



西北核技术研究所

Northwest Institute of Nuclear Technology

强脉冲辐射环境模拟与效应国家重点实验室

State Key Lab of Intense Pulsed Radiation Simulation and Effect

# Design and Technique of Apertures for Neutron Penumbral Imaging of Z-Pinch Diagnosis Process

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Dubna

2016





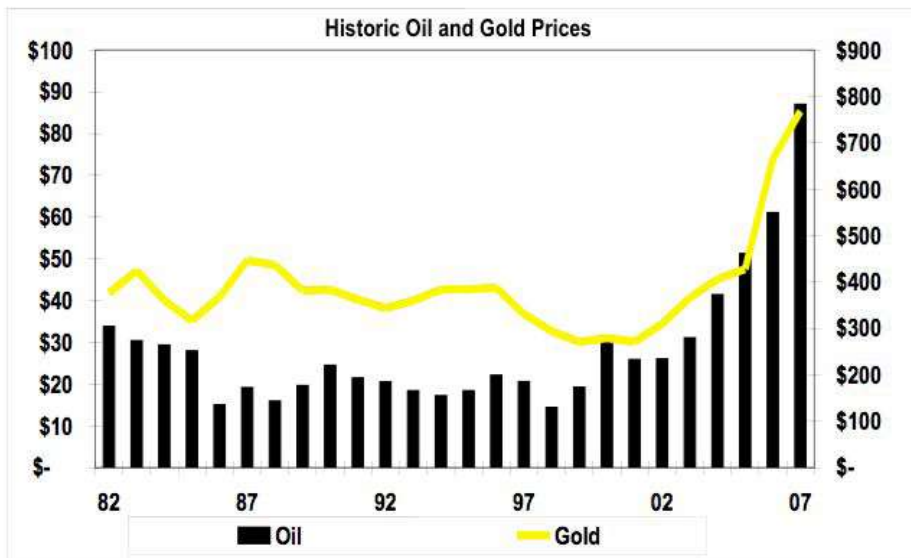
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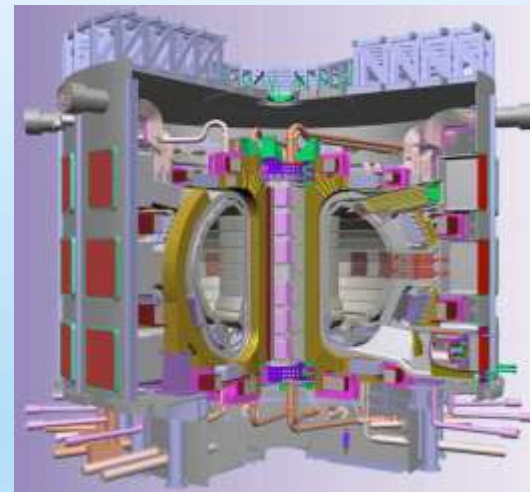
# 1 Introduction

## Oil and Gold Prices



Source: Bloomberg, State of Alaska, Tax Div.

**Energy Crisis excites the development of fusion science !**



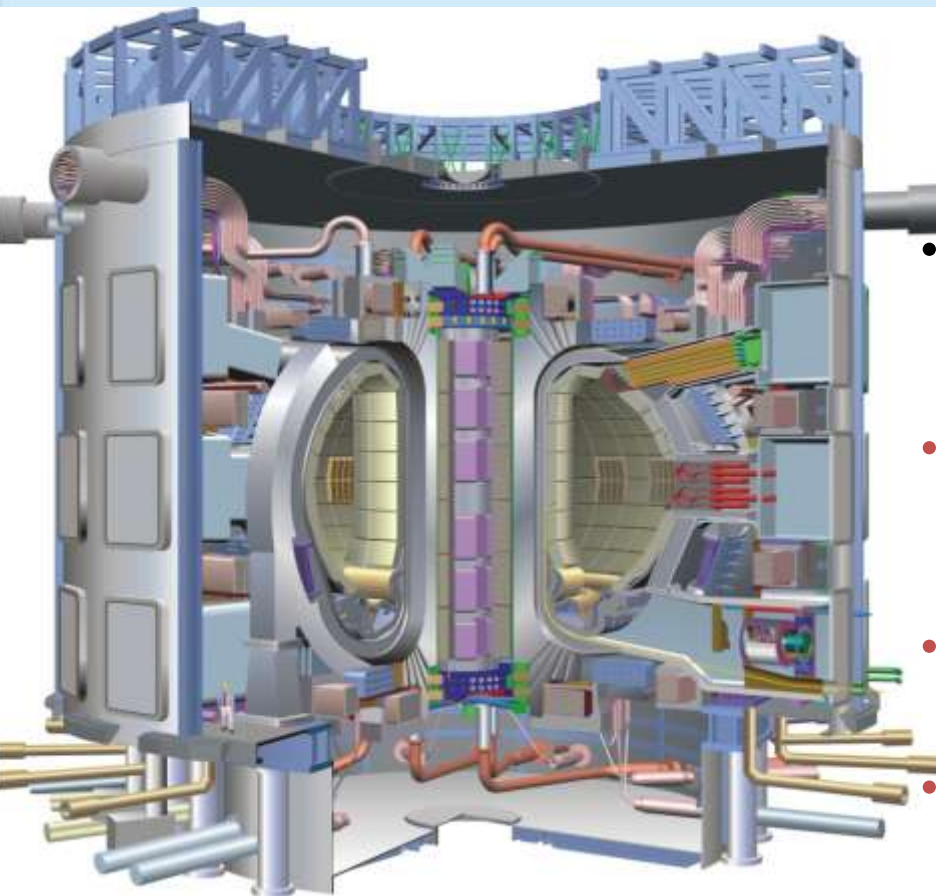
**International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor**



**National Ignition Facility**



# ITER



- The ITER machine is a >500 MW (thermal) fusion research reactor of the Tokamak type
- Worldwide collaboration of 7 parties: EU, USA, RF, Japan, China, South Korea, India
- ITER is located at Cadarache, CEA research site, south France
- ITER construction ~\$5 bn (EU 50%)
- Presently the largest international scientific collaboration?



