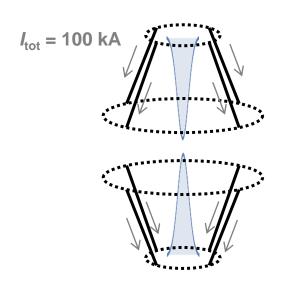
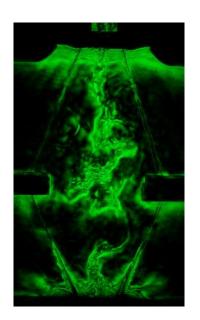
#### Study of the head-on collision of two plasma jets









2024 Colloquium Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica Taipei, Taiwan 14 May 2024



### Plasma stagnated when two counter-propagating plasma jets colliding with each other



- A 1-kJ pulsed-power system with a suite of diagnostics was built.
- A supersonic plasma jet with a speed of  $170 \pm 70$  km/s was generated using a conical-wire array. The corresponding Mach number was greater than 5.
- Plasma stagnated and reached a density of ~ 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> when two counter-propagating plasma jets colliding with each other.
- Technologies of pulsed-power systems are being adapted to the spherical tokamak, FIRST, that is being developed.

#### Acknowledgment

#### Pulsed-Plasma Laboratory (PPL) at ISAPS, NCKU

C.-Y. Chen, J.-Y. Chen, K.-Y. Chen, T.-Y. Chen, Y.-H. Chen, C.-H. Du, C.-J. Hsieh, I.-T. Huang,

M.-F. Huang, T.-H. lang, M.-C. Jheng, S. Kumar, M.-H. Kuo, P.-W. Lai, S.-Y. Lin, W.-Y. Lin,

Y.-C. Lin, C.-S. Liu, C.-Y. Liu, J.-K. Liu, Y.-Z. Pan, Y.-W. Pi, C. Royer, C.-J. Tsai, Y.-L. Tsai,



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Prof. Yao-Li Liu, ISAPS, NCKU

Prof. Jennifer Kung, Dept. Earth Science, NCKU

 This work is supported by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Taiwan, under Award Number 105-2112-M-006-014-MY3, 109-2112-M-006-011, 110-NU-E-006-001-NU, 111-2112-M-006-013, 112-2112-M-006-027, and 112-2119-M-042A-001.





#### **Outlines**



- Introduction to pulsed-power systems
- Laboratory astrophysics
- Pulsed-power generator for space sciences (PGS)
- Head-on collision of two counter-propagating plasma jets using a bi-conical-wire array

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# A pulsed-power system provides a high-power output by releasing the stored energy in a short period of time

Hammer



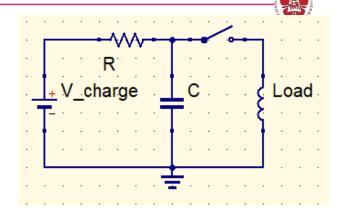
$$Power = \frac{Energy}{\Delta t} \qquad \Delta t \downarrow => Power \uparrow$$

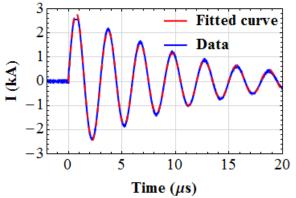
$$E = \frac{1}{2}CV^2$$
 
$$\omega = \frac{2\pi}{T} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

$$T_{\rm rise} = \frac{T}{4} \sim \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{\rm LC}$$

Power 
$$\sim \frac{\text{Energy}}{T_{\text{rise}}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{2}CV^2}{\frac{\pi}{2}\sqrt{LC}} = \frac{V^2}{\pi}\sqrt{\frac{C}{2}}$$

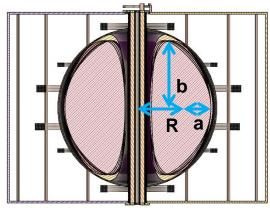




### Appplication of pulsed-power system – Formosa Integrated Research Spherical Tokamak (FIRST)



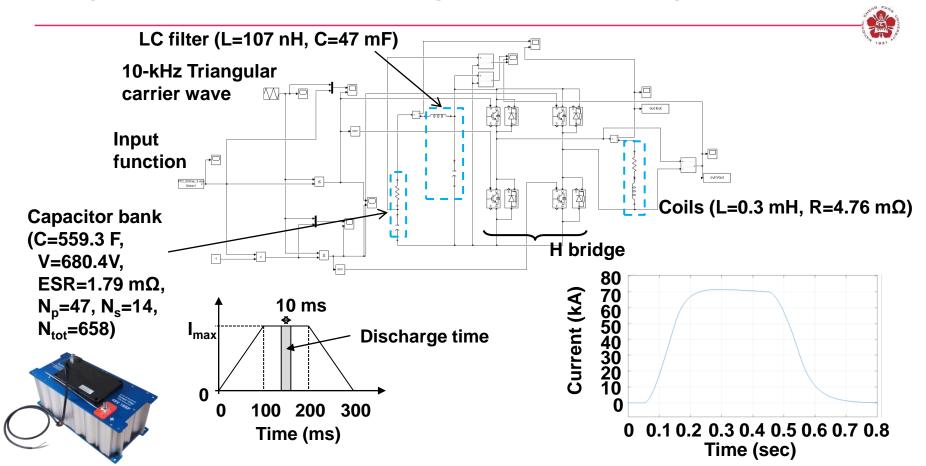




- R=47 cm
- a=32 cm
- Aspect ratio (R/a): 1.5
- Elongation (b/a):  $\kappa = 2\sim2.8$
- $B_T = 0.1 \sim 0.5 T$
- T ≥ 100 eV
- It will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tokamak in Taiwan.
- The expected first plasma will be generated in 2027.

- FIRST team:
  - National Atomic
    Research Institute
  - Prof. Chang @ NCKU
  - Prof. Shaing @ NCKU
  - Prof. Kawamori @ NCKU
  - Prof. Leou @ NTHU
  - National Center for highperformance computing
- FIRST is targeted for
  - Low aspect ratio
  - High beta
  - High bootstrap current
- FIRST is still under designed.
   Figure here is only to illustrate the idea, NOT the final design.

