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## Pulse shaping techniques with nested wire arrays

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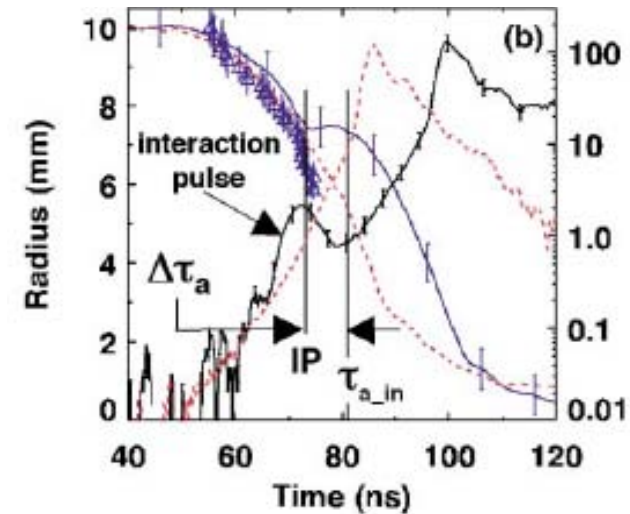
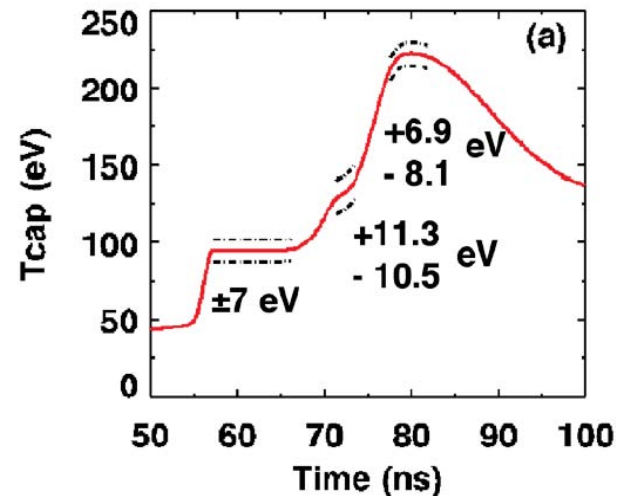
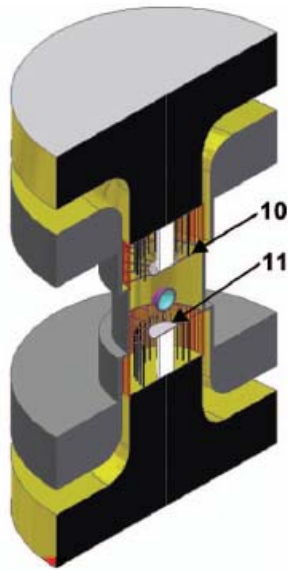
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## Pulse shaping is vital to z-pinch ICF concepts

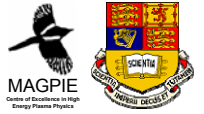


- Three or more controlled x-ray pulses are required in order to heat a fusion capsule
- One suitable pre-pulse is observed as the imploding outer array of two nested arrays interacts with the inner array, however detailed physical mechanism of the interaction pulse is not fully understood
- Necessary to broaden main pulse (and interaction pulse)
  - nested arrays on Z are *too good* at temporal compression
- Gaining energy in the main pulse useful for both ICF and RES

Images reproduced from  
M.E. Cuneo et al. Phys Plas 13 056318, 2006



# This talk will use MAGPIE data to help understand / interpret Z data



## Aims:

- Understand our present pulse shaping capability
  - New understanding of mechanism possibly responsible for interaction pulse
- New tools in the pulse-shaping toolbox
  - Look at what conical nested can bring to pulse shaping
- Measures that might increase efficiency of arrays
  - Discuss planned experiments to study elimination of cathode bubble
  - Possible applications to RES, Vacuum & Dynamic Hohlraum

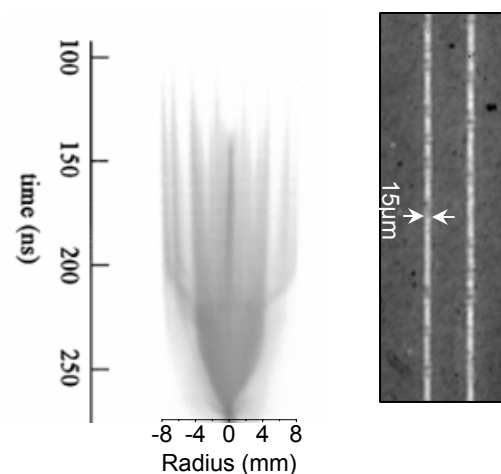
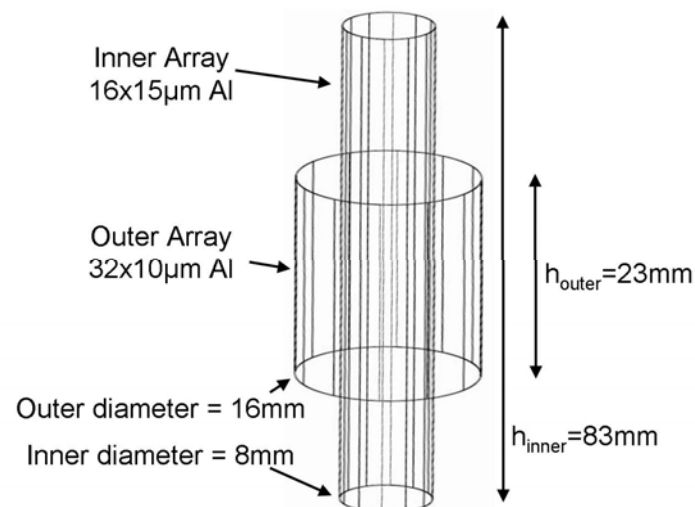
**1MA experiments can be used to understand 20MA experiments if careful consideration given to getting appropriate setup and being aware of differences**

## Nested wire arrays on MAGPIE use high inductance inner to suppress current through the inner array to be similar to Z

- High wire number in outer at 20MA leads to Inductive contrast:  $L_{\text{outer}} \ll L_{\text{inner}}$   
e.g. Cuneo et al PRL 94, 225003 (2005)
- High wire number not possible at ~1MA
- Array design can give same inductive contrast (by lengthening inner)

Lebedev et al. PRL 84, 1708 (2000)

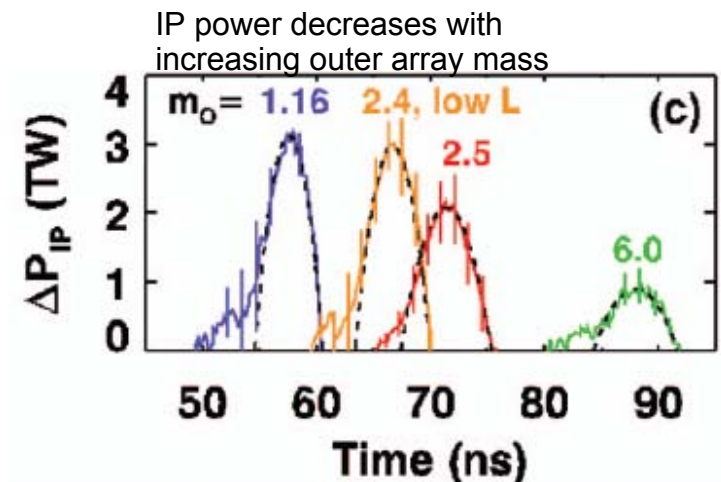
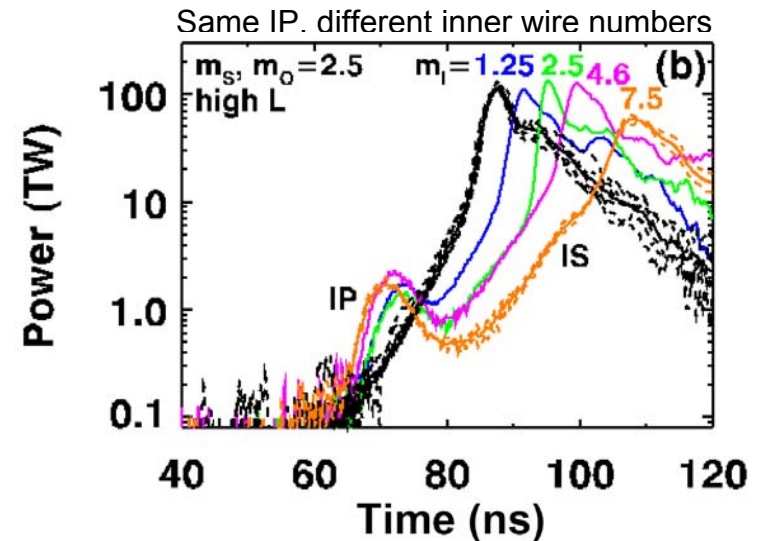
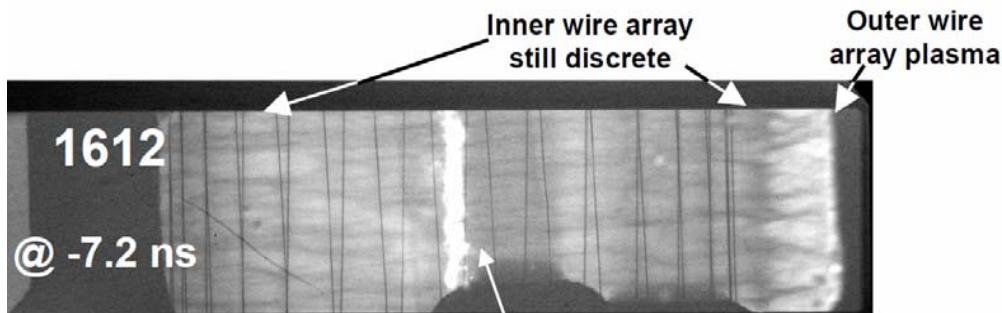
- Negligible inner current confirmed by
  - Radial optical streak
  - X-pinch radiography
  - B-dot probes
- Present experiments use
  - Outer array 16-32 x 10 $\mu$ m Al 5056 at 16mm
  - Inner array 16 wire Al, W or CH at 8mm





## Interaction pulse on Z is critical for pulse shaping, but remains a puzzle

- Interaction energy measured is less than that predicted from hydrodynamic collision of outer and inner shells
- Nested arrays on Z now recognized to operate in a transparent mode
- Partial transparency cannot explain same power for different inner wire numbers
- Alternative models (e.g. ohmic heating, possibly by flux compression), do not recreate dependency on outer array mass, or explain small cores prior to interaction



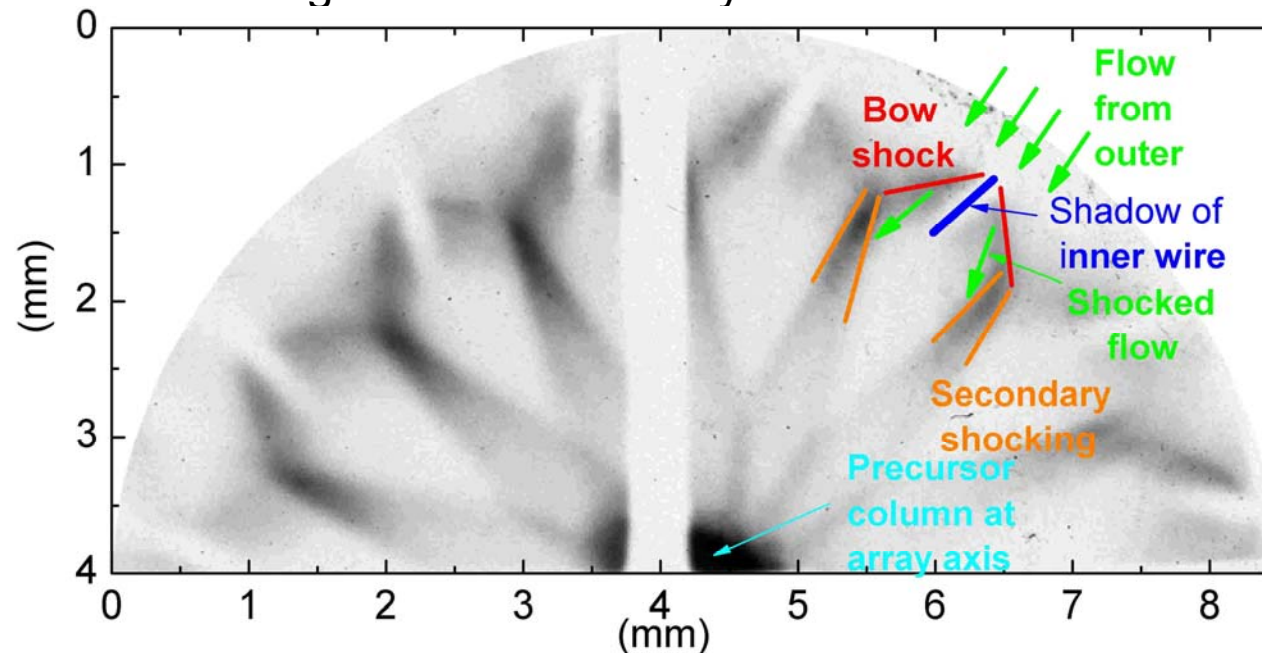
Plots reproduced from  
M.E. Cuneo *et al.* Phys Plas **13**, 056318, 2006

## Ablation streams from outer array are supersonic and will shock on the inner array

- Precursor plasma flows from outer are supersonic at position of inner:

– MAGPIE (from spectra):	$T_e \sim 40\text{eV}$ , $Z \sim 6$	$c_s \sim 3\text{cm}/\mu\text{s}$	$M \sim 5$
– Z (from MHD):	$T_e \sim 25\text{eV}$ , $Z \sim 11$	$c_s \sim 1.3\text{cm}/\mu\text{s}$	$M > 11$

- At reaching the inner array the precursor flow will be shocked
  - end-on XUV image inside inner array on MAGPIE



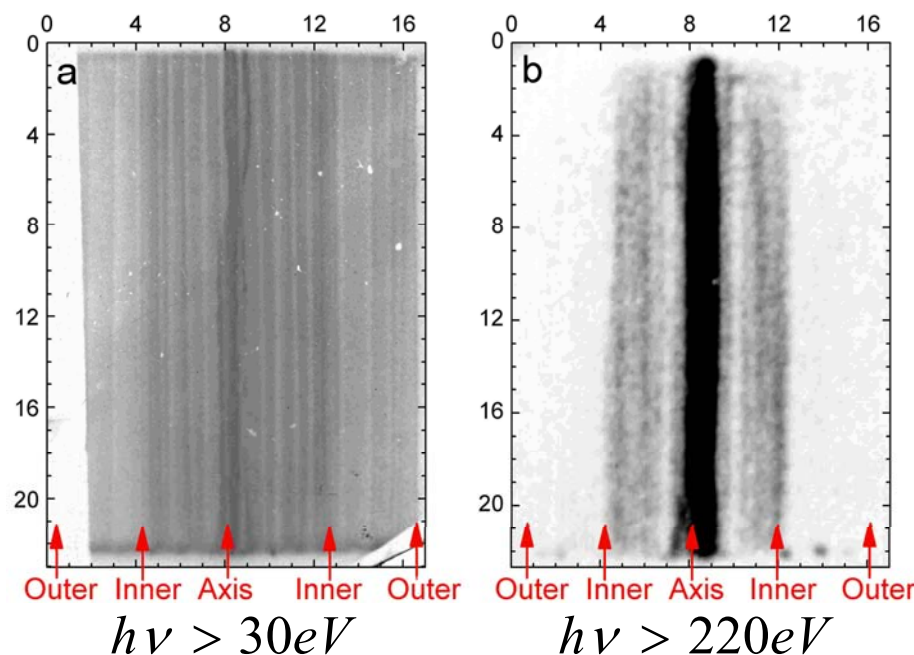
- Define angle  $\beta$  as angle between initial precursor flow and shock

## Shock will perturb plasma conditions in streams as they pass inner

- Perpendicular component of stream velocity will be reduced across shock

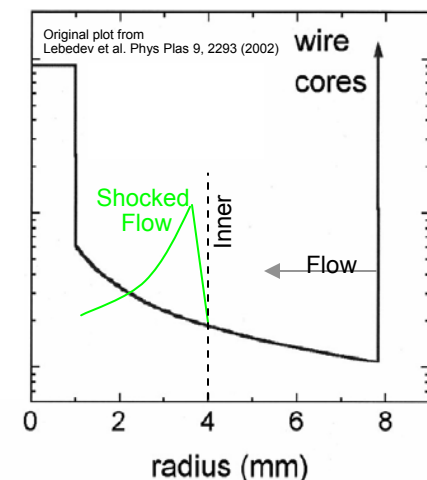
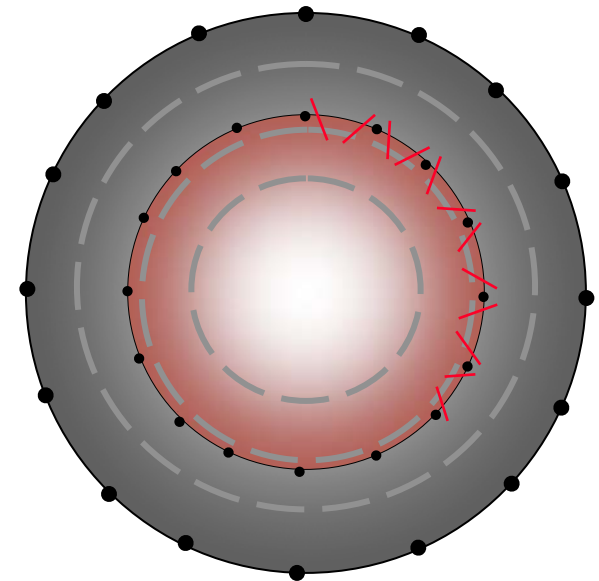
$$\frac{v_{\perp sh}}{v_{\perp abl}} = \frac{1}{\eta} = \frac{M_{\perp}^2(\gamma - 1) + 2}{M_{\perp}^2(\gamma + 1)} \sim 0.14$$

- Density will be increased by the compression ratio  $\eta$
- Temperature of streams will also be increased
- Temperature and/or density jumps inferred from side-on emission imaging during ablation process
  - Definite change in plasma conditions near inner array, despite 'transparency' :



## Perturbing the pre-fill will effect the snowplow

- For single array snowplow of pre-fill by implosion results in emission
- Power radiated by snowplow emission is
  - $P_{SP} \propto \rho(r,t) (v_{piston} - v_{prefill})^3$
- Comparing nested with single,  $\rho$  and  $v_{prefill}$  both altered by jump conditions
- Modifications act to enhance snowplow emission.
- Can adapt a snowplow model to incorporate these jumps



