

# **An Experimental and Chemical Kinetics Study of the Combustion of Syngas and High Hydrogen Content Fuels**

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**National Energy Technology Laboratory**

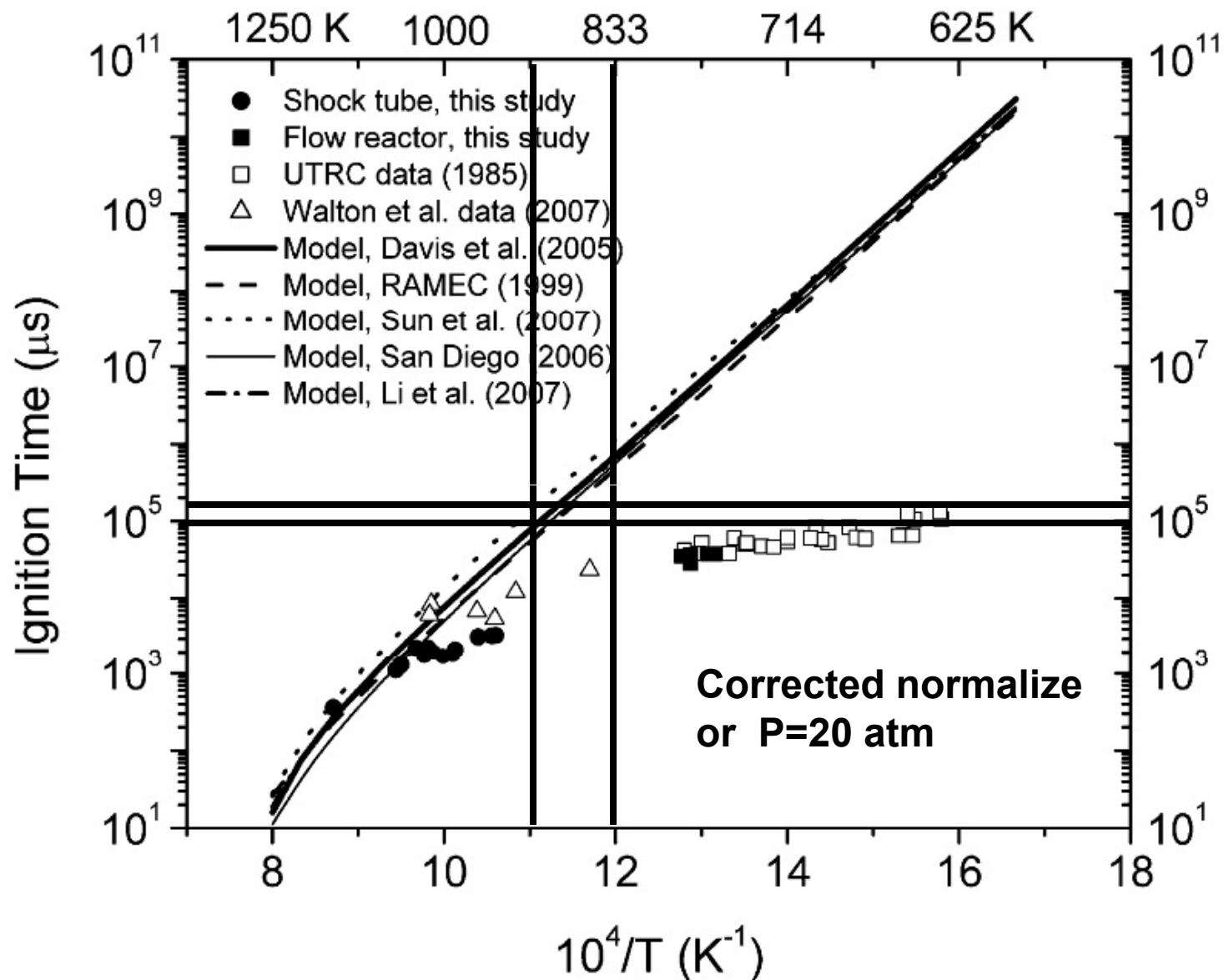
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**October 2 – 4, 2012**

# **High-Pressure High- Temperature Flow Reactor Studies**

# Experimental Apparatus for Measuring Ignition Delay

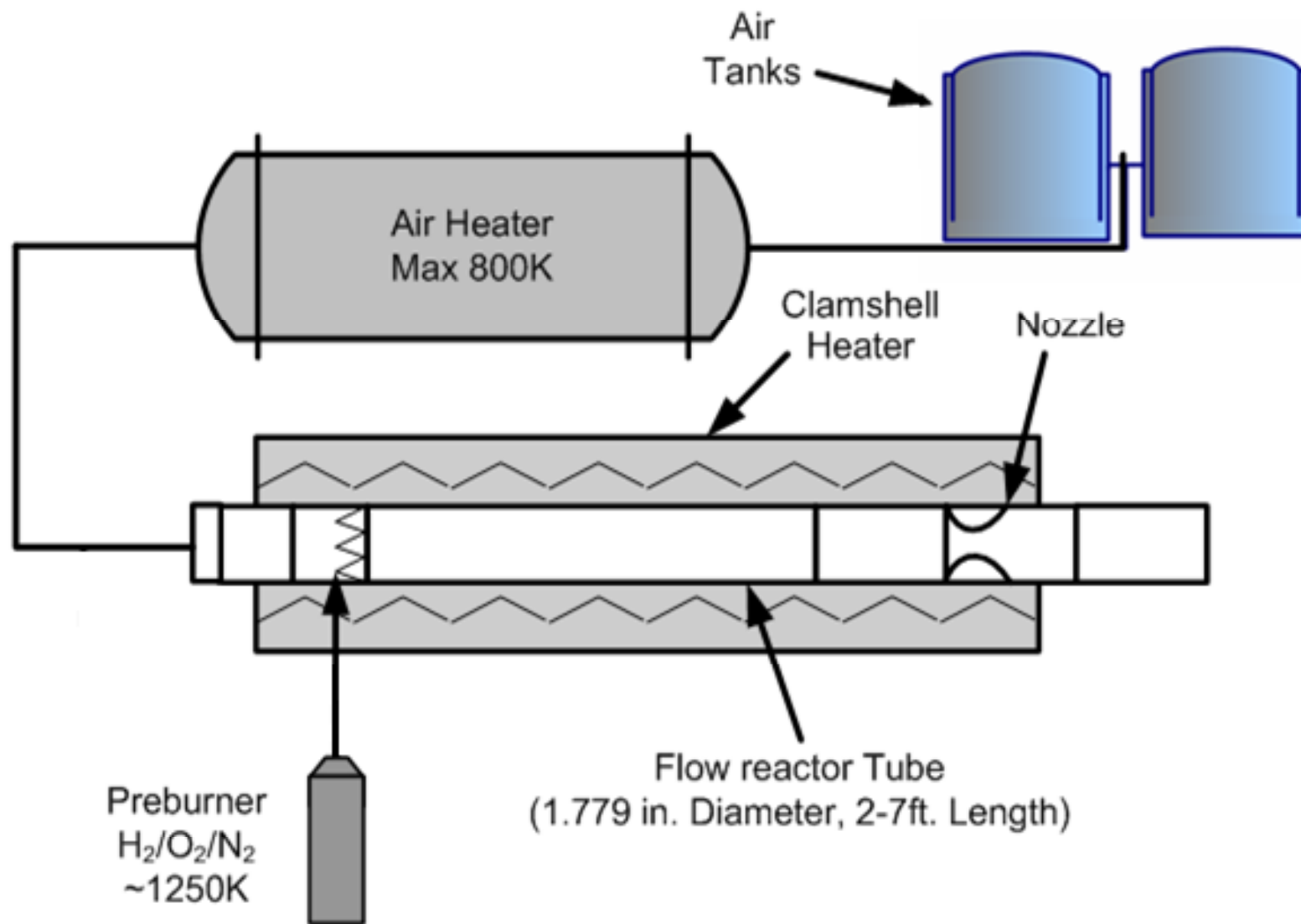
- Shock Tubes
- **Flow Reactors**
  - Most like a premixer in a gas turbine
- Rapid Compression Machines
- Constant volume bombs
  
- Literature



Petersen 2007 “New syngas/air ignition data at lower temperature and elevated pressure and comparison to current kinetics models”

# Current Experimental Apparatus

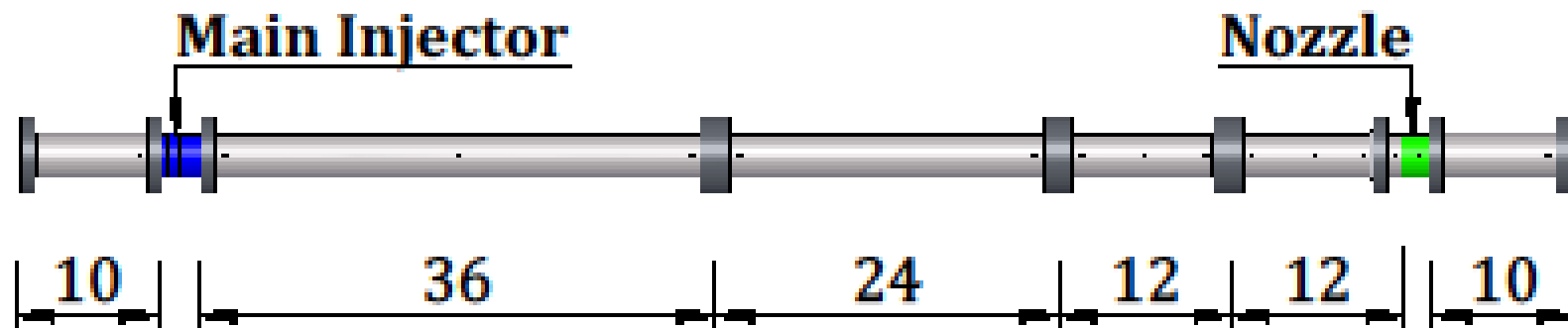
- Flow reactor
- Preburner
- Instrumentation
- Injector
  - Radial
  - Axial



# Controlled Variables

- Residence time
  - nozzle
- Composition
  - Fuel flow rate and air flow rate
- Pressure
  - Total mass flow rate
- Temperature
  - Air heater
  - preburner