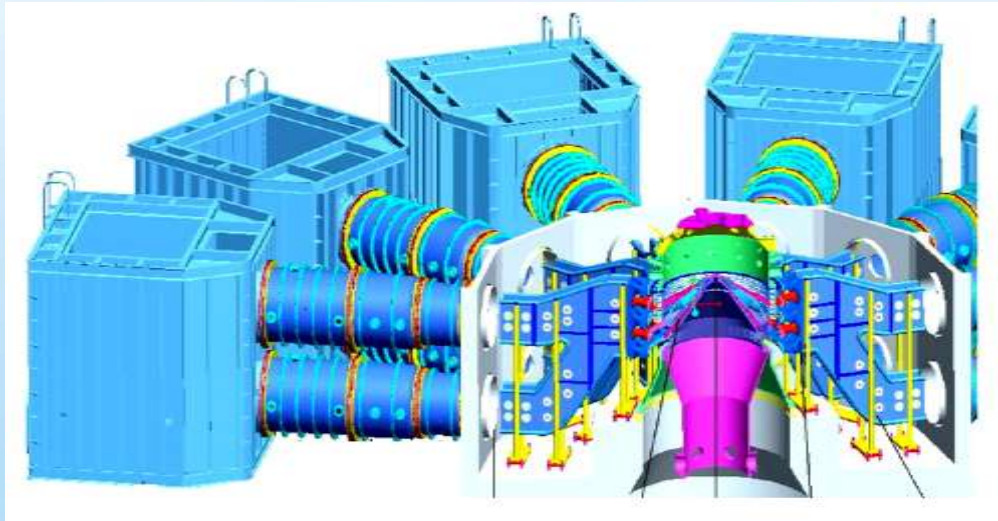
## EAST ( Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak )



duration of fusion ~1000s

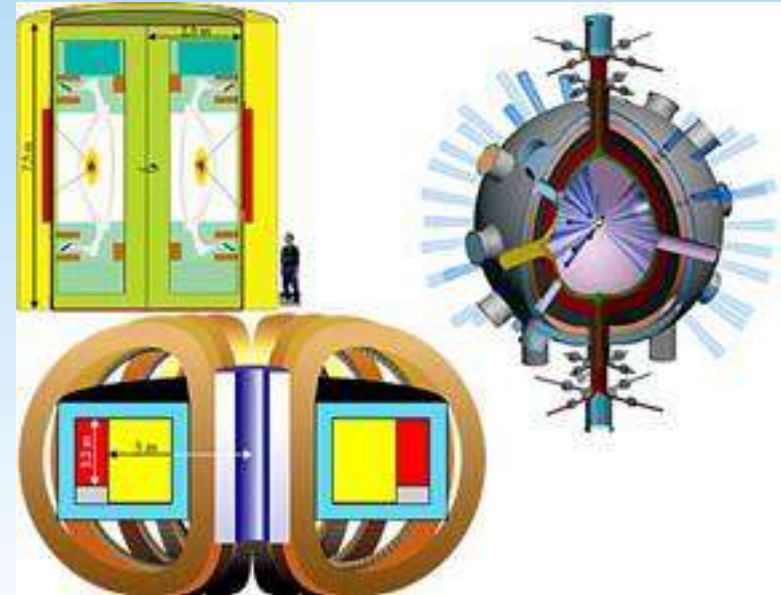
Institute of Plasma Physics Chinese Academy of Sciences





Z-Pinch facility in  
China

Concepts of fusion-  
fission hybrid reactors





**Table 4.22-1 List of Required Plasma Measurements classified by their Operational Role**

<b>GROUP 1a</b> <b>Measurements For Machine Protection and Basic Control</b>	<b>GROUP 1b</b> <b>Measurements for Advanced Control</b>	<b>GROUP 2</b> <b>Additional Measurements for Performance Evaluation and Physics</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plasma shape and position, separatrix-wall gaps, gap between separatrices</li> <li>• Plasma current, <math>q(a)</math>, <math>q(95\%)</math></li> <li>• Loop voltage</li> <li>• Fusion power</li> <li>• <math>\beta_N = \beta_{tor}(aB/I)</math></li> <li>• Line-averaged electron density</li> <li>• Impurity and D,T influx (divertor, &amp; main plasma)</li> <li>• Surface temp. (divertor &amp; upper plates)</li> <li>• Surface temperature (first wall)</li> <li>• Runaway electrons</li> <li>• 'Halo' currents</li> <li>• Radiated power (main plasma, X-point &amp; divertor).</li> <li>• Divertor detachment indicator (<math>J_{sat}</math>, <math>n_e</math>, <math>T_e</math> at divertor plate)</li> <li>• Disruption precursors (locked modes, <math>m=2</math>)</li> <li>• H/L mode indicator</li> <li>• <math>Z_{eff}</math> (line-averaged)</li> <li>• <math>n_T/n_D</math> in plasma core</li> <li>• ELMS</li> <li>• Gas pressure (divertor &amp; duct)</li> <li>• Gas composition (divertor &amp; duct)</li> <li>• Dust</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neutron and <math>\alpha</math>-source profile</li> <li>• Helium density profile (core)</li> <li>• Plasma rotation (toroidal and poloidal)</li> <li>• Current density profile (<math>q</math>-profile)</li> <li>• Electron temperature profile (core)</li> <li>• Electron density profile (core and edge)</li> <li>• Ion temperature profile (core)</li> <li>• Radiation power profile (core, X-point &amp; divertor)</li> <li>• <math>Z_{eff}</math> profile</li> <li>• Helium density (divertor)</li> <li>• Heat deposition profile (divertor)</li> <li>• Ionization front position in divertor</li> <li>• Impurity density profiles</li> <li>• Neutral density between plasma and first wall</li> <li>• <math>n_e</math> of divertor plasma</li> <li>• <math>T_e</math> of divertor plasma</li> <li>• Alpha particle loss</li> <li>• Low <math>m/n</math> MHD activity</li> <li>• Sawteeth</li> <li>• Net erosion (divertor plate)</li> <li>• Neutron fluence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confined <math>\alpha</math>-particles</li> <li>• TAE Modes, fishbones</li> <li>• <math>T_e</math> and <math>T_i</math> profile (edge)</li> <li>• <math>n_e</math>, <math>T_e</math> profiles (X-point)</li> <li>• <math>T_i</math> in divertor</li> <li>• Plasma flow (divertor)</li> <li>• <math>n_T/n_D/n_H</math> (edge)</li> <li>• <math>n_T/n_D/n_H</math> (divertor)</li> <li>• <math>T_e</math> fluctuations</li> <li>• <math>n_e</math> fluctuations</li> <li>• Radial electric field and field fluctuations</li> <li>• Edge turbulence</li> <li>• MHD activity in plasma core</li> </ul>

**Neutron measurements!**



## Diagnosis of typical physical quantity for the ICF process

- yield (yield of neutrons and ionizing particles)
- plasma temperature
- thermonuclear burn time
- **shape of burn region**
- areal density of burn ( $\rho R$ )

