# Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics - an Overview of Two National Studies

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**Presented to** 

Department of Energy Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee

Gaithersburg, Maryland

February 19 - 20, 2008

## **Outline of Presentation**

There have been two national studies that identify research opportunities of high intellectual value in high energy density plasma science. The studies were commissioned by:

• National Academies - National Research Council (*Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics, - The X-Games of Contemporary Science* National Academies Press, 2003).

• Office of Science and Technology Policy's Interagency Working Group on the Physics of the Universe (National Task Force Report on High Energy Density Physics, July, 2004).

## **Scope of the National Research Council Study**

The committee recognized that it is a highly opportune time for the nation's scientists to develop a fundamental understanding of the physics of high energy density plasmas.

The space-based and ground-based instruments for measuring astrophysical processes under extreme conditions are unprecedented in their accuracy and detail.

In addition, a new generation of sophisticated laboratory systems ('drivers') exists or is planned that create matter under extreme high energy density conditions (exceeding 10<sup>11</sup> J/m<sup>3</sup>), permitting the detailed exploration of physical phenomena under conditions not unlike those in astrophysical systems.

# **Definition of High Energy Density**

- The region of parameter space encompassed by the terminology 'high energy density' includes a wide variety of physical phenomena at energy densities exceeding 10<sup>11</sup>J/m<sup>3</sup>.
- In the figure, "High-Energy-Density" conditions lie in the shaded regions, above and to the right of the pressure contour labeled "P(total)=1 Mbar".

#### **MAP OF THE HED UNIVERSE**



# Attributes of High Energy Density

- High energy density physics (for example, pressure conditions exceeding 1 Mbar) is a rapidly growing field, with exciting research opportunities of high intellectual challenge.

- The field spans a wide range of areas, including plasma physics, laser and particle beam physics, materials science and condensed matter physics, nuclear physics, atomic and molecular physics, fluid dynamics and magnetohydrodynamics, and astrophysics.

- A new generation of sophisticated laboratory facilities and diagnostic instruments exist or are planned that create and measure properties of matter under extreme high energy density conditions.

- This permits the detailed laboratory exploration of physics phenomena under conditions of considerable interest for basic high energy density physics studies, materials research, understanding astrophysical processes, commercial applications (e.g., EUV lithography), inertial confinement fusion, and nuclear weapons research.

#### **Physical Processes and Areas of Research**

High Energy Density AstrophysicsLaser-Plasma InteractionsBeam- Plasma InteractionsBeam-Laser InteractionsFree Electron Laser InteractionsHigh-Current DischargesEquation of State PhysicsPhysics of Highly Stripped AtomsTheory and Advanced ComputationsInertial Confinement FusionRadiation-Matter InteractionHydrodynamics and Shock Physics

#### **High Energy Density Plasma Science and Astrophysics**



# **Current and future facilities open new frontiers** in experimental high energy density science





#### **30-kJ OMEGA laser (UR-LLE)**



# Facilities for Laser-Plasma and Beam-Plasma Interactions Range from Very Large to Tabletop Size











# Conclusions of the National Research Council Study

# **Accomplishments of the study:**

- Reviewed advances in high energy density physics on laboratory and astrophysical scales.
- Developed a unifying framework for the field.
- Assessed the field, and highlighted scientific research opportunities.
- Identified intellectual challenges.
- Outlined strategy to extend forefronts of the field.

# **Illustrative challenges:**

- Clearly identify research thrusts and compelling questions of high intellectual value.
- Foster federal support for high energy density physics by multiple agencies.

