

# **Modeling Blast Loading on Structures**

**6/7/2013  
Department 5417  
Sandia National Laboratories**



# Summary

- A range of **blast-on-structure simulations** have been conducted with Sandia computational tools in recent years; codes show promise in ability to capture key phenomenon
- Codes of interest:
  - CTH (Eulerian Hydrocode)
  - Zapotec (Eulerian/Lagrangian coupled code)
  - 1-way coupling schemes (Eulerian to Lagrangian)
- This presentation includes analysis of:
  - Kinetic Plate
  - Blast Plate
  - Cylinder Test
  - Mine Blast

# Kinetic Plate

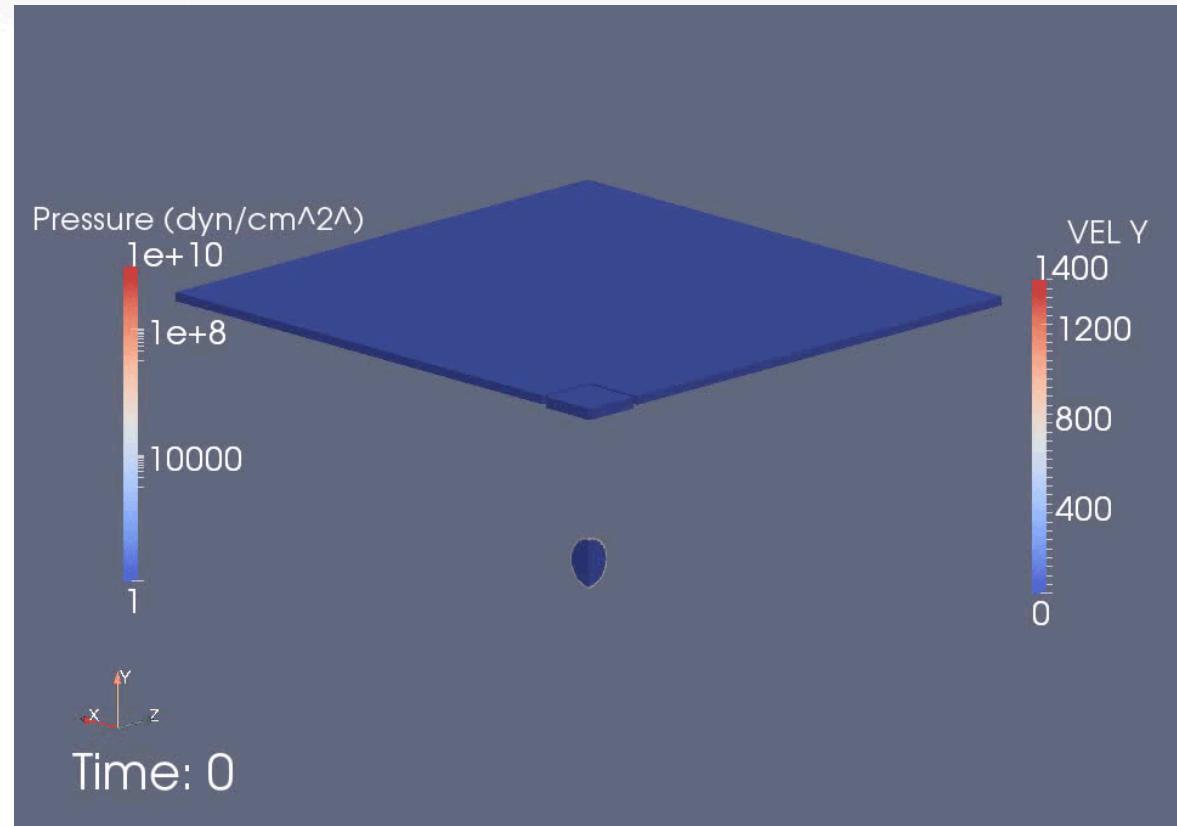
- Experiment: explosive charge set off 6" from plate
- Metric: final velocity of plate
- Plate:
  - Thick enough to not deform
  - Loosely set in thick collar to eliminate wrap-around of gasses
  - PDV probes measure plate velocity
- Focus: CTH & Zapotec



Testing conducted at LANL

# Kinetic Plate Simulations

- CTH simulations match well (<2% error in final velocity at max refinement)
- Zapotec Simulation also close (~4%)



