

Dynamics of Harmonically Excited Flames

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New Textbook

UNSTEADY COMBUSTOR PHYSICS



Tim C. Lieuwen

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Flame Response to Harmonic Disturbances

 Combustion instabilities manifest themselves as narrowband oscillations at natural acoustic modes of combustion chamber

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Frequency (Hz)



Basic Problem

• Wave Equation:

$$p'_{tt} - c^{2} p'_{xx} = (\gamma - 1) q'_{t}$$

- Key issue combustion response
 - How to relate q' to variables p', u', and etc., in order to solve problem
 - Focus of this talk is on sensitivity of heat release to flow disturbances





Response of Global Heat Release to Flow Perturbations





Analytical Tools

• Work within fast chemistry, flamelet approximation and use G- and Z- equations to describe flame dynamics







Analytical Tools – Z Equation

- Key assumptions
 - Le=1 assumption

- Imposed flow field
- Equal diffusivities
- flame sheet at $Z=Z_{st}$ surface

$$\rho \frac{D Y_{F}}{D t} - \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathcal{D}_{F} \nabla Y_{F}) = \omega_{F}$$

$$-\omega_{F} = \frac{\omega_{Pr}}{(1+\upsilon)}$$

$$\rho \frac{D\left(Y_{\mathrm{Pr}}/(\upsilon+1)\right)}{Dt} - \nabla \cdot \left(\rho \mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{Pr}}\nabla\left(Y_{\mathrm{Pr}}/(\upsilon+1)\right)\right) = \frac{\omega_{\mathrm{Pr}}}{(\upsilon+1)}$$

$$\rho \frac{D\left(Y_{F} + Y_{Pr} / (\upsilon + 1)\right)}{Dt} - \nabla \cdot \left(\rho \mathscr{D} \nabla \left(Y_{F} + Y_{Pr} / (\upsilon + 1)\right)\right) = 0$$



• Recall the definition of mixture fraction:

$$\mathcal{Z} = Y_F + \frac{1}{(\nu + 1)} Y_{Pr}$$

• Yields:

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K. Balasubramanian, R. Sujith, Comb sci and tech, 2008.

- M. Tyagi, S. Chakravarthy, and R. Sujith, CombTheory and Modelling, 2007.
- M. Juniper, L. Li, J. Nichols, 32nd Comb Symp, 2008.



Premixed Flame Sheets: G-Equation

Flame fixed (Lagrangian) coordinate system:

$$\frac{D}{D t} \vec{G} \left(\vec{x}, t\right) \Big|_{at the flame front} = 0$$

Coordinate fixed (Eulerian) coordinate system:



$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial t} + \vec{v}_F \cdot \nabla G = 0$$

$$n = \nabla G / |\nabla G|$$

 $v_{F} = u - s_{d} n$



G-equation for single valued flame front

Two-dimensional flame front

Position is single valued function, ξ , of the coordinate y



Georgia Tech Engineering School of Aerospace Engineerin Governing Equations

- Left side:
 - Same convection operator
 - Wrinkles created on surface by fluctuations normal to iso- G or Z surfaces
- Right side:
 - Non-premixed flame diffusion operator, linear
 - Premixed flame flame propagation, nonlinear
 - Right side of both equations becomes negligible in Pe = uL/ >>1 or $u/s_d >>1$ limits

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{Z}}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \mathcal{Z} = \nabla \cdot \left(\mathcal{D} \nabla \mathcal{Z} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla G = s_d |\nabla G|$$



Governing Equations

• G-equation only physically meaningful at the flame surface, G=0

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– Can make the substitution,

$$G(x, y, z, t) = x - \xi(y, z, t)$$

- Z-equation physically meaningful everywhere
 - Cannot make analogous substitution



Flame



Governing Equations

- Reflects fundamental difference in problem physics
 - Premixed flame sheet only influenced by flow velocity at flame
 - Non-premixed flame sheet influenced by flow disturbances everywhere





Premixed Flames

- Markstein, 1964
- Marble and Candel, 1977
- Boyer and Quinard, 1983
- Baillot, Bourehla, and Durox, 1996
- Fleifil et al. 1996
- Non-premixed flames
 - Peters, 1998
 - Sujith, Chakravarthy, 2007



