

# Blast Mitigation

Arun Shukla

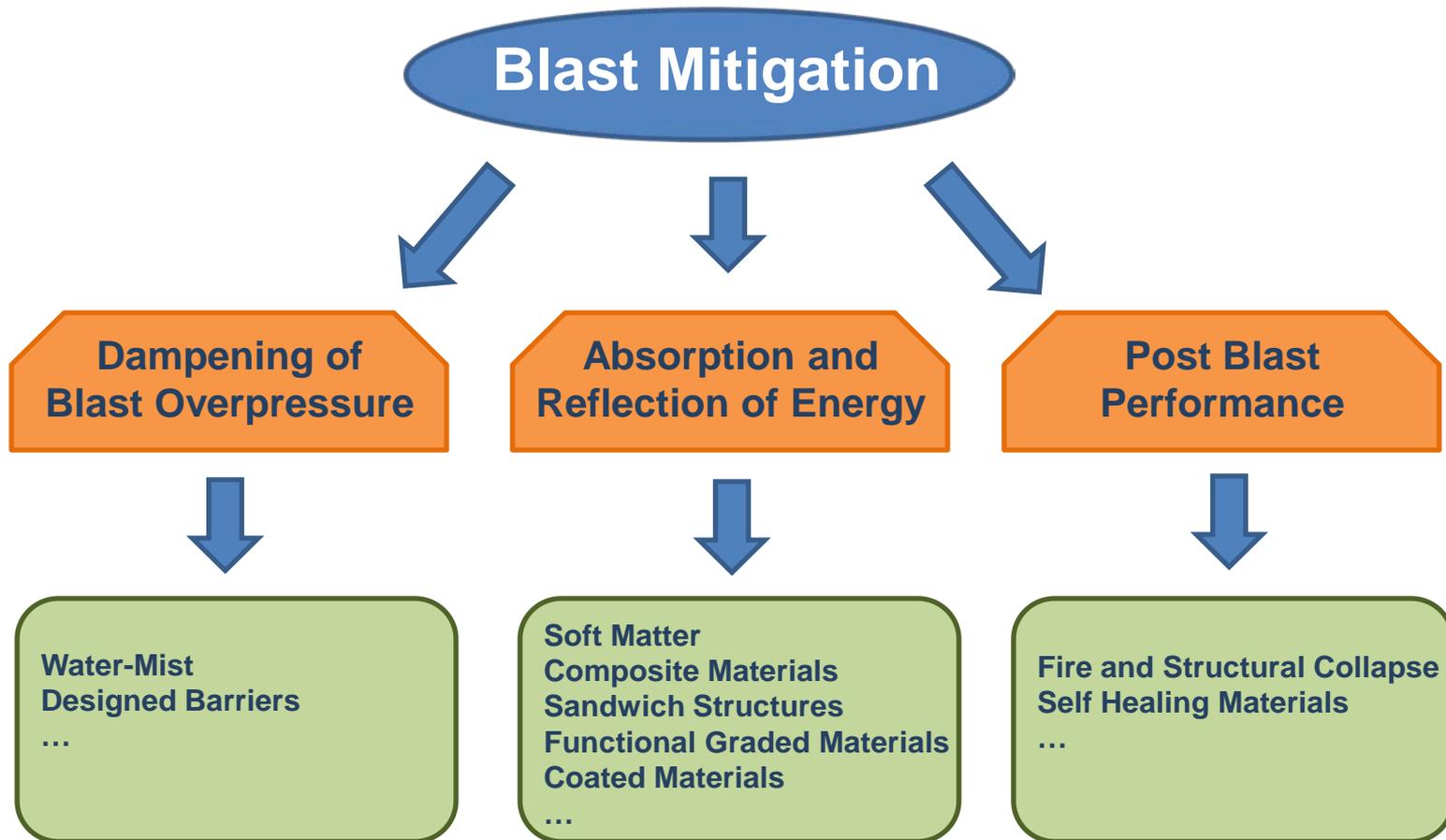
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**MITIGATION: Forestalling**  
**X**  
**the Inevitable**

