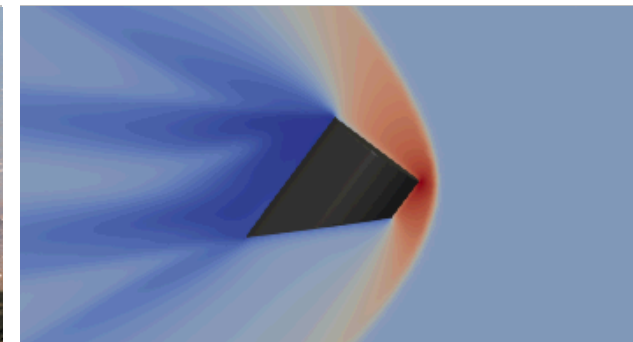




10/26/2017



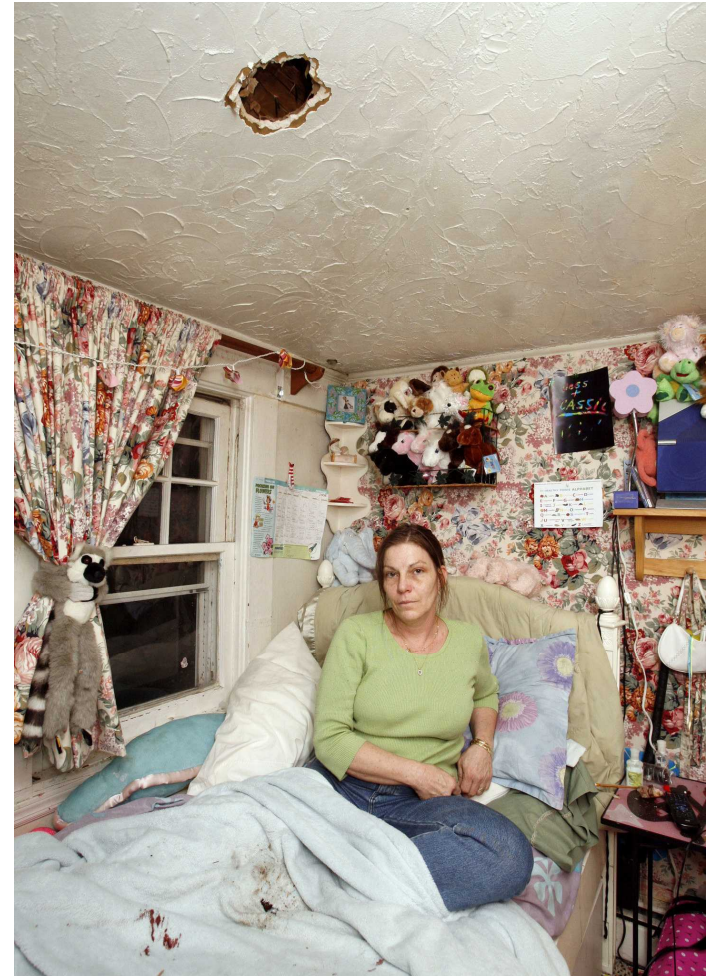
Flight Dynamics of Explosively Driven Fragments

Peter D. Yeh

Why is understanding fragment flight important?

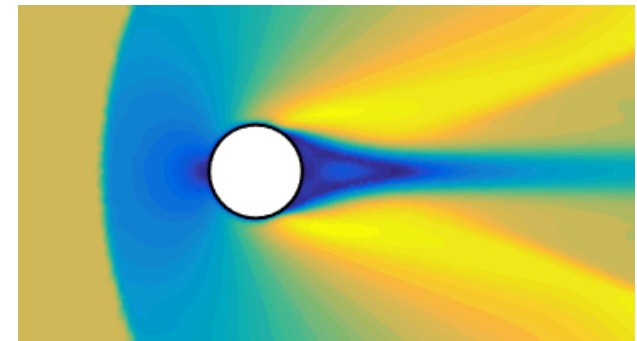
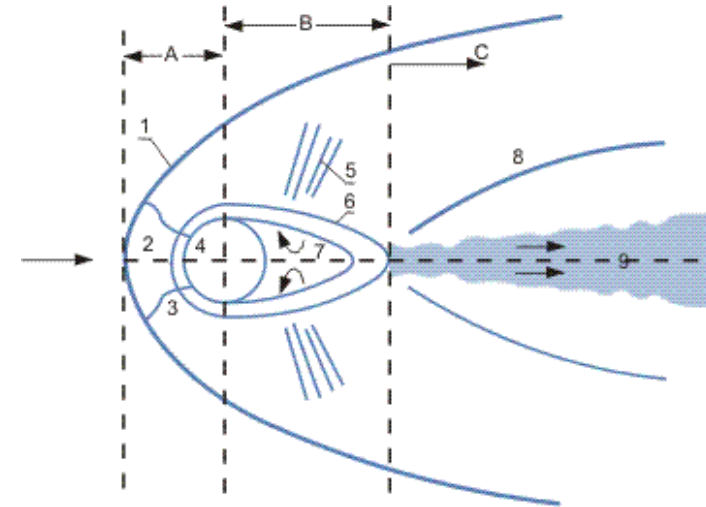


