

EUROPEAN
PLASMA RESEARCH
ACCELERATOR
WITH
EXCELLENCE IN
APPLICATIONS



The EuPRAXIA project

a plasma-based accelerator user facility for the next decade

Massimo Ferrario (INFN-LNF)

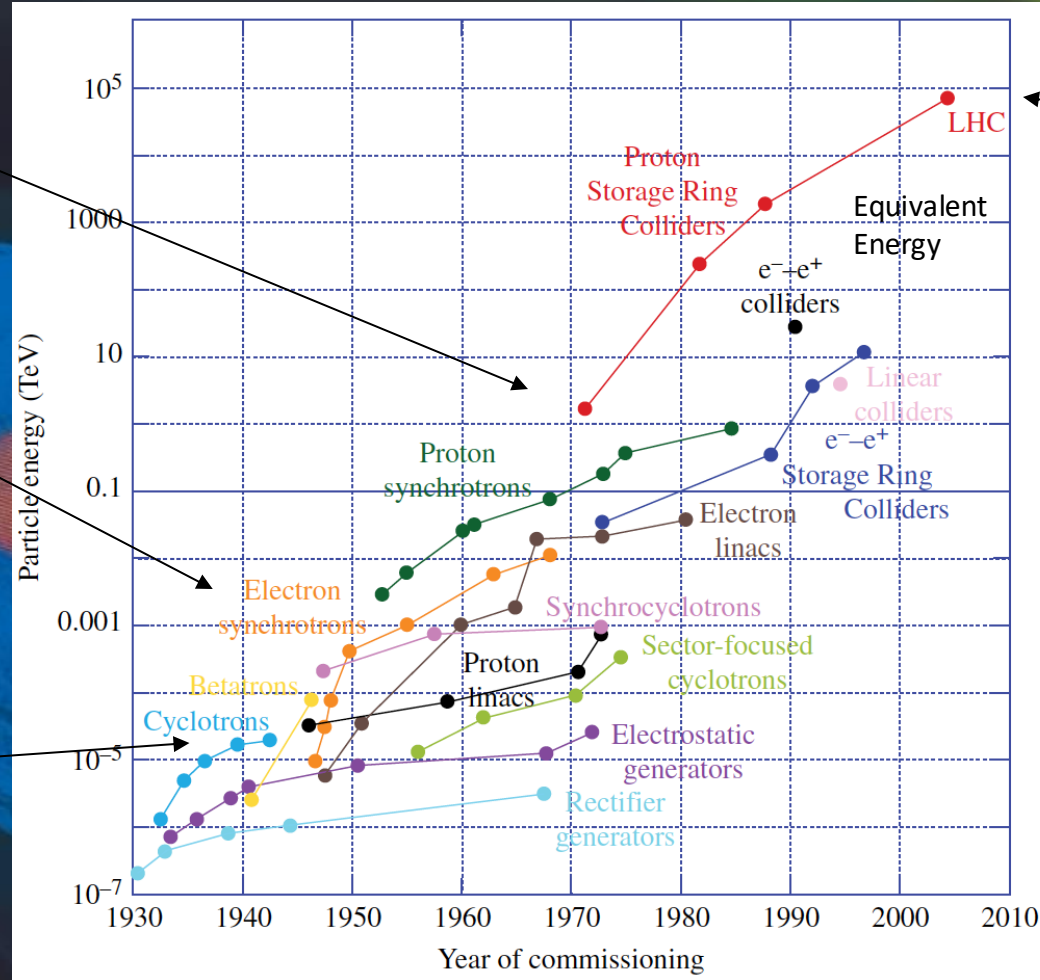
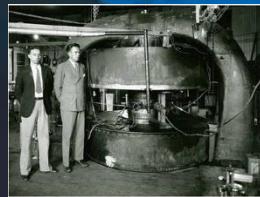
On behalf of the EuPRAXIA collaboration



