

## **Abstract**

- Motivation: Recent improvements in volume phase holographic (VPH) gratings and image intensified CCD (ICCD) cameras.
- High efficiency visible wavelength system: F/2 optics, optical fiber bundles with packing fractions of ~0.70 couple to the spectrometer, VPH gratings with >70% efficiency
  - Measurements of  $T_e < 100$  eV are achieved by a 2971 l/mm grating
  - Measurements  $T_e > 100 \text{ eV}$  are achieved by a 2072 l/mm grating
- Detector: Fast-gated (~2ns) ICCD camera
  - Fast Gate captures 9ns laser pulse
  - Gen III image intensifier provides >40% quantum efficiency in the visible region
  - P43 phosphor screen requires a minimum integration time of 2 ms.
  - Dark noise, dominated by read noise, can be reduced to ~7 counts/pixel by digitizing at 31 kHz and can be further reduced by on-chip binning of the CCD.