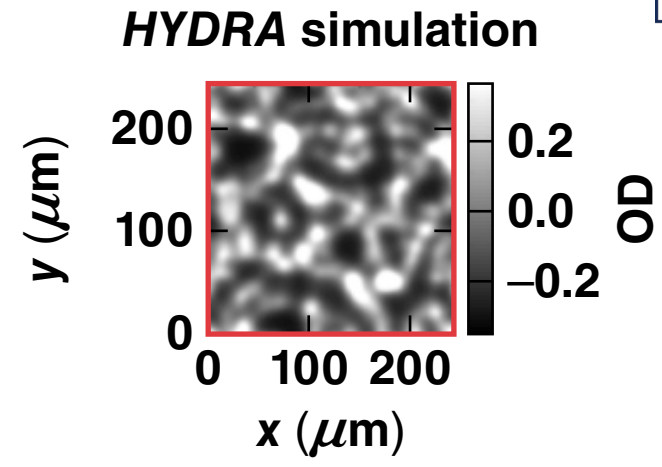
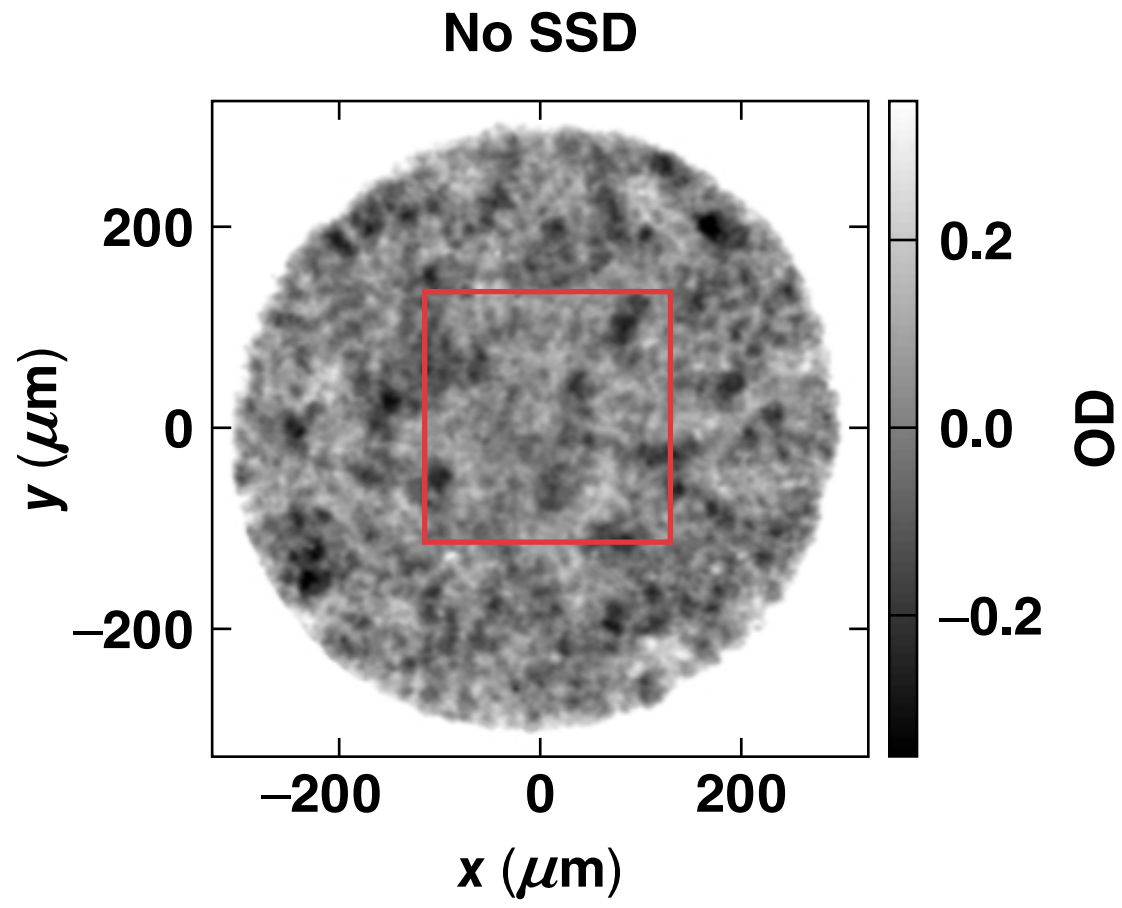


# Three-Dimensional Simulations of Flat-Foil Laser-Imprint Experiments at the National Ignition Facility

Time = 1.5 ns



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59th Annual Meeting of the  
American Physical Society  
Division of Plasma Physics  
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## Summary

