

**ME 687**  
**Advanced Engineering Optics: Laser**  
**Diagnostic Methods in Mechanical**  
**Engineering**

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**ME 687 Course Overview**

**Course Objective:** Develop working knowledge of laser techniques for species concentration, temperature, and velocity measurements in complex reacting media.

**Working Knowledge of Laser Techniques?**

- Laser systems
- Optical elements for laser diagnostic systems
- Species spectroscopy
- Interaction of laser radiation with the molecule or atom
- Calculation of signal levels, estimates of accuracy, precision

polyatomic

Review  
Polarization  
of light  
understood well for  
infrared because of  
atmospheric  
spectroscopy

**Complex Reacting Media?**

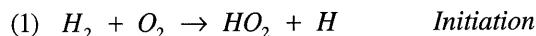
- Laminar or turbulent flames, steep gradients in species concentration and temp, need high spatial, temporal resolution
- Collisional environment of molecule or atom is drastically different in different parts of the flame
- Collisional environment can significantly affect signal levels from laser techniques

## Issues in Combustion Science: Why Use Laser Diagnostics?

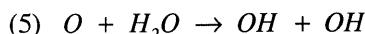
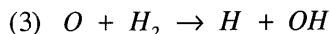
- Flame Chemistry - complex reaction mechanisms, importance of free radicals that are difficult to measure by other techniques, lasers do not perturb the flow and temperature fields nearly as much as physical probes

Example: H<sub>2</sub>/O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> Chemistry

Initiation Reaction

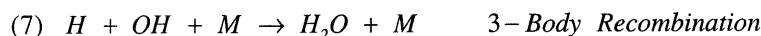
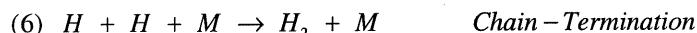


Chain-Branching Reactions



## Issues in Combustion Science: Why Use Laser Diagnostics?

Chain Termination, 3-Body Recombination



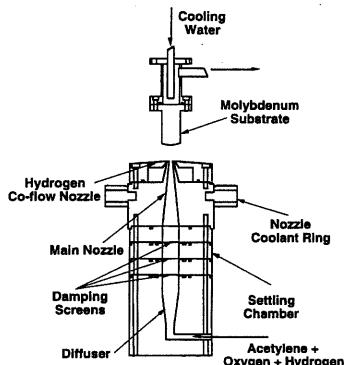
NO Formation: Zeldovich Thermal NOx Mechanism



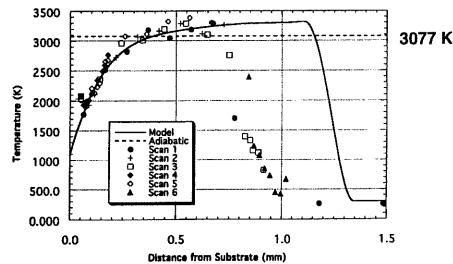
Lasers can be used to measure all T, all major species, O, H, OH, and NO. Temperature measurement by thermocouple compromised by radiation, perturbs flow and flame chemistry. Physical probes perturb flow.

## Issues in Combustion Science: Why Use Laser Diagnostics?

### Stagnation Flow Diamond- Forming Flame Apparatus

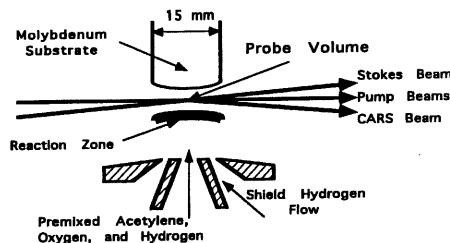


### Diamond-Forming Flame Temperature Profile (Case I)



## Issues in Combustion Science: Why Use Laser Diagnostics?

### Measurement Technique



Temperature measured along stagnation-point streamline  
between nozzle exit and substrate surface

