

# INFLUENCE OF INITIAL TURBULENCE AND CONCENTRATION ON DUST EXPLOSIONS:

## A Combination of Computational and Experimental Approaches

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**Presented by:**

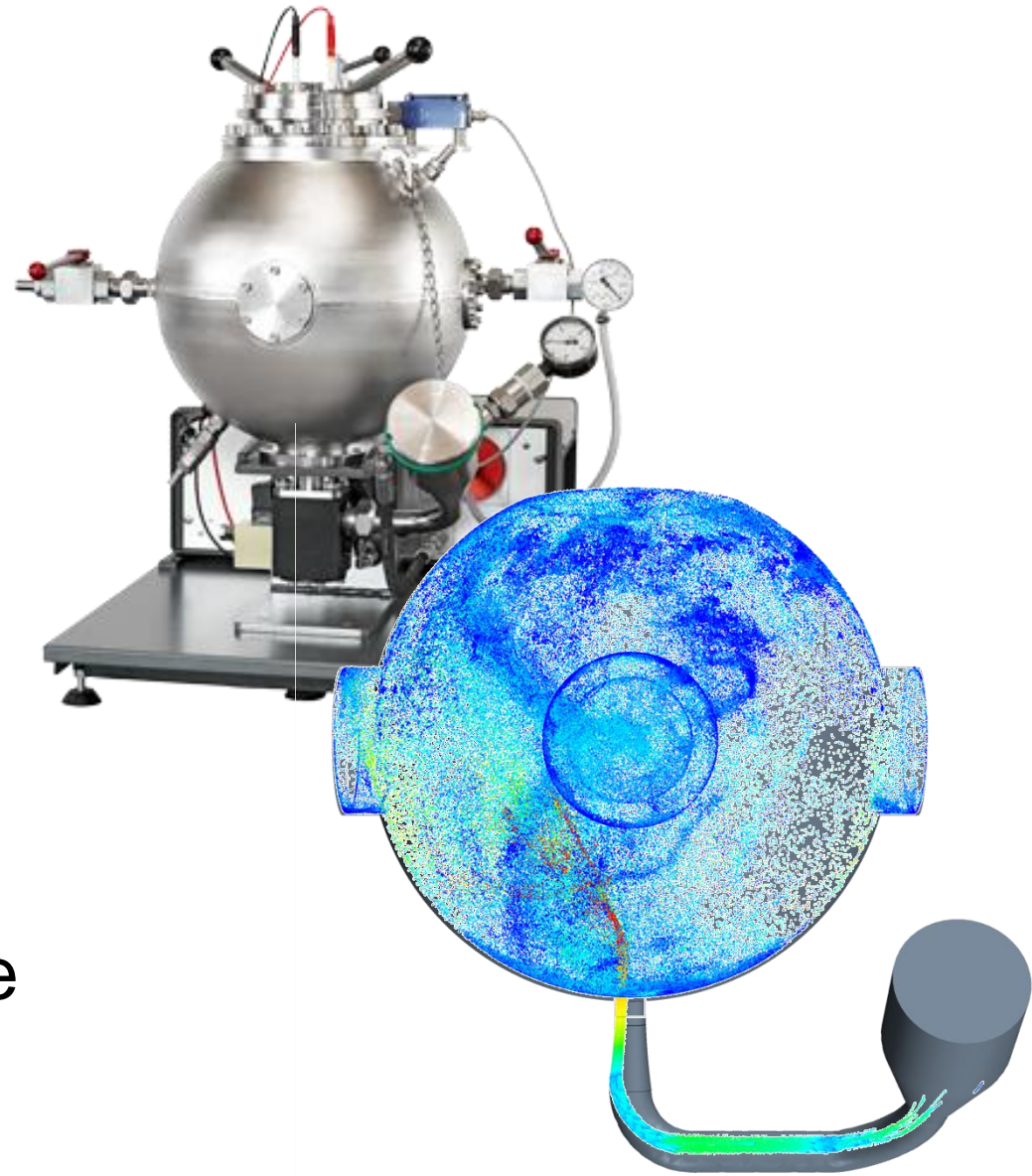
Carlos Murillo, Nathalie Bardin-Monnier, Felipe Muñoz,  
Daniel Vizcaya, Christian Blanchard & Olivier Dufaud

