Progress on understanding neutron spectral peak shapes: getting a handle on scattering effects

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We are studying how neutron spectra deviate from Gaussian and the scattering contribution to shape





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Moments of the birth peak tell us about the hot spot stagnation







Moments of the birth peak tell us about the hot spot stagnation





We compute cumulants to measure deviation from Gaussian spectrum

$$Cov(X,Y) = \langle (X - \langle X \rangle)(Y - \langle Y \rangle) \rangle = \langle XY \rangle - \langle X \rangle \langle Y \rangle$$

$$Var(X) = Cov(X,X) = \langle X^{2} \rangle - \langle X \rangle^{2}$$

$$Cov(X,Y,Z,...) = \langle (X - \langle X \rangle)(Y - \langle Y \rangle)(Z - \langle Z \rangle)... \rangle$$

$$Skew(X) = Cov(X,X,X) / Var(X)^{3/2}$$

$$Kurt(X) = Cov(X,X,X,X) / Var(X)^{2} - 3$$

$$Zero \text{ for Gaussian distribution}$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(\omega) = \langle \tau \rangle + \operatorname{Var}(u_{\Omega}) + 2\operatorname{Cov}(\kappa, u_{\Omega}) + \dots \qquad \text{L=0, L=2, L=1 in direction}$$

$$\operatorname{Skew}(\omega) = \frac{3\operatorname{Cov}(\tau, u_{\Omega}) + \operatorname{Cov}(u_{\Omega}, u_{\Omega}, u_{\Omega}) + \dots}{\operatorname{Var}(\omega)^{3/2}} \qquad \text{L=1, L=3 in direction}$$

$$\operatorname{Kurt}(\omega) = \frac{3\operatorname{Var}(\tau) + 6\operatorname{Cov}(\tau, u_{\Omega}, u_{\Omega}) + \operatorname{Cov}(u_{\Omega}, u_{\Omega}, u_{\Omega}, u_{\Omega}) - 3\operatorname{Var}(u_{\Omega})^{2} + \dots}{\operatorname{Var}(\omega)^{2}} \qquad \text{L=0, 2, 4}$$

We like math. (Apologies if you don't)

1D implosion spectral peaks are non-Gaussian

	Fractional deviation from Gaussian				
spectrum	Yield	Drift (==0)	Width	Skew (==0)	Kurtosis
1D HF birth	0.011	0.0049	0.073	0.022	0.078
1D HF escaped	0.020	-0.0024	0.13	-0.010	0.13
difference	+0.09	0	+0.057	0	+0.052
1D BF birth	0.010	0.00073	0.067	0.0034	0.07
1D BF escaped	0.016	-0.0036	0.10	-0.016	0.10
difference	+0.006	0	+0.033	0	+0.03

	Tiavg (keV)	Btifwhm (keV)	Width (keV)
H F	12.45	16.07	
BF	11.47	13.73	14.27



Apparent Tion (peak width) varies with line of sight

 Fluid velocity variance increases the apparent temperature

$$T_{Brysk} = \left(\frac{m_D + m_T}{k}\right)\sigma_v^2 + T_{thermal}$$

- Apparent temperature has a Y2m (ellipsoidal) distribution
 - Varies with line of sight
 - Equal on antipodal (opposite) lines of sight (LOS)

Antipodal temps are identical



Detectors catch 55% of PTV

Detector	T _{Brysk}
SpecE	3.49
SpecA	3.56
SpecSP	2.96
NITOF	3.50
MRS	3.39

Fluid motion varies the apparent temperature by up to 1 keV in DT. How about DD?



Simulations show a difference between apparent DD and DT ion temperatures likely due to scattering

Detector	Simulated T _{DT} [keV]	Simulated T _{DD} [keV]	T _{DT} -T _{DD} [eV]	Predicted T _{DD} [keV]
SpecE	3.74	2.92	820	3.45
SpecA	3.18	2.99	190	3.00
SpecSP	3.08	2.80	280	2.92
NITOF	3.67	3.33	340	3.40
MRS	3.60	3.23	370	3.43

True
$$T_{thermal} = 2.3 \text{ keV}$$

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- We expect Tion DD and Tion DT to be related to the thermal temperature (excepting scattering effects)
- When we try to compare DD and DT temps in experiments we find difference to be "too large."
- Turns out 3D simulations have the same "too large" difference that makes the measured TDD lower than predicted.

Scattering alters the peak shape, likely affecting apparent temperature





The kurtosis shows hot spot cooling and flow effects.

