

DETONATION EVOLUTION

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Two Steps to the Birth of a Detonation

1. **Preparation**: creation of critical conditions for detonation onset (preconditioning).

- shock initiation
- flame acceleration and DDT
- photochemical initiation
- injection of a hot, turbulent jet of combustion products into an explosive mixture

The result, typically, is a hot reactive mixture in a state of nonuniformity.

2. **Formation**: a local explosion leading to the detonation.

A Detailed Analysis of Stage 2 (Formation) via Asymptotics and Numerics

- Hot explosive mixture with a linear temperature gradient.
- Ideal, homogeneous material.
- Depending upon the size of the temperature gradient, there are **two distinct** pathways to detonation (additional variations exist within them).
- Seminal work by **Zeldovich** *et al*, **Clarke**, **Lee** *et al*.
- **Khokhlov, Oran and Wheeler**
- Colleagues: **Bdzil, Dold, Hawa, Jackson, Schwendeman, Short, Stewart.**

Plan

- The model.
- Key analytical ideas.
- Numerical simulations.

The Model

- One-dimensional configuration.
- No diffusion.
- Euler, polytropic fluid.
- Only temperature nonuniformities.
- One-step, irreversible, strongly state-sensitive kinetics.

The Model, contd.

Balance Laws

$$\dot{\rho} + \rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\rho \dot{\mathbf{u}} + \nabla p = 0$$

$$\dot{e} + p \dot{v} = 0$$

Constitutive Assumptions

- kinetics $\mathcal{A} \implies \mathcal{B}$
- progress variable λ , $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$
- rate law (Arrhenius kinetics, large activation temperature)

$$\dot{\lambda} = \mathcal{R}(T, \lambda) = k(1 - \lambda) \exp(-T_a/T), \quad T_a \gg 1$$

- equation of state

$$e = e(p, v, \lambda) = \frac{pv}{\gamma - 1} - \lambda q$$

- Ideal material

$$pv = RT$$

- sound speed

$$c = \sqrt{\gamma pv}$$

The Model, contd.

Implications of $T_a \gg 1$

Rate equation

$$\dot{\lambda} = k(1 - \lambda) \exp(-T_a/T)$$

Scaled with respect to reference ($\lambda = 0, T = 1$) state

$$\dot{\lambda} = (1 - \lambda) \exp \left[T_a \left(1 - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right]$$

$$\underline{1 - \frac{1}{T} > 0 \text{ and } O(1)}$$

Either reaction completed ($\lambda \sim 1$) or gradients large

$$\underline{1 - \frac{1}{T} < 0 \text{ and } O(1)}$$

Rate is exponentially small; reaction frozen

$$\underline{1 - \frac{1}{T} = o(1)}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{T} = \frac{1}{T_a} \phi, \quad \text{rate} \sim (1 - \lambda) e^\phi$$

Reaction confined to narrow zones of temperature and/or thin layers in space/time

The Model, contd. Planar, 1-D Geometry

Lagrangian (mass-weighted) coordinate

$$\psi = \int_{x_0(t)}^x \rho(\xi, t) d\xi$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)_t = \rho \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial \psi} \right)_t, \quad \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} \right)_x + u \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)_t \equiv \dot{F} = \left(\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} \right)_\psi$$

Reference State

$$p_0, v_0, T_0, c_0 = \sqrt{\gamma p_0 v_0}$$

$$t_0 = \frac{\epsilon}{k} \frac{c_p T_0}{q} \exp(T_a/T_0) \quad (\text{constant-pressure induction time})$$

$$L_0 = c_0 t_0 \quad (\text{acoustic length})$$

$$\epsilon = T_0/T_a \ll 1 \quad (\text{inverse activation energy})$$

$$Q = \frac{q}{c_p T_0} \quad (\text{heat-release parameter})$$

Dimensionless equations

$$v_t - u_\psi = 0, \quad u_t + \frac{1}{\gamma} p_\psi = 0, \quad p_t + \frac{\gamma p}{v} v_t = \frac{\gamma \mathcal{R}}{v}, \quad \lambda_t = \frac{1}{Q} \mathcal{R}$$

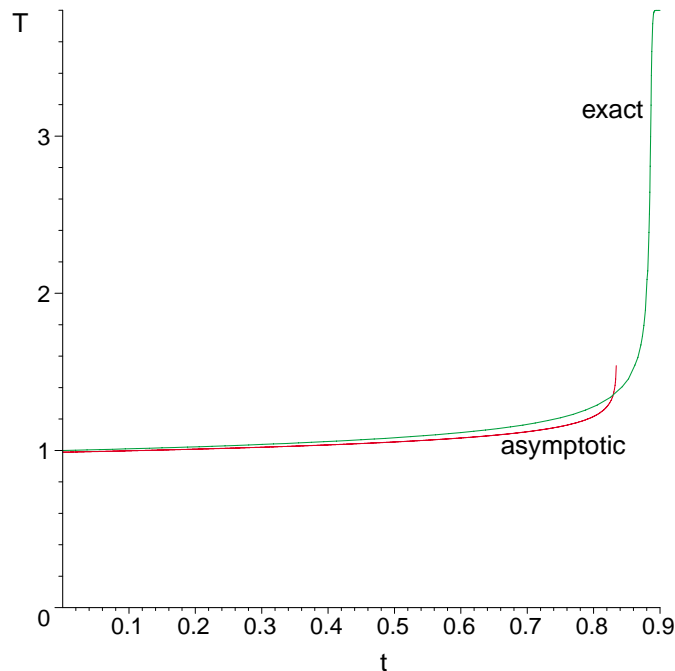
$$T = pv, \quad \mathcal{R} = \epsilon(1 - \lambda) \exp \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(1 - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right]$$

I. Spatially Uniform Evolution

$$u = 0, \quad v = 1, \quad p = T = 1 + \gamma Q \lambda.$$

$$T'(t) = \frac{\epsilon}{Q}(1 + \gamma Q - T) \exp \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(1 - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right], \quad T(0) = 1.$$

Evolution of temperature for $\epsilon = 1/14$, $Q = 2$, $\gamma = 1.4$



In the limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$,

$$T \sim 1 + \epsilon \phi(t), \quad \phi_t = \gamma e^\phi, \quad \phi(0) = 0, \quad \phi = -\ln(1 - \gamma t).$$

- Thermal runaway at $t_e \sim 1/\gamma$, onset of vigorous reaction.
- Following runaway, explosion proceeds with **exponential rapidity**, ending with $\lambda = 1$ and $T = 1 + \gamma Q$.
- Explosion time scale is σ , with $\gamma(t_e - t) = e^{-\sigma/\epsilon}$.

Spatially Uniform Evolution, contd.

- The more general initial condition

$$T(0) = 1 + \epsilon\phi_0$$

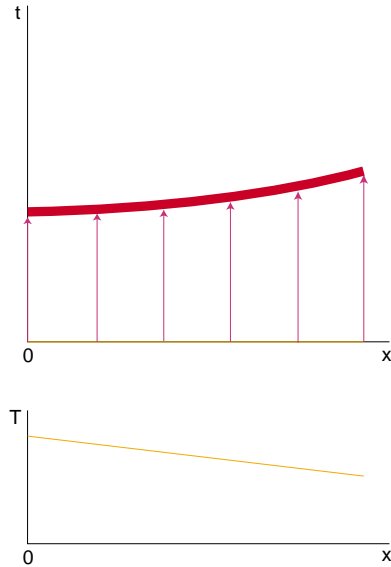
produces runaway at

$$t_e \sim \frac{e^{-\phi_0}}{\gamma}.$$

Order ϵ change in initial condition produces $O(1)$ change in induction time.

- Spatial nonuniformities (in temperature, or other gasdynamic variables) of $O(\epsilon)$ are likely to play an important role in the evolutionary process; such disturbances will have the ability to alter local induction times significantly, **and induce significant chemical-gasdynamic coupling.**

II. Zeldovich (1980) Spontaneous Flame and Regime Classification



$$T(x, 0) = 1 - \epsilon ax, \quad a > 0, \quad x > 0.$$

Ignoring particle-to-particle communication,
local blowup time

$$t_e(x) = \frac{1}{\gamma} \exp \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(1 - \frac{1}{T(x, 0)} \right) \right] \sim \frac{1}{\gamma} e^{ax},$$

leading to a **spontaneous-flame wave speed**

$$W_s = \frac{1}{t'_e(x)} = \frac{\gamma}{ae^{ax}}.$$

Zeldovich's Spontaneous-Flame Hypothesis

1. $W_s > D_{CJ}$.
 - The spontaneous wave is a **weak detonation**.
 - In the limit of zero nonuniformity, $W_s \rightarrow \infty$, i.e., a constant-volume explosion.
2. $W_s < D_{CJ}$.
 - Combustion of initial portion of the substance results in a shock wave.
 - Conventional detonation may be formed after a transient, with the shock always *ahead of the front*. (Studied numerically in Zeldovich, Librovich, Makhviladze and Sivashinsky, 1970).
3. S (speed of deflagration) $< W_s \ll c$ (sound speed) $< D_{CJ}$.
 - The spontaneous speed W_s is maintained (**faster flame, not** propagated by diffusion).
 - Pressure disturbances are weak, particle velocities small, induction period not significantly affected. Pressure has sufficient time to equilibrate.
4. $W_s < S$.
 - Diffusion moves information ahead of the spontaneous wave; normal flame propagation occurs.

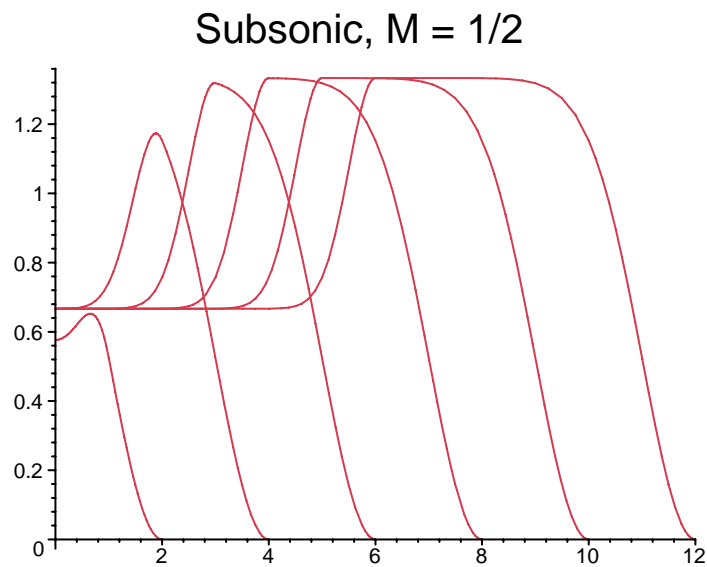
WHAT IS THE PATH TO CONVENTIONAL, ZND DETONATION IN THE FIRST TWO SITUATIONS?

