

## **Supporting Information**

### **Untangling the Efficient Boron-Initialized Hydroxyl-Terminated Polybutadiene Combustion for High Energetic Solid Propulsion Systems**

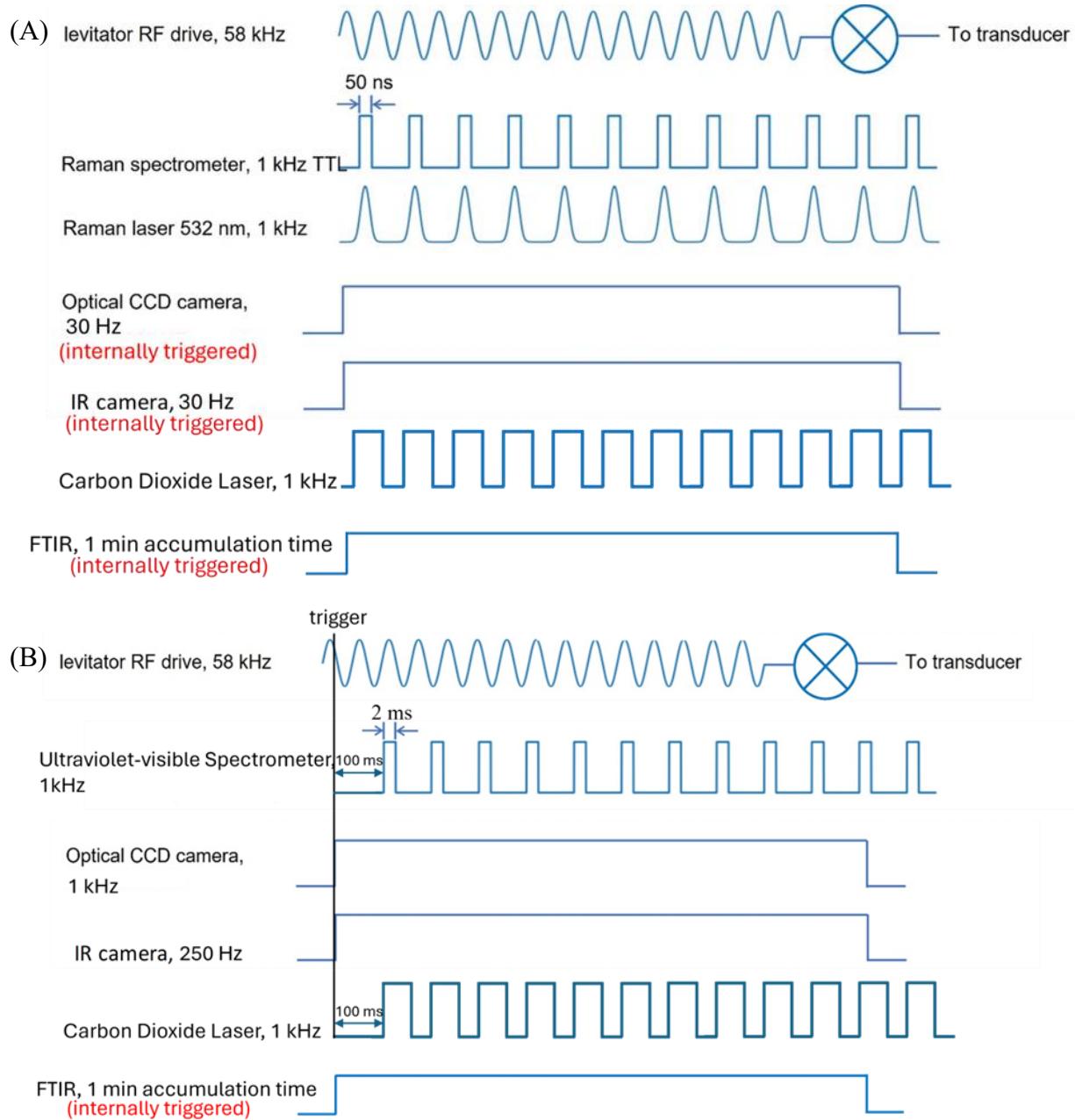
Grace L. Rizzo,<sup>1</sup> Souvick Biswas,<sup>1</sup> Dongwon Ka<sup>2</sup>, Xiaolin Zheng,<sup>\*2</sup> Ralf I. Kaiser<sup>\*1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA

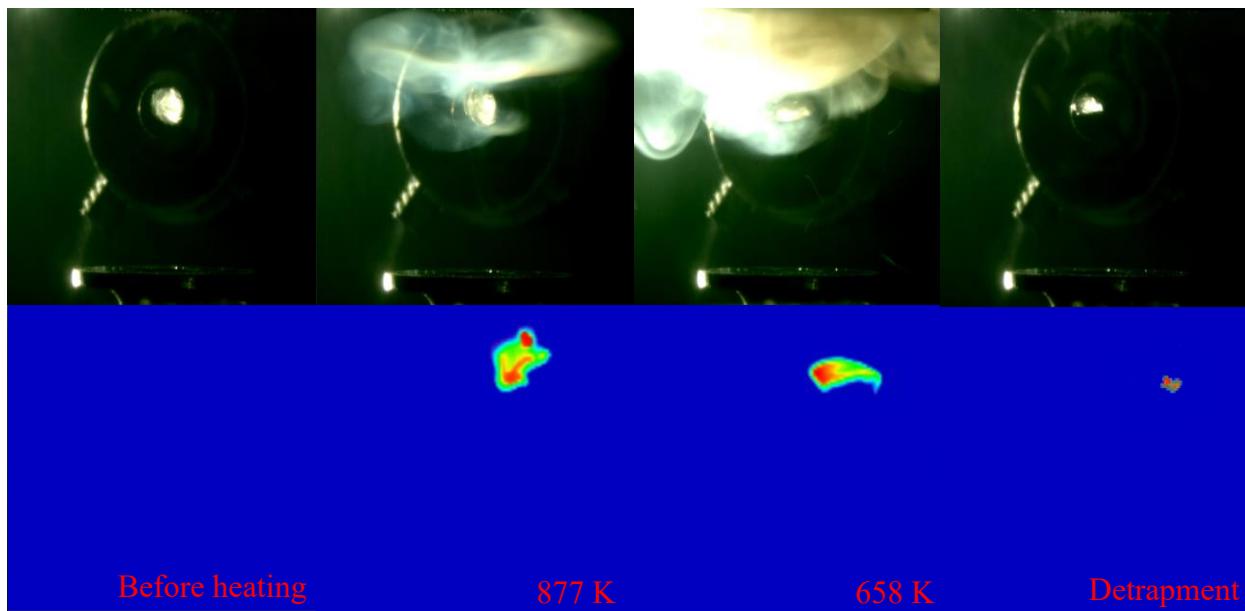
<sup>2</sup>Department of Mechanical Engineering, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-3032, USA

