



# High hydrogen gas turbine retrofit to enable a low carbon reliable electricity system



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Thomassen Energy

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**Thomassen Energy**  
a Hanwha company



Aug 11, 2021  
by Aaron Larson

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 Connection with V.C. Summer**

Hydrogen

# Decarbonizing Grid with Hydrog

Mainly countries' energy resources to their electricity mix, other fossil-fueled power plants. Yet, options. Research and development (R&D) efforts are also the use of hydrogen and energy storage, and advance new technology, as carbon capture and artificial intelligence, in an effort to reduce carbon emissions.

"I think there is a clear sign right now that the world has made the choice, and the choice is clearly the zero-CO<sub>2</sub> emission," Karim Amin, executive vice president of Generation with Siemens Energy, said as a guest on *The POWER Podcast*. "So, that's a given, and we are



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The hydrogen gas turbine gets a lot of attention, mainly a hype or what will its role be in the energy transition ????

## Energy transition

gy and Equinor tell R

20 July 2021 10:58 GMT    UPDATED 30 July 2021

By Leigh Collins 

**PE**  
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## Future-proofing gas power

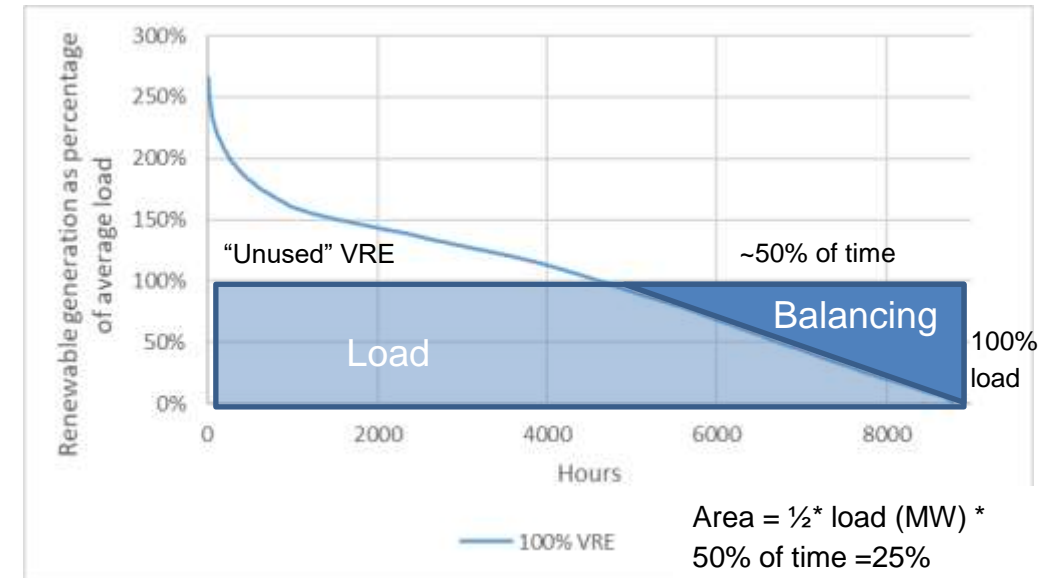
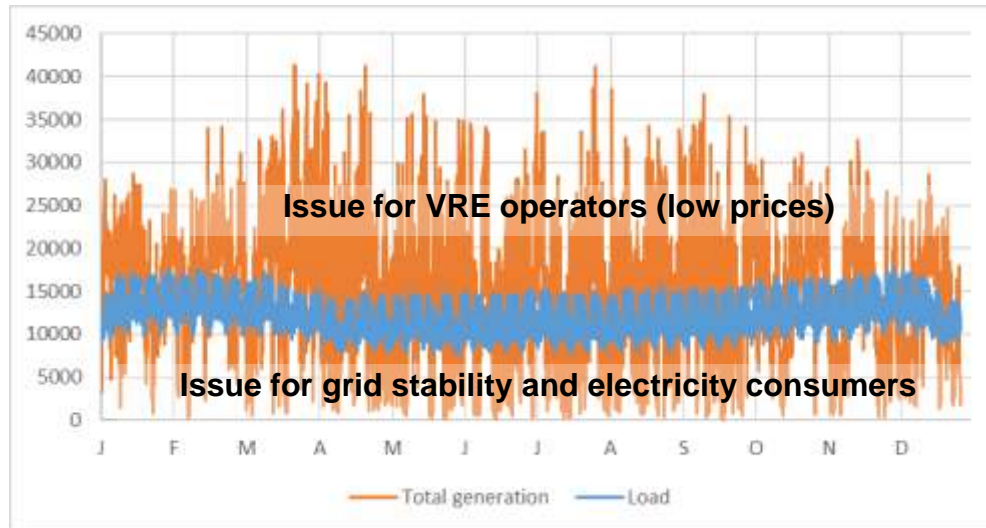
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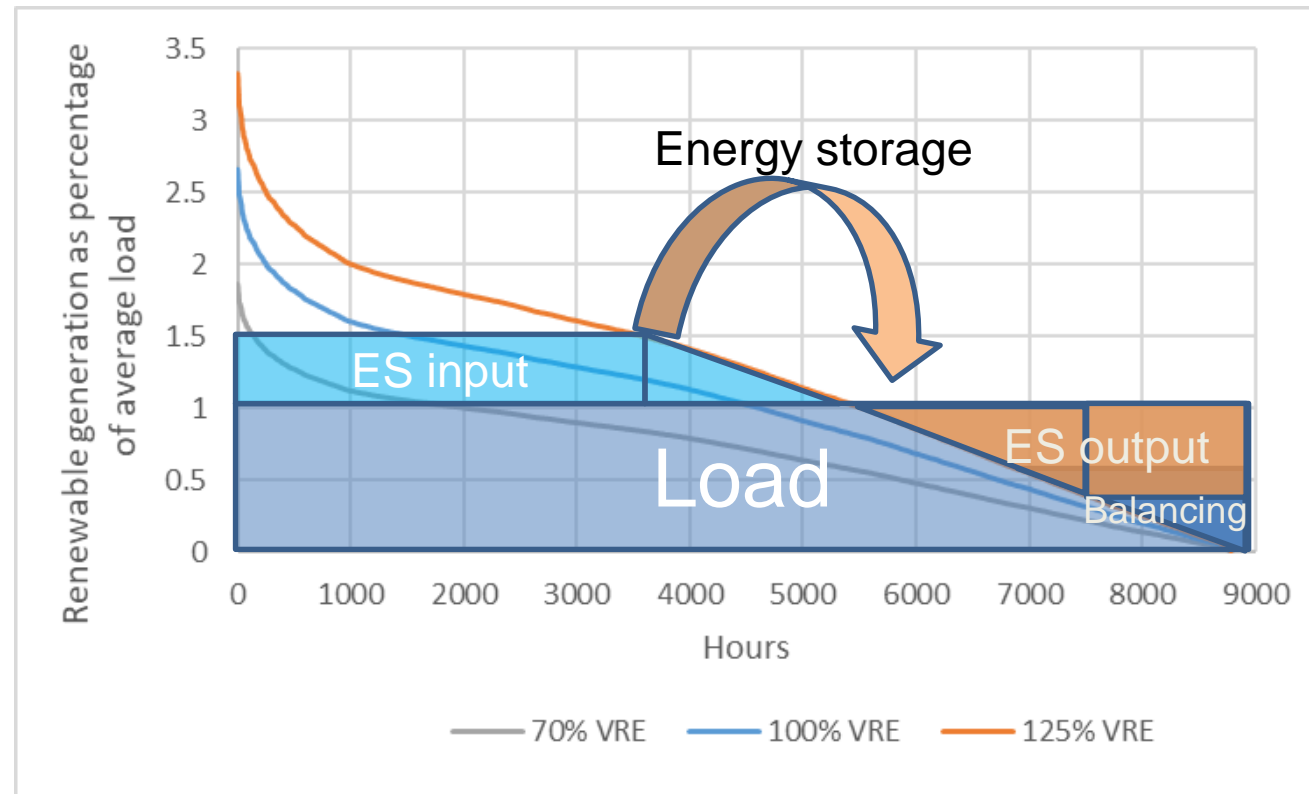
# Electricity supply

