

# Fundamental Physics and Relativistic Astrophysics with Super Powerful Lasers

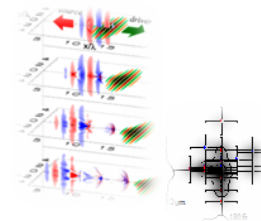
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Japan Atomic Energy Agency, Kizugawa-shi, Kyoto-fu, Japan*

**Modern Challenges in Nonlinear Plasma Physics  
A Conference Honoring the Career of Dennis Papadopoulos  
June 15-19, Sani, Halkidiki, Greece**



**3D PIC & EXPERIMENT**



# Acknowledgments

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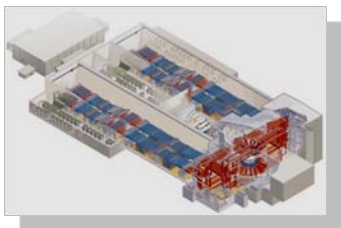
# OUTLINE

- 1. Lasers and Astrophysics**
- 2. Shock Waves**
- 3. Reconnection of Magnetic Field Lines & Vortex Patterns**
- 4. Relativistic Rotator**
- 5. Flying Mirror for Femto-, Atto-, ... Super Strong Fields**
- 6. Overdense Accelerating Mirror (KAGAMI)**
- 7. Applications**
- 8. Conclusion**

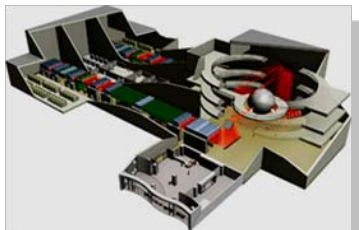
# 1. Lasers and Astrophysics

## Morphology of Entities in Space and Laser Plasmas

NIF



HiPER

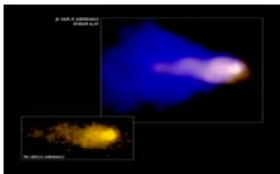


ELI

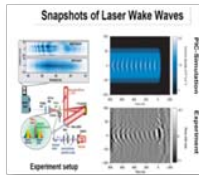


### Wake

The Mouse Pulsar



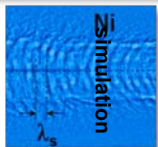
Electron Wake



Matis et al, (2006)

Ion Wake

experiment



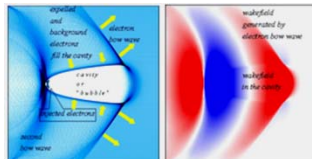
Borghesi, et al, (2005)

### Bow Wave

Chandra image of M87



Electron Bow Wave

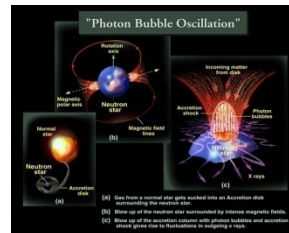
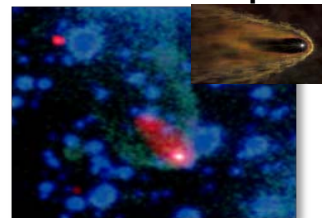


“Kalmar” Submarine



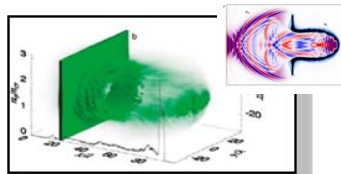
### Photon Bubbles

“Black Widow” pulsar



Esirkepov et al (2008)

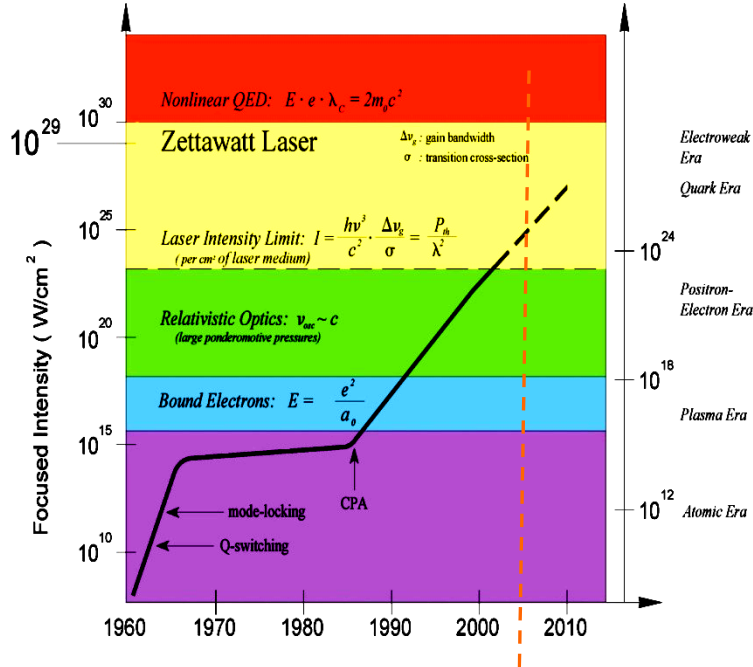
RPDA



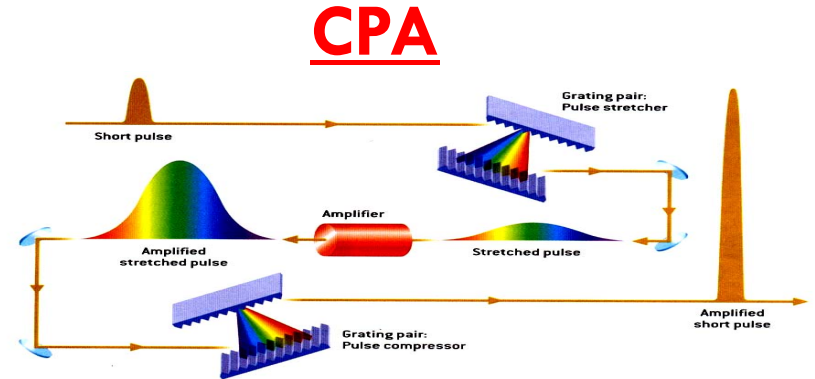
Esirkepov et al (2004)

# Lasers

## Laser Intensity vs. years



Mourou, G. A., Barty, C. P. J.,  
 and Perry, M. D.,  
 1998, Phys. Today 51, 22



Strickland, D., and Mourou, G., 1986,  
 Opt. Commun. 56, 212.

# Relativistic Limit in EM Wave – Plasma Interaction

Quiver energy of electron oscillating in the EM wave with the amplitude  $E_0$  and frequency  $\omega$  becomes larger than  $m_e c^2$  when the dimensionless amplitude of the EM wave is greater than unity:

$$a_0 = \frac{eE_0}{m_e \omega c} > 1$$

In the EM wave interaction with the electron in vacuum its electron energy scales as (Landau & Lifshitz)

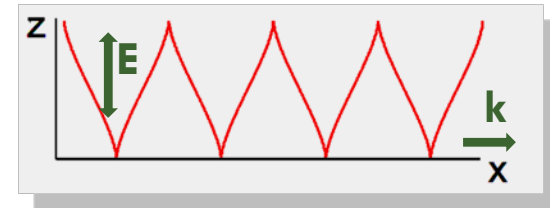
$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{1}{2} m_e c^2 a_0^2$$

When the electron oscillates in the EM wave propagating in a plasma we have (Akhiezer & Polovin)

$$\mathcal{E} = m_e c^2 a_0$$

Laser: Condition  $a_0 > 1$  corresponds for  $1 \mu\text{m}$  laser wavelength to the intensity above  $1.35 \times 10^{18} \text{ W/cm}^2$

Today's lasers can provide the intensity  $I > 2 \times 10^{22} \text{ W/cm}^2$ , i. e.  $a_0 \approx 100$



# Magneto-dipole Radiation of Oblique Rotator

**Space:** Magneto-dipole radiation of oblique rotator, has been considered as a model for the pulsar radiation

Power emitted by rotator is given by 
$$W = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\mu^2 (\sin \theta)^2 \omega^4}{c^3}$$

Magnetic moment:  $\mu \approx B r_p^3$ ;  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\vec{\mu}$  and  $\vec{\omega}$

The EM wave intensity at the distance  $r$  is  $I = W / 4\pi r^2$

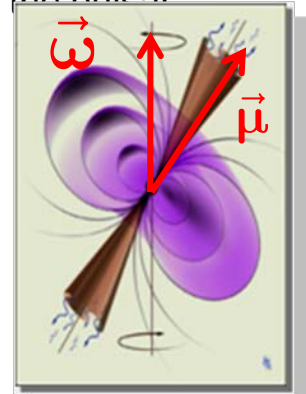
In the wave zone,  $r = c/\omega$ , the dimensionless wave amplitude is

$$a_0 = \frac{e\mu\omega^2}{m_e c^4}$$

For typical values of magnetic field,  $B = 10^{12} \text{G}$ , rotation frequency,  $\omega = 200 \text{s}^{-1}$ ,

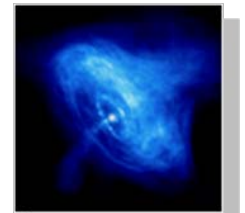
and pulsar radius:  $r_p = 10^6 \text{cm}$

it yields  $a_0 = 10^{10}$

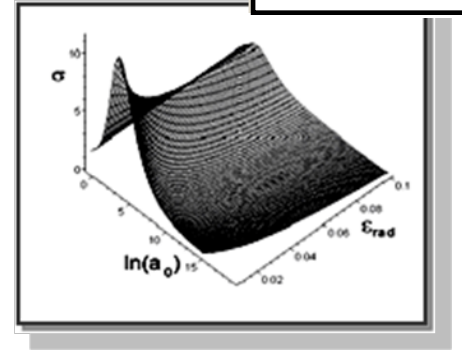


$$r = \frac{c}{\omega}$$

(Michel;  
Beskin, Gurevich, Istomin)



Crab pulsar



Amplitude	Intensity	Regime
$\left[ a_0 = \frac{eE_0}{m_e c \omega} \right]$	$\left[ \frac{W}{\text{cm}^2} \right]$	
$a_{QED} = \frac{m_e c^2}{h \omega}$	$2.4 \times 10^{29}$	$e^+, e^-$ in vacuum
$a_{QM} = \frac{2e^2 m_e c}{3h^2 \omega}$	$5.6 \times 10^{24}$	quantum effects
$a_p = \frac{m_p}{m_e}$	$1.3 \times 10^{24}$	relativistic p
$a_{rad} = \left( \frac{3\lambda}{4\pi r_e} \right)^{1/3}$	$1 \times 10^{23}$	radiation damping
$a_{rel} = 1$	$1.3 \times 10^{18}$	relativistic $e^-$

For the Crab pulsar,

$\omega = 200 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $a_0 = 10^{10}$   
the radiation damping effects are crucially important because the EM wave amplitude is above the threshold:

$$a_{rad} = \left( \frac{3\lambda}{4\pi r_e} \right)^{1/3} = 10^7$$



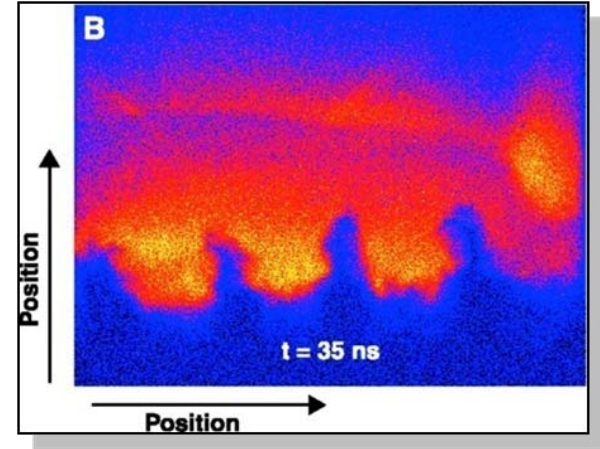
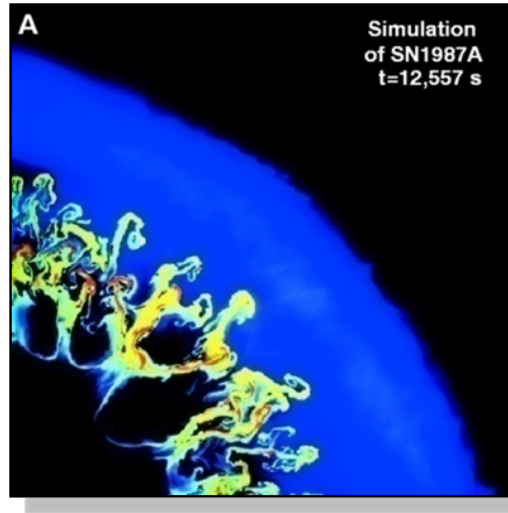
# Laboratory Astrophysics

## Laboratory Astrophysics



## Relativistic Laboratory Astrophysics with the Ultra Short Pulse High Power Lasers

We deal with the collisionless  
plasmas

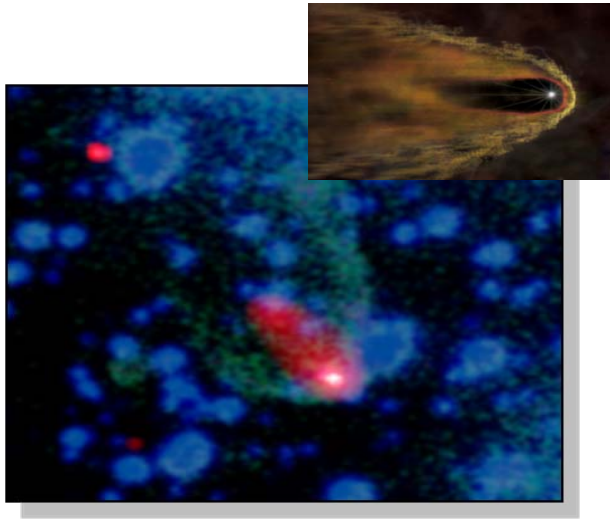


B. A. Remington et al., *Science* 284, 1488 (1999)

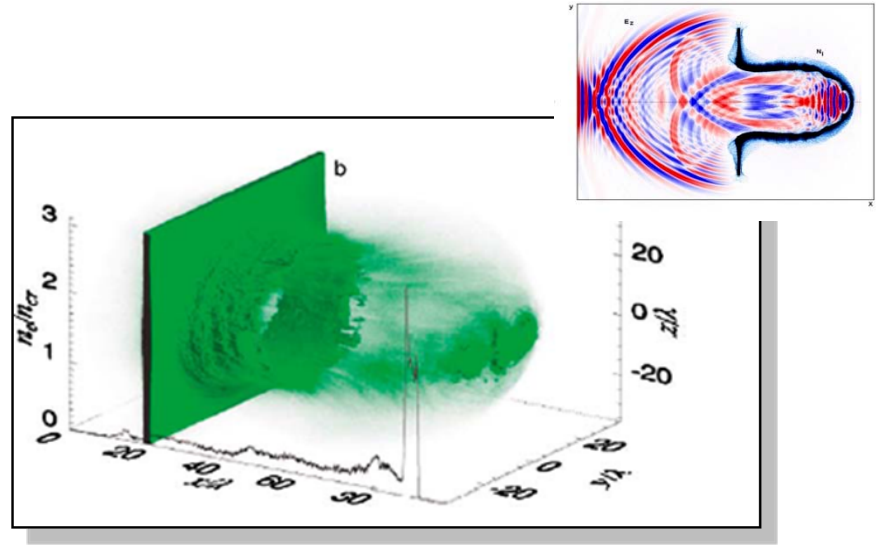
*Rayleigh-Taylor & Richtmyer-Meshkov Instability;  
seen in simulations of Supernovae (right) and  
in laser irradiated Nuclear Fusion target*

