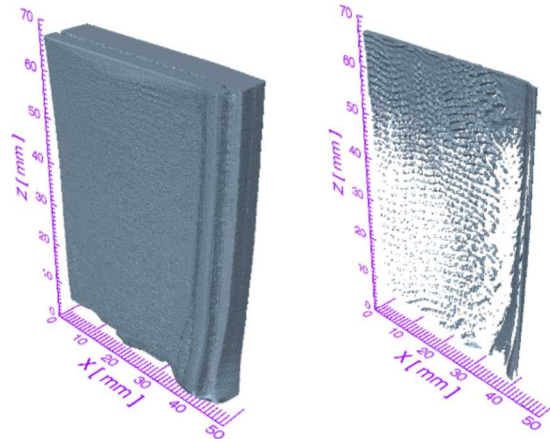
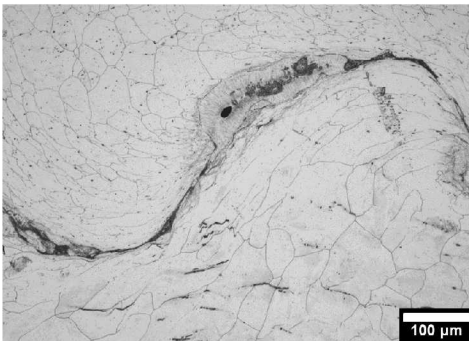
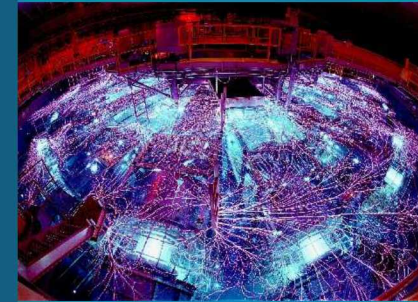


# Characterization of Interfacial Bond Surfaces in Explosively Bonded 304L Stainless Steel



TMS Annual  
Meeting &  
Exhibition

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

PRESENTED BY

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## Benefits and Challenges to Explosive Bonding

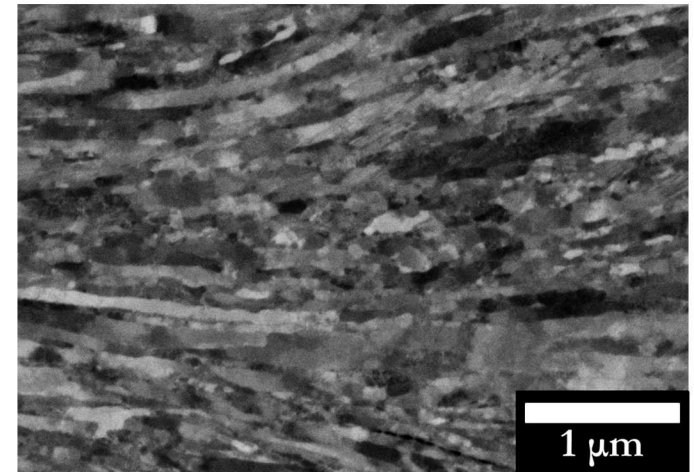
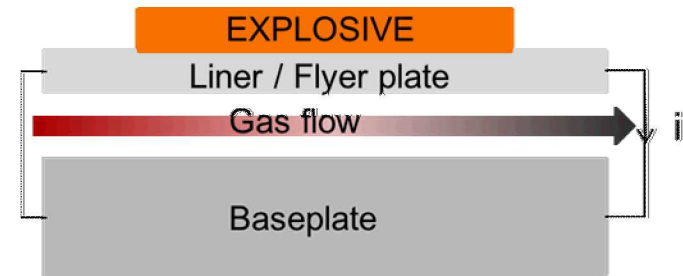
### Why explosive bonding?

1. Rapid bond formation
2. Metallurgical bond (hermeticity)
3. Bond large surface areas ( $1,000 \text{ cm}^2$ )

### Challenges

1. Delamination at the bond interface
2. Porosity along the bond interface and an inconsistent (wavy) bond
3. Melting along the bond interface

Bonding between two plates. Note the incomplete bonding and porosity. Micro-computed tomography.



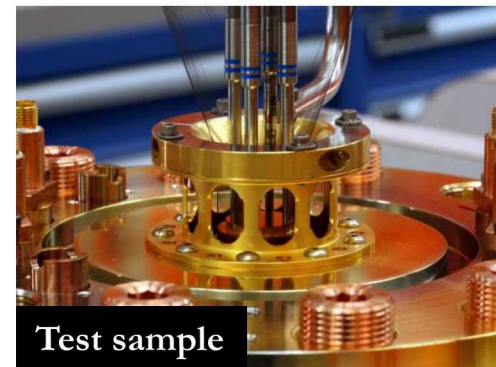
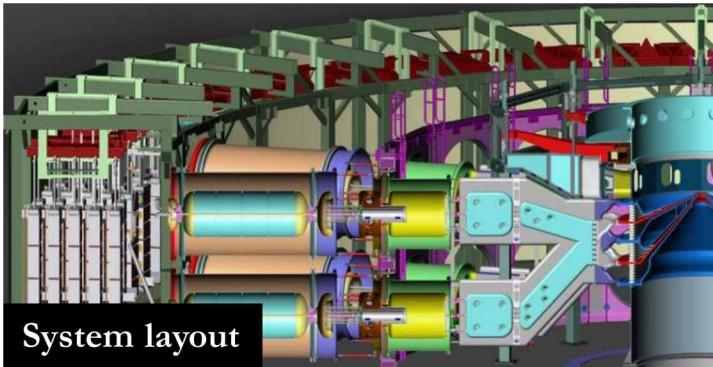
Metallurgical bonding across the bond interface.  
High resolution scanning electron microscopy.