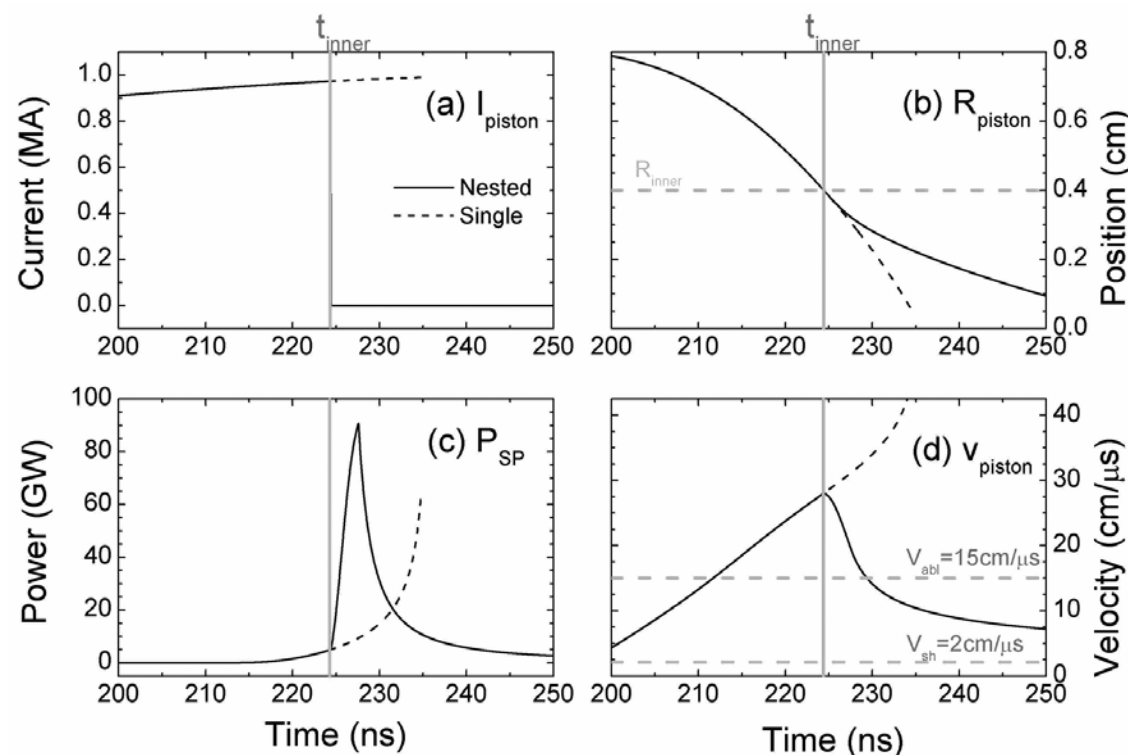
# Snowplow model for perturbed system predicts enhanced emission above that of a single array

Variable	MAGPIE
$v_{abl}(cm/\mu s)$ [1, 2]	15 (Ablation velocity)
$c_s(cm/\mu s)$ [2-4]	3 (Sound speed)
$\beta$ (end-on image)	$39^\circ$ (Shock angle)
$\gamma$ [5]	1.1 (Adiabatic index)
$M_\perp = \frac{v_a \sin(\beta)}{c_s}$	3.4 (Mach numb perp)
$\eta = \frac{v_{abl}}{v_{sh}}$	7.7 (Compression)

[1] S. V. Lebedev et al., Plas. Phys. Contr. Fus. 47, A91 (2005).  
 [2] S. V. Lebedev et al., Laser Particle Beams 19, 355 (2001).  
 [3] J. P. Chittenden et al., Phys. Plasmas 8, 675 (2001).  
 [4] R. P. Drake, High Energy Density Physics (Springer, 2006).

## Model setup

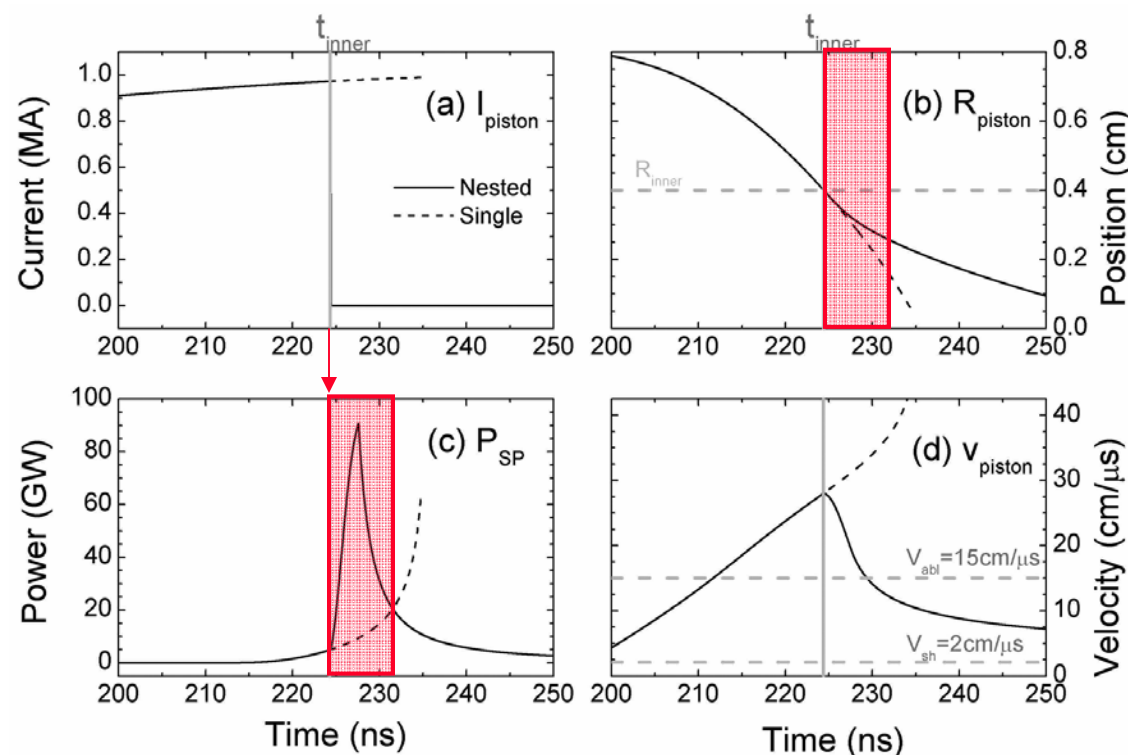
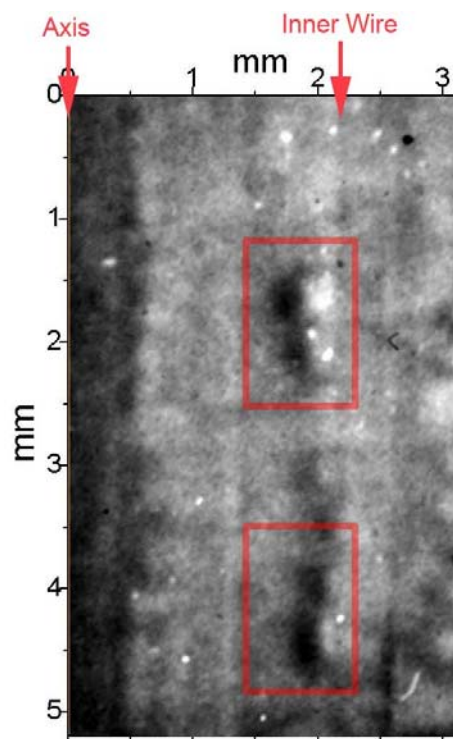
- Ablation model for fill
- Jump conditions at inner
- Snowplow model for implosion trajectory



## Results of model

- Snowplow model shows excess emission despite current being switched out of piston prior to experiencing perturbed density
- Excess emission is AFTER piston passes inner wires (in shocked region)
- Experiments show that piston slows below ablation velocity, despite 100% transparency
- Averaging emission over total MAGPIE array smoothes out interaction pulse due to azimuthal and axial non-uniformities

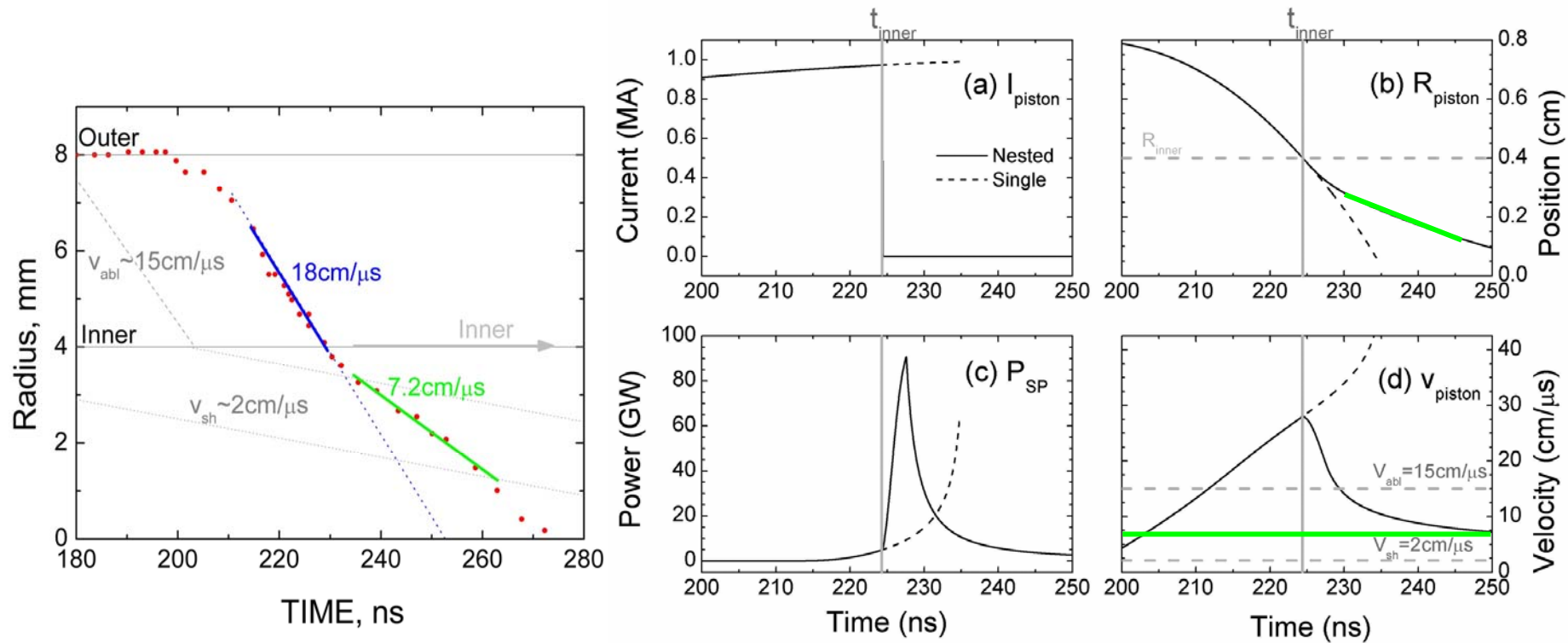
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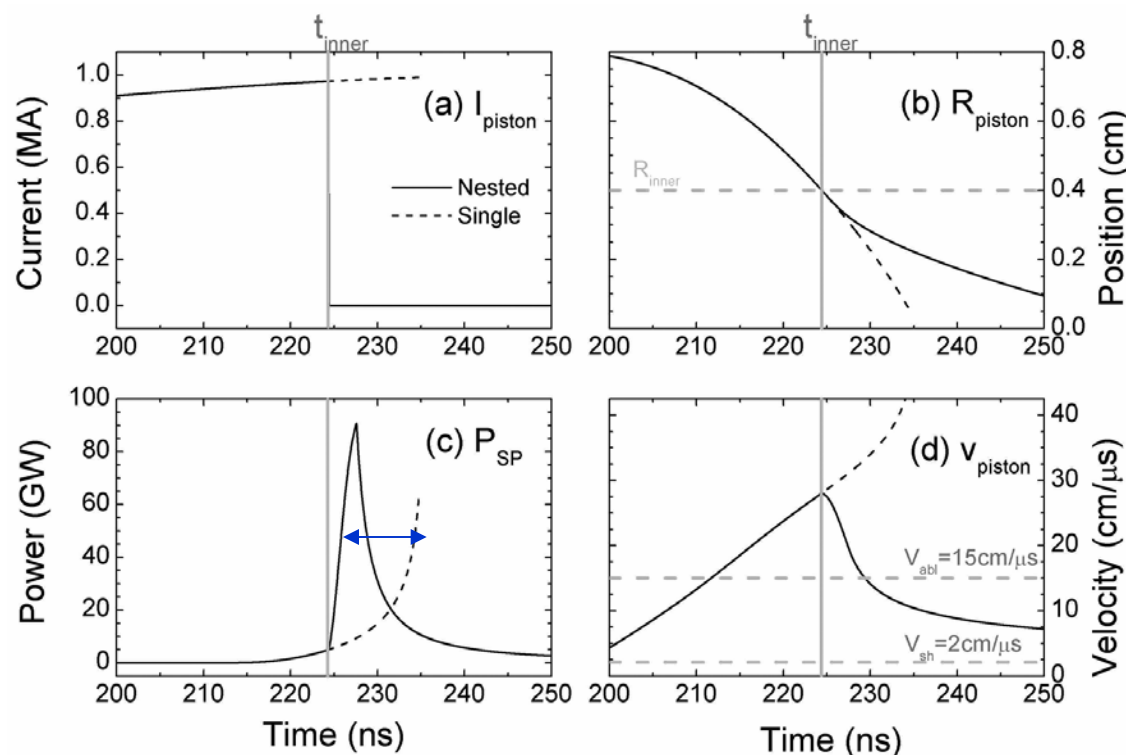
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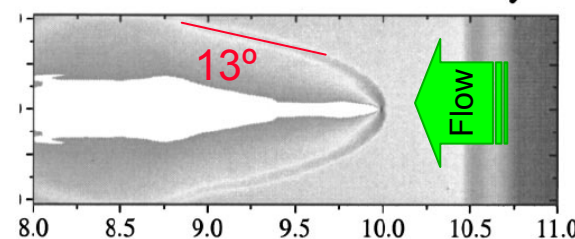
# Applying similar model to a (more uniform) Z implosion allows a comparison of powers

Variable	MAGPIE Z-6mg	
$v_{abl}(cm/\mu s)$ [1, 2]	15	15
$c_s(cm/\mu s)$ [2-4]	3	1.3
$\beta$ (end-on image)	39°	→ 5°
$\gamma$ [5]	1.1	1.1
$M_{\perp} = \frac{v_a \sin(\beta)}{c_s}$	3.4	1.25
$\eta = \frac{v_{abl}}{v_{sh}}$	7.7	1.5

Shock angle smaller in sims of Z than measured on MAGPIE

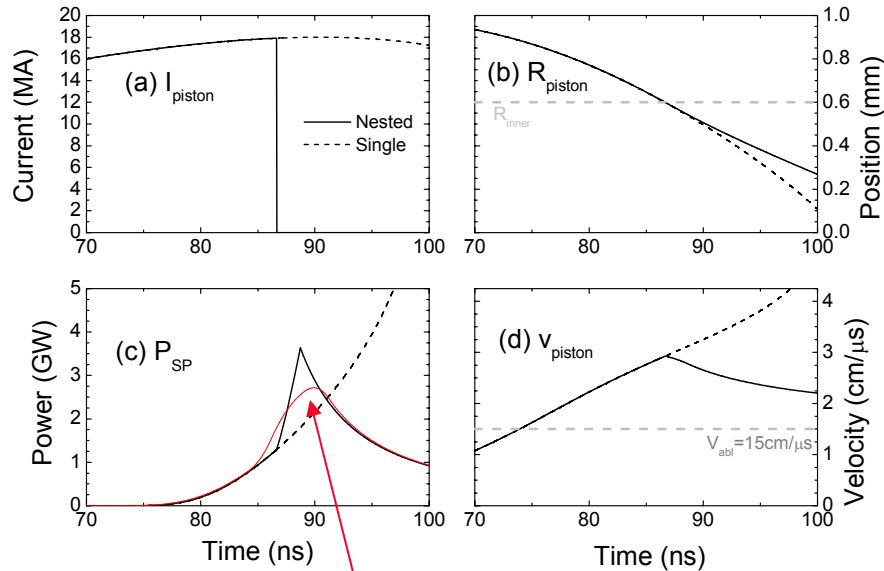
Chittenden *et al.* Phys Plas 8, 675 (2001)

Plasma stream from outer array



98 ns

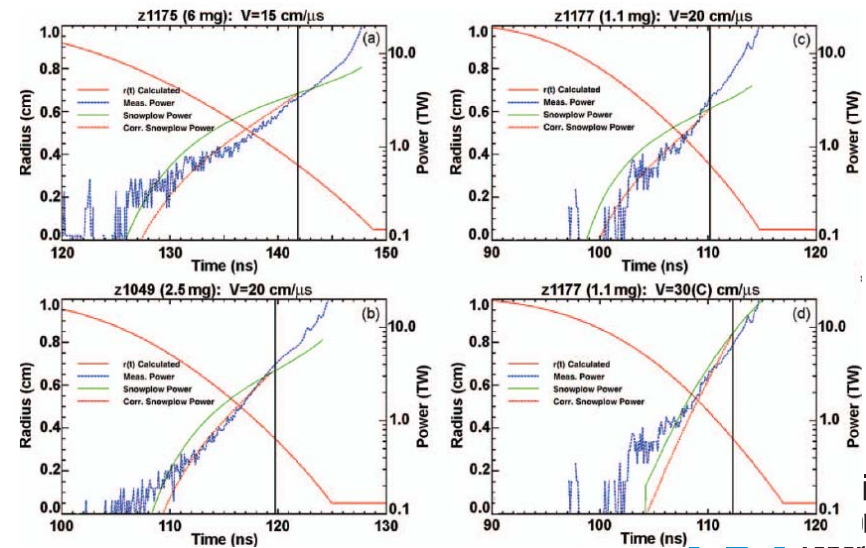
- Unclear whether MHD best tool for this problem
- Further simulations planned by Ciardi & Sherlock using hybrid code



Temporally spread to account for experimentally measured width of piston

Snowplow for 6mg outer on Z gives good fit for  $v_{abl}$

Sinars *et al.* Phys Plas 13, 042704 (2006)



