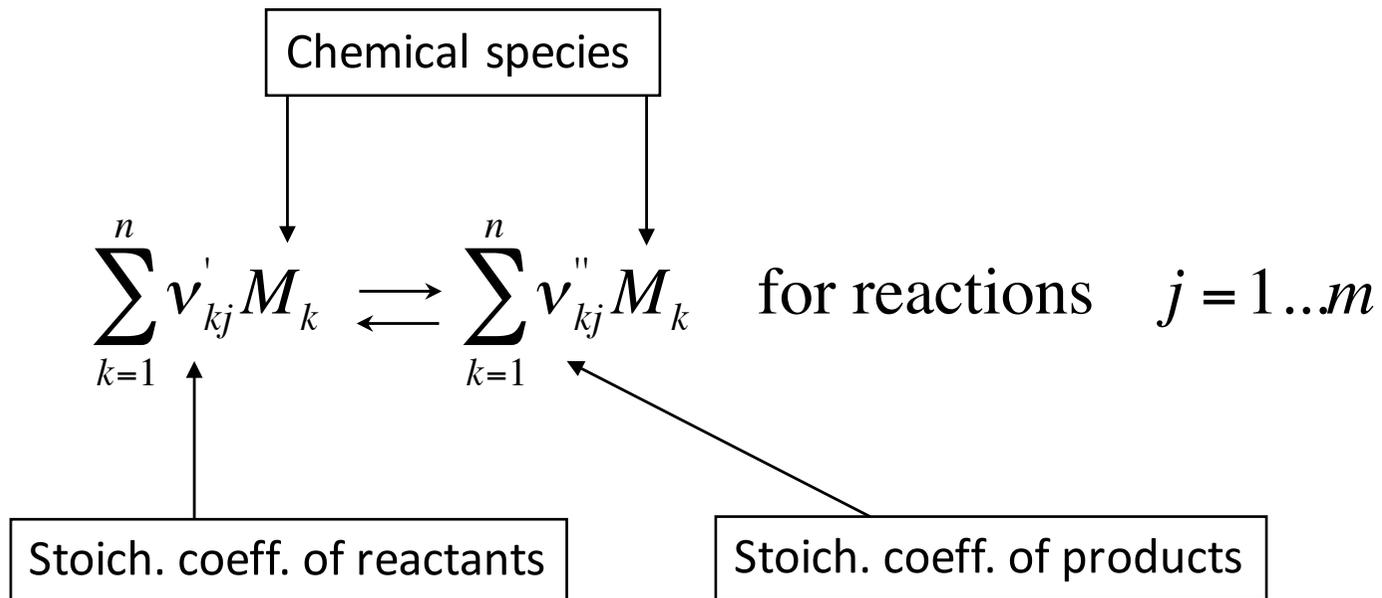


- Diffusion dominated
- Passive / conserved scalar variable:  $Z$
- Mixing state provides the flame structure:  
 $T(Z), Y_k(Z)$
- Strongly influenced by flow structures:

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

Real applications are in-between: *partially premixed* configurations  
... and *turbulent*

Stoichiometric relationships for an arbitrarily complex set of  $m$  reactions involving  $n$  species, may be written:



Nb	Reaction
1	$\text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{OH}$
2	$\text{OH} + \text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{H}$
3	$\text{H} + \text{O}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{OH} + \text{O}$
4	$\text{O} + \text{H}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{OH} + \text{H}$
5 <sup>a</sup>	$\text{H} + \text{O}_2 + \text{M} \rightleftharpoons \text{HO}_2 + \text{M}$
6	$\text{H} + \text{O}_2 + \text{O}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{HO}_2 + \text{O}_2$
7	$\text{H} + \text{O}_2 + \text{N}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{HO}_2 + \text{N}_2$
8	$\text{OH} + \text{HO}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$
9	$\text{H} + \text{HO}_2 \rightleftharpoons 2\text{OH}$
10	$\text{O} + \text{HO}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{O}_2 + \text{OH}$
11	$2\text{OH} \rightleftharpoons \text{O} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
12 <sup>b</sup>	$\text{H}_2 + \text{M} \rightleftharpoons \text{H} + \text{H} + \text{M}$
13	$\text{O}_2 + \text{M} \rightleftharpoons \text{O} + \text{O} + \text{M}$
14 <sup>c</sup>	$\text{H} + \text{OH} + \text{M} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{M}$
15	$\text{H} + \text{HO}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2 + \text{O}_2$
16	$\text{HO}_2 + \text{HO}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{O}_2$
17	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{M} \rightleftharpoons \text{OH} + \text{OH} + \text{M}$
18	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H} \rightleftharpoons \text{HO}_2 + \text{H}$
19	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{OH} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{HO}_2$

# Reduced chemical schemes

Accuracy

- Detailed schemes (GRImech~500 reactions) are produced from very large size schemes developed by chemists and are able to accurately describe oxidation of most hydrocarbons
- A first reduction step leads to skeletal mechanisms (~50-100 reactions) that keep most of the performances of detailed schemes
- A second reduction step (QSS) leads to analytical schemes (~10-30 reactions) having reduced but still reasonable performances
- Finally, optimally fitted global or semi-global schemes (1 to 4 steps) often require on-line adjustment of constants with  $P$ ,  $\Phi$ , etc

CPU cost

In addition, complex fuels are simplified and described with surrogate fuels

Component	Surrogate 1		Surrogate 2	
	mole [%]	vol. [%]	mole [%]	vol. [%]
<i>n</i> -heptane	22.0	23.5	66.8	74.1
iso-octane	44.8	53.6	0.4	0.5
benzene	13.0	10.0	24.8	20.0
toluene	20.2	12.9	7.9	5.3
Avg. formula	C <sub>7.32</sub> H <sub>14.0</sub>		C <sub>6.75</sub> H <sub>12.9</sub>	

The progress rate of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  reaction is given by:

$$Q_j = K_j^f \prod_{k=1}^n \left[ \frac{\rho Y_k}{W_k} \right]^{v'_{kj}} - K_j^b \prod_{k=1}^n \left[ \frac{\rho Y_k}{W_k} \right]^{v''_{kj}}$$

Reverse rate of reaction

Forward rate of reaction

The essential problem of chemists is to provide these two rates. They usually rely on the Arrhenius law: and equilibrium constants:

$$K_j^f = \left( A_j^f T^{\beta_j} \right) \exp(-E_j / RT)$$

Collision frequency:  
 - Pre-exponential Cst  
 - Temp. modulation

Activation energy

$$K_j^r = \frac{K_j^f}{(P_a / RT)^{\sum_{k=1}^n (v'_{kj} - v''_{kj})}} \exp\left(\frac{\Delta S_j^0}{R} - \frac{\Delta H_j^0}{RT}\right)$$

Entropy and enthalpy changes of  $j^{\text{th}}$  reaction (from the thermodynamics table)

The progress rate of the  $j^{\text{th}}$  reaction is given by:

$$Q_j = K_j^f \prod_{k=1}^n \left[ \frac{\rho Y_k}{W_k} \right]^{v'_{kj}} - K_j^b \prod_{k=1}^n \left[ \frac{\rho Y_k}{W} \right]^{v''_{kj}}$$

Reverse rate of reaction

Forward rate

HIGHLY NON-LINEAR !!

The essential parameters to determine these two rates. They usually rely on the Arrhenius law and equilibrium constants:

$$K_j^f = A_j^f T^{\beta_j} \exp(-E_j / RT)$$

Collision frequency:  
 - Pre-exponential Cst  
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Activation energy

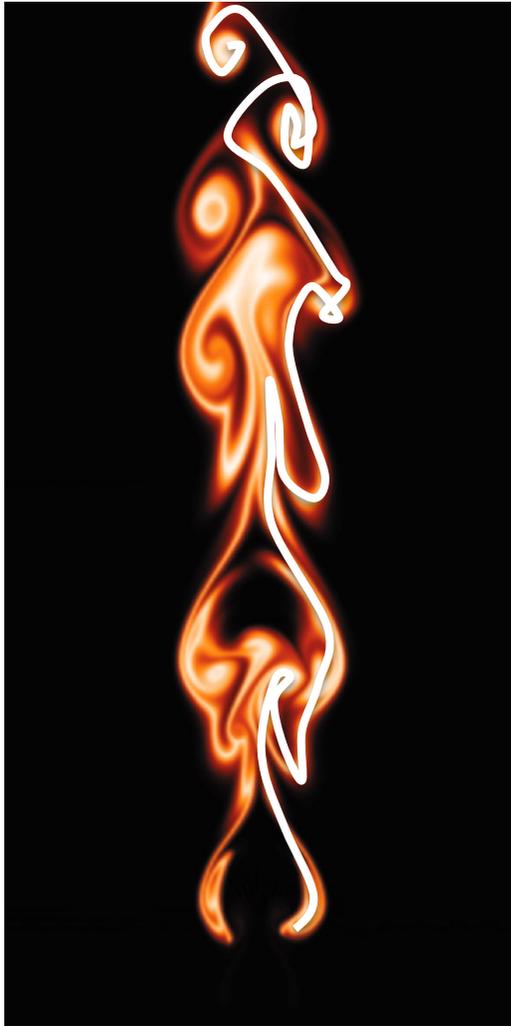
$$K_j^r = \frac{K_j^f}{(P_a / RT)^{\sum_{k=1}^n (v'_{kj} - v''_{kj})}} \exp\left(\frac{\Delta S_j^0}{R} - \frac{\Delta H_j^0}{RT}\right)$$

Entropy and enthalpy changes of  $j^{\text{th}}$  reaction (from the thermodynamics table)



Turbulence enhances combustion thanks to increased mixing:

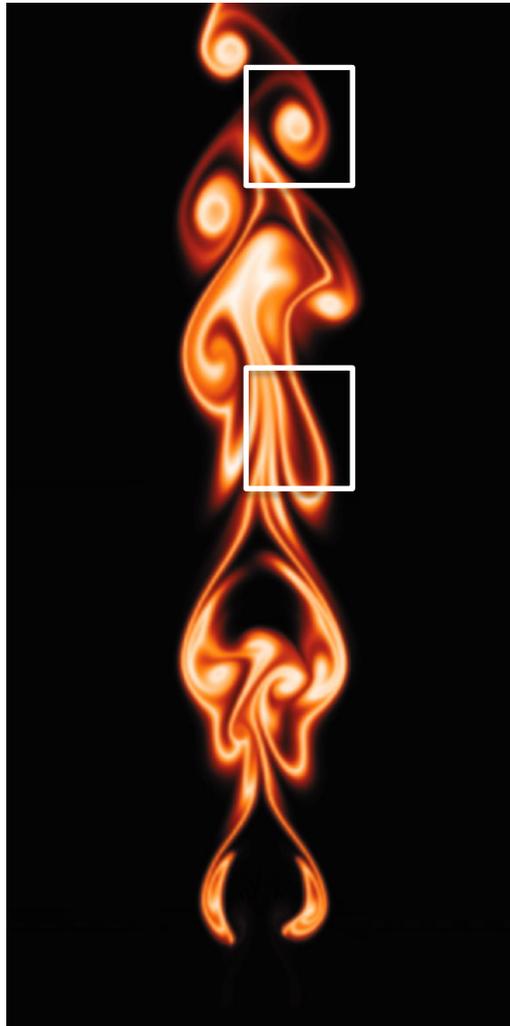
- between fresh and burnt gas in premixed flames
- between reactants in diffusion flames



Turbulence enhances combustion thanks to increased mixing:

- between fresh and burnt gas in premixed flames
- between reactants in diffusion flames

⇒ Flame wrinkling



Turbulence enhances combustion thanks to increased mixing:

- between fresh and burnt gas in premixed flames
- between reactants in diffusion flames

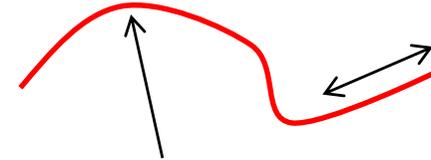
⇒ Flame wrinkling

Turbulence can be detrimental to combustion by altering the inner flame structure, even leading to local quenching

