

# Oxy-Fuel for Indiana

Prof. Steve Son

Amanda VanderPloeg (MS Student)

Prof. Yuan Zheng

Multiphase Combustion Laboratory

Mechanical Engineering

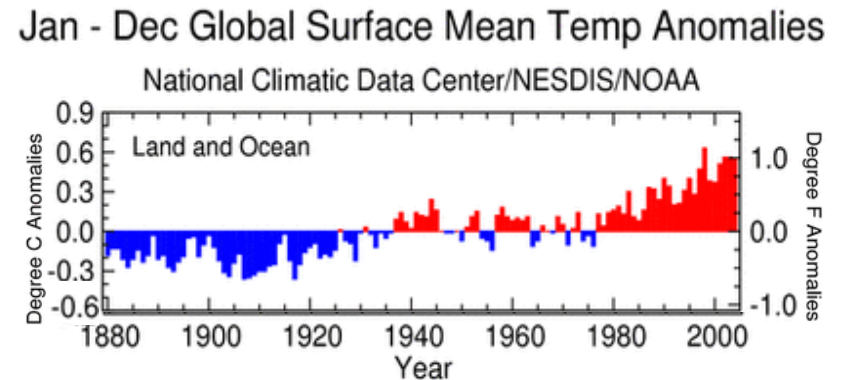
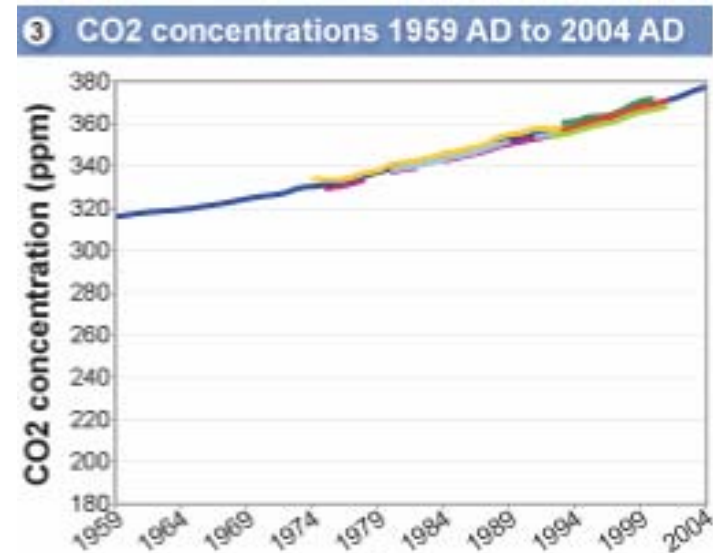
Purdue University

Dec. 11, 2007



# Background

- Environmental Concerns
  - Global warming
    - 1°F average increase over 20 years
    - Current rate is 0.32°F per decade
  - Greenhouse gases
    - CO<sub>2</sub> concentration increasing
  - NO<sub>x</sub> contributes to Acid Rain
    - *Acts as indirect greenhouse gases by producing the tropospheric greenhouse gas 'ozone' during their breakdown in the atmosphere*



Source: [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

# Background

- Legislation & political pressures
  - President's Clear Skies Initiative
    - Reduce NO<sub>x</sub> 67% from 2000 levels and SO<sub>2</sub> 73% from 2000 levels by 2018
  - Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Intensity
    - Reduce intensity (tons gas/ \$M GDP) 18% by 2012
  - International Kyoto Protocol
    - UN rule to reduce GHG emissions 5% by 2012
    - Binding to countries who ratified (>55% of world emissions)
  - More legislation/political pressures likely?
- >50% energy generated in US from coal

