

# **NONLINEAR DYNAMICS OF NONNEUTRAL PLASMAS**

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**Supervisors:**

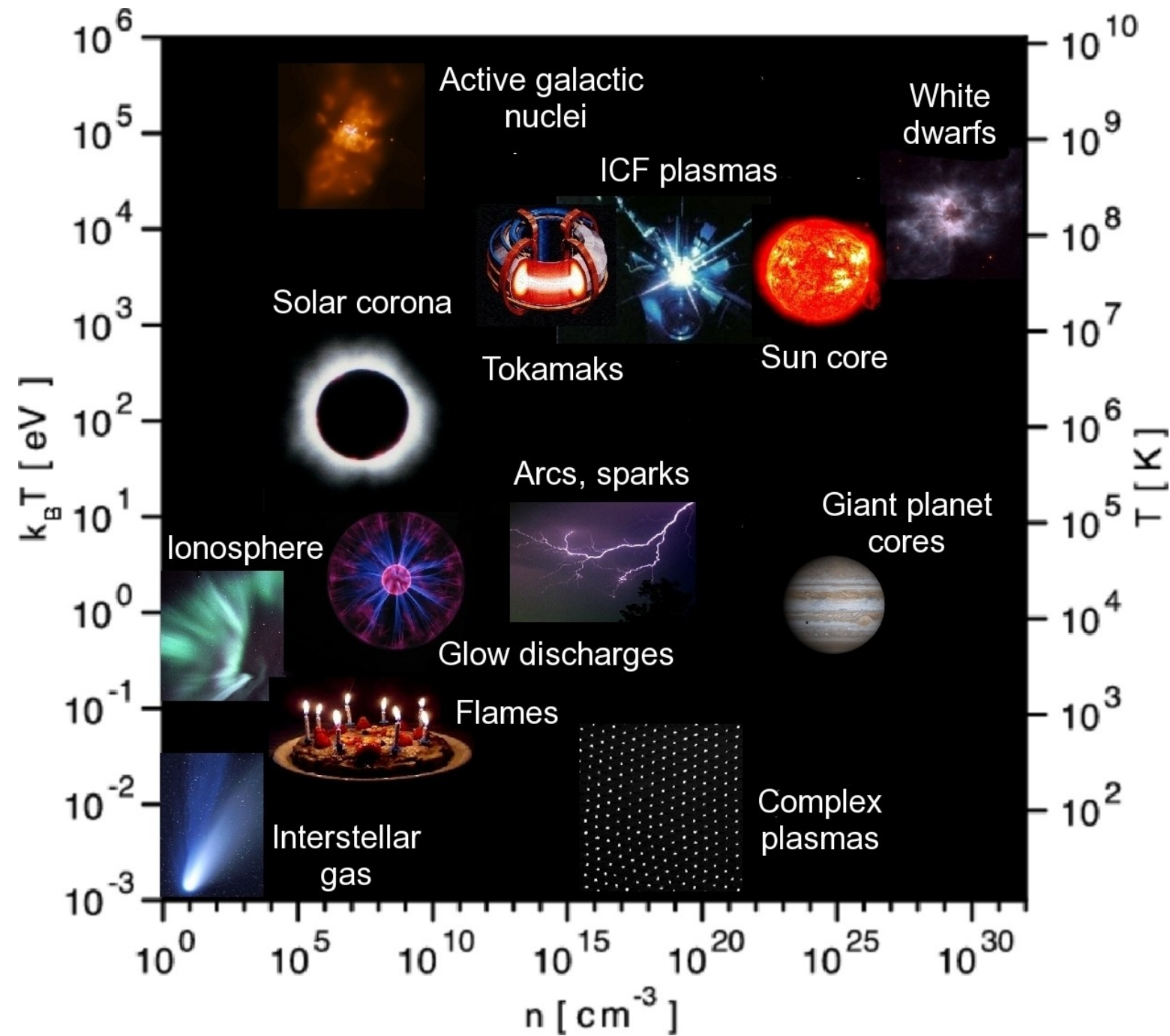
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# INDEX

- What is plasma?
- Main topics of my research activity
- Plasma confinement principle and Eltrap
  - i) RF plasma generation
  - i) 1D single particle heating model
  - i) RF spatial characterization
    - ii) Fluid analogy
    - ii) Diocotron modes
    - ii) Resonant diocotron modes excitation
- Future perspectives

# WHAT IS PLASMA?



Neutral plasma:

$$\sum_i Q_i = 0$$

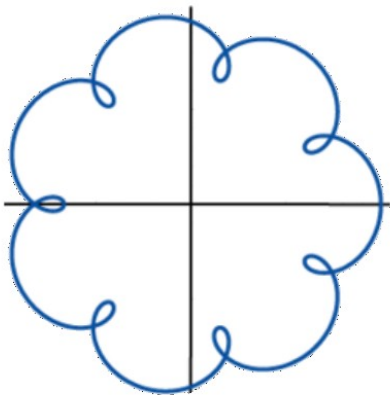
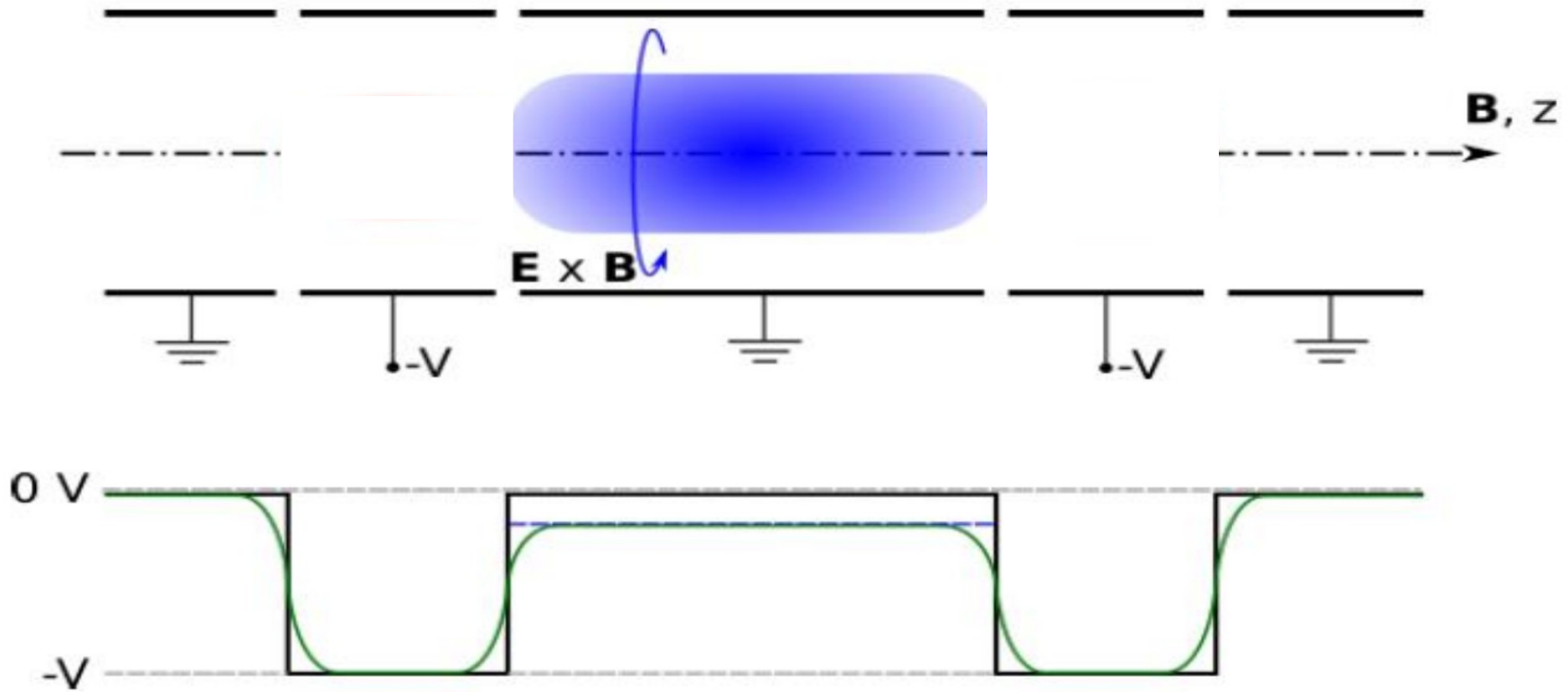
Nonneutral plasma:

$$\sum_i Q_i \neq 0$$

# MAIN TOPICS OF MY RESEARCH ACTIVITY

- 1) EXPERIMENTS AND THEORETICAL MODELIZATION OF RADIOFREQUENCY GENERATION TECHNIQUE AND PLASMA DYNAMICS UNDER RF EXCITATION
- 2) FLUID INSTABILITIES AND COHERENT STRUCTURES IN NONNEUTRAL PLASMAS (E.G. DIODOTRON WAVES AND THEIR DECAY)

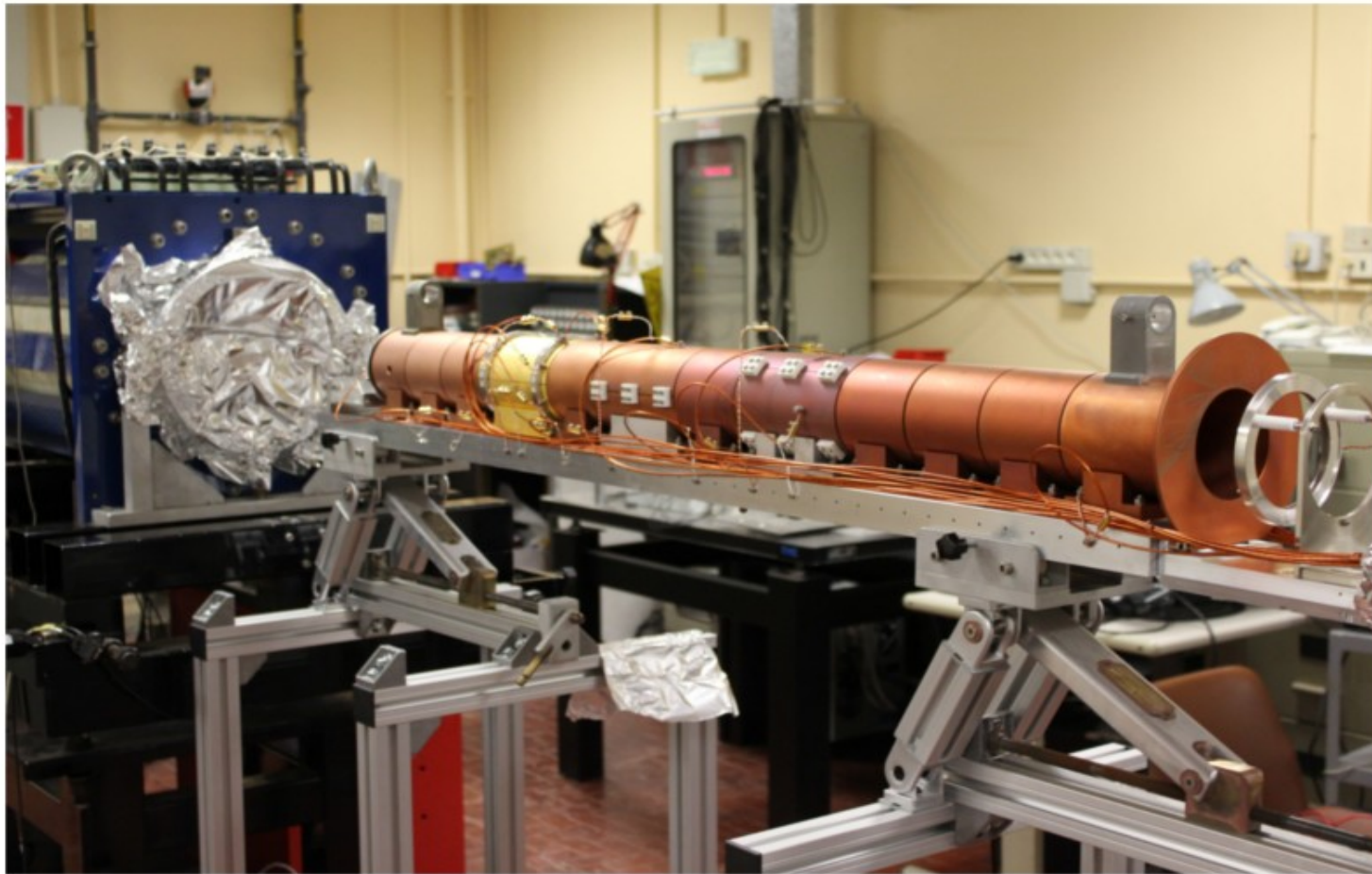
# PLASMA CONFINEMENT PRINCIPLE



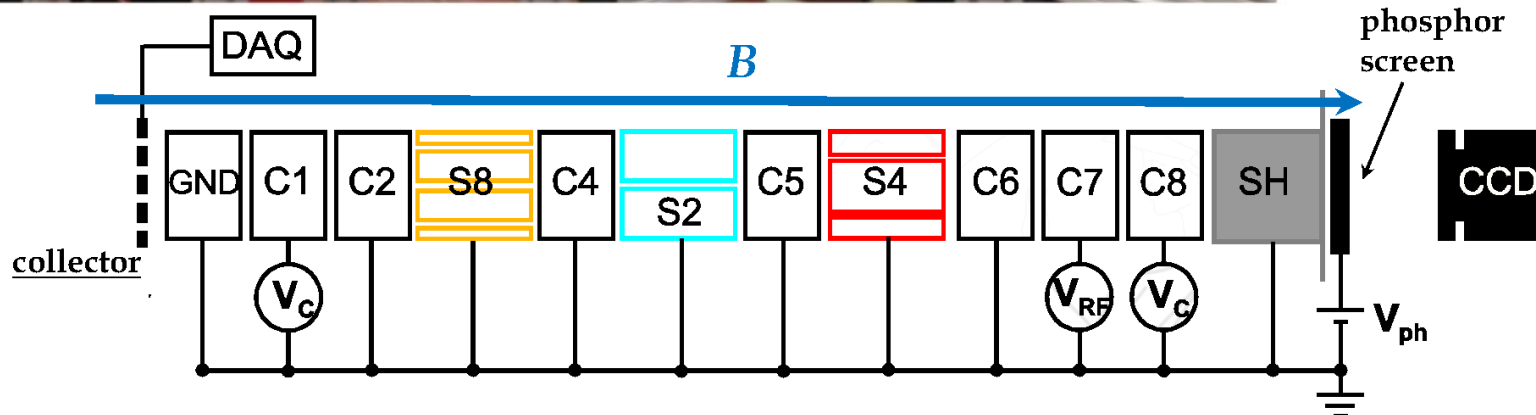
→ Cyclotron and  $\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$  drift  
single particle orbit

$$v_{\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}} \ll v_{\text{lon}} \ll v_{\text{cyc}}$$