## Assume a fossil free electricity system ....

- Generation by Variable Renewable Energy (VRE): solar, wind on shore and wind off shore
- Balancing of supply and demand required:  
~ 25% of (non flexible) load

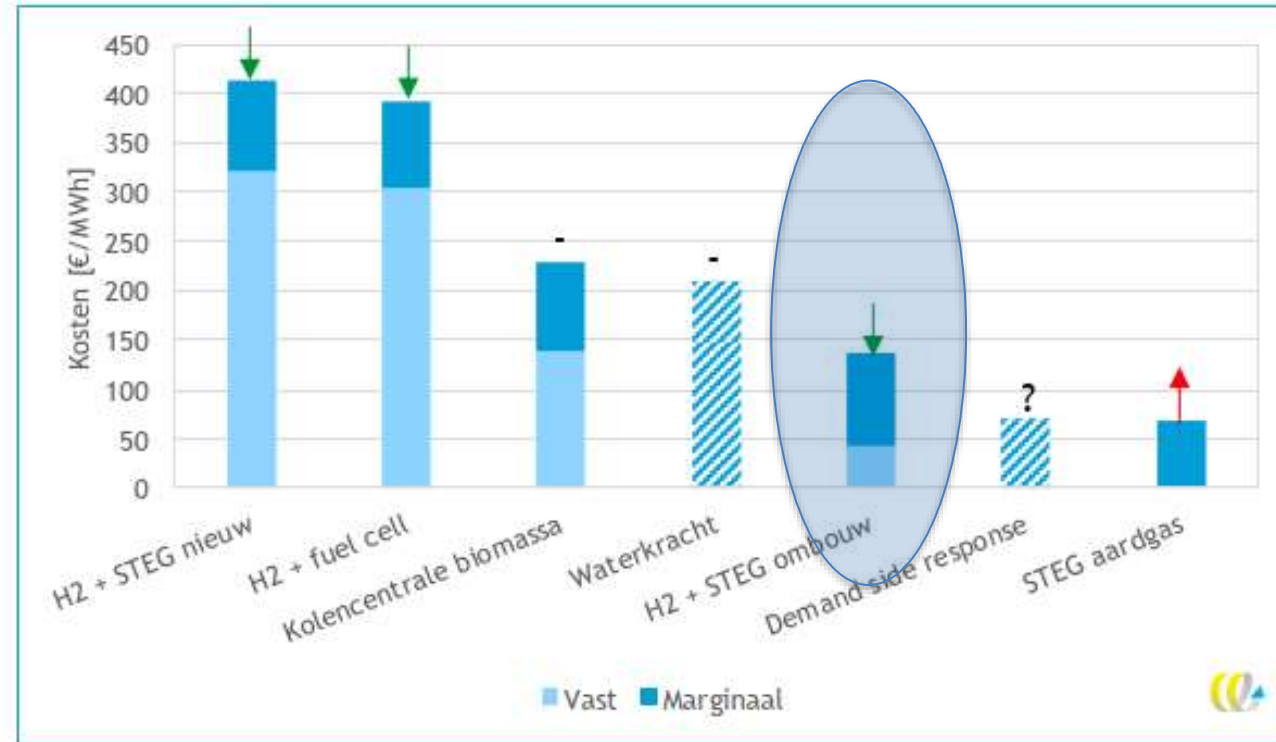


# Utilization of excess Variable Renewable Energy for balancing



# 2020 CE Delft Study shows that H<sub>2</sub> in retrofit gas turbine power plant is attractive for balancing

Figuur 5 - Marginale en vaste kosten in 2030 van technieken om tekorten aan te vullen

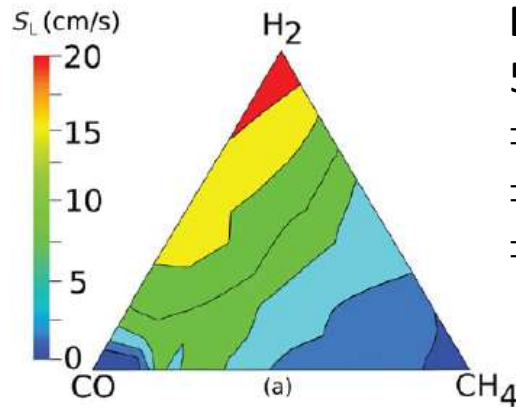


CE Delft, Verkenning ontwikkeling CO<sub>2</sub>-vrije flexibele energietechnieken,  
Publicatienummer: 20.190402.041 , 2020



# Challenges for hydrogen in gas turbines: flash back, emissions (NO<sub>x</sub>), dynamics and leakages

Flashback

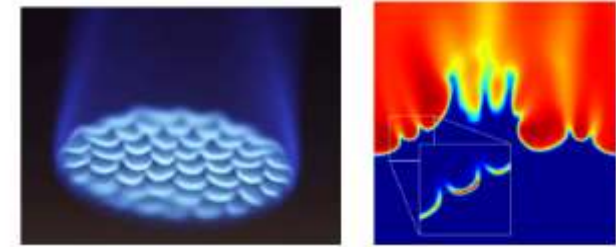


## Flame speed

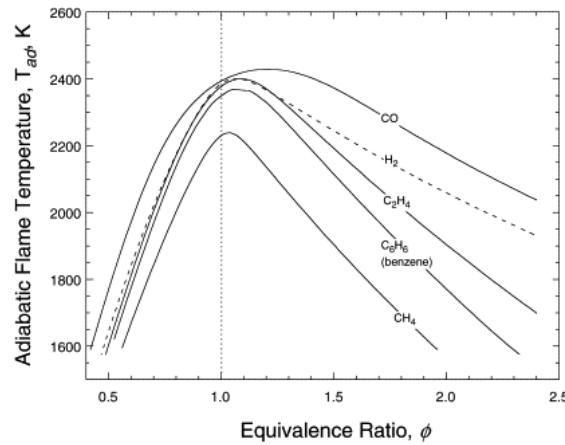
- 5-10x natural gas
- ⇒ Burner flash back
- ⇒ Stability
- ⇒ Dynamics

## Lewis number << 1

- H<sub>2</sub> diffusivity >> thermal diffusivity
- ⇒ Increased flame speed at lean conditions
- ⇒ Stability, dynamics



NO<sub>x</sub>



## Stoich. Flame temperature:

- 400K above natural gas
- ⇒ High NO<sub>x</sub> with non-premixed combustion

## Diffusivity

- 3-4x higher than natural
- ⇒ Leakages valves and supply
- ⇒ Preferential diffusion