VIEW PATH





South

1/5 5/5 Integrated

10

The kurtosis shows hot spot cooling and flow effects

- 1. Positive kurtosis suggests temperature variation during burn
- Negative kurtosis implies 2. velocity variation.
- 3. Variation with angle is due to velocity.
- 4. Kurtosis would be constant with LOS in a spherical or stagnant implosion

scalar

 $Kurt(\omega) =$



L=0, 2, 4 in direction \rightarrow antipodes are identical

Kurtosis variation with line of sight is another direct measure of stagnation and stagnation asymmetry – need it to ~ 5-10% precision



Skewness measures the relationship between temperature and velocity



to ~ 3-5% precision



Variation of moments in simulation suggest requirements for diagnostic performance and analysis

- 1st moment peak location to 15-30 km/s, needed on at least 3 LOS
- 2nd moment width and sampling to allow 200 eV PTV in signal
- 3rd moment skew and sampling to 5%
- 4th moment kurtosis and sampling to 5-10%



How are we affected by scattering?

Can we ignore it?

 How big is the error we make doing so compared to the range we'd like to measure?

Compensate for it?

 How confident can we be that this reduces uncertainty in our measurement?

Can we rely on it?

Can simulations be predictive enough that we compare peak shapes directly?



Scattering affects some peak shape properties more

than others

Scattering drives skew down

- Meaningful for DT
- Larger for DD

Scattering impact on kurtosis depends on neutron energy

- Negligible for DT
- Huge for DD

	2D simulation		Skew (0.03-0.05)	Kurtosis (0.05-0.1)
: I TC	Spec A	birth	0.055	0.225
		escaped	-0.037	0.245
		change	-0.092	+0.020
		birth	0.019	0.261
	NIS	escaped	-0.051	0.261
			-0.070	0.000
		birth	0.100	0.165
	Spec SF	escaped		
		birth	0.069	0.116
	Spec A	escaped	-0.111	0.583
DD			-0.180	+0.467
	NIS	birth	0.041	0.139
		escaped	-0.102	0.592
			-0.143	+0.453
	Spac SP	birth	0.100	0.080
S	Spec SP	escaped		



Scattering affects some peak shape properties more

than others

- Similar story in 3D run
- Scattering drives skew down
- Meaningful for DT
- Larger for DD

Scattering impact on kurtosis depends on neutron energy

- Negligible Meaningful for DT
- Huge for DD

3D simulation		Skew (0.03-0.05)	Kurtosis (0.05-0.1)	
DT	Spec A	birth	0.026	0.149
		escaped	-0.037	0.208
		change	-0.063	+0.059
		birth	0.026	0.141
	NIS	escaped	-0.047	0.204
			-0.073	+0.093
	Spec SP	birth	0.019	0.142
		escaped		
	Spec A	birth	0.047	0.080
		escaped	-0.116	0.572
DD			-0.069	+0.492
	NIS	birth	0.046	0.081
		escaped	-0.114	0.581
			-0.160	+0.500
	Spec SP	birth	0.042	0.090
		escaped		

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We are applying our understanding of spectral peak shape to representative simulations

- 1D, 2D, 3D simulations; 6 LOS where appropriate
- DT and DD peaks
- Moments 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 by peak fitting
- Fit by n-parameter, Hermite polynomial
- Escaped spectrum (w/ scattering), birth (w/o scattering), escaped with correction (experimental)
- Comparison with moments of (T,u)-distribution (Munro paper)



We're trying to better understand the neutron peak shape

- Moments of the **birth** spectral peak encode joint temperature and velocity variation
 - 1st moment peak location to 15-30 km/s, needed on at least 3 LOS
 - 2nd moment width and sampling to allow 200 eV PTV in signal
 - 3rd moment skew and sampling to 5%
 - 4th moment kurtosis and sampling to 5-10%
- Scattering transforms the birth peak to the **escaped** peak
 - Reduces skew
 - Increases kurtosis
 - Slight effect in DT
 - Major effect in DD
- Much work remains





Simulations show a difference between apparent DD and DT ion temperatures likely due to scattering

Detector	Simulate d T _{DT} [keV]	Simulated T _{DD} [keV]	T _{DT} -T _{DD} [eV]	Inferred T _{thermal}
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MRS	3.60	3.23	370	1.75

- We expect Tion DD and Tion DT to be related to the thermal temperature (excepting scattering effects)
- When we try to compare DD and DT temps in experiments we find difference to be "too large."
- Turns out 3D simulations have the same "too large" difference that makes Tthermal look way too small.
- Is DD scattering to be blamed? Likely.