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101079773

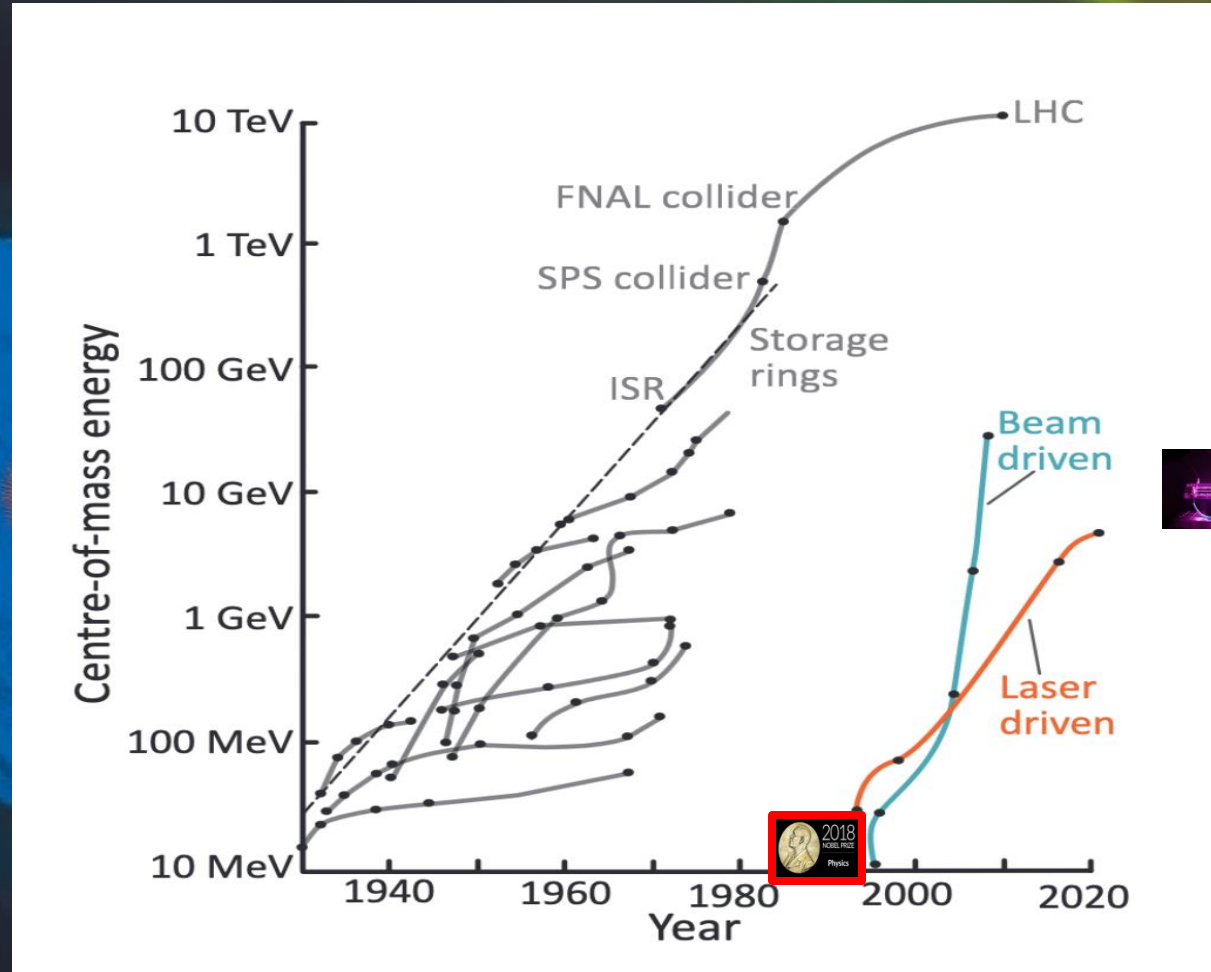


Livingstone Diagram

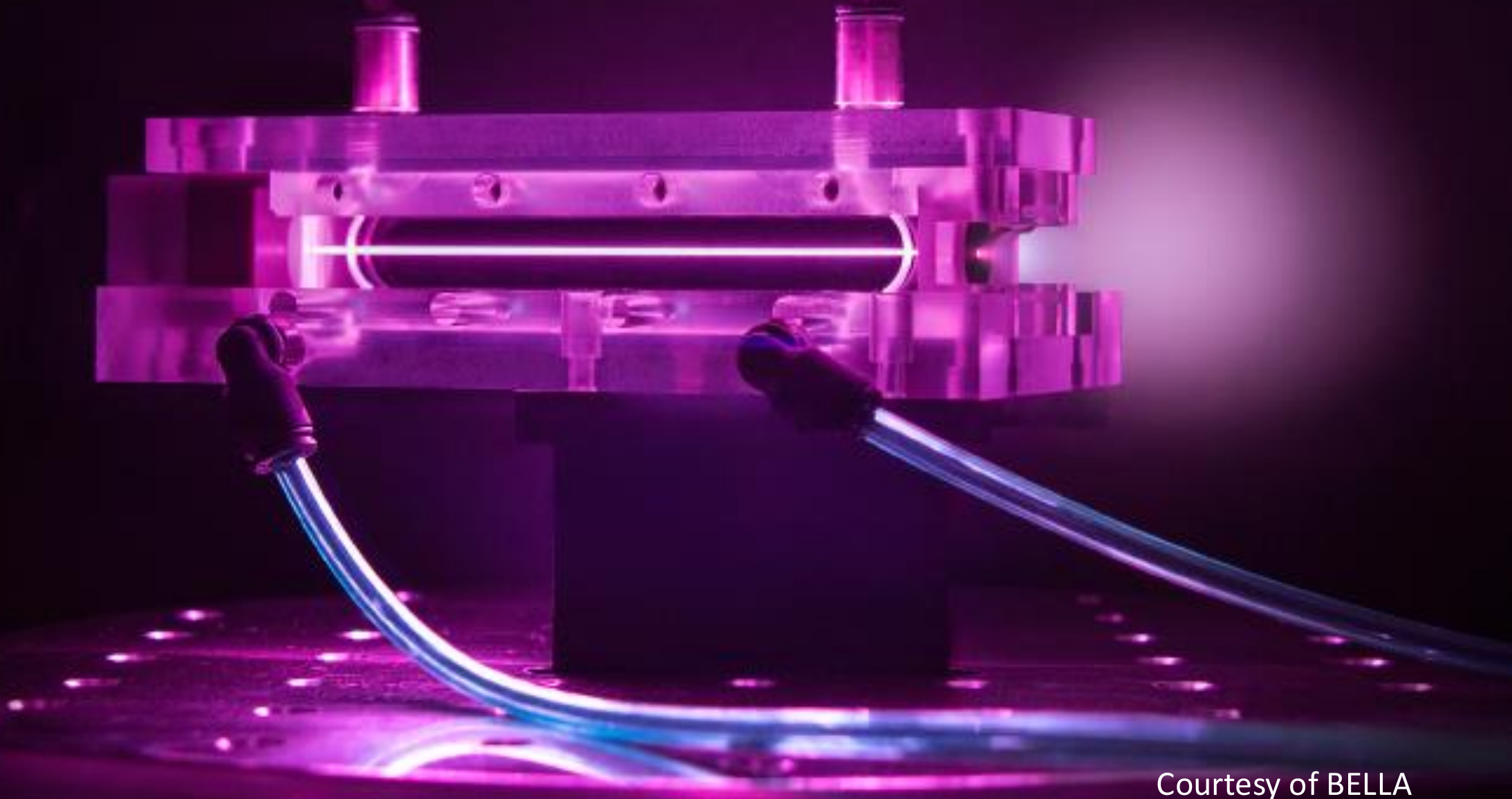


Energy of colliders is plotted in terms of the laboratory energy of particles colliding with a proton at rest to reach the same center of mass energy.

Livingstone Diagram with PWFA



Principle of plasma acceleration

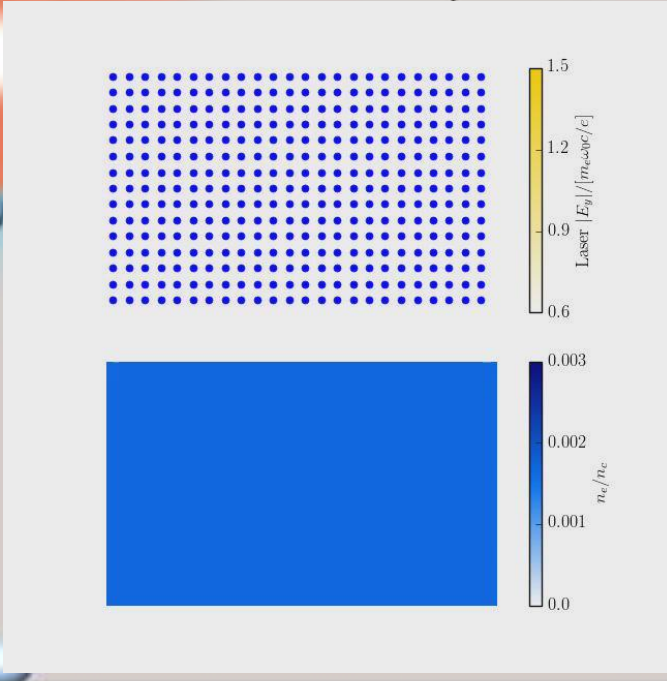
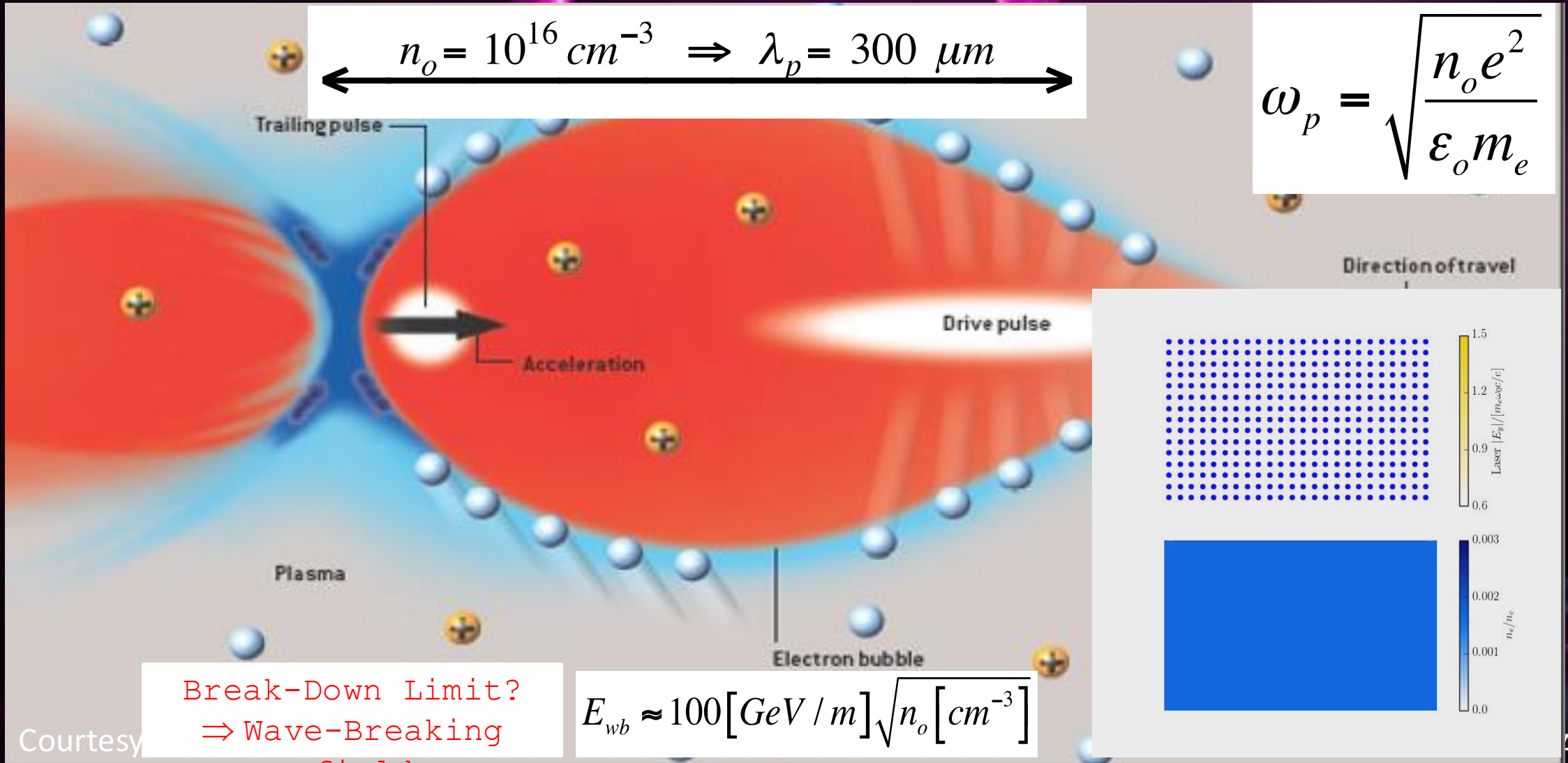


Courtesy of BELLA

Principle of plasma acceleration

$$n_o = 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3} \Rightarrow \lambda_p = 300 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

$$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{n_o e^2}{\epsilon_o m_e}}$$



Break-Down Limit?
 \Rightarrow Wave-Breaking
 field:

$$E_{wb} \approx 100 [GeV / m] \sqrt{n_o [cm^{-3}]}$$

Courtesy

A

Principle of plasma acceleration

LWFA

driven by high-power lasers.
produces high-current e-beam

PWFA

driven by high-current e-beams.
produces high-brightness e-beams.

Courtesy: DESY

EuPRAXIA is the first European project that develops a dedicated particle accelerator research infrastructure based on novel plasma acceleration concepts driven by innovative laser and linac technologies.

1

Building a facility with very high field plasma accelerators, driven by lasers or beams
1 – 100 GV/m accelerating field

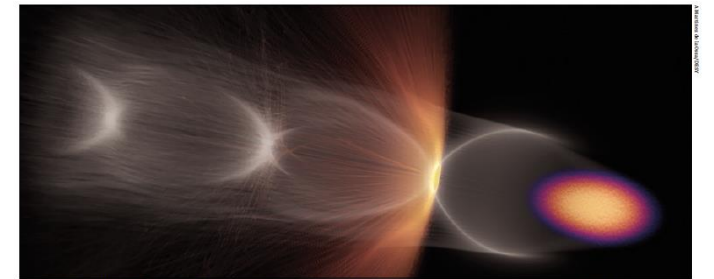
Shrink down the facility size
Improve Sustainability

2

Producing particles and photons to support several urgent and timely science cases

Drive short wavelength FEL
Pave the way for future Linear Colliders

FEATURE EuPRAXIA



Surf's up Simulation of electron-driven plasma wakefield acceleration, showing the drive electron beam (orange/purple), the plasma electron wake (grey) and wakefield-ionised electrons forming a witness beam (orange).

EUROPE TARGETS A USER FACILITY FOR PLASMA ACCELERATION

Ralph Assmann, Massimo Ferrario and Carsten Welsch describe the status of the ESFRI project EuPRAXIA, which aims to develop the first dedicated research infrastructure based on novel plasma-acceleration concepts.

Energetic beams of particles are used to explore the fundamental forces of nature, produce known and unknown particles such as the Higgs boson at the LHC, and generate new forms of matter, for example at the future FAIR facility. Photon science also relies on particle beams: electron beams that emit pulses of intense synchrotron light, including soft and hard X-rays, in either circular or linear machines. Such light sources enable time-resolved measurements of biological, chemical and physical structures on the molecular down to the atomic scale, allowing a diverse global community of users to investigate systems ranging from viruses and bacteria to materials science, planetary science, environmental science, nanotechnology and archaeology. Last but not least, particle beams for industry and health support many societal applications ranging from the X-ray inspection of cargo containers to food sterilisation, and from chip manufacturing to cancer therapy.

