

# Validation of the Semi-empirical radiation model OSRAMO II for large pool fires

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## 1.0 Short overview of actual radiation models

- *Semi-empirical* models

These models are widespread

- *Zone* models

- 2 – 20 zones
- Conservation equations for overall mass and energy
- Relatively simple, short computational time



- *Field* models

*Time averaged Navier-Stokes*-equations of fluid flow with sub-models

- In general no combustion is involved
- Mathematically complex
- Significant run times on large computer systems

- *Integral* models

A compromise between semi-empirical models and field models

- Mathematically formulated in the same way as field models. They can contain sub-models of the turbulence structure, combustion and heat transfer processes.
- Demanding far less computer time than field models
- Up to the present there are no integral models which could be used for the prediction of large-scale pool fire hazard consequences

- Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) field modeling approaches
  - DNS field model for pool flames with  $d \leq 2$  cm [A. Schönbacher, Th. Koch, S. Staus, 1996]
  - Extended DNS field model for pool flames with  $d \leq 30$  cm [A. Schönbacher, S. Staus, 1999]
  - Commercial ANSYS CFX-5.7.1 CFD software; ANSYS ICEM CFD 5.1 [A. Schönbacher, C. Kuhr (since 2000), I. Vela (since 2003)]

## Steady state, semi-empirical simulation models for pool fires on land

### 1.1 Point source radiation model (PS):

*J. Moorhouse (1982)*

### 1.2 Surface emitter models

#### 1.2.1 Solid flame radiation model (ZFS):

*P.G. Seeger (1971)*

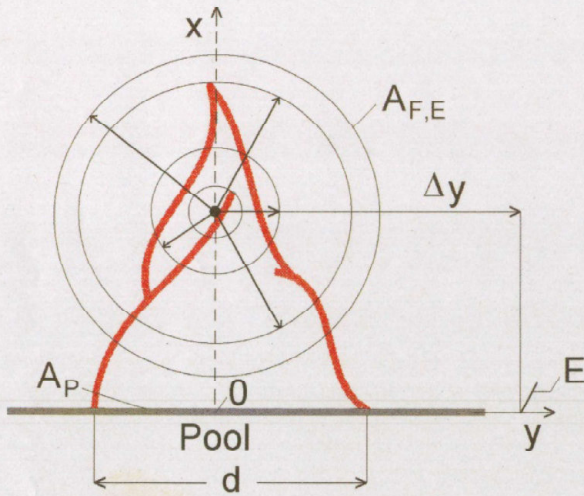
#### 1.2.2 Two zone radiation model (ZZ):

*K.S. Mudan (1993)*

#### 1.2.3 Organized Structures Radiation Model (OSRAMO II):

*A. Schönbacher et al. (1985, 1991, 1999)*

# 1.1 Point source radiation model (PS)



**Application:**

- $\Delta y > 5d$
- for gas fires
- for pool/tank fires

**WHAZAN ( $a \neq 1$ ):**

$$A_P = \pi d^2 / 4 + \pi d H;$$

$$a = c_1 \dot{m}_f^{0.61} + 1;$$

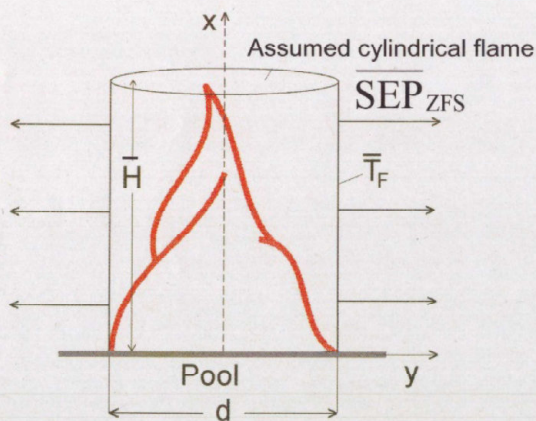
$$c_1 = 72 \text{ m}^{1.22} \text{ s}^{0.61} \text{ kg}^{-0.61}.$$

$$\bar{E}_{PS} = \frac{f_{rad} \dot{m}_f'' A_P (-\Delta h_c)}{4\pi \Delta y^2} \equiv \frac{f_{rad} \bar{Q}_{ges}}{4\pi \Delta y^2}$$

$\bar{E}_{PS}(\Delta y)$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	thermal radiation flux resp. irradiance of the flame
$f_{rad}(d, \text{fuel})$ [-]	fraction of the combustion energy radiated from the flame surface
$\dot{m}_f''$ [kg/(m <sup>2</sup> s)]	mass burning rate; $\dot{m}_f'' = \rho_f v_a$ [ $v_a$ [m/s]: burning velocity resp. burning rate]
$a$	empirical factor ( $a = 1$ )
$\Delta h_c$ [J/kg]	specific combustion enthalpy
$A_P$ [m <sup>2</sup> ]	pool sectional area; $A_P = \pi d^2 / 4$
$\Delta y$ [m]	distance between the source and the receiver element of area; spherical surface: $A_{F,E} = 4 \pi \Delta y^2$
$\bar{Q}_{ges}$ [W]	total heat power resp. total heat release rate of the fire; $\bar{Q}_{ges} = \dot{q}_f'' A_P = \dot{m}_f'' (-\Delta h_c) A_P$
$\dot{q}_f''$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	total heat power per pool sectional area

