

# Inhomogeneous Mixing Behavior of Recirculated Exhaust Gas in a Lean Premixed Flame

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# 1. Background

## Premixed Combustion

*reduce environmental loads*

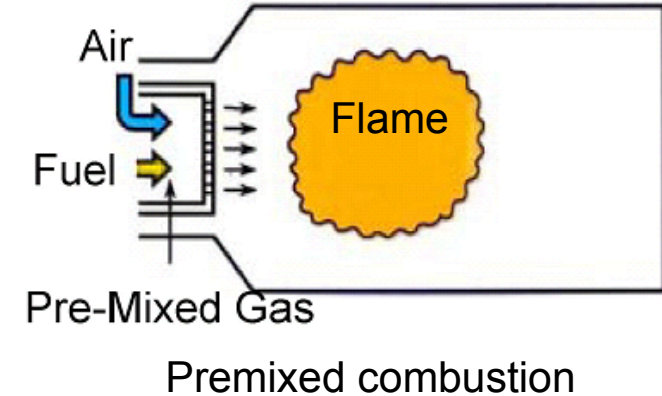
Fuel and air are mixed before they burn

- Homogeneous flame is formed
- Reduce NOx emissions

## EGR (Exhaust Gas Recirculation)

Recycle a part of the exhaust gas to the compressor

- Low oxygen concentration combustion
- Reduce the amount of oxygen combined with nitrogen
- Reduce NOx emissions



However ...

The inhomogeneous oxygen distributions will be formed.

## 2. Objectives

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To clarify the flame characteristics under the inhomogeneous oxygen concentrations

### Approach

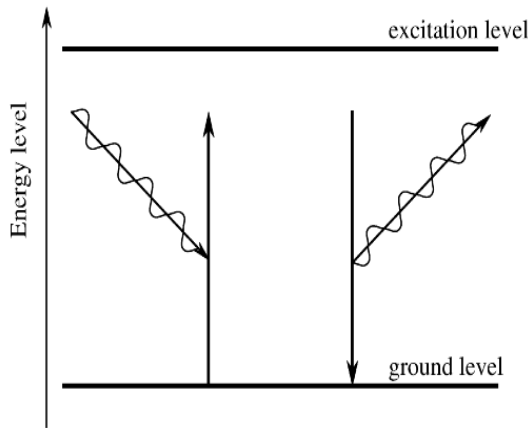
- Instantaneous measurements of 2-D flame temperature, OH-LIF and oxygen concentration distributions
- Using N<sub>2</sub> as a recirculated exhaust gas in order to reduce O<sub>2</sub> concentration

### Methods

- Flame temperature      Rayleigh scattering method
- OH-LIF and O<sub>2</sub>      Laser-Induced Fluorescence(LIF) method
- NO<sub>x</sub> emissions      Gas analyzer

# (a) Rayleigh Scattering Method

Rayleigh scattering is the elastic scattering of light



- The wavelength of the scattering light = that of the incident light
- The wavelength of the scattering light doesn't change depending on gas species
- The intensity of the scattering light  
 $\propto$  The number density of the gas molecules,  
The effective Rayleigh scattering cross section

Intensity of Rayleigh scattering light

The effective Rayleigh scattering cross section

Number density of gas molecules

The ideal gas equation

Temperature (is inversely proportional to scattering intensity)

# Raleigh Scattering Intensity $I_R$

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$$I_R = \varepsilon P_L N_s \sigma_{\text{Reff}} L$$

$I_R$  : Rayleigh scattering intensity

$\varepsilon$  : Detection efficiency

$P_L$  : Laser intensity

$N_s$  : Number density of molecules  $N_s \propto T^{-1}$

$\sigma_{\text{Reff}}$  : Effective Rayleigh scattering cross section

$L$  : Length of measuring volume

# Effective Rayleigh scattering cross section : $\sigma_{\text{Reff}}$

$$\sigma_{\text{Reff}} = \sum_i K_i \sigma_i$$

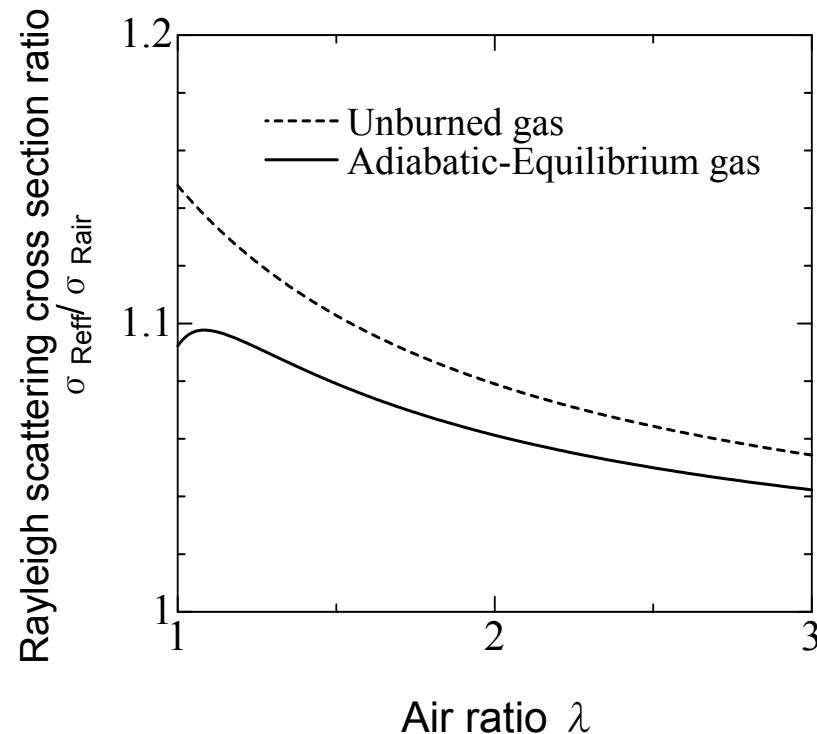
$K_i$  : mole fraction of species i  
 $\sigma_i$  : Rayleigh scattering cross section of species i

The composition of species changes in combustion process

➡  $\sigma_{\text{Reff}}$  changes in combustion process

➡ This technique is limited to the fuel whose  $\sigma_{\text{Reff}}$  varies only slightly

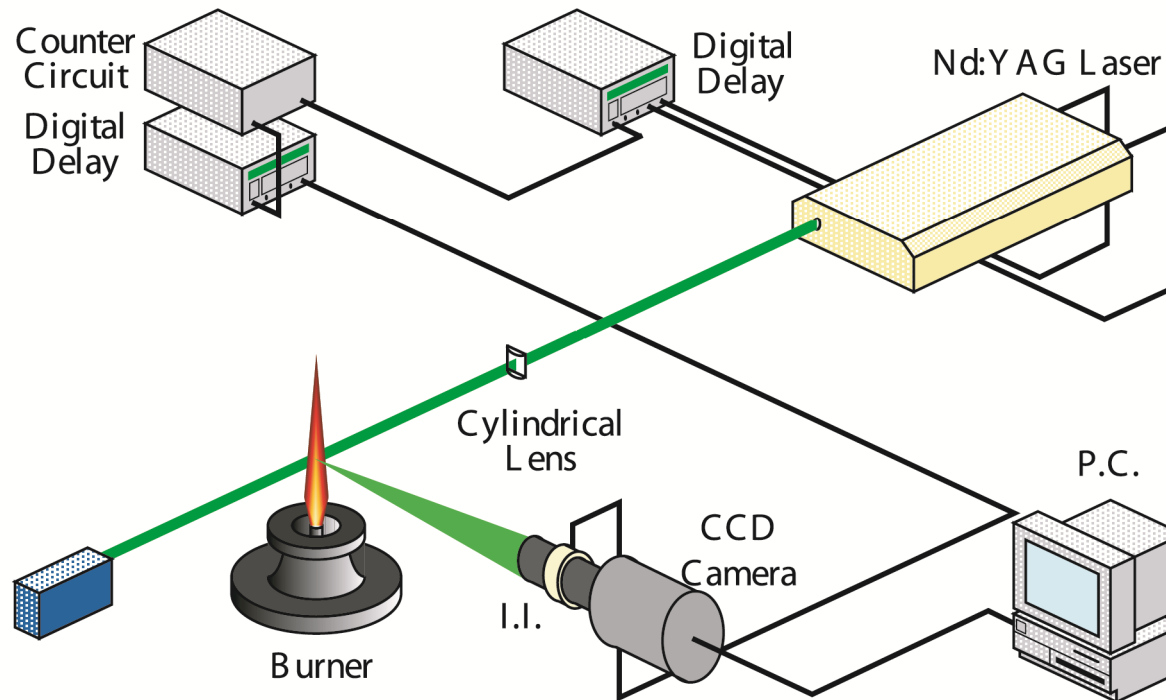
# Effective Rayleigh scattering cross section : $\sigma_{\text{Reff}}$



- Relationship between air ratio  $\lambda$  and Rayleigh scattering cross section,  $\sigma_{\text{Reff}}$  normalized by that of air,  $\sigma_{\text{Rair}}$  in the  $\text{CH}_4$ -Air flame.
  - $\text{CH}_4$  90 % +  $\text{N}_2$  10 % / Air premixed flame
  - Change of effective Rayleigh scattering cross section of the unburned mixture gas and burned gas within 3 %.
  - Change of effective Rayleigh scattering cross section of the mixture gas in the reaction zone and burned gas within 4 %.