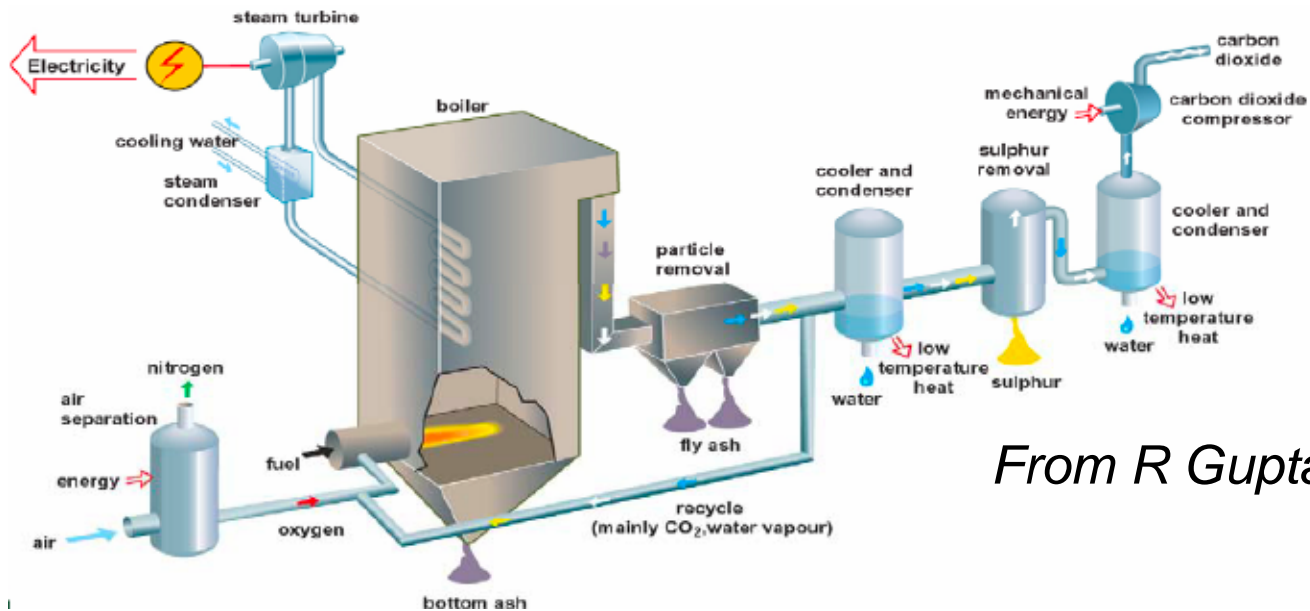
# Options for Clean Coal

- Three approaches are presently seen as the front runners:
  - **Oxygen combustion (Oxyfuel)**
    - Concentrated CO<sub>2</sub> in products
  - **Amine (or others) scrubbing** for new or existing plants
    - Extracts the CO<sub>2</sub> from the flue gas using a regenerable sorbent-catalyst such as momoethanolamine (or MEA)
  - **Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC)**
    - Also concentrates CO<sub>2</sub>
    - Attractive approach, but challenges include complexity of operation
- *“Some current studies show oxygen combustion as the least costly while others lean toward IGCC, indicating that the jury is still out.”* (Williams et al., BR-1779, 2006)

# What is oxyfuel combustion?

- Oxyfuel
  - Pure oxygen as oxidizer (often diluted with flue gas)
  - Reduces or eliminates NO<sub>x</sub> (no Nitrogen in oxidizer flow)
- Increases CO<sub>2</sub> concentration
  - Easier to recover