# 1.2 Surface emitter models

## 1.2.1 Solid flame radiation model (ZFS, conventional)



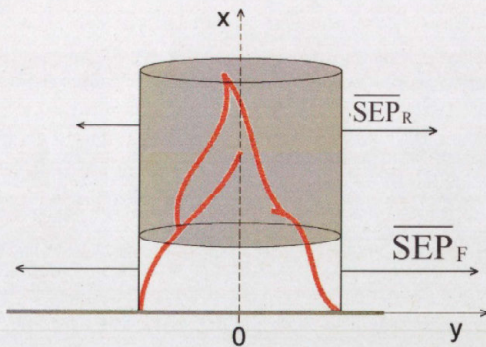
$$\overline{SEP}_{ZFS} = \frac{f_{rad}(d) \bar{Q}_{ges}}{\pi d \bar{H}(d)} = \epsilon_F \sigma (\bar{T}_F^4 - T_u^4)$$

$\overline{SEP}$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	time-averaged Surface Emissive Power
$\epsilon_F$ [-]	emissivity of the flame
$\sigma$ [W/(m <sup>2</sup> K <sup>4</sup> )]	Stefan - Boltzmann - constant
$f_{rad}(d)$ [-]	fraction of the combustion energy radiated $f_{rad}(d) = f_{rad, max} e^{-kd}$ with $f_{rad, max} = 0.35$ , absorption coefficient $k = 0.05 \text{ m}^{-1}$
$\bar{T}_F$ [K]	time-averaged flame temperature
$\bar{H}(d)$ [m]	time-averaged flame length resp. -height
$\pi d \bar{H}(d)$ [m <sup>2</sup> ]	time-averaged flame surface (surface of a cylinder)

$\epsilon_F = 0.95$  (i.e. gray flame)  
 $\bar{T}_F = 1173 \text{ K (900 °C)}$   
 $\Rightarrow$   
 $\overline{SEP}_{ZFS} = 100 \text{ kW / m}^2$   
 $\neq f(d, \text{fuel})$

## 1.2.2 Two Zone radiation model (ZZS)

$$\overline{SEP}_{ZZS}(d) = \overline{SEP}_F a_{vis}(d) + \overline{SEP}_R a_R(d)$$



$\overline{SEP}_F$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	surface emissive power of the luminous regions of the flame (ca. 140 kW/m <sup>2</sup> )
$\overline{SEP}_R$ [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	surface emissive power of the sooty regions of the flame (ca. 20 kW/m <sup>2</sup> )
$a_{vis}(d) = e^{-sd}$ [-]	area fraction of the luminous flame region
$a_R(d) = (1 - e^{-sd})$ [-]	area fraction of the sooty regions of the flame; $a_R(d) + a_{vis}(d) = 1$
$s$ [1/m]	absorption coefficient; $s = 0.12 \text{ m}^{-1}$

## 2.0 Experimental work

Pool fires:  $1 < d < 25 \text{ m}$ ;

n-pentane, premium gasoline,

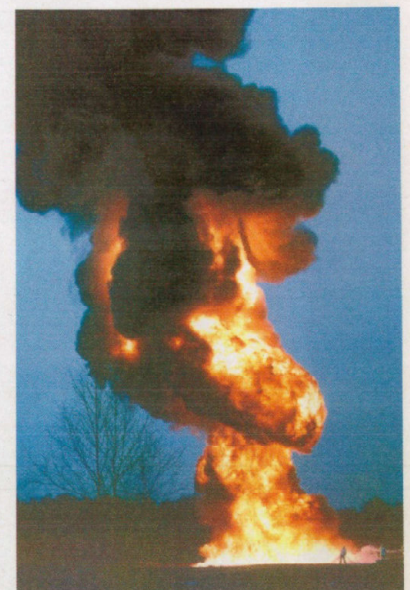
regular grade gasoline, diesel fuel and JP-4

- Instantaneous VIS-radiance structures:  $0.4 < \lambda < 0.75 \mu\text{m}$   
[High-speed photography]

- Instantaneous IR-radiance structures:  $2 < \lambda < 5.6 \mu\text{m}$   
[Thermographic camera system with a video mixing unit, digital image analysis]

- Time-averaged irradiances  $\bar{E}(\Delta y/d)$ :  $0.6 < \lambda < 15 \mu\text{m}$   
[Pyroelectrical and ellipsoidal radiometry]

- Meteorological data



### 3.0 Organized Structures Radiation Model (OSRAMO II)

#### 3.1 Basic Ideas

(1) *Reaction zones (re):*

Emitting, very hot ( $\bar{T}_{re}$ ), homogeneous volumina of flame gas/soot particles:

they emit the fraction  $f_{rad}$  of the heat power of reaction  $\bar{Q}_{re}$

⇒ radiant exitance:  $\bar{M}_{re}(d)$

(2) *Hot spots (hs):*

Intensively emitting, absorbing and transmitting hot ( $\bar{T}_{hs}$ ), homogeneous volumina of flame gas/soot particles which are moving to the flame surface:

they emit the largest fraction of the absorbed  $\bar{M}_{re}$  as heat radiation

⇒ Surface Emissive Power  $\bar{SEP}_{hs}(d)$

(3) *Soot parcels (RB):*

Strongly absorbing, relatively weakly emitting and transmitting, less hot ( $T_{RB}$ ), homogeneous volumina of flame gas/soot particles which are formed at the flame surface: a large fraction of the absorbed  $\bar{M}_{re}$  will be transformed to nonradiant energy (*blockage effect* of the heat radiation); due to this effect the temperature of the relative cold soot particles existing in a great number, will increase for a few degree Celsius.