\*E-mail: ralfk@hawaii.edu

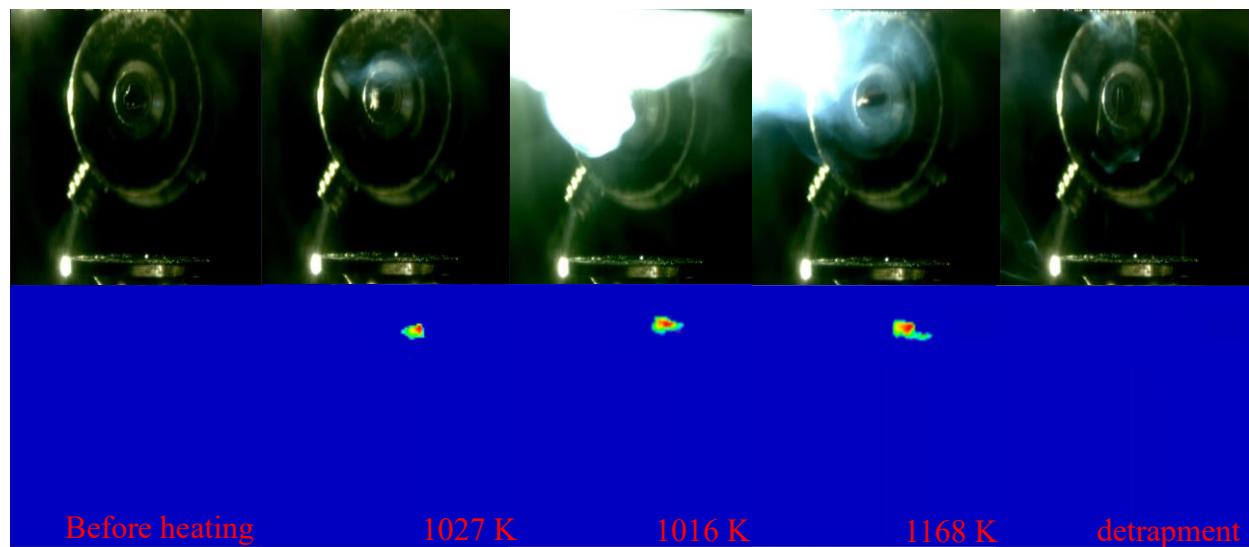
\*E-mail: xlzheng@stanford.edu



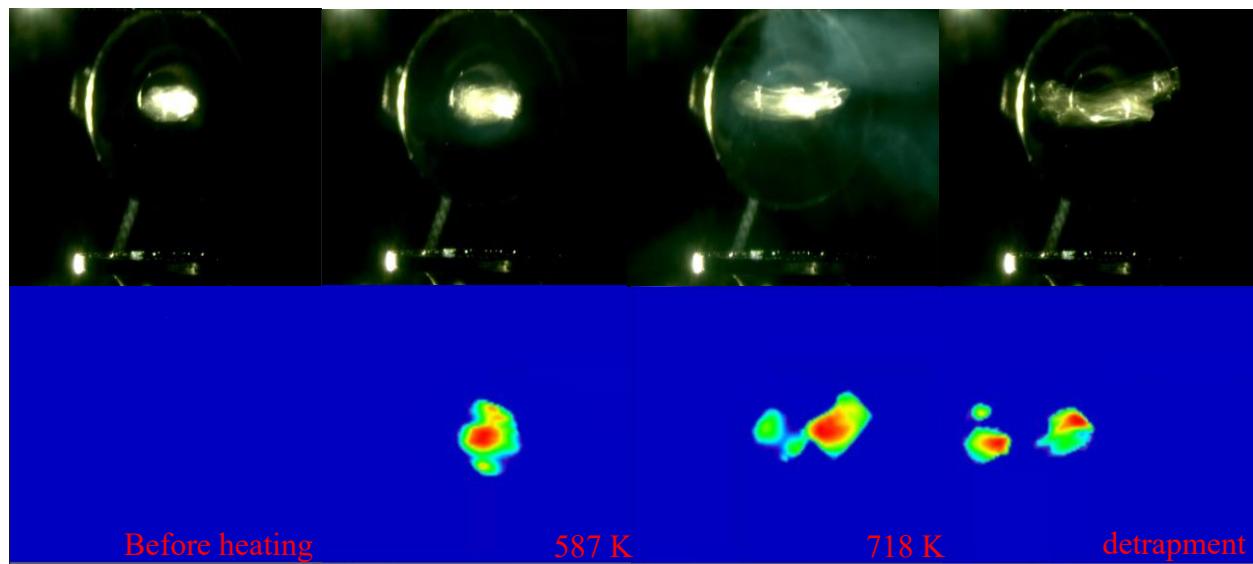
**Figure S1.** (A) Typical pulse sequence used for operation of the ultrasonic levitator for the heating of HTPB and B/HTPB in 100% Ar. Both Optical and IR camera were internally triggered and run at 30 Hz. (B) Typical pulse sequence used for operation of the ultrasonic levitator for the heating of HTPB and B/HTPB in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



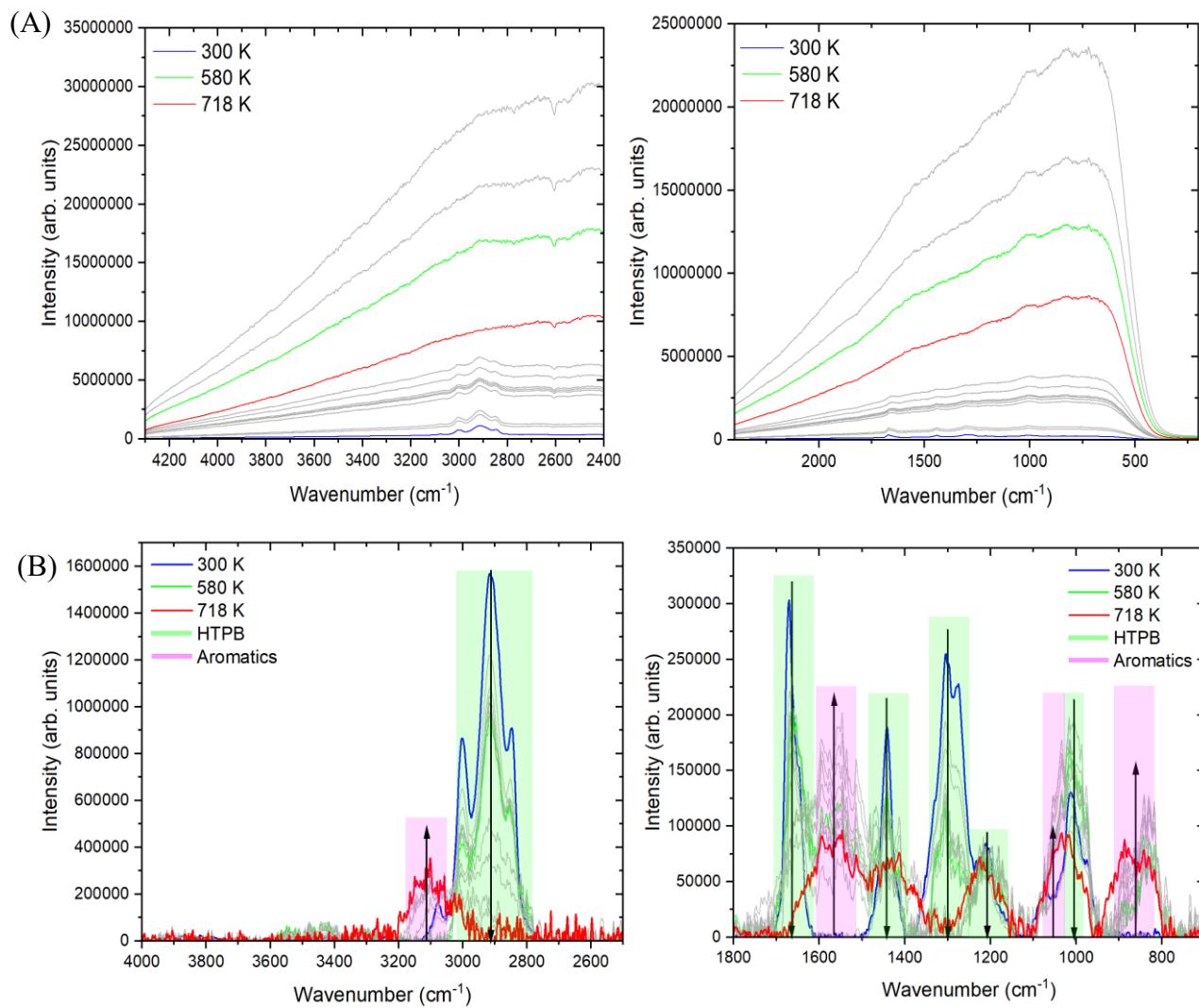
**Figure S2.** Optical and Infrared camera images of HTPB heated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



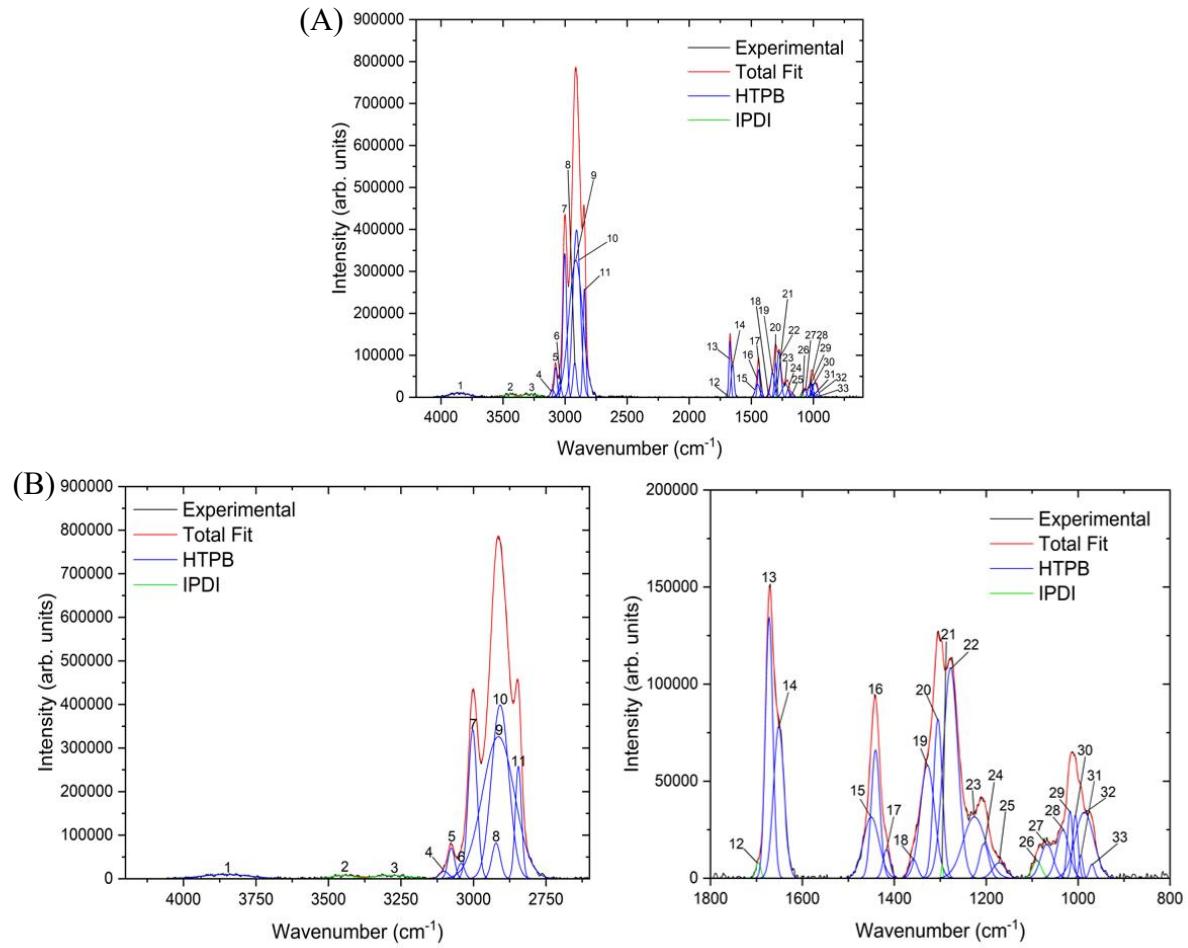
**Figure S3.** Optical and Infrared camera images of B/HTPB heated in 100% Ar.



**Figure S4.** Optical and Infrared camera images of HTPB heated in 100% Ar.



**Figure S5.** (A) Raman spectra of HTPB from 300 to 718 K in 100% Ar. Left panel represents the high wavenumber region and the right panel represents the low wavenumber region. (B) Baseline subtracted Raman spectra from (A).

