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Detonation Waves: models & experiments

National Security Energetics council: summit series talk

Ralph Menikoff

Colleagues:

Sam Shaw

Christina Scovel

Data:

Rick Gustavsen

HE model regimes

Regime	Reactive mode	Model or experiment	Pressure scale	Time scale
Design mode	Shock Initiation	Ignition & Growth hot spots	$P_{\text{shock}} > \text{few GPa}$	$< 1 \mu\text{s}$
	Propagation	Programmed burn pseudo-reaction rate	$P_{\text{cj}} \sim 30 \text{ GPa}$	$10\text{s } \mu\text{s}$
Safety issues and Accident scenarios	Non-shock initiation	Low velocity impact shear heating	Impact $P < 1 \text{ GPa}$	few ms
	Thermal ignition	Cookoff expt. ODTX chemical reactions	$< 100 \text{ MPa}$	seconds to hours

- Dominant physics depends on regime
- Need different model for each regime

HE burn model

■ Equations of state

- Reactants
- Products

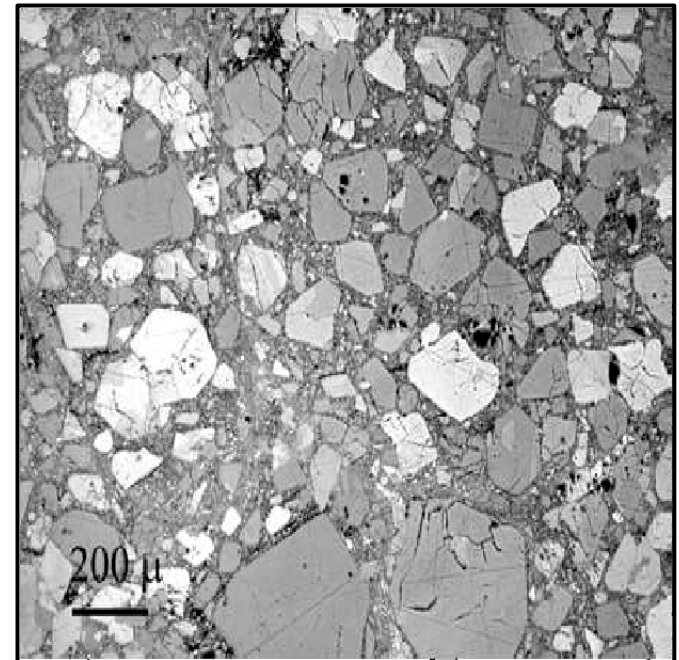
■ Mixture rule

- Homogenized PBX
Average over grains, binder and pores
- λ products mass fraction
 $P(V, e, \lambda)$ for partly burned HE
- Typically P-T equilibrium
Thermodynamically consistent

■ Burn rate

- Volume averaged rate
Account for temperature fluctuations
Hot spots dominate – chemical rate temperature sensitive
- Empirically calibrated

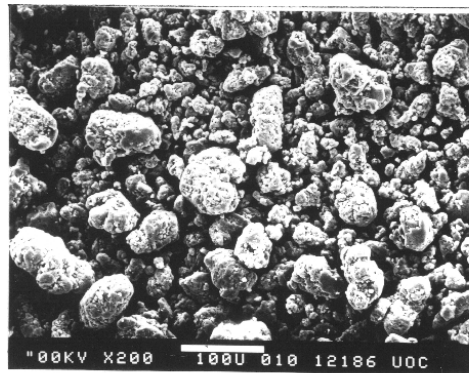
PBX 9501 (HMX)



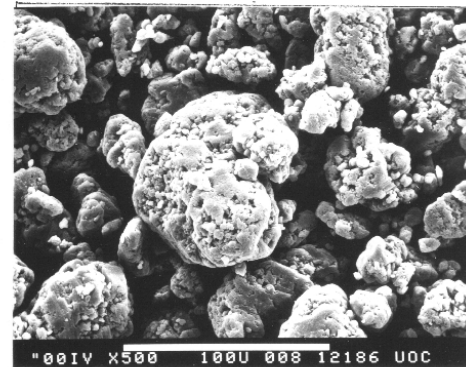
Polarized light micrograph
Cary Skidmore, 1998

TATB crystals (dry animated)

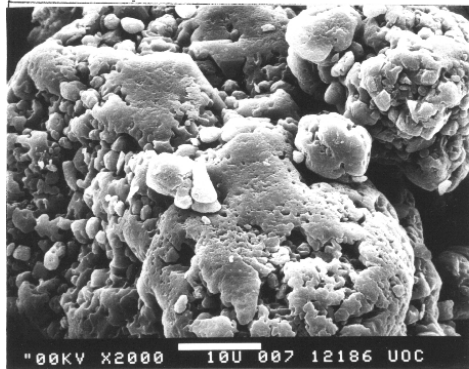
- Scanning electron micrograph
 - Pores (worm holes) within crystal



Pantex 12-11-82-0906-489, US Dry Sent to UK
200 x Mag.



Pantex 12-11-82-0906-489, US Dry Sent to UK
500 x Mag.



Pantex 12-11-82-0906-489, US Dry Sent to UK
2,000 x Mag.

TATB used in PBX 9502
Insensitive HE

Ignition & Growth concept

■ Shock front triggers hot spots

Void collapse on fast time scale

■ Burn centers

Competition between heat conduction & reaction

- Small hot spots quench
- Large hot spots become burn centers

■ Reactive wavelets

Deflagration waves from burn centers

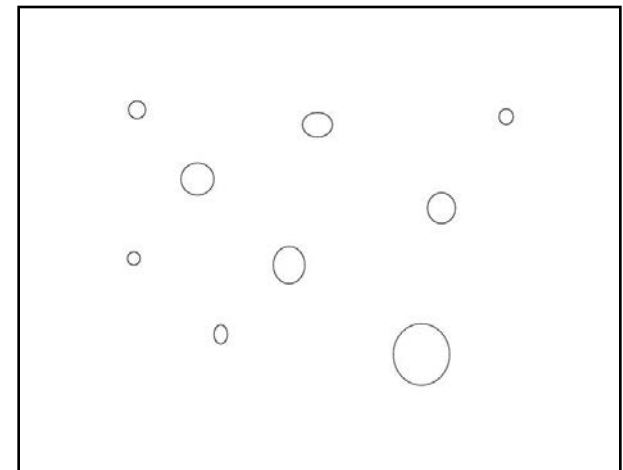
Burn rate = (front area) * (deflagration speed)

■ Depletion of reactants

Overlap of reactive wavelets

Geometric effect on front area

Potential hot spot sites



For PBX:

Pores between grains

Inclusions within a grain

Cracks in grain when pressed

Ignition & Growth concept – 1

■ Shock front triggers hot spots

Void collapse on fast time scale

■ Burn centers

Competition between heat conduction & reaction

- Small hot spots quench
- Large hot spots become burn centers

■ Reactive wavelets

Deflagration waves from burn centers

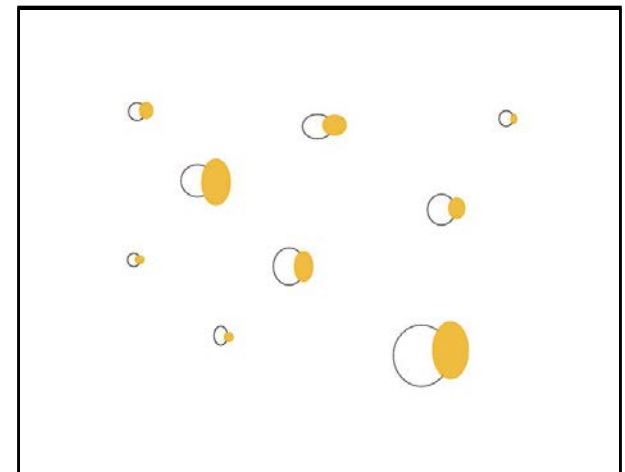
Burn rate = (front area) * (deflagration speed)

■ Depletion of reactants

Overlap of reactive wavelets

Geometric effect on front area

Shock sweeps over pores



Hot spots require
dissipative mechanism

Ignition & Growth concept – 2

■ Shock front triggers hot spots

Void collapse on fast time scale

■ Burn centers

Competition between heat conduction & reaction

- Small hot spots quench
- Large hot spots become burn centers

■ Reactive wavelets

Deflagration waves from burn centers

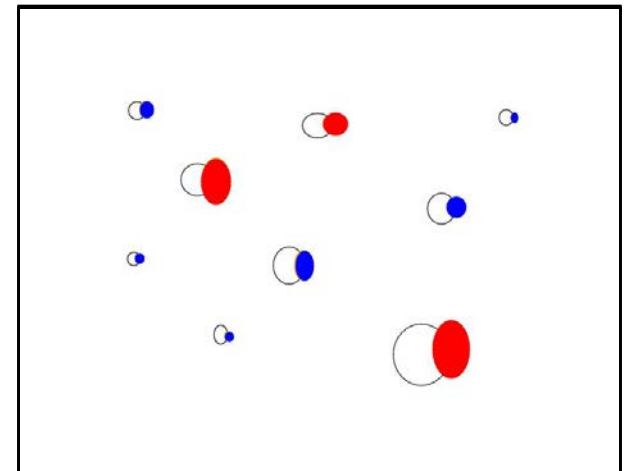
Burn rate = (front area) * (deflagration speed)

