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Comments on "A Simple Method for Calculating  
Detonation Parameters of Explosives"

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The present contribution deals with a modified method of estimating the detonation parameters starting with a general formulation of the adiabat for explosives as expressed using the adiabatic exponent  $\gamma_J = f(\rho_0)$  according to Wu Xiong<sup>1</sup>. The author uses also the works of Russian authors.<sup>2,7,8</sup>

INTRODUCTION

A great number of authors have devoted their efforts to developing simple methods of determining the detonation parameters. The present contribution starts with the results published by Wu Xiong<sup>1</sup> and A.L. Krivchenko<sup>2</sup>.

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## THEORY

Urbanski and Galas studied the effects of inert liquids on the detonation velocity of PETN and RDX mixed with such liquids and published their results in 1939.<sup>4</sup> They conclude that the detonation velocity of such mixtures depends on the velocity of sound in the liquid used. They relate this assumption to the Chapman - Jouguet condition  $D = c_J + u_J$ . Owing to the fact that the ZND /Zeldovich, von Neuman and Doering/ detonation model was reported after 1939, Urbanski and Galas could not give a quantitative support for the relation  $c_J$  - velocity of sound  $c_0$  in the explosive mixture.

In the hydrodynamic theory of detonation based on the polytropic equation of state, the form of which was found by means of statistical physics, there appear effects of the elastic and thermal components of pressure. The former component may be related to repulsive forces, the latter one to heat motion of molecules.<sup>5</sup>

In the wave - theory interpretation the detonation front propagation taking place in the nonreacted explosive is described by the condition

$$D = c_N + u_N, \quad /1/$$

wherein the subscript N indicates that the conditions relate to the von Neuman point. The elastic forces may

be represented by a material constant such as the velocity of sound  $c_0$ , and the energy release taking place in the zone of chemical reaction under the conditions of detonation is characterized by the mass velocity  $u_J$ .

In determining the von Neuman pressure spike  $p_N$ , the ZND model of detonation results in the approximate value equal to a double of pressure  $p_J$ .<sup>6</sup>

If we want to determine the shape of the generalized adiabat of explosive, we are to consider different conditions and adiabatic exponents in the detonation wave front and in the Chapman - Jouguet plane.

For the parameters at the detonation front and at the Chapman - Jouguet plane the following relations are valid:

$$u_N/D = 2/(\gamma_N + 1), \quad /2/$$

$$u_J/D = 1/(\gamma_J + 1). \quad /3/$$

From the relations /2/ and /3/ using the relation defining the adiabatic-coefficient value at the detonation front and at the Chapman - Jouguet plane

$$\gamma_N = \gamma_J \rho_J / \rho_N = \gamma_J - 1 \quad /4/$$

gives a relation

$$u_N/u_J = 2(\gamma_J + 1)/\gamma_J. \quad /5/$$

The sound velocity at the Chapman - Jouguet plane satisfies the relation

$$c_J/c_o = \rho_J/\rho_o = (\gamma_J + 1)/\gamma_J \quad /6/$$

The  $c_J \rightarrow c_N$  change corresponds to the change

$$\gamma_J \rightarrow \gamma_N = \gamma_J + 1, \text{ and thus}$$

$$c_N/c_o = (\gamma_J + 2)/(\gamma_J + 1), \quad /7/$$

Using the condition /1/ and also the relation /5/ and /7/ gives the generalized adiabat as expressed by the bulk sound velocity  $c_o$  and by the adiabatic exponent  $\gamma_J$ .

$$\begin{aligned} D &= (\gamma_J + 2)c_o/(\gamma_J + 1) + 2(\gamma_J + 1)u_J/\gamma_J = \\ &= A + B u_J \end{aligned} \quad /8/$$

The mass velocity as encountered in the formula /8/ can be expressed by a well-known relation

$$u_J = [2(\gamma_J - 1)Q/(\gamma_J + 1)]^{1/2}, \quad /9/$$

wherein  $Q$  is the heat of explosion.

Further steps of the procedure for determining the detonation parameters can be taken, e.g., on the basis empirical dependences of type  $\gamma_J = f(\rho_o)$  and  $Q = f(\alpha, \rho_o)$ , wherein  $\alpha$  is the oxygen factor of  $C_a H_b N_c O_d$  - type explosive expressed as  $\alpha = 2d/(4a + b)$ .

