

# Numerical Modeling of Hohlräum Radiation Conditions: Spatial Variations Due to Sample Position, Beam Pointing, and Geometry

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View-factor simulations of the spatially varying radiation conditions inside gold hohlraums and halfraums used in inertial confinement fusion experiments. It is shown that in many circumstances, the common assumption that the hohlraum “drive” can be characterized by a single temperature is too simplistic. Specifically, the radiation conditions seen by an experimental package can differ significantly from the wall reemission measured through diagnostic holes or laser entrance holes (LEHs) by absolutely calibrated detectors. Furthermore, even in situations where the radiation temperature is roughly the same for diagnostics and experimental packages, or for packages at different locations, the spectral energy distributions can vary significantly, due to the differing fractions of reemitting wall, laser hot spots, and LEHs seen from different locations. These view factor simulations can also be used to explore experimental variables (halfraum length, geometry, beam pointing) that can be adjusted in order to, for example, maximize the radiation flux onto a package.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Optimizing the time- and wavelength-dependent hohlraum radiation drive onto a fuel capsule is the key to achieving ignition in inertial confinement fusion (ICF) experiments. Although much experimental and theoretical effort has been expended in understanding the x-ray drive characteristics of hohlraums and optimizing the drive symmetry onto the capsule, there have been few studies of the spatial variation of the radiation field conditions within hohlraums. The x-ray spectrum incident on a surface in a hohlraum, whether part of the hohlraum wall, a fuel capsule, or some other object within a hohlraum, will vary with location and orientation of the surface according to the relative view factors of wall reemission, laser hot spots, and cold laser entrance holes (LEHs) and diagnostic holes. Detailed view factor modeling can go a long way to answering questions about this variation, and can be used to interpret diagnostics and plan experiments.

In this paper we will present such view-factor models of hohlraums and halfraums, investigating the spatial variations of the radiation field (both overall intensity and spectral energy distribution), and the effects of hohlraum

size and geometry and of beam pointing. One conclusion from this modeling is that care must be taken in inferring the drive onto an experimental package from a measurement of wall reemission from an absolutely calibrated detector, such as DANTE [1]. A more general conclusion is that view-factor simulations are a valuable tool for optimizing the performance of hohlraum experiments and in interpreting diagnostic measurements.

The scope of this study will be limited to effectively empty hohlraums and halfraums. We will discuss experiments with capsules in future work. By their nature, view-factor simulations do not account directly for hydrodynamics, laser-plasma interactions, or detailed atomic physics. However, the simulations we present here are relevant to all but the latest times of laser hohlraum experiments when on-axis stagnation of gold plasma contributes significantly to the radiation properties of a hohlraum and the associated interpretation of diagnostics.

We will critically examine the standard analytic treatment of hohlraum energy balance, in which the radiation properties of a hohlraum are described by a single “hohlraum radiation temperature.” And although the emission from each computational surface element in our view factor simulations is taken to be Planckian, the flux incident on any given surface in a simulation (whether wall, target, or diagnostic) can be distinctly non-Planckian. We will show examples where deviations from a blackbody spectrum can be significant. We begin by benchmarking DANTE measurements of a hohlraum experiment on OMEGA [2]. We then show that experimental packages in such an experiment can be subject to radiation conditions that are quite different than those seen by DANTE, even when that diagnostic is used on an optimal LEH-viewing line of sight.

In Sec. III we explore the fundamental differences between hohlraums and halfraums, in terms of both DANTE measurements and the radiation onto an experimental package. Finally, we show how variations in the beam pointing (Sec. IV) and length of a halfraum (Sec. V) affect the interpretation of diagnostics and how they can be optimized to produce the maximum possible radiation temperature onto an experimental package.

## II. SPATIAL DEPENDENCE OF THE RADIATION DRIVE IN A HOHLRAUM

To demonstrate the accuracy of view-factor modeling of hohlraum radiation fields, we first present the results of simulations of a set of OMEGA experiments reported on by Decker *et al.* [3]. In these experiments, 30 cone 2 and cone 3 OMEGA beams (500 J each) with 1 ns square profiles were put into a standard (2300  $\mu\text{m}$  length by 1600  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter) gold hohlraum. The beam pointing was such that all 15 beams on each side of the hohlraum made a single ring of hot spots. The cone 3 beams were pointed at the center of the LEH, while the cone 2 beams were pointed 400  $\mu\text{m}$  outside the LEH, such that both cones make a single ring of laser hot spots on the wall, centered 480  $\mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane. One purpose of this experimental campaign was to show that the absolutely calibrated x-ray detector, DANTE, gives a better sense of the hohlraum radiation conditions seen by a capsule when it views the wall reemission through the LEH, rather than through a diagnostic hole at the midplane. The hohlraums in these experiments were on the P6-P7 axis, so that the DANTE viewing angle was 37.4 degrees with respect to the hohlraum axis (see Fig. 1 for a model of the hohlraum target, including the DANTE view of this configuration).

We performed a series of time-independent simulations with VISRAD [4], calculating the radiation onto a surface at the position of the DANTE diagnostic every 100 ps, using the beam and hohlraum properties described above. We incorporated a simple model of the laser x-ray conversion efficiency (XCE), with a linear ramp up to a value of 0.55 at 200 ps, and a constant value thereafter. We note that what we refer to as the XCE here accounts not only for laser scattering, but also plasma motion. Since we do not model the late-time reemission of hohlraum wall plasmas, we treat this energy as being lost. For the gold albedo, we use the results of a time-dependent hydrodynamics simulation of gold reemission of x-rays. The albedo value peaks at 0.73. In Fig. 2 we show the assumed XCE and calculated albedo along with the modeled DANTE temperatures and the DANTE data obtained by Decker *et al.* [3]. Note that our modeling reproduces the observed DANTE data at all times well within the 6% errorbars on the DANTE data. We stress that there are no freely adjustable parameters in this model.