⇒ Strain, curvature

## Flames are sensitive to flow perturbations: strain rate and curvature

- premixed flames: stretch
- diffusion flames: scalar dissipation rate



=> **Damköhler number:**

ratio between the turbulent eddy time and the chemical time-scale

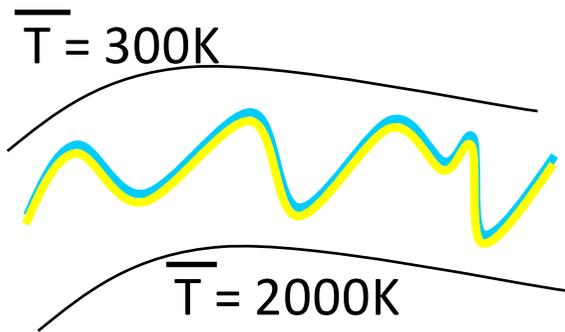
$$Da = \frac{\tau_t}{\tau_c}$$

$$\tau_t = \frac{l_t}{u'}$$

Characteristic length of turbulence

Turbulence intensity

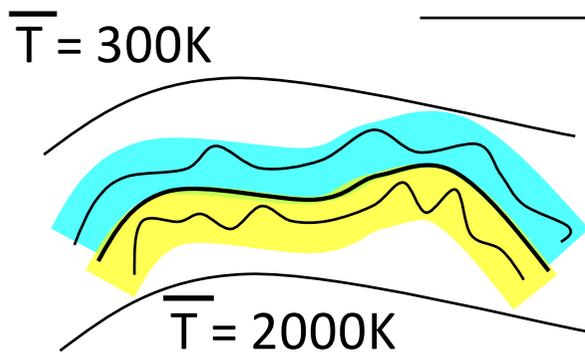
# Premixed Turbulent Flames $\tau_c = \frac{\delta_L}{S_L}$



- Chemistry is fast and the reaction zone is thin compared to the intensity and size of the eddies:

$$l_t \gg \delta_L \quad \text{or} \quad Da \gg 1$$

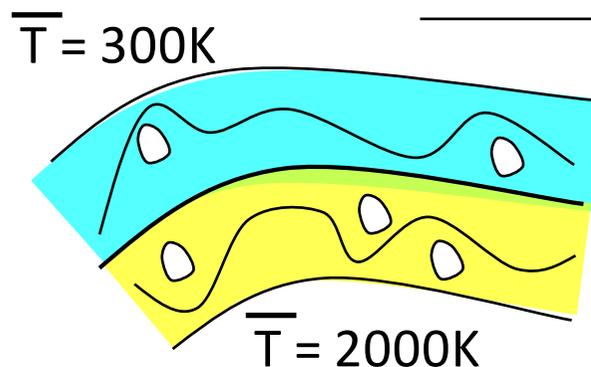
--> Inner flame structure is unaffected



- Chemistry and turbulence characteristic sizes are comparable:

$$l_t \approx \delta_L \quad \text{or} \quad Da \approx 1$$

--> Inner flame structure is affected

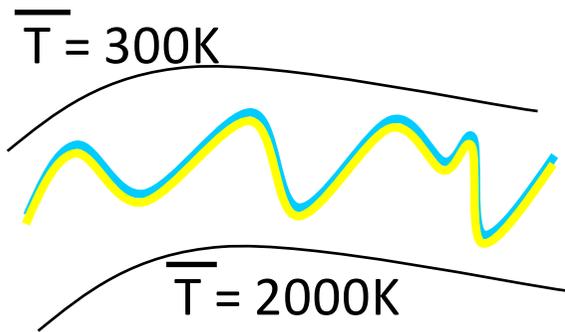


- Chemistry is much slower than turbulence:

$$l_t \ll \delta_L \quad \text{or} \quad Da \ll 1$$

--> Inner flame structure is changed

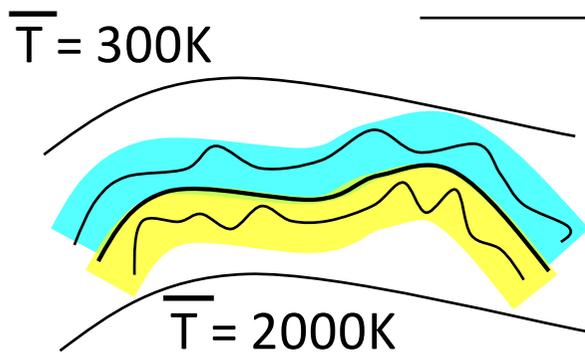
# Premixed Turbulent Flames $\tau_c = \frac{\delta_L}{S_L}$



- Chemistry is fast and the reaction zone is thin compared to the intensity and size of the eddies:

**Flamelet regime**  
 $l_t \gg \delta_L$  or  $Da \gg 1$

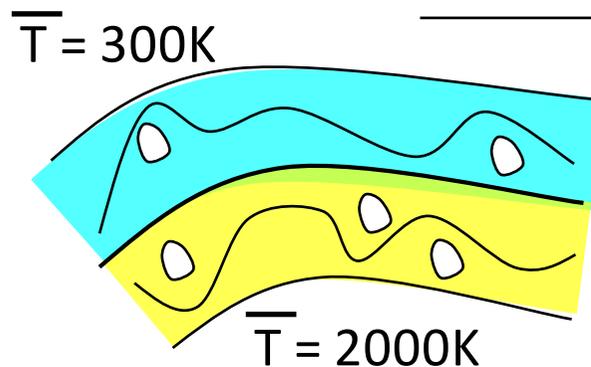
--> Inner flame structure is unaffected



- Chemistry and turbulence characteristic sizes are comparable:

$$l_t \approx \delta_L \quad \text{or} \quad Da \approx 1$$

--> Inner flame structure is affected

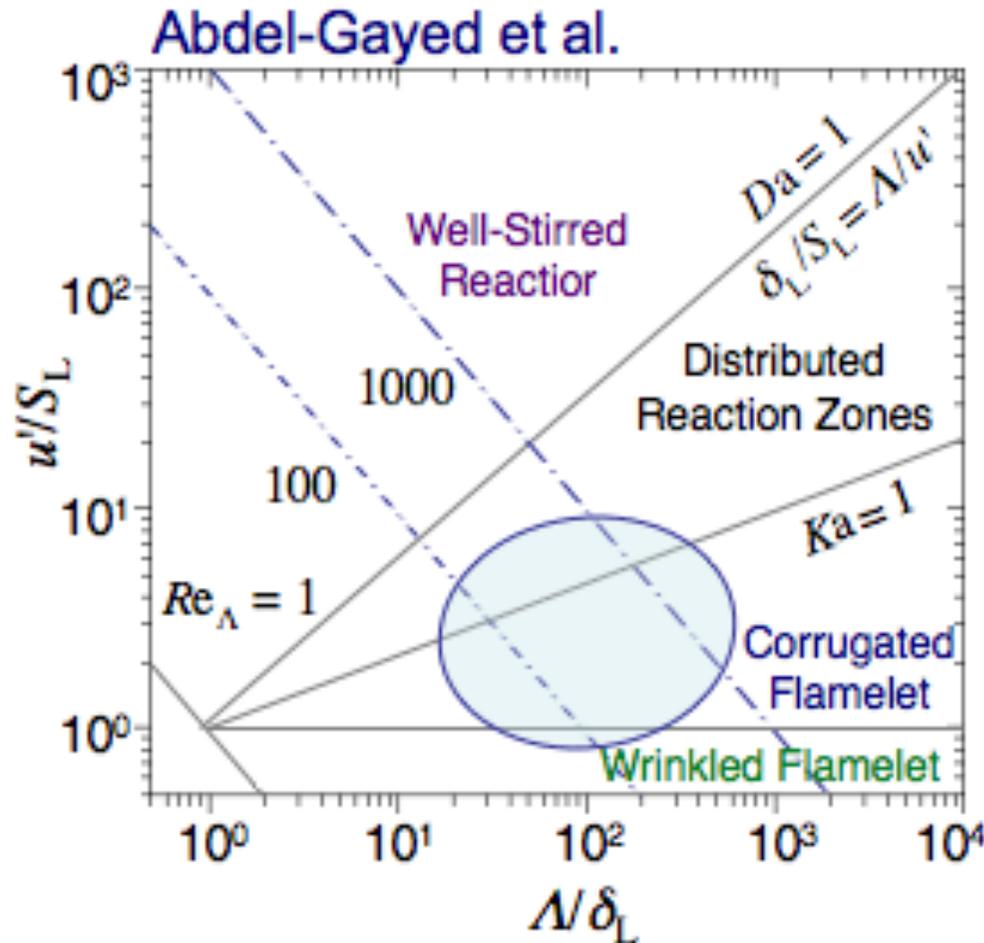


- Chemistry is much slower than turbulence:

**Well stirred reactor**  
 $l_t \ll \delta_L$  or  $Da \ll 1$

--> Inner flame structure is changed

# Premixed Turbulent Flames: Regime Diagram



Karlovitz number:

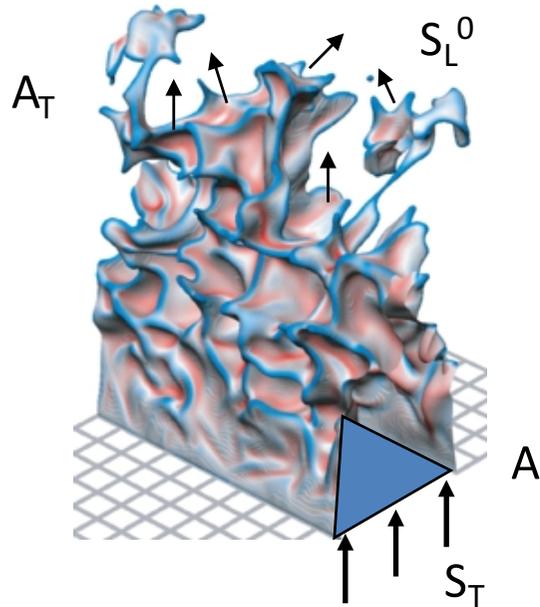
$$Ka = \frac{\tau_c}{\tau_K}$$

$\tau_K$   
Kolmogorov scale

=> Turbulent combustion encompasses a wide realm of physical features which must be captured by turbulent combustion models

# Premixed Turbulent Flames: Turbulent Flame Speed

The main impact of turbulence is to increase the heat release rate through flame wrinkling :



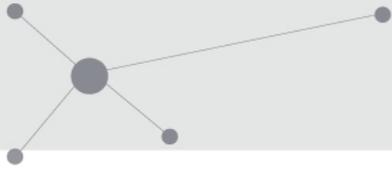
$$A_T \rho_1 Y_F^1 S_L^0 = - \int_V \dot{\omega}_F dV$$
$$= A \rho_1 Y_F^1 S_T$$

$S_T$  is the  
turbulent  
flame speed

$$\frac{S_T}{S_L^0} = \frac{A_T}{A}$$

$A_T/A$  (wrinkling factor) increases with Re

*Note: stretch effects are usually not modelled*



## !!! Reactants need to mix prior to combustion !!!

- ⇒ Fast mixing and slow combustion : premixed combustion !
- ⇒ Fast reactions and slow mixing: flame is controlled by diffusion

Problem: how to define characteristic scales?