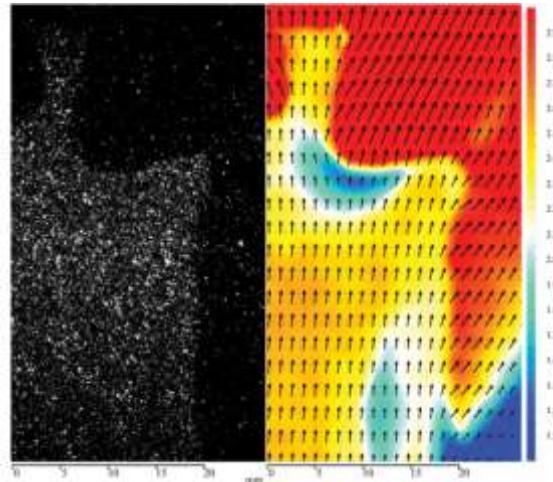
Substance	Symbol	Diffusivity (cm <sup>2</sup> /sec)
Flame gases (average effective value)	$\bar{\alpha}$	0.55
Oxygen	$D_{O_2}$	0.43
Methane	$D_{C_2H_4}$	0.47
Ethane	$D_{C_2H_6}$	0.30
Propane	$D_{C_3H_8}$	0.25
Butane	$D_{C_4H_{10}}$	0.22
Hexane	$D_{C_6H_{14}}$	0.18
Heptane	$D_{C_7H_{16}}$	0.17
Octane	$D_{C_8H_{18}}$	0.16
Decane	$D_{C_{10}H_{22}}$	0.15
$C_nH_{2n+2}$ ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ )	$D_{H_2}$	0
Hydrogen	$D_{H_2}$	1.86
Deuterium	$D_{D_2}$	1.32

# TU Delft H2 Combustion & Flashback research

## Experimental

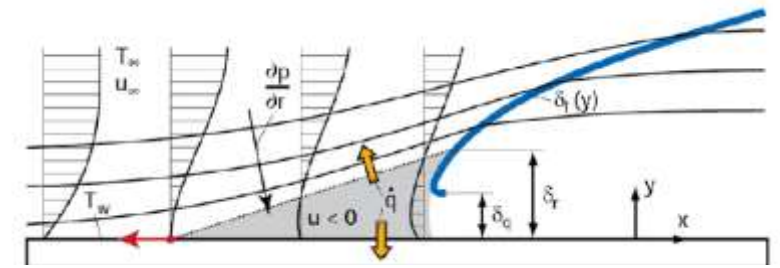


GT combustor set up



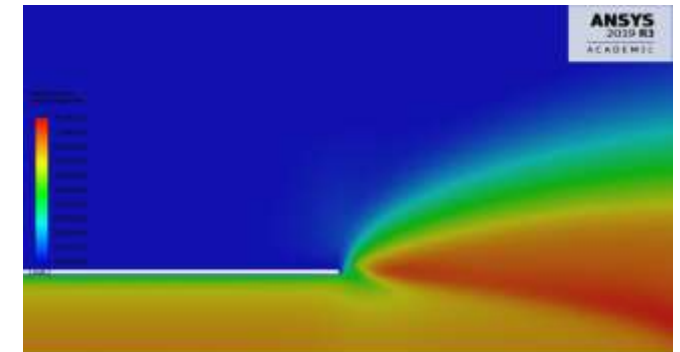
Advanced laser diagnostics

## Theoretical/Modelling



$$C_p^{\frac{1}{4}(n-2)} \left( \delta \frac{dC_p}{dx} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left( \frac{3(0.41\beta)^4}{(n+1)n^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}} \left( 1 - \frac{3}{n+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}(n-2)}$$

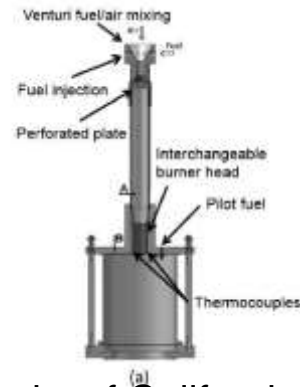
Boundary layer flashback model



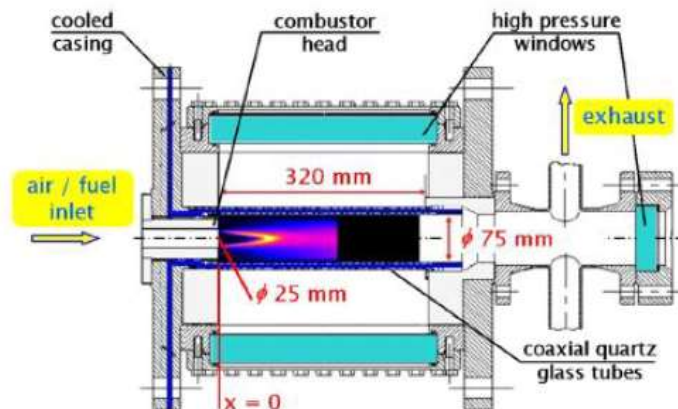
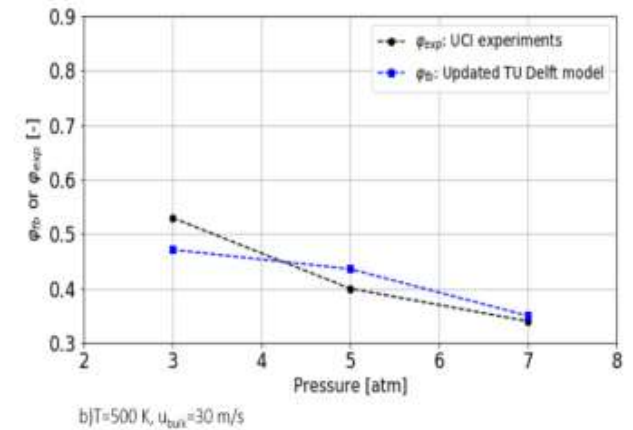
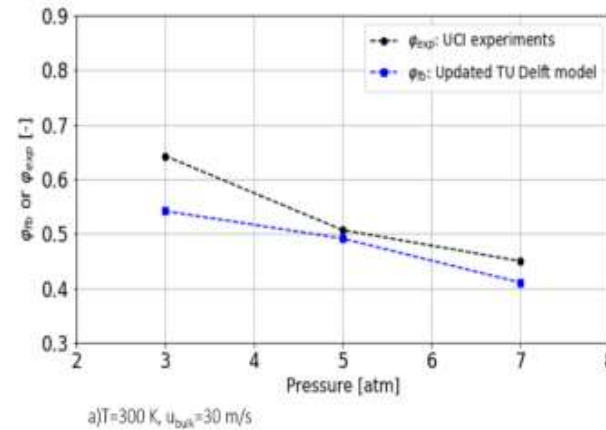
Transient CFD



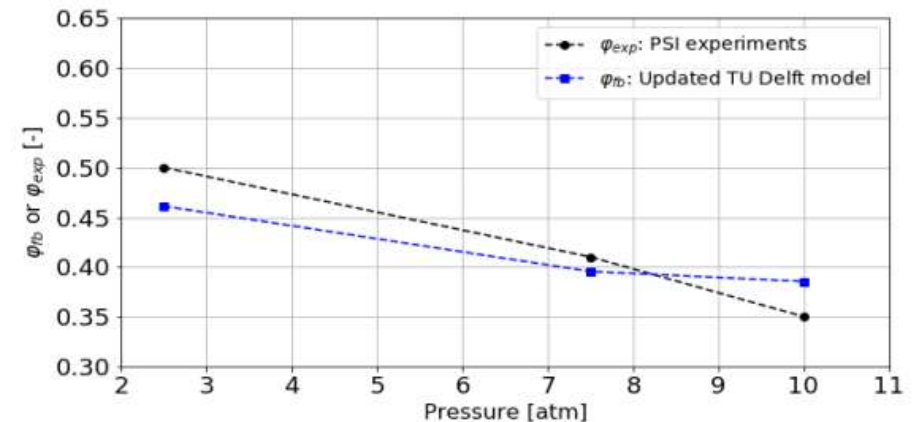
# TU Delft BLF model performs well on gas turbine relevant geometries and configurations



