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Title: Detonation Waves in High Explosives

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Detonation Waves in High Explosives



Ralph Menikoff, T-1

HE seminar series
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Lectures: Detonation Waves in High Explosives

Part I: Overview

1. Introduction
2. Solid high explosives

Part II: Theory

3. Reactive flow equations
4. Detonation wave relations
5. Planar detonation wave

Part III: Detonation phenomena

6. Shock-to-detonation transition
7. Hotspot burn rate
8. Diameter effect and curvature effect
9. Failure diameter, corner turning and dead zones
10. EOS data

Lecture 1 outline

1. Introduction

What is an explosion

What is an explosive

Explosive applications

High explosive & Detonation wave

Detonation wave properties

Detonation wave vs Shock wave

Detonation wave width

Chemical energy released

Measurement of energy released

What is an explosion

Conditions for an explosion

- **Energetic material**
Can undergo an exothermic chemical reaction (release energy)
- **Sufficiently high reaction rate and confinement**
To support a propagating reactive wave

Explosion is large energy release on short time scale

Examples

1. Catastrophic explosion of 2000 tons ammonium nitrate in Beirut, Lebanon (August 2020)
2. **Aerosols:** Suspensions of solid particles or liquid droplets in a gas
 - Fuel droplets in air
 - Coal dust in mine
 - Grain dust in silo
 - **sugar particles** in refinery, Port Wentworth, Ga (2008)

What is an explosive

Explosive

- Energetic material that contains both fuel and oxidizer
In contrast, aerosol oxidizer from O_2 in air
Particle surface burning requires diffusion of oxidizer
- Supports quasi-steady propagating reactive wave
Called a **detonation wave**

Detonation wave

1. Lead shock triggers fast reaction
2. Reaction releases chemical energy
3. Energy release supports lead shock
4. Detonation wave can be self-sustaining (unsupported)

Once initiated a detonation wave is self-sustaining
and releases large amount of energy on μs time scale

Explosive applications

Applications of explosives

1. Mining, construction, demolition
2. Explosive welding, jet cutter with shaped charge, explosive bolts
3. Argon flash lamp, **explosive art**
4. Drive projectile to high velocity (several km/s)
High pressure EOS data (LASL Shock Hugoniot Data, Ed. S. Marsh, 1980)
5. **Explosive driven flux compression generator** (30 MA at 10 kV)
6. Weapons

High explosives & Detonation waves

Compared to gaseous explosive, solid explosives have much higher density and higher energy per volume

They are referred to as **high explosive** (HE)

Solid high explosive with 1 reaction

Reactants → Products + energy release

Meta-stable reactants ⇒ Irreversible reaction

Reactive burn models differ in

1. EOS used for partly reacted HE
2. Burn rate (not simply chemical rate)

Detonation wave (lead shock followed by reaction zone)

- For large burn rate $\sim 100 \text{ } \mu\text{s}$ and high detonation wave speed
Reaction zone is very narrow, $\sim 0.1 \text{ mm}$
- Pressure rise is abrupt and shock 'like', especially for simulations with cell size comparable to the reaction zone width

Detonation wave properties

Detonation wave properties for PBX 9501

initial density	1.84	g/cc
pressure	35.	GPa
detonation speed	8.8	km/s
sound speed	6.6	km/s
energy release	5.0	MJ/kg



Perspective on energy release

sugar not explosive but burning $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_{11} + 12 \text{O}_2 \rightarrow 12 \text{CO}_2 + 11 \text{H}_2\text{O}$
releases 3.94 kcal/g = 16.5 MJ/kg, more energy per mass than PBX 9501

Example

KE of 2 ton car at 100 mph = 1.8 MJ = 1 kWh

same energy as 5.8 cm cube (360 g) of PBX 9501 released in $6.6 \mu\text{s}$

Also PBX 9501 can drive projectile up to sound speed (14.7×10^3 mph)

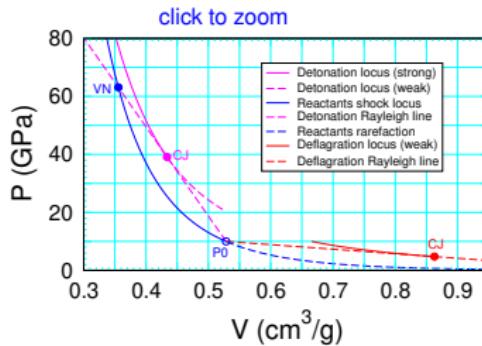
Detonation wave vs Shock wave

Both shock and detonation loci

- Hugoniot equation for 1-D waves

$$e = e_0 + \frac{1}{2}(P(V, e) + P_0)(V_0 - V)$$

P with reactants EOS for shock and products EOS for detonation
- Compressive waves
- Supersonic ahead
 Subsonic behind, CJ state sonic



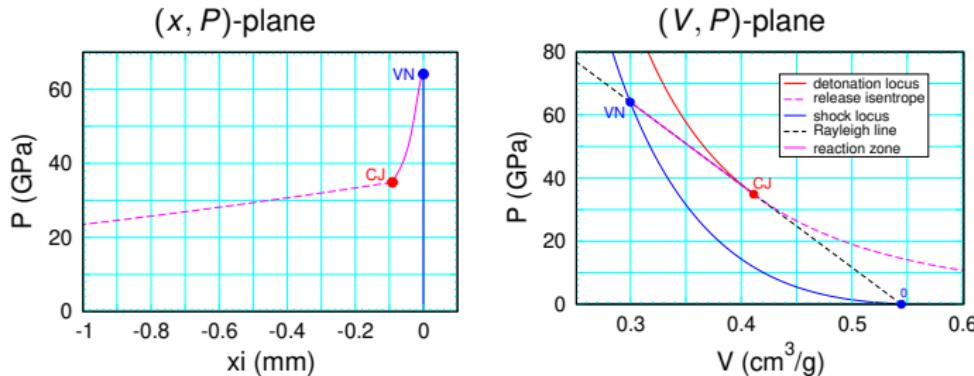
Detonation wave locus only

- Locus shifts up wrt initial state
- Rayleigh line tangent at 'CJ' point
- CJ (Chapman-Jouguet) state
 Minimum detonation speed
 Unsupported detonation & sonic
 Decouples from acoustic waves
- Above CJ state (strong branch)
 Overdriven detonation waves
 Decay without support, 'shock like'
- Below CJ state (weak branch)
 Unphysical branch (no wave profile)
- Expansive deflagration branch
 Slow burn mode, low wave speed
 Explosive also propellant

Detonation wave width

Detonation wave reaction-zone width

[◀ return](#)

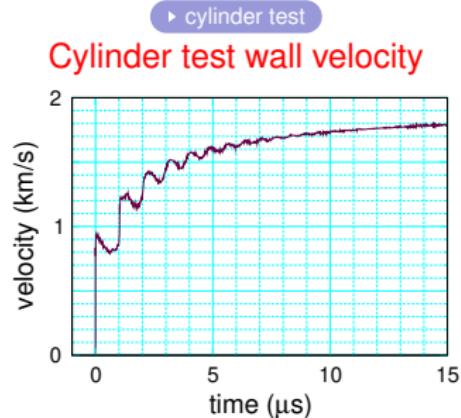
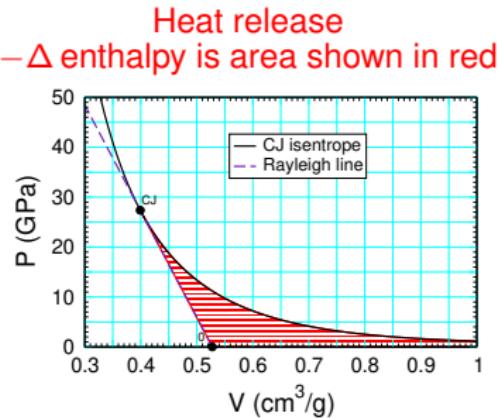


- **Detonation profile**
From VN spike on reactants shock locus to CJ state on detonation loci
- In contrast to shock wave
Detonation wave width is physical length scale
Depends on burn rate
- Effects detonation phenomena (e.g., curvature effect)

Chemical energy released

Heat of detonation is change in enthalpy ($H = e + PV$)

between products expanded out to $P = 0$ and reactants state



convert HE energy to KE of wall

Useful energy limited by expansion

At expansion of $V/V_0 = 7$, $P \approx 0.1$ GPa
 and recover above 80 % of chemical energy

Measurement of energy released

- **Bomb calorimeter**

Large volume implies small change in pressure when HE reacts

1. Inert gas in calorimeter gives **heat of detonation**
2. Air in calorimeter gives **heat of combustion**

Additional reactions with oxygen in air

For oxygen poor explosives, such as for TNT

- **Heat of reaction**

Equilibrium products constituents mass fractions from thermo-chemical code

(rapid expansion may freeze out products e.g., liquid or gaseous H_2O)

Reactants $\rightarrow \sum_i \nu_i \text{prod}_i$ where ν_i are stoichiometry coefficients

$$\Delta H_{\text{reaction}} = \sum_i \nu_i H_{\text{prod}_i} - H_{\text{reactants}}$$

where H_{prod_i} and $H_{\text{reactants}}$ are heats of formation

and $\Delta H_{\text{reaction}}$ is either heat of combustion or heat of detonation

Convention for heat release

$$Q = -\Delta H_{\text{reaction}} \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{for exothermic reaction} \\ < 0 & \text{for endothermic reaction} \end{cases}$$

End Lecture 1. Introduction

Questions

Lecture 2 outline

2. Solid high explosives

HE molecules

Plastic-bonded explosive

PBX manufacture

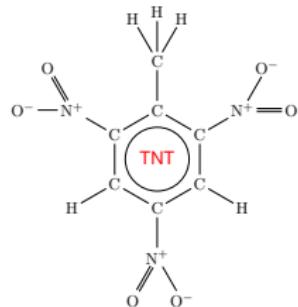
Example of meso-scale structure

Heterogeneities and burn rate

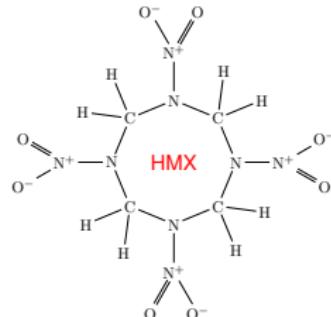
HE reactive burn models

HE molecules

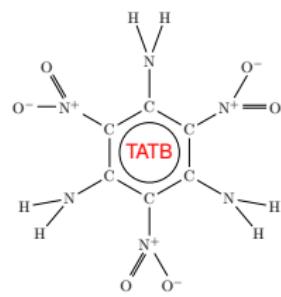
TriNitro-Toluene



cyclo-tetramethylene-tetranitramine



TriAmino-Trinitro-Benzene



TNT (21 atoms): $\text{C}_7\text{H}_5\text{N}_3\text{O}_6 \rightarrow 2.5 \text{H}_2\text{O} + 1.5 \text{N}_2 + 3.5 \text{CO} + 3.5 \text{C}$

HMX (28 atoms): $\text{C}_4\text{H}_8\text{N}_8\text{O}_8 \rightarrow 4 \text{H}_2\text{O} + 4 \text{N}_2 + 4 \text{CO}$

TATB (24 atoms): $\text{C}_6\text{H}_6\text{N}_6\text{O}_6 \rightarrow 3 \text{H}_2\text{O} + 3 \text{N}_2 + 3 \text{CO} + 3 \text{C}$

TNT melts at 80 C and thermal runaway at 228 C.

TNT can be cast or pressed into HE

HMX crystallites: coarse/fine similar size to table/powdered sugar

TATB crystallite slightly smaller than HMX

HMX or TATB crystallites need binder to form HE

Plastic-bonded explosive

Plastic-Bonded Explosive (PBX)

1. Explosive grains
2. Polymeric binder
3. pores

Examples

- **PBX 9501**, conventional HE (CHE)
95 wt % **HMX** + 2.5 % estane + 2.5 % elasto-plasticizer
- **PBX 9502**, insensitive HE (IHE)
95 wt % **TATB** + 5 % Kel-F

	TNT	HMX based PBX 9501	TATB based PBX 9502	
ρ_0	1.64	1.84	1.89	g/cc
P_{cj}	19.	35.	28.	GPa
D_{cj}	6.9	8.8	7.8	km/s
$-\Delta H_{det}$	4.2	5.0	3.5	MJ/kg

PBX manufacture

1. Batch of molding powder

Combine coarse and fine HE grains

Random closed packing of spheres, vol fraction 64 %

Coat grains with binder to form granules (conglomerate of grains)

2. Blend batches into a lot

Heterogeneities more similar within a lot than between lots

3. Heat and press molding powder to form PBX

Compress out porosity to achieve specified density

Grains can fracture and change size distribution

Grain orientation can align with pressing direction

- **PBX specification on molding powder**

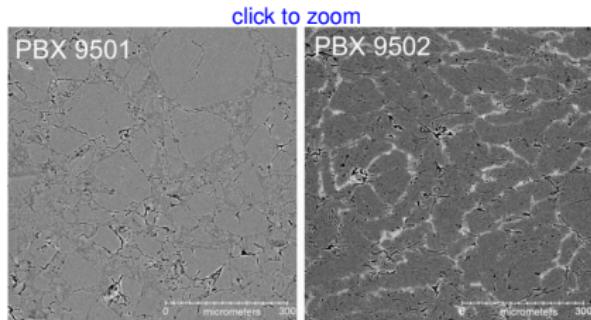
Minimize local variations of heterogeneities

Spatial average more uniform and behavior more reproducible

- **Improve accuracy comparing experimental data**

Use same lot and correct for firing temperature and density

Example of meso-scale structure



Computer X-ray micro-tomography images

Patterson *et al.*, 2020 fig 3a,b

Slices through samples (0.8 μm pixel size)

Can see grains and pores greater than 1 μm

Issues with binder contrast and resolution

nano tomography of TATB grains

Patterson *et al.*, 2022

Smaller field of view with higher resolution

ultra-small angle neutron scattering (USANS)

Pore diameter ranged from 0.1 to 10 μm .

Analysis of volume averaged pore and binder size distributions

depend on assumption for form factors (spherical, cylindrical)

- **PBX 9501** Mang *et al.*, 2010

Peak and mean pore diameter, 0.7 and 2.2 μm (spherical)

Binder thickness peak and mean 0.14 and 0.16 μm (cylindrical)

- **PBX 9502** Thompson *et al.*, 2010

Large volume fraction of pores with diameter less than 1 μm

Heterogeneities and burn rate

Underlying physics issues

- Shock initiation experiments show
Chemical reaction rate from shock temperature
orders of magnitude too small for observed time to detonation
- Shock in heterogeneous HE
Temperature variations behind lead shock
- Chemical rate temperature sensitive
Localized regions of high temperature called 'hotspots'
Generated by pore collapse dominate burn rate
- Not feasible for simulations to resolve sub-micron hotspots
Need sub-grid model for burn rate that averages out short wavelengths
Burn rate is spatial average of chemical rate
over length scale of heterogeneities

Burn rate depends on meso-scale structure of PBX

HE reactive burn models

Homogenized reactive burn model for heterogeneous solid HE

1. HE treated as homogeneous material

Characterized by V , e and **mass fraction of products** λ

2. EOS for partly burned HE function of (V, e, λ)

Typically, P , T equilibrium of reactants and products

3. Empirical burn rate to account for heterogeneities

Distribution and dynamics of hotspots not understood (no data)

well enough to develop sub-grid model for burn rate

Typically burn rate strongly depends on P rather than T

Major difference with gaseous detonation

4. **Burn rate calibrated to experimental data**

Scatter in data from heterogeneities affects accuracy

Following lectures on theory then detonation phenomena and experimental data that can be used to calibrate burn rate.

End Lecture 2. Solid high explosives

Questions

Lecture 3 outline

3. Reactive flow equations

Model PDEs

Single irreversible reaction

EOS for partly burned HE

P-T equilibrium

Ideal explosive EOS

Energy source term

Characteristic equations

Shock state & characteristics

Shock acceleration

Model PDEs

Reactive Euler equations

Conservation form for one reaction progress variable λ

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u \\ \rho(e + \frac{1}{2}u^2) \\ \rho\lambda \end{pmatrix} + \partial_x \begin{pmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 + \underline{P} \\ \rho u(e + \frac{1}{2}u^2 + \underline{P}V) \\ \rho u\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \rho \underline{QR} \\ \rho \underline{R} \end{pmatrix}$$

ρ , u , e are density, particle velocity and specific internal energy

Q is specific energy release and $\underline{R}(V, e, \lambda)$ is reaction rate

Hydro and reaction coupled through the pressure $\underline{P}(V, e, \lambda)$

For an explosive $(\partial_\lambda \underline{P})_{V,e} > 0$

Shock relations: mass and reaction equations imply λ is continuous

Last component reduces to rate equation (like ODE along particle path)

$$(d/dt)\lambda = (\partial_t + u\partial_x)\lambda = \underline{R}$$

Single irreversible reaction

Typical assumption on rate for solid HE

- λ is mass fraction of products
Hence $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$
- Irreversible reaction
Hence $\mathcal{R} \geq 0$
- Rate vanishes when reactants depleted
Hence, $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow 0$ as $\lambda \rightarrow 1$
- **Why single reaction**
Homogenized burn model for heterogeneous solid HE
Reactive wave outward from hotspots dominates burning
Multi-step reactions on slower time scale of thermal ignition
- **Why irreversible reaction**
Hotspot burn model implies fully burned reaction regions within background of reactants

EOS for partly burned HE

EOS: $P(V, e, \lambda)$, $T(V, e, \lambda)$

1. Reactants EOS for $\lambda = 0$, unreacted
2. Products EOS for $\lambda = 1$, completely burned
3. **Mixture rule to interpolate** for $0 < \lambda < 1$

Typically, P-T equilibrium for partly burned HE

- Gibbs free energy

$$G(P, T, \lambda) = \lambda G_p(P, T) + (1 - \lambda) G_r(P, T)$$

Unique solution provided reactants and products

EOS are thermodynamically consistent and stable

- Products hotspots and reactants not in temperature equilibrium

Calibrated rate can compensate for mixture rule

Rate dominated by pressure (for most models)

In principle can use 2-phase model with 2 temperatures

Different set of issues (additional jump condition needed for energy)

P-T equilibrium

Frequently used mixture rule is *P-T* equilibrium

Given V, e, λ find V_p, e_p and V_r, e_r such that

$$P(V, e, \lambda) = P_p(V_p, e_p) = P_r(V_r, e_r)$$

$$T(V, e, \lambda) = T_p(V_p, e_p) = T_r(V_r, e_r)$$

$$V = \lambda V_p + (1 - \lambda) V_r$$

$$e = \lambda e_p + (1 - \lambda) e_r$$

Subscripts 'p' and 'r' denote products and reactants, respectively

Corresponds to phase separation between reactants and products

Evaluation of P and T requires iteration algorithm

Computationally more expensive than analytic EOS

Solid EOS in expansion may lose thermodynamic stability, $K_T < 0$
and P-T equilibrium solution break down

Ideal explosive EOS

Reactants (ideal gas)

$$P_r(V, e) = (\gamma - 1)e/V$$

$$T_r(V, e) = e/C_V$$

Products (ideal gas with energy offset Q)

$$P_p(V, e) = (\gamma - 1)(e + Q)/V$$

$$T_p(V, e) = (e + Q)/C_V$$

PT equilibrium

$$V_r = V_p = V$$

$$e_p = e - (1 - \lambda)Q$$

$$e_r = e + \lambda Q$$

Equivalent to

$$P(V, e, \lambda) = (\gamma - 1)(e + \lambda Q)/V$$

$$T(V, e, \lambda) = (e + \lambda Q)/C_V$$

Energy source term

Relative energy origins of products and reactants

PDEs invariant under transformation

$$P'_p(V, e) = P_p(V, e + q)$$

$$(d/dt)e = -P'(d/dt)V + (Q - q)(d/dt)\lambda$$

if EOS mixture rule satisfies $e = \lambda e_p + (1 - \lambda) e_r$

Heat release can be

explicit, Q in energy equation

or offset in energy origin between reactants and products q

or both

▶ Hugoniot eq

Convention to eliminate energy source term

Chose $e_0 = 0$ for reactants and energy origin of products

such that $P_{cj} = P_p(V_{cj}, e_{cj})$ where $e_{cj} = \frac{1}{2}P_{cj} \cdot (V_0 - V_{cj})$

Then no source term in energy equation, i.e., $Q - q = 0$

Characteristic equations

Acoustic wave families

[◀ return](#)

$$(\frac{d}{dt} + c\partial_x)P + \rho c(\frac{d}{dt} + c\partial_x)u = s\mathcal{R}, \quad \text{along } dx/dt = u + c$$

$$(\frac{d}{dt} - c\partial_x)P - \rho c(\frac{d}{dt} - c\partial_x)u = s\mathcal{R}, \quad \text{along } dx/dt = u - c$$

Contact wave families

$$(\frac{d}{dt})P + (\rho c)^2(\frac{d}{dt})V = s\mathcal{R}, \quad \text{along } dx/dt = u$$

$$(\frac{d}{dt})\lambda = \mathcal{R}, \quad \text{along } dx/dt = u$$

where

$d/dt = \partial_t + u\partial_x$ is the convective time derivative

S and T are entropy and temperature

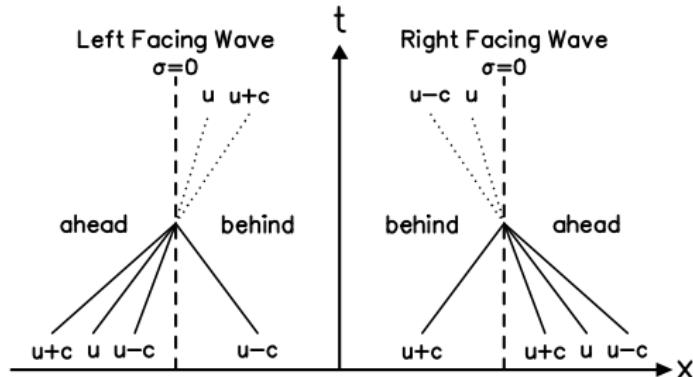
$$s = (\partial_\lambda P)_{V,e} + \Gamma \rho Q$$

$\Gamma = (V\partial_e P)_{V,\lambda}$ is the Grüniesen coefficient

Characteristic velocities (wave speeds) are $u + c$, $u - c$ and u

Shock state & characteristics

Characteristics in rest frame of shock front



- **Ahead state**

Determined by characteristics ahead of shock front

- **Behind state**

Shock locus from ahead state

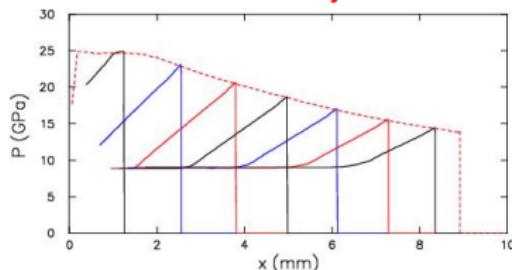
Incoming characteristic behind front

Source terms affect behind state

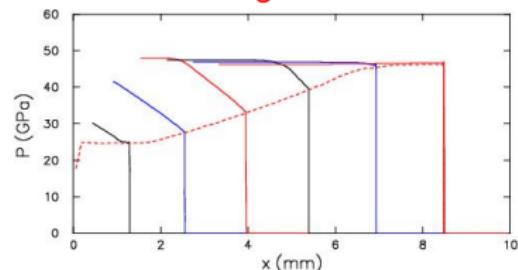
Shock acceleration

Pressure profiles at sequence of times

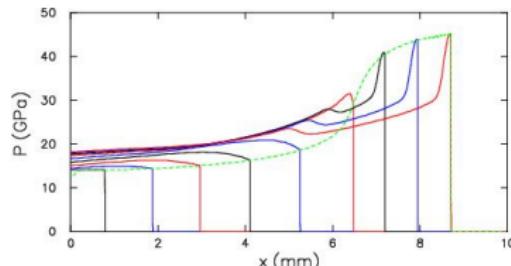
rarefaction wave
shock decays



compressive wave
shock growths



shock-to-detonation transition
reaction accelerates shock



► detonation wave

End Lecture 3. Reactive flow equations

Questions

Lecture 4 outline

4. Detonation wave relations

Shock relations

CJ state relations

Shock and detonation loci

Detonation speed dependence on initial state

Experimental reaction-zone profile

Detonation locus from EOS

Programmed burn

Solutions to PDEs for programmed burn model

Shock relations

$$e = \lambda Q + e_0 + \frac{1}{2} [P(V, e, \lambda) + P_0] \cdot (V_0 - V)$$

[◀ return](#)

