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# VISUALISATION OF JET FIRES FROM HYDROGEN RELEASE

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Institut  
Chemische Technologie

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# INTRODUCTION

Dominating risks of hydrogen jet fires beneath pressure effects are emerging from:

- Direct contact of the flame and its reacting species
- Dispersion of hot gases
- Radiation (for remote distances)

Therefore the presented work fokuses on time resolved investigation of

- Explosive Volume
- Ignition behaviour
- Pressure wave propagation & speed
- Flame lengths & velocities

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# INTRODUCTION

- Evaluation of joint experiments at HSL (Buxton, UK) in 2008 under the work programme of **HySafe**
- HSL provided within HYPER Project:
  - Test facility for Hydrogen Jetfires and Ignition
  - Pressure measurements
  - Video analysis
- Fraunhofer ICT applied:
  - Spectroscopic & Imaging Techniques

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## Measurement equipment applied by ICT

### HIGH SPEED VIDEO CAMERA (VISION RESEARCH, PHANTOM V9 )

Framerate: 1000 fps (full frame)

Resolution: 1200 x 1630 Px



### SPECTRAL RADIOMETER (ICT, based on circular variable filters)

Spectral range: 1.6 $\mu$ m to 14.5 $\mu$ m

Scanrate: 100 scans/s



### HIGH SPEED IR CAMERA (CEDIP, ORION with ICT wheel module)

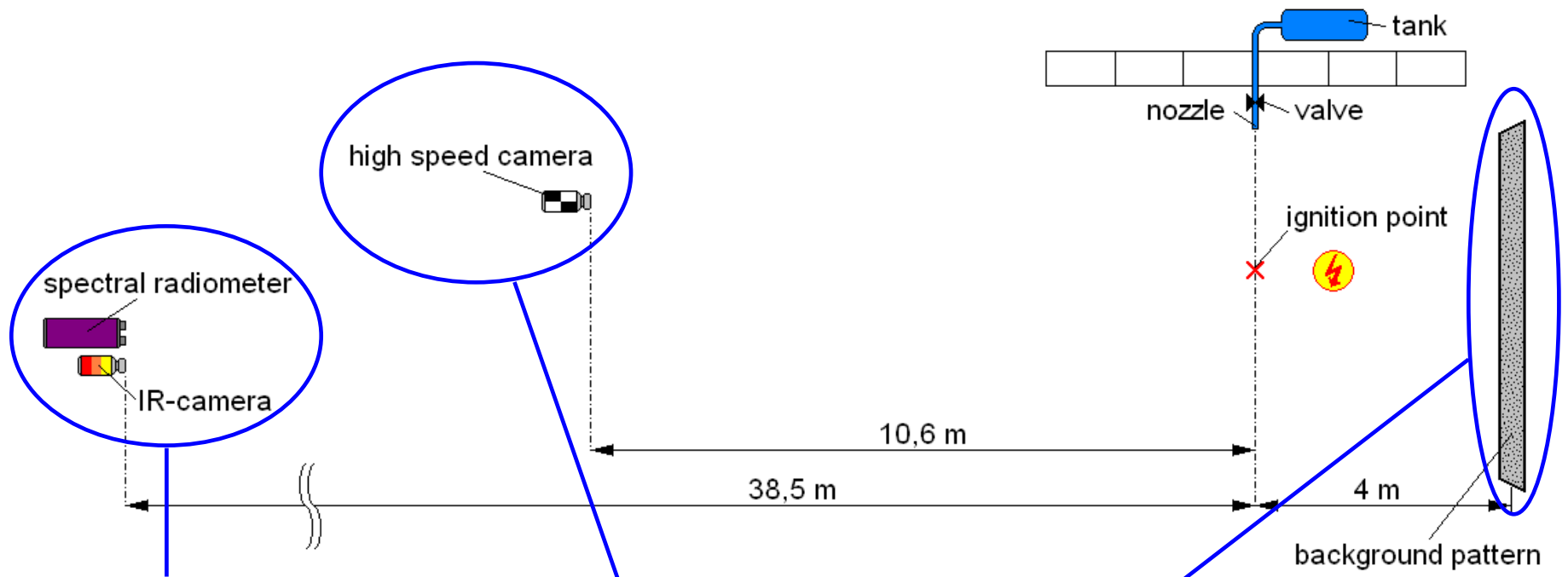
Spectral range: 1.5 $\mu$ m to 5.3 $\mu$ m

