BLAST SIMULATION WITH BALLOONS CONTAINING DETONABLE GAS

General American Research Division
7449 North Natchez Avenue
Niles, Illinois 60648

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**Abstract:**
This report summarizes the experimental data on air blast generation by detonable gas in balloons from various projects conducted by the staff of the General American Research Division for the Defense Nuclear Agency. Blast data, including peak overpressures, shock wave arrival times, positive phase durations and positive phase overpressure impulses, were gathered from these sources and are condensed and presented, together with descriptions of the balloons and the field operations.
PREFACE

This report was prepared by the General American Research Division of the General American Transportation Corporation as Task 6 under Contract DNA 001-72-C-0058. This effort was supported by the Defense Nuclear Agency under NWED Subtask Code NA007 Work Unit Codes 28/37/38 and NWED Subtask Code V99QAXNA007. Col. M. Monaghan and Maj. R. Waters were the technical monitors. This work was done by the Applied Mechanics Group under the supervision of Dr. W. J. Byrne and the authors were ably assisted by Ms. M. T. Knobe and Mr. R. S. Koike.
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Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Detonable gas mixtures contained in balloons are capable of producing air blast environments which simulate high yield surface and high altitude bursts. The air blast produced by the gaseous detonation has a well-defined shock front and reproducible and predictable blast parameters.

General American Research Division (GARD) has conducted or participated in nine programs involving the use of detonable gas for blast simulation. Table 1 presents a list of these projects, source descriptions, yields, gas mixtures used, heights-of-burst and sponsoring agencies. The balloon configurations tested to date include spheres, spheres with an internal ballonet structure to speed up gas loading and to provide stability to the structure during loading, spheres with a ballonet to provide separation of the gases prior to launch for high altitude applications, hemispheres, hemispheres with an internal ballonet, shaped cylinders for long-duration pressure signatures and cylindrical half-disks for blast directing experimentation.

The research, development and testing of gas detonation phenomena for the creation of air blast environments has been conducted over the last ten years. Early work on the use of gaseous detonations as the driver in shock tubes led to an analytical treatment of the thermochemical processes associated with detonations (Johnson and Balcerzak, 1964). Detonation and blast characteristics were verified experimentally and some detonability limits as functions of mixture composition and initial pressure were established.

Balloons containing detonable gases were first tested in 1965 (Balcerzak, Johnson and Kurz, 1966). These initial tests with spherical balloons containing methane and oxygen verified the existence of spherical detonations, checked
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the accuracy of the analytical predictions, further delineated detonability limits and established proper field procedures. Tests were conducted using 3, 5, 10 and 13.5-foot diameter balloons. By utilizing the buoyancy of the methane-oxygen mixture, these spherical balloons were detonated at a height-of-burst of approximately three-quarters of one balloon diameter. Equivalent yields of up to 100 pounds of TNT were obtained.

Tests with 17-foot diameter hemispheres filled with a propane-oxygen mixture were conducted to verify the blast characteristics, detonation parameters, yield equivalences and detonability limits (Balcerzak, Johnson and Lucole, 1967).

Following these small-scale tests, a 32-foot diameter sphere containing a methane-oxygen mixture (equivalent yield of 1000 pounds of TNT) was detonated at a 25-foot height-of-burst at the Suffield Experimental Station, Ralston, Alberta, thus extending the capability of this technique to larger yields. Blast measurements from this event confirmed that normal cube root scaling was adequate.

Two large yield gas detonations, having equivalent yields of 20 tons of TNT, were than planned, as a part of the DISTANT PLAIN test series. Because of the size of the balloons and the requirement that these balloons be rapidly inflated to a stable configuration, an internal ballonet was incorporated in the design. The balloon would be rapidly inflated with air on one side of the ballonet to stabilize the overall balloon shape; then the air would be displaced as the detonable gas mixture was loaded. The tests planned were a methane-oxygen detonation in a 110-foot diameter sphere tethered at a height-of-burst of 85 feet and a propane-oxygen detonation in a 125-foot diameter hemisphere. The latter test was accomplished successfully. Pre-ignition of the methane-oxygen balloon led to a material
investigation to reduce the accumulation of static electricity on the balloon during loading of the detonable gases (Balcerzak, Johnson and Lucole, 1967).

