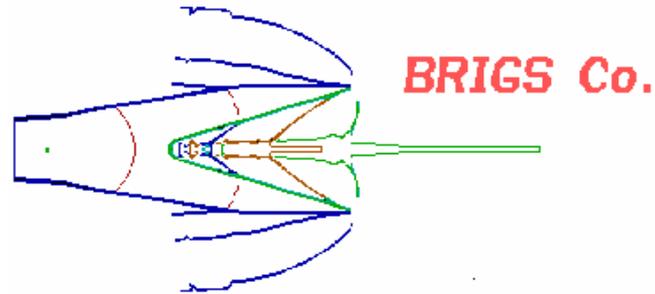


# Oral Presentation Cover for Abstract 1943

**Joseph E. Backofen**



2668 Petersborough St.  
Herndon, VA 20171

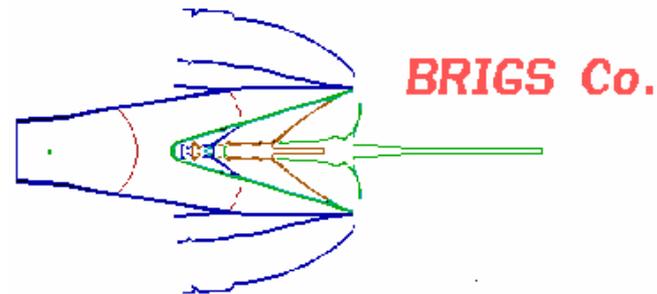
4192 Hales Ford Rd.  
Moneta, VA 24121

703-476-6448

[jebackofen@earthlink.net](mailto:jebackofen@earthlink.net)

# The Gurney Velocity: A “Constant” Affected by Previously Unrecognized Factors

Joseph E. Backofen



2668 Petersborough St.  
Herndon, VA 20171

4192 Hales Ford Rd.  
Moneta, VA 24121

# The Gurney Velocity – Key to the Equations

$$V_f = (2Eg)^{1/2} [(M/C) + 1/2]^{-1/2} \text{ Cylinder}$$

$$= Vg (\rho_{\text{cyl}} / \rho_{\text{ex}})^{-1/2} [(t_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}})^2 + 2 (t_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}}) + 0.5 (\rho_{\text{ex}} / \rho_{\text{cyl}})]^{-1/2}$$

$$V_f = (2Eg)^{1/2} [(M/C) + 1/3]^{-1/2} \text{ Symmetric Sandwich}$$

$$V_f = (2Eg)^{1/2} [(M/C) + 3/5]^{-1/2} \text{ Spherical Shell}$$

Values for the Gurney Velocity  $(2Eg)^{1/2}$  derived from experiments using different cylinder materials

	Steel (m/s)	Copper (m/s)
Comp. A-3 (RDX)	2416	2630
Cyclotol (75/25 cast)	2320	2790
Comp. B	2310	2700
TNT (cast)	2040	2370
Tetryl	2209	2500

## Gurney Velocity / Detonation Rate relationships:

$$V_g / D \cong 0.337 \quad (\text{P.W. Cooper})$$

$$V_g / D \cong (0.605 / [\Gamma - 1]) \quad (\text{J. Roth per J.E. Kennedy})$$

where  $\Gamma$  = the adiabatic exponent for the gaseous products

$$V_g / D \cong (0.60 \phi^{-1/2} + 0.648 \rho_o^{1/2}) / (1.01 + 1.313 \rho_o)$$

where  $\phi = N M^{1/2} Q^{1/2}$  ; N = moles of gaseous detonation products

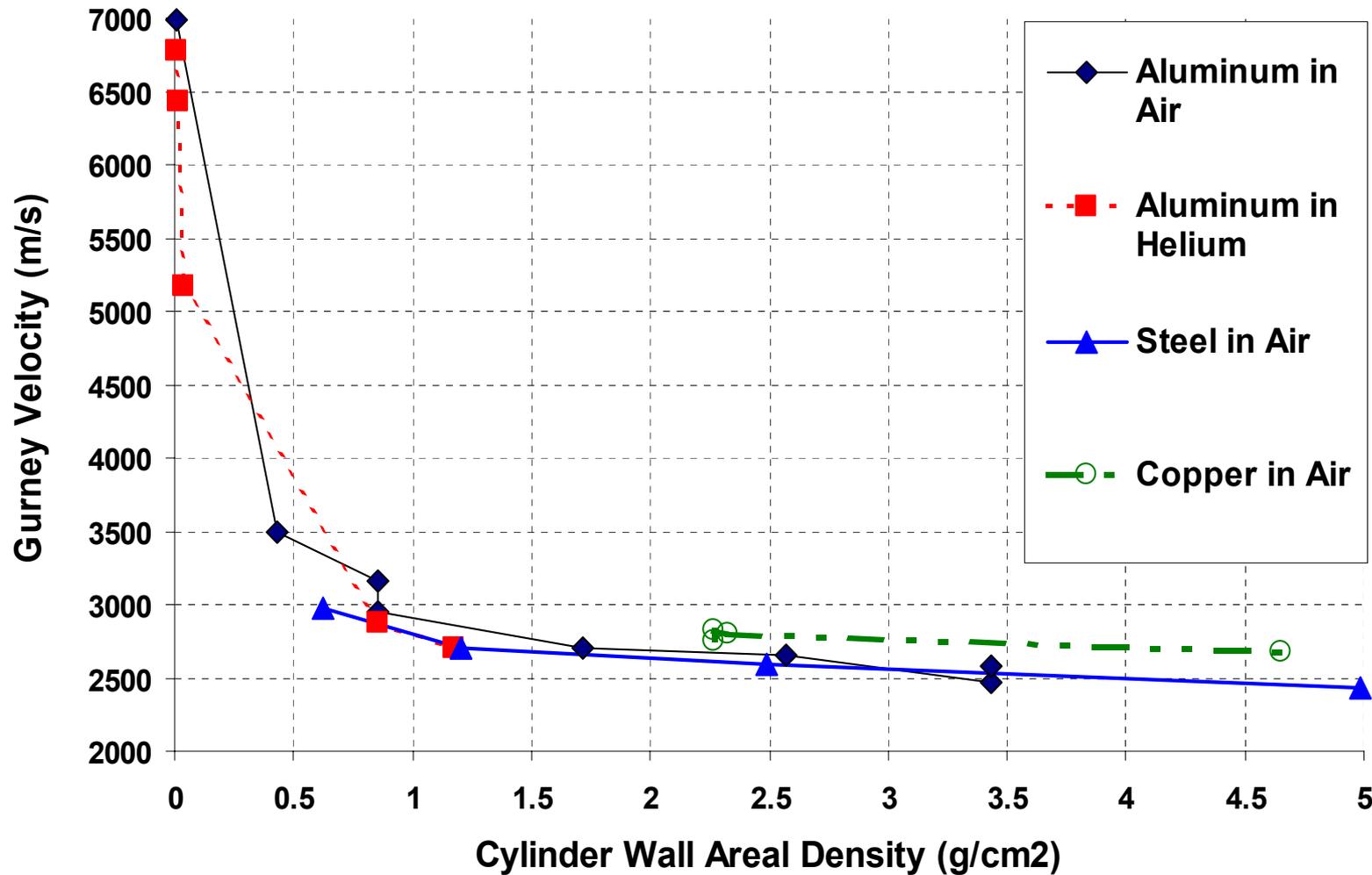
M = average weight of gases, and Q = chemical energy of detonation