Premixed Flame Sheet Dynamics





Excited Bluff Body Flames (Mie Scattering)





Excited Swirl Flame (OH PLIF)





Excited Bluff Body Flames (Line of sight luminosity)





Overlay of Instantaneous Flame Edges





Quantifying Flame Edge Response





Spatial Behavior of Flame Response



Convective wavelength:

$$\lambda_c = U_0 / f_0$$

- distance a disturbance propagates at mean flow speed in one excitation period

- Strong response at forcing frequency
 - Non-monotonic spatial dependence





Flame Wrinkling Characteristics

- 1. Low amplitude flame fluctuation near attachment point, with subsequent growth downstream
- 2. Peak in amplitude of fluctuation, $L'=L'_{peak}$
- 3. Decay in amplitude of flame response farther downstream
- 4. Approximately linear phase-frequency dependence







• Magnitude can oscillate with downstream distance

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Analysis of Flame Dynamics

- 1. Wrinkle convection and flame relaxation processes
- 2. Excitation of wrinkles
- 3. Interference processes
- 4. Destruction of wrinkles



Level Set Equation for Flame Position



G-equation:
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial t} + \left(u_f \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} - v_f \right) = S_L \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right)^2}$$



Analysis of Flame Dynamics

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Wrinkle Convection

Model problem: Step change in axial velocity over the entire domain from u_a to u_b , both of which exceed s_d :

$$u = \begin{cases} u_a & t < 0 \\ u_b & t \ge 0 \end{cases}$$





Wrinkle Convection



• Flame relaxation process consists of a "wave" that propagates along the flame in the flow direction.





Petersen and Emmons, The Physics of Fluids Vo. 4, No. 4, 1961.

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Phase Characteristics of Flame Wrinkle



D. Shin *et al.*, *Journal of Power and Propulsion*, 2011.K. Kashinath, S. Hemchandra, M. Juniper, *Comb and Flame*, 2013.

Harmonically Oscillating Bluff Body

• Linearized, constant burning velocity formulation:

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- Excite flame wrinkle with spatially constant amplitude
- Phase: linearly varies
- Wrinkle convection is controlling process responsible for low pass filter character of global flame response





Analysis of Flame Dynamics

- 1. Wrinkle convection and flame relaxation processes
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Excitation of Wrinkles on Anchored Flames

$$\frac{\partial L'(x,t)}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{u_t} \int_0^x \frac{\partial u'_n}{\partial x} (x',t - \frac{x-x'}{u_t}) dx' + \frac{1}{u_t} \cdot u'_n (x=0,t=t - \frac{x}{u_t})$$

- Linearized solution of G Equation, assume anchored flame
- Wrinkle convection can be seen from delay term





Excitation of Flame Wrinkles – Spatially Uniform Disturbance Field

$$\frac{\partial L'(x,t)}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{u_t} \int_0^x \frac{\partial u'_n}{\partial x} (x',t - \frac{x-x'}{u_t})$$

$$\int_{0}^{u_{n}} (x', t - \frac{x - x}{u_{t}}) dx' + \frac{1}{u_{t}} \cdot u'_{n} (x = 0, t = t - u_{t})$$

- Wave generated at attachment point (*x*=0), convects downstream
- If excitation velocity is spatially uniform, flame response exclusively controlled by flame anchoring "boundary condition"
 - Kinetic /diffusive/heat loss effects, though not explicitly shown here, are very important!



Near Field Behavior- Predictions

• Can derive analytical formula for nearfield slope for arbritrary velocity field:

$$\frac{\partial \left| L \right|}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta} \frac{\left| u_n \right|}{\overline{u_r}}$$

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S. Shanbhogue et al., Proc of the Comb Inst, 2009.