# NIF\* experiments were performed to measure imprint-seeded nonuniformities in planar foils driven with and without 45-GHz SSD applied to the laser pulse



- Excellent high-resolution x-ray radiography data with a clearly visible imprint signature were obtained
- Three-dimensional *HYDRA* simulations were used to capture 3-D physics of 1-D smoothing by spectral dispersion (SSD) and resolve all single-beam imprint modes
- Simulations predict a higher level of imprint, faster Rayleigh–Taylor (RT) growth rate, and early saturation time relative to experiments
- X-ray preheat from the backlighter is hypothesized to cause target preheat and reduce imprint

# Collaborators

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**P. B. Radha, M. J. Rosenberg, K. S. Anderson,  
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M. M. Marinak, and L. Masse**

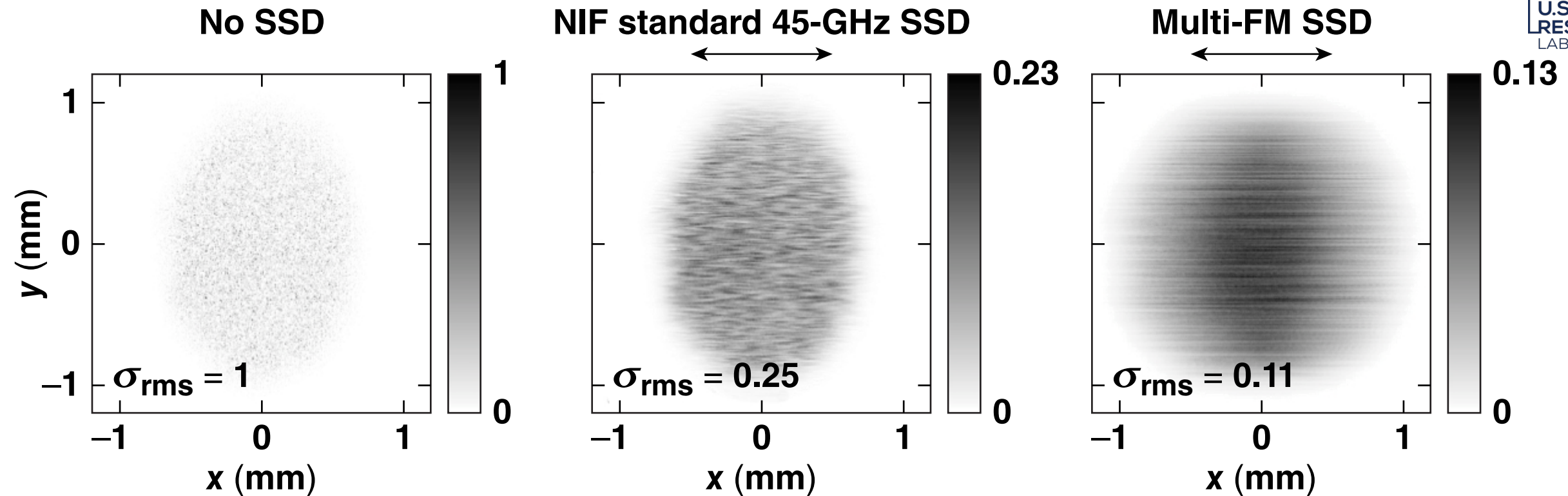
**Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory**

