

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation and Ultrafast Spectroscopy of Shocked Thin-Film Explosives

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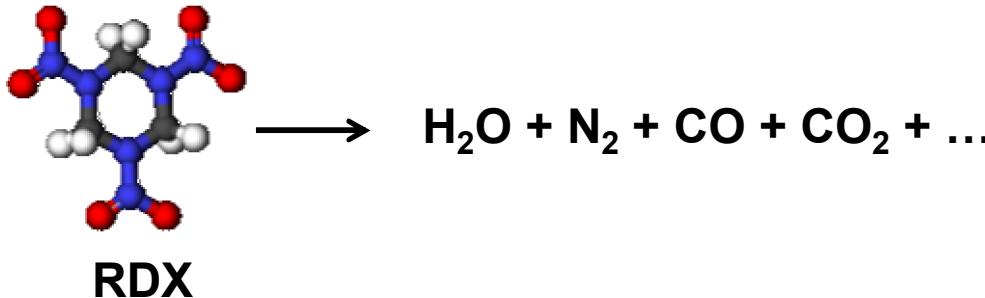
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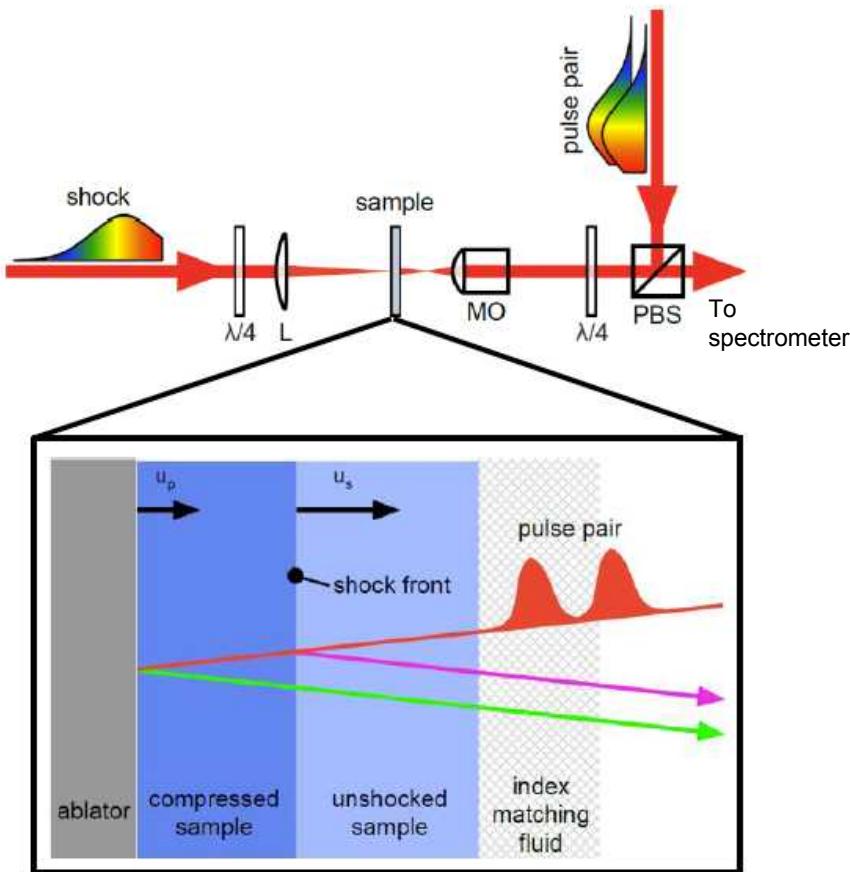
Shock Initiation of Energetic Materials

Project Purpose: Understanding Mechanisms of Shock-Induced Reactions



- We know “before” and “after”, but not what happens in between
- The reaction mechanism is important, as it will help answer:
 - Why certain materials are more shock sensitive/less sensitive
 - How to predict margins/uncertainties for initiation
 - Dependence on material properties (particle size, microstructure, morphology)
 - Aging characteristics
 - Response in adverse environments
- We examined these mechanisms using ultrafast laser interferometry (ultrafast shock interrogation, USI) and ultrafast absorption spectroscopy.

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation



Ultrafast Shock Interrogation (USI):

Interferometric technique developed at LLNL¹

Allows measurement of shock Hugoniot on ultrafast (ps) timescale.

Chirped pulses overlap in shocked sample; differences in index of refraction cause interference that is measured in frequency spectrum.