# TASK FORCE CHARGE AND APPROACH

## **HEDP Task Force**

In response to the January 13, 2004, charge letter from Joe Dehmer on behalf of the Interagency Working Group, the HEDP Task Force addressed the following key charge areas in order to identify the major components of a national high energy density physics program:

- Identify the principal research thrust areas of high intellectual value that define the field of high energy density physics;
- 2. For each of the thrust areas, identify the primary scientific questions of high intellectual value that motivate the research;

# TASK FORCE CHARGE AND APPROACH

## **HEDP Task Force**

- Develop the compelling scientific objectives and milestones that describe what the federal investment in high energy density physics are expected to accomplish;
- For each principal thrust area, identify the frontier research facilities and infrastructure required to make effective progress; and
- 5. Identify opportunities for interagency coordination in high energy density physics.

# **TASK FORCE WORKING GROUPS**

### **HEDP Task Force**

- A HEDP in Astrophysical Systems Rosner (Chair), Arons, Baring, Lamb, Stone
- B Beam-Induced HEDP (RHIC, heavy ion fusion, high-intensity accelerators, etc.) Joshi (Chair), Jacak, Logan, Mellisinos, Zajc
- S HEDP in Stockpile Stewardship Facilities (Omega, Z, National Ignition Facility, etc.) Remington (Chair), Deeney, Hammer, Lee, Meyerhofer, Schneider, Silvera, Wilde
- U Ultrafast, Ultraintense Laser Science Ditmire (Chair), DiMauro, Falcone, Hill, Mori, Murnane

# THRUST AREAS IN HIGH ENERGY DENSITY ASTROPHYSICS

# **HEDP Task Force**

#### **Thrust Area #1 - Modeling Astrophysical phenomena**

What is the nature of matter and energy observed under extraordinary conditions in highly evolved stars and in their immediate surroundings, and how do matter and energy interact in such systems to produce the most energetic transient events in the universe?

Thrust Area #2 - Fundamental physics of high energy density astrophysical phenomena

What are the fundamental material properties of matter, and what is the nature of the fundamental interactions between matter and energy under the extreme conditions encountered in high energy density astrophysics?

# THRUST AREAS IN HIGH ENERGY DENSITY ASTROPHYSICS

## **HEDP Task Force**

#### **Thrust Area #3 - Laboratory astrophysics**

What are the limits to our ability to test astrophysical models and fundamental physics in the laboratory, and how can we use laboratory experiments to elucidate either fundamental physics or phenomenology of astrophysical systems that are as yet inaccessible to either theory or simulations?

# Laboratory astrophysics

- Motivating question:
  - What are the limits to our ability to test astrophysical models and fundamental physics in the laboratory; and how can we use laboratory experiments to elucidate either fundamental physics or phenomenology of astrophysical systems as yet inaccessible to either theory or simulations?
- The four key science objectives
  - Measuring material properties at high energy densities: equations of state, opacities, ...
  - Building intuition for highly nonlinear astronomical phenomena, but under controlled lab conditions (with very different dimensionless parameters): radiation hydro, magnetohydrodynamics, particle acceleration, ...
  - Connecting laboratory phenomena/physics directly to astrophysical phenomena/physics (viz., in asymptotic regimes for Re, Rm, ...): latetime development of Type Ia and II supernovae, ...
  - Validating instrumentation, diagnostics, simulation codes, ..., aimed at astronomical observations/phenomena

<u>Type II SN shock</u> <u>simulation (</u>Kifonidis et al. 2000)





Type II SN shock experiment (Robey et al. 2001)

# THRUST AREAS IN BEAM-INDUCED HIGH ENERGY DENSITY PHYSICS

## **HEDP Task Force**

Thrust Area #4 - Heavy-ion-driven high energy density physics and fusion

How can heavy ion beams be compressed to the high intensities required for creating high energy density matter and fusion ignition conditions?

Thrust Area #5 - High energy density science with ultrarelativistic electron beams

How can the ultra-high electric fields in a beam-driven plasma wakefield be harnessed and sufficiently controlled to accelerate and focus high-quality, high-energy beams in compact devices?

# THRUST AREAS IN BEAM-INDUCED HIGH ENERGY DENSITY SCIENCE

## **HEDP Task Force**

**Thrust Area #6 - Characterization of quark - gluon plasmas** 

What is the nature of matter at the exceedingly high density and temperature characteristic of the Early Universe?