*Radiative shock waves, plasma jets*

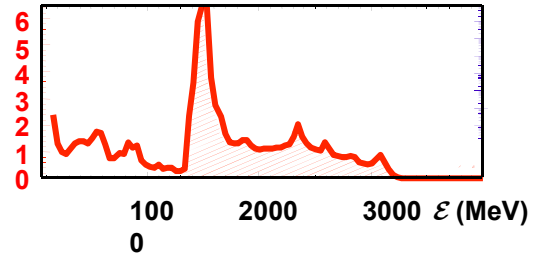
# Cocoon



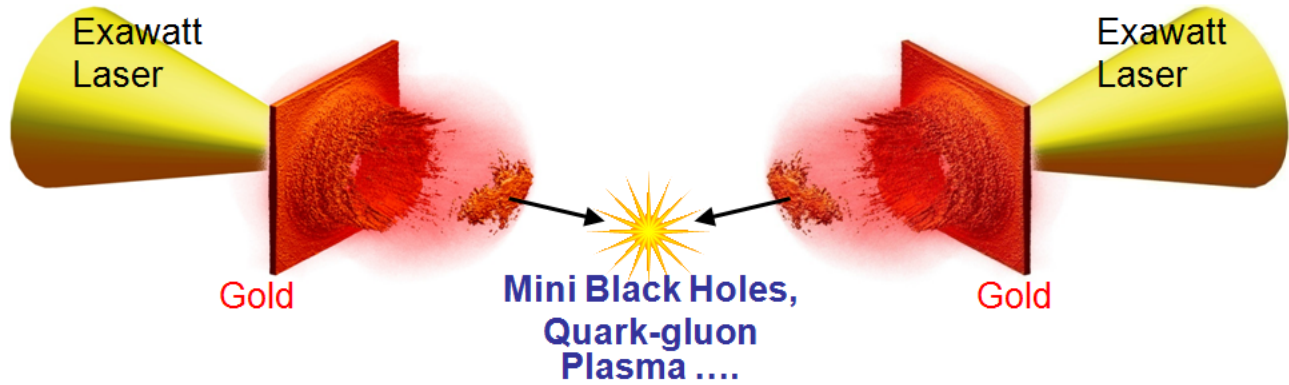
A cocoon around the “black widow” pulsar



T.Esirkepov, M.Borghesi, SVB, G.Mourou, T.Tajima PRL (2004)



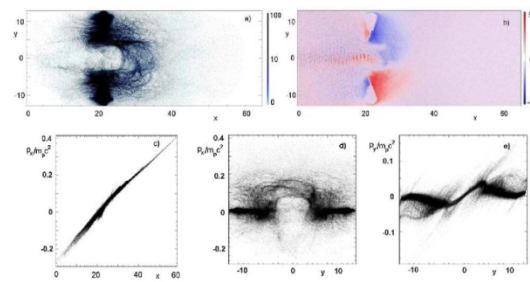
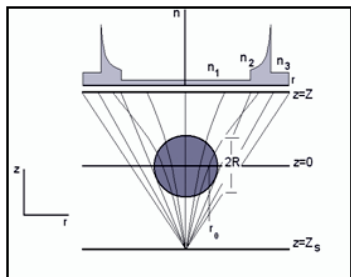
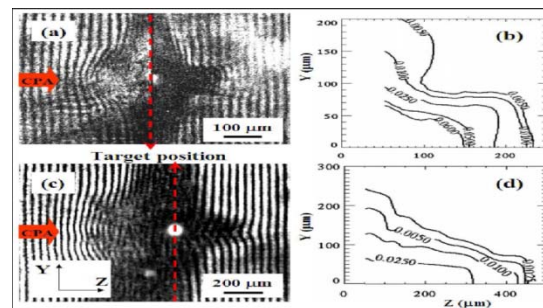
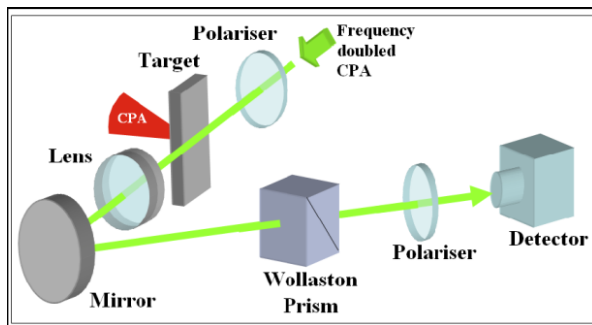
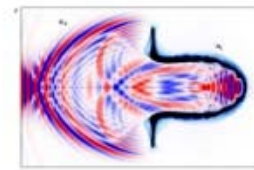
# Laser Driven Ion Collider



1. Number of events with cross-section  $\sigma$  (for simulation parameters):  $\mathcal{N}_{\text{events}} = \sigma N_i^2 / S \approx 2 \times 10^{30} \sigma / \text{cm}^2$
2. Acceleration length  $l_{\text{acc}} = 2l_{\text{las}} \gamma^2$   
for 1 TeV and  $l_{\text{las}} = 0.03 \text{ cm}$  it yields  $l_{\text{acc}} = 600 \text{ m}$

# Plasma jets driven by Ultra-intense laser interaction with thin foils

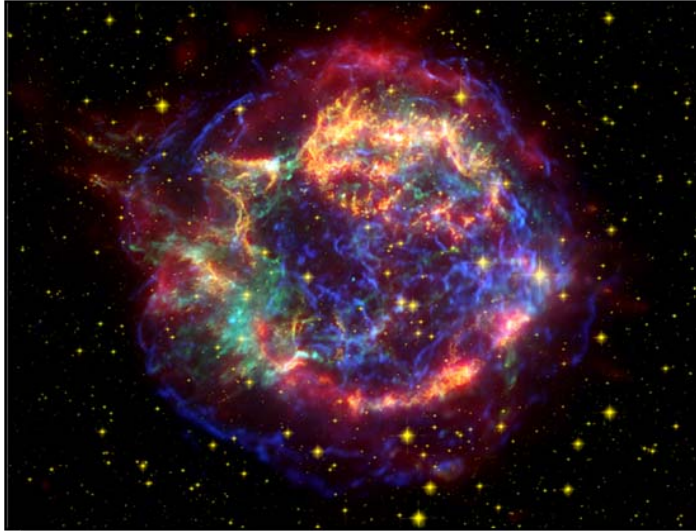
VULCAN Nd-glass laser of Rutherford Appleton laboratory, (60 J, 1ps & 250 J, 0.7 ps) interacts with foils (3, 5 μm, Al & Cu)



$$\frac{p^{(0)}}{m_p c} = \frac{2W(W+1)}{2W+1} \approx 2W$$

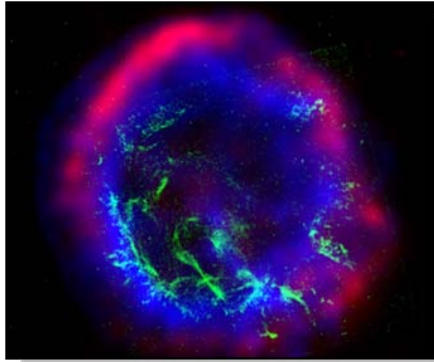
$$W = \int \frac{E^2(\psi)}{2\pi n_0 l} d\psi \ll 1$$

## 2. Shock Waves

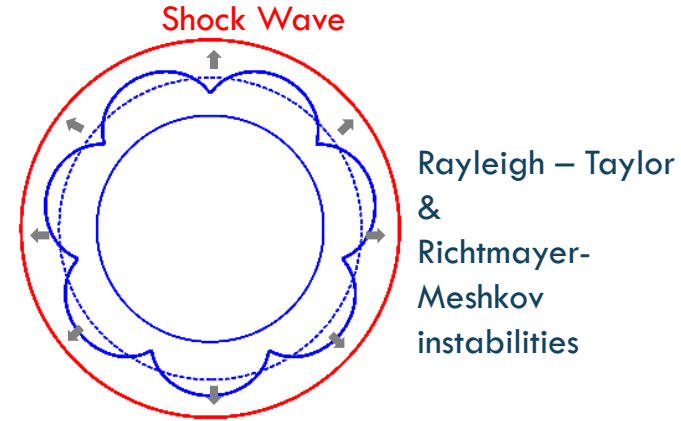


Cassiopea A

# Shock Waves and RT Instability



Supernova Remnant  
E0102-72  
from Radio to X-Ray



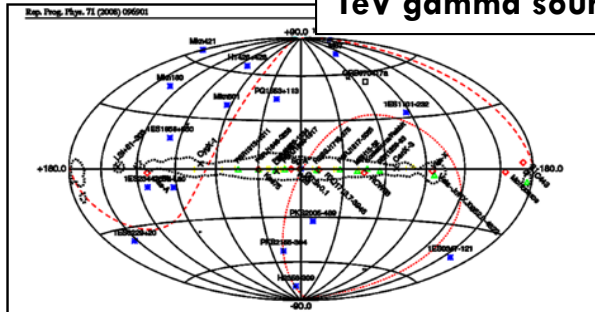
Rayleigh – Taylor  
&  
Richtmayer-  
Meshkov  
instabilities

SNII  $\mathcal{E}_{tot} = 10^{52} \text{ erg}$

1/10 – 1/30 year

2% – 10%

TeV gamma sources



1. Ballistic motion of the ejecta

2. Sedov's regime:

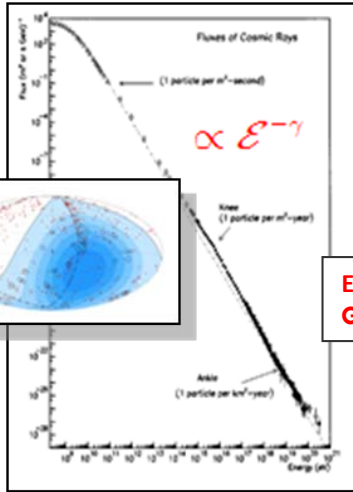
$$R_{SW} = 1.5(\mathcal{E}_{tot} t^2 / \rho)^{1/3} = \frac{5}{2} V_{SW} t$$

$$V_{SW} \propto t^{-3/5}$$

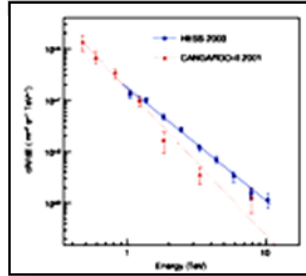
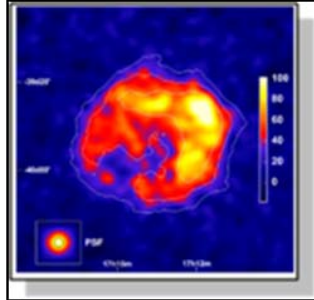
3. Radiation losses:  $R_{SW} \propto t^{2/7}$

# Acceleration at the Shock Wave Front

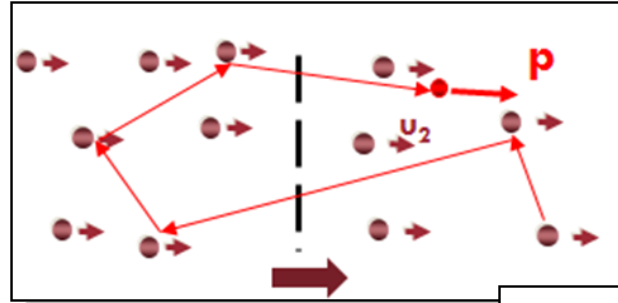
CR have a power law energy spectrum over several orders of magnitude energy range



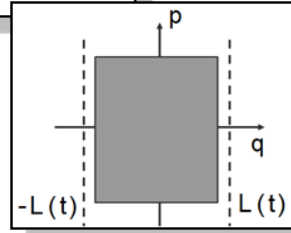
$E=5 \times 10^{19}$  eV  
GZK-cutoff



The gamma ray image of RX J1713.7-3946 spectrum and gamma ray obtained with the HESS telescope array (Aharonyan et al, 2008)



“Fermi acceleration”  
G.F. Krymskii (1977)



$$pL = const$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( u(x) f - D \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = - \frac{2u_1}{3(\kappa + 1)} \delta(x) \frac{1}{p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} (p^2 f)$$

$$u_2 = \frac{\kappa - 1}{\kappa + 1} u_1 \quad u_1 > u_2$$

$$f(p) = C p^{-\gamma}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{3u_1}{u_1 - u_2}$$

# Collisionless Shock Waves

A structure of collisionless shock waves is determined by the counter play of dissipation and dispersion effects. These effects are described within the framework of the Korteweg-de Vries-Burgers equation:

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u - \nu \partial_{xx} u - \beta \partial_{xxx} u = 0$$

nonlinearity

dispersion

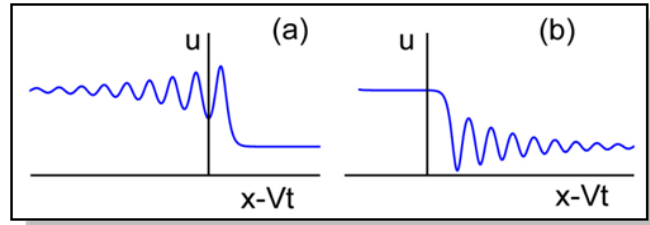
dissipation

R.Z.Sagdeev, 1959

- a) MS wave propagating almost perpendicularly to B field

$$\beta \approx v_a c^2 / 2 \omega_{pe}$$

with  $v_a = B^2 / \sqrt{4 \pi n m_p}$



- b) MS wave propagation is almost parallel to B field

$$\beta \approx -v_a c^2 / 2 \omega_{pe}$$



## Observation of Collisionless Shocks in Laser-Plasma Experiments

L. Romagnani,<sup>1,\*</sup> S. V. Bulanov,<sup>2,3</sup> M. Borghesi,<sup>1</sup> P. Audebert,<sup>4</sup> J. C. Gauthier,<sup>5</sup> K. Löwenbrück,<sup>6</sup> A. J. Mackinnon,<sup>7</sup>  
P. Patel,<sup>7</sup> G. Pretzler,<sup>6</sup> T. Toncian,<sup>6</sup> and O. Willi<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*School of Mathematics and Physics, The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom*

