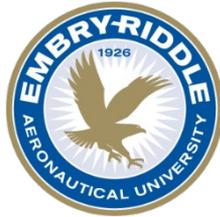


# Fundamental Experimental and Numerical Combustion Study of H<sub>2</sub> Containing Fuels for Gas Turbines



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**PM: Matt Adams**

UTSR Meeting, Orlando, FL, 10/22/2021

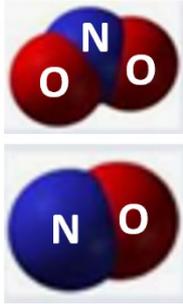
Contact: [subith@ucf.edu](mailto:subith@ucf.edu)



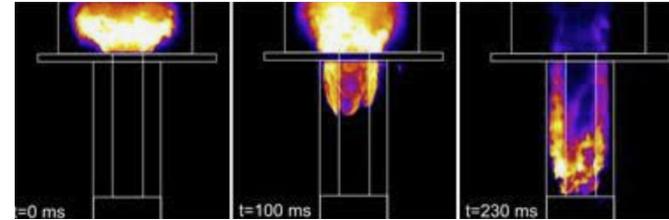
# Introduction

- Some major challenges involved in hydrogen containing fuel combustion/ combustor development

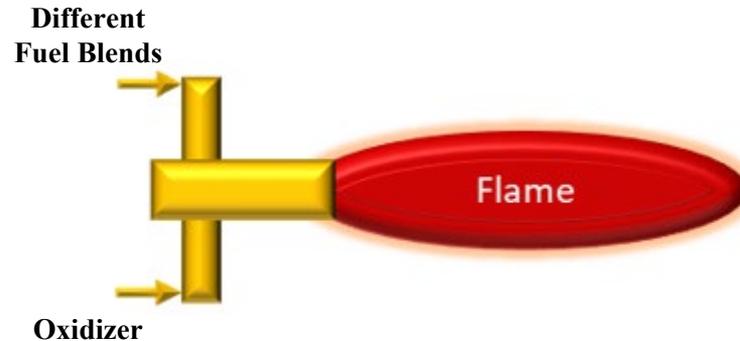
## Thermal / Fuel NO<sub>x</sub>



## Flashback



## Fuel Flexibility



- Fundamental tools and knowledge must be advanced in order to improve or design new combustion chambers

# Mixtures of Focus

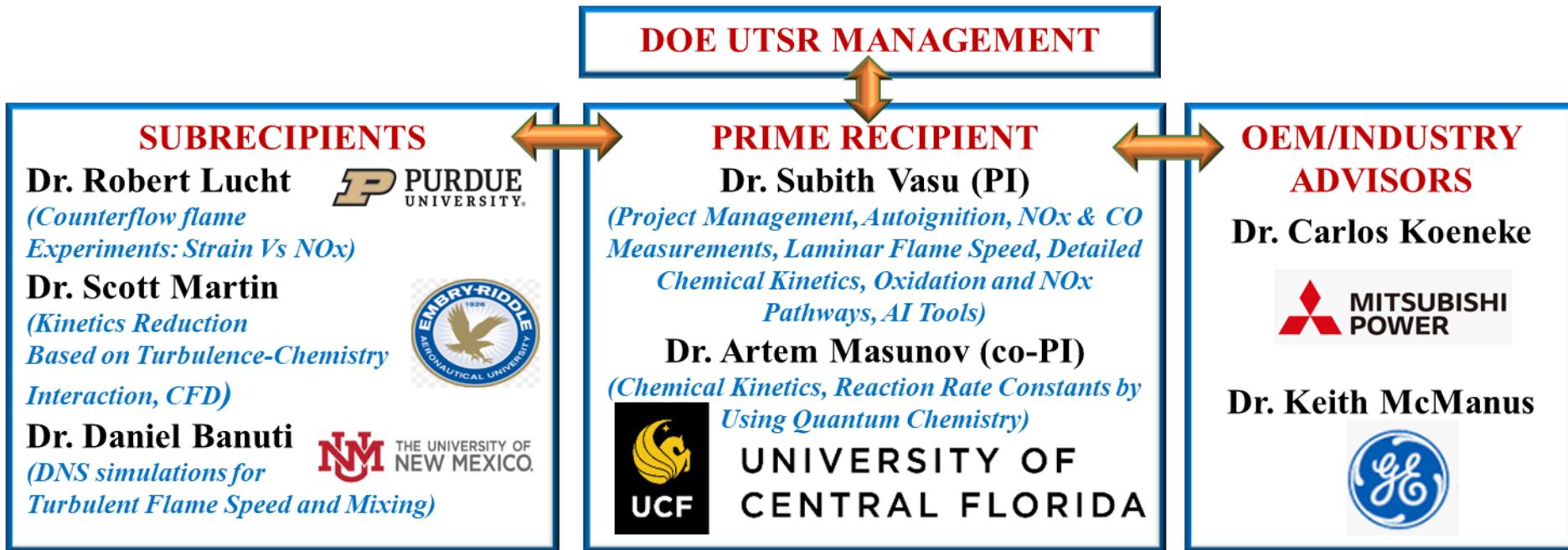
- Various H<sub>2</sub> fuel combustors that are being developed by various OEMs