In Fig. 2 we also show the time-dependent radiation temperature on the hohlraum wall at the midplane. It is significantly ( $\sim 15$  eV) lower than the DANTE temperature. This is due to the less favorable view factor of laser hot spots from the midplane wall compared to DANTE, as well as to the contribution from the cold LEHs. In various hohlraum experiments, some type of package is placed at the hohlraum midplane, to expose it to the radiation drive. Historically, hohlraum radiation conditions have also been diagnosed from midplane wall reemission [5–7], which is related to the midplane

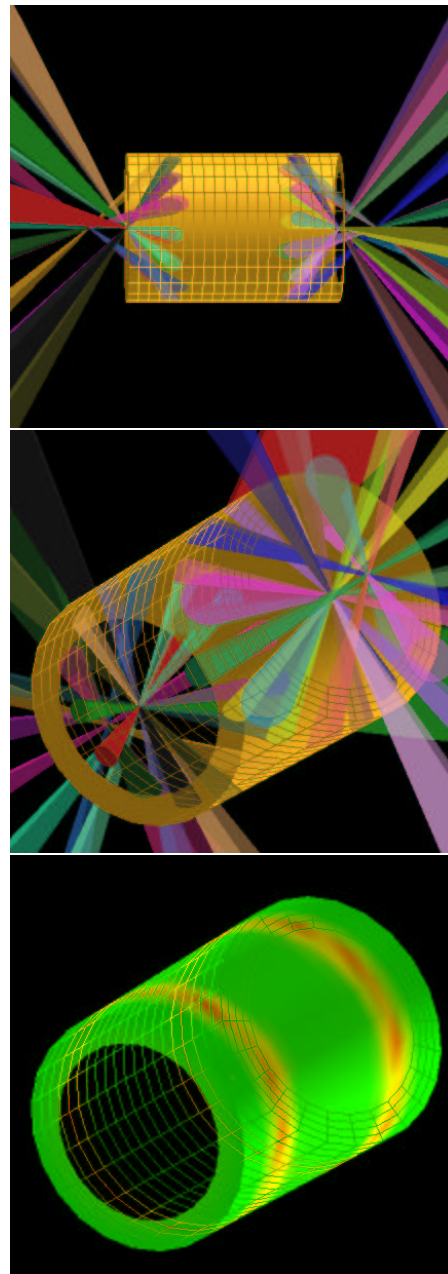


FIG. 1: Hohlraum images generated with the VISRAD view-factor code, relevant to the experiments discussed in reference [3]. The top panel shows the OMEGA beam pointing into the hohlraum cylinder seen side-on. Note that the cone 2 beams on each side are pulled back so that the lasers from both cones make a single ring on each side of the hohlraum. The middle panel shows the same model target, but from the position of the DANTE diagnostic. The lower panel shows the DANTE view again, but with the beams hidden, and with the wall temperature displayed as a color map (the dynamic range in this, and all other, temperature color maps shown in the paper is 140 to 220 eV). Note the ring of hot spots on each side. Note also in all of these images how structures in the model seen from the back, or outside, are rendered as transparent mesh to allow for an unobstructed view of the interior of the hohlraum. This convention will be used throughout the paper.

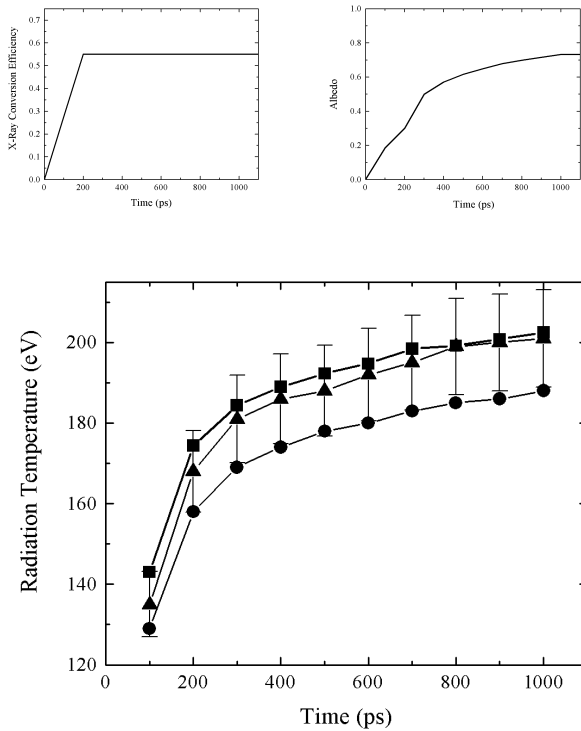


FIG. 2: The top two panels show the assumed x-ray conversion efficiency (left) and calculated albedo (right), used as inputs to the view-factor simulations, the results of which are shown in the lower panel. In the lower panel, the triangles with error bars are the DANTE temperature measurements from [3] while the squares are the simulated DANTE temperatures from the view-factor calculations. The circles are the simulated radiation temperatures at the midplane wall of the hohlraum.

wall incident radiation by a factor of the albedo. Clearly, hohlraum radiation diagnostics will vary depending on the location of the wall reemission they sample. And further, when the radiation drive onto an experimental package needs to be inferred based on a DANTE measurement through the LEH, modeling similar to what we have presented here must be performed.

It is interesting also to compare the spectral energy distribution of the radiation incident on the midplane to that measured by DANTE. In Fig. 3 we show the simulated DANTE spectrum at  $t = 1.0$  ns along with that incident on the midplane hohlraum wall. For reference, we also show the equivalent blackbody spectra (the Planckian spectra having the same integrated energy, or radiation temperature, as the calculated spectra). Note that both spectra are harder than the equivalent blackbody spectra, but that this effect is significantly stronger for the midplane, where the significant view factor of cold LEHs leads to a deficit of low-energy photons.