Framerate: 384 fps (at full frame size 320 x 256 Px)

Wheel mode: 400 frames in four selected ranges (each 100 Hz)



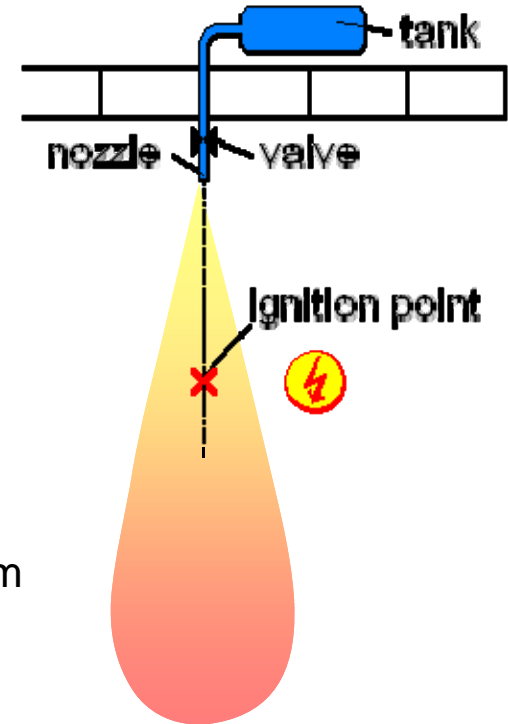
# SKETCH OF THE EXPERIMENTAL SETUP



# TEST PARAMETERS

The campaign consists of 23 jet experiments

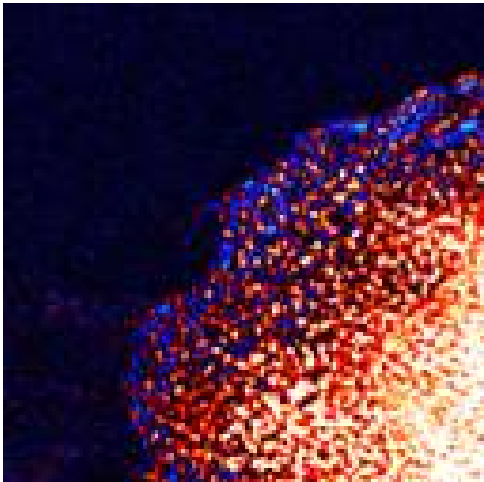
- Tank Volume 100l (2x50l)
- Initial tank pressure 20 MPa
- Nozzle diameters 1.5 / 3.2 / 6.35 / 10 mm
- Initial mass flow 40 / 160 / 450 / 670 g/s
- Ignition Point 160 / 220 / 250 / 300 / 400 cm behind orifice
- Ignition delay various



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## Methods of Image Analysis (1) Grey value subtraction

A fast method to visualize changes is the digital subtraction of grey values for each pixel from the previously taken or another reference frame

