

Computational Modeling of Blast-Induced Cavitation Bubble Collapse in the Brain



PRESENTED BY

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www.sandia.gov/biomechanics

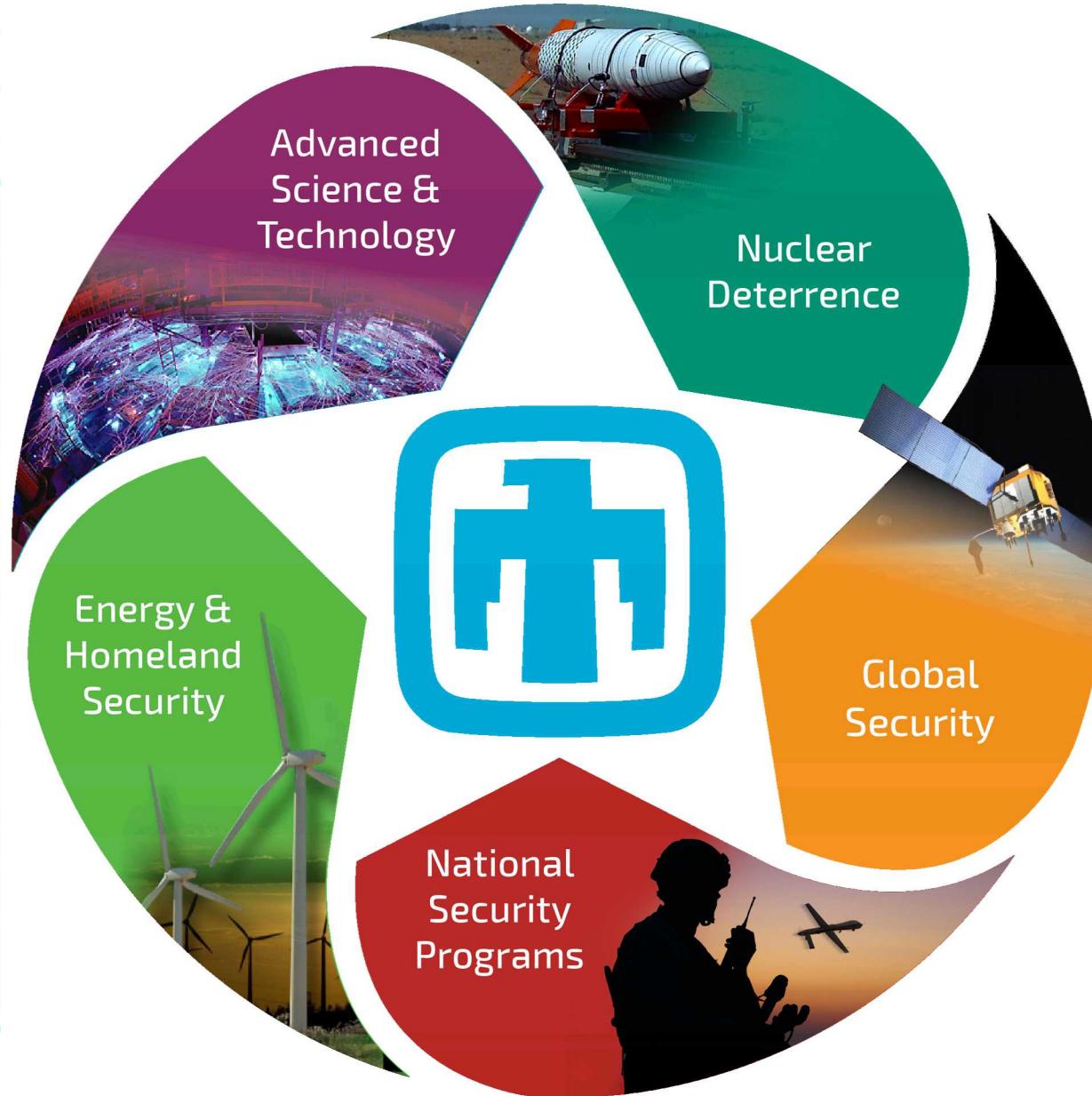
April 11, 2019

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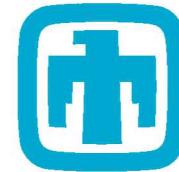
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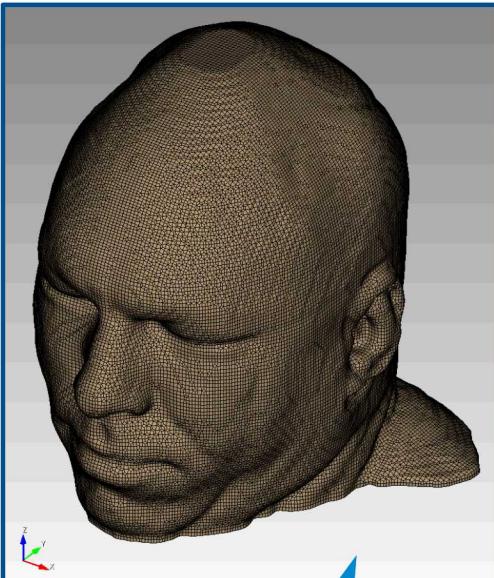
SANDIA HAS FIVE MAJOR PROGRAM PORTFOLIOS



Sandia Injury Biomechanics Lab

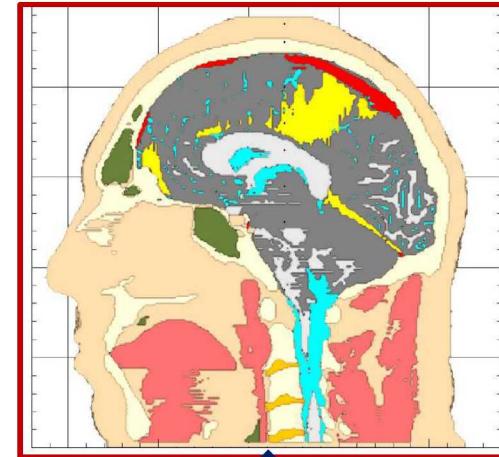
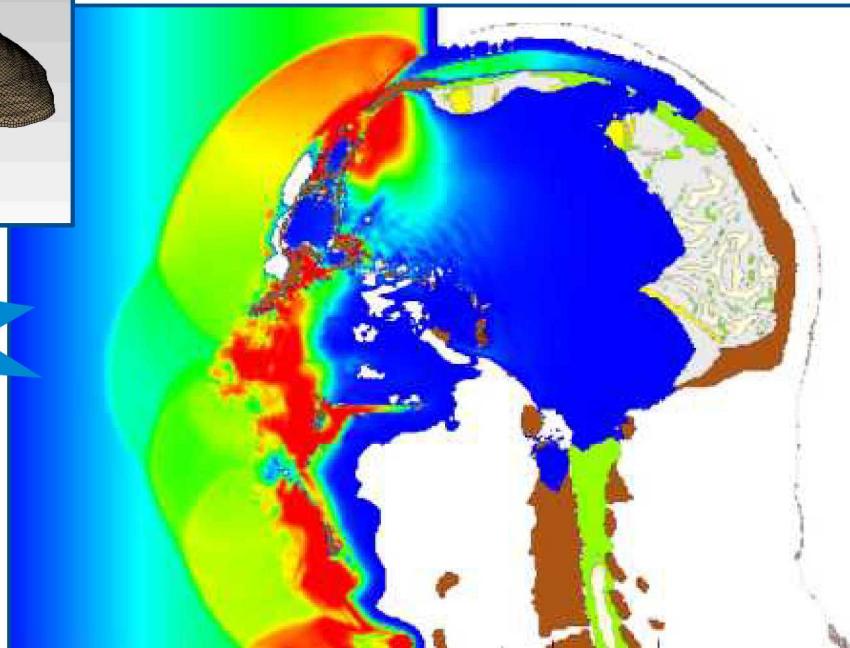
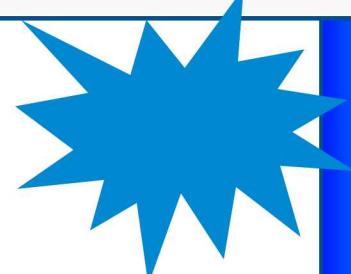


