# Recent results from SPARC\_LAB



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#### **SPARC\_LAB** test-facility



Ferrario, M., et al. "SPARC\_LAB present and future." NIMB 309 (2013): 183-188.

#### High brightness photo-injector



Serafini L., Ferrario M. "Velocity bunching in photo-injectors." AIP conference proceedings. 2001. Anderson, S. G., et al. "Velocity bunching of high-brightness electron beams." PRSTAB 8.1 (2005): 014401.

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#### **Plasma-based acceleration**

- Several plasma-based schemes will be tested
  - **PWFA** resonant scheme  $\rightarrow$  **1-2 GV/m** expected
    - n<sub>e</sub>~10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>, 1 mm diameter capillary, Hydrogen
  - LWFA, external injection → 5-10 GV/m expected
    n ~10<sup>17</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>, 100 µm diameter capillary, Hydrogen
- Goal: high quality accelerated beams
  - Maintain the high brightness of injected beams







#### **Plasma interaction chamber**



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#### Vacuum level during plasma runs



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#### **PMQ** installation

- Three PMQs installed, movable in z
- 2 movable channels (2 piezo motors)

#### • 520 T/m PMQs made by KYMA

- PMQ1 (close to capillary) is fixed
- 1<sup>st</sup> actuator moves PMQ2 and PMQ3 with respect to PMQ1
- 2<sup>nd</sup> actuator moves PMQ3 with respect to PMQ2 and PMQ1
- Minimum distance between quads is 3-4mm
- Maximum distance is >10mm
- Several springs are used to help against magnetic attraction
- The XYZ offsets and the phi-angle of the system are manually adjusted



#### **Preliminary results**



#### **Plasma characterization in capillary**

#### Plasma density measurement from H<sub>R</sub> Stark broadening



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#### Active plasma lens

• Focusing field produced by electric discharge in a plasma-filled capillary

e<sup>-</sup> bunch

- Focusing field produced, according to **Ampere's law**, by the discharge current



- Weak chromaticity
  - $K_{\text{focusing}}$  scales as  $1/\gamma$
- Radial focusing
  - Unlike quads it focuses in the two planes simultaneously
- Compactness
  - Higher integrated field than permanent quadrupole magnets (PMQ)
- Not sensitive to beam distribution
  - This is the case of passive (over/under-dense) plasma lenses

Van Tilborg, J., et al. "Active plasma lensing for relativistic laser-plasma-accelerated electron beams." Physical review letters 115.18 (2015): 184802. Pompili, R., et al. "Experimental characterization of active plasma lensing for electron beams." Applied Physics Letters 110.10 (2017): 104101.

Magnetic Field  $(\mathbf{B}_{m})$  vs Force on electrons  $(\mathbf{F})$ 

Current

HV

#### **Experimental layout**



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#### Active plasma lensing effect





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#### **Electro-Optical Sampling**



- Laser crosses the crystal with an angle (30°)
- Polarization modulation  $\rightarrow$  transferred to intensity modulation by means of linear polarizer

$$I_{det} = I_{laser} \sin^2 \Gamma \propto E_{THz}^2$$
  
Horizontally pol.  
Laser beam EO-Crystal Quarter-wave  
Plate (0°) Vertical Pol.

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#### Multi-bunch trains with THz separation



GaP (100µm), comb beam (160 and 200 fs, 800 fs distance)

80 fs temporal resolution



R. Pompili, et al., Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators. 740, 216 (2014).

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### **Bunch compression and timing-jitter**

- Ultra-short bunches with ultra-low jitter wrt laser pulses
  - Seeded FELs
  - External injection in laser-driven plasmas



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LPS (Space-charge ON)

### Jitter reduction by hybrid compression



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#### Conclusions

- SPARC\_LAB is currently preparing the beam-driven plasma acceleration experiment. First tests are foreseen in next months.
- In 2016 we have investigated the focusing properties of a 3 cm-long active plasma lens, "probed" by an high-brightness electron beam
- We fully characterize the bunch 6D phase space for the first time
  - Results indicate that the longitudinal phase space (energy and duration) are not affected by the plasma lens
  - Strong nonlinearities are introduced on the transverse phase space (emittance) due to the nonlinear focusing field produced by the HV discharge
- For the external injection laser-driven acceleration we have demonstrated the possibility to ensure ultra-low timing-jitters between the laser pulse and the ultra-short bunch
  - It represents one of the most challenging issues in such experiments
  - An ultra-low timing jitter <20 fs has been experimentally achieved

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## Thank you for your attention!

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