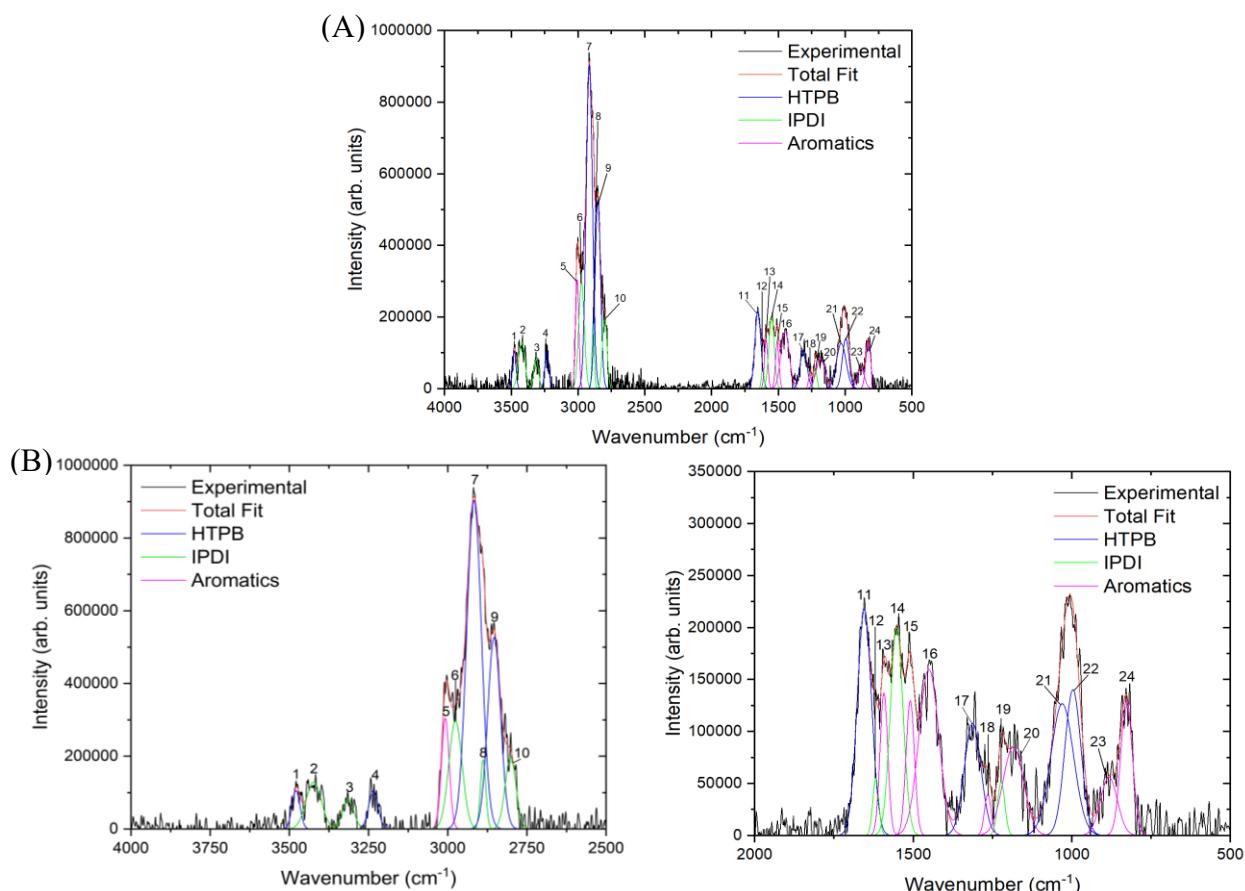


**Figure S6.** Room temperature deconvoluted Raman spectra of HTPB in 100% Ar. (A) represents the full spectrum and (B) represents the zoomed in high and low wavenumbers of the spectrum in (A).

**Table S1.** Peak assignments for the deconvoluted Raman spectrum of the HTPB particle levitated in 100% Ar at 300 K.

Peaks	Experimental Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Assignment	Carrier
1	3854	3800-3400	v O-H	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
2	3447	3340-3250	v N-H	(associated) -NH-CO-O-
3	3283	3340-3250	v N-H	(associated) -NH-CO-O-
4	3101	3095-3070	v =C-H	-CH=CH <sub>2</sub>
5	3076	3080 3095-3070	v <sub>a</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> = v =C-H	CH <sub>2</sub> -CH=CH <sub>2</sub>
6	3042	3050	v =C-H	alkene
7	3003	3011-3004	v CH=CH	alkene
8	2922	2990-2900 2940-2915	v <sub>a</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> v <sub>a</sub> CH	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH -CH <sub>2</sub> -
9	2914	2990-2900	v <sub>a</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
10	2908	2909-2903	v <sub>a</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub>
11	2845	2855-2845 2885-2865	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> v <sub>s</sub> C-H	CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>
12	1696	1740-1680	v C=O	alkyl urethane
13	1672	1671	v <sub>s</sub> C=C	alkene
14	1651	1656	v <sub>s</sub> C=C	alkene
15	1450	1480-1410 1451-1450	δ CH <sub>2</sub> δ <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH CH <sub>2</sub>
16	1441	1465-1440 1443-1440	δ <sub>a</sub> C-H δ <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>
17	1417	1440-1260	δ O-H	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
18	1359	1355 1440-1260 1390-1370	ω CH <sub>2</sub> δ O-H δ <sub>s</sub> C-H	CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -OH -C-CH <sub>3</sub>
19	1328	1324 1440-1260	ω CH <sub>2</sub> δ O-H	CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
20	1305	1440-1260 1308	δ O-H δ =CH	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH alkene
21	1296	1265-1200	v C-N v C-O	Urethane
22	1278	1440-1260 1277	δ O-H τ CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH CH <sub>2</sub>
23	1226	1295-1200	ρ <sub>s</sub> CH	alkene
24	1205	1208-1201	τ CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub>
25	1172	1150-1075	v C-O	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
26	1090	1090-1040	v C-O	urethane
27	1068	1090-1000 1090-1040	v CCO v C-O	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH urethane

28	1033	1027 1030	$\nu$ C-C ring deformation	alkane cycloalkane
29	1017	1018 1090-1000	$\nu$ C-C $\nu$ CCO	alkane
30	1006	1011-1009 1055-1000	$\nu$ C-C C-C skeletal	alkane cycloalkane
31	994	995-969	$\omega$ CH	alkane alkene
32	986	995-969	$\omega$ CH	alkane alkene
33	970	995-969	$\omega$ CH	alkane alkene

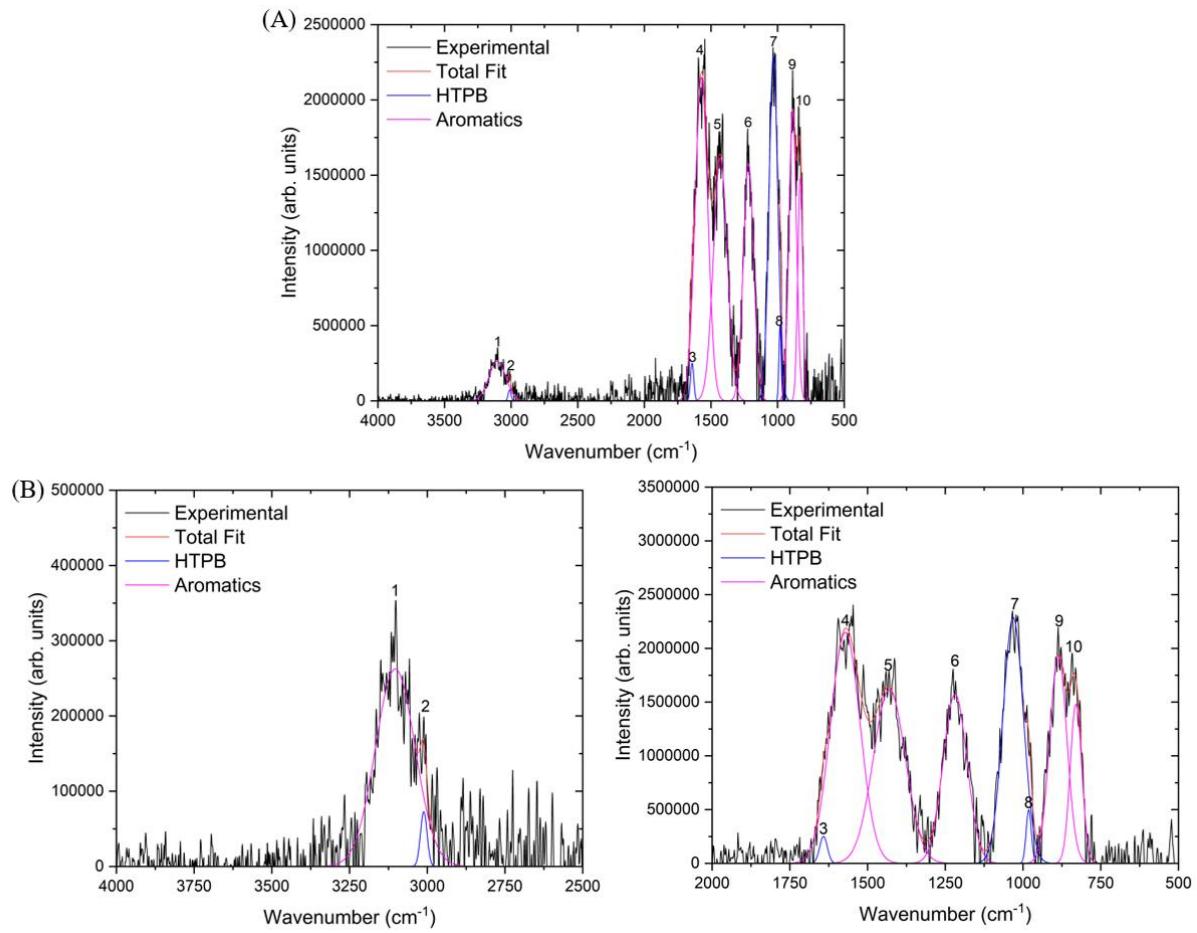


**Figure S7.** 587 K deconvoluted Raman spectra of HTPB in 100% Ar. (A) represents the full spectrum and (B) represents the zoomed in high and low wavenumbers of the spectrum in (A).