III. Shock Wave Amplification due to Coherent Energy Release (SWACER)

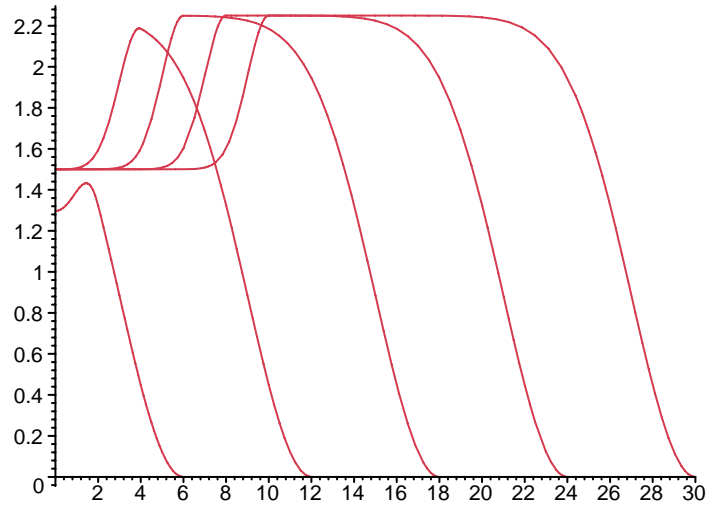
(Addresses Zeldovich's case 2 ($W_s \leq D_{CJ}$)).

Thiebault, Yoshikawa, Lee (1978), Lee and Moen (1980).

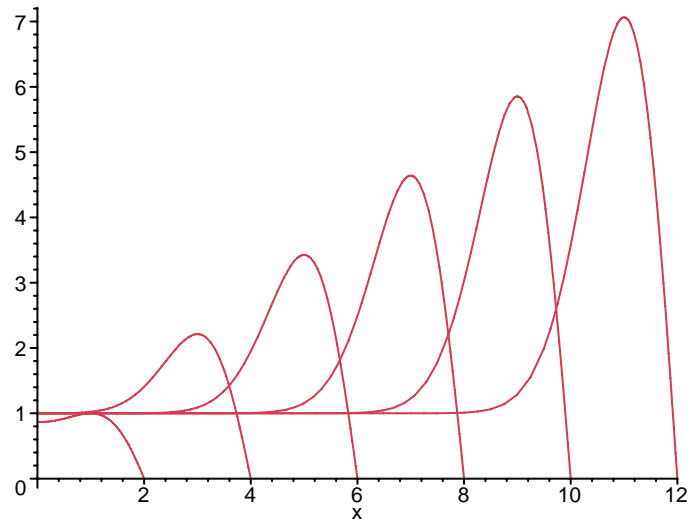
- Amplification of acoustics in an oscillating exothermic environment: Rayleigh's criterion. Compression waves and chemical energy release must synchronize for amplification.
- A linear example: gasdynamical field generated by a moving heat source.



Supersonic, $M = 3$



Sonic



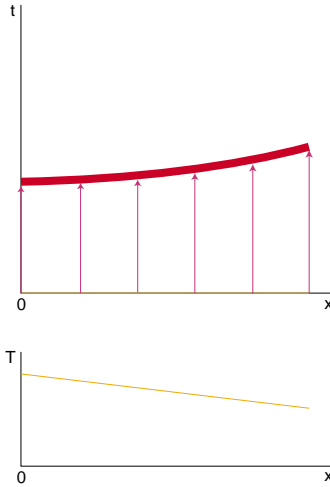
- Maximal amplification at sonic speed. Extension to nonlinear case.

IV. Asymptotic analysis for large activation temperature (JWD, AK)

Early Stage of Evolution

$$v_t - u_\psi = 0, \quad u_t + \frac{1}{\gamma} p_\psi = 0, \quad p_t + \frac{\gamma p}{v} v_t = \frac{\gamma \mathcal{R}}{v}, \quad \lambda_t = \frac{1}{Q} \mathcal{R}$$

$$T = pv, \quad \mathcal{R} = \epsilon(1 - \lambda) \exp \left[\frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(1 - \frac{1}{T} \right) \right]$$



$$T(x, 0) = 1 - \epsilon ax, \quad a > 0, \quad x > 0.$$

Two modes of evolution

- If $a = O(1)$, then temperature drop is $O(\epsilon)$, and induction-time variation $O(1)$, across the region $x = O(1)$.
- If $a \gg 1$, then temperature drop is $O(\epsilon)$, and induction-time variation $O(1)$, only in a thin boundary layer, $x = O(1/a)$. Outside the layer the induction time is exponentially large.

Perturbation (induction) expansion

$$p \sim 1 + \epsilon\gamma P, \quad T \sim 1 + \epsilon\phi, \quad v \sim 1 + \epsilon V, \quad \lambda \sim \epsilon Z/Q, \quad u \sim \epsilon U.$$

Induction equations

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_t - (\gamma - 1)P_t &= e^\phi, \quad U_t + P_\psi = 0, \quad V_t - U_\psi = 0, \quad Z_t = e^\phi, \\ \phi &= \gamma P + V. \end{aligned}$$

- Generalization of the constant-volume problem.
- Linearized acoustics and weak, but exponentially nonlinear, chemistry.

Initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned} P &= U = Z = 0, \\ \phi &= -a\psi. \end{aligned}$$

Boundary condition

$$U(0, t) = 0.$$

- Solution computed numerically for $a = O(1)$.
- Boundary-layer analysis possible for $a \gg 1$.

Properties of The Induction Solution

(a moderate)

- Inertially confined thermal runaway at hot wall, $\psi = 0$, at $t = \tilde{t}(0)$.

As $t \rightarrow \tilde{t}(0)$,

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(0, t) &\sim -\ln[\gamma(\tilde{t}(0) - t)], \\ \gamma P(0, t) &\sim -\ln[\tilde{t}(0) - t], \\ \rho(0, t) &\text{ bounded.}\end{aligned}$$

Constant-volume explosion in a thin region at the wall. **Hot spot.** Spatial structure also known.

- For $t > \tilde{t}(0)$, runaway moves into the interior and defines a logarithmic singularity path, $t = \tilde{t}(\psi)$, i.e.,

$$\phi(\psi, \tilde{t}(\psi)) = \infty.$$

- The path $\tilde{t}(\psi)$ and its speed (mass flux)

$$\tilde{D} = \frac{1}{d\tilde{t}/d\psi}$$

are determined from a numerical solution of the induction equations.

- In the path-fixed coordinates (ψ, s) , where $s = \tilde{t}(\psi) - t$, the induction equations are

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_s - (\gamma - 1)P_s &= -e^\phi, \\ P_s - \tilde{D}U_s &= -\tilde{D}P_\psi, \\ P_s + \tilde{D}^2V_s &= -\tilde{D}^2U_\psi - \tilde{D}P_\psi.\end{aligned}$$

As $s \rightarrow 0+$, **changes across the path dominate**, i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \psi} \ll \frac{\partial}{\partial s},$$

\Rightarrow the quasisteady structure

$$\phi \sim -\ln \left[-\frac{\gamma \tilde{D}^2 - 1}{\tilde{D}^2 - 1} s \right],$$

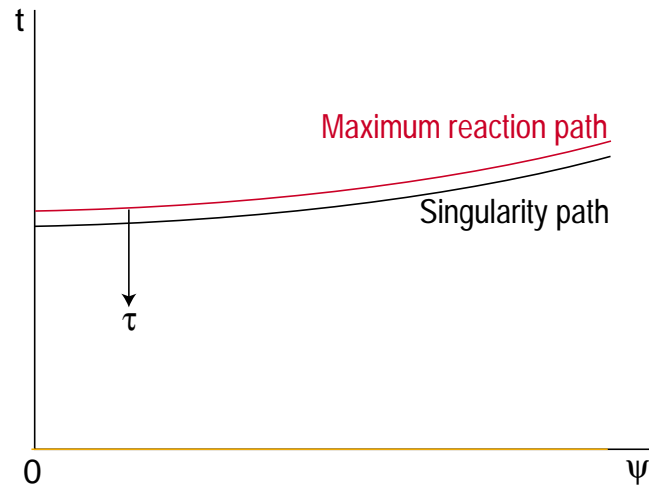
$$P \sim \frac{\tilde{D}^2 \phi - \tilde{b}(\psi)}{\gamma \tilde{D}^2 - 1}, \quad U \sim \frac{P - \tilde{a}(\psi)}{\gamma \tilde{D}}.$$

- The singularity path is supersonic, $\infty > \tilde{D} > 1$, but decelerates as it advances. **Larger the gradient a , the stronger the deceleration**. Induction solution breaks down when \tilde{D} reaches 1.
- The singularity path is a first-order approximation to the maximum reaction-rate locus, $t = \hat{t}(\psi)$, $d\hat{t}/d\psi = 1/D$, (cf. constant-volume explosion). Post-induction, this locus defines a supersonic wave of intense reaction: a spontaneous wave or **induction flame**. (Zeldovich Spontaneous Flame, corrected for compressibility.)
- In coordinates (ψ, τ) attached to the maximum reaction-rate locus, where $\tau = \hat{t}(\psi) - t$,

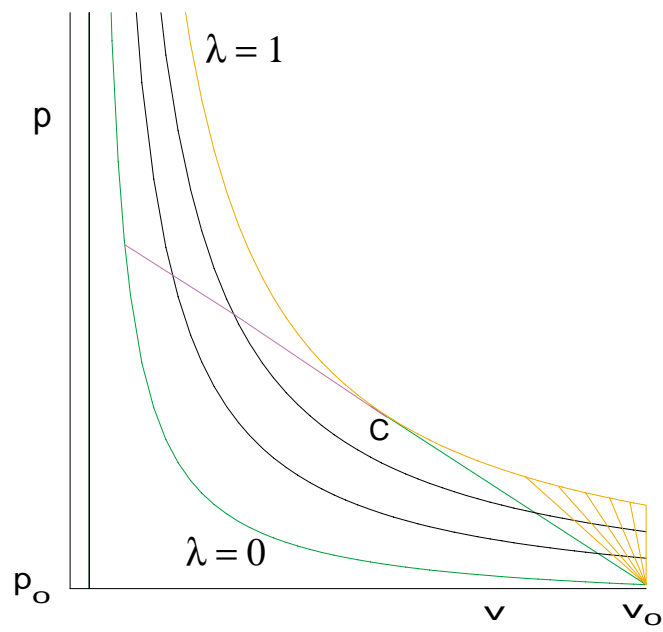
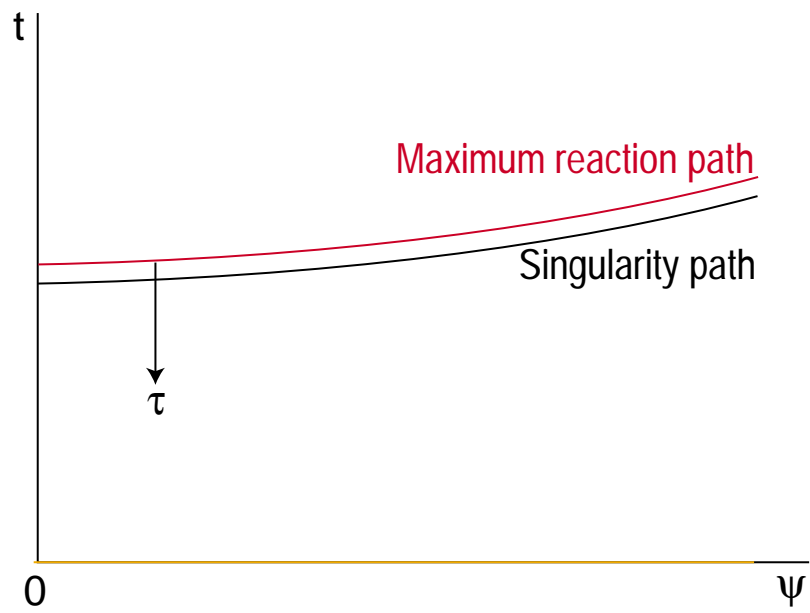
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \gg \frac{\partial}{\partial \psi} \text{ exponentially as } \tau \rightarrow 0,$$

Equations \Rightarrow algebraic statements of conservation to exponentially small errors.