$\lambda = 0$ gives reactants shock locus (reactants EOS)

$\lambda = 1$ gives the products detonation locus (products EOS)

- When ahead state is at rest $u_0 = 0$

$$P = P_0 + \rho_0 u D \text{ and } V/V_0 = 1 - u/D$$

Measurement of particle velocity and wave speeds u and D
determines point on shock/detonation locus

- $\frac{P - P_0}{V_0 - V} = (\rho_0 D)^2$

Slope of Rayleigh line in (V, P) -plane

- $(\Delta u)^2 = (P - P_0)(V_0 - V)$

Change in particle velocity from thermodynamic variables

Straight forward to transform from (V, P) -plane to (u_p, D) -plane

CJ state relations

Jump relations and sonic condition imply ($P_0 = 0$)

$$P_{CJ} = \frac{\rho_0 D_{CJ}^2}{\gamma + 1}$$

$$V_{CJ} = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma + 1} V_0$$

$$u_{CJ} = \frac{D_{CJ}}{\gamma + 1}$$

$$c_{CJ} = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma + 1} D_{CJ}$$

where $\gamma = c^2/(PV)$ is adiabatic exponent at CJ state

$$D_{CJ} > c_{CJ} > \frac{1}{2} D_{CJ} > u_{CJ}, \text{ if } \gamma > 1$$

Typically, for solid explosive $\gamma_{CJ} \approx 3$

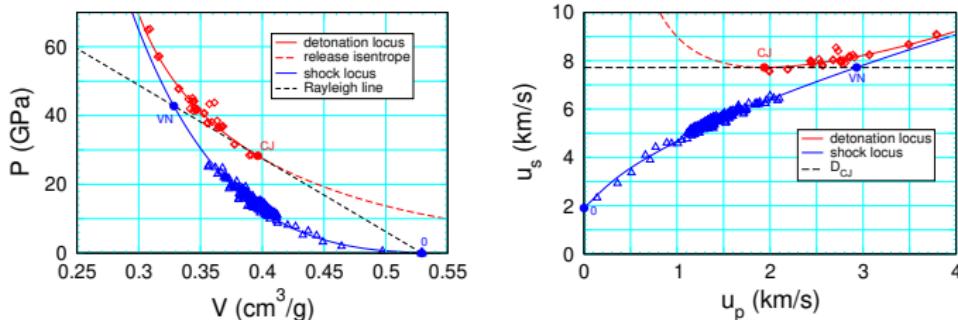
Ideal HE EOS: $D_{CJ}^2 = 2(\gamma^2 - 1)Q$

Detonation speed proportional to square root of Q

Detonation pressure proportional to energy release Q

Shock and detonation loci

Example shock/detonation loci for PBX 9502



- **Experiments measure u_p and u_s**
Determine P , V and e from shock relations
Scatter in data partly from HE heterogeneities
- **Overdriven detonation waves**
Experiments with flyer plate to support detonation
- **Reactants shock Hugoniot**
Data limited by reaction, extrapolate to high P
Constraint: Reactants and products loci do not cross if thermicity positive

Detonation speed dependence on initial state

- Density of PBX varies with porosity of pressing
Detonation speed depends on energy release per volume
- Range of temperatures, $-55 < T < 75C$, for applications
Thermal expansion affects initial density

Linearizing Hugoniot equation and sonic condition gives

$$\frac{\Delta D_{cj}}{D_{cj}} = A \frac{\Delta \rho_0}{\rho_0} + B \frac{\Delta e_0}{D_{cj}^2}$$

where

$$A = \frac{\gamma(\gamma - \Gamma - 1)}{2\gamma - \Gamma} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{\Gamma}{2\gamma - \Gamma} (\gamma + 1)^2$$

γ is adiabatic exponent and Γ is Grüniesen coefficient

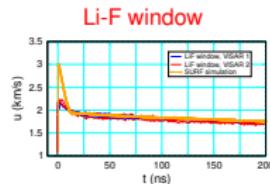
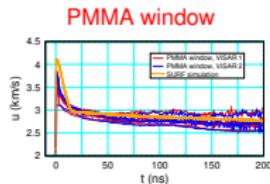
Typically, at CJ state $\gamma \approx 3$ and $\Gamma \approx 0.5$ would give $A \approx 0.82$ and $B \approx 1.45$

Ref: Fickett & Davis, Detonation (1979), §3B, “experimental test of theory”
Vary ρ_0 & T_0 for solid and liquid TNT, same equilibrium products

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Experimental reaction-zone profile

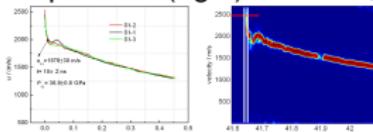
Profile experiments of Gustavsen *et al.*, 11th Detonation Symposium, 1998
 VISAR velocity profiles of PBX 9501 detonation wave and simulations



[click fig to zoom/return](#)

- VN spike is low
- Noise in signal
- Scatter in PMMA data

PDV velocity profiles (left) for 'PBX 9501 like' detonation wave into Li-F window and PDV signal spectrum (right) Pei *et al.*, 2019

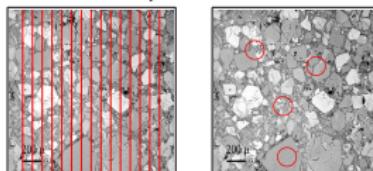


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- large spread in spectrum at shock front

Polarized light micrographs for PBX 9501

Skidmore *et al.*, 11th Detonation Symposium, 1998, fig 4



[click fig to zoom/return](#)

- Left fig red guide lines 100 μm apart about reaction-zone width
- Right fig red circles 200 μm diameter about spot size for VISAR and PDV

More details see LA-UR-20-24842 Menikoff, 2020

[return](#)

Detonation locus from EOS

- Point on detonation locus

For fixed V , Newton iteration in e to solve

$$e - e_0 - \frac{1}{2}(P_{prod}(V, e) + P_0) \cdot (V_0 - V) = 0$$

Then jump relations to determine P_{cj} and u_{cj}

Iteration converges rapidly since $(\partial_e P)_V = \Gamma(V, e)/V$ smooth function

With Mie-Grüneisen type of EOS for products

Γ function of only V and linear equation in e

- CJ state

Parameterize detonation locus by V

Bisection routine in V to find point on locus satisfying sonic condition

$$\begin{aligned} (\rho c)^2 &= [\rho(D - u)]^2 = (\rho_0 D)^2 \\ &= (P - P_0)/(V_0 - V) \end{aligned}$$

where V , $P(V)$ and $e(V)$ on detonation locus and $c_{prod}(V, e)$ from EOS

Effectively, double iteration for CJ state

Programmed burn

Programmed burn model (Wilkins, 1964)

- Motivated by Chapman-Jouguet hypothesis
Unique speed of unsupported detonation wave
Applies to CHE with narrow reaction zone and small curvature effect
- **Burn table** for detonation time as function of position
 $t_{bt}(x)$ based on Huygens construction with **constant** wave speed D_{cj}
- **Pseudo rate** analogous to numerical dissipation for shock capturing

$$\mathcal{R}(x, t, \lambda) = \begin{cases} (1 - \lambda)^n \tau^{-1}, & \text{if } t > t_{bt}(x) \text{ and } \lambda < 1; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise;} \end{cases}$$

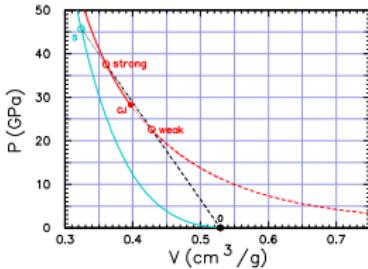
where parameter τ is time constant and parameter $n < 1$

- **Pseudo rate independent of hydro state**
No feedback to keep hydro front and burn front in sync
Solution to PDEs may be unphysical
In particular, if D for burn table not equal to D_{cj} from EOS

Solutions to PDEs for programmed burn model

- Burn table D greater than D_{cj} from EOS

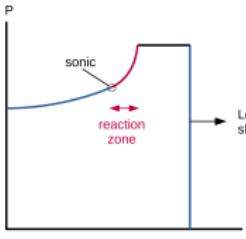
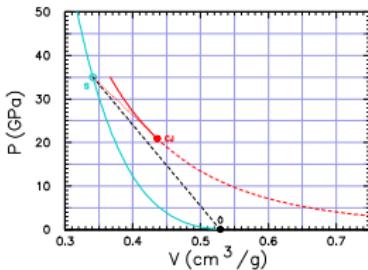
Reactive shock, detonation on weak branch of detonation locus



- Unphysical for $D > D_{cj}$
- Reaction triggered arbitrarily
- Larger D gives smaller pressure
- Constant state behind detonation
- Head of rarefaction slower than detonation speed
- For $D = D_{cj}$ ok as approximation

- Burn table D less than D_{cj} from EOS

Precursor shock followed by slower deflagration wave



- Unphysical for $D < D_{cj}$
- Split wave
- Shock followed by deflagration
- Burn out of sync with hydro front
- No feedback

End Lecture 4. Detonation wave relations

Questions

Lecture 5 outline

5. Planar detonation wave

Unsupported detonation wave

Wave profiles

Reaction-zone width

Derivation of ZND profile

Detonation locus and Rayleigh line

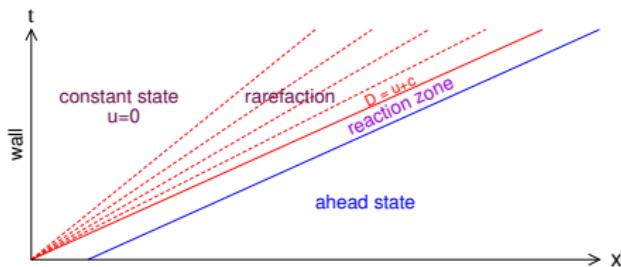
Taylor wave

Simulated PBX 9501 profile

Unsupported detonation wave

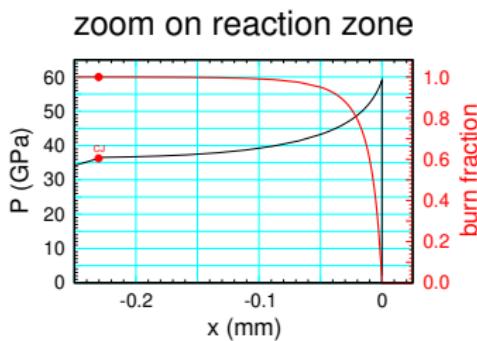
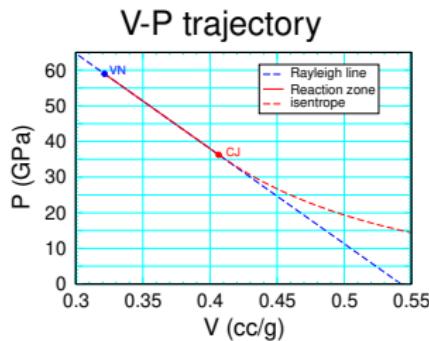
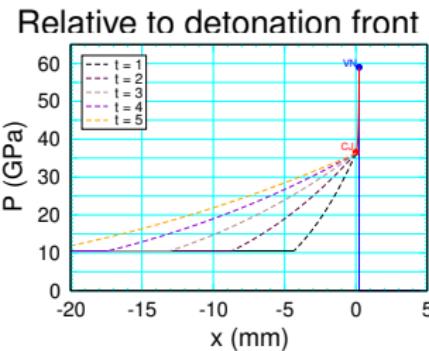
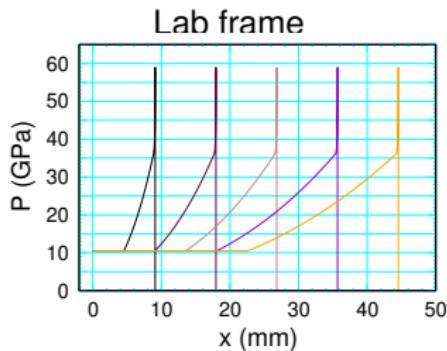
- Chapman-Jouguet detonation wave is shock like discontinuity propagating at the CJ detonation speed
“Programmed burn” model for propagating detonation waves
- Zeldovich (1940), von Neumann (1942), Doering (1943)
Modeled reaction zone due to finite rate (reactive fluid equations)
- Unsupported 1-D detonation
Steady ZND reaction zone
+ Taylor wave (rarefaction) which spreads out in time
End of reaction zone and head of rarefaction coincide

Wave diagram



Wave profiles

Time sequence of pressure profiles for propagating detonation wave



Reaction-zone width

Depletion factor: $\mathcal{R} \rightarrow 0$ as reactants burned up

$$\mathcal{R} \propto (1 - \lambda)^n \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow 1$$

Tail of wave profile

$$(d/dt)\lambda = \mathcal{R}(\lambda)$$

- $n < 1$

Hotspot burn rate

Finite burn time and reaction zone width

$$1 - \lambda(t) \propto (t_* - t)^{1/(1-n)} \text{ as } t \rightarrow t_*$$

Important for curvature effect

- $n = 1$

First order reaction

$$\text{exponential tail, } 1 - \lambda(t) \propto \exp(-t) \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

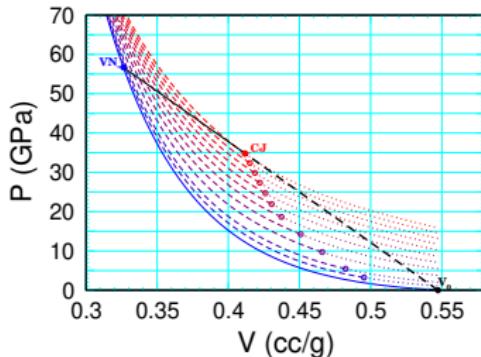
- $n > 1$

Reaction order for chemical reaction

$$\text{Algebraic tail, } 1 - \lambda(t) \propto t^{-1/(n-1)} \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

Derivation of ZND profile

Partly burned detonation loci



For details see LA-UR-22-29247 Menikoff, 2022

- For steady wave, $\xi = x - D t$
mass, momentum and energy fluxes
are constant in rest frame of front
- In (V, P) -plane flow on intersection
of Rayleigh line, slope $= -(\rho_0 D_{CJ})^2$
and partly burned detonation loci

Parameterized points by λ ▶ Hugoniot eq

Rate equation reduces to ODE

$$(d/d\xi)\lambda = -\mathcal{R}(V(\lambda), e(\lambda), \lambda) / [D - u(\lambda)]$$

where $V(\lambda)$, $e(\lambda)$, $u(\lambda)$ are point on partly detonation locus with detonation speed D , reduces to algebraic equation in 1 variable

Profile for strong branch of detonation locus, $D \geq D_{CJ}$

Detonation locus and Rayleigh line

Point of partly burned detonation locus with detonation speed D

Use jump condition to reduce to 1 equation for $V(\lambda)$

Newton iteration to find solution $f(V) = 0$

$$e_h(V) = \lambda Q + e_0 + \frac{1}{2}m^2(V_0 - V)^2 + P_0(V_0 - V)$$

$$P_h(V) = P(V, e_h(V), \lambda)$$

$$f(V) = P_h - P_0 - m^2(V_0 - V)$$

$$f'(V) = -(c/V)^2 + \Gamma [P_h - P_0 - m^2(V_0 - V)]/V + m^2$$

$$V \rightarrow V - f(V)/f'(V) \quad \text{Newton iteration}$$

where $m = \rho_0 D$ is mass flux for detonation speed
which defines Rayleigh line

For ODE for $\lambda(\xi)$ use last V to start iteration.

Algorithm very robust for any model EOS.

Taylor wave

1. ODEs for CJ isentrope of products EOS and velocity for rarefaction wave (right facing)

▶ characteristic equations

$$\frac{d}{dV} \begin{pmatrix} e \\ u \end{pmatrix} = - \begin{pmatrix} P(V, e) \\ c(V, e)/V \end{pmatrix}$$

Integrate trajectory starting at CJ state (V_{CJ} , e_{CJ} , u_{CJ})
til the back boundary condition is met (such as piston velocity)

2. Rarefaction wave (right facing)

All variable (V , e , u) are constant on characteristics, $dx/dt = u + c$

Characteristics are straight line in (t, x)

▶ wave diagram

Characteristic speed is monotonic function of V

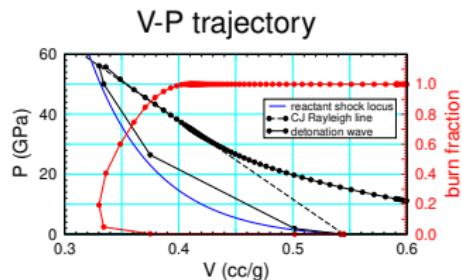
for convex isentropes, $(\partial^2 P / \partial V^2)_S > 0$

Simulated PBX 9501 profile

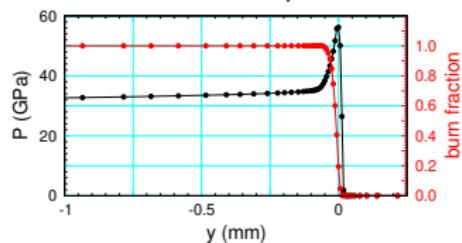
- Numerical shock profile
Rather than discontinuous shock
- Head of rarefaction/end of reaction zone
Rapid but smooth transition
Rather than kink
- With low resolution
Burning in shock rise
clip VN spike
- Release wave behind detonation
Fairly insensitive to resolution

Planar propagating detonation wave
Verification test for reactive-hydro codes
 Semi-analytic solution to compare with
For any EOS and any burn rate

High resolution simulation



Reaction zone profile



▶ Compare Resolution

End Lecture 5. Planar detonation wave

Questions

Lecture 6 outline

6. Shock-to-detonation transition

Initiation mechanism

Shock initiation experiments

Pop plot data (ambient PBX 9502)

Pressure range for Pop plot

Temperature variation

Lot dependence

Density variation

Shock desensitization

Other shock initiation

HE initiation in a simulation

Initiation mechanism

Positive feedback mechanism for shock initiation

- Shock initiates reaction

Hotspot burning for heterogeneous HE

- Reaction increase shock strength

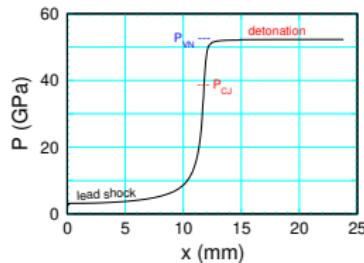
Source term in characteristic equation from reaction

Pressure gradient forms due to reaction behind lead shock

- Increased shock pressure increases reaction rate

More hotspots and increased burning around each hotspot

Shock-to-detonation transition



$P_s(x)$ similar to $T(t)$ for “cook-off” experiment
 induction regime then runaway regime
 run distance not sensitive to transition criterion

Shock initiation experiments

1-D shock initiation with sustained shock

- **Wedge experiment (1960s)**

Lead shock trajectory

Shock breakout on wedge

Outruns side rarefaction

Phase velocity $u_s / \sin(\theta) > c$

Booster/Attenuator minimizes
pressure gradient

- **Gas gun experiment (late 1990s)**

Embedded magnetic velocity gauges

25 μm Teflon + 5 μm Al + 25 μm Teflon

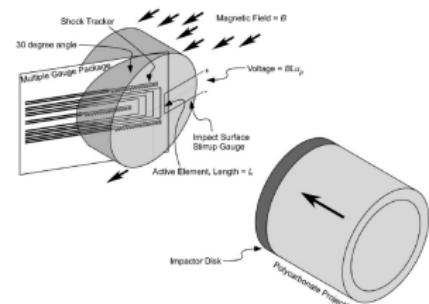
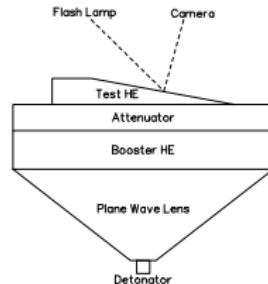
Tracker gauge for shock trajectory

Lagrangian velocity time histories

Vary shock loading with

material layers on projectile

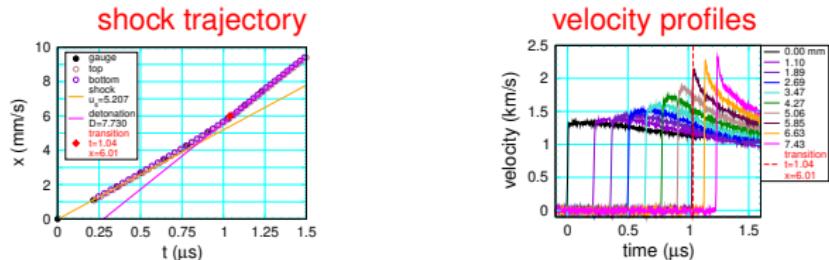
e.g., double shock, short shock



Gustavsen *et al.*, (2006), fig 1

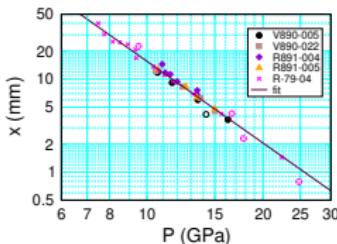
Pop plot data (ambient PBX 9502)

Example data for each experiment

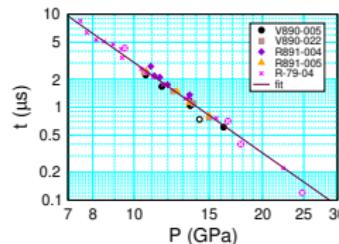


Pop plots, each point separate experiment

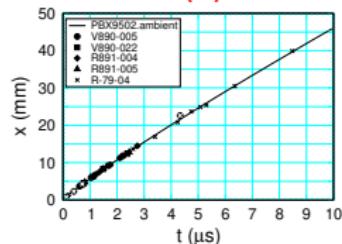
distance-of-run



time to detonation



$x(t)$



Pop plot: fits linear on log-log scale (empirical relation)

Power law dependence

Both run distance and run time, hence $x(t)$

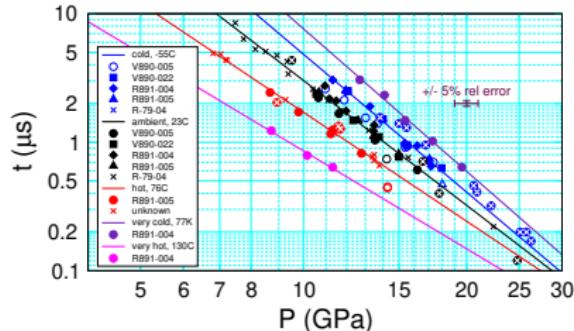
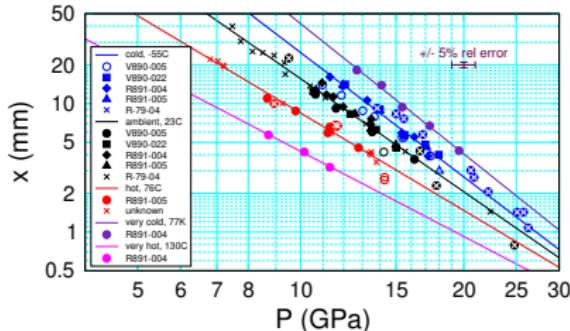
Pressure range for Pop plot

Limitations on Pop plot data

- **Low pressure**
 - Large run distance
 - Sustained drive pressure limited by side rarefactions
 - Pore collapse not effective at low pressures
 - PBX shock width due to visco-elastic and elastic-plastic effects
 - Run distance greater than linear fit on log-log plot
 - Data for HMX based PBXs (projectile from 6 inch howitzer) show
 - Run distance and run time bend upward at low pressures
- **High pressure**
 - Short run distance
 - Large uncertainties in shock trajectory and initial shock pressure
 - Near P_{cj} or run distance \sim steady reaction-zone width
 - Approach to steady wave rather than initiation

