

# Laser-plasma acceleration at ELI-Beamlines

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on behalf of ELI-Beamlines

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Prague, Czech Republic

ST-4:

Distributed Plasma Accelerator Landscape in Europe  
and Technical Progress towards Applications

*This work is partially supported by the project Advanced research using high intensity laser produced photons and particles (CZ.02.1.01/0.0/16.019/0000789) from European Development Fund.*

## Content

- ELI-Beamlines (Institute of Physics, CAS): user-oriented facility
- Laser systems and laser beamlines at ELI-Beamlines
- Laser-plasma acceleration at ELI-Beamlines: current status



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## ELI-Beamlines on the Plasma Accelerator Landscape in Europe

The ELI Beamlines Facility (IoP) is a leading European laser research centre and part the pan-European Research Infrastructure to support scientific excellence in Europe.



Bird-view on ELI-Beamlines



**Located:** Dolni Brezany / near Prague, Czech Republic

- ELI-Beamlines (IoP): user-oriented facility
- **Laser systems and laser beamlines at ELI-Beamlines**
- Laser-plasma acceleration at ELI-Beamlines: current status

# ELI-BEAMLINES LASERS for Laser-plasma Acceleration

Synchronization within <100 fs by master facility clock

## L1 – ALLEGRA

### Technology

- OPCPA
- Circular
- Gaussian
- Synchronized probe beam

### Parameters



| Nominal | Current |
|---------|---------|
| 100 mJ  | 55 mJ   |
| 1 kHz   | 1 kHz   |
| 15 fs   | 15 fs   |

Expected Electron / Ion  
Energy 100 MeV / 20 MeV

## L2 – DUHA

### Technology

- OPCPA
- Circular
- Flat-top
- Synchronized mid-IR pulse

### Parameters



| Nominal | Current         |
|---------|-----------------|
| 2J      | <b>WORK</b>     |
| 25s Hz  | <b>IN</b>       |
| <40 fs  | <b>PROGRESS</b> |

Expected Electron / Ion Energy  
1 GeV / 60 MeV

## L3 – HAPLS

### Technology

- Ti:Sapphire, DPSSL
- Square, 250x250 mm<sup>2</sup>
- Flat-top

### Parameters



| Nominal | Current |
|---------|---------|
| 30 J    | 13 J    |
| 10 Hz   | 3.3 Hz  |
| 30 fs   | 30 fs   |

Expected Electron / Ion Energy  
10 GeV / 200 MeV

## L4 – ATON

### Technology

- Nd:glass
- Square, 550x550 mm<sup>2</sup>
- Flat-top
- Longer beams (150 fs)

### Parameters



| Nominal | Current         |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1.5 kJ  | <b>WORK</b>     |
| 3 min   | <b>IN</b>       |
| 150 fs  | <b>PROGRESS</b> |

Expected Electron / Ion Energy  
100 GeV / 600 MeV



## L1-ALLEGRA laser system and laser beam transport at ELI-Beamlines

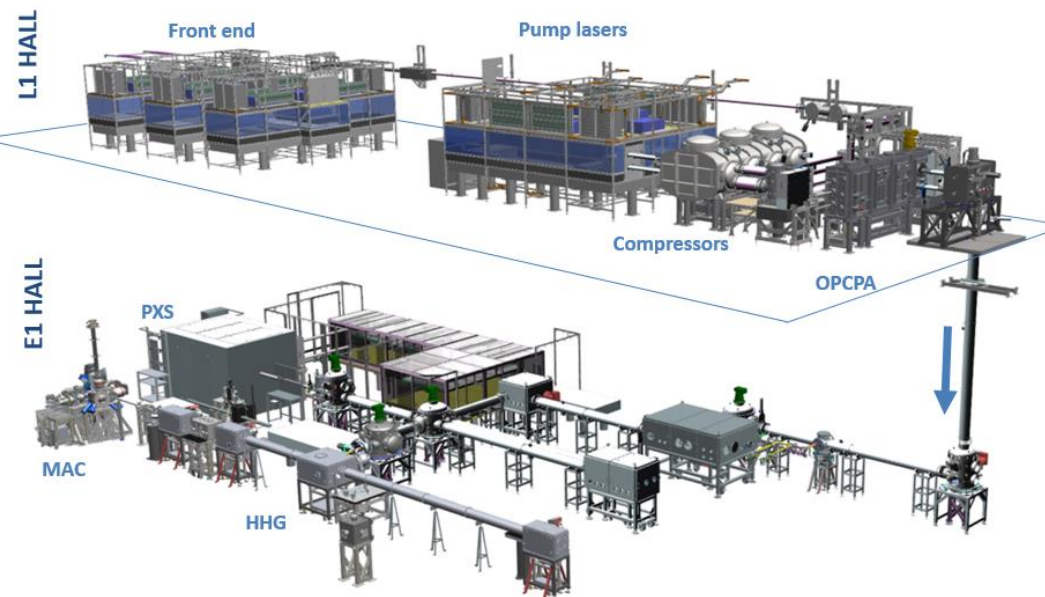
Optically synchronized 5 thin-disk commercial pump lasers  
Total available pump power @515 nm: >370 W @ 1 kHz

7 OPCPA stages based on BBO and LBO crystals  
Design: 100 mJ / <15 fsec (plan: end of 2023)

### Current performance

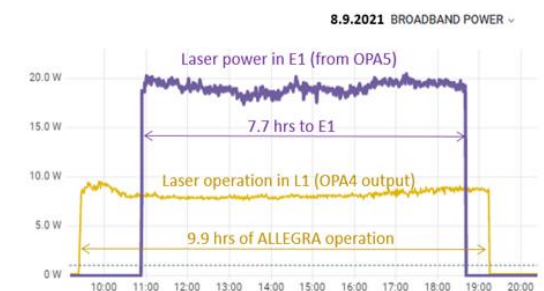
>62 mJ OPCPA output (~16% pump-to-signal efficiency)  
>55 mJ / 14.2 fs after compression