**M. Karasik**

**Naval Research Laboratory**

# Single-beam smoothing is required for high-performance direct-drive implosions on the NIF

Calculated time-integrated inner-cone (23.5°) beam intensity

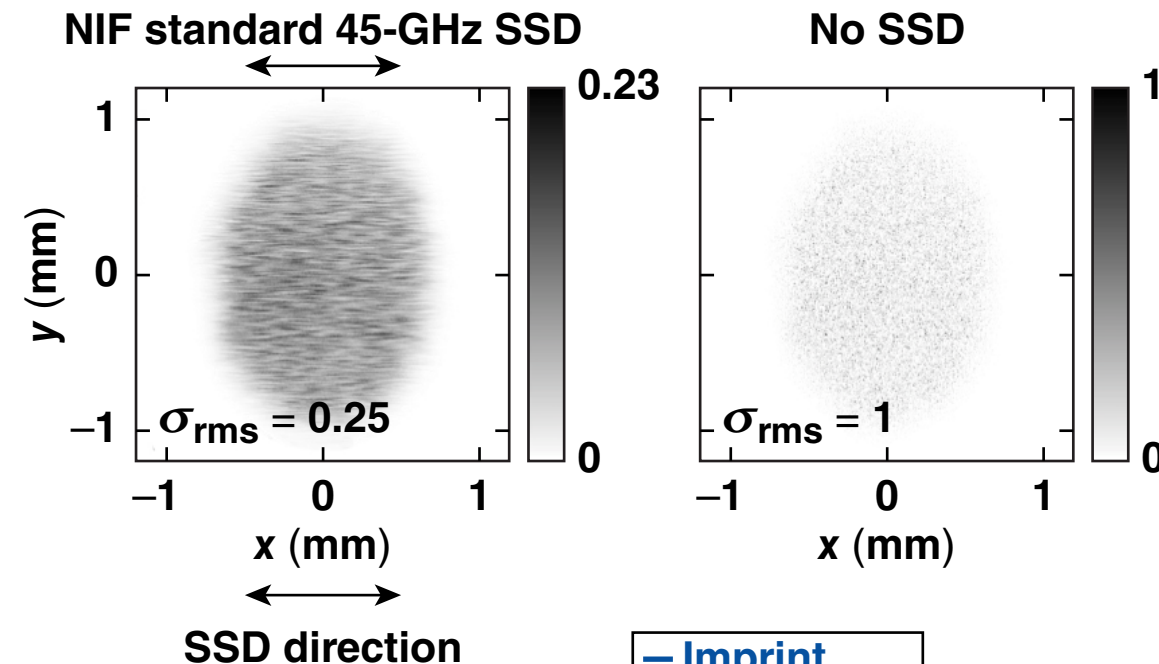
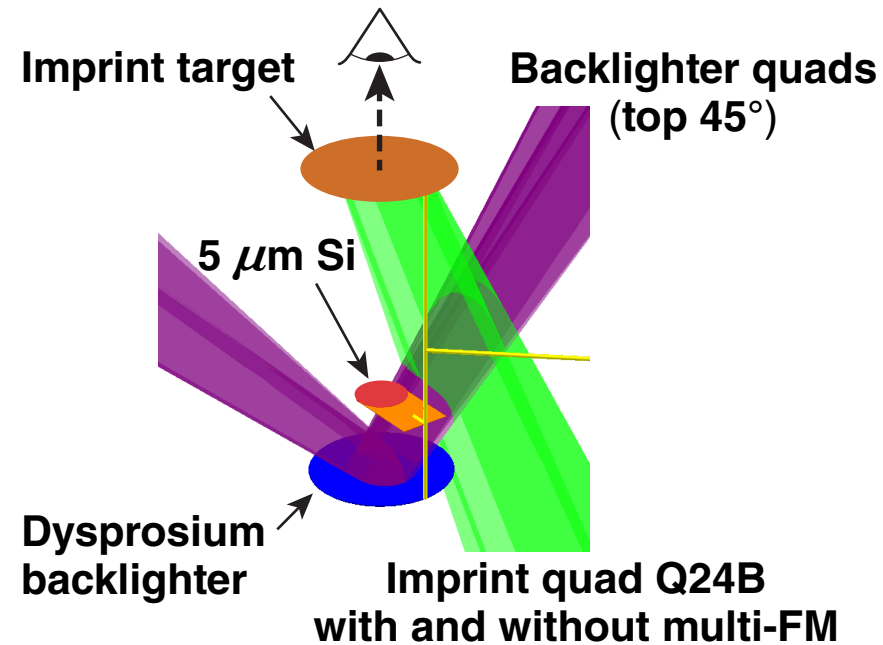


One-dimensional multi-FM SSD\* (multifrequency modulation smoothing by spectral dispersion) has been validated\*\* on a single quad (Q24B) of the NIF

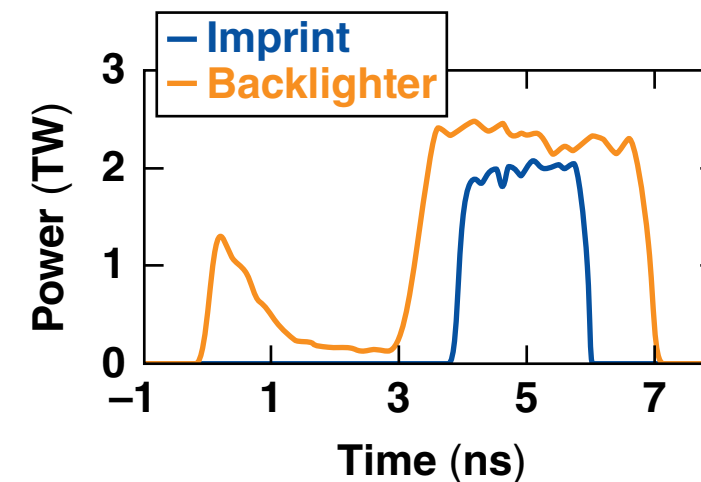
\*J. A. Marozas, J. D. Zuegel, and T. J. B. Collins, Bull. Am. Phys. Soc. **55**, 294 (2010).

