



COMBEX

03/05/13, Ramsau, Austria

Influence of Concentration Gradients on Detonation Velocities in Hydrogen-Air Mixtures

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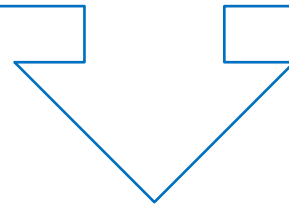
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Motivation

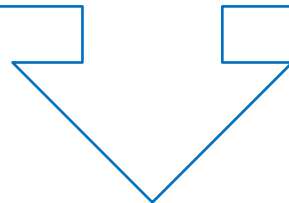
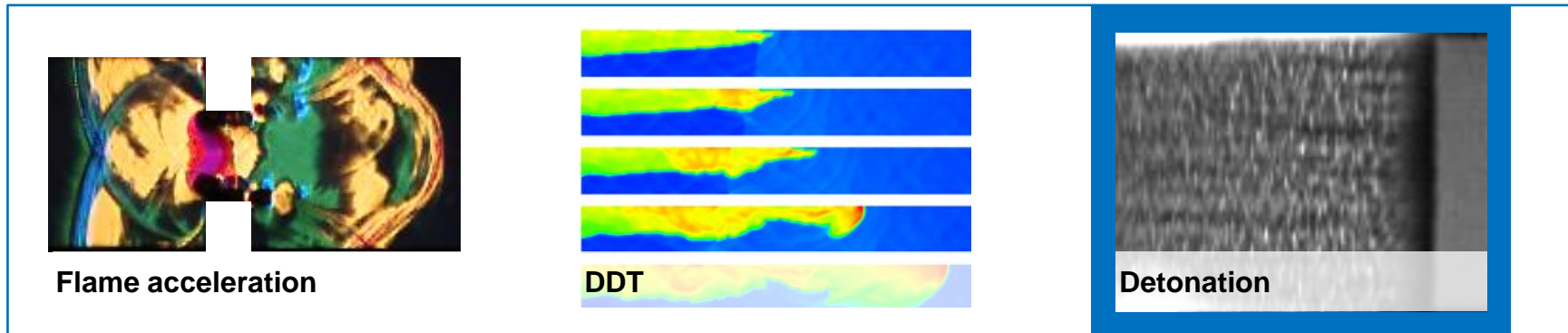
- ▶ Inhomogeneous mixtures are likely to occur in realistic accident scenarios
- ▶ H₂ has a low density → Vertical concentration gradients develop



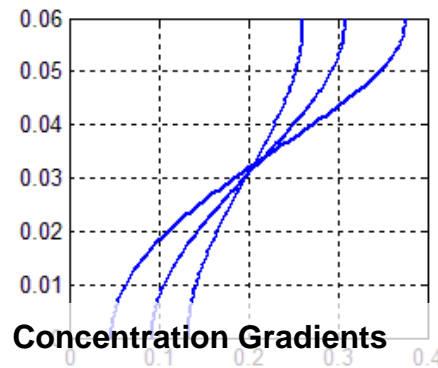
Do concentration gradients lead to a higher hazard potential in case of explosion?

- ▶ Characterization of flame acceleration, DDT and detonation needs to be performed

