

# ENHANCED PERFORMANCE FROM INSENSITIVE EXPLOSIVES

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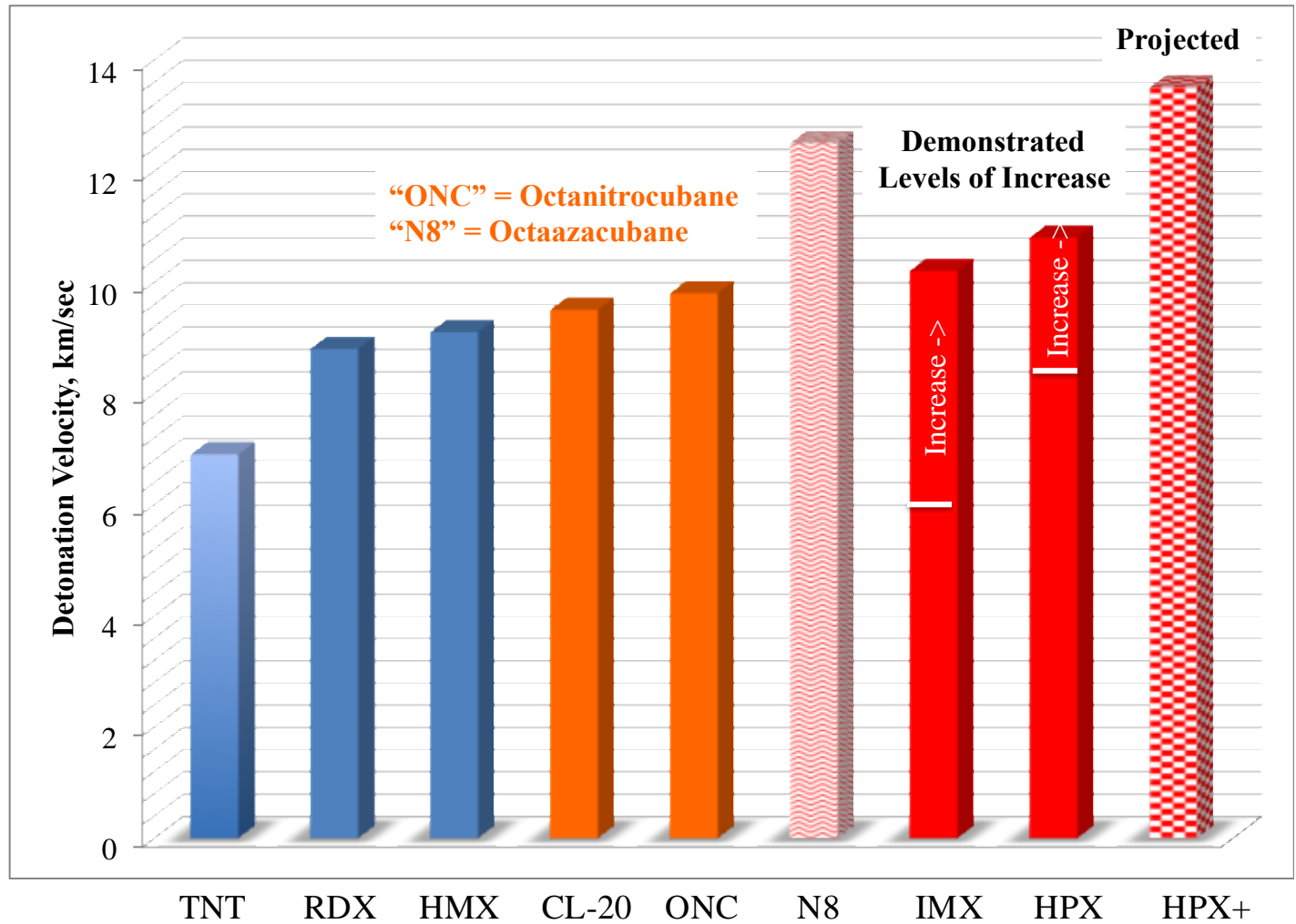
# Acknowledgement

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# Overview of Achievements Relative to Explosives Chronology



# OUTLINE

- Objective
- Background
- Modeling & Validations
- Effect of Detonation Convergence on Energy Partitioning
- Coaxial Initiation Limitations
- Results of Novel Dynamic Compression
- Conclusions



Develop means for enhancing directed energy from explosive weapon systems by exploiting the effects of overdriven detonation.

Explore means for overcoming the limitations of coaxial charges.

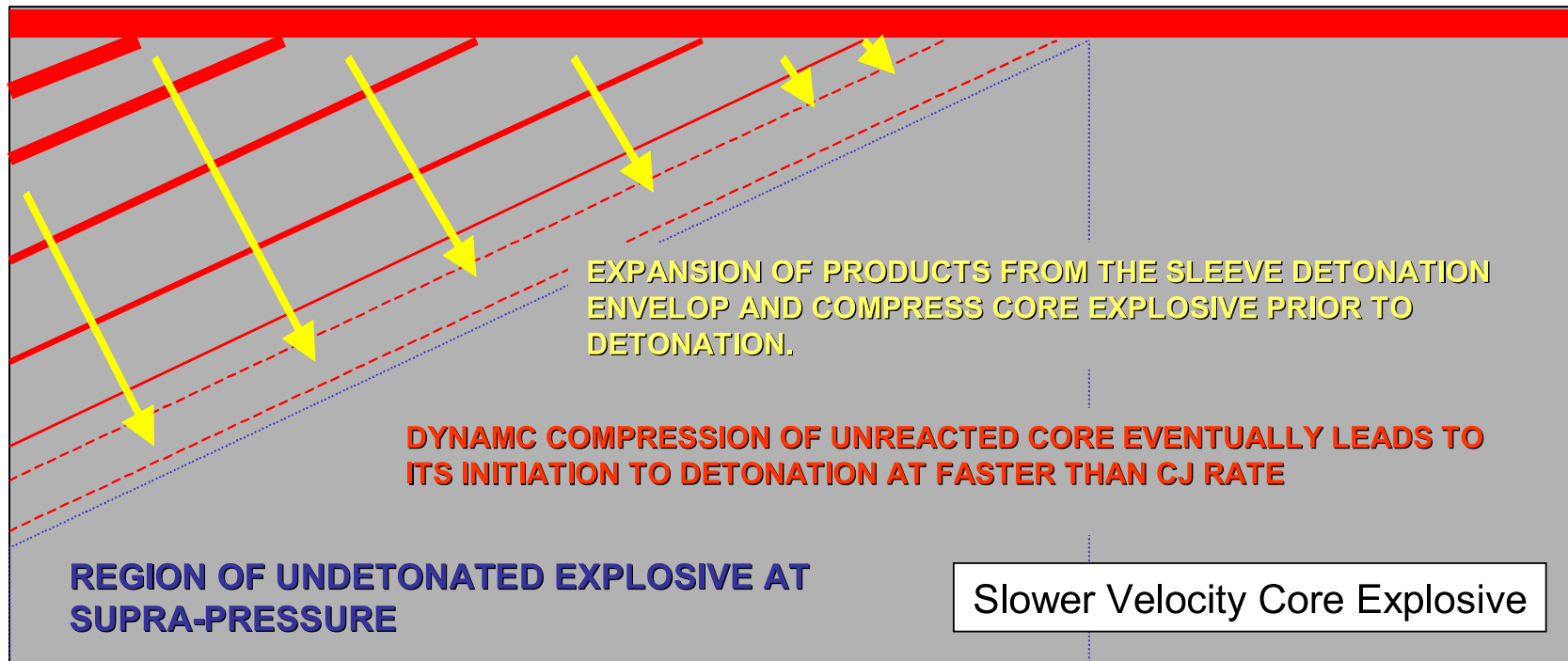
Validate prediction techniques.