(Hardesty & Kennedy / Kamlet & Hurwitz)

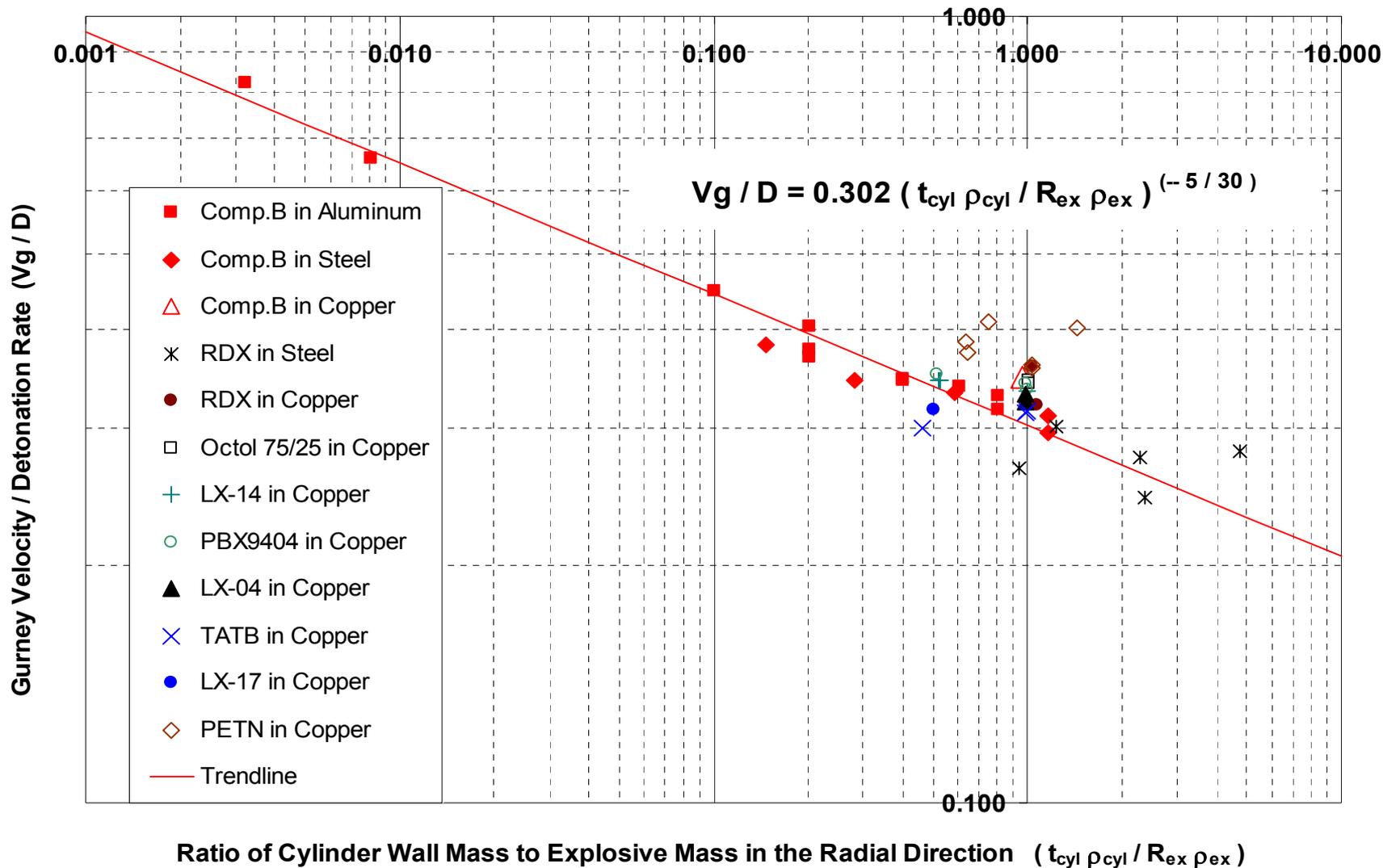
### Copper Cylinders

<u>Vg / D</u>	<u>Exp. (Licht)</u>	<u>Cooper</u>	<u>Roth</u>	<u>HK/ KH</u>
TNT	0.346	0.346	0.350	0.351
Comp B	0.345	0.343	0.355	0.385
Octol	0.335	0.330	0.331	0.328
LX-14	-----	0.326	0.348	-----
PETN	0.359	0.355	0.369	0.331

