



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OXFORD**

# **Working Under Intense Pressure at Omega (X-Ray Diffraction from Laser-Compressed Crystals: Experiments and Simulations)**

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**Omega Users' Meeting**  
**April 27<sup>th</sup> 2011, LLE, Rochester**

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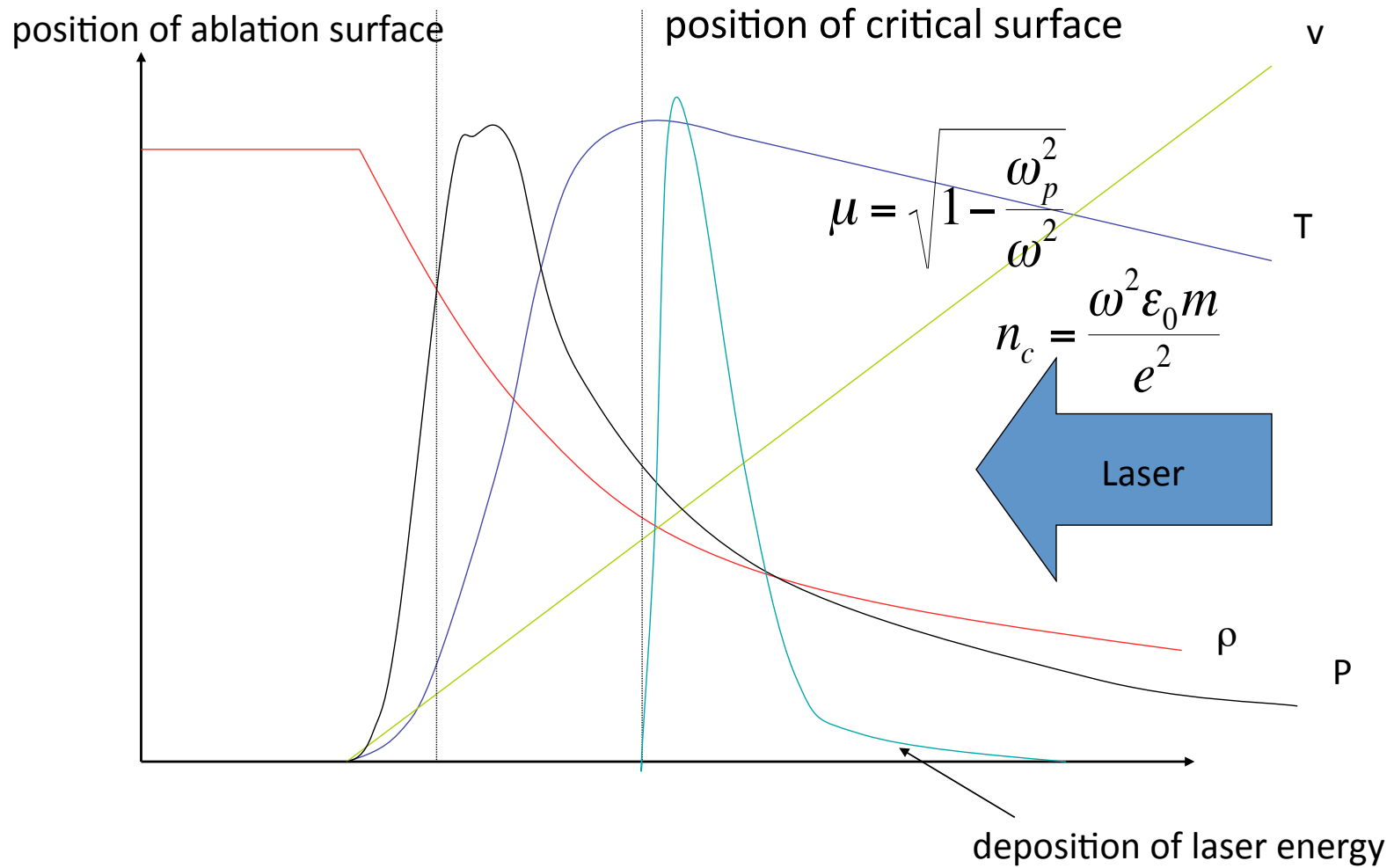
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- **Motivations:**
  - **Shock Physics - Plastic Flow and Phase Transitions.**
  - **(Quasi-) Isentropic Compression Experiments (ICE) – New Avenues in High-Pressure Solid-State Physics.**
- **Experiments.**
- **Modelling.**
- **Initial Successes.**
- **Future work....**

# Plasma Parameters (1)



# Laser Ablation Pressure

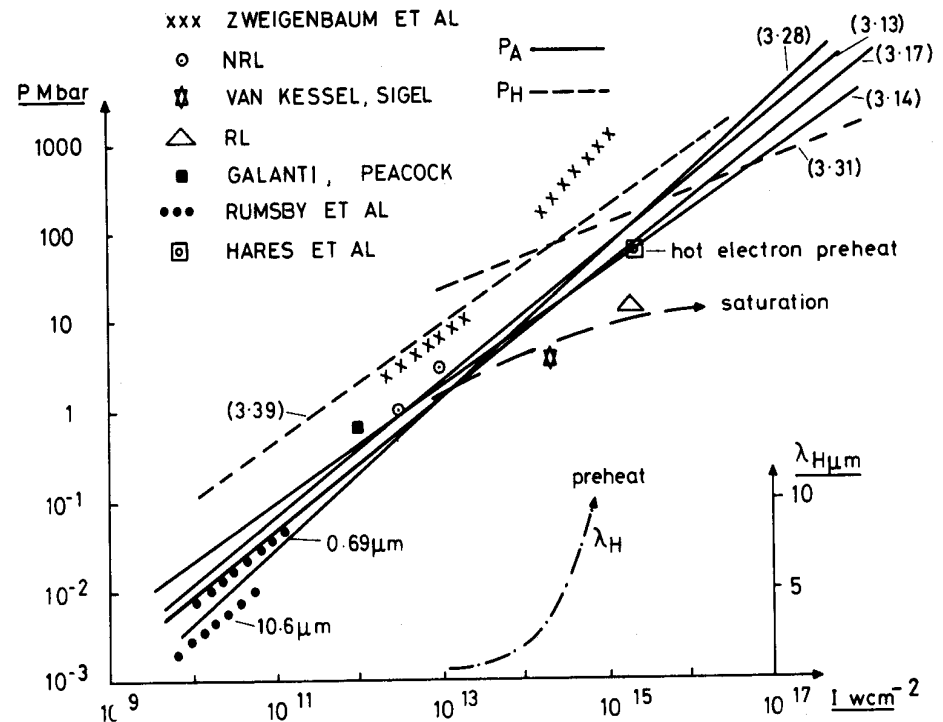
A VERY simple model would say a good fraction of the irradiance,  $I$ , flows down the temperature gradient to produce more plasma at the ablation surface. In steady state this produces a kinetic energy flow at the critical surface. Assume Mach 1 at critical surface

$$I \approx \frac{1}{2} \rho_c u_c^3 \approx \frac{\rho_c}{2} \left( \frac{P_c}{\rho_c} \right)^{3/2}$$

(note this equation must be wrong by about a factor of two, as there is thermal energy at the critical surface - we should really talk in terms of enthalpy flow)

$$P_c \approx \rho_c^{1/3} I^{2/3}$$

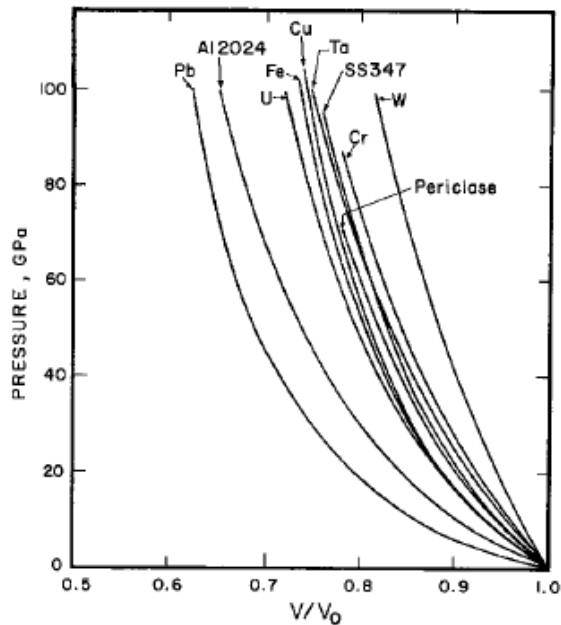
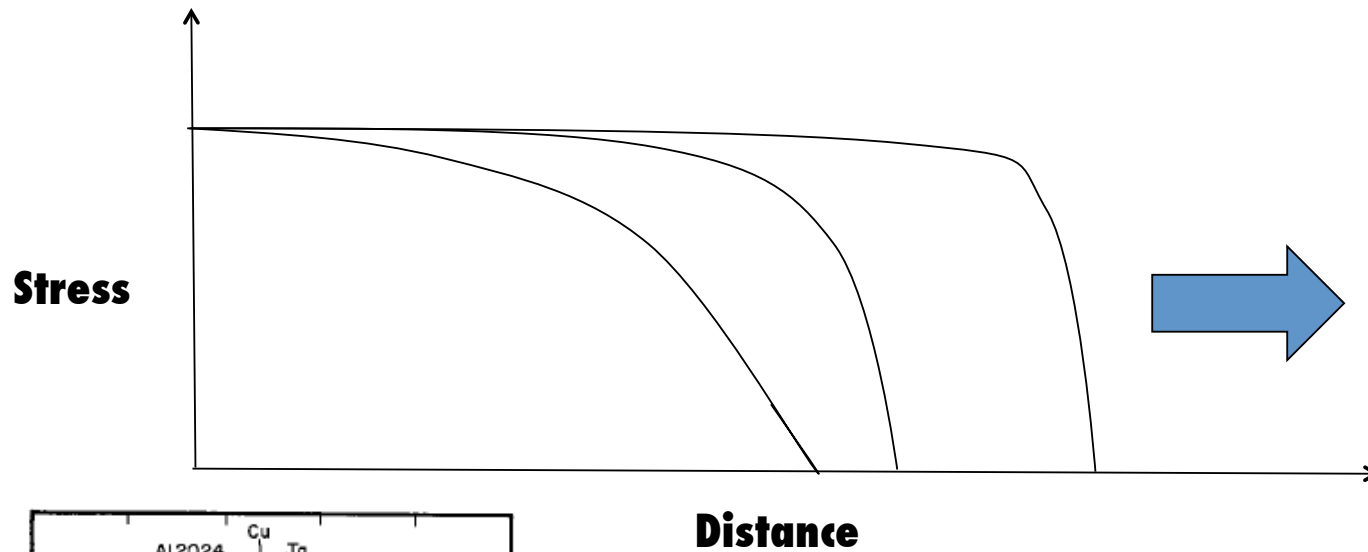
$$P_a = 3 \times 10^{-9} \lambda_{\mu\text{m}}^{-2/3} I_{\text{Wcm}^{-2}}^{2/3} \text{ Mbar}$$



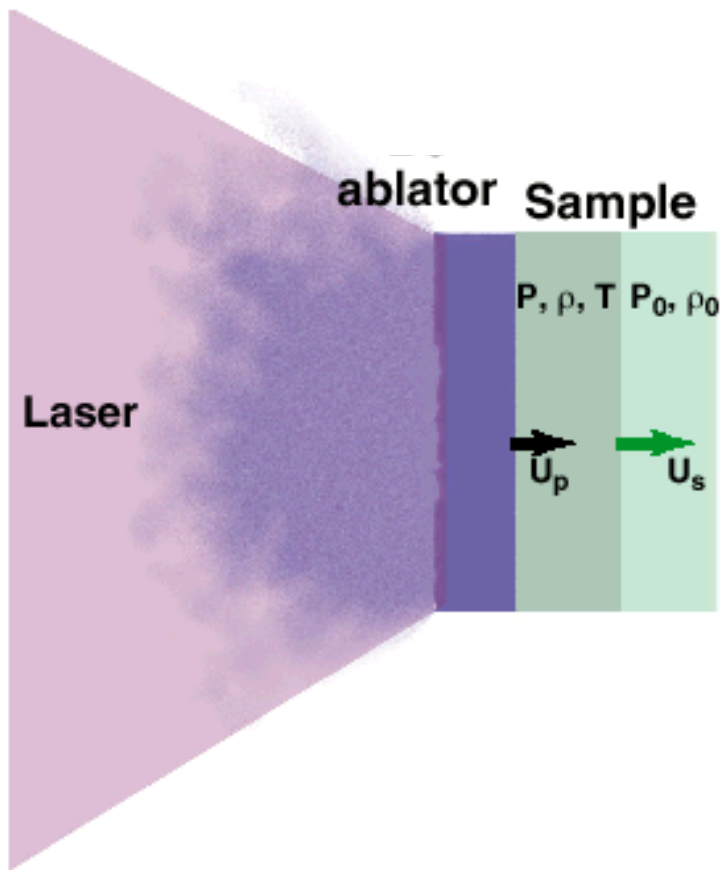
# High Pressure Research with Lasers

- **We have seen that nanosecond lasers can create multi-megabar pressures.**
- **Ways of applying that pressure:**
  - **Shock Compression**
  - **'Quasi' Isentropic Compression (slow - but how slow?)**
- **Applications:**
  - **Basic shock physics:**
  - **Plastic flow**
  - **Shock Induced Phase Transitions**
  - **Equations of State**
  - **X-ray diffraction to observe the above at the lattice level**

