






.13 ms

Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Stress In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Pressure		
	kPa	PSI
	54,000	372,317
	48,000	330,948
	42,000	289,580
	36,000	248,211
	30,000	206,843
	24,000	165,474
	18,000	124,106
	12,000	82,737
	6,000	41,369
	-	-
(6,000)	(41,369)	

Explosive induced shock wave transmission sequence at 0.13 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.17 ms

Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Stress In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Pressure		
	kPa	PSI
	54,000	372,317
	48,000	330,948
	42,000	289,580
	36,000	248,211
	30,000	206,843
	24,000	165,474
	18,000	124,106
	12,000	82,737
	6,000	41,369
	-	-
	(6,000)	(41,369)


Explosive induced shock wave transmission sequence at 0.17 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.29 ms

Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Stress In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Pressure		
	kPa	PSI
	54,000	372,317
	48,000	330,948
	42,000	289,580
	36,000	248,211
	30,000	206,843
	24,000	165,474
	18,000	124,106
	12,000	82,737
	6,000	41,369
	-	-
(6,000)	(41,369)	


Explosive induced shock wave transmission sequence at 0.29 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.39 ms

Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Stress In Vicinity of Blast Hole

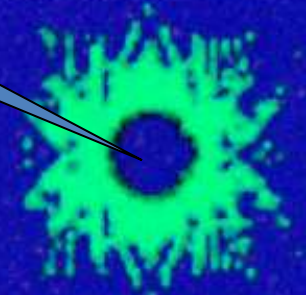
Pressure		
	kPa	PSI
	54,000	372,317
	48,000	330,948
	42,000	289,580
	36,000	248,211
	30,000	206,843
	24,000	165,474
	18,000	124,106
	12,000	82,737
	6,000	41,369
	-	-
(6,000)	(41,369)	

Explosive induced shock wave transmission sequence at 0.39 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.24 ms

Bench Free Face

Blast Hole



Cracking In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Explosive induced damage & cracking sequence at 0.24 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.28 ms

Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Cracking In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Explosive induced damage & cracking sequence at 0.28 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.42 ms

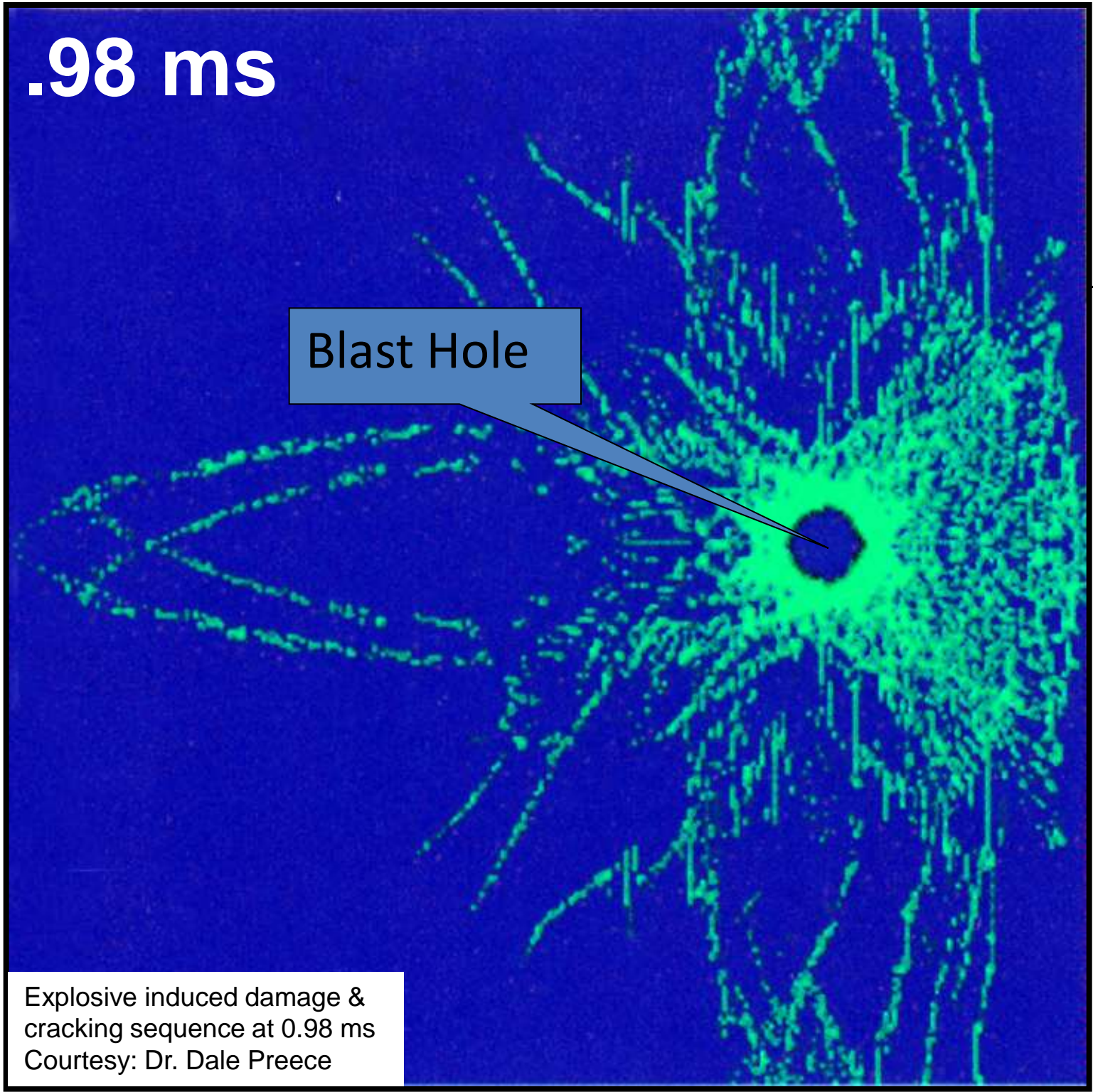
Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Cracking In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Explosive induced damage & cracking sequence at 0.42 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece

.98 ms



Blast Hole

Bench Free Face

Cracking In Vicinity of Blast Hole

Explosive induced damage & cracking sequence at 0.98 ms
Courtesy: Dr. Dale Preece



Basics of Chemical Crushing:

Almost all rock types have a native rock block size in the bench that manifests itself if liberated with sufficient gas pressure. If this native block size is in the desired product or feed range size your operation needs, you have won the lottery.

Most native block sizes are larger than desired for direct saleable product.



Chemical Crusher - Key Design Factors

Exactly Right Energy



Controllable
Uncontrollable

Exactly Right Place
Exactly Right Time

Exactly Right Place

Explosive

A controllable factor in building the Chemical Crusher



- The energy, pressure and after blast fumes generated by an explosive detonation are determined by the explosives:
 - Composition
 - Density (g/cc)
 - Diameter
 - Velocity of Detonation (ft/sec)
- Commercial explosives are available in both:
 - Packaged
 - Dry Blend / Free Flowing
 - Wet Blend / Augerable
 - Pumpable Blend
 - Bulk

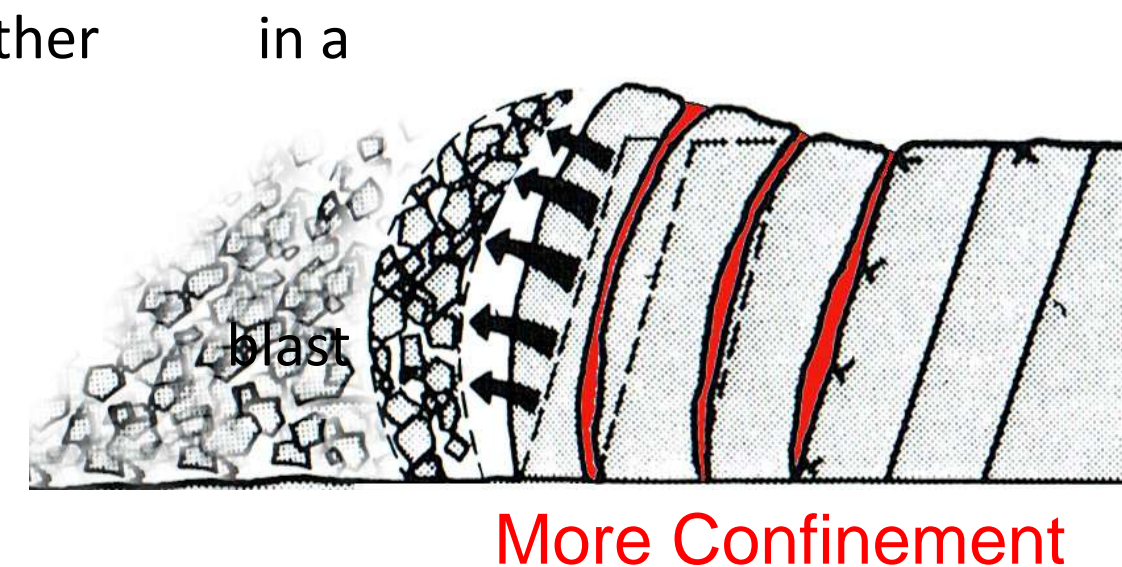
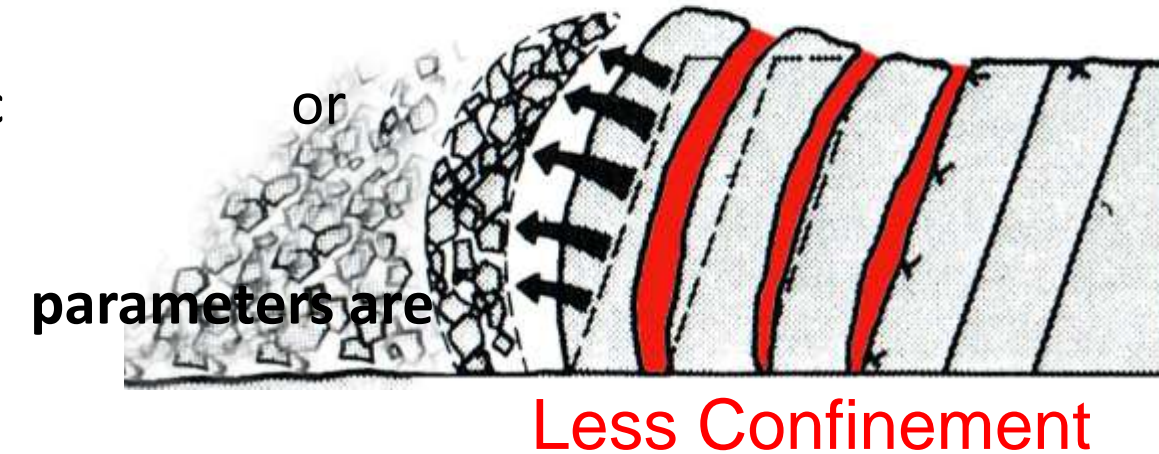
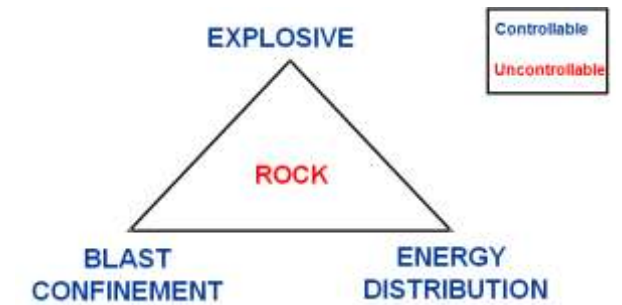


Blast Confinement

A controllable factor in building the Chemical Crusher

- Confinement determines the amount of the explosive's energy that does effective work. Confinement is provided by:

- Material surrounding the explosive in the drill hole.
- The amount of material between the drill hole and any static dynamic open space or what we call the burden.
- **Burden is a critical blast dimension. All blast design based on burden.**
- The distance between drill holes (Spacing) relative to one another in a row.
- Stemming / non explosive decking. Size and quality is critical.
- Initiation sequence and time between and within individual holes.



