

# **A Novel Method for Using an Arbitrary EOS in PIC Simulations of Laser-Target Interactions\***

W. M. Sharp<sup>1</sup>, D. P. Grote<sup>1</sup>, M. Tabak<sup>1</sup>, B. C. McCandless<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory  
Livermore, CA 94550

## **Abstract**

Realistic numerical modeling of the interaction between an intense laser beam and a solid target requires a self-consistent model of collisional effects. While such effects as impact ionization, recombination, and scattering can, in principle, be represented using particle-in-cell (PIC) methods, the small collision lengths encountered at solid density make this approach impractical. Hybrid-particle models, in which cell-averaged collisional forces are added to a conventional particle advance, allow the use of PIC techniques at higher densities. However, existing implementations of hybrid-particle transport, such as those in LSP and ANTHEM, assume an ideal-gas equation of state (EOS), which seriously misrepresents thermodynamics at solid density. We present a novel method for using an arbitrary EOS in a hybrid-particle transport model and discuss its implementation in LSP using a quotidian equation of state (QEOS). Preliminary results for a 2-D laser-target simulation obtained using this new model are compared both with the corresponding results for an ideal-gas EOS and with experiments.

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