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Blast – C2B2

Blunt Impact - Panther



Understanding

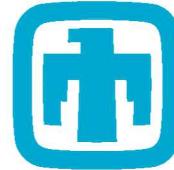
Injury

Risk

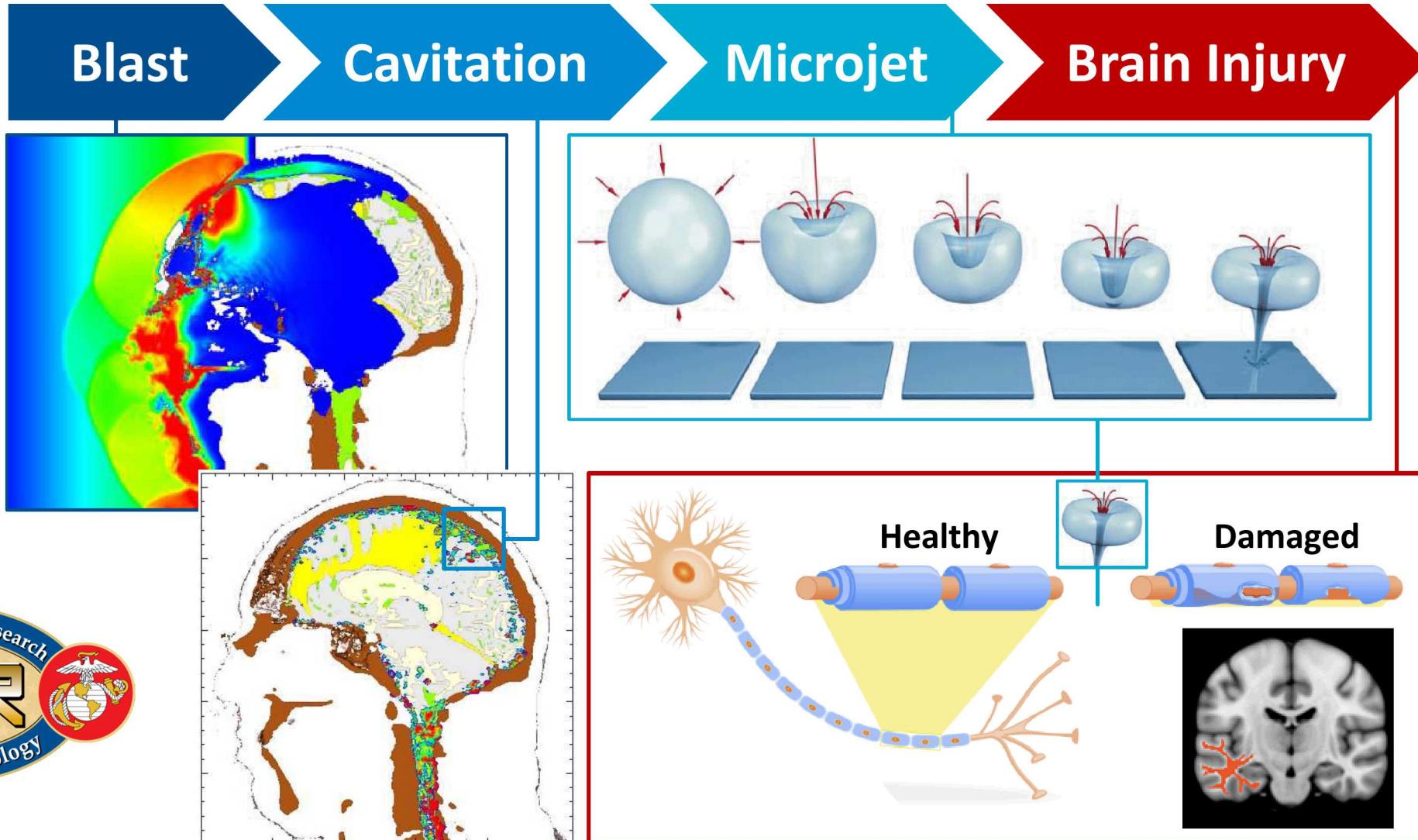
Protect the U.S. Warfighter



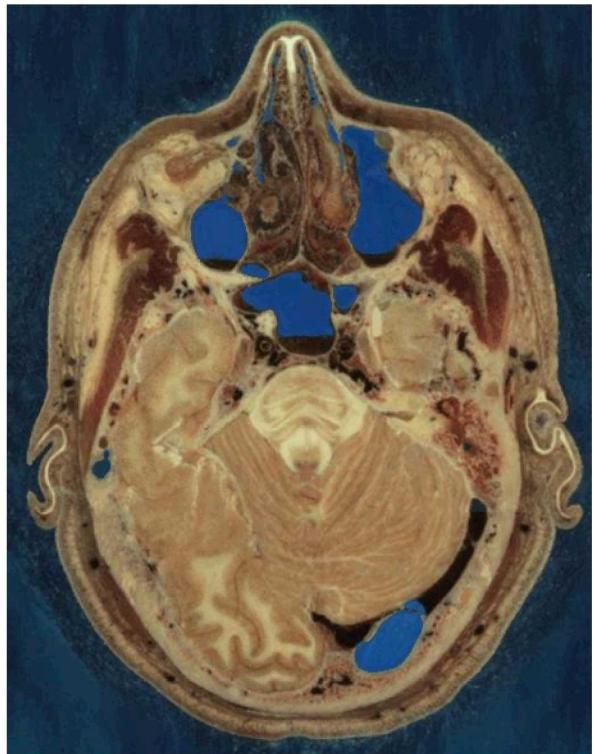
Multiscale Model of Cavitation Injury



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Sandia Head Geometric Model



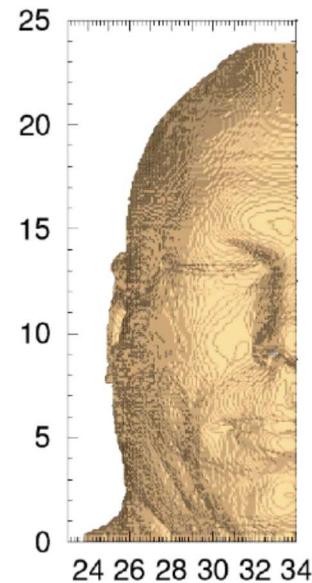
CT and digital photography scan entire body

- full body 1,871 axial slices at 1 mm intervals
- CT: 512 x 512 pixels; 12 bit gray
- Photo: 4,096 x 2,700 pixels; 24 bit color

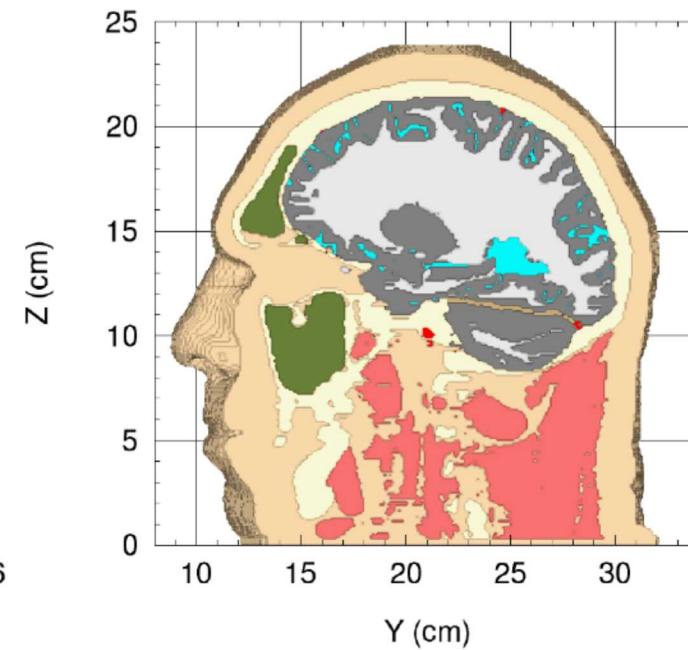
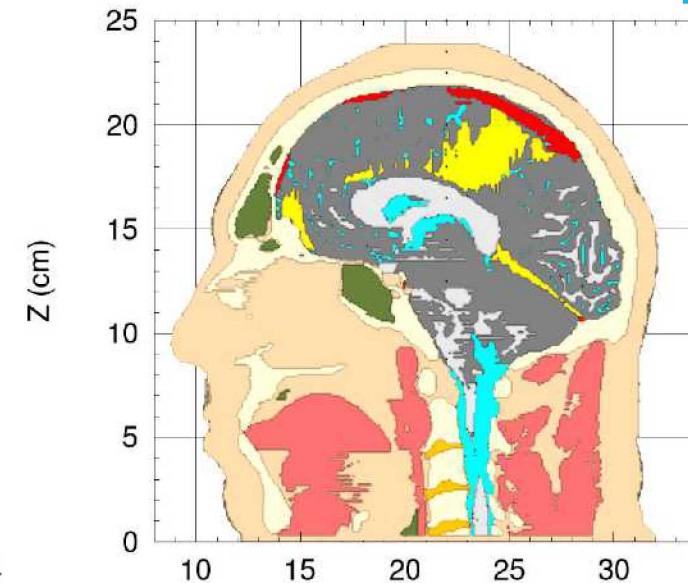
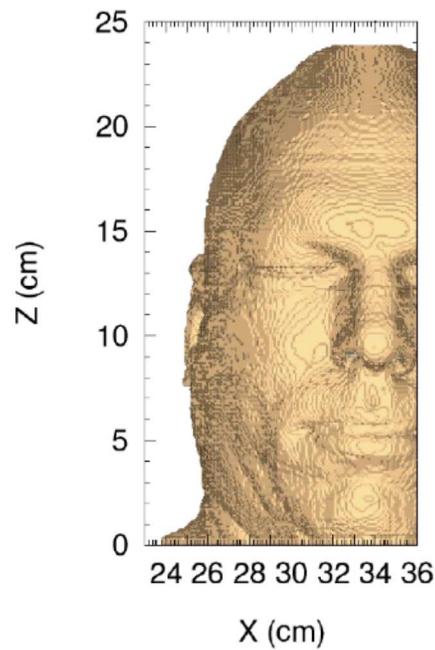
MR head and neck

- axial slices at 4 mm intervals
- 256 x 256 pixels; 12 bit gray

Mid-sagittal
 $X = 340 \text{ mm} = 34.0 \text{ cm}$



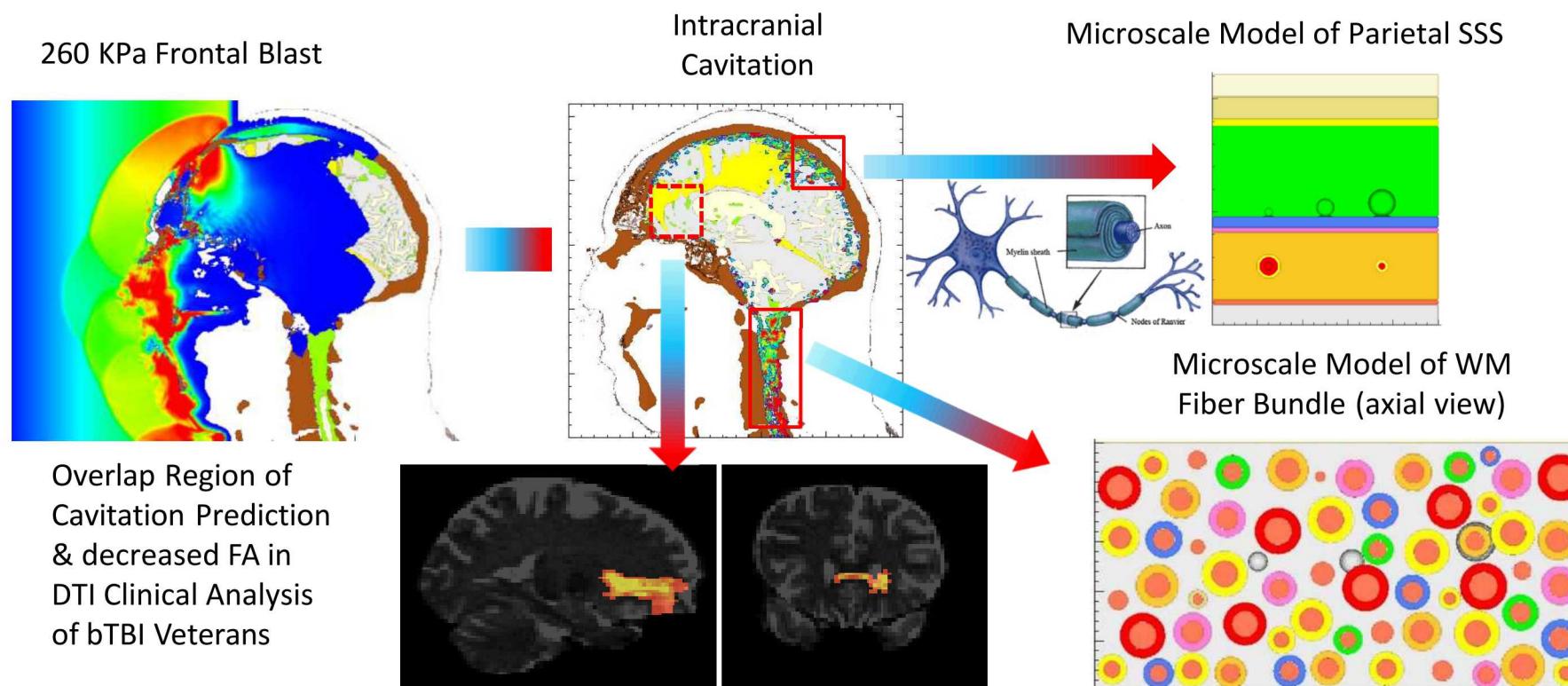
Mid-sagittal + 2 cm offset
 $X = 360 \text{ mm} = 36.0 \text{ cm}$