Picatinny Arsenal Accident, 2008

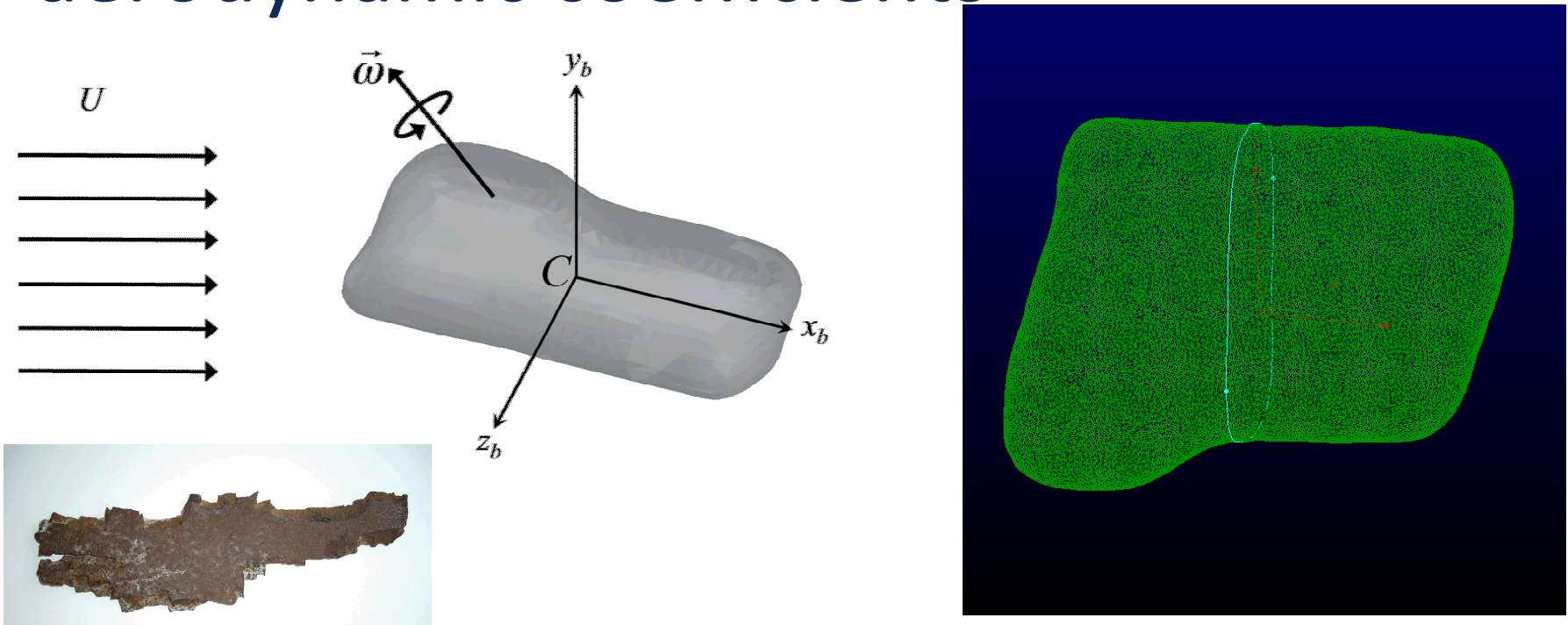


Fragment flight involves complex physics

- Fragments fly at supersonic speeds
- Geometry is complicated, high aspect ratio
- Fragment-air interaction creates tumbling and chaotic motion
- Cylinder flow field has multiple features needed to be captured
- **Approach: Computational modeling with validation by experimental testing**



Step 1: Build database of aerodynamic coefficients



- Example fragment (output from CTH calculation)
- Unstructured tet mesh of fragment surrounded by spherical far-field
- RANS compressible flow solver with SST turbulence model
- Pressure is integrated across surface to determine forces/moments

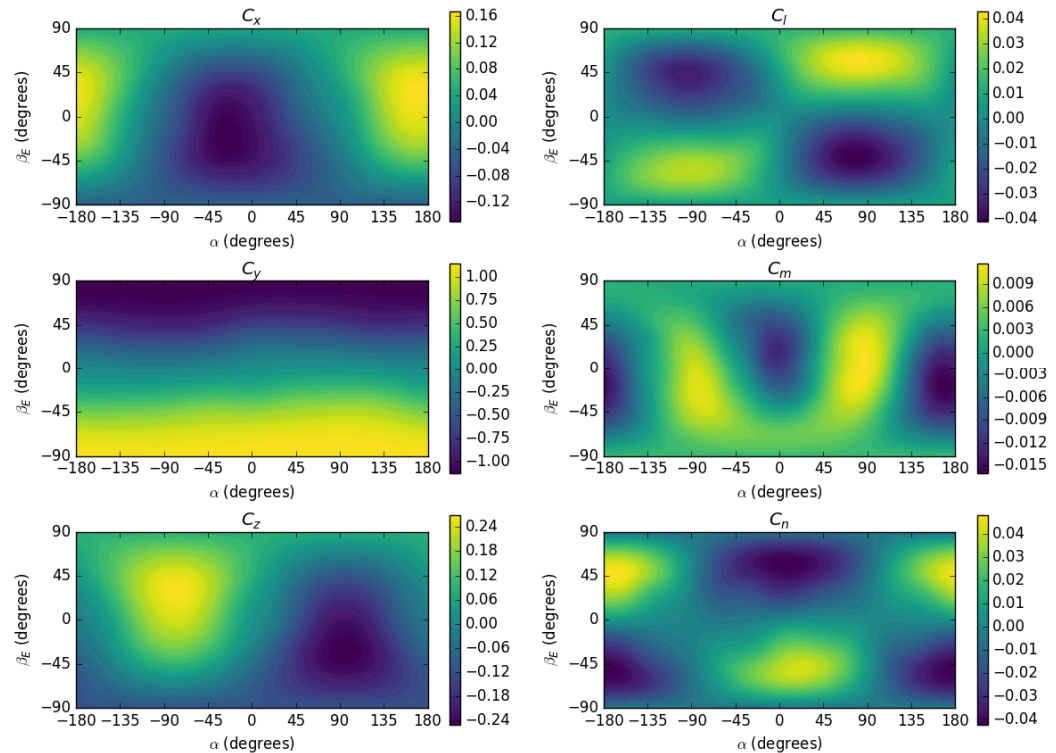
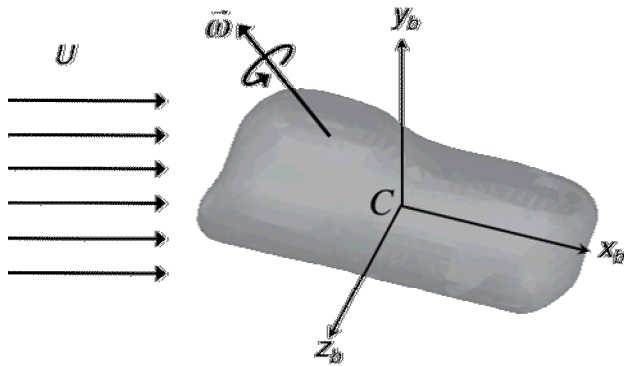
Example flow solution



- Contour of $Ma = 1$ shows 3D bow shock and rarefaction wave
- Calculated drag matched literature values for simple shapes (cube, sphere)

Aerodynamic database

Fragment Aerodynamic Coefficients



- Orientation characterized by 2 angles
- 6 contour plots of each force/moment coefficient, 1 set per fragment

