



# REAL SIZE CALCULATION OF HIGH PRESSURE HYDROGEN FLOW AND ITS AUTO-IGNITION IN CYLINDRICAL TUBE

**ASAHARA, Makoto** : Aoyama Gakuin University  
**YOKOYAMA, Akinori** : Aoyama Gakuin University  
**TATSUMI, Yuto** : Aoyama Gakuin University  
**KATO, Suguru** : Aoyama Gakuin University  
**YAMADA, Eisuke** : Aoyama Gakuin University  
**Hayashi, A.Koichi** : Aoyama Gakuin University

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# Background (1)

## Why do we study H<sub>2</sub> ignition?

- Development of Fuel Cell system.
- Accidents at factories.

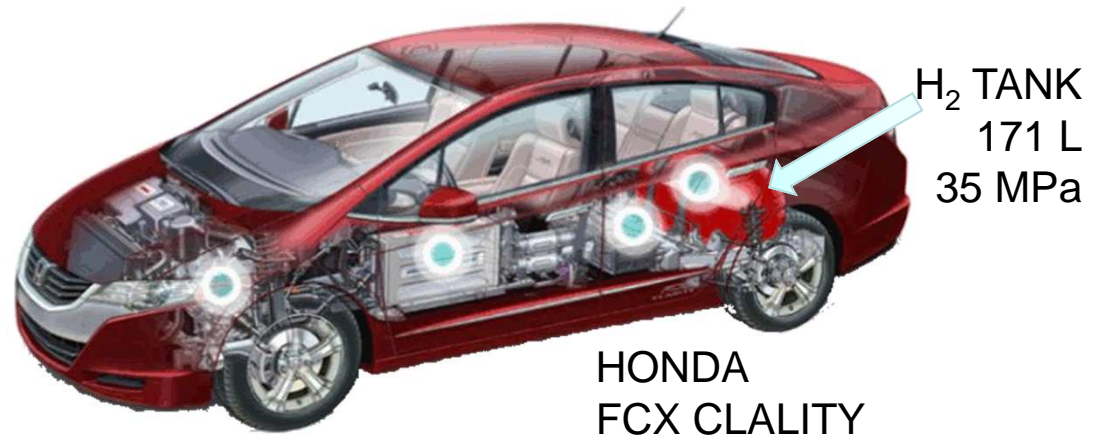
## Recent accidents

- Increase of unknown H<sub>2</sub> explosions due to an development of fuel cell car.

Auto-ignition by diffusion is reported.

Mechanism and conditions of such diffusion ignition are not much known so far.

Needs safety standard for auto-ignition of high pressure hydrogen.



# Background (2) Passed Studies

## **Wolański and Wójcicki (1973)**

Investigate the mechanism of the diffusion ignition of a combustible gas flowing into an oxidizing atmosphere.

## **Tanaka et al. (1979)**

## **Uejima et al. (1998)**

## **Liu et al. (2005), Bazhenova et al. (2005)**

Calculate the hydrogen jet coming out to air at the room temperature.

## **Dryer et al. (2007), Pinto et al. (2007)**

Show the unique ignition potentials for pressurized releases of hydrogen.

## **Golub et al. (2008), Mogi et al. (2008), Yamada et al. (2008)**

Show the relationship between the pressure and the length of tube.

## **Xu et al. (2008)**

Discuss an auto-ignition would initiate inside the tube at the contact surface due to mass and energy exchange.

## **Mogi et al. (2009), Yamada et al.(2011), Kitabayashi et al.(2012)**

## **Kim et al. (2013)**

## **Sandia National Laboratories (2003~)**

Investigate the hydrogen Release behavior

# Background (3) AGU Passed Studies

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## **Liu et al. (2005)**

Numerical study (DNS) on high pressure hydrogen jet **spouting from a small hole.**

## **Aizawa, Pinto, et al. (2007)**

Experimental study on high pressure hydrogen jet: **different length and diameters.**

## **Kitabayashi et al. , Yamada et al. (2008)**

Experimental and numerical studies on high pressure hydrogen jet:  
**Auto- ignition inside tube (Numerical Analysis).**  
**Different size of tubes (Experiments)**

## **Kitabayashi et al., Yamada et al. (2009-2012)**

Experimental and numerical studies on high pressure hydrogen jet:.  
**Auto-ignition for different tube length (Experiments and Numerical Analysis)**

## **Tatsumi et al., Yamada et al. (2011-)**

Experimental and numerical studies on high pressure hydrogen jet:.

**Different tube size (Numerical analysis)**

# Purpose

## Numerical Analysis of High Pressure H<sub>2</sub> Ignition

- Auto-ignition has not simulated at a real size level.
  - ◆ We do not know what happens in a real size tube numerically.



Mogi et al. (2008)



**A real size numerical analysis**

- Comparison with experiments.
- Validity of calculation using a detailed chemistry.
- Clarification of detailed auto-ignition mechanism.

# Numerical Method

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## ◎Governing equations

- 2D axisymmetric and compressible Navier-Stokes equations with species conservation equations
- 9 species ( $\text{H}_2, \text{O}_2, \text{O}, \text{H}, \text{OH}, \text{HO}_2, \text{H}_2\text{O}_2, \text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{N}_2$ )

## ◎Discretization methods

- Time integration: Strang type fractional step method
- Convective term: 2nd-order explicit Harten-Yee non-MUSCL modified flux type TVD scheme
- Production term: Point implicit method

## ◎Detailed chemical reaction model

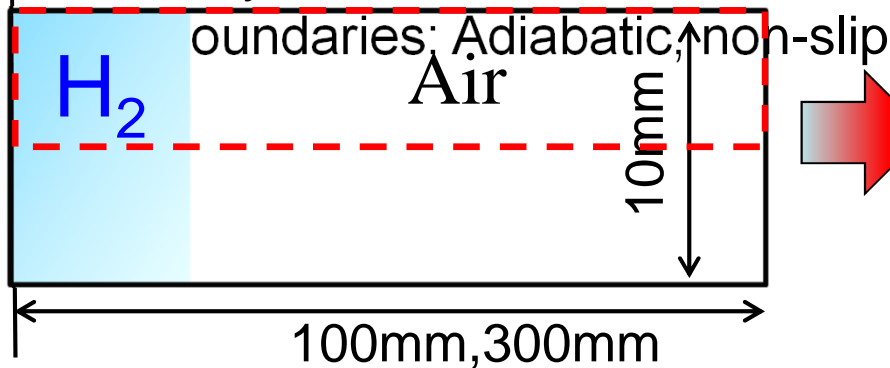
- Petersen and Hanson model (1999)  
(P-H model)

# Numerical Conditions

◎Boundary conditions

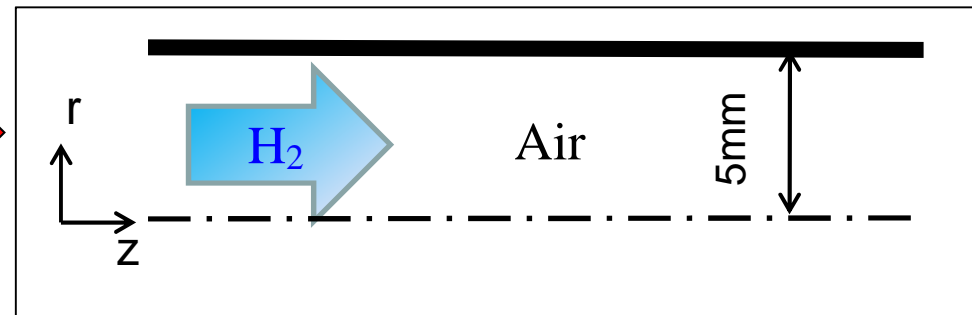
Left boundary: Inflow

Right and their numbers are t  
boundary: Outflow



**2D Axisymmetric**

→ **Half of computational region**



◎Initial conditions (Hydrogen)

<b>Burst pressure, MPa</b>	<b>2.0~14.6</b>
<b>Temperature, K</b>	<b>300</b>

◎Initial conditions (Air)

<b>Burst pressure, MPa</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Temperature, K</b>	<b>300</b>

◎Computational conditions

Grid shape: square grids

Grid points: 20001 × 1001, 30001 × 501,  
15001 × 251

Grid sizes: 5μm, 10μm, 20μm

These values are decided based on the experimental conditions by Kitabayashi, Mogi, and Kim et al.