Of course, the differences between the DANTE (through the LEH) and midplane radiation conditions

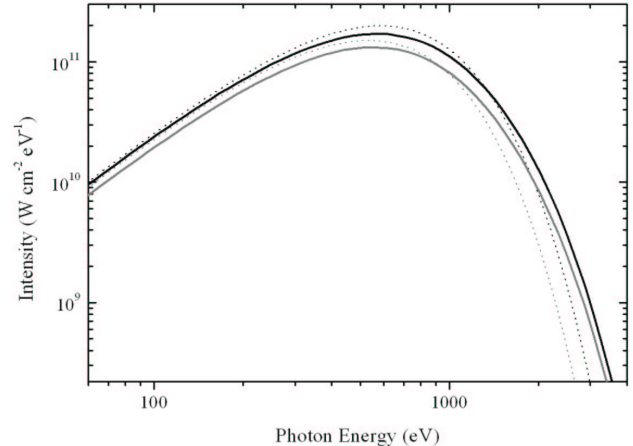


FIG. 3: The simulated DANTE spectrum (solid black) along with the equivalent blackbody spectrum (dotted black) for  $t = 1.0$  ns in the VISRAD hohlraum simulation and the simulated spectrum incident on the hohlraum wall at the midplane (solid gray) along with its equivalent blackbody spectrum (dotted gray) from the same simulation time. Note that the radiation temperatures are 202 eV for DANTE and 188 eV for the midplane wall.

will depend on beam pointing. In general, the farther in the pointing, the stronger the radiation will be at the hohlraum midplane. The situation for the DANTE looking in the LEH is more complicated, and depends on the relative fraction of the sky occupied by laser hot spots, as seen from DANTE's position. To investigate this, we performed two additional simulations, identical to the one presented above, except for the beam pointing. In the first variation, the ten cone 2 beams are pointed  $400 \mu\text{m}$  farther into the hohlraum, giving a mean laser spot position  $620 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane. Like the cone 3 beams, they are pointed at the center of the LEH, which creates a second ring of five hot spots on either side of the hohlraum, closer to the midplane than the single ring in the initial simulations, which have a mean spot position  $480 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane. In the second variation, all 30 beams are pointed an additional  $200 \mu\text{m}$  farther into the hohlraum, giving a mean spot position of  $820 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane.

In Fig. 4 we show the results of this experiment in varying the beam pointing. The radiation drive temperature does, in fact, increase as the beam pointing moves farther in the hohlraum toward the midplane. But the DANTE temperature increases almost as much, as DANTE's view of the laser hot spots also becomes more favorable as the pointing moves in. In closing, we note that the trends shown here are very similar nearly identical when we look at earlier times, where both the albedo and the XCE are lower than at 1 ns. The only notable difference is a

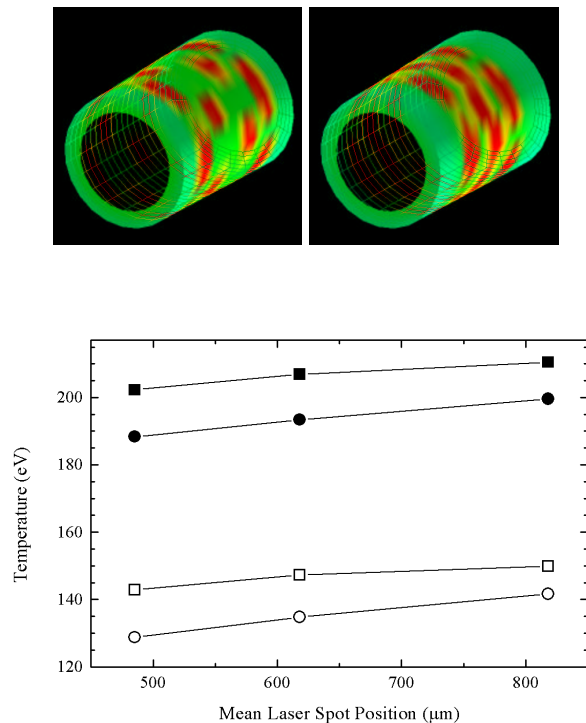


FIG. 4: The DANTE views of the hohlraum in the two cases with different beam pointings are shown in the top two panels. As in the bottom panel of Fig. 1, we show a color map of emission temperature at  $t = 1.0$  ns, and hide the beams for clarity. The lower panel shows the trends of DANTE temperature (squares) and midplane temperature (circles) as the beam pointing is changed. The filled symbols represent simulation time  $t = 1$  ns (XCE = 0.55 and albedo = 0.73) and the open symbols represent simulation time  $t = 100$  ps (XCE = 0.28 and albedo = 0.18). The original model, used to reproduce the experiments reported on in [3], has a mean laser spot position  $480 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane. The first variation ( $620 \mu\text{m}$ ) is shown on the left and the second variation ( $820 \mu\text{m}$ ) is shown on the right. We note that in this last case, the cone 2 beams from either side of the hohlraum hit the wall almost exactly at the midplane, creating a single, combined ring of hot spots.

greater similarity between the DANTE and sample temperatures for the deepest pointing at early times.

### III. EVOLUTION TO A HALFRAUM

Many indirect drive and related experiments are now performed in halfraums [refs *coauthors-have-suggestions*], or shorter cylinders with only one LEH. Experimental packages in halfraums are often mounted on the ends of the cylinders, opposite the LEH. We might expect to see similar effects to those we demonstrated in the previous section: Spatial dependence of the drive properties within a halfraum (both in terms of overall power and in terms of the spectral energy distribution) and, specifi-

cally, differences between DANTE measurements and the radiation drive incident upon an experimental package.

