

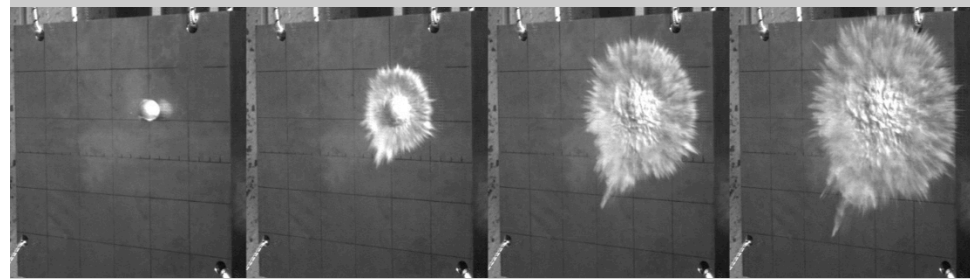
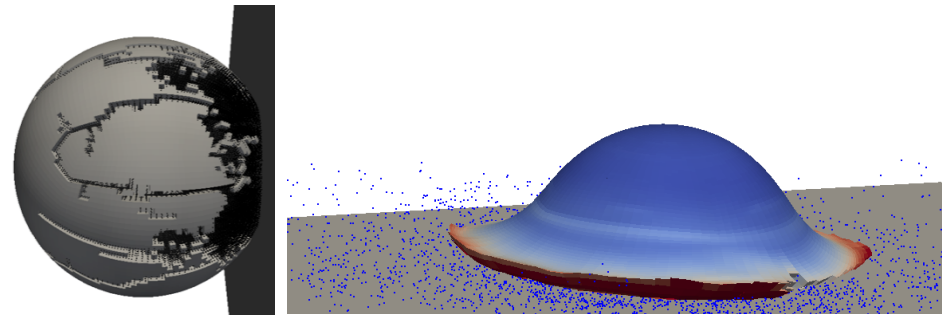
# Modeling and Measurement of Supersonic Hailstone Impacts

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Terry Hinnerichs

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Applied Mechanics and Materials  
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*Exceptional service  
in the national interest*



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# Motivation

- Hailstone impacts have the potential to cause significant damage to aircraft and wind turbine blades.
- Hailstone impact tests are costly, time-consuming, and difficult.
  - The ability to model hailstone impacts would provide a better way to explore large parameter spaces and investigate difficult to measure conditions; e.g., high-speeds or simultaneous hailstone impacts.

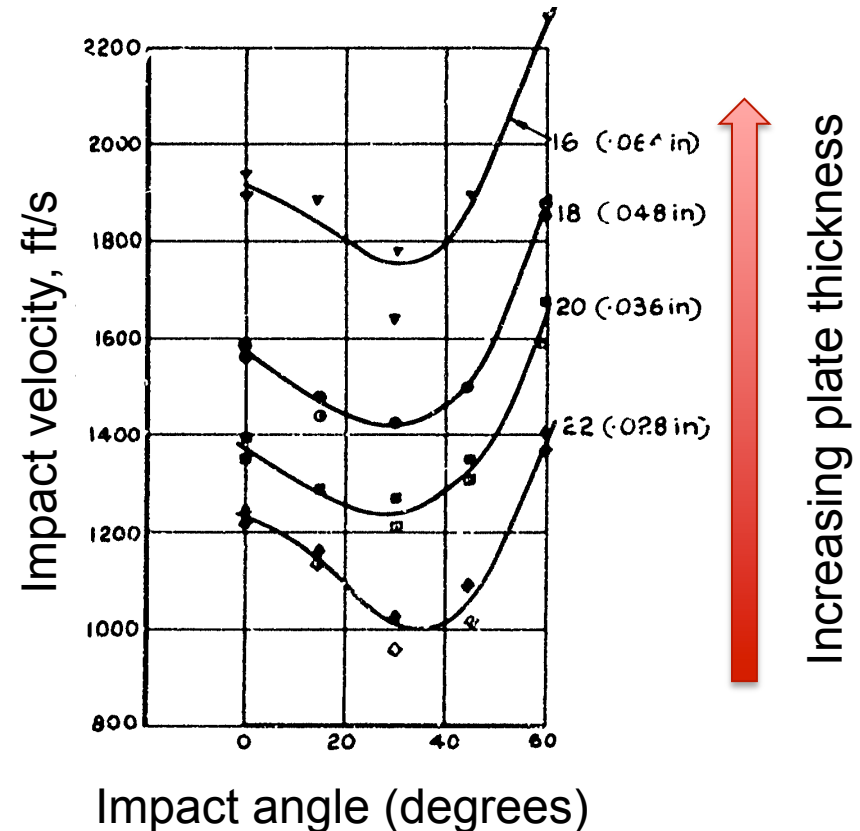


N708AA Hail Damage,  
Dave Subelack (Wee in YYC), Flickr.

# Background - McNaughtan and Chisman (1969)

Penetration thresholds for different thickness aluminum alloy plates impacted by 1 inch diameter hailstones.

- McNaughtan and Chisman (1969) studied supersonic hailstone impacts on thin aluminum plates, but did not measure the impulses imparted by the hailstones.
- Others have since measured impulses from hailstone impacts but have not studied impacts over 720 ft/s (220 m/s).

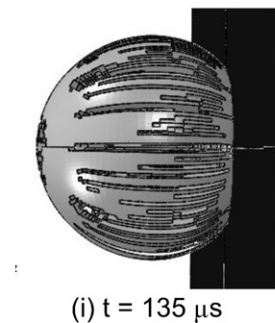
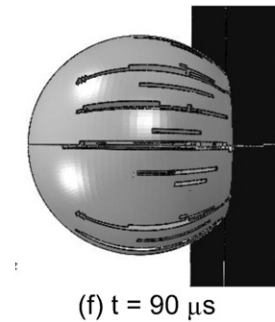
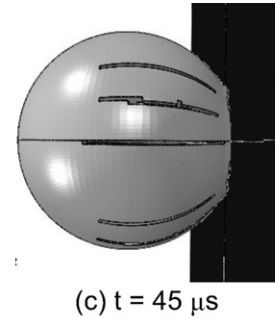
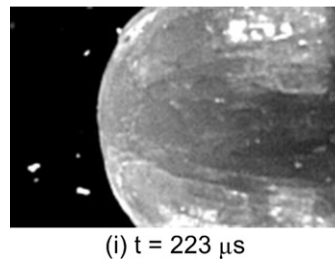
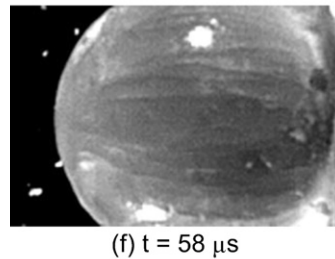
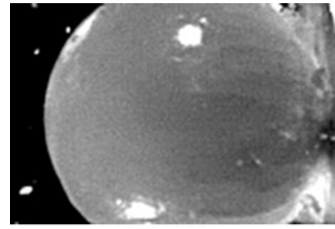


“A Study of Hail Impact at High Speed on Light Alloy Plates”  
McNaughtan, I.I., Chisman, S.W., 1969.

# Background – Tippmann et al. (2013)

## Experiments:

- Measured impulses of hailstones by firing them at a steel bar instrumented with strain gauges.
- Normal impacts up to 194 m/s.
- Captured propagation of cracks with high-speed photography.



## Simulations:

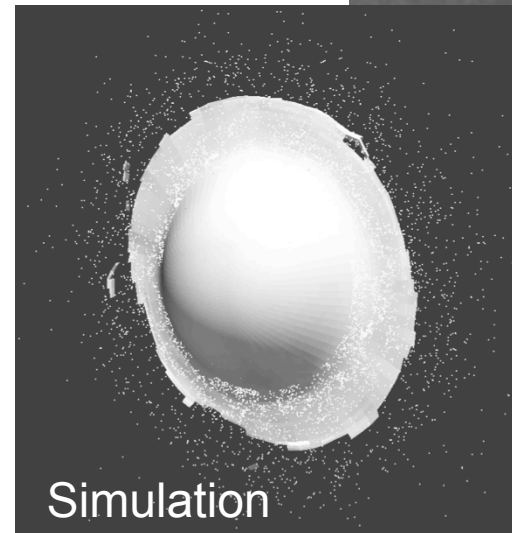
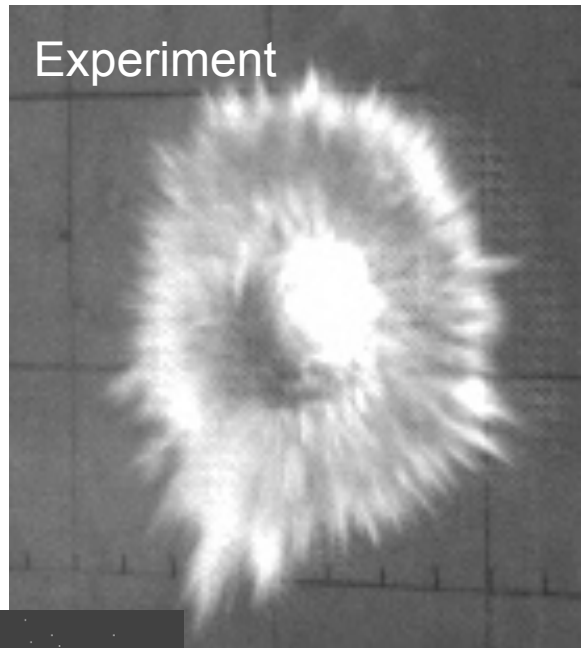
- Similar cracking patterns achieved through tensile pressure failure criterion
- Strain rate sensitivity captures behavior over a range of velocities
- Predict peak impulse but not long-term response

“Experimentally validated strain rate dependent material model for spherical ice impact simulation”  
Tippmann, J.D., Kim, H., Rhymer, J.D., 2013.