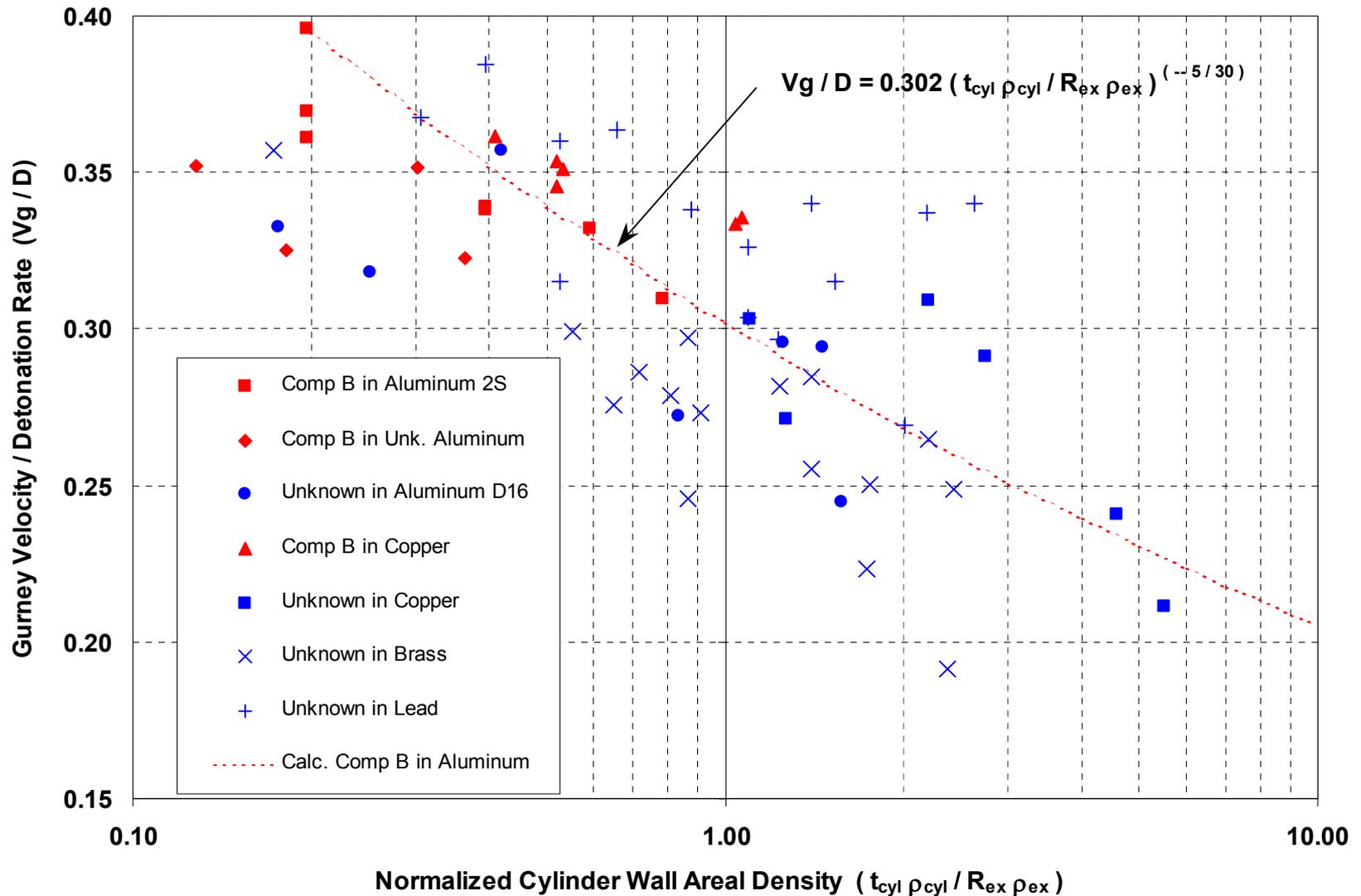
# Comparison of Gurney Velocities on the Basis of Cylinder Wall Areal Density from 2-inch Diameter Cylinder Tests Using Comp. B Explosive



