

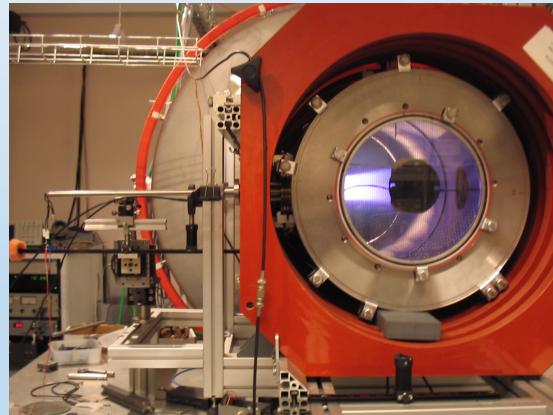
# Development of a spectro-tomography diagnostic in the visible for the study of plasmas

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## *Cross-field ExB plasma instability*

### ***ExB plasma configuration:***

- Hall thruster,
- Magnetron discharges,
- Penning gauges,
- Tokamaks...

→ Particles drift in the ExB direction:

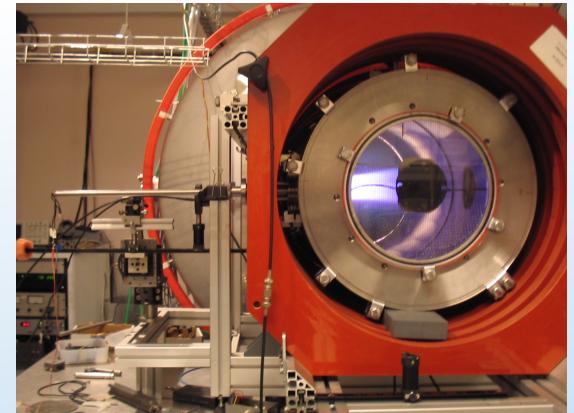
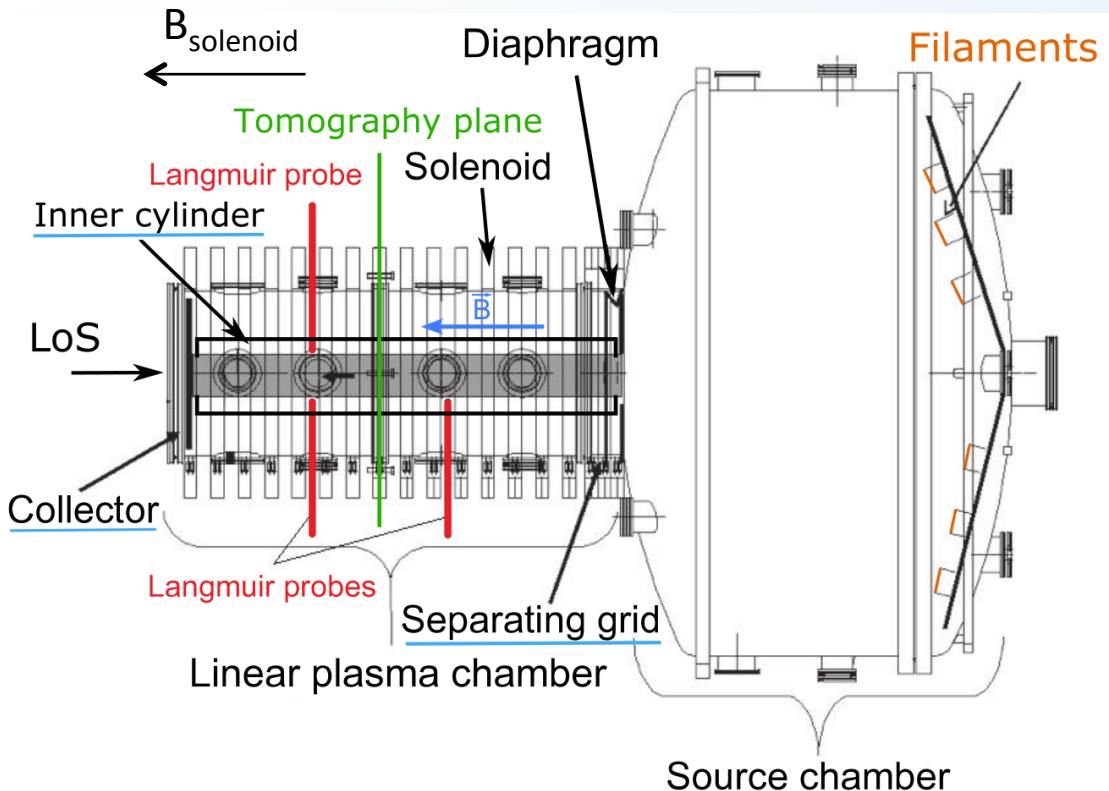
→ **Anomalous transport coefficient in the perpendicular direction**  
problem for the tokamaks ☺, advantage for the thrusters ☺

→ Need for a better understanding of the physics.

→ ***The Mistral experiment has been created for the study of  
ExB instabilities***

## The Mistral experiment

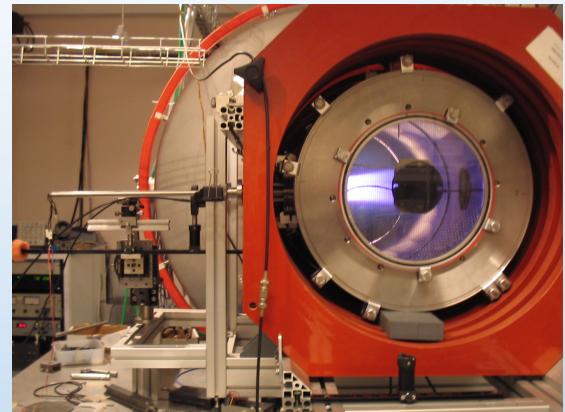
- Created by **G. Leclert** and **Th. Pierre**,
- Electrons magnetized ; ions poorly magnetized,
- Ionizing primary electrons,
- **Cylindrical symmetry**,
- « Stable » plasma state during several hours.



- $L = 1.2\text{ m}$
- $r_{\text{plasma}} = 36 \text{ mm}$
- $5 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mbar} < P < 10^{-3} \text{ mbar}$
- $B_{\text{solenoid}} < 25 \text{ mT}$
- **Gaz : He, Ne, Ar, Kr, Xe**

## *The Mistral experiment: observation of regular instabilities*

Flute modes around the central column with constant rotation frequency ( $m = 1 - \nu \approx$  a few. kHz)



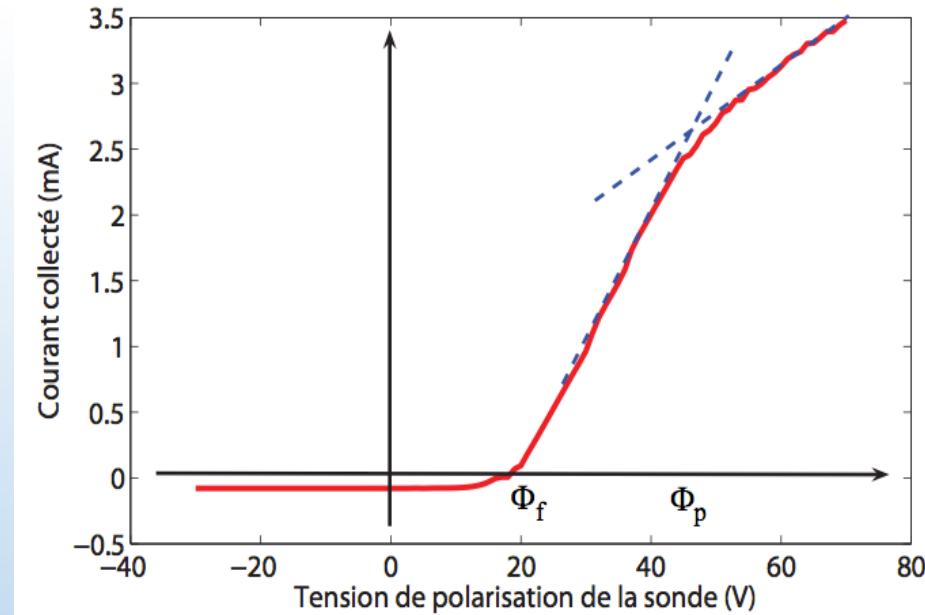
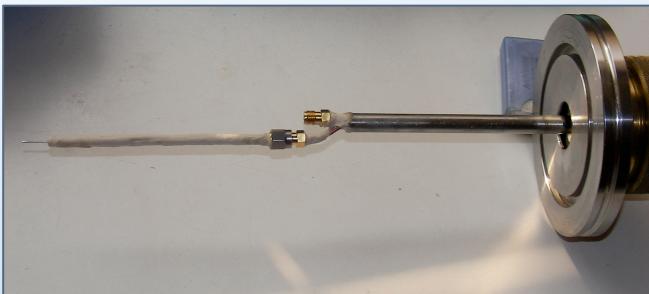
Camera  
Line of  
sight

colonne

Ch.  
source

## *Studying plasmas with Langmuir probes*

- Simple installation:  $n_e$ ,  $T_e$ ,  $V_{\text{plasma}}$ ...
- BUT the results interpretation can be complicated
- The probes are perturbative for the plasma.



→ *Development of optical diagnostics*

## *First step: optical tomography*

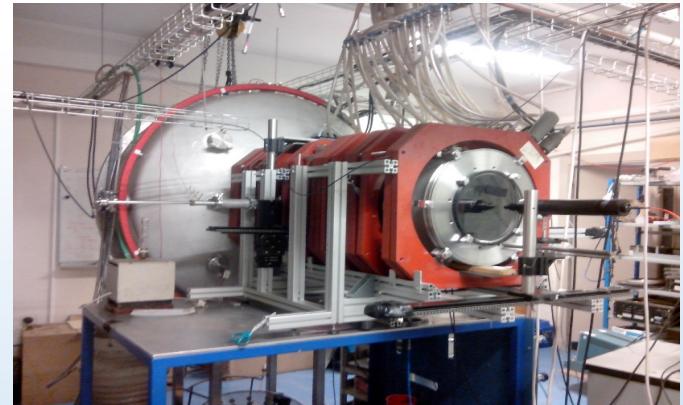
→ **P. David Phd**

→ Advantages of tomography:

- 2D spatial structure analysis

Without hypothesis,

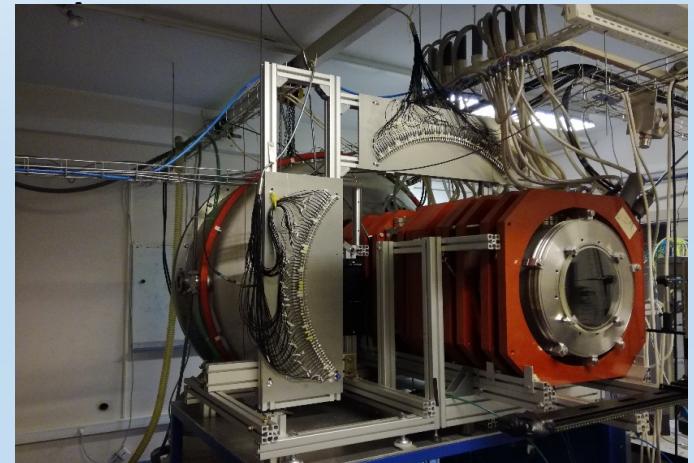
- Non intrusive methods.



→ Study of turbulent plasma states (no symmetry)

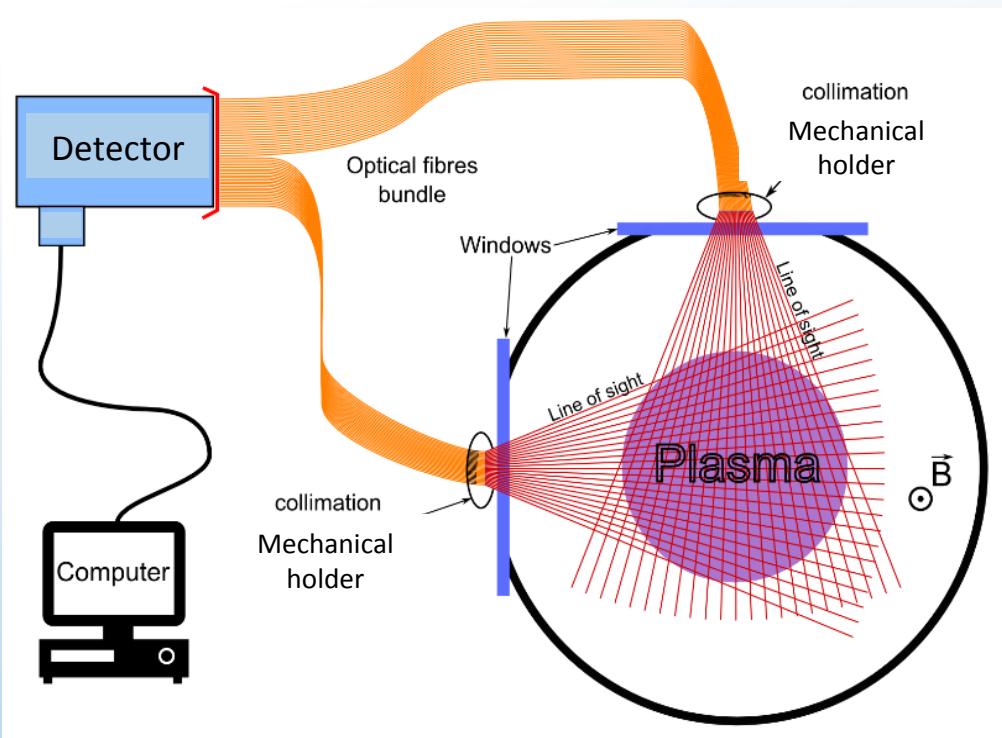
→ Validation: symmetric flute  $v_{\text{mode}} \approx 1 - 2$  MHz

→ 2x64 channels,  $v_{\text{acq}} = 1$  MHz

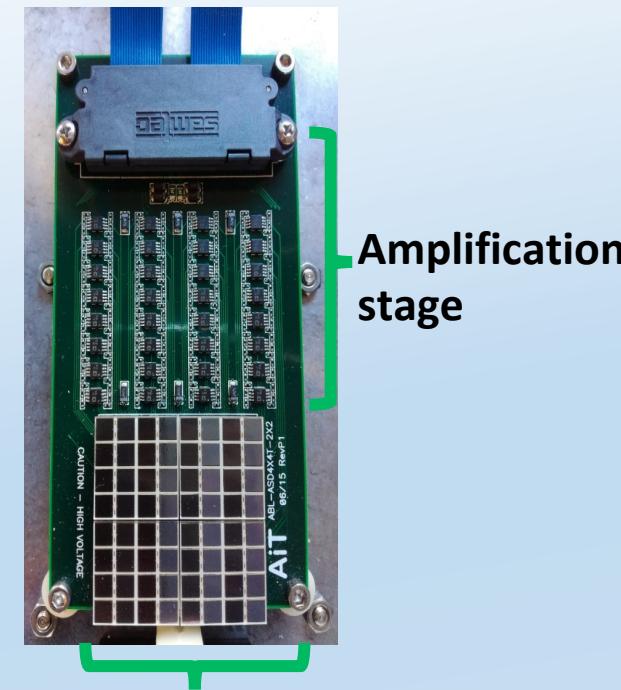


## *Optical tomography*

→→ 2x64 channels,  $\nu_{\text{acq}} = 1 \text{ MHz}$ , SiPM sensors (gain >  $10^6$ )



SFP Nantes 2019

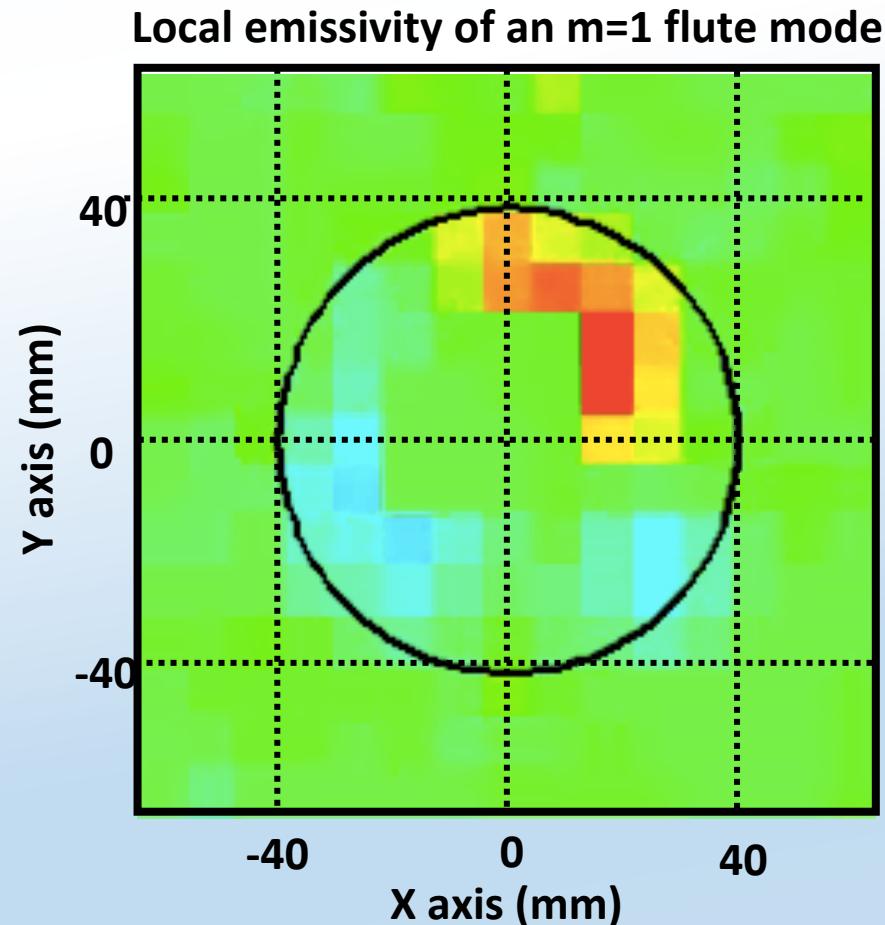


8x8 matrix detector

## *Tomography: results for a periodic structure*

- « One shot » time evolution
- Analysis of structures without symmetry
- BUT no spectral resolution

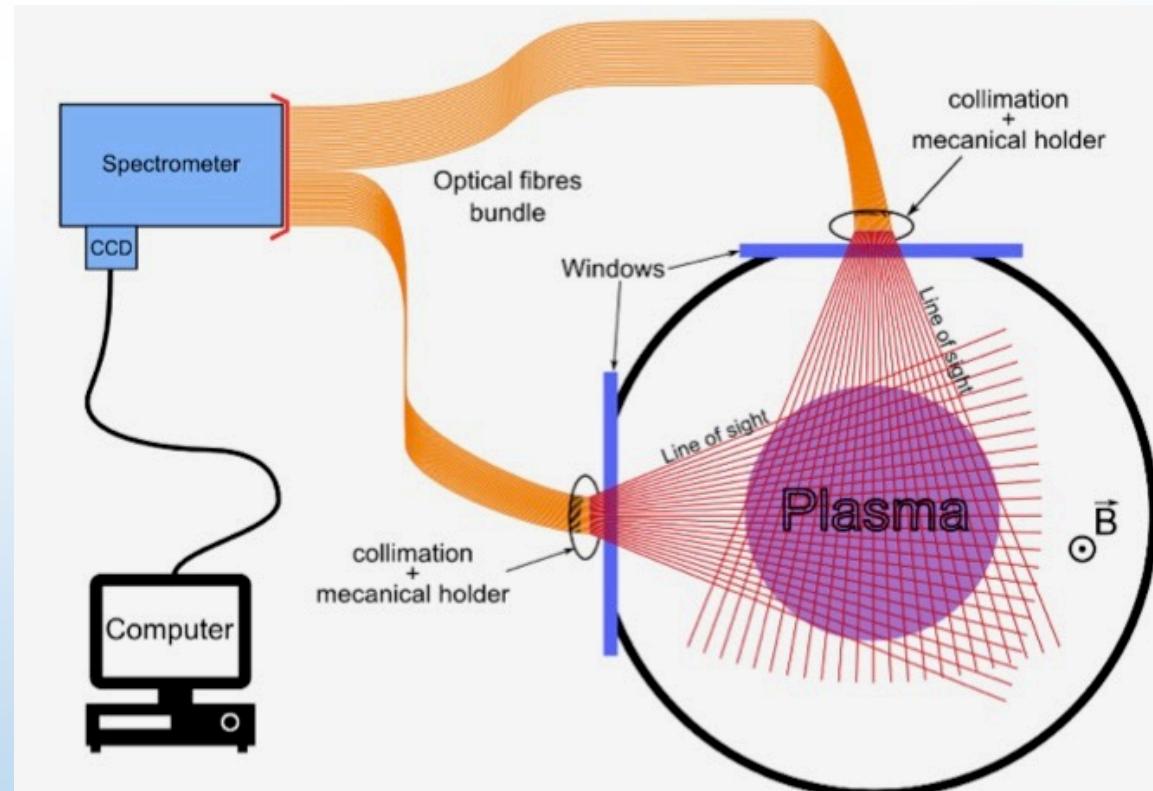
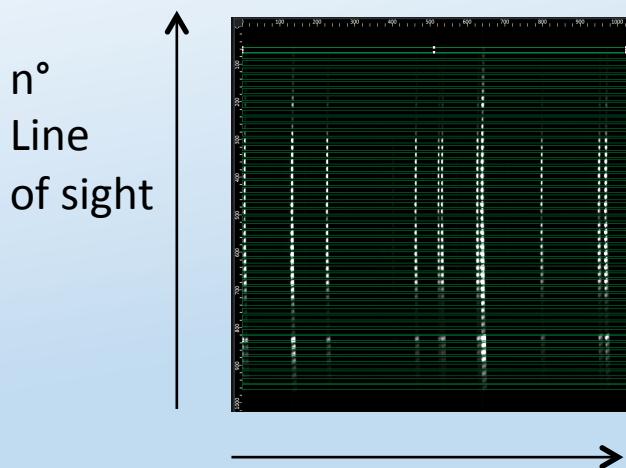
[P. David POP 2016 ; P. David RSI 2017 ]