## Testing in Extreme Environments with the Z machine

### Z machine at Sandia National Laboratories

- World's most powerful and efficient laboratory radiation source
- Pulsed power system creates extreme environments for materials testing

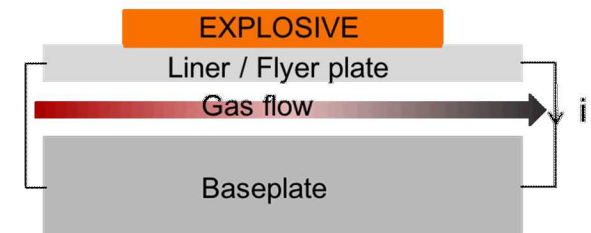


### Challenges

- Tests are sensitive to contaminants and require a clean environment
- Undesirable/dangerous compounds are often produced
- Tests are completed rapidly and require precise timing and control

This study explores the use of plastic explosives to close a 6 inch gas flow valve in the Z machine

- Precise timing required
- Valve hermetically sealed within  $\sim 100 \mu\text{s}$
- Cannot contaminate the test environment

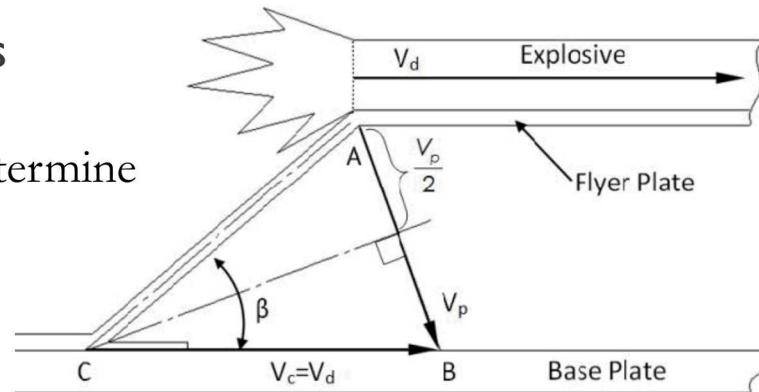


Schematic of explosive closure valve

## 4 Explosive Bonding Parameters

Three primary process parameters determine the quality of a bond

- Collision velocity ( $V_c$ )
- Collision angle ( $\beta$ )
- Flyer plate thickness



J. Ribeiro et al. *J. Phys. Conf. Series*, vol. 500 (2014), pp. 052038.1-6

It is favorable to keep the collision velocity below the speed of sound in the materials being bonded (5-6 km/s in stainless steel)

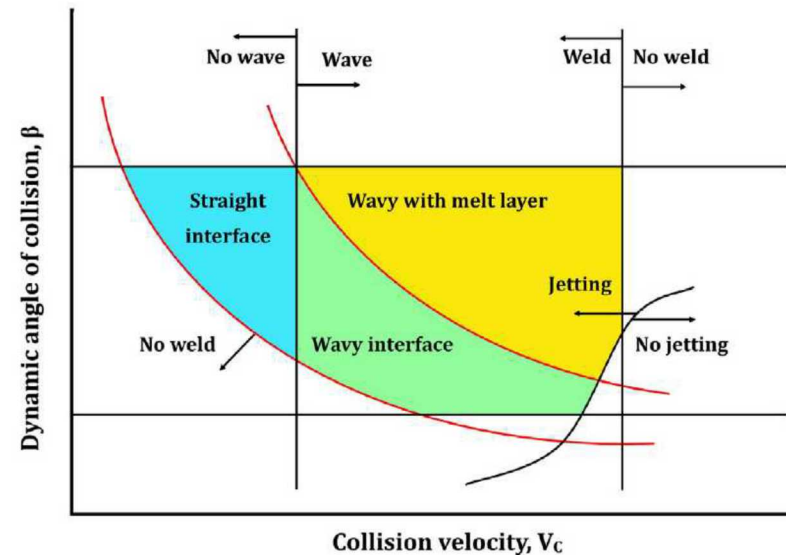
Traditionally, ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO) is used because its detonation velocity is between 2-3 km/s

### Z machine requires plastic explosives

- Detonation velocities between 6-7 km/s

Provides over ANFO:

- Cleanliness
- Faster closure speed
- Improved timing

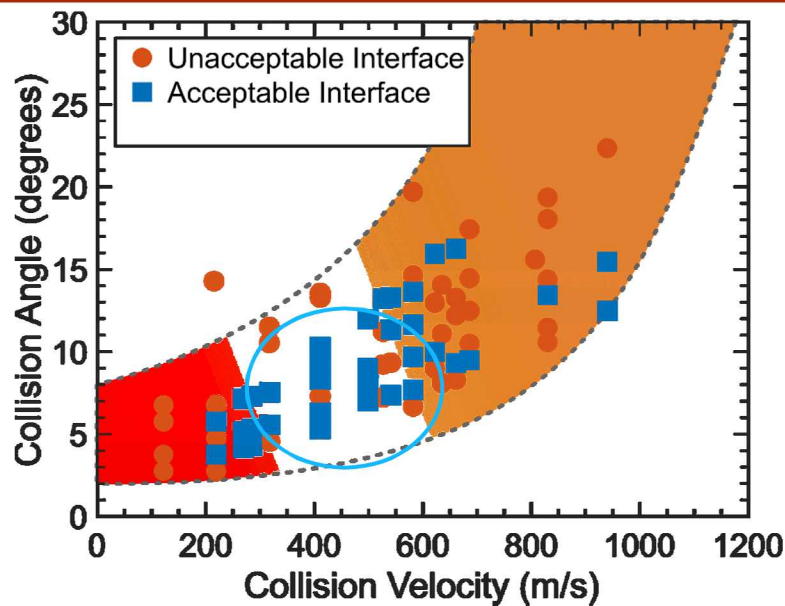


M. Athar & B. Tolaminejad, *Mat. & Design*, vol. 86 (2015), pp. 516-525

The aim of this study is to determine the processing window for explosive bonding using plastic explosives, similar to the work completed for explosive bonds fueled by ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO)

