

Interaction of intense proton beam pulses with granular and powdered materials at HiRadMat



Chris Densham, Tristan Davenne, Robert Bingham, Peter Loveridge, Dan Wilcox, Mike Fitton, Joe O'Dell
(STFC Rutherford Appleton Lab)

Ilias Efthymiopoulos, Nikolaos Charitonidis, Adrian Fabich
(CERN), Ottone Caretta (UKAEA Culham Laboratory)

11 July 2019



Science & Technology Facilities Council
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

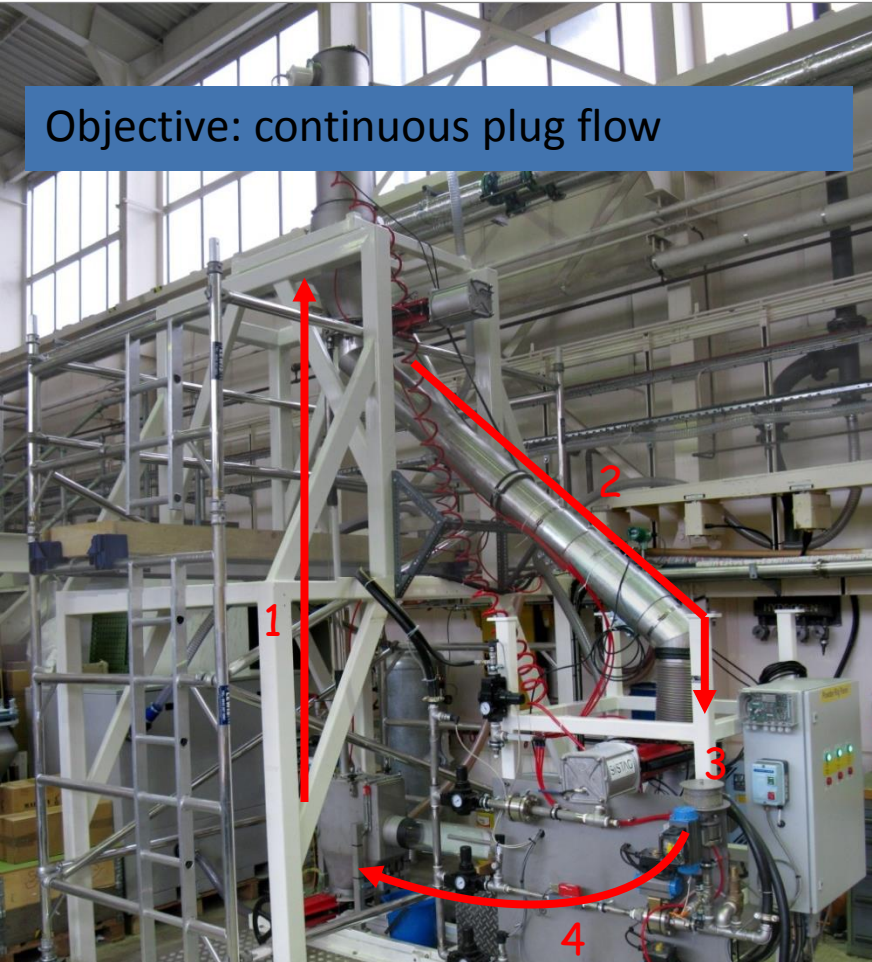
Motivations

- Investigate potential for granular materials to withstand intense pulsed proton beams
 - Investigate practical phenomena for granular targets or collimators
 - E.g. disruption of granular material
 - open and contained
 - in vacuum and in helium
- Consider potential for future experiments as probe for fundamental physics
 - E.g. astrophysical plasmas (c/o Bob Bingham @ RAL)

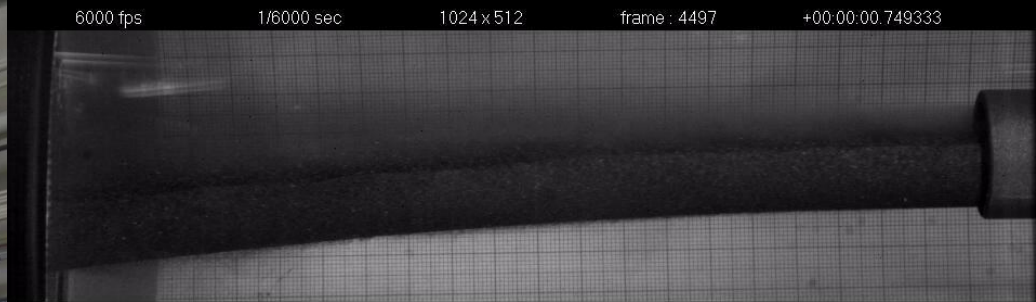


Fluidised tungsten powder research at RAL for highest pulsed beam powers (e.g. neutrino factory)

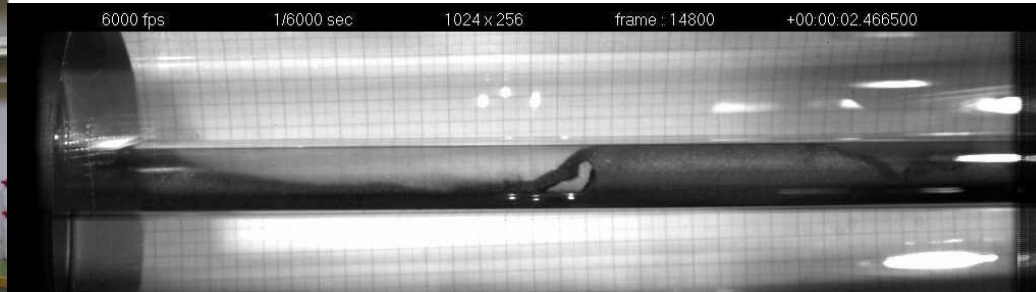
Objective: continuous plug flow



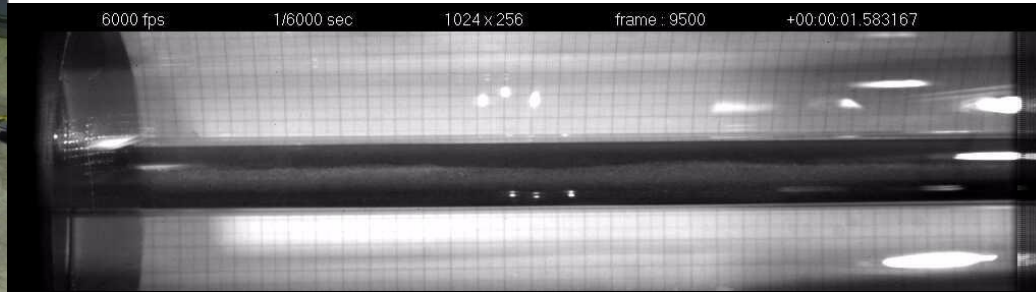
Open jet:



Contained discontinuous dense phase:

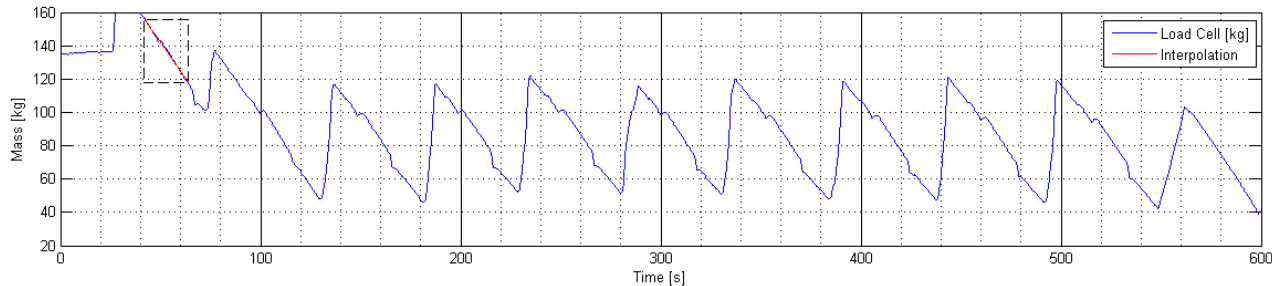


Contained continuous dense phase:

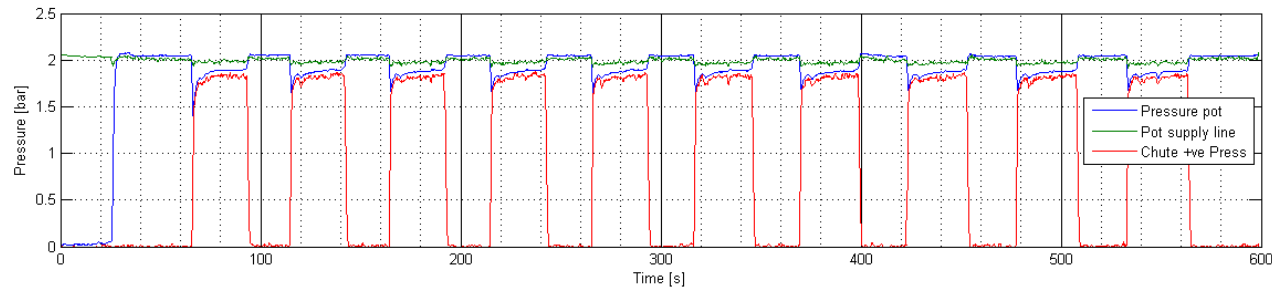


1. Suction / Lift
2. Load Hopper
3. Pressurise Hopper
4. Powder Ejection and Observation

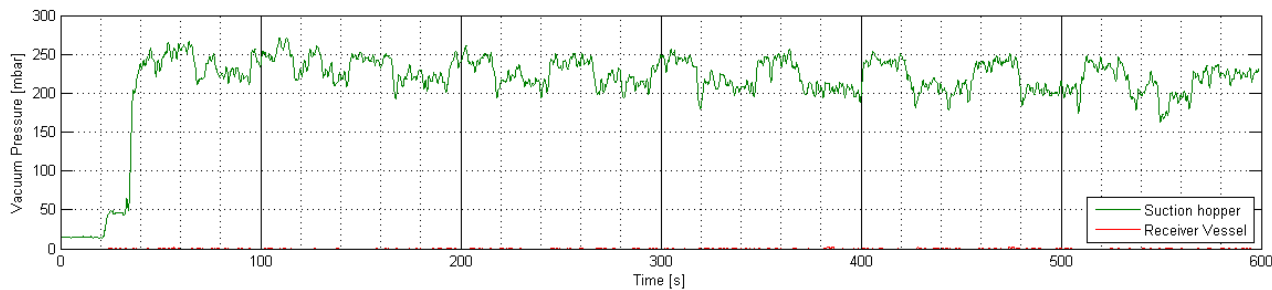
Continuous recirculation demonstrated



Mass in pressurised discharge hopper



Pressure cycling of chute and discharge hopper



Suction line pressure variation during recycling



Tungsten powder experiments at HiRadMat (HRMT10 and 22)

