Low-Adiabat, High-Compression Cryogenic Deuterium–Tritium Implosions on OMEGA



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Summary

OMEGA experiments are used to validate theoretical hydrodynamic scaling for ρR , $\langle T_i \rangle_n$, and yield used in calculating ignition factor

• The ignition factors (ITF, ITFX, χ) define in-flight shell (V_{imp}, α) and hot-spot conditions for achieving ignition

- Current simulations are in agreement with experimental measurements of <ρR>n, <Ti>n, yield, and bang time
- Cross-beam transfer is important for understanding experimental results
- A model has been developed to relate the hot-spot distortion fraction with reduction in *T*_i and yield



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- Ignition design and ignition conditions
- Areal density
 - shock tuning
 - control of short-wavelength perturbation growth
- Hot-spot ion temperature and yield
 - validation of drive efficiency
 - effect of perturbation growth



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The symmetric direct-drive NIF ignition design has a 1-D gain of ~50



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The ignition factors depend on shell conditions and fuel mix

• Ignition threshold factor for the indirect-drive NIF design¹

$$\mathsf{TF} \sim \mathit{V_{imp}^{8} \alpha^{-4} (1-1.2\xi)^{4} \left(\frac{\mathsf{M}_{\mathsf{clean}}}{\mathsf{M}_{\mathsf{DT}}}\right)^{0.5}}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{P}{P_{\text{FERMI}}}$$

$$\xi = \text{hot-spot distortion fraction}$$

$$M_{\text{DT}} = \text{fuel mass}$$

ITF = 1 has a 50% probability of achieving ignition

• Threshold factor²: measured conditions at neutron-production time

$$\chi = \langle \rho R \rangle^{0.8} \left(\frac{\langle T_i \rangle}{4.7 \, \text{keV}} \right)^{1.6} \text{YOC}^{0.5}$$

 χ > 1 required for ignition

• ITFX ~ χ^3 (defined in Ref. 3)

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One of the main goals of the cryogenic campaign on OMEGA is to validate modeling of $\langle \rho R \rangle$, $\langle T_i \rangle$, and yield.

¹S. Haan *et al.*, "Point Design Targets, Specifications, and Requirements for the 2010 Ignition Campaign on the National Ignition Facility," submitted to Phys. Plasmas
²R. Betti *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas <u>17</u>, 058102 (2010).
³B. K. Spears *et al.*, J. Phys., Conf. Ser. 244, 022014 (2010).



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The shell areal density depends mainly on shell adiabat¹

$$\langle \rho R \rangle_{n} = 1.7 \frac{E_{L,MJ}^{1/3}}{\alpha_{if}^{0.54}}$$

- Shell adiabat is determined by
 - shock heating—optimized in triple-picket design
 - excessive short-scale perturbation growth—controlled by shell IFAR
 = radius/shell thickness



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Shock tuning is performed using VISAR measurements¹



¹T. R. Boehly (NO5.00009).

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²T. R. Boehly et al., Phys. Plasmas <u>16</u>, 056302 (2009).

Simulations reproduce shock-velocity data very well for a variety of picket energies and picket timings

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Accuracy in shock-velocity prediction meets the ignition requirement.



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The areal density is degraded for shells with excessive short-scale perturbation growth

- Warm CH implosions¹
- In-flight aspect ratio (IFAR = radius/shell thickness) and adiabat are varied by changing picket energies



¹P.B. Radha et al., "Triple-Picket Warm Plastic–Shell Implosions on OMEGA" submitted to Phys. Plasmas.
²P. B. Radha (To5.00003).

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The areal density is degraded for shells with excessive short-scale perturbation growth



Areal Density

The measured areal density in triple-picket cryogenic implosions is larger than 88% of the 1-D predicted value¹

Cryogenic implosions, IFAR ~ 30



The areal-density measurements confirm accuracy of shock tuning and shell stability to short-wavelength perturbations.



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The measured ion temperature is ~25% lower than the 1-D predicted value



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Neutron yield and temperature degradation are due to 3-D asymmetry effects or a reduction in hydrodynamic efficiency.

Bang time is an accurate measurement of shell velocity

Neutron-averaged ion temperature* $\langle T_i \rangle \sim V_{imp}^{1.25}$



 Experimental bang time is delayed by ~80 ps

•
$$\frac{\delta V_{\text{imp}}}{V_{\text{imp}}} = \frac{\delta t_{\text{bang}}}{t_{\text{drive}}} = \frac{80 \,\text{ps}}{1300 \,\text{ps}} = 6\%$$

	Simulated	Consistent with Bang Time
V _{imp}	3.0×10^7 cm/s	$2.8 \times 10^7 \text{ cm/s}$
$\langle T_{i} \rangle$	3.0 keV	2.8 keV

*C. D. Zhou and R. Betti, Phys. Plasmas 14, 072703 (2007).

The scattered-light measurement indicates a loss in laser coupling



Beam-to-beam energy transfer leads to a reduction in laser coupling¹

The transfer of energy from (1) to (2) is due to SBS before deposition²



¹I. Igumenshchev *et al.*, "Crossed-Beam Energy Transfer

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in ICF Implosions on OMEGA," submitted to Phys. Plasmas

²C. J. Randall, J. R. Albritton, and J. J. Thomson, Phys. Fluids <u>24</u>, 1474 (1981).

When beam-to-beam energy transfer is included, both the bang time and laser absorption are in good agreement with simulations

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Beam-to-beam energy transfer leads to a reduction in the T_i and yield predictions



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An additional reduction in T_i and yield is caused by 3-D asymmetry effects.



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Perturbation growth leads to a reduction in "clean" hot-spot volume and ion temperature



¹Kishony, Shvarts, Phys. Plasmas <u>8</u>, 4925 (2001).

Ion-temperature reduction can be related to the hot-spot distortion fraction



¹V. Lobatchev and R. Betti, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* <u>85</u>, 4522 (2000).

Model prediction for yield and T_i is consistent with the data



2-D simulations confirm temperature reduction predicted by the model



Reducing target offset, ice roughness, and ablator finish is required to improve yield and T_i

Ice roughness Offset Ablator finish 100 80 100 No offset 80 80 60 YOC 2-D (%) 60 60 40 40 40 20 20 20 0 0 0 0.1 10 20 30 40 50 0.0 0.2 1 2 3 4 0 0 $\sigma_{\rm rms}\,(\mu{\rm m})$ Ice-roughness rms (μ m) Offset (μ m) **Current level** Goal

Results of 2-D DRACO Simulations¹

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With nonuniformity sources meeting the goal, $\alpha = 2$ cryogenic implosions on OMEGA are predicted to achieve YOC ~15% to 20% with $\langle T_i \rangle_n \sim 2.4$ keV



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