$$\tau_f \approx \frac{1}{\chi_{st}}$$

Scalar dissipation rate @ stoich. line

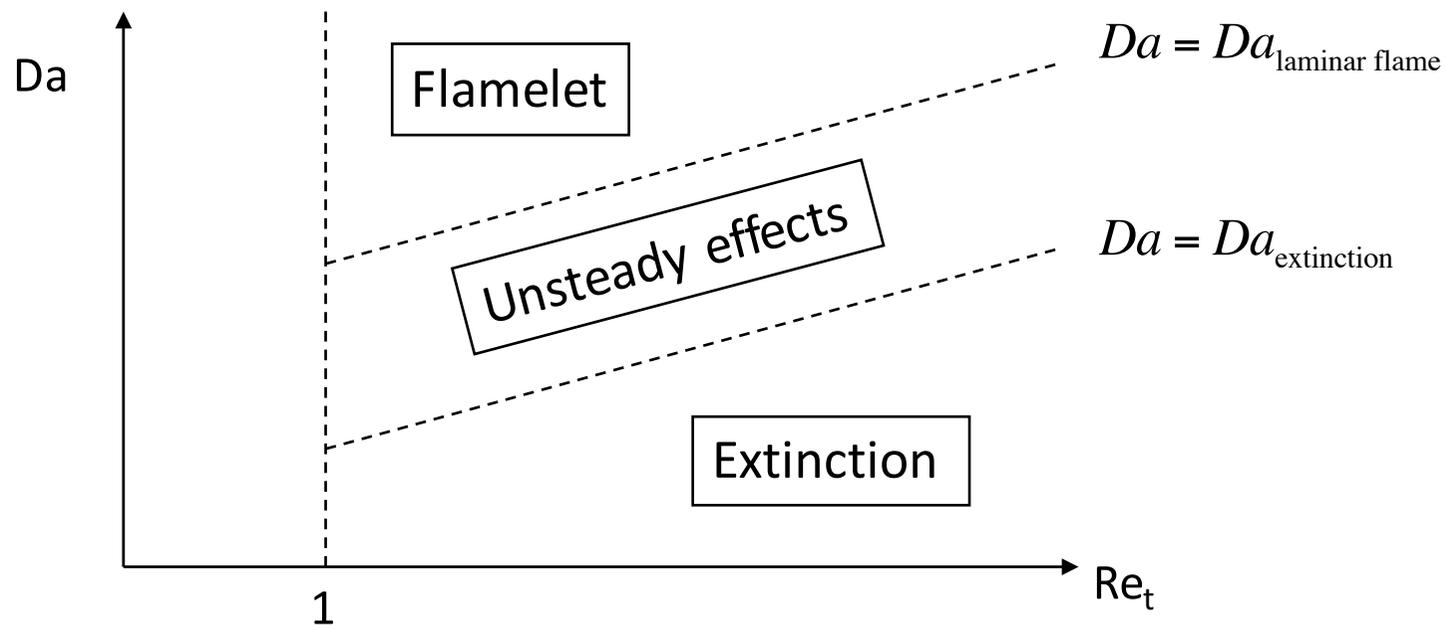
$$D_a = \frac{\tau_f}{\tau_c} \approx (\chi_{st} \tau_c)^{-1}$$

# Non-Premixed Turbulent Flames : Regime Diagram

For highly turbulent non-premixed flames:

The diffusion / mixing process is supposed to be governed by the Kolmogorov time-scale  $\tau_K$  which yields:

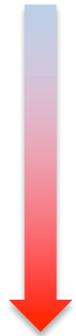
$$Da = \frac{\tau_t}{\tau_c} \approx \frac{\sqrt{Re_t}}{\chi_K \tau_c}$$



# Scales in Turbulent Combustion

Combustion chamber

$\sim m$



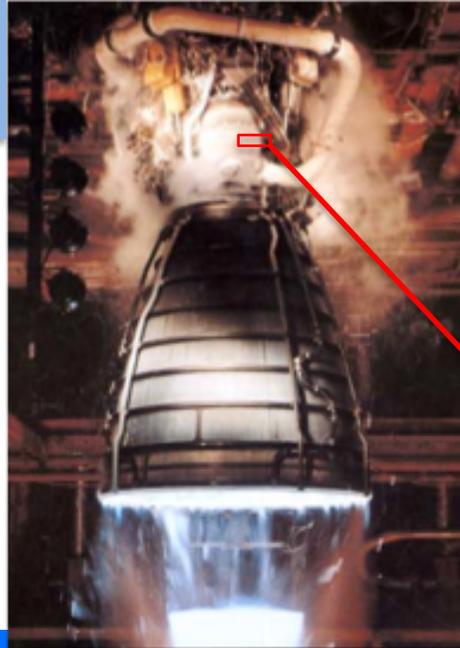
Turbulent scales

Air flow

- $U=50\text{m/s}$
  - $L=1\text{m}$
  - $\nu=10^{-5}\text{m}^2/\text{s}$
- 
- $Re = 5 \cdot 10^6$
  - $\eta = 10 \mu\text{m}$

Flame thickness

$\sim\text{mm}$



Energy  $E(k)$

$Re^{3/4}$

Integral scale  $L$

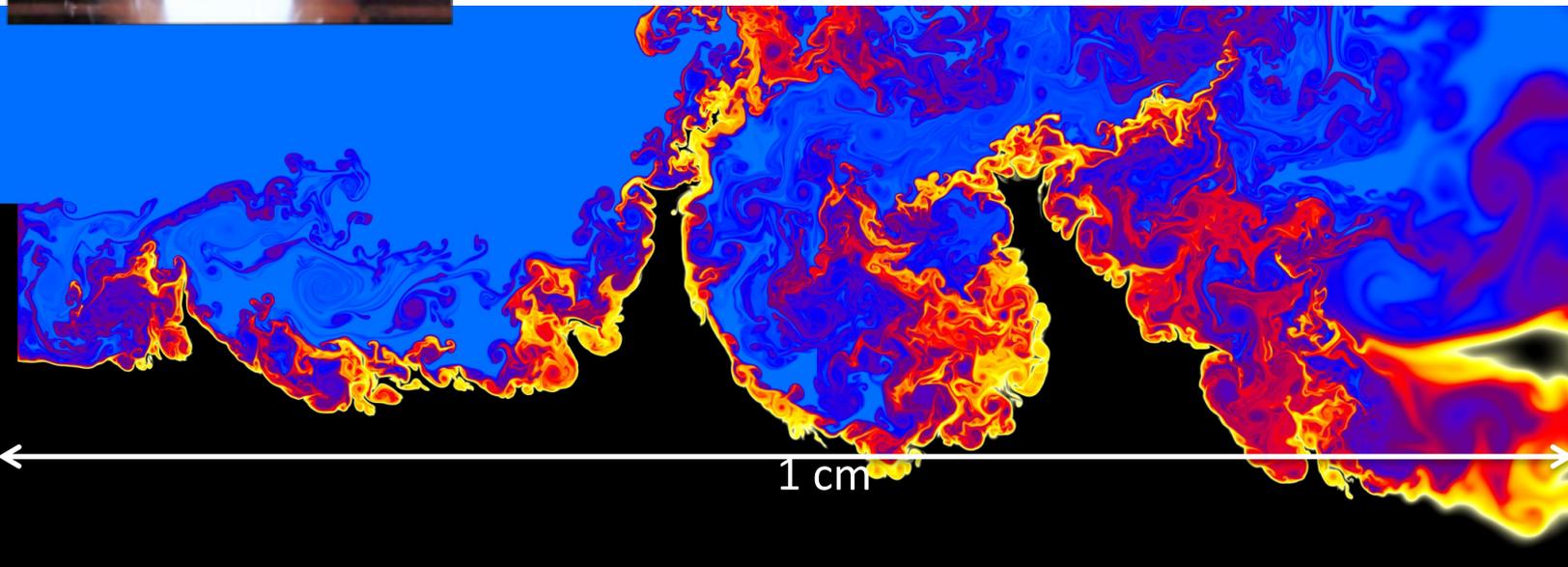
Production

Inertial range

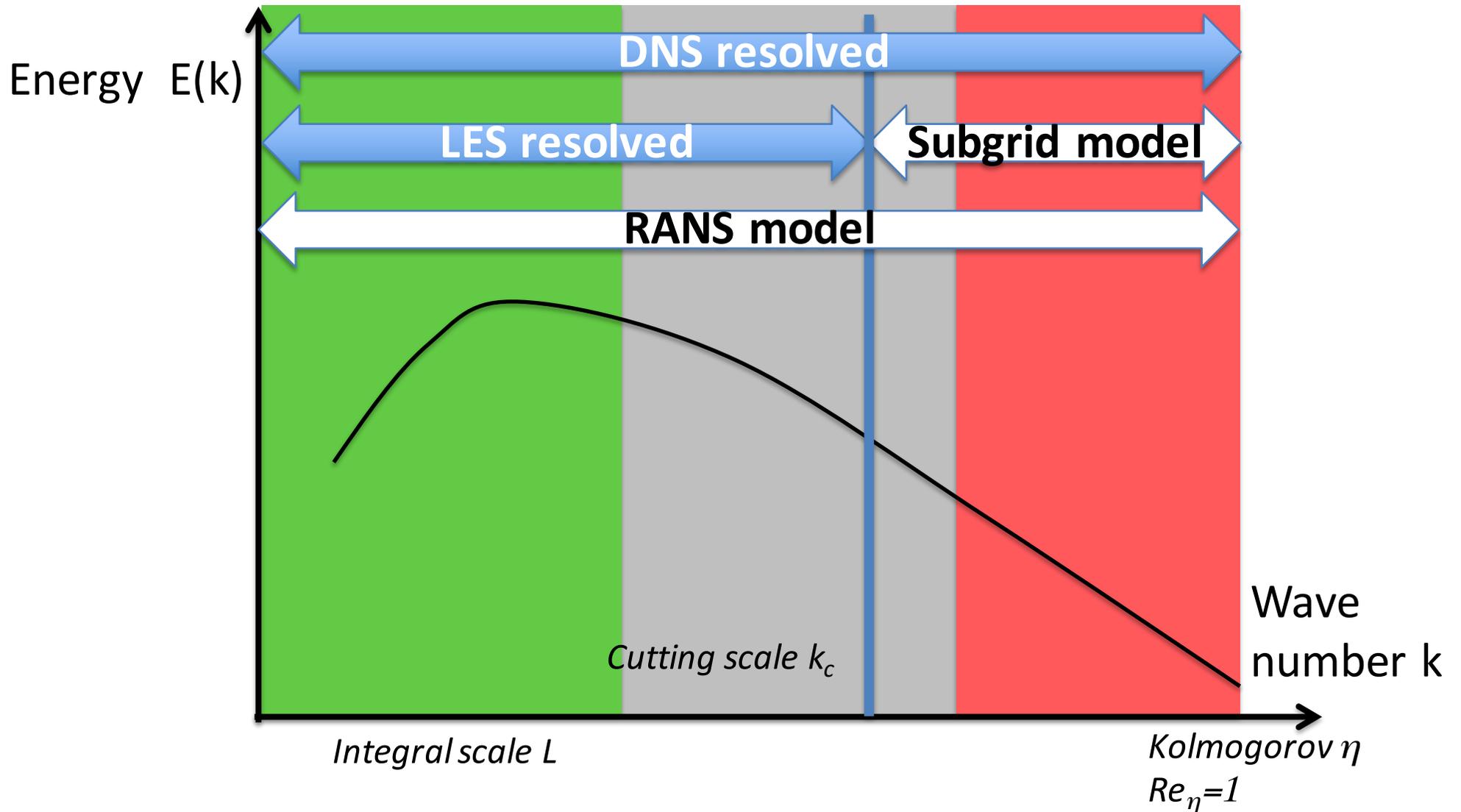
Dissipation

Kolmogorov  $\eta$   
 $Re_\eta=1$

wave number  $k$

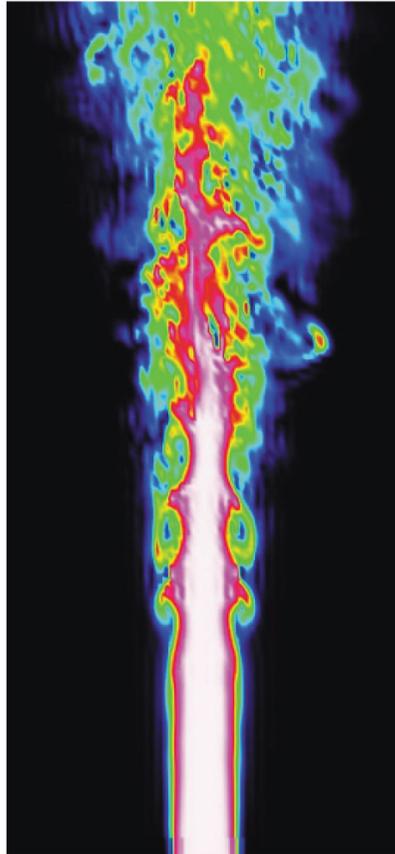


# Numerical Strategies for Turbulent Combustion



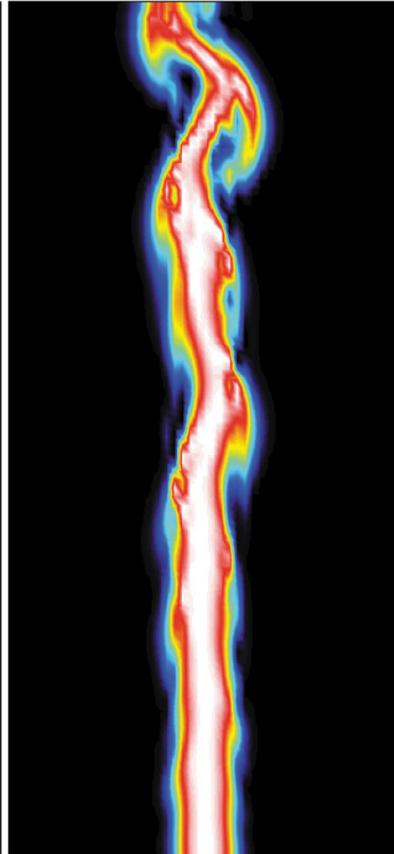
# Turbulent Combustion Modeling : RANS vs LES