**L1-to-E1 beam transport: ~ 10 m → READY**



**Routine user operation:  
85 full experimental days in 2021**

### Typical operation day for experiments



**Fully available**

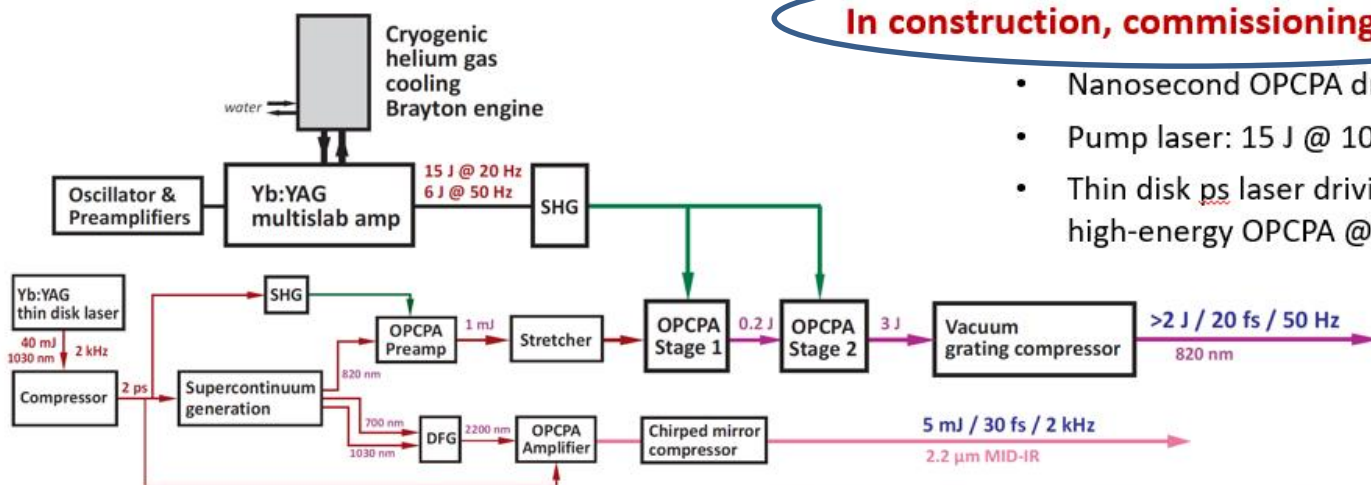
*Thanks to the L1-team / Pavel Bakule*

## L2-DUHA laser system and laser beam transport at ELI-Beamlines

L2 laser is the dedicated system for the E5-LUIS development (compact LPA-based FEL)

**In construction, commissioning in 2024**

- Nanosecond OPCPA driven by Yb:YAG diode-pumped laser
- Pump laser: 15 J @ 1030 nm
- Thin disk ps laser driving supercontinuum in bulk YAG: seed for high-energy OPCPA @ 820 nm & generation of 2.2  $\mu$ m in DFG