# Flow Reactor Test Section



Inner Diameter: 1.779 in

Cold Test Section Length: 84.3 in

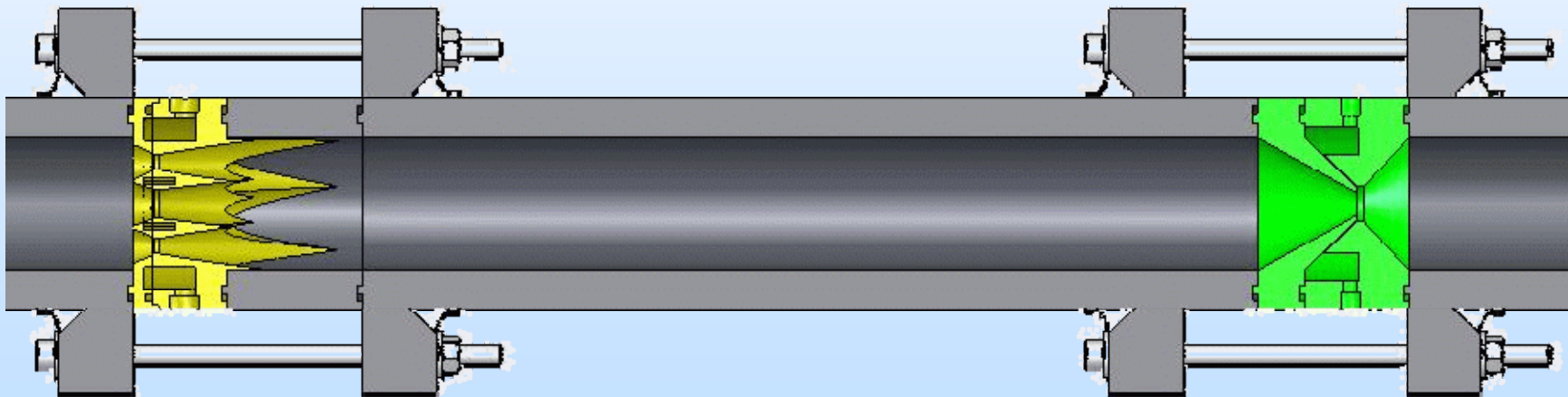
Reynolds Number:  $\sim 100,000$

Total mass flow rate:  $\sim 0.2$  lbm/s



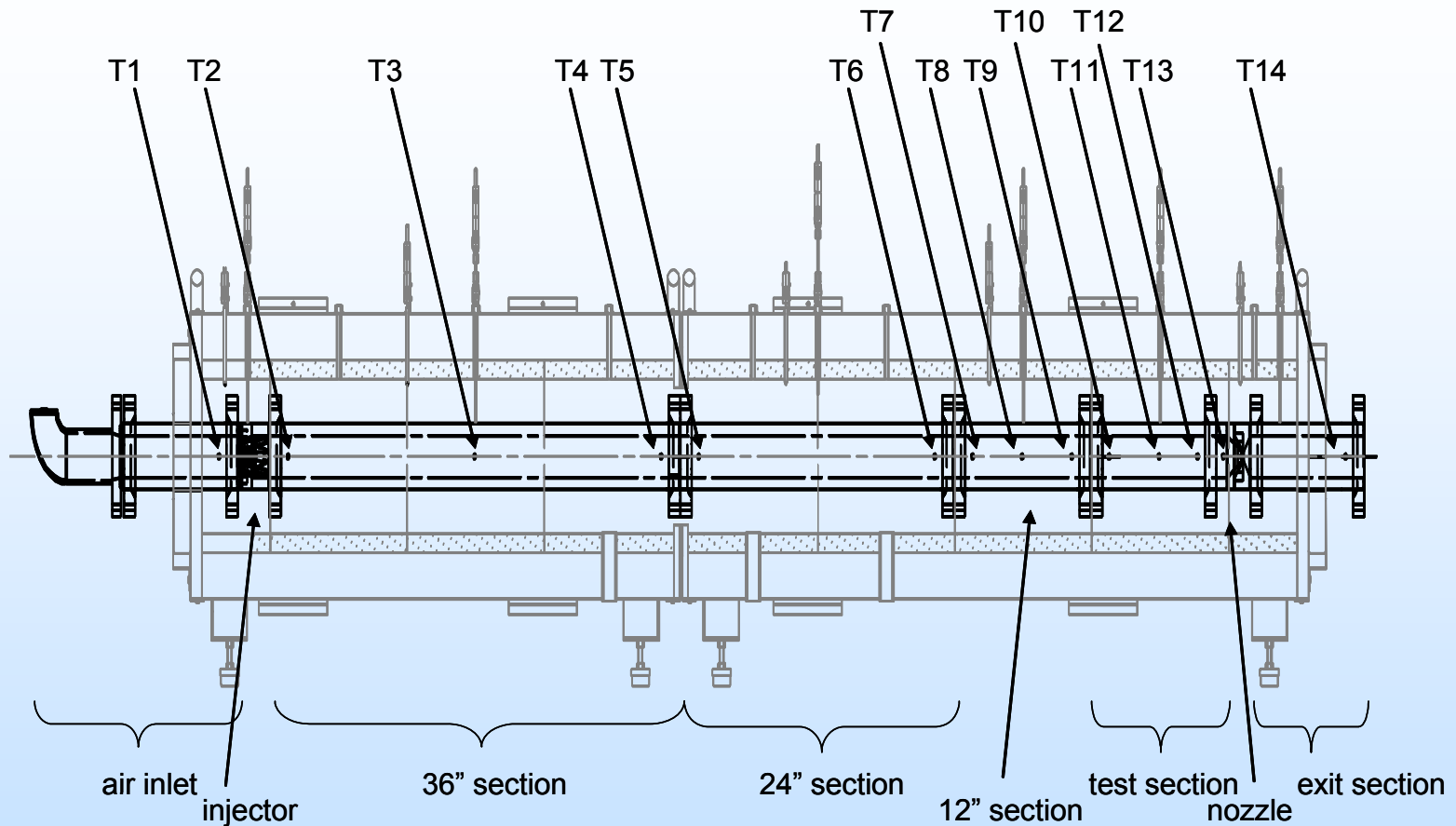
# Flow Reactor Design

- Instrumented test section before nozzle
- Sonic nozzle and water quenching to isolate test section from afterburner
- Injector design
  - Venturi design for rapid mixing with minimal recirculation zones
  - 7 venturis with 3 fuel injection holes just upstream of throat
- $Re\# \text{ (Max)} = 5 \times 10^5 \text{ to } 3 \times 10^6$



# Thermocouple Array

Wall thermocouple positions

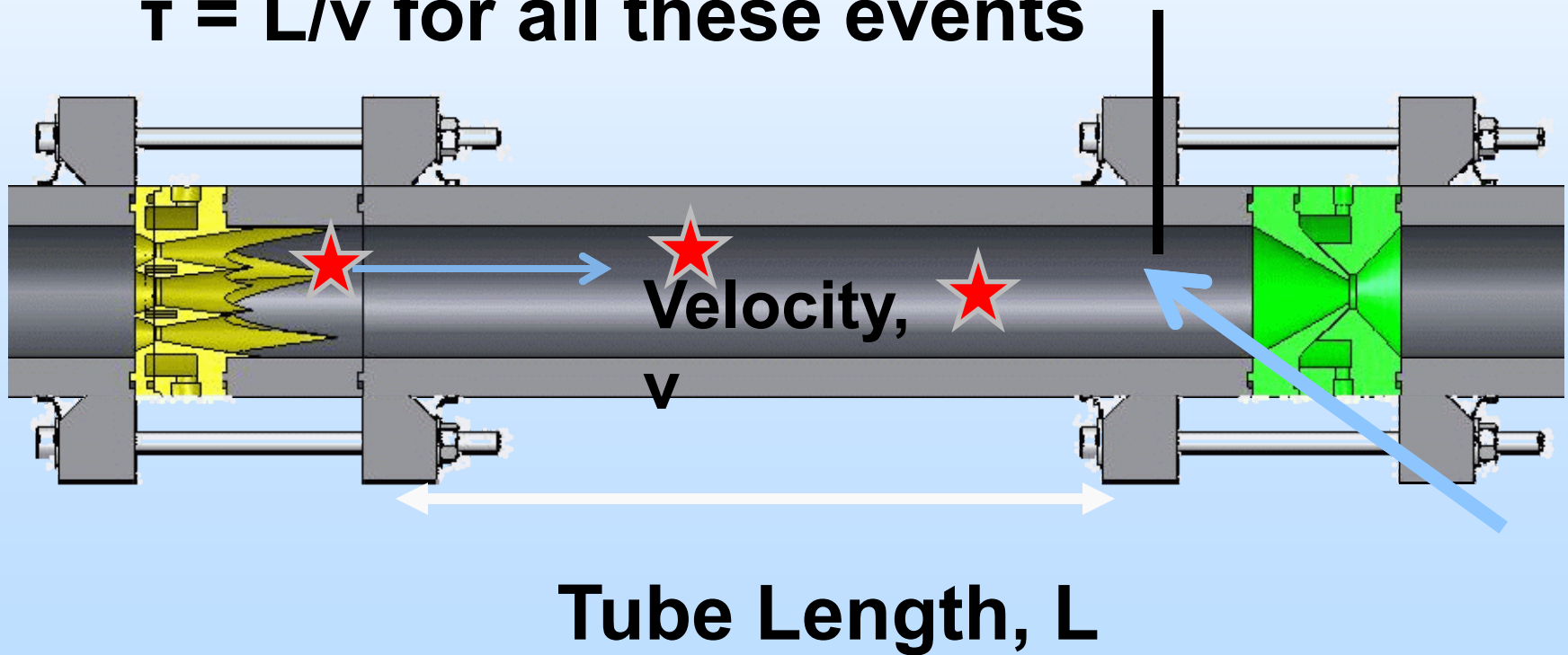


**Array of thermocouples located 0.2 inches from the wall that provides for detection of the autoignition event in the flow reactor tube**

# Detection of an Ignition Event

Detector (TC,PD)