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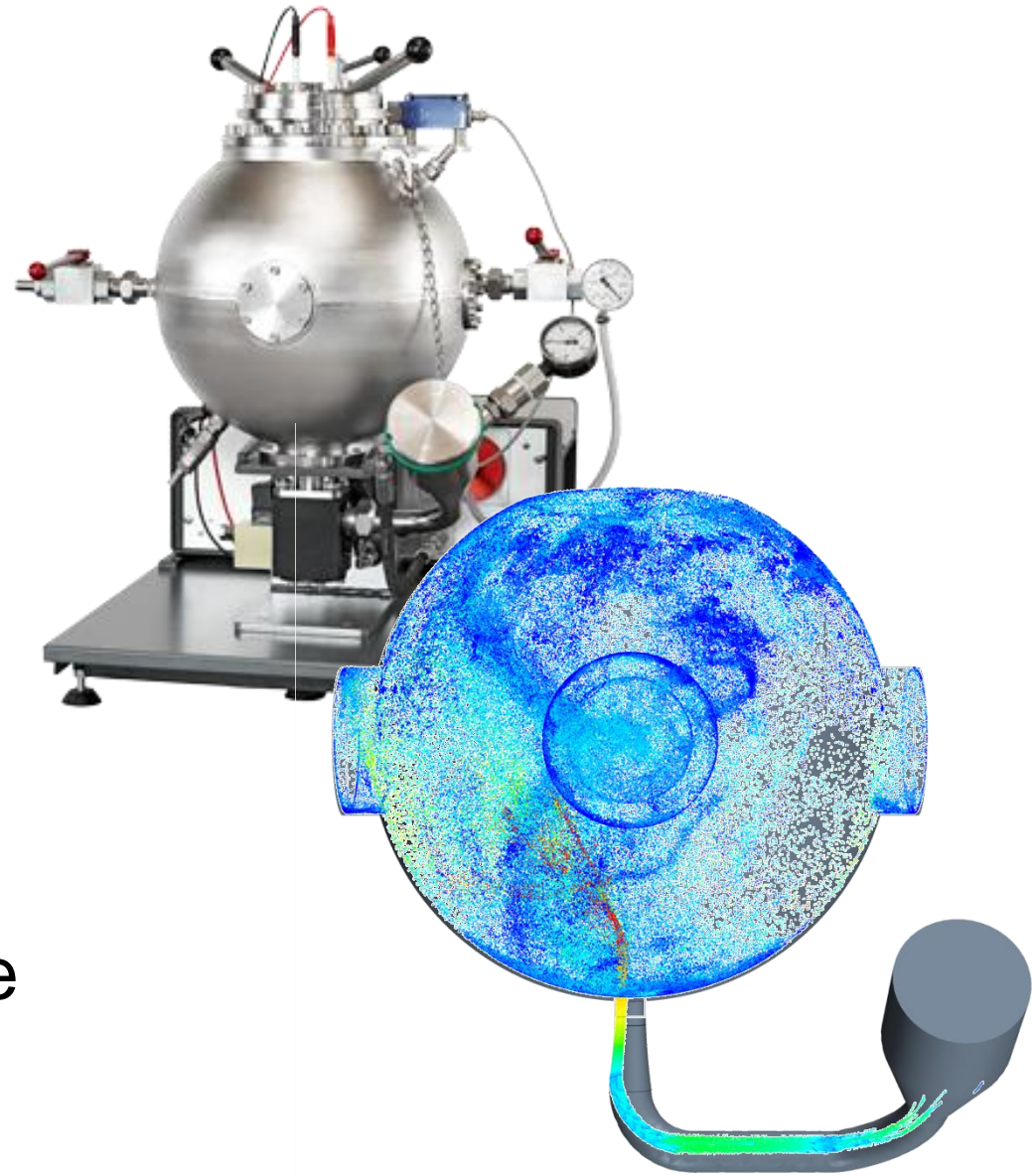
# Outline

- Introduction
- Experimental description of dust dispersion
- Computational description of dust dispersion
- Conclusions & Future Work



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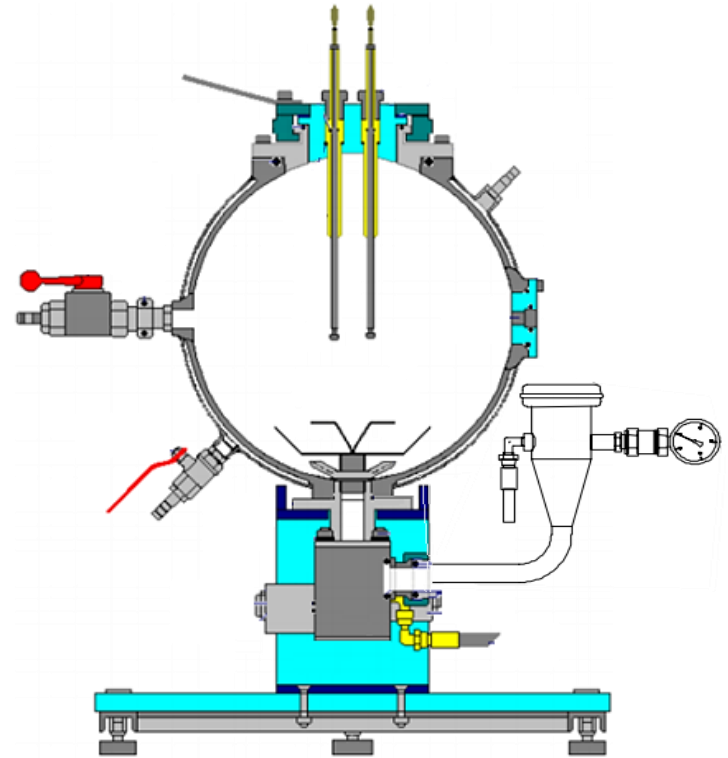
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# Flammability tests in the 20-L sphere

Determination of flammability parameters of combustible dusts:

- Minimum Explosible Concentration (MEC)
- Maximum pressure rise ( $P_{max}$ )
- Maximum rate of pressure rise  $(dP/dt)_{max}$



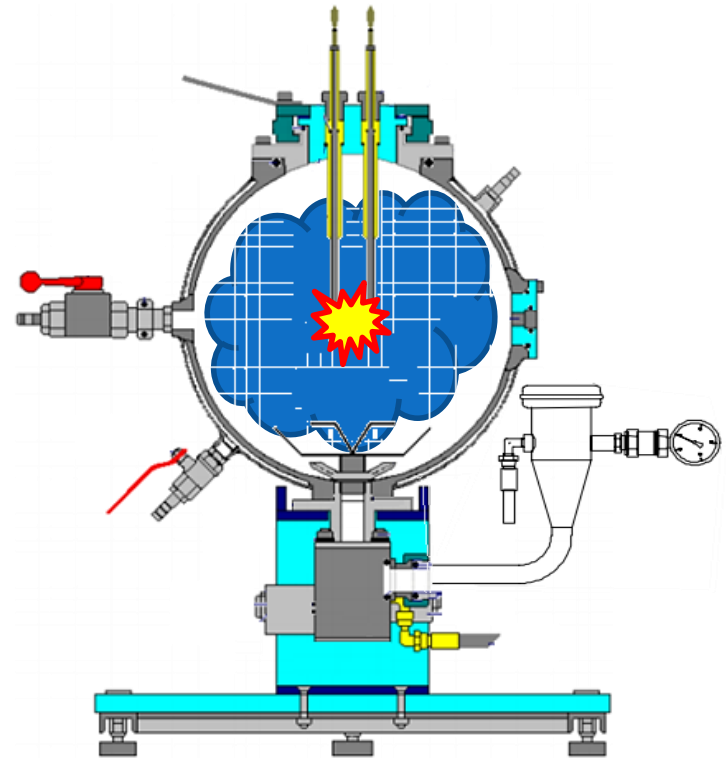
**20-L Apparatus**  
ASTM E2019-03  
IEC 241-2-3, 1994

