Neutron Time-of-Flight Diagnostic Performance During the National Ignition Facility 2010 Campaign



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The full neutron time-of-flight (nTOF) system is now operational at the National Ignition Facility

- The NIF nTOF system measures neutron yield, ion temperature, bang time, and down-scattered neutron fraction
- The 8-detector, 18-channel nTOF system will measure yield and ion temperature over 11 orders of magnitude from 10⁸ to 10¹⁹
- The nTOF yield transfer from OMEGA to the NIF is sensitive to the details of the detector installations at both facilities; corrections are still being developed

The full performance validation of the nTOF system will require the completion of the commissioning campaign.

> Related talks: A. Mackinnon (CO5.00001). S. Friedrich (CO5.00011). C. Stoeckl (CO5.00013).

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Four nTOF detectors are located in the wells at 4.5 m and four at 22 to 23 m in the neutron alcove and switchyard



*V. Yu. Glebov et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. <u>81</u>, 10D325 (2010).

The NIF nTOF detectors* were calibrated at the LLE's Omega Laser Facility



^{*}V. Yu. Glebov et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. <u>81</u>, 10D325 (2010).

The calibration on OMEGA establishes the nTOF yield sensitivity and the detector response function

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Transport simulations are needed to validate the calibration transfer from OMEGA to the NIF (typically ~10% in yield and 0.2 to 0.3 ns in impulse response).

We are using a weighted mean to characterize the yield: for the exploding pusher shot N100923 this gives $4.9 \times 10^{13} \pm 4\%$



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The ion temperature on the NIF is measured by several different nTOF detectors



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Further work is necessary to finalize the nTOF response functions and settle on the correct absolute errors

The nTOF4.5-BT detector measures neutron bang time on the NIF with better-than-50-ps accuracy

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With a demonstrated neutron precision on OMEGA of ~10 ps and timing accuracy on the NIF of ~10 ps, the nTOF4.5-BT neutron-bang-time measurement accuracy is better than 50 ps.

The first signals from the nTOF20 equator show the changes expected with a high- ρR implosion









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The deconvolution of the down-scattered spectrum is mathematically tricky and sensitive to the S/N in the tail.

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