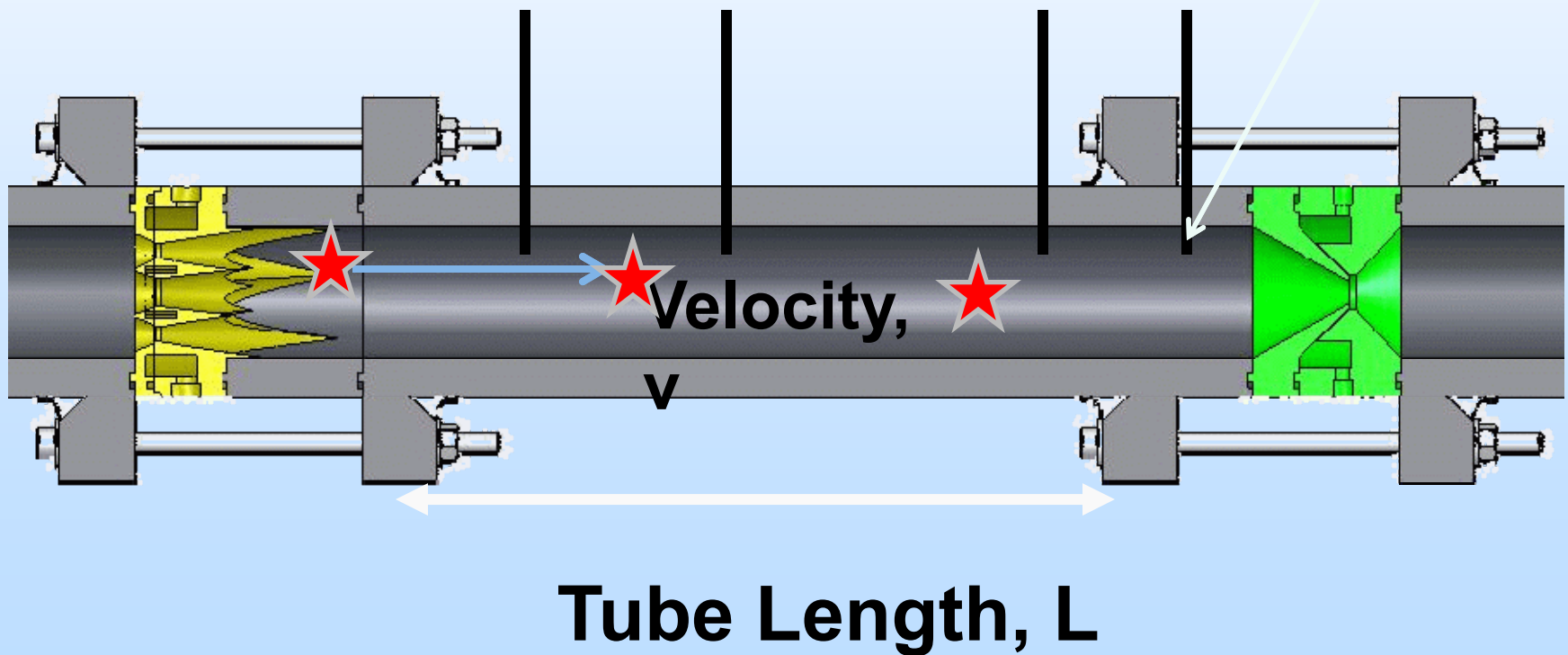
$\tau = L/v$  for all these events



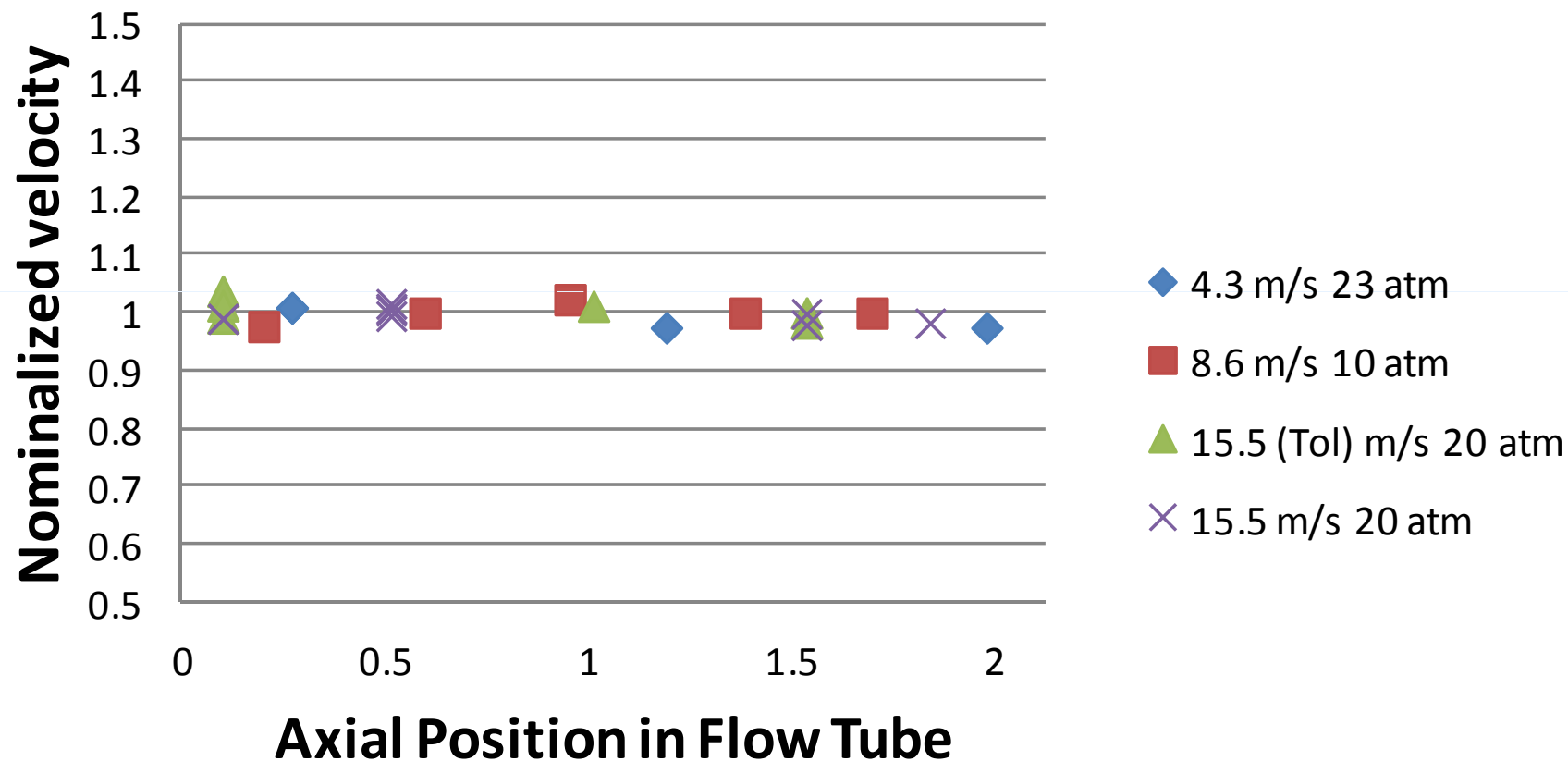
# Detection of an Ignition Event

$\tau = L_i / v$  for these events where  $i = 1, 2, \text{ and } 3$

**Multiple Detectors (TC, PD)**



# Axial Location vs. Nominalized Velocity



# Study of H<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub> Autoignition by Beerer and McDonnell

	Pressure (atm)	Equivalence ratio	Ignition Temperature (K)	Residence Time, $\tau$ (ms)	Flow Velocity, $v$ (m/s)
<b>1</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>0.37</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>21.3</b>

$$\tau_1/\tau_2 = 2.53$$

$$v_2/v_1 = 2.54$$

# Iso-Octane Autoignition Study

## Dr. Michelle Christensen 2012

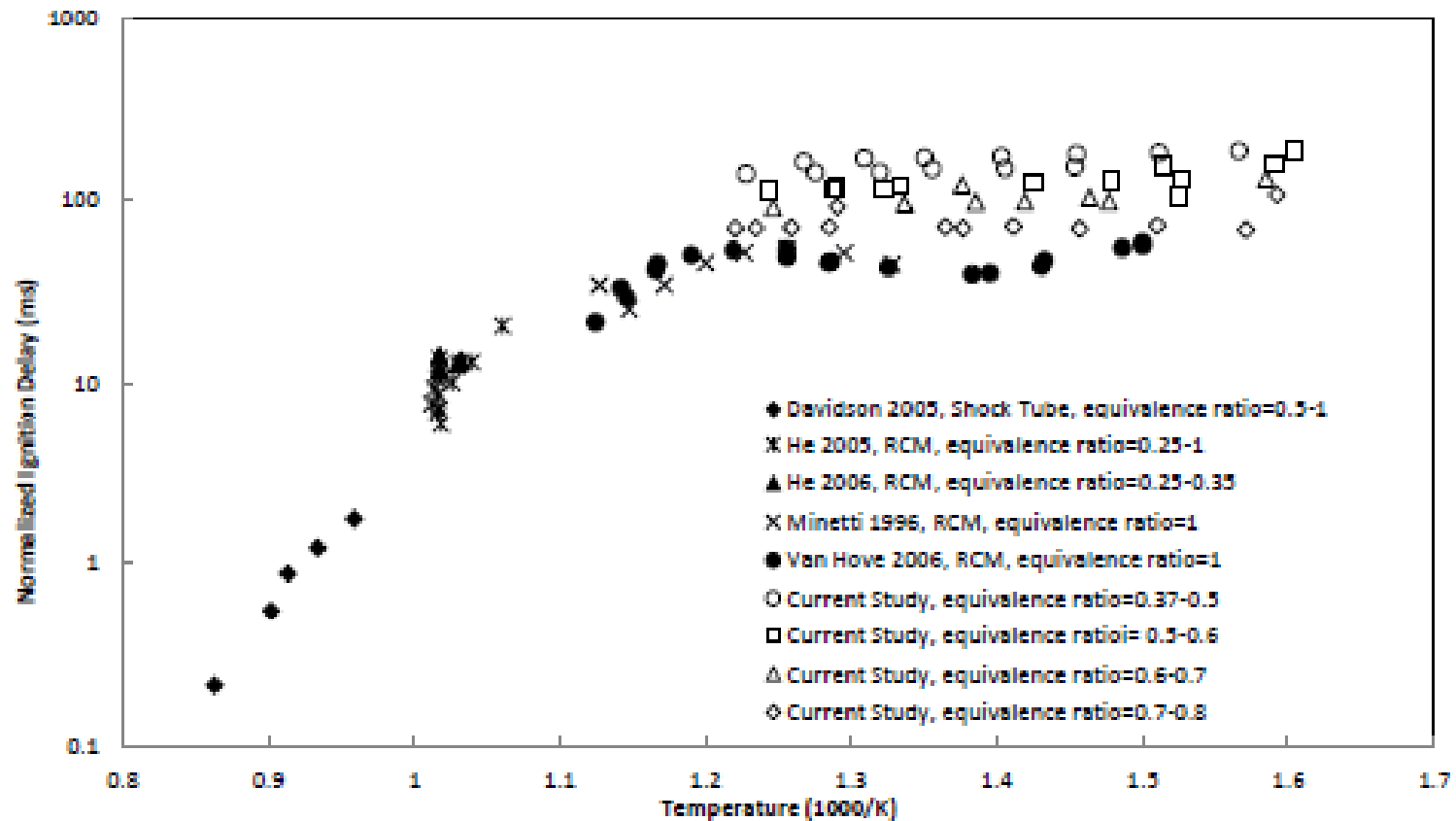


Figure 4-2. Iso-octane autoignition results from shock tubes [51], rapid compression machines [21, 66, 73, 74], and the current flow reactor studies. All data points are from 14-16 atm and have been normalized to 15 atm