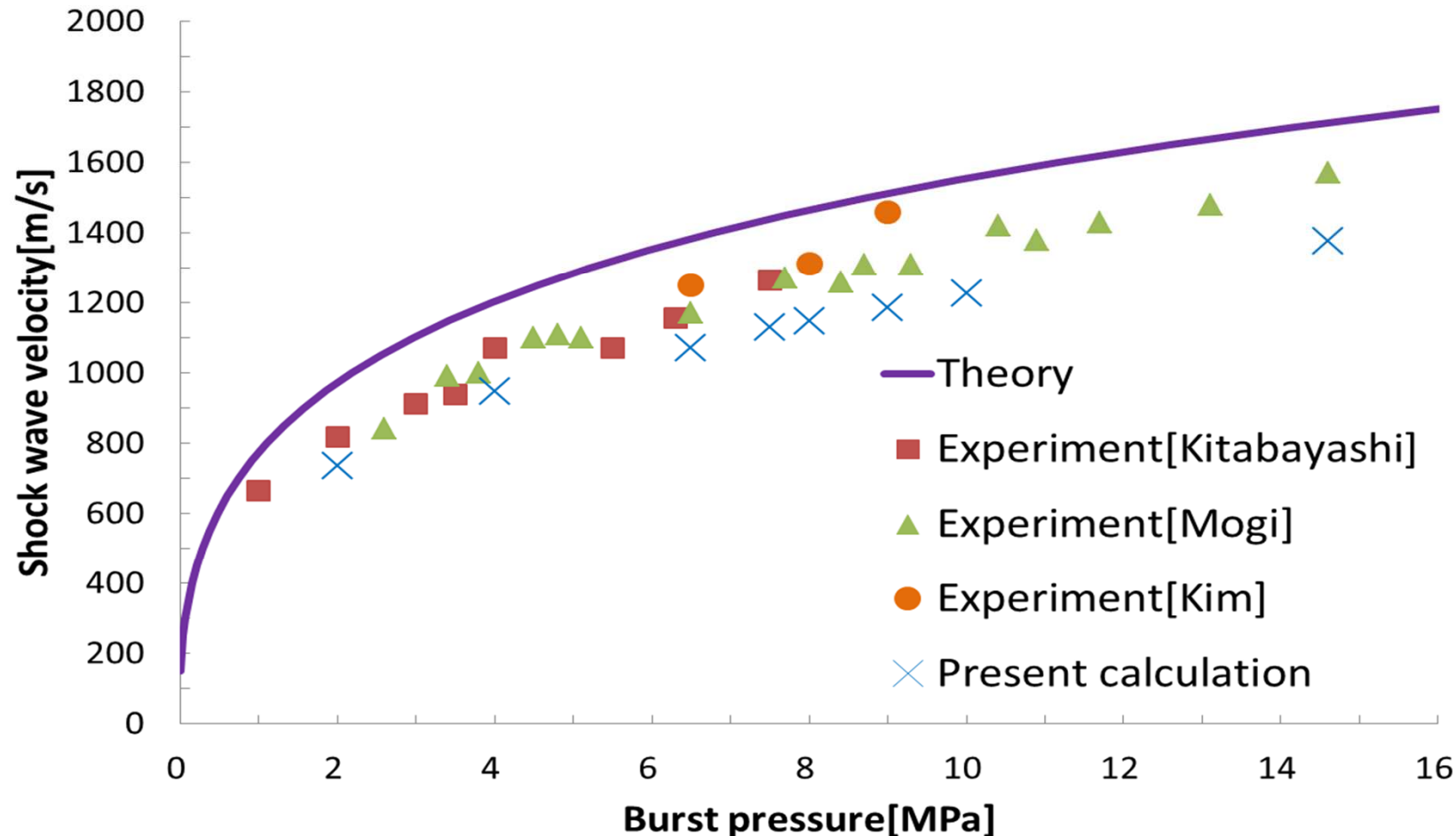


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# NUMERICAL RESULTS



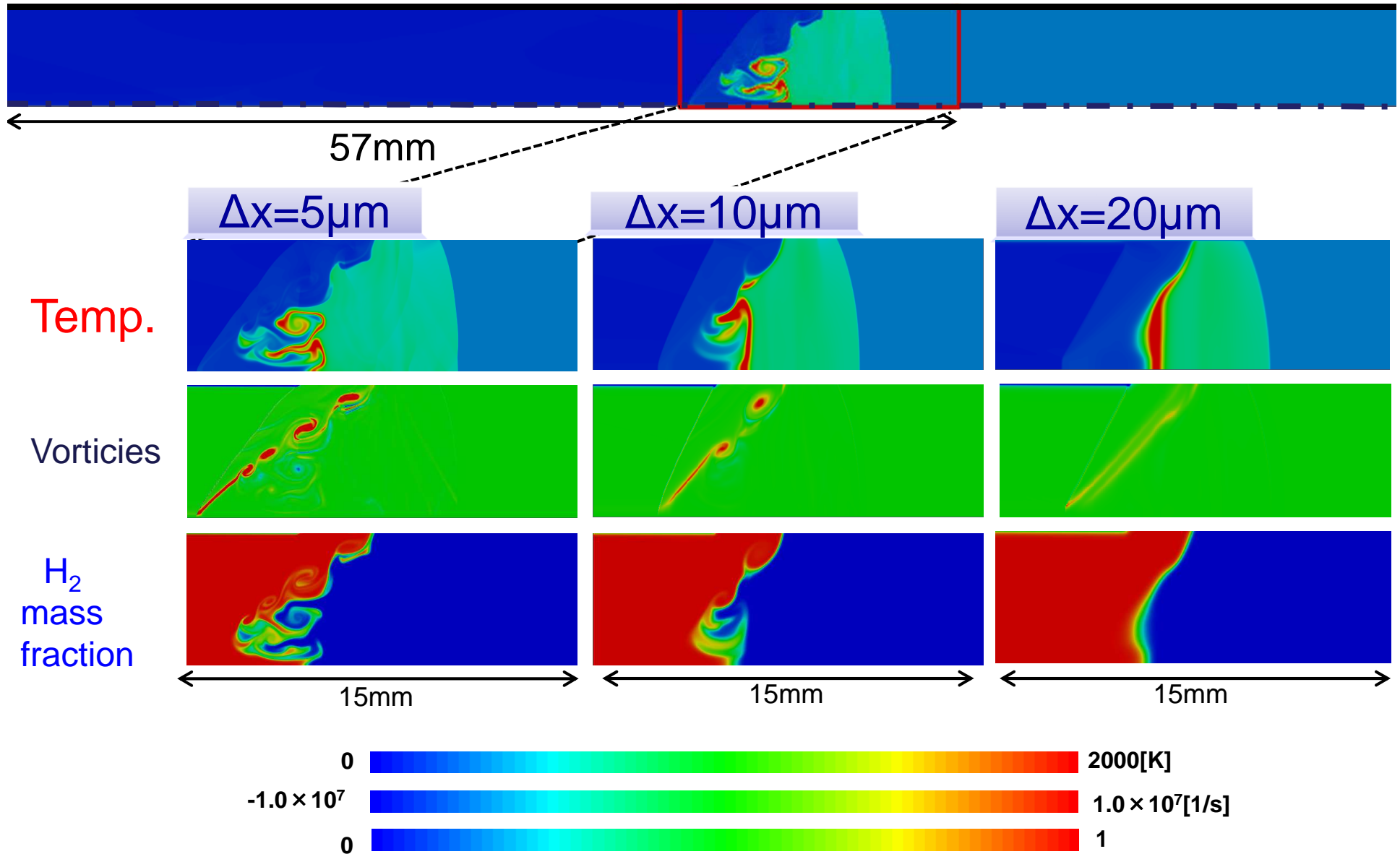
# Shock Wave Velocity



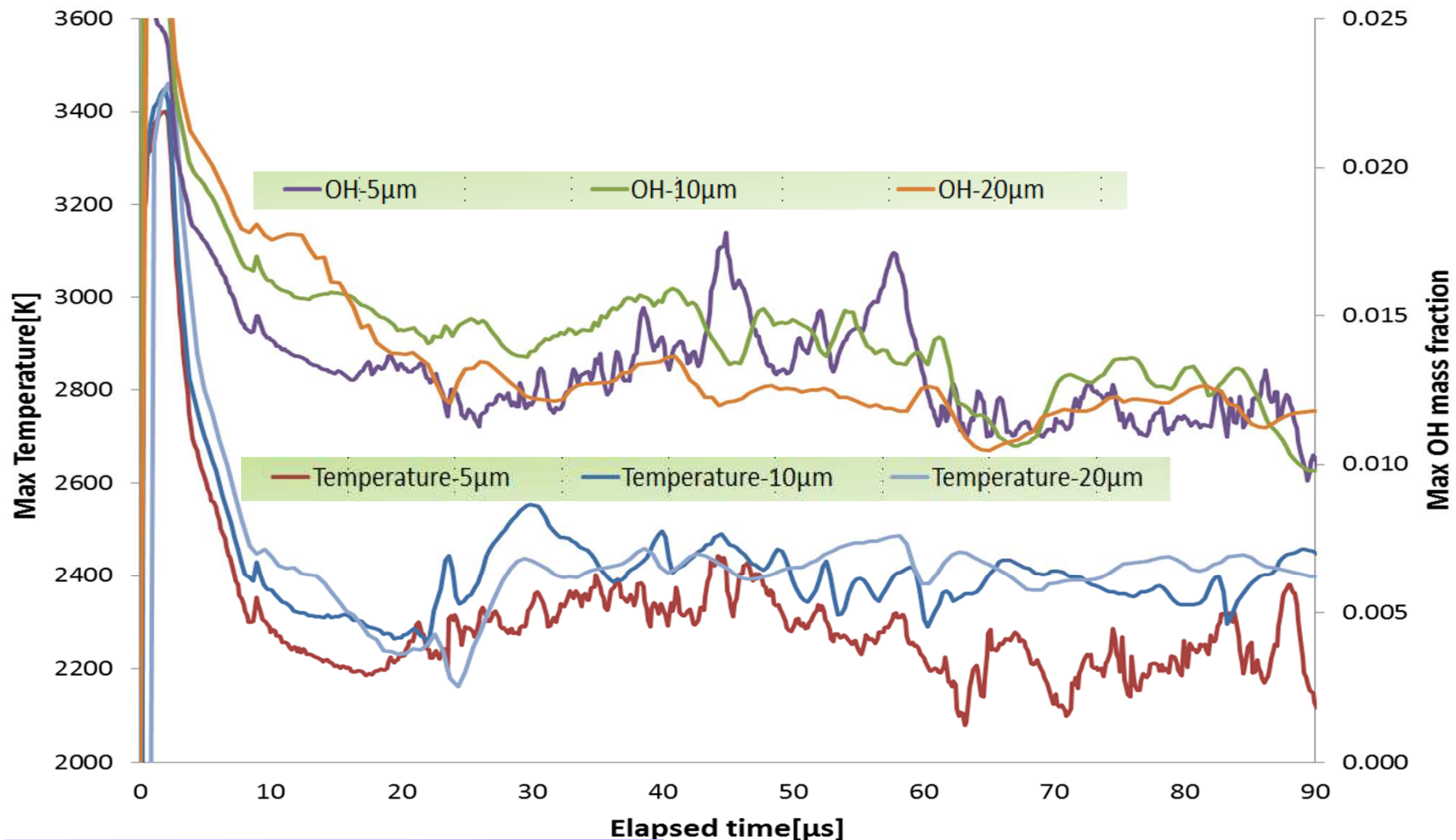
Agreement on shock wave velocity is in 20-30 % difference with the theoretical values and within 10 % with experimental values. This should certify the present numerical results.