Does the Quark Gluon plasma exhibit any of the properties of a classical plasma?

# Simulations show large compressions of tailored-velocity ion beams in neutralizing background plasma



•Velocity chirp amplifies beam power analogous to frequency chirp in CPA lasers •Solenoids and/or adiabatic plasma lens can focus compressed bunches *in plasma* •Instabilities may be controlled with  $n_p >> n_b$ , and  $B_z$  field (Welch, Rose, Kaganovich)

#### Developed unique approach to ion-driven HEDP with much shorter ion pulses (< few ns versus a few ms)





# Plasma afterburner for energy doubling



- Double the energy of the collider with short plasma sections before collision point.
- 1<sup>st</sup> half of beam excites the wake --decelerates to 0.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half of beams rides the wake--accelerates to 2 x E<sub>o.</sub>
- ♦ Make up for Luminosity decrease  $∝N^2/σ_z^2$  by halving σ in a final plasma lens.



S. Lee et al., PRST-AB (2001)

# **Physics of Quark - Gluon Plasmas**

# • Create high(est) energy density matter

- Similar to that existing  $\sim 1$  msec after the Big Bang.
- Can study only in the lab relics from Big Bang inaccessible.
- T ~ 200-400 MeV (~ 2-4 x 10<sup>12</sup> K).
- $U \sim 5-15 \text{ GeV/fm}^3 (\sim 10^{30} \text{ J/cm}^3)$ .
- $R \sim 10 \text{ fm}, t_{\text{life}} \sim 10 \text{ fm/c} (\sim 3 \text{ x } 10^{-23} \text{ sec}).$

# • Characterize the hot, dense medium

- Expect quantum chromodynamic phase transition to quark gluon plasma.
- Does medium behave as a plasma? coupling weak or strong?
- What is the density, temperature, radiation rate, collision frequency, conductivity, opacity, Debye screening length?
- Probes: passive (radiation) and those created in the collision.

# HIGH ENERGY DENSITY THRUST AREAS IN STOCKPILLE STEWARDSHIP FACILITIES

## **HEDP Task Force**

**Thrust Area #7 - Materials properties** 

What are the fundamental properties of matter at extreme states of temperature and/or density?

**Thrust Area #8 - Compressible dynamics** 

How do compressible, nonlinear flows evolve into the turbulent regime?

# HIGH ENERGY DENSITY THRUST AREAS IN STOCKPILLE STEWARDSHIP FACILITIES

# **HEDP Task Force**

**Thrust Area #9 - Radiative hydrodynamics** 

Can high energy density experiments answer enduring questions about nonlinear radiative hydrodynamics and the dynamics of powerful astrophysical phenomena?

**Thrust Area #10 - Inertial confinement fusion** 

Can inertial fusion ignition be achieved in the laboratory and developed as a research tool?

# The Material Properties thrust encompasses the study of fundamental properties of matter under extreme states of density and temperature



# **Radiative hydrodynamics abound in energetic astrophysics**

**Radiative shocks in the Cygnus Loop** supernova remnant (SNR)



 Additional examples of radiative hydrodynamics in astrophysics:

- Radiatively cooled jets
- Radiatively driven molecular clouds

#### Photoionized plasmas in an accreting massive black hole

Piner et al., A.J. <u>122</u>, 2954 (2001)



88,000 LY

Ferrarese et al., Ap. J. <u>470</u>, 444 (1996)

• Our understanding of these phenomena would improve significantly if we could develop scaled radiative hydrodynamics experimental testbeds to validate modeling

# The Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) thrust is focused on achieving thermonuclear ignition within the decade

- The achievement of ignition and gain is a grand challenge goal of NNSA.
- Ignition experiments will commence on the NIF laser at Livermore in about 2010.
- Supporting experiments and physics development are carried out on OMEGA (UR-LLE), Z/ZR (SNL), and smaller facilities.

