

# Laser Doppler Anemometry

Introduction to principles and applications



# Characteristics of LDA

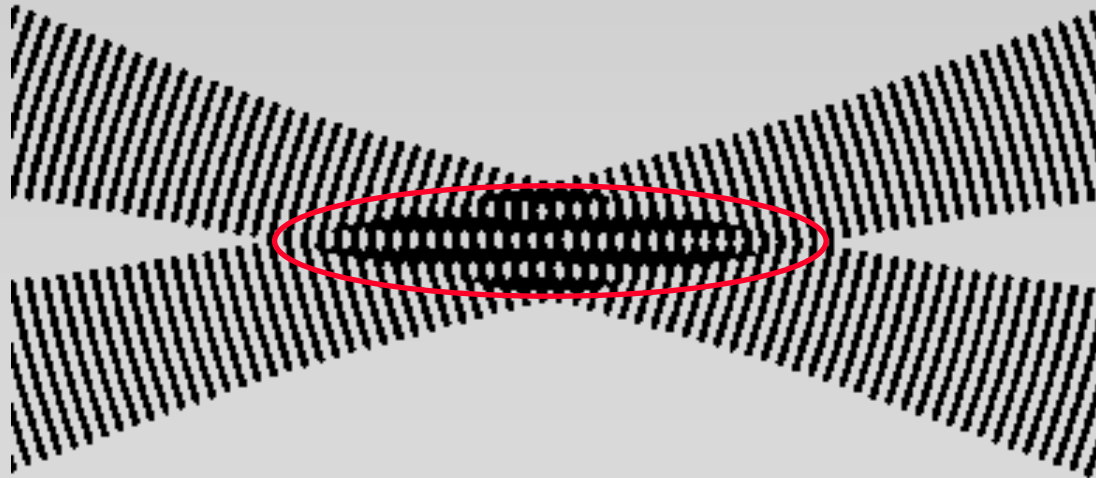
- Invented by Yeh and Cummins in 1964
- Velocity measurements in Fluid Dynamics (gas, liquid)
- Up to 3 velocity components
- Non-intrusive measurements (optical technique)
- Absolute measurement technique (no calibration required)
- Very high accuracy
- Very high spatial resolution due to small measurement volume
- Tracer particles are required

# Applications of LDA

- **Laminar and turbulent flows**
- **Investigations on aerodynamics**
- **Supersonic flows**
- **Turbines, automotive etc.**
- **Liquid flows**
- **Surface velocity and vibration measurement**
- **Hot environments (Flames, Plasma etc.)**
- **Velocity of particles**
- **..... etc, etc, etc.**

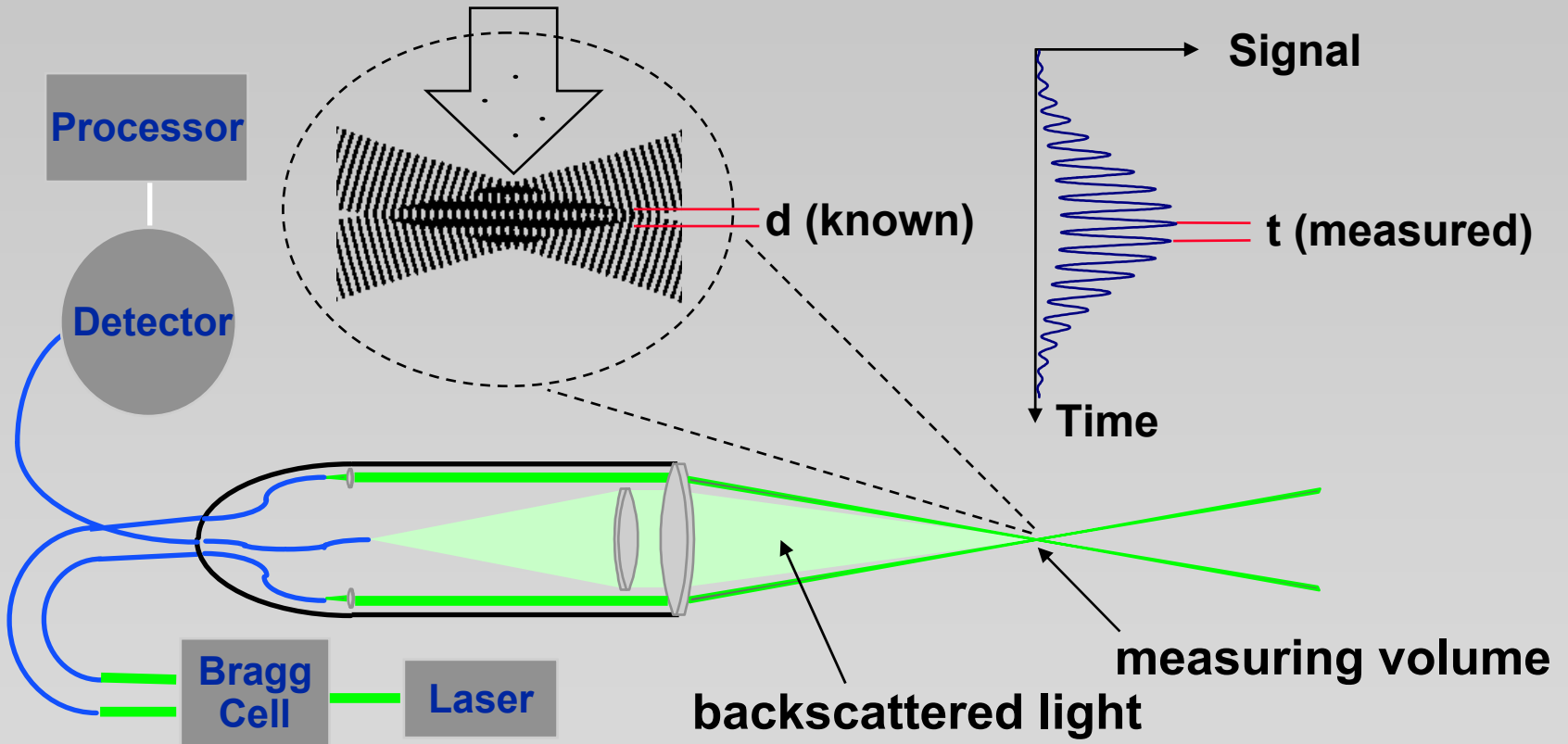
# LDA - Fringe Model

- Focused Laser beams intersect and form the measurement volume
- Plane wave fronts: beam waist in the plane of intersection
- Interference in the plane of intersection
- Pattern of bright and dark stripes/planes



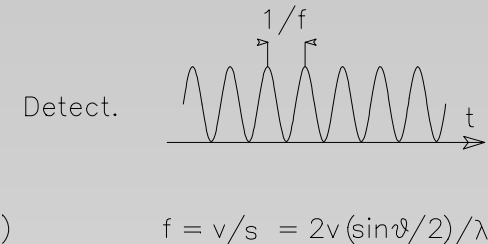
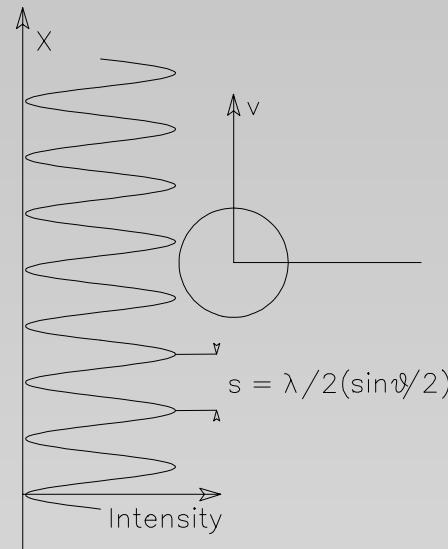
# Velocity = distance/time

