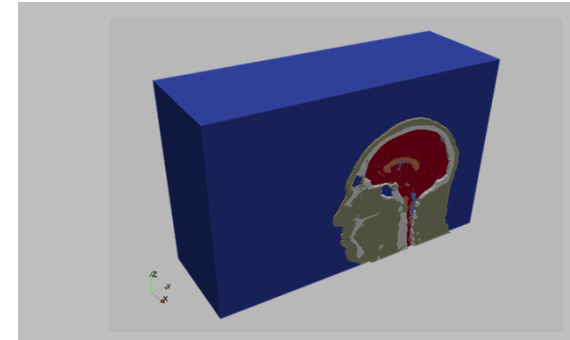
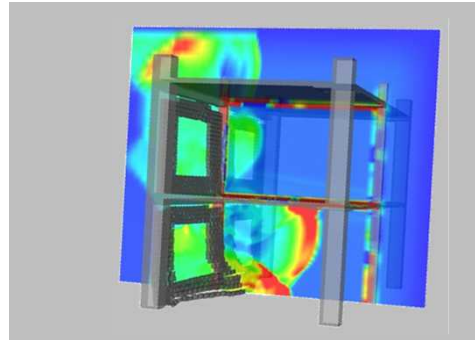
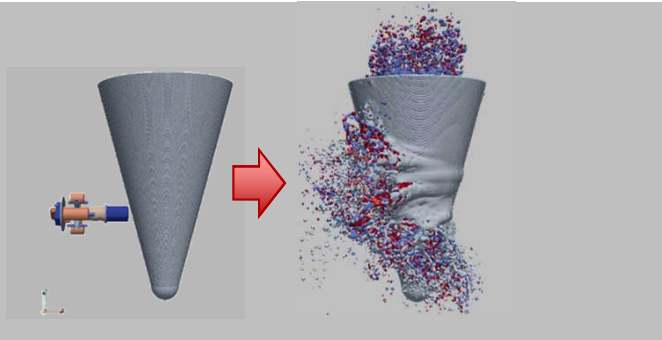


Abstract: This paper describes the results of a near-structure air blast simulation using Zapotec, a coupling of CTH and Sierra/SM. The simulation shows the interaction of an air blast with a structure, resulting in a complex flow field and structural deformation. The results are presented in a series of plots showing the initial state, the flow field, and the structural response.



# Near-Structure Air Blast Simulations Using Zapotec, A Coupling of CTH and Sierra/SM

Arne Gullerud, Dave Hensinger, Tim Shelton, Edmundo Corona  
Sandia National Labs  
WCCM, July 23 – July 27, 2018

# Overview of Talk

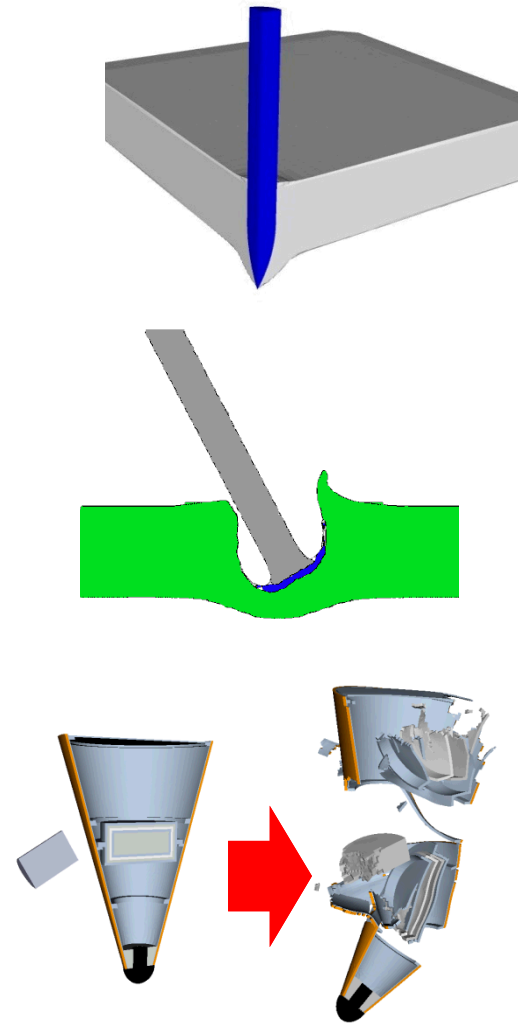
- **The Problem of Interest: Structural Response to Nearby Blasts**
- **Zapotec Overview**
- **Kinetic Plate Experiments**
- **Thin Plate Blast Response**
- **Conclusions**