**Table S2.** Peak assignments for the deconvoluted Raman spectrum of the HTPB particle levitated in 100% Ar at 587 K.

Peaks	Experimental Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1,2,4,5</sup>	Assignment	Carrier
1	3479	3480-3270 3460-3410	v O-H v N-H	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH (methanol) (unassociated) Ar-NH-CO-OR
2	3423	3410-3390 3460-3410 3450-3400	v N-H v <sub>a</sub> N-H	(unassociated) -NH-CO-O- (unassociated) Ar-NH-CO-OR Primary urethane (H <sub>2</sub> N-CO-O-)
3	3314	3410-3390	v N-H	(unassociated) -NH-CO-O-
4	3235	3800-3000 3240-3200	v O-H v <sub>s</sub> N-H	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH Primary urethane (H <sub>2</sub> N-CO-O-)
5	3008	3011-3004; 3003 3010 3003	v CH	alkene (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) (1,3-butadiene)) aromatic (1,3-disubstituted alkyl benzene; m-xylene) aromatic (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)
6	2976	2975-2950	v <sub>a</sub> C-H	CH <sub>3</sub>
7	2917	2990-2900	v <sub>a</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
8	2888	2885-2865	v <sub>s</sub> C-H	CH <sub>3</sub>
9	2853	2855-2845	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub>
10	2802	2805-2780	v <sub>s</sub> C-H	N-CH <sub>3</sub>
11	1655	1645-1640; 1630; 1656	v C=C	alkene (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) (1,3-butadiene))
12	1618	1630-1610	δ NH <sub>2</sub>	urethane
13	1592	1590-1575	v -C=C-	aromatic
14	1553	1550-1500	δ N-H	(unassociated) Ar-NH-CO-OR
15	1510	1525-1470 1600-1500	v -C=C- δ N-H, v C-N	aromatic secondary urethane (in solid phase)
16	1451	1480-1410 1451-1450 1436	δ CH <sub>2</sub> δ <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> δ CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH CH <sub>2</sub> aromatic (toluene)
17	1313	1312	δ =CH	alkene

18	1265	1270-1250 1285-1235	$\delta$ C-H (in plane) $\nu$ Ar-N	aromatic N-Aryl urethane
19	1223	1260-1200	$\omega$ NH <sub>2</sub> /CO	N-Aryl urethane
20	1173	1150-1075	$\nu$ C-O	-CH <sub>2</sub> -OH
21	1030	1027 1030	$\nu$ C-C ring deformation	alkane cycloalkane
22	997	995-969	$\omega$ CH	alkane alkene
23	883	880-830; 890	$\delta$ C-H (out of plane)	aromatic (1,3- disubstituted alkyl benzene; m-xylene)
24	828	820-720; 843	$\delta$ C-H (out of plane)	aromatic (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)



**Figure S8.** 718 K deconvoluted Raman spectra of HTPB in 100% Ar. (A) represents the full spectrum and (B) represents the zoomed in high and low wavenumbers of the spectrum in (A).

**Table S3.** Peak assignments for the deconvoluted Raman spectrum of the HTPB particle levitated in 100% Ar at 718 K.

Peaks	Experimental Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1-5</sup>	Assignment	Carrier
1	3103	3105-3000; 3086	v=C-H	aromatic (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)
2	3011	3011-3004; 3003 3010 3003	v CH	alkene (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) (1,3-butadiene)) aromatic (1,3-disubstituted alkyl benzene; m-xylene) aromatic (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)
3	1642	1645-1640; 1630	v C=C	alkene (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) (1,3-butadiene))
4	1571	1590-1575	v C=C	aromatic ring
5	1430	1436	δ CH <sub>3</sub>	aromatic (toluene)
6	1218	1208	δ C-H (in plane)	aromatic (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)
7	1031	1027 1030	v C-C ring deformation	alkane cycloalkane
8	981	995-969; 976	δ CH	alkene (1,3-butadiene)
9	886	880-830; 890	δ C-H (out of plane)	aromatic (1,3-disubstituted alkyl benzene; m-xylene)
10	830	820-720; 843	δ C-H (out of plane)	aromatic (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)

**Table S4.** FTIR peak assignments for the HTPB particle in 100% Ar. Bolded are the peaks that are hidden within the CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O peaks.

Peak/Band	Experimental wavenumbers/band center (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature wavenumbers (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1,6,7,8,9,10</sup>	Vibrational mode description*
1	4000-3500	3756, 3657	v <sub>s</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O v <sub>as</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O
2	2949	3070-2930	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl -CH=CH <sub>2</sub> )
3	2923	2924	v <sub>as</sub> C-H (alkyl -CH <sub>3</sub> )
4	2872	2860 2874	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (alkyl -CH <sub>3</sub> )
5	2363	2362	v <sub>as</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> (PR)
6	<b>2295</b>	<b>2300-2250</b>	v <sub>as</sub> R-N=C=O
7	2255	2260	v <sub>as</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
8	2000-1400	1595	δ H <sub>2</sub> O
9	<b>1643</b>	<b>1645-1640</b>	v C=C (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3 butadiene))
10	<b>1453</b>	<b>1444</b> <b>1450</b>	γ CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl) δ <sub>as</sub> CH (alkyl CH <sub>3</sub> )
11	950	950	w C-H oop (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ; ethylene)(PR)
12	668	668	δ CO <sub>2</sub> (Q)

\*Abbreviations: v<sub>s</sub>, symmetric stretch; v<sub>as</sub>, asymmetric stretch; δ, bend; w, wagging; γ, scissoring; PQR, vibrational PQR branches

**Table S5.** FTIR peak assignments for the B/HTPB particle in 100% Ar. Bolded are the peaks that are hidden within the CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O peaks.

Peak/Band	Experimental wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1,4-10,11,12,13</sup>	Vibrational mode description
1	4000-3500	3756 3657	v <sub>s</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O v <sub>as</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O
2	3162	3161	v <sub>as</sub> C-H (aromatic five membered ring; furan)
3	3129	3129 3140	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (aromatic five membered ring; furan)
4	3084	3105-3000 3083 3064	v <sub>as</sub> C-H (monosubstituted and disubstituted alkyl benzene)
5	3011	3105-3000 3012 3028	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (monosubstituted and disubstituted alkyl benzene)
6	2959	3070-2930	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl -CH=CH <sub>2</sub> )
7	2923	2924	v <sub>as</sub> C-H (alkyl -CH <sub>3</sub> )
8	2863	2860 2874	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (alkyl -CH <sub>3</sub> )
9	2854	2854	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (aliphatic -CH <sub>2</sub> )
10	2347	2362	v <sub>as</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> (PR)
11	<b>2300</b>	<b>2300-2250</b>	v <sub>as</sub> R-N=C=O
12	2260	2260	v <sub>as</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
13	2000-1400	1595	δ H <sub>2</sub> O
14	<b>1721</b>	<b>1725</b> <b>1730</b>	v C=O (free) v C=O (urethane)
15	<b>1638</b>	<b>1645-1640</b>	v C=C (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) (1,3-butadiene))
16	<b>1590</b>	<b>1590-1575</b> <b>1610-1560; 1556</b>	v C=C (aromatic ring) v C=C (five membered ring; furan)
17	<b>1499</b>	<b>1500</b> <b>1491</b>	v C-C (aromatic ring) v C=C + ρ C-H (five membered ring; furan)
18	<b>1450</b>	<b>1444</b> <b>1450</b>	γ CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl; ethylene) δ <sub>as</sub> C-H (alkyl CH <sub>3</sub> ; toluene)
19	<b>1373</b>	<b>1377</b> <b>1380</b>	δ <sub>s</sub> CH (alkyl CH <sub>3</sub> ; toluene) γ CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl; 1,3-butadiene)

		<b>1384</b>	<b>ρ C-H + ν C-C (five membered ring; furan)</b>
20	1017	1016	δ methyl CCH ip (1,3-alkyl disubstituted benzene; m-xylene)
21	993	990	ρ CH <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)
22	968	1010-940 995-980 966	δ C-H oop (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)(PQR)
23	945	950	w C-H oop (C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ; ethylene)
24	932	927 920-905	δ C=C-H oop (vinyl group) ν <sub>s</sub> COC (five membered ring; furan)
25	909	908	w CH <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)(PQR)
26	876	876 871	δ C-H interior ring oop (1,3-alkyl disubstituted benzene; m-xylene) δ ring (five membered ring; furan)
27	721	770-730 728	δ C-H oop (monosubstituted alkyl benzene; toluene)
28	668	668	δ CO <sub>2</sub> (PQR)

\*Abbreviations: ν<sub>s</sub>, symmetric stretch; ν<sub>as</sub>, asymmetric stretch; δ<sub>as</sub>, asymmetric bend; δ<sub>s</sub>, symmetric bend; w, wagging; γ, scissoring; ρ, rocking; PQR, vibrational PQR branches

**Table S6.** FTIR peak assignments for the HTPB particle in 20% O<sub>2</sub>. Bolded are the peaks that are hidden within the CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O peaks.