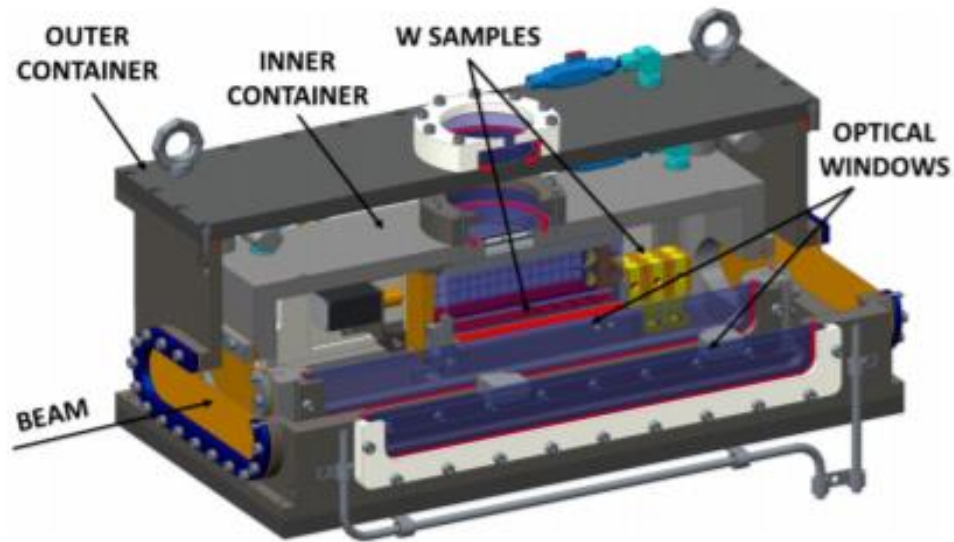


FIG. 2. Section drawing of the tungsten powder rig.

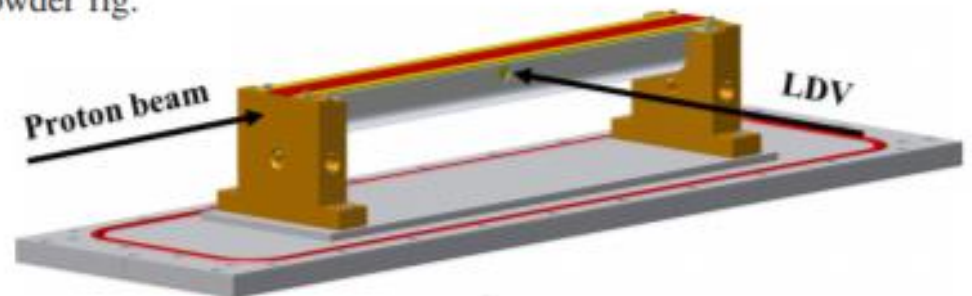
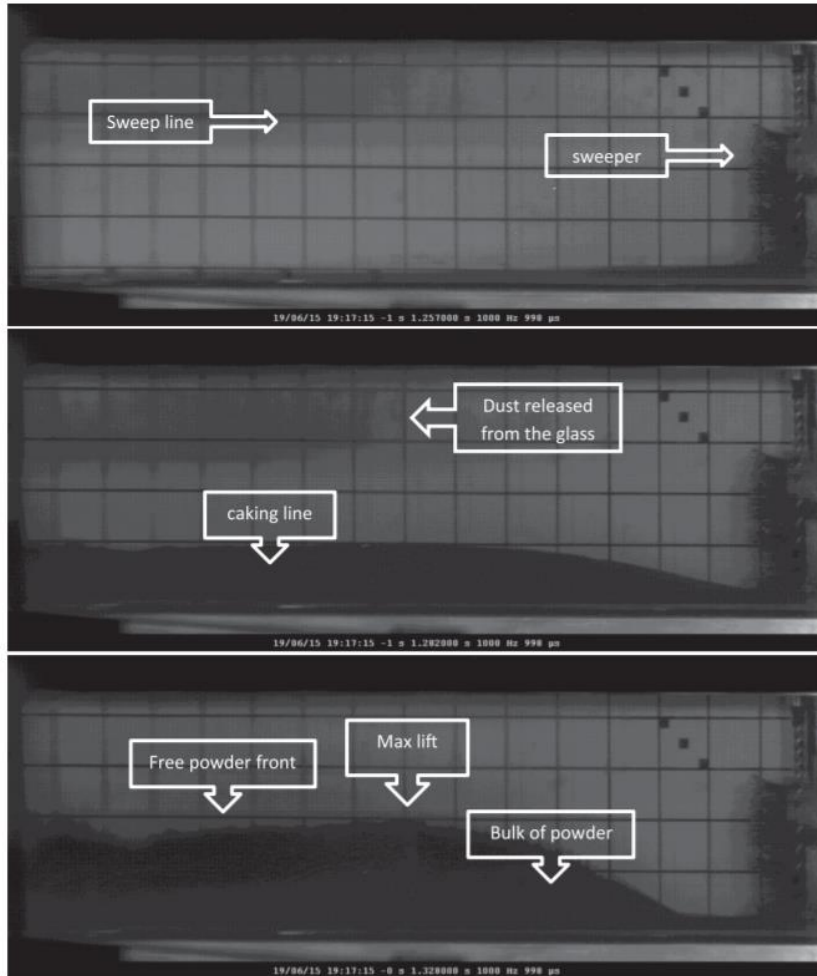


FIG. 3. Tungsten powder trough.

Disruption of granular tungsten in vacuum



- 2×10^{11} POT
- 20 mbar pressure
- Observed eruptions up to a few m/s
- Lift dependant on particle size (below)

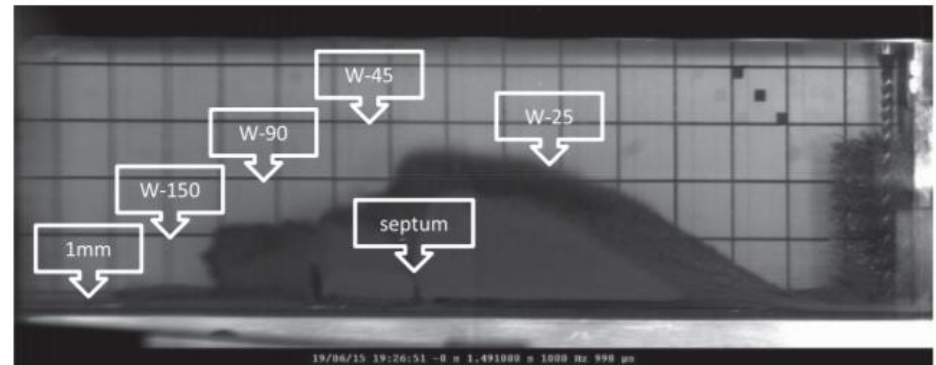


FIG. 19. Septa separated multize experiment R1-28. 2×10^{11} POT. The beam impinges from the right.