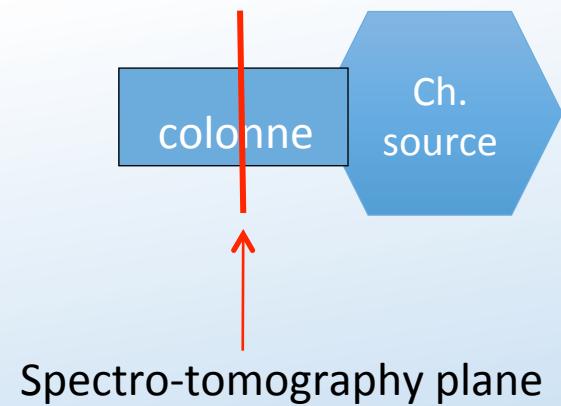
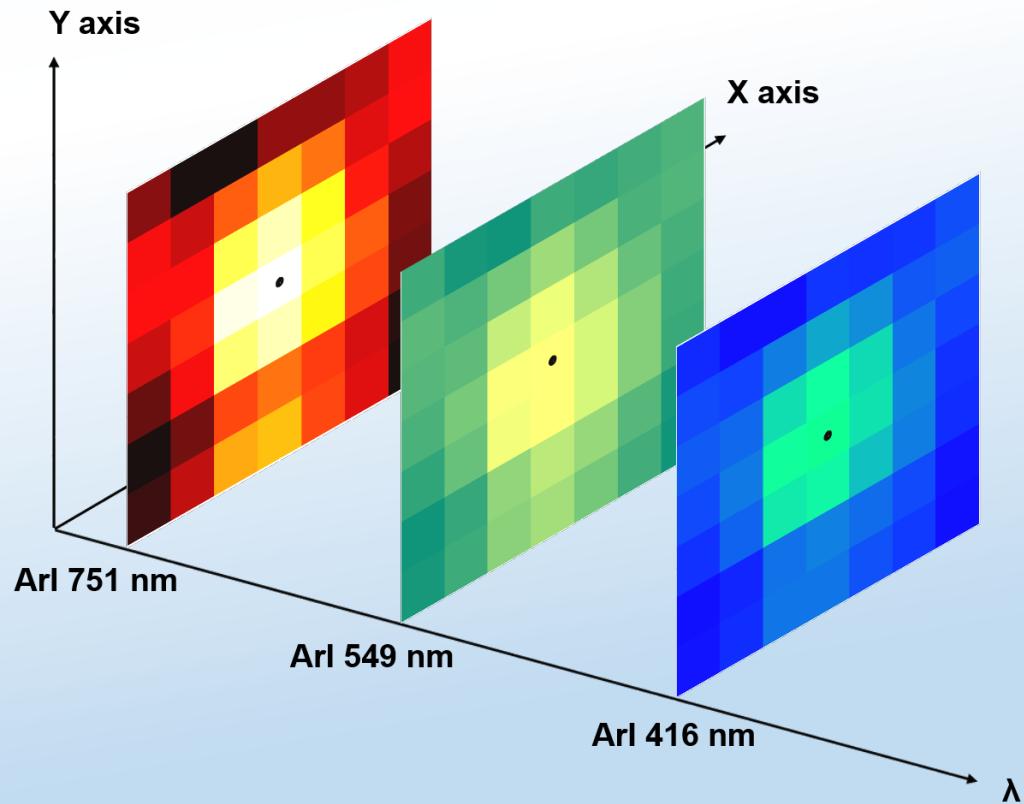
→ *Coupling tomographie to emission spectroscopy*

## Spectro-tomography visible diagnostic

- 128 sensors → EMCCD camera  
+ spectrometer
- Less line of sight : 49  
→ 7x7 pixels

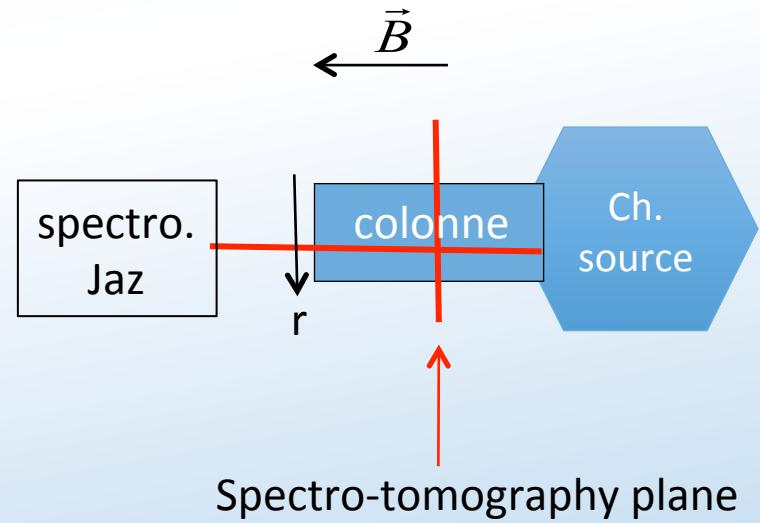
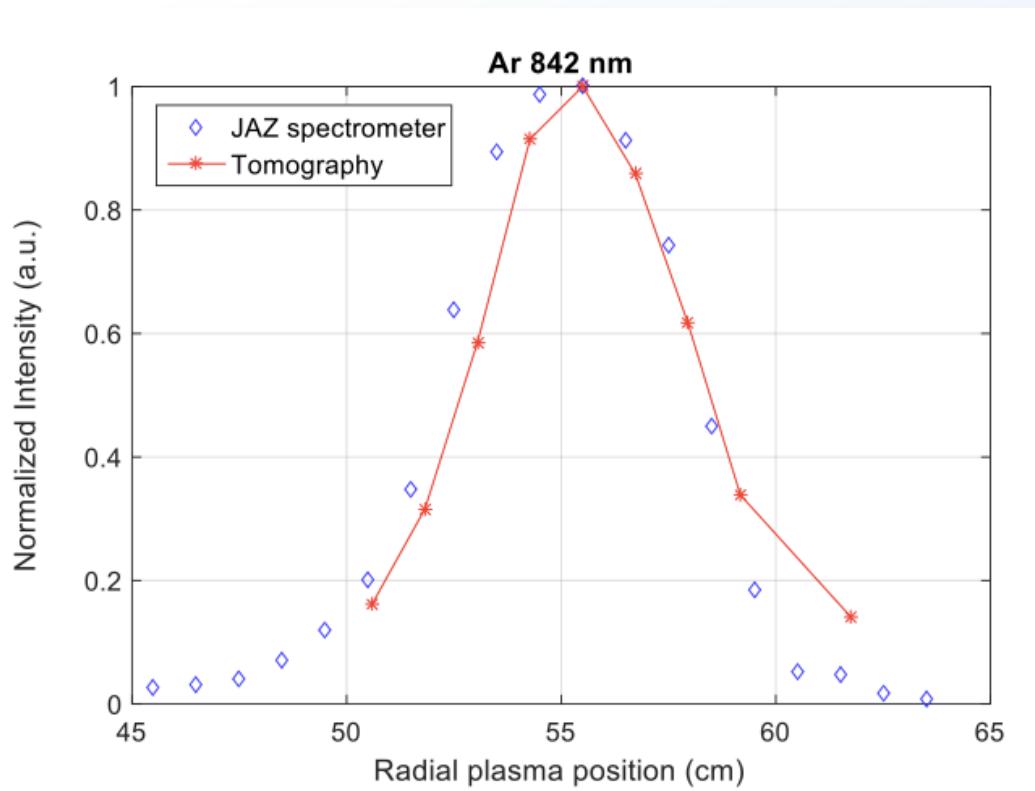


## Spectro-tomography: results



## Spectro-tomography: validation

- Homogeneous plasma along B
- Comparison with radial evolution of spectra along B.

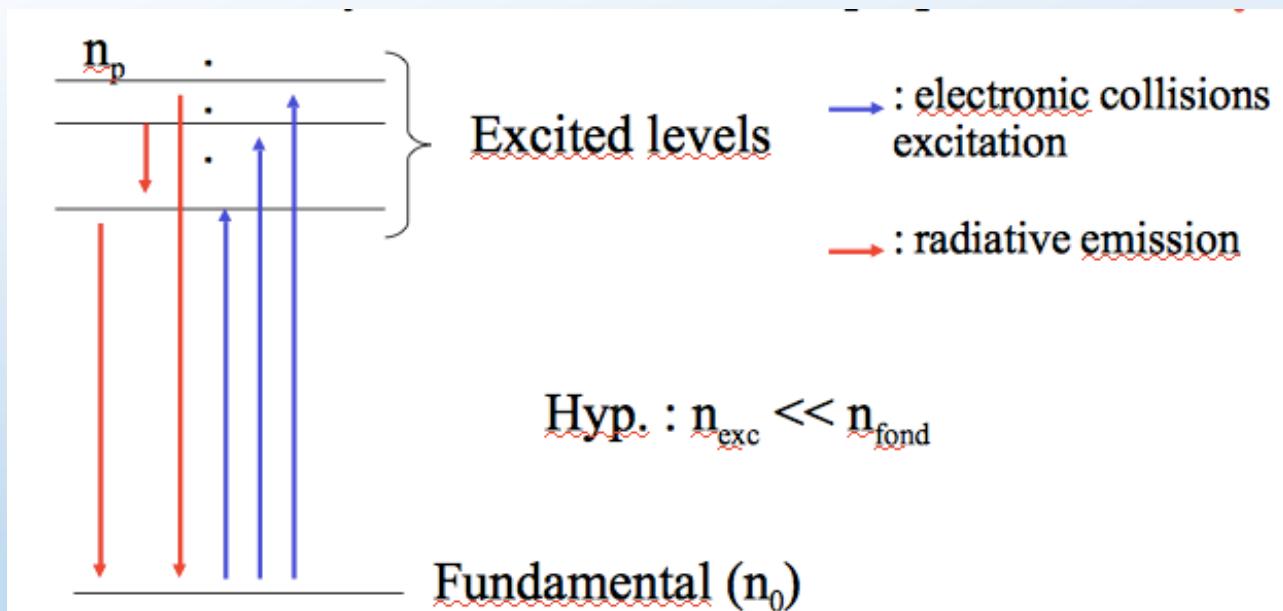


## Plasma coronal model

→ Low density ( $n_e < 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) :  
**coronal model**

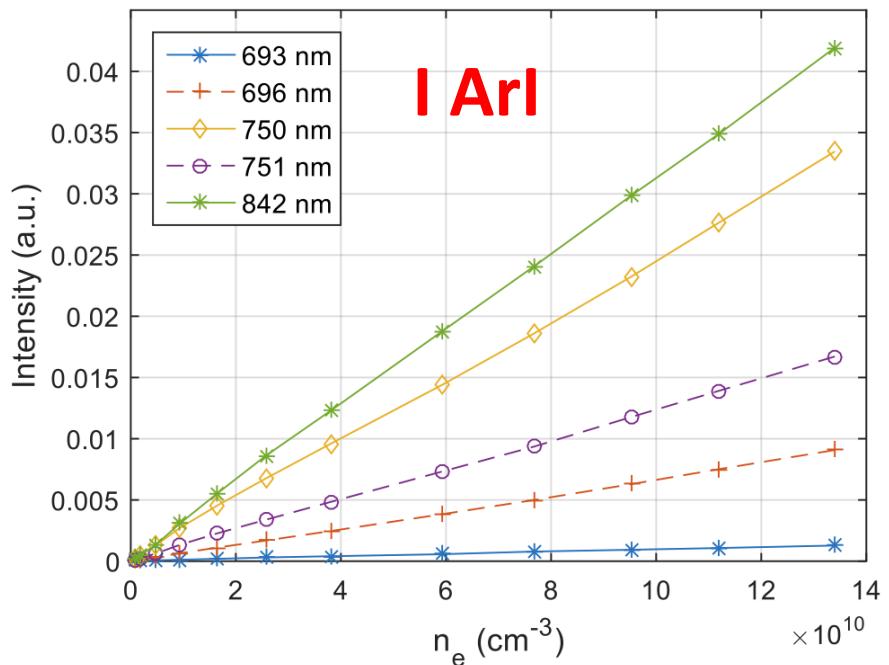
$$n_e n_0 \langle \sigma v_{0 \rightarrow p} \rangle = n_p \sum_{r < p} A_{pr}$$

$$\rightarrow I_{pq} = \frac{h v_{pq}}{4\pi} n_e n_0 \langle \sigma v_{0 \rightarrow p} \rangle \frac{A_{pq}}{\sum_{r < p} A_{pr}} \text{ W.m}^{-3}.\text{sr}^{-1}$$

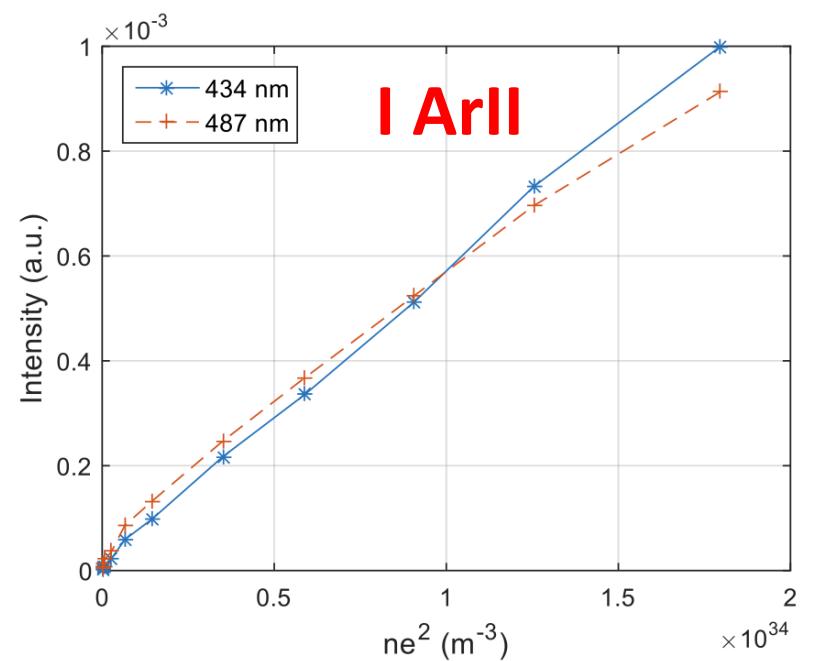


## Coronal model: experimental validation

→ Experiments with  $n_e$  variations (and no  $T_e$  variations !)



$$\text{ArI} \propto n_e \times f_{\text{I}}(T_e)$$

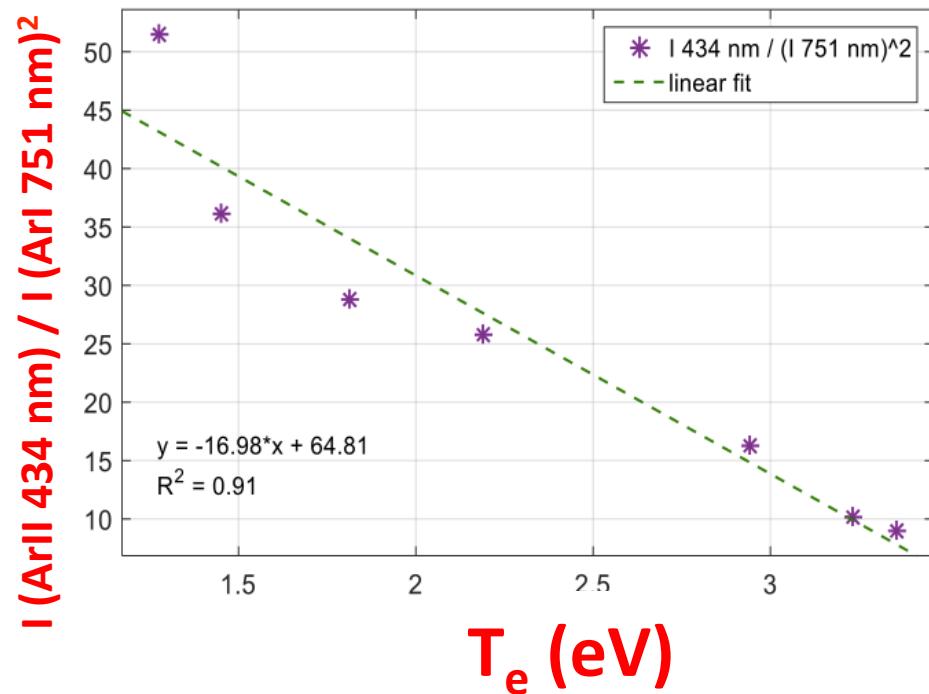


$$\text{ArII} \propto n_e^2 \times f_{\text{II}}(T_e)$$

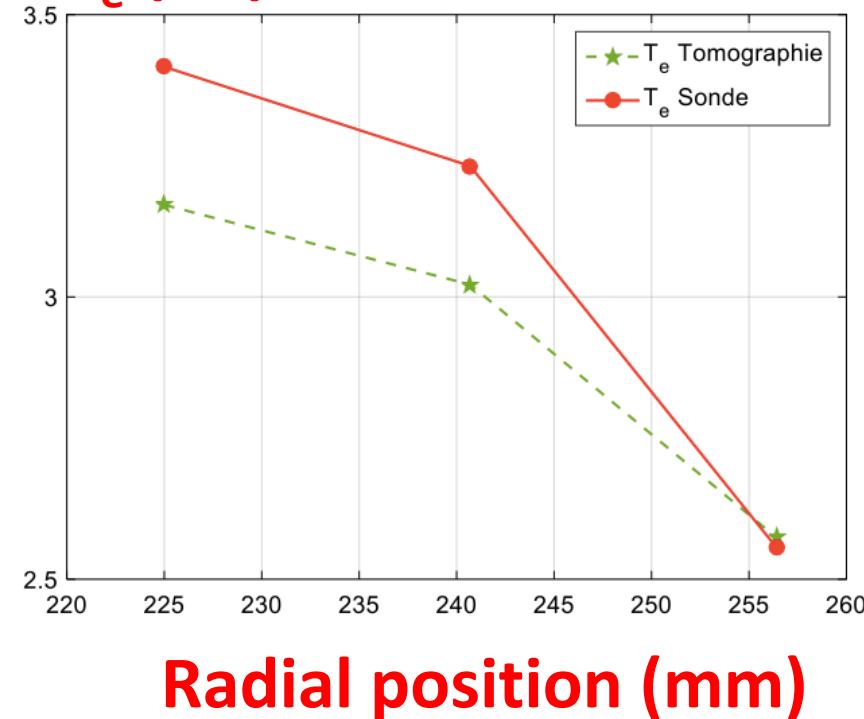
→ The coronal model is valid in the Mistral plasmas

## Spectro-tomography $T_e$ measurement

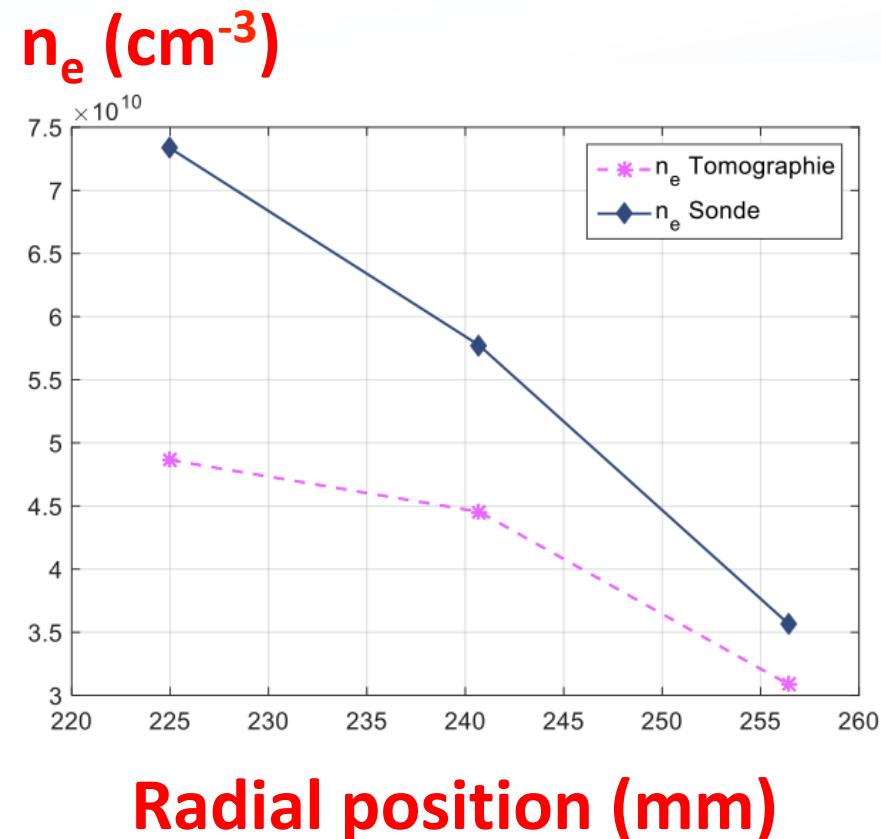
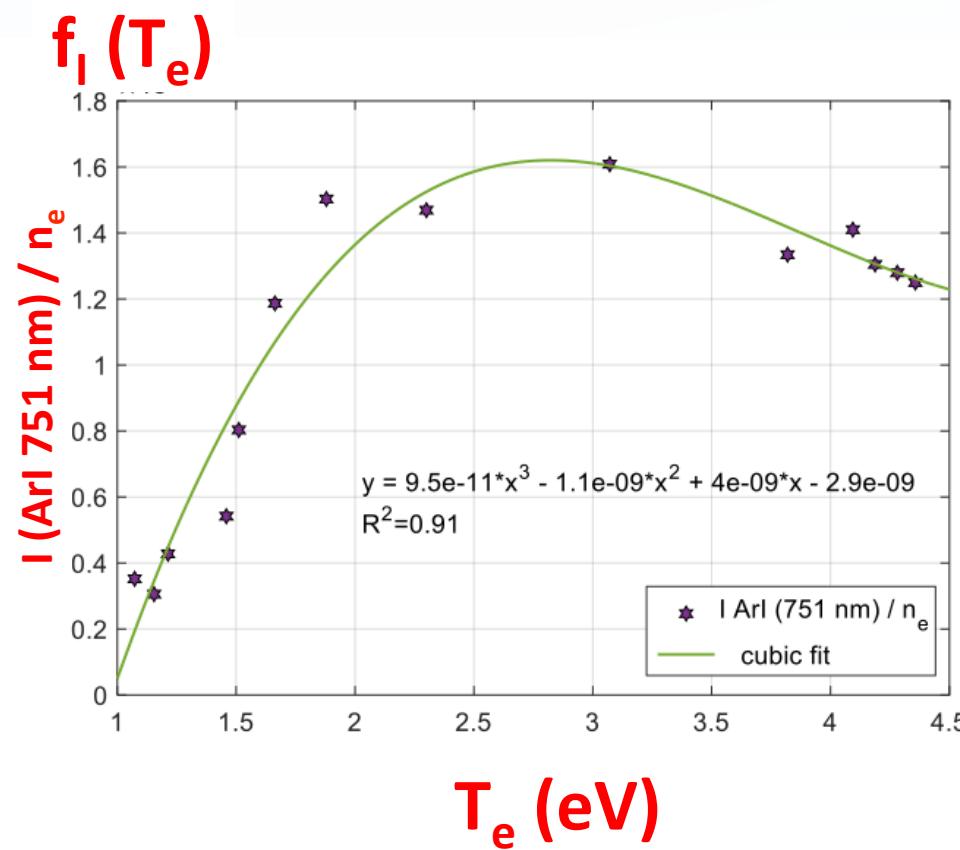
$f_{II}(T_e)/f_I(T_e)^2$



$T_e (\text{eV})$

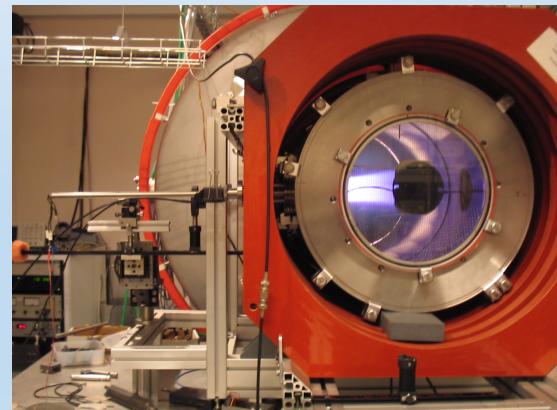


## spectro-tomography $n_e$ measurement



# Conclusion

- ***Optical tomography***
  - temporal study of plasma instability
  - One shot acquisition of non flute modes
- ***Optical spectro-tomography***
  - Validation of the diagnostic
  - 2D measurement of  $n_e$ ,  $T_e$



