

Dissemination Conference of HyTunnel-CS project  
*"PNR for safety of hydrogen driven vehicles and transport  
through tunnels and similar confined spaces"*  
14-15 July 2022, Brussels

# **Heat release rate, fire resistance rating and contribution of hydrogen released through TPRD to vehicle fire**

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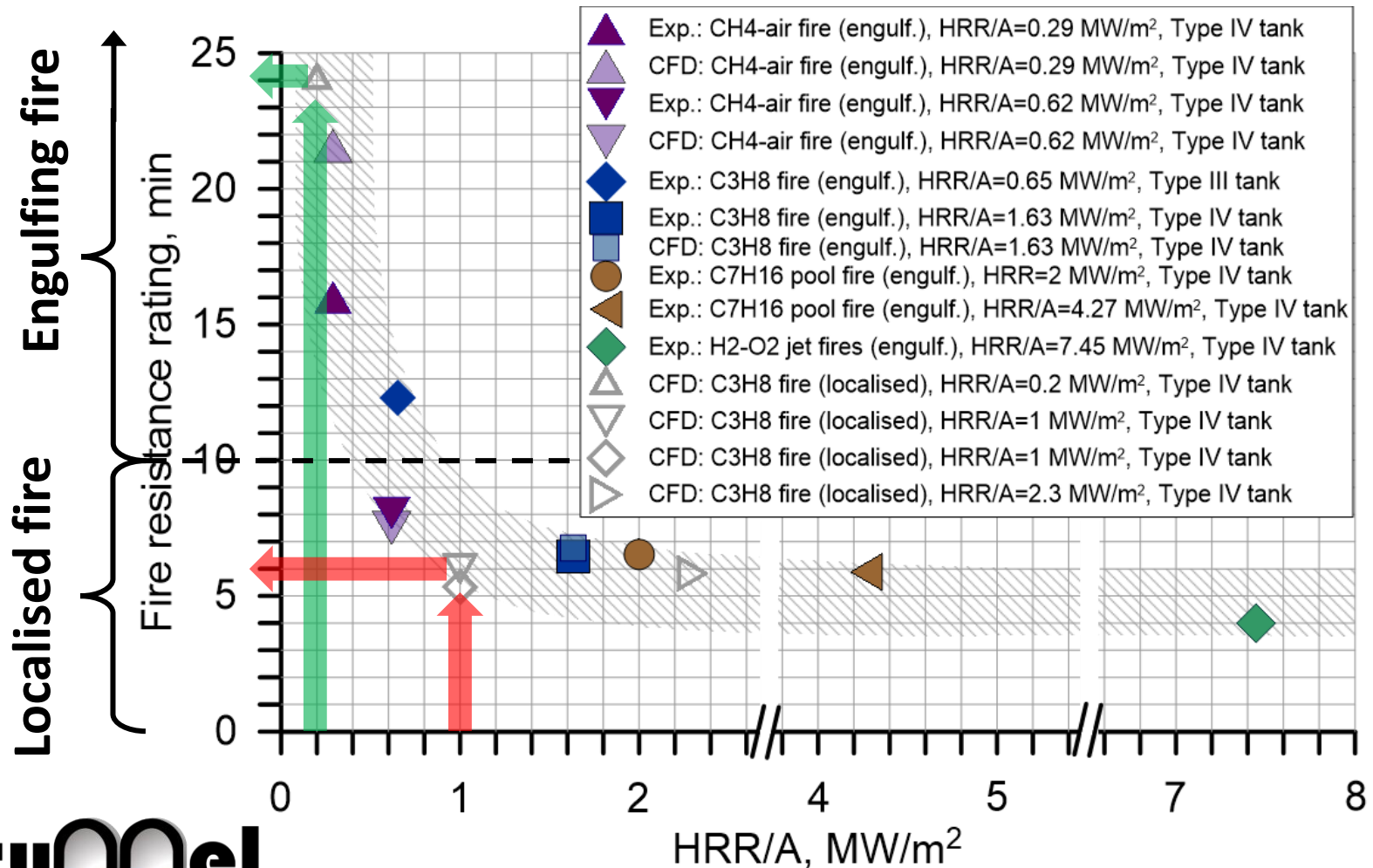


# Abbreviations and definitions

- FRR - Fire resistance rating: time from burner ignition until tank's rupture in a fire (without TPRD/failed TPRD or localised fire far from TPRD) [min]
- HRR - Total heat release rate of a fire source [MW]
- HRR/A - Specific HRR: total HRR produced by a fire source of the area A [MW/m<sup>2</sup>]
- LNB - Leak-no-burst safety technology, producing hydrogen micro-leaks from the tank in the event of a fire and releasing hydrogen safely
- TPRD - Thermally activated pressure relief device.

