

Pulsed-Power-Driven High Energy Density Physics and Inertial Confinement Fusion Research



M. Keith Matzen American Physical Society, Division of Plasma Physics Savannah, Georgia November 15, 2004



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Magnetically-driven z-pinch implosions efficiently convert electrical energy into radiation





Increasing the number of wires in a cylindrical array provided a breakthough in x-ray power









The 20-MA Z facility quickly produced record x-ray powers with high-number wire arrays

The conversion of Sandia's Particle Beam Fusion Accelerator II (PBFA II) was completed in September 1996 (renamed Z)





Pulsed-power provides compact, efficient, power amplification



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The **Z** pulsed power facility

[Movie of Z and wire array implosions]





■ Regimes of high energy density are typically associated with energy density ≥ 10⁵ J/cm³ = 1 Mbar







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High energy density physics at the scale of the Z facility creates an exciting experimental environment



Energy equivalent of 2 lbs of high explosive released in few ns in volume of < 1 cc





The magnetic pressure associated with high currents enable accurate EOS studies



Isentropic Compression Experiments (ICE)*

Magnetically produced Isentropic Compression Experiments (ICE) provide measurement of continuous compression curves - previously unavailable at Mbar pressures

- presently capable of ~4 Mbar

* Developed with LLNL



Magnetically launched flyer plates

Magnetically driven flyer plates for shock Hugoniot experiments at velocities to ~ 33 km/s

- exceeds gas gun velocities by ~ 4X and
 - pressures by ~ 4-5X with comparable accuracy
- Presently capable of ~ 20 Mbar



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Outline

- Introduction
- Inertial Confinement Fusion
 - High temperature implosions
 - Symmetry of radiation drive
 - Fast ignition
- Radiation science
- Material properties
- Z-pinch physics/ALEGRA
- Ongoing capability enhancements
 - Z-Refurbishment
 - Z-Beamlet to high power (Z-Petawatt)
- Z-Pinch Inertial Fusion Energy





Pulsed-power drivers support a diverse research portfolio of ignition and high yield, high gain ICF options







High temperature capsule implosions are performed in the "dynamic hohlraum" configuration





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Dramatic progress with dynamic hohlraums has enabled the first z-pinch driven hot dense capsule implosions







The primary radiation source is a thin radiating shock in the foam converter



J. E. Bailey, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 89, 095004 (2002)





The primary radiation source is a thin radiating shock in the foam converter



R.W. Lemke, et al., Phys. Plasmas, to be published, (Jan 2005)





Orthogonal time- and space-resolving spectrometers can reconstruct 2-D electron density and temperature



The electron temperature and density deduced from the Argon K-shell spectra is 1 keV, 2x10²³ cm⁻³

J.E. Bailey et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 92, 085002 (2004)





Neutron energy, yield, and isotropy are consistent with thermonuclear production mechanism





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Xe fill gas quenches the implosion, substantiating the thermonuclear origin of the neutrons





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Sophisticated simulations, target fabrication, and diagnostics are required to improve symmetry

•2D integrated LASNEX simulations: a shaped convertor improves the radiation symmetry, drive temperature, and neutron yield



	Simulation	Experiment	Ratio
Unshaped foam	1.2 x 10 ¹¹	.42 ± .13 x 10 ¹¹	.35
Shaped foam	5 x 10 ¹¹	1.7 ± .5 x 10 ¹¹	.34





The Double-Ended Hohlraum (DEH) configuration is an excellent testbed for radiation symmetry studies



two-sided power feed

Two 63 MA pinches 380 MJ yield



single-sided power feed on Z

J. Hammer et al., Phys. Plasmas 6, 2129 (1999)

M. Cuneo et al., Phys. Plasmas 8, 2257 (2001)D. Hanson et al., Phys. Plasmas 9, 2173 (2002)





Radiation symmetry experiments have been enabled by the development of a single-sided power feed, double-pinch load for Z







We diagnose radiation asymmetry on Z with x-ray point-projection backlighting of an imploding capsule







