Evaluation of Cross-Beam Energy Transfer in NIF Polar-Drive Exploding-Pusher Experiments



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55th Annual Meeting of the American Physical Society Division of Plasma Physics Denver, CO 11–15 November 2013 Shell symmetry for high-intensity shots is well modeled with DRACO when the implicit Schurtz–Nicolaï–Busquet (iSNB)* nonlocal and cross-beam energy transfer (CBET)** models are employed



- Studies with nonlocal electron-transport models indicate increased equatorial drive for illumination patterns derived using *f* = 0.06, flux-limited (FL) simulations
- Examining both the average radius and overall shape of polar-drive (PD) self-emission images is necessary to detect the presence of CBET
- Results confirm that low-intensity (4 to 5×10^{14} W/cm²) glass ablator implosions are less susceptible to CBET than at higher intensities



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^{*}G. P. Schurtz, Ph. D. Nicolaï, and M. Busquet, Phys. Plasmas 7, 4238 (2000). **J. Marozas et al., CO7.00004, this conference.



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NIF shot N120328 used a glass ablator to commission neutron particle diagnostics

- N120328 was a 125-kJ, 1540- μ m-diam target—peak *I* = 1.6 × 15 W/cm²
- A gated x-ray detector (GXD) framing camera was timed to record early-time symmetry development
- GXD images were processed to evaluate the fit of peak shell emission (blue line)



F. J. Marshall et al., UO4.00006, this conference.

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Comparison of processed GXD images for shot–120328 with f = 0.06 modeling clearly indicated issues



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Using nonlocal electron transport in PD targets designed with f = 0.06 show enhanced equatorial absorption



J. A. Delettrez *et al.*, UO4.00007, this conference; D. Cao *et al.*, TP8.00081, this conference. Courtesy of S. Laffite and L. Videau, CEA.



The increased radial heat flux predicted by the nonlocal transport leads to higher drive near the target equator



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Application of the iSNB model for shot N120328 overdrives the equatorial region of the target





Qualitative agreement exists when N120328 data is compared to simulations using both iSNB and CBET





Shot N130225, with the same intensity as N120328, also demonstrates the need for using both iSNB and CBET

• N130225 is a 130-kJ, 1523- μ m-diam target: peak *I* = 1.6 × 10¹⁵





Results of shot N130129 confirm that the effects of CBET are negligible at lower intensities

N130129 was a 50-kJ, 1540-mm-diam target – peak $I = 4.6 \times 15 \text{ W/cm}^2$



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Summary/Conclusions

Shell symmetry for high-intensity shots is well modeled with DRACO when the implicit Schurtz–Nicolaï–Busquet (iSNB)* nonlocal and cross-beam energy transfer (CBET)** models are employed



- Studies with nonlocal electron-transport models indicate increased equatorial drive for illumination patterns derived using *f* = 0.06, flux-limited (FL) simulations
- Examining both the average radius and overall shape of polar-drive (PD) self-emission images is necessary to detect the presence of CBET
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