## Perspectives

- Tomography
  - Improvement of the spatial resolution  
→ more lines of sight ?
  - Optical fibers → set of mirrors around the plasma
- Spectro-tomography
  - 100 kHz acquisitions with a fast camera
  - Application to edge plasmas of Tokamak
- Development of an optical diagnostic of the electric field in a plasma

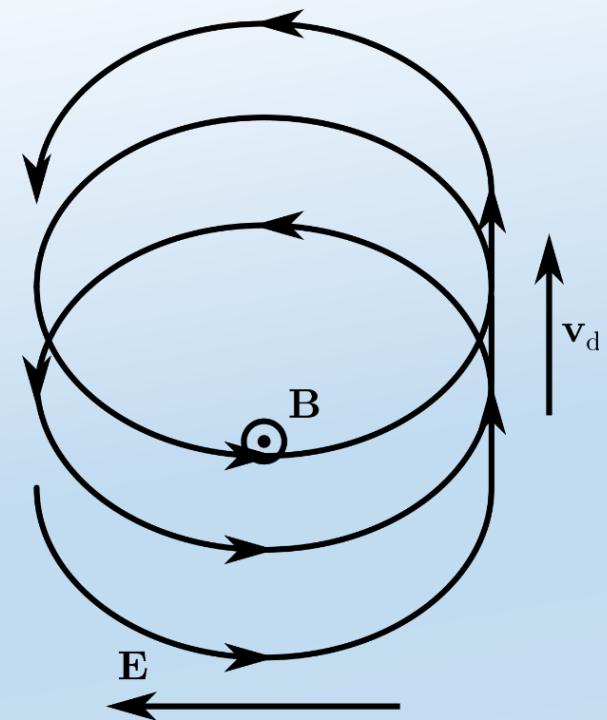


*Thank you for your attention*

## *Instabilités d'un plasma en champ croisé ExB*

- Force de Lorentz :  $\mathbf{F} = q(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$ 
  - $\mathbf{B}$ : confine / guide
  - $\mathbf{E}$ : accélération / décélération
- Dérive quand  $\mathbf{E} \perp \mathbf{B}$ :

$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}}{\mathbf{B}^2}$$



## *La tomographie optique visible*

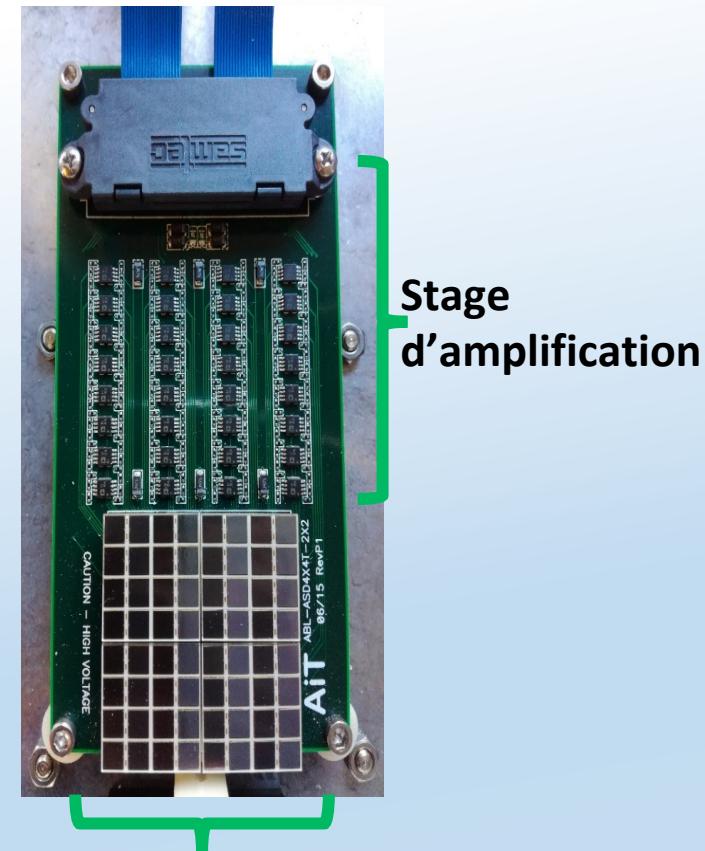
### Capteurs :

- 2 x 64 fibres Ø100 µm x 5 m
- 128 détecteurs SiPM
- Gain ( $> 10^6$ , PDE  $> 30\%$ ) avec faibles tensions/PMTs (~ 20 to 40 V)
  - Tps. De réponse rapide  $< 100$  ps
  - $v_{acq}$  max. = 1 MHz

### Limitations :

- Pas de résolution spectrale → mesures limitée des paramètres du plasma
- Bruit important (after pulse/cross talk)

→ Besoin d'ajouter la résolution spectrale  
 → Spectro-tomographie visible



matrice de 8x8 détecteurs

## *Inversion tomographique*

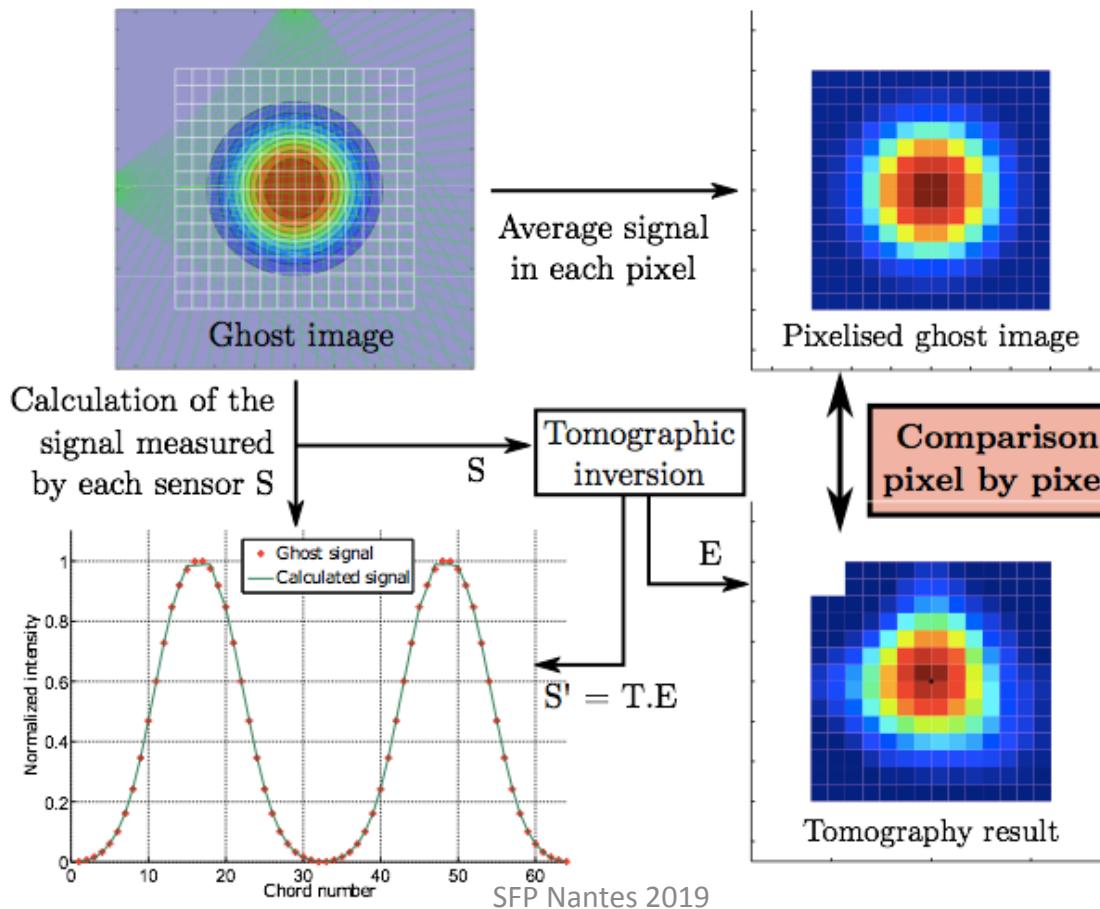
$$S_i = \sum_{j=0}^{N_p} t_{ij} \cdot e_i$$

$$\Leftrightarrow S = T \cdot E$$

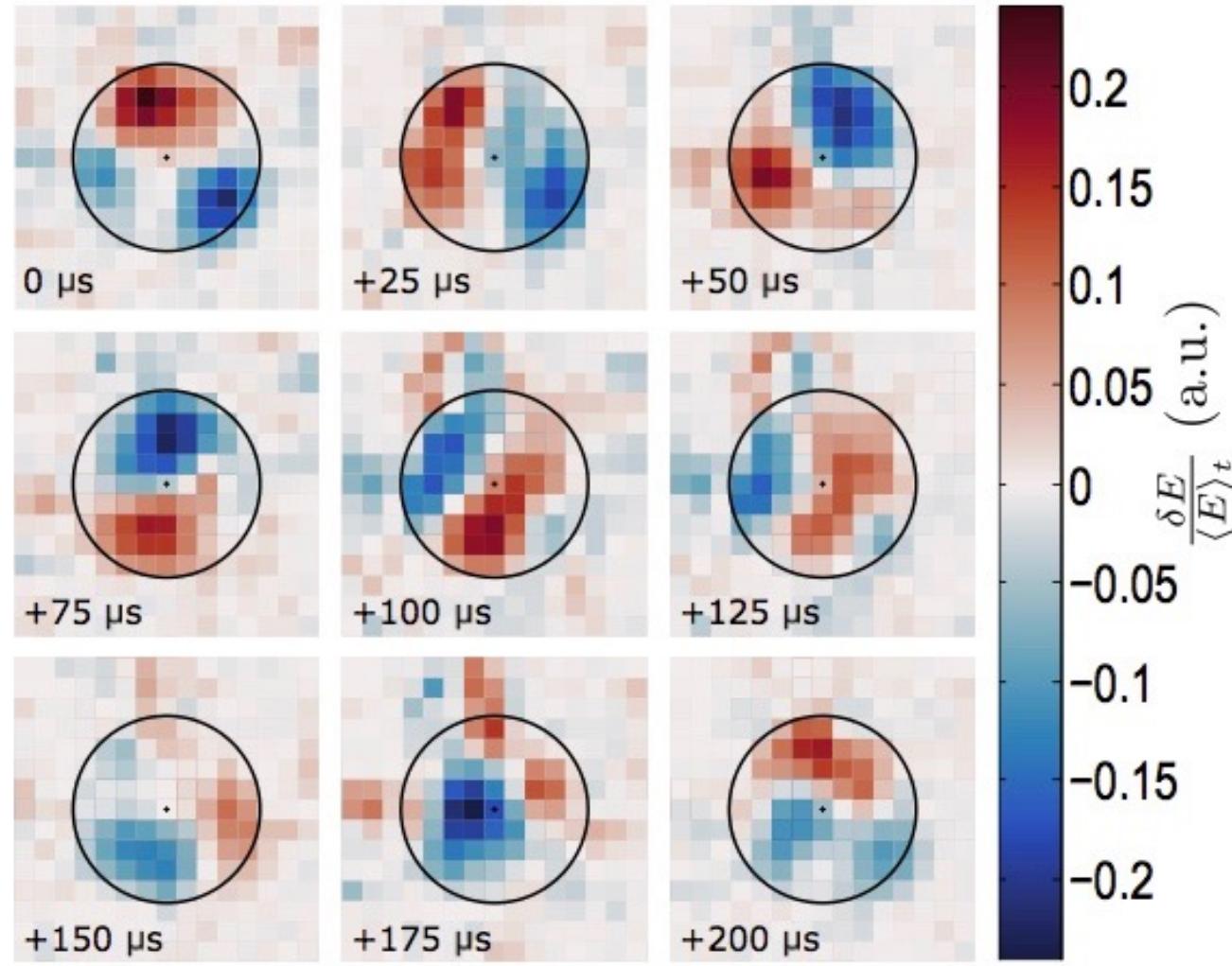
$t_{ij}$  : coef. calibration, longueur de la Idv dans le  $j^{\text{ème}}$  pixel

- Système linéaire :
    - $N_{\text{equations}} < N_{\text{inconnues}}$
    - Système mal conditionné : de petites erreurs sur les données entraînent de grandes erreurs sur les résultats.
  - Régularisation de Tikhonov :  $\min (\frac{1}{2} (T \cdot E - S)^2 + \alpha R)$
- R : fonction de régularisation

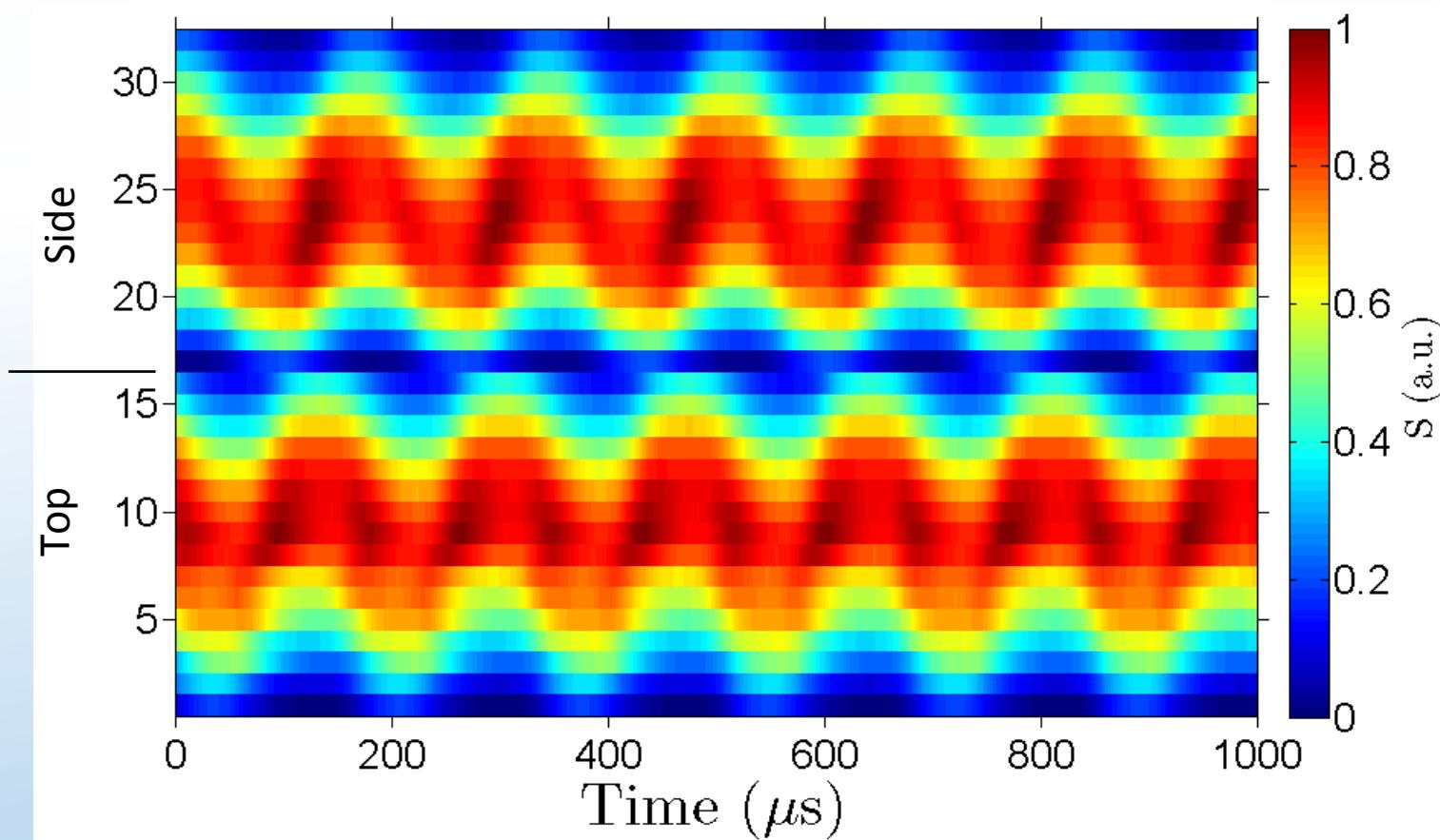
# Tomography : validation of inversion code



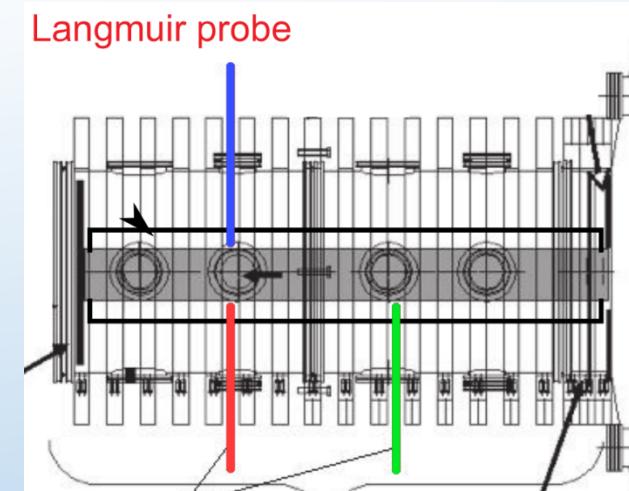
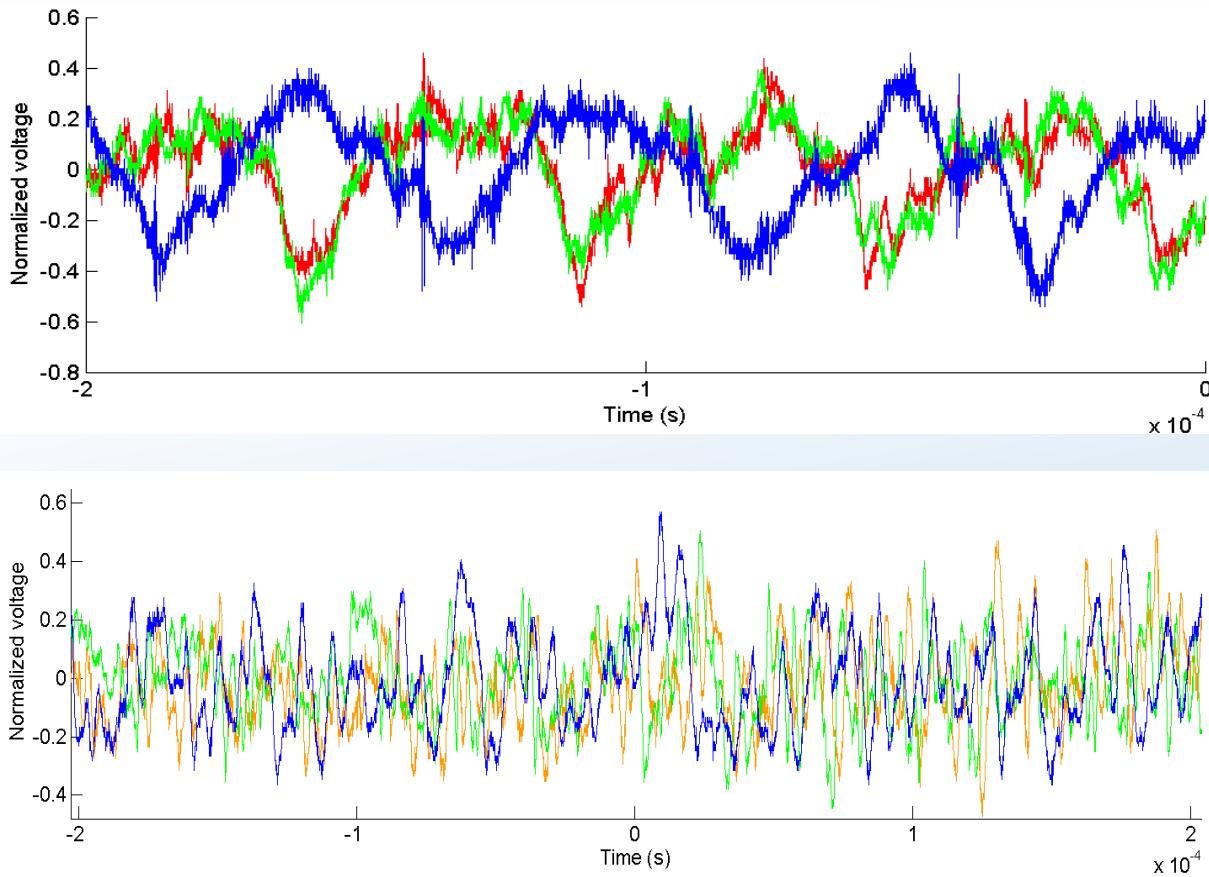
## Tomographie : résultats



## *Tomographie : résultats bruts*



# Instabilités par sondes de Langmuir : symétrie cylindrique

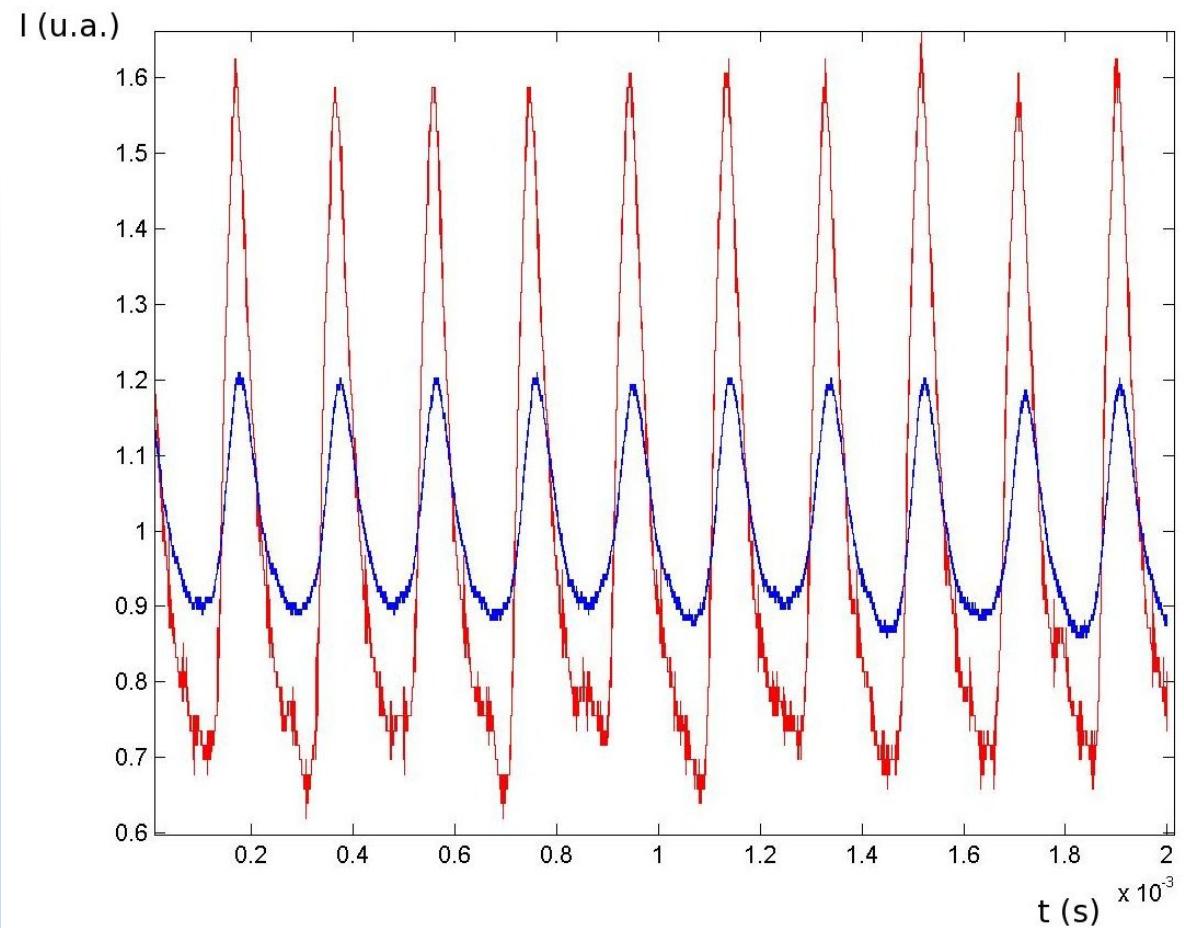
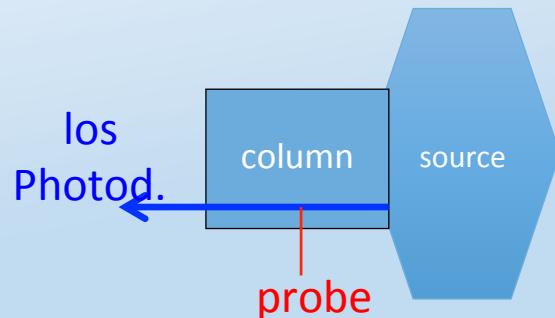