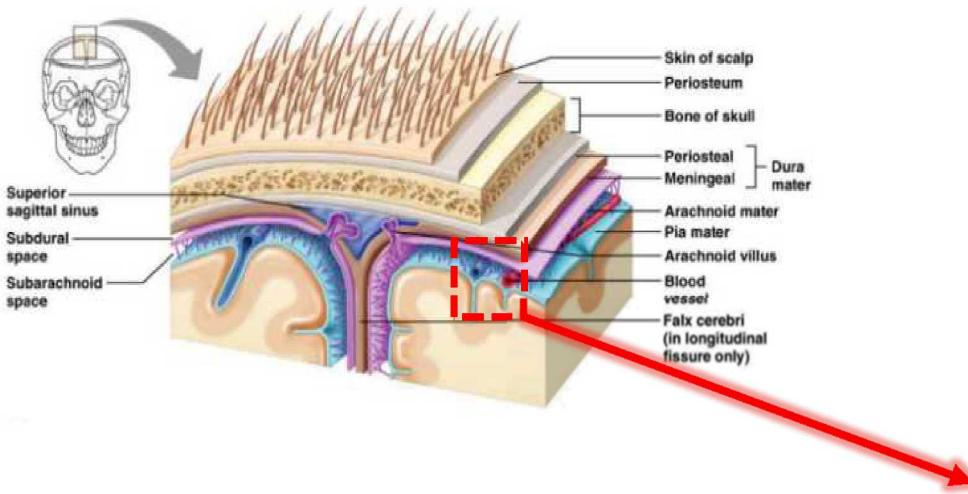
Micromechanical Modeling of Brain Injury from Blast-Induced Intracranial Cavitation

Objectives:

- Investigate mechanisms of cavitation-induced brain tissue damage on a microscale resulting from blast exposure to the warfighter
- Goal: correlate cavitation predictions w/ clinically measured brain damage
(If correlation is possible)



Superior Sagittal Sinus (SSS) Microscale Model



Bubble Diameter:

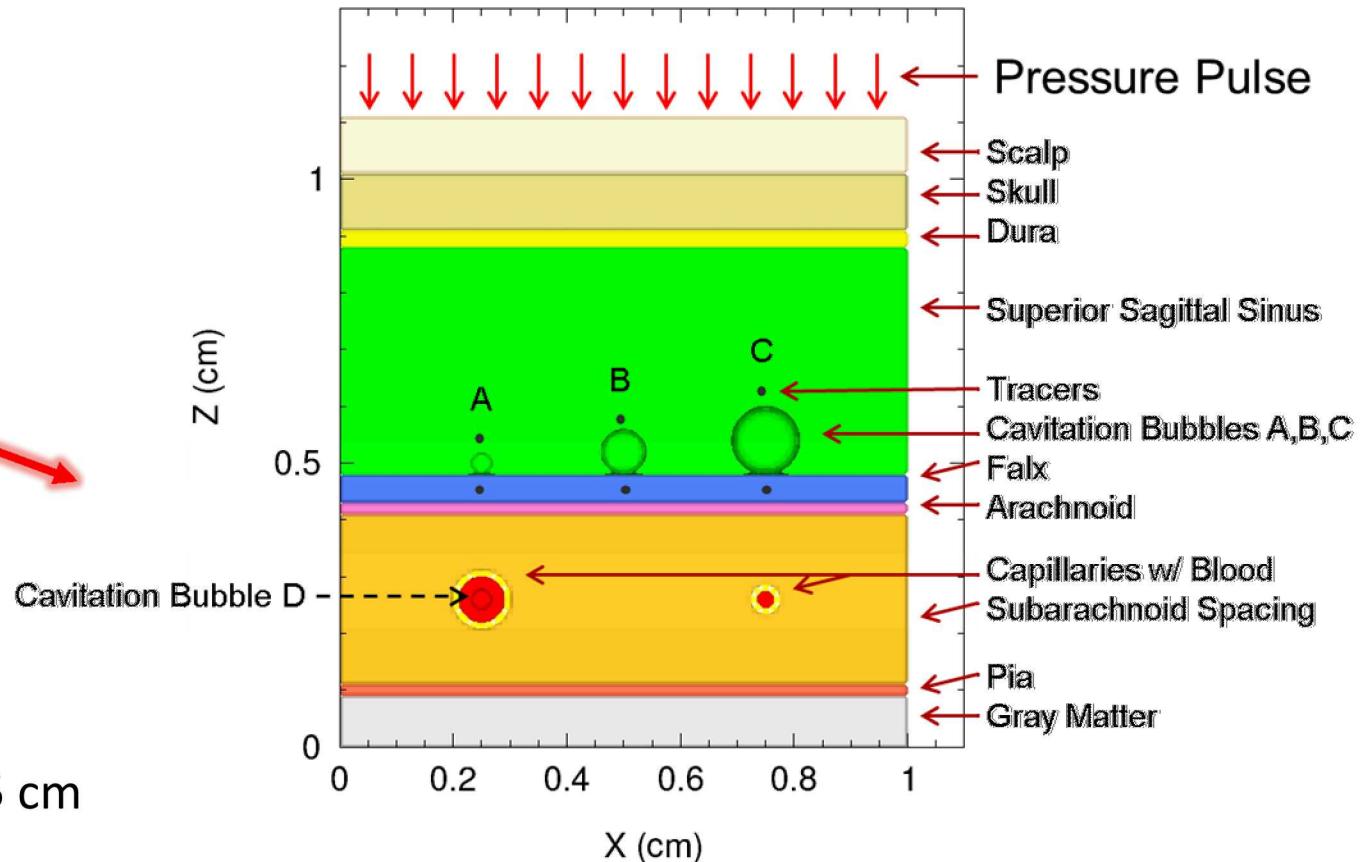
A: 0.4 mm

B: 0.8 mm

C: 1.2 mm

D: 0.4 mm

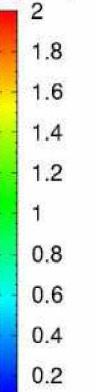
RVE: 1 cm x 0.5 cm x 1.25 cm



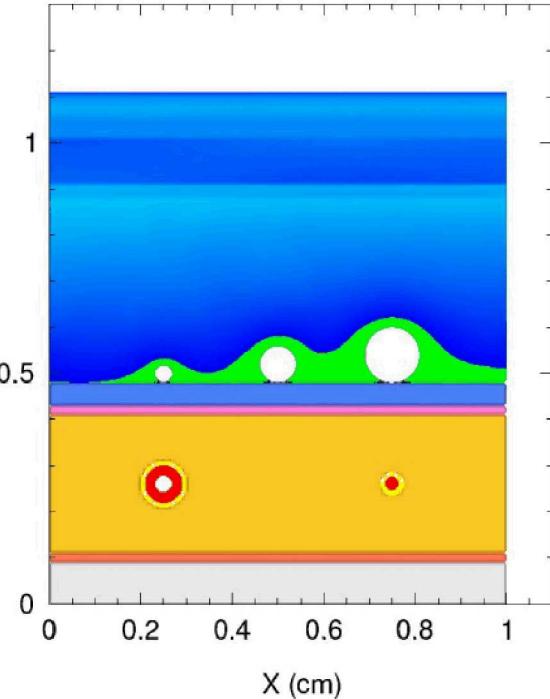
SSS Microscale Model



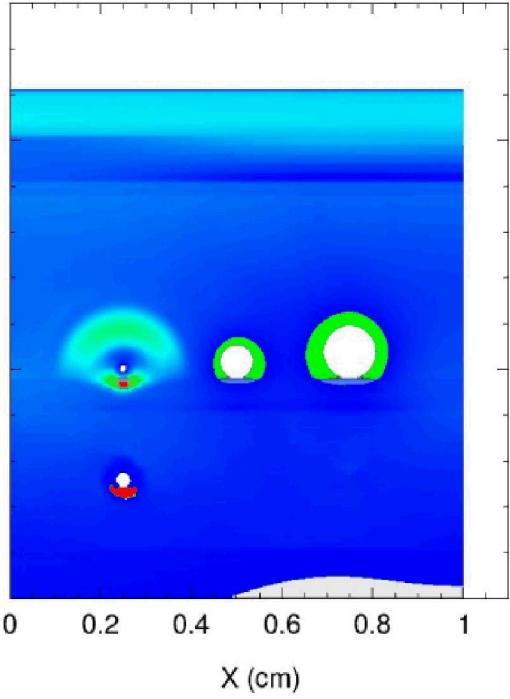
P (MPa)