Near Field Behavior



Flame starts with small
amplitude fluctuations
because of attachment

 $\boldsymbol{L'}_{(x=0,\ t)}=0$



S. Shanbhogue et al., Proc of the Comb Inst, 2009.

2

 x/λ_c

3

4

5



Analysis of Flame Dynamics

- 1. Wrinkle convection and flame relaxation processes
- 2. Excitation of wrinkles
- 3. Interference processes
- 4. Destruction of wrinkles



• Flame wrinkles generated at all points where disturbance velocity is nonuniform, $du'/dx \neq 0$

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- Flame disturbance at location x is convolution of disturbances at upstream locations and previous times
- Convecting vortex is continuously disturbing flame
 - Vortex convecting at speed of $u_{c,v}$
 - Flame wrinkle that is excited convects at speed of u_t



Bechert, D., Pfizenmaier, E., JFM., 1975.



Model Problem: Attached Flame Excited by a Harmonically Oscillating, Convecting Disturbance

• Model problem: flame excited by convecting velocity field,

$$\frac{u_n'}{u_{t,0}} = \varepsilon_n \cos(2\pi f(t - x / u_{c,v}))$$

• Linearized solution:

$$\frac{\xi_1}{u_{\neq,0}/f} = \operatorname{Real}\left\{\frac{-i\cdot\varepsilon_n/\sin\theta}{2\pi\left(u_{\neq,0}\cos\theta/u_{c,v}-1\right)} \times \left[e^{i2\pi f\left(y/\left(u_{c,v}\tan\theta\right)-t\right)} - e^{i2\pi f\left(y/\left(u_{\neq,0}\sin\theta\right)-t\right)}\right]\right\}\right\}$$



Solution Characteristics

• Note interference pattern on flame wrinkling

• Interference length scale:

$$\lambda_{int} / (\lambda_{t} \sin \theta) = \frac{1}{|u_{t} / u_{c,v} - 1|}$$





Interference Patterns



D. Shin et al., AIAA Aerospace Science Meeting, 2011.

V. Acharya et al., ASME Turbo Expo, 2011.



Comparison with Data

- Result emphasizes "wave-like", non-local nature of flame response
- Can get multiple maxima/minima if excitation field persists far enough downstream





Aside: Randomly Oscillating, Convecting Disturbances

- Space/time coherence of disturbances key to interference patterns
- Example: convecting random disturbances to simulate turbulent flow disturbances





Analysis of Flame Dynamics

- 1. Wrinkle convection and flame relaxation processes
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Flame Wrinkle Destruction Processes: Kinematic Restoration

- Flame propagation normal to itself smoothes out flame wrinkles
- Typical manifestation: vortex rollup of flame
- Process is amplitude dependent and strongly nonlinear
 - Large amplitude and/or short length scale corrugations smooth out faster





Sung & Law, Progress in Energy and Comb Sci, 2000



D. Shin & T. Lieuwen, Comb and Flame, 2012.



• Leads to nonlinear farfield flame dynamics

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• Decay rate is amplitude dependent





Georgia Tech College of **Zone Behavior of Kinematic** Restoration **Products** 0.6 0.5 $\tilde{\xi}(w_0)|$ 0.4 0.3 $S_{L,0}$ 0.2 0.1 0^{L}_{0} 50 100 150 200 x *Reactants* Tangential direction, t

• Near flame holder

Sung et al., Combustion and Flame, 1996

- Higher amplitudes and shorter wavelengths decay faster
- Farther downstream
 - Flame position independent of wrinkling magnitude
 - Flame position only a function of wrinkling wavelength
 - is determined by the leading points
- D. Shin & T. Lieuwen, Comb and Flame, 2012.

Georgia Tech Engineering School of Aerospace Engineering **Flame Wrinkle Destruction Processes:** <u>Kinematic Restoration</u>





Flame Wrinkle Destruction Processes: Flame Stretch in Thermodiffusively Stable Flames



Wang, Law, and Lieuwen., *Comb and Flame*, 2009. Preetham and Lieuwen, *JPP*, 2010.



Flame Stretch Effects

$$\frac{|\xi(\vec{x}, \omega_0)|}{\tilde{\varepsilon}} \approx \exp\left(-\tilde{\sigma} \tilde{s}_{L,0} \vec{x}\right)$$



Linear in amplitude wrinkle destruction process







Non-premixed Flame Sheets





Mohammed R.K., et al., PROCI, (1998), 27, pp. 693-702

Flame Geometry



• Conditions

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- Over ventilated flame
- Fuel & oxidizer forced by spatially uniform flow oscillations
- Will show illustrative solution in Pe>>1 (i.e., $W_{II}u_0>>\mathcal{D}$) limit
- K. Balasubramanian, R. Sujith, Comb sci and tech, 2008.
- M. Tyagi, S. Chakravarthy, R. Sujith, Comb Theory and Modelling, 2007.
- N. Magina et al., Proc of the Comb Inst, 2012.



