





Simultaneous temporal resolved measurements of protons and fast electrons in TNSA experiments

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SPARC_LAB Facility and the FLAME laser

Laser-Solid target interactions @ FLAME

Experimental results

Conclusions and future perspectives

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SPARC_LAB Facility



Ferrario, M., et al. "SPARC_LAB present and future." NIM B 309 (2013): 183-188

Sources for Plasma Accelerators and Radiation Compton with Lasers and Beams

SPARC_LAB is a multidisciplinary TEST Facility composed by a high brightness LINAC and the high power laser FLAME: this characteristic makes it unique.



The FLAME laser system



Bisesto, F., et al. "The FLAME laser at SPARC_LAB." NIM A (2018)



The FLAME laser: parameters on target



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Laser-solid target interaction: a simple sketch



H. Schwoerer et al., *Nature* 439, 445-448 (2006)

- Laser interacts with preformed plasma and electron acceleration occurs.
- 2) Hot electrons leave the target and are locked in its vicinity: a positive charge is left and a quasi-static electric field is established (accelerating field).
- Only more energetic electrons (fast electrons) can escape.



- Electro-Optic Sampling diagnostic to characterize the interaction:
 - Measurement of fast electrons temporal charge density
 - Study of target geometry influence on fast electron emission.
 - Detection of ultrafast evolution of electric fields.
- NEW! Simultaneous detection and characterization of accelerated fast electrons and protons via TNSA.

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Experimental setup: particle diagnostics



Bisesto, F., et al. "Single-shot electrons and protons time-resolved detection from high-intensity laser-solid matter interactions at SPARC_LAB.", High Power Lasers, 7 (2019)

Experimental set-up in FLAME target area





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Experimental set-up in FLAME target area





Experimental set-up in FLAME target area





EOS diagnostic: typical signal



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Bisesto, F., et al. "Single-shot electrons and protons time-resolved detection from high-intensity laser-solid matter interactions at SPARC_LAB.", High Power Lasers, 7 (2019)



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- Simultaneous detection of fast electrons and accelerated protons.
- Parametric studies:
 - Target thickness
 - Laser spot size
 - Laser temporal duration

Experimental results: target thickness scan



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Experimental results: laser spot scan





Experimental results: laser duration scan



Bisesto, F., et al. In preparation



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- We have reported about temporal characterization of emitted charged particles from laser-solid target interactions
 - EOS diagnostics has provided the fast electrons bunch length with femtosecond resolution.
 - TOF diamond detector has been employed to measure the proton temporal structure and energy spectrum.
- Parametric studies have been performed by changing laser and target parameters.
- Data analysis and simulations are still undergoing to study fast electrons-protons correlations.



Thanks for your attention!



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- **Pompili, R., et al.** "Femtosecond dynamics of energetic electrons in high intensity lasermatter interactions." Sci.Rep. **6** (2016)
- **Pompili, R., et al.** "Sub-picosecond snapshots of fast electrons from high intensity lasermatter interactions ." Opt.Exp. **24** (2016)
- **Bisesto, F., et al.** «Novel single-shot diagnostics for electrons from laser-plasma interaction at SPARC_LAB.» Quantum Beam Science, 1(3):13 (2017).
- **Bisesto, F., et al.** "The FLAME laser at SPARC_LAB." NIM A (2018)
- **Pompili, R., et al.** «Ultrafast evolution of electric fields from high-intensity laser-matter interactions.» Sci.Rep. **8** (2018)
- **Bisesto, F., et al.** "Single-shot electrons and protons time-resolved detection from highintensity laser—solid matter interactions at SPARC_LAB.", High Power Lasers, **7** (2019)
- **Bisesto, F., et al.** "Review on TNSA diagnostics and recent developments at SPARC LAB.", High Power Lasers, **7** (2019)



Backup slides



Electron diagnostic: EOS working principle



The emitted bunch travels normally to the crystal surface and moves below it while the probe laser crosses the crystal with a non-zero incidence angle.

ENCODING SIGNAL

- a) the bunch Coulomb field makes the crystal birefringent .
- b) while the electric field penetrates in the crystal, the local birefringence shifts downwards.
- c) The probe laser crosses the crystal and its polarization is rotated; the resulting signal comes from where the local birefringence and the probe laser are temporally overlapped.

Pompili, R., et al. "Sub-picosecond snapshots of fast electrons from high intensity laser-matter interactions ." Opt.Exp. 24 (2016)



Proton diagnostic: diamond TOF



De Angelis, R., et al. "High performance diagnostics for Time-Of-Flight and X ray measurements in laser produced plasmas, based on fast diamond detectors." *Journal of Instrumentation*11.12 (2016)



Temporal profile



- The profile is obtained by averaging a series of line-outs performed along the time direction compared with the corresponding profile provided by the numerical simulation.
- The errorbars are calculated as the standard deviation of lineouts average.

Pompili, R., et al. "Sub-picosecond snapshots of fast electrons from high intensity laser-matter interactions ." Opt.Exp. 24 (2016)

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EOS as TOF: measurements and simulations



Temporal window: 10 ps.

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Pompili, R., et al. "Sub-picosecond snapshots of fast electrons from high intensity laser-matter interactions ." Opt.Exp. 24 (2016)Fabrizio Bisesto18/09/2019 – EAAC 2019 Workshop



Influence of target shape



Pompili, R., et al. "Femtosecond dynamics of energetic electrons in high intensity laser-matter interactions." Sci.Rep. 6 (2016)

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Influence of target shape



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$$\propto \sqrt{(1+a_0^2)} = f(E_L, r_L, \tau_L)$$
$$E_{\text{max}} = 2T_{\text{hot}} [\ln(t_p + (t_p^2 + 1)^{1/2})]^2$$

$$t_{\rm p} = \omega_{\rm pi} t_{\rm acc} / (2 \exp^1)^{1/2}$$

$$t_{\rm acc} \sim 1.3 \tau_{\rm laser}$$

Fuchs, J., et al. "Laser-driven proton scaling laws and new paths towards energy increase." Nat. Phys. 2 (2006)