\*\*A. Shvydky *et al.*, Bull. Am. Phys. Soc. **61**, BAPS.2016.DPP.JO5.3 (2016).

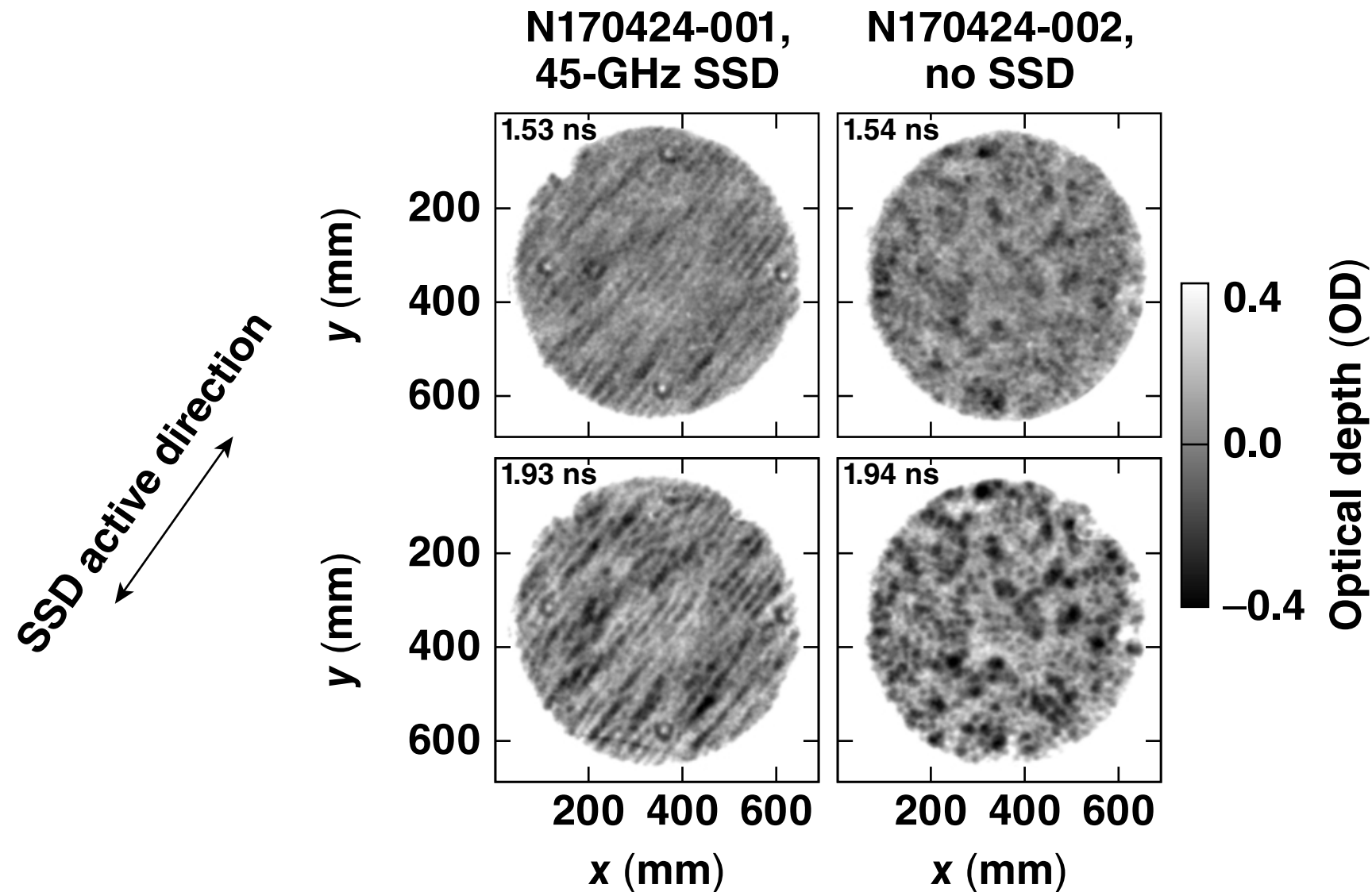
# NIF planar experiments used single-beam drive with no SSD and the NIF standard 45-GHz SSD