# Shock Compression



**As the speed of sound generally increases with compression, a strong compression wave will steepen into a shock, where there is a discontinuity in density, temperature, and energy across the shock front.**



$$\rho_0(U_s) = \rho(U_s - U_p)$$

$$P = \rho_0 U_s U_p$$

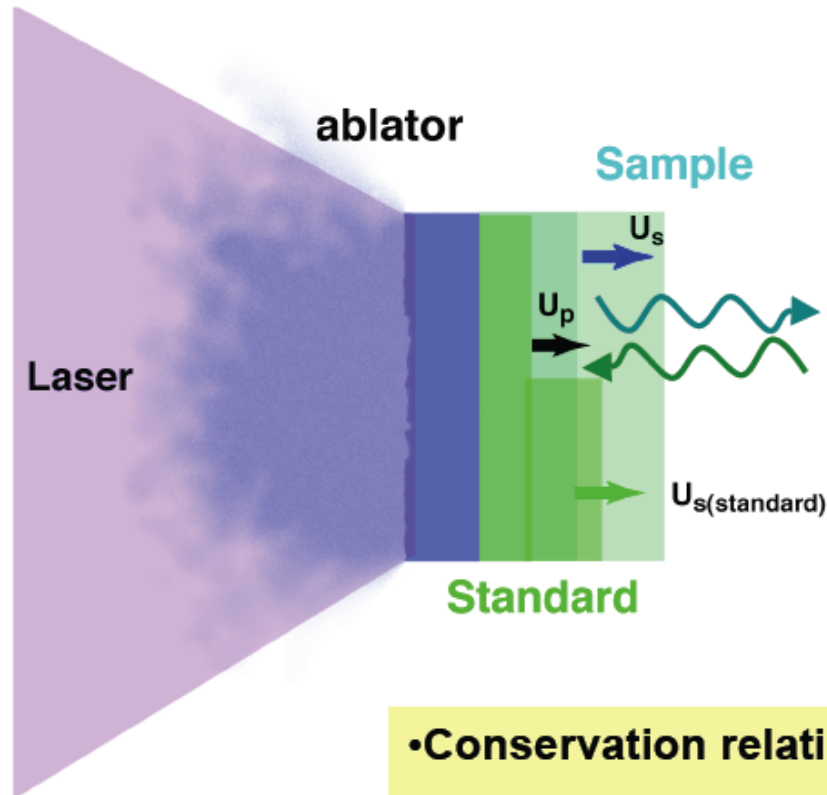
$$E = \frac{1}{2} P (V_0 - V)$$

3 equations, 5 unknowns ( $U_s, U_p, P, \rho, E$ ).

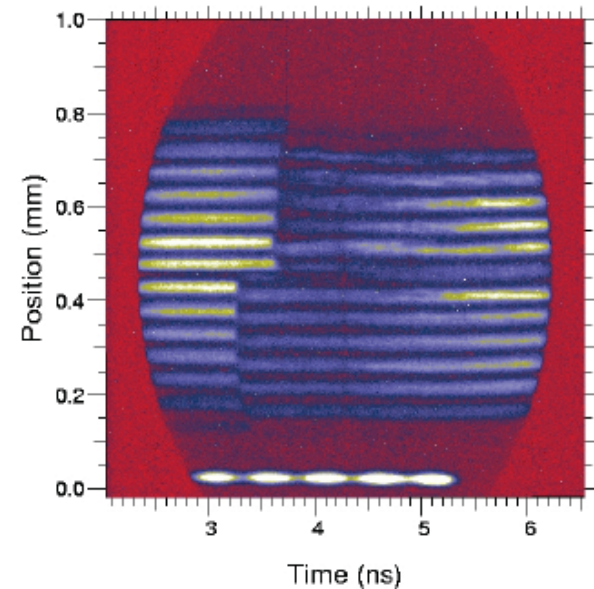
Measure two of these, the others can be calculated.



# How do we measure the equation of state and transport properties



## VISAR measures velocity and reflectance



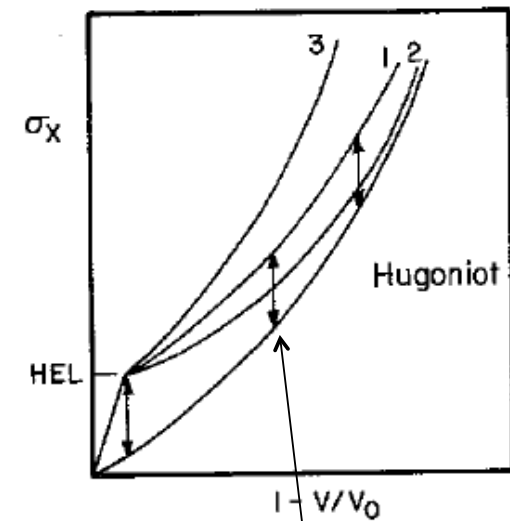
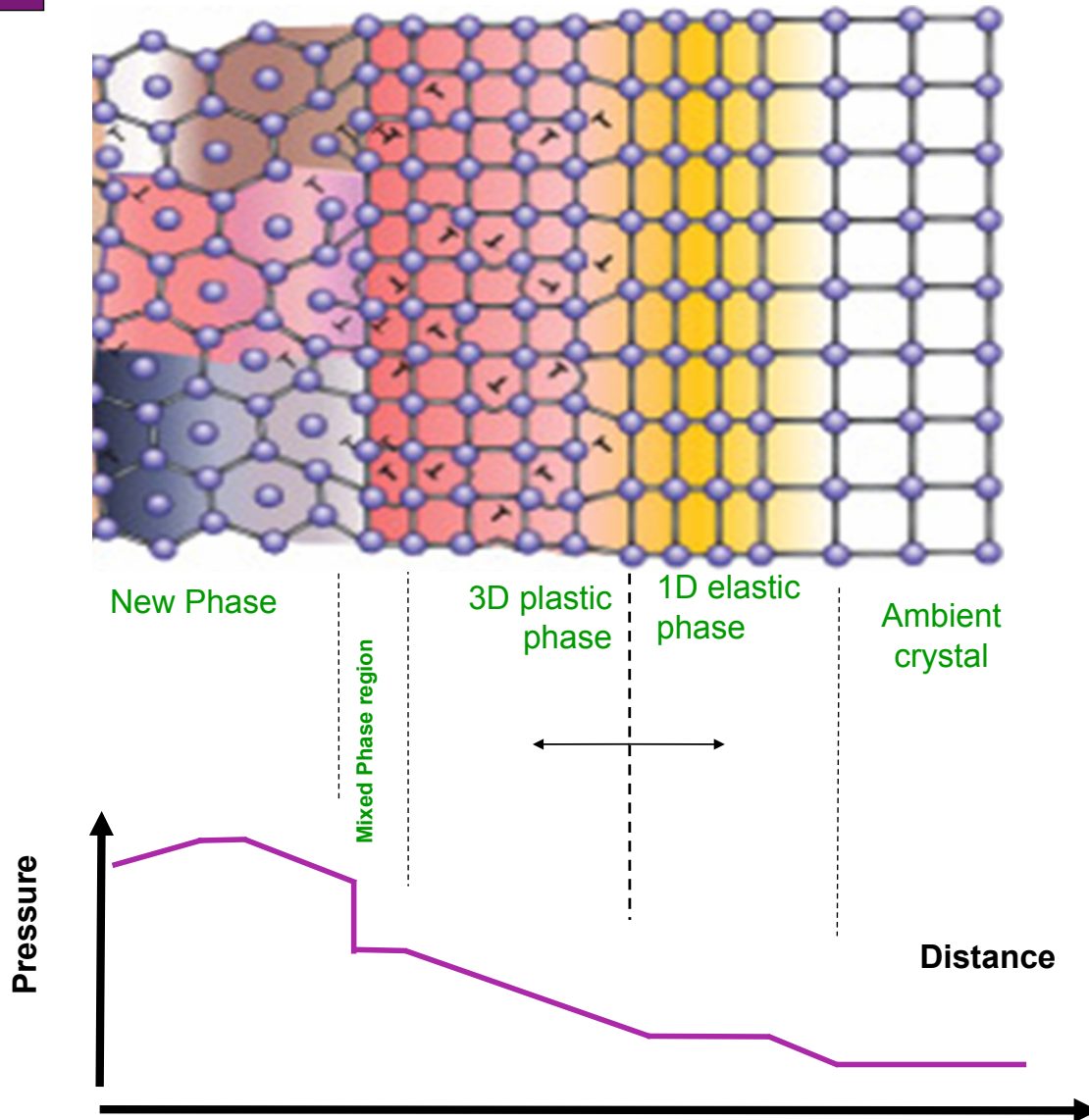
• Conservation relations =>  $P = \rho_0 U_s U_p$

$$\rho/\rho_0 = 1/(1-U_p/U_s)$$

• Temperature needs to be measured separately

# Schematic Diagram of Shock

Motivation



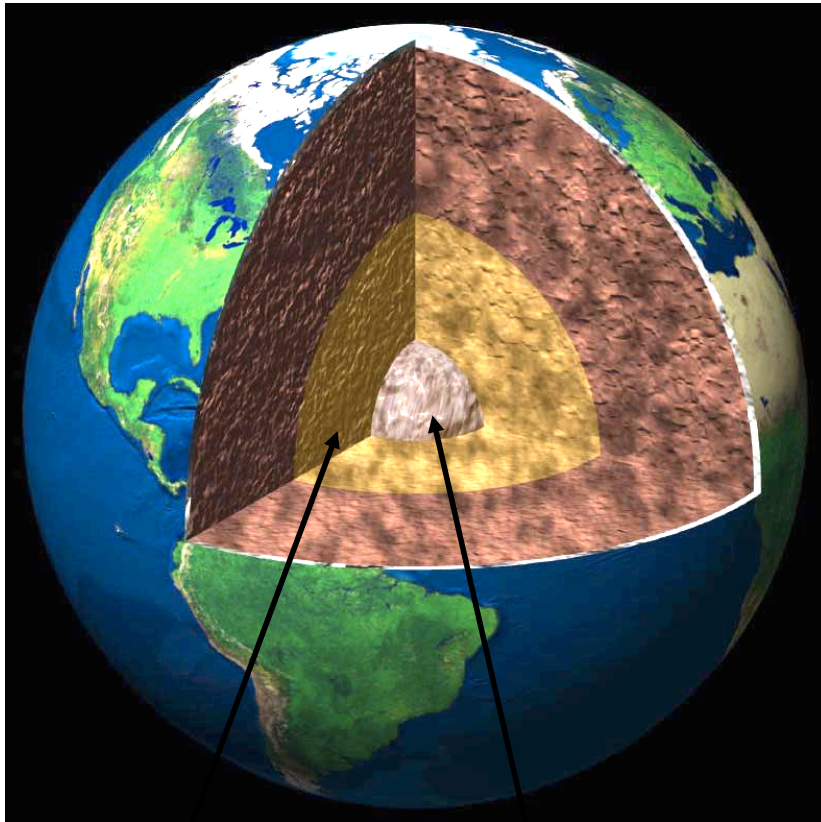
**Hydrostat**

# Where does Omega fit in?

- **Major problems in shock physics:**
  - How do solid materials 'flow' like a liquid (hydrostatic compression)?
  - Where do the defects come from (and where do they go)?
  - Interplay between defects/twinning and other deformation mechanisms.
  - How quickly can various phase transitions take place?
  - How well do we understand the equation of state at ultra-high pressures?
- **All of these issues necessitate, or greatly benefit from, a knowledge of what is happening at the lattice level.**
- **Answer: Ultra-short-pulse X-ray diffraction during the laser-driven shock**
- **Three Geometries:**
  - **"Diverging Beam"** (monochromatic X-rays, single crystals, large range of angles – tells us lattice spacings (strains) and new phase (if single crystal)).
  - **"Debye-Scherrer"**, monochromatic collimated X-rays, polycrystalline material, tells us lattice spacings (strains) and phases, and information on response of grains with varying orientation.
  - **"White Light Laue"**, polychromatic collimated X-rays, single crystal, tells us about defects, elastic strain, new phases.