## GOAL & OBJECTIVES



# Pre-Compression Leads to Elevated Shocked States & Detonation Condition

**Circumferential Initiation at Rate(s) Faster Than the Core Explosive**





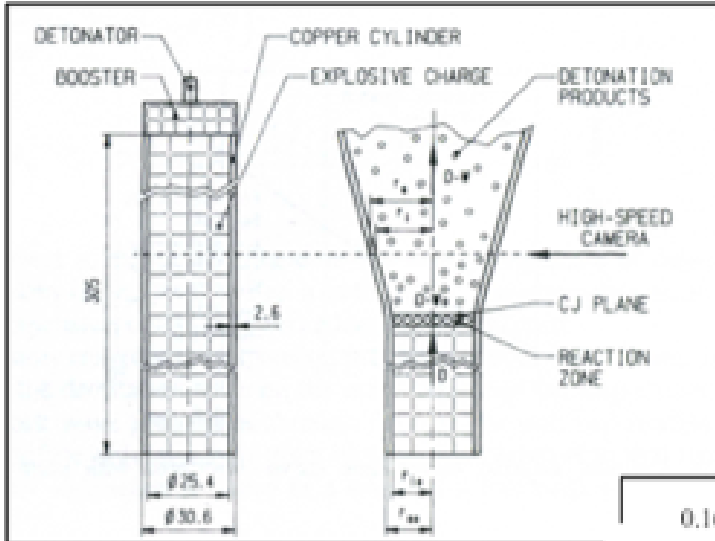
Equation of State & Modification  
Agreements with

- PBXN-111 PBXN-110/PBXN-111 CYLEX
- PBXN-111 Detonation
- PBHMX spherical implosion

# VALIDATION OF PREDICTION TECHNIQUES & TECHNOLOGY BACKGROUND



# JWL and JWL-M Equations of State & Concurrence with PBXN-111 CYLEX

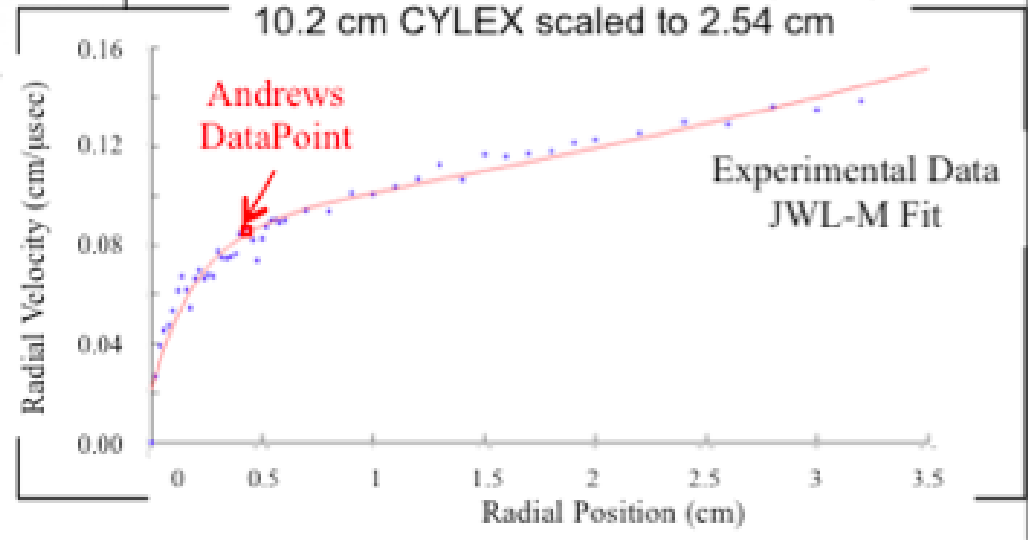


$$P = A \left(1 - \frac{\omega}{R_1 V}\right) e^{-R_1 V} + B \left(1 - \frac{\omega}{R_2 V}\right) e^{-R_2 V} + \omega \frac{(E + \lambda Q)}{V}$$

where

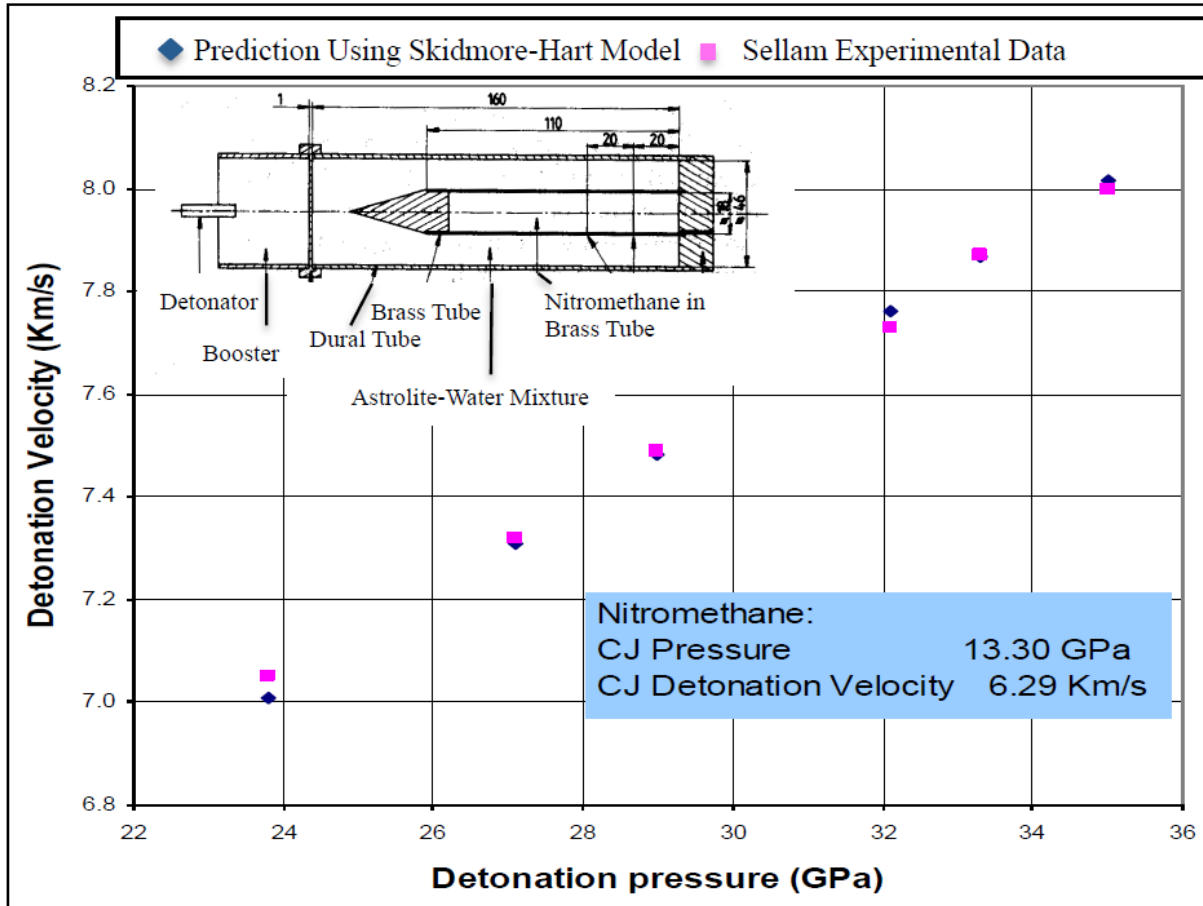
$$\frac{d\lambda}{dt} = a \left(1 - \lambda^{1/2}\right) p^{1/6}$$