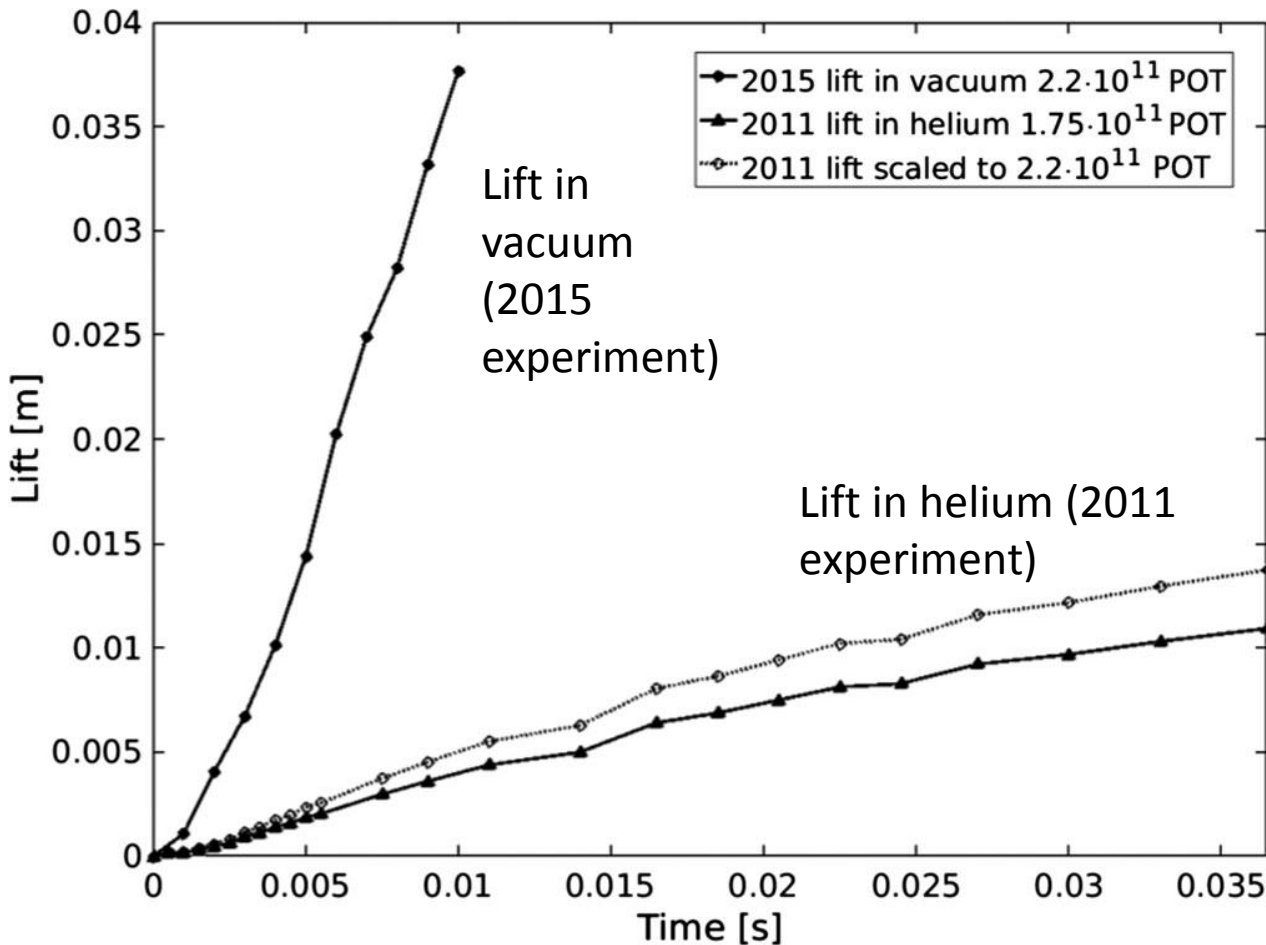
Sub-45 μm spherical tungsten granules



Disruption of granular tungsten in vacuum



Higher lift in vacuum than in helium



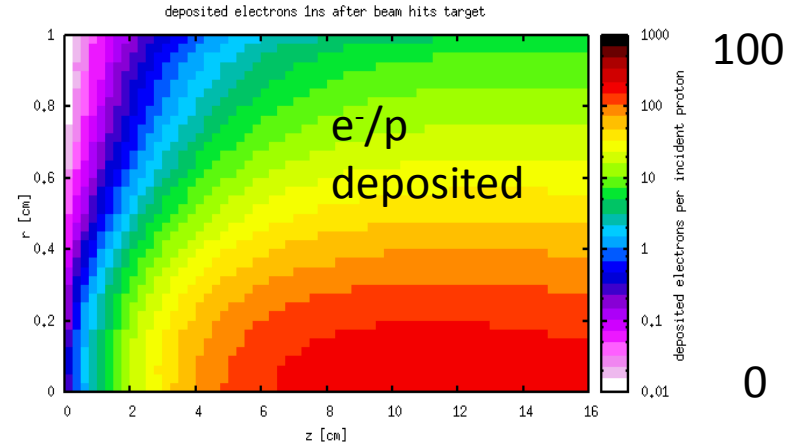
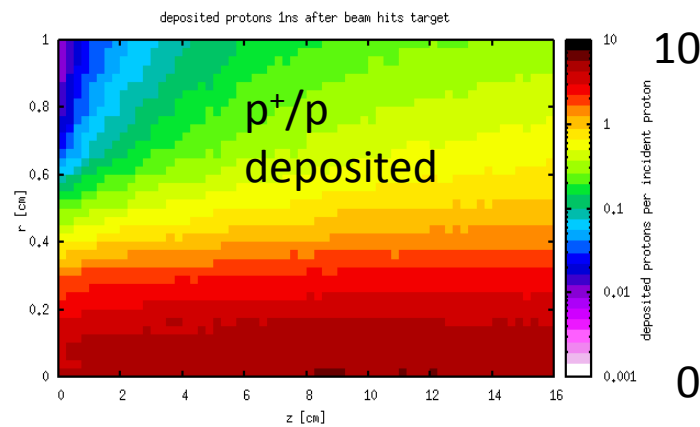
Lift clearly has a non-aerodynamic origin

- Force chains?
 - Offline experiments do not support
- Electrostatic effect?

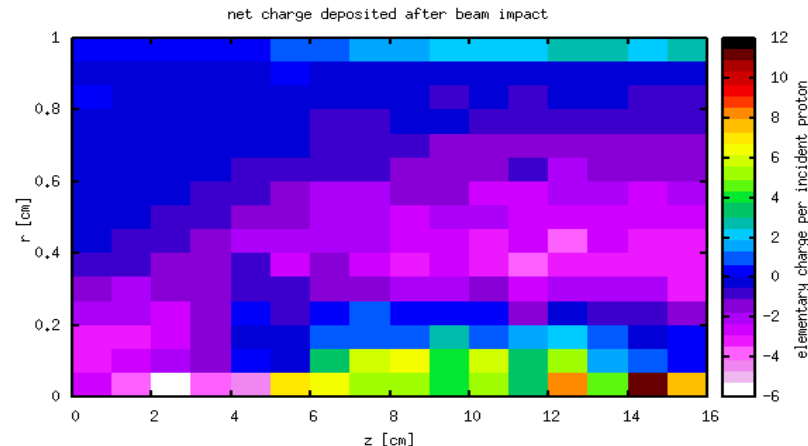


Proton Beam Interaction with Tungsten Powder Target

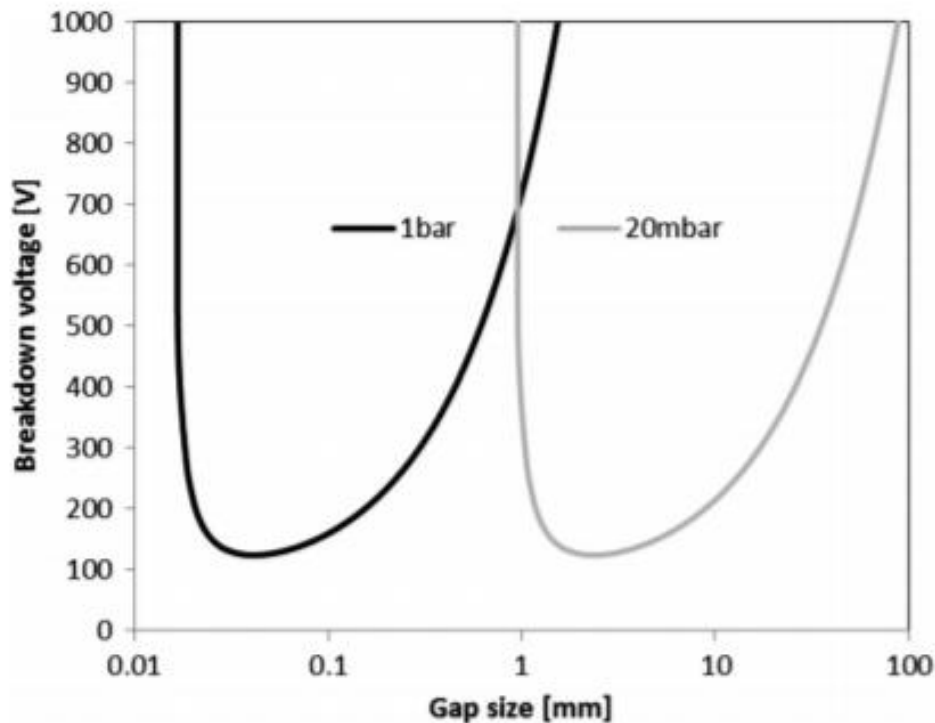
- Some secondary protons generated by the beam interaction stop in the target
- Many more secondary electrons are accelerated by the proton beam



- Secondary electrons only travel a short distance in the target, those formed near the surface of the sample are able to escape the material leaving a positive charge layer



Breakdown of charge gradients between particles



- Breakdown likely in atmospheric pressure helium
 - -> lower lift
- unlikely at 20mbar (mechanical vacuum)
 - -> higher lift

FIG. 14. Paschen's law curves for breakdown voltage in helium at 1 bar and at 20 mbar.



Simulations vs observations

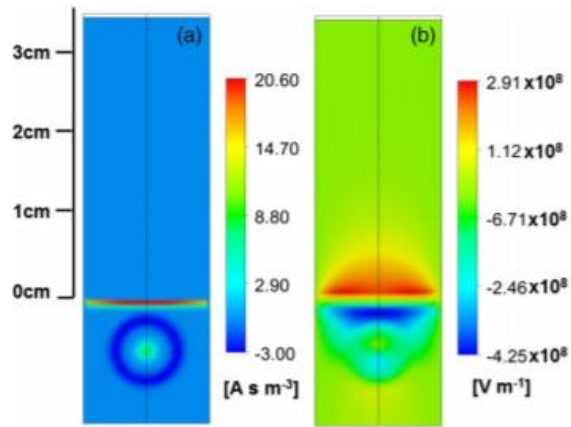


FIG. 16. Simulated deposited charge density on the solid powder phase (a) and resultant vertical electric field (b) immediately following a beam pulse of 3×10^{12} protons.

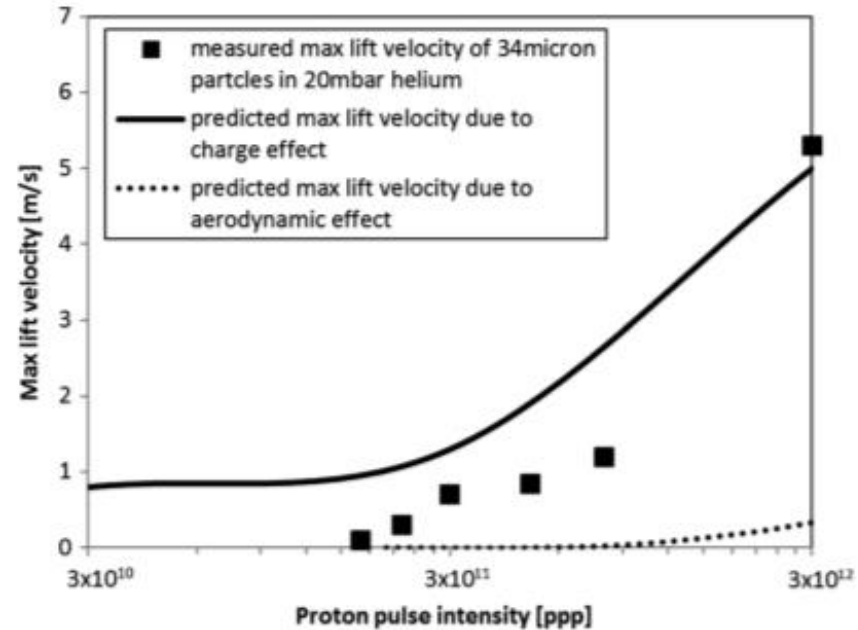


FIG. 21. Maximum lift velocity, comparing measurements with predictions from charge and aerodynamic models; helium pressure = 20 mbar; mean particle diameter = $34 \mu\text{m}$.

