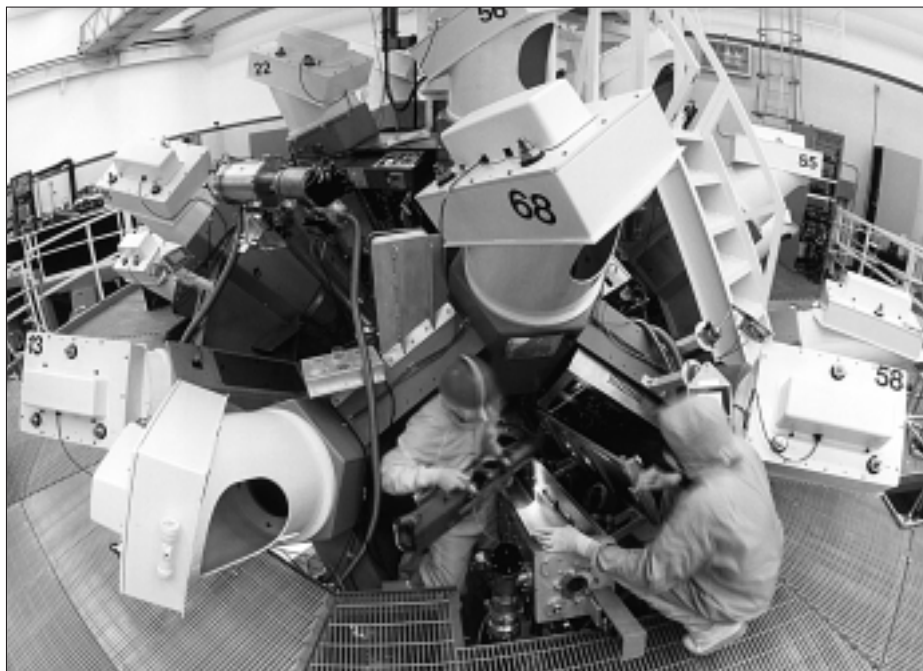


About the Cover:

The cover photograph shows Laboratory Engineer Charles Sorce and Research Engineer Ray Bahr inserting an x-ray streak camera into a ten-inch manipulator (TIM). This streak camera was used to record the Ar *K*-shell spectra for the experiments described in the article beginning on p. 47. The camera used a flat RbAP (rubidium acid phthalate) crystal to disperse the x-ray spectrum onto an Au cathode, and it was operated with a 2-ns temporal window to attain a temporal resolution of 25 ps.



The diagnostics on the OMEGA system are divided between those that are permanently attached to the target chamber and those, such as the streak camera shown in the photograph, that are inserted with one of the six OMEGA TIM's. TIM-based diagnostics are removable and can be reconfigured between system shots. The TIM's provide a great deal of flexibility in the configuration of diagnostic systems to meet the needs of the various experiments.

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