

## Charlie Kirk killed by single supersonic bullet, audio forensics expert says

From CNN's Gianluca Mezzofiore and Avery Schmitz

Audio captured near the podium where Charlie Kirk was speaking yesterday afternoon suggests the conservative activist was hit with a single supersonic gunshot, according to audio forensics expert Rob Maher.

Supersonic rounds are fired from high-powered weapons. This finding rules out the possibility that a small handgun or similar weapon which fires rounds below the speed of sound was used in the attack.

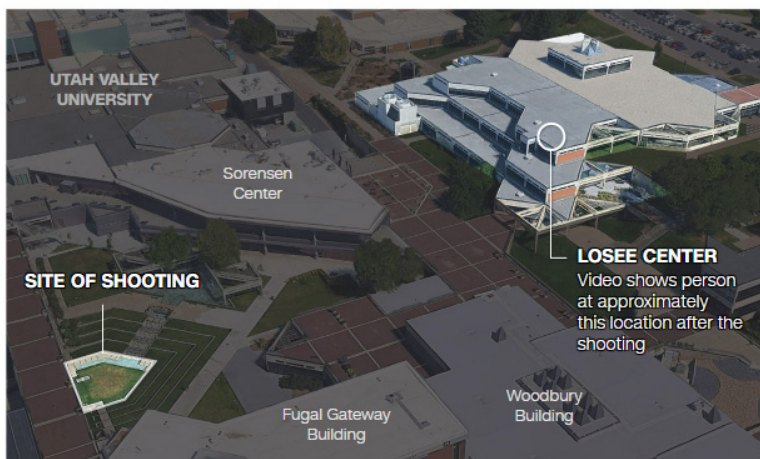
Maher says that a signature “crack” and “pop” pattern, heard in the audio recording, suggests that the single bullet was fired from a rifle. Audio forensics alone cannot confirm the weapon’s model or variant.

Maher’s analysis found that the time between the ballistic shock wave’s “crack” and muzzle blast’s successive “pop” was approximately 240 milliseconds. With that time interval and an inferred bullet speed of 800 meters per second, the firearm would have been located about 153 meters from Kirk’s podium.

This finding aligns with CNN’s analysis that, based on visual evidence, the shooter took aim at Kirk from roughly 150 yards away.

### Establishing the shooter's potential location

Shortly after Charlie Kirk was shot on Wednesday, a video captured a person running on the roof of Utah Valley University's Losee Center, about 150 yards from where Kirk was speaking.



Sources: Google (image); Utah Valley University; X, formerly Twitter (bystander videos)  
Graphic: Renée Rigdon, CNN