■ Depletion of reactants

Overlap of reactive wavelets

Geometric effect on front area

Ignition regime



Number density of burn centers
Increases with shock pressure

Ignition & Growth concept – 3

■ Shock front triggers hot spots

Void collapse on fast time scale

■ Burn centers

Competition between heat conduction & reaction

- Small hot spots quench
- Large hot spots become burn centers

■ Reactive wavelets

Deflagration waves from burn centers

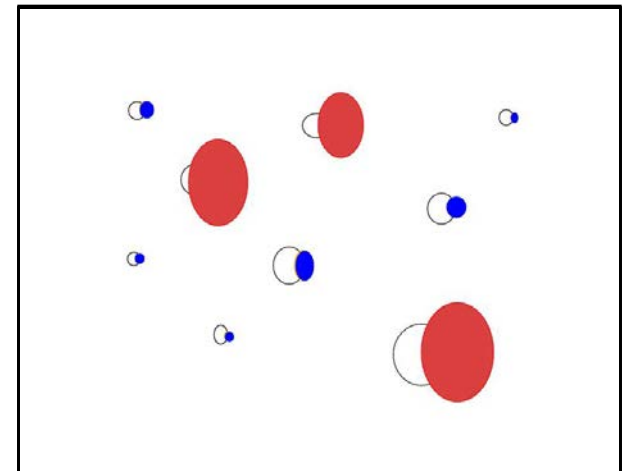
Burn rate = (front area) * (deflagration speed)

■ Depletion of reactants

Overlap of reactive wavelets

Geometric effect on front area

Early growth regime



Burn front area increasing

Reactants & products
are phase separated

Ignition & Growth concept – 4

■ Shock front triggers hot spots

Void collapse on fast time scale

■ Burn centers

Competition between heat conduction & reaction

- Small hot spots quench
- Large hot spots become burn centers

■ Reactive wavelets

Deflagration waves from burn centers

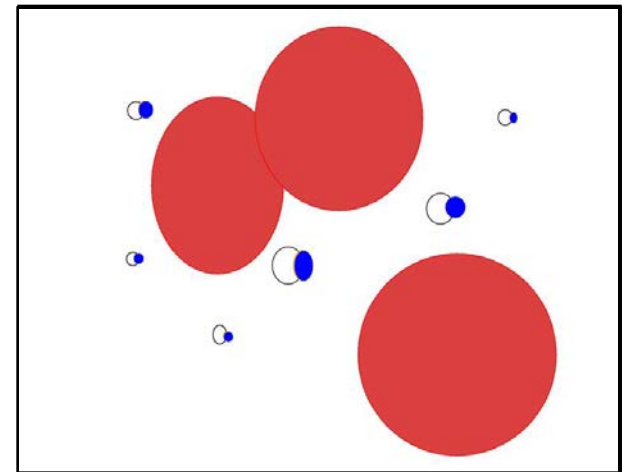
Burn rate = (front area) * (deflagration speed)

■ Depletion of reactants

Overlap of reactive wavelets

Geometric effect on front area

Late growth regime



Burn front area decreasing

Burn front area model
scales as function of λ
and proportional to
number of burn centers

Burn front area scaling

■ Hot spot assumptions

- Spherical hot spots
- All same radius
- Large number
- Randomly distributed

■ Al Nichols derivation, 2002

r_{hs} = hot spot radius

d_{hs} = av distance between hot spots

N = number of hot spots

Vol = total volume = $N d_{hs}^3$

• Key results

1. λ is function of r_{hs}/d_{hs}
2. Burn front area is function of λ

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \lambda &= \prod_{hs} \left[1 - \frac{r_{hs}^3}{Vol} \right] = \left[1 - \frac{r_{hs}^3}{Vol} \right]^N \\ &= \left[1 - \frac{1}{N} \left(\frac{r_{hs}}{d_{hs}} \right)^3 \right]^N \\ &\rightarrow \exp \left[- (r_{hs}/d_{hs})^3 \right] \quad \text{as } N \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\lambda}{dt} &= 3(1 - \lambda) \cdot \left[\frac{r_{hs}}{d_{hs}} \right]^2 \cdot \frac{1}{d_{hs}} \frac{dr_{hs}}{dt} \\ &\propto (1 - \lambda) [-\ln(1 - \lambda)]^{2/3} \\ &\approx \lambda^{2/3} (1 - \lambda)^{2/3} \end{aligned}$$

Ignition & Growth assumptions

■ Wave width

$$width = \int d\lambda \frac{D-u}{Rate} \quad \text{in stationary frame of wave}$$

deflagration speed < CJ detonation speed

■ Hot spots

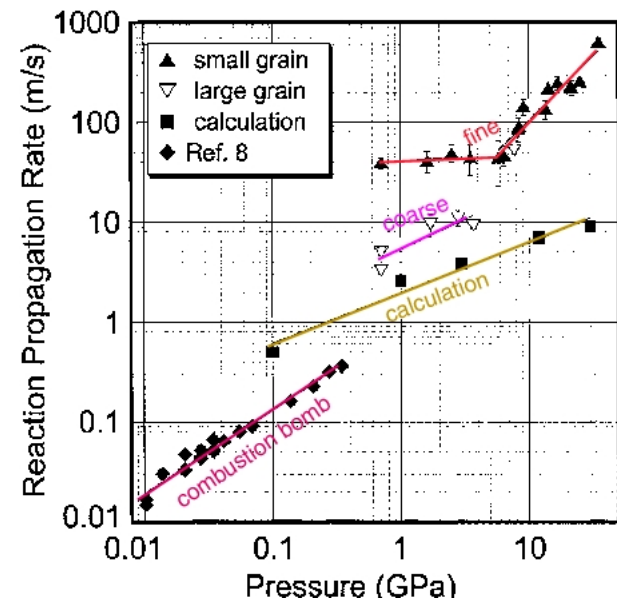
deflagration width < **hot spot size** < detonation width

- Hot spot triggers deflagration wave but not detonation wave
- **Collective effect of many hot spots**

■ Deflagration speed

- Deflagration speed $\propto P^n$
 - Much lower than detonation speed
 - For fixed pore volume
- Need many small hot spots**

HMX / PBX 9501
Esposito et al. 2003



HE burn models (pressure dependent rate)

■ Ignition & Growth model (Lee & Tarver, 1980/Tarver, Hallquist & Ericson, 1985)

- Rate is sum of three terms

switch on λ = mass fraction of products

1. Ignition, $0 \leq \lambda < \lambda_i$ small,

2. **Growth**, $\lambda_i \leq \lambda < \lambda_g$

3. Burn out, $\lambda_g \leq \lambda \leq 1$

$$Rate(\lambda, \rho) \propto (\rho/\rho_0 - a)^n$$

$$Rate(\lambda, P) \propto (1-\lambda)^q \lambda^r P^n$$

added for slow rate in TATB

■ WSD model (Wescott, Stewart & Davis, 2005)

Variation of Ignition & Growth

- Smooth transition between terms in λ
- **Two coefficients for growth term: ignition & propagation regimes**

Switches on shock density (ρ_s from hydro code)

- Ad hoc extension for shock desensitization
- Adds timer variable to cut off reaction

HE burn models (rate dependent on lead shock strength)

■ SURF model (Shaw & Menikoff, 2010)

L2 milestone (2010) : Reactive flow model for IHE

- Transformed variable

$$\lambda = g(s) \quad \text{and } s \text{ is scaled reactive variable} = \frac{\text{hot spot radius}}{\text{av dist between hot spots}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}s = f(P_s) \quad \text{where } P_s \text{ is lead shock strength, } f \propto D \times (\text{hs number density})^{1/3}$$

- Rate function of lead shock pressure

$$\text{Rate}(\lambda, P_s) = \frac{d}{dt}\lambda = \frac{d}{ds}g \cdot \frac{d}{dt}s$$

Naturally accounts for shock desensitization

- Algorithm to detect lead shock

Local, based on Hugoniot equation: $e = e_0 + \frac{1}{2}(P + P_0)(V_0 - V)$

- Some aspects similar to other models

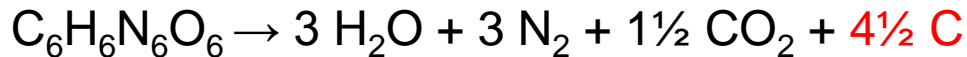
- CREST (AWE, 2006)

- History Variable Reactive Burn model (Kerley, 1992)

HE burn models (two-step reaction)

■ TATB – insensitive HE

- Excess carbon due to stoichiometry

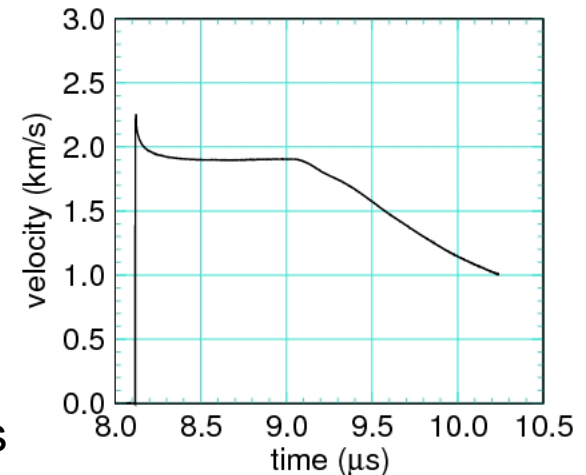


- Carbon clustering



C-bonds release energy

- Experimental evidence for fast & slow reactions
- Recovery experiments find nanometer size diamonds



