

# Optical hydrodynamics and nonlinear diffraction

Nicolas Pavloff

LPTMS, Univ. Paris Sud, Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS

Waves Côte d'Azur juin 2019



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undular bore in Turnagain Arm, Alaska

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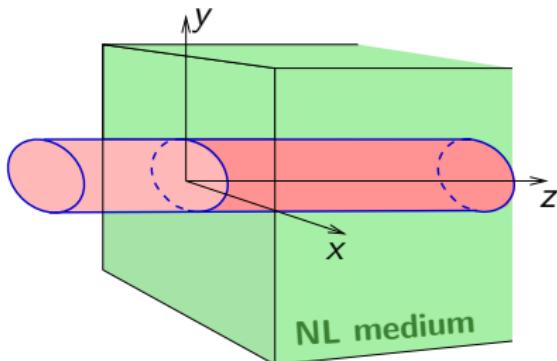
M. Isoard  
LPTMS, Orsay



A. M. Kamchatnov  
ISAN, Troitsk

# NLS for paraxial nonlinear optics

$$\vec{\nabla}^2 \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0 c^2} \partial_t^2 \vec{D}(\vec{r}, t)$$



$$\begin{cases} \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) = \hat{x} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} A(\vec{r}_\perp, z) e^{i(\beta_0 z - \omega_0 t)} + \text{c.c.} \right\} \\ \vec{D}(\vec{r}, t) = \epsilon_0 \vec{E} + \vec{P}_L(\vec{r}, t) + \vec{P}_{NL}(\vec{r}, t) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \vec{P}_L(\vec{r}, t) = \epsilon_0 \chi_{\omega_0}^{(1)}(\vec{r}) \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \\ \vec{P}_{NL}(\vec{r}, t) = \epsilon_0 \underline{\chi}^{(3)} : \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \\ = \epsilon_0 \frac{3}{4} \chi^{(3)} |\vec{E}|^2 \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \\ (\chi^{(3)} = \underline{\chi}_{xxyy}^{(3)} + \underline{\chi}_{xyxy}^{(3)} + \underline{\chi}_{xyyx}^{(3)}) \end{cases}$$

- linear, homogeneous system: PW with  $\beta_0 = \frac{\omega_0}{c} (1 + \chi_{\omega_0}^{(1)})^{1/2} = k_0 n(\omega_0)$

nonlinear, non homogeneous system. paraxial approximation  $\partial_z A \ll \beta_0 A$

$$\chi^{(1)}(\vec{r}) = \chi_{\omega_0}^{(1)} + \Delta \chi^{(1)}(\vec{r}_\perp)$$

$$i \partial_z A = -\frac{1}{2\beta_0} \vec{\nabla}_\perp^2 A - k_0 \Delta n(\vec{r}) A$$

$$\Delta n(\vec{r}) = \Delta n^{(1)}(\vec{r}_\perp) + \textcolor{red}{n}_2 |A(\vec{r}_\perp, z)|^2 \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{cases} \Delta n^{(1)}(\vec{r}_\perp) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \chi^{(1)}(\vec{r}_\perp) / n(\omega_0) \\ \textcolor{red}{n}_2 = \frac{3}{8} \chi^{(3)} / n(\omega_0) < 0 \quad \text{in the following} \end{cases}$$

$$i\partial_z A = -\frac{1}{2\beta_0} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp}^2 A - k_0 n_2 |A|^2 A \quad \text{where} \quad A = A(\vec{r}_{\perp}, z)$$

$I_0$ : typical light intensity       $Z_{NL} = -1/(n_2 k_0 I_0)$ : nonlinear length  
 $\xi_{\perp} = \sqrt{Z_{NL}/\beta_0}$ : transverse healing length

$$\vec{r}_{\perp} = \vec{r}_{\perp}/\xi_{\perp} \quad t = z/Z_{NL} \quad A(\vec{r}_{\perp}, t) = A(\vec{r}_{\perp}, z)/\sqrt{I_0}$$

$$i\partial_t A = -\frac{1}{2} \vec{\nabla}_{\perp}^2 A + |A|^2 A$$

### dispersionless hydrodynamics

$$A(\vec{r}_{\perp}, t) = \sqrt{\rho} \exp\{i S\} \quad \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} S = \vec{u}$$

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \rho + \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \cdot (\rho \vec{u}) = 0 \\ \partial_t \vec{u} + (\vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla}_{\perp}) \vec{u} + \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \rho + \vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \left( \frac{(\vec{\nabla}_{\perp} \rho)^2}{8\rho} - \frac{\Delta_{\perp} \rho}{4\rho} \right) = 0 \end{cases}$$

# Spreading vs. wave breaking

dimensionless units:

$$\rho(\vec{r}_\perp, t = 0) = \begin{cases} \rho_m(1 - \frac{x^2}{w^2}) & \text{if } |x| < w \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

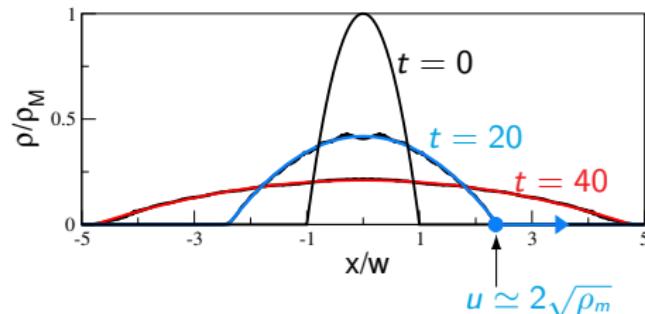
self-similar profile: Talanov 1965

$$\rho(x, t) = \frac{\rho_m}{f(t)} \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{w^2 \cdot f^2(t)}\right)$$