Experiments with 2-mm capsules demonstrate the ability to zero out the P₂ asymmetry and C_r > 13

R. A. Vesey et al., Phys. Plasmas 10, 1854 (2003) G. R. Bennett et al., Phys. Plasmas 10, 3717 (2003) Experimental 6.7 keV x-ray backlit images







Symmetry experiments on Z provide a range of data to validate hohlraum simulations



Viewfactor and 2D LASNEX simulations are complementary tools for design and interpretation of experiments on Z and beyond





Larger 4.7-mm diameter capsules test symmetry control at relevant case-to-capsule ratios of ~ 4

- Measured P4 for small case to capsule ratios are all negative, ranging from -3% to -8%
- D. Callahan (LLNL) designed experiments to validate removal of early time radiation asymmetry by angle-dependent shims (Nucl. Inst. Meth. A, 2004)
- A. Nikroo (GA) developed the angle-dependent shim overcoating technique

Unshimmed capsules



Inferred drive asymmetry

P₂ = - 4 % P₄ = - 6-8 %

Shimmed capsules



P₂ = + 5-6 % P₄ = - 3-4 %

This technique is relevant to heavy-ion fusion, z-pinch fusion, and NIF





Pulsed-power drivers support a diverse research portfolio of ignition and high yield, high gain ICF options







Integrated experiments at ILE show efficient heating



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Hemispherical implosions are being developed on Z for fast ignition fuel assembly

 ϕ 2.0mm, 60 μ m thk GDP hemi-shell on flat gold surface



 ϕ 2.0mm, 60 μ m thk GDP hemi-shell on 30µm thk gold disc

φ3.0mm, **110**μm thk GDP hemi-shell on 8 deg surface

 ϕ 3.0mm, 110 μ m thk GDP hemi-shell on 12 deg surface



Capsule images obtained with





Hemispherical capsule provides a uniquely convenient mount for a cryogenic liquid fuel target



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Fast ignition experiments for Z are being designed with analytic models and multidimensional simulations

- 2D MHD simulations show cryogenic liquid fuel can be compressed to high density
 - ρ_{max} ~ 300 g/cc; ρz ~ 2 g/cm²

- LSP (3D hybrid PIC code) simulates high energy, high power laser matter interactions
 - Benchmarked with GEKKO/PW data



R. A. Vesey, et al., submitted to FS&T (2004).





- R. B. Campbell, et al., submitted to Phys.Rev.Lett. (2004).
- Analytic models have been developed to assess E_{fusion}/E_{deposited}







High current pulsed power accelerators drive many different load configurations



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Z experiments extend laboratory opacity measurements beyond T ~ 150 eV for the first time



Plasmas in Photoionization Equilibrium include neutron star and black hole accretion disks and, now, tamped Fe:NaF foils illuminated by Z-pinch X-rays





Scaling these plasmas into the laboratory re-	equires the photoionizing			
X-ray flux (Γ_{rad}) be dominant over collisional ionization ($\sim N_e$):				
Astrophysical Plasma	Experiment			
$N_{Fe}L = 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ (match absorption)	$N_{\rm Fe}L = 10^{17} {\rm cm}^{-2}$			
$N_e = 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (equilibrium, no 3-body)	$N_e = 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (few ns)			
$\xi_{ion} \mu \Gamma_{rad} / N_e = 1 - 1000$ (photoionization)	$\xi_{ion} \mu \Gamma_{rad} / N_e = 20$			

See e.g. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 93, 055002 (2004) by M.E. Foord, R.F. Heeter, et al., (an LLNL – Sandia – Queen's Univ. Belfast – Oxford University Collaboration).



