

# Exploring Blast-Structure Aerodynamics and Response in a Shock Tube

Kyle Lynch<sup>1</sup>, Elizabeth Jones<sup>2</sup>, Adam Brink<sup>3</sup>, Justin Wagner<sup>1</sup>

1: SNL, Org. 1515  
2: SNL, Org. 1512  
3: SNL, Org. 1556



## Motivation of Project

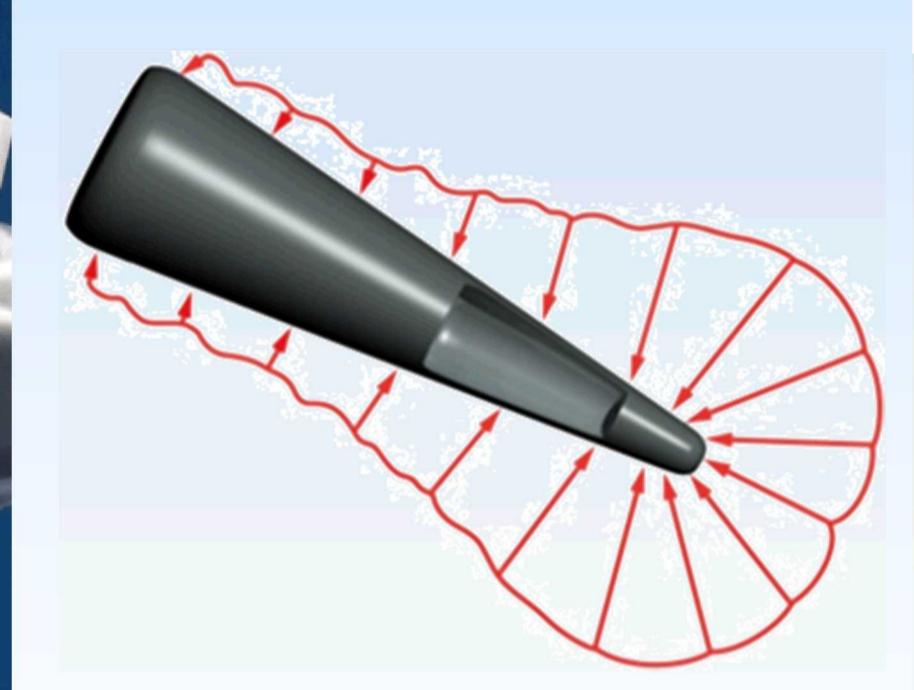
Predicting how energy is transferred from the flowfield throughout the structure in our blast-structure and fluid-structure interaction (BSI and FSI) simulations remains quite challenging.

### Modeling Applications

Cavity resonances in weapons bays



Loading during hypersonic reentry

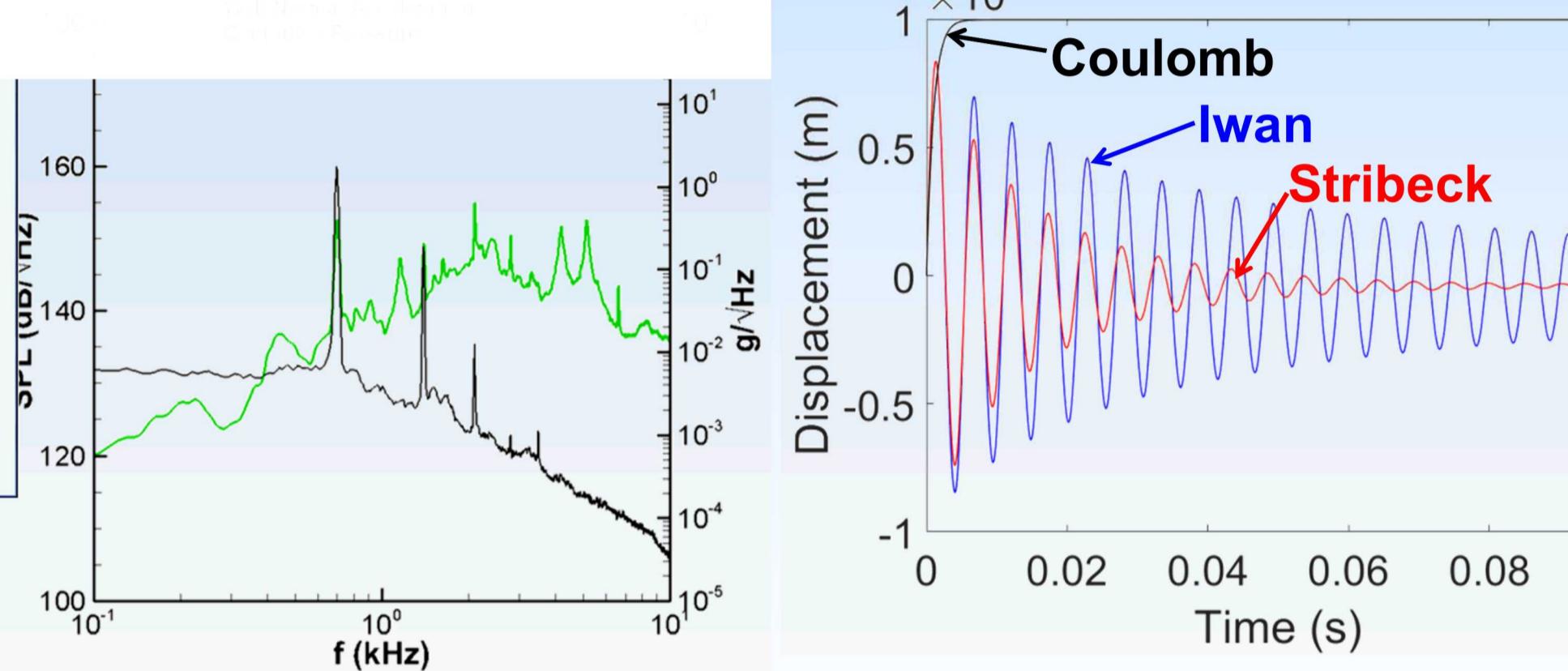


Numerous challenging modeling issues...

1. Response of structures to fluid dynamic loading
2. Response of structures to blast loading
3. Energy dissipation in jointed structures

### Current Limitations

Flow-structure resonances amplify structural responses  
Different joint models yield wildly different energy dissipation



**Hypothesis:** Well-controlled experiments with diagnostics that spatially and temporally capture the underlying fluid dynamic and structural physical phenomena are required to reduce model form error

