

Heliospheric-Relevant MHD Turbulence in Laboratory Plasma

David Schaffner
Bryn Mawr College/Swarthmore College

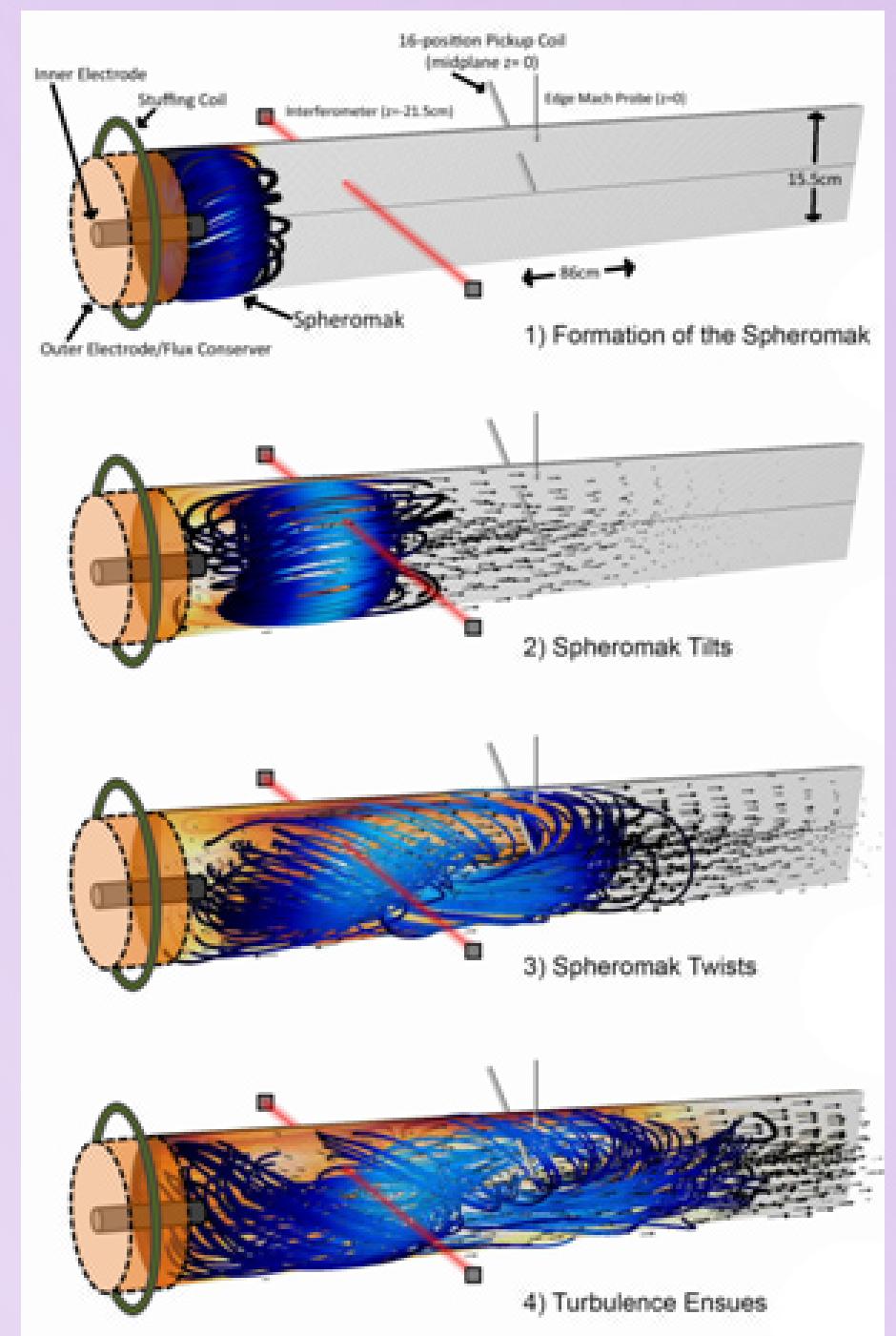


Contributors: Michael Brown, Slava Lukin, Peter Weck, Rob Wicks, Ariel Rock, Holden Park, Adrian Wan

