

# Quantitative measurements of fuel spatial densities from GDI sprays through optical and x-ray based techniques

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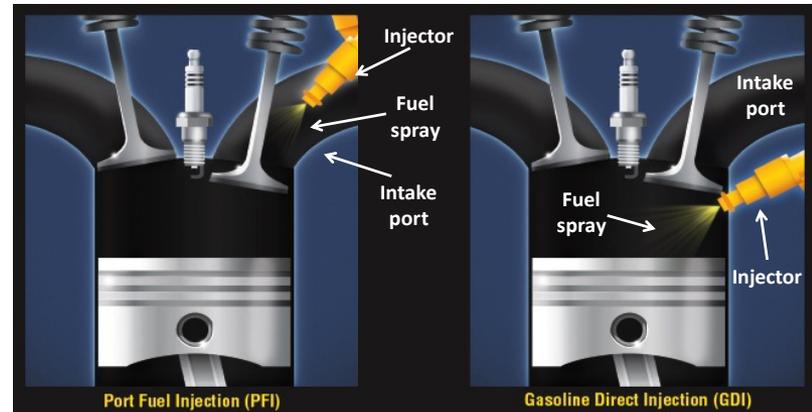
# INTRODUCTION

New Spark Ignition engines promise higher combustion efficiency and exhaust emission reduction

How to reduce fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emission?



Through stratified lean combustion (up to 25% less consumption)



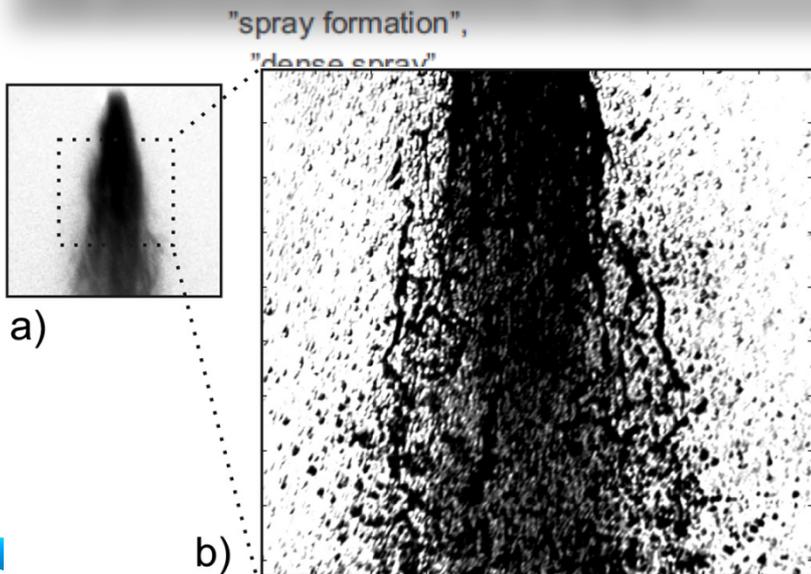
Controlling the charge formation by means of injection



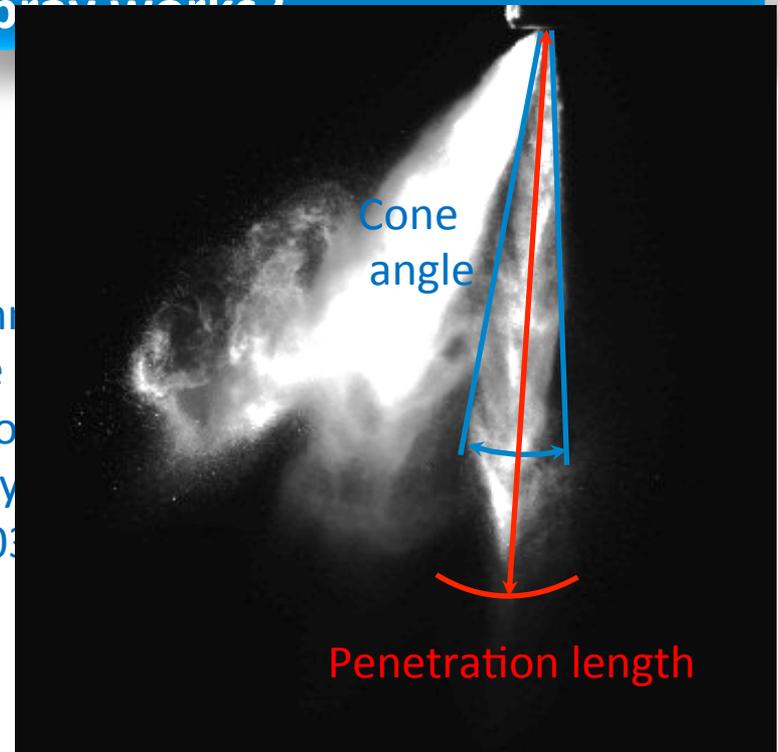
# INTRODUCTION

How a high pressure spray works?