# Flammability tests in the 20-L sphere

- Fairly **uniform** dust cloud of the material
- **Injection** of the dust-air mixture in a spherical vessel.
- Ignition of the dust cloud (60 ms)

## CHARACTERIZATION OF DUST DISPERSION

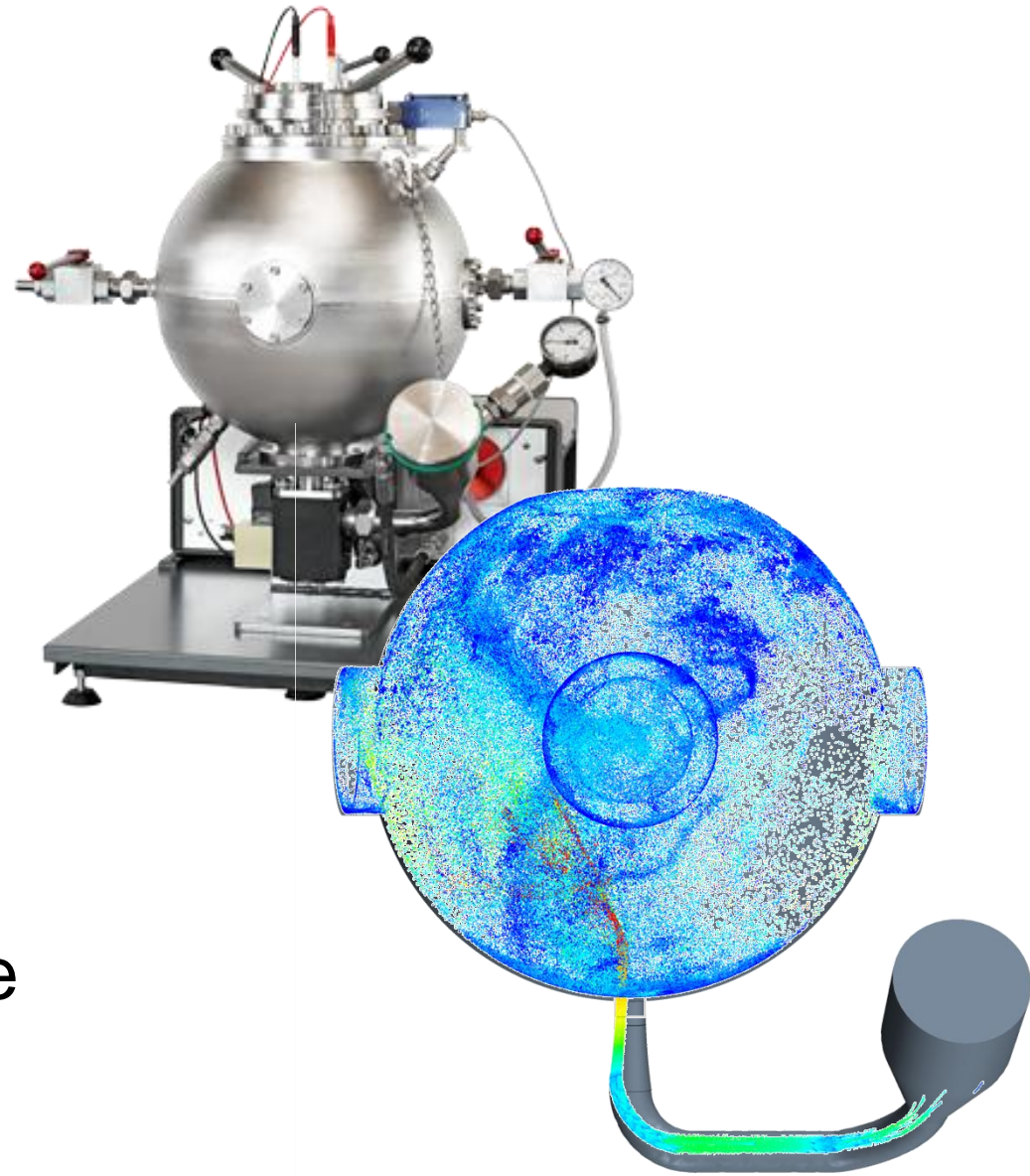
- Aerodynamics of the two-phase flow
- Uncertainty levels of the test
- Propagation of the combustion flame



**20-L Apparatus**  
ASTM E2019-03  
IEC 241-2-3, 1994

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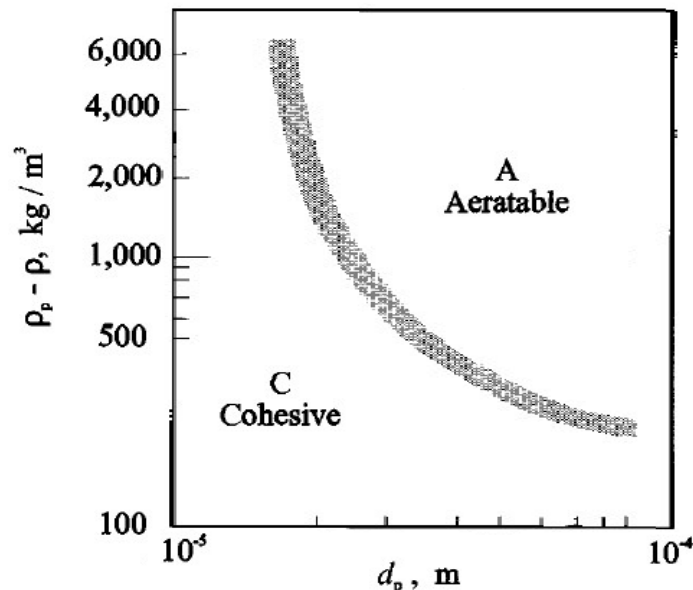
# Fluidization of wheat starch

Particle's diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	Archimedes Number (Ar)
29	3.3
37	7.5
65	41.2
81	78.1
83	85.2
87	96.6

$$Ar = \frac{d_p^3 \rho_f (\rho_p - \rho_f) g}{\mu^2}$$

$$\rho_{ad} = \rho_p - \rho_f / \rho_f$$

## MODIFIED GELDART'S CLASSIFICATION OF POWDERS



### Group A:

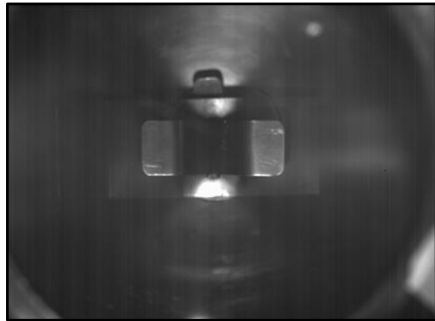
Several desirable fluidization characteristics. They expand homogeneously in fluidized beds.