# Present work

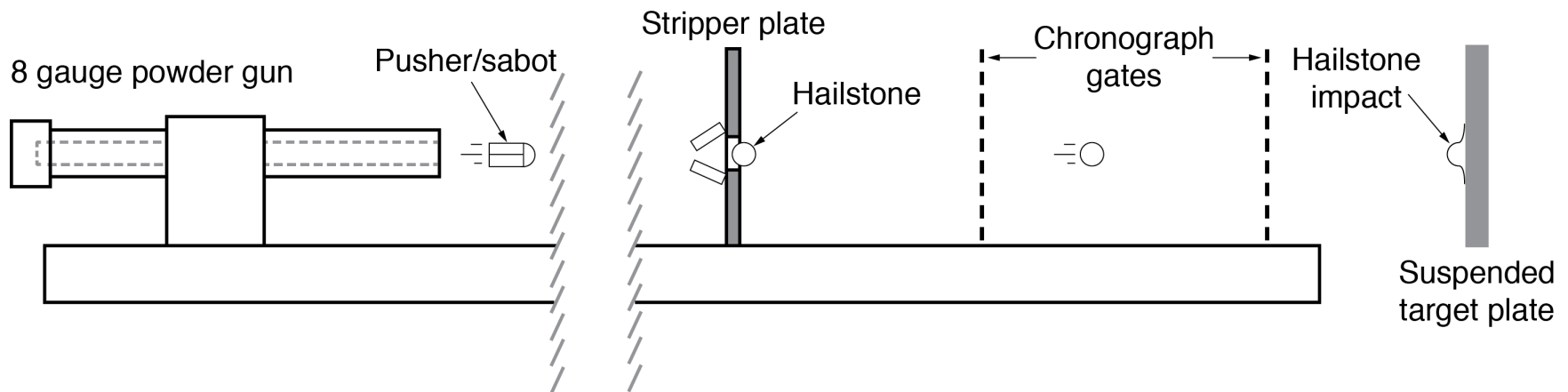
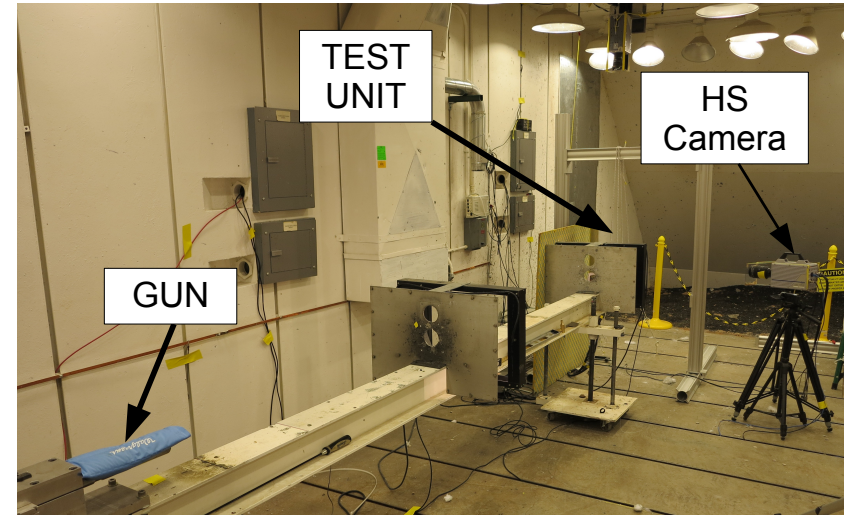
- Used a different technique (SWAT-TEEM) to measure:
  - Higher velocities
  - Oblique impact angles
- Added mass particles and an additional failure criterion to simulation in order to:
  - Model full impulse of impact
  - Capture secondary impacts
  - Model low angle and large deformation impacts



A 'hailstone'  
(4.41g, 20.45mm)  
impacting plate at  
366 m/s.

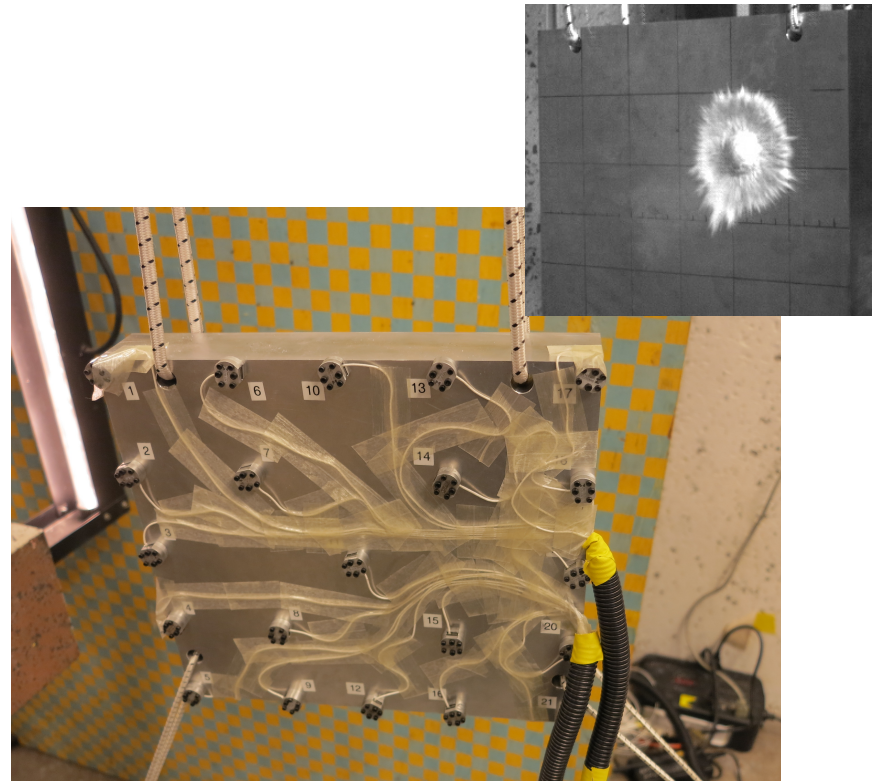
# Experiments

- Experimentalists:
  - Ballistics by Lee Stauffacher and Bob Jones
  - SWAT-TEEM analysis by Tyler Schoenherr
- 8 gauge powder gun
  - Velocities from 150 to 675 m/s
  - Used a pusher/sabot to propel hailstone
- Hailstone
  - Molded, cotton-reinforced ice ball
  - 0.81 inch diameter



# Sum of Weighted Accelerations Technique using Time-Eliminated Elastic Modes (SWAT-TEEM)

- SWAT-TEEM<sup>1</sup> can predict forces acting on a body by separating the rigid body accelerations from those due to vibrational modes.
- Advantages
  - Measure off-axis forces
  - Increased target size/complexity
  - Predicts impact location that can be checked with high-speed video

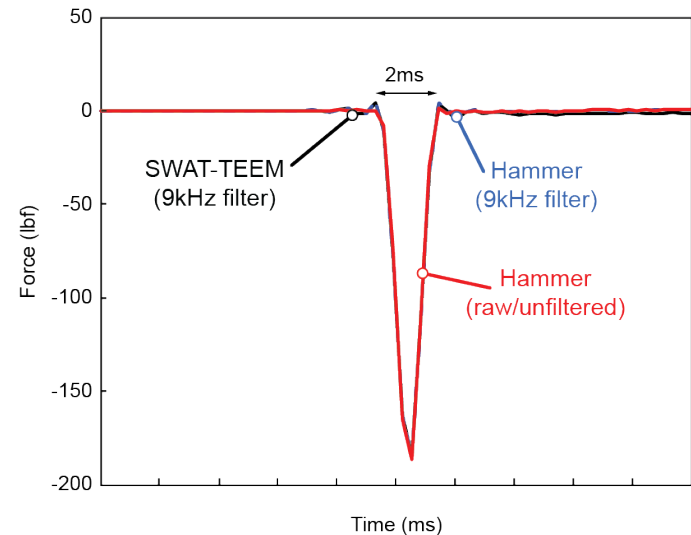
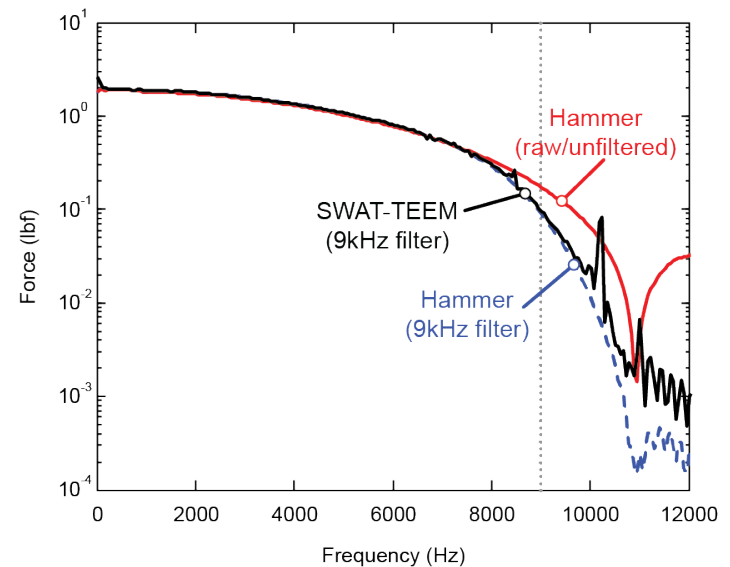


Aluminum plate (11x12x2 inches) instrumented with 21 accelerometers for SWAT-TEEM analysis.