main jet geometric parameters:  
tip penetration, cone angle



M. Lin  
dense  
develo  
Energy  
39: 40

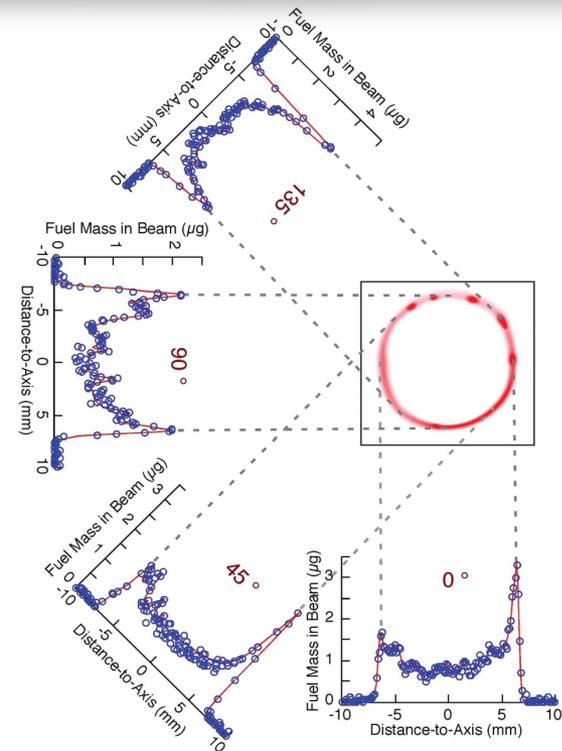
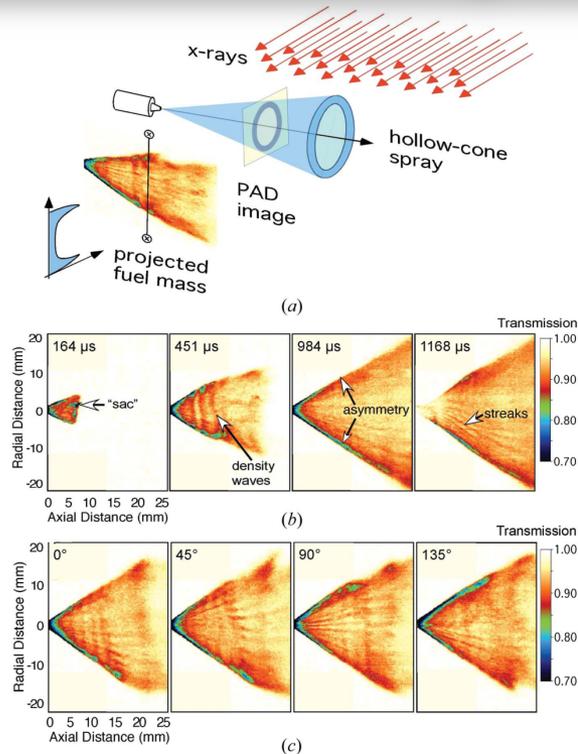


Several optical techniques have been applied for characterizing the fuel  
measurements about the internal structure of the spray results quite  
complicated, especially in the dense region close the nozzle



# INTRODUCTION

Techniques based on X-radiation have been applied to estimate the fuel distribution into high-density regions of fuel sprays.



X-radiography of hollow-cone direct injection fuel spray

Computed fuel mass distribution by fitting the experimental data with mass reconstruction models

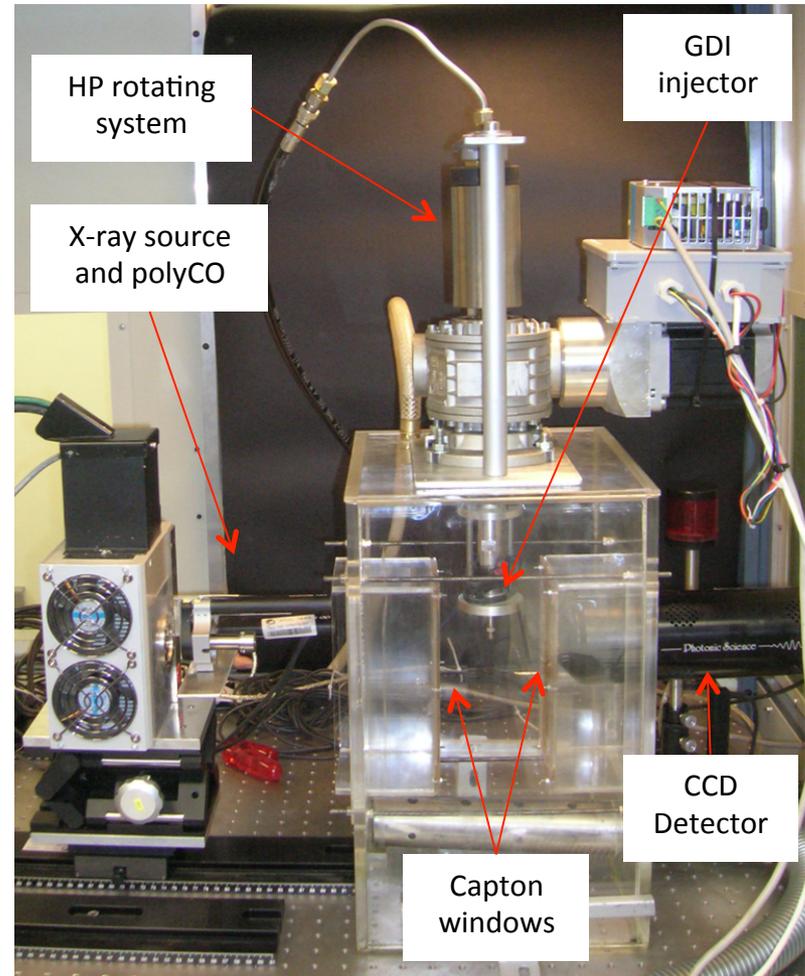
Wang, J., X-ray vision of fuel sprays, Journal of synchrotron radiation, 12: 197-207 (2005).



# EXPERIMENTAL SET-UP 1/2

A Cu K $\alpha$  X-ray source at  $\sim 8.0$  keV coupled with a polycapillary half lens focuses the radiation on a selected spray region .  
A CCD detector for X-radiation collects the emerging signal

A 6-hole GDI injector is coupled to the high pressure pump by a specially designed rotating device able to work up to 50 MPa with an angular step  $\square \square \square \square 1^\circ$



# EXPERIMENTAL SET-UP 2/2

## Polycapillary Lens

POLYCAPILLARY SEMI-LENS

X-ray tube

X-ray tube + Polycapillary optics

diameter

Bee Head Sample

an diameter

The polycapillary lens total efficiency is about 60%, at selected energies.