$$u(x, t) = x \cdot \phi(t)$$

$$\phi = f'/f$$

$$\ln(\sqrt{f} + \sqrt{f - 1}) + \sqrt{f(f - 1)} = 2t\sqrt{\rho_m}/w$$



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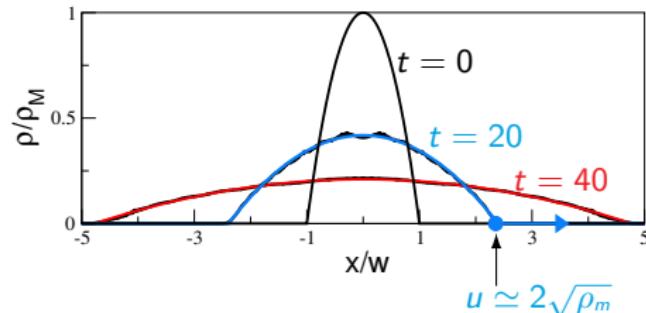
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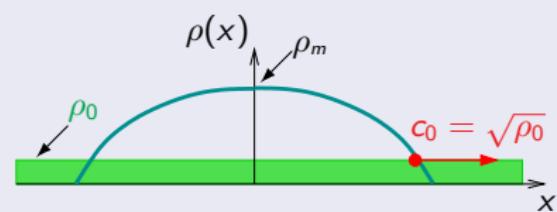
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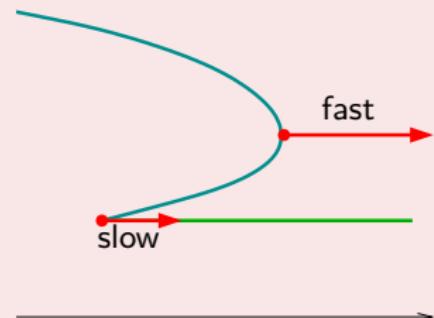
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in the presence of  $\rho_0$



dispersive regularization of wave breaking



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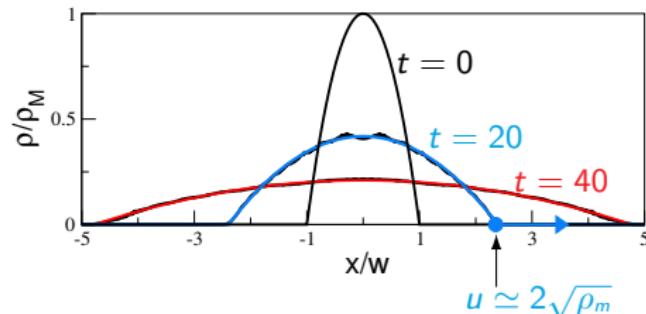
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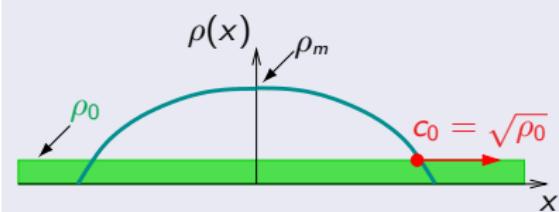
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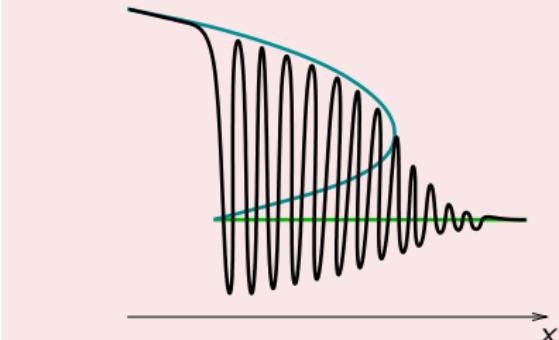
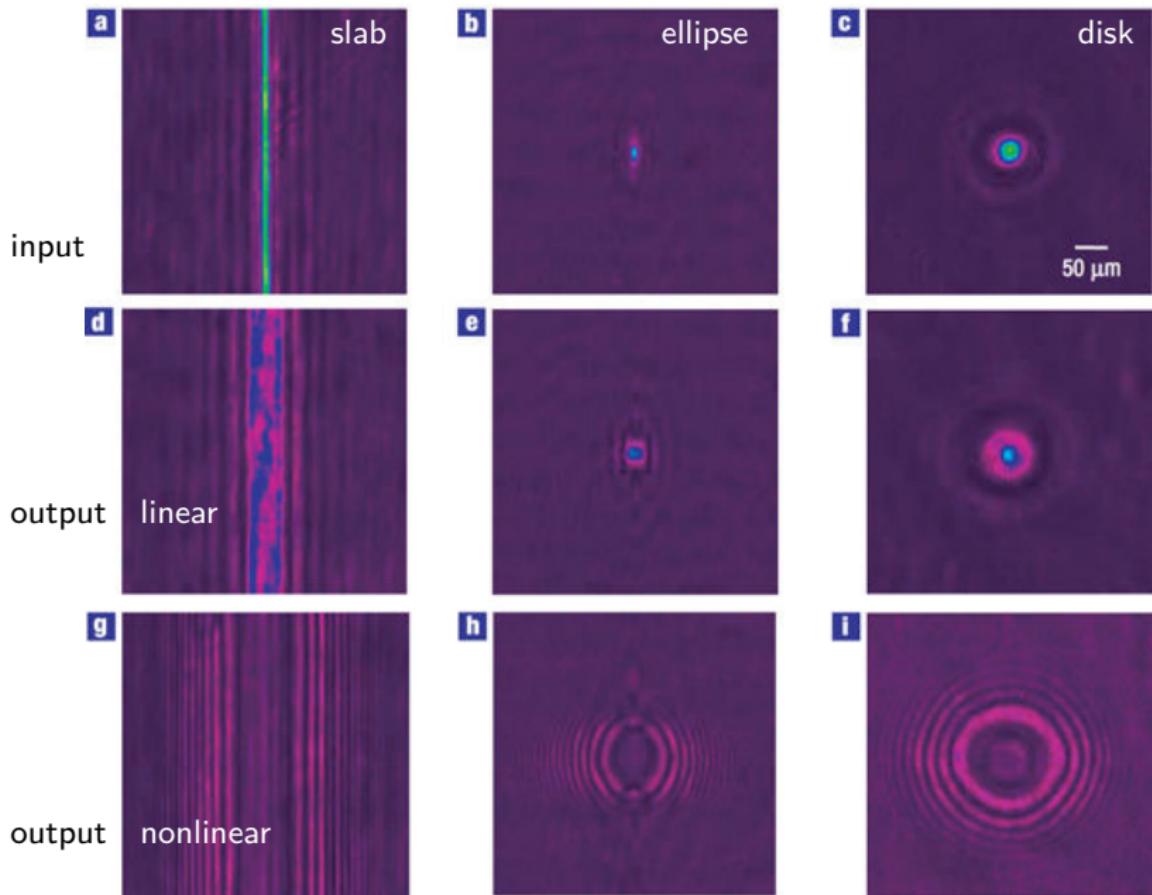
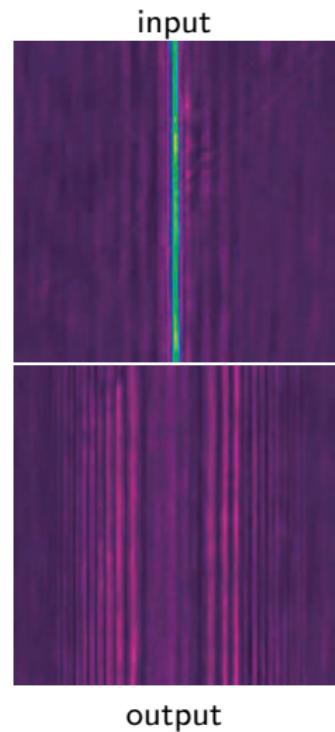
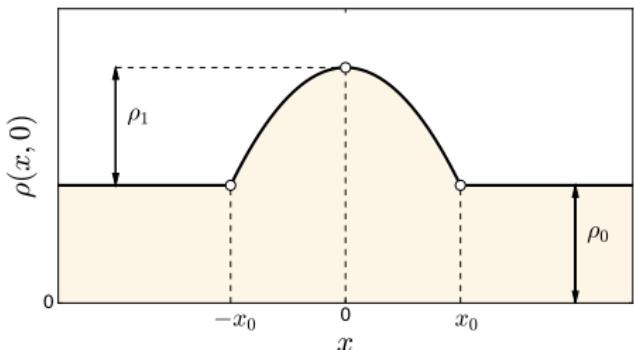