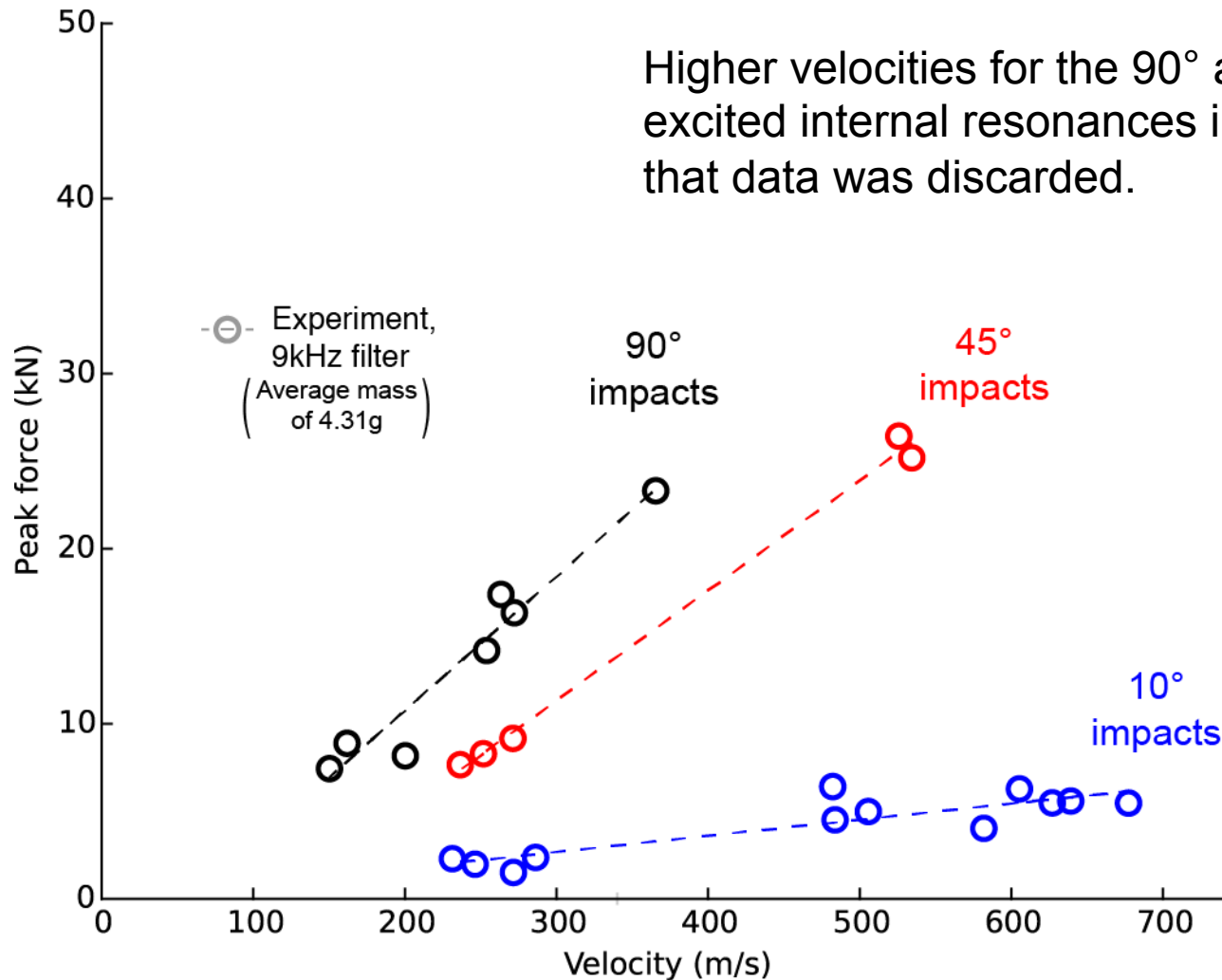
<sup>1</sup>Mayes, R. L., 1994, "Measurement of Lateral Launch Loads on Re-Entry Vehicles Using SWAT," Proceedings of the 12th International Modal Analysis Conference, Honolulu, HI, pp. 1063–1068.

# Experiments – SWAT-TEEM calibration

- An instrumented hammer applies a known force to the plate.
- **Limited to 9kHz by the coarseness of our accelerometer array- cannot resolve higher-order mode shapes of the plate.**
- Filtering data at 9kHz, we obtain an excellent prediction of the force from SWAT-TEEM.

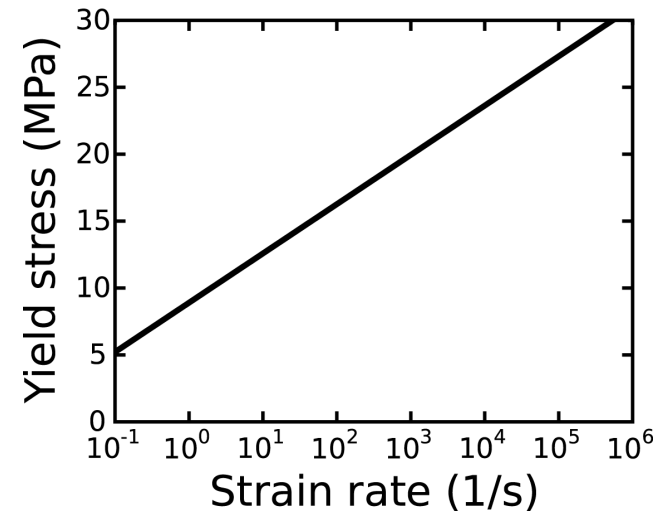


# Experiments – Hailstone impacts



# Hailstone material model

- Tippmann et al. model:
  - Elastic-perfectly plastic material
  - Rate sensitive yield (like Johnson-Cook)
  - Tensile pressure failure criterion
    - On failure, zero-out shear stiffness  
(fluid like behavior)
- Added:
  - Rigid mass particles
    - Helps capture full impulse of the initial impact and any subsequent impacts.
    - Converted to once elements are too deformed.
  - Critical crack opening strain (CCOS)
    - Controls strain over which elements fail
    - A good fit of experimental data was obtained over all angles and velocities for a CCOS = 0.3

