



RDECOM

**THE MECHANICS OF PROJECTILE ARREST FOR
COMPLIANT CROSS PLYED UNIDIRECTIONAL
LAMINATES**

Brian Scott
Bryan Cheeseman
ARL, APG MD

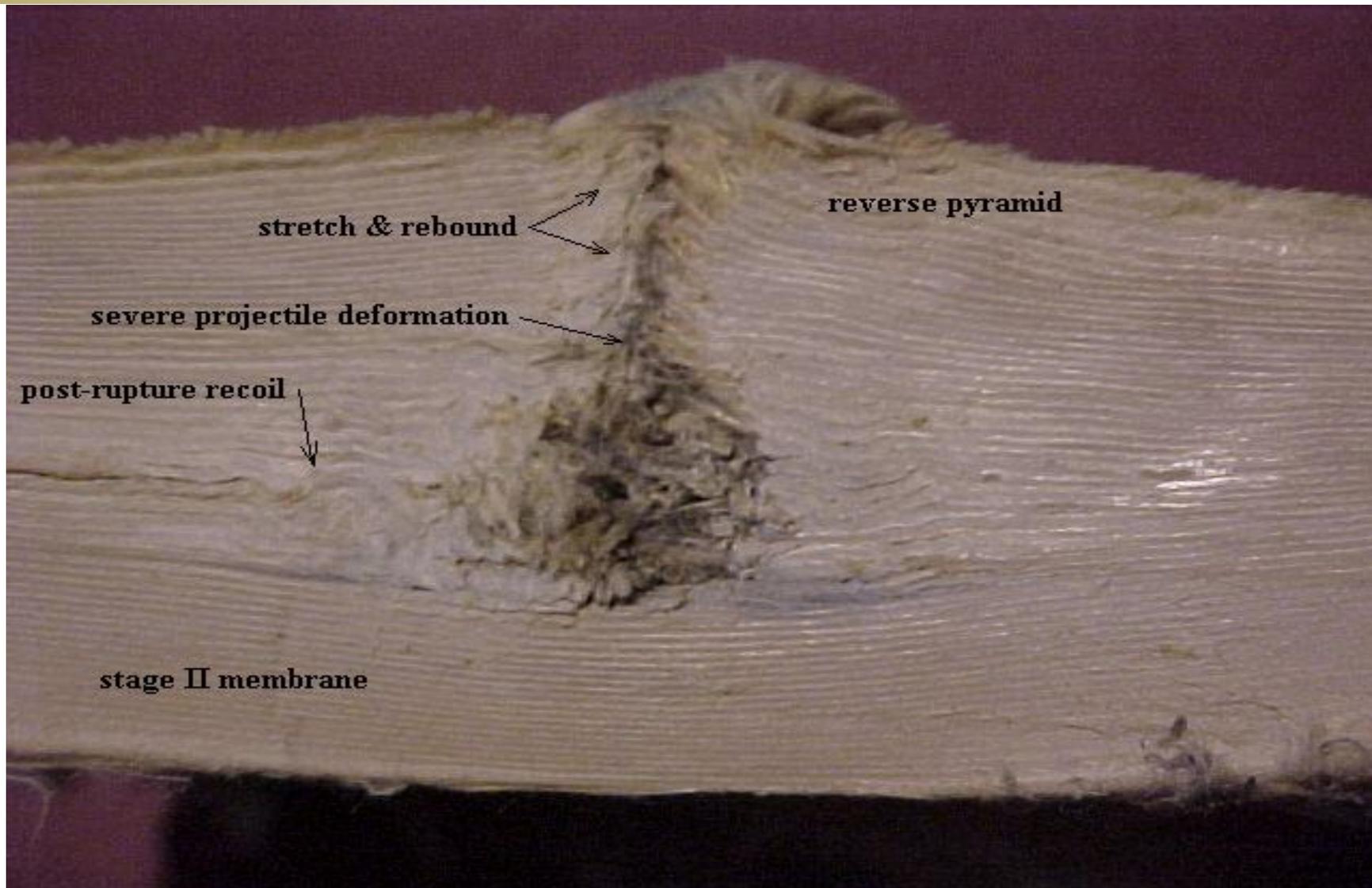


TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.