According to Pepekin<sup>7</sup> only a proportion of the heat of explosion  $Q$  is contributory to the detonation due to the fact that not all the heat released quickly enough, the releasing factor  $\eta_r$  depending on the oxygen

and on the initial density<sup>2,7</sup>

$$\gamma_r = Q_p / Q = (\alpha + 1,65) \rho_0 / 5,5 \quad /10/$$

The detonation velocity is given as

$$D = A + B [2(\gamma_J - 1) \gamma_r Q / (\gamma_J + 1)]^{1/2} \quad /11/$$

The bulk sound velocity may be estimated from the Rao formula<sup>9</sup>

$$c_o = (\rho_o z_i \beta_i / M)^{1/2}, \quad /12/$$

wherein M is the molecular weight,  $z_i$  is the number of chemical bonds and  $\beta_i$  are the contributions of individual bonds<sup>8</sup>.

The velocity of sound propagating in a multicomponent explosive is given by a relation reading as

$$c_{om} = (\rho_{om} \sum X_i / \rho_{oi} c_{oi})^{-1}, \quad /13/$$

wherein  $\rho_{om}$  is the density of multicomponent explosive,  $c_{oi}$  is the velocity of sound for the i-th component, and  $X_i$  is the mass fraction of the i-th component.

For the  $\rho_{om}$  there is valid

$$\rho_{om} = (\sum X_i / \rho_{oi})^{-1}. \quad /14/$$

The adiabatic exponent is determined from the Wu Xiong relation<sup>1</sup>

$$\gamma_J = 1,25 + \gamma_o (1 - e^{-0,546 \rho_o}), \quad /15/$$

wherein

$$\rho_0 = (\sum X_i / M_i) / (\sum X_i / M_i \gamma_{oi})$$

The results of estimated for the detonation parameters are given in Table 1.

#### EXAMPLES OF CALCULATIONS

##### 1. RDX $C_3H_6N_6O_6$

Data reported by Wu Xiong<sup>1</sup>

Heat of explosion	$Q = 5792 \text{ J.g}^{-1}$
Initial density	$\rho_0 = 1,8 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$
Adiabatic exponent	$\gamma_J = 2,912$
Molecular weight	$M = 222,1$

Results of calculation

a/ determining the sound velocity - eq. /12/

$$z_i \beta_i = 6\beta_{C-H} + 6\beta_{C-N} + 3\beta_{N-NO_2} =$$

$$6.95,2 + 6.20,7 + 3.330 = 1685,4$$

$$c_0 = (1,8.1685,4/222,1)^3 = 2547,9 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$$

b/ oxygen factor and energy release factor  $\eta_r$  - eq.

/10/

$$\alpha = 2.6 / (4.3 + 6) = 0,6667$$

$$\eta_r = (0,6667 + 1,65) 1,8/5,5 = 0,7582$$

c/ particle velocity - eq. /9/

$$u_J = [2(2,912 - 1)0,7582 \cdot 5792 \cdot 10^3 / (2,912 + 1)]^{1/2} = 2084 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$$

d/ detonation velocity - eq. /8/

$$D = (2,912 + 2)2547,9 / (2,912 + 1) + 2(2,912 + 1)2084 / (2,912) = 8797 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$$

e/ detonation pressure

$$p_J = \rho_0 D^2 \cdot 10^{-6} / (\gamma_J + 1) = 1,8 \cdot 8797^2 \cdot 10^{-6} / (2,912 + 1) = 35,6 \text{ GPa}$$

2. RDX/TNT 50/50  $C_{4,9775}H_{5,4705}N_{4,4818}O_{5,9549}$

Heat of explosion	$Q = 5062 \text{ J.g}^{-1}$
Initial density	$\rho_0 = 1,67 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$
Adiabatic exponent	$\gamma_J = 2,9$
Molecular weight	$M = 223,4$

Results of calculation

a/ mixture density - eq. /14/ and velocity of sound eq. /13/

$$\rho_{om} = (0,5/1,67 + 0,5/1,8)^{-1} = 1,7227 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$$

$$c_{om} = 1,65 \cdot 2162 \cdot 1,8 \cdot 2548 / (1,65 \cdot 2162 \cdot 0,5 + 1,8 \cdot 2548 \cdot 0,5) \cdot 1,7227 = 2331 \text{ m.s}^{-1},$$

where  $\rho_{oTNT} = 1,65 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\rho_{oRDX} = 1,8 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$ ,