*Could be used in retrofit coal plants*



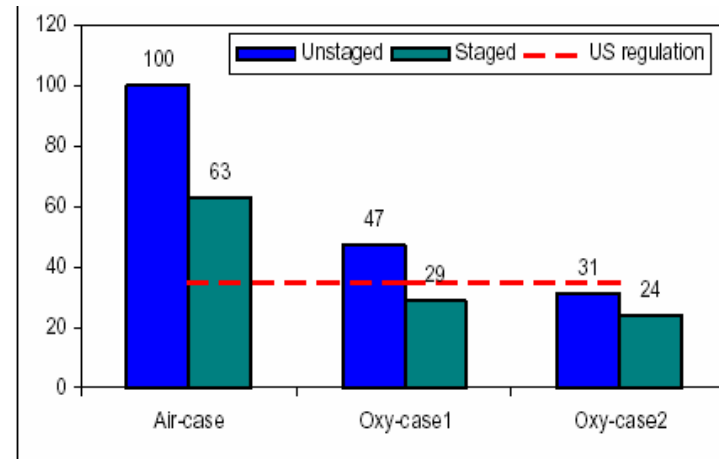
*From R Gupta*

# Progress of Project

- Review of literature
- Survey of Indiana plants
- Construction of particle burner
- Leveraging this project with Jupiter Oxygen's efforts
- Work is on schedule

# Previous Oxyfuel Studies

- Pollutants
  - NO<sub>x</sub> reduced
    - Can be further reduced
  - CO<sub>2</sub> concentrated >90%



(a) NO<sub>x</sub> emissions, normalised assuming the baseline value in air-case is 100. Dash line is US regulation 65 mg/MJ

*Oxy-fuel combustion in GHG Context – Status of Research, Technology and Assessment  
R Gupta, CRC for Coal in Sustainable Development  
Univ of Newcastle Australia  
Advanced Coal Workshop, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, 15-16th March 2005*

# Previous Oxyfuel Studies

- Flame and Heat Transfer
  - Instabilities observed
    - Can be overcome by increasing O<sub>2</sub>, but increases cost
    - Can this be overcome by recycling hot exhaust (flue) gas? Are optimized ignition and combustion possible?
  - Heat Transfer changed
    - No NO<sub>x</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, less CO to carry heat to boiler
      - Transport properties changed
    - Radiation/convective heat transfer ratio changed
      - Oxyfuel combustion can result in higher temperatures
      - CO<sub>2</sub> participates actively in radiant transport
    - Can likely be made to match air burning with recycled flue gases
    - Avoids changing plant electrical output
    - **Radiant measurements needed**
      - **Collaborating with Prof. Zheng and DOE NETL**
      - **Leveraging work with Jupiter to make measurements in Hammond facility also**

# Previous Oxyfuel Studies

- Retrofit
  - Most necessary technology is fairly mature
    - Optimization and improved modeling needed
  - Must find a place for CO<sub>2</sub>
    - No current large scale market
    - Must sequester and store
  - Can be adapted to future technological advances
    - IGCC using air separation unit from oxyfuel retrofit
  - Pilot Studies already done
    - Companies such as Air Liquide and Alstom