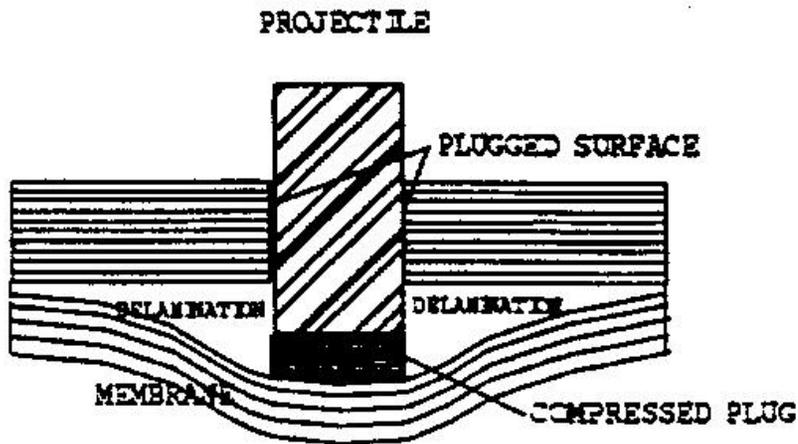
**International Symposium on Ballistics
New Orleans, LA
26 September 2008**

- Experimental observations
- Mechanics hypothesis
- Numerical simulations
- Conclusion

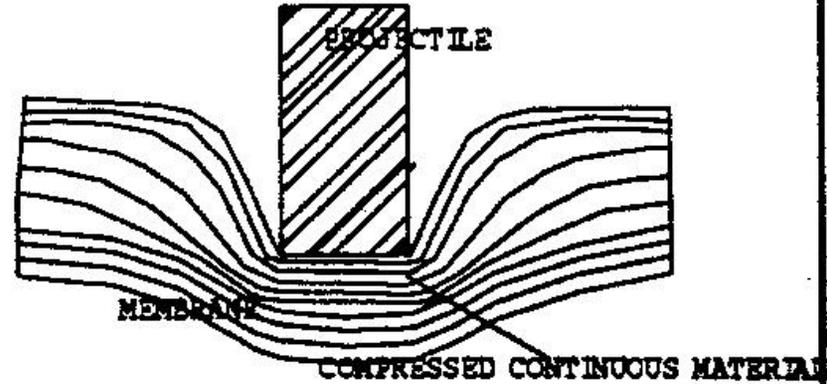
- Penetration of Kevlar Laminate by Long Rods and Jets, Scott, B and Walters, W., 12th ISB, San Antonio, 1990
- Good performance with woven architectures of high strength fibers with 20% phenolic matrix
- Better performance is obtained with:
 - Cross ply unidirectional layup
 - Finer ply architecture
 - Higher strength reinforcements
 - Elastomer (thermoplastic or thermoset) matrices
 - Lower resin content laminates



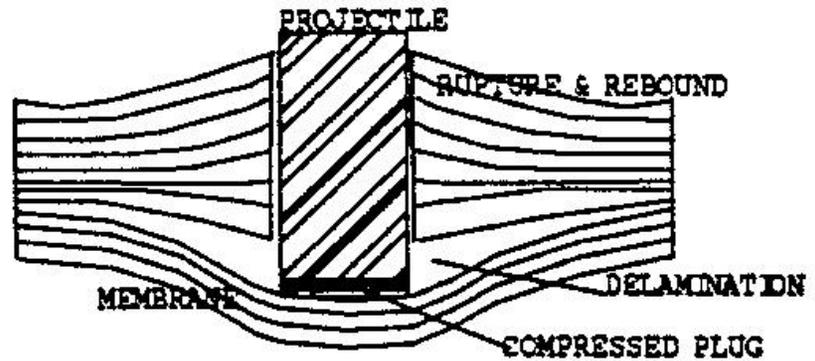
- **Video observations:**
 - Uni structures exhibit global extension and displacement (first inward, then outward)
 - Woven structures exhibit more localized ruptures with less of the far field deformation
- **Evidence of fiber stretching prior to tensile rupture**
- **Thru thickness compression of underlying layers**
- **Aramids exhibit little evidence of transverse shear failure**
- **UHMWPE difficult to discern due to localized melting of fiber ends**
 - Presumably due to passage of or contact with hot projectile
- **Tensile fiber strength: > 500ksi**
- **Transverse fabric shear strength 3 – 5 ksi (aramid or UHMWPE) ASTM D732**
- **Transverse compression strength ? Not well defined yield point (behaves like elastomer)**
- **UHMWPE 20% thicker than aramid laminate at equal areal density**