Temperature variation

PBX 9502, T = 77 K, -55 C, 23 C, 76 C, 130 C

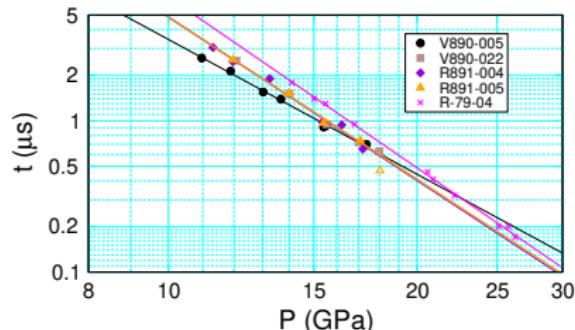
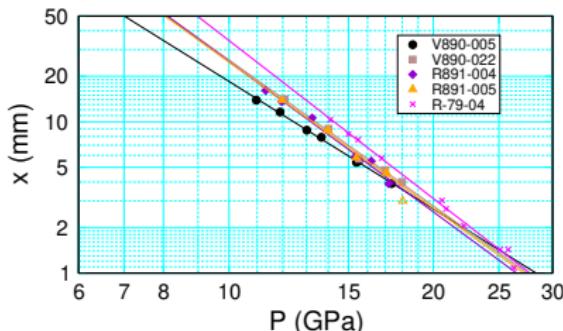


See Menikoff (2019) for references to experiments

- **Shock sensitivity**
More sensitive explosive has shorter run distance
- **As temperature increases**
More sensitive
- **Scatter in data** ($\pm 7\%$ for fixed P & outliers up to 30 %)
Uncertainties from experiment
Sample variation from heterogeneities

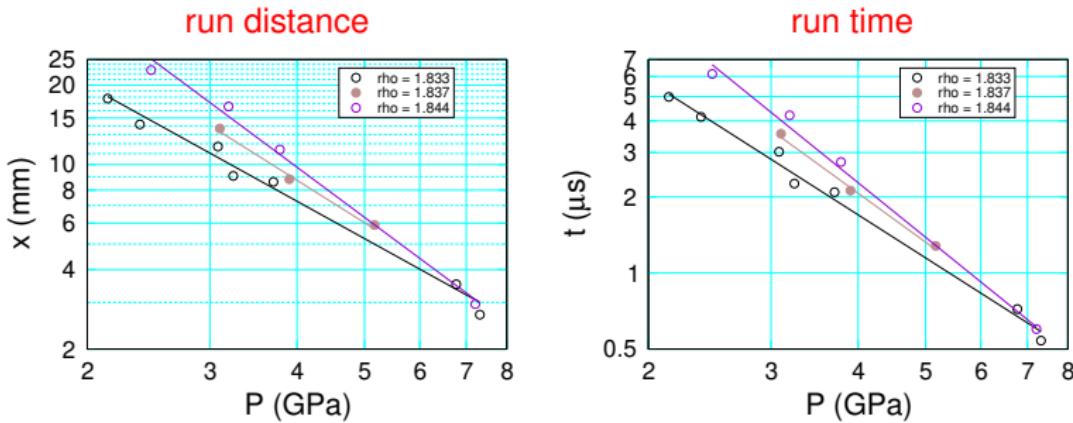
Lot dependence

cold (-55 C) PBX 9502



- **Large lot dependence**
Greater than uncertainty in data
Correlated variation in run time and run distance
- **Burn rate affected by variation in heterogeneities**
Model parameters need to be fit for each lot
or loss accuracy and potentially predictivity
- **Issue for detonator/booster systems**

Density variation



Gustavsen *et al.*, 1999, fig 12

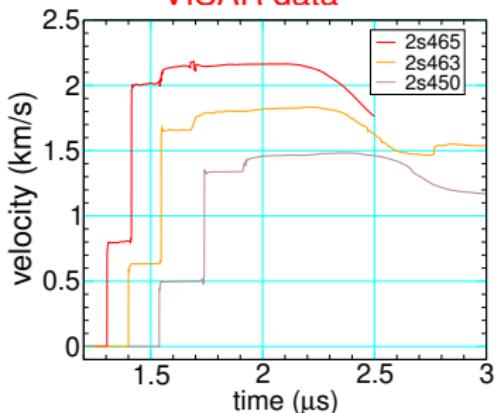
- **PBX 9501 pressing density**
1.833, 1.837 and 1.844 g/cc
small density variation ± 5 mg/cc or $\pm 0.3\%$
large change in porosity $\pm 20\%$
- **Run distance** at 3 GPa, 11 to 19 mm or $\pm 25\%$
- **Run time** at 3 GPa, 3 to 4.5 μ s or $\pm 20\%$

Shock desensitization

Double shock PBX 9502

shot	P1	P2
	GPa	GPa
2s450	5.3	19
2s463	7.0	25
2s465	9.0	33

VISAR data



- **Double shock**
Rate set by first shock
- **Single crystal HMX very insensitive compared to PBX 9051**
Failed to detonate in 7 mm at shock pressure of 34 GPa
- **Interpretation**
First shock closes pores and sets hotspot density
- **Rate behind second shock**
About same as rate behind first shock

Other shock initiation

Complex shock loading

- **Short shock**

Time duration of shock less than time to detonation

Layered gas gun projectile high/low impedance

Transverse wave from fragment impact

- **Multiple shocks**

Shock desensitization

Layered gas gun projectile low/high impedance

Weak transverse shock can quench propagating detonation wave

Dead zones for corner turning

- **Shock followed by rarefaction**

Gap test

Detonation wave in donor HE → inert → acceptor HE

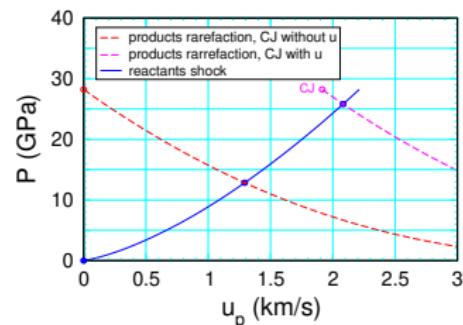
- **Shock initiation with divergent lead shock**

Detonator / booster

HE initiation for simulation

Initiate detonation wave in simulation

- **Macroscopic 'hotspot'**
Small region of high pressure in simulation
For example products at CJ state
- **Drives shock into reactants**
Riemann problem, hotspot → reactants
Determines lead shock pressure
- **Prompt shock-to-detonation transition**
Hotspot needs to maintain pressure
for time to detonation on Pop plot
at reactants shock pressure
Similar to 1-D short shock initiation



Hotspot plays role of a detonator/booster

Or programmed burn HE to generate hotspot

End Lecture 6. Shock-to-detonation transition

Questions

Lecture 7 outline

7. Hotspot burn rate

Properties of initiation data

Chemical rate

Homogeneous vs Heterogeneous initiation

Quench propagating detonation wave

Ignition & Growth concept

Hotspot requirements

Pore collapse as hotspot mechanism for shock initiation

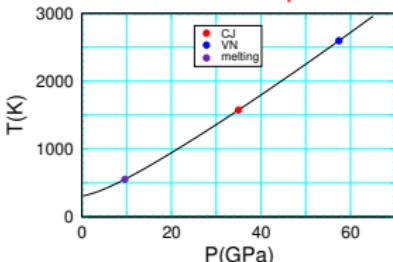
Properties of initiation data

Motivation for hotspot burn rate

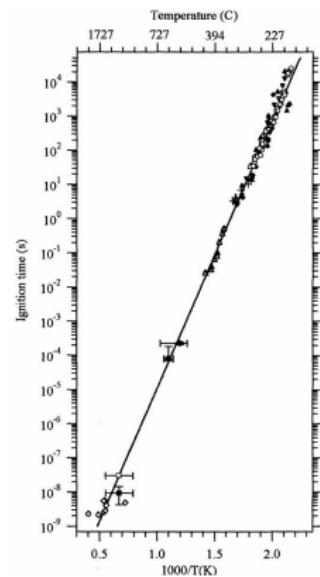
1. Rate much larger than chemical rate at shock temperature
next slide
2. Homogeneous and heterogeneous shock initiation
Qualitative different velocity profiles
second next slide
3. Shock desensitization
Double shock initiation data
Single crystal HMX insensitive compared to PBX 9501
previous lecture
Quenching of propagating detonation wave
third next slide
4. Run distance-to-detonation
Sensitive to porosity
previous lecture

Chemical rate

Reactants shock temperature



- 3 GPa on Pop plot for PBX 9501
Time to detonation $4 \mu\text{s}$
- Shock temperature 358 K
- Melt temperature, 550 K
Thermal initiation time, $\sim 5000 \text{ s}$
- Chemical rate at shock temperature
Orders of magnitude too low
Hotspots reconcile discrepancy



Henson-Smilowitz (2002), fig 1
PBX 9501 global rate

Homogeneous vs Heterogeneous initiation

Chemical rate at bulk temperature vs hotspot rate

Campbell *et al.*, (1961) [homogeneous ignition](#) and [heterogenous ignition](#)

- **Homogeneous shock initiation**

Thermal runaway near HE interface

Leading to **super-detonation wave**

in shock compressed HE Detonation
overtakes lead shock

- **Heterogeneous shock initiation**

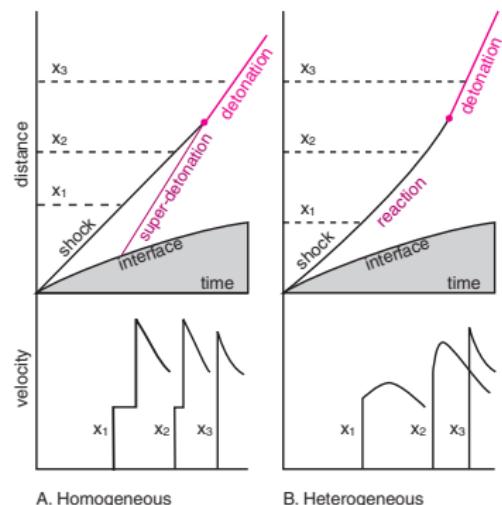
Reaction behind lead shock

Shock strengthens to detonation

- **Adding glass beads to nitromethane**

Velocity profiles change character
from homogeneous to heterogeneous

Also bubbles in liquid nitroglycerin



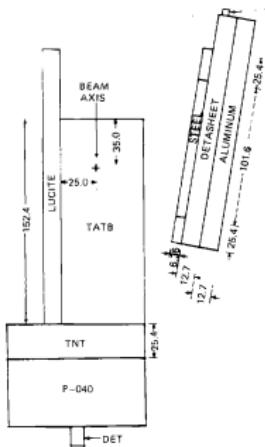
Quench propagating detonation wave

Detonation wave in PBX 9502

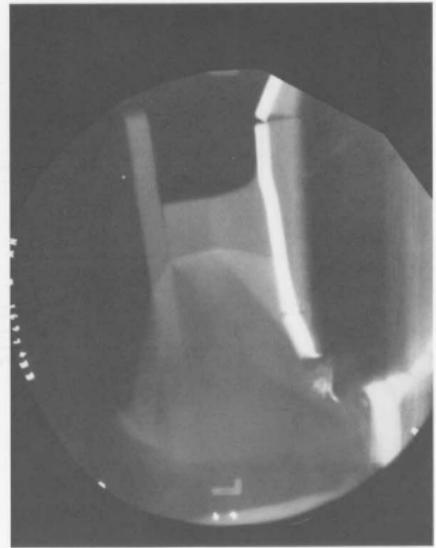
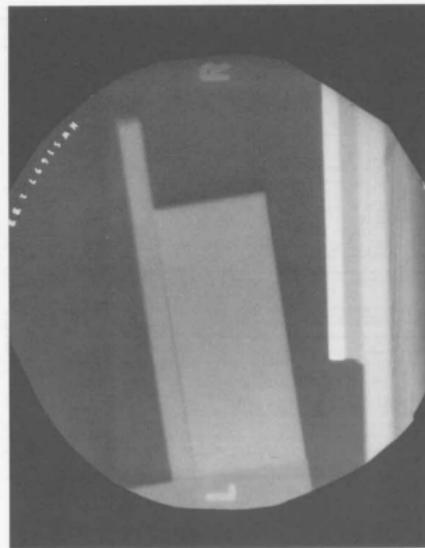
static

dynamic

Transverse shock from steel flyer plate



Phermex shot # 1697



Ignition & Growth concept

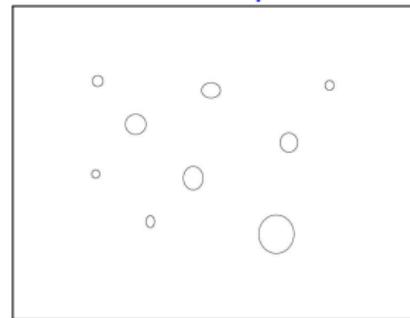
Hotspots for initiation by friction and impact (Bowden & Yoffe, 1952)

Hotspots for shock initiation in heterogeneous HE (Campbell *et al.*, 1961)

Ignition & Growth concept (Lee & Tarver, 1980)

- Shock front triggers hotspots
Pore collapse on fast time scale
- Burn centers
Competition: heat conduction & reaction
Small hotspots quench
Large hotspots become burn centers
- Reactive wavelets
Deflagration wave from burn centers
 $\text{Burn rate} = (\text{front area}) \cdot (\text{deflagration speed})$
- Depletion of reactants
Overlap of reactive wavelets
Geometric effect on front area

Potential hotspot sites



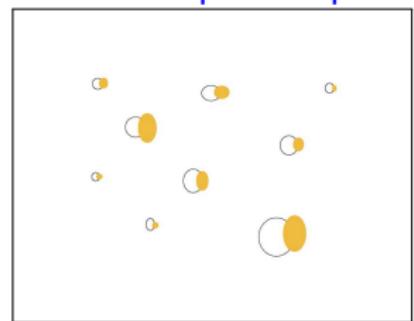
Pores or cracks
inter- or intra-granular

Ignition & Growth concept – pore collapse

Ignition & Growth concept (Lee & Tarver, 1980)

- Shock front triggers hotspots
Pore collapse on fast time scale
- Burn centers
Competition: heat conduction & reaction
Small hotspots quench
Large hotspots become burn centers
- Reactive wavelets
Deflagration wave from burn centers
 $\text{Burn rate} = (\text{front area}) \cdot (\text{deflagration speed})$
- Depletion of reactants
Overlap of reactive wavelets
Geometric effect on front area

Shock sweeps over pores



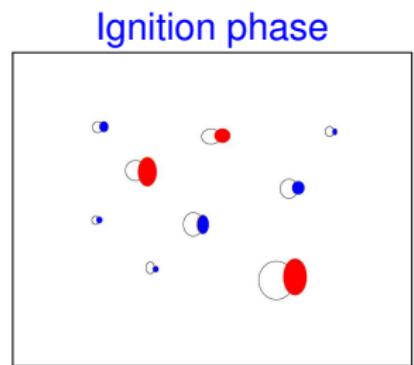
Hotspots form

Localized spatial regions
of high temperature

Ignition & Growth concept – Ignition phase

Ignition & Growth concept (Lee & Tarver, 1980)

- Shock front triggers hotspots
Pore collapse on fast time scale
- Burn centers
Competition: heat conduction & reaction
Small hotspots quench
Large hotspots become burn centers
- Reactive wavelets
Deflagration wave from burn centers
Burn rate = (front area) · (deflagration speed)
- Depletion of reactants
Overlap of reactive wavelets
Geometric effect on front area

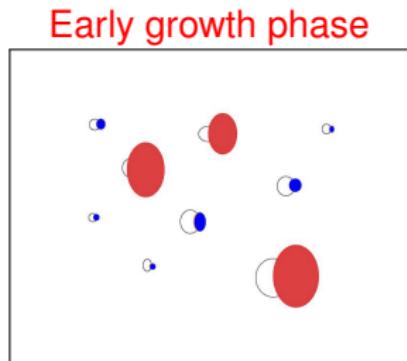


Hotspots react
some form burn centers
average $\mathcal{R}(T) \gg \mathcal{R}(\text{average } T)$
Burning dominated by
tail of temperature distribution

Ignition & Growth concept – early growth phase

Ignition & Growth concept (Lee & Tarver, 1980)

- Shock front triggers hotspots
Pore collapse on fast time scale
- Burn centers
Competition: heat conduction & reaction
Small hotspots quench
Large hotspots become burn centers
- **Reactive wavelets**
Deflagration wave from burn centers
Burn rate = (front area) · (deflagration speed)
- Depletion of reactants
Overlap of reactive wavelets
Geometric effect on front area

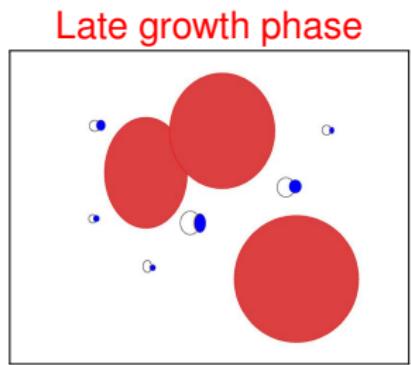


Burn front area increases
Reactants & products
are phase separated

Ignition & Growth concept – late growth phase

Ignition & Growth concept (Lee & Tarver, 1980)

- Shock front triggers hotspots
Pore collapse on fast time scale
- Burn centers
Competition: heat conduction & reaction
Small hotspots quench
Large hotspots become burn centers
- Reactive wavelets
Deflagration wave from burn centers
Burn rate = $(\text{front area}) \cdot (\text{deflagration speed})$
- **Depletion of reactants**
Overlap of reactive wavelets
Geometric effect on front area



Depletion limited

Burn front area decreases

Hotspot requirements

- **Minimum hotspot temperature**

Pop plot run time to detonation for PBX 9501: $4 \mu\text{s}$ at 3 GPa

Hotspot thermal ignition time much shorter than run time 

(little reaction in ignition phase, volume of hotspots is small)

Estimate based on Henson-Smilowitz global rate for HMX (PBX 9501)

Temperature greater than 1100 K at 3 GPa 

Need dissipative mechanism to localize energy in hotspot

- **Hotspot size range**

$(\text{deflagration wave width}) < (\text{hotspot size}) < (\text{detonation wave width})$

Estimated hotspot size between $0.1 \mu\text{m}$ and $5 \mu\text{m}$

USANS data goes to smaller sizes

Manufacturing defect if pores on the order of small grain size

Single hotspot can trigger deflagration but not detonation

- **Number density of pores**

For fixed porosity, number density scales as $(\text{pore size})^{-3}$

Pore collapse as hotspot mechanism for shock initiation

Pore collapse properties

- Produces sufficiently high temperatures for hotspots
Either shock heating from micro-jetting or viscous heating
- Peak temperature increases with shock pressure
More burn centers and faster rate at higher shock pressure
- Consistent with shock sensitivity
More pores at higher porosity and faster rate
- Consistent with shock desensitization
First shock crushes pores and eliminates potential hotspot sites
- Consistent with low pressure Pop plot data
Linear Pop plot (log-log scale) breaks down at low pressure

In the pressure range of Pop plot data
other mechanism don't produce sufficient heating

Below pressure of Pop plot data other mechanism needed
Such as shear heating for low velocity impact

End Lecture 7. Hotspot burn rate

Questions

Lecture 8 outline

8. Diameter effect and curvature effect

Unconfined rate stick experiment

Diameter effect

Modified jump conditions

Duct flow equations

Characteristic equation

Curvature effect

Detonation Shock Dynamics (DSD)

Converging or overdriven detonation wave

Experimental measurement of $D_n(k)$

Example curvature effect

Unconfined rate stick experiment

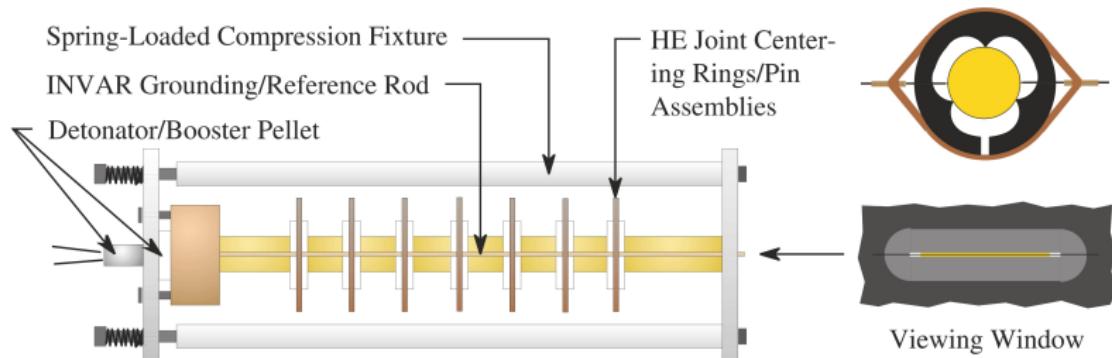
- Cylinder of HE surrounded by air [◀ return](#)

Initiate at one end and run long enough to reach steady state
rule of thumb, length 4 times the diameter

- Measurements

Timing pins for axial detonation speed

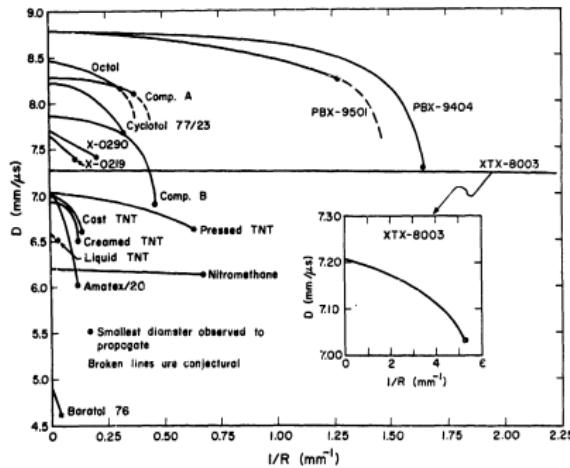
Curvature effect: Wave breakout along diameter with streak camera



Hill *et al.*, 11th Detonation Symposium (1998)

Diameter effect

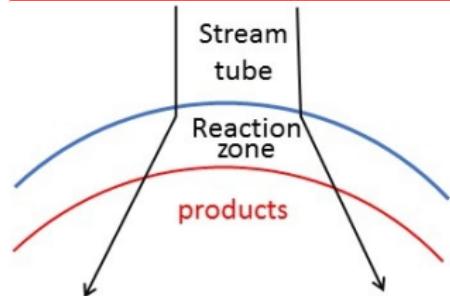
- Axial detonation speed for unconfined rate stick diameters
Detonation speed decreases as diameter decreases
Less than D_{CJ} , minimum based on shock jump conditions
- Minimum (failure) diameter to propagate detonation wave
- Limit of large diameter, $D_z(R)/D_{CJ} \rightarrow 1 - a/R$ as $R \rightarrow \infty$



Detonation speed vs $1/R$
Campbell & Engelke (1976)
6th Detonation Symposium

Modified jump conditions

- Stream tube in rest frame of detonation front



Blue is lead shock front

Red is end of reaction zone

subscripts 'a' and 'b' denote states ahead and behind reaction zone

'A' is **cross sectional area**

Diverging wave front if $A_b > A_a$

Duct flow equations

Flux is proportion to cross sectional area

At shock front $d \ln(\text{area})/dx = \kappa$, sum of principal curvatures

- **Partly burned detonation loci**

Correction to jump conditions from reaction-zone width + front curvature

Diverging detonation wave, $\kappa > 0$

Sonic point lies within reaction zone

Detonation speed decreases with front curvature κ

1-D duct flow equations & jump conditions

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \rho A \\ \rho A u \\ \rho A (e + \frac{1}{2} u^2) \\ \rho A \lambda \end{pmatrix} + \partial_x \begin{pmatrix} \rho A u \\ \rho A u^2 + AP \\ \rho A u (e + \frac{1}{2} u^2 + PV) \\ \rho A u \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ P \partial_x A \\ -P \partial_t A + \rho A Q \mathcal{R} \\ \rho A \mathcal{R} \end{pmatrix}$$

For quasi-steady detonation: $d \ln(A)/dx = \kappa$ is constant and $\partial_t A = 0$