#### A trapezoid current with a flat top of ~70 kA will be provided for TFC



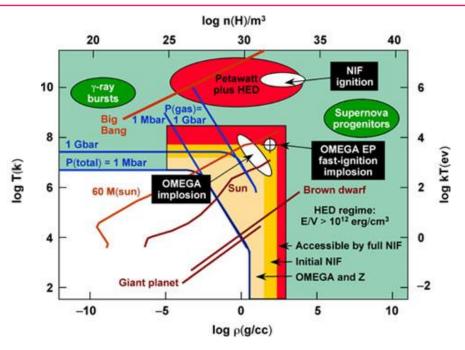
#### **Outlines**



- Introduction to pulsed-power systems
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# Laboratory astrophysics is to experimentally "simulate" the astrophysical phenomena in the laboratory environment





- High energy density plasma (HEDP) is the regime where the pressure is greater than 1 Mbar.
- The energy density of HEDP regime is higher than 1 kJ of energy per 10 mm<sup>3</sup>.

# Studies of laboratory astrophysics/space sciences using ideal magnetohydrodynamic scaling



#### Dimensional form:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \ \overrightarrow{u}) = 0$$

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \overrightarrow{u}}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{u} \cdot \nabla \ \overrightarrow{u} \right) = -\nabla p + \frac{1}{\mu_0} (\nabla \times \overrightarrow{B}) \times \overrightarrow{B}$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{u} \cdot \nabla p = -\gamma p \nabla \cdot \overrightarrow{u}$$

$$\frac{\partial \overrightarrow{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times (\overrightarrow{u} \times \overrightarrow{B})$$

$$\overset{\sim}{\overrightarrow{r}} = \frac{\overrightarrow{r}}{L^*} \qquad \overset{\sim}{p} = \frac{p}{p^*} \qquad \overset{\sim}{t} = \frac{t}{L^*} \sqrt{\frac{p^*}{\rho^*}}$$

$$\overset{\sim}{\rho} = \frac{\rho}{\rho^*} \qquad \overset{\sim}{\overrightarrow{B}} = \frac{\overrightarrow{B}}{\sqrt{\mu_0 p^*}} \qquad \overset{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}} = \overrightarrow{u} \sqrt{\frac{p^*}{\rho^*}}$$

Dimensionless form:

$$\frac{\partial \widetilde{\rho}}{\partial \widetilde{t}} + \nabla \cdot \left(\widetilde{\rho} \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}}\right) = 0$$

$$\widetilde{\rho} \left(\frac{\partial \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}}}{\partial \widetilde{t}} + \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}} \cdot \nabla \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}}\right) = -\nabla \widetilde{p} + \left(\nabla \times \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{B}}\right) \times \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{B}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \widetilde{p}}{\partial \widetilde{t}} + \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}} \cdot \nabla \widetilde{p} = -\gamma \widetilde{p} \nabla \cdot \stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}}$$

$$\frac{\partial \stackrel{\sim}{B}}{\partial \widetilde{t}} = \nabla \times \left(\stackrel{\sim}{\overrightarrow{u}} \times \stackrel{\sim}{B}\right)$$

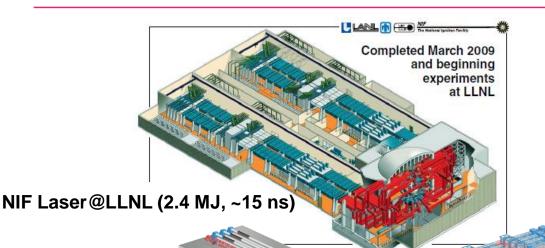
$$\widetilde{\rho}_{0}(\widetilde{r}) = f(\widetilde{r}) \qquad \widetilde{p}_{0}(\widetilde{r}) = g(\widetilde{r})$$

$$\widetilde{\overrightarrow{u}}_{0}(\widetilde{r}) = \sqrt{\frac{\rho^{*}}{p^{*}}} \overrightarrow{h}(\widetilde{r}) \qquad \widetilde{\overrightarrow{B}}_{0}(\widetilde{r}) = \frac{\overrightarrow{k}(\widetilde{r})}{\sqrt{\mu_{0}p^{*}}}$$

 Any two ideal MHD systems involve identically in a scaled sense if f, g, h, k, and u\*(ρ\*/p\*)<sup>1/2</sup> are the same.

### HEDP regime can be obtained using giant lasers, i.e., very expensive!





Gekko XII Laser@Osaka University (10 kJ @ 2 ns)

Omega EP Laser (0.5 kJ @ 0.7 ps / 2.3 kJ @ 100 ps / 5 kJ @ 10 ns)



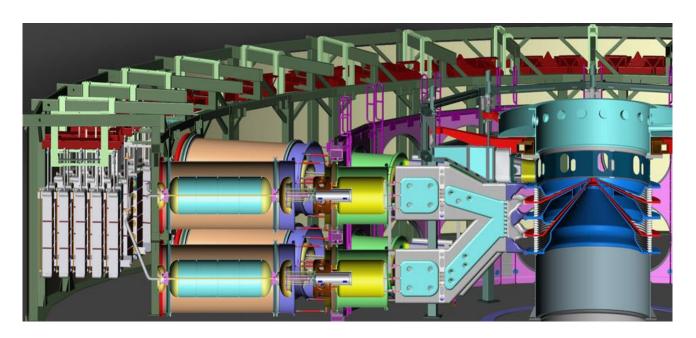
Omega Laser@LLE, U of Rochester (30 kJ @ 4 ns)

High-Field Physics and Ultrafast Technology Laboratory @ NCU (3.3J @ 30 fs)

https://www.ile.osaka-u.ac.jp/eng/facilities/gxii/index.html https://www.lle.rochester.edu/ https://hfp.phy.ncu.edu.tw/