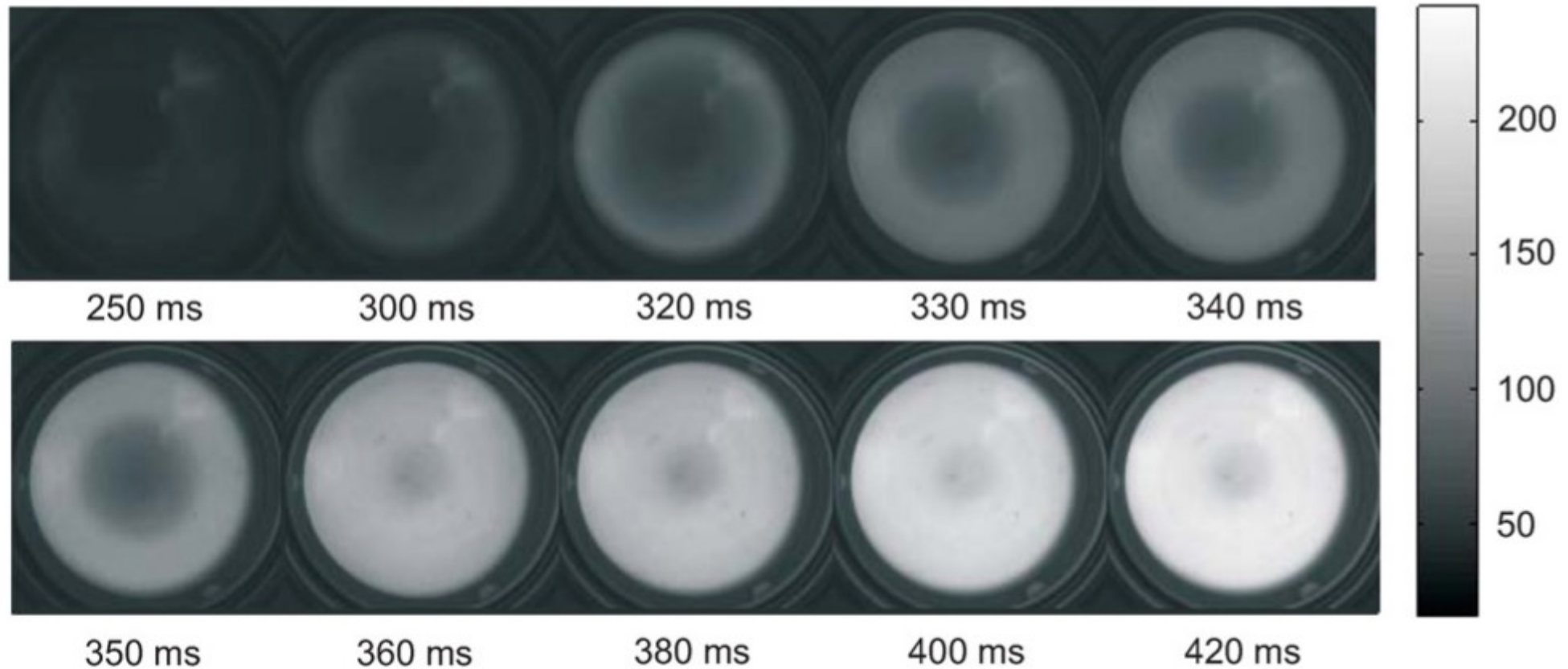
# ELTRAP



- $L < 1$  m
- $\varnothing = 90$  mm
- $B < 0.2$  T
- $V_{\text{con}} = \pm 100$  V
- $p \sim 10^{-8}$  mbar
- $T \sim 300$  K



# PLASMA FORMATION



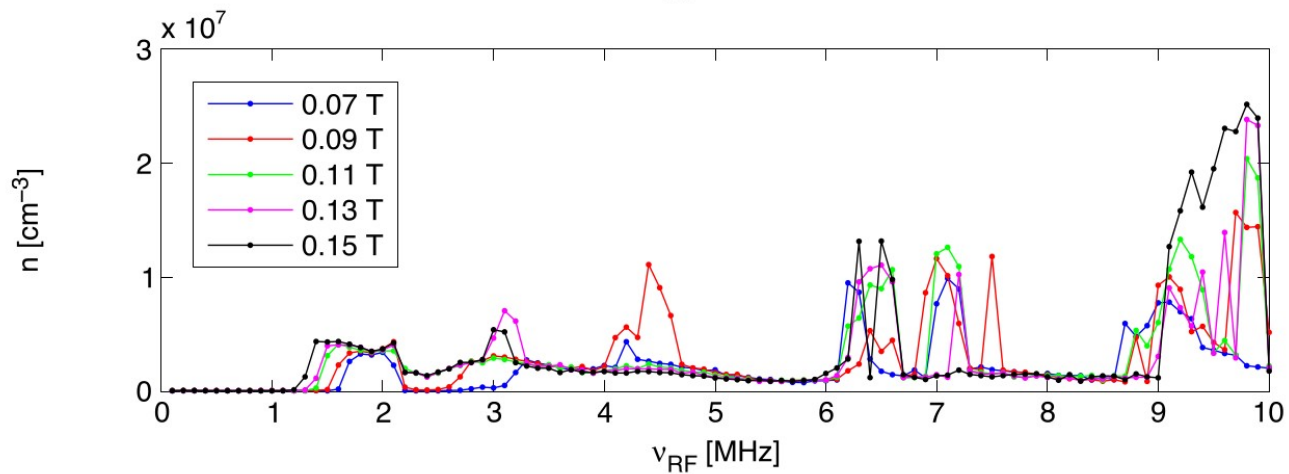
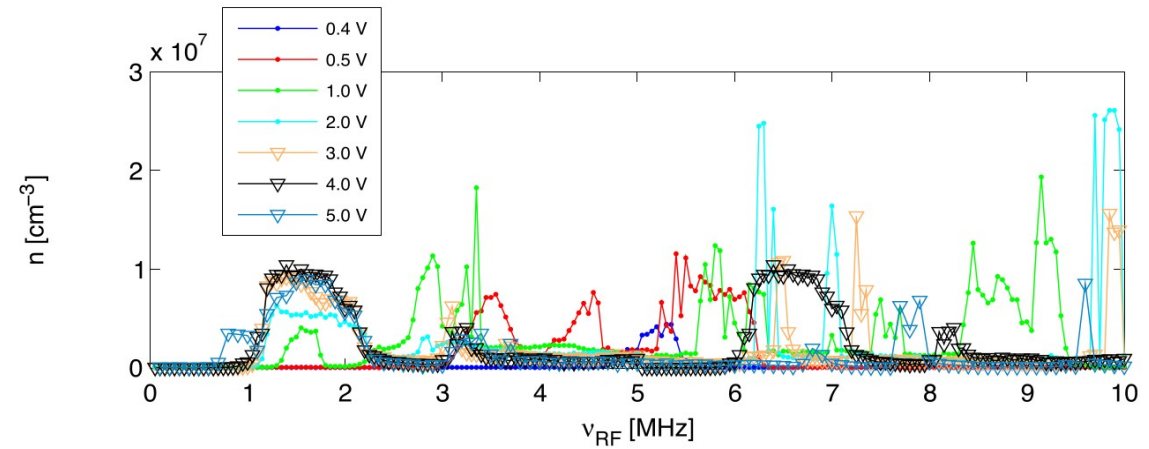
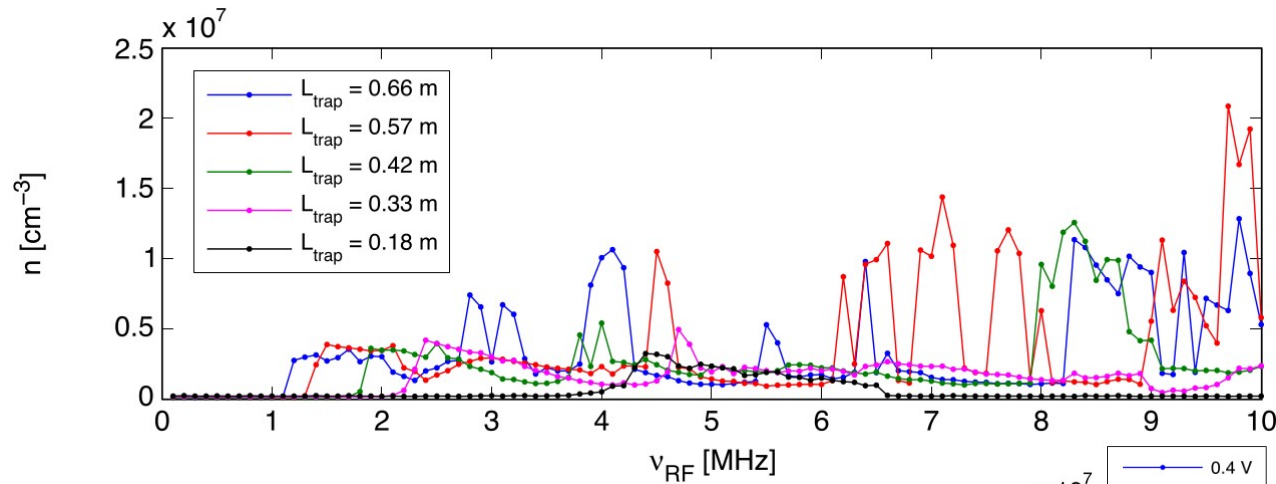
## Radiofrequency excitation