# Iso-Octane Autoignition Study

## Dr. Michelle Christensen 2012

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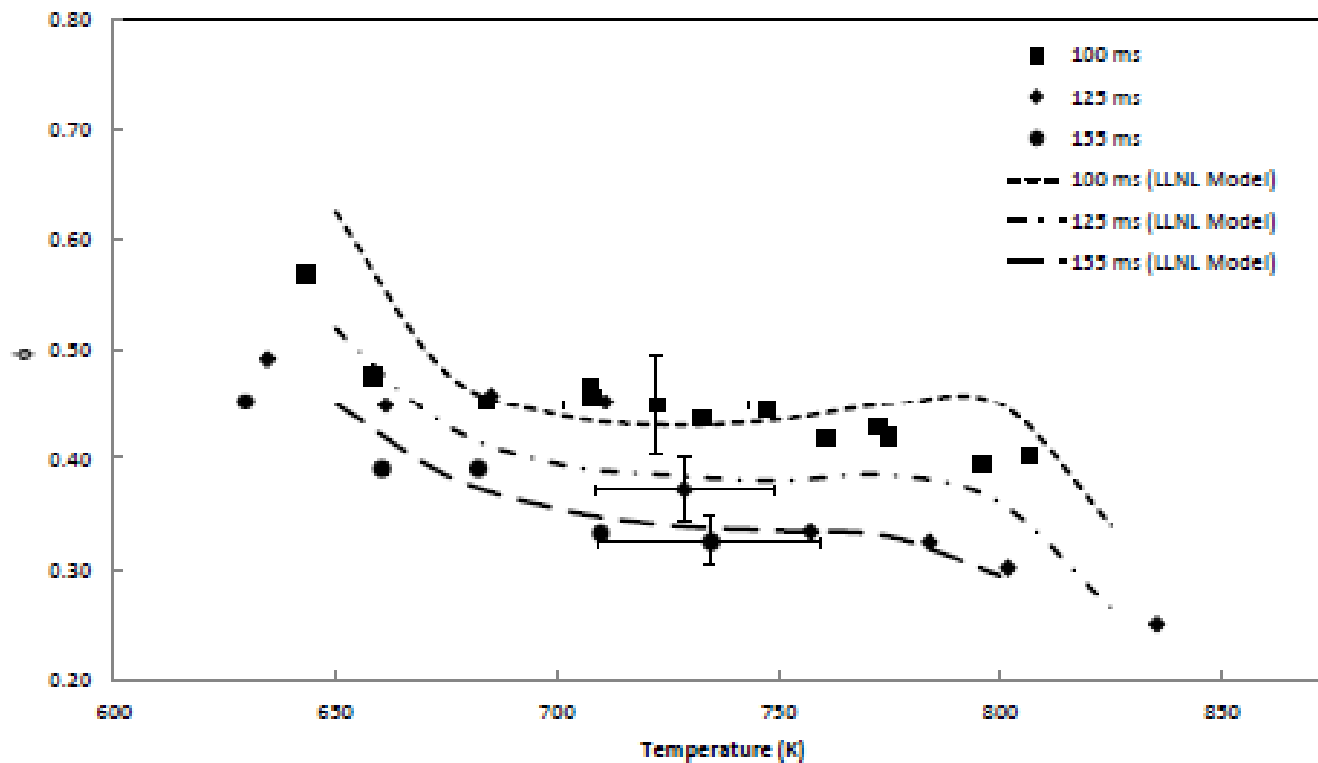
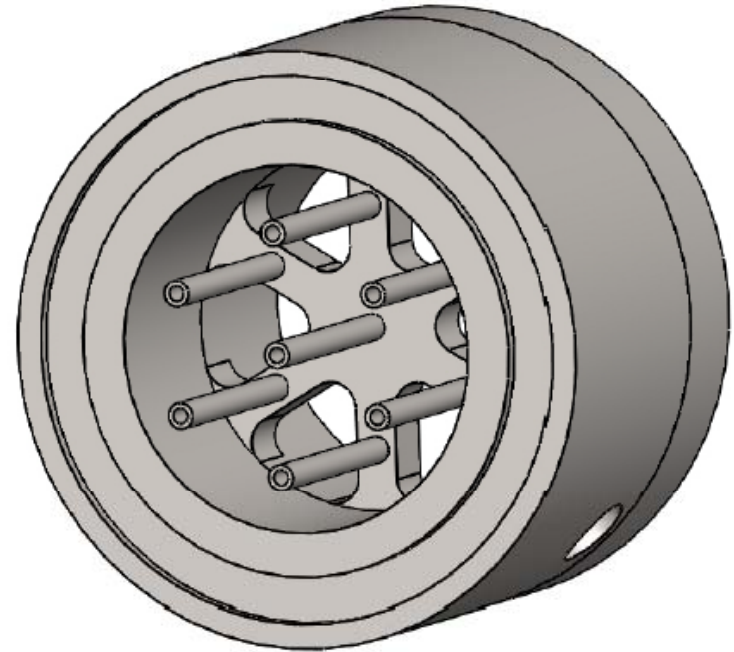
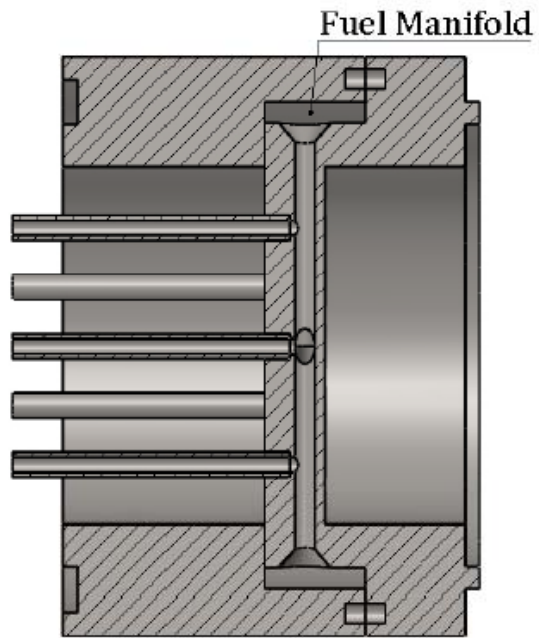


Figure 4-6. Experimental results and model predictions for the threshold equivalence as a function of temperature at 20 atm. Symbols represent experimental results from the current study while lines represent model results using the LLNL mechanism [32].

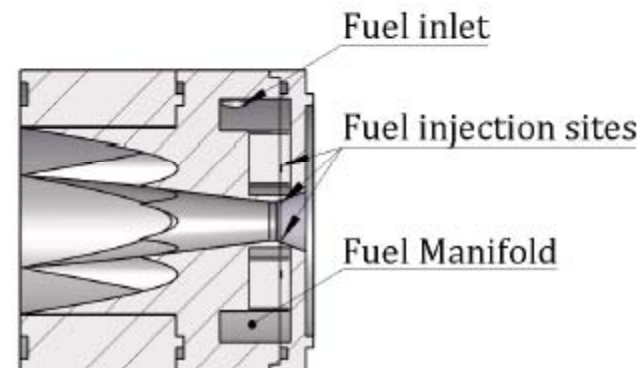
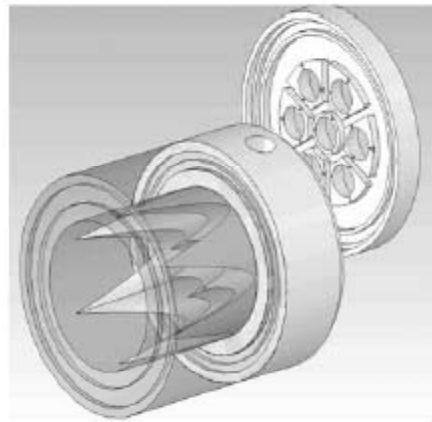
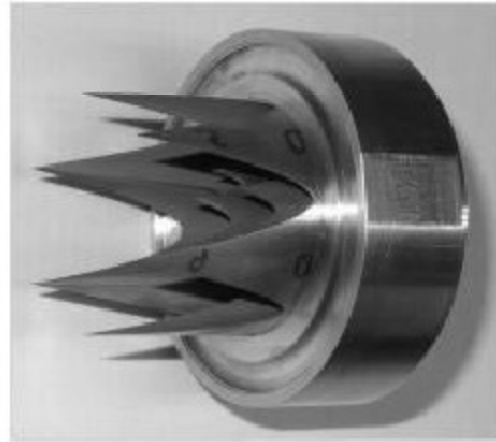