# Fire resistance vs fire HRR/A

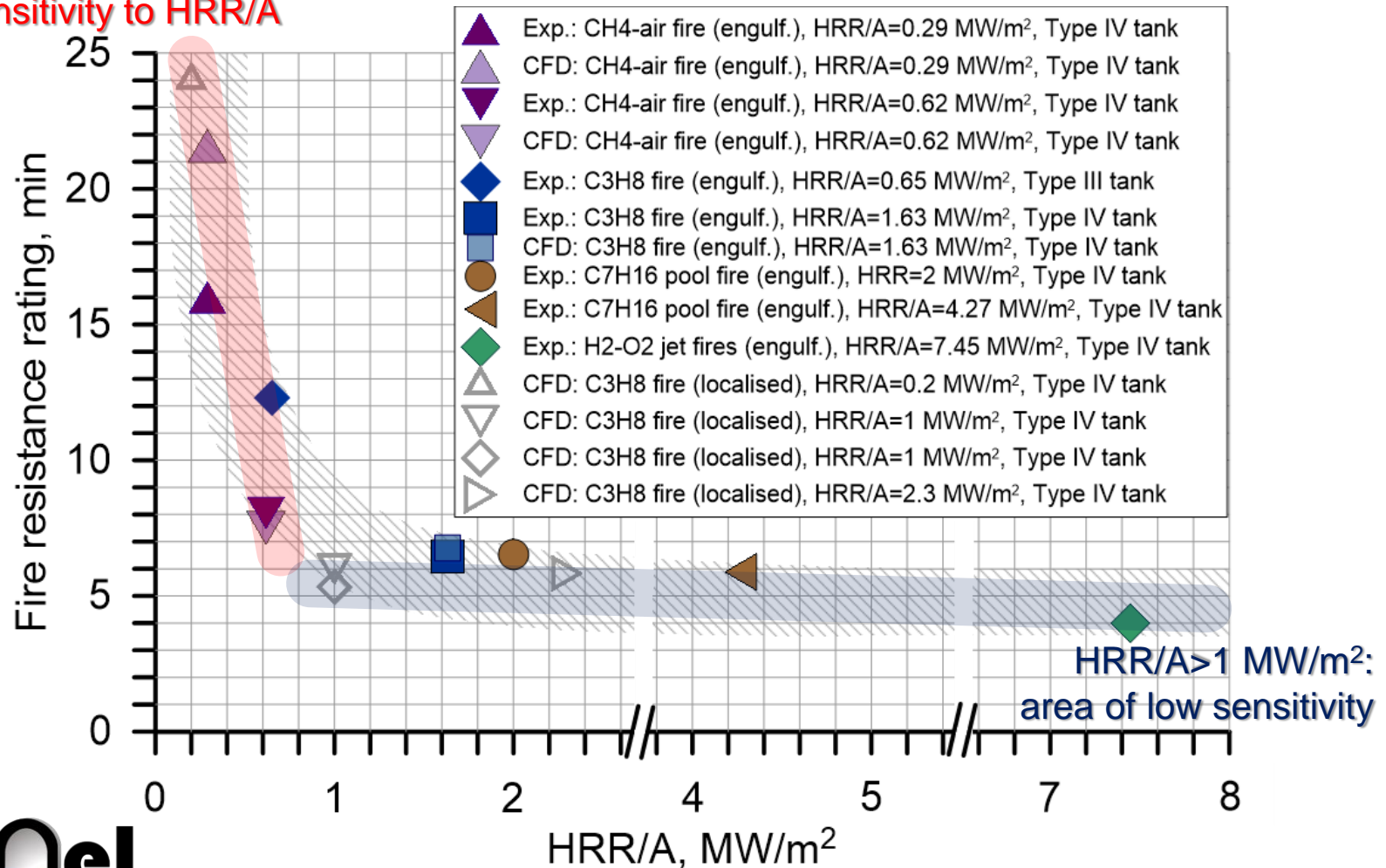
How can the fire test protocol be “cheated”?



# Fire resistance vs fire HRR/A

## High and low FRR sensitivity

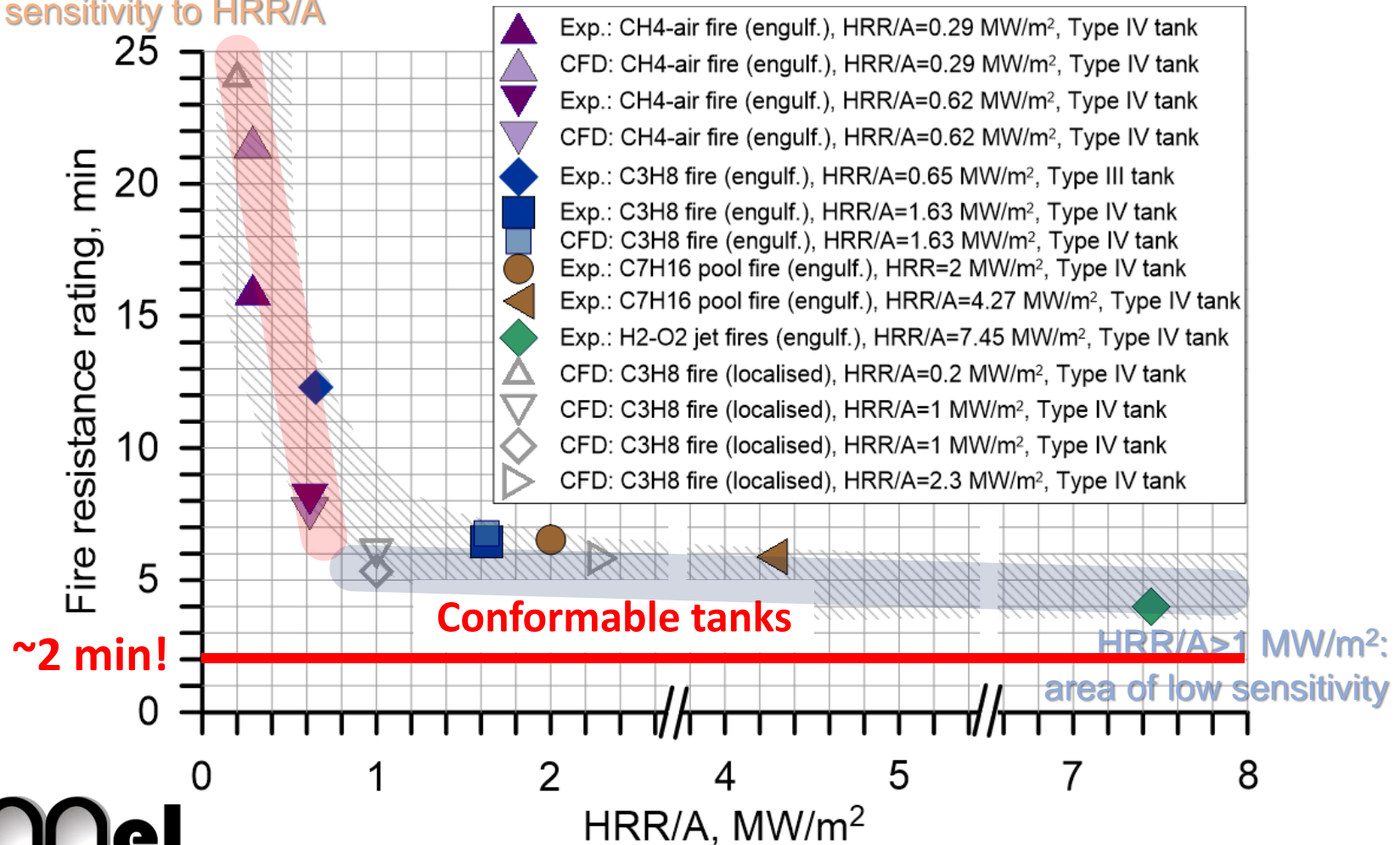
HRR/A < 1 MW/m<sup>2</sup>: area of high FRR sensitivity to HRR/A