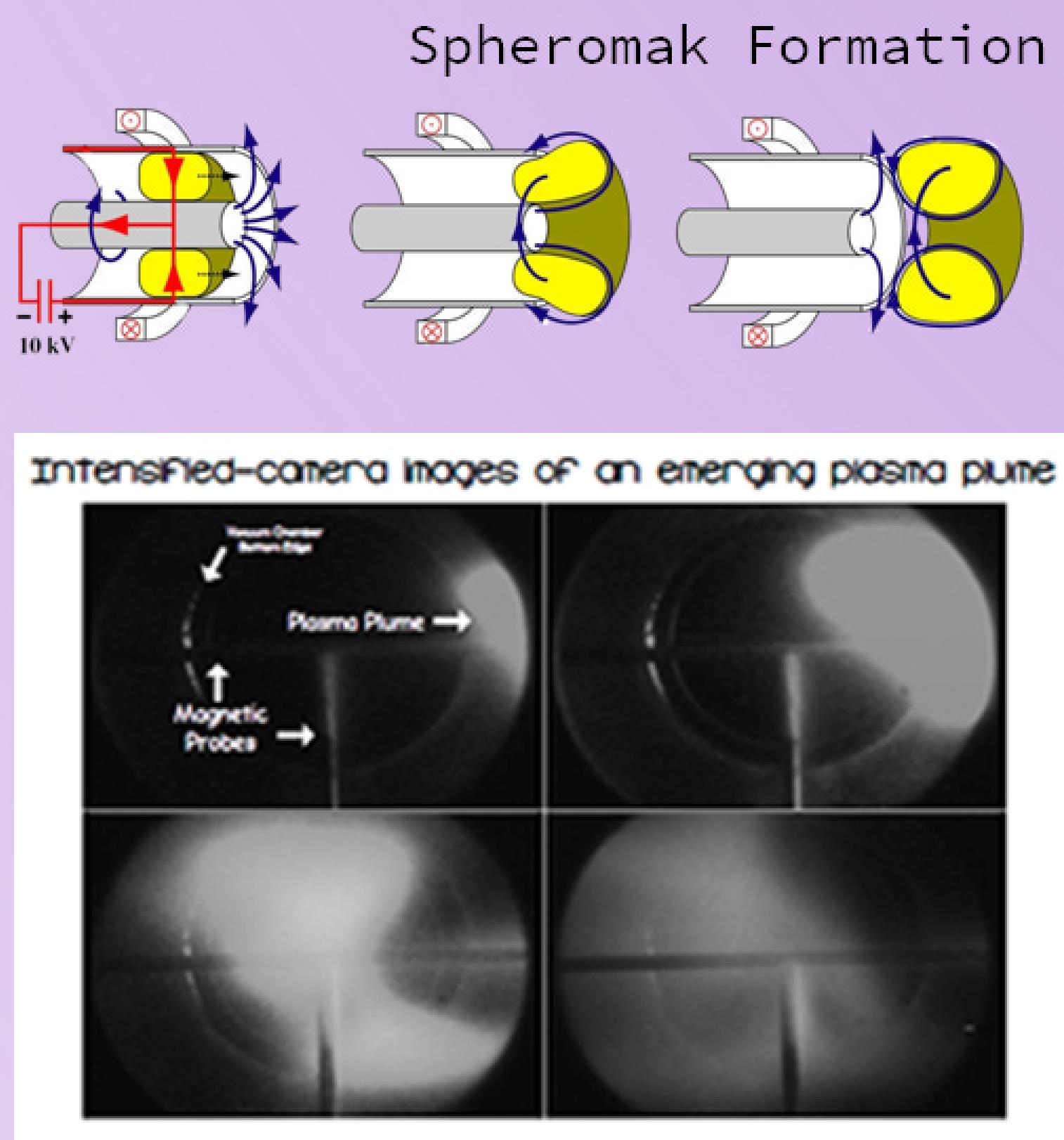
Dynamic* magnetic fields and flows are generated by a plasma gun to create a controllable MHD turbulent environment

*i.e. no rigid background field

Simulated Spheromak Evolution (HiFi)