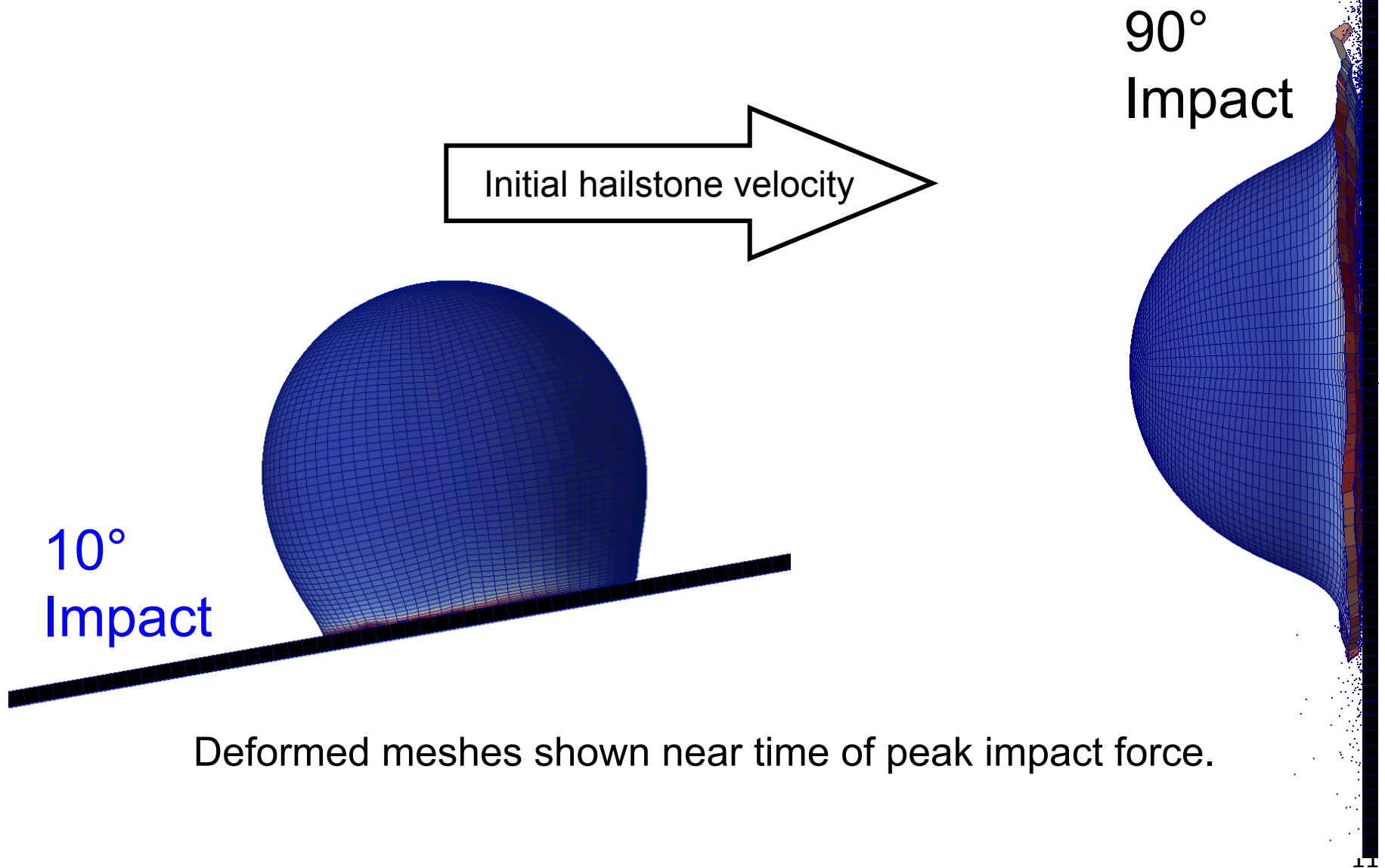


## Hailstone material model inputs

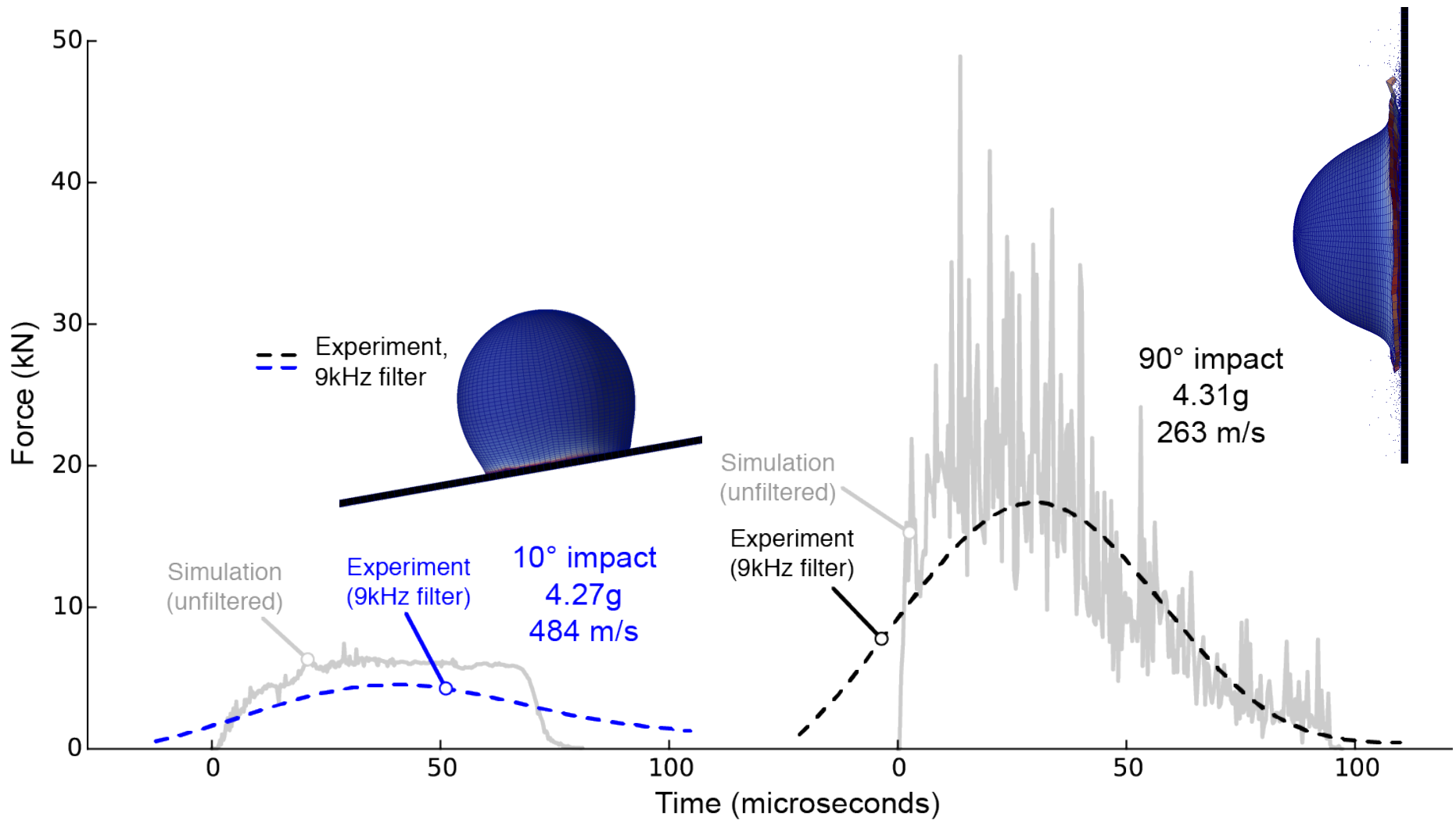
Young's modulus	9.38 GPa
Poisson's ratio	0.33
Density	960 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Tensile failure pressure	0.517 MPa
Quasi-static (<10 <sup>-1</sup> /s) yield stress	5.2 MPa