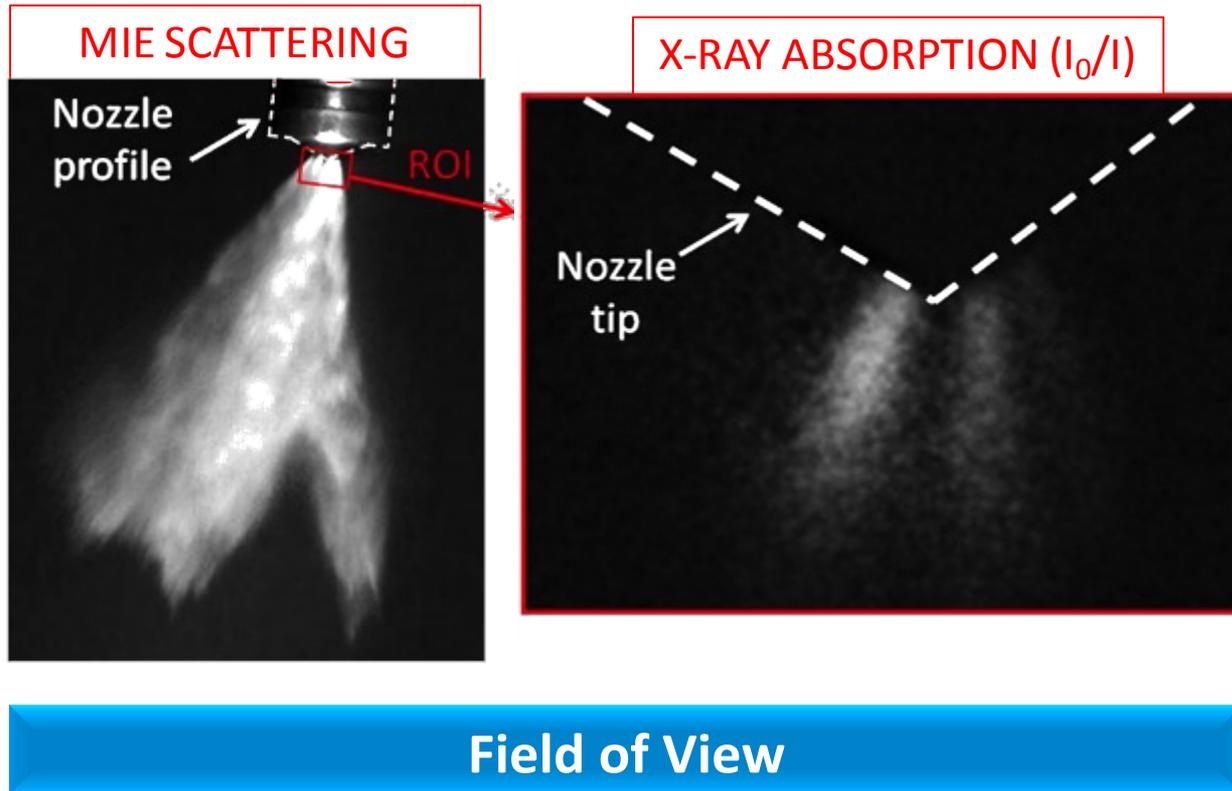
1 $\mu$ m

INCH

1



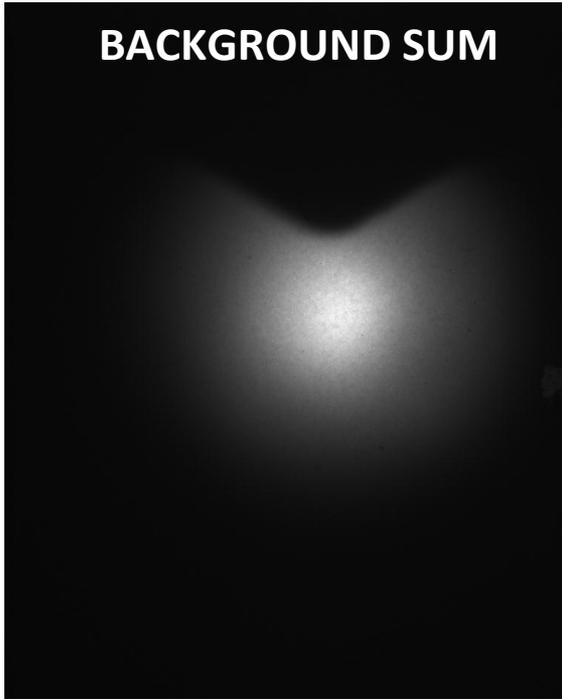
# IMAGE ACQUISITION 1/3



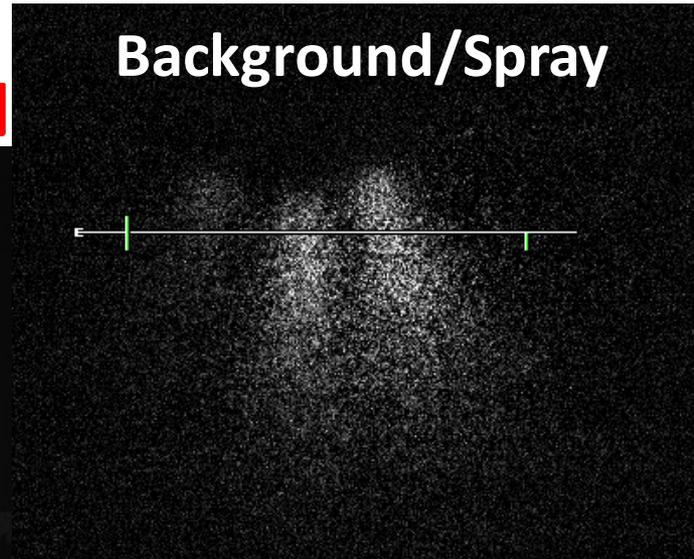
# IMAGE ACQUISITION 2/3

**BACKGROUND**

**BACKGROUND SUM**

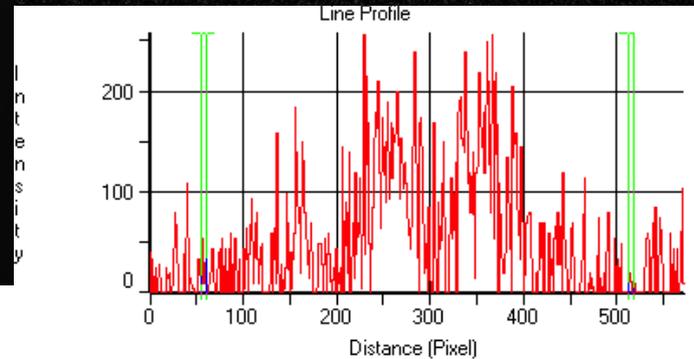
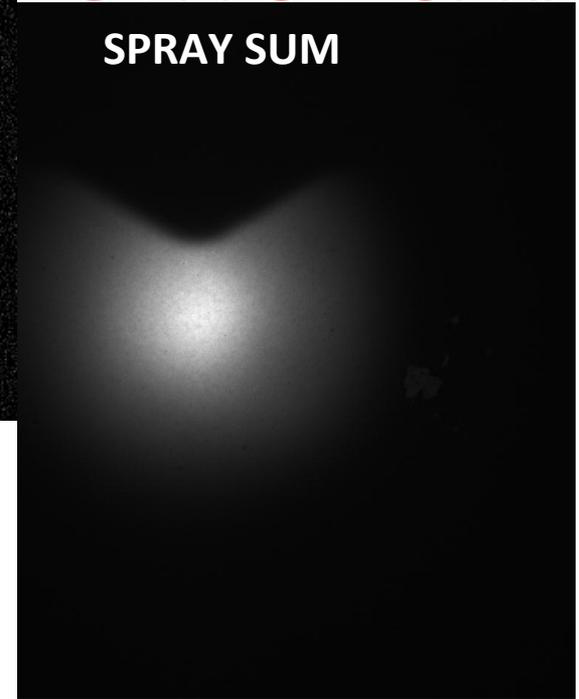