## Shock Tube and Test Models

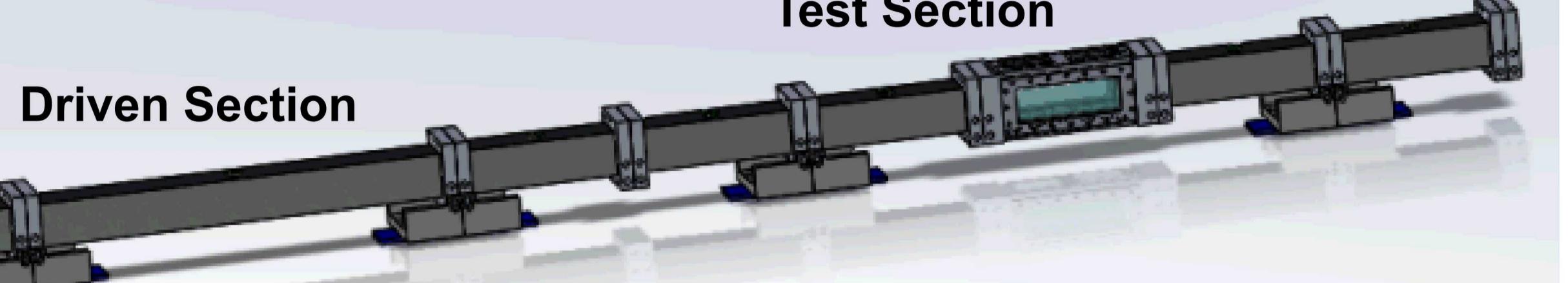
- Experiments conducted in Multiphase Shock Tube (MST)
- Produces shock Mach numbers  $M_s = 1.0 - 2.1$  at driver pressures from 1 to 600 psig
- Fast valve allows continuous range of conditions, rapid turnaround time (~5 min)

### Driver Section

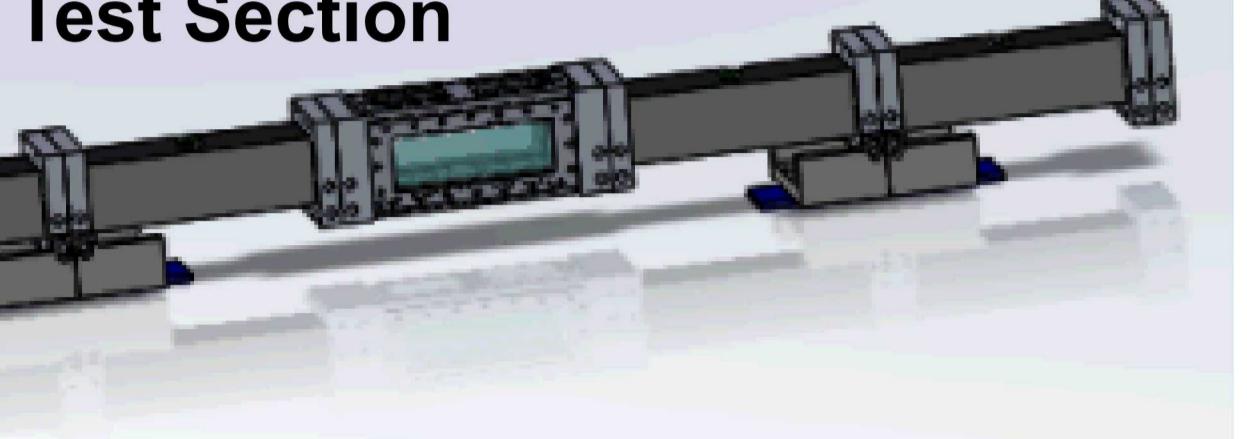


Fast Valve

Driven Section

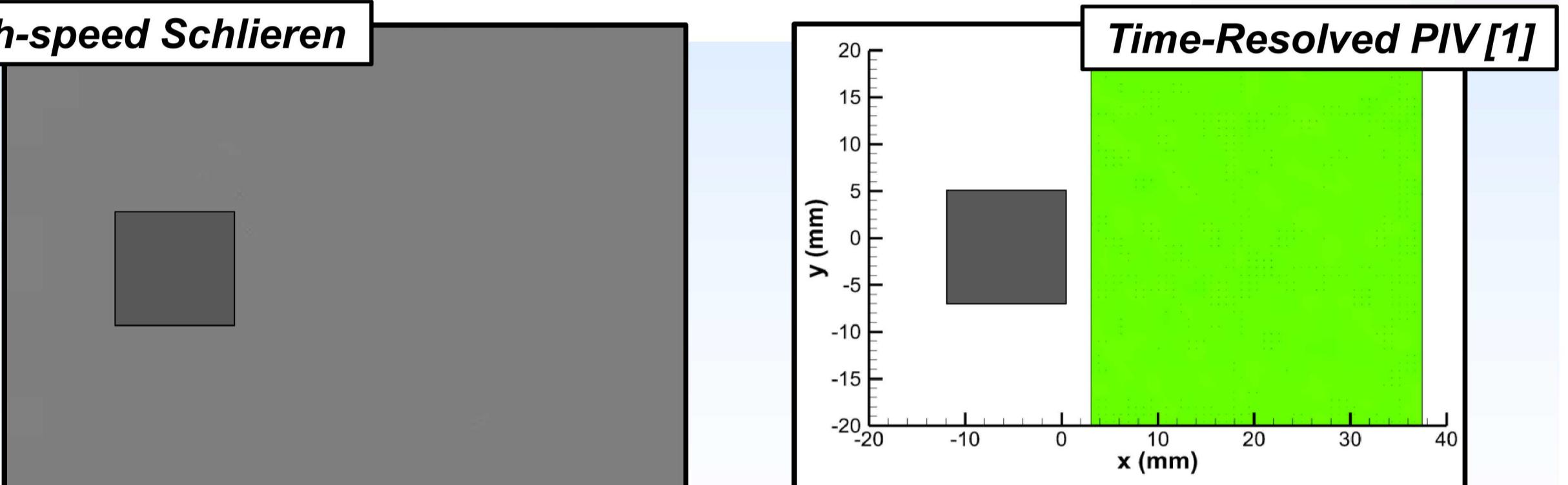


Test Section



- Shock wave creates near-instantaneous longitudinal forcing.
- Vortex shedding forces structure in transverse and longitudinal directions.
- Stochastic, turbulent loading in wake by small-scale structures.

High-speed Schlieren



Time-Resolved PIV [1]

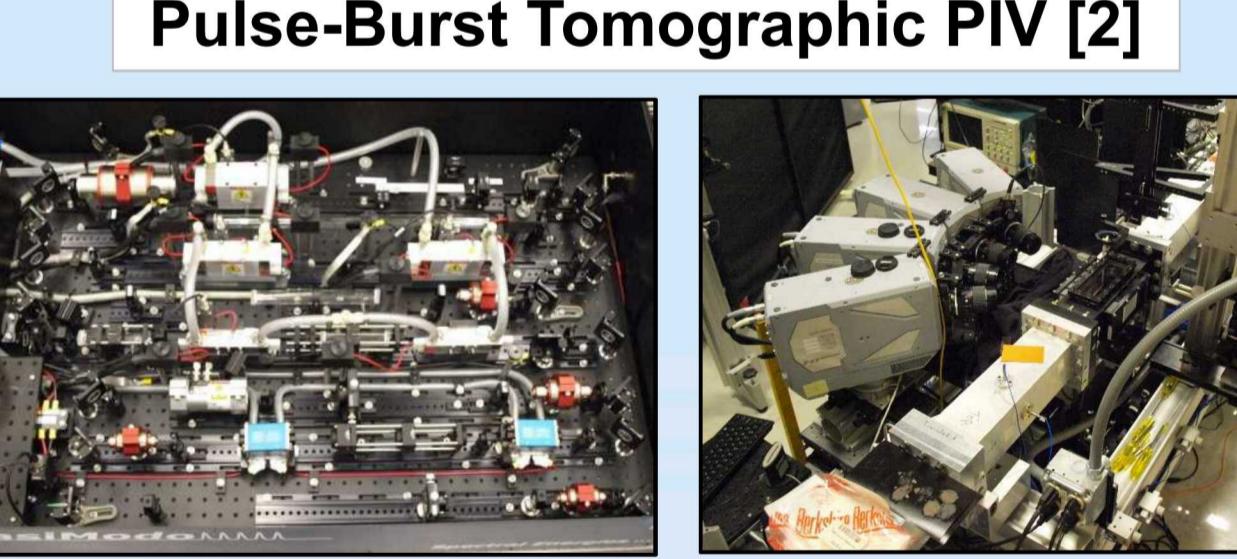
Physically rich loading with greater strength than simple impact hammer or shaker table testing

## Novel Diagnostic Development

### 1. Flowfield with Tomographic PIV

- Extend planar particle image velocimetry to a volume
- Uses multiple views to perform tomographic reconstruction of particles
- Cross-correlation in 3-D: correlates small regions of reconstructed volumes
- Captures all velocity components, full velocity gradient tensor

Generally limited to small volumes and low speeds due to limited laser energy...