photo-refractive material: NL induced by a voltage bias across the crystal





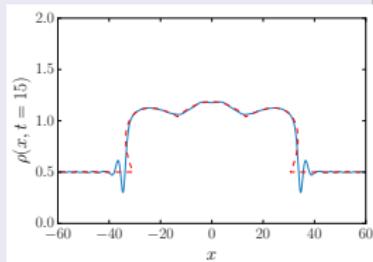
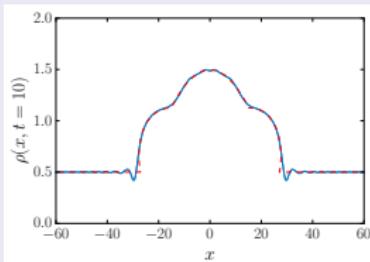
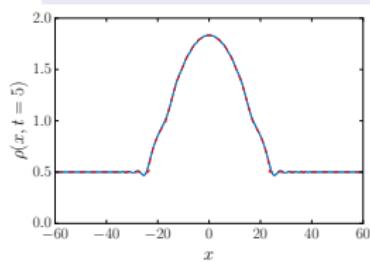
$$0 \leq t \leq 60$$

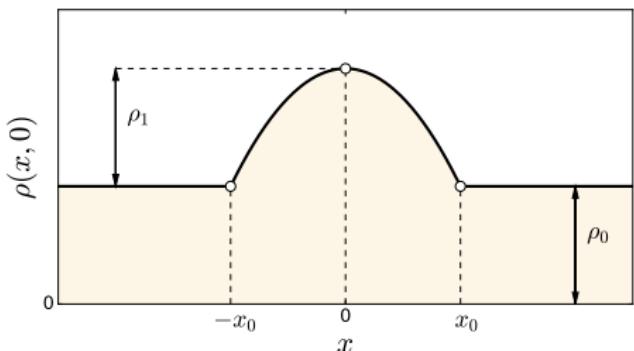


$$\rho(x, t = 0) = \rho_0 + \rho_1 \left( 1 - \frac{x^2}{x_0^2} \right)$$

$t < t_{WB}$  : dispersionless approximation

Riemann method  $\simeq$  improved method of characteristics

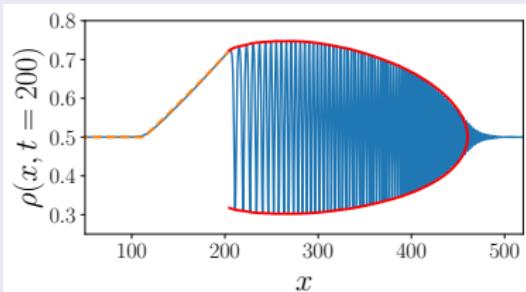
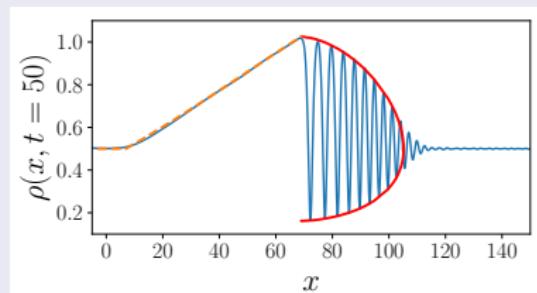




$$\rho(x, t=0) = \rho_0 + \rho_1 \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{x_0^2}\right)$$

