

# DNS of premixed turbulent H<sub>2</sub>-air flames: Stretch and preferential diffusion effects

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# DNS of premixed turbulent H<sub>2</sub>-air flames: Stretch and preferential diffusion effects

Gabriela Sanchez Bahoque\*, Jeroen van Oijen

\* g.e.sanchez.bahoque@tue.nl

## Hydrogen as alternative fuel

- Simplest fuel to produce from renewable electricity.
- Carbon-free.
- High burning velocity → Stabilization problems.
- High diffusivity ( $Le \approx 0.3$ ).
- Strong preferential diffusion effects.

Lean ( $\phi = 0.7$ ) premixed hydrogen-air mixtures are studied in order to understand its combustion properties.

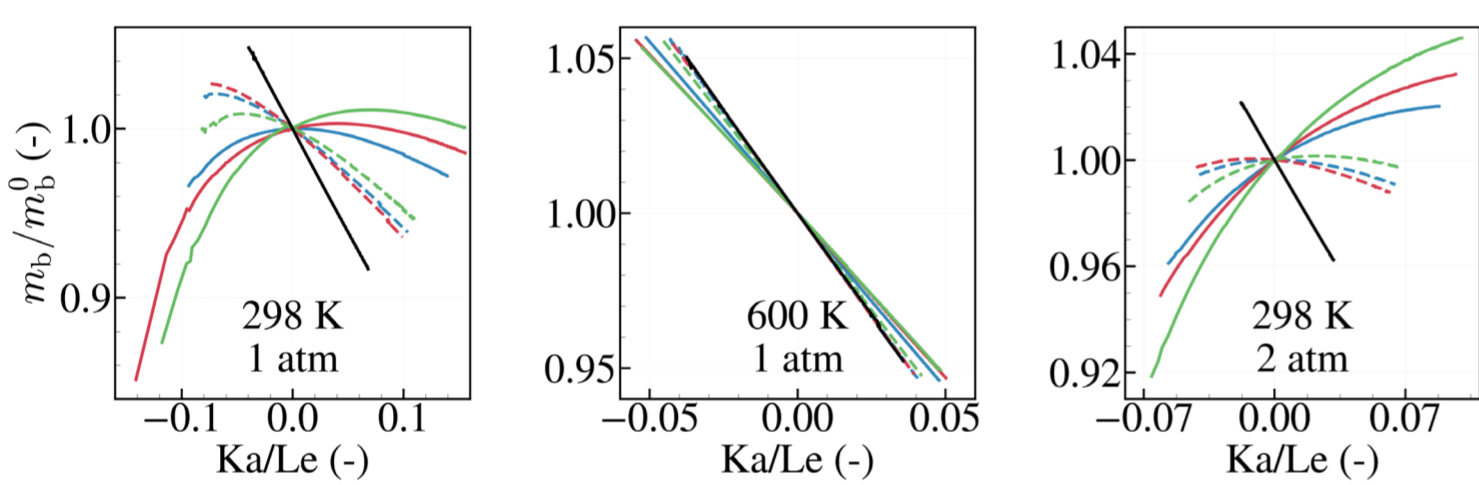
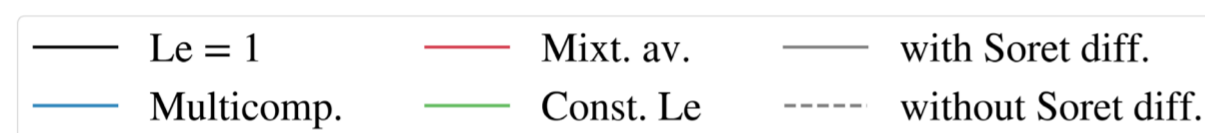
## 1-D stretched flamelets

### Mass burning rate $m_b$ of stretched flames [1]

$$\frac{m_b}{m_b^0} = 1 - \frac{Ka_i}{Le_i} + \Delta h_b \frac{\partial}{\partial h_b^0} (\ln m_b^0) + \sum_{j=1}^{N_e} Z_{j,b} \frac{\partial}{\partial Z_{j,b}^0} (\ln m_b^0)$$

Direct stretch effect    Non-unity Lewis numbers effect

Scaled mass burning rate of 1-D freely propagating flames vs. Karlovitz number  $Ka$  (dimensionless stretch rate), for different transport models:

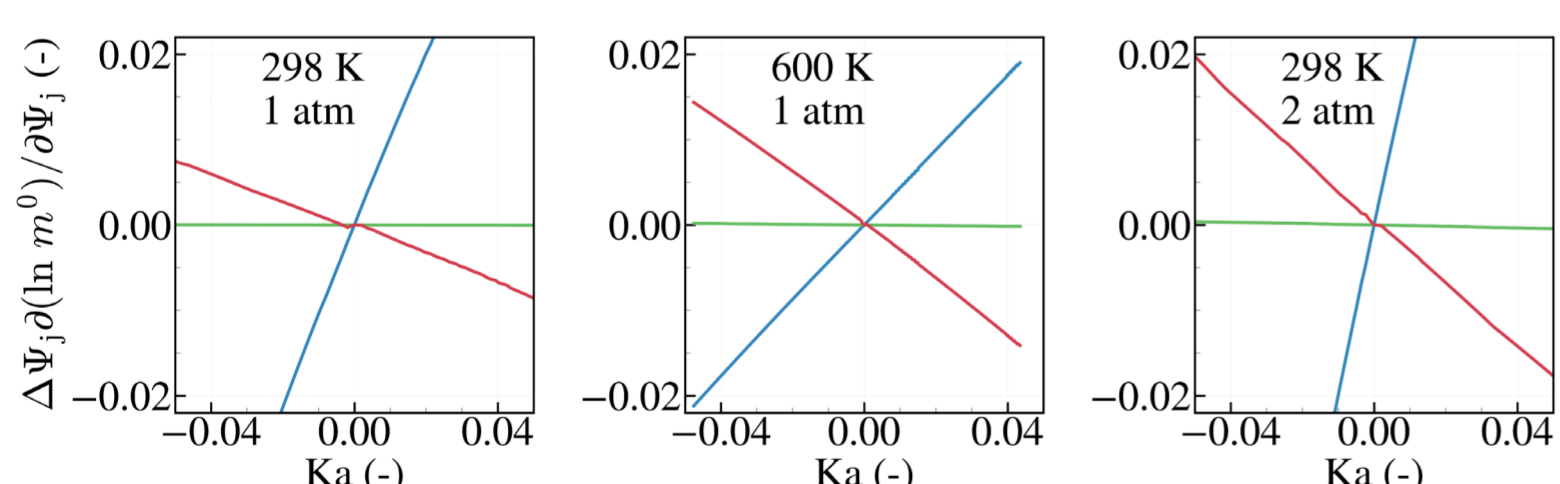


$Le = 1 \Rightarrow$  Direct stretch effect  $\Rightarrow m_b$  decreases linearly with  $Ka$

$Le \neq 1 \Rightarrow$  Preferential diffusion effects  $\Rightarrow m_b$  increases with respect to the unity  $Le$  case

Constant  $Le$  model + Soret diffusion  $\Rightarrow$  Good approximation for lean H<sub>2</sub> flames

Contribution of changes hydrogen content  $Z_H$ , oxygen content  $Z_O$  and enthalpy  $h$  to the mass burning rate:

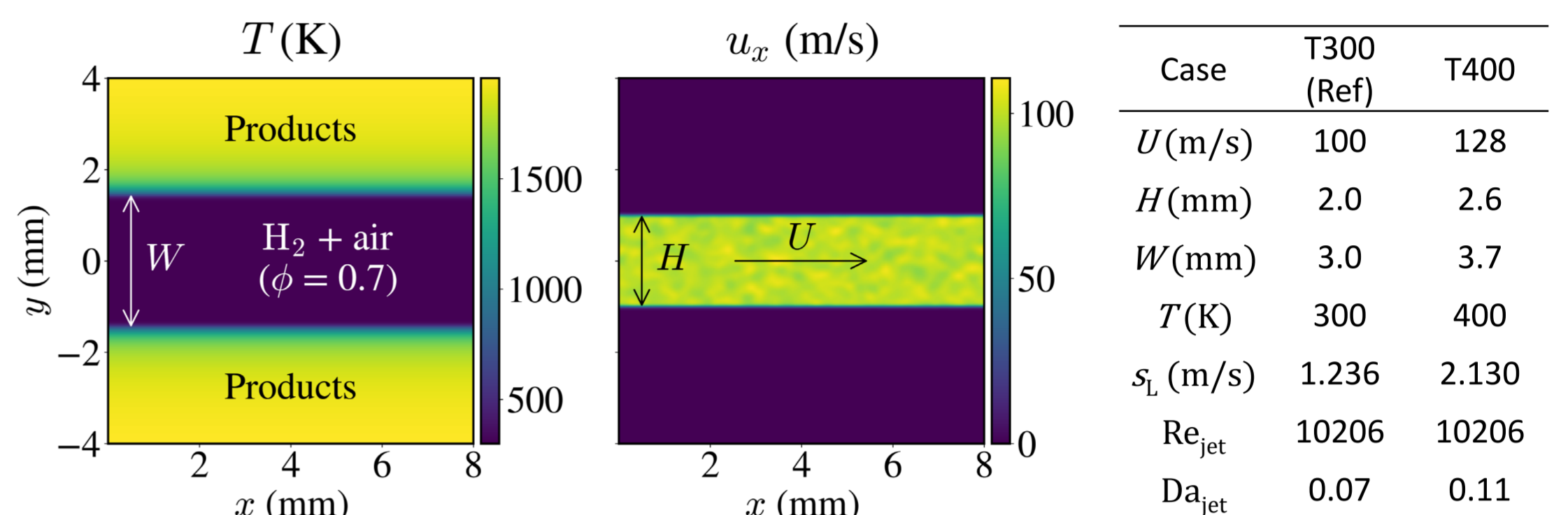


298 K 1 atm  $\Rightarrow$  Important contribution from  $\Delta Z_H$  and lower influence of  $\Delta h$   $\Rightarrow$  High preferential diffusion

600 K 1 atm  $\Rightarrow$  Contribution of  $\Delta h$  increases, compensating that of  $\Delta Z_H$   $\Rightarrow$  Lowered preferential diffusion

298 K 2 atm  $\Rightarrow$  Contribution of  $\Delta Z_H$  becomes more important than that of  $\Delta h$   $\Rightarrow$  Enhanced preferential diffusion

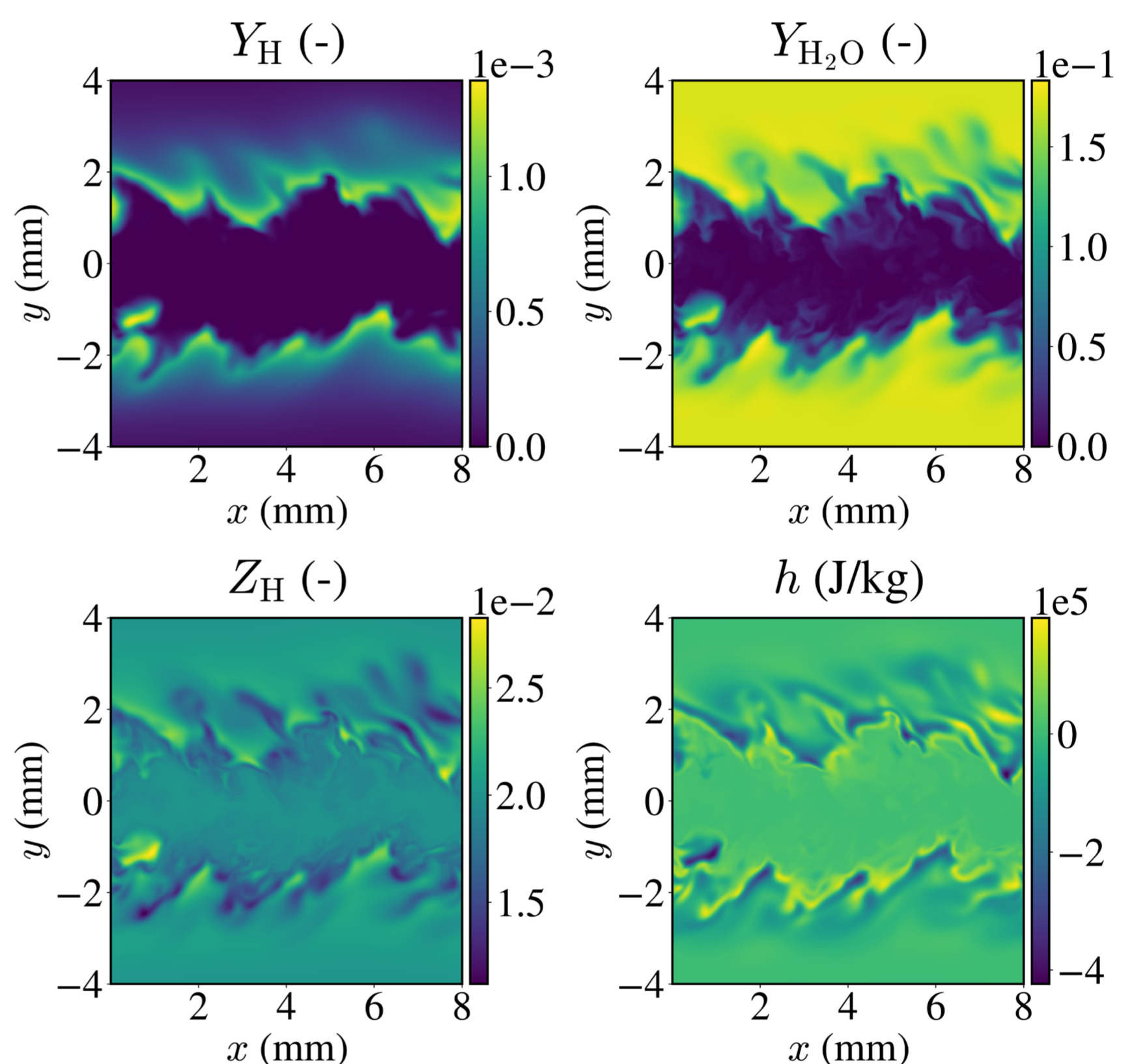
## DNS of turbulent planar mixing layers