PBXN-111 Experimental Data (Miller)  
10.2 cm CYLEX scaled to 2.54 cm





# CLASSIC CO-AXIAL EXPERIMENT & AGREEMENT WITH SKIDMORE-HART MODEL



$$\frac{U_{OD}}{U_{cj}} = \left[ \frac{P_{OD}}{P_{cj}} \left( 2 - \frac{P_{OD}}{P_{cj}} \right) \right]^{1/2}$$

# SUSTAINED EFFECT OF CIRCUMFERENTIAL INITIATION ON PBXN-111

(INITIATION BY THIN SLEEVE OF PBXN110 AND PBXN-112)

Position	PBXN-111	PBXN-110/111	PBXN-112/111
(mm)	Predict	Exp't	Predict
63.5	7.0	6.3	8.3
44.5	6.5	6.0	8.3
Centerline	5.8	5.5	9.7
Average	6.2	5.8	9.1

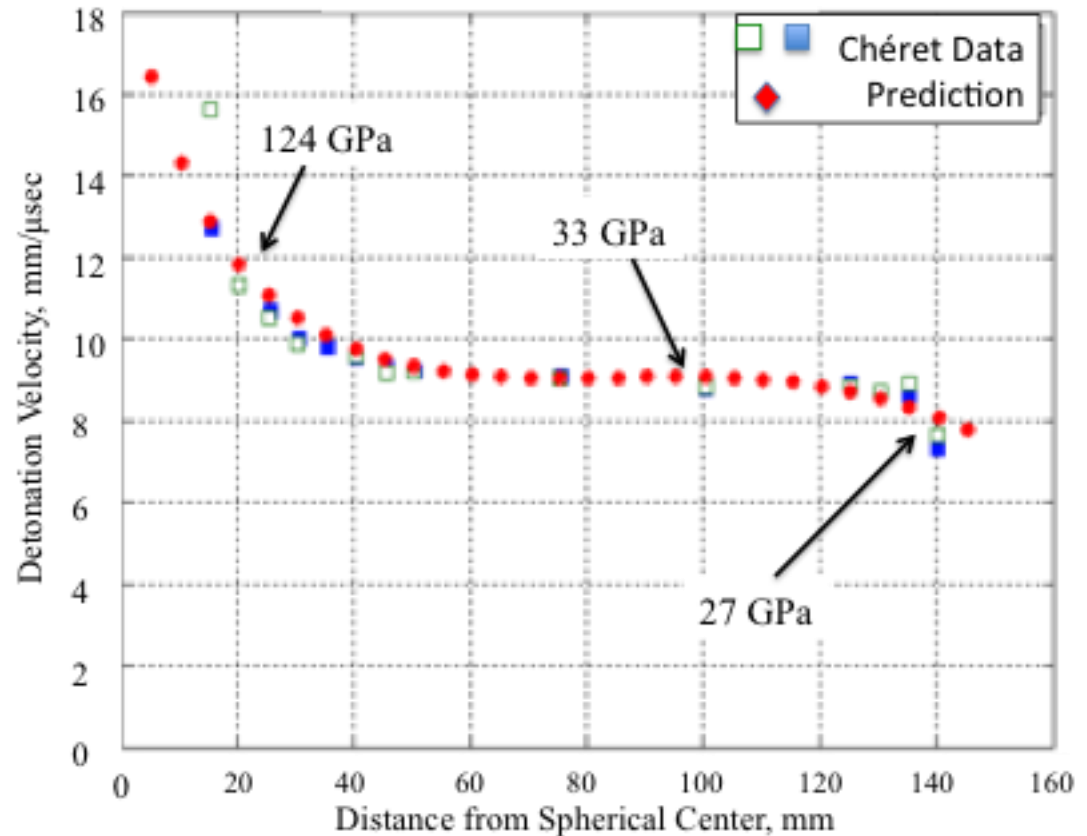


\*Peak Mach Stem Pressure, 66 GPa

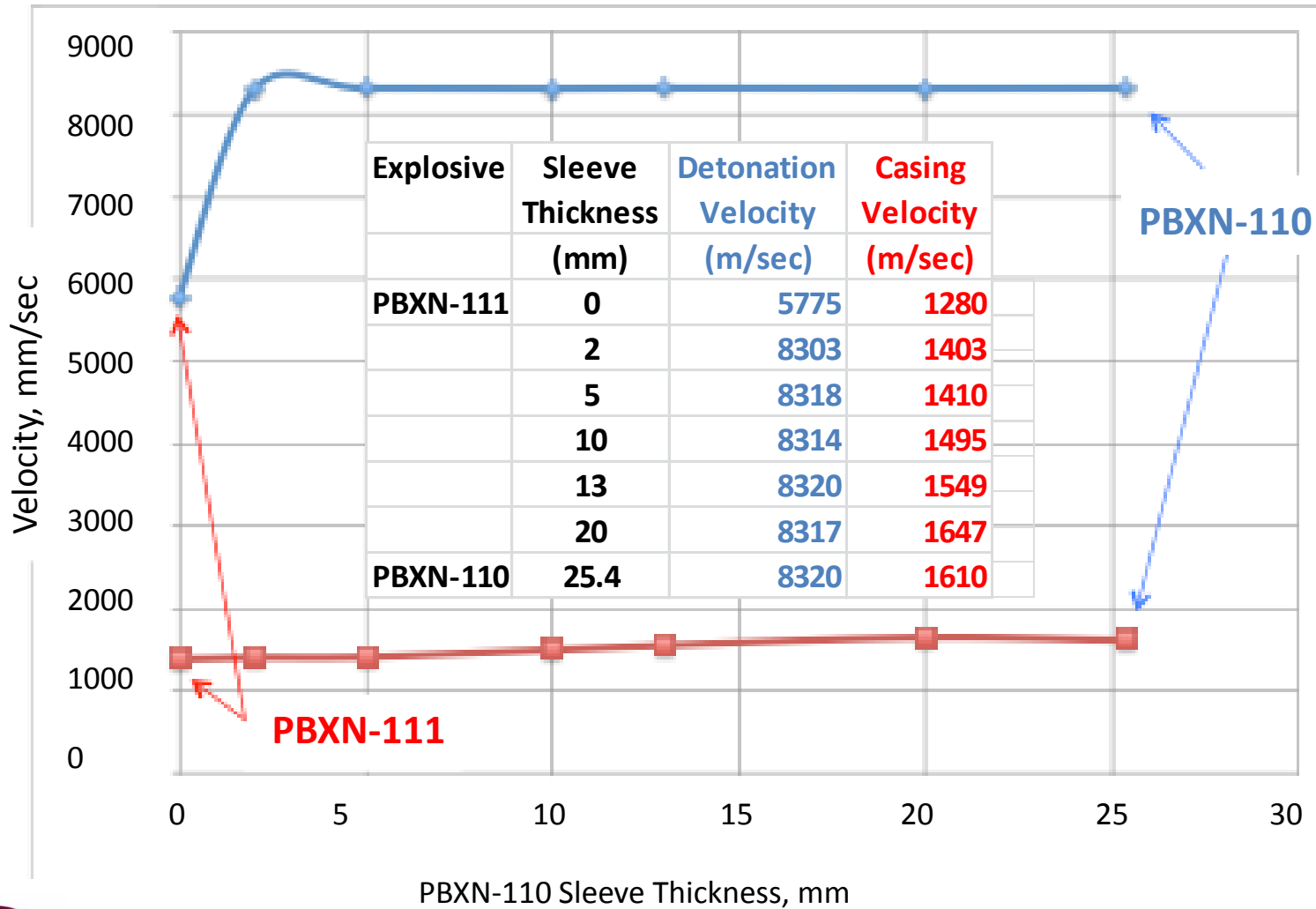
# HYDRO-CODE PREDICTION COMPARISON WITH REPORTED EXPERIMENTAL DATA: SPHERICAL IMPLOSION



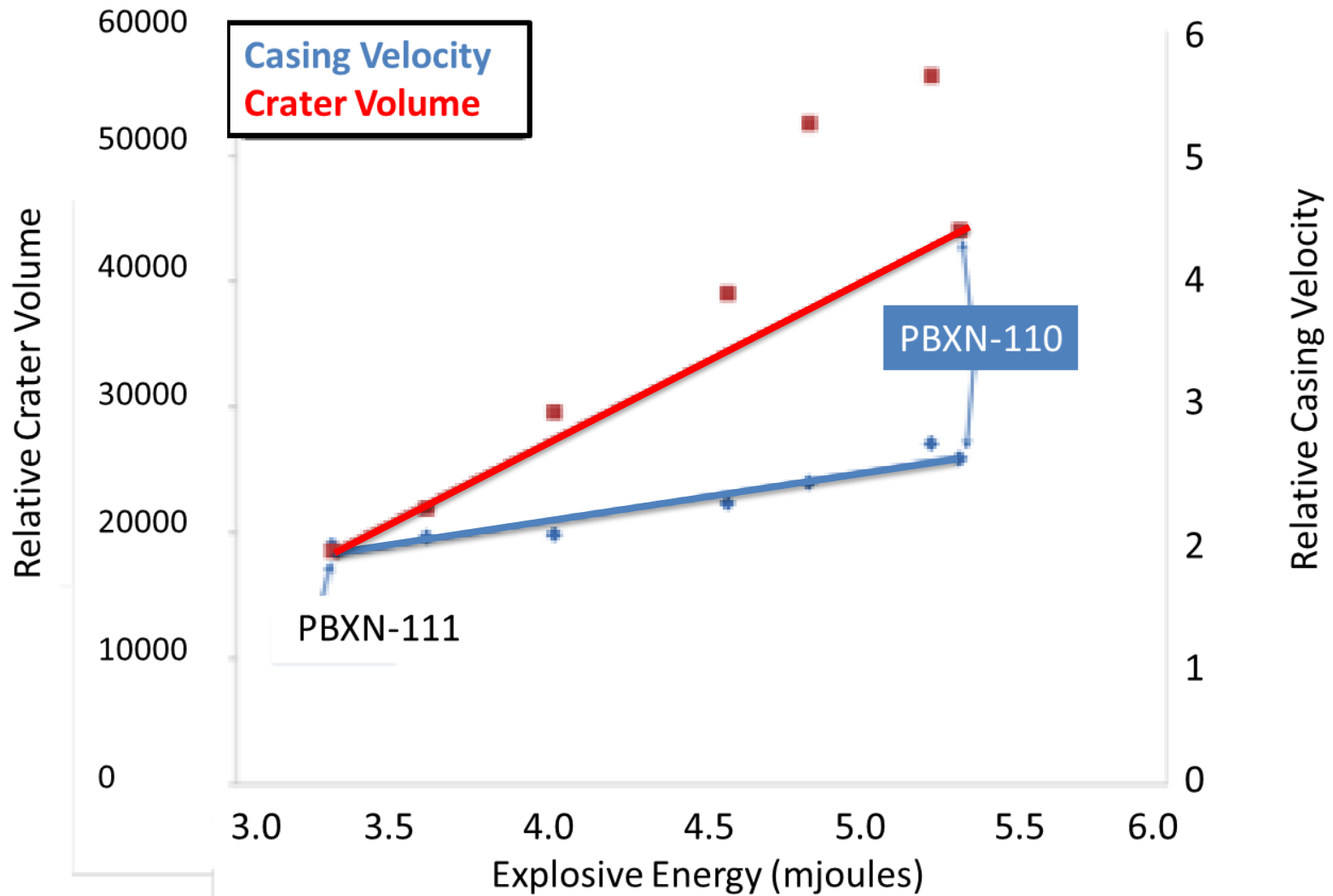
Simulation



# Effect of Sleeve Thickness



# Relative Energies





Dynamic Compression Technique Results from Circumferential Initiation at  $\sim 11$  km/sec with core explosives:

- High performance HMX-based explosive (“HPX”)
- Extremely insensitive rubber-based explosive (“IMX”)

