Quantifying the effects of scale and illumination geometry in Laser Direct Drive



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Dedicated OMEGA shots have tested scale (S) and beam to target radius (R_b/R_t)



- Yield and areal density improve with capsule size and laser uniformity
- Results validate and refine previous analyses of the full database¹⁻³
- Upcoming shots will test other factors, such as polar illumination^{4,5}
- Experiments at NIF-scale could exceed simple hydro extrapolation



1 V. Gopalaswamy *et al.*, Nature <u>565</u>, 581 (2019). 2 A. Lees *et al.* TI01.00005.

2 A. Lees *et al.* 101.00005. 3 R. Betti *et al.* BO09.00009. 4 P. B. Radha *et al.* BO09.00014. 5 W. Theobald *et al.* BO09.00010.

Scale and beam-to-target radius can partly mitigate 3-D sources of degradation⁶⁻⁷

6 I. Igumenshchev *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas 23, 052702 (2016). 7 I. Igumenshchev *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas 24, 056307 (2017).



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Sensitivity studies at LLE benefit from experiments that are well-controlled and diagnosed that are widely separated in parameter space



Statistical analyses let us correct for large asymmetries (e.g., L = 1), fuel age, and other factors, while testing aspects of physics¹⁻³

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Scaling experiments use capsules and phase plates with all dimensions smaller by the same ratio (S = 0.8) to change yield > 2x





Tests of R_b/R_t modify the laser spots independent of the capsule, and could change yield > 4x relative to 1-D LILAC







Uncertainty is reduced by using pulses that minimize changes in velocity, adiabat, IFAR, etc., to isolate scale and beam to target radius



S	v (km/s)	adiabat	IFAR	BT/S (ns)	R _b /R _t	v (km/s)	adiabat	IFAR	BT/S (ns)
1.0	471	4.8	29	2.19	0.87	471	4.8	29	2.19
0.8	477	4.8	30	2.19	0.97	474	4.8	29	2.19
					1.07	477	4.8	30	2.19



Calculations in 1-D LILAC serve as our reference¹⁻³ and account for small variations in the delivered laser pulse and target



Deviation(s) from these trends suggest whether 2-D and 3-D physics impact performance^{4,5} 1 V. Gopalaswamy *et al.,* Nature <u>565,</u> 581 (2019). 2 A. Lees *et al.* TI01.00005. 3 R. Betti *et al.* BO09.00009.

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The OMEGA port geometry should imprint 3-D perturbations¹



Existing experimental diagnostics are unable to resolve L = 10; it has to be inferred

1 Calculations in 3-D HYDRA courtesy of K. Anderson.



Calculations in DRACO predict a significant impact from L = 10 even in 2-D



Data should be 3-D and subject to laser imprint, as well as small imperfections in target fielding



R_b/R_t is predicted to be more important when failure modes couple; uncertainties in CBET, preheat, etc. could also play a role



Can flaws in the target and facility be mitigated by operating at $R_b/R_t > 1$?

Are impacts a function of design? Laser intensity? Or the DT adiabat?



Initial results confirm benefits to scale and beam to target radius that are qualitatively consistent with calculations and prior findings



Results suggest performance can improve at $R_b/R_t > 1$ (experiments planned for November)

Experiments at NIF-scale could exceed simple theory – R. Betti et al. BO09.00009.



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Planned experiments will improve statistics, check if findings are a function of adiabat or laser intensity, and test $R_b/R_t > 1$ (do results saturate, or continue to improve?)



Backups





Analysis based on scale and beam to target radius





Analysis based on scale, beam to target radius, and calculated adiabat





Experiments suggest a tradeoff in 1-D energetics (scale) and symmetry (R_b/R_t) with implications to Laser Direct Drive at NIF¹⁻³



Any advantage from $R_b/R_t > 1$ will depend on the precise form of $Y(R_b/R_t)$ and how it saturates

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Multipliers on the picket, foot and peak are designed using LILAC



0.87

0.97

1.07

1.00

0.87

0.77

1.00

0.84

0.70

1.00

0.91

0.85

S	picket	foot	peak
1.0	1.00	1.00	1.00
0.8	0.64	0.64	0.64

Headroom to increase TW or kJ



Targets with $R_b/R_t > 1$ absorb less energy





R_b/R_t is predicted to be more important when failure modes couple; uncertainties in CBET (spot profile vs time?), preheat, etc. could also play a role



Can flaws in the target and facility be mitigated by operating at $R_b/R_t > 1$?

Are impacts a function of design? Laser intensity? Or the DT adiabat?



It is difficult to uniquely interpret the cold shell with existing diagnostics



Target offsets are common, and it is unlikely that we can see/sample the max or min pR

MRS and KODI are important to constrain, uncertainty ~ 1/sqrt(number of measurements)



Important to fitting data?



- 1. 1-D energetics, velocity and adiabat
- 2. Modes 1 and 2
- 3. Port geometry (to help explain sensitivity to R_b/R_t)
- 4. Surrogate for imprint and instability (to further reduce areal density)
- 5. Hot-spot mass/mix