Jupiter Oxy-Fuel plant; Hammond, IN

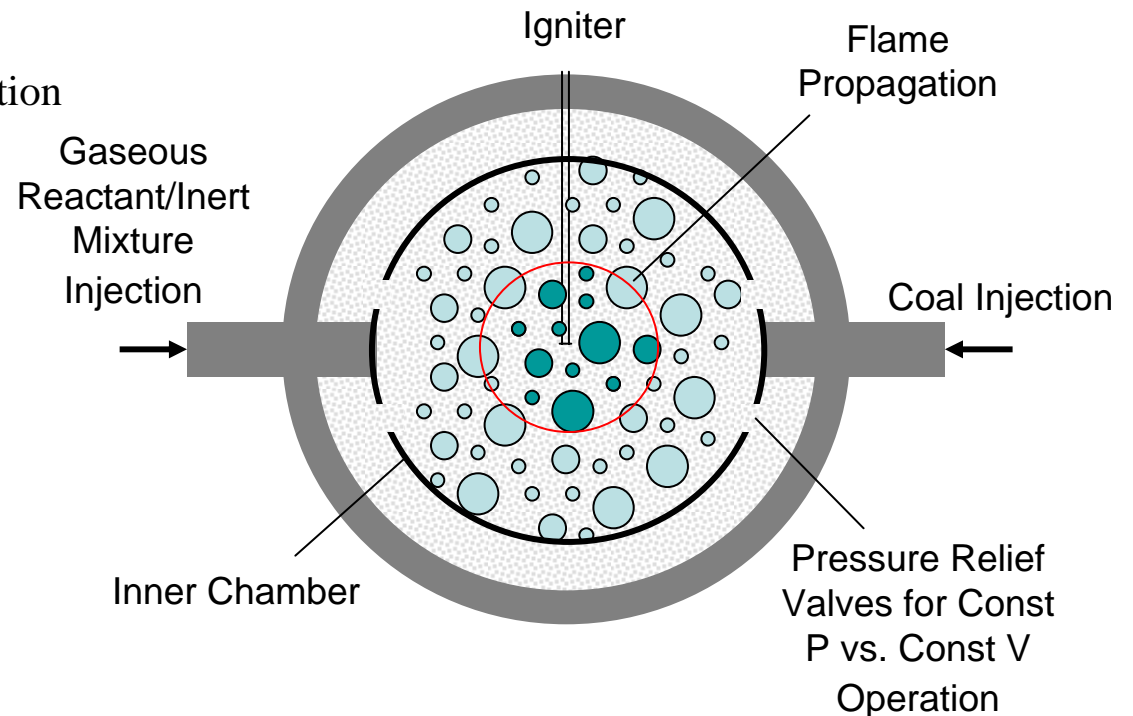
*We are collaborating with Jupiter Oxygen Corporation, who is developing an oxyfuel pilot plant in Hammond, IN*

*Jupiter discussions with Purdue Power Plant*

# Combustion Studies at Purdue

Funding from Indiana CCTR supports a student

- Constant volume or pressure ignition and combustion
  - Flame and ignition characterization studies
  - Pollutant concentrations
  - RFG/O<sub>2</sub>% optimization
  - Comparisons with Jupiter pilot reactor
  - Indiana coals considered
- Pressurized studies
  - Control flame instabilities?
  - Future technology areas?
    - IGCC pressurized syngas
    - Chemical looping
  - Radiant flux measurements (w/ Prof. Zheng)
    - Spectral and total
    - IR imaging



***Can we stabilize O<sub>2</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub>/Coal flame with lower O<sub>2</sub> concentration?***

# Proposed Experiments

- Flame Studies
  - Instabilities in Large Coal Cloud
    - Compare to Kiga instabilities
    - Test off-optimum conditions
  - Heat Transfer
    - CO<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub> effects
    - Compare experimental to current/proposed models
    - Thermal radiation (w/ Jupiter Oxygen)
  - Emissions
    - Complete combustion in coal cloud?
    - SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations

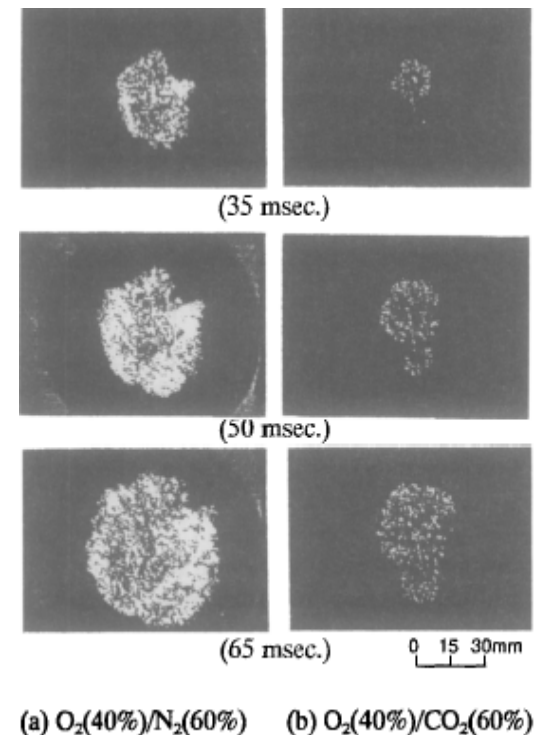
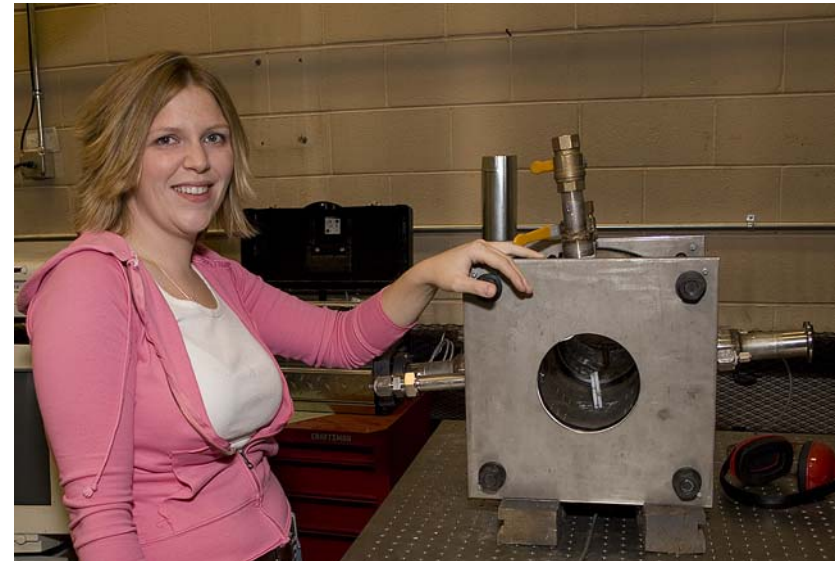
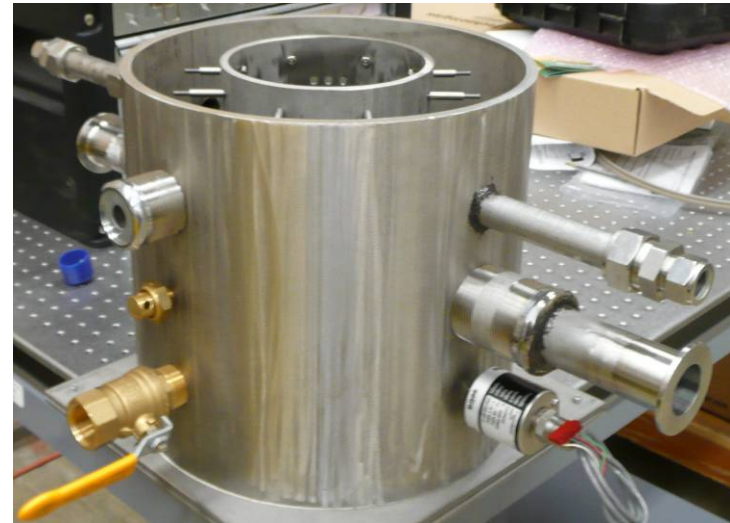


Fig. 2. Flame propagation behavior.