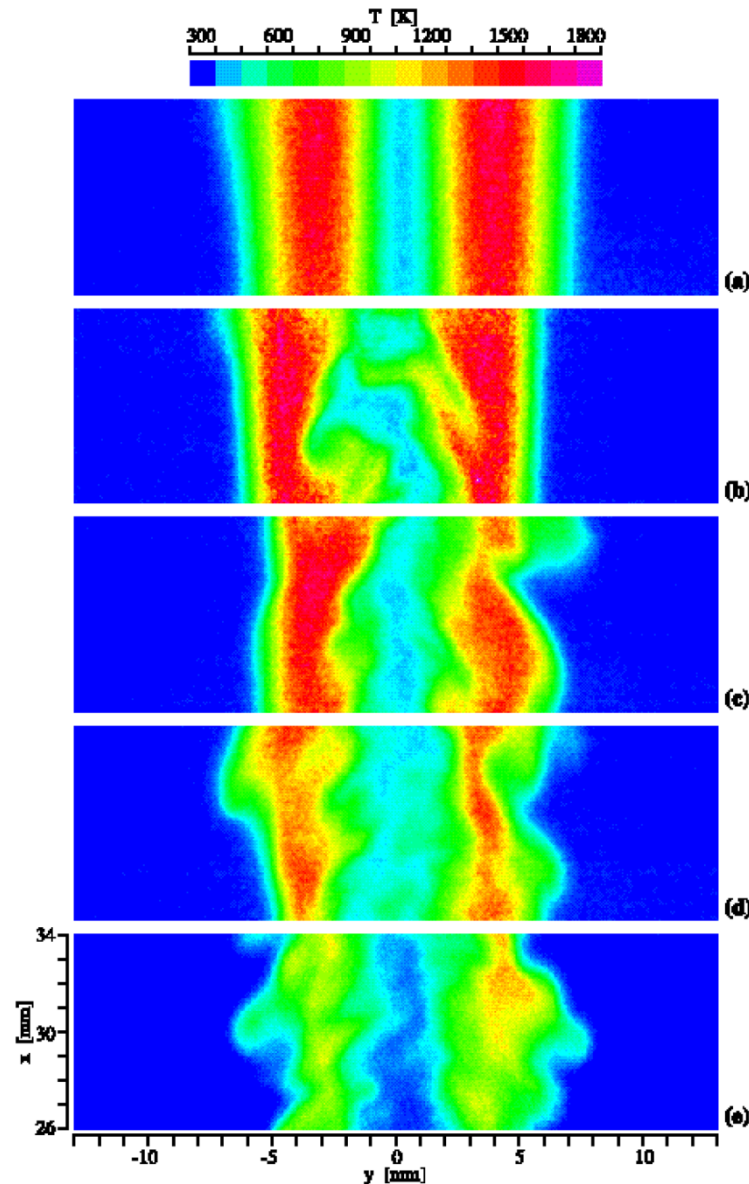


# Optical Apparatus for Rayleigh Scattering



- Temperature measurement by Rayleigh scattering:  
Nd:YAG laser ( $\lambda=532$  nm, 300 mJ)  
CCD camera with  $512 \times 512$  square pixels with single I.I. and a normal lens (f 1.2)

# Instantaneous Temperature Profiles in a Turbulent Flame



H<sub>2</sub> 30%+N<sub>2</sub> 70% Diffusion Flame

(a) Re=1000, (b) Re=4000,

(c) Re=8000, (d) Re=12000,

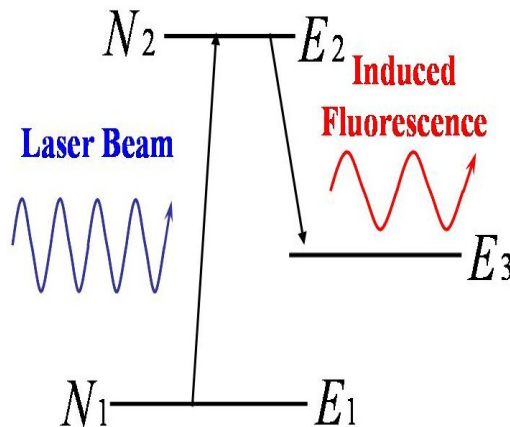
(e) Re=17000

## (b) Laser-Induced Fluorescence (LIF)

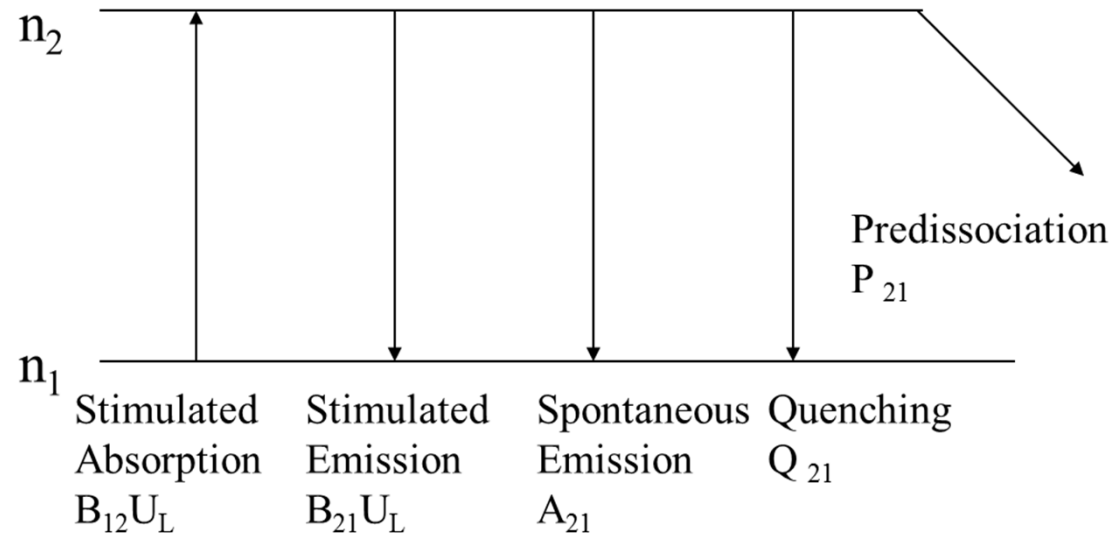
**Laser-induced fluorescence (LIF)** is a spectroscopic method used for detection of selective species and flow visualization and measurements. The excited species will de-excite and emit light at a wavelength larger than the excitation wavelength in few ns to  $\mu\text{s}$ .

### <Advantages>

- It is possible to get two- and three-dimensional images.
- The signal-to-noise ratio of the fluorescence signal is relatively high, providing a good sensitivity to the process.
- It is possible to distinguish between more species.