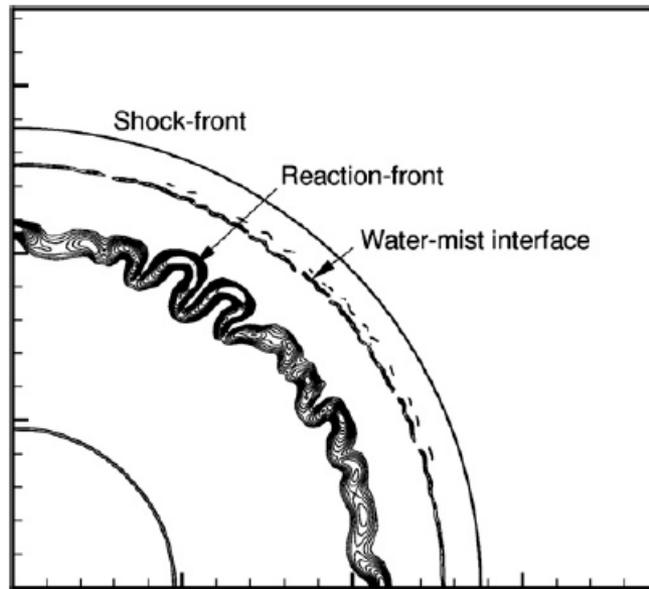


# Introduction

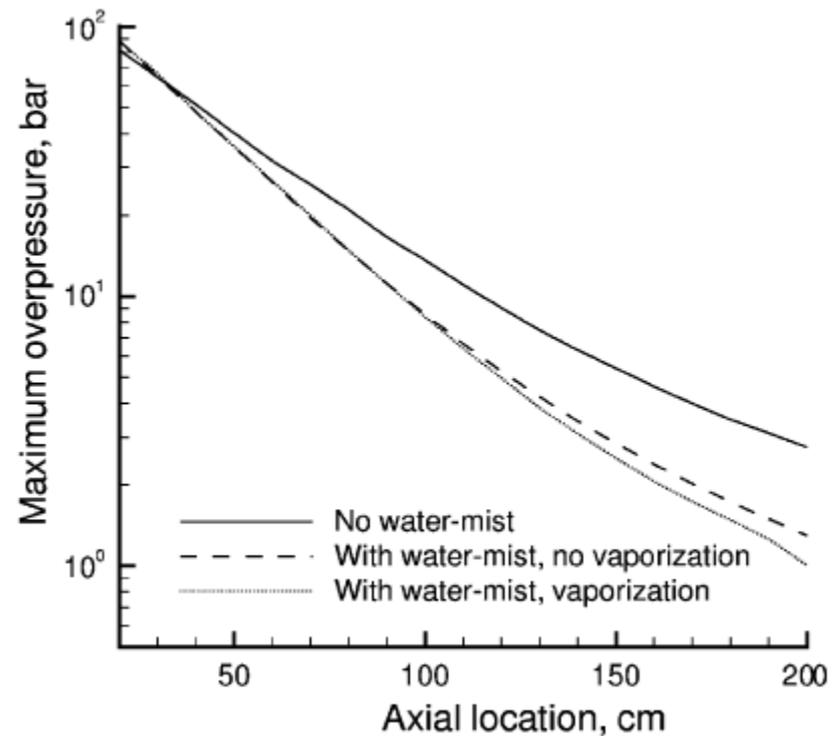


# Dampening of Blast Overpressure

## Water-Mist:

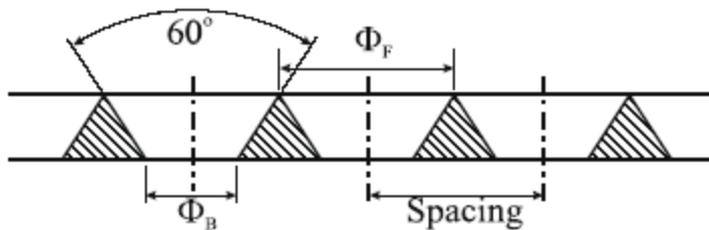
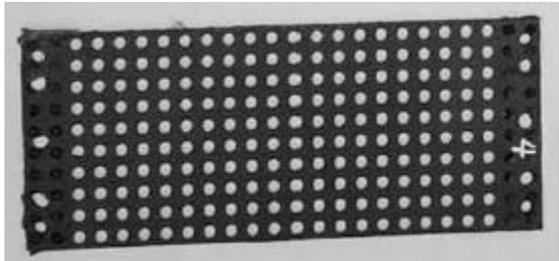