## Sandia's Z machine is the world's most powerful and efficient laboratory radiation source





Stored energy: 20 MJ

Marx charge voltage: 85 kV

Peak electrical power: 85 TW

Peak current: 26 MA

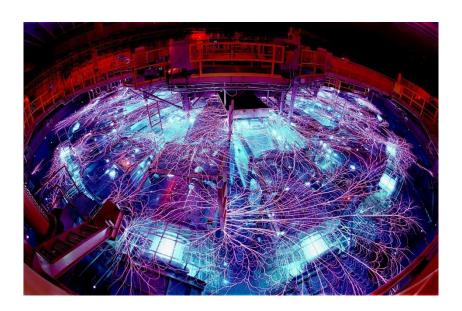
• Rise time: 100 ns

Peak X-ray emissions: 350 TW

Peak X-ray output: 2.7 MJ

### **Z** machine discharge





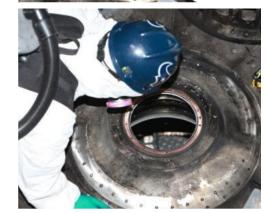
#### Before and after shots

Before shots



After shots



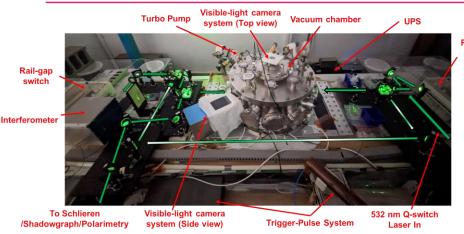


#### **Outlines**

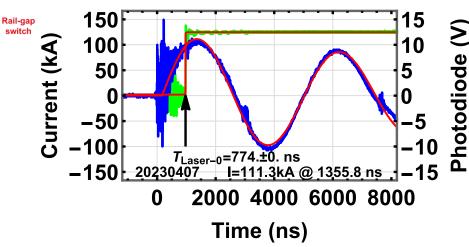


- Introduction to pulsed-power systems
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## A peak current of ~135 kA with a rise time of ~1.6 us is provided by the Pulsed-Power Generator for Space Science (PGS)



Capacitance (µF)	5
V <sub>charge</sub> (kV)	20
Energy (kJ)	1
Inductance (nH)	204 ± 4
Rise time (ns)	1592 ± 3
I <sub>peak</sub> (kA)	135 ± 1

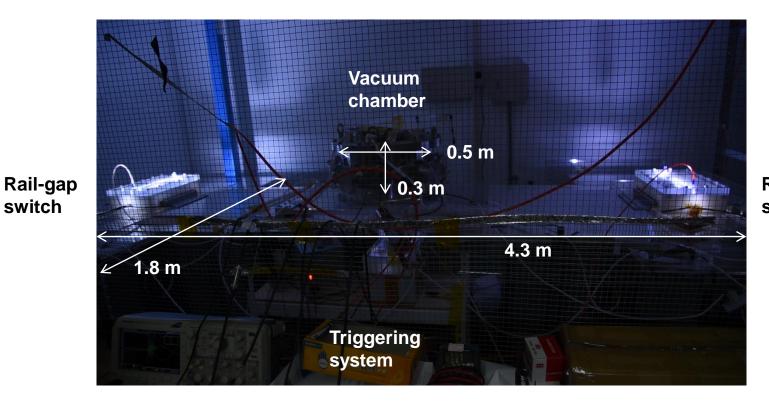


- Optical diagnostics:
  - Q-switch Nd:Yag Laser@ 532 nm, 5-ns pulse width
  - Shadowgraph
  - Schlieren
  - Interferometer

### First shot with two synchronized rail-gap switches in 2019

switch



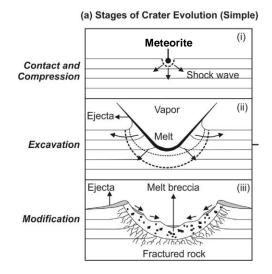


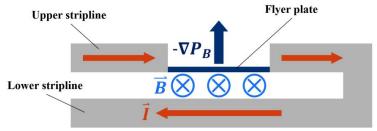
Rail-gap switch

### A shock in a target can be generated by being collided by a flyer plate

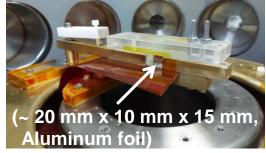


Cooperation with Prof. Jennifer Kung's group in the Dept. Earth Science, NCKU





• Before the experiment:

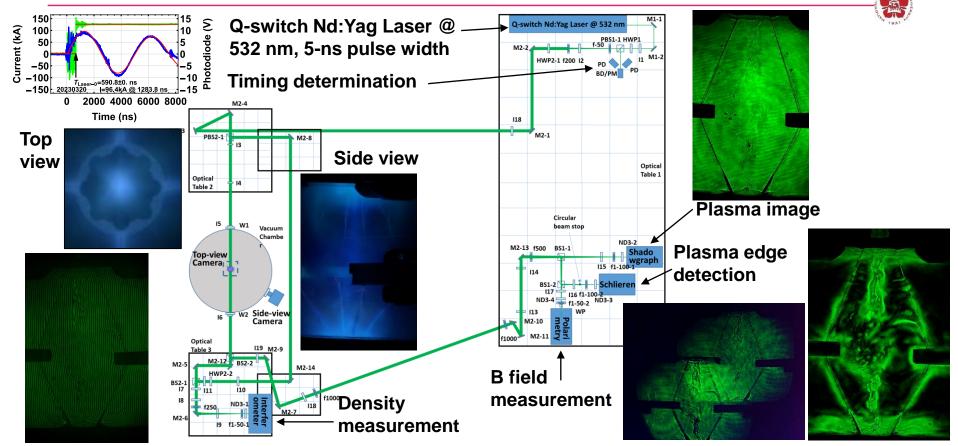


After the experiment:

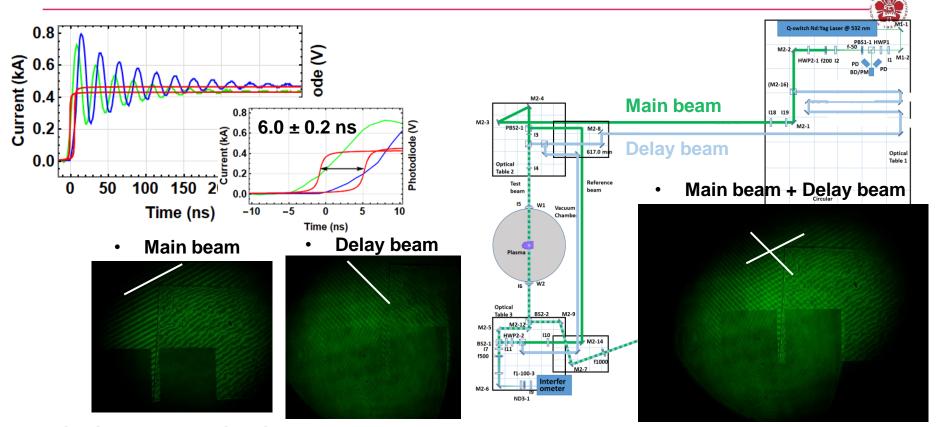


- Y.-Z. Pan, NCKU Master Thesis 2024
- S. James, etc., Energy Geoscience 3, 136 (2022)