To this end, the interfacial bond quality in **304L stainless steel** plates explosively bonded using **plastic explosives** is characterized and evaluated using:

- Metallography
- Ultrasonic testing
- **Three-dimensional reconstructions from micro-computed tomography**
- **Mechanical testing (lap-shear, microhardness)**

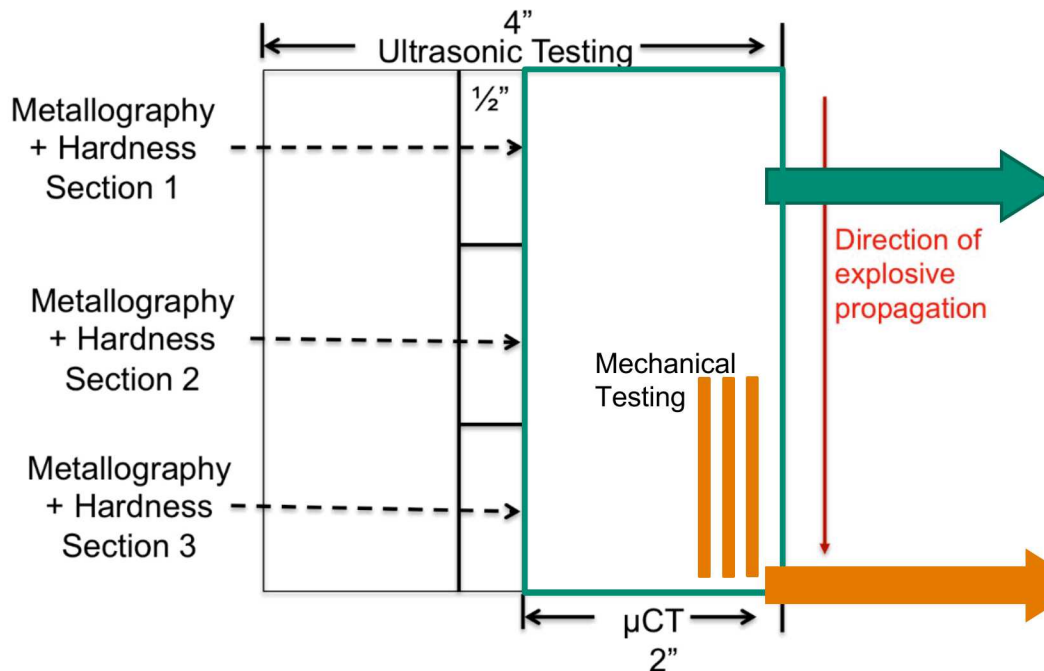


## 6 Experimental Setup

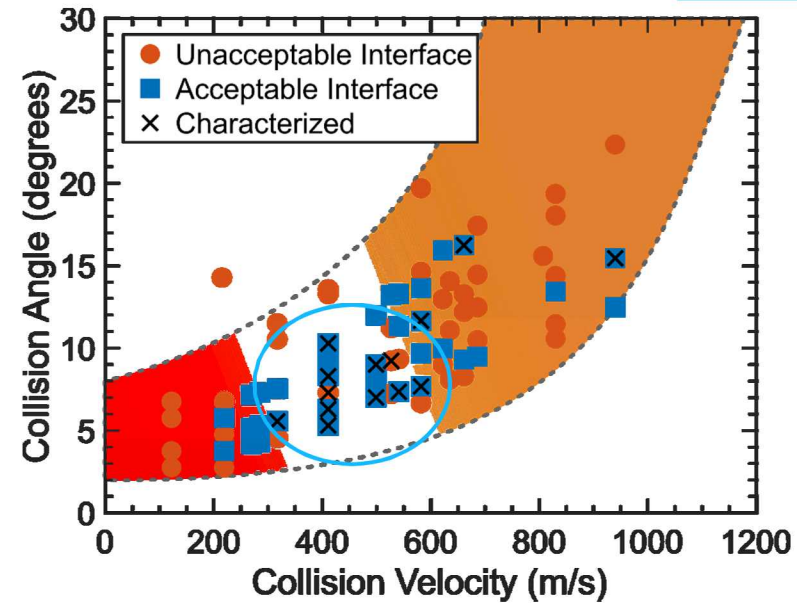
15 process settings explored

- Flyer plate thickness: 0.125 in. to 0.25 in.
- Base plate thickness: 0.25 in.

Each plate sectioned after bonding for micro-computed tomography ( $\mu$ CT) and mechanical testing



Schematic of the bonded plates demonstrating how material was sectioned for different characterizations.