Features:

Ultrafast time resolution (ps)

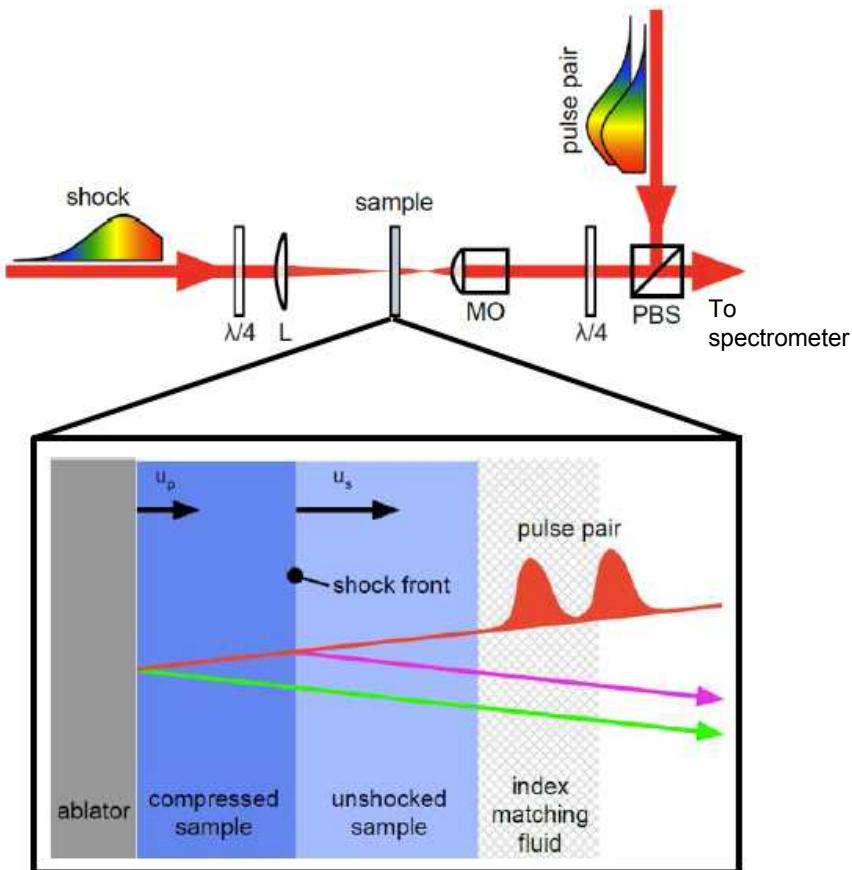
Rapid EOS acquisition (>20 shots/day)

Tabletop experiment

Works on any material transparent to probe

¹ M. R. Armstrong, J. C. Crowhurst, S. Bastea, and J. M. Zaug, *J. Appl. Phys.* **108**, 032511 (2010)

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation



Experimental Parameters

- Shock drive pulse characteristics:
 ~350ps, 800 nm center, 25 μ J – 1 mJ,
 ~10 ps risetime, ~35 μ m spot size on target
- Interrogation pulse pair characteristics:
 ~350ps, 800 nm center, 1 μ J
- Sample characteristics: ~3-7 μ m explosive on 1.5 μ m aluminum on ~200 μ m glass. Explosive density ~98-99% TMD

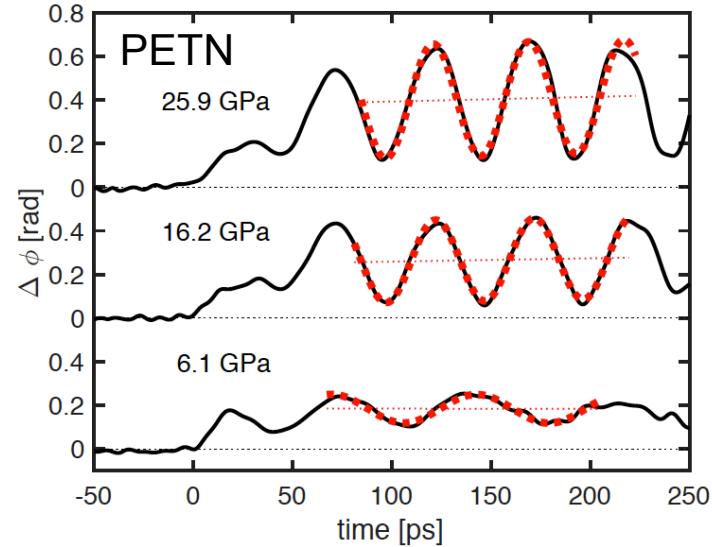
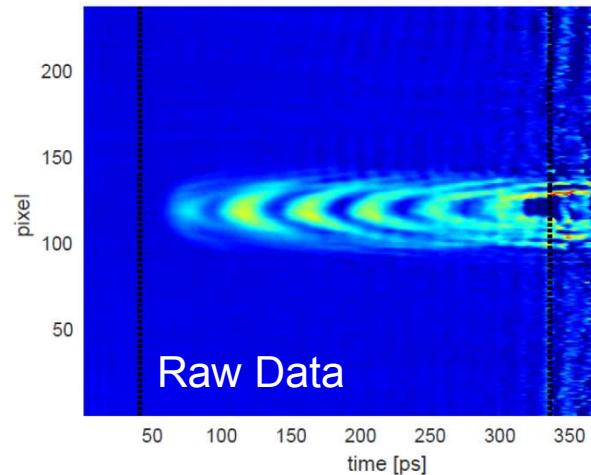
Ultrafast Shock Interrogation

Interpreting USI Data

USI produces an interferometric signal that encodes the temporal evolution of the shocked sample

USI determines shock velocity and particle velocity from amplitude, period and offset¹ of the interferometric signal.