Classical Plug & Membrane Behavior



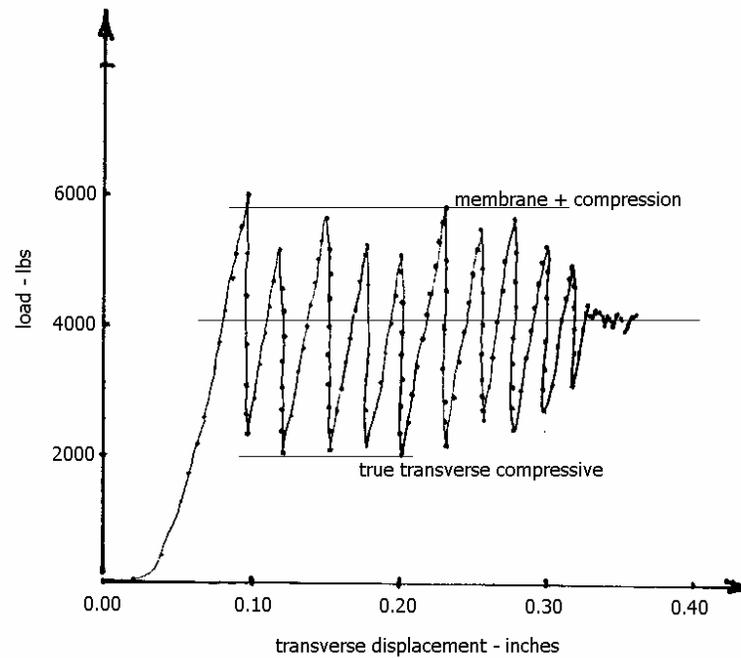
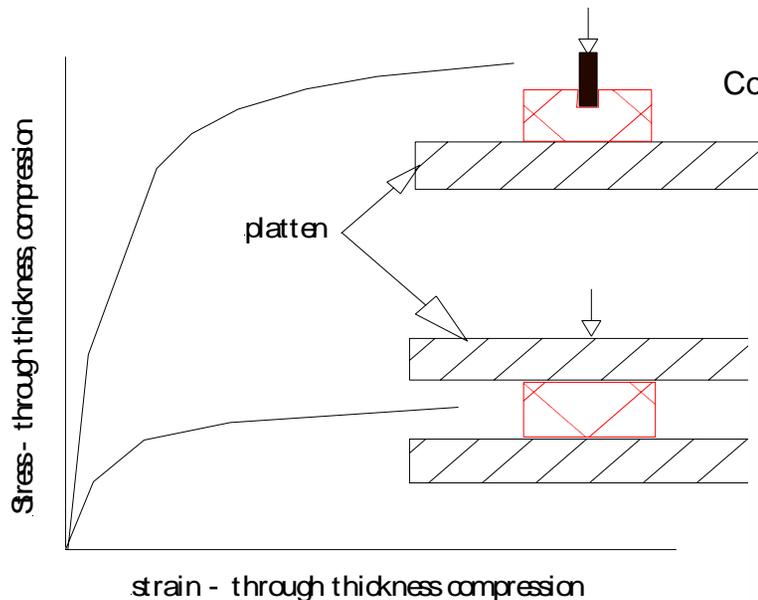
Stage I - Pre rupture

