

EXPLORING THE UNCERTAINTY IN THE EQUATION OF STATE FOR A HIGH  
 EXPLOSIVE FIT TO HETEROGENEOUS DATA

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**ABSTRACT**

The extreme pressures and temperatures of the gas produced by detonating a High Explosive (HE) make it difficult to use experimental measurements to estimate the Equation Of State (EOS), the physics model that relates pressure, temperature, and density of the gas. Instead of measuring pressure directly one measures effects like the acceleration of metals driven by the HE. Typically one fits a few free parameters in a fixed functional form to measurements from a single experiment. The present work uses the optimization tool F\_UNCLE to incorporate data from multiple experiments into a single EOS model for the gas produced by detonating the explosive PBX 9501. The model is verified by comparison to an experiment from outside the set of calibration data. The uncertainty in the EOS is also examined to determine how each calibration experiment constrains the model and how the uncertainty arising from all calibration experiments affects predictions. This work identifies an EOS for HE detonation products and uncertainty about the EOS.

$\alpha_m$	Magnitude of uncertainty in the isentrope
$\eta$	Deviation from the model degrees of freedom
$\Gamma$	Grüneisen gamma
$\rho$	Density
$\rho_o$	Material density at initial state
$\sigma_m$	Characteristic distance of correlation in uncertainty of the isentrope
$\theta$	Model degrees of freedom
$\theta_\mu$	Prior model degrees of freedom
$\Upsilon(\rho)$	Optimization basis of orho-normal eigenfunctions
	<i>Variables</i>
$B(\rho)$	The cubic B-spline basis function matrix
$b(\rho)$	B-spline basis function
$C$	Intercept of linear $U_s - U_p$ model
$c_i$	B-spline basis function coefficient
$e$	Mass-specific internal energy
$P$	Probability density function
$p_s(\rho)$	The function representing pressure as a function of density on the CJ isentrope
$s$	Slope of linear $U_s - U_p$ model
$U_p$	particle speed
$U_s$	Shock speed

**Nomenclature**

*Symbols*

$\mathcal{D}$	The set of data from all experiments
	<i>Modifiers</i>
$\beta_s$	Property of $\beta$ on an isentrope
$\beta^*$	Optimal value of $\beta$

## 1 Introduction

Mathematical models of physical processes are needed for computer simulations of complex systems. Current practice is to select a mathematical form with some small set of adjustable parameters and, typically, use a single experiment to calibrate the parameter set. Such an approach is common when determining Equation of State (EOS) models for High Explosive (HE) detonation products. A very popular approach for modeling an HE EOS is the JWL model [21] which is composed of two exponential terms and one power law term and has six free parameters. These six free parameters are fit to match the observed detonation velocity, pressure and energy as well as the velocity history observed in a cylinder experiment [10], discussed subsequently in Section 4.1. JWL models calibrated in this way have been shown to perform well when examining cylinder tests but have challenges predicting experiments which occur at regimes in density which was not reached in the cylinder test.

Alternatives to the JWL model have been proposed by Davis [3] (7 degrees of freedom), Hixson [15] (13 degrees of freedom) and Menikoff [24] (25 degrees of freedom). These models are also restricted to a fixed functional form. A semi-parametric approach represents the function as a weighted sum of continuous basis-functions. In the limit of an infinite number of basis functions, any function can be represented. In practice when a large ( $\approx 75$ ) number of basis functions are used, there exists a function within the span of this basis which is 'close' to most functions. This semi-parametric approach means that the initial ideas of how the function should look do not constrain the possible model forms.

The semi-parametric approach still requires some procedure to calibrate the basis function coefficients to match experimental data. Optimization with a Bayesian objective function has been shown to have many advantages [1]. The objective function in the optimization is the log-posterior probability which is the sum of the log-prior probability, reflecting the prior state of knowledge about what the model should be, and the log-likelihood, reflecting what model is suggested by the data. Computing the likelihood of multiple experiments given a model provides a valid basis to compare the effects of a model on many different experiments. The total log-likelihood of all the experiments is simply the sum of each experiment. The relative importance of each experiment is given by the uncertainty in the experimental data rather than by some arbitrary weighting factor. It is important to note that not all experiments are suitable for use in such an optimization. It is assumed that there is no systemic bias in the experiments and that there should exist one model which can rep-

resent all experiments. Experiments in the 'unit-tier validation problem' category of Oberkampf and Roy [26] are good candidates for this optimization procedure since they are designed to be simple, with a small set of interacting physics processes and well characterized geometry and initial conditions.