**Background/Spray**

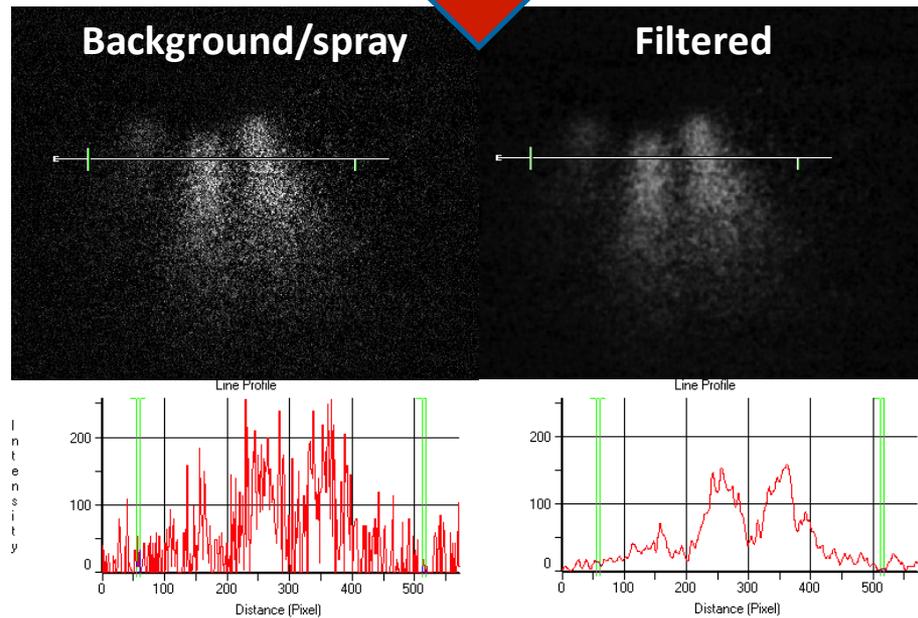
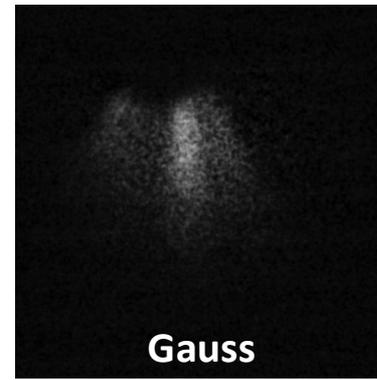
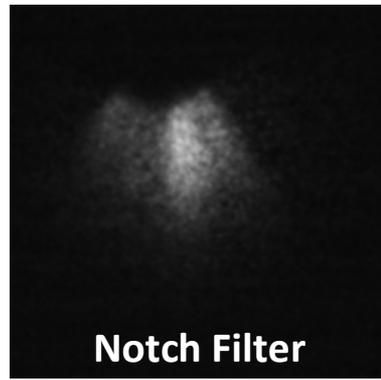
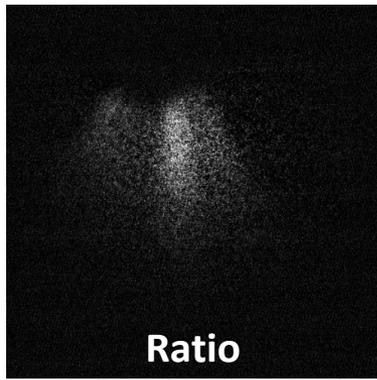


**E GDI FUEL SPRAY**

**SPRAY SUM**



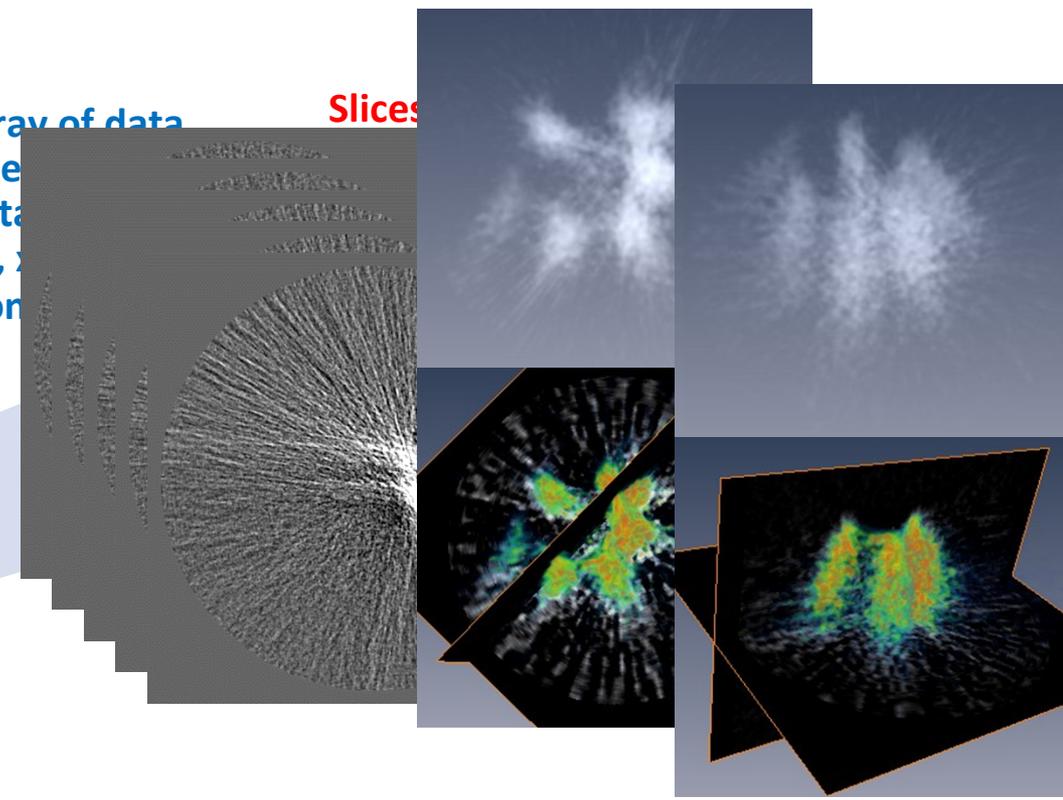
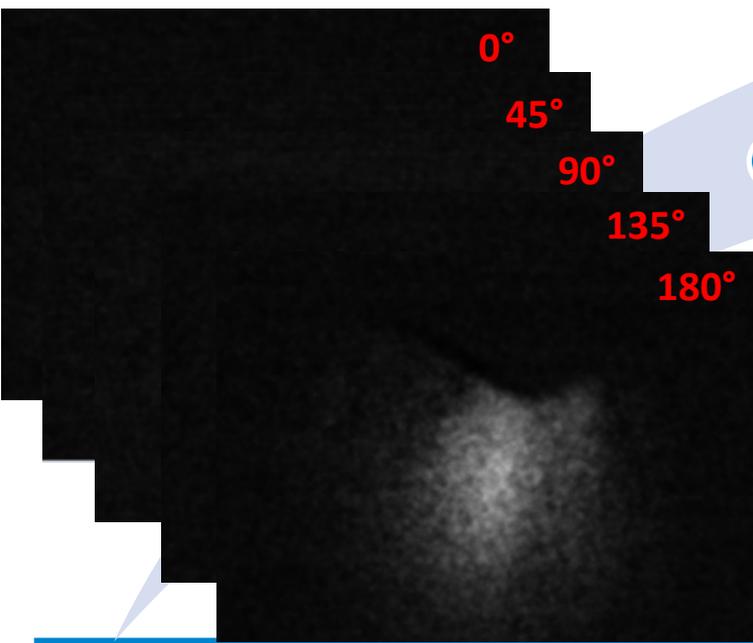
# IMAGE ACQUISITION 3/3



