EFFECTS OF ION DIFFUSION ON FUSION BURN AT THE SHOCK FLASH IN ICF IMPLOSIONS



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Measurements of 4 nuclear fusion products provide important information about the effects of ion diffusion on the separation of fusion fuel species

- Ratios of T³Hed to D³Hep reaction yields, and DDp to DTn reaction yields quantitatively illustrate the fusion yield anomaly in directly driven, exploding-pusher ICF implosions.
- In contrast to the case of acceleration driven isothermal atmosphere during compression burn, shock driven ion diffusions cause specie separation at shock flash.
- Barodiffusion and electrodiffusion are likely the dominant effects.
- More detailed future work will focus on quantitative study of each individual effect.

This is an ongoing experiment project

Collaborators







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Ablation is used to generate the extreme pressures required to compress a capsule to ignition conditions



Mainline ICF simulations are made with average-ion hydrodynamic codes

Single-fluid model

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla(\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla\right) \mathbf{v} = \nabla \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla P + \frac{\rho}{m} \mathbf{F}$$

$$\frac{m}{ne^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} \cdot \frac{1}{en} \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B} + \frac{1}{en} \nabla P_e - \eta \mathbf{J}$$

Averaged quantities over all species

$$\rho = n_i m_i + n_e m_e$$

$$P = P_i + P_e$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{1}{\rho} (n_i m_i \mathbf{v}_i + nem_e \mathbf{v}_e)$$

$$\mathbf{J} = en(\mathbf{v}_i - \mathbf{v}_e)$$

Hydro assumptions can break down during the shock-convergence phase



DT gas fuel

Time (ns)



Significant fuel species separation occurs before and after shock flash in a NIF implosion, according to multi-fluid LSP simulation



C. Bellei et al, Phys. Plasmas 20, 012701 (2013)

The observed ICF fusion yield anomaly has been related to the imbalance of fuel species densities in the burn region



For the hydrodynamic equivalent mixtures, the scaled yields are

$$\widetilde{Y}_{n} = Y_{n} \frac{(3 - f_{D})^{2}}{f_{D}^{2}}$$
$$\widetilde{Y}_{p} = Y_{p} \frac{(3 - f_{D})^{2}}{f_{D}(1 - f_{D})}$$

The effects of ion diffusion have been proposed to cause separation of fuel species, leading to this imbalance

J R. Rygg *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas (2008) P. A. Amendt *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. <u>109</u> 225001 (2010)

Observation of self-generated radial electric fields in an imploded capsule has been made



C. K. Li et al., PRL 100 225001 (2008)

Recent work by Amendt et al delineates the effects of ion diffusion in plasmas of imploded capsule

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Classical Barotropic Electro Thermal} \\ & \text{diffusion diffusion diffusion diffusion} \\ & \text{Mass diffusivity flux} \end{aligned} i_{1} = -\rho D \left[k_{\alpha} \ln P + k_{p} \frac{d \ln P}{dx} + k_{p} \frac{d \ln P}{dx} + k_{E} \frac{eE}{k_{B}T} + k_{T} \frac{d \ln T}{dx} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Classical diffusion coefficient} \\ & k_{\alpha} = -\alpha (1-\alpha) \left[\left(1 - \frac{m_{1}}{m_{2}}\right) \left(1 + \frac{Z_{2}T_{e}}{T}\right) - \frac{\Delta ZT_{e}}{T} \right] f(\alpha, Z_{1}, Z_{2}, m_{1}/m_{2}, T_{e}/T) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Barodiffusion coefficient} \\ & k_{p} = \alpha (1-\alpha) (Z_{2} - Z_{1}) \left\{ \frac{\alpha \frac{1+Z_{1}}{m_{1}} + (1-\alpha) \frac{1+Z_{2}}{m_{2}}}{\alpha \frac{Z_{1}(1+Z_{1})}{m_{1}} + (1-\alpha) \frac{Z_{1}(1+Z_{2})}{m_{2}}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Electrodiffusion coefficient} \\ & k_{E} = \alpha (1-\alpha) \left\{ \left(\frac{Z_{1}}{m_{1}} - \frac{Z_{2}}{m_{2}} \right) (m_{1}\alpha + m_{2}(1-\alpha)) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

 $\frac{\Delta Z m_1 k_{\alpha}}{m_2 (1+\overline{Z}) [\alpha + (1+\alpha) m_1 / m_2]} + \frac{\gamma + 1}{\gamma}$

 $k_T = -$

P. A. Amendt et al., PRL. 109 225001 (2010) PRL, accepted (2012)

Exploding pushers generate conditions similar to the shock convergence phase of hot-spot ignition implosions



Shock phase characterized by high temperature, moderate density, large λ_{ii} , kinetic effects

A comprehensive set of diagnostics was used to measure implosion conditions and assess performance of hydro models

OMEGA target chamber (only a few of the many diagnostics)



Key measurements:

- DD and D³He yields
- Burn-averaged T_i
- DD and D³He burn histories
- DD and D³He burn profiles
- Fuel ρR (ion density)
- X-ray self-emission images (R)
- Scattered light

The first spectra of 4 nuclear reactions are simultaneously measured from a single capsule implosion that filled with DT³He gas



The Y_{T3HeD}/Y_{DHep} and Y_{DDn}/Y_{DT} yield ratios are deviated from the predictions, qualitatively indicating the fuel stratification



While DD yields relative to the DT yield are lower than expected, TT reaction yields are higher than expected (assuming a constant density ratio f_t/f_{d})



D. T. Casey et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. <u>108</u>, 075002 (2012).

Measurement of D3He-p and DD-n burn history on a single diagnostic has been developed at OMEGA



This diagnostic will explore detailed effects of kinetic and multi-ion physics on fusion burn.

Current relative accuracy: ± 20 ps Goal relative accuracy: ± 10 ps

Hong Sio et al., to be submitted (2014)

Penumbral imaging of the fusion burn was used to infer burn profiles across the hydrodynamic and kinetic regimes



Séguin et al., RSI (2004), PoP (2006)

Measured burn profiles are centrally-peaked, in stark contrast to the pure-hydro model but in agreement with a diffusion model



Simulations by P. Amendt, LLNL



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