Another advantage of using a Bayesian objective function is that the optimization of the basis function coefficients can be reduced to a simple quadratic problem which is easy to solve. The procedure requires very few evaluations of the objective function to obtain a solution, so expensive computer simulations can be used directly in the optimization problem rather than relying on a surrogate model. Finally, using a probabilistic objective function provides some insight into the uncertainty in the optimization results.

Overall, the approach described in this paper has four important advantages over previous efforts. First, by using multiple experiments, the model can be calibrated over a wider regime in density than any single experiment could consider. Second, the efficient formulation of the optimization problem allows expensive computer simulations that include all the relevant physics processes needed to accurately model a real experiment. Third, by using a semi-parametric formulation, a much wider range of possible functional forms can be considered. Finally, the predictive ability of the model to be assessed by exploiting the Bayesian formulation to produce both a mean function and functions bounding the uncertainty in the model.

Section 2 describes the optimization methods and Section 3 describes the uncertainty quantification methods. The experiments used to calibrate the model are described in 4. The results of the optimization as well as a validation and uncertainty quantification study are given in Section 5. Conclusions are given in Section 6.

## 2 Optimization Methods

The EOS for the HE detonation products is modeled using a Mie Grüeneisen approach,

$$p(\rho, e) = p_s(\rho) + \rho\Gamma(\rho)(e - e_s(\rho)). \quad (1)$$

In general, two functions are needed for this EOS, a function for the reference curve  $p_s(\rho)$  and for the Grüeneisen gamma,  $\Gamma(\rho)$ . In this work, only the reference curve is treated as variable. The Grüeneisen gamma function is not optimized and is set to be:

$$\Gamma(\rho) = 0.6218. \quad (2)$$

The reference curve is the isentrope passing through the Chapman-Jouguet state, *i. e.* the state at which a detonation is self-supporting. This isentrope is a convenient reference curve as the energy along the curve is a simple integral involving pressure function.

The HE EOS model also required a nominal density of the reactants in order to compute properties at the CJ state. The reactants density was considered to be a property of the EOS and was fixed to the nominal density of PBX 9501,  $1.835 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .

## 2.1 Representing the isentrope

The optimization seeks some function to represent the isentrope passing through the CJ point for the material. This continuous function is represented as the weighted sum of a set of cubic B-spline basis functions. See [9] for more details on how these basis functions are formulated and their properties.

$$p(\rho) = \underbrace{[b_1(\rho) \ b_2(\rho) \ \dots \ b_n(\rho)]}_{B(\rho)} \cdot \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \dots \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}}_c \quad (3)$$

By using a large number of basis functions, a wide range of possible functions can be considered, with the consequence that some may be physically implausible; Section 2.2 discusses how the optimization procedure deals with this challenge.

The coefficients,  $c_i$  of the B-spline basis are one possible set of coordinates in which to perform the optimization. In this work, however, a different set of coordinates are used, the coefficients of an ortho-normal set of eigenfunctions of a kernel function expressed in the B-spline basis. This new basis has advantages when interpreting the results and also prevents numerical instability in the optimization. More details on why this basis was chosen, how it was created and its advantages in the optimization problem are given in [1].

The kernel function is of a ‘squared exponential’ form [31] which has two free hyper-parameters. One parameter,  $\alpha_m$ , describes the uncertainty in the pressure on the isentrope across all densities. The other parameter  $\sigma_m$  describes the characteristic distance, in log-density, across which the uncertainty in pressure is correlated. Additional details are given in [1].

