

Shock Tube for Gas Dynamics and Chemical Kinetics Research

SCIENCE SCIENCE SCIENCE SCIENCE ENGINEERING

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Introduction and Operations

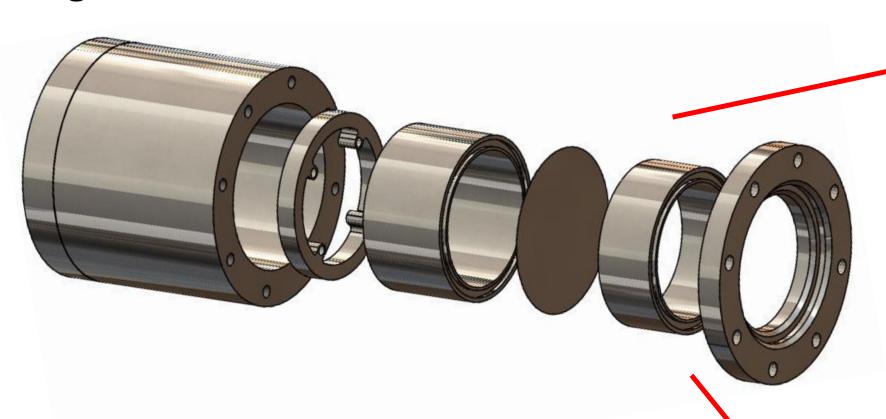
- The Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU) shock tube is a bursting-diaphragm type with an all stainless steel construction. The tube is comprised of two sections, the driver and driven section, separated by a diaphragm.
- The driver section is pressurized until the diaphragm breaks. The sudden change in pressure sends a shockwave through the driven section and reflects off the end of the tube creating the desired test region of high temperature and pressure (T_5, P_5) .
- The speed of the incident shockwave is measured using calibrated fast-acting pressure transducers in series. This speed is used to determine test conditions, labeled as T₅ and P₅ in above image, from Rankine-Hugoniot 1D shock relations [1].
- Venting, vacuuming, and diaphragm replacement is then done. Total process takes 30-45 minutes depending on mixture being tested.
- Shock tubes can generate repeatable conditions of elevated temperature and pressure after the reflected shock while maintaining quiescent flow [2].
- Shock tubes for research of chemical kinetics in extreme conditions have been used for decades in various applications at other institutions [3-5].

Configuration and Dimensions

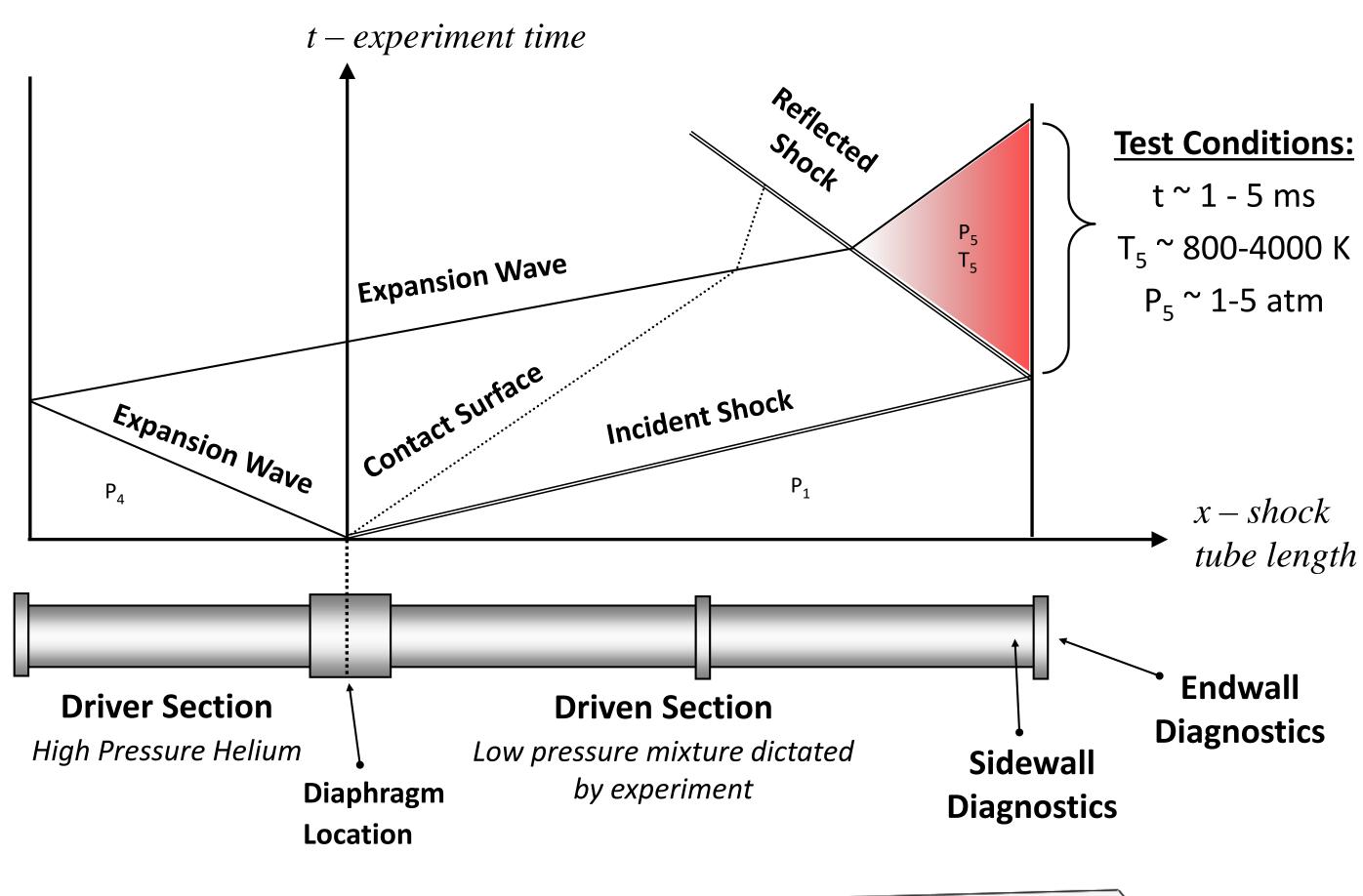
- Bursting diaphragm type
- Pocket-flange design to allow for concentricity through entire tube
- 2.14 m Driver and 4.28 m Driven Section lengths
- 8.75 cm inner diameter throughout entire tube