Because a halfraum is essentially just half of a hohlraum, one expects its properties to not differ appreciably from those of a hohlraum. There are only half as many beams in a halfraum, but the wall area and the LEH area are also about half of that in a hohlraum. One difference between a hohlraum and a halfraum, for experiments but with planar samples, is that a sample located at the midplane of a hohlraum is typically located on the wall, or barrel, of the hohlraum, facing the opposite wall. In a halfraum, a planar package is typically on the back end of the halfraum, facing the LEH. So there is a difference in the orientation of the sample, which will affect the relative view factors of hot spots and LEH, as compared to the case of a planar sample mounted at the midplane of a hohlraum. In order to investigate this, we first repeated our initial hohlraum simulations (with the initial, simple beam pointing such that both cone 2 and cone 3 beams make a single ring of hot spots  $480 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane), but we located the planar sample in the *middle* of the hohlraum, suspended where a capsule would be. We performed four such simulations, varying only the sample orientation from wall facing to LEH facing. The results of these four simulations are shown in Fig. 5.

The radiation temperature onto a planar sample at the center of the hohlraum is almost completely independent of sample orientation at  $t = 1.0$  ns, when the albedo is high (0.73). It is also nearly identical to the radiation temperature on a wall-mounted planar sample at the midplane. The variation among these five cases (four at the center of the hohlraum and one on the wall) is only 3 eV, with no monotonic trend with orientation. It is interesting, and in a sense convenient, that the radiation temperature onto a sample does not depend on orientation or even location at the hohlraum midplane. The view factors of hot spots and cold LEH change in concert with each other as the sample orientation changes. However, although the radiation temperature is nearly independent of sample orientation, the spectral energy distribution is not. In Fig. 6 we compare the spectra incident upon a sample facing the LEH with that incident on the same sample facing the hohlraum wall. The radiation temperatures in these two cases are nearly identical (191 eV vs. 190 eV), but the LEH-facing sample has a significantly harder spectrum than the wall-facing sample ( $> 25\%$  more flux at 2 keV). This is because the wall facing sample has more high-energy radiation incident upon it due to its larger hot-spot view factor and less low-energy radiation due to its larger LEH view factor.

We also note that there is a somewhat larger dependence of radiation temperature on sample orientation at early times, when the albedo is lower (0.18 at  $t = 100$  ps) than at late times. The radiation temperature is 6 eV higher for the LEH-facing sample than for the wall-facing sample at  $t = 100$  ps. This is due to the fact that the wall-facing sample's view factor is dominated by a

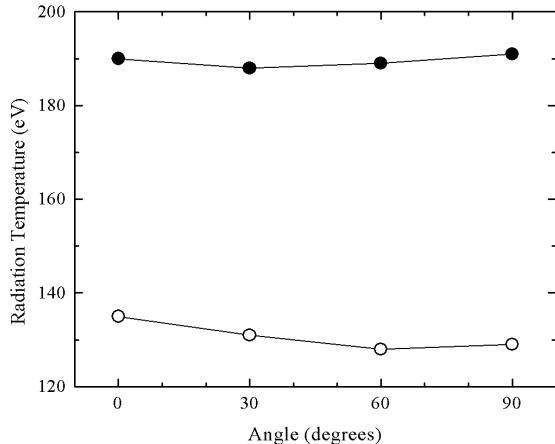


FIG. 5: The trend of radiation temperature as a function of sample orientation for a planar sample located at the center of a hohlraum. The angle plotted along the x-axis is the angle between the sample normal and the hohlraum axis, so that 0 degrees is LEH-facing, while 90 degrees is wall-facing. The filled symbols are the results from  $t = 1.0$  ns, while the open symbols are from  $t = 100$  ps. For comparison, the radiation temperatures at these two times for a sample on the wall of the hohlraum at the midplane (discussed in Sec. II) are 188 eV and 129 eV; nearly identical to the centrally located, wall-facing (90 degree) results shown here. Finally, we note that the DANTE temperatures for these two times are 202 eV and 143 eV, respectively.

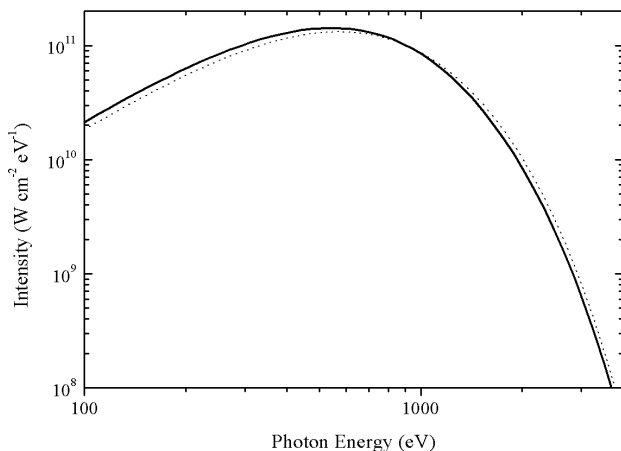


FIG. 6: Comparison of the spectra incident on a sample at the center of a hohlraum when it is oriented toward the LEH (dotted line, 0 degree case in the previous figure) vs. when it is oriented toward the hohlraum wall (solid line, 90 degree case in the previous figure).

significantly cooler wall in a low-albedo situation.

Finally, it has been noticed that the DANTE temperature more closely tracks the sample temperature in a halfraum configuration than in a similar hohlraum configuration [8]. Based on the above analysis, this is *not* due to the difference in the sample position or orientation as one goes from a hohlraum to a halfraum. The sample radiation temperature does not change significantly as the sample is moved from the midplane hohlraum wall to the center of the hohlraum and turned to face the LEH. In order to discover what accounts for the better agreement between the DANTE temperature and the sample temperature in the halfraum (recall that this difference is about 15 eV in a hohlraum), we construct a model of a halfraum by simply taking our hohlraum model having the sample in the center of the volume and facing the LEH, and insert a solid disk at the midplane, to effectively divide the hohlraum in half. The DANTE views from these two simulations are shown in Fig. 7.