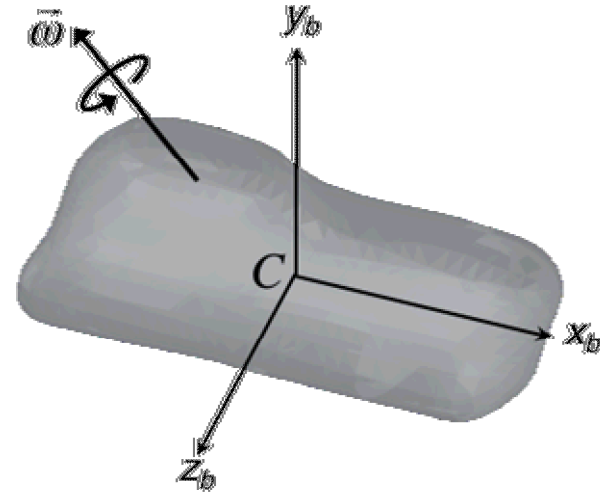
Step 2: Integrate trajectories

- Trajectory of example fragment
- Newton-Euler equations of motion

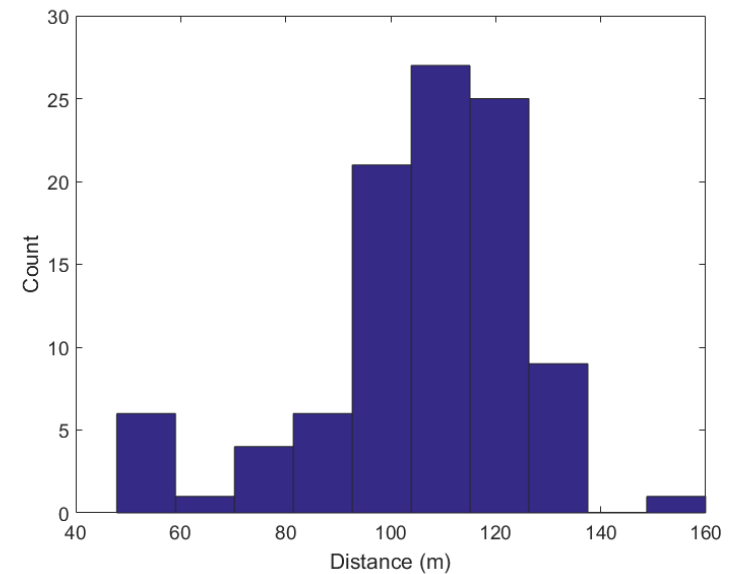
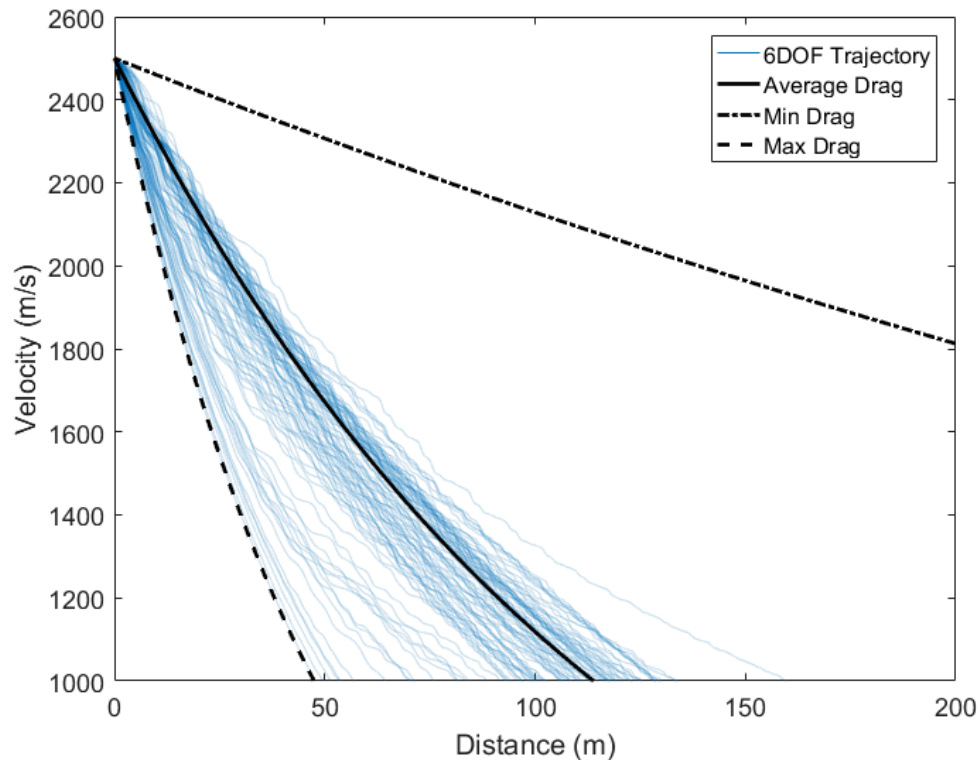
$$\sum \bar{F} = m\bar{a}_C$$

$$\sum \bar{M}_C = \frac{d\bar{L}_C}{dt} \quad \bar{L}_C = \bar{I}_C \bullet \bar{\omega}$$

- Forces and moments used from database built by CFD simulations
 - Assume force/moment coefficients not function of Ma (Ma ≥ 3)
- Steel fragment, initial velocity 2500 m/s, no rotation, ~4.5 cm long

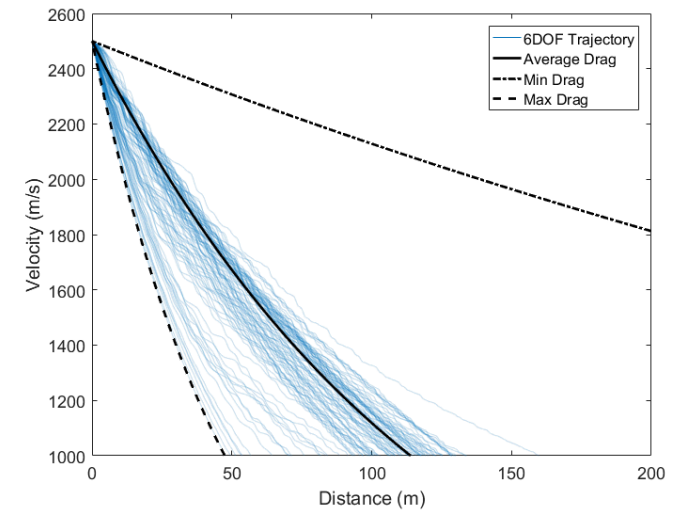
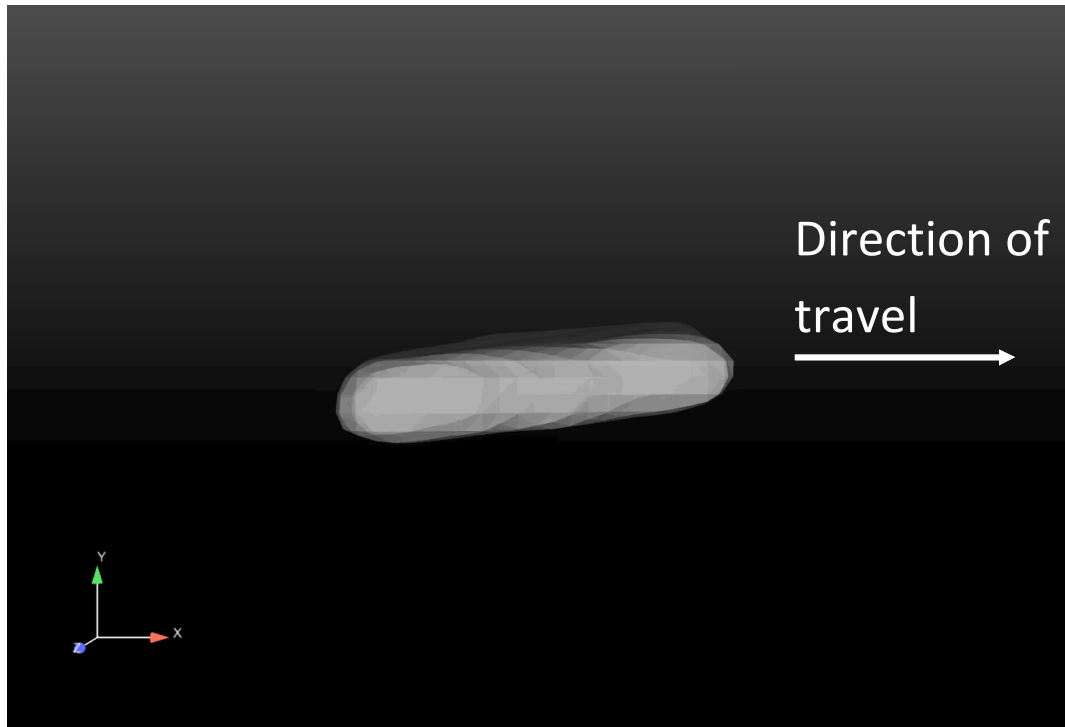


How far can fragments fly?



