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Structure and Shock Response of a $\Sigma 11$ Asymmetric Tilt Grain Boundary in Copper at Finite Temperature

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Grain boundaries play an important role in governing the microstructure and deformation evolution in a material. Hence, it is important to understand the structure of grain boundaries that are subjected to high homologous temperatures. Boundaries that are susceptible to extreme structural disorder as the temperature is increased might drastically change the dynamic damage in a material under shock loading conditions. In this talk we will present the results of molecular dynamics simulations studying the temperature dependence of the structure of an asymmetric tilt grain boundary in copper. At high homologous temperatures a grain boundary can either form a disordered structure or can completely premelt. The change in grain boundary structure can be drastic enough to alter its response to an applied external force. The nature of the structural disorder in the grain boundary will be investigated by using the grain boundary width and its resistance to an applied shear strain.

NOTE: Slides 11 and 12 have movies showing shock simulations of pure copper

Structure and Shock Response of a Σ 11 Asymmetric Tilt Grain Boundary in Copper at Finite Temperature

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Joint Munitions, Advanced Simulation and Computing

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Slide 1

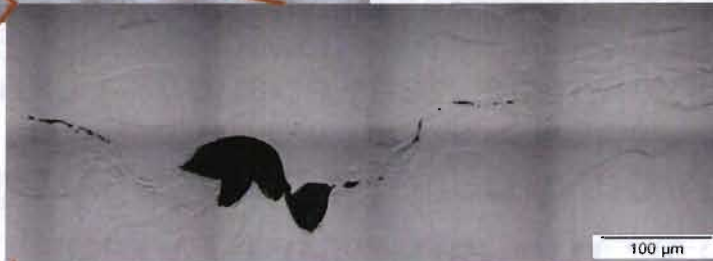
Operated by Los Alamos National Security, LLC for the U.S. Department of Energy's NNSA



Motivation



- During shock release, voids nucleate, grow and coalesce



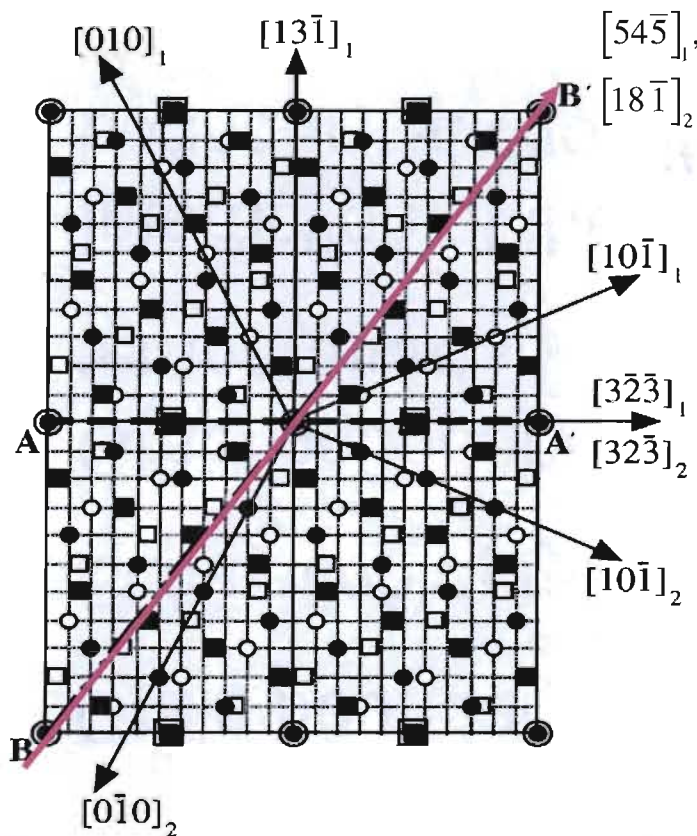
- Grain boundaries possible sites of nucleation

- In order to predict shock and shock release responses, it is important to understand the interaction of shock waves with grain boundaries