- $\nu_{\text{RF}} \sim \text{MHz}$
- $V_{\text{pp}} \sim \text{V}$
- Excitation time  $\sim \text{s}$

## Electron plasma

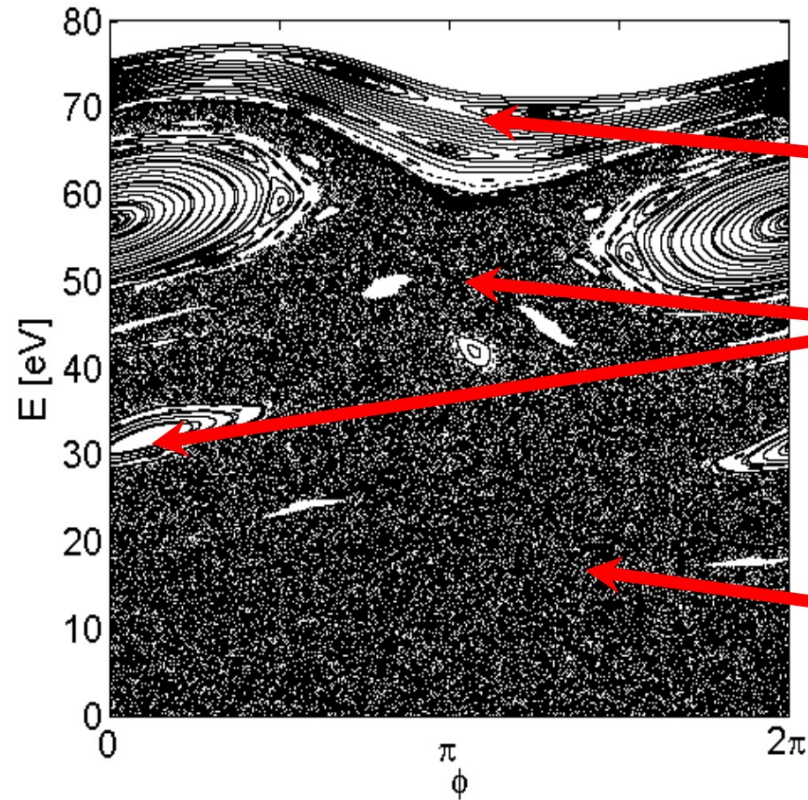
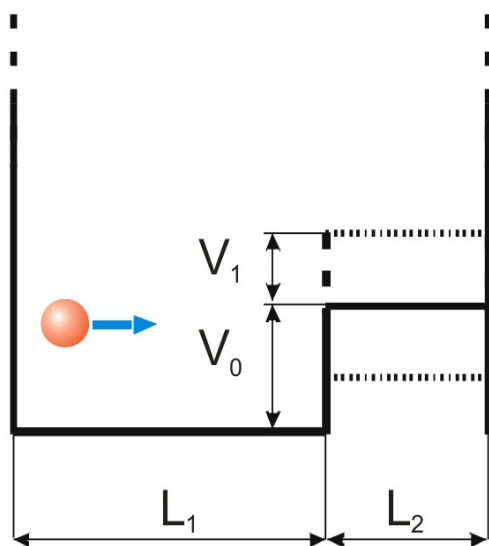
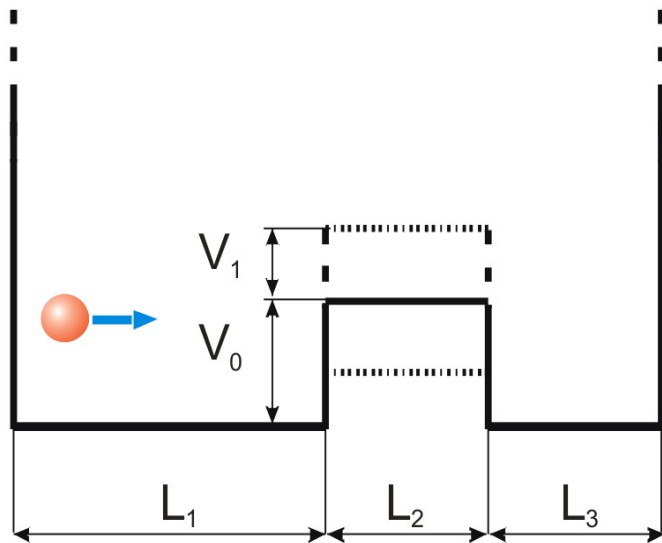
- $n_e \sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- $Q \sim 10^2 \text{ pC}$
- $T_{\parallel} \sim \text{eV}$
- $N_i/N_e < 0,1$

