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Collisionless shock generation in counter-streaming plasmas produced by a high-power laser system YOUICHI SAKAWA, ILE, Osaka Univ., Y. KURAMITSU, T. MORITA, H. AOKI, H. TANJI, S. SHIBATA, T. IDE, N. OZAKI, R. KODAMA, A. SHIROSHITA, K. SHIGEMORI, T. SANO, T. NORI-MATSU, T. KATO, H. TAKABE, Osaka Univ, Japan, J. WAUGH, N. WOOLSEY, York Univ. UK, B. LOUPIAS, CEA France, C. GREGORY, M. KOENIG, LULI France — Laboratory experiments to study collisionless shock generation in counterstreaming plasmas have been investigated using Gekko XII HIPER laser system (352 nm (3 ω), 500 ps, ~100 J / beam, one or four beams, $< 10^{15}$ W/cm²) at ILE. Two types of double-plane targets, Jet and Ablation types were used. In the Jet (Ablation) type, 10 μ m (60 μ m) and 60 μ m thick CH planes were placed with the separation of 4.5 mm; beams were irradiated on the 1st CH and a rear-side (an ablation) plasma is formed, and the plasma from the 2nd CH is created by radiation and/or plasmas from the1st CH. The plasmas and shocks were diagnosed transverse to the main laser propagation direction; shadowgraphy and modified Nomarski interferometry using a probe laser with ICCD and streak cameras, and SOP and GOI using a visible (450 nm) self-emission. Counter-streaming plasmas were produced, and shock waves were observed. The width of the transition region is much shorter than ion-ion mean-free-path. A particle-in-cell simulation has predicted generation of an electrostatic shock.

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