# **The Problem of Interest: Structural Response to Nearby Blasts**

- **Nearby blasts provide a challenging environment for structural stability**
  - **Far-field blasts can be assessed through simplified/analytical techniques such as CONWEP, Friedlander Equations**
  - **Nearby blasts typically involve significant interaction with the structure:**
    - **Shock interaction with structural details**
    - **Penetration of the blast into the structure**
- **Since simplified analytics do not apply well, simulation capabilities are needed**
- **This work aims to evaluate the use of Zapotec for such cases**

# Zapotec Overview

- Developed at Sandia National Laboratories
- Coupling between CTH and Sierra/SM (Presto)
- Utilizes a volume coupling approach
- Hex and Shell elements inserted for coupling (others allowed but not coupled)
- CTH AMR is supported
- Eroded Lagrangian elements can be “donated” to CTH to preserve mass/momentum
- Several choices for sampling CTH pressures
  - Solid-on-solid (impact, e.g. penetration)
  - Gas-on-solid (blast)
- Many additional options to assist in a variety of simulation scenarios



# *CTH is a massively-parallel structured-mesh shock-physics code that **excels** at time-to-solution*

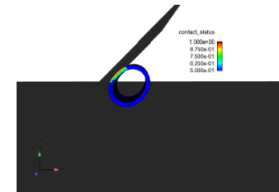
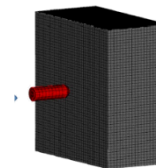
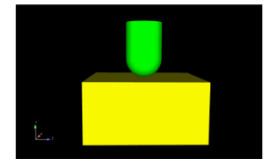
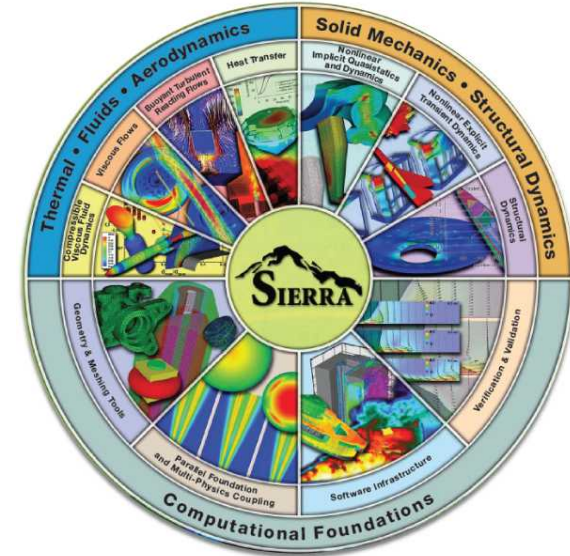
- **Explicit Eulerian shock-physics code (hydrocode)**
  - Solves conservation of mass, momentum, and energy
  - Up to 98 simultaneous materials
  - Gases, fluids, solids, reactive materials
  - Analytic & Tabular Equation-of-State representations
  - Advanced Strength & Fracture models
  - Adaptive Mesh Refinement (AMR)
  - Cradle-to-grave simulation suite
  - Massively parallel (scales on over 1M processors)
  - Ability to import CAD geometries
- **Applications (partial list):**
  - Armor, Anti-Armor, Conventional Munitions, Blast Effects
  - Planetary Science, Asteroid Impact & Planetary Defense
- **CTH licensed to U.S. government agencies and their subcontractors and U.S. academic institutions; heavily used**
  - 1000+ users
  - Most run systems analysis code on the DoD HPC machines
- [www.sandia.gov/CTH](http://www.sandia.gov/CTH)



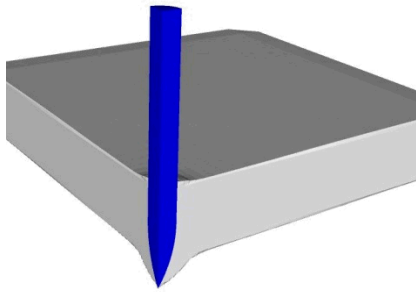
**CTH simulation of the  
Chelybinsk superbolide  
Boslough (2013)**

