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The pressure impulse of a laser-induced underwater shock wave¹ YOSHIYUKI TAGAWA, SHOTA YAMAMOTO, KEISUKE HAYASAKA, MASA-HARU KAMEDA, Tokyo Univ of Agri Tech — We investigate the pressure impulse, the time integral of pressure evolution, of a laser-induced underwater shock wave. We simultaneously observe plasma formation, shock-wave expansion, and pressure in water using a combined measurement system that obtains high-resolution nanosecond-order image sequences. Remarkably, pressure impulse is found to distribute symmetrically for a wide range of experimental parameters even when the shock waves are emitted from an elongated plasma. In contrast, distribution of pressure peak is found to be non-spherically-symmetric. We rationalize aforementioned results by considering the structure of the underwater shock wave as a collection of multiple spherical shock waves originated from point-like plasmas in an elongated region.

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