# Ratio of the Gurney Velocity to an Explosive's Detonation Rate versus a Radial-Projection Areal Density Ratio



# Normalized Gurney Velocity Data from Measurements of Cylinder Wall Velocity at Fracture Time



# **BRIGS** Two-Step Detonation-Driven Propulsion Model

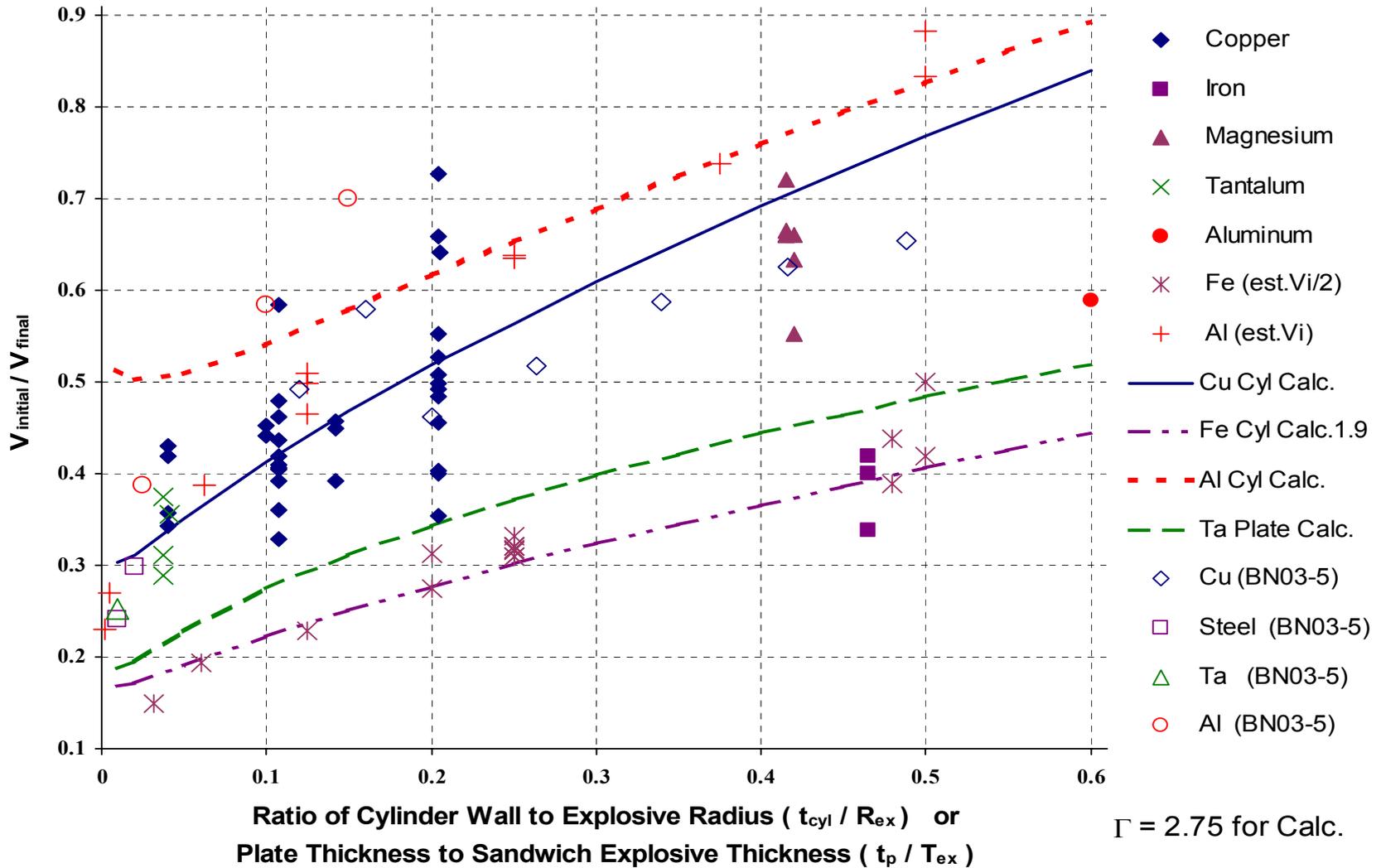
## **Initial** motion:

- imparted by a brisant shock-dominated process that depends upon intimate contact of explosive with propelled material
- envisioned as caused by higher-pressure region of detonation front (envision the von Neumann spike or reaction zone region as a finite thickness of solid material squeezed at high pressure)

## Gas-push (**gas-dynamic**) propulsion:

- envisioned similar to that assumed by Gurney modeling (gaseous product expansion from a homogeneous “all burnt” condition while pushing confining boundaries to a final “steady-state” velocity as the pressure drops)

# $V_{\text{initial}} / V_{\text{final}}$ Data Plotted for Cylinders and Plates of Various Inert Materials and Explosives



# ***New formulas*** improving insight into detonation-driven propulsion

## ***Initial*** velocity imparted to cylinder wall

$$V_i / D = 0.2085 (\rho_{\text{cyl}} / \rho_{\text{ex}})^{-1/2} (t_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}})^{(-3/40)}$$

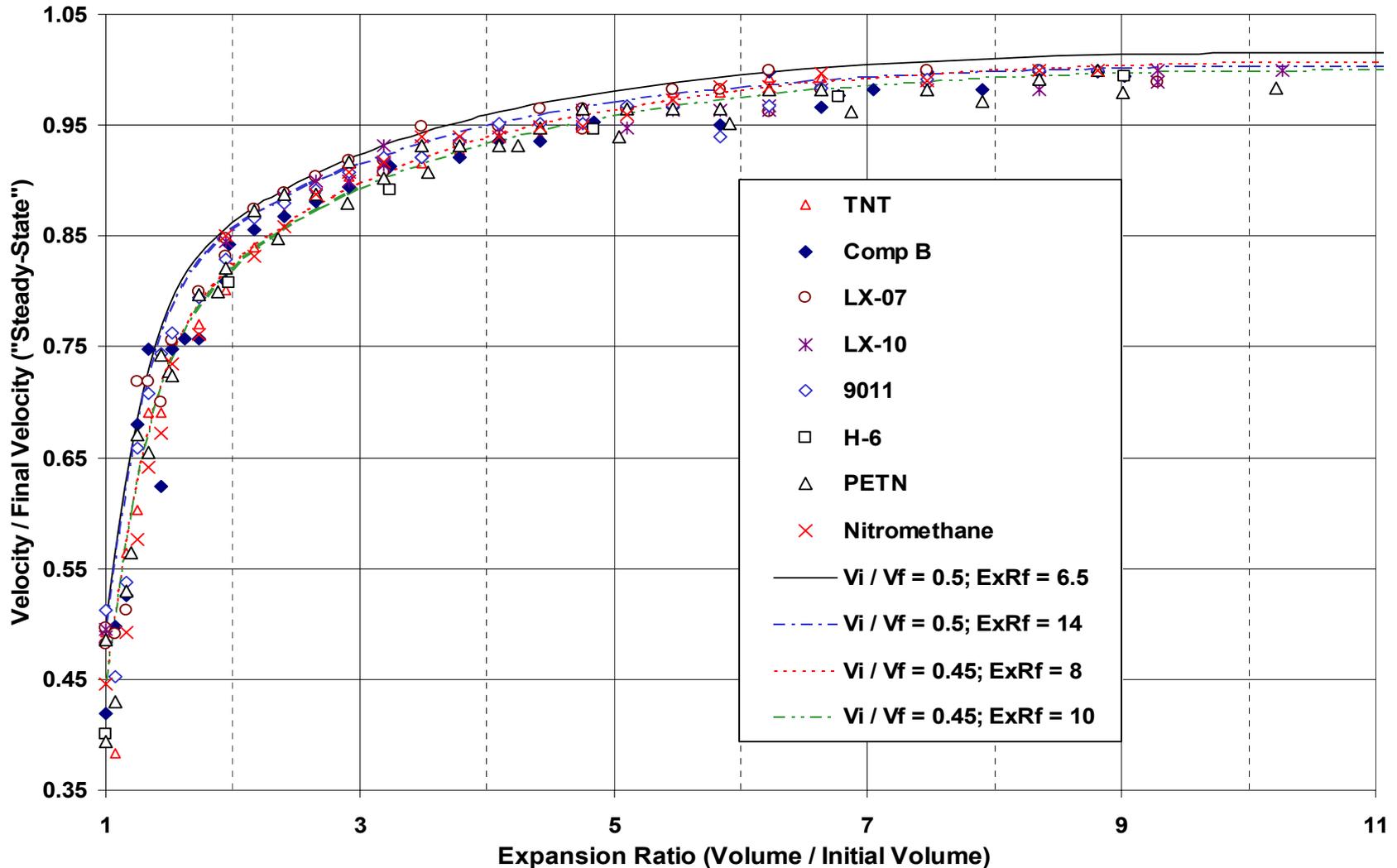
Equation for cylinders describing **ratio** of  
velocity imparted by **initial** coupling **to final** velocity