Shock stress and density are calculated from the shock velocity, particle velocity, and initial density¹.



¹ M. R. Armstrong, J. C. Crowhurst, S. Bastea, and J. M. Zaug, *J. Appl. Phys.* **108**, 032511 (2010)

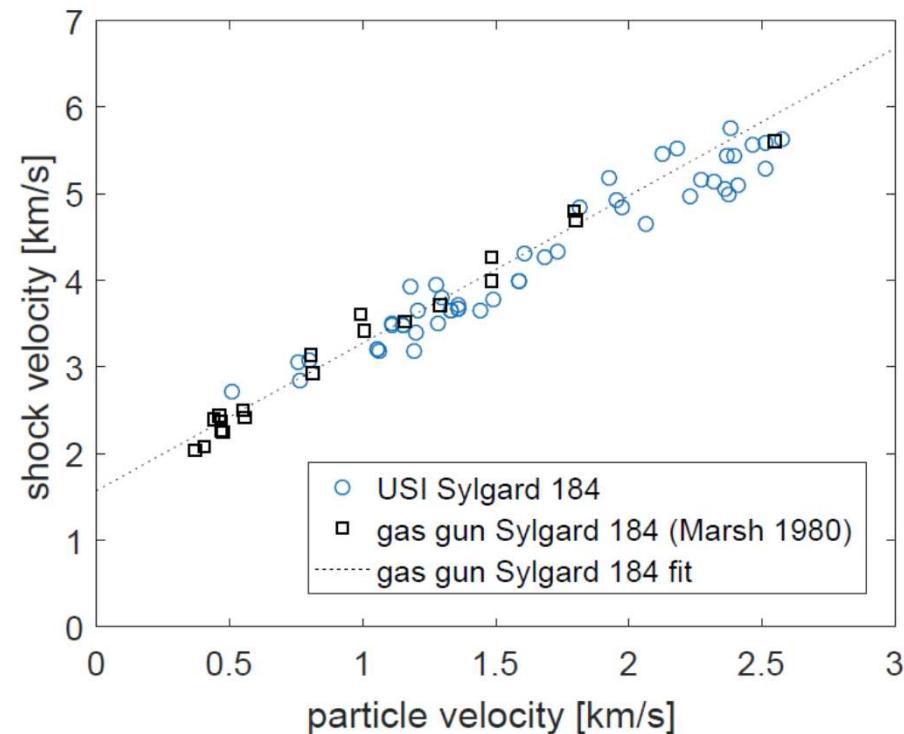
Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: Polymer

Validation Using Inert Materials

Apparatus tested using inert polymer (Sylgard 184)

Good agreement with previous gas gun data¹

USI results are expected to coincide with gas gun data – no chemical or physical changes in material under shock compression



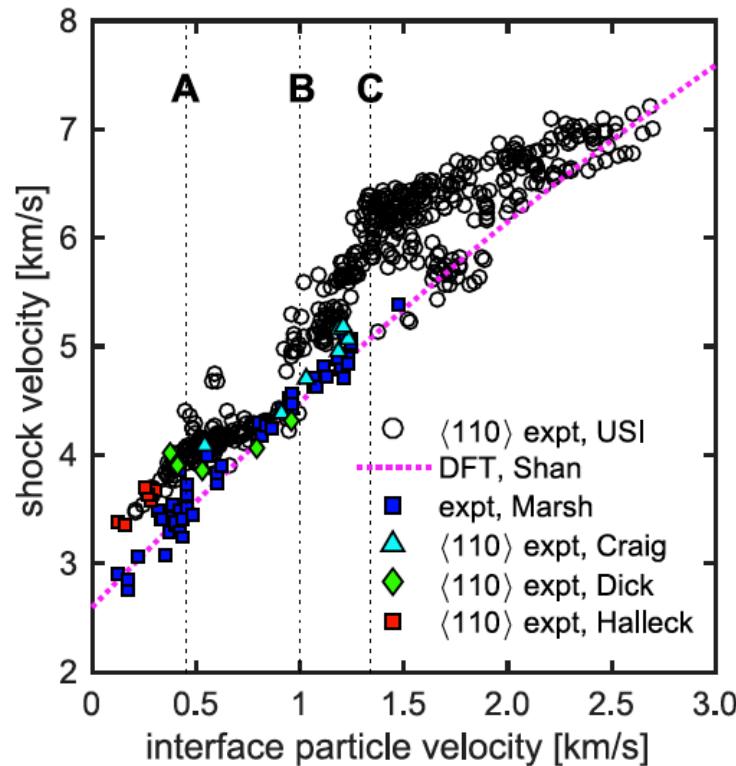
¹ S. P. Marsh, LASL SHOCK HUGONIOT DATA, University of California Press (1980)