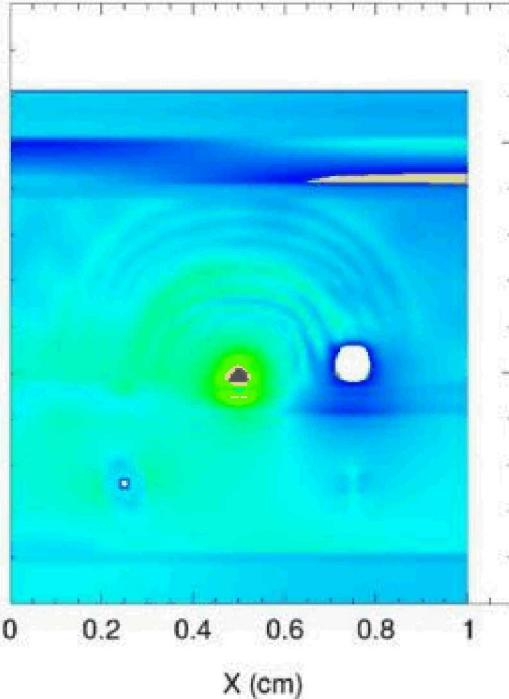
Pressure at 1.00e-05 seconds



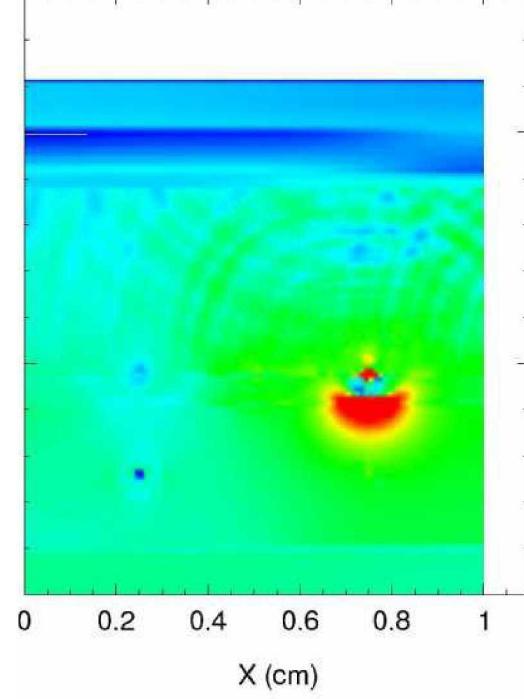
Pressure at 1.80e-05 seconds



Pressure at 3.30e-05 seconds

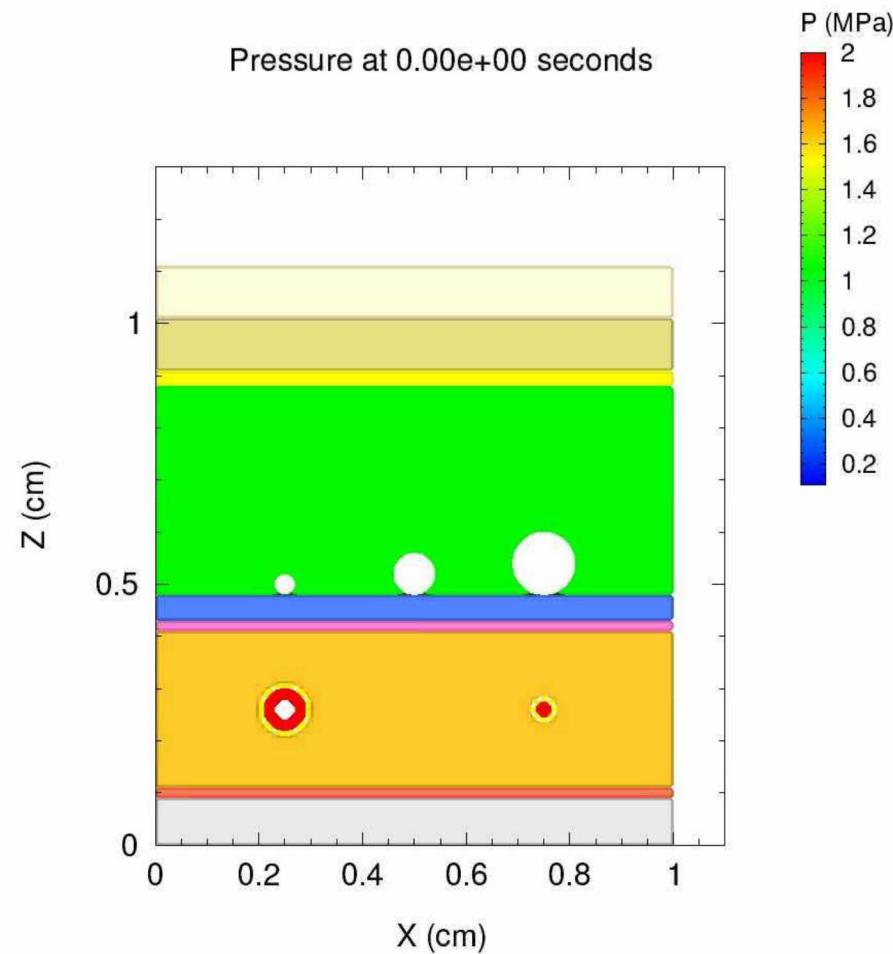


Pressure at 4.30e-05 seconds



- Observations:
 - Increases in bubble diameter cause delays in peak pressure arrival time
 - Bubble collapse microjetting observed at 18, 33, and 43 μ s

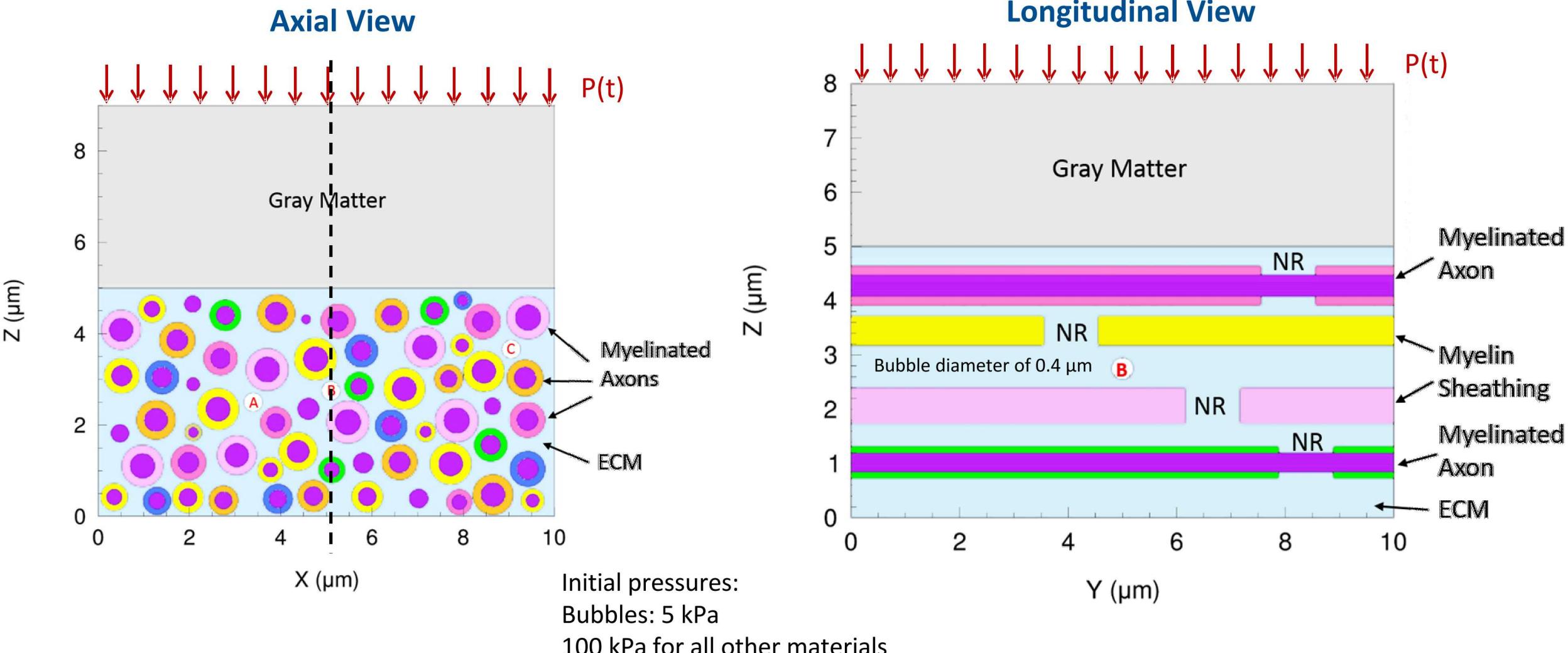
SSS Microscale Model



Results of Study:

- Cavitation bubble collapse dependent on:
 - Strength of intracranial stress wave (related to blast strength)
 - Bubble diameter
- Effects of cavitation bubble collapse:
 - Generation of high pressure region around bubble site
 - Microjetting of fluid surrounding bubble in downstream direction
 - Significant levels of shear stress downstream from bubble
 - → Shearing of tissue downstream

Microscale Model of the White Matter Axon Fiber Bundle

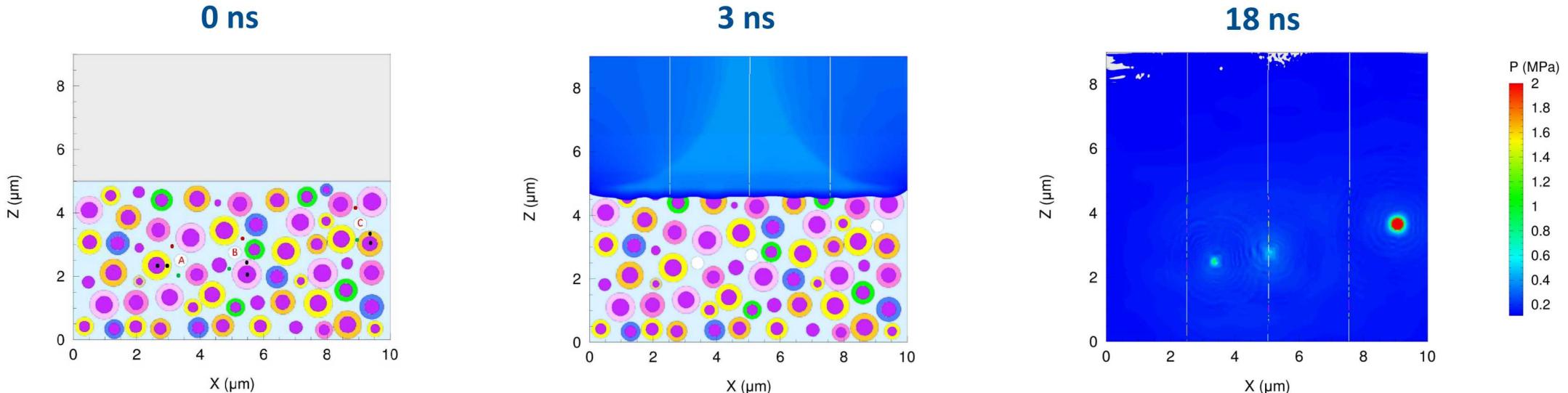


Haniff, S., Taylor, P.A.: In silico investigation of blast-induced intracranial fluid cavitation as it potentially leads to traumatic brain injury. *Shock Waves* 27(6) (2017).

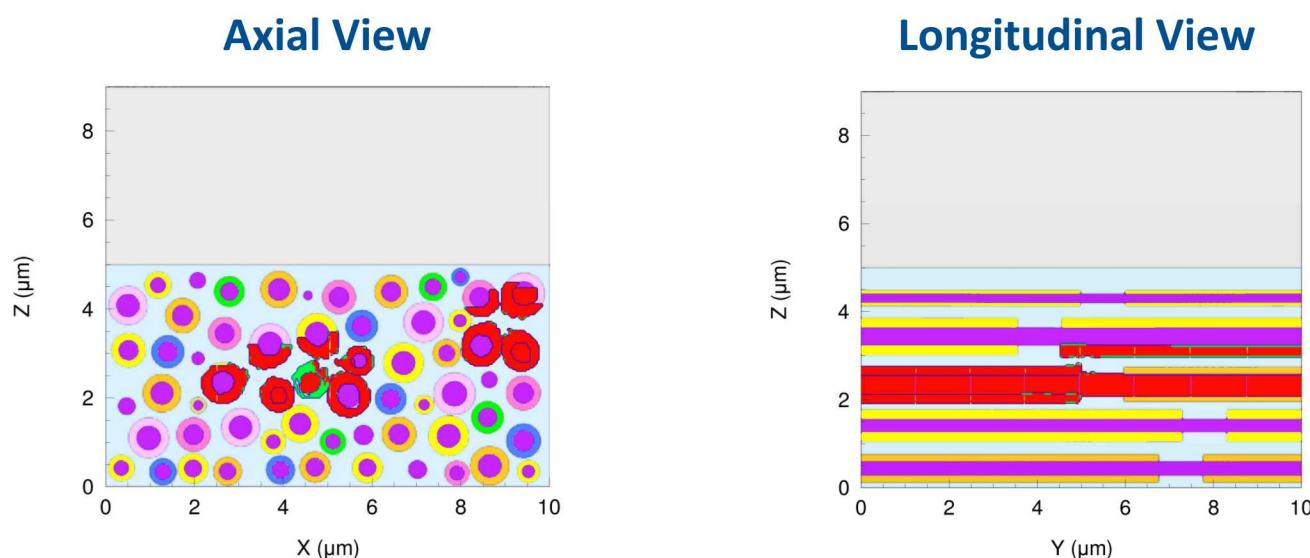
Microscale Model of the White Matter Axon Fiber Bundle