# RF GENERATION SYSTEMATIC ANALYSIS





# 1D SINGLE PARTICLE HEATING MODEL



regular region

KAM islands

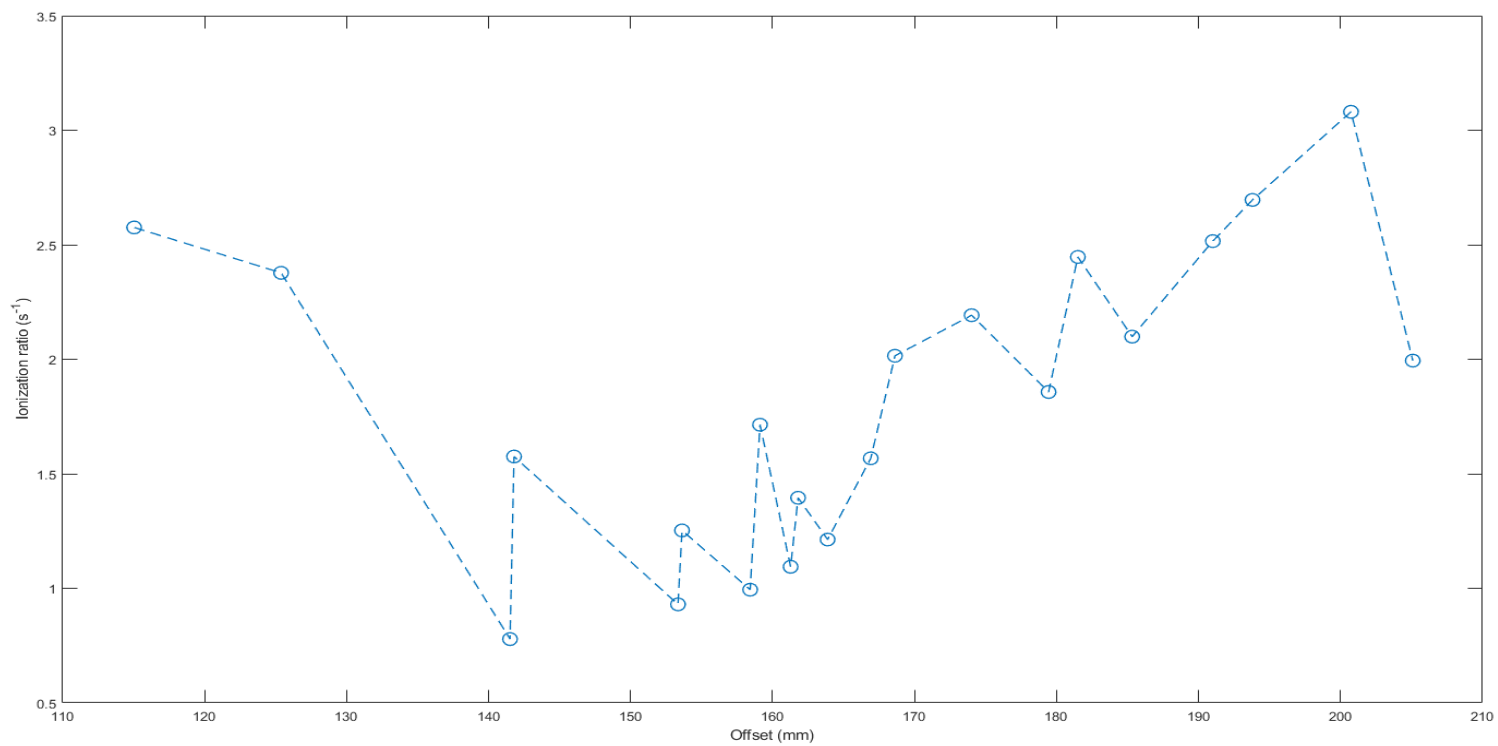
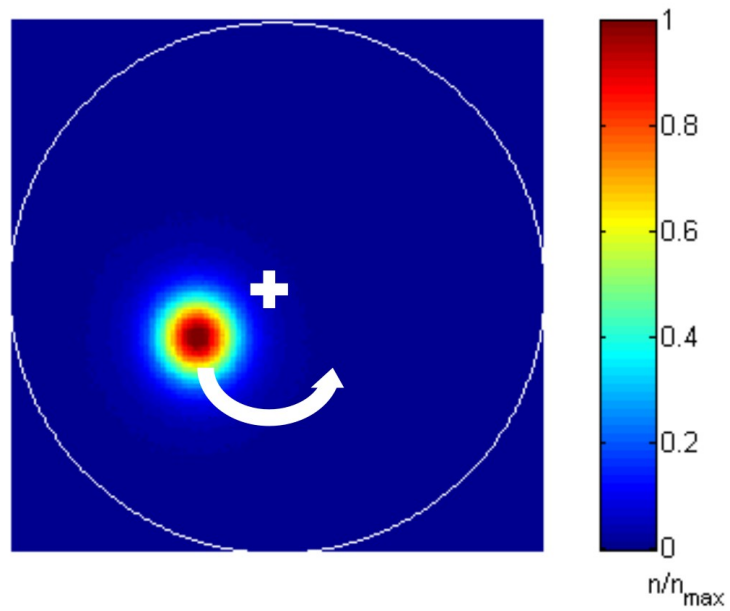
chaotic region

$$T_A \begin{cases} e_{n+1} = e_n \\ \phi_{n+1} = \phi_n + 4M / e_{n+1}^{1/2} \pmod{2\pi} \end{cases}$$

$$T_B \begin{cases} e_{n+1} = e_n - \sin(\phi_n + \phi_n') + \sin(\phi_n + \phi_n' + 2i\phi_n'') \\ \phi_{n+1} = \phi_n + \phi_n' + 2i\phi_n'' + 2M / e_{n+1}^{1/2} \pmod{2\pi} \end{cases}$$

