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MINIATURIZED RESONANT PLATE TESTING WITH HIGH SHOCK LOADS

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INTRODUCTION

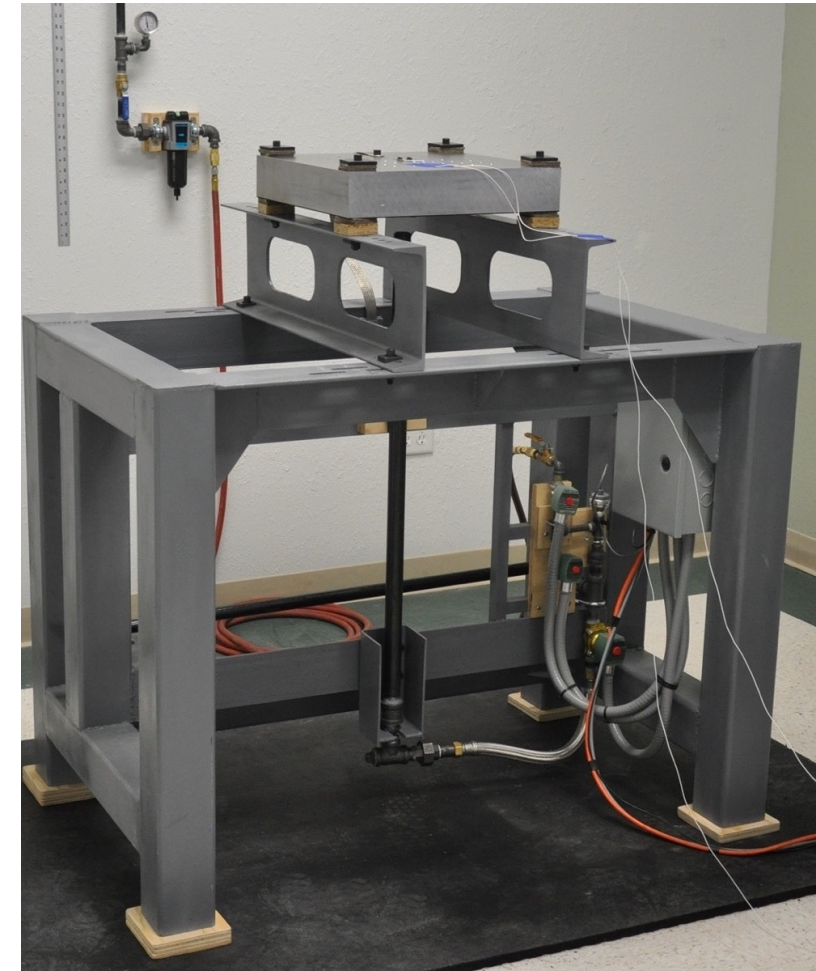
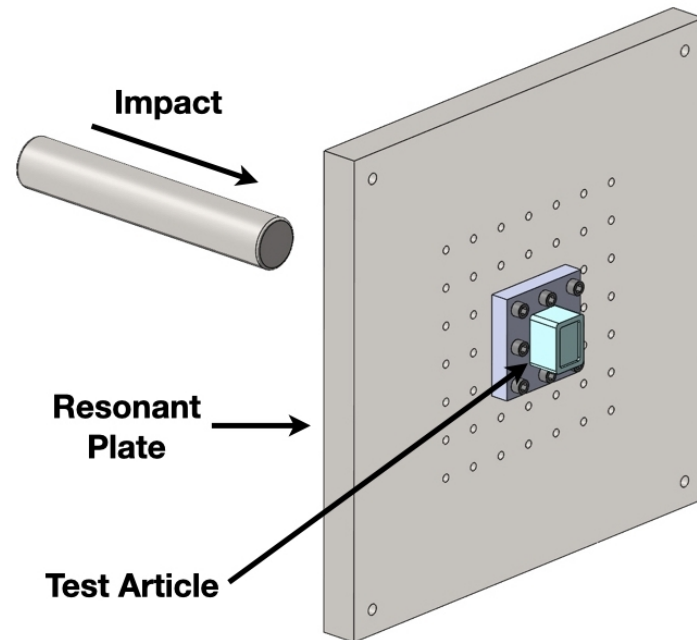
- Resonant plate shock testing overview
- Overview of experimental testing with short gas guns
- Review of high-frequency resonant plate test data
- Review of low-frequency resonant plate test data
- Comparison of long and short barrel gas gun results
- Estimates of small gun impact velocity
- Conclusions



RESONANT PLATE SHOCK TESTING



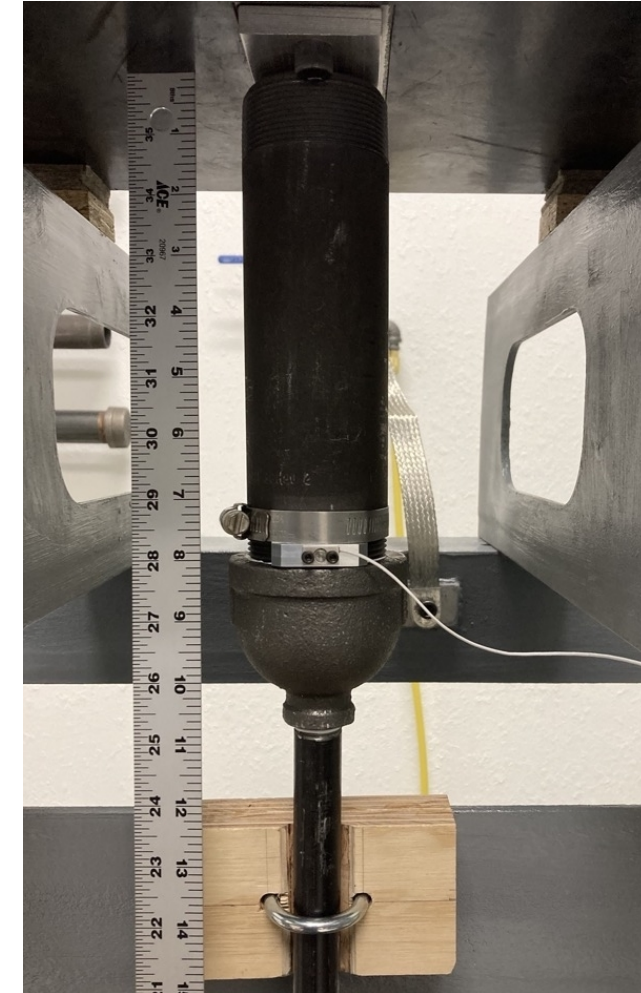
- Resonant plate testing is commonly used to simulate pyrotechnic shock events in the test lab
- Test article is attached to a tuned resonant plate and the plate is struck with a hammer
- Previous work has shown that lightweight projectiles can effectively ring resonant plates
- Can resonant plates also be rung with very short pneumatic hammer systems?
- Testing was performed on the ShockMec Engineering High-G 1 shock machine