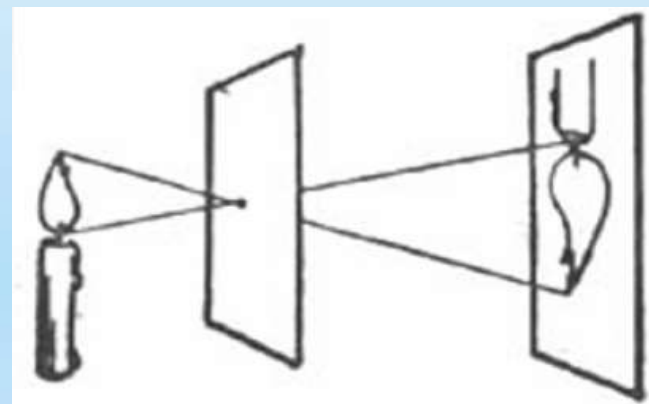
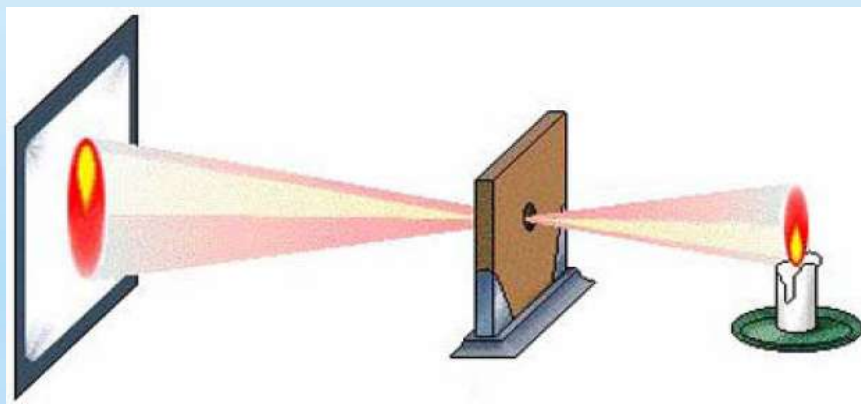
Neutron  
imaging

- Pinhole imaging
- **Penumbra imaging**





## The phenomenon of pinhole imaging



$$F(x) ** A(x) = -mF(x)$$

$F(x)$

\*\*

$-mF(x)$

the image of the object

imaging processing denote convolution

the inverted real image (magnification is “m” )



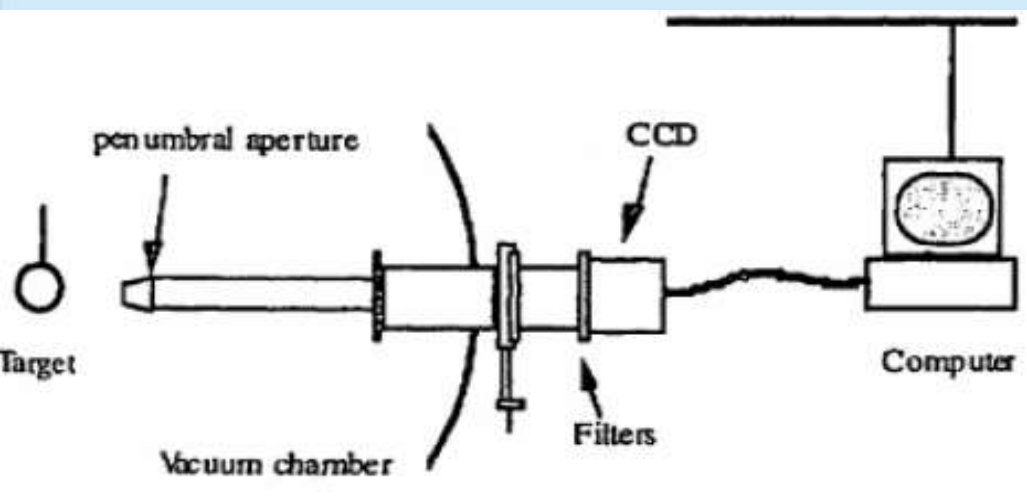
## Big trouble for neutron pinhole image

- (1) Detection efficiency of neutrons is low
- (2) In effective detecting area neutron imaging requires detecting element to be smaller to get more image elements
- (3) Pinhole Matching too difficult

How to solve the problem?



# neutron penumbral imaging devices



(1) Penumbral imaging is just for weaksource and penetrating radiation.

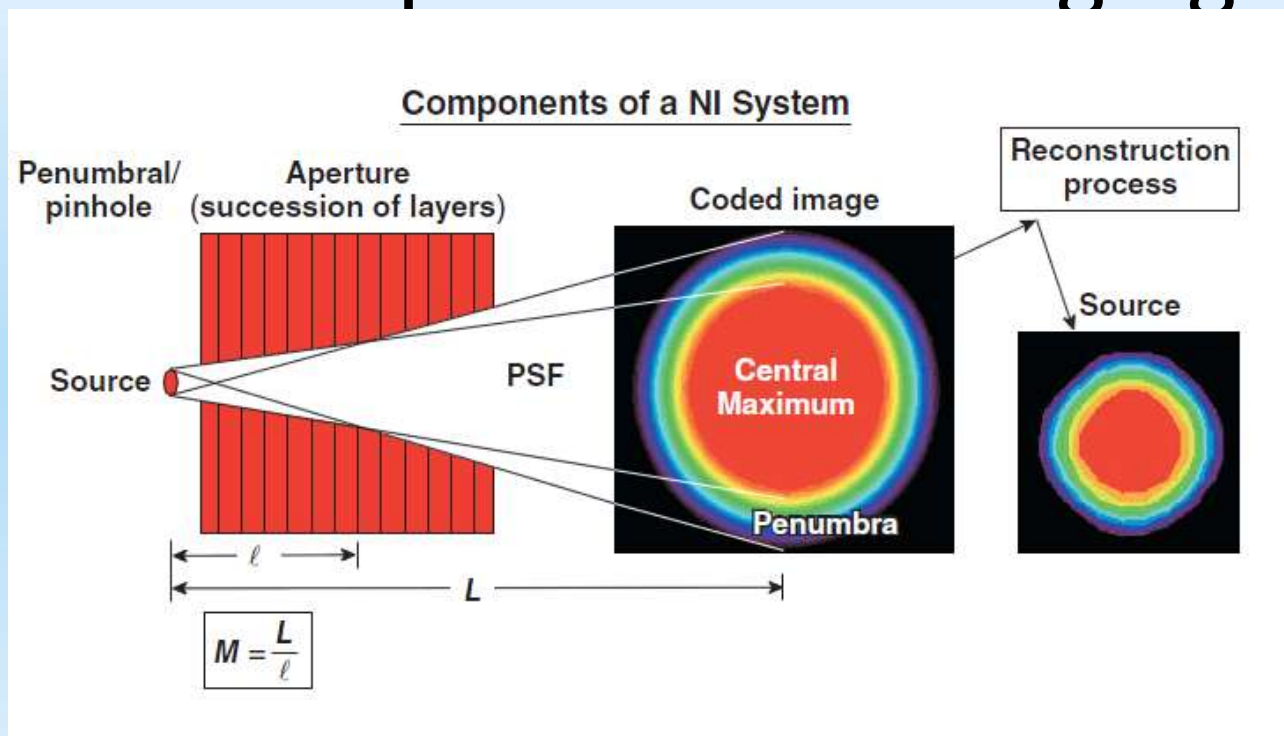
(to get something or nothing )