$t > t_{WB}$  : dispersive shock wave

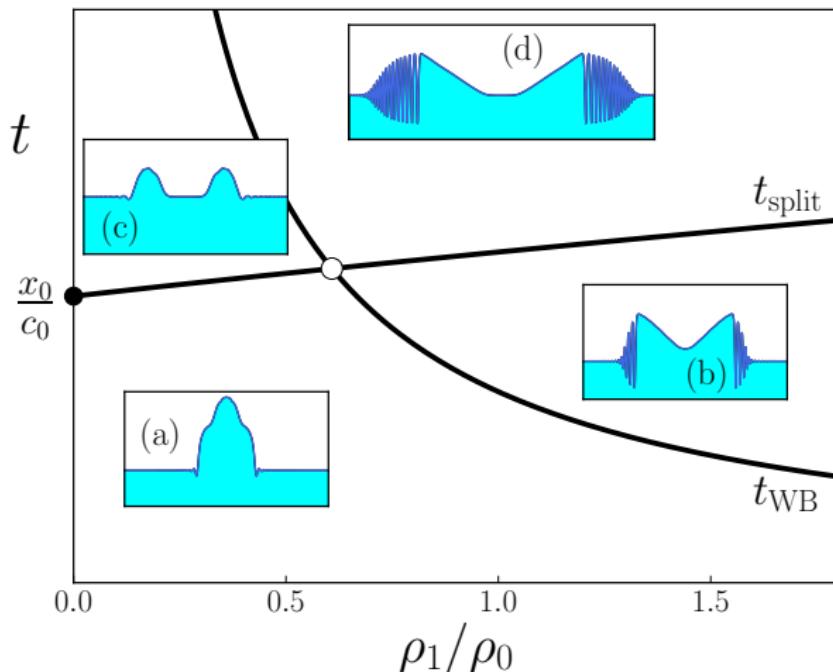
Whitham method  $\simeq$  adiabatic invariants for modulated nonlinear wave



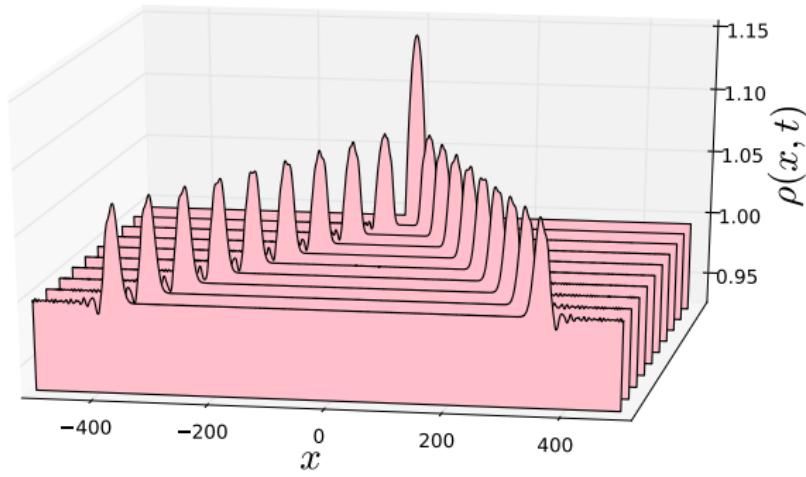
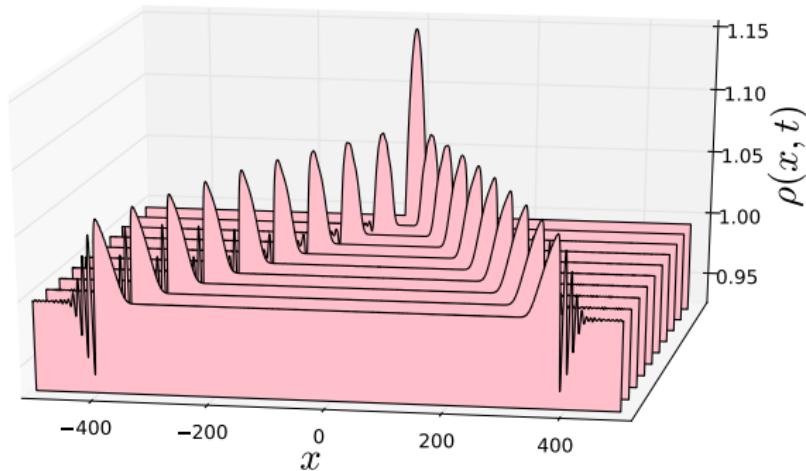
## two characteristic times

$$t_{WB} = 2 \frac{x_0}{c_0} \frac{\rho_0}{\rho_1}$$

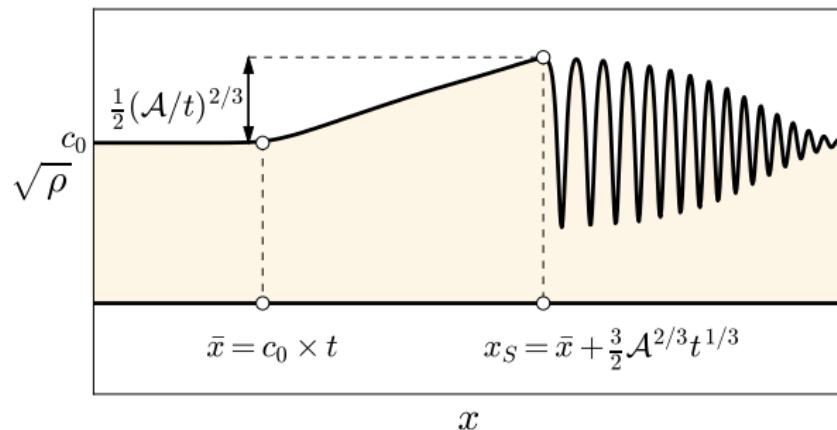
$$t_{split} \simeq \frac{x_0}{c_0} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{6} \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} - \frac{1}{60} \left( \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_0} \right)^2 + \dots \right]$$



$t \gg t_{WB}$  : failure of the perturbative approach ( $\rho_1/\rho_0 = 0.15$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 360$ )



$t \gg t_{WB}$  : weak shock theory



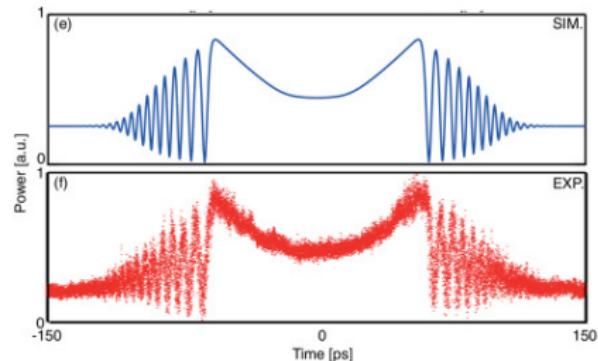
New (asymptotically) conserved quantity

$$\mathcal{A} = \sqrt{2} \int_{\bar{x}}^{x_S} (\sqrt{\rho} - c_0)^{1/2} dx \simeq 2 x_0 \sqrt{c_0} F(\rho_0/\rho_1)$$