8 INCH AND 4 INCH GUN BARREL CONCEPTS

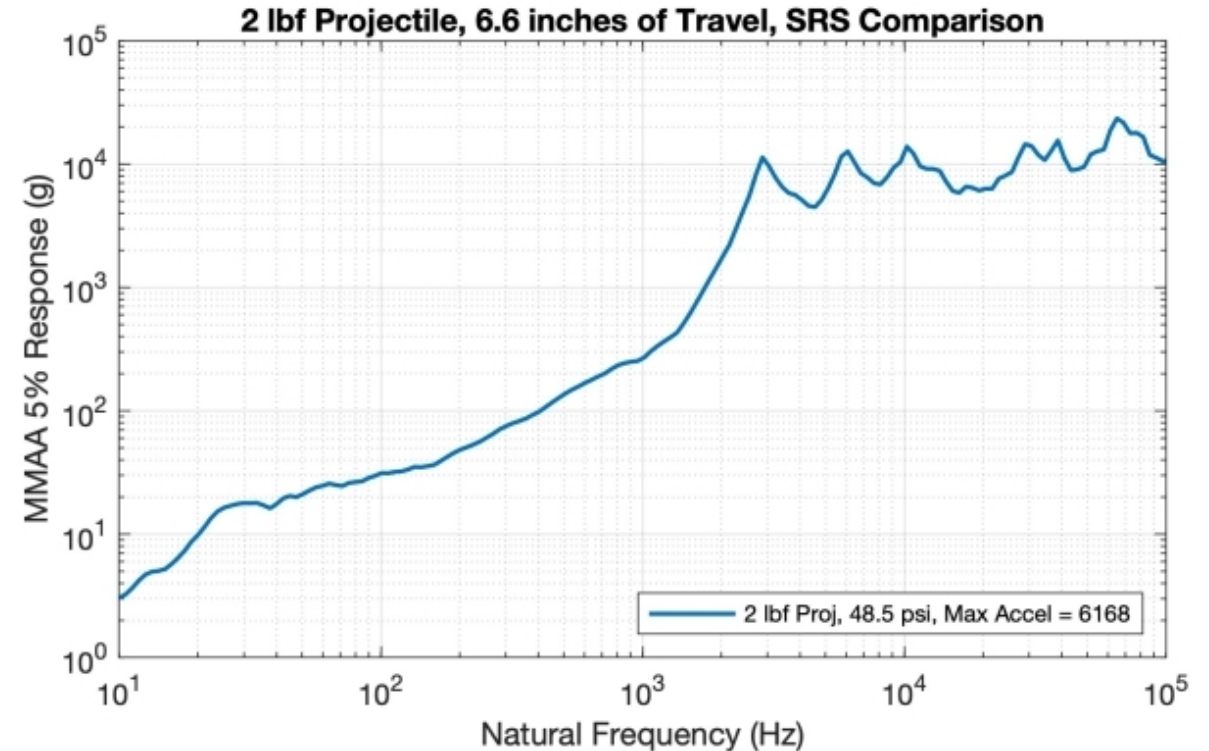
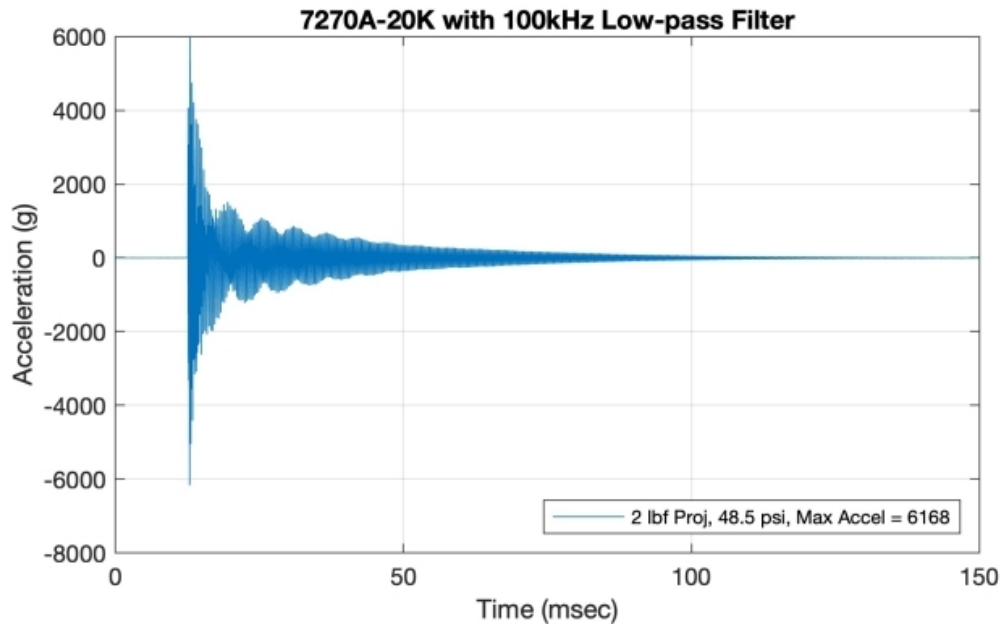
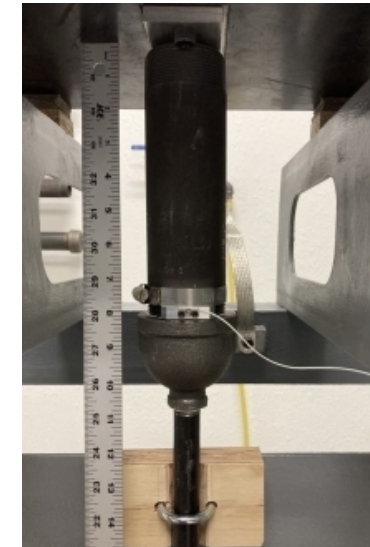


- Two short prototype gas gun barrels were manufactured for this research
 - Nominally 8 inches and 4 inches long
- Three projectile weights were made to match
 - 5 lbf and 2 lbf
- Tests performed on two resonant plates
 - 3 kHz and 600 Hz resonant plates