Shot 4f112
Vorthman et al.
1999

■ SURFplus model (Menikoff & Shaw, 2012)

- SURF model for fast reaction

Hot spot model

- Plus second slow reaction for carbon clustering

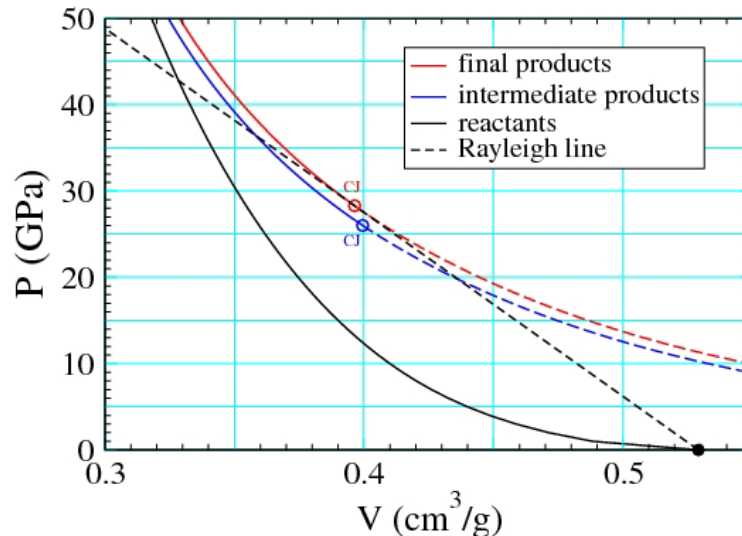
Based on analysis of Shaw & Johnson (1987)

Diffusion process for cluster formation, hence slow rate

Effect of fast-slow rate

■ Carbon clustering energy release

- Shifts detonation locus and release isentrope



- **Final products**
Equilibrium with carbon clustering
- **Intermediate products**
Without carbon clustering energy

■ Slow approach to steady state

- Shock initiation to CJ state of intermediate products
- Detonation speed increases to CJ state of final products
- Slow transient due to sonic condition

Equations of state

■ Reactants

- Hugoniot data
- Diamond anvil cell data (HE grains)

■ Products

- Overdriven detonation
- Release isentrope
- Cylinder test wall velocity

■ EOS fitting form

- Mie-Gruneisen form

Ref curve: $P_{\text{ref}}(V)$, $e_{\text{ref}}(V)$

- Principal Hugoniot or isentrope for solid
- CJ release isentrope for products

- Common fitting forms

JWL, HOM, Davis, Shaw table for products

$$P(V, e) = P_{\text{ref}}(V) + \frac{\Gamma(V)}{V} [e - e_{\text{ref}}(V)]$$

Thermodynamic consistent

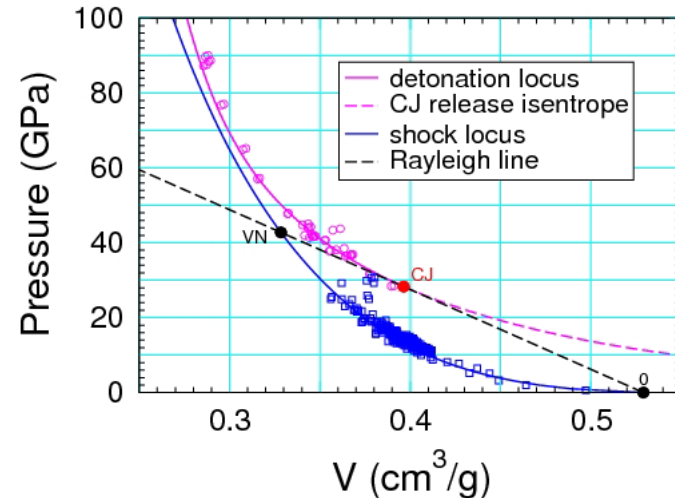
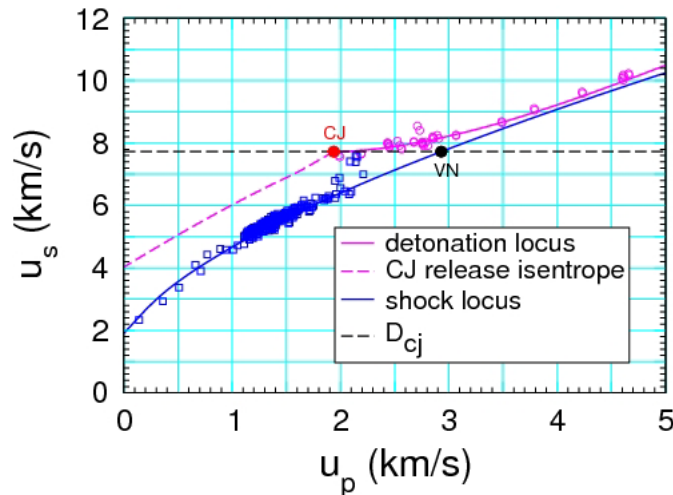
T based on Γ and C_v

$$C_v(T, V) = C_v(T/\theta(V))$$

$$\Gamma(V) = -V \frac{d \ln \theta}{dV}$$

PBX 9502 – Hugoniot & detonation loci

■ Principal Hugoniot and release isentrope



■ $\Gamma(V)$ difficult to measure

- Need sound speed or 2 reference curves

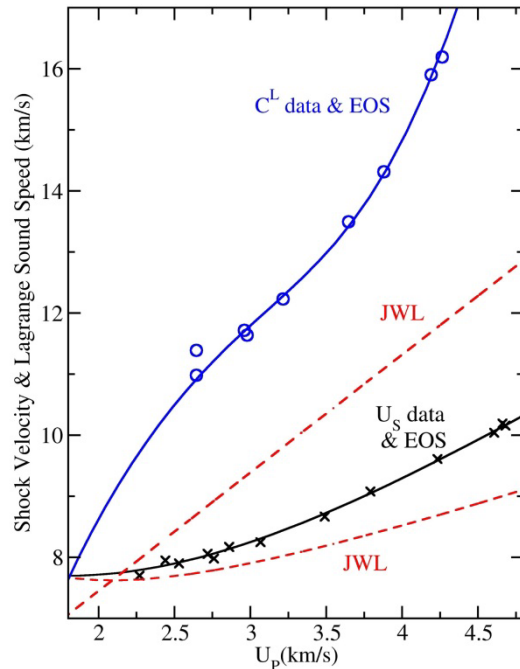
■ Little temperature data

- C_v solid based on phonon spectrum

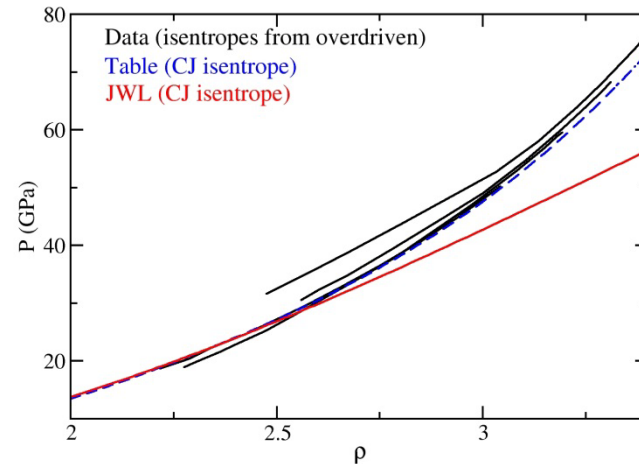
from MD simulations or Raman scattering and infrared spectrometry

PBX 9502 – overdriven detonation & release wave

■ Uncertainty in CJ state



Courtesy Sam Shaw, 1999
Fritz, Hixson, Vorthman, Anderson



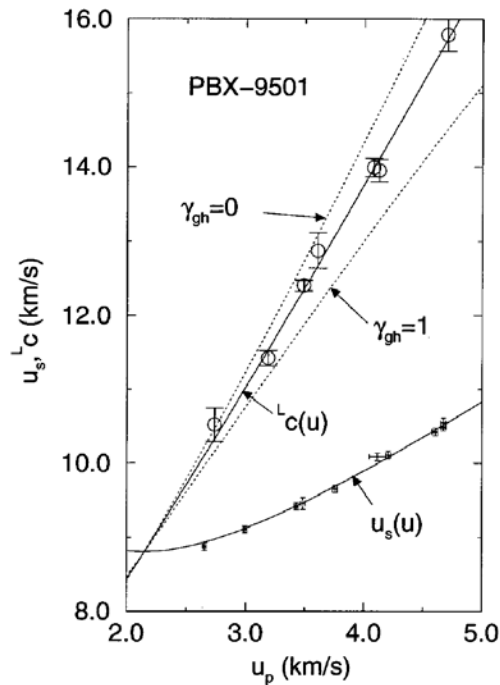
■ Anomalous behavior of isentropes

- Likely due to carbon clusters
Possibly diamond/graphite transition
Or surface molecules on cluster
- Limits accuracy of EOS model