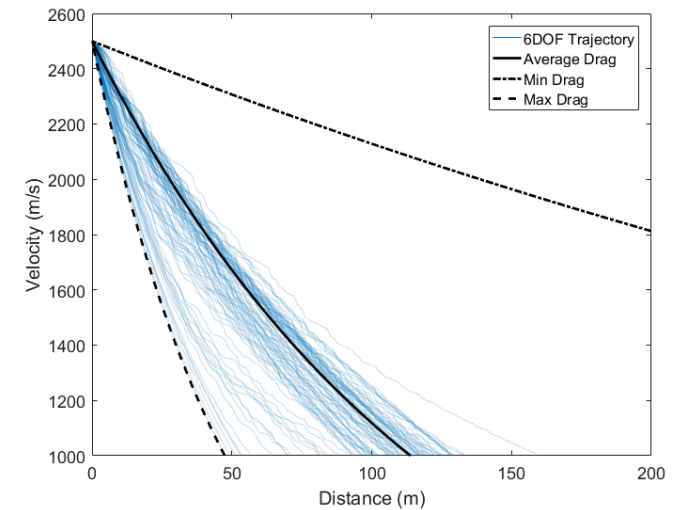
- 100 trajectories sampled with different initial orientations
- Average drag coefficient approximates most likely trajectory
- Distance ranges from 50 to 160 m!

Average trajectory



- Chaotic behavior, although seems to settle on a spin/precession

Far flying fragment



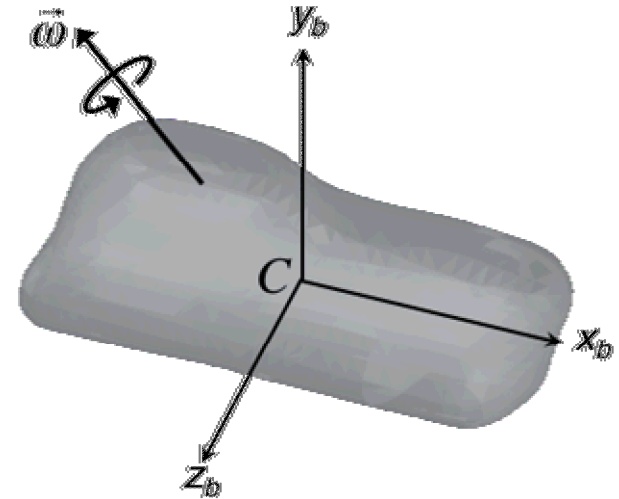
- Settles on a spin with thin edge in direction of travel (like a Frisbee)
- Experiences lower drag for longer portion of trajectory

How to characterize tumbling?

- Angular velocity vector

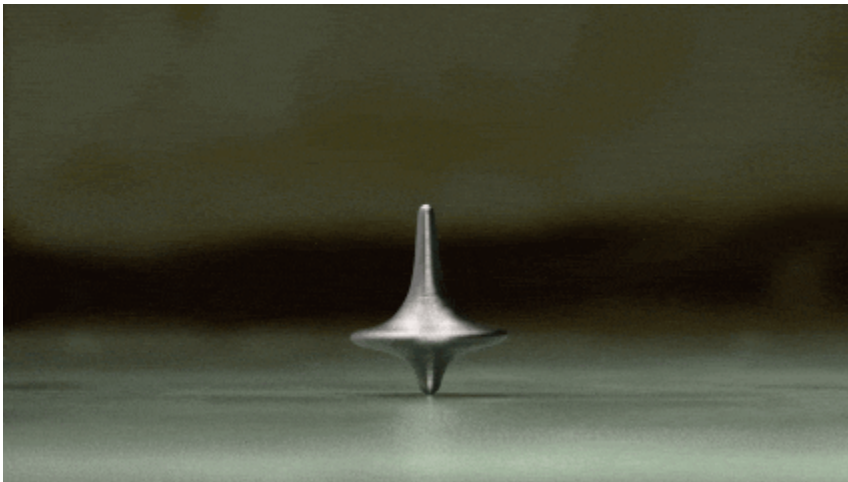
$$\vec{\omega} = p\hat{x}_b + q\hat{y}_b + r\hat{z}_b$$

- Plot (p, q, r) components in 3D pqr -space
- “Rotation trajectories”



Pure spin

pqr -space : Point



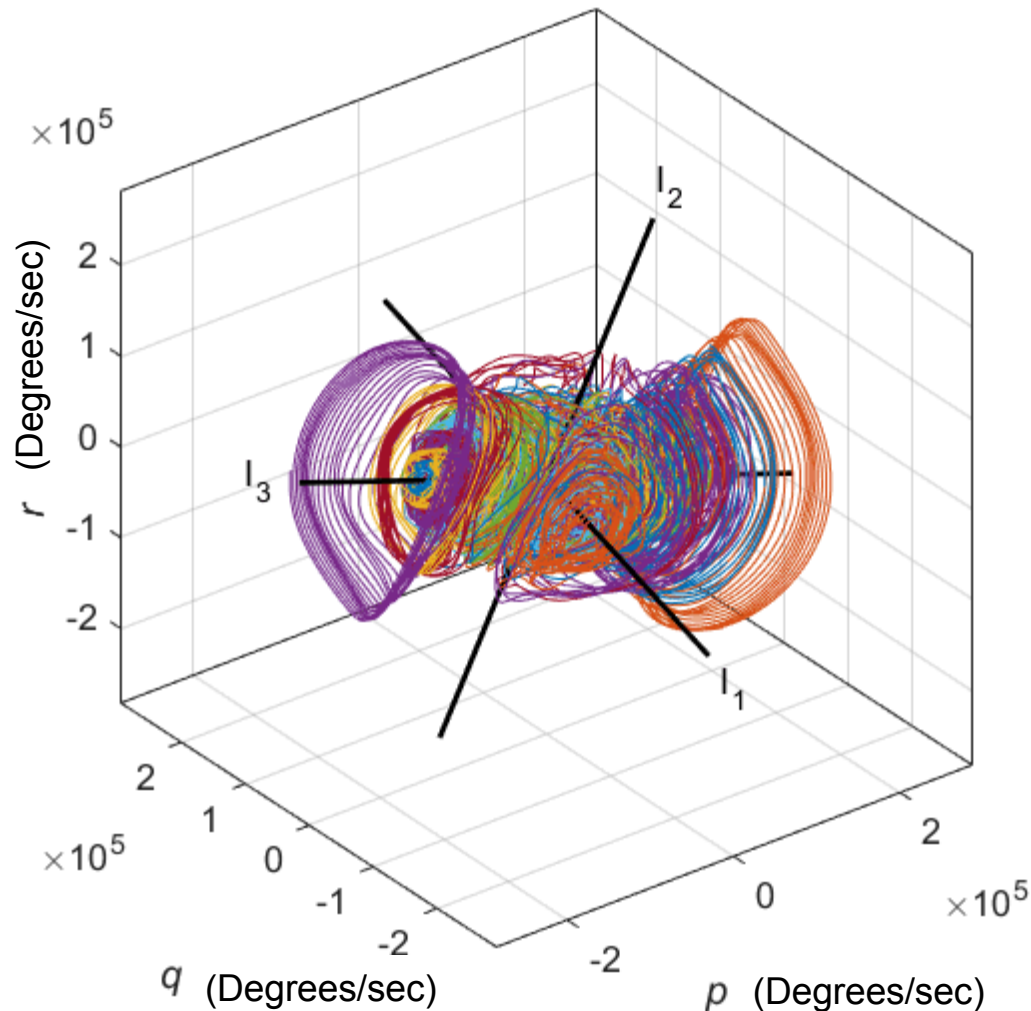
Spin + Precession

pqr -space: Orbit about spin axis



Inception. Warner Bros. Pictures, 2010.