## Motivation

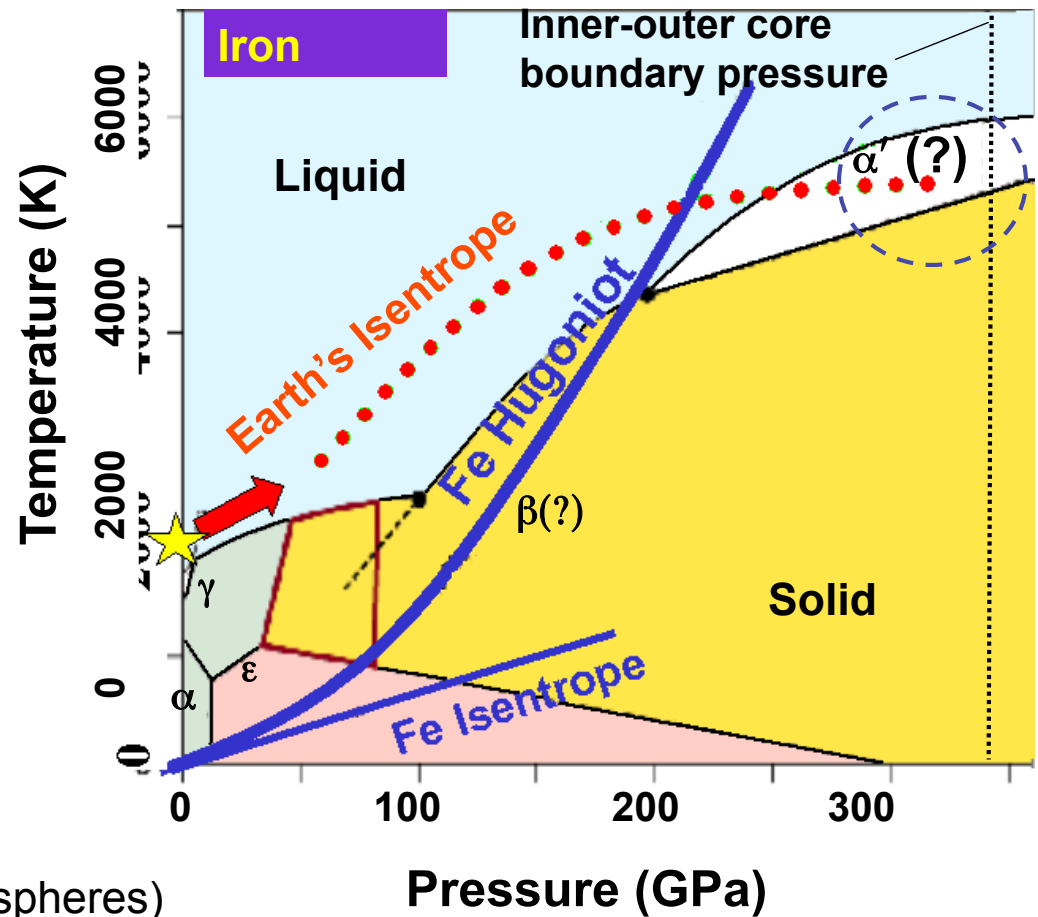
### View Phase Transition in Iron



Outer liquid core

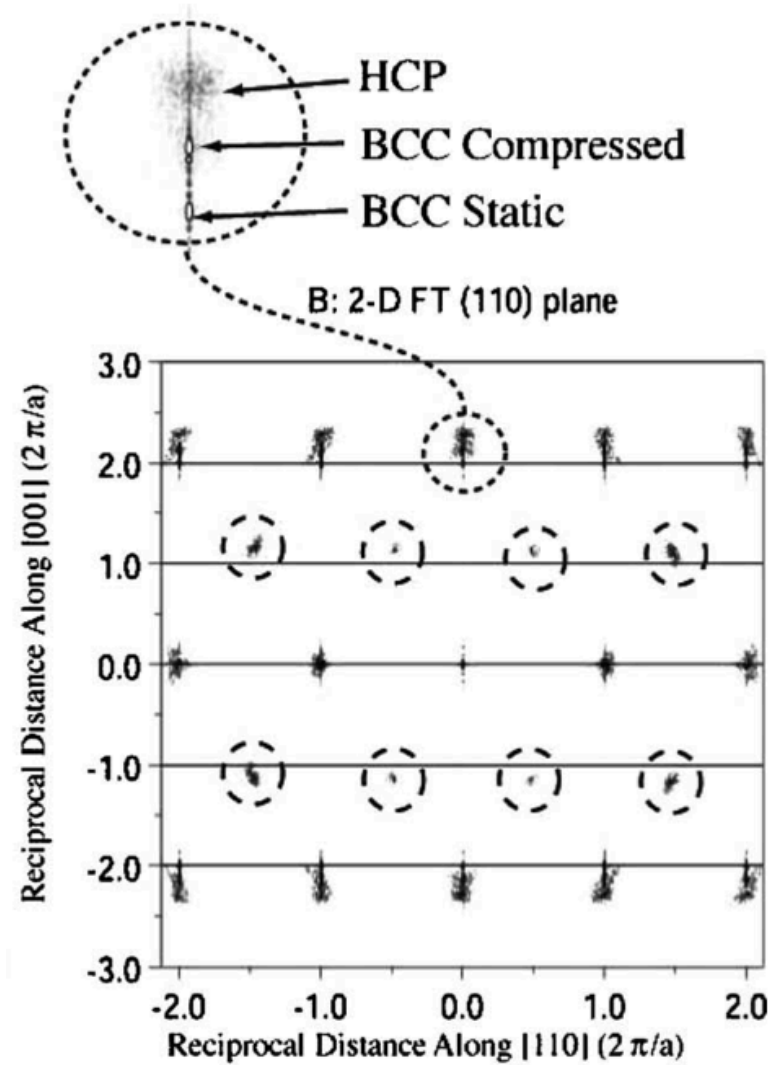
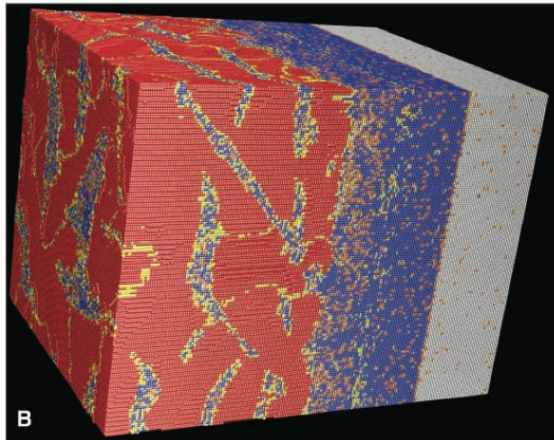
Inner solid core  
(350 GPa =  $3.5 \times 10^6$  atmospheres)

NB Ramp compression along the Earth's isentrope may resolve existence of  $\alpha'$  phase

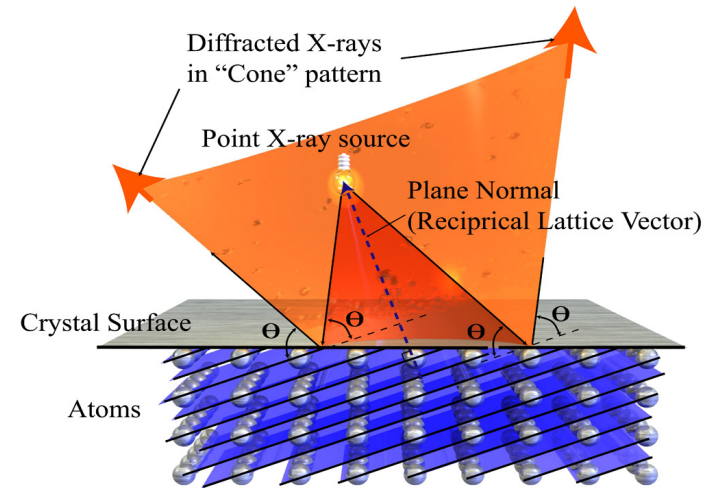
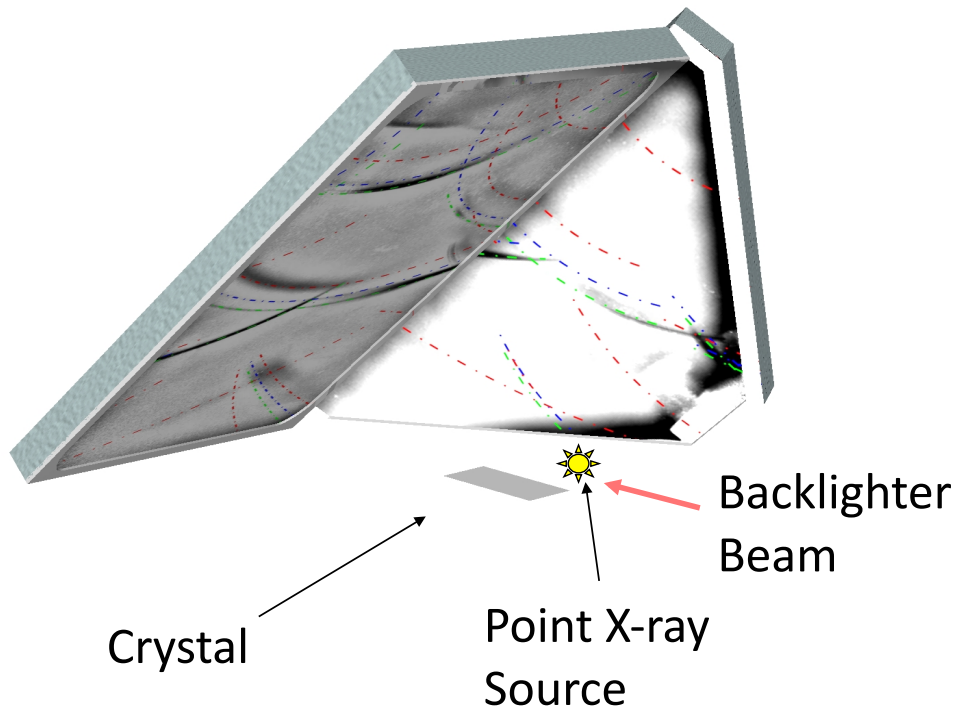


# X-ray Diffraction

$$A \propto \sum_r f e^{-i\mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{r}}$$