Research overview

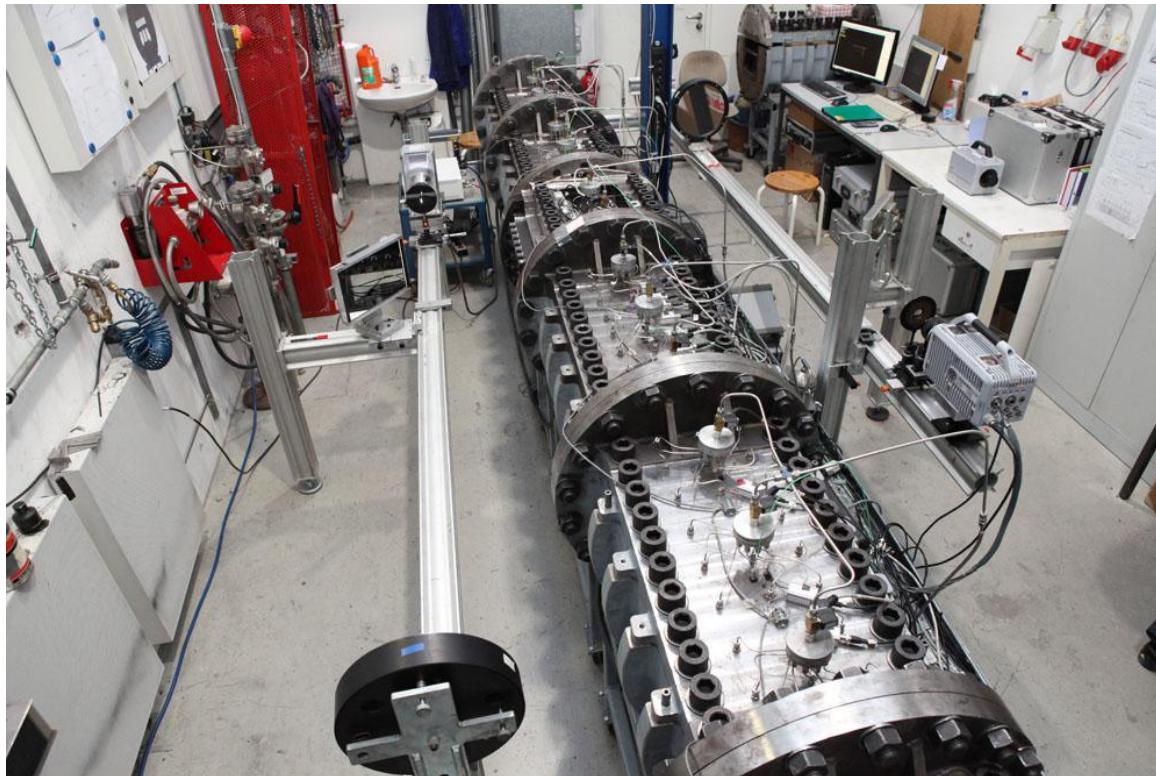
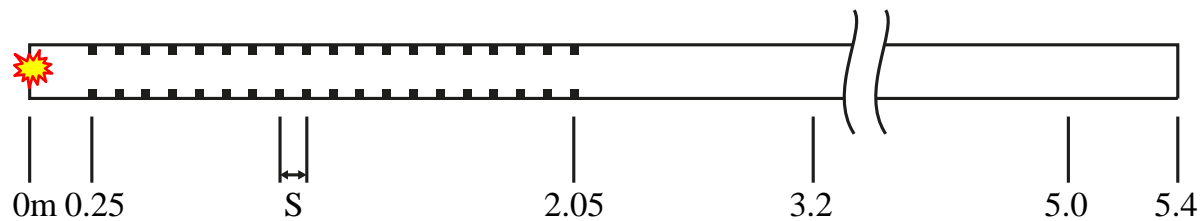