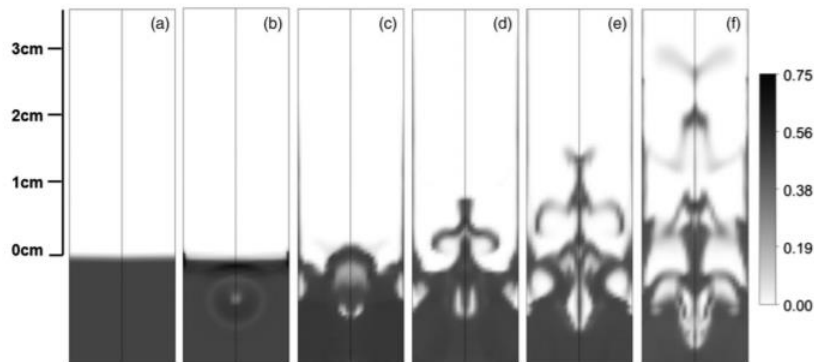
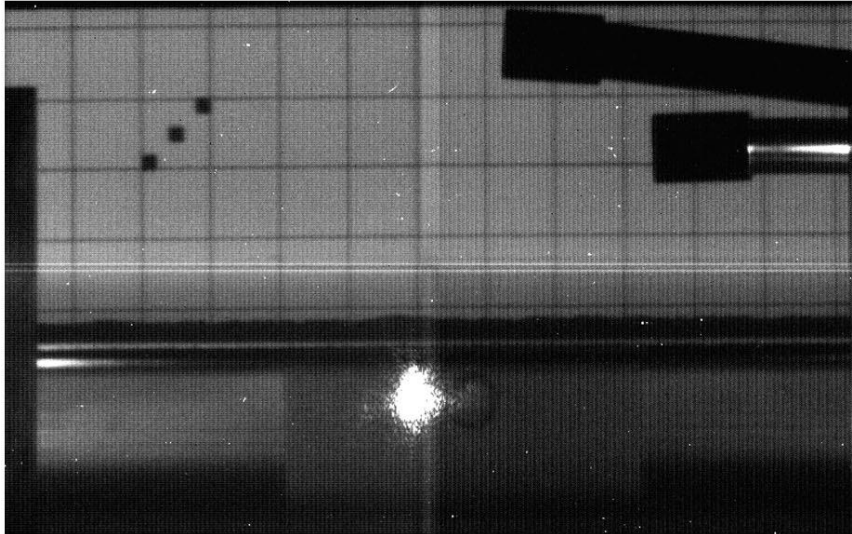


FIG. 17. Simulation of charge induced lift of $34 \mu\text{m}$ diameter tungsten particles, tungsten volume fraction at plane AA at indicated time intervals after a beam pulse with 3×10^{12} protons; $a = 1 \mu\text{s}$, $b = 0.1 \text{ ms}$, $c = 1 \text{ ms}$, $d = 2 \text{ ms}$, $e = 3 \text{ ms}$, and $f = 5 \text{ ms}$.

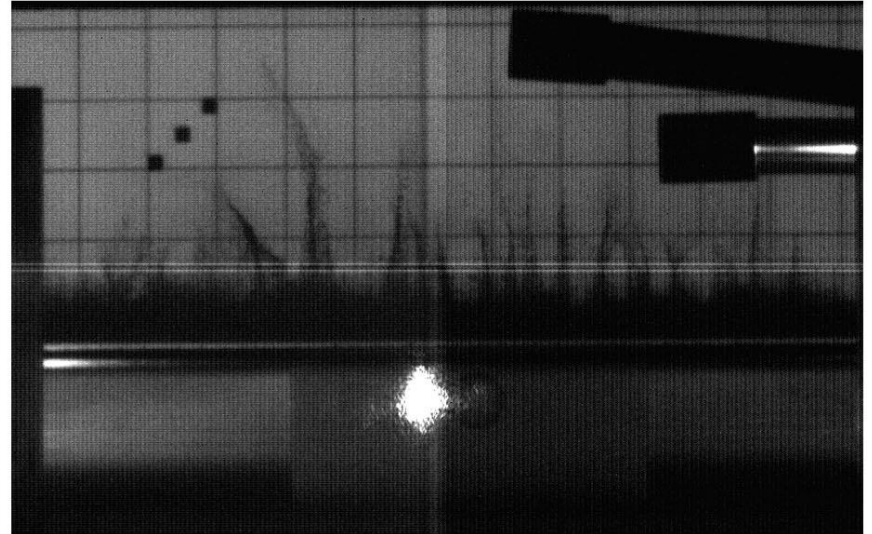
Reasonable agreement
between charge induced lift
simulations and observations



'Filamentation' in lift of mixed powder



(a)



(b)

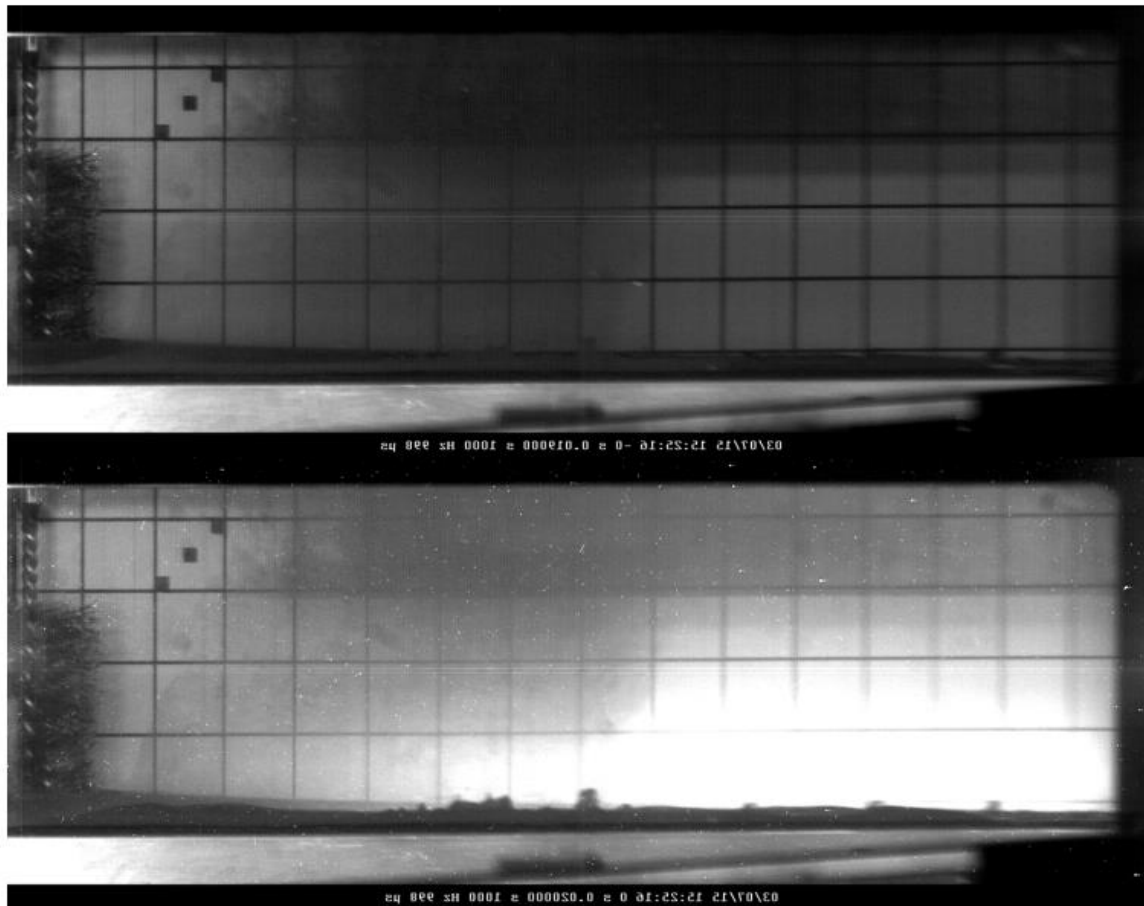
- Filamentation observed in previously disturbed surface for HRMT10
- Not observed in HRMT22 which had a 'sweeper' between beam shots

Other measurements:

- LDV used to measure surface vibrations of trough
- Observations made of primary and secondary wall
 - To separate effects of powder and secondary particles
- Measurements inconclusive



Photon flash captured after beam pulse

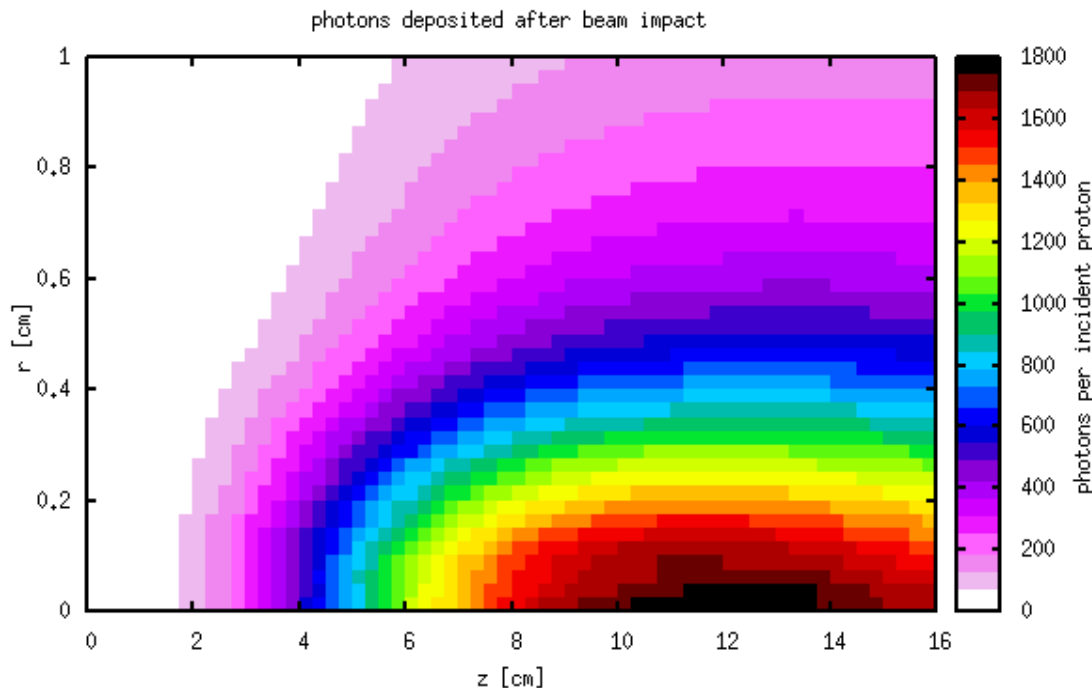


Two high speed image frames of 1 ms duration, the first one is before the beam pulse (3×10^{22} PoT) and the second one captures the beam pulse and shows a high intensity light output. The beam is impinging the sample from the left hand side. N.B. In the next frame after the beam pulse the light level returns to that shown in the first frame.



What is origin of optical radiation produced during proton beam interaction with tungsten powder?