An economic and technical study of the use of hemispherical detonable gas balloons as large yield explosive sources was carried out (Lucole and Balcerzak, 1968). Tests up to the equivalent of 100 tons of TNT were well within the state-of-the-art at that time and extension of this capability to larger yields was intimated. One of the major technical considerations was that the balloon design should be able to withstand winds up to 30 mph during the loading process and therefore the balloon must incorporate an internal ballonet. The conductive balloon material to be used in the manufacture of the large balloons was determined. Detonable gas loading rates of approximately 20,000 standard cubic feet per hour were realized during the DISTANT PLAIN tests. Significantly higher loading rates were obtained during the underground detonable gas explosion tests at the Tatum Salt Dome Test Site, Hattiesburg, Mississippi (MIRACLE PLAY Test Series, Klima and Byrne, 1971). The two tests conducted under this series were to simulate 315 tons of TNT in a 110-foot diameter spherical cavity 2700 feet below the surface. Significant advances in the gas loading system made it possible to achieve a loading rate of 400,000 standard cubic feet of gas per hour.

The detonation of buoyant detonable gases in spherical balloons to simulate high altitude blasts was a logical continuation. Use of the explosive itself for buoyancy overcomes one of the inherent difficulties in the use of TNT or other solid or liquid explosives. A technical and economic feasibility study of a high altitude blast generating system included the extension of the calculation of detonation and blast parameters to very low ambient pressures and an experimental program to verify the predictions.
Small balloons, filled with methane-oxygen, hydrogen-oxygen and methane-hydrogen-oxygen mixtures were detonated at simulated altitudes up to 90,000 feet in the Ballistic Research Laboratories' High Altitude Simulating Blast Sphere. Various methods of mixing the gases were evaluated. Design of the balloons, the gas loading and handling systems, launch and handling equipment, instrumentation and flight control, instrumentation recovery, and preliminary test site evaluation were other topics covered during this feasibility study. A study of the gas mixing for a particular balloon, the "bar-bell" ballonet balloon, designed to effect gas mixing during ascent to test altitude, confirmed that this design was effective (Fields, 1973).

Two other programs were performed to investigate the blast effects produced by the detonation of gases contained in shaped balloons. Both half-disks (Lucole and Balcerzak, 1968) and shaped cylinders (Strugielski, Fugelso, Holmes and Byrne, 1971) were tested.
Chapter 2
EXPERIMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

The basic design of the balloon is rather straightforward. The exterior configuration of the balloon, normally constructed of mylar, can be made to the desired shape. Figure 1 shows two balloon configurations used for the spherical and hemispherical balloons during the DISTANT PLAIN test series. Because of the sizes of the balloons (110-foot diameter for the sphere and 125-foot diameter for the hemisphere), the balloon is rapidly inflated to its final shape with air on one side of an internal ballonet. After the air fill is complete, the detonable gas mixture is loaded on the other side of the ballonet and the air is forced out. Figure 2 shows a different ballonet designed to separate the gas components during the launch procedure for high altitude tests. The balloon is partially inflated at launch with methane in one compartment and oxygen in the other. When the balloon reaches the desired altitude (the balloon is naturally buoyant and will rise by itself), the balloon becomes fully inflated. During ascent the oxygen is released from its compartment, goes through the flexible duct entering the methane compartment at the top and mixes with the methane to create the detonable mixture.

Figure 3 shows schematically the gas handling system used to load the balloons on Operation DISTANT PLAIN. Methane and oxygen are passed from the storage tanks through a pipeline (partially above and partially below ground). Control of the gas loading rate is made through valves near the storage area.

A typical small (10-foot diameter) sphere detonated during the first experimental study is shown in Figure 4. The balloon material is a mylar-dacron scrim. Figure 5 shows the fully inflated 32-foot diameter sphere.
filled with methane and oxygen and tested at the Suffield Experimental Station. The balloon material is a metallized mylar laminated on both sides of a dacron scrim. The equivalent yield of this balloon was 1000 pounds of TNT. The detonation of this balloon is shown in Figure 6. This particular detonation demonstrated that gas detonations of this type are symmetrical and produce clean, uniform shock fronts. It also confirmed the scaling from the smaller balloon detonations. The cloud rise (shown in Figure 7) indicates that the thermal plume from a gas detonation may be larger than from other explosions, which effect may be due to the high reaction temperatures and the size of the source.