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<sup>3</sup>*Prokhorov Institute of General Physics RAS, Moscow, 119991 Russia*

<sup>4</sup>*Laboratoire pour l'Utilisation des Lasers Intenses (LULI), UMR 7605 CNRS-CEA-École Polytechnique-Univ. Paris VI, 91128 Palaiseau, France*

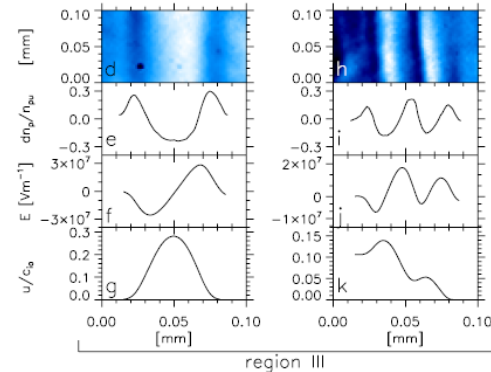
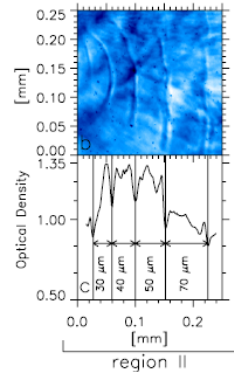
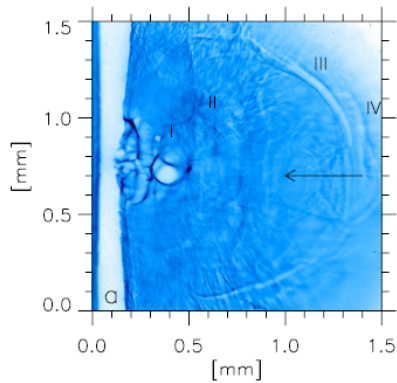
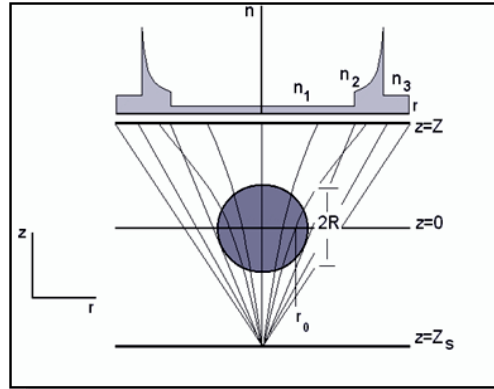
<sup>5</sup>*Université Bordeaux 1; CNRS; CEA, Centre Lasers Intenses et Applications, 33405 Talence, France*

<sup>6</sup>*Institut für Laser- und Plasmaphysik, Heinrich-Heine-Universität, Düsseldorf, Germany*

<sup>7</sup>*Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550, USA*

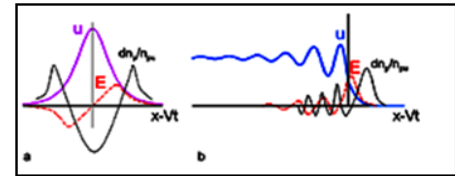
(Received 4 April 2008; published 10 July 2008)

The propagation in a rarefied plasma ( $n_e \approx 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) of collisionless shock waves and ion-acoustic solitons, excited following the interaction of a long ( $\tau_L \sim 470 \text{ ps}$ ) and intense ( $I \sim 10^{15} \text{ W cm}^{-2}$ ) laser pulse with solid targets, has been investigated via proton probing techniques. The shocks' structures and related electric field distributions were reconstructed with high spatial and temporal resolution. The experimental results were interpreted within the framework of the nonlinear wave description based on the Korteweg-de Vries-Burgers equation.



### Soliton

### Shock Wave



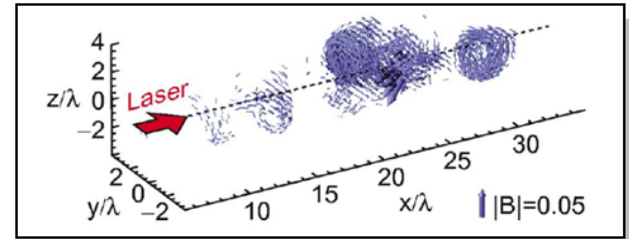
# 3. Reconnection of Magnetic Field Lines & Vortex Patterns



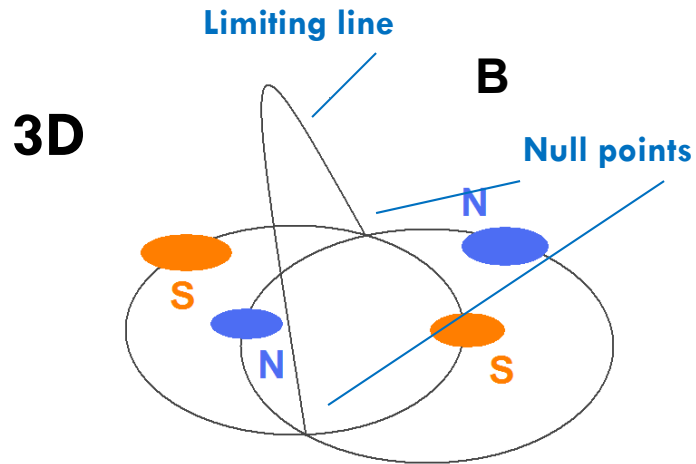
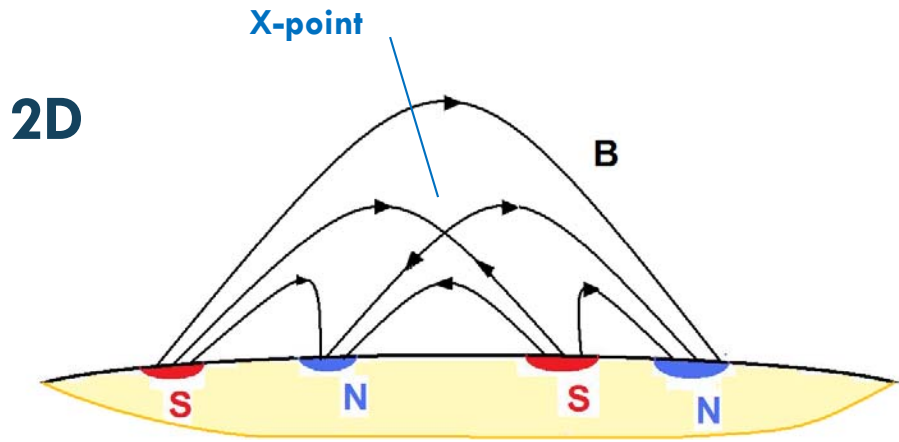
Solar Flare



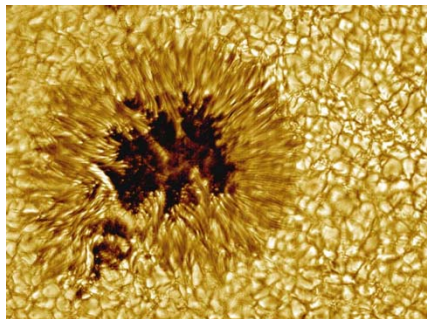
Von Karman vortex row made by the wind over the Pacific island of Guadalupe



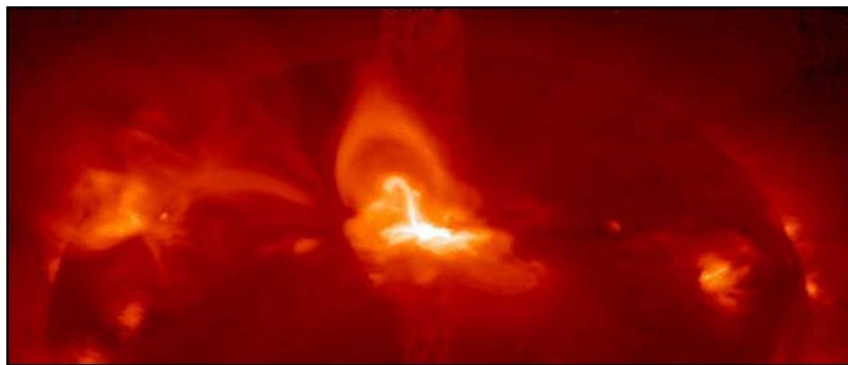
Magnetic (vortex) wake behind the laser pulse:  
Esirkepov, et al., 2004



Sweet (1965)



Sunspot



Solar Flare

# Local Structure of the Magnetic Field

Near null point we can expand the magnetic field as

$$\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{x}, t) = (\mathbf{B}(0, t) \nabla) \mathbf{x} + \dots$$

Introducing the matrix  $\left. \frac{\partial B_i}{\partial x_j} \right|_{\mathbf{x}=0} = A_{ij}$ ,  $B_i = A_{ij} x_j$

we write for the magnetic field lines  $\frac{dx_i}{ds} = A_{ij} x_j$ .

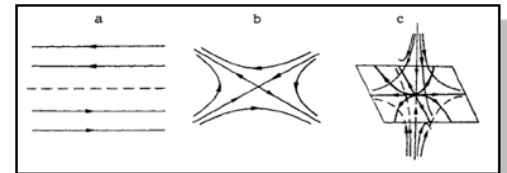
It yields  $\det(A_{ij} - \lambda \delta_{ij}) = 0$ ,

The topology is determined by the eigenvalues  $\lambda_\alpha$  ( $\sum_\alpha \lambda_\alpha = 0$ )

We have the null surface, null line or null point depending on

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \pm \lambda' \text{ or } \lambda_{1,2} = \pm i \lambda'' \quad \lambda_3 = 0$$

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \lambda' \pm i \lambda'' \quad \lambda_3 = \lambda'$$



# Self-similar plasma motion near 3D critical points

The Euler  $x_i$  and the Lagrange  $x_i^0$  coordinates

$$v_i(x, t) = w_{ij}(t)x_j, \quad B_i(x, t) = A_{ij}(t)x_j, \quad x_i = M_{ij}(t)x_j^0$$

From the MHD equations we have

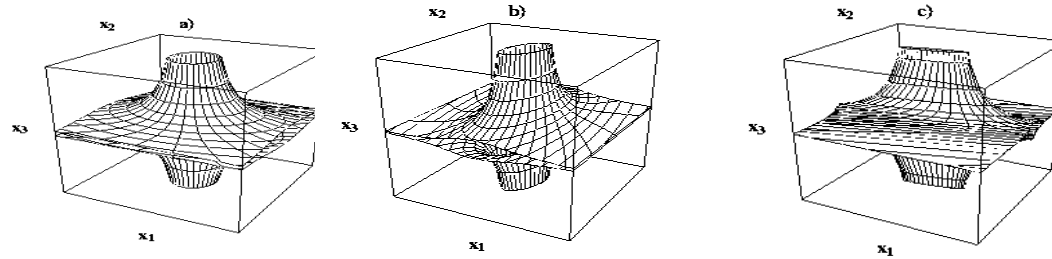
$$\rho = \rho_0 / D, \quad A_{ij}(t) = M_{ik} A_{kl}(0) M_{lj}^{-1} / D, \quad w_{ij} = \dot{M}_{ik} M_{kj}^{-1}, \quad D = \det\{M_{ij}\}$$

$$\ddot{M}_{ik} = \frac{1}{4\pi\rho_0 D} \left( M_{ik} A_{kl}^0 A_{lj}^0 - M_{sk} A_{kl}^0 M_{lt}^{-1} M_{st} A_{tj}^0 \right)$$

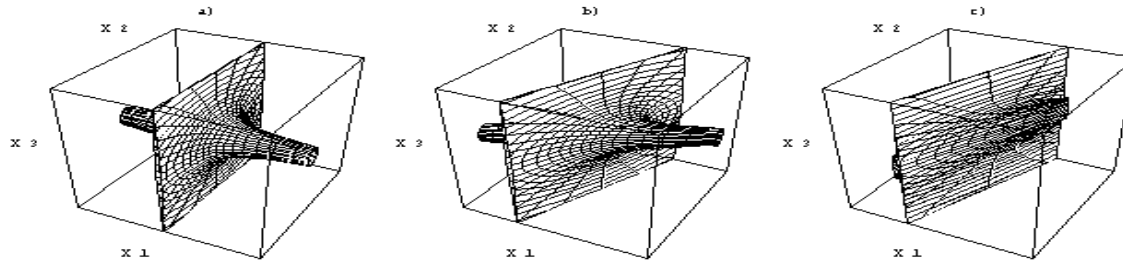
The singularity (magnetic collapse) appears in a finite time at  $t \rightarrow t_0$

$$w_{ij} \propto (t_0 - t)^{-1}, \quad A_{ij} \propto (t_0 - t)^{-4/3}$$

# 3 D Magnetic Collapse near 3D Null Point (Lagrange Surfaces versus Time)



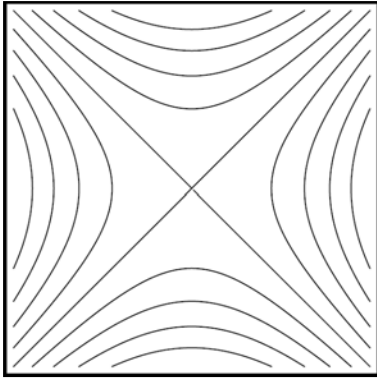
The electric current is perpendicular to the separatrix surface



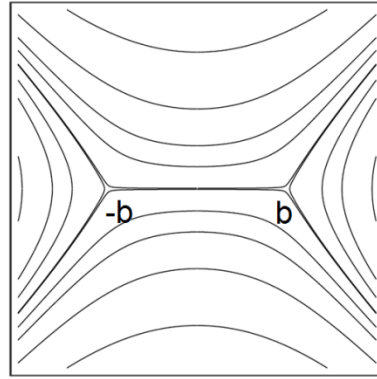
The electric current is parallel to the separatrix surface

2D: V.S.Imshennik & S.I.Syrovatskii, (1967)

3D: SVB & M.Ol'shanetskij (1984);  
SVB&J.-I.Sakai(1997)



$$\Phi = h\zeta^2 / 2$$

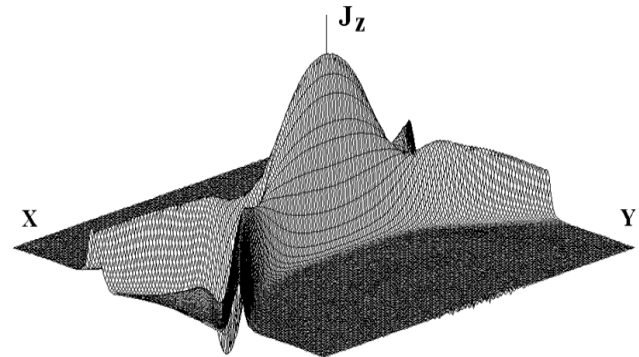


$$\Phi = h \left[ \zeta \sqrt{\zeta^2 - b^2} - \text{Ln} \left( \zeta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - b^2} \right) \right]$$