# Fire resistance vs fire HRR/A

FRR is much shorter for conformable tanks!

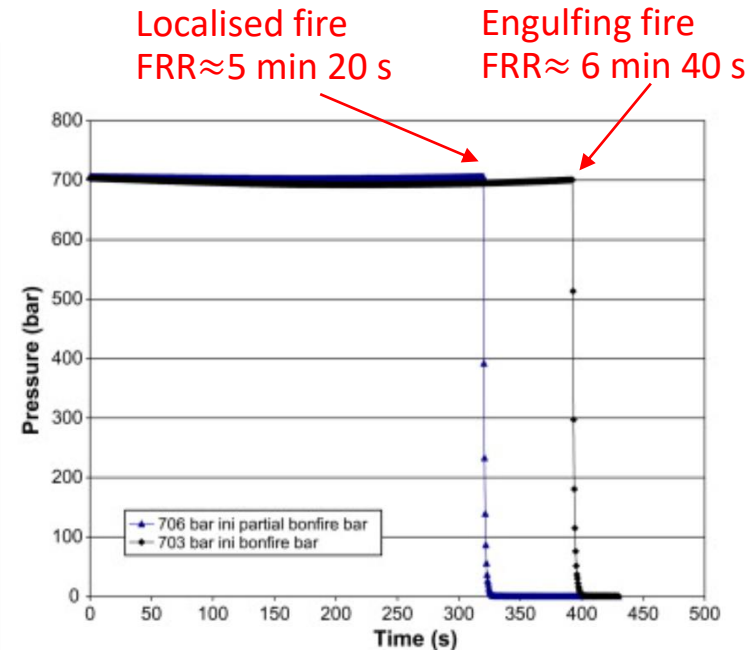
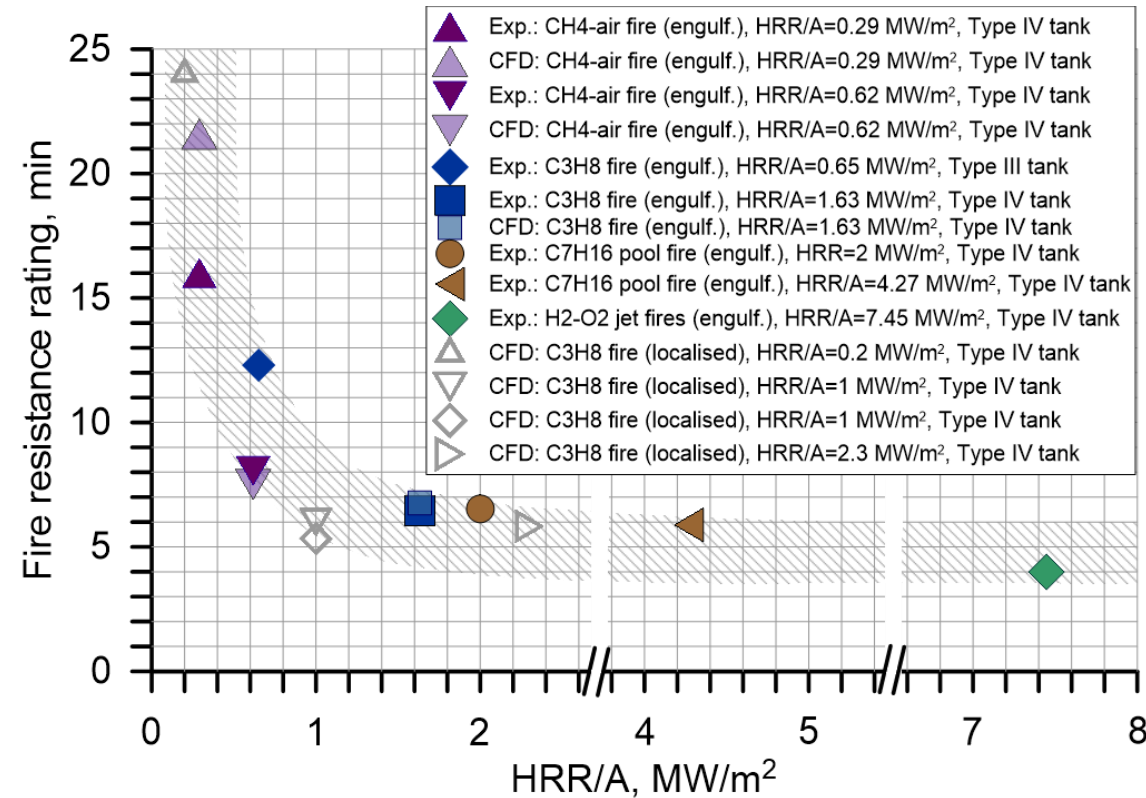
HRR/A < 1 MW/m<sup>2</sup>: area of high  
FRR sensitivity to HRR/A