# Sierra/SM Explicit (Presto)

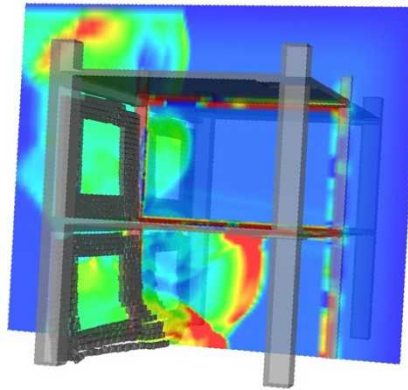
- Sierra is a multiphysics simulation environment that provides efficient, scalable computational foundations
- A number of simulation tools have been built on top of the framework, designed to address problems in fluid-thermal and structural areas
- Zapotec is coupled to the Solid Mechanics module (Sierra/SM), which provides explicit transient finite element capabilities, with
  - Large array of finite element types
  - Multibody contact
  - Range of complex material models
  - Extensive capabilities for failure
  - Massively-scalable parallelism



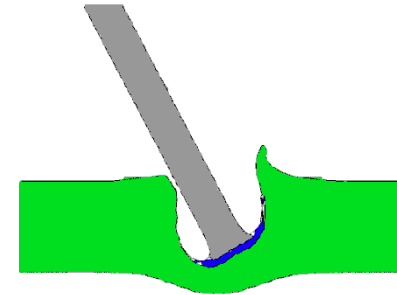
# Traditional Zapotec Applications



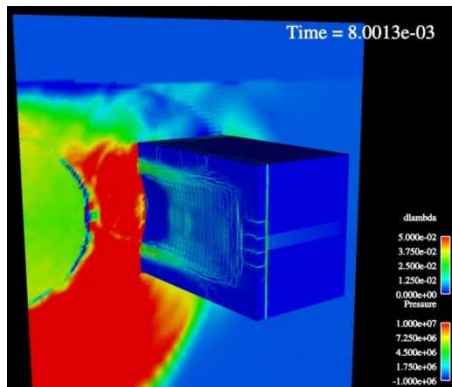
Ballistic Penetration



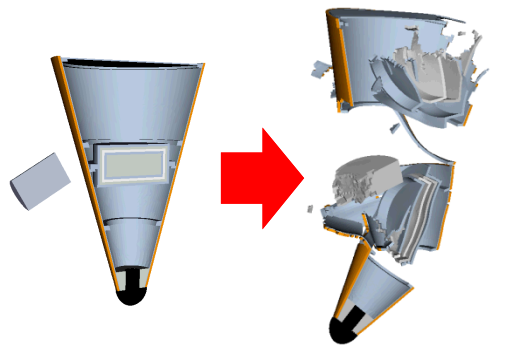
Air Blast on Above Ground  
Reinforced Concrete (RC) Building  
with Brick Facade



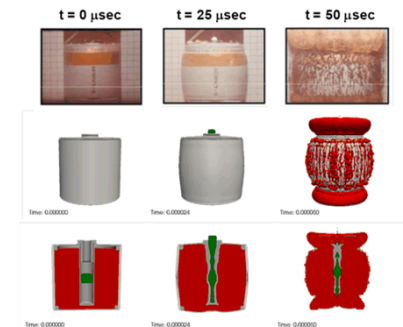
Anti-Armor Applications  
(Eroding Rods)



Blast Loading on a Buried  
RC Structure



Hypervelocity Impacts

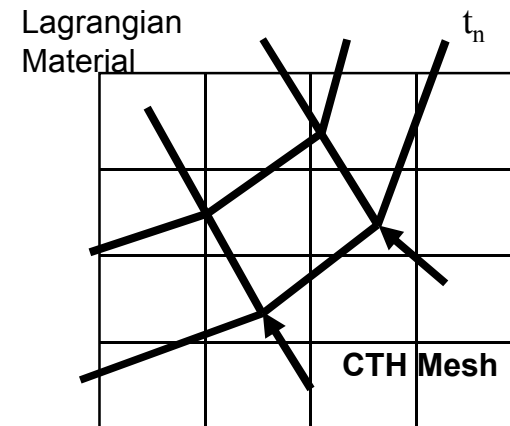
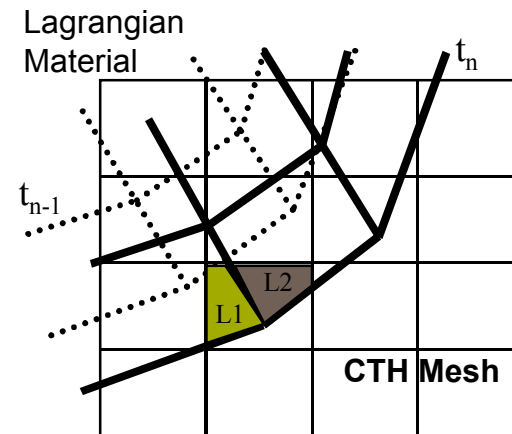