Figure 8 shows the tethering test for the 110-foot diameter sphere. These tests, preliminary to the DISTANT PLAIN test series, were conducted to study the effects of lift, location of tethering points and addition of the ballonet structure on the deployment of the balloon. Figure 9 shows the 110-foot diameter sphere (Event 2, DISTANT PLAIN) during loading. The internal ballonet is seen in the middle, separating the air compartment (right side) and the detonable gas mixture (left side). The balloon was a mylar-dacron scrim with a calcium chloride coating to reduce static electricity build-up. The detonable gases were added in the following order: oxygen first (11 hours) followed by methane (gas mixing occurs by the turbulent methane plume rising through the oxygen). This balloon detonated prematurely after 4 hours of methane loading. A study into the cause of this led to the conclusion that static electricity had built up on the balloon surface during loading. A modified balloon material with silver grid wires to bleed off this electricity was later developed to reduce this hazard.

The 125-foot diameter hemispherical balloon, containing a detonable mixture of propane and oxygen and detonated as Event 2A of the DISTANT PLAIN
tests, is shown in Figure 10. The explosive energy released in this detonation simulated that of a surface burst of approximately 20 tons of TNT.

Figure 11 shows the balloon during the oxygen fill and illustrates the ballonet structure. The air is on top of the ballonet, oxygen below. Figure 12 shows the same balloon from the gas loading area. The detonation of this balloon is shown in Figure 13.

The Ballistic Research Laboratories' High Altitude Simulating Blast Sphere, used in the testing of balloon detonation properties at high altitudes, is shown in Figure 14. Detonability limits were obtained as a function of altitude and mixture composition for methane, hydrogen and methane-hydrogen as the fuel, and blast parameters were measured. Figure 15 shows the mylar-dacron scrim ballonet balloon (Figure 2) with the oxygen chamber fully inflated, and Figure 16 shows the fully inflated balloon and flexible duct for the oxygen in front. This configuration operated successfully producing detonable mixtures and bona-fide detonations.
Chapter 3
BLAST MEASUREMENTS

Experimental and theoretical results for the various balloon detonations are summarized in this chapter. Peak overpressures and times-of-arrival are shown for each category of results and, where they were measured, positive phase durations and positive phase overpressure impulses. The scaling used on these graphs is that the distances are normalized by the balloon radius, $R_o$, the pressures by the ambient pressure, $P_o$, and the times by the quotient of the balloon radius with the ambient sound speed in air, $a_o$. Correlation of this scaling with the standard cube root scaling with the explosive weight, $W$, is made by noting that $W = k\rho E R_o^3$ where

\[
\begin{align*}
k & = 2\pi/3 \text{ for a hemisphere} \\
k & = 4\pi/3 \text{ for a sphere} \\
\rho & = \text{gas mixture density} \\
E & = \text{energy released per unit mass}
\end{align*}
\]

Table 2 lists some theoretical detonation parameters for the four gas mixtures considered (at sea level, $P_o = 1$ atmosphere, and $T_o = 298.16^0K (680^0F)$). The entries in this table were generated from a computer program which evaluated the thermochemical equations describing a Chapman-Jouguet detonation (Klima and Fugelso, 1969).

3.1 Spherical Methane-Oxygen Balloons at Sea Level

Detonations of small spherical methane-oxygen balloons (balloon radii of 3, 5, 10 and 13.5 feet), tethered at a height-of-burst of approximately three quarters of one balloon diameter, were conducted at GARD's Ballistic Test Station (B.T.S.), (Balcerzak, Johnson and Kurz, 1966). A total of 13 balloons were detonated during this series. The mole ratio of oxygen to
Table 2
DETONATION PARAMETERS FOR $P_0 = 1$ ATM, $T_0 = 293.16^\circ K (68^\circ F)$

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<th>DETONATION VELOCITY (FT/SEC)</th>
<th>ENERGY RELEASE ($10^6$ FT-LB/LB)</th>
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<td>31.5</td>
<td>3750</td>
<td>3700</td>
<td>8420</td>
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<td>$O_2/H_2 = 0.5$ BY VOLUME ($P_o = 0.0311$ LB/FT$^3$)</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>3730</td>
<td>4150</td>
<td>9530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$O_2$/FUEL = 1.0 BY VOLUME (FUEL: 50% CH$_4$ + 50% H$_2$) ($P_o = 0.0532$ LB/FT$^3$)</td>
<td>26.8</td>
<td>3750</td>
<td>3810</td>
<td>8680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$O_2/C_3H_8 = 3.5$ BY VOLUME ($P_o = 0.0900$ LB/FT$^3$)</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>3770</td>
<td>3640</td>
<td>8270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
methane was varied from 1.0 to 2.0. The maximum detonation occurred when the mole ratio was 1.5, in accordance with the thermochemical analysis. When this ratio is less than 1.3, no detonation occurs.