This scientific success story has been made possible through a continuous cycle of innovation in the physics and technology of particle accelerators, driven for many decades by exploratory research in nuclear and particle physics. The invention of radio-frequency (RF) technology in the 1920s opened the path to an energy gain of several tens of MeV per metre. Very-high-energy accelerators were constructed with RF technology, entering the GeV and finally the TeV energy scales at the Tevatron and the LHC. New collision schemes were developed, for example the mini "beta squeeze" in the 1970s, advancing luminosity and collision rates by orders of magnitudes. The invention of stochastic cooling at CERN enabled the discovery of the W and Z bosons 40 years ago.

However, intrinsic technological and conceptual limits mean that the size and cost of RF-based particle accelerators are increasing as researchers seek higher beam energies. Colliders for particle physics have reached a

THE AUTHORS

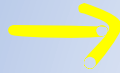
Ralph Assmann
DESY and INFN,
Massimo Ferrario
INFN, Carsten
Welsch
University
of Liverpool/INFN.

- Free Electron Laser



Flagship Science Goal 1: EuPRAXIA will deliver free-electron laser (FEL) X rays with 10^9 - 10^{13} photons per pulse to user areas, covering wavelengths of 0.2 nm to 36 nm. The EuPRAXIA FEL pulses are naturally short (down to 0.4 fs) and will therefore provide users with tools for investigating processes and structures in ultra-fast photon science at a reduced facility footprint.

- Betatron Radiation Source



Flagship Science Goal 2: EuPRAXIA will deliver betatron X rays with about 10^{10} photons per pulse, up to 100 Hz repetition rate and an energy of 5-18 keV to users from the medical area. The much reduced longitudinal length of the X ray emission area (point-like emission) leads to an important improvement in image resolution compared to other techniques.

- Positron Beams

Flagship Science Goal 3: EuPRAXIA will deliver positron beams at energies from 0.5 MeV to 10 MeV and a repetition rate of 100 Hz for material science studies. Per pulse about 10^6 positrons will be produced in a time duration of 20-90 picoseconds on the sample, allowing time-resolved studies. EuPRAXIA will here advance the capabilities of existing positron sources in flux and time resolution.

- e+ / e- beams

Flagship Science Goal 4: EuPRAXIA will deliver electron and positron beams at energies from a few 100 MeV up to 5 GeV for high energy physics related R&D (detectors, linear collider topics). R&D goals include the demonstration of a linear collider stage, a "table top" HEP test beam and studies on positron transport and acceleration towards a linear collider.

- ICS Photon Beams

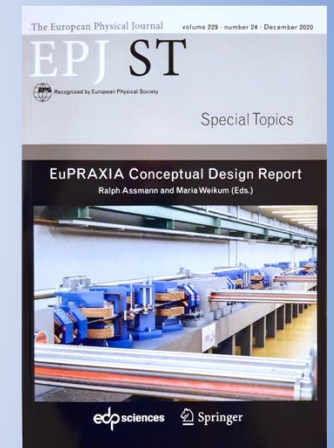
Flagship Science Goal 5: EuPRAXIA will deliver photons from an inverse Compton scattering (ICS) source. The photons of up to 600 MeV and with narrow-band spectrum will enable precision nuclear physics and highly penetrative radiography for users.

- High Rep. Rate Laser

Flagship Science Goal 6: EuPRAXIA will provide access to a multi-stage, high-repetition rate plasma accelerator in the GeV range to users from accelerator science. This R&D platform will allow the testing of novel ideas and concepts, full optimisation of a plasma collider stage, certain fixed target experiments (also in combination with lasers) and performance studies of conventional versus novel accelerator technology.

- Laser Technology

Flagship Science Goal 7: EuPRAXIA will provide access to cutting edge laser technology with short pulse length in combination with high energy photon pulses and short electron/positron bunches. Novel schemes of pump probe configurations and ultra-precise timing will be researched, feeding back into laser science.



600+ page CDR, 240 scientists contributor

Fascio di elettroni: da 500 MeV a 2 GeV, 100 pC single bunch a 400 Hz, energy spread 0.5%, emittanza rms norm. 0.5 mm.mrad, lunghezza bunch inferiore al psec, focalizzato a $\sigma_{\text{max}}=15$ micron al punto di interazione con il laser

Laser: 1.2 eV Yb:Yag ($\lambda=1030$), 0.5 Joule di energia nell'impulso a 400 Hz, $M2=1.2$, bandwidth=0.001, $\sigma\text{-t}=1.5$ psec, focalizzato a $W0=25$ micron al punto di collisione

E-elettroni = 750 MeV, energia fotoni gamma 10. MeV

E-elettroni = 1000 MeV, energia fotoni gamma 18. MeV

E-elettroni = 2000 MeV, energia fotoni gamma 73. MeV

Numero fotoni gamma a 10 MeV al secondo compresi in una bandwidth di 0.5% = $1.7 * 10^8$

Densità spettrale del fascio di fotoni gamma a 10 MeV = 3320. fotoni / (sec.eV)

Le prestazioni di ELI-NP come da TDR erano: densità spettrale a 10 MeV 5000.

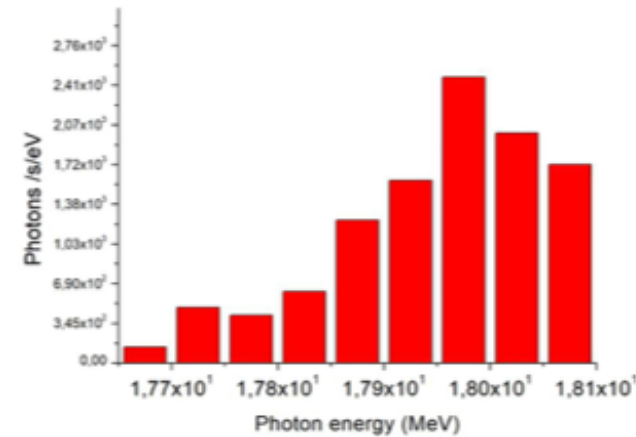
Quindi siamo nel range, diciamo forse inferiori solo di un fattore 2, ma con la possibilità di arrivare a 2 GeV quindi con energia di fotoni molto maggiore di ELI-NP, la cui energia massima era 19.5 MeV.

CAIN simulations for a Gamma source at EupraXia

Laser		
wavelength	micron	1.03
sigma	micron	20
Energy	J	0.5

Electrons @EupraXia		
Charge	pC	100
Electron energy	GeV	1
Emittance	mm mrad	0.6
Energy spread	Per mill	0.4
sigma_rms	micron	20

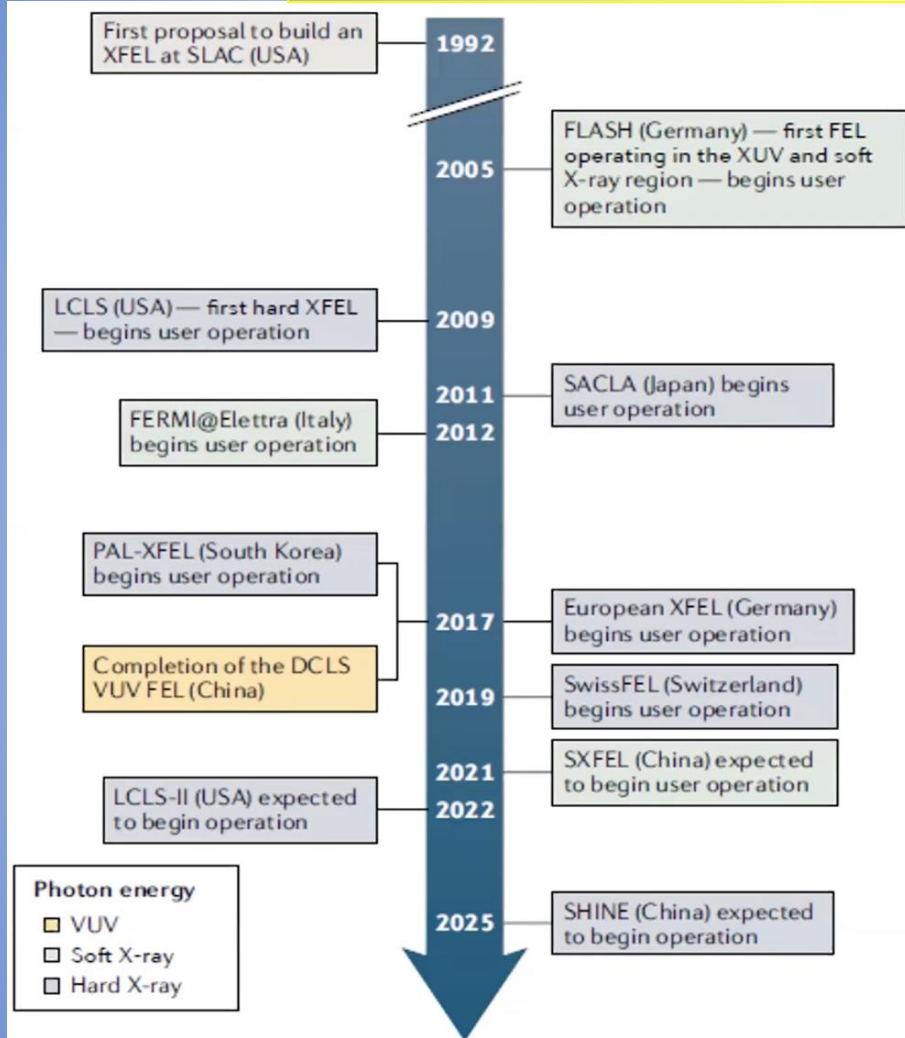
Radiation		
Photon energy	MeV	18
Photon number per shot	$\times 10^8$	1.38
Rep rate		400
Bandwidth	Per mill	5
Collimation angle	microrad	450
Number of collimated photons per shot	$\times 10^6$	1.34
Collimated photons/s	Number/s	5.33×10^8
Spectral density in 1 eV	Number/s/eV	2500