Data obtained in probe volume defined by overlap of the three  
input beams

- ~ 50  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter
- ~ 1.5 mm long

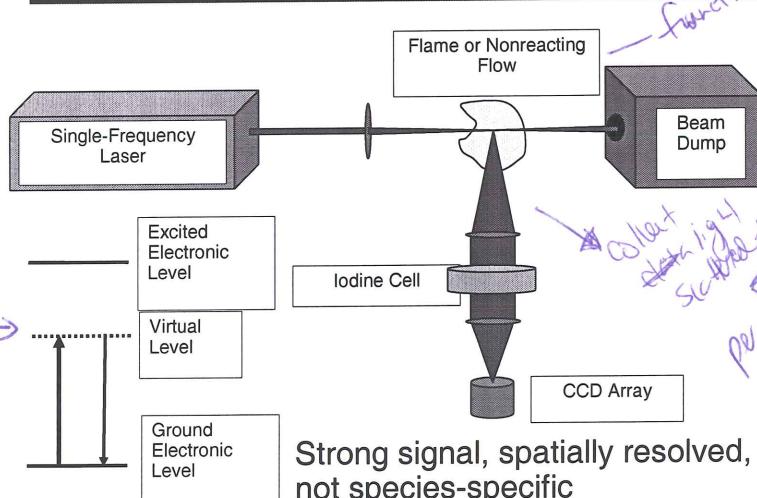
## Spectroscopic Laser Techniques

- Development of commercialized tunable lasers about 25 years ago has led to routine use of laser techniques for probing flames and plasmas.
- Laser technology continues to advance, sometimes with dramatic impact on "old" laser techniques.
- Recent advances with actual or potential impact on flame and/or plasma diagnostics: blue diode lasers, DFB diode lasers, injection-seeded Nd:YAG lasers with  $> 1 \text{ J}$  per pulse, picosecond laser systems, femtosecond laser systems, BBO crystals

*Ray laser system frequency*

*wave not wave along as quickly as femtosecond*

## Rayleigh Scattering – Filtered Rayleigh Scattering



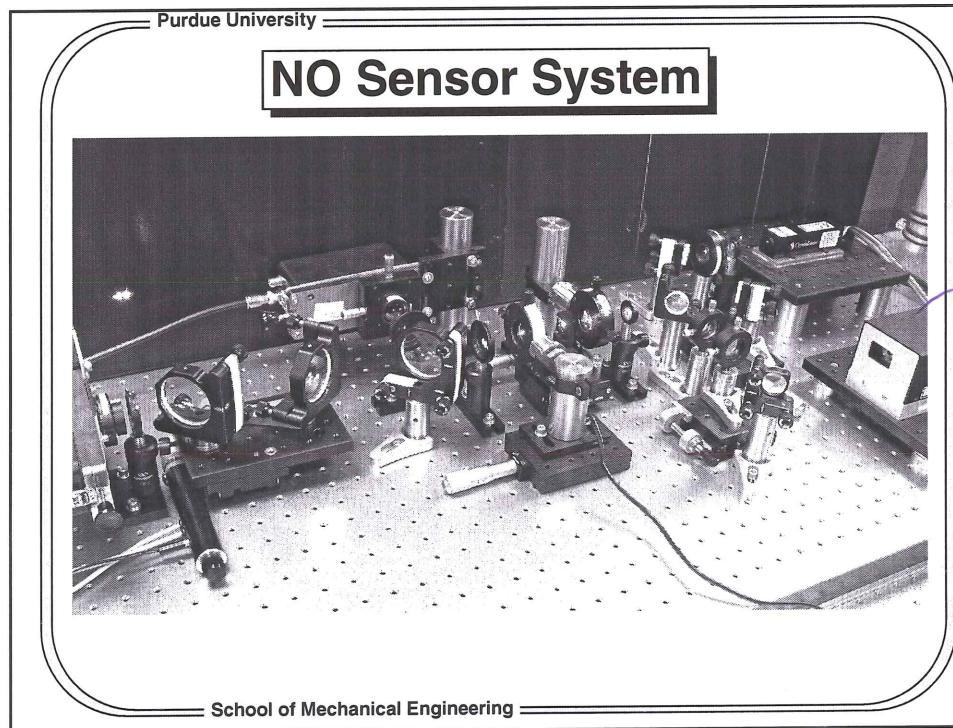
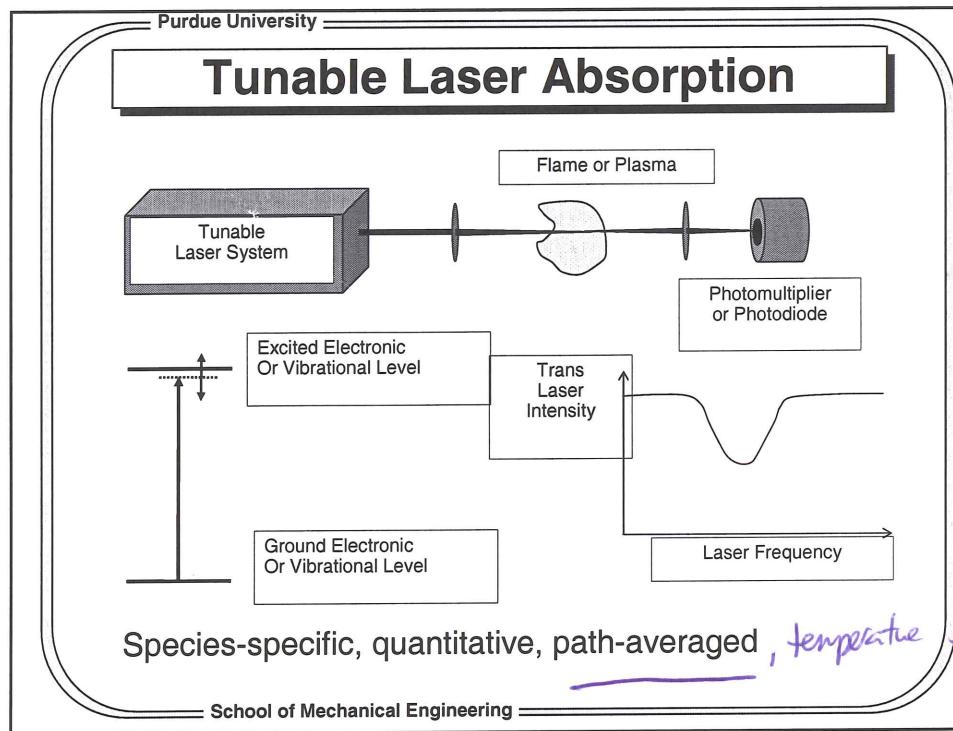
*nice for clear flames.  
(dust, soot, etc.)  
can overwhelm it*

