

Vision for validating the liquid hydrogen plume model at temperatures less than 80K

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Presented at the HySAFE Research Priorities Workshop Washington D.C., Nov. 11, 2014



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Liquid hydrogen stations have been found to be more economically favorable than gaseous stations

As compared to gaseous stations, liquid storage stations have:

- Larger storage capacity
- Lower costs for product
- Similar positive cash flow year
- Higher potential profit
- Larger return on investment (although more investment is required)



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Standoff distances in NFPA 2 for liquid hydrogen stations are often prohibitively large



70 stations surveyed (of 343 sites), none met the NFPA 2 Ch. 6 separation distance requirements.

Harris, SAND-2014-3416



A California Road Map: The Commercialization of Hydrogen Fuel Cell Vehicles, CalFCP, July 2014





Previous modeling of releases from gaseous hydrogen storage have informed the fire code



Risk requires a Release, then Ignition, forming a Hazard, causing Harm

- We quantify each of these events using models
- Purple events quantified with statistical models, Red with reduced-order behavior models



Current network flow model (NETFLOW) must be updated for use near saturation conditions

- Models 1-D flow networks (e.g. piping, valves, tanks) by solving conservation and state modeling equations with local corrections for wall friction, heat transfer, and pressure loss
- Conventional state equations invalid near saturation conditions
- Important to capture phase-change behavior
- Must model compressible and incompressible flows





- Steady-state
- 1-dimensional (along streamline coordinate)



- Zone 2: initial entrainment and heating
- Zone 3: flow establishment
- Zone 4: self-similar, established flow

Winters, SAND Report 2009-0035 Winters & Houf, IJHE, 2011 Houf & Winters, IJHE, 2013 Ekoto et al., SAND2014-18776

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Accelerating flow (leak) develops from saturated storage conditions



- conserved energy with isentropic expansion Ekoto et al., SAND2014-18776



- conditions at zone 0 capture by network flow model (requires development)
- hydrogen is stored as a pure substance
- multi-phase components have equal velocities





Ruggles & Ekoto, IJHE, 2012

Several source models have been developed to predict the mass weighted effective diameter, (i.e., the critical scaling parameter): $d^* \equiv d_{eff} \sqrt{\rho_{eff} / \rho_{amb}}$

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Ongoing work to develop validated two-zone source model that accounts for the fluid split ratio between the slip region & Mach disk regions

Plug flow assumption invoked for Zone 2 as the jet begins to warm





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Turbulent jet entrainment rate used to estimate zone length:

$$E_{mom} \equiv \frac{1}{\rho_{amb}} \frac{d\dot{m}}{dS} \approx \frac{1}{\rho_{amb}} \frac{\dot{m}_{air}}{S_3} \Rightarrow S_3 = \frac{\dot{m}_{air}}{E_{mom}\rho_{amb}}, \text{ where } E_{mom} = \alpha_m \left(\frac{\pi D_{H_2}^2}{4} \frac{\rho_{H_2} V_{H_2}^2}{\rho_{amb}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$





unknowns assumed value

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 $V_{CL,4} = V_3$

Winters, SAND Report 2009-0035

Momentum

 $\rho_3 \frac{D_3^2}{4} = B_4^2 \left[\rho_{amb} - \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda^2 + 1} (\rho_{amb} - \rho_{CL,4}) \right]$ Mass $(\rho_{amb} - \rho_3) \frac{D_3^2}{4} = B_4^2 \left[\frac{\rho_{amb}}{2} - \frac{\lambda^2}{2\lambda^2 + 1} (\rho_{amb} - \rho_{CL,4}) \right]$ S₃ S₄

Zone 4 modeled with previous SNL 1D integral jet/plume models that invoke self-similarity – FY08



Entrainment due to buoyancy & momentum

 F_{rL} : Jet Froude length

- α_b : Buoyancy entrainment coefficient
- α_m : Momentum entrainment coefficient
- g: Gravity constant

$$E_{buoy} = \frac{\alpha_b}{F_{r_L}} (2\pi V_{CL}B) \sin\theta$$
$$E_{mom} = \alpha_m \left(\frac{\pi D^2}{4} \frac{\rho V^2}{\rho_{amb}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
$$F_{r_L} = \frac{V_{CL}^2 \rho_{exit}}{gB(\rho_{amb} - \rho_{CL})}$$



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$$Mass \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho V r dr d\phi = \rho_{amb} E$$

$$x-Mom \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho V^{2} \cos \theta r dr d\phi = 0$$

$$y-Mom \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho V^{2} \sin \theta r dr d\phi = \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} (\rho_{amb} - \rho) g r dr d\phi$$

$$Species \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho V Y r dr d\phi = 0$$

$$Energy \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho V (h - h_{amb}) r dr d\phi = 0$$

Houf & Schefer, UHE, 2008

Model results compare favorably to experiments from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

	Reservoir	Reservoir	Leak
	pressure	temperature	diameter
Case	[MPa]	[K]	[mm]
1	1.7	298	2
2	6.85	298	1
3	0.825	80	2
4	3.2	80	1



Measured & Calculated H2 Centerline Concentration

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However, no well-controlled validation data is available at lower temperatures where multi-phase flows are expected (i.e., T < 77 K)

As moisture and air condense, multi-phase flows may have droplet/particle slip

Liquid and vapor phases have different velocities due to density differences — slip models have captured these effects in CFD simulations.



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Substantial differences in model results suggest 2-phase effects cannot be neglected for LH2 releases

Experiments had poor control of release and environmental boundary conditions, which are needed for suitable benchmark data



We plan to retrofit our lab to generate the necessary low temperature data for model validation



Optical diagnostics with carefully controlled boundary conditions will provide validation data

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Opportunity for additional upstream measurements using complementary Raman diagnostics in an adjacent lab



Future work to verify and quantify ignition boundaries



Summary and conclusions

Experimental plans:

- update network flow model
- build out laboratory system
- planar laser Rayleigh scattering to measure jet spreading
- particle imaging velocimetry to measure velocity
- model validation and updating
- ignition quantification

Challenges for liquid H₂ reduced-order modeling:

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- accurate state modeling
- pool spreading and evaporation
- humidity effects
- multiphase flow models, with velocity slip
- interactions with surfaces (e.g. barriers, ground)



Acknowledgements

- United States Department of Energy Fuel Cell Technologies Office, under the Safety, Codes, and Standards subprogram element managed by Will James
- Thanks to the other members of the H₂ Safety, Codes, and Standards team - Daniel Dedrick, Chris San Marchi, Katrina Groth, and Chris LaFleur