→ Utilisation de cette symétrie pour valider la tomographie : comparaison avec caméra

# Low frequency instabilities : possible optical measurements...

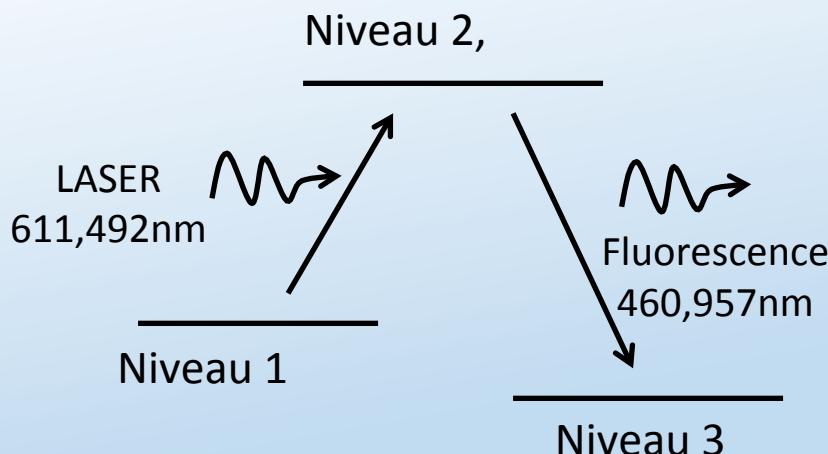
→ Strong correlation  
between probe and  
photo-diode signals

- : probe polarized at  $V > V_{\text{plasma}}$
- : photo-diode (collimated los)



# *Principle of Laser Induced Fluorescence*

- Measurement based on :
  - Excitation and emission of photons by an atom or an ion. In our case,  $\text{Ar}^+$  ion.
  - Doppler effect.

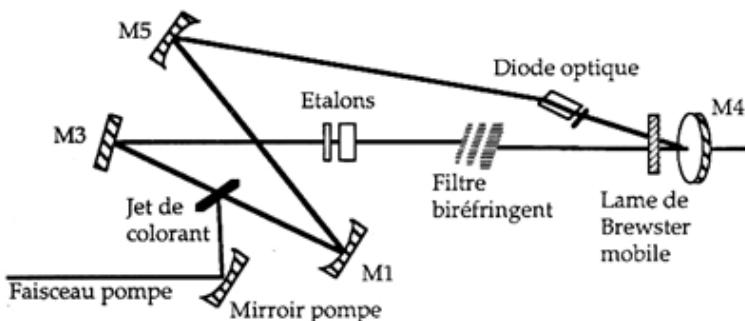


Level 1 to level 2 transition condition:  
**Laser frequency = transition 1-2 frequency**

Emitted fluorescence proportional to the  
 number of excited ions (atoms)

# LIF instruments

## Dye Laser



- Power : 400mW at 611,5nm
- Spectral width : 0,5MHz

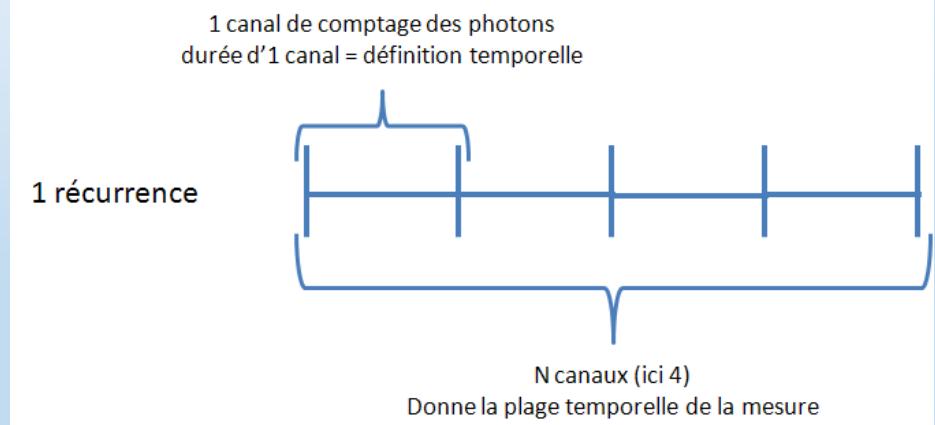
## Multi-Channel Scaler (MCS)

The MCS allows to:

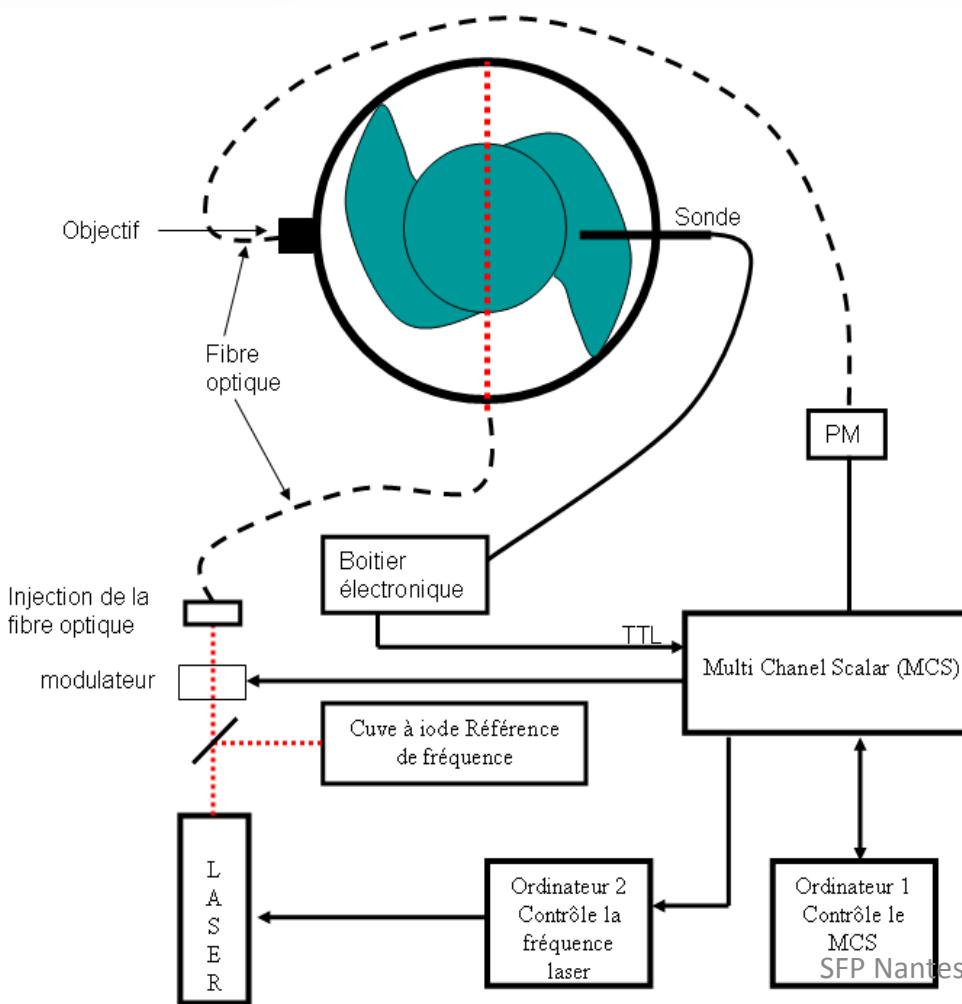
- Count photons (detected by a photomultiplier).
- Add temporal resolution to measurement.

Usual parameters:

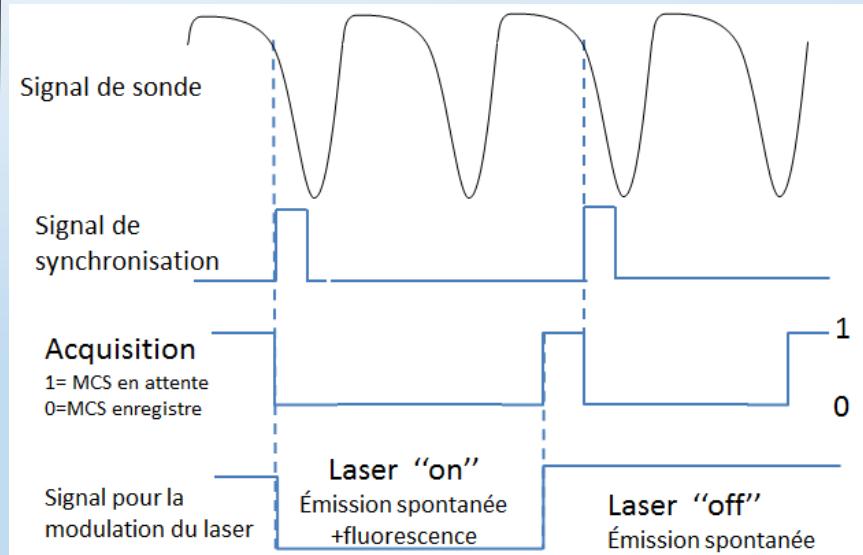
- Temporal definition between 5ns et 65535s
- Between 4 et 16384 possible temporal channels.
- Up to 4 billions repetitions of measurement possible (increase S/B).



# LIF on MISTRAL experiment



- 2 Measurements:
    - laser on
    - laser off
- Allows to subtract background signal (spontaneous emission)
- Synchronization with perturbation to keep temporal definition during recurrences.

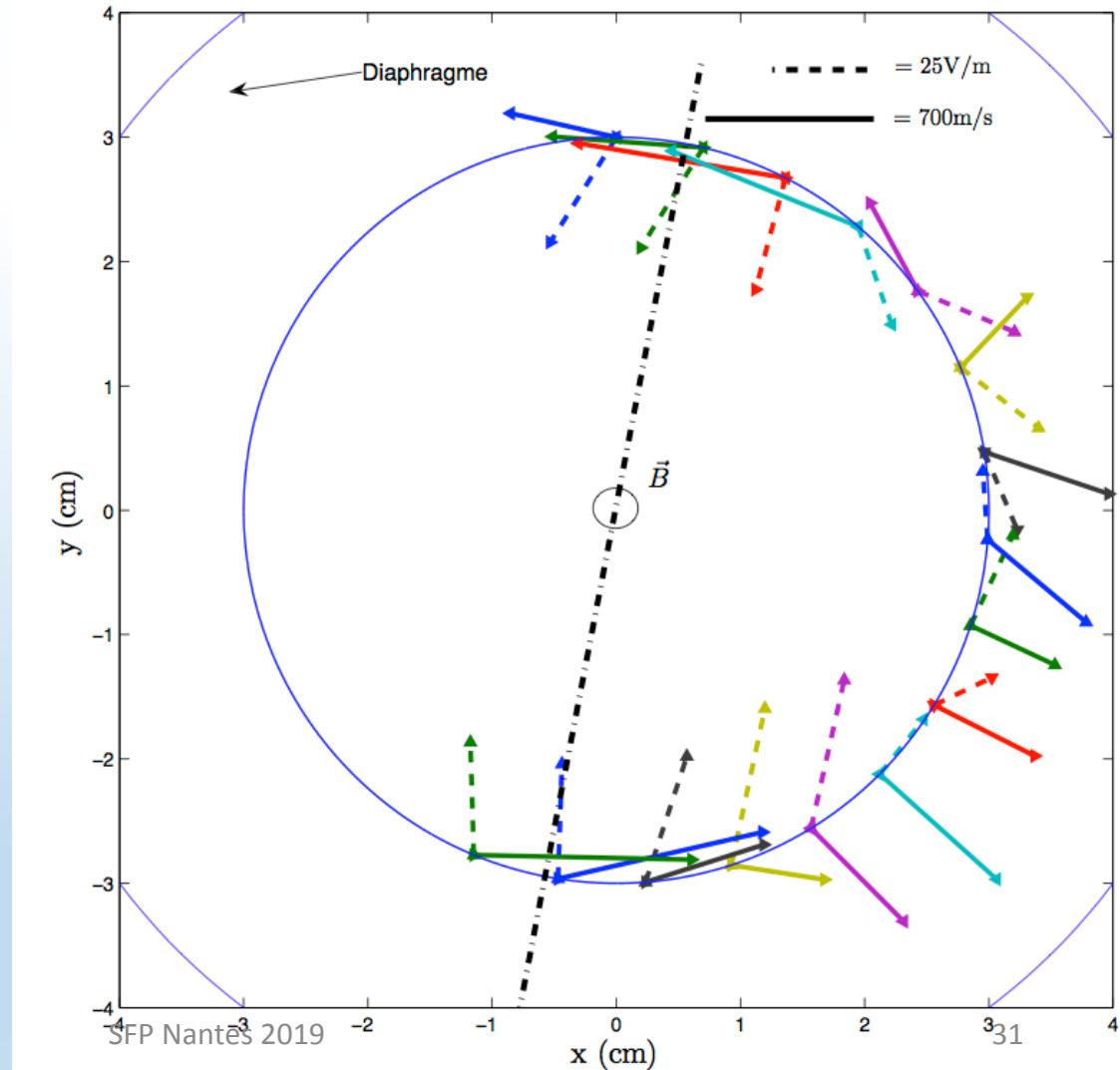


# LIF measurements in Mistral : m=2 mode

- : ion velocity (m/s)
- : electric field (V/m)
- .- : mode m=2 axis

- No whole column ExB drift
- No clear signature of instability

[Rebont PRL 2011]



## Development of a diagnostic to measure directly electric field : EFILE

- Electric field → Emission Lyman- $\alpha$  of a probe H (2s) beam
- Measurement of static and/or fluctuating electric fields (vacuum or cold plasma, density  $10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , sheaths) → **OK**

### Project/Challenge :

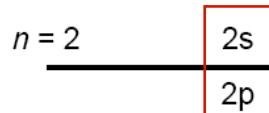
- Measurement of local electric field in Mistral
- Measurement of electric field in front of ICRF IShTAR (Ion cyclotron Sheath Test Arrangement) antenna

# Lamb shift

- Second property of hydrogenoids :

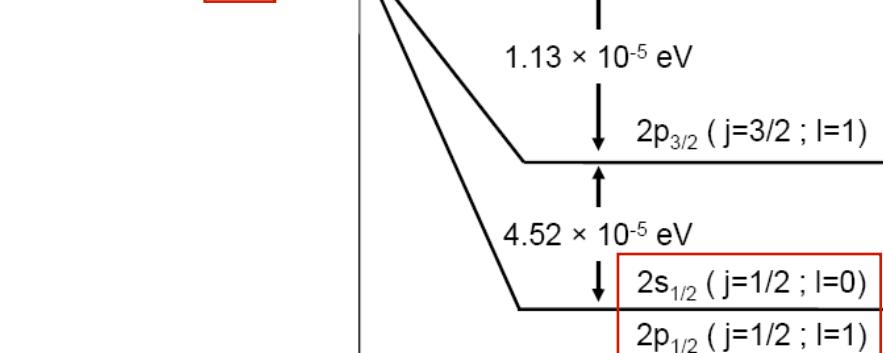
Lamb-shift due to radiative corrections

Schrödinger's equation :



Dirac's equation :  
fine structure

$$\Delta E(2s_{1/2} - 2p_{1/2}) = 0 \text{ eV}$$

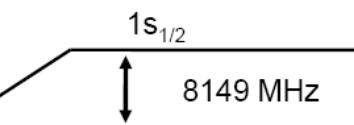
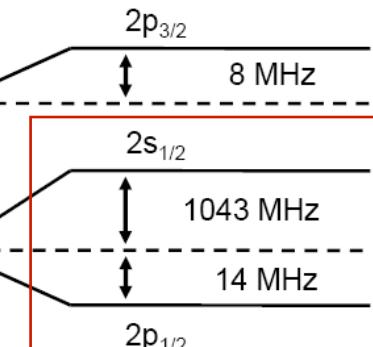


$$1.81 \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV}$$

$1s_{1/2} (j=1/2 ; l=0)$

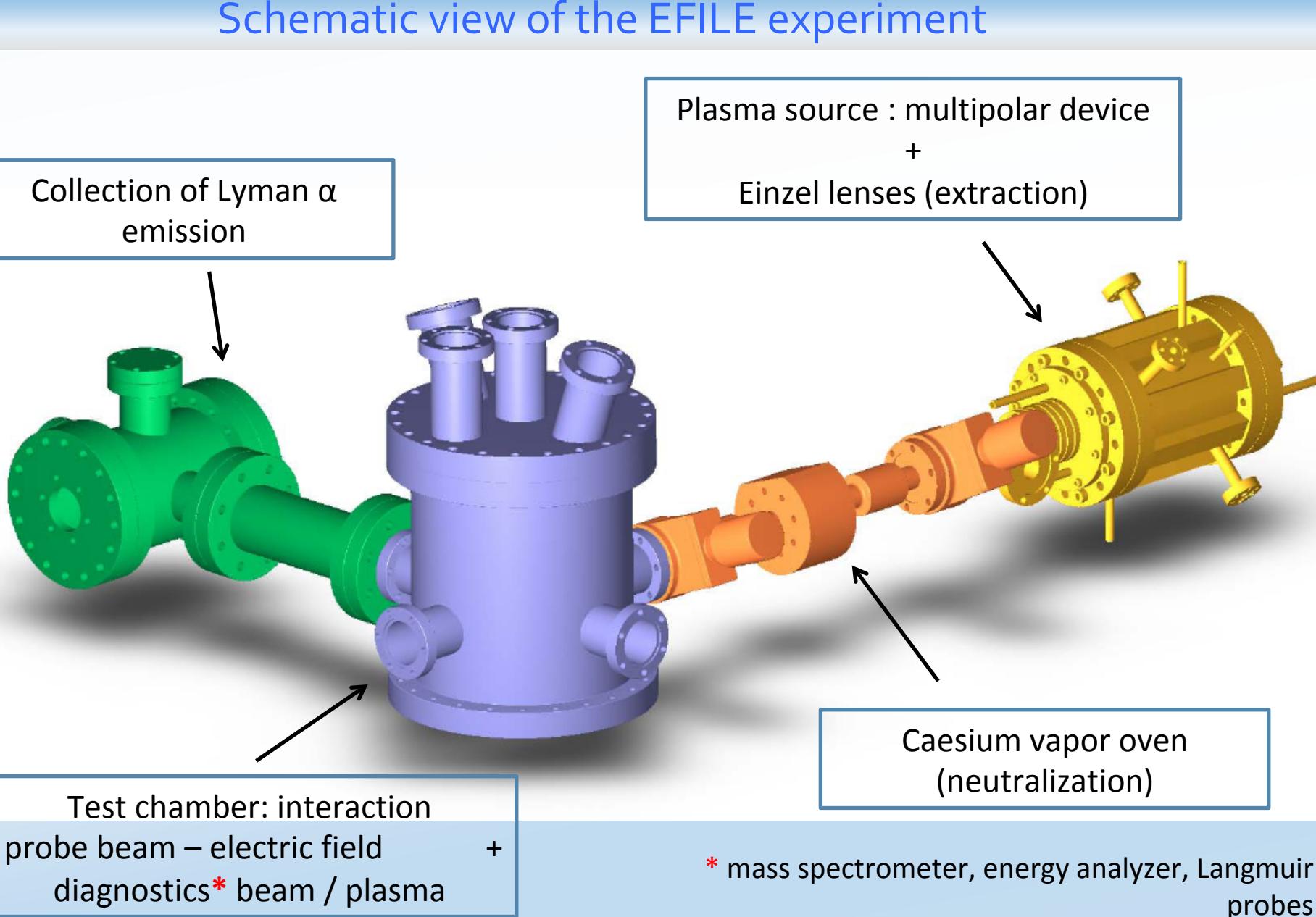
Radiative corrections :