# Two level transition equation of molecules for LIF



$$\frac{dn_1}{dt} = n_2(B_{21}U_L + Q_{21} + A_{21}) - n_1B_{12}U_L$$

$$\frac{dn_2}{dt} = n_1B_{12}U_L - n_2(B_{21}U_L + Q_{21} + P_{21} + A_{21})$$

$$n_0 = n_1 + n_2$$

## ***LIF intensity of OH molecules: $I_F$***

$A^2\Sigma^+ (v'=1) \leftarrow X^2\Pi(v''=0) P_2(7): 285.43\text{nm}$

$$I_F = \frac{A_{21}B_{12}U_L h\nu_{21}V}{B_{12}U_L + B_{21}U_L + Q_{21} + A_{21}} f_B(T)N$$

$n_1$  : number density of OH molecules in the ground state

$n_2$  : number density of OH molecules in the excited state

$n_o$  : total number density of OH molecules

$B_{12}$  : Einstein coefficient of stimulated absorption

$B_{21}$  : Einstein coefficient of stimulated emission

$A_{21}$  : Spontaneous emission rate

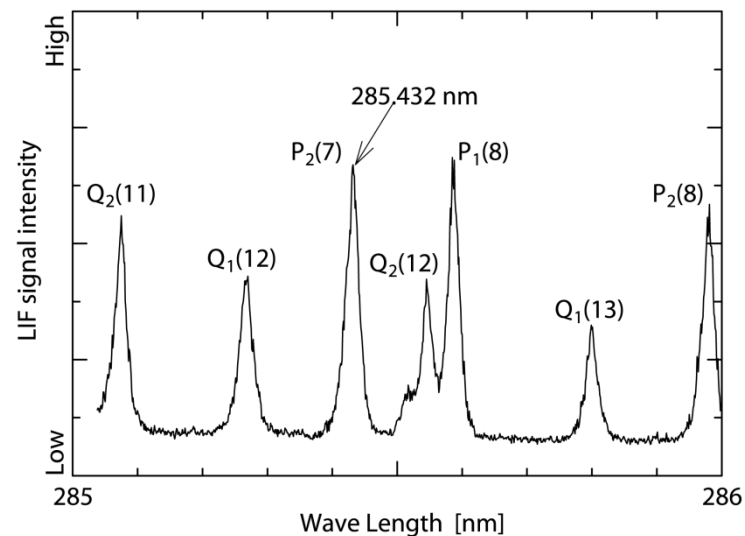
$Q_{21}$  : electronic quenching rate

$U_L$  : Energy density of laser light

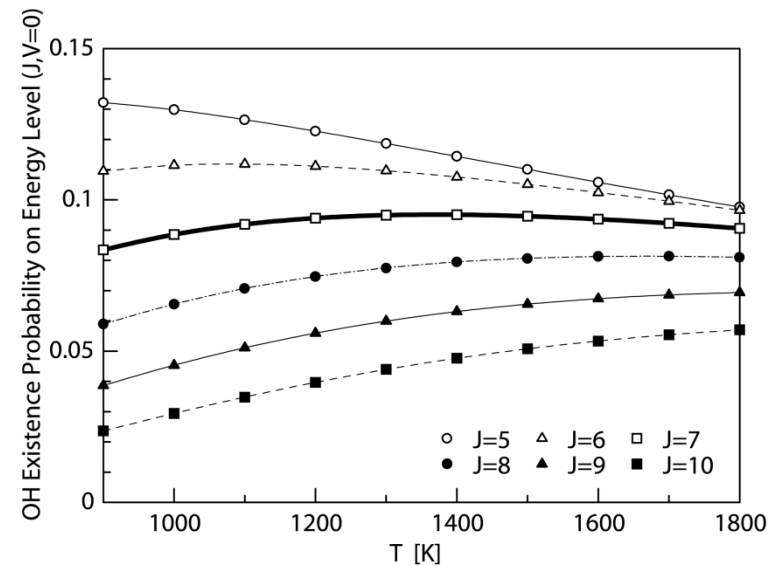
$P_{21}$  : Predissociation rate

# LIF intensity of OH A-X (1,0) System

- $P_2(7)$  A-X (1,0) has relatively weaker temperature dependency compared by other absorption lines.

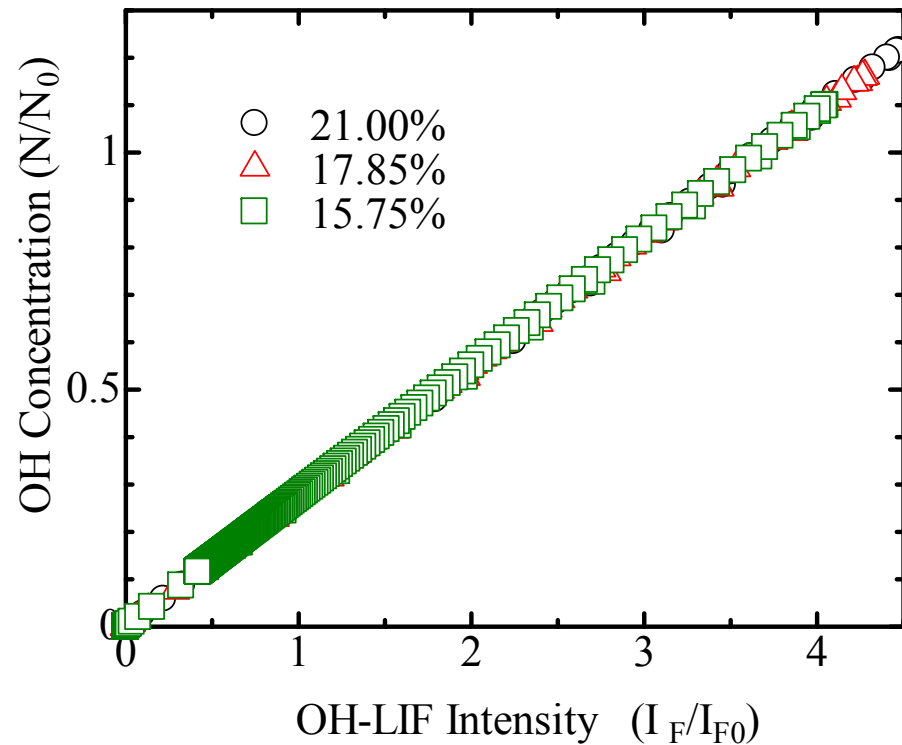


LIF signal intensity of OH A-X (1,0) system



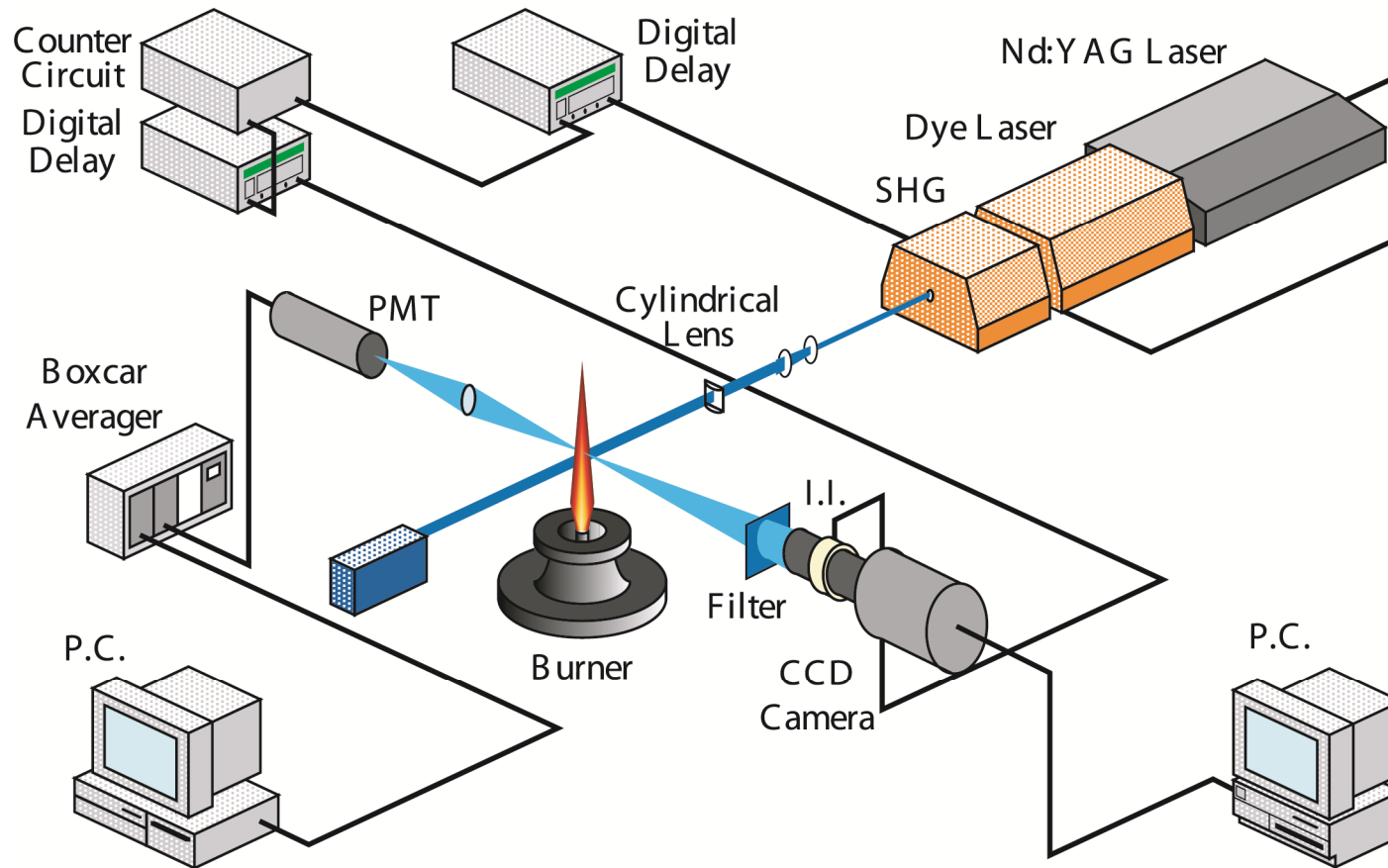
Relationships between OH existence probability on energy level and temperature

# Relationship between OH-LIF and OH Concentration



- OH-LIF and OH concentration for air ratios of 2.0 with various oxygen concentrations.
- Calculated for the case of 1D PREMIX and GRI-Mech 3.0.
- Relationship between OH-LIF and OH Concentration keeps a linear one.