*photon absorbed & emitted by the molecule*

*density*

*Not straight forward + take  
measurements and relate to density*

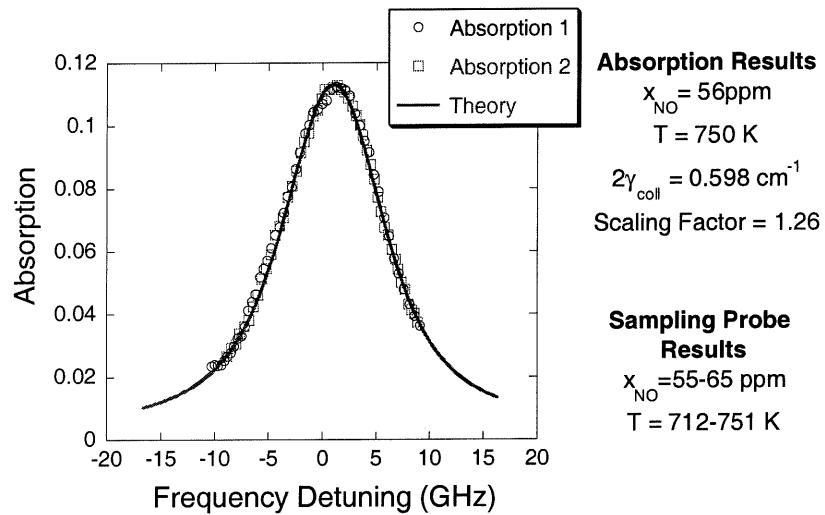
AT&G Natural gas  
 the blue flame is excited C<sub>2</sub> radicals that emit "blue" photons.



## Field Demonstration: Honeywell Gas Turbine Engine



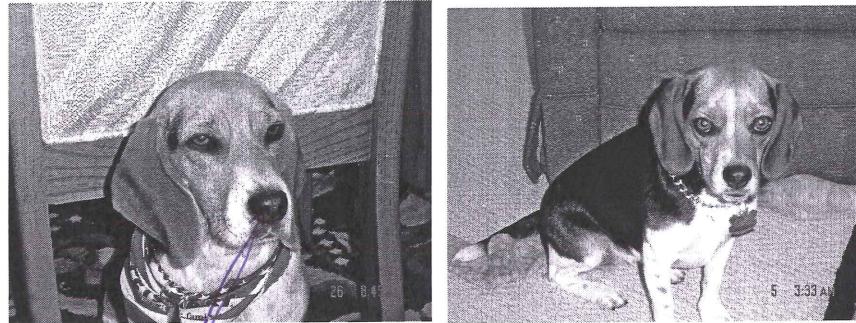
## Gas Turbine Measurements: High Load Condition



apriori

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## Sensors for Detection of Trace Chemical Species