400 kPa compressive wave

Pressure



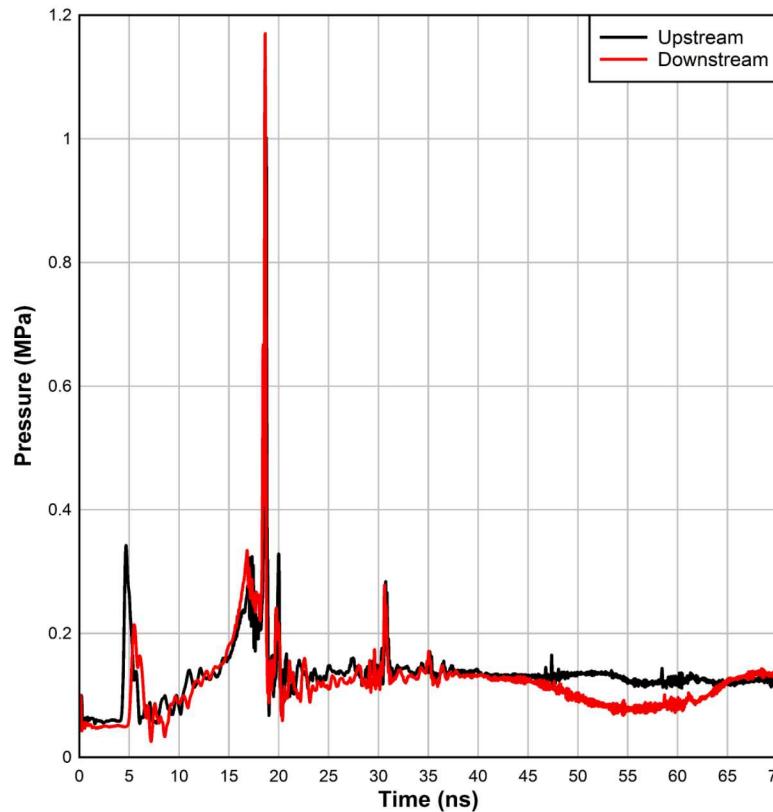
Damage at
final time of
69 ns



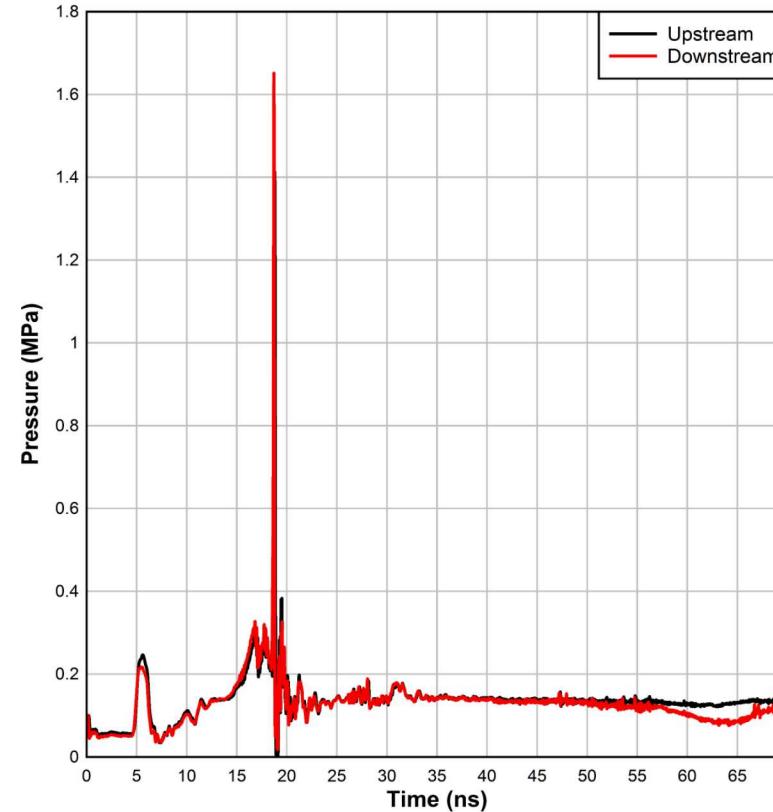
Microscale Model of the White Matter Axon Fiber Bundle

- Upstream and downstream pressures of $0.4\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ diameter bubbles during passage of a 400 kPa compressive wave

