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Particle-in-Cell Modeling of Laser–Plasma Interactions in Three Dimensions H. WEN, A.V. MAXIMOV, R. YAN, J. LI, C. REN, J.F. MYATT, Laboratory for Laser Energetics, U. of Rochester — In the direct-drive method of inertial confinement fusion, the laser–plasma interactions (LPI's) near quarter-critical density are very important for laser absorption and fast-electron generation.¹ Threedimensional simulations with the particle-in-cell (PIC) code *OSIRIS* have allowed us to study different parametric instabilities including two-plasmon decay, stimulated Raman scattering, and stimulated Brillouin scattering. These instabilities may coexist and interact in the region near quarter-critical density. The spectra of forwardgoing and backward-going scattered light and fast electrons in two-dimensional and three-dimensional PIC simulations have been studied. Characteristics of LPI driven by a plane-wave laser and by an incoherent laser beam are compared. This material is based upon work supported by the Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration under Award Number DE-NA0001944.

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