University of California, Irvine  
Kalantari et al. (2016)



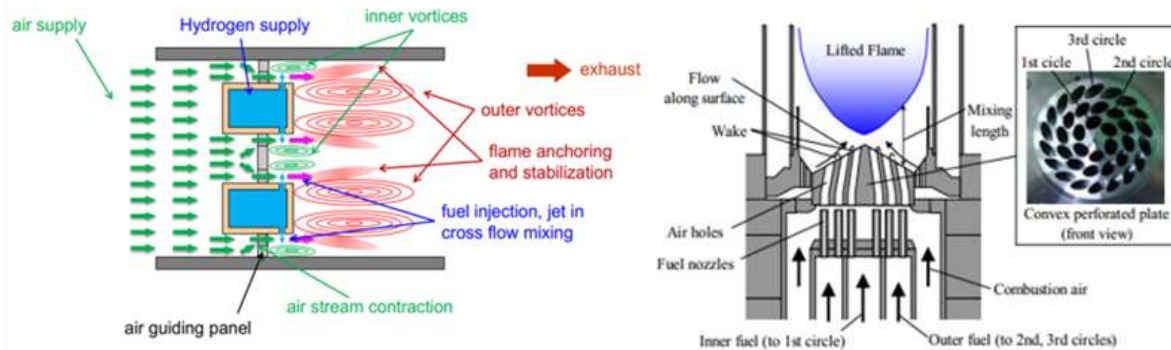
Paul Scheerer Institute  
Lin, Daniele, Jahnson et al (2012)



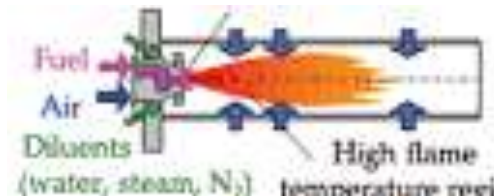
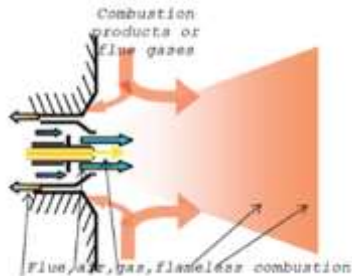


# Combustor designs under development for high hydrogen in gas turbines

**Non premixed combustion => high NOx**  
(reduction of NOx: flame temperature/residence time)

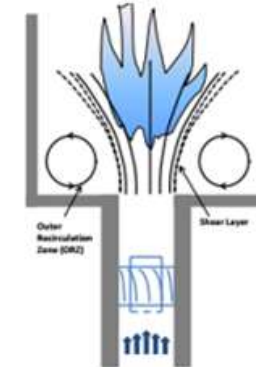


MicroMixing - Small diffusion flames

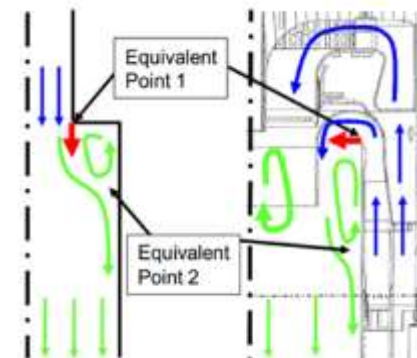


Steam injection

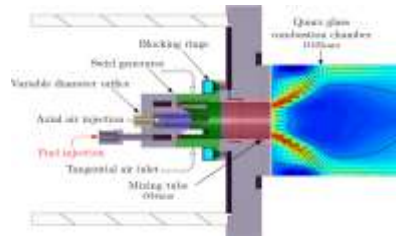
**Premixed combustion => low NOx**  
(flashback prevention)



Low Swirl

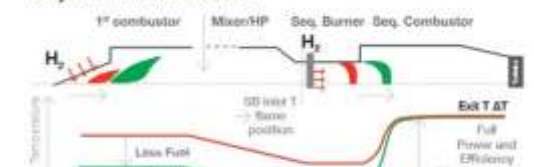


Trapped vortex



High swirl + axial injection

Sequential Combustion



Sequential combustion



Axial staged combustion

# Summary & TU Delft H<sub>2</sub> combustion research

## Hydrogen in power plants

- Retrofit of existing power plants : zero carbon balancing
- Hydrogen combustion much more challenging than natural gas:
  - NO<sub>x</sub>, flame speed, diffusivity, ....
- 100% H<sub>2</sub> application in gas turbine not commercially available yet => demonstrations needed

## TU Delft research

- TU Delft flash back model performs well for flash back prediction and is used in burner development
- Further research required on fundamentals, active instability control and applications



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Thomassen Energy

October 2021



# Gas Turbine Services – Thomassen Energy / PSM



7F: 170 - 190 MW



501F: 175 - 200 MW



7E: 75 - 85 MW

## Upgraded Components



## Repair



## Field Service



6B: 35 - 45 MW  
Fr5: 20 - 28 MW



9F: 230 - 245 MW



9E: 120 - 130 MW

## Global M&D w/with Digital and Service Engineering

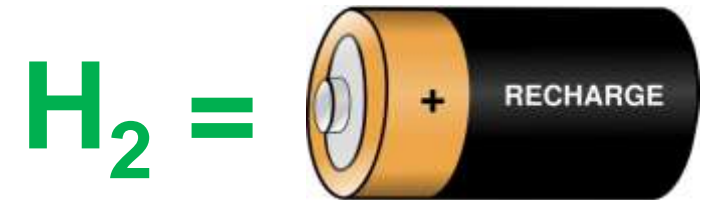


## Service with Innovation



# Filling The Renewable Gap

- The Gas Turbine Advantage
- Flexible fast load coverage
- Cleanest of the fossil fuels
- Ability to run on wide range of fuels,  
including green fuels such as **hydrogen**
- Excess renewable energy can be harvested, stored and released in gas turbines
- Existing gas turbine power plants available for retrofit with cost effective carbon free upgrades
- Ability to follow the transition to renewable World at a pace which is flexible and dependent on local & regional market drivers



Gas Turbines can meet the flexibility need ... and go green

# 9E Hydrogen in Commercial Operation – Key Package Elements

1. Fuel skid

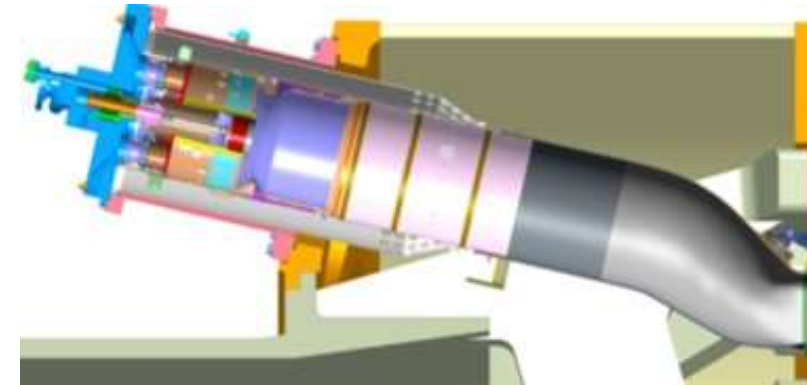
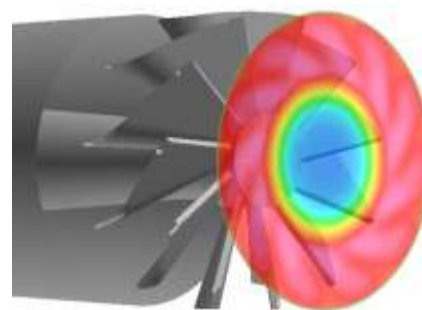
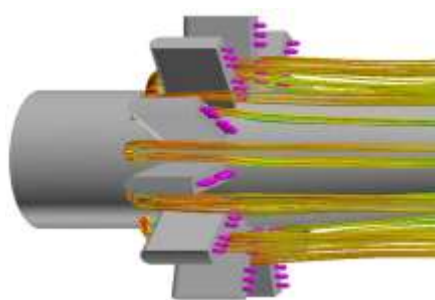
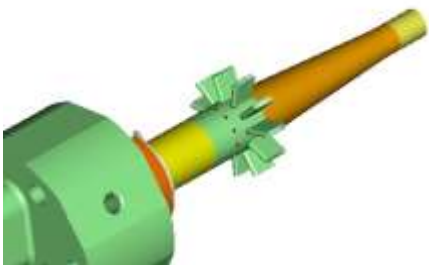