# Snowplow model recreates interaction pulse for Z outer array mass scan

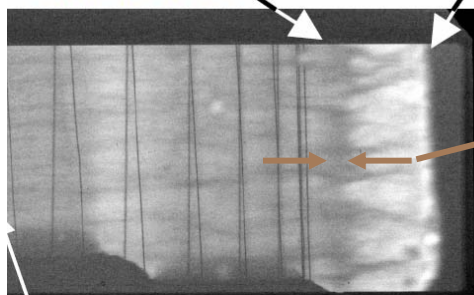


Variable	MAGPIE	Z-6mg	Z-2.5mg	Z-1.1mg	Z-1.1mg
$v_{abl}(cm/\mu s)$ [1, 2]	15	15	20	30	25
$c_s(cm/\mu s)$ [2-4]	3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
$\beta$ (end-on image)	39°	5°	5°	5°	5°
$\gamma$ [5]	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
$M_{\perp} = \frac{v_a \sin(\beta)}{c_s}$	3.4	1.25	1.66	2.5	2.0
$\eta = \frac{v_{abl}}{v_{sh}}$	7.7	1.5	2.5	5.0	3.7
$E_{Sp}(kJ)$	-	3.0	12.4	22.5	15.3
$E_{Exp}(kJ)$ [6]	-	5.2	12.1	15.0	15.0
$P_{Sp}(TW)$	-	0.7	2.8	5.1	3.5
$P_{Exp}(TW)$ [6]	-	1.2	2.2	3.2	3.2

Variable ablation velocity  
Sinars *et al.* Phys Plas 13, 042704 (2006)

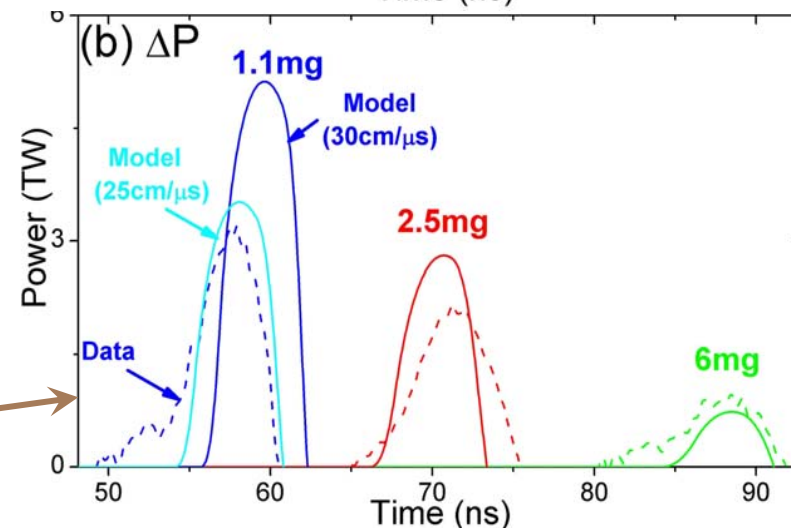
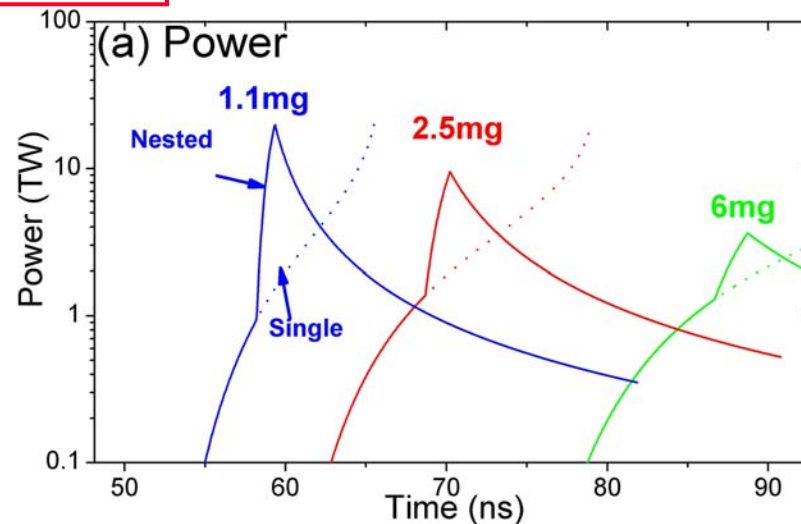
- [1] S. V. Lebedev *et al.*, Plas. Phys. Contr. Fus. 47, A91 (2005).  
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 [5] R. P. Drake, High Energy Density Physics (Springer, 2006).  
 [6] M. E. Cuneo *et al.*, Phys. Plasmas 13, 056318 (2006).

Inner wire array still discrete      Outer wire array plasma



Experimental images indicate finite thickness to piston

$$\Delta P = \{P_{nest} - P_{single}\}_{smoothed}$$

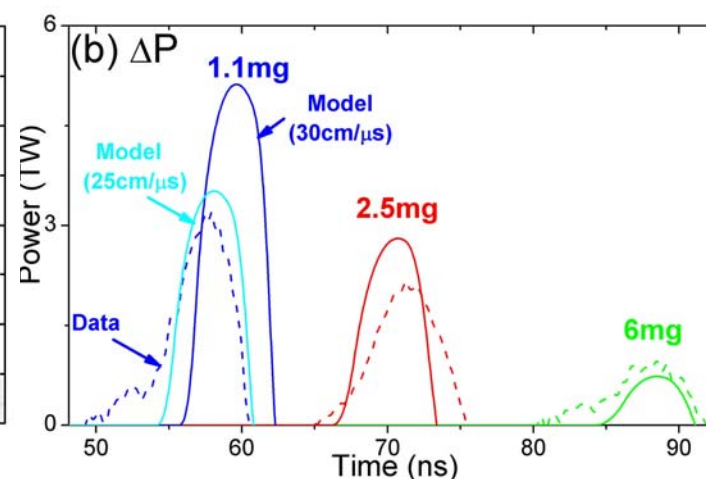
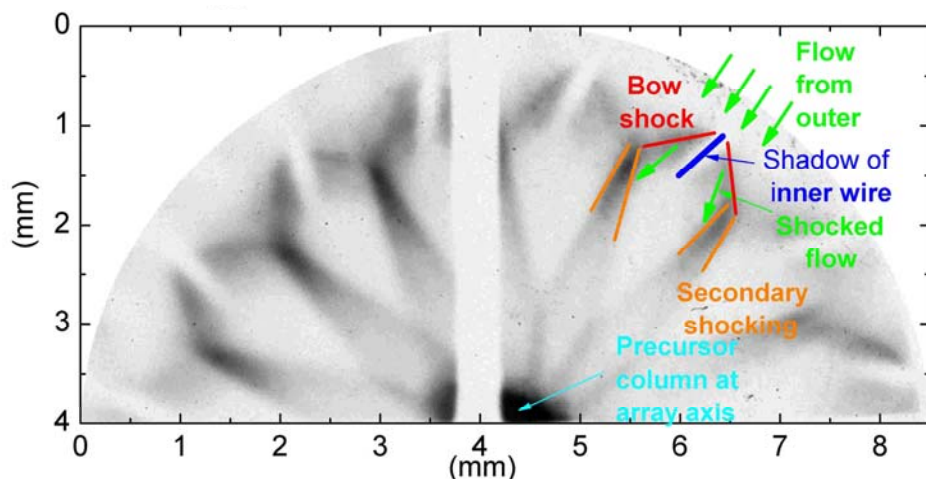


Using an angle  $\beta$  more like MAGPIE or MHD would increase powers predicted, but reduce mass dependence



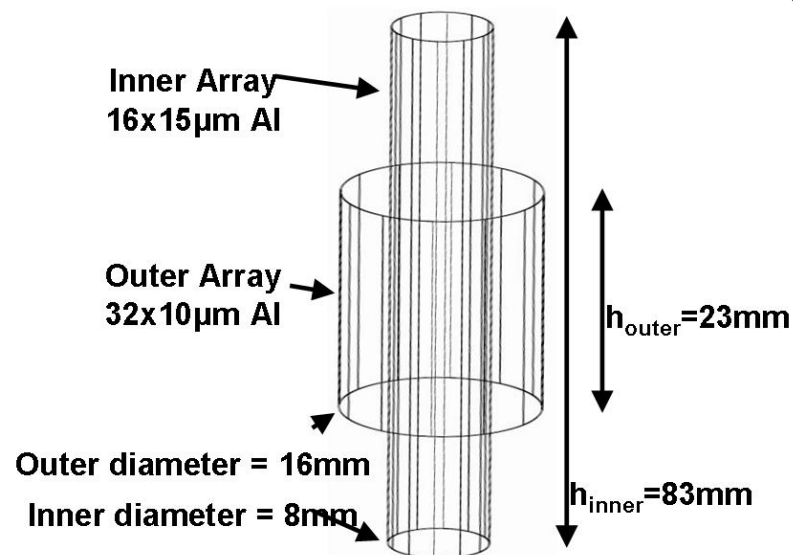
## Part 1 Summary : Perturbed snowplow can lead to observed Interaction Pulse

- Inner array shocks precursor plasma streams on MAGPIE
- Shock will alter  $\rho$ ,  $T$ ,  $v$  of the streams
- This jump is likely to alter the snowplow emission as the outer array implodes
- For Z conditions this change in snowplow radiation can be comparable to the observed interaction pulse
- Able to recreate correct outer mass dependency
- Future plans include analytics, simulations and experiments to better determine correct angle  $\beta$  for W arrays on Z

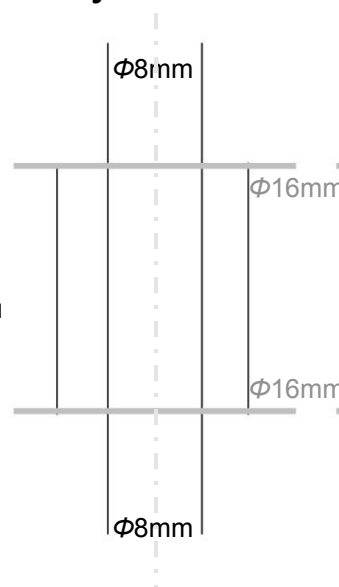


## Part 2: Conical nested

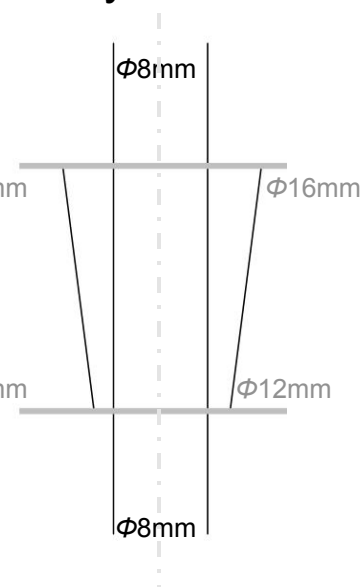
- One suggested technique to lengthen the main pulse from nested arrays is to seed a zipper using conical arrays  
c.f. zipper observed in gas puff experiments
- Two modified setups tested on both MAGPIE and Z



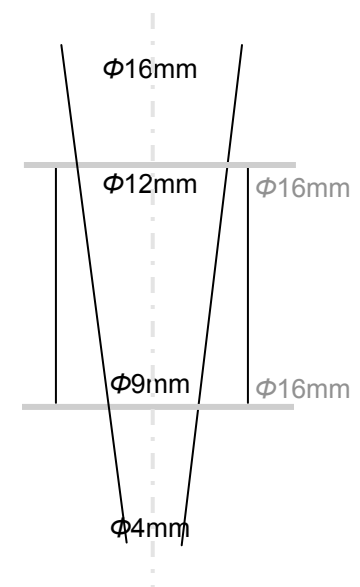
Cylindrical  
on cylindrical



Conical  
on cylindrical



Cylindrical  
on conical



## Use of a conical outer array will alter mass ablation rate

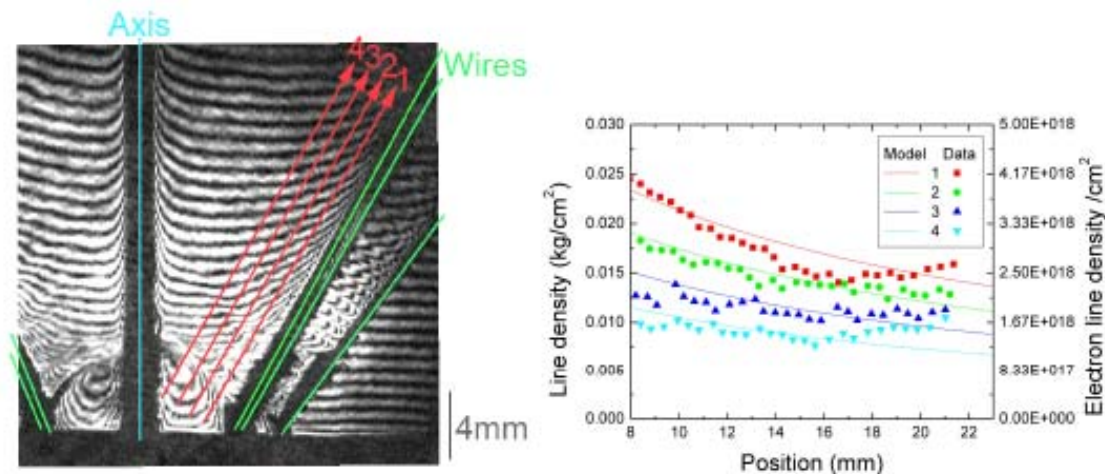
- With conical outer array the global field strength is varied along the length of the wire

$$B(z, t) = \frac{\mu_0 I(t)}{2\pi R(z)} = \frac{\mu_0 I(t)}{2\pi (R_0 + z \tan(\alpha))}$$

- Variation in global field alters mass ablation (due to fixed  $v_{abl}$ )

$$\dot{m} = \frac{\mu_0 I(t)}{2\pi V_{abl} (R_0 + z \tan(\alpha))}$$

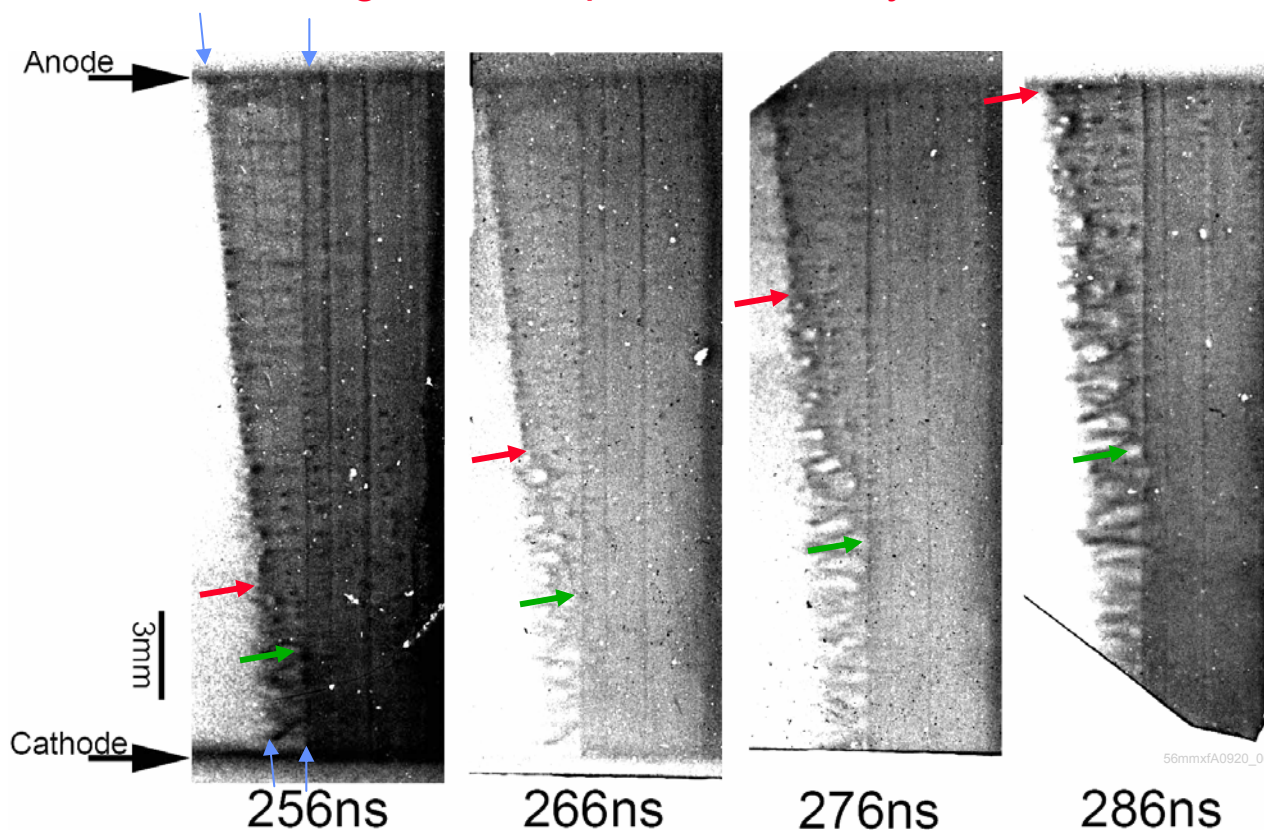
- Mass density profiles in single conical arrays are consistent ( $v_{abl} \sim 15 \text{ cm}/\mu\text{s}$ )



- Time of mass depletion (for single or nested) is expected to be a function of axial position