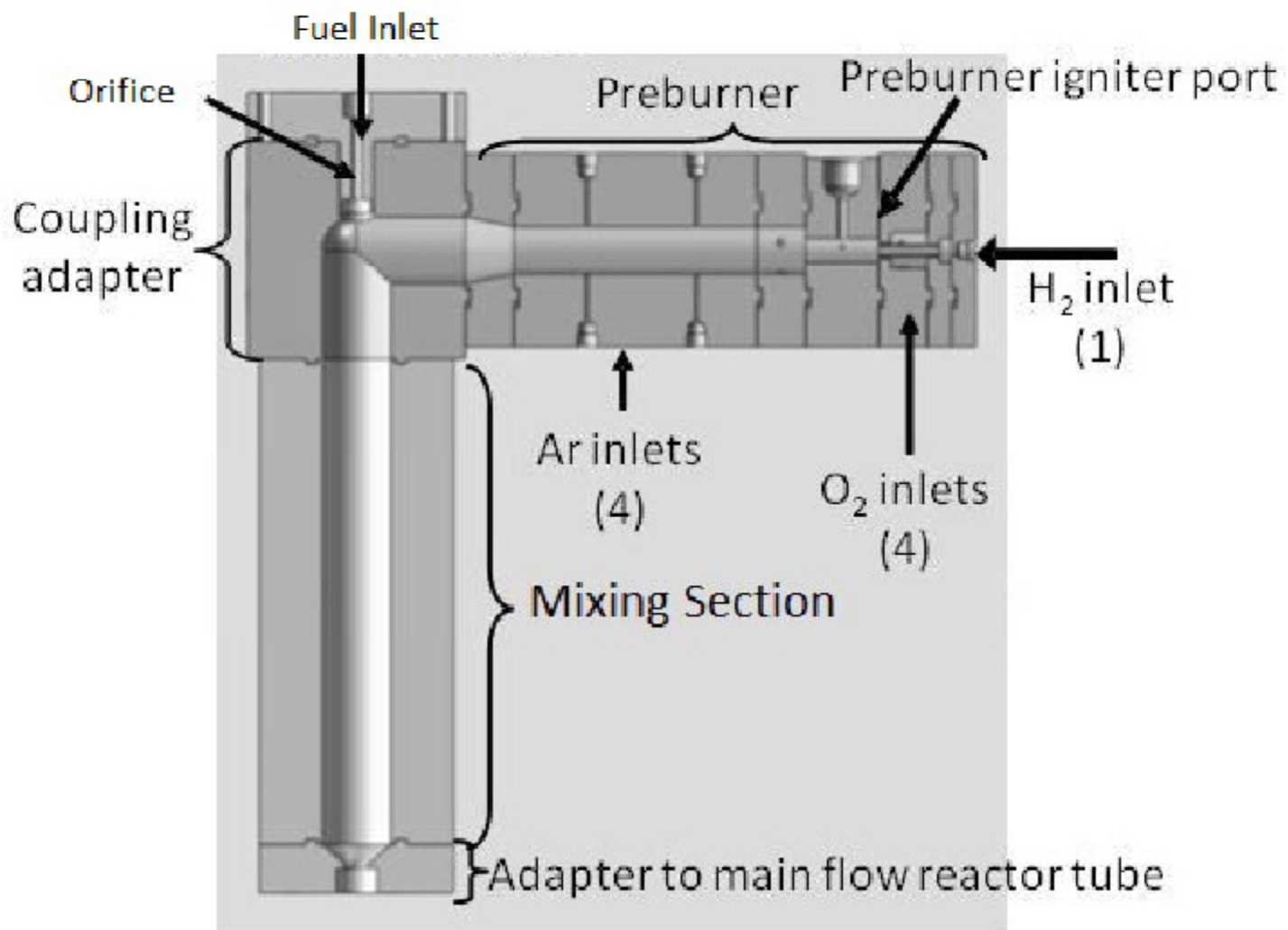
# **Description of Injectors**

# Axial Injector



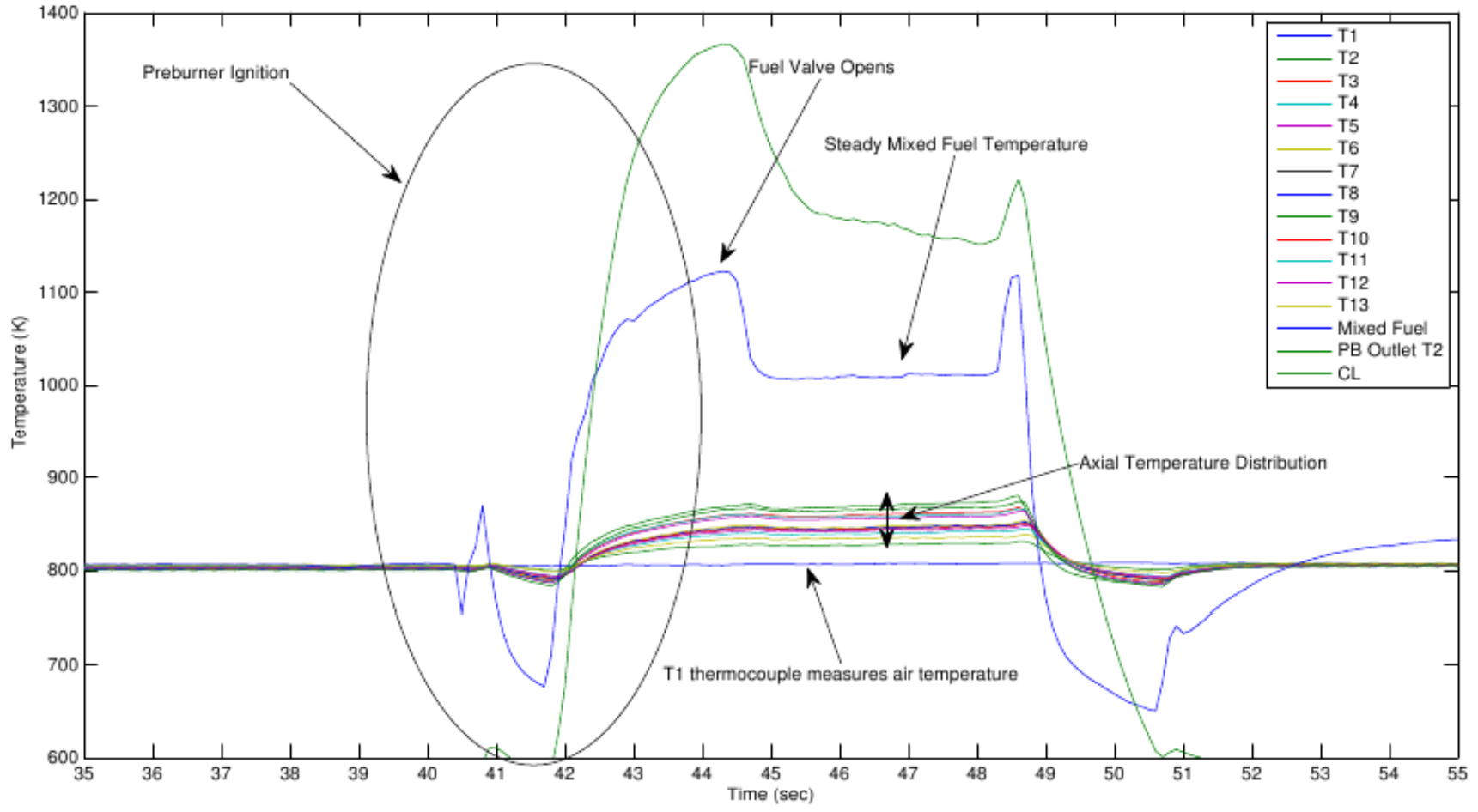
# Radial Injector



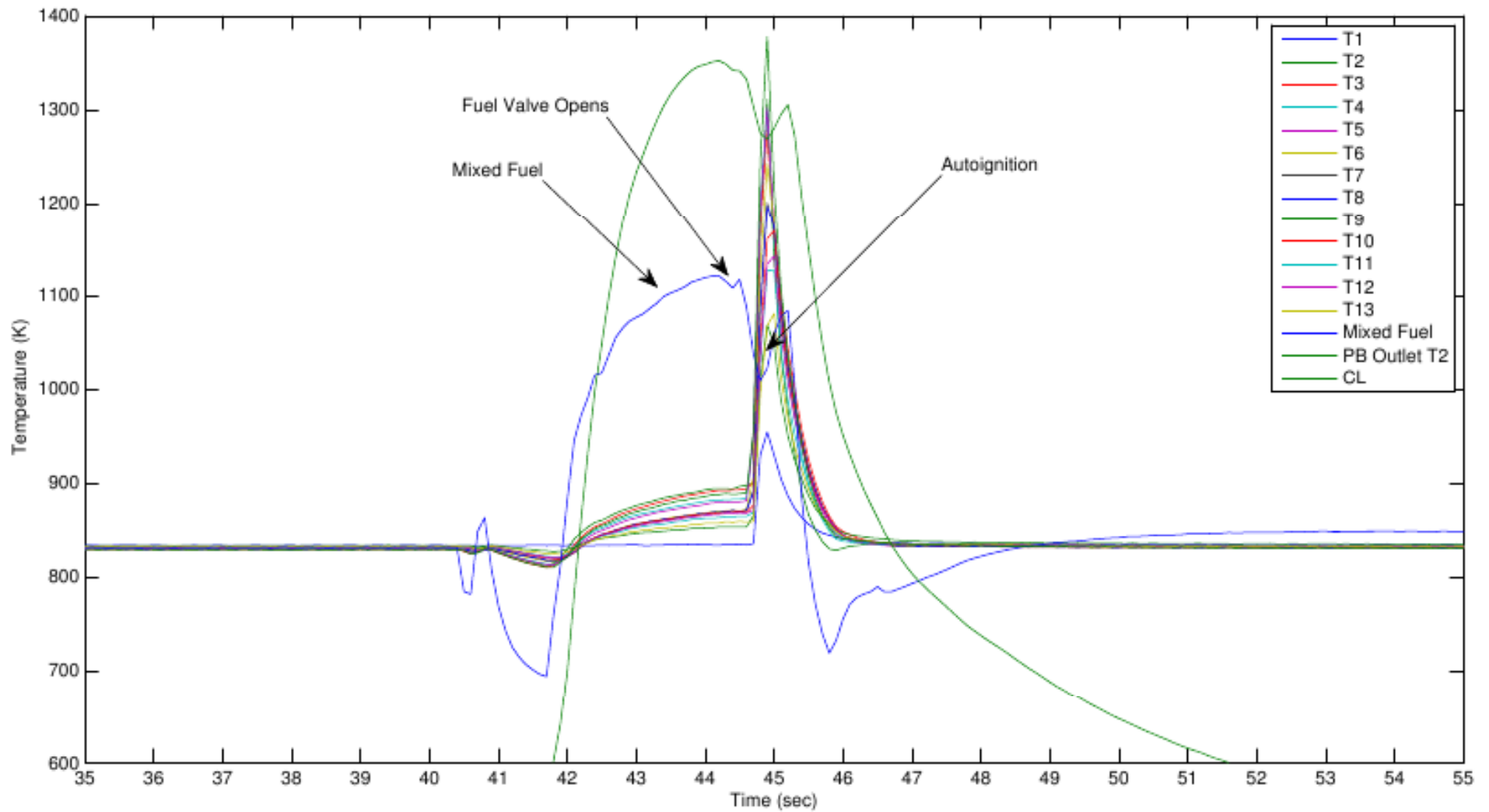


# Experimental Method

- Set initial conditions required
  - Pressure, temperature, residence time, equivalence ratio
- Inject fuel using a high speed valve system
- Determine if ignition occurred or did not occur
- Incrementally increase temperature until ignition occurs



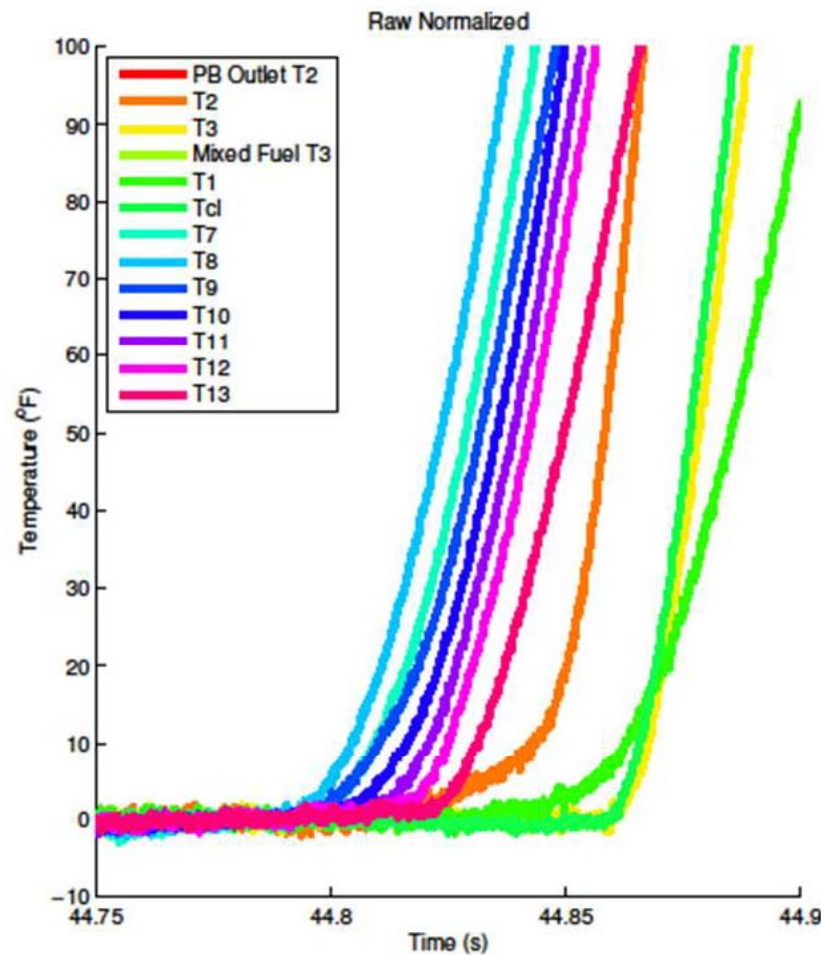
No Ignition



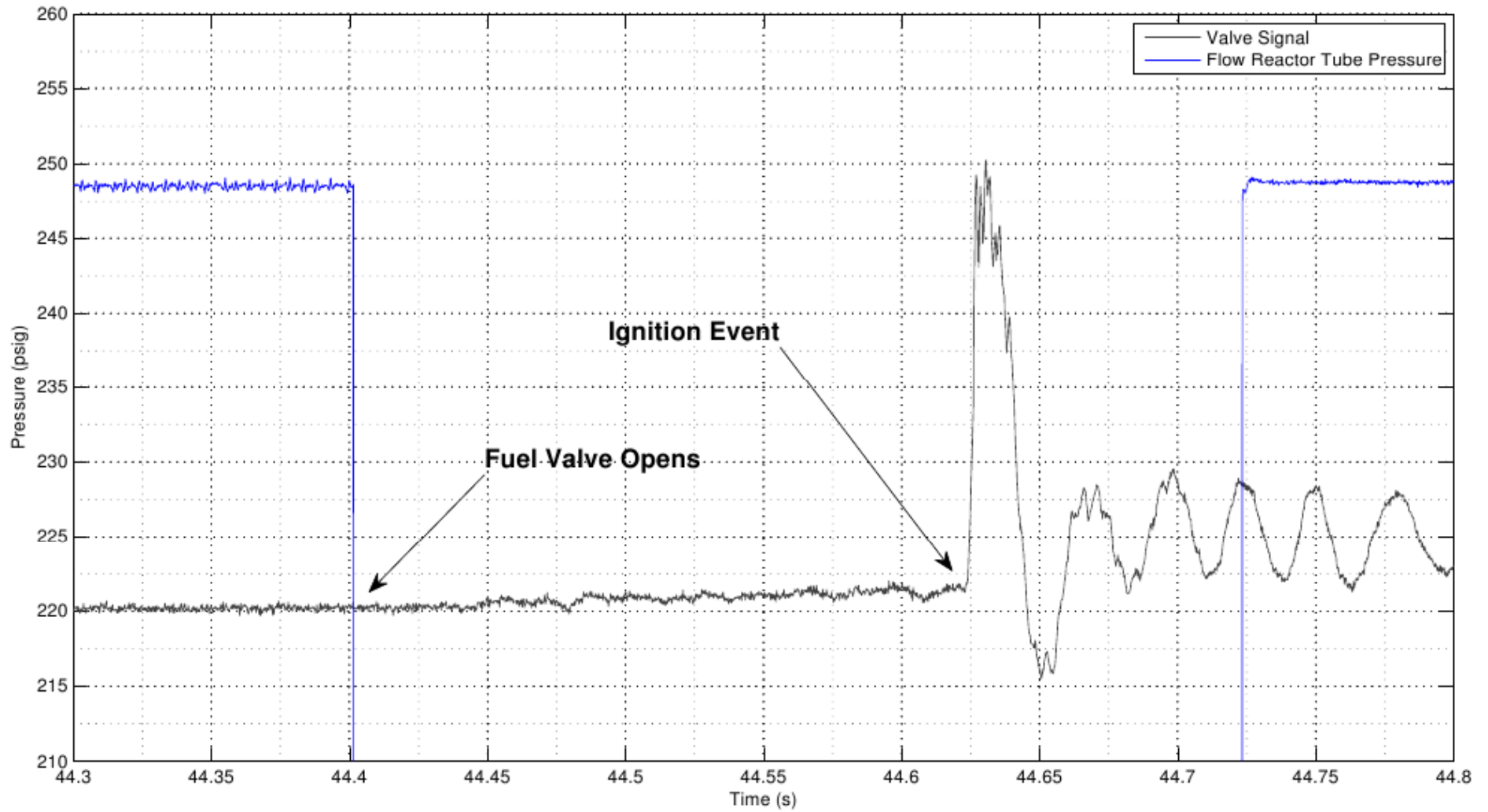
# Ignition

# Identifying ignition location

- Location is identified by high speed temperature measurements







# Calculating ignition delay

- L is distance to location of ignition (thermocouple location) from the injection point