“Rotation Trajectories” for Fragment

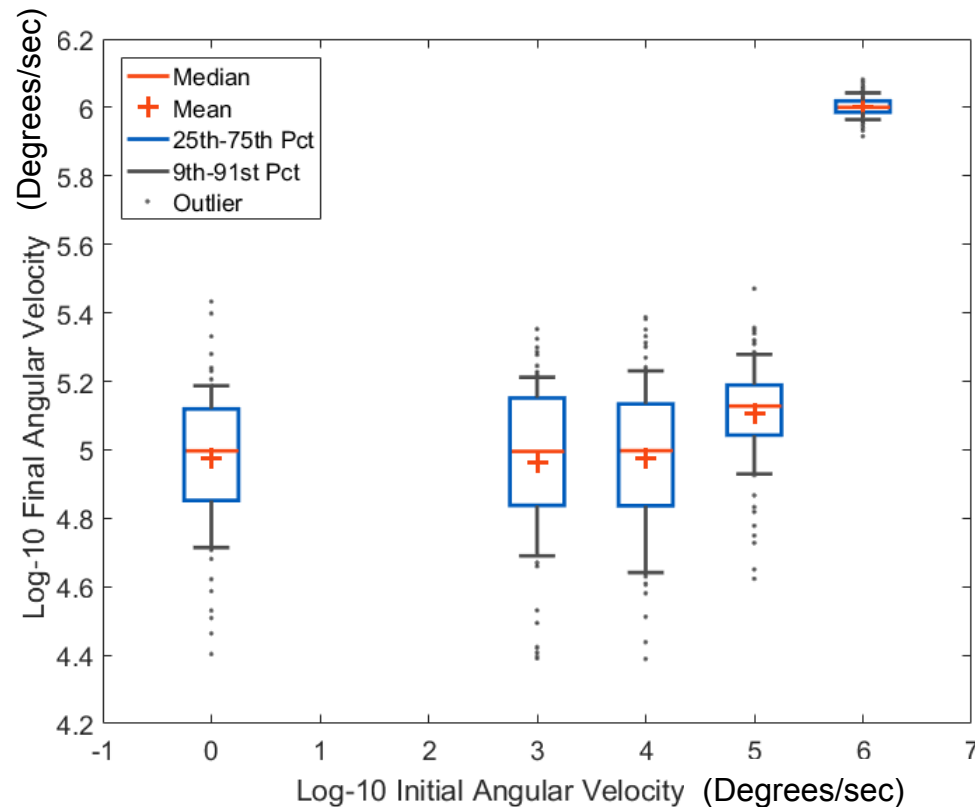


I_1, I_2, I_3 : Principal axes of rotation

- Spin + Precession about I_1, I_3
- Rotation about I_2 is unstable
 - “Intermediate Axis Theorem”