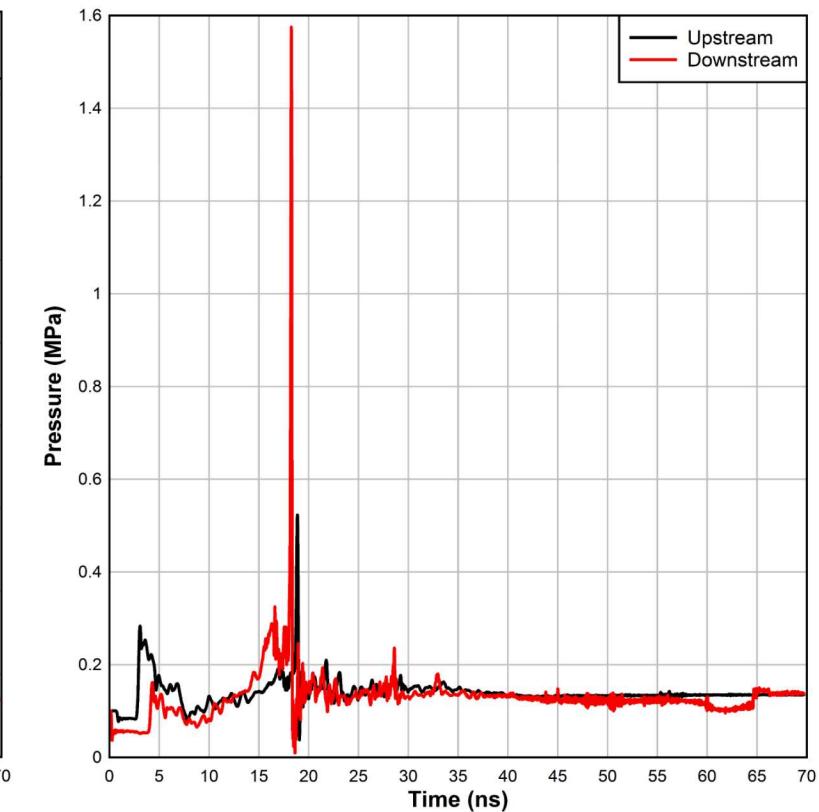
Bubble A



Bubble B

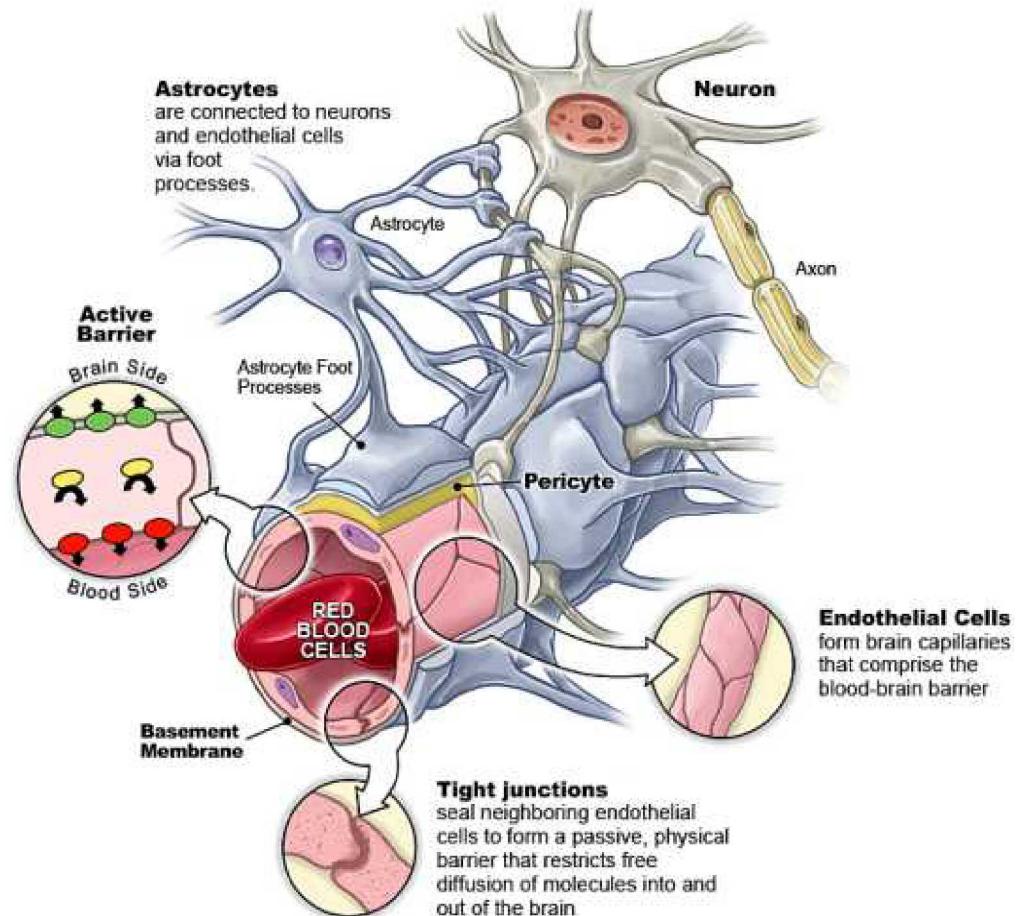


Bubble C



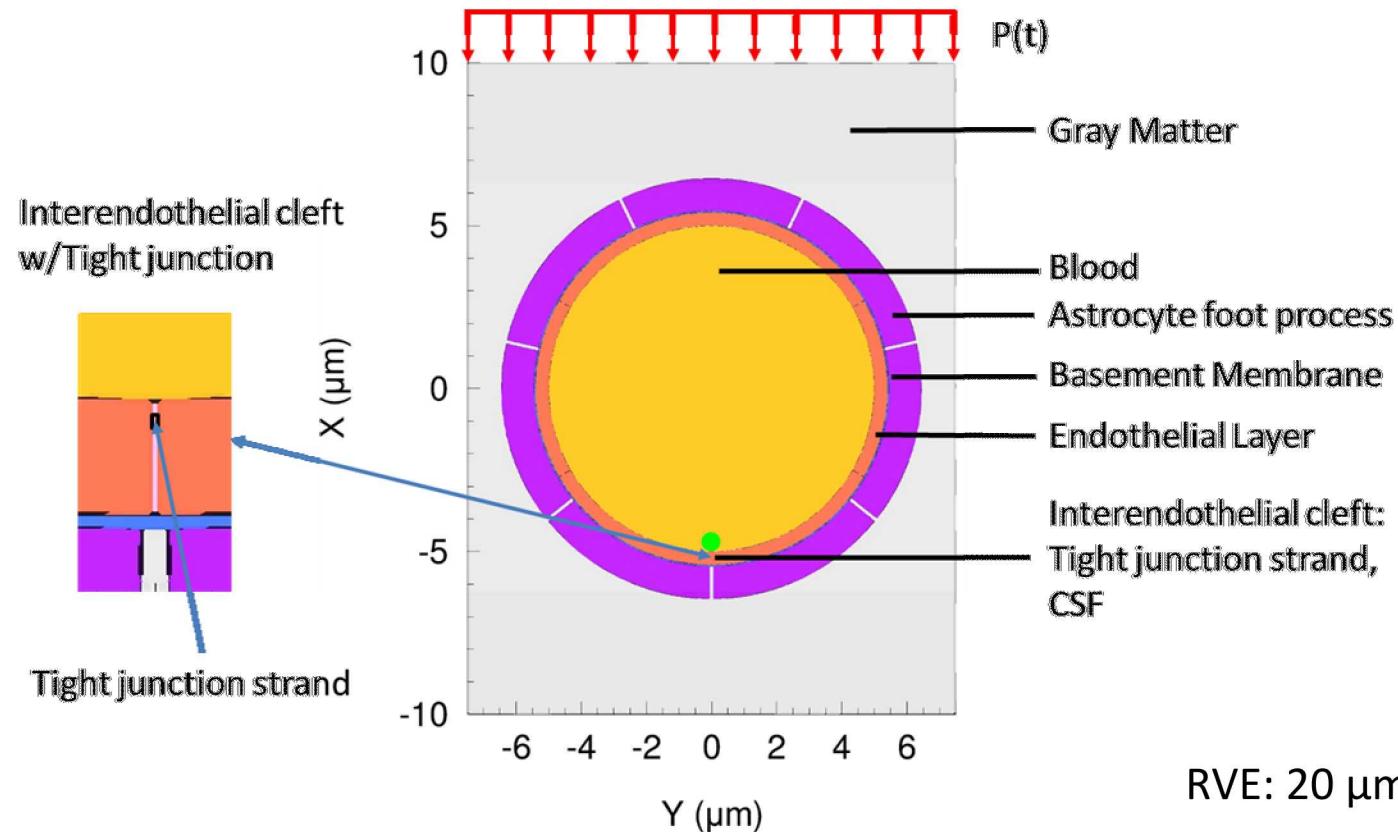
Difference between the peaks in the upstream and downstream pressure histories indicate a unidirectional collapse of the bubbles leading to microjetting (directed downstream)

What is the blood brain barrier?



- Semi-permeable passageway between the circulating blood and the cerebrospinal fluid in the Central Nervous System (CNS) formed by endothelial cells connected by tight junctions
- Protects the CNS tissues, especially neurons, against harmful substances
- Allows the passage of water, some gases, and lipid-soluble molecules as well as molecules such as glucose and amino acids
- Astrocytes surrounding the endothelial cells provide support

Microscale Model of the Blood Brain Barrier



Parameters:

Compressive wave amplitude – 0, 400, 700 kPa

Bubble diameter – 0.025, 0.05, 0.1, 0.15, 0.2, 0.25, 0.3, 0.35 μm

Standoff distance (bubble center to wall/bubble radius) – 1.2, 1.4,

1.6, 1.8, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0

If bubble collapse causes a member of the BBB to fail, the barrier breaks down, which could lead to neuroinflammation (meningitis) or neurodegeneration

Material Model

Material	Volumetric Response	Deviatoric Response
Gray Matter	Tillotson-Brundage	Swanson
Astrocyte	Tillotson-Brundage	Swanson
Basement Membrane	Tillotson-Brundage	von Mises
Tight Junction Strand	Mie-Gruneisen	Swanson
Endothelial Cells	Tillotson-Brundage	Swanson
Blood	Tillotson-Brundage	-
CSF	Tillotson-Brundage	-
Bubble contents	Sesame Tabular EOS	-

- EOS (volumetric response)
 - Equations relating pressure, volume, and temperature
 - The Tillotson-Brundage EOS accurately captures the respective bulk properties under compression and their susceptibility to fluid cavitation when subjected to isotropic tension (i.e. tensile pressure)
- Constitutive model (deviatoric response)
 - Use Swanson hyperelastic model for gray matter, astrocytes, endothelial cells, and tight junction strand [3]
 - Use von Mises for basement membrane

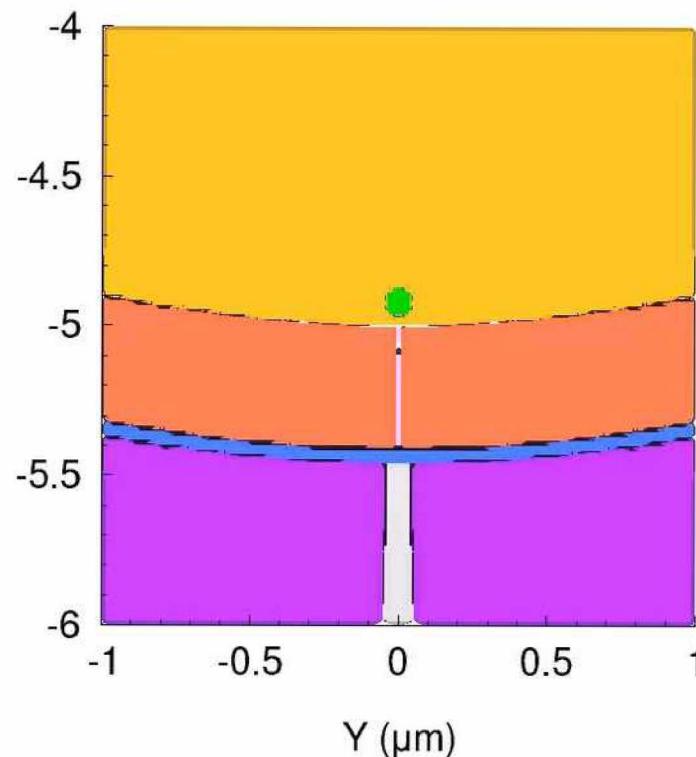
[3] Swanson, S. R., 1985, "A constitutive model for high elongation elastic materials," *Trans. Am. Soc. Mech. Eng.*, **107**, pp. 110–114.