where

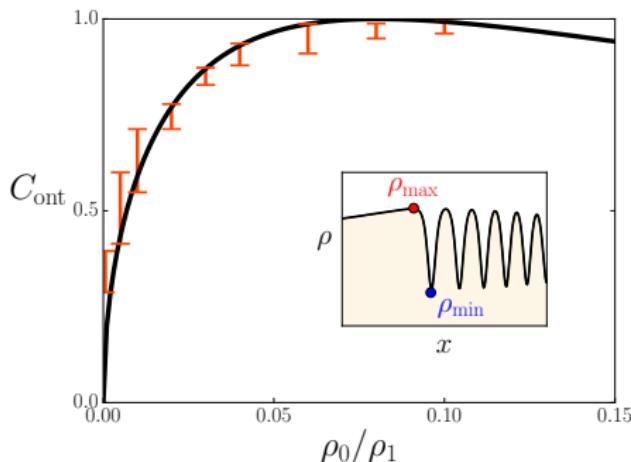
$$F(\alpha) = \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos \theta \left( \sqrt{1 + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\alpha}} - 1 \right)^{1/2} d\theta$$

$$\text{Fiber optics : } -i\partial_z A = -\frac{\beta_2}{2}\partial_t^2 A + \gamma|A|^2 A + \frac{i\alpha}{2}A$$



$$\begin{aligned} t_0 &= 18.3 \text{ ps}, L = 3 \text{ km}, P_1 = 5.9 \text{ W} \\ \gamma &= 3 \text{ W}^{-1} \cdot \text{km}^{-1}, \beta_2 = 2.5 \times 10^{-26} \text{ s}^2/\text{m} \\ P_{ref} &= 1 \text{ W} \\ \rho_1 &= P_1/P_{ref} = 5.9, t = \gamma P_{ref} L = 9, \\ x_0 &= t_0 \sqrt{\gamma P_{ref}/\beta_2} = 6.3 \end{aligned}$$

$$C_{ont} = \frac{\rho_{max} - \rho_{min}}{\rho_{max} + \rho_{min}}$$



$C_{ont}$  is a function of a single scaling parameter :  $\xi = \frac{x_0}{c_0 t} F(\rho_0/\rho_1)$

$$C_{ont} = 4(2\xi)^{2/3}/(4 + (2\xi)^{4/3}) \quad C_{ont} = 1 \text{ for } \xi = \sqrt{2}$$

rich analogy between nonlinear optics and hydrodynamics

- modulational instability
- **observation of dispersive shock waves**
- analogy with superfluid motion
- in the presence of disorder : competition between SF and Anderson localization
- possible formation of “sonic” horizon

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Mathematical description: Riemann + Whitham

- describes the early, pre-breaking, dispersiveless spreading
- analytic result for the wave-breaking time
- describes the later, post-breaking, dispersive shock
- analytic result for the asymptotic weak shock parameters  
~ good description of the contrast

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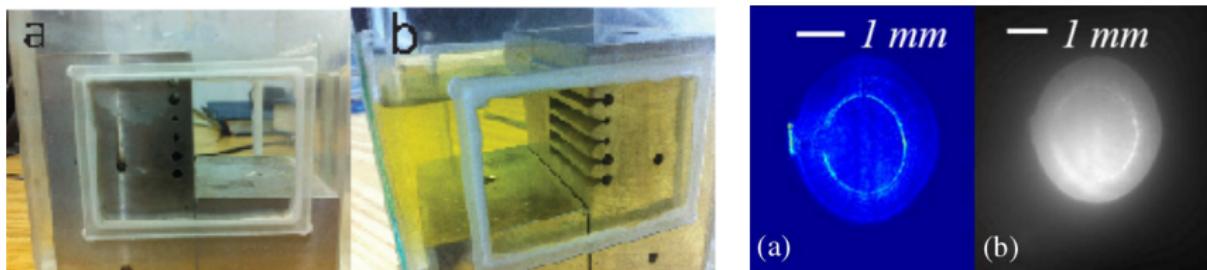
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**Thank you for your attention**

# The fellowship of the ring(s): Bar-Ad's group 2015

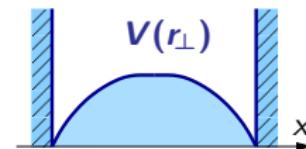


$L_{\perp} \ll L_{range\ NL} \ll L_z$  : highly nonlocal paraxial approximation

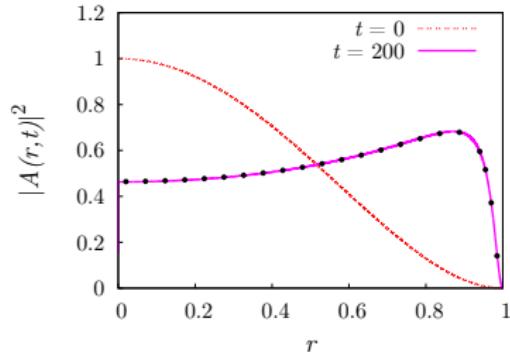
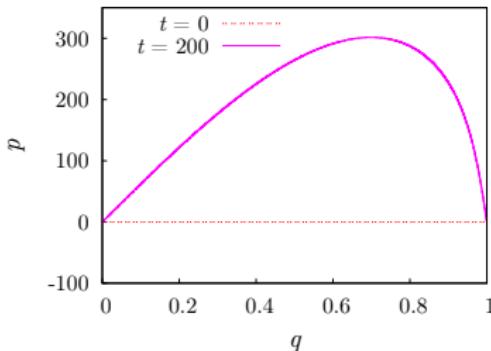
Snyder & Mitchell 1997, Folli & Conti 2012