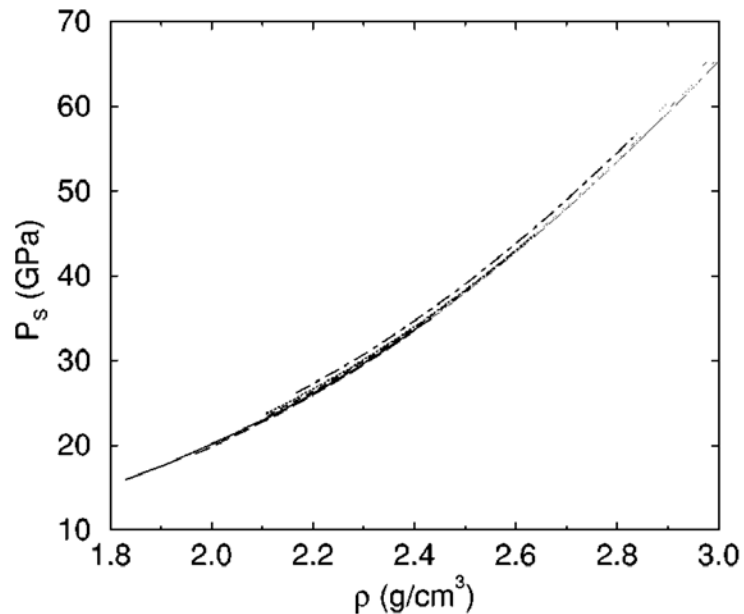
PBX 9501 – overdriven detonation & release wave

- Fast reaction, no carbon clustering

- Expected behavior



Fritz et al, 1996

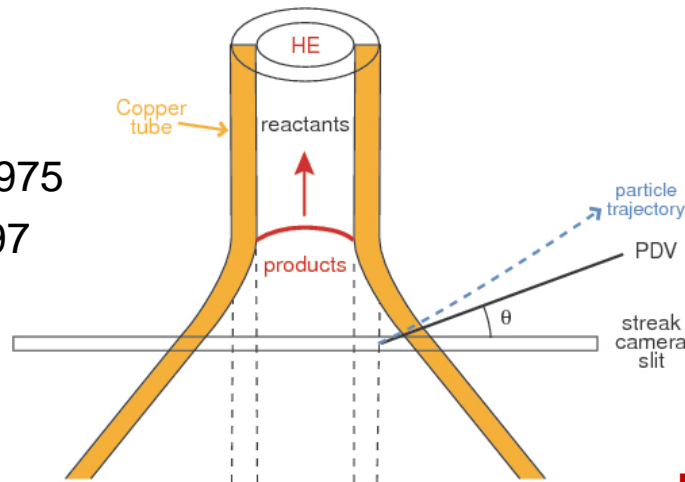


Hixson et al, 2000

PBX 9501 – CJ release isentrope

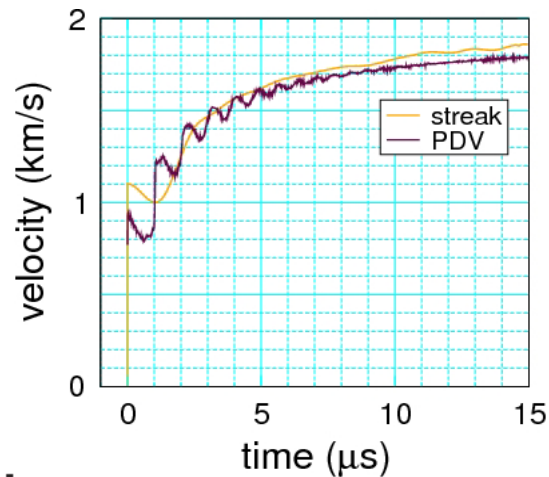
■ Cylinder test

- Streak experiment
Campbell & Engelke, 1975
Reanalyzed by Hill, 1997
- PDV experiment
Pemberton, 2011

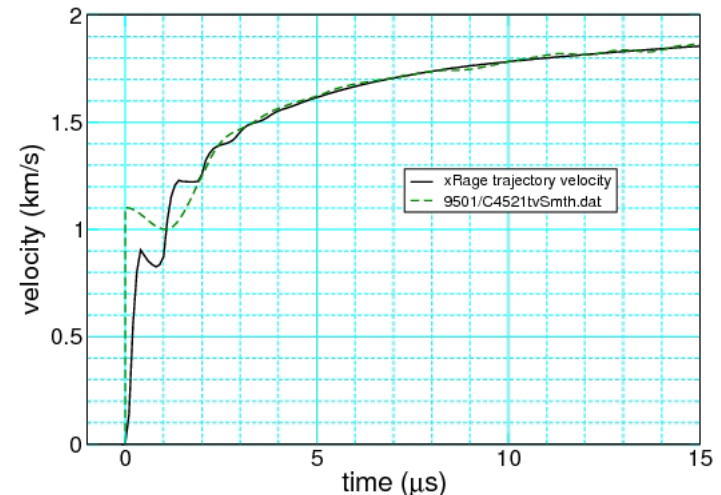


LLNL, early 1970s
Originally used to
calibrate JWL EOS
for HE products

■ Wall velocity data



■ xRage simulation



Data to calibrate & validate burn rate

■ Pop plot data

- Distance of run-to-detonation as function of initial shock pressure

■ Shock-to-Detonation Transition data

1-D experiments, gas gun – embedded velocity gauge data or PDV probes

- Sustained shock
- Short shock
- Double shock – shock desensitization

■ 2-D experiments

- Rod impact
- Corner turning
- Initiator/booster
 - Onion skin, Mushroom, Hockey puck
- Curvature effect and failure diameter

PBX 9502 – Pop plot

■ Sensitive to initial temperature

- Hot more sensitive
- Cold less sensitive

Also dependence on lot

■ Sensitive to initial density

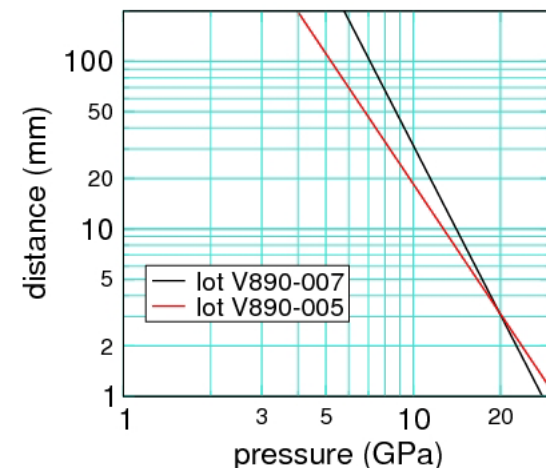
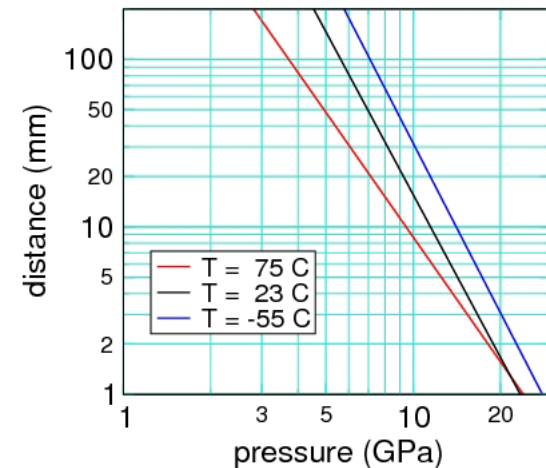
- Lower density (increased porosity)
More shock heating, $\Delta e = \frac{1}{2} P \Delta V$
- **CJ detonation speed varies with initial density**

Roughly $\Delta D = 2 \text{ to } 3 \text{ (m/s) / (mg/cm}^3\text{)}$

Thermal expansion $\frac{\Delta V}{V \Delta T} = 1.4 \times 10^{-4} / \text{K}$

■ EOS issues

- PBX density measured at room temperature
- Thermal expansion not accurate
Change in pore volume fraction