A blast of 2.12 kg TNT, 1 ms after detonation

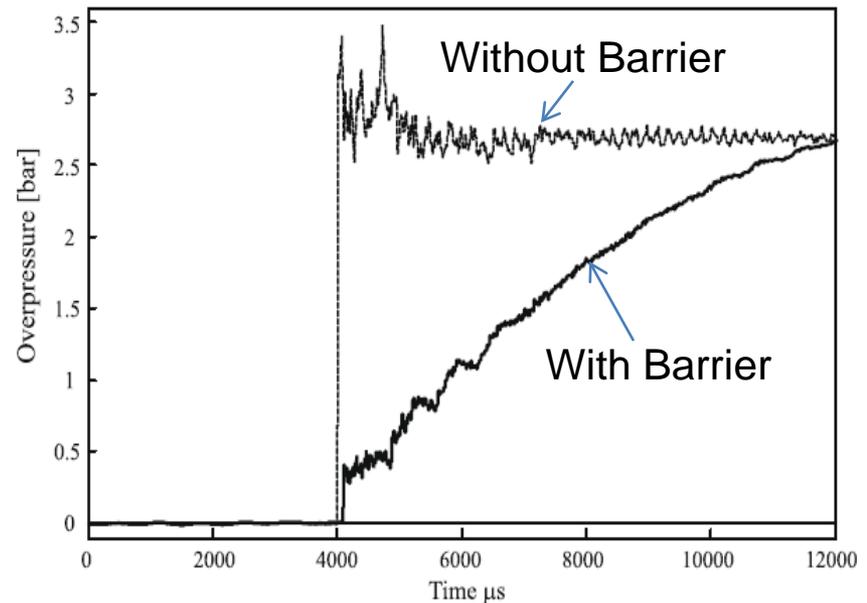


# Dampening of Blast Overpressure

## Designed Hard Barrier:



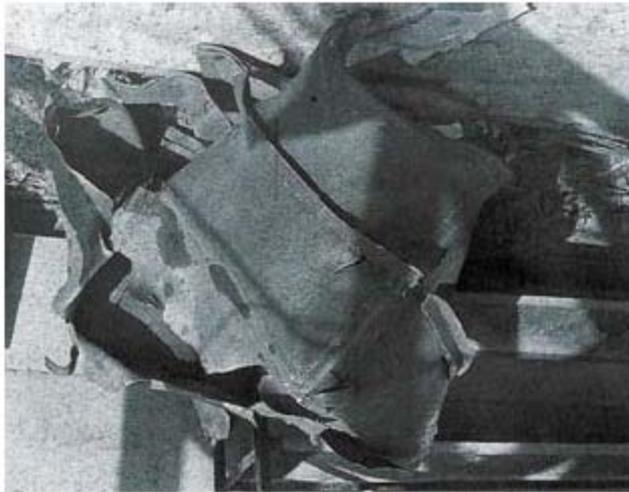
Barrier with tapered holes



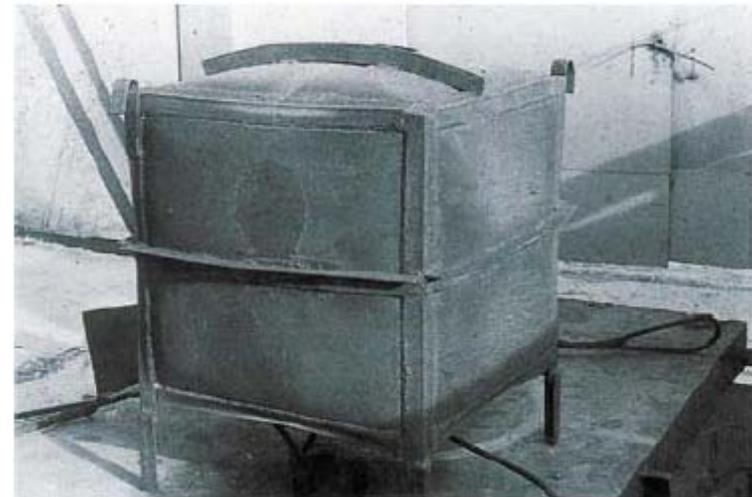
# Absorption and Reflection of Energy

## Soft-Matter:

Granular, porous materials, foams



Catastrophical failure of steel structure after inside explosion in air



Confined explosion in the same structure filled with sawdust

Explosive (RDX) mass was 0.5 kg in both cases, wall thickness of containers 3 mm, side 0.7 m, sawdust density  $100 \text{ kg/m}^3$

# Absorption and Reflection of Energy

## Composite Materials:



Unretrofitted column



Retrofitted column

# Absorption and Reflection of Energy

## Sandwich Structures:

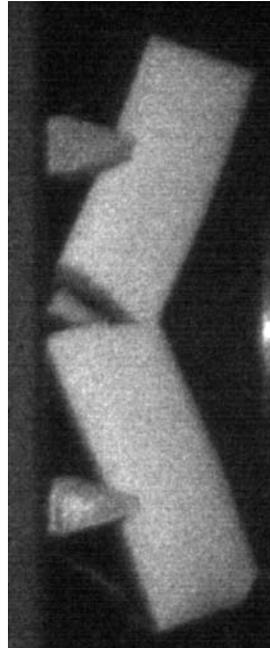
Blast  
Overpressure

0.35 MPa



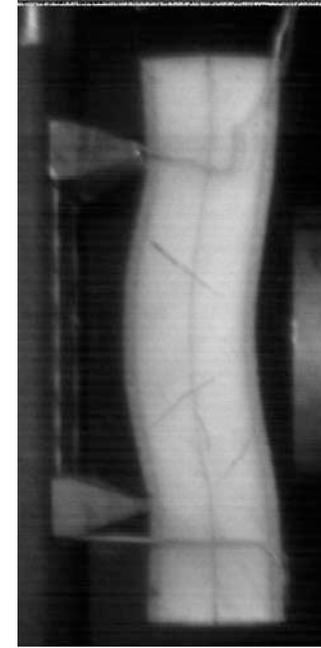
Face Sheet  
Total Collapse

0.35 MPa



Foam Core  
Total Collapse

2 MPa



Sandwich Structure  
Can withstand more  
intensive blast loading

The sandwich structure can stand much higher blast loading than that components can.