Peak/Band	Experimental wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1,6-12,14,15,16,17</sup>	Vibrational mode description
1	4000-3500	3756 3657	v <sub>s</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O v <sub>as</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O
2	3113	3129 3115	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (aromatic five membered ring; furan) v <sub>as</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> (methyl vinyl ether)
3	3090	3093	v C-H (monosubstituted benzene; methoxy benzene)
4	3079	3073	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (methyl vinyl ether (methoxyethene))
5	3034	3035	v C-H (monosubstituted benzene; methoxy benzene)
6	2971	3070-2930	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl -CH=CH <sub>2</sub> )
7	2960	2961	v <sub>as</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl vinyl ether)
8	2928	2927	v <sub>as</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl vinyl ether (cis isomer))
9	2900	2908	v CH (CH <sub>3</sub> ; methoxy benzene)
10	2868	2864	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl vinyl ether)
11	2846	2838	v CH (methoxy benzene (=C-O-CH <sub>3</sub> ))
12	2363	2362	v <sub>as</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> (PR)
13	<b>2313</b>	<b>2300-2250</b>	<b>v<sub>as</sub> R-N=C=O</b>
14	2265	2260	v <sub>as</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
15	<b>1820</b>	<b>1850-1800</b>	<b>vinyl overtone</b>
16	2000-1400	1595	δ H <sub>2</sub> O
17	<b>1649</b>	<b>1645-1640 1659</b>	<b>v C=C (vinyl (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>) (1,3-butadiene)) v C=C (methyl vinyl ether)</b>
18	<b>1597</b>	<b>1590-1575</b>	<b>v C=C (aromatic ring)</b>
19	<b>1568</b>	<b>1610-1560; 1556</b>	<b>v C=C (five membered ring; furan)</b>

20	<b>1448</b>	<b>1455 1452</b>	<b><math>\delta_s</math> CH<sub>3</sub> (vinyl; methyl vinyl ether) <math>\delta</math> CH<sub>3</sub> (alkyl CH<sub>3</sub>; methoxy benzene)</b>
21	1265	1270; 1247 1259	$\delta$ CH (methoxy benzene) $\nu_{as}$ COC (methyl vinyl ether (cis isomer))
22	1066	1066	$\delta$ CH ip (furan)
23	1043	1040	$\nu$ O-CH <sub>3</sub> (monosub phenyl; methoxy benzene)
24	1012	1012	$\rho$ CH <sub>2</sub> (methyl vinyl ether)
25	984	990	$\rho$ CH <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)
26	971	1010-940 995-980 966	$\delta$ C-H oop (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)(PQR)
27	908	908	w CH <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)(PQR)
28	828	820-720; 825	$\gamma$ C-H (monosubstituted benzene; methoxy benzene)
29	754	752	$\gamma$ CH (methoxy benzene)
30	668	668	$\delta$ CO <sub>2</sub> (PQR)
31	525	525	$\delta$ CCO (methyl vinyl ether (cis isomer))

\*Abbreviations:  $\nu_s$ , symmetric stretch;  $\nu_{as}$ , asymmetric stretch;  $\delta_{as}$ , asymmetric bend;  $\delta_s$ , symmetric bend; w, wagging;  $\gamma$ , scissoring;  $\rho$ , rocking; PQR, vibrational PQR branches

**Table S7.** FTIR peak assignments for the B/HTPB particle in 20% O<sub>2</sub>. Bolded are the peaks that are hidden within the CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O peaks.

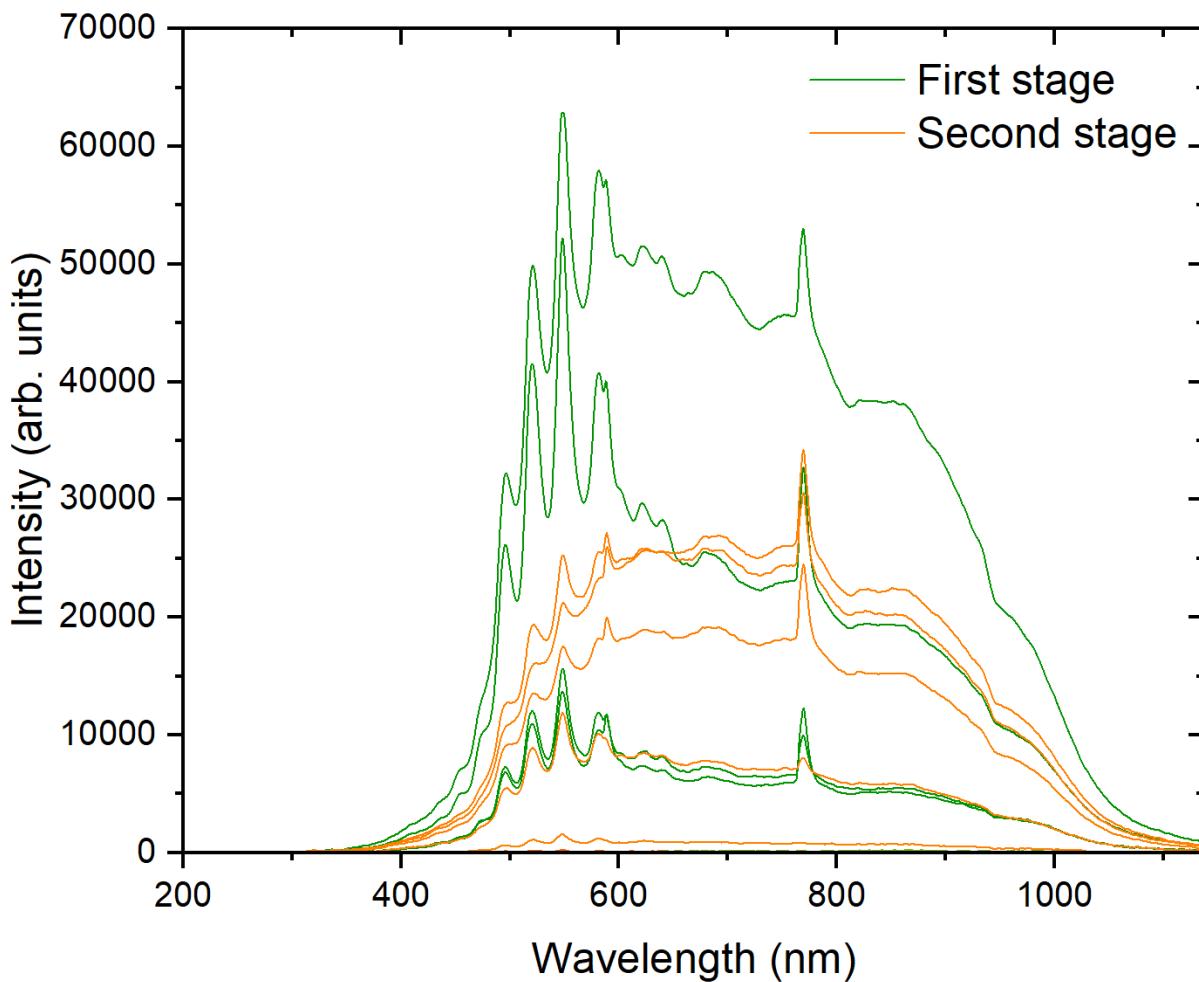
Peak/Band	Experimental wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Literature wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) <sup>1,6-12,15-18,19,20</sup>	Vibrational mode description
1	4000-3500	3756 3657	v <sub>s</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O v <sub>as</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O
2	3705	3687	v OH (methanol)(PQR)
3	3112	3129 3115	v <sub>s</sub> C-H (aromatic five membered ring; furan) v <sub>as</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> (methyl vinyl ether)
4	3082	3076 3073	v C-H (monosubstituted benzene; nitrobenzene) v <sub>s</sub> C-H (methyl vinyl ether (methoxyethene))
5	3035	3035	v C-H (monosubstituted benzene; nitrobenzene)
6	2998	3070-2930; 2984	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> (vinyl -CH=CH <sub>2</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)
7	2968	2960 2961	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methanol) v <sub>as</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl vinyl ether)
8	2926	2927	v <sub>as</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl vinyl ether (cis isomer))
9	2868	2864 2869	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methyl vinyl ether) v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methanol (R))
10	2840	2844	v <sub>s</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (methanol (PQ))
11	2363	2362	v <sub>as</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> (PR)
12	<b>2332</b>	<b>2300-2250</b>	v <sub>as</sub> R-N=C=O
13	2260	2260	v <sub>as</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O
14	2000-1400	1595	δ H <sub>2</sub> O
15	<b>1648</b>	<b>1645-1640</b> 1659	v C=C (vinyl (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ) (1,3-butadiene)) v C=C (methyl vinyl ether)
16	<b>1594</b>	<b>1590-1575</b> <b>1610-1560; 1556</b> 1612	v C=C (aromatic ring) v C=C (five membered ring; furan) v <sub>as</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> (free)
17	<b>1514</b>	<b>1570-1490; 1527</b>	v NO <sub>2</sub> (nitrobenzene)
18	<b>1500</b>	<b>1500</b>	v C-C (aromatic ring)

		<b>1491</b>	<b>v C=C + ρ C-H (five membered ring; furan)</b>
19	<b>1430</b>	<b>1430</b>	<b>δ<sub>as</sub> CH<sub>3</sub> (alkyl CH<sub>3</sub>; methanol)</b>
20	<b>1363</b>	<b>1390-1300, 1351 1380 1384 1345</b>	<b>v NO<sub>2</sub> (nitrobenzene) γ CH<sub>2</sub> (vinyl; 1,3-butadiene) ρ C-H + v C-C (five membered ring; furan) δ OH (methanol)</b>
21	<b>1295</b>	<b>1294</b>	<b>δ CH (1,3-butadiene)</b>
22	1062	1066 1060	δ CH ip (furan) ρ CH <sub>3</sub> (methanol)
23	1035	1033	v CO (methanol)
24	1005	1004	δ CCC (nitrobenzene)
25	971	1010-940 995-980 966	δ C-H oop (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)(PQR)
26	934	935	γ CH (nitrobenzene)
27	908	908	w CH <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ; 1,3-butadiene)(PQR)
28	876	871	δ ring (five membered ring; furan)
29	668	668	δ CO <sub>2</sub> (PQR)