Ignition & Growth concept – shock sensitivity

■ Burn centers

- Tail of hot spot distribution

Initial temperature shifts distribution

Hence affects number of burn centers

■ Shock desensitization

Campbell & Travis, 1985

- Weak shock closes pores

Eliminates potential hot spot sites

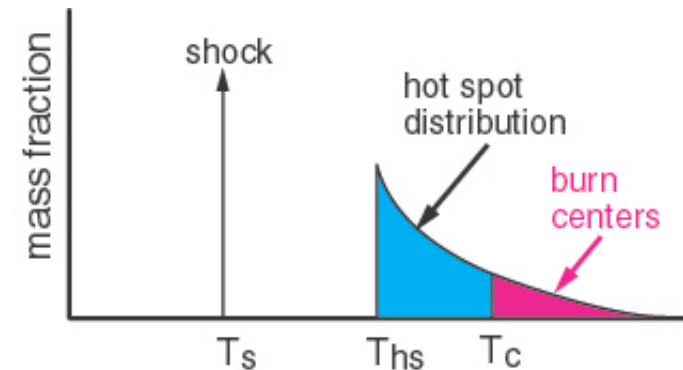
- Limiting case

Pure crystal (no pores) very insensitive

Detonation wave in PBX 9404 failed to initiate HMX crystal

Detonation wave in HMX crystal can be initiated by flyer plate

– Thermal rate at von Neumann spike temperature



PBX 9502 – shock-to-detonation transition - 1

■ Sustained shock

- Embedded velocity gauges

Shot 2s58

$P_s = 10.9$ GPa

- Solid, experiment
- Dashed, simulation

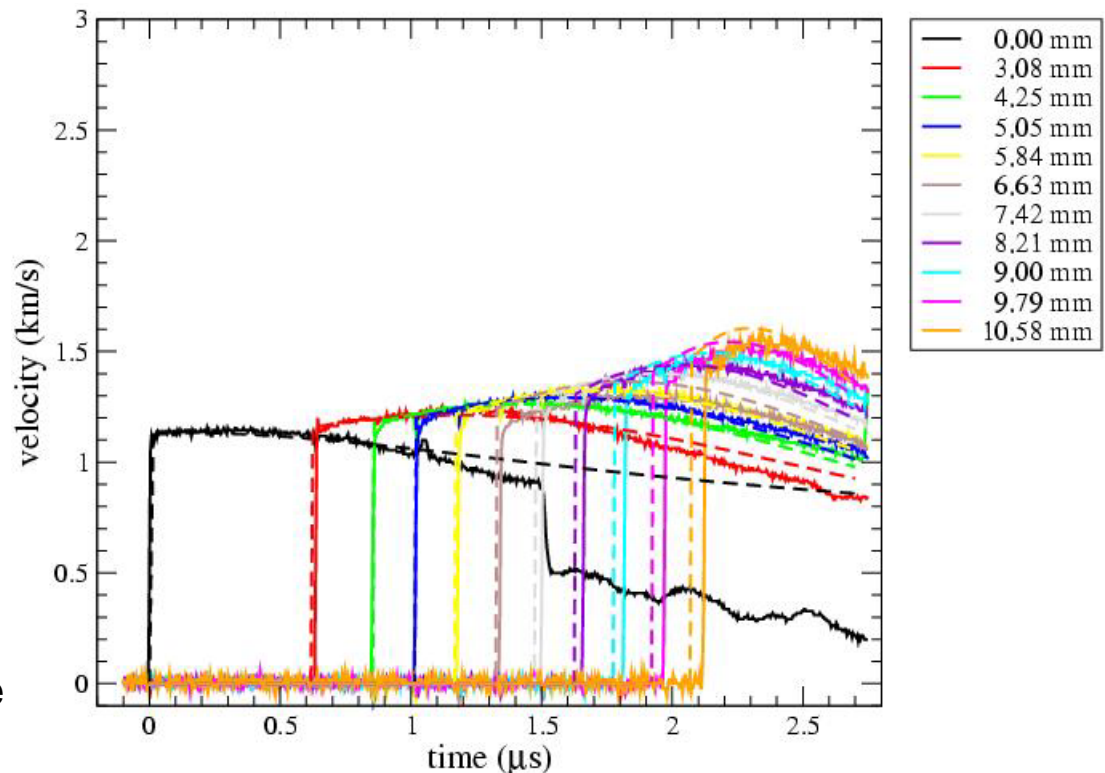
Gas gun experiments

- Rick Gustavsen et al

Simulations

- **Amrita** environment
by James Quirk
Lagrangian equation set
and patch integrator for
Amr_sol computational engine