Spectral Energies  
Pulse-Burst Laser

Rarely applied in industrial facilities due to vibrations

Computationally heavy, can't generate production datasets

Scalable Parallelism on Sandia Clusters

"Skybridge" cluster

Re<sub>0</sub> = 8,200  
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Run 1694  
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Run 1703

Re<sub>0</sub> = 22,800  
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# A High-Temperature Shock Tube for Creating Extreme Environments

Kyle Lynch<sup>1</sup> and Justin Wagner<sup>1</sup>

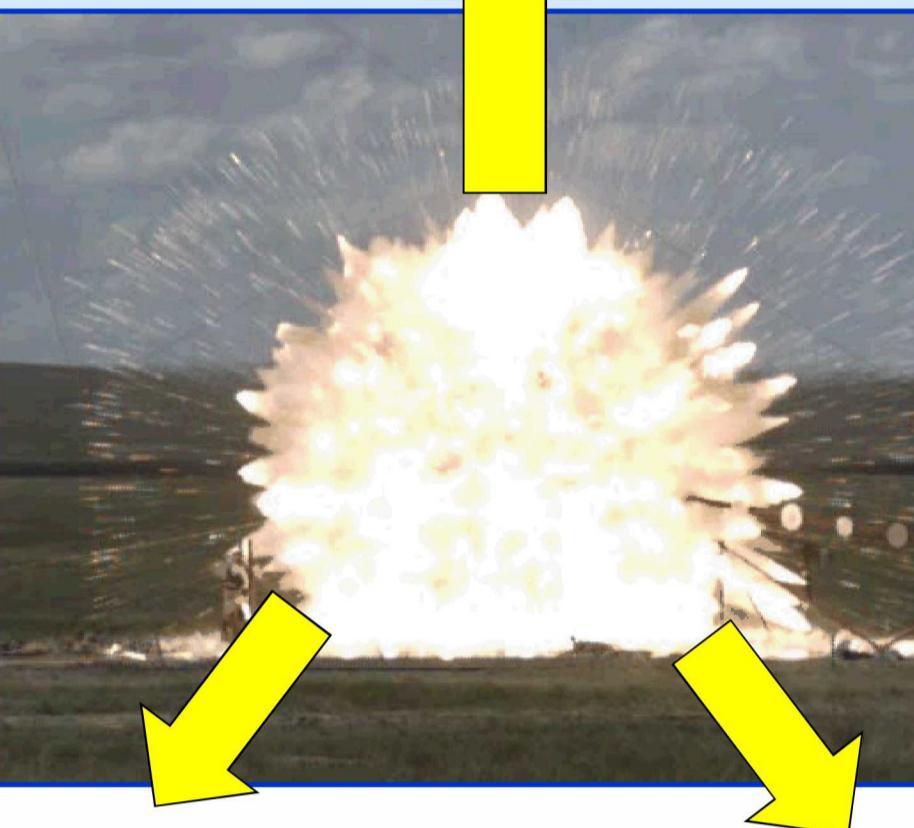
1: SNL, Org. 1515



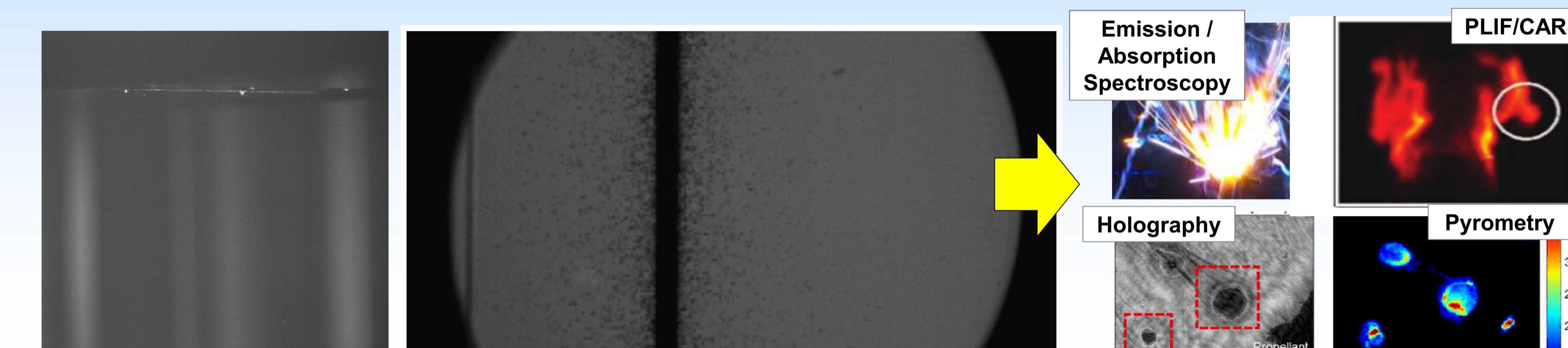
## Motivation of Project

Create a lab-scale facility to generate **extreme environments** representative of explosives. This enables fundamental study of physical processes occurring in convective, reacting, multiphase flows.

Convective effects on combustion? (> 1km/s velocity)



Extend work on inert particles (glass/steel) to reactive mixtures (Mg/Al). Characterize reacting products using particle and gas-phase diagnostics.