**Main 820-nm beam**

**3 J / 25 fs pulses @ 20 Hz → 5 J / 50 Hz**

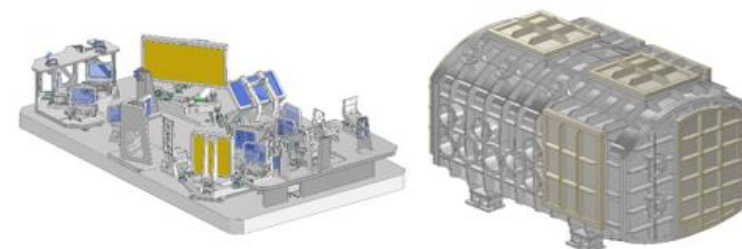
expected availability in spring 2024

**Upgrade & ramping to 50 Hz  
proposed within the CREATE project**

Gas cooled pump laser using Yb:YAG slabs



Brayton cooling  
engine to 150 K



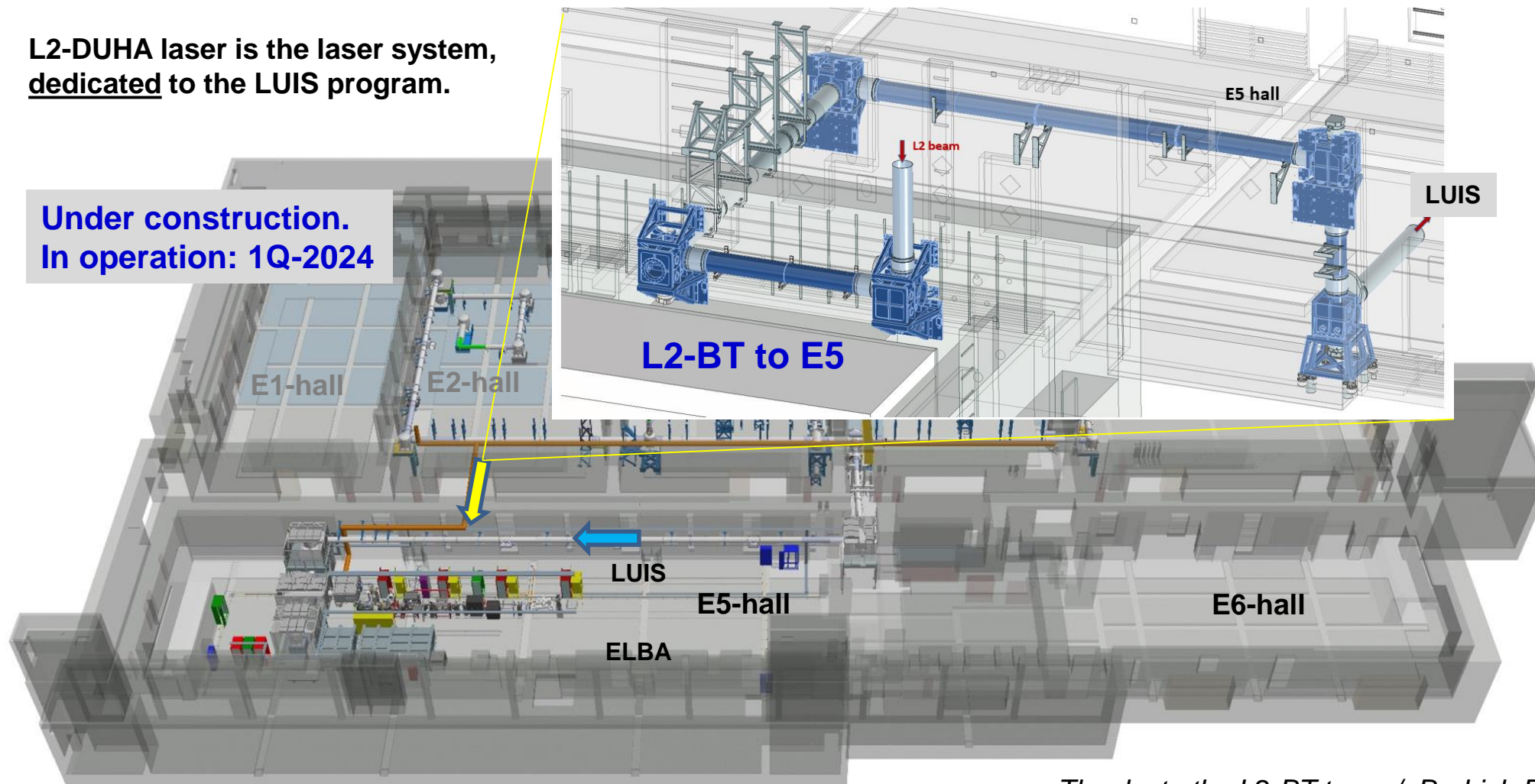
Thanks to the L2-team / Tyler Green



## L2-DUHA laser system and laser beam transport at ELI-Beamlines

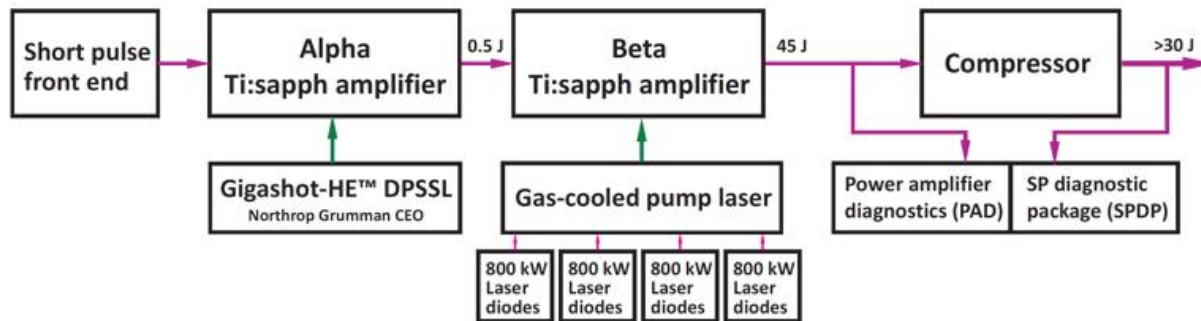
L2-DUHA laser is the laser system,  
dedicated to the LUIS program.

Under construction.  
In operation: 1Q-2024



Thanks to the L2-BT-team / Bedrich Rus

## L3-HAPLS laser system and laser beam transport at ELI-Beamlines

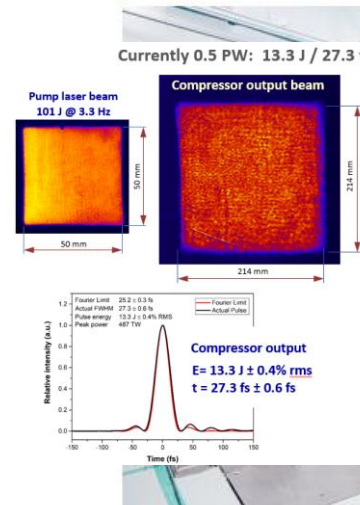
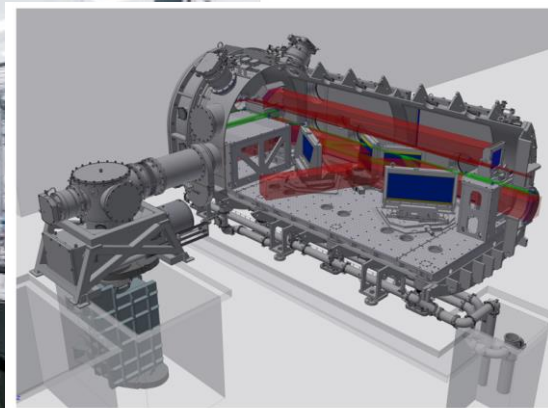


- Fully laser-diode-pumped laser
- Ti:sapphire short-pulse chain
- Advanced gas cooled power amplifiers