Scattering alters the peak shape, affecting apparent temperature



True T_{thermal} = 2.3 keV

 $T_{Brysk} = \left(\frac{m_D + m_T}{k}\right) \sigma_v^2 + T_{thermal}$ $T_{thermal} = 5T_{DD} - 4T_{DT}$ $T_{DD} = (T_{thermal} + 4T_{DT})/5$

NIF

Neutron spectral moments and LOS dependence are important clues

burn T-u distribution (3D simulation)



u = fluid velocity component along LOS

burning plasma exceedingly non-uniform, neutrons produced in wide range of T_i and fluid u

shift of spectral peak only tells
us mean <u> + shift(<T_i>)

variance of spectral peak only captures <T_i> + Var(u)

skew and kurtosis of spectral peak tell us about T-u correlations and Var(T)





Each D+T (or D+D) reaction makes n with slightly different momentum





Shifted, scaled neutron momentum is best variable for spectrum

$$\omega \equiv \frac{p'}{E_0} - v_0 = v_\Omega + \frac{p}{E_0} - v_0 - \frac{v_\perp^2}{2v_0^2}v_0 + \frac{v^2 + v_\perp^2}{2}v_0 + O(v^3)$$
CM velocity component
thermal motion T,
fluid motion u
$$M = m_D + m_T \qquad \left\langle v_\Omega^2 \right\rangle_{\text{thermal}} = \frac{T}{M} \equiv \tau \qquad \text{T in units of velocity}^2 \\ 1 \text{ keV} \neq (139 \text{ km/s})^2 \text{ DT} \\ (155 \text{ km/s})^2 \text{ DD} \\ (155 \text{ km/s})^2 \text{ DD} \\ 10 \text{ keV} \neq 14.7 \text{ km/s DT, 33.1 km/s DD}$$





For given T, u, and K, can integrate over directions, Maxwellian exactly

fixed K = relative K.E. defers needing to know reaction cross section

$$\frac{dN}{d\Omega dp_n''} \sim \frac{p_n''^2}{E_n'' p_n' p_n} \exp\left(-(\gamma - 1)\frac{M + K}{T}\right)$$

unprimed is CM ' is fluid frame " is lab frame

This spectrum exact Maxwell-Juttner averaged relativistic kinetics Can also integrate momentum moments analytically

Averages over the distribution of K for given T done by expanding in K/K_0 and K/M – this averaging requires reaction cross section

Finally, average over T, u distribution



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Use neutron momentum spectrum, scaled to units of velocity

$$\omega = p_n / (m_n + K_0) - v_0$$

scaled and shifted neutron momentum very nearly CM velocity of reacting DT pair

 $4\pi \frac{dN}{d\omega \, d\Omega}$ momentum spectrum = number of neutrons per sphere within d ω of "velocity" ω and within d Ω of direction Ω $\left\langle \omega^{n} \right\rangle = \frac{\int d\omega \, \omega^{n} \frac{dN}{d\omega \, d\Omega}}{\int d\omega \, \frac{dN}{d\omega \, d\Omega}} \quad \text{n}^{\text{th}} \text{ moment of scaled momentum spectrum}$

 $\tau = T / (m_D + m_T)$ fluid temperature T as a velocity variance

 $u_{\rm O} = \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{\Omega}$ fluid velocity component along LOS $\overline{\kappa} = \frac{1}{v_{c}} \left(\frac{m_{D} + m_{T}}{m_{r} + K_{c}} - 1 \right) \frac{\overline{K}(T)}{m_{D} + m_{T}} \approx \overline{\omega}(T) \qquad \text{``velocity'' for mean DT K.E.(T)}$ (''Ballabio shift'')



Each spectral moment constrains moments of (T,u) burn distribution

fraction of neutrons produced in plasma at $f(T, \mathbf{u})dTd^3\mathbf{u}$ temperature T within dT, velocity u within du $\langle XY \rangle = | XY f(T, \mathbf{u}) dT d^3 \mathbf{u}$ burn average of quantity XY $\int d\omega \, 4\pi \frac{dN}{d\omega \, d\Omega} = 1 + \frac{2}{v_{o}} \langle u_{\Omega} \rangle + \frac{1 + v_{0}^{2}}{2v_{o}^{2}} \left(3 \langle u_{\Omega}^{2} \rangle - \langle u^{2} \rangle \right) + \dots$ LOS dependence of yield $\langle \omega^{1} \rangle = \langle u_{\Omega} \rangle + \langle \kappa \rangle + (1 + \frac{1}{2} v_{0}^{2}) \langle \tau \rangle / v_{0} + \dots$ centroid of spectrum $\langle \omega^2 \rangle = \langle \tau \rangle + \langle u_{\Omega}^2 \rangle + 2 \langle \kappa u_{\Omega} \rangle + \dots$ (showing only $\langle \omega^3 \rangle = 3 \langle \tau u_{\Omega} \rangle + \langle u_{\Omega}^3 \rangle + \dots$ largest contributions)