Energy Distribution

A controllable factor in building the Chemical Crusher

- How the explosive energy is distributed throughout the rock mass to be blasted – vertically and horizontally to do work.

Energy Distribution is controlled by:

- Diameter of the drill hole.

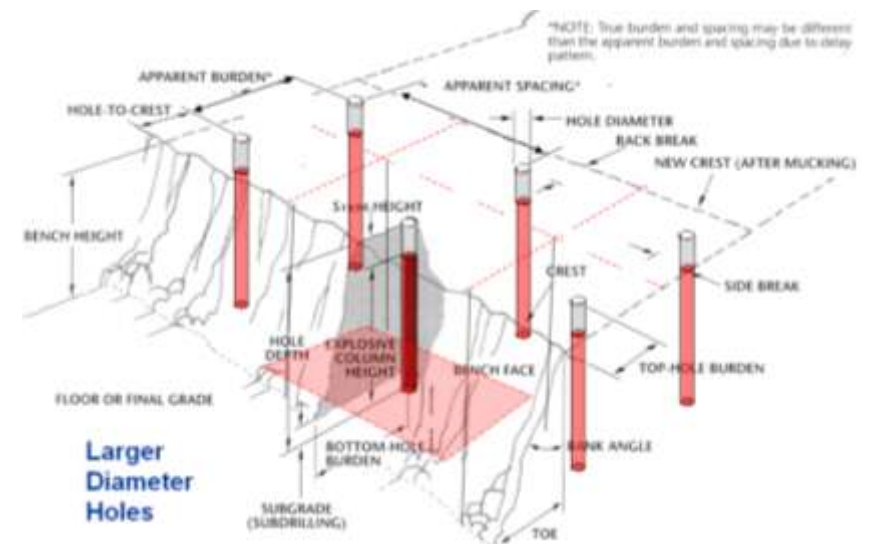
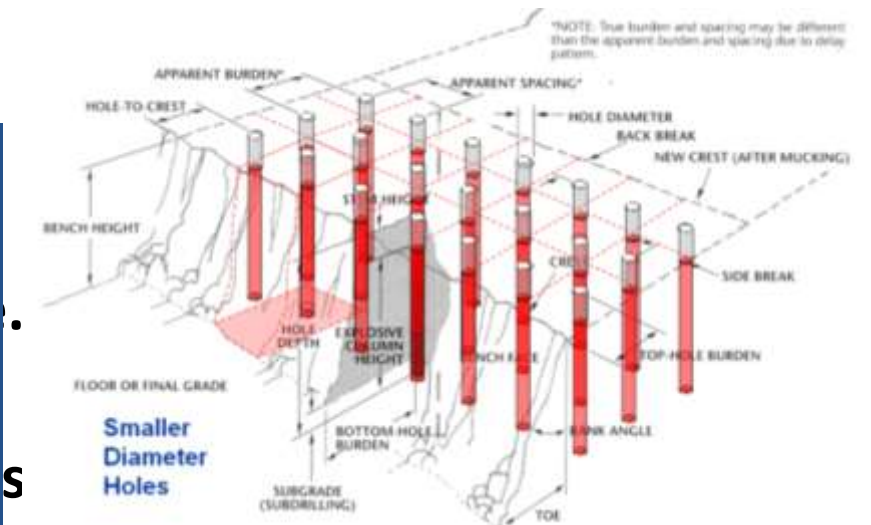
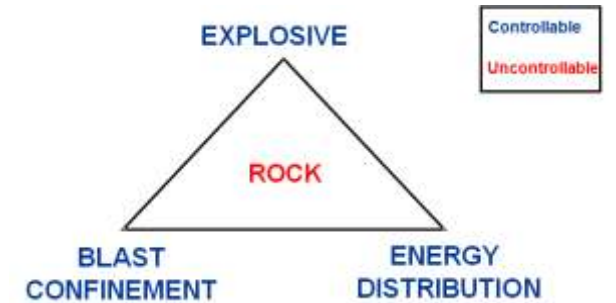
Energy Distribution is the Critical to controlling rock fragment size during the blasting process

amount filled with stemming.

- ✓ Multiple separated columns of explosive – the amount loaded with explosive and the amount filled with stemming and their relative positioning throughout the rock mass

- Orientation of drill holes

- ✓ Relative to one another – staggered, in-line



Basics of Chemical Crushing:

As with mechanical crushing the rock particle must experience a stress level that exceed it's strength capacity in order for it to be broken.

The trick in a blast is to get that kind of stress applied to each insitu rock particle in the bench during the blast.



