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Laser Plasma Instability Reduction by Coherence Disruption and Other Techniques WILLIAM KRUER, University of California, Davis, PETER AMENDT, NATHAN MEEZAN, LARRY SUTER, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory — Additional techniques to control laser plasma instabilities can enlarge the parameter space for ignition target designs on the National Ignition Facility. Recent experiments¹ on the Helen laser facility suggest that coherence disruption (in this case by modified electron distribution functions² in higher Z targets) can significantly reduce the stimulated Brillouin reflectivity. We explore techniques to possibly engineer coherence disruptions in NIF hohlraums, say, by modulations in the liner composition or by manipulation of the plasma flow. Experiments to test these ideas in Omega experiments are outlined. We also explore other techniques for instability reduction, including conversion of plasma expansion energy into ion thermal energy.

1. R. M. Stevenson, et. al., Phys. Plasmas 11, 2709 (2004)

2. B. B. Afeyan, et. al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 2322 (1998)

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