$$V_i / V_f = 0.3446 [\Gamma - 1] (t_{\text{cyl}} \rho_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}} \rho_{\text{ex}})^{(5/30)} (t_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}})^{(-3/40)} \\ [(t_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}})^2 + 2 (t_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}}) + 0.5 (\rho_{\text{ex}} / \rho_{\text{cyl}})]^{1/2}$$

$V_i$  = initial free-surface velocity  
 $V_f$  = final “steady-state” velocity

Transition Pressure (Gpa)	
Aluminum	20.5
Carbon (pressed graphite)	23
Iron (0.2 wt% Carbon)	14.7
Iron (0.5 wt% Carbon)	13
Titanium	9.4

# Normalized Velocity Data for Eight Explosives Driving Copper Cylinders



## Equation for *instantaneous* velocity ( $V_{er}$ ) as a function of the gaseous detonation products expansion ratio ( $ExR$ )

$$V_{er} / V_f = V_1 / V_f + V_2 / V_f$$

$$V_1 / V_f = (V_i / V_f) [ (e^{-ExR} - e^{-ExR^3}) + ( \{ ExR / ExR_f \}^{-1/2} / [ 1 / ExR_f ]^{-1/2} ) ]$$

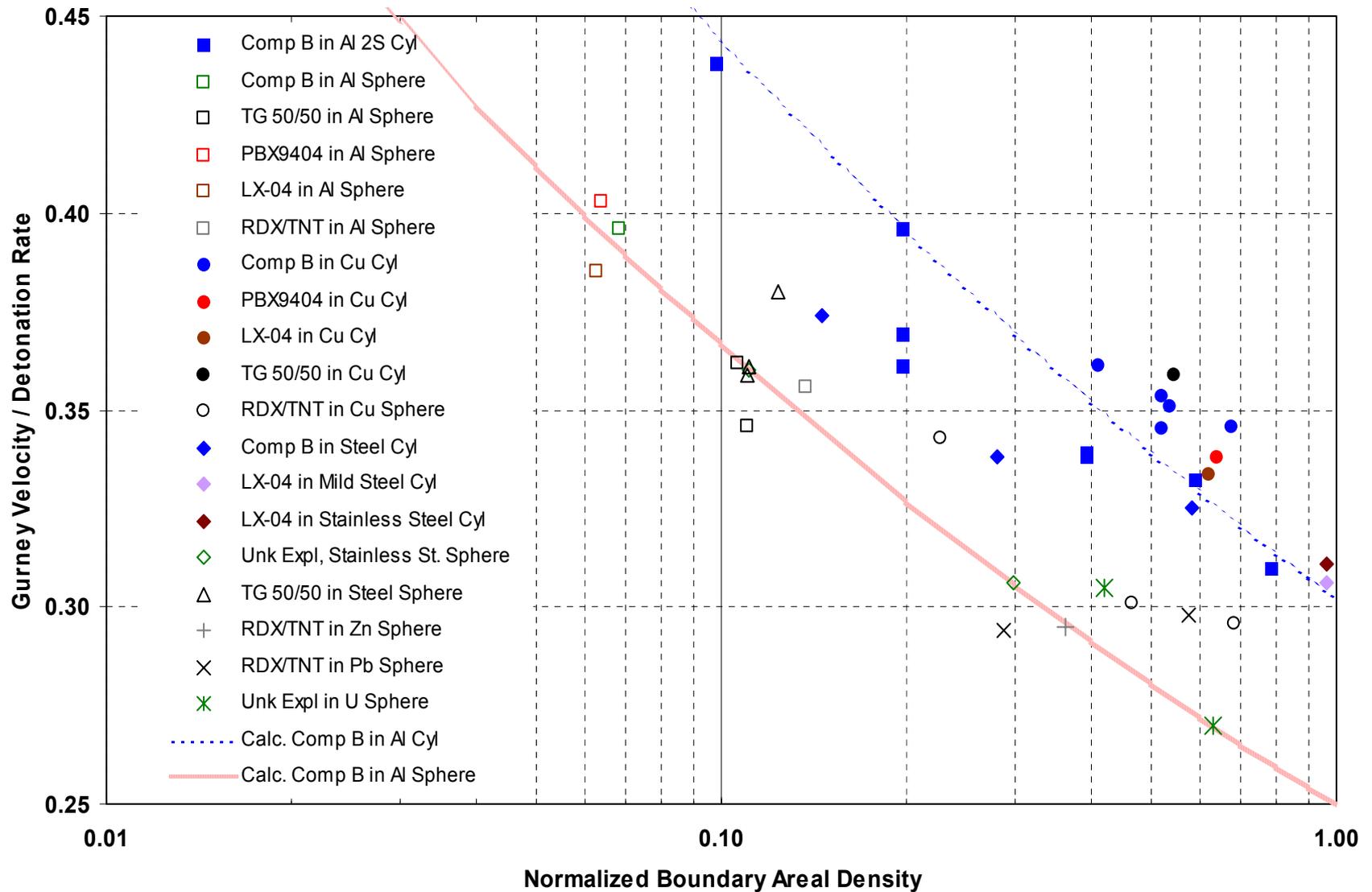
$$V_2 / V_f = [ 1 - \{ (V_i / V_f) / (1 / ExR_f) \}^{-1/2} ] (ExR / ExR_f)^{-1/3} [ \log (ExR) / \log (ExR_f) ]$$

$V_i$  = initial free-surface velocity

$V_f$  = final “steady-state” velocity at final expansion ratio ( $ExR_f$ )

(Equation was fitted “by eye” using MathCad™ software.)