	Type	Notes	TIT °C [°F] or Class	Max H <sub>2</sub> % (Vol)	
<b>MHPS</b>	Diffusion	N2 Dilution, Water/Steam Injection	1200~1400 [2192~2552]	100	 <b>Non-premixed combustor</b>  N2 dilution, water/ steam injection → <b>Efficiency penalty with steam.</b>
	Pre-Mix (DLN)	Dry	1600 [2912]	30	
	Multi-Cluster	Dry/Underdevelopment - Target 2024	1650 [3002]	100	
<b>GE</b>	SN	Single Nozzle (Standard)	B,E Class	90-100	
	MNQC	Multi-Nozzle Quiet Combustor w/ N2 or Steam	E,F Class	90-100	
	DLN 1	Dry	B,E Class	33	
	DLN 2.6+	Dry	F,HA Class	15	
	DLN 2.6e	Micromixer	HA Class	50	
<b>Siemens</b>	DLE	Dry	E Class	30	
	DLE	Dry	F Class	30	
	DLE	Dry	H Class	30	
	DLE	Dry	HL Class	30	
<b>PSM</b> Ansaldo	Sequential	GT26	F Class	30	 <b>Premixed type burners</b>
	Sequential	GT36	H Class	50	
	ULE	Current Flamesheet™	F, G Class	40	
	New ULE	Flamesheet™ -- Target 2023	Various	100	

Current and near-term capabilities of OEMs for H<sub>2</sub> containing fuel fired gas turbines (Ref: D. Noble et al., "Journal of Engineering for Gas Turbines and Power, 2020, doi: 10.1115/1.4049346)

- There are premixed, non-premixed, and also heavy N<sub>2</sub> diluted combustion strategies are in practice.
- Lean to Rich (H<sub>2</sub>/NG/NH<sub>3</sub>) mixtures in N<sub>2</sub> dilutions are primary interest

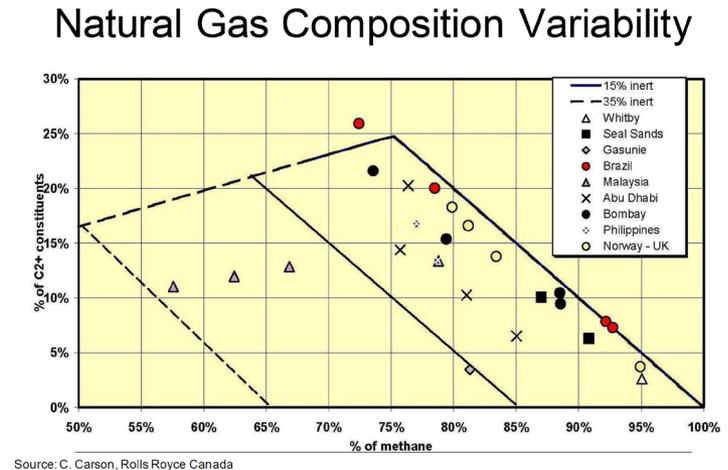
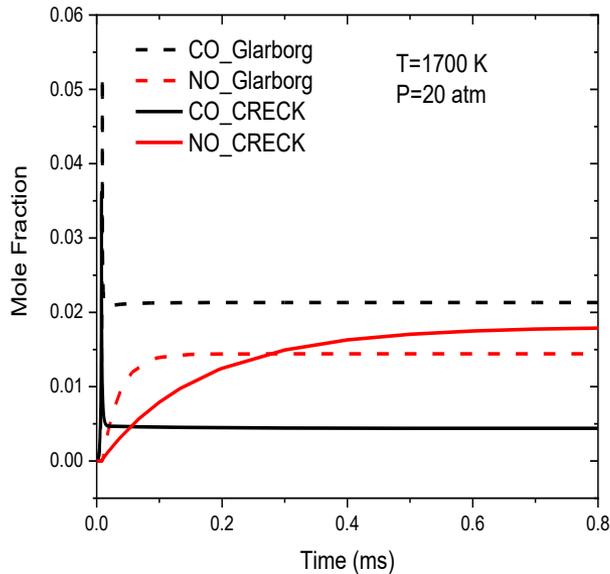
# Team Co-ordination