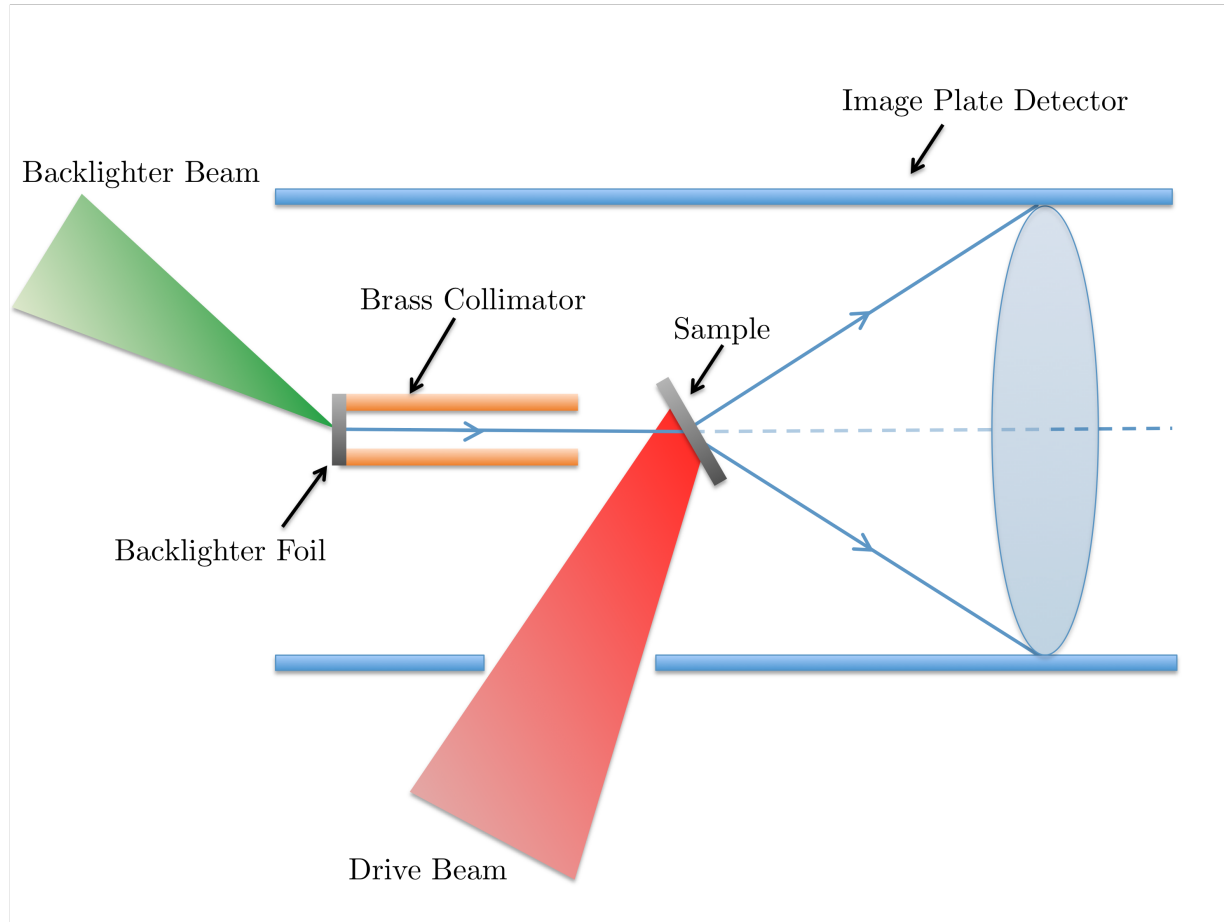
# Multi-Plane X-ray Diffraction



Single crystal target  
Divergent, monochromatic X-ray beam



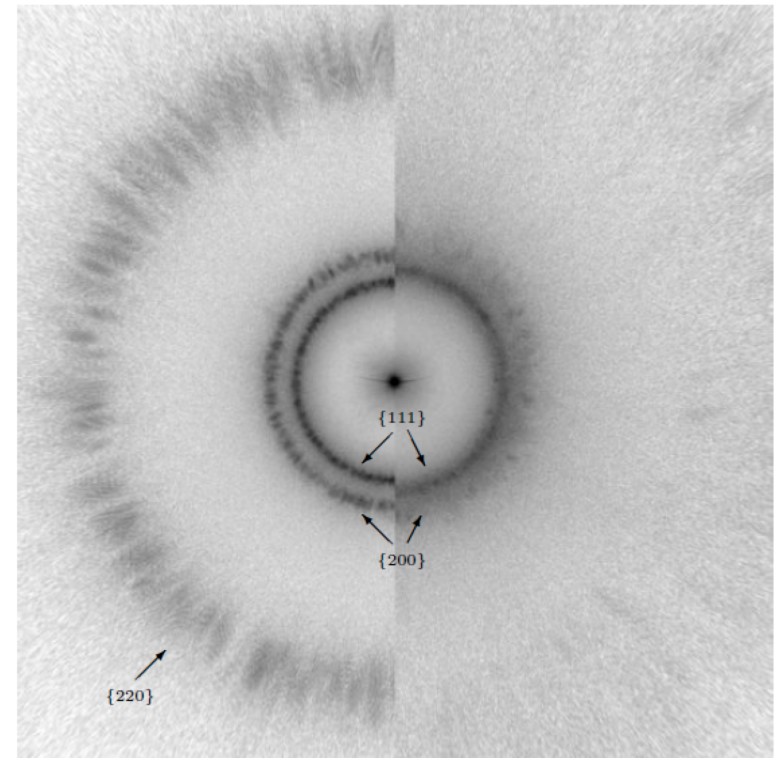
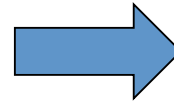
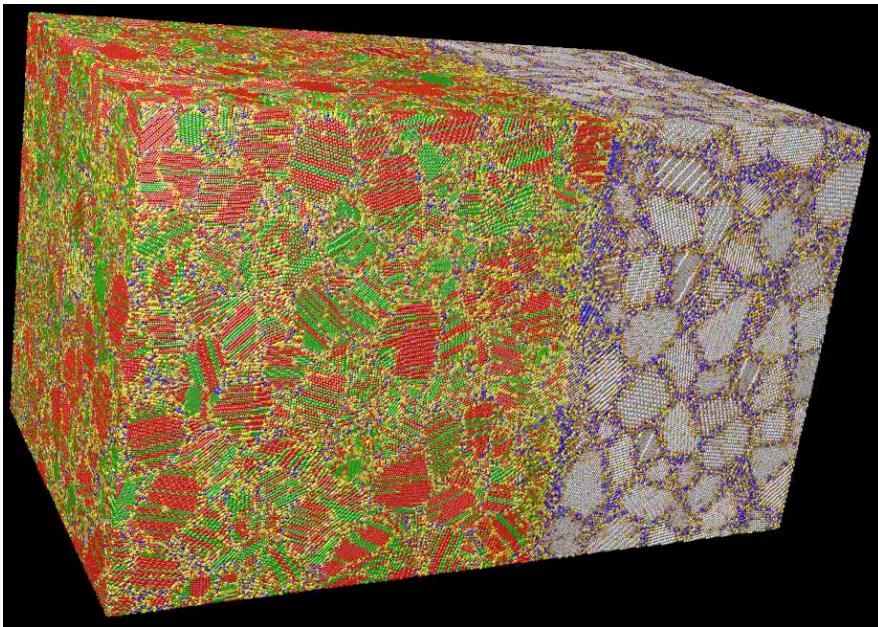
# Diffraction from Polycrystalline Materials



Polycrystalline target  
Collimated, monochromatic X-ray beam



# 1<sup>st</sup> LCLS Experiments will use Nanocrystalline Samples



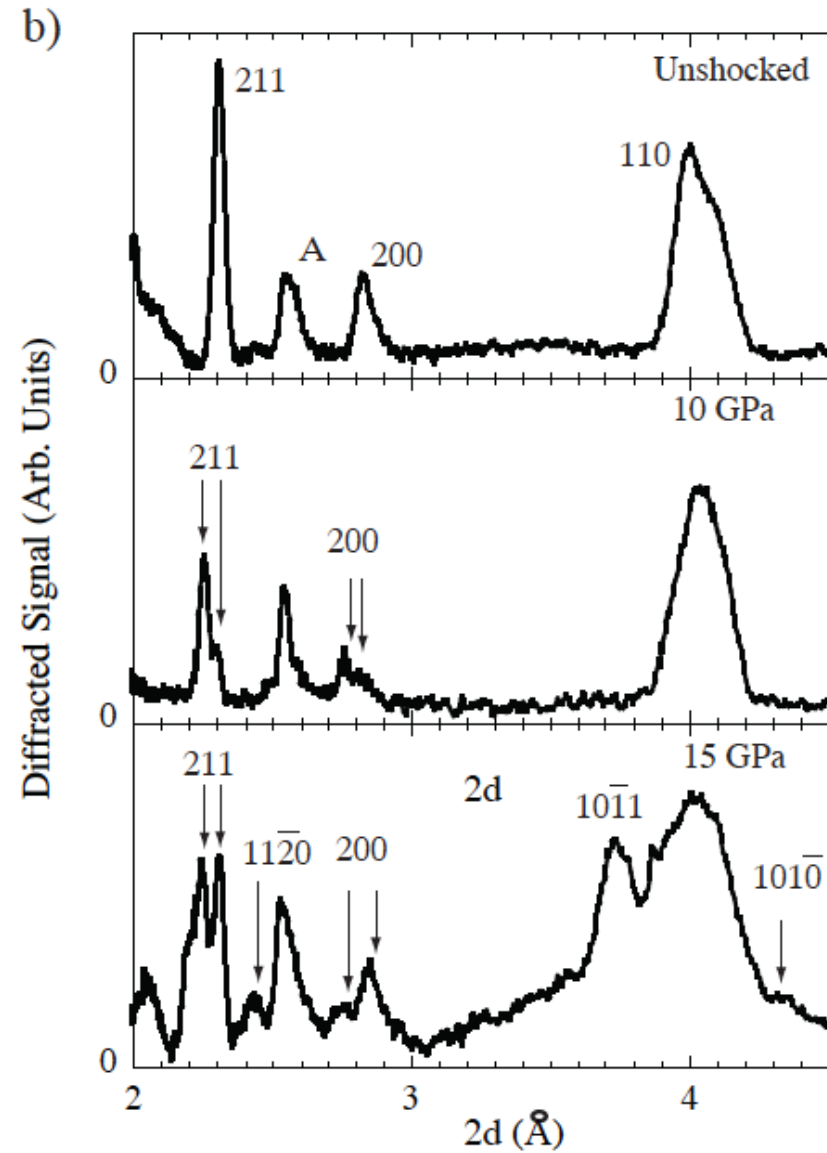
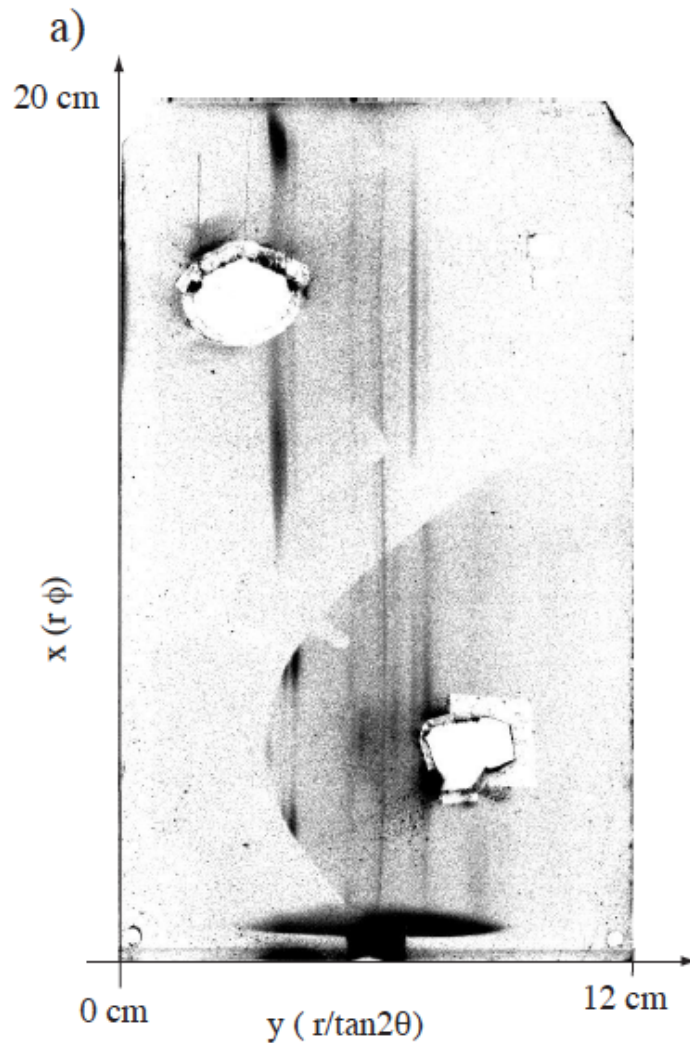
Unshocked