# Dependency of grid size on the results

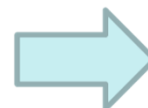
Initial burst pressure:  
14.6MPa



# Time History of Temperature and OH Mass Fraction (Maximum values in the total numerical region)

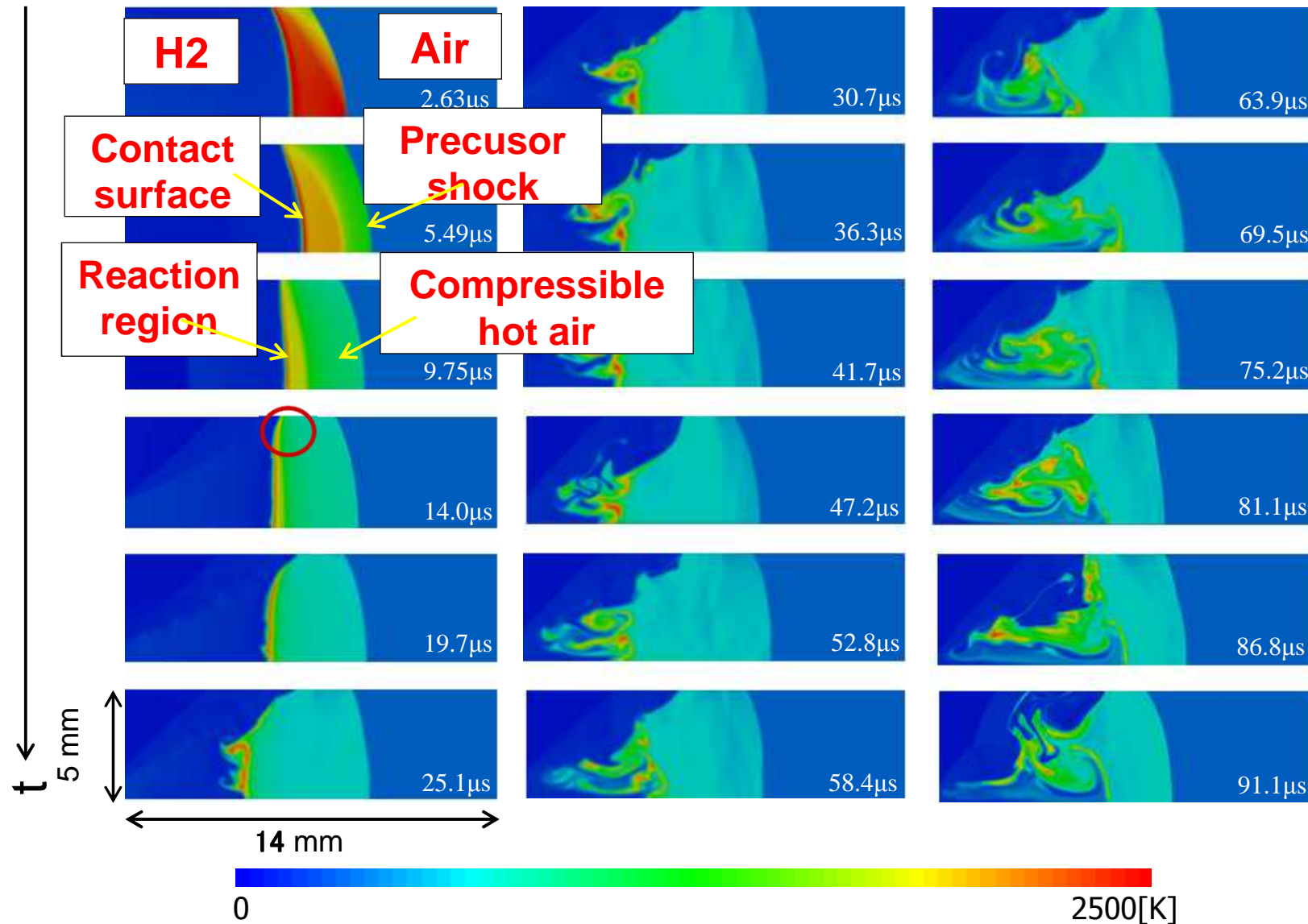


Captured the phenomena in detail when grid size is smaller.

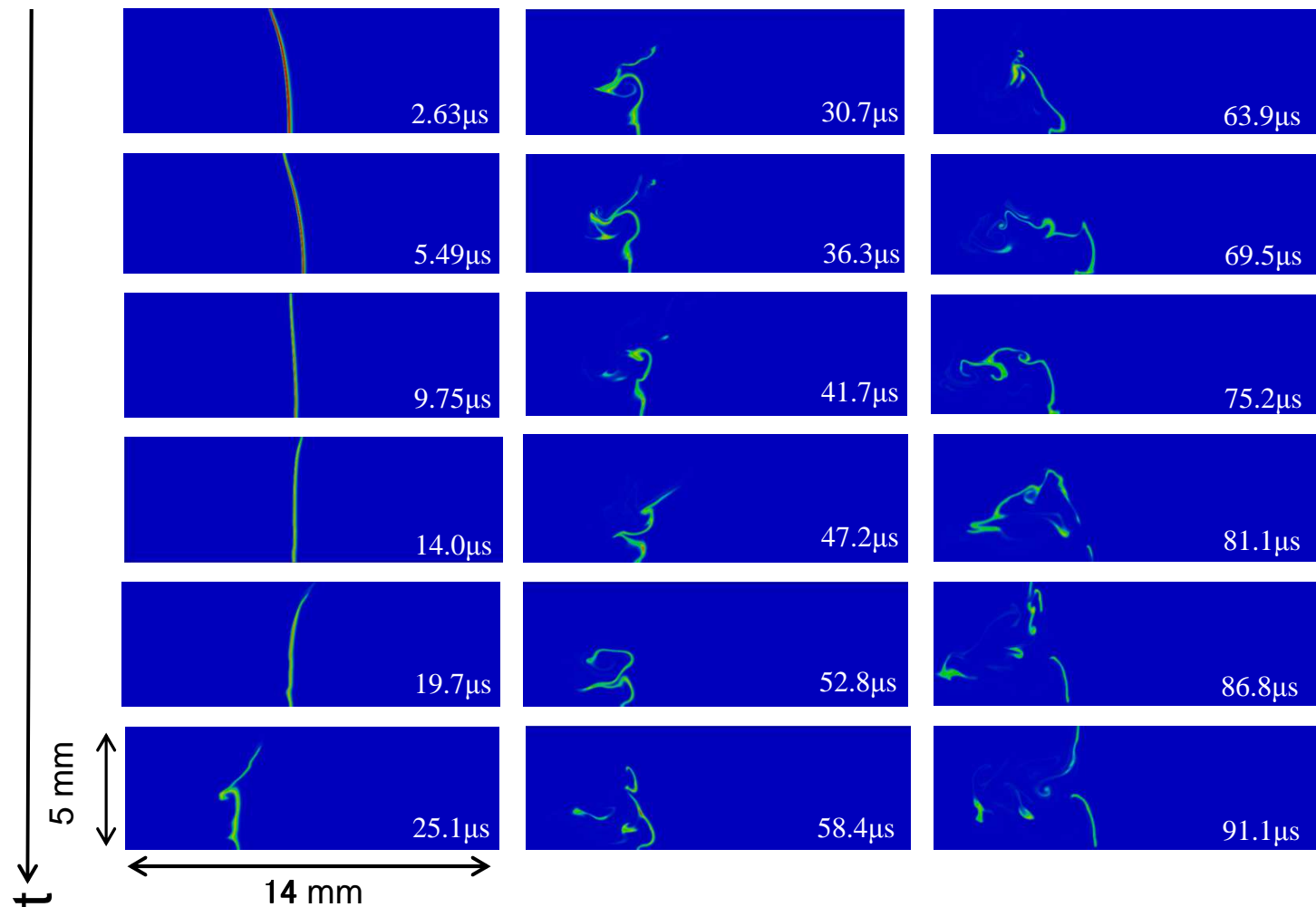


5 μm grid gives the better results.

# Time History of Temperature Profiles: 5 $\mu$ m grid



# Time History of OH Mass Fraction: 5 $\mu$ m



Vortices provide the contact surface fluctuation.



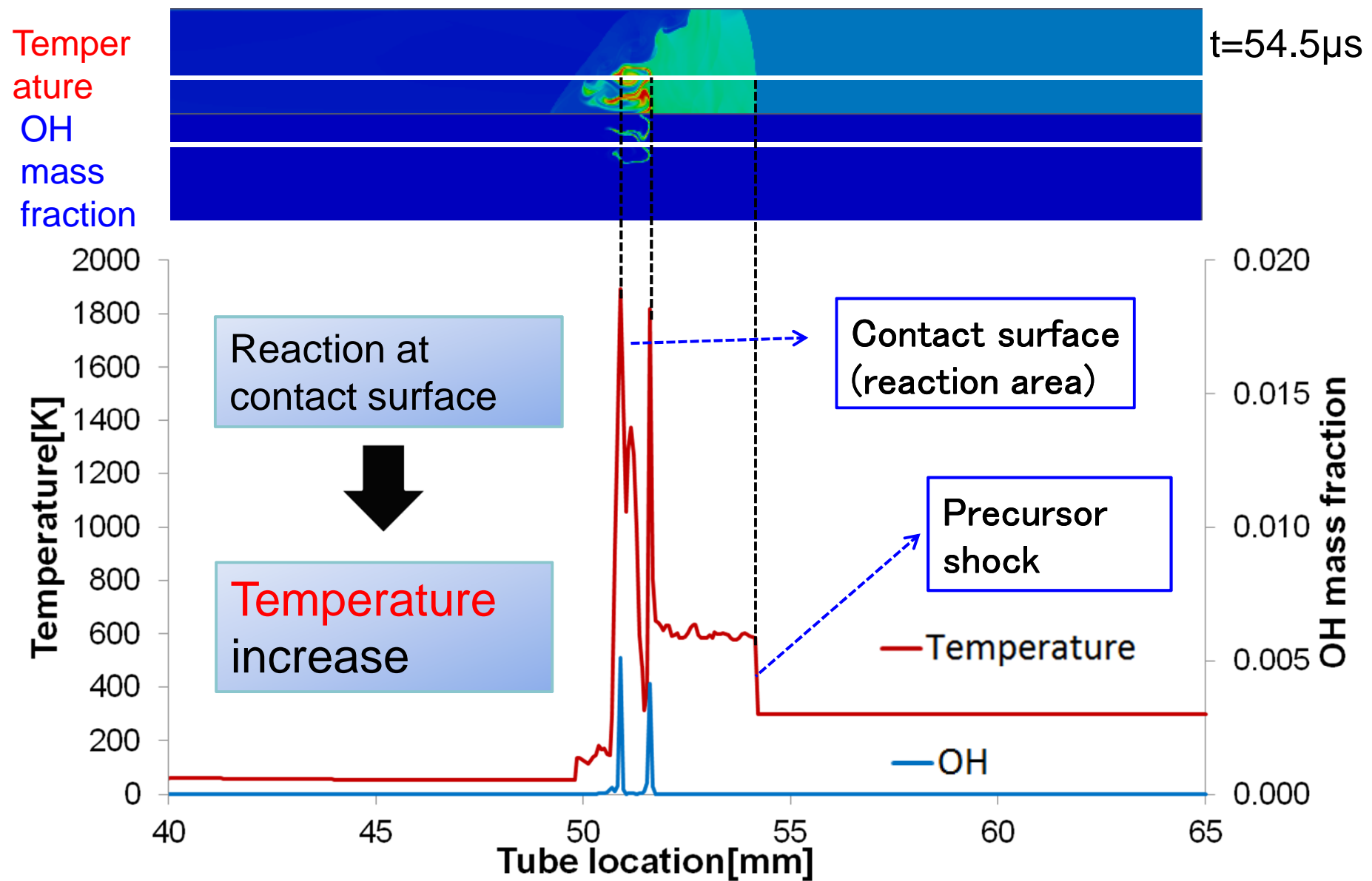
Expansion of reaction area.