S. I. Syrovatskii, 1971

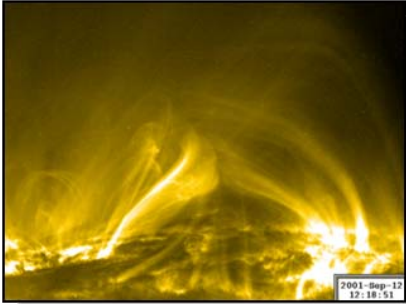
$$b = \sqrt{4I / hc}$$

Current sheet near the X-line  
of magnetic configuration

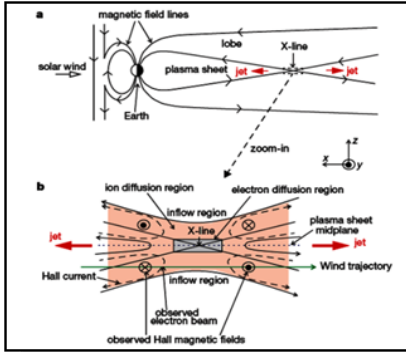


SVB, et al, 1996

# Reconnection of Magnetic Field Lines

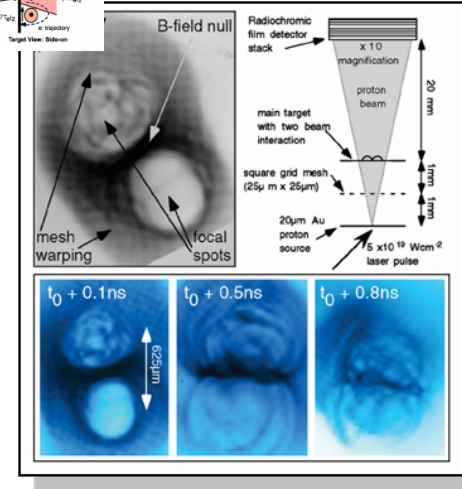
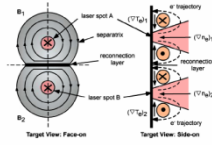


Solar flare/  
12.09.2001 (12:18:51)



M. Oieroset, et al.,  
Nature (2001)

B.Coppi et al (1965)



Nilson et al, PRL 97, 255001 (2006)

## MAGNETIC RECONNECTION IN LASER PLASMAS HAS BEEN FORESEEN IN:

G.A.Askar'yan, SVB, F.Pegoraro, A.M.Pukhov,  
Magnetic interaction of self-focused channels and magnetic wake excitation in high intense laser pulses,  
Comments on Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion 17, 35 (1995).



# Magnetic Reconnection in Collisionless Plasmas

In collisionless multispecies plasmas the **curl** of the canonical momentum

$$\mathbf{p}_\alpha = m_\alpha \mathbf{v}_\alpha + (e_\alpha / c) \mathbf{A}$$

is frozen in the corresponding flow velocity

$$\partial_t \nabla \times \mathbf{p}_\alpha = \nabla \times [\mathbf{v}_\alpha \times \nabla \times \mathbf{p}_\alpha]$$

The electron magnetohydrodynamics considers the dynamics of just the electrons, the ions are assumed to be at rest and the quasineutrality condition is fulfilled. The electron velocity is related to the magnetic field as

$$\mathbf{v}_e = -(c / 4\pi n_e) \nabla \times \mathbf{B}$$

with constant plasma density  $n_e = n_i$ . It yields

$$\partial_t (\mathbf{B} - \Delta \mathbf{B}) = \nabla \times [(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times (\mathbf{B} - \Delta \mathbf{B})]$$

In the linear approximation EMHD describes the whistler waves

The EMHD equations can be written as

$$\partial_t \boldsymbol{\Omega} = \nabla \times [(\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}]$$

Here the generalized vorticity

$$\boldsymbol{\Omega} = \mathbf{B} - \Delta \mathbf{B} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{A} - \Delta \mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{B} + \nabla \times \mathbf{v}$$

is frozen into the electron fluid motion.

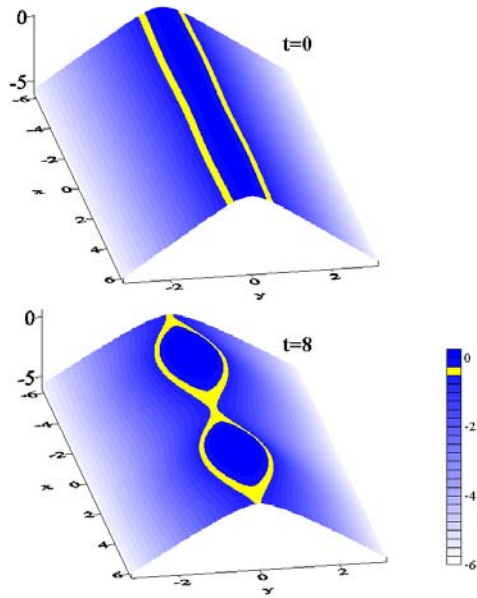
We consider the magnetic field given by

$$\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times (A_{\parallel} \mathbf{e}_z) + B_{\parallel} \mathbf{e}_z$$

The magnetic field pattern in the  $x, y$  plane is determined by

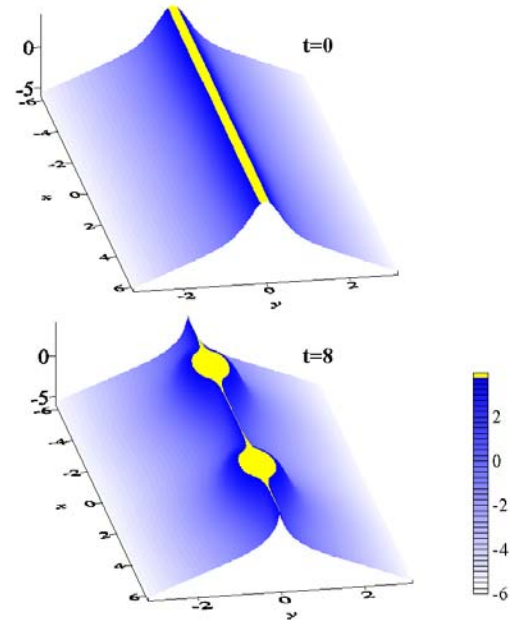
$$A_{\parallel}(x, y, t) = \text{const}$$

## Magnetic field



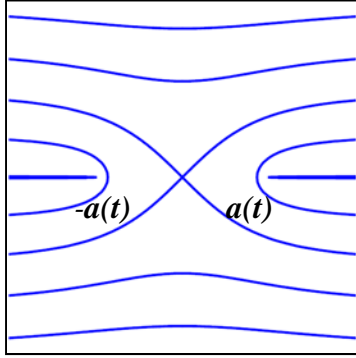
$$A_{||} = \text{const}$$

## Generalized vorticity



$$A_{||} - \Delta A_{||} = \text{const}$$

# Charged Particle Acceleration



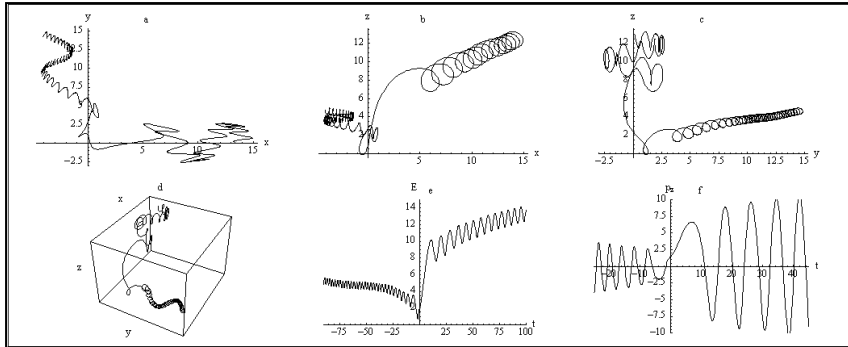
In the vicinity of the X-line, the magnetic field is described by

$$B(\zeta, t) = B_0 \frac{\zeta}{\sqrt{a^2(t) - \zeta^2}} \approx B_0 \frac{\zeta}{a(t)}$$

and the electric field is given by

$$E(\zeta, t) = -B_0 \frac{a(t)\dot{a}(t)}{c\sqrt{a^2(t) - \zeta^2}} \approx \frac{\dot{a}(t)}{c} B_0$$

$$\Phi(\zeta, t) = B_0 \sqrt{a^2(t) - \zeta^2}$$



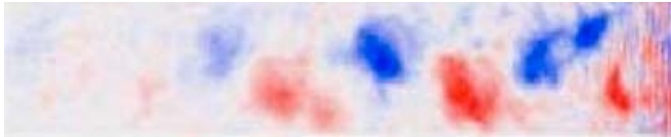
The energy spectrum of fast particles is given by

$$\frac{d\mathcal{N}(\mathcal{E})}{d\mathcal{E}} \propto \exp\left(-\sqrt{\frac{2\mathcal{E}}{m\dot{a}^2}}\right)$$

# Electron Vortices behind the Laser Pulse

Antisymmetric vortex row

$B_z(x, y)$



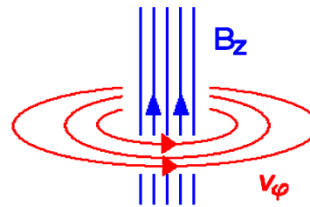
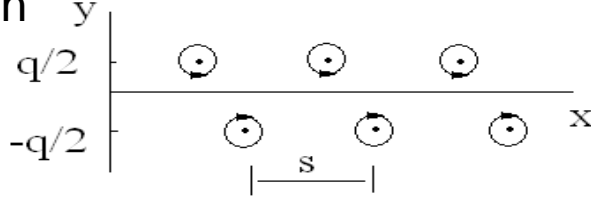
$n_i(x, y)$



L.M.Chen et al., Phys. Plasmas, 14, 040703 (2007)



Vortices described by the Hasegawa-Mima equation



Electron vortex

Von Karman vortex row  
H.Lamb, Hydrodynamics, 1947

SVB, T.Esirkepov, M.Lontano, F.Pegoraro, A.Pukhov, Phys. Rev. Letts. 76, 3562 (1996).

# Interacting Point Vortices

As we know  $\nabla \times (\mathbf{p} - e\mathbf{A}/c)$  is frozen:

$$(\partial_t + \mathbf{e}_z \times \nabla B \cdot \nabla)(\Delta B - B) = 0$$

Discret vortices are described by equation  $\Omega = \Delta B - B = \sum_j \Gamma_j \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_j(t))$

its solution gives for the magnetic field  $B = \sum_j B_j(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_j(t)) = -\sum_j \frac{\Gamma_j}{2\pi} K_0(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_j(t)|)$

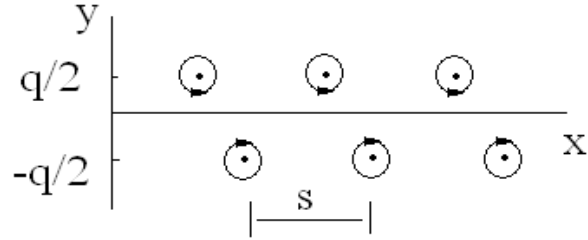
and the velocity of j-th vortex is

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}_j}{dt} = \mathbf{e}_z \times \nabla \sum_{k \neq j} B_k(\mathbf{r}_j(t), \mathbf{r}_k(t)) \longleftrightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{dx_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k \neq j} \Gamma_k \frac{y_k - y_j}{|\mathbf{r}_j(t) - \mathbf{r}_k(t)|} K_1(|\mathbf{r}_j(t) - \mathbf{r}_k(t)|) \\ \frac{dy_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k \neq j} \Gamma_k \frac{x_j - x_k}{|\mathbf{r}_j(t) - \mathbf{r}_k(t)|} K_1(|\mathbf{r}_j(t) - \mathbf{r}_k(t)|) \end{cases}$$

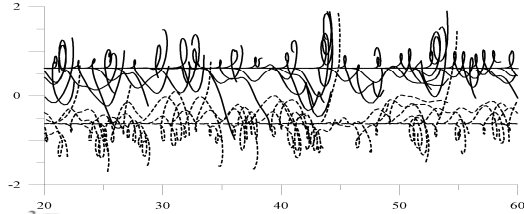
The Hamilton equations

# Domain of Stability

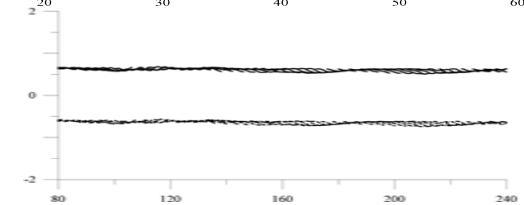
Antisymmetric vortex row



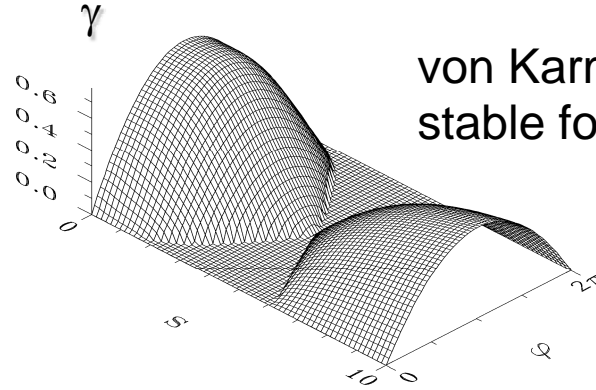
Lyapunov stability in the stability domain was proved