**Design performance** 1 PW / 10 Hz  
>30 J / <30 fs

**Current performance** 0.5 PW / 3 1/3 Hz  
13.3 J / 27.3 fs

Performance ramping to design specs in progress



Thanks to the L3-team / Bedrich Rus



## L3-HAPLS laser system and laser beam transport at ELI-Beamlines

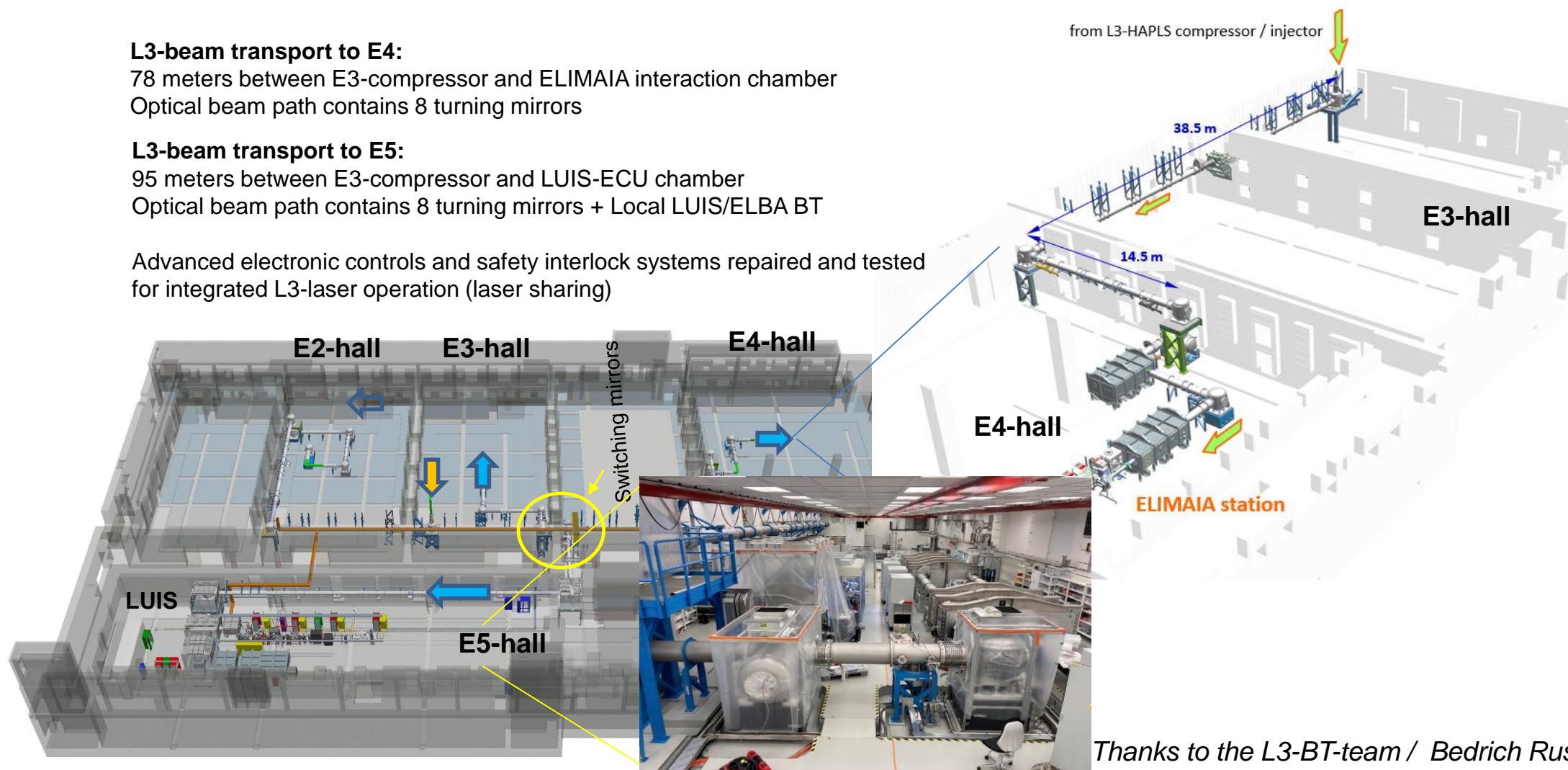
### L3-beam transport to E4:

78 meters between E3-compressor and ELIMAIA interaction chamber  
Optical beam path contains 8 turning mirrors

### L3-beam transport to E5:

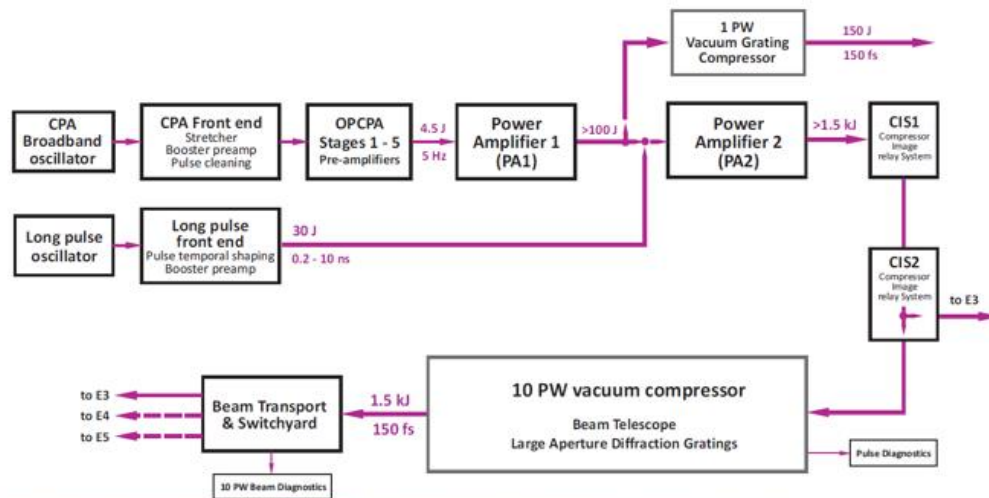
95 meters between E3-compressor and LUIS-ECU chamber  
Optical beam path contains 8 turning mirrors + Local LUIS/ELBA BT

Advanced electronic controls and safety interlock systems repaired and tested for integrated L3-laser operation (laser sharing)