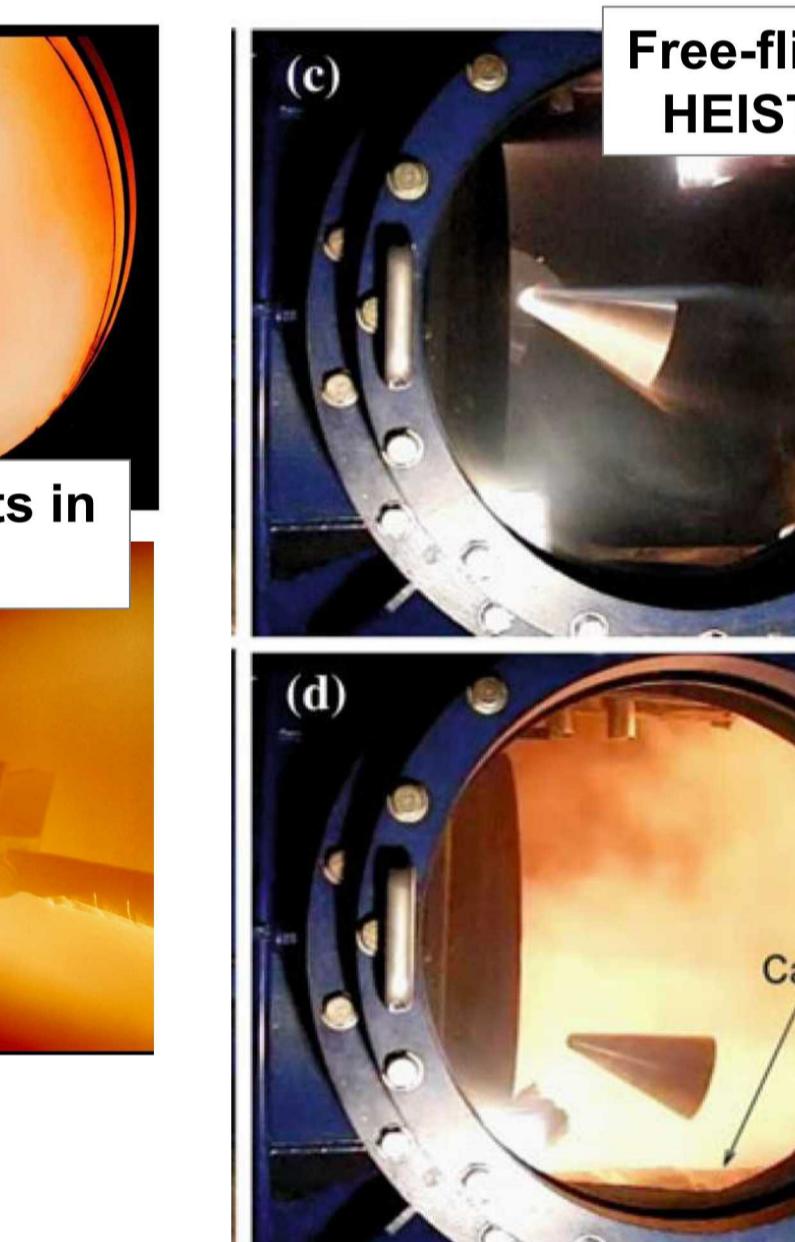
Volume fraction effects in dense particle clouds?

Effects of turbulent mixing on combustion?

Generate high-enthalpy reentry environments of reentry through the entire flight profile

Wide variety of applications:

- Ablation / surface chemistry
- High-enthalpy aerodynamics
- Fluid-thermal-structural interactions (FTSI)
- Hypersonic wake chemistry / dynamics



(c)

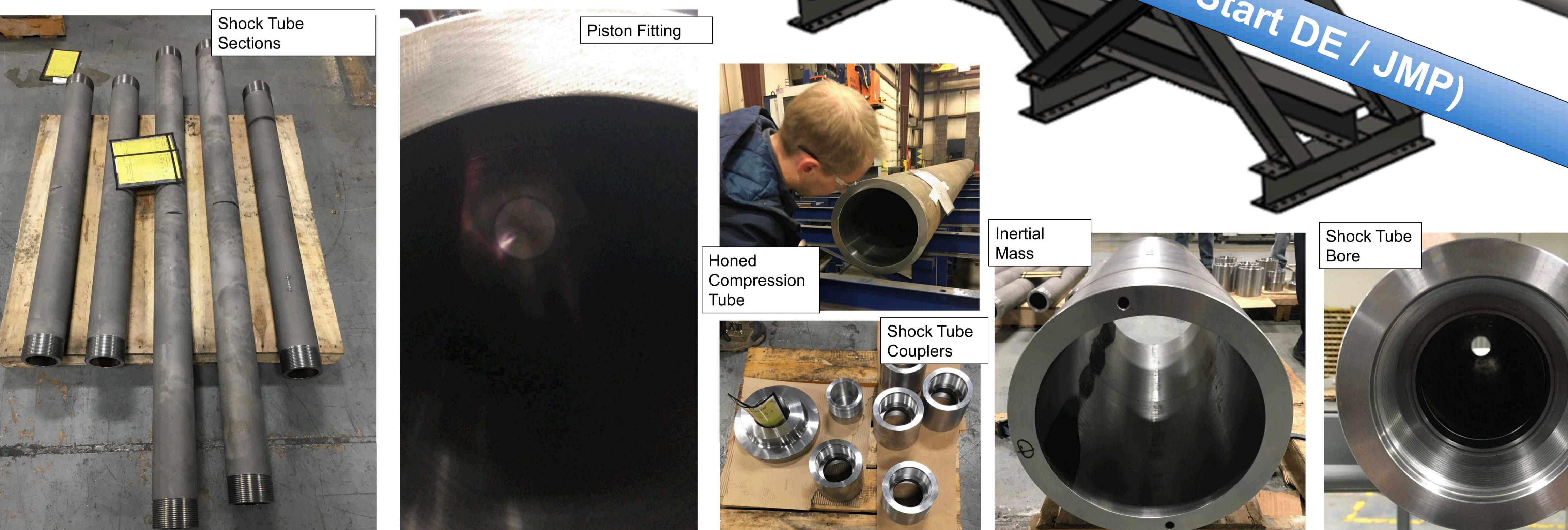
(d)

Catcher

Explosive Environments Track (Existing DE / JMP / LDRD)