The Chemical Crusher: Drilling & Blasting

Exactly Right Energy

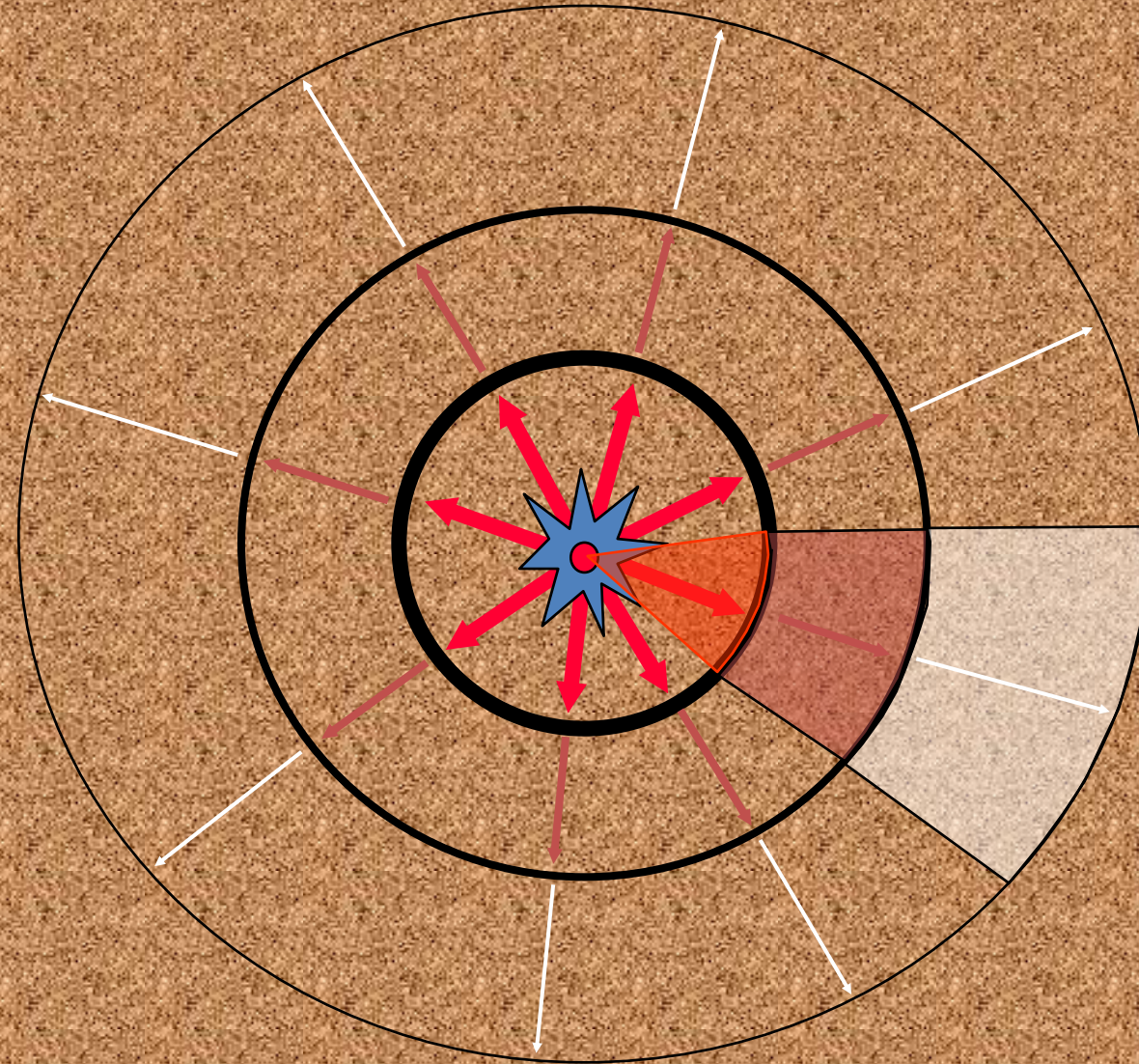
Exactly Right Place

Exactly Right Time

Energy Force Vector Distribution

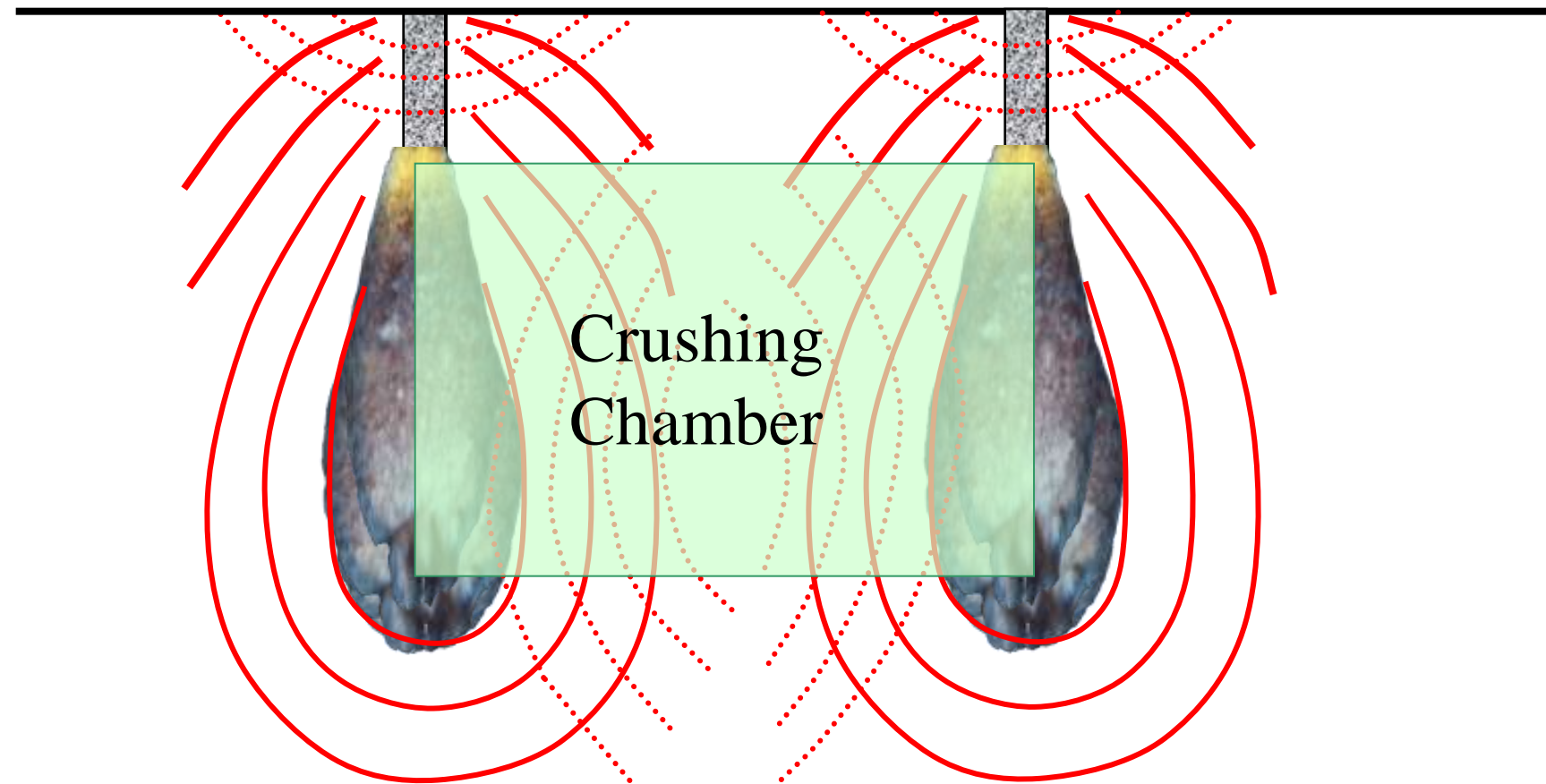
Lower Bench

Upper Bench

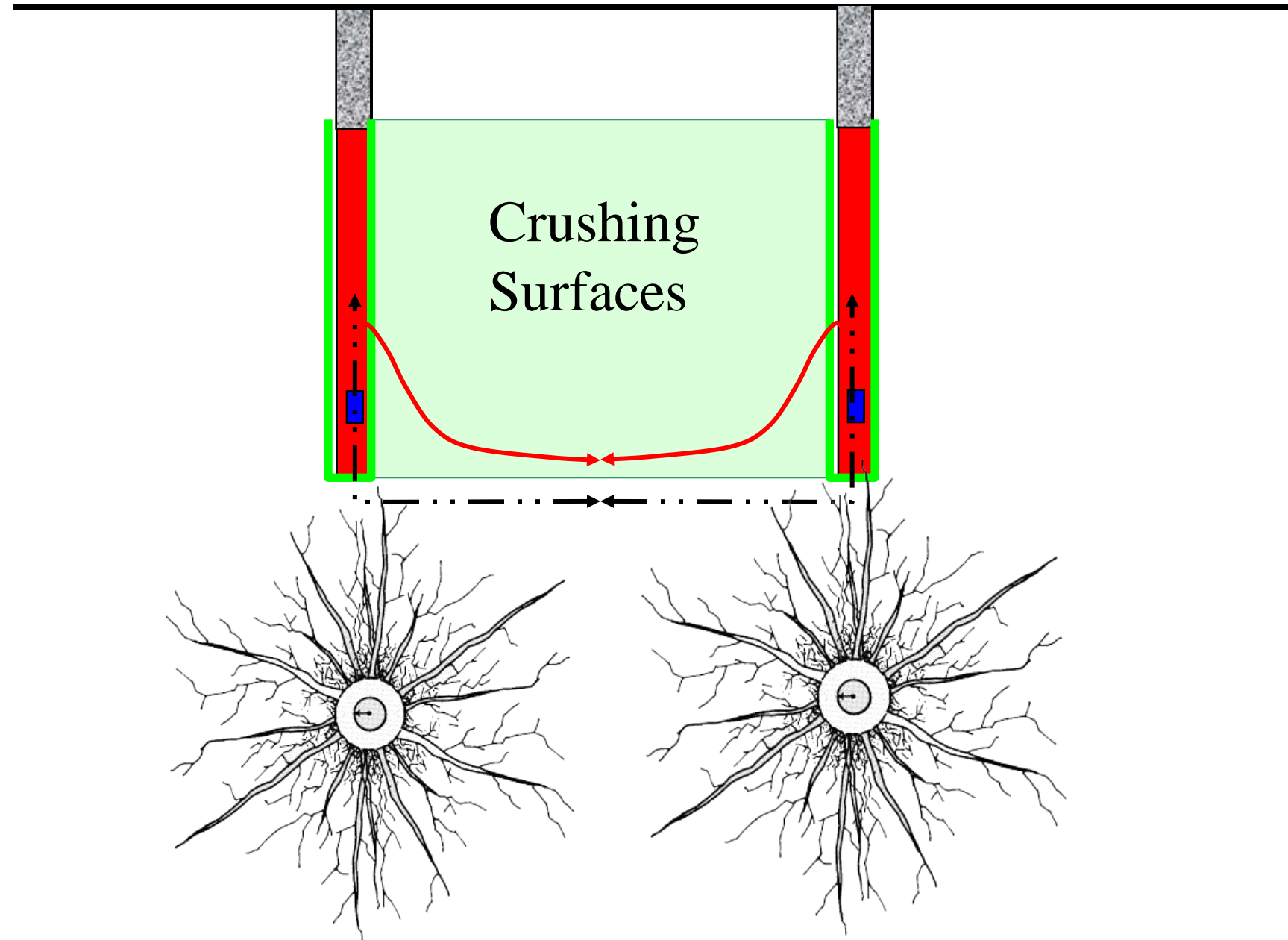


Plan View

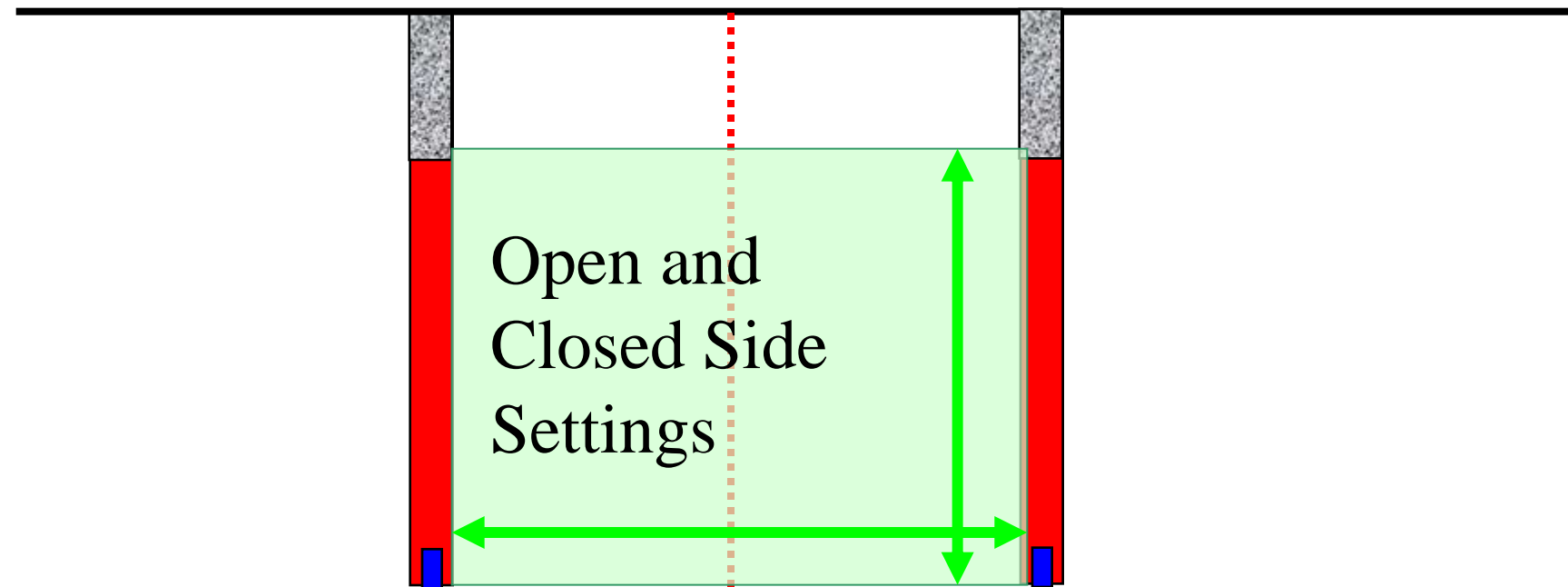
Chemical Crusher (conceptually)



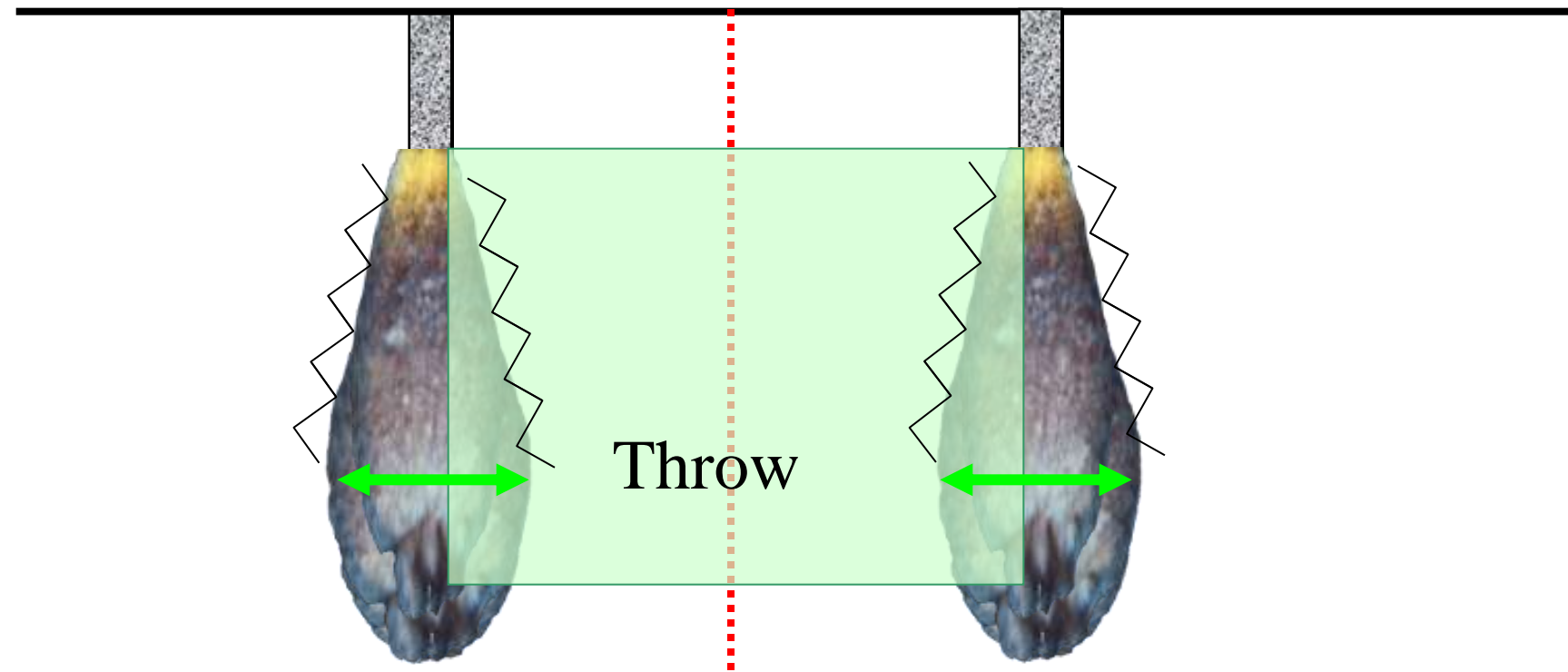
Chemical Crusher (conceptually)