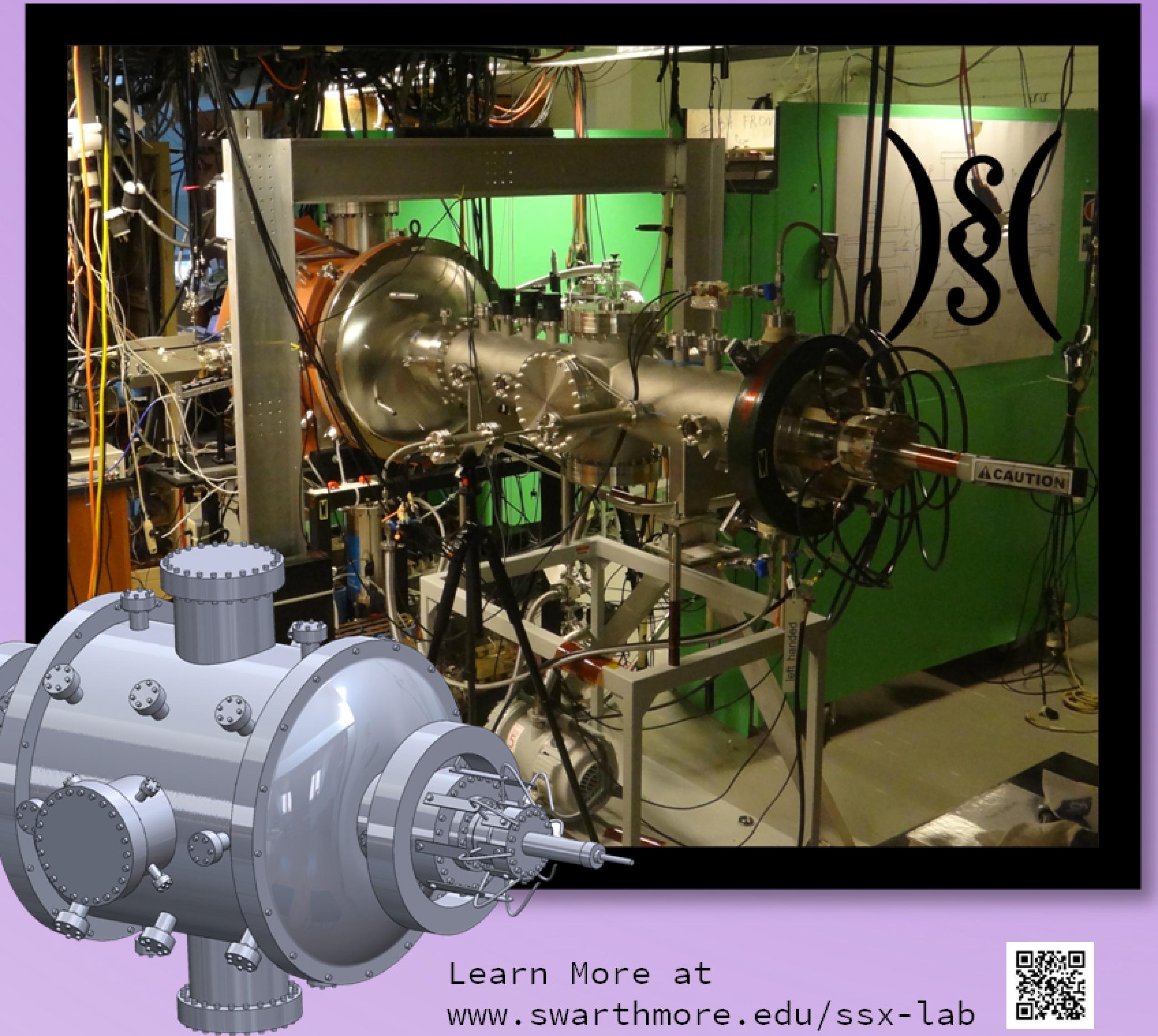


Spheromak Formation



Schaffner PPCF 2014, Brown and Schaffner PSST 2014, Brown and Schaffner JPP 2015

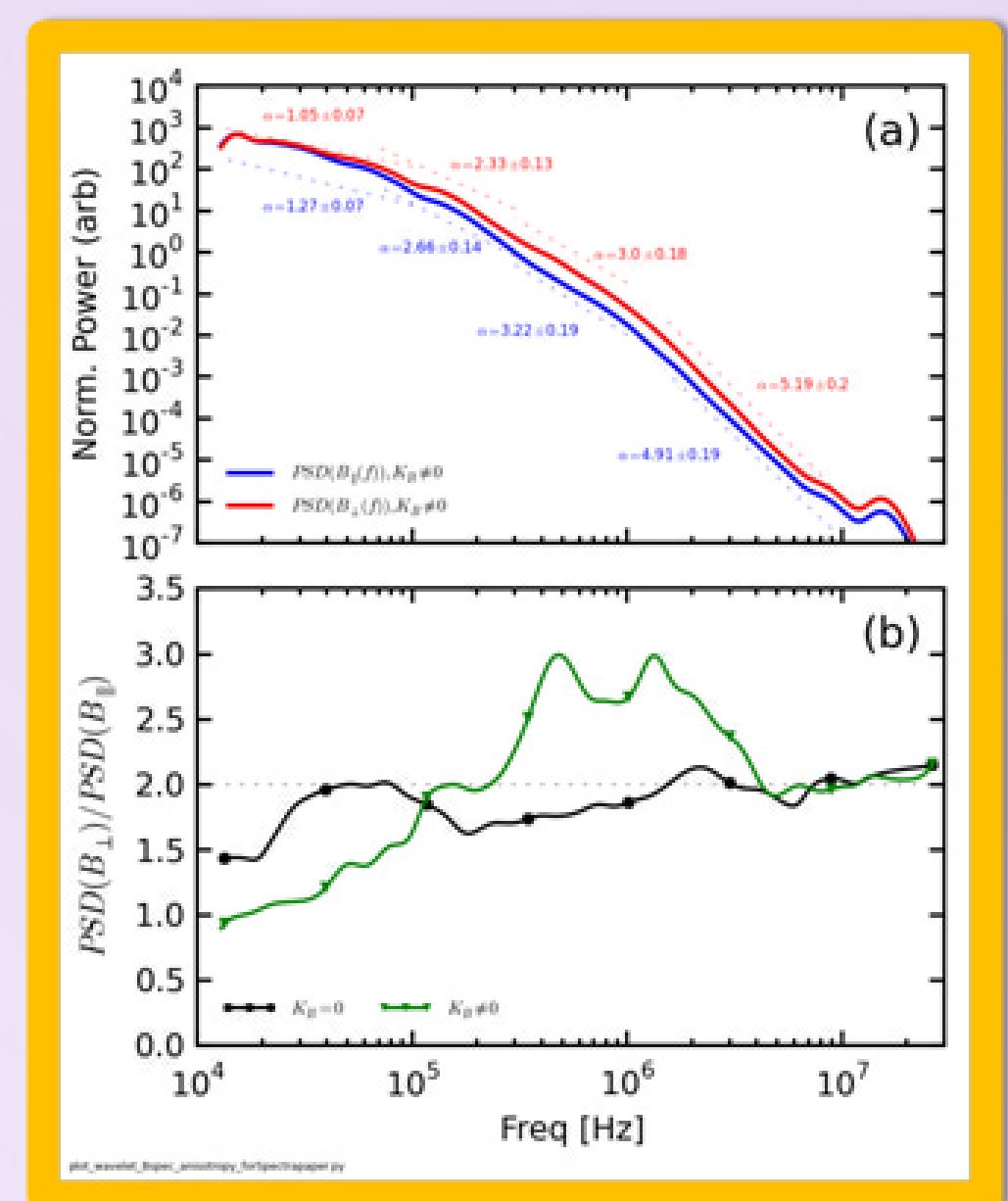
Swarthmore Spheromak Experiment