Thanks to the L3-BT-team / Bedrich Rus

## L4-ATON: kJ CPA laser system to provide 10 PW peak power

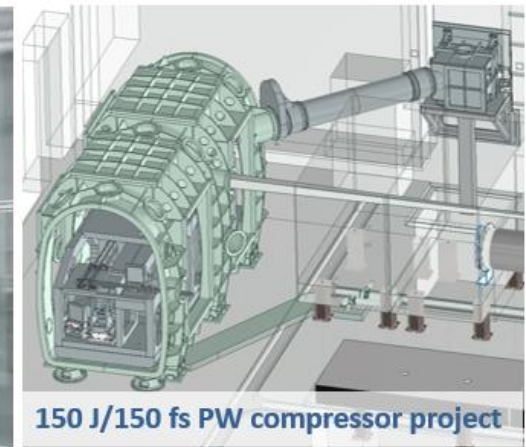


Mixed Nd:glass providing spectral bandwidth >13 nm  
Direct CPA pulse compression to ≤150 fs

Advanced liquid cooling to ultimately achieve 1 shot /minute  
Nanosecond kJ pulses with programmable temporal shape  
10PW compressor in final phase of completion

**Design performance:**

**10 PW capability      1.5 kJ / 150 fs / 1 shot per min**  
**kJ ns pulse capability      1.5 kJ in 0.5 to 10 ns**



Thanks to the L4-team / Bedrich Rus

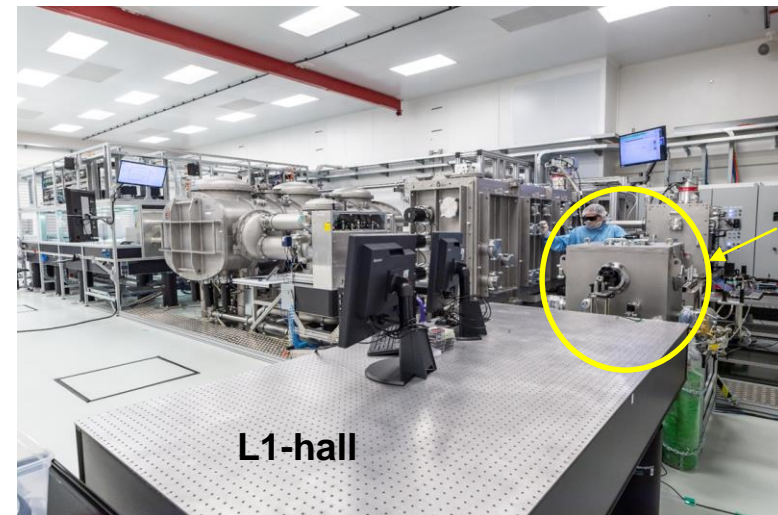


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- **Laser-plasma acceleration at ELI-Beamlines: current status**

## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L1-ALLEGRA laser system / 1

### ALFA (Allegra Laser For Acceleration)

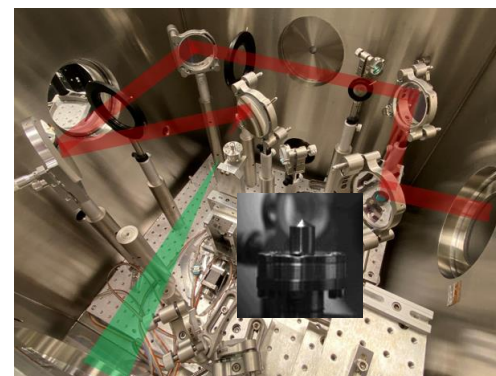
- Up to 55 mJ at moment (nominal plan 100 mJ)
- 1 kHz laser repetition rate
- Laser pointing stability 1-2  $\mu$ rad
- 16 fs after compressor
- Laser focal spot size (FWHM) 3.6  $\mu$ m
- Laser intensity  $6.1 \times 10^{18}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup> ( $\sim 1.5 P_{\text{critical}}$ )
- Normalized laser strength parameter  $a_0 \sim 1.7$
- Laser-plasma interaction in the gas-jet



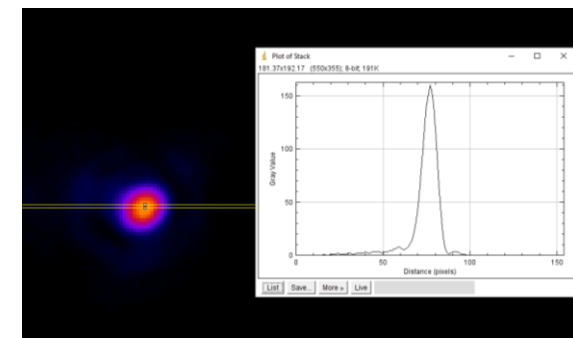
ALFA chamber

L1-hall

Setup with super-sonic nozzle



Laser focal spot



*Thanks to the ALFA-team / Gabriele Grittani*

## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L1-ALLEGRA laser system /2

Manuscript is in preparation

### Laser parameters on parabola (measured)

- Energy: 32 mJ
- Pulse duration: 16 fs
- Energy in the focal spot: 55%
- **Repetition rate: 1 kHz**

### Measured electron beam parameters: Case (C)

Electron beam energy ~ 40 MeV  
Estimated divergence FWHM ~ 5 mrad  
FWHM average energy spread ~ 30%  
Total charge ~ 10pC/pulse