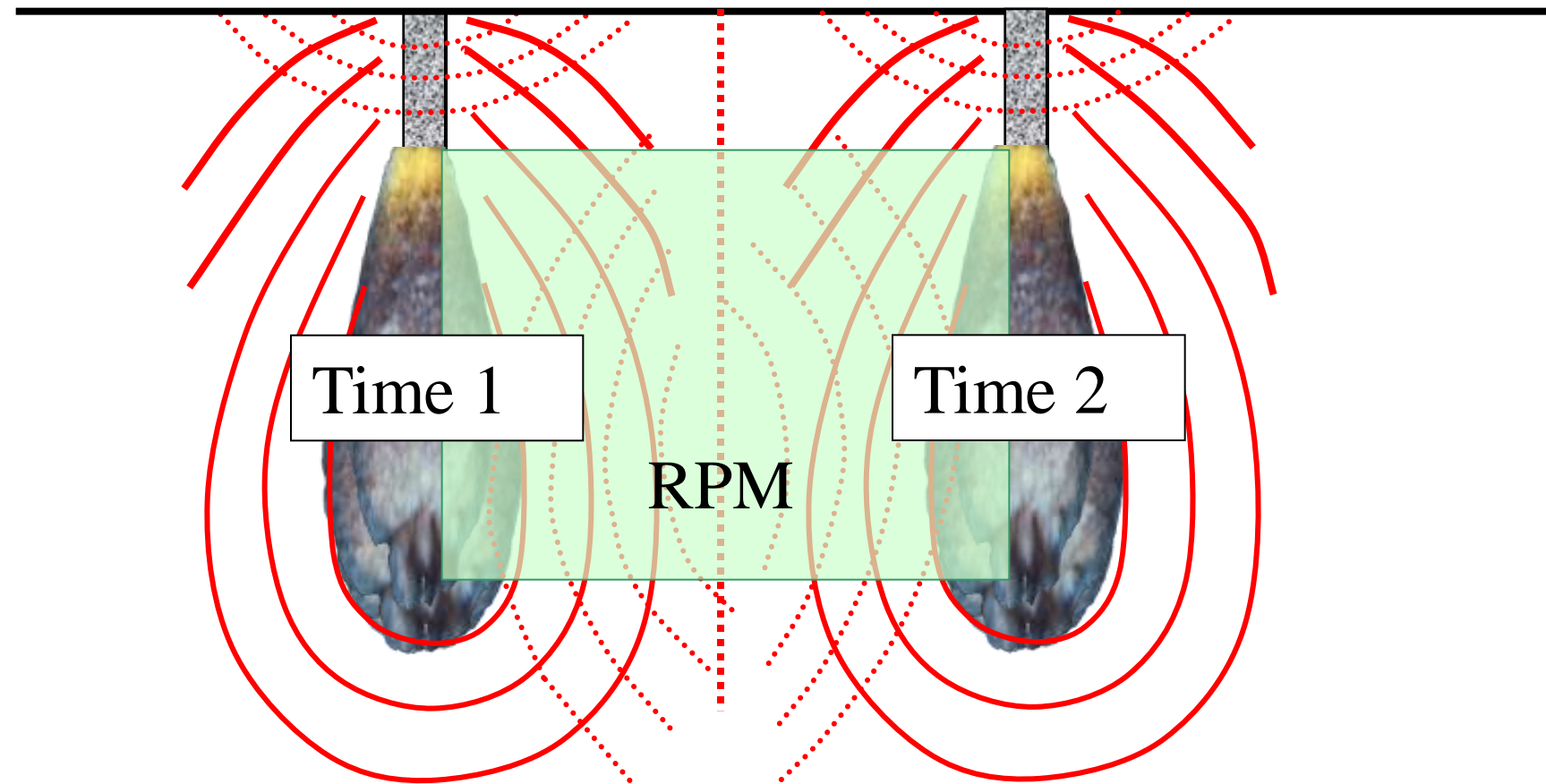
Chemical Crusher (conceptually)



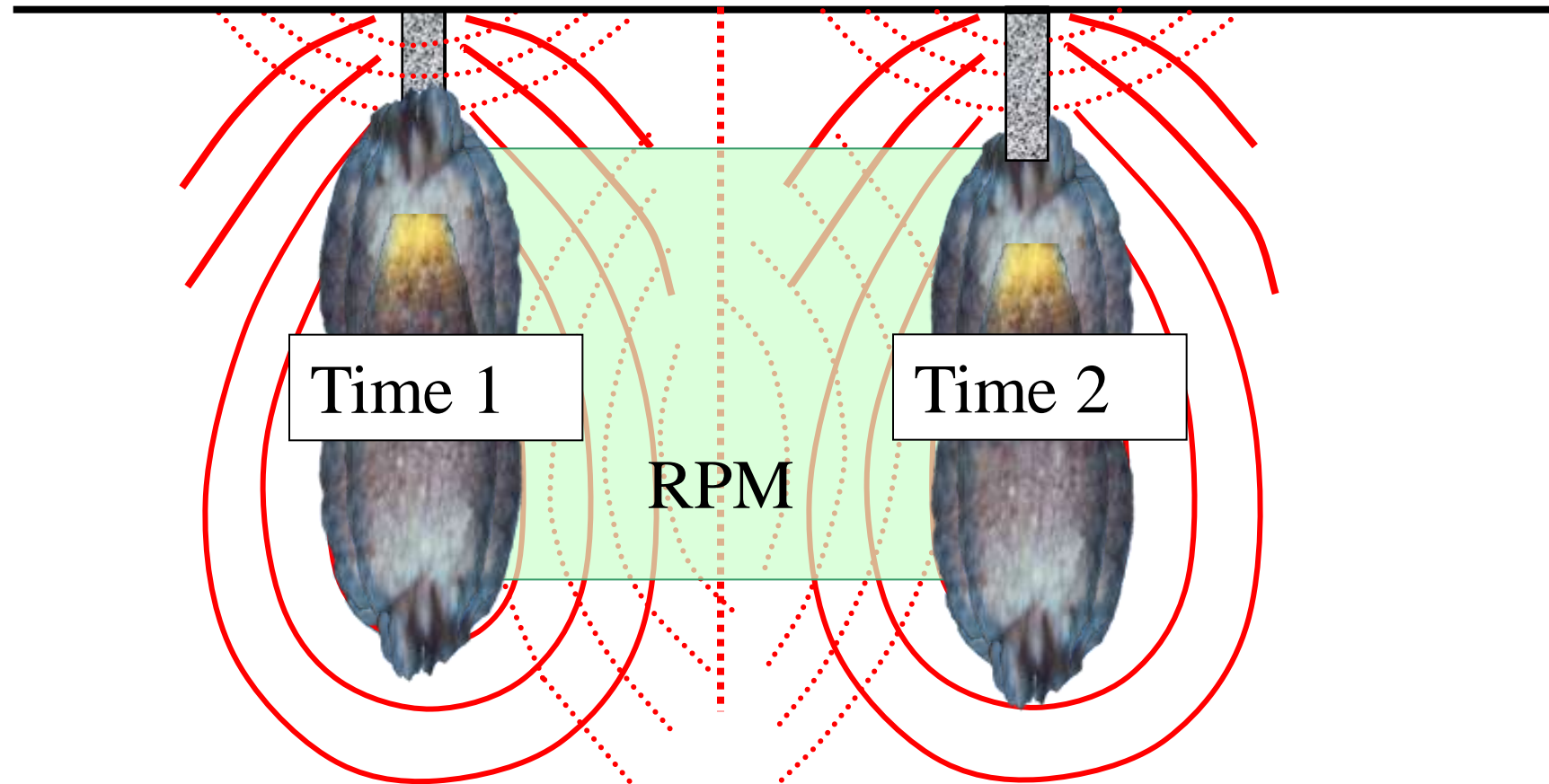
Chemical Crusher (conceptually)



Chemical Crusher (conceptually)

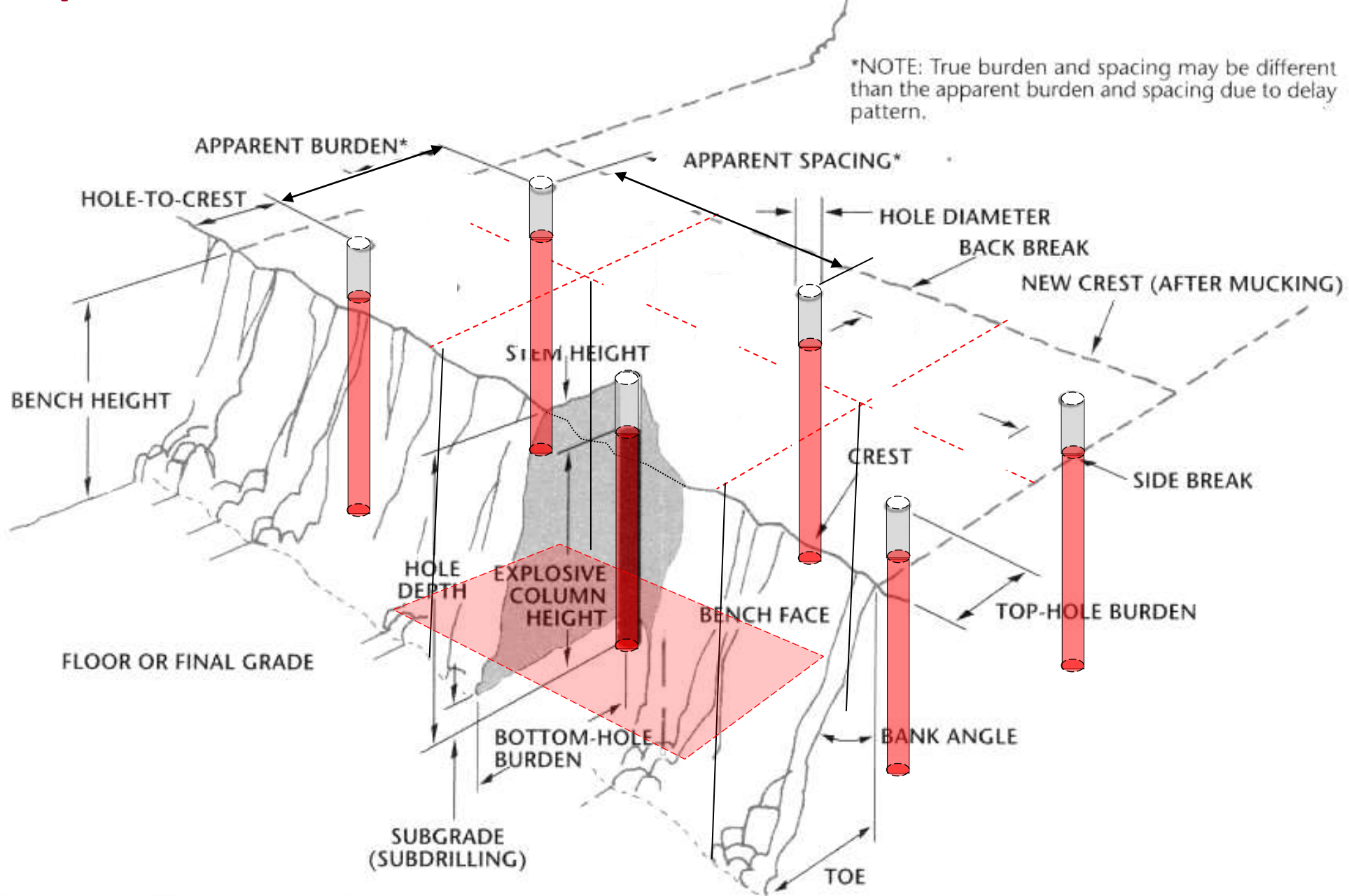


Chemical Crusher (conceptually)