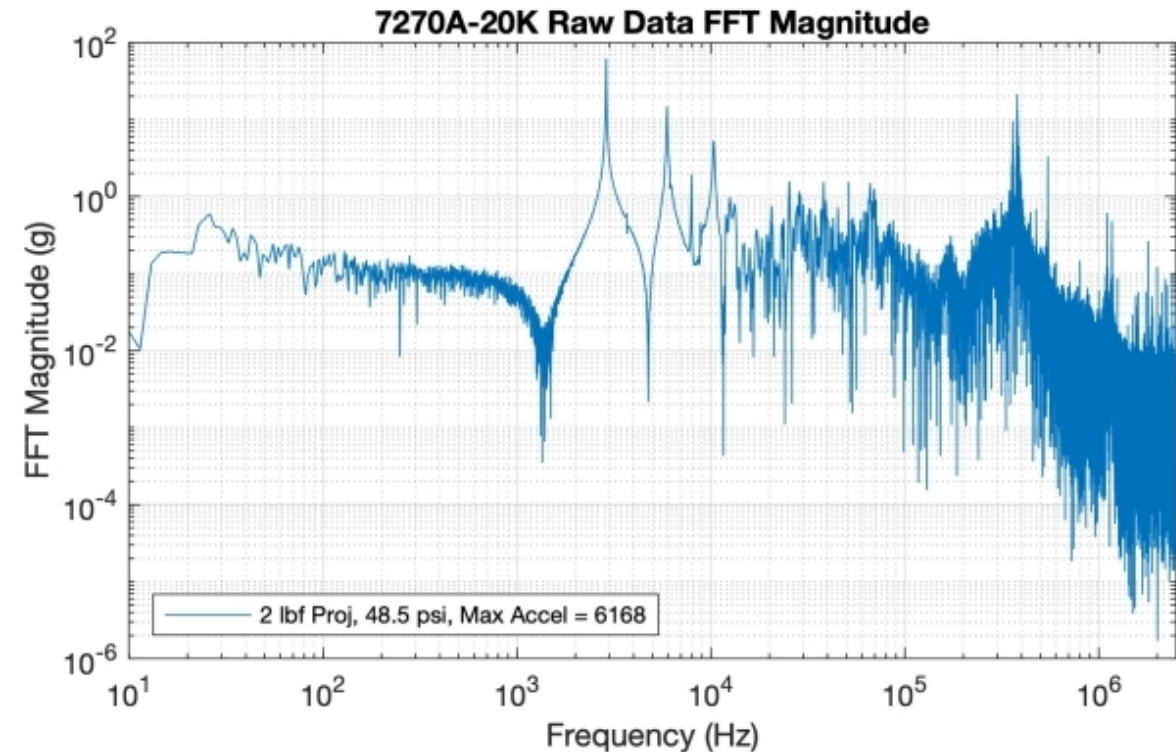
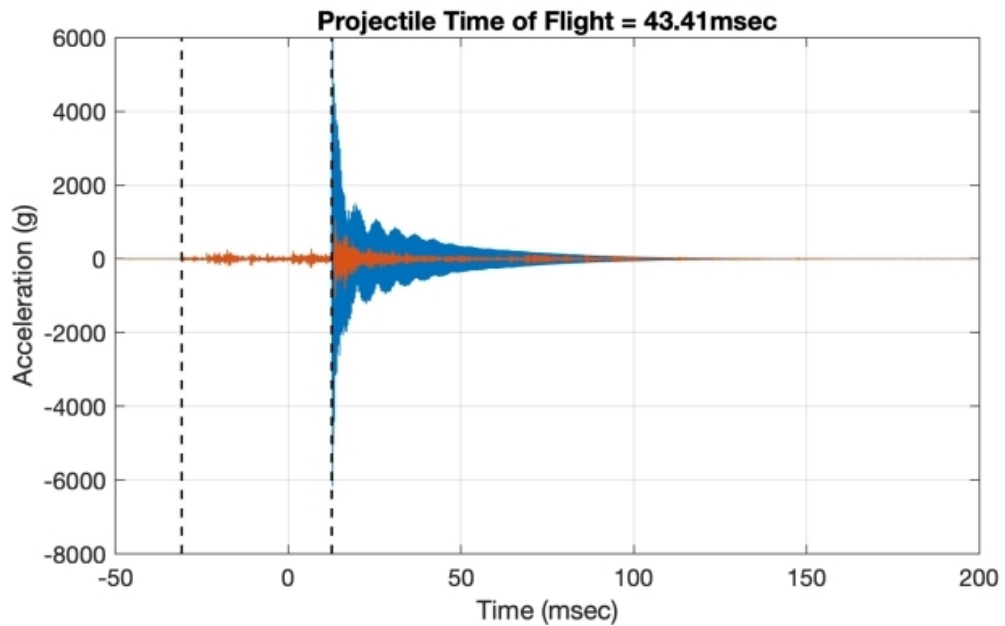
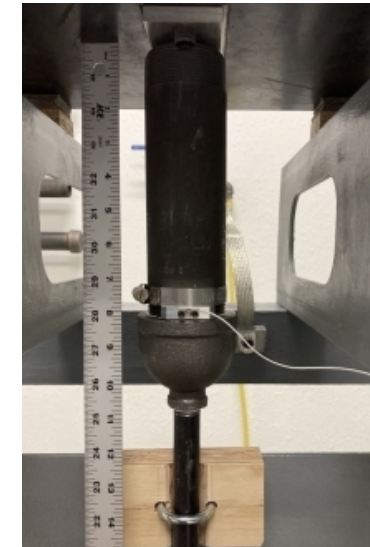
8 INCH GUN HIGH-FREQUENCY RESULTS

- Initial results from a 2 lbf projectile with 6.6 inches of travel against a 3 kHz resonant plate launched with 48.5 psi gun pressure
- Peak acceleration of 6168g
- SRS peaks exceed 10,000g