Flow with particles

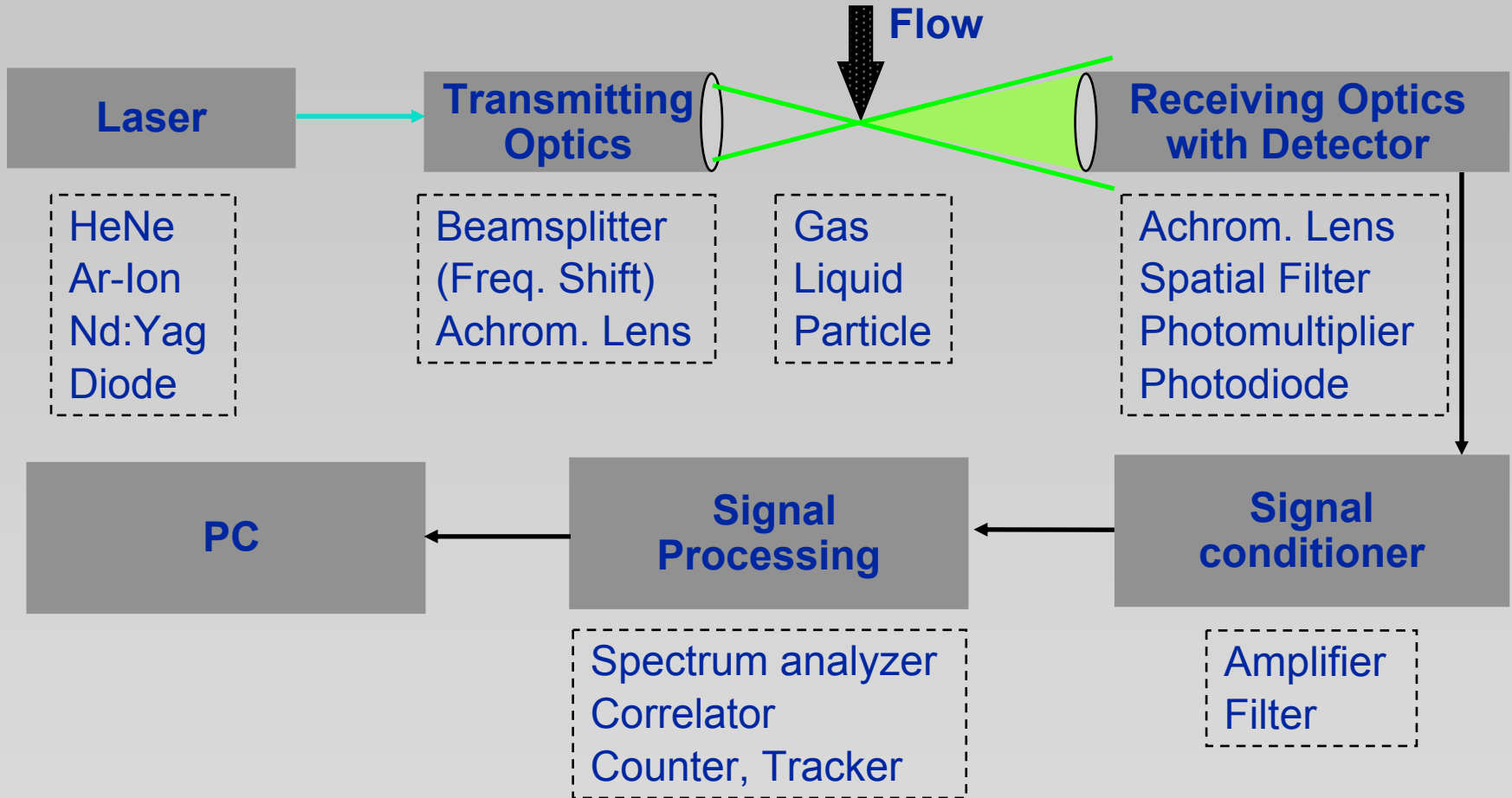


# LDA - Fringe Model

- The fringe model assumes as a way of visualization that the two intersecting beams form a fringe pattern of high and low intensity.
- When the particle traverses this fringe pattern the scattered light fluctuates in intensity with a frequency equal to the velocity of the particle divided by the fringe spacing.

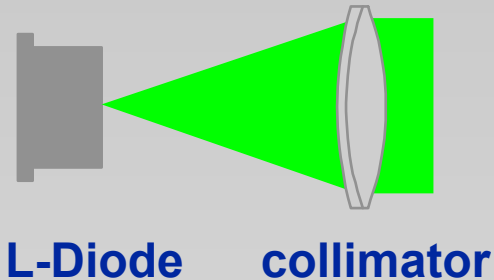
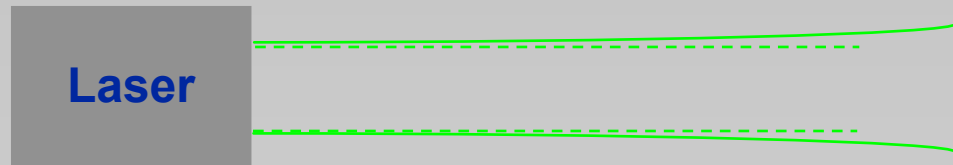


# Principle of LDA

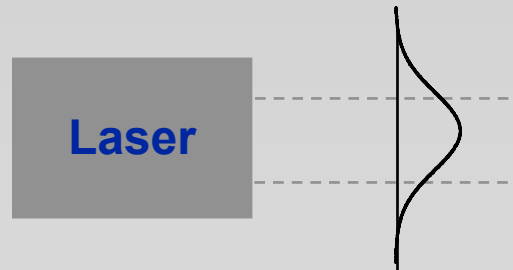


# Laser, Characteristics and Requirements

- Monochrome
- Coherent
- Linearly polarized
- Low divergence (collimator)



- Gaussian intensity distribution





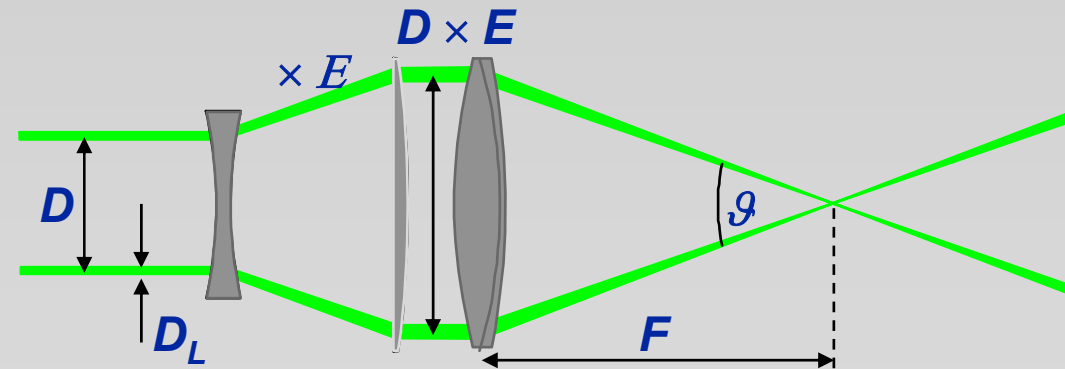
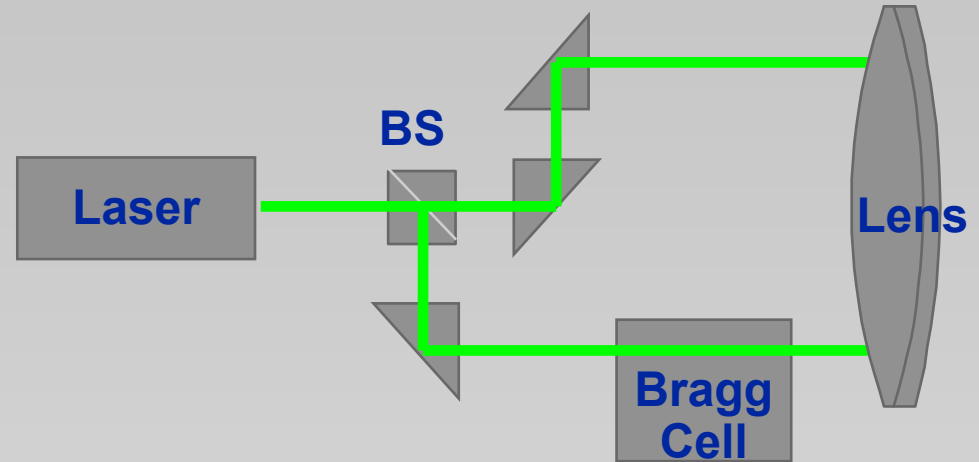
# Transmitting Optics

## Basic modules:

- Beam splitter
- Achromatic lens

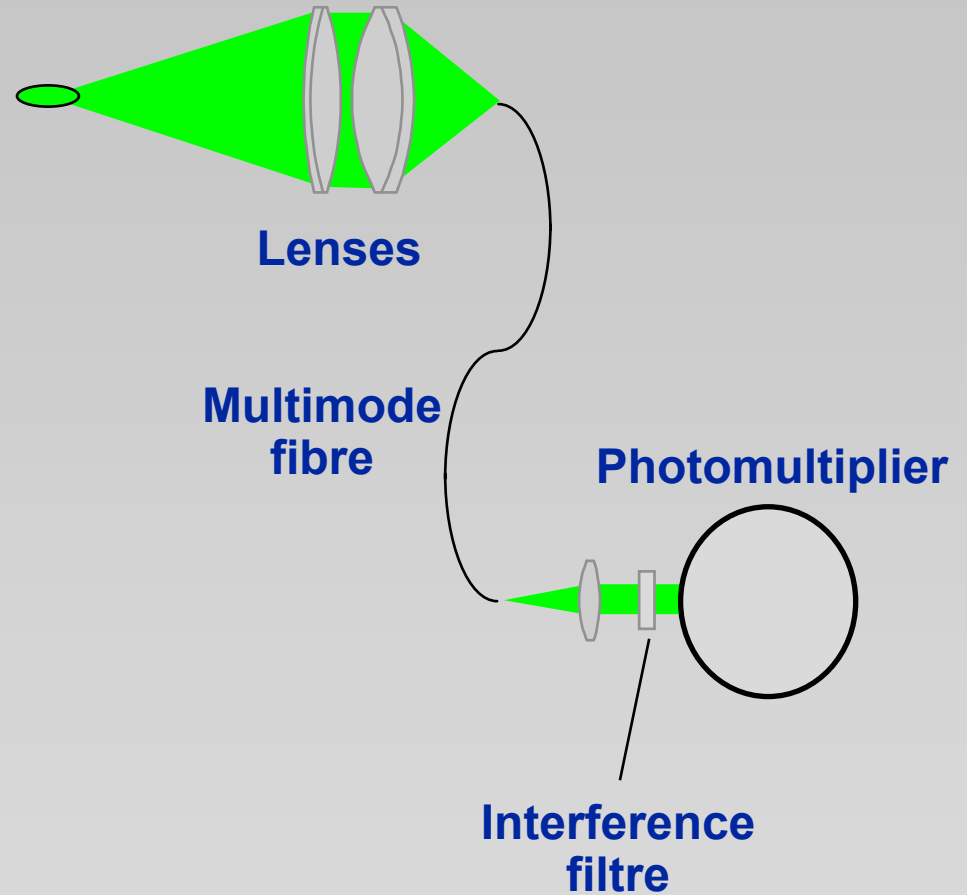
## Options:

- Frequency shift (Bragg cell)
  - low velocities
  - flow direction
- Beam expanders
  - reduce measurement volume
  - increase power density



# Receiving Systems

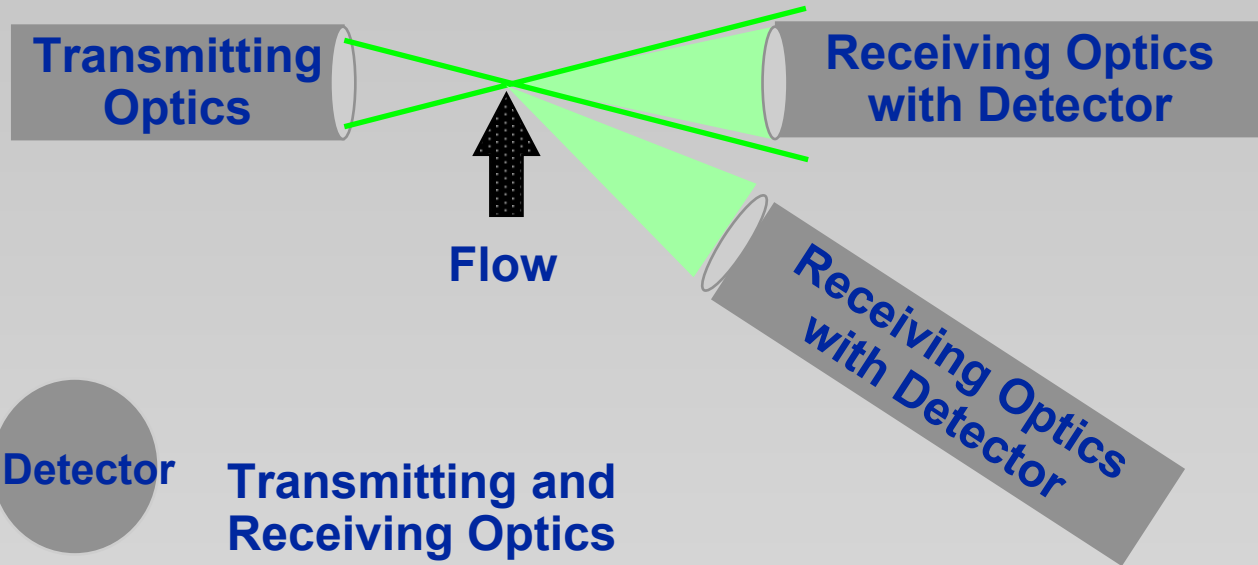
- **Receiving Optics**
  - Receiving optics
  - Multimode fibre acting as spatial filter
  - Interference filter
- **Detector**
  - Photomultiplier
  - Photodiode



# System Configurations

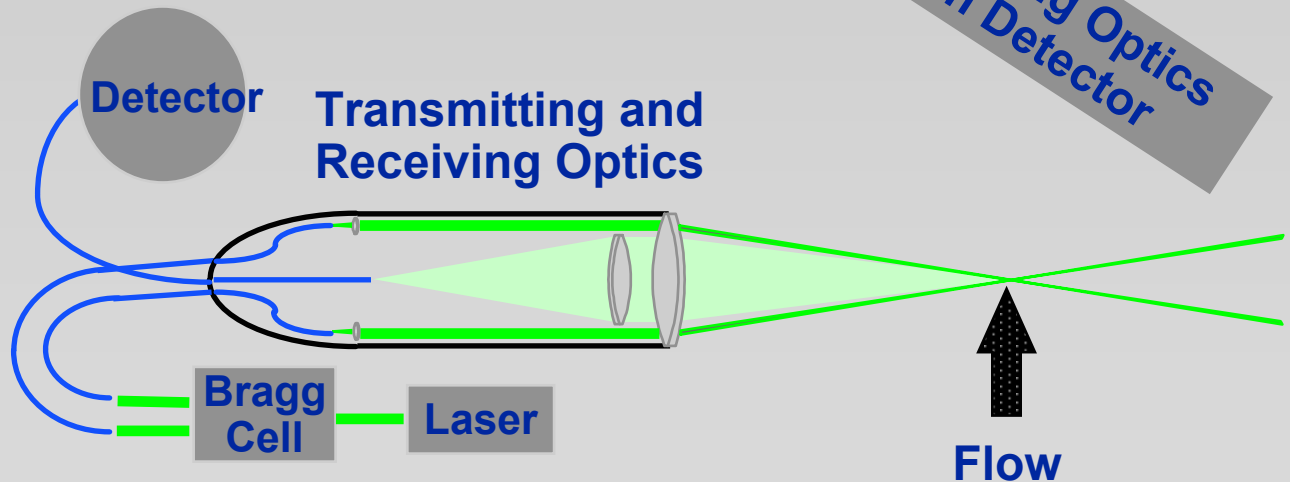
Forward scatter  
and side scatter  
(off-axis)