# Fundamentals of Focus (Chemical Kinetics)

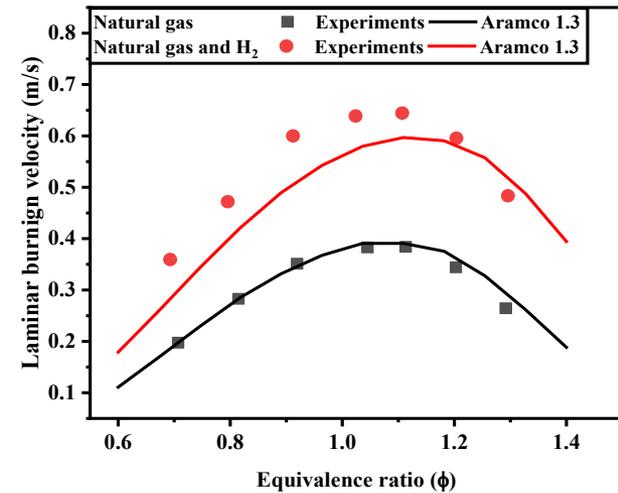
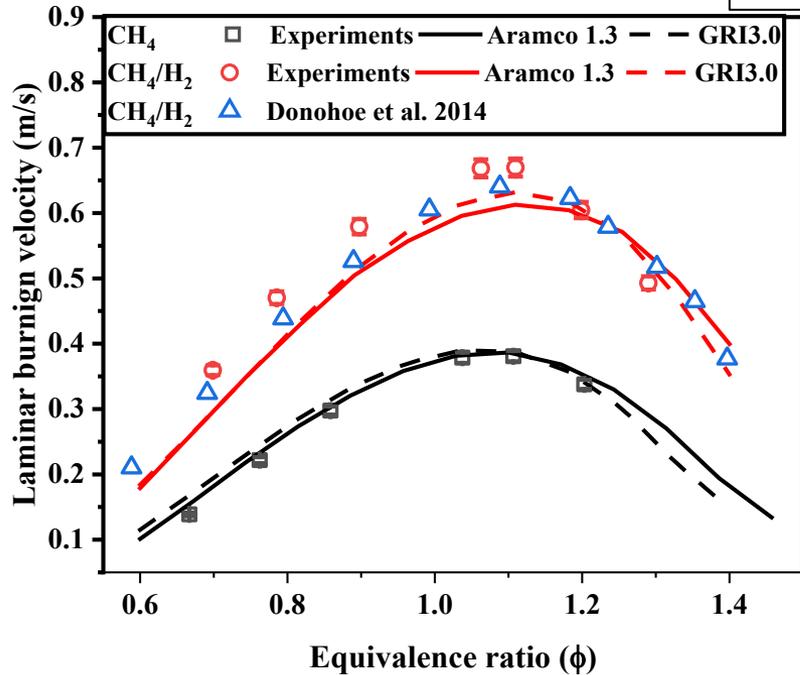
# Fundamentals of Focus- NO<sub>x</sub> formation during H<sub>2</sub>/NG combustion

- Chemical Kinetics of H<sub>2</sub> containing fuels is being studied approximately from the past two decades. **However, discrepancy in the models still exists.**



# Fundamentals of focus— Flame Speeds of H<sub>2</sub>/CH<sub>4</sub>/Natural gas

Data taken from Vasu Lab: Turbo  
Expo 2021

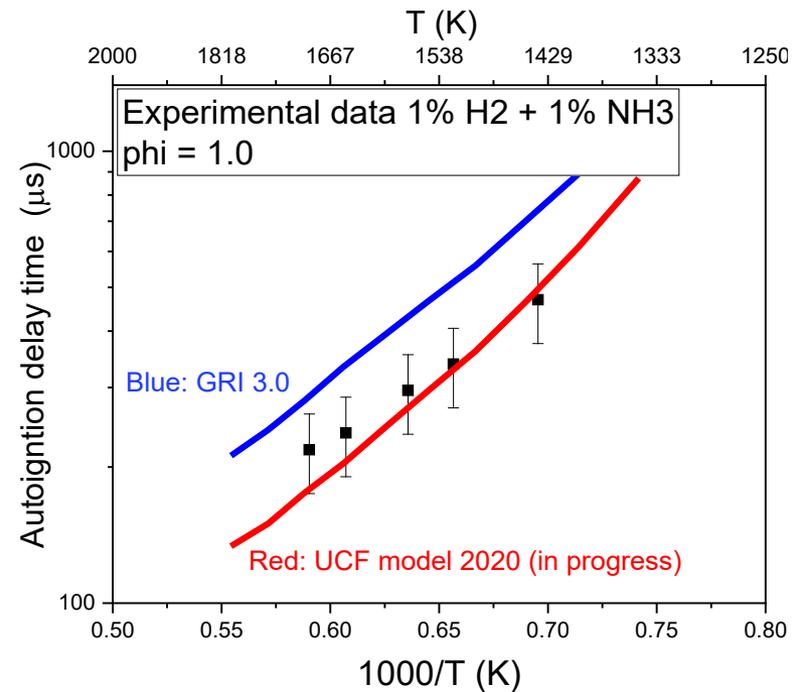
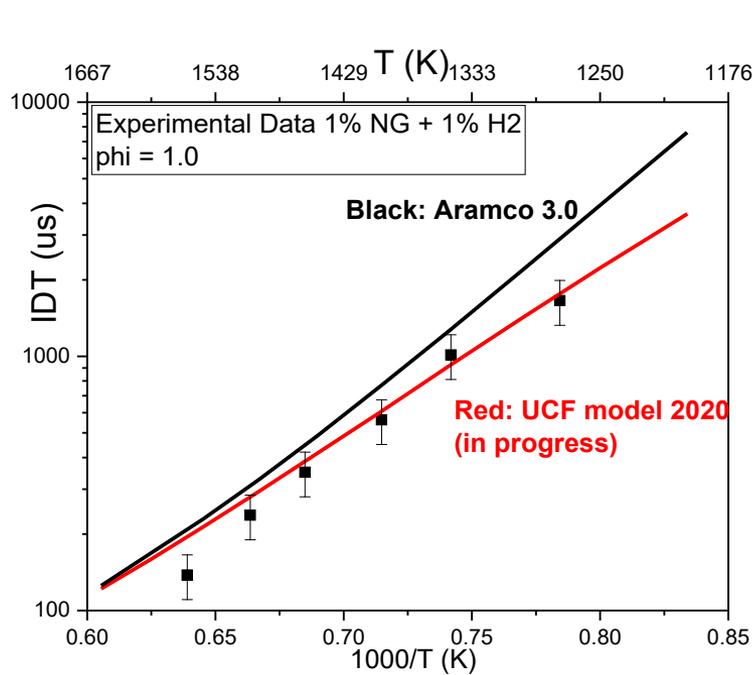


