Abstract Submitted for the SHOCK13 Meeting of The American Physical Society

VISAR 'cross-hairs': Simultaneous perpendicular line-imaging VISAR JOHN WINTERS, SIMON BLAND, SAMUEL STAFFORD, DANIEL EAKINS, DAVID CHAPMAN, Institute of Shock Physics, Imperial College London — Often the velocity measured at the rear surface of a dynamic compression target varies spatially, caused for instance by the tilt/curvature of a gas gun flyer, asymmetries in the magnetic field on a pulsed power driven experiment, or mesoscale heterogeneous targets. One way to monitor this in an experiment is to employ multiple point velocimetry techniques, but even with multiplexing this can become expensive in terms of hardware, in particular high speed sensors and scope channels. We report on the development of a multi-axis line-imaging VISAR system, which records the spatial velocity along two orthogonal directions. Cylindrical optics are used to project a set of cross-hairs onto the target, maximising the use of input laser light. We describe the image relay and interferometer configuration, along with an evaluation of system resolution. This 'quasi' two dimensional system will become one of the principal diagnostics on the MACH (Mega Ampere Compression and Hydrodynamics) facility, where the multi-axis measurement will help optimise strip-line design to achieve uniform ramp compression of targets.

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Date submitted: 22 Feb 2013

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