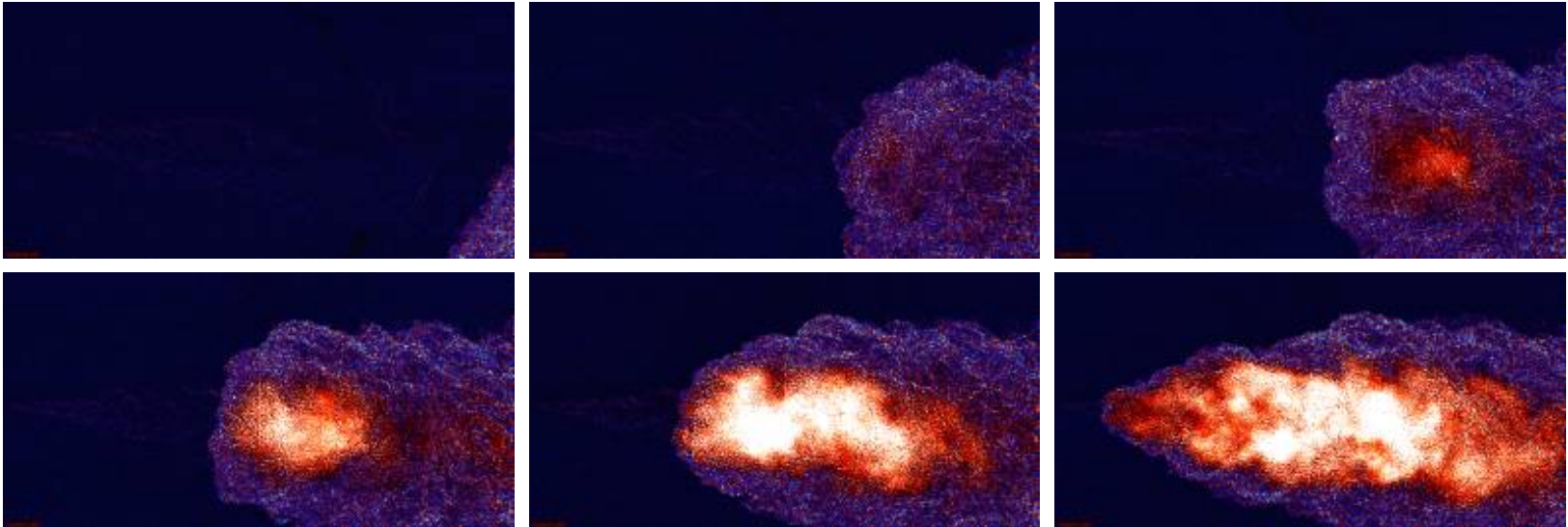


- Brightness difference magnitude scaled from  
low: dark  
high: bright
  - brightness differences indicated by colours  
darker: blue color  
brighter: red color
- enhanced contrast

→ Only visualisation possible due to floating scale

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## Grey value subtraction Example 1



- Experiment HYPER 12, 1.5mm Orifice, 40g/s Initial flow  
brightness difference to frame 1 computed



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## Grey value subtraction Example 1



- Brightness difference to frame 1
- Experiment HYPER 13, 3.2mm Orifice, 160g/s Initial flow

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## Methods of Image Analysis (2)

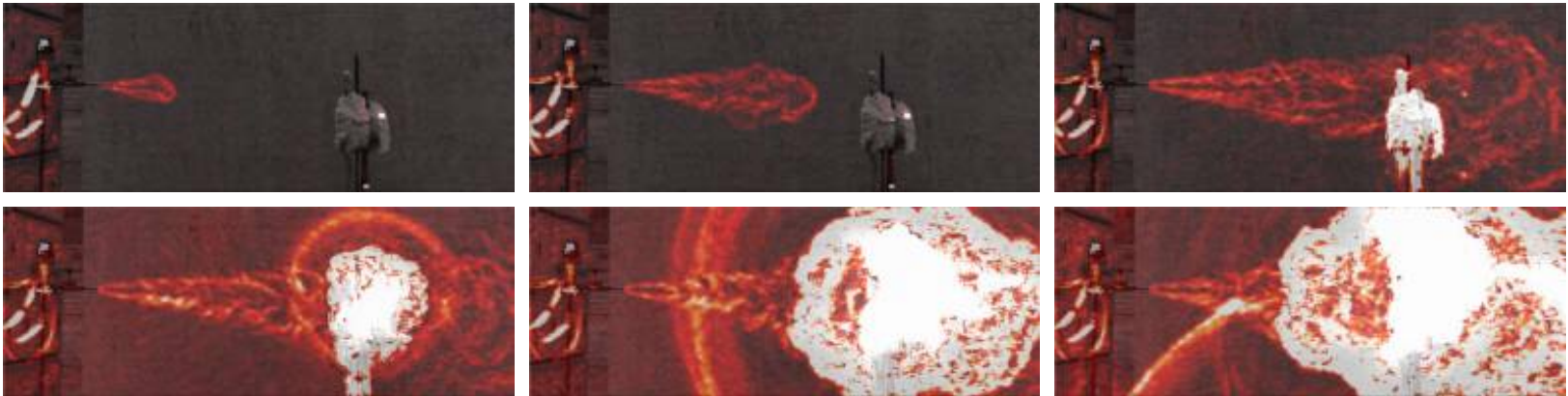
A more sophisticated method is the Background Oriented Schlieren-method to visualize density gradients in flow fields.



