

## Breakout discussion: Science enabled by tritium on Z

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Z Fundamental Science Workshop  
Stagnation Breakout Session  
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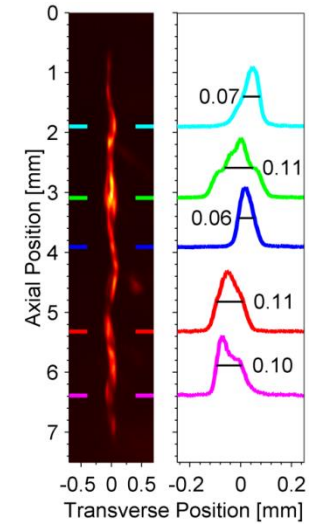
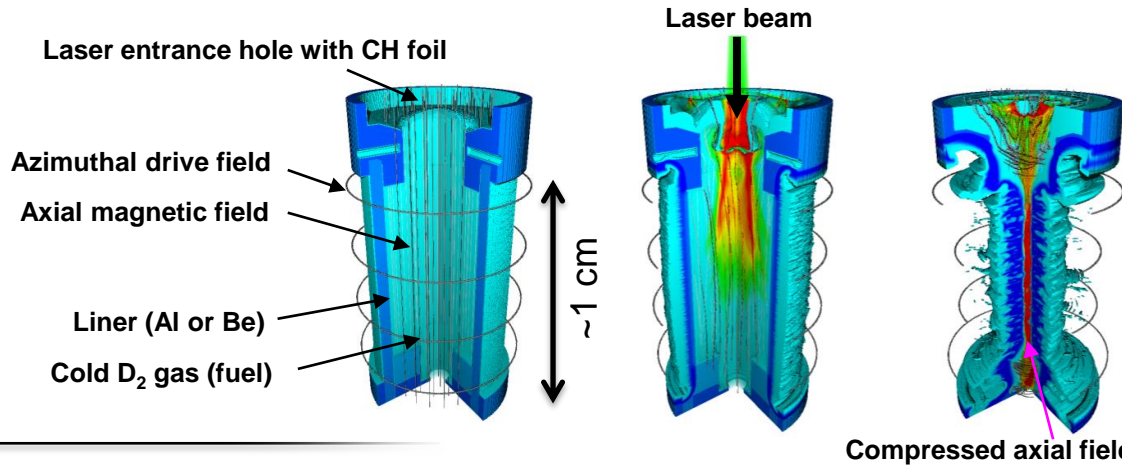
# Fielding tritium on Z will open the door to valuable collaborative MagLIF physics studies, but is nontrivial

- Tritium is not presently fielded on Z
  - Vacuum chamber is open every day, MITL grinding, tanks of oil and water
- Community needs to assess the cost-benefit of using tritium at Z
- Tritium would open the door to nuclear diagnostic techniques and target physics studies not presently possible
- These opportunities would encourage collaboration on Z with the broader HED community

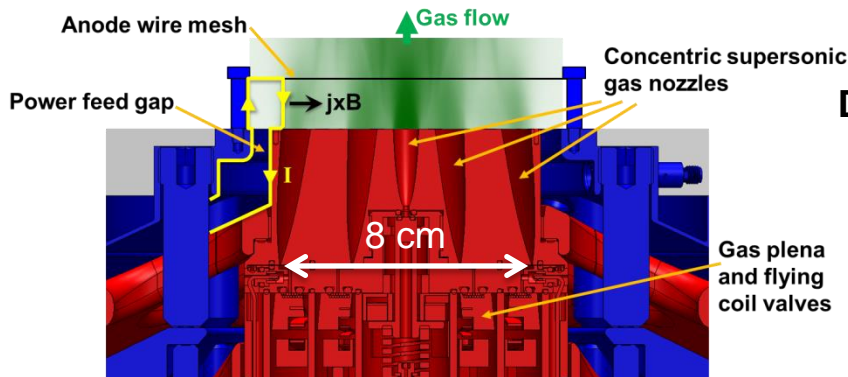


# ICF neutron sources at Z can have very different implosion dynamics and plasma conditions

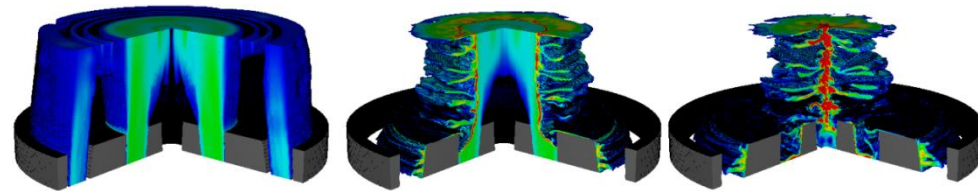
MagLIF



$D_2$  gas puff



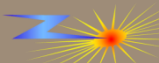
**MagLIF:** M. R. Gomez *et al.*, accepted to PRL (2014).  
 **$D_2$  gas puff:** C. A. Coverdale *et al.*, PoP **14**, 022706 (2007).