# Normalized Gurney Velocity Data for Some Explosives in Cylinders and Spheres of Different Materials



# The important message is .....

material properties and geometry  
affect Gurney Velocity measurement

## The trend of these effects was demonstrated in:

- Cylinder tests (copper, aluminum, and steel)
- Fragmentation tests (copper, aluminum, etc.)

## New data and analysis are needed:

- Published data were not specifically taken to reveal the effects
- Most copper cylinder test data taken at
$$(t_{\text{cyl}} \rho_{\text{cyl}} / R_{\text{ex}} \rho_{\text{ex}}) \cong 1.0$$
- Gurney (Lagrange) assumptions may not be valid

## New opportunities:

- Gurney values would reflect materials & geometry
- To define effect of cylinder wall phase transitions

**Another important message is .....**

**that *gas-dynamic* propulsion by  
many explosives is similar**

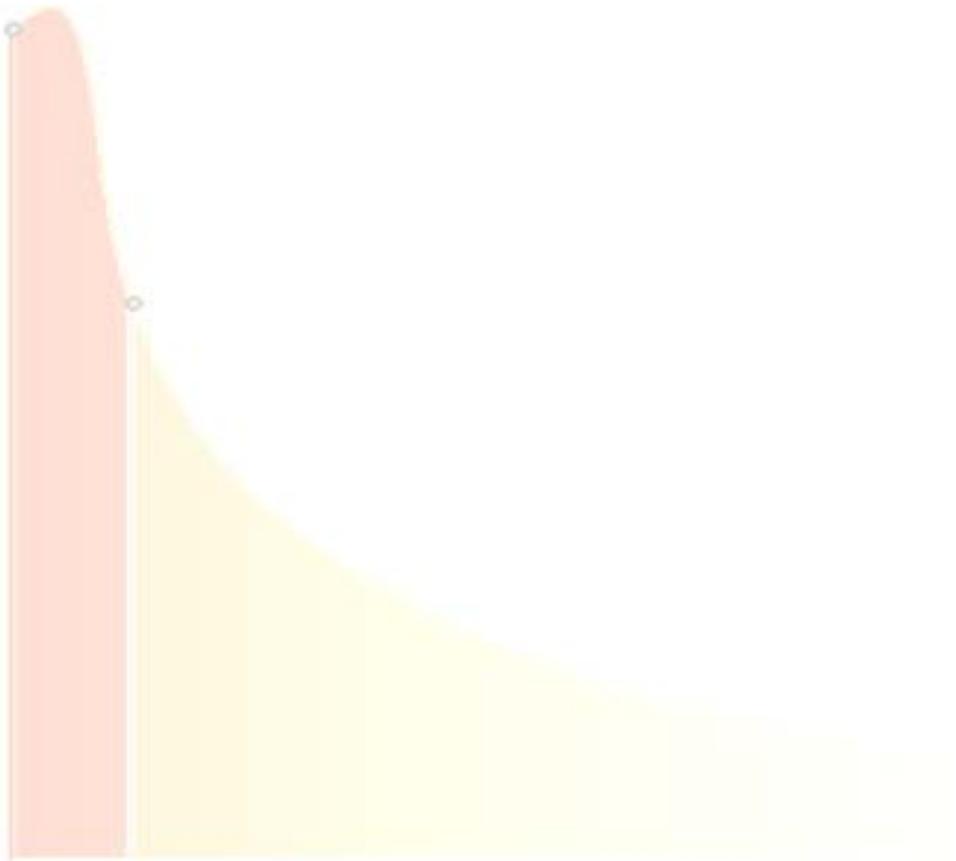
**Differences between explosives arise from:**

- $V_i$  (solid-state detonation coupling effects)
- Total convertible energy (i.e.  $V_g$  from  $V_f$  at  $ExR_f$ )
- Time needed to convert total energy to kinetic energy of boundary materials & detonation products