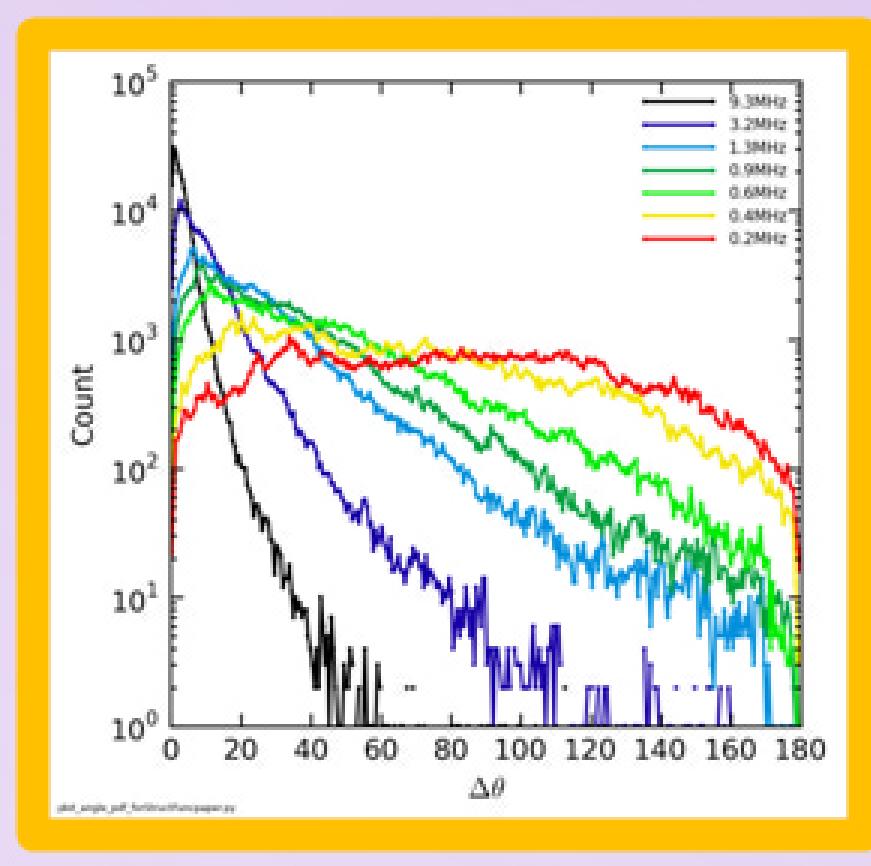
Learn More at
www.swarthmore.edu/ssx-lab



Various analyzes can be used to understand the laboratory plasma turbulence in order to begin making comparisons to heliospheric observations