### Group C:

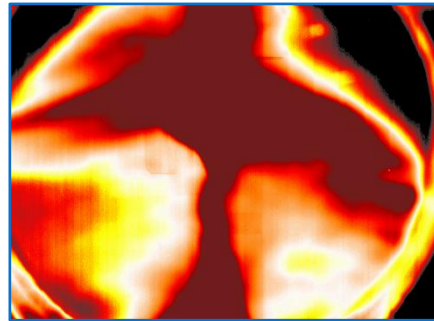
Difficult fluidization characteristics. Cohesive behavior

# Dispersion of micrometric wheat starch within the 20-liter sphere

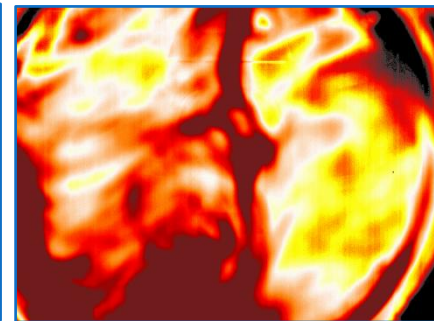
Injection



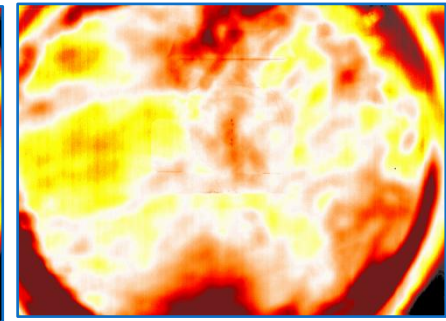
10 ms  
Jets collision



60 ms  
Standard ignition delay

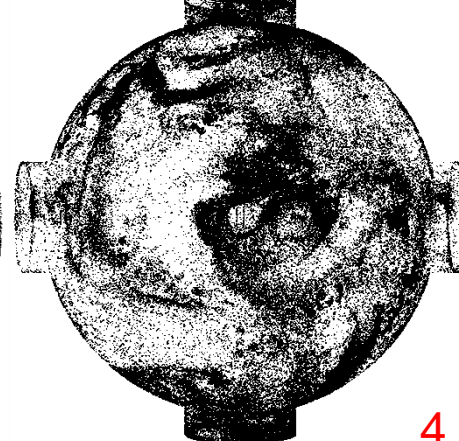
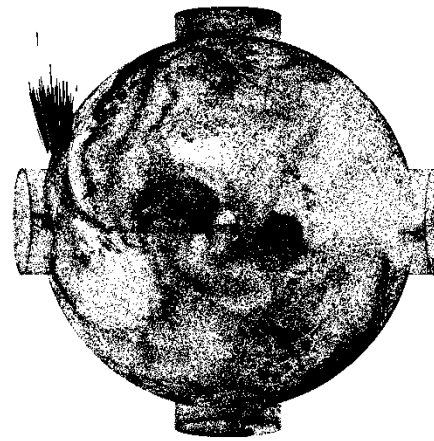
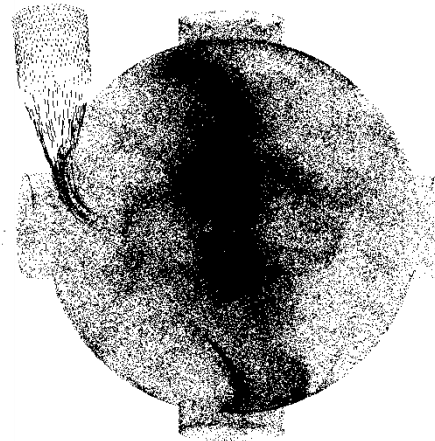
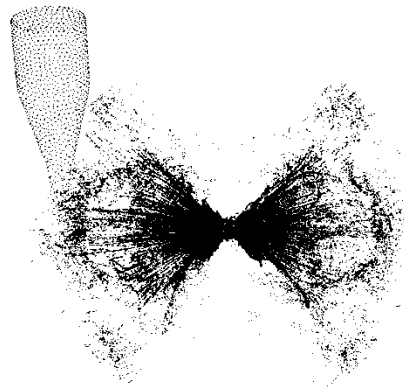