2. Control System / AutoTune



DOW Netherlands – 3 x 9E machines

3. Premix Combustion system (more than 100 natural gas E-class installations, 3 with H<sub>2</sub>)



High hydrogen Secondary fuel nozzle upgrade

4 years stable and flexible sub-9ppm NO<sub>x</sub> Operation from 0% up to 35% Hydrogen



# FlameSheet™ Commercial Machine Experience

- 8 FlameSheet™ (7 FlameTOP) - enabled machines in operation, 6 years of experience
- Up to **20% additional load turndown** and **fuel flex** with **sub 9ppm NOx and CO**
- Hardware in excellent condition after 28,000 hours and 400 starts
- Up to **60% by vol H2** F-class firing condition in test rig; up to 40% C2+'s\*



FlameSheet™ Retrofit Enhances Operational and Fuel Flexibility

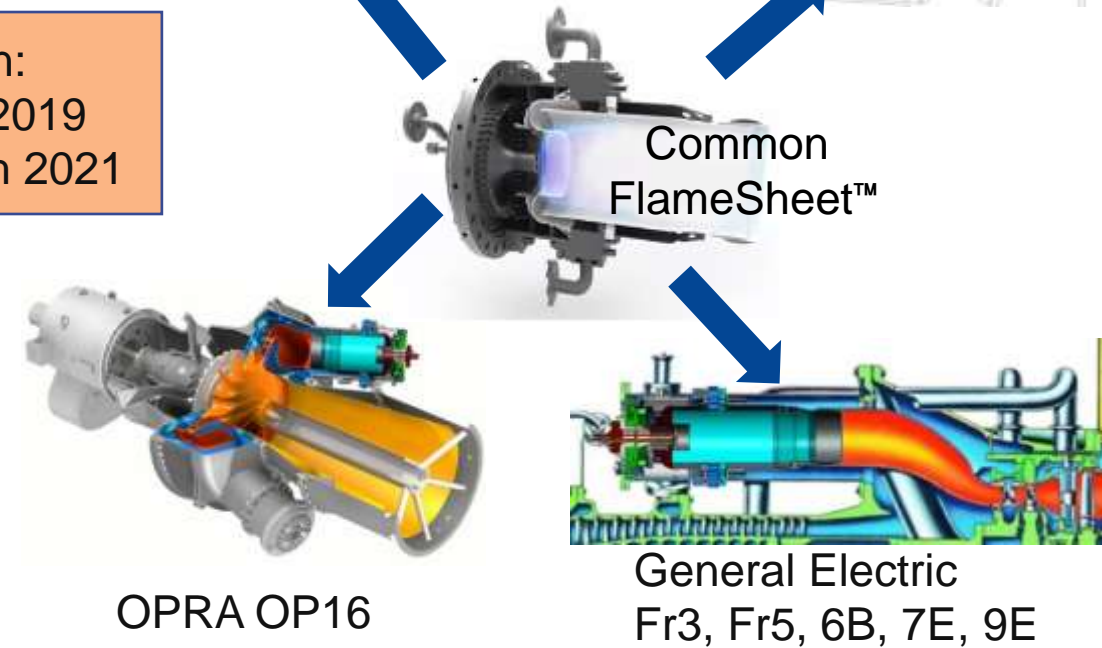
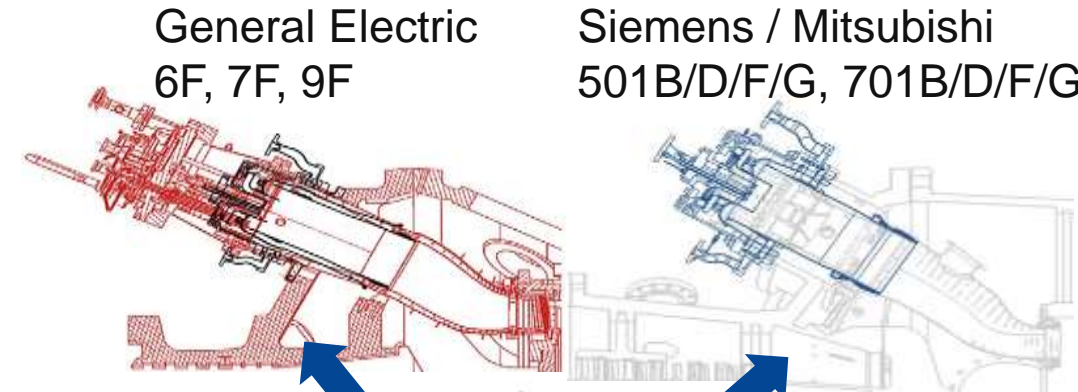
# Thomassen Leading a Consortium for Hydrogen Retrofits

## Objective:

- Develop a low emission gas turbine combustor retrofit for fuel flexible operation from 100% Natural Gas to 100% Hydrogen and any mixture thereof
- **Flexible fast load balancing capability**

Dutch subsidy awards won:

- Phase 1 awarded April 2019
- Phase 2 awarded March 2021



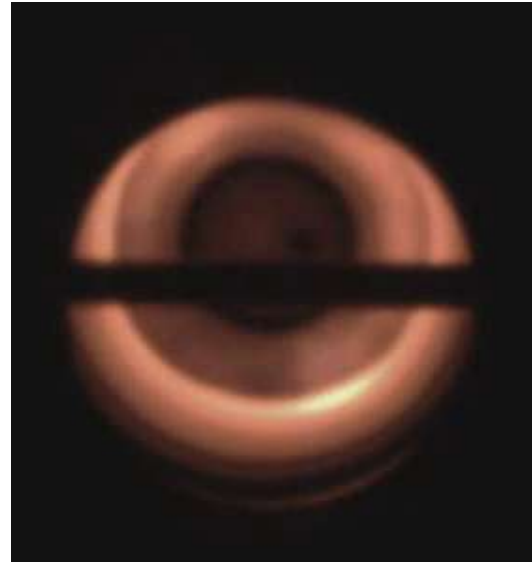
1MW to 300MW with 0% to 100% Hydrogen with 1 Scalable Combustor Platform