$\Delta x = 25 \mu m$

$\Delta t = 10 ns$

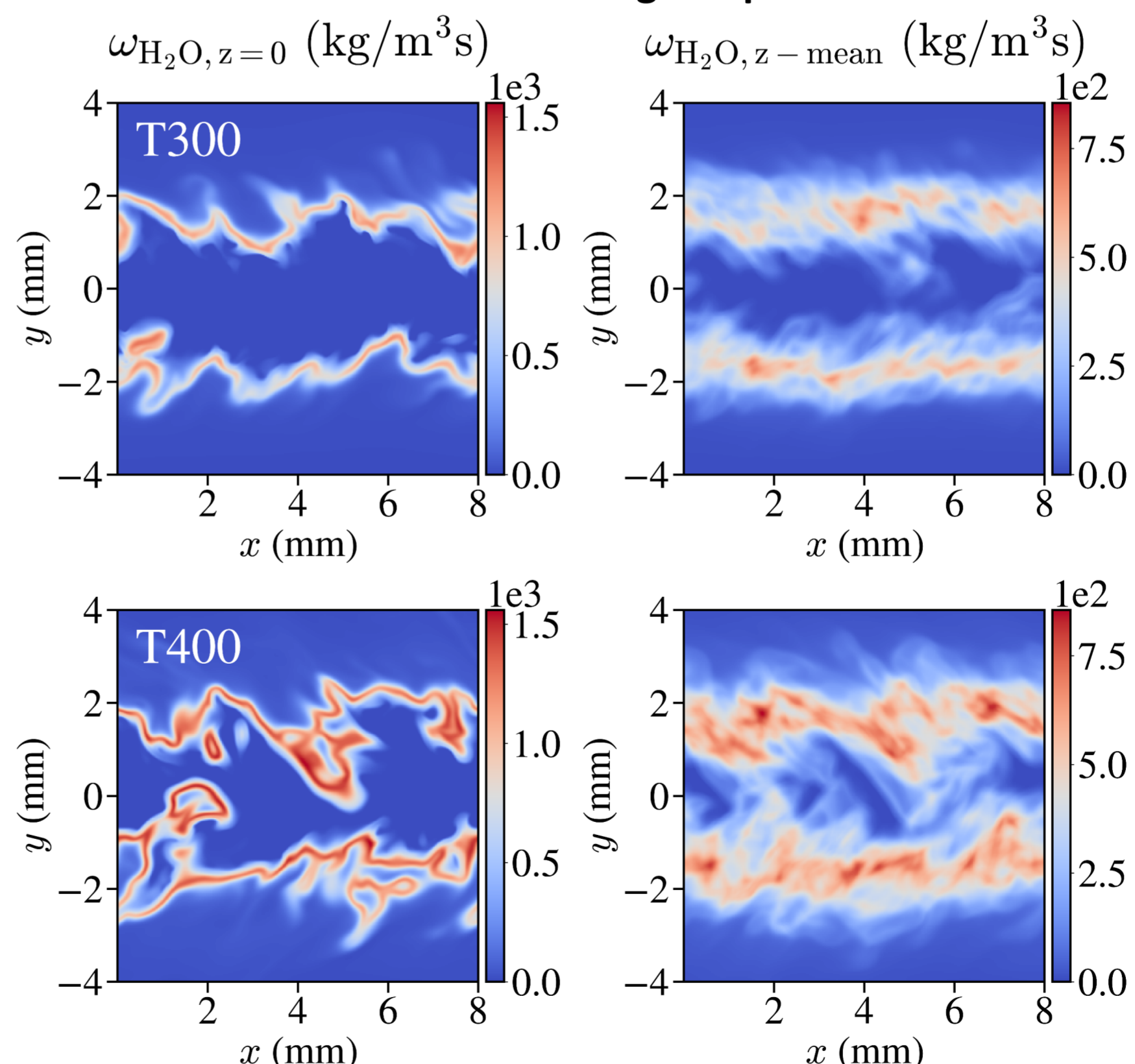
### Reference case



Regions with fuel enrichment by diffusion and accumulation of products.

Variation of  $Z_H$  and  $h$  along the flame front due to stretch. This leads to higher burning rates.

### Effect of increasing temperature



Enhanced burning rates  
Larger scale structures  
More equal distribution of source terms along the flame front

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Power and Flow  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

## References

[1] van Oijen et al. (2016). Prog. Energy Combust. Sci. 57, 30.

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