

Abstract Submitted
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Transport of MA electron currents in ultra-fast heated conducting solids¹ YASUHIKO SENTOKU, University of Nevada, Reno, JULIEN FUCHS, LULI, Ecole Polytechnique, EMMANUEL D'HUMIERES, Universite Bordeaux — Transport of MA currents in conducting high Z solids is crucial for number of applications, e.g. the generation of efficient and fast secondary sources (ions, X-rays, g-rays, etc) or cone-guiding fast ignition of inertial fusion. We have simulated the ultra-intense ultra-short laser - solid target interaction with a particle-in-cell code, PICLS, which features the relativistic Coulomb collisions, dynamics ionization in gas and solid target, and have studied the MA current transport by irradiating an ultra-intense laser pulse ($5 \times 10^{19} \text{W/cm}^2$, 300fs) in different conducting metal target, such as aluminum, copper, and gold. We found that the strong resistive magnetic fields are excited inside solid, and the fields become stronger in higher Z target because of ∇Z induced by dynamics ionization. The transport of hot electron currents are affected by these magnetic fields, ~ 10 MG in a Al target, and > 50 MG in Cu or Au targets. The sheath field at target rear is also modulated because of the transport pattern. Simulations results are consistent with MeV proton beam images observed in experiments.

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