8 INCH GUN HIGH-FREQUENCY RESULTS

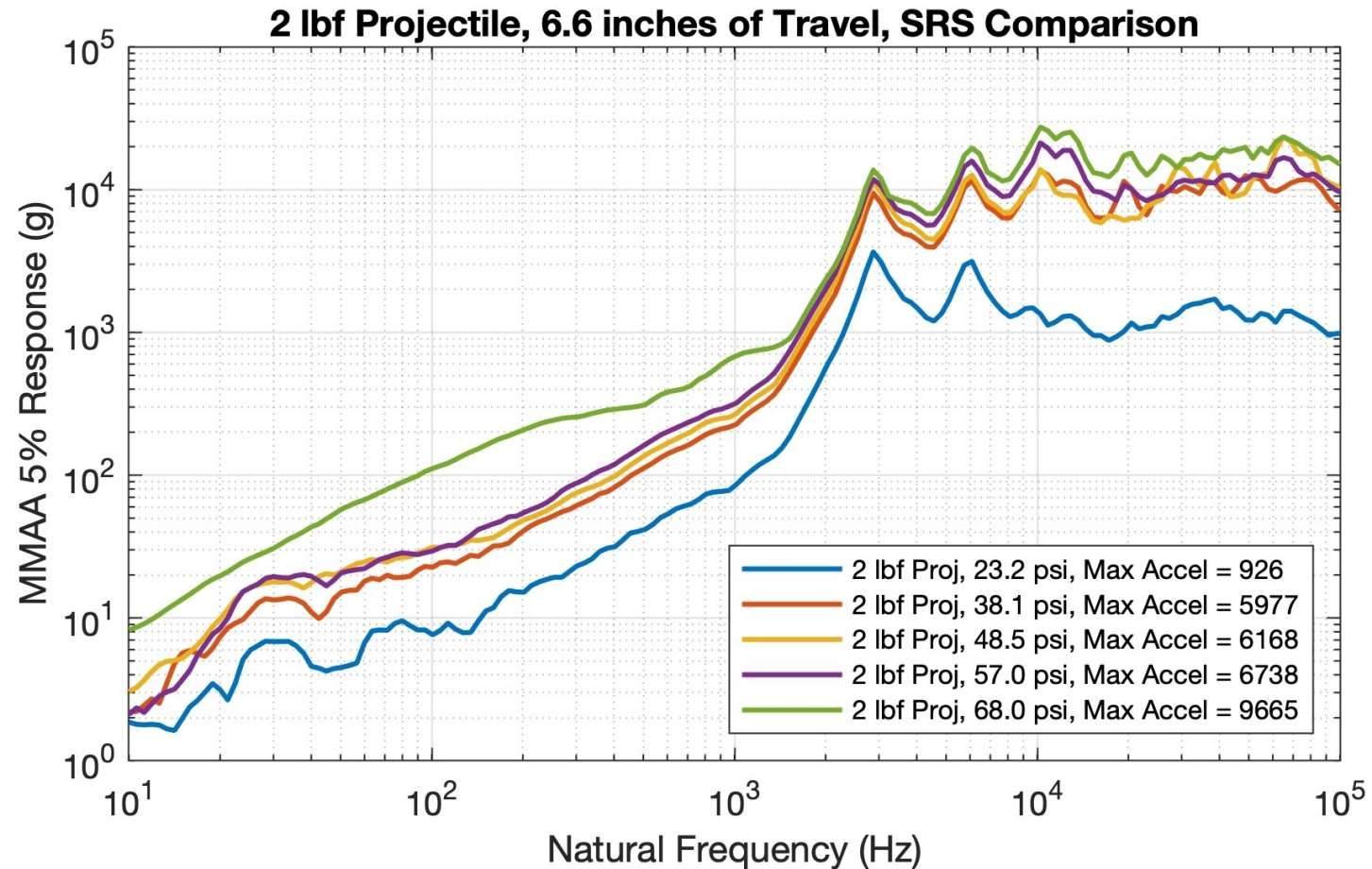
- Fourier transform results indicate that the 3 kHz resonant plate was well rung by the small projectile and the short travel distance
 - 2 lbf projectile, 6.6 inches of travel, 48.5 psi launch
- Time of flight estimated at 43.4 msec
- Estimated impact velocity of 24 ft/s



8 INCH GUN VARIABLE PRESSURE SHOT RESULTS

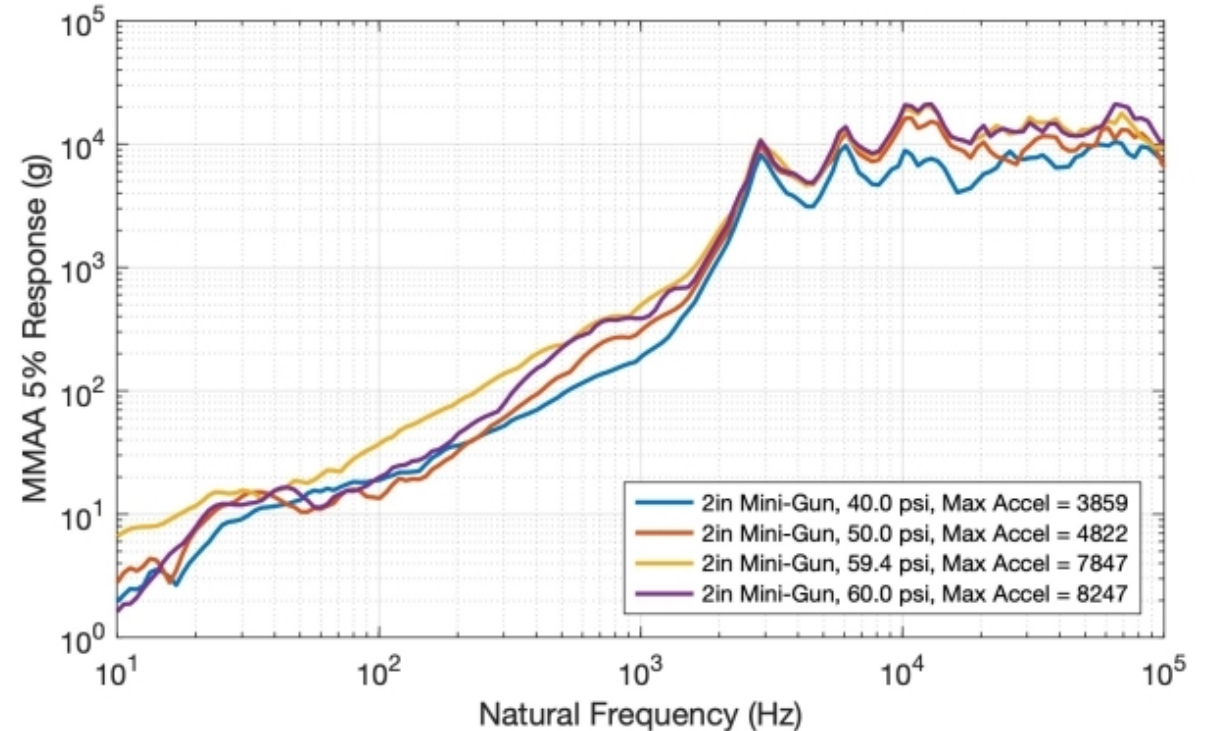
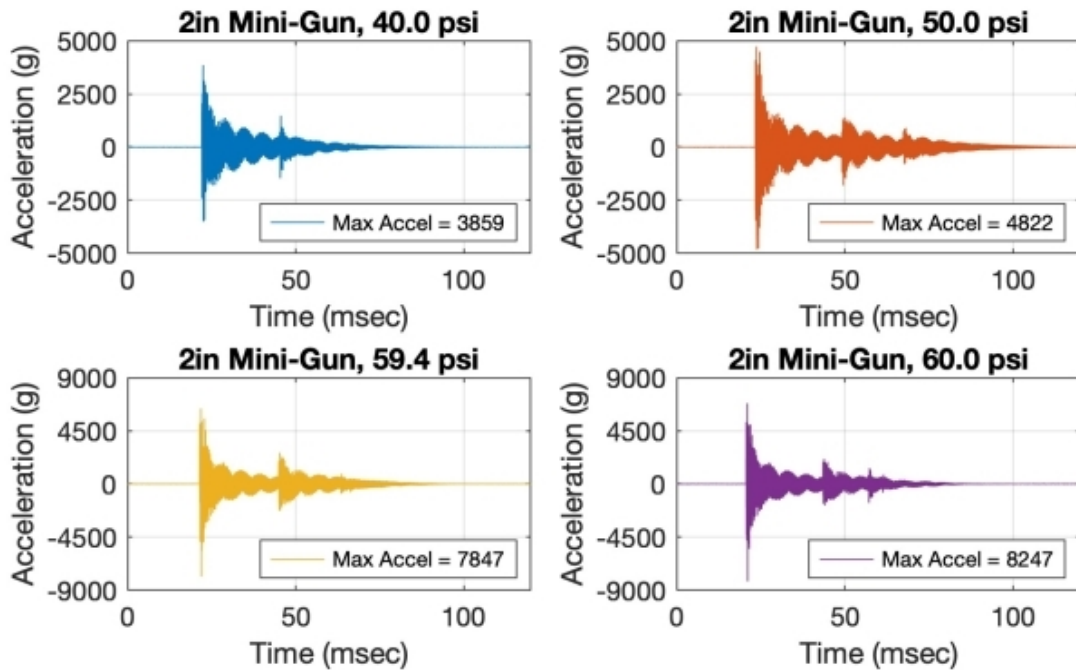