(2) It is conceptually similar to pinhole imaging with the essential difference that the aperture is larger than the source

(3) Coded image needs reconstruction



# neutron penumbral imaging



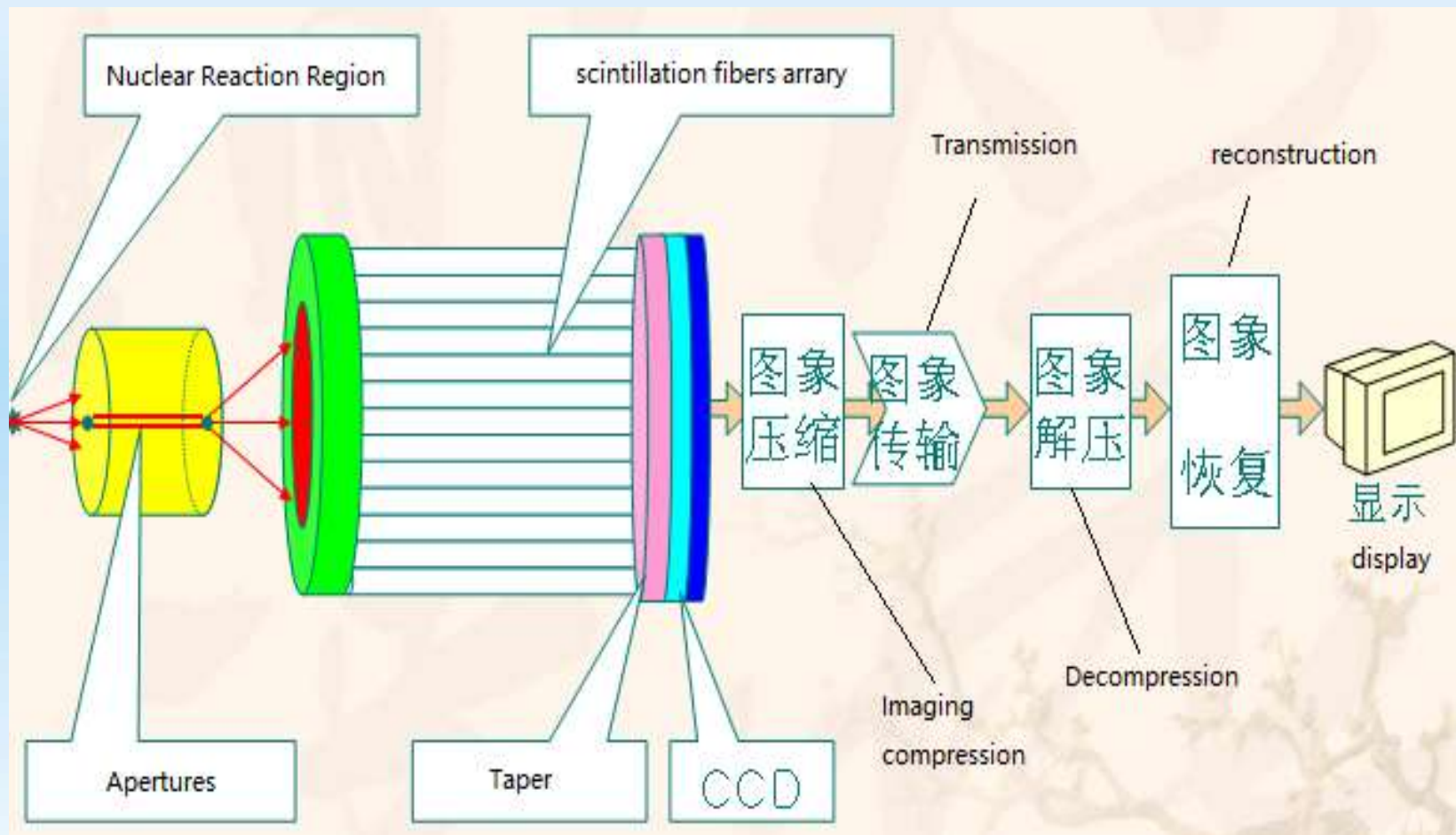
D. D. Meyerhofer, T. C. Sangster Laboratory for Laser Energetics University of Rochester

R. A. Lerche Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

L. Disdier Commissariat a L'Energie Atomique Bruyeres-le-Chatel, France

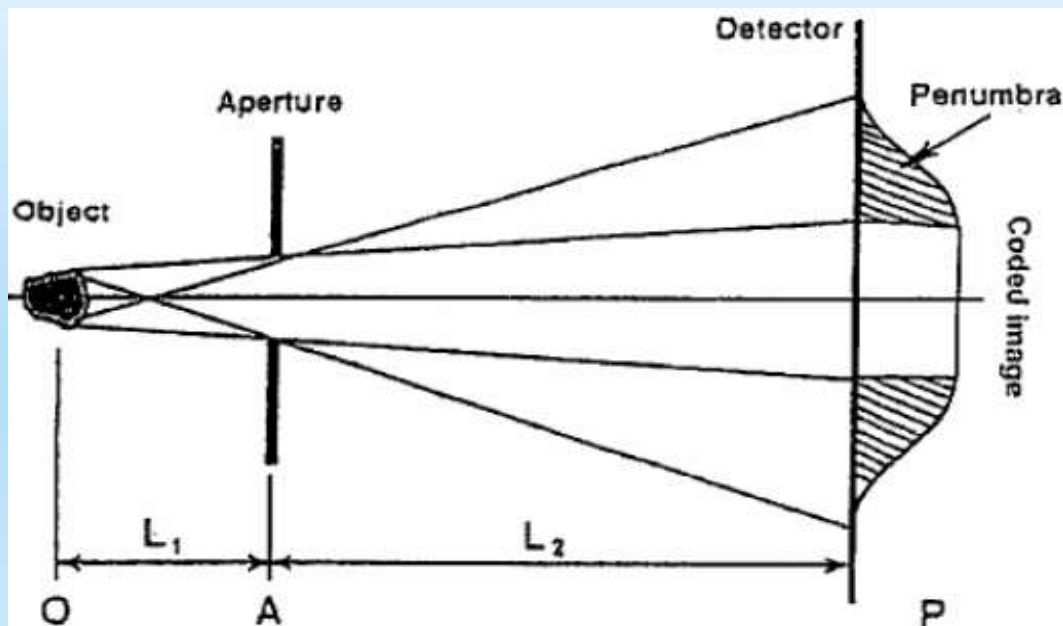
46th Annual Meeting of the American Physical Society Division of Plasma Physics Savannah, GA 15-19 November 2004







## The principle of penumbral imaging



All points of object give contribution to every pixel

$$P(r) = \int A(r - r') \cdot O(r') dr'$$
$$= A * O$$

where \* denotes convolution. Thus given  $P(r)$  and  $A(r)$ , the source function  $O(r)$  can be reconstructed by a simple linear deconvolution technique. Usually, the deconvolution (reconstruction) is performed by using a Wiener filter [ ] to reduce noise amplification.