# Optical apparatus for OH LIF



- OH-LIF:

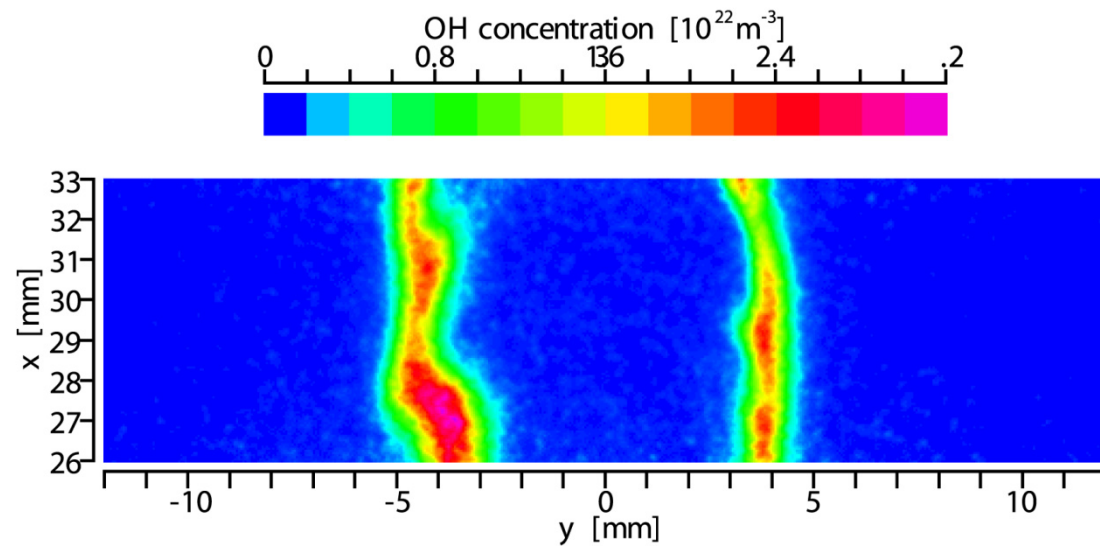
Nd:YAG pumped dye laser ( $\lambda = 285.43 \text{ nm}$ , 10 mJ) to excite the  $P_2(7)$  line of the (1-0) band of  $A^2\Sigma^+ - X^2\Pi$ .

CCD camera with  $512 \times 512$  square pixels with single I.I. and a UV camera lens (f3.5)

