Investigating the properties of a rubidium plasma channel via Schlieren imaging and machine learning methods

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Outline

1. Introduction
2. Obtaining the plasma parameters
3. Results
   - Correlation between the plasma parameters
   - Predictions versus simulated signals
   - Error estimates
   - Robustness of the models
4. Summary and Outlook
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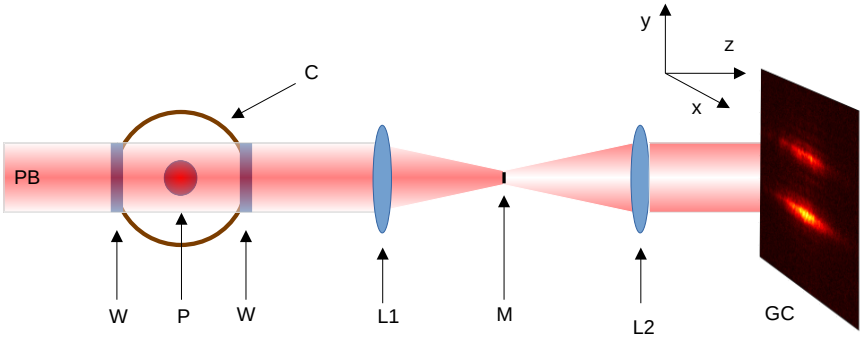
- **Experiment motivation:** determine plasma parameters via Schlieren imaging
- **Our motivation:** determine plasma parameters from Schlieren signals with Machine Learning (ML) methods.

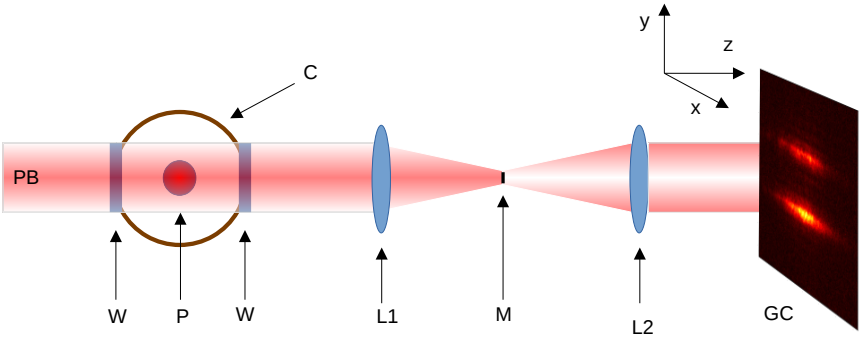
Schlieren-imaging: sensitive for small variations of index of refraction.

- **Without plasma:** mask filters the probe beam completely.



Schlieren-imaging: sensitive for small variations of index of refraction.

- **Without plasma:** mask filters the probe beam completely.
- **Plasma created:** high frequency components pass through the mask.



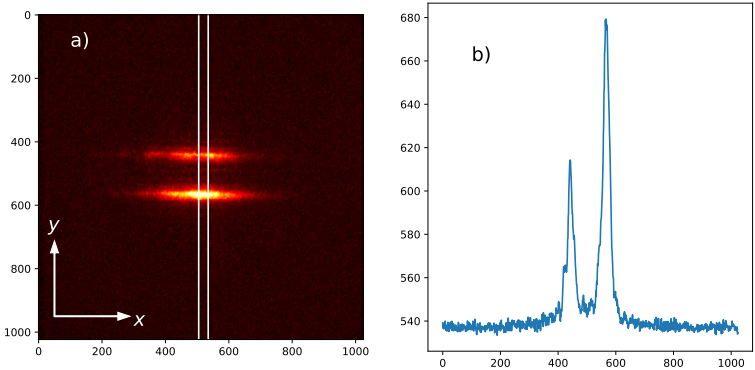


FIGURE: a) Schlieren image on the gated camera. Lines in the middle mark the region of interest (ROI) from which we calculate the lineout around the probe beam center. b) Lineout taken from the Schlieren image ROI by averaging along x.

