Target Fabrication Capability at Los Alamos National Laboratory

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Overview

• LANL Capability
• Collaboration is key to our success
• Overview of what we do
  • Chemical Synthesis
  • Thin Films and Coatings
  • Micro-machining
  • Characterization
  • Precision Assembly
• Overview of Campaigns
• Summary
LANL Target Engineering is comprised of 5 pillars

Many of our experiments require highly specialized **Foams**

Precision Assembly is critical for all targets, particularly ones of greater complexity

**Micro-Machining** of mm scale parts to um precision

**Thin Films and Coatings** are present at multiple levels of the target

Double-Shell targets require **Characterization** of centering, density and voids
We are a small team of efficient individuals!

- 6 machinists
- 4 target coordinators
- 2 assembly technicians
- 3 part time chemists
- 2 part time coating support
- 2 part time radiography support

“A team is a small number of people with complementary skills who are committed to a common purpose, performance goals and working.” - Katzenbach & Smith

Because we are such a small team, we rely on the expertise of our colleagues at LLNL, General Atomics and LLE
Every year our team builds a wide variety of target types at a fast pace, we often deliver 3-4 target sets in one month!

- **800 Omega Targets**
  - Complex spool, planar and gas filled targets, backlighters

- **44 shots on NIF**
  - Mshock & DRV
  - Opacity
  - Double Shell Capsules
  - CylDRT
  - Marble Capsules
  - Revolver (ABLE)

- **23 sets of large targets**
  - multiple complex target package assemblies
  - saw tooth and sine wave explosive packages

- **NIF Neutron Imaging Aperture**
  - 13 layers of penumbras and pinholes, 4 months fabrication time
Synthesis of Foams and Doped Plastics

- CH Foams, HIPE and Divinylbenzene
  - Engineered pore size and densities as low as 16mg/cc are machinable.
  - Low density 98% deuterated DVB
- Polyimide Aerogels
- Tantalum Oxide Aerogels
  - High Z, machinable low density material
- SiO2 Aerogels and doped aerogels
  - 1:5 Ti-SiO₂ as low as 50 mg/cc are uniform and machinable
- Doped Plastics
  - including iodine and silicon

See Wednesday poster by C.J. Hanson “Materials Synthesis and Alternative Casting and Drying Methods of Polyimide Aerogels for Future Target Development” and Thursday poster “Advancements in Low Density Foam Capabilities” by S. Edwards
Thin metal PVD & CVD

- Physical vapor deposition (PVD) methods:
  - Electron beam and resistive evaporation
  - Magnetron and ion beam sputtering
  - Ion beam assisted deposition
  - Targets for Opacity on Z and NIF are co-deposited with electron beam resistive evaporation
  - Specialized sample holders and fixtures including planetary coatings for shields
- Chemical vapor deposition (CVD) method:
  - Parylene conformal for hot electron insulation
- Characterization methods:
  - RBS, XRF (chemical composition)
  - Profilometry, X-ray CT, SR (thickness)
  - AFM, OM (surface morphology)
  - SEM (microstructure)

See “Opacity Foils Areal Density Uniformity and Uncertainty Analysis” D.R. Vodnik, B.L Bennet, I.O. Usov
Micro-machining

• We employ Erowa repeatable mandrel base systems
  • See Wednesday Poster by Randolph “Repeatable Mandrel Base Systems used for Micro Machining Complex Target Components for the Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) Program”

• Diamond Turning
  • Used for planar targets as well as Double Shell

• Precision CNC turning
  • Our workhorse machines do most foams

• 5 axis Micro Milling

• Dedicated Be Machining Capability
  • Plunge CNC EDM and diamond turning lathe
  • In the early phases of a $2M expansion
Characterization

• We employ a plethora of dimensional tolerancing tools as well as DCS, SEM, NMR during and after target assembly
• Radiography & Micro Tomography are used often
  • Micro and nano-scale X-ray CT
  • Suite of analysis software to measure 2D and 3D morphological features
• Confocal Micro X-ray Fluorescence is used to identify impurities in targets

See posters “Nondestructive Characterization of MARBLE and Double Shell Targets Using X-ray CT” and “Target Metrology using 3D X-ray tomographic and confocal imaging”
Precision Assembly

• Delicate Hand Assembly
  • Employ custom made fibers and manipulators
  • Make fixtures for stuffing spools by hand under microscope