with  $e_n = E_n / V_1$ ,  $M = L_1 v / \sqrt{2V_1 / m}$

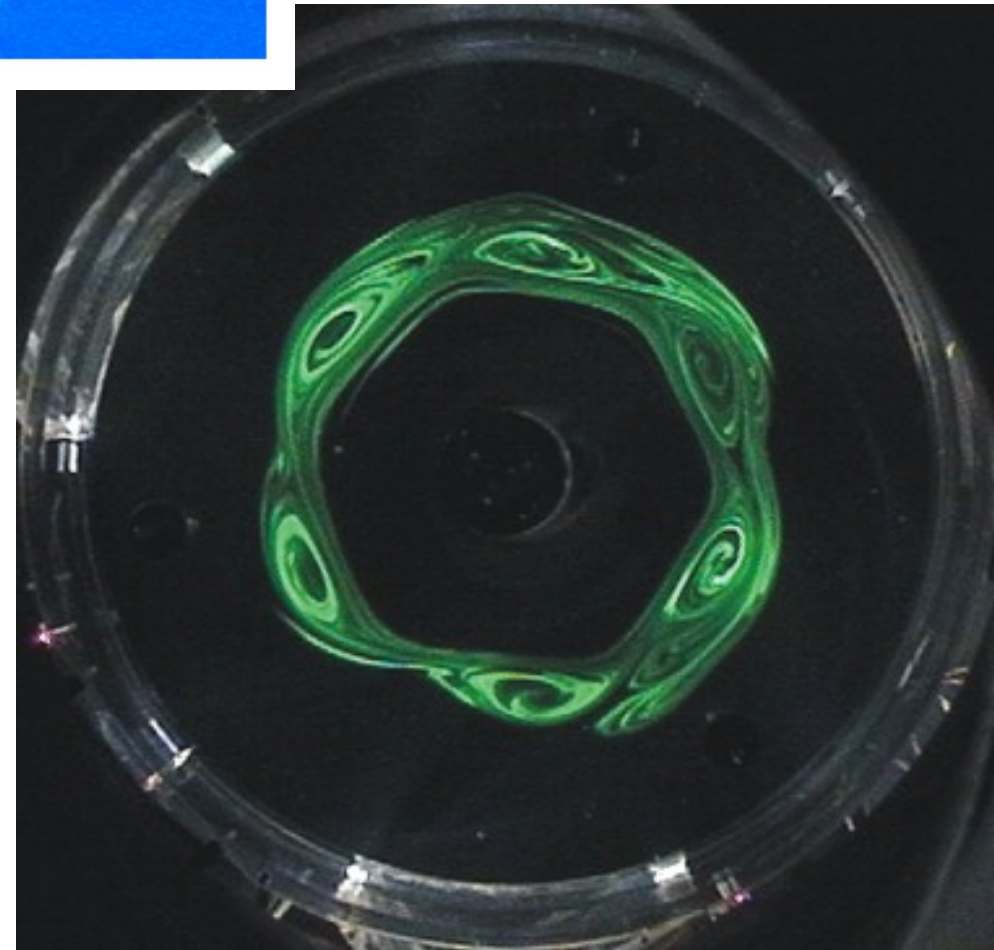
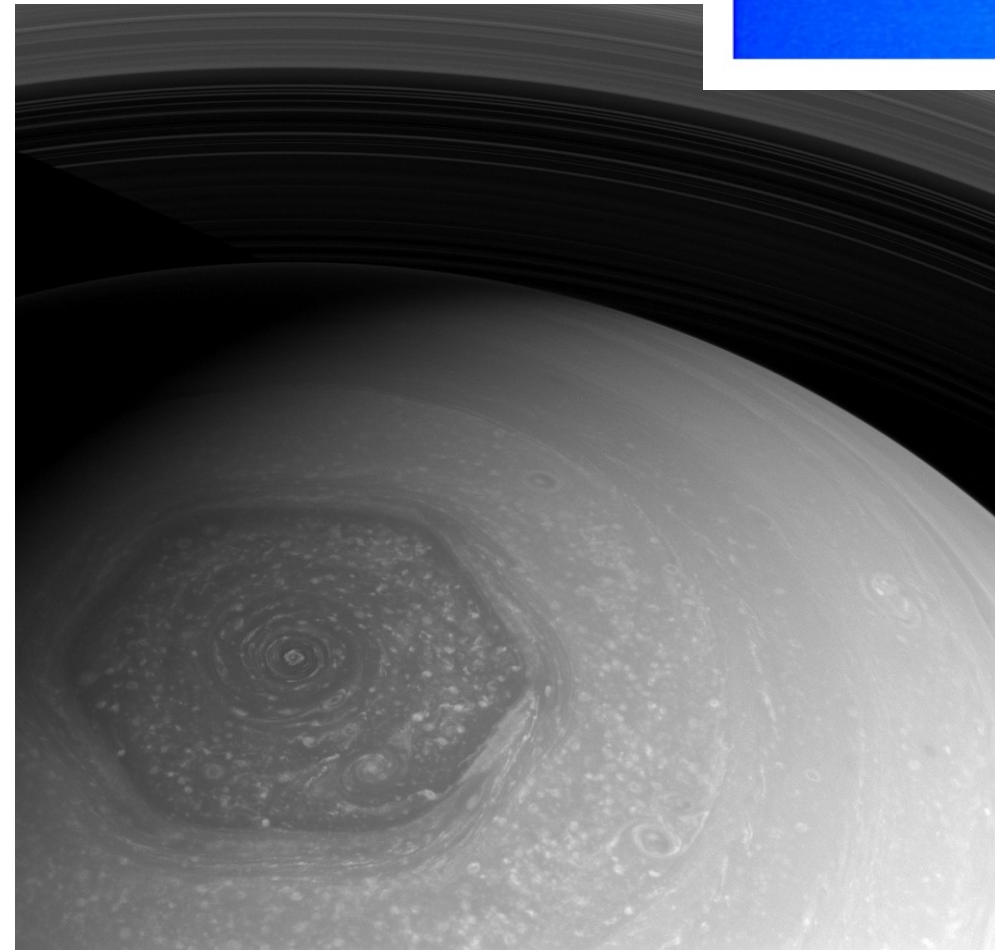
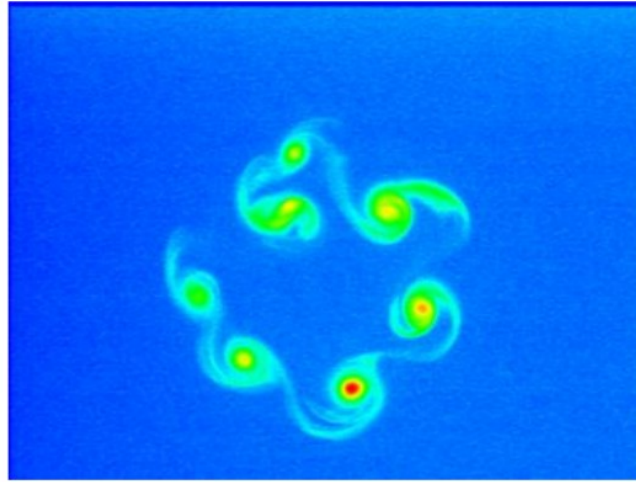
# RF SPATIAL CHARACTERIZATION



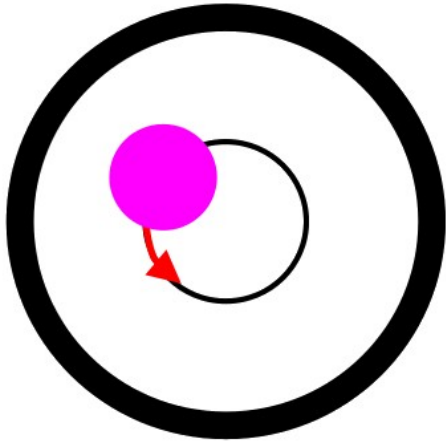
# FLUID ANALOGY

2D Ideal Fluid	2D Electron Plasma
$\frac{\partial \zeta}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \zeta = 0$	$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla n = 0$
$\nabla^2 \psi = \zeta$	$\nabla^2 \phi = 4\pi e n$
$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{e}_z \times \nabla \psi$	$\mathbf{v} = \frac{\mathbf{e}_z \times \nabla \phi}{B} c$
$\zeta = (\nabla \times \mathbf{v}) \cdot \mathbf{e}_z$	$\zeta = \frac{c}{B} \nabla^2 \phi = \frac{4\pi e c}{B} n$
$\psi(\text{wall}) = \text{constant}$	$\phi(\text{wall}) = \text{constant}$

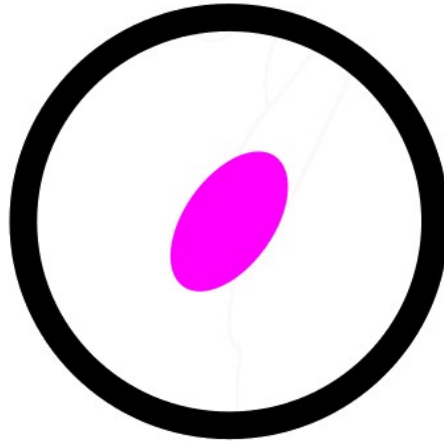
# FLUID STRUCTURES IN NATURE AND IN LABORATORY



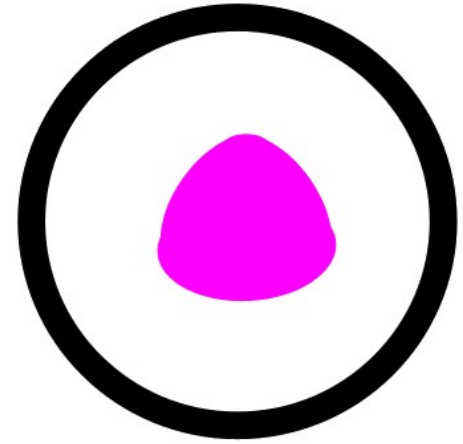
# DIOCOTRON MODE



$$l = 1$$



$$l = 2$$



$$l = 3$$

$$n_e(r, \theta, t) = n_e^0(r) + \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta n_e^l(r) \exp(il\theta - i\omega t)$$

$$\phi(r, \theta, t) = \phi^0(r) + \sum_{l=-\infty}^{\infty} \delta \phi^l(r) \exp(il\theta - i\omega t)$$

$$\Omega_l = \frac{n_e e}{2\epsilon_0 B} \left( l - 1 + \left( \frac{R_p}{R_w} \right)^{2l} \right)$$