## Construction Underway!

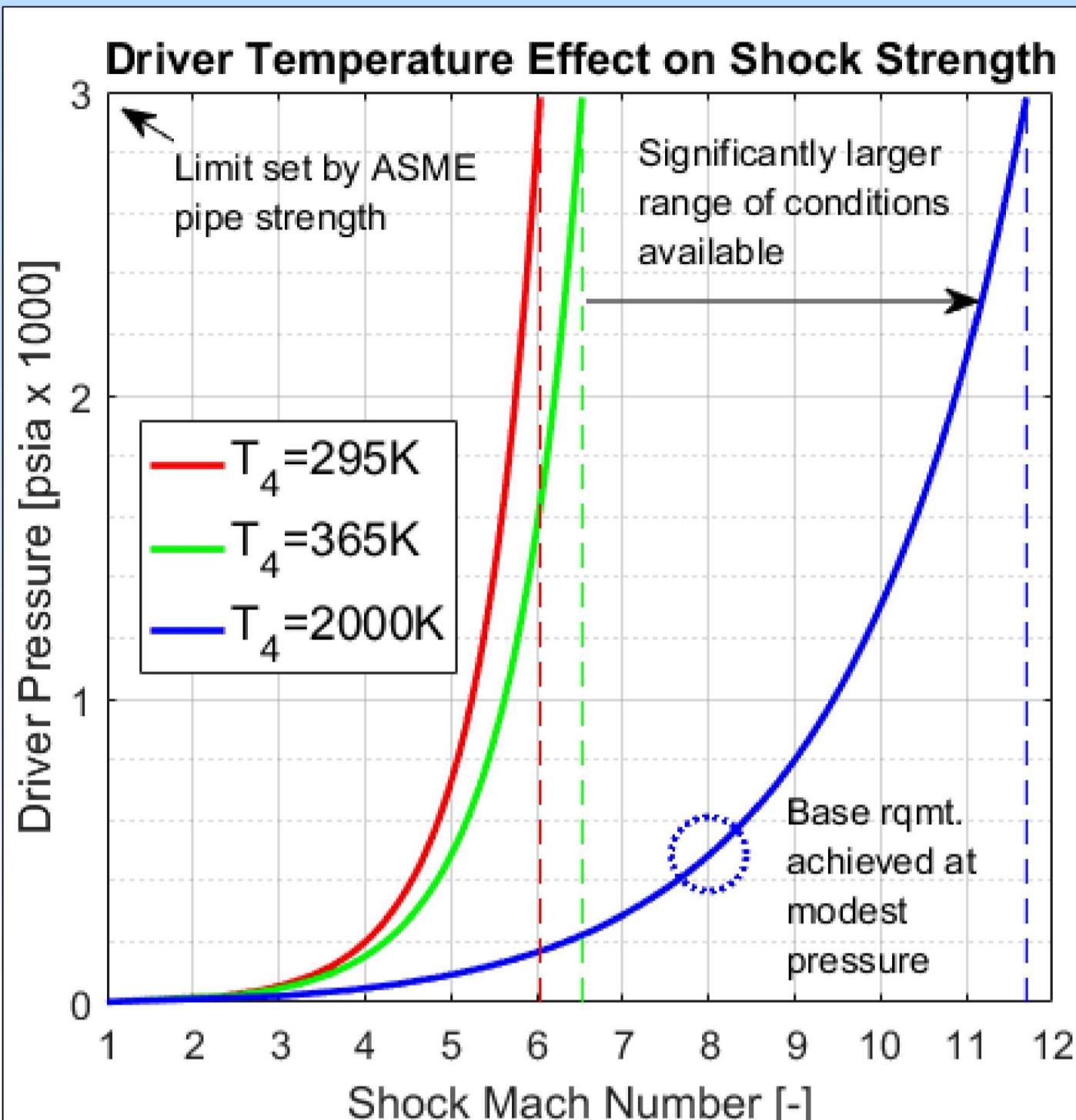
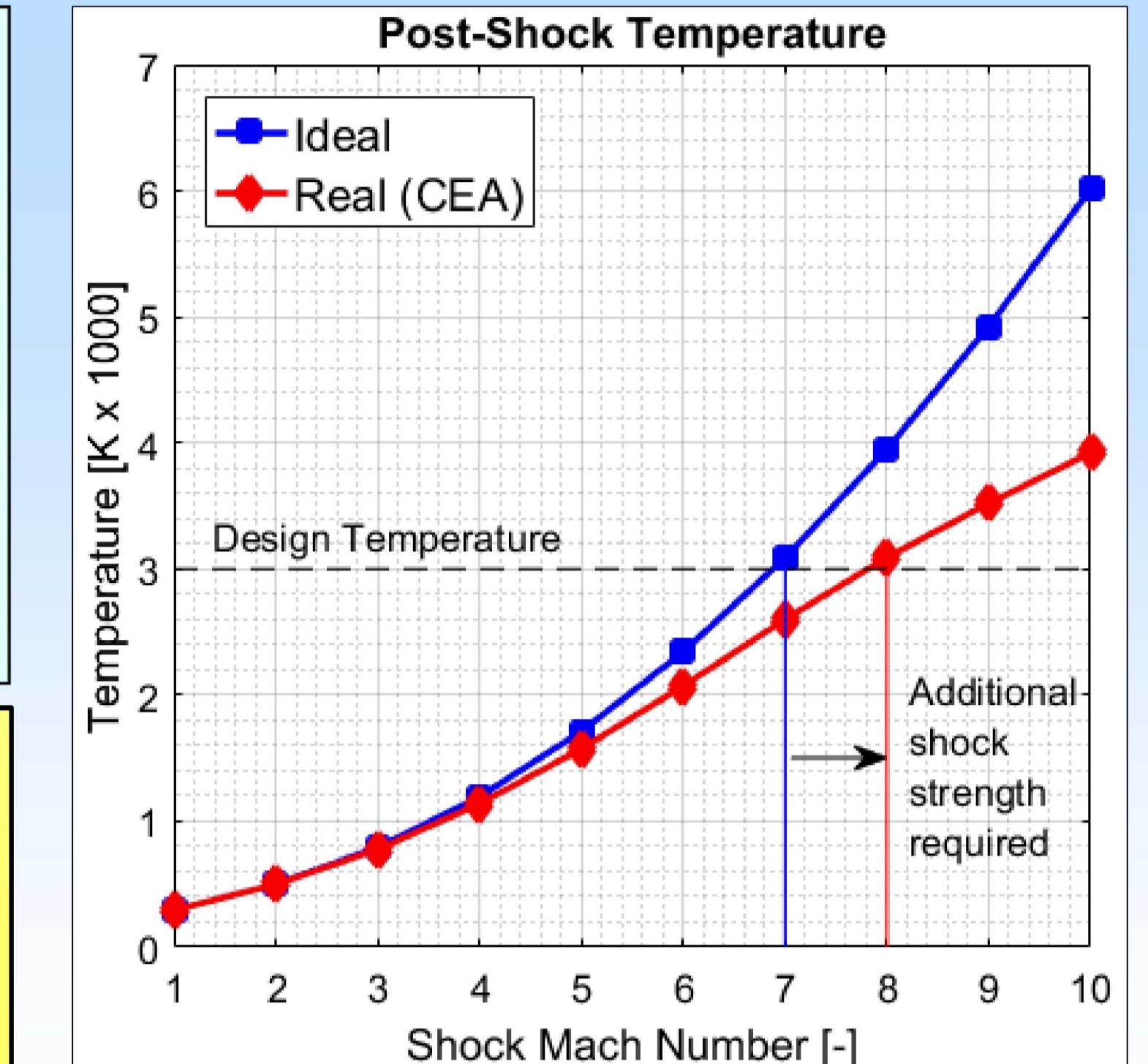
- Machined at Springs Fabrication, Colorado
- Estimated completion date: April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018



- At high temperatures, specific heats are no longer constant. Chemical equilibrium calculations show that for required T, stronger shock needed compared to ideal value.
- Reviewed many techniques for high  $M_s$  design: Helium driver, driver-driven area ratio, electrical resistance heating, driven section at vacuum.
- Challenging to achieve high  $M_s$  with traditional designs: Need to heat the driver gas to thousands of degrees.