- Difficult to align,
- vibration sensitive

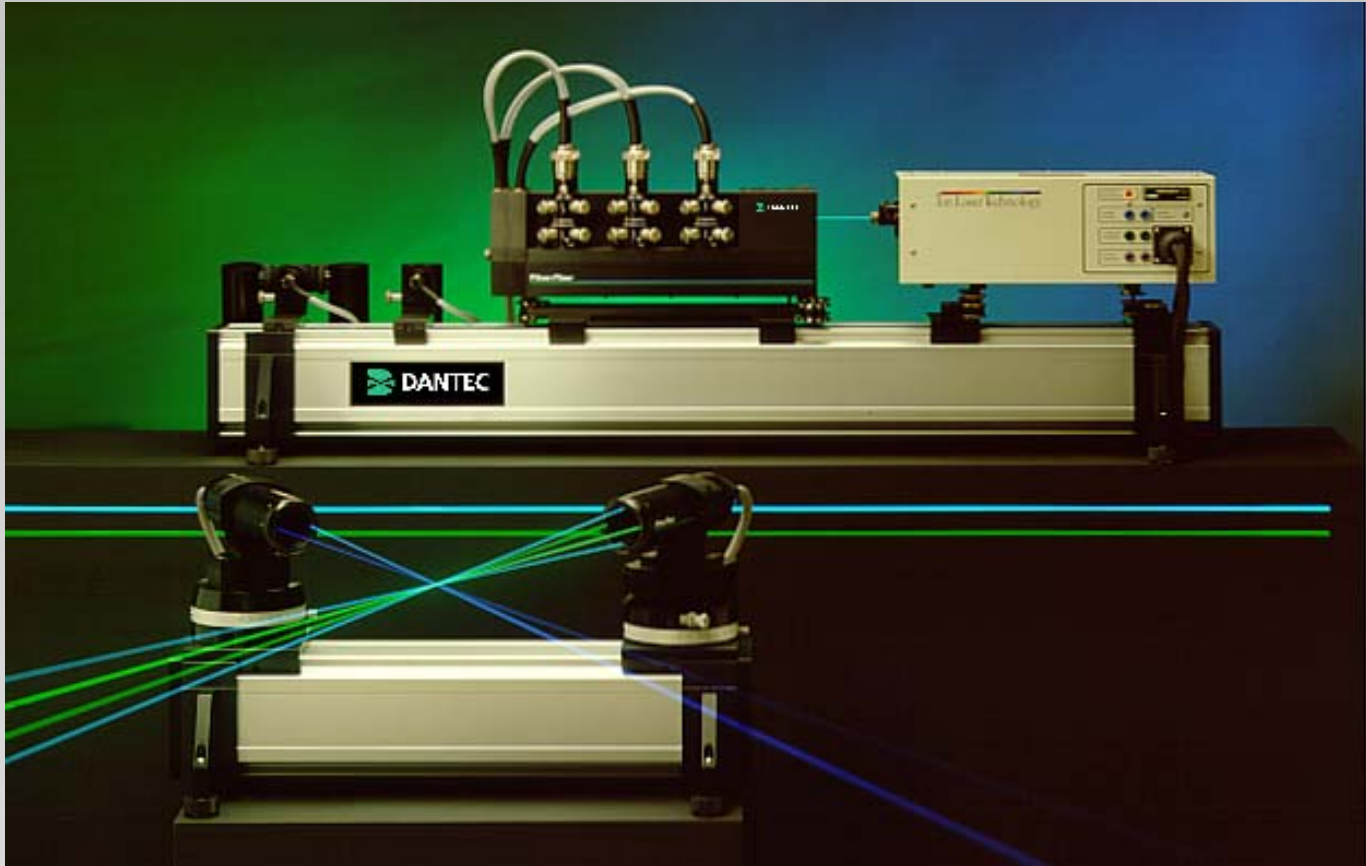


Backscatter

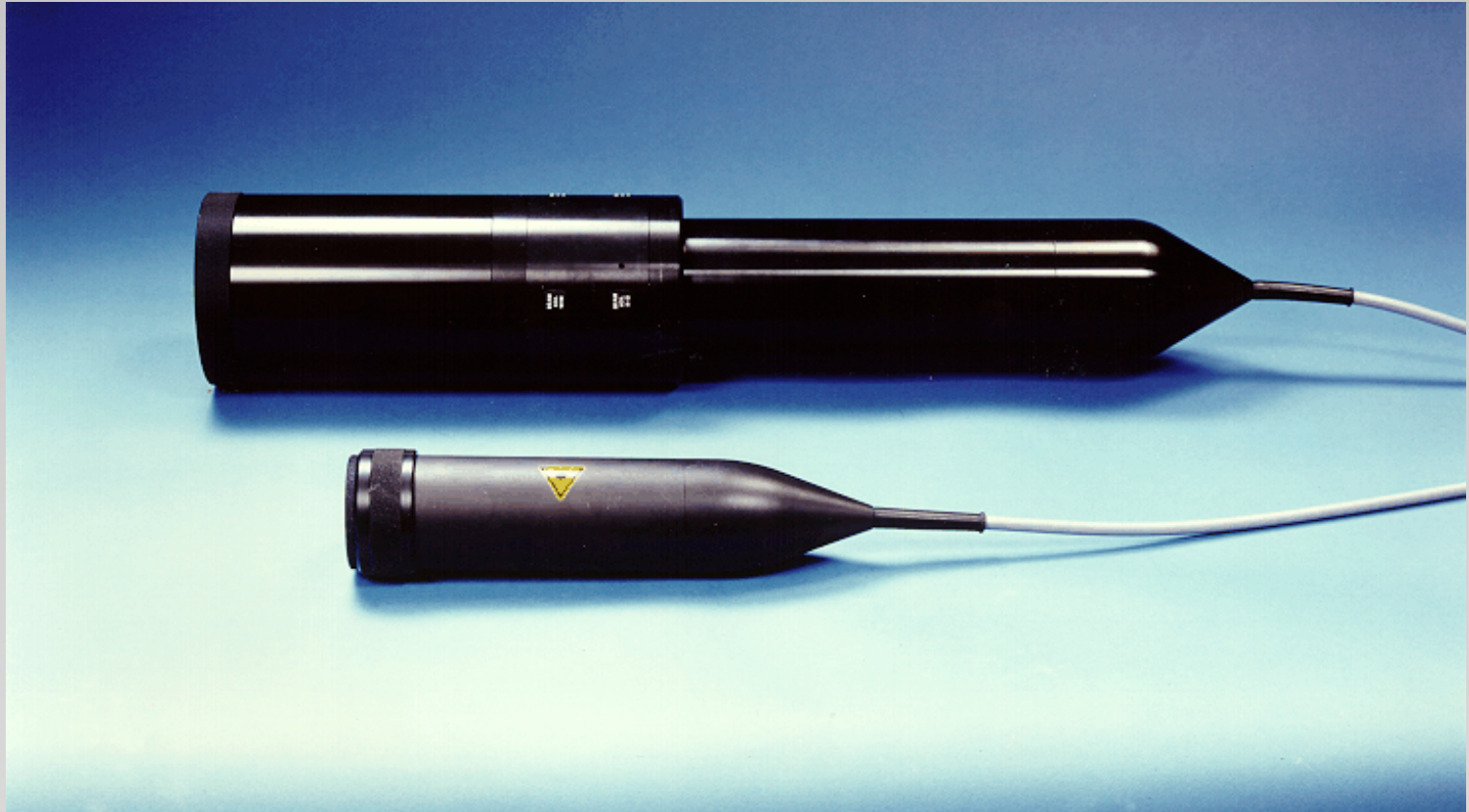
- Easy to align
- User friendly



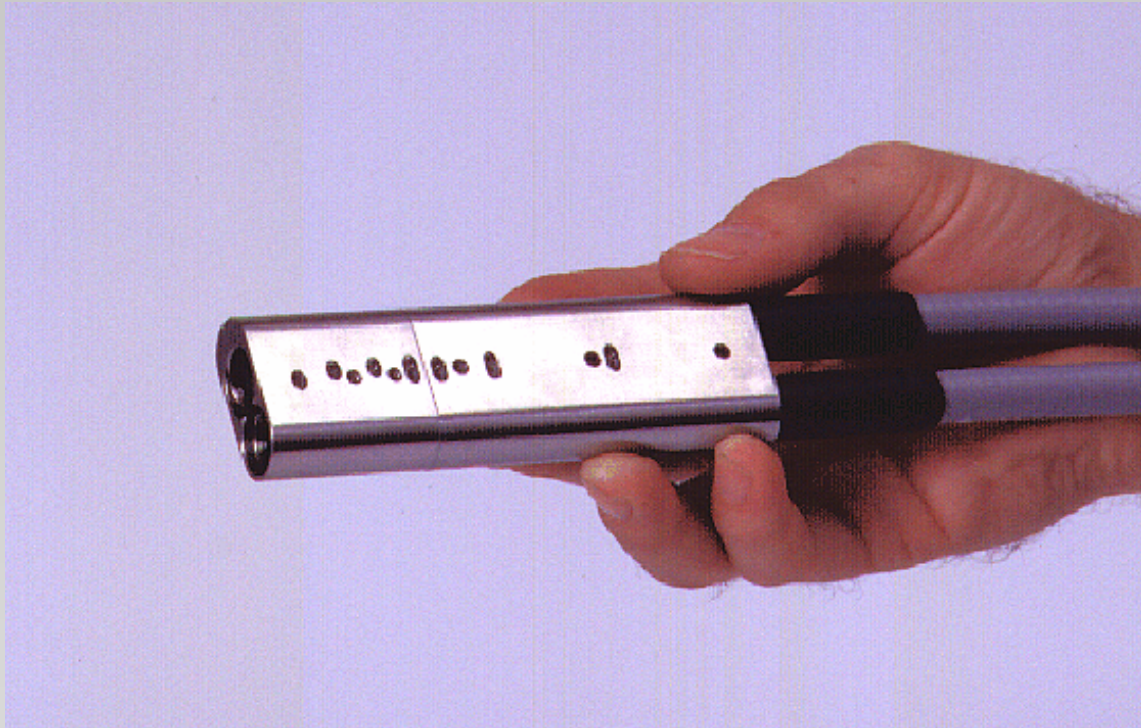
# LDA Fibre Optical System



# 60 mm and 85 mm *FiberFlow* probes



# The small integrated 3D *FiberFlow* probe



# 3-D LDA Applications

- **Measurements of boundary layer separation in wind tunnels**
- **Turbulent mixing and flame investigations in combustors**
- **Studies of boundary layer-wake interactions and instabilities in turbines**
- **Investigations of flow structure, heat transfer, and instabilities in heat exchangers**
- **Studies of convection and forced cooling in nuclear reactor models**
- **Measurements around ship models in towing tanks**

# Seeding: ability to follow flow

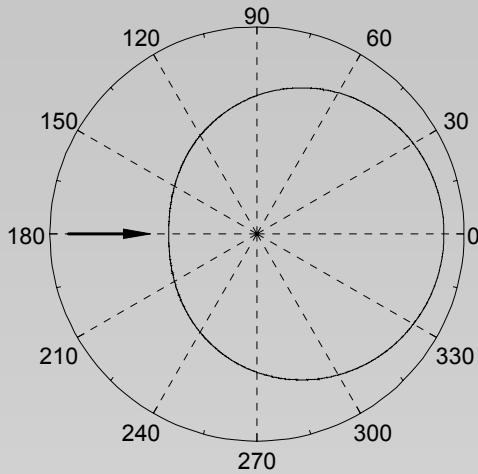
Particle Frequency Response

$$\frac{d}{dt} U_p = -18 \frac{\nu}{d_p^2} \frac{U_p - U_f}{\rho_p / \rho_f}$$

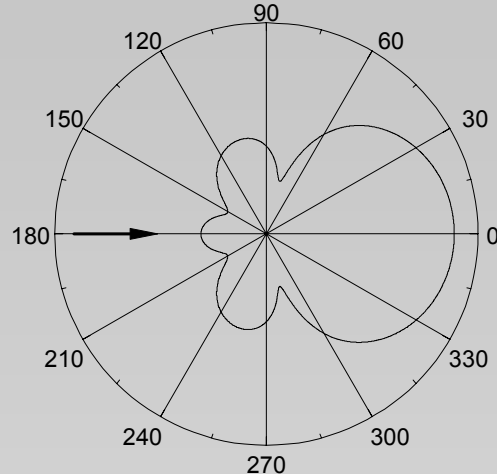
Particle	Fluid	Diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	
		f = 1 kHz	f = 10 kHz
Silicone oil	atmospheric air	2.6	0.8
TiO <sub>2</sub>	atmospheric air	1.3	0.4
MgO	methane-air flame (1800 K)	2.6	0.8
TiO <sub>2</sub>	oxygen plasma (2800 K)	3.2	0.8