Shukla et.al. URI, 2009

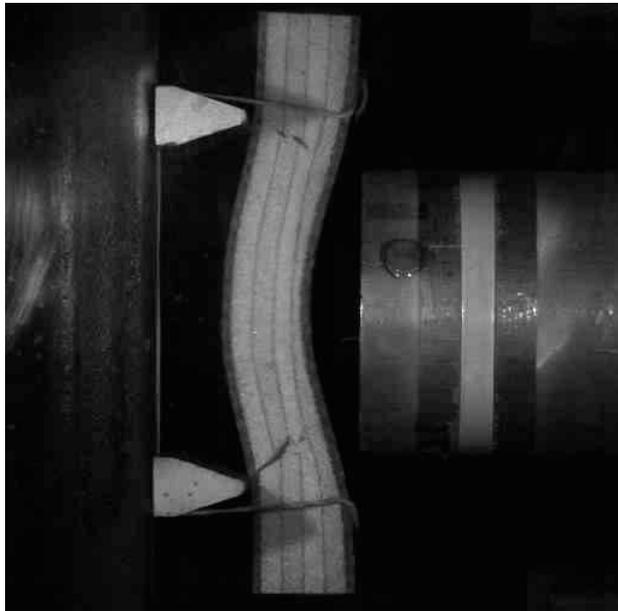
# Absorption and Reflection of Energy

## Sandwich Structures:



# Absorption and Reflection of Energy

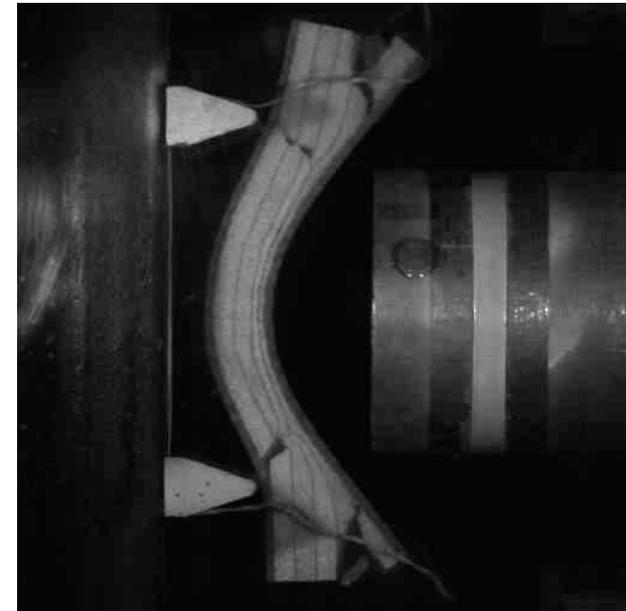
## Functionally Graded Materials:



1<sup>st</sup> Layer Compression



2<sup>nd</sup> Layer Compression



3<sup>rd</sup> Layer Compression

# Absorption and Reflection of Energy

## Coated Materials:

Unreinforced  
CMU



Reinforced  
CMU with ½-  
in polymer  
coating on  
interior wall

A series of explosive performance tests on CMU (concrete masonry unit) walls were conducted at Tyndall Air Force Base and in Israel. In general, post-test observations indicated that the exterior faces of the CMU were shattered at least half way through the CMU, with the interior faces of the CMU remaining adhered to the polymer liner.

# Mitigation of Fire and Structural Collapse



•<http://www.fyfeasia.com/>

# Mitigation of Fire and Structural Collapse



Without  
polypropylene  
fibers

With  
polypropylene  
fibers

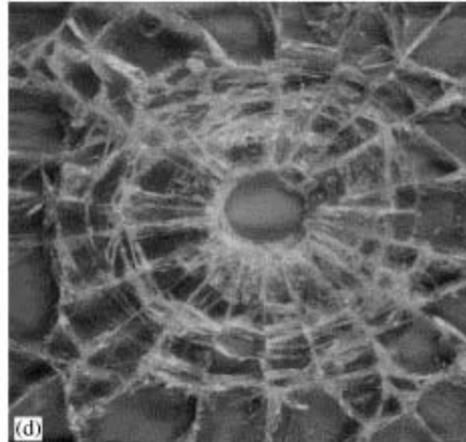
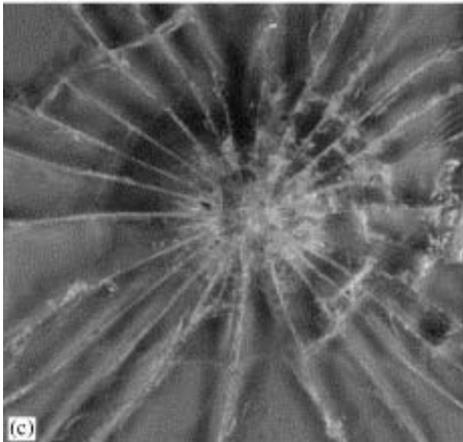
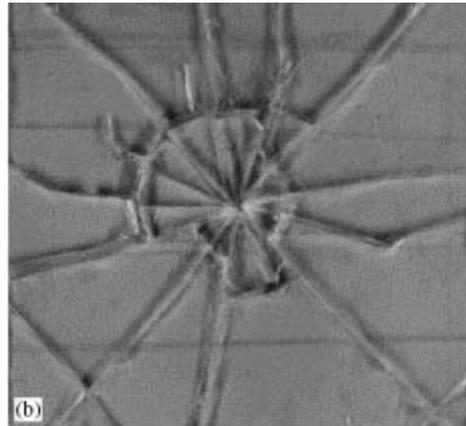
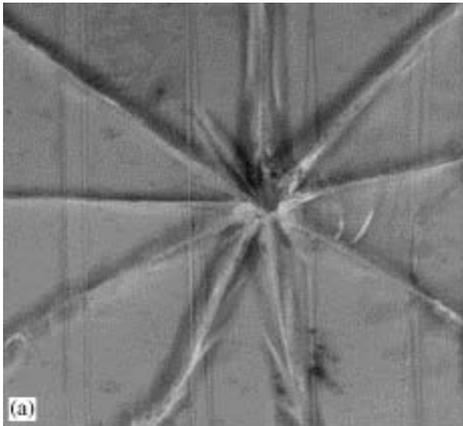
Hydrocarbon Fires differ from conventional fires because their heat gain is very rapid. The temperature of the moisture vapor entrapped in the concrete rises rapidly and turns to steam at 100 C. Unable to dissipate quickly through the microstructure of the concrete the pressure builds up causing an explosive spalling or “pop-corn cracking” of the concrete.