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- Changes of refractive index and probe beam absorption can be precisely determined [Siddons et al.(2008)Siddons, Adams, Ge, and Hughes, van Lange et al.(2020)van Lange, van der Straten, and van Oosten].
- Schilieren-signal can be computed via Fourier-optics.

$$\mathcal{N}_{plasma} = \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}_0 P_{max}, \text{ if } r \leq r_0, \\ \mathcal{N}_0 P_{max} \exp\left(-\dfrac{(r-r_0)^2}{t_0^2}\right), \text{ if } r > r_0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

$\mathcal{N}_0$: vapor density. P_{max}: maximum ionization probability. r: distance from the center of the plasma channel. r_0: radius of plasma channel core. t_0: characteristic length of the transition region.

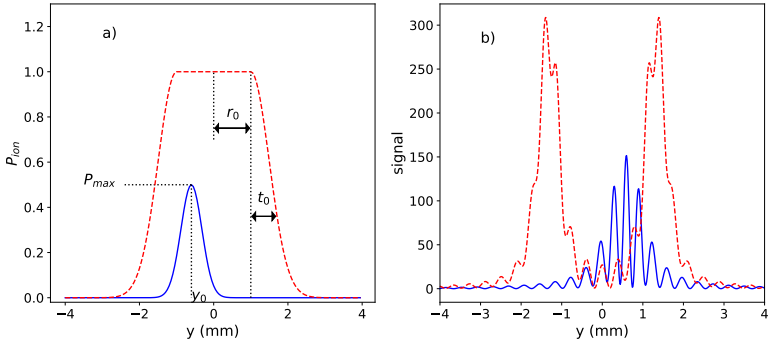

FIGURE: a) Ionization probability for a weakly ionized ($P_{max} < 1, r_0 = 0$), narrow plasma channel (solid blue line) and a saturated core $P_{max} = 1, r_0 > 1$, wide plasma channel (dashed red line). b) The corresponding simulated signals (signal for a weakly ionized plasma has been scaled up for better visibility).

- Quick and precise evaluation of input data required.
- Significant non-linearities $\rightarrow$ ML methods.

ML as non-linear regression:

$$y_{j,Pred} = f(x) = A\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} w_{ji}x_i + b_j\right), \tag{2}$$

$\mathbf{y}_{Pred}$: predicted Schlieren-signal. N: number of neurons in the layer. A: non-linear activation function. w_{ij}: matrix containing the trainable parameters. $\mathbf{b}$: bias vector.

Multiple layers $\rightarrow$ **Deep Neural Network.**

Objective: minimize the loss function:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}_{Pred}, \mathbf{y}_{True}) = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} |\mathbf{y}_{Pred} - \mathbf{y}_{True}| \tag{3}$$

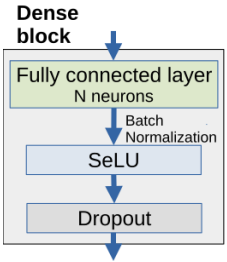

FIGURE: A basic building block of the applied neural networks.

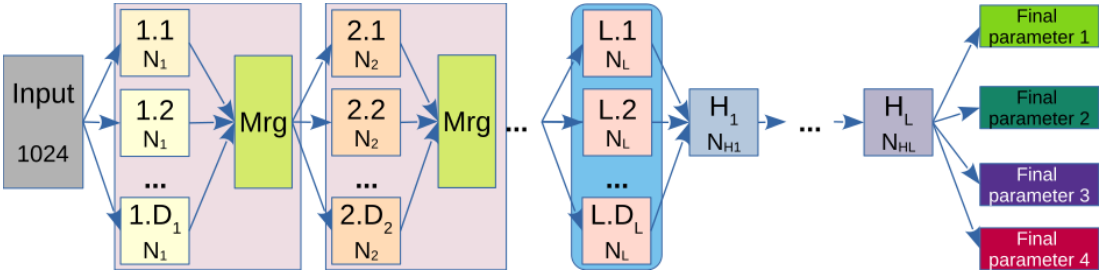

FIGURE: The structure of the implemented neural networks.