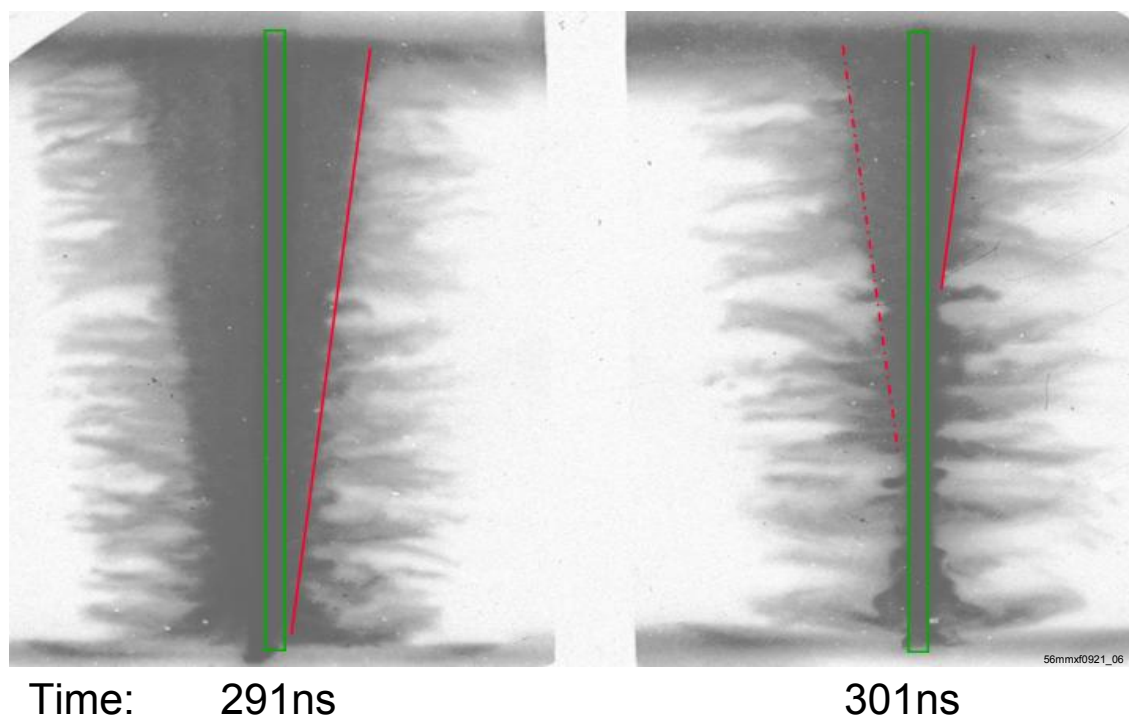
## A conical outer array can be used to seed an axial zipper

- Nested conical data agrees with predicted delay in time of wire breakage



- Also see that zipper of implosion gives an axial dependence time of interaction with the inner array

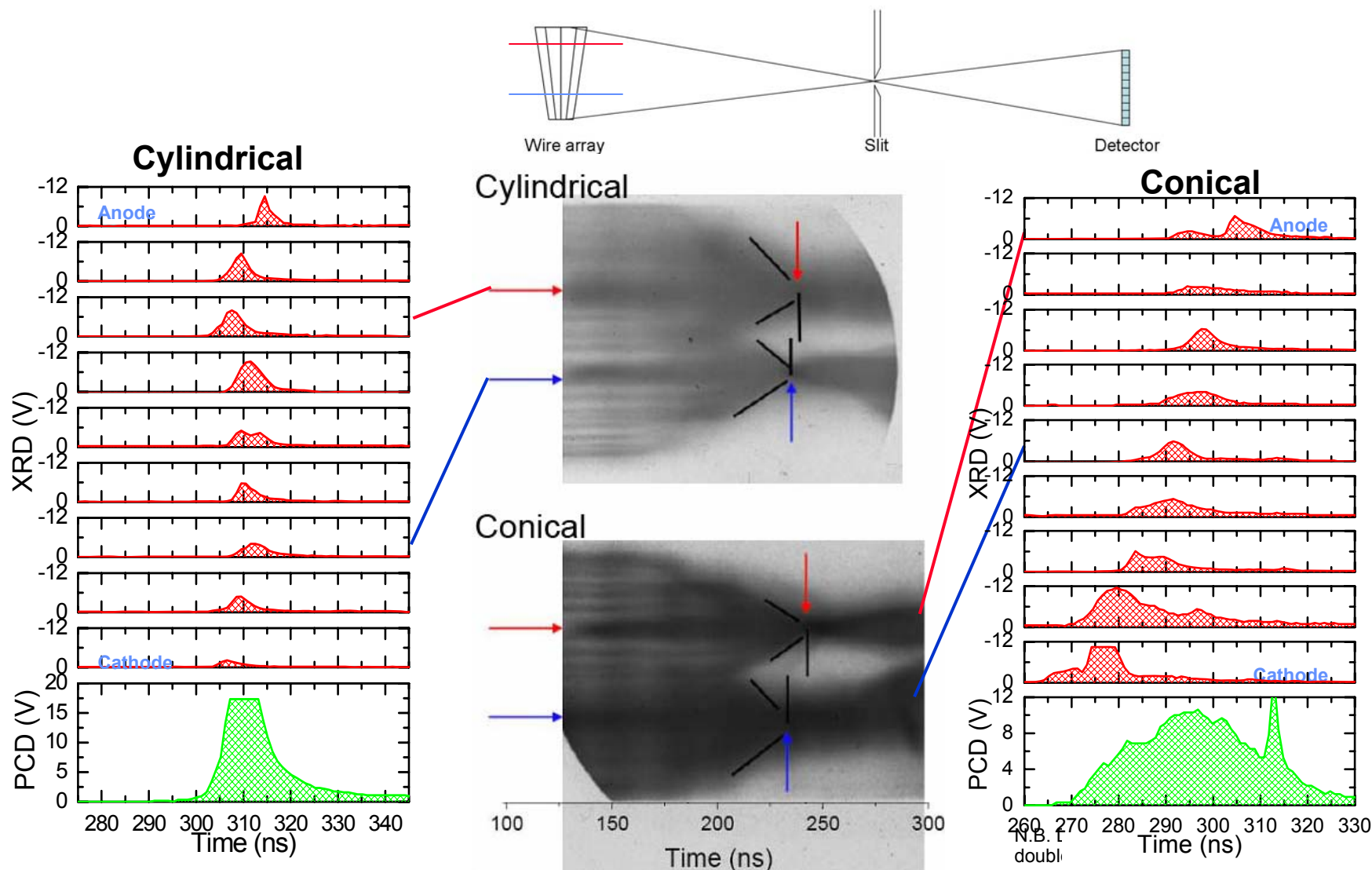
## Axial zipper survives through the interaction, leading to a zippered implosion of inner



- Data indicates zipper velocity  $\sim 139\text{cm}/\mu\text{s}$
- Estimated zipper over this time frame indicates zipper along full axis  $\Delta t_{\text{zip}} \sim 16.5\text{ns}$
- On MAGPIE, left-right asymmetry also present due to concentricity issue,
  - will effect pulse, but temporal effect is less ( $\Delta t_{\text{L-R}} \sim 7\text{ns}$ )

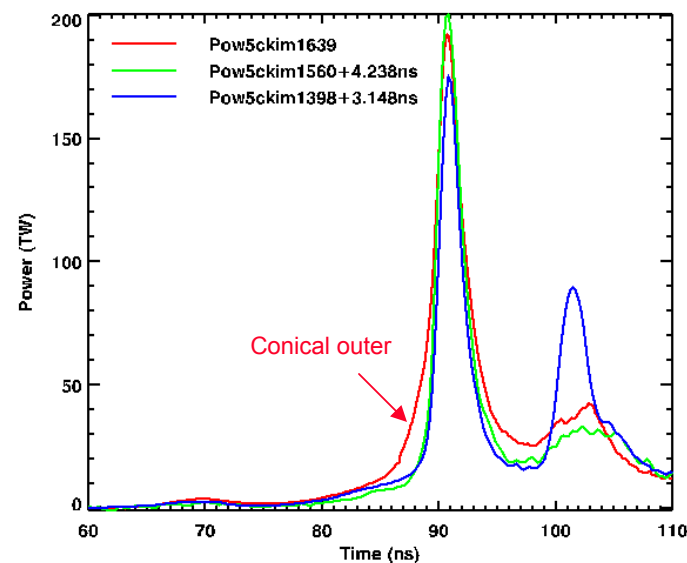
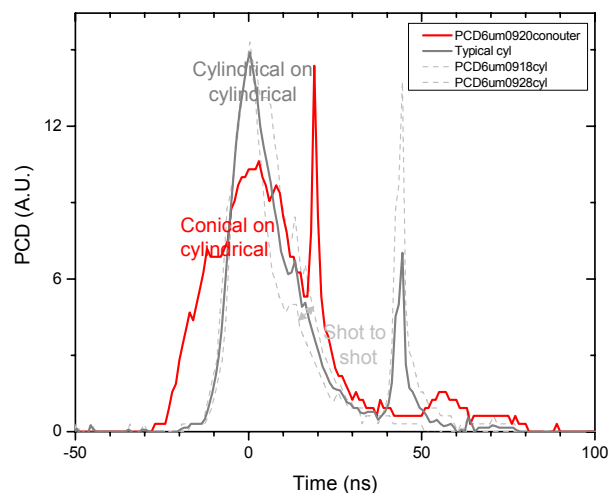
# Seeded zipper translates into a zippered stagnation, and elongated x-ray pulse

- Twin radial optical streak and zipper array each indicate conical outer zippers stagnation
- Axial dependence of stagnation time leads to pulse lengthening





# Comparison of conical and cylindrical outers indicates success at widening main pulse



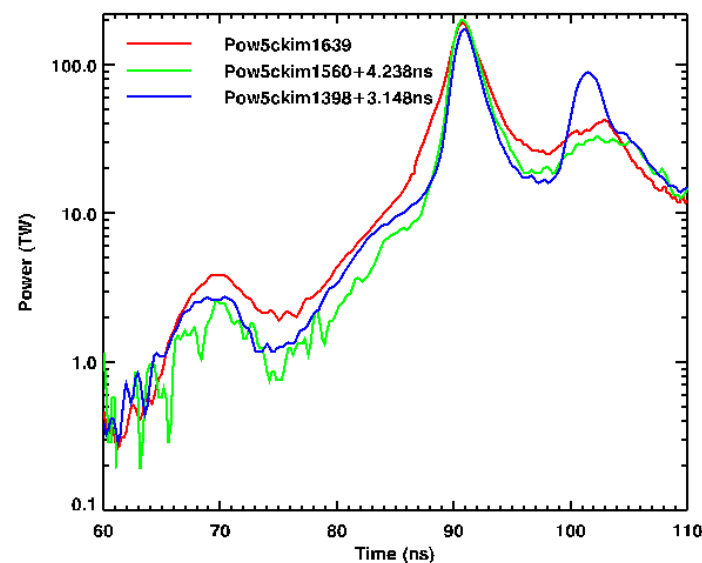
## For conical outer on MAGPIE:

- See a longer rise in x-ray pulse
- Peak power down, but total energy similar
  - (possibly 25% higher for conical outer)

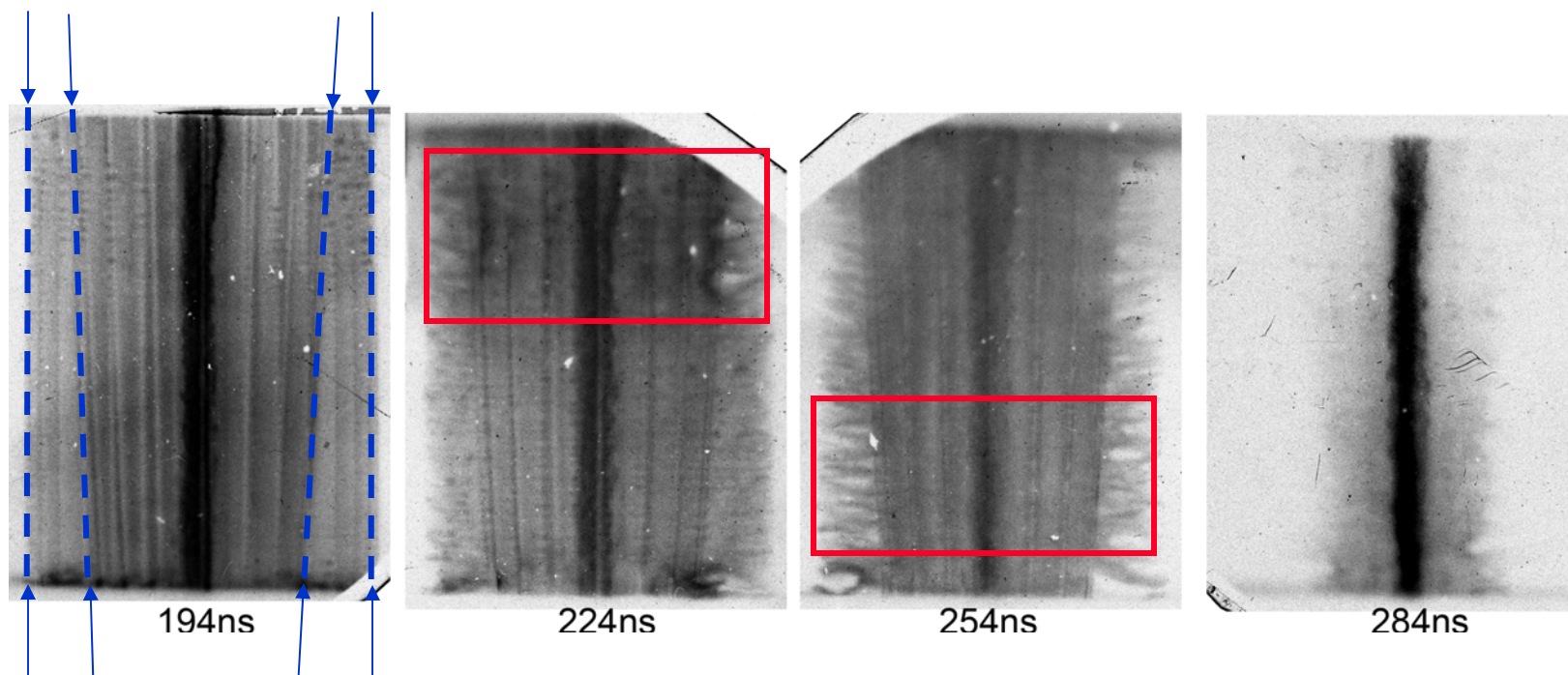
## For conical outer on Z:

(Z1639, Cuneo et al., 22mm Cathode, 20m anode, 12mm inner)

- Increased foot pulse power by 45% because of increase in outer velocity
- Increase first step by zippering implosion onto foam
  - power by a factor of ~4.6
  - energy by ~4.2
- Increase energy in the first step from 25 kJ to 104 kJ
- Energy radiated after the first step is unchanged
- Conical outer increases energy radiated in the main peak 22%

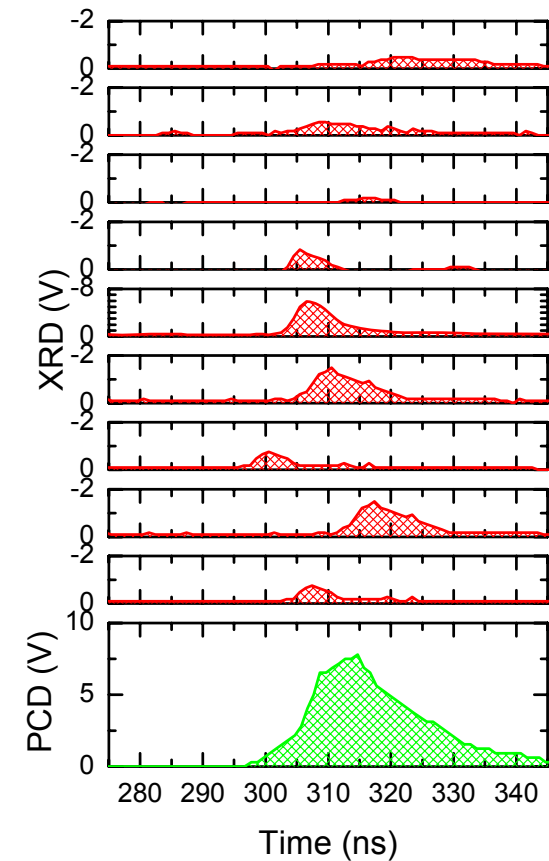
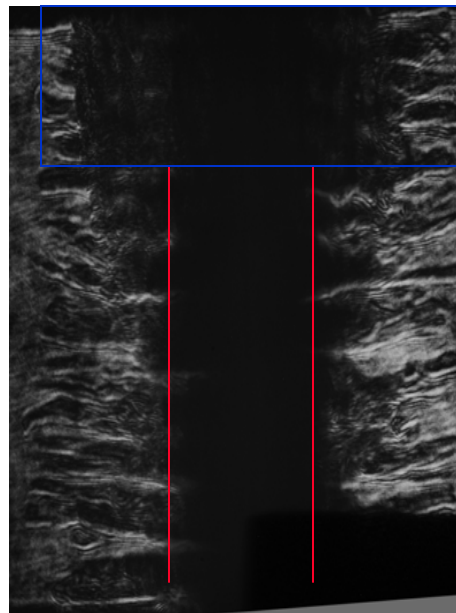
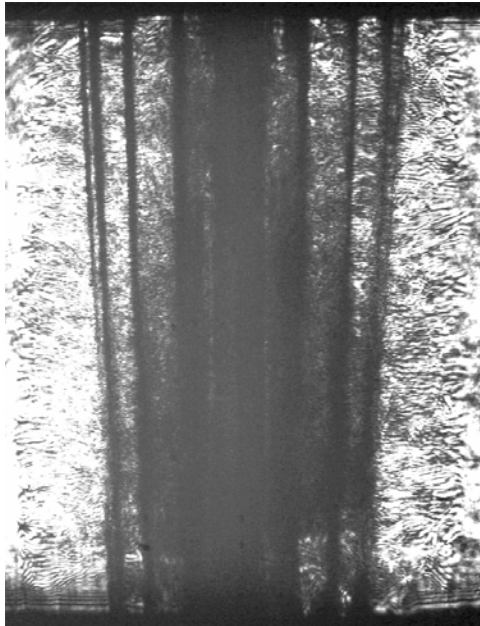


## Inclining inner leads to change of time of flight of outer to inner, and alters timing of Interaction



- Cylindrical wire arrays show variation in time of inner collision with inner array diameter
- Conical inner shows that time of interaction varies with  $z$
- Power pulse will be lengthened
- Zipper less significant after inner ablation