Building the Chemical Crusher

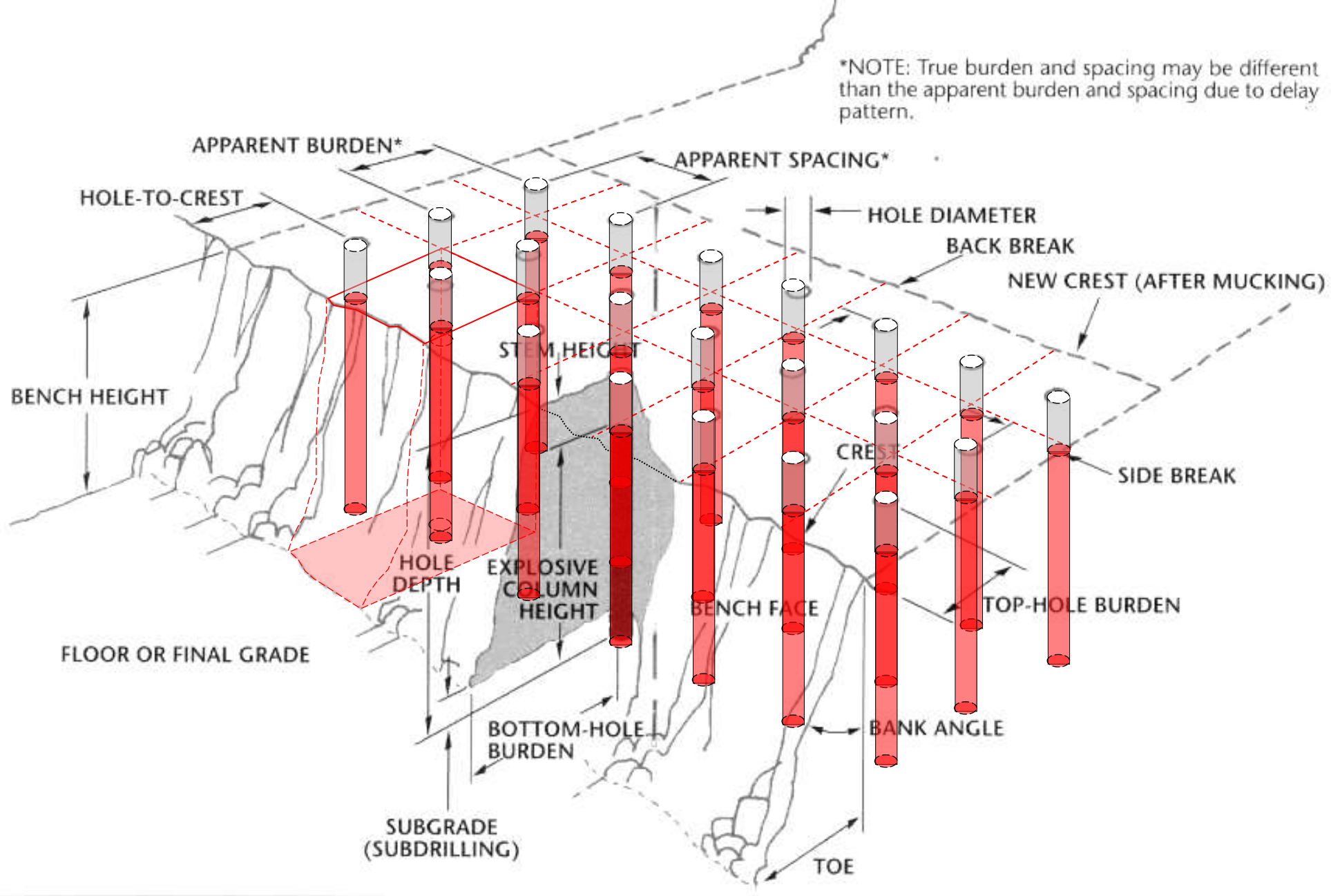
Static view of explosive distribution



Larger Diameter Holes

Building the Chemical Crusher

Static view of explosive distribution

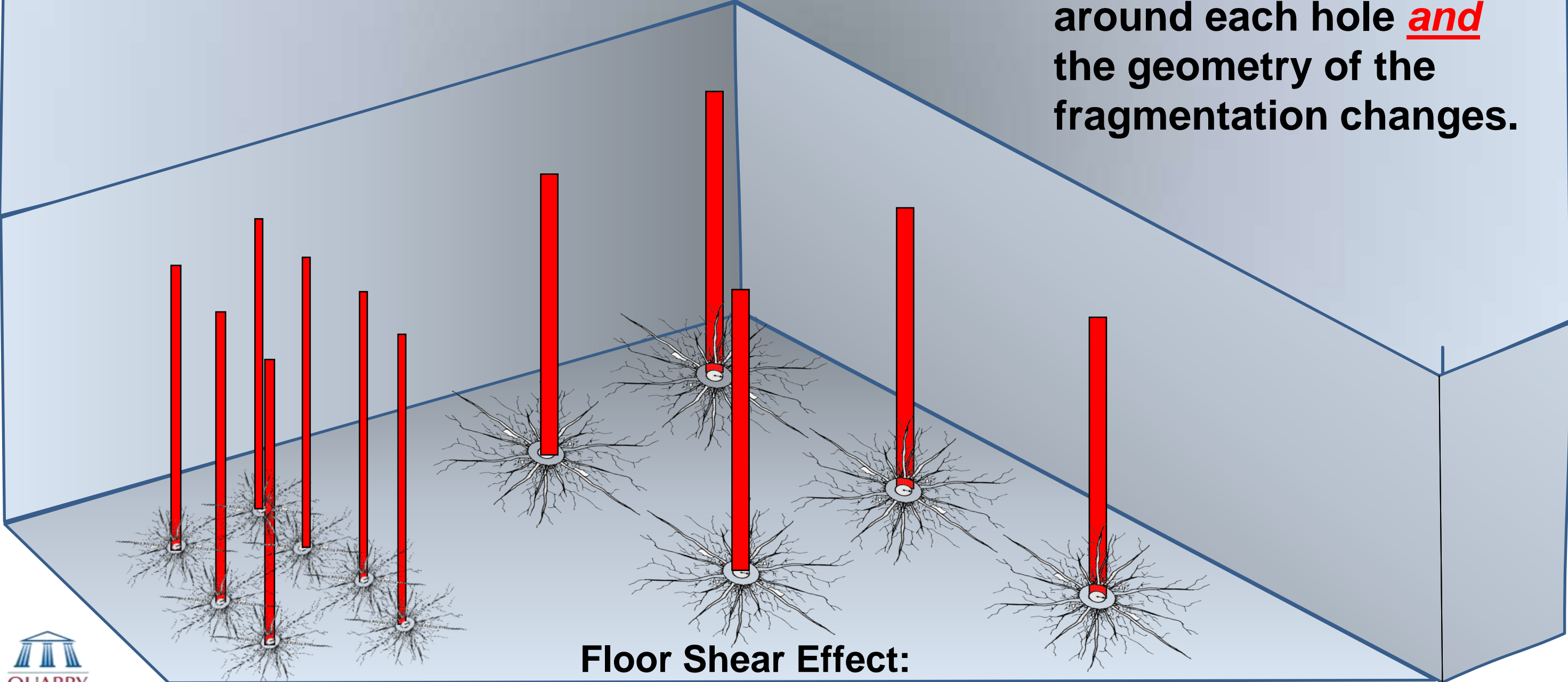


Smaller Diameter Holes

Effect of Hole Diameter on Toe Shear

Control (Small to Large)

As hole size increases, the area of influence around each hole and the geometry of the fragmentation changes.



Effect of Hole Diameter on Fragmentation

Control (Small to Large)

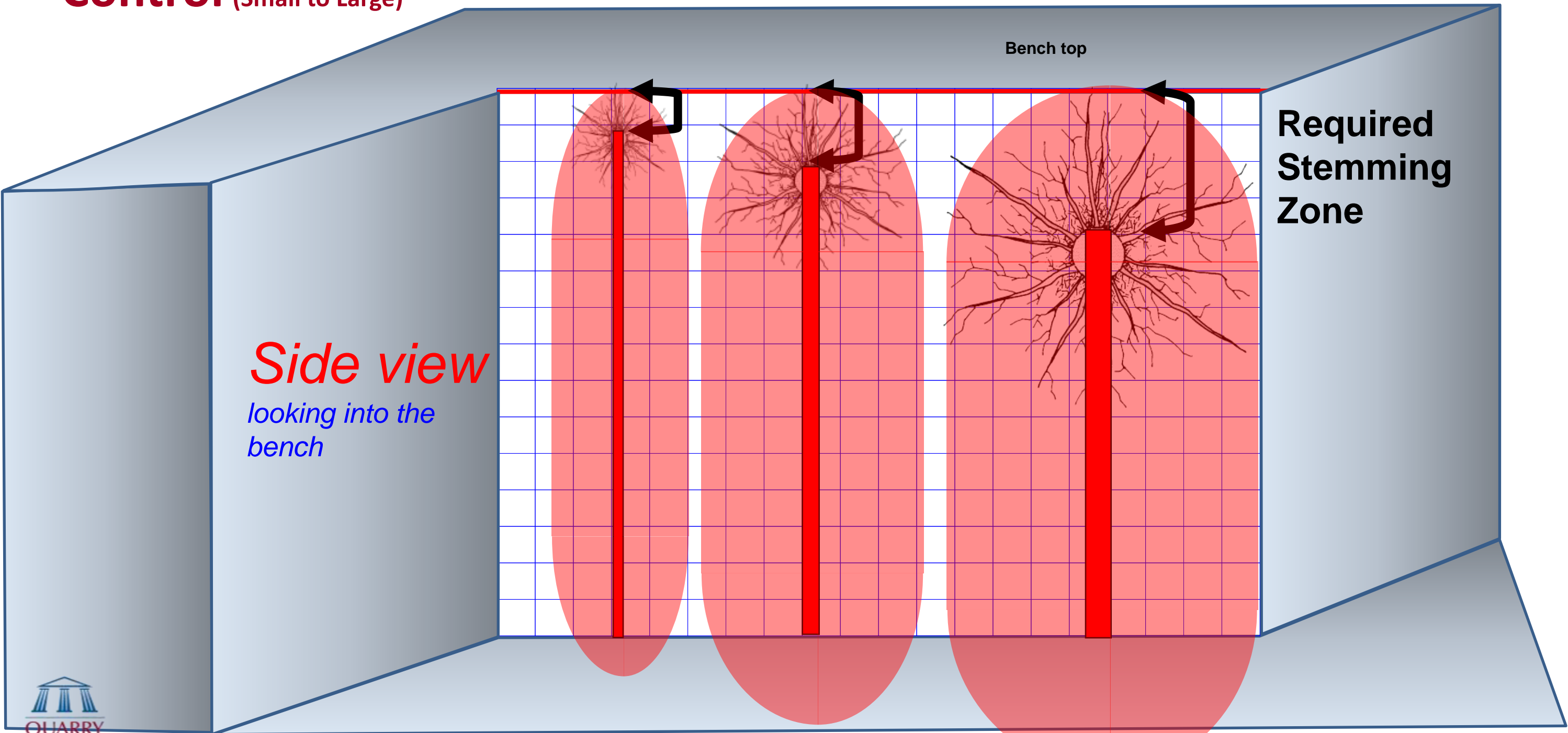
Bench Top Effect:

Side view

looking into the bench

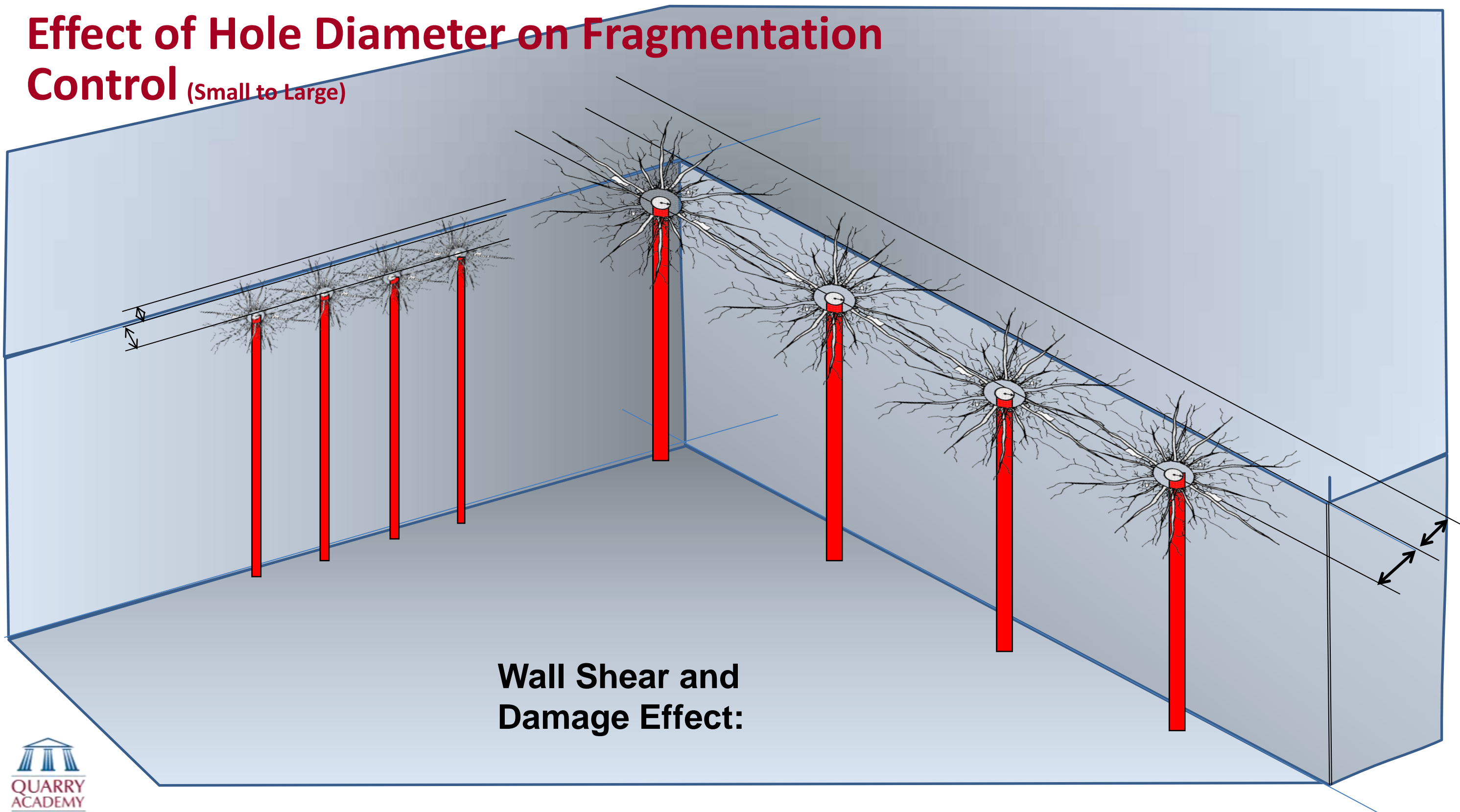
Bench top

Required Stemming Zone



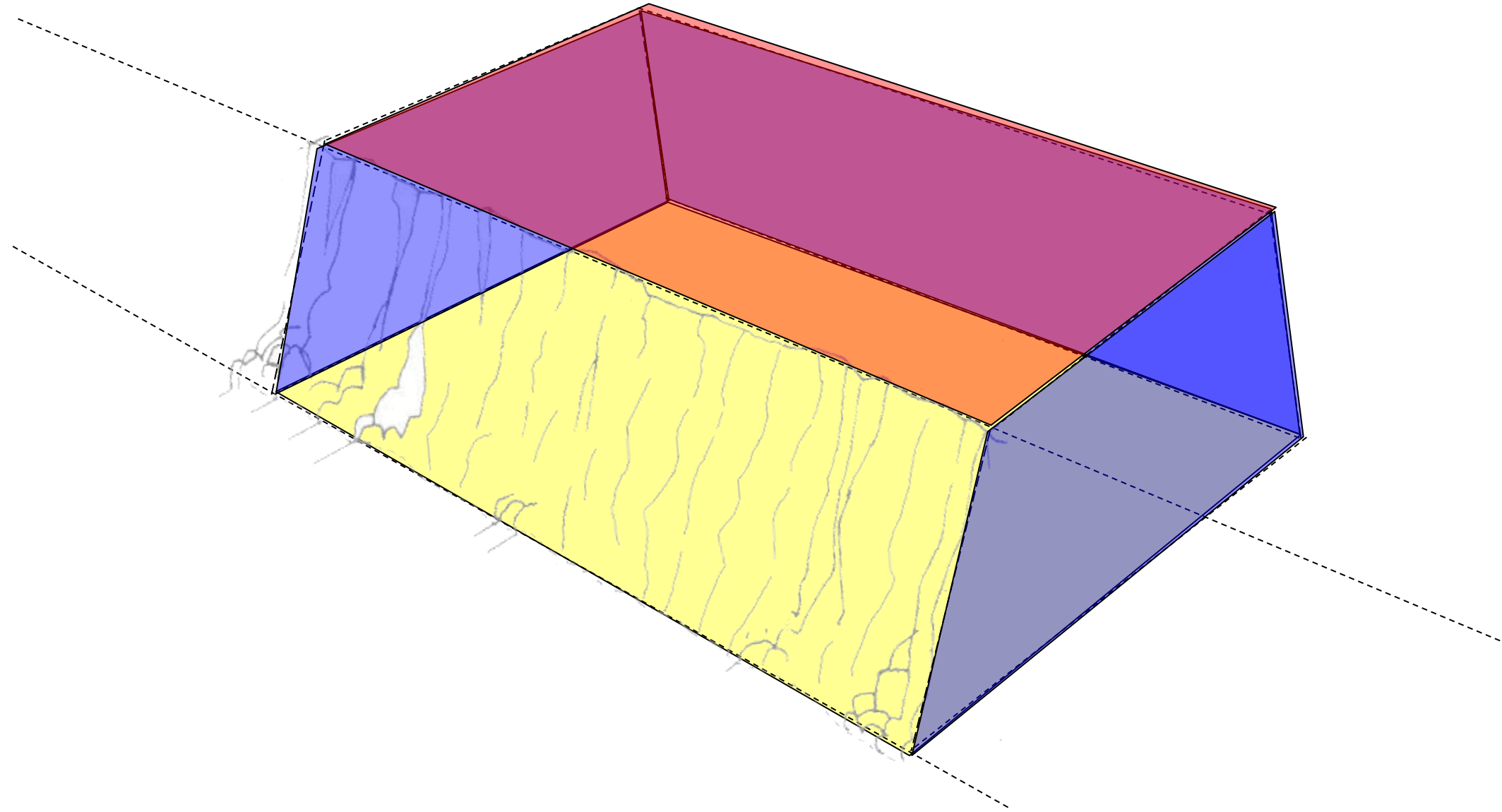
Effect of Hole Diameter on Fragmentation Control

(Small to Large)

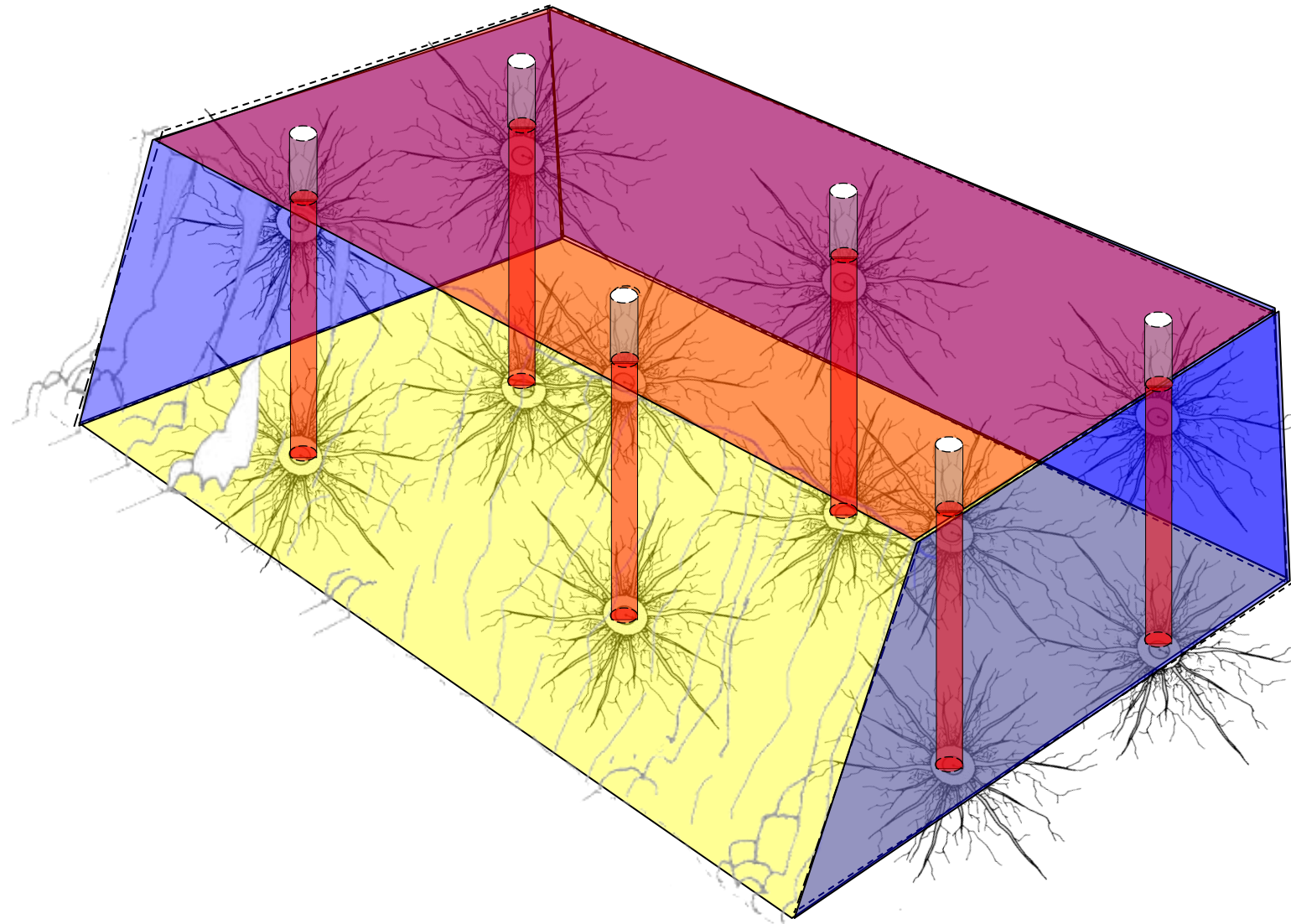


Wall Shear and
Damage Effect:

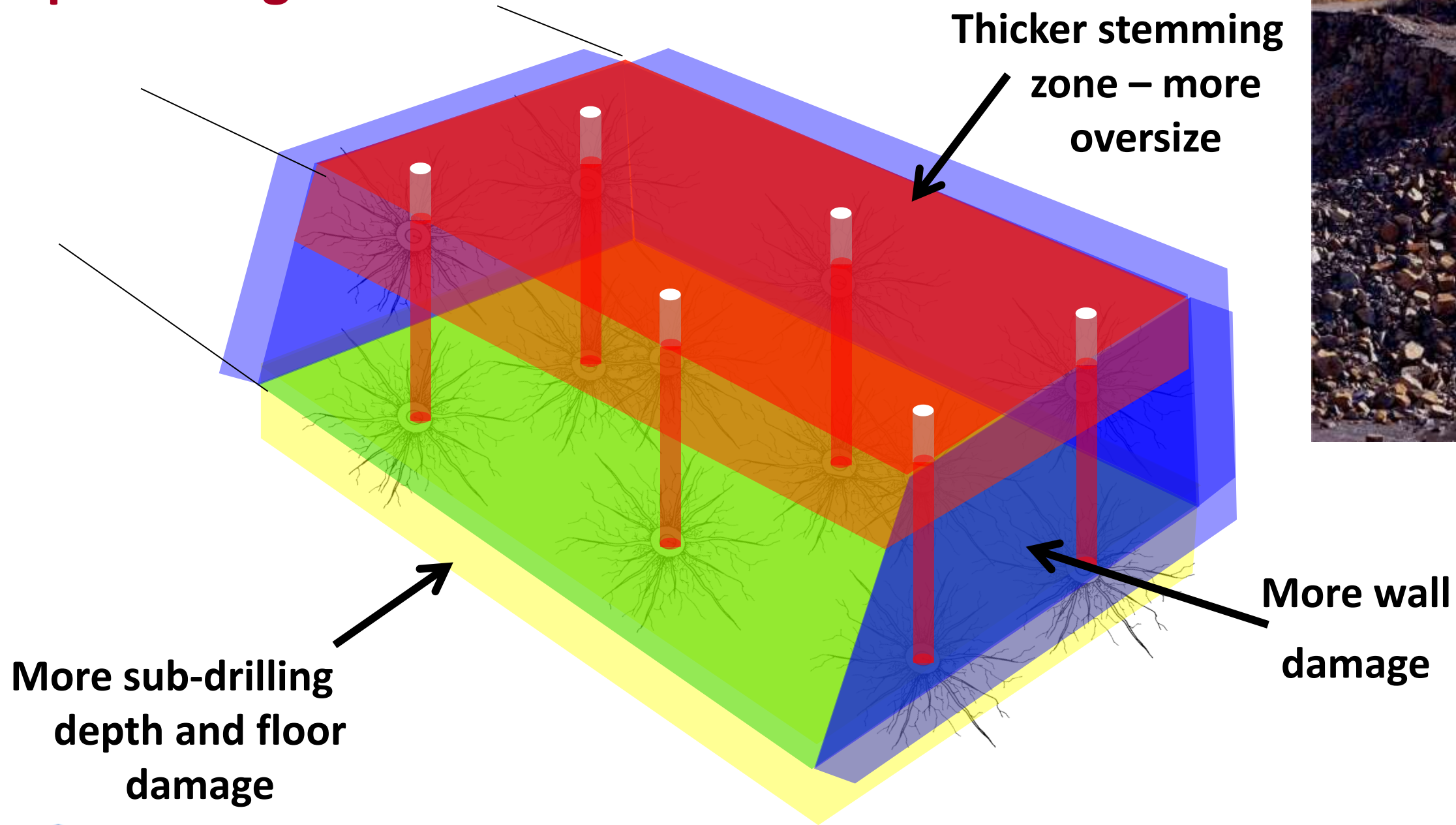
Target Work Zone for Chemical Crusher



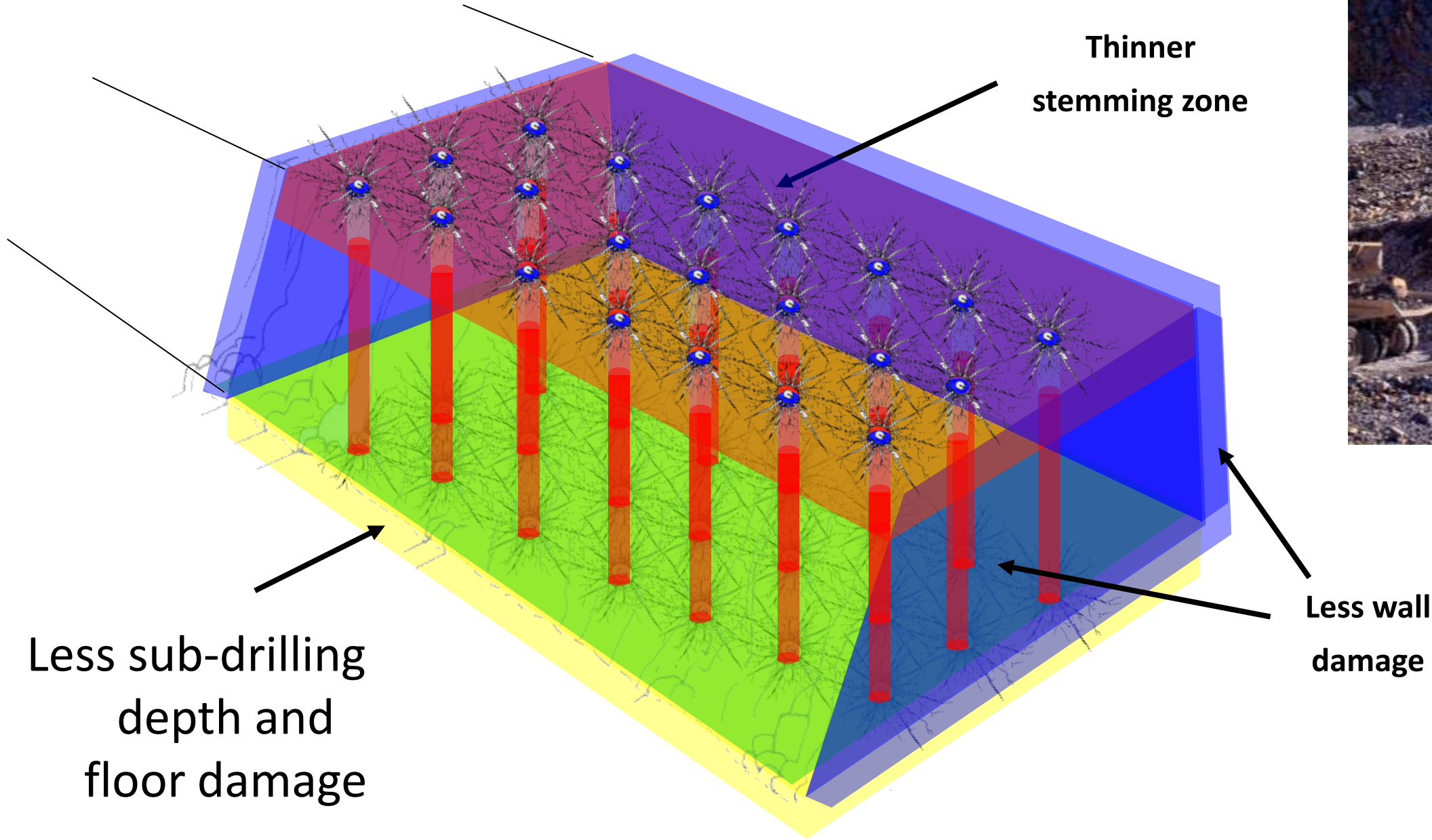
Larger diameter holes in Target Work Zone



Larger diameter holes allow for smaller overall percentage of crushed rock



Smaller diameter holes allow for higher overall percentage of crushed rock



Uniform Gradation - Coarse



Uniform Gradation - Fine



Prior examples come from the same shot!

Program designed shot using
electronic detonators

Drill Hole not charged



Chemical Crushing

“Rubblization”

Fragmentation dictated
by geology

Blast Dynamics

Stress / Pressure Dissipation

H_d = Hole Diameter

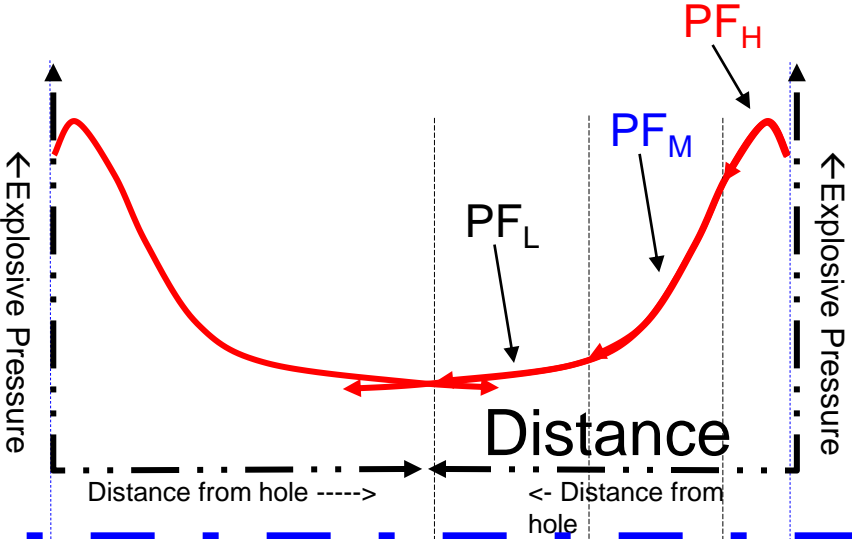
UCS = Unconfined compressive Strength of rock

Step 1 = Pulverized Zone
 Blast hole diameter expanded

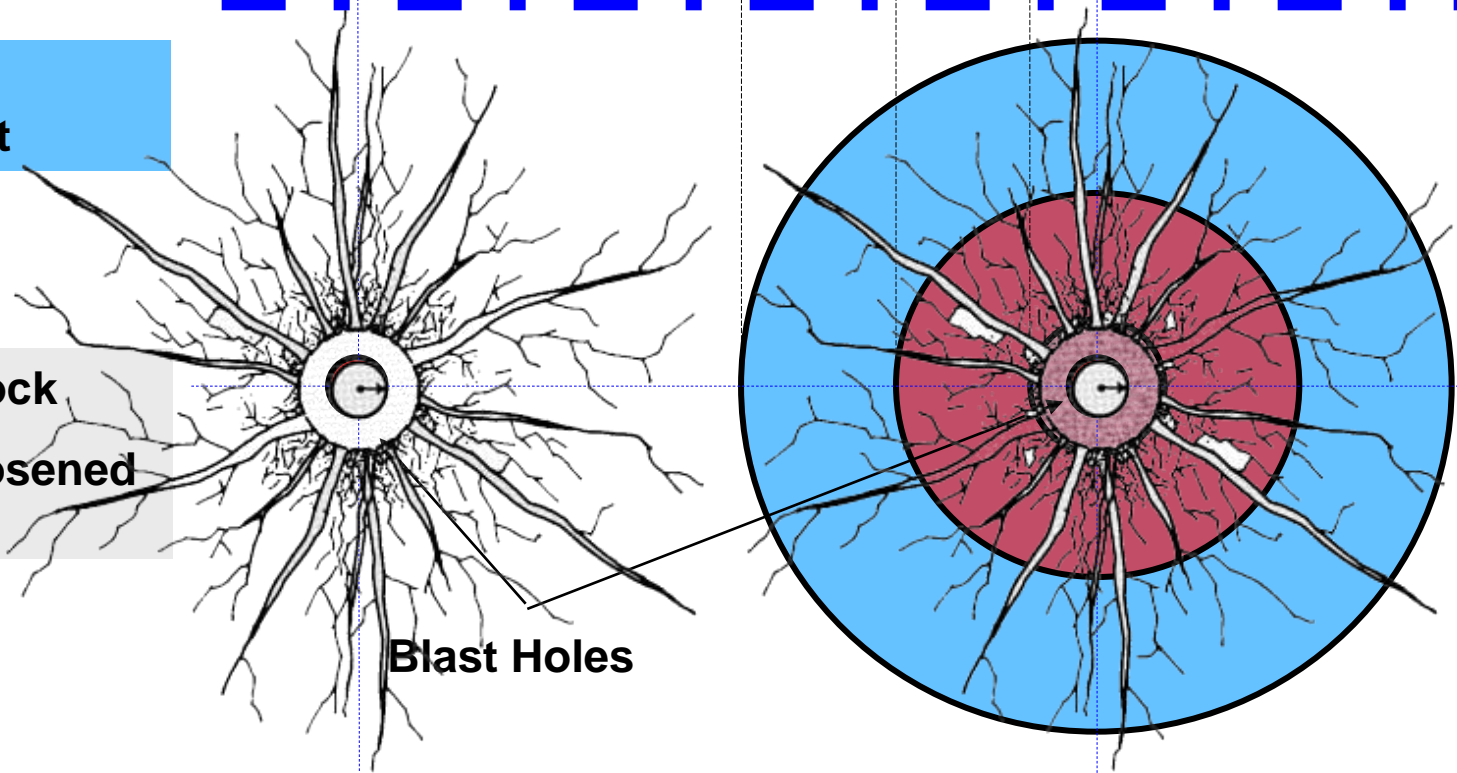
Step 2 = Intense fracturing and cleaving of minerals
 Blast Hole Pressure > Rock UCS

