# LES OF A PREMIXED TURBULENT Counter-flow flame and a Premixed Hydrogen Enriched Flame

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UKCTRF Annual Meeting, Imperial College London 11-12 Sep 2019

# **TCF: Introduction**

#### Turbulent Counter-flow Flame (TCF) Configuration

- Compact reaction domain
- Flame region not attached to the burner
- Simple flame shape and flow field

#### Specific Ojectives

- Selected flame: premixed opposed jet flames by Yale (Coriton, 2013), Re\_t  $\sim$  1000
- Code: BOFFIN-LES (LES-pdf) Jones et al. 2010

#### **Operating conditions**

- TGP:  $Re_t = 1050$
- Reactant Mixture: Equivalence ratio from 0.5 to 1.2
- Burnt Gas: Vary O/N ratio to change temperature



$Re_t$	1050	$\phi_b$	1.0
$K_{bulk}(s^{-1})$	1400	$Cp_u$	$CH_4/O_2/N_2$
$T_u(K)$	295	$Cp_b$	Product
$T_b(K)$	1850	$onr_u$	30/70
$\phi_u$	0.85	$onr_b$	26/74

# **TCF: Simulation Numerics**

#### Chemical Kinetics

• 15-step reduced mechanism based on ARM2 (Sung, 2001)

#### Computational Mesh (Mesh 1)

- From the TGP to the product nozzle inlet
- Structured mesh: about 2.8 million cells
- Minimum spacing is 0.14mm in the axial direction and to 0.1mm in the radial plane

#### Artificial Turbulence

• A synthetic turbulence inflow generator based on the use of digital filters (Klein, 2003)



# **TCF: Flow through the Turbulence Generator Plate**



- Instantaneous (right) and mean (left) axial velocity contour plot
- The turbulence generation scheme is effectively modelled



# TCF: Instantaneous visualisation of Temperature, OH

- Different regions of the flow field.
- Definition of flame region, flame front.
- Gas mixing layer interface (GMLI), separates the two opposed streams



Instantaneous contour plots of (a) temperature, (b)  $Y_{OH}$  on a plane intersecting the solution domain along the centreline.

- Highly turbulent features
- Formation of extinction regions, ignition kernels
- Re-ignition: flame propagation and convection
- Large scale motions of the GMLI



Visualisation of the temperature field.

# **TCF: Centre line Velocity Profiles**

- The velocities are normalised by the bulk velocity of the upper stream, 11.2m/s.
- Mean velocities profiles are in good agreement with the exp data.
- Rms velocities are under predicted, which is likely due to insufficient resolution of the flow through the turbulence generator.



The normalised centre-line profiles of the mean and RMS axial and radial velocities compared with experimental data.

# **TCF: Centre line Velocity Profiles**



- The velocities are presented in the relative frame of the GMLI
- Velocities are predicted reasonably well by the simulation
- The observed large scale motions of the GMLI locations are well predicted in the simulations



The normalised centre-line profiles of the conditional mean and RMS axial and radial velocities compared with experimental data. coordinate represents the distance from the gas mixing layer interface (GMLI) and increases in the direction of the upper nozzle.

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# **TCF: Conditional Reaction Progress Variable**

To quantify the probability of finding the fresh combustion product, a binary progress variable is defined: unity in the flame region and zero everywhere else





The conditional mean progress variable along the centre line for (a)1-field, (b)8-field and (c)16-field simulations compared with experimental measurements.

 8 stochastic fields are sufficient to represent SGS chemistry effects for the case considered, consistant with the findings by Mustata (2006)

### **TCF: Smaller computational domain**

#### Cylinder domain (Mesh 2)

- Better control of turbulence
- lower computational cost



The normalised centre-line profiles of the mean and RMS axial and radial velocities achieved with mesh 2.

### **TCF: Conclusions**

- The mean flow fields are reasonably reproduced, while the discrepancies in the RMS velocity fields are likely attributable to insufficient resolution in the vicinity of the turbulence generator for simulations with mesh 1.
- The fluctuating feature of GMLI obtained numerically is consistent with the experimental observations.
- New simulations are ongoing with a small cylindrical computational domain. The predicted velocity components are in good agreement with experiment data.
- Future work will focus on the effect of reactant equivalence ratio/strain rate on the flame stability in terms of probability of extinction with use of mesh 2.

# **LES of Hydrogen Enriched Flames**

#### Backgrounds

- Lean premixed combustion often exhibits thermoacoustic and hydrodynamic instability
- $H_2$  combustion exhibits higher laminar flame speed, higher flame temperature and lower lean flammability.

#### Target Flames

- Hydrogen enriched flames based on PRECCINSTA burner studied experimentally in DLR (Chterev, 2019).
- Technically premixed, swirl stabilized.
- Selected Operating conditions

Equivalence ratio	0.85	
Thermal Power	20 kw	
%Vol.H2	0%, 20%, 40%	



PRECCINSTA premixed swirl burner (Meier, 2007). The shape of the flame zone is indicated in the combustion chamber and the overall flow field is sketched (Chterev, 2019).

# **LES of Hydrogen Enriched Flames: Preliminary results**

#### Time averaged flame images on average



1.500e+08

Mean Heat release rate in 3 cases investigated

Hydrogen addition results in

- Higher heat release rate on average •
- Shorter flame, closer to the combustor inlet •
- More flash back, less lift off •

# **LES of Hydrogen Enriched Flames: Preliminary results**



Pressure signals in air plenum (P-pl) and combustion chamber (P-ch) for Case 2



FFT of pressure signals in combustion chamber compared with measurements

# **LES of Hydrogen Enriched Flames: Preliminary results**

#### Instantaneous flame features



Instantaneous Heat release rate in 3 cases

- Limit cycle oscillations are observed in all 3 cases
- Hydrogen addition raises the oscillation frequency, changes the flame shape

# LES of Hydrogen Enriched Flames: Preliminary results

**P6 P8 P2** P4 Oscillations of heat release rate and velocity Ρ5 C1 P6 0% H<sub>2</sub> p'(kPa) P7 P8 **P**3 P1 C2 0.5 1.5 t(ms) 2.5  $20\% H_2$ Temporal variation of P-pl and P-ch 8 phases are defined based on the angles . in one period. Pressure oscillations lead to an oscillation . C3 of axial velocity in the nozzle 40% H<sub>2</sub> Hydrogen addition: change of flame shape, • less lift off, more conpact flame.

Heat release rate (left) and axial velocity (right) in phase

### **LES of Hydrogen Enriched Flames: Summary**

- The LES successfully predicts the limit-cycle oscillations which are consistent with experimental observations.
- The effect of adding hydrogen to the combustion in terms of flame shape, thermal acoustic flame features are well reproduced in the simulations.
- The dominant frequencies of all the three cases are in good agreement with measurements.
- Future work includes the study of velocity field, phase averaged properties and hydrodynamic features of these hydrogen enriched flames.

### Acknowledgement

### **Thank you for your attention!**

This research has been funded by the China Scholar ship Council (CSC) and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) through the UK Consortium on Turbulent Reacting Flow (UKCTRF) and the simulations have been performed using the ARCHER UK National Supercomputing Service (http://www.archer.ac.uk).