## Characteristics of penumbral aperture

### ★ **Adequate contrast**

several mean free paths thickness

### ★ **Sufficiently sharp cutoff**

PSF isoplanatic and distortion-free

### ★ **Acceptable signal-to-noise ratio aperture**

close to the source

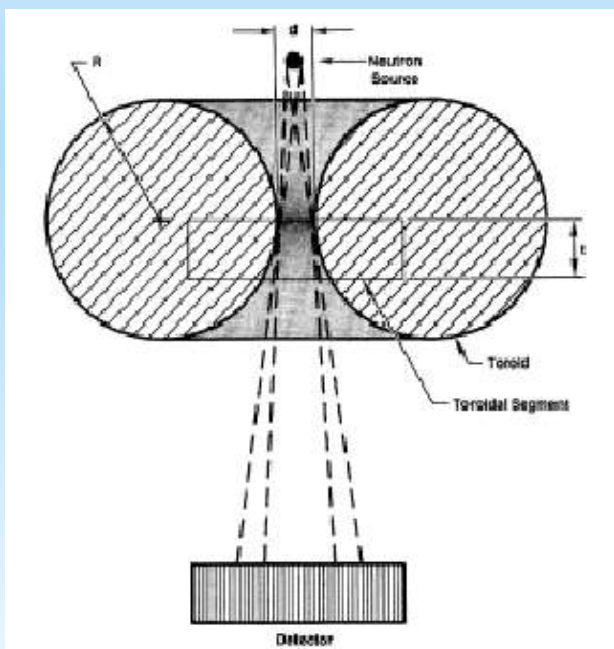
### ★ **Encoded image**

resulting images need numerical construction



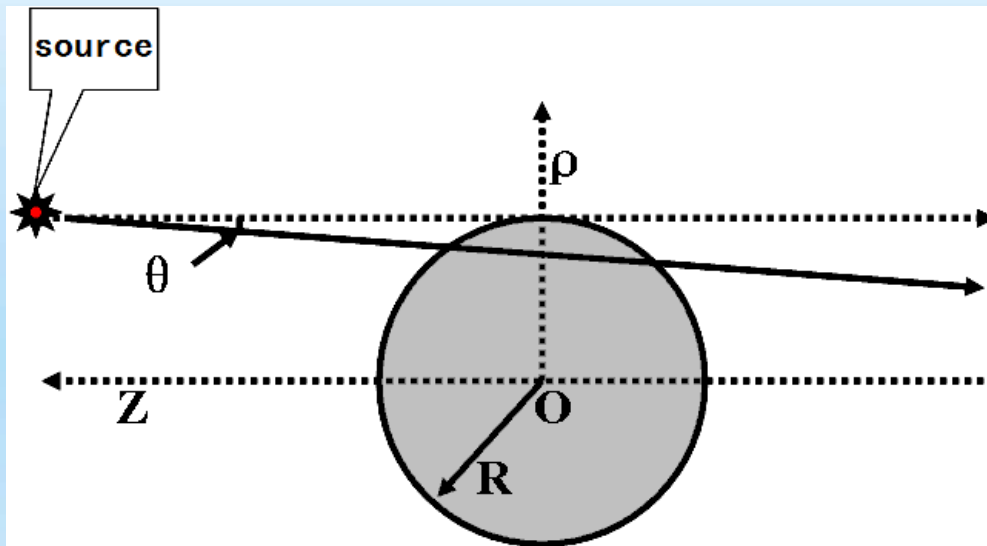
## 2 Design of penumbral apertures

- We utilize the similar designing suited for laser fusion diagnosis with small source view method that D Ress put forward in 1990.



“Principle of the toroidal segment aperture. To simplify the image reconstruction process, the point-spread function of the aperture must be reasonably isoplanatic. To achieve such a point-spread function with an aperture thick enough to effectively block neutrons requires a three-dimensionally tapered aperture. A particularly satisfactory taper is a toroid where the radius of curvature (minor radius of the toroid)  $R$  is much greater than the aperture thickness  $t$ . A practical realization of this concept utilizes a segment of the toroid determined by the maximum size of the source and the source-aperture distance. The results presented here were obtained with an aperture 6.1cm long, with a minimum diameter  $d$  of 407 $\mu$ m and a radius of curvature of 19.5m.”





$$\Delta z = 2R(1-q)\sqrt{\frac{1}{(1-q)^2} - 1 + \theta^2}$$

$$R = \frac{z_0}{z} R_0$$

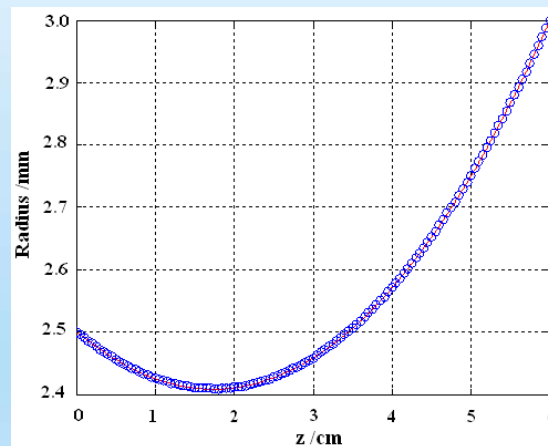
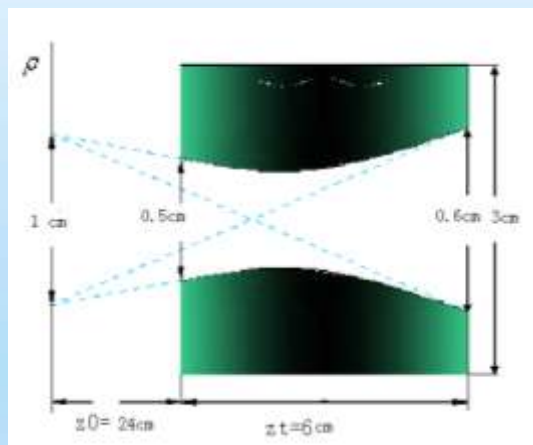
$$\Delta z = 2\sqrt{Rz_i}\theta$$

$$\begin{cases} \rho - R = \theta(z - z_i) \\ \rho^2 + z^2 = R^2 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{d^2 \rho}{dz^2} = \frac{z}{z_0 R_0} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{d\rho}{dz} \right)^2 \right]^{3/2}$$

