Sandia National Laboratories

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#### Laboratory Astrophysics on the Z Pulsed Power Facility

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Workshop on Science with High-Power Lasers and Pulsed Power



Sandia is a multiprogram laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.



Pulsed power is the temporal compression of electrical energy to produce short bursts of high power.



Take the equivalent energy required to operate a TV for a few hours (1-2 MJ) and compress it into more electrical power than provided by all the power plants in the world combined (~15 TW).

...S T Pai & Qi Zhang, "Introduction to High Power Pulse Technology," World Scientific Publishing Co., Singapore, 1995.



andia

## Pulsed power has been investigated for over a century.



## Z-pinch implosions effectively convert electrical energy into radiation





## The refurbished Z facility delivers world-record currents to Z-pinch loads



\*50% increase in Electrical Energy\*Predicted 100% increase at full capacity



#### Z-Pinch Dynamic Hohlraum







# The Z facility has an extensive suite of standard diagnostics

#### X-ray Power and Energy

Filtered X-ray Diodes (XRDs)	< 4 keV Power
Photo-Conducting Diamonds (PCDs)	> 1 keV Power
Silicon Diodes (TEP)	Broad-band Power
Bolometers	Broad-band Energy

#### X-ray Spectroscopy

Elliptically Curved Crystals	0.7-10 keV T	ime-gated
Convex Curved Crystals	0.7-10 keV T	ime-integrated
Spherically Curved Crystals	0.7-10 keV T	ime-integrated
Transmission Crystals	> 10 keV Tim	ne-integrated

#### X-ray Imaging

Filtered Pinhole Cameras......> 0.7 keV Time-gated Multi-layer Mirror Pinhole Cameras...... 0.277±0.003 keV Time-gated

#### X-ray Backlighting

Point-projection.....two-frame @ ~1kJ ea. 1 or 2-color Monochromatic Imaging......two-frame @ ~1kJ ea.

#### Fiber-Based Velocity Interferometry (VISAR)







### The Z-pinch Dynamic Hohlraum (ZPDH) is an energetic and reproducible x-ray source.



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\*Axial power not yet conclusively measured on ZR

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\*Internal T<sub>r</sub> not yet measured on ZR

## ZPDH Source

- I<sub>p</sub> > 21 MA
- 18 radial slots (x-ray exit holes)
- 1 axial aperture
- High internal temperature



### The Z facility provides a wide range of energy densities – Flexibility for Lab Astro





Z provides multiple platforms for a variety of laboratory astrophysics experiments.

#### EOS

D<sub>2</sub> EOS relevant to giant planet interiors.



B- Driven ICE & Flyer Plates



Knudson et al., PRL 87 (2001)

#### **Rad Jets**

High resolution imaging of radiation driven jets

## Backlit image





#### **Photoionized Plasma**

Rad dominated plasmas relevant to accretion objects



#### Wire-Array Z-Pinch Source



Foord et al., PRL 93 (2004)



National Laboratories Z provides multiple platforms for a variety of laboratory astrophysics experiments.

#### **Stellar Envelope Opacity**

Opacity of Fe in envelope around Cepheid Variable stars.



Saturn Z-pinch Secondary Hohlraum



Springer et al., JQSRT 58 (1997)

#### **Solar Interior Opacity**

Opacity of Fe at the boundary between the solar radiation and convection zones.



## An astrophysical issue: The 'CZ problem'



Transport depends on opacity, composition, ne, Te



## **Definition of a laboratory astrophysics experiment to address the 'CZ problem'**



- Base of solar convection zone:  $T_e \sim 193 \text{ eV}$ ,  $n_e \sim 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Most important elements: O, Ne, Fe
- Fe is the most complex and therefore the most suspect
- Fe charge states: +16, +17, +18 (Ne-like, F-like, O-like)
- Photon energy range  $h\nu$  ~ 700-1400 eV
- Atomic processes: L-shell bb transitions and bf transitions