Outline

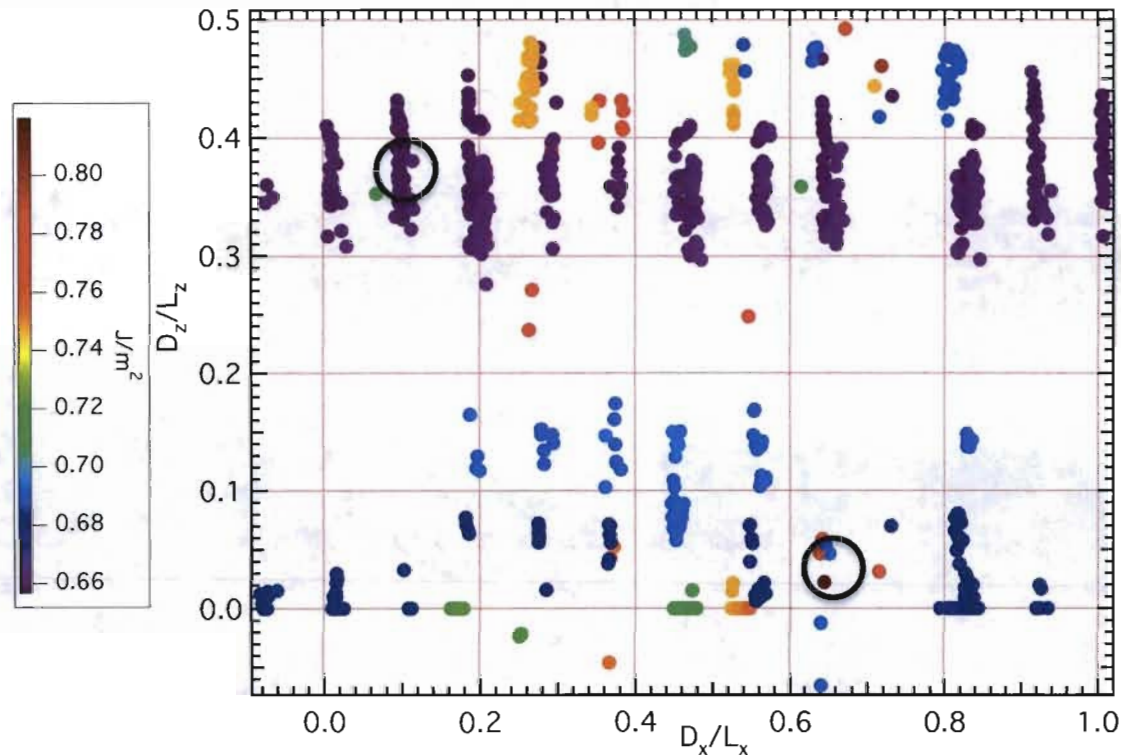
- Grain boundary crystallography
- Simulation details
- Grain boundary structure as a function of temperature
- Interaction of the shock wave with a grain boundary at two different temperatures