Solution characteristics of Z field

$$Z_{1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{i\varepsilon \left(\mathcal{A}_{n}\right)^{2} \left(2/n\pi\right) \sin \left(\mathcal{A}_{n}\right)}{2\pi S t_{W} P e} \right] \cos \left(\mathcal{A}_{n} \frac{y}{W_{II}}\right) \exp \left(-\mathcal{A}_{n}^{2} \frac{x}{P e W_{II}}\right) \left\{ 1 - \exp \left(2\pi i S t_{W} \frac{x}{W_{II}}\right) \right\} \exp \left(-i\omega t\right)$$







Solution characteristics of *Z* field

$$Z_{1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{i\varepsilon \left(\mathcal{A}_{n}\right)^{2} \left(2/n\pi\right) \sin \left(\mathcal{A}_{n}\right)}{2\pi S t_{W} P e} \right] \cos \left(\mathcal{A}_{n} \frac{y}{W_{II}}\right) \exp \left(-\mathcal{A}_{n}^{2} \frac{x}{P e W_{II}}\right) \left\{ 1 - \exp \left(2\pi i S t_{W} \frac{x}{W_{II}}\right) \right\} \exp \left(-i\omega t\right)$$







$$\frac{Convective wavelength (u_{x,0} / f)}{Flame \ length (L_{f})} = 3.3$$







$$\frac{Convective wavelength (u_{x,0} / f)}{Flame \ length (L_f)} = 0.5$$











Similarities between space/time dynamics of premixed and non-premixed flames responding to bulk flow perturbations >Magnitude

- > Flame Angle
- > Wave Form



• Non-premixed

$$\xi_{1,n}(x,t) = \frac{i\varepsilon u_{x,0}}{2\pi f} \sin \theta(x) \left\{ 1 - \exp\left(i2\pi f \frac{x}{u_{x,0}}\right) \right\} \exp\left[-i2\pi ft\right]$$

• Premixed

Convective wave speeds

$$\xi_{1,n}(x,t) = \frac{i\varepsilon \, u_{x,0}}{2\pi \, f} \sin \theta \quad \cdot \quad \left\{ 1 - \exp\left(i2\pi \, f \frac{x}{u_{x,0}} \cos \theta\right) \right\} \exp\left[-i2\pi \, ft\right]$$



Non-premixed



Global Heat Release Analysis





• Unsteady heat release

$$Q(t) = \int_{flam e} m_{F}'' h_{R} dA$$

- Flame surface area (Weighted Area)
- Mass burning rate (MBR)
- We'll assume constant composition
- Flame describing function:

$$\mathcal{F} \equiv \frac{Q_1 / Q_0}{\tilde{u}_{x,1} / u_{x,0}} = \mathcal{F}_{WA} + \mathcal{F}_{MBR}$$

D. Durox, T. Schuller, N. Noiray, S. Candel, Proc of the Comb Inst, 2009.



• Spatially integrated heat release:

$$Q(t) = \int_{flam e} \rho^{u} s_{c}^{u} h_{R} dA$$

• Linearized for constant flame speed, heat of reaction, and density:





• W(y) is a geometry dependent weighting factor:



where: $W_f = L_F \tan \theta$

Engineering School of Aerospace Engineering **Premixed Flame TF Gain– Bulk Flow Excitation**



W. Polifke, C. Lawn, Comb and Flame, 2007.

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- Flame position ~1/St $\zeta_{1,n}(x,t) = \frac{i\varepsilon u_{x,0}}{2\pi f} \sin \theta \left\{ 1 \exp\left(i2\pi St_f \frac{x}{L_{f,0}}\right) \right\} \exp\left[-i2\pi ft\right]$ Low pass filter characteristic!
- Flame area/unit axial distance:

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$$dA = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial x}\right)^2} dx$$

• Linearized: $\frac{dA}{dx} = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial \zeta_0}{\partial x}\right)^2} + \frac{\frac{\partial \zeta_0}{\partial x}}{\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{\partial \zeta_0}{\partial x}\right)^2}} \qquad \propto \qquad \varepsilon \sin \theta \exp\left(i2\pi St_f \frac{x}{L_{f,0}}\right) \exp\left[-i2\pi ft\right]$ 69



Why the 1/St Rolloff?

