Abstract Submitted for the DPP14 Meeting of The American Physical Society

X-ray Absorption Near-Edge Spectroscopy (XANES) of Warm Dense Silicon Dioxide KYLE ENGELHORN, LBNL, BYOUNG-ICK CHO, Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, BEN BARBREL, UC Berkeley, VAN-INA RECOULES, CEA, DAM, DIF, STEPHANE MAZEVET, LUTH Observatoire, DENISE KROL, UC Davis, ROGER FALCONE, UC Berkeley, PHIL HEIMANN, SLAC — The electronic structure of warm dense silicon dioxide has been investigated by X-ray Absorption Near-Edge Spectroscopy (XANES). An ultrafast optical laser pulse isochorically heats a thin sample. The measured XANES spectra are compared with simulations generated by molecular dynamics and density functional theory. Three new features are observed: a peak below the band gap, absorption within the band gap and a broadening of the absorption edge. From comparison with the calculations, the peak below the band gap provides a measurement of the electron temperature while the spectral features above the O K-edge constrain the ion temperature. Further, the absorption within the gap presents evidence for broken Si-O bonds. The XANES is interpreted as that of a non-equilibrium liquid.

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Date submitted: 11 Jul 2014

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