### Plasma density measurement:

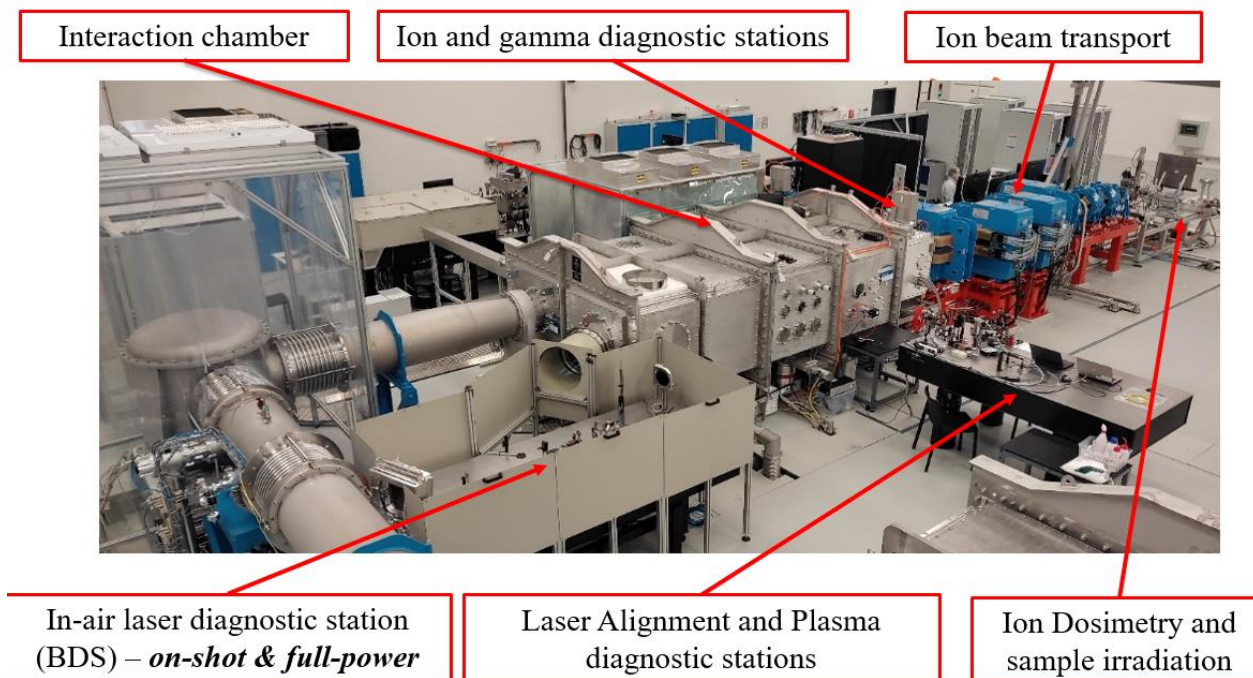
- Interferometry  $\pm 30\%$

**Possible injection mechanism: self-injection**  
**PIC simulations – in progress**

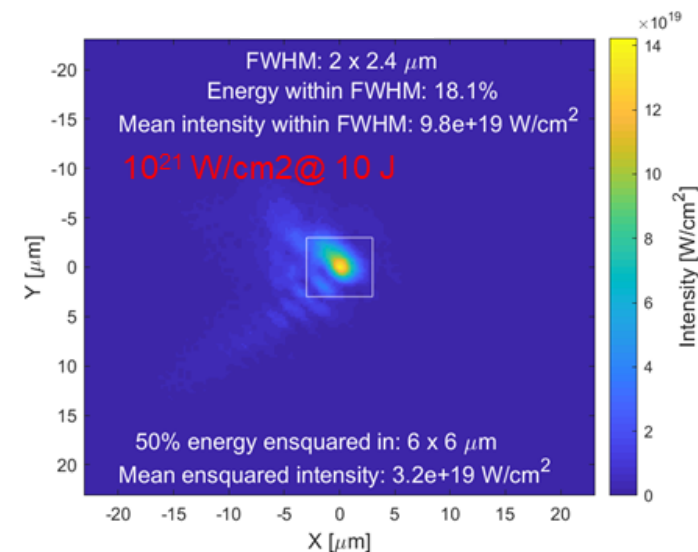
*Thanks to the ALFA-team / Gabriele Grittani*

## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L3-HAPLS laser system / 1

Laser-proton acceleration (**ELIMAIA / E4-Hall**) → Basic commissioning of Ion Accelerator



- Thin foil target (Al) ... thickness = 5  $\mu\text{m}$
- Laser Intensity  $\sim 10^{21} \text{ W/cm}^2$
- Focal spot (FWHM)  $\sim 4.8 \mu\text{m}$  (f#3 OAP)
- Laser contrast  $\sim 1.4 \times 10^{-9}$  (Dec.2021)



Thanks to the ELIMAIA-team / Lorenzo Giuffrida

ELIMAIA commissioning using L3-10J laser

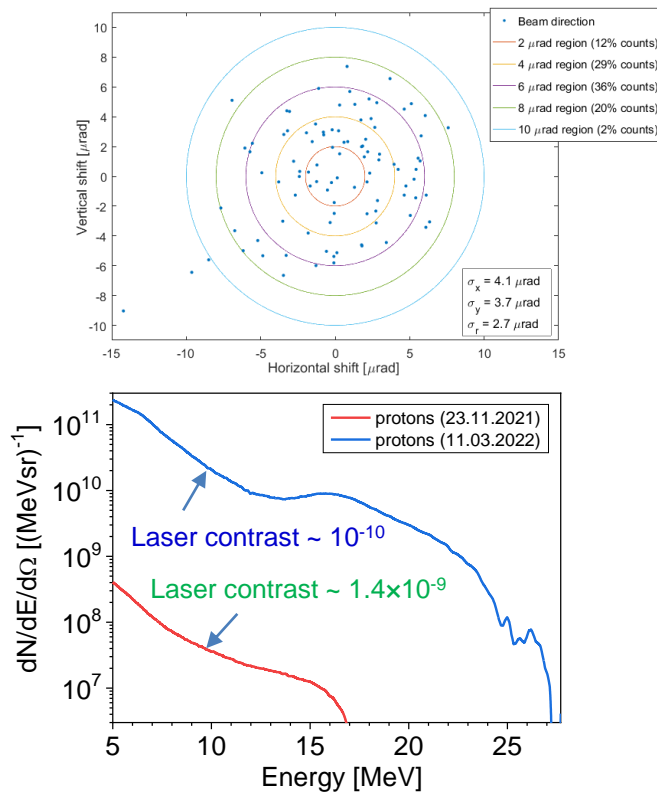


## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L3-HAPLS laser system / 2

Laser-proton acceleration (ELIMAIA / E4-Hall) → Basic commissioning of Ion Accelerator