- Original Frame
- Experiment HYPER 6, 6.35mm Orifice, 450g/s Initial flow

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# Background Oriented Schlieren



Results are:

- Explosive Volume (before ignition)
- Flame speed / Flame dimensions
- Pressure wave speed & shape

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## Background Oriented Schlieren

Results are:

- Explosive Volume (before ignition)
- Flame speed / Flame dimensions
- Pressure wave speed & shape

1000ms RT, Replay 4% / 1% RT

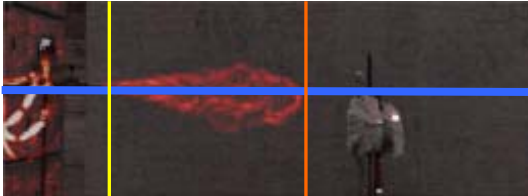


Armin Kessler

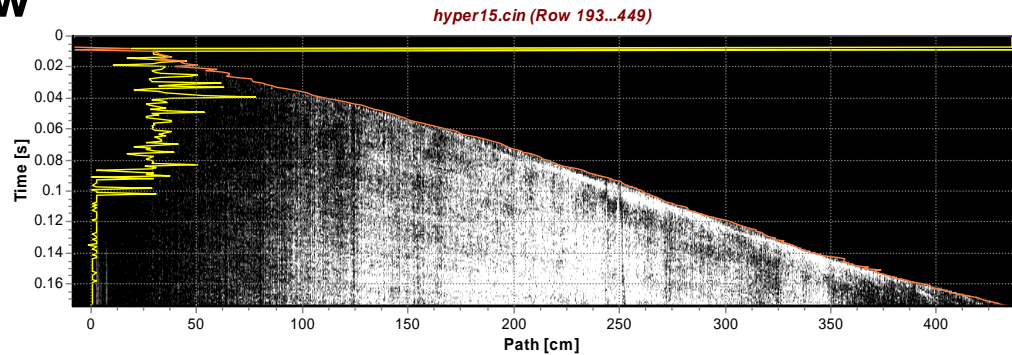
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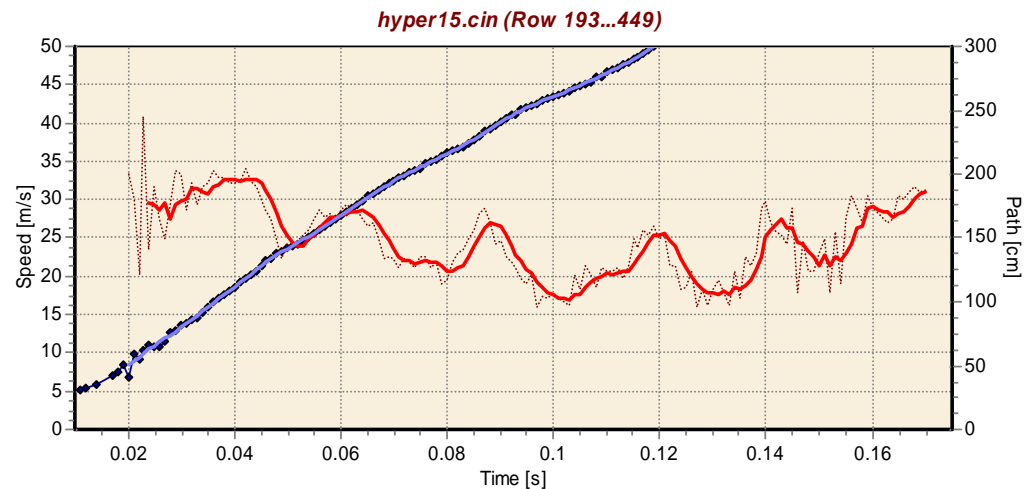
# Velocity of cold gas flow