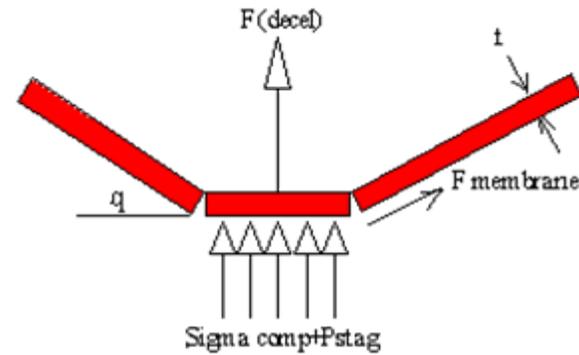
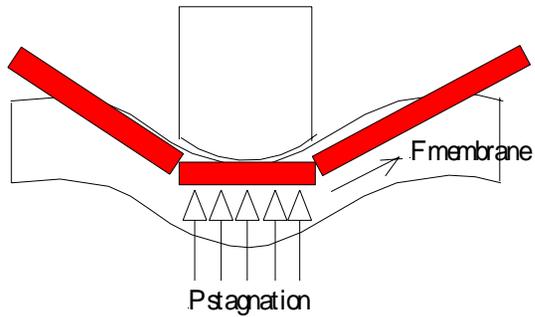


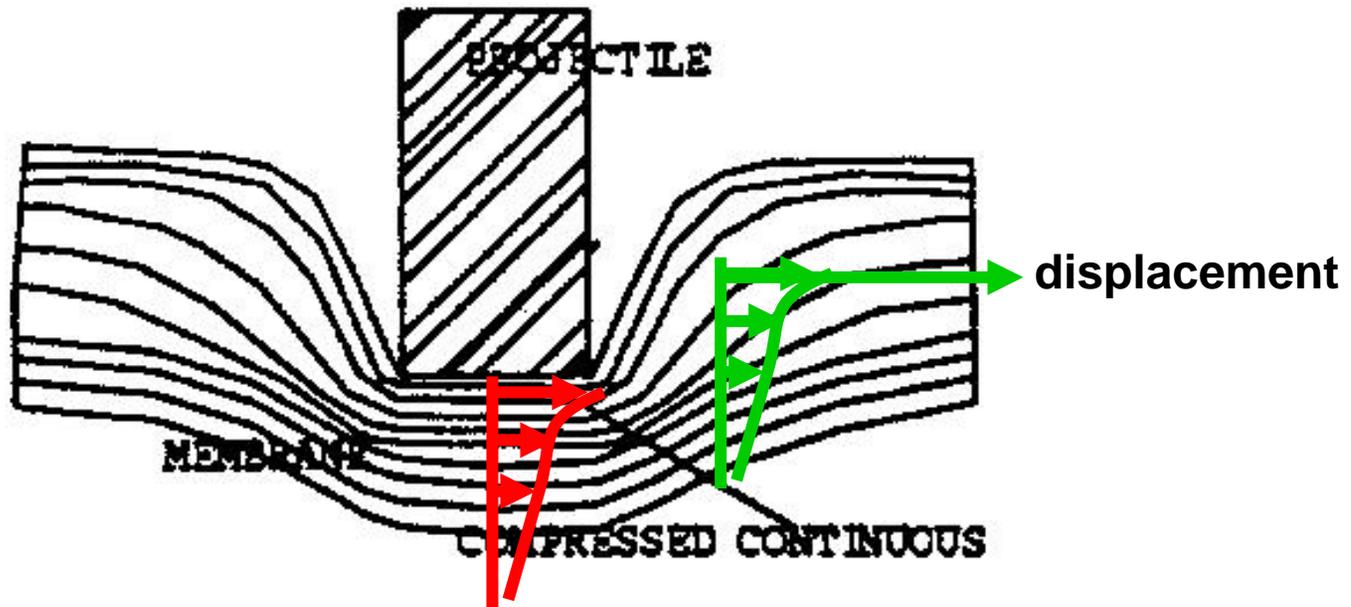
Stage II - Post front layer rupture

Constrained Compression Test

Composites Engineering, Vol 4, No. 3, Woodward, et al, 1994







P or 1-D compressive stress

Surface fibers impacted

Material cannot flow until fibers rupture (approx. 4%)

