

Modeling the Response of the Brain to Ballistic Loading

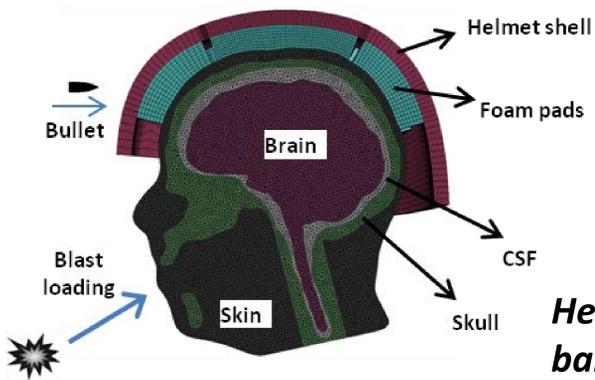
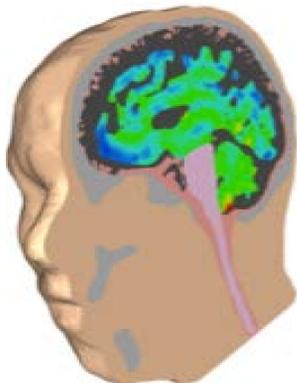
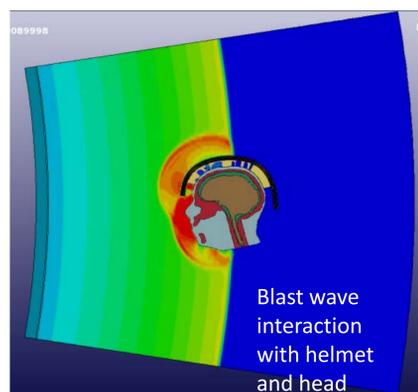


S&T Campaign: Sciences for Lethality & Protection
Humans in Extreme Environments

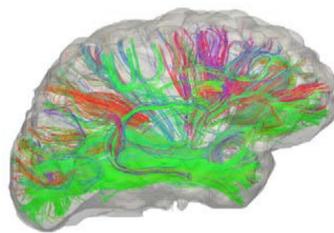
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Research Objective

- ❑ Understand loading mechanisms leading to brain injury
 - Transmission of blast and ballistic loads through helmet and pad system to the head and brain.
 - Relate transmitted load to injury mechanisms
- ❑ Evaluate and improve head protection systems
 - Optimized composite shell
 - Novel pad systems

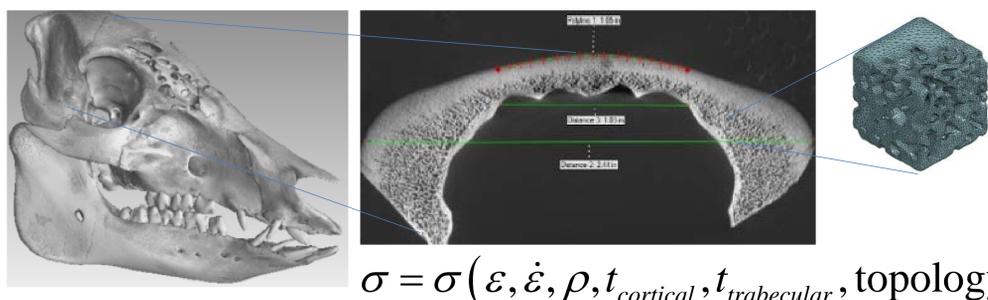


Head-Helmet model to assess ballistic load transfer to brain and consequent injury



Challenges

- ❑ Accurate material models for composite shell, polymeric pad, skull and brain tissues
- ❑ Experimental data on surrogate systems (animal models, cadaveric subjects and instrumented head-forms)
- ❑ Transfer functions that relate surrogate systems to human model
- ❑ Injury criteria and threshold for soft and hard tissues
- ❑ Biofidelic models and convergent numerical methods

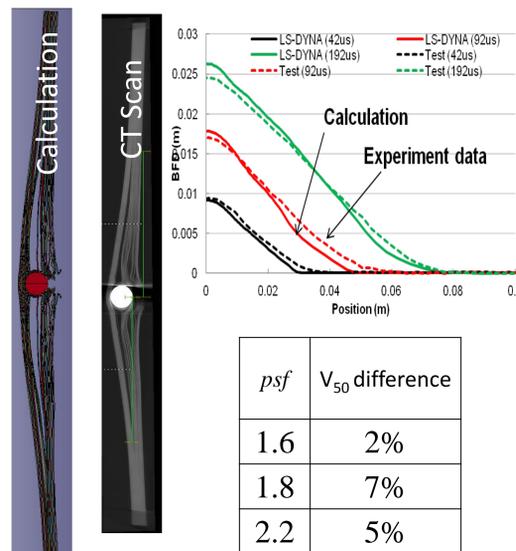


$$\sigma = \sigma(\varepsilon, \dot{\varepsilon}, \rho, t_{cortical}, t_{trabecular}, \text{topology})$$

Multi-scale tissue model development using porcine skull as surrogate

ARL Facilities and Capabilities Available to Support Collaborative Research

- ❑ Expertise in biomechanics, constitutive model formulation, numerical analysis and high rate experiments.
- ❑ Computational Modeling and Simulation
 - Segmentation of MRI/ CT images
 - Biofidelic model generation
 - Parallel Lagrangian and Eulerian hydrocodes
- ❑ Ballistic rate experimental facilities
 - Ballistic ranges for characterizing V50 and BFD
 - Gas guns for shock experiments, Split Hopkinson Pressure Bars and Load cells for low rate characterization
 - micro-CT, high speed cameras, Photonic Doppler Velocimetry, VISAR



Simulations of ballistic experiment captures ballistic limit, Back face deformation and delamination of UHMWPE composite.



Shock Experiment Facility



SHPB Experiment Facility

Complementary Expertise/ Facilities/ Capabilities Sought in Collaboration

- ❑ Tissue injury criteria and threshold for hard and soft tissues.
- ❑ Biofidelic computational models with relevant topology and finite element discretization.
- ❑ Accurate numerical tools for fluid-structure interaction and damage analysis.
- ❑ Multi-scale, multi-physics models for injury biomechanics.
- ❑ Biomechanics research to establish transfer function between surrogate models and human.