# TOMOGRAPHY – BASE CONCEPT

**Sinogram:** 2-D array of data containing the projection of the object in the  $(x, \theta)$  plane representing the angular parameter,  $\theta$ , along the projection direction.

**Slices**



# 3D RECONSTRUCTION

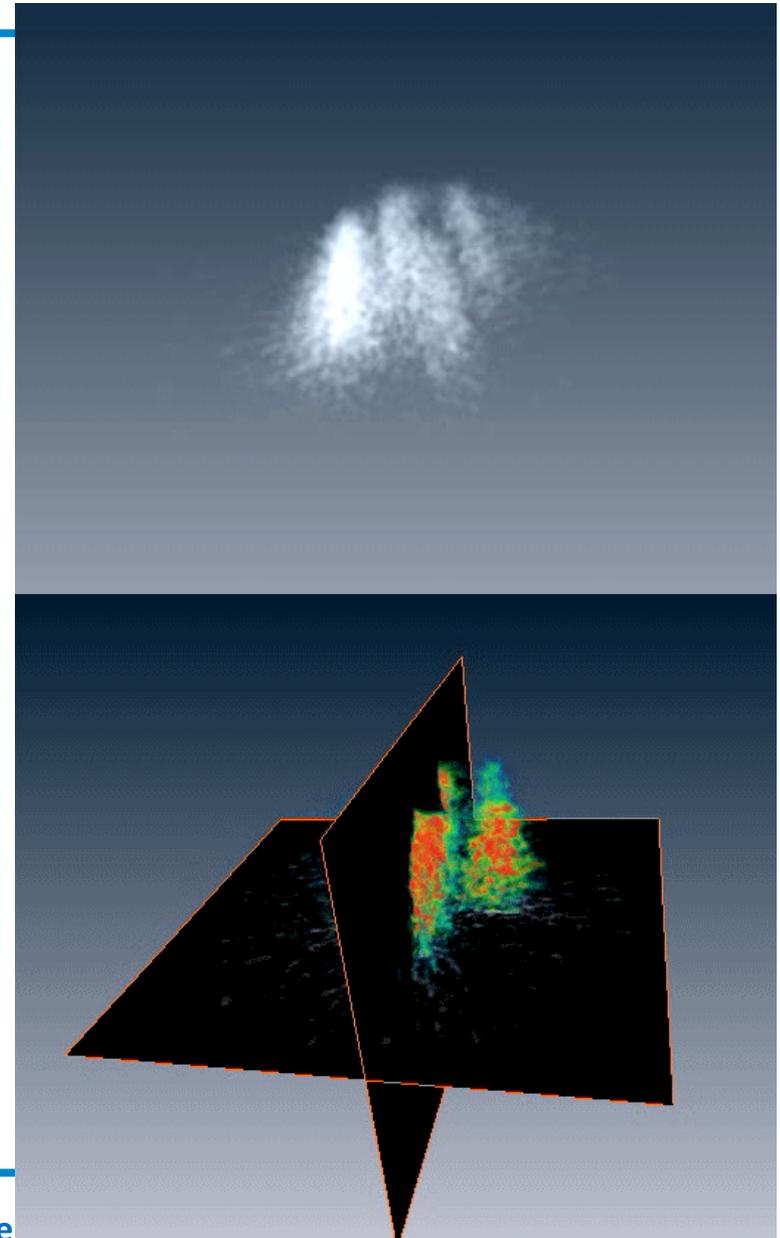
The absorption is linked to the sample local density  $\rho$  by the well known Lambert Beer law :

$$I/I_0 = e^{-\mu_l}$$

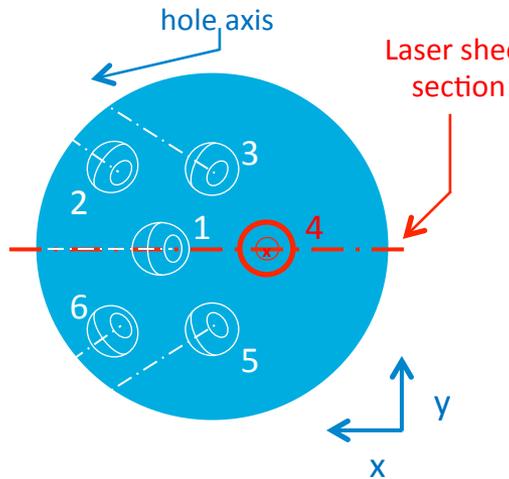
where  $\mu_l$  is the linear absorption coefficient and  $l$  is the crossed spray length. The previous equation can also be written as:

$$I/I_0 = e^{-\mu_M M}$$

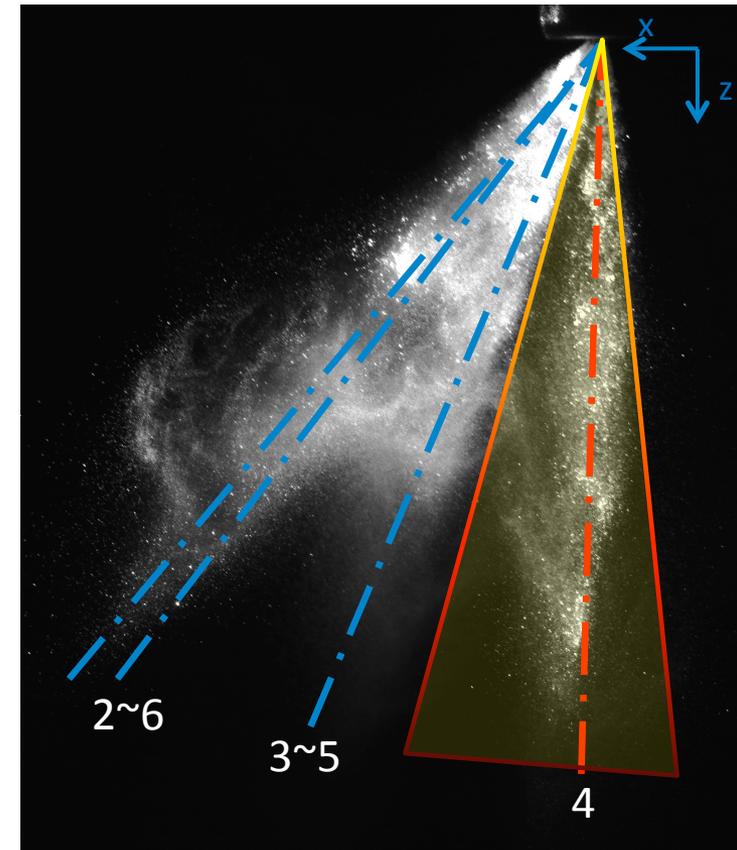
where  $\mu_M$  is the mass absorption coefficient. Considering the single cross section,  $M$  represents the fuel mass  $m$  related to the spray cross section area  $A$ .



# 3D RECONSTRUCTION



Hole	xz [°]	yz [°]
1	54.8	0.0
2	49.9	-27.7
3	21.8	-11.6
4	3.1	0.0
5	21.8	11.6
6	49.9	27.7



The jets don't have any symmetry. The jet 4 has just a little inclination respect to nozzle axis and it is confined always in the beam spot.



# CROSS SECTION MEASUREMENTS

## Void Fraction

$$(V_a/V_{\text{voxel}})$$

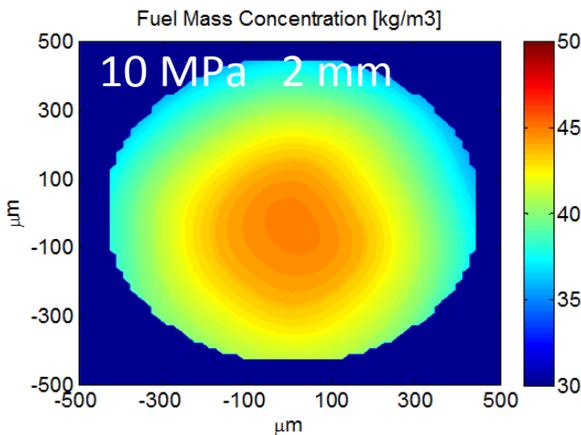
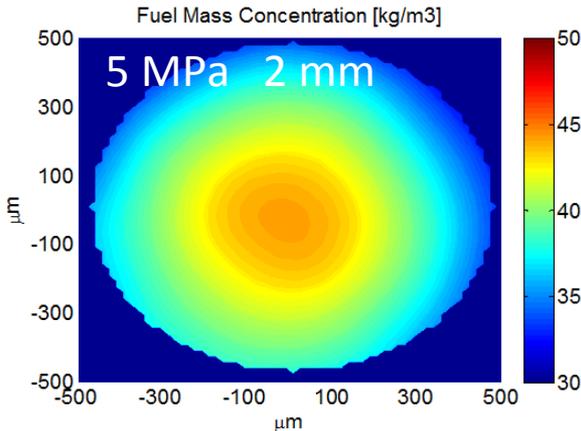
$\vartheta$  = Void Fraction

$r$  = droplet radius

$\vec{v}$  = droplet velocity

$T_d$  = droplet temperature

$$\vartheta = 1 - \iiint f \cdot (4/3)\pi r^3 dr d\vec{v} dT_d$$



“For a regular arrangement of spherical droplets with a spacing equal to their diameter...it can be shown that the void fraction becomes  $\vartheta \approx 0.92$  [60]. Consequently, it is often assumed that a spray behaves as a thick spray if the void fraction is less than about 0.9. O'Rourke [60] also considered an additional spray regime located between the intact core and the thick spray, termed churning flow, for void fractions less than 0.5.”

Fuel Mass per Volume Unit  
=  $m_{\text{fuel}}/V_{\text{voxel}}$

Stiesch, Gunnar. Modeling engine spray and combustion processes. Springer Science & Business Media, 2013.