**Discrepancies in predictions for natural gas/H<sub>2</sub> mixtures**

**Need to look at this for specific compositions of interest to industry**

Pure methane/H<sub>2</sub> mixtures  
are easily predicted by  
existing models

# Fundamentals of Focus

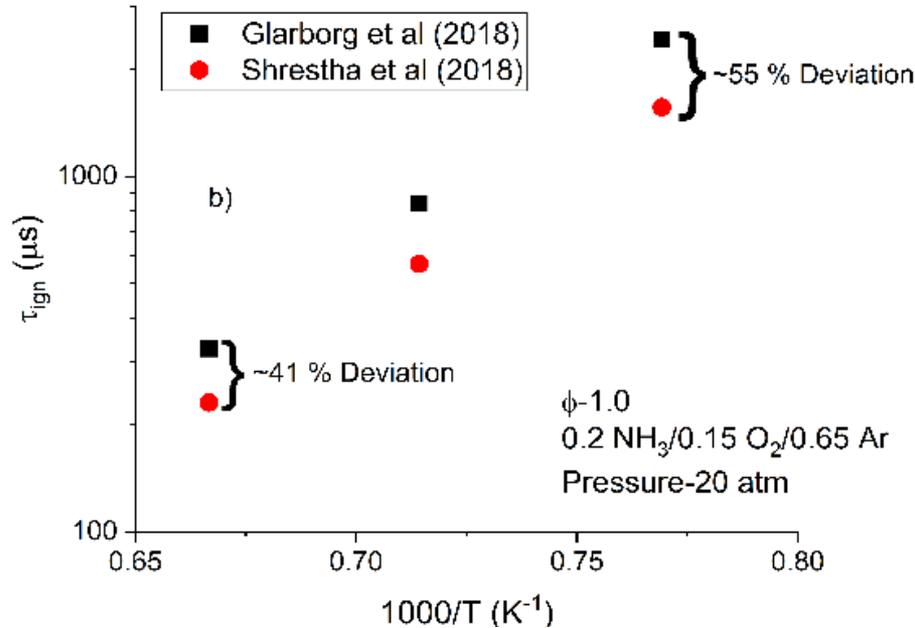


Experimental Ignition Delay Time data at  $\sim 2$  atm,  $\phi=1.0$  (50% NG/ 50% H<sub>2</sub>) and (50% NH<sub>3</sub>/ 50% H<sub>2</sub>) (Experiments performed in Vasu's lab at UCF). UCF model is work in progress.

- Chemical Kinetic models need improvement
- **Reasons for the limitations of existing kinetic models are in the next slide**

# Fundamentals of Focus

Predictions of two recent ammonia chemical kinetic mechanisms (20% NH<sub>3</sub>) near 20atm.



Clearly, this shows the uncertainty in predictions by the current state-of-the-art chemical kinetic models. This is because all these models were developed based on experimental results with lower concentrations of NH<sub>3</sub> (NH<sub>3</sub> as an impurity), and validation targets with experiments at higher concentrations are necessary when NH<sub>3</sub> is intended to be used as a fuel or fuel additive.