All vortices  
are  
resolved



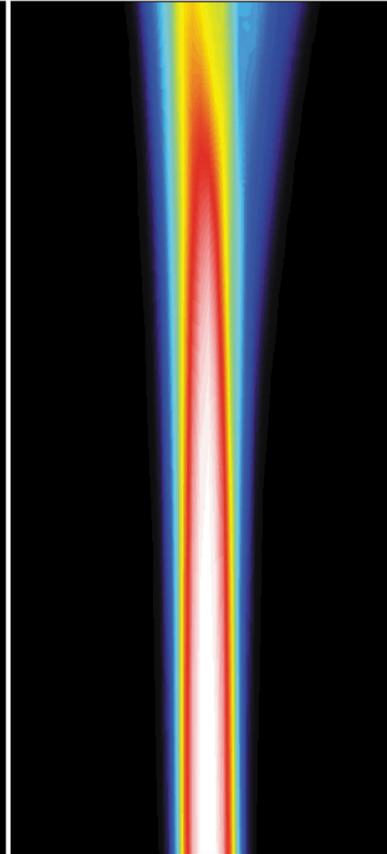
Direct Numerical Simulation (DNS) – all scales of fluid's motion are fully resolved

Large scale  
vortices are  
kept



Large Eddy Simulation (LES) – large scales of fluids's motion are resolved, while small scales are modeled

All vortices  
have  
disappeared



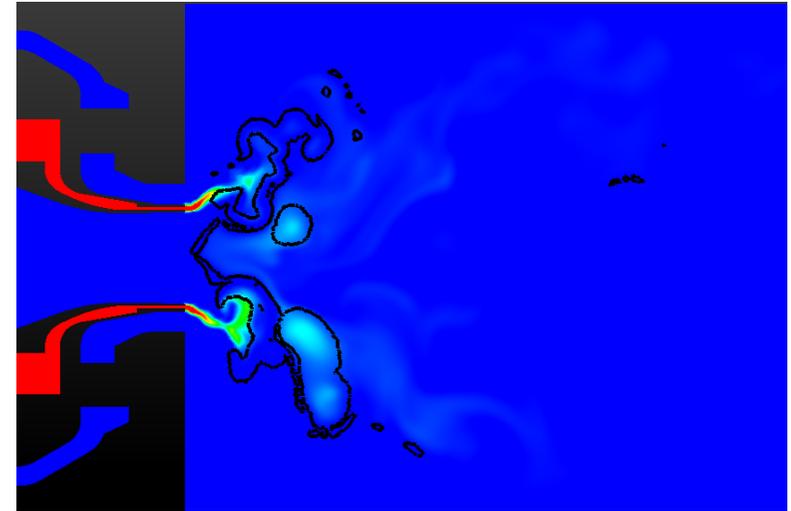
Reynolds Average Simulation (RAS) – all flow scales of fluid's motion are averaged in time

## What is different with LES?

- The flame sees a real (filtered) flow:

Less mixing → more heterogeneity  
(equivalence ratio, stretch)

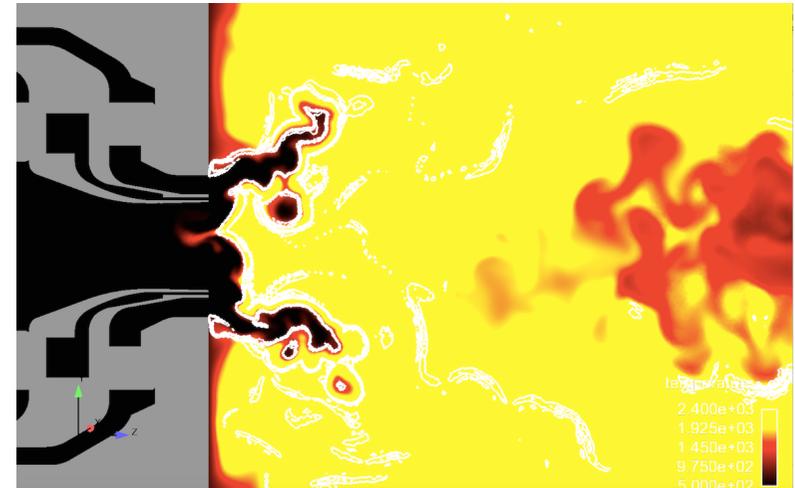
Both premixed / non premixed flames



- The flame is a real (filtered) flame :

Flame space / time scales are described

Turbulence / flame interactions are (partly)  
resolved



## What is different with LES?

- The flame sees a real (filtered) flow:

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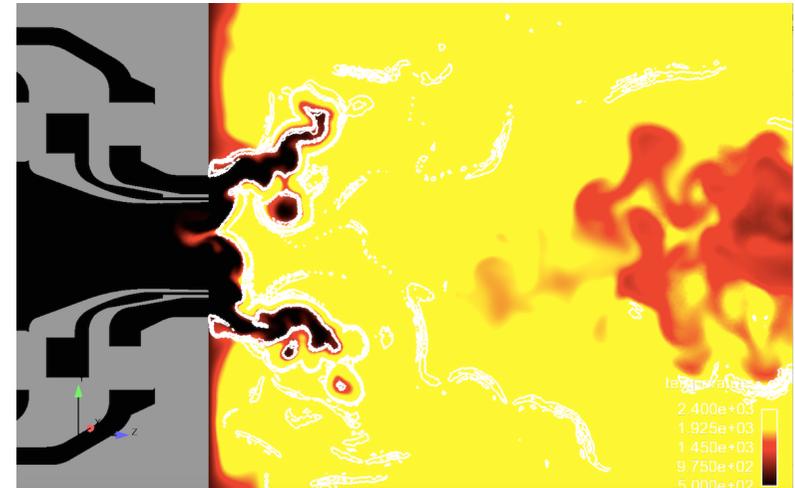
Both premixed / non premixed flames

**CFD for combustion has massively moved to LES**

- The flame is a real (filtered) flame :

Flame space / time scales are described

Turbulence / flame interactions are (partly)  
resolved



## Filtering leads to unclosed terms:

- transport (convection / diffusion) → classical “gradient” – type closures
- chemical source terms for species and energy are highly non-linear, mostly at the sub-grid scale
- premixed flame are unresolved on LES grids → numerical instabilities (and crash!)
- “gradient” – type closures are not adapted

## Two classes of approaches:

Mathematical approach: PFD methods

$$\tilde{\Phi} = \int_{c^*} \int_{Z^*} \Phi(c^*, Z^*) P(c^*) P(Z^*) dc^* dZ^*$$

- Presumed / transported Pdf
- Direct / tabulated chemistry description

The issue is to determine the Pdf!

# Subgrid scale modelling of turbulent combustion

## Filtering leads to unclosed terms:

- transport (convection / diffusion) → classical “gradient” – type closures
- chemical source terms for species and energy are highly non-linear, mostly at the sub-grid scale
- premixed flame are unresolved on LES grids → numerical instabilities (and crash!)
- “gradient” – type closures are not adapted

## Two classes of approaches:

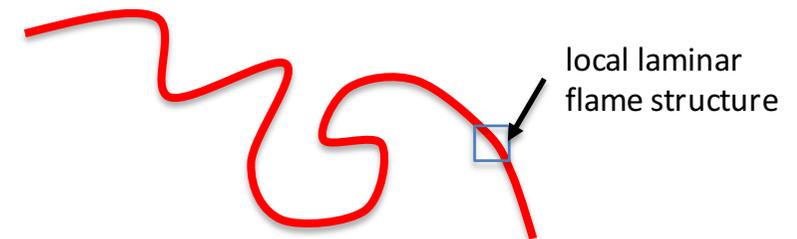
Mathematical approach: PFD methods

$$\tilde{\Phi} = \int_{c^*} \int_{Z^*} \Phi(c^*, Z^*) P(c^*) P(Z^*) dc^* dZ^*$$

- Presumed / transported Pdf
- Direct / tabulated chemistry description

The issue is to determine the Pdf!

Phenomenological approach: flame surface



- Surface area  $\Sigma \rightarrow$  wrinkling
- Local flame structure: tabulated  $\Omega$

$$\tilde{\Omega} = \tilde{\Sigma} \cdot \Omega$$

## LES turbulent combustion model : TFLES

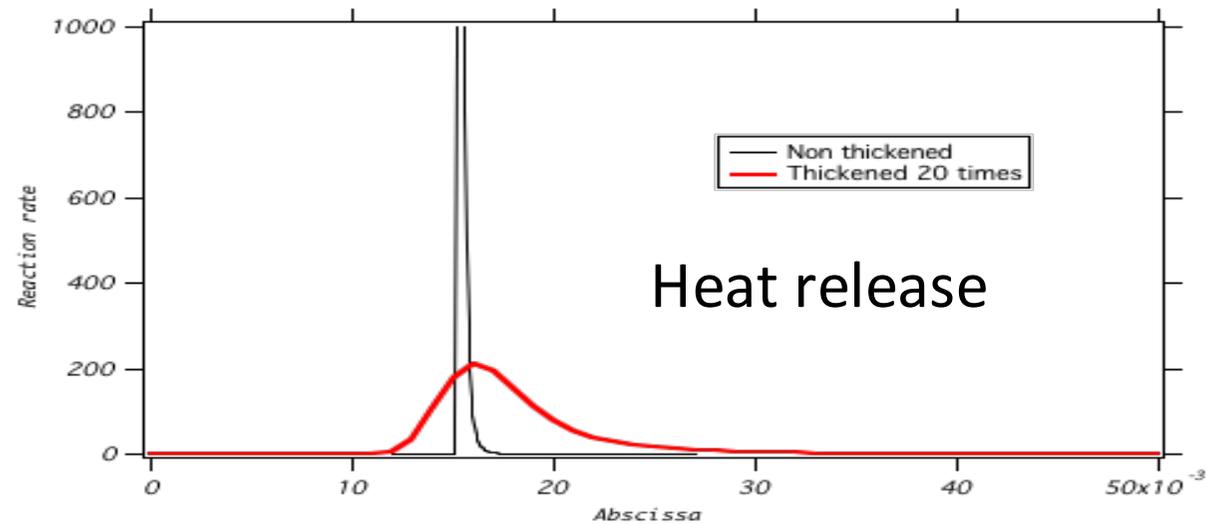
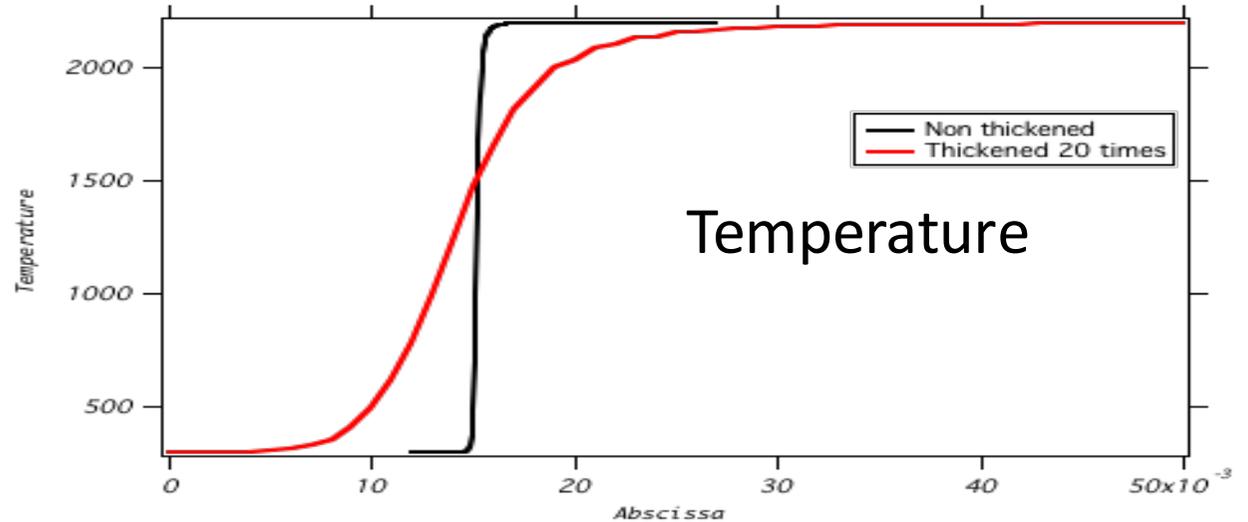
The property derived for laminar flame also holds for turbulent flames :  
*a premixed flame front can be thickened and still travel at the same speed.*

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho D_k \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right) + \dot{\omega}_k \quad \delta = \frac{D_{th}^1}{s_L}$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho \mathbf{F} D_k \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right) + \frac{1}{\mathbf{F}} \dot{\omega}_k \quad \delta = \frac{\mathbf{F} D_{th}^1}{s_L}$$

- Both equations propagate flames at the same speed  $s_L$
- But the flame thickness is increased by a factor  $F$  in the second case ==> the flame front can be adjusted to any thickness

## Thickened and non-thickened flames

- CH<sub>4</sub>- air
- simple chemistry
- F=20



The thickened flame does not respond to turbulence like the initial unthickened flame.