The final expression for the isentrope functions is:

$$p(\rho) = \Upsilon(\rho) (\theta + \theta_\mu), \quad (4)$$

where  $\Upsilon(\rho)$  is the basis of ortho-normal eigenfunctions,  $\theta$  are the model degrees of freedom and  $\theta_\mu$  is a vector of constants

representing a ‘prior’ function. In the process of constructing the basis  $\Upsilon(\rho)$ , the model was constructed as a deviation about some mean function. The coefficients  $\theta_\mu$  are obtained by projecting this function into the span of the basis. The mean function used in the present analysis will be discussed in Section 5.1.

## 2.2 Optimization

The isentrope function  $p(\rho)$  has degrees-of-freedom  $\theta$ . The optimal model degrees of freedom are calibrated to a set of data,  $\mathcal{Y}$  by solving an optimization problem with a Bayesian objective function, as in [1].

$$\theta^* = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} (\log (P(\theta|\mathcal{Y}))). \quad (5)$$

Taking a Taylor series expansion of the log-posterior probability about an initial point,  $\theta$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \log (P(\theta + \eta|\mathcal{Y})) &= \log (P(\theta|\mathcal{Y})) + \eta \frac{\partial \log (P(\theta|\mathcal{Y}))}{\partial \eta} \\ &+ \frac{\eta^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \log (P(\theta|\mathcal{Y}))}{\partial \eta^2} + \mathcal{O}(\eta^3)m \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

and ignoring terms of  $\mathcal{O}(\eta^3)$  and greater in the posterior, the optimization problem becomes:

$$\eta^* = \underset{\eta}{\operatorname{argmax}} (\log (P(\theta + \eta|\mathcal{Y}))), \quad (7)$$

$$\theta^* = \theta + \eta^*. \quad (8)$$

The log-posterior probability is the sum of the log-prior probability and the log-likelihood. If both the prior and posterior are chosen to be Gaussian, then (6) is reduced to a quadratic function in  $\eta$ . This quadratic function has a simple analytic solution if  $\eta$  is unconstrained. Since the optimization coordinates given by (4) can admit physically implausible functions, some constraints must be applied to the problem.

The isentrope represents a function of pressure with respect to density. Since the HE products are a gas, they cannot be in tension so the function is constrained to be positive. The slope of the isentrope is equal to the square of the sound speed [25]. Since imaginary sound speeds are not physically meaningful, the slope must be positive. Finally, the isentrope must be convex in specific volume, (the reciprocal of density), unless there is a phase change occurring in the bulk material [16], which is not the case for HE detonation products. As an approximation to this final constraint, the isentrope is constrained to be convex in density.

All these constraints can be expressed as linear inequality constraints in the basis  $\Upsilon(\rho)$ . Further details of how these constraints are formulated are given in [1].

The final optimization problem is:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max P(\theta + \eta | \mathcal{D}) \\ & \text{with respect to } \eta \\ & \text{such that } W\eta \preceq \ell \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The solution to this constrained quadratic optimization problem give an optimal step  $\eta^*$  from the initial set of model degrees of freedom,  $\theta$ , which maximizes the log-posterior probability of the model given the data, subject to the approximations inherent in (6). The true log-posterior probability, obtained from evaluating the log-prior probability and log-likelihood directly, is used to search along the line connecting  $\theta$  to  $\theta^*$  in order to determine if a local minimum exists in the true probability distribution within these bounds. A naive parallel line search is used which divides this space into twelve equal steps and evaluates the posterior probability at each step. The point with the highest posterior probability is chosen as the starting point  $\theta$  for the next step in this iterative optimization process. This process is described in more detail in [1].

### 3 Uncertainty Quantification

The Bayesian formulation of the objective function has several advantages when examining the uncertainty in the optimal model. Since the prior probability and likelihood are both Gaussian, the posterior covariance is well represented by the Laplace approximation, where the inverse of the posterior covariance is assumed to be equal to the Hessian of the log-posterior probability [1].

The expected value of the second derivative of the log-likelihood of an experiment with respect to the model degrees freedom is referred to as the Fisher information matrix. This quantity is easily calculated from the optimization results (See [1]). The Fisher information shows how each experiment contributed to the uncertainty in the final result. Since the basis  $\Upsilon(\rho)$  is ortho-normal, the eigenvalues of the Fisher information matrix are the coefficients of eigenfunctions, *i. e.* a set of orthogonal functions showing the directions in function-space where the experiment constrains the result. Where the eigenfunctions are large in magnitude, the experiment is constraining, where they are small or zero, the experiment does not constrain the model. In this way, the influence of each experiment on the optimal solution can be better understood.