Centerline of each frame

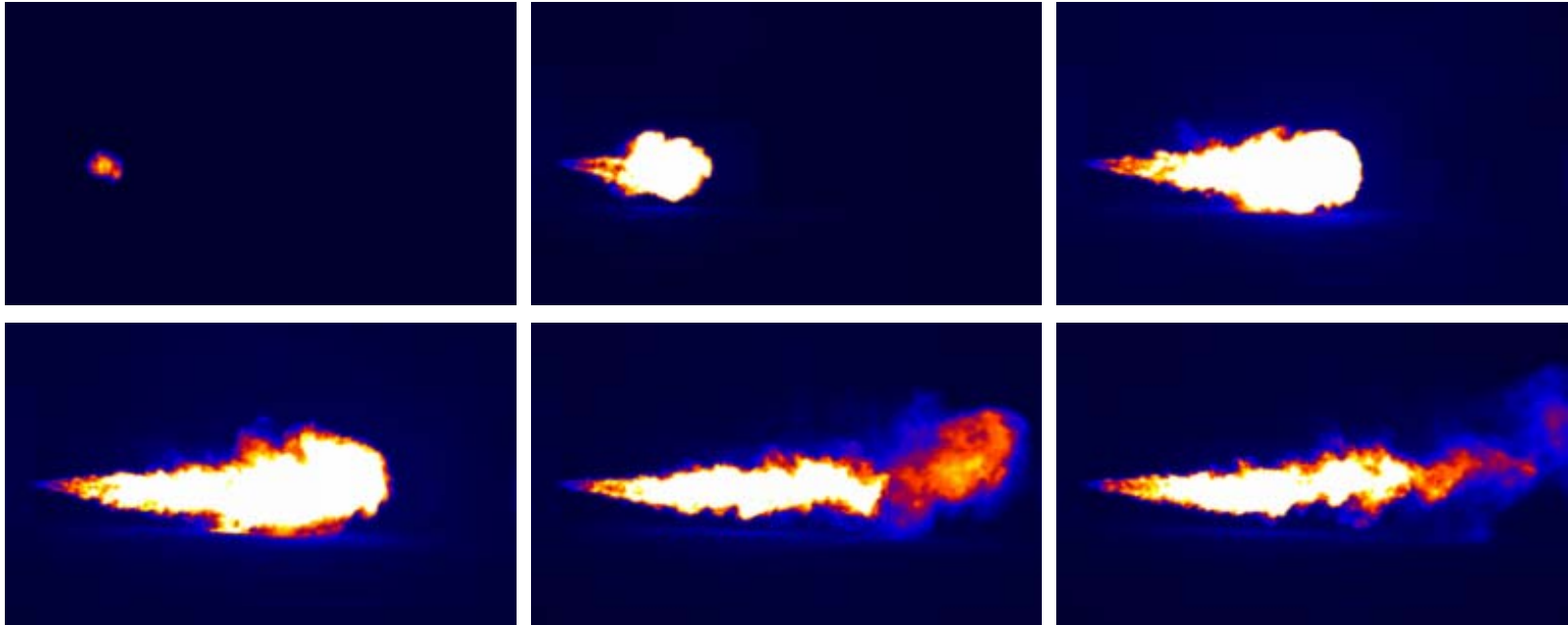


- gas flow propagation
- Speed of flow
- Speed of pressure / shock waves can be evaluated using the same method



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# Infrared Imaging



- Experiment HYPER 12, Filter 4, calibrated  
10mm Orifice, 670g/s Initial flow

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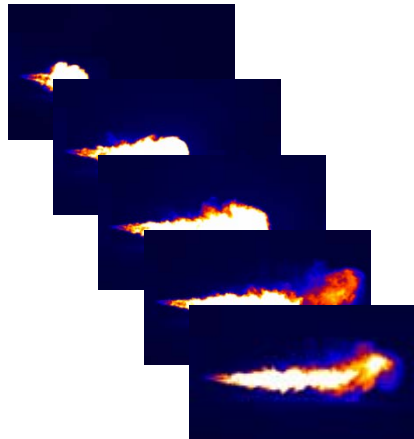
# Infrared Imaging



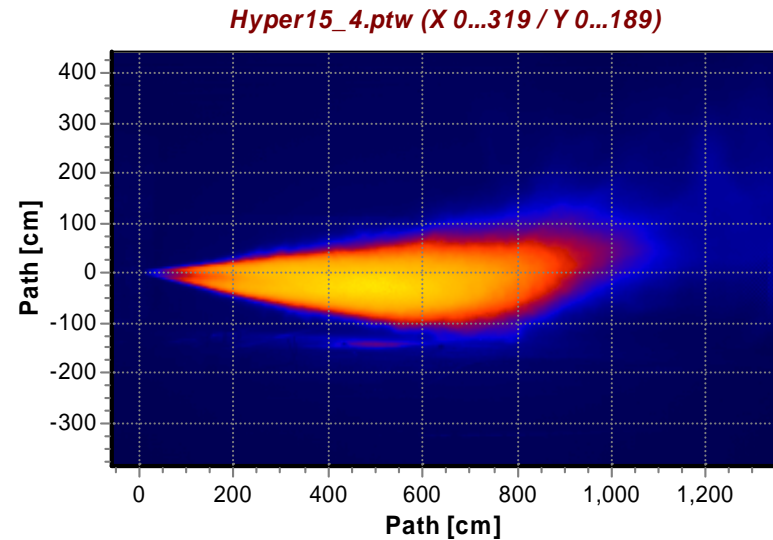
- Example for Filter Range 4
- Experiment HYPER12  
10mm Orifice  
670g/s Initial gas flow
- All others similar