Experiments



CFD-Simulation

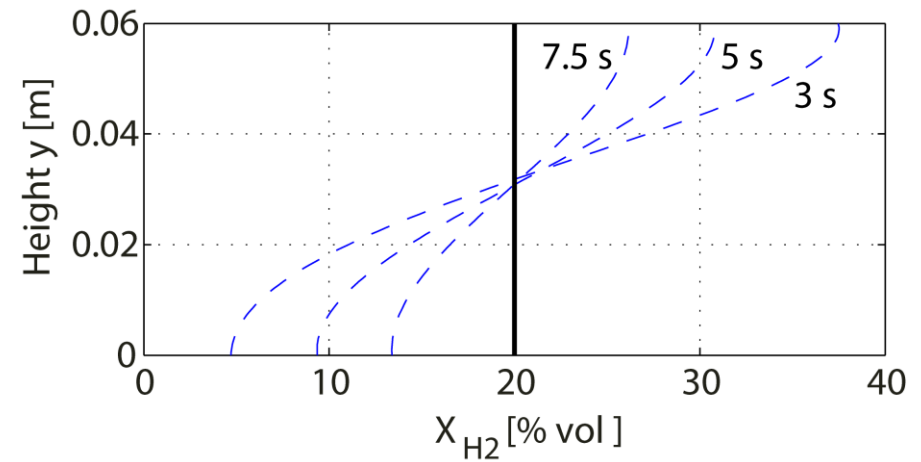
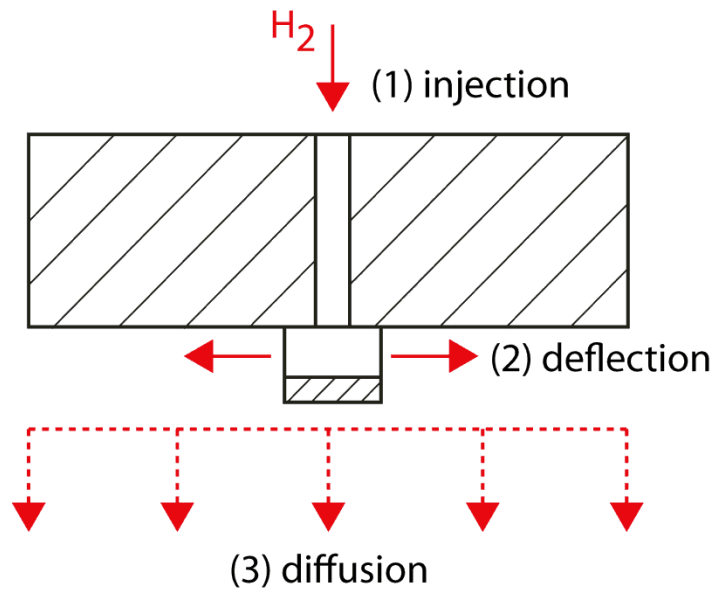
Test Facility (1)



- Closed rectangular channel (5.4m x 0.3m x 0.06m)
- Design-pressure 200bar
- Obstacles (BR30)
- Spark plug ignition