$$x_{\text{TNT,RDX}} = 0,5.$$

b/ oxygen factor and release factor - eq. /10/

$$\alpha = 2,5,9649 / (4,4,9775 + 5,4705) = 0,47$$

$$\eta_r = (0,47 + 1,65) 1,67 / 5,5 = 0,6433$$

c/ particle velocity - eq. /9/

$$u_j = [2(2,9 - 1)0,6433 \cdot 5062 \cdot 10^3 / (2,9 + 1)]^{1/2} = \\ = 1782 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$$

d/ detonation velocity - eq. /8/

$$D = (2,9 + 2)2331 \cdot 1,67 / (2,9 + 1)1,7727 + \\ + 2(2,9 + 1)1782 / 2,9 = 7628 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$$

e/ detonation pressure

$$p_j = 1,67 \cdot 7628^2 \cdot 10^{-6} / (2,9 + 1) = 24,8 \text{ GPa}$$

## CONCLUSIONS

Equation /8/ as derived in the present work can be used for determining the adiabat on the basis of three measurable quantities  $c_o$ ,  $\gamma_j$  and  $Q$ . The generalized adiabat can be applied to predicting the detonation parameters, provided the  $c_o$ ,  $Q$ ,  $\eta_r = f(\alpha, \rho_o)$  and  $\gamma_j$  values are known.

The reliability of the detonation velocity predictions depends on the correctness of the above-mentioned values serving as inputs to the calculation formula.

Table 1. Material and explosion parameters of explosives and explosive components calculated by the present procedure

Explosive	$\rho$ <sub>0</sub> <sup>11</sup> (g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	$c_0$ <sup>11</sup> (km.s <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta\bar{S}$ <sup>11</sup> (J.g <sup>-1</sup> )	Q (J.g <sup>-1</sup> )	$D_{calc}$ <sup>11</sup> $D_{exp}$ <sup>11</sup> (km.s <sup>-1</sup> )	$D^3$	$P_{Jcalc}$ <sup>11</sup> $P_{Jexp}$ <sup>11</sup> (GPa)	$P^3$		
TNT liquid	1,45	1,90	2,81	4300	6,39	6,59	6,41	15,5	18,2	15,9
TNT cast	1,64	2,16	2,94	4300	6,97	6,95	6,99	20,2	20,2	20,5
RDX	1,8	2,55	2,91	5970	8,8	8,75	8,79	35,6	34,3	34,2
HMX	1,9	2,70	2,96	5770	9,1	9,10	9,12	39,8	39,3	38,1
TATB	1,93	2,98	3,1	3660	8,06	7,86	7,95	30,7	31,5	29,2
HCO	1,875	2,37	2,99	6228	8,91	8,8 <sup>+</sup>	9,06	37,9	-	37,3
EDNA	1,663	2,66	2,72	4855	8,13	8,24	8,13	29,5	27,3	27,8
TNB	1,64	1,96	3,01	5300	7,3	7,27	7,29	21,8	21,9	22,6
NM	1,135	1,3	2,32	5060	5,6	6,29	6,39	10,6	12	13,3
NQ	1,78	3,75	2,99	2660	8,19	8,20	7,87	29,9	-	27,3
HNB	1,973	1,99	3,23	7350	9,57	9,50	9,35	42,7	42	40,7
NTO	1,93	2,99	3,18	4950	9,02	-	8,3	37,5	-	32
OCNC	2,098 <sup>13</sup>	1,39	2,83	7515	9,01	-	9,83	44,5	-	46,7



TNT - Trinitrotoluene  
 RDX - Cyclotrimethylenetrinitramine  
 HMX - Cyclotetramethylenetetranitramine  
 TATB - 1,3,5-triamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene  
 HCO - 1,3,3,5,7,7-hexanitro-1,5-diazacyclooctane  
 EDNA - Ethylene dinitramine  
 TNB - 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene  
 NM - Nitromethane  
 NQ - Nitroguanidine  
 HNB - Hexanitrobenzene  
 NTO - 3-nitro-1,2,4-triazol-5-on  
 OCNC - Octanitrocubane  
 PAPNBC - 2,4,6,8,10-pentanitro-2,4,6,8,10-pentaazabi-  
           cyclo/5,3,0/decane  
 AN - Ammonium nitrate  
 AP - Ammonium perchlorate  
 Tamchynit - slurry AN/ $\text{NaNO}_3$ / $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ /Fuel/NaOH/Microballoons  
           63/13/12/5,6/2,4/4  
 Al - Aluminium

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