**Zapotec Simulation**

# Blast Plate

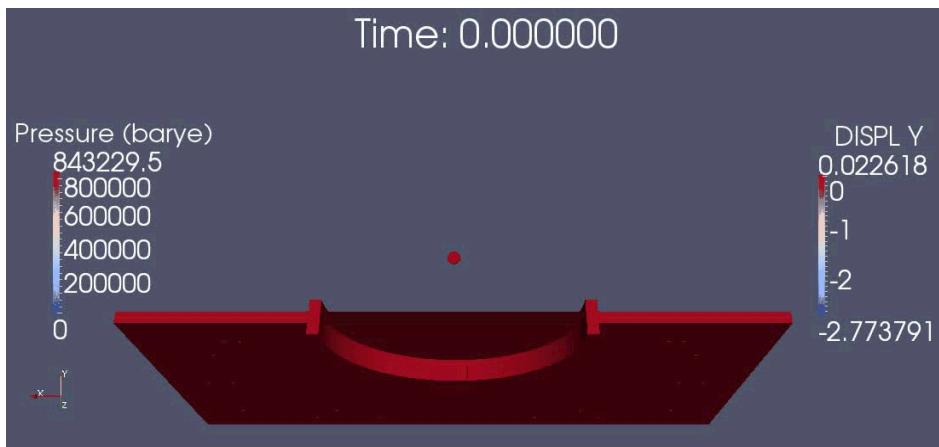
- Experiment: explosive set 10" away from thin plate, rigidly held
- Plate:
  - Very thin (~millimeter)
  - Does not break in this test
- DIC used to measure plate displacement



Testing conducted at Sandia

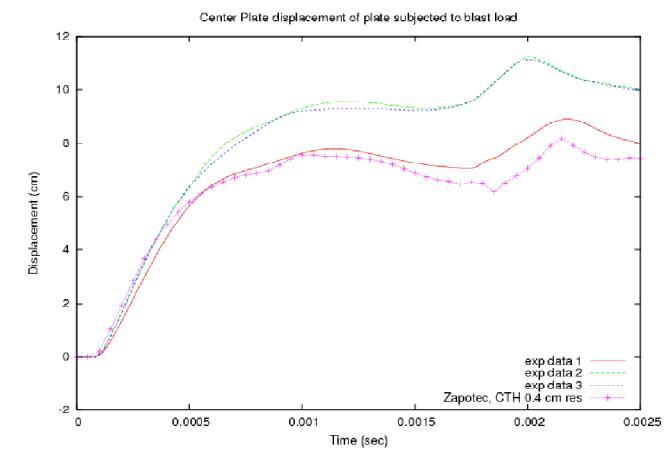
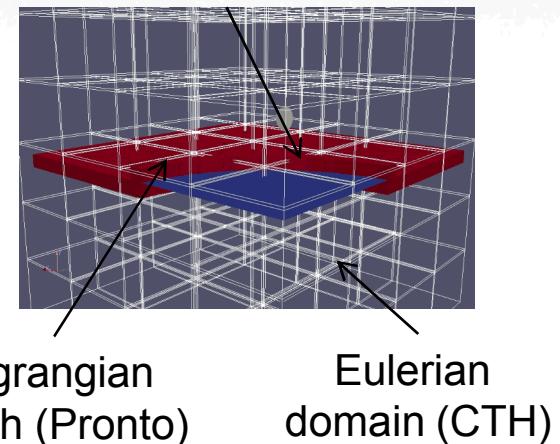
# Blast Plate Simulation

- Comparison to data is favorable
- Large numbers of runs made to explore computational parameters
- Guidelines created for future simulations



Sample Zapotec Simulation

Explosive in Eulerian domain (CTH)

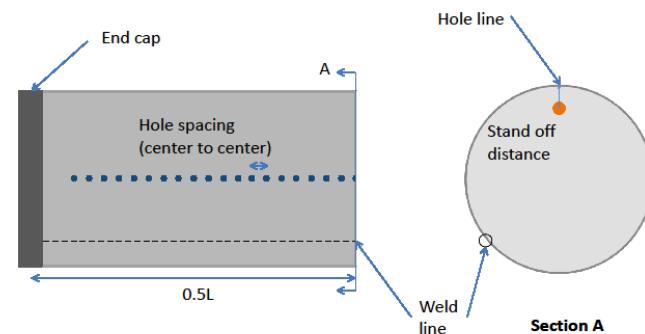


Comparison to Data

# Stored Energy Test (SET)

- Experiment: Explosive charge placed inside large cylinder with pre-drilled holes
- Metric: Tearing of cylinder measured
- Internal pressure and mass of explosive charge varied
  - No tearing at low explosive mass
  - Complete tearing at higher levels