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: PETN

PETN

Vapor-deposited PETN samples have strongly preferred (110) orientation

USI results *should* match unreacted equation of state¹ if sample is not reacting



¹ T.-R. Shan, R. R. Wixom, A. E. Mattson, and A. P. Thompson, *J. Phys. Chem. B* **117**, 928 (2013)

² S. P. Marsh, *LASL Shock Hugoniot Data*, University of California Press (1980)

³ T. R. Gibbs and A. Popolato, *LASL Explosive Property Data*, University of California Press (1980)

⁴ J. J. Dick, *J. Appl. Phys.* **81**, 601 (1997)

⁵ P. M. Halleck and J. Wackerle, *J. Appl. Phys.* **70**, 3572 (1991)

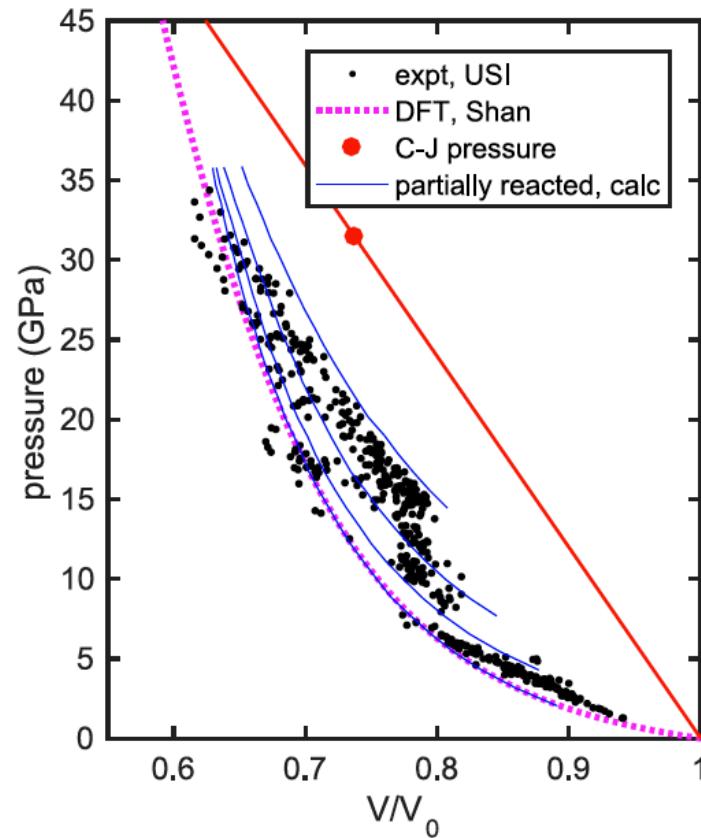
Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: PETN