Courtesy V. Petrillo & L. Serafini

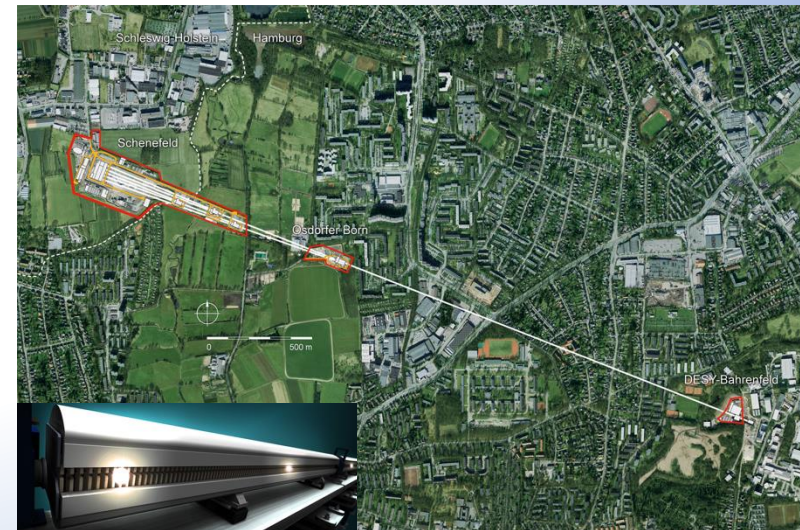
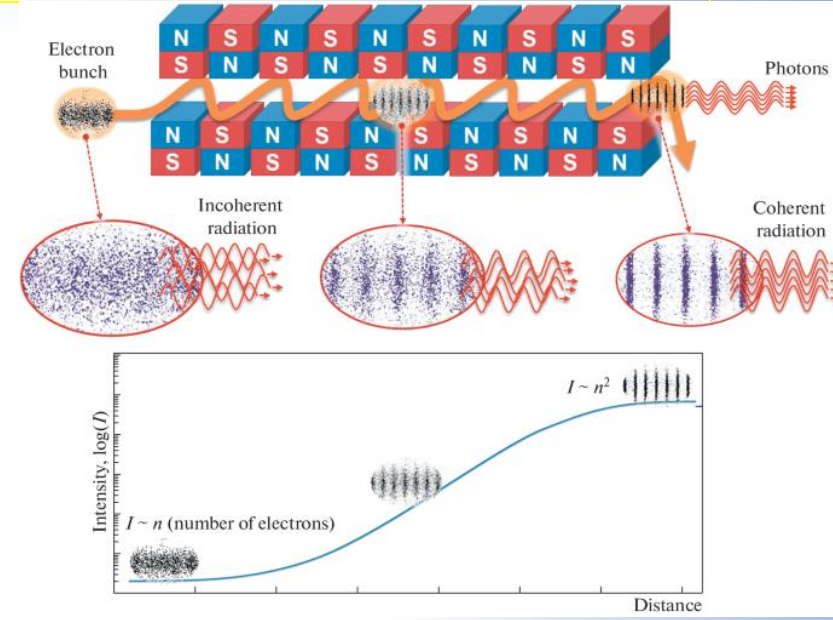
FEL is a well established technology

(But a widespread use of FEL is partially limited by its size and costs)

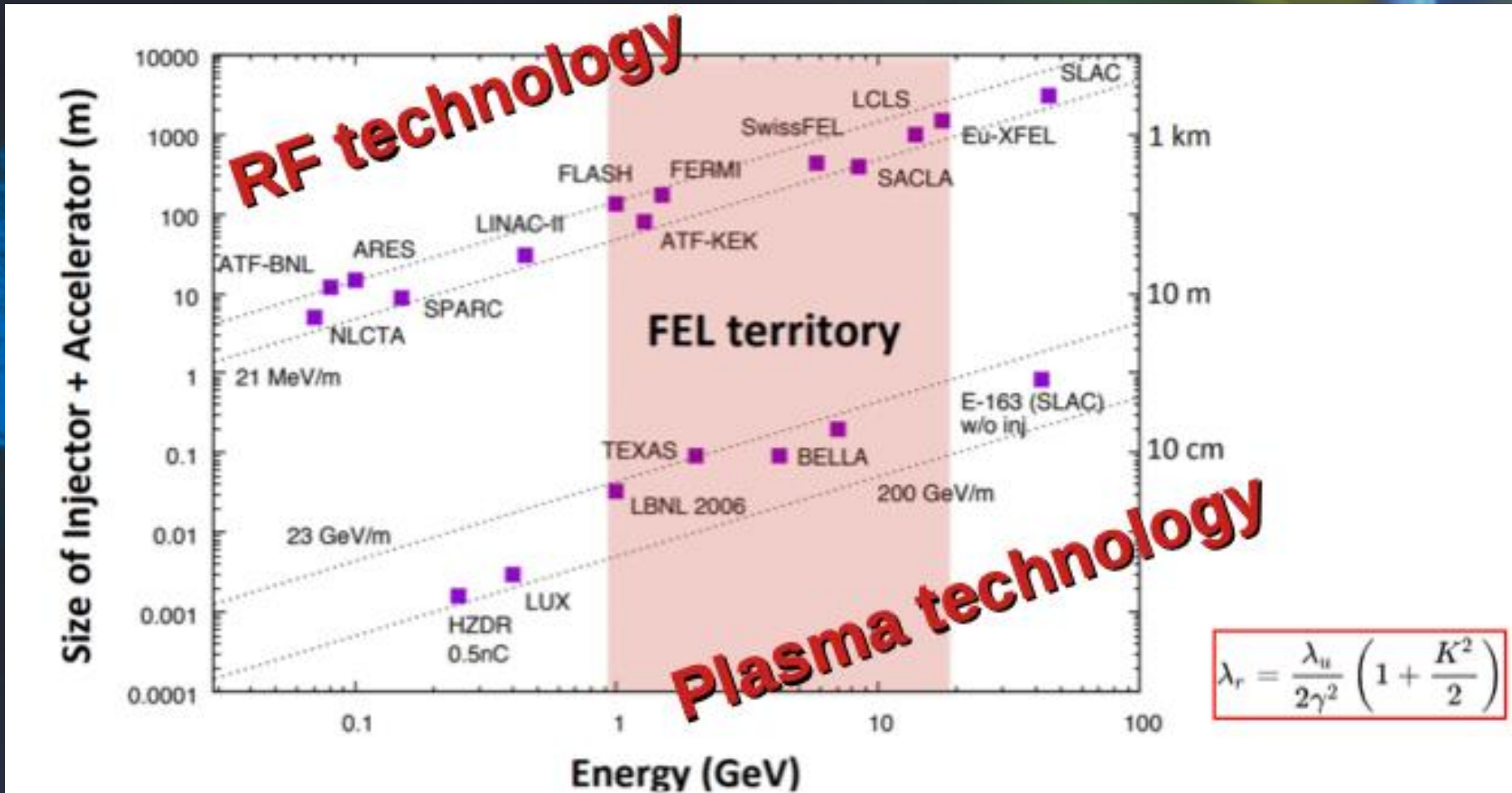


New facilities are expected to begin operation in the next 5 years in the USA and China, and the UK is considering the scientific case for an XFEL.


Iulia Georgescu




High Quality Beams Required



Basic beam quality achieved in pilot FEL experiments

EuPRAXIA 2021 Plasma FEL Feasibility Proven: Laser-driven 

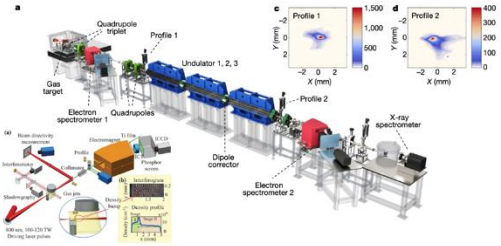



Recent ground-breaking result in China

500 MeV electron beam from a laser wakefield accelerator

FEL lasing **amplification of 100** reached at 27 nm wavelength (average radiation energy 70 nJ, peak up to 150 nJ)

W. T. Wang, K. Feng, et al., *Nature*, 595, 561 (2021).

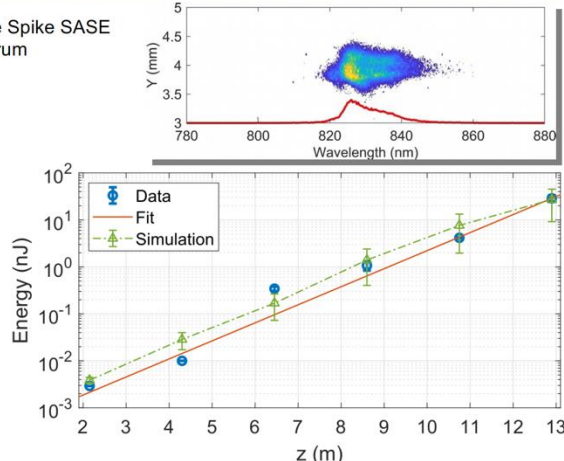
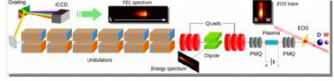


EuPRAXIA 2021 Plasma FEL Feasibility Proven: Electron-driven 

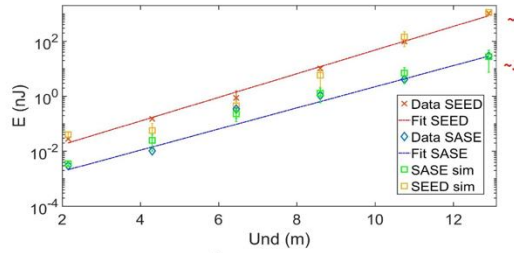
Recent ground-breaking results in Frascati: First FEL lasing from a beam-driven plasma accelerator

Pompili et al., *Nature* 605, 659–662 (2022)

Single Spike SASE spectrum

EuPRAXIA First Beam Driven SEEDED - FEL Lasing at SPARC_LAB (June 2021)



~1 uJ (SEED)
~30 nJ (SASE)