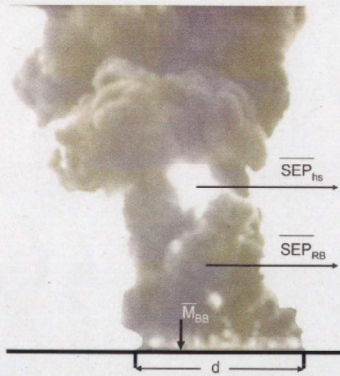
⇒ surface emissive power:  $\bar{SEP}_{RB}(d)$

(4) *Fuel parcels (BB):*

Absorbing, emitting and transmitting gas volumina (BB) consisting of unburned fuel vapour and pyrolysis products. These fuel parcels exist closely above the liquid fuel surface and cause a *blockage effect* of the heat power from the flame to the fuel surface.

⇒ radiant exitance:  $\bar{M}_{BB}(d)$

## 3.2 Basic Equations



$$\overline{SEP} \equiv \varepsilon M_s(T) = \varepsilon \sigma (\bar{T}^4 - T_u^4)$$

with

$$\overline{M}_S(\bar{T}) \equiv \int_0^\infty M_{\lambda,S}(\lambda, T) d\lambda \quad \text{and}$$

$$M_{\lambda,S}(\lambda, T) \equiv \frac{d^2 \Phi_S}{dA_\lambda d\lambda} \quad \text{as well as } \varepsilon \equiv 1 - \tau$$

$\Phi_S$  [W]: radiation power

$\varepsilon$  [-]: total emissivity

$\overline{M}$  [W/m<sup>2</sup>]: time averaged radiant exitance

$$\overline{SEP}_{OS}(d) = \overline{SEP}_{hs}(d) a_{hs}(d) + \overline{SEP}_{RB}(d) a_{RB}(d)$$

with

the radiant exitances of the hot spots (hs) and soot parcels (RB):

$$\overline{SEP}_{hs}(d) = \hat{\tau}_{hs} (1 - \hat{\tau}_{re}) \sigma (\bar{T}_{re}^4 - T_u^4) + (1 - \hat{\tau}_{hs}) \sigma (\bar{T}_{hs}^4 - T_u^4)$$

$$\overline{SEP}_{RB}(d) = \hat{\tau}_{RB} (1 - \hat{\tau}_{re}) \sigma (\bar{T}_{re}^4 - T_u^4) + (1 - \hat{\tau}_{RB}) \sigma (\bar{T}_{RB}^4 - T_u^4)$$

the area fraction of the hs and RB:

$$a_{hs}(d) = 1 - a_{RB}(d)$$

$$a_{RB}(d) = e^{-[d_0/d]^{0.3}}$$

the modified effective transmittance of the structure elements  $i = re, hs, RB$ :

$$\hat{\tau}_i(d) = e^{-k_{eff,i} d} \quad \text{where } k_{eff,i} = \frac{36\pi f_i(n,e) a_2 c_{R,i}}{c_2 \rho_{R,i}} \bar{T}_i = 1.81 * 10^3 \bar{T}_i m_i f_v \approx 1.12 * 10^{-3} m_i \bar{T}_i$$

are the modified effective absorption coefficients and  $\bar{T}_{re}, \bar{T}_{hs}, \bar{T}_{RB}$  are the averaged temperatures of the structure elements  $i = re, hs, RB$  with the length-scale  $l_i = m_i d$

## 3.3 Determination method of the parameters and results

### 3.3.1 Fitting along Gram-Schmidt-orthogonalized search directions

- Minimization of the error function of type

$$F(d, p) = \underline{f}^T \underline{f} = \min$$

due to variation of the components of the vector

$$\underline{p}^T = (d_0, a_3, k_{eff,re}, k_{eff,hs}, k_{eff,RB}, \bar{T}_{hs}, \bar{T}_{RB})$$

along Gram-Schmidt-orthogonalized search directions in consideration of parameter bounds

Here, the vector  $\underline{f}$  has the form:

$$\underline{f}^T = \frac{1}{|\underline{\varphi}|} [\overline{SEP}_{OS}(d_1; \underline{p}) - \varphi_1, \dots, \overline{SEP}_{OS}(d_N; \underline{p}) - \varphi_N]$$

N : number of measured values of the  $\overline{SEP}$

$$\underline{\varphi} = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_N \end{pmatrix} \quad : \text{vector of } \overline{SEP} \text{ measured values } \varphi_i$$

$\varphi_i$  : measured value of  $\overline{SEP}$  of flames with the pool diameter  $d_i$

### 3.3.2 Parameter bounds

$$\circ \quad 873 \leq \overline{T}_{hs} \leq 1413 \text{ K}; \quad \overline{T}_{re} = 1413 \text{ K (JP-4)}$$

$$523 < \overline{T}_{RB} < 873 \text{ K}$$

$$\circ \quad a_{RB}(d) + a_{hs}(d) = 1$$

$$\circ \quad 0 \leq a_3 \leq \frac{\ln(-\ln \varepsilon_{\min})}{\ln(d_o / d_{\exp, \min})} \quad \text{with } d_o > d_{\exp, \min}$$

$$\varepsilon_{\min} = \text{rounding error}$$

$$d_{\exp, \min}, d_{\exp, \max} = \text{smallest, largest pool diameter for which an experimental value exists}$$

$$\circ \quad 4.6/d_{\exp, \max} \leq k_{\text{eff, RB}} \leq 4.6/d_{\exp, \min}$$