Grain Boundary Crystallography



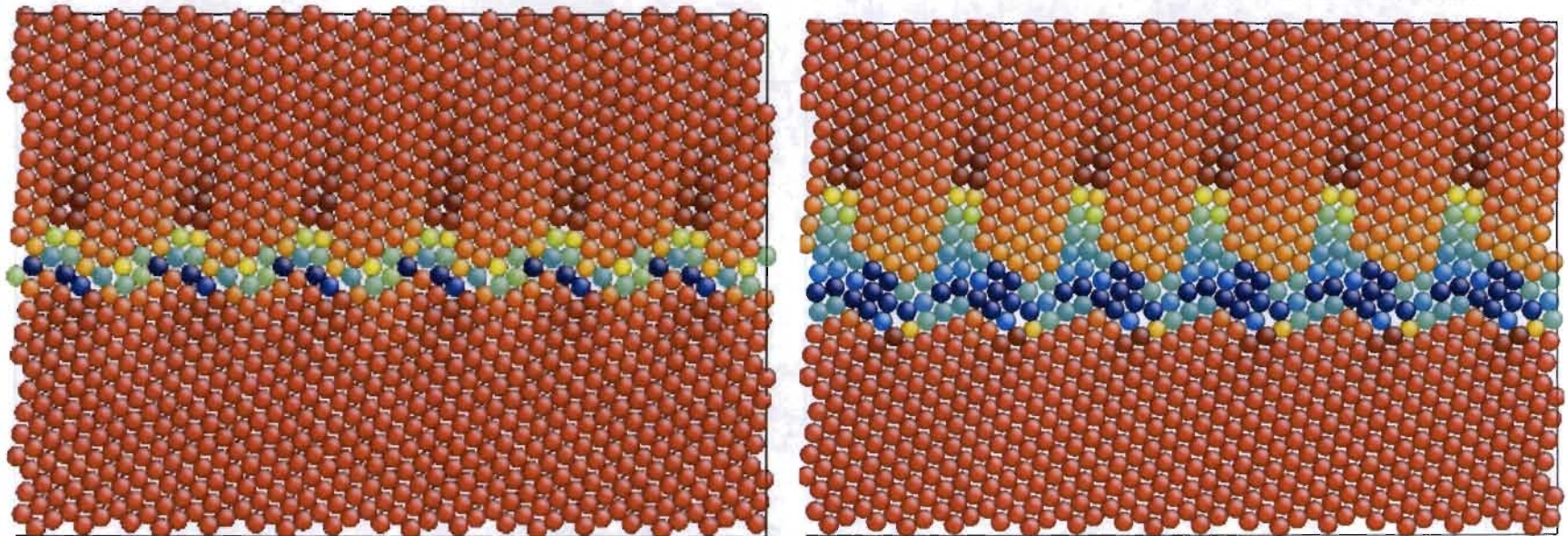
- $\Sigma 11$ asymmetric tilt grain boundary
- Grain boundary plane parallel to $\{252\}$ plane in one grain and $\{414\}$ in the other
- Boundaries parallel to AA' are symmetric while those parallel to BB' are asymmetric
- Grain-boundary plane will be denoted as the x-z plane
- Dimensions of boundary unit cells:
 $L_x = 14.7 \text{ \AA}$ and $L_z = 2.6 \text{ \AA}$

Local Energy Minima Versus Relative Displacement of Grains



- Multiplicity of states & energies available to boundary at zero temperature
 - Purple points represent energy minima
 - Separated by a distance of $1.32 \text{ \AA} = |b|$

Zero Temperature Structure



The atoms are colored by the order parameter where red color represent atoms in either of the two grains and blue color shows atoms that are disordered.