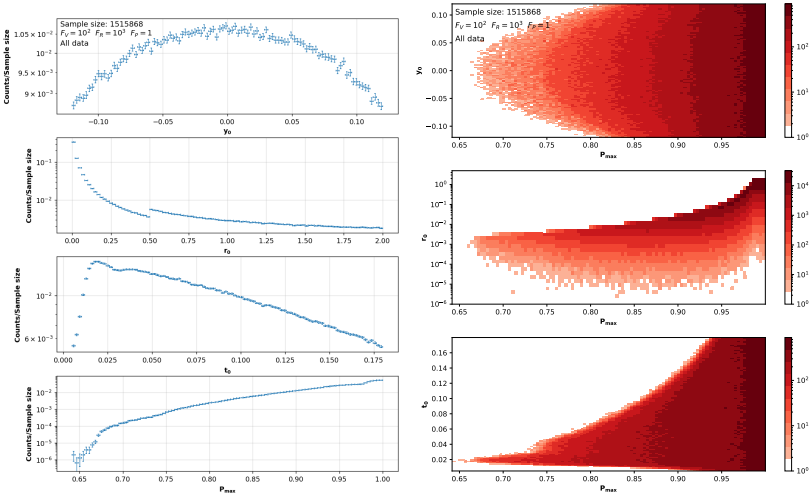

FIGURE: The distribution of the parameters in the training data. The full dataset contains 1.5 M training samples and 0.23 M validating samples.

Pearson-correlation:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n}(x_i - \bar{x})^2}\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i - \bar{y})^2}} \tag{4}$$

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	Skirun	**Bush**	**LongBottle**
D_L	16, 8, 4	16, 4	1, 1, 1, 1, 1
N_L	512, 256, 128	256, 64	1024, 512, 256, 128, 64
N_{HL}	0	0	0
Trainable parameters	9.6M	4.3M	1.75M
Final loss	0.00402	0.00667	0.00954

TABLE: The configurable hyperparameters.

- DNN framework has been implemented in Python, using Keras v2.7.0 with Tensorflow v.2.7.0 backend.
- The training, evaluating and testing were performed on the GPU clusters of the Wigner Scientific Computational Laboratory (WSCLAB).
- The networks have been trained for 20 000 epochs.

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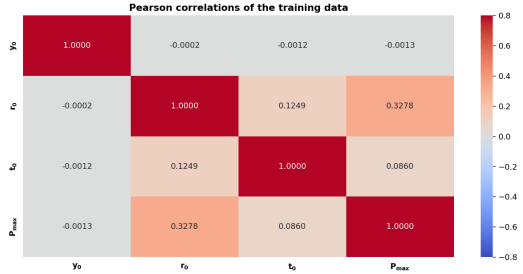

FIGURE: The Pearson correlations in the training data.