Kiga et al.; Energy Conversion Management 1997;  
38: S129-S34

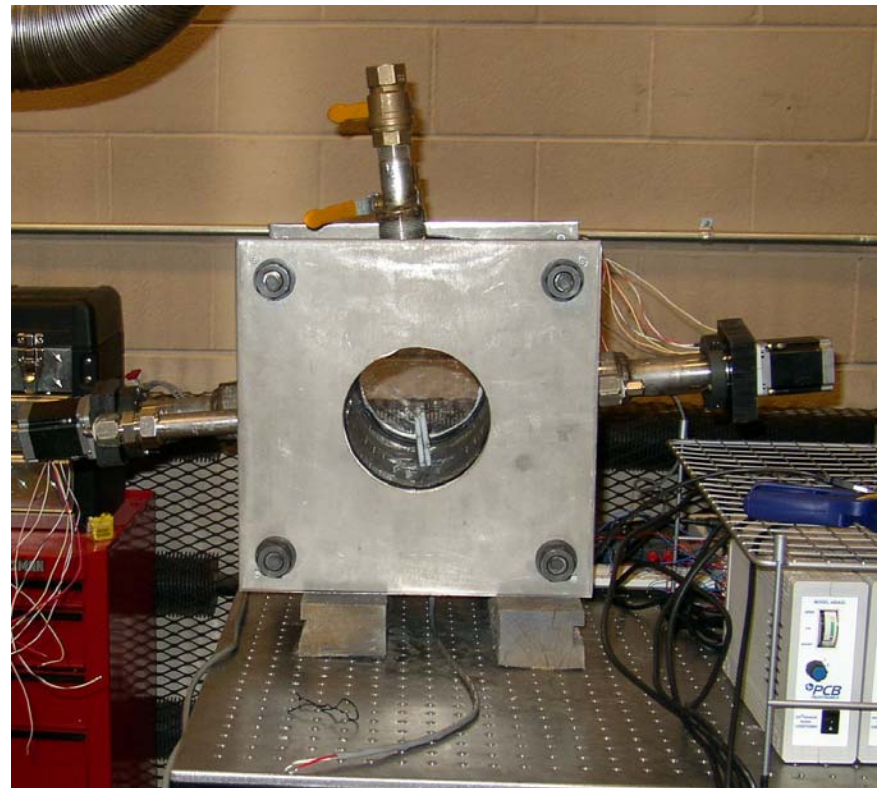
# Experimental Update

- Pressure Vessel Construction
  - Pressure Seal
    - Reusable and durable
    - Temperature resistant
  - Ignition
    - Matching minimum ignition energy to spark distance
    - Computer control and timing
  - Pulverized coal obtained from Jupiter Oxygen
  - Initial experiments planned for December-January



# Experimental Update

- Coal Feed System
  - Computer control
  - Load and feed mechanism
  - Operational and tested
- Pressure Release System
  - Alignment of plates
  - Friction and sealing



# Industry Survey

- Purpose is to get perspective on clean coal, and specifically views on oxyfuel in Indiana

1) What is the rated size of your power plant? \_\_\_\_\_

2) What is age of your oldest boiler? \_\_\_\_\_

3) How would you rate your company's emphasis on reduction of Greenhouse Gas emissions? 1 2 3 4 5

4) What technologies, if any, have you considered for Greenhouse Gas reduction?

(circle one):                    IGCC                    OxyFuel                    Amine Absorption

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

5) What level of importance is operational ease of new technologies? 1 2 3 4 5

6) How important is additional space needed for new construction? 1 2 3 4 5

7) Other than cost, what do you see as the most important factor in implementing a solution to Greenhouse Gas emissions? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8) When do you expect Greenhouse Gas regulations to be in place? \_\_\_\_\_

9) What, if any, areas would your company need help in to meet possible future Greenhouse Gas regulations?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Industry Survey

- Results so far
  - 12 returned
    - 10 from distributors
    - 2 from generators (both diesel)
  - Similar responses from the generators
    - Emphasis on green gas emissions (3 of possible 5, both)
    - Ease of operation important (4 of possible 5, both)
    - Space an issue (5)
    - Expect increased regulations in 3-8 years or 1-2 years
- Need more responses
  - Cards available here or give me contacts to send them

# Jupiter Oxygen Collaboration/Leverage

- What they can offer us
  - Full size verification of laboratory observations
  - Proposed testing parameters arising in continuous operation
  - Some financial support
- What we can offer them
  - Verification of full scale occurrences
  - Data suitable for model generation
  - Radiation measurements

(Working with Prof. Zheng)

  - Radiative heat flux
  - Spectral radiation intensities
  - Inversely estimates of flame temperature