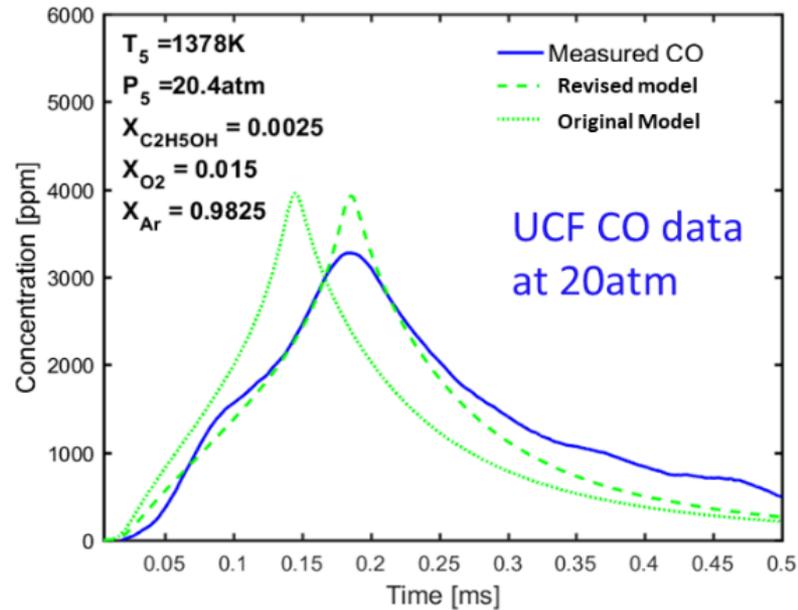
# Fundamentals of Focus

## Chemical Kinetics:

- But here are the limitations of the existing hydrogen fuel kinetics:
  - ✓ Not validated against CO and NOx time histories
  - ✓ Not validated against rich mixtures
  - ✓ Not validated against high-fuel loadings
  - ✓ Not validated against high N<sub>2</sub> dilutions
- Thus, we are performing shocktube and laser speciation experiments to generate data to validate chemical kinetics
- Improve existing detailed kinetics if needed
- **Shocktube, Flame speed, and Chemical kinetic model improvements will be done at the UCF**

# Fundamentals of Focus- Laser species measurements

## CO time history measurements taken at the UCF near 20atm:



- UCF has significant experience in experimentally determining species time histories and modifying chemical kinetics

# Fundamentals of Focus

## Experimental Plan for Shock Tube Experiments:

Mixt.	Vol. % of H <sub>2</sub>	Diluents	Measurements	Applicable to the OEM Combustors	Need for the study (additional details in the Merit Review Criterion Discussion)
H <sub>2</sub>	90-100	N <sub>2</sub>	NO	GE's MNQC; MHPS Multi-Cluster, Diffusion	Data not available in the literature
NH <sub>3</sub> -H <sub>2</sub>	10-90	No dilution	NO, IDTs	-	Current kinetic models not suitable at high-fuel loading; Models not validated with time resolved NO <sub>x</sub> data; H <sub>2</sub> -NH <sub>3</sub> are not studied
H <sub>2</sub> -NG	10-90	No dilution	CO, NO, IDTs	MHPS Pre-Mix; GE's DLN 1, 2.6+, 2.6e; Siemens DLE (E-HL class) Ansaldo Sequential, ULE	Current kinetic models are not suitable high-fuel loading conditions; Models not validated with time-resolved NO and CO data; Rich mixture for axial staging are not studied

# Fundamentals of Focus

## Experimental Plan for Flame Speed Experiments:

Mixt.	Targeted Measurements	Table 1 OEM Combustors	Need for the study (additional details in the Merit Review Criterion Discussion)
<b>H<sub>2</sub>-NG</b> <b>(10-90% Vol % H<sub>2</sub>)</b>	Laminar flame speed; Instability in expanding flame	MHPS Pre-Mix; GE's DLN 1, 2.6+, 2.6e; Siemens DLE Class E-HL; Ansaldo's Sequential, ULE	Flame speed data not available at high-fuel loading conditions; instability help to quantify influence of preferential diffusion
<b>NH<sub>3</sub>-H<sub>2</sub></b> <b>(10-90% Vol % H<sub>2</sub>)</b>	Laminar flame speed; Instability in expanding flame		Flame speed data not available at high-fuel loading conditions; instability help to quantify influence of preferential diffusion

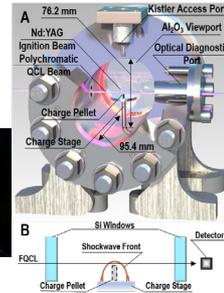
- **These flame speed experiments will be used for chemical kinetic model development and to develop other necessary correlations to use in combustor designs.**

# Vasu Lab Facilities for H<sub>2</sub>/NH<sub>3</sub>/Natural Gas Blends

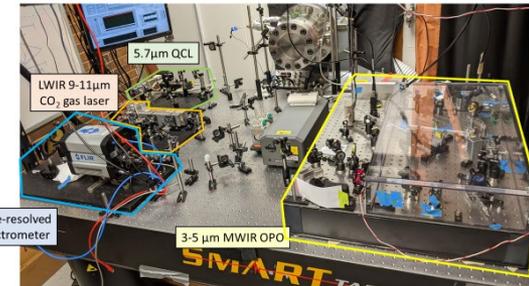
2 Shock Tubes – realistic GT conditions with H<sub>2</sub>/NH<sub>3</sub> permits