 $\langle \omega^4 \rangle = 3 \langle \tau^2 \rangle + 6 \langle \tau u_{\Omega}^2 \rangle + \langle u_{\Omega}^4 \rangle + \dots$



Compute cumulants to see deviation from Gaussian spectrum

$$\operatorname{Cov}(X,Y) = \langle (X - \langle X \rangle)(Y - \langle Y \rangle) \rangle = \langle XY \rangle - \langle X \rangle \langle Y \rangle$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(X) = \operatorname{Cov}(X,X) = \langle X^{2} \rangle - \langle X \rangle^{2}$$

$$\operatorname{Cov}(X,Y,Z,...) = \langle (X - \langle X \rangle)(Y - \langle Y \rangle)(Z - \langle Z \rangle)... \rangle$$

$$\operatorname{Skew}(X) = \operatorname{Cov}(X,X,X) / \operatorname{Var}(X)^{3/2}$$

$$\operatorname{Skew}(X) = \operatorname{Cov}(X,X,X,X) / \operatorname{Var}(X)^{2} - 3$$

$$\operatorname{Skew}(X) = \operatorname{Cov}(X,X,X,X) / \operatorname{Var}(X)^{2} - 3$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(\omega) = \langle \tau \rangle + \operatorname{Var}(u_{\Omega}) + 2\operatorname{Cov}(\kappa,u_{\Omega}) + ...$$

$$\operatorname{L=0, L=2, L=1 \text{ in direction}}$$

$$\operatorname{Skew}(\omega) = \frac{3\operatorname{Cov}(\tau,u_{\Omega}) + \operatorname{Cov}(u_{\Omega},u_{\Omega},u_{\Omega}) + ...}{\operatorname{Var}(\omega)^{3/2}}$$

$$\operatorname{L=1, L=3 \text{ in direction}}$$

$$\operatorname{Kurt}(\omega) = \frac{3\operatorname{Var}(\tau) + 6\operatorname{Cov}(\tau,u_{\Omega},u_{\Omega}) + \operatorname{Cov}(u_{\Omega},u_{\Omega},u_{\Omega}) - 3\operatorname{Var}(u_{\Omega})^{2} + ...}{\operatorname{Var}(\omega)^{2}}$$

$$\operatorname{L=0, 2, 4}$$





Birth peak depends on the distribution of neutron production in temperature and velocity space



Simulations have to get a lot right to capture the temperature variation



Nuclear diagnosis at NIF provides an unprecedented picture of stagnated ICF implosions

- Hohlraum and capsule symmetry respond to large drive perturbations (P₁) as predicted
- Nuclear diagnostics capture the thermodynamics and flow of the hot spot and cold shell
- Simulated hot spot and cold shell diagnostics match experimental observables
- The repeatability of the high foot implosion platform supports perturbed stagnation experiments

Our codes and diagnostics have captured the detailed effects of intentional perturbations



We used high-adiabat implosions with reduced highmode instability



High-adiabat implosions allow investigation of asymmetry and stagnation processes



NIF

Top-to-bottom drive imbalance (mode 1) is an ideal symmetry perturbation

- Implosions are sensitive to mode 1
 - Buoyancy force on hot spot due to P₁ acceleration
 - Hot spot flows
 - Shell asymmetry
 - Similar flows result from ice layer asymmetry



Spears, PoP 2014 Chittenden et al

- Mode 1 effects are observable by nuclear diagnosis
- Signatures of mode 1 are present in many high foot implosions



Asymmetrically driven implosions are relevant to the stockpile stewardship mission on NIF

- Provide an experimental platform with asymmetric radiation flow
- Detailed measurements of the stagnating plasma
- Detailed code predictions of observable signatures (neutron spectra)

Perturbed implosions provide an integrated test of our code capabilities





We measure multiple stagnation quantities by neutron spectrometry

Ion temperature

Neutron spectral peak width. Temperature and hot spot flow.