Time-resolved imaging system with temporal resolution in the order of nanoseconds was implemented



### Two interferometer images with 6 ns in temporal separation will be taken in the same shot



White lines: pattern directions

Z. Liu, etc., Optics letters, 27, 22 (2002)

#### **Outlines**

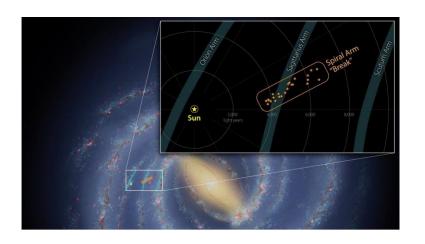


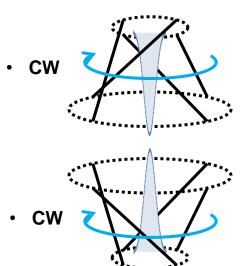
- Introduction to pulsed-power systems
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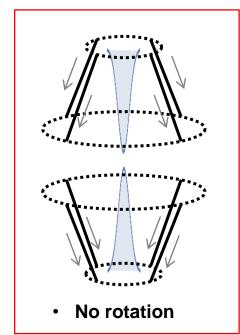
### Plasma disks are commonly observed in the universe



Milky way

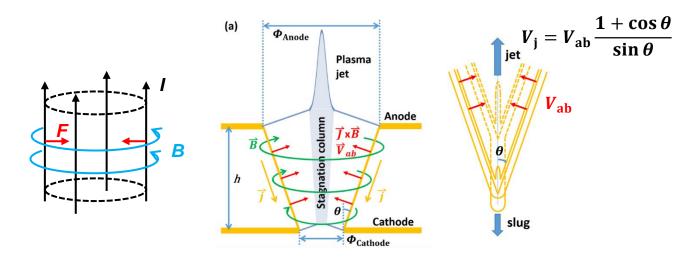






# A plasma jet can be generated by a conical-wire array due to the nonuniform z-pinch effect





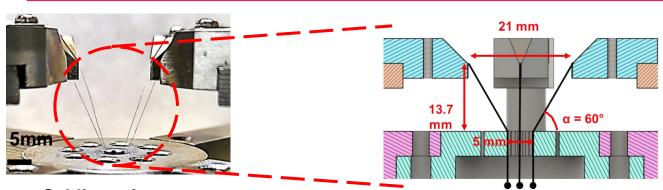
- 1. Wire ablation: corona plasma is generated by wire ablations.
- 2. Precursor : corona plasma is pushed by the  $\vec{J} \times \vec{B}$  force and accumulated on the axis forming a precursor.
- 3. Plasma jet is formed by the nonuniform z-pinch effect due to the radius difference between the top and the bottom of the array.

D. J. Ampleforda, et al., Phys. Plasmas 14, 102704 (2007)

G. Birkhoff, et al., J. Applied Physics 19, 563 (1948)

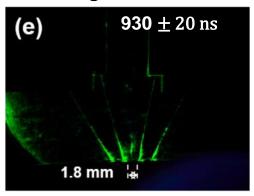
#### The plasma jet was generated using the conical-wire array

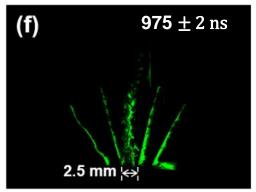


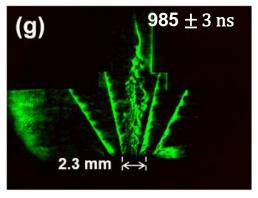


- Material : Tungsten
- Diameter : 20 µm
- Number of wires: 4

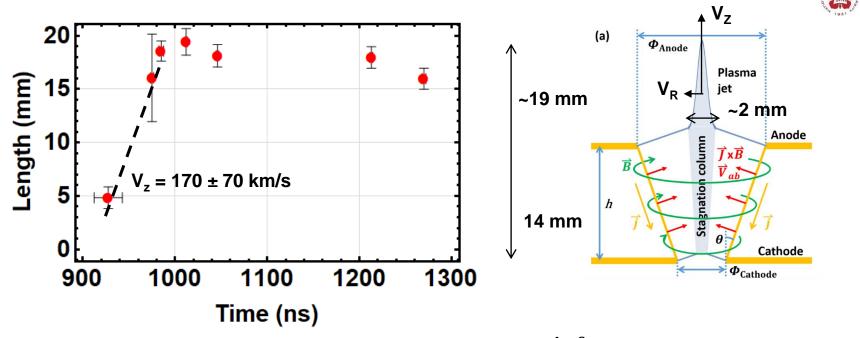
Schlieren images:







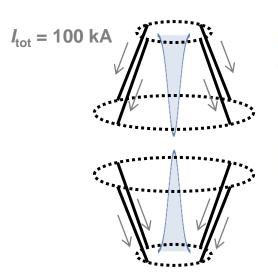
# The measured plasma jet speed was 170 ± 70 km/s with the corresponding Mach number greater than 5

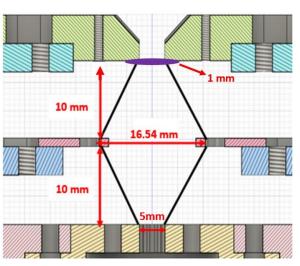


$$M = \frac{V_Z}{V_R} \ge \frac{Z}{r} \approx \frac{(19 - 14) \text{ mm}}{\frac{2 \text{ mm}}{2}} = 5$$

$$V_{ab} = V_{j} \frac{\sin \theta}{1 + \cos \theta} = 50 \pm 20 \text{ km/s}$$

### Two head-on plasma jets can be generated by using two conicalwire arrays facing against each other







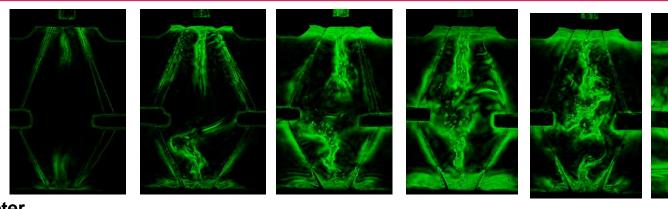
Material : TungstenDiameter : 20 µm

Number of wires: 4 for each conical-wire array

A disk is needed at the bottom of each conical-wire array to accumulate plasma.