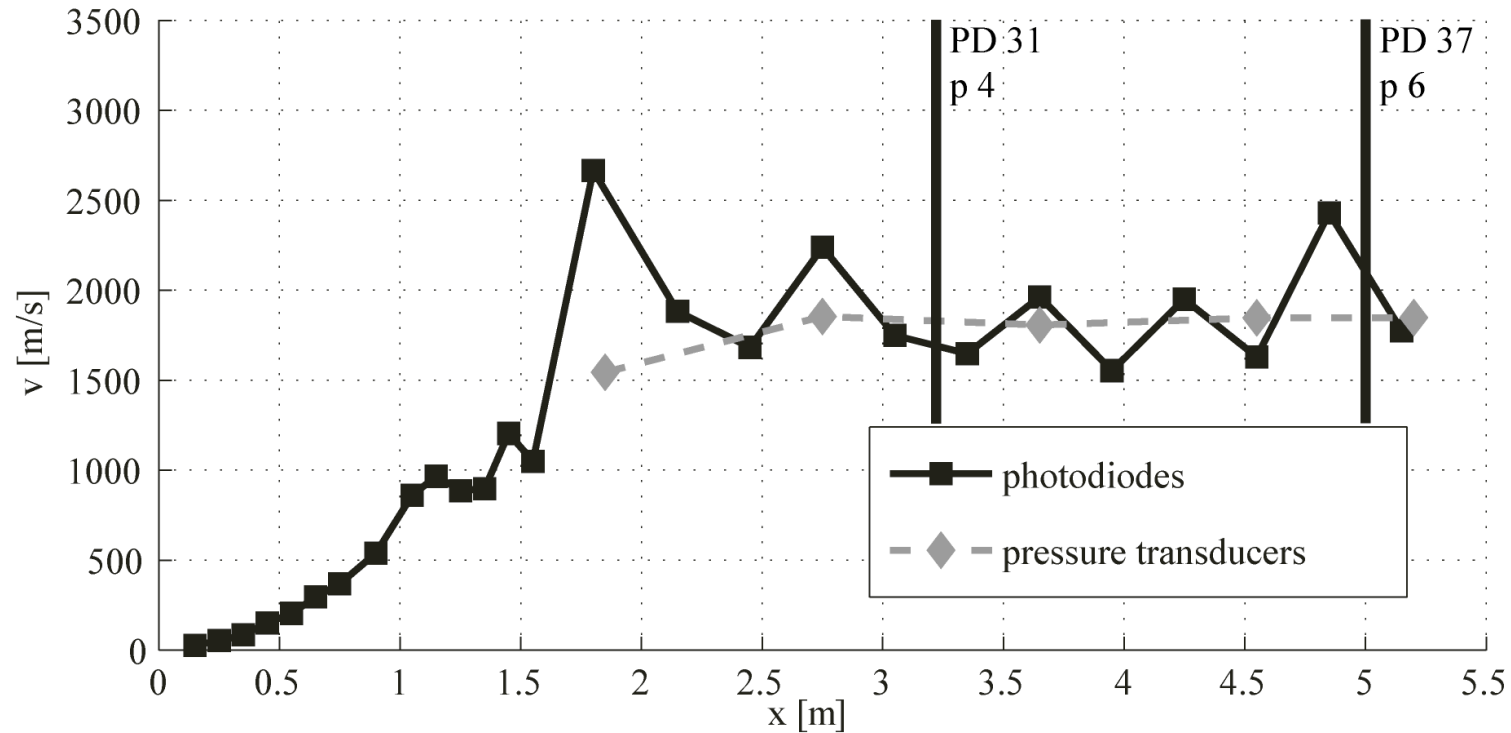
Test Facility (2)



- ▶ Atmospheric conditions (T,p)
- ▶ Gradient generation by diffusion (steepness depends on diffusion time)
- ▶ Concentration profiles from CFD simulation and gas chromatography