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{NL} n(\vec{r}_{\perp}, z) &= \int d^2 r'_{\perp} \chi(\vec{r}'_{\perp}) A^2(\vec{r}_{\perp} - \vec{r}'_{\perp}, z) \simeq \chi(\vec{r}_{\perp}) \int d^2 r'_{\perp} A^2(\vec{r}'_{\perp}, z) \\ &= \chi(\vec{r}_{\perp}) \times C^{st}\end{aligned}$$

$$-i\partial_z A = -\frac{1}{2}\vec{\nabla}_{\perp}^2 A + V(r_{\perp})A$$



## lagrangian manifold



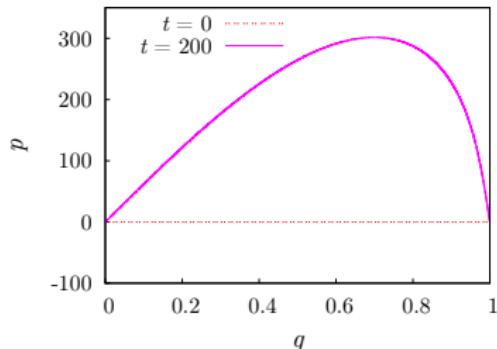
One evolves a swarm of **test points** ( $\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}$ )  
in phase space with the Hamilton equations

The density conservation eq. gives :  $|A^2[\mathbf{r}(r_0, t)]| d\mathbf{r} = |A_0^2[\mathbf{r}_0]| d\mathbf{r}_0$

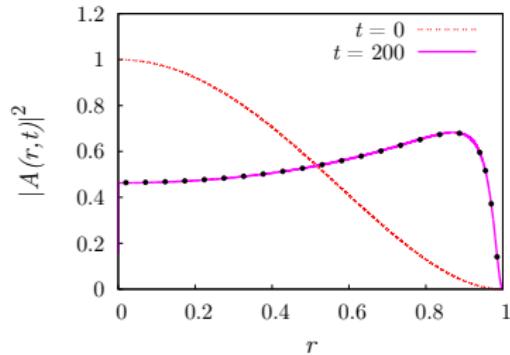
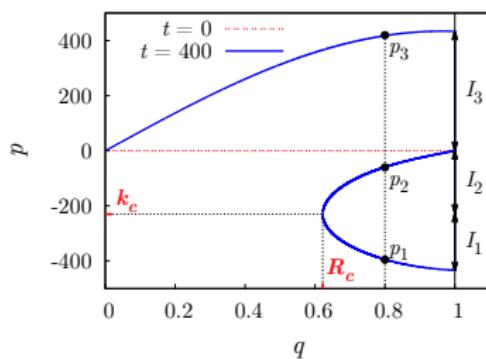
$$\Leftrightarrow |A(\mathbf{r}, t)| = \left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{r}_0}{\partial r} \right|_{\mathbf{r}_0(r, t)}^{1/2} |A_0[\mathbf{r}_0(r, t)]|$$

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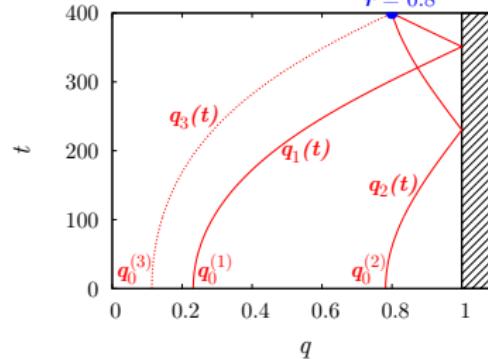
lagrangian manifold



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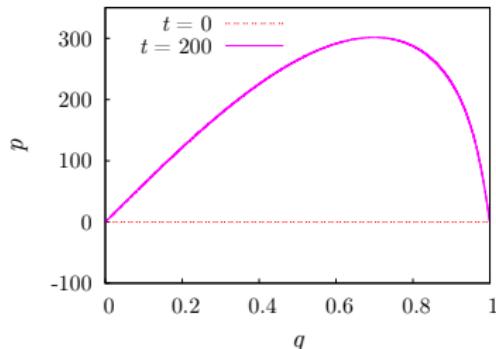


real space trajectories

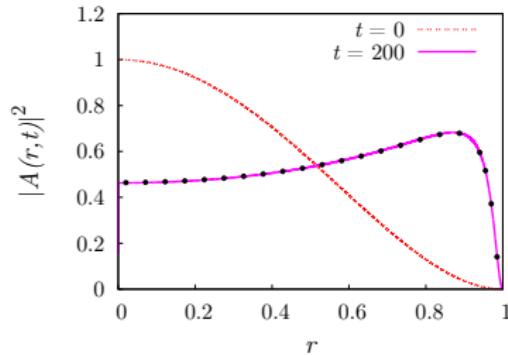
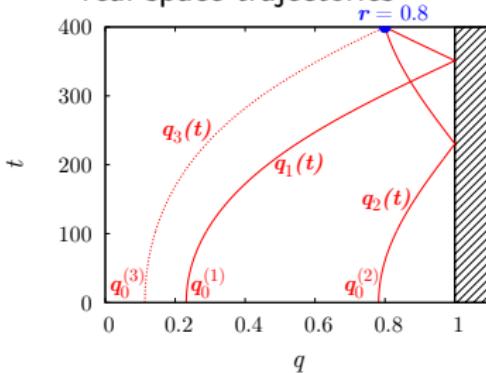


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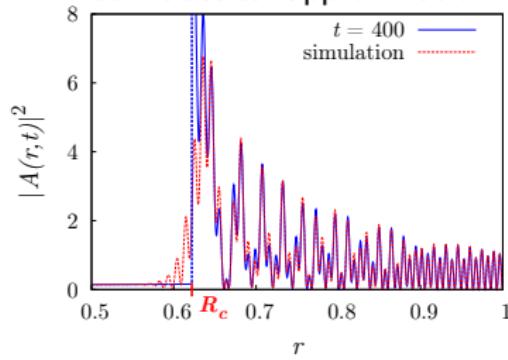
lagrangian manifold