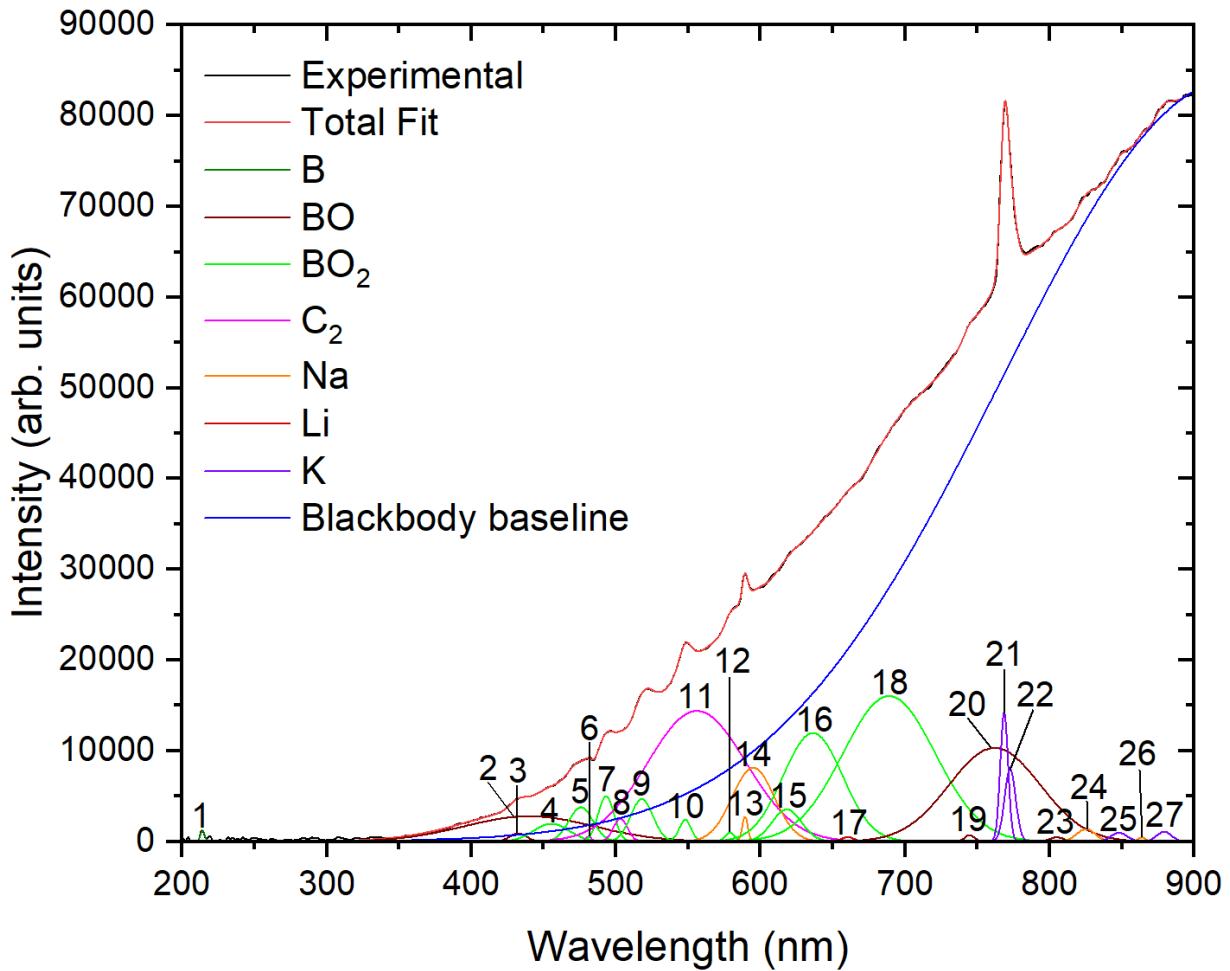
\*Abbreviations: v<sub>s</sub>, symmetric stretch; v<sub>as</sub>, asymmetric stretch; δ<sub>as</sub>, asymmetric bend; δ<sub>s</sub>, symmetric bend; w, wagging; γ, scissoring; ρ, rocking; PQR, vibrational PQR branches

**Table S8.** Peak assignments for the deconvoluted emission spectrum of the B/HTPB particle levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.

Peak/band	Peak wavelength/band center (nm)	Reference wavelength (nm) <sup>21,22,23,24</sup>	Carrier	Transition	Branch; spin-orbit components; vibrational quantum numbers: (v', v'') or (v1',v2',v3') – (v1'',v2'',v3'')
1	210	208	B	2p <sup>2</sup> 2D – 2p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup>	5/2 – 3/2
2	408	409 403	BO <sub>2</sub> BO	B <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup> u – X <sup>2</sup> Πg A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	(0,0); (1,1); (2,2) (1,0)
3	430	425 434	BO BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup> A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(0,0) (0,2,n)-(0,0,n); (0,3,n)-(1,1,n)
4	436	437	BO	A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	(1,1)
5	454	452	BO BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup> A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(0,1) (n,2,m)-(n-2,2,m); (n,3,0)-(n-1,3,m)
6	474	474	BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(n,2,m)-(n-1,2,m); (n,1,m)-(n-2,1,m)
7	481	480, 474	C <sub>2</sub>	d <sup>3</sup> Πg - a <sup>3</sup> Πu	(1,0)
8	494	495	BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(n,0,m)-(n-2,0,m); (n,1,m)-(n-1,1,m)
9	505	505	C <sub>2</sub>	d <sup>3</sup> Πg - a <sup>3</sup> Πu	(3,3)
10	518	520 516	BO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg d <sup>3</sup> Πg - a <sup>3</sup> Πu	(n,0,m)-(n-1,0,m); (n,1,m)-(n,1,m) (0,0)
11	548	548	BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(n,0,m)-(n,0,m)
12	549	549 551	C <sub>2</sub> BO	d <sup>3</sup> Πg - a <sup>3</sup> Πu A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	(3,4) (0,3)
13	581	581 582	BO <sub>2</sub> B	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg 3d <sup>2</sup> D <sup>o</sup> – 2p <sup>2</sup> <sup>2</sup> P	(n,0,m)-(n+1,0,m) 5/2 – 3/2
14	589	588	Na	3p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup> – 3s <sup>2</sup> S	3/2 – 1/2
15	598	589, 596	Na	3p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup> – 3s <sup>2</sup> S	1/2 – 1/2
16	623	623	BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(n,0,m)-(n+2,0,m)
17	641	641	BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(n,0,m)-(n+3,0,m)
18	660	670	Li	2p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup> – 2s <sup>2</sup> S	3/2 – 1/2
19	680	682	BO <sub>2</sub>	A <sup>2</sup> Πu – X <sup>2</sup> Πg	(0,0,m)-(1,2,m)
20	744	741	BO	A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	(1,6)
21	755	757	BO	A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	(2,7)
22	768	766	K	4p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup> – 4s <sup>2</sup> S	3/2 – 1/2
23	773	769	K	4p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup> – 4s <sup>2</sup> S	1/2 – 1/2
24	802	806	BO	A <sup>2</sup> Π–X <sup>2</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup>	(0,6)
25	822	820	Na	3d <sup>2</sup> D – 3p <sup>2</sup> P <sup>o</sup>	5/2 – 3/2



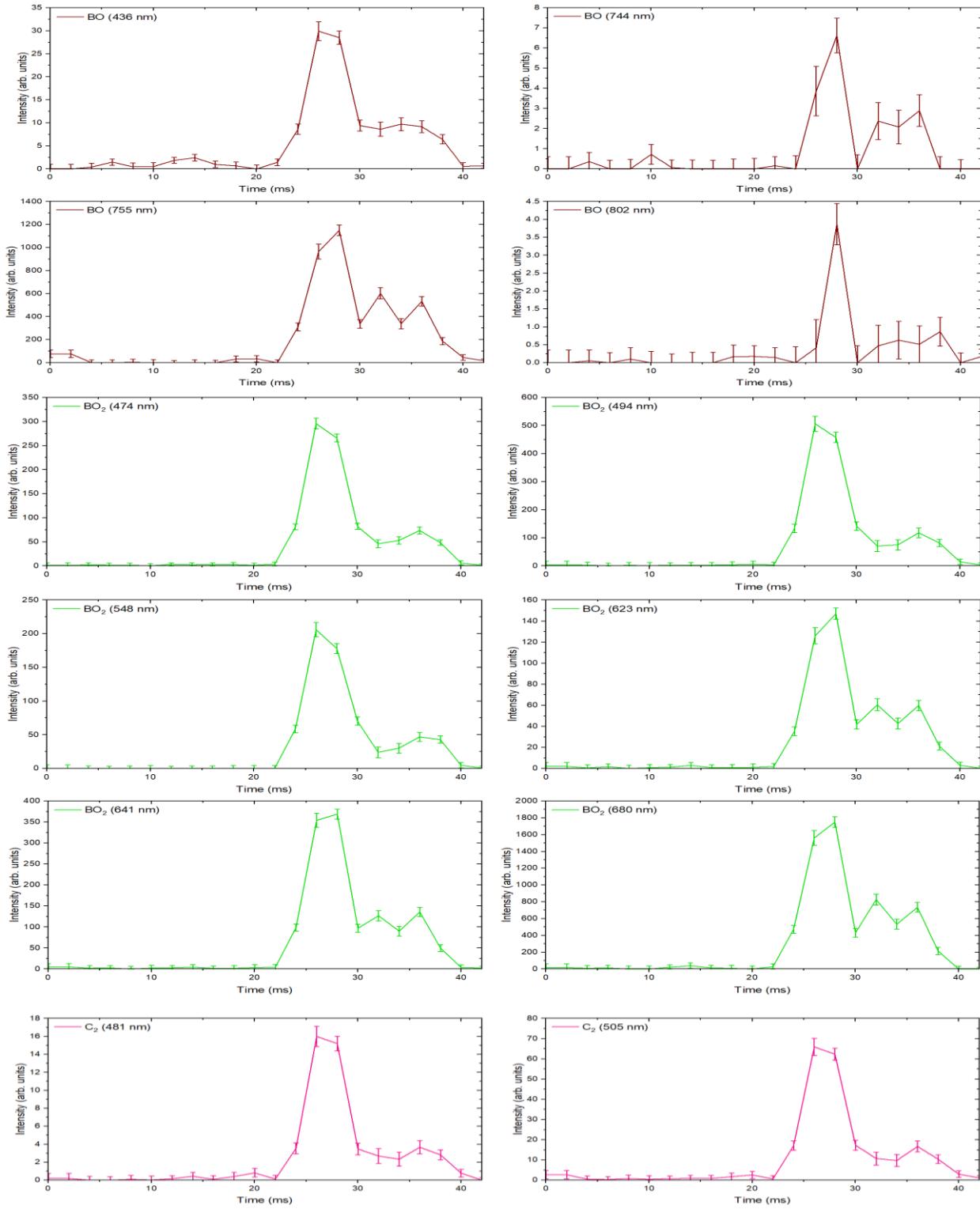
**Figure S9.** 2D plot of the B/HTPB emission spectra when levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