1000ms RT, Replay 4% / 1% RT

## Data Analysis / Results



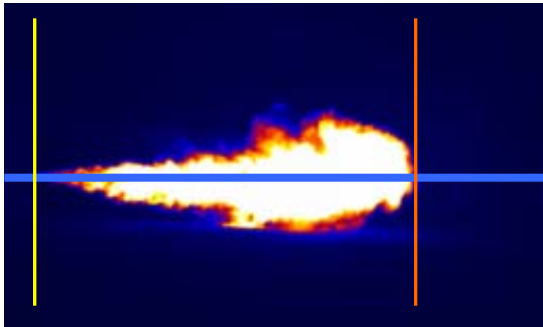
Sum up all pictures



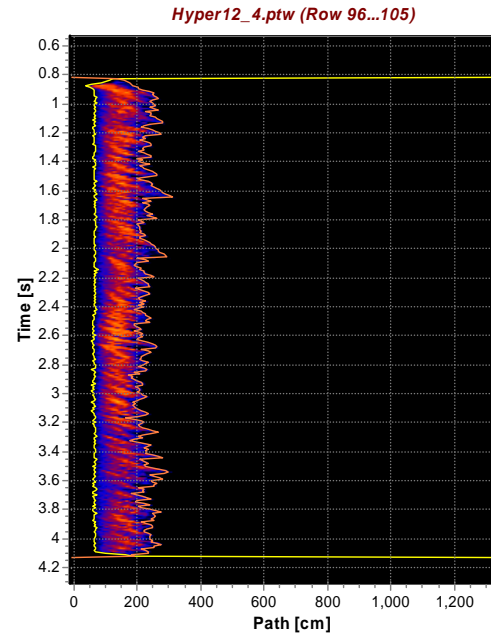
- Overall Radiation of the flame
- Separately in four Spektral Ranges: 1.5-2.5 / 3.0-3.9 / 3.0-5.0 / 4.1-5.3 $\mu$ m