[It is assumed that *soot parcels* can be considered as optical thick layers with transmittance of 1 %]



### 3.3.3 Results: The parameters of OSRAMO II

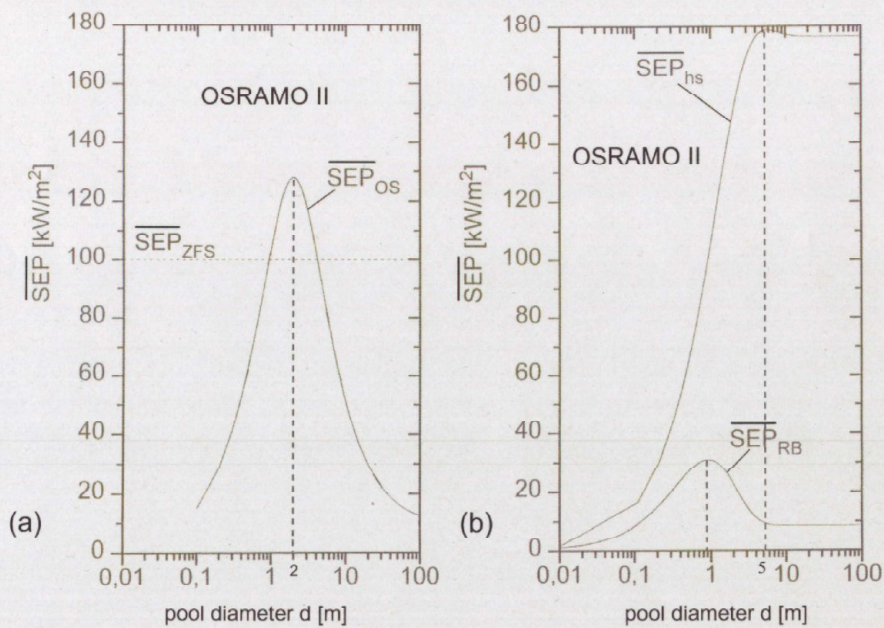
e.g. for JP-4:

$\bar{T}_{re} = 1413 \text{ K (1140 } ^\circ\text{C)}$	$k_{\text{eff, re}} = 0.380 \text{ m}^{-1}$	$m_{re} \approx 0.24$	$l_{re} = 0.24 \text{ d}$
$\bar{T}_{hs} = 1329 \text{ K (1056 } ^\circ\text{C)}$	$k_{\text{eff, hs}} = 0.404 \text{ m}^{-1}$	$m_{hs} \approx 0.27$	$l_{hs} \approx 0.27 \text{ d}$
$\bar{T}_{RB} = 632 \text{ K (359 } ^\circ\text{C)}$	$k_{\text{eff, RB}} = 1.035 \text{ m}^{-1}$	$m_{RB} \approx 1.46$	$l_{RB} \approx 1.46 \text{ d}$

$$d_o = 3.260 \text{ m}$$

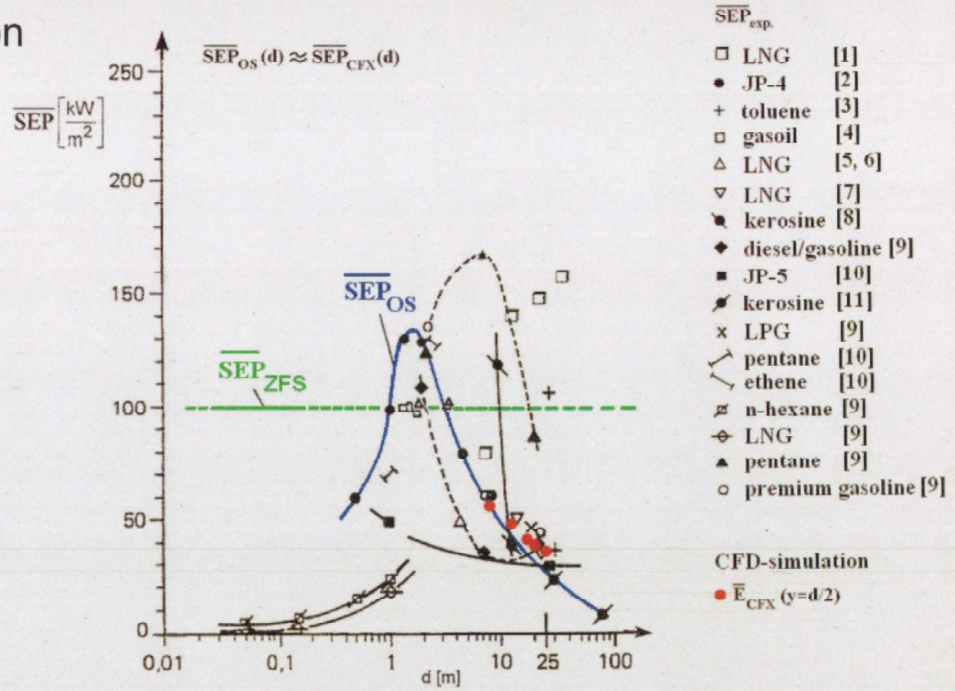
$$a_3 = 1.104$$

### 3.4 Calculation of $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{OS}$ , $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{hs}$ , $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{RB}$