Experiment: 5kg/m<sup>3</sup> of polypropylene fibers were added within the concrete mix.

In the event of a fire, these fibers tend to melt, increasing the porosity of the concrete and thereby dissipating the pressure build-up, which would otherwise occur.

# Post Blast Performance

## Safety Glasses:



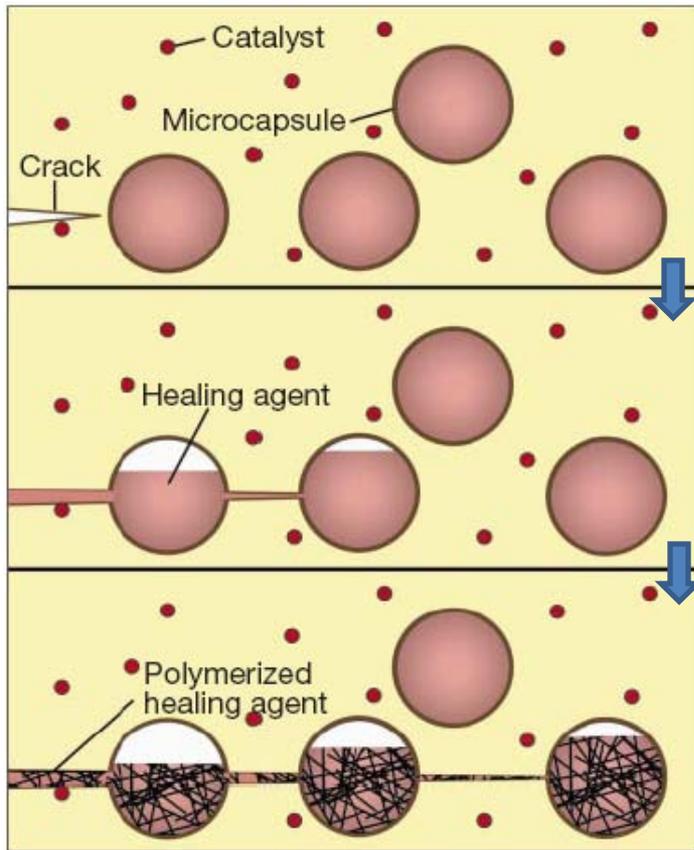
Glass samples subjected to different loading modes.