# Fire resistance vs fire HRR/A

## Liquid fuel fires and their HRR/A



### References:

- Heselden, *Proceedings of the 2nd International Symposium on Aerodynamics and Ventilation of Vehicle Tunnels*, Cambridge, UK, 23-25.03.1976
- H. Ingason, Y.Z. Li, *Fire Safety Journal*, 91, 2017, 399–406
- Baalisampang, T., Abbassi, R., Garaniya, V., Khan, F., Dadashzadeh, M., 2018. Review and analysis of fire and explosion accidents in maritime transportation. *Ocean Eng.*
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- S. Ruban et.al. *Fire risk on high-pressure full composite cylinders for automotive applications*. *Int. J. Hydrogen Energy* 2012.
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# Heat release rates (HRRs) in vehicle fires

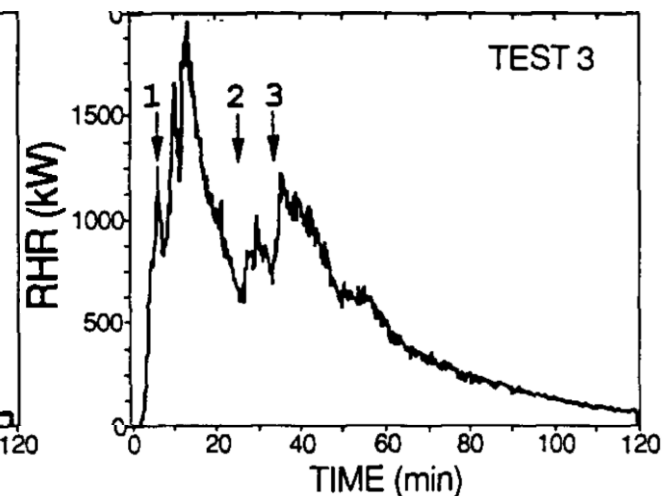
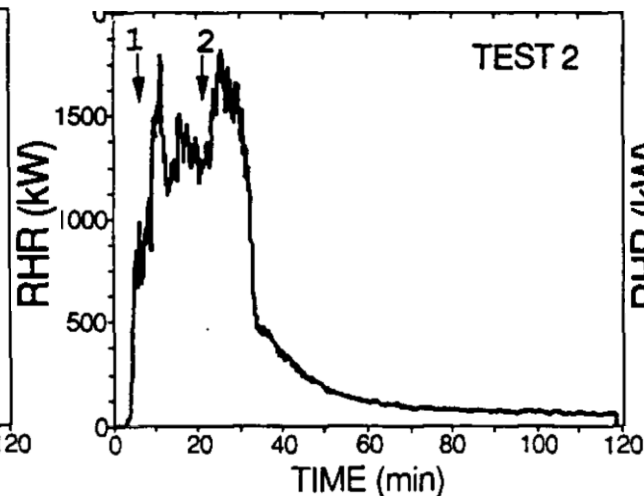
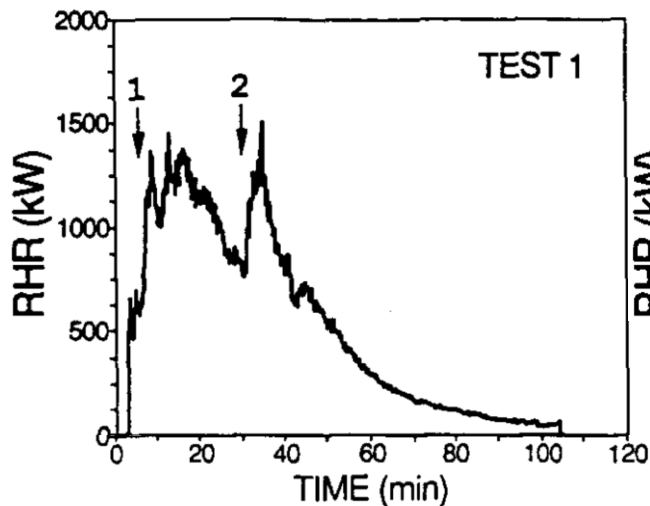


# HRR in vehicle fires

## Example#1 – HRR per one passenger car

| Test no. | Car model | Mass before test<br>without fuel<br>(kg) |
|----------|-----------|--|
|----------|-----------|--|

|   |                   |      |
|---|-------------------|------|
| 1 | Ford Taunus 1.6   | 990  |
| 2 | Datsun 160J Sedan | 918  |
| 3 | Datsun 180B Sedan | 1102 |