Haley

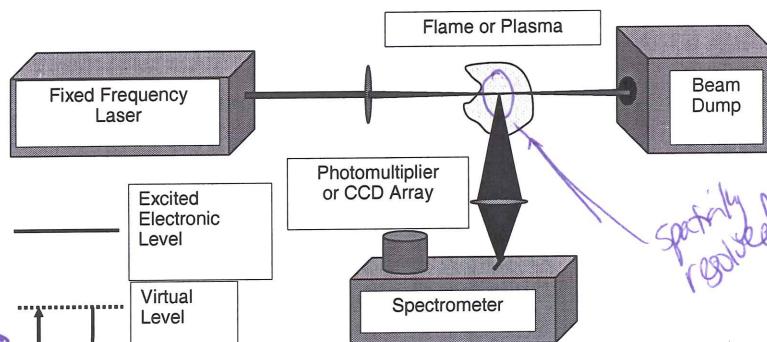
Molly

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not as sensitive  
to incoming frequency

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## Spontaneous Raman Scattering



Photon is  
Scattered

because it drops  
to a  
cliffered level

the outgoing  
photon is at a cliffered frequency.  
Sensitive (outgoing frequency) to molecule

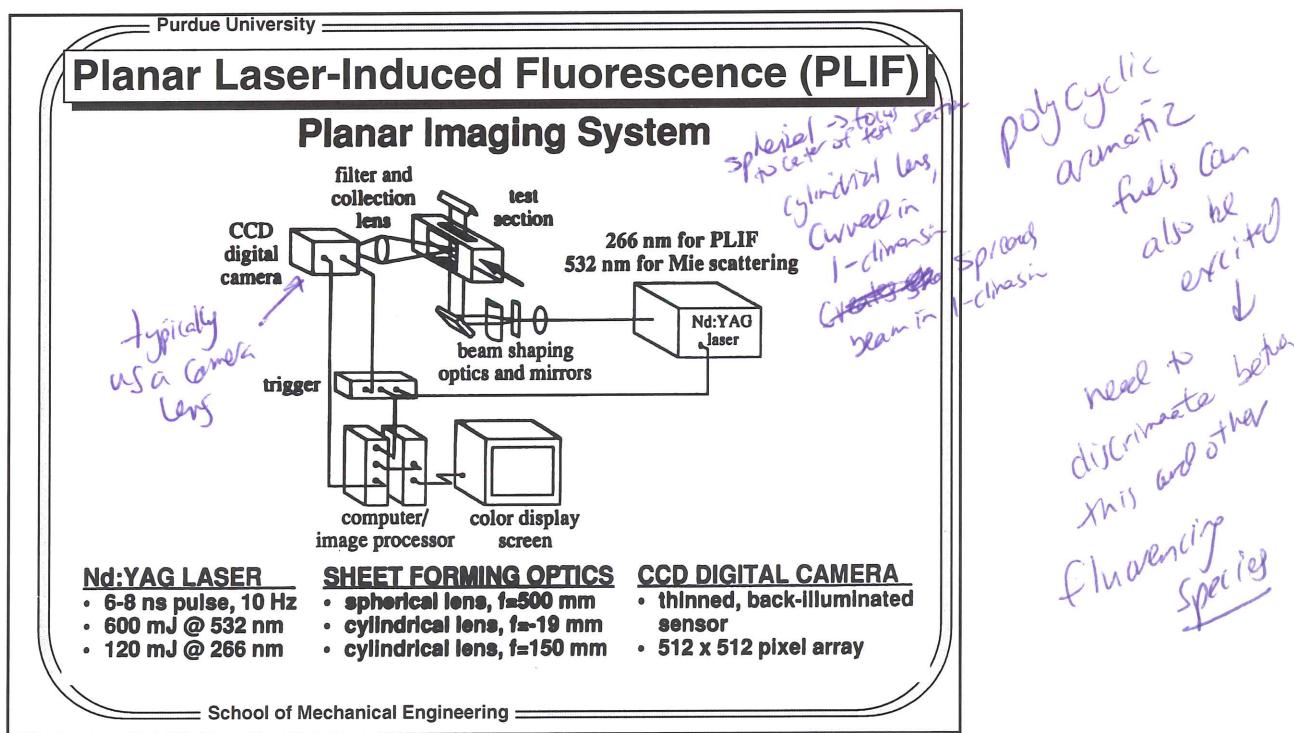
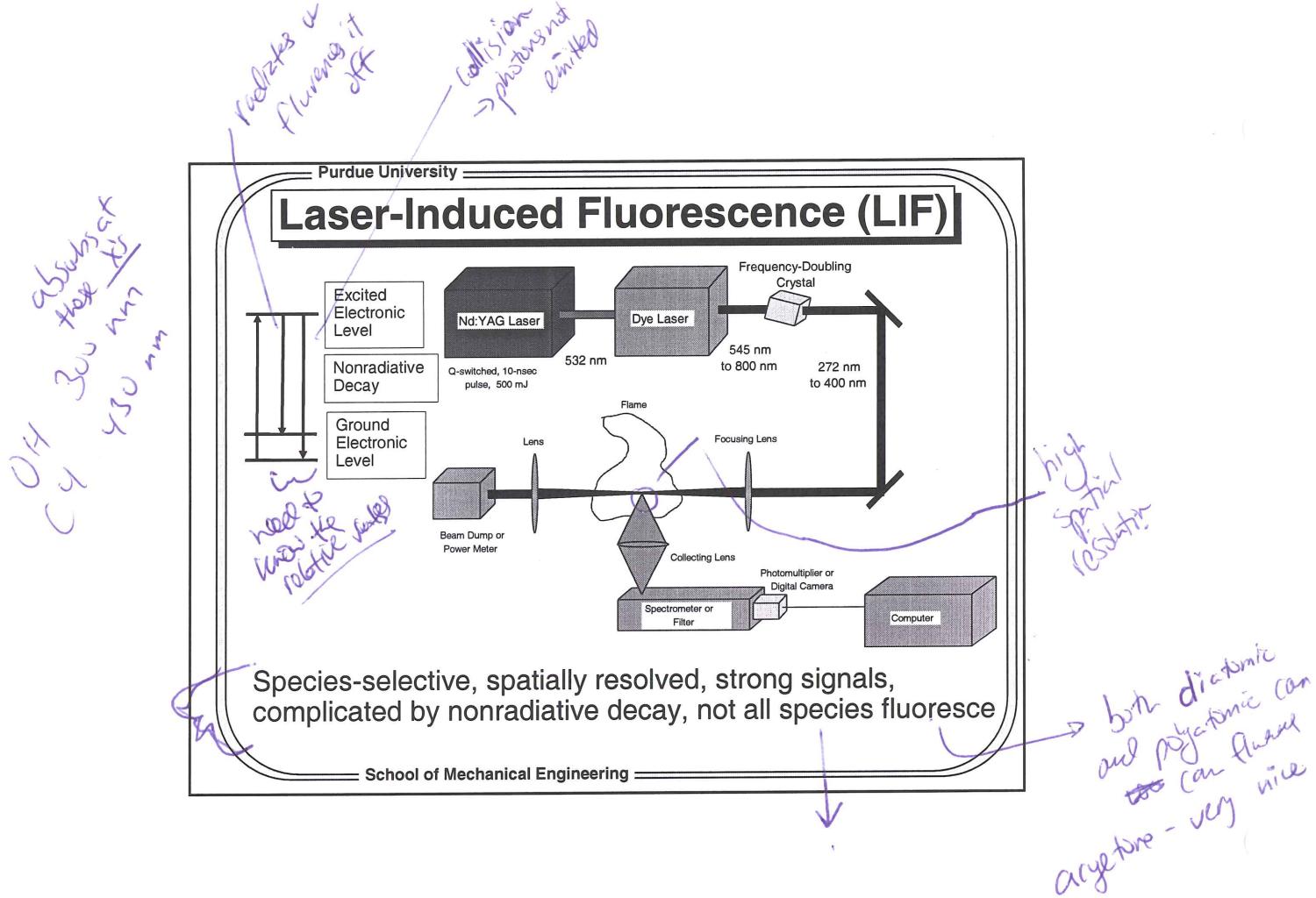
Species-specific, spatially resolved,  
quantitative, weak signal