- 20- $\mu\text{m}$  CH planar foil target
- 2-TW power single beam and  $10^{14}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> on-target intensity
- 15- $\mu\text{m}$ -diam pinholes versus 30 and 40  $\mu\text{m}$  in previous experiments



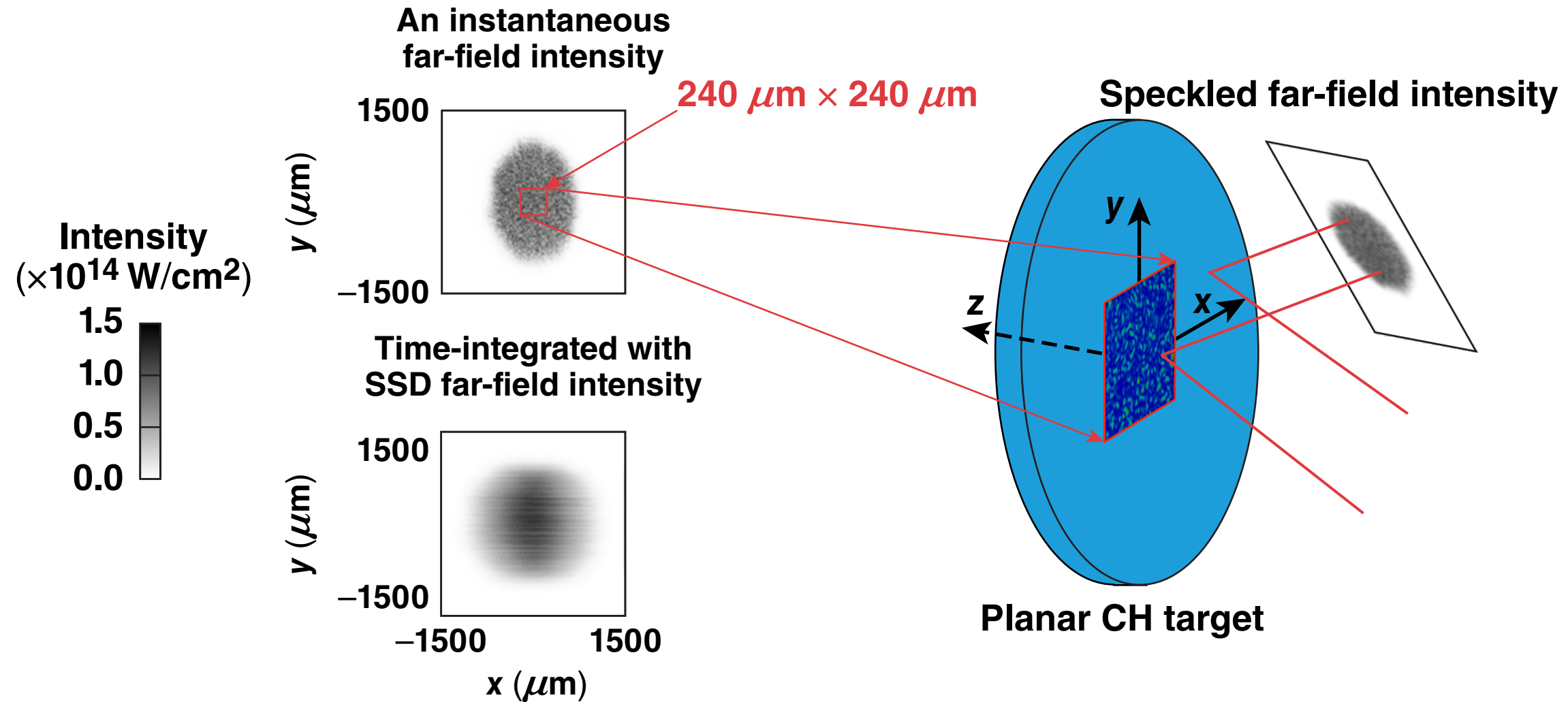
# Excellent data were obtained with a clearly visible imprint signature