Preliminary Examinations

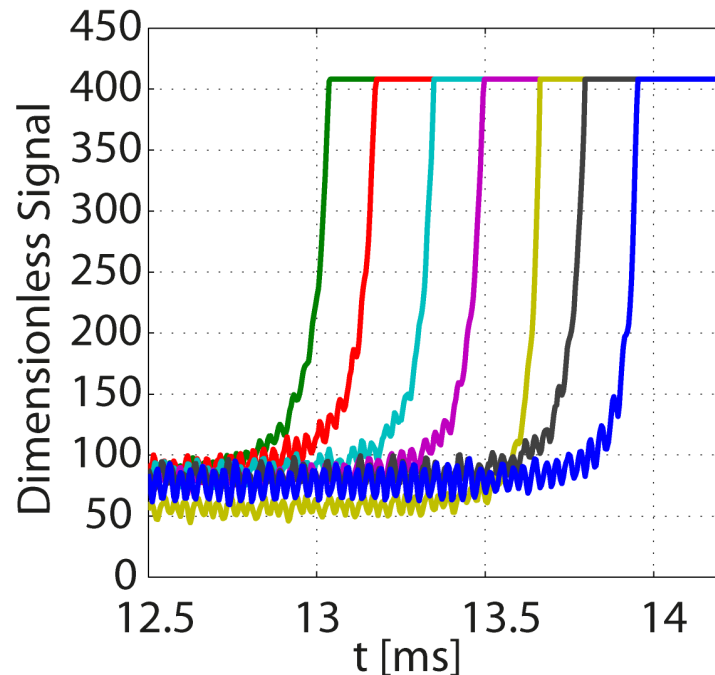


▶ Detonation occurs at average hydrogen concentrations > 20 %vol

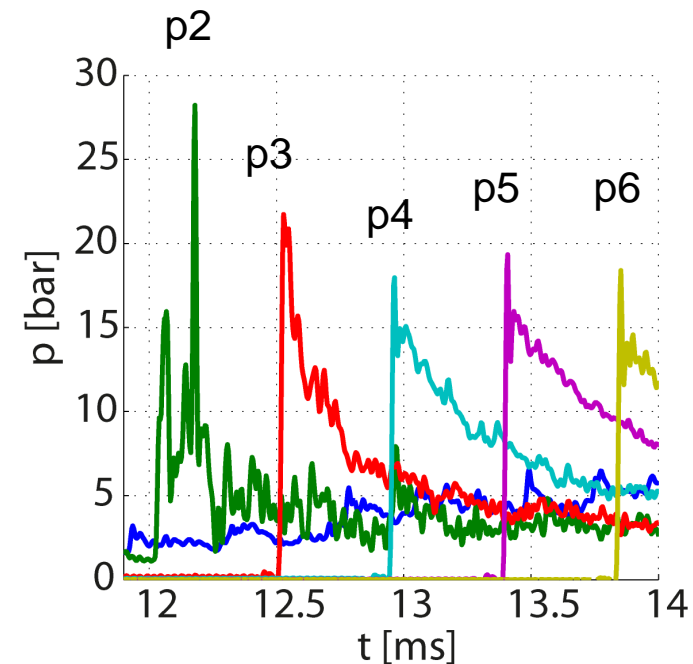
▶ Photodiodes and pressure transducers can be used for measurement

Preliminary Examinations

Signals from Photodiodes



Signals from Pressure Transducers



▶ Detonation occurs at average hydrogen concentrations $> 20\%$ vol

▶ Photodiodes and pressure transducers can be used for measurement