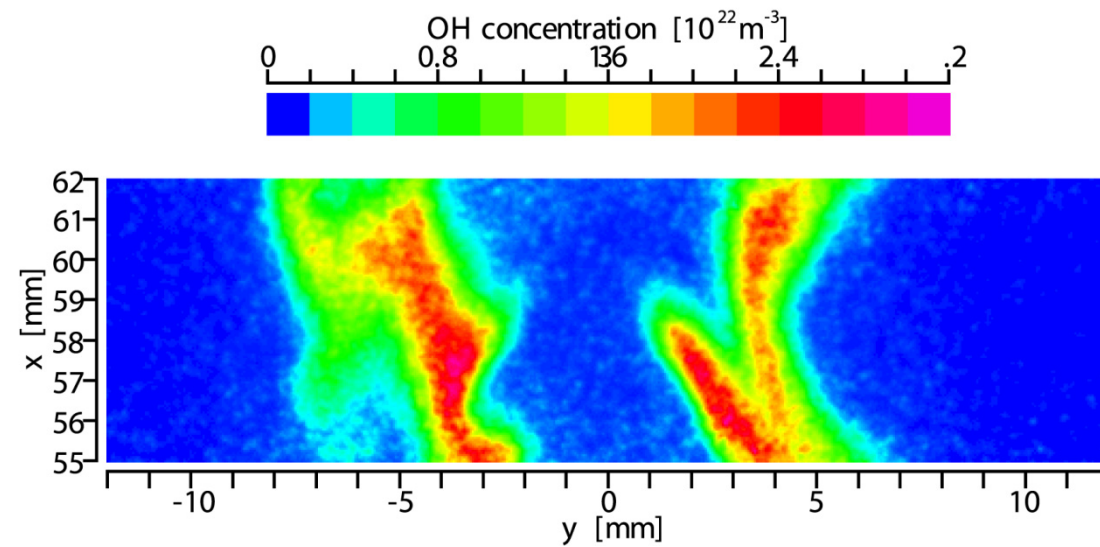


# *OH Concentration Profiles in a Turbulent Flame*

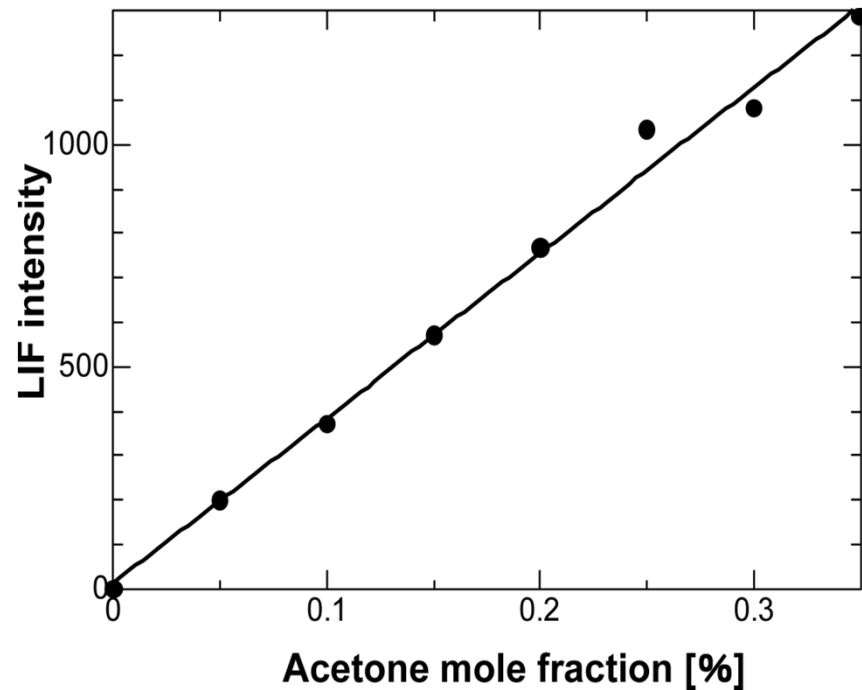
X=30 mm



X=60 mm



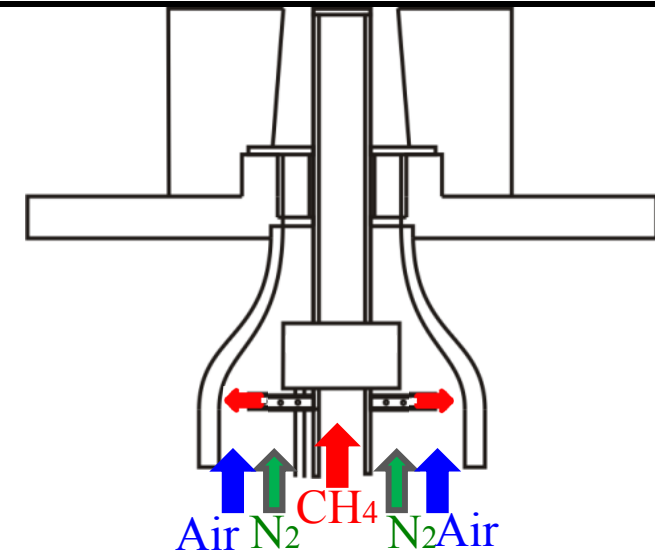
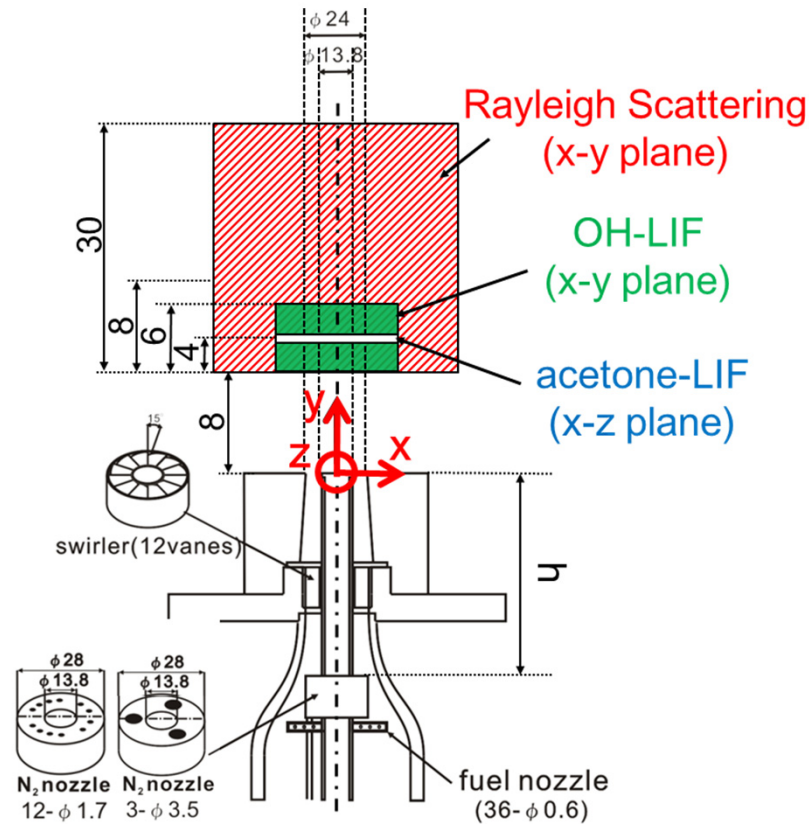
# Acetone LIF for $N_2$ Concentration Measurement



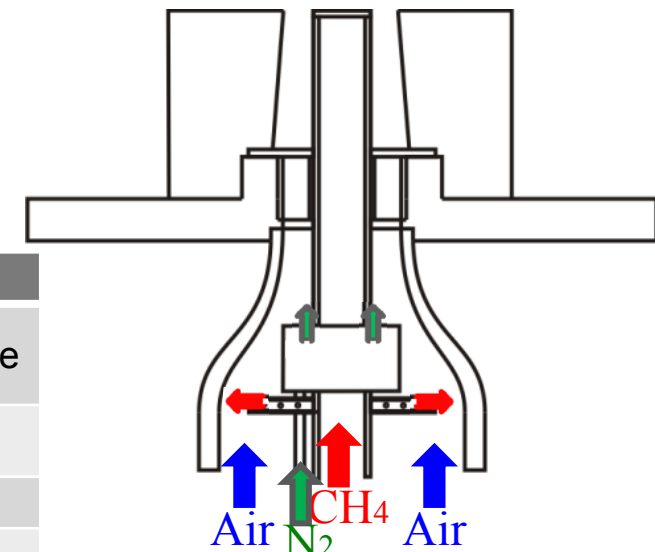
Acetone mole fraction is proportional to its LIF intensity in an unburned region in this experimental acetone mole fraction range.

- Nitrogen gas saturated with 1 % acetone vapor was used as a recirculated exhaust gas.
- Fluorescence intensity modified by the homogeneous acetone-LIF image of air.

# Schematic view of premixer for inhomogeneous mixing



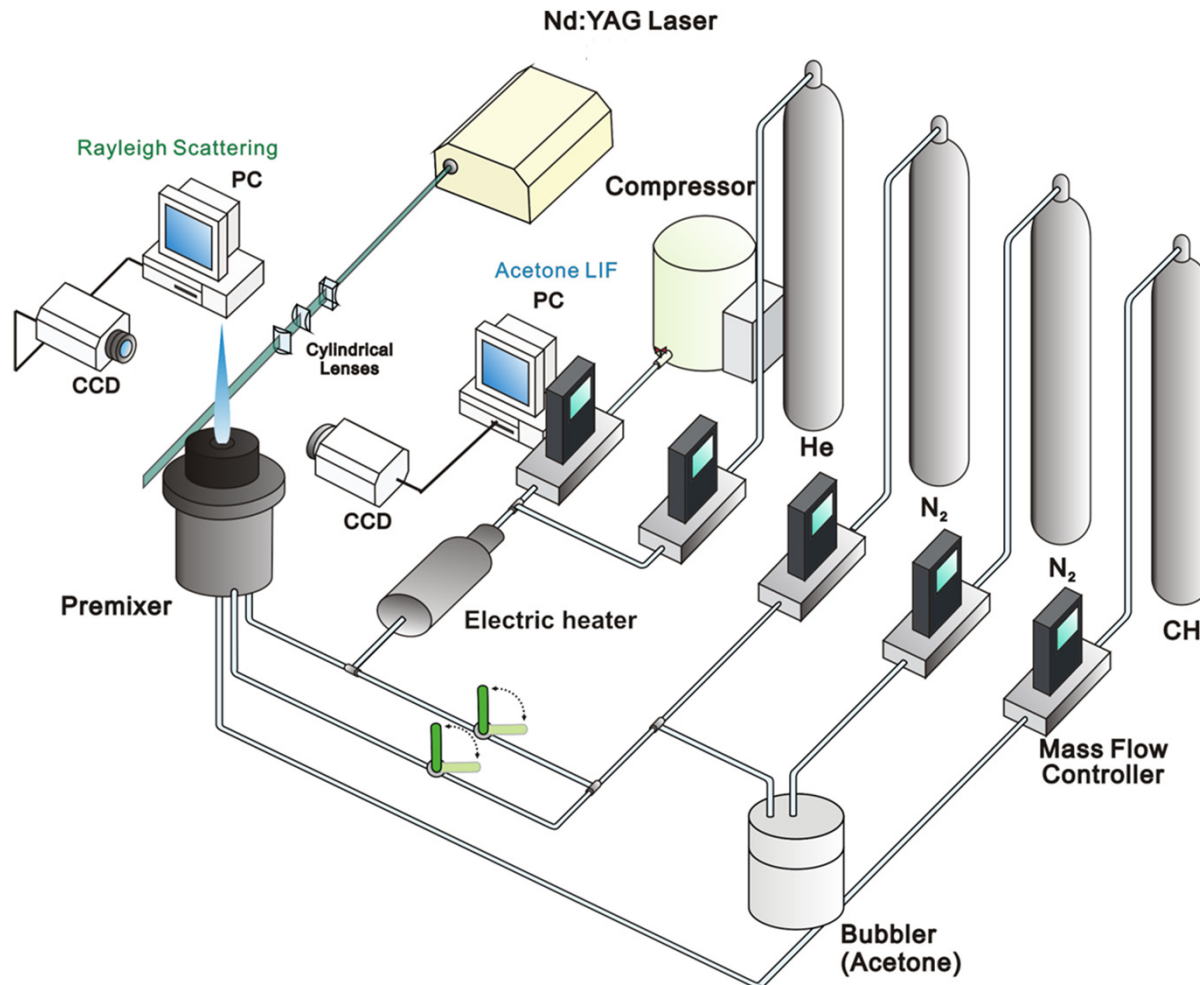
**Case A : Homogeneous**



**Case B: Inhomogeneous**

Condition	Fuel		Oxidizer		
	CH <sub>4</sub>	Air	N <sub>2</sub>	O <sub>2</sub> concentration	Temperature
	NL/min	NL/min	NL/min	%	K
A	5	80.7	14.3	17.9	570
B	5	71.2	23.7	15.8	570

# Experimental Apparatus for inhomogeneous mixing



- Air supplied from a compressor after cleaning moisture and dust.
- Nitrogen added to reduce oxygen concentration of an oxidizer.
- Methane as a fuel is supplied to fuel nozzle.
- A Nd:YAG laser
- CCD cameras for Rayleigh scattering and LIF are located at facing of the test section.