- Tests at various gun pressures using the same short barrel gun, projectile, and 3 kHz plate
- Wanted to verify plate mode consistency and that amplitude increases with pressure



4 INCH GUN HIGH-FREQUENCY RESULTS

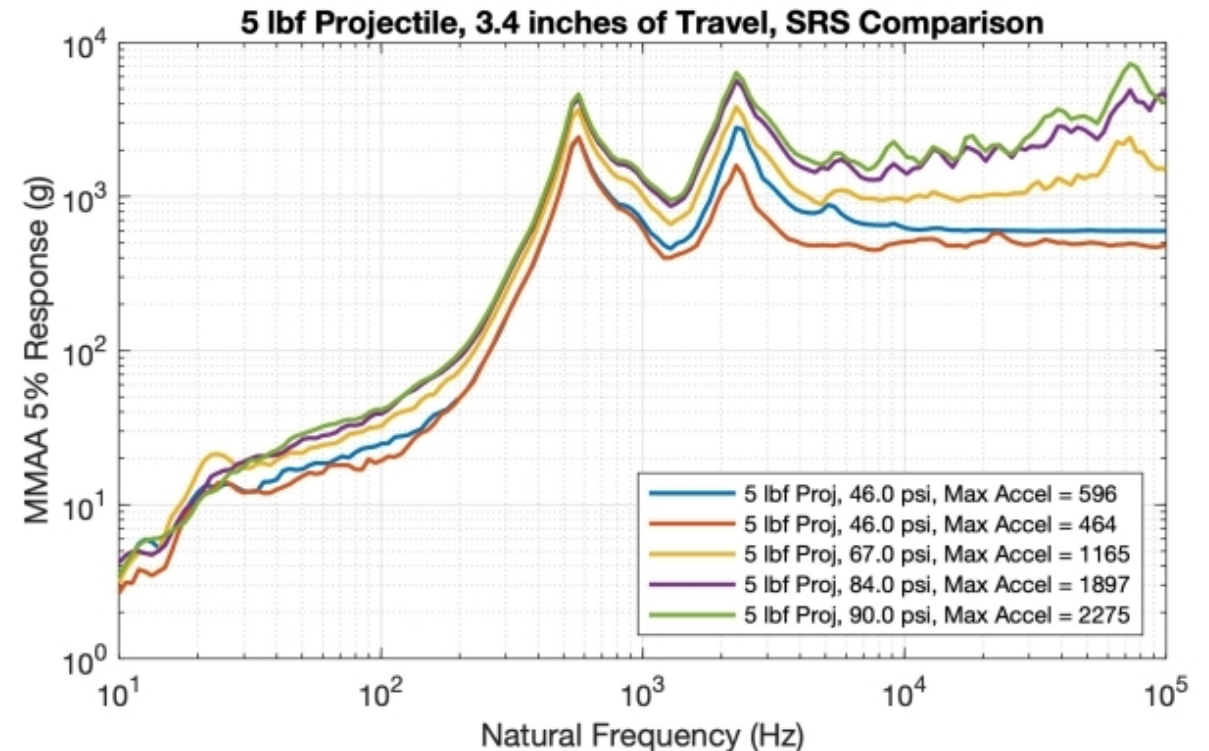
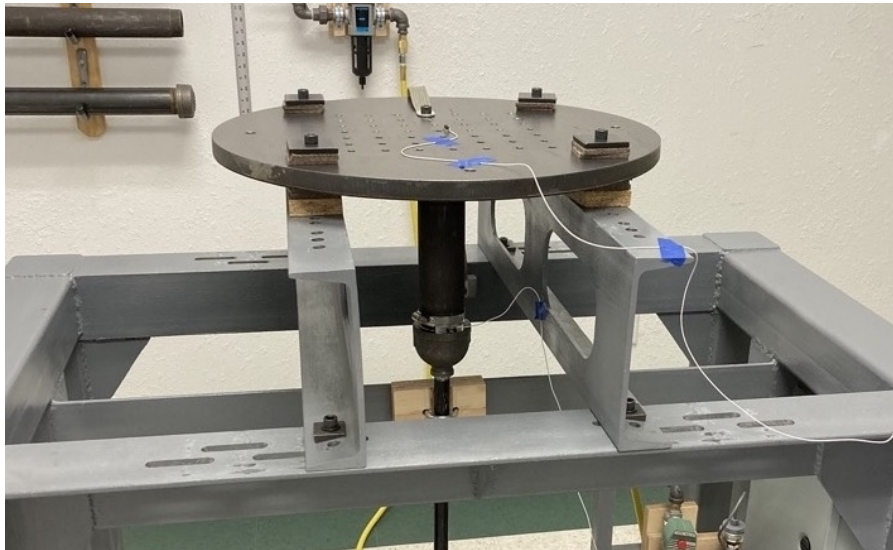
- Results from a 2 lbf projectile with 2.75 inches of travel against a 3 kHz resonant plate launched with various gun pressures
- Peak accelerations ranged from 3859g up to 8247g
- Did have some issues with multiple impacts due to short distance and lack of gas venting in this configuration