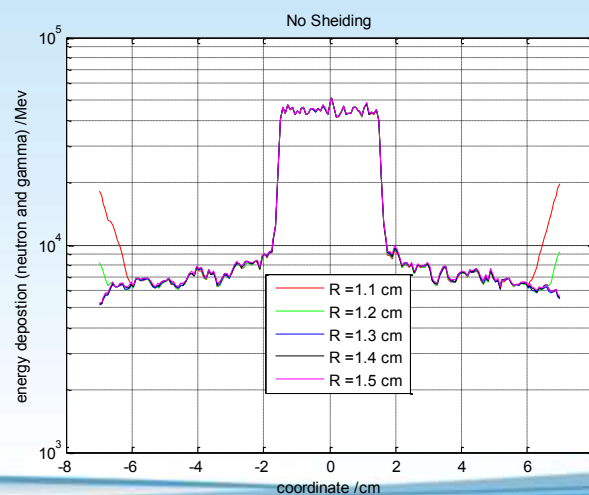
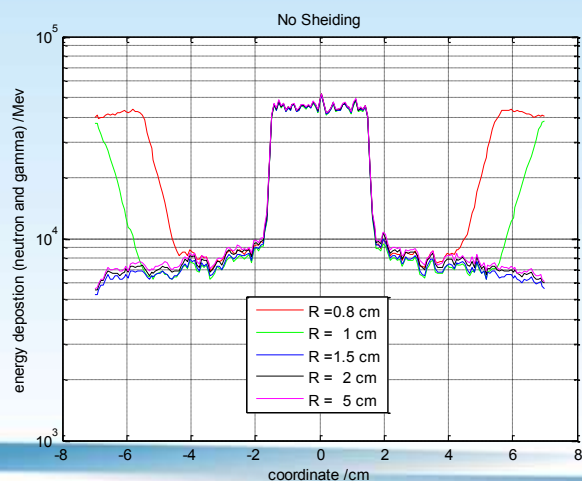