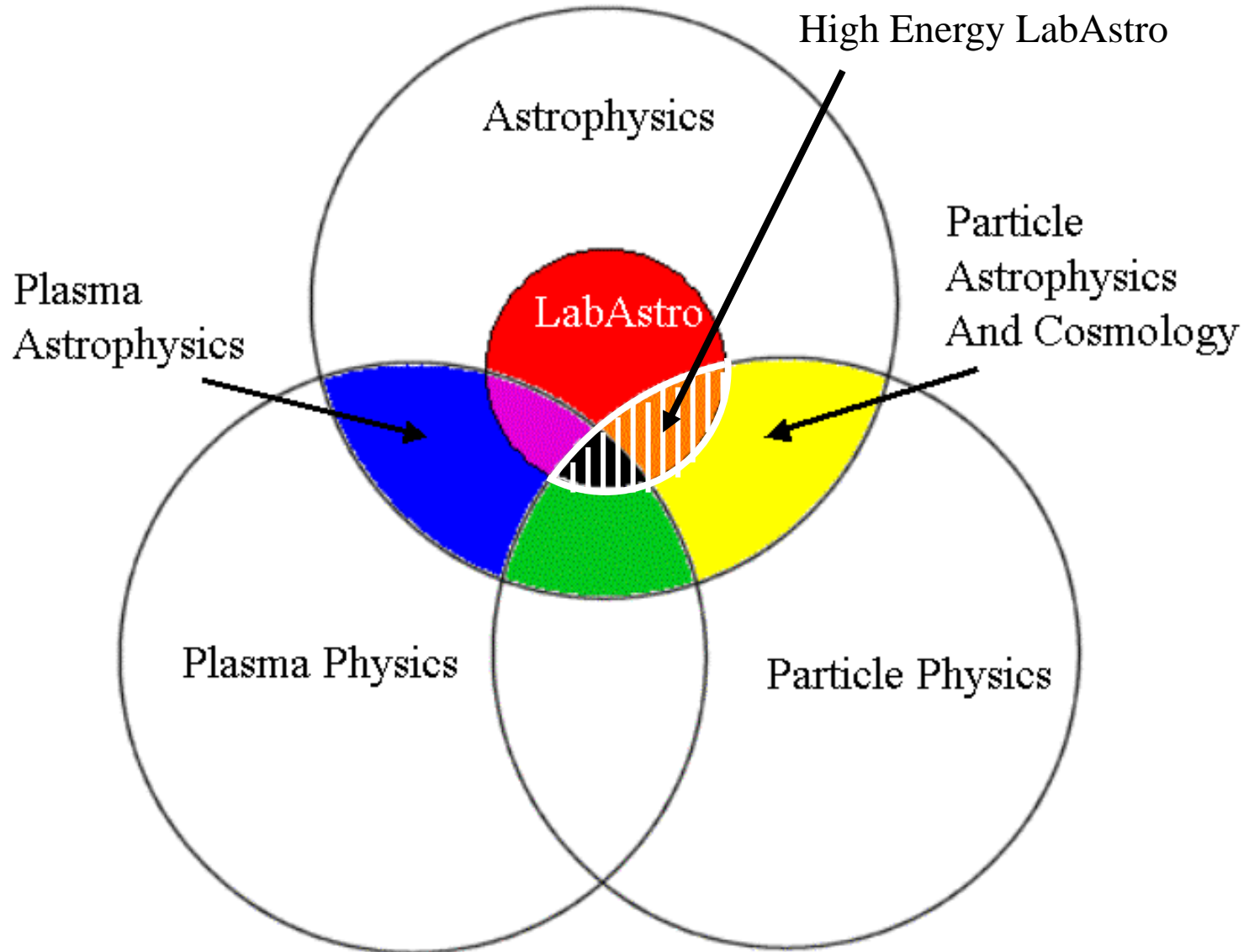
- Generation of transition radiation as electron shower passes between granular solid and vacuum
- Generation of Bremsstrahlung radiation as the path of secondary electrons is affected by the charged grains



FLUKA simulation showing photons generated during beam interaction with tungsten powder – what wavelength are the photons?



LABORATORY ASTROPHYSICS



Possible applications to astrophysical plasmas

c/o Bob Bingham

Interaction of energetic ion beams with granular material

Ionises medium:

Accelerates electrons: these leave the target setting up a space charge.

Generates radiation:

EMP from THz to γ -rays

Optical transition radiation

Bremsstrahlung

Cherenkov light? (ref HRMT30, 32)

Magnetic field generation:

Weibel Instability?



Introduction

- Drivers for Experiments
 - Lasers - terawatt, petawatt deliver $\sim 10^{19-21}$ W/cm² - future $\sim 10^{22}$ W/cm²
 - Electron beam Proposed ORION Facility at SLAC can deliver $\sim 10^{20}$ W/cm²
 - Z-pinch experiments generate 1.8 MJ of soft X-rays in a few cubic centimeters of volume in 5-15 nanoseconds.
 - Proton beam- high energy 440GeV- HiRadMat - 10^{14} W/cm²
- In contrast, supernovæ release $\sim 10^{46}$ J of energy in a few seconds
 - 99% of which is in the form of neutrinos, representing $\sim 10^{34}$ W/cm².
 - Gravitational waves $\sim 10^{31-32}$ W/cm²
- γ -ray bursts release $\sim 10^{44-45}$ J within seconds.



Connection to Extreme Astrophysical Conditions

- Extremely high energy events, such as ultra high energy cosmic rays (UHECR), neutrinos, and gamma rays
- Very high density, high pressure, and high temperature processes, such as supernova explosions and gamma ray bursts (GRB)
- Super strong field environments, such as that around black holes (BH) and neutron stars (NS)

(US) NRC Davidson Committee Report (2003) "Frontiers in High Energy Density Physics" states:

"Detailed understanding of acceleration and propagation of the highest-energy particles ever observed demands a coordinated effort from plasma physics, particle physics and astrophysics communities"



Three Categories of LabAstro

- Using Lasers and Particle Accelerators as Tools

→ 1. Calibration of observations

- Precision measurements to calibrate observation processes
- Development of novel approaches to astro-experimentation

Impact on astrophysics is most direct

→ 2. Investigation of dynamics

- Experiments can model environments not previously accessible in terrestrial conditions
- Many magneto-hydrodynamic and plasma processes scalable by extrapolation

Value lies in validation of astrophysical models

→ 3. Probing fundamental physics

- Surprisingly, issues like quantum gravity, large extra dimensions, and spacetime granularities can be investigated through creative approaches using high intensity/high density beams

Potential returns to science are most significant

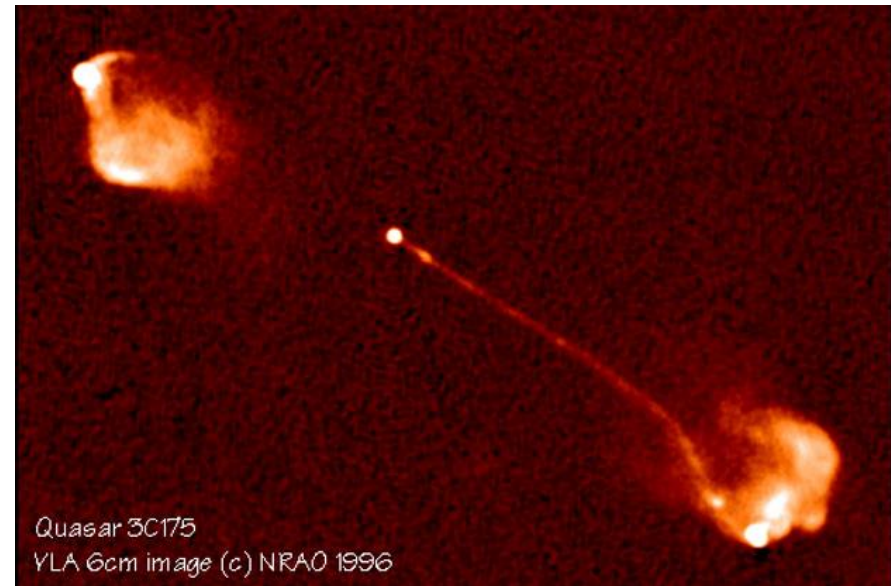


Astrophysical Jet Dynamics

Investigation of the dynamics of jet production and its interaction with the environment has been limited to the observed radiation spectrum.

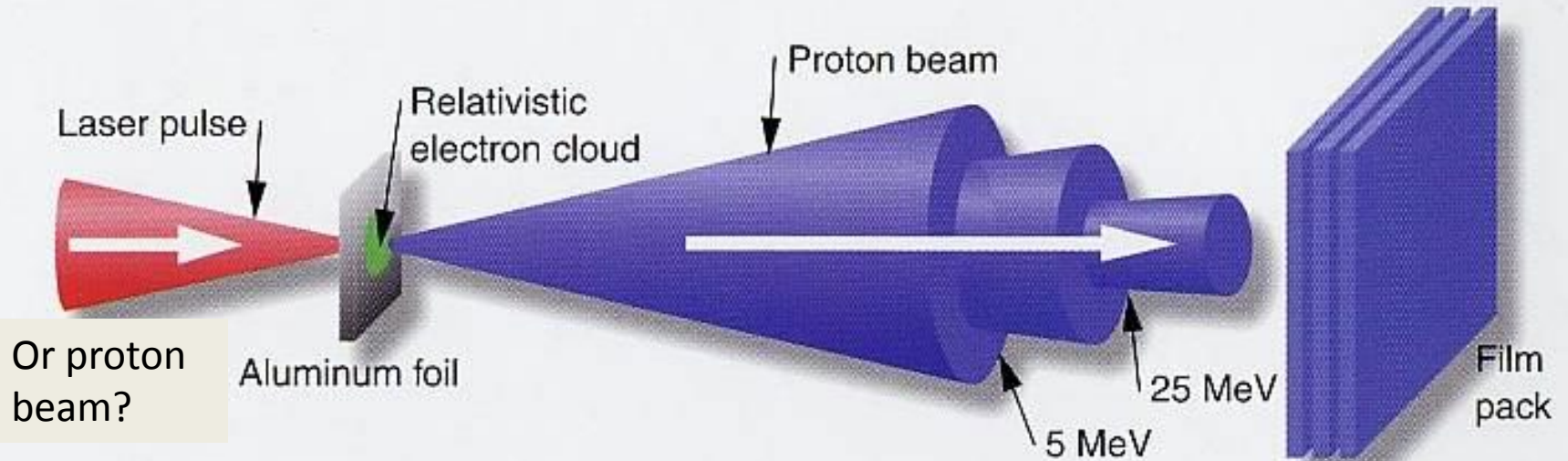
Key Questions:

- How does the central engine create collimated relativistic out-flow?
- How do jets remain highly collimated and propagate over thousands of light years?
- What mechanisms power the observed non-thermal emission?
- Can jet dynamics lead to the acceleration of UHE cosmic rays?