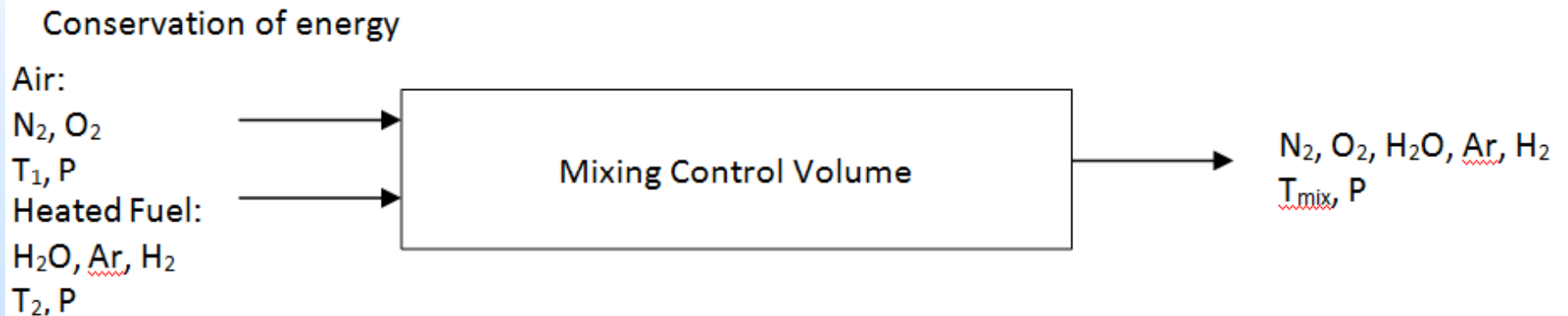
$$\tau_{residence} = \frac{L}{V}$$

$$\rho_{mixture} = \frac{R_{mixture}T}{P}$$

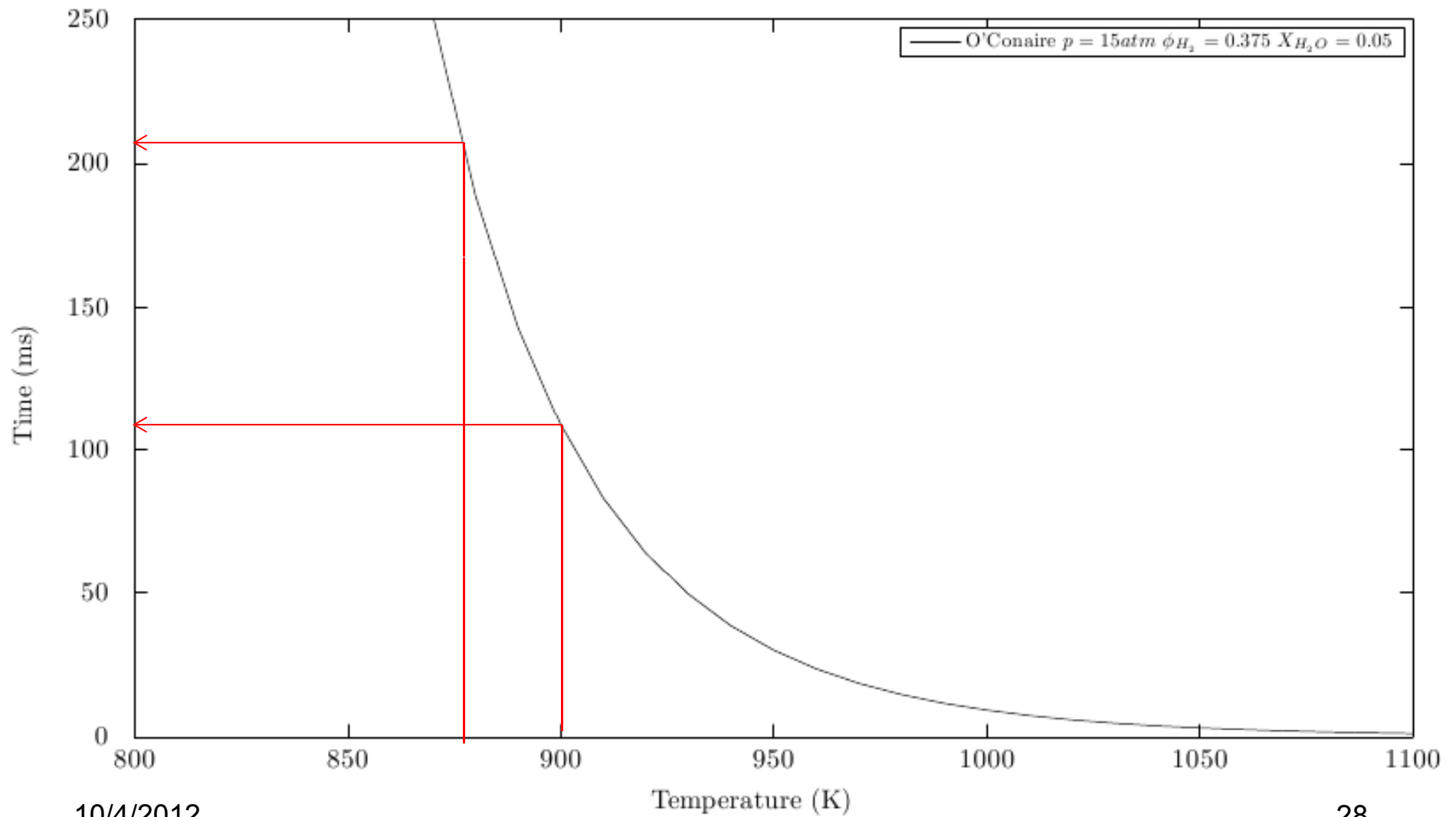
$$V = \frac{\dot{m}_{total}}{\rho_{mixture}A}$$