Re-express PDEs in conservation form with additional geometric source term

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u \\ \rho (e + \frac{1}{2} u^2) \end{pmatrix} + \partial_x \begin{pmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 + P \\ \rho u (e + \frac{1}{2} u^2 + PV) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \rho Q \mathcal{R} \end{pmatrix} - \kappa \begin{pmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 \\ \rho u (e + \frac{1}{2} u^2 + PV) \end{pmatrix}$$

and $(d/dt)\lambda = \mathcal{R}$

For partly burned detonation loci, steady wave variables function of $\xi = x - Dt$

Integrating across reaction zone, no longer perfect differential

Jump conditions no longer algebraic expressions depend on rate as well as EOS

$$\kappa = \begin{cases} 1/x & \text{PDEs corresponds to cylindrical-symmetric flow; } x = r, \text{ independent of } z \text{ & } \theta \\ 2/x & \text{PDEs corresponds to spherically-symmetric flow; } x = r, \text{ independent of } \theta \text{ & } \phi \end{cases}$$

Characteristic equation

Extra geometric source term for diverging wave

For right facing characteristic, $dx/dt = u + c$

$$(d/dt + c\partial_x)P + \rho c(d/dt + c\partial_x)u = [\Gamma\rho Q + (\partial_\lambda P)_{V,e}]R - \kappa\rho c^2 u$$

Shock-to-detonation transition is competition among

1. Pressure gradient behind shock front
2. Chemical reaction
3. Geometric source term for divergent flow

Curvature effect

- **Theory**, Bdzip, Stewart, Aslam (circa 1990)
To first order in $\kappa \cdot$ (reaction-zone width)
Can neglect transverse flow in duct and curvature of streamlines
Duct flow PDEs reduce to ODEs for quasi-steady wave
ODEs determine reaction-zone profile [► profile ODEs](#)
and for unsupported detonation waves the curvature effect, $D_n(\kappa)$
Detonation speed normal to front as a function of front curvature
- **Reaction-zone width is important length scale**
Slope of $D_n(\kappa)$ strongly depends on reaction-zone width
Hence burn rate at high pressure, $P_{cj} \lesssim P \lesssim P_{vn}$
Numerical resolution affects detonation speed [► examples](#)
- **Diameter effect vs Curvature effect**
Diameter effect, D_z vs $1/R$, is global for unconfined rate stick
Curvature effect, $D_n(\kappa)$ is local, material property
It can predict diameter effect

Detonation Shock Dynamics (DSD)

DSD theory developed by Bdzil, Stewart, Aslam (circa 1990)

Reaction zone to sonic point decouples from flow behind

- **Boundary condition**

From angle with inert determined by shock polar analysis [► shock polar](#)

Most important, sonic point on shock polar for weak confinement

- **Time evolution of detonation front**

$D_n(\kappa)$ + boundary angle determines evolution of front
using level set algorithm

Precompute burn time table, $t_{bt}(\vec{x})$, before hydro simulation

- Model for propagating diverging detonation wave

Generalization of programmed burn model

front curvature dependent wave speed

- State behind detonation front

Depends on numerical reaction-zone width

Issue for simulations with coarse resolution

Converging or overdriven detonation wave

- Cylindrical or spherically converging shock wave

Guderley similarity solution for polytropic EOS

Shock velocity hence shock pressure increases as shock propagates

- Converging detonation wave

Detonation speed increases as detonation propagates

- Overdriven detonation wave

Collision of diverging fronts  example

Interaction portion of front is overdriven

In either case

- Reaction zone is subsonic (with respect to) front

Analog of planar overdriven detonation wave

Supported by flow behind reaction zone

- DSD assumption breaks down

Detonation wave does not decouple from flow behind

Experimental measurement of $D_n(\kappa)$

Unconfined rate stick experiment

- Axial detonation speed, D_z

Determined from timing pins

- Front shape, $z(r)$

Determined from streak camera breakout time along diameter

Detonation front, 2-D surface of revolution about cylinder axis

- Front curvature, κ

Fit front shape $z(r)$ with analytic function

From first and second derivative calculate κ

Principal components of curvature tensor

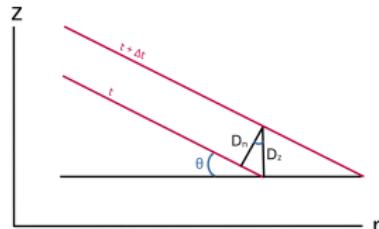
radial and azimuthal directions

- Normal detonation speed, D_n

$D_n = \cos(\theta) \cdot D_z$ where $\tan(\theta) = dz/dr$

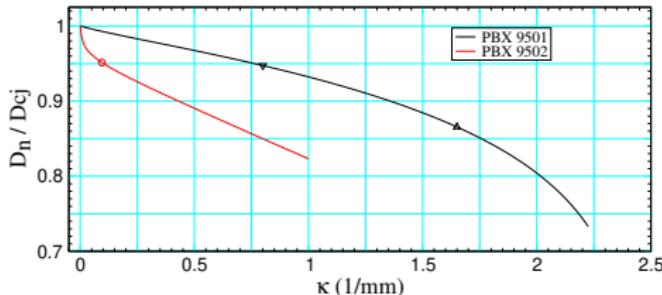
- $D_n(\kappa)$ determined parametrically

D_n and κ as functions of r



Example curvature effect

Normalized curvature effect for PBX 9501 and PBX 9502



► diameter effect

- $D_n(\kappa)$ for PBX 9501 representative of CHE
Small initial slope $dD_n/d\kappa$ due to large burn rate (narrow reaction-zone width)
- Shape of $D_n(\kappa)$ curve for PBX 9502
 - PBX 9502 profile
PBX 9502 has fast (hotspot) and slow (carbon clustering) burn rates
Large variation in reaction-zone width for small κ
sonic point shifts from end of slow reaction to near end of fast reaction
 - Large slope $dD_n/d\kappa$ for small κ and then smaller slope due to fast reaction

End Lecture 8. Diameter effect and curvature effect

Questions

Lecture 9 outline

9. Failure diameter, corner turning and dead zones

Breakdown of DSD assumptions

Boundary layer

Transverse energy flux

Rate stick simulations near failure

Failure mechanism

Additional comments on failure

PBX 9501 failure diameter

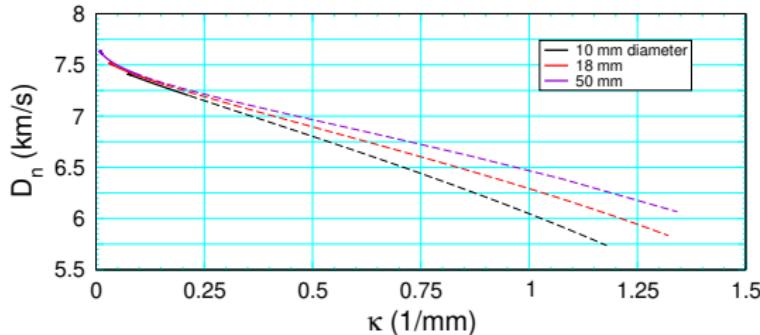
Corner turning – experiment

Corner turning – simulation

Breakdown of DSD assumptions

DSD assumes $D_n(\kappa)$ independent of geometry

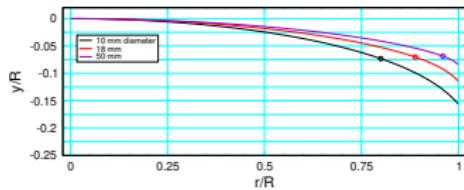
- PBX 9502 experiments show $D_n(\kappa)$ depends on diameter of rate stick
- Lead shock pressure changes rapidly in boundary layer
Related to failure diameter & sonic boundary condition
- Transverse gradients not accounted for in duct flow PDEs (1-D)
Profile ODEs may not have solution for large κ
Nevertheless, 2-D simulations can fit shape of detonation front



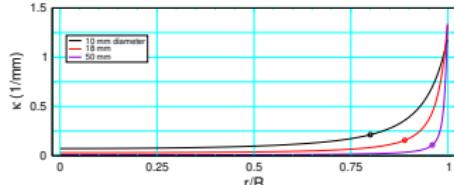
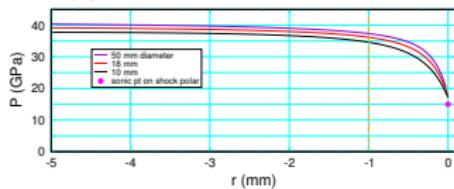
Hill, Bdzil & Aslam, 11th Detonation Symposium (1998)

Boundary layer

normalized front shape



curvature vs normalized radius

 $P_s(r)$ within 5 mm of boundary

- Front shape $y(r)$ from experiment

Flatter than it looks, aspect ratio 2 : 1

- Curvature κ from front shape

up to 1.4/mm at boundary
but < 0.25/mm up to 1 mm of boundary

- Shock pressure

Calculated from D_n and reactants shock locus
Shock locus from assumed EOS

- Boundary pressure

Sonic pressure from D_y and shock polar
About 1/2 pressure on axis
Large ΔP_s between axis and boundary

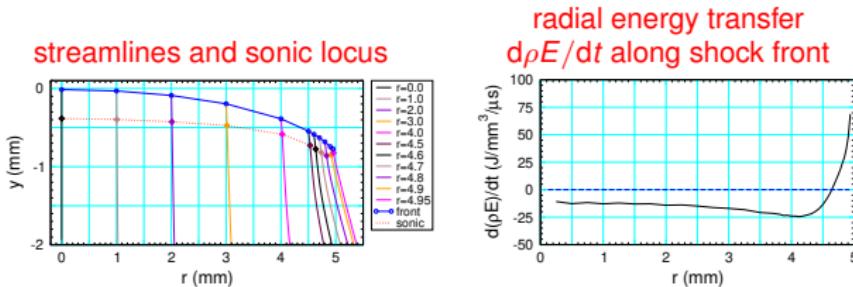
- Boundary layer

Pressure gradient dP_s/dr
small up to 1 mm of boundary
large within 1 mm of boundary

Transverse energy flux

PBX 9502 failure diameter of 8.5 to 9 mm

Simulation of 10 mm diameter unconfined rate stick

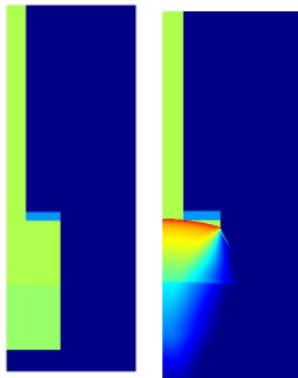


- Detonation wave profile ODEs apply along streamlines
Sonic locus intersects shock front at boundary
- Detonation
Supported by energy release along between front and sonic point
Not sufficient for neighborhood of boundary
- Neighborhood of boundary
Radial pressure gradient leads to radial energy flux
Lead shock supported by energy flux from interior

Rate stick simulation near failure

Start with detonation wave in large diameter cylinder

Initiates slightly overdriven detonation in small diameter cylinder



Two cases for PBX 9502

1. 10 mm diameter, above failure diameter
2. 8 mm diameter, below failure diameter

Failure mechanism

- **Transverse energy flow behind front**

Weak lead shock in boundary layer

Very low burn rate behind weak shock

- **Failure wave**

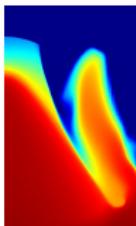
Transverse radial flow in reaction zone
drains energy from detonation

Detonation front shrinks in radial extent

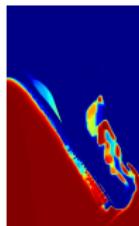
Larger energy drain on detonation

- **Weak shock after failure**

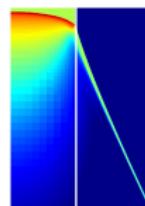
lead shock
pressure



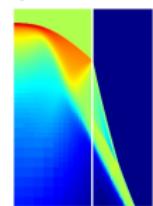
burn fraction



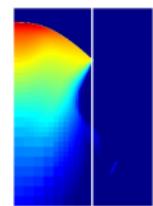
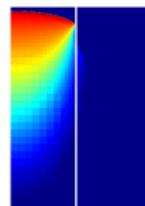
5 mm radius
propagates
density



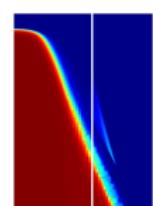
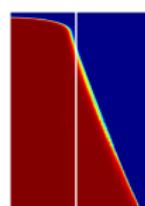
4 mm radius
failing



pressure



burn fraction



Additional comments on failure

Detonation wave failure

- **Depends on geometry**

Unconfined rectangular slab of HE
failure thickness < failure diameter

- **Depends on confinement**

Strong confinement, such as by steel
Shock polar analysis at boundary

Lead HE shock is subsonic 

Higher boundary pressure and smaller failure diameter

Issue with boundary layer reduced or eliminated

Caveat: To apply shock polar analysis at boundary

No gap between HE and confiner

For example, assembly tolerance in cylinder test 

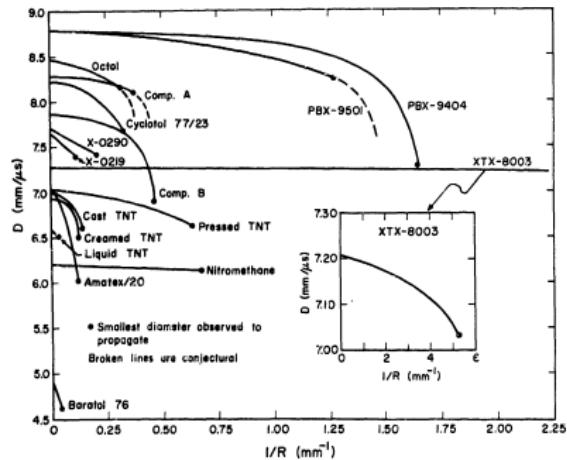
Otherwise sonic condition at boundary

Weak confinement (filler or glue) also sonic condition

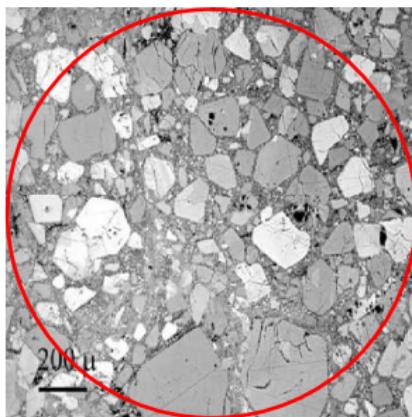
Same front shape and detonation speed

PBX 9501 failure diameter

diameter effect



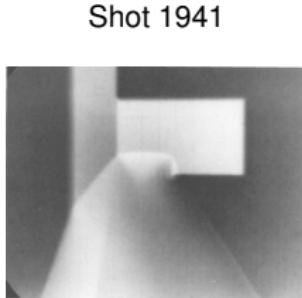
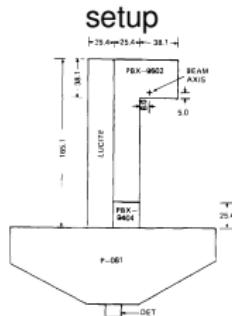
mesoscale structure



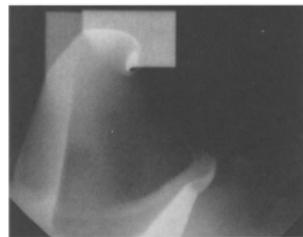
For rate stick near failure diameter (≈ 1.8 mm for PBX 9501)

Expect statistical variations of HE grain distribution on mesoscale to cause fluctuations from localized failure and reignition along boundary similar to what is seen for gaseous or liquid detonation due to instabilities that cause transverse waves

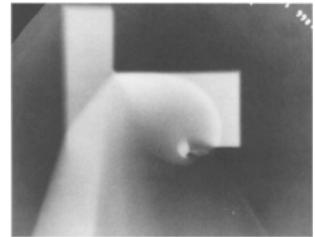
Corner turning – experiment



Shot 1941



Shot 1796



Shot 1943

Phermex shots (1975, 1976)

- **Time evolution**

Three experiments with 1 radiograph per shot

Diffraction of lead shock lowers pressure

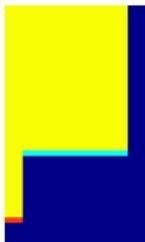
Detonation spreads out laterally

- **Dead zone**

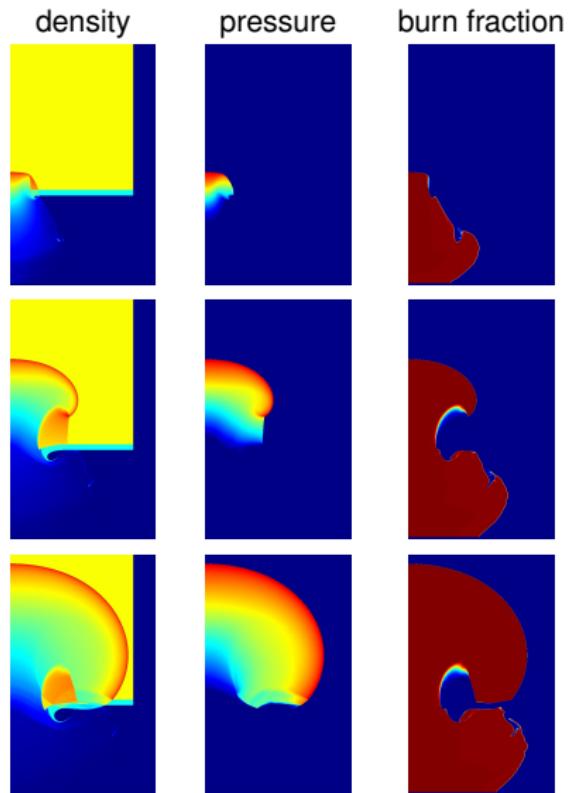
Region of low rate or shock desensitized

Corner turning – simulation

- **Setup** similar to experiment



- **Small HE cylinder width**
Affects corner turning
and extent of dead zone
- **Applications**
Detonator-booster
Fragment impact
- **Programmed burn or DSD**
Not intended for either
ignition or dead zones



End Lecture 9. Failure diameter, corner turning and dead zones

Questions

Lecture 10 outline

10. EOS data

Needed PBX data

Reactants EOS

Products EOS data

Cylinder test experiment

Cylinder test uncertainties

CJ detonation speed

CJ pressure for CHE

CJ pressure for IHE

Final remarks

Model calibration

Needed PBX data

Before calibrating burn rate

- **Reactants EOS data**

Prefer EOS for theoretical maximum data (TMD), no porosity

Porosity model for initial PBX density

$\text{porosity} = 1 - \rho_0 / \rho_{TMD}$ determines initial density

Reactants EOS independent of initial PBX state

Reactants EOS should be consistent with P_s for Pop plot data

P_s from impedance match from projectile into PBX

- **Products EOS data**

Energy offset consistent with convention previously stated

Offset convention only at 1 initial density

Equilibrium products EOS independent of initial PBX state

Reaction-zone fluctuations affect homogenized products EOS ?

- **CJ state**

Detonation speed and pressure

▶ Fickett & Davis

Reactants EOS

Available data to calibrate EOS model

- Principal shock Hugoniot
 - Limited pressure range due to reaction
 - Possibly take advantage of shock desensitization
 - Reverse impact experiments
- Diamond anvil cell for isothermal compression
 - Powder diffraction on small HE crystals not PBX
 - Density measurement not accurate at high pressures
- Specific heat from phonon frequencies (measured or DFT)
 - C_V varies by factor of 2 between ambient and VN spike
 - Shock temperature measurements based on Raman scattering
- Molecular dynamics simulations
 - Force fields available for HMX, RDX, TATB
 - Mixture for HE crystallites plus binder

Products EOS data

Minimum data needed for good model

- **CJ state**
Detonation speed & pressure
- **Overdriven detonation locus**
Requires supported planar wave
- **CJ release isentrope**
1-D release isentrope from overdriven detonation
Grüneisen coefficient from pair of overdriven isentropes
 Γ allows extrapolating in e off the release isentrope
2-D Cylinder test or Sandwich test or Disc Acceleration Experiment (DAX)
Unlike shock Hugoniot, infer isentrope with simulations for fitting form

Alternative, thermo-chemical code

BKW (Mader), CHEETAH (LLNL), MAGPIE (PEM-LANL)

Calculate equilibrium species, then uses $P-T$ equilibrium

Typically, needs to be tweaked for greater accuracy

Cylinder test experiment

- **Standard test**

1 inch diameter HE

0.1 inch thick copper tube

2 inch long HE pellets slip fit

wall tolerance 1 mil

gives 1 % uncertainty in wall mass

- **Scaled tests** (consistency check)

0.5 and 2 inch diameter HE

- **Steady state flow**

Curved detonation front

Approximately isentropic behind front

Ringing in the wall (copper material strength)

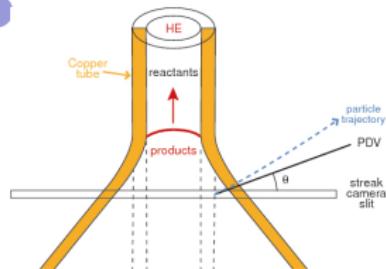
Radial variation of pressure

- **Data**

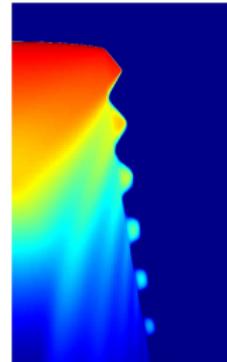
Axial detonation speed

Wall velocity from multiple probes

[◀ return](#)

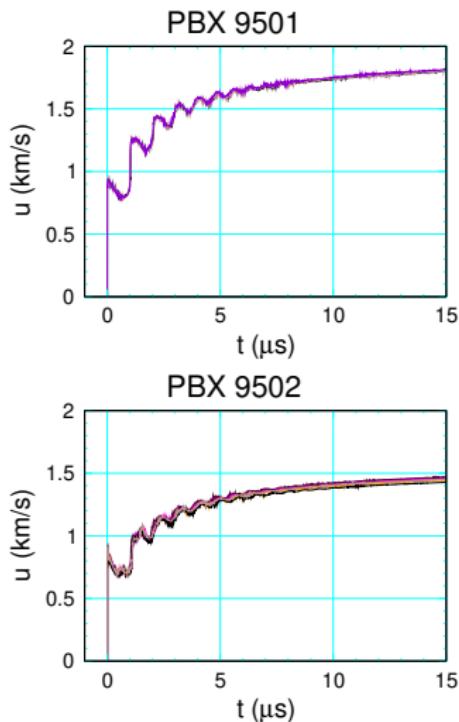


Log pressure



Cylinder test uncertainties

- **Wall velocity variation**
With azimuthal angle
wall thickness tolerance
- **Detonation speed variation**
With lot and initial temperature
Due to ρ_0 and curvature effect
- **Wall expansion**
 $R/R_0 \approx 3$ ($V/V_0 \approx 7$) at $15 \mu\text{s}$
 $P \sim 0.1 \text{ GPa}$
Wall acceleration > 0 but decreasing
- **Wall thins with expansion**
Thickness $\propto 1/\text{Radius}$
Spall at larger radii
- **Fit products isentrope**
Match data with simulations



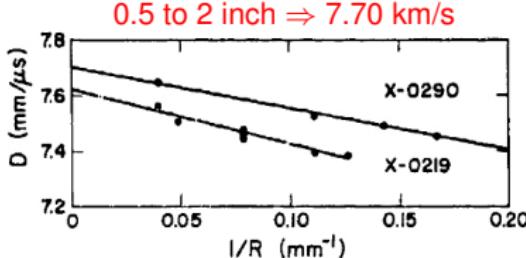
Pemberton *et al.*, 2011

CJ detonation speed

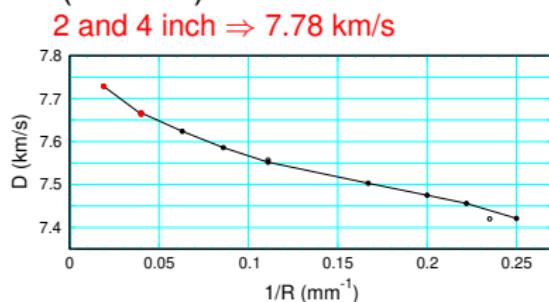
Experiments

- **Planar detonation wave**
 Thin flyer plate (short shock)
 Overdrive for prompt initiation
Long enough run to decay to steady underdriven detonation
 Timing pins to measure detonation speed
- **Extrapolate diameter effect**
 $D(R) = D_{CJ}(1 - a/R)$ for large R