In the hohlraum case, the DANTE temperature is 202 eV and the sample temperature is 188 eV. In the halfraum case, the DANTE temperature is 193 eV and the sample temperature is 186 eV (all temperatures for simulation time  $t = 1.0$  ns). So, the presence of the disk that divides the hohlraum in half hardly affects the temperature on the sample, but it does strongly affect the DANTE temperature. By inspecting Fig. 7 it is clear that the lower DANTE temperature in the halfraum case is due to the fact that in a hohlraum, DANTE sees some of the laser hot spot emission from the *far* side of the hohlraum, while in the halfraum, DANTE sees instead wall reemission from the far end of the halfraum (or, equivalently, the disk at the midplane of the modified hohlraum in the case we have presented here).

#### IV. BEAM POINTING WITHIN A HALFRAUM

One straight forward way to try to control the drive properties in a halfraum is to adjust the beam pointing. Here we explore the dependence of the drive onto a sample mounted on the back wall of a halfraum as the beam pointing varies. We also monitor the DANTE temperature as a function of beam pointing, from the usual LEH view with a 37.4 degree angle to the halfraum axis. To simplify the situation, we revert to the pointing used in the Decker *et al.* [3] experiments (all 15 beams make a single ring of hot spots) and our modeling in Sec. II. The other halfraum properties are the same as those we have used for the previous modeling: variable XCE and albedo as described earlier, a halfraum length of 1150  $\mu\text{m}$  and a diameter of 1600  $\mu\text{m}$ . All 15 beams are taken to have perfect square profiles over 1 ns and total energies of 500 J per beam. We present four simulations, depicted in Fig. 8, in which the beam pointing varies by 150  $\mu\text{m}$  for each simulation. The second simulation, with the beam pointing the second closest to the LEH plane, corresponds to



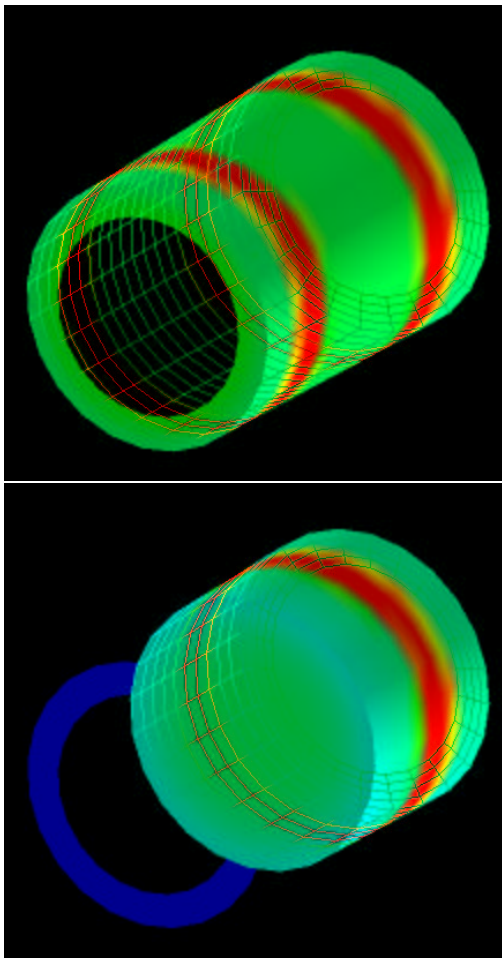


FIG. 7: The DANTE view at  $t = 1.0$  ns of our original hohlraum simulation (top) and the same view of a simulation that differs only in having a gold disk dividing the hohlraum in half, effectively turning it into a halfraum (bottom). The temperature color scales are identical in the two figures. Note that from this viewing angle, some of the laser hot spots on the *far* side of the hohlraum are visible, which is, of course, not the case with the dividing disk present.

the default pointing used in the previous sections, with a hot spot distance of  $480 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane.

In Fig. 9 we show the trend of radiation temperature on the back-wall sample along with the DANTE temperature as a function of beam pointing. Both temperatures increase as the beams are pointing farther in the halfraum, up to a point, beyond which the temperature essentially levels off. The DANTE temperature increases as the pointing moves in because of more favorable view factors of the hot spots. The same is essentially true for the sample, though a reduction of radiation losses out the LEH plays a role too. Note that the sample radiation temperature does not increase more as the hot spots move closer to it because their solid angle decreases as seen from the sample. We also note that, as shown in Fig. 9 and detailed in the previous section, the DANTE

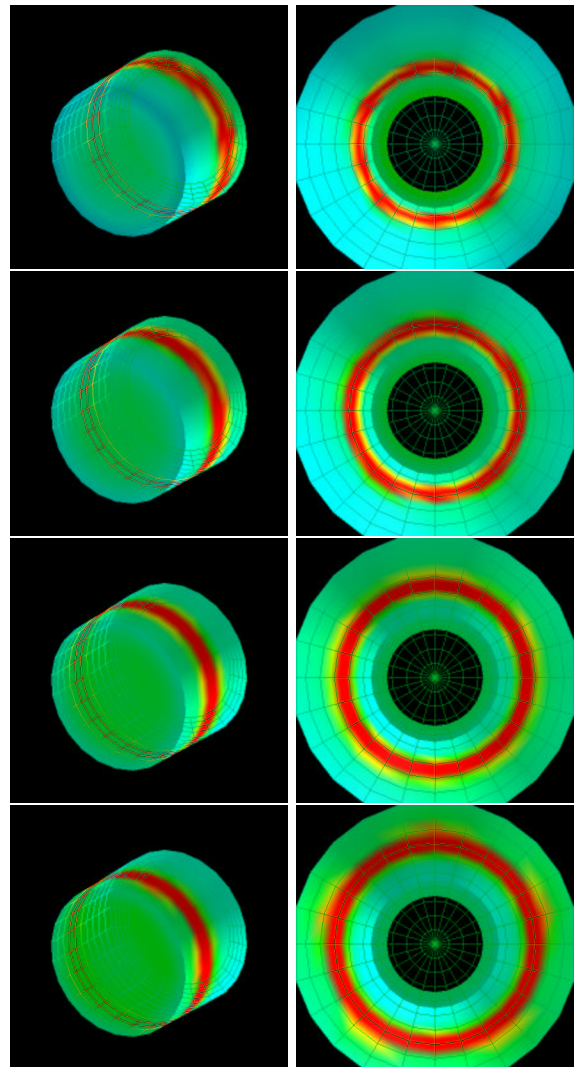


FIG. 8: Series of four halfraum simulations in which the beam pointing was varied. The pairs of images show the DANTE view on the left and the view from behind the sample on the far wall, or end cap, of the halfraum on the right, both at  $t = 1.0$  ns. The top row has the beams pointed closest to the LEH, with the pointing moving in by  $150 \mu\text{m}$  at each simulation, moving down the figure.