In the Laplace approximation, the inverse of the posterior covariance matrix is the sum of the Fisher information matrix for each experiment and the inverse of the prior covariance matrix. This posterior distribution, however, is not constrained to be

feasible. Representing the function as a B-spline allows physically implausible functions to exist in the posterior distribution. To examine only feasible functions, random samples are drawn from the posterior and are accepted only if they are feasible with respect to the constraints applied in (9). This population of feasible samples can be projected into a direction of interest to get a univariate probability distribution which characterizes the uncertainty in the constrained posterior distribution in that direction.

This measure of uncertainty encompasses model-form uncertainty, parametric uncertainty and experimental uncertainty. The flexible B-spline basis can admit almost any feasible function to represent the model. Compared to a parametric model, almost all the uncertainty in the function is in the choice of B-spline coefficients, rather than the suitability of the functional form of the model. Additionally, since the uncertainty in the experimental data is reflected in the log-likelihood, the uncertainty bounds created by this method also include the experimental uncertainty. This procedure is applied to obtain the uncertainty in several quantities of interest in Section 5.5.

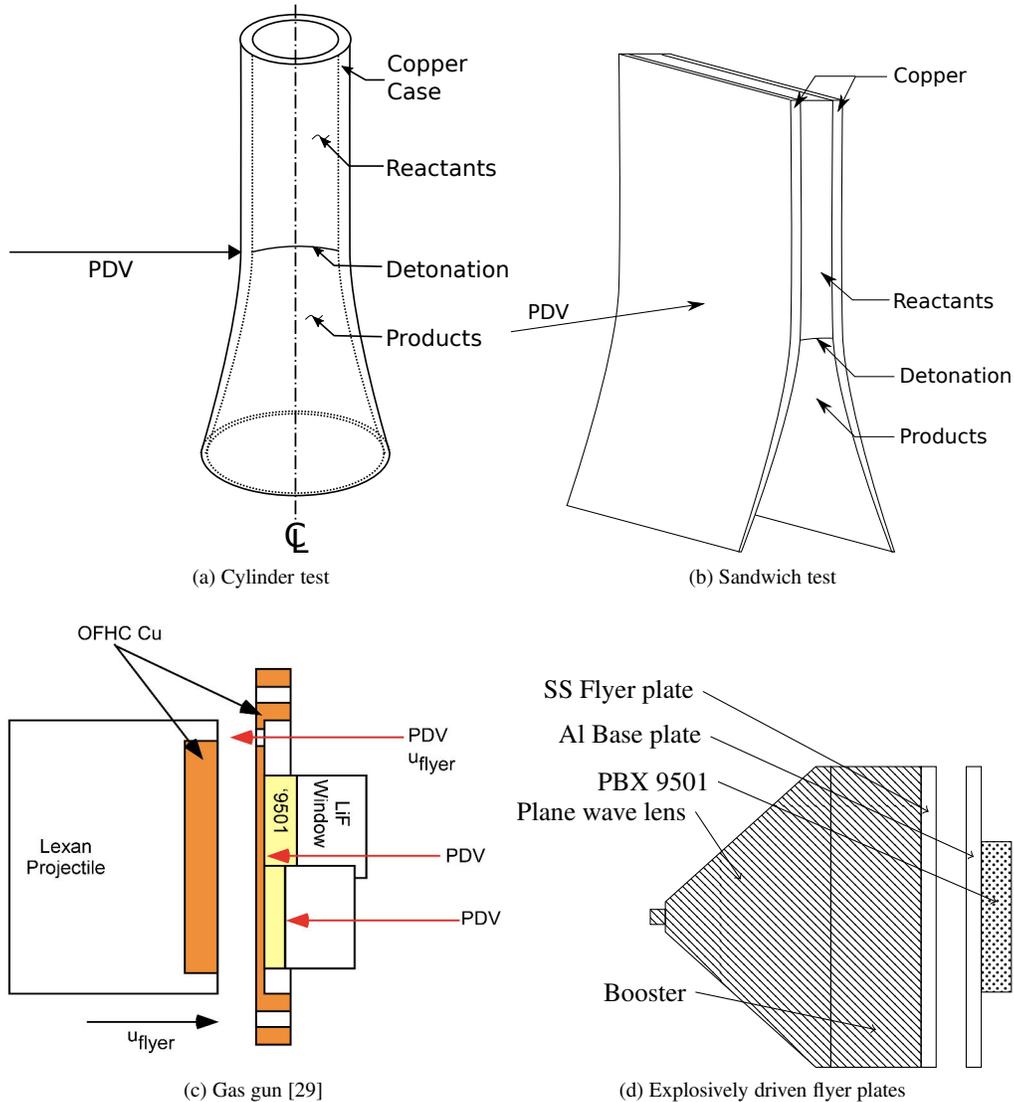
## 4 Experiments and Simulations

The optimization procedure requires data from multiple experiments to infer the EOS across a wide regime. Both a set of experimental data and a simulation which can use the EOS model to predict the experiment are needed. In several of the experiments, the thermodynamic properties of the EOS are not observed directly but are inferred from the observation of some more easily measured property of the experiment. In these cases, models are needed for the other physics processes involved in the experiment, which will have an influence on the optimal EOS model. However, these physics processes are much better understood than the EOS of HE detonation products and the model parameters are known with a greater degree of certainty. The EOS models obtained in this paper should have wider applicability to problems that involve different physics processes and materials. The three additional physics models were used in this analysis were: EOS for both HE reactants and copper, material strength for the copper, and HE burn. The details of these models and parameter choices are given in Appendix A.