This can be parametrized (subgrid scale wrinkling) and turbulent effects are included using an efficiency function  $\mathbf{E}$  (*Colin et al, Phys. Fluids 2000*) derived from DNS of flame vortex interactions:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho \mathbf{F} D_k \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right) + \frac{\mathbf{E}}{\mathbf{F}} \dot{\omega}_k$$

where  $\mathbf{E}$  is a function of the local turbulence and of the premixed flame characteristics (speed and thickness).

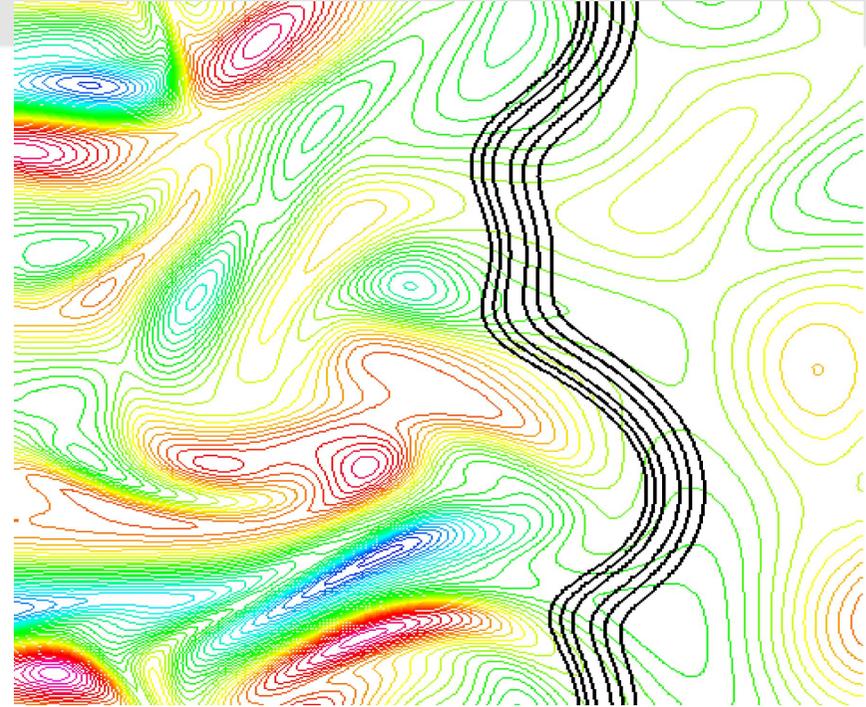
**E measures the subgrid scale wrinkling**

# LES turbulent combustion model : TFLES



F = 1

Non thickened DNS:  
Total reaction rate R1



F = 5

Thickened DNS:  
Total reaction rate R2

$$E = \frac{R_1}{R_2} = f\left(\frac{u'}{s_L^0}, \frac{L}{\delta_L^0}\right)$$

Colin et al, Phys Fluids 2000, Poinso Veynante, Chapter 5

Local turbulent velocity

Local integral scale

$$E = \frac{R_1}{R_2} = f\left(\frac{u'}{s_L^0}, \frac{L}{\delta_L^0}\right)$$

Laminar flame speed

Laminar flame thickness

- Simple to implement: algebraic expressions given in the initial paper of Colin et al (Phys Fluids 2000).
- Extensions in papers by Charlette et al, Comb Flame 2002
- Dynamic versions by Wang et al Comb. Flame 2012
- The whole question of flame / turbulence interactions is hidden in the E function. Careful...

## Colin's model (Phys. Fluids 2000)

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0}, \text{Re}_l \right) = 1 + \beta \frac{2 \ln(2)}{3 c_{ms} (\text{Re}_l^{1/2} - 1)} \Gamma \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0} \right) \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0}$$

$$\text{with } \Gamma \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0} \right) = 0.75 \exp \left[ -\frac{1.2}{(u'_\Delta / s_l^0)^{0.3}} \right] \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0} \right)^{2/3}$$

## Charlette / Meneveau model (Comb Flame 2002)

$$\mathbb{E} \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0}, \text{Re}_\Delta \right) = \left( 1 + \min \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \Gamma \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0}, \text{Re}_\Delta \right) \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0} \right) \right)^\beta$$

$$\text{with } \Gamma \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0}, \text{Re}_\Delta \right) = \text{fit} \left( \frac{\Delta}{\delta_l^0}, \frac{u'_\Delta}{s_l^0}, \text{Re}_\Delta \right)$$

## EXTENSION TO ALL REGIMES: the basic idea of the DTF model

1/ Thicken only where reaction takes place: the flame zone. Detect it using a sensor  $S$  (based on reaction rate for example):

$S=1$  in the flame reaction zone.  $S=0$  elsewhere

2/ In other regions ( $S=0$ ), simply return to normal LES model:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[ \rho (\mathbf{F} D_k S + D_t (1 - S)) \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right] + \frac{\mathbf{E}}{\mathbf{F}_k}$$

This formulation actually allows to compute all regimes with only one single equation.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[ \rho (\mathbf{F} D_k S + D_t (1 - S)) \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right] + \frac{\mathbf{E}}{\mathbf{F}} \dot{\omega}_k$$

It degenerates to:

**In reaction  
zones:  $S=1$**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[ \rho \mathbf{F} D_k \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right] + \frac{\mathbf{E}}{\mathbf{F}} \dot{\omega}_k$$

Standard thickened flame equation

**Pure mixing  
zones :  $S=0$**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \rho D_t \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

LES mixing model

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[ \rho (\mathbf{F} D_k S + D_t (1 - S)) \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right] + \frac{\mathbf{E}}{\mathbf{F}} \dot{\omega}_k$$

**For small domain size or  
large computers:  
Go to F=1, E=1 and DNS**

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left[ \rho D_k \frac{\partial Y_k}{\partial x_i} \right] + \dot{\omega}_k$$

Resolved laminar premixed flame

In ignition regions

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho Y_k + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \rho u_i Y_k = \frac{\mathbf{E}}{\mathbf{F}} \dot{\omega}_k$$

Usual perfectly stirred reactor

Diffusion flames

Only the reaction zone is  
thickened

Near walls

No ad-hoc correction : quenching is  
obtained thanks to Arrhenius expression

## Major advantages of DTFLES

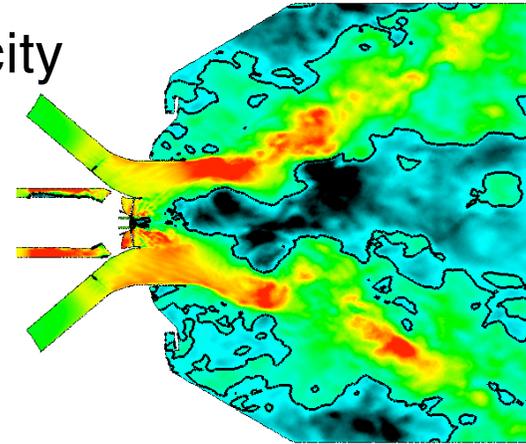
- ◆ Today for very large chambers, the typical values of  $F$  (the thickening factor) is 100 to 200. For small chambers,  $F$  is of the order of 10
- ◆ But when the computer resources increase,  $F$  goes down.
- ◆ Ultimately,  $F$  will go to 1. This is DNS (in the flame sense)...
- ◆ Kinetics are directly introduced. No need for models