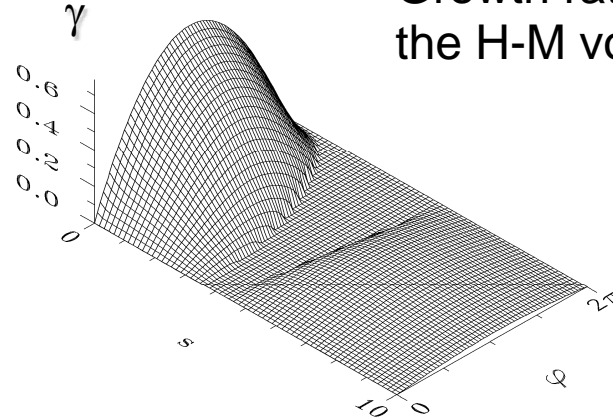
unstable



stable

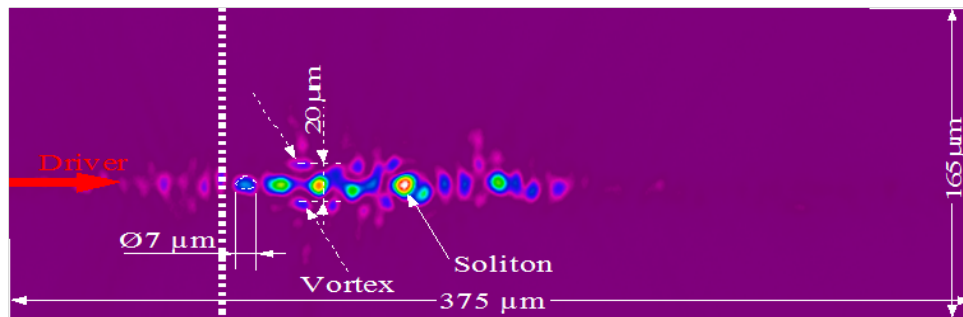
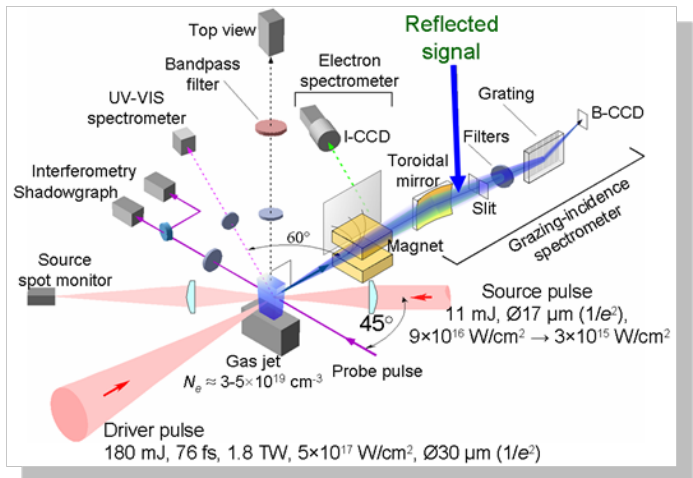


von Karman row is stable for  $q/s=0.281$

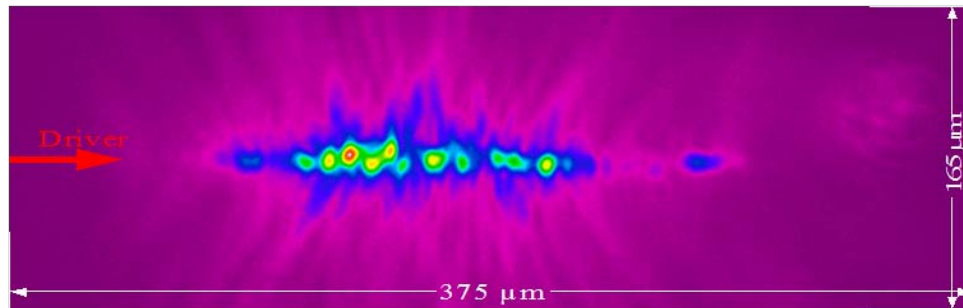


Growth rate vs  $q$  and  $s$  for the H-M vortex row

# Experimental Observations



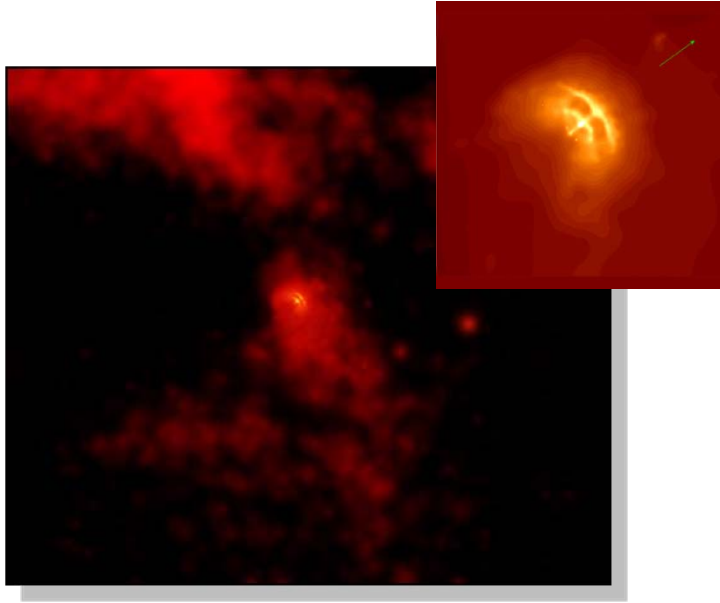
side view



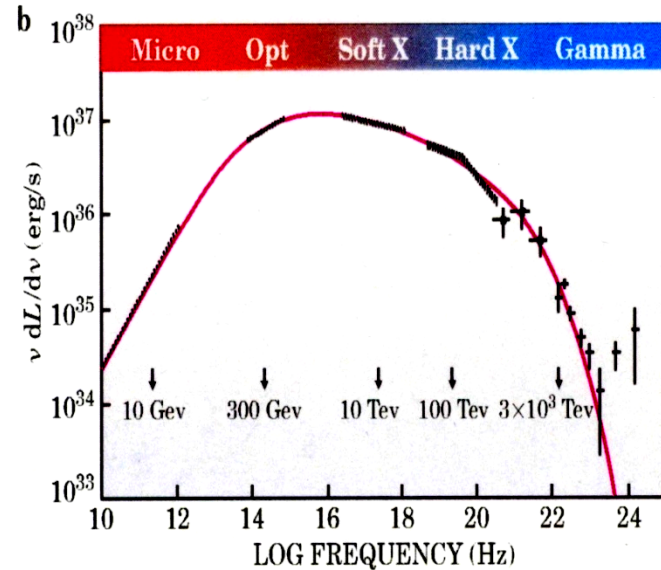
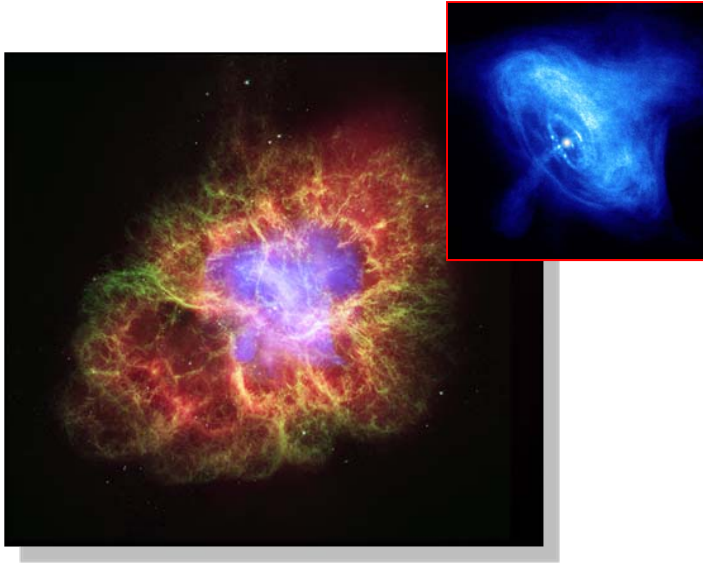
Top view



# 4. Relativistic Rotator



# PeV $\gamma$ from Crab Nebula



The Crab Pulsar, lies at the center of the Crab Nebula. The picture combines optical data (red) from the Hubble Space Telescope and x-ray images (blue) from the Chandra Observatory. The pulsar powers the x-ray and optical emission, accelerating charged particles and producing the x-rays.

# ON THE PULSAR EMISSION MECHANISMS

1975

*V. L. Ginzburg*

P. N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Moscow, USSR

*V. V. Zheleznyakov*

Radio-Physical Institute, Gorkii, USSR

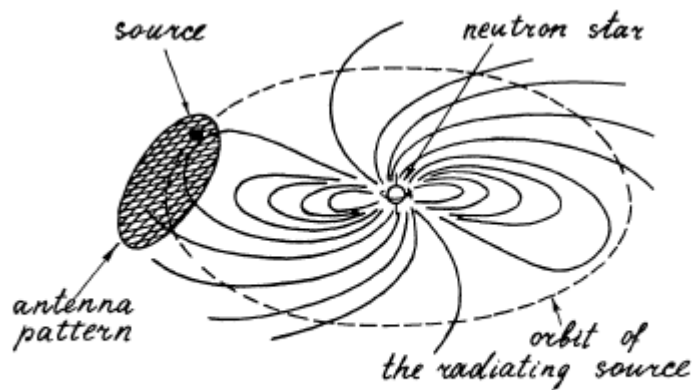
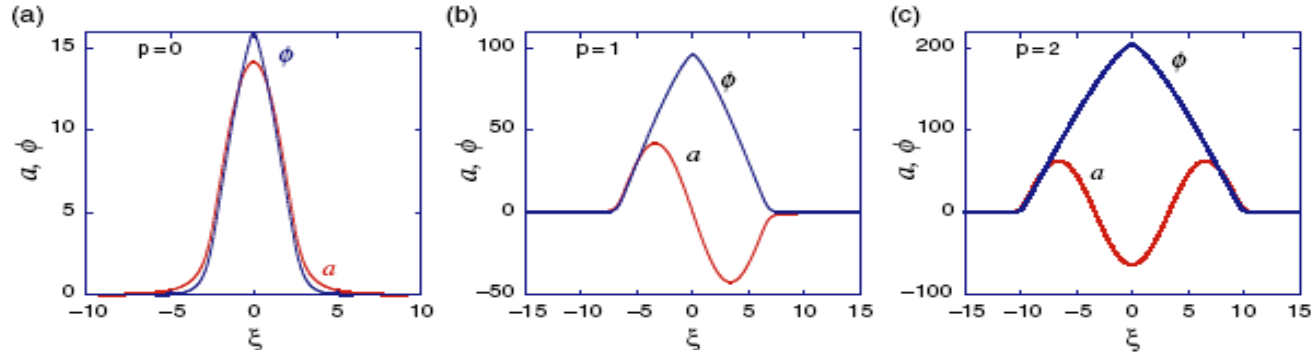
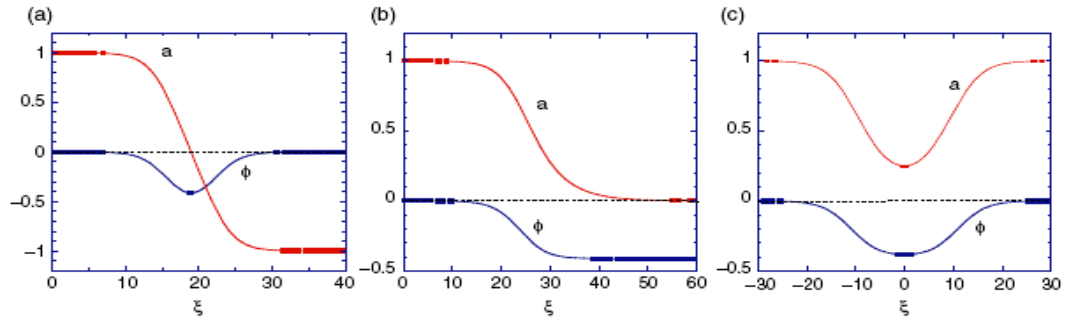
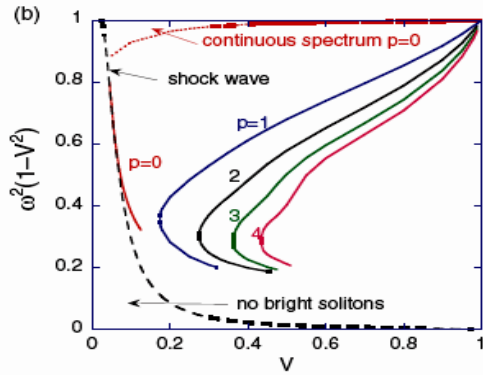


Figure 2 Schematic pulsar model.

# RELATIVISTIC E.M. SOLITONS

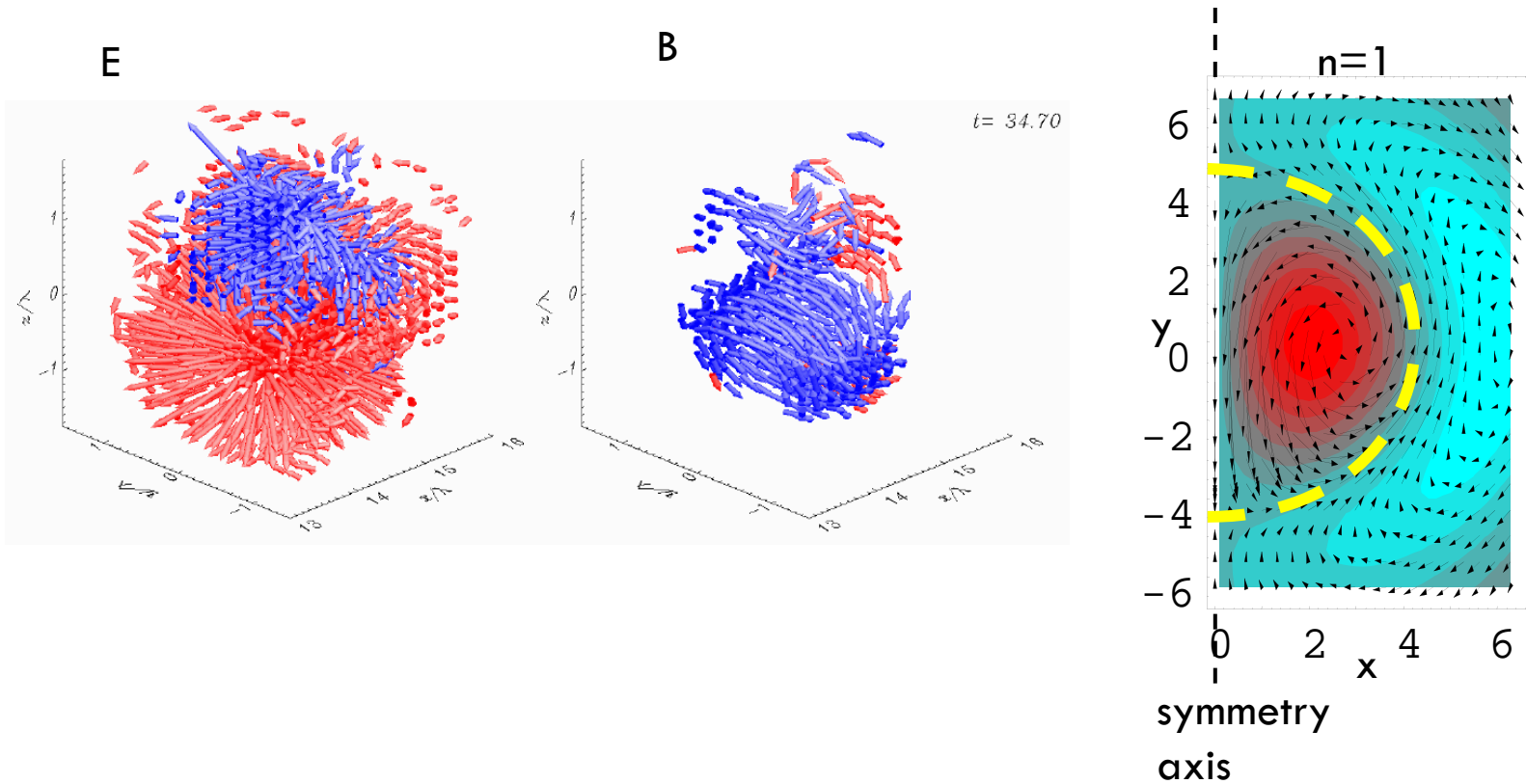


Potential waveforms for bright solitons with  $p = 0, 1, 2$  and velocities close to breaking.