draw back

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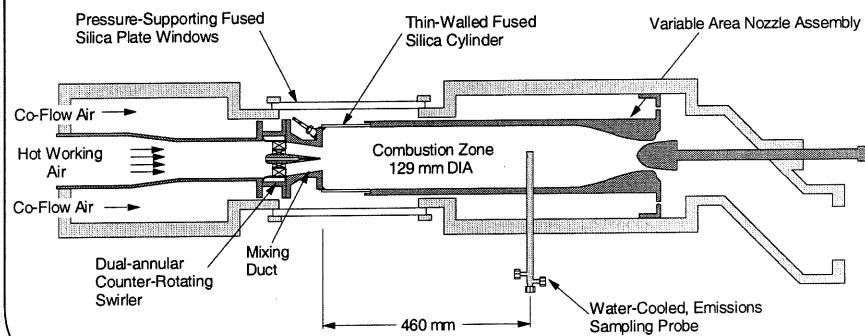
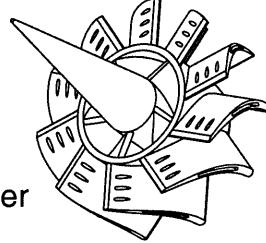
Good for  
clean turbulent  
flame  
- help ful for  
turbulence chemish  
interacting

Spontaneous,  
so not affected  
by collision



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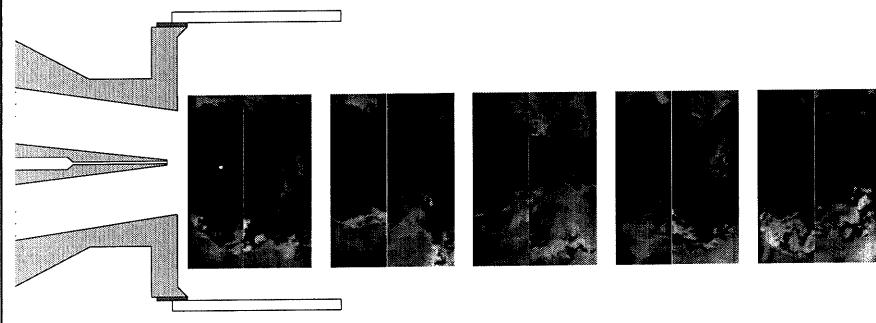
## Premixed Gas Turbine Combustor Facility (UIUC)