# High Hydrogen – High pressure rig testing



**100% Natural Gas**  
**OP16 Full Load**  
**< 6 ppm NOx**

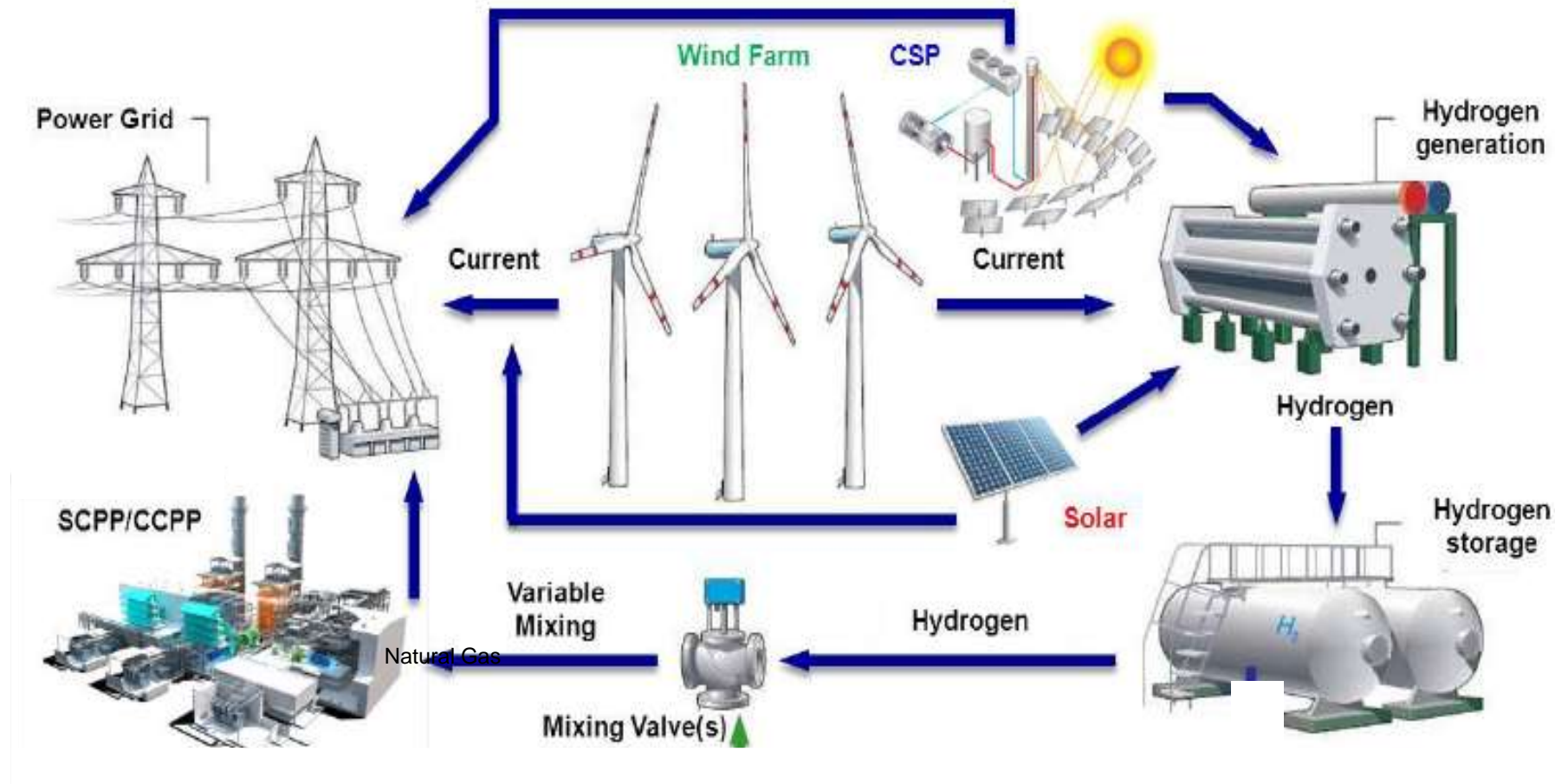


**100% Hydrogen**  
**OP16 Full Load**  
**< 10 ppm NOx**



Operations from 100% natural gas to 100% hydrogen with dry low emissions

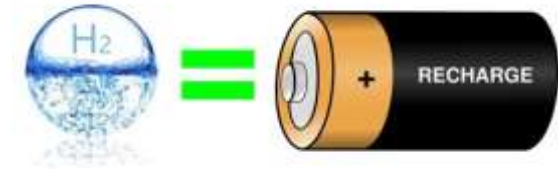
# Scope for the Carbon Free Value Chain



Complete solutions for reduced carbon operation

# Solutions for the Energy Transition

- The gas turbine advantage:
  - Rapid **flexibility** for power **grid balancing**
  - Opportunity for **clean energy storage** with hydrogen
- Partnership advantage:
  - Shared expertise
  - Shared risk
  - Cost effective and commercially applicable solutions
- Package solutions:
  - Hydrogen supply, storage and safety
  - Fuel mixing/handling, controls, combustion, hot end assessment
- Planned 100% hydrogen flexible engine demonstrations:
  - Small engine **2022/23 → 2MW**
  - Medium engine **2023/24 → 20 - 40MW**
  - Large engine **2024/25 → 100 - 300MW**



High hydrogen retrofits/partnerships for carbon free power generation and energy storage