Shocked

Polycrystalline target

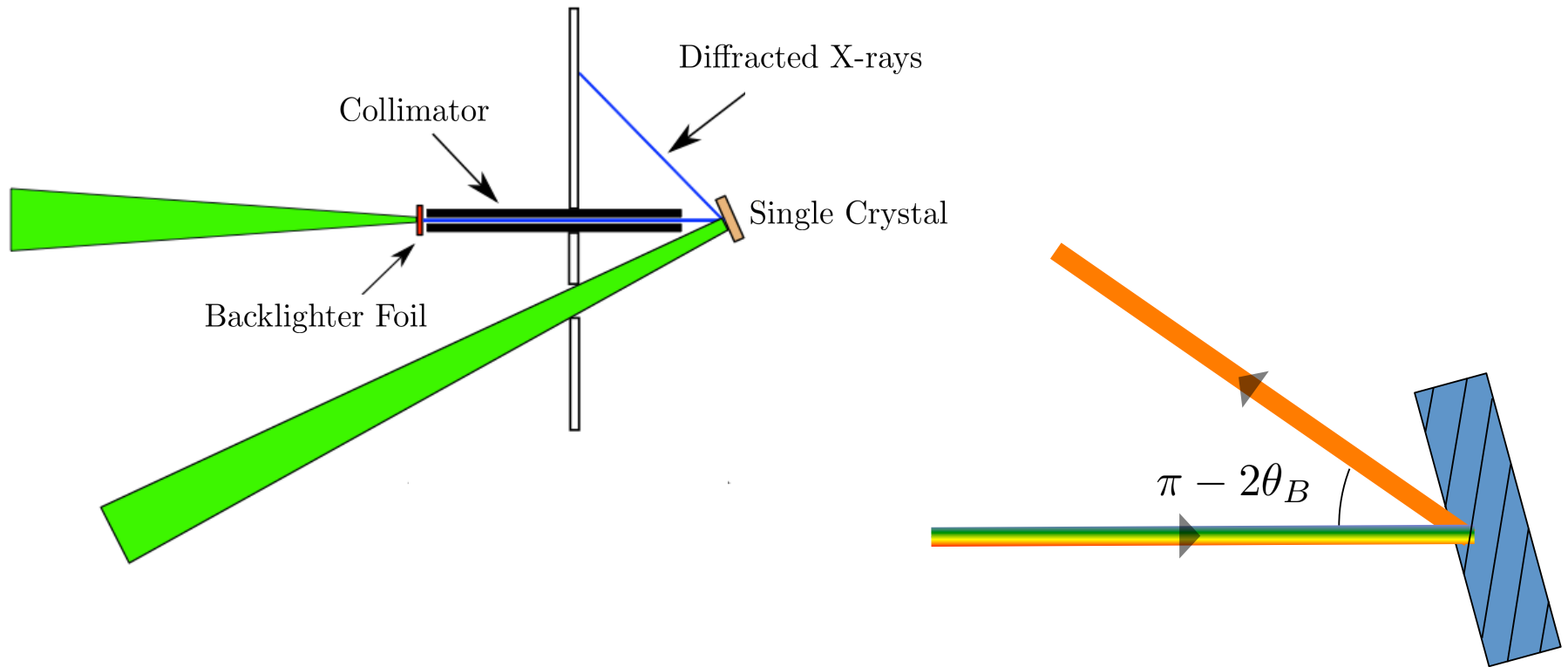
Collimated, monochromatic X-ray beam

# Diffraction from Shocked Polycrystalline Iron



Hawreliak et al, submitted to Phys. Rev. B

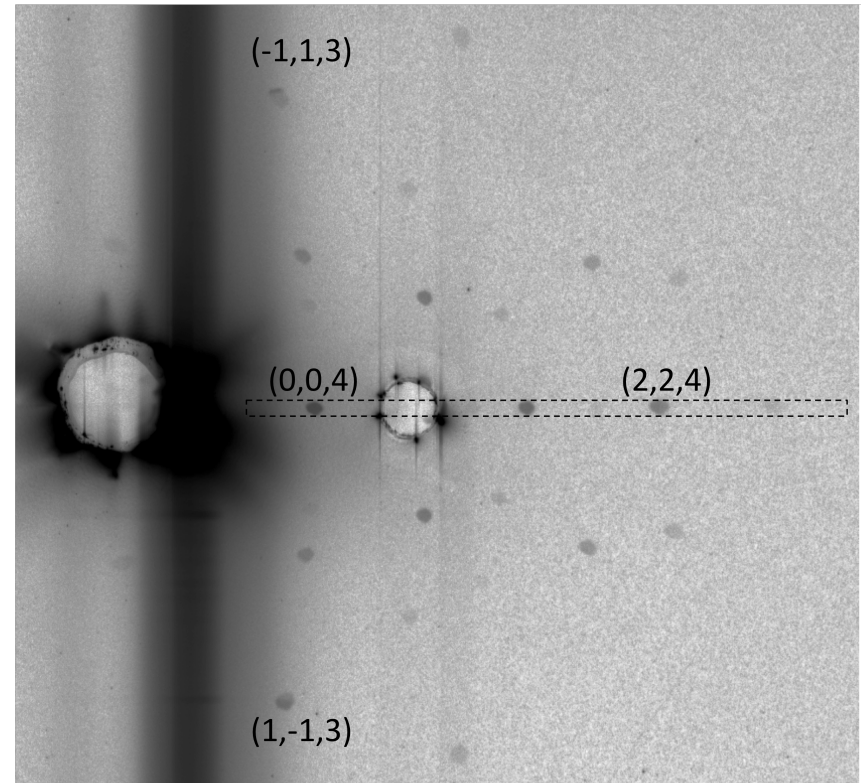
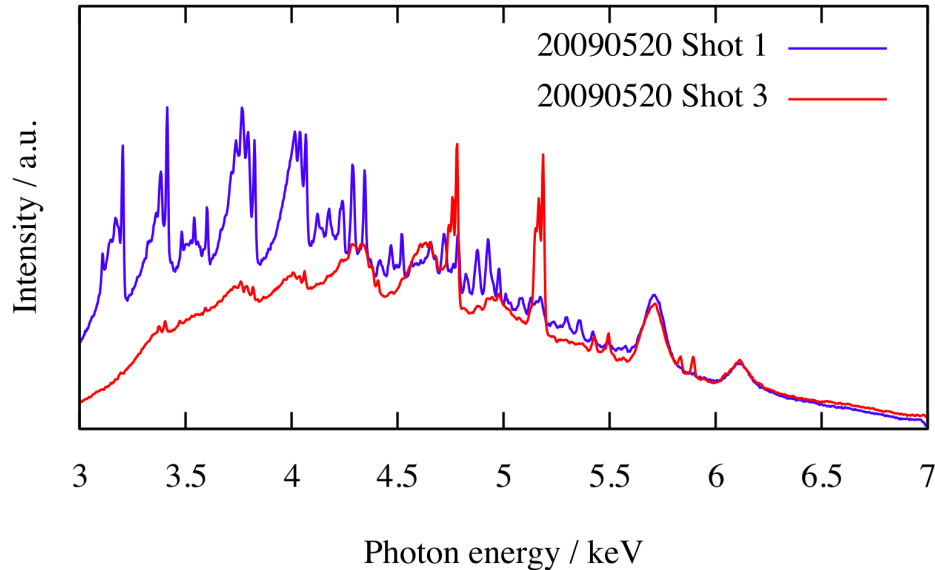
# White Light Laue



Single crystal target  
Collimated, polychromatic, X-ray beam

# White Light Laue Demonstrated

M. Suggit et al, Review Sci. Instrum., to be published



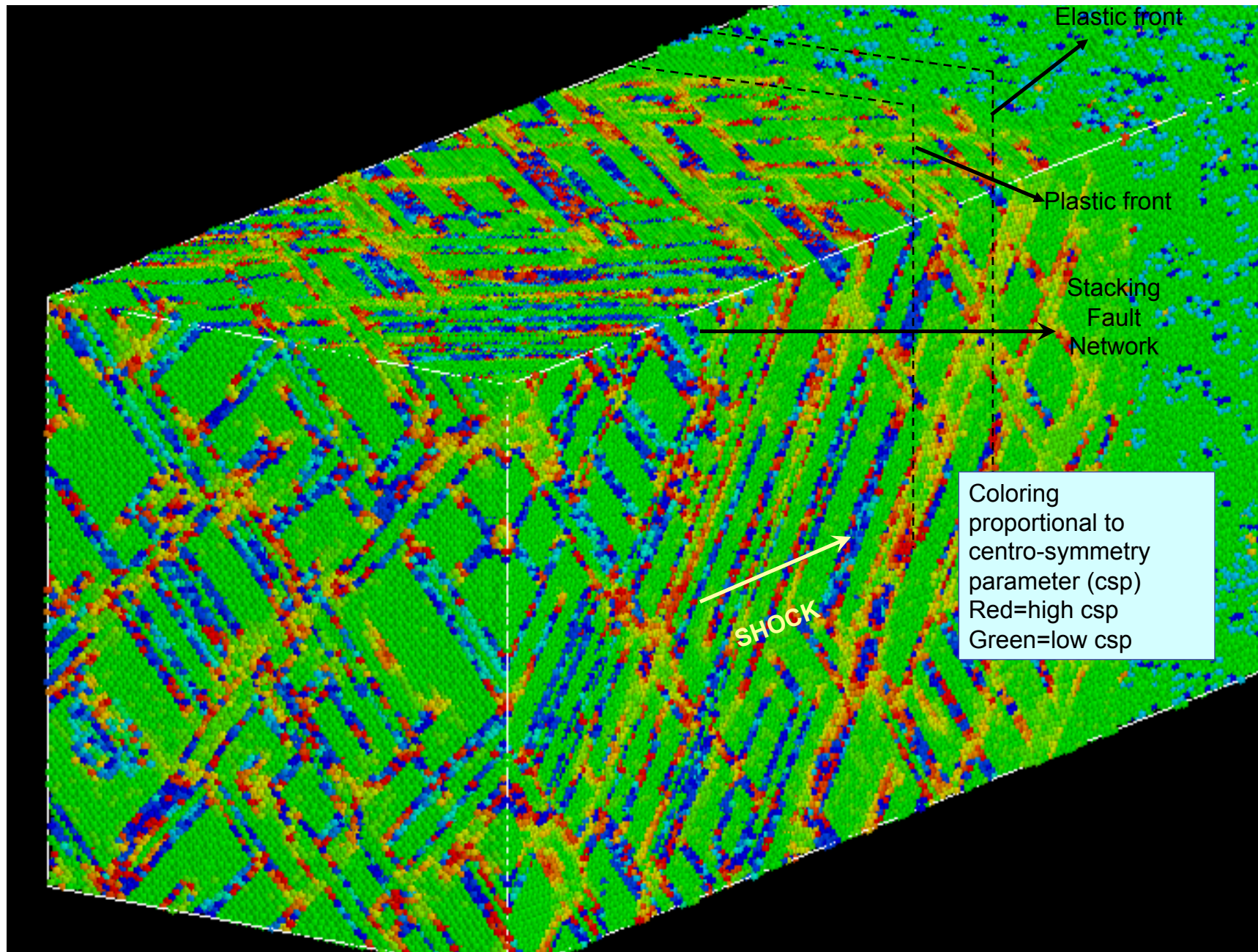
1-nsec pulse of 'white light' X-rays  
created by laser heating of a 'cocktail'  
target on Janus.

On Omega higher white light energies  
are formed at the peak of a capsule  
implosion.

Single crystal silicon target

Collimated, polychromatic, X-ray beam

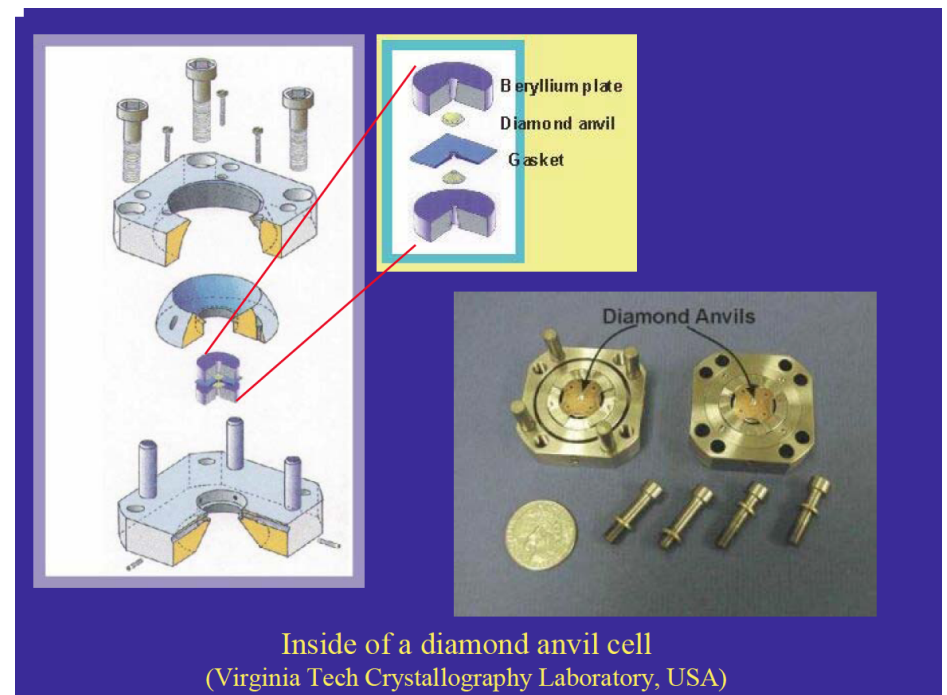
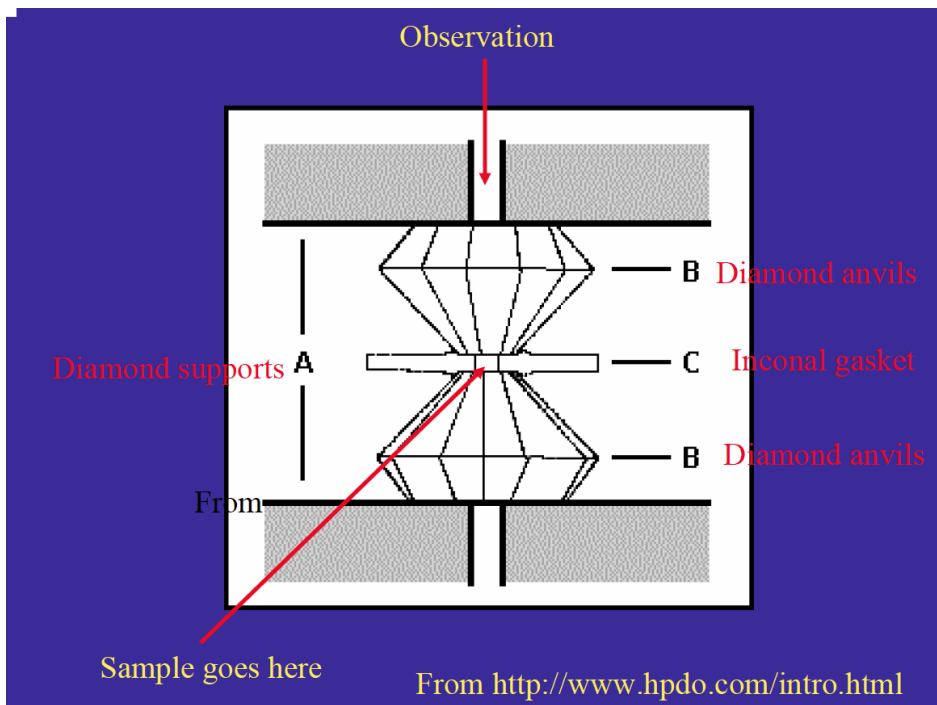
# Copper (001) Mishin MD, Shocked to 50 GPa