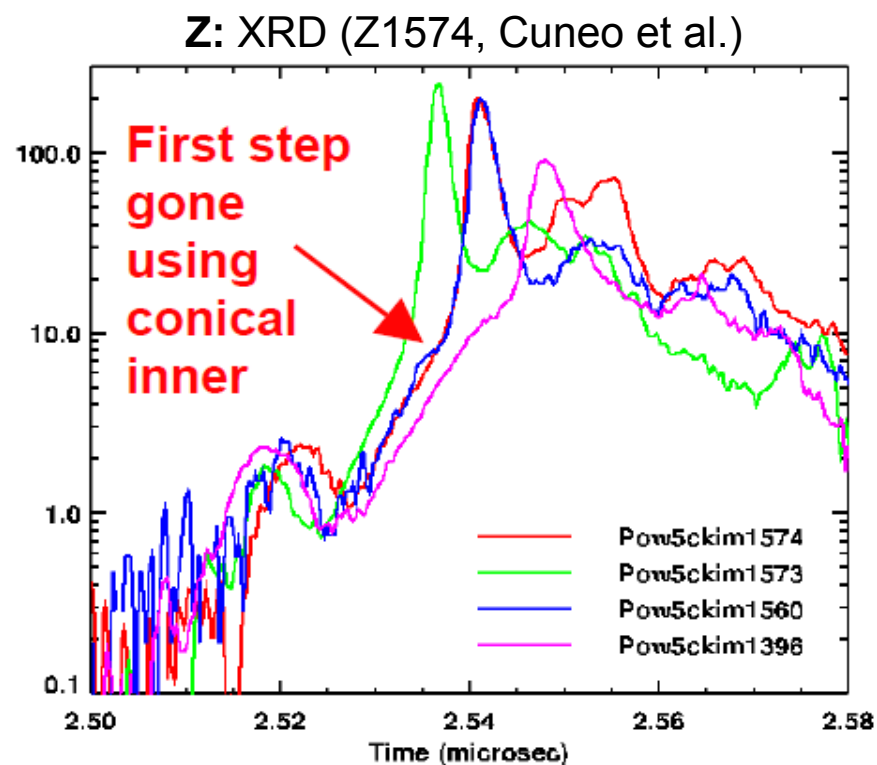
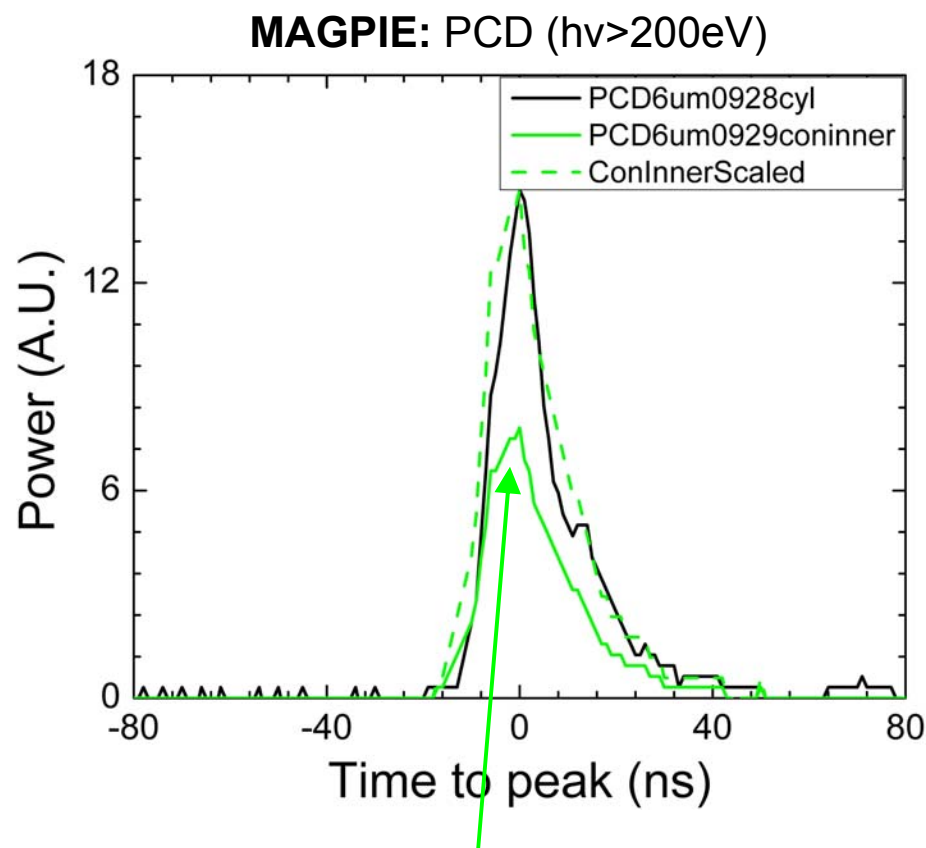
## Nested array with conical inner does not globally zipper stagnation on MAGPIE, but would alter Interaction Pulse



- Laser imaging after interaction indicates no substantial zipper
- Zipper array confirms no zipper in stagnation
- Laser imaging does show top section does not participate in implosion



## Conical inner has some effects, but does not alter width of main pulse on MAGPIE or Z

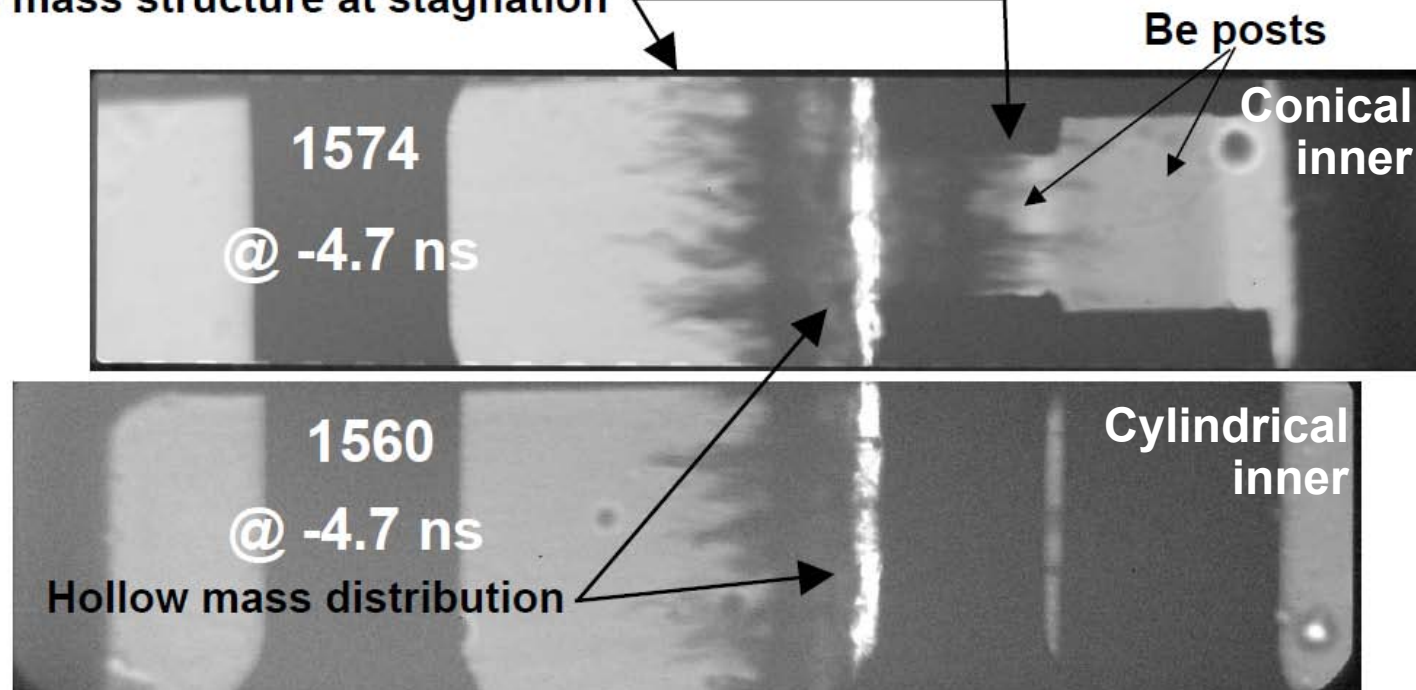


MAGPIE power lower than cylindrical  
due to part of array not participating in implosion

## Radiography on Z indicates no zipper present after interaction



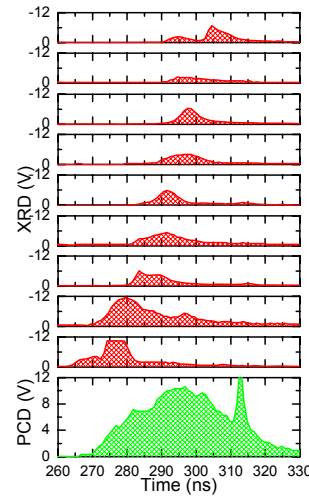
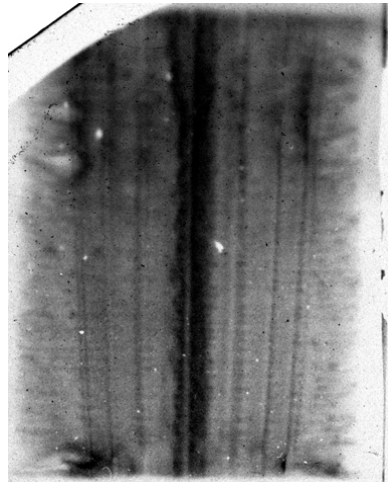
3D mass structure at stagnation



- For Z see no evidence of change to the mass distribution post-interaction



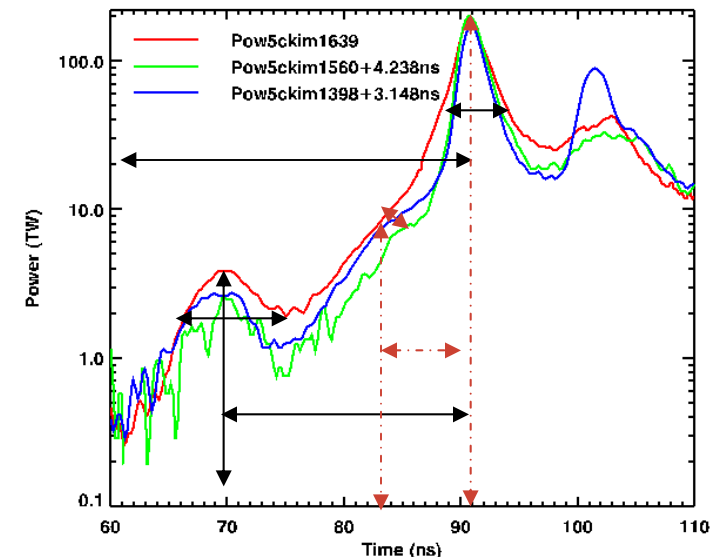
## Part 2 Summary: What can we now control



- Conical inner can control
  - Time scale of interaction
- Conical outer can control
  - Time scale of interaction (MAGPIE)
  - Time scale of main stagnation
- Need a more quantitative comparison

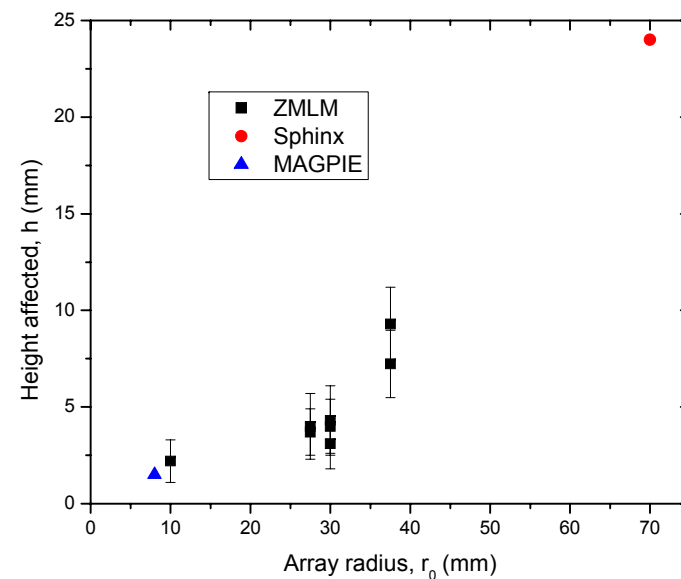
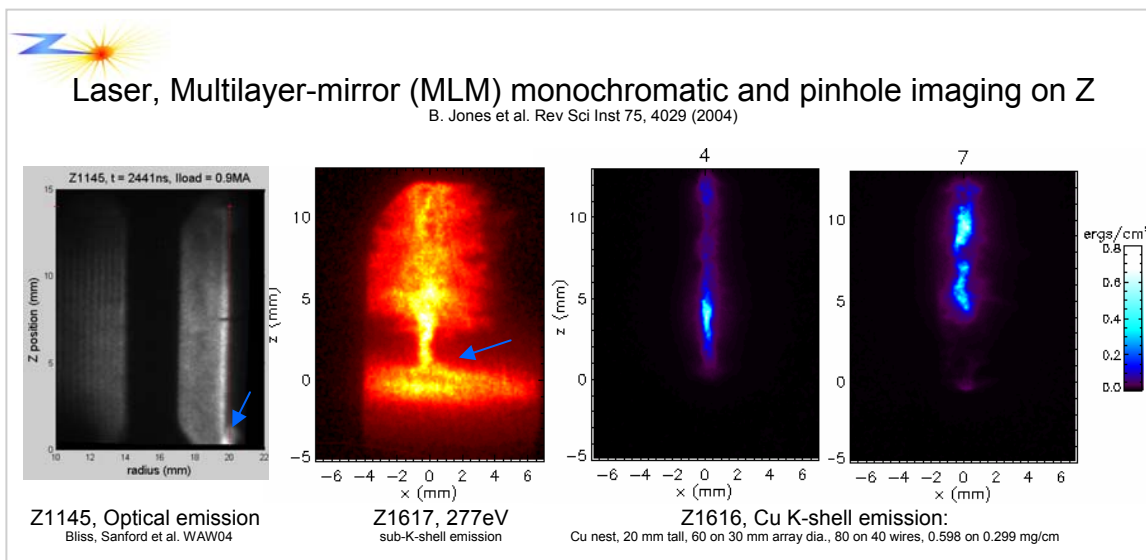
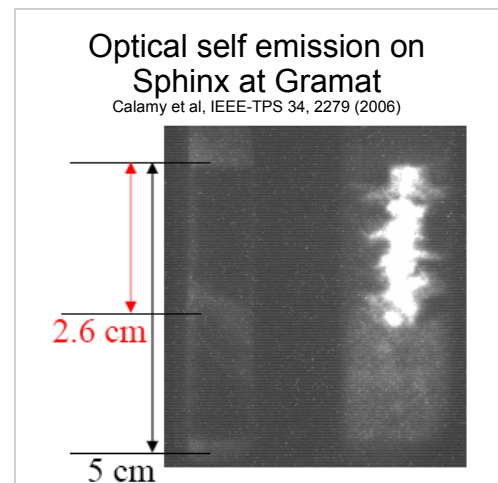
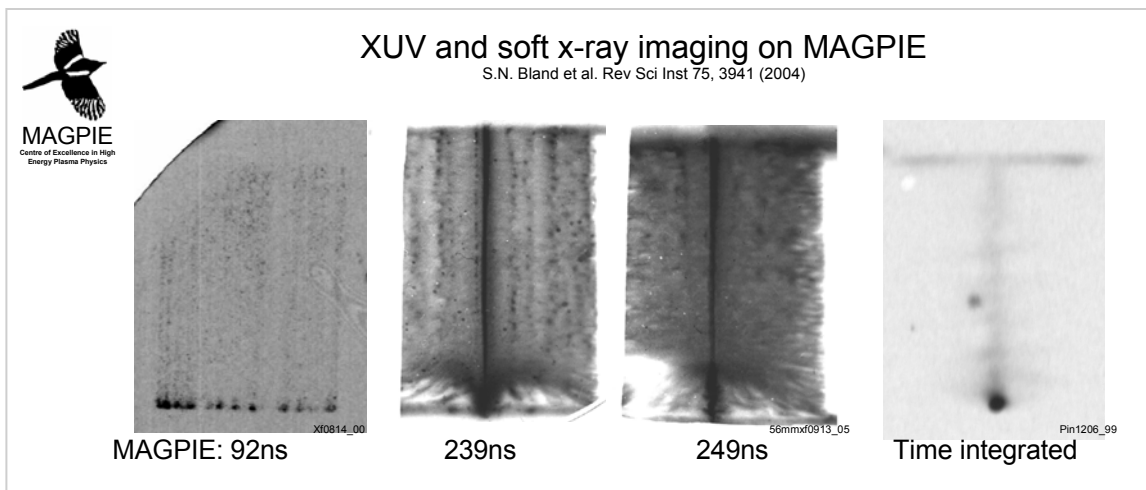
Combine with previous data (Cuneo et al.),  
now have control of:

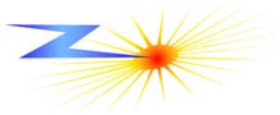
- Time of peak (Outer mass, inner mass, outer diameter)
- Interaction to peak (inner diameter and mass)
- Pulse length of stagnation (outer angle)
- Pulse length of interaction (relative angle between outer and inner – needs verification)
- Understanding of interaction may lead to control of amplitude and length (need more experiments)