# ROTATING ELECTRIC FIELD TECHNIQUE

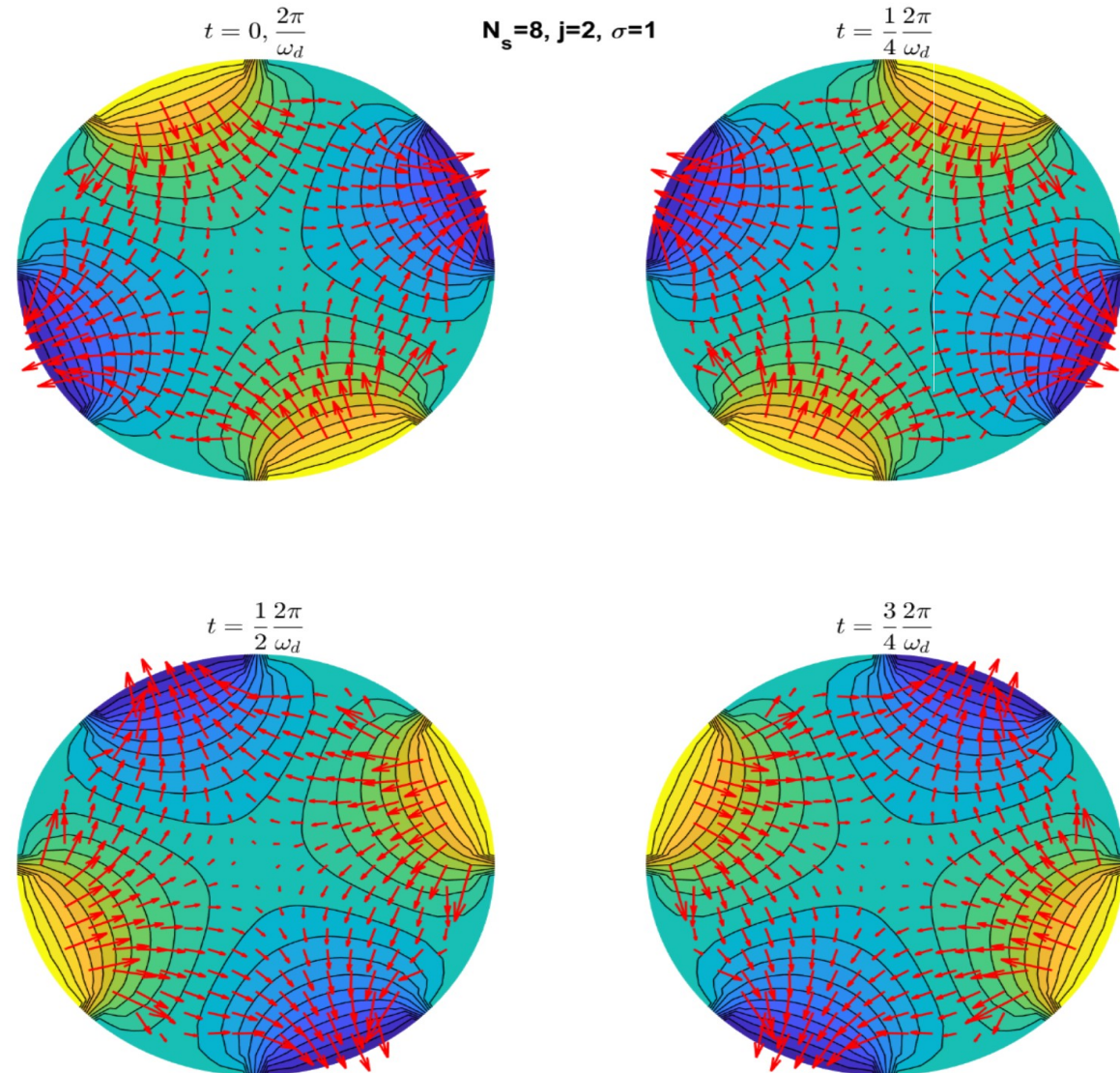
$$\delta\phi(r = R_w, \theta, t) = \sum_{m=0}^{N_s-1} V_m(t) [H(\theta - 2m\pi / N_s) - H(\theta - 2(m+1)\pi / N_s)]$$

$$V_m = V_d \cos(\omega_d t + 2\pi\sigma mj / N_s)$$

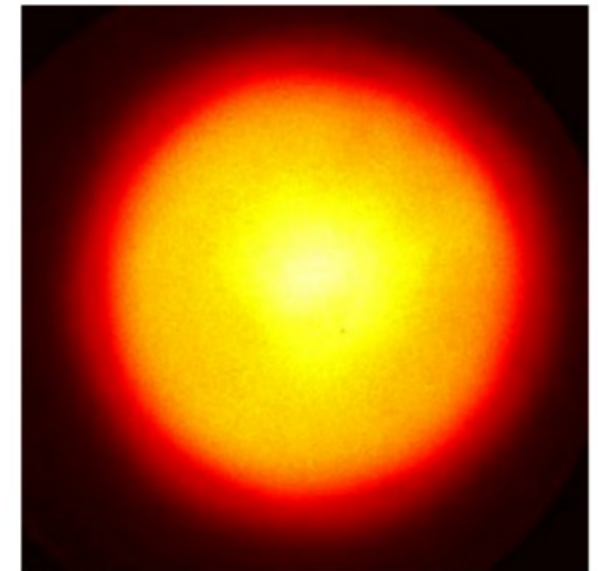
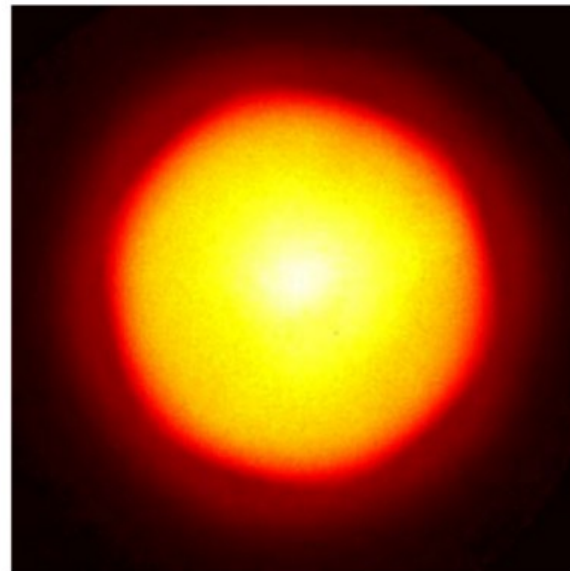
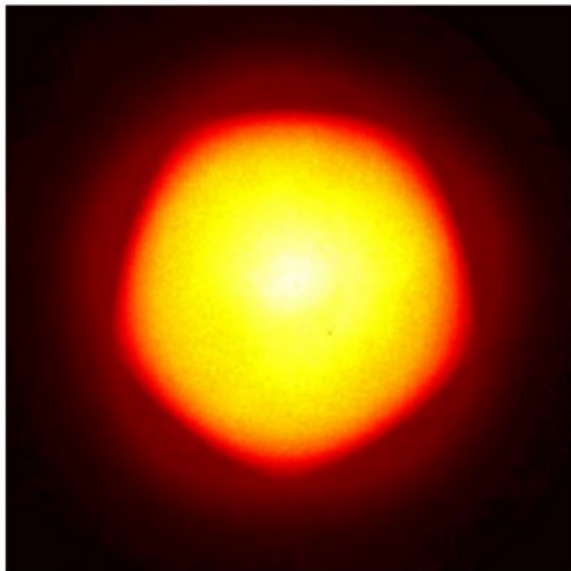
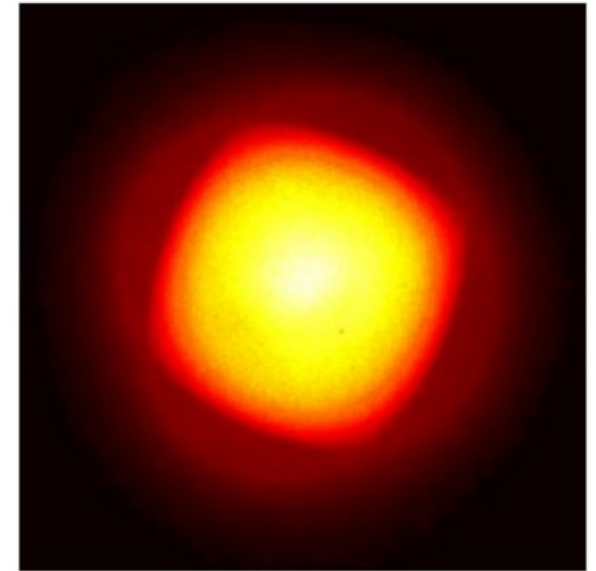
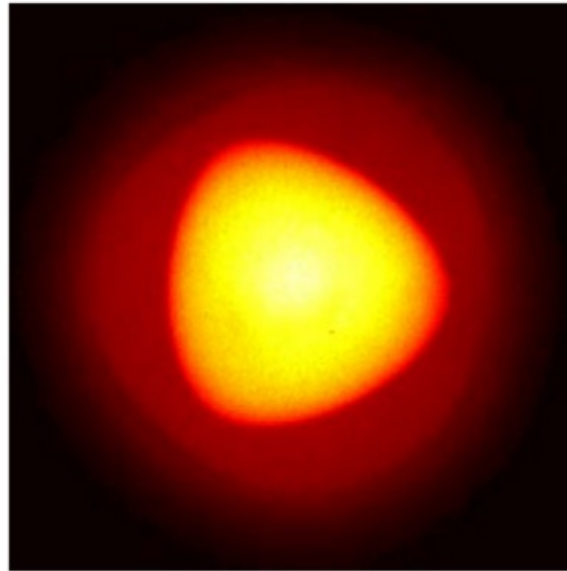
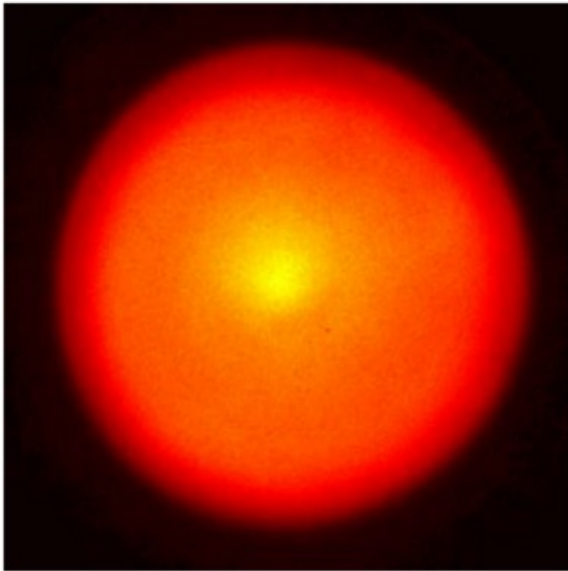
$$m = 0, \dots, N_s - 1$$

