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Optimizing implosion yields using rugby-shaped hohlraums¹ HYE-SOOK PARK, H. ROBEY, P. AMENDT, LLNL, F. PHILIPPE, A. CASNER, T. CAILLAUD, J.-L. BOURGADE, O. LANDOAS, CEA, C.K. LI, R. PETRASSO, F. SEGUIN, M. ROSENBERG, MIT, V. YU. GLEBOV, LLE — We present the first experimental results on optimizing capsule implosion experiments by using rugby-shaped hohlraums [1] on the Omega laser, University of Rochester. This campaign compared D₂-filled capsule performance between standard cylindrical Au hohlraums and rugby-shaped hohlraums for demonstrating the energetics advantages of the rugby geometry. Not only did the rugby-shaped hohlraums show nearly 20% more x-ray drive energy over the cylindrical hohlraums, but also the high-performance design of the capsules provided nearly 20 times more DD neutrons than in any previous Omega hohlraum campaigns, thereby enabling use of neutron temporal diagnostics. Comparison with simulations on neutron burn histories, x-ray core imaging, backscattered laser light and radiation temperature are presented. [1] P. Amendt et al., Phys. Plasmas 15, 012702 (2008)

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