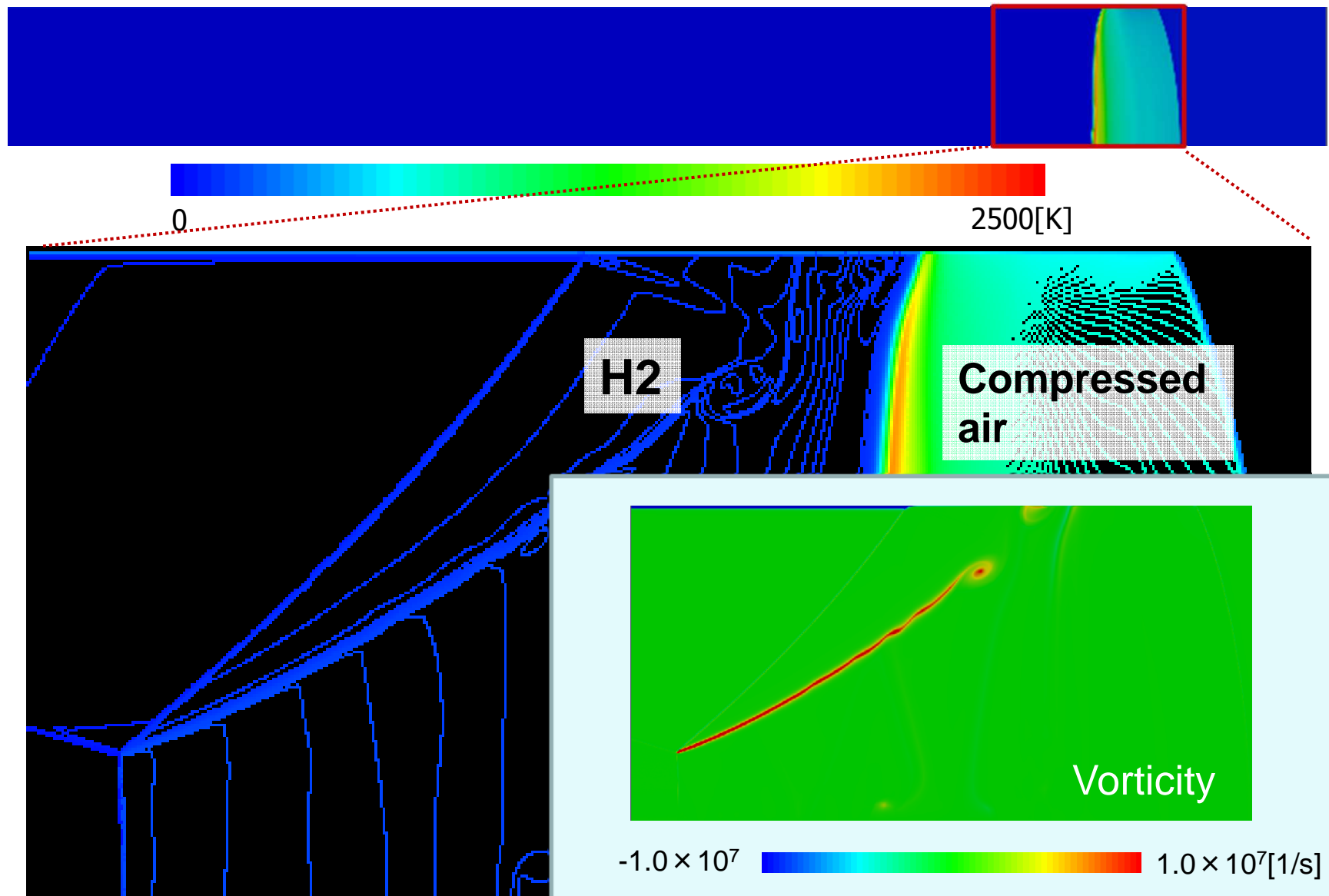
Maintenance of autoignition

# Temperature and OH Profiles at certain radial position

$dx=dy=5\mu\text{m}$ .  $r=2.0\text{mm}$

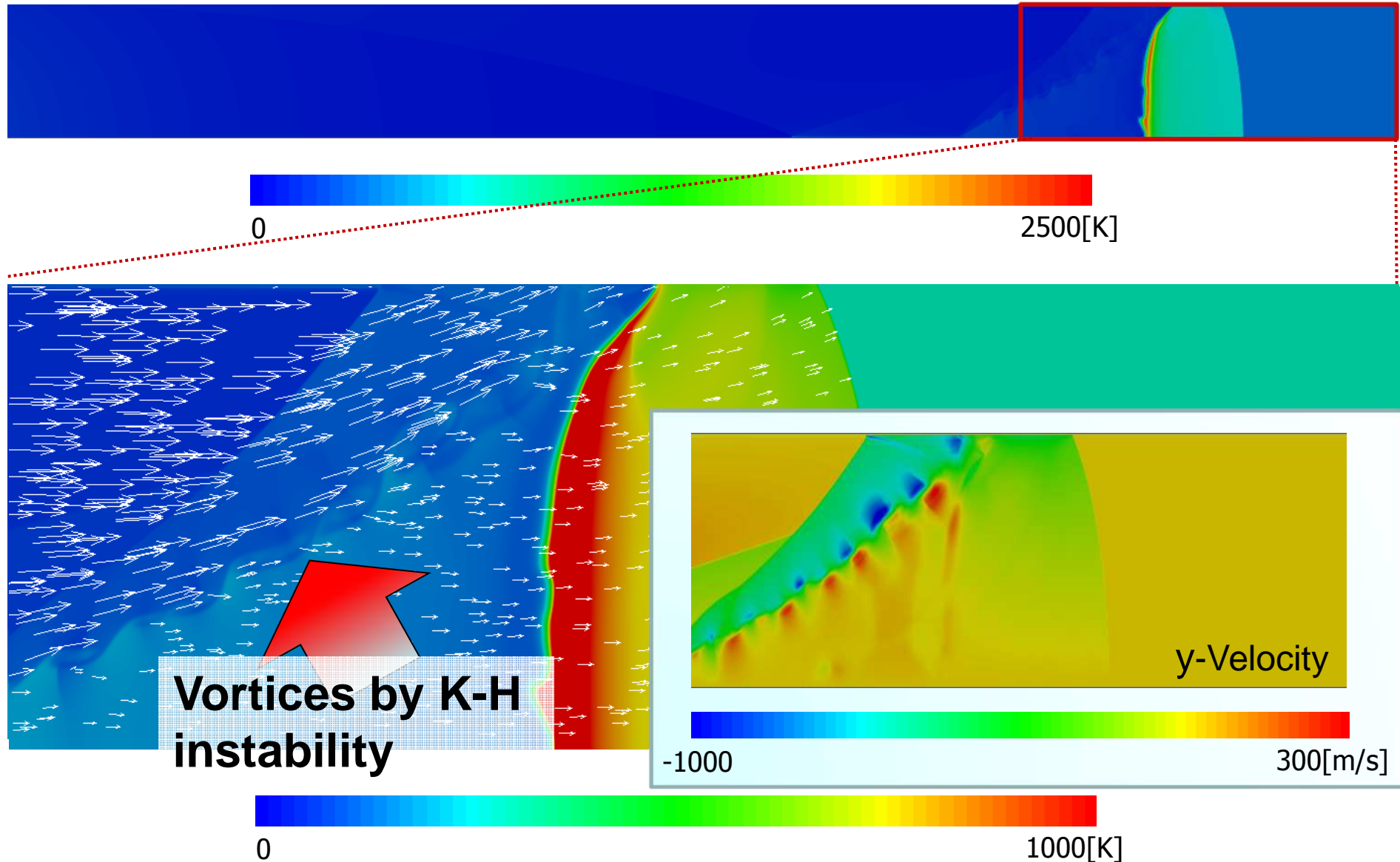


# Temperature Profiles at 14.0 $\mu$ s



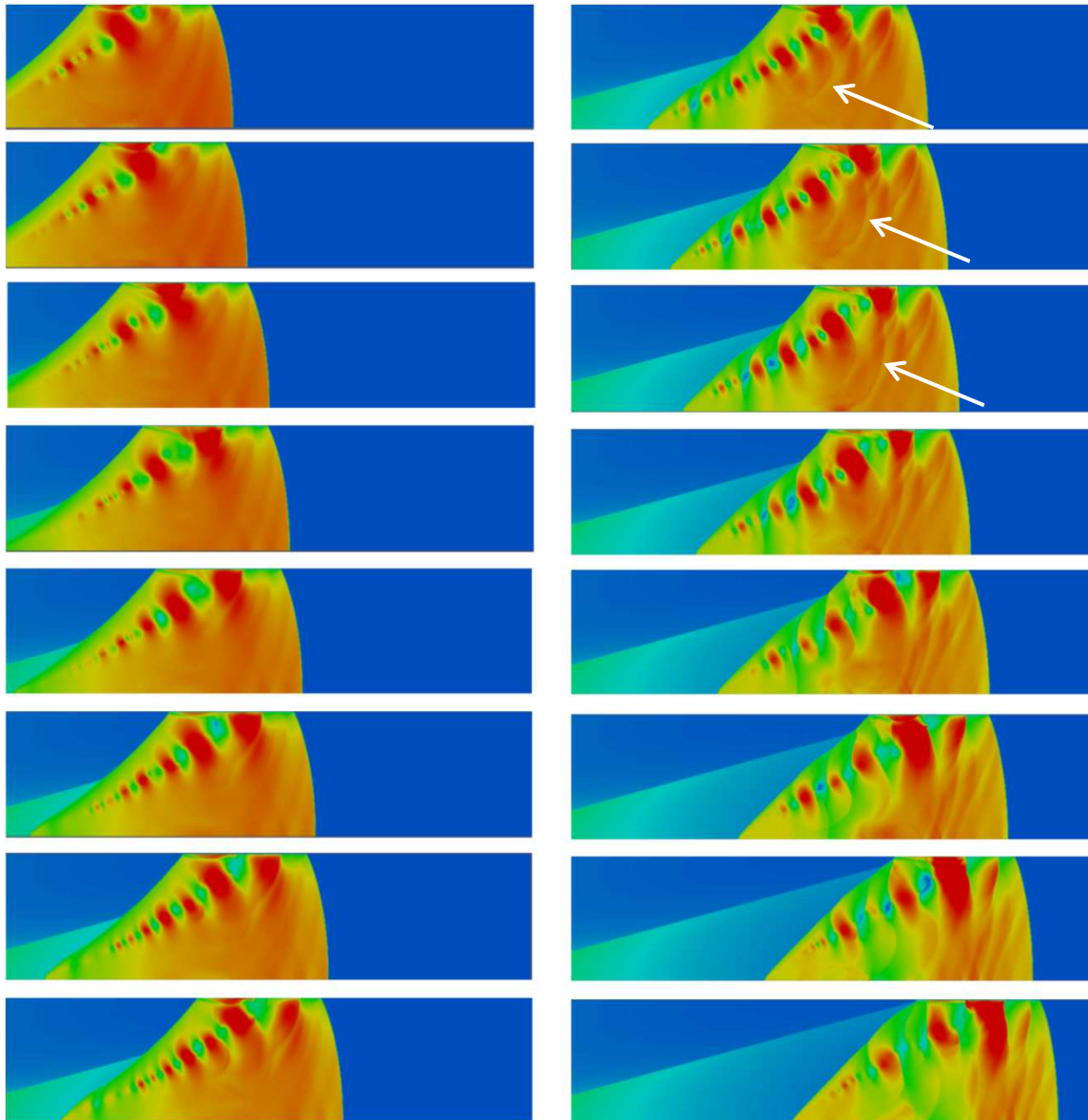


# Temperature Profiles at $19.7\mu\text{s}$





# Pressure Profiles at 6.9~22.5 $\mu$ s



Production of  
**compressible**  
waves by vortices



Proceeding the  
deformation of  
contact surface

# Conclusions

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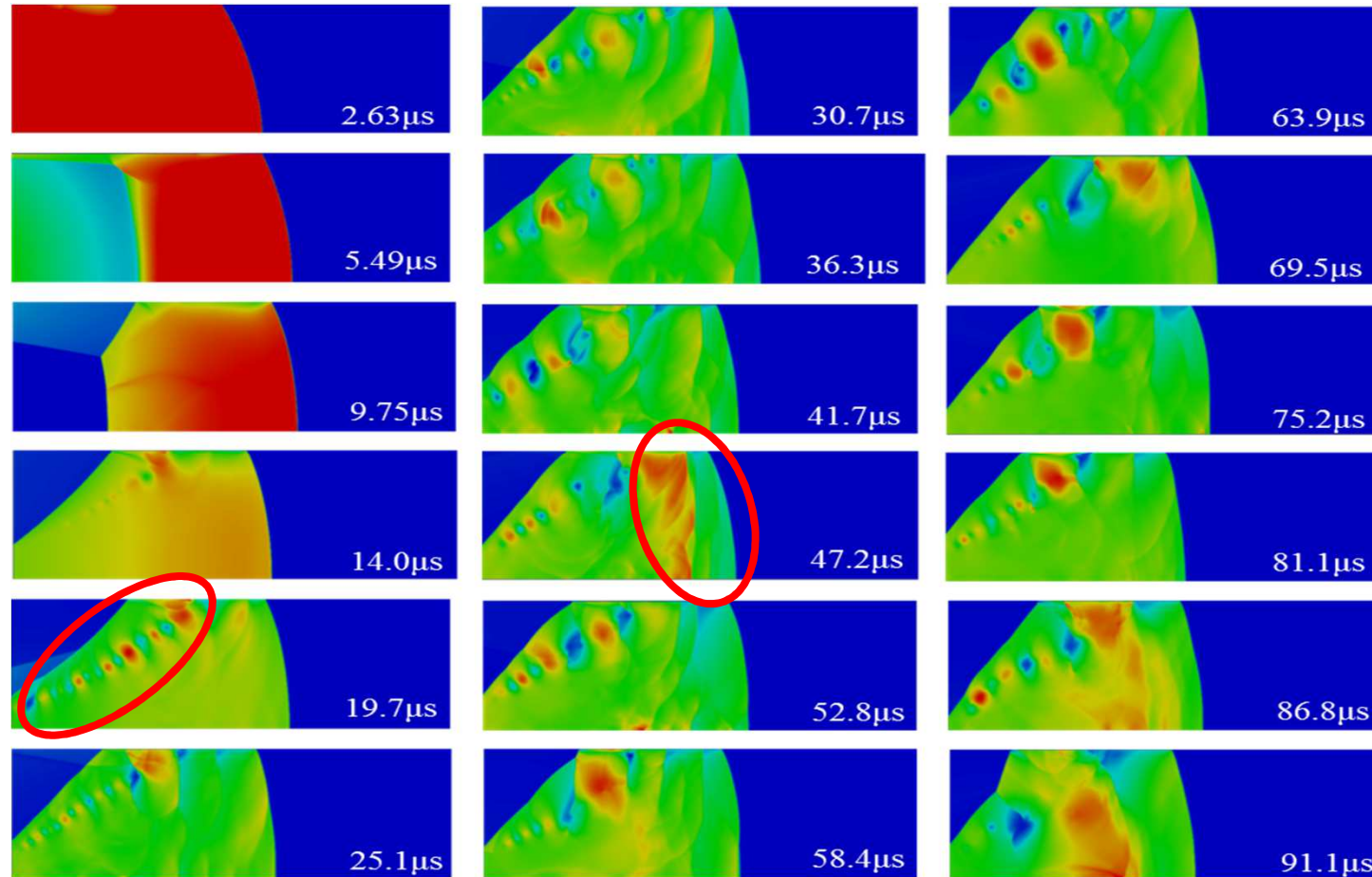
The following results are obtained by calculating high pressure hydrogen auto-ignition in a tube:

- The validity of the present numerical analysis was certified by comparing the computed results with the passed experimental results since the numerical results agree with the experimental ones within 10 % differences.
- The fluctuation at the contact surface proceeds the mixing of hydrogen with air to yield auto-ignition.
- One of the causes of contact surface fluctuation is due to vortices produced by K-H instability.



- It is necessary to calculate the cases changing tube length and diameter.
- 3D calculation must be done to see the real physics in detail.