Large diameter needed for PBX 9502 (X-0290)



Campbell & Engelke 1976



Campbell 1984

CJ pressure for CHE

Difficulty with applying shock jump conditions to CJ detonation

Unsupported detonation is followed by rarefaction

Difficult to tell where reaction zone ends and rarefaction begins ► VISAR profile

For CHE (thin reaction zone) Duff & Houston (1955)

1. Large diameter cylinder of HE initialized with plane wave lens
Detonation front in neighborhood of axis is planar
2. Metal plate much thicker than reaction-zone width
Shock match from reaction zone decays to match from CJ state
Then decays at slower rate due to release rarefaction
3. Window and VISAR or PDV probes (at least 3 to measure tilt)
Measure velocity at lead shock front
From EOS of window and plate back out shock pressure
4. Series of experiments varying thickness of plate
Extrapolate to zero plate thickness to account for rarefaction

CJ pressure for IHE

Overdriven detonations are shock like

u_p constant behind reaction zone

At CJ state, $du_s/du_p = 0$

- Fit locus in neighborhood of CJ

$$D = D_{cj} + a \cdot (u_p - u_{cj})^2$$

3 parameters: D_{cj} , u_{cj} , a

- Compare with D_{cj} from extrapolating diameter effect

Estimate of uncertainty about 2 %

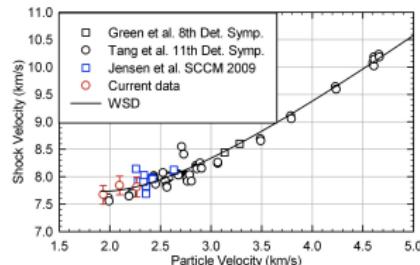
- Pressure from jump conditions

$$P_{cj} = \rho_0 u_{cj} D_{cj} \text{ (about 2 % uncertainty or } \pm 0.5 \text{ GPa)}$$

If data too noisy use CJ release isentrope PDV or VISAR data
then assume Mie-Gruneisen form for local EOS

Fit to CJ isentrope and overdriven locus, see [Wescott et al., \(2005\) §II B](#)

Detonation locus for PBX 9502



[Gustavsen et al., \(2014\)](#), fig 4

Final remarks

- Accurate HE model for wide range of detonation phenomena
Need a lot of calibration data, hence time and effort
- Correct for variation in initial density and temperature
Need additional data
- When available data is incomplete
Use estimates based on past experience with other HE
Model is less accurate
- Predictive model, shock initiation and detonation propagation regimes
Needed accuracy for application
 - Design to avoid ignition thresholds
 - Accident scenarios in more difficult regimes
- Model uncertainty
 - Depends on accuracy of calibration data
 - and meso-scale heterogeneities in HE
- Simulation accuracy
Physical length scale (reaction-zone width) and resolution

Model calibration

- **Select data to fit (subjective)**

Experiments aimed at single detonation phenomena

- **Metric to compare model with multiple datasets (subjective)**

Simulated data for model (2-D simulation computationally expensive)

Resolution for accurate simulation and uncertainty in data

- **Calibration**

Iterative algorithm to vary parameters to minimize metric

- **Issues**

Minimization is highly non-linear (local or global minimum)

Metric may be insensitive to correlated changes in parameters
or insufficient data may lead to underdetermined model

- **Domain of applicability**

Tacit assumption: hotspot distribution same as calibration experiments

Model accurate for applications similar to calibration experiments

May loss accuracy for other applications

Detonation Waves in High Explosives

End of HE lecture series

Zoomed figures I

- Detonation loci
- Computer Micro-Tomography
- VISAR profiles
- PDV profiles
- PBX 9501 micrograph
- Program burn $D > D_{cj}$
- Program burn $D < D_{cj}$
- Wave diagram
- Partly burned detonation loci
- PBX 9501 V–P trajectory
- PBX 9501 pressure profile
- PBX 9501 compare resolution
- Shock initiation – wedge experiment
- Shock initiation – embedded gauges

Zoomed figures II

Pop plot data – shock trajectory

Pop plot data – velocity profiles

Pop plot – run distance

Pop plot – time to detonation

Pop plot – $x(t)$

HMX Pop plot

9502 Pop plot $x(P,T)$

9502 Pop plot $t(P,T)$

Match hotspot at CJ state to reactants

Chemical rate

Diameter effect

Profile ODEs with curvature

Resolution and curvature effect

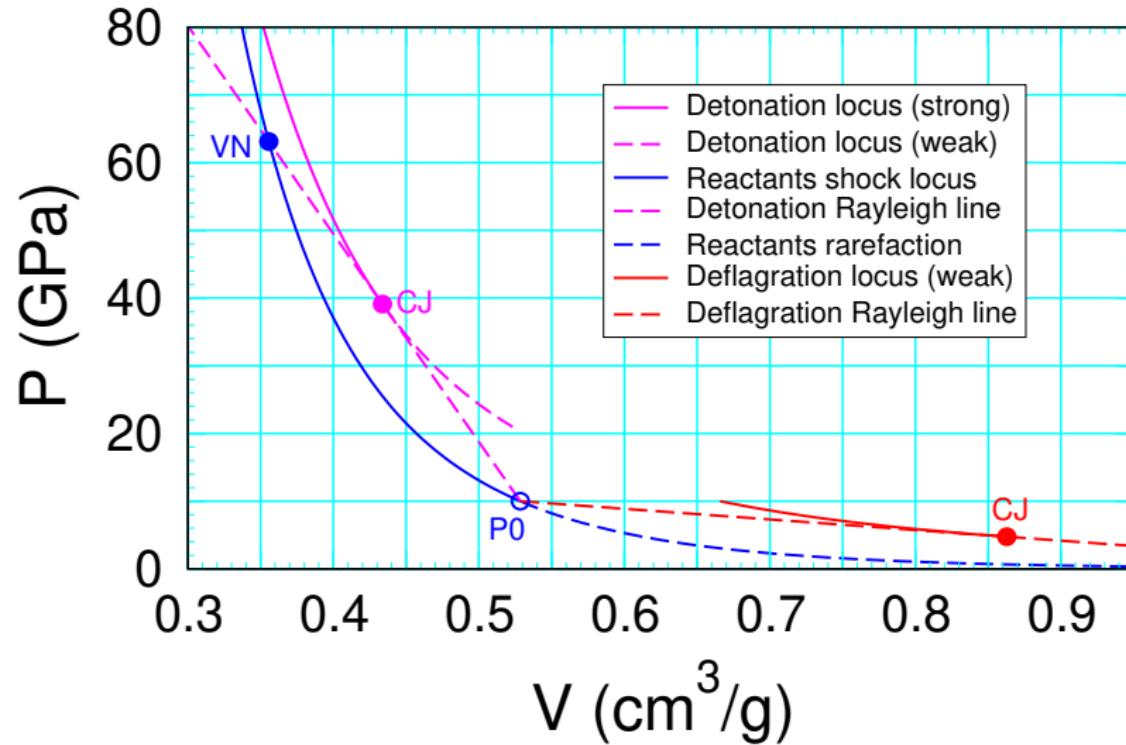
PBX 9502 profile

Zoomed figures III

Shock Polar
1D interaction
Oblique shock
2D wave pattern
Phermex shot 1037
Dn/Dz
Boundary layer y and kappa
Boundary layer pressure
Sonic locus
PBX 9501 wall velocity
PBX 9502 wall velocity
PBX 9502 detonation locus

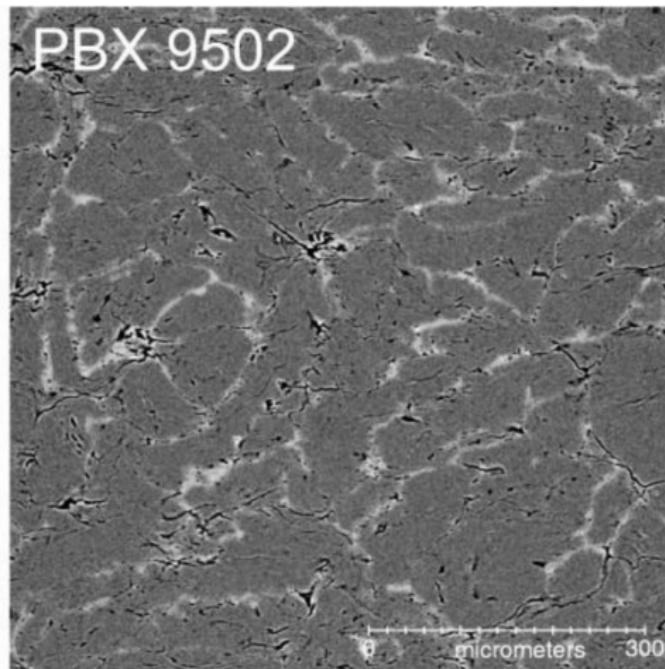
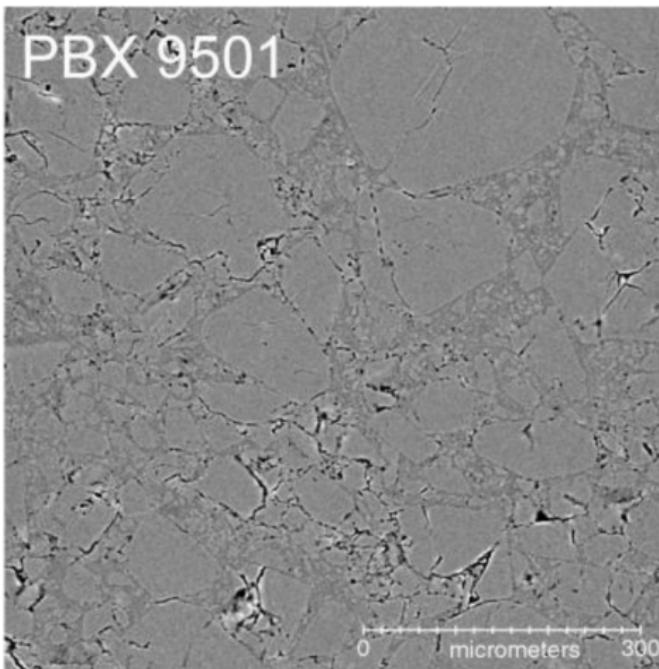
Shock and Detonation loci

click to return



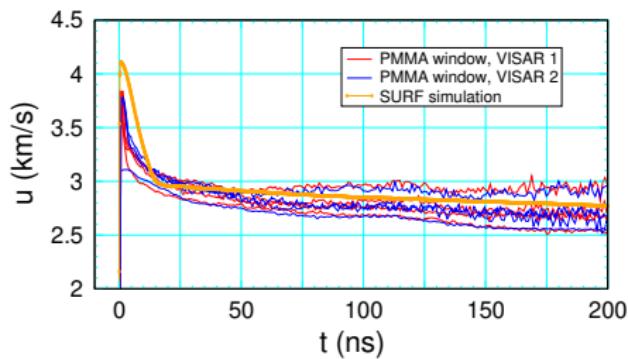
Micro-tomography image

[click to return](#)

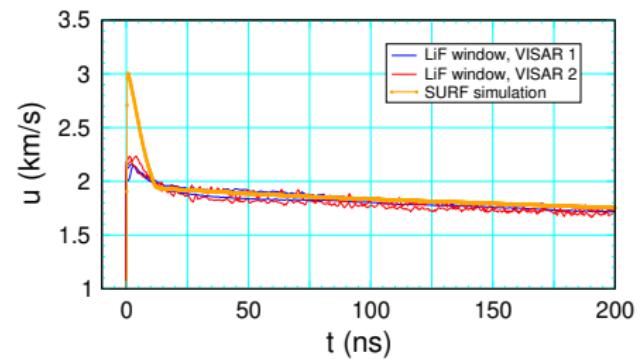


VISAR profile

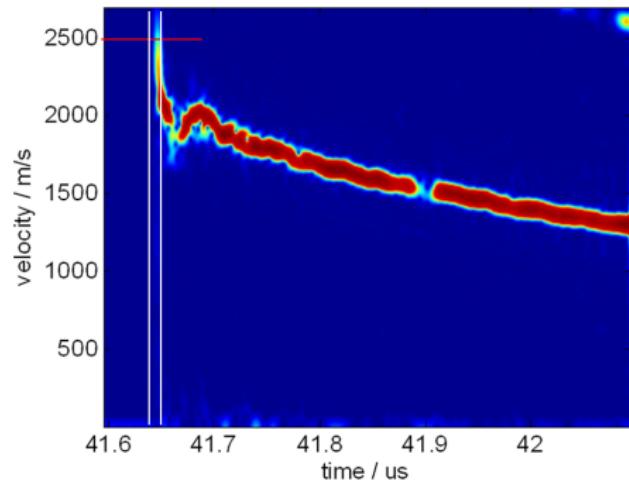
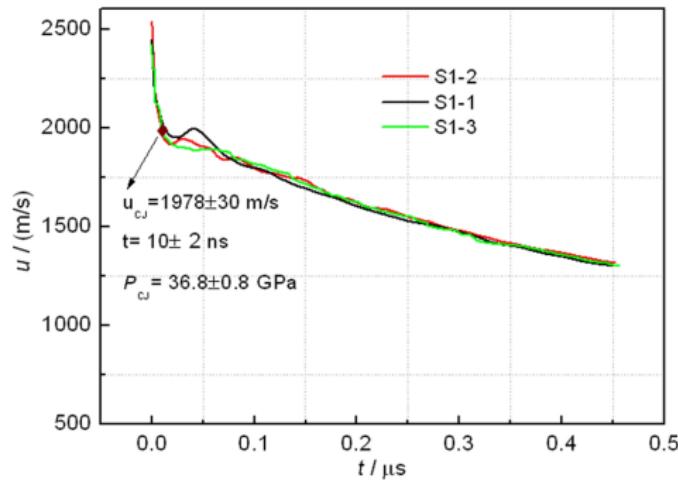
PMMA window



Li-F window

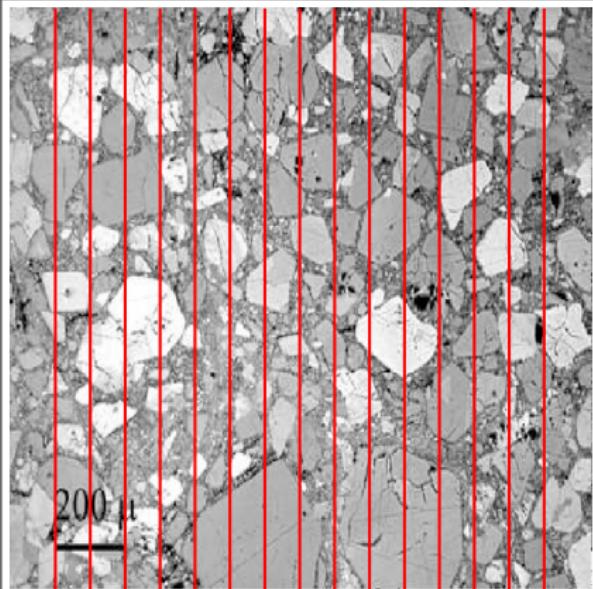


PDV profile

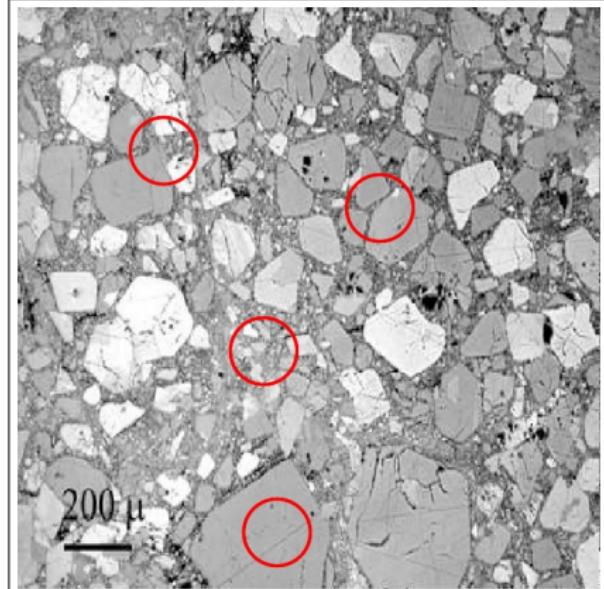


white guide lines
reaction time ≈ 10 ns

PBX 9501 polarized light micrograph

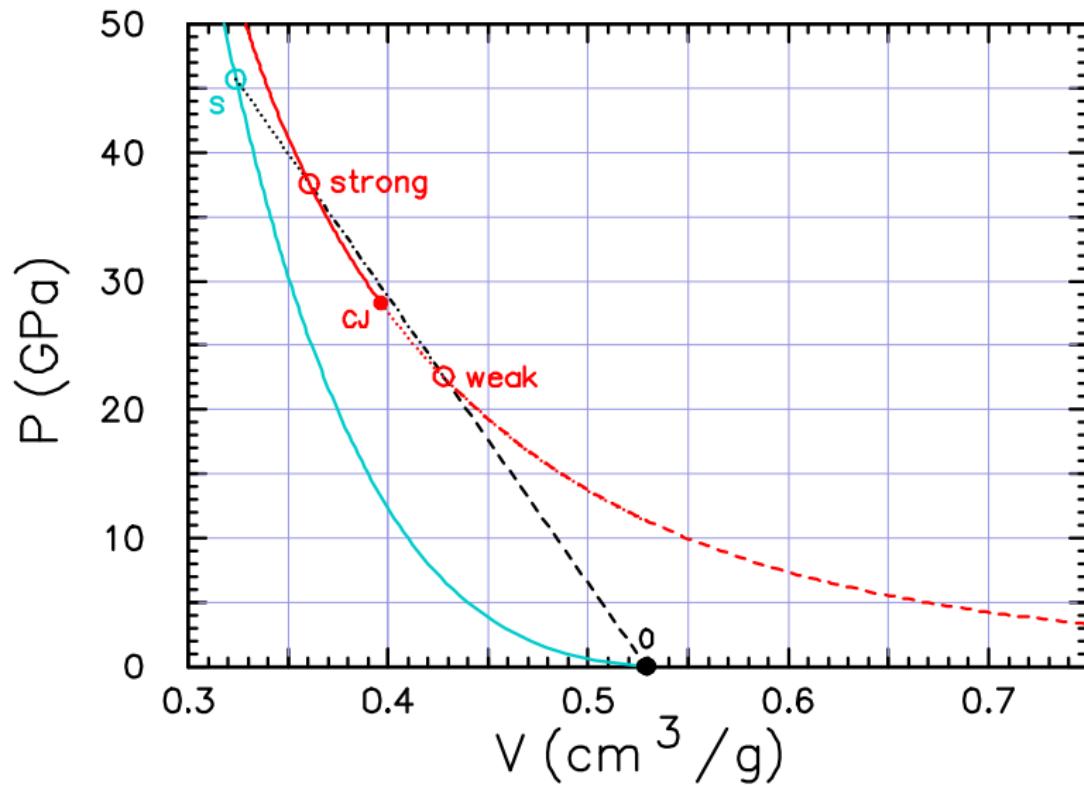


Red guide lines 100 μm apart
Estimated reaction-zone width
based on curvature effect