	$Y_n(DD)$	$Y_n(DT)$	$T_e$ (keV)	$T_i$ (keV)	$n_i$ (cm $^{-3}$ )	$\Delta t$ (ns)	Diameter
MagLIF	$2 \times 10^{12}$	$5 \times 10^{10}$	$\sim 3$	2.5	$\sim 10^{23}$	$< 2$	$\sim 50 \mu m$
$D_2$ gas puff	$4 \times 10^{13}$	$< 4 \times 10^9$	2.2	$\sim 10$	$2 \times 10^{20}$	$\sim 30$	6 mm

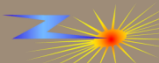
# Several key physics issues could be addressed with DT experiments

Physics	Measurement	Tritium fuel content		
		<0.1%	0.1%	1%
Behavior of tritium in the Z pulsed power environment	Sampling of tritium contamination, migration			
Scaling of yield to DT—thermonuclear?	DT yield			
Ion temperature and non-thermal population	Precision nTOF and DT/DD yield ratio			
Liner/fuel mix	DT yield with tritiated gas fill and deuterated liner			
Fuel morphology	Neutron imaging			
Thermonuclear reaction history	Gamma Ray History/GCD, Thompson parabola			
Liner/fuel density, non-thermal effects (peak shifts)	Compact/Magnetic Recoil Spectrometer (CRS/MRS), precision nTOF			








# Diagnostic Capabilities enabled by tritium use will open new physics understanding for MagLIF

- Better SNR, higher dynamic range n-spectral measurements
  - More precise ion temperature
  - High precision Be down scatter measurements for liner  $\rho R$
  - MRS or CRS measurements both axially and radially
- Neutron imaging enabled by higher yields
  - Is the neutron producing volume the same as the x-ray producing volume?
  - Down-scatter image for liner  $\rho R$  uniformity measurements
- $\gamma$  reaction history enabled by higher yields and preferable  $\gamma$ -branching ratio
  - Is the x-ray history the same as the  $\gamma$ -history?
  - Does the reaction history have structure indicating multiple isolated burn regions?
- Novel mix studies are enabled by separated reactant experiments using tritium or tritiated hydrogen gas
  - Deuterated window to study window mix
  - Deuterated coating on liner interior to study liner mix
  - Deuterated top/bottom caps to study mix from laser interactions
  - Combine w/ neutron imaging to study transport of mix material

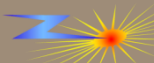


# Gradual increase in MagLIF tritium fuel content will provide increasing scientific opportunities

Proposed Z Timeline

FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
				
Tritium Surrogates D <sub>2</sub> , <sup>3</sup> He		Trace Tritium ES&H <0.1%	Trace Tritium 10x DT Yield ~0.1%	Minority Tritium >10 <sup>13</sup> DT Yield ~1%
				Tritium Operations 10-50%

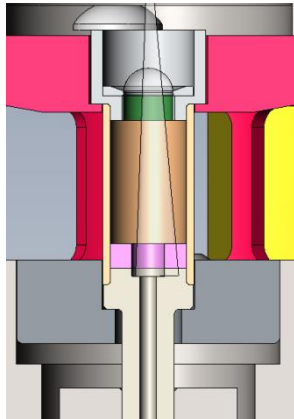
		DT yield scaling, ion temperature and non-thermal population		
			Nuclear tracers for liner/fuel mix	
	Neutron imaging, high sensitivity for DD MagLIF, mixed DD/DT imaging (CR-39?)			
Brems background measurements for GCD, shielding studies			GRH/GCD, Thompson parab., CVD dia.	
	Wedge range filter, CRS design		MRS neutron spectroscopy	





# Our ability to minimize the impact on the facility depends on the ability to purge the tritium from the Z target chamber