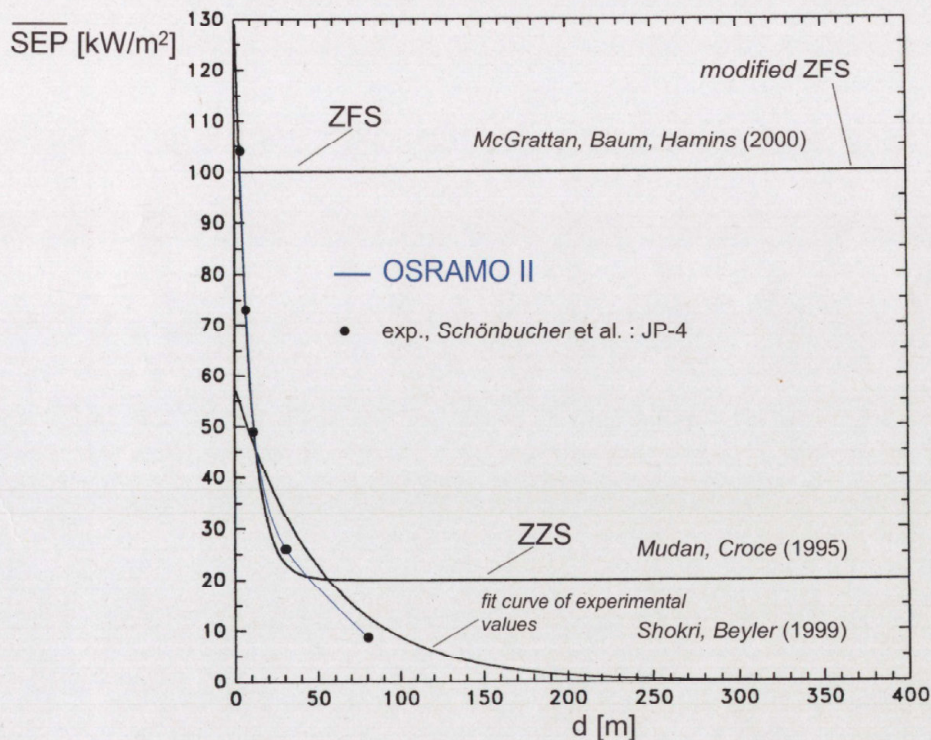


Time averaged SEP: (a)  $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{OS}(d)$  and  $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{ZFS}$ ; (b)  $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{hs}(d)$  and  $\overline{\text{SEP}}_{RS}(d)$  of the radiation model OSRAMO II as a function of d for the fuels JP-4 and kerosine

### 3.5 Validation



Time averaged  $\overline{SEP}_{ZFS}$ ,  $\overline{SEP}_{OS}(d)$  of the radiation models ZFS (conventional), OSRAMO II in comparison to the experimental values  $\overline{SEP}_{exp}(d)$  as a function of pool diameter  $d$  and fuel



$\overline{SEP}(d)$  for pool fires calculated with different radiation models

## 3.6 Calculation of irradiances

### 3.6.1 Assumptions and basic equation

A homogeneous isotropic and steady-state burning pool fire with the time averaged  $\overline{\text{SEP}}_j(d)$  at the fire surface (emitter) and the view factor  $\varphi_{E,F}(\Delta y/d)$  produces at any receiver element of the area outside the fire, at the horizontal distance  $\Delta y$  from the pool rim, a *time-averaged* irradiance  $\overline{E}_j(\Delta y/d)$ :

$$\overline{E}_j(\Delta y/d) = \tau_a \alpha_E \varphi_{E,F}(\Delta y/d) \overline{\text{SEP}}_j(d)$$

$\tau_a = 1 - \alpha_{H_2O} - \alpha_{CO_2}$  : atmospheric transmittance

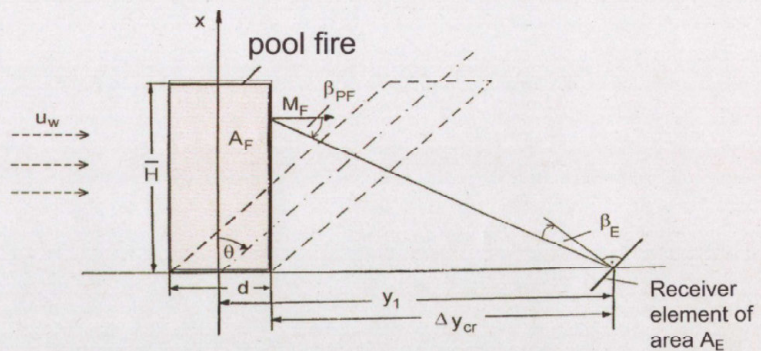
$\alpha_E$  : absorptance of the receiver element of area