## Laser and Optical Diagnostics



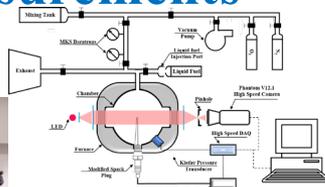
UCF Shock Tube Laser Diagnostics



### Capabilities

- High-Pressure Combustion up to 1000 bar and autoignition and emission species Measurements.
- Toxic impurities NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, and syngas
- Hydrogen or ammonia combustion with impurities
- Synthetic and biofuels
- Lasers for studying NO<sub>x</sub> formation routes
- High-Temperature Thermomechanical Response and Surface Chemistry of Novel Materials
- High -Pressure and -Temperature Molecular Spectroscopy Data for the Development of State-of-the-Art Non-Intrusive Optical Diagnostics

## Flame Speed Measurements



## Chemical Kinetic Modeling

### Previous Collaborative Accomplishments

- **Aramco 3.0-** most comprehensive natural gas mechanism
- **UCF model for oxy-combustion SCO<sub>2</sub>**- most accurate model used by industry (GE, SWRI, Hanwha, KEPCO, CRAFT Tech) and DOE (NETL, NREL)
- **JetSurF model-** For jet fuel combustion used by OEMs

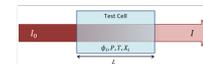
### Absorption Measurements:

#### Beer-Lambert Law

$$\alpha = -\ln\left(\frac{I}{I_0}\right) = \sum_{ij} S_{ij}(T)X_i PL\phi_{ij}(\nu - \nu_{0ij})$$

- $I$  = Transmitted Intensity ( $\frac{W}{cm^2}$ )
- $I_0$  = Incident Intensity ( $\frac{W}{cm^2}$ )
- $S_{ij}$  = Line strength ( $\frac{cm^2}{mole \cdot cm}$ )
- $T$  = Static Temperature (K)
- $X_i$  = Mole Fraction
- $P$  = Static Pressure (atm)
- $L$  = Path Length (cm)
- $\phi_{ij}$  = Lineshape Function (cm)
- $\nu$  = Optical Frequency (Hz)
- $\nu_{0ij}$  = Line Center Optical Frequency (Hz)
- Subscripts:
  - $i$  = Quantum Transition
  - $j$  = Atomic/Molecular Species

Raw Sensor Data
HITRAN/HITEMP/PNNL Databases, UCF Lab
PCBC/TAP-on-TDLAS
Hardware Constraint/Constant
Processed Sensor Data
TDLAS velocity measurements

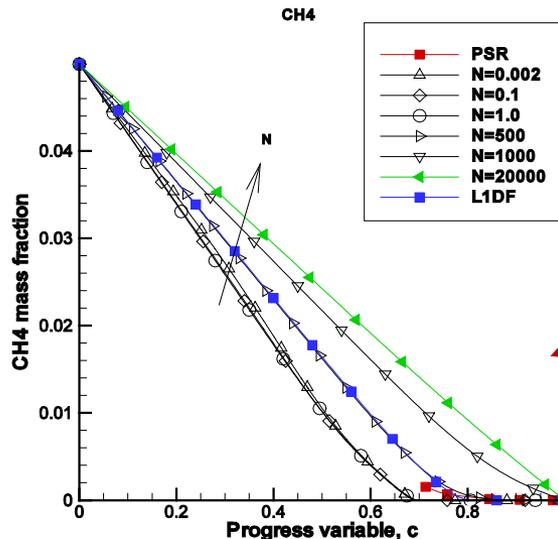


# Fundamentals of Focus (Reduced Chemical Kinetics)

# Fundamentals of Focus

## Reduced Chemical Kinetic Models for CFD :

- Reduced mechanisms for industrial use:
  - ✓ Existing chemical kinetic reduction models do not account turbulence-chemistry interactions
  - ✓ We use inhouse Premixed Conditional Moment Closure Model (PCMC) from ERAU to investigate turbulence and chemistry interactions and develop reduced kinetic models based on that



Effect of Turbulence on Chemical Kinetic Pathways

Variation in CH<sub>4</sub> oxidation with respect to scalar dissipation ( $N \text{ s}^{-1}$ ).  
(N represents the local turbulence.)