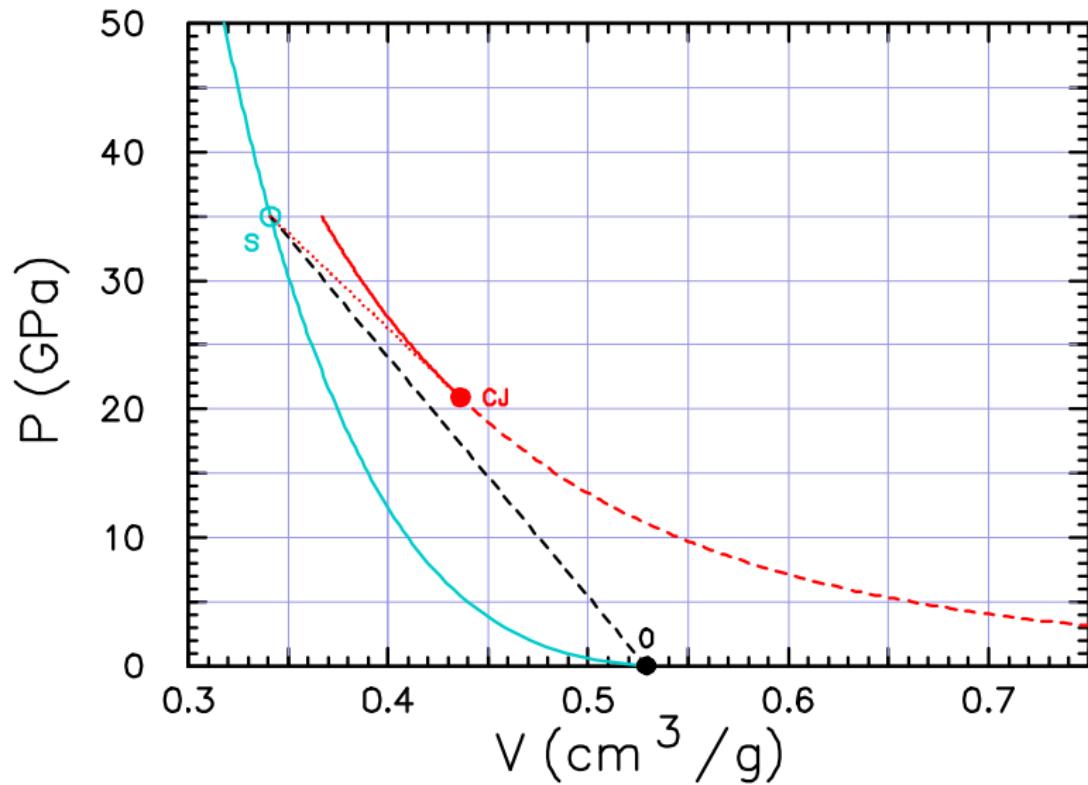


Red circles 200 μm diameter
VISAR or PDV spot size

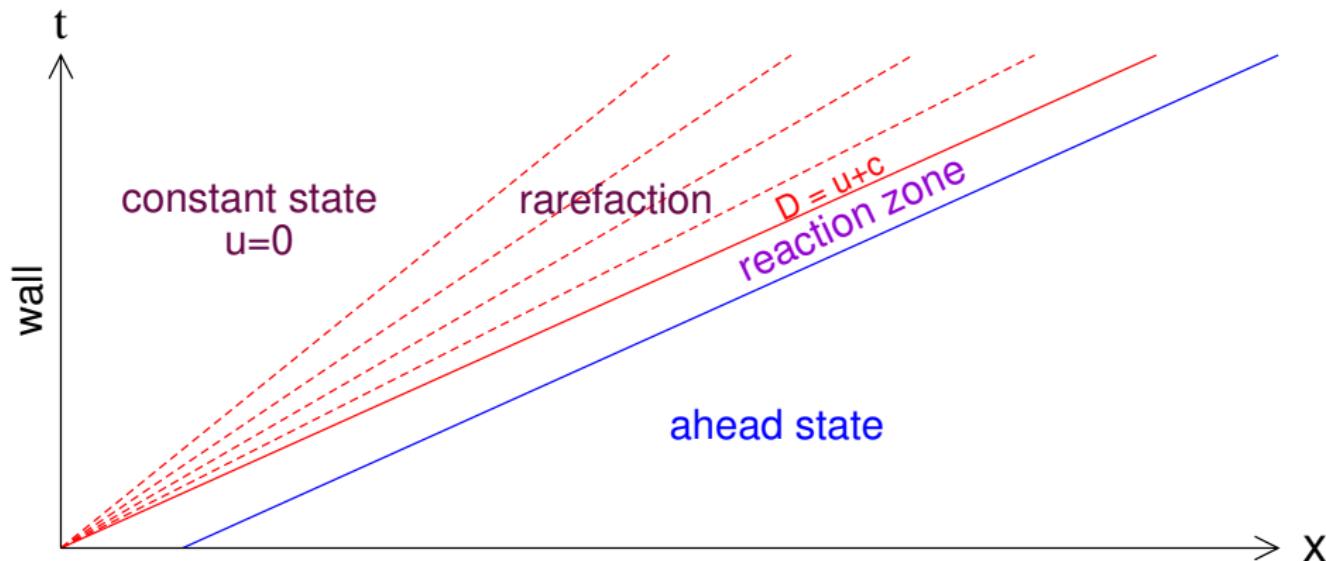
Programmed burn $D > D_{cj}$



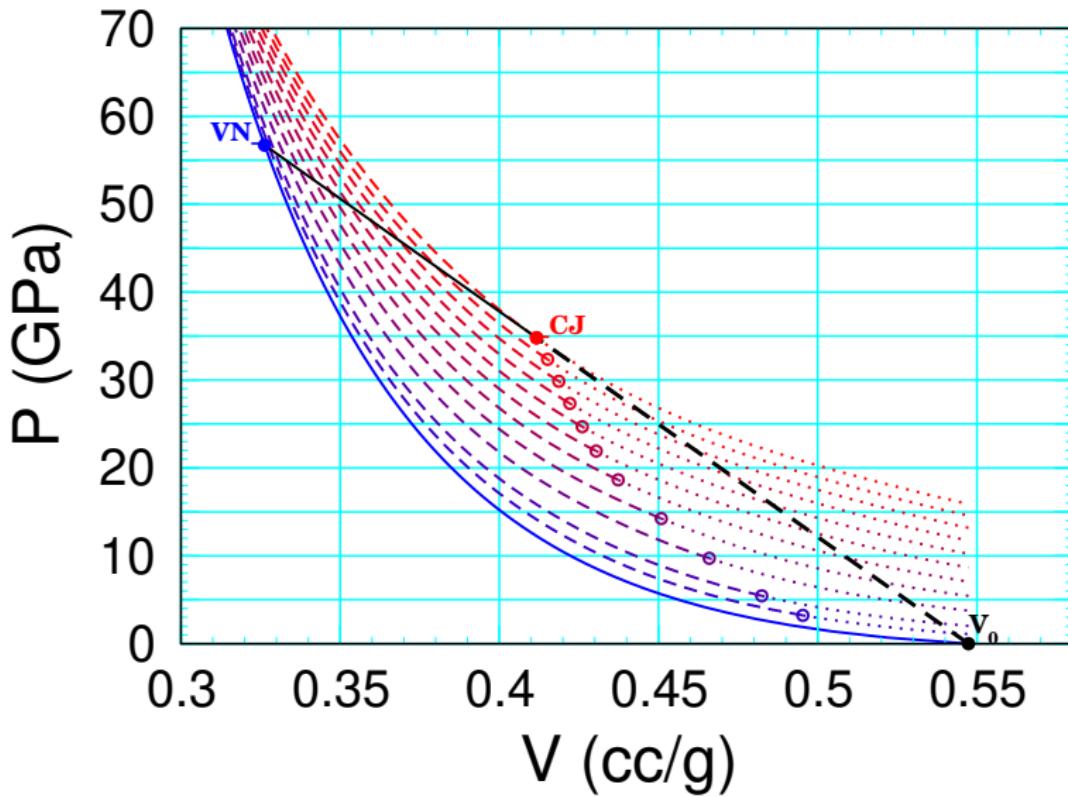
Programmed burn $D < D_{cj}$



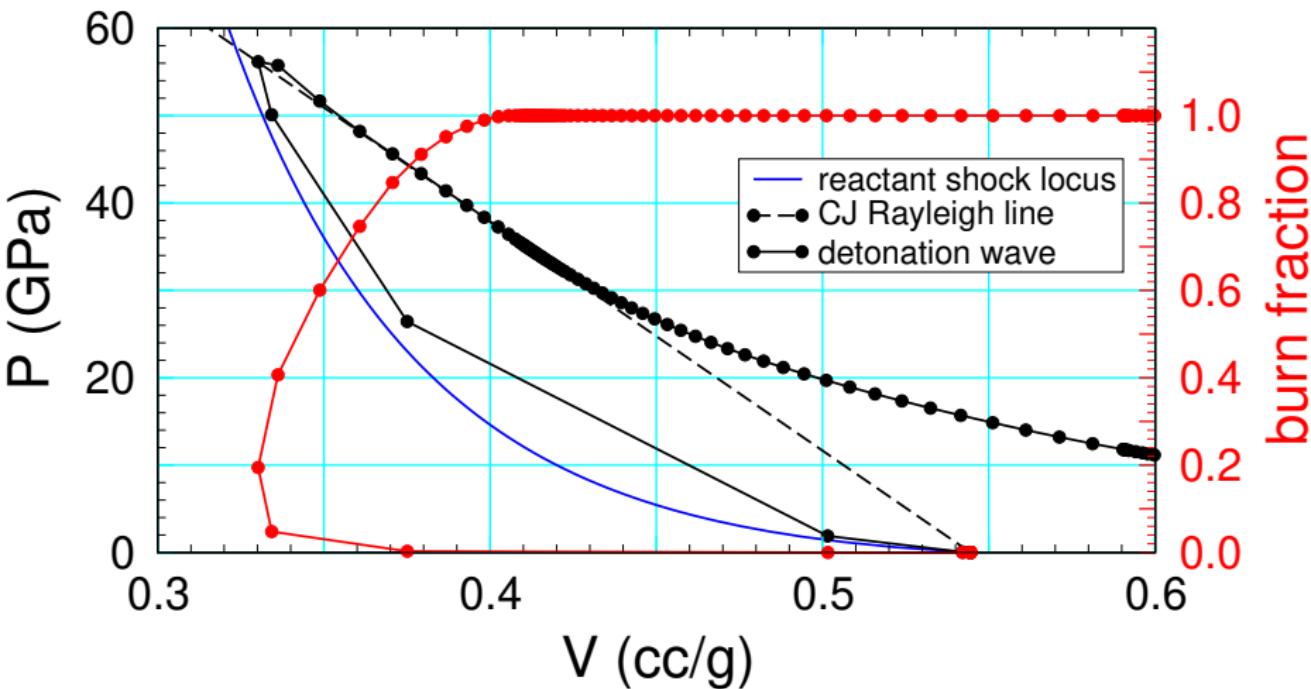
WaveDiagram



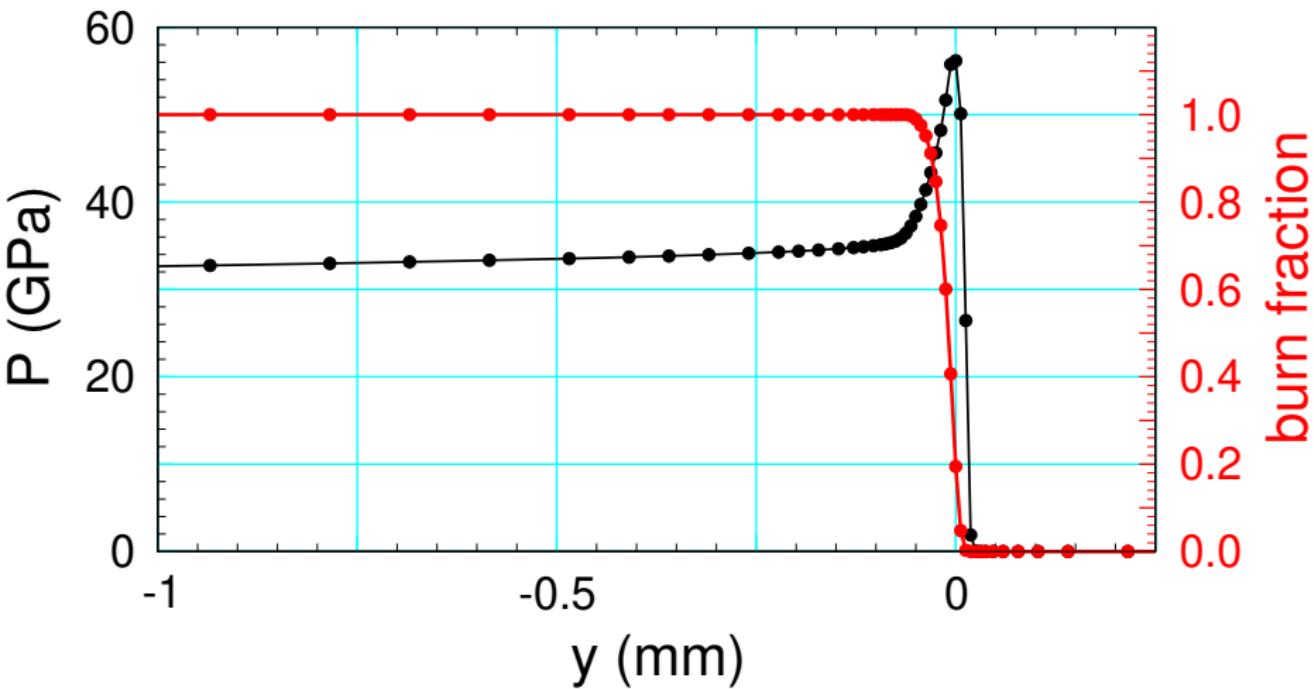
Partly burned detonation loci



PBX 9501 V-P trajectory

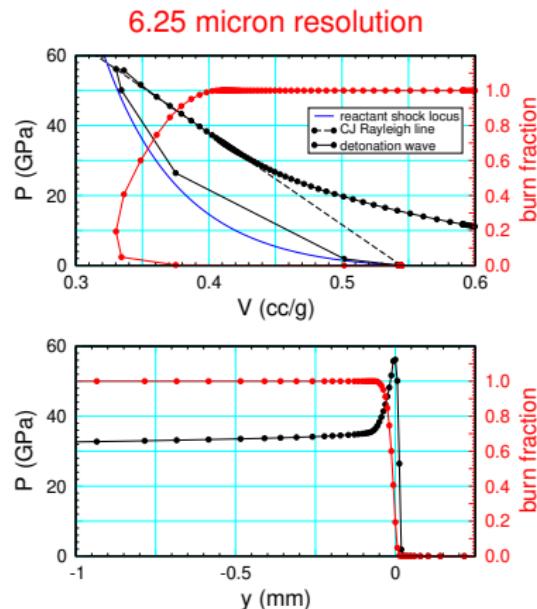
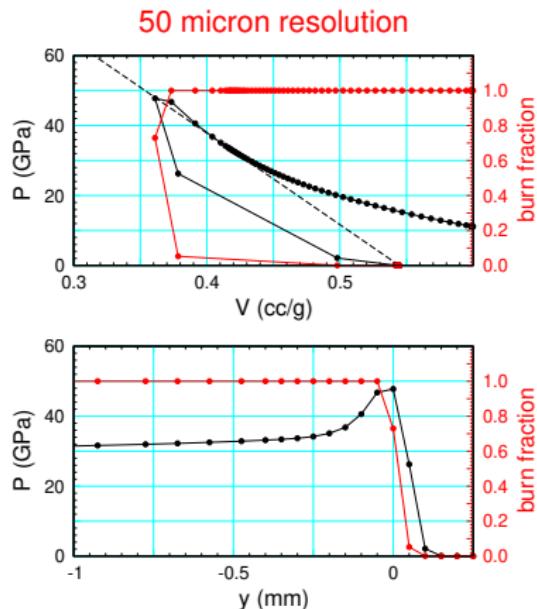


PBX 9501 pressure profile



PBX 9501 compare resolution

Model reaction-zone width \approx 70 microns

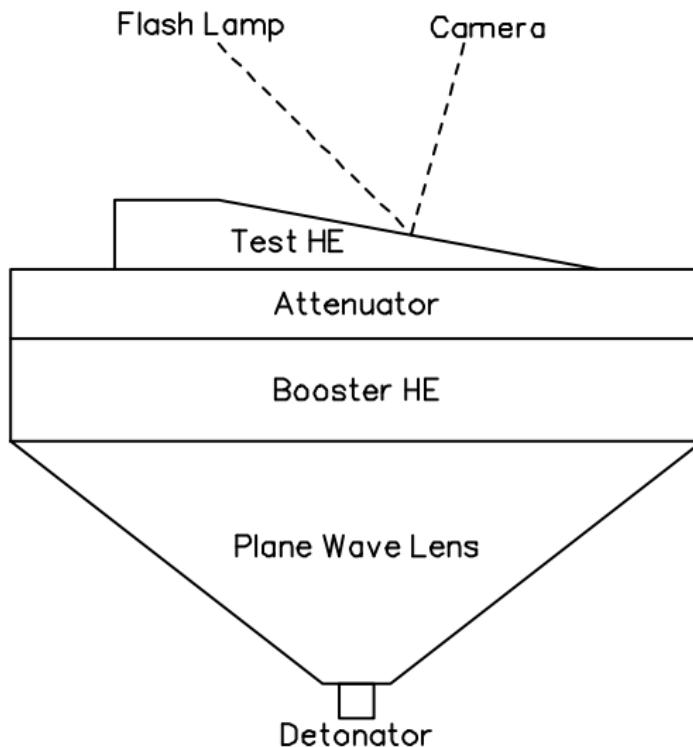


Effect of resolution is model and code dependent

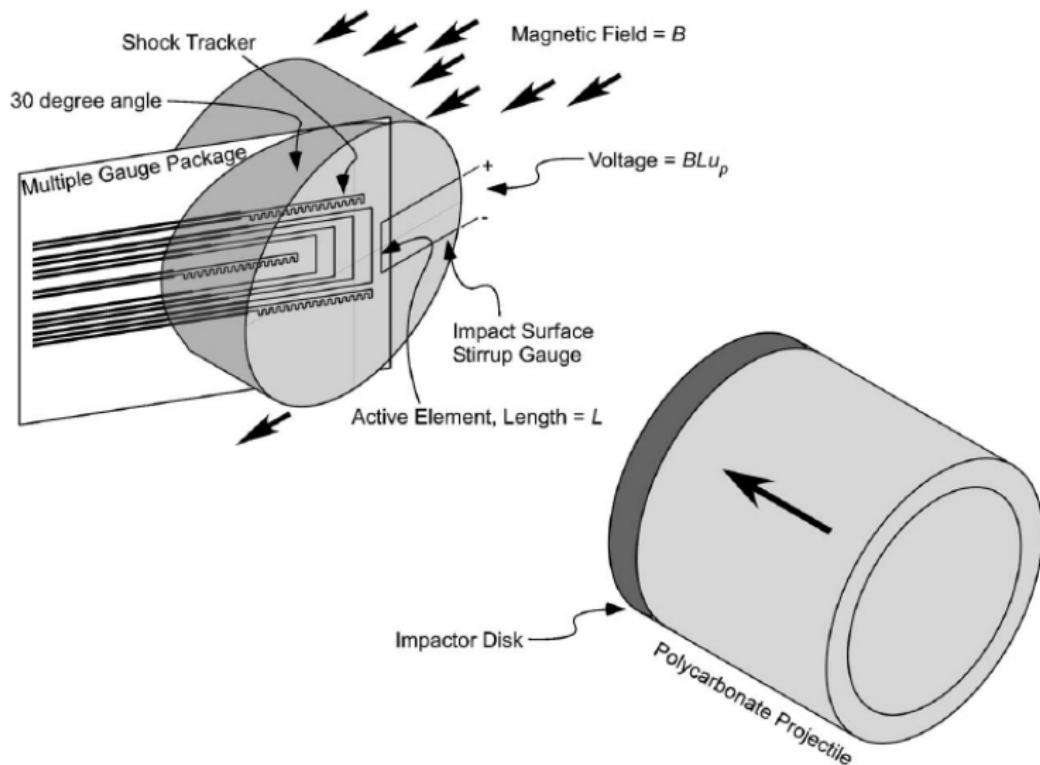
This example is for SURF model in xRage code