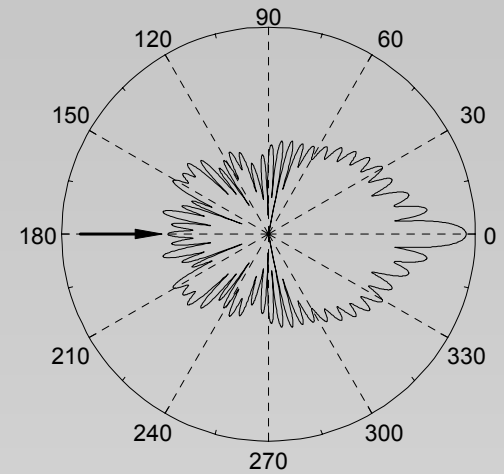
# Seeding: scattered light intensity



$$d_p \approx 0.2\lambda$$



$$d_p \approx 1.0\lambda$$



$$d_p \approx 10\lambda$$

- Polar plot of scattered light intensity versus scattering angle
- The intensity is shown on a logarithmic scale

# Measurement of air flow around a helicopter rotor model in a wind tunnel

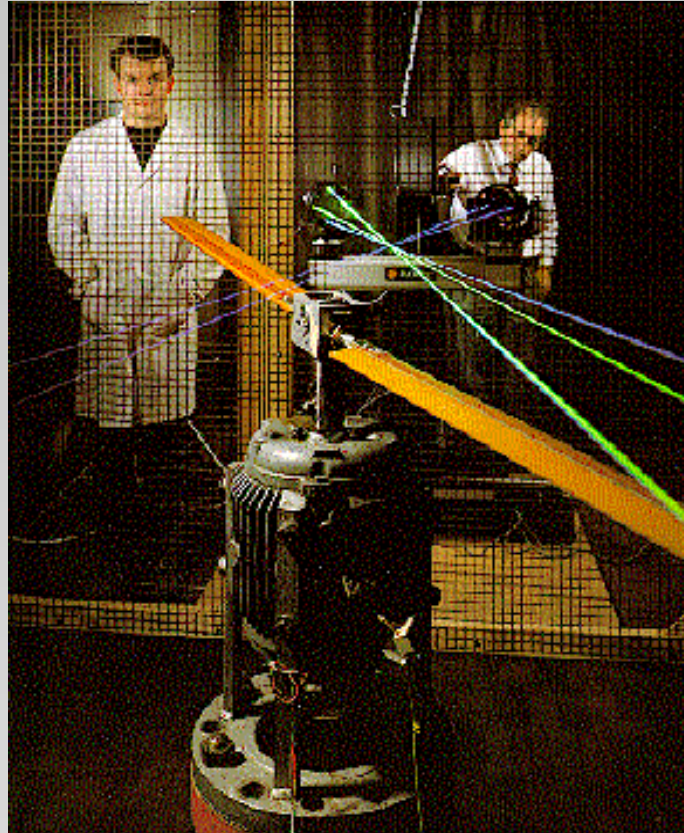


Photo courtesy of University of Bristol, UK

# Measurement of water flow inside a pump model

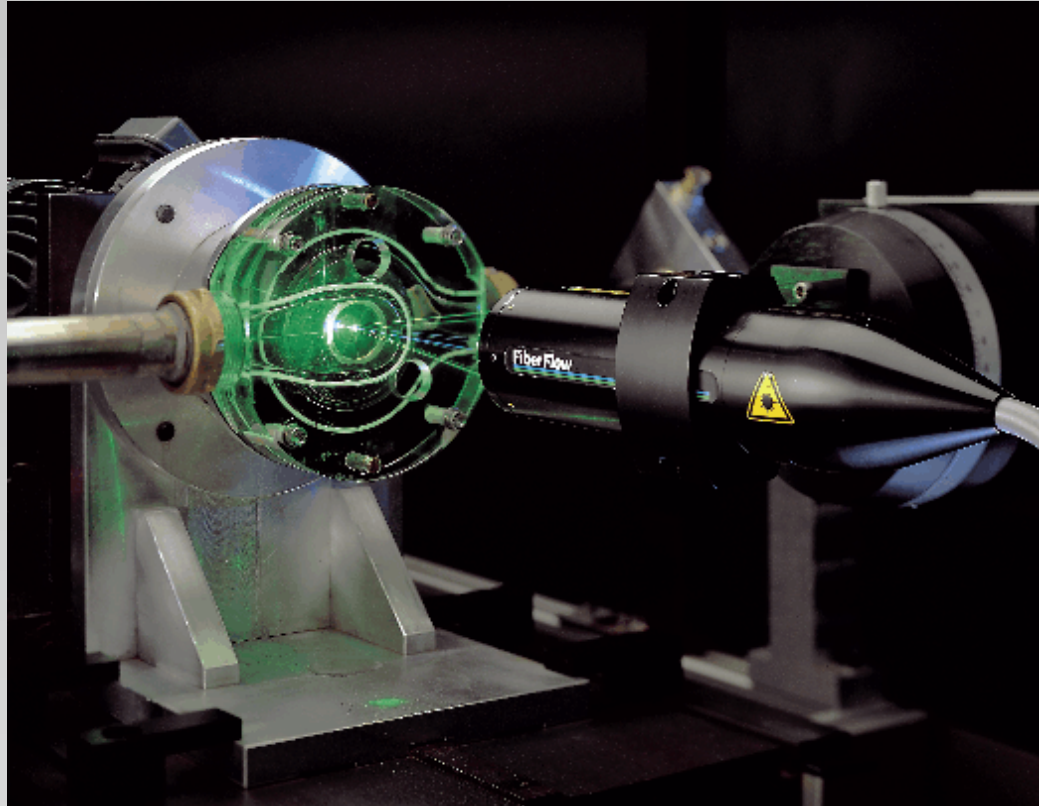
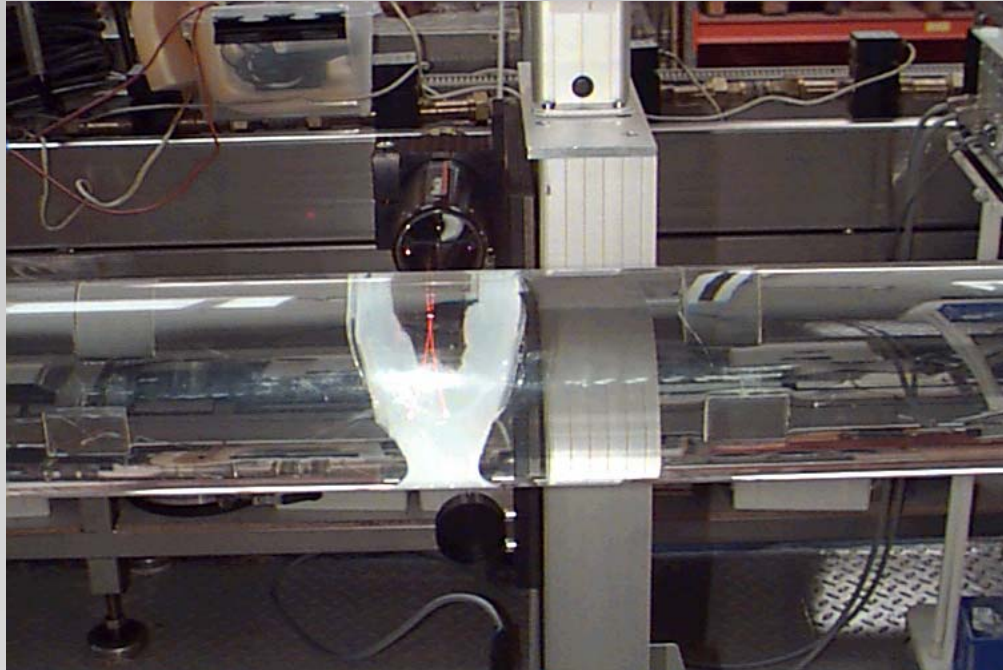
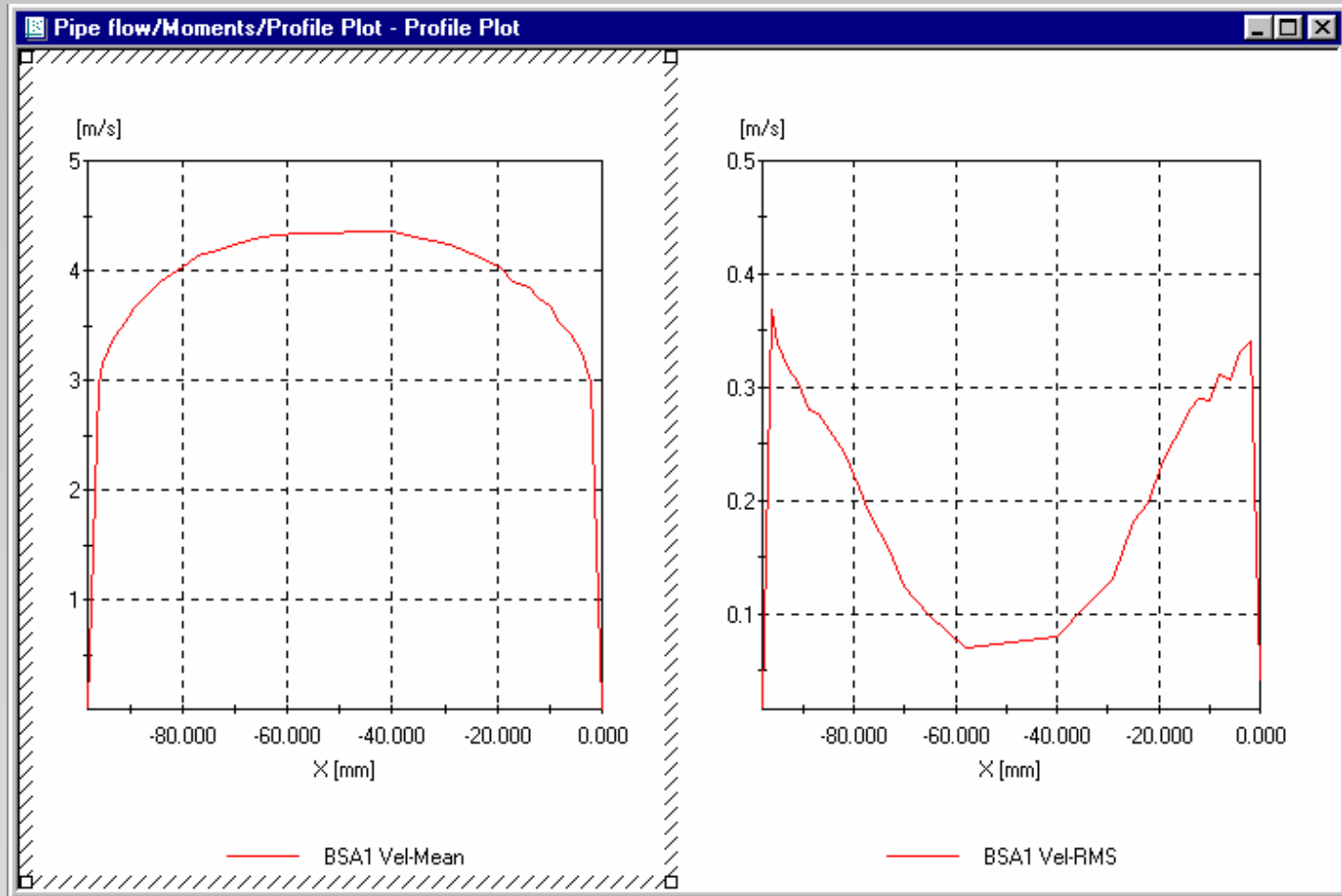