### 4.1 Cylinder tests

A cylinder test is a standard experiment used to calibrate EOS models [7]. A one inch inner diameter copper cylinder<sup>1</sup> with a 0.1 inch thick wall is filled with one inch outer diameter pellets of high explosives. The cylinder is detonated at one end and after several diameters the detonation becomes a steady traveling wave. The radial motion of the cylinder wall is measured using Photon Doppler Velocimetry (PDV) probes, see Figure 1a. A set of experiments performed by Pemberton *et al.* [28]

<sup>1</sup>dead-soft C101



**FIGURE 1:** Different experiments used to examine equation of state

are used for model calibration. Five different cylinder tests were performed using nominally identical samples of HE. Two shots were used as calibration data, the mean initial density of the HE reactants for both shots was  $1.835 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ . Each test was instrumented with two linear arrays of PDV probes, aligned with the long axis of the cylinder and installed at two different angles. The PDV probes recorded the velocity history of the outer surface of the cylinder. The axial location of the first probe was placed far enough from the detonator that the detonation wave was believed to have obtained a steady traveling profile. It was non-trivial to account for the uncertainty in the PDV measurements given notable shot-to-shot and probe-to-probe variations in measurements of what were nominally identical conditions.

Appendix B describes the procedure which was developed to obtain an estimate of the covariance matrix for one of the cylinder velocity histories.

The detonation wave proceeded along the cylinder at near the CJ state. Downstream of the detonation wave the expanding products of detonation drove the cylinder wall outwards, leading to pressures below the CJ state. Therefore, the cylinder experiments only examined states less than CJ and provided no information at pressures above this state.

**4.1.1 Simulation** The cylinder test was simulated in the Lagrangian hydrodynamic simulation code FLAG [6]. The experiment was modeled in two-dimensional axi-symmetric co-



Four PDV probes were used to measure confiner velocity profiles at 2/3 of the run distance. In the direction normal to detonation propagation, the probe position varied, with two located at the centerline (one probe on each side of the assembly), one 10 mm offset from centerline, and the final probe 20 mm offset from centerline. The velocity profile from a single probe located on the centerline of the experiment was used as validation data for the model.

**4.4.1 Simulation** The sandwich test was modeled in a similar manner to the cylinder test, except it used Cartesian rather than axi-symmetric coordinates. The simulation used the same additional physics models as the cylinder experiment.