A 32-foot diameter sphere at a height-of-burst of 25 feet was successfully detonated at Suffield Experimental Station (S.E.S.), Ralston, Alberta. The oxygen-to-methane mole ratio was 1.5. The peak overpressures and the times-of-arrival of the shock wave are shown in Figures 17 and 18. Only those small balloons, for which the $O_2:CH_4$ mole ratio was 1.5, are shown. Figures 19 and 20 show the positive phase durations and positive phase over-pressure impulses, measured only for the 32-foot diameter sphere. The theoretical curves are taken from AFWL numerical calculations (Whitaker, et. al., 1966).

3.2 Hemispherical Propane-Oxygen Balloons

Detonations of propane-oxygen mixtures in 17-foot diameter hemispheres were conducted at B.T.S. (Balcerzak, Johnson and Lucole, 1967). The mole ratios of oxygen to propane varied from 2 to 5. The optimum mole ratio for this gas mixture is 3.5. This gas mixture was detonated in a 125-foot diameter hemisphere as Event 2A in the DISTANT PLAIN test series.

The peak overpressures and the times-of-arrival of the shock wave are shown in Figures 21 and 22. Only those smaller balloons, for which the $O_2:CH_4$ mole ratio was 3.5, are included. The theoretical overpressures and times-of-arrival were calculated using GARD's computer code for spherically symmetric blast wave propagation. The positive phase durations and over-pressure impulses, measured for Event 2A (Reisler, Ethridge, LeFevre and Giglio-Tos, 1971), are shown in Figures 23 and 24. No cratering near ground zero was observed and the directly transmitted ground shock was minimal.
3.3 **Spherical Balloons at High Altitudes**

A series of experimental determinations of the detonations of spherical balloons containing methane-oxygen, hydrogen-oxygen and methane-hydrogen-oxygen mixtures at reduced ambient pressure were made in the BRL High Altitude Simulating Blast Sphere. These shots simulated detonations at high altitudes from 35,000 to 90,000 feet (Klima, Balcerzak and Johnson, 1967, Fields, 1973). Detonability limits as a function of mixture composition and initial pressure were obtained. Optimum detonations were observed for an oxygen-to-methane mole ratio of 1.5, an oxygen-to-hydrogen mole ratio of 0.5 and an oxygen-to-fuel mole ratio of 1.0 where the fuel gas had equal parts of methane and hydrogen.

The peak overpressure versus range and time-of-arrival of the shock front versus range data for the methane-oxygen mixture are shown in Figures 25 and 26. Also shown on the first figure are the numerical predictions for sea level (Fields, 1973). As the simulated altitude increases (i.e., ambient pressure decreases), the expected normalized overpressure decreases slightly as the energy release shows a slight decrease with decreasing pressure. The experimental values of the overpressure-range data for the 35,000 and 50,000 foot altitude agree well with the predicted curves. The data for the higher altitudes are significantly below the predicted values. At simulated altitudes above 50,000 feet, the detonability limits have just been reached and to obtain a detonation, much larger detonators (72.4 grains PETN equivalent as compared to 7 grains) are required to initiate a detonation. The calculated time-of-arrival curve for sea level (Fields, 1973) is also shown on Figure 26. Similar measurements for the hydrogen-oxygen and methane-hydrogen-oxygen mixtures are shown on Figures 27 through 30. The theoretical predictions (Klima, Balcerzak and Johnson, 1967) are for 50,000 feet.
Several 32-foot diameter spherical balloons were detonated in a recent test series conducted at the Air Force Weapons Laboratory (Bunker, personal communication). The balloons were filled with a methane-oxygen mixture (oxygen-to-methane mole ratio of 1.5) and tethered at heights-of-burst of from 130 to 150 feet. Figures 31 and 32 show the free field peak overpressure and time of arrival data for the shots. The data cover larger ranges than the previous shots. For ranges up to $R/R_o = 4$, the pressure gages, mounted from the tethering cables for the balloon, measured free field overpressures directly. The other set of data ($7 < R/R_o < 10$) was from ground level gages which measured reflected shock overpressures. These latter values were reduced to the free field using the regular reflection coefficient of 2.2 (Brode, 1964) appropriate to the peak overpressure levels and angles of incidence at the location of the gages.