Photo courtesy of Grundfos A/S, DK

# Measurement of velocity profiles in a water pipe



# Velocity profile, fully developed turbulent pipe flow



# Measurement of flow field around a 1:5 scale car model in a wind tunnel

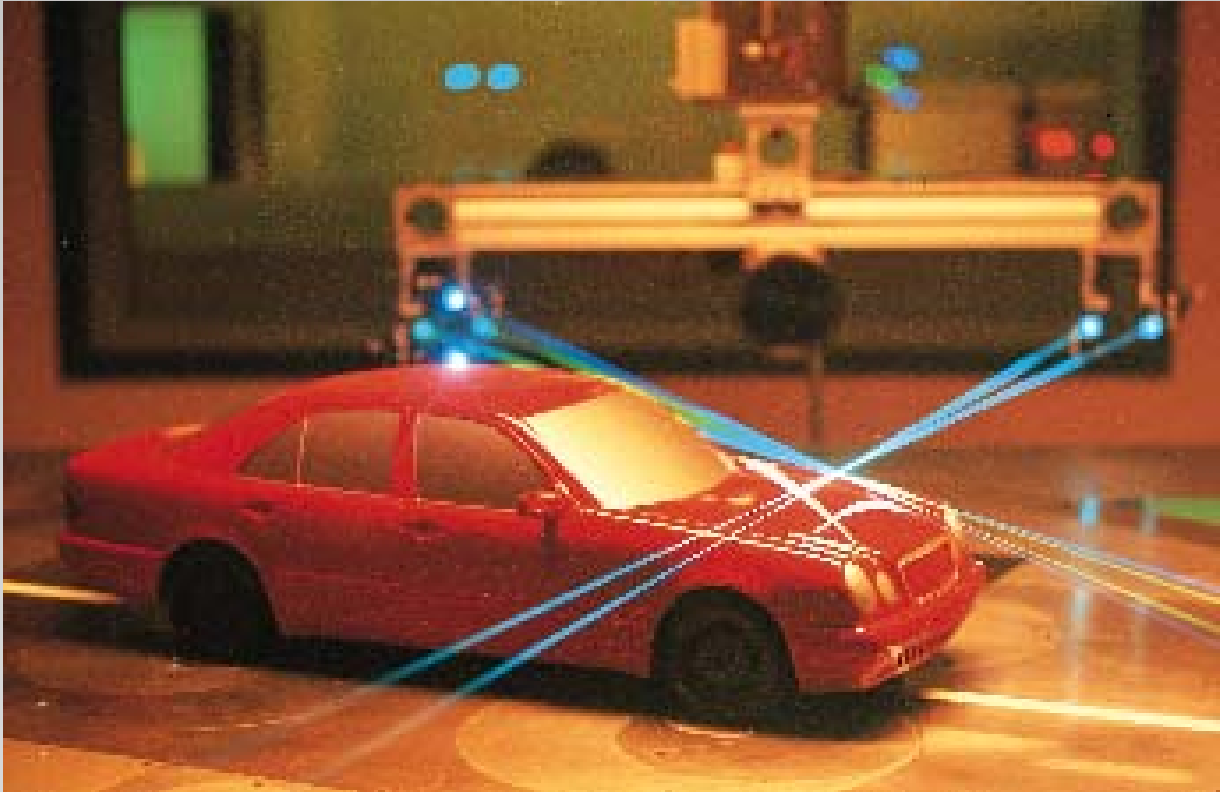


Photo courtesy of Mercedes-Benz, Germany

# Measurement of wake flow around a ship model in a towing tank



Photo courtesy of Marin, the Netherlands

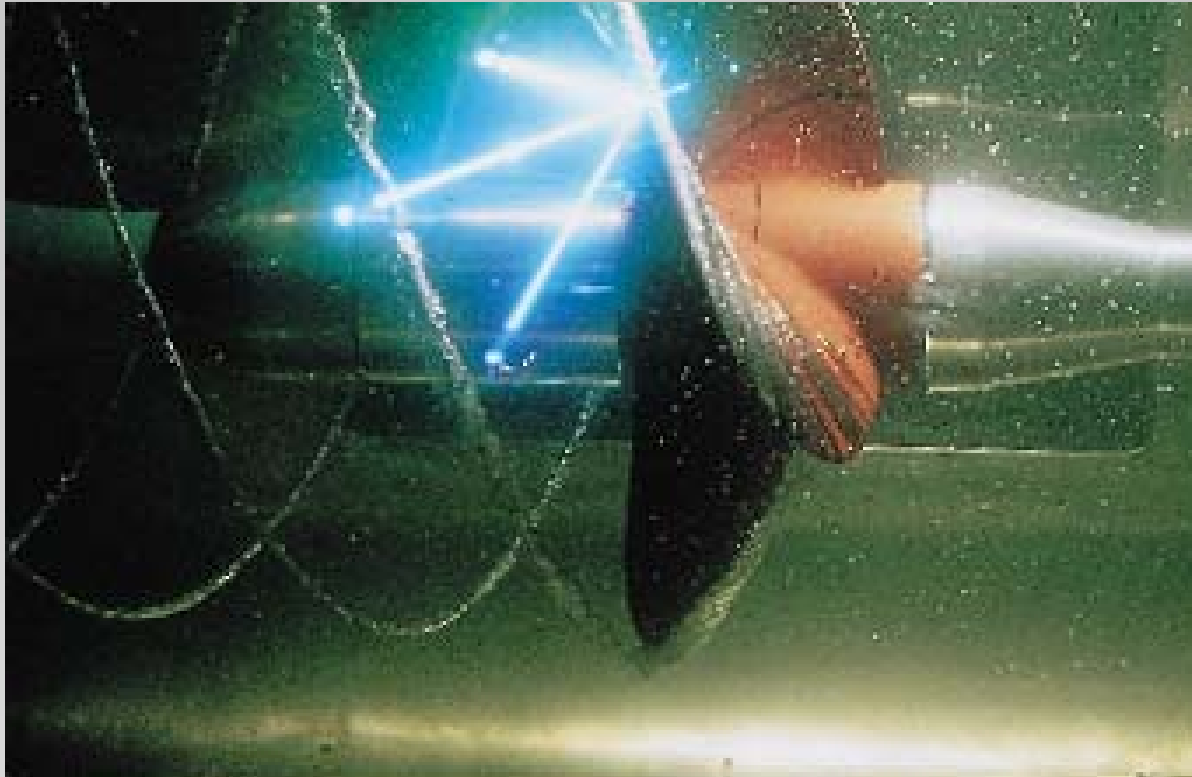
# Measurement of air flow field around a ship model in a wind tunnel