Jupiter Oxygen Facility, Hammond IN

# Particle Burner (PSU)

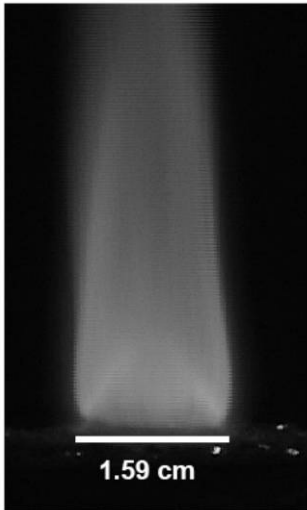
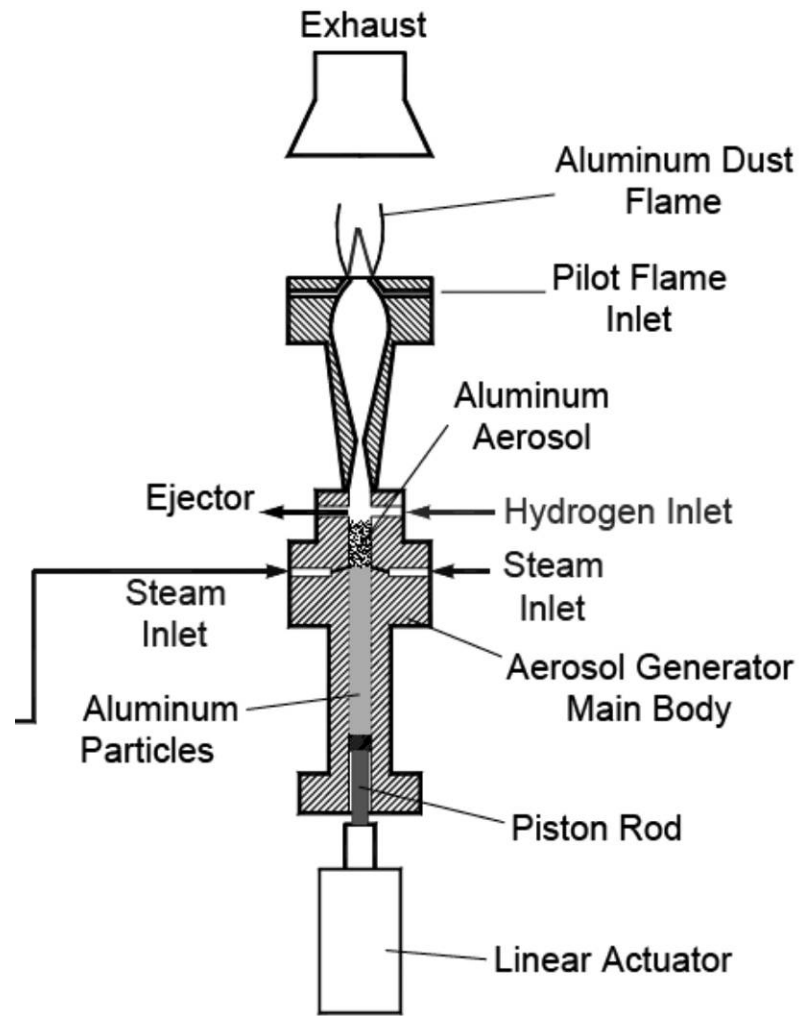


Fig. 5. Captured image of Al/steam/N<sub>2</sub> flame for Test No. ONR-109 at  $\phi = 0.900$ .



aluminum dust cloud experiment.



# Summary of Progress

- New combustor built
  - Testing to begin
- Survey done
  - NEED MORE RESPONSES
- Obtained pulverized coal for studies
  - Will use same coals as Jupiter Oxygen
- Particle burner from Penn State shipped to Purdue
  - Will be adapted to coal combustion
  - Complements our combustor
  - Some funding from Jupiter Oxygen's DOE project to study
- Will make measurements at Jupiter Oxygen also
  - First radiation measurement scheduled on December, 12