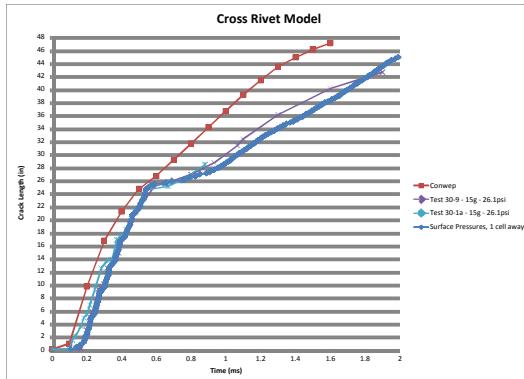
General Schematic



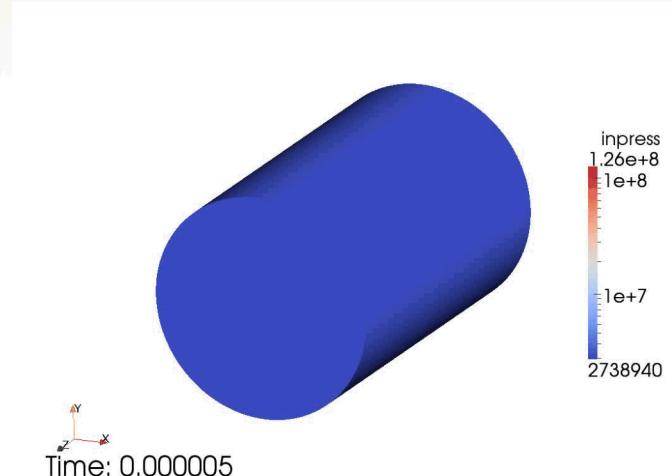
Testing conducted at Sandia

# SET simulations

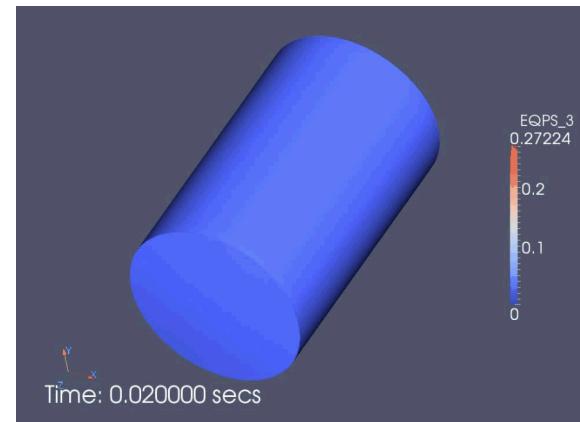
- Problems run with 1-D coupling:
  - CTH AMR with tracers
  - Sierra/SM (Presto) with nodal applied pressures
- Tricky problem, but some correlations look good