• Consider spatial integral of traveling wave disturbance:



• 1/St comes from the integration!



Premixed Flame Response - Phase



- Phase rolls off linearly with St (for low St values)
 - Time delayed behavior
- 180° phase jumps at nodal locations in the gain

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Premixed Flame Response - Phase

Flame area-velocity relationship for convectively compact flame (low St values):

C

$$\frac{A_{1}(t)}{A_{0}} = \varkappa \frac{u_{1}(t-\tau)}{u_{0}}$$

$$\tau = C \frac{L_f}{u_0}$$

Axi-symmetric Wedge: C =

$$=\frac{2\left(1+k_{c}^{-1}\right)}{3\cos^{2}\theta}$$

Axi-symmetric Cone:

$$=\frac{2\left(k_{c}+1\right)}{3k_{c}\cos^{2}\theta}$$

$$k_{C} = \frac{u_{0}}{u_{tx,0}}$$

Two-dimensional:

$$C = \frac{\left(k_{c} + 1\right)}{2k_{c}\cos^{2}\theta}$$


•

Nonpremixed Flames-Bulk Flow Excitation

• Returning to spatially integrated heat release:

$$Q(t) = \int_{flam e} m''_F k_R dA$$

• Linearize the MBR and area terms:

$$\frac{Q(t)}{k_{R}} = \int_{flam e} \dot{m}_{F,0}^{"} dA_{0} + \int_{flam e} \dot{m}_{F,0}^{"} dA_{1} + \int_{flam e} \dot{m}_{F,1}^{"} dA_{0}$$

$$\int_{flam e} \int_{flam e} \int_{flam$$



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х

- Area increases => Premixed
- Weighted area decreases => Non-premixed



Weighted Area cont'd

At low frequencies



- Non-premixed
 - Weighted Area
- Premixed
 - Area (as weighting is constant)

At low frequencies, area and weighted area are **out of phase**



Mass Burning Rate

$$\mathcal{F}_{MBR} = \frac{\int \left(\dot{m}_{F}^{"} \right)_{1} dA_{0}}{\int \int \left(\dot{m}_{F}^{"} \right)_{0} dA_{0}}$$

$$\int \int \left(\dot{m}_{F}^{"} \right)_{0} dA_{0}$$

- Non-premixed:
$$(m_F'')_1 \sim \frac{1}{\cos\theta} \frac{\partial Z_1}{\partial y}$$

• Fluctuations in spatial gradients of the mixture fraction

- Premixed:
$$(\dot{m}_{F}'')_{1} \sim \frac{\partial s_{L}}{\partial \phi}$$

• Stretch sensitivity of the burning velocity



Significant differences in dominant processes controlling heat release oscillations

- Non-premixed : Mass burning rate
- Premixed : Area

Magina et al., Proc of the Comb Inst, 2012.





Premixed Flame TF's: More Complex Disturbance Fields

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Disturbance convecting axially at velocity of $U_c \& k_c = U_o/U_c$

Axisymmetric wedge flame:

$$\frac{u_{F,n1}(x, y, t)}{u_{\chi,0}} \bigg|_{x=\xi(y,t)} = \varepsilon_n \cos(2\pi f(t - x/u_c)) \bigg|_{x=\xi(y,t)}$$



• Gain \circ fcn (St₂, k_c)

 \circ Unity at low s_{t_2}

- o Gain increases greater than unity
- \circ "Nodes" of zero heat release response



Closing Remarks

- Flame response exhibits "**wavelike**", **non-local** behavior due to wrinkle convection, leading to:
 - maxima/minima in gain curves, interference phenomenon, etc.
 - 1/f behavior in transfer functions
- Premixed flame wrinkles controlled by different processes in different regions
- Role of area, weighted area, mass burning rate are quite different for premixed and non-premixed flames