Each frame is an  
overlap of four  
camera frames

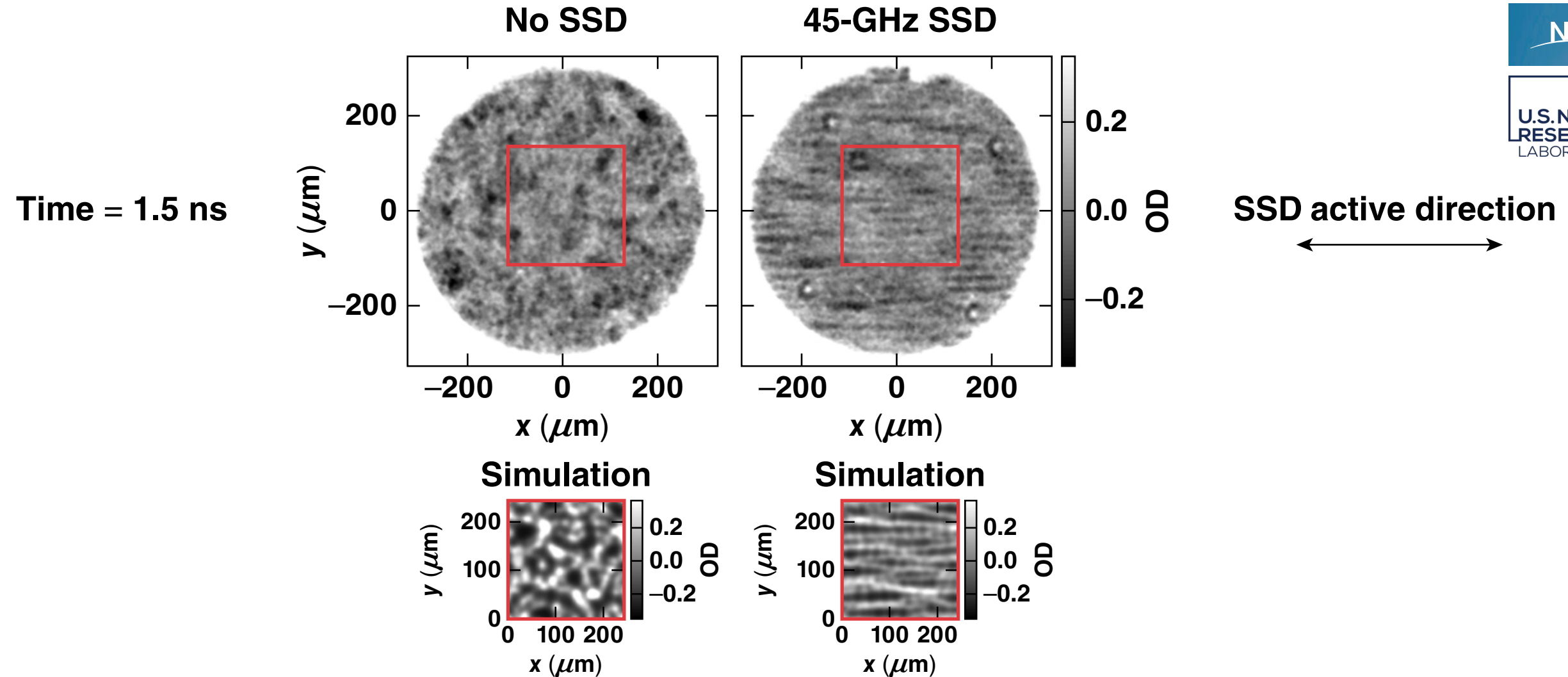
Imprint modulation features are persistent in time.

# The 3-D code *HYDRA*\* is used to simulate the impact of SSD



- Simulations use *HYDRA*'s spherical laser-deposition model and resolve speckle size ( $\sim 6 \mu\text{m}$ )