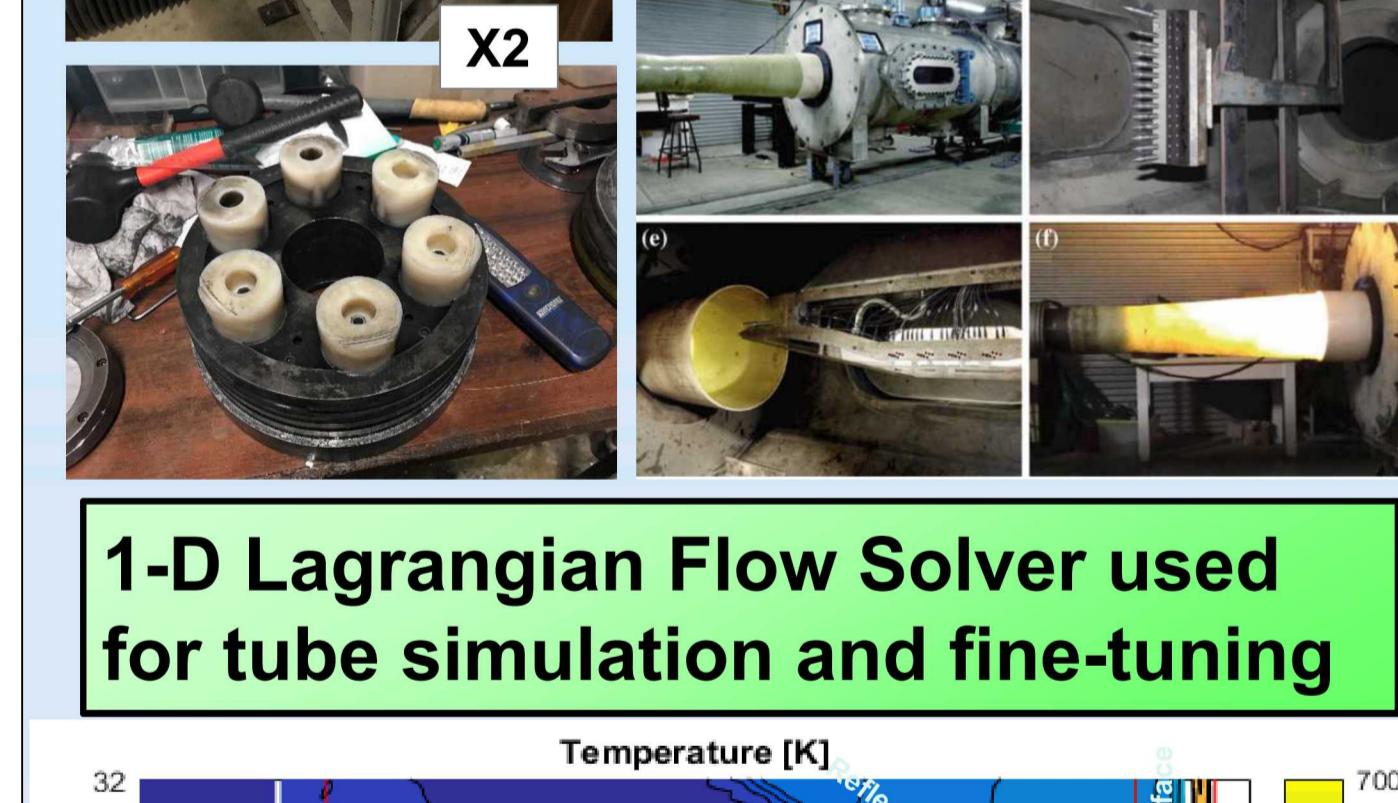
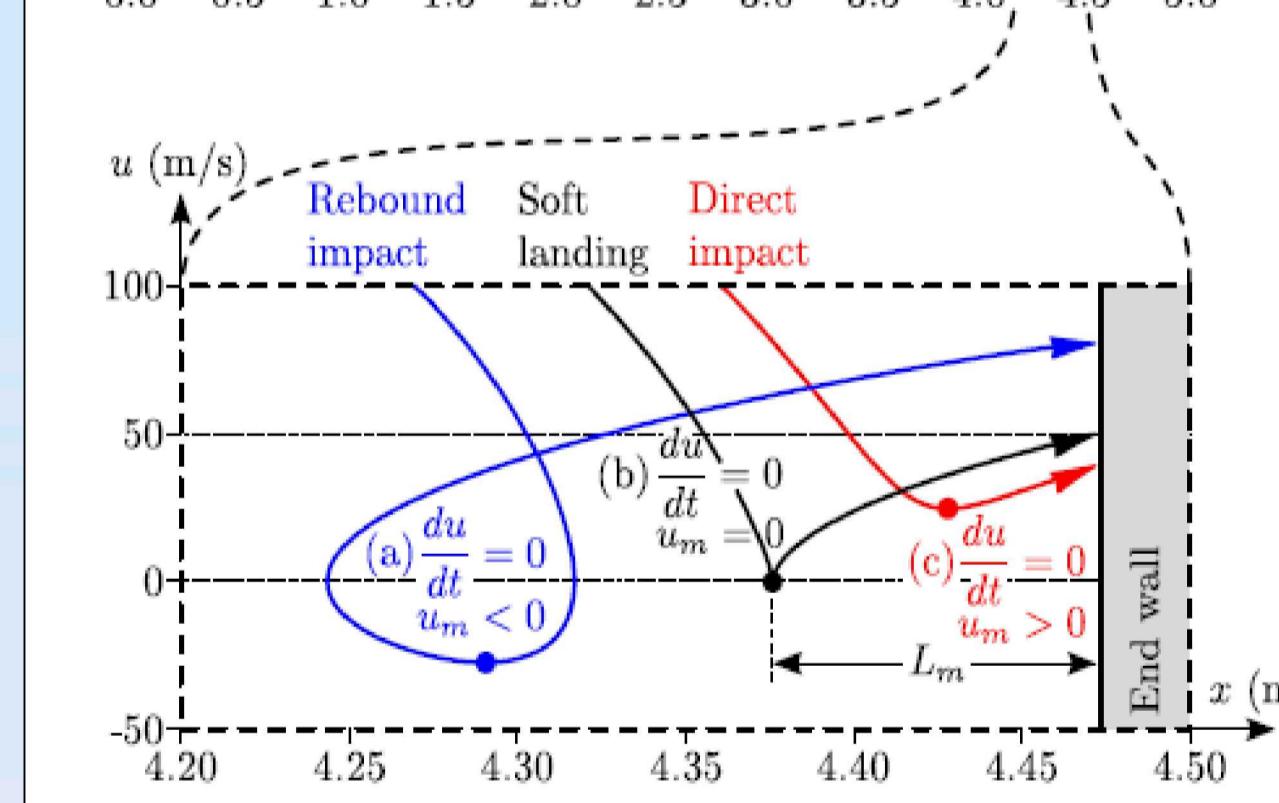
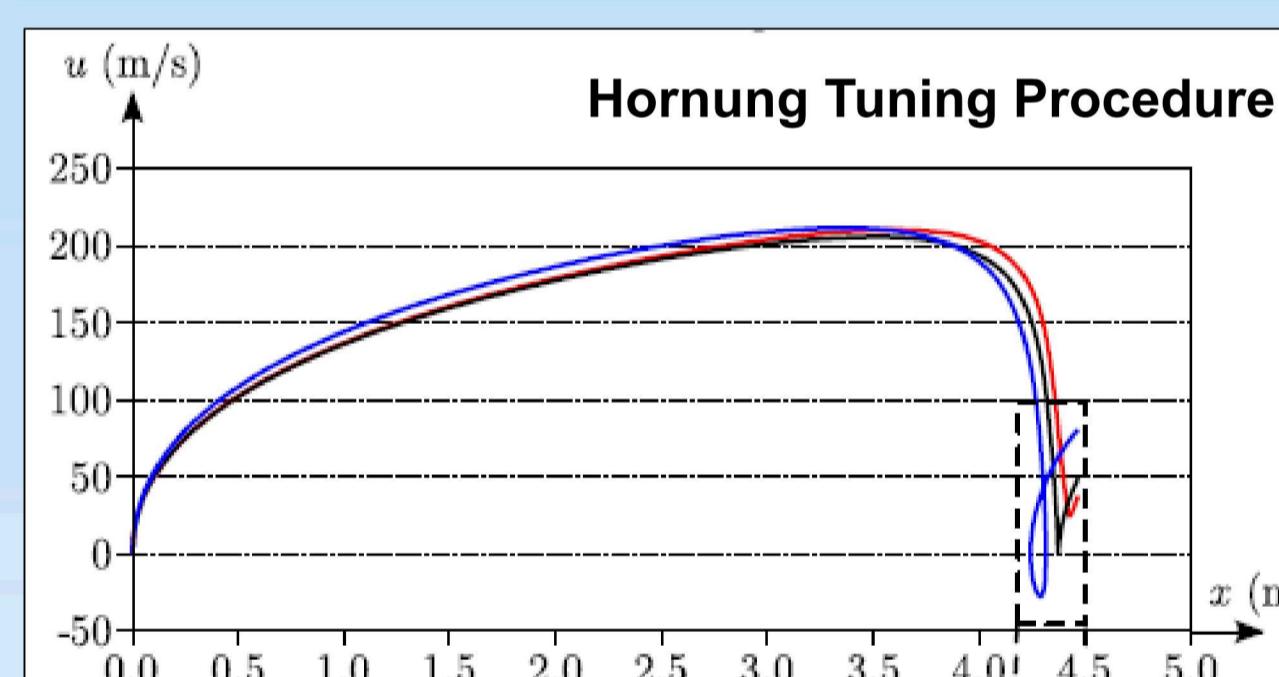
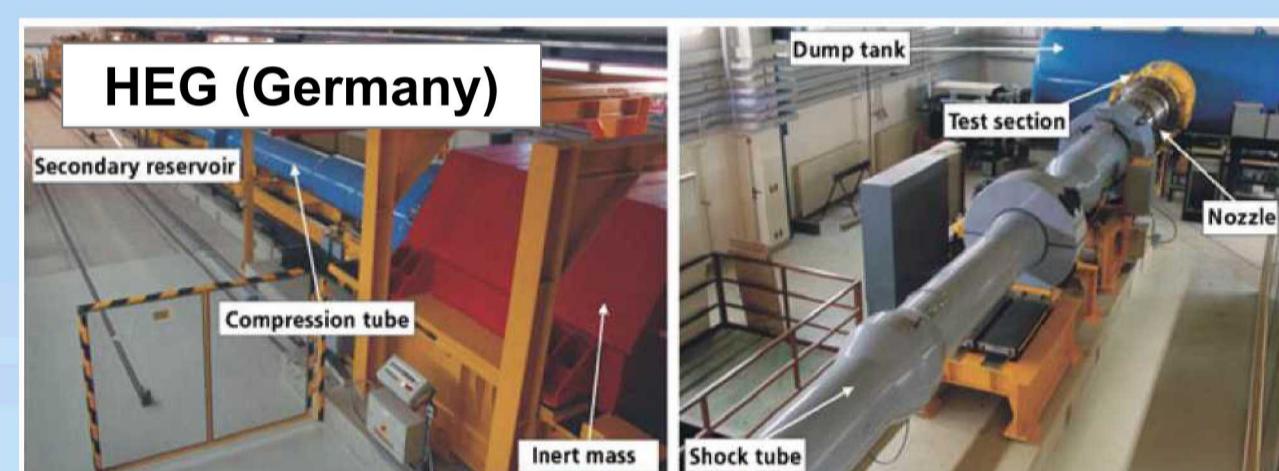