Surface fibers are compressed transversly and forced into underlying layers

“Self-Confined” material develops large comp stress or hydrostatic pressure

Large compressive stresses decelerate projectile

Ansys Autodyn

Dyneema HB2

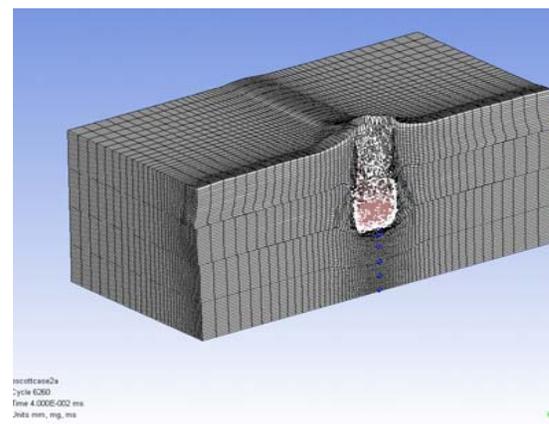
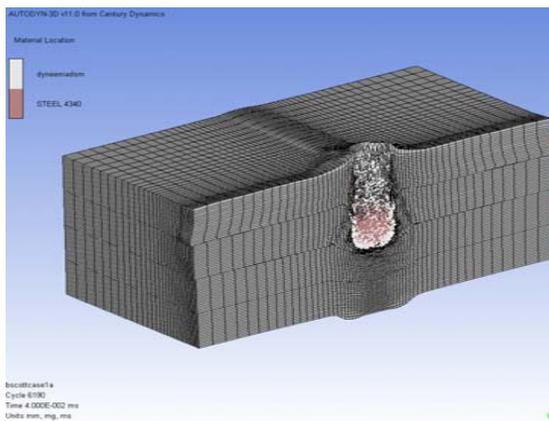
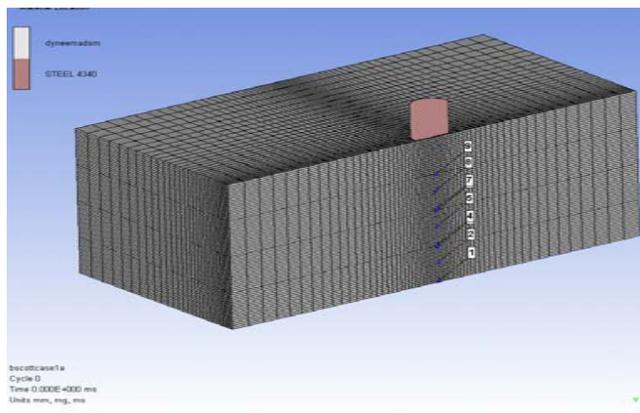
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- Stijnman, P.W.A., 1995. "Determination of the elastic constants of some composite by using ultrasonic velocity measurements," *Composites*, 26, 597-604.
- Hayhurst, C., Leahy, J., van der Jagt-Deutekom, M., Jacobs, M. and Kelly, P. 2000. "Development of Material Models for Numerical Simulation of Ballistic Impact onto Polyethylene Fibrous Armour," *Proceeding of the Personal Armour Systems Symposium, Colchester, U.K.*
- "Data used to model the ballistic behaviour of HB25 in ADAMMO model of Autodyn," Oct. 17 2006. *DSM Dyneema*, Urmond, The Netherlands.