8 INCH GUN LOW-FREQUENCY RESULTS



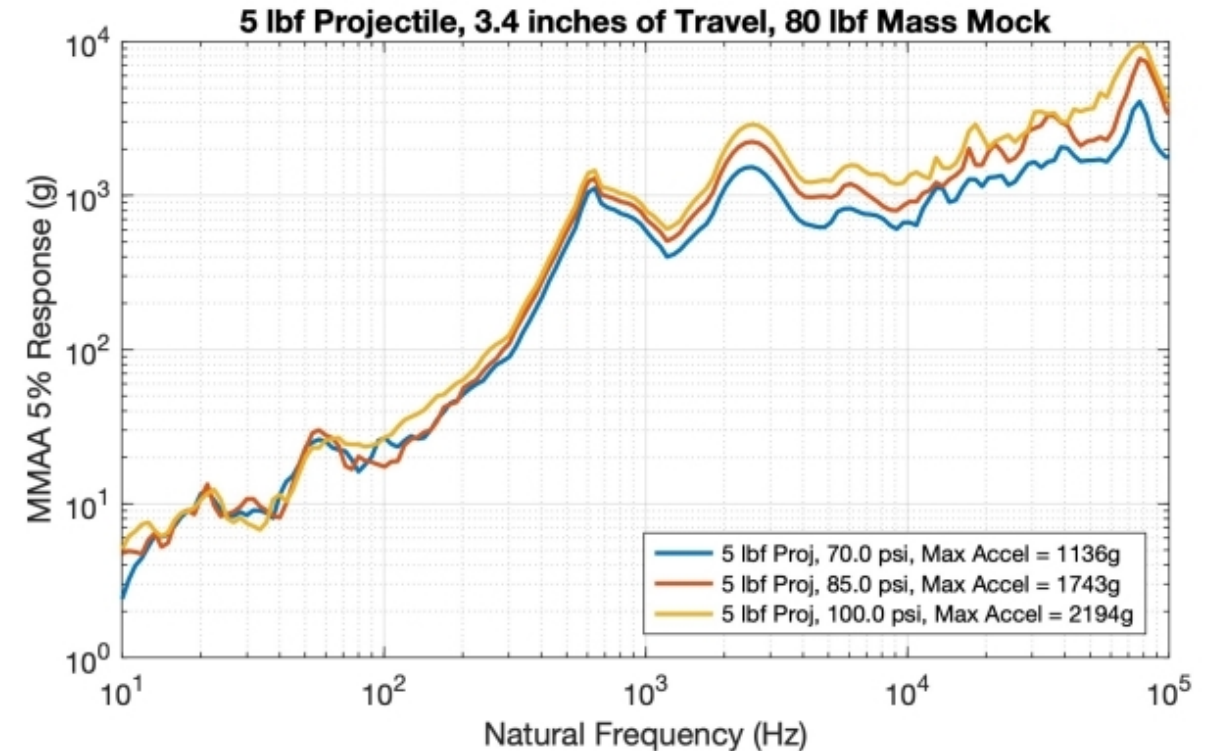
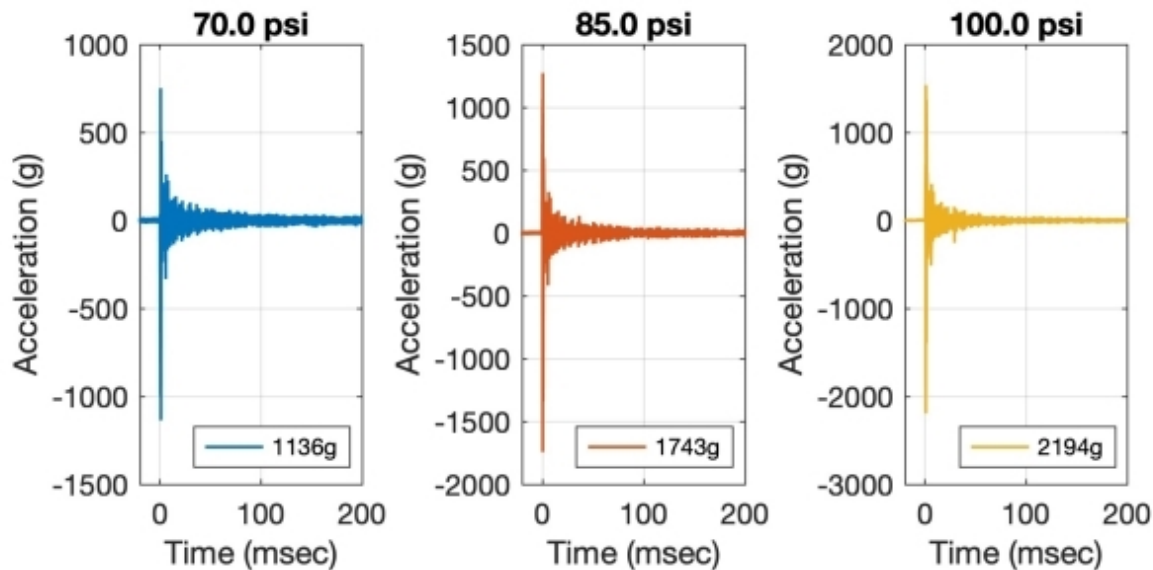
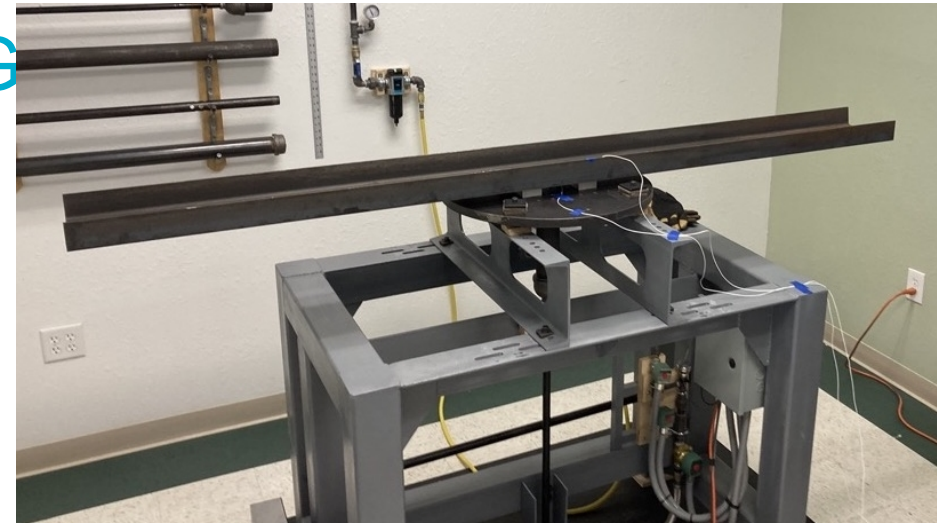
- Switched to a 600 Hz round steel resonant plate to verify low-frequency capability
 - Bare plate is 20 inches in diameter, $\frac{3}{4}$ inches thick, and weighs 76 lbf
- Used the longer 5 lbf projectile, resulting in only 3.4 inches of travel before impact
- Results are a little lower than what might be obtained with a heavier projectile or a faster impact speed but still quite good