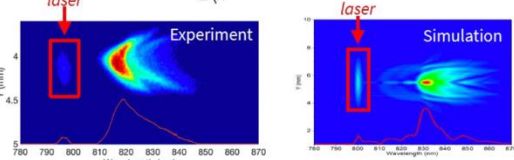
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 129, 234801 (2022)


Stable Operation of a Free-Electron Laser Driven by a Plasma Accelerator

M. Galliani,^{1,2,3} D. Alessi,¹ M. P. Anania,¹ S. Armand,¹ M. Behoue,¹ M. Bellavista,¹ A. Biagioni,¹ B. Bonomo,¹ F. Casella,¹ M. Carpanese,¹ E. Chantoni,^{1,2} A. Cianchi,^{1,2} G. Cozzi,¹ A. Dei Dato,¹ M. Del Giacco,¹ F. Di Pasquale,¹ A. Doria,¹ F. Filippi,¹ G. Franzini,¹ L. Giannessi,¹ A. Gibboni,¹ P. Iovine,¹ V. Lollo,¹ A. Mostacci,¹ F. Nguyen,¹ M. Opomella,^{1,2} L. Pellegrino,¹ A. Petralia,¹ V. Pettilio,^{1,2} L. Piersanti,¹ G. Di Piro,¹ R. Pompili,¹ S. Romeo,¹ A. R. Rossi,¹ A. Selce,^{1,3} V. Shpakov,¹ A. Stella,¹ C. Vaccarezza,¹ F. Villa,¹ A. Zigler,^{1,2} and M. Ferrario¹

Seeded FEL radiation

- ✓ Pulse energy increased 2 order of magnitude respect to SASE radiation
- ✓ 6% pulse energy RMS fluctuations over 90% of successful shot respect to 17% over 30% of shot for SASE



EuPRAXIA Seeded UV free-electron laser driven by LWFA 

Collaboration Soleil/HZ Dresden, published on *Nat. Photon.* (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41566-022-01104-w>

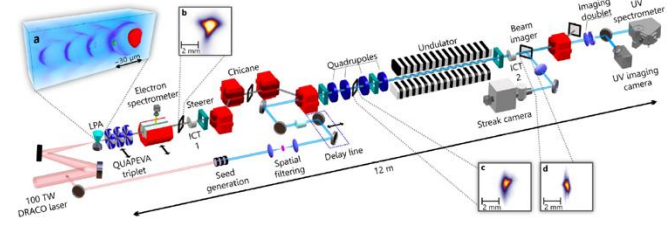
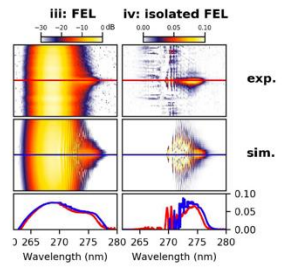
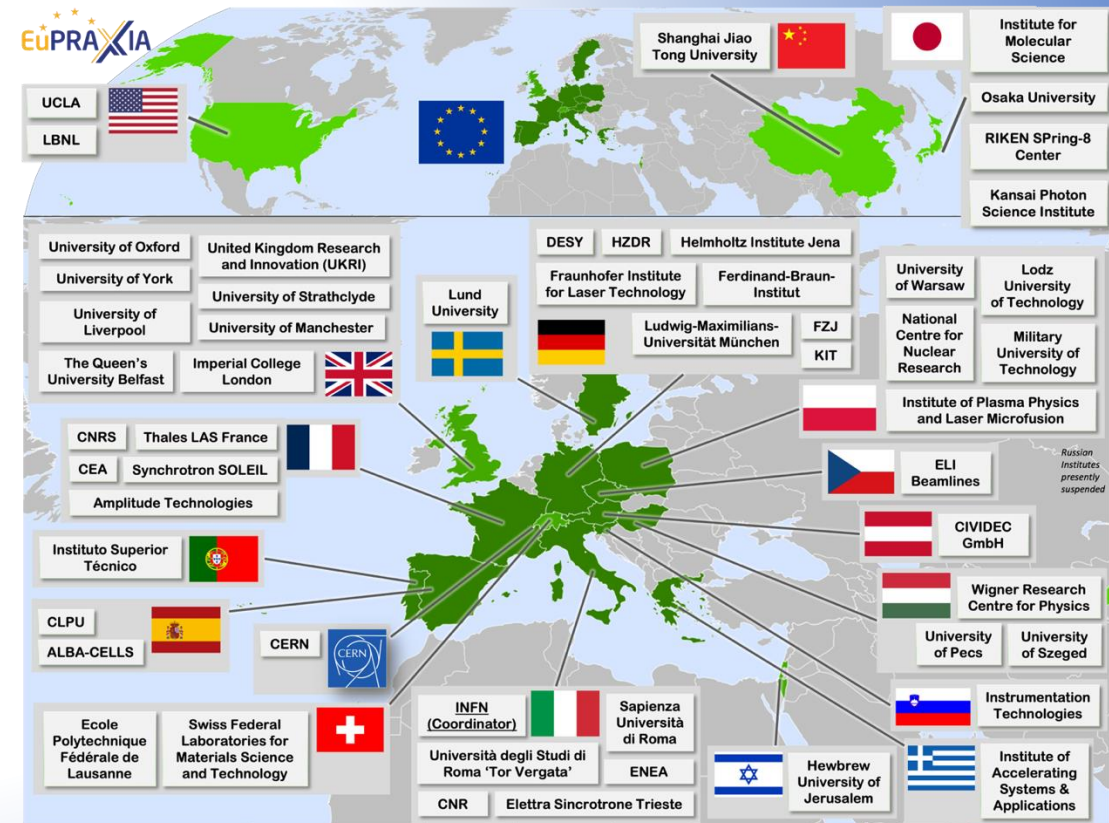



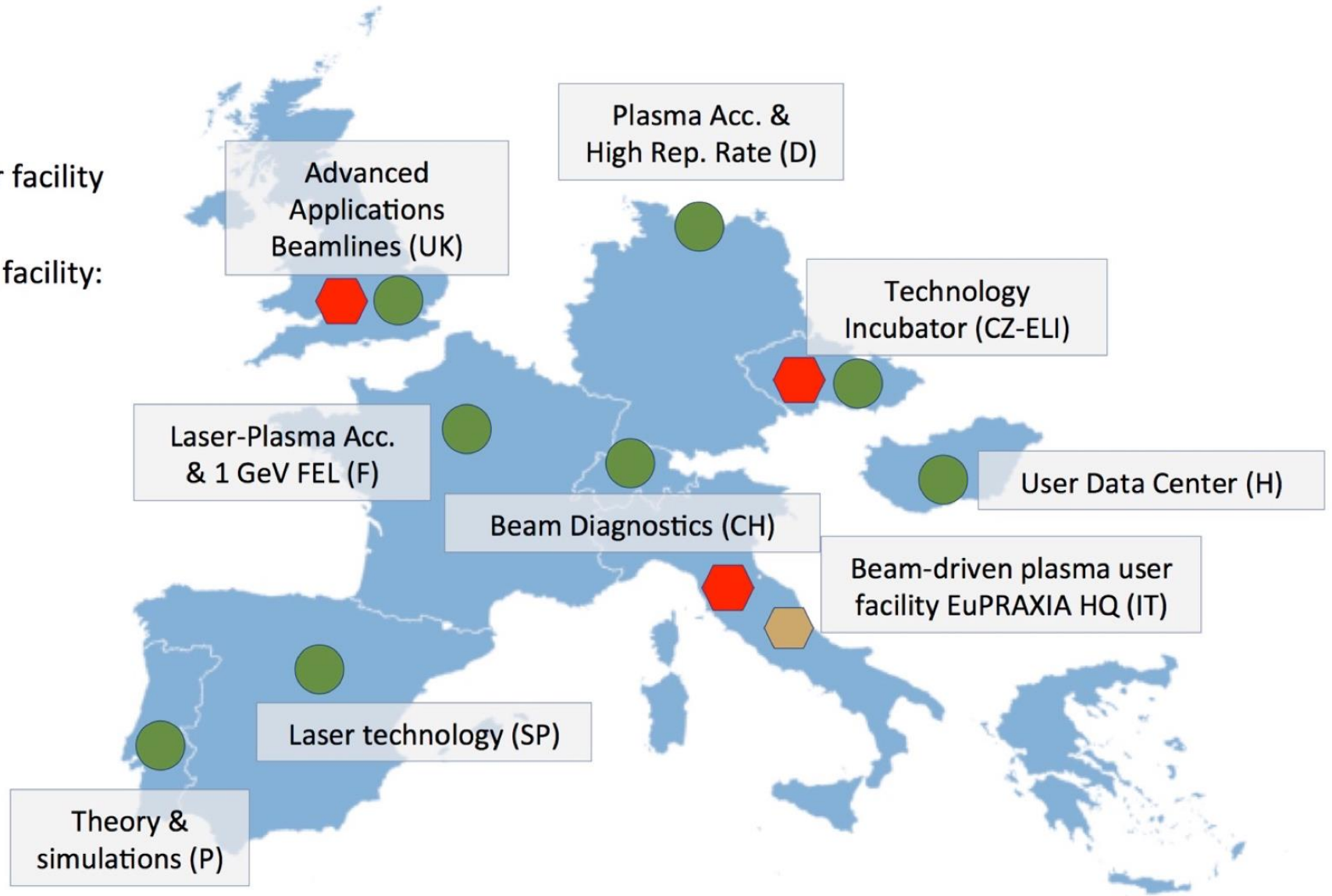



FIG. 1. Experimental layout. The electron beam generated in the LPA is first characterized using a removable electron spectrometer and then sent through a triplet of quadrupoles (QUAPEVAs) for beam transport to the undulator and FEL radiation generation. ICTs: Integrated Current Transformers. Non-labelled elements: dipoles (red blocks), optical lenses (blue), mirrors (grey circled black disks). Inset a: Particle-in-Cell simulation renders of the accelerating structure driven by the laser pulse (red), the electron cavity sheet formed from the plasma medium (light blue) is visible in purple and the accelerated electron bunch visible in green. Insets b,c,d: Electron beam transverse distribution measured at LPA exit (b), at undulator entrance (c) and at undulator exit (d).