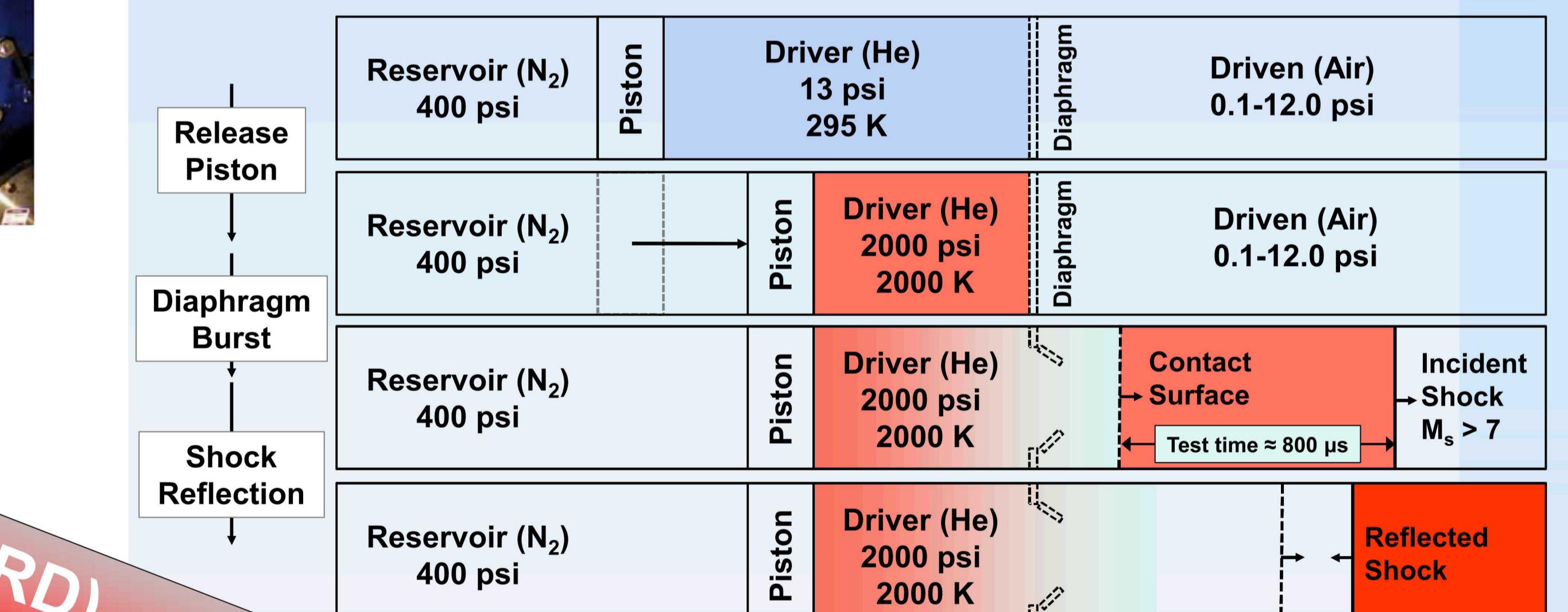
Simultaneous extreme pressurization and heating is the fundamental principle of high-enthalpy hypersonic impulse facilities such as free-piston shock tunnels