Bonded plates characterized using  $\mu$ CT

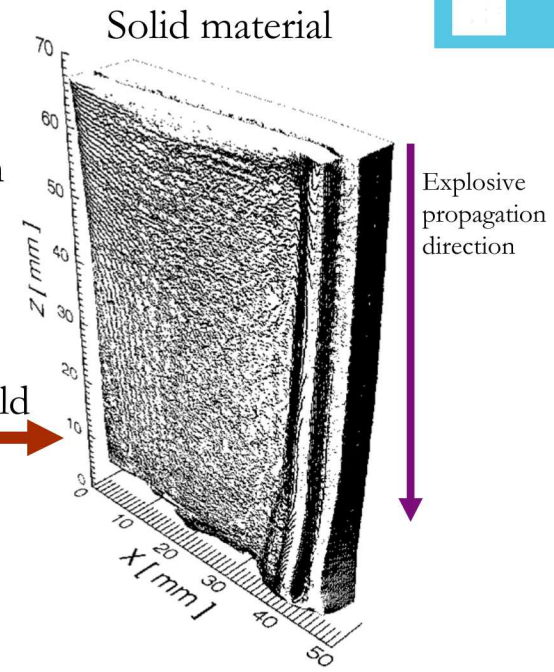
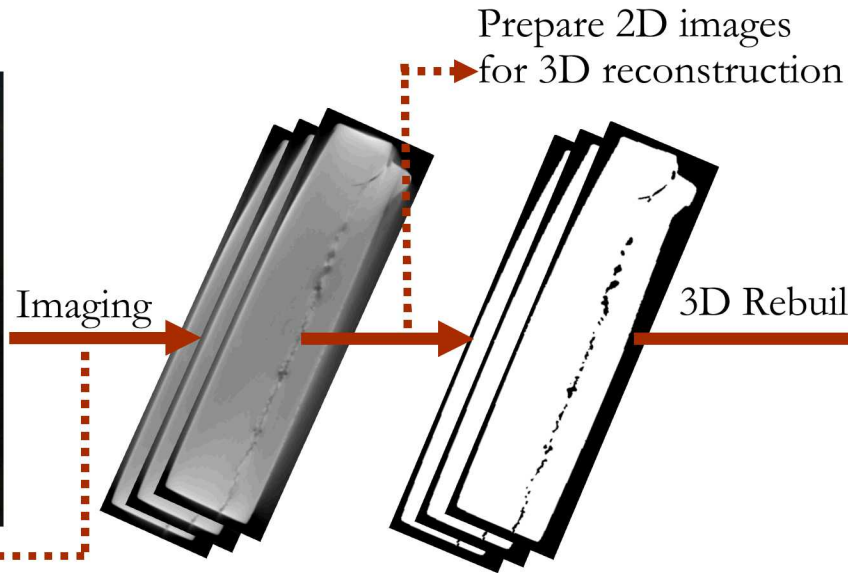
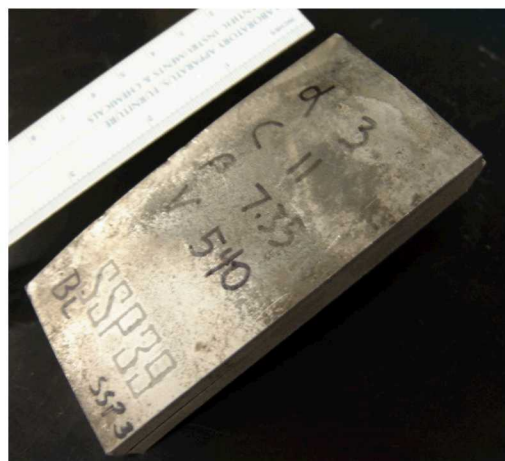