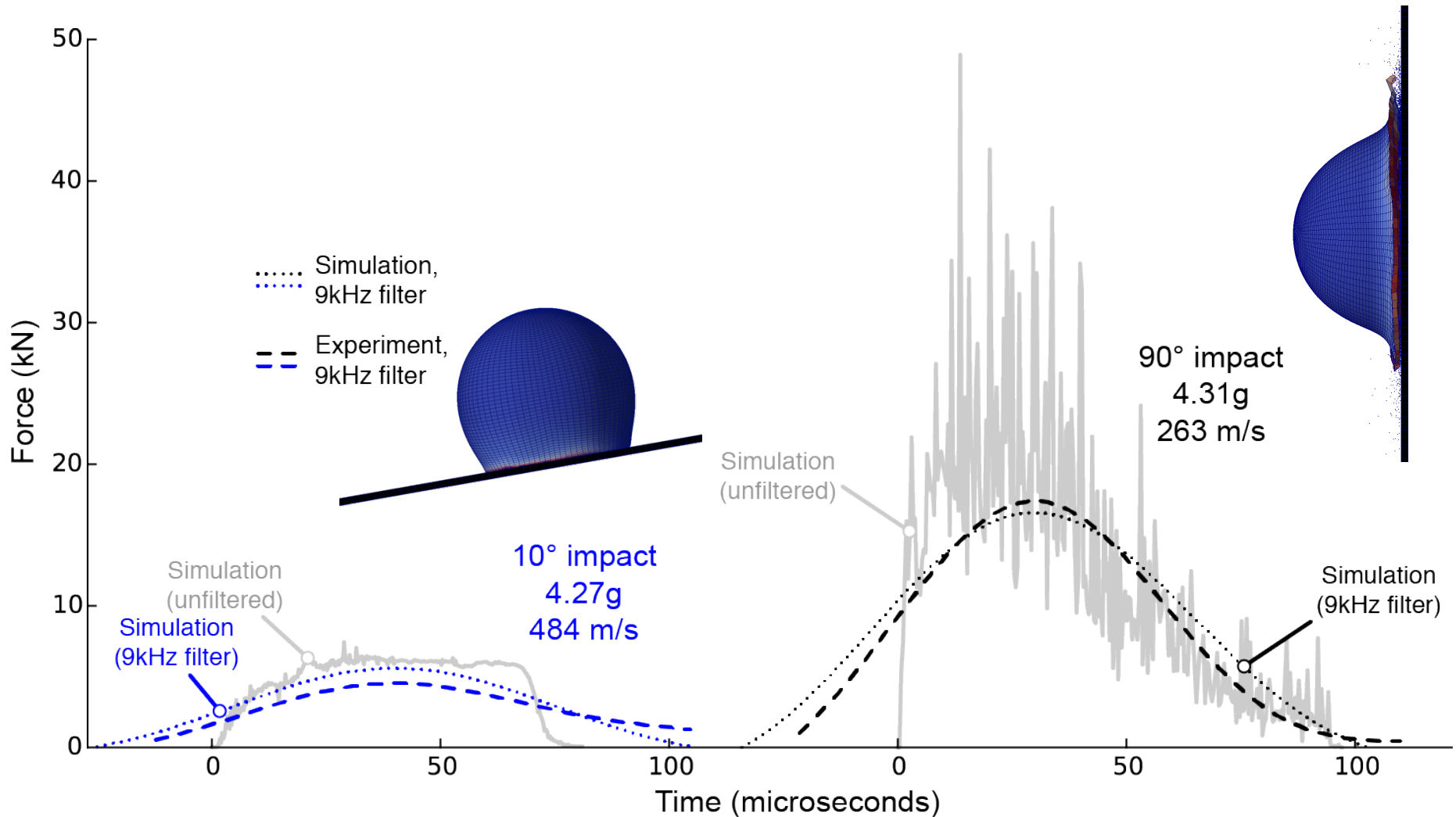
# Hailstone model



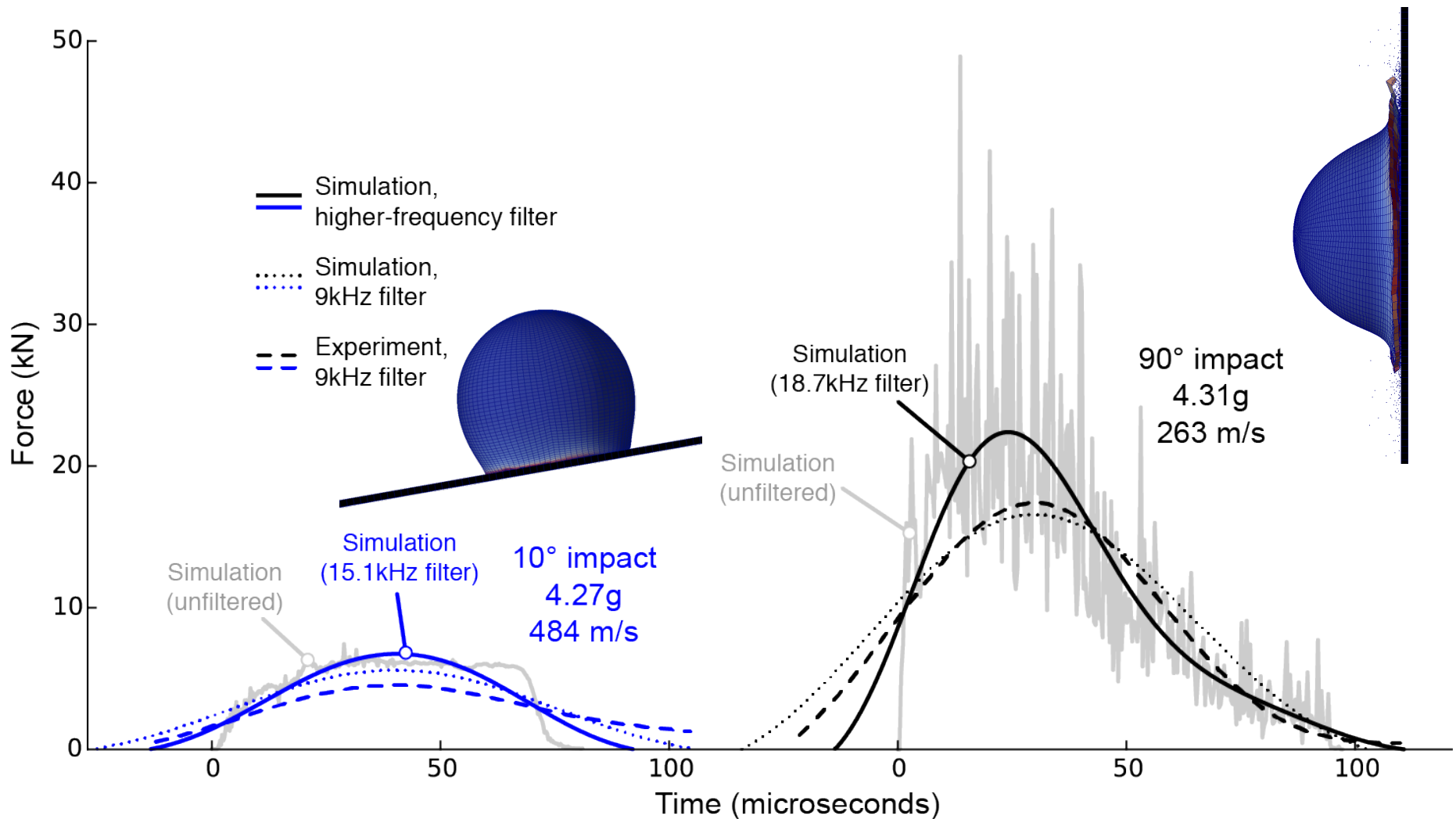
# Modeling vs. Experiment - Impulse comparison



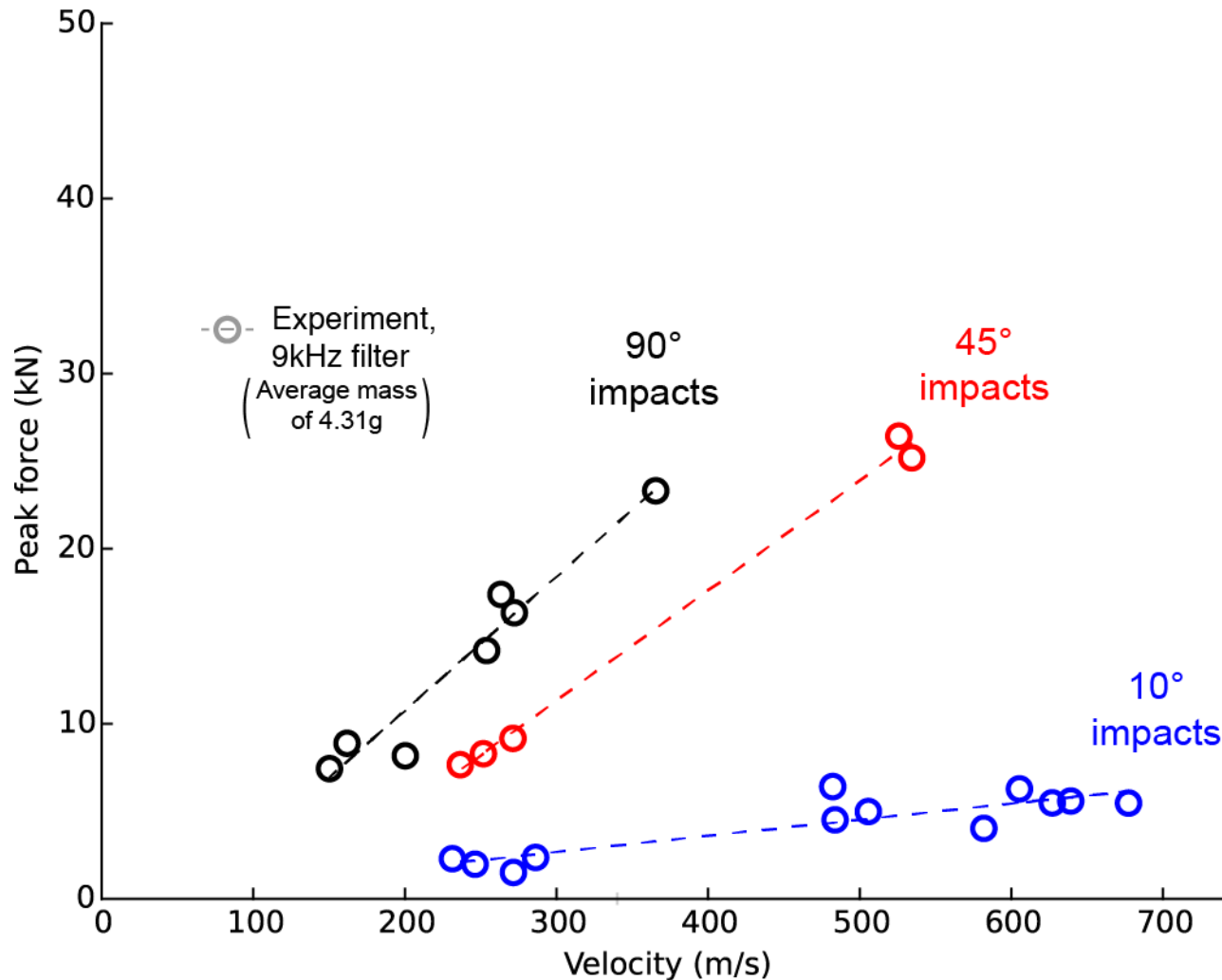
# Modeling vs. Experiment - Impulse comparison