PETN

Plotting P vs. V/V_0 , we observe a steep rise between ~ 7 - 12 GPa

PETN $<110>$ is sensitive and reacts from 8.5-12.5 GPa¹

Appears to indicate exothermic chemistry



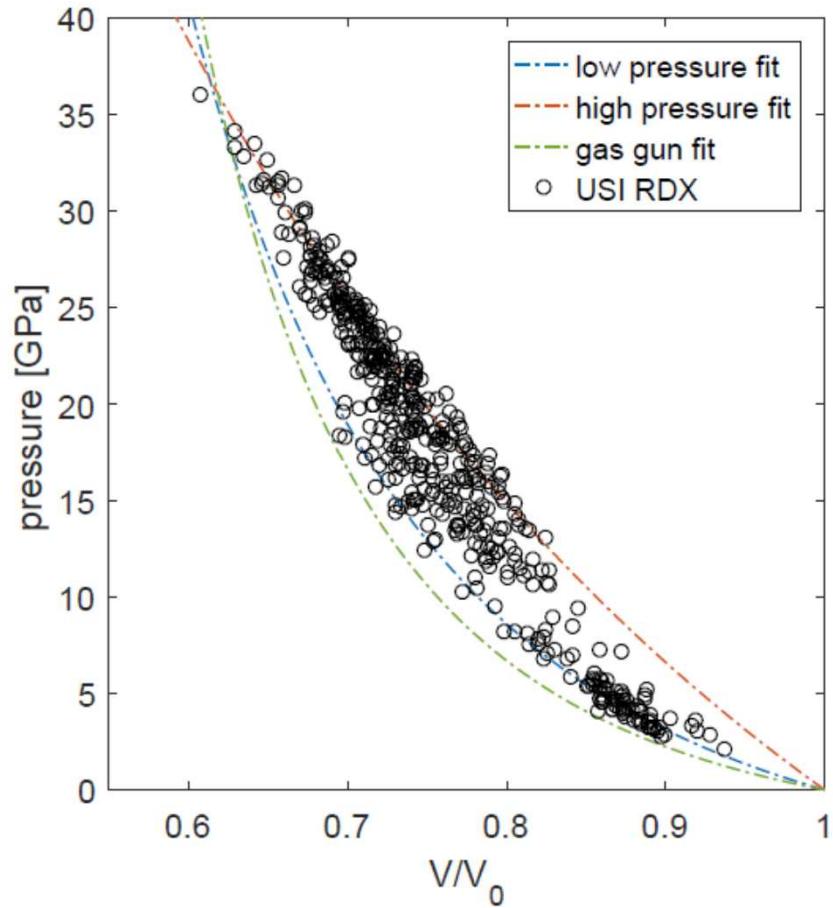
¹ J. J. Dick, R. N. Mulford, W. J. Spencer, D. R. Pettit, E. Garcia, and D. C. S. Shaw, *J. Appl. Phys.* **70**, 3572 (1991)

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: RDX

RDX

Vapor-deposited RDX displays no strongly preferred crystallographic orientation

RDX displays similar behavior, not as pronounced (possibly due to orientation effects)



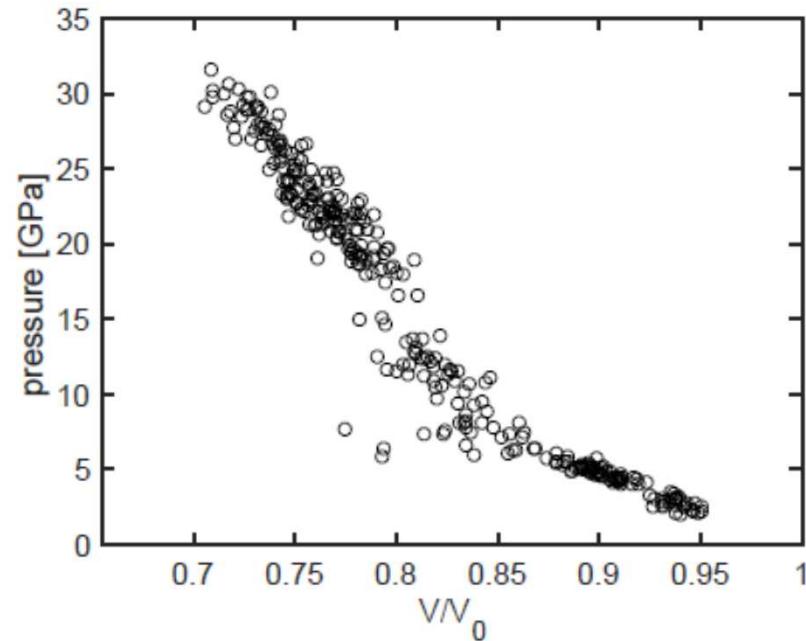
¹ J. J. Dick, R. N. Mulford, W. J. Spencer, D. R. Pettit, E. Garcia, and D. C. S. Shaw, *J. Appl. Phys.* **70**, 3572 (1991)