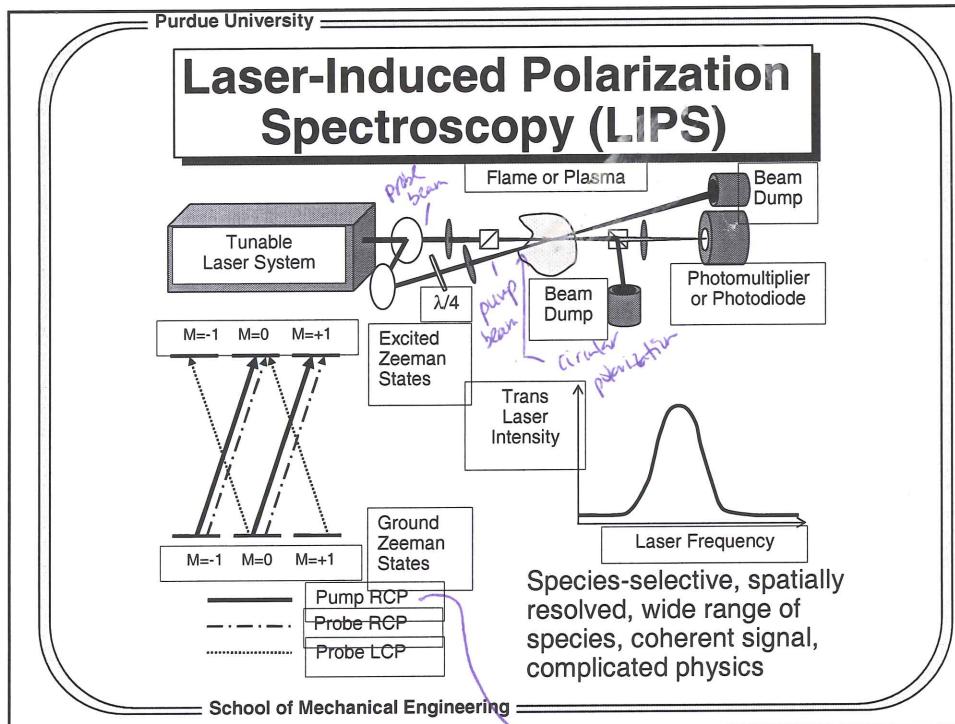
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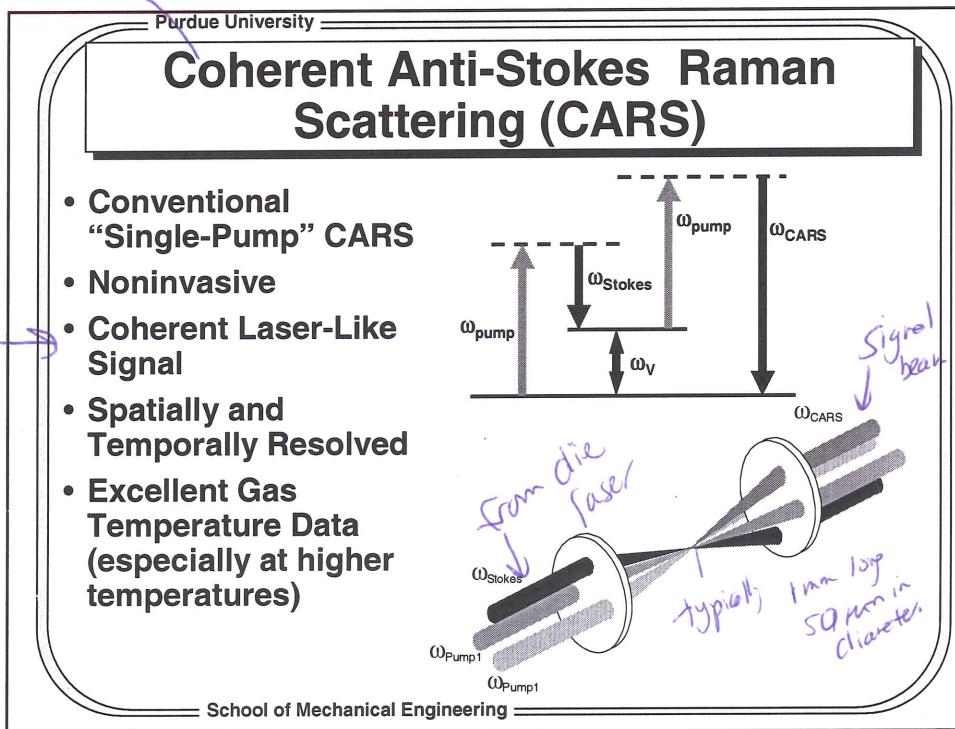
## OH Planar Laser-Induced Fluorescence (PLIF)



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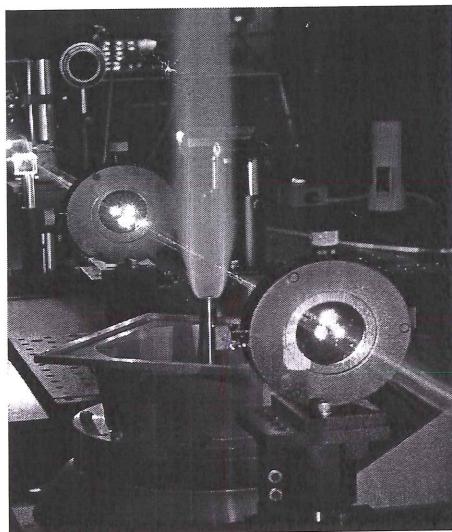


basically a spatially resolved absorption  
species don't have  
real  $\sigma$  or fluency  
it's hard to work



one of  
the more  
useful techniques  
- can get quantitative  
measurements of  $T_1$   
even in soot  
flame

## Triple-Pump CARS Experiments



4 ps  
blows into  
the flame

Triple-pump CARS measurements performed in laminar hydrogen/air diffusion flame.

Simultaneous acquisition of single-shot  $H_2/N_2$  and  $H_2/O_2$  spectra demonstrated.

Speckles  
are mie  
scatter

## Other Laser Diagnostic Techniques

- Particle Imaging Velocimetry (not a Spectroscopic technique)
- Resonant Four-Wave Mixing, Degenerate Four-Wave Mixing (DFWM)
- Photoacoustic Spectroscopy
- Resonant Photoionization Spectroscopy, Resonant Multi-Photon Photoionization Spectroscopy (REMPI)
- Laser-Induced Incandescence (LII)

use to detect soot

use a laser to excite soot

Very sensitive and tunable, but you need to put physical probe in the flame and hard to know what is being detected by the probe

