# Investigation of combustion wave stability in the Zeldovich-Liñán model

V. V. Gubernov<sup>\*</sup>, A. V. Kolobov, A. A. Polezhaev



P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute
53, Leninskii prospect, Moscow 119991, Russian Federation
\* Corresponding author: gubernov@lpi.ru

P.N.Lebedev Physical Institute of the Russian Academy of Science

#### H.S. Sidhu



University of New South Wales Australian Defence Force Academy Canberra ACT 2600, Australia

# Zeldovich-Liñán model

- Introduced by Y.B. Zeldovich in 1948, analyzed by A. Liñán in 1971 using the activation energy asymptotics (AEA).
  - Y.B. Zeldovich, Zh. Phys. Khim. 22, 27 (1948)
  - A. Liñán, Insituto Nacional de Technica Aerospacial "Esteban Terradas" (Madrid), USAFOSR Contract No. E00AR68-0031, Technical Report No. 1 (1971).

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Chain-branching:} & A+B \to 2B & \mapsto Q=0, \ E_a>0 \\ \text{Chain-breaking:} & B+B+M \to 2P+M & \mapsto Q>0, \ E_a=0 \end{array}$ 

• ZL model and  $H_2$  -  $O_2$  (air) combustion - Y.B. Zeldovich, Kinet. Katal. 2, 305-318 (1961)

 $\begin{array}{ccc} A+B\rightarrow 3B, & \mapsto & 3H_2+O_2=2H+2H_2O, \\ B+B+M\rightarrow 2P+M & \mapsto & 2H+M=H_2+M \end{array}$ 

-A is the deficient component concentration, for example,  $O_2$ -B is the H atoms concentration which are the only radicals The rates of global reactions are governed by elementary steps:  $H + O_2 \rightarrow OH + H$  $H + H + M \rightarrow H_2 + M$  and  $H + O_2 + M \rightarrow HO_2 + M$ .

#### Model equations

- B.H. Chao, C.K. Law, Int. J. Heat Mass Transfer 37, 673 (1994).

• Governing PDEs  

$$\rho c_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \lambda \Delta T + q_F W_A A_R \left(\frac{\rho Y_B}{W_B}\right)^2 \frac{\rho Y_M}{W_M},$$

 $\rho \frac{\partial Y_A}{\partial t} = \rho D_A \Delta Y_A - A_B \frac{\rho Y_A}{W_A} \frac{\rho Y_B}{W_B} e^{-E/RT},$ 

$$\rho \frac{\partial Y_B}{\partial t} = \rho D_B \Delta Y_B + W_B \left( A_B \frac{\rho Y_A}{W_A} \frac{\rho Y_B}{W_B} e^{-E/RT} - 2A_R \left( \frac{\rho Y_B}{W_B} \right)^2 \frac{\rho Y_M}{W_M} \right),$$

• Introducing the nondimensional variables

$$t' = \frac{\rho A_B}{\beta M^*}t, \quad x' = \sqrt{\frac{\rho^2 A_B c_p}{\lambda M^* \beta}}x, \quad u = \frac{T}{T^* \beta}, \quad v = \frac{Y_A}{Y_A^\infty}, \quad w = \frac{Y_B W_A}{Y_A^\infty W_B},$$

and dimensionless parameters

$$M^* = \frac{W_A}{Y_A^{\infty}}, \quad T^* = \frac{q_F Y_A^{\infty}}{2c_p}, \quad \beta = \frac{E}{RT^*}, \quad L_i = \frac{\lambda}{D_i \rho c_p}, \quad r = \frac{2\rho A_R Y_M}{A_B W_M}$$

#### Nondimensional equations

• Governing equations

 $u_t = \Delta u + rw^2,$   $v_t = L_A^{-1}\Delta v - \beta vwe^{\beta - 1/u},$  $w_t = L_B^{-1}\Delta w + \beta vwe^{\beta - 1/u} - r\beta w^2,$ 

where  $\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$ 

• Boundary conditions

•

 $u = u_a, \quad v = 1, \quad w = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad x \to +\infty,$ 

 $u_x = 0, \qquad v_x = 0, \qquad w_x = 0 \qquad \text{for} \qquad x \to -\infty.$ 

Travelling wave solution,  $\xi = x - ct$   $u_{\xi\xi} + cu_{\xi} + rw^2 = 0,$   $L_A^{-1}v_{\xi\xi} + cv_{\xi} - \beta vwe^{\beta - 1/u} = 0,$  $L_B^{-1}w_{\xi\xi} + cw_{\xi} + \beta vwe^{\beta - 1/u} - r\beta w^2 = 0$ 

#### Liñán's analysis of flame structure

A. Liñán, Insituto Nacional de Technica Aerospacial "Esteban Terradas" (Madrid), USAFOSR
 Contract No. E00AR68-0031, Technical Report No. 1 (1971).