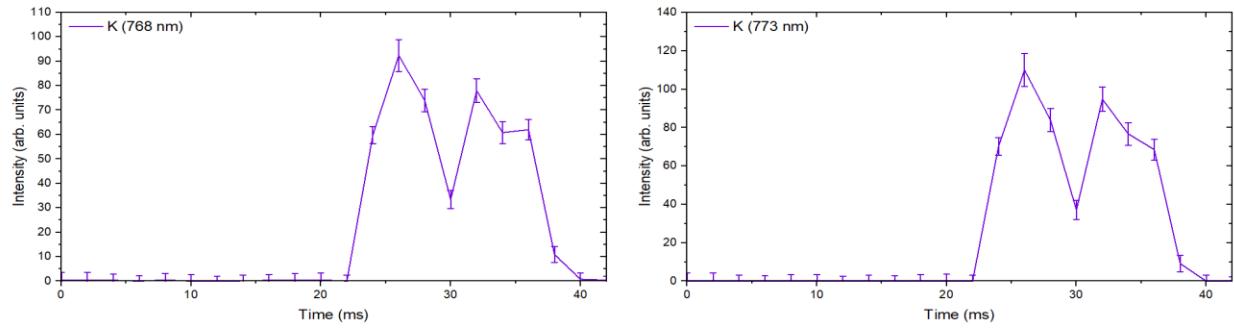
**Figure S10.** Deconvoluted UV-Vis emission spectrum of the levitated B/HTPB particle during the second stage of ignition in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.

**Table S9.** Peak assignments for the deconvoluted emission spectrum during the second stage of ignition for the B/HTPB particle levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.

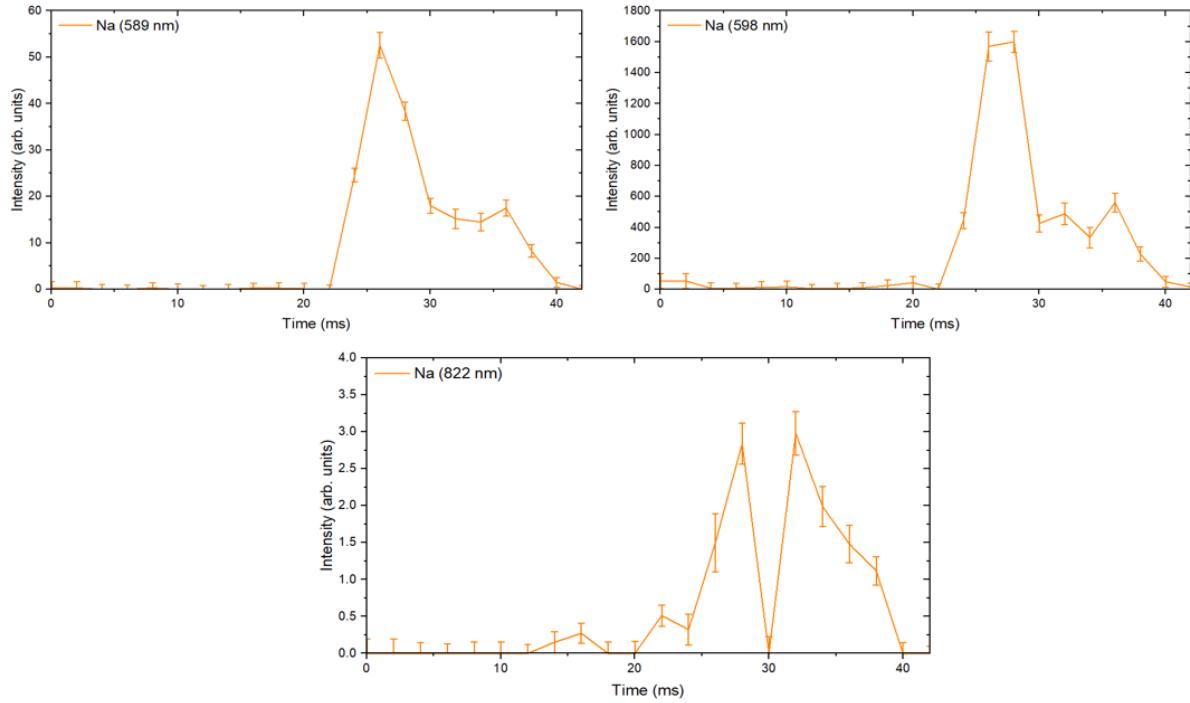
Peak/band	Peak wavelength/band center (nm)	Reference wavelength (nm) <sup>22-25</sup>	Carrier	Transition	Branch; spin-orbit components; vibrational quantum numbers: (v', v'') or (v1',v2',v3') – (v1'',v2'',v3'')
1	210	208	B	2p <sup>2</sup> 2D – 2p 2P <sup>o</sup>	5/2 – 3/2
2	432	425	BO BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(0,0)
		434		A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(0,2,n)-(0,0,n); (0,3,n)-(1,1,n)
3	439	437	BO	A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(1,1)
4	455	452	BO BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(0,1)
				A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,2,m)-(n-2,2,m); (n,3,0)-(n-1,3,m)
5	475	474	BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,2,m)-(n-1,2,m); (n,1,m)-(n-2,1,m)
6	481	480, 474	C <sub>2</sub>	d 3Πg - a 3Πu	(1,0)
7	493	495	BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,0,m)-(n-2,0,m); (n,1,m)-(n-1,1,m)
8	503	505	C <sub>2</sub>	d 3Πg - a 3Πu	(3,3)
9	518	520	BO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,0,m)-(n-1,0,m); (n,1,m)-(n,1,m)
		516		d 3Πg - a 3Πu	(0,0)
10	548	548	BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,0,m)-(n,0,m)
11	556	549	C <sub>2</sub> BO	d 3Πg - a 3Πu	(3,4)
		551		A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(0,3)
12	579	581	BO <sub>2</sub> B	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,0,m)-(n+1,0,m)
		582		3d 2D <sup>o</sup> – 2p <sup>2</sup> 2P	5/2 – 3/2
13	589	588	Na	3p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 3s 2S	3/2 – 1/2
14	595	589, 596	Na	3p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 3s 2S	1/2 – 1/2
15	618	623	BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,0,m)-(n+2,0,m)
16	636	641	BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(n,0,m)-(n+3,0,m)
17	660	670	Li	2p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 2s 2S	3/2 – 1/2
18	689	682	BO <sub>2</sub>	A 2Πu – X 2Πg	(0,0,m)-(1,2,m)
19	745	741	BO	A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(1,6)
20	762	757	BO	A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(2,7)
21	769	766	K	4p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 4s 2S	3/2 – 1/2
22	773	769	K	4p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 4s 2S	1/2 – 1/2
23	805	806	BO	A 2Π–X 2Σ <sup>+</sup>	(0,6)
24	825	820	Na	3d 2D – 3p 2P <sup>o</sup>	5/2 – 3/2
25	848	850	K	8f 2F <sup>o</sup> – 3d 2D	5/2 – 5/2
26	864	864	Na	6p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 4s 2S	3/2 – 1/2
27	879	876	K	9p 2P <sup>o</sup> – 3d 2D	3/2 – 5/2



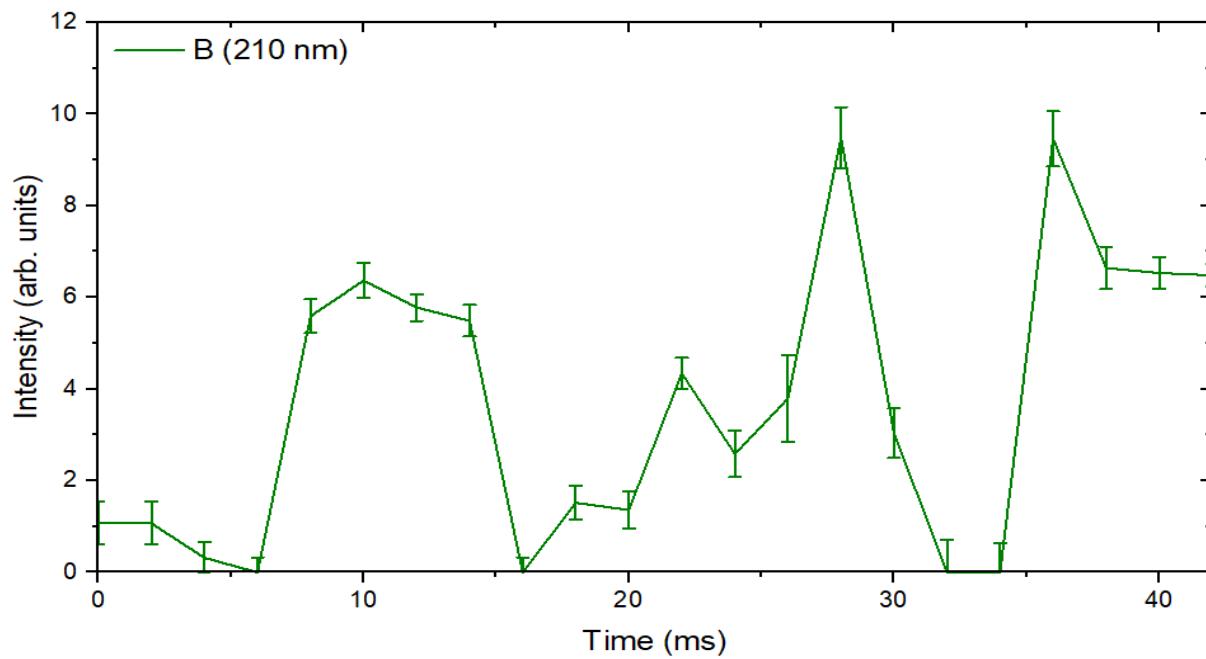
**Figure S11.** Emission profiles from the individual peaks from selected species (BO, BO<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>) in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