# Shock Compression: Pros and Cons

- **A steady shock is a relatively simple way to compress materials to high densities.**
- **An accurate point on the PV diagram can be located if shock and particle velocity can be measured.**
- **Only get a point on the 'Hugoniot' - a single line in PV space - that is very limited EOS information.**
- **Shocks are irreversible, highly entropic events. The sample is heated to very high temperatures.**
- **Typical metals will melt under shock compression at pressures of order 1 -2 Mbar (note a diamond anvil cell keeps matter solid, and up to 3 Mbar).**
- **Planetary cores at high pressure are much cooler (probably solid) than the conditions we reach on the Hugoniot.**
- **CONCLUSION: We also wish to compress matter without the shock heating - for this we need to compress it more slowly.**

# The 'Standard' Technique: DAC



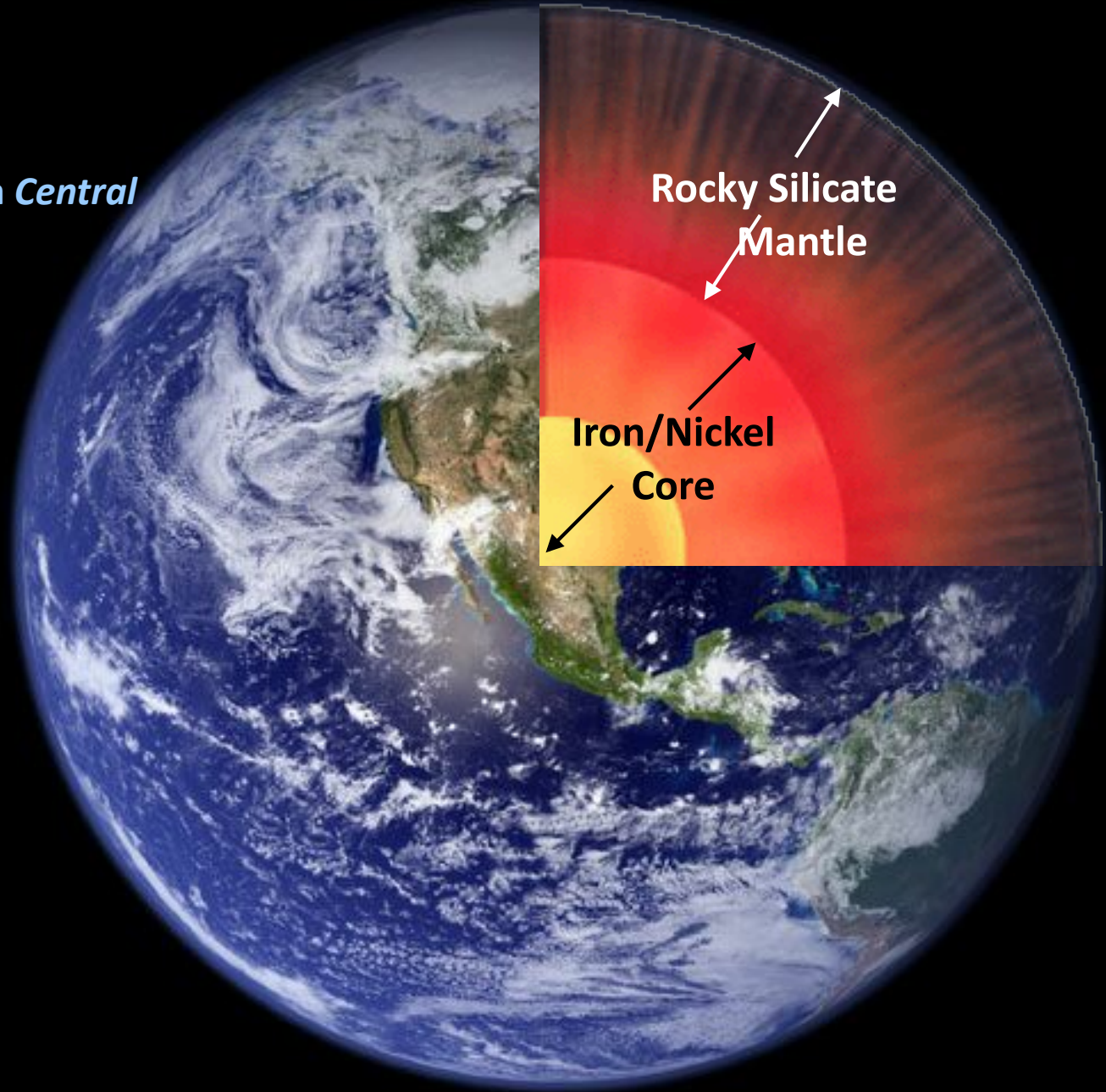
**In Diamond Anvil Cells matter can be statically compressed to a few (~3)Mbars**

# Matter at $P \gg 100 \text{ GPa}$ (1 Mbar) is quite common



Earth

Central Pressure: 360 GPa  
Central Temperature: 6000 K



Saturn



# When is a compression wave a shock?

- **With plastic flow, shock waves have finite thickness (due to an effective 'viscosity').**
- **The Swegle-Grady relation states that the strain-rate at the shock is proportional to the 4<sup>th</sup> power of the peak stress.**

$$\frac{d\varepsilon}{dt} = A\sigma^4$$

- **Note the constant of proportionality is different for different materials.**
- **The SG relation is not fully understood, and is an area of active research.**
- **However, it does imply that to keep a given material close to an isentrope (and thus cooler), we must apply the pressure more slowly than in the shock (for a given peak stress).**
- **This can be achieved by**
  - **Pulse-shaping.**
  - **"Smart" targets.**

# Swegle-Grady 4<sup>th</sup> Power Law

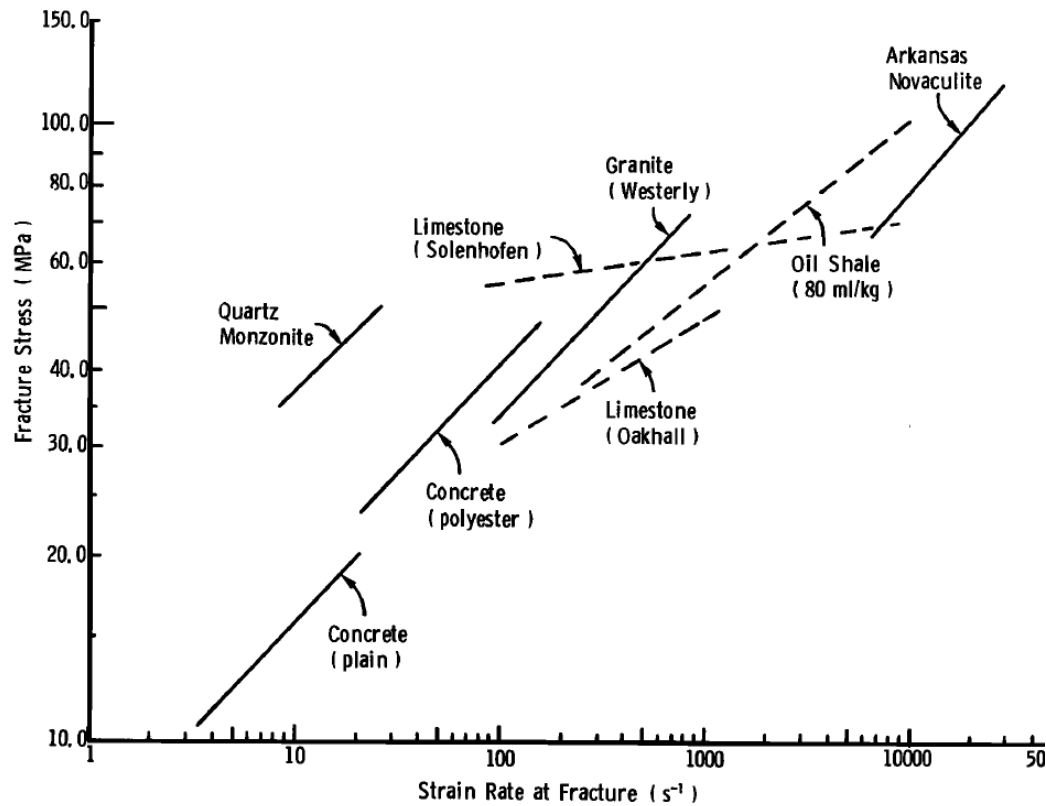
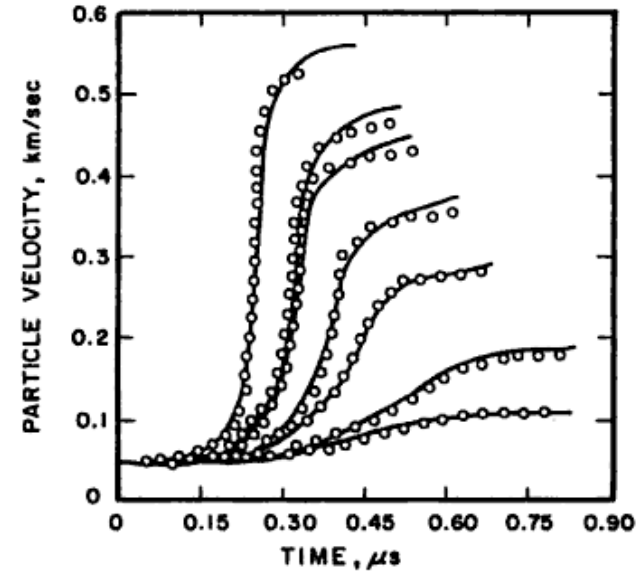
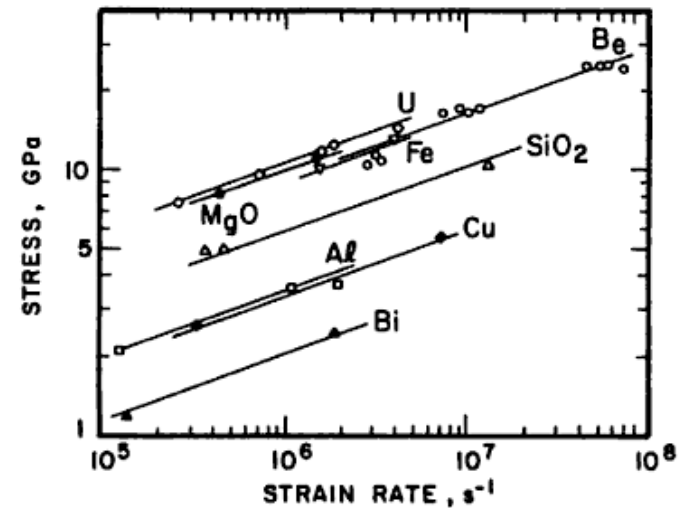


Fig. 1. Strain rate dependence of fracture stress.

Grady & Lipkin, Geophys. Res. Lett., 7, 255 (1980).

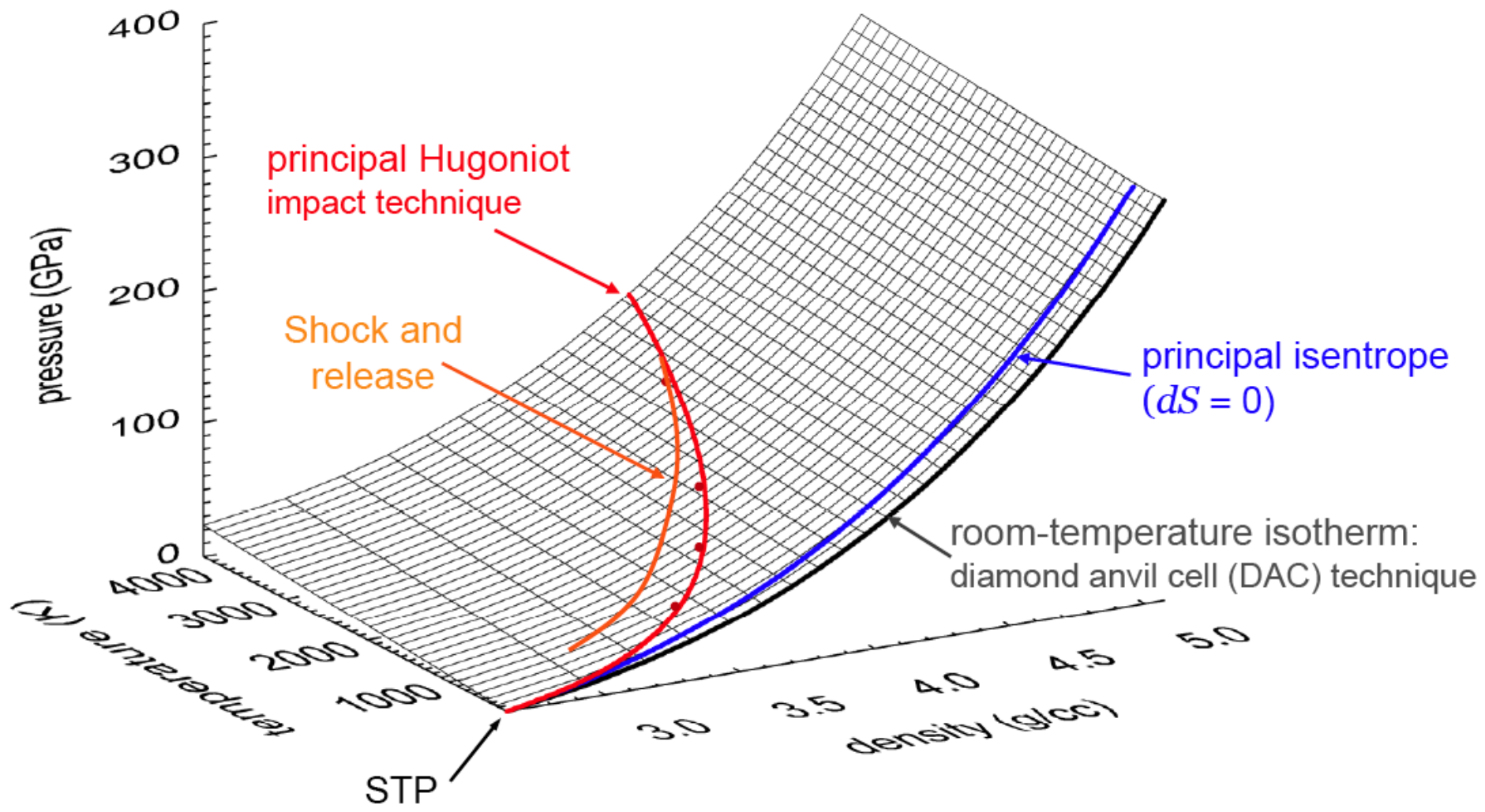


(a)