$\alpha_{H_2O}, \alpha_{CO_2}$  : absorptances of  $H_2O$ ,  $CO_2$

$j = \text{ZFS, ZZS, OSRAMO II}$

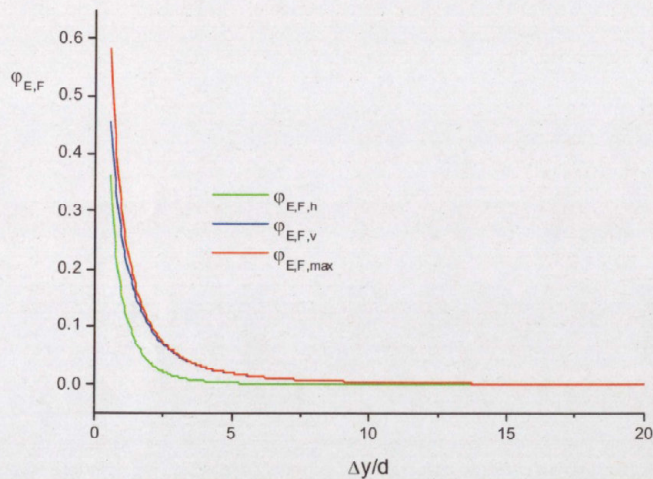
recommended :  $j = \text{OSRAMO II}$

### 3.6.2 View factors



$\varphi_{E,F} = f(\text{flame contour}, \Delta y/d, \text{relative orientation angles } \beta_F, \beta_E)$

$$\varphi_{E,F} = \frac{1}{\pi \Delta A_E} \int_{A_F} \int_{A_E} \frac{\cos \beta_F \cos \beta_E}{d^2 (\Delta y/d)^2} dA_F dA_E$$



$$b = \frac{y_1}{d/2}$$

$$a = \frac{\bar{H}}{d/2} = 1.5$$

$$A = (b+1)^2 + a^2$$

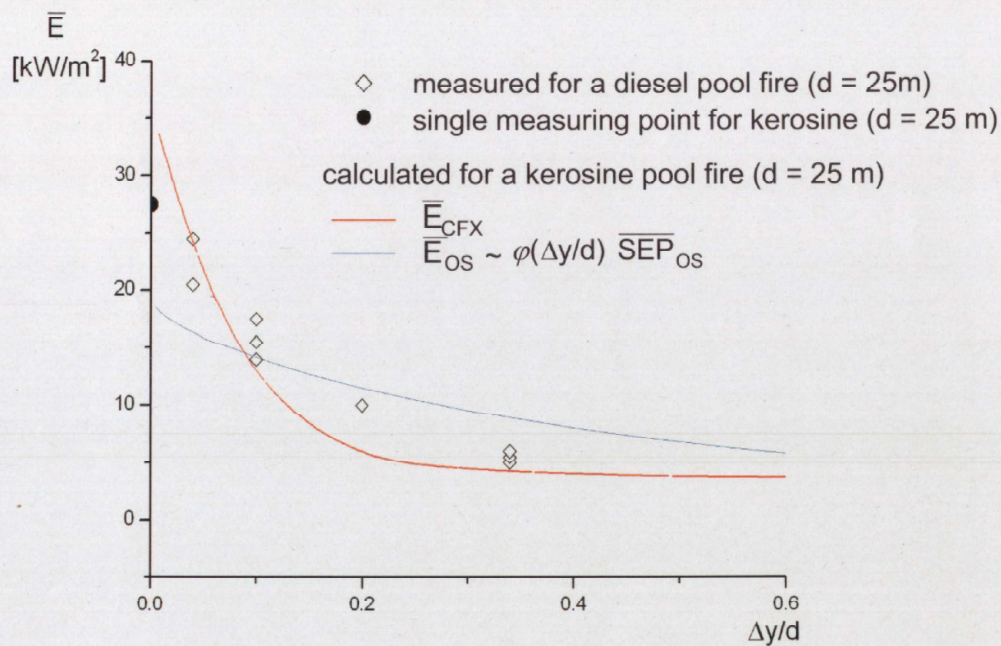
$$B = (b-1)^2 + a^2$$

$$\varphi_{E,F,\max} = \sqrt{\varphi_{E,F,h}^2 + \varphi_{E,F,v}^2}$$

$$\varphi_{E,F,h} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \arctan \sqrt{\frac{b+1}{b-1}} - \left( \frac{b^2 - 1 + a^2}{\sqrt{AB}} \right) \arctan \sqrt{\frac{(b-1)A}{(b+1)B}} \right]$$

$$\varphi_{E,F,v} = \frac{1}{\pi} \left[ \frac{1}{b} \arctan \frac{a}{\sqrt{b^2 - 1}} + \frac{a(A - 2b)}{b\sqrt{AB}} \arctan \sqrt{\frac{(b-1)A}{(b+1)B}} - \frac{a}{b} \arctan \sqrt{\frac{b-1}{b+1}} \right]$$

### 3.6.3 Time averaged irradiance $\bar{E}(\Delta y/d)$



Calculated (OSRAMO II, CFX) and measured time averaged  $\bar{E}(\Delta y/d)$  as a function of the relative distance  $\Delta y/d$ .

### 3.6.4 Critical irradiances

#### Critical irradiances $E_{cr}$ of some technically important objects

	$E_{cr}$ (kW/m <sup>2</sup> )
Sensible buildings (e.g. hospitals, seniors' homes, dwelling houses, schools)	1 <sup>1</sup> to 2
Public streets	4.5 <sup>1</sup>
Factory buildings (e.g. control rooms, workshops)	8, 12.6 <sup>1</sup>
Storage tanks	10, 37.8
Spontaneous ignition of wood	16 to 25
Constructions, stationary elements	18.9

<sup>1</sup> GER, NL, UK

Definition:  $E_{cr}$  is that irradiance at which a definite object ignites after a certain exposure time  $t_{cr}$ .