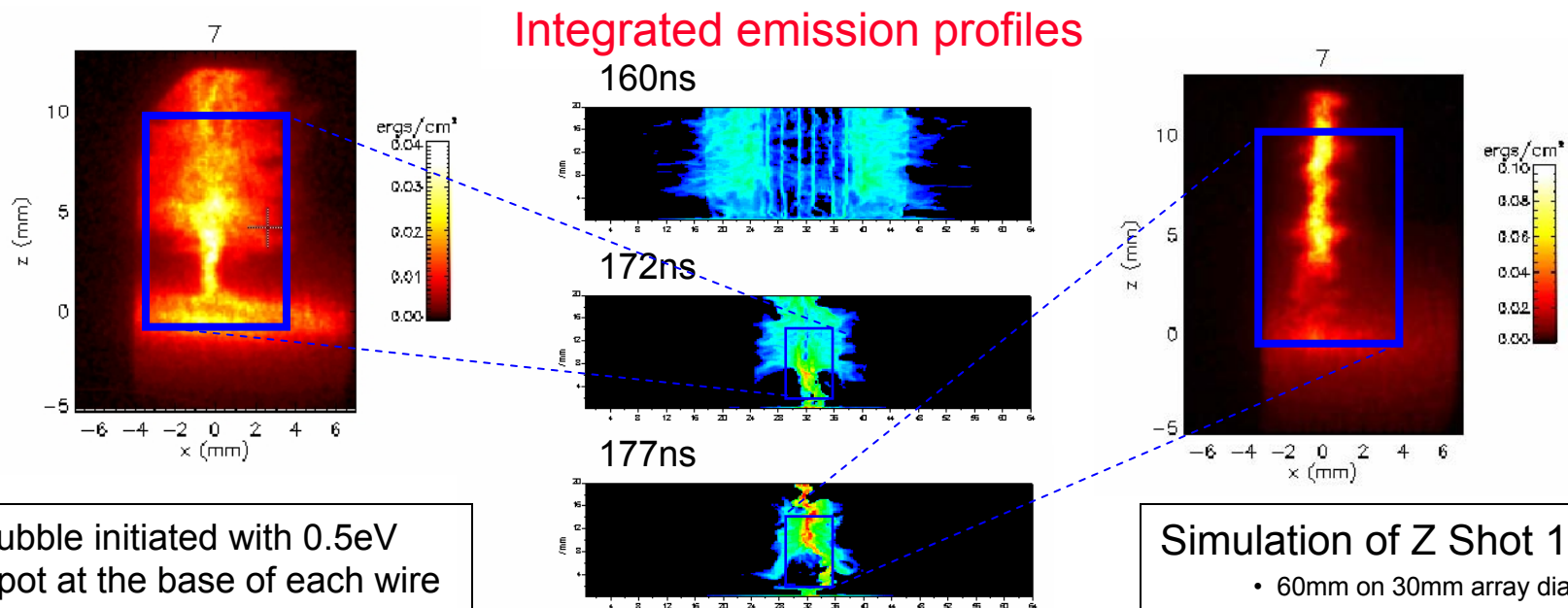


# End effects impact arrays at all current levels

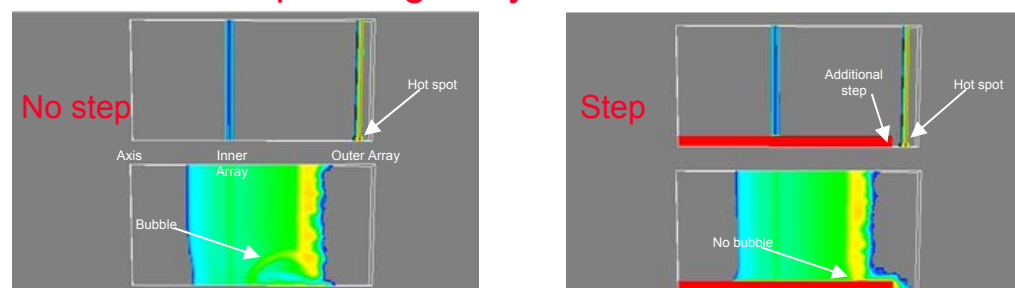
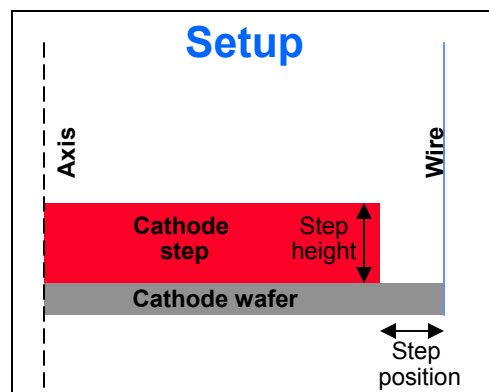




# Simulations can reproduce effect and show possible mitigation with step



## Presence of step on cathode step changes dynamics

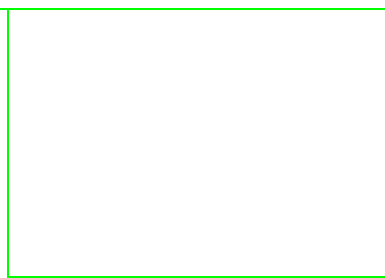
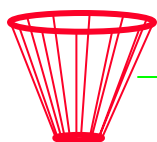


Simulations by C. Jennings using  
Gorgon 3D resistive MHD code  
J.P. Chittenden et al. PPCF 46, B457 2004

Experiments to test idea planned for Saturn in May-June

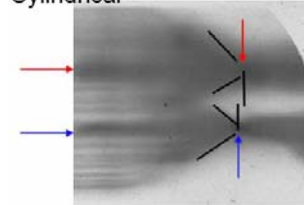
## Backup

# Streak setup for dual image

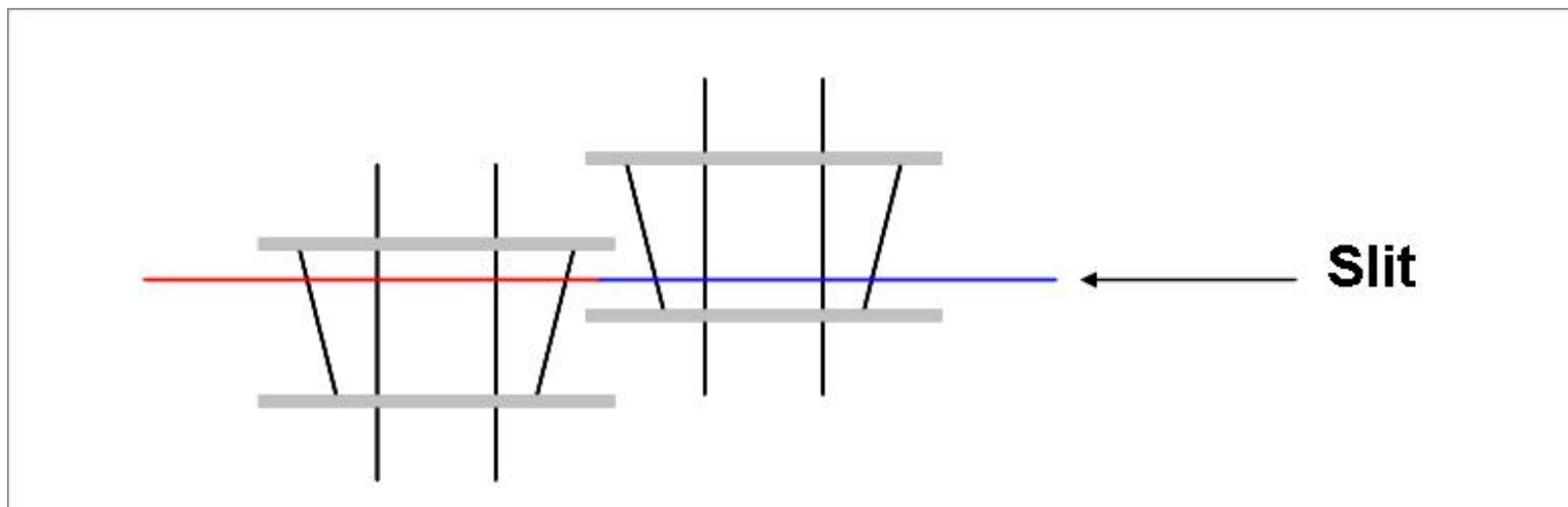
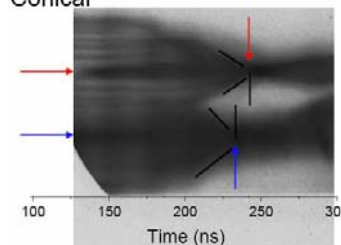


Streak

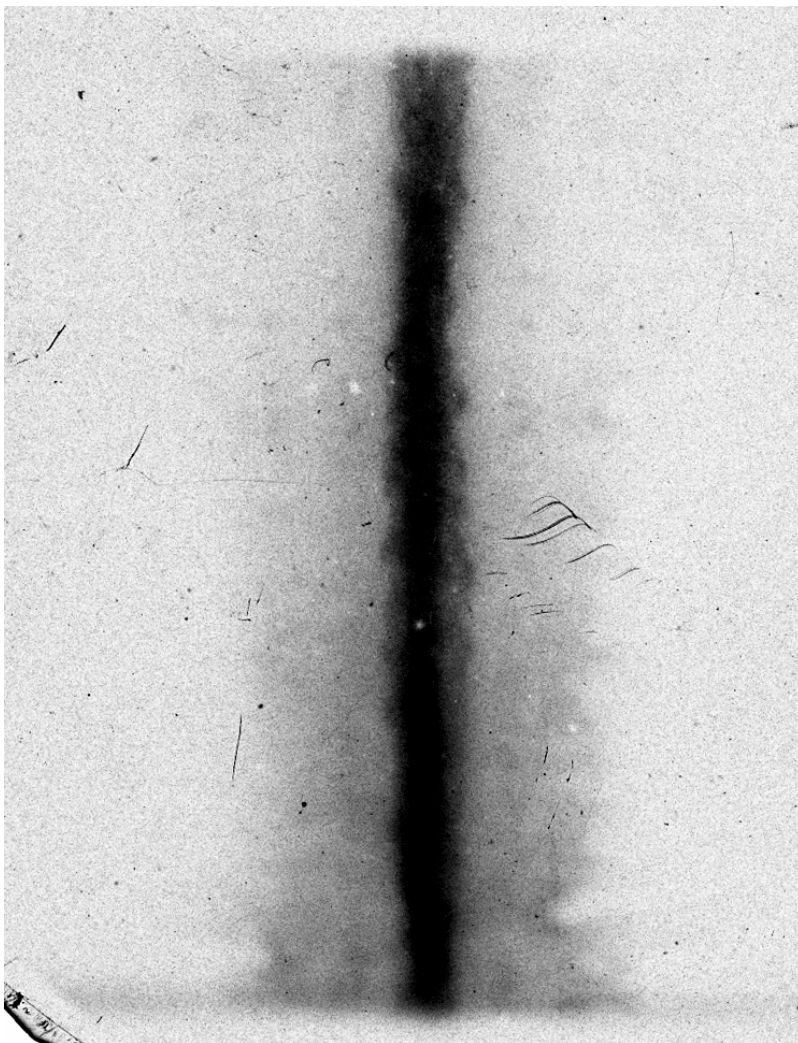
Cylindrical



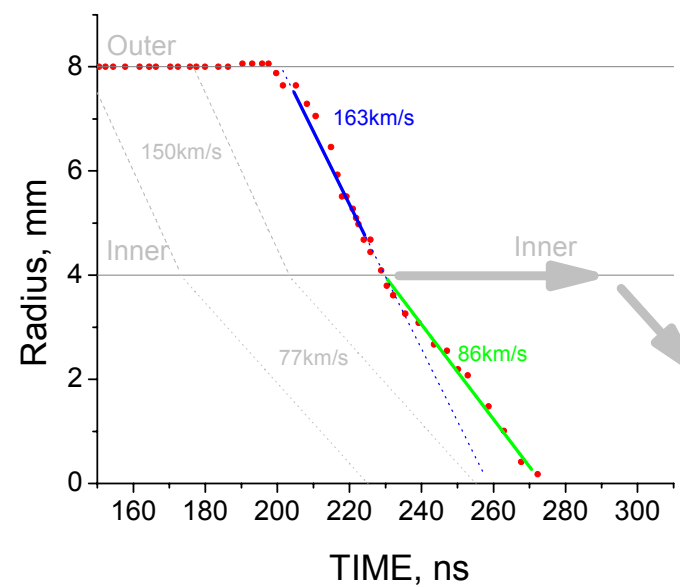
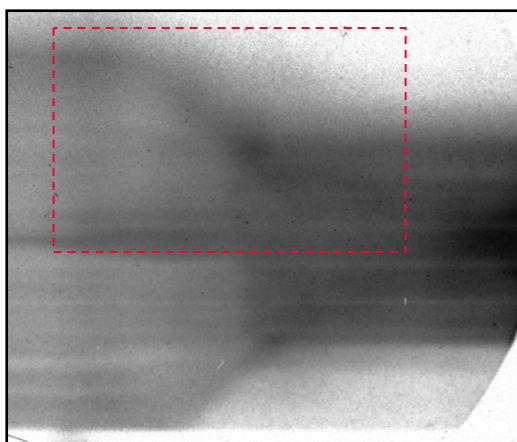
Conical



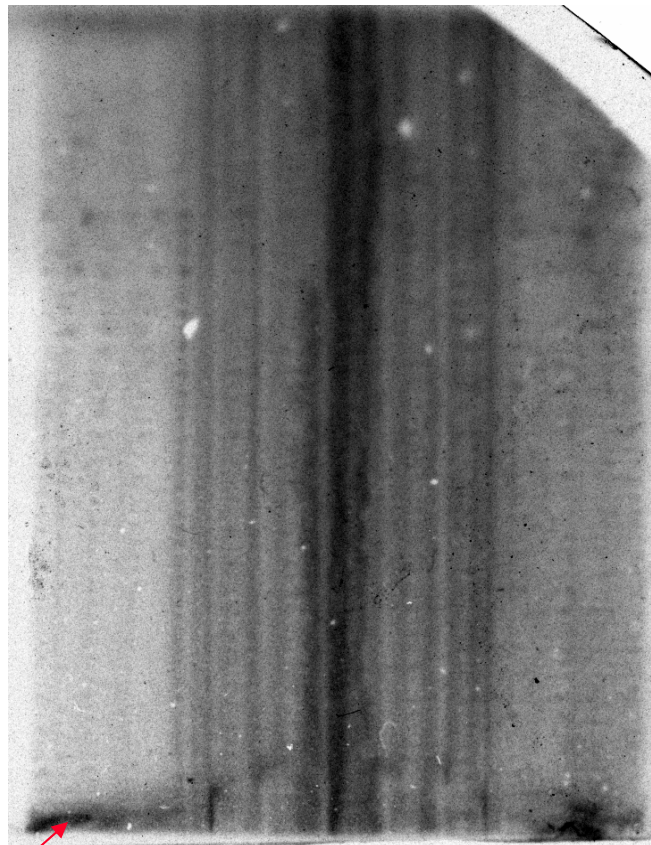
## XUV images can be overlaid to show evolution



# Streak shows evolution after interaction



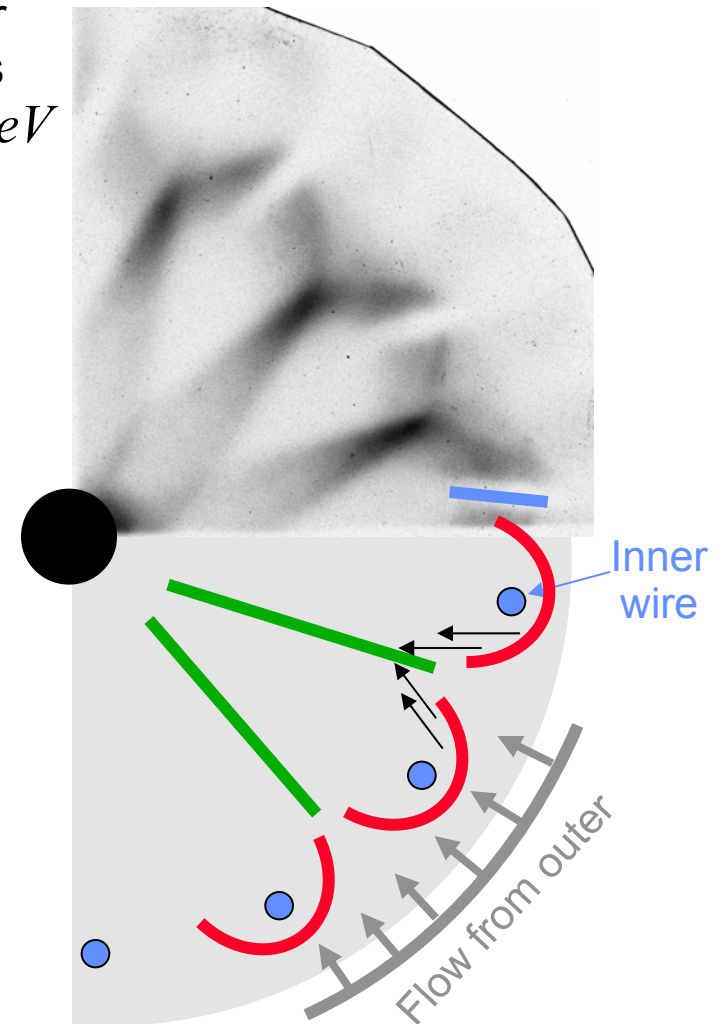
# Precursor plasma streams are shocked as they pass the inner array



Saturn experiments being planned to investigate mitigation of cathode effects

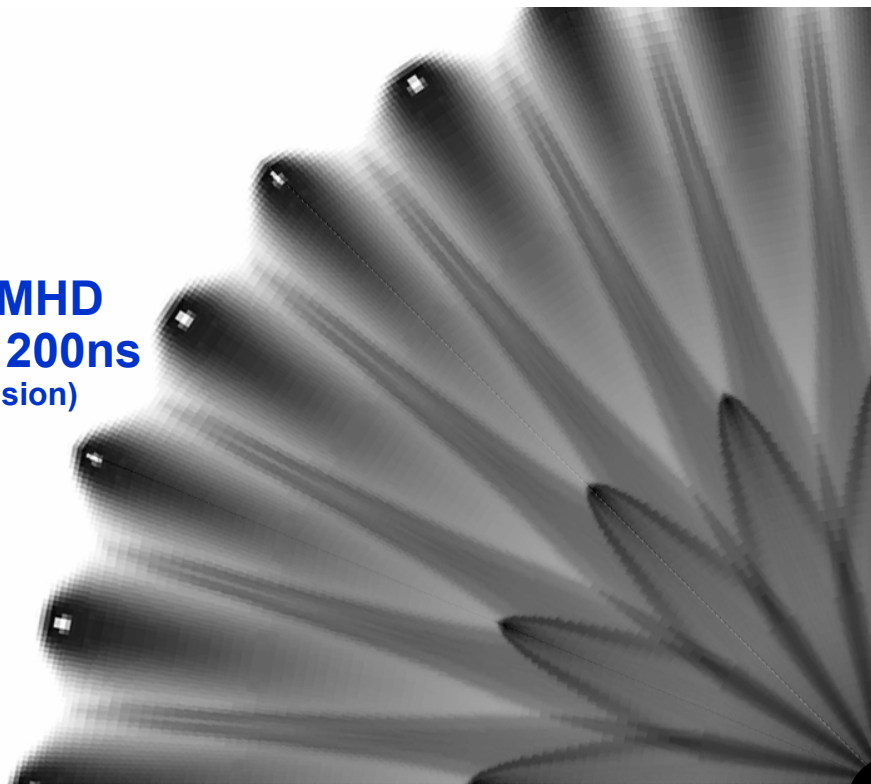
Inner array

Al inner  
~215ns  
 $h\nu > 30\text{eV}$

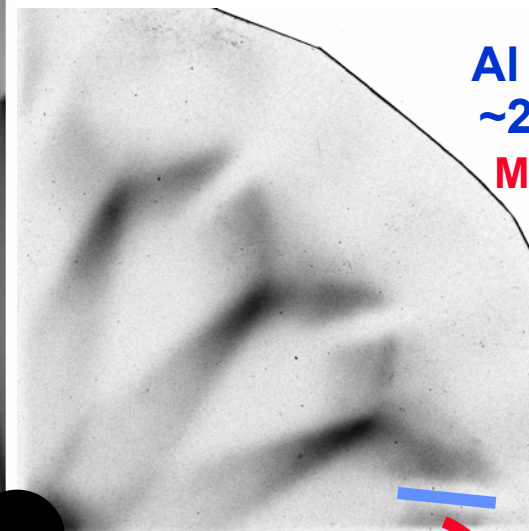


- Ablated streams perturbed by presence of inner forming bow shocks
- Shock leads to increased emission at position of inner (shock heating and change in density distribution)