SURF model simulation



PBX 9502 – shock-to-detonation transition - 2

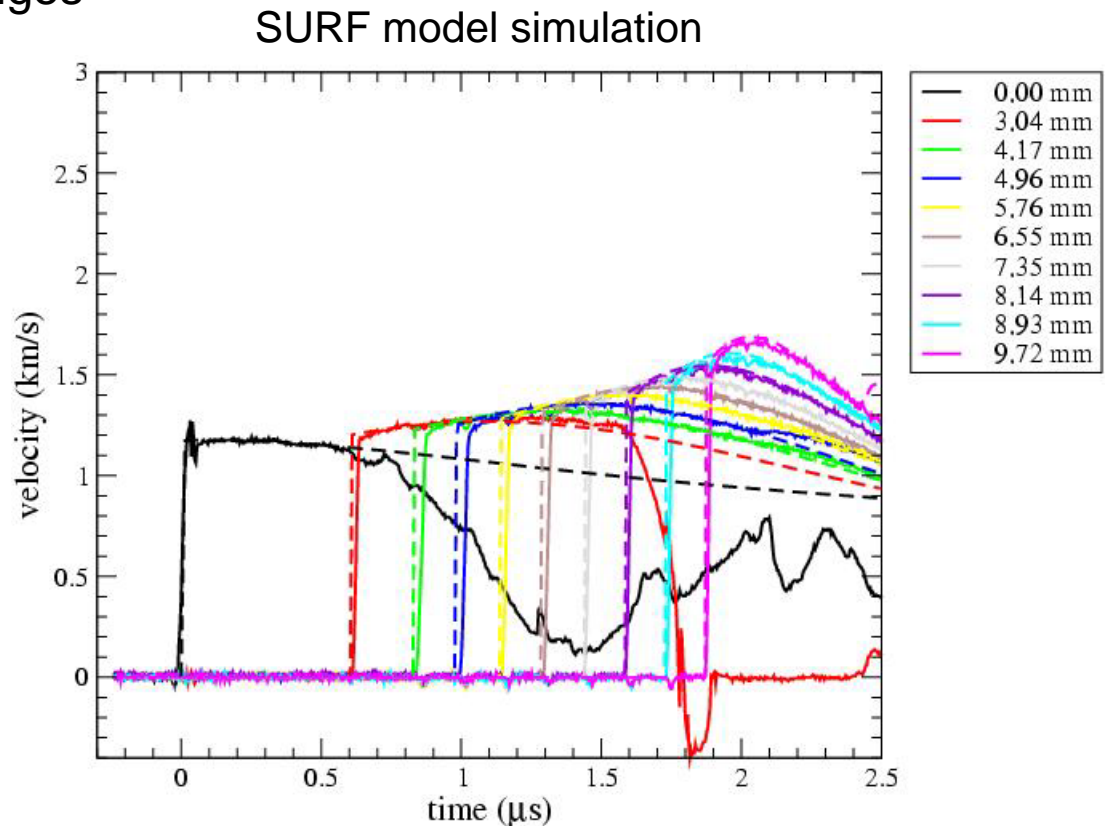
■ Sustained shock

- Embedded velocity gauges

Shot 2s42

$P_s = 11.2$ GPa

- Solid, experiment
- Dashed, simulation



PBX 9502 – shock-to-detonation transition - 3

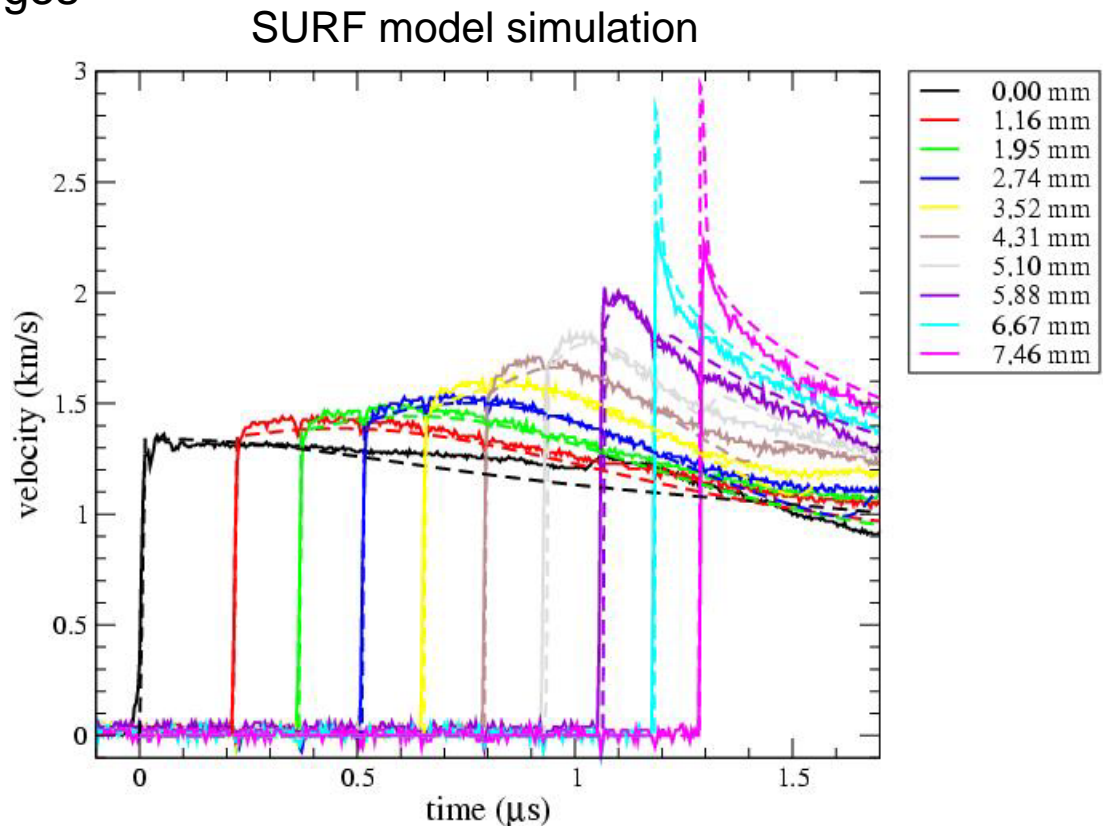
■ Sustained shock

- Embedded velocity gauges

Shot 2s40

$P_s = 13.5$ GPa

- Solid, experiment
- Dashed, simulation



PBX 9502 – shock-to-detonation transition - 4

■ Short shock

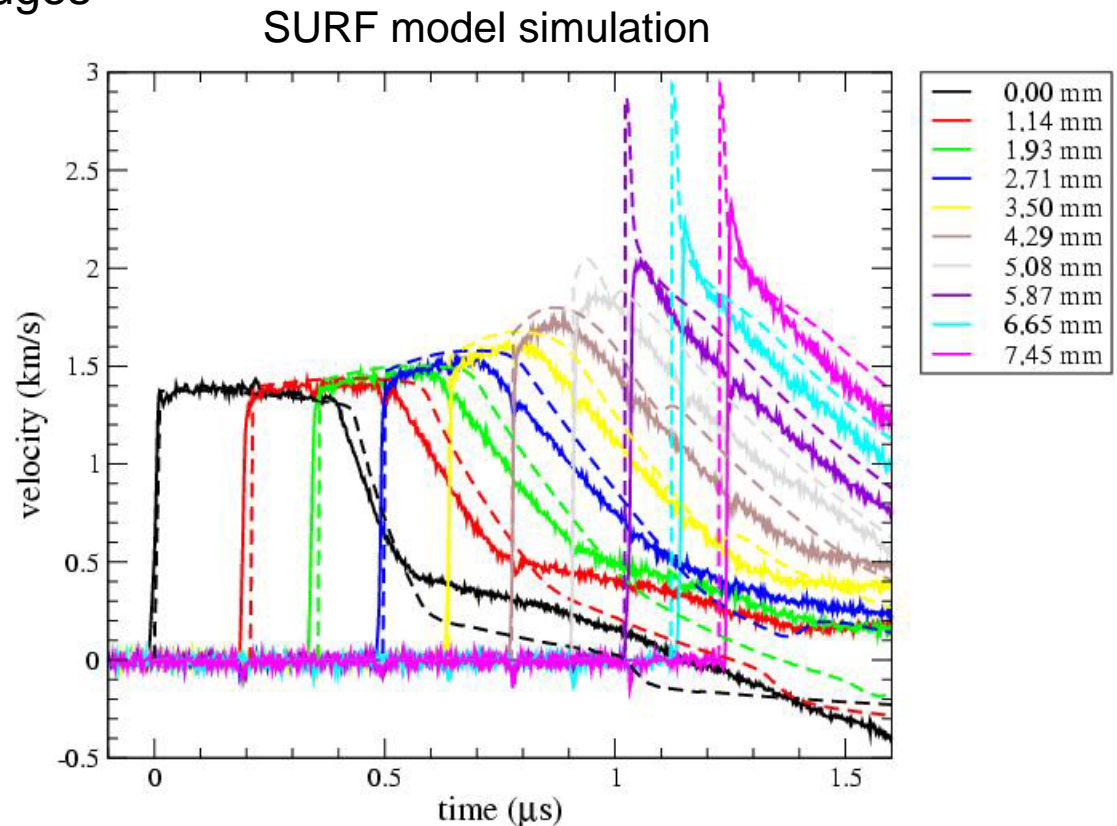
- Embedded velocity gauges

Shot 2s100

$P_s = 14.0 \text{ GPa}$

$\Delta t = 0.35 \mu\text{s}$

- Solid, experiment
- Dashed, simulation



PBX 9502 – shock-to-detonation transition - 5

■ Short shock

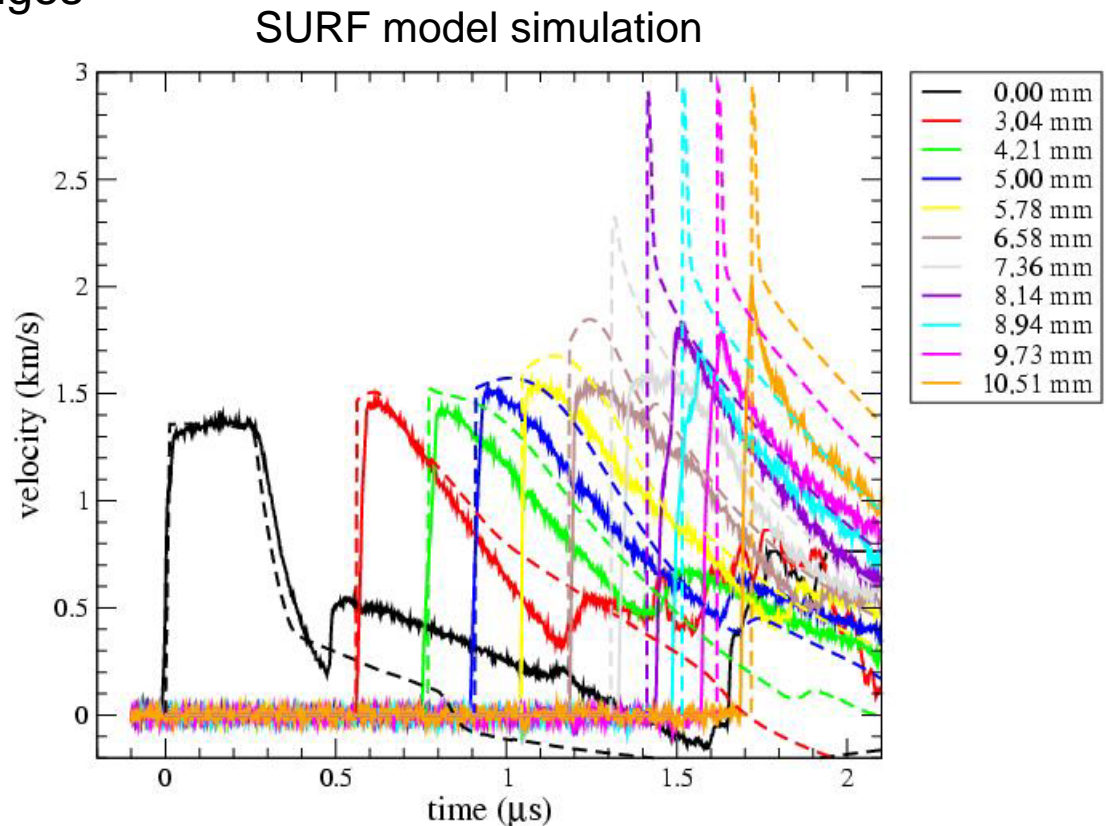
- Embedded velocity gauges

Shot 2s105

$P_s = 13.9 \text{ GPa}$

$\Delta t = 0.27 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$