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: CL-20

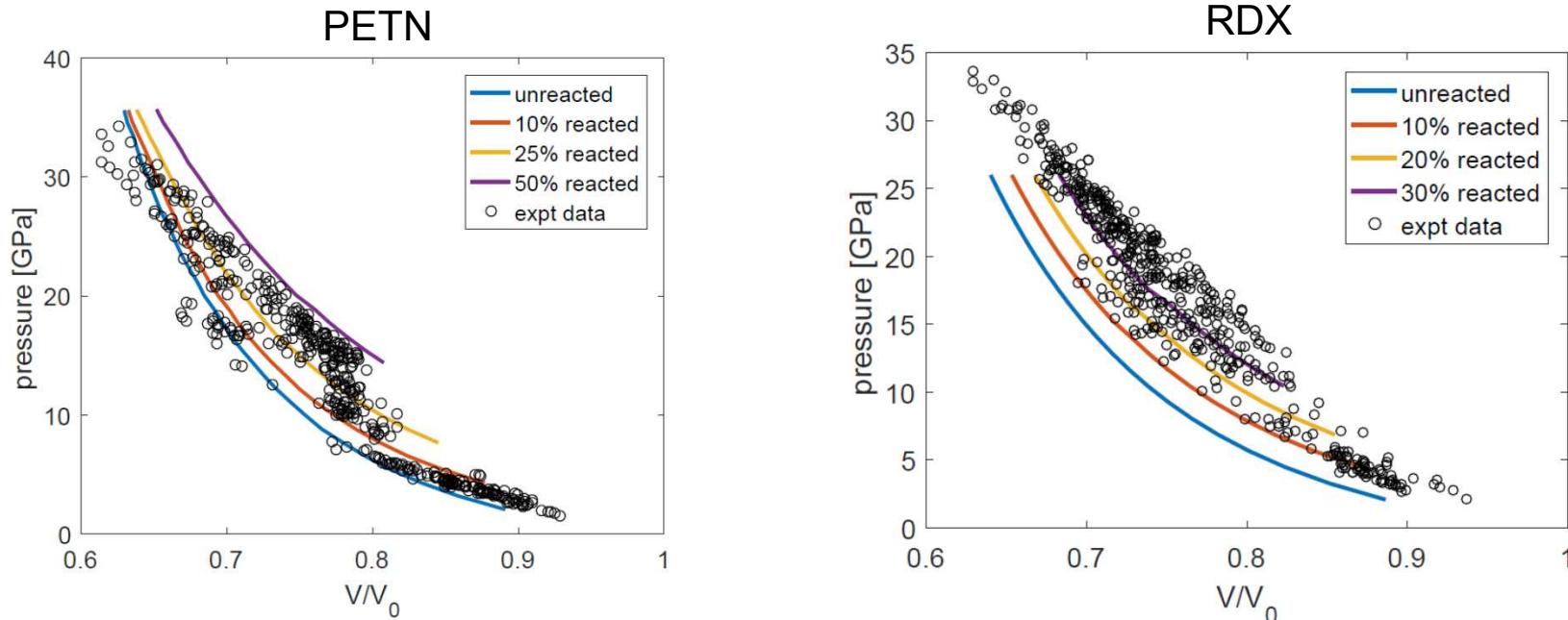
CL-20

Vapor-deposited is highly oriented (111)

Visible discontinuity at ~12-17 GPa;
qualitatively similar to RDX and PETN.



Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: Support for Exothermic Chemistry

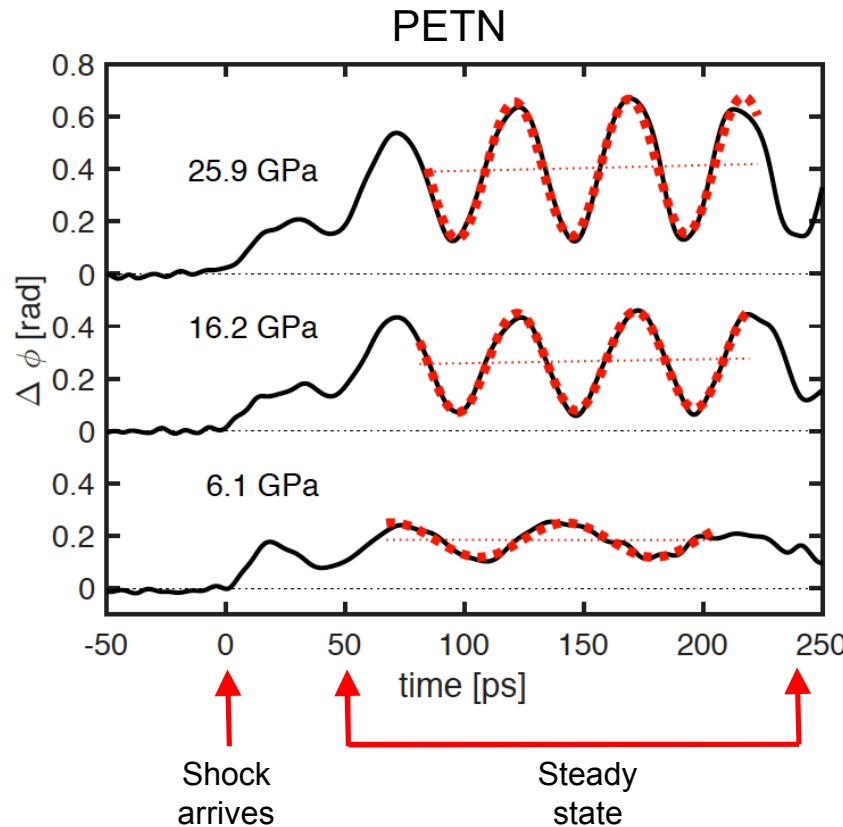


Calculated partially-reacted Hugoniots appear to support exothermic chemistry; calculated using CHEETAH and assume complete reaction of 10-50% of material

Recent MD simulations have also predicted reaction at a threshold shock velocity of 5 km/s for $<110>$ PETN¹