– Solution is quasisteady, parametrized by D .



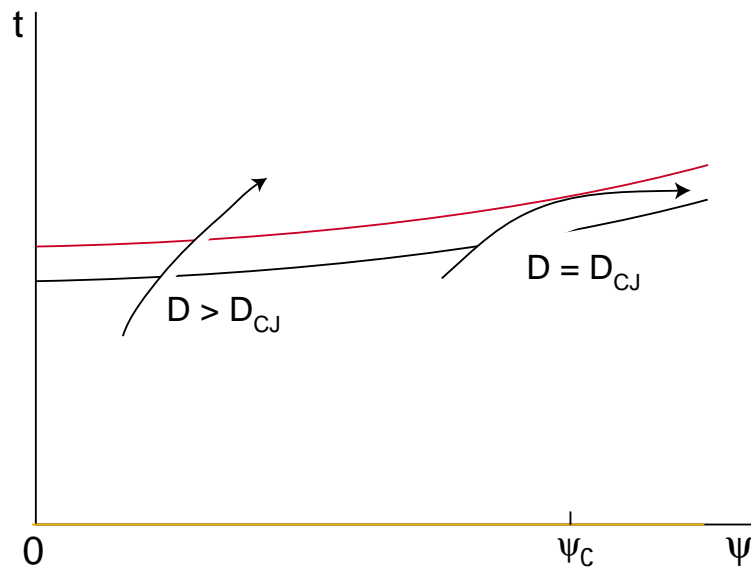
- Solution across the wave is **monotonic, supersonic, shockless, compressive; a weak detonation.**
- Descending Rayleigh lines on the pv -plane.



- Mach number decreases across the wave. A sonic point first appears at the end of the reaction zone, at $\psi = \psi_c$, say, when $\mathcal{R} = 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_c^2 &= 2(\gamma + 1)\gamma^2 \hat{D}^2 \mathcal{B}_c, \\ p_c &= \frac{\mathcal{A}_c}{\gamma + 1}, \\ \mu_c &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

- Sonic condition $\Rightarrow D \sim D_{CJ}$. Near CJ, quasisteadiness is lost.



Evolution Near Criticality

New scalings

$$\psi = \psi_c + \delta r \quad \text{and} \quad t = \hat{t}(\psi) - \nu s,$$

$$\nu \ll \delta \ll 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \varepsilon \ll 1,$$

$$\nu = \frac{Q}{\varepsilon} \exp\left[\frac{1 - T_c}{\varepsilon T_c}\right] \ll 1.$$

Full equations

$$\begin{aligned} P_s + \gamma \alpha^2 \left(\frac{T}{P}\right)_s &= \gamma \rho Q \lambda_s, \\ \frac{D + \alpha}{D} (P_s - \gamma \alpha u_s) + \frac{\nu}{\delta} \alpha (P_r - \gamma \alpha u_r) &= \gamma \rho Q \lambda_s, \\ \frac{D - \alpha}{D} (P_s + \gamma \alpha u_s) - \frac{\nu}{\delta} \alpha (P_r + \gamma \alpha u_r) &= \gamma \rho Q \lambda_s, \\ \lambda_s &= -\frac{\nu \varepsilon (1 - \lambda)}{Q} \exp\left[\frac{T - 1}{\varepsilon T}\right]. \end{aligned}$$

($\alpha = \rho c$ is the acoustic impedance.)

Near-critical expansions

$$T \sim T_c + \varepsilon \Gamma, \quad p \sim p_c + \varepsilon \gamma \Theta, \quad u \sim u_c + \varepsilon \mathcal{U}, \quad \lambda \sim 1 - \varepsilon^2 \eta / \Lambda,$$

$$\begin{aligned} D &= D_c + \delta D'_c r + O((\delta r)^2), \\ \alpha &\sim D_c \left[1 + \varepsilon \left(\frac{\gamma \Theta}{P_c} - \frac{\Gamma}{2T_c} \right) \right], \quad \mu \sim 1 - \varepsilon \frac{\gamma + 1}{2P_c} \Theta. \end{aligned}$$

Evolution Near Criticality, contd.

Mass

$$\Gamma - \frac{(\gamma - 1)T_c}{P_c}\Theta = 0.$$

Backward characteristic

$$\mathcal{U} - \frac{\Theta}{D_c} = 0$$

Forward characteristic

$$L\Theta_r + \Theta\Theta_s = \frac{1}{2}\eta_s$$

Rate

$$\eta_s = \eta e^{\kappa\Gamma}.$$

Parameters

$$g_1 = 2(-D'_c) \frac{(\gamma D_c^2 - 1)P_c - (\gamma - 1)}{\gamma^2(\gamma + 1)D_c},$$
$$\Lambda = \frac{2QD_c^2}{\gamma + 1}, \quad L = \frac{2P_cD_c}{\gamma + 1} \left(\frac{\nu}{\delta\varepsilon} \right), \quad \kappa = \frac{1}{T_c^2} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{\epsilon} \right), \quad k = \frac{\delta}{\varepsilon^2}.$$

In addition to the prescription that $s = 0$ is the site of maximum reaction rate, the induction solution provides the matching requirement

$$\Theta \sim -\sqrt{\eta - \kappa g_1 r} \quad \text{as } s \rightarrow \infty.$$

Spatial scale δ and perturbation amplitude ε remain to be chosen.

Evolution Near Criticality, contd.
Stage II: Inviscid, Reactive Burgers Problem

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{\eta}_z &= e^z, \\ \Theta_{\bar{r}} + \Theta\Theta_z &= \frac{1}{2}\eta_z = \frac{1}{2}e^z, \\ \Theta &\sim -\sqrt{e^z - \bar{r}} \text{ as } z \rightarrow \infty.\end{aligned}$$

Characteristic form

$$\begin{aligned}\left. \frac{\partial z}{\partial \bar{r}} \right]_{\zeta} &= \Theta, \quad \text{or} \quad \bar{r} - \zeta + \int_z^{\infty} \frac{dz}{\Theta} = 0, \\ \left. \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial z} \right]_{\zeta} &= \frac{e^z}{2\Theta},\end{aligned}$$

Solution

$$e^z - \Theta^2 = \zeta \Rightarrow \Theta = \pm\sqrt{e^z - \zeta}.$$

Characteristic

$$\zeta = e^z \sin^2 \left(\frac{(\bar{r} - \zeta)\sqrt{\zeta}}{2} \right).$$

Sonic locus

$$\zeta = e^z \quad \text{or} \quad (\bar{r} - \zeta)\sqrt{\zeta} = \pi.$$

Evolution Near Criticality Stage II: Shock Formation, contd.

Implicit solution

$$1 - \Theta^2 e^{-z} = \sin^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} (\bar{r} - e^z + \Theta^2) \sqrt{e^z - \Theta^2} \right].$$

- Shock forms at first occurrence of infinite Θ_z :

$$\zeta_* = 2.653658, \quad \bar{r}_* = 3\zeta_* - 2(3)^{1/3} = 5.076205,$$

$$\Theta_* = 3^{-1/3} = 0.693361.$$

- Shock path $z = Z(\bar{r})$:

$$\frac{dZ}{d\bar{r}} = \frac{1}{2} [\Theta(z^+, \bar{r}) + \Theta(z^-, \bar{r})].$$

(z^+ : supersonic side, z^- : subsonic side.)

- As the shock moves forward into regions where the reactant concentration is less depleted, both z and \bar{r} become large,

$$\zeta^+ \sim \bar{r}, \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta^- \sim \frac{4\pi^2}{\bar{r}}.$$

Correspondingly,

$$\Theta(z^+, \bar{r}) \sim -e^{z/2} + \frac{\bar{r}}{2} e^{-z/2} \quad \text{and} \quad \Theta(z^-, \bar{r}) \sim e^{z/2} - \frac{2\pi^2}{\bar{r}^2} e^{-z/2}.$$

- Asymptotic forms of the shock locus and shock speed,

$$Z(\bar{r}) \sim 4 \ln(\bar{r}/4), \quad Z'(\bar{r}) \sim 4/\bar{r}.$$

Shock Growth and Transition to ZND Post-Burgers Regime

Shock locus

$$t_S(\psi) = \hat{t}(\psi) + \nu\sigma(\epsilon) - \nu Z.$$

Shock speed (mass flux)

$$\frac{1}{D_S} = \frac{1}{D} - \frac{\nu dZ}{\delta d\bar{r}}.$$

\Rightarrow

$$D_S \sim D + \frac{\nu}{\delta} D^2 \frac{dZ}{d\bar{r}} = D + \frac{g_1}{\bar{k}^2} D^2 \nu^{1/3} \frac{dZ}{d\bar{r}}.$$

Induction-flame mass flux

$$D \sim D_c + \delta D'_c \bar{r}.$$

\Rightarrow

$$D_S = [D_c + \nu^{2/3} (\bar{k}^2 / g_1) D'_c \bar{r}] + \nu^{1/3} \frac{D_c^2 g_1}{\bar{k}^2} \frac{dZ}{d\bar{r}}.$$

- $D'_c < 0 \Rightarrow D < D_c$ for $\bar{r} > 0$, velocity deficit of order $\nu^{2/3} \bar{r}$.
- Shock travels *faster* than the induction flame, velocity excess of order $\nu^{1/3} / \bar{r}$.
- As \bar{r} increases, velocity deficit grows, velocity excess decays. The two corrections to D_c become comparable, each of order $\nu^{1/2}$, at

$$\bar{r} = O(\nu^{-1/6}), \quad \text{or} \quad \delta \bar{r} = O(\nu^{1/2}).$$

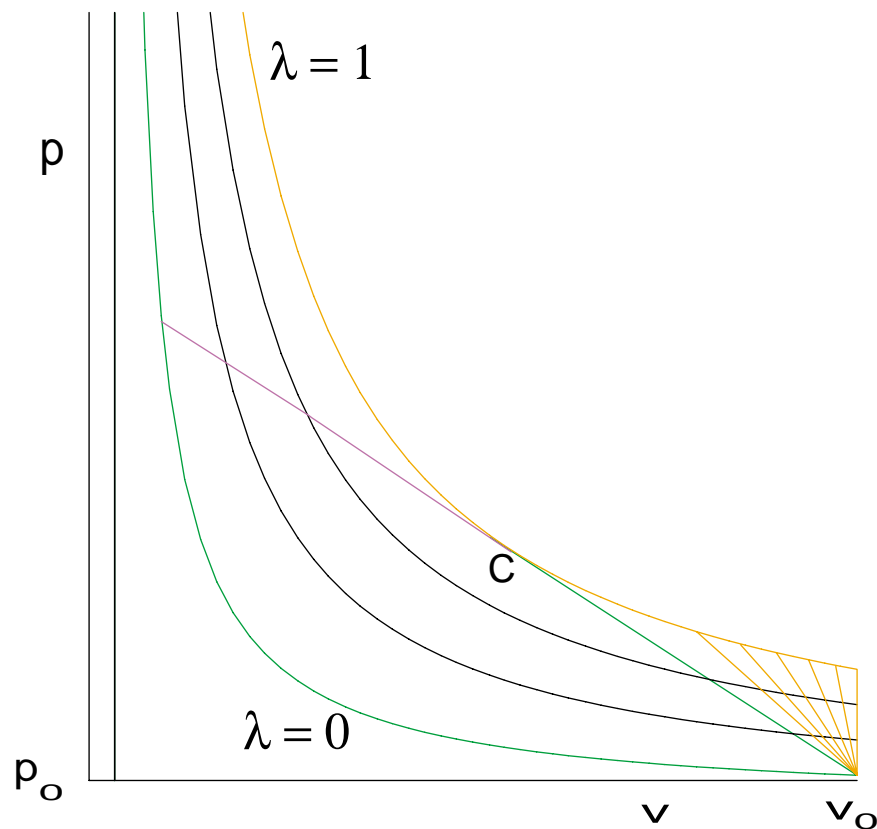
Shock Growth and Transition to ZND Post-Burgers Regime, contd.