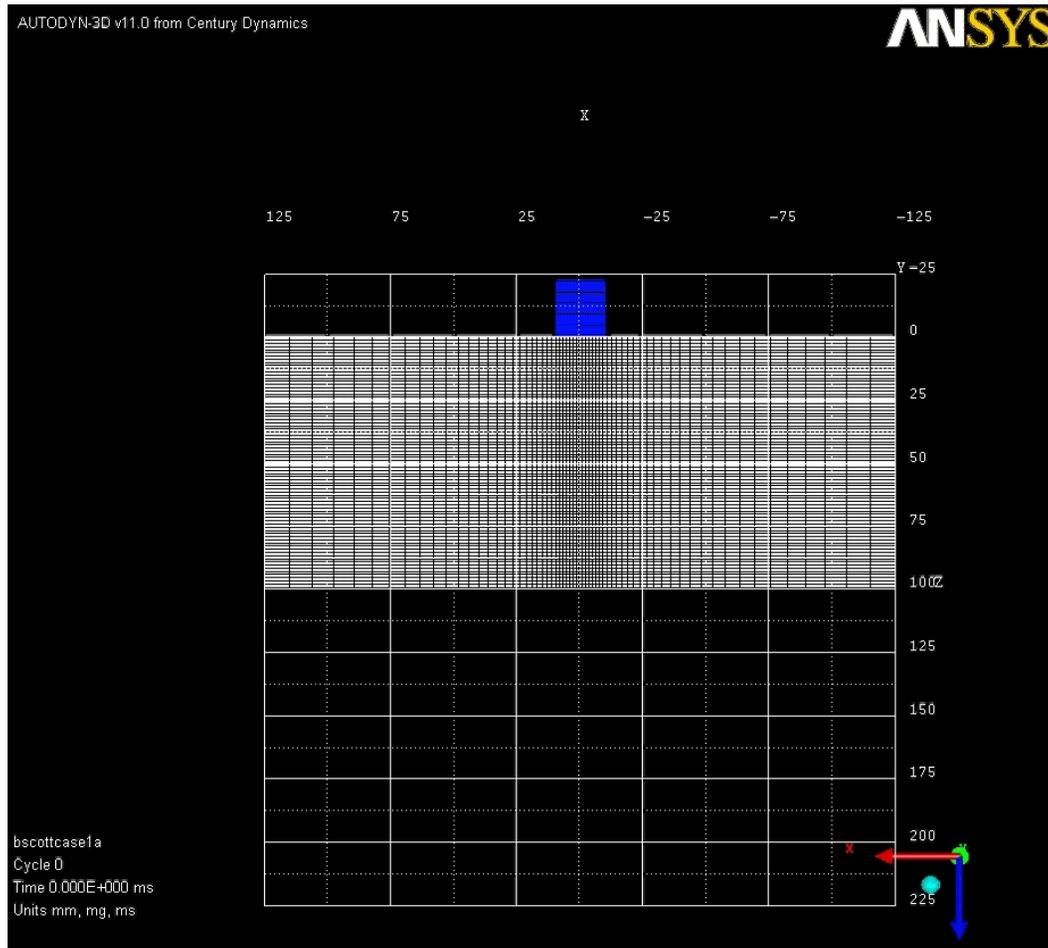
20 mm diameter 50 gram 4340 steel cylinder

