



Instability influence upon lean hydrogen-air flames

N.B. Anikin, V.A. Simonenko, A.V. Pavlenko, I.L. Bugaenko, A.N. Grigoriev, Yu.A. Piskunov, A.A. Tyaktev

Russian Federal Nuclear Center – Zababakhin All-Russia Research Institute of Technical Physics (RFNC-VNIITF), Snezhinsk, Russia, Experimental Physics Division

Multi-purpose shock tube





Shock tube facility (to the left)

Система газонаполнения 1 – operational chambers; 2 – measurement chambers; 3 – measurement chamber with initiating electrodes; 4 - forvacuum pump; 5 - to the vacuumpumping and gas-filling system; 6 - current shunt; 7 and 8 - blind walls ofshock tube 60 (80) mm, 30KhGSA steel, windows - 40 square mm, glass.

Schematic multi-purpose shock tube for experiments with a rarefaction wave



 1- vacuum-evacuated chambers of the rarefaction driver
2- vacuum membrane
3- chambers filled with hydrogen-air mixture
4- measurement chamber
5- spark gap

Flame in the hydrogen-air mixture(X=740 mm)



Schemes of convex and concave flames



16% Hydrogen in air



Image 43,4 mm × 21,7 mm

0,3 ms between frames





- Amplitude of longitudinal acceleration of flame ~ 250g
- Rate of increase in flame diameters dD/dt≈2.9 m/s















"Flame width" in rarefaction wave



Apparent flame velocity in rarefaction wave



Apparent flame acceleration in rarefaction wave



Conclusions

•Flame propagation in lean hydrogen-air mixtures were experimentally studied in the multi-purpose shock tube;

•Extensive data are obtained on how flame development depends on Rayleigh-Taylor instability under conditions of the superimposed artificial-G field.

•Two modes of turbulent flame development are identified, i.e. convex and concave flames. Modes depend on the mixture concentration. Transition between modes takes place at hydrogen concentration of 16±2% in the air. Convex flame mode is realized below 16 % hydrogen in the air and concave flame mode is realized above 16 % hydrogen.

• 16% hydrogen concentration realizes the transition mode of the periodic oscillating flame having spherical shape on a small scale and plane shape on the scale of the channel cross-section. Flame development in the transition mode is probably driven by Rayleigh-Taylor instability as far as superposition of the artificial-G field sharply intensifies flame evolution in this mode.