MagLIF target



$$h = 10 \text{ mm}$$

$$r_{\text{fuel}} = 2.75 \text{ mm}$$

$$V = 238 \text{ mm}^3$$

$$\rho = 1.5 \text{ mg / cc}$$

$$1 \% T = 41.1 \text{ mCi}$$

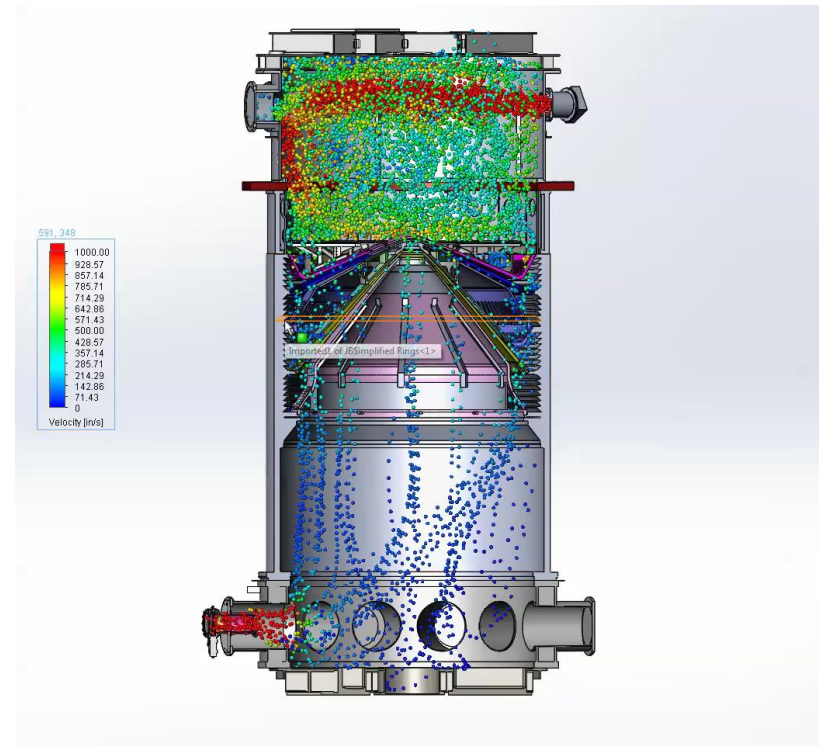
Flow analysis of the Post Shot Air Exchange System for Z center section

$$\text{Volume} = 66 \text{ m}^3$$

$$\text{Total surface area} = 464 \text{ m}^2$$

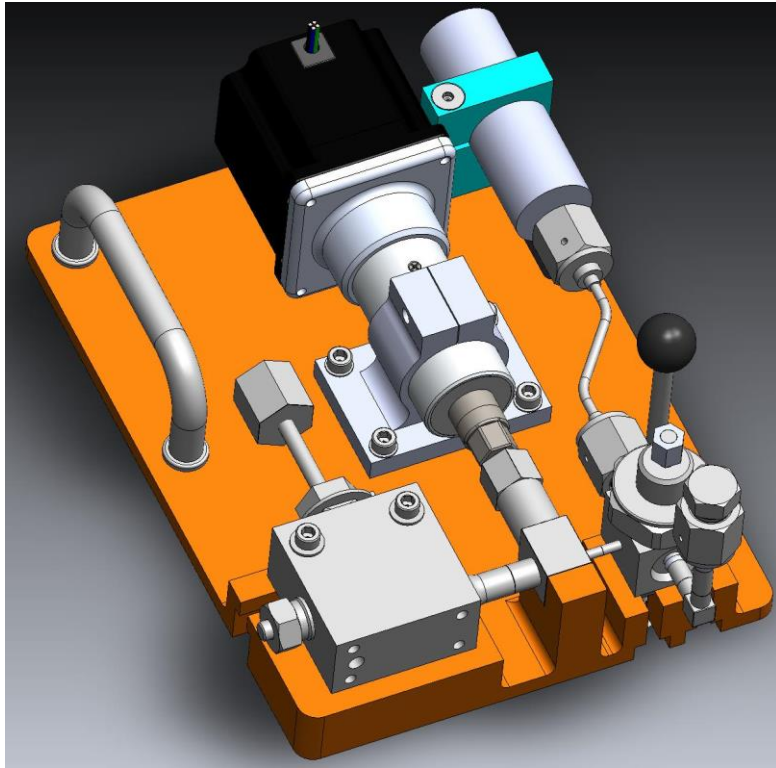
## ■ Purge efficiencies required to keep Z below control limits for tritium

- Assuming entire surface area
- 99.5 % for 10,000 dpm / 100 cm<sup>2</sup> (Contaminated area)
- ~ 50 % for 1 e6 dpm / 100 cm<sup>2</sup> (Highly contaminated area)



# We recently completed development of the Z Gas Transfer System (ZGTS) capable of filling MagLIF targets in-situ on Z

ZGTS



- Robust tritium capable gas transfer system
  - Uses metal diaphragm puncture valve
  - Minimizes tritium inventory
  - Controls when and where tritium is used
  - Fills target in-situ just prior to shot