# CROSS SECTION MEASUREMENTS

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The tests were performed at ambient pressure and temperature, hence the fuel droplet density is known:

$$\rho_{fuel} = 719.7 \text{ kg/m}^3$$

The ratio between the fuel density and voxel density (measured one) is linked to the air and fuel volumes through the following relationship:

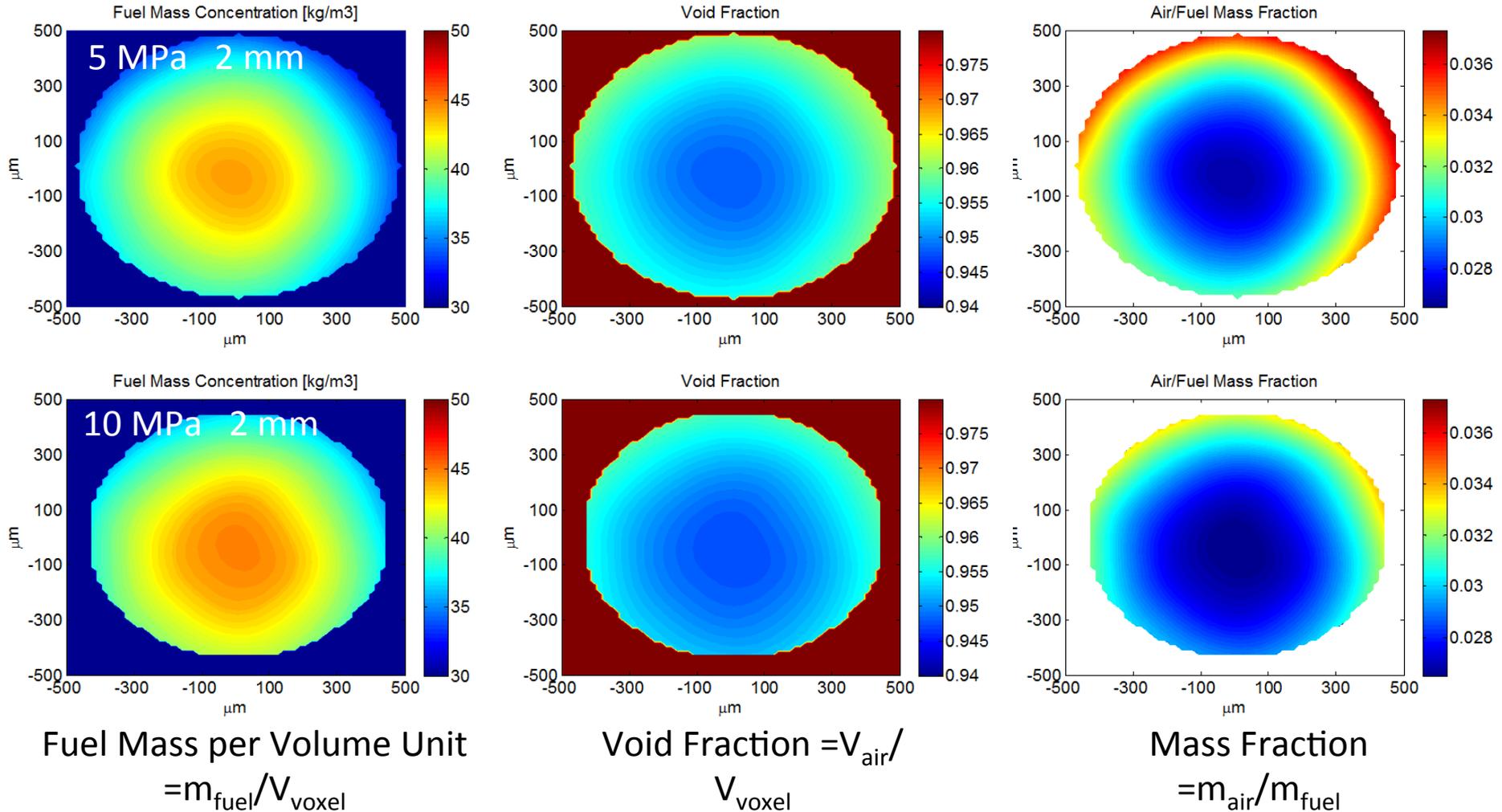
$$\rho_{fuel}/\rho_{voxel} = V_{voxel}/V_{fuel} = (V_{air} + V_{fuel})/V_{fuel}$$

This equation can be easily rewritten to obtain the void fraction:

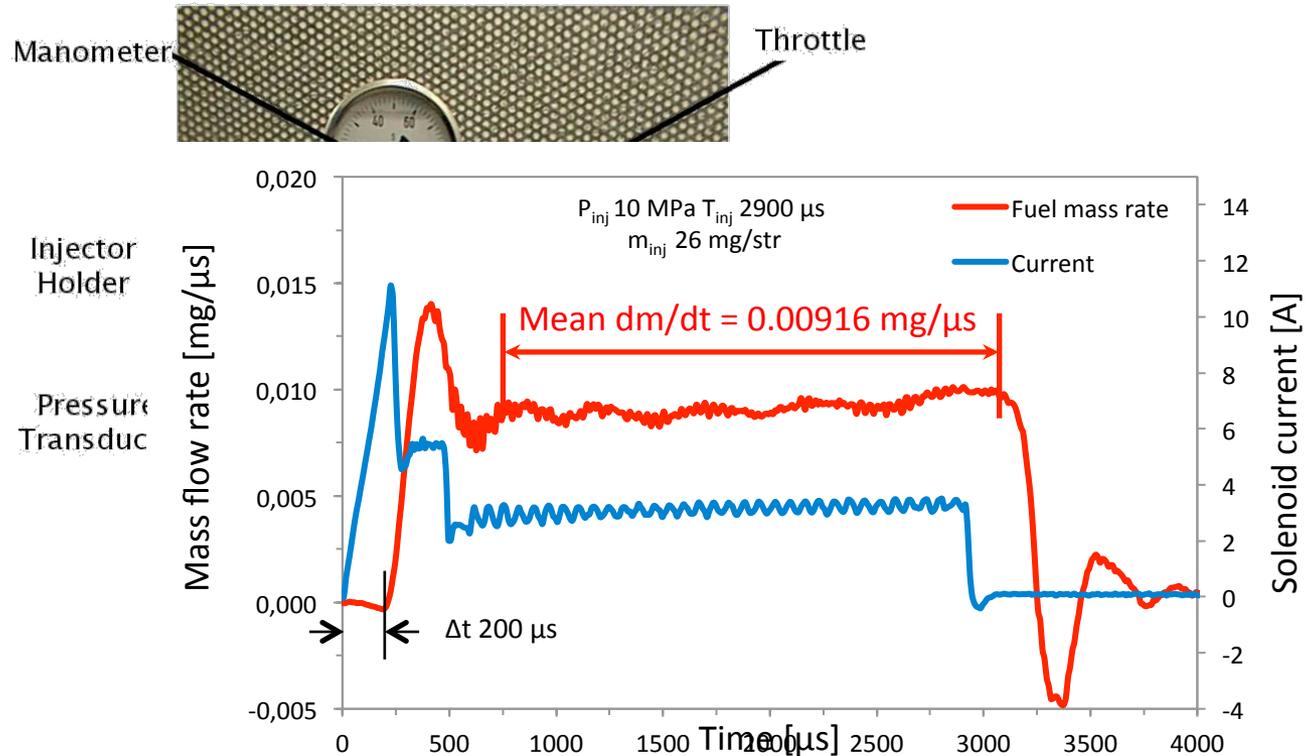
$$V_{air}/V_{fuel} = (\rho_{fuel}/\rho_{voxel}) - 1$$