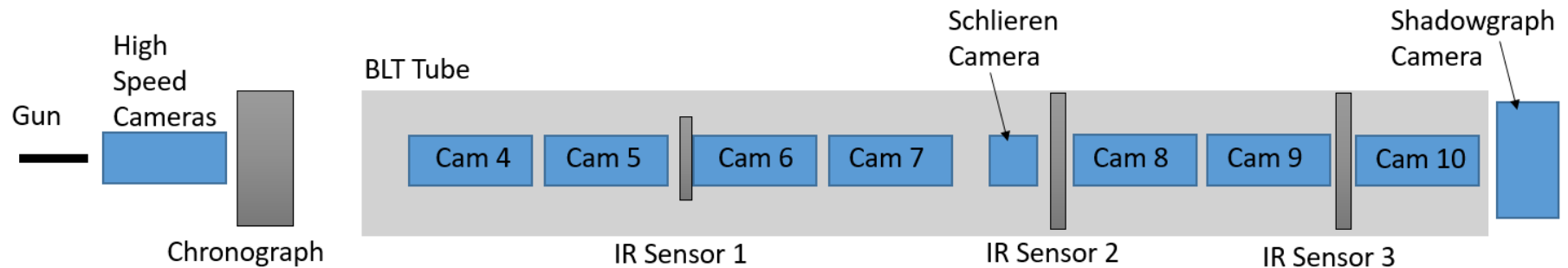
Steady Tumbling Rate

Random initial orientation
Random spin axis
100 samples per angular velocity



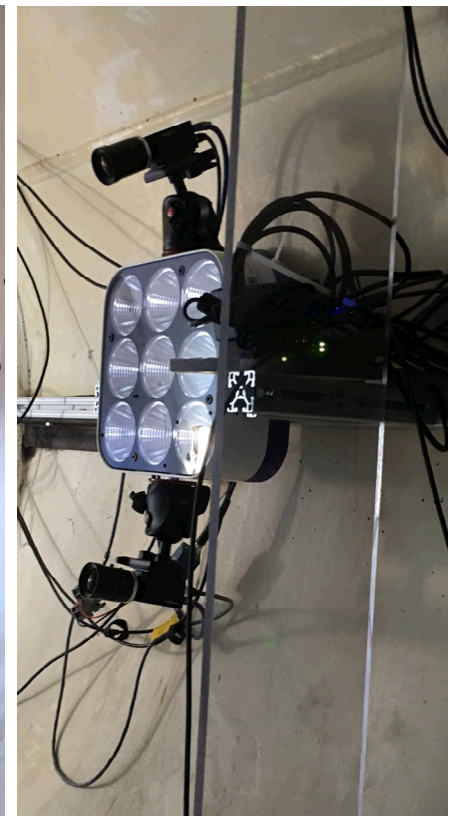
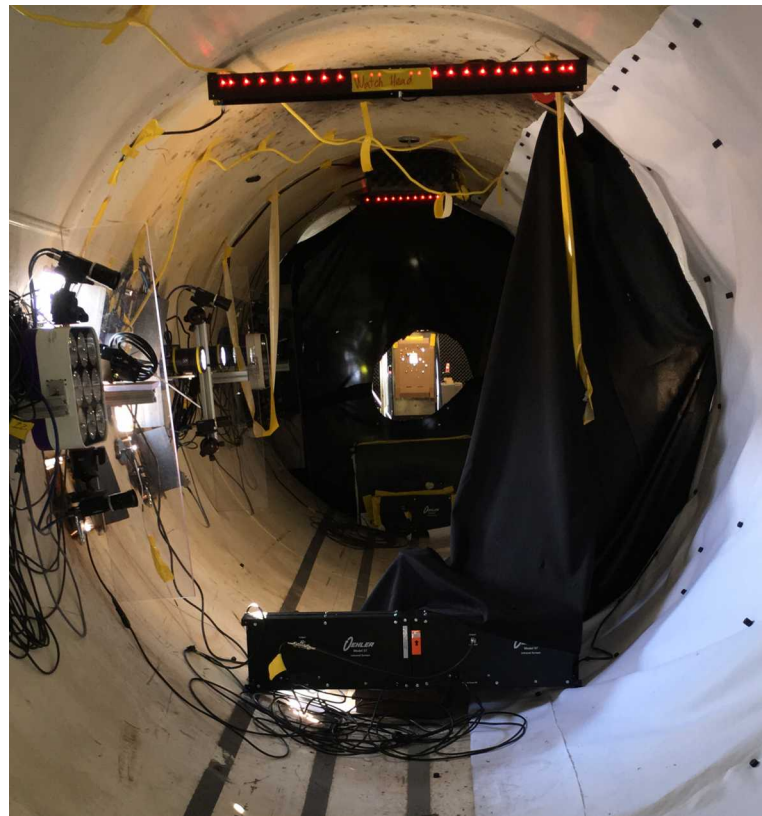
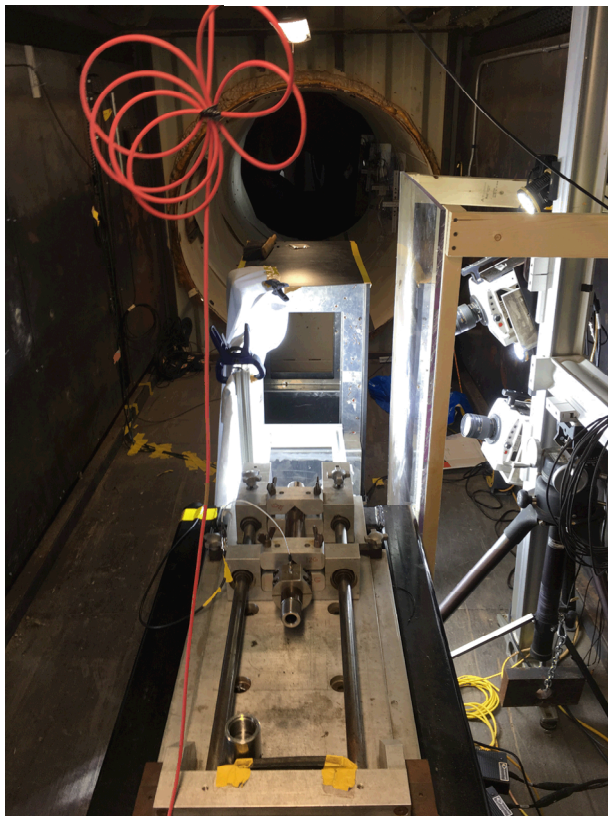
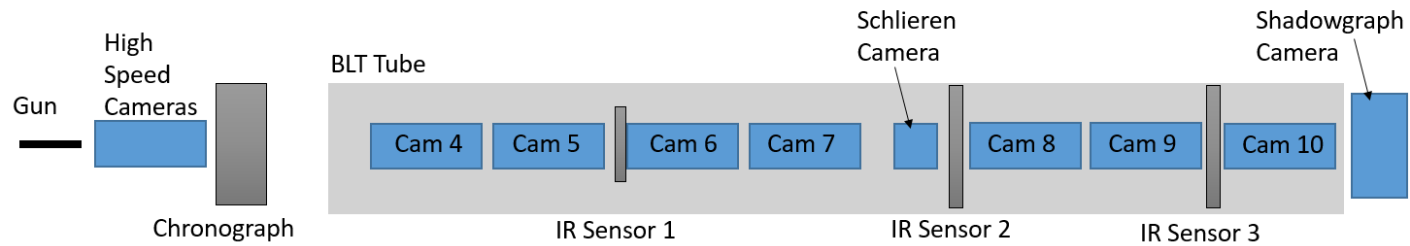
- Fragment reaches steady tumbling rate of $\sim 10^5$ deg/s (3.6 ms period)
- Higher initial tumbling rate is not dissipated in time

Experimental Setup

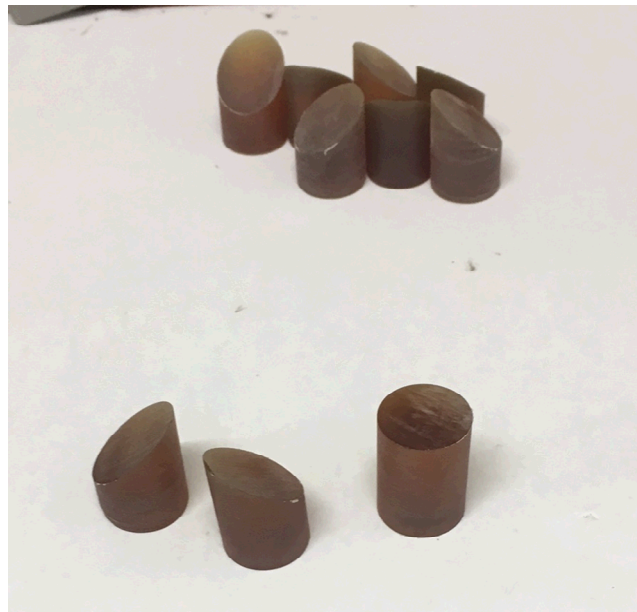


- **Approach: Shoot projectiles in unstable flight and track trajectories using series of camera stations and computer vision algorithms for simulation validation**