**Excellent pointing stability of the integrated system at full-power:**  
L3-laser + Laser-Beam-Transport (~ 80m) + Target-Station

- 2.7  $\mu\text{rad}$  at full power (10J-level) over 54 min of continuous operation (1Hz)
- Corresponds to shot-to-shot linear shift on ELIMAIA-target ~ 1 $\mu\text{m}$



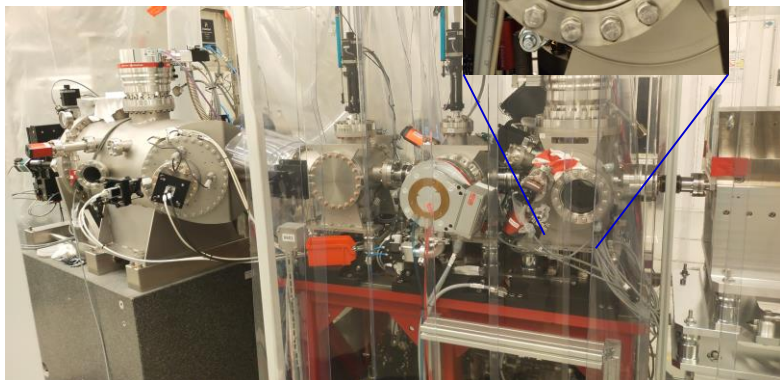
| Campaign: Dec.2021                    |                          |                                 |                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Laser energy                          | Joules                   | $9.95 \pm 0.025$                | → $\pm 0.3 \%$ |
| Laser intensity (FWHM)                | $10^{21} \text{ W/cm}^2$ | $1.39 \pm 0.01$                 | → $\pm 0.8 \%$ |
| Electron temperature $T_{\text{hot}}$ | MeV                      | $3.06 \pm 0.12$                 | → $\pm 3.9 \%$ |
| Maximum proton energy                 | MeV                      | $14.48 \pm 0.17$                | → $\pm 1.2 \%$ |
| Proton flux (> 3 MeV)                 | $\text{sr}^{-1}$         | $(6.1 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{10}$ | → $\pm 5.3 \%$ |
| Pointing stability                    | $\mu\text{rad}$          | 2.7 (RMS)                       |                |

Thanks to the ELIMAIA-team / Lorenzo Giuffrida

ELIMAIA commissioning using L3-10J laser

## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L3-HAPLS laser system /3

**E5-LUIS (Phase0): high quality laser-driven electron accelerator for incoherent photon undulator radiation** → pre-commissioning results (L3 low-energy operation / mJ / 30fsec / 3Hz)



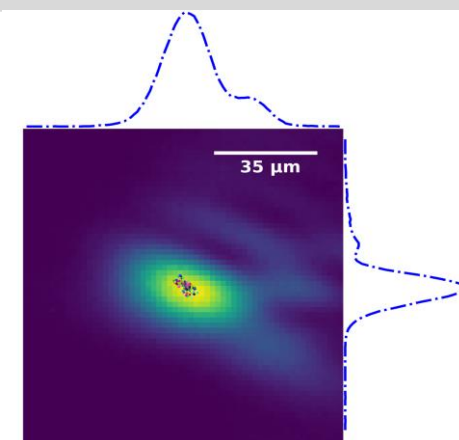
Thanks to the LUIS-team / A.Molodozhentsev

**MAIN results** of the 1<sup>st</sup> experimental campaign (1-week: May 2022)

- Final verification of all technologies (control system, vacuum, safety)
- Final alignment of all components of the L3-to-E5/LUIS beam transport (5+4=9 flat mirrors + 2 switching mirrors + 1 OAP)
- Target: gas-cell
- Sapphire capillary gas-loading verification with Differential Pumping
- **Focal spot measurement (FWHM) ~ 25  $\mu$ m**
- **Measured laser pointing stability → RMS ~ 1.5  $\mu$ rad**
- Switching mirror test

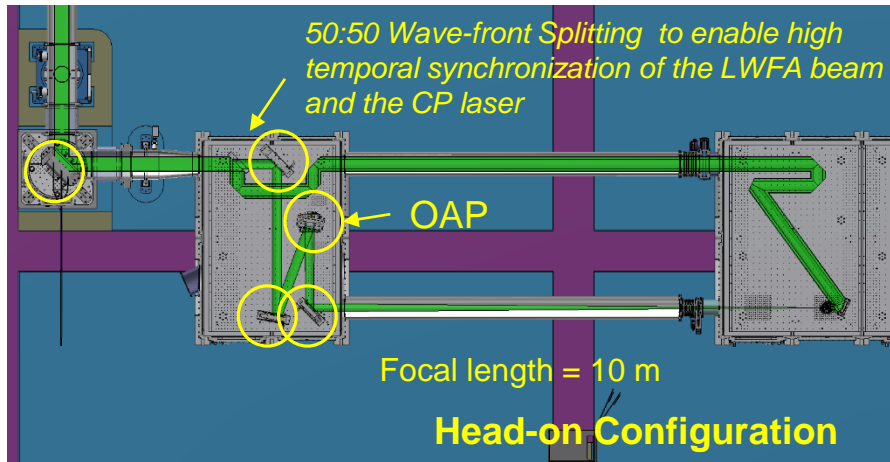
*L3 laser (low-energy) beam in focus  
(May 2022) with the pointing stability*