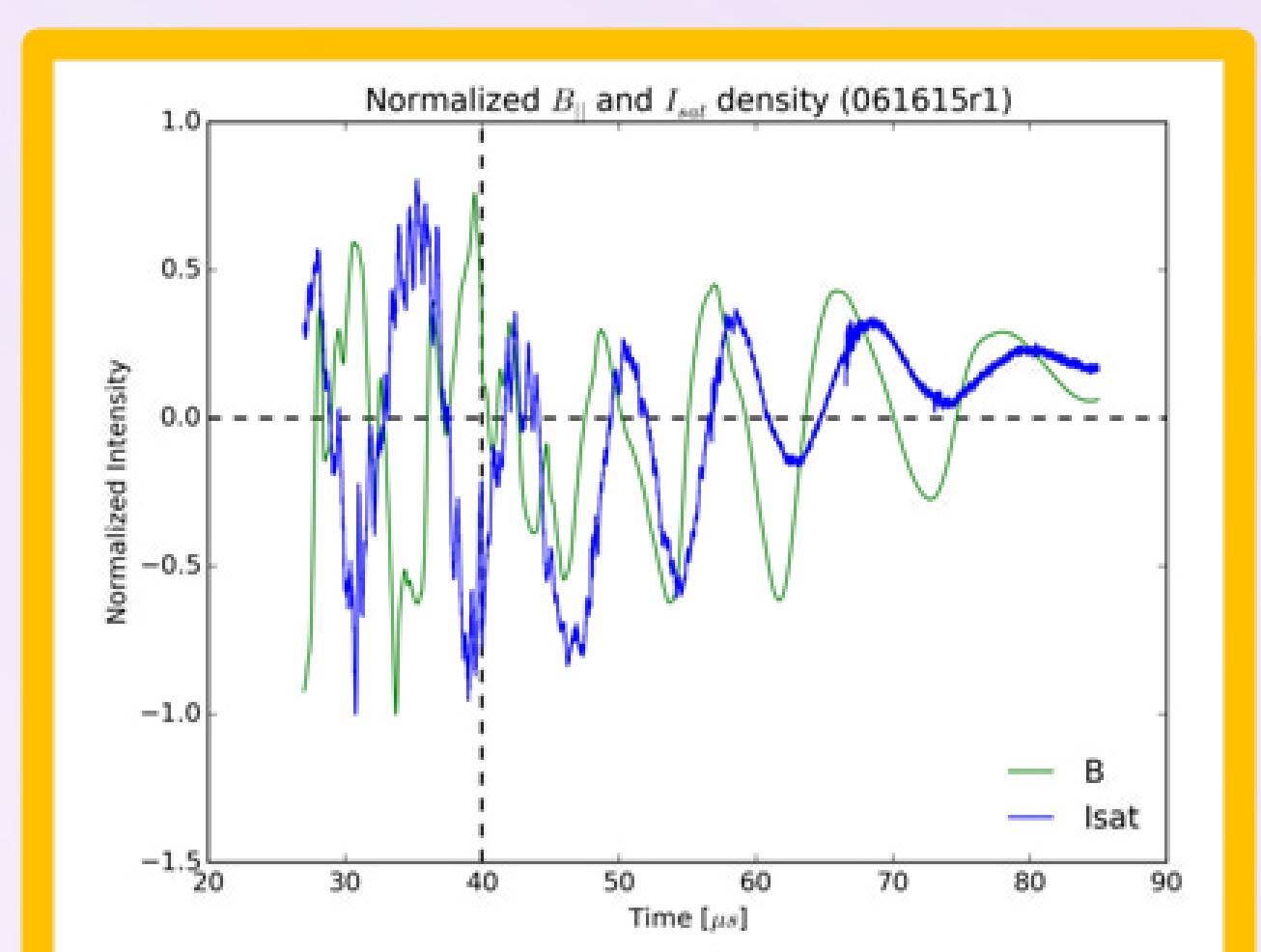