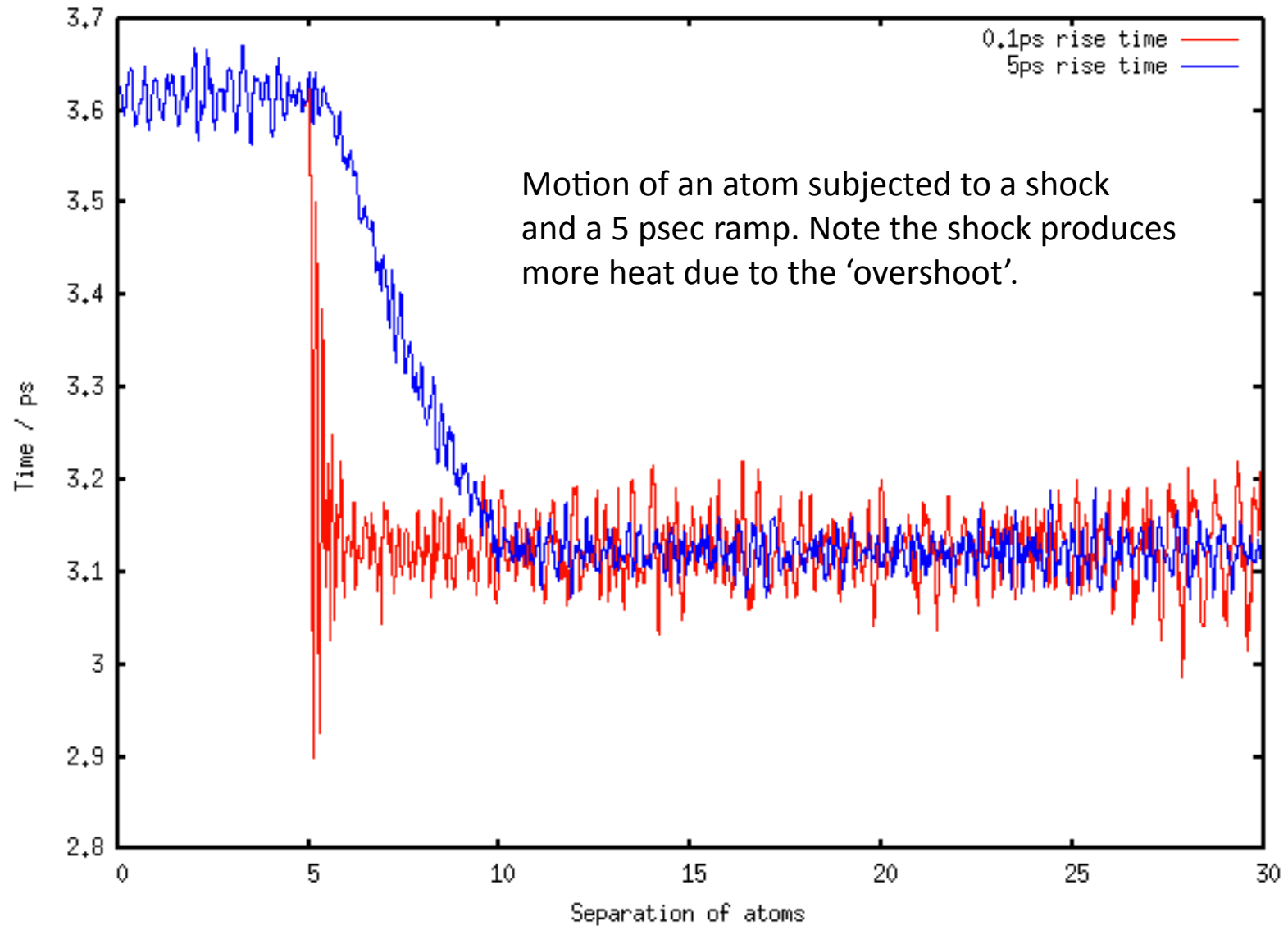


(b)

“Dynamic Behavior of Materials” Marc Meyers

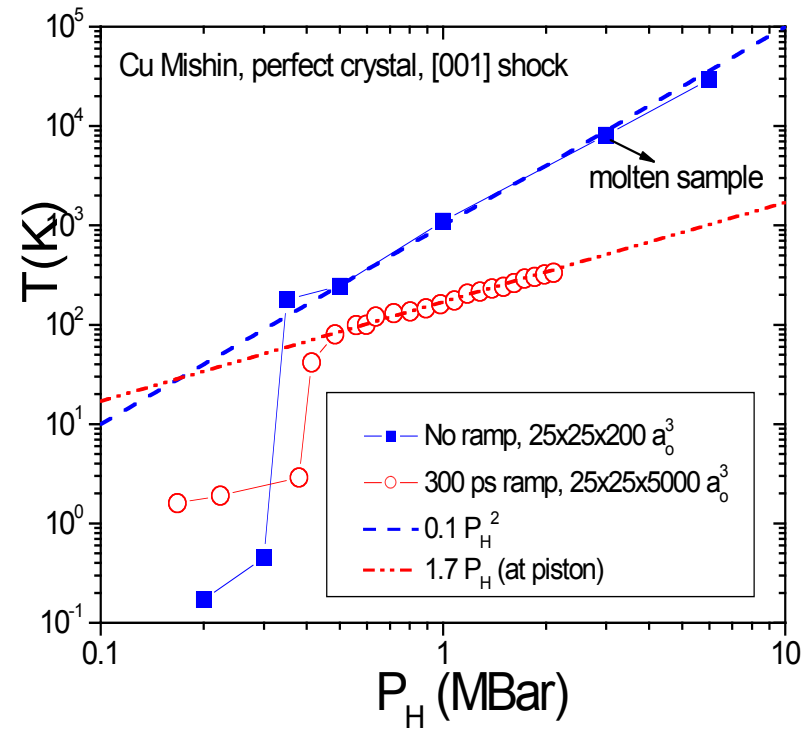
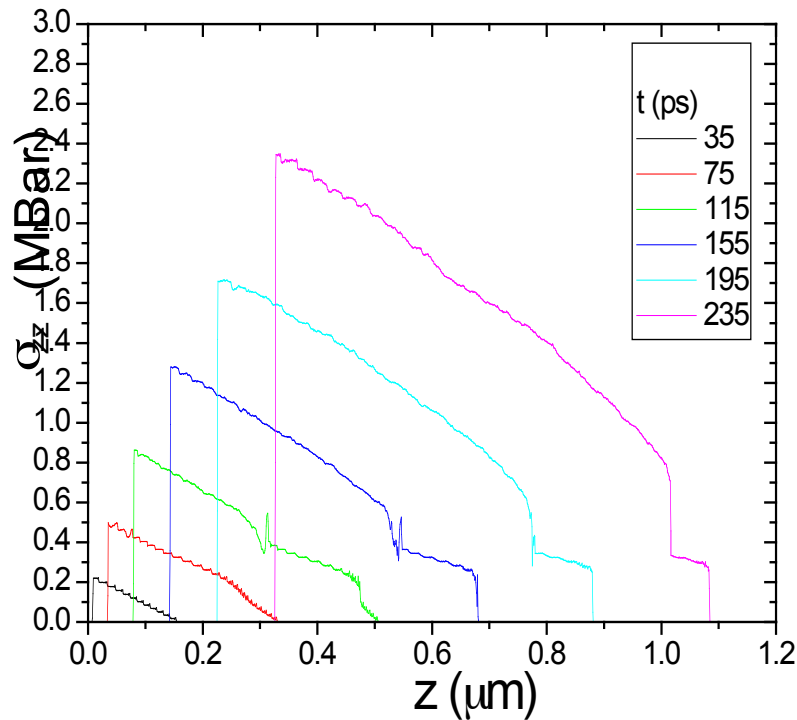


