First experimental demonstration of isochoric heating of a dense plasma core with assistance of external kilo-tesla magnetic field



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- Magnetically assisted fast ignition (MAFI) concept : A new path way to create extremely high energy density (HED) state.
- Generation of kilo-Tesla level magnetic field due to laser - driven capacitor-coil.
- Demonstration of guiding of relativistic electron beam (REB) in a planner geometry.
- Demonstration of \lceil magnetically assisted fast ignition \rfloor .

Fast ignition concept

Fast ignition* : One of the attractive scheme for creation of HED plasmas. 1. The fuel is imploded by ns long pulse laser.

2. At the maximum compression timing, a high-intensity short-pulse laser is injected to the core plasma.



*M. Tabak, et al., Phys. Plasmas 1, 1626-1634 (1994).

Magnetically assisted Fast ignition

Magnetically assisted fast ignition^{*} was proposed to enhance the heating efficiency with external kilo-Tesla magnetic field. To realize this, kilo-Tesla level magnetic field is required.



*S. Fujioka et al, Phys. Plasmas 23, 056308 (2016).





Demonstration of guiding of REB with assistance of external magnetic field



Generation of kilo-Tesla level magnetic field

Magnetic field was measured by B-dot probe and proton radiography. 600 T magnetic field* was obtained.



*K. F. F. Law et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **108**, 091104 (2016).

Guiding of REB by external magnetic field

Coherent transition radiation (CTR) was used to diagnose REB divergence. Pinching image of CTR with B-field was obtained.



*M. Bailly-Grandvaux *et al.*, submitted to *Nature Comm*.

Demonstration of isochoric heating of a dense plasma with assistance of external magnetic field @ GEKKO-XII & LFEX laser facility Magnetically assisted Fast ignition experiment

Copper contained solid sphere was installed to visualize REB transport and measure the electron plasma temperature. A solid sphere mitigate large mirror magnetic field and hydrodynamic instability.



Visualizing REB transport via Monochromatic Ka image

When external magnetic field was applied, enhancement of monochromatic Kα signal was observed. This is the strong evidence that REB was guided into a dense plasma.

Raw images of distribution of monochromatic Kα (8.05 keV)





w/ heating



w/ heating + w/ B-field



PIC simulation for REB transport

Guiding of REB in the dense plasma was confirmed by 2D PIC simulation*. Self-generated magnetic field also assist guiding of REB.



Comparison with PIC results

Bright pots were observed in the case of without B-field. On the other hand, Sifted region was observed at the center in the case of with B-field. This predict that heating was occurred at high density region due to guidance of REB.



X-ray spectra from Cu atoms

Increasing of Ka signal and Li, He-like lines were observed with external magnetic field. These results predict that enhancement of heating of plasma due to guiding of REB was occurred.

X-ray spectra from Cu atoms in various case



Energy dependence of heating laser

When increasing the energy of heating laser, Li, He-like signal increased. This predict increasing of electron temperature or heated region.



Comparison with FLYCHK code

The electron temperature was estimated by FLYCHK code with simple assumption. A very small region was heated up to be ~ 1.8 keV.



Experimental X-ray spectra vs FLYCHK code

Coupling efficiency from laser to dense plasma

Coupling efficiency from heating laser to core plasma was estimated by empirical model*. The estimated value is ~ 5% in the case of with B-field.



*L. C. Jarrot et al., Nat. Phys. 12, 499-504 (2016).

Summary

- We have demonstrated 「Magnetically assisted fast ignition 」 at the first time.
- The estimated plasma temperature is ~ 1.8 keV via X-ray spectra from Cu atoms.
- REB density distribution calculated by PIC simulation agree with monochromatic Kα images.
- Coupling efficiency from laser to dense plasma was estimated by empirical model, which is about 5 % with external magnetic field.

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Thank you for your attention !!

Спасибо !!