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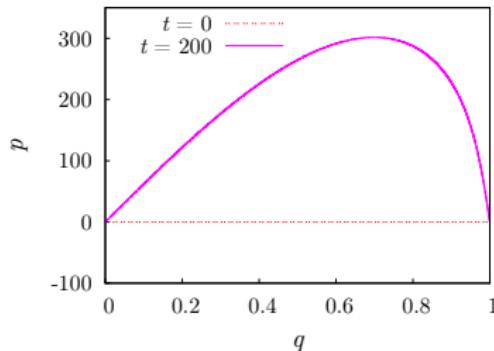


semiclassical approximation

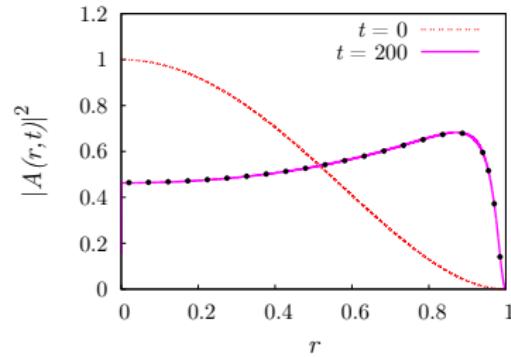
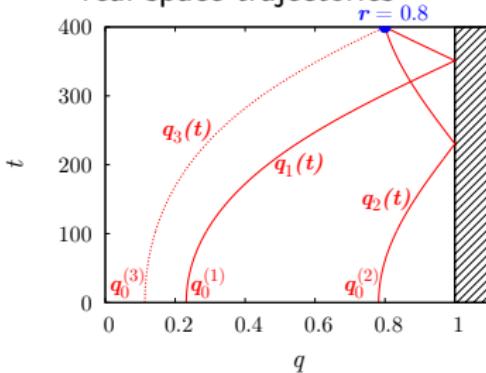


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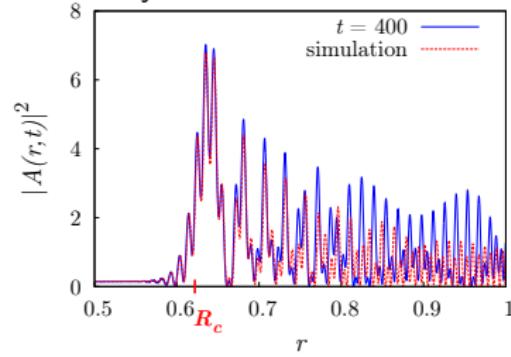
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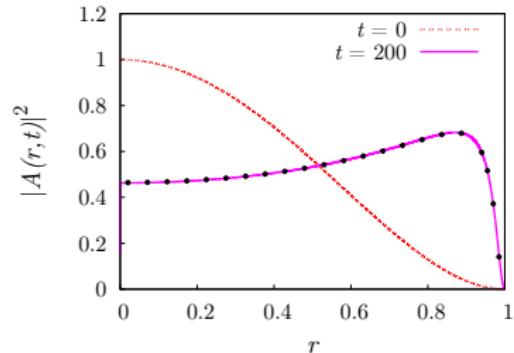
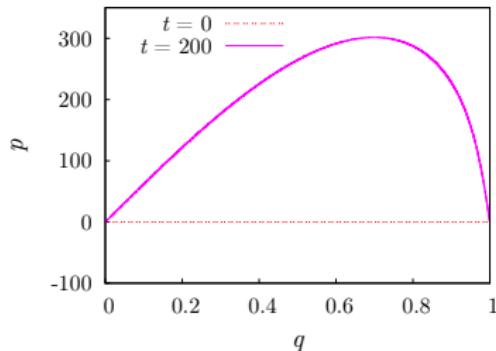


Airy near the caustic

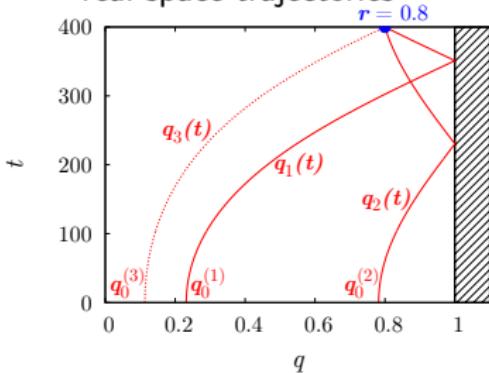


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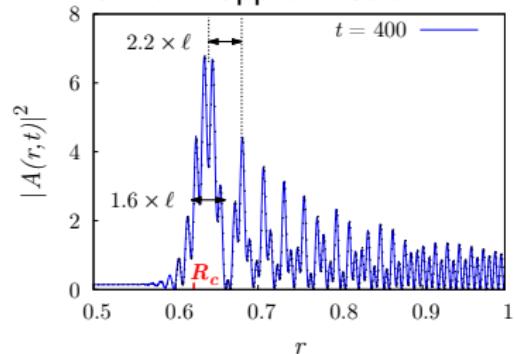
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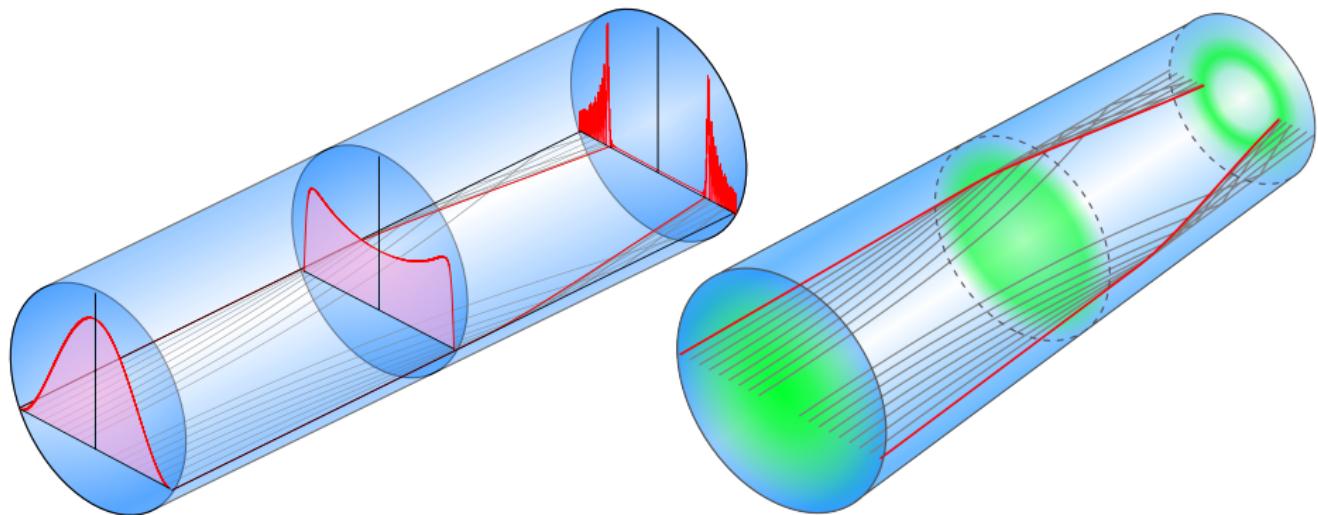
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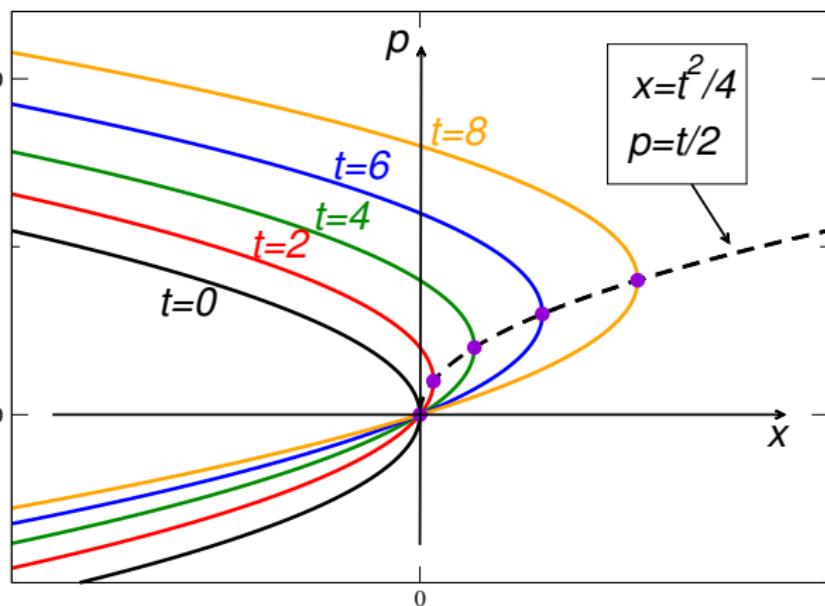
uniform approximation