LUIS-Phase0 setup is ready  
for LPA-commissioning (4Q-2022)

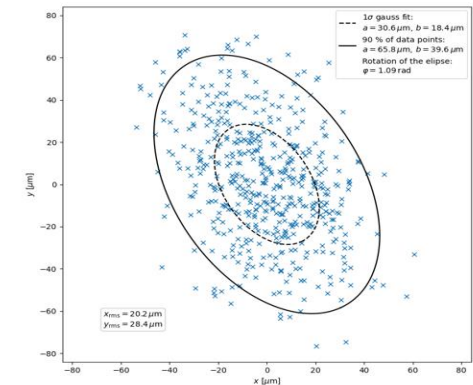
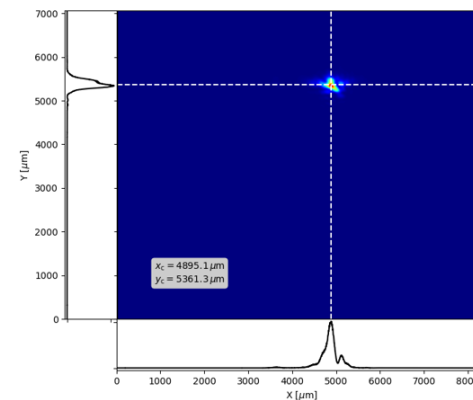


## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L3-HAPLS laser system / 4

### E5-ELBA: all-optical GeV electron beam collider with PW laser



### Pre-commissioning results (L3 “mJ” operation / May 2022)



Measured laser pointing stability (RMS) ~ 2÷3 μrad  
Measured laser spot size in focus (FWHM) ~ 150 μm

|          | Parameter                               | Current L3 Performance                     | Nominal L3 performance                   |
|----------|---|--|--|
| LASER    | Laser energy before WS splitting        | 13 J                                       | 30 J                                     |
|          | Laser time duration                     | 27 fs                                      | 30 fs                                    |
|          | Repetition Rate                         | 3.3 Hz                                     | 10 Hz                                    |
|          | Laser Wavelength                        | 800 nm                                     | 800 nm                                   |
| ELECTRON | Laser Energy for LWFA                   | > 5 J                                      | > 10 J                                   |
|          | Electron beam energy (mean of QME peak) | > 1 GeV                                    | > 2 GeV                                  |
|          | Energy spread (FWHM)                    | < 20%                                      | < 20%                                    |
|          | Electron beam charge in QME peak        | > 25 pC                                    | > 40 pC                                  |
|          | Electron beam divergence                | < 2 mrad                                   | < 2 mrad                                 |
| CP LASER | Electron beam pointing stability        | < 2 mrad                                   | < 2 mrad                                 |
|          | Laser Energy for Collider Laser         | > 5 J                                      | > 10 J                                   |
|          | Focal number                            | 1.5  | 1.5                                      |
|          | Focal length                            | 375 mm                                     | 375 mm                                   |
|          | Focal spot FWHM                         | < 2 μm                                     | < 2 μm                                   |
|          | Peak intensity                          | > 1.5 x 10 <sup>21</sup> W/cm <sup>2</sup> | > 3 x 10 <sup>21</sup> W/cm <sup>2</sup> |
|          | Collision angle                         | 0° and 40°                                 | 0° and 40°                               |

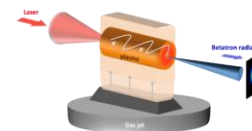
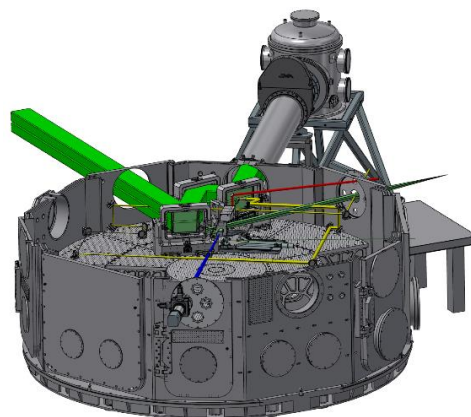
Thanks to the ELBA-team / Gabriele Grittani





## Laser-plasma acceleration using the L3-HAPLS laser system / 5

**E3-BETATRON:** betatron radiation setup / gas-jet → Experimental Campaign: Plan → Nov-2022



| Electron beam energy                        | MeV                       | 500 ÷ 1000        |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Plasma density                              | $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ | ~ 10              |
| Laser pulse energy                          | Joules                    | 10 (30)           |
| Laser pulse duration                        | fsec                      | 30                |
| Normalized vector field amplitude ( $a_0$ ) |                           | ~ 2.5             |
| Focal spot size (FWHM)                      | $\mu\text{m}$             | ~ 30 (f#25)       |
| Expected betatron parameters                |                           |                   |
| Betatron source size                        | $\mu\text{m}$             | ~ 5 $\mu\text{m}$ |
| Broadband critical energy                   | keV                       | 20 ÷ 50           |
| Number of Photons / shot                    |                           | $10^9 - 10^{10}$  |
| Photon beam divergence                      | mrad                      | < 20              |

Thanks to the BETATRON-team / U.Chaulagain



A **very big thank** you to colleagues who sent me slides, photos and thoughts including:

*... in alphabetic order ...*

Bedrich Rus  
Daniele Margarone  
Gabriele Grittani  
Jaroslav NejdI  
Lorenzo Giuffrida  
Pavel Bakule  
Tyler Green  
Stefan Weber  
Uddhab Chaulagain

Thanks you for your attention !

## Laser systems at ELI-Beamlines (overview)

## Experimental halls