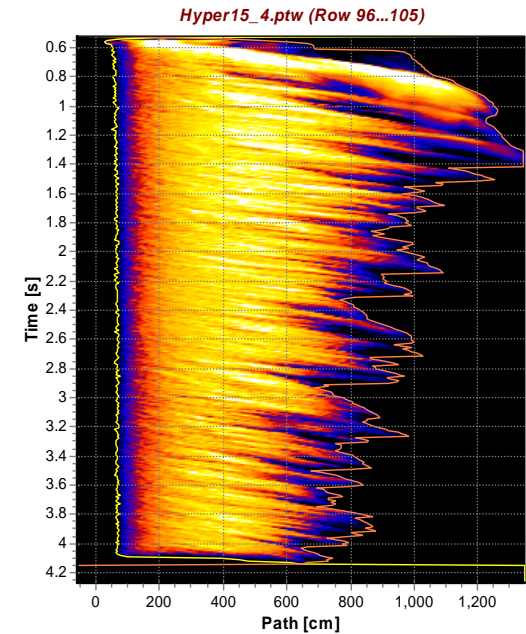
# Data Analysis / Results



Centerline of each frame  
Averaging 10 rows



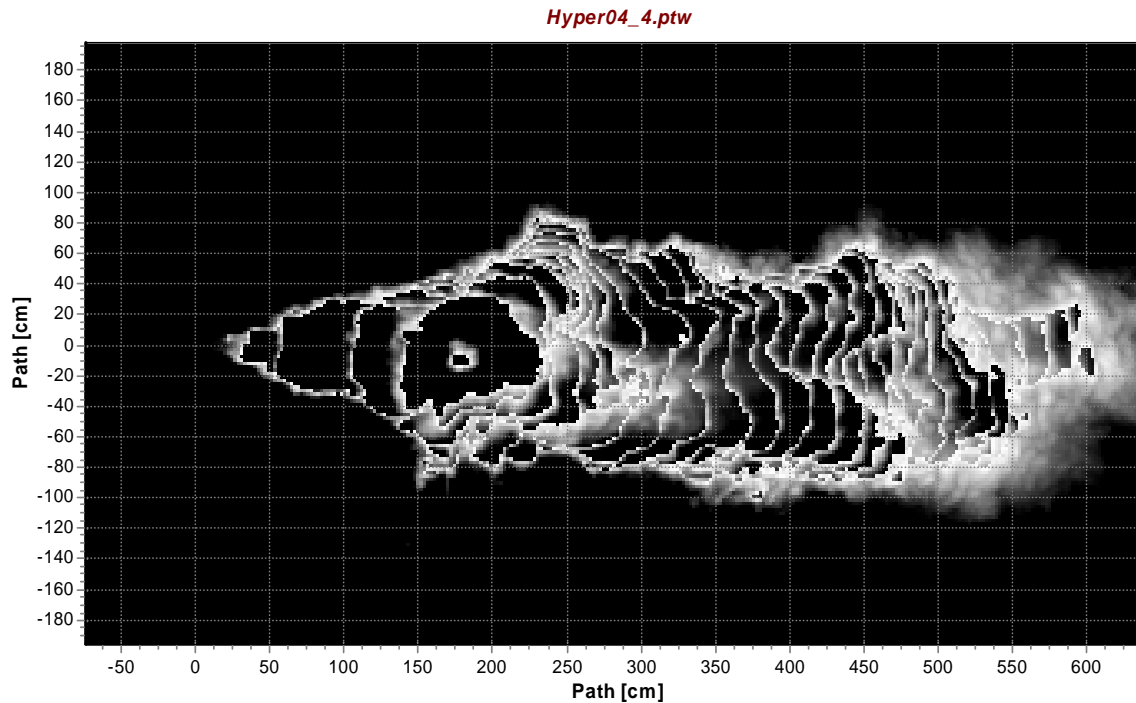
HYPER12 1,5mm / 40g/s



HYPER15 10mm / 670g/s

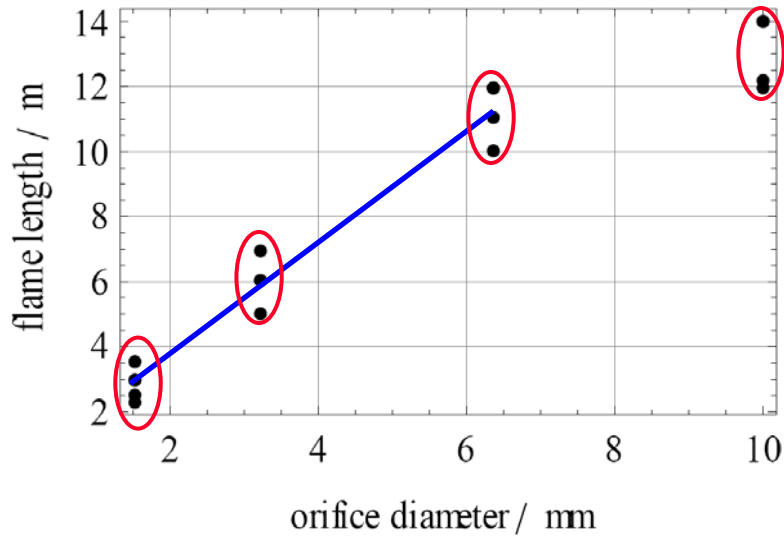
- Flame length development

# Data Analysis / Results

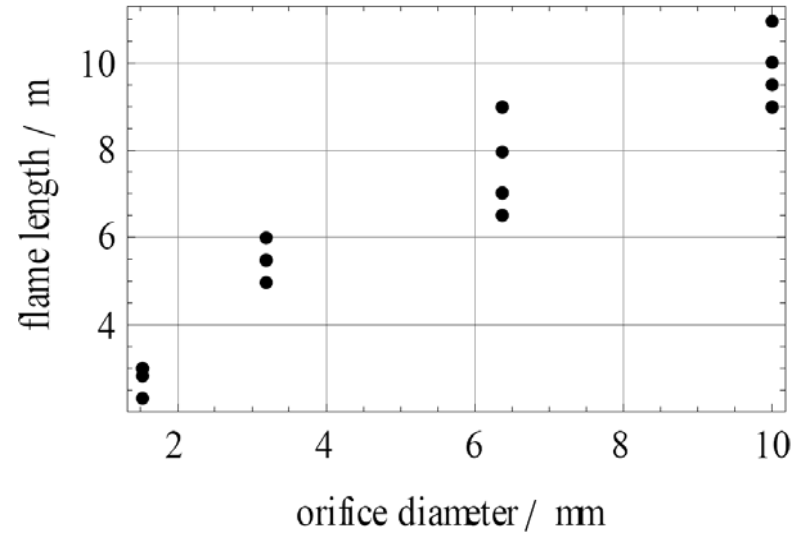


- Example for Flame Propagation Map
- Experiment HYPER4  
3.2mm Orifice  
160g/s Initial gas flow
- All regions of highest radiation gradient stacked, Ignition on top