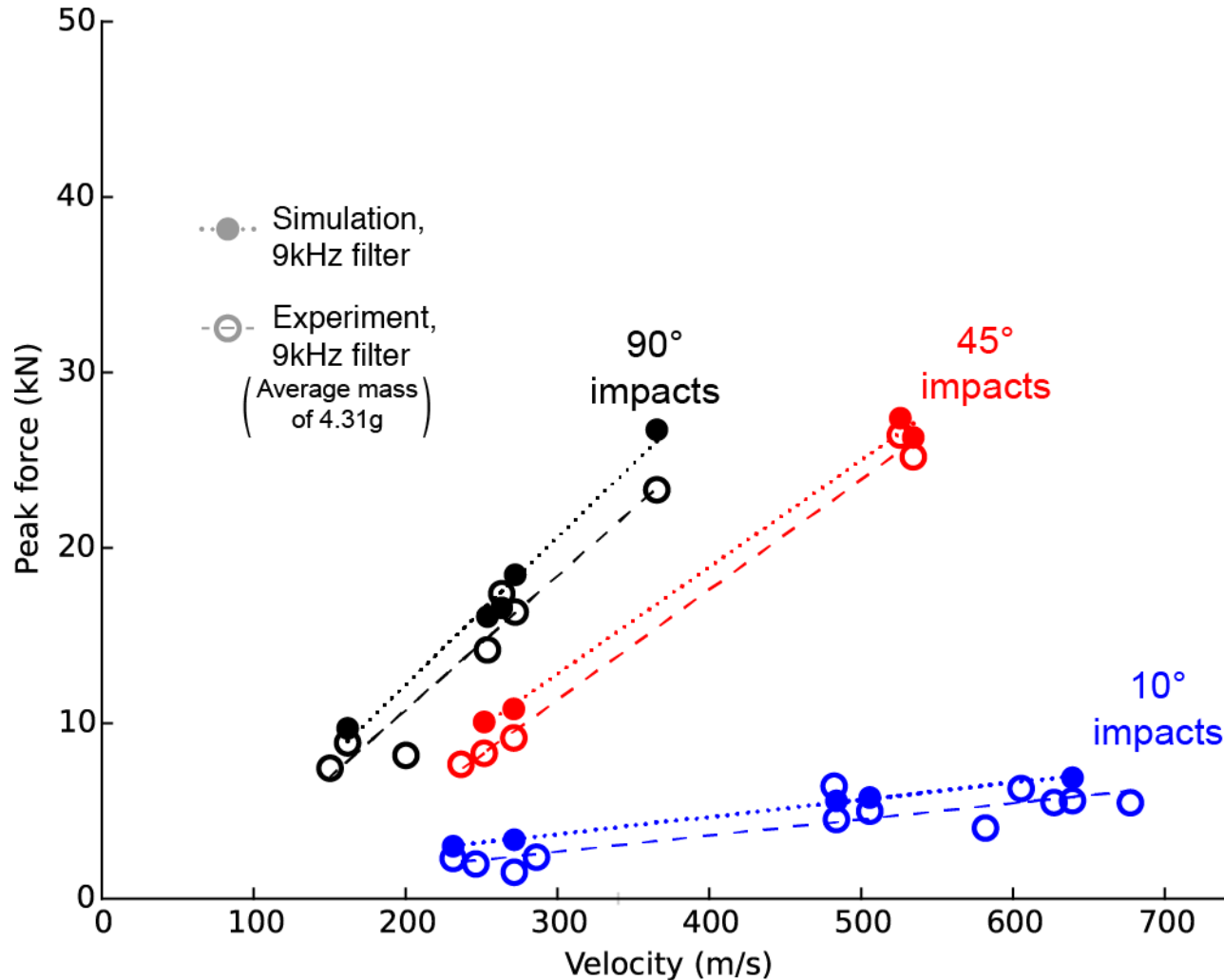
# Modeling vs. Experiment - Impulse comparison