Grain Boundary Width



Shear Effect



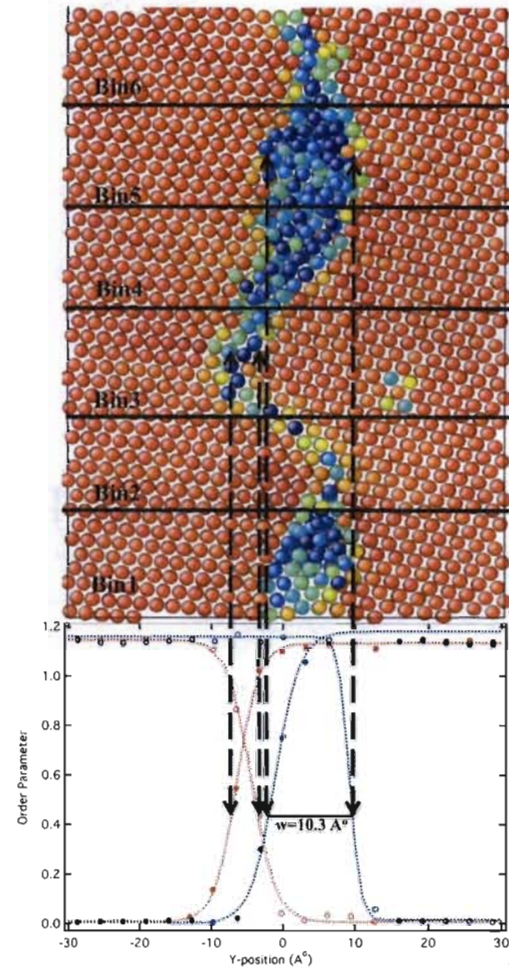
Position of BUCs



Impedance mismatch



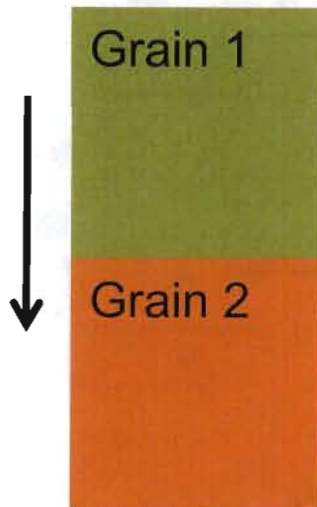
Temperature jump



Slide 7

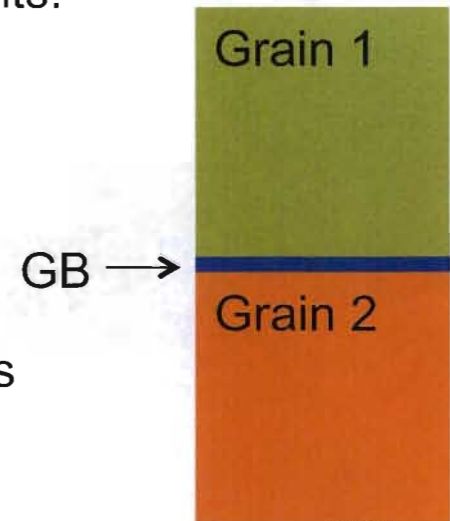
Impedance mismatch

$z = \rho_0 u_s$ where z is impedance mismatch, ρ_0 is density of the GB and $u_s \approx c_L$ (longitudinal sound speed) when u_p is small.

