Abstract Submitted for the PSF21 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Analyzing Nanoscale Thermal Transport Using Time-resolved X-ray Diffraction¹ JAMES GRAMMICH², Northern Illinois University, ERIC LANDAHL³, DePaul University — Classical models of thermal transport breakdown at lengthscales below a few microns in many materials. Time-resolved x-ray diffraction has been proposed as one method to investigate this regime of nanoscale thermal transport, especially inside semiconductor materials where other techniques can not penetrate or yield quantitative results. We benchmarked a new, portable, and fast open-source x-ray dynamical diffraction code (TRXD) for strained crystals developed by DePaul University against an existing standard server-based closed-source calculation tool (GID_SL, Grazing Incidence Diffraction for Superlattices). TRXD is also validated against experimental x-ray peak lineshapes by convolving the calculation results with an appropriate instrumentation resolution function. TRXD is shown to properly predict the long time-scale classical thermal behavior of a cooling semiconductor, while revealing discrepancies at the short time-scale where new nanoscale thermal transport models are under development. A new high-resolution x-ray diffraction data set is compared to a previously published low-resolution data set, and found to give the same result for delayed thermal transport in ultrafast laser-excited 100 nm metal film on a Gallium Arsenide crystal substrate.

¹US Department of Energy, Basic Energy Sciences, Office of Science, Under Contract No. DE-AC02-06CH11357

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Date submitted: 05 Oct 2021

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