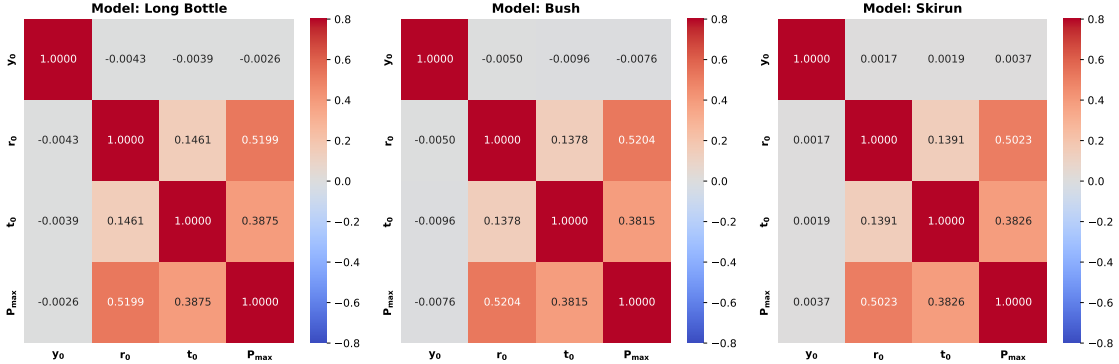

FIGURE: The learned Pearson correlations.

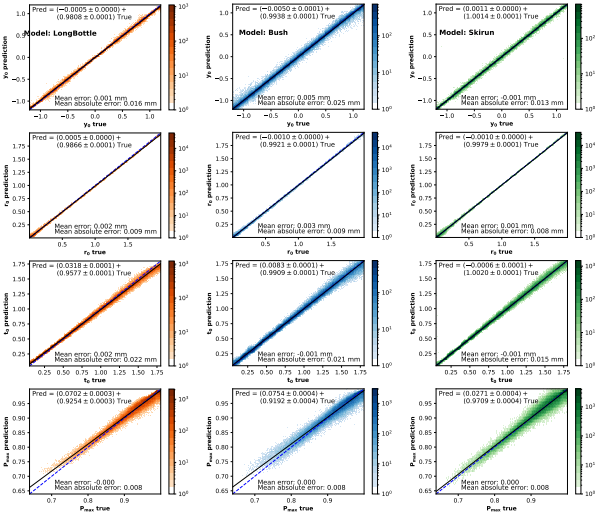

FIGURE: The learned parameter correlations.

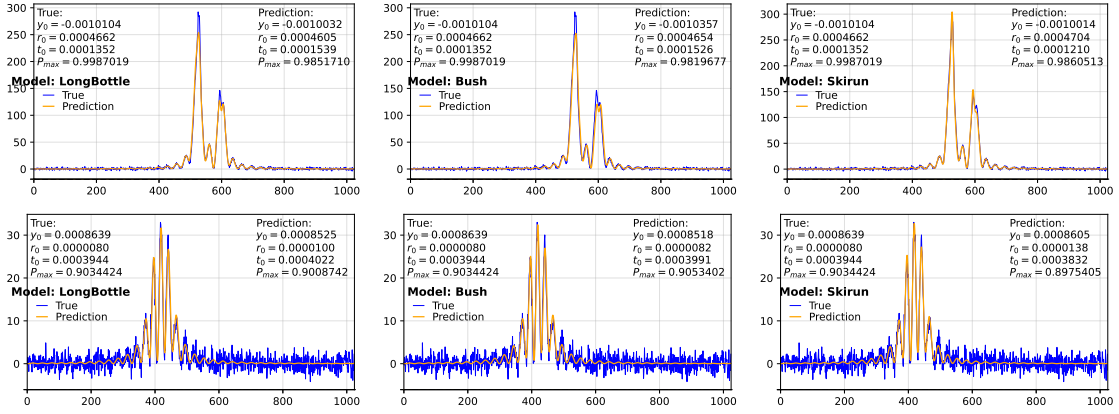

FIGURE: Example predictions by the three models.