- Solid, experiment
- Dashed, simulation



PBX 9502 – shock desensitization

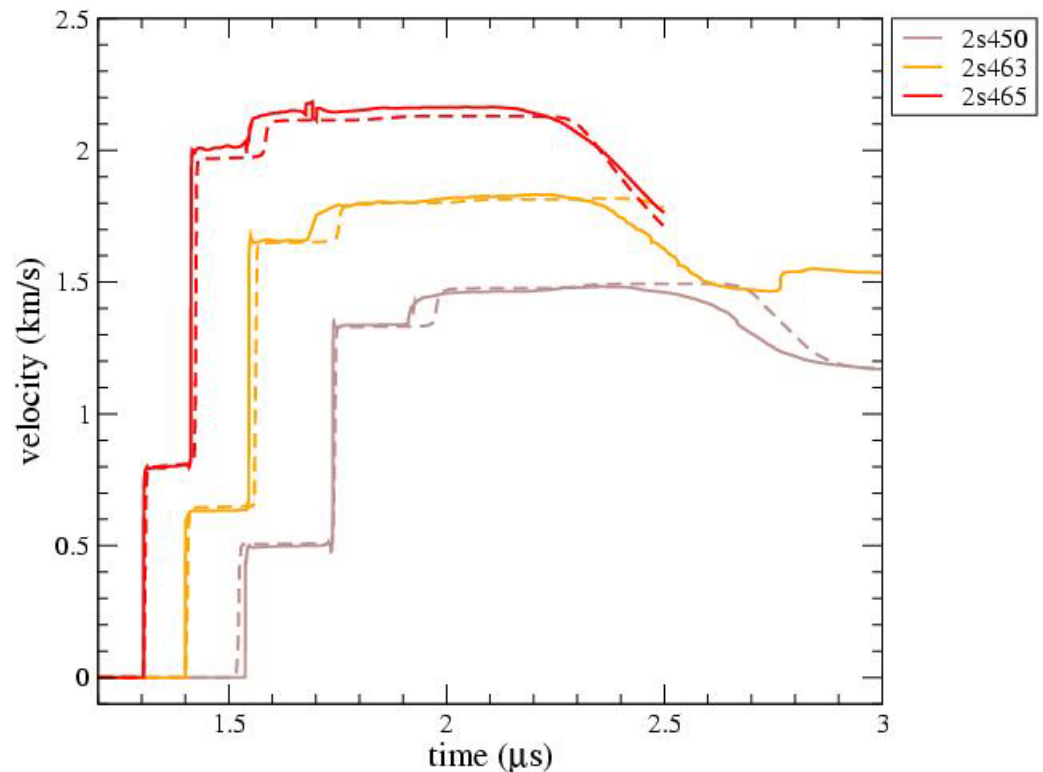
■ Double shock

- PDV probes
 - Solid, experiment
 - Dashed, simulation

shot	P1	P2
	GPa	GPa
2s450	5.3	19
2s463	7.0	25
2s465	9.0	33

CJ pressure 28 GPa
VN spike pressure 42 GPa

SURF model simulation

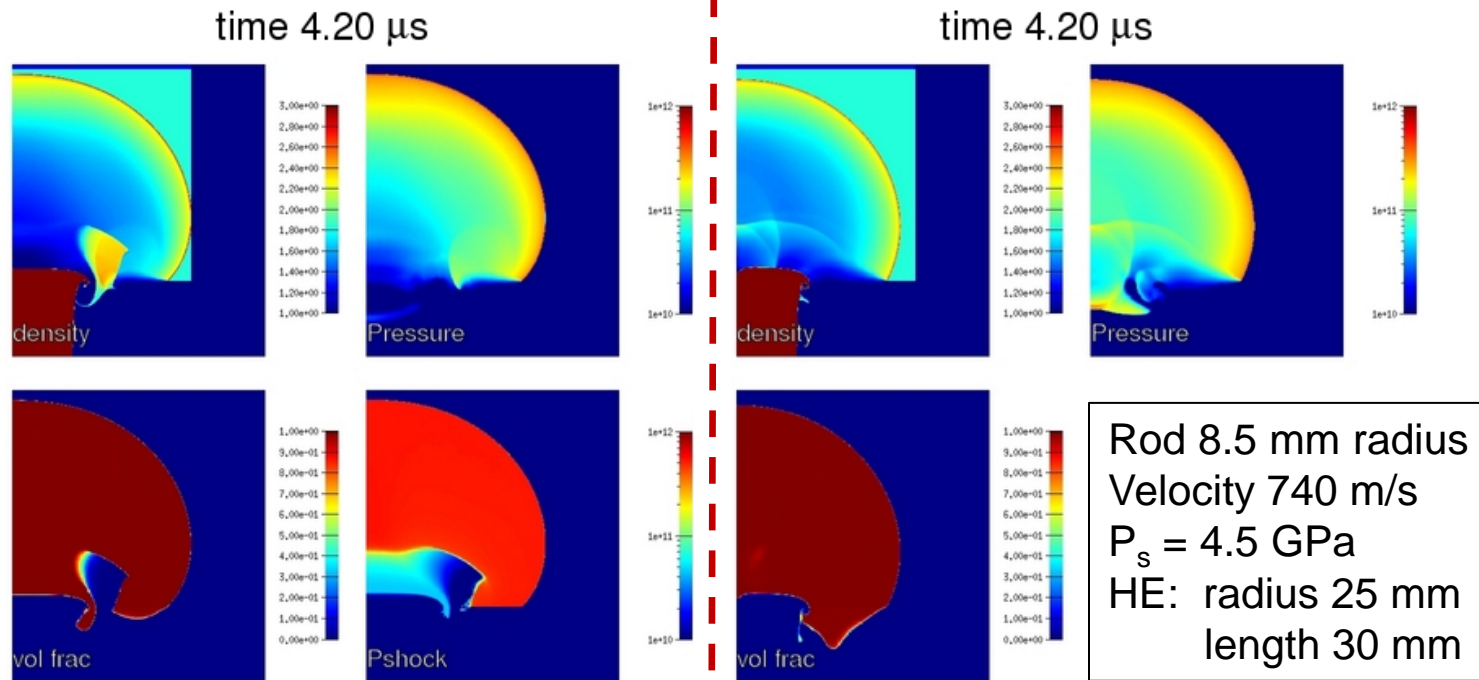


UNCLASSIFIED

Slide 29

PBX 9501 – shock initiation & corner turning

■ Rod impact, xRage simulations (click on plots to see movie)



SURF model

- Desensitized HE
near corner of rod

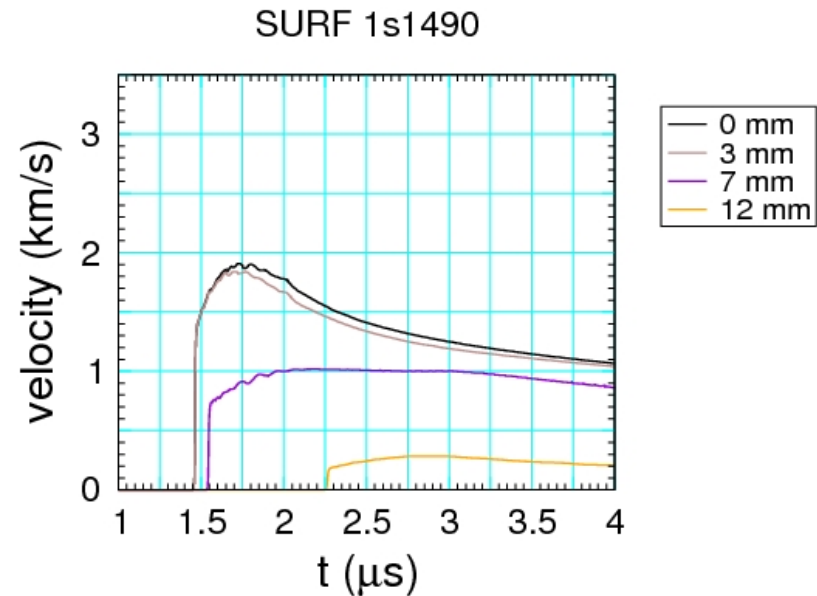
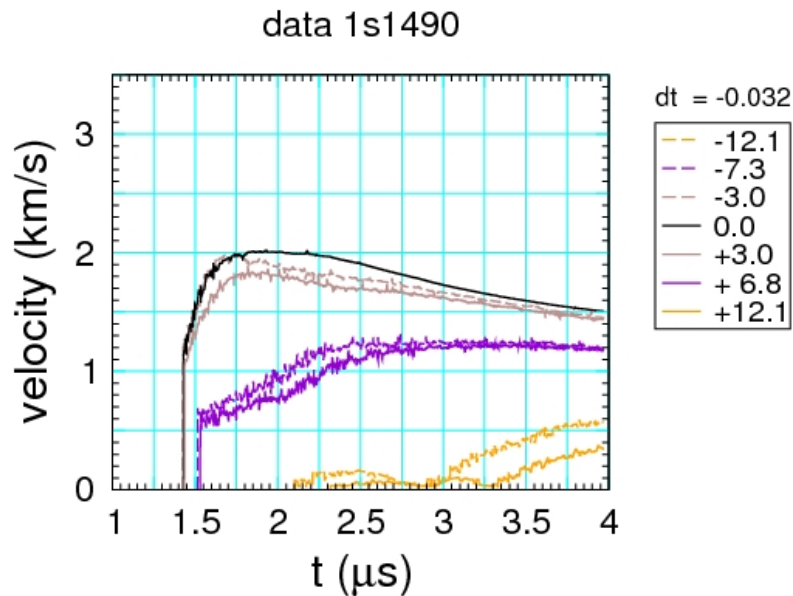
Ignition & Growth model

- Initiation leads to reactive wave
in precompressed HE

PBX 9501 Rod Impact Experiment: comparison 1

■ Shot 1s1490

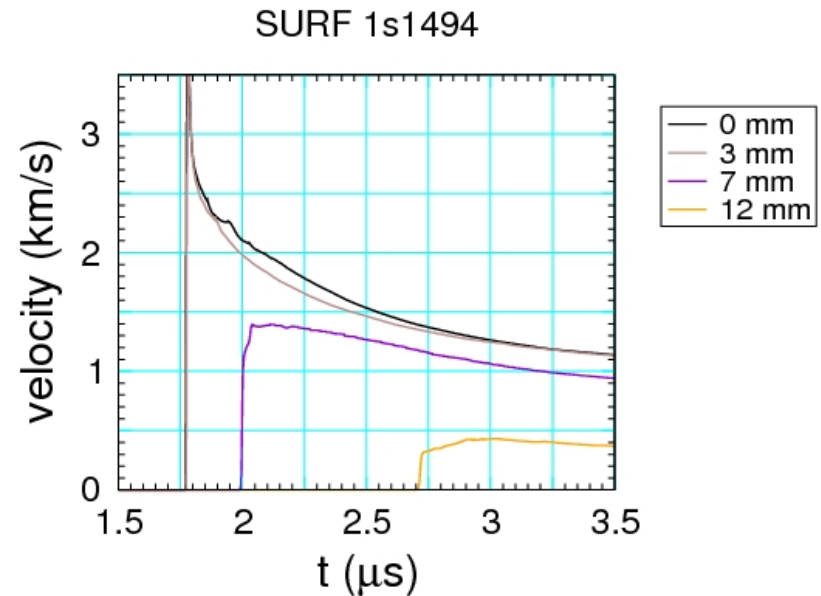
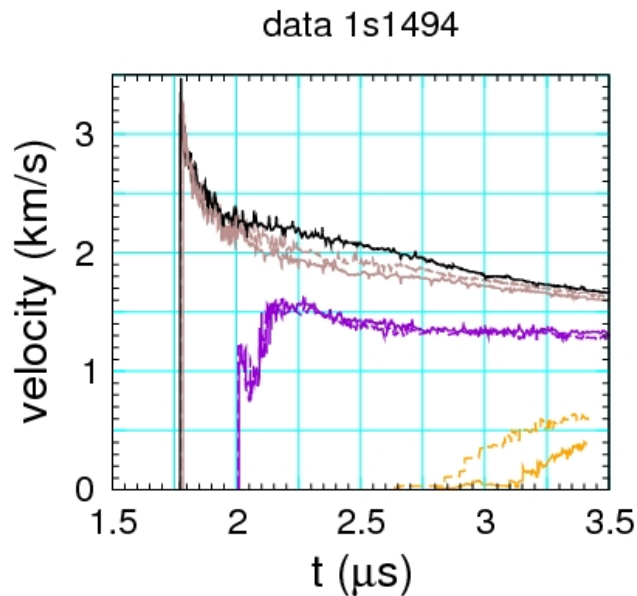
- HE 6 mm thick
- Below run distance on Pop plot
- No shock-to-detonation transition