Effect of Standoff Distance

0.10 μm diameter bubble

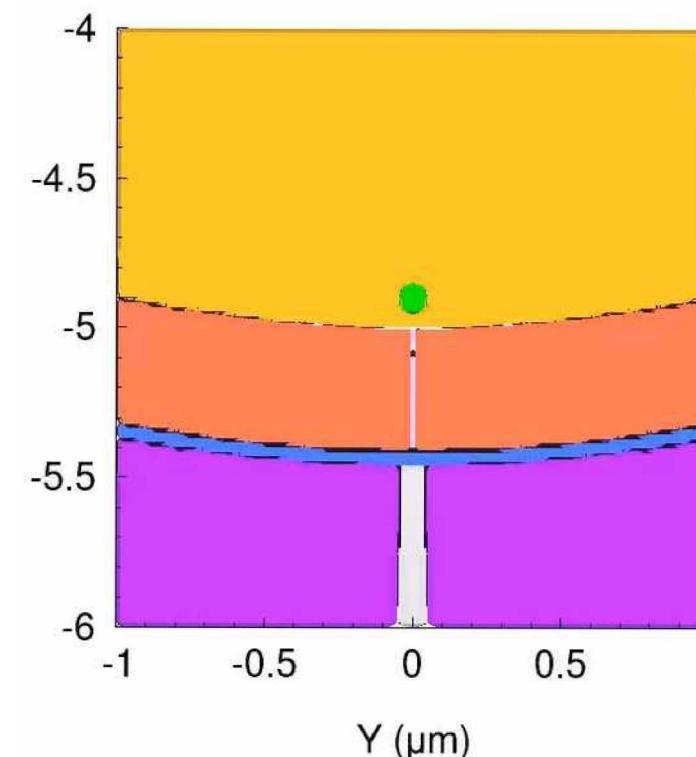
1.6

Pressure at 0.00e+00 seconds



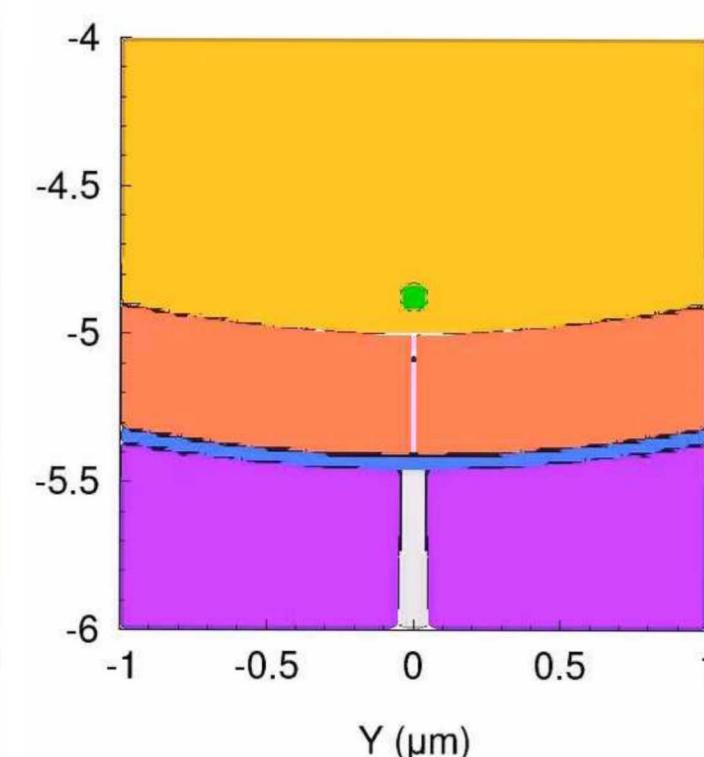
2.0

Pressure at 0.00e+00 seconds



2.5

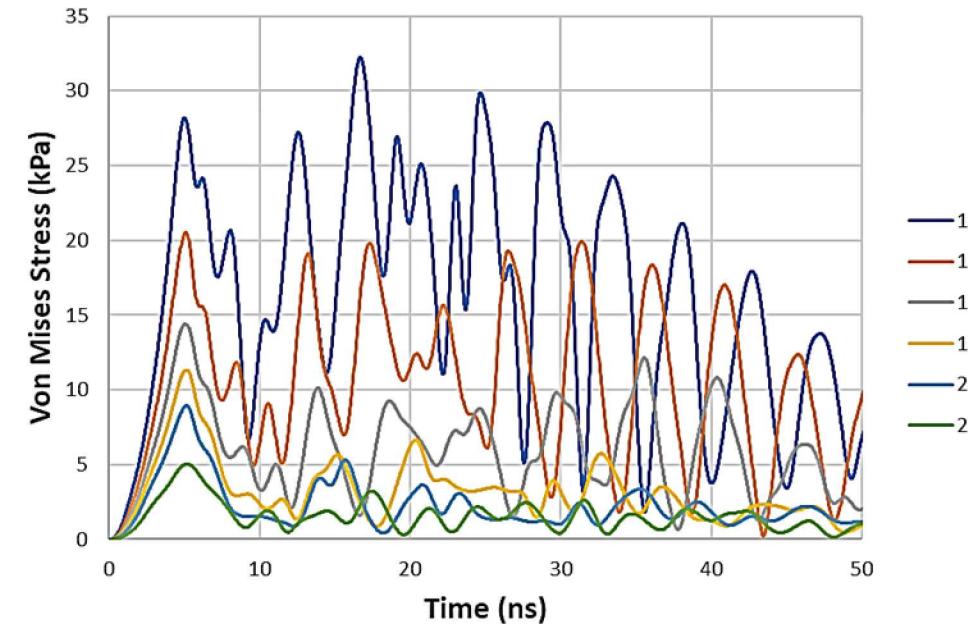
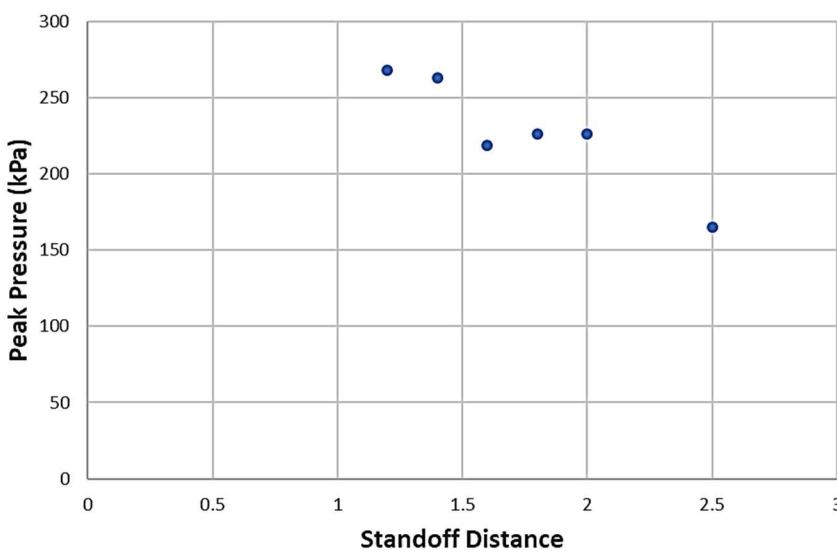
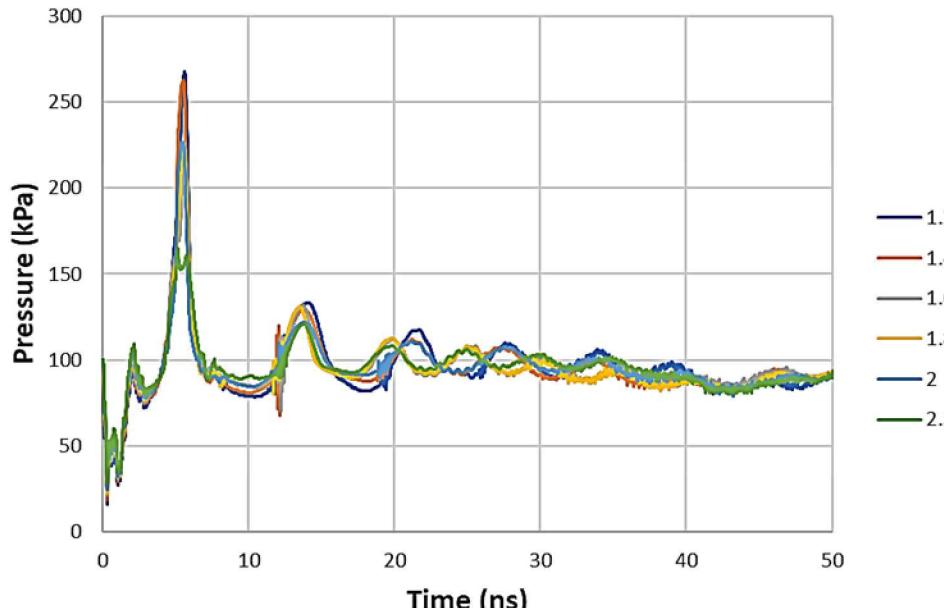
Pressure at 0.00e+00 seconds



P (MPa)

A vertical color bar indicating pressure values in MPa. The scale ranges from 0.2 (blue) at the bottom to 1.0 (red) at the top. The color transitions through green, yellow, and orange. The bar is labeled "P (MPa)" at the top.

Effect of Standoff Distance



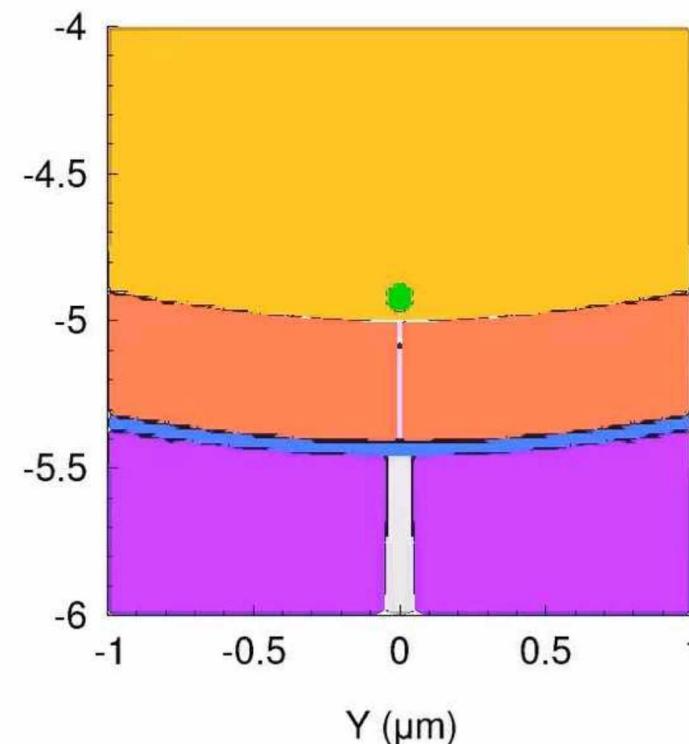
Data taken at tight junction strand
Bubble diameter: 0.10 μm

Effect of Bubble Diameter



0.10 μm

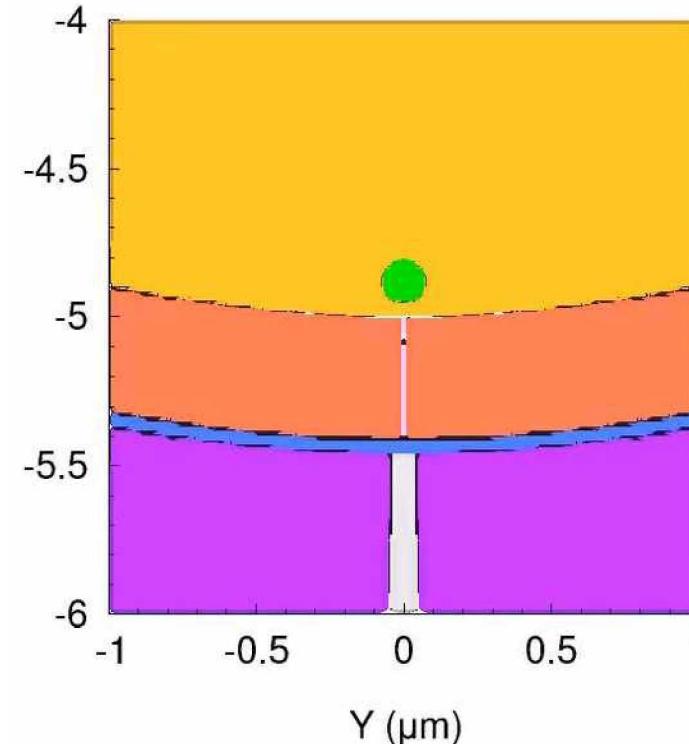
Pressure at 0.00e+00 seconds



1.6 standoff distance

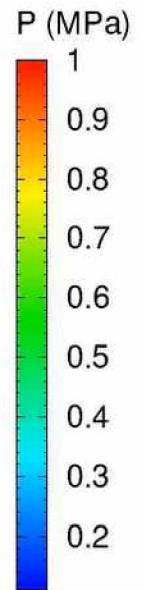
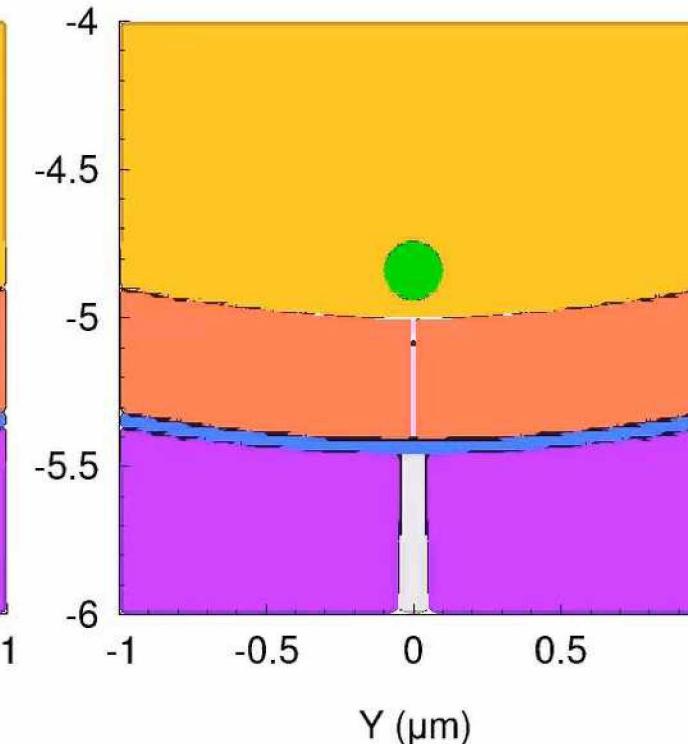
0.15 μm