8 INCH GUN HEAVYWEIGHT TESTING



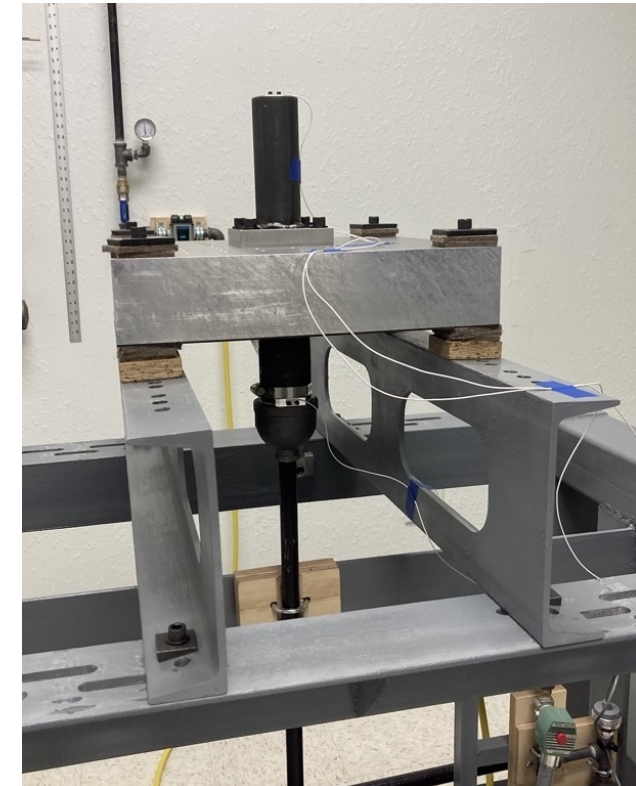
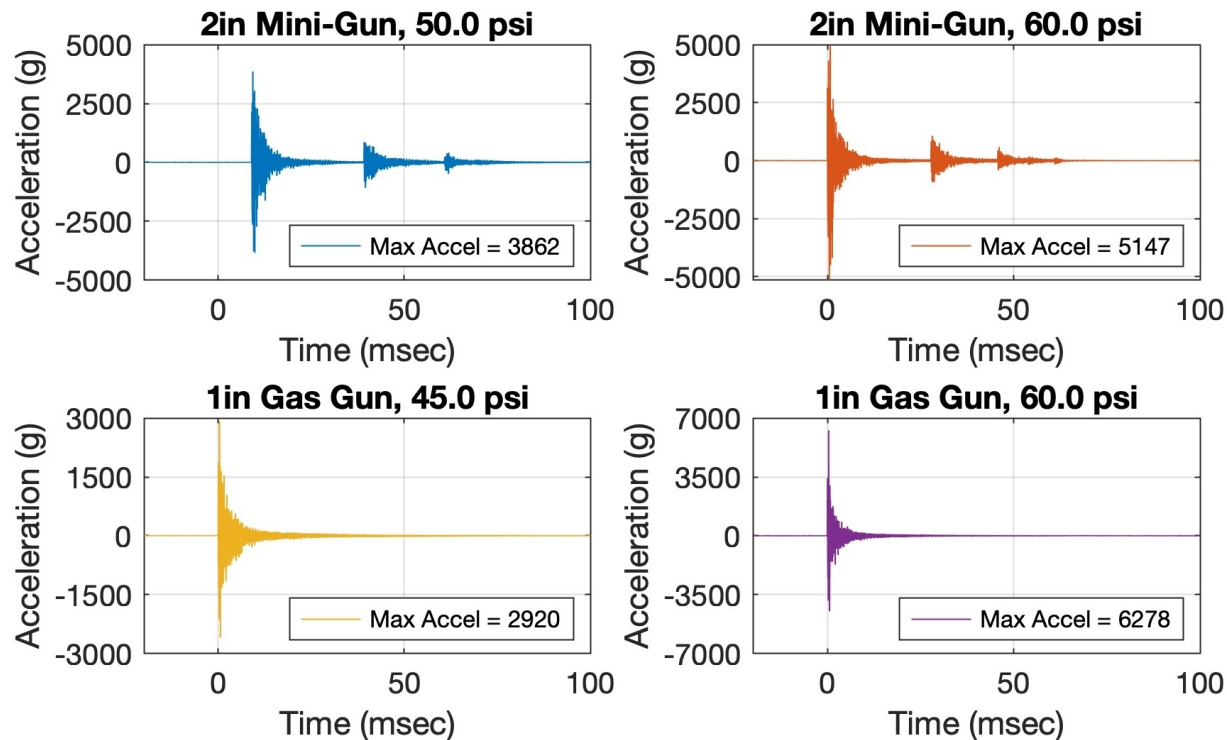
- To push the limits of the short barrel gas guns, an 80 lbf mass was mounted on the 600 Hz round steel resonant plate
- Tests were performed with the 5 lbf projectile with only 3.4 inches of travel prior to impact
- The results achieved are a little low but may improve with a larger, heavier projectile