Charge state distribution for iron: Cloudy 1-D simulation vs. experimental result



G. Ferland's code Cloudy (b. 1978) is now used in over 70 astro publications/year

The new laboratory data are now being used to benchmark models which have been developed by X-ray astrophysicists for over 25 years, as well as HED plasma codes

In addition to astrophysical relevance and basic science, jet data can help benchmark various radiation-hydrodynamics codes used in HEDP/ICF



Z jet experiments have been designed with Los Alamos' RAGE code

(Radiation Adaptive Grid Eulerian)

Jets from young stars



10 μ m resolution over 4x20 mm image



Z1378 (77 ns)

Structure behind jet is due to shearing between Al pin and Au washer that RAGE is not doing correctly

[Bennett et al. EP1.015]

RAGE (80 ns) RAGE (70 ns) RAGE (60 ns)

High current pulsed power accelerators drive many different load configurations



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The (quasi) isentropic loading technique is providing new opportunities for material property studies



- Shockless loading for 200-300 ns
- Multiple experiments/shot (4-12)

- Identical loading (A-B comparison)
- Versatile (simultaneous Lo/Hi T)



We have measured an isentrope to 2.5 Mbar for AI, and have demonstrated the measurement of a phase boundary



Achieving high flyer plate velocities is the result of close coupling between simulations and experiments





Peak velocity of flyer useful for EOS experiments increased by factor of ~1.7 via pulse shaping







Data to 1.4 Mbar obtained on liquid D₂ helps resolve discrepancy in high-pressure response



Independent, self-consistent measurements for D₂ are in agreement with *ab-initio* models to 1.4 Mbar



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A set of six laser shadowgraphs, registered in both space and time, provides a great basis for insight into the dynamics of wire array implosions on Z



Material: W Array Diameter: 20 mm, 300 wires Array Height: 10 mm Wire Φ: 11.5 μm Array Mass: 6 mg



















Z1176, frame 2



Z1176, frame 3



Z1176, frame 4



Z1176, frame 5







Analysis of the growth of the magnetic Instability during the implosion phase



Trajectory of inner boundary can be fit to constant acceleration, $a = 1.18 \times 10^{13} \text{ m s}^{-2}$

Amplitude grows approximately exponentially with time, reaching ~6-7 mm at peak. Wavelength grows linearly with time. $t_o = -42.5 \text{ ns}$ $\lambda(t=0) = 1.5 \text{ mm}$



We are using x-ray backlighting to measure the mass profile and instability growth during wire-array implosions



A wide range of z-pinch implosion phenomena are now being studied in detail



The ALEGRA-HEDP predictive design and analysis capability enables effective use of *Z*







Accurate material models are necessary for quantitative/predictive simulations



ALEGRA-HEDP 3D 8-wire z-pinch implosion calculation

[Movie of 3D 8-wire array calculation]







ALEGRA-HEDP 30-wire 2D MHD with IMC radiation and 9-slot return current structure

[Movie of 2D r-theta 30-wire array calculation]





ZR - Refurbishing the **Z** pulsed power facility





TEC = \$61,710k; FY07 completion

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- Extend lifetime and utility of the \mathbb{Z} pulsed power facility
 - Increase shot capacity to meet demands
 - Increase precision for high quality data for code validation
 - Increase current capability to meet future temperature, x-ray power and energy, and equation of state requirements







Higher current will provide increased capability

Capability	Z today	After Refurbishment
Peak load current reproducibility	± 5 %	± 2 %
Pulse shaping flexibility	Minimal	Significant Variability
Peak Current	18 MA	26 MA
Power Radiated (Nested Arrays)	230 TW	350 TW
Energy Radiated (Single Array)	1.6 MJ	2.7 MJ

Increased capability will be applied to: Hot spot Inertial Confinement Fusion Fast ignition Radiation hydrodynamics Opacity Material response to radiation fluence Dynamic material properties





The Z-Beamlet laser is being upgraded to provide a high energy PW laser for use on Sandia's Z facility

- The Z-Beamlet laser is being upgraded to provide a 2-4 kJ, 1-10 psec short pulse laser
 - high energy radiography
 - fast ignition experiments
 - ultra-intense short pulse HED science

Z-Beamlet multikilojoule laser facility











Pulsed power facilities are versatile platforms for HEDP and ICF science