100 ms  
Extended ignition delay



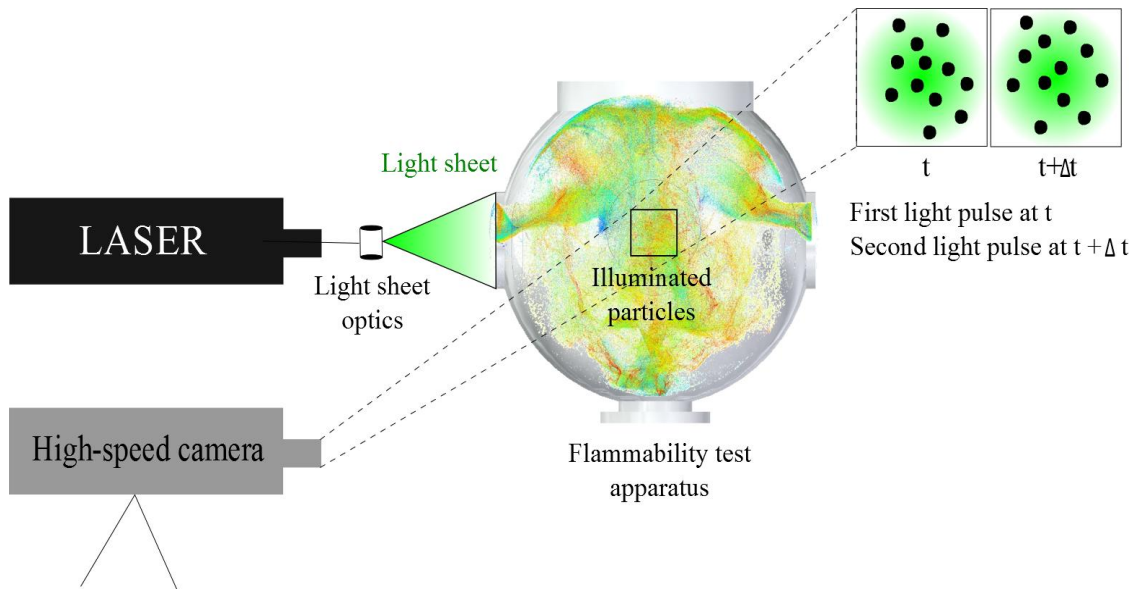
High speed video

CFD simulation

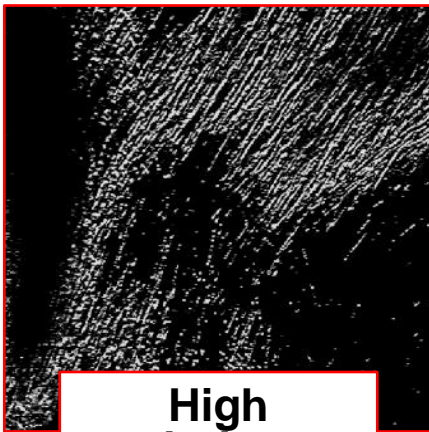




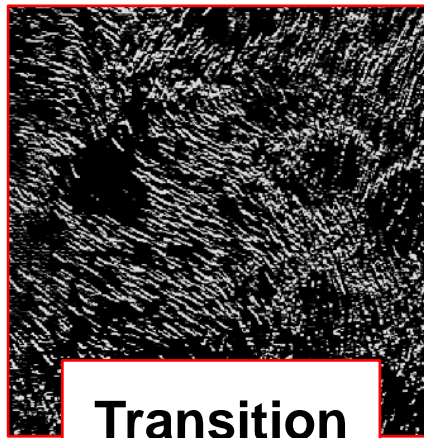
# Particle Image Velocimetry



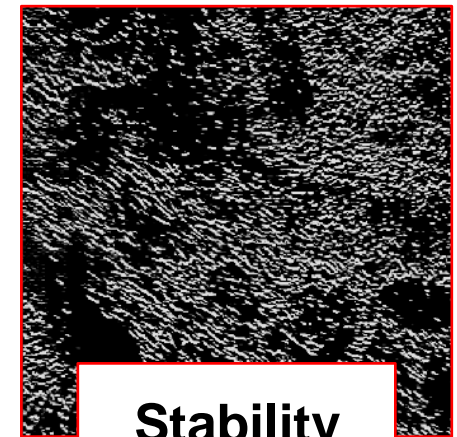
- The settings of the camera were adjusted to visualize a region of 3.0 cm x 3.0 cm.
- Framerate: 6,400 fps (0.16 ms).