Bomb Fragmentation



# Overview of Coupling Algorithm

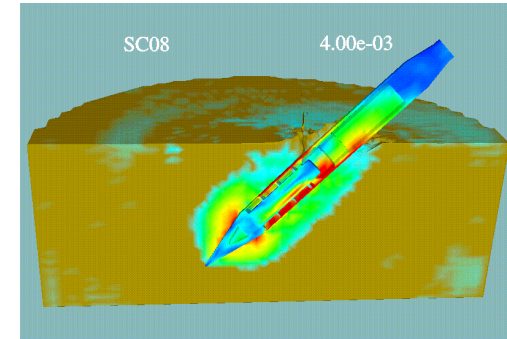
- Zapotec works to make the two code domains consistent
  - CTH: Material Insertion
    - Lagrangian material is inserted into CTH cells
    - Basic information is mapped into CTH (mass, stress state, etc)
  - Lagrangian: Forces computed from CTH domain applied to lagrangian structure
- Codes compute response independently
- Resolution of any differences made in re-insertion of lagrangian material into CTH
  - Solution differences can lead to overfilling of CTH cells
  - Heuristics to deal with overfilled cell can discard mass



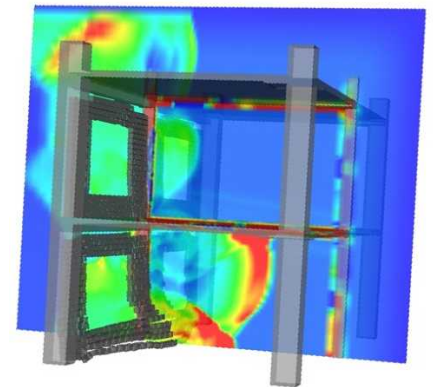


# Zapotec History

- Originally developed as a coupling of CTH with EPIC for penetration problems (Early-Mid 1990s)
- Coupling with Pronto3D, parallel architecture (Early-Mid 2000s)
  - Used for penetration analyses (Pronto3D for penetrator, CTH for target material)
  - Expansion to blast-on-structure (Pronto3D for structure, CTH for explosive and air)
- Application shift to hypervelocity impact in late 2000s
  - Basis of Confidence Document (in final revision)
- Current version; Zapotec 3.0
  - Replaces Pronto3D with Sierra/SM
  - Improvement/expansion of algorithms



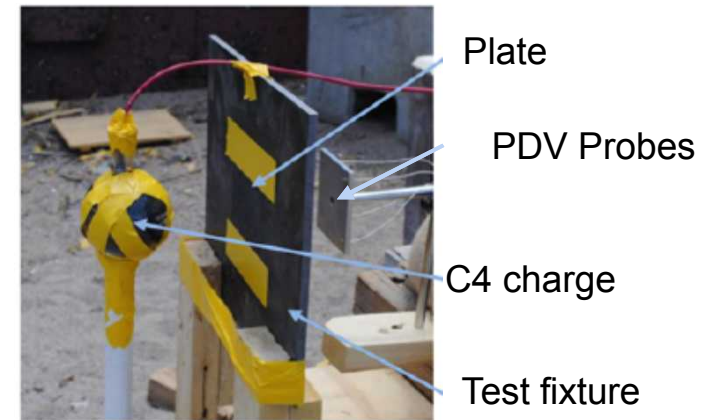
Penetration



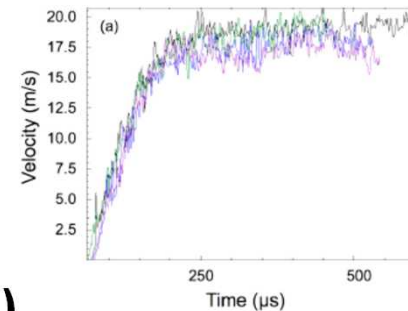
Air Blast on Above Ground  
Reinforced Concrete (RC) Building  
with Brick Facade