- Perturbation $\varepsilon\Theta$ to the critical pressure p_c , negative ahead of the shock and positive behind, in each case of order $\nu^{1/3}\bar{r}^2$, grows to order unity. Throughout this stage of shock growth, the shock speed undergoes only an $O(\nu^{1/2})$ excursion around the order unity value of D_c .
- Analysis of this stage occurs in two stages: quasisteady Burgers with weakly nonlinear chemistry for $\varepsilon\Theta = O(\varepsilon)$ and full, quasisteady equations for $\varepsilon\Theta = O(1)$.
- Speed is determined by requiring smooth passage through the sonic point.

Transition to ZND structure from quiescent state

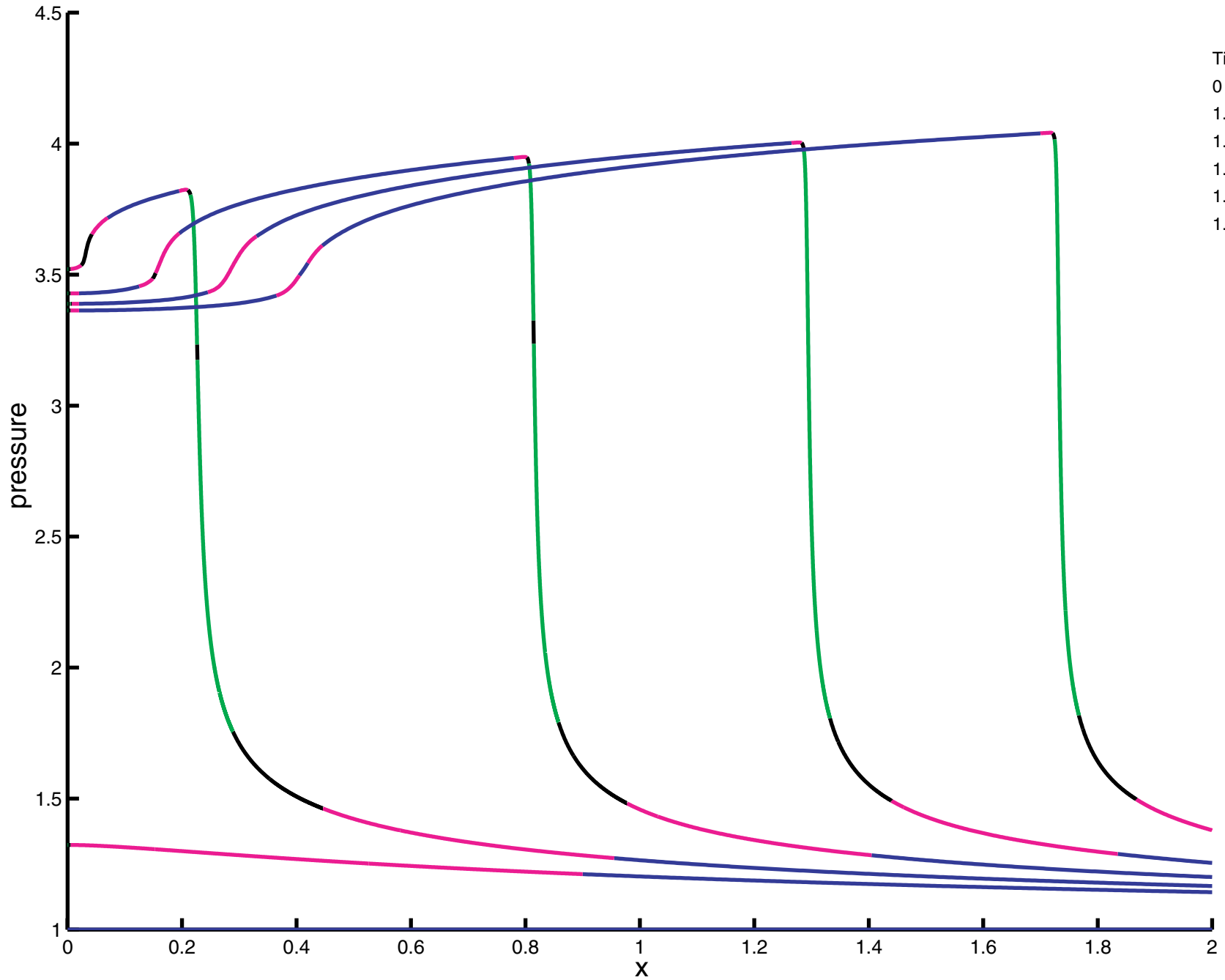
Induction

- ⇒ **unsteady**, thermal runaway
- ⇒ **quasisteady**, weak detonation, $D \rightarrow D_{CJ}$
- ⇒ **quasisteady**, weakly nonlinear reaction, near-critical
- ⇒ **unsteady** Burgers, nonlinear reaction, near-critical
- ⇒ **quasisteady**, weakly nonlinear reaction, near-critical
- ⇒ **quasisteady**, fully nonlinear, to ZND



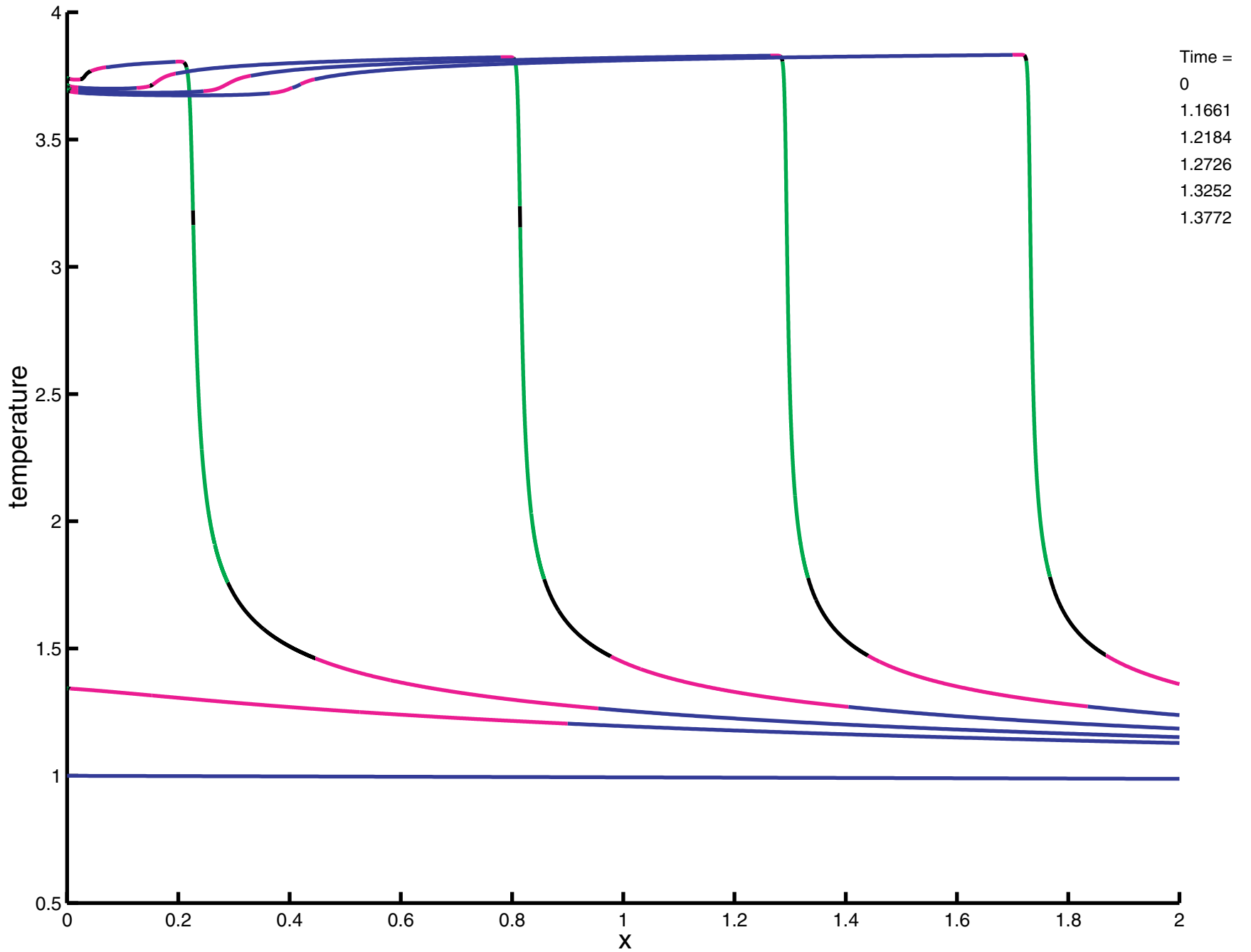
For small a , the region may not be big enough for the CJ state to be reached.