(a, b): test by drop ball  
(low loading rates)

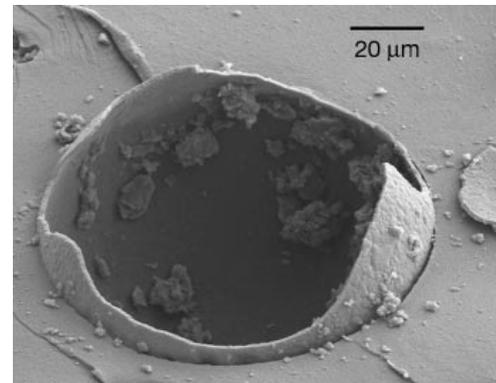
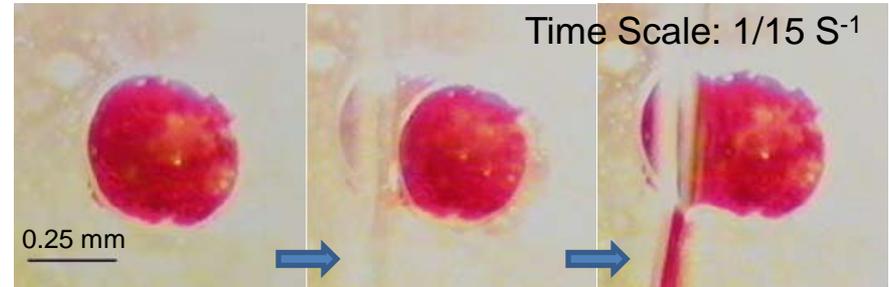
(c, d): test by Hopkinson  
bars (high loading rates).