$$\Delta E(2s_{1/2} - 2p_{1/2}) = 4.37 \times 10^{-6} \text{ eV}$$



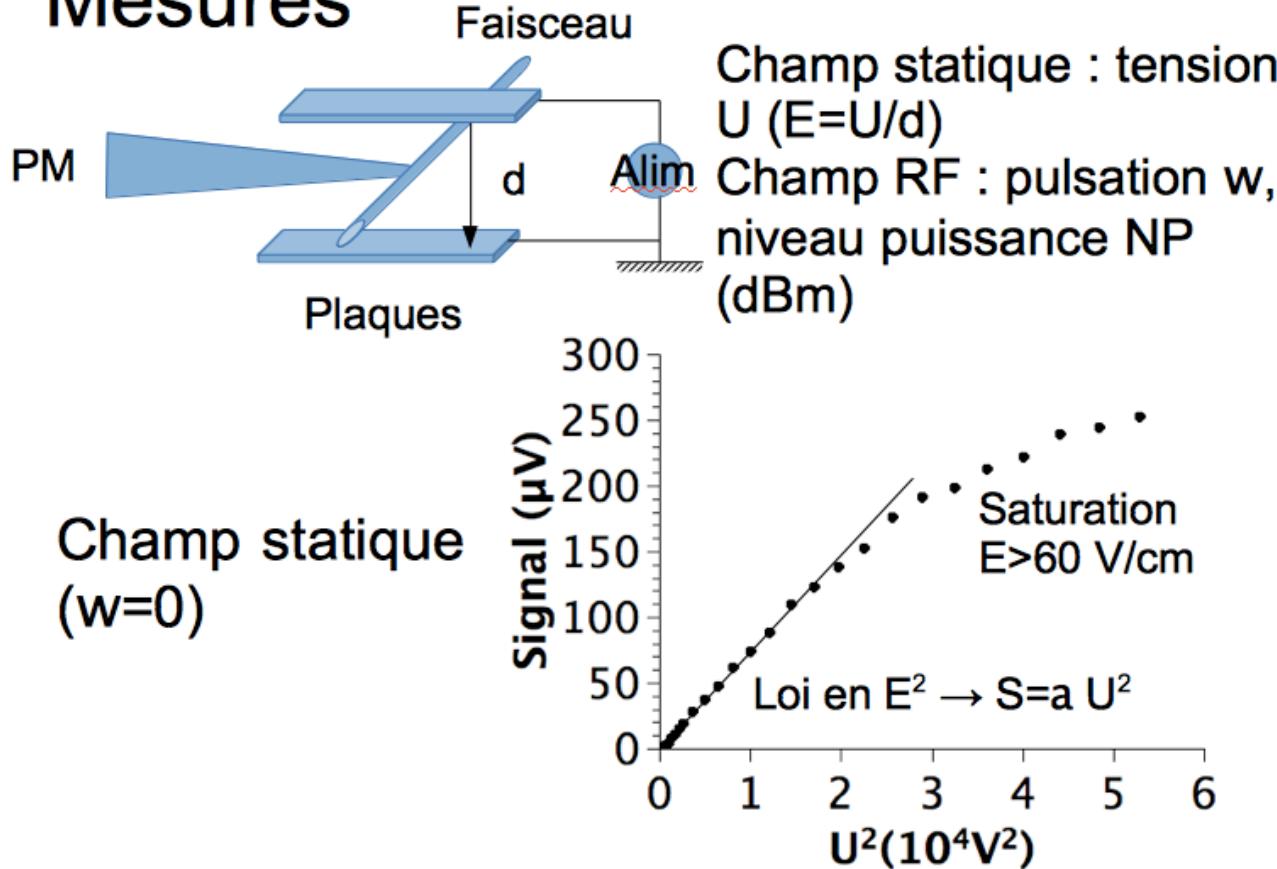
$v_0$

# Schematic view of the EFILE experiment

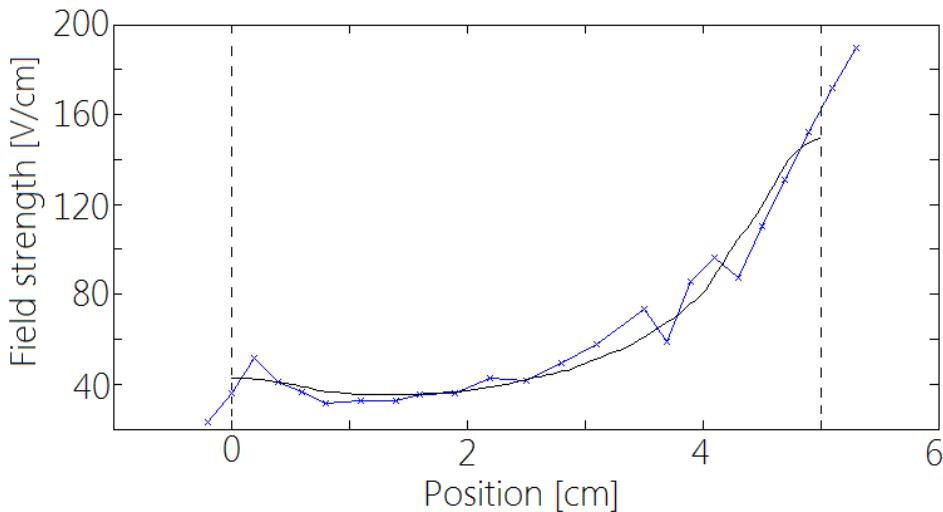


## E measurement in the shadow of a limiter : principle

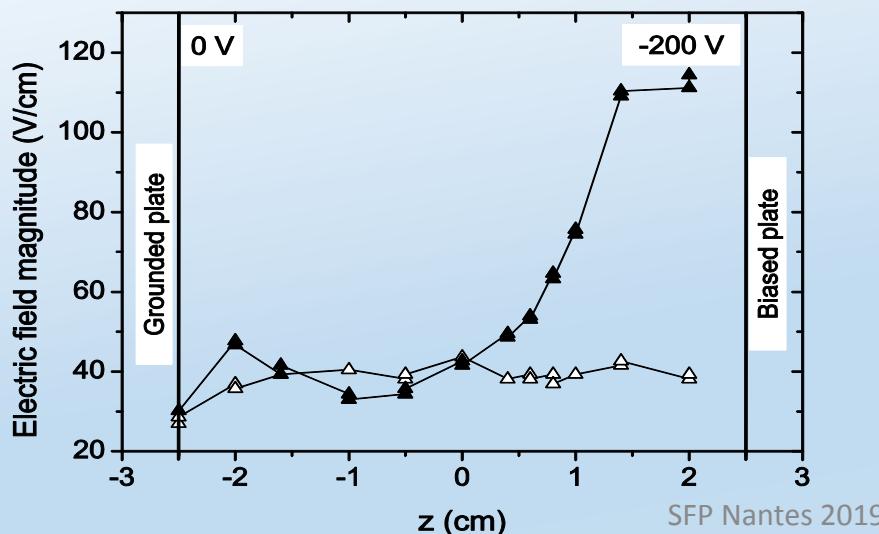
### Mesures



## EFILE : results



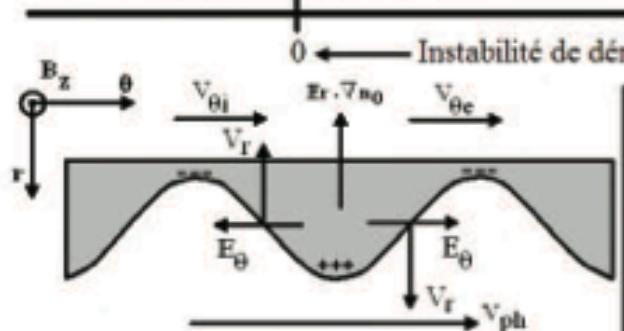
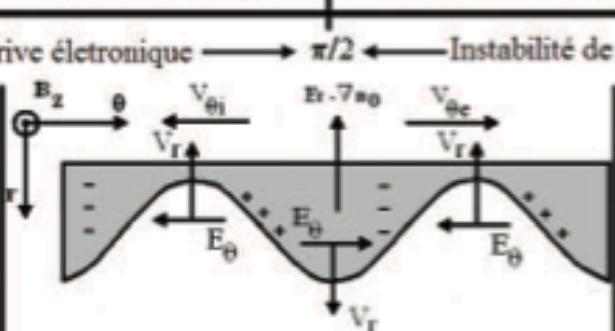
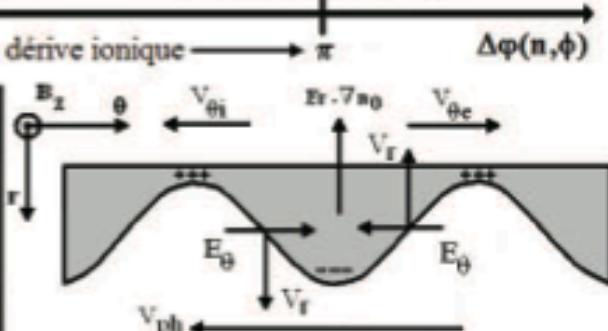
Diagnostic EFILe in vacuum:  
comparison with numerical  
simulation FEM



Diagnostic EFILe in plasma

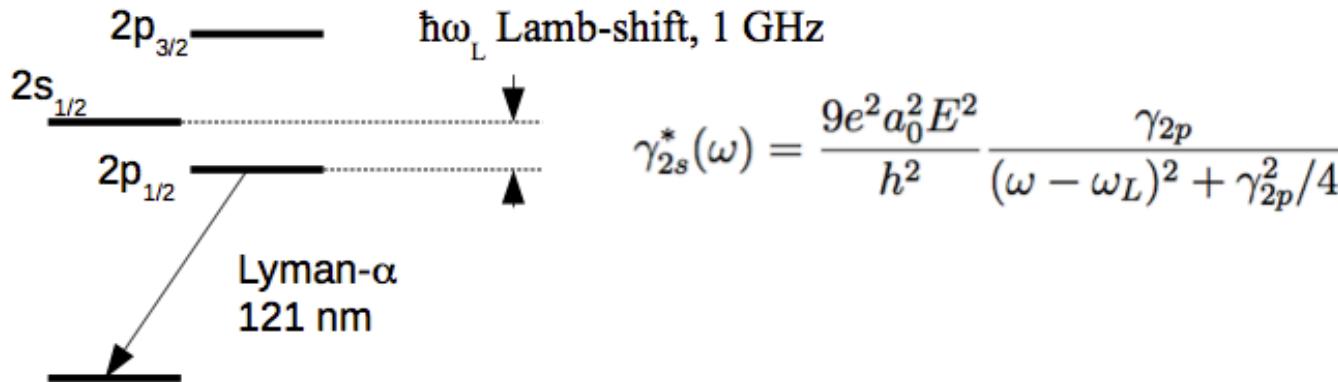
**Formation of a plasma sheath:**  
**Electric field profile measured**  
 -in vacuum (white triangle)  
 -in test plasma (black triangle)

### Instabilités de dérive

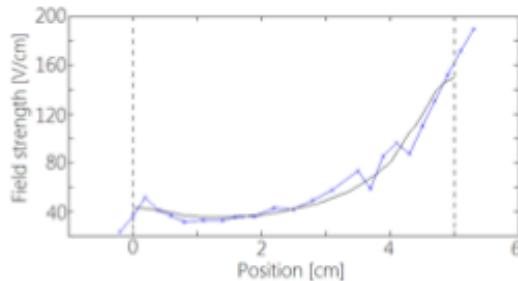
Ondes de dérive électronique	Instabilité de type flûte et instabilité d'échange	Ondes de dérive ionique
 <p>Instabilité de dérive électronique</p>	 <p>Instabilité de type flûte et instabilité d'échange</p>	 <p>Instabilité de dérive ionique</p>
$V_{ph} = V_{\theta e}$ $V_{\theta i} E_r = V_{\theta e} E_r$	$V_{\theta e} > V_{ph} > \frac{1}{2} (V_{\theta e} + V_{\theta i})$ $v_{ph} = \frac{1}{2} (V_{\theta e} + V_{\theta i})$ $V_{\theta i} E_r < V_{\theta e} E_r$	$V_{ph} = V_{\theta i}$ $V_{\theta i} E_r \ll V_{\theta e} E_r$
$T_i = 0$ $k_\theta r_{gi} = 0$	<i>Effets de rayon de Larmor fini ionique</i> $0 < T_i \ll T_e$ $k_\theta r_{gi} \ll 1$	$T_i \leq T_e$ $k_\theta r_{gi} \approx 1$
$\Delta \Psi (n, E_\theta) = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ $\Delta \Psi (n, V_r) = -\frac{\pi}{2}$ $\bar{\Gamma}_r = \langle n V_r \rangle_t = 0$	<i>Transport radial</i> $\Delta \Psi (n, E_\theta) = 0$ $\Delta \Psi (n, V_r) = 0$ $\bar{\Gamma}_r = \langle n V_r \rangle_t = -1$	$\Delta \Psi (n, E_\theta) = +\frac{\pi}{2}$ $\Delta \Psi (n, V_r) = +\frac{\pi}{2}$ $\bar{\Gamma}_r = \langle n V_r \rangle_t = 0$

# Mesure d'un champ électrique statique ou fluctuant

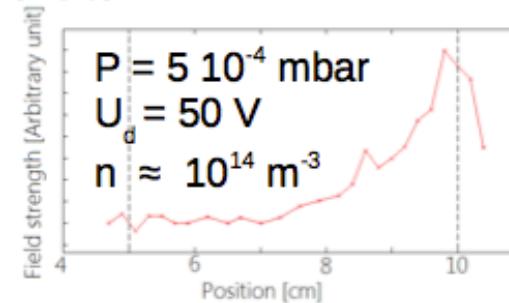
Principe physique : interaction entre un faisceau H(2s) et un champ électrique ( $E, \omega$ ) → émission Lyman- $\alpha$  par Stark mixing  $2s, 2p_{1/2} =$  modification taux d'émission



Champ statique dans le vide :  
profil entre les plaques en  
accord avec calcul numérique



Champ statique dans un  
plasma : taille gaine ↘ quand  
densité ↗



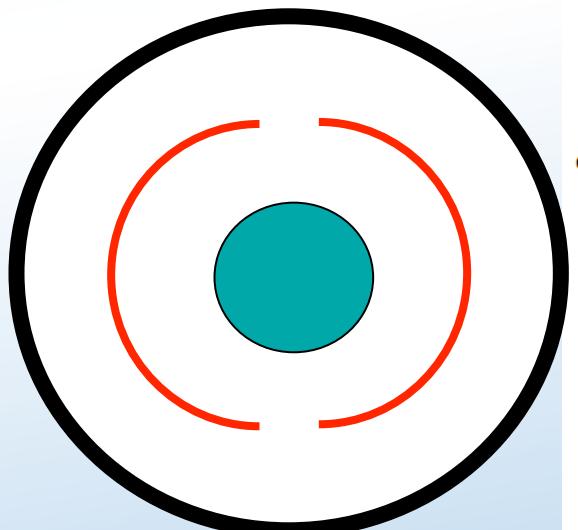
En cours : mesures RF, calibration

Développement : mesures en champ magnétique (MISTRAL)

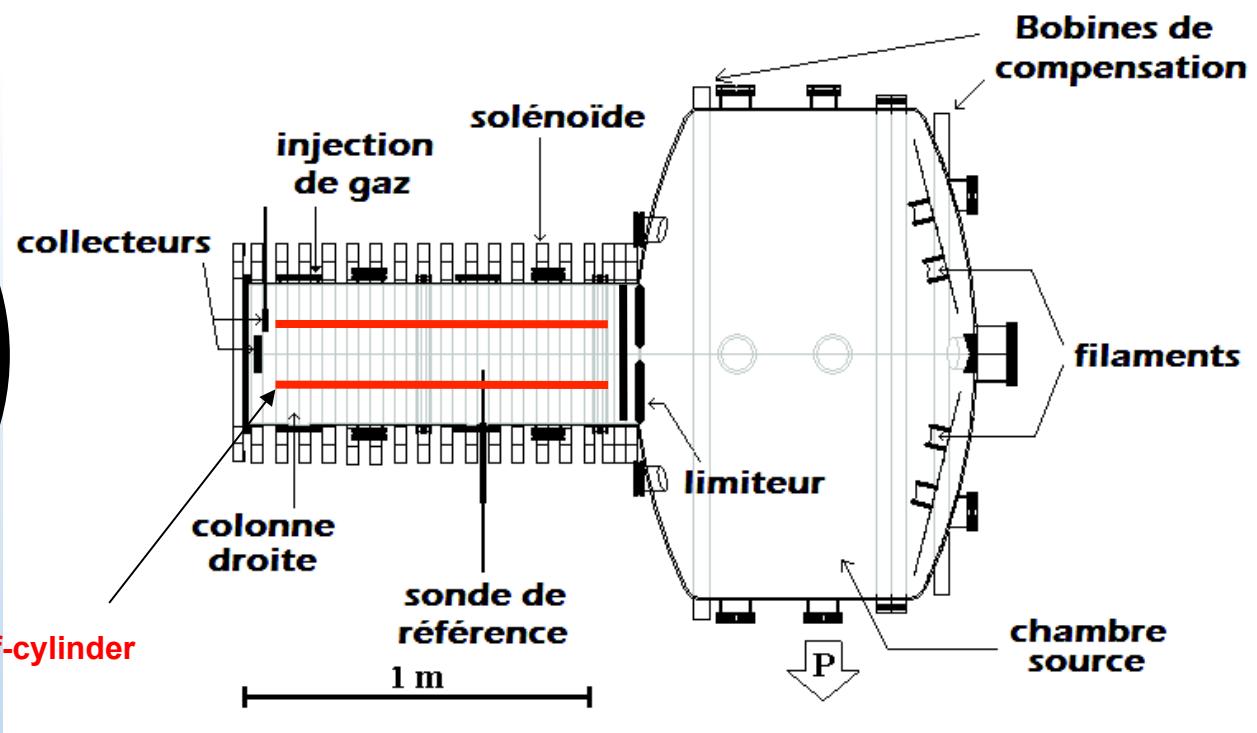
Projet : mesure champ RF devant antenne ICRF chauffage plasma  
(Ishtar, Garching)

# New configuration

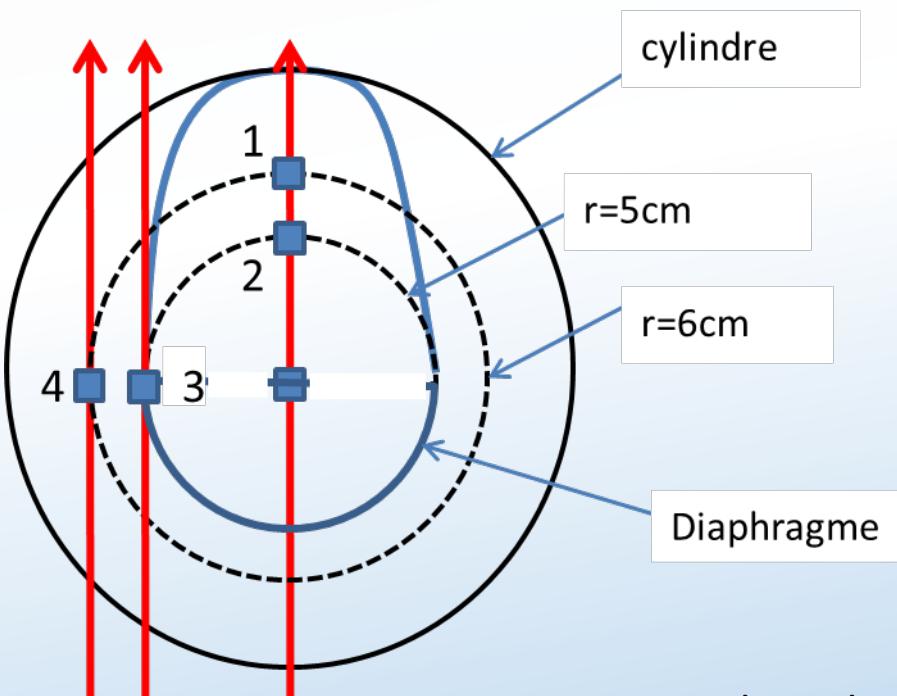
Installation of 2 half-cylinders to measure radial current: each half-cylinder can be biased separately.



Half-cylinder



# LIF measurements

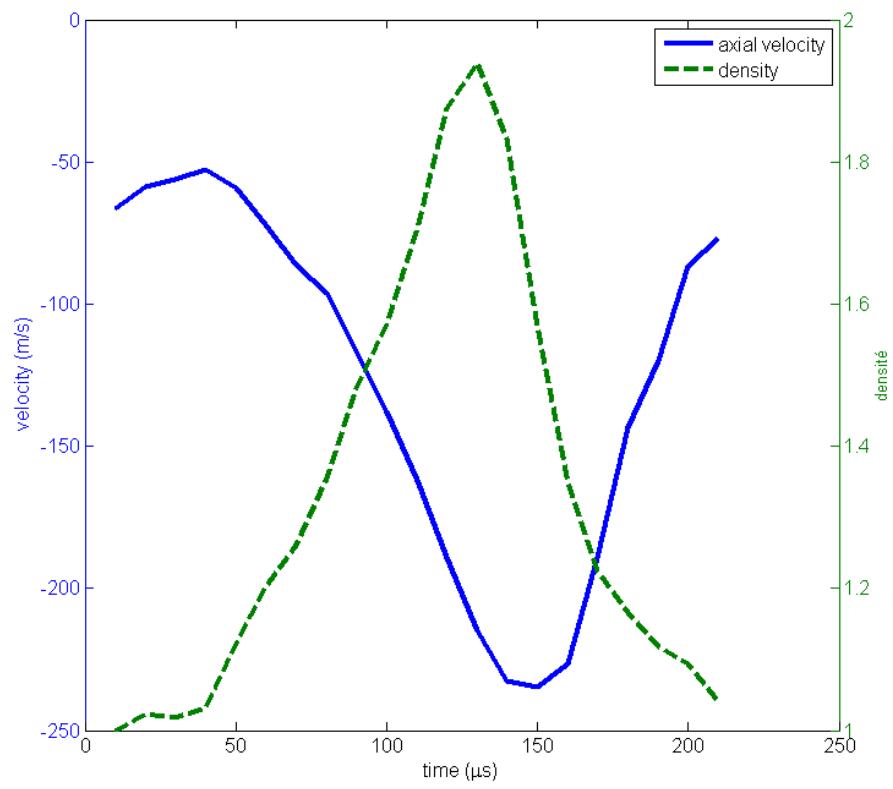


- Measurement between  $r = 0$  and  $6\text{ cm}$
- $\Delta X = 1\text{ cm}$
- Mode frequency:  $5\text{ KHz} < f_{ci}$
- LIF  $\Delta t : 100\text{ }\mu\text{s}$
- 150 000 repetitions
- Total acquisition time: 2 h for a time-resolved velocity distribution function

Experimental conditions:

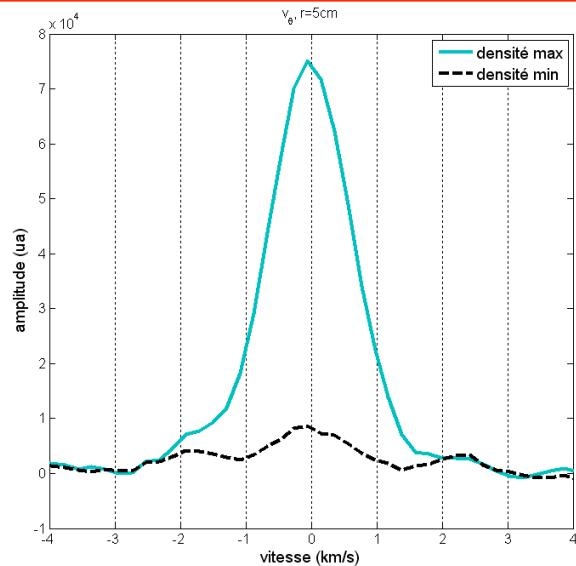
- Grounded half-cylinders
- Floating separatrix and collector (-30 V)
- $P = 9 \cdot 10^{-4}\text{ mbar}$
- $B = 16\text{ mT}$

# Axial distribution function



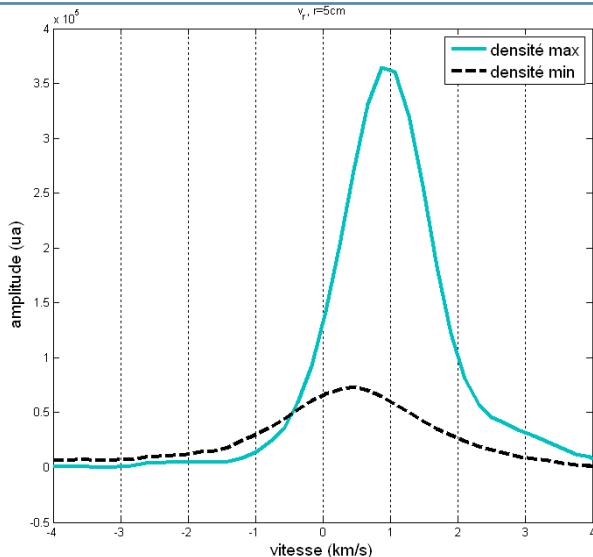
Modulation of mean axial velocity at  
the same frequency as perturbation  
→ possible drift waves

# Results at $r=5\text{cm}$ , ionization zone limit



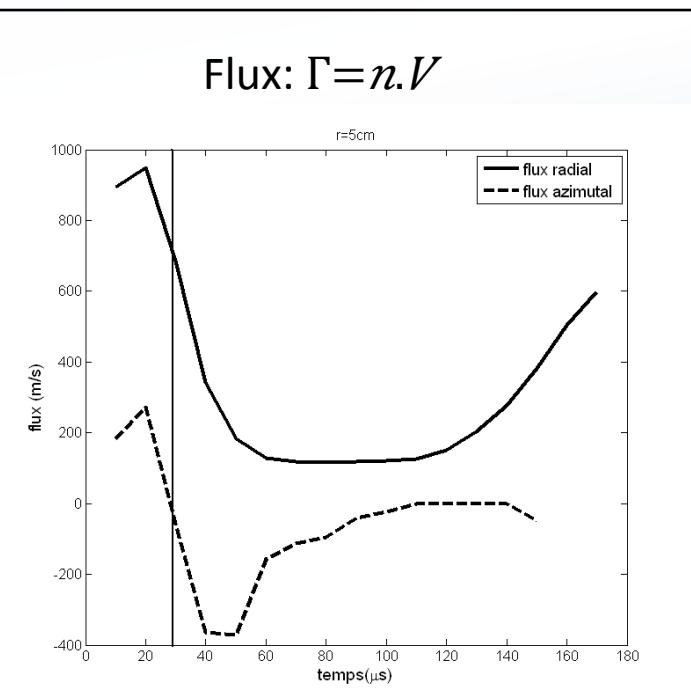
azimuthal

At max and min density  
ivdf centered at zero  
velocity.