# Images of two head-on plasma jets colliding with each other were taken using multiple shots

Schlieren



Interferometer













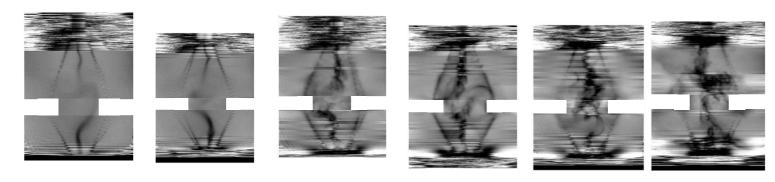
28

C.-Y. Liu, NCKU Master Thesis 2023

### Densities are obtained from the interferometer images

585.5 ns **Schlieren** 323.8 ns 401.1 ns 590.8 ns 658.7 ns 774.0 ns

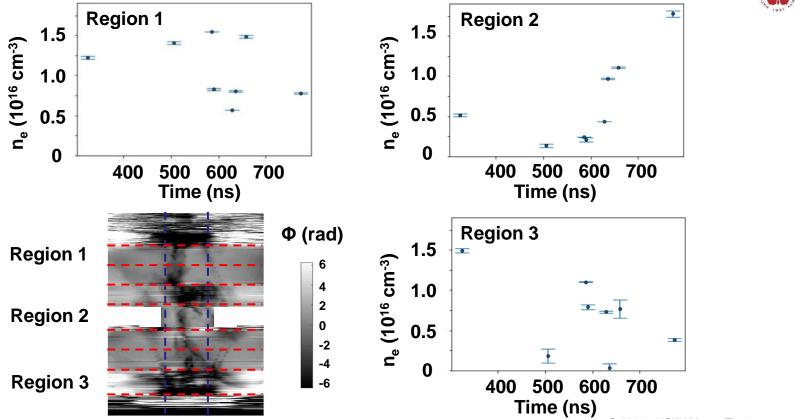
#### Interferometer



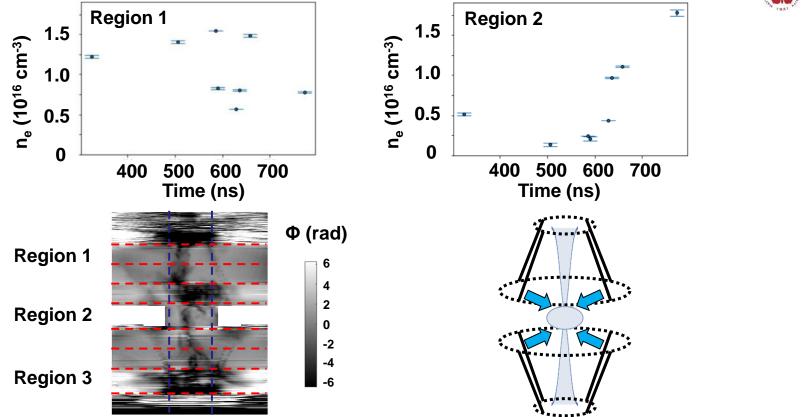
Φ(rad)

29

### Plasma started to stagnate at the center after $\sim 600$ ns and reached a density of $\sim 10^{16}$ cm<sup>-3</sup>

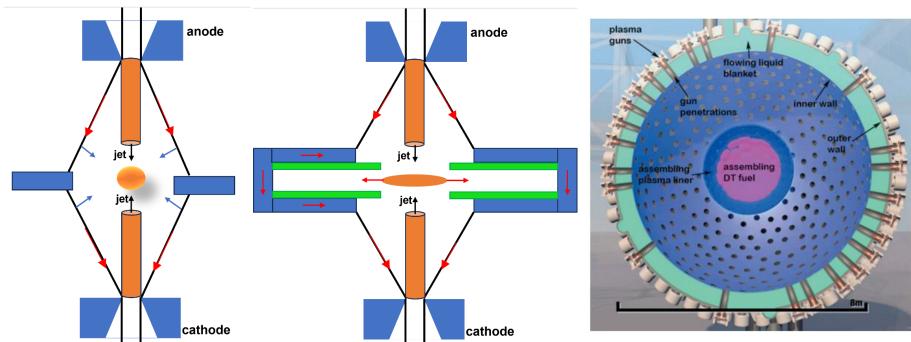


### Plasma started to stagnate at the center after $\sim 600$ ns and reached a density of $\sim 10^{16}$ cm<sup>-3</sup>



### Our result was similar to that of the Plasma Jet Driven Magneto-Inertial Fusion (PJMIF) project



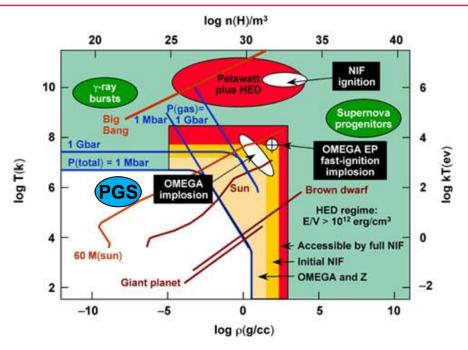


C.-Y. Liu, NCKU Master Thesis 2023

J. C. Valenzuela, et al, High energy density physics 17, 140 (2015)

# Laboratory astrophysics is to experimentally "simulate" the astrophysical phenomena in the laboratory environment

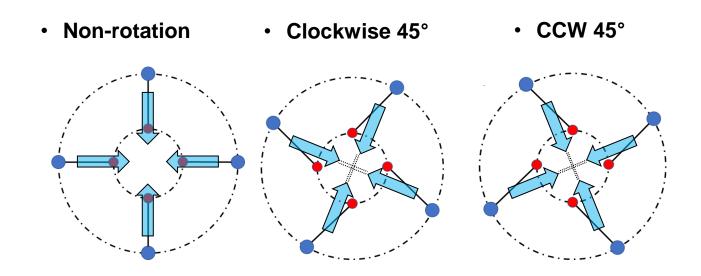




- High energy density plasma (HEDP) is the regime where the pressure is greater than 1 Mbar.
- The energy density of HEDP regime is higher than 1 kJ of energy per 10 mm<sup>3</sup>.