See Thursdays Poster “Novel Manual Assembly Techniques for Target Component Assembly” by T. Quintana & L. Goodwin

• Precision Robotic Assembly
  • Breadboard design utilizing off-the-shelf Newport stages
  • Control system programmed using LabView software
  • Each axis has readouts with zero, absolute, and relative motion controls
  • Joystick controls
  • Robotic stations are not automated, but become accurate extensions of operator
NIF Mshock & DRV are part of the Shear/Shock Campaign

- Mshock target studies hydro-instability
  - An ablator is indirectly driven by the hohlraums
  - Multi part shock tube is machined out of Be and CH
  - Tracer Layer is machined with an imposed high mode on top of a low mode power spectrum
- Mshock DRV studies EOS shock breakout of relevant materials
  - Dual End Target for dual study of Indirect/Direct Laser Feedback
  - Package compares reference materials and new materials
  - Behavior is observed on VISAR using a mirror
Omega Multi shock

- Omega multi shock experiments provide platform development for NIF due to high shot rate.
- Pre-heat characterization/mitigation experiments to advance the development of a multiple shock drive platform for the NIF MShock hydro-instability campaign
- Single or dual drive target w/ gold cylindrical heating shield
- Be spool targets with various doped plastic tracer disks and foams
ModCon/DVMEP

- EP-Omega Platform part of Shear/Shock Campaign previously Oblishock
- Produce measurements of multimode perturbations for application to transitional modal model.
- Iodine doped CH tracer layer inserted and glued into PAI plastic ablator
- Desired profile machined into surface
  - In the past has been sine waves and multimode
  - The upcoming shot will be stair steps
- 60-300 mg/cc foam fills the shock tube
NIF Opacity targets

• A national strategy has been developed to replicate the iron opacity experiments on the NIF
• The opacity sample is trapped within a laser heated hohlraum and consists of a binary compound thin film, between two parylene-n layers
• There is a proton backlighter mounted beneath the hohlraum and an aperture plate, the collimator, is placed between the capsule and hohlraum
• A new cone in capsule design is being tested
• 50 targets have been shot on the NIF since 2016

From left to right: Test cone-in-cap target, Image of slot covers, signal without slot covers, signal and plot with slot covers
Double shells support the NNSA mix and burn mission

- Double shell capsules are challenging to fabricate due to their multiple layer, multiple material design
- We have been working with LLNL and GA to fabricate imaging shells and keyhole targets to address:
  - Drive coupling, symmetry
  - Hard x-ray preheat
  - Collision physics, momentum transfer
  - Mix mitigation, fill tubes, joints
- A DS Target Fabrication Workshop took place at LANL in March to discuss R&D efforts needed to achieve high yield targets
DS Planar

- Investigate key Double Shell physics issues in a scaled planar geometry
- Study perturbation growth in the inner shell
  - 0.8 atm neopentane filled halbraum
  - 50 um thick Al ablator
  - 100 um thick foam cushion
  - 20 um Zr/Be graded and bilayer coatings with machined sine waves
  - 900 um ID shock tube
- Previous shot days have studied joint-imprinting of various morphologies
CylDrt on Omega and the NIF

- Cylindrical implosion platform designed to study deceleration phase Rayleigh-Taylor instability in convergent geometry.
- The target is an EPON spool that has a metal band embedded concentrically
  - 24 um thick Aluminum band
  - Perturbations machined on the inside of the aluminum band using a Fast Tool Servo (FTS) tool post on a Moore diamond-turning lathe.
  - Cast EPON spool is machined on a copper mandrel and then leached

See poster on Tuesday “CylDrt Machining Process and Fast Tool Servo Programming” by C.T. Wilson et.al

Talk on Friday “Manufacturing Process and Characterization Overview of a Cylindrical CH ablator with seamlessly embedded thin aluminum band for use in Omega and NIF Experiments” by T.day
Marble was developed to quantify the influence of heterogeneous mix on fusion burn

• Highly developmental campaign has driven R&D in many areas of production

• The target consists of a machined plastic capsule filled with deuterated plastic foam.
  • Machined hemispheres 120um and 20 um wall have a step joint capable of holding more than 20 atm of gas
  • Capsules are stuffed with deuterated, engineered pore foam
  • Full metrology is done at every stage of the production process
  • Marble taught target fabrication and physicists what we didn’t know!