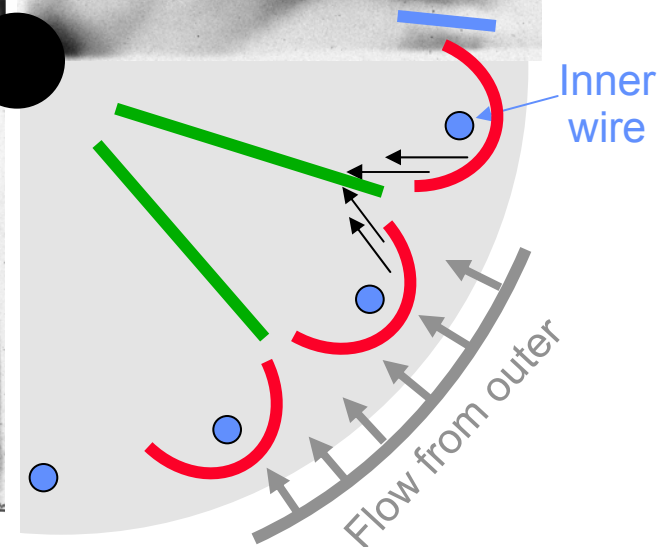
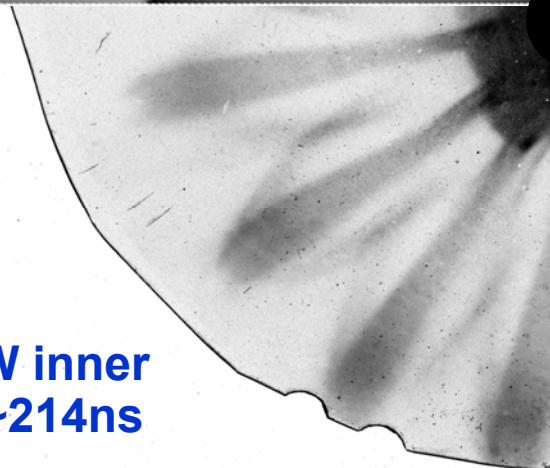
**2D Gorgon MHD  
simulation at 200ns**  
(simulated emission)



**Al inner  
~215ns**  
 $M_{Al} \sim 1.3$



**W inner  
~214ns**  
 $M_W \sim 2.5$



# Shock jump in precursor streams

- For MAGPIE conditions estimate  $M \sim 1.3$ ,  $\gamma \sim 1.3$

- Estimate jump conditions:

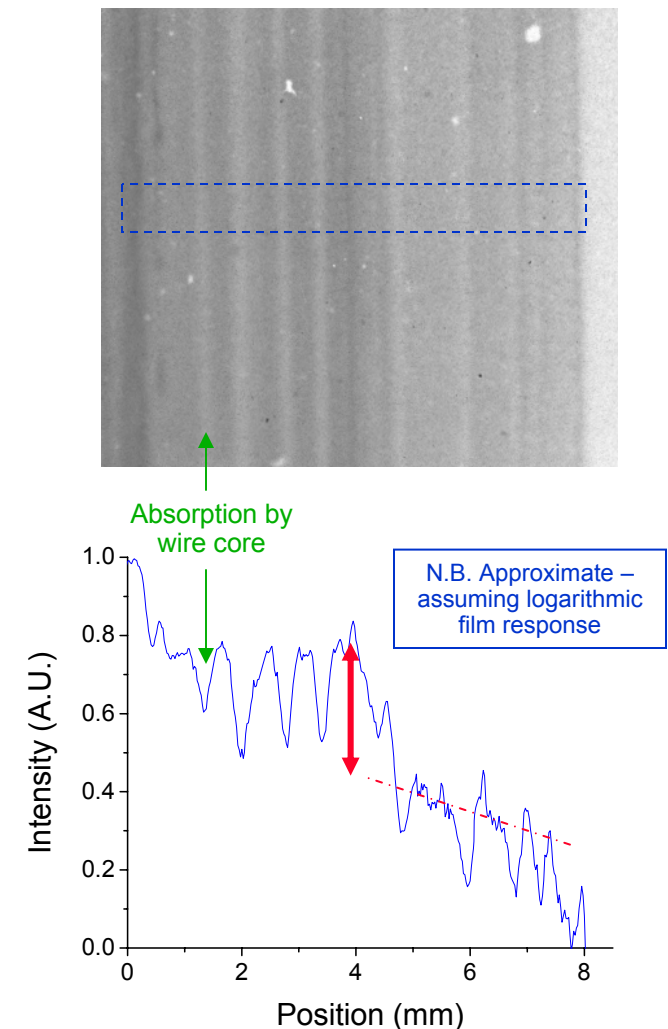
$$\frac{T_1}{T_0} = 1 + \frac{2(\gamma - 1)}{(\gamma + 1)^2} \frac{M_{\perp 0}^2 - 1}{M_{\perp 0}^2} [\gamma M_{\perp 0}^2 + 1] \sim 1.1$$

$$\frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} = \frac{(\gamma + 1)M_{\perp 0}^2}{(\gamma - 1)M_{\perp 0}^2 + 2} \sim 1.5$$

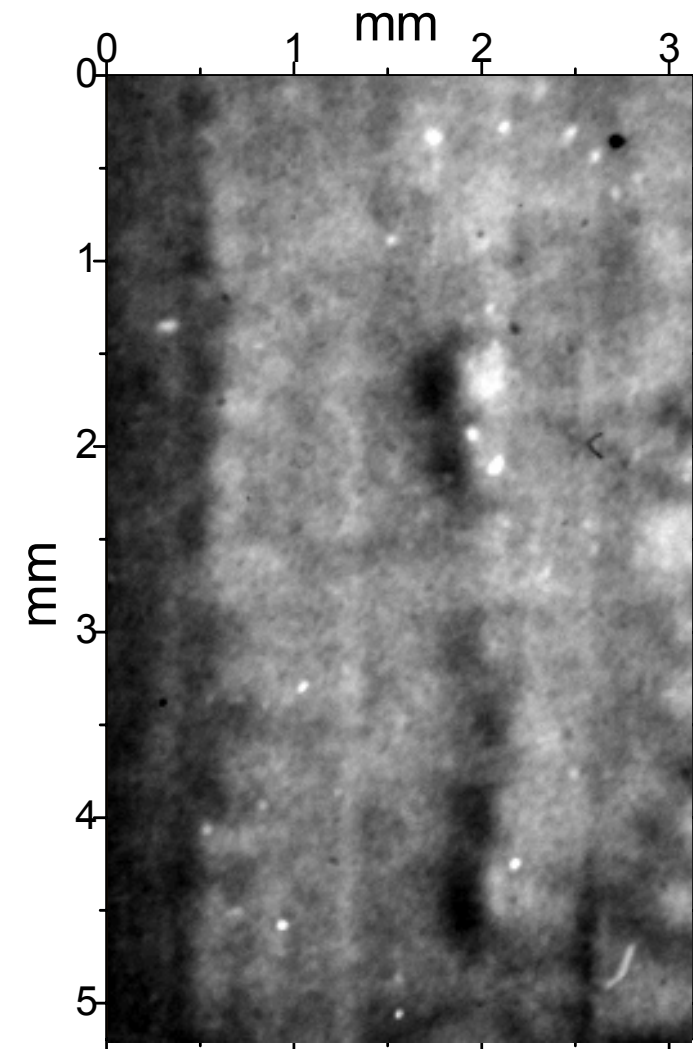
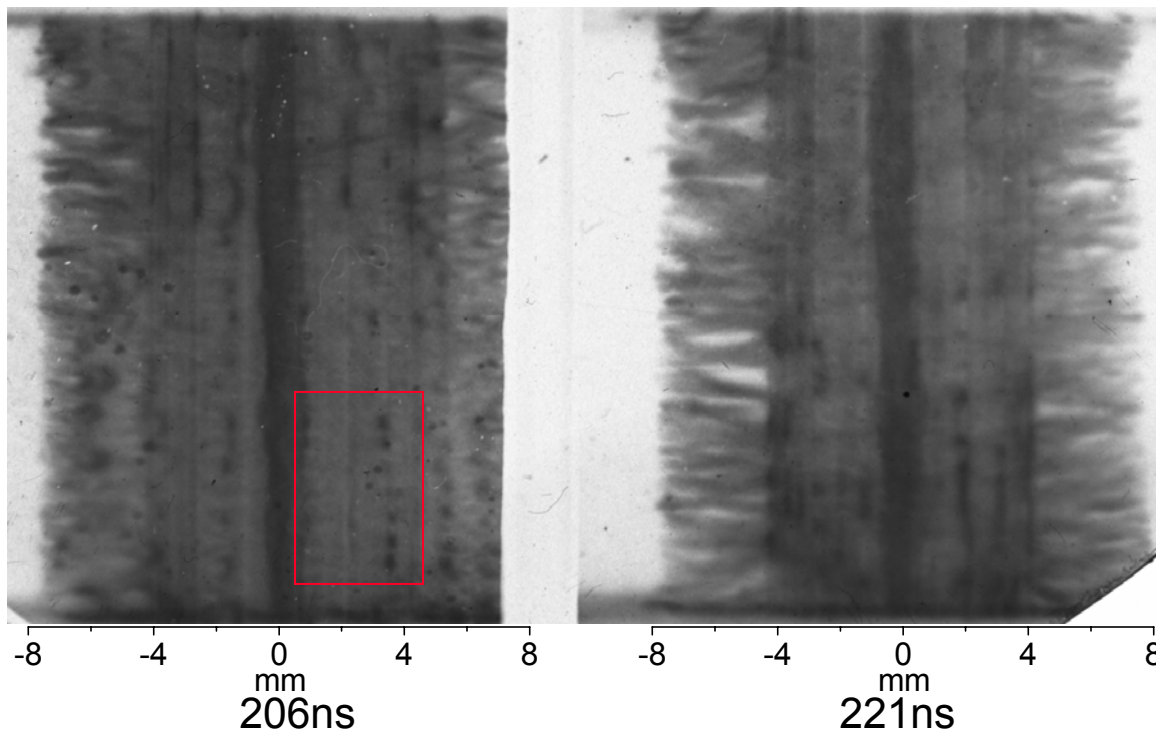
- From these, can estimate change in emission from incoming flows, e.g. assuming recombination emission:

$$\frac{P_1}{P_0} = \frac{\rho_1^2 / \sqrt{T_1}}{\rho_0^2 / \sqrt{T_0}} \sim 2.2$$

- Lineout of image is consistent (no Abel inversion...)
- Shock setup should be steady state before imploding outer reaches it



## Interaction: Bubbles emit as they pass inner

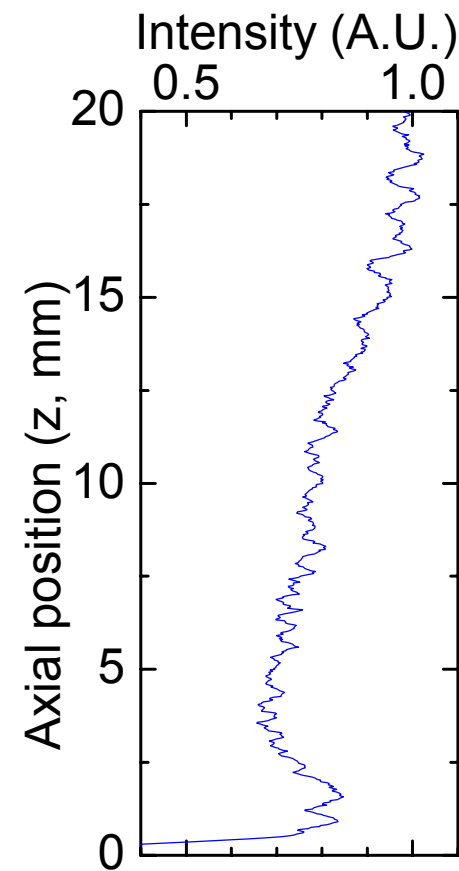
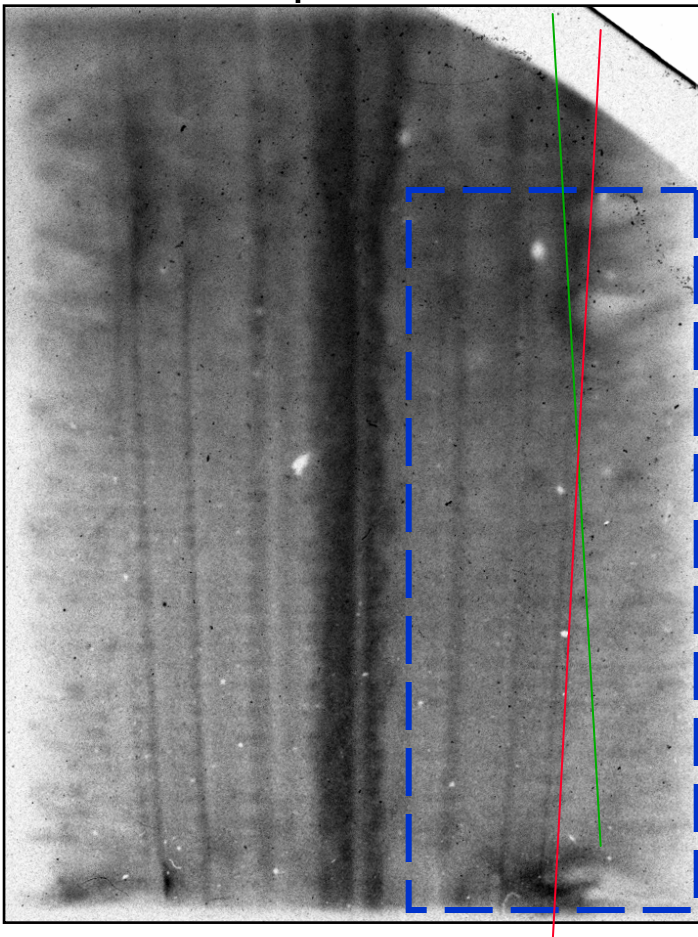


On MAGPIE see enhanced emission from imploding bubbles as they reach the inner array

Detailed image demonstrates this emission increases inside the inner wires

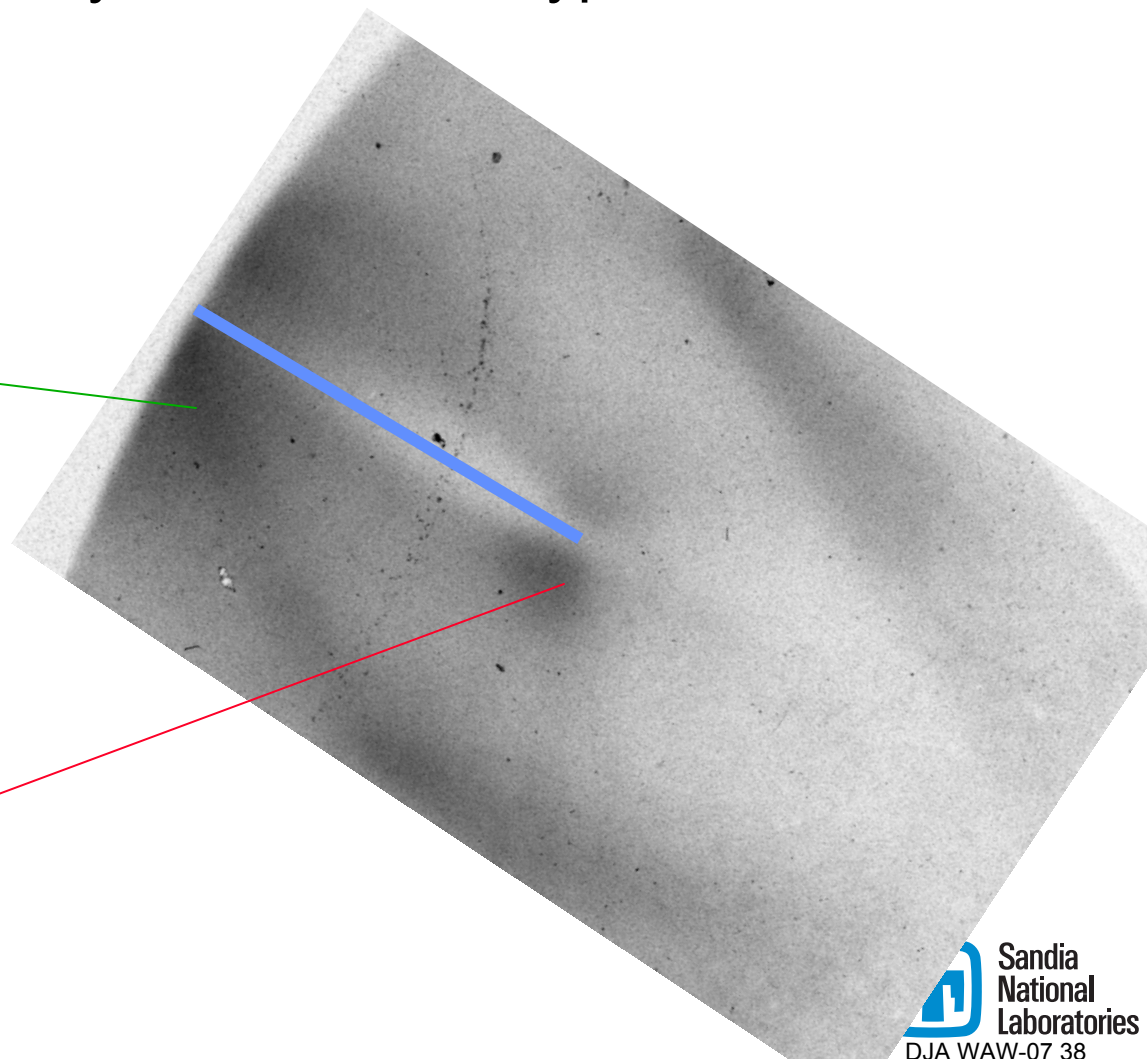
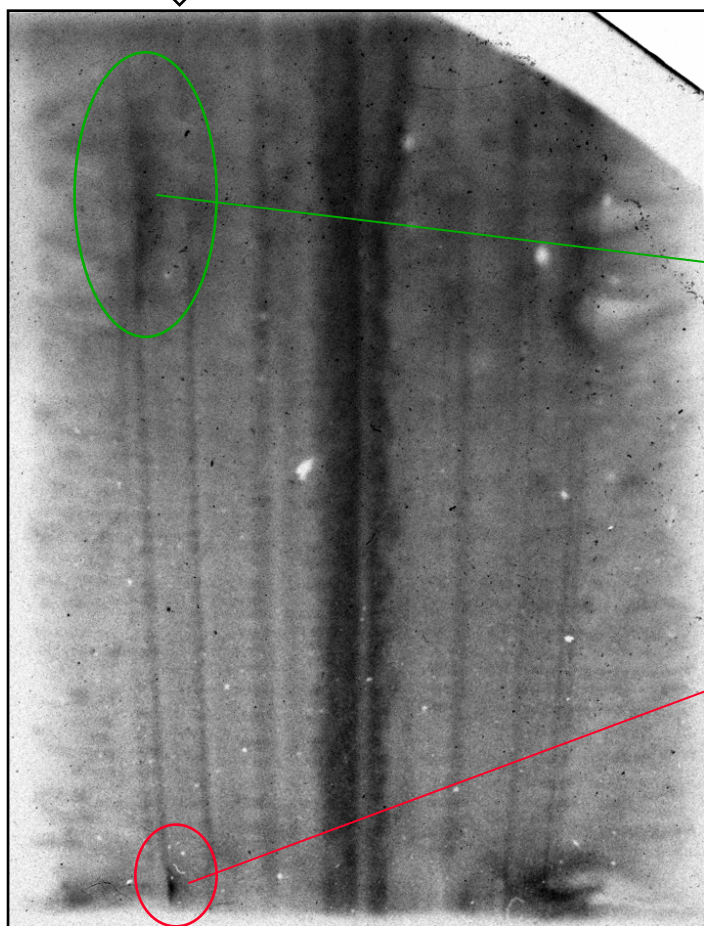
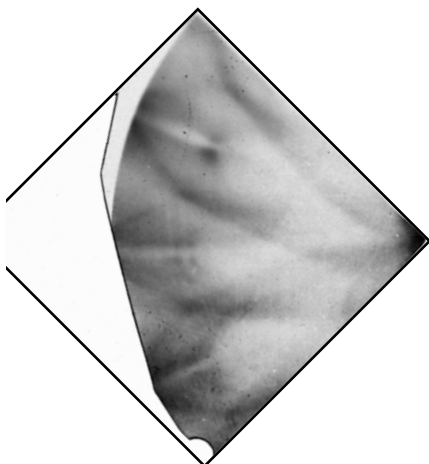
## Conical inner isolates snowplow from interaction