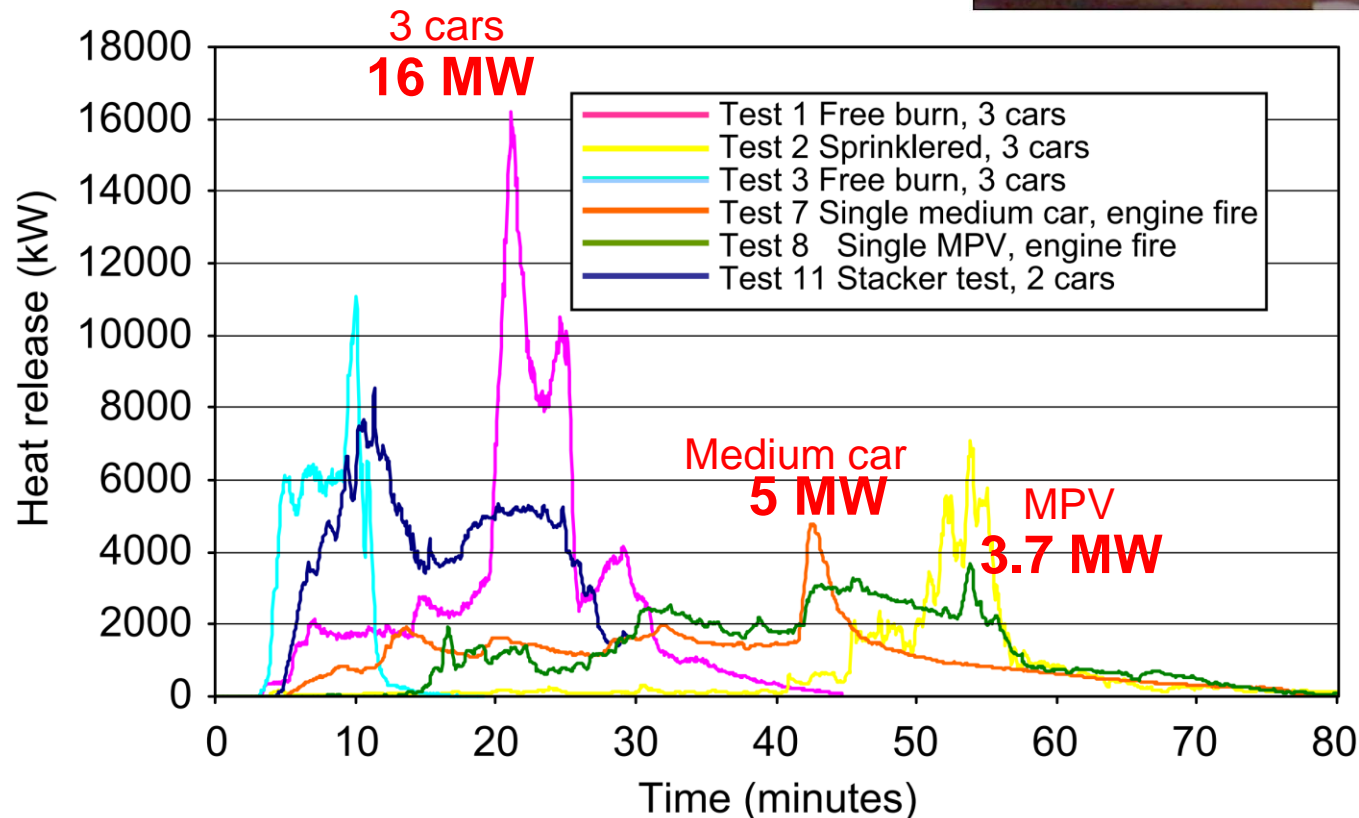


$HRR \approx 1.5-1.9 \text{ MW}$



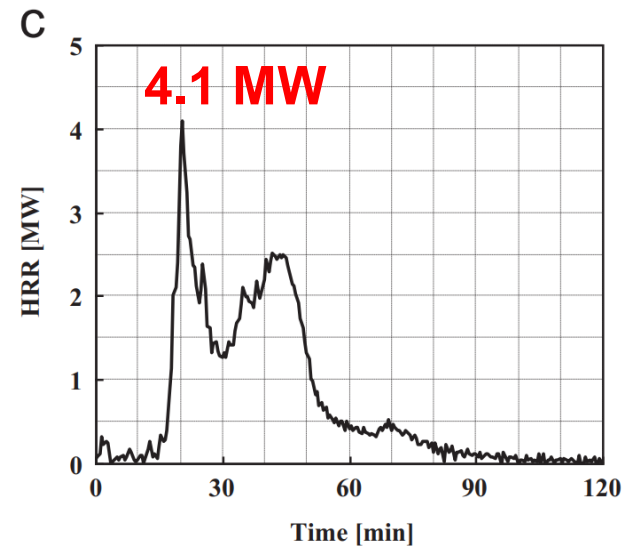
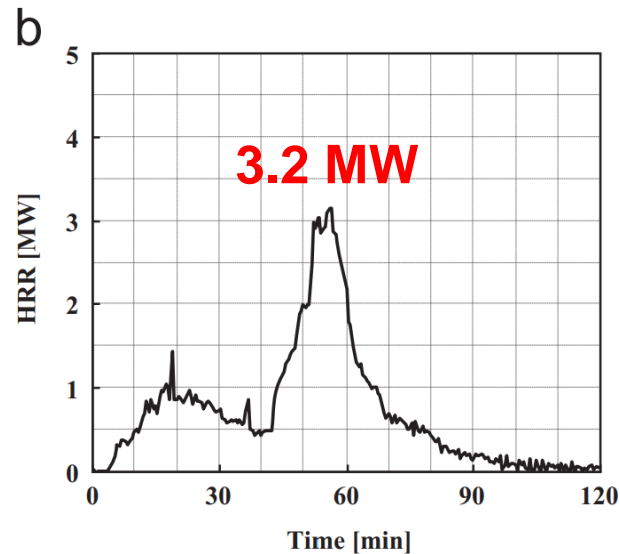
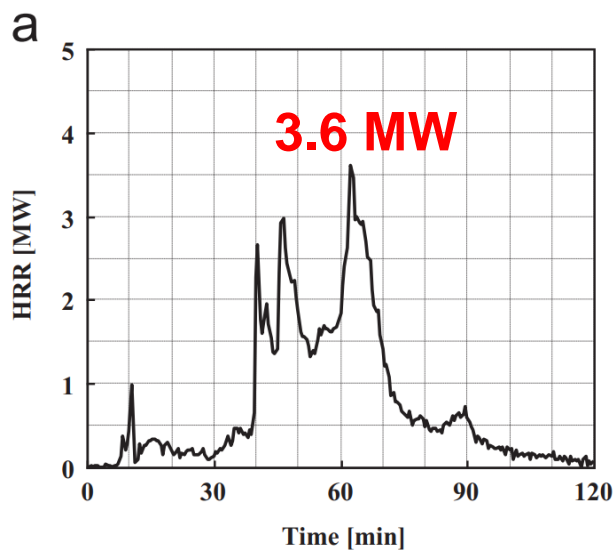
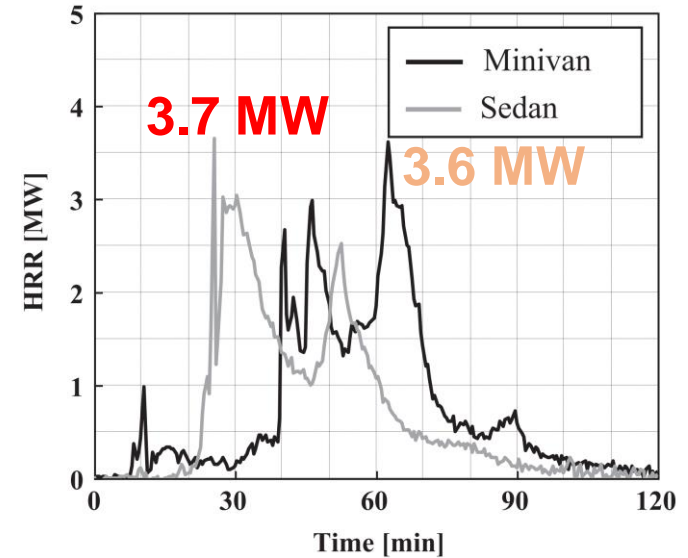
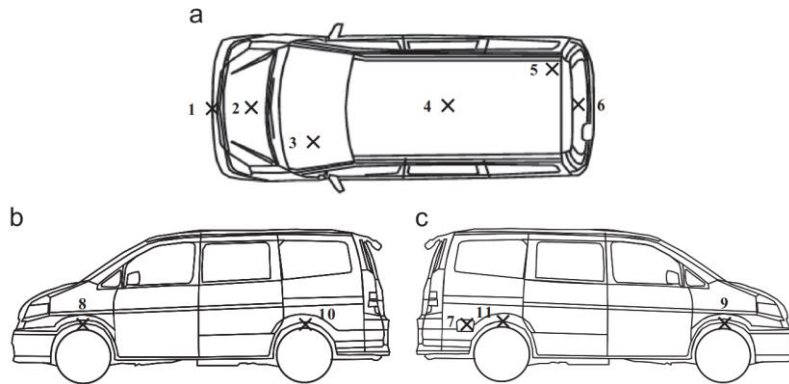
# HRR in vehicle fires