PBX 9501 Rod Impact Experiment: comparison 2

■ Shot 1s1494

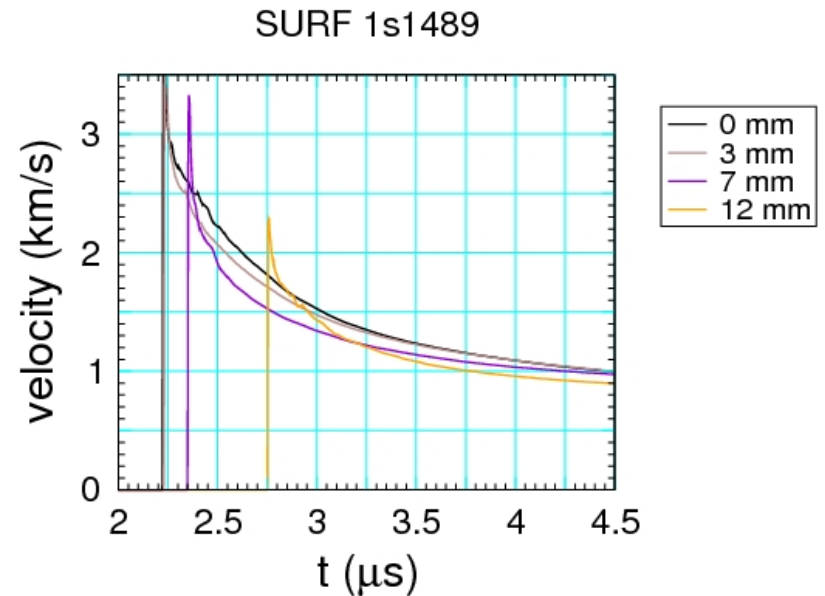
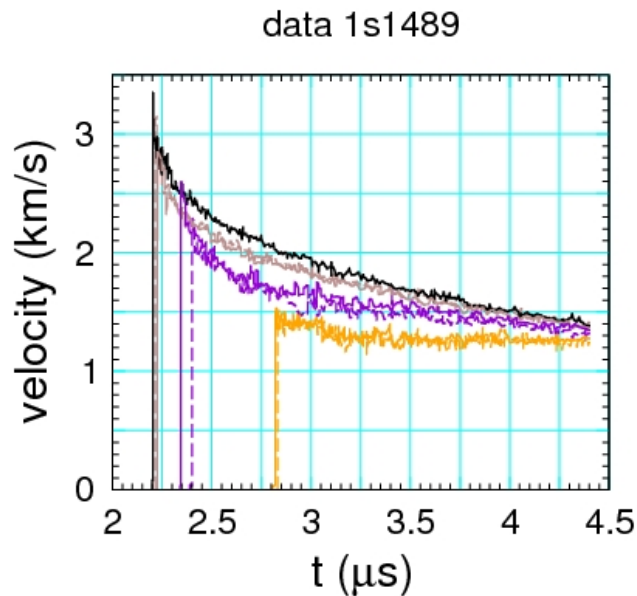
- HE 8 mm thick
- Shock-to-detonation transition on axis
- Detonation does not spread transverse direction



PBX 9501 Rod Impact Experiment: comparison 3

■ Shot 1s1489

- HE 12 mm thick
- Shock-to-detonation transition on axis
- Detonation spreads in transverse direction



PBX 9502 – curvature effect

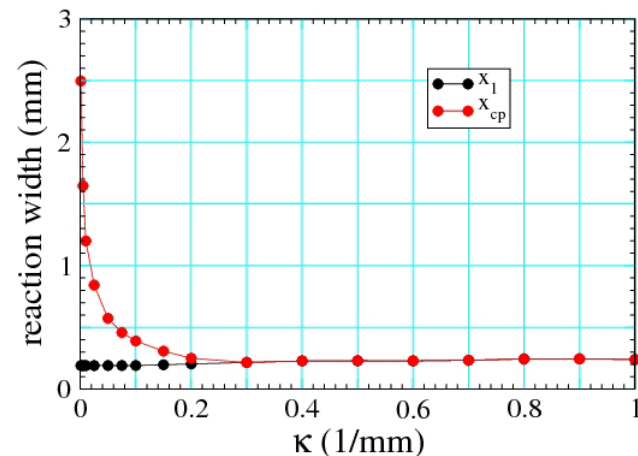
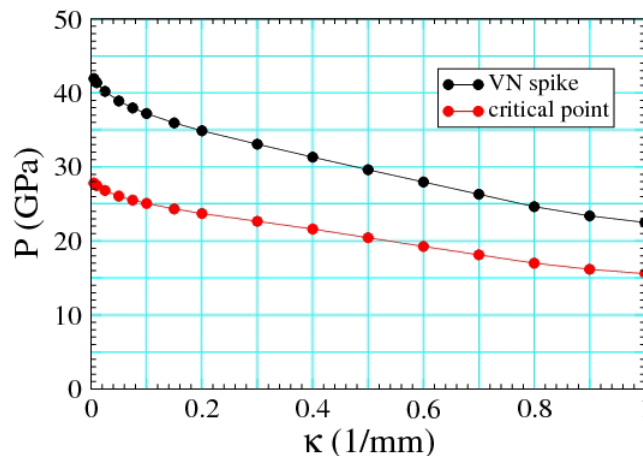
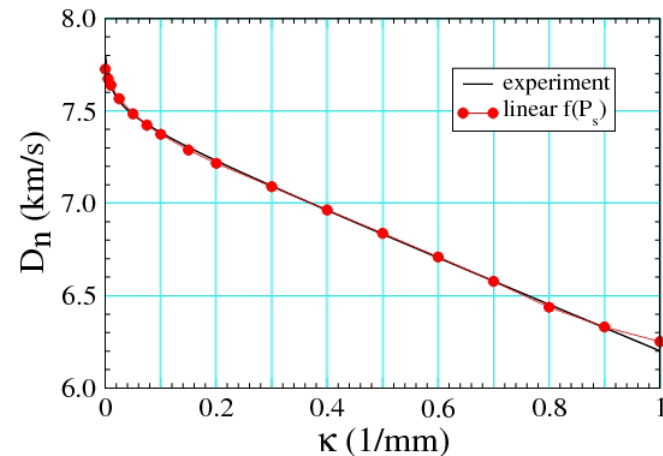
■ $D_n(\kappa)$ curve

D = Detonation speed

κ = front curvature

■ SURFplus model

- Quasi-steady ODEs
- Determines curved detonation state
- Requires high resolution



Model calibration

■ What data is available

- **Small Scale Database**

Extension and replacement for High Explosive Database

On line 4thQ FY2013 (Scovel & Menikoff)

Funded by V&V program (Wysocki)

■ **Automate simulations**

- Data file from Small Scale Database

Header block with key experimental parameters

■ **Fitting parameters**

- Minimize **metric for “goodness of fit”**

Weight function for data from many different experiments

Shock arrival times & velocity profiles with uncertainties

- Non-linear fit with many variables (up to 26 in WSD model)

Need good initial guess to start iteration & fix inessential parameters

Computational issues

■ Mesh resolution

- Hot spot reaction zone width ~ 0.1 mm

Comparable to grain size – smaller than needed for homogenization

- Need mesh refinement to track detonation front (AMR)

■ Curvature effect

- Detonation speed as function of front curvature

Affected by mesh resolution

- Detonation state for curved front

Depends on rate and reaction zone width

Issue for programmed burn (DSD) model

■ Accuracy requirement

- Detonation speed, CJ state and release isentrope
- Application simulations – typically not mesh converged

Coarse mesh, reactive shock rather than ZND profile

Predictive capability

■ Validation of HE model

- Need good EOS for reactants and products
- Need to compare with wide range of detonation phenomenon

Large number of experiments to simulate

- For each explosive
- For each HE model (EOS + burn rate)

- Need to automate simulations

■ Initiation sensitive to initial temperature and initial density

- Calibration for each T_0 and ρ_0

Treated as distinct explosive – effectively, many more explosives

■ Shock desensitization

- SURF model

Naturally accounts for desensitization, rate function of P_s

Possibly account for sensitivity change with initial temperature