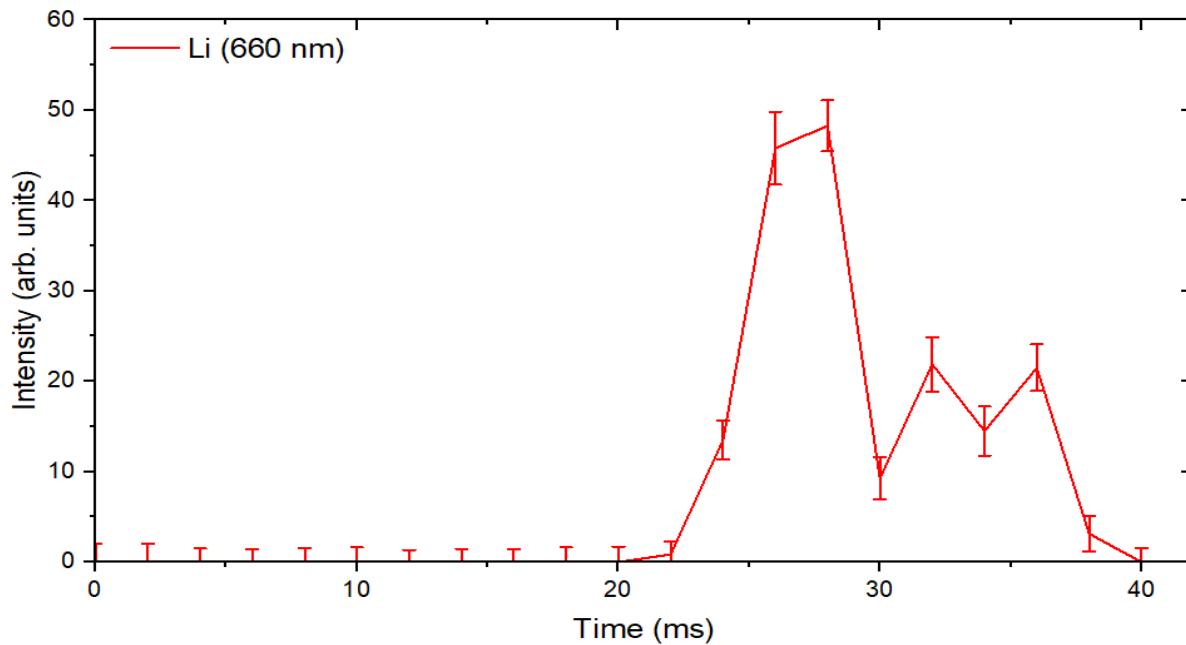
**Figure S12.** Emission profiles from the individual K peaks in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



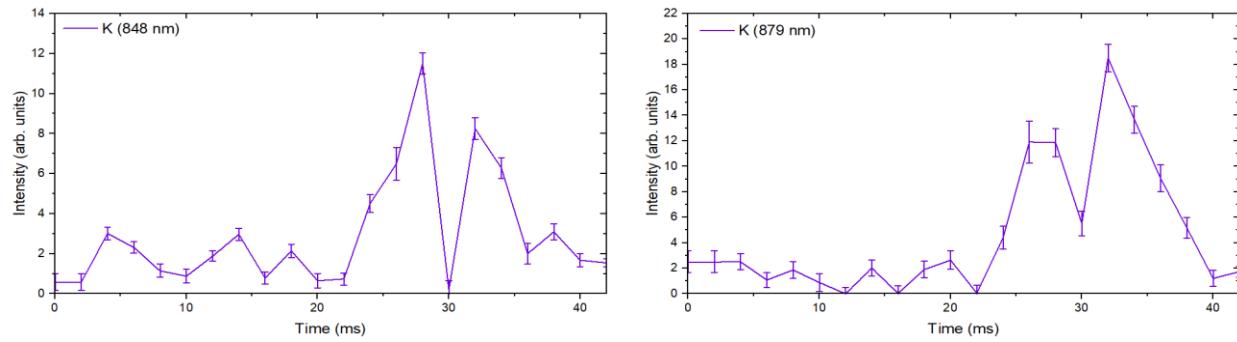
**Figure S13.** Emission profiles from the individual Na peaks in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



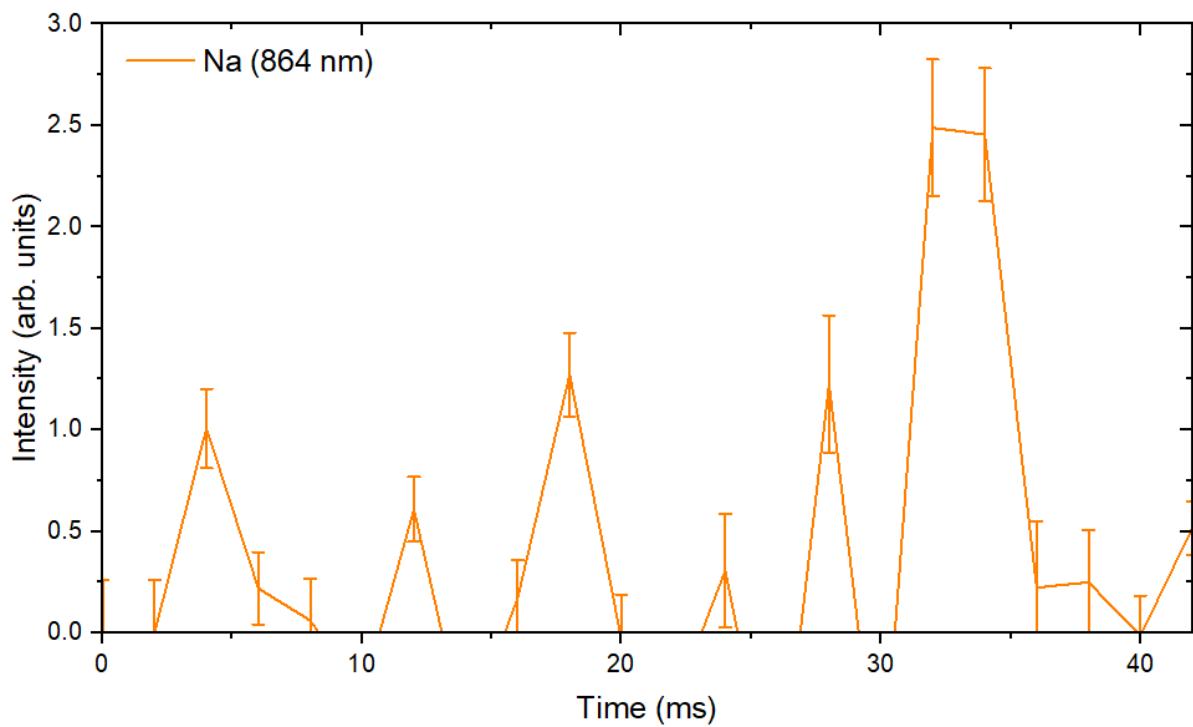
**Figure S14.** Emission profile from the individual B peak in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



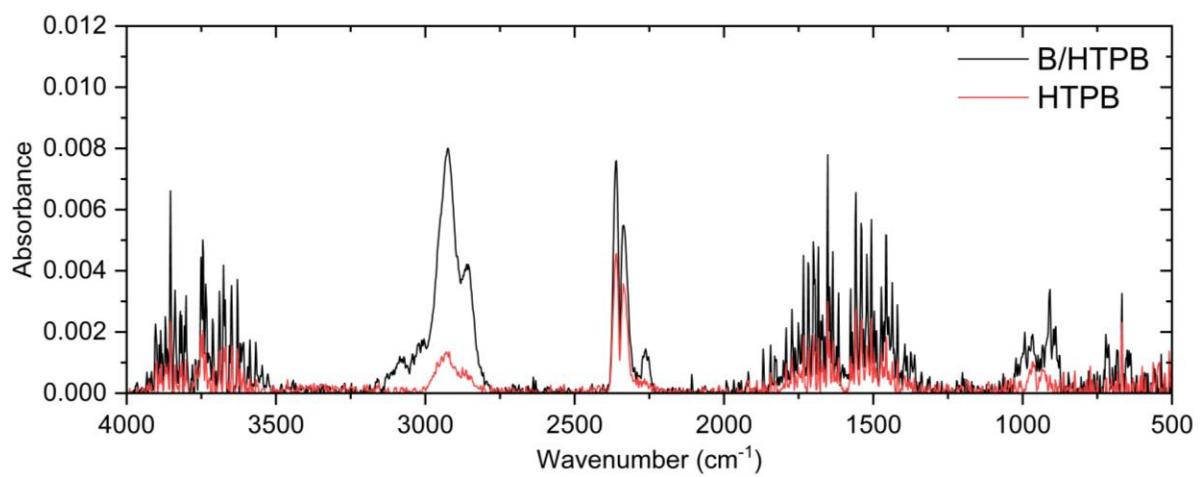
**Figure S15.** Emission profile from the individual Li peak in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar.



**Figure S16.** Emission profiles from the individual K peaks in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar in the second stage of the ignition.



**Figure S17.** Emission profile from the individual Na peak in B/HTPB levitated in 20% O<sub>2</sub> and 80% Ar in the second stage of the ignition.



**Figure S18.** Combined gas phase FTIR spectra of B/HTPB and HTPB in 100% Ar.

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