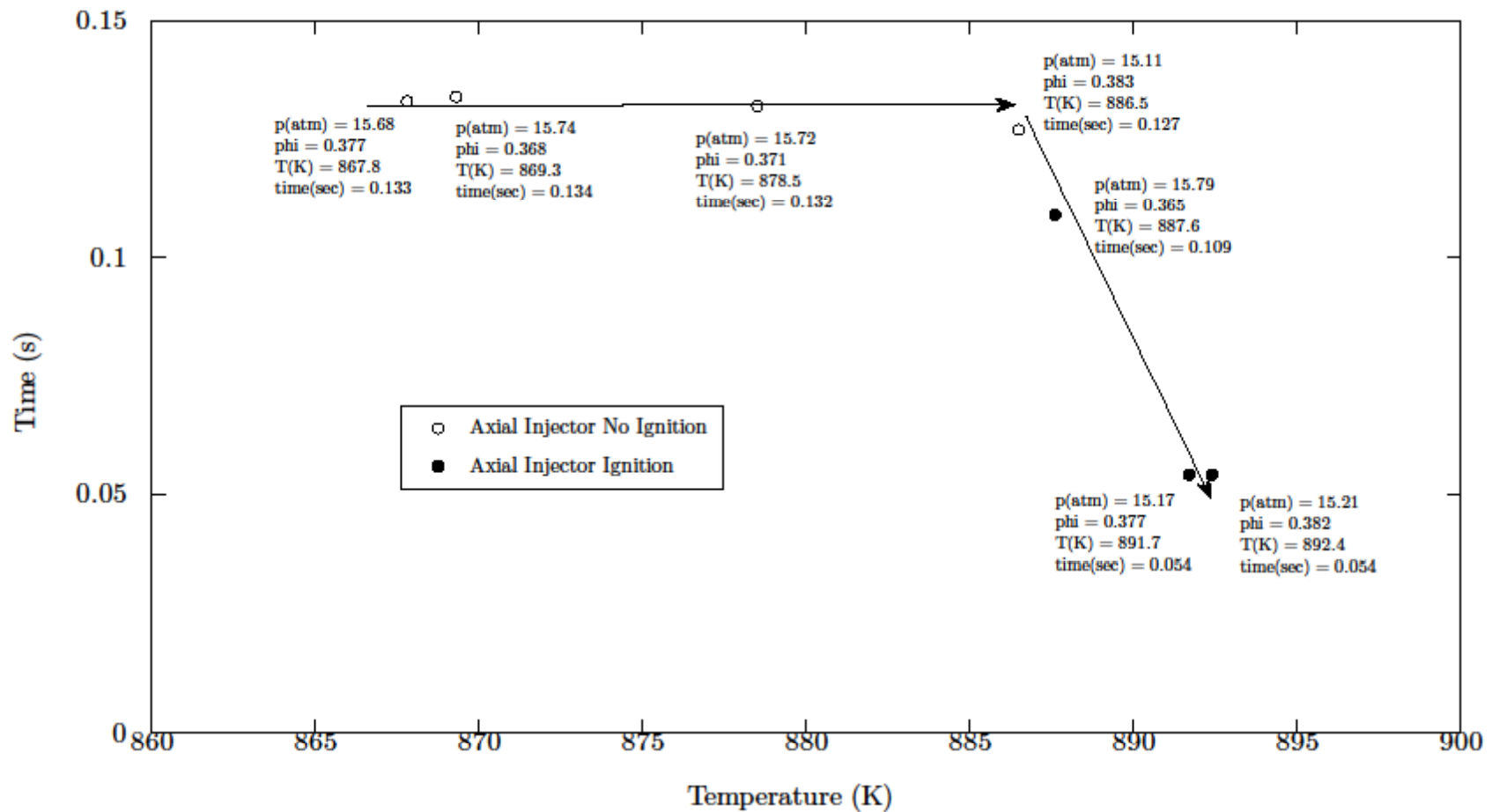
# Mixture Temperature

- Calculated by performing energy balance on preburner and air streams



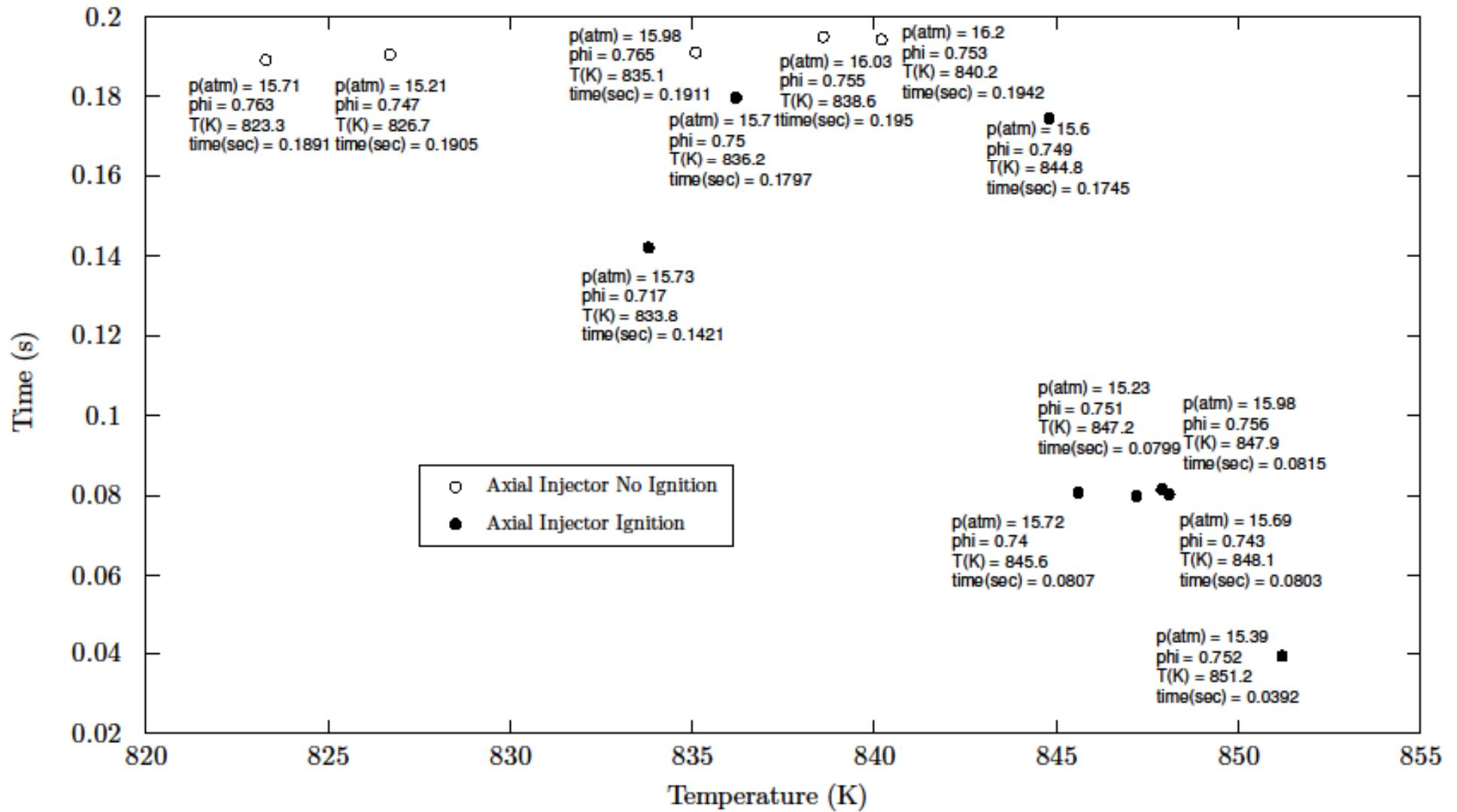
# Results



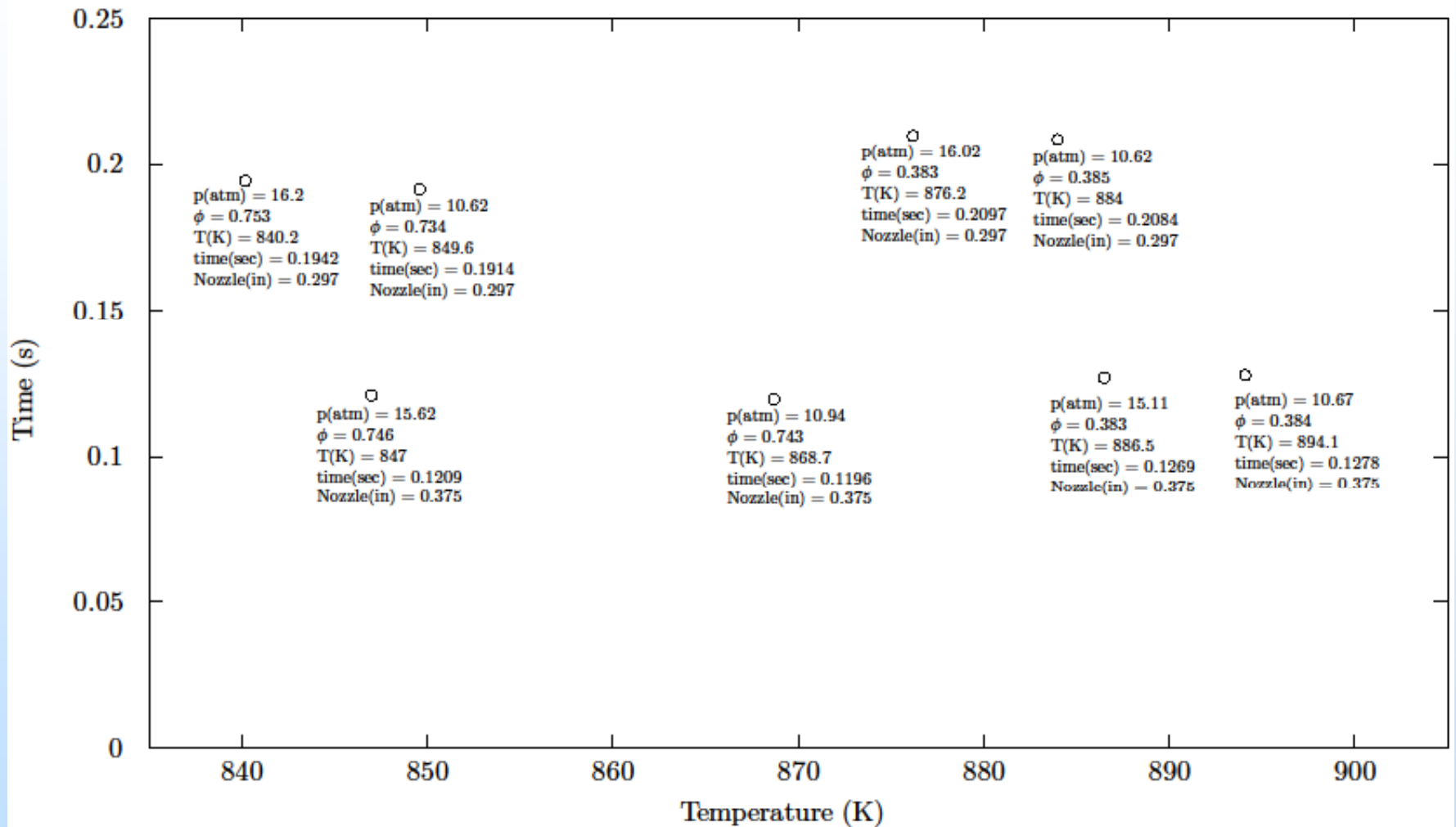


# Interpreting Data

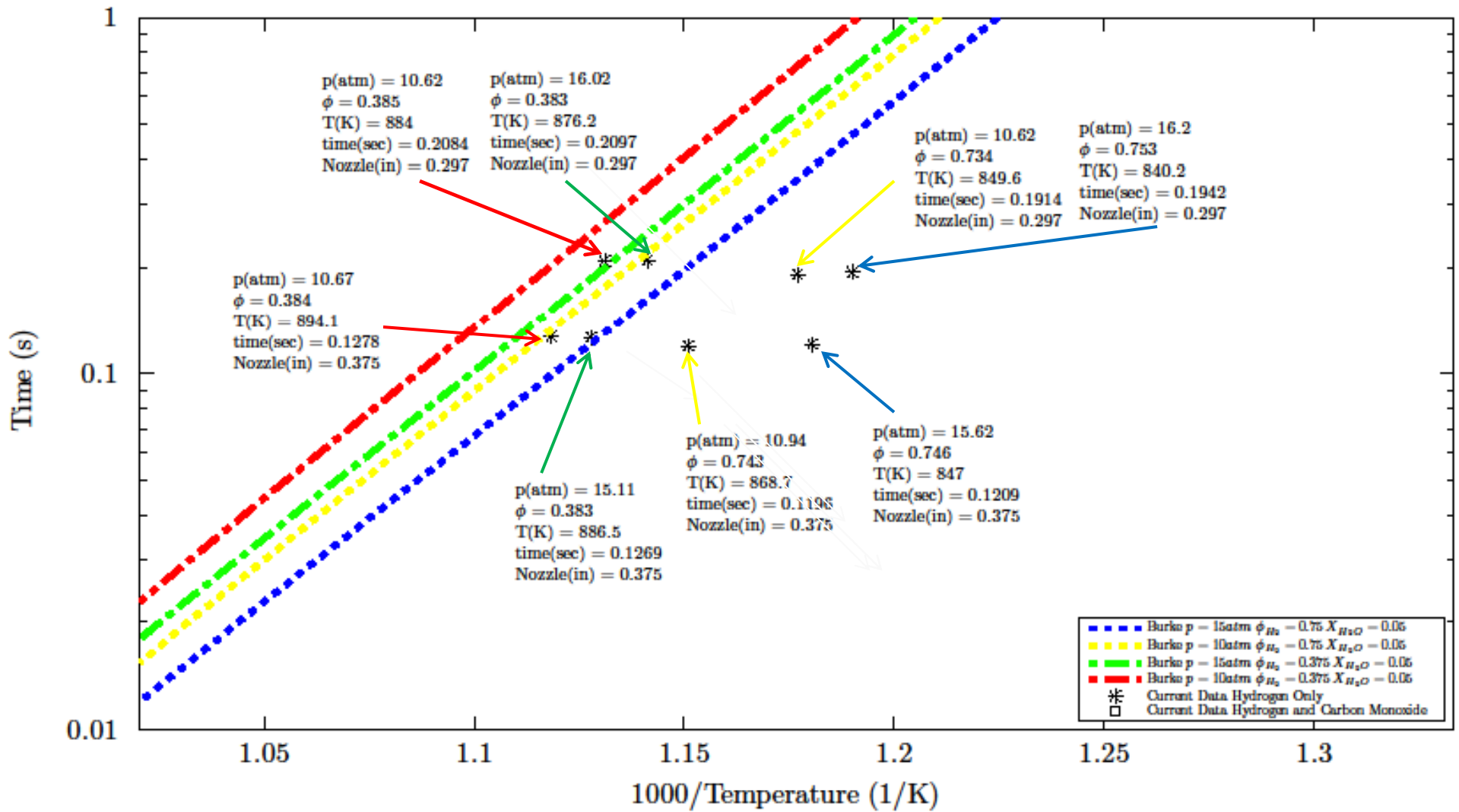
- Use the highest temperature no-ignition experiment for mixture temperature.
  - Can measure fuel and air temperatures reliably
- Use only ignition experiments that occur between thermocouple T9 and T13 when comparing results.
  - Need ignitions that occur near the end of the flow reactor (residence time)