### What if we twist the conical-wire array?





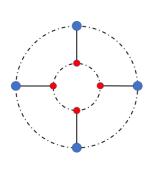
#### The plasma jet is a bright spot from the top view

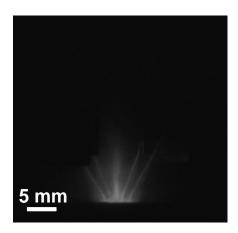


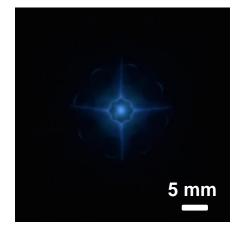
Non-rotation

Side view

Top view



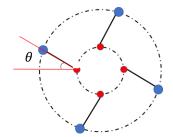




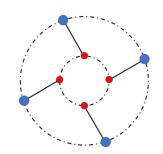
### Hollow plasma jets were generated when the conical-wire arrays were twisted

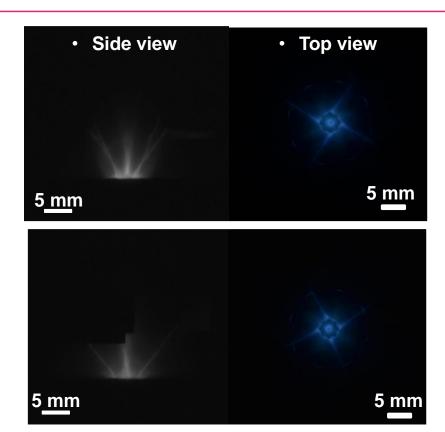


Clockwise 30 °



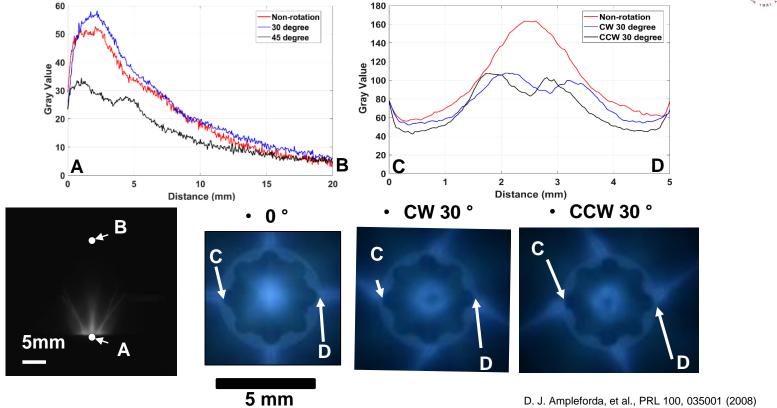
Counterclockwise 30 °





## The hollow region at the center was due to angular momentum conservation of the in-coming plasma flow

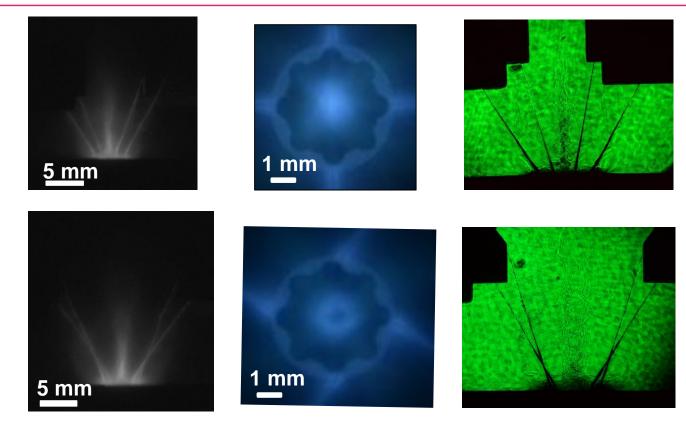




D. J. Ampleforda, et al., PRL 100, 035001 (2008) Y.-C. Lin, NCKU Master Thesis 2021

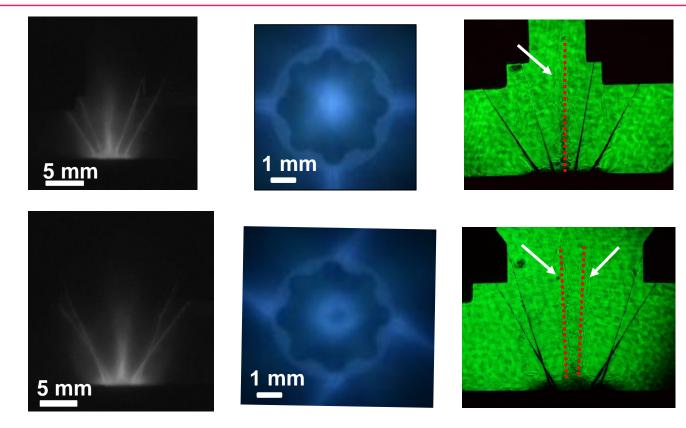
### A rotating plasma jet was generated by the twisted conical-wire array





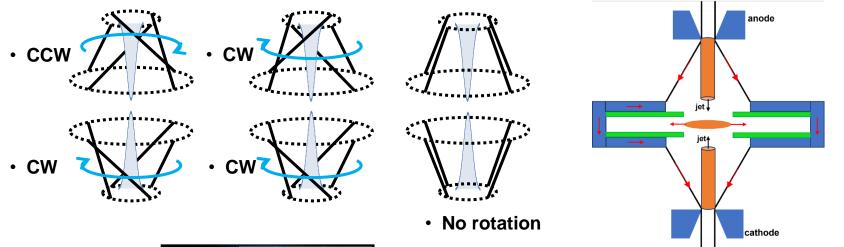
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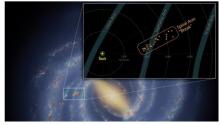




### Can a rotating plasma disk be formed? To be continue...







 Astronomers Find a 'Break' in One of the Milky Way's Spiral Arms.

https://www.nasa.gov/feature/jpl/astronomers-find-a-break-in-one-of-the-milky-way-s-spiral-arms C.-Y. Liu, NCKU Master Thesis 2023

#### Conclusion/Summary

## Plasma stagnated when two counter-propagating plasma jets colliding with each other

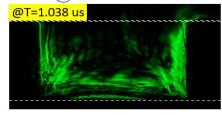


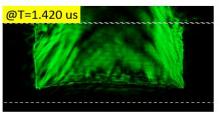
- A 1-kJ pulsed-power system with a suite of diagnostics was built.
- A supersonic plasma jet with a speed of  $170 \pm 70$  km/s was generated using a conical-wire array. The corresponding Mach number was greater than 5.
- Plasma stagnated and reached a density of ~ 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> when two counter-propagating plasma jets colliding with each other.
- Technologies of pulsed-power systems are being adapted to the spherical tokamak, FIRST, that is being developed.