- The EuPRAXIA Consortium today: **54 institutes** from **18 countries** plus CERN
- Included in the **ESFRI Road Map**
- Efficient fund raising:
 - Preparatory Phase consortium (funding EU, UK, Switzerland, in-kind)
 - Doctoral Network (funding EU, UK, in-kind)
 - EuPRAXIA@SPARC_LAB (Italy, in-kind)
 - EuAPS Project (Next Generation EU)
 - **What Next? => PACRI !**

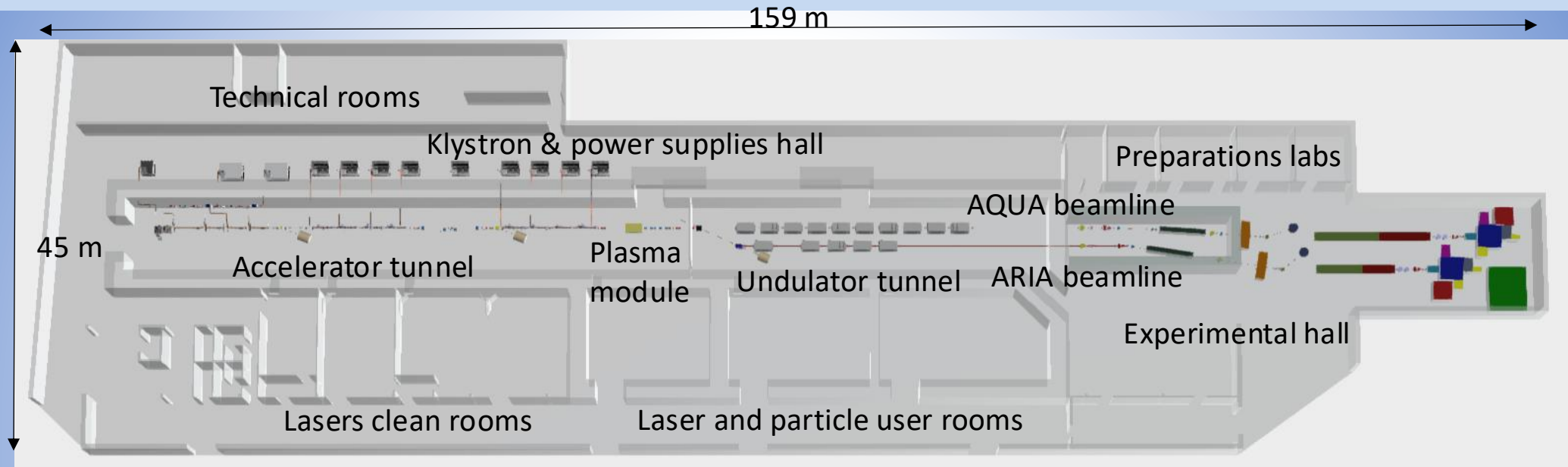


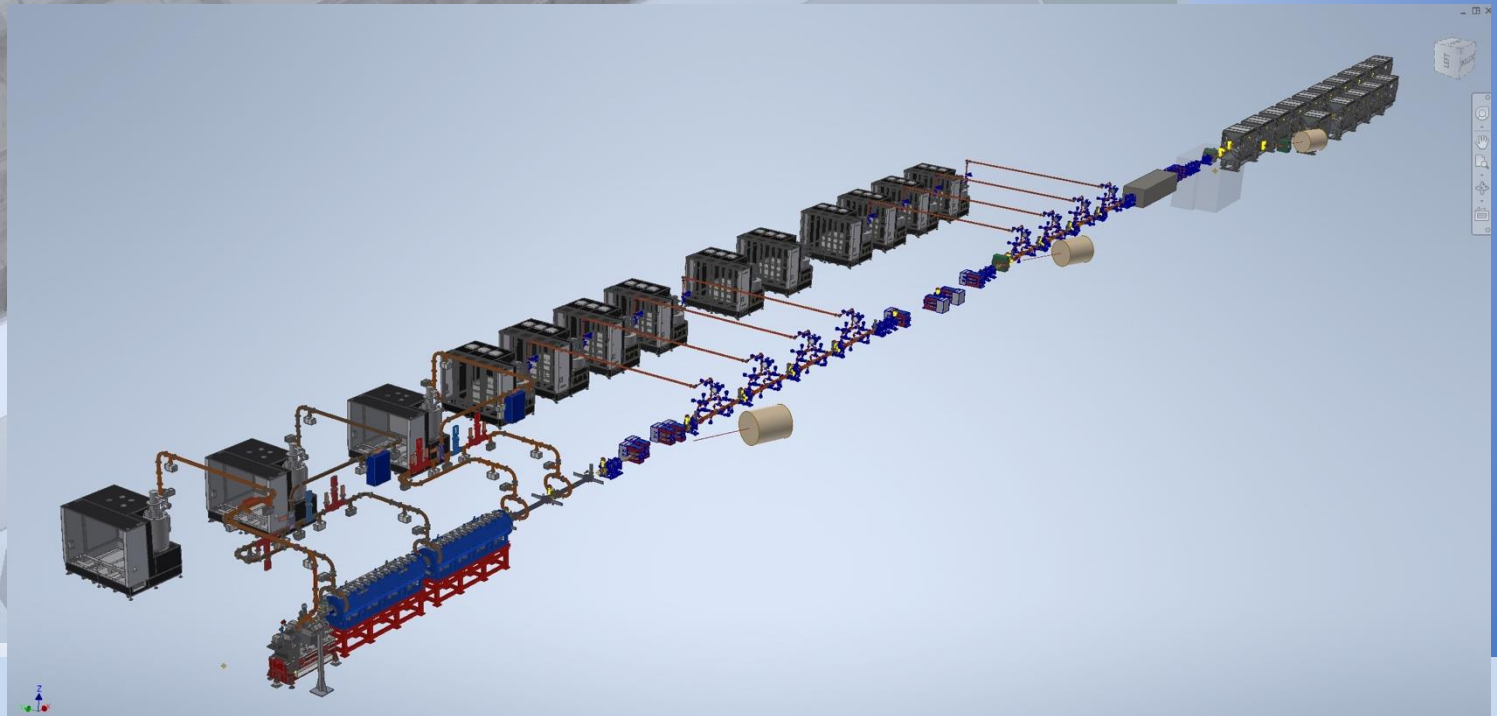
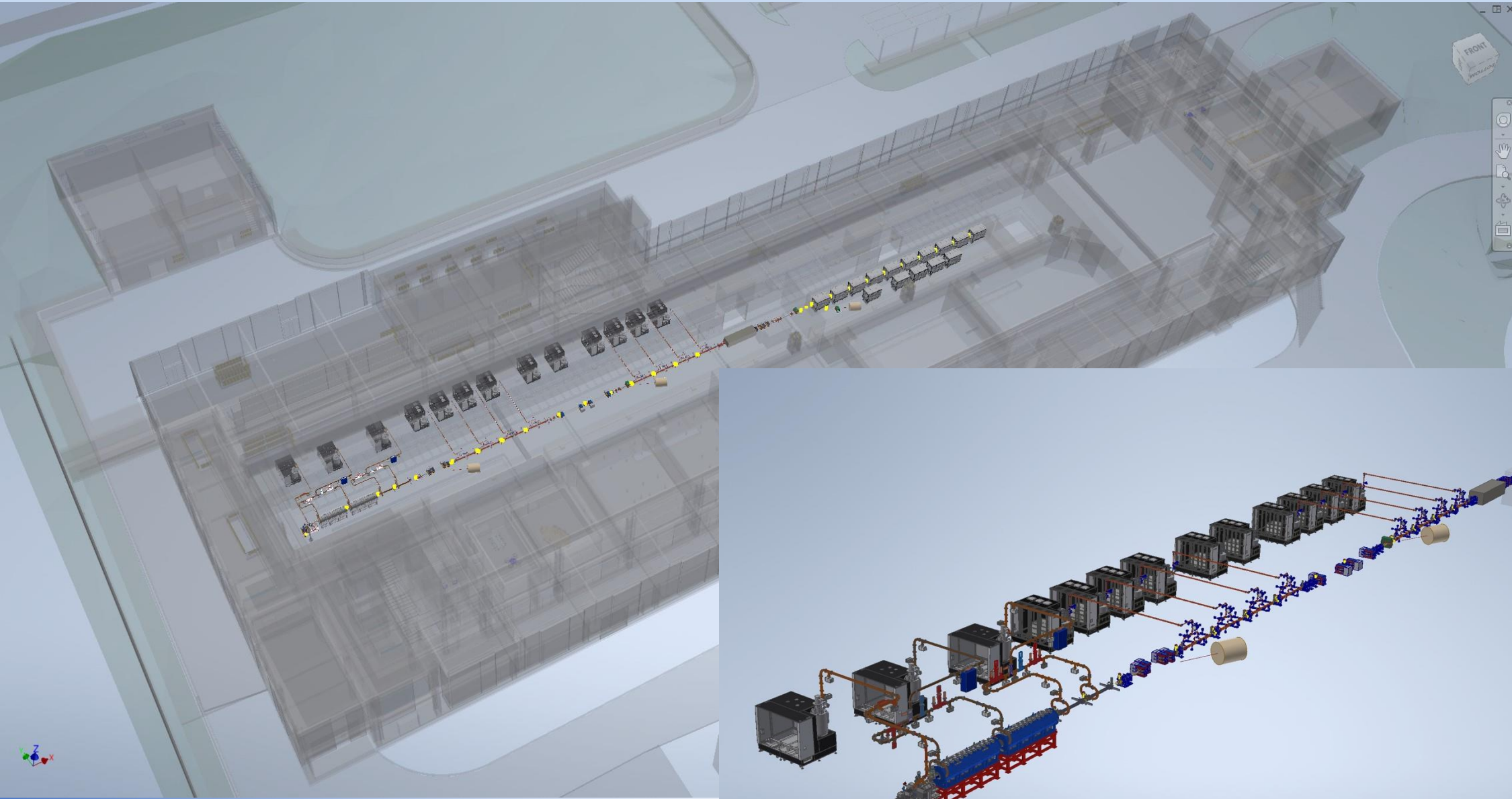
-  Beam-driven plasma user facility
EuPRAXIA Headquarter
-  Laser-driven plasma user facility:
candidates
-  National nodes
(tentative names)