**High  
turbulence**



**Transition**

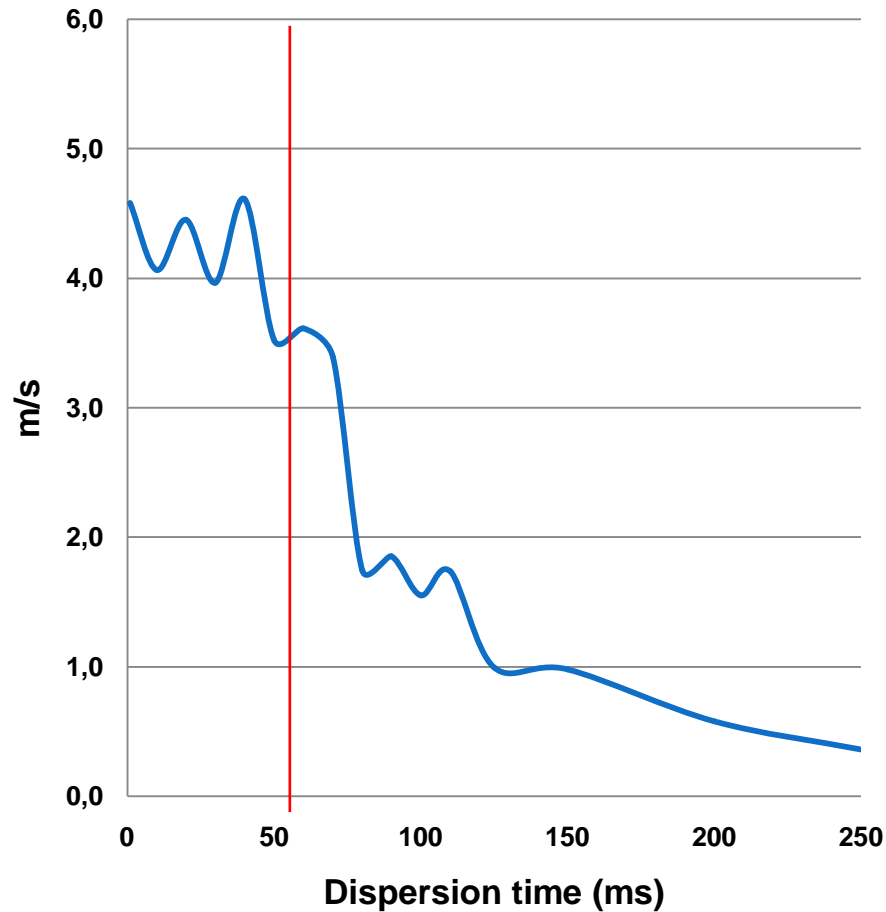


**Stability**

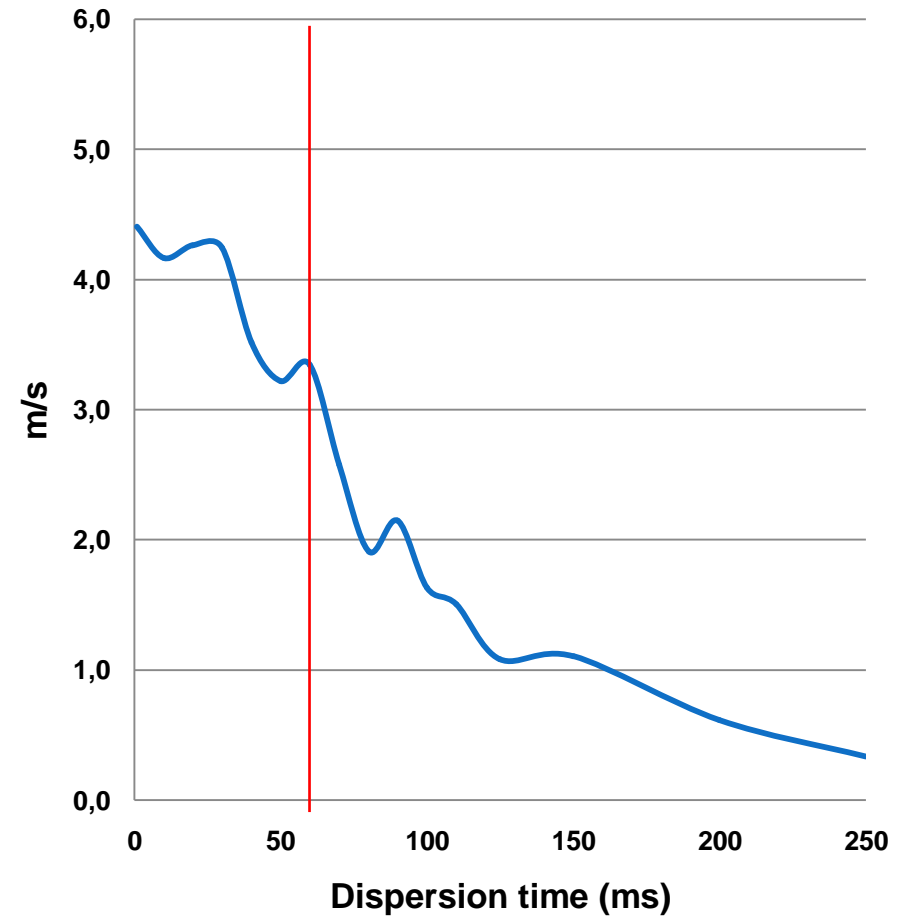
# Particle Image Velocimetry



Vertical velocity ( $v'$ )

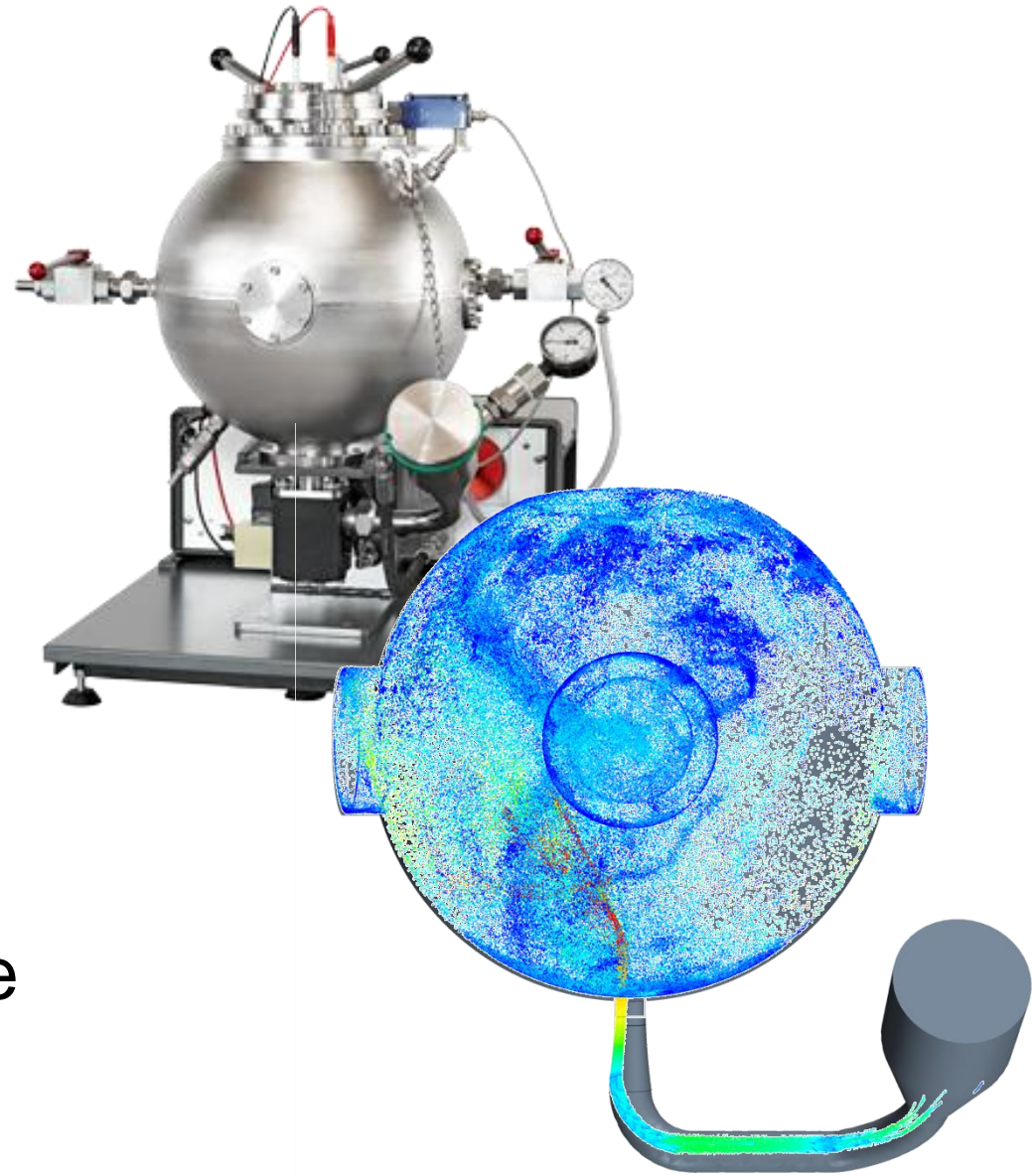


Horizontal velocity ( $u'$ )