Crack growth curve: sim vs. Data

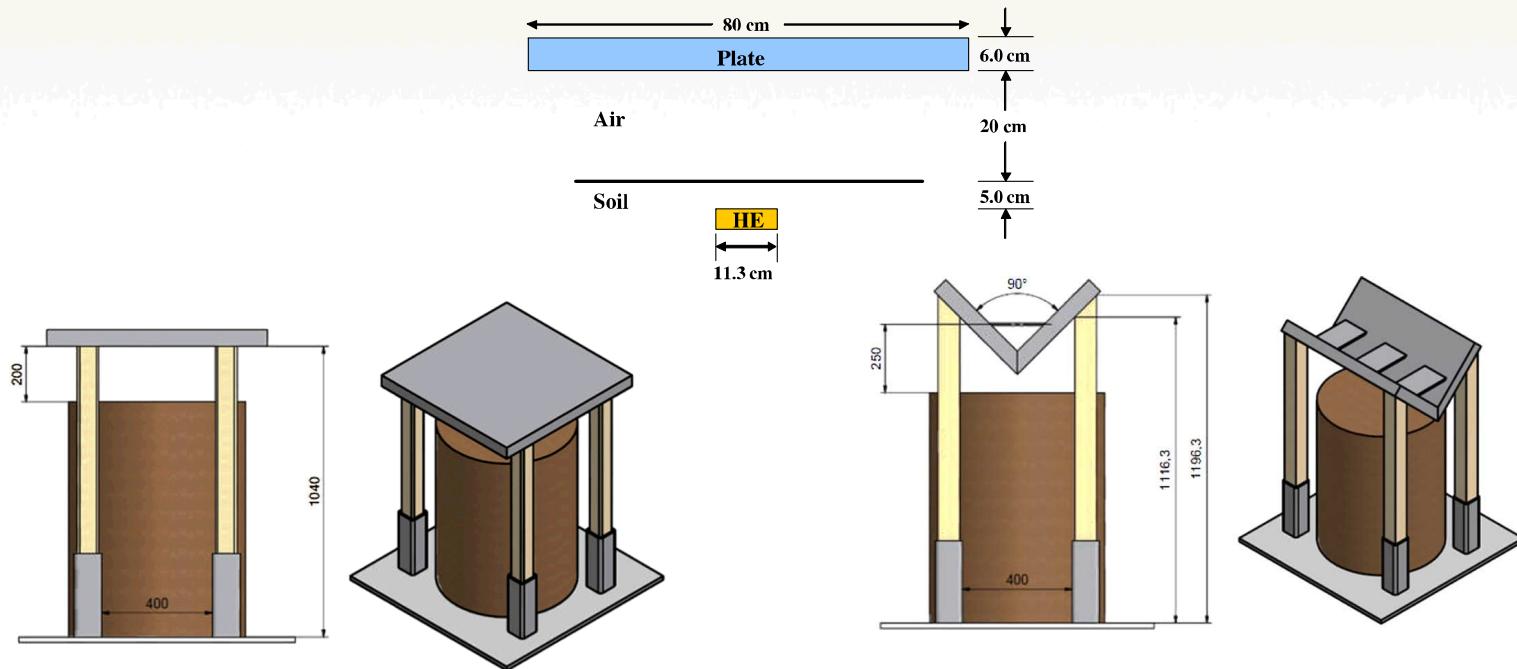


Applied Pressures (from CTH, to Presto)



Tearing simulation (Presto)

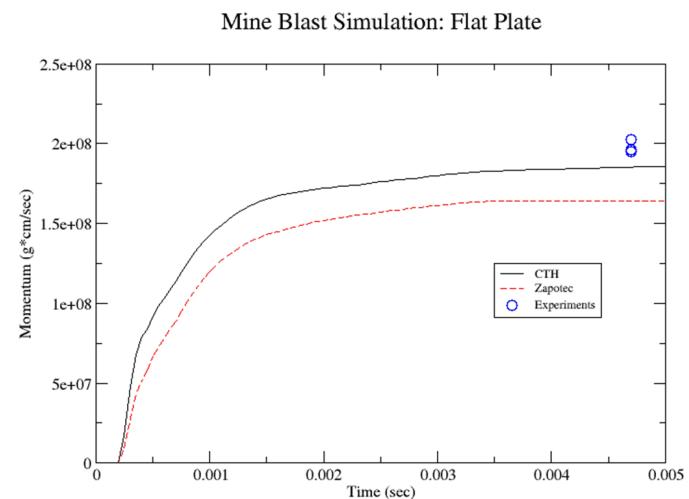
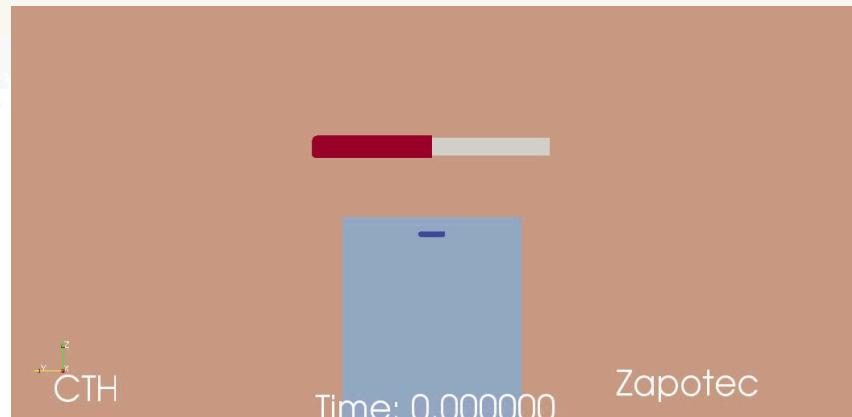
# Mine Blast Test Series