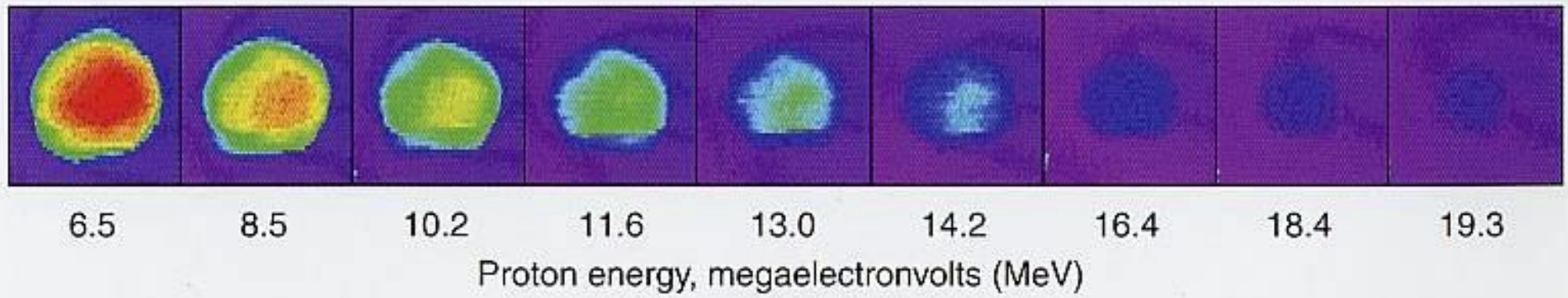


Dense Proton HE Beam Source with U.I. Lasers

(a)



(b)



Gamma-Ray Production & Photonuclear Processes

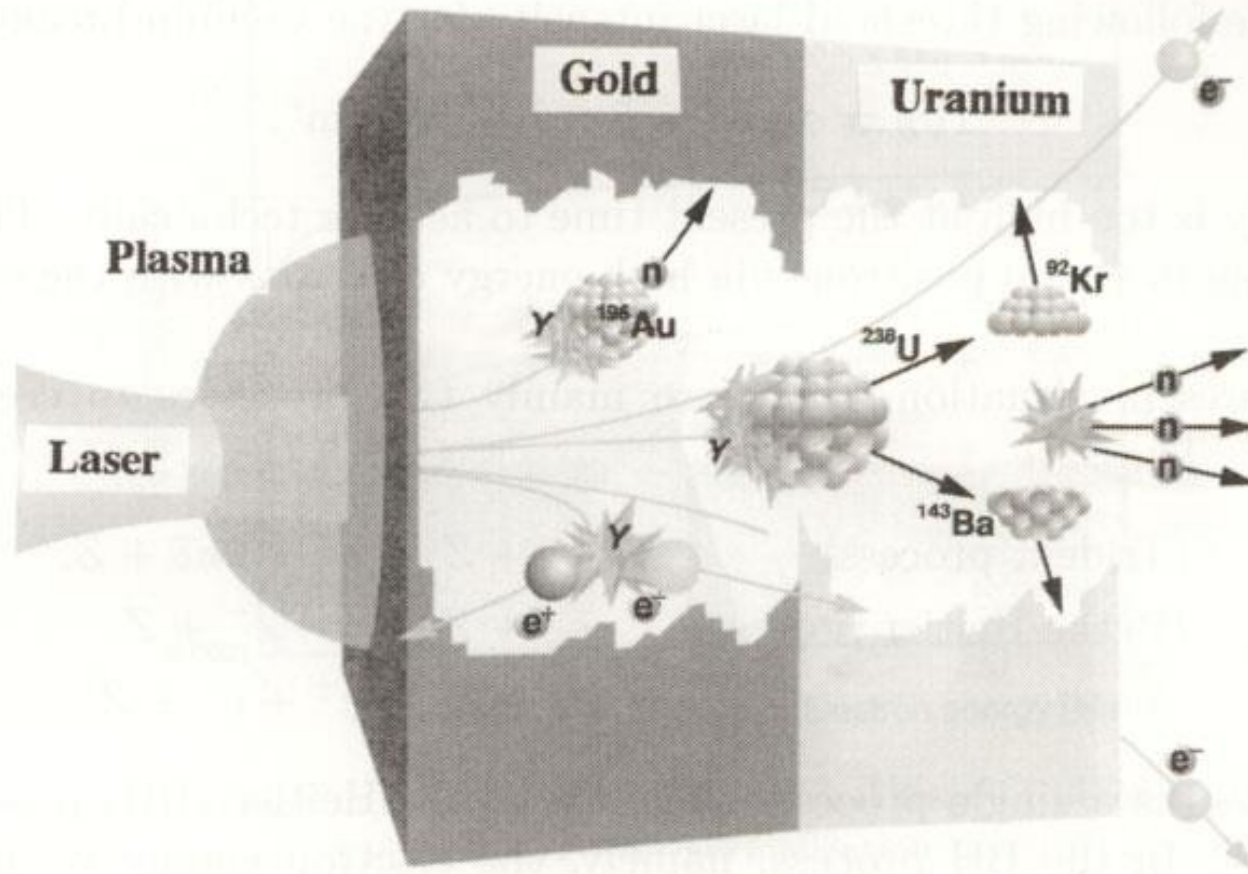
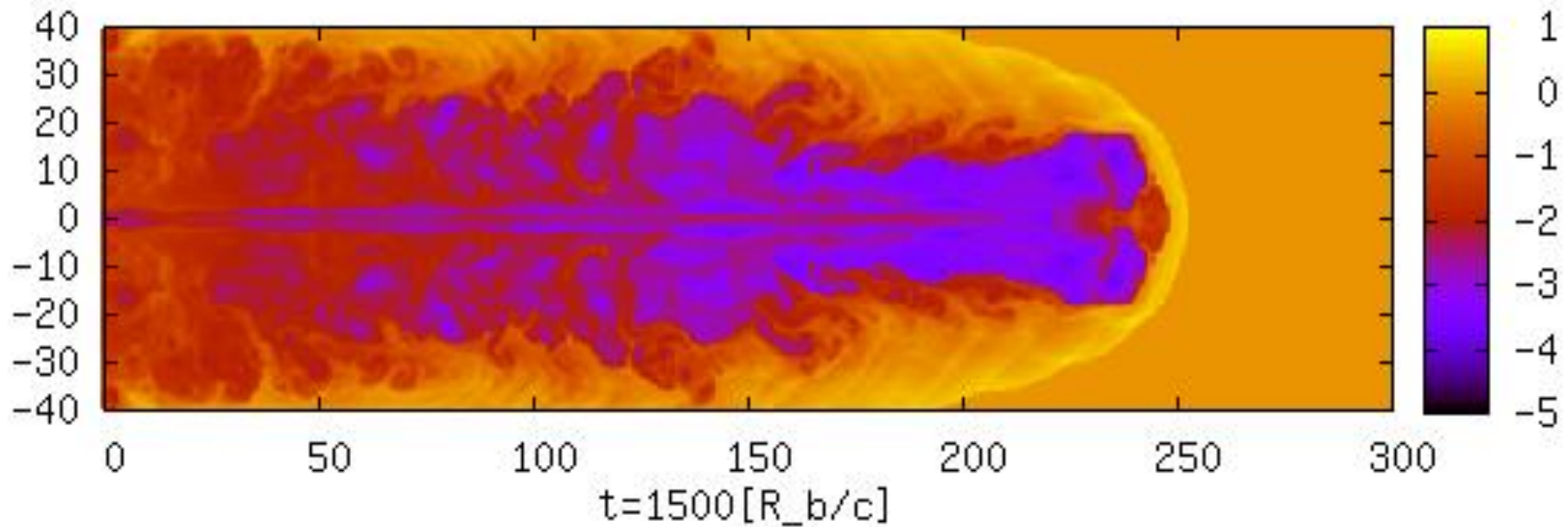


Fig. 20. Artistic picture on what happens when an ultra-intense laser is irradiated on a gold foil attached by uranium on the rear side. The generated high-energy electrons produce γ -rays, which consequently lead to pair creation, photo-nuclear activation, and photo-nuclear-fission.

Relativistic Jets (2D Sim.)

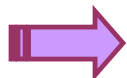
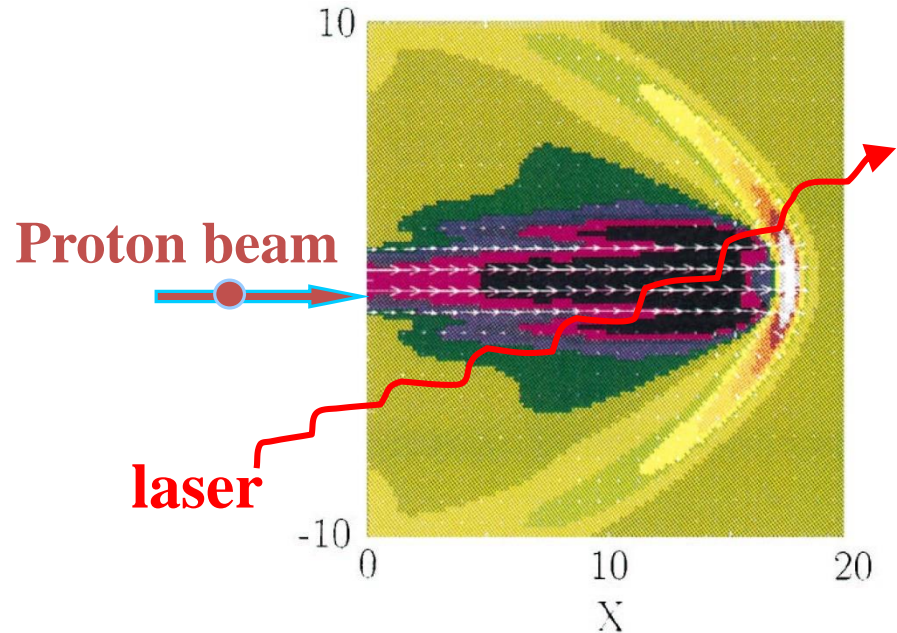


M87 - Virgo
Supermassive BH
Optical/radio
/X-ray jet

HH111 - HST: WFPC2 **visible**

Investigation of Jet-Plasma Interactions

- **Dynamics of jet evolution:**
 - **Collimation:** MHD provides a possible mechanism but is highly unstable; self-magnetic field pinching: plasma lensing?
 - **Bow-shocks and “knots”:** importance of plasma instabilities and magnetic fields
- **Simulating jet dynamics:**
 - **Jet-plasma interaction:** study acceleration, radiation and polarization; cross-check with observations.



Shock waves created in a plasma diagnostic lasers.