# 1-D Elastic Shock/Ramp

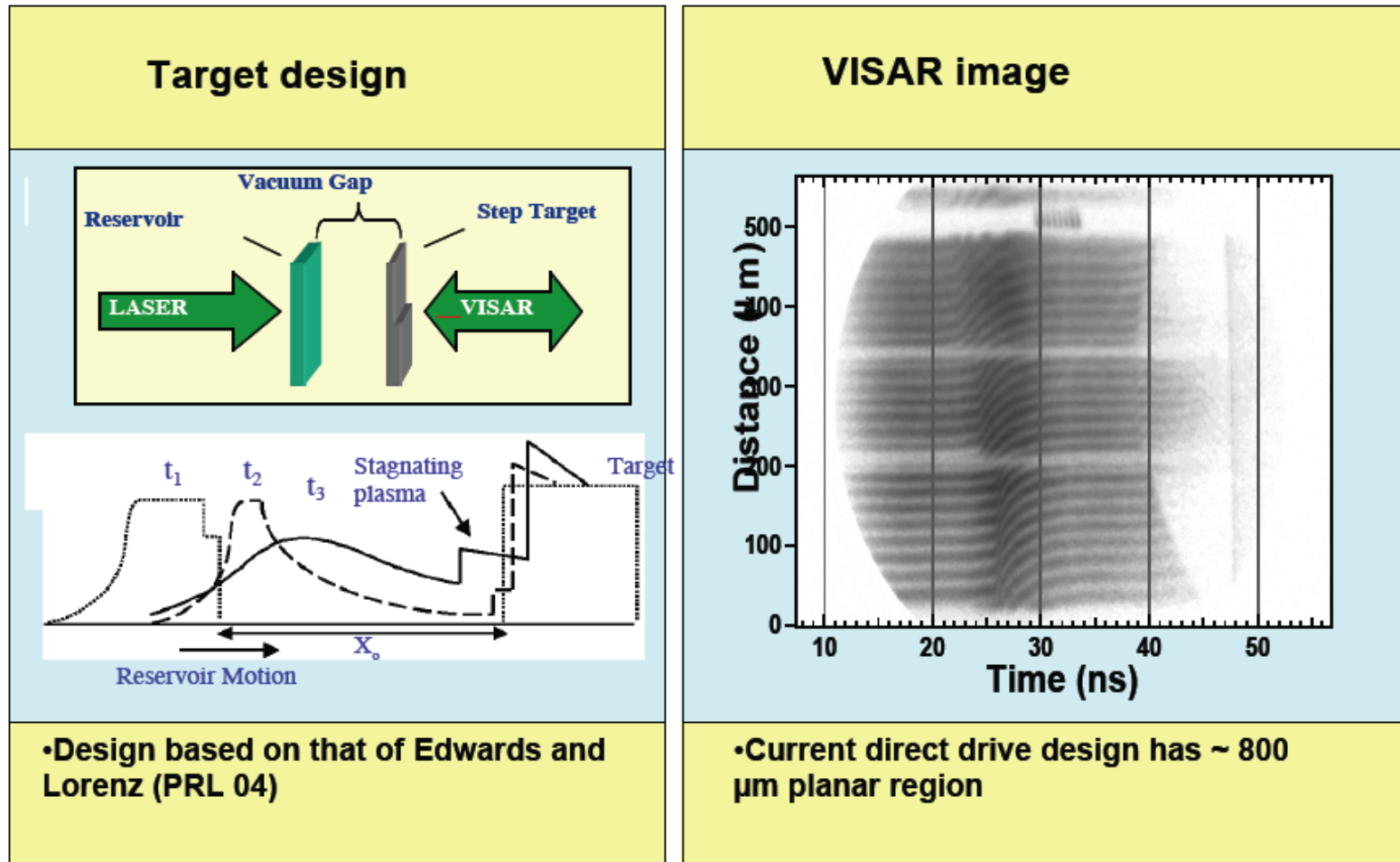


# MD simulations: ramp vs shock

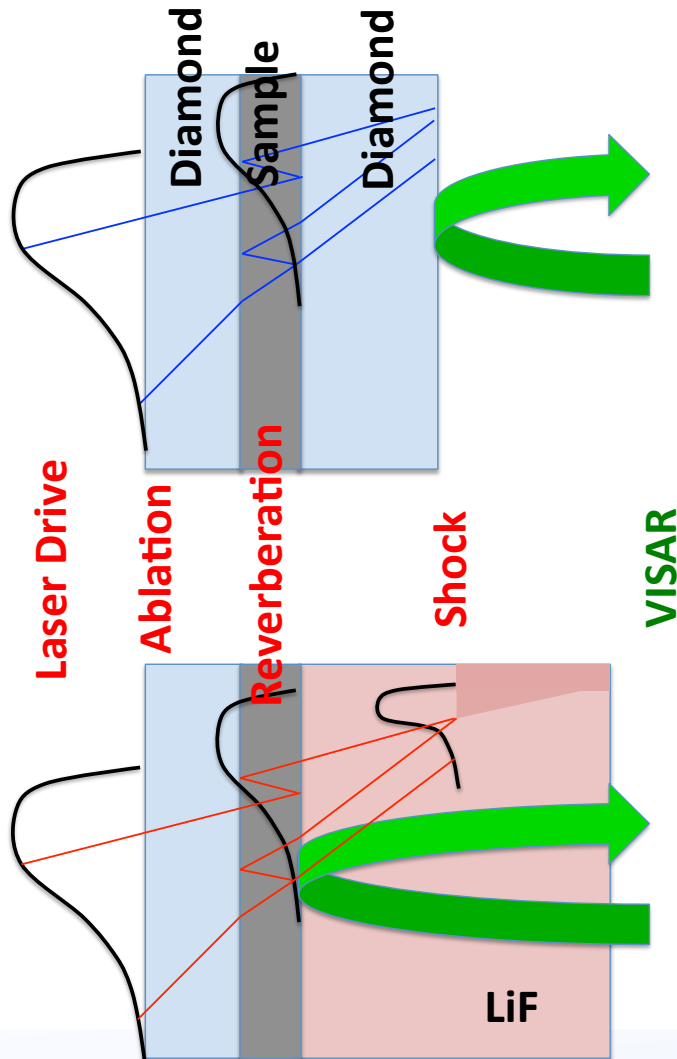
Cu Mishin [001], 25x25x5000 fcc cells (1.8  $\mu\text{m}$ ), 300 ps ramp,  
 $U_{p-\text{max}}=3.5 \text{ km/s} \rightarrow P \sim 2.5 \text{ Mbar}$



# Laser produced isentrope is generated by a stagnating plasma and measured with line VISAR



# Sandwich Ramp-Compression



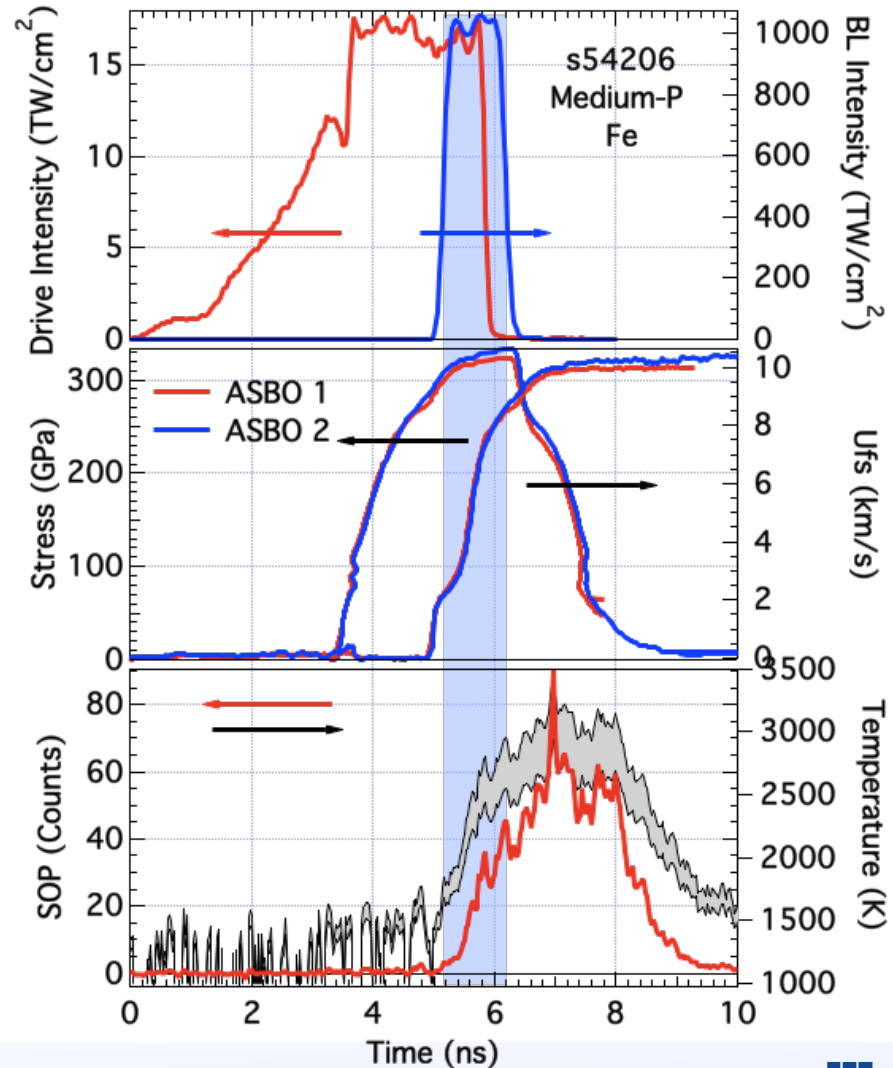
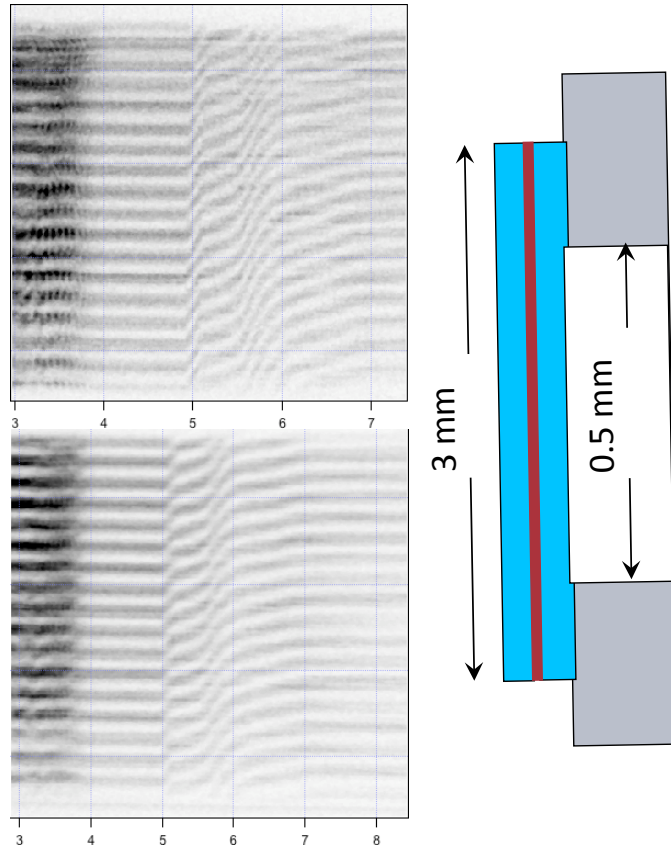
the LiF or Diamond interfacial pressure is the same as in sample

If we know the EOS of LiF or Diamond we can find the Pressure in the sample using the VISAR diagnostic

Using this target design, we believe we can ramp compress samples to  $\sim 30$  Mbar, Hold the state for several ns, Determine the pressure, and Make a measurement.

XRD, XAFS, XANES, Reflectivity, . . . Temperature remains the most important parameter that we do not know how to measure.

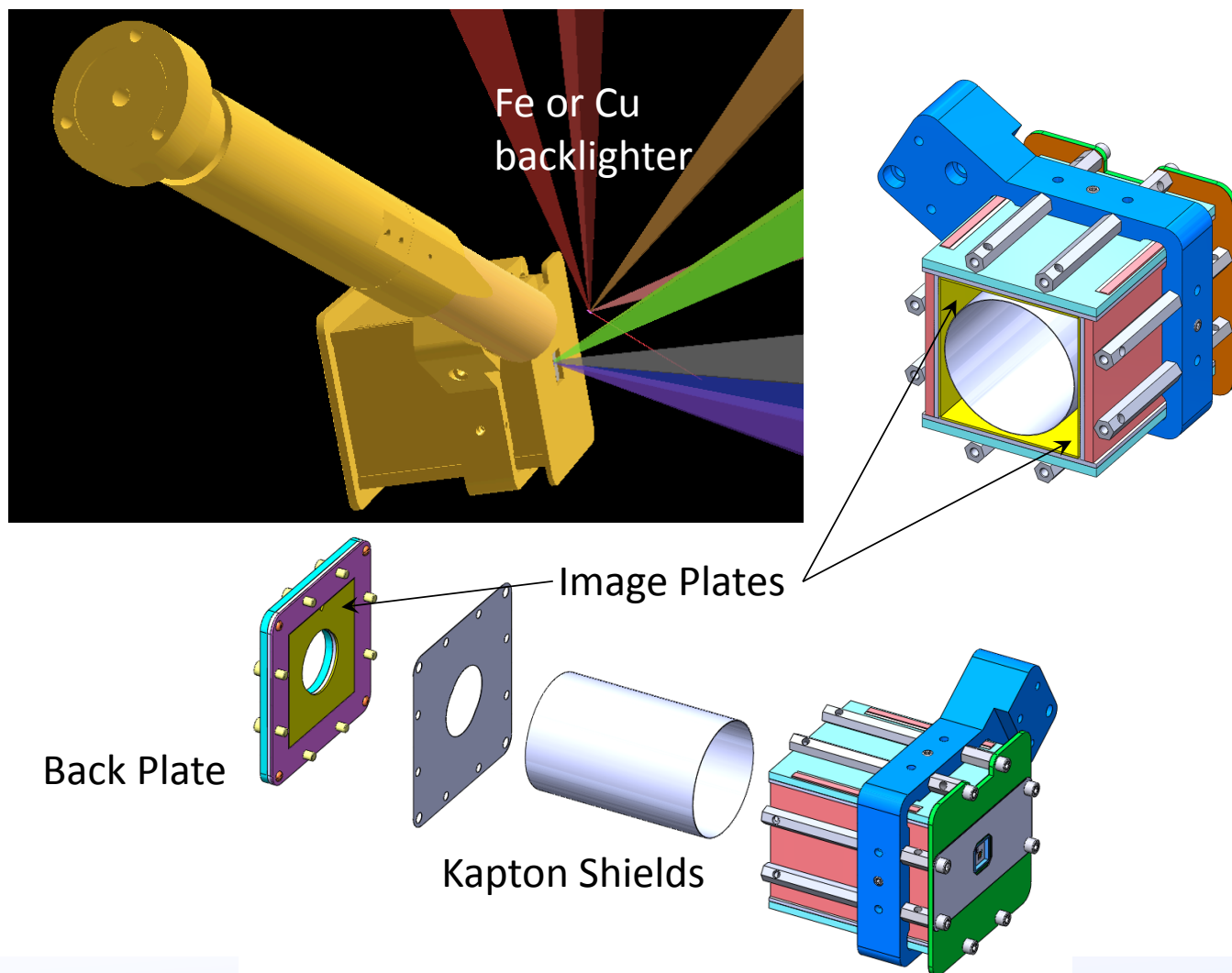
# s54206, Fe X-ray Diffraction



Strain rate is very high,  $\sim 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .  
Looks like temperature is low.  
What does diffraction look like?



# X-Ray Diffraction at Omega Laser



- **Shock Physics:**
  - **Understanding plasticity in body-centred-cubic materials (twinning).**
  - **Fundamentals of plasticity as a function of strain rate (shock pressure).**
  - **Phase transitions - What are the transition times?**
- **High Pressure Isentropic Compression.**
  - **N.B. - Completely new regime:**
  - **Can we produce and recover a new phase of Carbon?**
  - **New material properties as core electrons overlap?**
  - **Can we recreate and understand giant-planet and super-earth core conditions?**
  - **Various platforms (Janus/Omega/NIF) all have their role to play...**