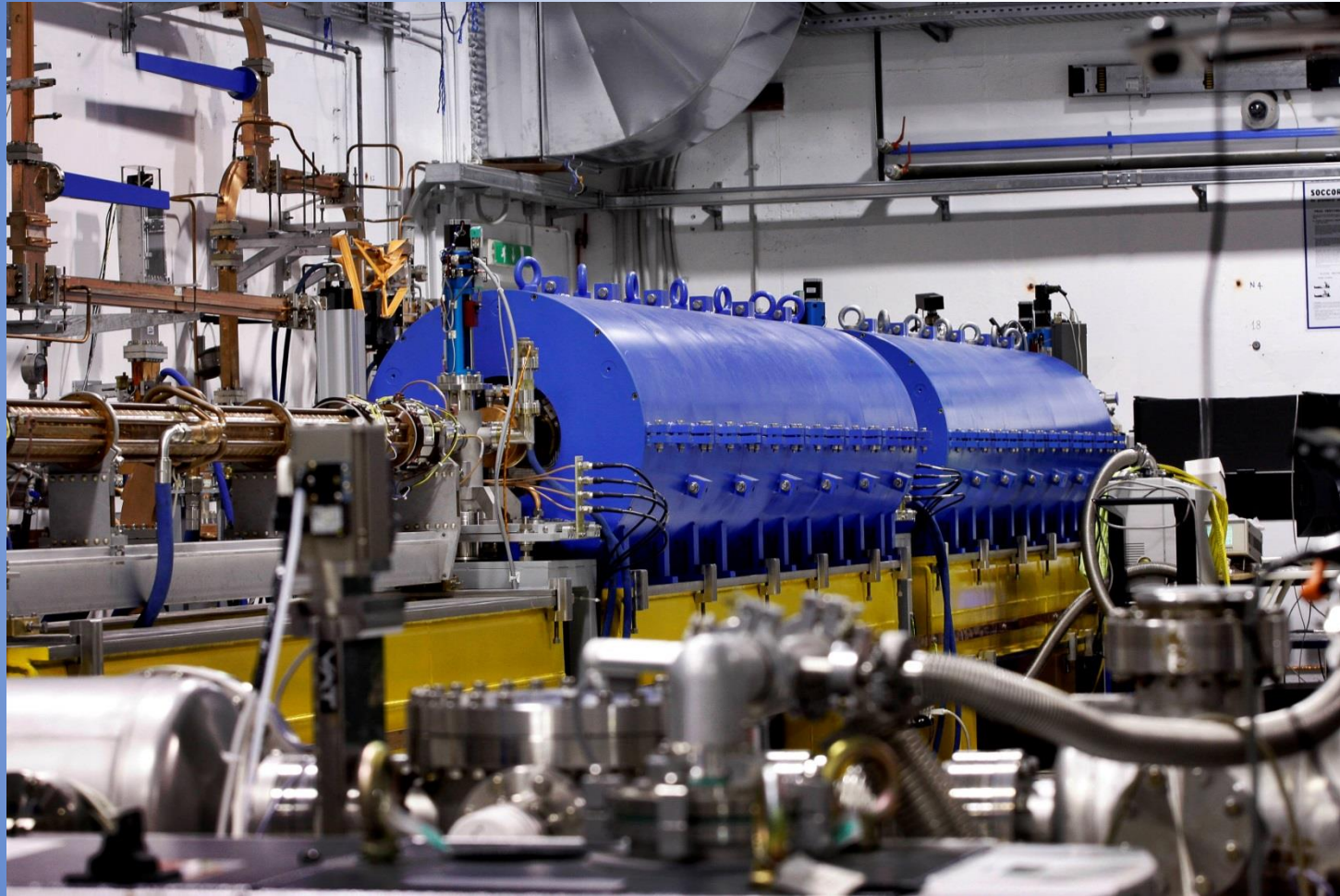




- Frascati`s future facility
- > 130 M€ invest funding
- Beam-driven plasma accelerator
- Europe`s most compact and most southern FEL
- The world`s most compact RF accelerator (X band with CERN)

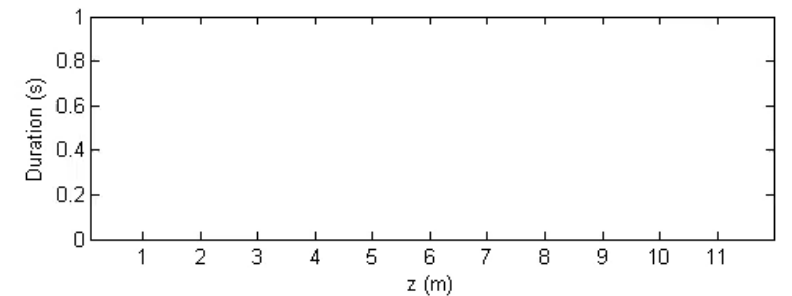
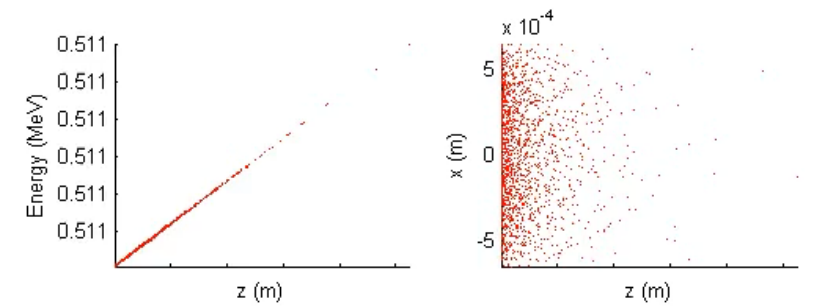


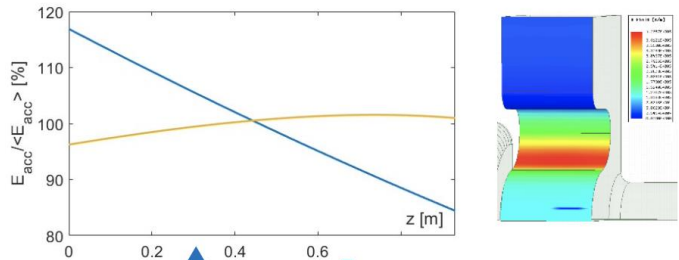




Parameter	Unit	Witness	Driver
Charge	pC	30	200
Energy	MeV	101.5	103.2
RMS energy spread	%	0.15	0.67
RMS bunch length	fs	12	20
RMS norm. emittance	mm mrad	0.69	1.95
Rep. rate	Hz	10	10

Table 7.2: Driver and witness beam parameters at the end of photo-injector.





1. E.m. design: *done*

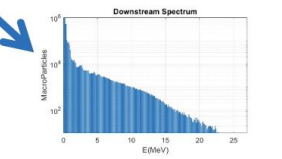
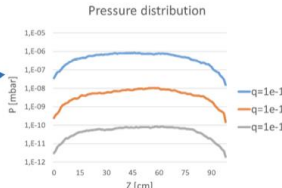
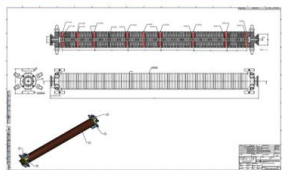
2. Thermo-mechanical analysis: *done*

