About the Cover:

The cover photo shows a schematic of the chromatic focusing system coupled to a spectrally chirped laser pulse used to generate the “flying focus,” which is presented in the lead article (p. 115). Measurements of the temporal evolution of the intensity at various longitudinal locations along the focus are shown. Calculations of the flying focus using the Fresnel equation for the corresponding measurements were used to plot intensity isocontours. Evolution of the focal spot is shown here with the light propagating from left to right. Each image is separated by 10 ps. The top image represents the laser beam first reaching focus at the right edge of the system. The gray line connects the point of maximum intensity on each image, which demonstrates the counter-propagating focus moving at 1/3 the speed of light. The spatiotemporal control enabled by the flying focus is currently being investigated at LLE and could be the enabling technology for several laser-plasma devices.

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