# CROSS SECTION MEASUREMENTS



# MASS FRACTION VALIDATION



Instantaneous fuel injection rate measurements were performed through Bosch tube principle



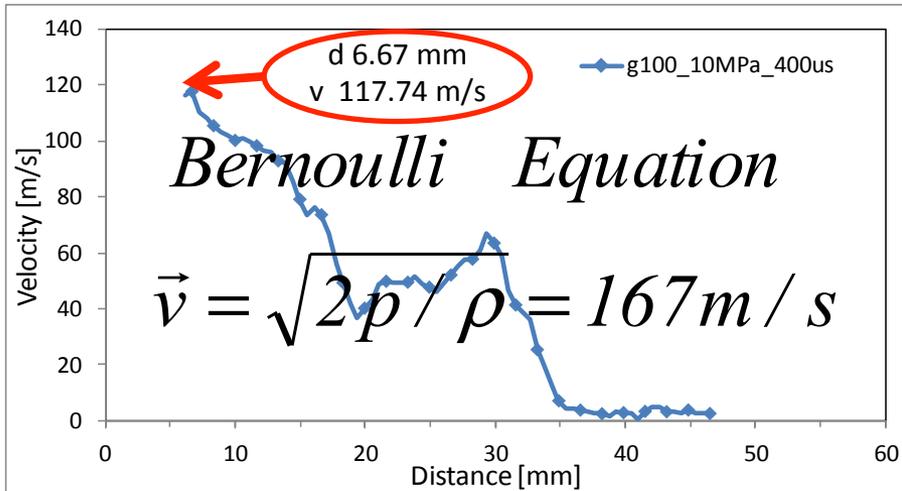
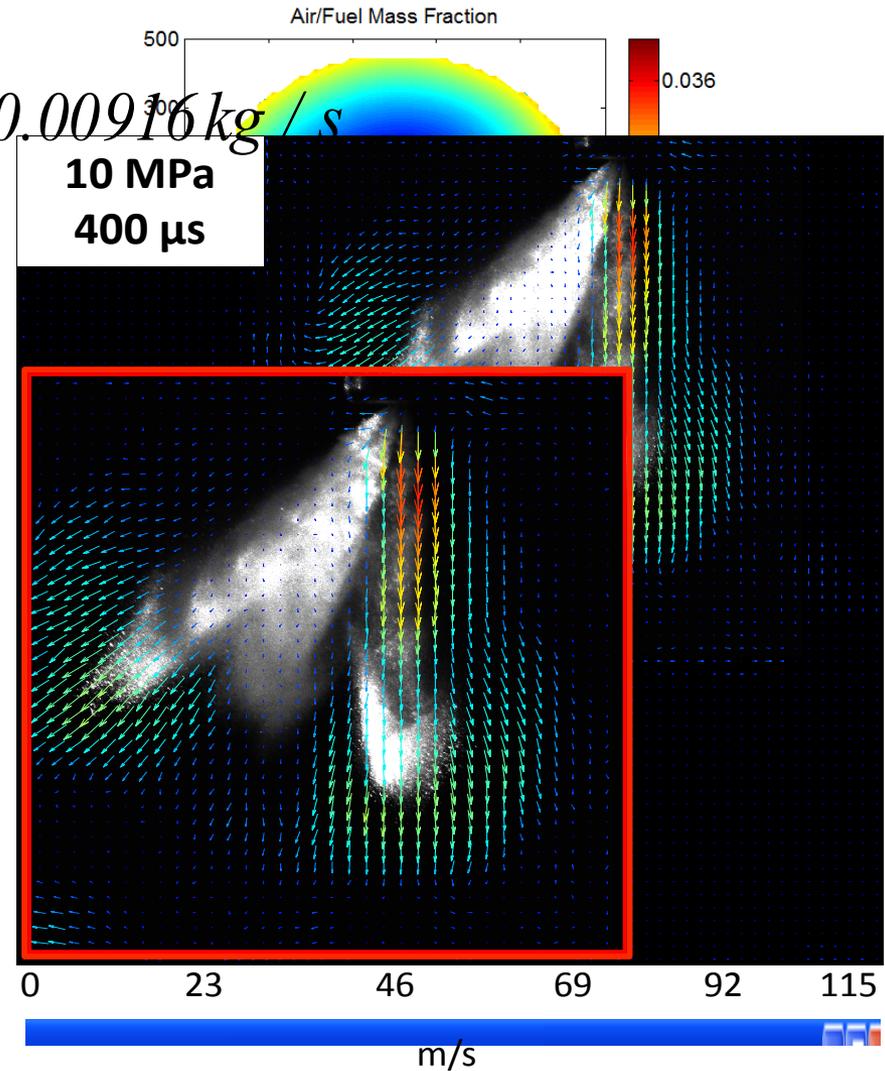
# MASS FRACTION VALIDATION

$$dm / dt = \rho \pi r^2 \vec{v} = \cancel{0.00055 \text{ kg/s}} < 0.00916 \text{ kg/s}$$

$\rho = \text{density}$

$r = \text{section radius}$

$\vec{v} = \text{jet speed}$



# CONCLUSION

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X-ray tomography has been applied to investigate the inner structure of a gasoline spray delivered by a 6-hole Gasoline Direct Injection system. The experimental set-up is based on a Cu K $\alpha$  X-ray tube coupled with a polycapillary half lens, that allowed to obtain a high intensity quasi parallel beam (lens total efficiency ~60%).

The technique has provided a detailed reconstruction of the spray structure in the region close to the nozzle allowing quantitative 3D measurements of fuel mass and local air-fuel distribution

The single-jet fuel mass-rate was obtained and compared with the injection rate one measured by the injection Gauge Rate System working on the Bosch tube principle. The comparison demonstrates the accuracy of x-ray tomography desktop facility as a reliable diagnostic tool



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**