Step 3 = Minimum stress pressure in rock from blast

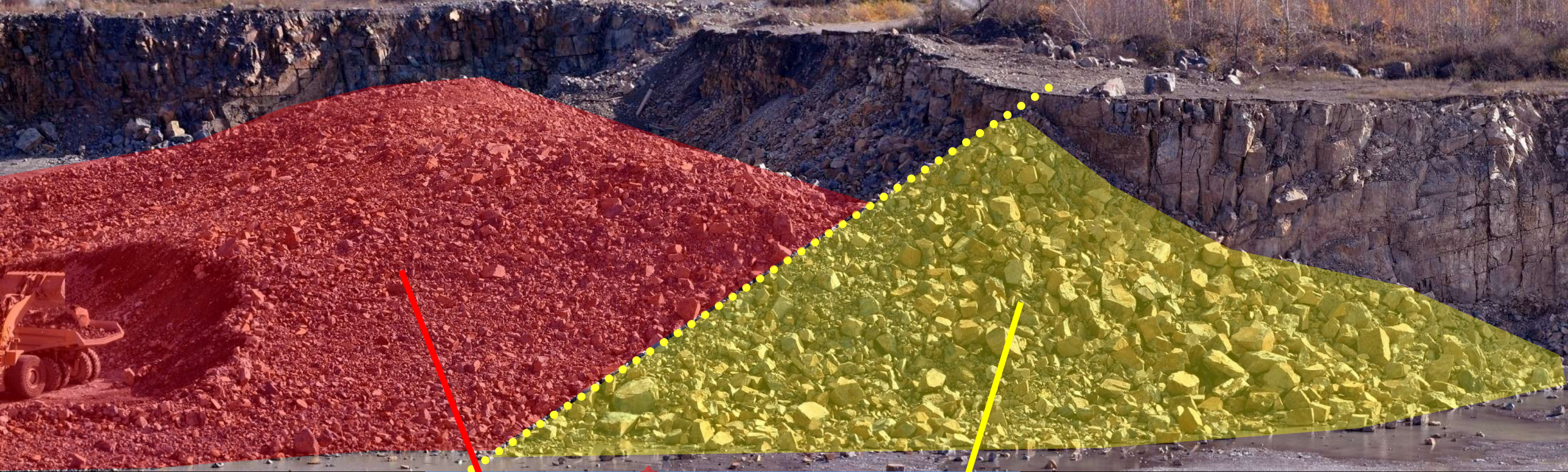
Step 4 = Damage limit to rock
 Pre-existing blocks are loosened and moved



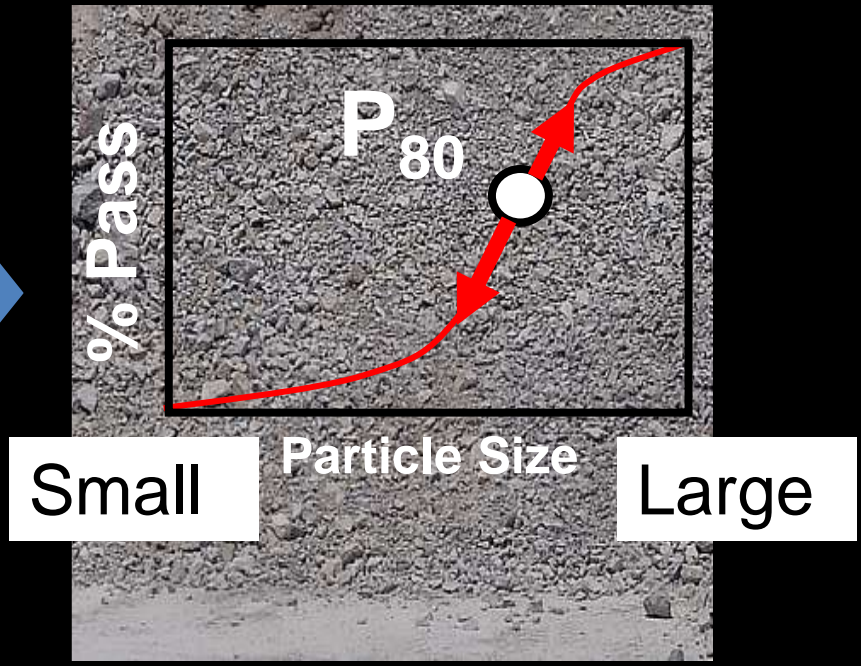
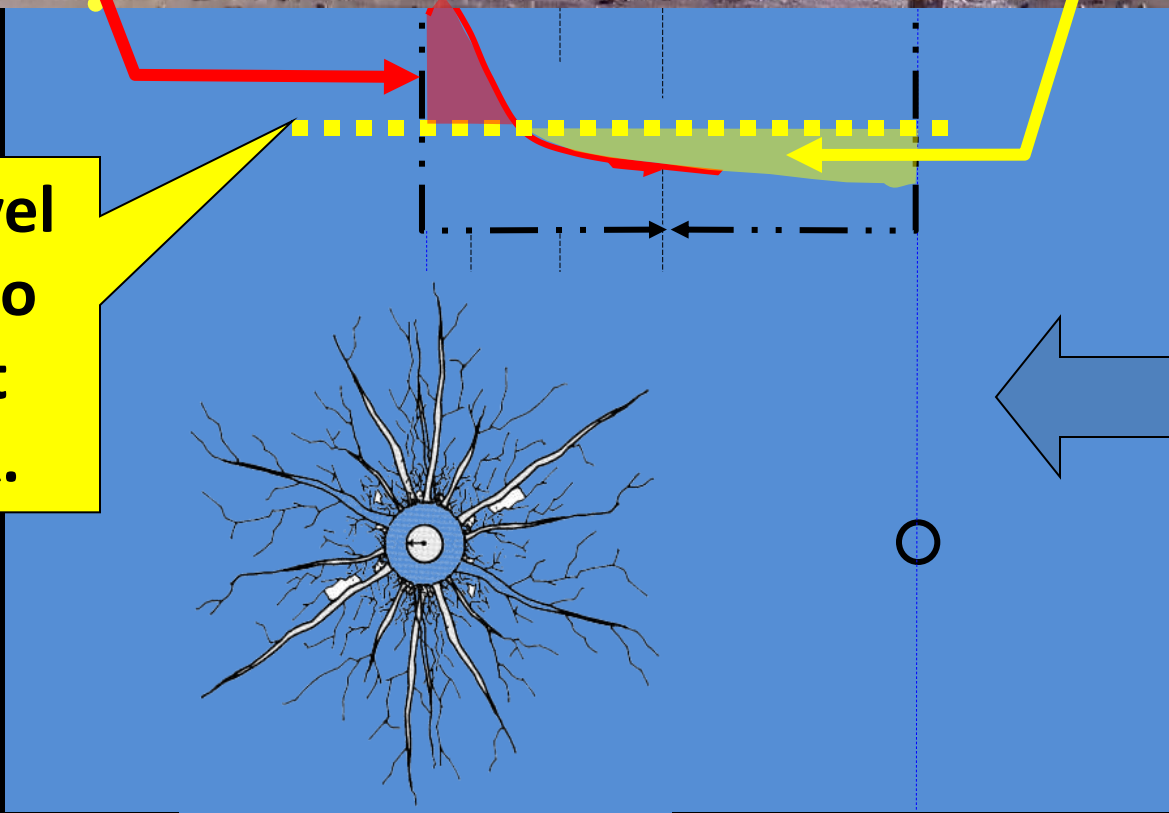
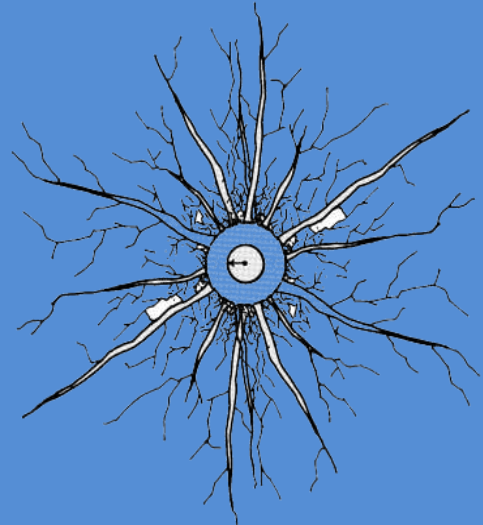
Ground PSI **Side View**



Plan View

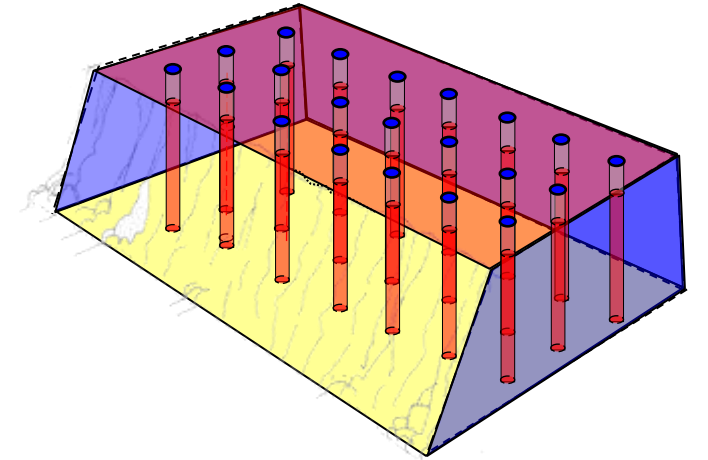


**Energy Level
required to
fragment
your rock.**



New Normal Drill/Blast Protocol For Chemical Crushing:

- **Clean up the face.**
- **Survey the face and bench area to be blasted.**
- **Design the shot allowing for actual bench geometry and exposed geology.**
- **Layout the shot according to the shot design.**
- **Generate a driller's log for additional bench data to modify the blast design.**
- **Carefully charge and stem the shot.**
- **Video and photograph the shot to judge blast response.**



Summary

- Drill and Blast can be used to produce **useful fragmentation** that will enable the mechanical crush/screen process to be more **cost effective, productive, and safer**.
- **Optimized distribution of explosive energy** as a function of drill hole diameter, accurate location, explosive product choice, and accurate timing **is the key** to influencing and controlling rock gradation in the blast muck pile.
- **Enabling** Drill and Blast to influence and control rock gradation leverages it's value as an integral part of the crush and size process - **the Chemical Crusher**.

Summary

- A properly designed and built Chemical Crusher can **relieve work** done by the **primary crusher** and **improve its efficiency**.
- As is the case with a mechanical crusher, **tight tolerances and high quality** are a necessity when building the Chemical Crusher.
- Implementing drill and blast programs based on the chemical crusher approach, can yield quarry process stream cost savings that are **better measured in dollars per ton than in cents per ton**.

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