Lap-shear test specimen



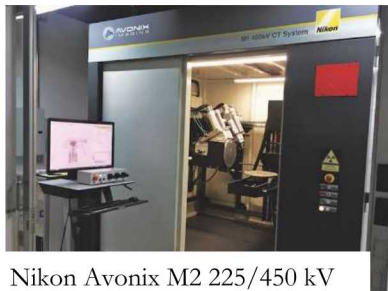
# 7 3D Reconstruction Method

Part to be reconstructed

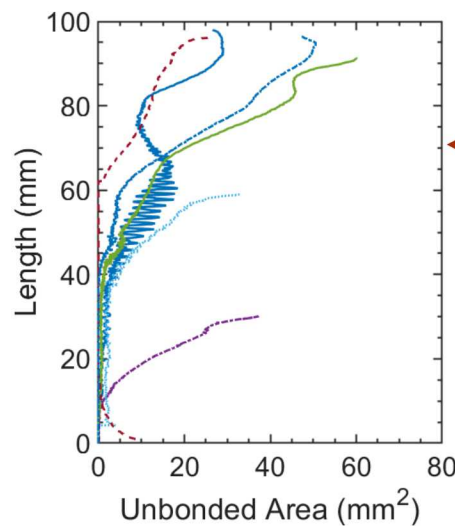


Non-destructive

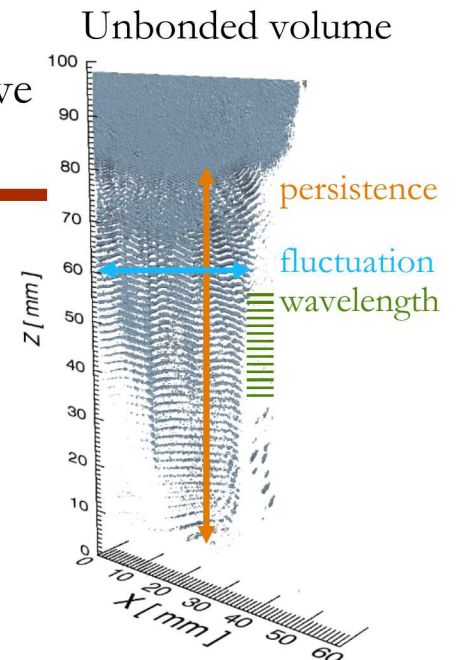
- Micro-computed tomography



Nikon Avonix M2 225/450 kV  
Helical Scanner

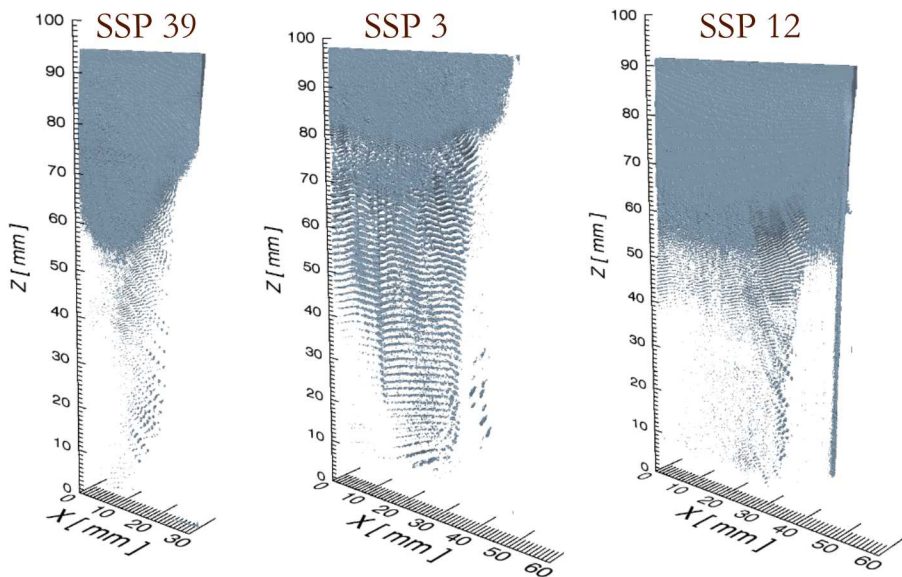


Quantitative Analysis

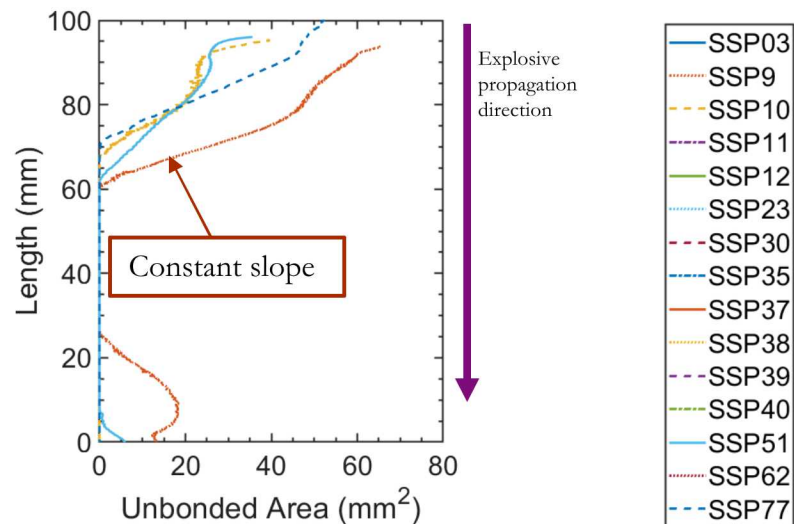
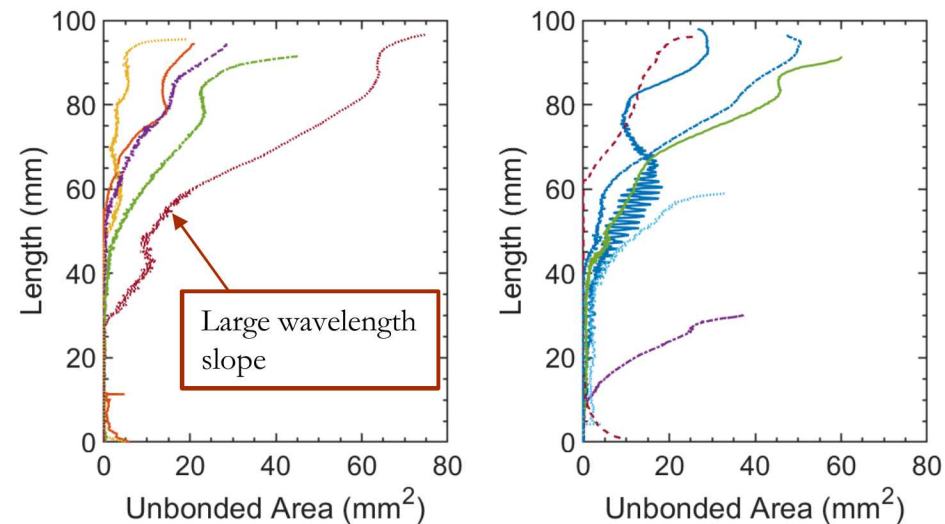
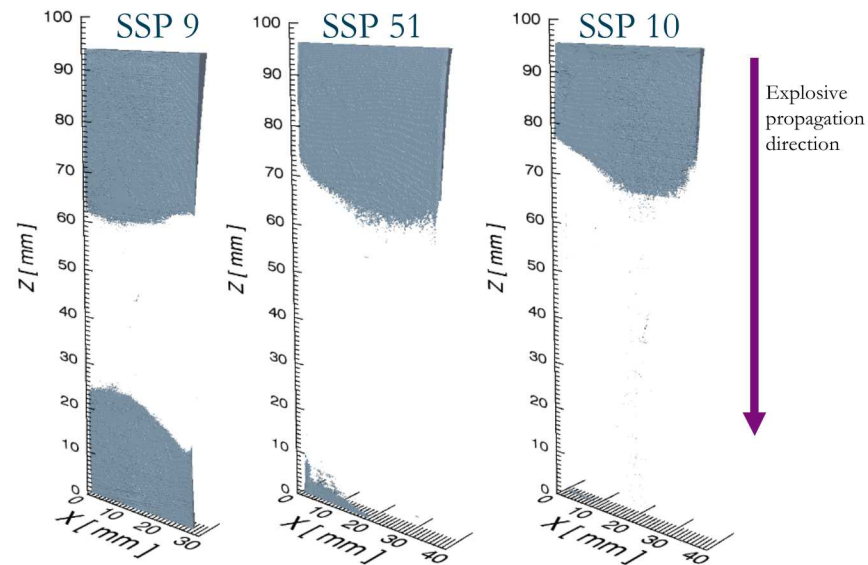