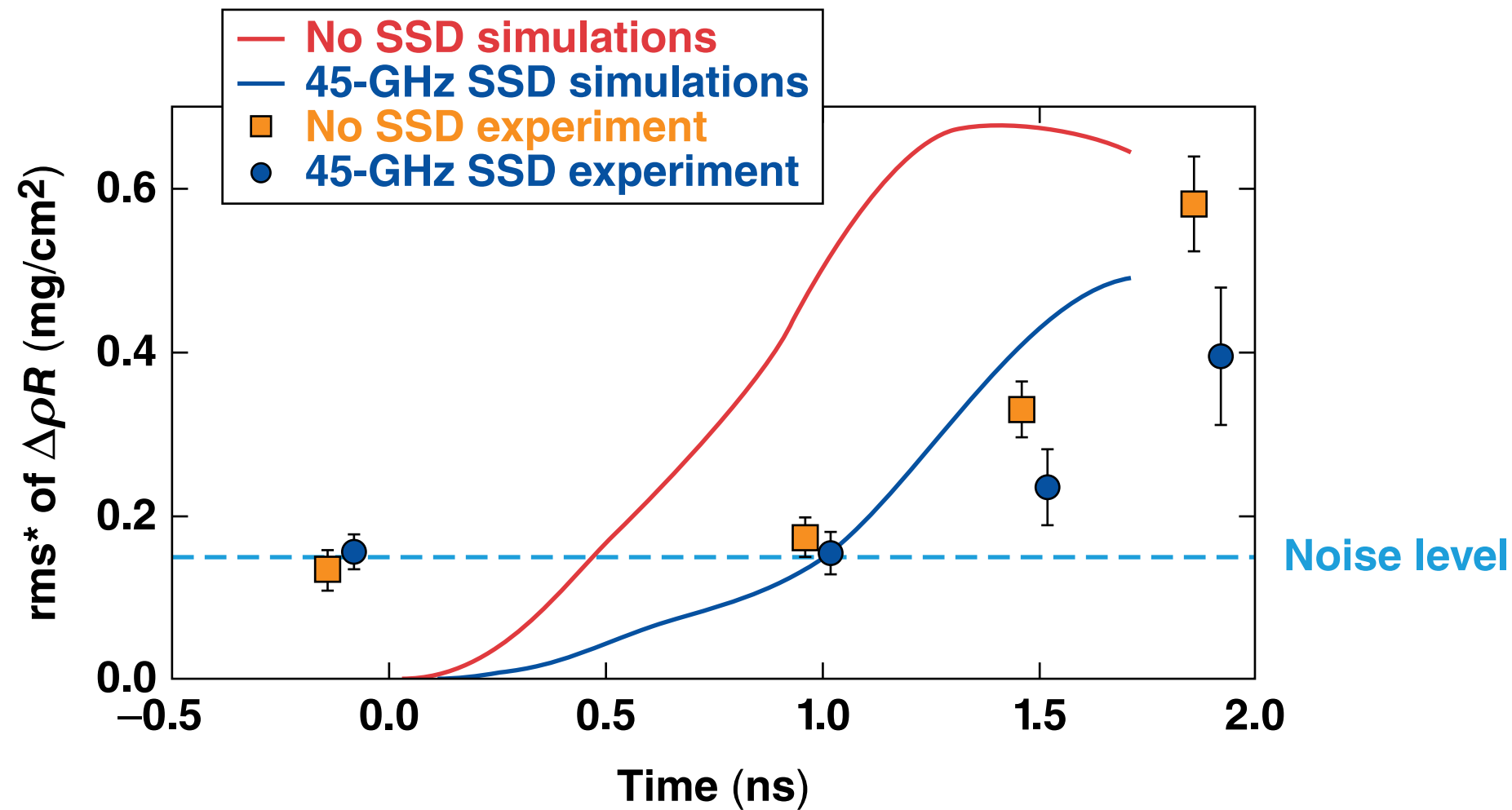
# Simulations reproduce similar features as seen in the experimental radiographs but with much higher optical depth



