Experimental Investigation of Thermal-Transport Models in Direct-Drive Targets Using X-Ray Absorption Spectroscopy



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Summary

Nonlocal* and flux-limited (f = 0.06) thermal transport models accurately predict measurements while the shock transits the foil

- A CH foil with a buried AI tracer layer was directly irradiated with a square or shaped pulse drive with peak intensities of 5 \times 10¹³ to 1 \times 10¹⁵ W/cm².
- Shock-wave heating and heat-front penetration were measured using time-resolved AI 1s–2p absorption spectroscopy to test thermal-transport models with the 1-D hydrodynamics code *LILAC*.
- The measured absorption spectra were modeled with *PrismSPECT*^{**} to infer $T_{\rm e}$ and ρ , assuming uniform conditions in the AI layer ($T_{\rm e} \sim 10$ to 40 eV and $\rho \sim 3$ to 11 g/cm³).
- Lower T_e than predicted at late times of the drive was attributed to reduced radiative heating caused by lateral heat flow in the corona.

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^{*} V. N. Goncharov et al., Phys. Plasmas <u>13</u>, 012702 (2006).

^{**} Prism Computational Sciences, Inc. Madison, WI 5371.



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X-ray absorption spectroscopy of a CH planar target with an Al tracer layer was used to test thermal-transport models

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An *in-situ* calibration of the x-ray streak camera was performed to eliminate background light from the measured signals.

Heat flux in *LILAC* is calculated using a flux-limited or a nonlocal thermal-transport model

LILAC (1-D hydrodynamics code)¹

- Laser absorption with ray trace
- Radiation transport
- Equation of state (SESAME)
- Thermal transport
 - flux-limited model, $q_{eff} = \min(q_{SH}, f \times q_{FS})$
 - classical Spitzer flux:² $q_{SH} = -\kappa \nabla T$
 - free streaming flux: $q_{FS} = nTv_T$
 - flux limiter³ f (0.04 < f < 0.1)
 (q_{SH} is invalid in plasmas with strong T_e gradient)
- Nonlocal model⁴ (no flux limiter) acts like a time-dependent flux limiter



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The strength of the shock wave depends on thermal-transport models.

¹J. Delettrez *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A <u>36</u>, 3926 (1987).

²R. C. Malone, R. L. McCrory, and R. L. Morse, Phys. Rev. Lett. <u>34</u>, 721 (1975).

³J. Delettrez, Can. J. Phys. <u>64</u>, 932 (1986).

⁴V. N. Goncharov et al., Phys. Plasmas <u>13</u>, 012702 (2006).

The measured spectra were fit with *PrismSPECT* to infer T_e and ρ assuming uniform conditions in the AI layer



spectra to determine the range of $T_{\rm e}$ in the Al layer.

The *LILAC* simulations using f = 0.06 and the nonlocal model agree with the experimental results for the square laser-pulse drive



The initial shock-wave heating predicted by *LILAC* using f = 0.06 or the nonlocal model agrees with the measurements for the shaped laser pulse drive



The discrepancies between the measured and predicted $T_{\rm e}$ are observed at late times of the drive.

Predicted T_e from a 2-D simulation is closer to the measurements than the 1-D prediction at late time



The lateral heat flow in a 2-D geometry results in a lower radiative heating of the AI than in 1-D geometry.

Summary/Conclusions

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- The measured absorption spectra were modeled with *PrismSPECT*^{**} to infer $T_{\rm e}$ and ρ , assuming uniform conditions in the AI layer ($T_{\rm e} \sim 10$ to 40 eV and $\rho \sim 3$ to 11 g/cm³).
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