# 3D Reconstruction of Unbonded Volumes

## Porous bond interfaces



## Solid bond interfaces

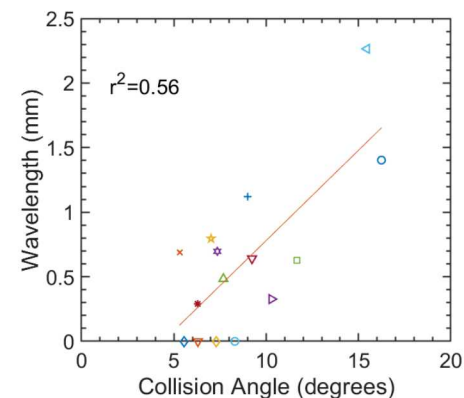
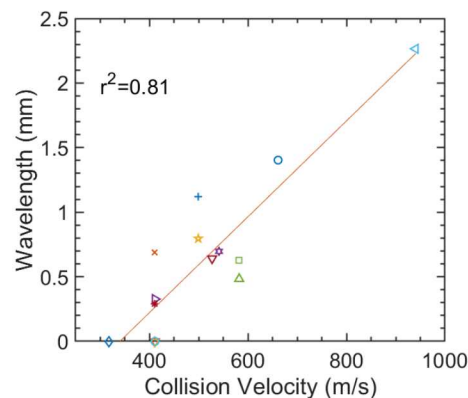
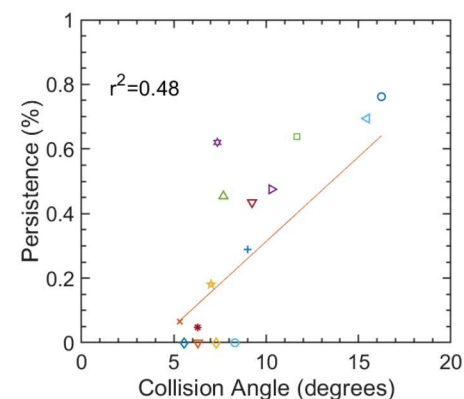
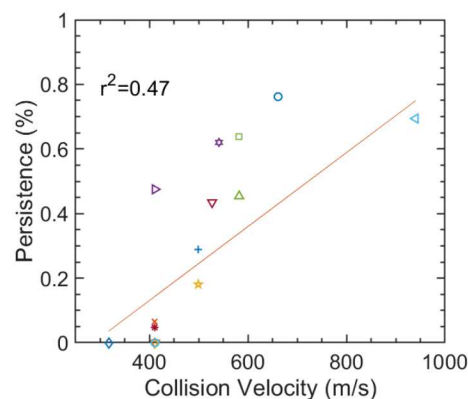
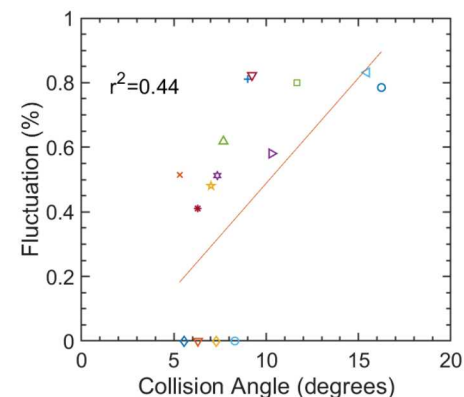
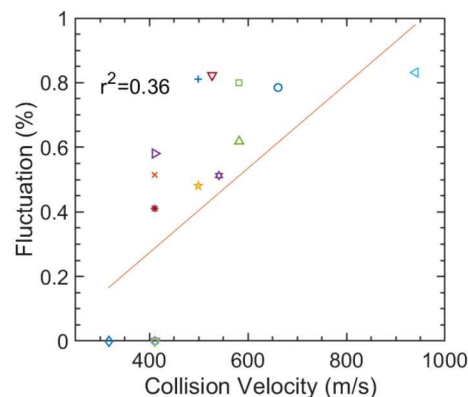
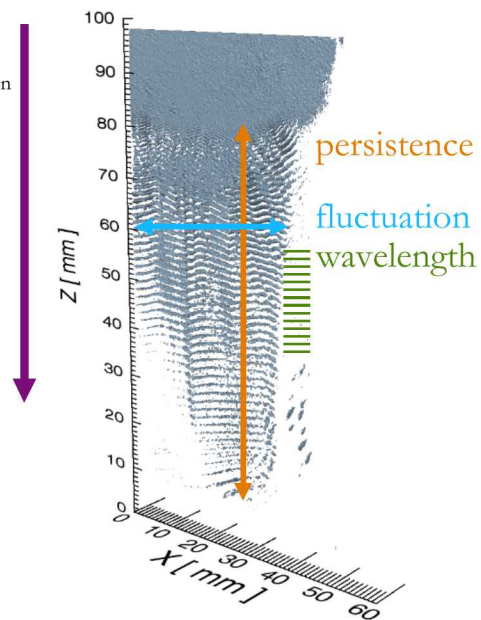