Diagnostics for Measuring

- Convergent front shape
- Detonation velocity
- Cylinder expansion

## **EXPERIMENTS CONDUCTED WITH INITIATING DEVICE THAT OVERCOMES THE COAXIAL CHARGE LIMITATION**





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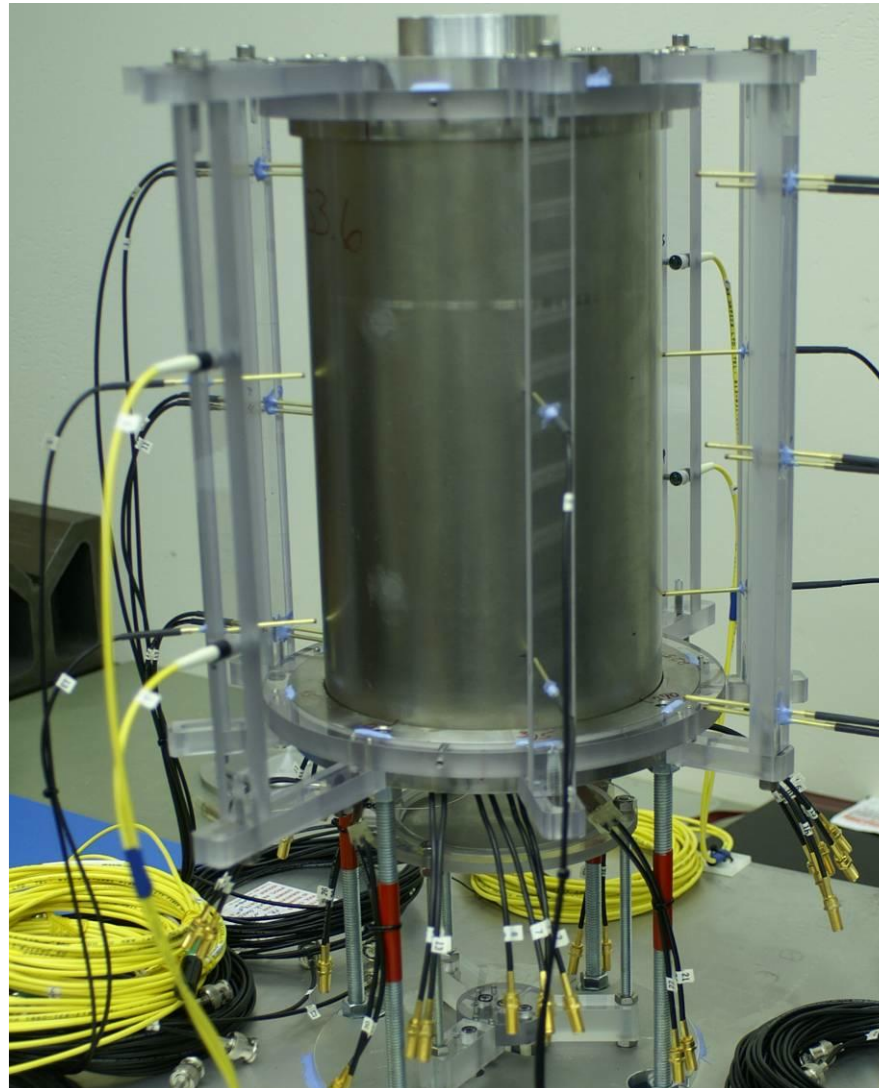


# CYLINDER EXPANSION



2013 Insensitive Munitions and Energetic Materials Technology Symposium  
Paper 16169

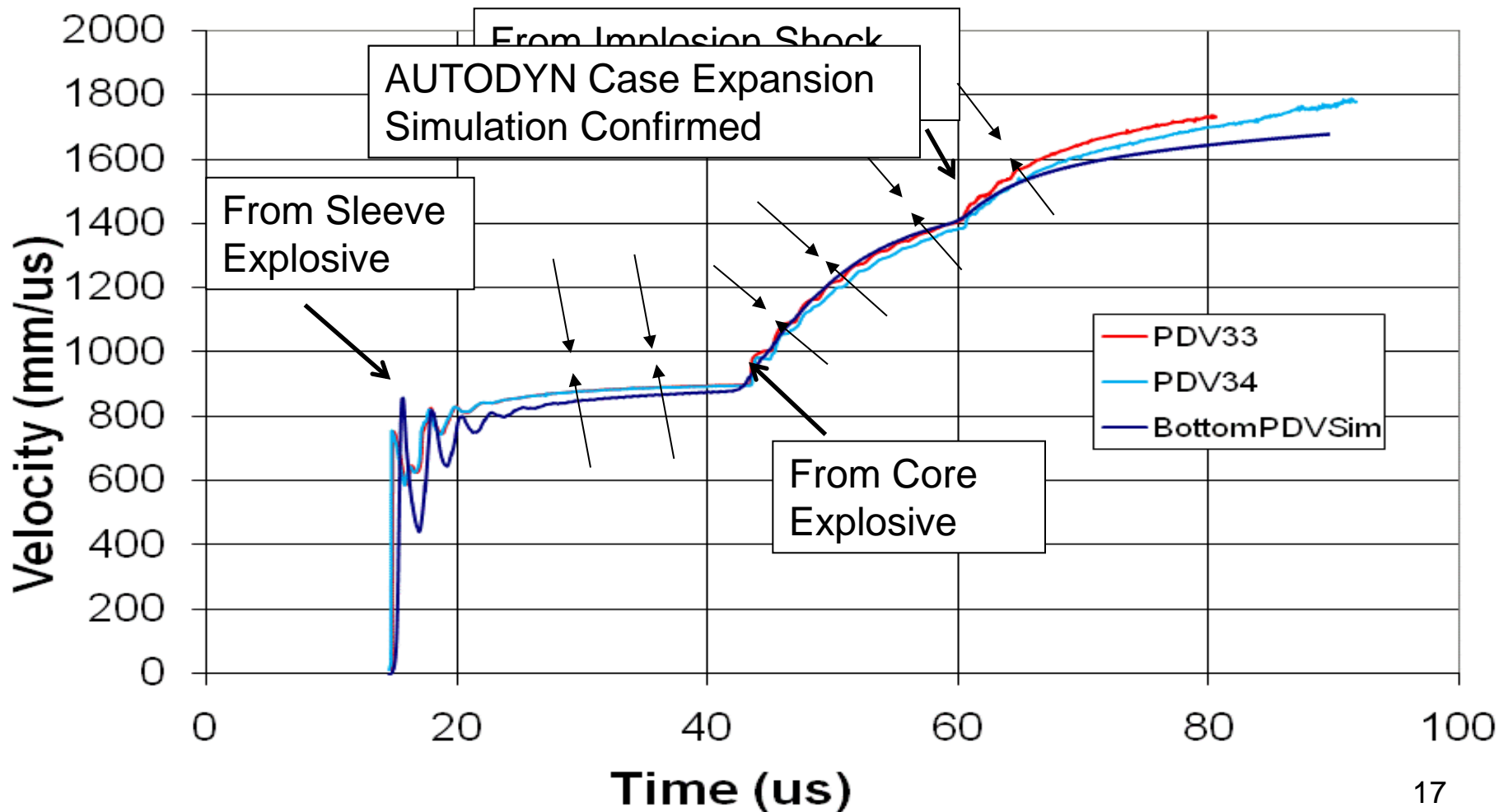
# Charge Setup and Exterior Instrumentation





