

# Acceleration of polarized protons from laser-plasmas

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High-energy, spin-polarized particles are of great interest for a variety of applications like deep-inelastic scattering for the investigation of the proton nuclear structure or fusion, where the use of polarized reactants can increase the fusion cross-section. Acceleration of such particles via laser-plasma interaction can prove to be difficult, as the target needs to be pre-polarized. This rules out solid-state based mechanisms. Further, strong laser fields can induce the final beam's depolarization. Thus, novel acceleration schemes are required to ensure a significant degree of polarization.

In this talk, we will present an overview of the state-of-the-art for the acceleration of spin-polarized protons. Two acceleration mechanisms, Magnetic Vortex Acceleration and Collisionless Shock Acceleration, will be investigated by means of particle-in-cell simulations. The two schemes prove to be feasible options for producing highly polarized proton beams even for parameters of near-future laser facilities.

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