temperature exceeds the radiation temperature onto the sample by between 5 and 10 eV at late times when the halfraum albedo is high. But at earlier times, when the albedo is much lower, the two temperatures are more similar, and in general, the exact difference between the two temperatures depends on both pointing and albedo.

We repeated this experiment in varying the beam pointing, but for a more natural pointing configuration, in which the aim point of both cones 2 and 3 are the same, causing two separate rings of hot spots on the walls of the halfraum. The nominal pointing in this case has all 15 beams pointed (and focused) at the LEH center. This makes a ring of hot spots (from cone 3) at  $480 \mu\text{m}$  from

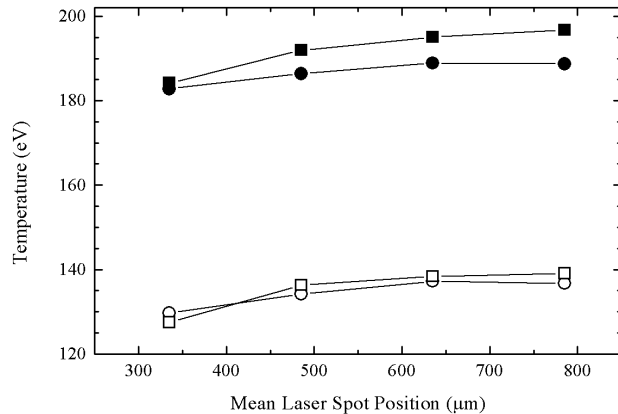


FIG. 9: The radiation temperature on a sample mounted on the end of a halfraum (circles) and measured by DANTE (squares) for the four different beam pointings shown in Fig. 8 at two different simulation times:  $t = 1$  ns (filled symbols) and  $t = 100$  ps (open symbols).

the LEH plane and another ring (from cone 2) at  $890 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane (see the second row of Fig. 10). As in the previous set of simulations, we vary the pointing by moving all the beams inward by  $150 \mu\text{m}$  and then by  $300 \mu\text{m}$ , and also calculate a case in which all the beams are pulled out  $150 \mu\text{m}$  from this nominal pointing.

The results are summarized in Figs. 10 and 11. The trends shown previously are also seen in this series of calculations. The drive temperature onto the sample is relatively independent of pointing, except for the most extreme cases, in which it is a little cooler. The DANTE temperatures are also quite independent of beam pointing, and modestly higher than the sample radiation temperatures (more so at the later times, when the wall albedo is higher).

## V. OPTIMIZING HALFRAUM LENGTH

The results from the previous section can be used to maximize the radiation drive onto a sample mounted on the back wall of a halfraum, as well as to relate radiation diagnostics from DANTE to the sample drive properties. In this section, we investigate the dependence of drive properties on halfraum length and also on the presence of a foil just outside the LEH. For simplicity, we keep the halfraum diameter the same for these simulations and also do not vary the beam properties.

In Fig. 12 we show a series of four simulations in which the halfraum length is varied from  $1000 \mu\text{m}$  to  $1450 \mu\text{m}$  in steps of  $150 \mu\text{m}$ . In Fig. 13 we plot DANTE and

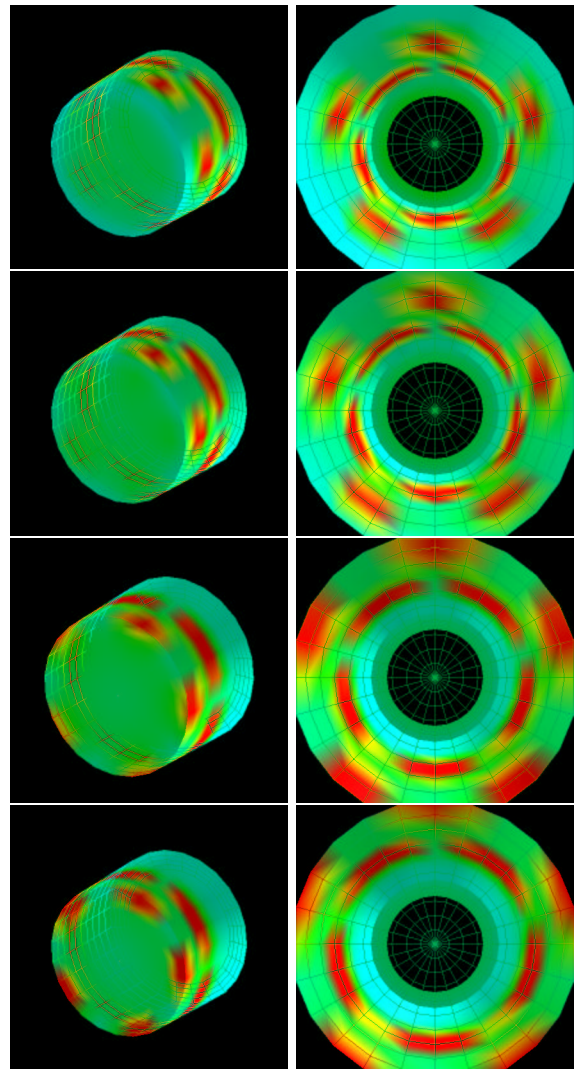


FIG. 10: Second Series of four halfraum simulations, in which the beam pointing was varied. The beams are moved inward by  $150 \mu\text{m}$  each step down the figure, with the second row representing the nominal pointing (all beams pointed at the center of the LEH). The left hand column shows the DANTE view, the right hand column shows the sample view. The colors represent emission temperatures at  $t = 1$  ns.

sample temperatures at two different simulation times as a function of halfraum length. These temperatures are relatively independent of length, with only a slight decrease for the biggest halfraum. The tendency toward lower temperatures due to the greater wall area in the longer halfraums must be offset by fewer radiation losses out the LEH.