3.4 Shaped Balloons

Gas filled balloons with shapes other than spherical or hemispherical have been detonated to examine the shape effect. As a part of a program on blast directing studies with half-disk explosive arrays (Lucole and Balcerzak, 1968), four thin half-disks filled with methane-oxygen were detonated and pressure readings were made. Viewing this experiment in the horizontal plane, there is a triangular shaped region wherein the blast wave is planar and decays as if in one-dimensional flow (Fugelso and Fields, 1972). Overpressure measurements were made along the axis of symmetry within this triangular region and agreed to within 30% with the theoretical peak overpressure curve calculated from the similarity solution (Lindberg, 1967).
Detonations of methane-oxygen mixtures in thin, long cylindrical envelopes were performed to develop a pressure profile with a long-duration and low peak overpressure (this experimental procedure was used to simulate the pressure profile that might be expected in sonic booms), (Strugielski, Fugelso, Holmes and Byrne, 1971). Peak overpressures were measured along the axis of the balloon extended. A least square fit to the data shows that, approximately

\[ \frac{P_M}{P_o} - 1 = 2.40 \left( \frac{R}{D} \right)^{-1.17}, \quad 50 \leq \frac{R}{D} < 800 \]

where D is the diameter of the balloon and R is the distance along the axis of the balloon from the end.

The decay shape of the air blast wave can be controlled to a limited extent by control of the shape of the balloon. The desired pressure profile was the N-wave, which is a pressure-time history with an initial rapid compressive shock followed by a linear decay to pressure below ambient and terminated by a compressive shock, returning the pressure to ambient. This pressure signature is characteristic of the far field shocks generated by aircraft traveling at supersonic speeds. A balloon whose shape was cylindrical in the middle section capped by two truncated cones on the ends yielded a very good N-wave at a range where the initial peak overpressure was two pounds per square foot, a level which is characteristic of sonic boom signatures.
GARD, through a number of test programs, has established that detonable gases can simulate the blast environments of conventional and nuclear explosives. Potential advantages and disadvantages of this simulation technique are summarized below.

The technique generates a blast wave which has a well defined shock front and a subsequent blast pressure history which is remarkably free from turbulence and other minor irregularities. Comparable detonations of solid explosives such as TNT are characterized by turbulence caused by jetting and ejecta from irregular burning and detonation of the solid medium. The blast environment is very reproducible experimentally and can be analytically predicted with good accuracy through elementary blast and thermochemical codes developed for that purpose. The detonation pressures in the gas mixture are quite low; this limits the maximum overpressures that can be simulated. For propane-oxygen mixtures at atmospheric initial pressures, the maximum peak overpressure that can be effectively reached with a good pressure history is about 600 psi. The low detonation pressure minimizes the formation of craters and induces minimal directly transmitted ground motion. No toxic gases are generated during the detonation as only water, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide are the reaction products. For large yield simulation, the low ambient pressure of the detonable mixture will require very large balloons and thus limit, in practice, the total yield that can be simulated. Both bouyant and non-bouyant gas mixtures are available; thus both surface bursts and high altitude or tethered (for controlled height-of-burst simulation) bursts can be readily attained. The experimental
configuration has important differences from solid H. E. explosive tests. No elaborate support structure for the explosives is needed. A remote gas loading system is required. This remote gas loading system implies that no direct explosive handling is necessary; however, this procedure requires a substantial amount of time to deploy the balloon.
References


SCHEMATIC ILLUSTRATION OF BALLOON CONCEPT USED ON OPERATION DISTANT PLAIN — EVENTS 2, 2a, AND 2b.

Figure 1
GAS LOADING DUCT
GAS COMMUNICATION DUCT
ACCESS DUCT
DETONATOR
DETONATOR SUPPORT LINE
BALLONET
BALLOON.