$a = 0.1$

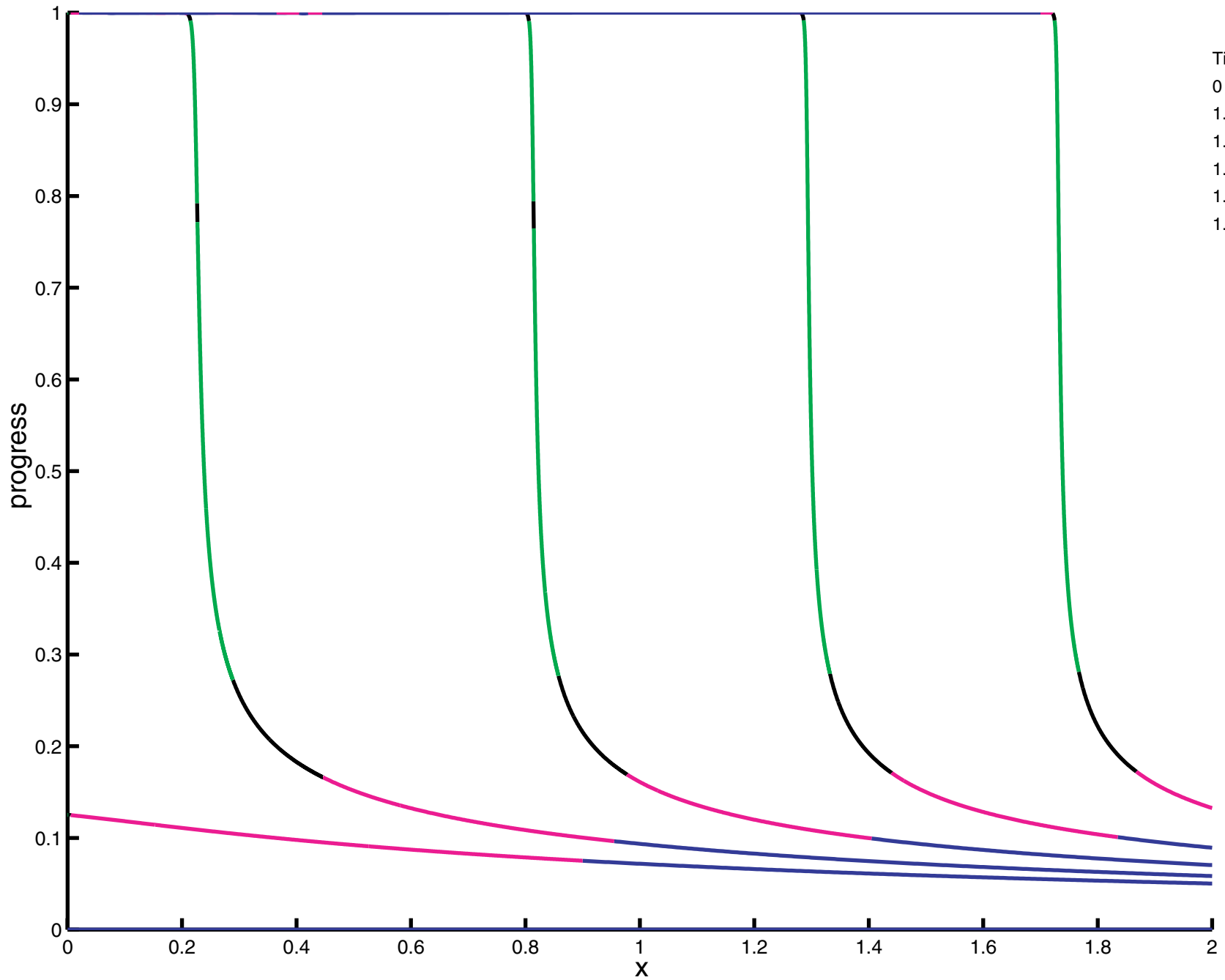


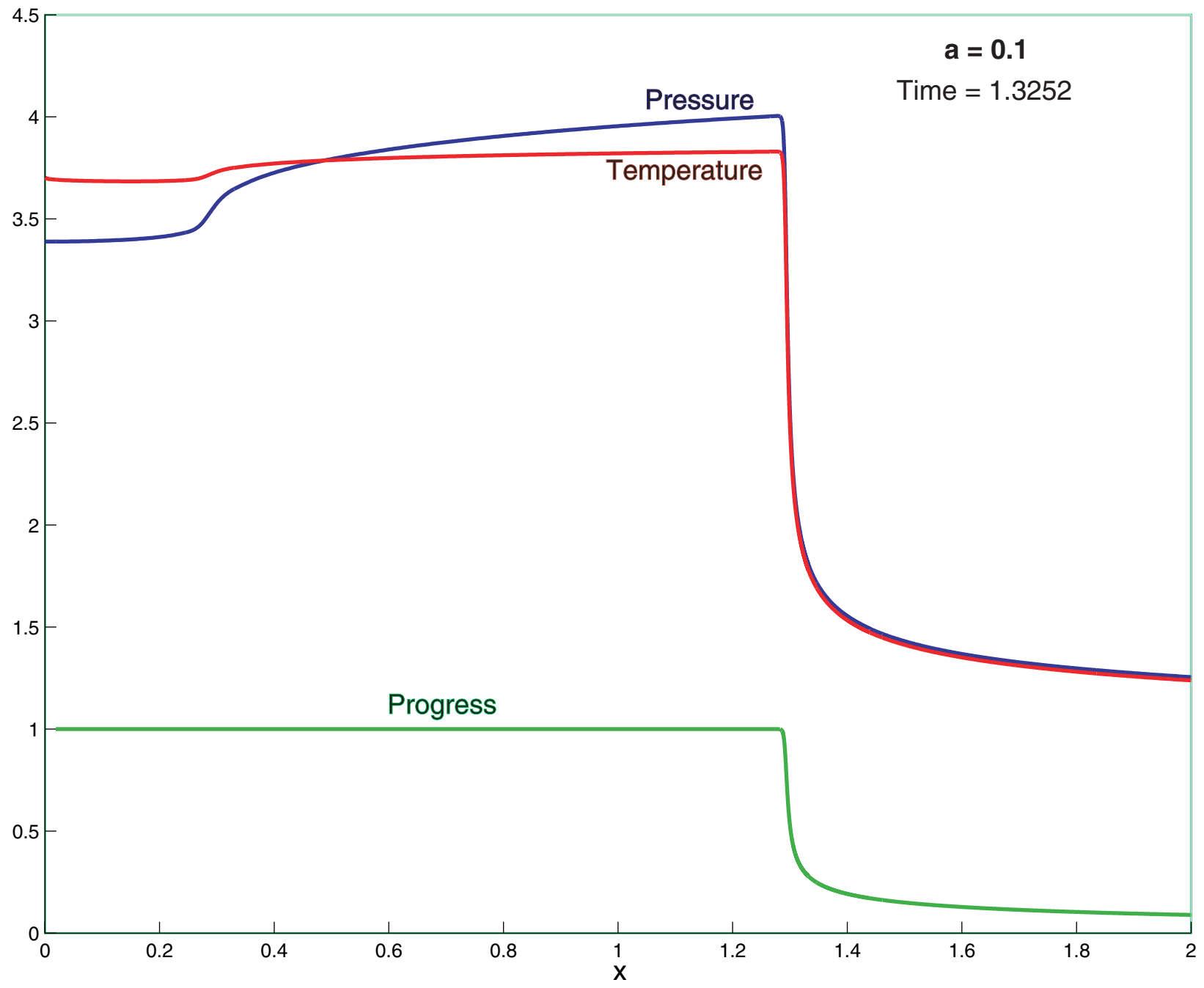
Time =
0
1.1661
1.2184
1.2726
1.3252
1.3772