Rayleigh: Nd:YAG 532nm, 400mJ

Acetone-LIF: Nd:YAG 266nm, 100mJ

OH-LIF: Nd:YAG pumped Dye laser 285.43 nm, 10mJ

# ***Inhomogeneity of oxygen concentration***

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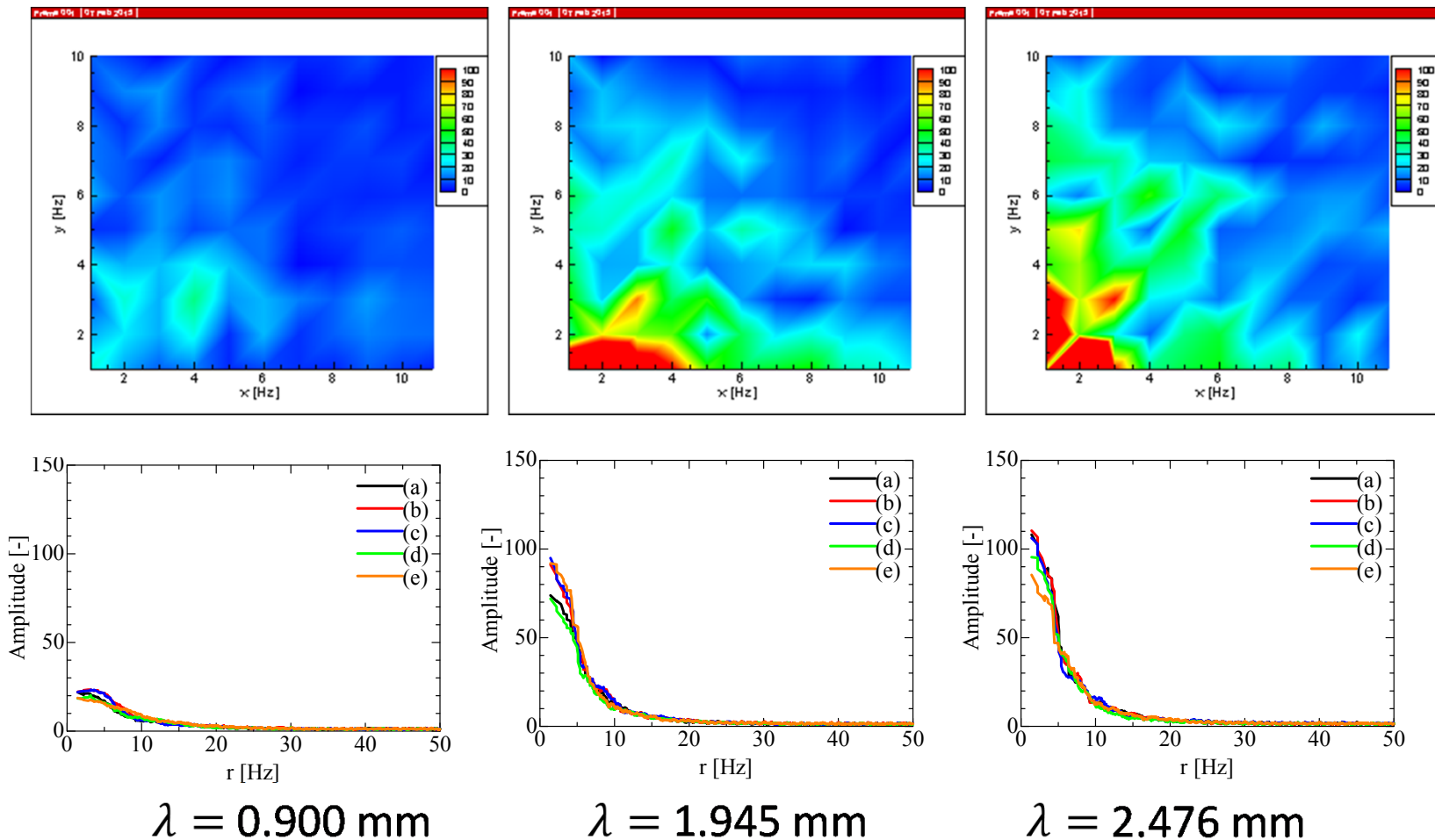
To evaluate inhomogeneity of oxygen concentration quantitatively, we used the *Unmixedness* :  $G$  given by the following equation.

$$G = \frac{\overline{Z'^2}}{\bar{Z}(1 - \bar{Z})}$$

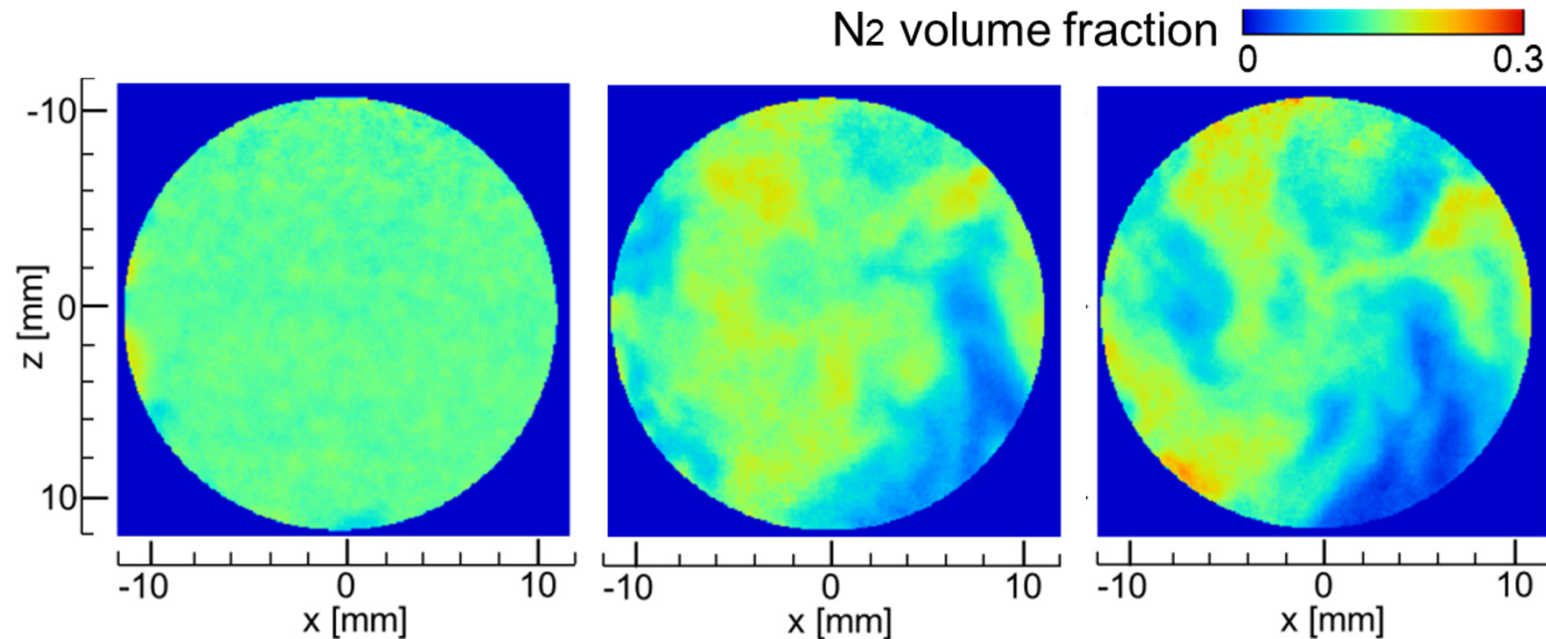
$\bar{Z}$  : the average of LIF signals  
 $Z'$  : the variance of LIF signals

# Spatial Scale $\lambda$ of Concentration Fluctuation Using 2D FFT

- 2DFFT → Relationships between Amplitude of Concentration fluctuation and Wavenumber
- Spatial scale  $\lambda$  ← Wavenumber based on Measuring Area