# Modeling vs. Experiment – Peak force comparison

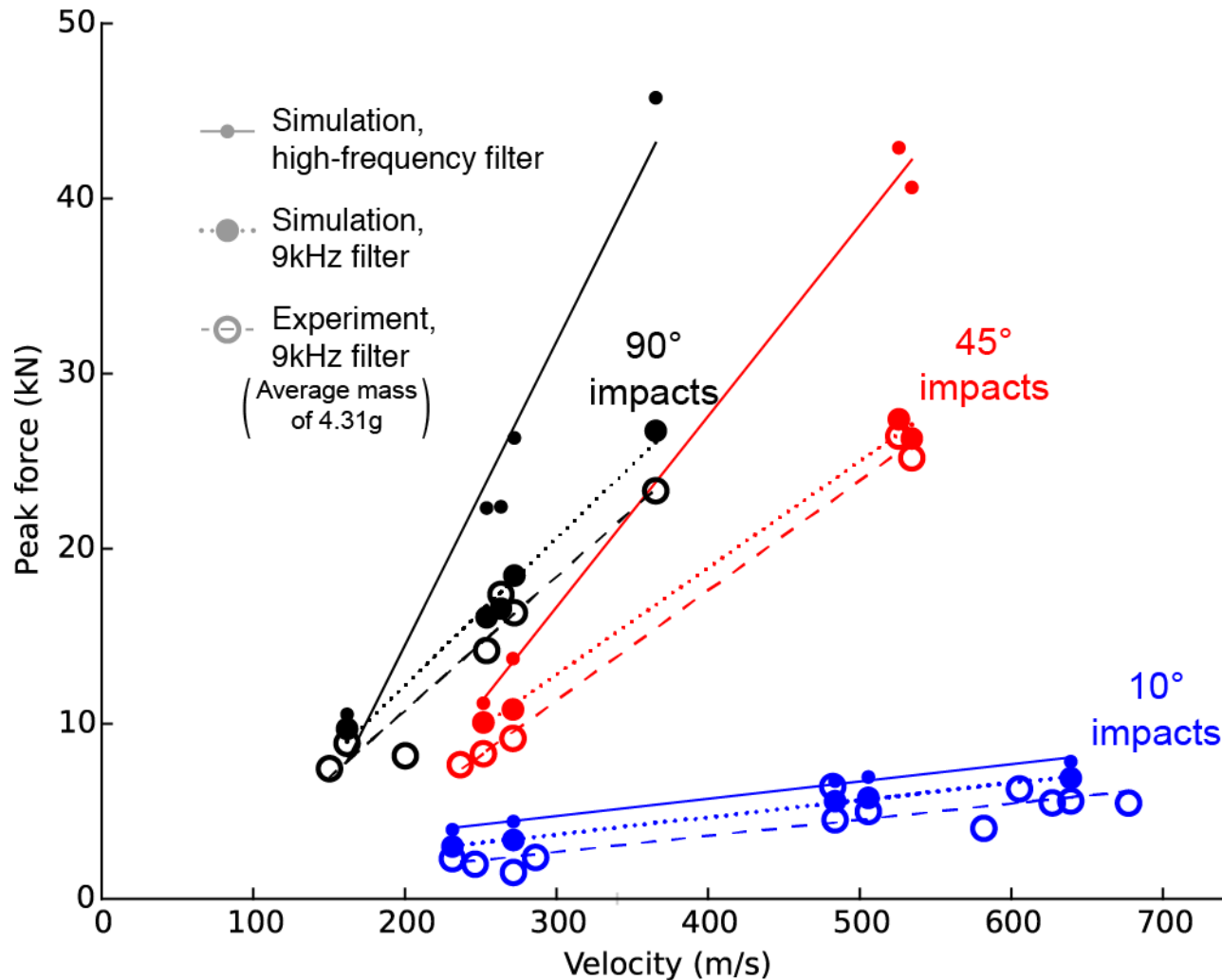


# Modeling vs. Experiment – Peak force comparison

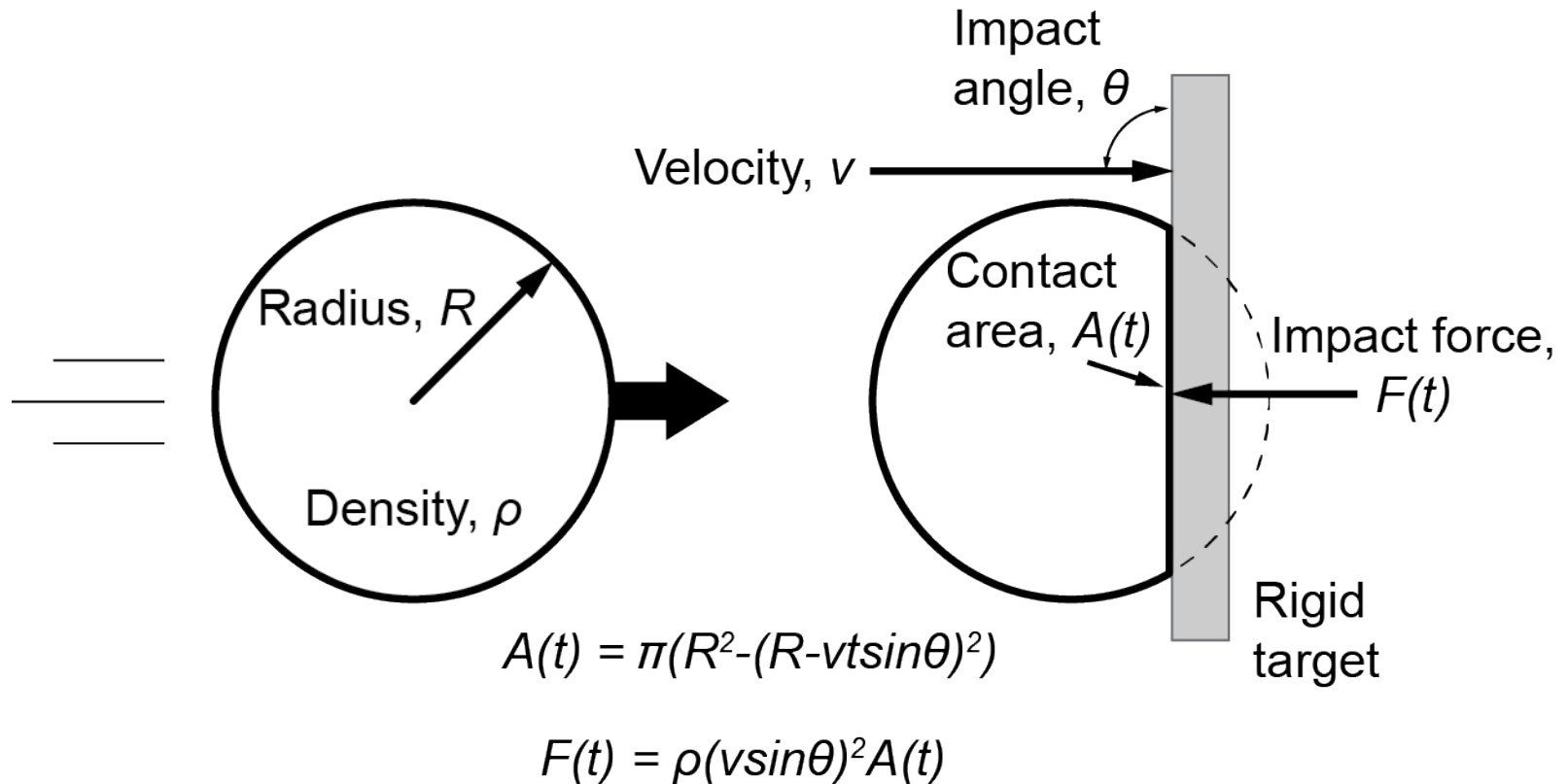




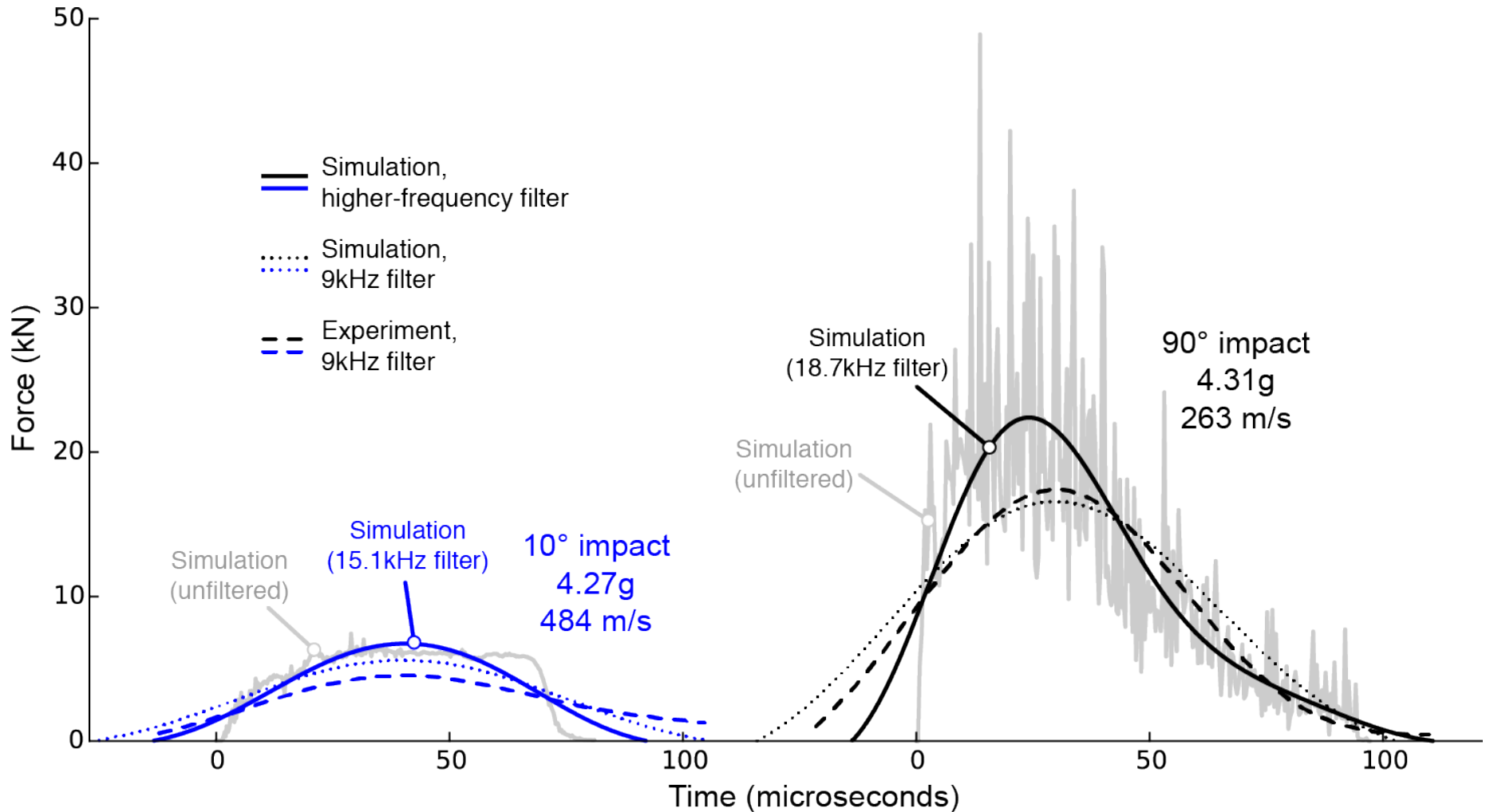
# Modeling vs. Experiment – Peak force comparison