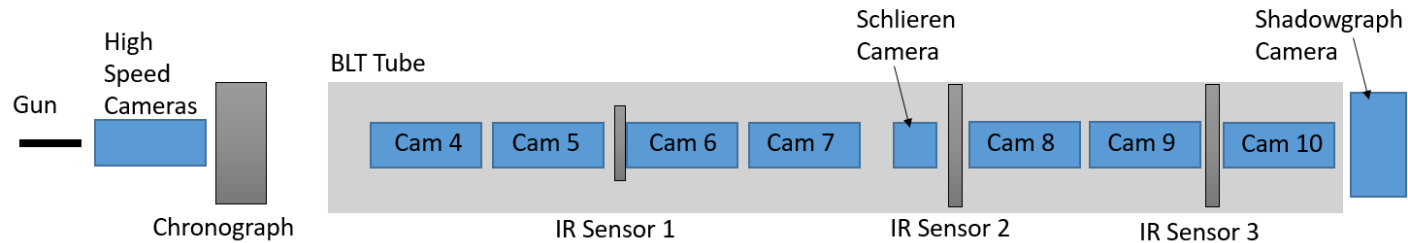
Stereo Systems



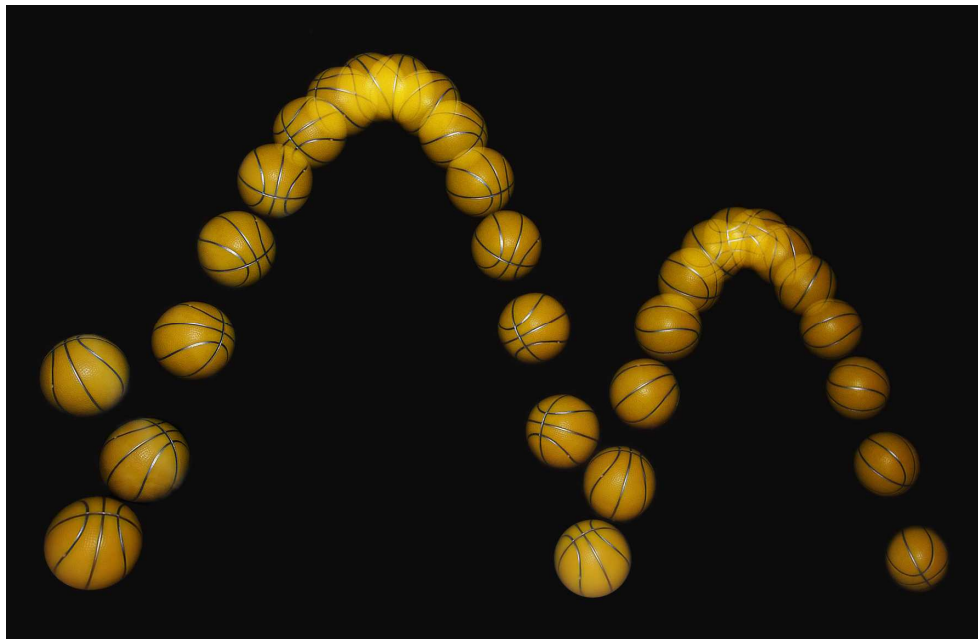
High Speed Stereo System



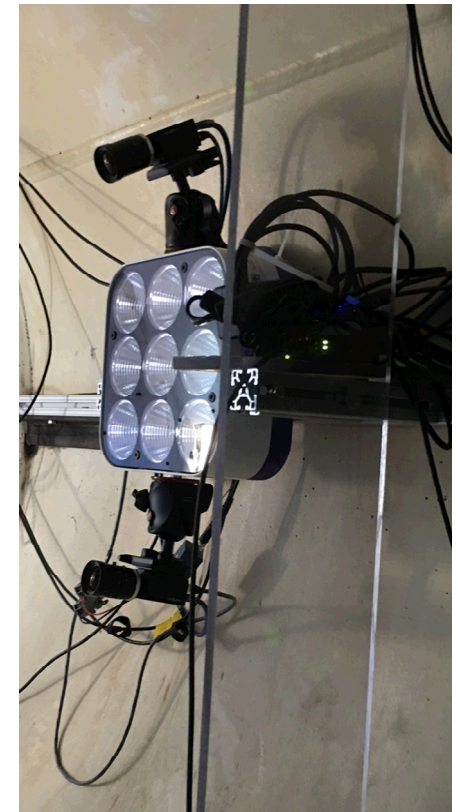
Stroboscopic Camera System



- Open shutter, light pulsed technique
- Need very high frequency light pulses for projectile



Wikipedia



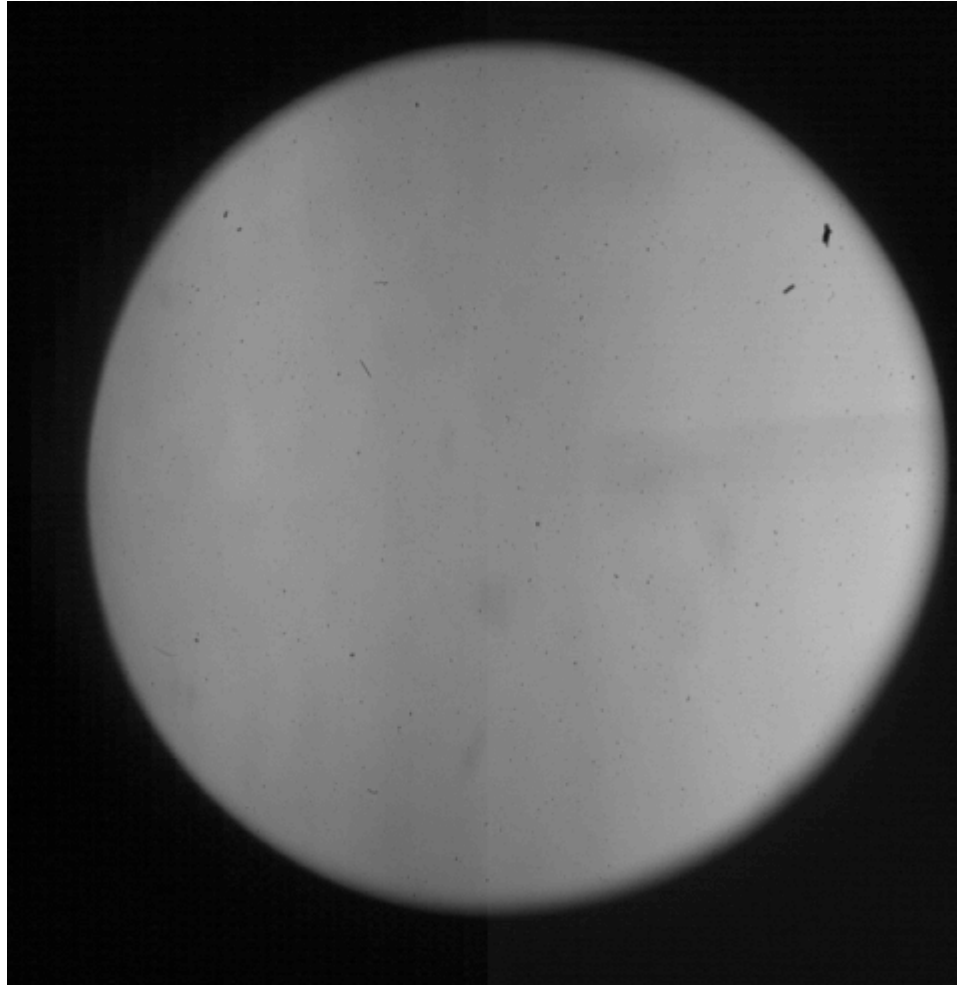
Stroboscopic Images



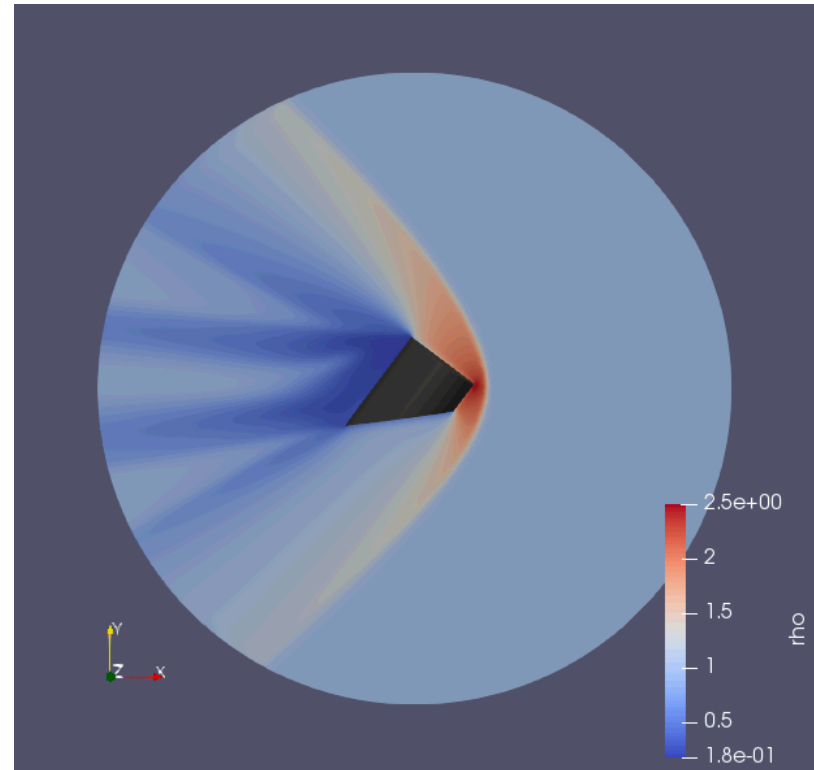
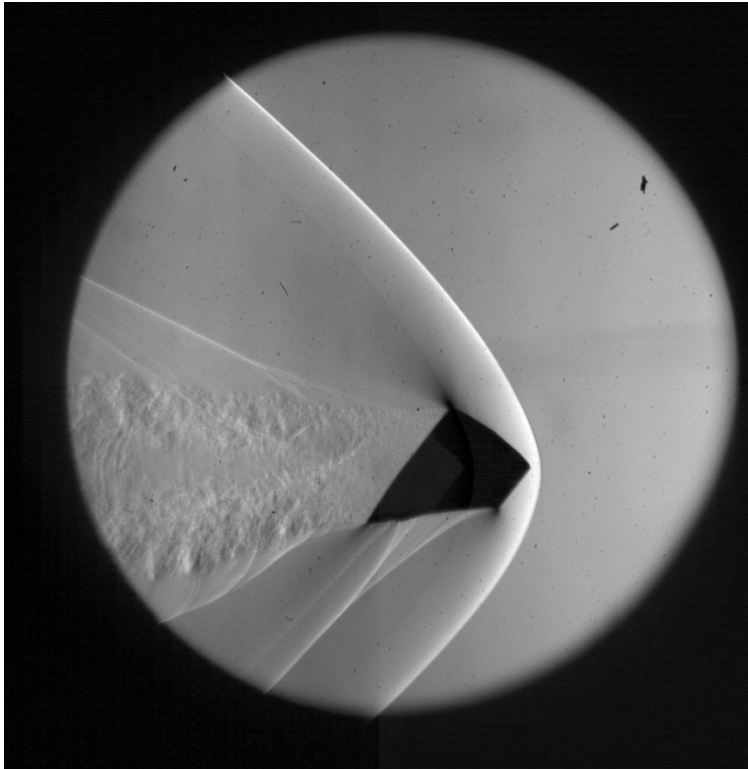
Shadowgraph