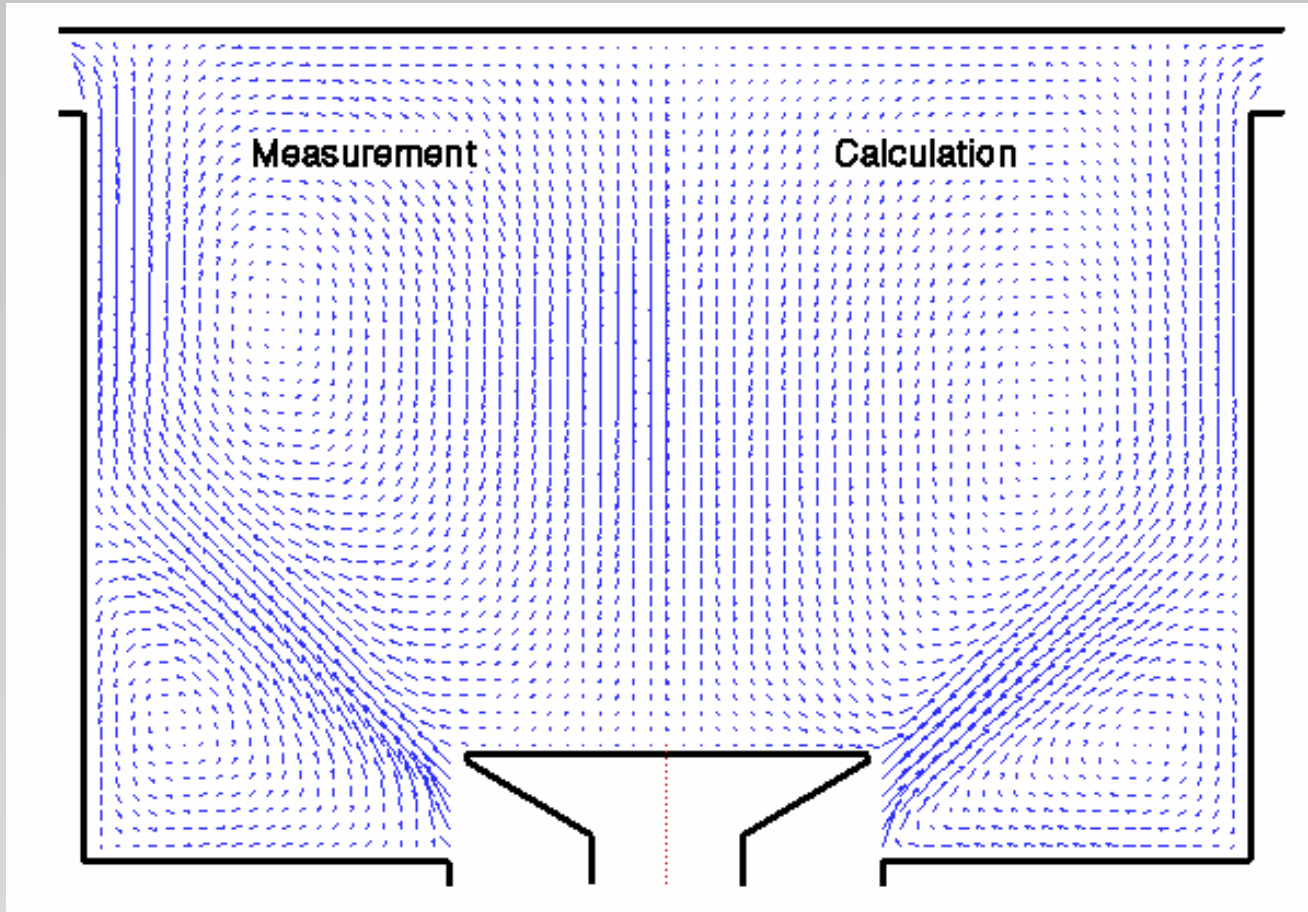
Photo courtesy of University of Bristol, UK



# Measurement of flow around a ship propeller in a cavitation tank



# Comparison of EFD and CFD results



# Hot-Wire Anemometry



- **Purpose:**  
to measure mean and fluctuating variables in fluid flows (velocity, temperature, etc.): mean velocity, turbulence characteristics

# CTA Application

## Flow field over helicopter landing pad

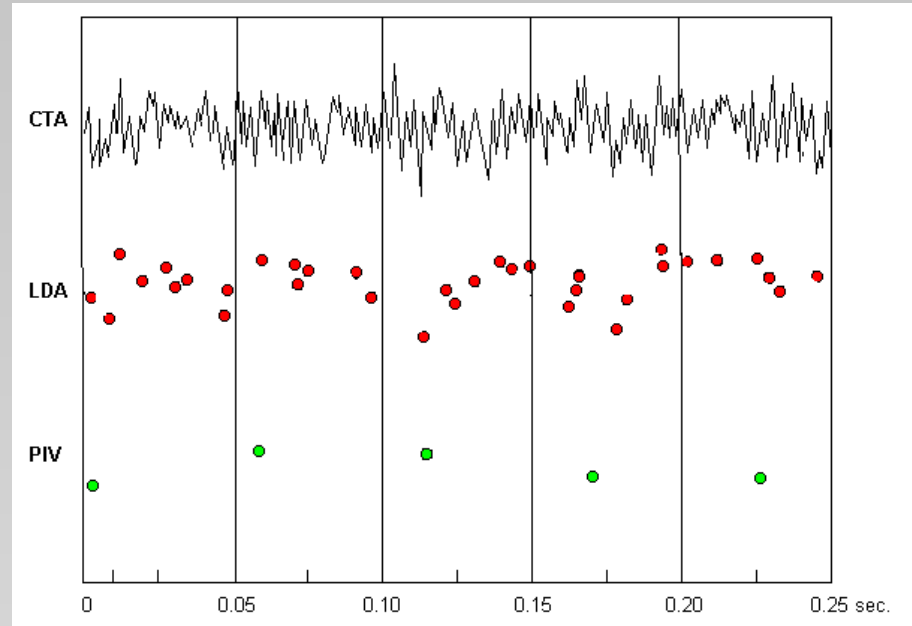


(Danish Maritime Institute, Lyngby Denmark)

# Anemometer signal output

The thermal anemometer provides an analogue output which represents the velocity in a point. A velocity information is thus available anytime.

Note that LDA signals occur at random, while PIV signals are timed with the frame grapping of illuminated particles.

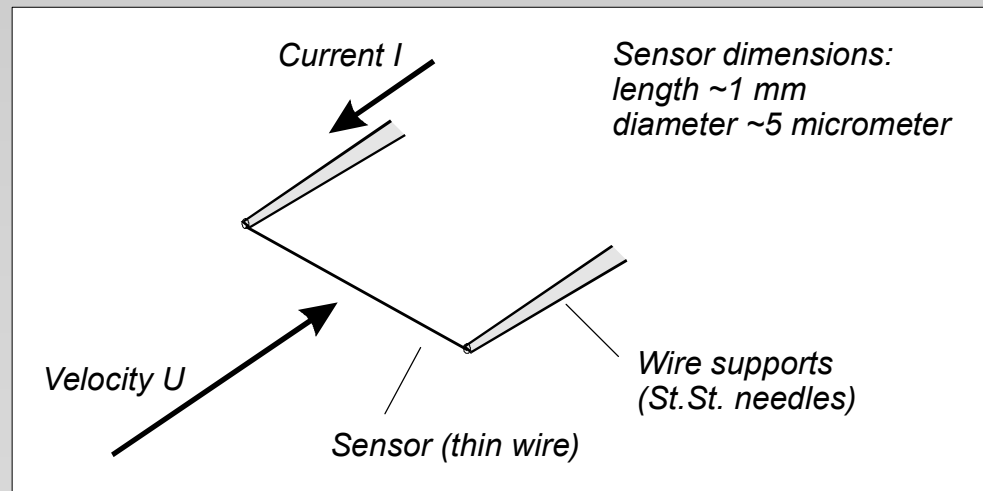


# Principles of operation

- Consider a thin wire mounted to supports and exposed to a velocity  $U$ .

When a current is passed through wire, heat is generated ( $I^2R_w$ ). In equilibrium, this must be balanced by heat loss (primarily convective) to the surroundings.

- If velocity changes, convective heat transfer coefficient will change, wire temperature will change and eventually reach a new equilibrium.