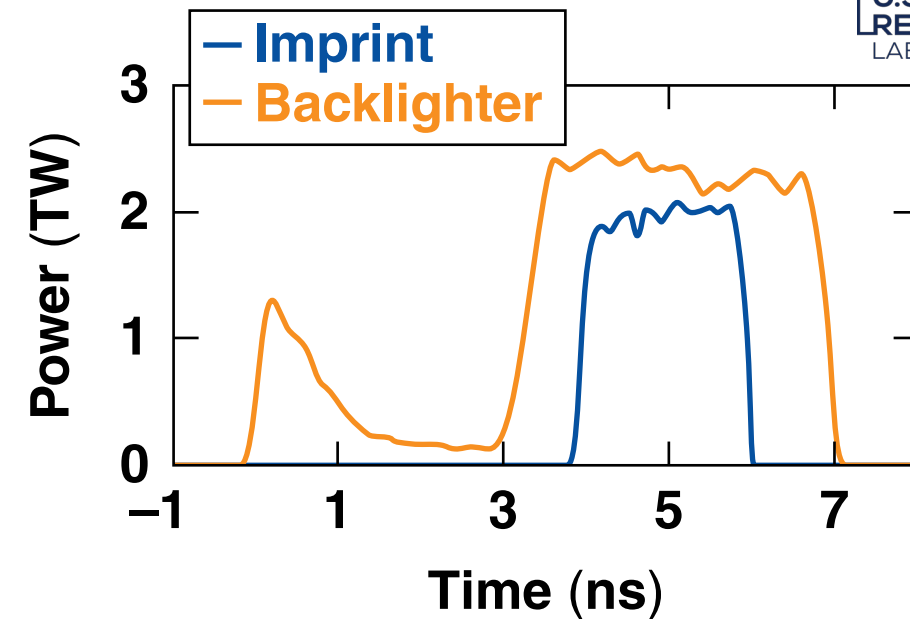
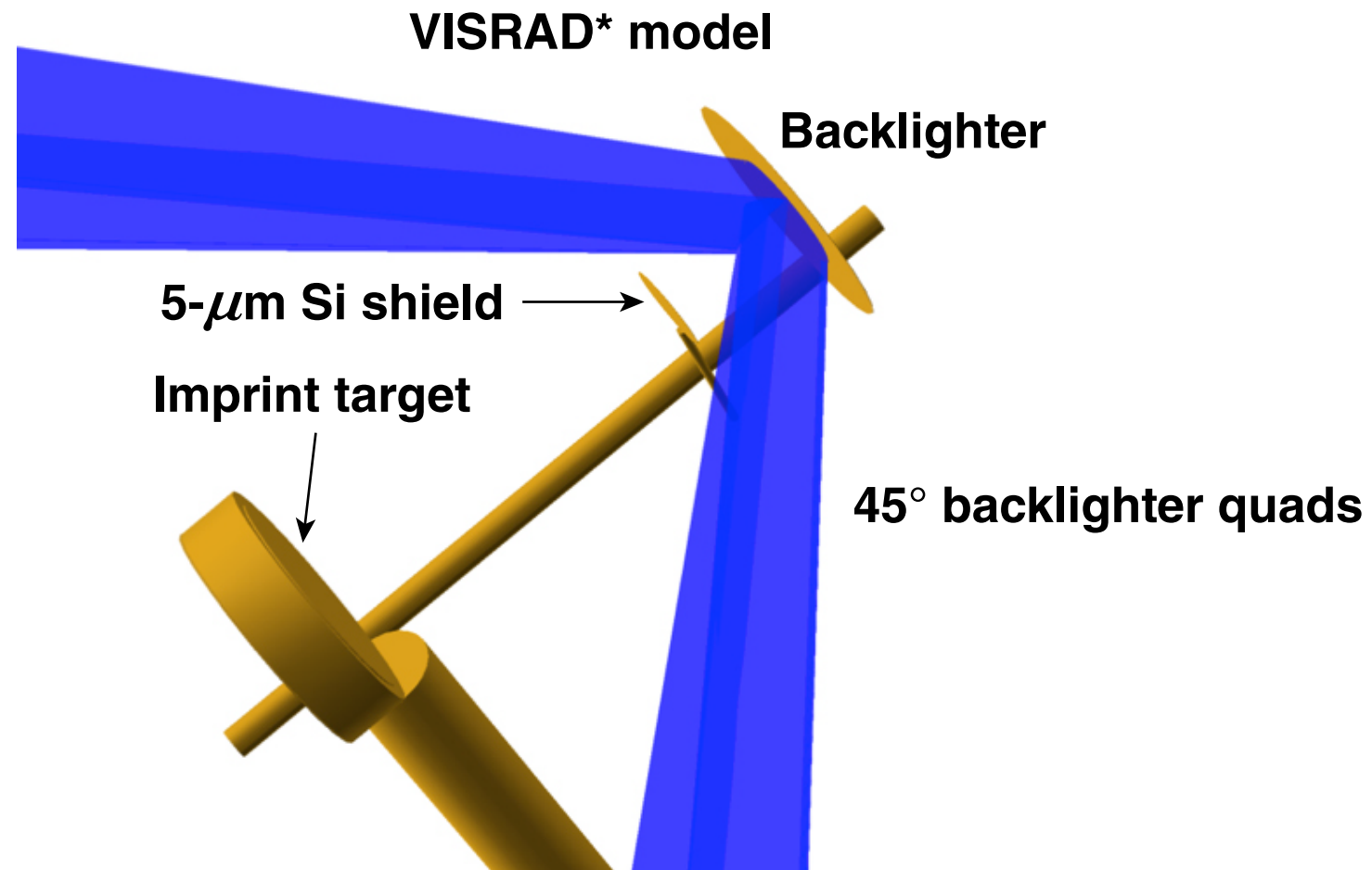
15- $\mu\text{m}$  pinhole and framing-camera blurring were applied to simulated images



# Simulations predict a higher level of imprint, faster Rayleigh–Taylor growth rate, and early saturation time compared to experiments



# X-ray preheat is hypothesized to be the cause of the lower than predicted level of imprint observed in experiments



The experiments are being considered to be repeated using a delayed backlighter pulse.

## Summary/Conclusions

# NIF\* experiments were performed to measure imprint-seeded nonuniformities in planar foils driven with and without 45-GHz SSD applied to the laser pulse



- Excellent high-resolution x-ray radiography data with a clearly visible imprint signature were obtained
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