- **Source: Anderson, C. E. et al., “Mine Blast Loading Experiments”, International Journal of Impact Engineering, 38 (2011) 697-706**
- **Six test series varying moisture content, plate shape, standoff – three repetitions per series**

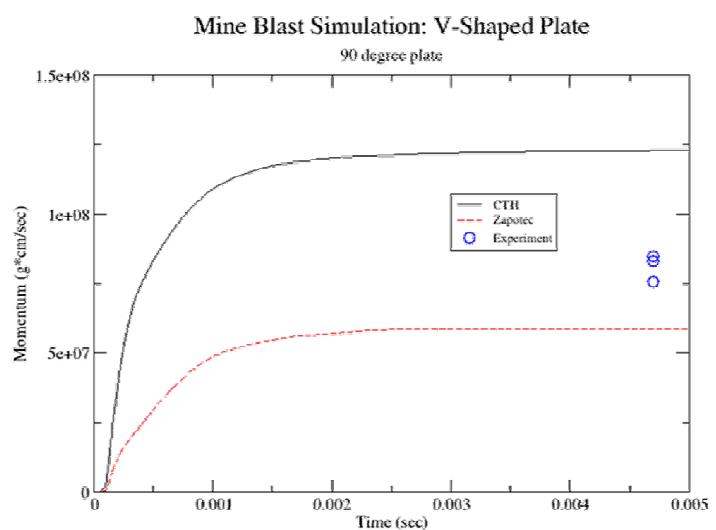
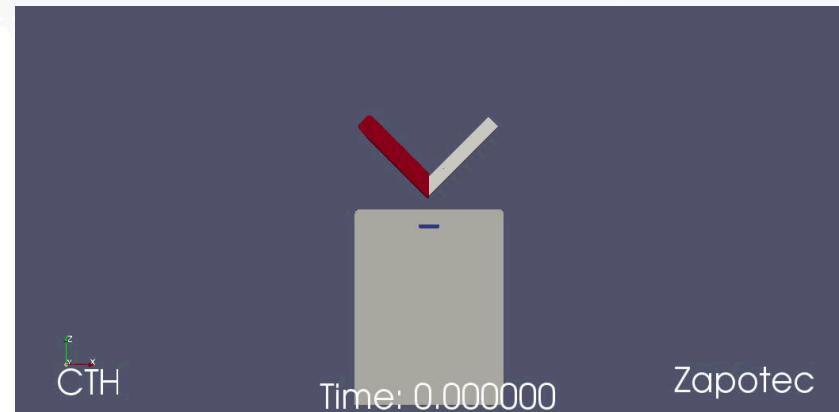
# Flat plate simulation

- **Test case:**
  - Flat plate
  - 20cm standoff
  - 7% moisture content sand
  - Explosive: 625 g Comp B
- **Two modeling approaches:**
  - CTH only
  - Zapotec: Lagrangian Plate,  
CTH everything else
- **CTH within 6% of experiment,  
Zapotec within 17%**



# Flat plate simulation

- **Test case:**
  - V-shaped plate (90 degrees)
  - Flat plate
  - 25cm standoff to centroid
  - 7% moisture content sand
  - Explosive: 625 g Comp B
- **Two modeling approaches:**
  - CTH only
  - Zapotec: Lagrangian Plate,  
CTH everything else
- **CTH within 51% of  
experiment, Zapotec within  
28%**





## Observations

- Sandia capabilities are promising for these problems, further work can improve use
- Current developments underway:
  - ZapotecII: upgraded to Sierra/Sm & functional with CTH AMR
  - Alternative Eulerian/Lagrangian coupling (Fortissimo)
  - Possible improvements to 1-D coupling tools
  - Looks progressing for other methods
- Lots of details required to get proper solutions: documentation of these is ongoing