# Kinetic Plate

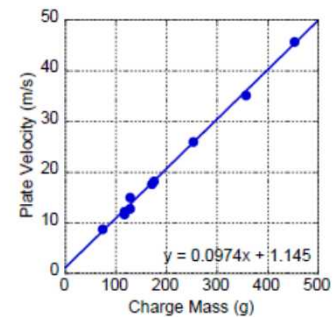
- Simple test case to explore code use for near-structure blast scenarios
- Experiment series conducted by LANL:
  - Thick plate loosely suspended in steel fixture (to prevent gas wrap around)
  - Explosive charges (c4, various masses) detonated with center 6" from plate
  - PDV measurements made of plate speed (4 per test; avg velocity used)
- Metric: final velocity of plate



Experimental Setup<sup>1</sup>



Typical PDV  
Data<sup>2</sup>



Velocities for  
C4 Charges<sup>2</sup>

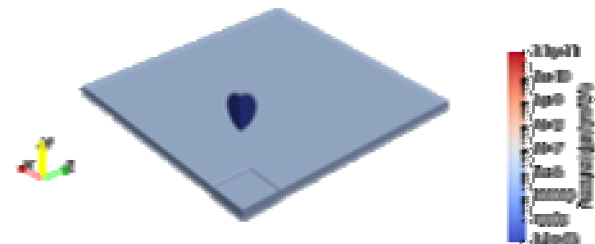
1) Image from Neuscamman SJ, Manner VW, Brown GW and Glascoe, LG. (2014) Numerical simulations of near-field blast effects using kinetic plates. 18th APS-SCCM and 24th AIRAPT. Journal of Physics: Conference Series 500(2014) 052029.

2) Image and data from Manner VW, Pemberton SJ, Brown GW, Tappan BC, Hill LG, Preston DN, Neuscamman SJ, and Glascoe LG. (2014). Measurements of near-field blast effects using kinetic plates. 18th APS-SCCM and 24th AIRAPT. Journal of Physics: Conference Series 500(2014) 052029.

# Kinetic Plate

Time: 0.000000

- Zapotec simulations used finite element model of plate and fixture, CTH model of explosive and air – domain configured to be  $\frac{1}{4}$  symmetric
- Simulations correlate well to experiment, show slight under-prediction of velocity

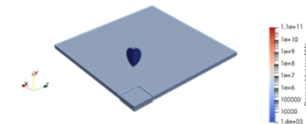


Charge Size (g)	Experimental Velocity (m/s)	Analysis Velocity (m/s)	% Difference
116.2	11.65	11.26	3.3
117.2	12.20	11.35	7.0
174.5	18.26	16.70	8.5
453.2	45.72	42.16	7.7

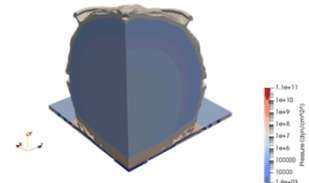
# Kinetic Plate

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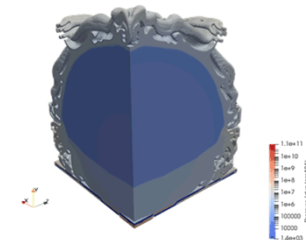
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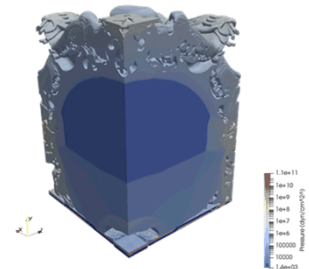
Time: 0.000099