Pressure at 0.00e+00 seconds

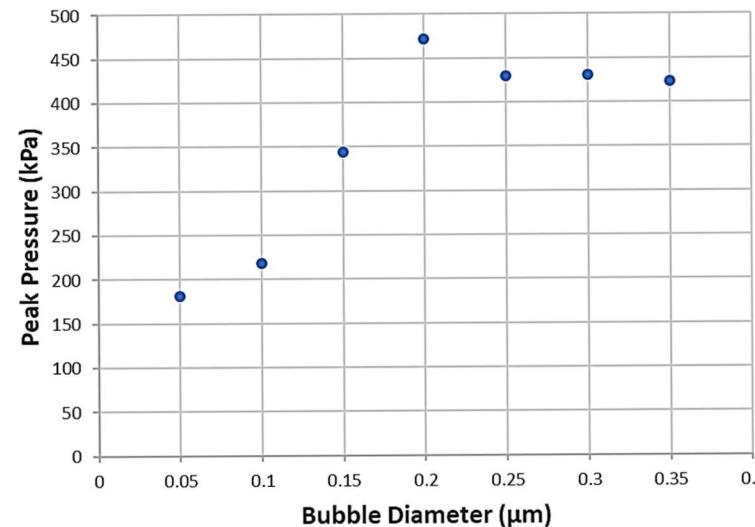
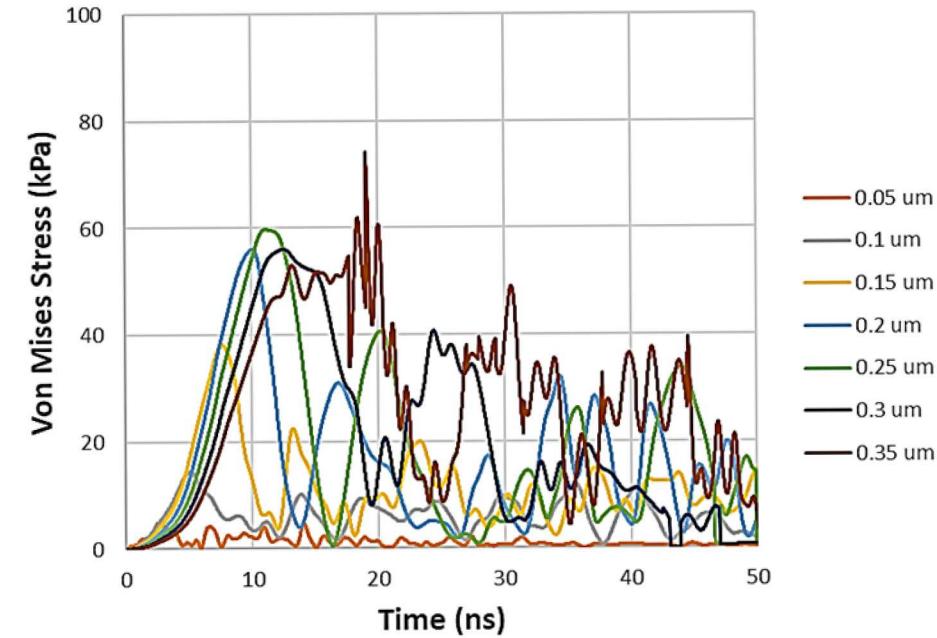
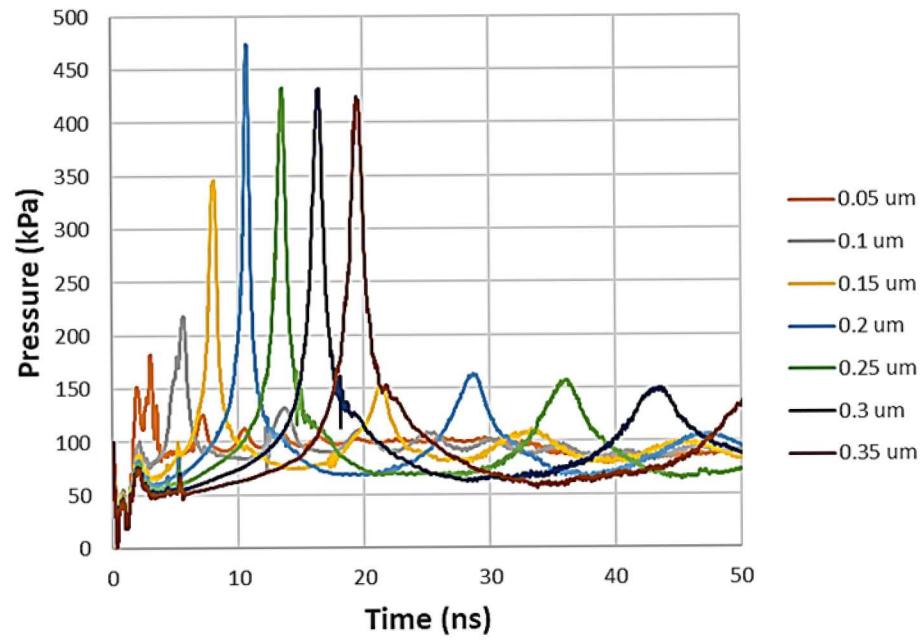


0.20 μm

Pressure at 0.00e+00 seconds



Effect of Bubble Diameter



Data taken at tight junction strand
Standoff distance: 1.6

Path Forward

Task 1

Micromechanical Models

- Investigate blast-induced brain damage as a result of fluid cavitation at the microscale level
- Determine whether certain structures in the brain such as white matter axonal fiber bundles or the blood brain barrier are at risk from cavitation

Task 2

Cavitation Experiment

- Design of an experiment
- Use **novel** x-ray imaging

“X-ray movie of fast event”

Visualize damage from cavitation

- *In Vitro* (animal surrogate)
- Contemporaneous, not just *ex post facto* histology
- See through opaque skin/skull without mechanical modification (e.g., probes, cranial windows).

Task 3

Injury Risk

- Quantify percent of brain, by volume, that is exposed to high vapor fraction, as a function of blast overpressure.
- Vapor fraction is portion of a given volume that has predicted to undergo a phase change from liquid to vapor.
- High vapor fraction is suggestive for the potential for cavitation, since it is caused by tensile pressures on hydrated tissues.

Summary

What we have learned ...

- Macroscale **blast simulations** predict regions of intra-cranial **fluid cavitation**.
- Formation of **vaporized cerebrospinal fluid** is predicted in posterior regions of the brain.
- The process of **bubble formation, collapse, and jetting** is theorized as a possible injury mechanism.
- As standoff distance increases, peak pressure decreases.
- **Increase in bubble diameter** up to critical diameter of 0.2um **increases peak pressure**. Thereafter peak pressure plateaus with increasing bubble diameter.
- **Increases in bubble diameter** cause delays in **peak pressure arrival time**.

Head/neck/torso high-fidelity human models

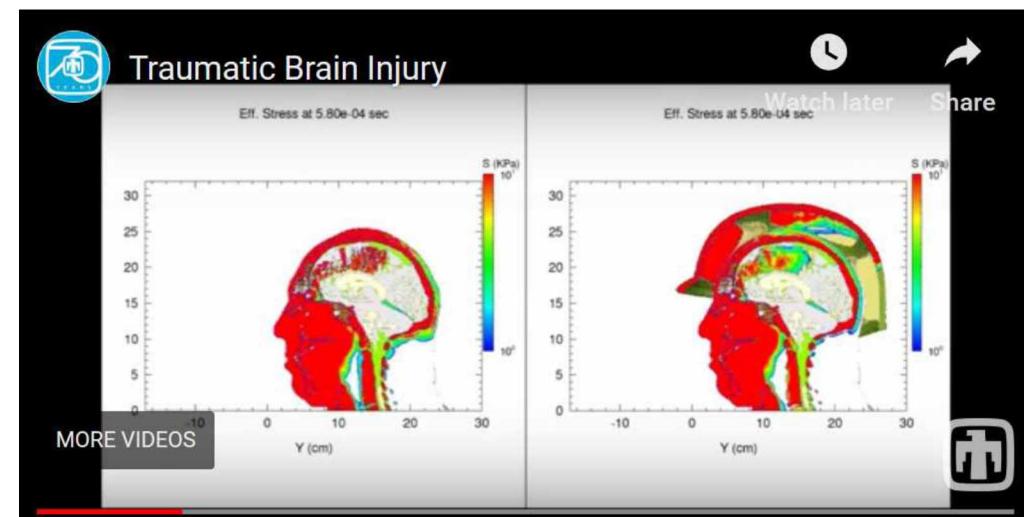
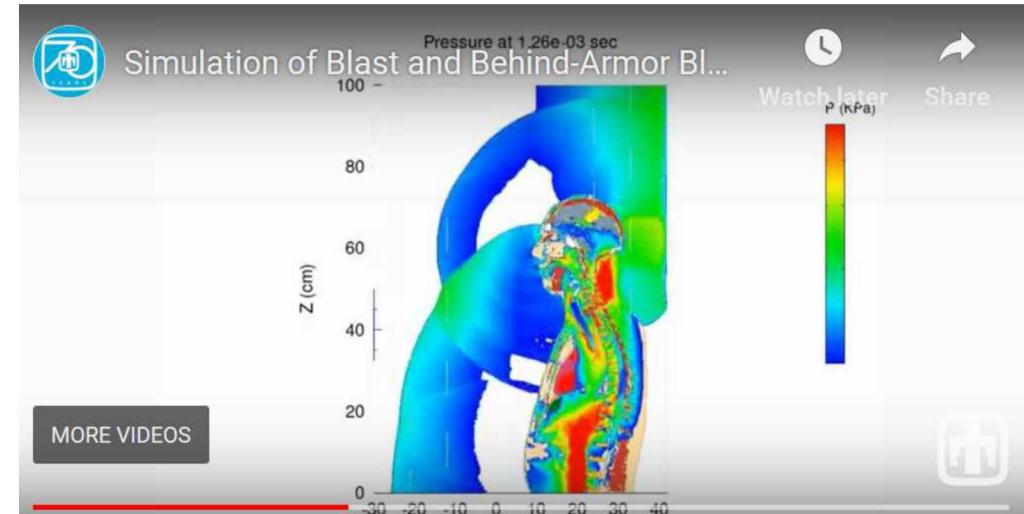
- high-fidelity: 6M elements, 1-mm resolution
- finite volume and finite element
- blast, blunt, and ballistics

Please see www.sandia.gov/biomechanics for

- simulation videos
- UUR publications, SAND Reports

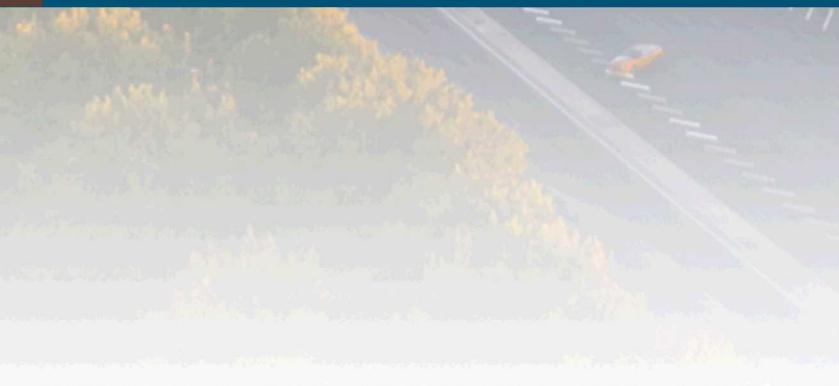
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Thank You



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