# 圧力分布履歴

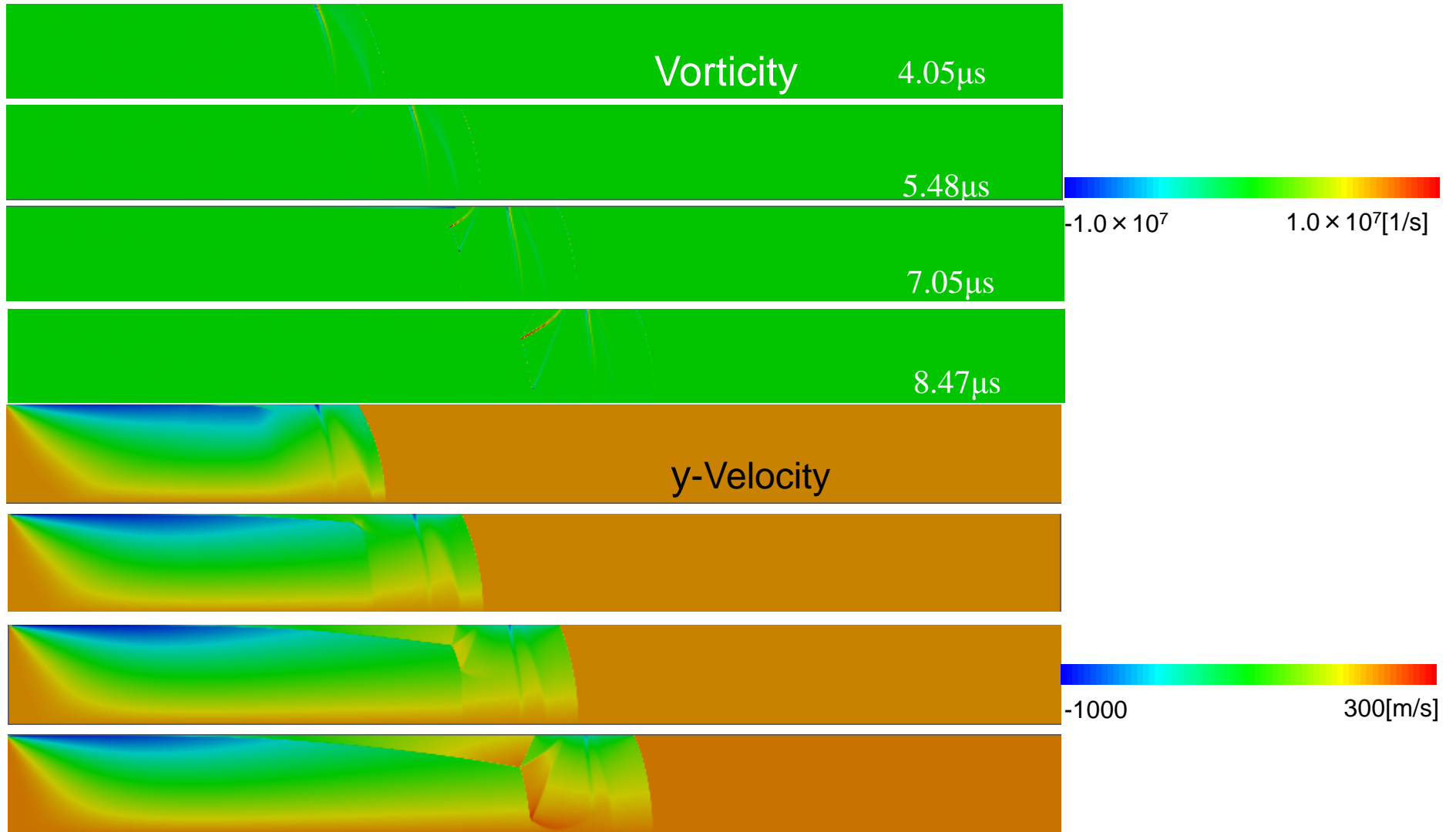


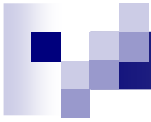
渦によって生じた  
圧縮波による干渉



管出口まで高圧・高温  
を維持

# 速度せん断層

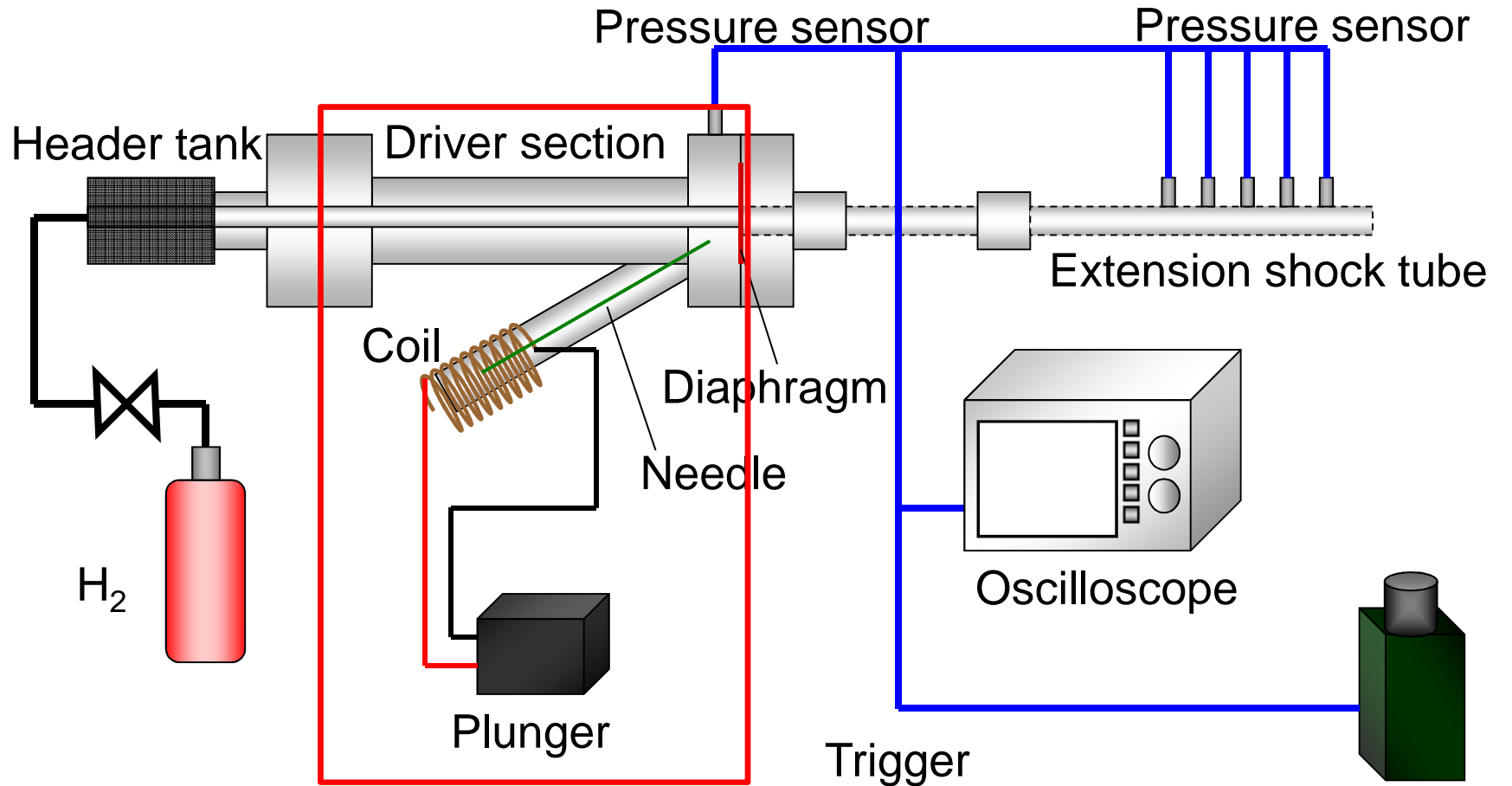




# Numerical Analyses of Auto-Ignition using a Shock Tube with a plunger system

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# Experimental Setup



Experimental Conditions

Shock Tube Length: $L$	100 ~ 4200 mm
Burst Pressure : $P_b$	2.0 ~ 8.0 MPa
Tube Diameter: $D$	10 mm

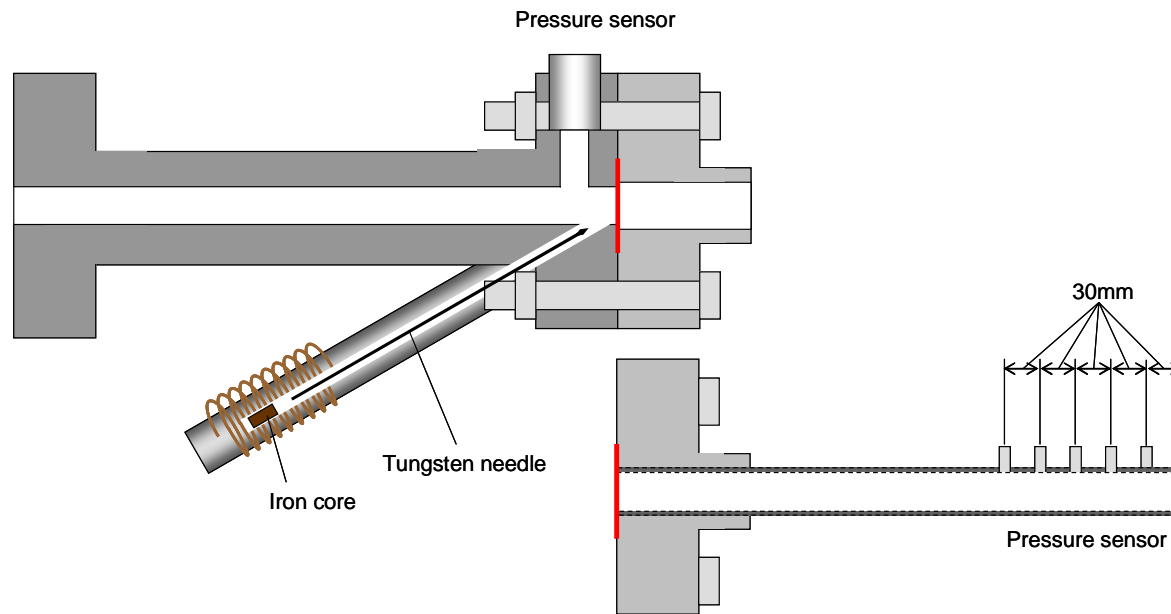


# Shock Tube

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# Shock Tube with a Plunger System





# High Speed Camera

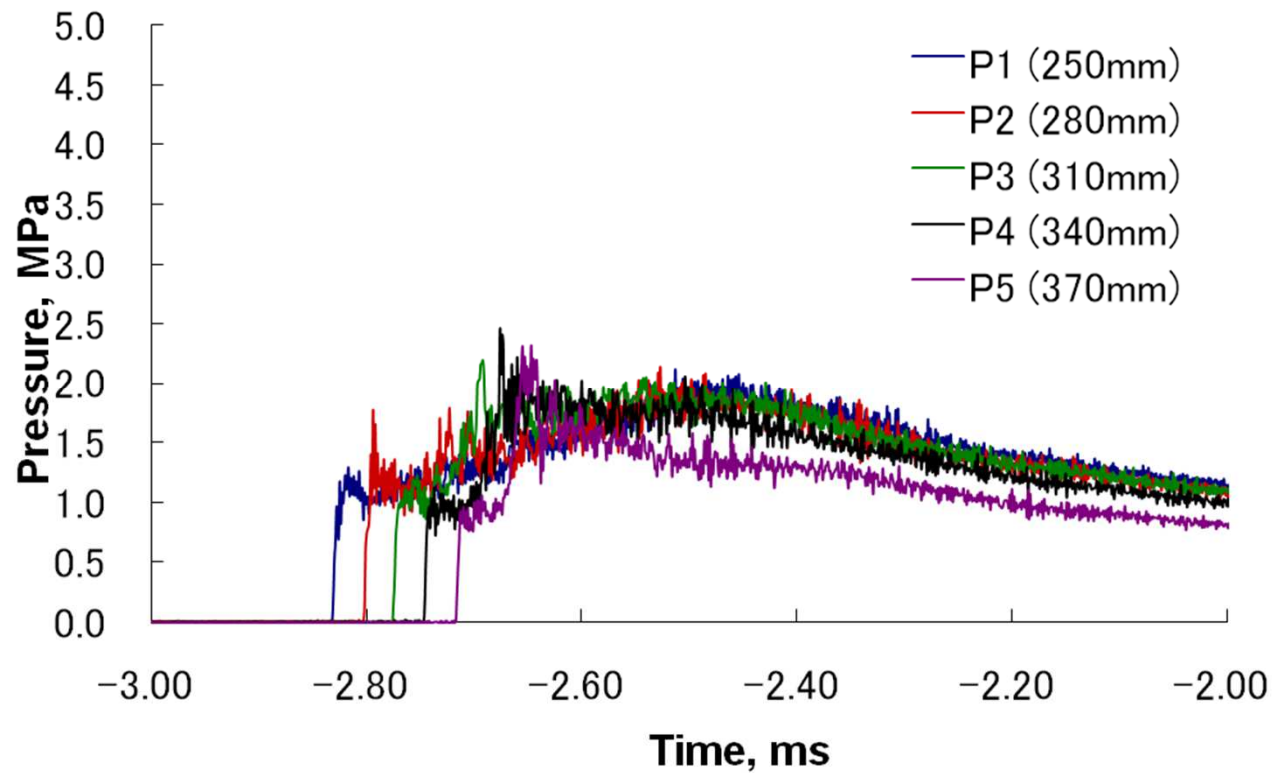
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# Pressure Profiles for $P_b=4.8\text{MPa}$ Case