Example of thickened flames in an industrial gas turbine

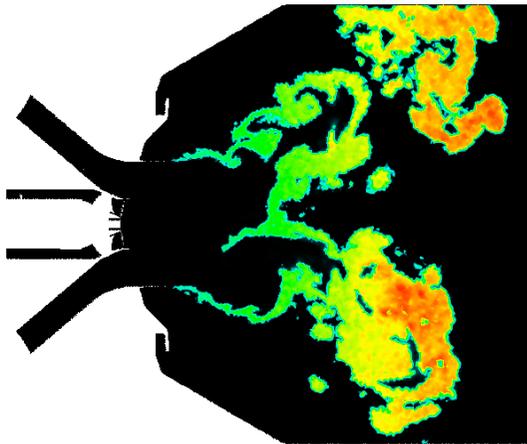
Axial velocity

u: -40 -20 0 20 40 60 80 100



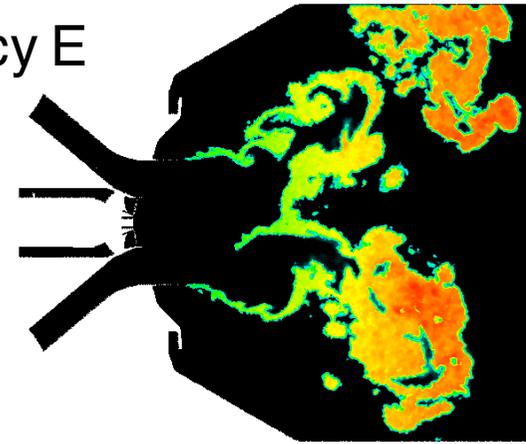
Thickening factor F

Thickening: 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45

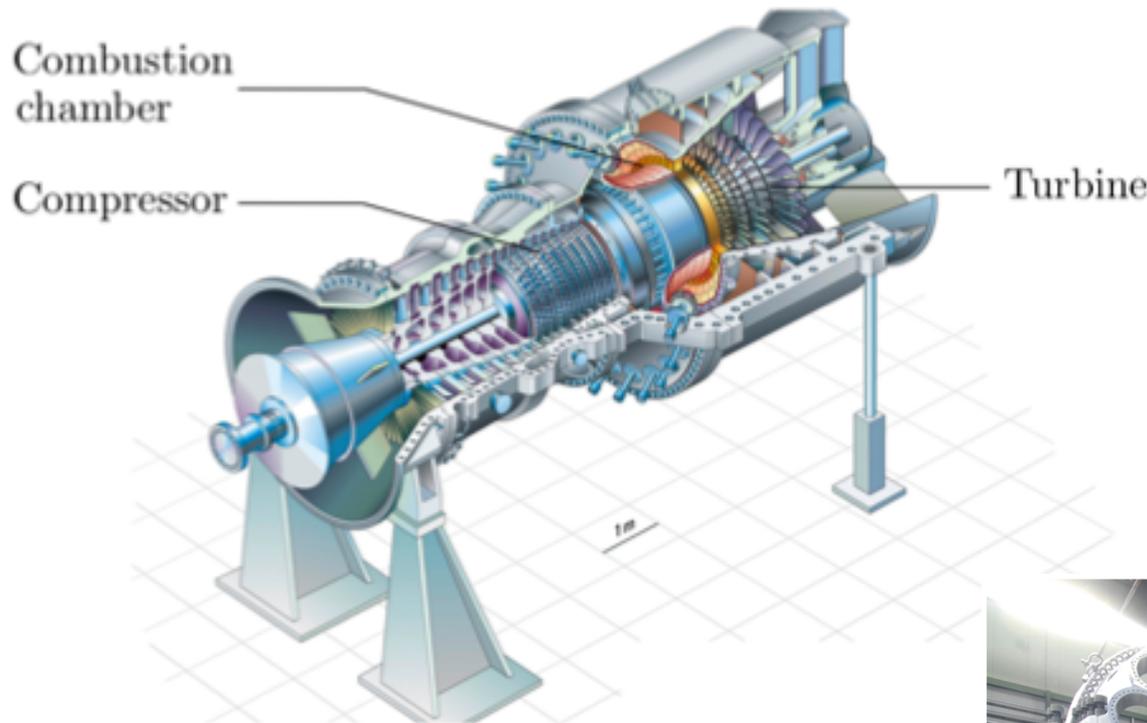


Efficiency E

Efficiency: 1.5 2 2.5 3 3.5 4 4.5 5 5.5 6 6.5

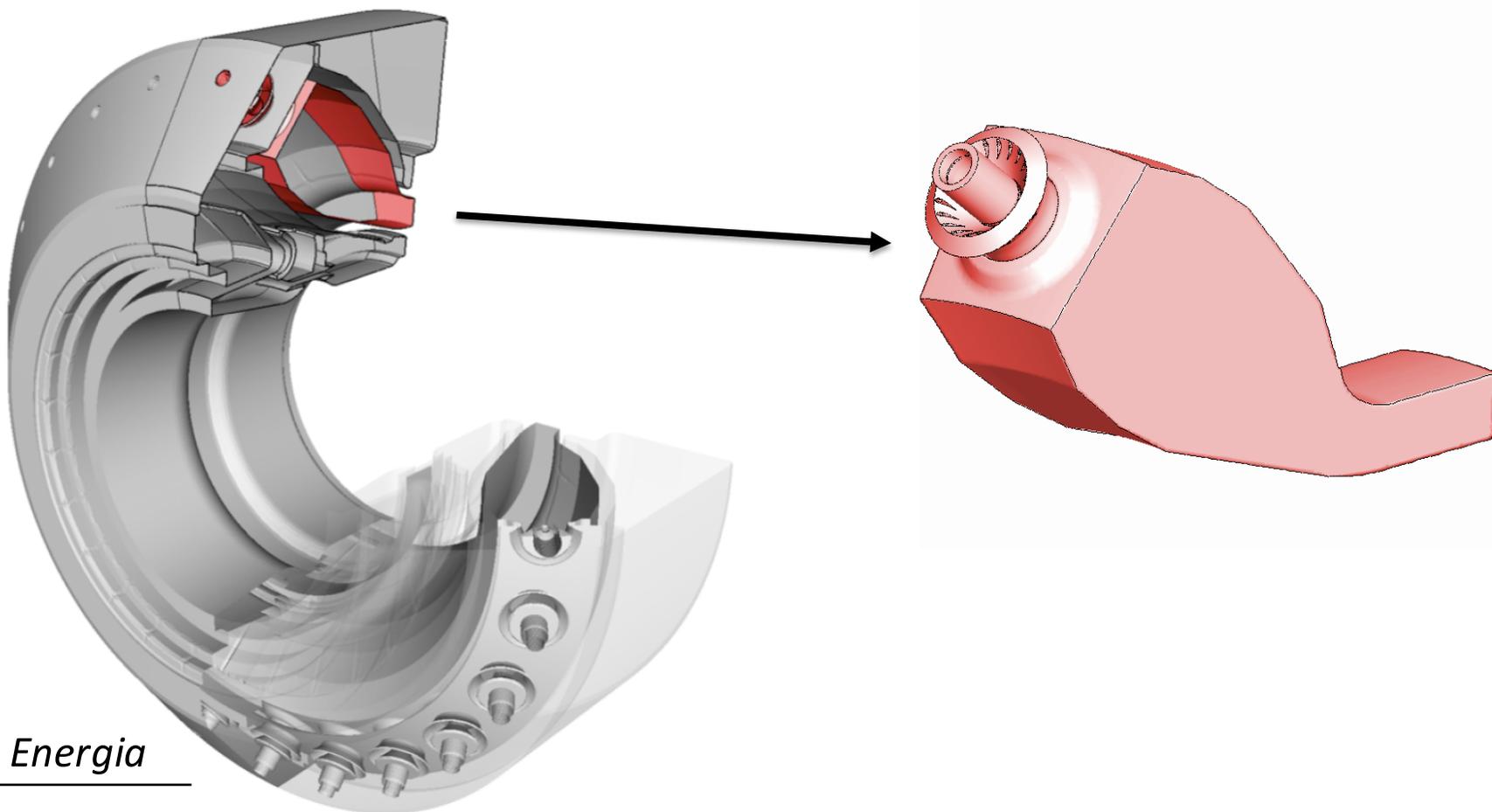


# Example: an industrial gas turbine



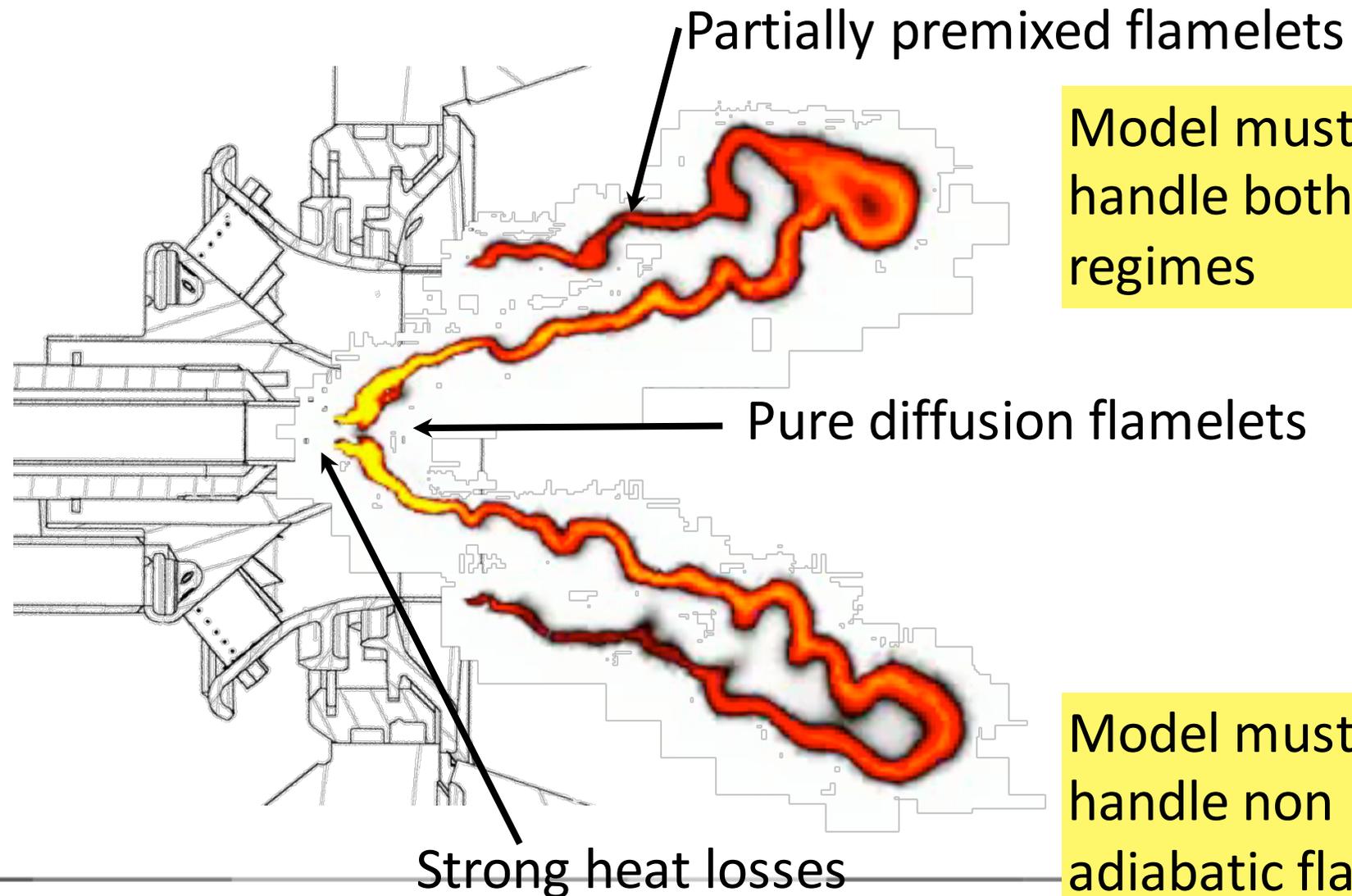
Annular combustion chamber [35]

LES of one sector

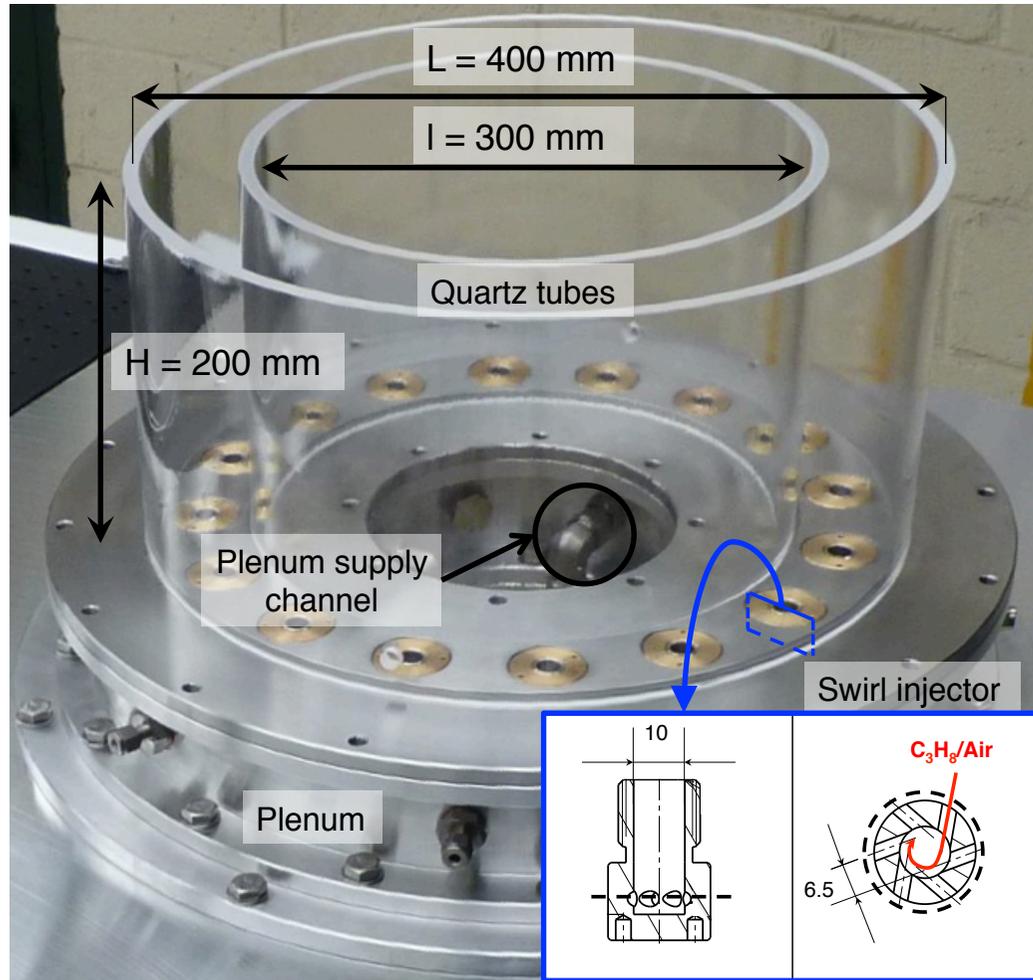


[35] Ansaldo Energia

Six inlets ! Difficult to define a mixture fraction  $z$  !