◀ return

Shock initiation – wedge experiment

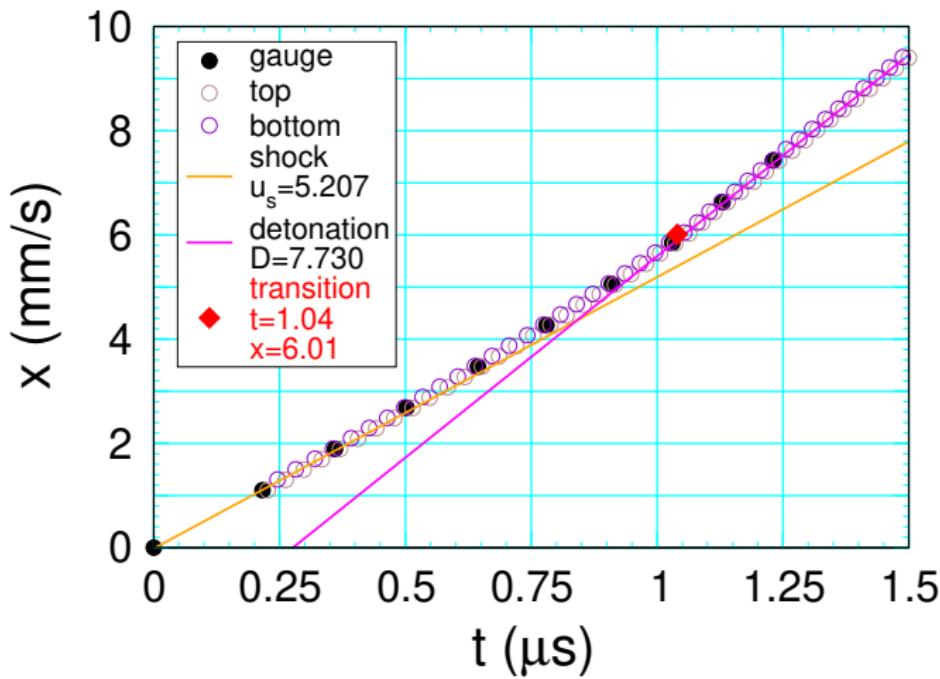


Shock initiation – embedded gauges



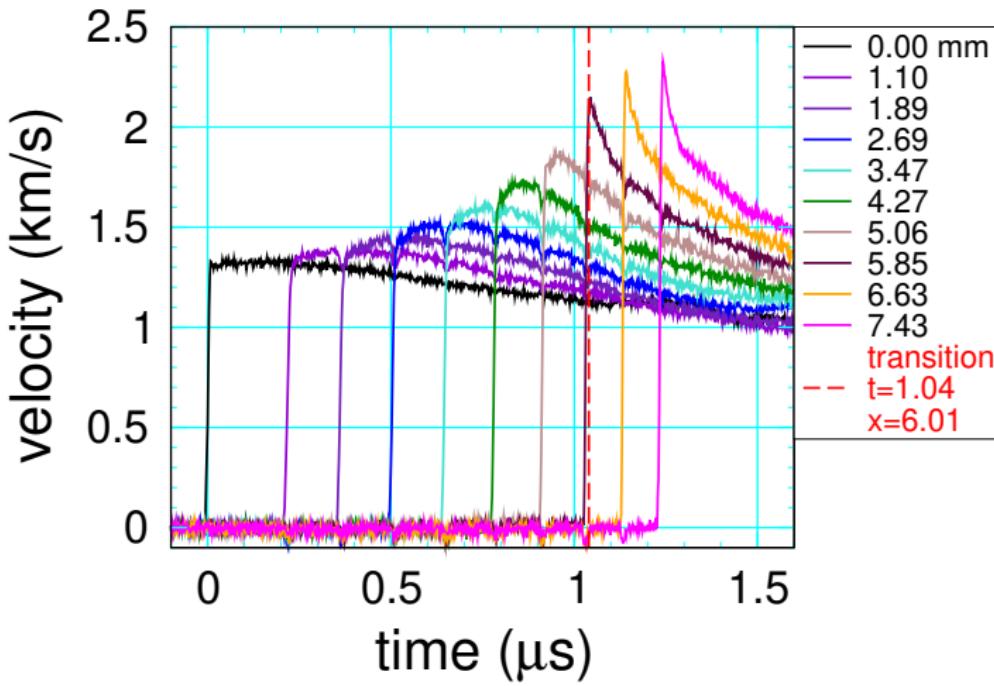
Pop plot data – shock trajectory

shock trajectory

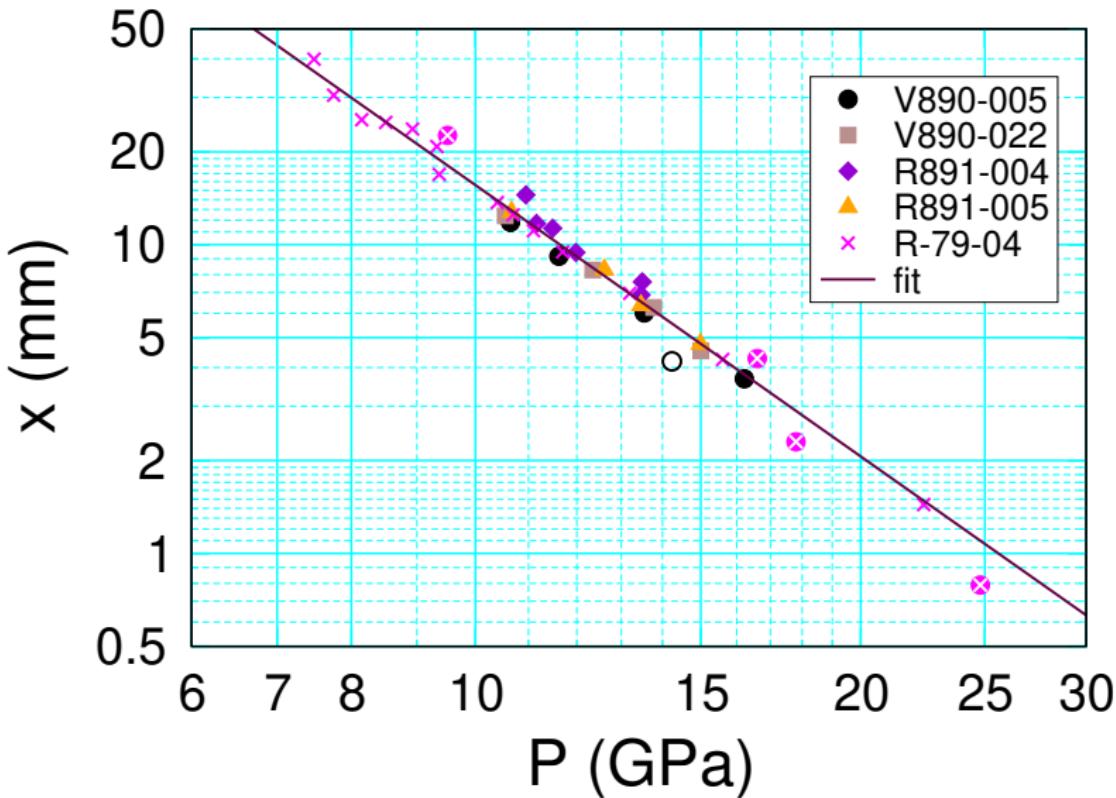


Pop plot data – velocity profiles

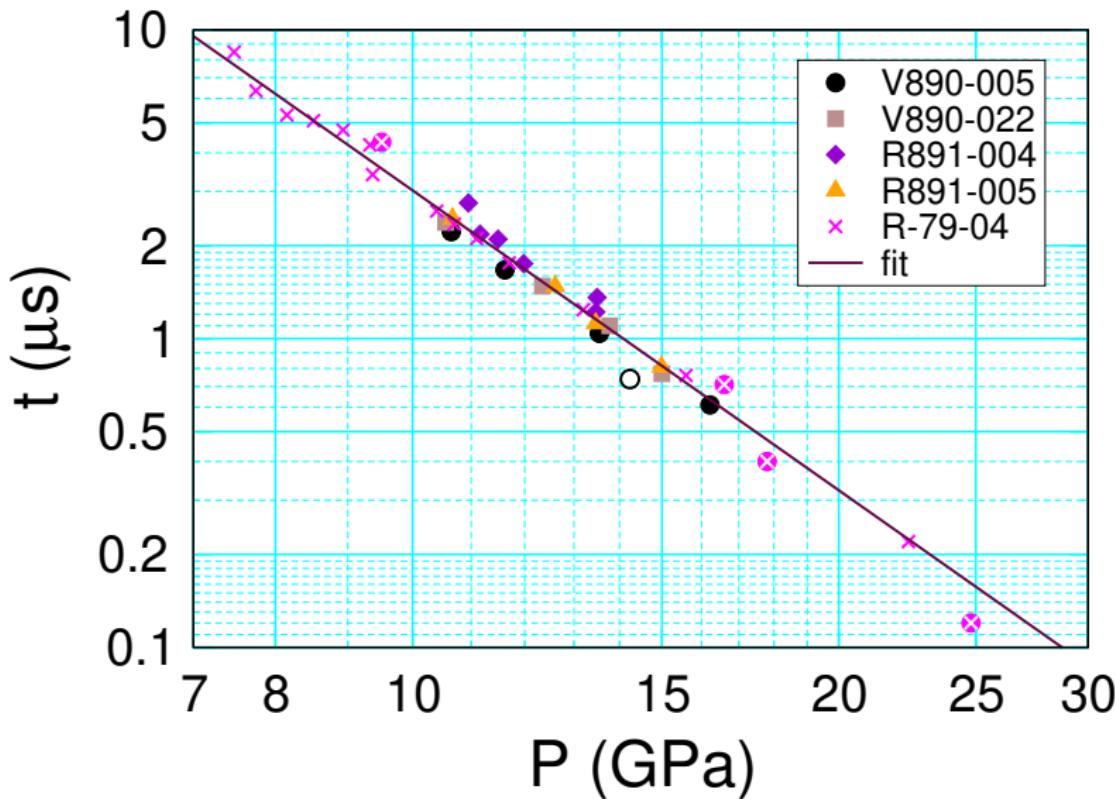
velocity profiles



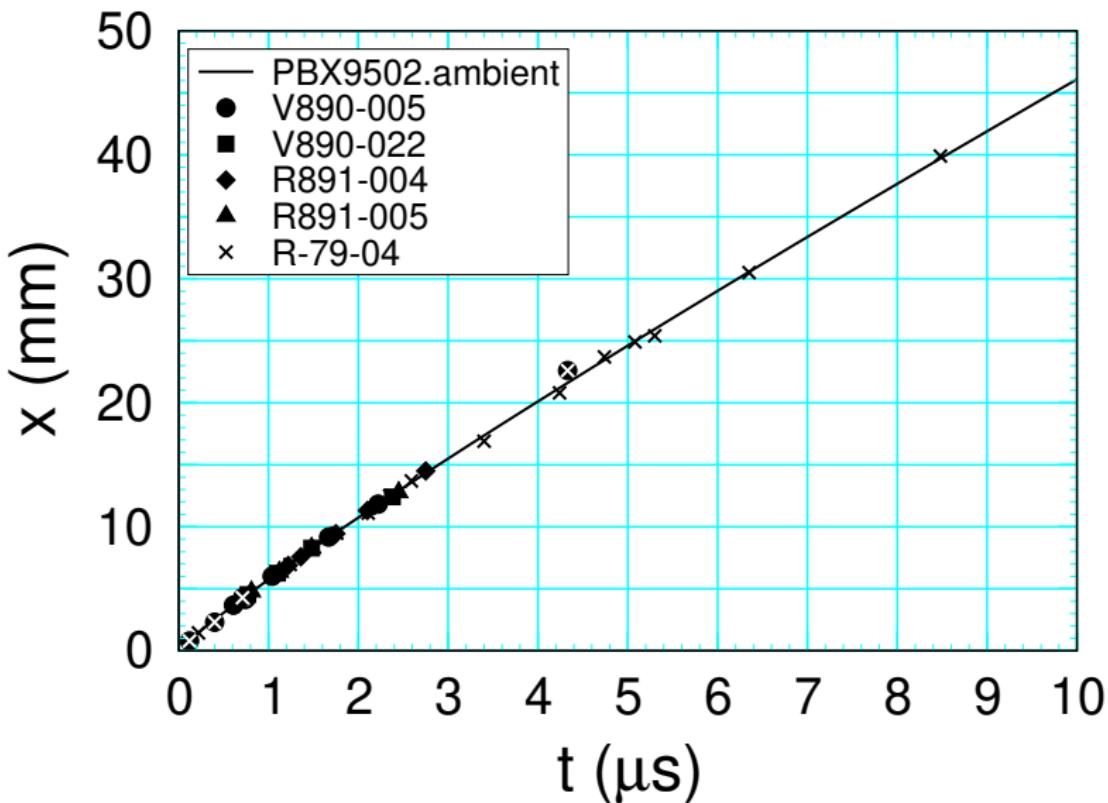
Pop plot – run distance



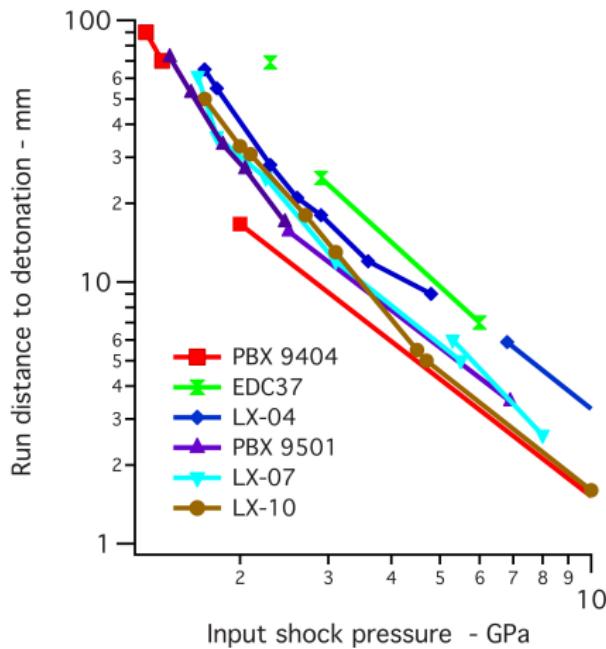
Pop plot – time to detonation



Pop plot – $x(t)$

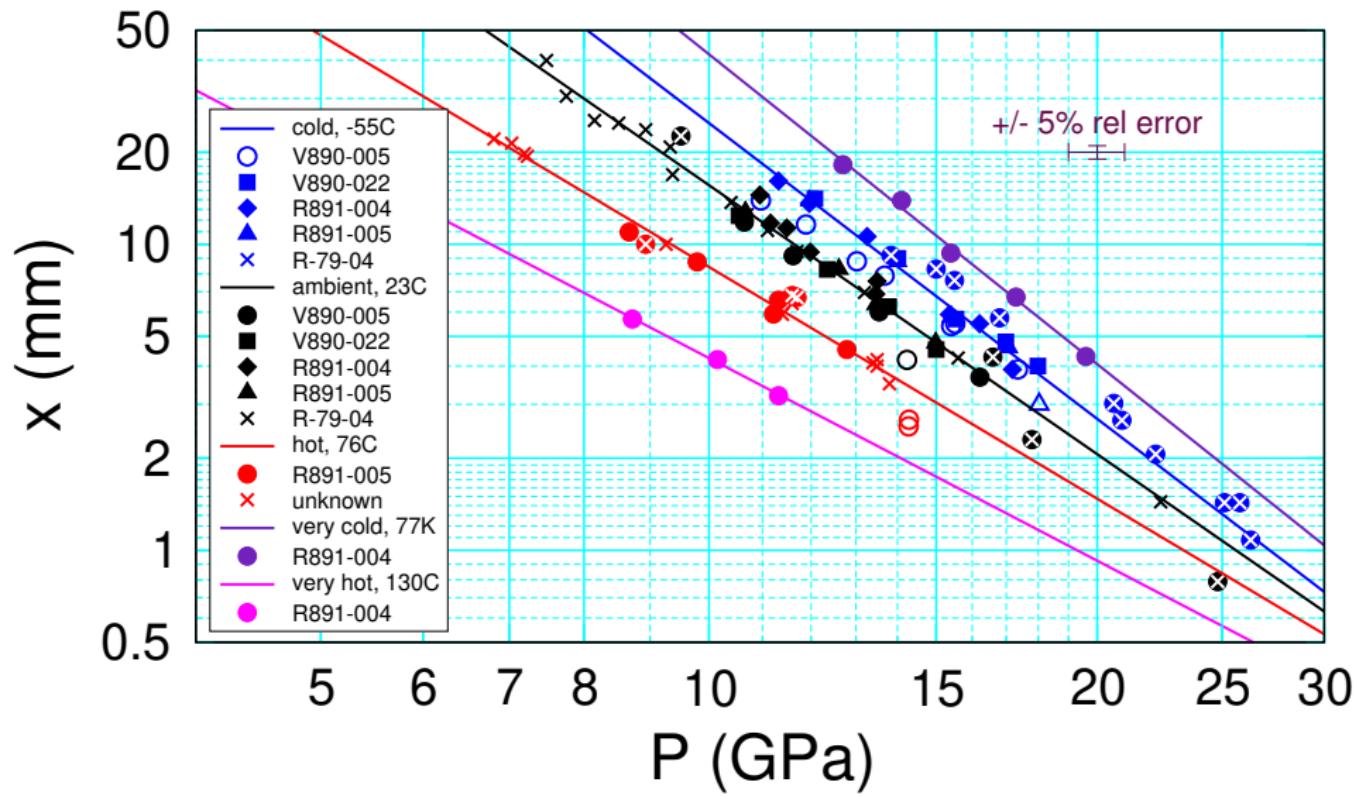


HMX Pop plot

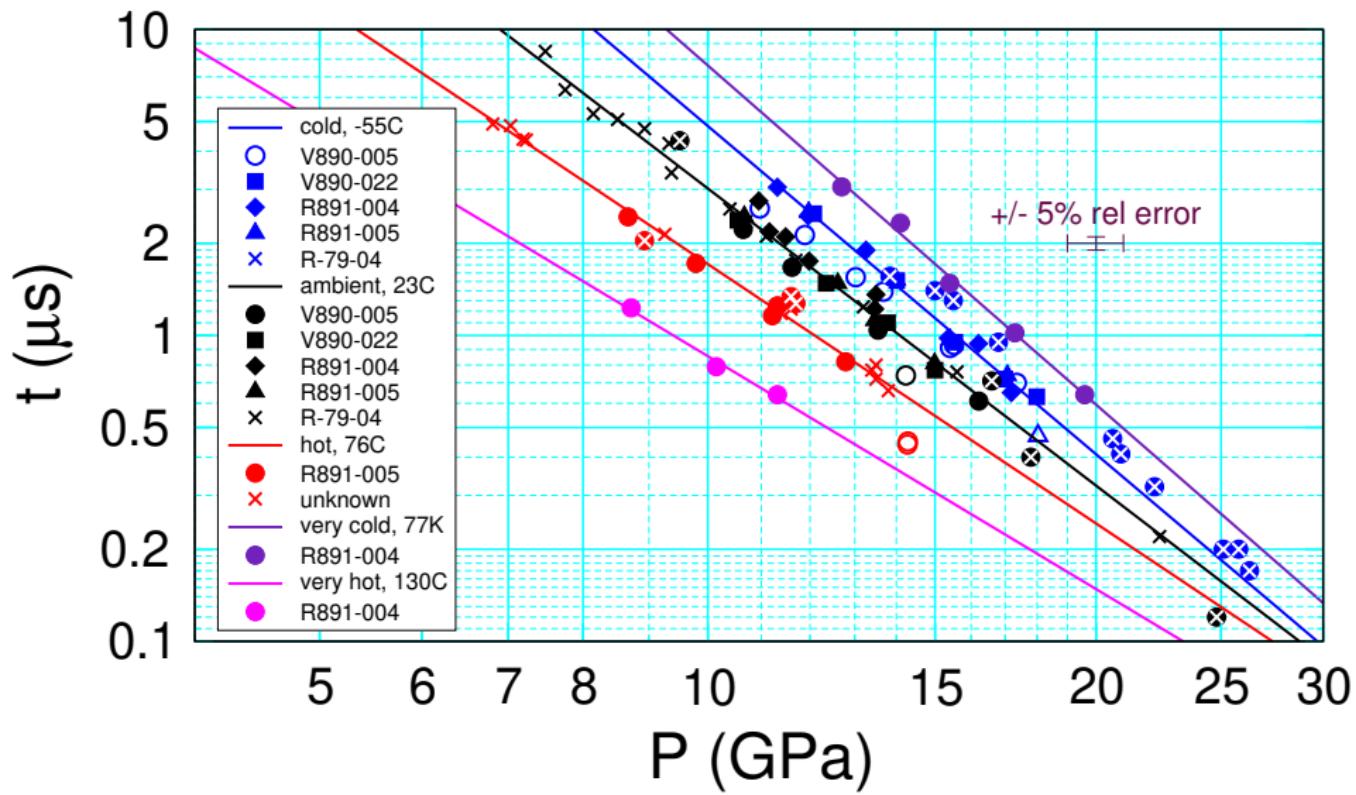


Vandersall *et al.*, 2010, fig 15

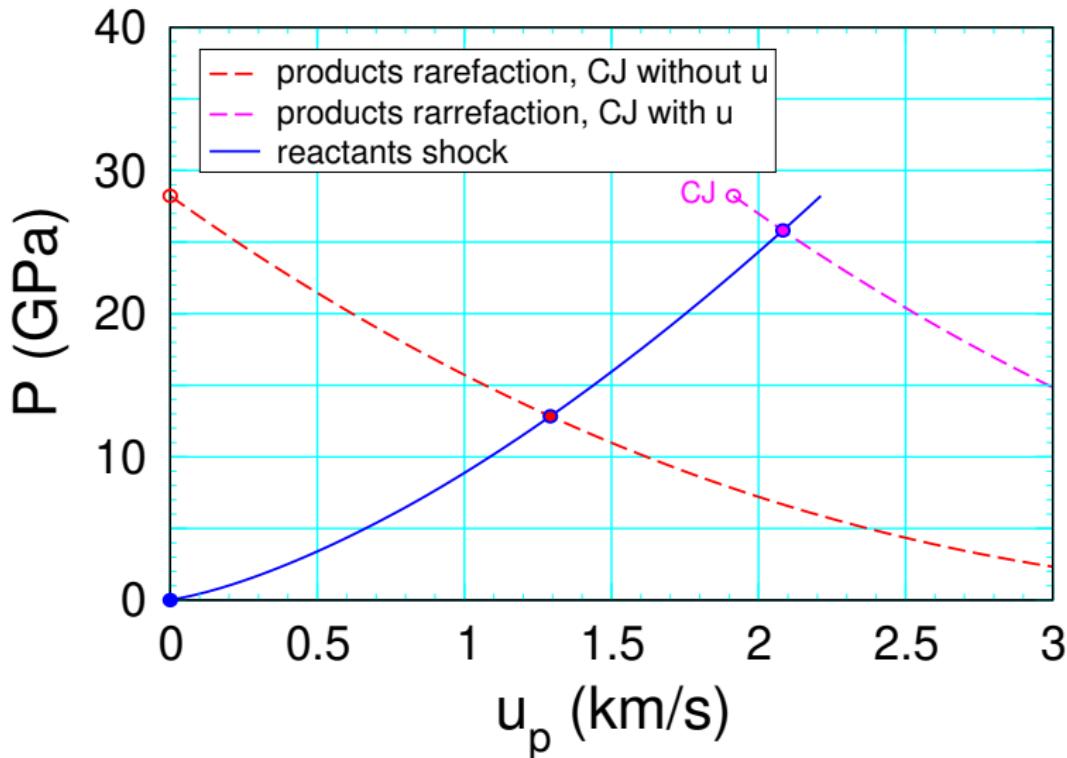
[◀ return](#)

Pop plot $x(P,T)$ 

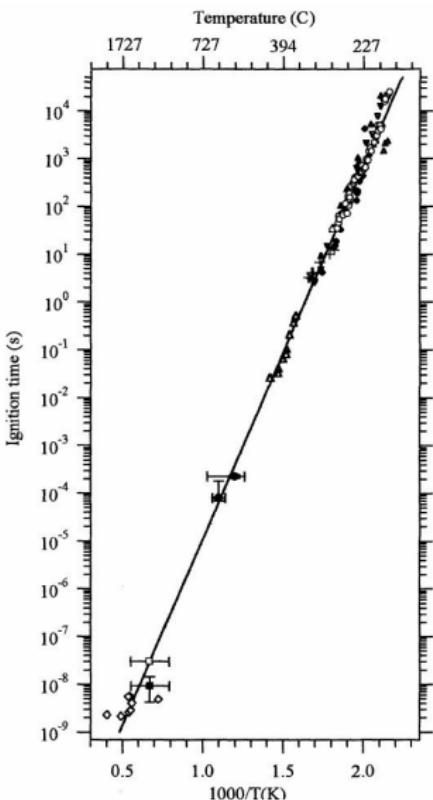
Pop plot t(P,T)



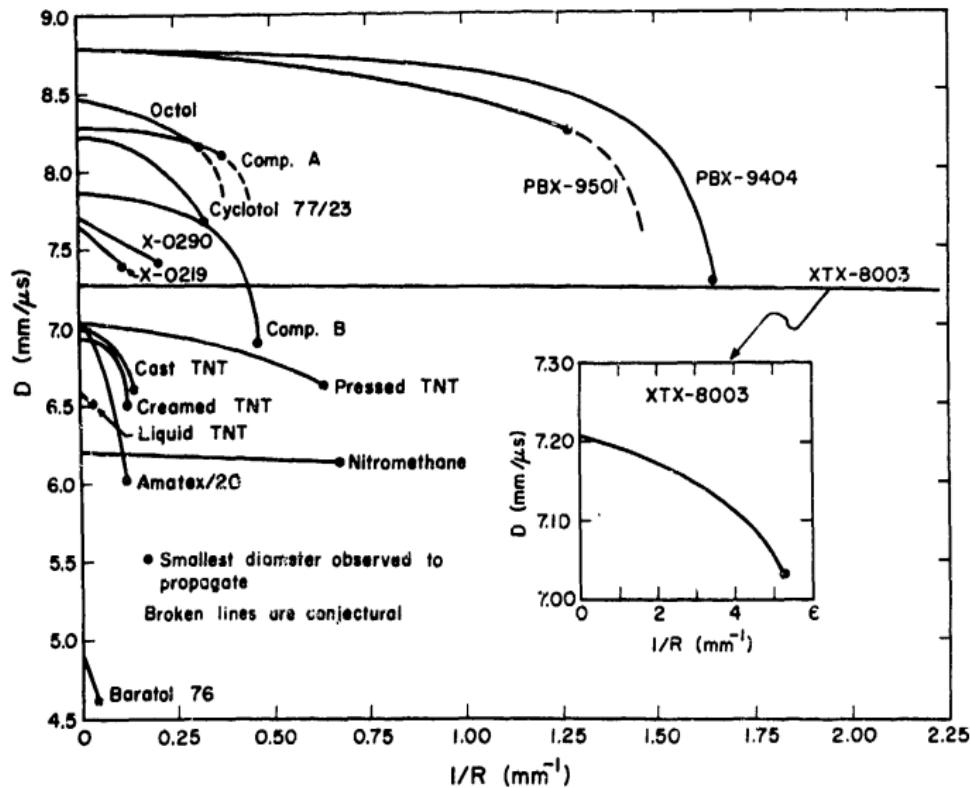
Match hotspot at CJ state \rightarrow reactants



PBX 9501 – global rate (Henson & Smilowitz)



Diameter effect: D vs 1/R



Profile ODEs with curvature

Quasi-steady profile ODEs with front curvature κ [◀ return](#)

$$-[c^2 - (D - u)^2] \frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} V \\ D - u \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} [\sigma \mathcal{R} c^2 - u \kappa (D - u)^2] V / (D - u) \\ (\sigma \mathcal{R} - u \kappa) c^2 \\ [c^2 - (D - u)^2] \mathcal{R} / (D - u) \end{pmatrix}$$

plus Bernoulli equation $e + P V + \frac{1}{2}(D - u)^2 = \text{constant}$

where $\sigma = (\partial_\lambda P)_{V,e} / (\rho c^2)$ is thermicity

$$\kappa \begin{cases} > 0, & \text{diverging front, unsupported detonation} \\ = 0, & \text{planar front, reduces to ZND profile} \\ < 0, & \text{converging front, overdriven detonation} \end{cases}$$

- Diverging detonation wave

$D_n(\kappa)$ determined by “eigenvalue” like problem

ODE trajectory with $\sigma \mathcal{R} - u \kappa = 0$ at critical point $[c^2 - (D - u)^2] = 0$

- Sonic point within reaction zone

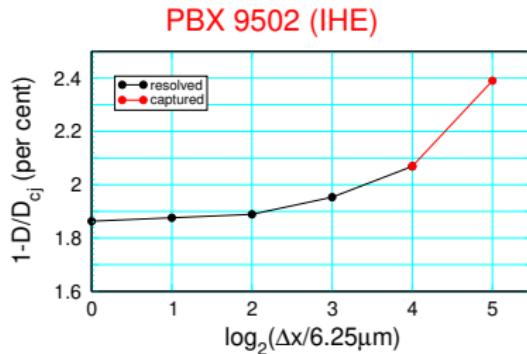
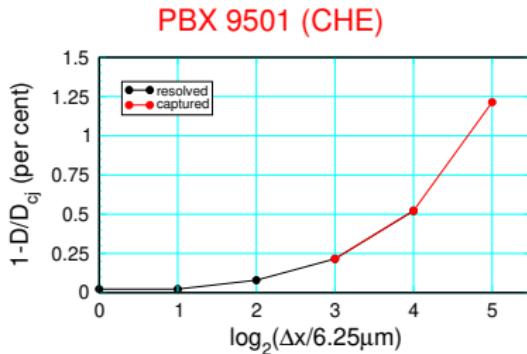
D_n decreases as κ increases

Resolution and curvature effect

Axial detonation speed for cylinder test

Examples of dependence on numerical resolution

Cell size from 6.25 to 200 microns



Accuracy decreases rapidly when reaction zone captured

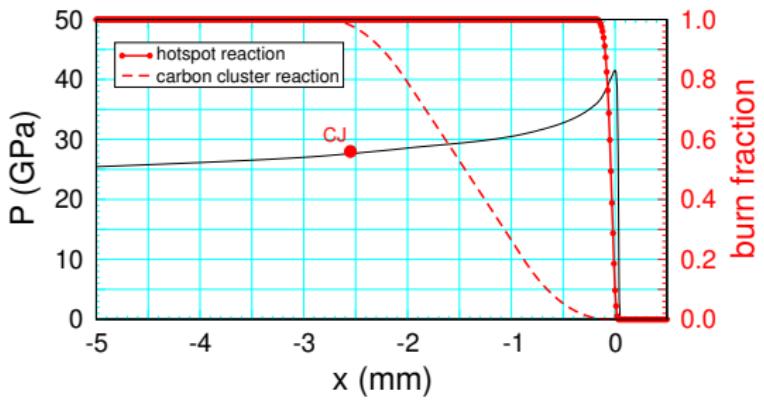
i.e., cell size \gtrsim reaction-zone width

Convergence rate is model and code dependent

These examples are for SURF model in xRage code, [Menikoff, 2019](#)

[◀ return](#)

PBX 9502 profile



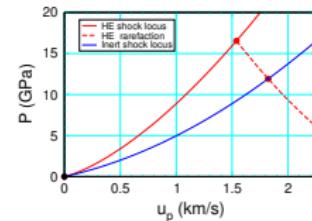
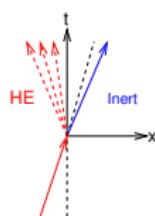
◀ return

Shock polar

[◀ return](#)

1-D shock interaction

P and u continuous across contact
particle trajectory \sim time direction

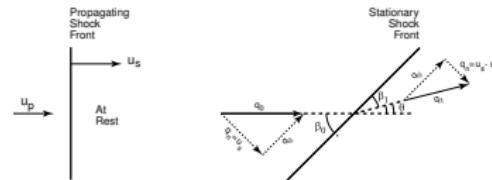


Oblique shock

& turning angle

$$\tan \theta = \frac{u_p u_s}{q_0^2 - u_p u_s} \cdot \frac{q_{\parallel}}{u_s}$$

$$q_{\parallel}^2 = q_0^2 - u_s^2$$



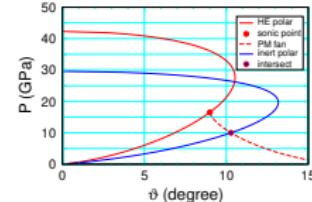
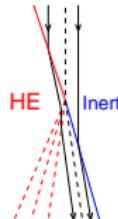
Steady 2-D wave pattern