# Post Blast Performance

## Self-Healing Materials:

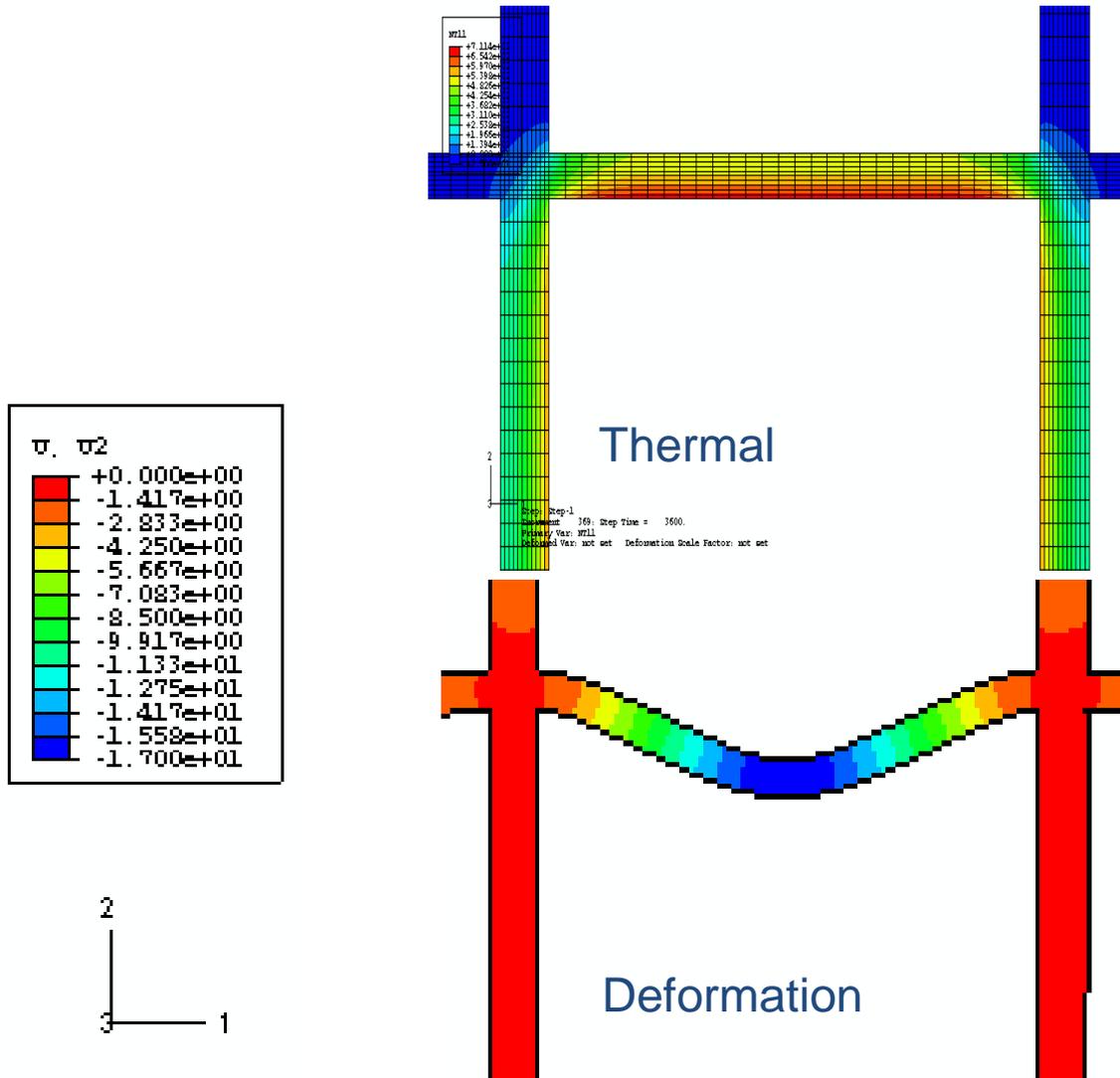


### Real Process



a ruptured urea formaldehyde microcapsule in a thermosetting matrix.

# Thermal and Strain Distributions in Reinforced Structure



# Blast Mitigation Workshop, April 30, 2009

## The University of Rhode Island

**Organizers:** Arun Shukla ([shuklaa@egr.uri.edu](mailto:shuklaa@egr.uri.edu)), Carl-Ernst Rousseau ([rousseau@egr.uri.edu](mailto:rousseau@egr.uri.edu)) and Jimmie Oxley ([joxley@chm.uri.edu](mailto:joxley@chm.uri.edu))

**Focus Area:** Blast/Fragment/Structure/Interaction and Blast/Pressure/Mitigation

### Tentative Program

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 8:30 - 8:40          | Arun Shukla : INTRODUCTION                       |
| <b>8:40 - 9:10</b>   | <b>Mary-Ellen Hynes (DHS): PLENARY LECTURE</b>   |
| 9:10 - 9:25          | Hamouda Ghonem & Otto Gregory                    |
| 9:25 - 9:40          | Carl-Ernst Rousseau                              |
| 9:40 - 9:55          | Arun Shukla                                      |
| <b>9:55 - 10:10</b>  | <b>Break</b>                                     |
| <b>10:10- 10:40</b>  | <b>Bruce LaMattina (ARO): PLENARY LECTURE</b>    |