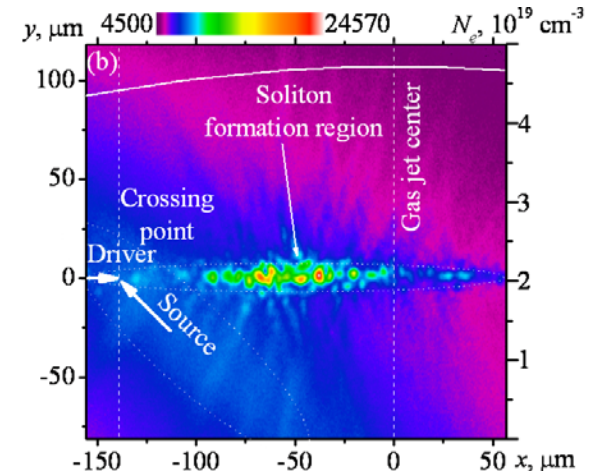
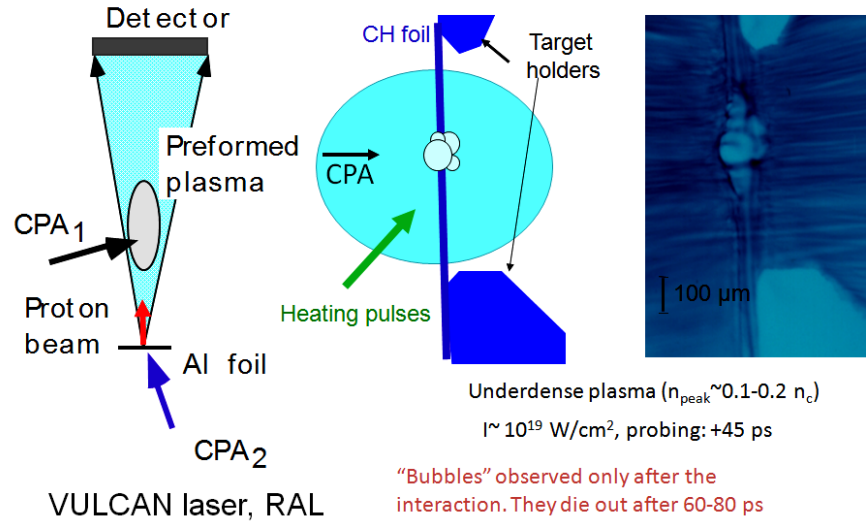
Waveforms of a black soliton (a), a shock wave (b) and a grey soliton (c).

# Relativistic EM Soliton



# Macroscopic Evidence of Soliton Formation in Laser-Plasma Interaction

M. Borghesi et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 88, 135002 (2002)

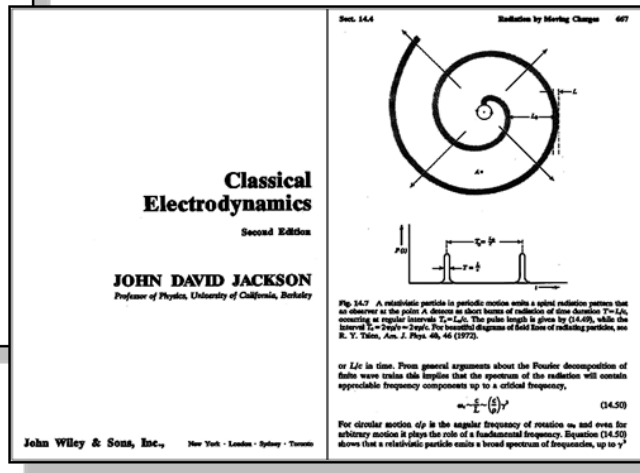
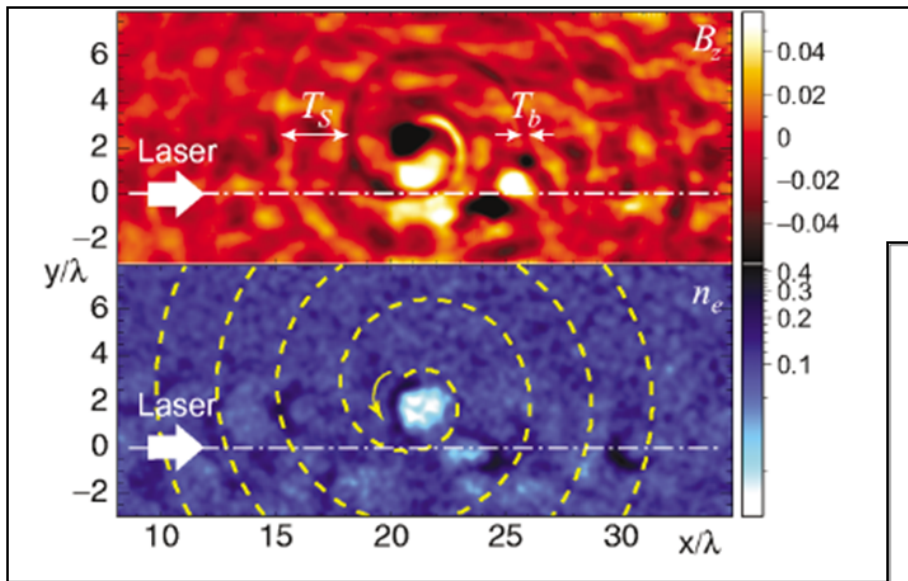


A.S. Pirozhkov et al., Phys. Plasmas, 14, 123106 (2007)

# Circularly Polarized Soliton (3D PIC)

$$B_z(x,y)$$

$$n_e(x,y)$$



Sec. 14.4 Radiation by Moving Charges 607

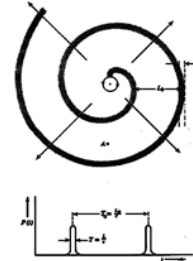


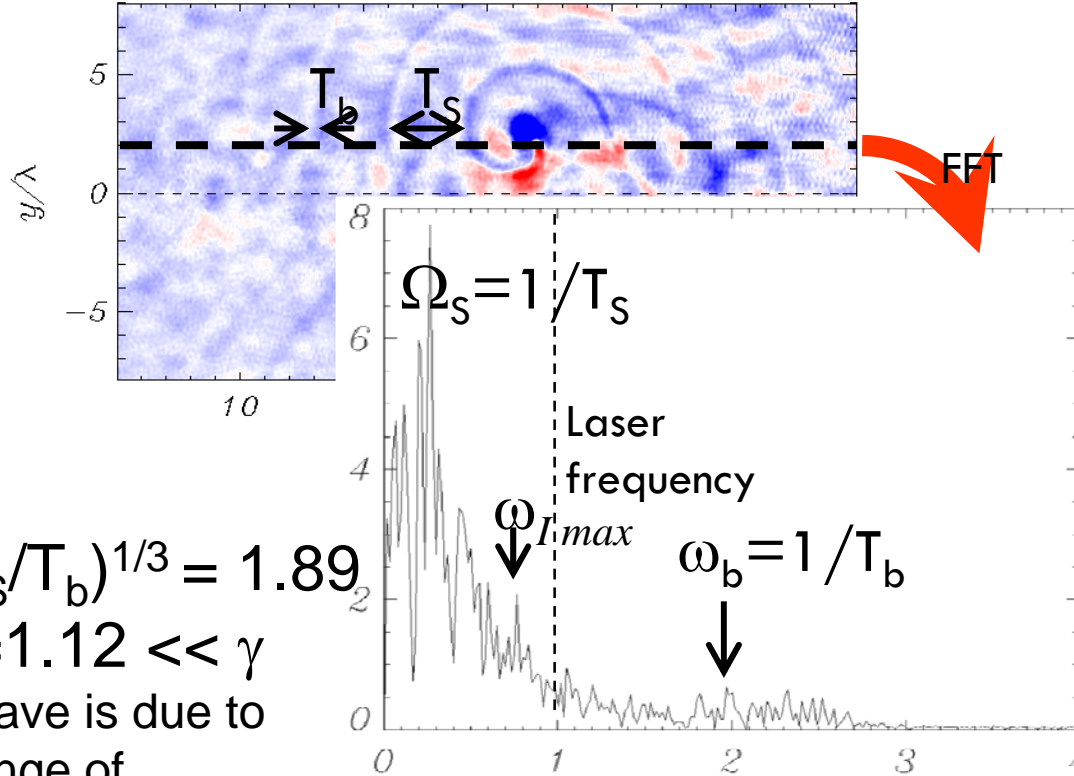
Fig. 14.7 A relativistic particle in periodic motion emits a spiral radiation pattern that is observed at the poles at distances in short bursts of radiation of time duration  $T = L/c$ , occurring at regular intervals  $T = L/c$ . The pulse length is given by (14.49), while the interval  $T = 2\pi a/v = 2\pi a/\gamma v_0$ . The horizontal diagrams of field lines of radiating particles, see R. Y. Tsiang, *Am. J. Phys.* 46, 46 (1977).

or  $L/c$  in time. From general arguments about the Fourier decomposition of finite wave trains this implies that the spectrum of the radiation will contain appreciable frequency components up to a critical frequency,

$$\omega \sim \frac{c}{L} \quad (14.50)$$

For circular motion  $c/L$  is the angular frequency of rotation  $\omega_0$  and even for arbitrary motion it plays the role of a fundamental frequency. Equation (14.50) shows that a relativistic particle emits a broad spectrum of frequencies, up to  $\gamma \omega_0$ .

$t = 81.00$



$$\gamma \approx (T_S/T_b)^{1/3} = 1.89$$

$$\gamma_{e \max} = 1.12 \ll \gamma$$

Spiral wave is due to fast change of electric charge density!

**The solitons as the relativistic rotators can model the pulsar radiation under the earth laboratory conditions**



# 5. Flying Mirror for Femto-, Atto-, ... Super Strong Field Science

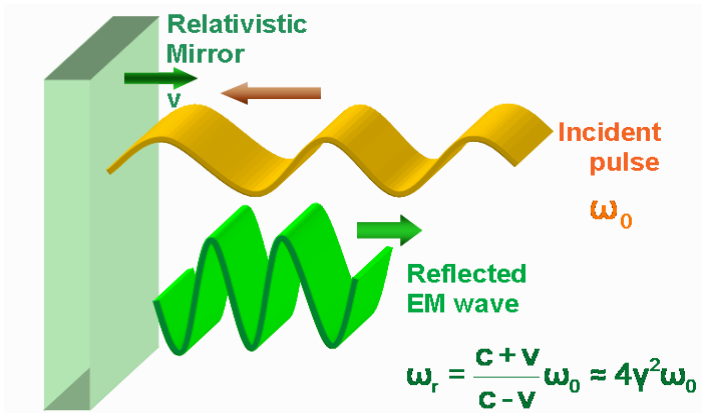


**Kagami**

鏡

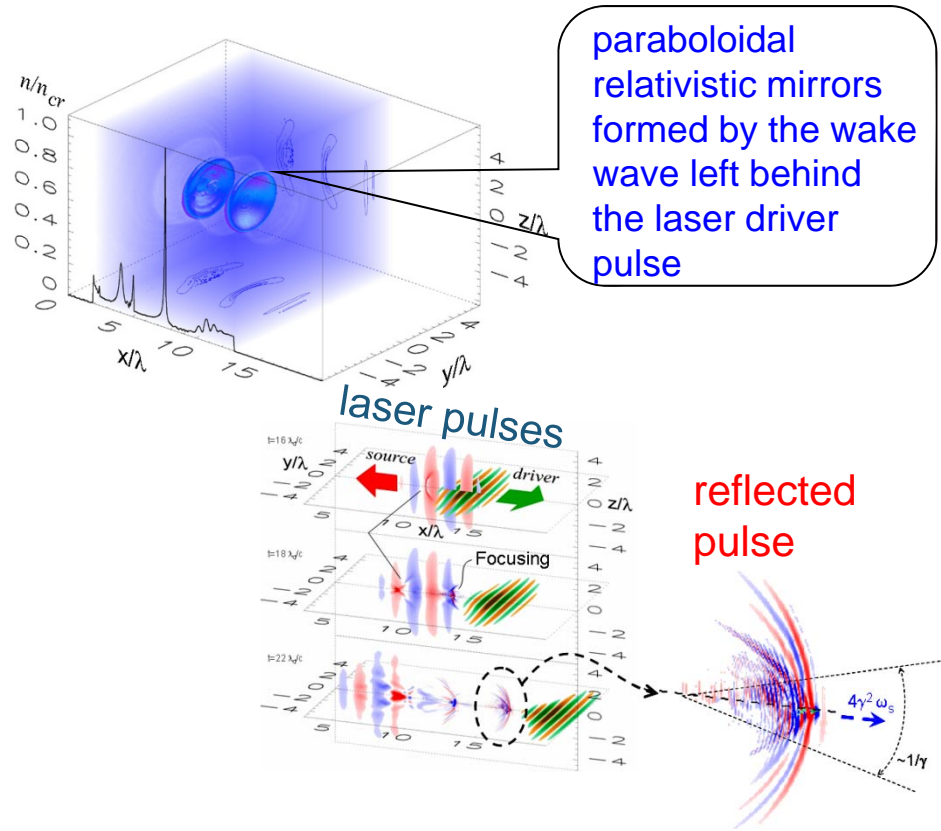
(“mirror” in Japanese)

# Flying Mirror Concept



A. Einstein, Ann. Phys. (Leipzig) 17, 891 (1905)

**Frequency up-shifting and intensification of the light reflected at the relativistic mirror**



S. Bulanov, T. Esirkepov, T. Tajima, Phys. Rev. Lett. 91, 085001 (2003)

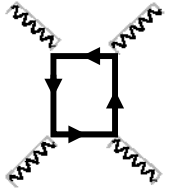
# Laser Energy & Power to Achieve the Schwinger Field

The driver and source must carry **10 kJ** and **30 J**, respectively

Reflected intensity can approach **the Schwinger limit**  $I_{QED} = 10^{29} \text{ W} / \text{cm}^2$

$$E_{QED} = \frac{m_e^2 c^3}{e \hbar}$$

It becomes possible to investigate such the fundamental problems of nowadays physics, as e.g. the **electron-positron pair creation in vacuum** and the **photon-photon scattering**



$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{16\pi} F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} - \frac{\kappa}{64\pi} \left[ 5 \left( F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\alpha\beta} \right)^2 - 14 F_{\alpha\beta} F^{\beta\gamma} F_{\gamma\delta} F^{\delta\mu} \right]$$