# Ignition of the MICCA burner of EM2C

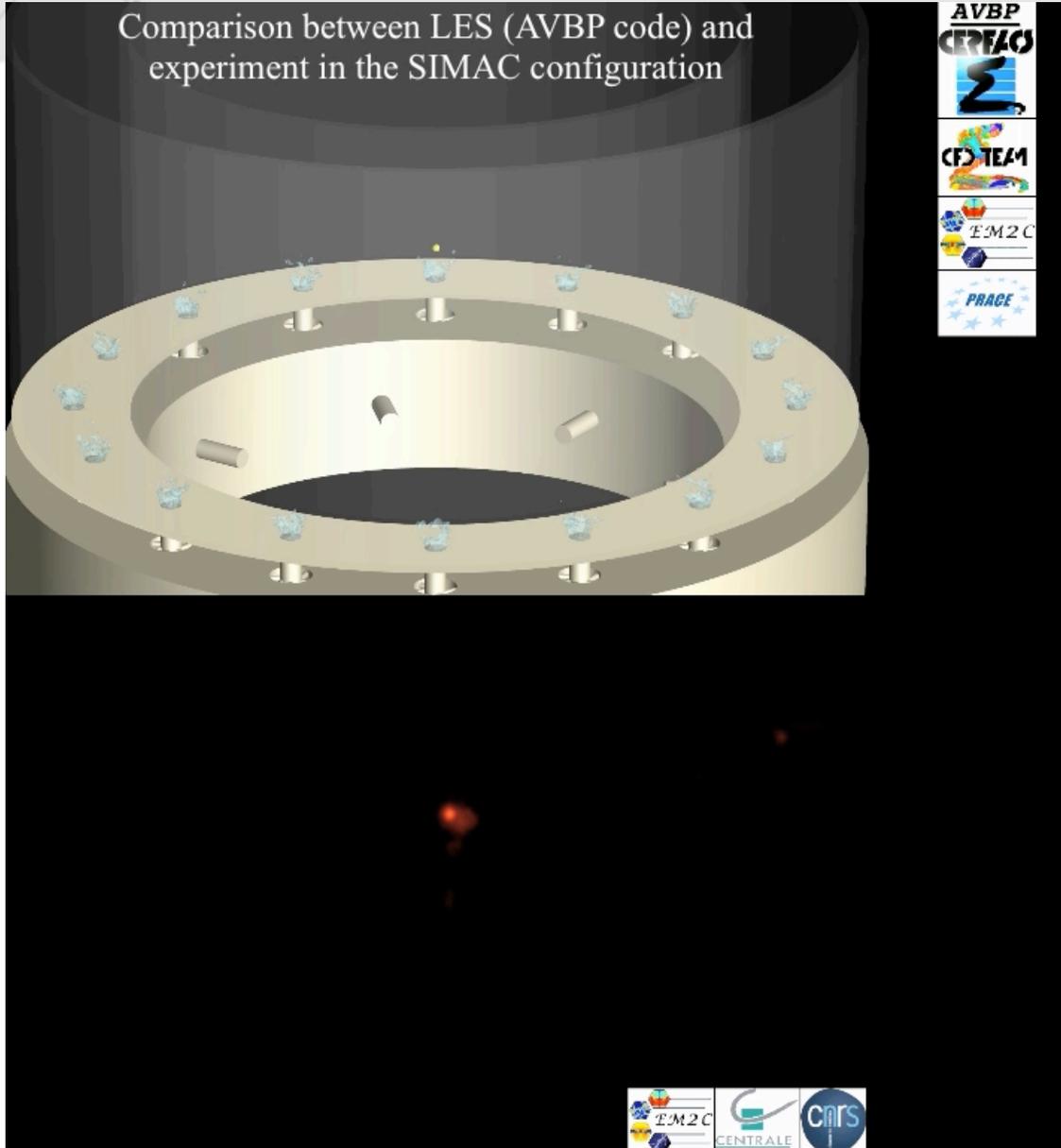


## MICCA (EM2C) (*Durox et al*)

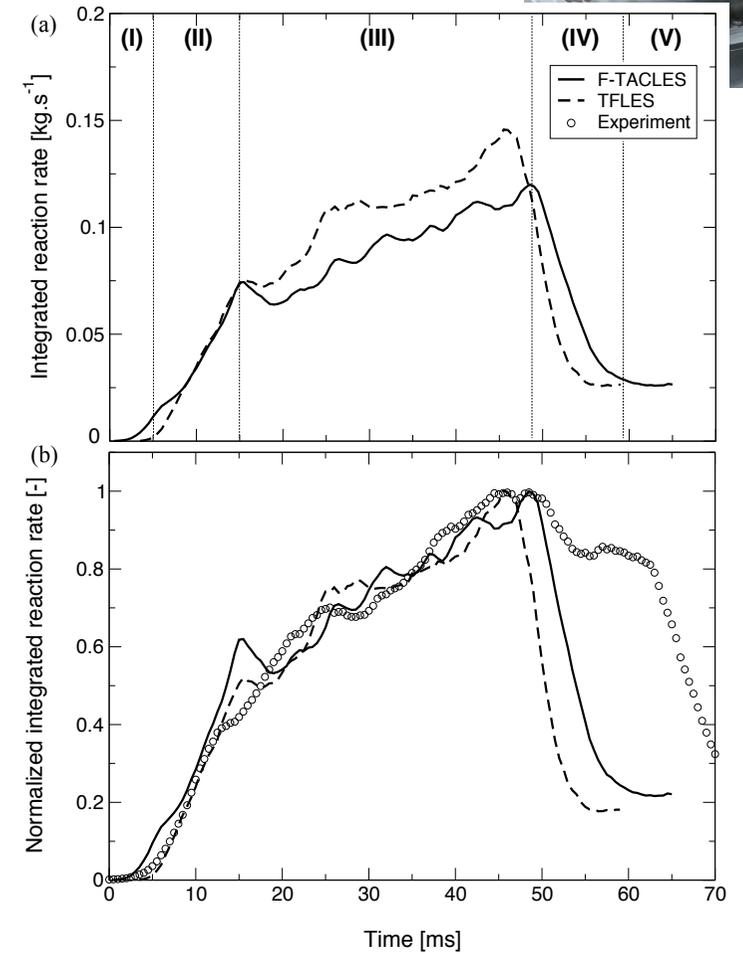
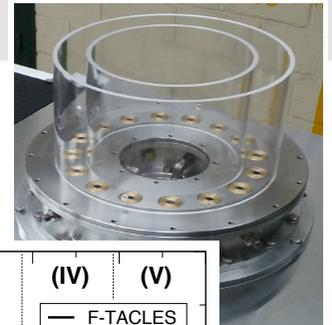
- Annular chamber
- 16 swirled injectors
- propane
- transparent walls

# Ignition of the MICCA burner of EM2C

Comparison between LES (AVBP code) and experiment in the SIMAC configuration

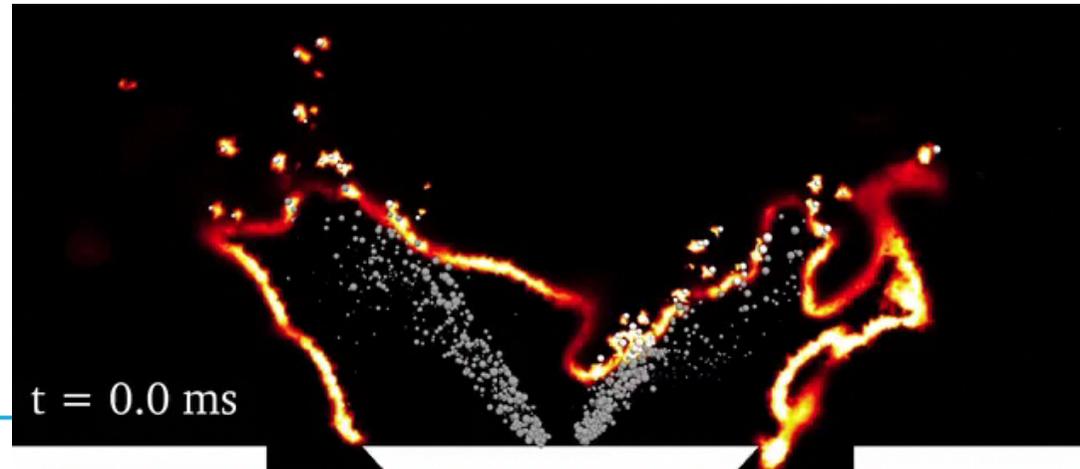
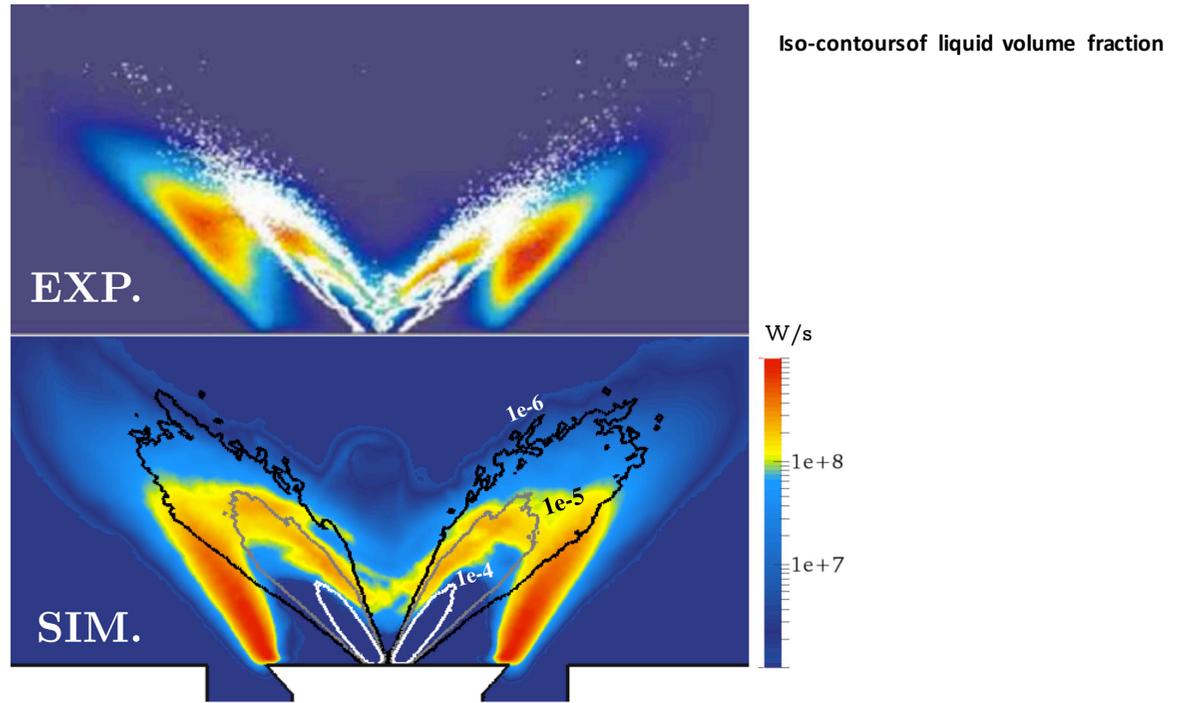
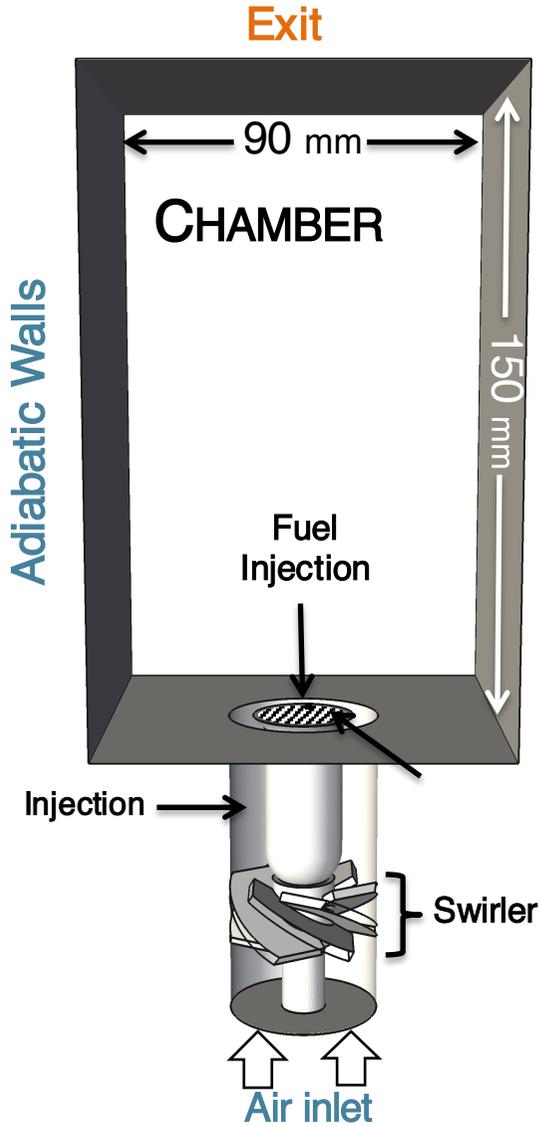