**ICF capsule implosion on Omega** 



**0.2ns** 

1.2ns

2.2ns

3.2ns

• ICF research involves a multitude of coupled phenomena, all occurring in a few nanoseconds on sub-millimeter spatial scales

-Laser coupling, laser-plasma instabilities, hydrodynamic instabilities, -radiation transport, electron heat transport, thermonuclear fusion reactions

# THRUST AREAS IN ULTRAFAST ULTRAINTENSE LASER SCIENCE

**HEDP Task Force** Thrust Area #11 - Laser excitation of many-particle systems at the relativistic extreme

How do many-body systems evolve in a light field under extreme relativistic conditions where an electron is accelerated to relativistic energies and particle production becomes possible in one optical cycle?

## **Thrust Area #12 - Attosecond physics**

Can physical and chemical processes be controlled with light pulses created in the laboratory that possess both the intrinsic time- (attoseconds, 1 as =  $10^{-18}$  s) and length- (x-rays, 1 Å) scales of all atomic matter?

# THRUST AREAS IN ULTRAFAST ULTRAINTENSE LASER SCIENCE

## **HEDP Task Force**

### Thrust Area #13 - Ultrafast, high-peak-power x-rays

Can intense, ultra-fast x-rays become a routine tool for imaging the structure and motion of "single" complex bio-molecules that are the constituents of all living things?

Can nonlinear optics be applied as a powerful, routine probe of matter in the XUV/x-ray regime?

**Thrust Area #14 - Compact high energy particle acceleration** 

How can ultra-intense ultra-short pulse lasers be used to develop compact GeV to TeVclass electron and or proton/ion accelerators?

# THRUST AREAS IN ULTRAFAST ULTRAINTENSE LASER SCIENCE

## **HEDP Task Force**

**Thrust Area #15 - Inertial fusion energy fast ignition** 

Is it possible to make controlled nuclear fusion useful and efficient by heating plasmas with an intense, short pulse laser?

# Chirped pulse amplification lasers access extremes in field strength and energy density



# The LINAC Coherent Light Source (LCLS) will revolutionize ultrafast x-ray science



# HEDP Task Force



"potential for biomolecular imaging with femtosecond x-ray pulses" Neutze R, Hajdu J et al., Nature 406, 752 (2000).

#### **Baseline performance:**

•15-1.5 Angstrom

•10 GW peak power larger by  $10^9$  to current sources •ultra-short, 200 fs - ??? exceeds  $3^{rd}$  generation by  $\ge 10^3$ •coherent

large degeneracy factor  $\geq 10^9$ 



## A variety of different types of Petawatt class lasers are under development, accessing many potential applications



# Fast Ignition offers the potential to increase target gains and reduce driver energy requirements

- The Fast Ignition concept was proposed in 1994
- In Fast Ignition, the compression and heating processes are separated.
- Preliminary experiments, including integrated ones at ILE, continue to increase confidence in this concept.
- All three of the large NNSA HED facilities are planning to add high energy petawatt capability.
- These combined facilities will address the fundamental question:



Will the Fast Ignition concept lead to higher target gains for the same driver energy?

### CONCLUSIONS

HEDP Task Force

High energy density physics is a rapidly growing field with enormous potential for discovery in scientific and technological areas of high intellectual value.

The opportunities for graduate student training, postdoctoral research, commercial spin-offs, and interdisciplinary research are likely to increase for many decades to come.

# **Back-up Vugraphs**

HEDP Task Force

# **Back-up Vugraphs**

# **KEY BACKGROUND REFERENCES FOR TASK FORCE DELIBERATIONS**

## **HEDP Task Force**

- 1. Connecting Quarks with the Cosmos: Eleven Science Questions for the New Century (National Academies Press, 2003);
- 2. Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics The X-Games of Contemporary Science (National Academies Press, 2003);
- 3. The Science and Applications of Ultrafast, Ultraintense Lasers: Opportunities in Science and Technology Using the Brightest Light Known to Man (Report on the SAUUL Workshop, June 17-19, 2002); and
- 4. Pertinent technical reviews and federal advisory committee reports.