$P_b=4.8\text{MPa}$   
 $L=400\text{mm}$

No Auto-Ignition

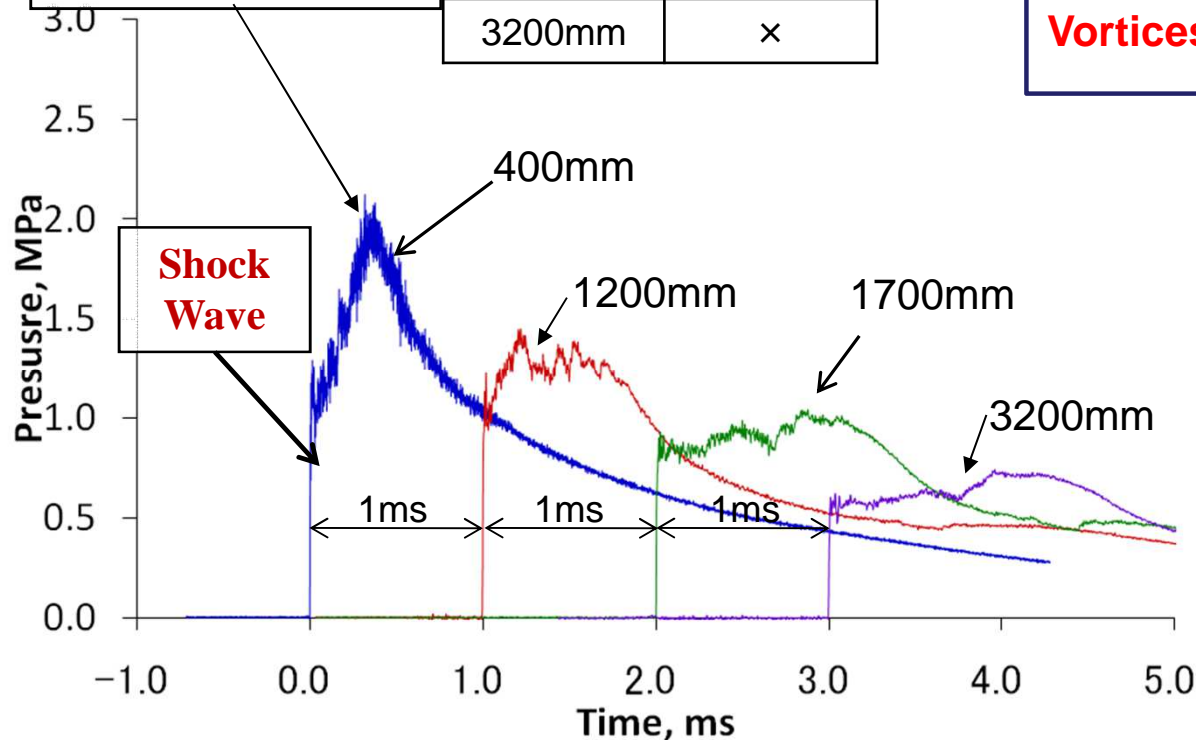


# Pressure Wave Profiles

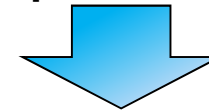
Comparison pressure profiles at the pressure transducer located at 150 mm inside from the tube exit for four different tube length cases at the condition of  $P_b=4.8\text{MPa}$ .

Tube length	Auto-ignition
400mm	×
1200mm	○
1700mm	×
3200mm	×

**Contact surface between hydrogen and air**

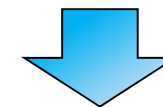


The pressure profile at the contact surface between air and hydrogen becomes collapse for the longer tube.



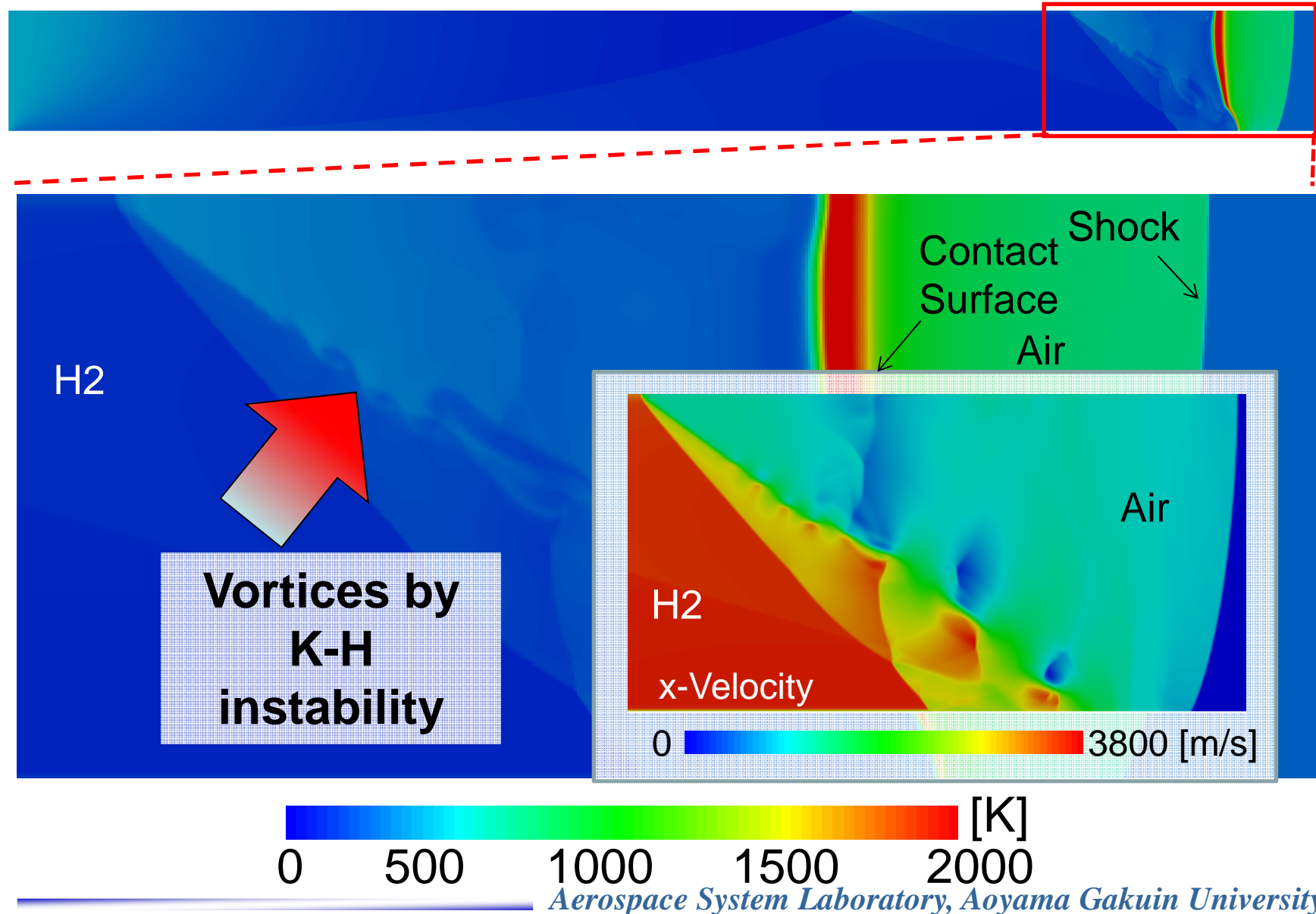
**Vortices exist at the contact surface**

Auto-ignition occurred at the case of 1200 mm tube only.



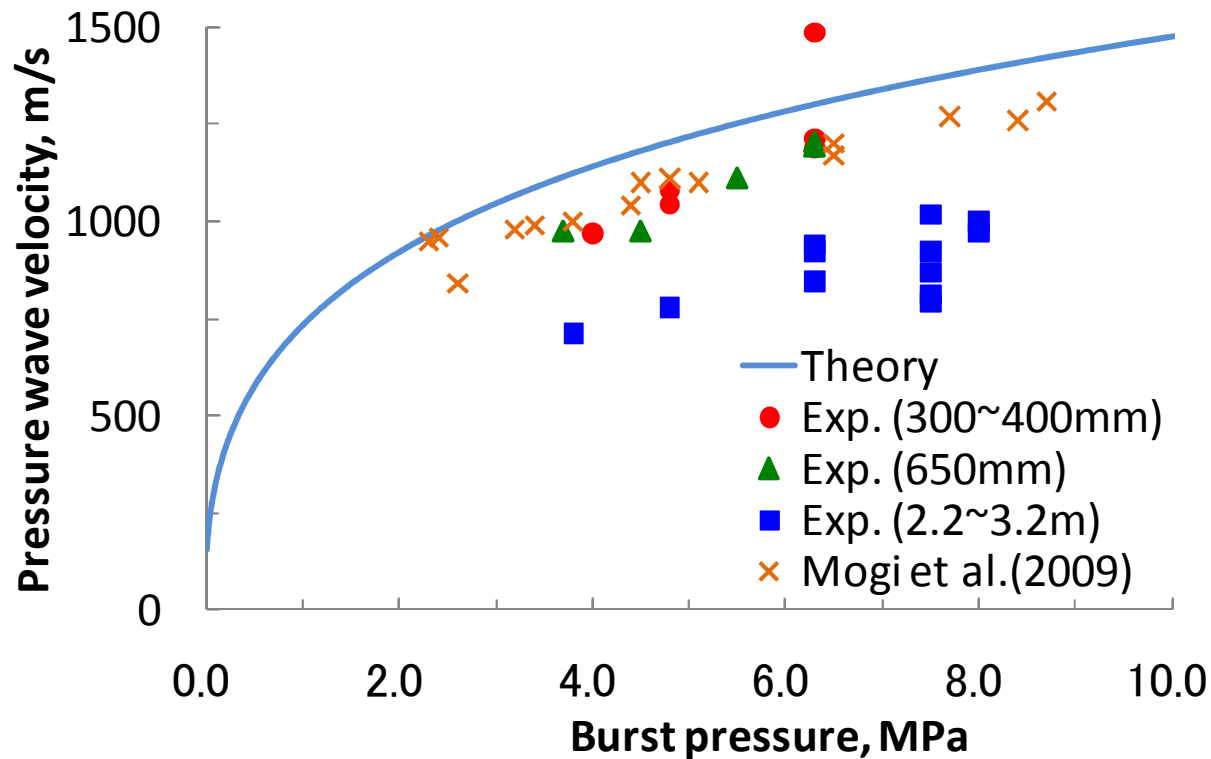
There is a relation between **the vortex** and the shock wave strength.

# Numerical Temperature Profiles (14.8 ms)



# Shock Velocity

The relation between burst pressure and shock velocity at the tube length of 300, 400, 650 mm and 2.2, 3.2 m.