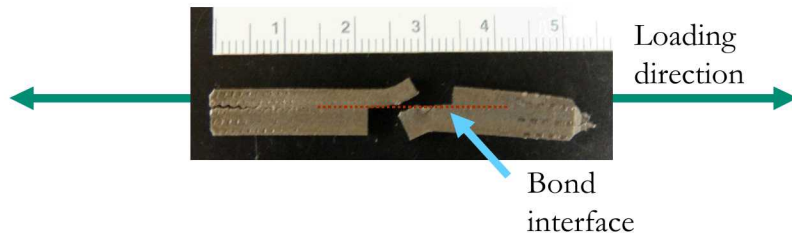
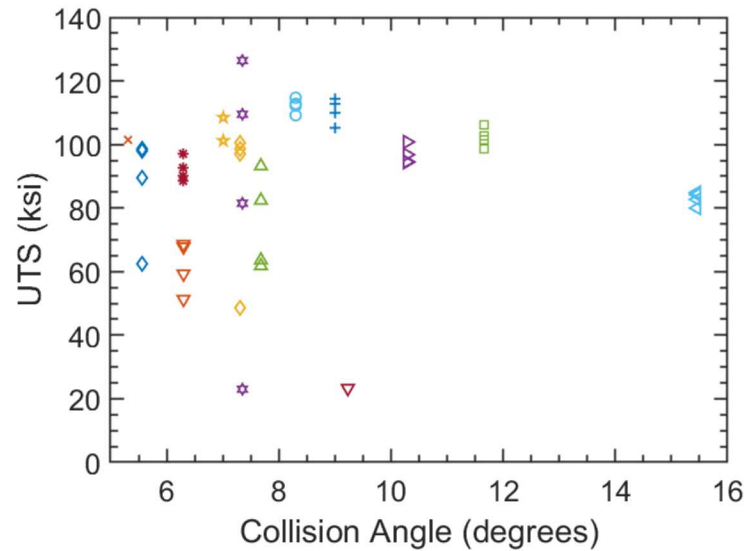
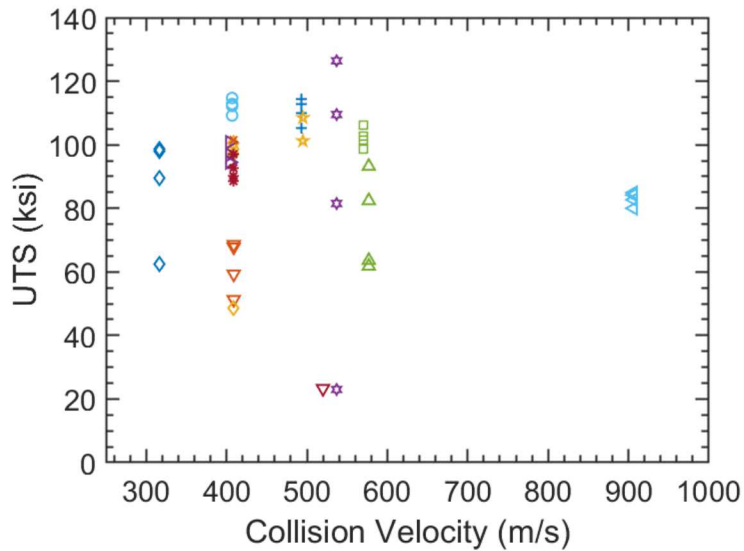
# Process Parameter Relationship with Bond Character

Wavelength demonstrates a linear dependence on collision velocity

Explosive propagation direction



# 10 UTS from Lap-shear Tensile Tests

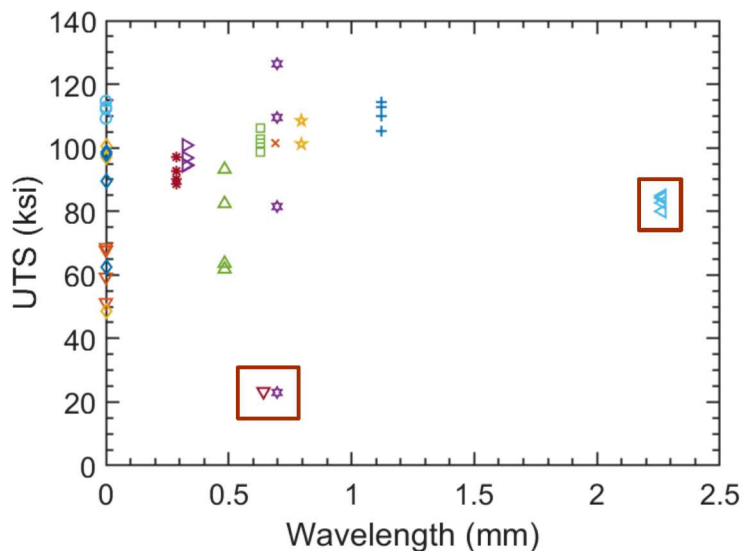
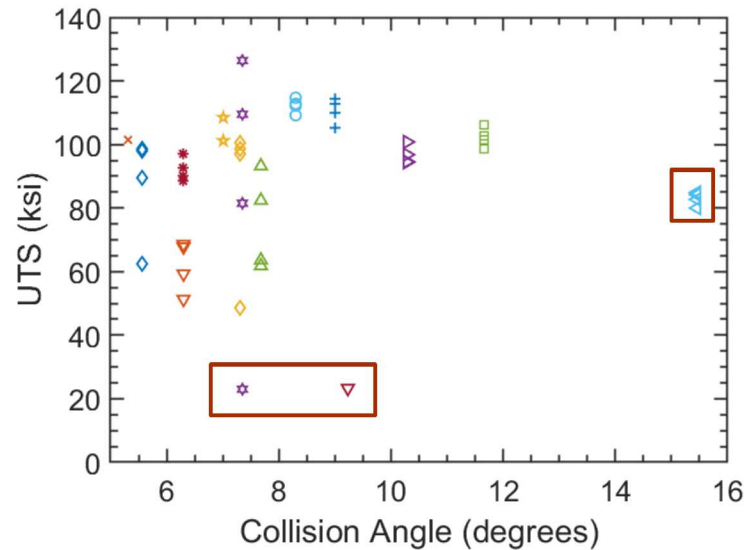
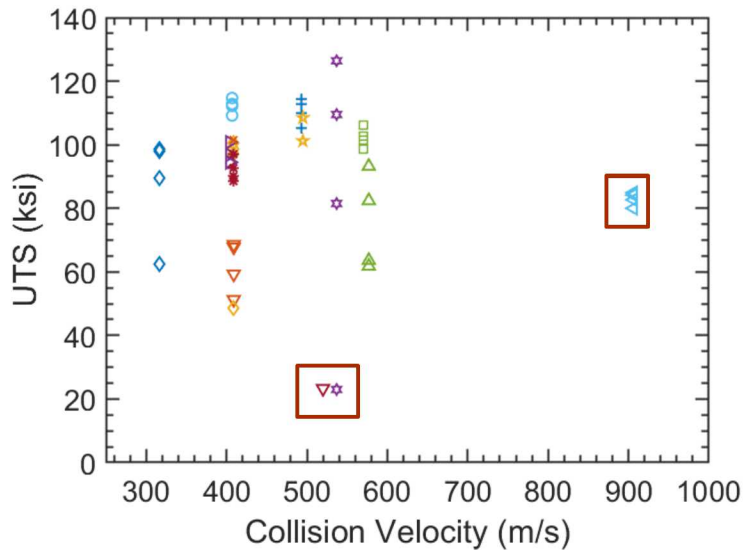