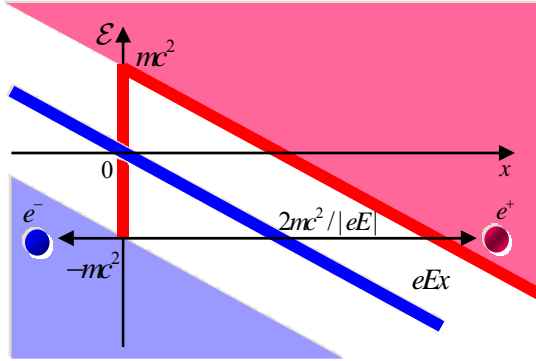
The **critical power** for nonlinear vacuum effects is

$$\mathcal{P}_{cr} = \frac{45\pi^2}{\alpha} \frac{c E_{QED}^2 \lambda^2}{4\pi}$$

$$\mathcal{P}_{cr} \approx 2.5 \times 10^{24} \text{ W}$$

Light compression and focusing with **the FLYING MIRRORS** yields  $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{P}_0 \gamma_{ph}$

for  $\lambda_0 = 1 \mu\text{m}$   $\lambda = \lambda_0 / 4\gamma_{ph}^2$  **with**  $\gamma_{ph} \approx 30$  **the driver power**  **$\mathcal{P}_{cr} = 10 \text{ PW}$**



## Pair production by two colliding pulses

S.S. Bulanov, N.B. Narozhny,  
V.S. Popov, V.D. Mur., ZhETF 129, 14 (2006)

$I, W/cm^2$	$E_0/E_S$	$N_e$ $\Delta=0.1$	$N_e$ $\Delta=0.05$	$N_h$ $\Delta=0.1$
$1.0 \cdot 10^{26}$	$2.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$4.5 \cdot 10^{-12}$	$6.0 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$7.1 \cdot 10^{-13}$
$2.0 \cdot 10^{26}$	$3.6 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	7.2	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$2.5 \cdot 10^{26}$	$4.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$	14 !!	$1.2 \cdot 10^3$	6.0
$5.0 \cdot 10^{26}$	$5.7 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$2.6 \cdot 10^7$	$5.5 \cdot 10^8$	$1.8 \cdot 10^7$

1. The effect becomes observable at  $I \approx 10^{26} W/cm^2$

2. Small difference between e- and h-pulses Courtesy of N.B.Narozhny

$$W = \frac{1}{\pi^2} \frac{\alpha c}{\tilde{\lambda}_c^4} \left( \frac{E}{E_{Schw}} \right)^2 \exp \left( -\frac{\pi E_{Schw}}{E} \right)$$

$$E \ll E_{Schw}, \quad \alpha = \frac{e^2}{\hbar c}, \quad \tilde{\lambda}_c = \frac{\hbar}{m_e c}$$

W.Heisenberg, H.Euler (1936)

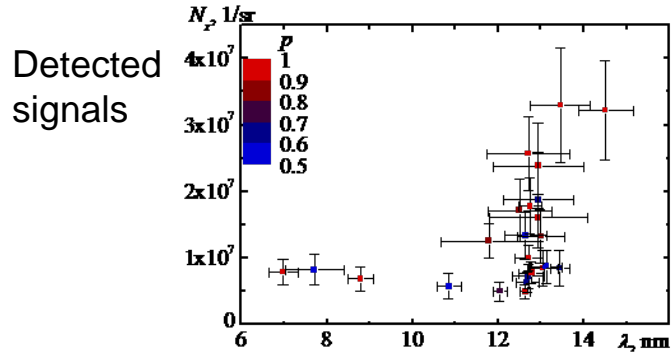
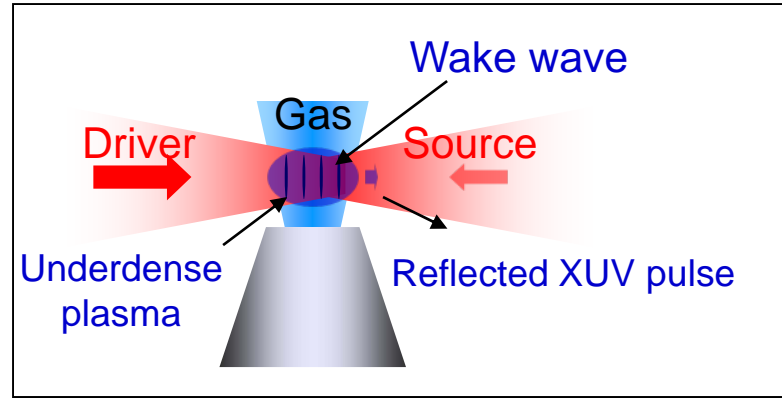
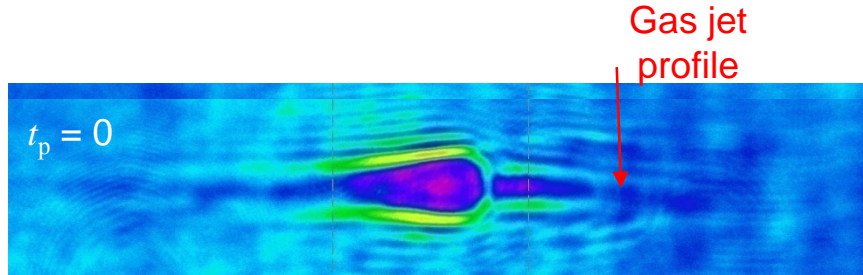
J. Schwinger (1951)

Brezin, Itzykson (1970)

V.S.Popov (2001)

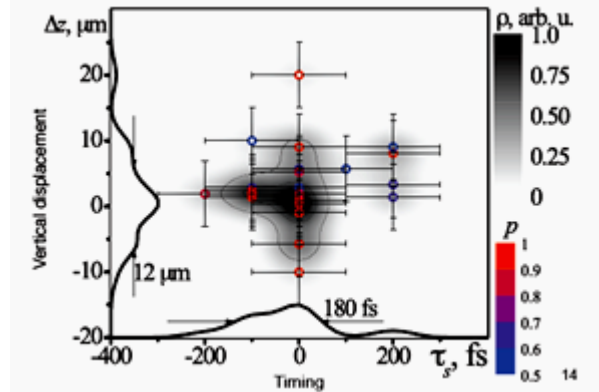
# Proof of Principle Experiment

In our experiments, narrow band XUV generation was demonstrated



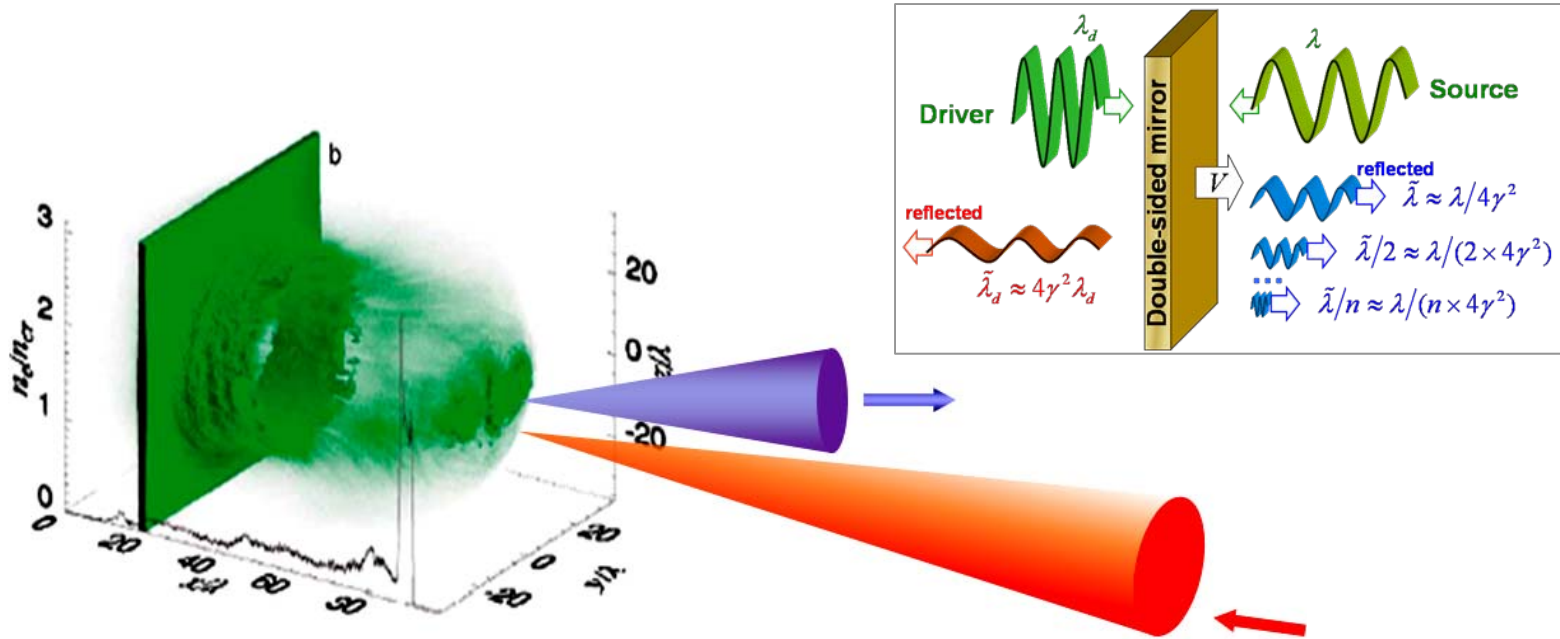
Frequency multiplication

$$\frac{\omega_r}{\omega_s} = 55 \dots 114$$

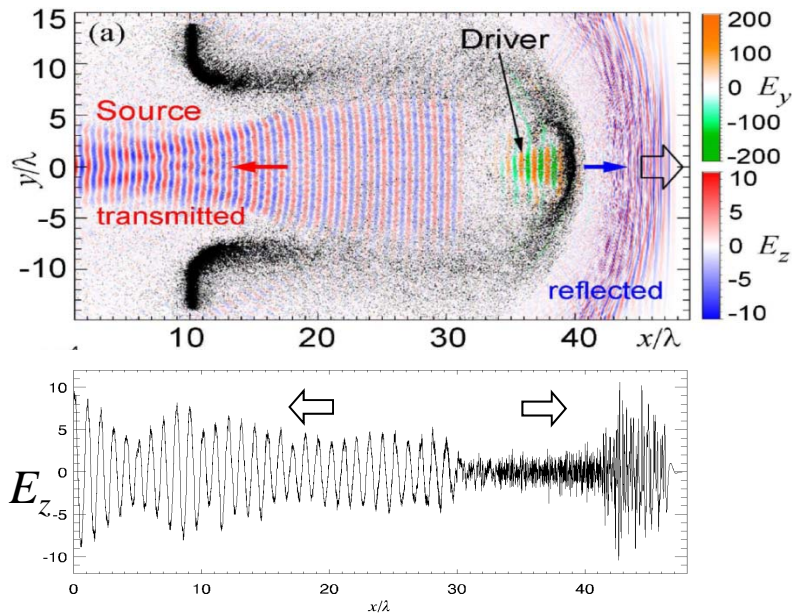


M. Kando, et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 99, 135001 (2007);  
 A. Pirozhkov, et al., Phys. Plasmas 14, 123106 (2007)

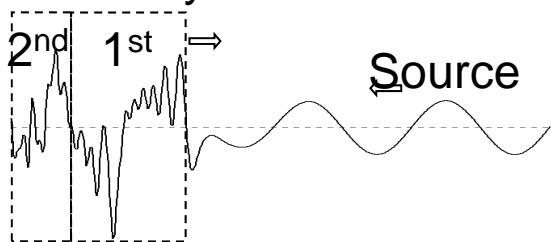
# 6. Overdense Accelerating Mirror



# Accelerating Double-Sided Mirror: Boosted HOH



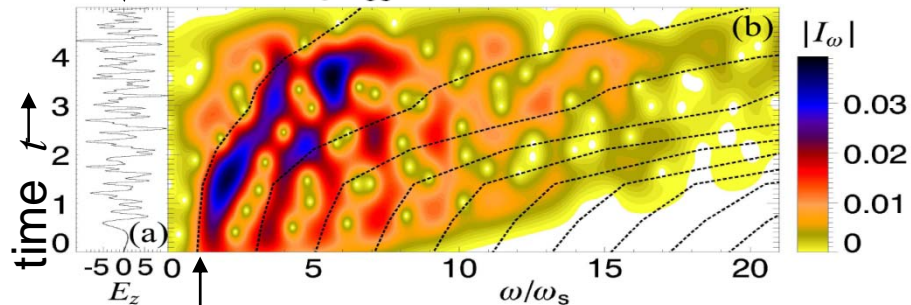
Reflected cycles



Field along  $x$ -axis

Spectrum at fixed time

$$I_\omega(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E_z(\tau) e^{-i\tau\omega - c^2(\tau-t)^2/\lambda^2} d\tau$$



Dashed curves:  $\frac{1 + \beta(\tau)}{1 - \beta(\tau)} \omega_0 \times (2n - 1), n = 1, 2, 3 \dots$

$\tau$  – time of emission

time of detection:  $t = \tau - \int_0^\tau \beta(\tau) d\tau$

**Reflected light structure:**

- Fundamental mode  $\times 4\gamma^2$
- High harmonics  $\times 4\gamma^2$
- Shift due to acceleration

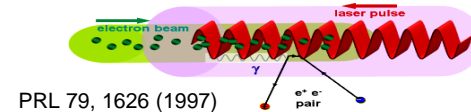
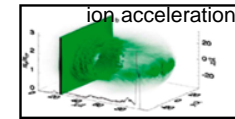
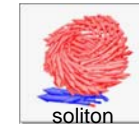
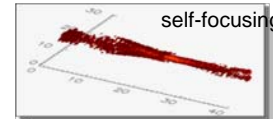
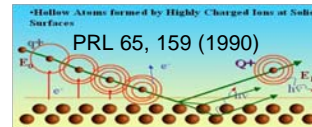
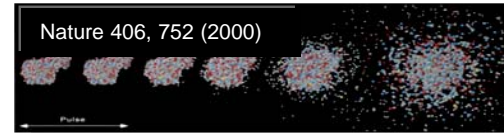
# 7. Applications

Such X-ray sources are expected for applications and for fundamental science.

- a) biology and medicine - single-shot X-ray imaging in a 'water window' or shorter wavelength range.
- b) atomic physics and spectroscopy – the multi-photon ionization & high Z hollow atoms (and ions).
- c) probing relativistic plasmas, for the nonlinear wave theory

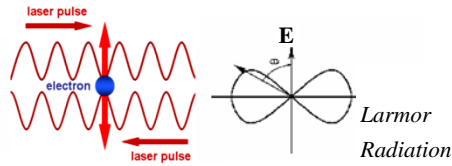
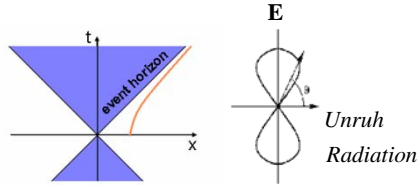
& for charged particle acceleration

- d) novel regimes of soft X ray - matter interaction: dominant radiation friction & quantum physics cooperative phenomena.