a = 0.1

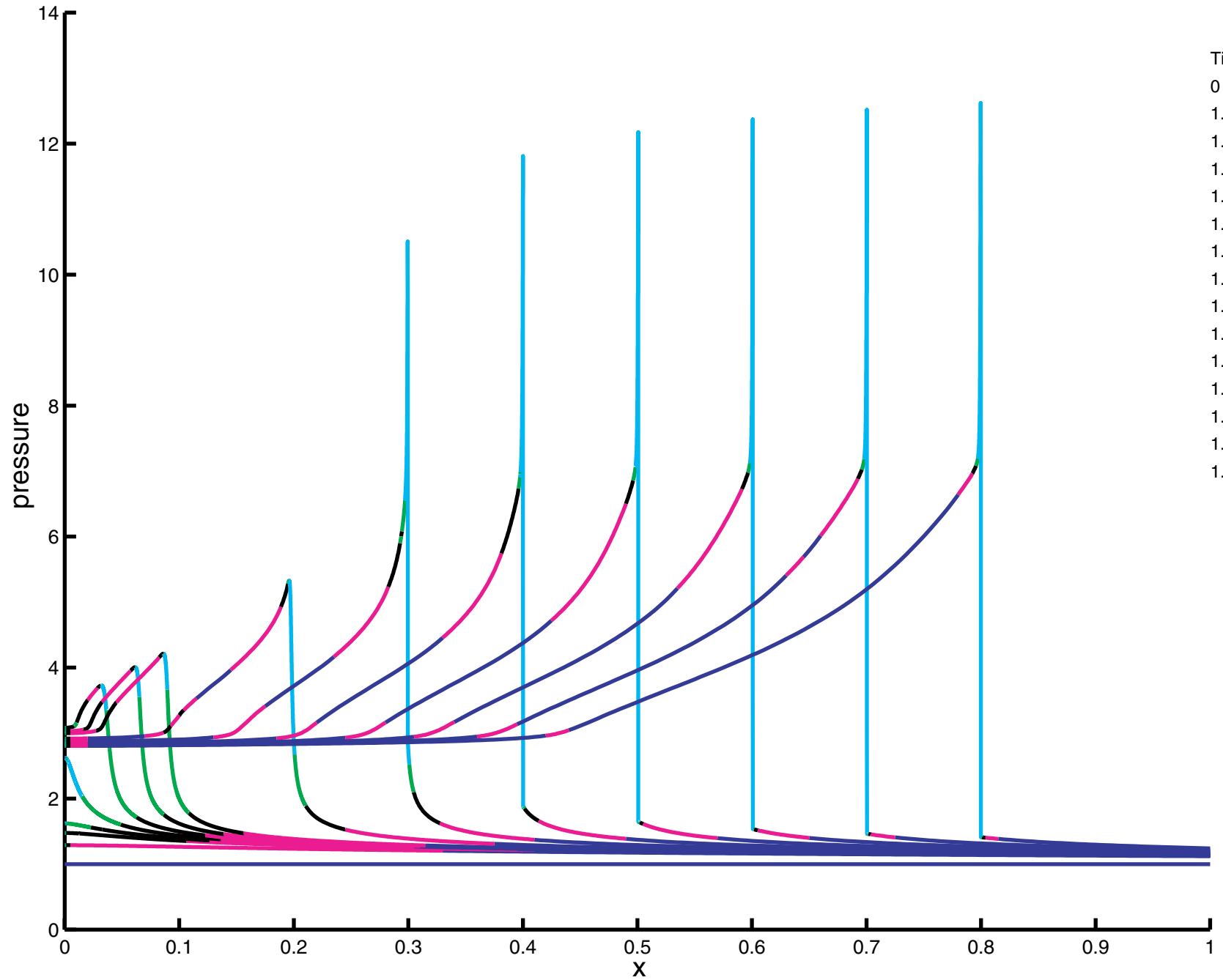


a = 0.1

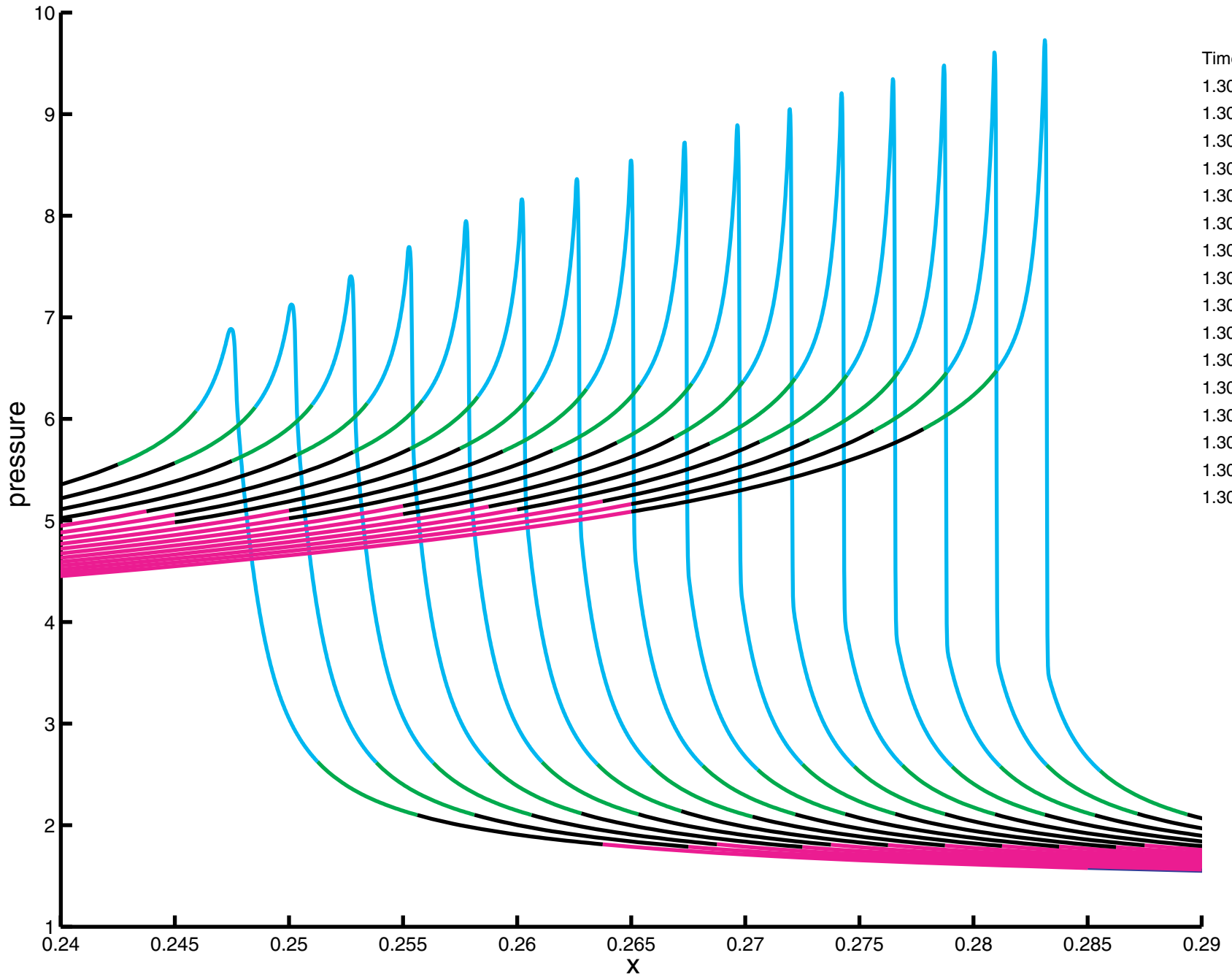




a = 0.38

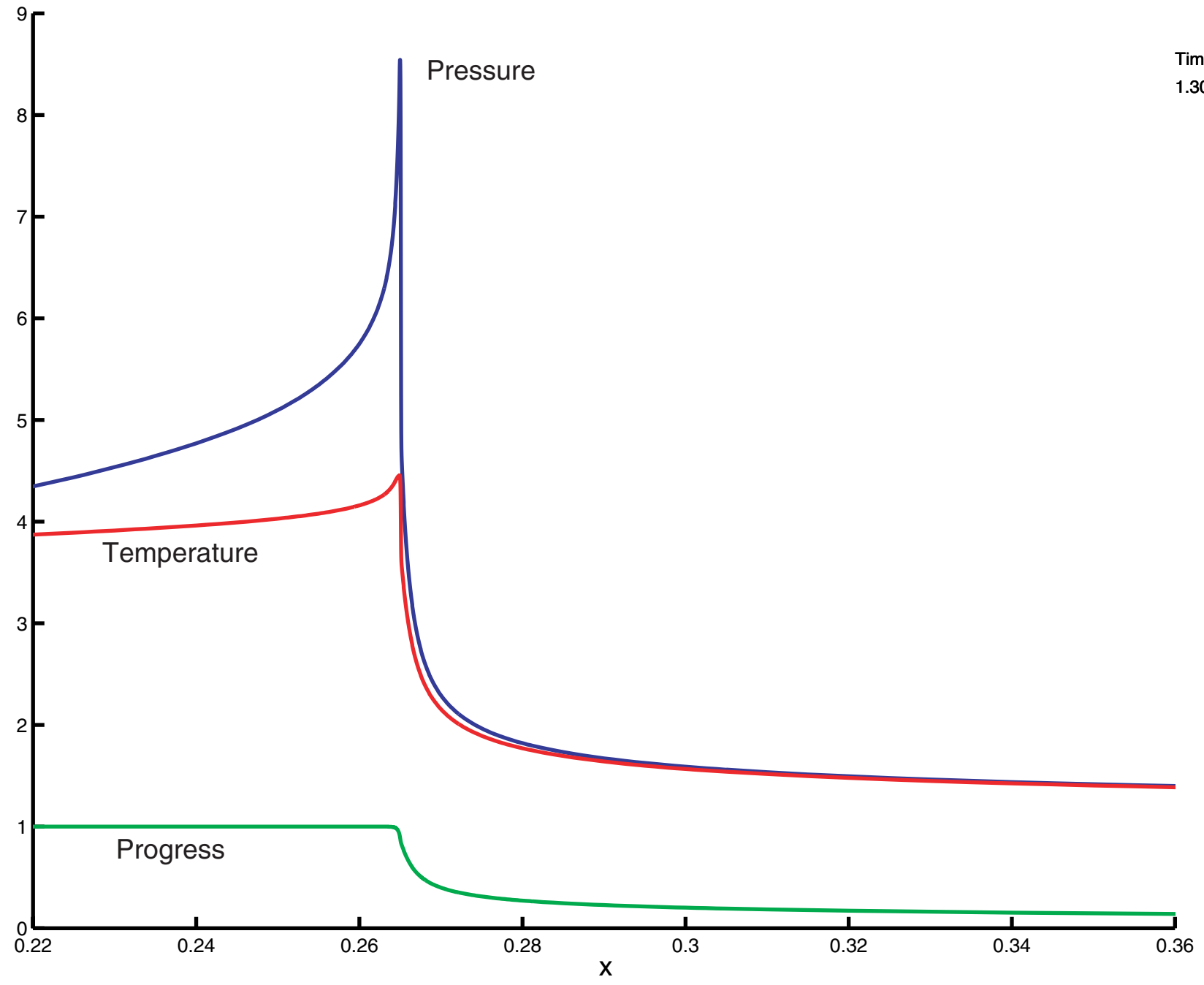


a = 0.38



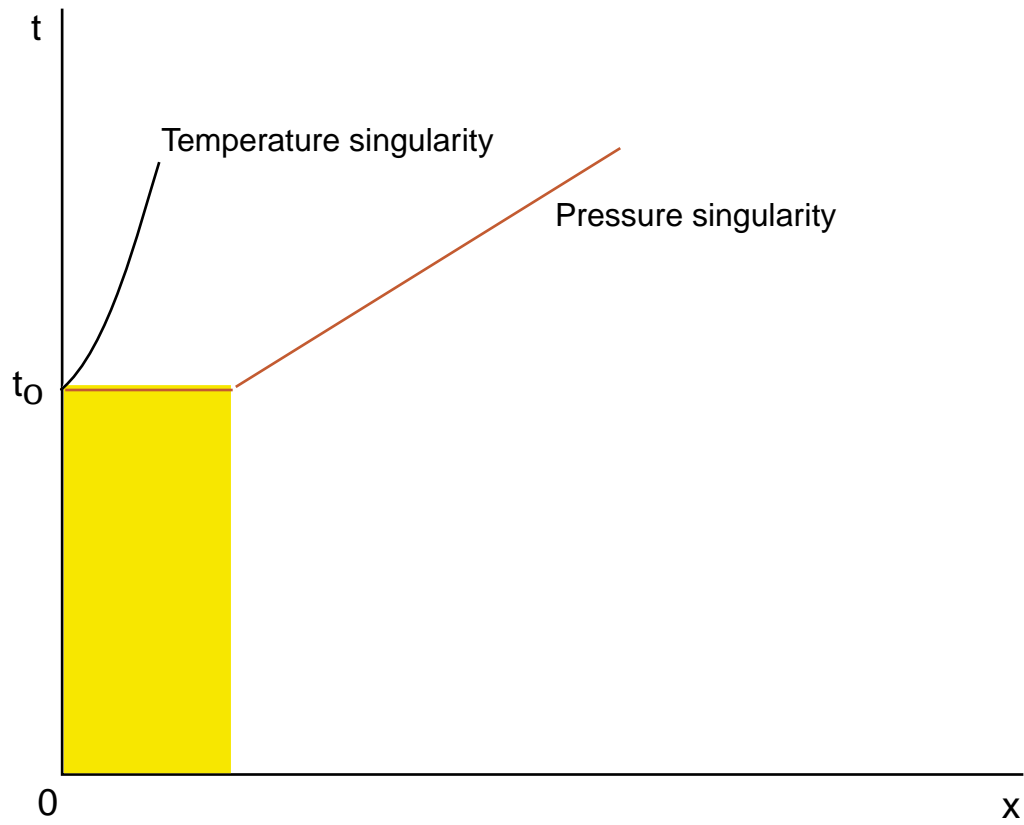
a = 0.38

Time =
1.3051

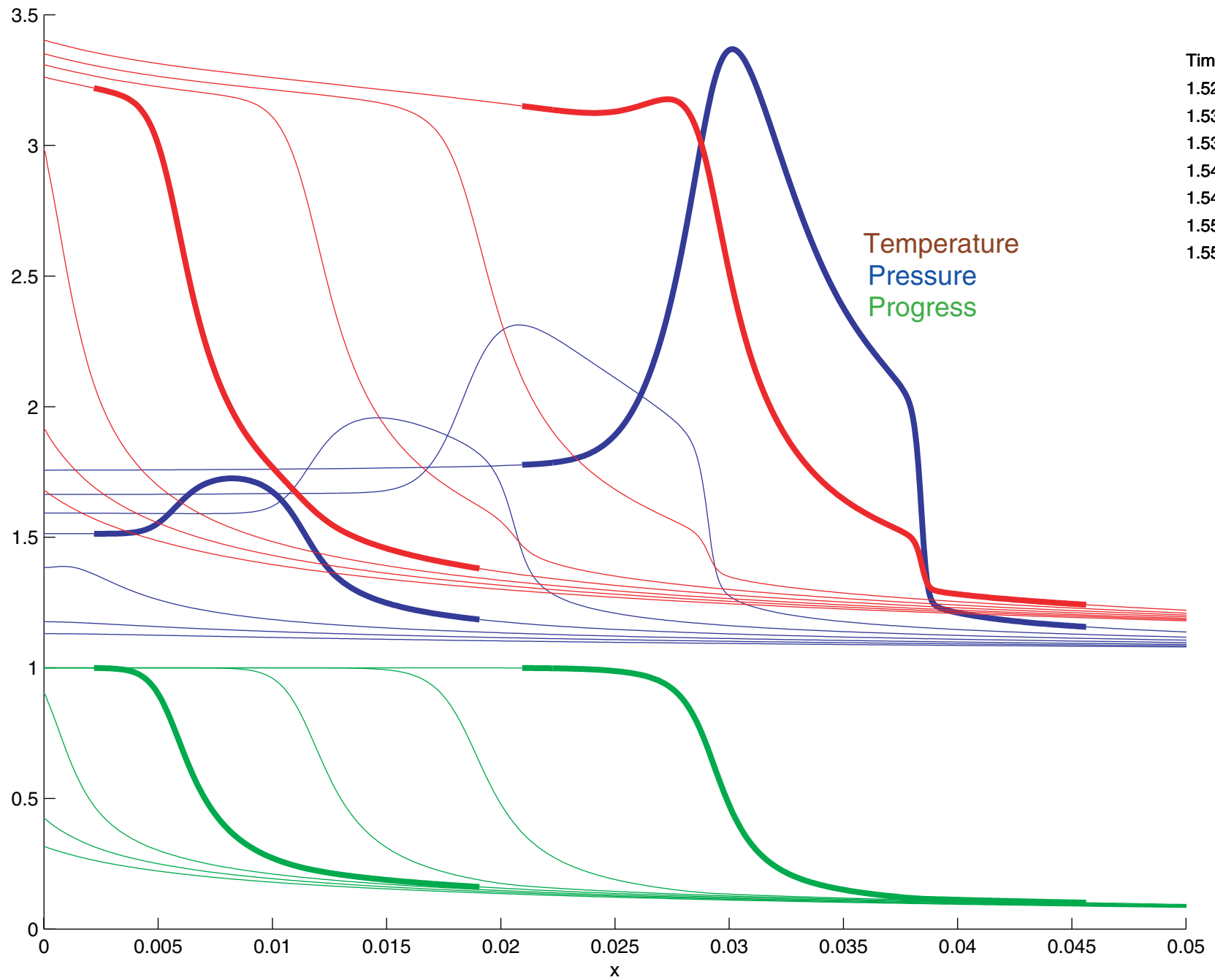


Scenario for Larger Gradients

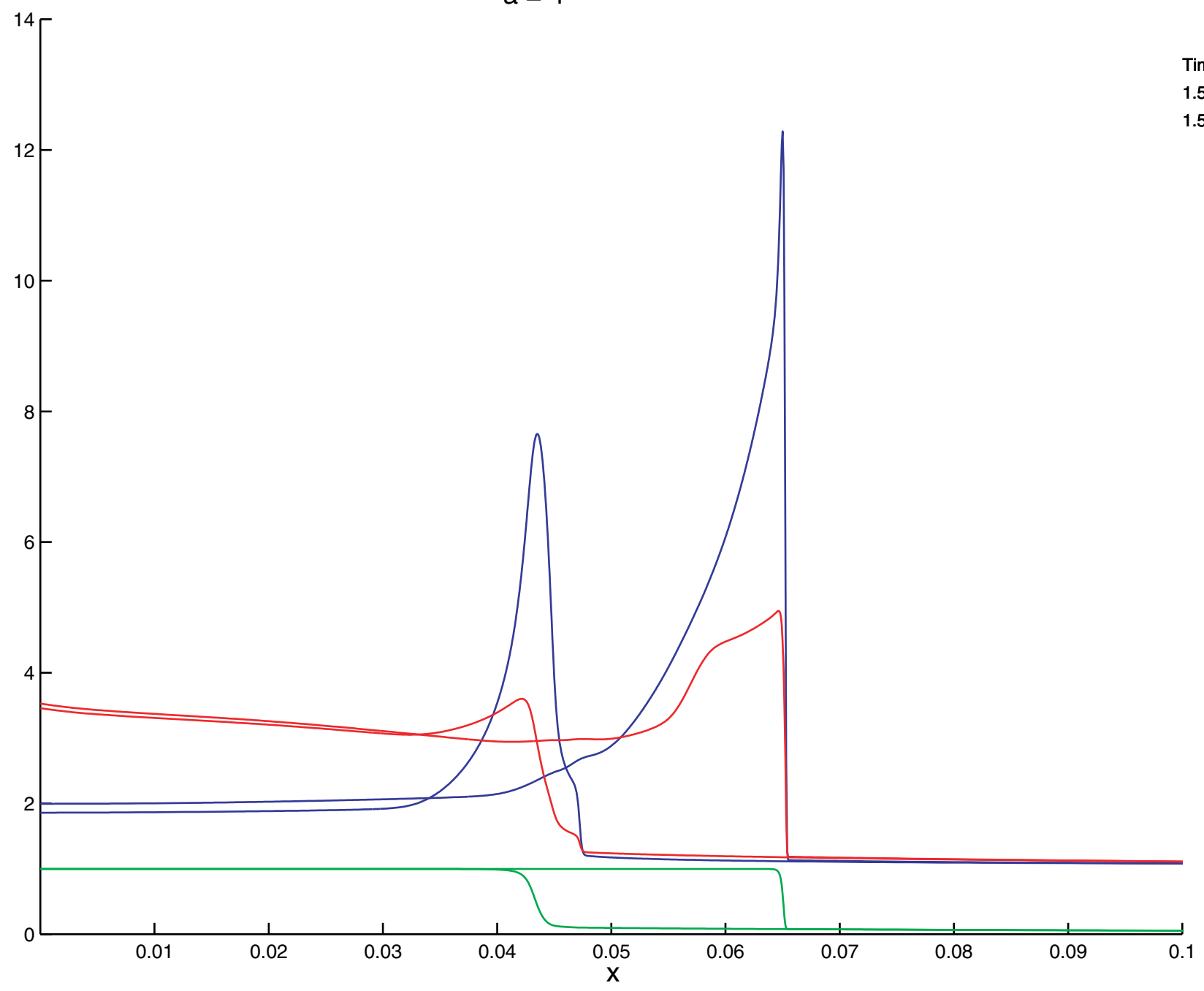
$$a \gg 1$$



a = 4

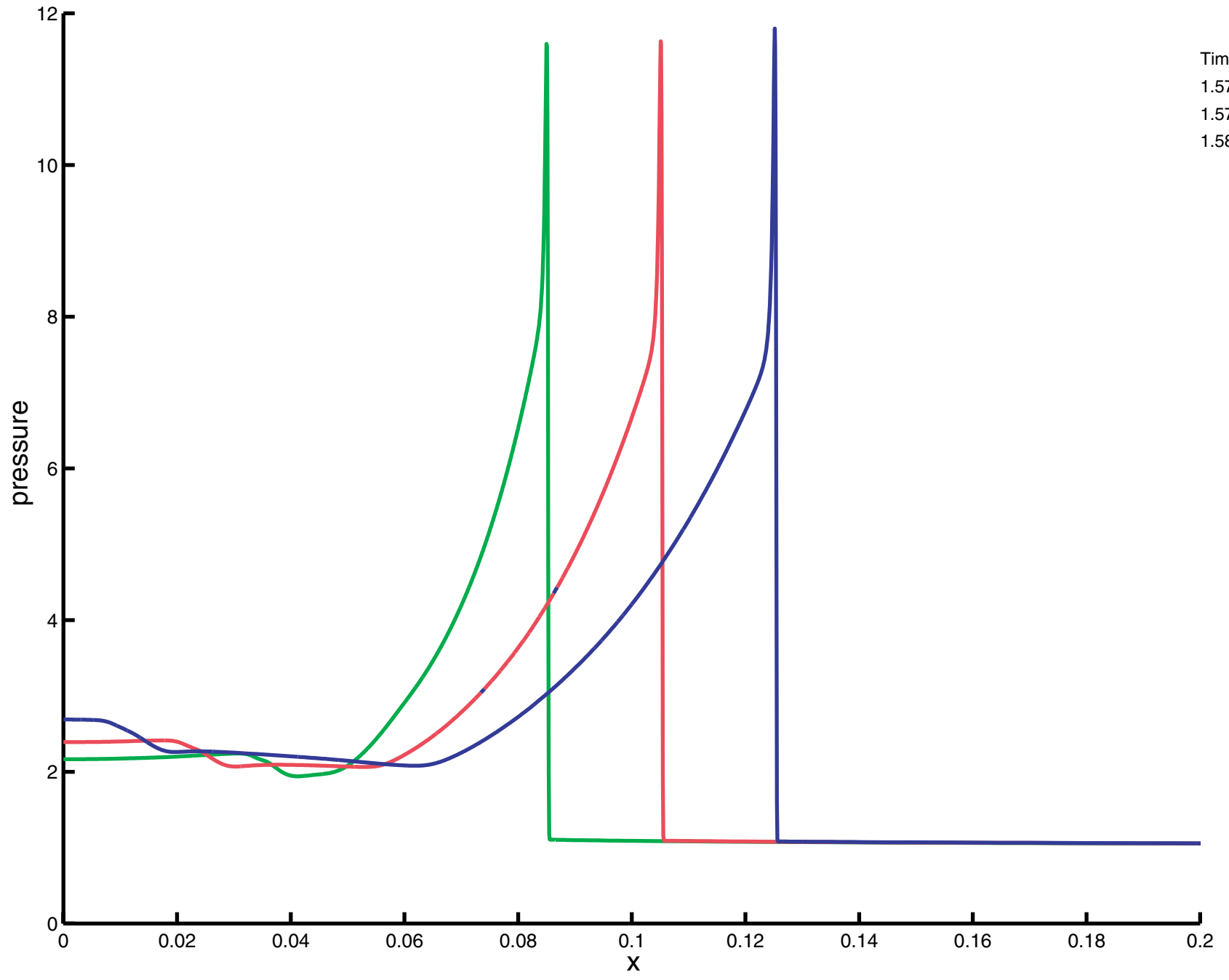


a = 4

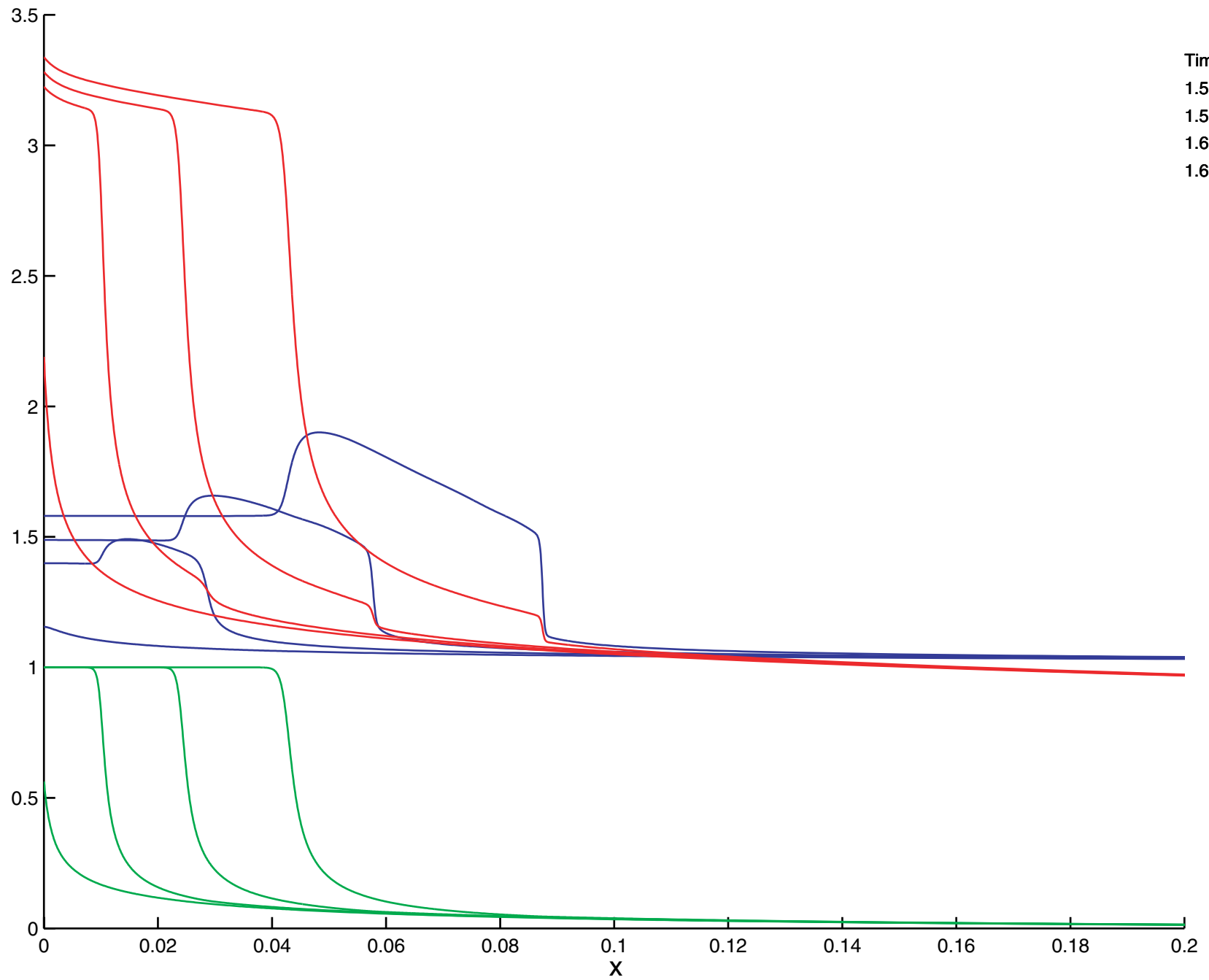


Time =
1.5645
1.5695

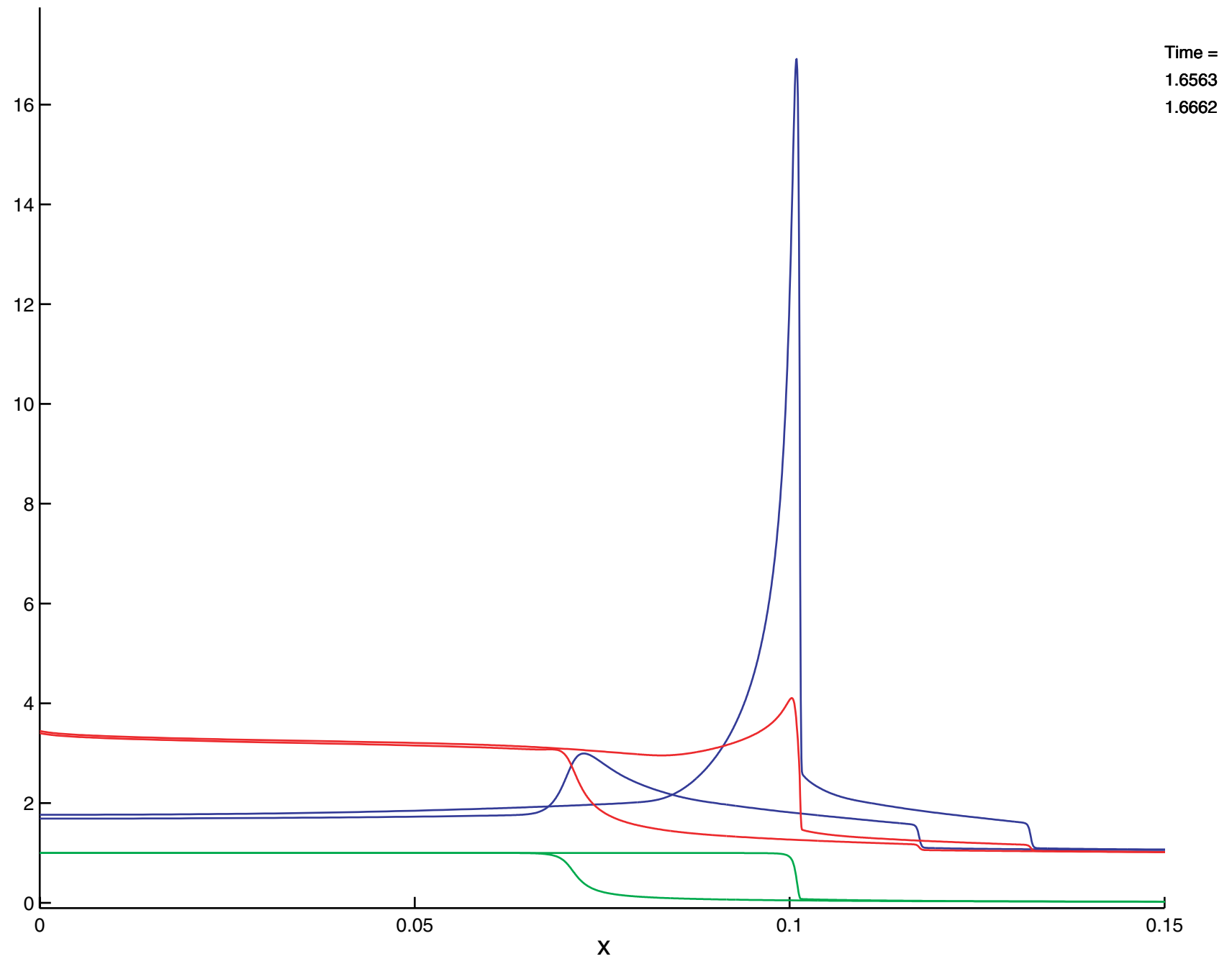
a = 4



a = 6

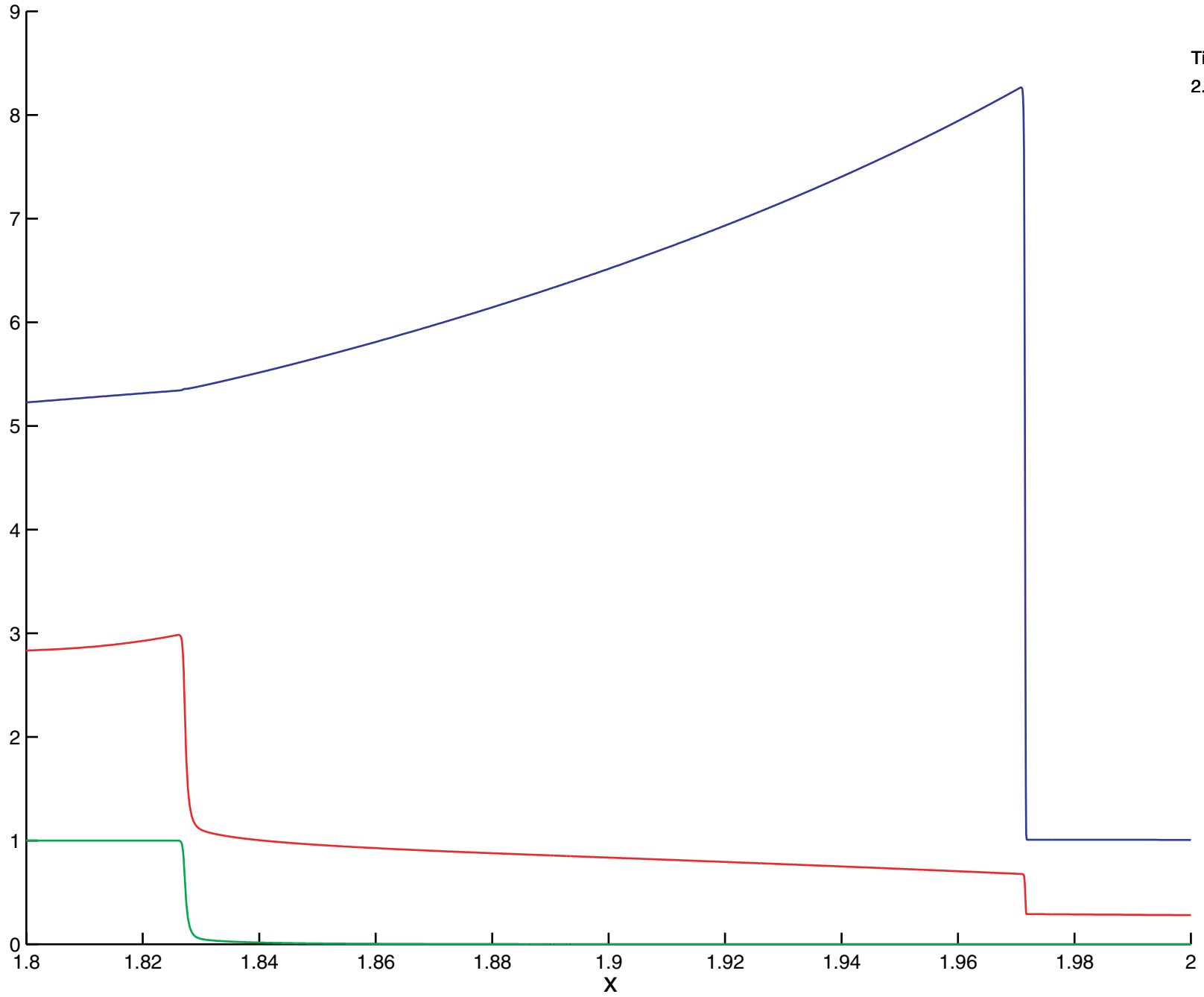


a = 6



$a = 6$