## Example#2 – multiple cars



# HRR in vehicle fires

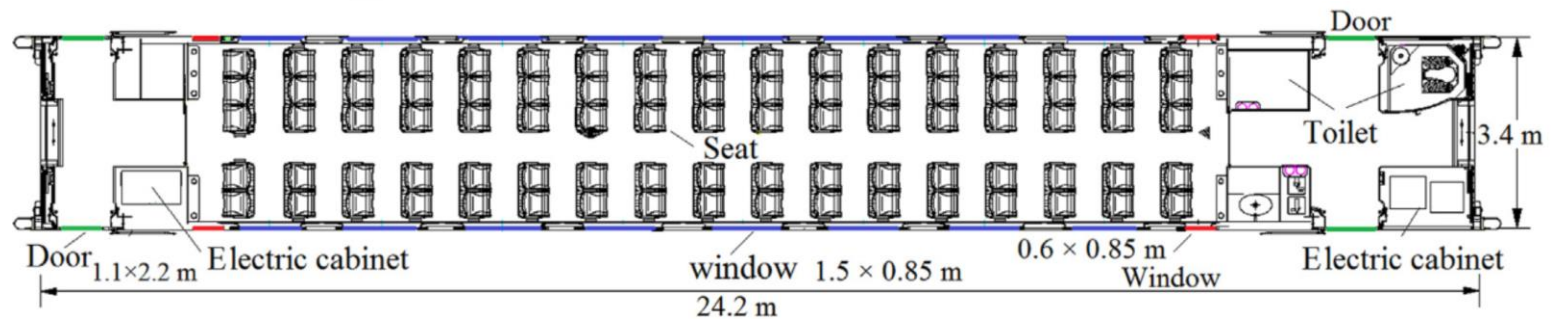
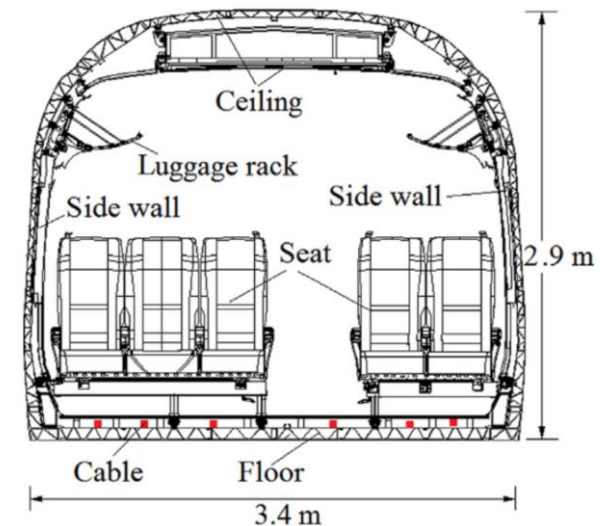
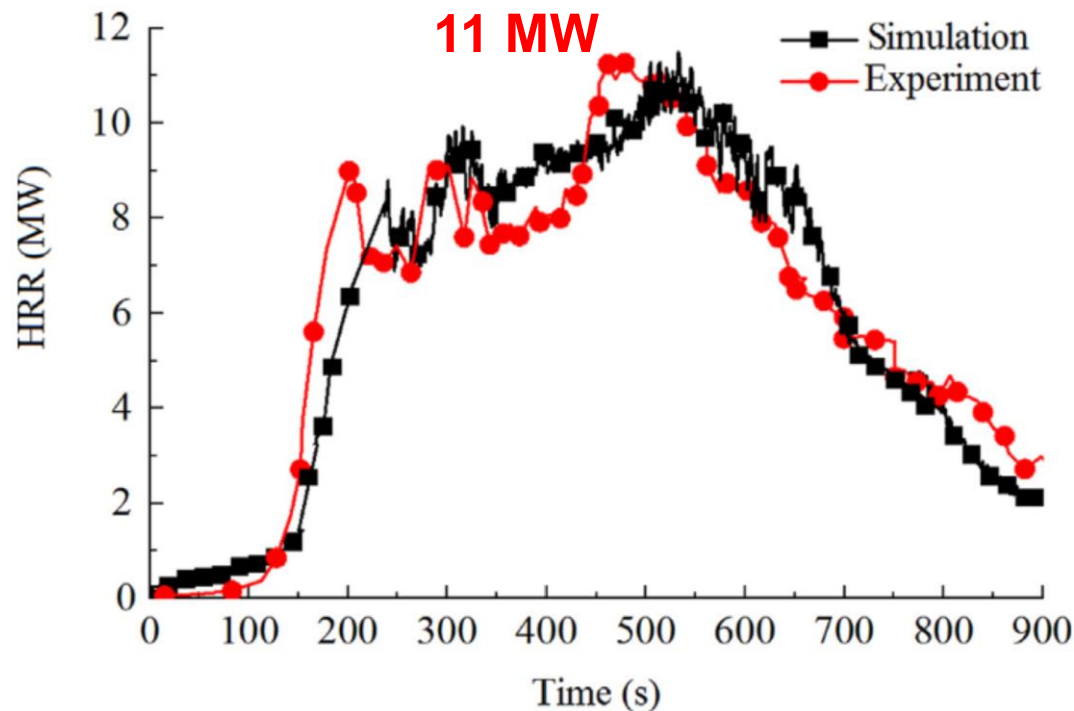
## Example#3 - minivans