In order to maximize the radiation drive onto a sample, or generally in a hohlraum or halfraum, extra walls or barriers or other complex geometries can be employed. Boosts of the drive onto a capsule have been demonstrated via the use of walls on the interior of hohlraums that block the capsule's view of the LEH [9]. A simi-

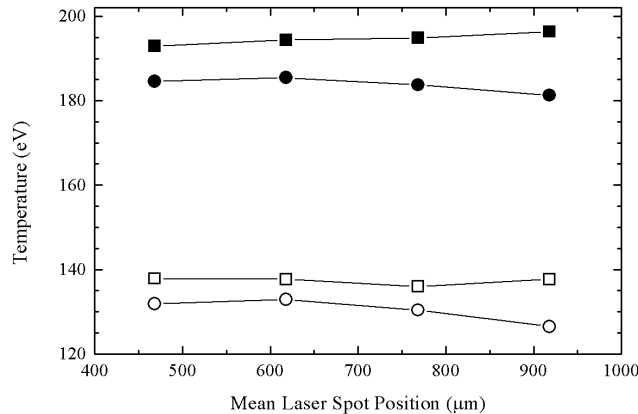


FIG. 11: Temperature as a function of pointing for the second set of simulations described in this section. The solid symbols are from a simulation time of  $t = 1 \text{ ns}$  while the open symbols are from  $t = 100 \text{ ps}$ . The squares are DANTE temperatures and the circles are sample radiation temperatures.

lar strategy involves putting metal foils *outside* the LEH to absorb radiation lost out the LEH and reemit it back into the hohlraum or halfraum. In Fig. 14 we show an example of this scheme, in which a circular foil with a radius of  $350 \mu\text{m}$  is hung  $500 \mu\text{m}$  outside the LEH. One potential advantage of this scheme is that the foil on the exterior of the halfraum over a wall or foil in the interior, is that a foil on the exterior can be irradiated with several beams to provide an additional source of x-rays to heat the halfraum.

We performed two more simulations of the halfraum with the foil in the configuration described above, and using the standard pointing (all 15 beams pointed at the center of the LEH plane) and halfraum size ( $l = 1150 \mu\text{m}$ ). In one, we do not irradiate the foil at all, and in the other, we irradiate the foil with all ten cone 3 beams from the other side of the halfraum, using the same power profile as the halfraum beams (1 ns square pulses with 500 J per beam). It is easily seen from the color map in Fig. 14 that this additional source of radiation makes the entire halfraum hotter. In Fig. 15 we compare the spectra incident on the sample (mounted as usual on the center of the back wall of the halfraum) from the two cases with the foil (irradiated and not) to the standard case without the foil. It can be seen from this figure that while simply adding the foil makes very little difference (187 eV vs. 185.5 eV), irradiating the foil makes a large difference, raising the radiation temperature on the sample to 207 eV, and roughly doubling the radiation flux at 2 keV.

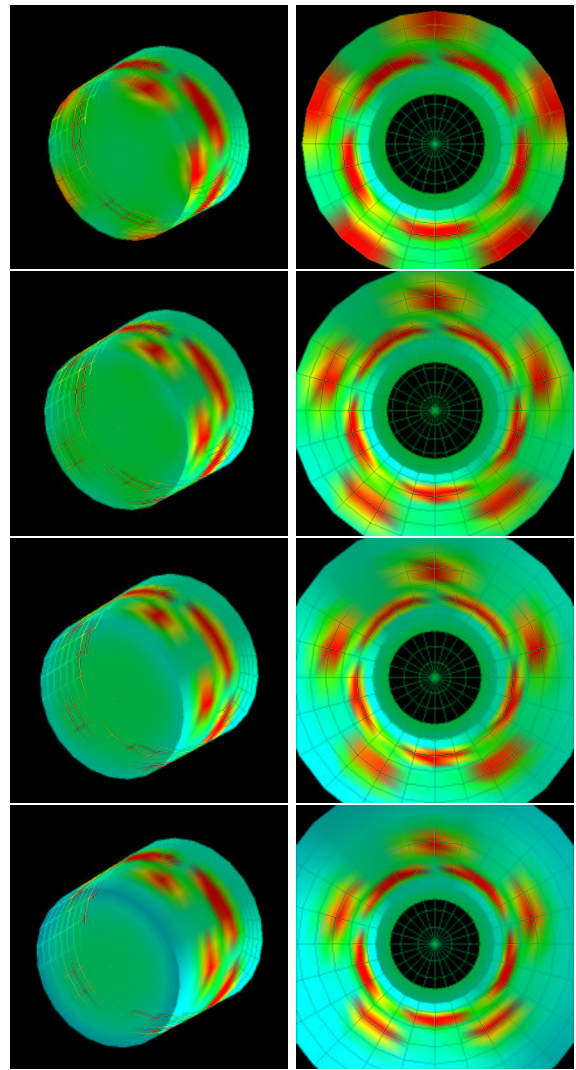


FIG. 12: Series of four halfraum simulations in which the length of the halfraum was varied. From top to bottom, the halfraum lengths are 1000, 1150, 1300, and  $1450 \mu\text{m}$ . The left hand column shows the DANTE view and the right hand column the sample view. The colors represent emission temperatures taken from  $t = 1 \text{ ns}$  in each simulation.