## 5 Optimization results

### 5.1 Problem definition

The EOS model spanned a regime in density of  $0.1 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$  to  $4 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ . The B-spline basis consisted of 75 knots equi-log spaced across the range in densities. The fractional uncertainty in the pressure function for the prior was  $\alpha_m = 3.24\%$  and the characteristic correlation distance was  $\sigma_m = 2.4$  times the distance between the knots in log-density. These choices of how to construct the B-spline basis and the kernel used to create the optimization basis  $Y(\rho)$  were based on the results of a previous study, [1], which found that these choices allowed the flexibility to represent a large space of possible functions while allowing a sufficiently large fraction of feasible samples to be drawn from the posterior distribution.

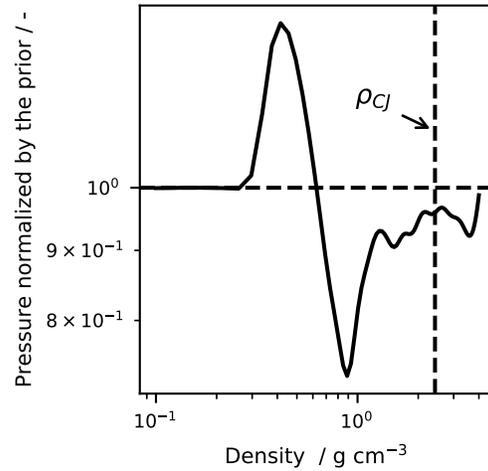
The mean function was chosen to be a power law,

$$p(\rho) = 2.56 \text{ GPa cm}^9 \text{ g}^{-3} \rho^3. \quad (10)$$

This functional form is the simplest EOS model described by [21]. The two coefficients in the model, the leading constant and the power, were chosen to be similar those used for the HE formulations in [21]. The prior function is intentionally chosen to be a coarse approximation to show the ability of the algorithm to improve the model so it is in agreement with multiple experiments.

There were four different kinds of experiments in the set of all data,  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

1. Pemberton *et al.* cylinder tests [28]. Shot 1 and 2 probes 1 - 7
2. Fritz *et al.* overdriven Hugoniot data. All points from Table 1 in [14]
3. Fritz *et al.* overdriven sound speed measurements. All points from Table 3 in [14]
4. Pittman *et al.* [29] gas gun experiments. Shots 2S-799, 2S-800, 2S-8112 and 2S-813



**FIGURE 2:** Deviation of the optimal equation of state model obtained from the optimization procedure from the prior. The vertical axis is the pressure on the optimal isentrope divided by the pressure on the prior model for the isentrope