**Thomassen Energy**  
a Hanwha company

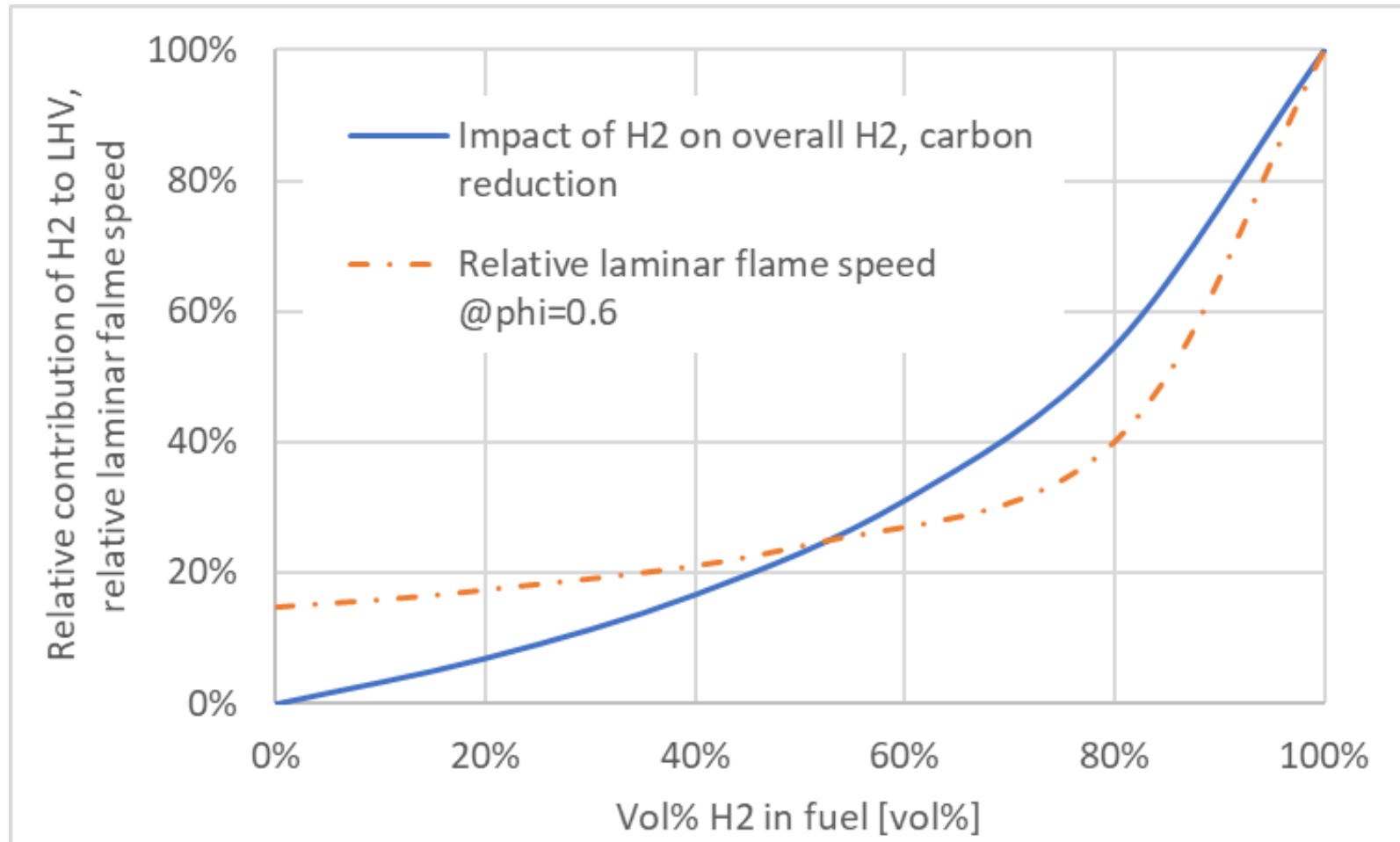
**THANK YOU**

**DANK U WEL**



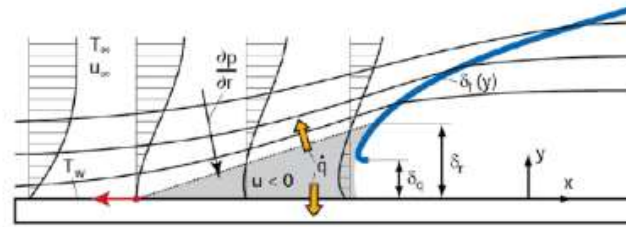
# BACK UP

# Main advantages & challenges for hydrogen at higher volume percentages



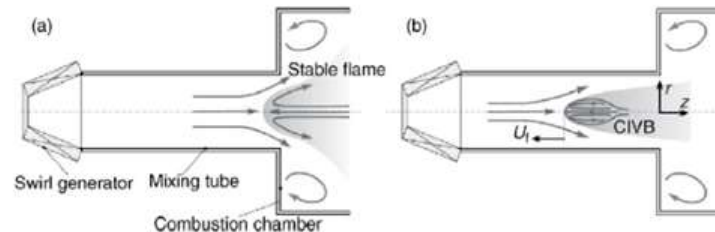
# Flash back types for premixed H<sub>2</sub> flames relevant for gas turbine applications

## Confined



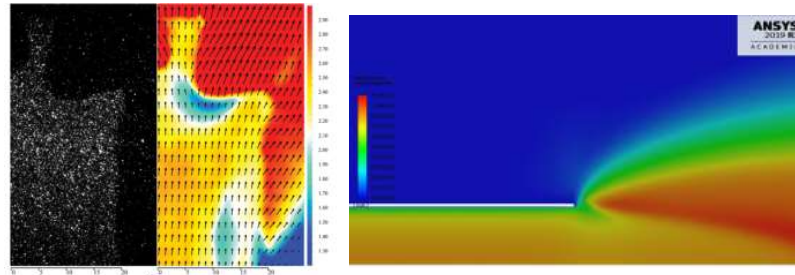
- Boundary layer instability by flame adverse pressure

## Swirl stabilized (*standard GT*)



- Flow deceleration and movement of stagnation point recirculation zone by flame adverse pressure

## Unconfined (*'jet' flame*)



- Local (temporary) flame speed  $>$  local (temporary) velocity

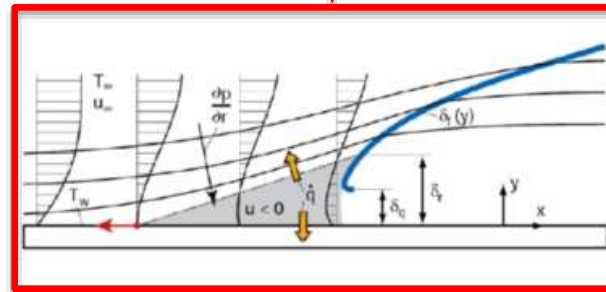
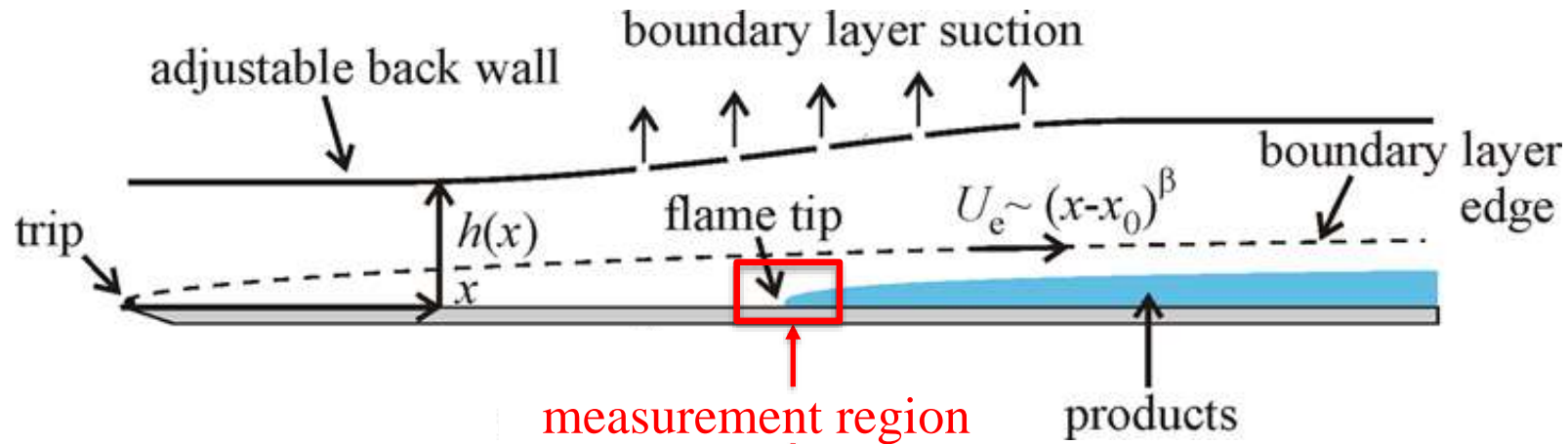
**H<sub>2</sub>** • High flame speed  
Lewis number  $\ll 1$ : local enrichment  $\Rightarrow$  flame speed  $\uparrow$