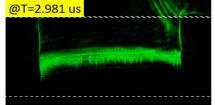
### The flyer plate was accelerated to a velocity of 1.8 ± 0.3 km/s

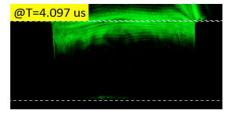


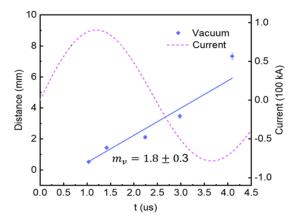
- Schlieren images of the flyer plate taken at different times:
- (a) ~10<sup>-5</sup> torr











After the experiment:



Impacted surface:

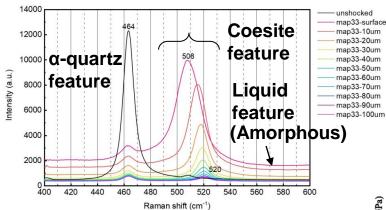


Poster section: P2-PP-015

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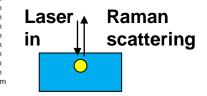
## A shock with the pressure above 4 GPa and the temperature above 2400 °C was generated when the flyer plate collides the target

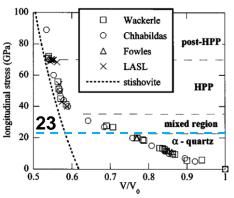
Raman shift at different depth:



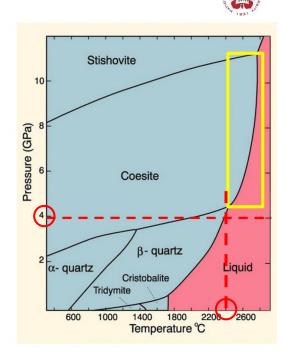
Since the Coesite feature remained after the target was shocked, the target should have entered the mixed region, i.e., P > 23 GPa is possible.

 We suspect that the pressure at the surface is lower than that in the target. More studies are needed. Raman scattering measurement:





Poster section: P2-PP-015



Y.-Z. Pan, NCKU Master Thesis 2024 T. De Rességuier, etc., J. Appl. Phys. 94, 2123 (2003)

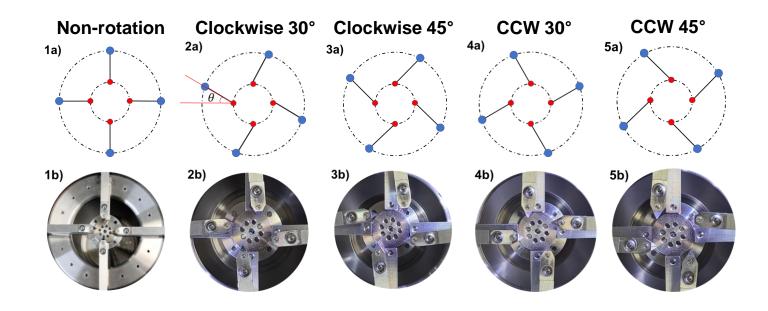
#### **Outlines**



- Introduction to pulsed-power systems
- Application of pulsed-power systems at NCKU
  - Plasma jet generation using a bi-conical-wire array
  - High-pressure generation by generating a shock through colliding a flyer plate on a target
  - Development of the spherical tokamak, FIRST

## Conical-wire arrays were twisted with different angles and in different directions

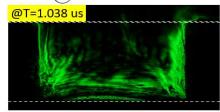


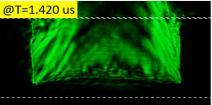


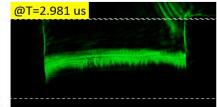
### The flyer plate was accelerated to a velocity of 1.8 ± 0.3 km/s

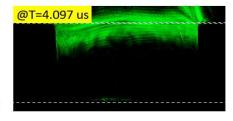


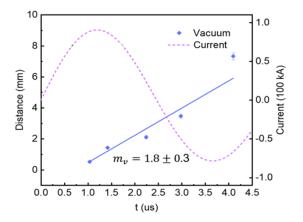
- Schlieren images of the flyer plate taken at different times:
- (a)  $\sim 10^{-5}$  torr







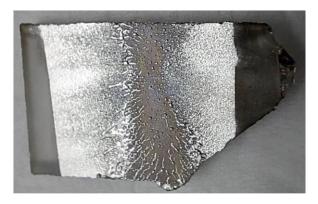




After the experiment:



Impacted surface:

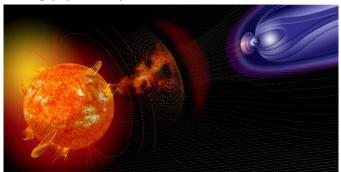


Poster section: P2-PP-015

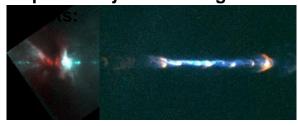
Y.-Z. Pan, NCKU Master Thesis 2024

## Astrophysics and space sciences can be studied in the laboratory called "laboratory astrophysics"

Solar wind:



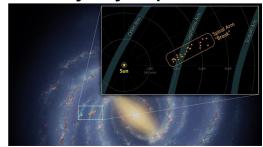
· Supersonic jets in Herbig-Haro



Bow shock:



Milky way's Spiral Arms:



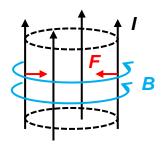
https://www.nasa.gov/mission\_pages/sunearth/spaceweather/index.html Chih-Jui Hsieh, NCKU Master Thesis 2020

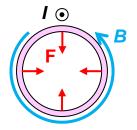
B. Reipurth and J. BallyAnnu. Rev. Astron. Astrophys., 39:403-455, September 2001.