#### Critical irradiances $E_{cr}$ affecting the human skin as a function of exposure time $t_{cr}$

Influence on the human skin	$E_{cr}$ (kW/m <sup>2</sup> )
Max. irradiance $t_{cr}$ arbitrary	≈ 1.0
Solar constant $t_{cr}$ arbitrary	1.3*
Pain $10 < t_{cr} < 20$ s	4
Tolerable $t_{cr} < 13$ s	5
Pain $t_{cr} = 3$ s	10.5
Blisters $10 < t_{cr} < 12$ s	10.5
Lethal dose $t_{cr} ≈ 40$ s	10
1 % lethal	25 to 32.9
Second-degree burn	27.4 to 32.9
50 % lethal	44.7 to 58.8
Third-degree burn	49 to 64.5

\*extraterrestrial, at the ground: max. 0.7 – 0.9 kW/m<sup>2</sup>, locally also < 0.6 kW/m<sup>2</sup>

## 4.0 Conclusions and outlook

- (1) For a realistic calculation of the heat radiation of large pool fires the extremely conservative [conventional] flame solid model (ZFS) should *no longer* be used.
- (2) The semi-empirical model OSRAMO II is validated up to  $d = 25$  m. It is shown that a correlation  $SEP = f(d, \text{fuel})$  exists. The model is valid for all, e.g. *sooty* large pool and tank fires.
- (3) The calculation of the view factors  $\varphi$  should be improved.

- (4) Unsteady (transient) CFD flame models are just at the start of development.

- New possibilities:

- Calculation of *time-dependent heat radiation* of unsteady *pool/tank fires* as well as *gas cloud fires* and *fire balls*;
- *Wind influence* on pool and tank fires referring to flow-, temperature- and species concentration fields
- Evaporation and vaporization of unconfined pools
- Formation of hot spots and soot parcels, e.g. in pool fires, resulting in time-dependent irradiances  $E(t)$ .

- Improved modeling, e.g. *scale-up* of large fires
  - Simulation of the formation of pollutants: especially NO<sub>x</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, PAH, unburned hydrocarbons, soot particles and CO/CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Different fuels, e.g. higher hydrocarbons
  - Influence of the pool diameter
  - Pool fires on *water*
  
- Limitations:
  - Reliable values of the properties of materials, transport coefficients
  - The extent of computational time

## (5) Requirements for future work

- Lack of measured data [e.g. SEP(d)] of larger fires,  $d > 25$  m
- Lack of knowledge of the soot formation in fires of higher hydrocarbons
- Great lacks of knowledge exist for non-sooting or minor-sooting fires (e.g. methanol, acetaldehyde) as well as of large LNG fires
- Experimental work for  $d \geq 25$  m should also be carried out in future
  - Time-dependent measurements of irradiances  $E(t)$
  - Time-dependent measurements of the geometric sizes of hot spots and soot parcels

### General recommendation

It is necessary and *fascinating* to carry out intensive theoretical and experimental research work *both* on small scale and large scale pool fires.



### Literature

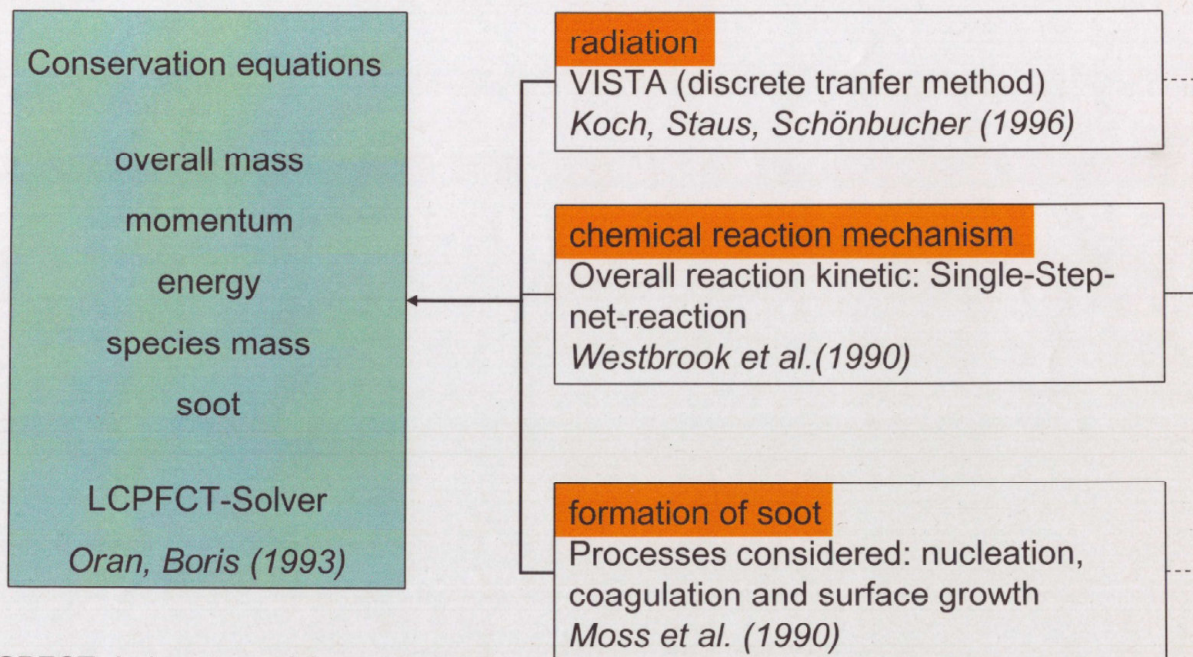
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## Instationary (transient) simulation models

