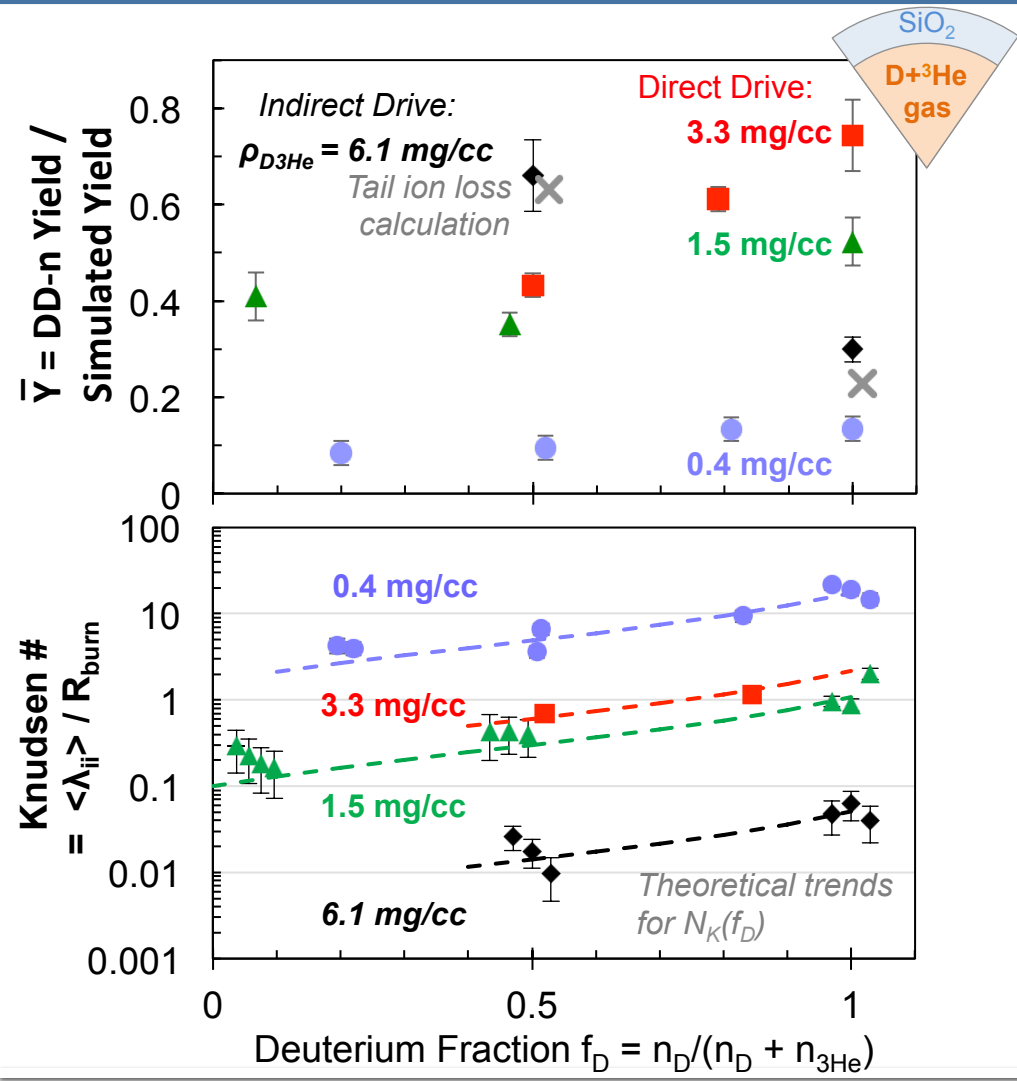


Ion kinetic physics mechanisms impact plasmas relevant to shock-phase DT-vapor in ICF experiments



- Strongly shocked ($M > 10$), low-density ($\rho \sim 1$ mg/cc), hot ($T_i > 1$ keV) plasmas are produced in laser-driven capsule implosions to study the effects of *long mean-free-paths* ($N_K = \lambda_{ii}/R > 0.01$) and *multiple ion species*.
- Trends in nuclear performance are dominated by different effects in three regimes of N_K :
 - $N_K < 0.1$: Nuclear yield matches predictions of reactivity reduction due to suprathermal “tail” ion loss.¹ $Trend: \bar{Y}(f_D = 1) < \bar{Y}(f_D = 0.5)$
 - $0.1 < N_K \approx 1$: Nuclear data implies separation of D, ³He by diffusion.² $\bar{Y}(f_D = 1) > \bar{Y}(f_D = 0.5)$
 - $N_K \gg 1$: Ion temperatures imply thermal decoupling of D, ³He.² $\bar{Y}(f_D = 1) > \bar{Y}(f_D = 0.5)$
- During shock-phase of ICF ignition implosions, DT-vapor has $0.2 < N_K < 0.8$, implying distributions are strongly non-thermal.

¹Albright POP 20, 122705 (2013); Kagan PRL 115, 105002 (2015)
²Rinderknecht PRL 114, 025001 (2014)