$$j = 1, \dots, N_s / 2$$

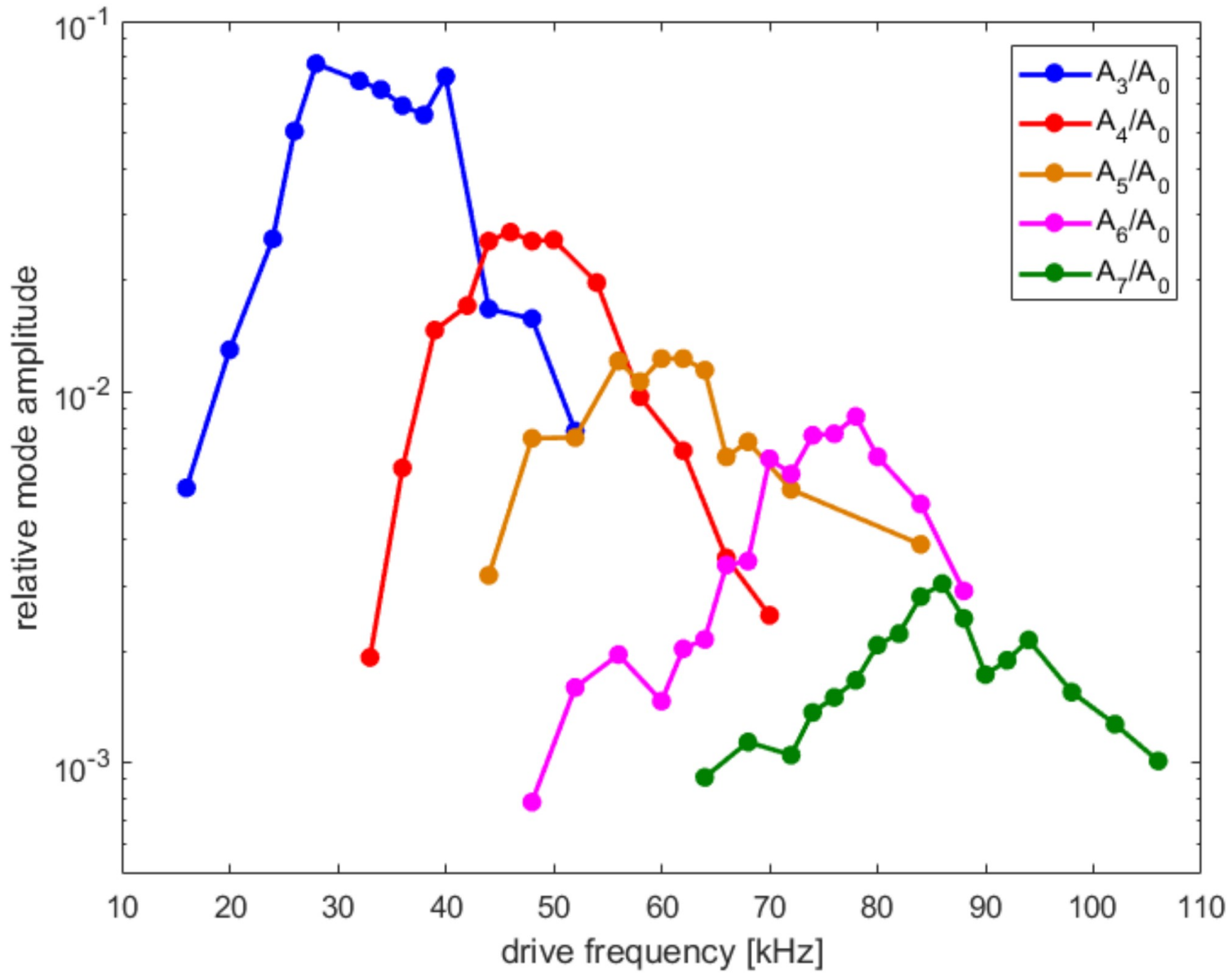
$$N_s = 8$$



# RESONANT DIOCOTRON MODE EXCITATION



# RESONANT DIOCOTRON MODE EXCITATION





# FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

- Complete theoretical modelization and experimental characterization of RF-generation technique and plasma dynamics (formation, stationary states, modulation, bifurcation) under RF excitation.
- Systematic studies on higher diocotron mode excitation and waves decay, corroborated by pic 2D simulations, and theory development for linear and nonlinear case.
- Improvement of manipulation techniques of RF generated plasma for a better control of the quantities in interest (e.g. charge and density profile) in order to have a better shot-to-shot repeatability (feedback damping technique, plasma longitudinal squeezing).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD at UCSD