¹ T.-R. Shan, R. R. Wixom, A. E. Mattson, and A. P. Thompson, *J. Phys. Chem. B* **117**, 928 (2012)

Ultrafast Shock Interrogation: Timescales

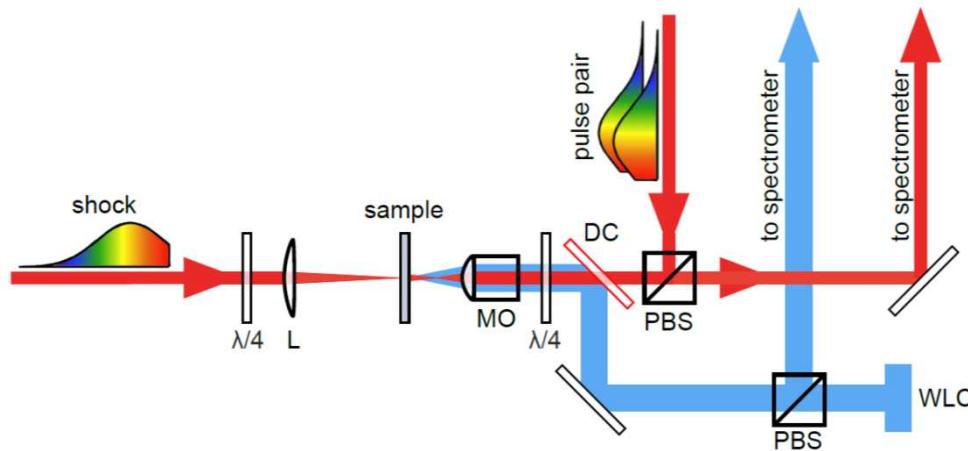


Measurement sets timescale for partial reaction – shocked material reaches steady state at ~50 ps, persists until end of measurement at ~300 ps

This sets a window of ~50 ps during which reaction appears to occur.

This is congruent with measurements of PETN reaction zones by R. Knepper: <50 ps.

Ultrafast Absorption Spectroscopy



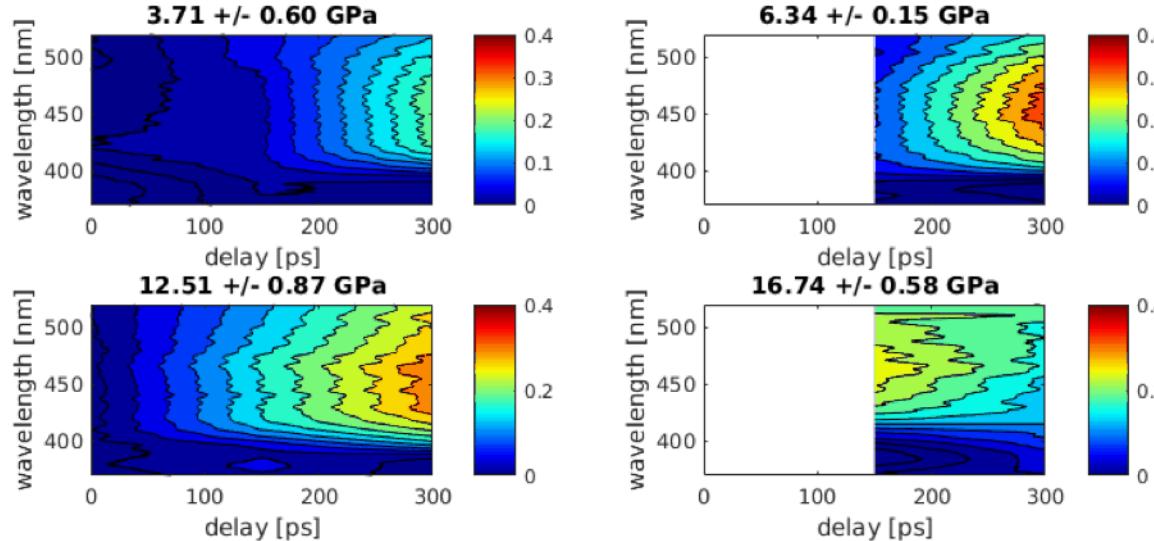
Ultrafast Absorption Spectroscopy

Uses broad-band supercontinuum (“white light”) to probe visible spectrum of material for evidence of reaction