Philip et al, ASME 2013



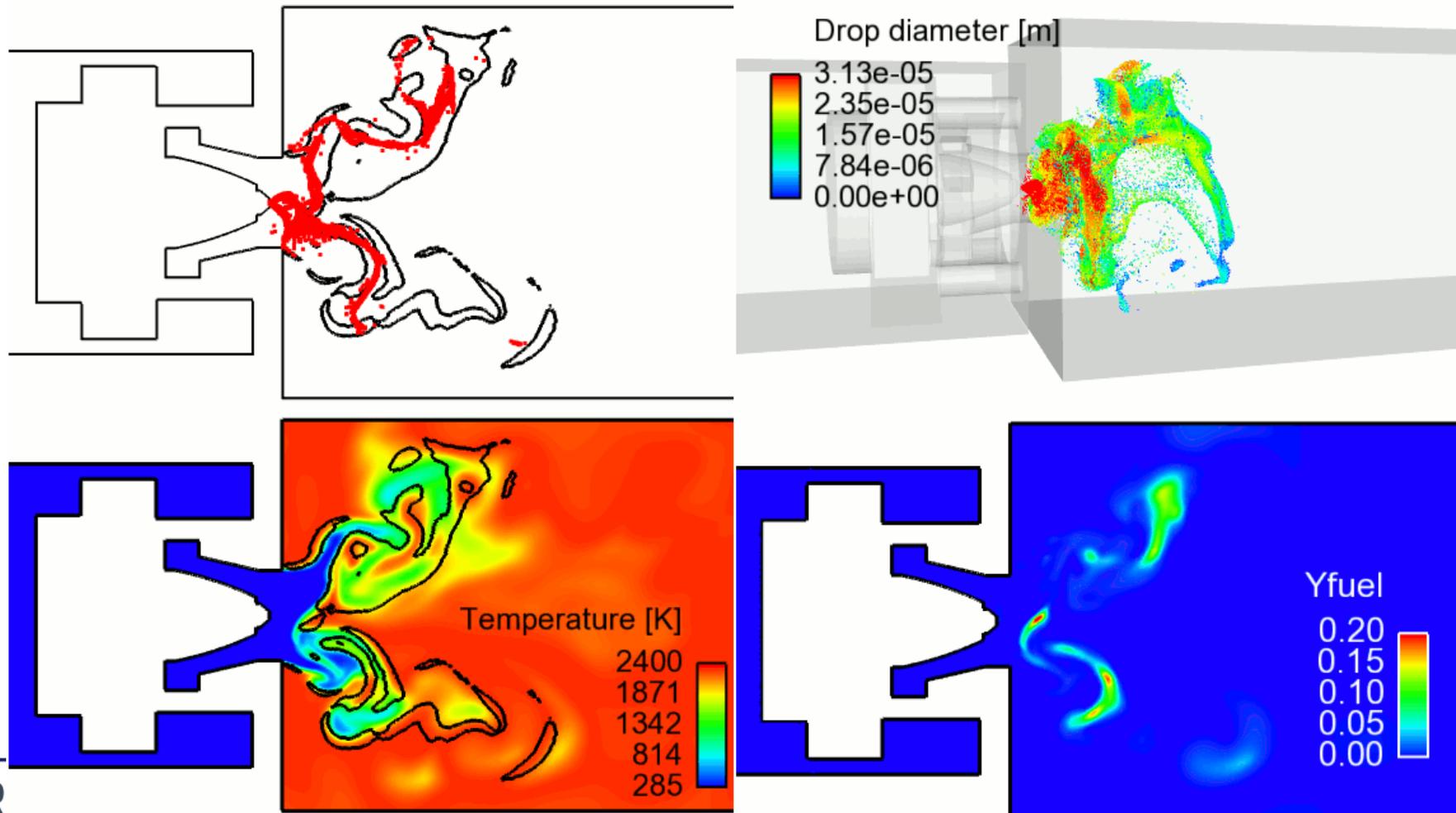
# Adding two-phase flow : liquid fuel

Experiment of Cambridge university



## Application to MERCATO combustion chamber

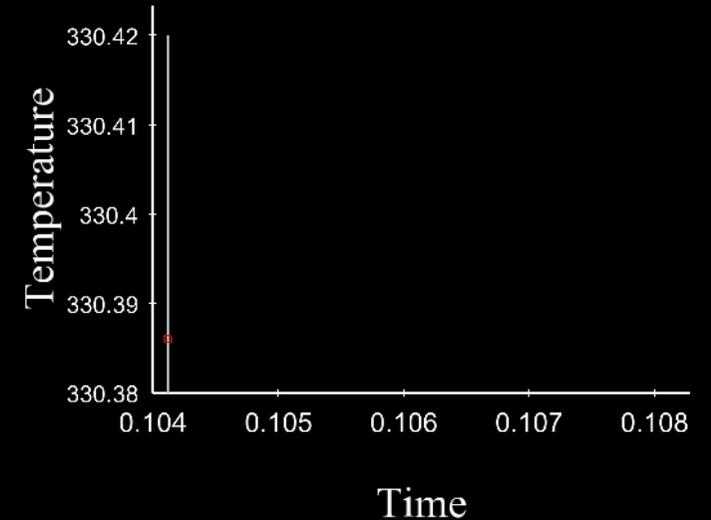
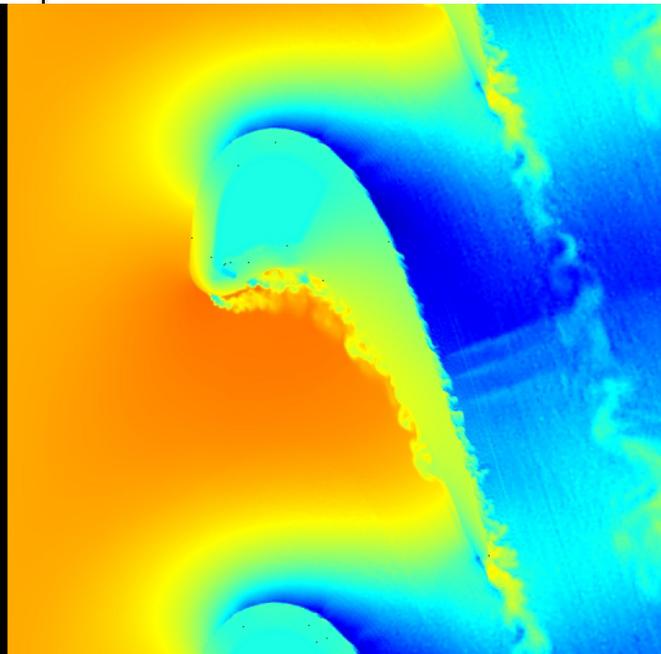
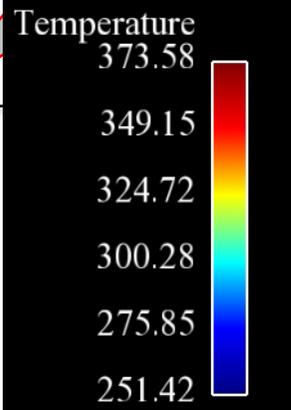
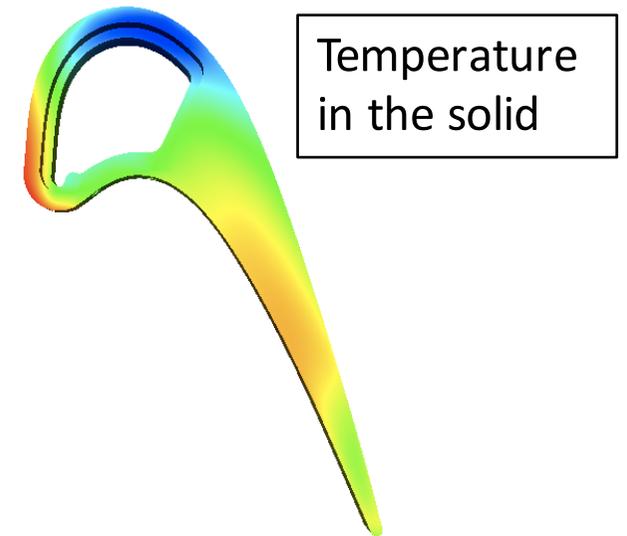
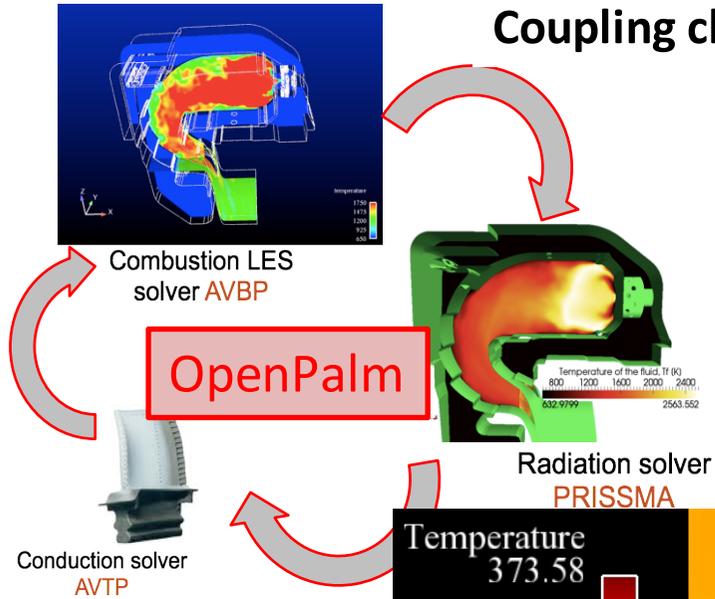
(a) Drop and Heat release isoline, (b) Drop diameter, (c) Gaseous temperature in the median cut plane and (d) Kerosene field in the median cut plane



# Adding heat transfer

## Turbine blade cooling

### Coupling chain



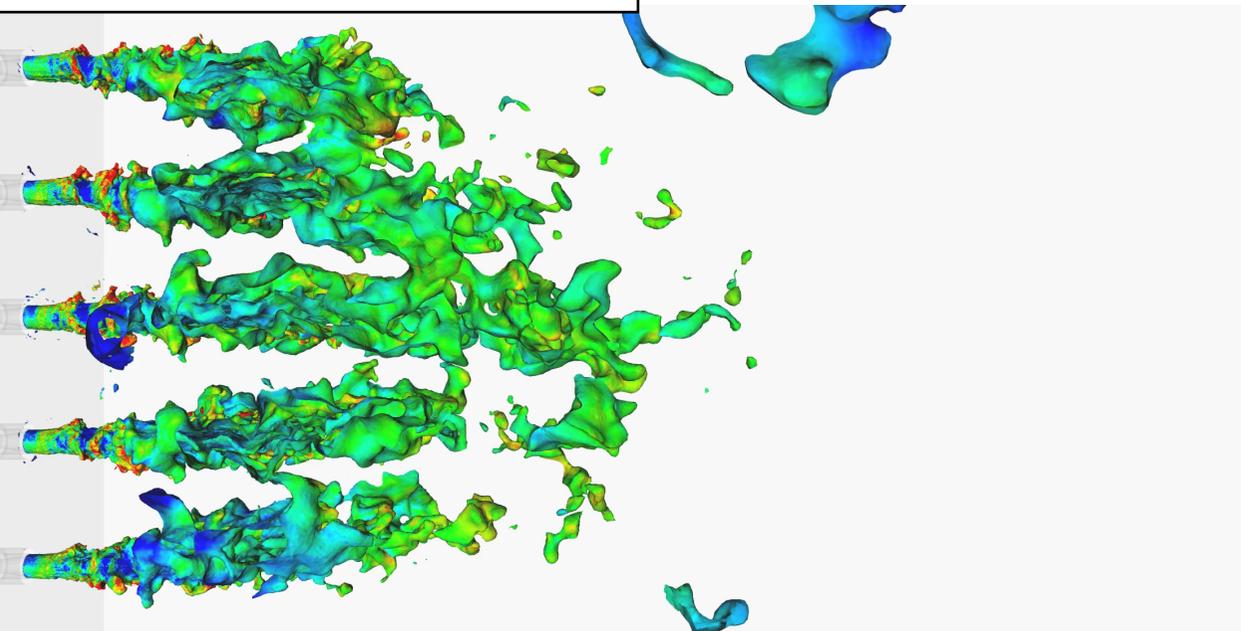
# Other applications : cryotechnic combustion

## Instabilities

A. Urbano, 2015  
Hakim et al., 2014



H2/O2 cryogenic, 100 bar  
8,5 Millions hours CPU



CERFACS

H2/O2 cryogenic, 75 bar, 80 MW  
80 Millions hours CPU