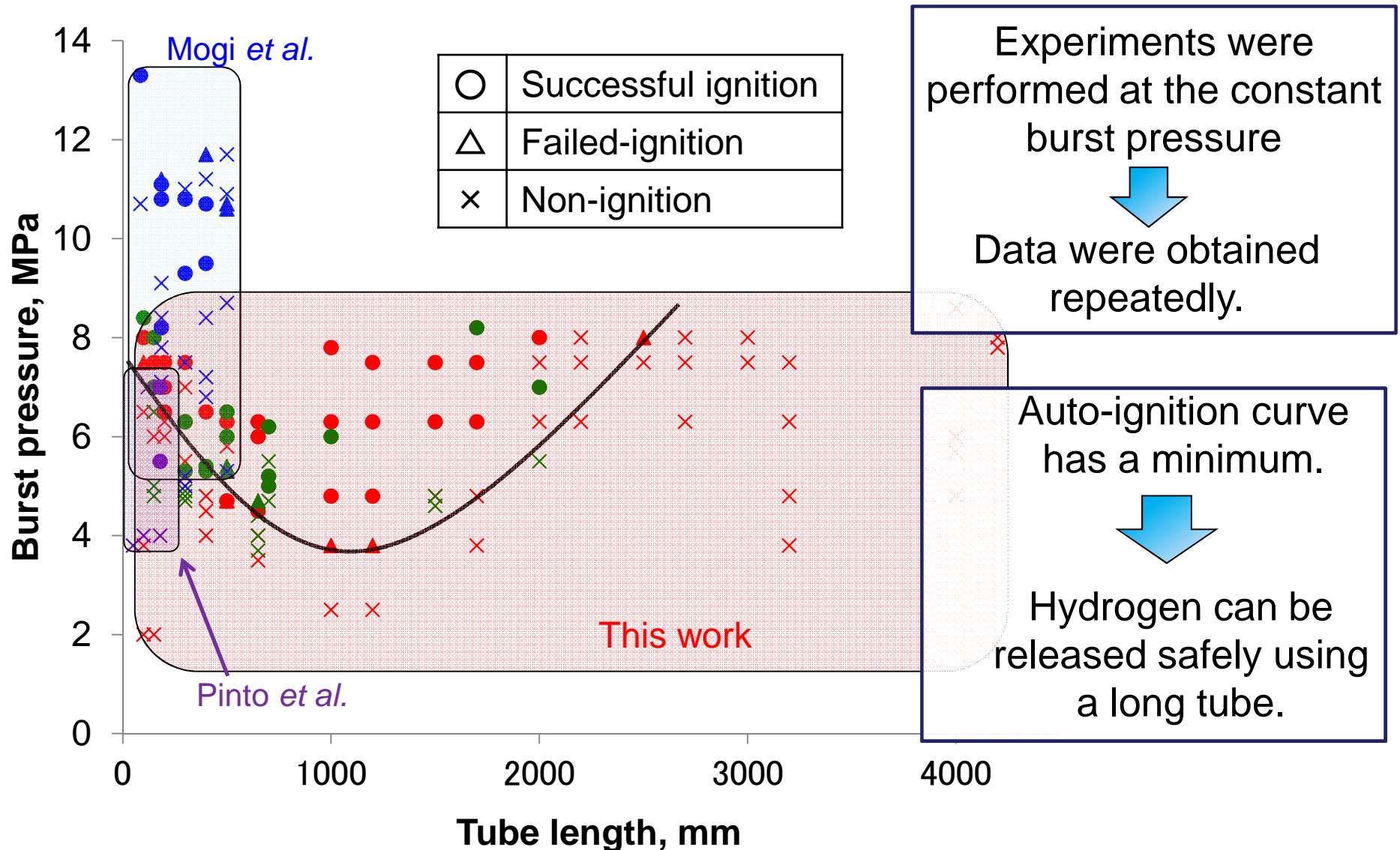
- The similar tendency as theory. (200 m/s below)
- The same results as the old study for the short tube (300-600 mm)
- The 400 m/s lower than theory for the long tube (2.2-3.2 m)



- The theory and experiments are in the same tendency.
- The diaphragm breaks in a finite time and 3D way.
- The boundary layer effect.



# Auto-Ignition Limit Curve





# High-Speed Movie Data

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Focus Distance	100 mm
F-Number	3.5
Frame Speed	60000 fps
Tube Diameter	500 mm
Burst Pressure	4.8 MPa



# Sustainable and Non-Sustainable Auto-Ignition

Mogi *et al.* (2008)

$D=5$  mm  
 $L=185$  mm  
 $P_b=14.5$  MPa



0 μs

50 μs

100 μs

300 μs

(a) **Sustainable** combustion case

$D=5$  mm  
 $L=185$  mm  
 $P_b=11.6$  MPa



0 μs

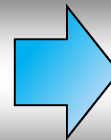
33 μs

100 μs

166 μs

(b) **Non-sustainable** combustion case

- High pressure
- Long Tube

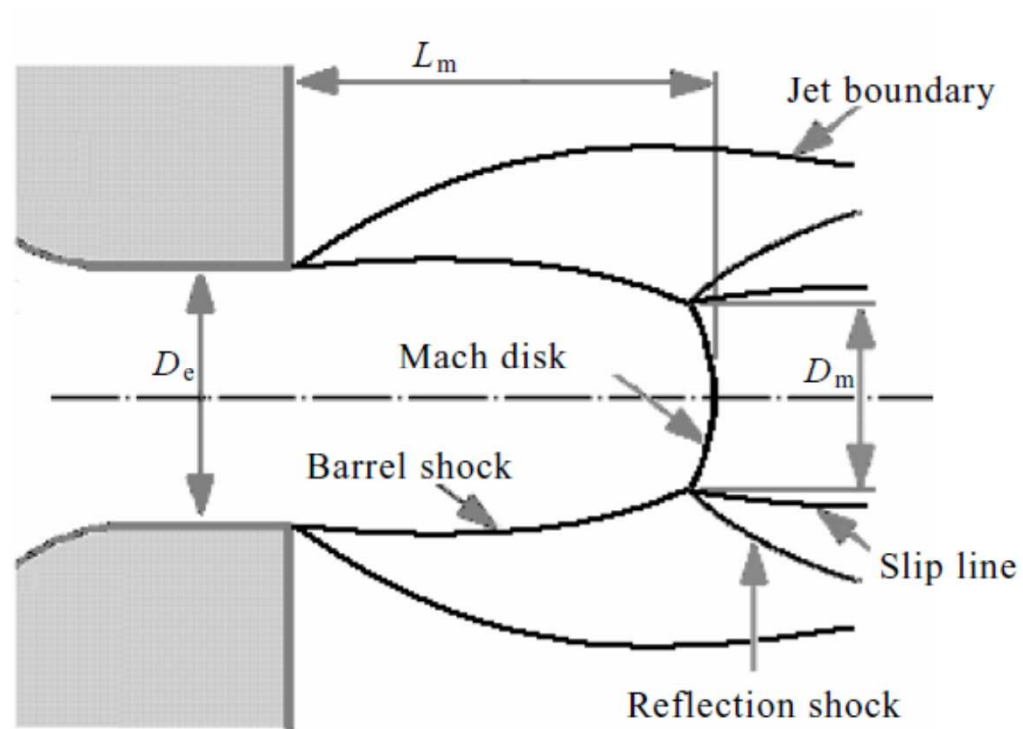


**Easier to ignite**

(2008)

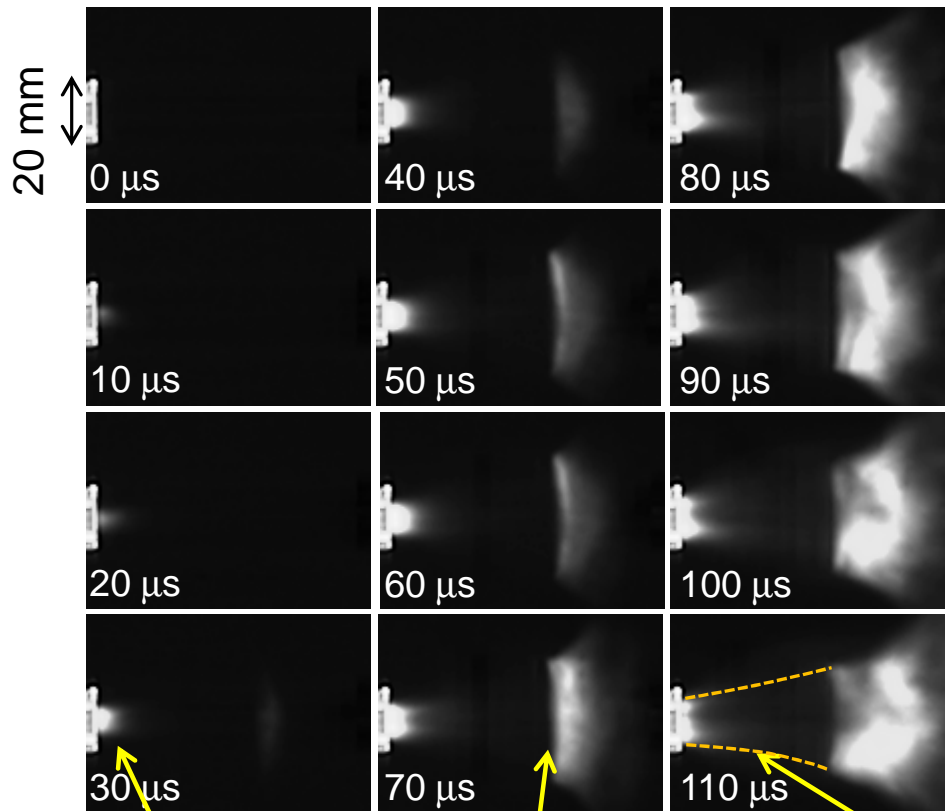
# Mach Disc in Under-Expansion Supersonic Nozzle

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# Detailed Photos

- Took a high speed movie near the tube exit



**Auto-ignition inside tube**

**Mach disc**

**Outer edge of jet**

Focal length	105 mm
Focal number	2.8
Shutter speed	100000 fps
Tube length	650 mm
Burst pressure	5.0 MPa

- Saw the auto-ignition inside of the tube.
- Recognized the phenomena of supersonic jet.

# Conclusion

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- Experiments of Auto-Ignition using a Shock Tube with a plunger system
  - Obtained the clear auto-ignition limit curve by experimenting the shock wave with a control of burst pressure.
  - Found that **no auto-ignition** with an enough length of tube.
  - Observed auto-ignition in tube.