## VI. CONCLUSIONS

We have shown that numerical view-factor simulations are useful both for determining the variation of radiation conditions as a function of spatial, geometric, and beam pointing conditions as well as for relating experimental diagnostics to radiation conditions on a sample located within a hohlraum or halfraum. These simulations will be useful for planning future experimental campaigns on NIF and OMEGA, for example, as well as for interpreting DANTE and other similar diagnostics.

We find, specifically, from several series of simulations, that the radiation drive onto a sample can differ substantially from that measured by an absolutely calibrated x-



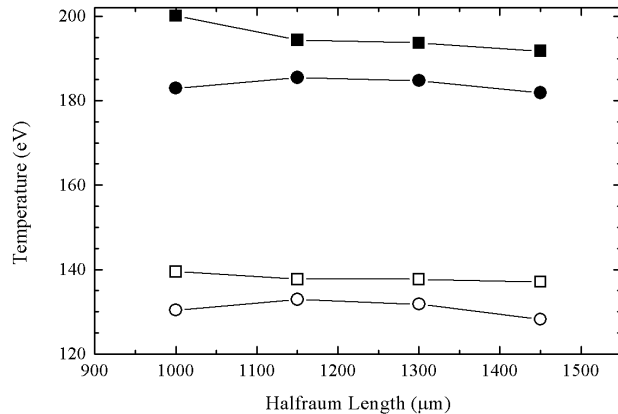


FIG. 13: Temperature as a function of halfraum length. The solid symbols are from a simulation time of  $t = 1$  ns while the open symbols are from  $t = 100$  ps. The squares are DANTE temperatures and the circles are sample radiation temperatures.

ray detector, like DANTE, even when the diagnostic line of sight is through an LEH. This is especially true in hohlraums, as compared to halfraums, and at late times (when wall albedos are high). In the standard hohlraum simulations we carried out, the radiation temperature on to a sample at the hohlraum midplane is roughly 15 eV lower than the DANTE temperature. In standard halfraum configurations, there is better agreement between DANTE temperatures and radiation temperatures onto a sample mounted at the center of the back wall (roughly a 5 eV discrepancy). This better agreement is primarily due to the fact that in a hohlraum, the DANTE temperature is boosted with respect to a halfraum because DANTE sees some of the hot spots on the far side of the halfraum.

It was also shown that even when radiation temperatures between two different samples, or between a sample and DANTE, are very similar, the respective spectral energy distributions can differ significantly. The primary trend we found is that the spectrum onto a sample tends to be harder than that seen by DANTE.

Variations in beam pointing and halfraum length were found to have little effect, generally, on either the sample radiation temperature or the DANTE temperature, except in extreme cases. The mean laser spot position can be varied anywhere from roughly  $400 \mu\text{m}$  to  $800 \mu\text{m}$  from the LEH plane in a standard halfraum without changing either the DANTE temperature or the drive temperature onto a sample more than a few eV. And a  $1600 \mu\text{m}$  diameter halfraum will provide maximal drive temperatures with nominal beam pointing when the halfraum has a length anywhere between 1100 and  $1400 \mu\text{m}$ . However,

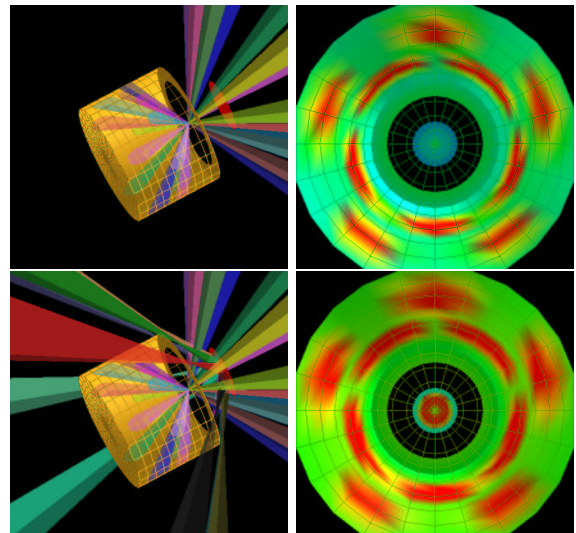


FIG. 14: Two halfraum simulations with a metal foil just outside the LEH. In the simulation shown in the top two panels, there are no beams onto the foil. The foil simply acts to absorb and reemit radiation that exits through the LEH. In the bottom two panels, there are ten beams onto the foil, which significantly increases the radiation flux inside the halfraum. All the snapshots show emission temperatures at  $t = 1$  ns.

the drive onto a sample can be increased significantly by irradiating a foil placed just outside the LEH of a halfraum.

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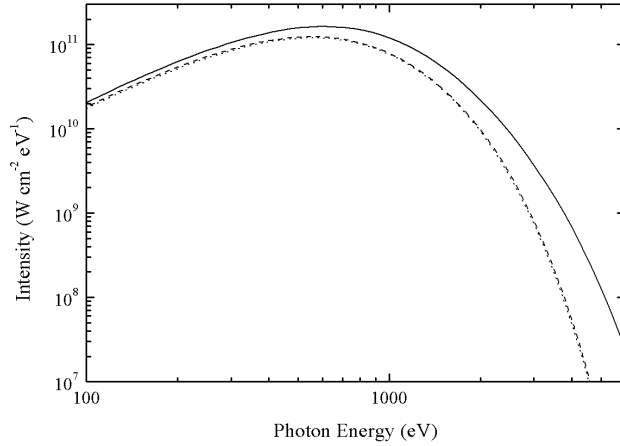


FIG. 15: Comparison of spectra incident on the center of the sample in our standard ( $l = 1150 \mu\text{m}$ ) halfraum at  $t = 1 \text{ ns}$ , with the standard beam pointing. The dotted line represents the simulation with no foil, the dashed line (nearly coincident with the dotted line) represents the simulation with a foil outside the LEH, and the solid line is from the simulation with the foil heated by ten beams.

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