Detonation Velocities (homogeneous mixtures)

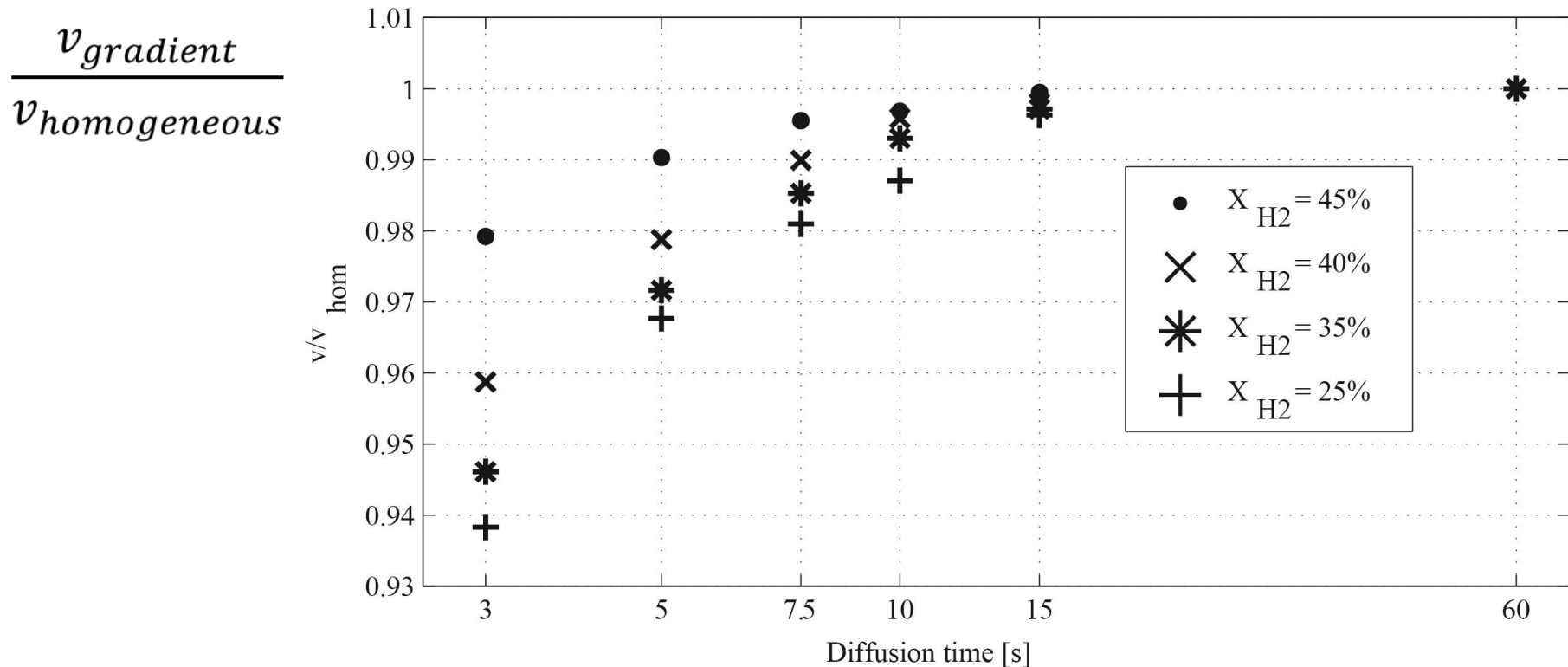
	BR30S100					BR30S300	
X_{H_2} [%]	v_{photo} [m/s]	σ_{photo} [%]	v_{pres} [m/s]	σ_{pres} [%]	$\frac{v_{pres}}{D_{CJ}}$	v_{pres} [m/s]	$\frac{v_{pres}}{D_{CJ}}$
25	1796	0.99	1823	0.46	0.977	1839	0.984
30	1924	0.54	1939	0.12	0.978	1951	0.985
35	2038	1.54	2016	0.27	0.982	2024	0.987
40	2046	0.95	2065	0.07	0.984	2072	0.987
45	2080	0.36	2101	0.04	0.983		