P and u_{\perp} continuous

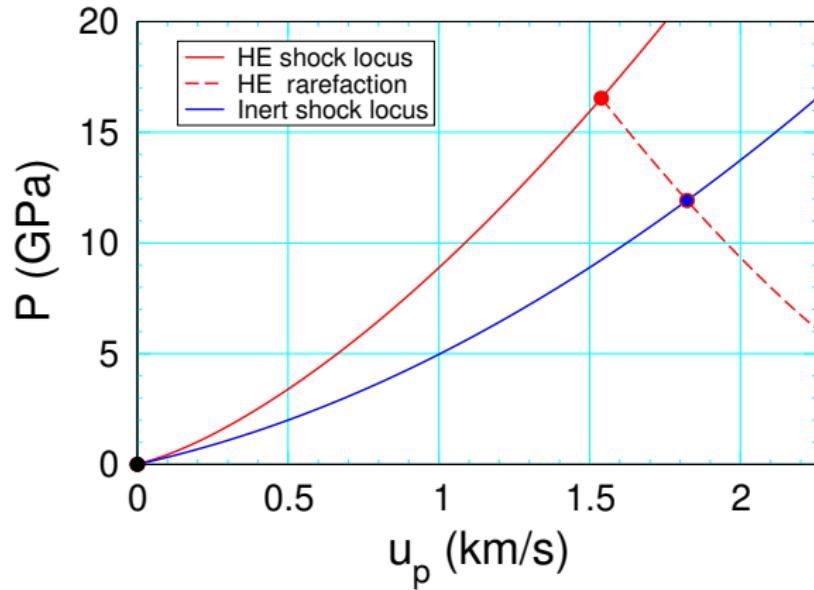
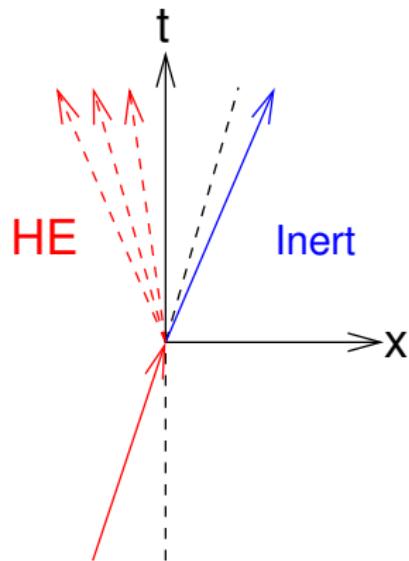
u_{\parallel} discontinuous (slip line) across contact

streamline \parallel contact

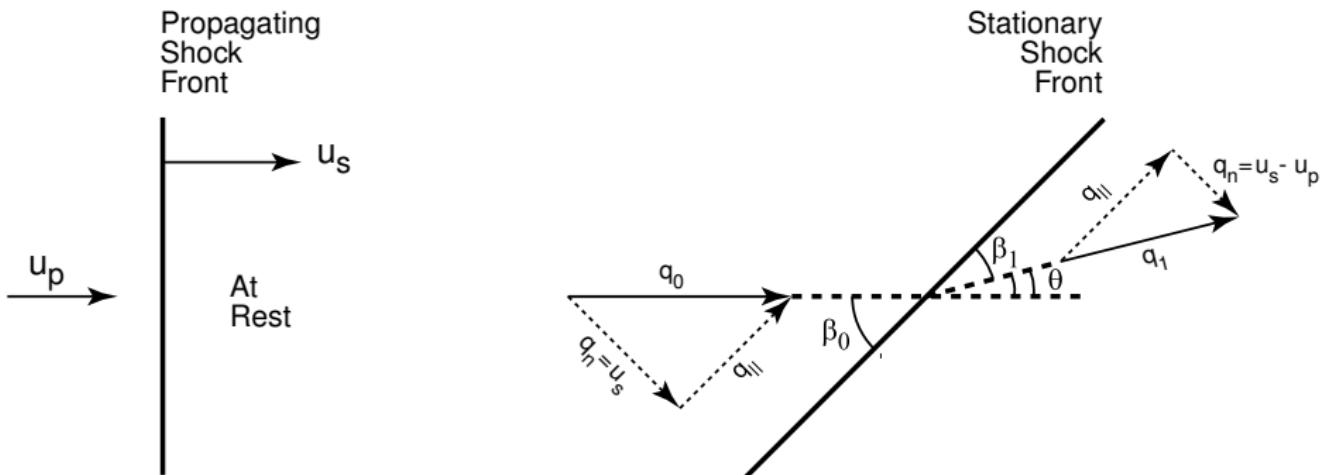
streamline \sim time direction



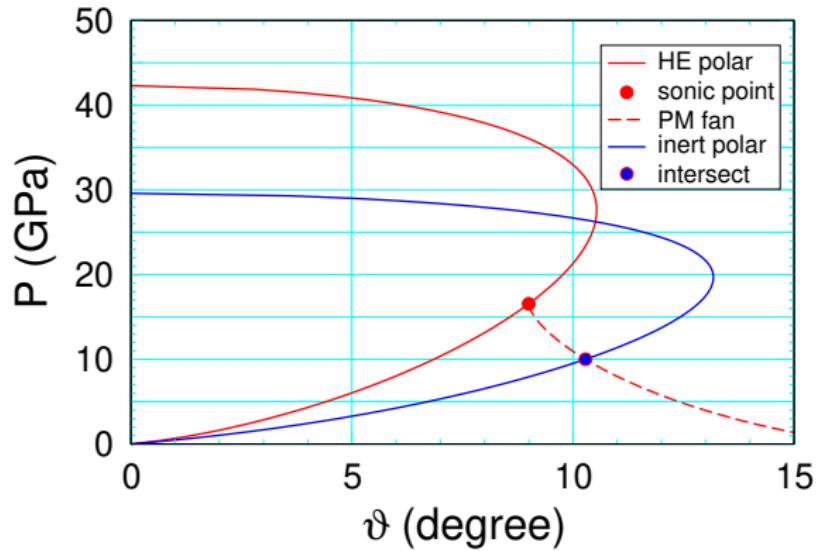
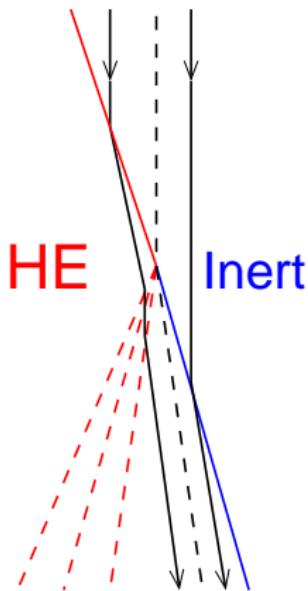
1-D interaction



Oblique shock



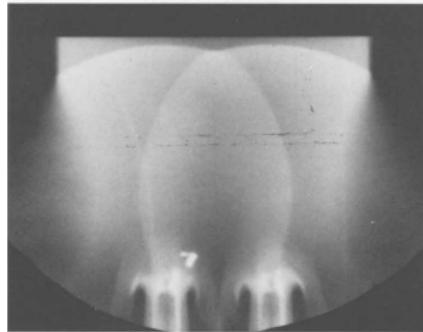
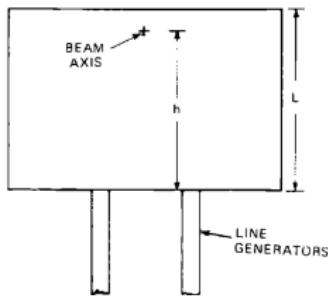
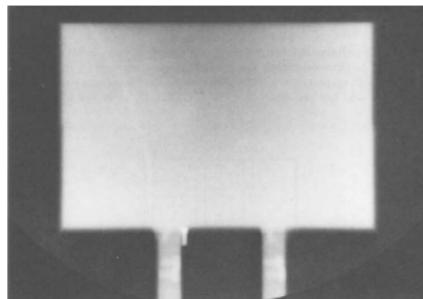
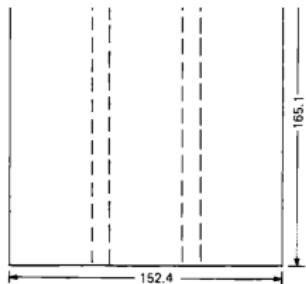
2-D wave pattern



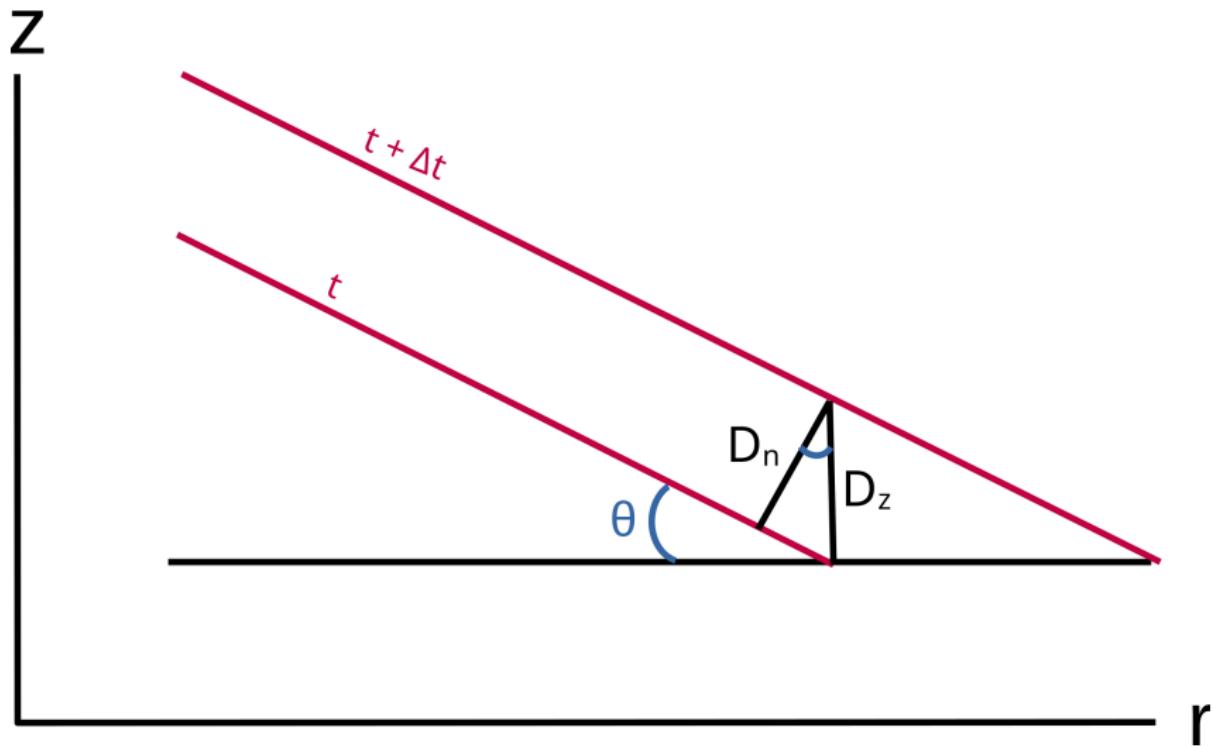
Intersecting detonation wave fronts

◀ return

Phermex shot 1037

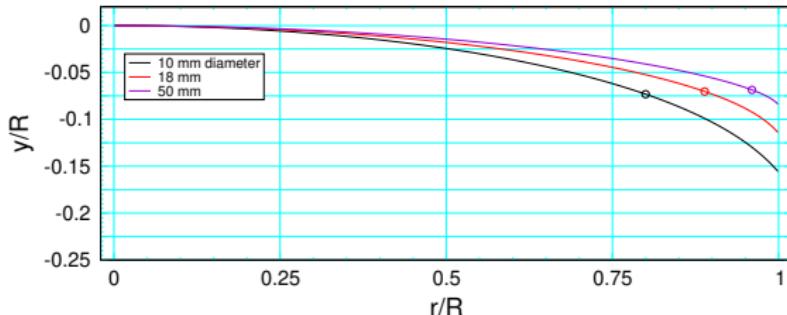


Experimental measurement of $D_n(\kappa)$

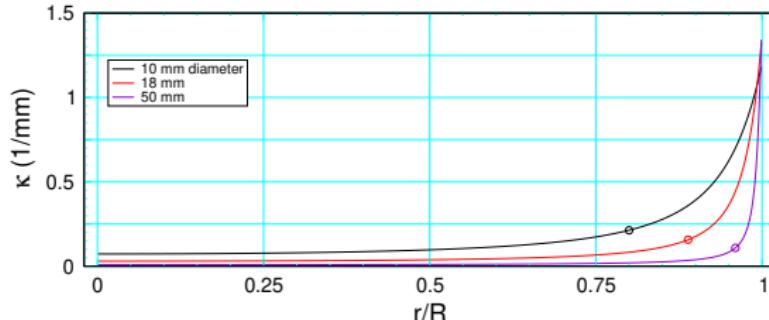


Boundary layer y and κ

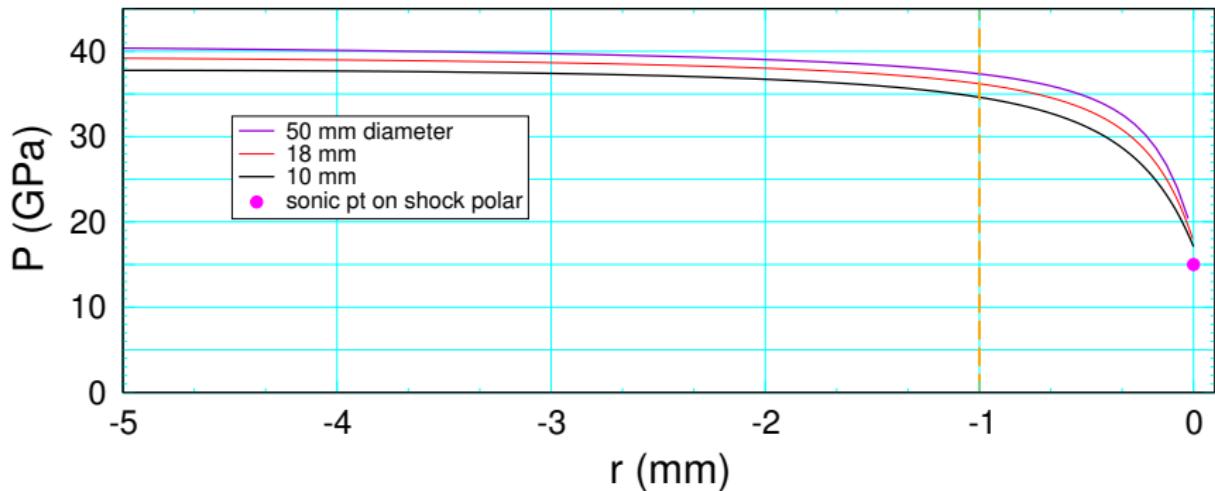
normalized front shape



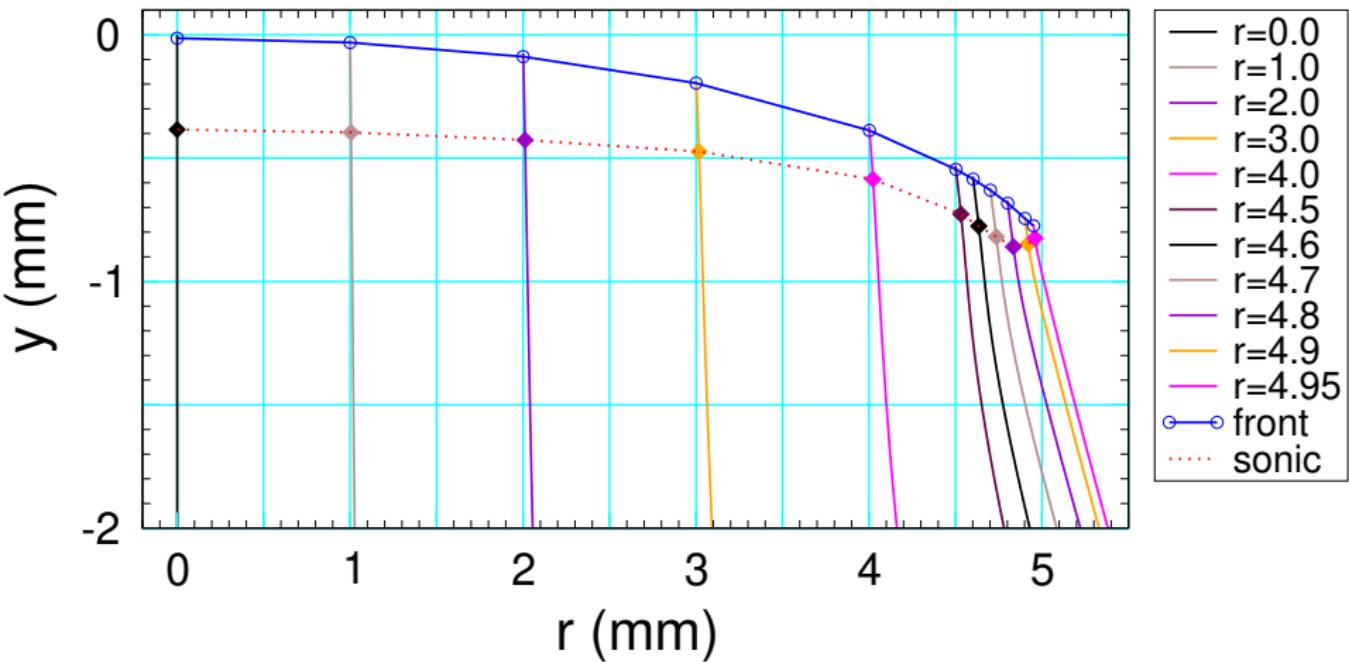
curvature vs normalized radius



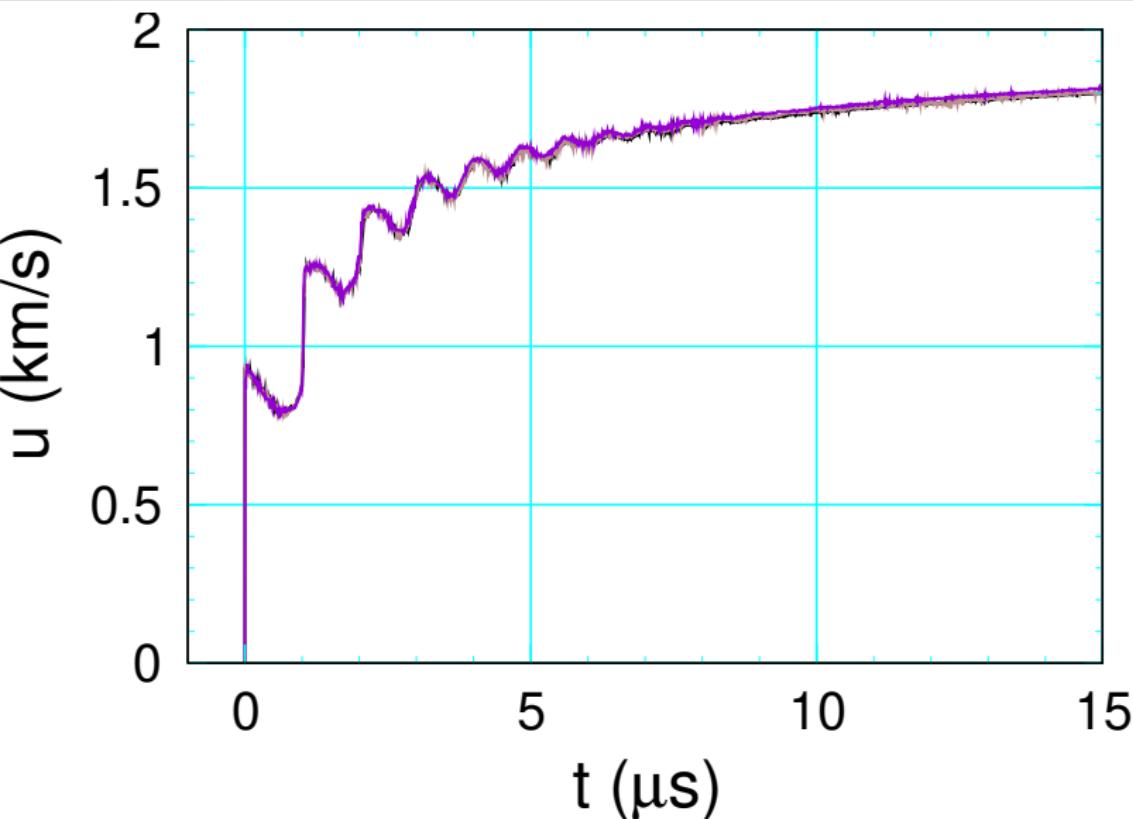
Boundary layer pressure



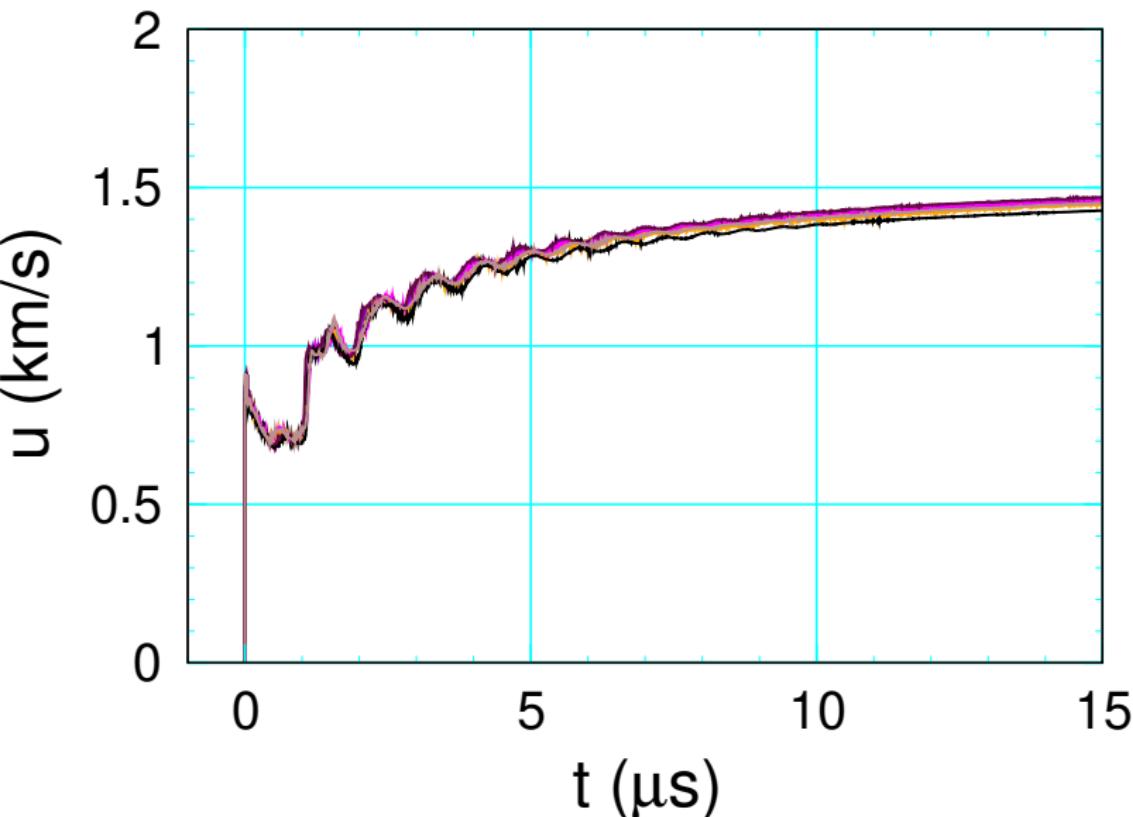
Sonic locus



PBX 9501 wall velocity



PBX 9502 wall velocity



PBX 9502 detonation locus