Schlieren



Comparison to CFD Simulations

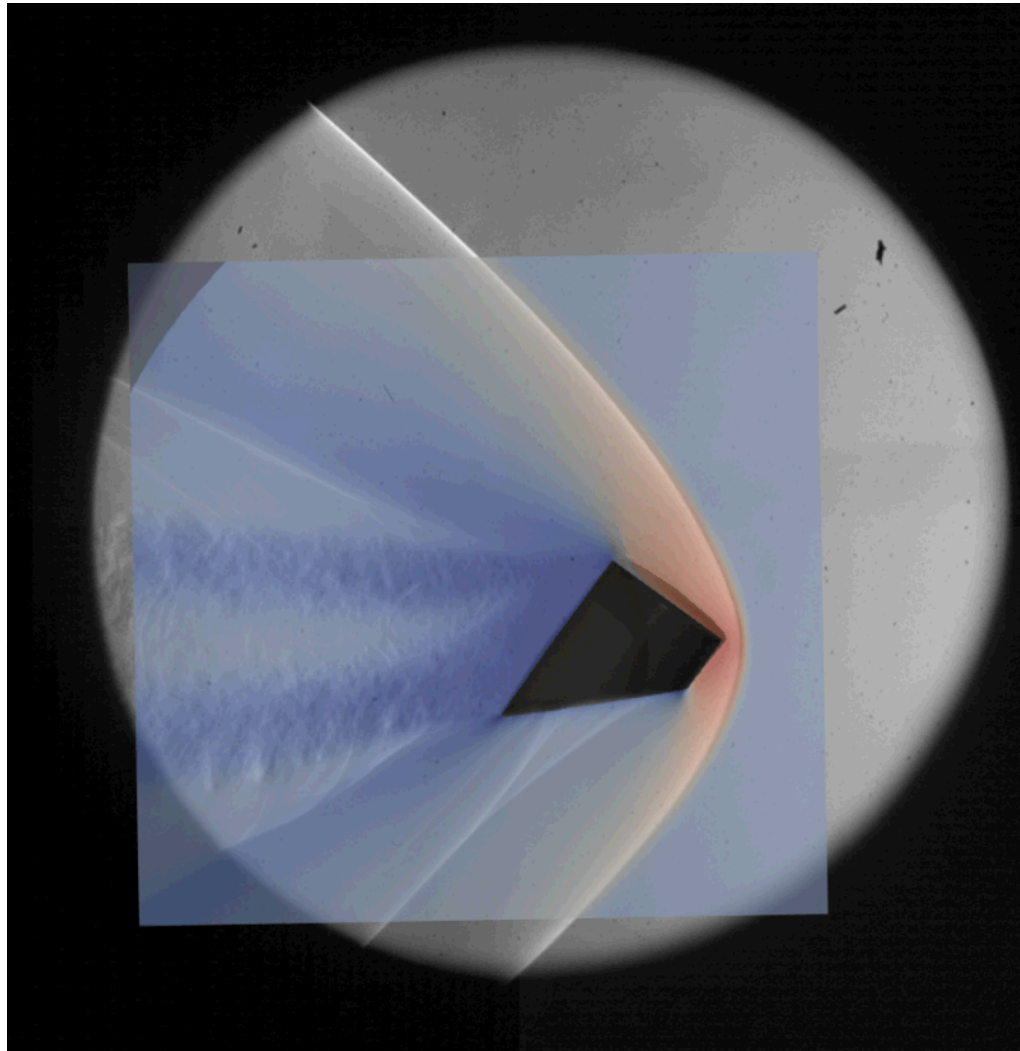


Speed: 1929 ft/s (Mach 1.69)

Pressure: 833.6 mb

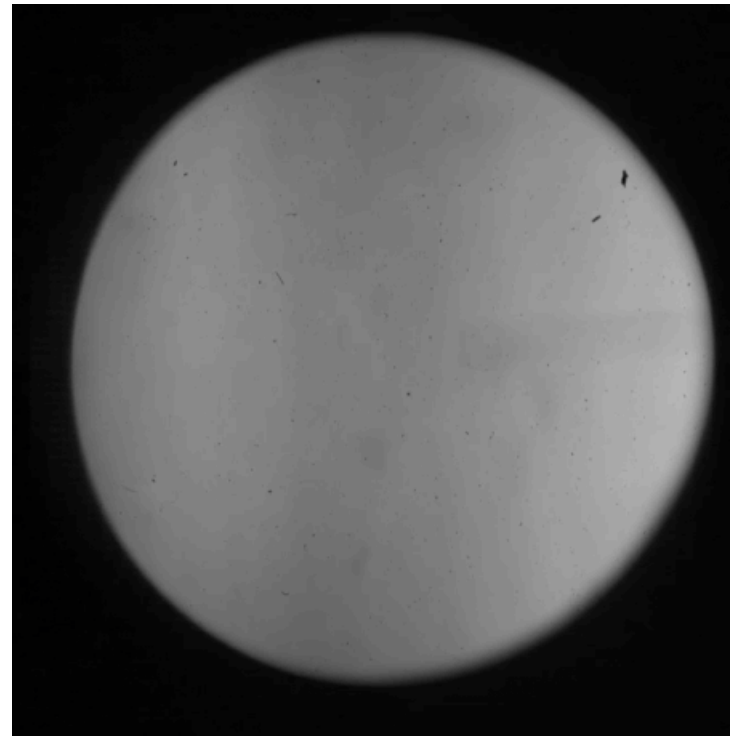
Density: 0.967 kg/m³

Flow Structures Line Up



Summary/Future Work

- Used simulations to determine trajectory distribution and flight dynamics of example fragment
- Experiments show promise in validating flow field and trajectory
- Future Work
 - Experimental data analysis
 - Effects of fragment shapes and sizes



Questions?