# Case Expansion: Simulation vs Experimental

## LLNL Case Expansion Bottom PDV





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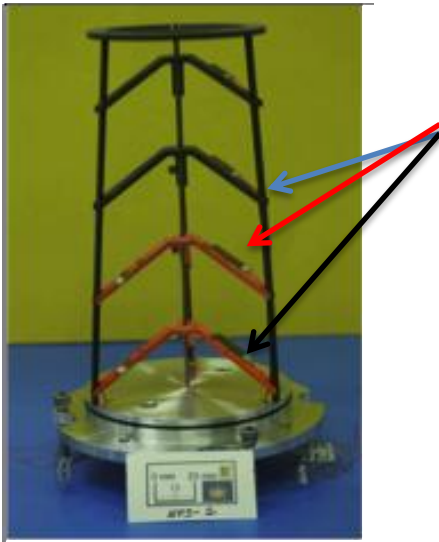
# CONVERGENT FRONT GEOMETRY & DETONATION VELOCITY



2013 Insensitive Munitions and Energetic Materials Technology Symposium  
Paper 16169

# CONFIRMATION OF PREDICTED FRONT GEOMETRY

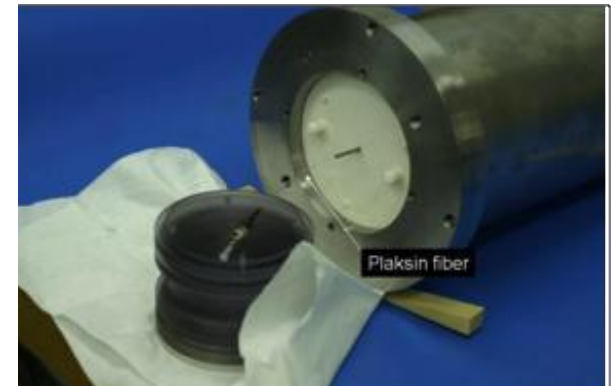
## Front Geometry Confirmation



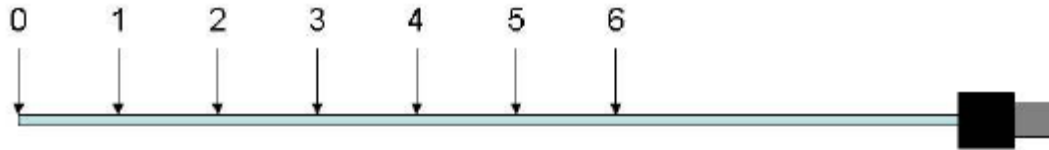
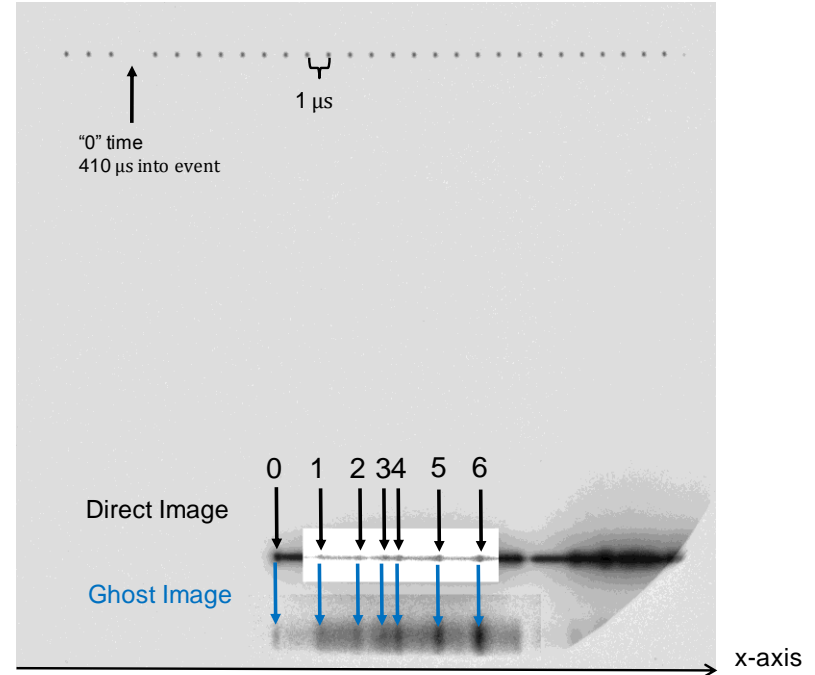
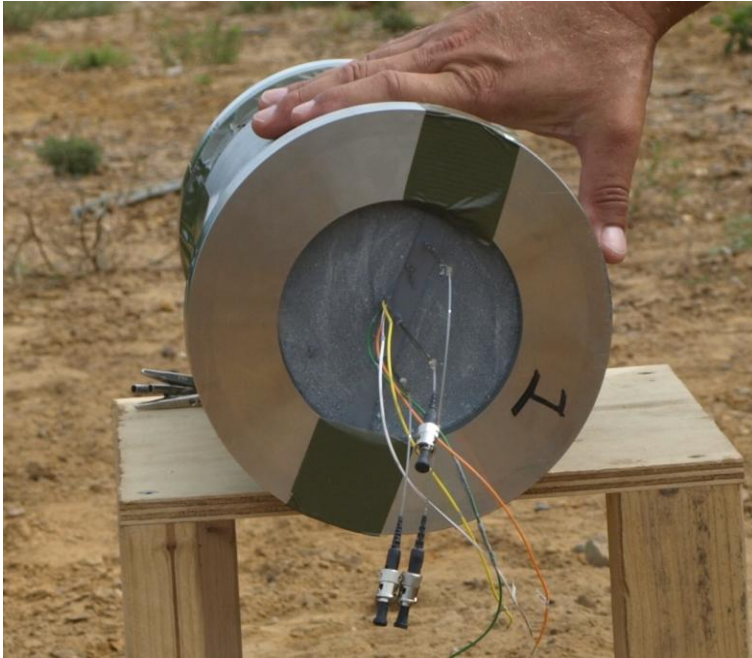
Dataset 1			Dataset 2			
Height (mm)	Distance from Center (mm)	Time of arrival ( $\mu$ s)	Height (mm)	Distance from Center (mm)	Time of arrival ( $\mu$ s)	
177.8	20.5	36.4	178.3	20.7	36.9	
127.8	21.0	42.2	129.6	20.2	42.5	← Position 1
118.5	40.0	42.3	119.2	40.0	42.4	← Position 1
79.3	21.5	46.7	80.5	20.2	47.2	← Position 2
74.9	31.0	46.9	75.8	29.8	47.1	← Position 2
69.4	41.0	46.9	70.2	39.5	47.0	← Position 2
30.8	21.0	51.2	30.7	20.4	51.9	← Position 3
25.6	31.5	51.5	25.6	31.0	51.7	← Position 3
20.1	41.5	51.4	20.7	39.8	51.7	← Position 3

