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Bright X-ray Sources from Ultra-high Density Matter in Volumetrically Heated Nanowire Arrays¹ AMANDA TOWNSEND, REED HOLLINGER, CLAYTON BARGSTEN, MICHAEL PURVIS, DAVID KEISS, CHRIS BENTON, AMY PRIETO, Colorado State University, ALEXANDER PUKHOV, Heinrich-Heine-Universitat, V.N. SHLYAPTSEV, JORGE ROCCA, Colorado State University — Trapping femtosecond laser pulses of relativistic intensity within ordered nanowire arrays results in the volumetric heating of matter to multi-KeV, near solid density plasmas. Using high contrast pulses of 60fs FWHM duration from a frequency doubled Ti:Saph laser, we irradiated arrays of 55nm and 80nm diameter Au and Ni targets with 12% of solid density at intensities of $5x10^{18}$ Wcm⁻². We observed strong He-like line emission that surpassed the characteristic K-a emission by an order of magnitude. The Au nanowire spectrum displayed strong Au M-shell emission with unresolved 4-3 lines from ions ranging from Co-like to Galike Au. Filtered photodiode measurements show a ~ 100x emission increase with respect to smooth solid targets for photon energies >9keV.

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