# The enabling technology for the field of ultrafast ultraintense lasers is chirped pulse amplification (CPA)



# The field of High Energy Density Science could be propelled with the formation of a national network based around small, intermediate and large facilities



## **Attosecond Physics**

Can physical and chemical processes be controlled with man-made light pulses that possess both the intrinsic time- (attoseconds, 1 as =  $10^{-18}$  s) and length- (x-rays, 1 Å) scales of all atomic matter?

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#### It is now possible to generate XUV pulses shorter than 1 fs

✓ Extreme nonlinear optics
• high harmonic generation



- molecular Raman modulation S. E. Harris, A. Kaplan
- $\checkmark$  Relativistic plasma wave front

PIC simulations in  $\lambda^3$  regime Mourou *et al.*, PRL **92**, 063902 (2004). Harmonic orders 27–61



spatial and temporal coherence





# Intense lasers hold the possibility of producing very high acceleration gradients by driving waves in plasmas



• The radiation pressure, 100 Gbar, expels plasma electrons which are then attracted back by the more massive ions. This creates a high gradient wake,  $eE\sim[n_o (cm-3)]^{1/2}$  V/cm. This can easily exceed 100 GeV/m (SLAC is 20 MeV/m).

• Energy density of plasma wave, ~10<sup>6</sup>J/cm<sup>3</sup>.

# Principal Findings - NRC Report - Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics

#### a. Attributes of high energy density.

- High energy density physics (for example, pressure conditions exceeding 1 Mbar) is a rapidly growing field, with exciting research opportunities of high intellectual challenge.

- The field spans a wide range of areas, including plasma physics, laser and particle beam physics, materials science and condensed matter physics, nuclear physics, atomic and molecular physics, fluid dynamics and magnetohydrodynamics, and astrophysics.

#### b. The emergence of new facilities

- A new generation of sophisticated laboratory facilities and diagnostic instruments exist or are planned that create and measure properties of matter under extreme high energy density conditions.

- This permits the detailed laboratory exploration of physics phenomena under conditions of considerable interest for basic high energy density physics studies, materials research, understanding astrophysical processes, commercial applications (e.g., EUV lithography), inertial confinement fusion, and nuclear weapons research.

#### c. The emergence of new computing capabilities

- Rapid advances in high performance computing have made possible the numerical modeling of many aspects of the complex nonlinear dynamics and collective processes characteristic of high energy density laboratory plasmas, and the extreme hydrodynamic motions that exist under astrophysical conditions.

- The first phase of advanced computations at massively parallel facilities, such as those developed under the Advanced Strategic Computing Initiative (ASCI), is reaching fruition with remarkable achievements, and there is a unique opportunity at this time to integrate theory, experiment and advanced computations to significantly advance the fundamental understanding of high energy density plasmas.

#### d. New opportunities in understanding astrophysical processes

- The ground-based and space-based instruments for measuring astrophysical processes under extreme high energy density conditions are unprecedented in their sensitivity and detail, revealing an incredibly violent universe in continuous upheaval.

- Using the new generation of laboratory high energy density facilities, macroscopic collections of matter can be created under astrophysically relevant conditions, providing critical data and scaling laws for on hydrodynamic mixing, shock phenomena, radiation flow, complex opacities, high-Mach-number jets, equations of state, relativistic plasmas, and possibly quark-gluon plasmas characteristic of the early universe.

# e. National Nuclear Stewardship Administration support of university research

- The National Nuclear Security Administration has recently established a Stewardship Science Academic Alliances Program to fund research projects at universities in areas of fundamental high energy density science and technology relevant to stockpile stewardship. The National Nuclear Security Administration is to be commended for initiating this program.