# Fundamentals of Focus (Counter Flow Flame Studies)

# Fundamentals of Focus

## Relation between NO<sub>x</sub> and Flame strain

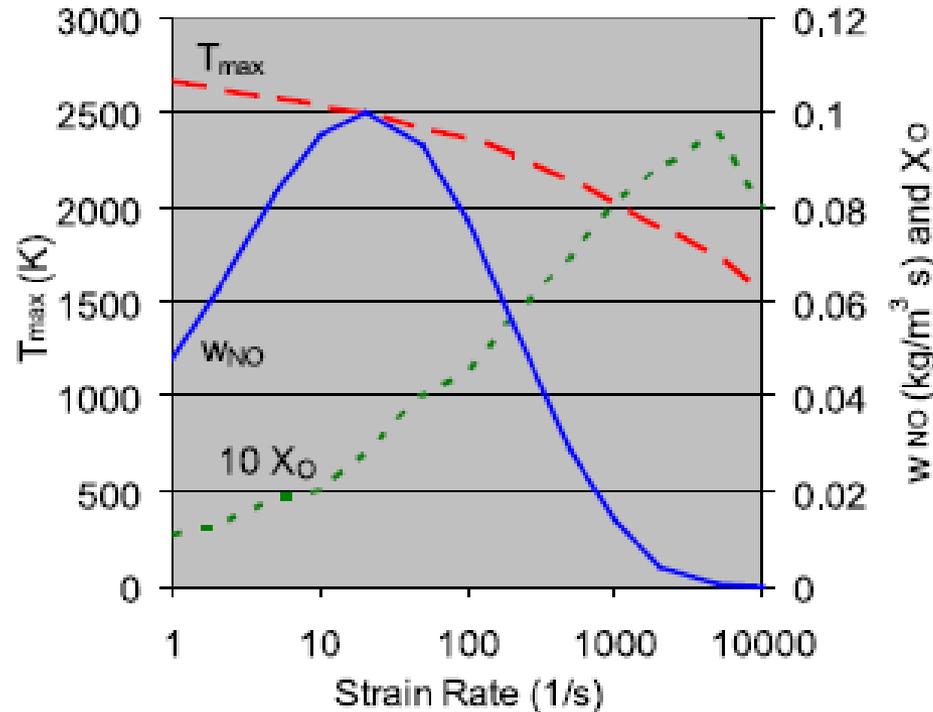


Figure adopted from NETL online publication Gas Turbine Handbook: Combustion Strategies for Syngas and High-Hydrogen Combustion; and J. P. H. Sanders, J. Y. Chen, and I. Gökalp, "Flamelet-based modeling of NO formation in turbulent hydrogen jet diffusion flames"

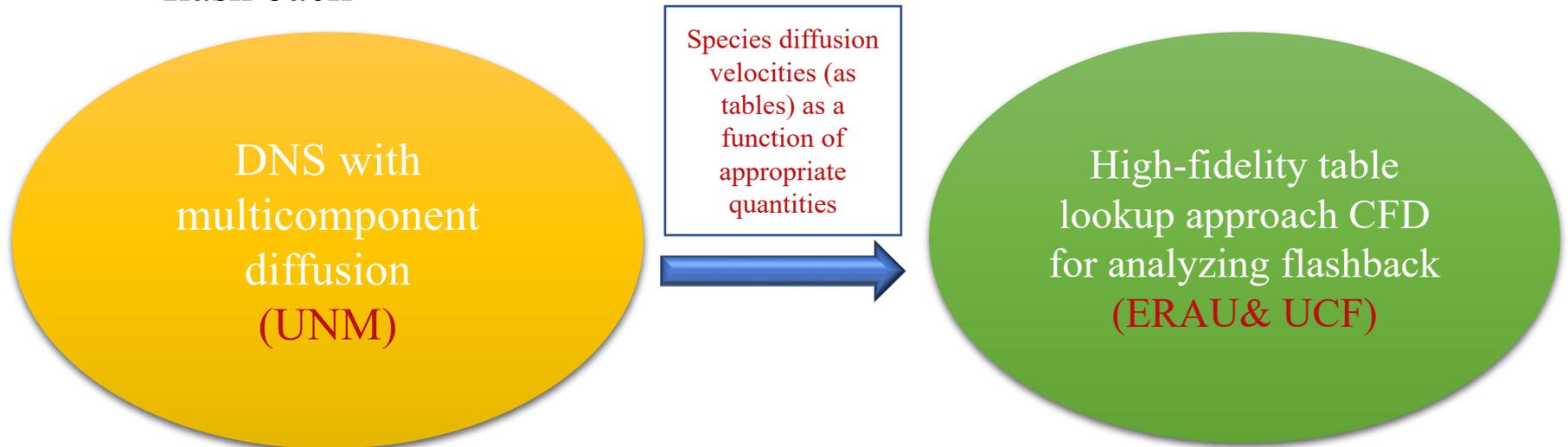
- Strain beyond certain extent can reduce the NO<sub>x</sub> formation.
- We perform these studies experimentally
- Purdue (Prof. Lucht) is performing this task

**Fundamentals of Focus  
(Rapid Tools for Estimating H<sub>2</sub>  
Containing fuel Combustion  
Characteristics, e.g., Tools for  
Flashback Prediction)**

# Fundamentals of Focus

## H<sub>2</sub> can diffuse much faster than heat (Le≠1)

- H<sub>2</sub> diffusion play can play a role in boundary layer flash back
- Including detailed multicomponent in combustion codes to predict flash back