# Governing equation

- **Governing Equation:**  $\frac{dE}{dt} = W - H$

**$E$  = thermal energy stored in wire**

$$E = CwTs$$

**$Cw$  = heat capacity of wire**

**$W$  = power generated by Joule heating**

$$W = I^2 R_w$$

**recall  $R_w = R_w(T_w)$**

**$H$  = heat transferred to surroundings**

# Simplified static analysis I

- For equilibrium conditions the heat storage is zero:

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = 0 \quad \therefore W = H$$

and the Joule heating  $W$  equals the convective heat transfer  $H$

- Assumptions
  - Radiation losses small
  - Conduction to wire supports small
  - $T_w$  uniform over length of sensor
  - Velocity impinges normally on wire, and is uniform over its entire length, and also small compared to sonic speed.
  - Fluid temperature and density constant



# Simplified static analysis II

Static heat transfer:

$$W = H \Rightarrow I^2 R_w = hA(T_w - T_a) \Rightarrow I^2 R_w = Nu k_f / d A (T_w - T_a)$$

$h$  = film coefficient of heat transfer

$A$  = heat transfer area

$d$  = wire diameter

$k_f$  = heat conductivity of fluid

$Nu$  = dimensionless heat transfer coefficient

Forced convection regime, i.e.  $Re > Gr^{1/3}$  (0.02 in air) and  $Re < 140 \Rightarrow$

$$Nu = A_1 + B_1 \cdot Re^n = A_2 + B_2 \cdot U^n$$

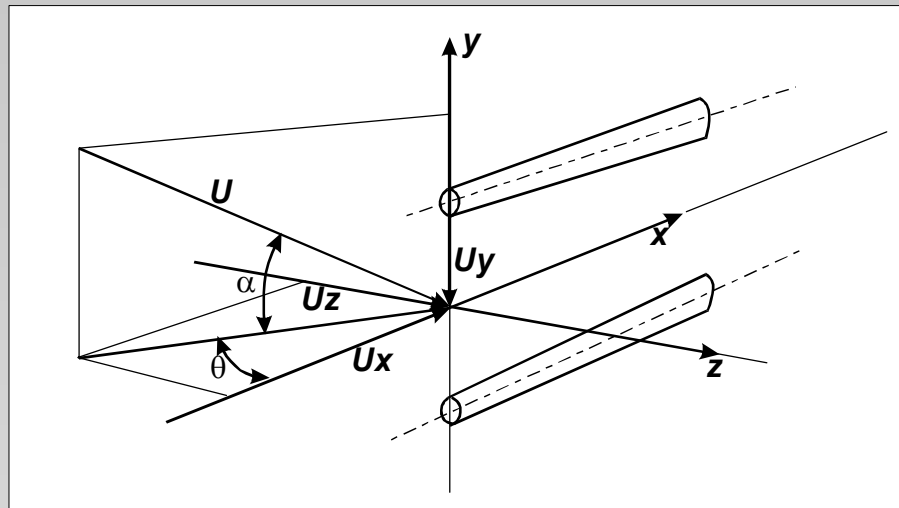
$$I^2 R_w^2 = E^2 = (T_w - T_a)(A + B \cdot U^n) \quad \text{“King’s law”}$$

The voltage drop is used as a measure of velocity  $\Rightarrow$  data acquisition, processing

**A, B, n: BY CALIBRATION**

# Directional response

## Probe coordinate system



Velocity vector  $U$  is decomposed into normal  $U_x$ , tangential  $U_y$  and binormal  $U_z$  components.

# Probe types I

- **Miniature Wire Probes**

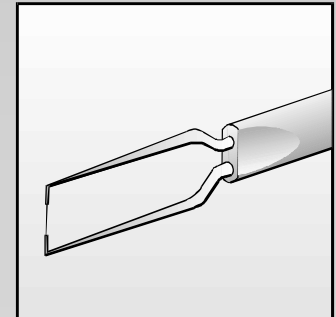
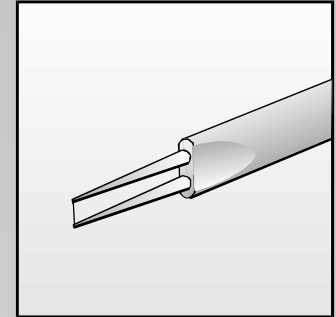
Platinum-plated tungsten,  
5  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter, 1.2 mm length

- **Gold-Plated Probes**

3 mm total wire length,  
1.25 mm active sensor  
copper ends, gold-plated

**Advantages:**

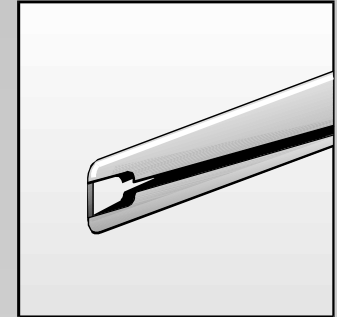
- accurately defined sensing length
- reduced heat dissipation by the prongs
- more uniform temperature distribution along wire
- less probe interference to the flow field



# Probe types II

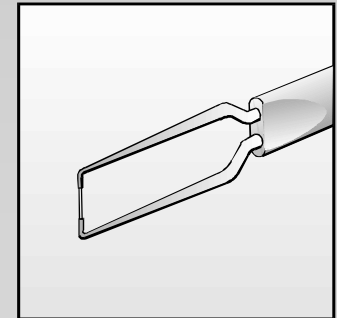
- **Film Probes**

Thin metal film (nickel) deposited on quartz body. Thin quartz layer protects metal film against corrosion, wear, physical damage, electrical action



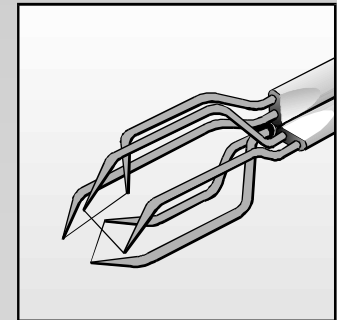
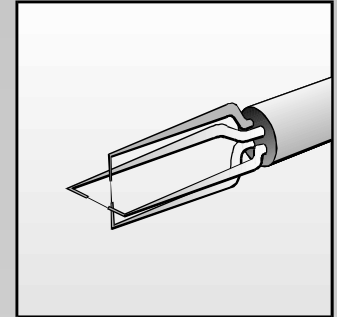
- **Fiber-Film Probes**

“Hybrid” - film deposited on a thin wire-like quartz rod (fiber) “split fiber-film probes.”



# Probe types III

- **X-probes for 2D flows**  
2 sensors perpendicular to each other.  
Measures within  $\pm 45^\circ$ .
- **Split-fiber probes for 2D flows**  
2 film sensors opposite each other on a quartz cylinder. Measures within  $\pm 90^\circ$ .
- **Tri-axial probes for 3D flows**  
3 sensors in an orthogonal system. Measures within  $70^\circ$  cone.



# Constant Temperature Anemometer CTA

- **Principle:**

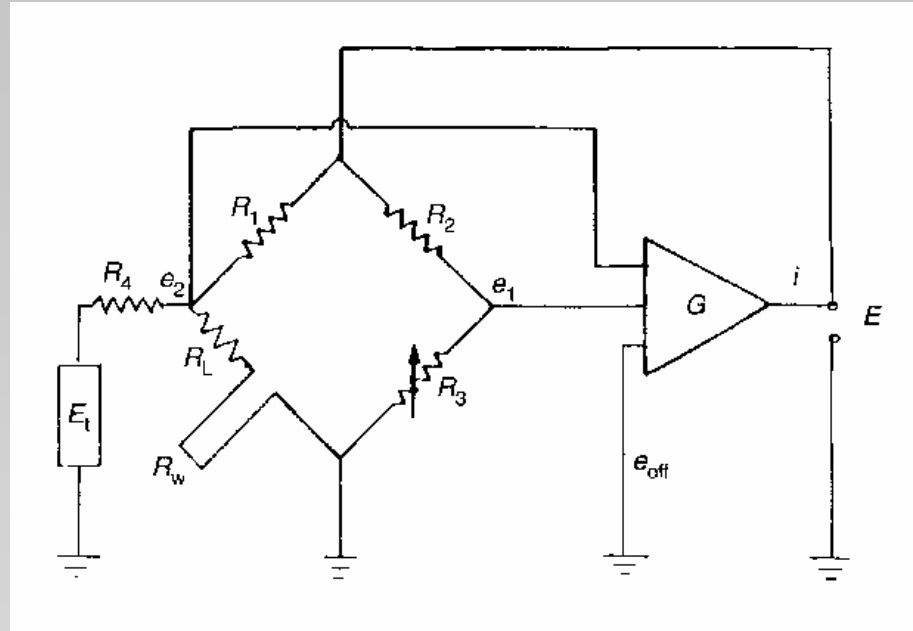
Sensor resistance is kept constant by servo amplifier

- **Advantages:**

- Easy to use
- High frequency response
- Low noise
- Accepted standard

- **Disadvantages:**

- More complex circuit



# Velocity calibration (Static cal.)

- Despite extensive work, no universal expression to describe heat transfer from hot wires and films exist.
- For all actual measurements, direct calibration of the anemometer is necessary.

## Dynamic calibration

- To calibrate the internal dynamics of the instrumentation (electronics etc.)

# Problem Sources

## Temperature Variations

- Fluctuating fluid temperature

— Heat transfer from the probe is proportional to the temperature difference between fluid and sensor.

$$E^2 = (T_w - T_a)(A + B \cdot U^n)$$

As  $T_a$  varies:

- heat transfer changes
- fluid properties change

TO BE HANDLED