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# Computational Fluid Dynamics

## EULER-LAGRANGE APPROACH

( $\Phi_{\text{SOLIDS}} < 10\%$ )

### **CONTINUOUS PHASE (EULERIAN)**

Dispersion gas

**Navier-Stokes equations**

**Turbulence model:**

**Detached Eddy Simulations.**

RANS model: Boundary layer

LES model: Core region of the fluid flow



### **DISCRETE PHASE (LAGRANGIAN)**

Combustible dust

**Momentum balance**

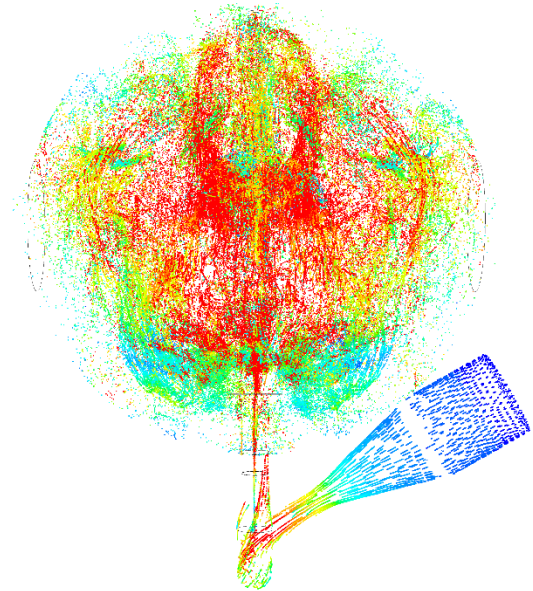
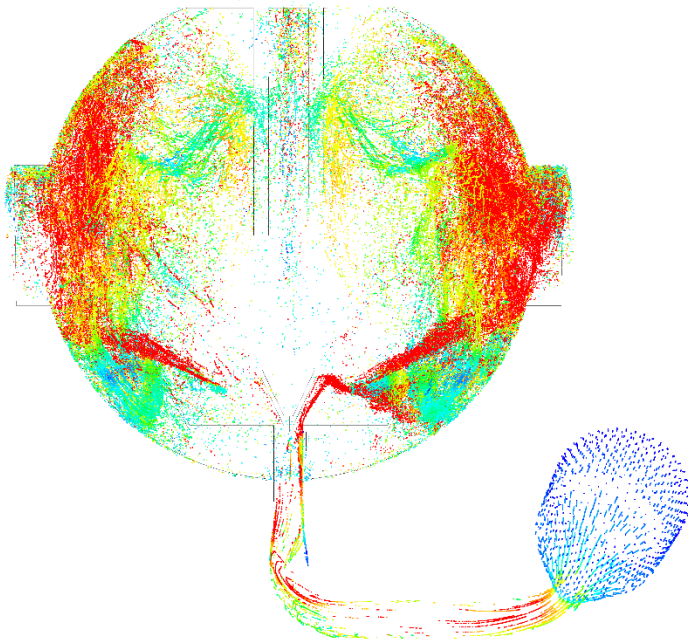
- Drag force (Relative velocity)
- Shear lift force
- Pressure gradients

**-Coefficients of restitution  
(particles & walls)**

Normal:0,25

Tangential:0,20

# Computational results



*Particle Velocity: Magnitude (m/s)*

0.00000

20.000

40.000

60.000

80.000

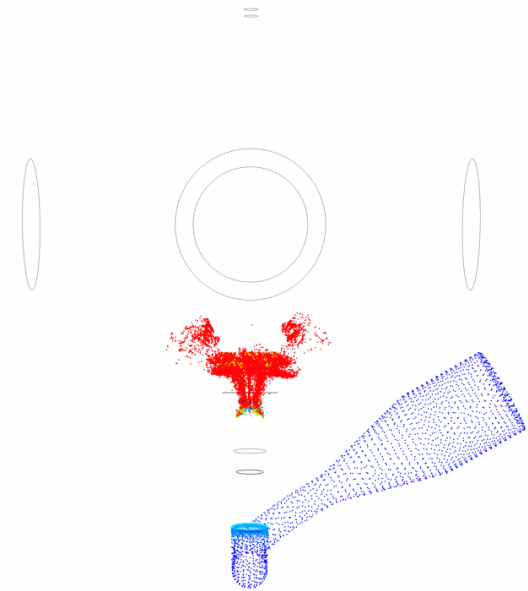
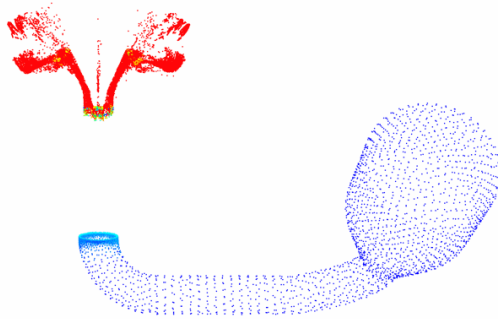
100.00