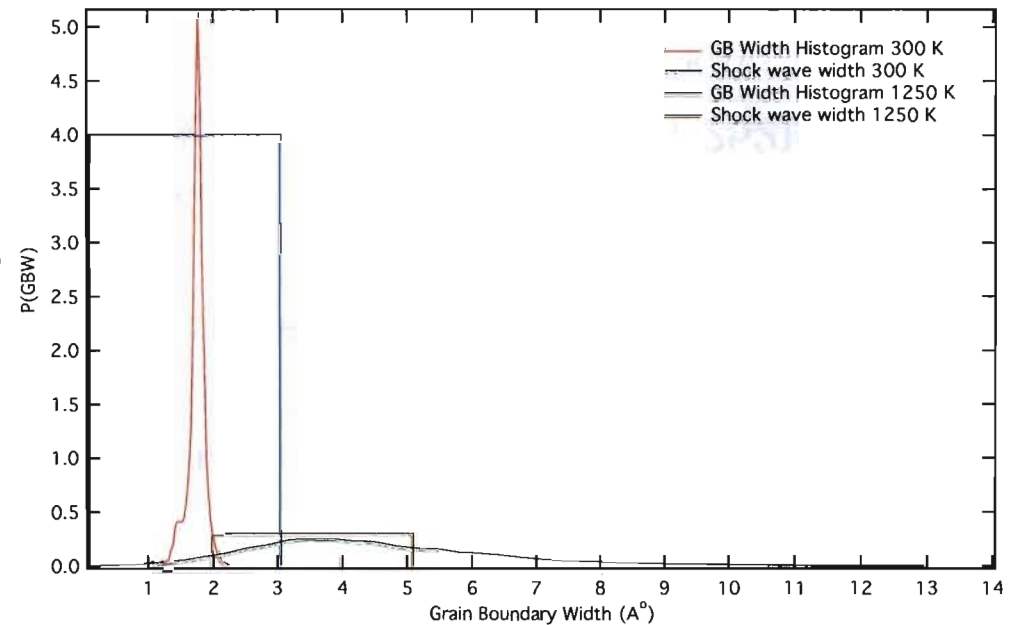
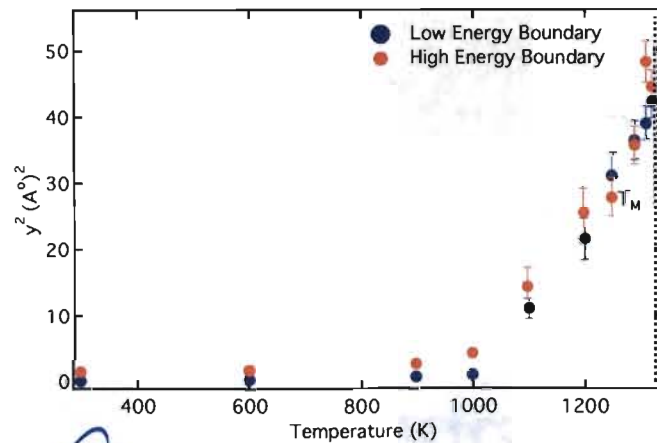
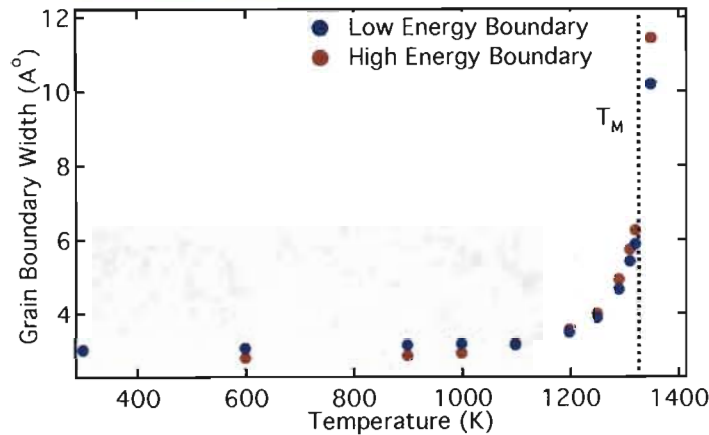


- Density similar in both grains.
- Particle velocity (u_p) in each grain depends on the elastic constants in the shock direction.
- Difference of 4% between elastic constants.

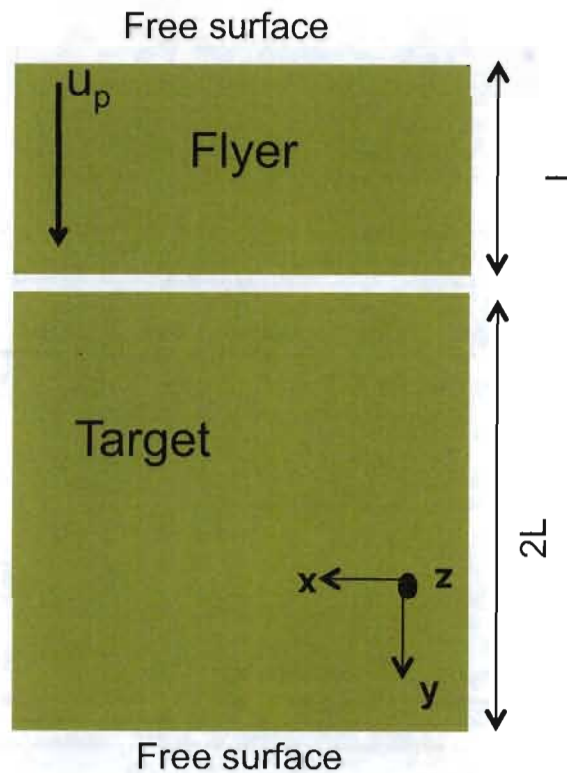
- ρ_0 and c_L different at the GB as compared to bulk
- Interested in state of GB after the shock wave passes