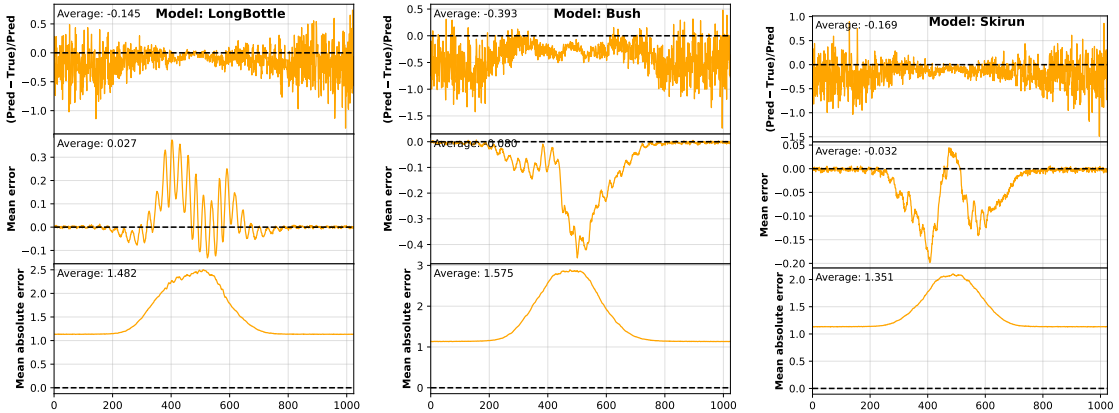

FIGURE: The average error values.

Estimating the amplitude and phase errors:

$$y_{Pred}(x) \approx a \cdot y\left(x - x_{ph,corr}\right) \tag{6}$$

with $x_{ph,corr}$ being the phase correction and $a \approx 1$. Normalized signals:

$$\tilde{y}(x) = \frac{y(x)}{C} \tag{7}$$

with

$$C = \int_{x_{min}}^{x_{max}} |y(x)| \, \mathrm{d}x. \tag{8}$$

Consider

$$A_{err}\left(x_{ph}\right) = \int_{x_{min}}^{x_{max}} \left|\tilde{y}(x) - \tilde{y}_{Pred}\left(x - x_{ph}\right)\right| \mathrm{d}x. \tag{9}$$

for $x_{ph,corr}$, $A_{err}\left(x_{ph}\right)$ is minimal. $A_{err} = A_{err}\left(x_{ph,corr}\right)$ is the amplitude error and $x_{ph,corr}$ is the phase error. Recall: $A_{err} = |1 - a|$, i.e. the relative amplitude error.

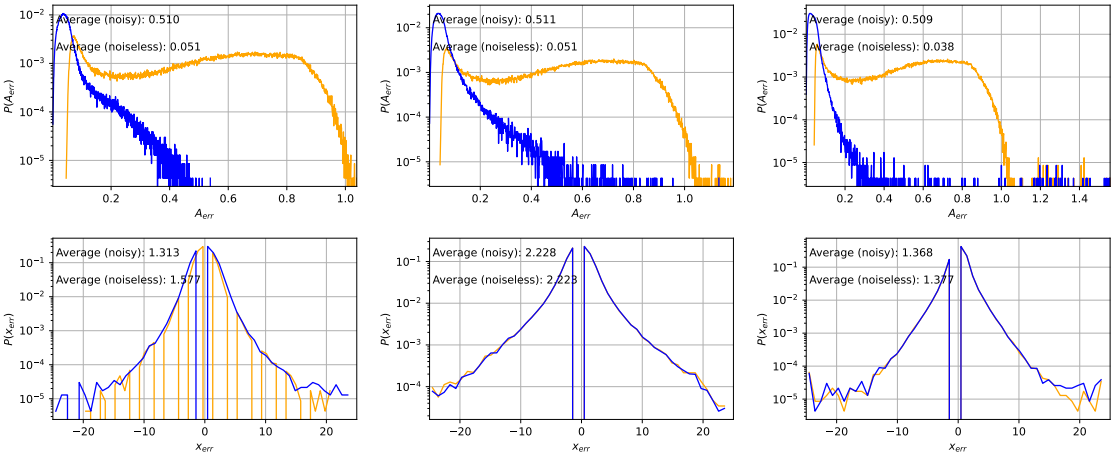

FIGURE: The probability distributions of amplitude and the phase errors.

How sensitive are the models to the parameter changes of the experiment?