- Setup designed such that snowplow is constant along axis, however interaction time changes
- See emission from bubbles interacting with inner near for larger inner radius positions, but not at smaller inner radius

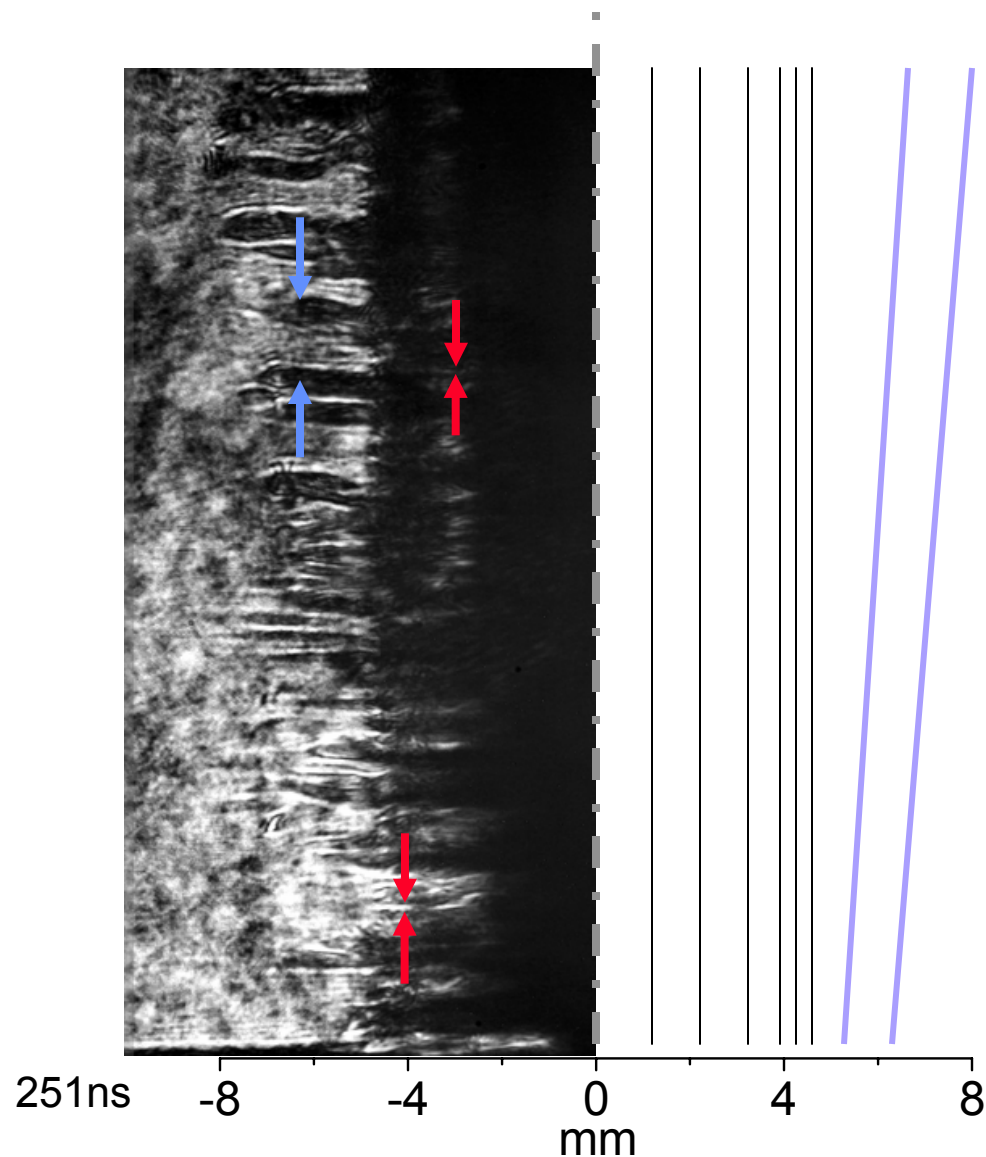


## End-on probing shows interaction

- See interaction emission surrounds wire, possibly in bow-shock type structure

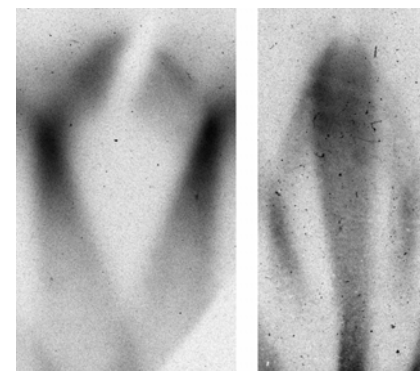
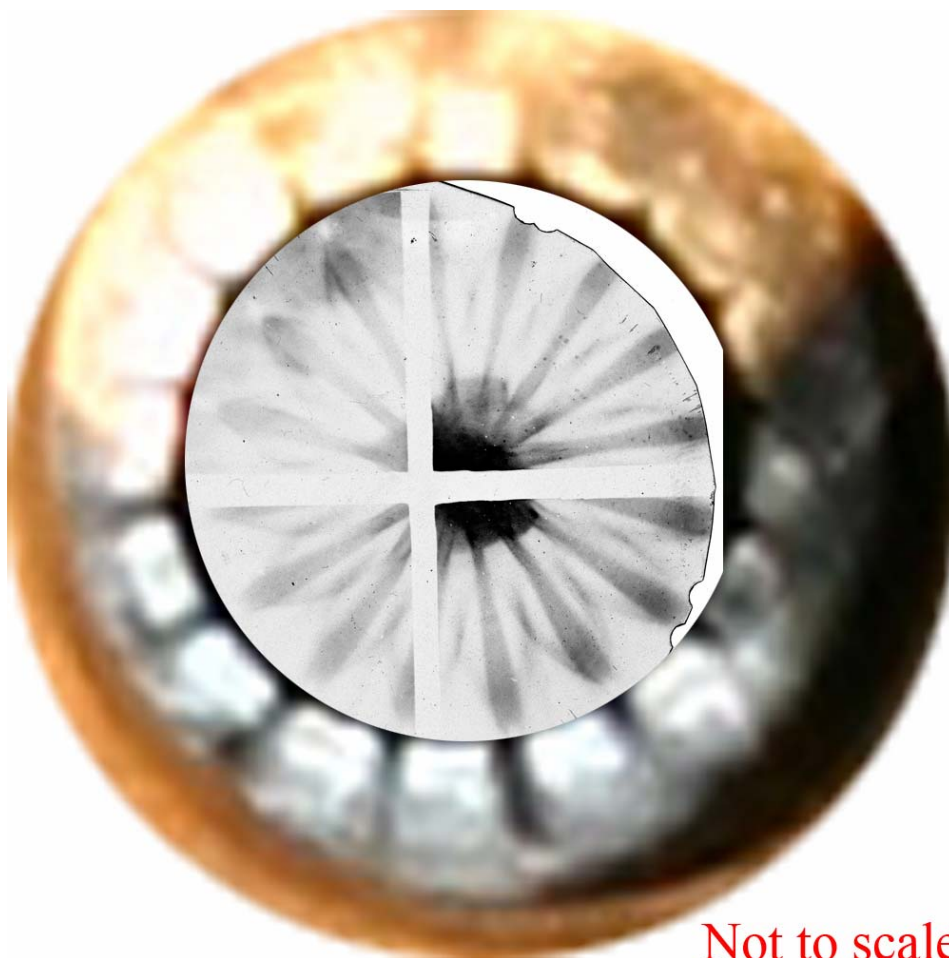


## Interaction with inner resets implosion wavelength

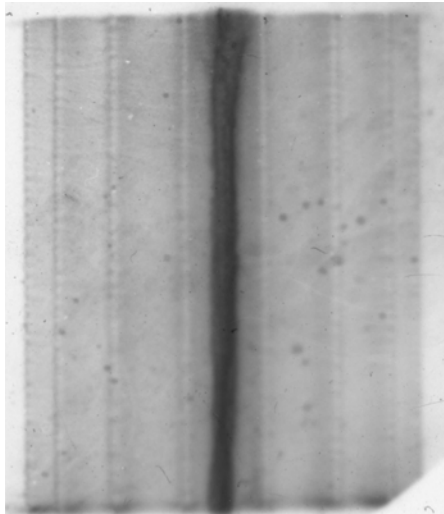


- Conical outer onto cylindrical inner shows change in wavelength is different before and after interaction with inner
- Interaction resets wavelength to sub-mm natural mode

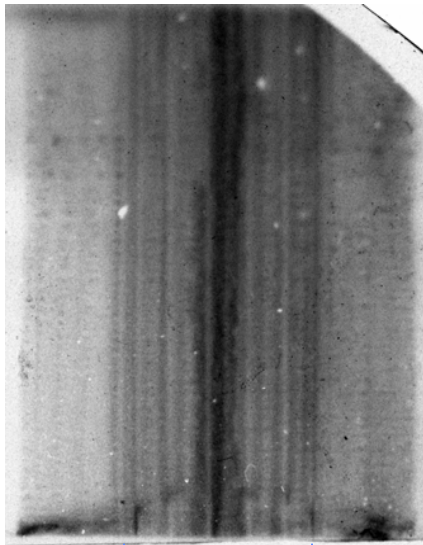
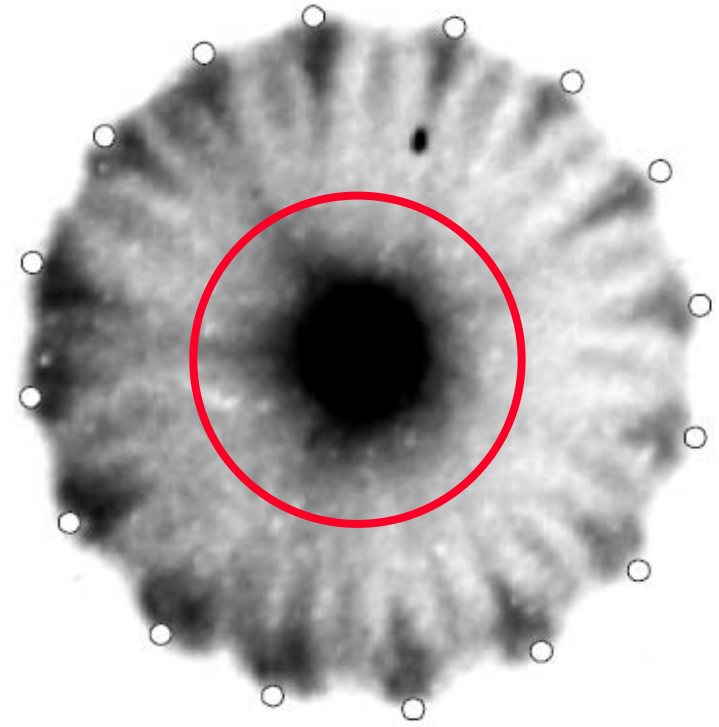
## End-on orientation



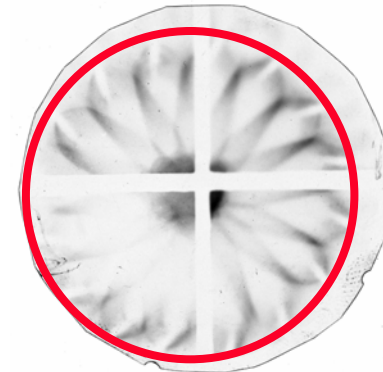
## Single/nested side-on and end-on



Single array  
(16 Al wires)

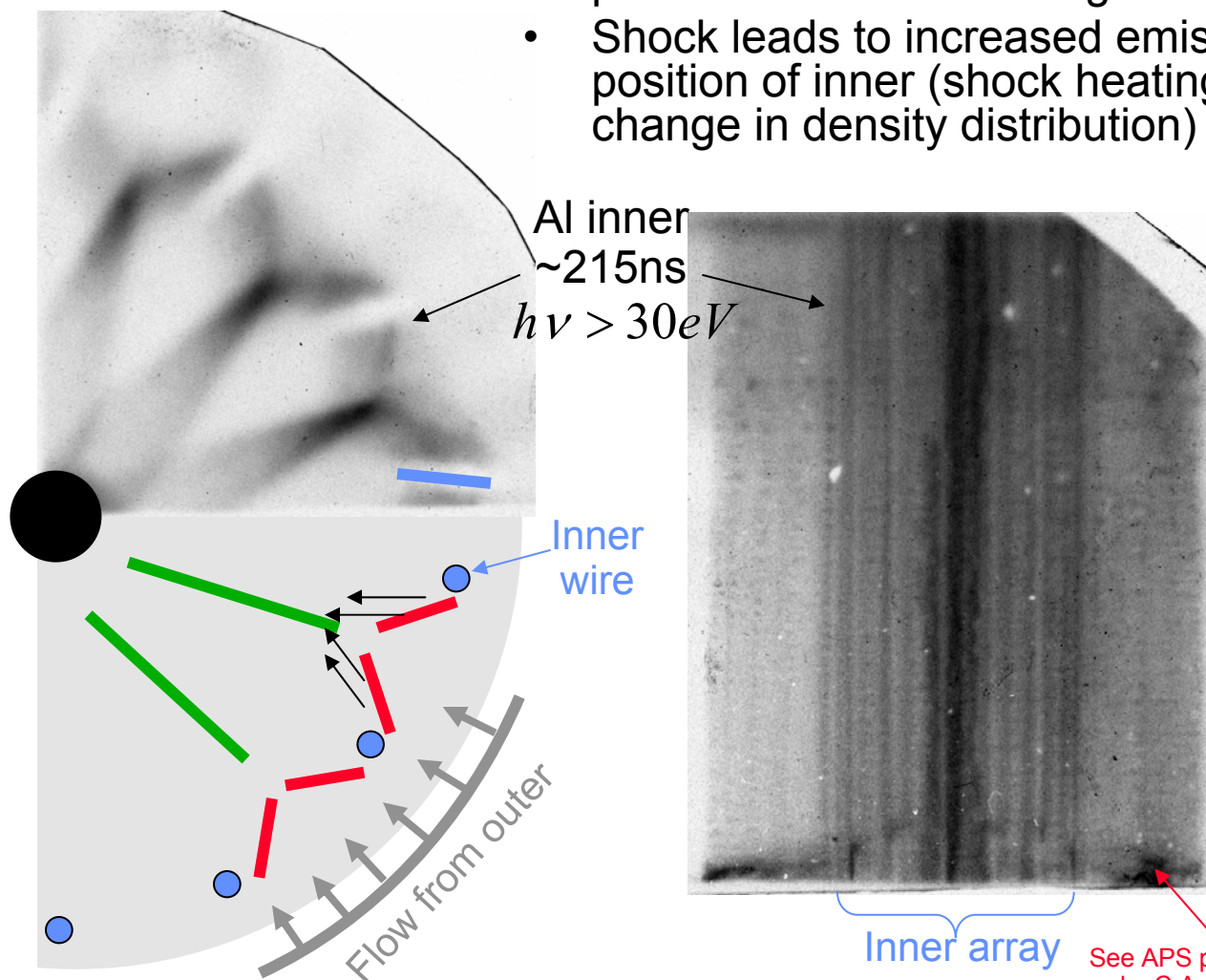


Nested array  
(32 Al onto 16 Al)



# Precursor plasma streams are shocked as they pass the inner array

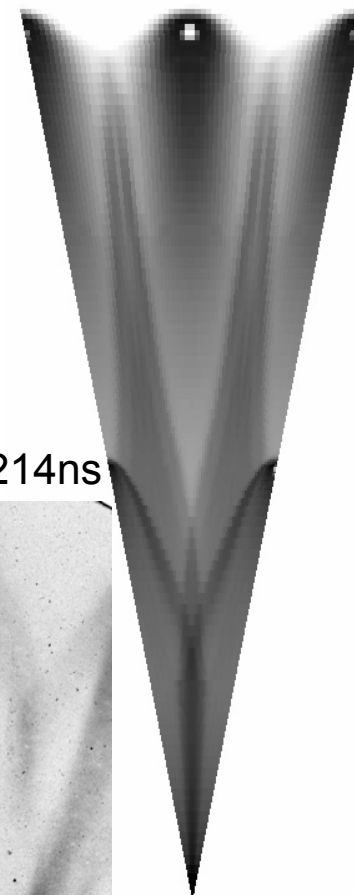
- Ablated streams perturbed by presence of inner forming bow shocks
- Shock leads to increased emission at position of inner (shock heating and change in density distribution)



W inner, at 214ns



MHD simulation



Inner array

See APS poster GP1.00097  
by C.A. Jennings et al.