# The fellowship of the ring(s): Bar-Ad's group 2015



$$i\partial_t \Phi = -\frac{1}{2}\partial_x^2 \Phi \quad \sim \quad \Phi(x, t) = Ai\left(x - \frac{t^2}{4}\right) \exp\{i(xt/2 - t^3/6)\}$$



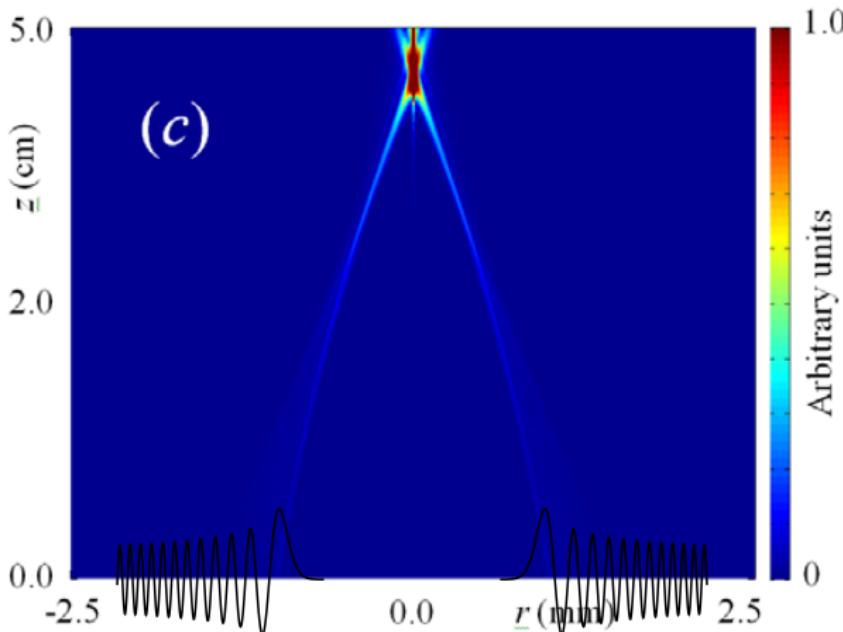
- initial swarm of particles  
 $x_0 = -p_0^2$

- free propagation

$$\begin{cases} x(t) = x_0 + p_0 t \\ p(t) = p_0 \end{cases}$$

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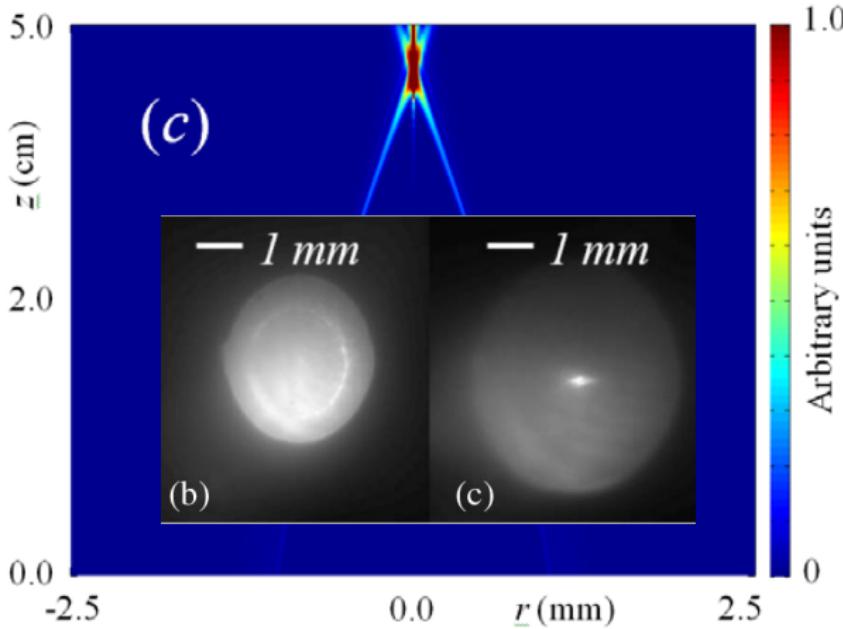


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simple and cheap alternative to a spatial light modulator

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