- The vapor density can be hel constant better than 1 % accuracy.
- Probe laser intensity can change a few per cents.
- We tested the models for 2 %, 5 % and 10 % density or probe laser intensity fluctuations.
- Predictions can be improved by post-training the networks on data corresponding to differing from the standard values given above.

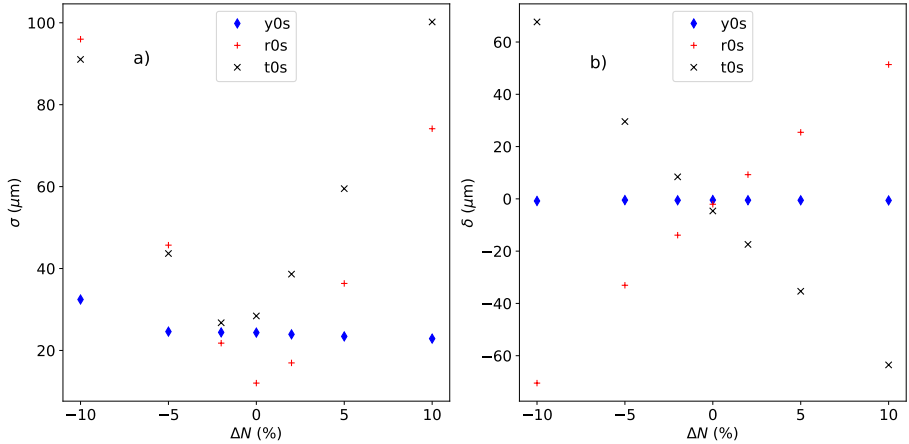

FIGURE: a) Mean squared error σ and b) mean error δ of parameter prediction as a function of vapor density change from the value used for training.

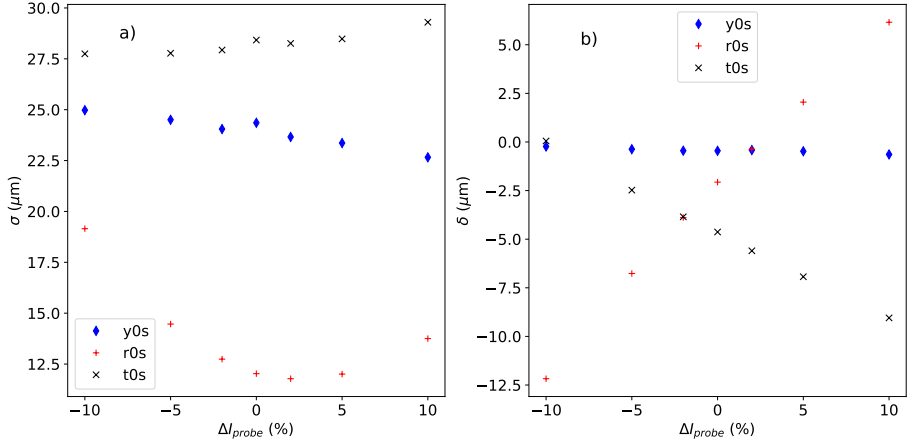

FIGURE: a) Mean squared error σ and b) mean error δ of parameter prediction as a function of probe laser power change from the value used for training.

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We presented a novel method for predicting geometrical dimensions for plasma channel in atomic vapor.

- Predictions are highly accurate in terms of correlations between the predicted and the true parameters.
- Amplitude and phase errors have also been investigated. The relative phase error is less than 0.2 %. The relative amlitude error remains below 10 % with a mean value of 5 %
- The validity of the models for slight, $< 2\,\%$ variations of vapor density or probe laser intensity.
- The validity can be easily extended by post-training the models with different vapor densities and probe laser intensities.

We plan to investigate and improve the validity corresponding to:

- displacements of the mask,
- variations of ionizing laser intensity,
- distortions of the pulse shape of the ionizing laser,
- ...

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Thank you for your attention!