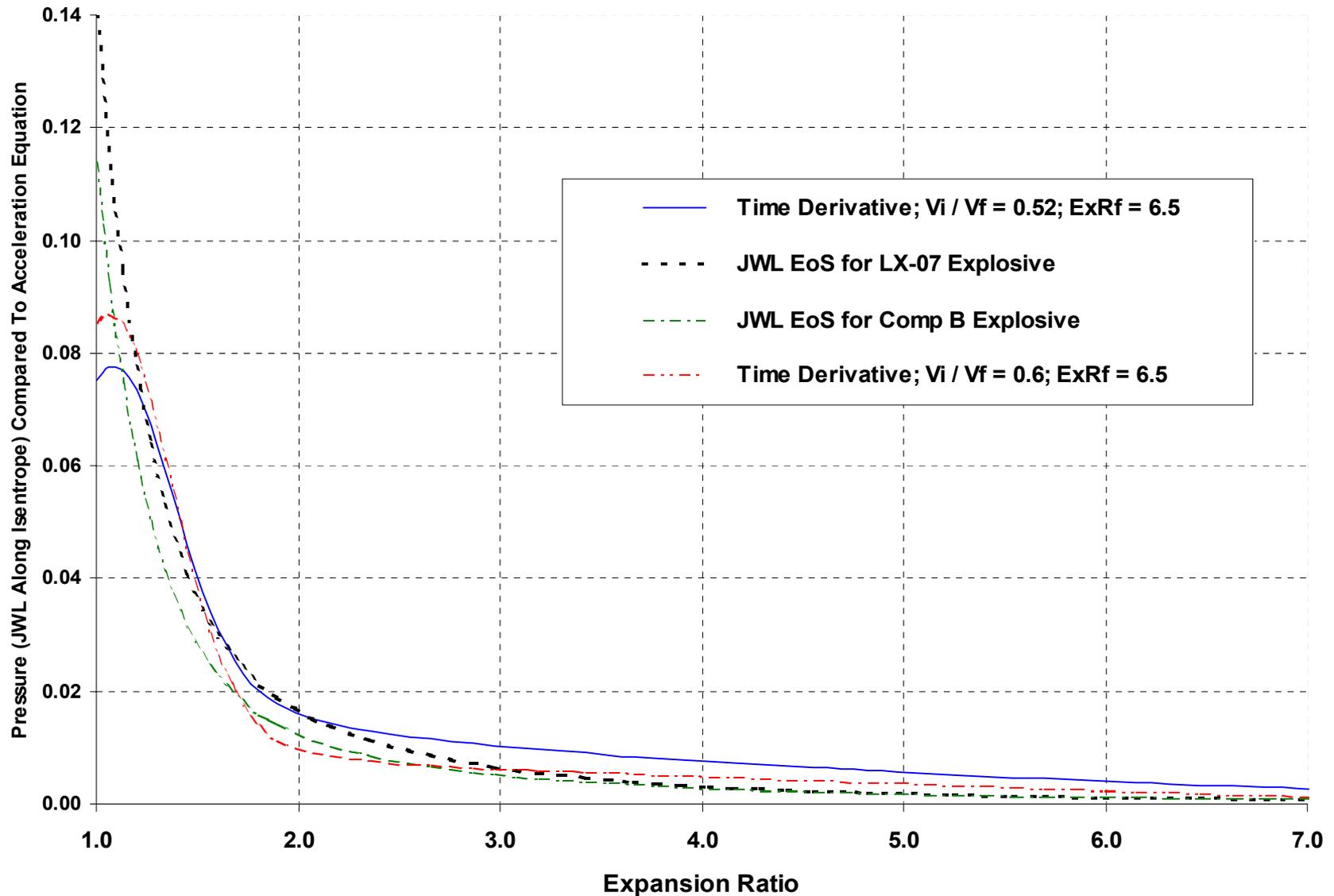
**New, more accurate data are needed:**

- $V_i$  [grazing wave] using interferometry and various materials subject to phase transitions
- $V_f$  data at larger  $ExR_f$  [beyond 6.5 to 10 - 14]
- Not sure that Gurney (Lagrange) assumptions valid [need more data from  $V_i$  to  $ExR = 2$  & beyond]

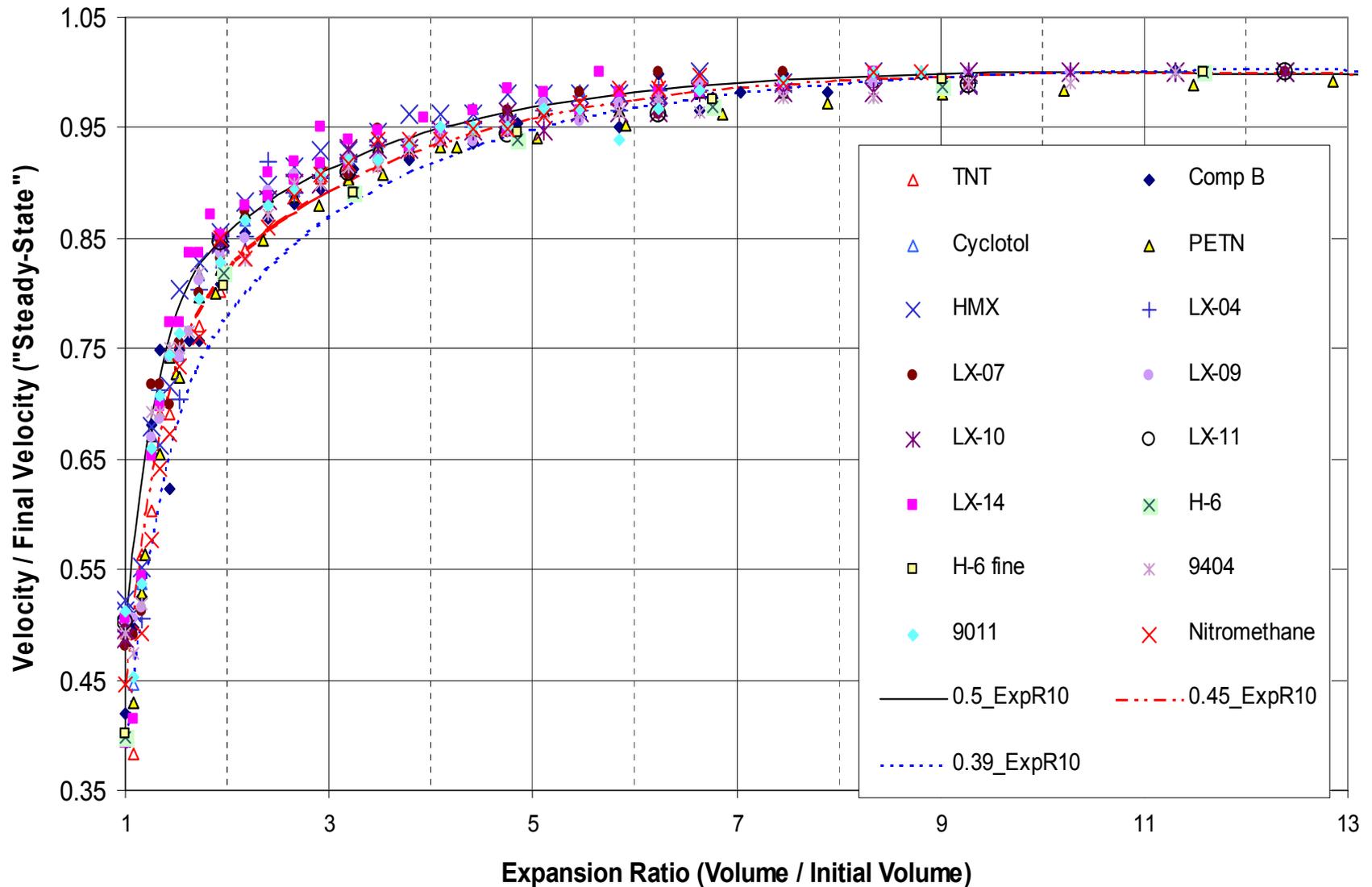
# Additional Backup Information Follows .....