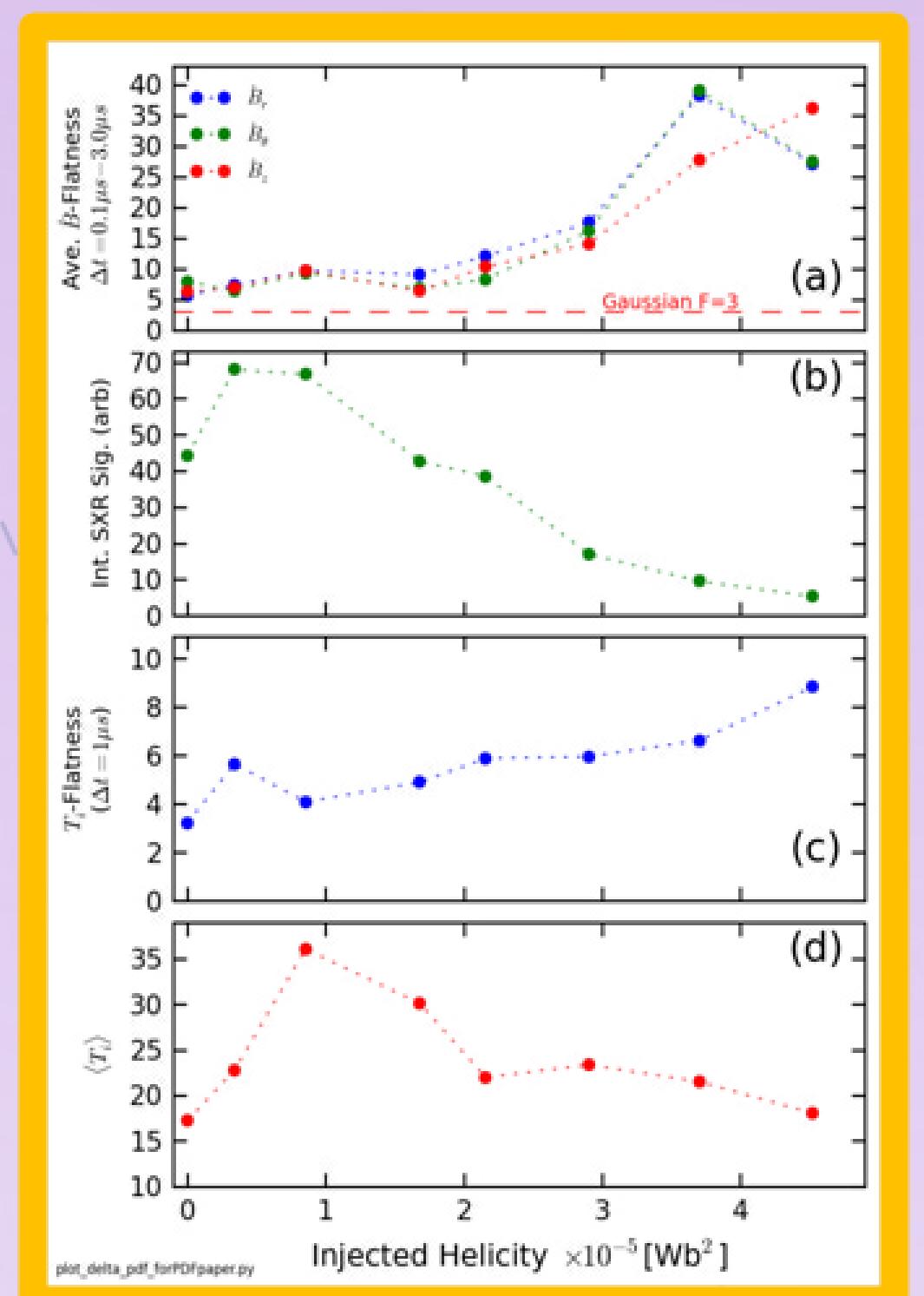


