

Fundamental measurements on parameterized target for the implosion of fast ignition

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Fast-ignition has shown many potential advantages according to recent years of theoretic and experimental research on inertial confinement fusion. Our goal is to achieve a relatively “slow” implosion process, which is a necessary prerequisite for fast-ignition with high gain, by optimizing the parameters of target and laser pulse. As first step, we conduct some fundamental research by doing analogous experiment on a plane target, detecting its temperature, velocity and trajectory with the help of streaked cameras, then find out its performance under such two circumstances: 1)imploding the target by a tailored pulse, intensity of which increases along with the third power of time(FIG.1), for purpose of achieving a lower implosion velocity, 2)coating the outmost surface of polystyrene target with a copper layer so as to screen the preheating effect that could hamper the compression of target.

The two graphs below depict the temporal changes of temperatures at the rear surface of target resulting from our experiment. FIG.2 is a comparison between the effects of flat-top pulse without foot and with t^3 (intensity \propto time cubed) foot, exhibiting 30% reduction of temperature at shock-break-out time, which could leading to low adiabat and low implosion velocity. FIG.3 shows that overall temperature considerably decreased after copper layer has been adopted to target, and the vanishing of preheating.

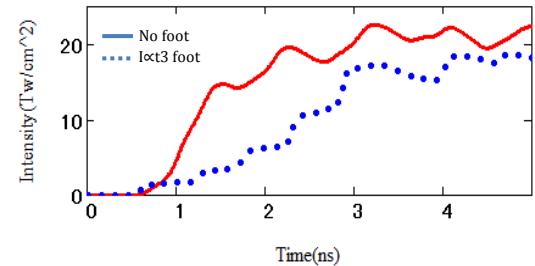


FIG.1 Pulses ramp up in two different ways

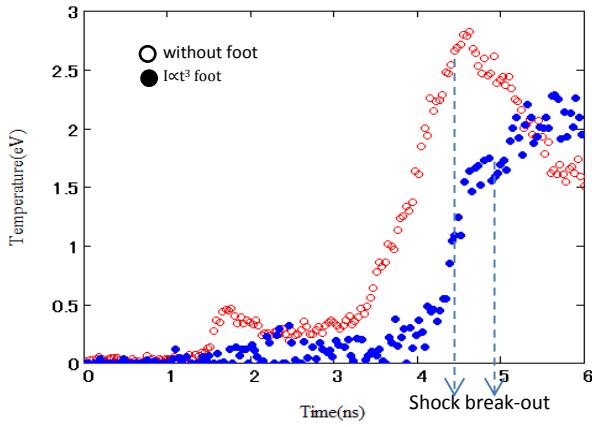


FIG.2 Temperatures for irradiation by pulse without foot case and with t^3 foot case

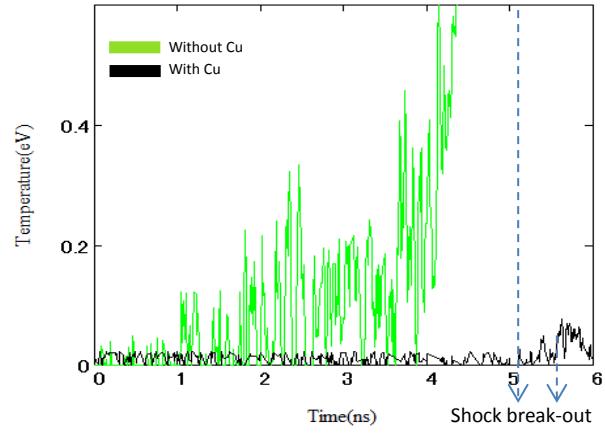


FIG.3 Temperatures for CH and CH-Cu targets

Reference: R. Betti and C. Zhou, Phys. Plasmas 12,110702

K. Otani, K. Shigemori, T. Kadono, Y.Hironaka, M. Nakai et al, Phys.Plasmas 17, 032702