- The Nation's universities represent an enormous resource for developing and testing innovative ideas in high energy density physics, and training graduate students and postdoctoral research associates—a major national resource which has heretofore been woefully underutilized.

#### f. The need for a broad multi-agency approach to support the field

- The level of support for research on high energy density physics provided by federal agencies (e.g., National Nuclear Security Administration, the non-defense directorates in the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration) has lagged behind the scientific imperatives and compelling research opportunities offered by this exciting field of physics.

- An important finding of this report is that the research opportunities in this cross-cutting area of physics are of the highest intellectual caliber and fully deserving of consideration of support by the leading funding agencies of the physical sciences. Agency solicitations in high energy density physics should seek to attract bright young talent to this highly interdisciplinary field.

#### g. Upgrade opportunities at existing facilities

- Through upgrades and modifications of experimental facilities, exciting research opportunities exist to extend the frontiers of high energy density physics beyond those which are accessible with existing laboratory systems and those currently under construction.

- These opportunities range (for example) from the installation of ultrahigh-intensity (petawatt) lasers on inertial confinement fusion facilities, which would create relativistic plasma conditions relevant to gamma ray bursts and neutron star atmospheres, to the installation of dedicated beamlines on high energy physics accelerator facilities for carrying out high energy density physics studies, such as the development of ultrahigh-gradient acceleration concepts, and unique radiation sources ranging from the infrared to the gamma ray regimes.

#### h. The role of Industry

- There are existing active partnerships and technology transfer between industry and the various universities and laboratory research facilities that are mutually beneficial. Industry is both a direct supplier of major hardware components to the field and has spun-off commercial products utilizing concepts first conceived for high energy density applications.

- Further, it is to be expected that industry will continue to benefit from future applications of currently evolving high energy density technology, and that high energy density researchers will benefit from industrial research and development on relevant technologies.

# Principal Recommendations - NRC Report - Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics

a. It is recommended that the National Nuclear Security Administration continue to strengthen its support for external user experiments on its major high energy density facilities, with a goal of about 15% of facility operating time dedicated to basic physics studies.

This includes the implementation of mechanisms for providing experimental run time to users, as well as providing adequate resources for operating these experiments, including target fabrication, diagnostics, etc.

b. It is recommended that the National Nuclear Security Administration continue and expand its Stewardship Academic Alliances Program to fund research projects at universities in areas of fundamental high energy density science and technology.

Universities develop innovative concepts and train the graduate students who will become the lifeblood of the Nation's research in high energy density physics.

A significant effort should also be made by the federal government and the university community to expand the involvement of other funding agencies, such as the National Science Foundation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Defense, and the non-defense directorates in the Department of Energy, in supporting research of high intellectual value in high energy density physics.

c. A significant investment is recommended in advanced infrastructure at major high energy density facilities for the express purpose of exploring research opportunities for new high energy density physics.

This is intended to include upgrades, modifications, and additional diagnostics that enable new physics discoveries outside the mission for which the facility was built.

Joint support for such initiatives is encouraged from agencies with an interest in funding users of the facility as well as the primary program agency responsible for the facility.

d. It is recommended that significant federal resources be devoted to supporting high energy density physics research at university-scale facilities, both experimental and computational.

Imaginative research and diagnostic development on universityscale facilities can lead to new concepts and instrumentation techniques that significantly advance our understanding of high energy density physics phenomena and in turn are implemented on state-of-the-art facilities.

e. It is recommended that a focused national effort be implemented in support of an iterative computational-experimental integration procedure for investigating high energy density physics phenomena.

f. It is recommended that the National Nuclear Security Administration continue to develop mechanisms for allowing open scientific collaborations between academic scientists and the Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration laboratories and facilities, to the maximum extent possible, given national security priorities.

g. It is recommended that federal interagency collaborations be strengthened in fostering high energy density basic science. Such program collaborations are important for fostering the basic science base, without the constraints imposed by the mission orientation of many of the Department of Energy's high energy density programs.