Time =
2.2469



Properties of Sample Explosive

$$Q = 2,$$

$$\gamma = 1.4,$$

$$\epsilon = 1/16,$$

$$p_e = 3.8,$$

$$T_e = 3.8,$$

$$p_c = 7.13,$$

$$T_c = 4.42,$$

$$D_c = 4.01,$$

$$p_n = 13.27,$$

$$T_n = 3.17.$$

Conclusions

- Nonuniformities are essential to provoke a detonation in a hot, reactive medium. Preconditioning is the key.
- An $O(\epsilon)$ gradient in temperature provides enough nonuniformity.
- Evolution begins with a localized explosion.
- A small gradient (on the ϵ scale) involves a broad induction domain, produces a localized constant-volume explosion, followed by a decelerating weak detonation which, in due course, transits to a CJ wave.
- A moderate gradient reduces the run to detonation.
- A moderately large gradient confines induction initially to a narrow domain, in which a (nearly) constant-pressure explosion occurs. The pressure pulse leaves the induction domain, amplifies into a weak shock, and additional chemical-gasdynamic coupling leads to detonation. (SWACER mechanism, and variations thereof.) Run-to-detonation distances are shorter.
- Very large gradients produce a very narrow initial induction region and hence a very weak shock; too weak to produce a detonation.