DNS-field model: A. Schönbacher, Th. Koch, S. Staus (1996)

$d \leq 2 \text{ cm}$



LCPFCT: Laboratory of Computational  
Physics and Fluid Dynamics  
Flux Corrected Transport

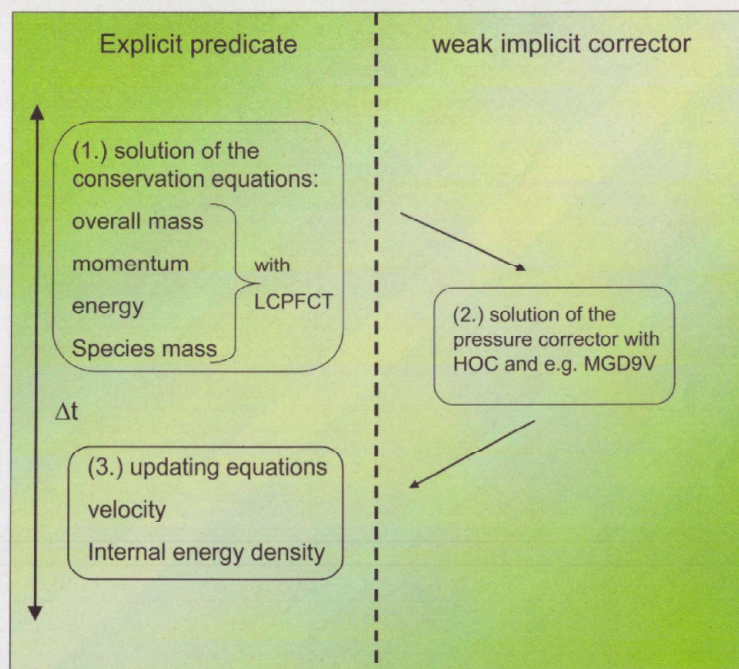
A. Schönbacher

Institut für Technische Chemie

UNIVERSITÄT  
DUISBURG  
ESSEN

## Extended DNS-fielmodel: A. Schönbacher, S. Staus (1999)

DNS extended,  
 $d \leq 30 \text{ cm}$



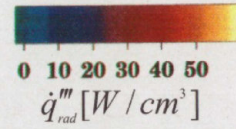
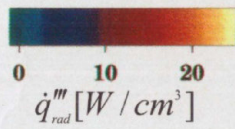
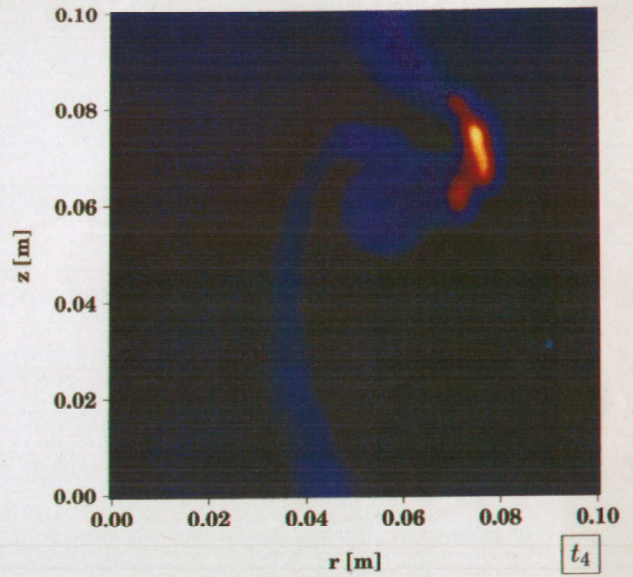
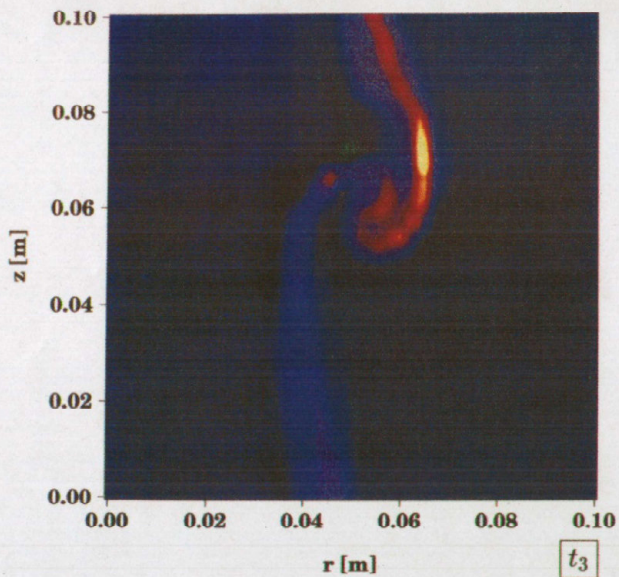
Weak implicit correction method (BICHOC-FCT)

BIC : Barly Implicit Pressure Correction  
HOC : High Order Compact  
FCT : Flux Corrected Transport  
MGD9V : MultiGrid-Method of P. de Zeeuw

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Transient, volumetric heat radiation power at the times  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  in a non-premixed ethylene/air-flame ( $d = 0.1$  m)