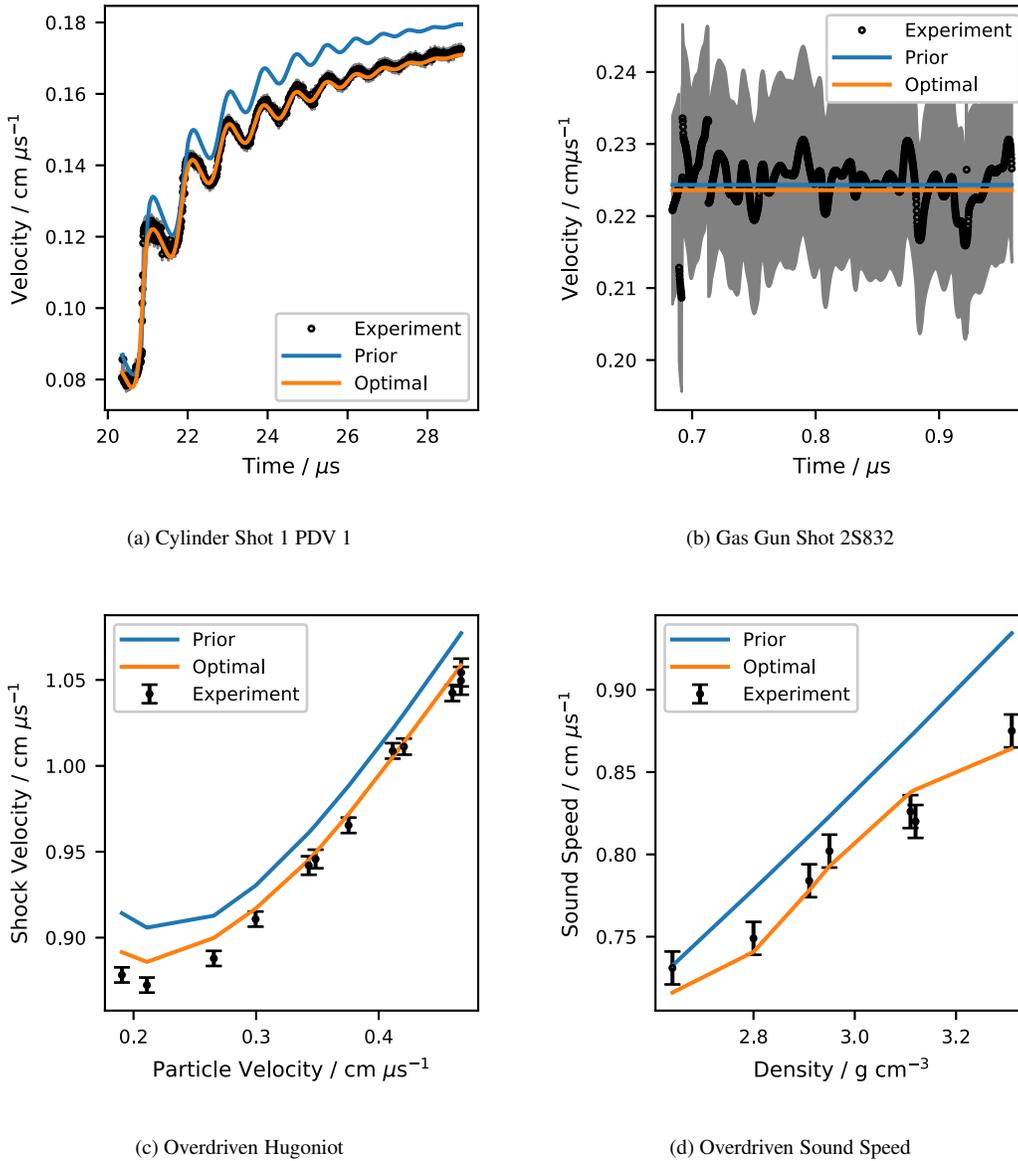
### 5.2 Results

The optimization was performed using twenty nodes of the LANL HPC cluster 'snow'. Each node consisted of two 18 core 2.1 GHz Intel Xenon Broadwell processors for a total of 720 processors. Three iterations of the optimization procedure were required for the problem to converge, taking approximately 36 hours.

The optimal model is shown in Figure 2. The model is unchanged at low densities but at higher densities the optimal model differed from the prior. The effects of the prior and the optimal model on the simulations is shown in Figure 3. In all four experiments, the prior model did a poor job at predicting the experimental data. The optimal model brought the simulations into good agreement with the experimental data. More insight into which regime in density was influenced by each experiment can be obtained by examining the Fisher information for each experiment.

### 5.3 Fisher information

The influence of each experiment on the optimal solution can be better understood by considering the Fisher information for each experiment. The eigenfunctions of the Fisher information matrix corresponding to large eigenvalues show where the experiment was most constraining. Figure 4b shows that the cylinder experiment was very influential near the CJ state and continued to provide some information at lower densities. Figure 4d shows the eigenfunctions of the Fisher information for