Magnetic compressibility observed at ion inertial length scales
(Schaffner ApJ 2014)

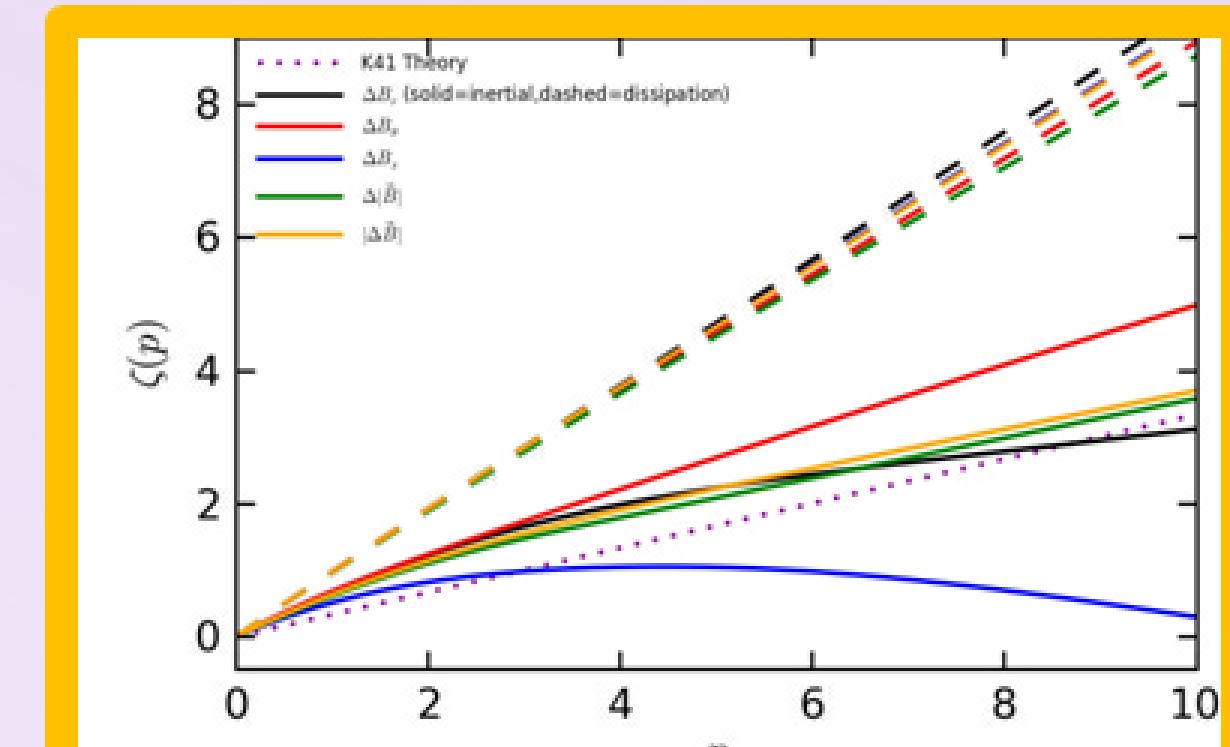


Distribution of magnetic vector angle jumps depends on temporal increment
(Area of Current Research)