• Fast recombination  $e^{-\beta} \ll r \to AEA$  1-step:  $c = L_A e^{-\beta} / \beta \sqrt{2r}$ .



• Intermediate recombination  $e^{-\beta} \sim r$ 



• Slow recombination  $e^{-\beta} \gg r$ 



# Flame speed



Dependence of (a) flame speed, c, and (b) maximal concentration of radicals,  $w_{max}$ , on the activation energy,  $\beta$ , for two values of the recombination parameter r = 0.02, r = 50 and  $L_A = L_B = 1$ .

#### Flame structure in the $H_2$ - $O_2$ mixture



Concentration of H and O2 (left axis) and temperature (right axis) pofiles for combustion wave in 26/13/61 H2/O2/Ar mixture at p = 1 atm and  $T_a = 370$ K. Parameters of the model:  $\beta \approx 3.9$ ,  $r \approx 0.002$ ,  $L_A \approx 2$ , and  $L_B \approx 0.3$ . The flame speed,  $c \approx 4$  m/s, whereas the numerical calculations using the detailed kinetic scheme yields 3.37 m/s according to O. Korobeinichev, T. Bolshova, Combust. Explos. Shock Waves 45 (2009) 507-510

### Flame speed for $H_2$ -air mixture



Dependence of the flame speed, c, on equivalence ratio,  $\phi$ , at normal conditions.

# Stability analysis

• We seek the solution of the form

where  $U(\xi)$ ,  $V(\xi)$ ,  $W(\xi)$  is the travelling combustion wave,  $\xi = x - ct$  is a coordinate in the moving frame.

• Substituting this expansion into govening PDEs

$$\mathbf{v}_{\xi} = \hat{A}(\xi, oldsymbol{\lambda}, k) \mathbf{v},$$

where  $\mathbf{v}(\xi) = [\phi, \psi, \chi, \phi_{\xi}, \psi_{\xi}, \chi_{\xi}]^T$  and  $\hat{A}(\xi, \lambda, k)$  is  $6 \times 6$  matrix those elements are functions of  $U(\xi), V(\xi), W(\xi)$ 

- We seek  $\lambda$  and  $k : \exists \mathbf{v}(\xi)$  bounded for both  $\xi \to \pm \infty$ . If for some  $k \exists \lambda : Re\lambda > 0$  then the travelling wave is linearly unstable, otherwise, if  $\forall k Re\lambda \leq 0$ , then the travelling wave solution is linearly stable.
- Evans function  $D(\lambda, k)$ : for dispersion relation  $\lambda(k)$  $\rightarrow D(\lambda, k) = 0$
- Nonlinear analisys FDE

## Instabilities in 2D



### Wave instability



Neutral stability boundary in the  $L_A$  vs.  $\beta$  plane for  $L_B = 1$ ,  $u_a = 0$  and r = 0.02, 0.1, 1, 10, 50 plotted with curves 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively.

#### Pulsating waves



Contour plots of the radical concentration profiles, w(x, y), sampled at three successive moments of time  $t_1 = 80$  in panel (a),  $t_2 = 145$  in panel (b), and  $t_3 = 190$  in panel (c) for  $L_A = 10$ ,  $L_B = 1$ , b = 7.5, and r = 0.1.

#### Cellular instability



Stability diagram on the  $L_A$  vs.  $\beta$  plane for  $L_B = 1$ ,  $u_a = 0$  and various values of r = 0.02, 0.1, 1, 10, and 50.

#### Cellular waves



Contour plots of the radical concentration profiles, w(x, y), for  $L_A = 0.81$ ,  $L_B = 1$ ,  $\beta = 9.5$ , r = 0.1.

# Conclusions

- The stability of combustion waves in the Zeldovich-Liñán model is investigated in the adiabatic limit by using the Evans function method and by direct integration of the governing PDEs. The neutral stability boundary is found in the  $L_A$  vs  $\beta$  plane. The effect of variation of parameters is delineated.
- It is demonstrated that for the case of  $L_A > 1$ , the combustion wave loses stability with respect to wave perturbations. For the case of  $L_A < 1$ , the combustion wave loses stability with respect to cellular perturbations.
- It is demonstrated that as the critical parameter values for the onset of instability are crossed, either pulsating or cellular two-dimensional solutions emerge. The properties of these solutions are studied.
- Further investigation is required to validate the results with respect to experimental data for hydrogen-oxygen flames. Of special interest is to undertake such comparison for the predictions of the limits of stability and emergence of pulsating and cellular flames with complex dynamics.





- V.V. Gubernov, A.V. Kolobov, A.A. Polezhaev, H.S. Sidhu, Stability of combustion waves in the Zeldovich–Liñán model, Combustion and Flame 159 (2012) 1185-1196
- V.V. Gubernov, A.V. Kolobov, A.A. Polezhaev, H.S. Sidhu, Pulsating instabilities in the Zeldovich–Liñán model, Journal of Math. Chemistry 49 (2011) 1054-1070