**FIGURE 3:** Comparison of four characteristic simulations using the prior and optimal isentropes models

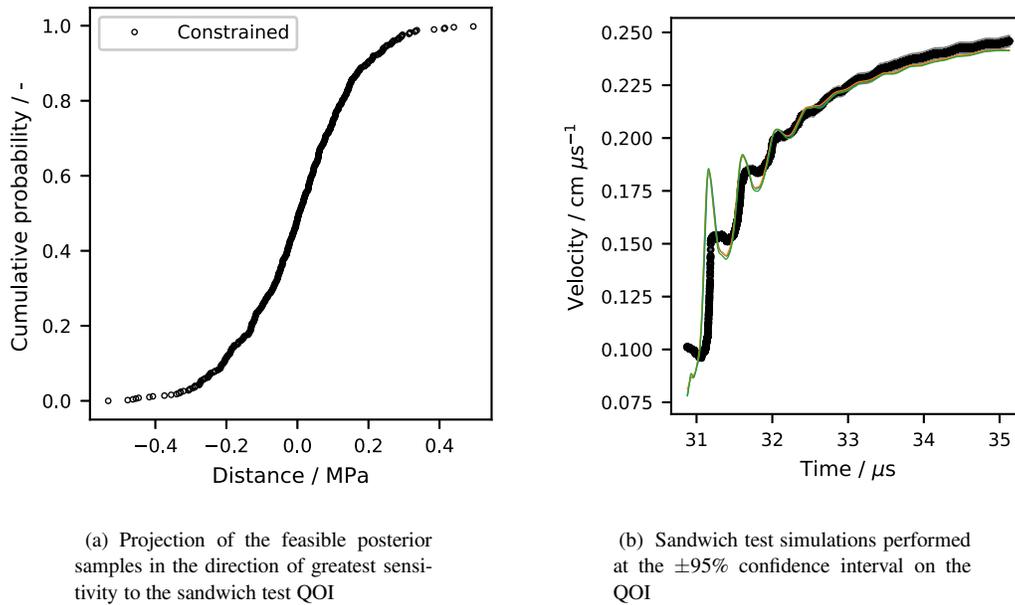
a gas-gun shot, this experiment provided information at overdriven densities but provided very little information at densities below CJ. Since only the overdriven state was examined in the gas-gun shots, this result is expected. Examining the Fisher information can help show why a certain optimal function was obtained and can also guide the design of future experiments by understanding how each experiment constrained on the result.

## 5.4 Validation

The predictive ability of the EOS model was examined by simulating a sandwich experiment, which was not included in the data used for model calibration. The simulation using the optimal EOS, Figure 5, showed good agreement with the experiments. The poor agreement in the early cycles of the ringing was likely due to the temporal resolution of the PDV probes. The velocity history also slightly under-predicted the velocity of the copper plates at late times.







**FIGURE 6:** Uncertainty quantification

**TABLE 2:** Uncertainty bounds on properties of the EOS model and simulation predictions

QOI		Lower 95%	Mean	Upper 95%	Experiment
CJ Pressure	Mbar	0.347	0.350	0.358	0.348 [14]
CJ Detonation Speed	$\text{cm } \mu\text{s}^{-1}$	0.883	0.886	0.888	0.883 [10]
Sandwich wall velocity at 6 mm	$\text{cm } \mu\text{s}^{-1}$	0.2237	0.2240	0.2246	0.2242

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**TABLE 3:** Linear  $U_s - U_p$  coefficients for solids

Material	C (cm $\mu$ s <sup>-1</sup> )	s	$C_v$ (100MJ/kg)	$\rho_o$ (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	$\Gamma$
Copper	0.397 [32]	1.479 [32]	$0.385 \times 10^{-5}$ [18]	8.93 [32]	2.02 [35]
Lithium fluoride	0.5148 [33]	1.353 [33]		2.640 [33]	0.0
PBX9501 reactants	0.290 [23]	1.44 [23]	$10.88 \times 10^{-6}$ [5]	1.835	0.0

Since B-splines are linear in their coefficients, the mean of the basis function coefficients is the mean function.

$$\bar{c} = \frac{1}{n_{shot}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{shot}} c_i \quad (14)$$

$$\mu(t) = \mathbf{B}(t)\bar{c} \quad (15)$$

The mean function by definition has no covariance. The deviation function has zero-mean. The covariance of the deviation function is:

$$\mathbb{E}(\delta(t)^2) = k_\delta = \text{cov}(c - \bar{c}), \quad (16)$$

and the IID noise is,

$$\mathbb{E}(\varepsilon^2) = \frac{1}{n_{shot}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{shot}} MSE_i. \quad (17)$$

Thus the covariance matrix for a specific shot is:

$$\mathbb{E}(y_i(t_i) - \mu(t_i)) = \mathbf{B}(t_i)k_\delta\mathbf{B}(t_i)^T + \mathbb{E}(\varepsilon^2)\mathbb{I} \quad (18)$$