Figure 2
Figure 3

SCHEMATIC LAYOUT OF GAS HANDLING SYSTEM
USED ON OPERATION DISTANT PLAIN.
Figure 4. 10-foot diameter sphere filled with oxygen and methane just prior to detonation at Gard's Ballistic Test Station (B.T.S.).
Figure 7  CLOUD RISE FOLLOWING DETONATION OF 32-FOOT DIAMETER SPHERE (S.E.S.).
Figure 8 32-FOOT DIAMETER SPHERE FILLED WITH HELIUM AND AIR AND TETHERED AT 25-FOOT HEIGHT-OF-BURST.
Figure 10  FULLY INFLATED 125-FOOT DIAMETER HEMISPHERE VIEWED FROM TECHNICAL OBSERVATION POINT (EVENT 2a, OPERATION DISTANT PLAIN).
Figure 11 125-FOOT DIAMETER HEMISPHERE DURING OXYGEN FILL SHOWING INTERNAL BALLONET (EVENT 2a, OPERATION DISTANT PLAIN).
Figure 12: 125-FOOT DIAMETER HEMISPHERE VIEWED FROM GAS LOADING AREA DURING PROPANE FILL (EVERY 2a, OPERATION DISTANT PLAIN).
Figure 15. FULLY INFLATED OXYGEN CHAMBER, BALLONET BALLOON (BRL).
Figure 16 FULLY INFLATED BALLONET BALLOON CONTAINING OXYGEN AND METHANE (BRL).
Based on AFWL prediction for 2200-ft altitude, DASA 1876-1, p. 89.

DAS 1792-I

\[ \frac{R_m}{R_0} - 1 \]

\[ \frac{R}{R_0} \]

Nondimensional peak overpressure versus nondimensional ground range for an oxygen-methane mixture ratio of 1.5. Data for spherical balloons at a height of burst of 1.55 \( R_0 \).

Figure 17
Nondimensional shock arrival time versus nondimensional ground range for an oxygen-methane mixture ratio of 1.5, data for spherical balloons at a height of burst of 1.55 $R_e$.

Figure 18
Nondimensional Positive Phase Duration Versus Nondimensional Ground Range for an Oxygen-Methane Mixture Ratio of 1.5. Data for spherical balloons at a height of burst of 1.55 $R_e$.

Figure 19
Based on AFWL prediction for 2200-ft. altitude,
DASA 1876-1, p. 89.

Nondimensional Positive Phase Impulse versus Nondimensional Ground Range for an Oxygen-Methane Mixture Ratio of 1.5. Data for Spherical Balloons at a Height of Burst of 1.55 \(R_0\).

Figure 20
Nondimensional peak overpressure versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-propane mixture ratio of 3.5: data for hemispherical balloons.

Figure 21
Figure 22

Nondimensional shock arrival time versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-propane mixture ratio of 3.5: data for hemispherical balloons.
NONDIMENSIONAL POSITIVE PHASE DURATION VERSUS NONDIMENSIONAL RANGE FOR AN OXYGEN-PROPANE MIXTURE RATIO OF 3.5: DATA FOR HEMISPHERICAL BALLOONS.

Figure 23
Nondimensional positive phase impulse versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-propane mixture ratio of 3.5: data for hemispherical balloons.

Figure 24
Nondimensional peak overpressure versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-methane mixture ratio of 1.5: Blast sphere data for spherical balloons at various simulated altitudes.

Figure 25
NONDIMENSIONAL SHOCK ARRIVAL TIME VERSUS NONDIMENSIONAL RANGE FOR AN OXYGEN-METHANE MIXTURE RATIO OF 1.5: BLAST SPHERE DATA FOR SPHERICAL BALLOONS AT VARIOUS SIMULATED ALTITUDES.

Figure 26
Figure 27

Nondimensional peak overpressure versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-hydrogen mixture ratio of 0.5: Blast sphere data for spherical balloons at various simulated altitudes.
NONDIMENSIONAL SHOCK ARRIVAL TIME VERSUS NONDIMENSIONAL RANGE FOR AN OXYGEN-HYDROGEN MIXTURE RATIO OF 0.5. BLAST SPHERE DATA FOR SPHERICAL BALLOONS AT VARIOUS SIMULATED ALTITUDES.

Figure 28
Nondimensional peak overpressure versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-fuel mixture ratio of 1.0 (fuel: 50% hydrogen, 50% methane): Blast sphere data for spherical balloons at various simulated altitudes.

Figure 29
Nondimensional shock arrival time versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-fuel mixture ratio of 1.0 (Fuel: 50% hydrogen, 50% methane). Blast sphere data for spherical balloons at various simulated altitudes.

Figure 30
NONDIMENSIONAL PEAK OVERPRESSURE VERSUS NONDIMENSIONAL RANGE FOR AN OXYGEN-METHANE MIXTURE RATIO OF 1.5: AFWL DATA FOR 32-FOOT DIAMETER SPHERICAL BALLOONS AT KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE.

Figure 31
Nondimensional shock arrival time versus nondimensional range for an oxygen-methane mixture ratio of 1.5: AFWL data for 32-foot diameter spherical balloons at Kirtland Air Force Base.

Figure 32
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