### High pressure plasma can be achieved via pinch compression

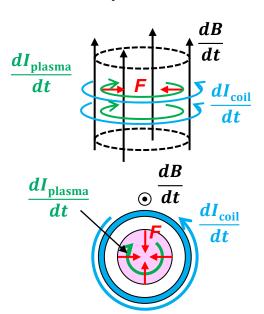


Z pinches





Theta pinches



## 2D Fourier transform can be used to separate two phase images from two interferometer images overlapping on top of each other

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{I}(x,y) &= I_0(x,y) + m_1(x,y) \cos[\nu_1 x + \phi_1(x,y)] + m_2(x,y) \cos[\nu_2 y + \phi_2(x,y)] \\ &= I_0(x,y) + c_1(x,y) e^{\mathrm{i}\nu_1 x} + c_1^*(x,y) e^{-\mathrm{i}\nu_1 x} + c_2(x,y) e^{\mathrm{i}\nu_2 y} + c_2^*(x,y) e^{-\mathrm{i}\nu_2 y} \\ c_{1,2}(x,y) &\equiv \frac{1}{2} m_{1,2}(x,y) e^{\mathrm{i}\phi_{1,2}(x,y)} & \phi_{1,2}(x,y) = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{\mathrm{Im}[c_{1,2}(x,y)]}{\mathrm{Re}[c_{1,2}(x,y)]} \right) \end{split}$$

- Two interferometer images need to be independent to each other.
- Fourier transform in x:

$$\hat{I}(f_x,y) = \hat{I}_0(f_x,y) + \hat{c}_1(f_x - \nu_1,y) + \hat{c}_1^*(f_x + \nu_1,y) + \hat{c}_2(f_x,y)e^{i\nu_2y} + \hat{c}_2^*(f_x,y)e^{-i\nu_2y}$$

Fourier transform in y:

$$\tilde{I}(x,f_y) = \tilde{I}_0(x,f_y) + \tilde{c}_1(x,f_y)e^{i\nu_1x} + \tilde{c}_1^*(x,f_y)e^{-i\nu_1x} + \tilde{c}_2(x,f_y-\nu_2) + \tilde{c}_2^*(x,f_y+\nu_2)$$

Fourier transform in x&y:

$$\hat{I}(f_x, f_y) = \hat{I}_0(f_x, f_y) + \hat{c}_1(f_x - v_1, f_y) + \hat{c}_1^*(f_x + v_1, f_y) + \hat{c}_2(f_x, f_y - v_2) + \hat{c}_2^*(f_x, f_y + v_2)$$

# Fourier transform in different directions can also be used to separate two interferometer images overlapping on top of each other

Fourier transform in x:

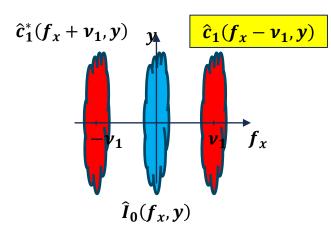
$$\hat{I}(f_x,y) = \hat{I}_0(f_x,y) + \hat{c}_1(f_x - \nu_1,y) + \hat{c}_1^*(f_x + \nu_1,y) + \hat{c}_2(f_x,y)e^{i\nu_2y} + \hat{c}_2^*(f_x,y)e^{-i\nu_2y}$$

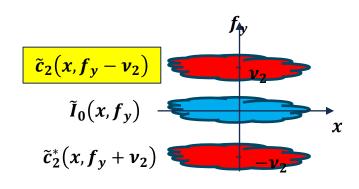
Fourier transform in y:

$$\tilde{I}(x,f_y) = \tilde{I}_0(x,f_y) + \tilde{c}_1(x,f_y)e^{i\nu_1x} + \tilde{c}_1^*(x,f_y)e^{-i\nu_1x} + \tilde{c}_2(x,f_y - \nu_2) + \tilde{c}_2^*(x,f_y + \nu_2)$$

Fourier transform in x&y:

$$\hat{\tilde{I}}(f_x, f_y) = \hat{\tilde{I}}_0(f_x, f_y) + \hat{\tilde{c}}_1(f_x - \nu_1, f_y) + \hat{\tilde{c}}_1(f_x + \nu_1, f_y) + \hat{\tilde{c}}_2(f_x, f_y - \nu_2) + \hat{\tilde{c}}_2(f_x, f_y + \nu_2)$$





## Fringes need to be fine enough to separate two overlapping phase images

Fourier transform in x:

$$\hat{I}(f_x,y) = \hat{I}_0(f_x,y) + \hat{c}_1(f_x - \nu_1,y) + \hat{c}_1^*(f_x + \nu_1,y) + \hat{c}_2(f_x,y)e^{i\nu_2y} + \hat{c}_2^*(f_x,y)e^{-i\nu_2y}$$

Fourier transform in y:

$$\tilde{I}(x, f_y) = \tilde{I}_0(x, f_y) + \tilde{c}_1(x, f_y)e^{i\nu_1x} + \tilde{c}_1^*(x, f_y)e^{-i\nu_1x} + \tilde{c}_2(x, f_y - \nu_2) + \tilde{c}_2^*(x, f_y + \nu_2)$$

Fourier transform in x&y:

$$\tilde{I}(f_{x},f_{y}) = \tilde{I}_{0}(f_{x},f_{y}) + \hat{c}_{1}(f_{x}-\nu_{1},f_{y}) + \hat{c}_{1}^{*}(f_{x}+\nu_{1},f_{y}) + \hat{c}_{2}(f_{x},f_{y}-\nu_{2}) + \hat{c}_{2}^{*}(f_{x},f_{y}+\nu_{2})$$
• Fine fringes: 
$$f_{y} \qquad \hat{c}_{2}(f_{x},f_{y}-\nu_{2}) \qquad \bullet \qquad \text{Coarse fringes:}$$

$$\hat{I}_{0}(f_{x},f_{y}) \qquad \hat{c}_{1}(f_{x}-\nu_{1},f_{y}) \qquad \hat{I}_{0}(f_{x},f_{y}) \qquad \hat{c}_{2}(f_{x},f_{y}-\nu_{2})$$

$$\hat{c}_{1}^{*}(f_{x}+\nu_{1},f_{y}) \qquad \hat{c}_{1}^{*}(f_{x}+\nu_{1},f_{y}) \qquad \hat{c}_{1}^{*}(f_{x}+\nu_{1},f_{y}) \qquad \hat{c}_{2}^{*}(f_{x},f_{y}+\nu_{2})$$

$$\hat{c}_{2}^{*}(f_{x},f_{y}+\nu_{2}) \qquad -\nu_{2} \qquad \hat{c}_{2}^{*}(f_{x},f_{y}+\nu_{2}) \qquad \hat{c}_{2}^{*}(f_{x},f_{y}+\nu_{2}) \qquad \hat{c}_{3}^{*}(f_{x},f_{y}+\nu_{2})$$

Spatial frequency of fringes need to be larger than the spatial bandwidth of two signals.