Quantitative Analysis of GB structure as a function of Temperature

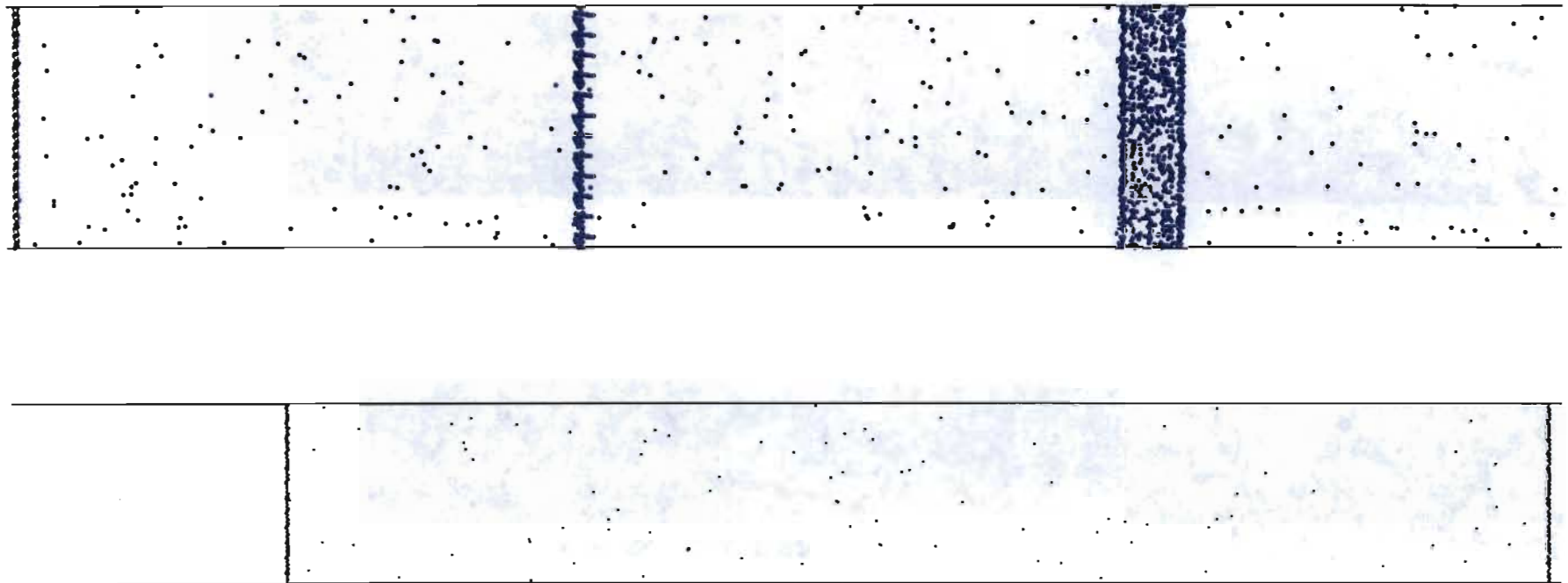


Simulations Details: Shock



- Computational cell size: 200, 28 and 18 lattice spacing's in y, x and z directions.
- Periodic in x, y and z directions with a total of 2M atoms.
- Equilibrated for 50-100 ps.
- Free surfaces/vacuum at both ends of the y-direction.
- Shock along y-direction [18-1/-252].
- Particle velocities (u_p) of 0.25 km/s.
- NVE molecular dynamics (MD) simulations performed using Sandia LAMMPS code.

Shock Wave at 300 K



Shock Simulations at 300 K



Conclusions

- The grain boundary structure disorders as the temperature is increased.
- There are no defects that form in the bulk crystal after the shock wave passes through it.
- At the same shock speed, the GB forms various stacking faults as the shock wave passes through it.
- The initial structure of the GB changes after the rarefaction wave interacts with the GB structure formed after the shock wave has passed through the grain boundary

Talks by Collaborators

- Juan Escobedo-Diaz: Dynamic Behavior of Materials V: Dynamic Effects in Materials, Wednesday at 5:40 pm
- Alex Perez-Bergquist: Dynamic Behavior of Materials V: Shock Compression, Tuesday at 5:40 pm