2.0 km/s impact velocity

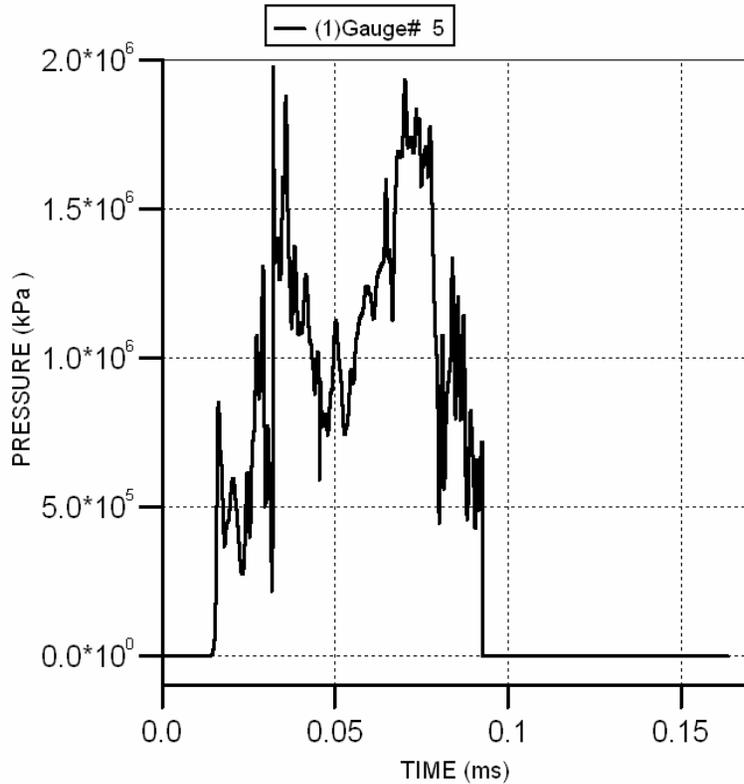
100 mm thick initial 40 microseconds

Two b.c. Rigid backing / simple frame



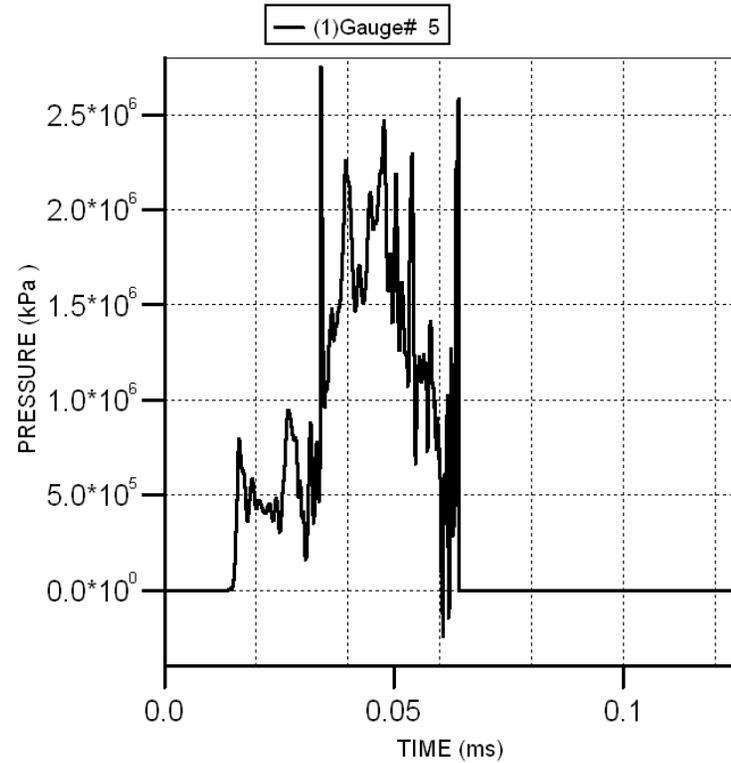


Gauge History (bscottcase1a)

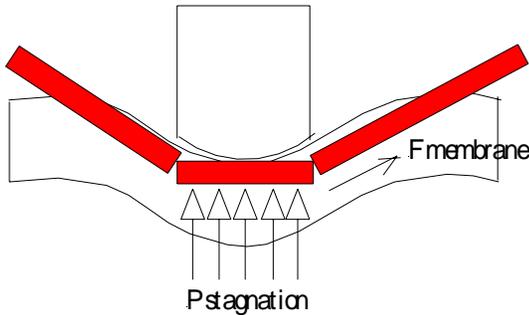


Simple frame b.c.

Gauge History (bscottcase2a)



Rigid backing b.c.



$$\int F \cdot dt = \delta(mv)$$

assume: penetration rate: $u = v / (1 + \sqrt{\rho_t / \rho_p})$
 target thickness: 10.0 cm
 impact velocity: 2000 m/s
 projectile diameter 1.0 cm
 projectile mass 5.0 gm
 $\sqrt{\rho_t / \rho_p}$.35
 linear f(t)

Initial axial momentum: 100 kg m/s

Pressure from simulation: 2M kPa (300 ksi)

Assume uniform over cross-section

First 40 microseconds: 25 kg m/s

- Hypothesis of self-constrained compression leading to extraordinary axial retardation stresses is confirmed by transient simulations
- Comparing two distinct boundary conditions, we identify the benefit of higher thru thickness pressures with the rigid backing case
- The high pressures account for a large fraction of the impulse delivered to the projectile
- The failure modes involving fiber axial tensile strength and transverse compressive strength appear to be uncoupled
- Uni construction allows for more global extension prior to rupture than woven architecture
- Compliant matrix and elastomeric transverse compressive behavior of fibers may be most important