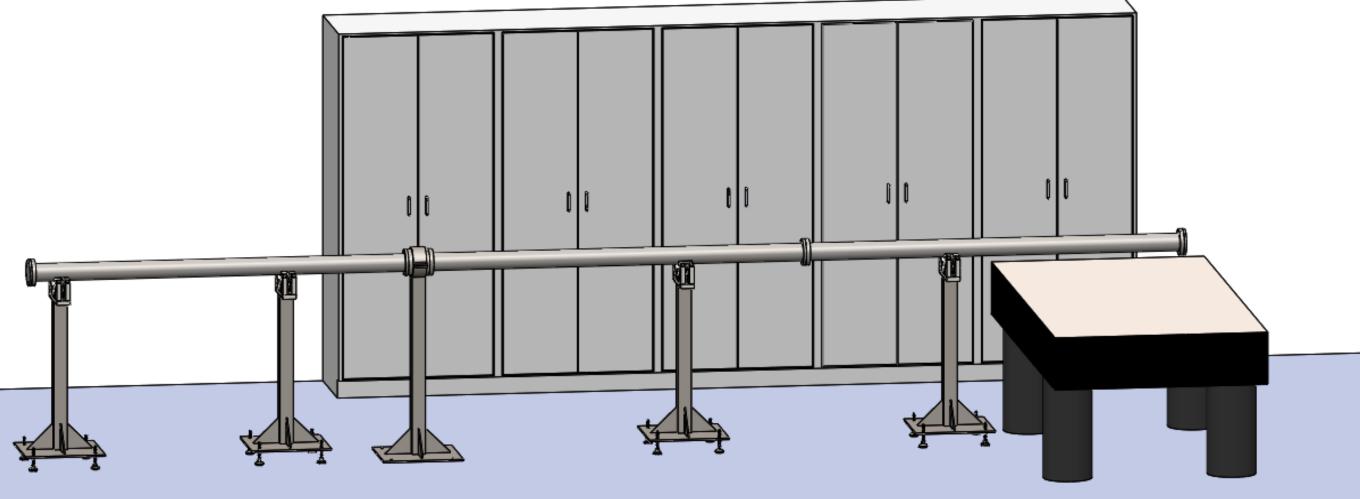
Diaphragm Loader:

- Breech-loading mechanism
- Replace diaphragm between each experiment

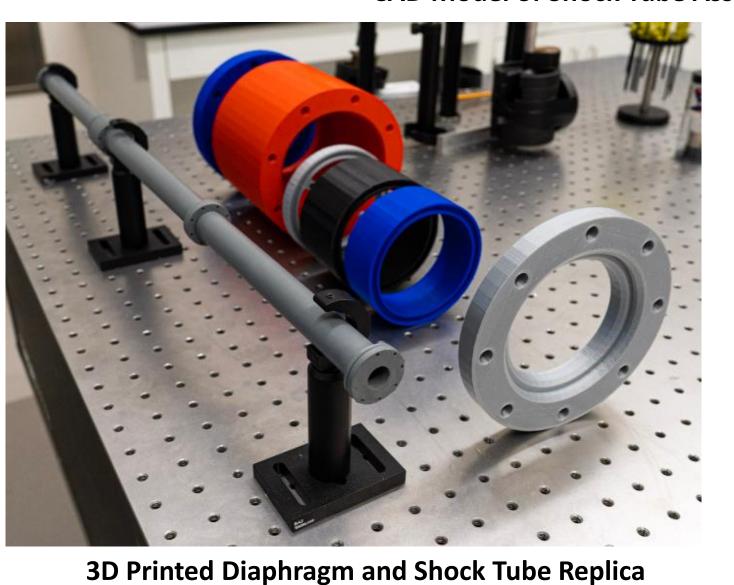


Experiment x-t Diagram





CAD Model of Shock Tube Assembly in Laboratory Space





Jordan with 3D Printed and Fabricated Flange

Fabrication of Shock Tube Components



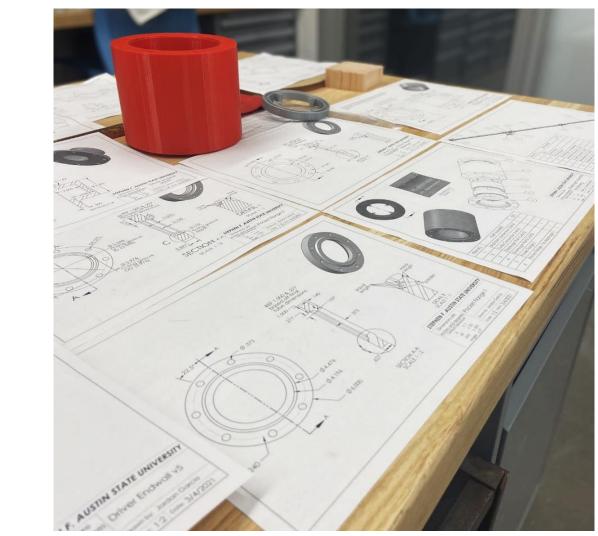
Projected CAD Model of Shock Tube in Laboratory



Finished Steel Tubes



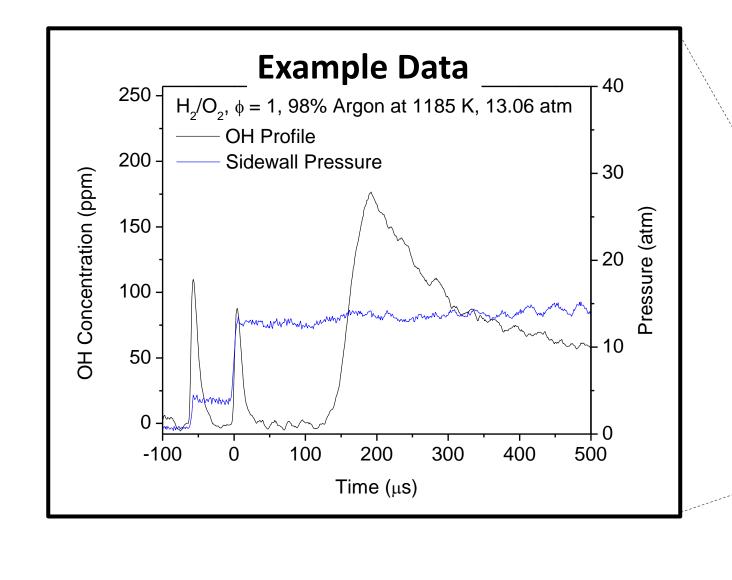
Comparing 3D Printed and Fabricated Steel Flanges



Machine Drawings

Future Applications and Experiments

- Design of the SFASU shock tube is complete and manufacturing is underway as of Spring 2021
- Initial tests will consist of light emission of simple hydrocarbons to validate with known kinetics mechanisms
- More advanced diagnostics are being developed to measure species profiles through reaction, example work from author shown here [6]:



Blue data trace shows
 pressure measured in a
 typical shock tube experiment
 from sidewall location – note
 initial and reflected shock



Driven Section (4.28m)

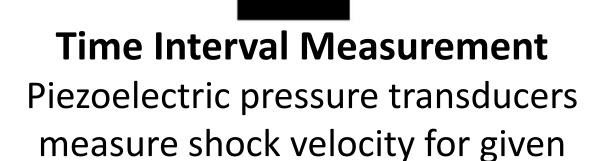
Helium Supply and Vacuum Helium driver gas plumbing with connection to vacuum system

Driver Section (2.14m)

Mixing and Vacuum System

Plumbing manifold used to generate mixtures for study and to vacuum down tube between experiments

Pocket-flanges for all connections



Rankine-Hugoniot shock equations

References

- 1. Aul, C.J., Metcalfe, W.K., Burke, S.M., Curran, H.J., and Petersen, E.L. 'Ignition and kinetic modeling of methane and ethane fuel blends with oxygen: A design of experiments approach', Combustion and Flame, 160(7), p1153-1167.

 2. Gaydon, A.G. and Hurle, I.R. (1964) The Shock Tube in High-temperature Chemical Physics, Reinhold Publishing Corporation.
- Stalker, R.J., Hornung, H.G. et al. T5 reflected shock tunnel. http://shepherd.caltech.edu/T5/facilities/T5/T5.html
 D.F. Davidson, R.K. Hansen, et al (2008) Development of an aerosol shock tube for kinetic studies of low-vapor-pressure fuels. Elsevier
- 5. Aul, C.J. (2013). Measuring Hydroxyl Radicals during the Oxidation of Methane, Ethane, Ethylene, and Acetylene in a Shock Tube Using UV Absorption Spectroscopy. Doctoral dissertation, Texas A&M University.

Acknowledgements

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