White light generated by focusing 800 nm pulse into CaF_2

WL characteristics: 400-550 nm bandwidth, ~ 50 nJ, < 1 ps duration

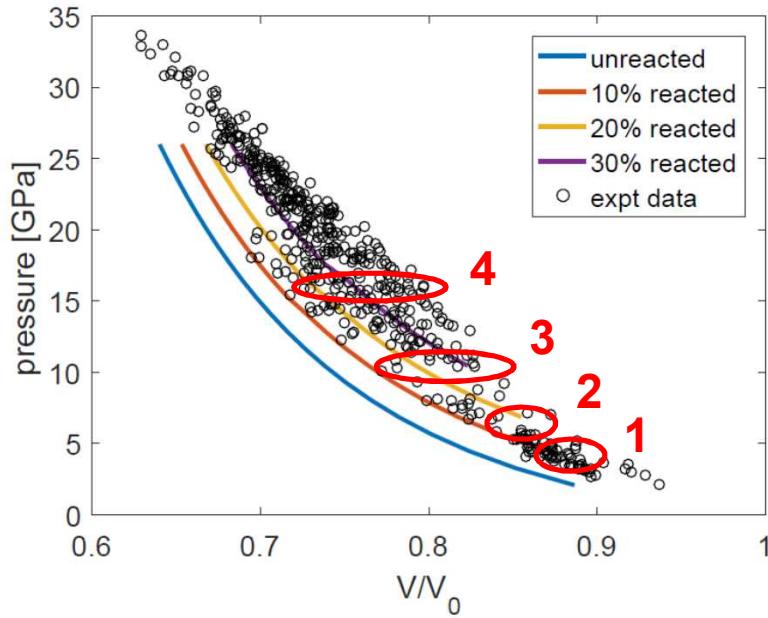
Ultrafast Absorption Spectroscopy: Shocked RDX



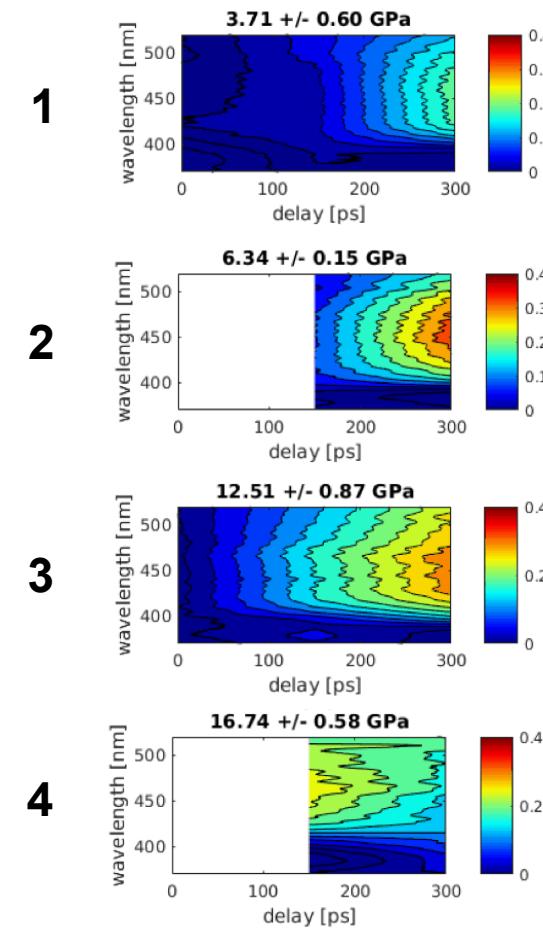
We observe broadband absorption that increases with time and shifts to earlier time at higher shock stress

Uncompressed RDX is transparent in this wavelength range; minimal absorption under severe compression

Ultrafast Absorption Spectroscopy: Shocked RDX



Absorption appears to be due to reaction products; free radicals (such as NO_2) will absorb visible light.



Conclusions

We have used USI to characterize shocked PETN, RDX, and CL-20 on ultrafast timescale

USI experiments indicate sharp pressure rises off of unreacted Hugoniot for all three materials

Observed pressure jumps are consistent with exothermic chemistry on <50 ps timescale

Ultrafast absorption experiments on RDX show broadband absorption in visible region (400-550 nm), consistent with reaction products

Acknowledgments

Sam Park

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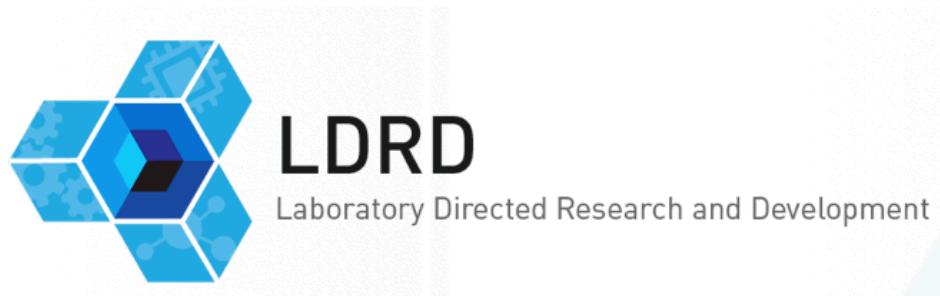


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**Sandia Laboratory-Directed Research
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