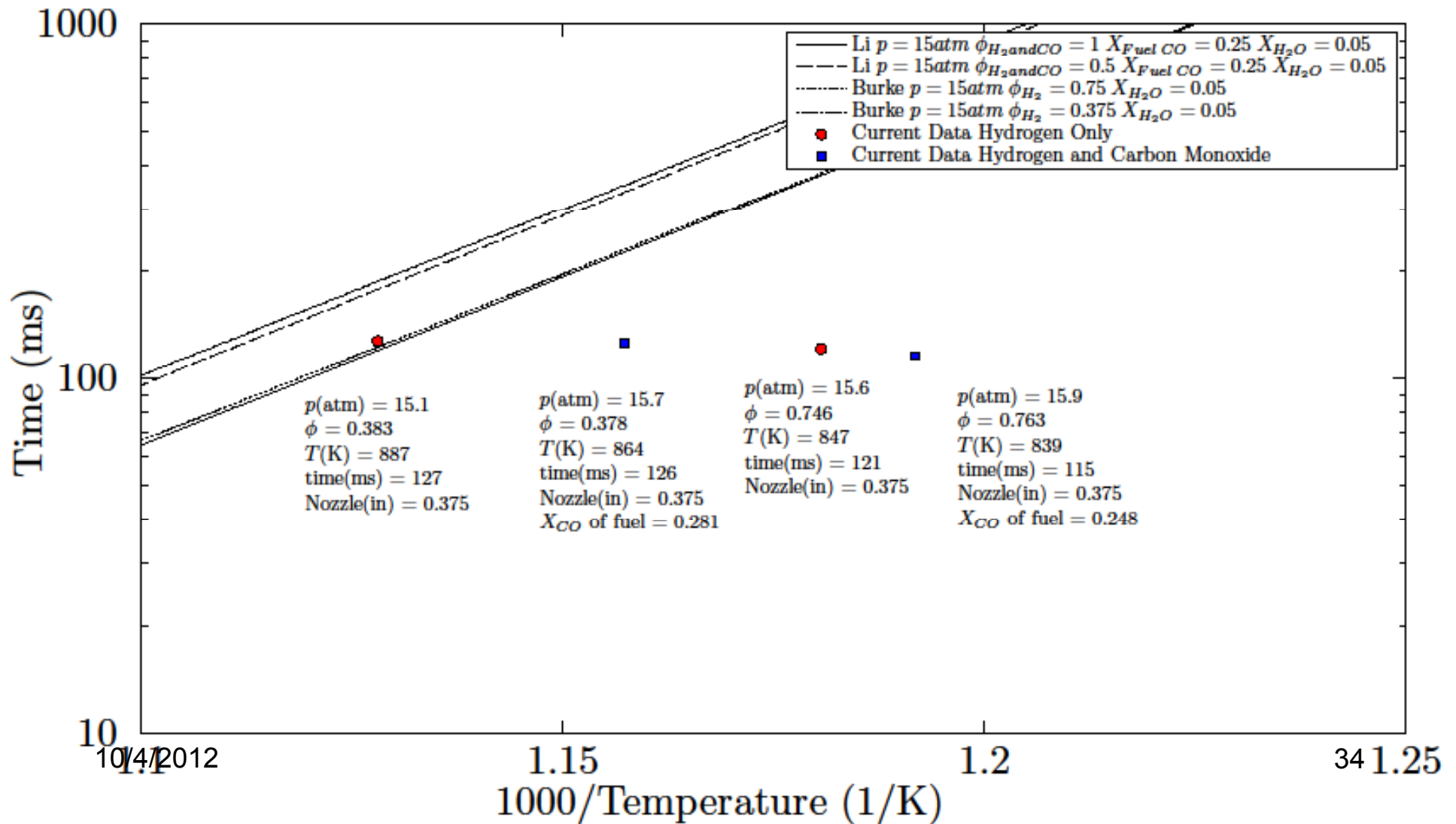
# Primary Eight Conditions



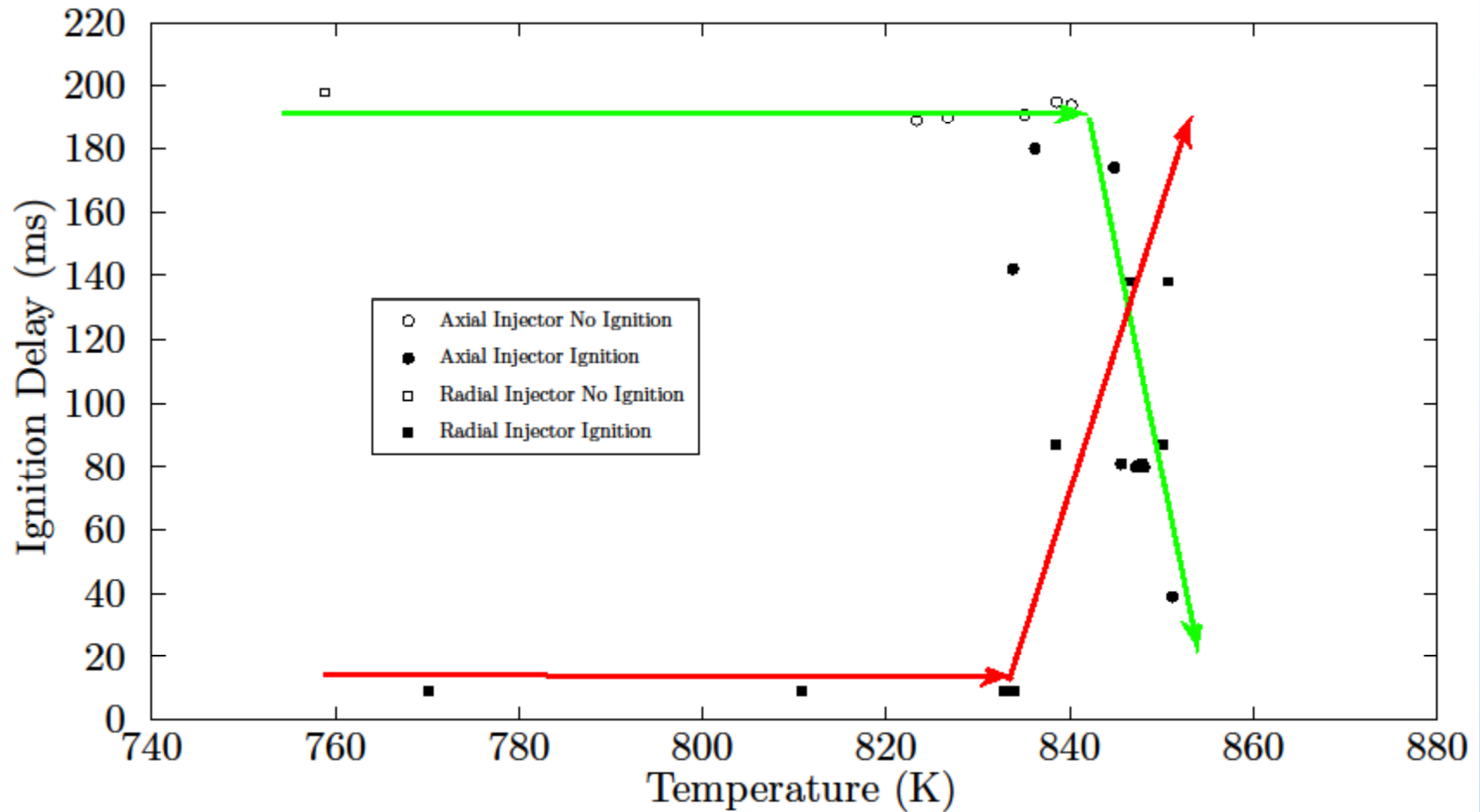




# Syngas Results

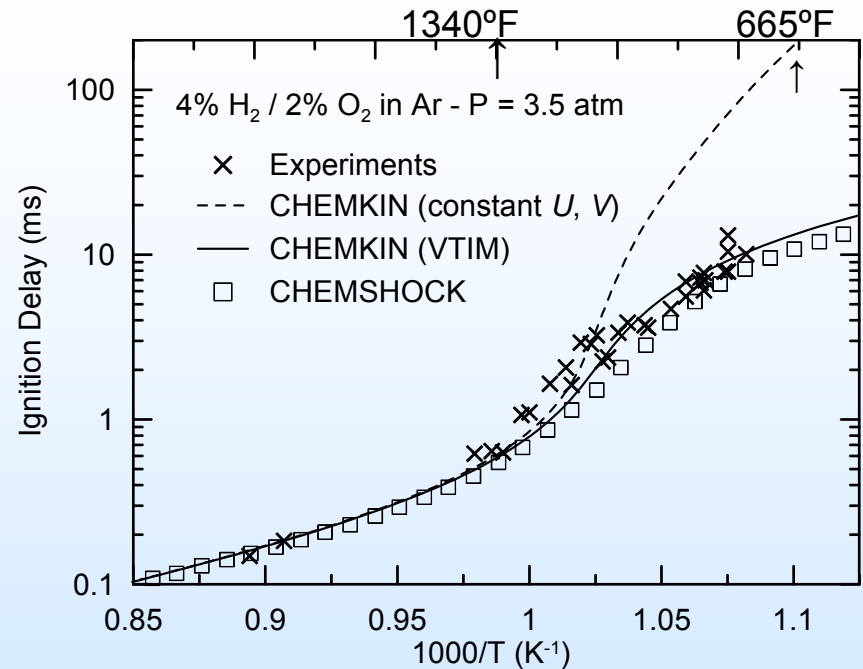
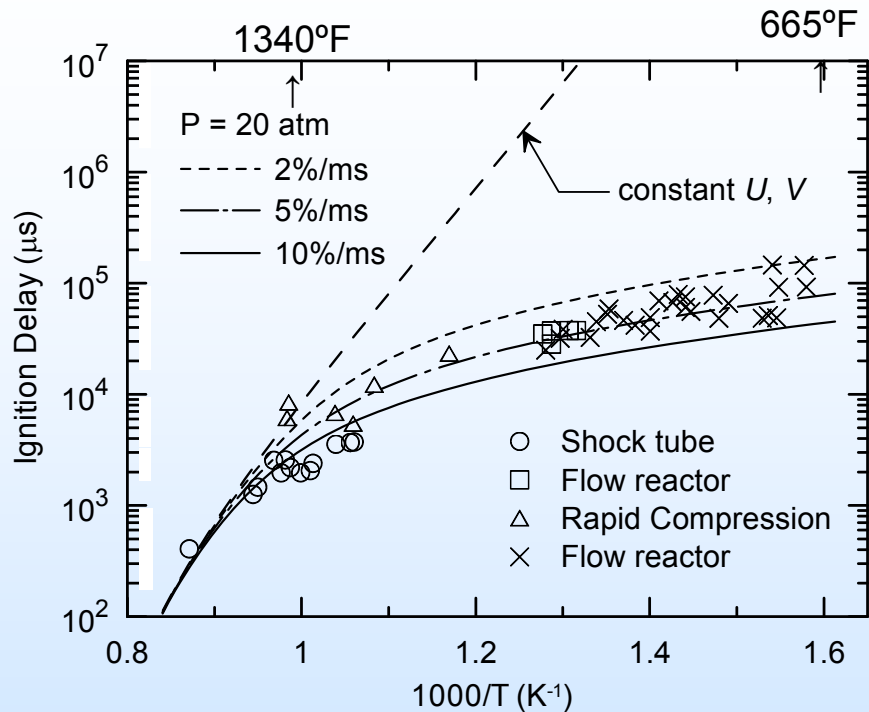


# Axial Comparison to Radial Injectors



# **Additional Comments**

# Interpreting Experimental Ignition Delay Observations



- **Chemical induction is very important for ignition delay time in the H<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>2</sub> system at temperatures below 1000K and is very sensitive to chemical perturbations from any source, e.g., pre-ignition pressure increases (left).**
- **Use of constant U,V constraint to calculate predictions to test models leads of erroneous results and The volume as a function of time (VTIM) constraint is the proper one to use.**

# Conclusions

- **These results agree with the homogeneous one-dimensional simulations within a factor of 5.**
- **Model comparisons were better for the lower equivalence ratio, 0.375, studied than the higher equivalence ratio, 0.750, case.**
- **The expected trends between results were consistent with expected pressure and equivalence ratio behavior.**
- **Measurements made using the axial injector indicated that autoignition does not occur below 800 K for the residence time studied. This result is in disagreement with previous work with respect to homogenous chemical kinetic models predictions.**

# Acknowledgments

**I wish to acknowledge:**

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# Questions?