Embedded Structure  
With Piezoelectric Sensors

Average detonation velocity (3 experiments and 5 measurement,  $10.8 \pm 0.1$  km/sec



# Diagnostics



Holes 1 through 6 are 0.008 inch diameter holes drilled to depth halfway into core  
Hole Spacing: 0.787 inches between consecutive locations on center  
Hole 0 beginning of the probe: flat polish matte finish, blackend with a sharpie



# RESULTS OF IMX EXPERIMENTS

Shot Number	Center Fiber Detonation Velocity (km/s)	1.905 cm Fiber Detonation Velocity (km/s)	3.810 cm Fiber Detonation Velocity (km/s)	Average Detonation Velocity (km/s)
1	10.3	10.0	10.1	10.1
2	10.3	10.1	10.6	10.3
AUTODYN	10.9	10.2	10.1	10.3

## EXPERIMENT WITH 6.5 in CHARGE

Detonation Velocity Increase from 6.2 to 10.2 km/sec  
 Detonation Front Angle 52 Degrees

Shot Number	Center Fiber Detonation Velocity (km/s)	1.905 cm Fiber Detonation Velocity (km/s)	3.810 cm Fiber Detonation Velocity (km/s)	Average Detonation Velocity (km/s)
1	10.7	9.5	9.7	10.0
2	10.5	<i>No data</i>	10.0	10.2
AUTODYN	10.9	10.1	10.2	10.4

## EXPERIMENT WITH 7.0 in CHARGE

Detonation Velocity Increase from 6.2 to 10. km<sup>2</sup>/sec  
 Detonation Front Angle 56 Degrees

Pressure gauges saturated



# Overview of Achievements Relative to

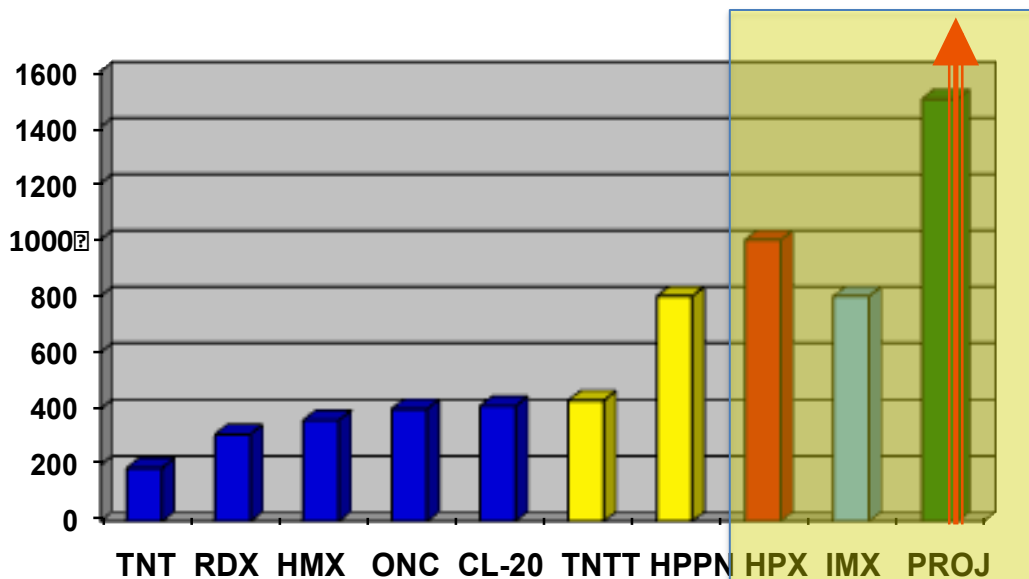
# Explosives Chronology

Also PBXN-111

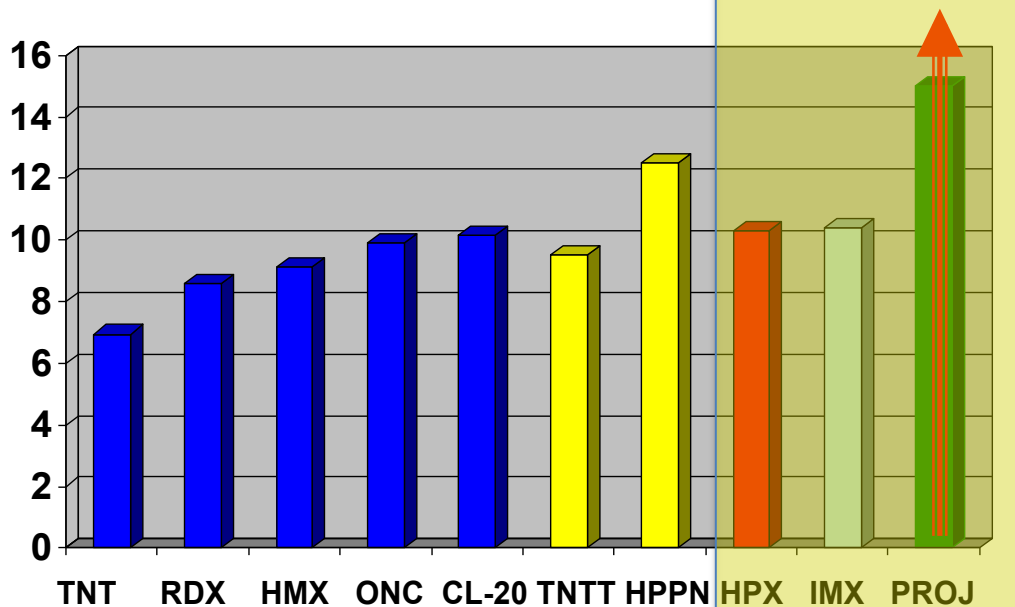
$U_D$ , 5.5 to 8.9

$P_{peak}$ , 12 to 66 GPa

Peak Pressure (kbars)