Time: 0.000199



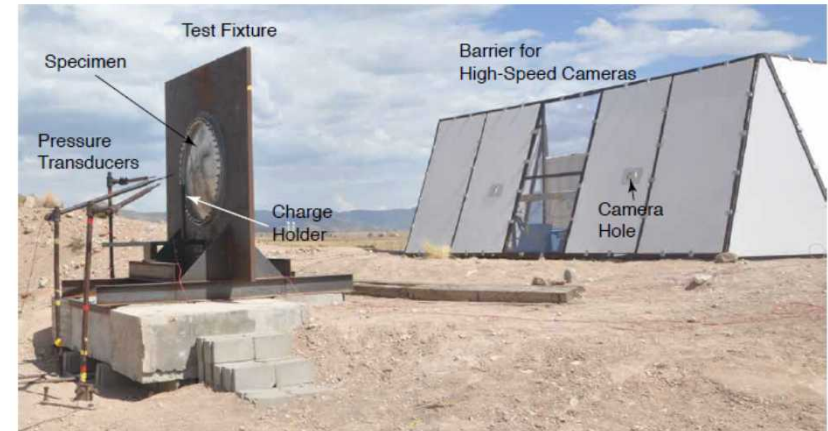
Time: 0.000299



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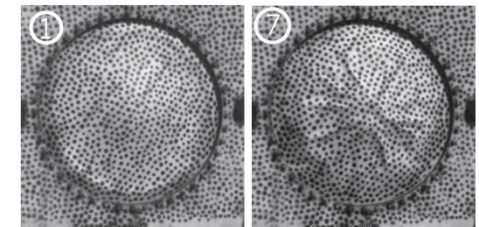
# Thin Plate Blast Response

- **More complex test case to explore code use for near-structure blast scenarios**
- **Experimental series conducted by SNL:**
  - 44-inch diameter 0.040 in thick Al 2024-T3 plate held in thick steel holder
  - Spherical C4 explosive charge centered on plate, detonated 10" away
  - Range of explosive charges used (120-500 g)
  - Digital Image Correlation used to measure plate deformation in test
- **Test series responses ranged from simple bulging of plate to plate breakage**
- **This work focuses on center deformation of plate before failure**

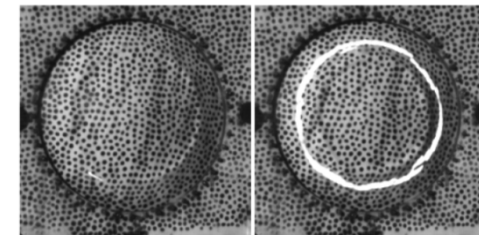


Test Configuration

Deformation for 120g Charge

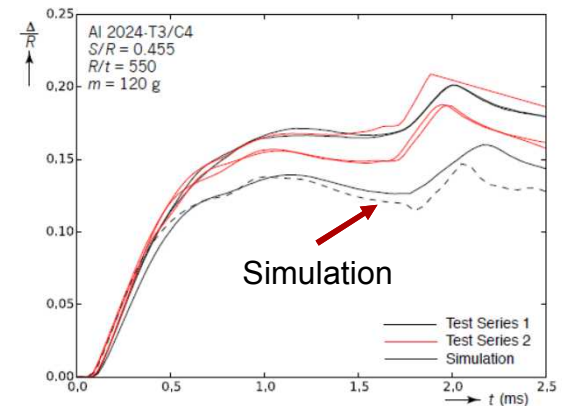


Deformation for 500g Charge

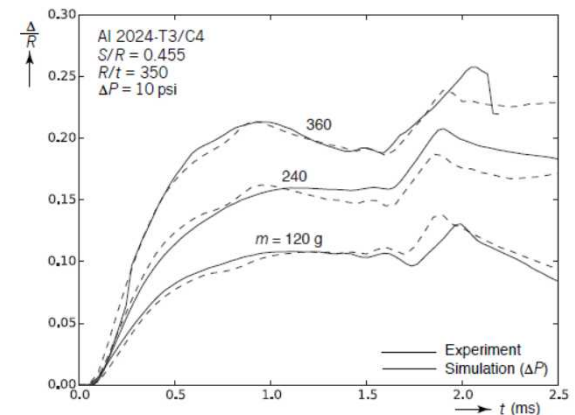


# Thin Plate Blast: Zapotec Simulations

- Initial simulations focused on lowest explosive mass (120 g)
- Simulations showed a slight under-prediction on the deformation of the plate
- Various computational studies on optional parameters showed little overall effect on underprediction (e.g. coupling approach, JWL parameters, boundary conditions)
- By providing a 10 psi additional pressure, simulations matched better; this was applied to higher explosive loads as a calibration factor
- Other authors<sup>1</sup> used afterburn models to add the additional pressure needed to match



Initial Simulations



Simulations with Extra 10 Psi

<sup>1</sup> Afterburn model used in Alves, S, Glascoe L. and McMichael L. (2012) Modeling of Bare Circular Plate Blast Experiments. NEXESS Center Report 2012-1035, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories.