Measured detonation velocity close to Chapman-Jouguet Speed D_{CJ}

Pressure transducers deliver lower standard deviation from 5 experiments than photodiodes



Detonation Velocities (inhomogeneous mixtures)

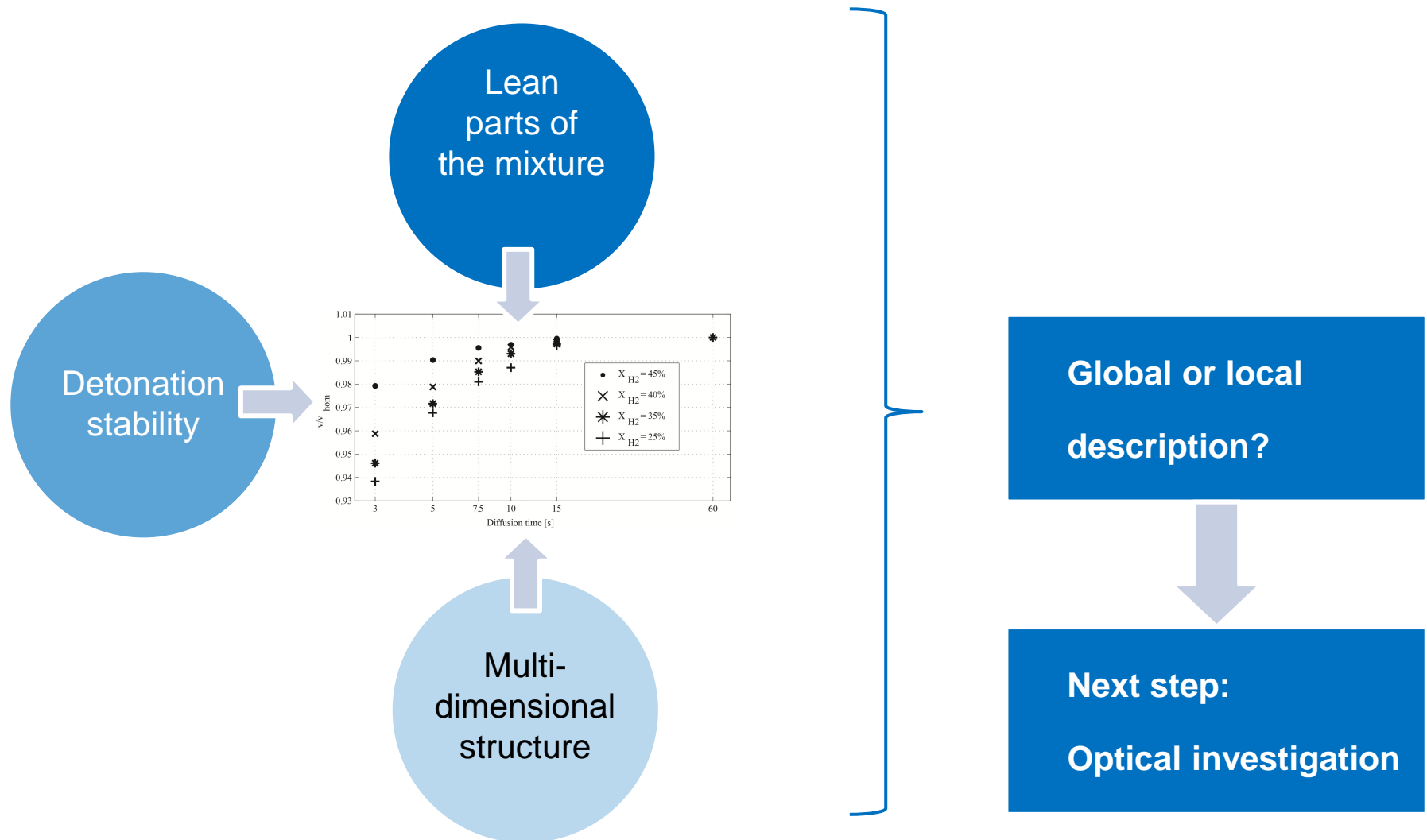


▶ Velocity deficit found for detonations in mixtures with concentration gradients

▶ Magnitude of deficit depends on steepness of gradient and average hydrogen concentration

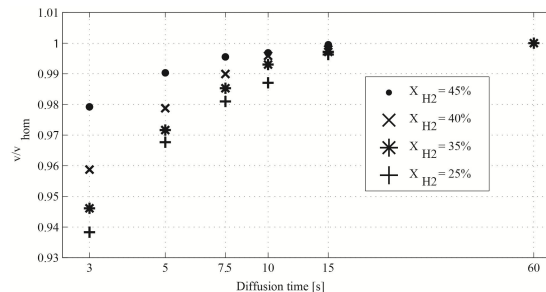
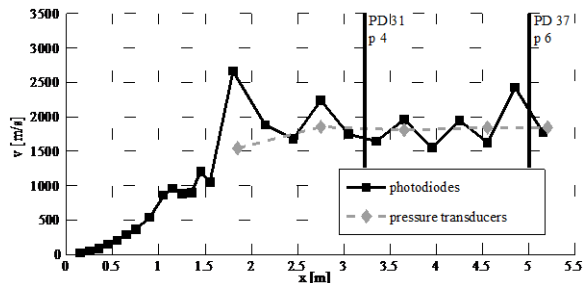


Detonation Velocities (inhomogeneous mixtures)



Summary and Outlook

- ▶ Test facility – concentration gradients and measurement techniques
- ▶ Applicability of photodiodes and pressure transducers confirmed
- ▶ Detonation velocities in homogeneous mixtures correspond well to 1D CJ-theory
- ▶ Velocity deficit characterized in mixtures with concentration gradients
- ▶ Further studies: Optical investigations (Shadowgraph, OH* Radiation, LIPF)



x_{H_2} [%]	BR30S100				BR30S300	
	v_{photo} [m/s]	σ_{photo} [%]	v_{press} [m/s]	σ_{press} [%]	$\frac{v_{press}}{v_{CJ}}$	$\frac{v_{photo}}{v_{CJ}}$
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Thank you very much for your attention!



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