## Averaged flame lengths vs. orifice diameter



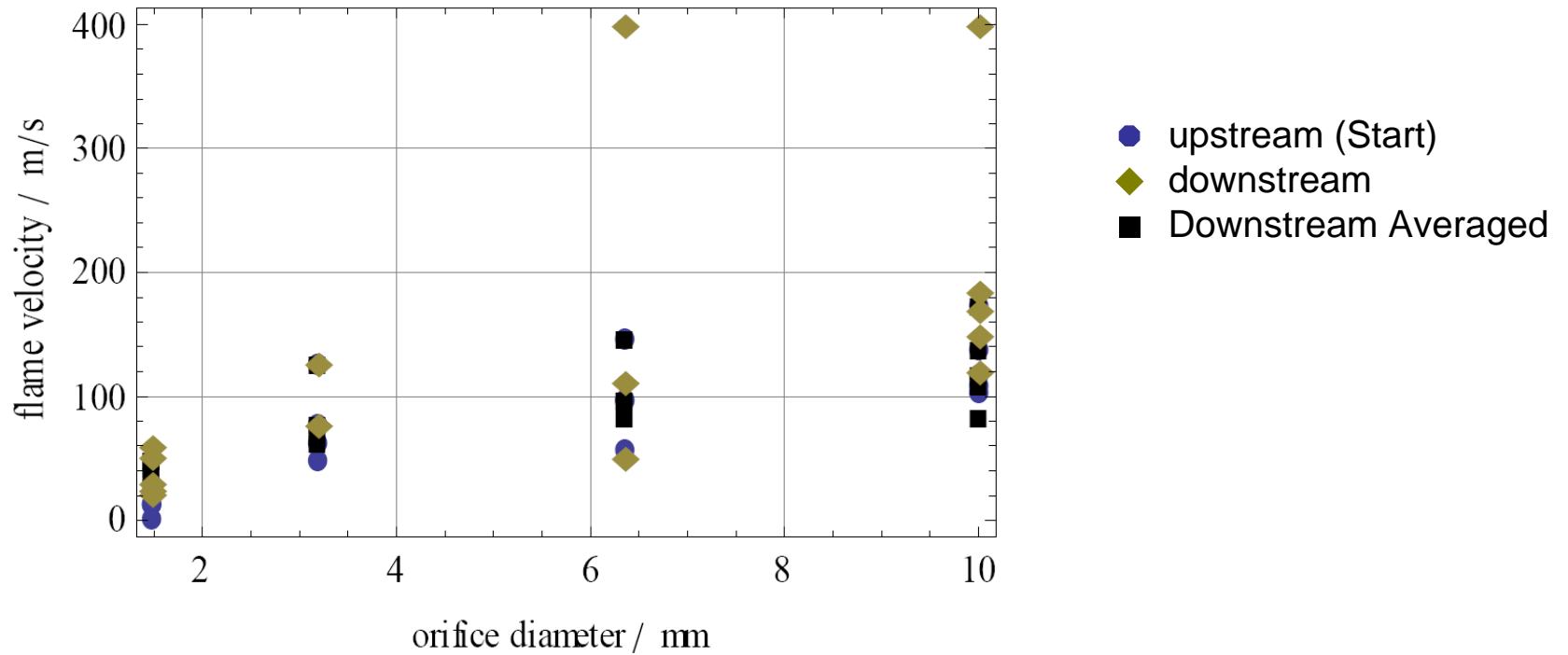
Shortly after Ignition



after 4-6 Seconds

- Proportional increase of flame length with orifice diameter for smaller diameters
- Large scatter of  $\pm 1$  m in flame length

# Averaged apparent flame velocities



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# CONCLUSION

- Image analysis techniques enable a detailed visualisation of hydrogen jets and jet flames
- The unreacted hydrogen release jet cone shows a half angle of 8-10°, while in burning condition the half angle increases to 16-20°
- Flame length depends on the flow rate and reached a maximum length of 12 m in the tested configuration
- Flame velocities after ignition exceed more than 100m/s, 2 of 23 reached 400m/s

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# OUTLOOK

- Zone of explosive Mixture
- Flame Dimensions
- Pressure & Shock Wave propagation



BOS, Thermography

- Temperature Field
- Heat flux, spectral resolved



Spectroscopy  
Filterwheel Thermography

→ Volker WEISER  
Paper 228, Session 13 (Jet2)

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# Acknowledgements

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