Reference: Okamoto, K., Otake, T., Miyamoto, H., Honma, M., Watanabe, N., 2013. Burning behavior of minivan passenger cars. *Fire Safety Journal* 62, 272–280.

# HRR in vehicle fires

## Example#4 - train



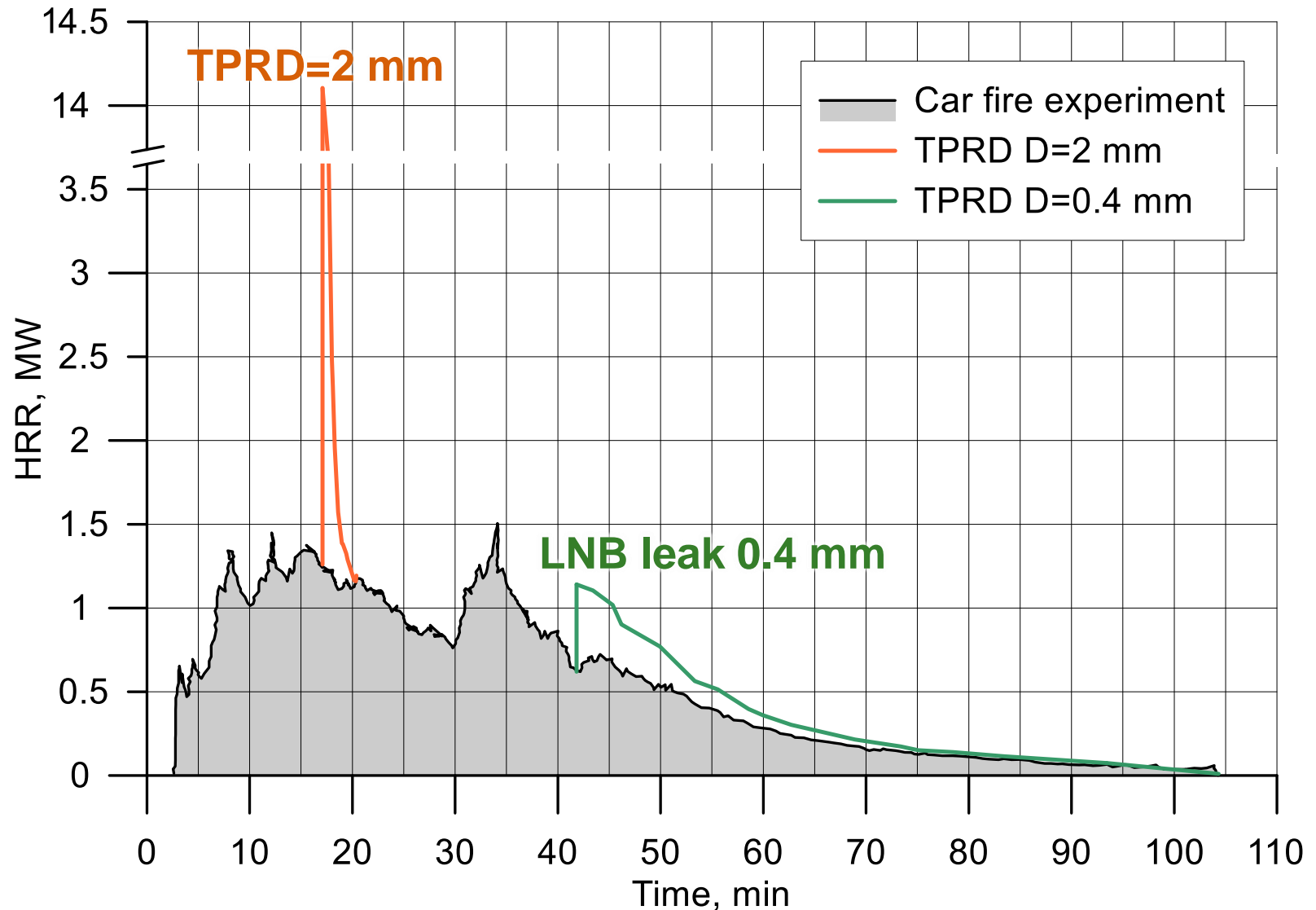
# **Hydrogen release contribution to the total vehicle fire HRR**