| 10:40 - 10:55        | Joseph Shepherd                                  |
| 10:55 - 11:10        | Choong Shik Yoo & Yogi Gupta                     |
| 11:10- 11:25         | Jason Baird & John Meyers                        |
| <i>11:25 - 12:15</i> | <i>OPEN DISCUSSION</i>                           |
| <b>12:15 - 1:15</b>  | <b>LUNCH</b>                                     |
| <b>1:15 - 1:45</b>   | <b>Kailas Kailasanath (NRL): PLENARY LECTURE</b> |
| 1:45 - 2:00          | Nancy Sottos/Arijit Bose                         |
| 2:00 - 2:15          | Mehrdad Sasani                                   |
| 2:15 - 2:30          | Tim Harrigan                                     |
| 2:30 - 2:45          | Ted Krauthammer                                  |
| <b>2:45 - 3:00</b>   | <b>BREAK</b>                                     |
| 3:00 - 3:15          | Steven F. Son                                    |
| 3:15 - 3:30          | Stephen W. Smith                                 |
| 3:30-3:45            | William Fourney                                  |
| <i>3:45 - 4:30</i>   | <i>OPEN DISCUSSION</i>                           |
| 4:30 - 5:00          | Closing Remarks: Where do we go from here?       |
| <b>6:00</b>          | <b>DINNER</b>                                    |