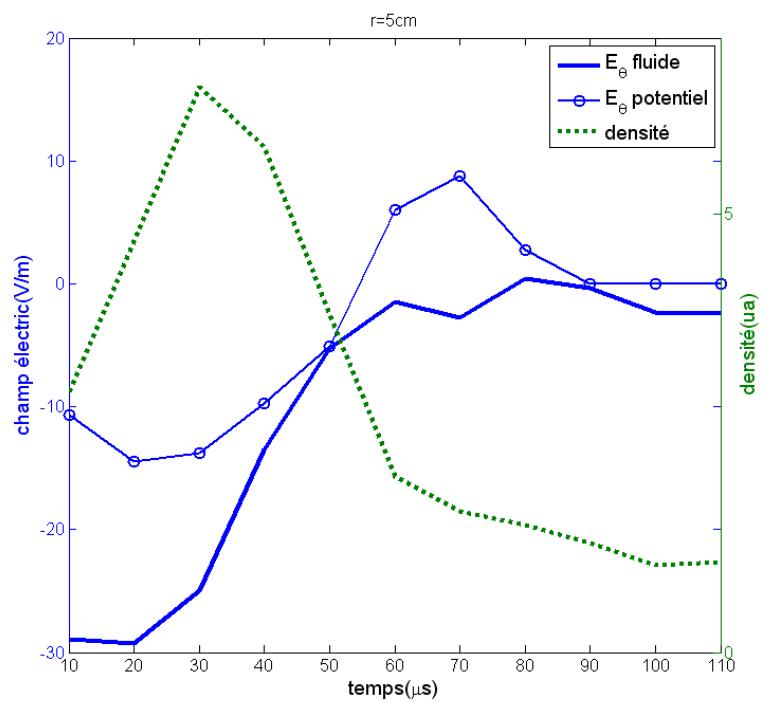
radial

Radial velocity  
always present.

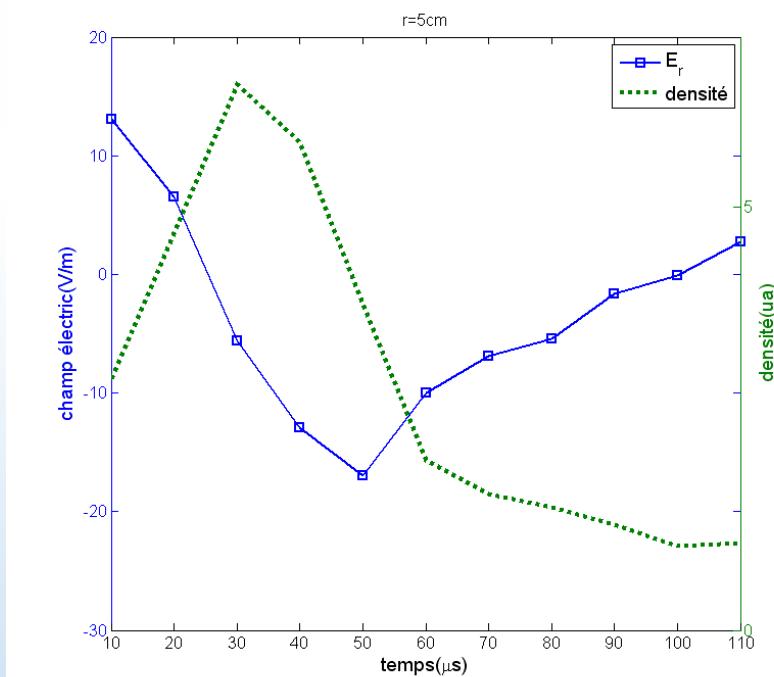


Non-zero mean radial  
flux  $\rightarrow$  no drift wave

# Results at $r=5\text{cm}$



Azimuthal electric field shows:  
 -max on rising density front  
 -differences according to used method (change of sign for energy conservation method)

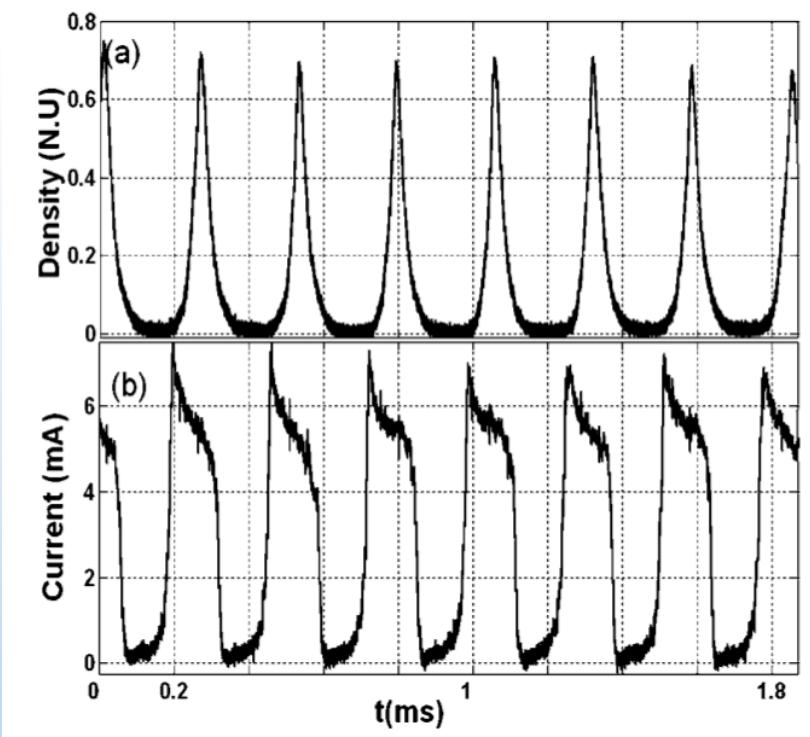
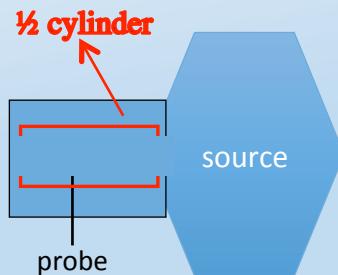


Radial electric field extrema on density fronts → changes sign.

## *m=1, 2 regular modes rotating around plasma column*

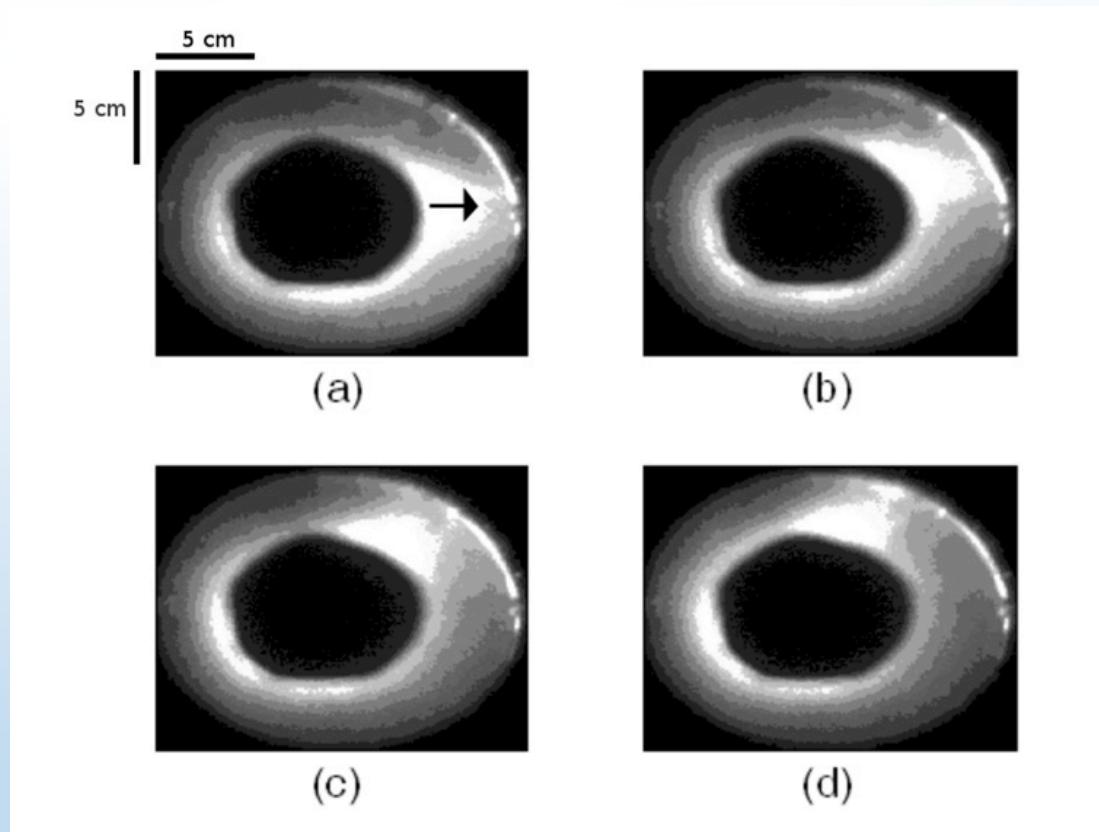
- Langmuir probe in the diaphragm shadow  
 $(V_{\text{probe}} > V_{\text{plasma}}) : n_e.$
- 2 half-cylinders around the column : radial current I.

→ Observation of rotating structures ( $\nu = \text{a few kHz}$   
- sonification for live control)



[Jaeger POP 2009]

## *Fast camera results (end view of the plasma)*



## Simon-Hoh instability CSHI (Phys. Fluids 1963)

ExB drift:

- Electrons :  $v_{e\theta}$
- Friction forces (e-neutrals)

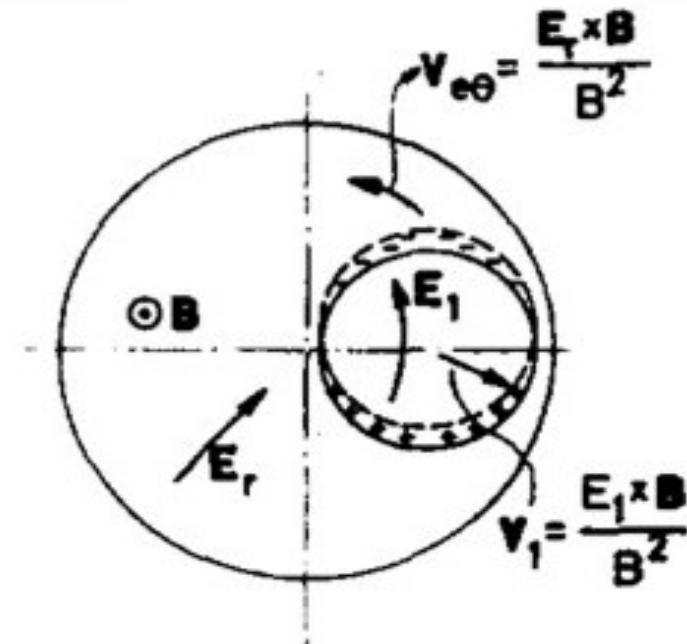
→ Ions slowed down:

$$v_{i\theta} < v_{e\theta}$$

→ Charge separation:  $E_1$

→ Rotation frequency

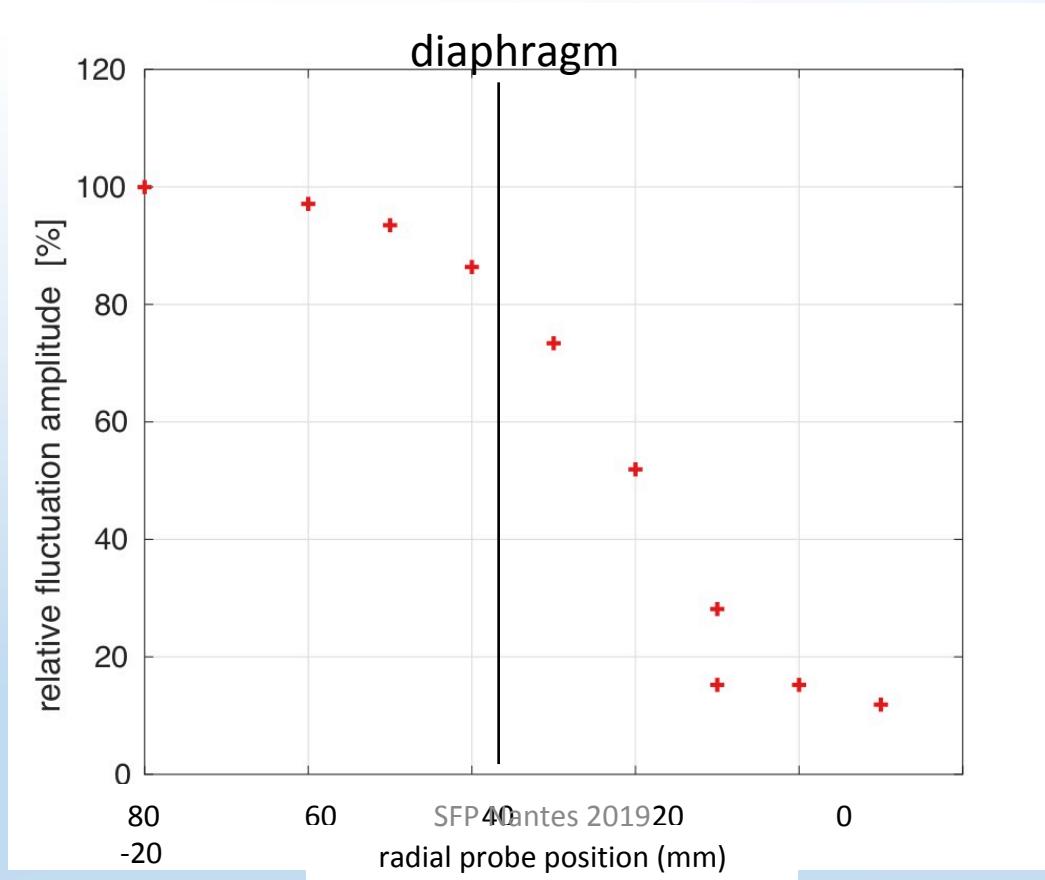
instability:



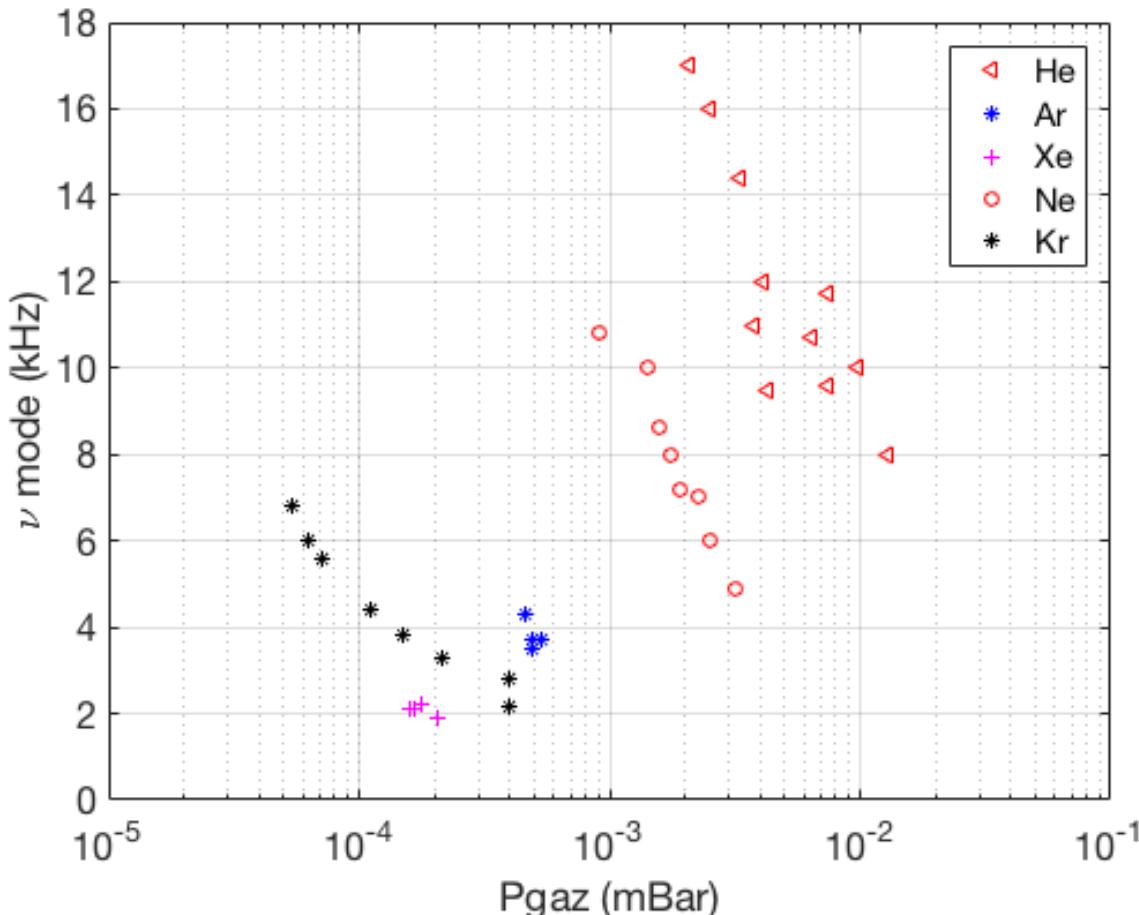
$$v_{spoke} = \frac{1}{\pi R_0} \sqrt{\frac{eE_r L_n}{m_i}} \quad L_n = \frac{n_e}{\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial r}} \quad v_{spoke} \propto \sqrt{B} \quad E_r \propto B$$

## *M=1 mode : radial evolution of the amplitude of the fluctuation*

- 10 % fluctuations inside the plasma column
- 100 % fluctuations in the shadow of the limiteur



# Rotation frequency of a $m=1$ spoke vs $M_{ion}$



Experimental:

- $\nu_{\text{mode}}(\text{He})/\nu_{\text{mode}}(\text{Ne}) \approx 2.7$
- $\nu_{\text{mode}}(\text{Ar})/\nu_{\text{mode}}(\text{Kr}) \approx 1.8$
- $\nu_{\text{mode}}(\text{Kr})/\nu_{\text{mode}}(\text{Xe}) \approx 1.7$

Theory: collisionless Simon Hoh Instability (Smolyakov PPCF 2017) :

$$\nu_{\text{mode}} \propto M^{-1/2}$$

$$(M_{\text{Ne}}/M_{\text{He}})^{1/2} = 2.2$$

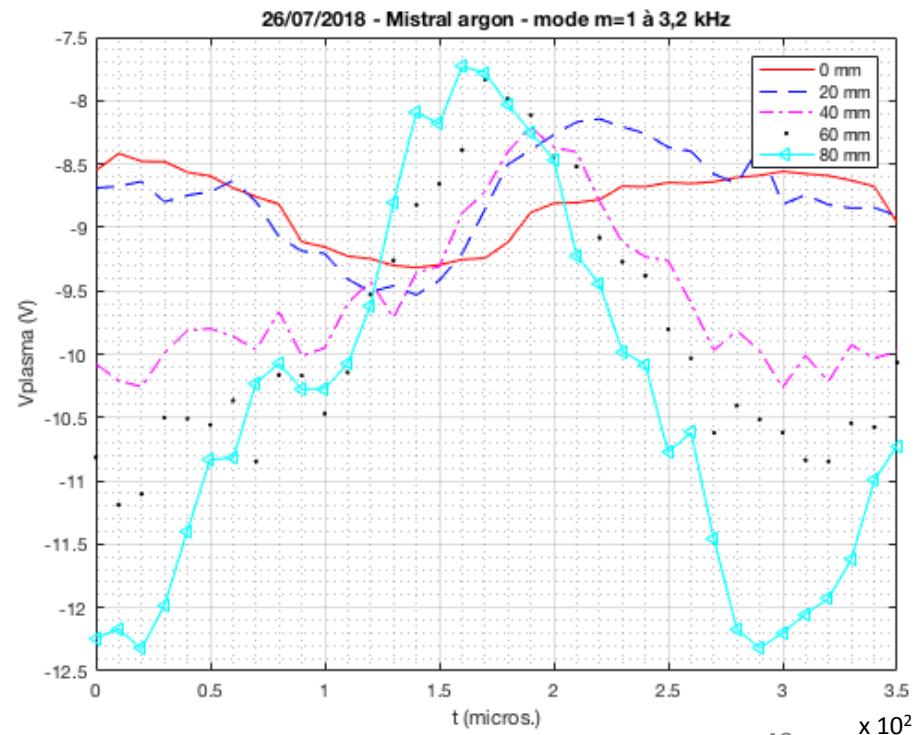
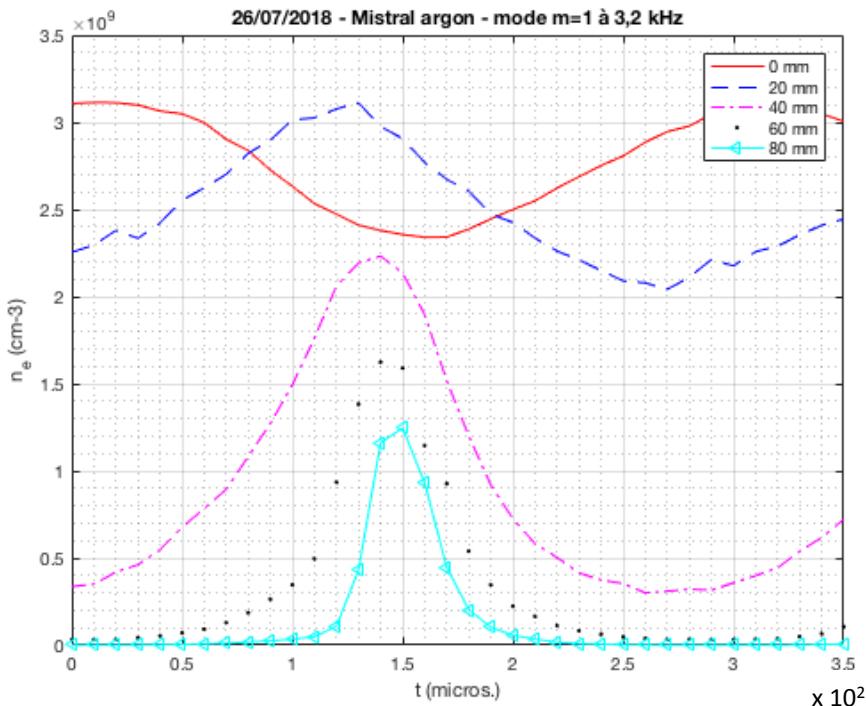
$$(M_{\text{Kr}}/M_{\text{Ar}})^{1/2} = 1.4$$

$$(M_{\text{Xe}}/M_{\text{Kr}})^{1/2} = 1.3$$

- Difficult to overlap pressure ranges for  $\neq M_{ion}$
- Possible transition  $m=1$  to  $m=2$  mode, when P increases : **the controlling parameter is not clear.**
- Role of  $E_r$  and  $\text{grad}(n_e)$  ?