# TPRD orifice sizes

## Hydrogen releases and HRRs

- Using experimental data from tests with micro LNB tanks at CEA, the estimated maximum orifice size equivalent to the cumulative size of the leaks is  $D=0.4$  mm
- Used orifice sizes:
  - $D=2$  mm
  - $D=0.4$  mm

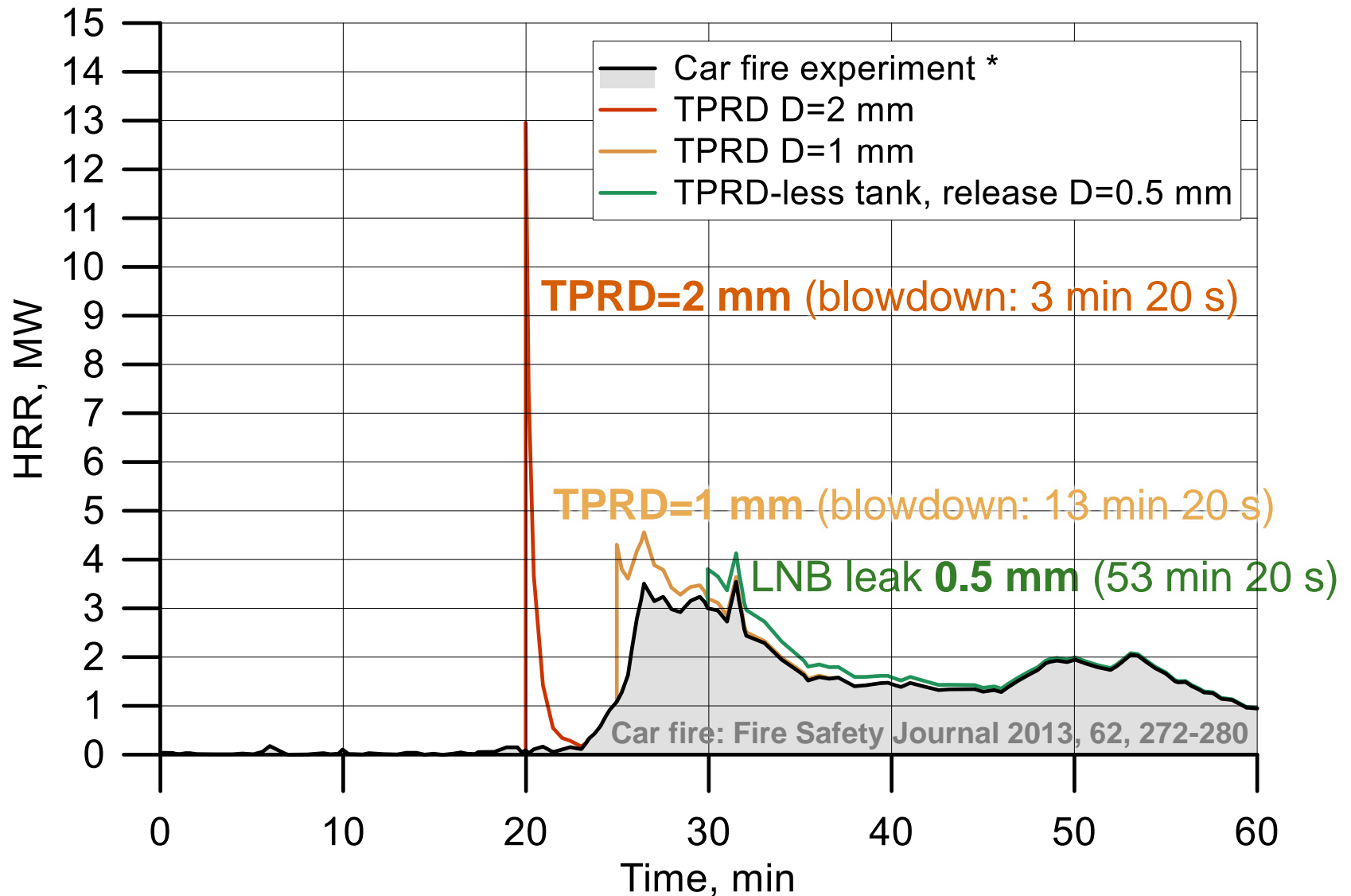
# H2 release contribution to car fire HRR



Release from 62.4 L and 70 MPa tank



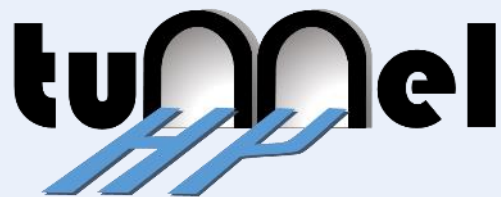
# H2 release contribution to car fire HRR



Release from 62.4 L and 70 MPa tank

# Conclusions

- The reduction of TPRD orifice size to below 0.5 mm and the use of explosion free in a fire tanks practically does not increase the contribution of the jet fire's HRR to the overall vehicle HRR
- This is unlike an ordinary TPRD orifice size, e.g. 2 mm, which increase HRR as much as 4-5 times (depending on a vehicle)
- GTR#13 fire test protocol should be updated, so that both, localised and engulfing portions include the gasoline/diesel fires – equivalent HRR/A
- Self-venting tanks should be introduced explicitly in GTR#13



# Acknowledgements

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