Abstract Submitted for the DPP14 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Studies of Cylindrical Liner Z-Pinches at 1 MA on COBRA¹ LEVON ATOYAN, TOM BYVANK, ADAM CAHILL, WILLIAM POTTER, PHILIP DE GROUCHY, BRUCE KUSSE, DAVID HAMMER, Cornell University — Tests of the magnetized liner inertial fusion (MagLIF) concept will make use of the 27 MA Z-machine to implode a cylindrical metal liner onto a preheated plasma contained within it [1]. While most pulsed power machines produce much lower currents than the Z-machine, there are questions that can be addressed on smaller scale facilities. Recent work on the 1 MA Cornell Beam Research Accelerator (COBRA) has made use of 10 mm long cylindrical metal liners having a 4 mm diameter and a varying wall thickness to study the initiation of plasma on the liner's outer surface as well as axial magnetic field compression [2]. We will present experimental results with both imploding and non-imploding liners, investigating the impact the liner's external surface structure has on initiation, outer surface ablation, and implosion. The effect of a uniform axial external magnetic field on observed surface structures [3] will also be discussed.

[1] S. A. Slutz, et al., Phys. Plasmas 17, 056303 (2010).

[2] P.-A. Gourdain, et al., Nucl. Fusion **53**, 083006 (2013).

[3] T. J. Awe, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 111, 235005 (2013).

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