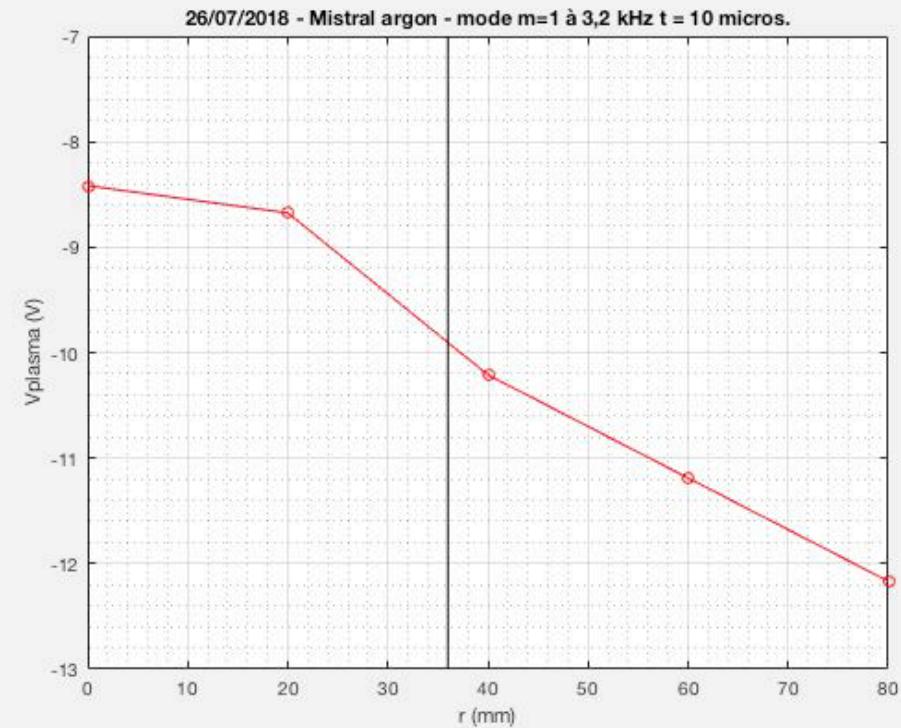
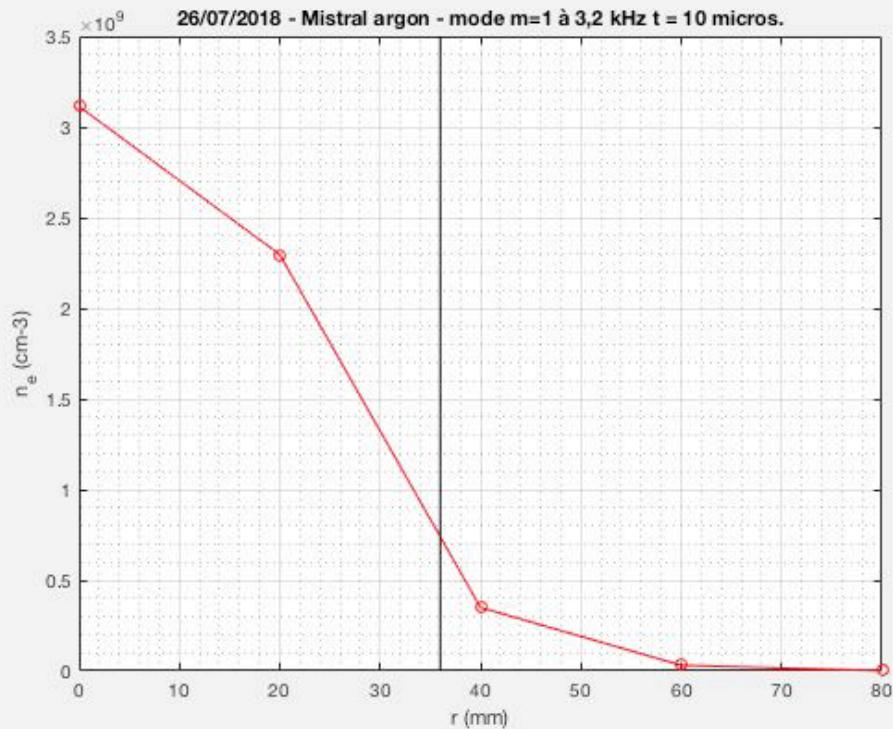
## Spatial/time resolved study of a $m=1$ spoke in argon

- Synchronized Langmuir probe (perturbing...)
  - $r_{\text{plasma}} = 36 \text{ mm} \rightarrow$  the 2 first curves are inside the plasma column (red/blue)
  - the 3 other curves are in the shadow of the limiteur (magenta/black/cyan)
- $\approx$  Rigid body rotation
- Phase shift ( $V_{\text{plasma}} / n_e$ )  $\approx \pi/2$  in the shadow of the limiteur



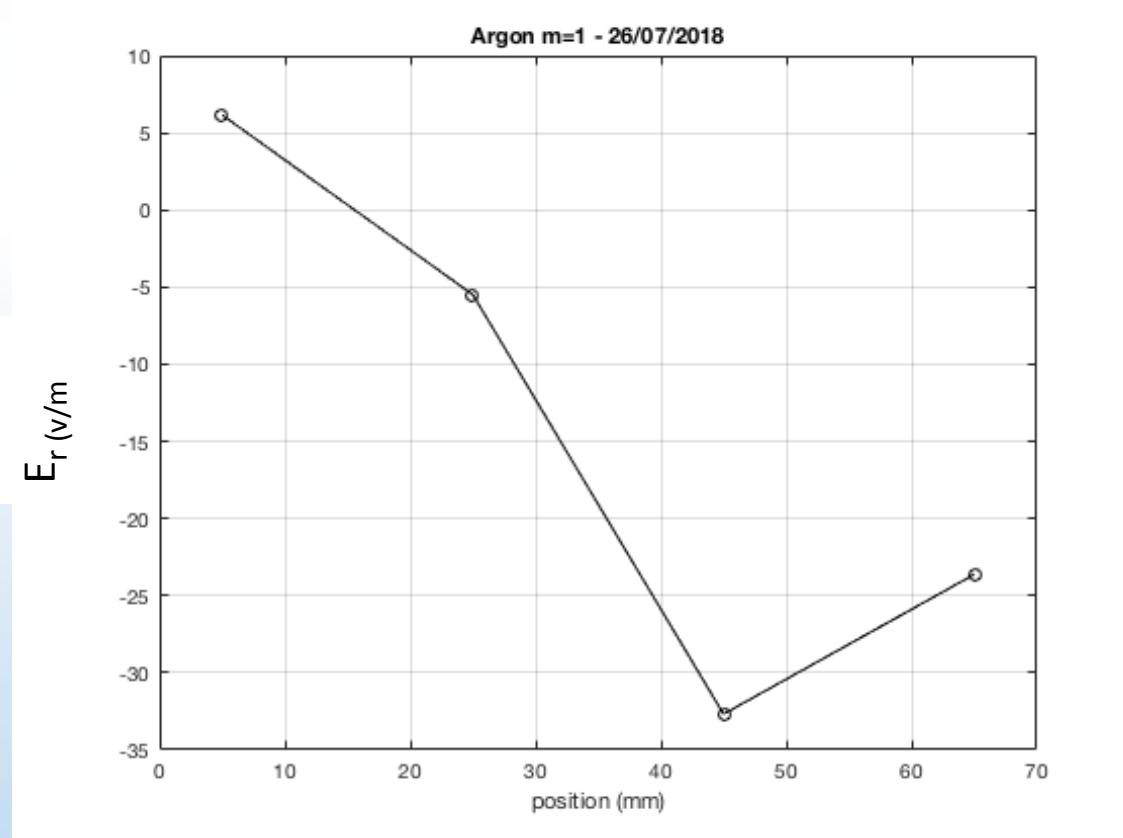
## Time evolution of $n_e$ and $V_{plasma}$

The rotating spoke is in front of the probe at  **$t = 150 \mu s$**



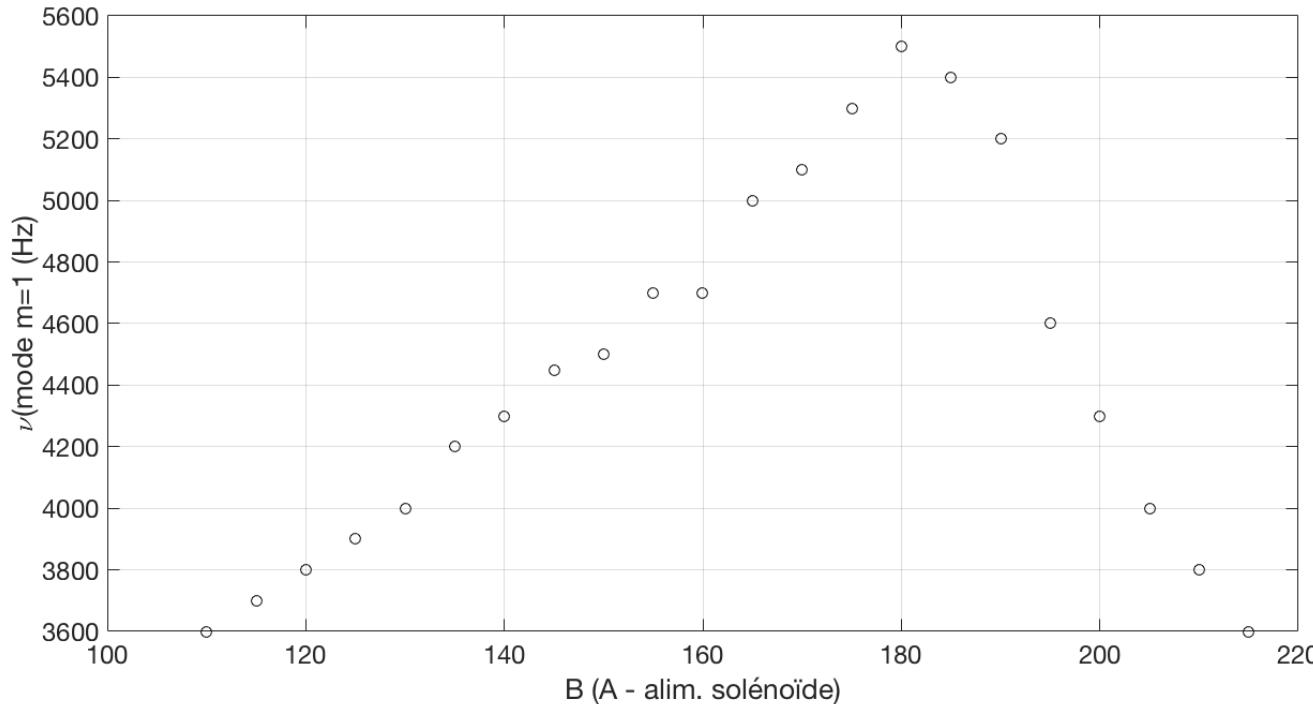
- $\langle E_r \rangle$  is oriented outward...
- But  $E_r(r)$  is oriented inward inside the spoke, outward otherwise

## *Radial electric field $E_r$*



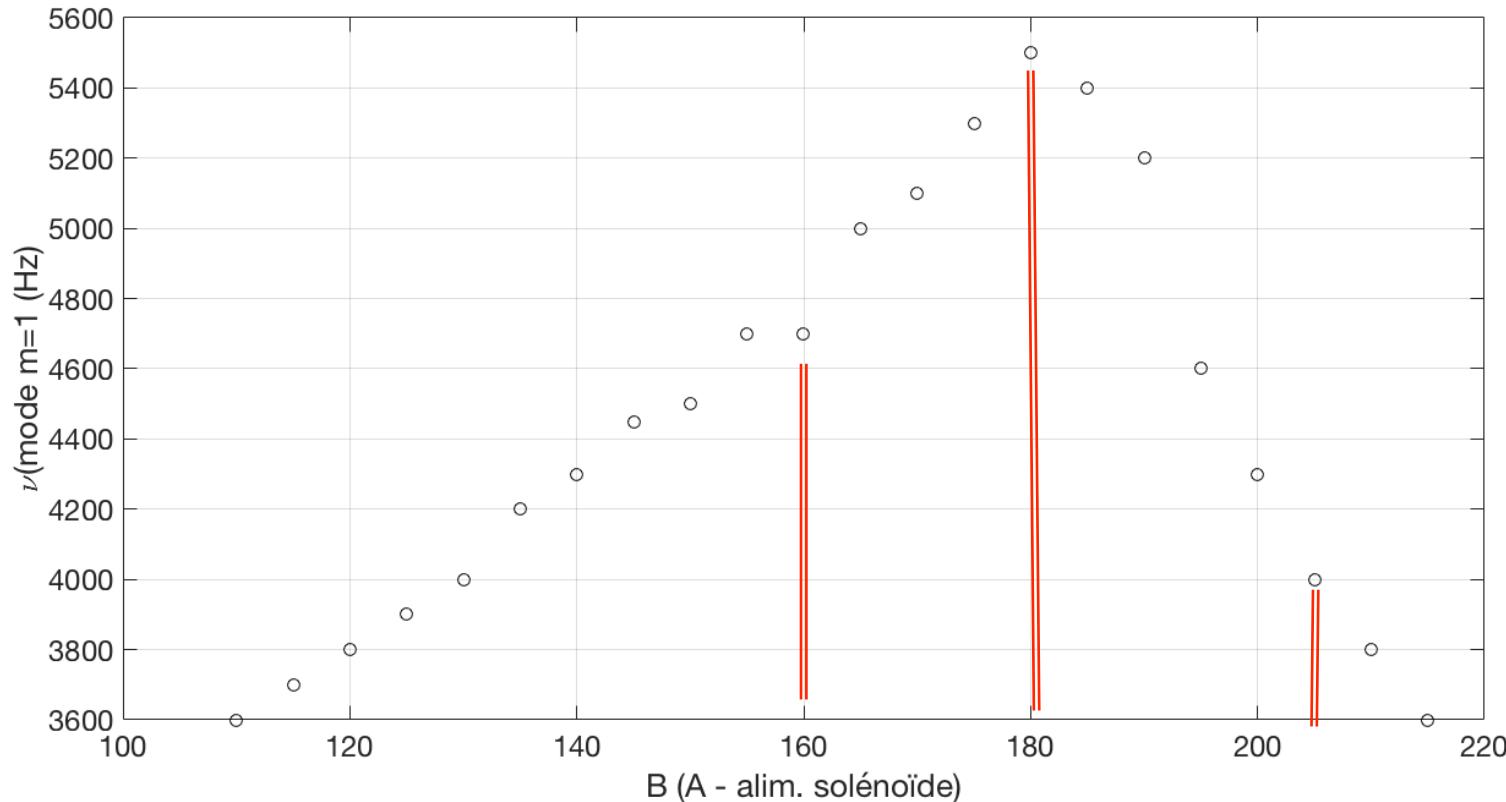
→ Except in the center, inside the spoke, the radial electric field is oriented inward.

## *Spoke rotation frequency = $f(B)$*



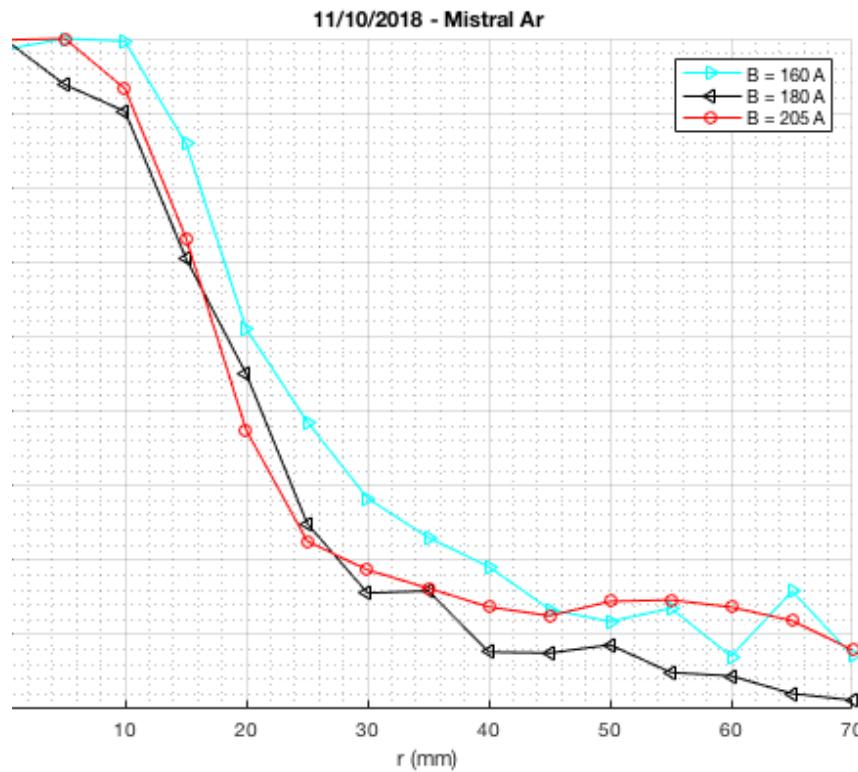
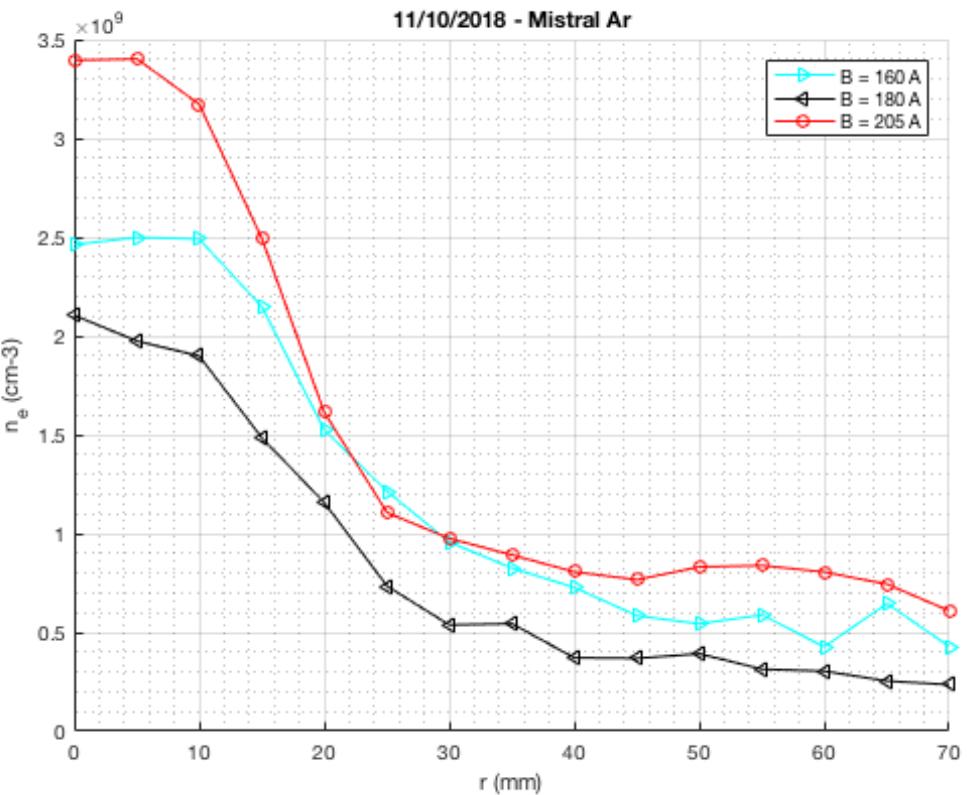
- Linear increase until  $B = 180 \text{ G}$  – then, decrease ***with a different slope***.
- Observation of a maximum at 180 G.
- Coherent with CSHI ?