- Determine the taper function of the penumbral aperture



Taper function

- Determine the outer radius of apertures

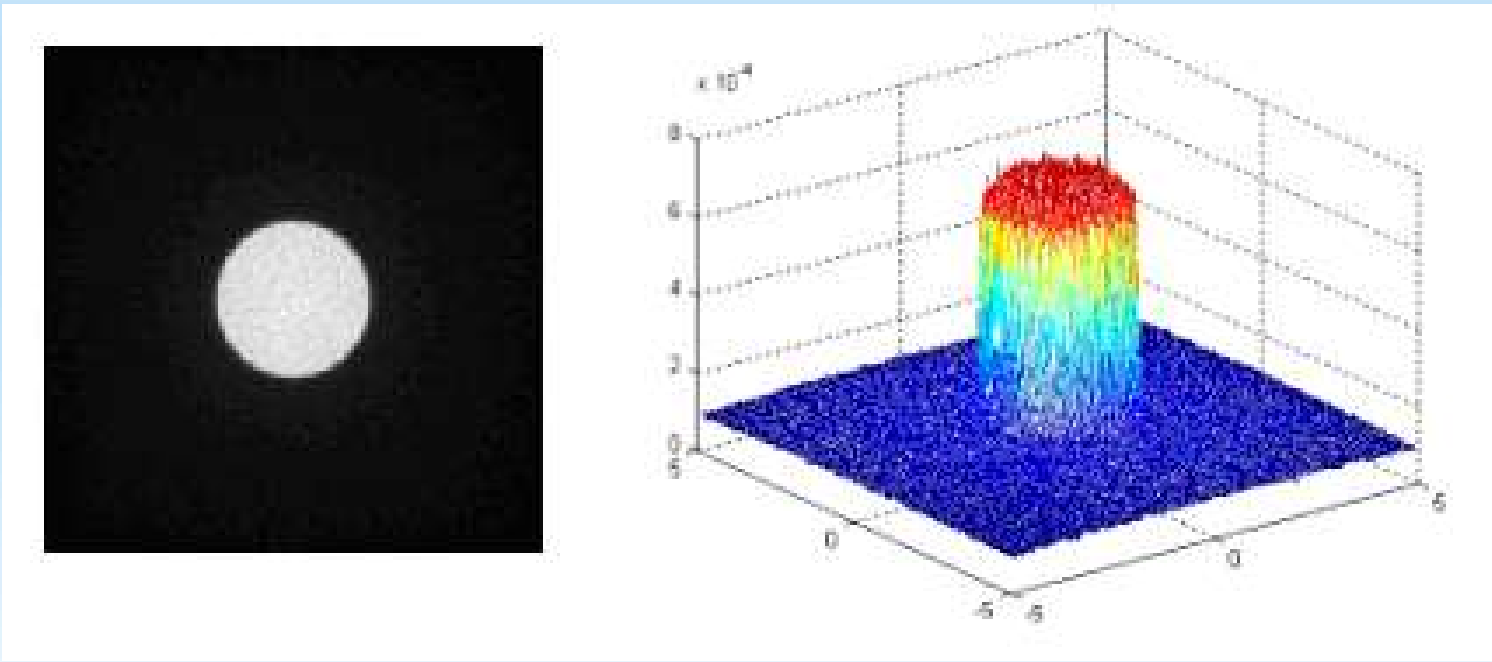


Radius 1.5cm



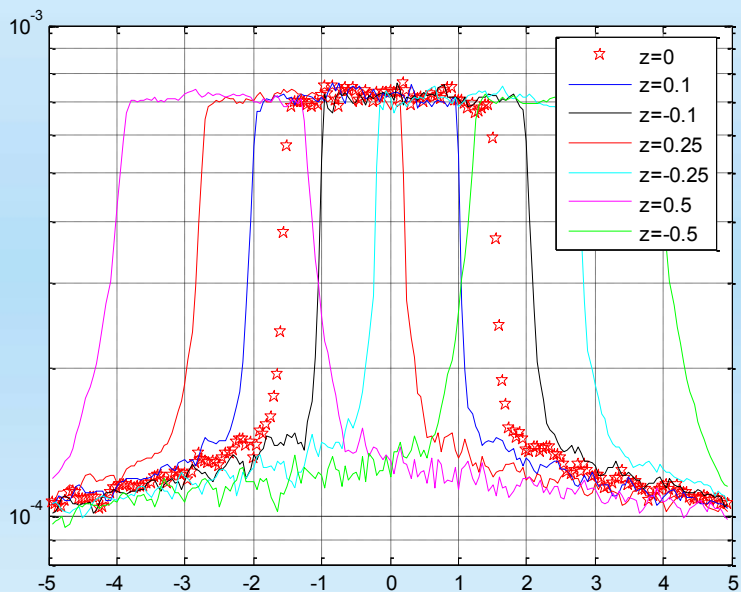
# 3 Properties of designed apertures

➤ PSF

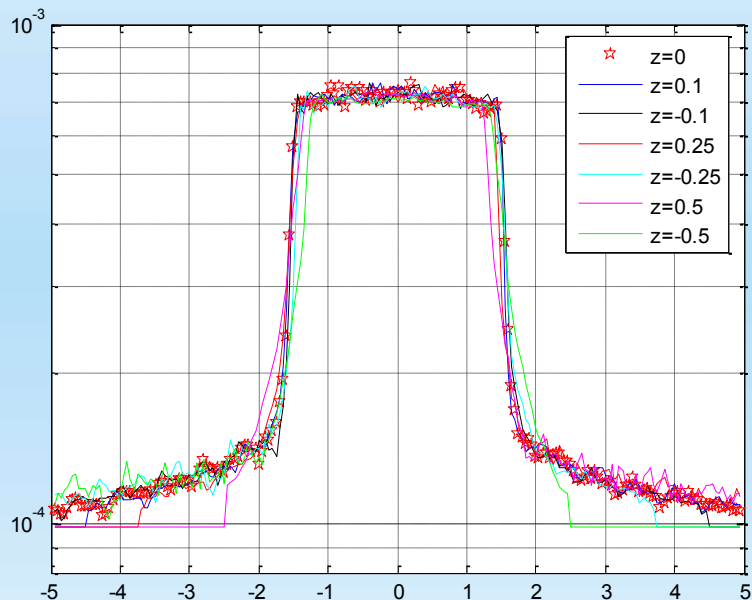




## ➤ Isoplanaticity



PSF with point source offset axis

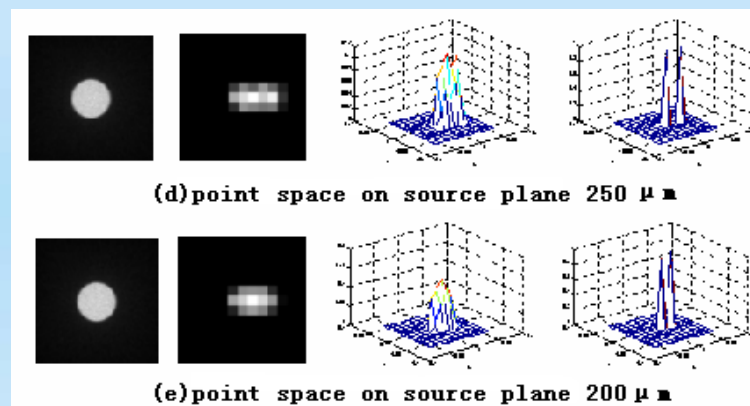
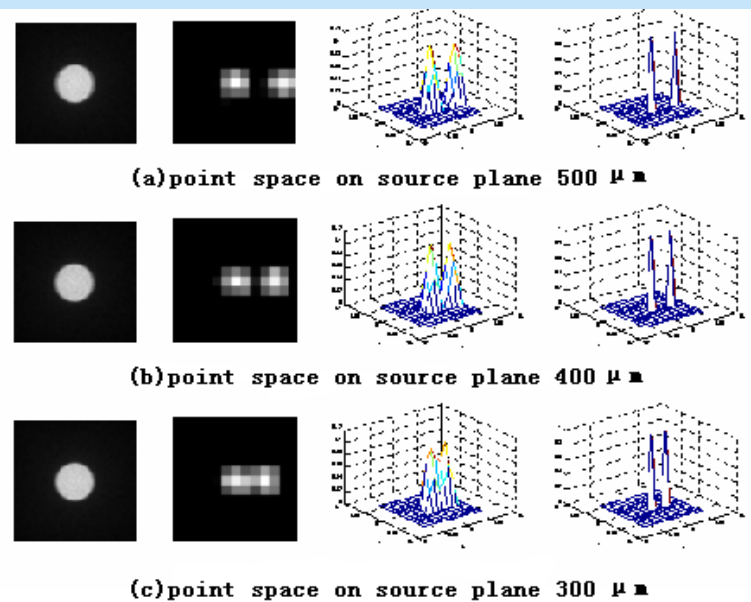