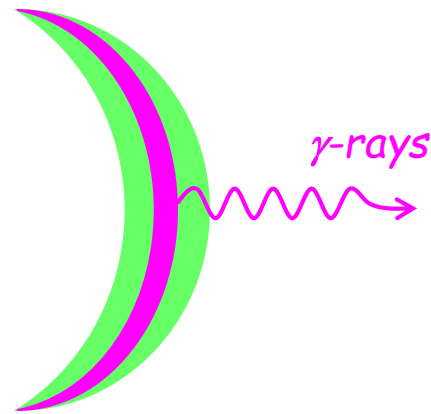
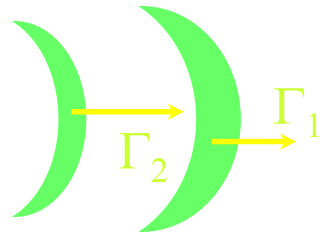
GRB "Standard model"

--- GRB Internal/External Shock Model ---

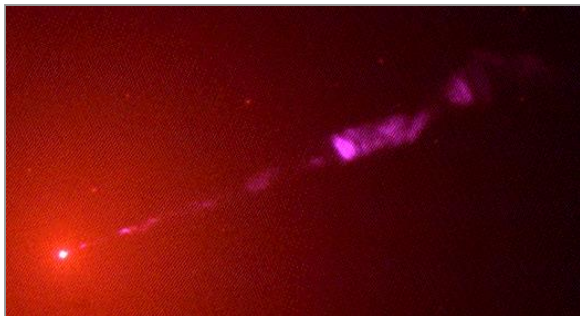
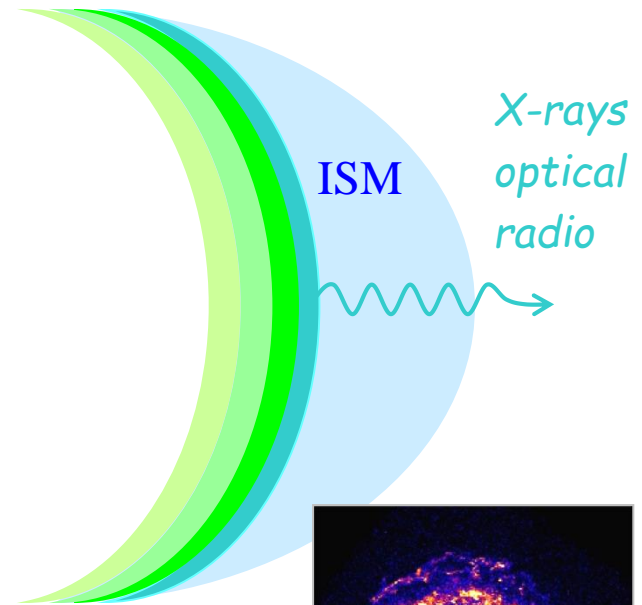
fireball



prompt emission

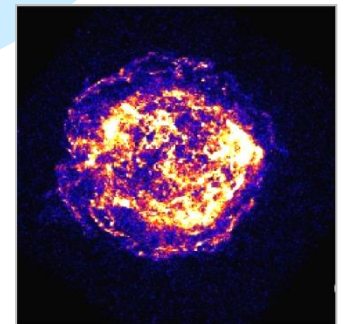


afterglow



internal shock
(collision of shells)

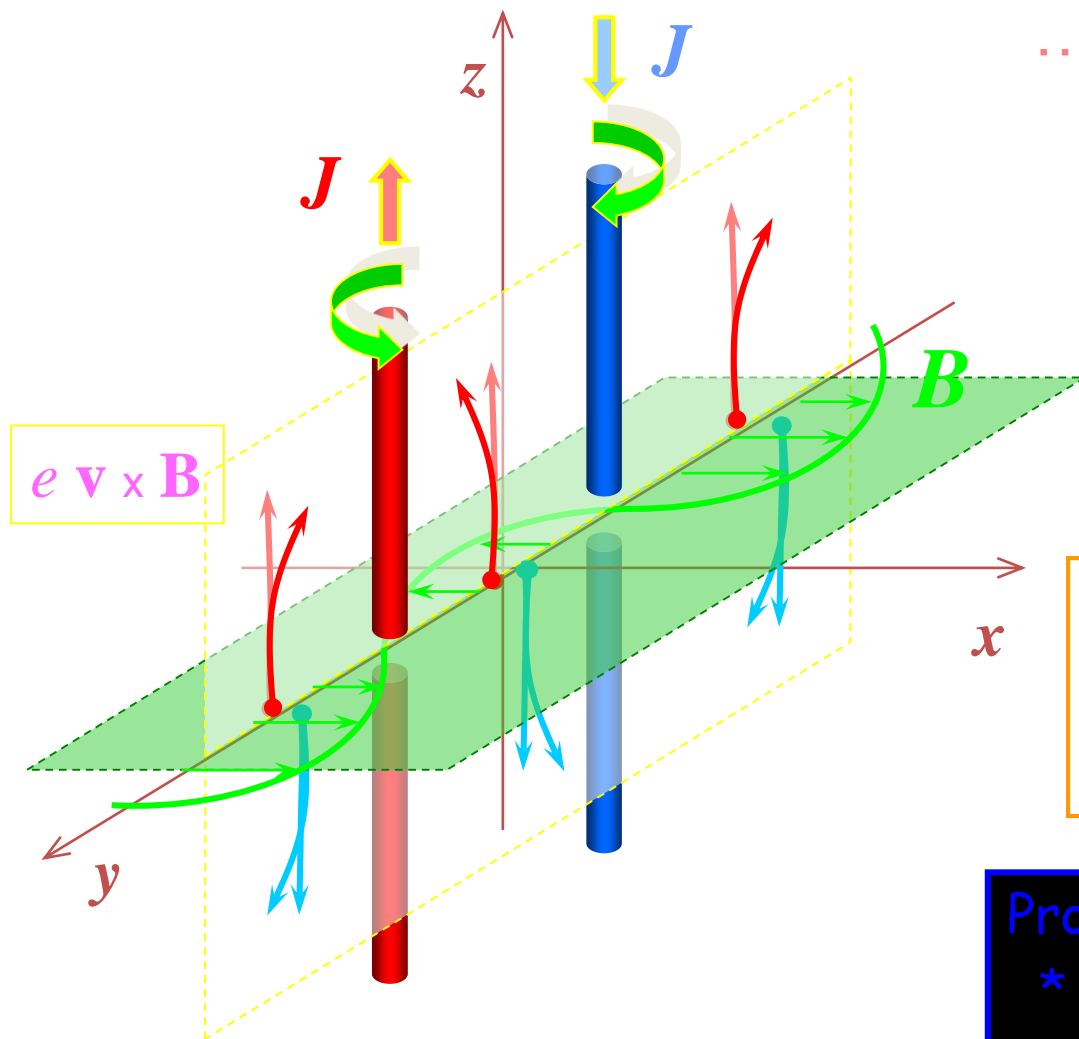
external shock



The Weibel instability

... current filamentation ...

... B - field produced ...



$$\Gamma_{\max}^2 \simeq \frac{\omega_p^2}{\gamma} \left(1 - 2\sqrt{2} \frac{\gamma_{\perp}}{\gamma} \right),$$

$$k_{\max}^2 \simeq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\omega_p^2}{\gamma_{\perp} c^2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\gamma_{\perp}}{\gamma} \right).$$

$$\tau \simeq \frac{\gamma_{\text{sh}}^{1/2}}{\omega_p}, \quad \lambda \simeq 2^{1/4} \frac{c\bar{\gamma}^{1/2}}{\omega_p}.$$

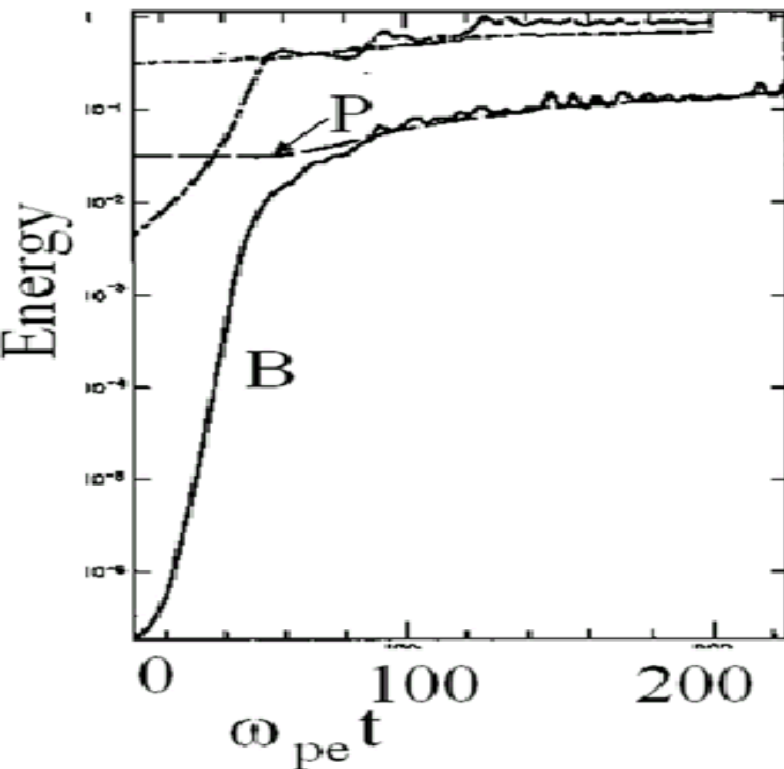
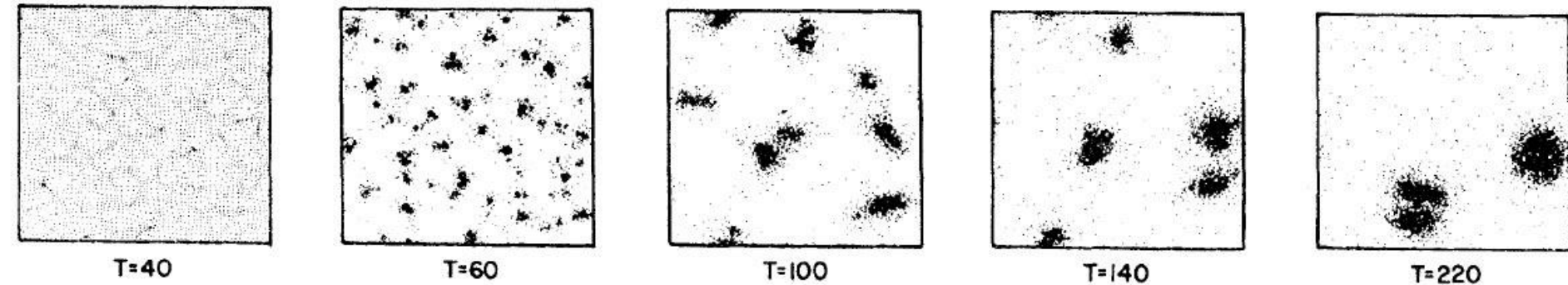
$$\lambda \sim 10^3 n_{10}^{-1/2} \text{ cm}, \quad \tau \sim 10^{-8} n_{10}^{-1/2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

(Medvedev & Loeb, 1999, ApJ)

Produced magnetic field:

- * sub-equipartition
- * small-scale (\ll Larmor)

Relativistic Electron Flow is Unstable and Weibel Instability becomes Nonlinear to Form Structured Magnetic Field in a Very Short Time