## *Spoke rotation frequency = $f(B)$*



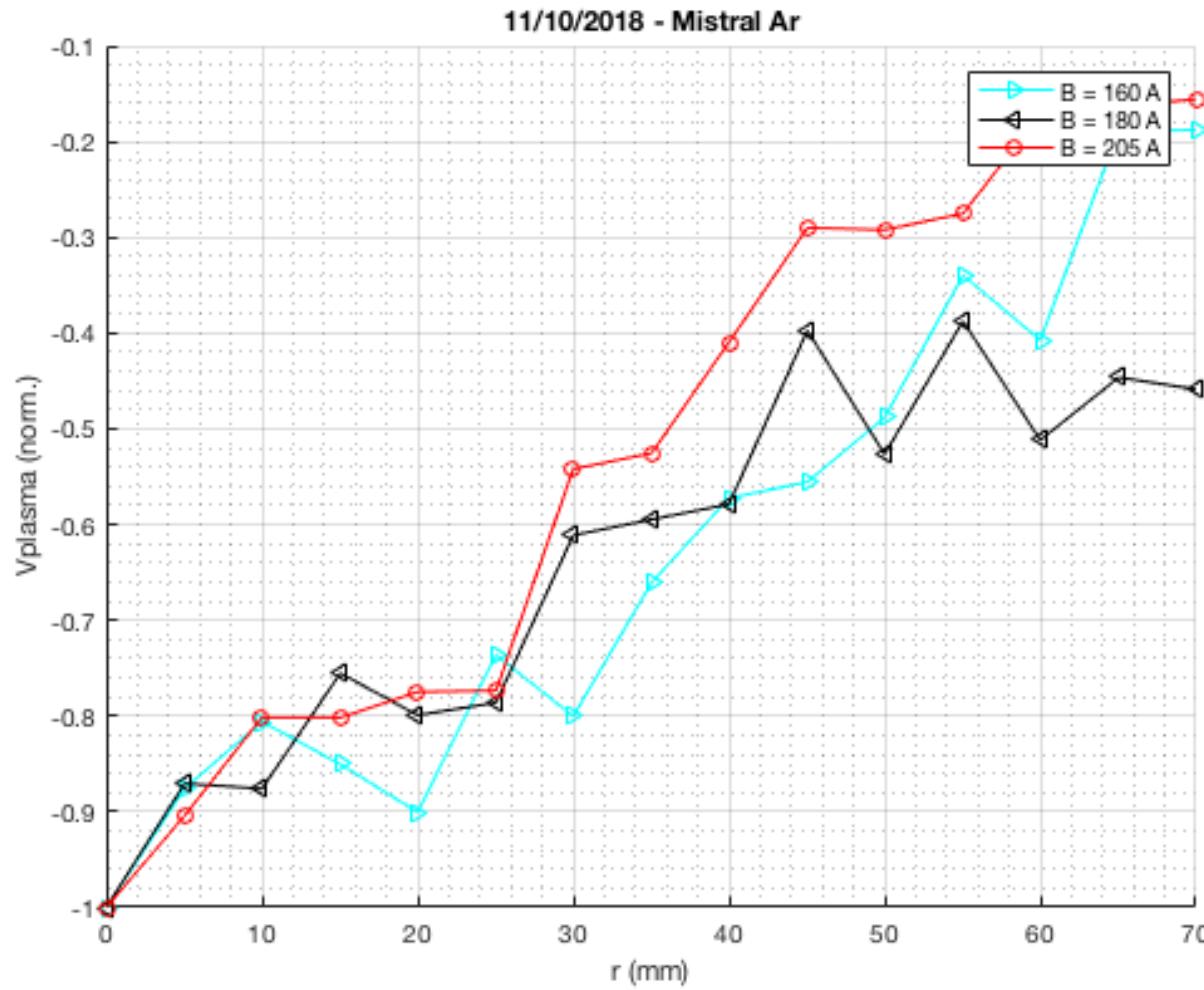
- Not coherent with CSHI theory. But do  $E_r$  and  $L_n$  change when B increases ?
- Detailed study of 3 cases at 160 G, 180 G and 205 G.

# *Comparison of $ne(r)$*



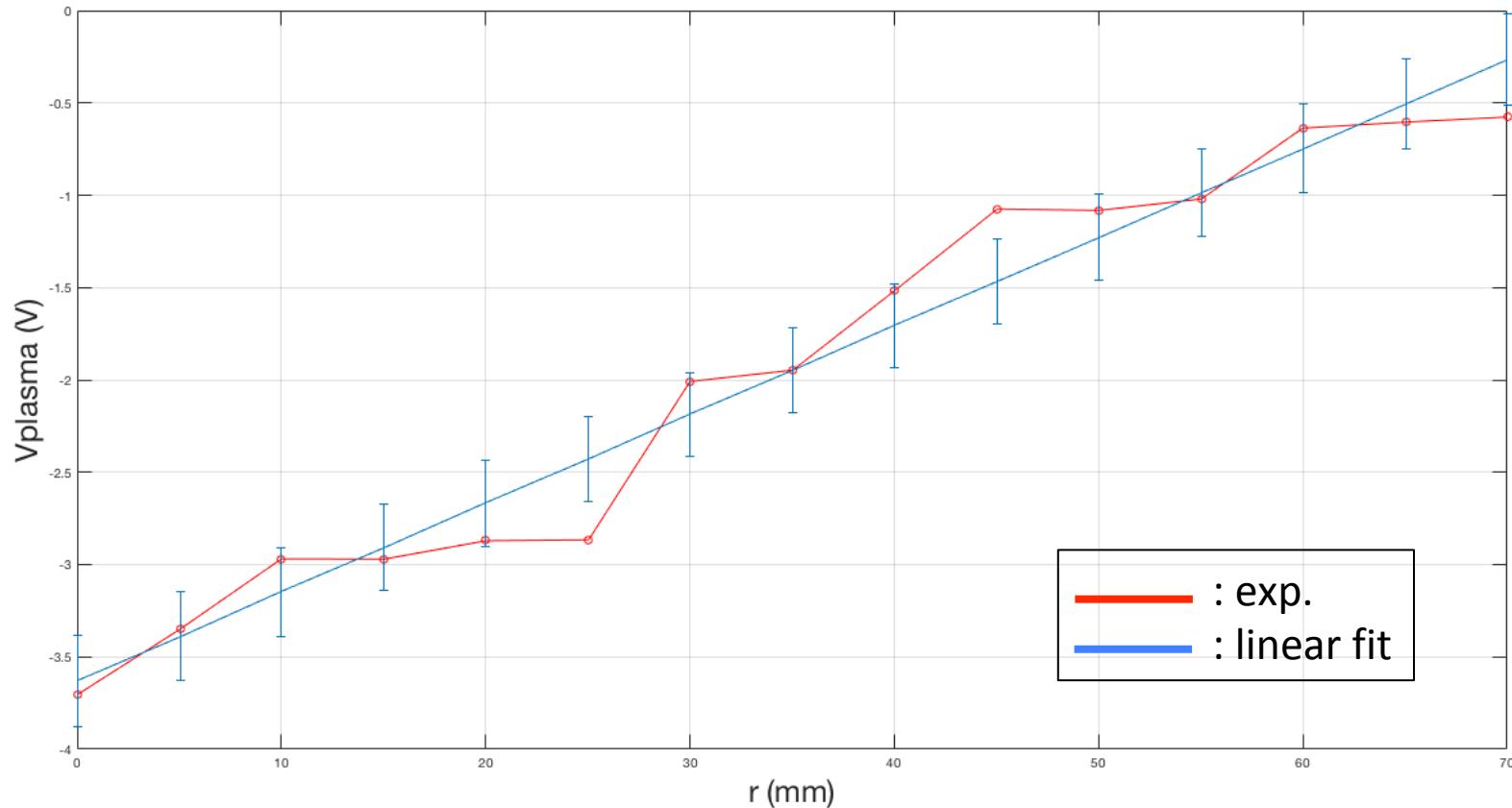
→ similar radial behaviors

# Comparison of $V_{plasma}(r)$

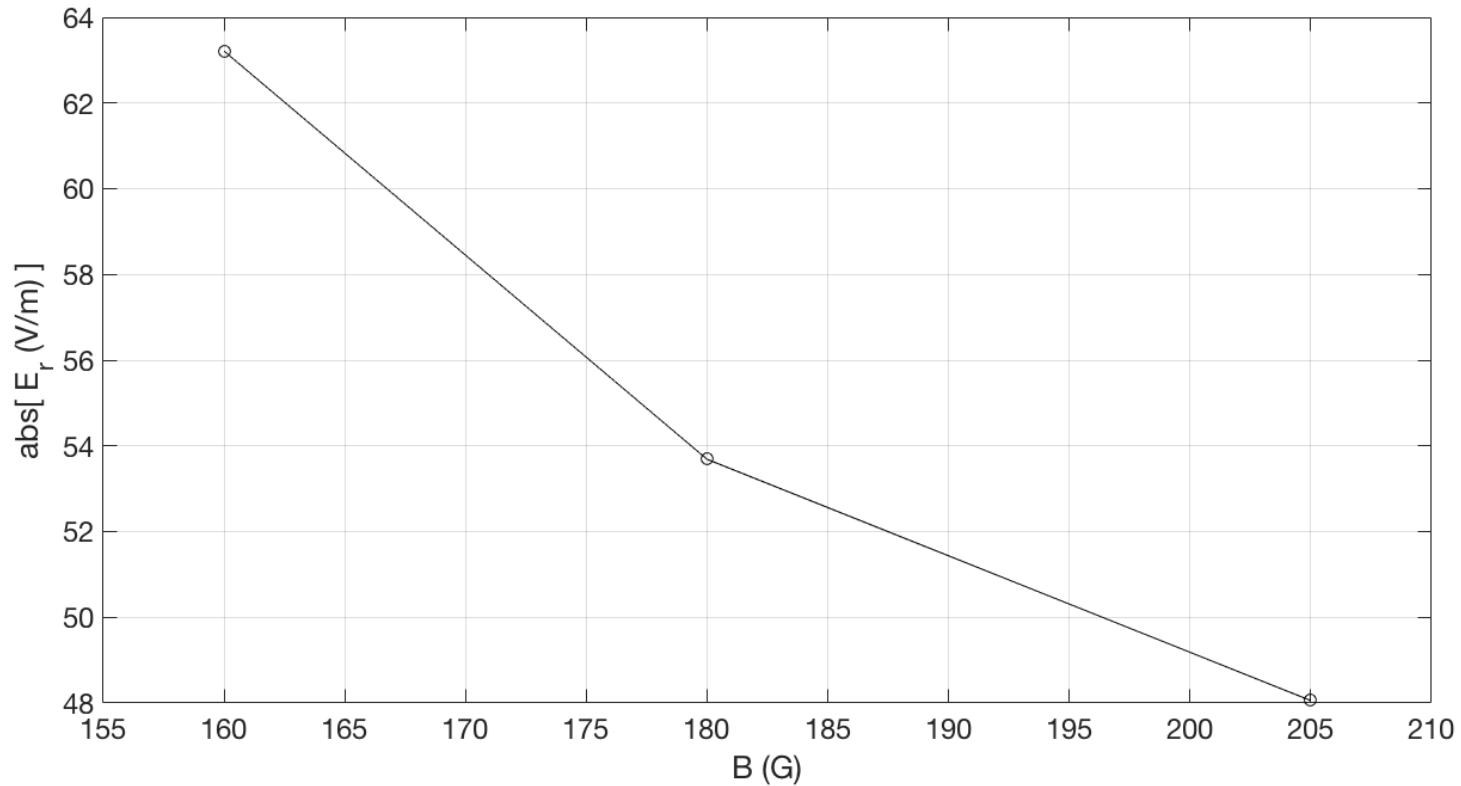


# $E_r$ estimation from the linear fit of $V_{\text{plasma}}(r)$

$$\mathbf{B} = 160 \text{ G} - \mathbf{E}_r = -48.0566 \text{ V/m}$$



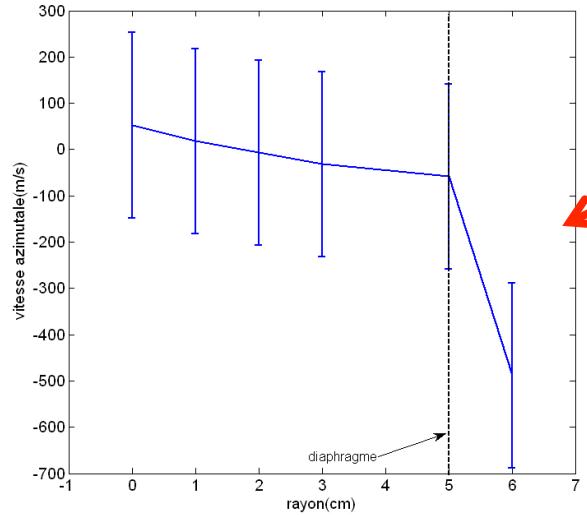
## *$E_r$ estimation from the linear fit of $V_{plasma}(r)$*



→  $E_r$  and  $L_n$  do not seem to play a key role in  $v = f(B)$   
 → CSHI :  $E_r$  should increase with  $B$ ...

# Evolution of ion velocity in a $m=1$ spoke by LIF

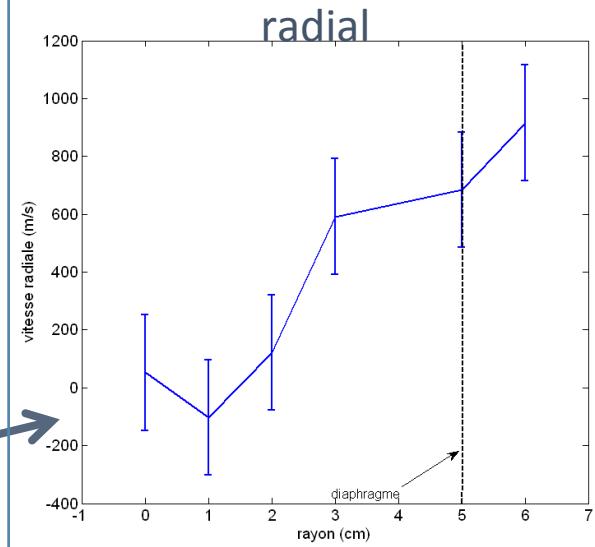
azimuthal



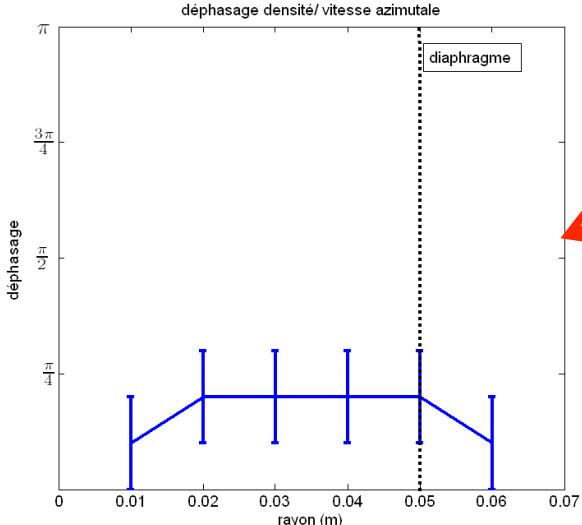
Mean velocity at density maximum

In the ionization zone, almost null velocity at any radius.  
No « block » rotation.

Linear evolution of radial velocity



déphasage densité / vitesse azimuthale

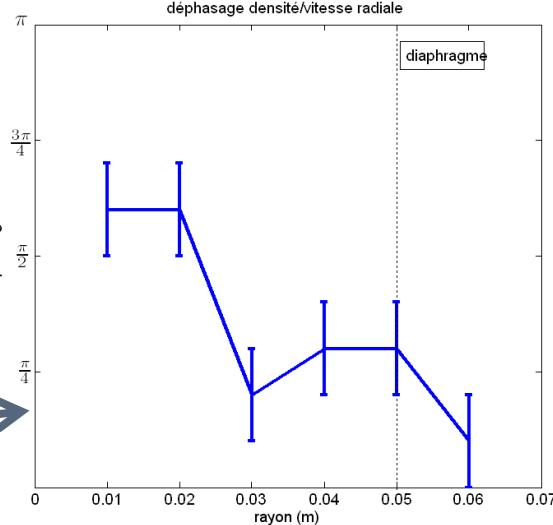


Density/velocity phase

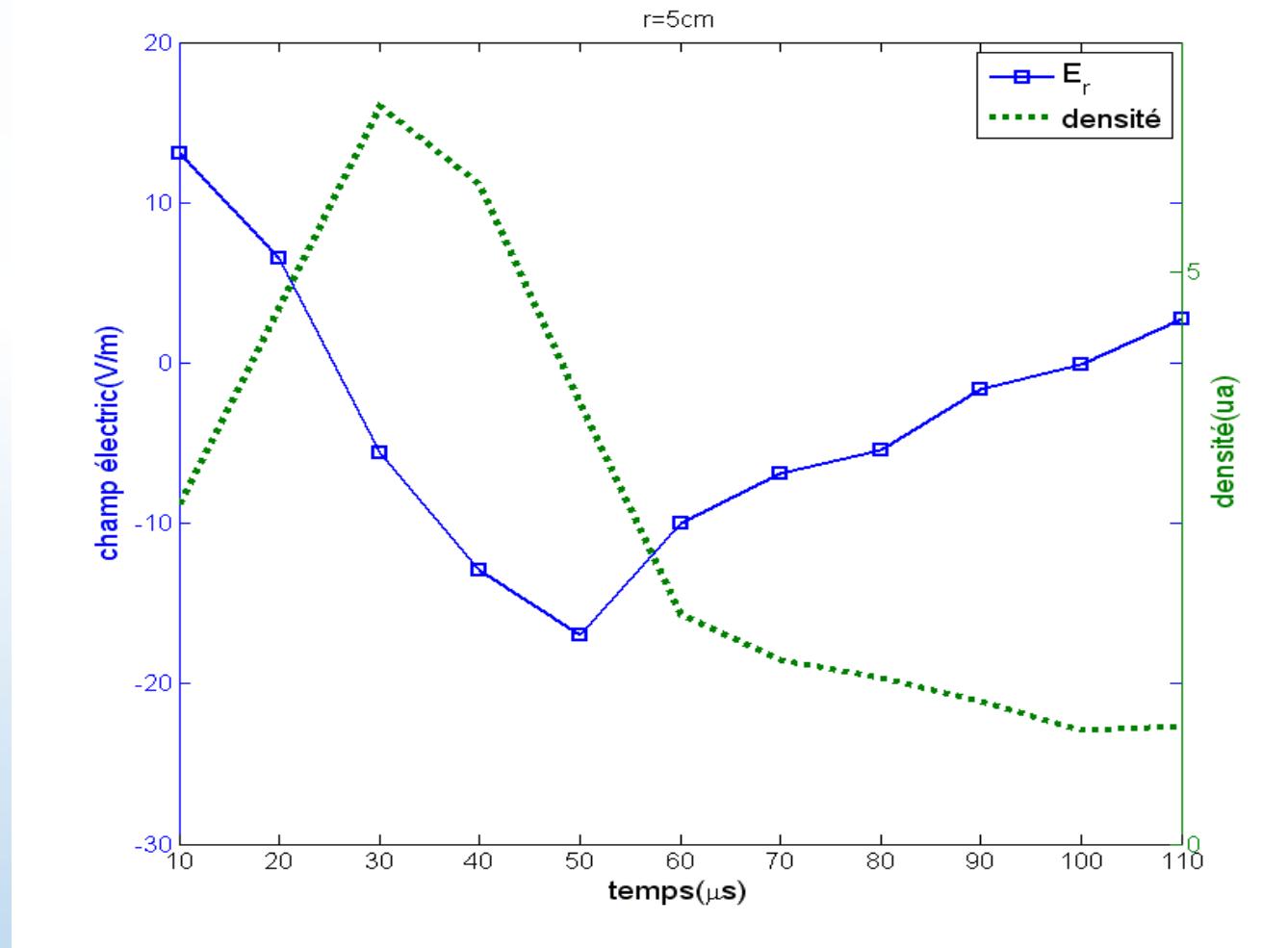
Constant phase close to  $\pi/4$

Phase:  $\pi/2$  at center,  
0 outside ionization zone

déphasage densité/vitesse radiale

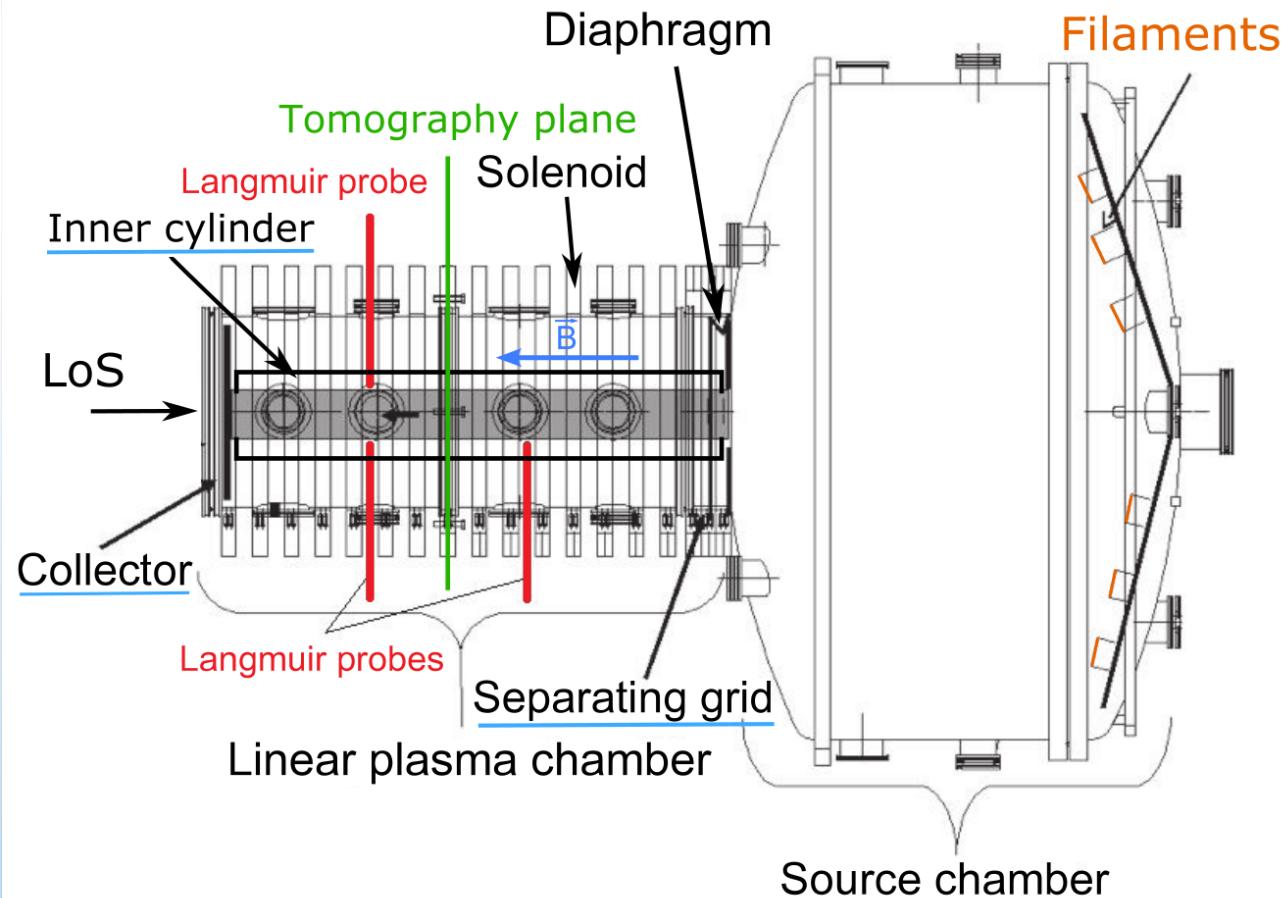


## *Electric field in a m=1 spoke bv LIF*



→  $E_r$  measured by LIF is coherent with probe measurements

## L'expérience MISTRAL



- $1 \text{ eV} < T_e < 4 \text{ eV}$
- $10^{14} \text{ m}^{-3} < N_e < 5 \cdot 10^{16} \text{ m}^{-3}$
- $T_{\text{Ar neutral}} = 300 \text{ K}$
- $T_{\text{Ar ion}} = 1100 \text{ K}$
- $E_{\text{primary electrons}} \approx 40 \text{ eV}$
- $v_{ci} = 6 \text{ kHz}$  (Ar ; 160 G)
- $\rho_e = 3 \text{ mm}$
- $\rho_i = 25 \text{ mm}$  (He ; 160 G)  
 $= 56 \text{ mm}$  (Ne ; 160 G)  
 $= 80 \text{ mm}$  (Ar ; 160 G)  
 $= 146 \text{ mm}$  (Xe ; 160 G)