The finished capsule is characterized and turned into a CFTA and sent to LLNL for assembly into a hohlraum

The engineered foam sphere is stuffed into the CH ablator and back machined before tomography
Marble VC on Omega was developed to explore physics issues of Marble in a cylindrical geometry

- Be or CH shock tube with void in foam
- Study the evolution of foam or gas filled void by incoming shock
- Gas filled target has highest fill pressure ever attempted in this geometry
- Previous targets investigated preheat of as well as shock speed of various densities and pore sizes
Revolver

- Purpose is to validate the controlling physics (ablator energetics, collision energetics, and feature mitigation) for direct-drive multi-shell targets
- The point design is a triple shell with 50 um thick outer ablator a 50 um thick Cu middle hemi shells and the inner pusher is gold, foam or tents are proposed to support the shells
- NIF Able target is scheduled for June 2019
  - 5mm Beryllium Shell with spherical Fe backlighter
- Recent keyhole shots on omega tested new diagnostic principles
  - VISAR Finger Targets made from 2PP
  - Fiber Optic Targets

See Derek's talk Wednesday “Target Fabrication Efforts for Multi-Shell Direct Drive”
Radishock

• Part of the LANL Radflow campaign

• Objective to use high fidelity temperature and density data to constrain computational models in a system where a radiative wave flows across a counter propagating shock

• Target is comprised of
  • Gold halfraum
  • Plastic spool with attached cone and windows
  • Ti doped SiO2 Aerogel
  • Kr Backlighter capsule

• All foams require DCS because the experiment is highly sensitive to density variations
HEDB

- LDRD to study the effect and strength of HED shock-driven B-field generation in ICF relevant HED condition
- Complex target is a shock tube with Plunge EDM “milled” proton window
- Stuffed with foam and thin laser machined foil
Neutron Pinhole

- LANL has designed, machined and characterized 3 generations of Neutron pinhole on NIF
- Consists of 14 gold layers and 2 outer tungsten layers. 15 circular and 72 triangular openings were machined into the layers
- Machining took 62 weeks
- Full characterization on the OCMM, White light interferometer as well as a confocal white light interferometer.
- Metrology took 2 months
- The addition of characterization information provides a broad understanding of the neutron imaging system and image data.
- The initial qualification shot of the Second Equatorial Neutron Imaging System (NIS3) was a success

See talk “Three-dimensional Characterization of the Third Line-of-Site Neutron Imaging Pinhole at NIF” by L. Goodwin et. al
Large Targets

• We fabricate multiple complex target assemblies every year for PRAD-LANCE ancho canyon, UCSB and Z machine on Sandia
• Precision Titanium Spheres for Phelix on PRAD
• Cerium and Zinc saw tooth targets
• pRad Linear and Axial sine wave Profiles
  • 4 different sine wave profiles on one target cylinder
• Ejecta Targets, saw tooth profiles on non planar faces

See Tuesday poster “Research & Development of Precision Machined Titanium Spheres at Los Alamos National Laboratory: Phase 1” by J.C. Lamar et. al

See Wednesday posters “Various Diamond Machining Processes and Implementation at Los Alamos National Laboratory” by P.M. Donovan et. al and “Fabricating of large targets” by J.I. Martinez et. al
Next-Generation Foams and Aerogels

• Recent developments: graded density metallic foams via templating

Fractal tree concept

Current R&D
• We have successfully fabricated a ~3mm diameter 3-D printed Au sphere with graded radial density

Future R&D
• Comprehensive characterization is needed (density = f(r), porosity)
• Higher resolution needed to achieve target-sized objects
• How should density change in a given direction?
Summary: We delivery a myriad of complex target designs every year concurrent with development

- Complex Omega Targets (not including capsules)
  - 800 targets for 19 shot days

- NIF Warm Targets
  - 11 Mshock/DRV
  - 18 Opacity
  - 10 Double Shell Packages
  - 3 Cyl Drt
  - 4 NIF Marble
  - 2 ABLE

- Large Target Fabrication (pRad, UCSB)
  - 16 different high complexity target packages
  - 60 sawtooth and sine wave explosive packages

- NIF Neutron Imaging Aperture
  - 13 layers of penumbras and pinholes, 62 weeks fabrication time

Adaptive Sample Preparation and Target Fabrication for High-Throughput Materials Science May 14-16 at Texas A&M University
Questions?