36 INCH AND 4 INCH GUN BARREL COMPARISON



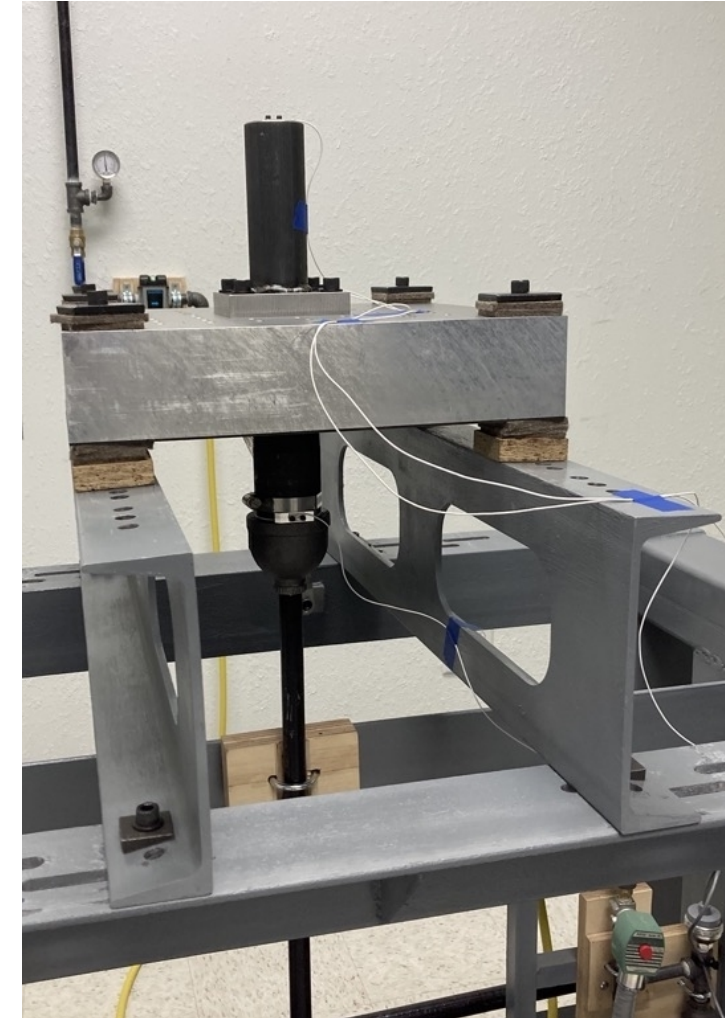
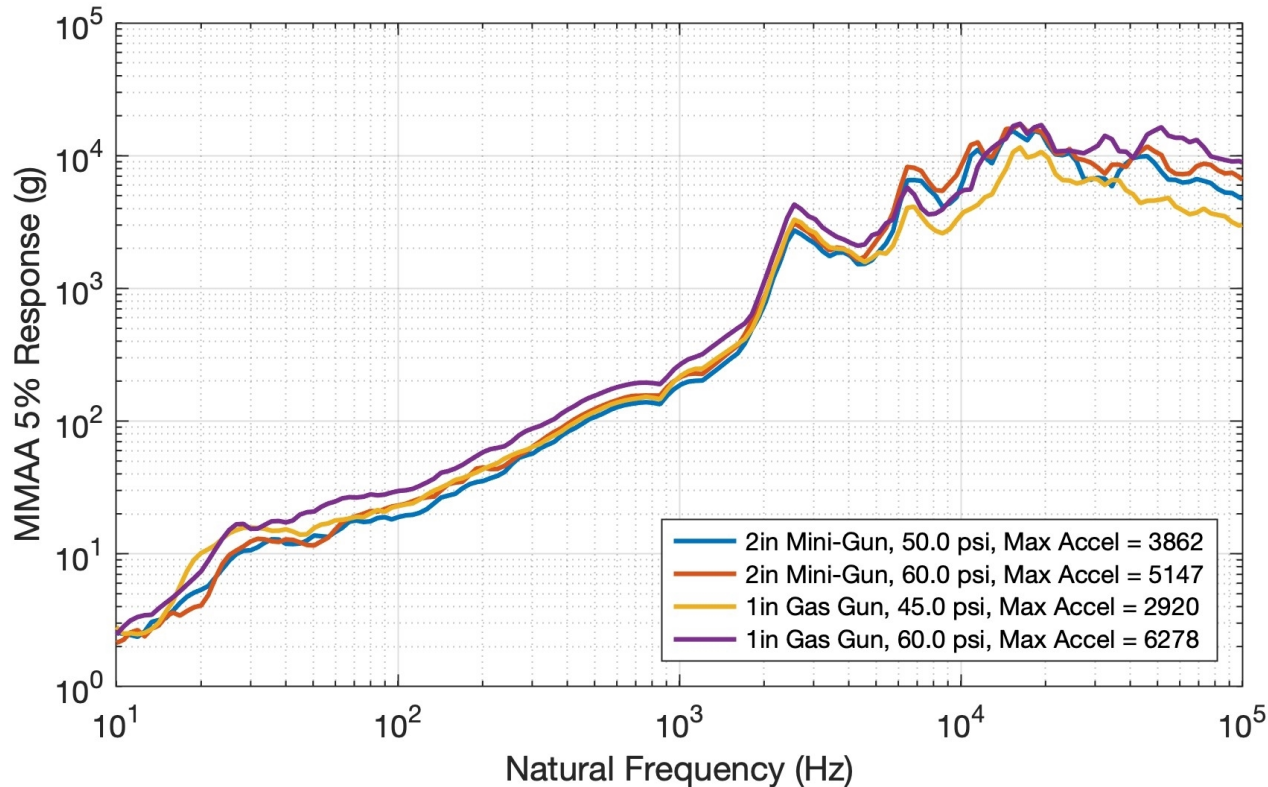
- Do short guns give the same nominal shock excitation as a traditional length gas gun?
- Results shown here compare the 4 inch long, 2 inch diameter gun with a 36 inch long, 1 inch diameter gun against a 3 kHz plate with an 8 lbf mass mock test article
- Measured acceleration signals show a lot of similarity in the initial shock excitation



36 INCH AND 4 INCH GUN BARREL COMPARISON



- SRS comparisons between the two gun lengths are very consistent
- Results indicate a consistent modal excitation of the resonant plate
- Equally likely to meet a test specification requirement with either gun configuration

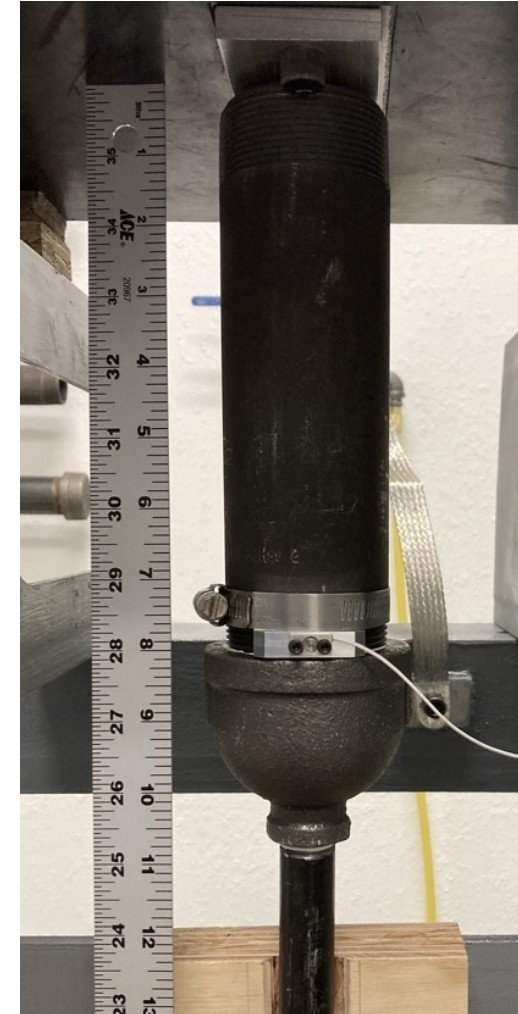


PROJECTILE VELOCITY ESTIMATES



- Estimating impact velocity on a very short barrel gun is challenging due to the rapidly changing velocity of the projectile over the short distance
- The approach used here to was to “listen” for the air entering the base of the gas gun with an accelerometer to estimate first motion
- The accelerometer on the resonant plate records the impact time
- A numerical integration was performed to simulate the air driven motion of the projectile accelerating up the short barrel and into the plate

Gas Gun Configuration	Resonant Plate	Impact Velocity
8 inch Gun 2 lbf Projectile	3 kHz	13 – 37 ft/s
4 inch Gun 2 lbf Projectile	3 kHz	11 – 12 ft/s
8 inch Gun 5 lbf Projectile	600 Hz	11 – 17 ft/s



CONCLUSIONS

- The experiments documented here show that extremely short gas guns can be used to obtain high shock loads on both low and high-frequency resonant plates
- While further optimization of the design is warranted, the concept testing was successful
- This opens the door for the development of extremely small shock test machines for unique applications



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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