# Thin Plate Blast: Zapotec Simulations

- Other work<sup>1</sup> has explored the effect of the detonator geometry on the blast characteristics
- The detonator geometry is substantial in comparison to the explosive, especially for 120 gram case
- CTH-only 2D simulations show improved comparison in similar problems when detonator details are included
- Detonator details have not been included in a Zapotec simulation at this time; work is ongoing



Detonator

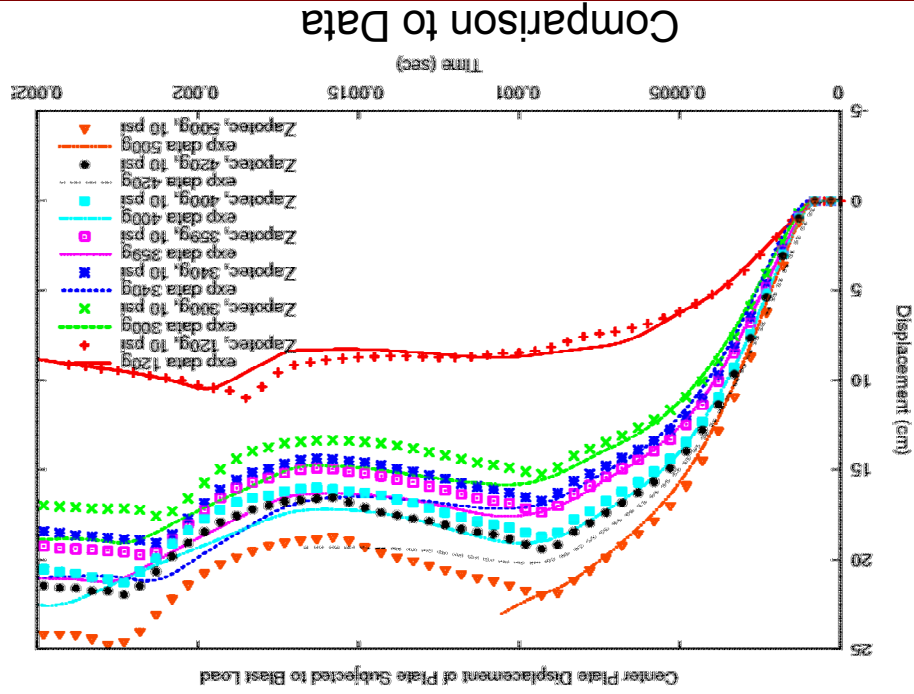
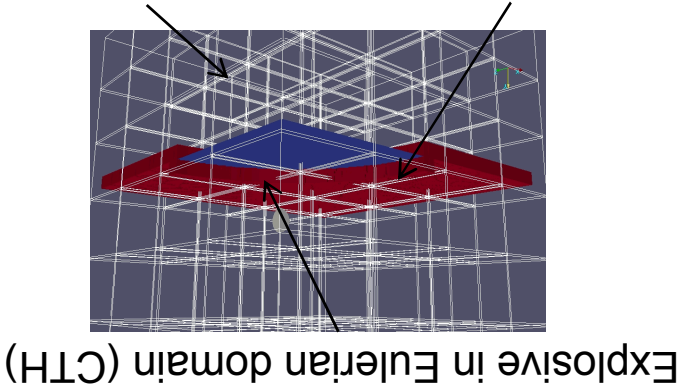
Explosive Charge

Simulations At Higher Weights

1) Bailey, Molly "Investigation into Late Time Blast Loading of Thin Aluminum Plates", Internal Memo, August 24, 2016



# Thin Plate Blast: Zapotec Simulations



- With extra 10 psi loading, simulation results match experiment well
- Work still ongoing to understand the need for extra 10 psi

# Conclusions

- **Zapotec is a coupling between CTH and Sierra/SM; enables use of Lagrangian and Eulerian methods in the same problem**
- **Zapotec simulations of kinetic and thin plate tests match well to experimental results**
- **Work ongoing to uncover cause for need for extra pressure in thin plate case**
- **Zapotec shows significant promise for simulation of near-structure blast scenarios**
- **Acknowledgements**
  - **SNL: Kim Haulenbeek, Phillip L. Reu, Bob Schmitt, Dave Crawford, Molly Bailey**
  - **LANL and LLNL: Experimental/Analysis work**