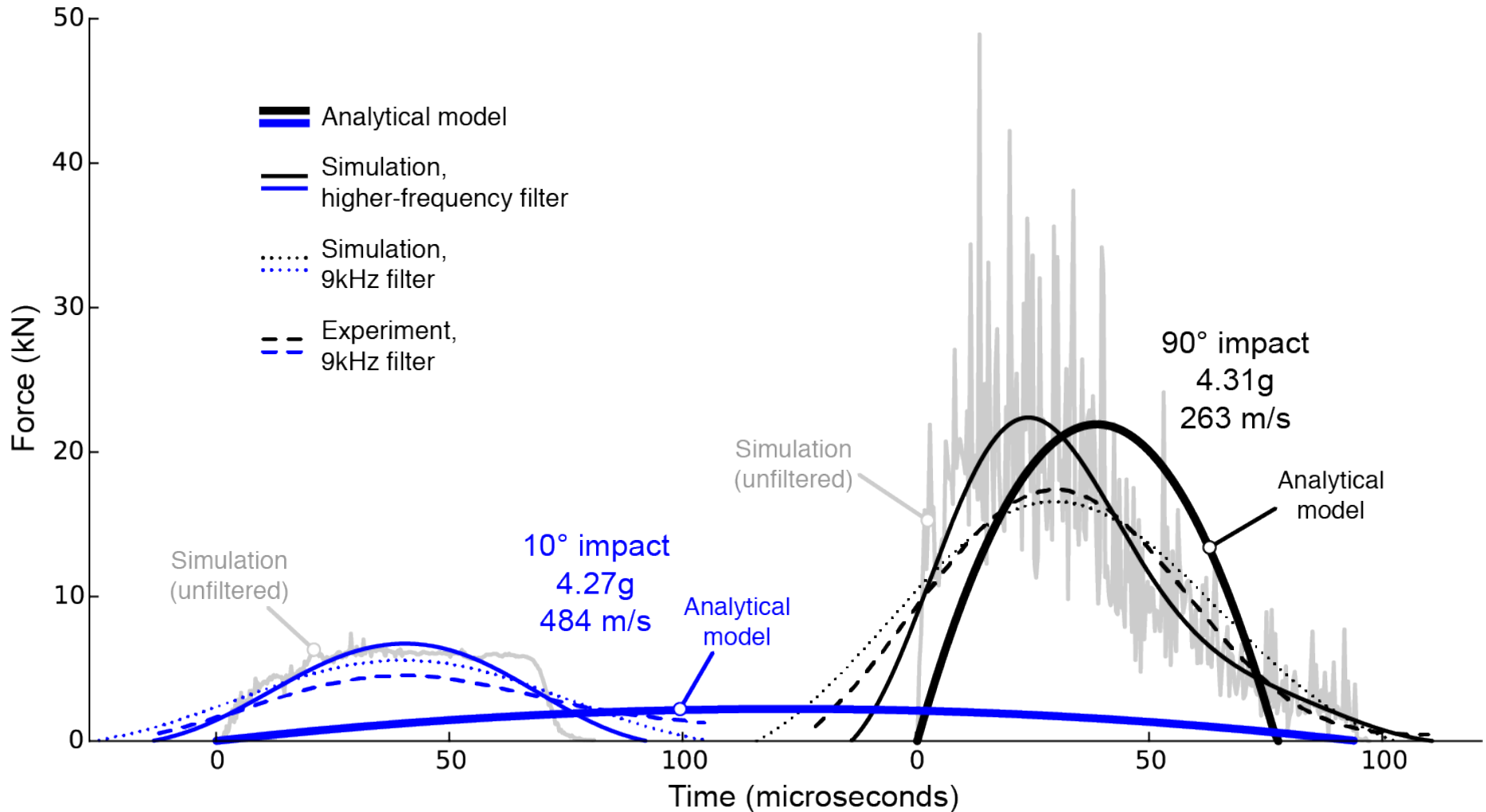
# Analytical model



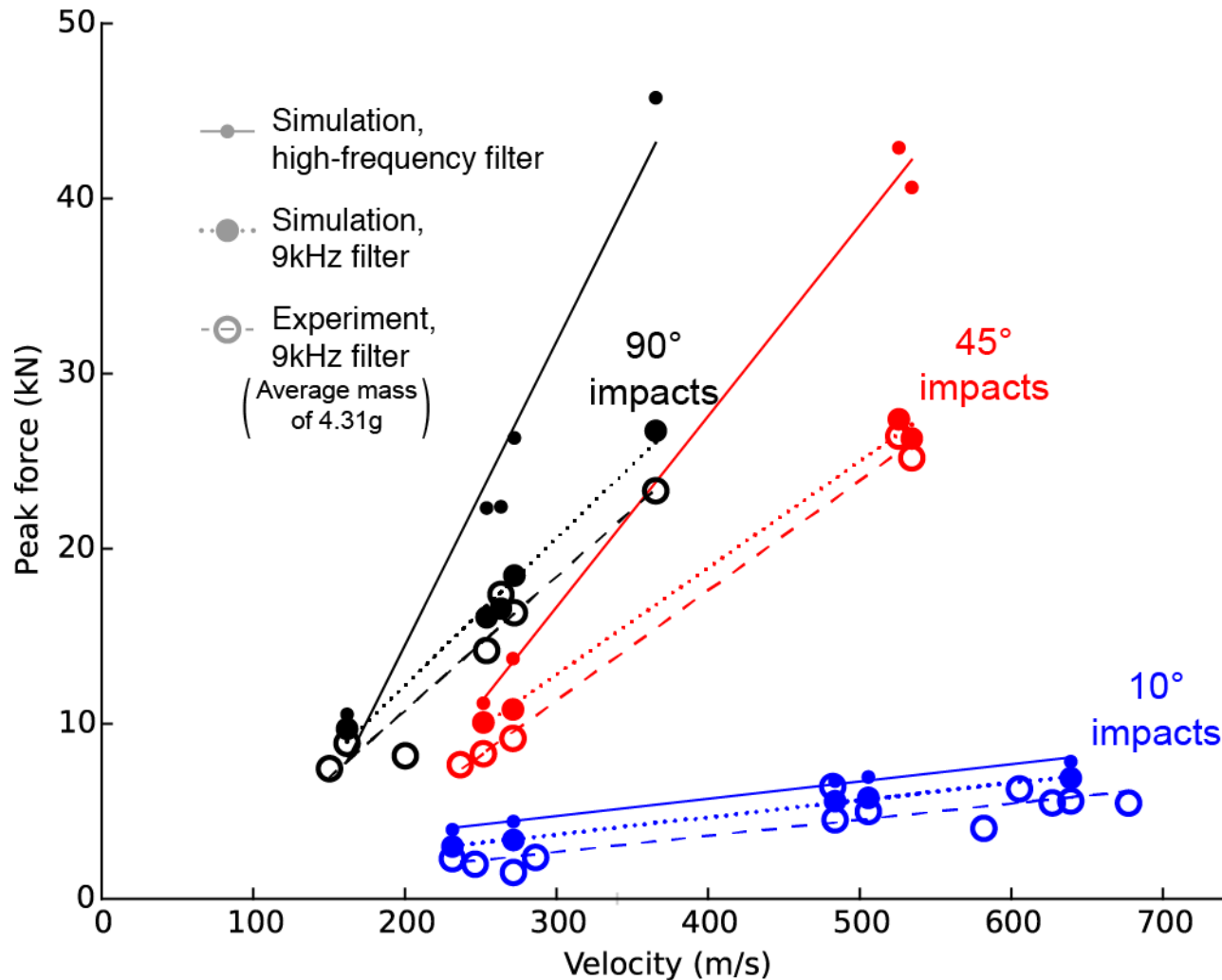
# Modeling vs. Experiment - Impulse comparison



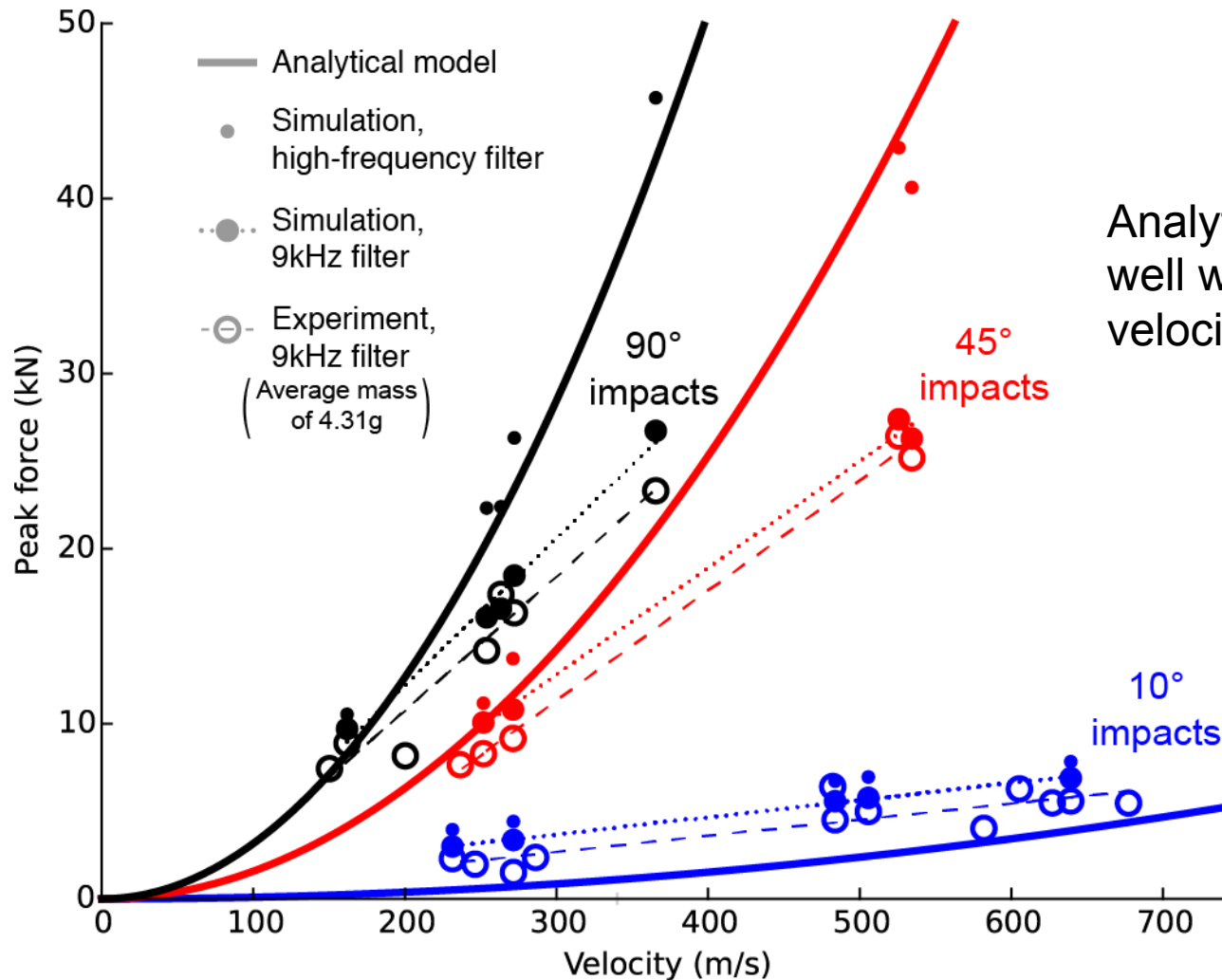
# Modeling vs. Experiment - Impulse comparison



# Modeling vs. Experiment – Peak force comparison



# Modeling vs. Experiment – Peak force comparison



Analytical model compares well with FEA model at high velocities and impact angles.



# Summary

- Used a different technique (SWAT-TEEM) to measure hailstone impacts at higher velocities and oblique angles.
- Built upon existing hailstone model, adding mass particles and adjusting failure to capture entire impulse of normal and oblique impacts.
- Agreement between the finite element model and analytical and experimental results gives confidence in using the model to study hailstone impacts on other structures and/or under other conditions.