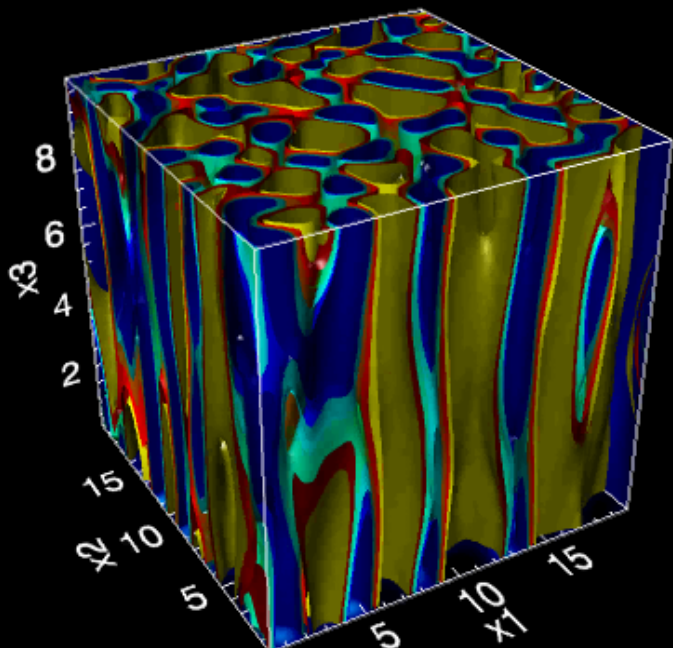
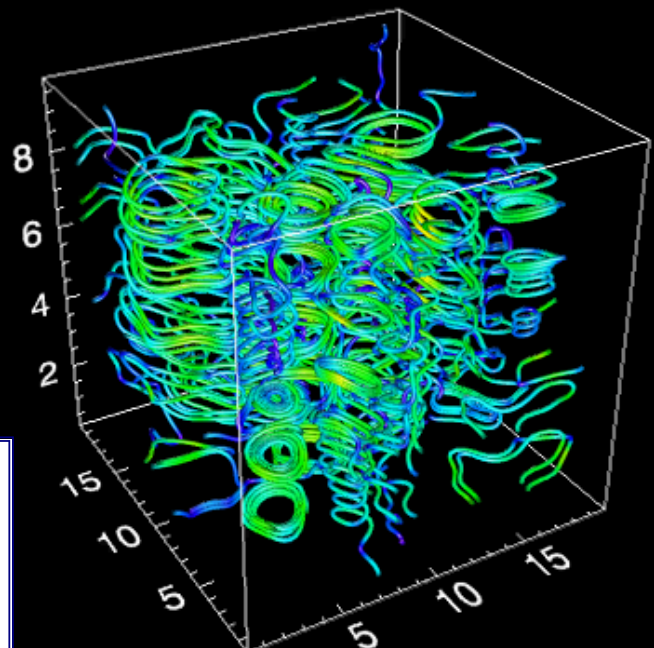


Lee & Lampe, PRL **31**, 1390 (1973)

- (1) This may explain structured B-field in GRB.
- (2) This inhibits the energy transport in FI.

Magnetic Field

Electron Mass Density



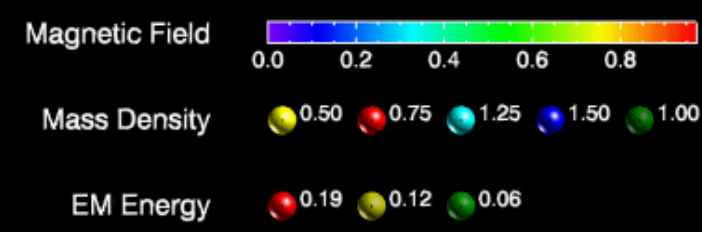
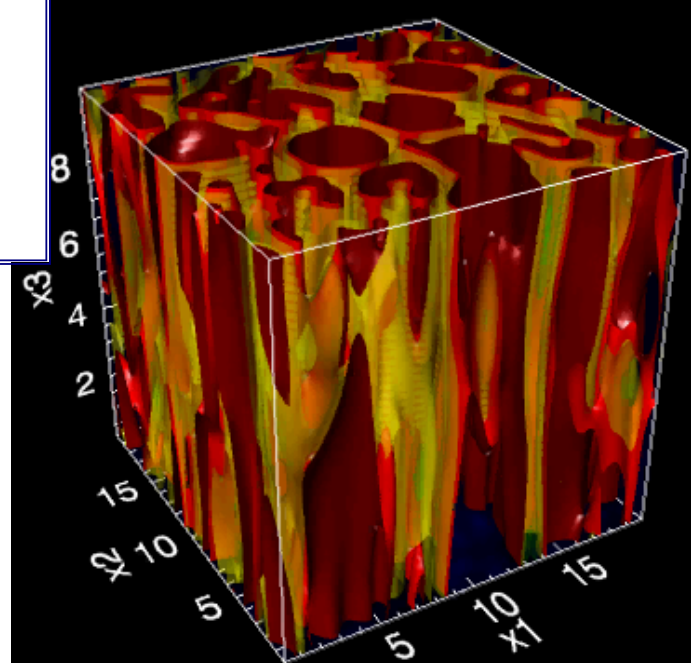
EM Energy

3D PIC Simulations of the Weibel Instability

R. A. Fonseca, UCLA Plasma Simulation Group

Run: epc003a.3d

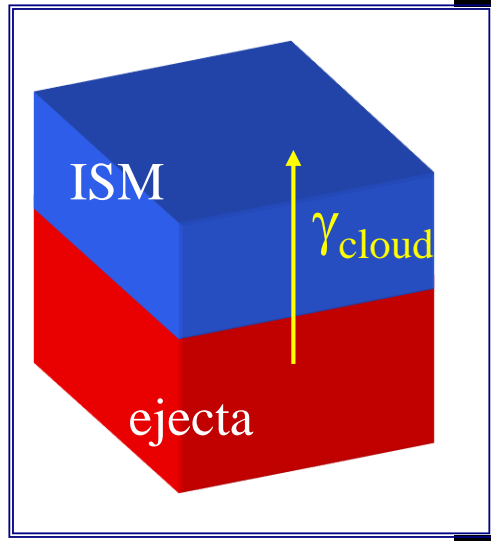
Time = 21.84 [$1 / \omega_p$]



Frame: 22/145



3D PIC simulations:
 -electron-positron pairs
 -relativistic
 - 10^9 particles



The Weibel instability in brief

Linear regime

- ... current filamentation ...
- ... B - field produced ...

$$B(t) \sim B_0 \exp(t/\tau)$$

$$\tau = 2\pi / \omega_p$$

$$\sim 10^{-3} \text{ s}$$

$$\lambda = 2\pi c / \omega_p$$

$$\sim 10^7 \text{ cm}$$

Kinetic energy is converted into magnetic field energy

Saturation

- ... current filamentation inhibited...
- ... isotropization of particle velocities ...

$$\lambda / \rho_L \sim 1$$

$$\varepsilon_B \sim (\gamma_{\text{th}} + 1) / [2^{3/2} \gamma_{\text{th}}] \sim 0.5$$

Magnetic fields scatter particles and provide effective collisions, $\lambda_{\text{mfp}} \sim c / \omega_p$

Nonlinear regime

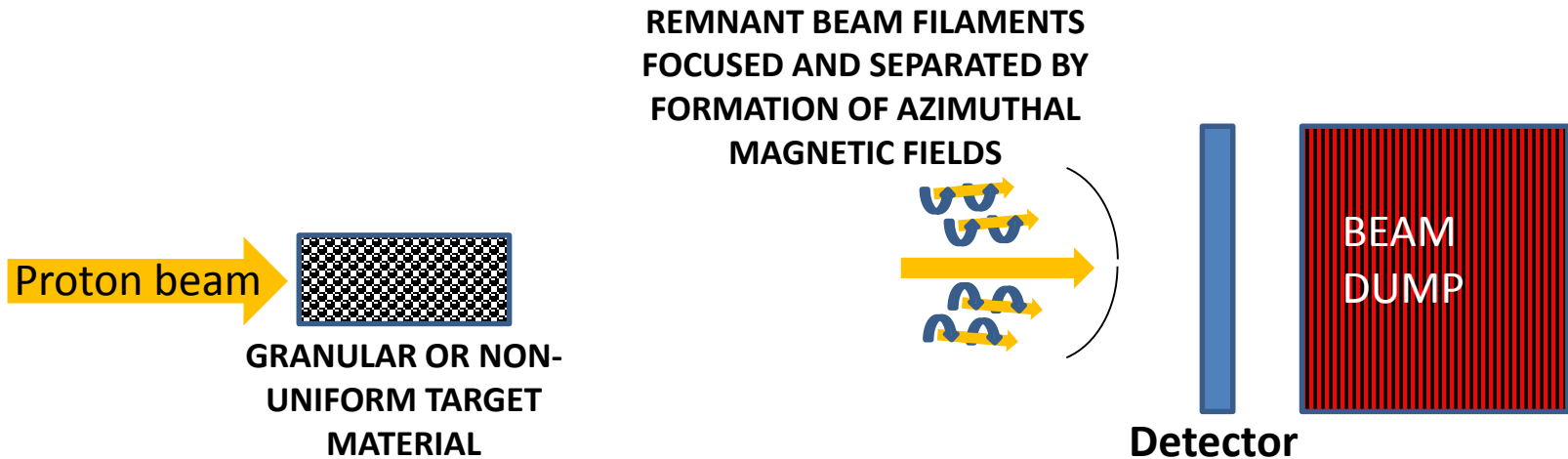
- ... filament coalescence instability ...
- ... 2D gas of filaments ...

$$\lambda(t) \sim ct$$

Magnetic field scale grows linearly, $\tau_{\text{coal}} \sim c / \lambda$

Weibel Instability

- Important for understanding of magnetic fields in astrophysics
- Can we trigger filamentation of the proton beam or (more likely) secondary particles by interaction with a granular or non-uniform target material?



Possible diagnostics:

Gamma ray / X-ray Spectrometer
Ceramic scintillator screen



Summary

- Future experiments on granular materials at HiRadMat may address questions such as:
 - Can beam induced shock waves be generated in a granular medium and propagated to a container wall?
 - If so, what is the mechanism (force chains?) and can it be measured?
 - What is the mechanism of powder filamentation observed at a free powder surface?
 - What are the source(s) and spectrum of the observed electromagnetic radiation flash?
 - Can filamentation of (the primary proton beam or) secondary charged particles be generated and observed in a granular medium?
 - Can HiRadMat be used as a probe for lab astrophysics e.g. for calibration/validation of models?



Extra slides

2 phase CFD with coupled Poisson's equation

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = \frac{q}{\epsilon},$$

Poisson's equation to find potential field as a function of the deposited charge pattern

$$\mathbf{E} = -\nabla \varphi.$$

Electric field simply determined from the gradient of potential

$$M_{\beta \text{charge}} = q\mathbf{E}.$$

Coulombic force applied to the particle phase in the momentum equation