## Design Study

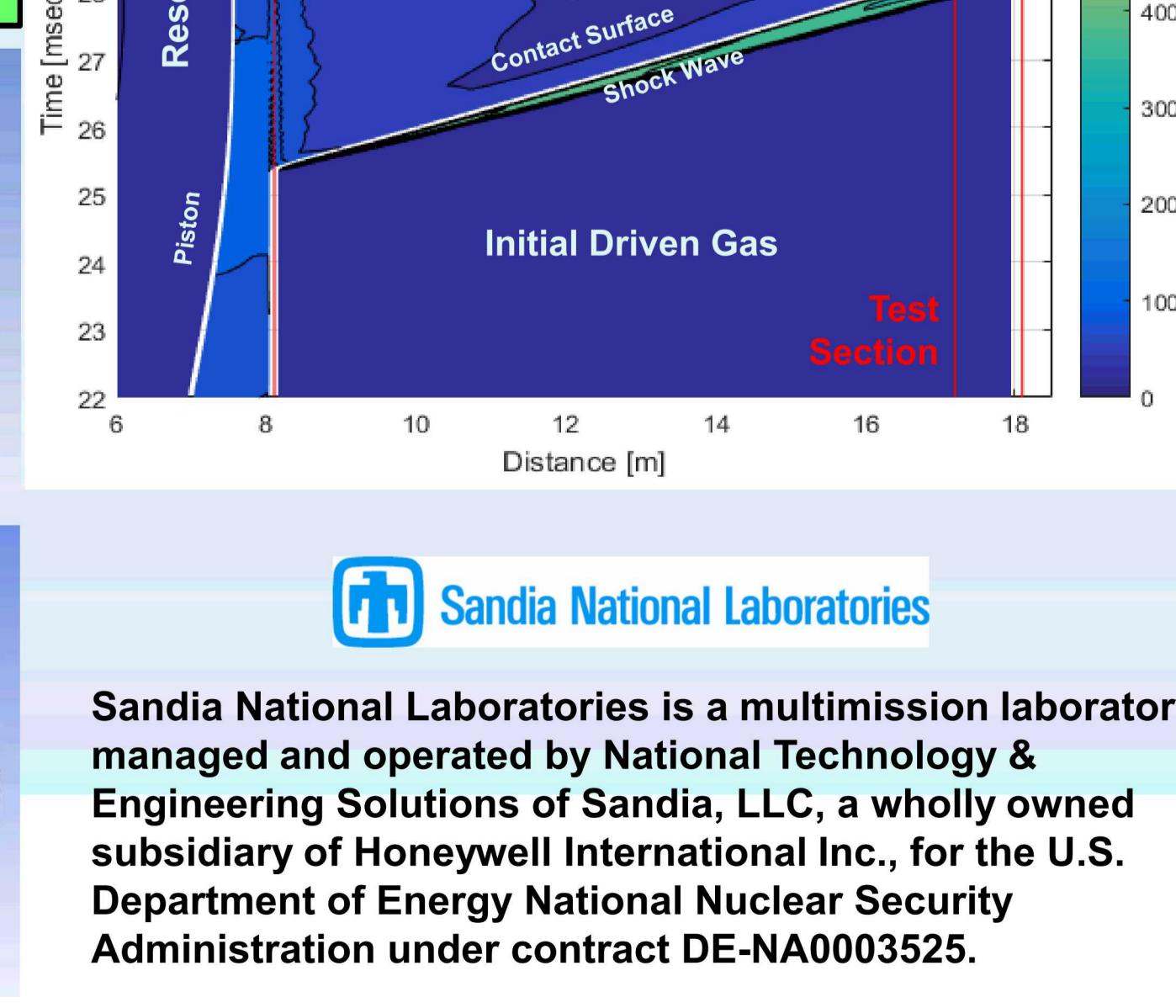
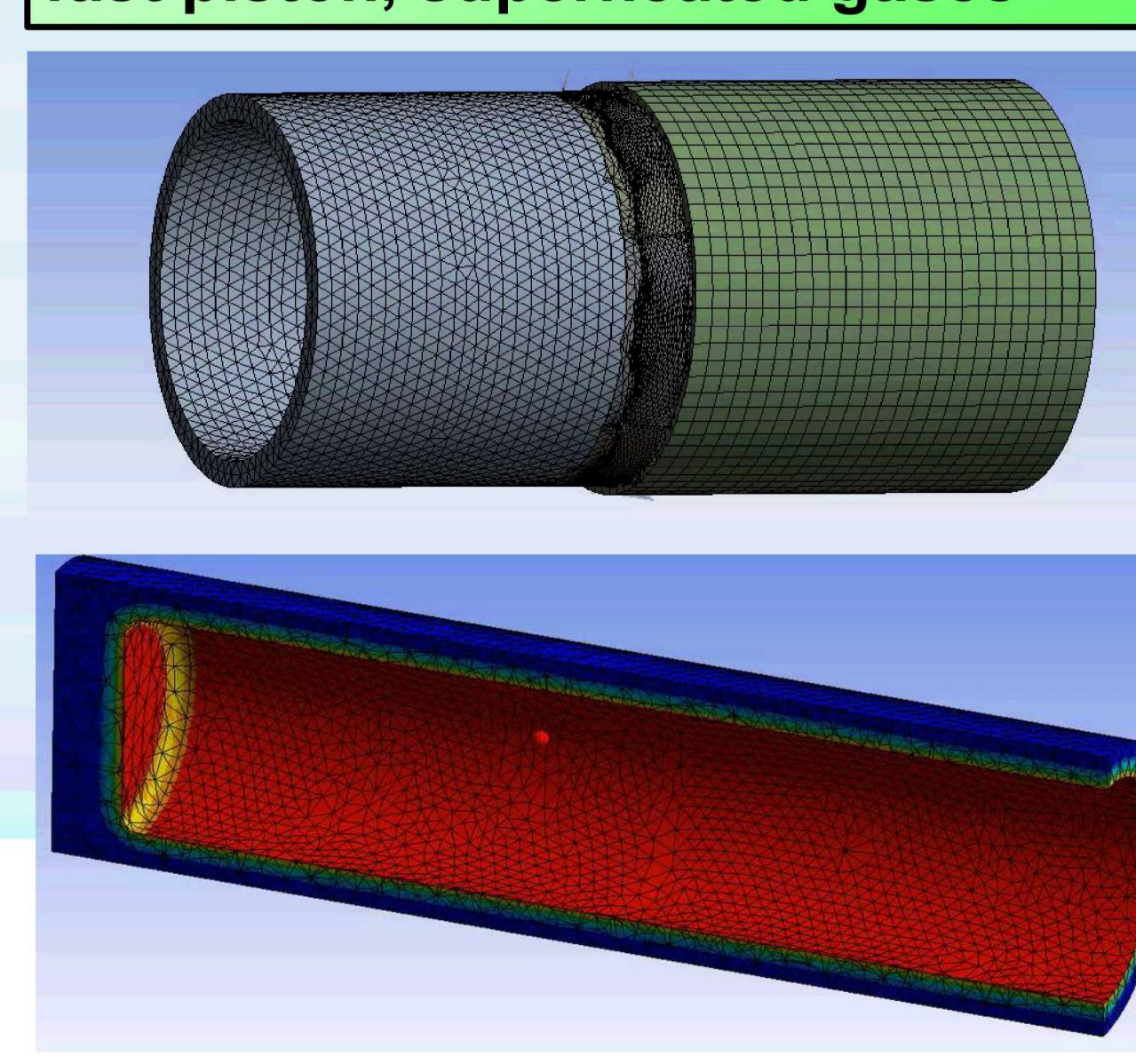


## The Free-Piston Shock Tube

- Apply free-piston shock tunnel concept to create range of extreme environments. **Readily adaptable to hypersonic reentry**.
- Free-piston driver concept: High-speed piston isentropically compresses and heats driver gas before diaphragm rupture.
- Tuning procedure slows piston before reaching end-wall.
- Concept invented in 1962 by R. J. Stalker (Univ. Queensland, AUS). Only 1 other free-piston facility in US (T5, Caltech).



ANSYS explicit FE and transient thermal analyses evaluate safety of fast piston, superheated gases



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