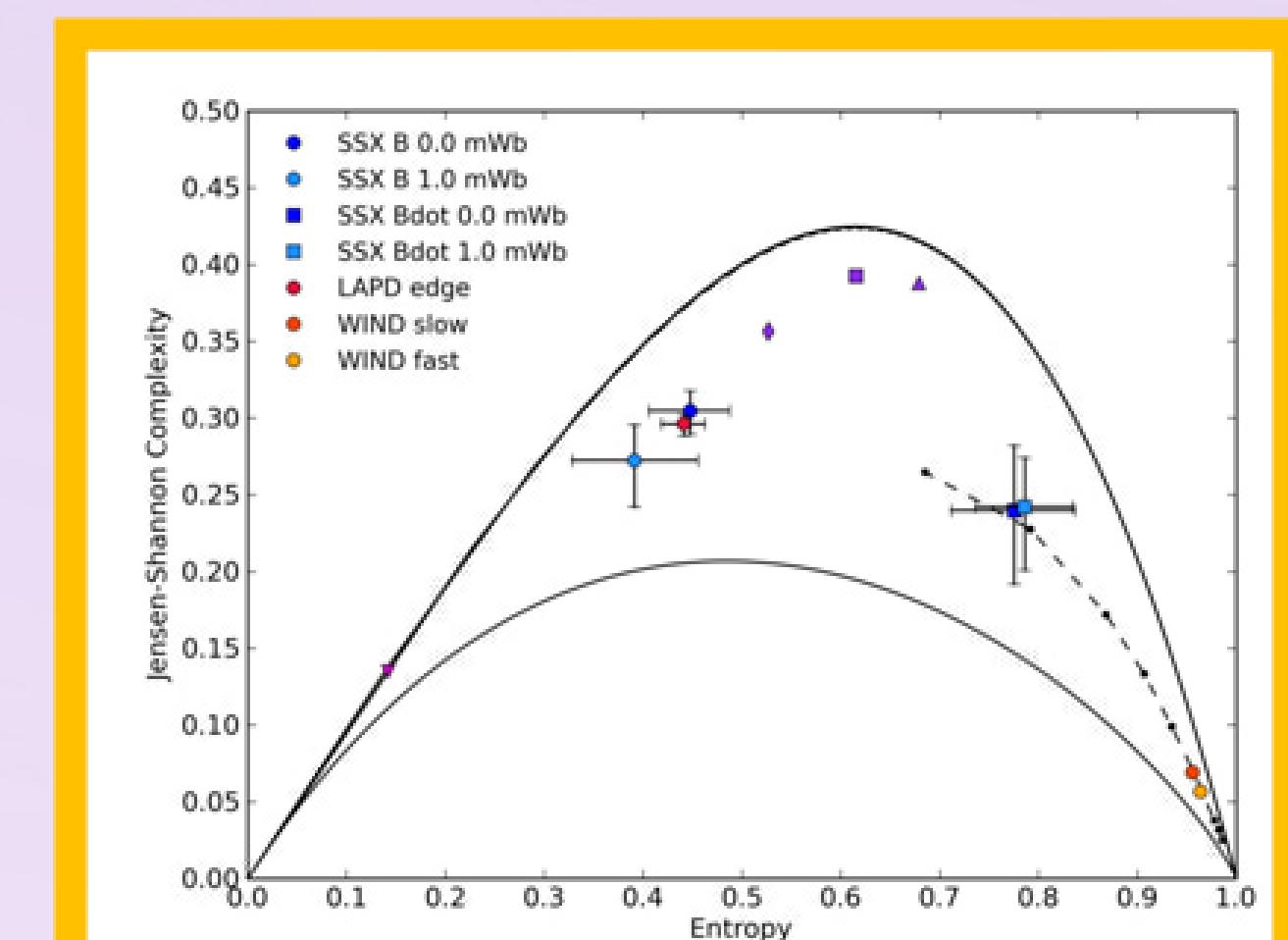
Increased intermittency observed with increasing injected magnetic helicity
(Schaffner PRL 2014)



Correlation of Density and Bz explored to determine mode nature of plasma
(Area of Current Research)



Multifractal scaling observed in inertial range, Monofractal scaling in dissipation range
(Submitted to ApJ 2015)



Laboratory fluctuations exhibit more statistical complexity, less permutation entropy than space plasmas
(Weck PRE 2015)