> Shear Swirling Velocity field variance

Bulk velocity

Neutron spectral peak shift. One-sided imbalance drives this.



Rigid-body translation

Shell uniformity

Neutron scattering. Asymmetries perturb the shell.



Neutron yield

Integrated performance metric. Incomplete stagnation reduces yield.



Implosion asymmetry alters stagnation phase properties





Neutron spectrometers measure *apparent* ion temperature from spectral peak width



Hot spot flows increase the apparent (Brysk) temperature



NIF

Asymmetric 3D simulations show angular temperature variations due to flow



- Thermal temperature is 2.3 keV
- Apparent temperatures span 2.9 to 4.0 keV depending on direction
- Detector array typically samples 50% of full PTV

Hot spot flow can be estimated from temperature differences



P₁ perturbed experiments confirm our ability to measure flow-induced temperature variation

- Preshot simulations predict 1 keV temperature variation due to flow
- Experiments show very similar variation, amplitude and shape



We can measure 1 keV apparent Tion anisotropy



So, is the high foot apparent T_{ion} usually isotropic or not?



The NIF data cannot (currently) distinguish between isotropy and the expected level of anisotrop

- Post shot simulations suggest Tion anisotropy of ~ 300 - 400 eV
- Detectors would typically sample ~ 150-200 eV
- Detectors can measure down to 500 eV anisotropy

See M. Gatu Johnson paper

We need neutron spectrometers that can measure 300 eV anisotropy



Neutron spectrometers measure bulk velocity from spectral peak shift



Measure speed and direction of hot spot translation



NIF

Mode 1 perturbed experiments confirm our ability to measure bulk flow velocity

Experimental measurement

85 +/- 15 km/s resultant 26 degrees off vertical

Preshot prediction

90 km/s resultant directly downward



Composition of multiphysics effects (laser propagation, LPI, radiation transport, implosion hydrodynamics) is mainly captured by HYDRA





The average high foot shot bulk velocity is 70% of the intentional P₁



8 of 19 HF shots have velocities larger than the P₁ shot

We haven't yet identified what is producing these perturbations



The cold shell conformation is probed by exiting neutrons

- Neutron spectrometers (nTOF) measure downscattered neutrons
 - High areal density DT scatters into 10 12 MeV band
 - Multiple lines of sight measure the asymmetry
- Flange Neutron Activation Diagnostics (fNADS) measure unscattered primary neutrons
 - Zr activated by neutrons above 1X.XX MeV threshold
 - 19 locations on chamber
 - Complementary to DSR





nTOF

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Mode 1 perturbed experiments confirm our ability to measure angular variation in DSR





fNADS measured the predicted angular distribution of escaping primary neutrons



- Predicted fNADS variation of ~ 25% peak to valley \rightarrow measured 30%
- Expected P_1 asymmetry \rightarrow observed P1 plus 3D similar to control shot

We can predict aspects of the cold shell areal density distribution when the perturbation is large enough





The repeatability of the unperturbed implosion supports the perturbed results

- We have 3 nominal repeats
 - Yield: μ =7.0e15, σ =0.5e15
 - T_{ion:} μ=5.44, σ =0.087
- We developed a statistical model of variability using the growing database and Callahan scaling
 - Uses both repeats and other high foot shots
 - Predicted variability compared favorably with a blind test on a repeat shot
- Stagnation properties are repeatable, even if not perfected





Izumi, Debbie Callahan, Brian Spears

The repeatability of the platform is sufficient for testing perturbation effects





Reduction in yield was smaller than predicted by single failure mode simulations

- Control shots:7.0e15 +/- 0.5e15
- P1 shot gave 4.8 e15
 - Experiment degradation was 30%, observed 3σ reduction from control
 - Expected degradation was 60%, observed 3σ above expectations

<u>Control shots</u> N140520 = 7.6e15 N150121 = 6.3e15 N150409 = 6.9e15 $\underline{P_1 \text{ shot}}$ N150318 = 4.8e15



The yield is different from the controls

The yield is different from the prediction

Stagnation measurements can be much more informative



New measurements provide increasingly detailed picture for code validation





Nuclear diagnosis at NIF provides an unprecedented picture of stagnated ICF implosions

- Hohlraum and capsule symmetry respond to large drive perturbations (P₁) as predicted
- Nuclear diagnostics capture the thermodynamics and flow of the hot spot and cold shell
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Precision diagnostics, platforms, and codes are advancing our validation efforts