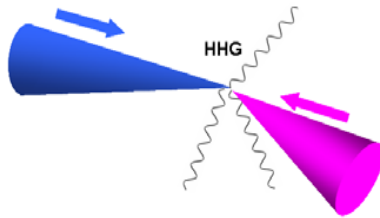




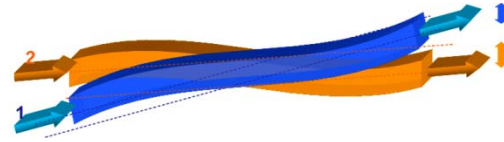
# High Field Science



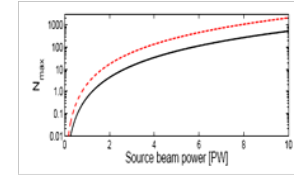
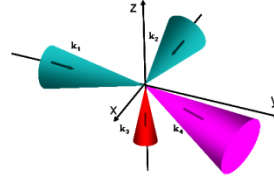
Unruh radiation (Chen&Tajima (1999))



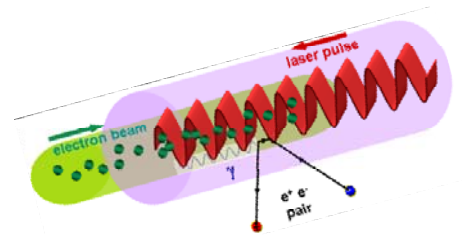
Higher harmonic generation through quantum vacuum interaction (Fedotov & Narozhny (2006); Di Piazza, Keitel)



Birefringent e.m. vacuum (Rosanov (1993))



4-wave mixing (Lundström et al (2006))

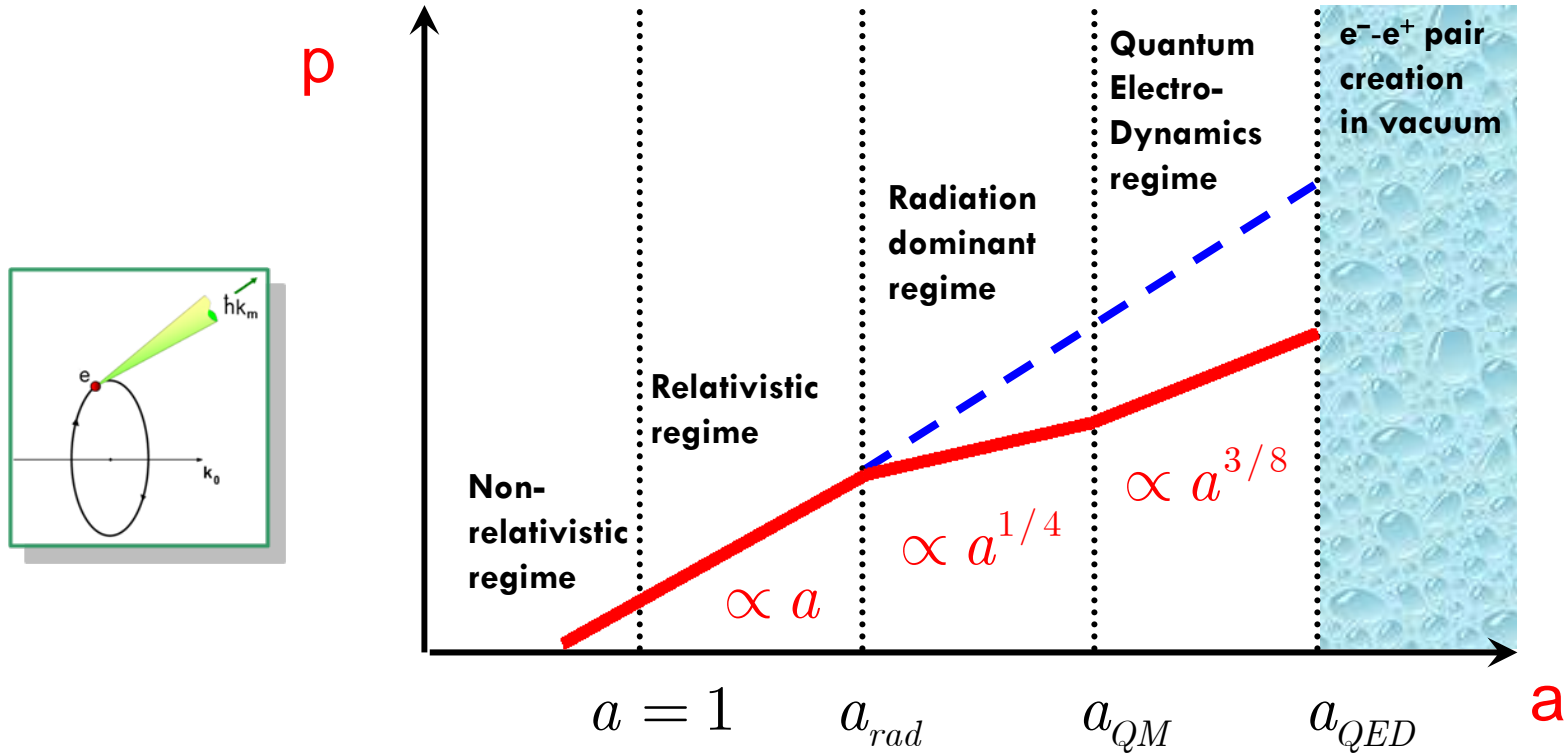


Electron-positron pair production in the laser interaction with the electron beam:  $e^- + n\gamma \rightarrow \gamma, \gamma + n\gamma' \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$   
Bula et al (1996); Burke et al (1997)

# 8. Conclusion

- a) Ultra Short Pulse Laser – Matter Interaction has entered the Ultrarelativistic Regime. By this it has opened a new field of **Relativistic Laboratory Astrophysics**
- b) **Laser Piston+Flying Mirror+Oscillating Mirror** will provide in a nearest future the instruments for **nonlinear vacuum probing** and for studying other fundamental problems

# Laser-Plasma Interaction in the “Radiation-Dominant” Regime



**2D case:** The field-line equation reads

$$\frac{dx}{B_x} = \frac{dy}{B_y} = ds$$

Using the relationships

$$B_x = \partial_y A_z - \partial_x F, \quad B_y = -\partial_x A_z - \partial_y F,$$

introducing complex variable  $\zeta = x + iy$ , complex field and potential

$$B = B_x - iB_y, \quad \Phi = F - iA_z,$$

we obtain the Hamiltonian equations for the magnetic field lines ( $' = d / ds$ ):

$$\zeta' = - \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \zeta}$$

The magnetic field lines are on the surfaces  $A_z = \text{constant}$



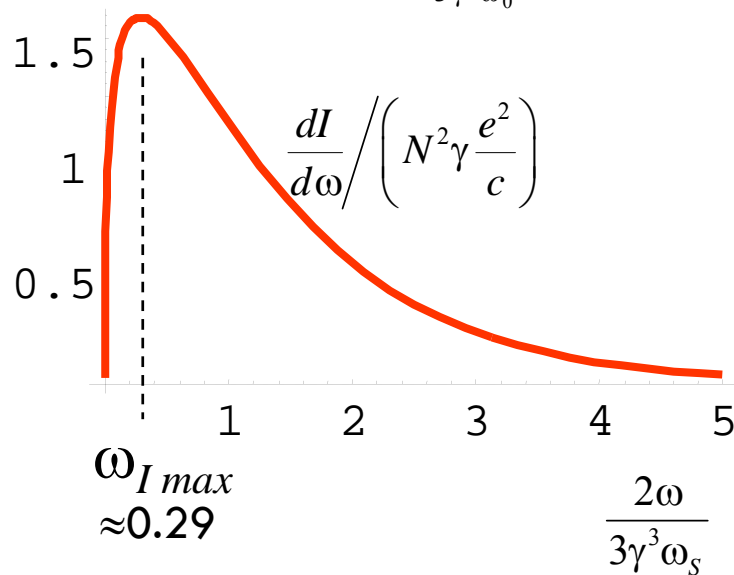
E.M. field energy density

Energy loss by radiation

$$-\frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dt} = \frac{2e^2}{3c} N^2 \omega_0^2 \gamma^2 (\gamma^2 - 1)$$

Frequency distribution of the total energy emitted by coherently rotating electrons

$$\frac{dI}{d\omega} = \sqrt{3} N^2 \gamma \frac{e^2}{c} \frac{2\omega}{3\gamma^3 \omega_0} \int_{\frac{2\omega}{3\gamma^3 \omega_0}}^{\infty} K_{5/3}(\xi) d\xi$$

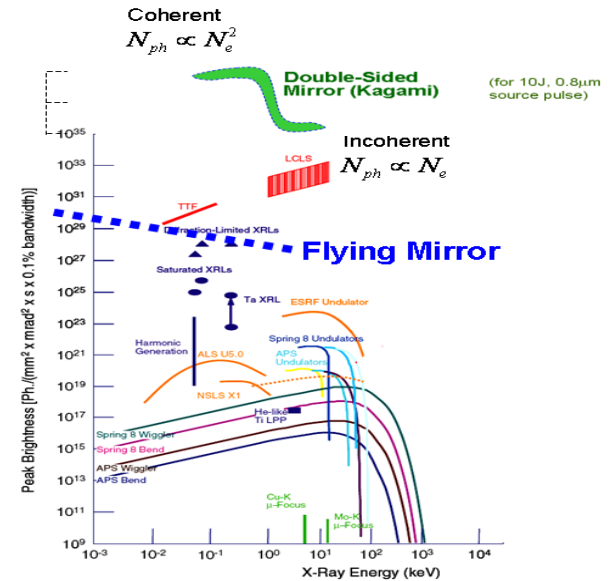


# Compact Coherent Ultrafast X-Ray Source

X-ray source	Wavelength	Pulse Duration	Pulse Energy	Mono-chromaticity ( $\Delta\lambda/\lambda$ )	Coherence
XFEL (DESY)	13.8 nm	50 fs	100 $\mu$ J	$10^{-3}$	spatial good
Plasma XRL	13.9 nm	7 ps	10 $\mu$ J	$10^{-4}$	spatial good
Laser plasma	wide spectrum 1 nm – 40 nm	1 ps – 1 ns	10 $\mu$ J	$10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$	No
HHG	5 – 200 nm	100 attosec	1 $\mu$ J	$10^{-2} - 10^{-3}$	spatial and temporal good
Flying Mirror	0.1 – 20 nm	< 1 fs	1 mJ	$10^{-2} - 10^{-4}$	spatial and temporal good

$$B = 2 \times 10^{28} \left( \frac{\mathcal{E}_{las}}{1 \text{ J}} \right) \sqrt{\frac{1 \text{ KeV}}{\hbar \omega_\gamma}} \frac{1}{\text{mm}^2 \text{ mrad}^2 0.1\% \text{ bandwidth}}$$

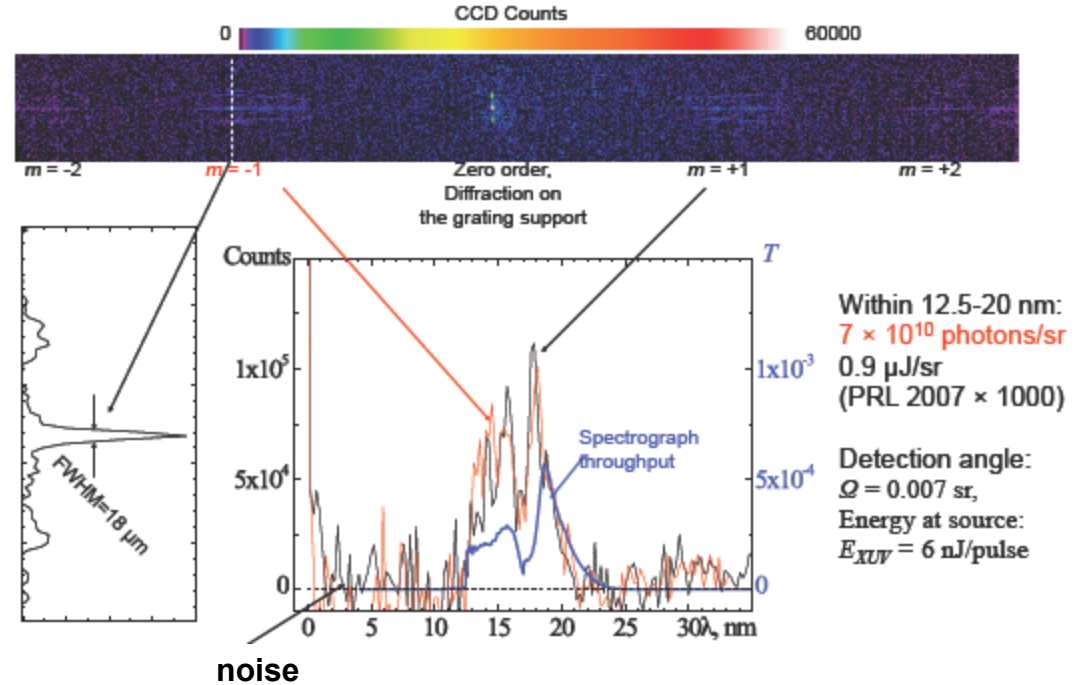
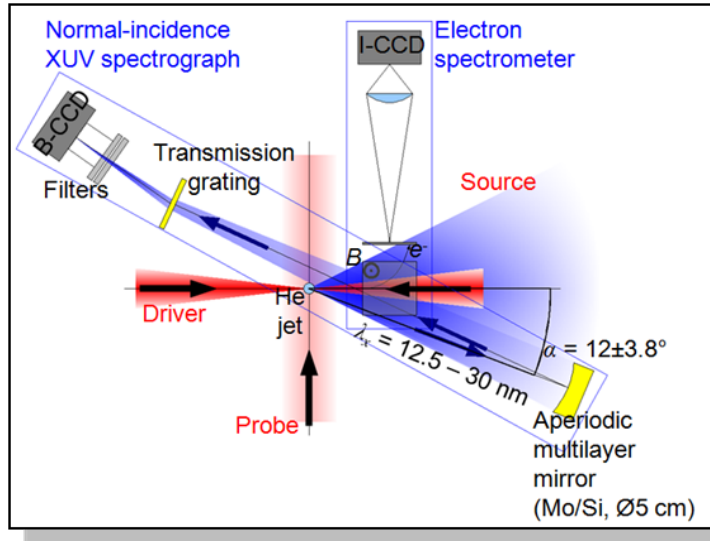
## Brightness



Predicted by the FM theory parameters of the x-ray pulse compared with the parameters of high power x-ray generated by other sources

Peak brightness of various light sources

# Flying Mirror in the Head-On Collision Experiment



Two head-on colliding laser pulses