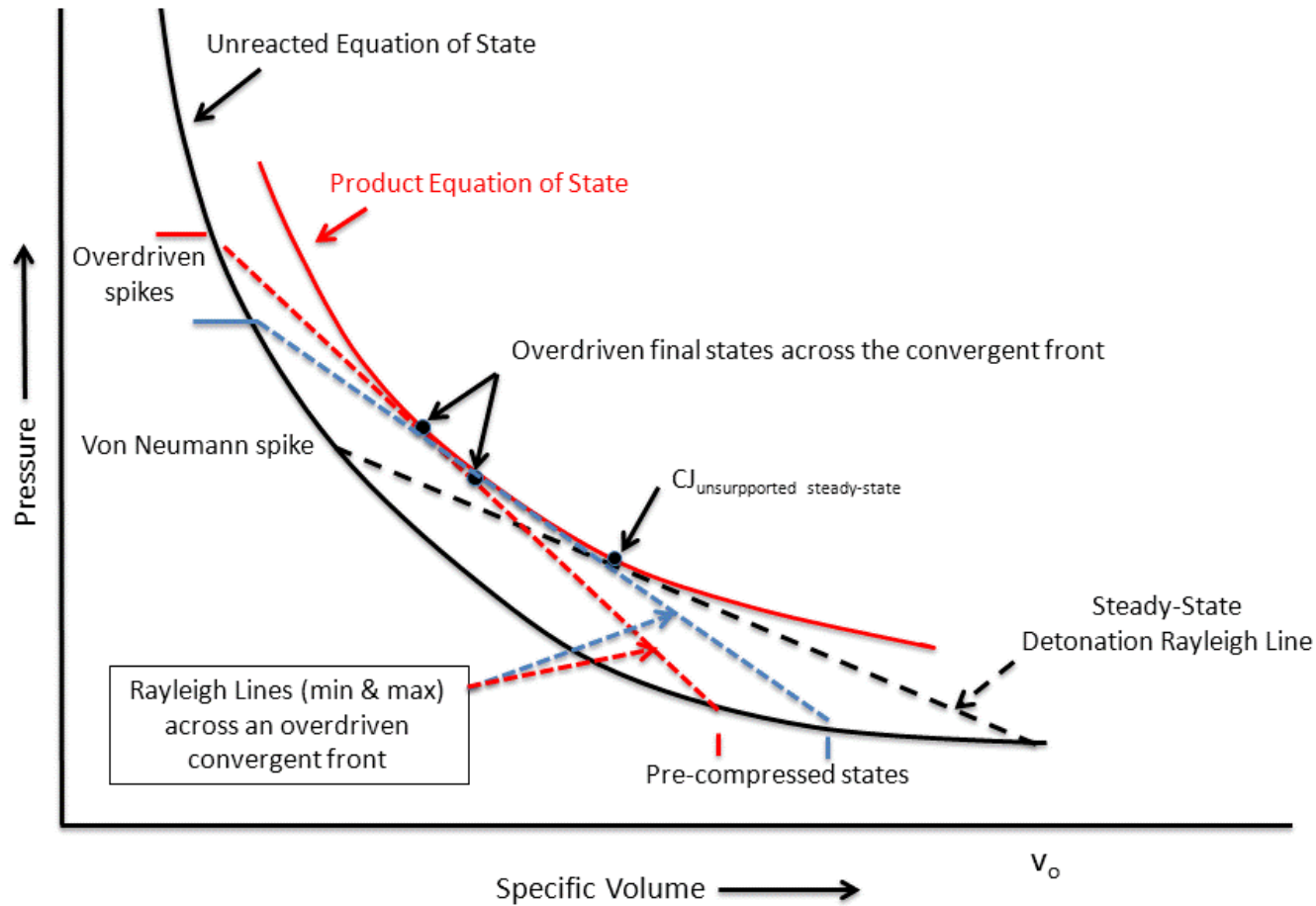


Det. Velocity (km/s)



# New Model for Sustained Overdriven Detonation

EFFECT OF SUSTAINED SUPRA-PRESSURE INITIATION ON DETONATION CHARACTERISTICS







# CONCLUSIONS

- Substantial increases in velocity and peak pressure in the detonation of existing explosives by dynamic compression effects from circumferential initiation.
  - Aluminized explosives (PBXN-111)
  - High performance HMX-based explosive (“HPX”)
  - Extremely insensitive explosive (“IMX”)
- Gains exceed those of on-going and projected chemistry (conventional initiation) **and further gains are possible.**
- Technology can easily be incorporated into weapon systems.
- Prediction techniques validated across a wide range of applicable conditions.



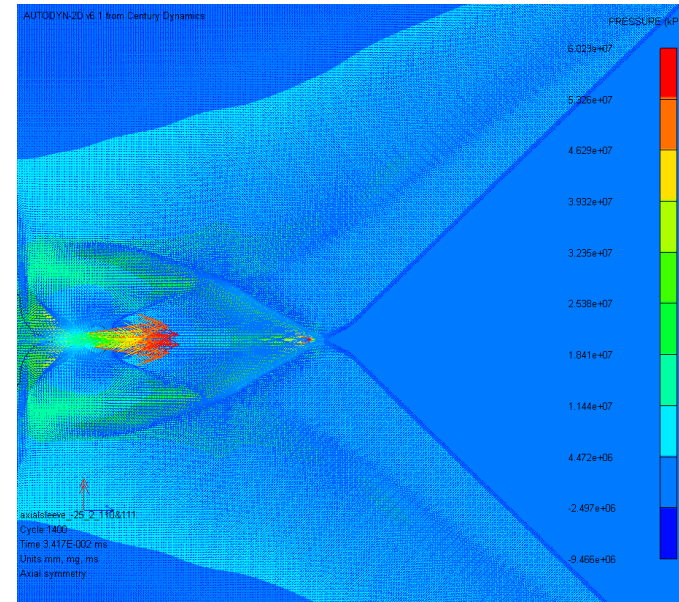
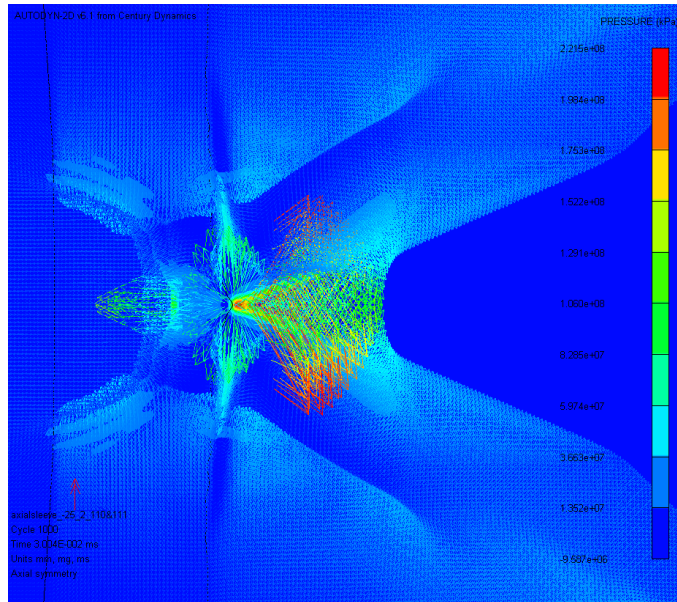




# Immediate Recommendations

- Supra-pressure shock response characterizations of candidate explosives over much greater ranges in order to reach 3+ megabar.
- Techniques for detecting pressures in the megabar range required for continued prediction confidence and to explore effects of the pressure continuum across convergent fronts.
- Additional exploration and extension of detonation theory.
- Exploratory development for enhancing directed energy warheads.





Pressure and vector contours about a convergent mach stem

# QUESTIONS