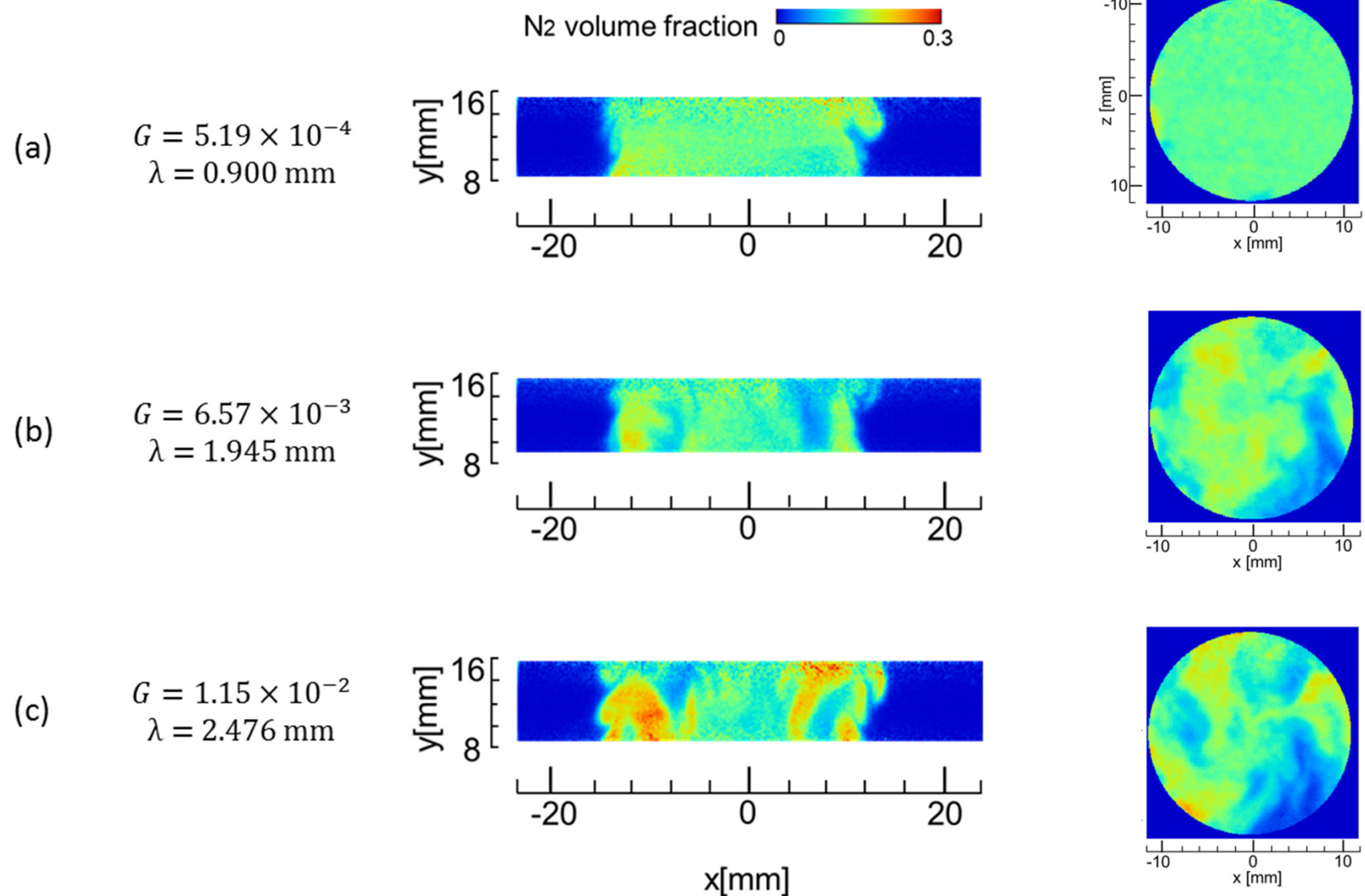
# ***$N_2$ profiles under unburned conditions in x-z plane (Condition A)***



(a)  $G = 5.19 \times 10^{-4}$     (b)  $G = 6.57 \times 10^{-3}$     (c)  $G = 1.15 \times 10^{-2}$   
 $\lambda = 0.900$  mm     $\lambda = 1.945$  mm     $\lambda = 2.476$  mm  
No N<sub>2</sub> Nozzle    N<sub>2</sub> :  $h = 90$  mm    N<sub>2</sub> :  $h = 70$  mm

(a) N<sub>2</sub> concentration mixed with air from upstream of the premixer homogeneously  
Larger  $G$  and  $\lambda$  in (b) and (c) rather than in (a).

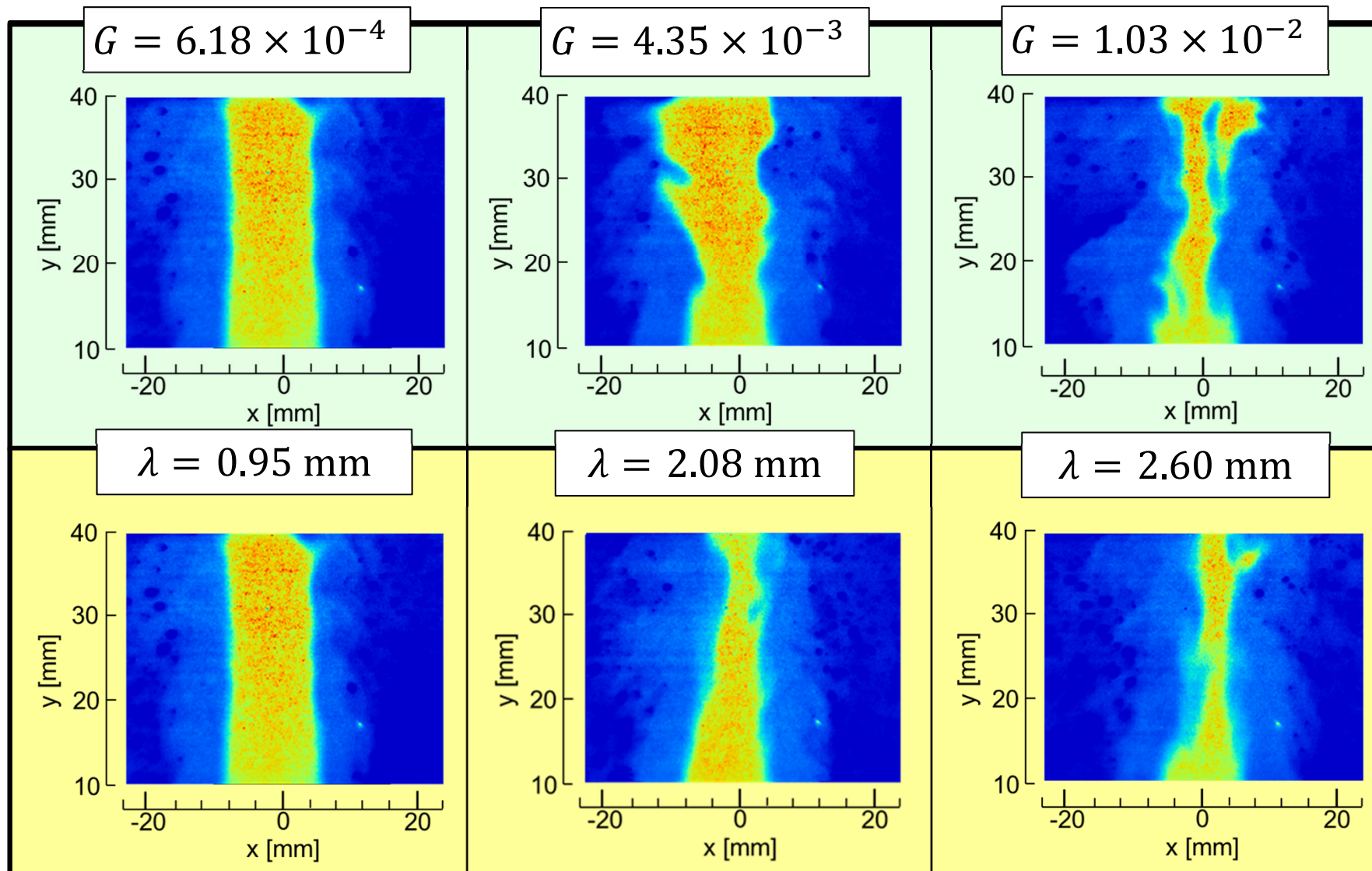
# ***$N_2$ profiles under unburned conditions in x-y plane (Condition A)***