## The Z-pinch Dynamic Hohlraum (ZPDH) provides a platform for high temperature opacity experiments.

#### An experiment platform

- Source characterization
- Diagnostic methods

   -instrumentation
   -analysis methods
- Peer Review

<u>Sample</u> T<sub>e</sub> up to 190 eV *Bailey et al. , PRL 99 (2007)* 



## The Dynamic Hohlraum is formed by an imploding Z pinch, and heated by a strong radiating shock.



### A reproducible radiating shock is the source of x-ray energy for the Z-pinch dynamic hohlraum.



Rochau et al., PRL 100 (2008)

## The ZPDH shock is used to drive and backlight opacity experiments at T<sub>e</sub> > 150 eV.

Foil is heated during the ZPDH implosion



Foil is backlit at shock stagnation



Bailey et al., POP 16 (2009)



### **Opacity measurements require reproducibility in source power (heating) and spectrum (backlighting).**



## Mg K-shell spectra indicate $T_e = 156 \text{ eV}$ and $n_e = 7*10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .



## The measured Fe transmission compares well with models from LANL, LLNL, CEA, and PRISM.



Bailey et al., PRL 99 (2007)

## Z experiments reproduce the iron charge states at the Solar CZ boundary



#### Solar CZ boundary 193 eV, 1 x 10<sup>23</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>





## The OP model used in solar research predicts Fe L-shell opacity that is too low at Z conditions



- OP Rosseland mean is ~ 1.5x lower than OPAS at Z conditions.
- If this difference persisted at the exact CZ conditions, it would solve the CZ problem



## Discrepancies at Z conditions raise a caution flag for solar opacities



At the base of the convection zone (T=193 eV, n<sub>e</sub>=10<sup>23</sup>cm<sup>-3</sup>):

- Iron frequency-dependent opacities possess some differences.
- Rosseland mean opacities are not significantly different, even though they disagree at Z conditions.



## The higher power ZPDH on ZR heats opacity foils to ~20% higher temperatures than achieved on Z.



## Pulsed power sources are gaining recognition as effective drivers for laboratory astrophysics

#### 2010 Joint OFES-NNSA HEDLP grants for laboratory astrophysics related to Z:

-Mancini et al., UNR, Photo-ionized plasmas (Accretion disks)

-Pradhan et al., OSU, Laboratory Tests of Stellar Interior Opacity Models

-Bailey et al., SNL, Laboratory Tests of Stellar Interior Opacity Models

-Frank et al., IC, Astrophysical Jets

![](_page_27_Picture_6.jpeg)

## **Extra Slides**

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

## **Many People and Institutions Contribute**

J.E. Bailey, M. Cuneo, G. Bennett, D. Ampleford, S.B. Hansen, P.W. Lake, T.J. Nash, D.S. Nielsen, J. Porter, M. Herrmann Sandia National Laboratories

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![](_page_29_Picture_10.jpeg)

### The anatomy of a Z-pinch source

![](_page_30_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_2.jpeg)

## The Z facility provides a wide range of energy densities – Flexibility for Lab Astro

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

Mg foils at three azimuths show a consistent radial x-ray energy.

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

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### The shock stagnation makes a bright, featureless, continuum backlighter.

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

Bailey et al., POP 16 (2009)

Sample electron temperatures are reproducible to < 4%.

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_2.jpeg)

Photo-ionized plasma research is a success story for external user experiments on Z

- Initial work by M. Foord and R. Heeter: Fe at ξ ~ 20 erg cm/s Foord et al., PRL 93 (2004)
- Stockpile Stewardship Academic Alliances Grant: R. Mancini, 2007-2009 Ne at ξ ~ 4-10 erg cm/s Hall et al., Astro. Space Sci. 322 (2009)
- High Energy Density Laboratory Physics Grant: R. Mancini, 2010-2012

![](_page_35_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_6.jpeg)

Z-pinch Source

## Measurements of Fe at T<sub>e</sub> ~ 20 eV benchmarked opacity calculations for stellar envelopes.

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

• Detailed line-by-line treatment is required to match even the bulk transmission.

• Critical temperature and density regime for Stellar envelopes.

- Rogers and Iglesias, Science 263 (1994)

![](_page_36_Figure_5.jpeg)

Springer et al., JQSRT 58 (1997)