# Flame flashback in turbulent boundary layer on flat plate

Fully developed flow: e.g. long pipes or channels

Developing flow: e.g. boundary layer > complex, more relevant

Proposed new  
TTW proposal with  
TUE

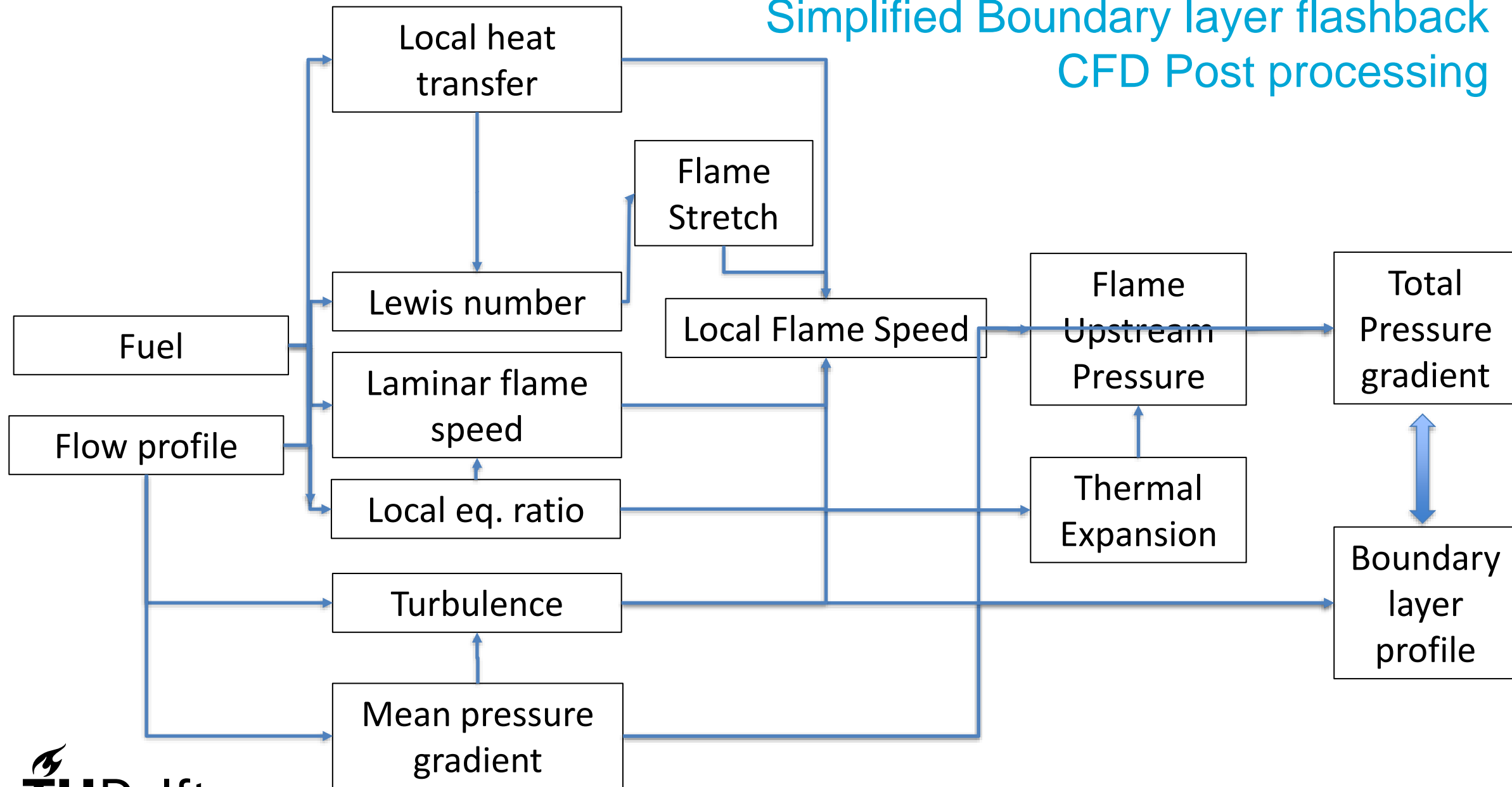


Detailed investigation of flame tip behaviour in near wall region

Optical measurement techniques:  
PIV, LDA, CARS, PLIF



# Simplified Boundary layer flashback



# Advertised maximum H<sub>2</sub> vol% for different gas turbine suppliers

		Frequency, Hz	Power Output, MW. Natural Gas, ISO Base Load	H2 Capability, Vol %		
				DLE	WLE	Diffusion, unabated NOx
Heavy Duty	SGT5-9000HL	50	593	30	--	--
	SGT5-8000H	50	450	30	--	--
	SGT5-4000F	50	329	30	--	--
	SGT5-2000E	50	187	30	--	--
	SGT6-9000HL	60	405	30	--	--
	SGT6-8000H	60	310	30	--	--
	SGT-5000F	60	215 - 260	30	--	--
	SGT6-2000E	60	117	30	--	--
Industrial	SGT-800	50 or 60	48-57	60	--	--
	SGT-750	50 or 60	40/34 - 41	40	--	--
	SGT-700	50 or 60	33/34	66	--	--
	SGT-600	50 or 60	24/25	60	--	--
	SGT-400	50 or 60	10 - 14/11 - 15	10	--	65
	SGT-300	50 or 60	8/8	30	--	--
	SGT-100	50 or 60	5/6	30	--	65
Aero- derivative	SGT-A65	50 or 60	60 - 71/58 - 62	15	100	--
	SGT-A45	50 or 60	41 - 44	--	100	--
	SGT-A35	50 or 60	27 - 37/28 - 38	15	100	--
	SGT-A05	50 or 60	4/6	2	15	--

Siemens "Hydrogen Combustion in Siemens Gas Turbines: Sales Information v 3.0," July 2019

	Type	Notes	TIT °C [°F] or Class	Max H <sub>2</sub> % (Vol)
MHPS	Diffusion	N2 Dilution, Water/Steam Injection	1200~1400 [2192~2552]	100
	Pre-Mix (DLN)	Dry	1600 [2912]	30
	Multi-Cluster	Dry/Underdevelopment - Target 2024	1650 [3002]	100
GE	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
Siemens	DLE	Dry	E Class	30
	DLE	Dry	F Class	30
	DLE	Dry	H Class	30
	DLE	Dry	HL Class	30
Ansaldo	Sequential	GT26	F Class	30
	Sequential	GT36	H Class	50
	ULE	Current Flamesheet™	F, G Class	40
	New ULE	Flamesheet™ -- Target 2023	Various	100

Emerson, B.E. et al., "Assessment of Current Capabilities and Near-Term Availability of Hydrogen-Fired Gas Turbines Considering a Low-Carbon Future", GT2020-15714

# Some References TU Delft

Questions: [s.a.klein@tudelft.nl](mailto:s.a.klein@tudelft.nl)

Link website:

<https://www.tudelft.nl/en/3me/about/departments/process-energy/people/gas-turbines/sikke-klein/>

Some interesting MSc theses in the field of hydrogen

Boundary layer flashback prediction for low emissions full hydrogen gas turbine burners using flow simulation	Olafur Bjornsson	<a href="http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:8272a27d-692d-4721-a24c-98ffd4c52511">http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:8272a27d-692d-4721-a24c-98ffd4c52511</a>
HYDROGEN AND OXYGEN FIRED TURBINE CYCLE OPTIMIZATION	Bram Schouten	<a href="http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:e0d209d5-1cba-4e4b-b2d8-4925b71502a5">http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:e0d209d5-1cba-4e4b-b2d8-4925b71502a5</a>
Hydrogen flash back experiments	Filippo Faldella	<a href="http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:ab0c472e-0dd1-4086-8eeb-18ef14ee226e">http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:ab0c472e-0dd1-4086-8eeb-18ef14ee226e</a>
Modeling of hydrogen-elektrolysis-storage-utilization chain	Nick Kimman	<a href="http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:46183251-f22a-42b5-a994-ed353d4338c0">http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:46183251-f22a-42b5-a994-ed353d4338c0</a>
Numerical modelling of flame flashback in premixed tube burners with turbulent flow and high hydrogen content	Max van Put	<a href="http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:84b5e88d-72b8-4663-a597-84993aa347f7">http://resolver.tudelft.nl/uuid:84b5e88d-72b8-4663-a597-84993aa347f7</a>