PSF after moving to the axis center



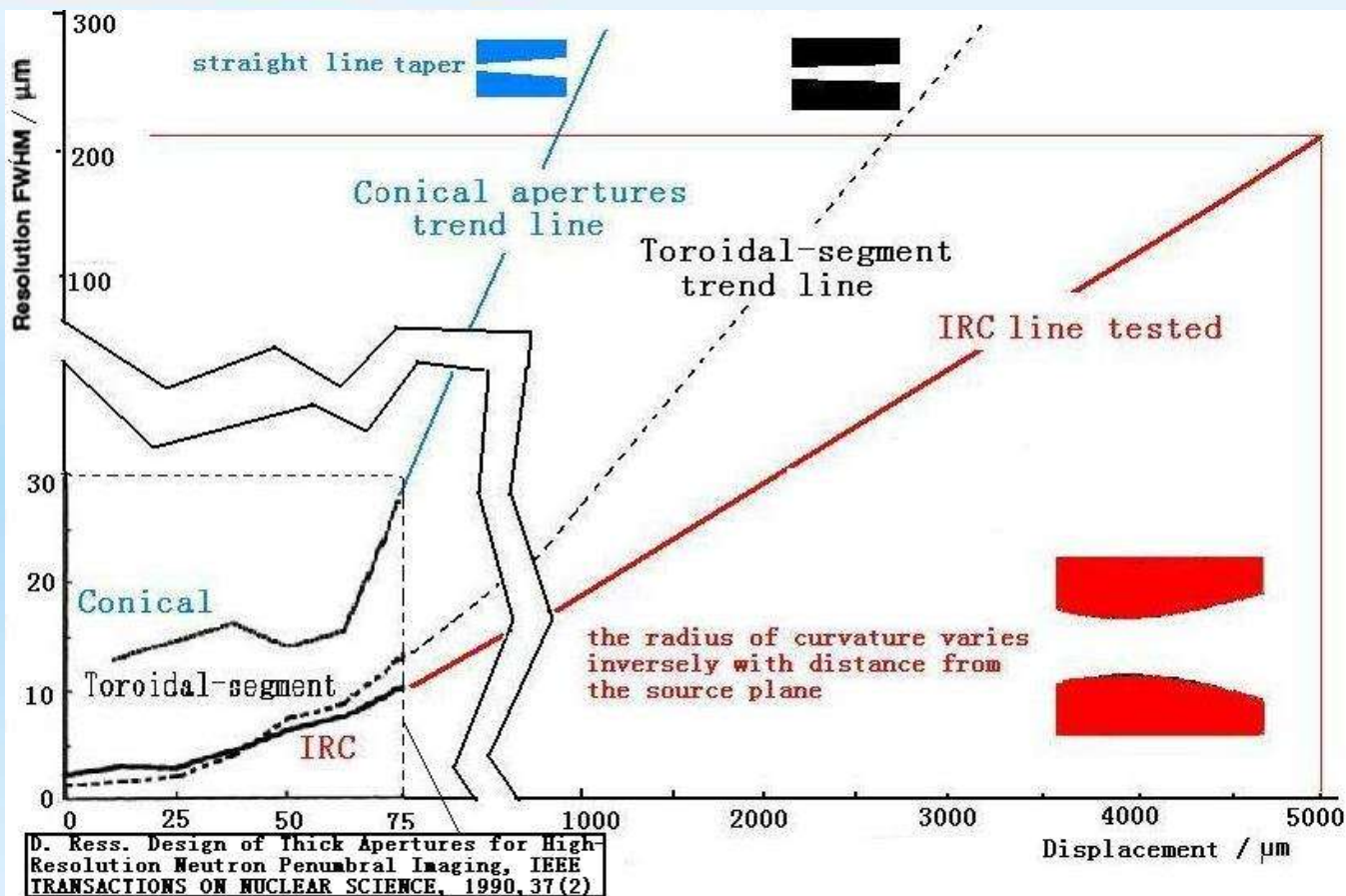


## ➤ Spatial resolution



Absolute:  $250 \mu\text{m}$

Relative:  $40 \text{ lp/mm}$



Extrapolate the MTF of apertures designed by D. Ress, the spatial resolution reaches a consistence for a field view of 1cm .



## 4 Technique of penumbral apertures

### ➤ Materials

polymers { Bisphenol A epoxy resin E-51 } 100:60  
5% { polyamide 650 }

tungsten  
95%

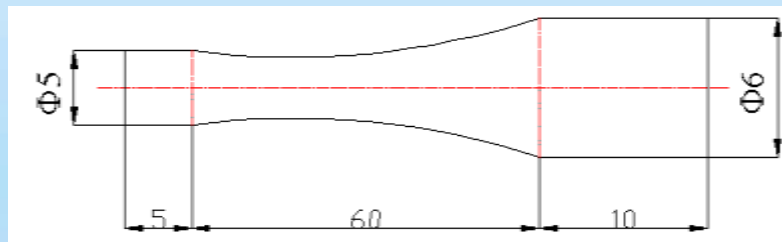
acetone: 100mL

titanium dioxide( $\text{TiO}_2$ ) 1.5g.



## ➤ Instruments

vacuum evacuation machine, incubator, mixer, screw jack and mold





## ➤ Procedures

- (1) Design and fabrication of the mold and the “needle stick”.
- (2) Smear silicon oil on the inner surface of the mold and the outer surface of the “needle stick”
- (3) In terms with the ratio of the materials, weigh tungsten 950g, bisphenol A 32g, polyamide 18g, titanium dioxide 1.5g.
- (4) Add about 100mL acetone as dilution; mix the materials sufficiently and uniformly with the mixer.
- (5) Put the well-mixed polymer-tungsten in the vacuum evacuation machine, pump air and acetone. Repeat pumping 2-3 times.





## ➤ Procedures

- (6) Pressurize the compound materials with the screw jack. Put them wholly into the incubator to solidify.
- (7) The solidification course is set on the program that the materials are bathed under 50°C for three hours, then one hour under 70°C and the last two hours under 130°C
- (8) Separate mold.
- (9) Corrode the smaller radius end of the “needle stick”. with nitrate of volume concentration 50%.
- (10) Remove the mold from the aperture and clean the aperture.



## ➤ Notices

- ① the **carbon steel** is selected as material of the “needle stick” instead of the ~~stainless steel~~, which is mainly because that stainless steel cannot be corroded by acids.
- ② pump air at least twice. The first time of pumping air from the materials in the mold can be done without loading force upon the materials; in the second or third time, press the materials hardly with a screw jack; at the last time, push them mildly till the length of the aperture meet the needs. When air inner the materials is exhausted, put the whole instrument into the incubator.



## ➤ Notices

③ in the process of acid corrosion of the “needle stick”, when we compound nitric acid solution with volume concentration 50% for use, the hot water with around 95°C should be used.

④ separate the mold immediately the solidification course in the incubator is over. It is not easy to separate the materials from the mold and the “needle stick” when materials cool down in the air. Once cooled down, reheat them in the incubator for about 20 minutes first, and then do the separation.



➤ Trial-produced samples

❑ Failure articles

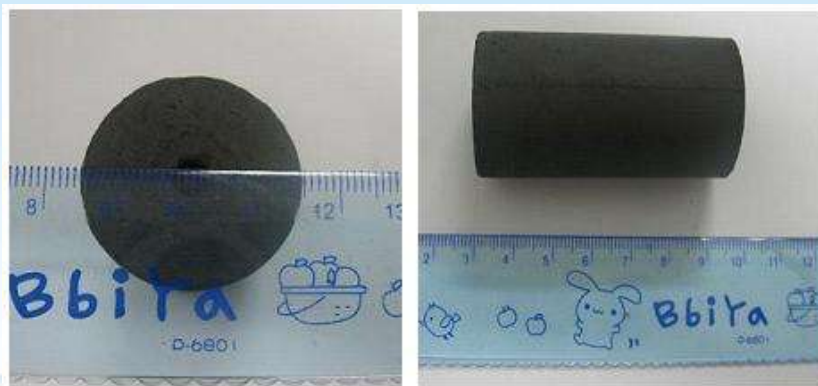


Air holes in materials



Over load on materials

❑ Successful article





## 5 Summary

- Designed penumbral apertures is tested isoplanatic and has a spatial resolution of  $250\ \mu\text{m}$  over a 1 cm field of view through simulation.
- The once formation technique with polymer-tungsten composite materials was established by trials and experiments.
- ❑ More quantitative studies on the technique.
- ❑ Further study of imaging experiments.





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State Key Laboratory of Intense Pulsed Radiation Simulation and Effect (SKLIPRSE)

**Thanks for your attention!**