# Fundamentals of Focus (Rapid Tools for Estimating H<sub>2</sub> Containing fuel Combustion Characteristics)

# Fundamentals of Focus

## Deep Learning tools to help combustor design and troubleshoot

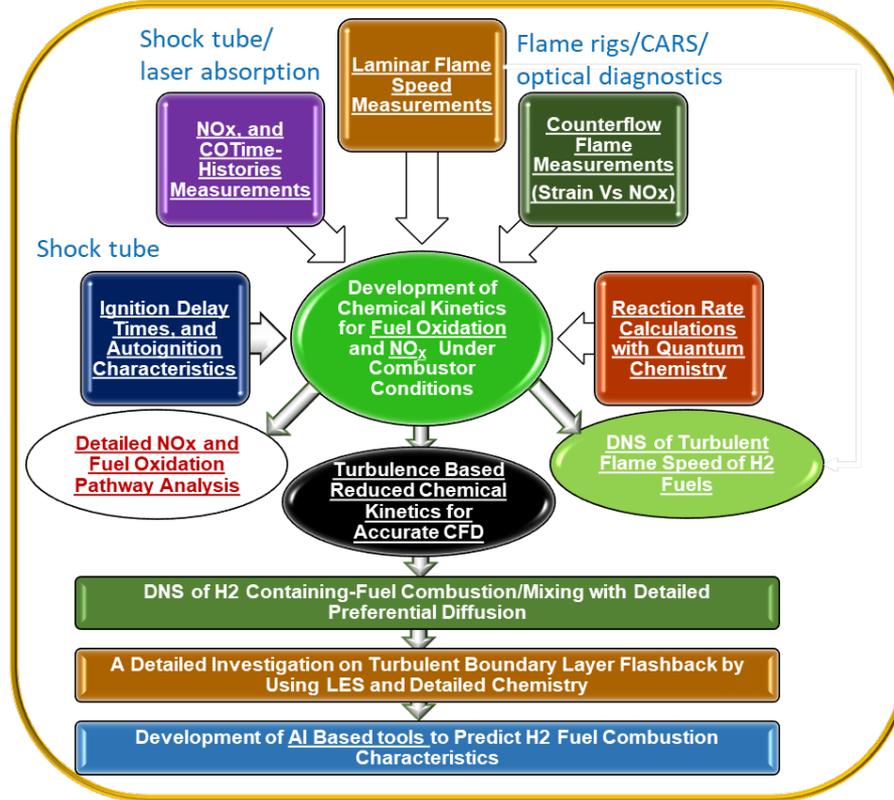
- Knowledge of all fundamental characteristics of a fuel blend is vital to accurately design or troubleshoot a combustor
- Unfortunately, it takes a huge time to estimate all the characteristics
- We train DL tools so that they can provide the necessary information to the user quickly
- We will obtain all the necessary training data from various high-fidelity 0-D, 1-D, CFD, and experimental models
- Special partnership with Microsoft



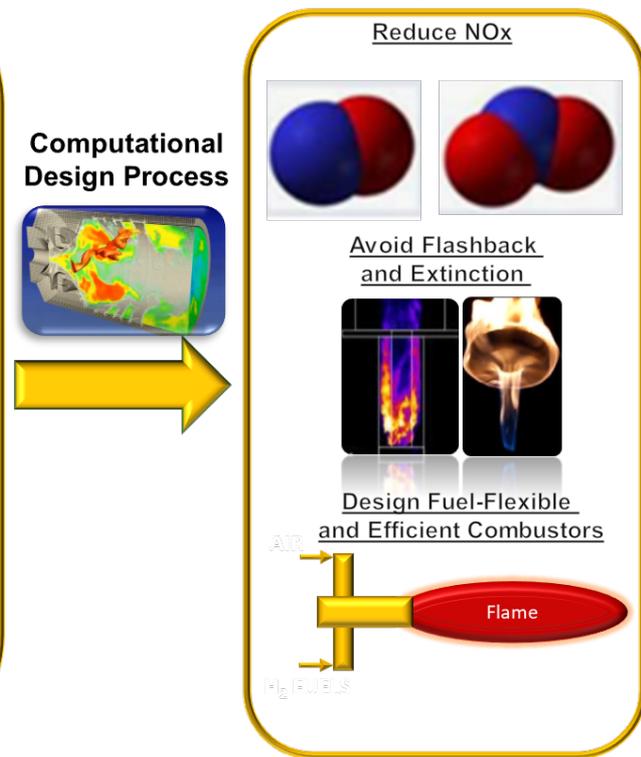
# A Summary of the Project

# Summary of effort

## Proposed Fundamental Research To Support H<sub>2</sub> Containing-Fuel Combustor Design and Development



## Goals of H<sub>2</sub> Containing-Fuel Combustors



This project aims to fill the existing knowledge gaps and investigate the fundamental aspects of H<sub>2</sub> containing-fuel combustion to enable improved computational modeling for current and future gas turbine combustors developed and targeted by the leading original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).

Questions? Thank you