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Validation of MHD Simulations Using Spectroscopically Characterized O Gas-Puff Z-Pinches. NICHOLAS AYBAR, University of California, San Diego, MAYLIS DOZIERES, University of California San Diego, MARKO CVE-JIC, DIMITRY MIKITCHUK, Weizmann Institute of Science, FABIO CONTI, University of California San Diego, EYAL KROUPP, YITZHAK MARON, Weizmann Institute of Science, FARHAT BEG, University of California San Diego — Gas-puff z-pinches have been studied for decades for a variety of applications ranging from controlled thermonuclear fusion to its use as a bright X-ray source. Magnetohydrodynamic (MHD) simulations in conjunction with experimental data are necessary to study the physical processes at play throughout the dynamic Z-pinch implosion process. Here we present a comprehensive parameterization of gas-puff z-pinches carried out on a 300 kA peak current, 1.6 us rise time driver at the Weizmann Institute of Science. Gas discharges made with O₂ included simultaneous spectroscopic measurements of electron density (n_e) , temperature (T_e) , and azimuthal (B_θ) and axial (B_z) magnetic fields. The experimental parameters were juxtaposed against results from one and two-dimensional MHD simulations conducted using HYDRA to explore the underlying physics.

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