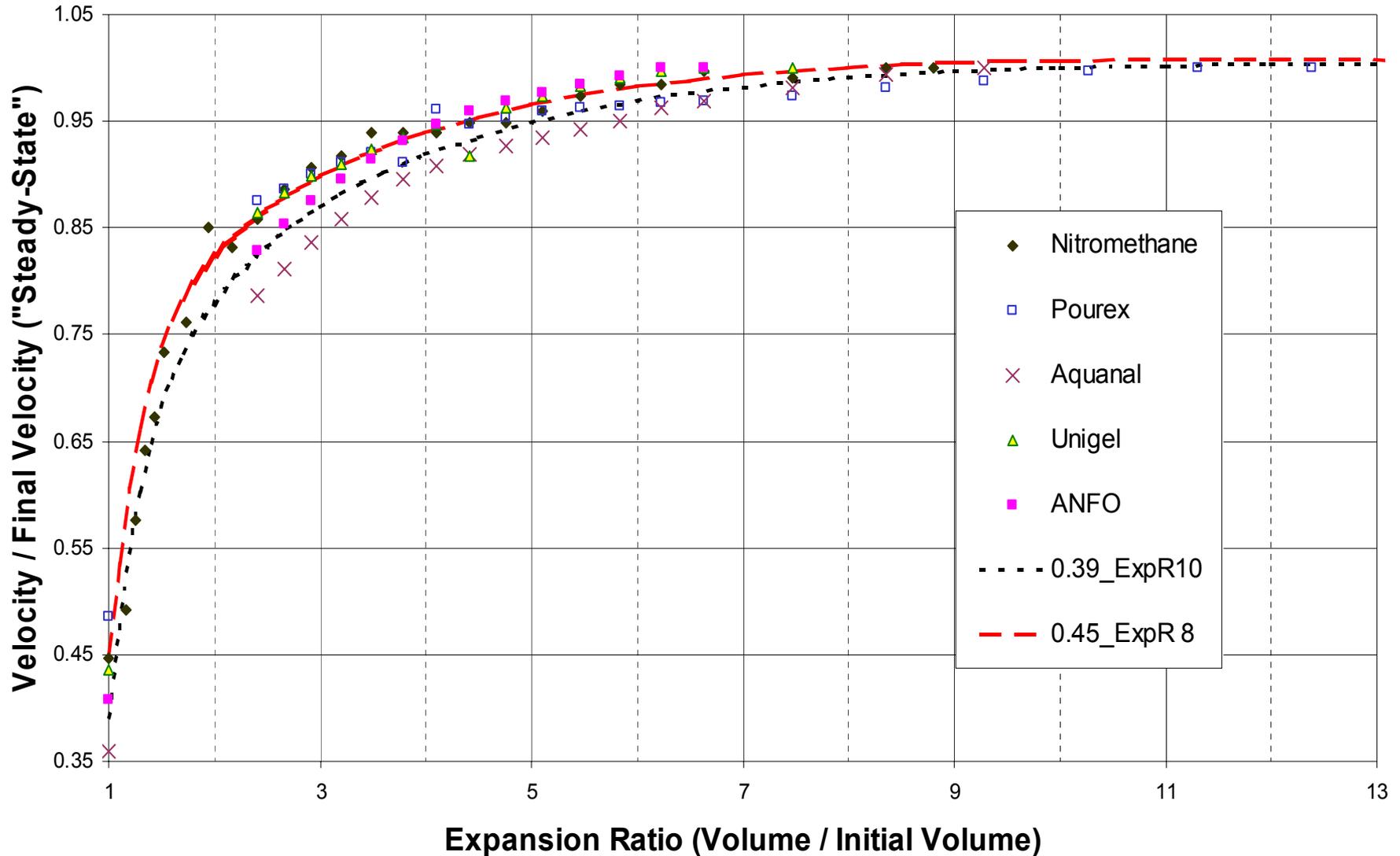
# Comparison of JWL Calculated Pressures to the *Time Derivative* of the *Instantaneous Velocity* Equation for an Expanding Cylinder



# Non-Dimensional Velocity as a Function of Explosive Volume Expansion for Sixteen "Ideal" Explosives



# Non-Dimensional Velocity as a Function of Explosive Volume Expansion for Five Commercial Explosives



## Currently available trend-line

$$Vg / D \cong (0.605 / [\Gamma - 1]) (t_{cyl} \rho_{cyl} / R_{ex} \rho_{ex})^{(-5/30)}$$

(J. Roth per J.E. Kennedy) -- expanded

For use with

$$Vf = Vg (\rho_{cyl} / \rho_{ex})^{-1/2} [(t_{cyl} / R_{ex})^2 + 2 (t_{cyl} / R_{ex}) + 0.5 (\rho_{ex} / \rho_{cyl})]^{-1/2}$$

## Future work

$$Vg / D \cong (0.60 \phi^{-1/2} + 0.648 \rho_o^{1/2}) / (1.01 + 1.313 \rho_o)$$

(Hardesty & Kennedy / Kamlet & Hurwitz)

$$Vg-p / D \cong (0.541 / [\Gamma - 1]) (t_{cyl} \rho_{cyl} / R_{ex} \rho_{ex})^{(-5/30)}$$

(Gas - push contribution model)