# Computational results



0.5 ms



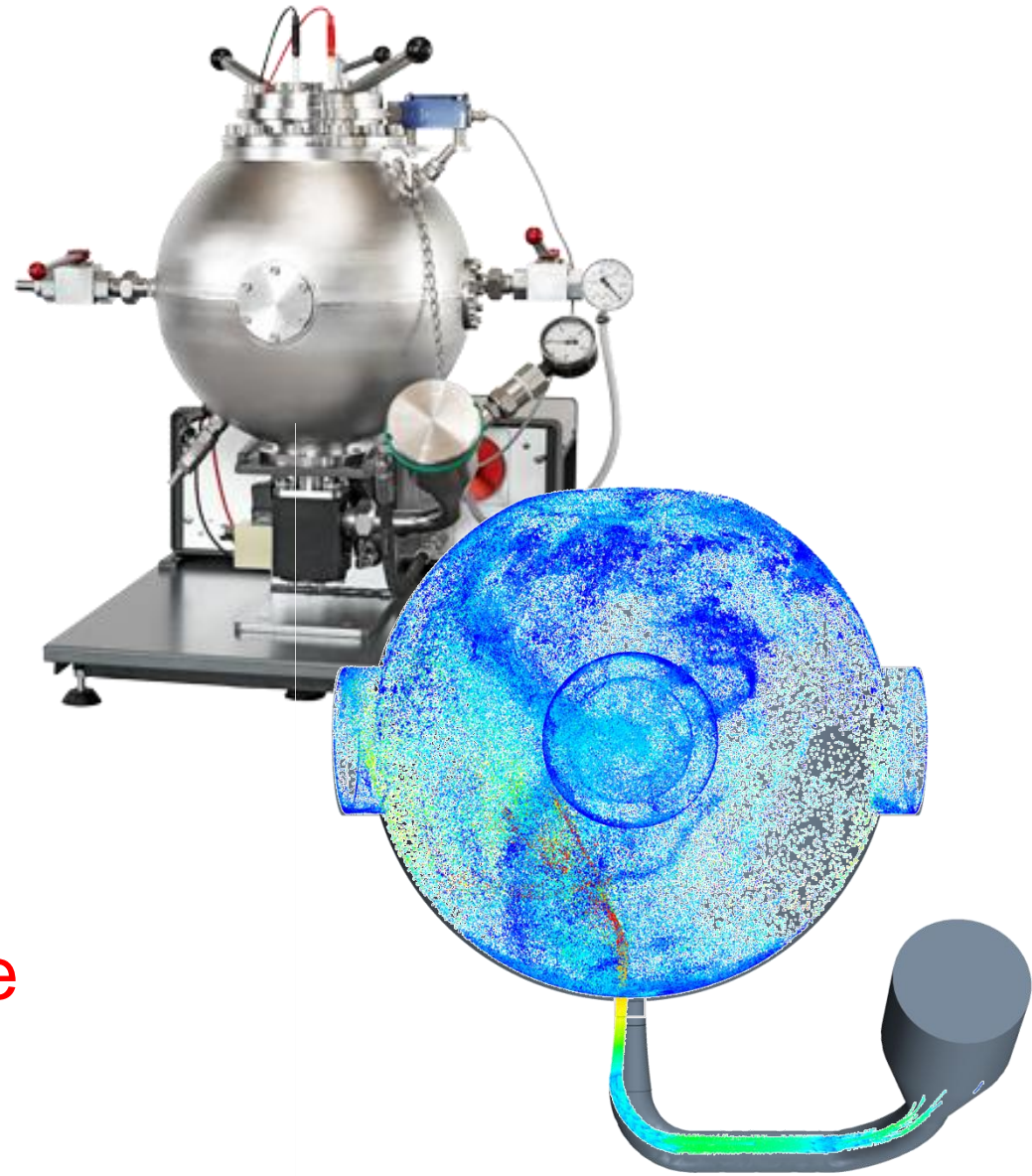
*Particle Velocity: Magnitude (m/s)*

0.00000      20.000      40.000      60.000      80.000      100.00



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- The ignition delay for micrometric wheat starch must be established between 60 and 80 ms.
- The computational analyses can become a useful tool for the development of a flammability test due to their capability of describing the development of a combustible cloud.

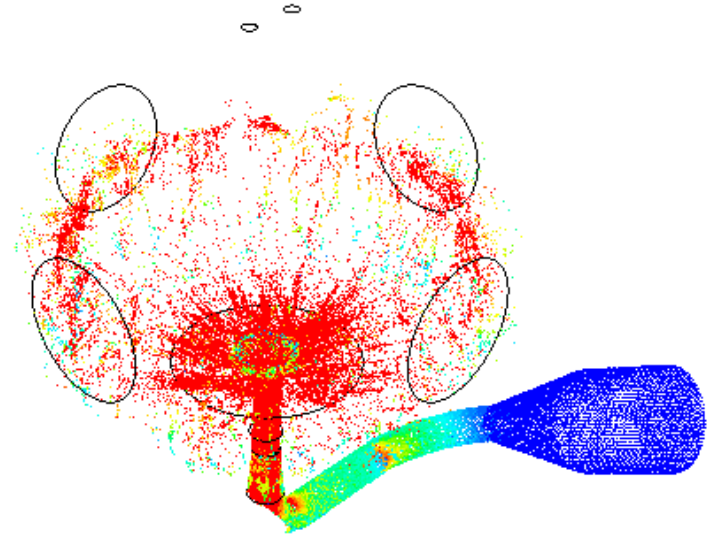
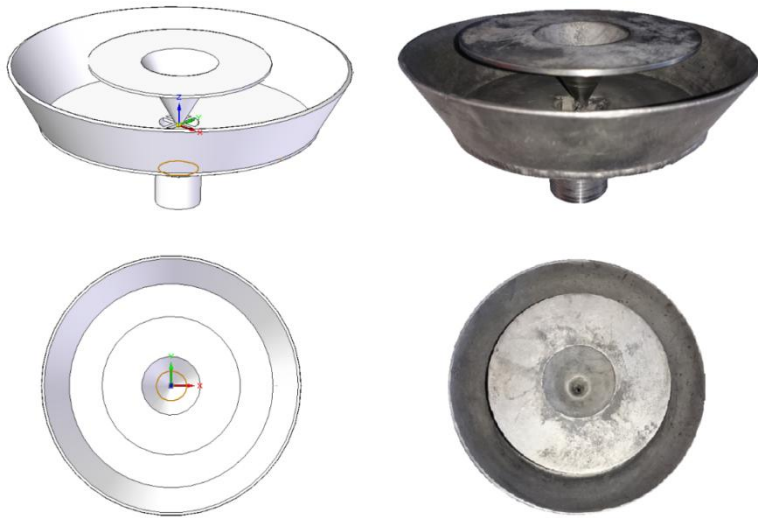
 Ignition delay

## Perspective

- Compare different types of combustible dusts in order to characterize properly the influence of their physical properties
- Develop a comparative analysis of diverse injection nozzles to identify new alternatives that provide more uniformity and stability to the dust cloud



# Perspective



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