No relationship between UTS and collision velocity or angle

- Parent material influences results

○ SSP03	▽ SSP09	◇ SSP10	▽ SSP11	□ SSP12
△ SSP23	✱ SSP30	+ SSP35	✕ SSP37	★ SSP38
✱ SSP39	△ SSP40	○ SSP51	▽ SSP62	◇ SSP77

# UTS from Lap-shear Tensile Tests



No relationship between UTS and collision velocity or angle

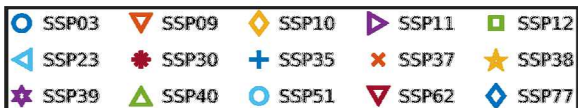
- Parent material influences results

Possible weak dependence of UTS on bond character

- Similar results for fluctuation and persistence

Outliers mask potential relationships

- Unidentified porosity contribute to spread in data



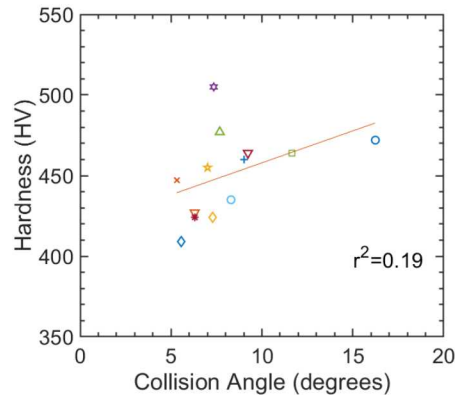
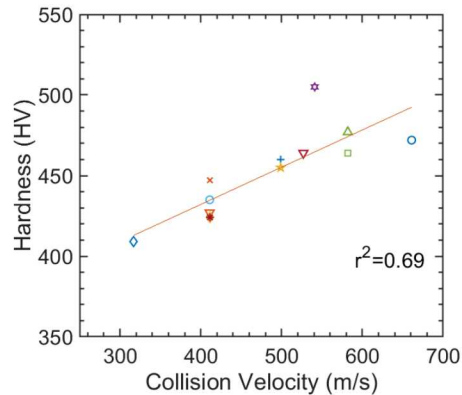
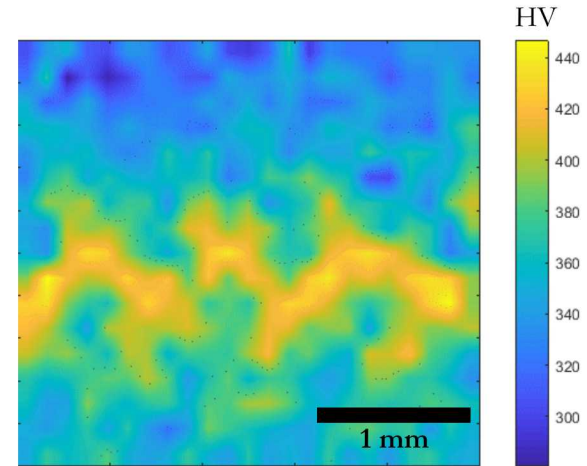


# Vickers Microhardness

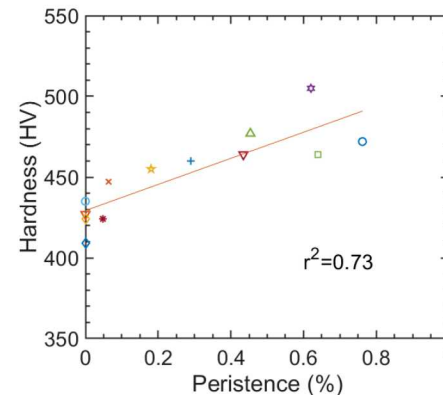
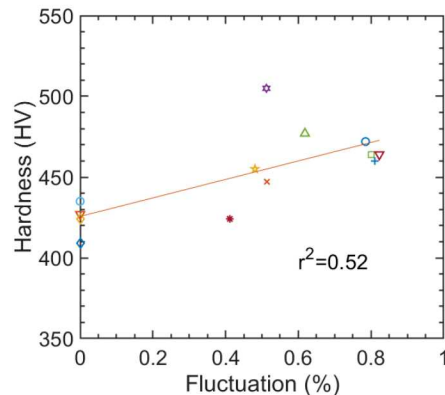
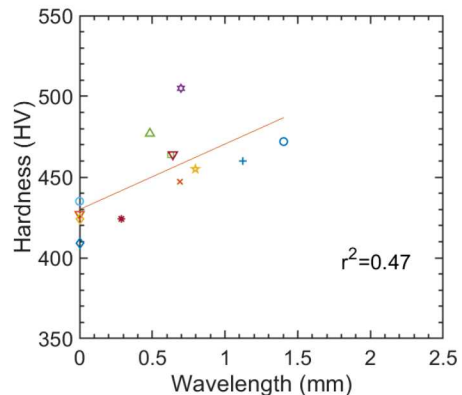
Microhardness provides greater spatial fidelity compared to lap-shear test

- Study local hardness variation across the bond interface and into the parent material

**Relate peak hardness to interface parameters:**



Hardness shows a relationship with collision velocity and persistence



## Conclusions

304L stainless steel plate was successfully bonded using plastic explosives

- Hermetically sealed interfaces were produced
- Processing window is narrower than that for ANFO

The characteristics of the bond interface (wavelength, persistence and fluctuation) are correlated with collision velocity and angle

- More tests are needed to improve these relationships and expand the mapped process space

UTS as measured from lap-shear test is not correlated with processing parameters or bond characteristics

- Parent material likely influences testing; obscures differences in bond strength and increases spread
- Testing smaller, more homogenous areas along the interface by in-situ mechanical testing using an SEM may improve understanding of mechanical strength across a bond

Spatial variation of mechanical strength across an interface can be identified using microhardness.

- Peak hardness across a bond is related to processing parameters