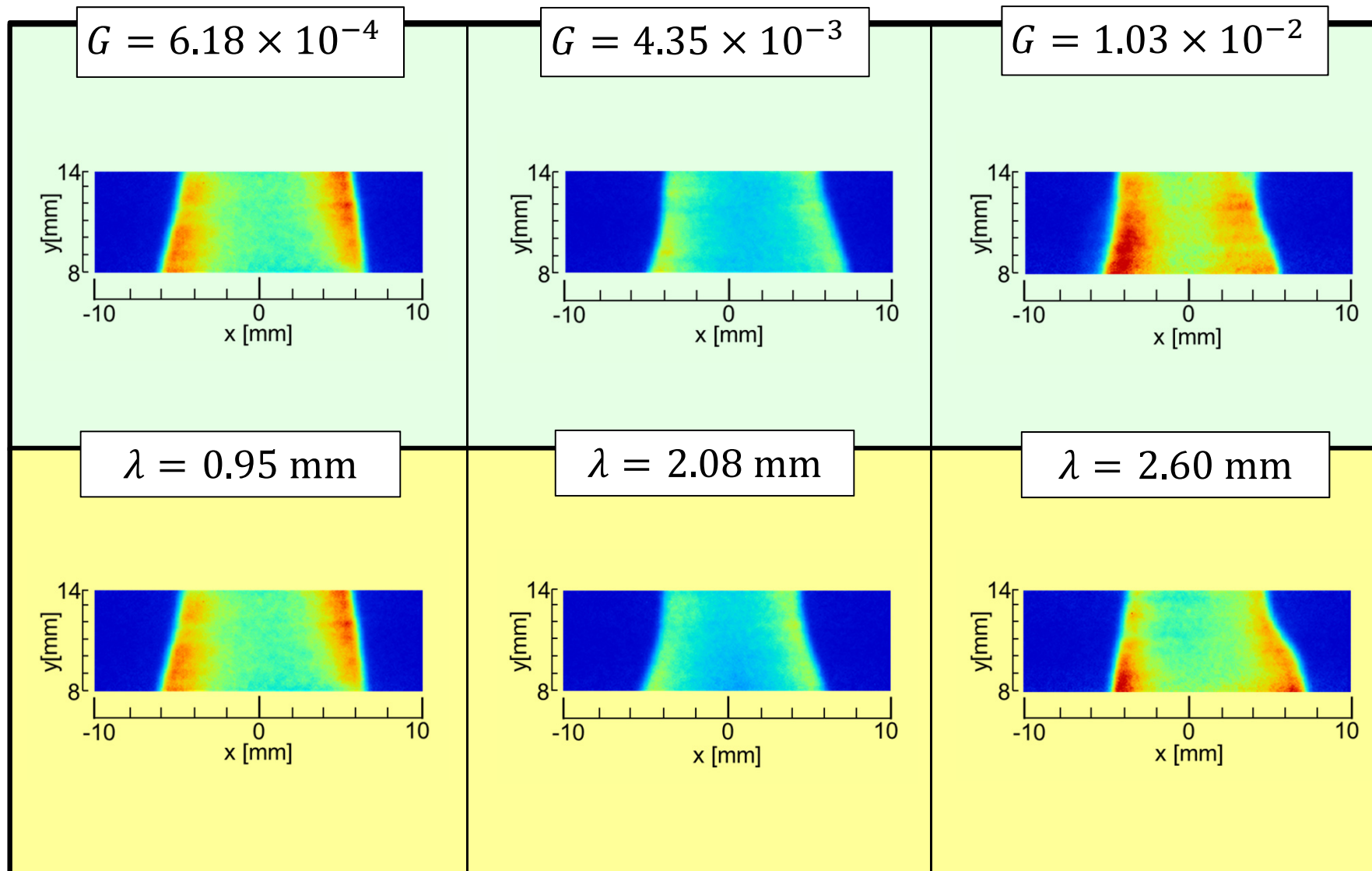
# Instantaneous Temperature Profiles (Condition B)

Temperature 300 2000 [K]

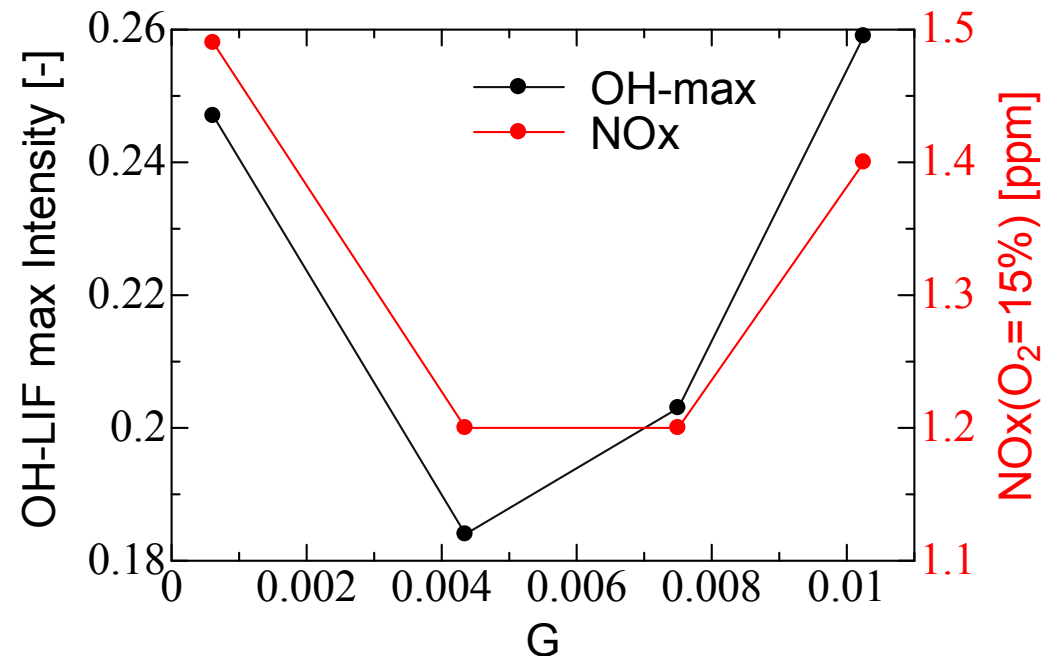


# Instantaneous OH-LIF Intensity (Condition B)

OH-LIF Intensity  0 0.3

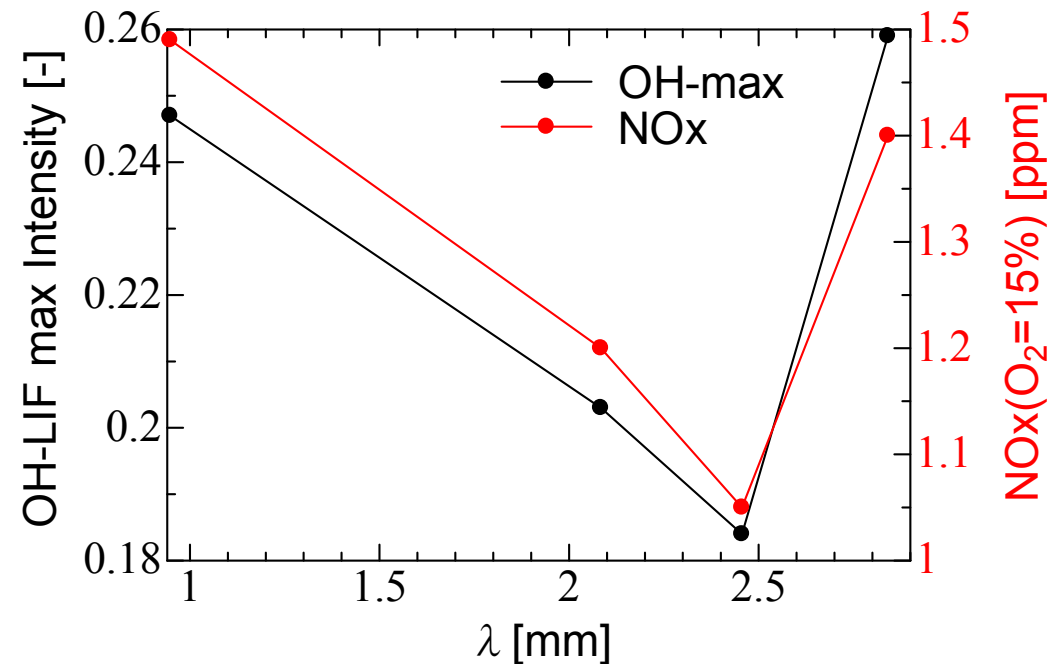


# Relationship between Max OH-LIF, NOx and Unmixedness G



- When G increases, OH-LIF intensity and NOx concentration decreases in the beginning. When G increases more, OH-LIF intensity and NOx concentration increases conversely.
- Moderate reaction in lower oxygen concentration regions is predominant when the unmixedness increases, active reaction in higher fuel concentration regions might become predominant when the unmixedness increases more.

# Relationship between Max OH-LIF, NOx and Spatial Scale $\lambda$



- When spatial scale increases, OH-LIF intensity and NOx concentration decreases in the beginning. When spatial scale increases more, OH-LIF intensity and NOx concentration increases conversely.
- Moderate reaction in lower oxygen concentration regions is predominant when the spatial scale increases, active reaction in higher fuel concentration regions might be predominant when the spatial scale increases more.

# Summary



We investigated the flame characteristics under the homogeneous and inhomogeneous oxygen concentrations.

- The inhomogeneous degree of oxygen concentration profiles were evaluated by unmixedness  $G$  and spatial scale  $\lambda$  of the fluctuation.
- The shape of flame was complicated in the inhomogeneous oxygen concentration profiles. It was caused by the locally differences of burning velocity.
- OH-LIF and NO<sub>x</sub> concentration decreases, when inhomogeneous degrees of oxygen concentration profiles increase, OH-LIF and NO<sub>x</sub> concentration increases conversely, when the inhomogeneous degrees increase more.
- Moderate reaction in lower oxygen concentration regions is predominant when the inhomogeneous degree increases, but the active reaction in higher fuel concentration regions might be predominant when the inhomogeneous degree increases more.