3. Mechanical design: *done*

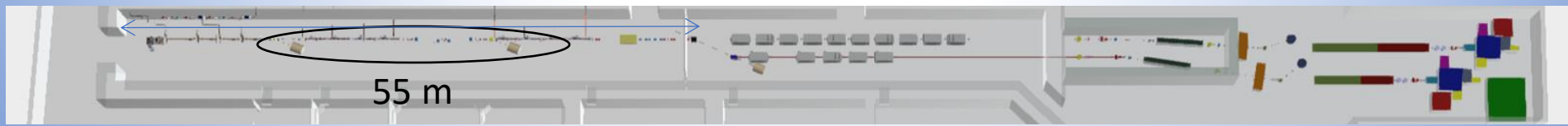
4. Vacuum calculations: *done*

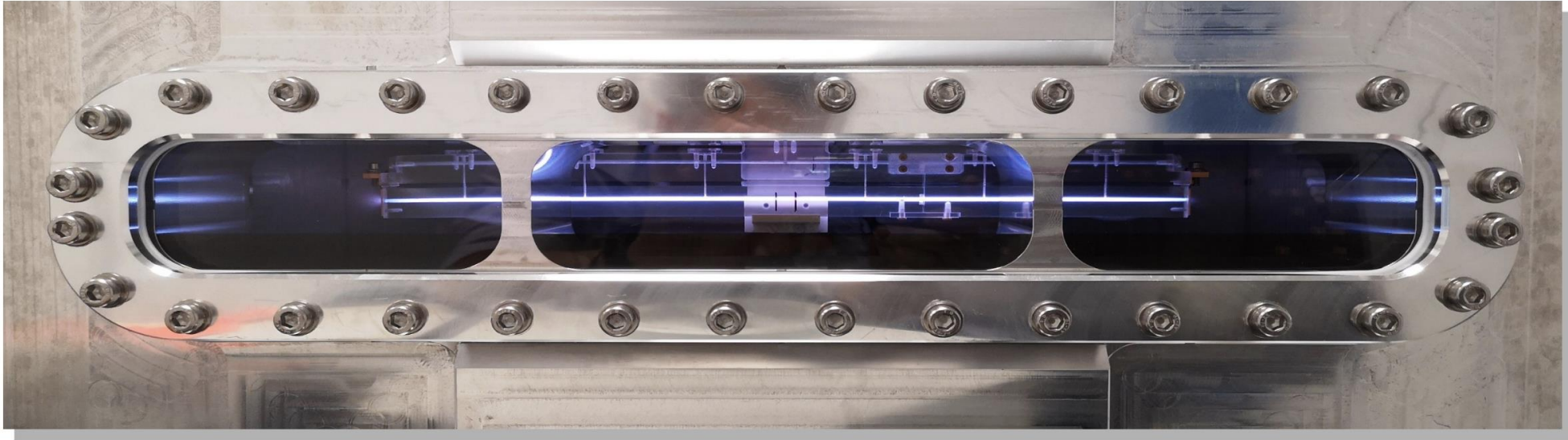
5. Dark current simulations: *done*

6. Waveguide distribution simulation with attenuation calculations: *done*



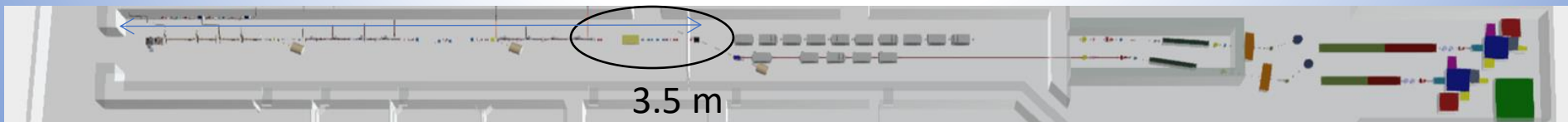
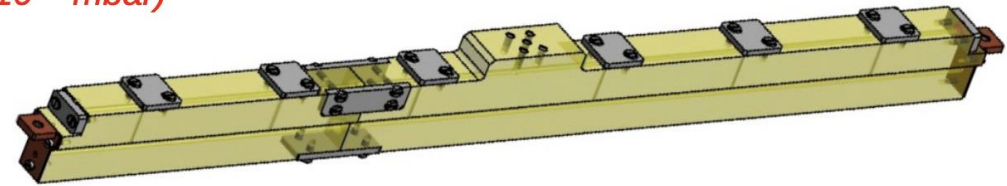
PARAMETER	Value	
	with linear tapering	w/o tapering
Frequency [GHz]	11.9942	
Average acc. gradient [MV/m]	60	
Structures per module	2	
Iris radius a [mm]	3.85-3.15	3.5
Tapering angle [deg]	0.04	0
Struct. length L_s act. Length (flange-to-flange) [m]	0.94 (1.05)	
No. of cells	112	
Shunt impedance R [MΩ/m]	93-107	100
Effective shunt Imp. $R_{sh\ eff}$ [MΩ/m]	350	347
Peak input power per structure [MW]	70	
Input power averaged over the pulse [MW]	51	
Average dissipated power [kW]	1	
P_{out}/P_{in} [%]	25	
Filling time [ns]	130	
Peak Modified Poynting Vector [W/μm ²]	3.6	4.3
Peak surface electric field [MV/m]	160	190
Unloaded SLED/BOC Q-factor Q_0	150000	
External SLED/BOC Q-factor Q_E	21300	20700
Required Kly power per module [MW]	20	
RF pulse [μs]	1.5	
Rep. Rate [Hz]	100	





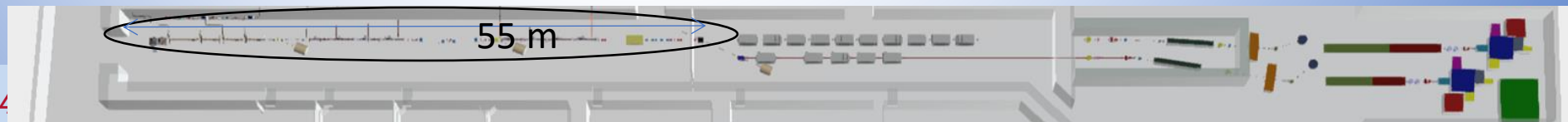
- 40 cm long capillary → 1st prototype for the EuPRAXIA facility
 - *Made with special junction to allow negligible gas leaks (10^{-10} mbar)*
- Operating conditions
 - *1 Hz repetition rate (to be increased up to 100 Hz)*
 - *10 kV – 380 A minimum values for ionization*
 - *6 inlets for gas injection. Electro-valve aperture time 8-12 ms*

A. Biagioni, V. Lollo



Parameter	Unit	PWFA	Full X-band
Electron Energy	GeV	1-1.2	1
Bunch Charge	pC	30-50	200-500
Peak Current	kA	1-2	1-2
RMS Energy Spread	%	0.1	0.1
RMS Bunch Length	μm	6-3	24-20
RMS norm Emittance	μm	1	1
Slice Energy Spread	%	≤ 0.05	≤ 0.05
Slice norm Emittance	mm-mrad	0.5	0.5

- Two different configurations:
 - Main: ~ 500 MeV beam from the X-band linac + 60 cm capillary **PWFA** acceleration up to **1.2 GeV**
 - Smaller accelerated charge
 - Shorter pulses
 - Final energy easily upgradable in future with similar building occupancy ($\sim m$)
 - Secondary: ~ 1 GeV beam from the **X-band** linac alone (with additional RF power)
 - Larger charge per bunch
 - Longer pulses
 - At the upper limit of RF technology (not easily upgradable without extending the occupancy)

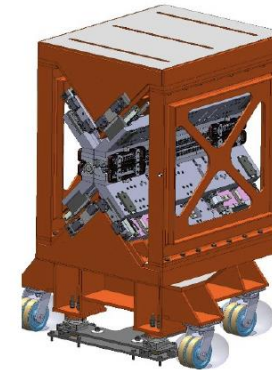


Two FEL lines:

1) **AQUA:** Soft-X ray SASE FEL – Water window optimized for 4 nm (baseline)

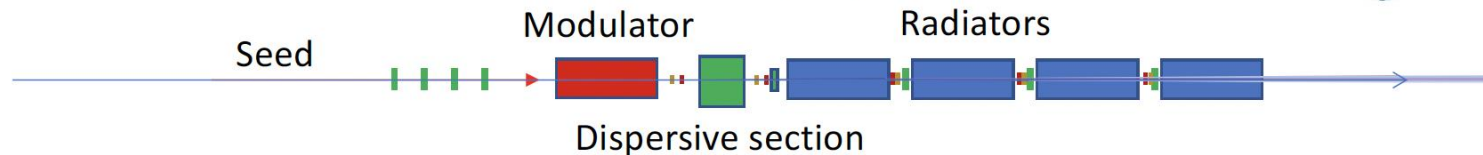


SASE FEL: 10 UM Modules, 2 m each – 60 cm intraundulator sections.
 Two technologies under study: Apple-X PMU (baseline) and planar SCU.
 Prototyping in progress



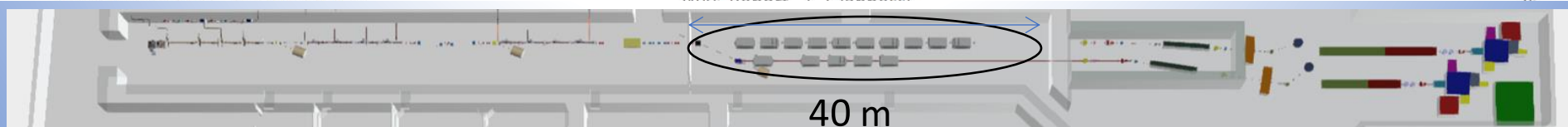
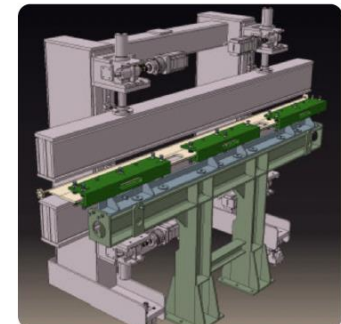
FERMI FEL-1 Radiator

2) **ARIA:** VUV seeded HGHG FEL beamline for gas phase



SEEDED FEL – Modulator 3 m + 4 Radiators APPLE II – variable pol. 2.2 m each – SEEDED in the range 50-100 nm (see former presentation to the committee and *Villa et al. ARIA—A VUV Beamline for EuPRAXIA@SPARC_LAB. Condens. Matter 2022, 7, 11.*) – Undulator based on consolidated technology.

Frascati 06/05/23 – EUPRAXIA TDR

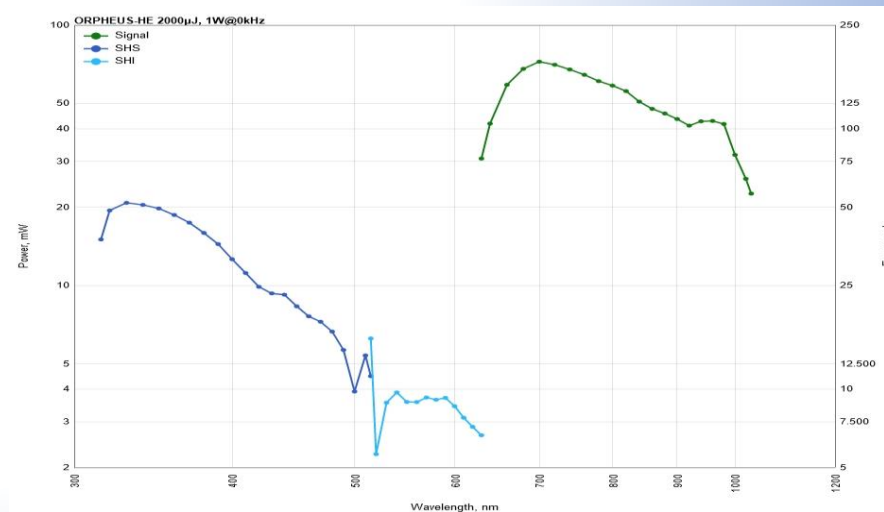


Undulator parameters	AQUA
Period (mm)	18
Maximum strength (k)	1.47
Minimum gap (mm)	6
Active length (m)	19.8

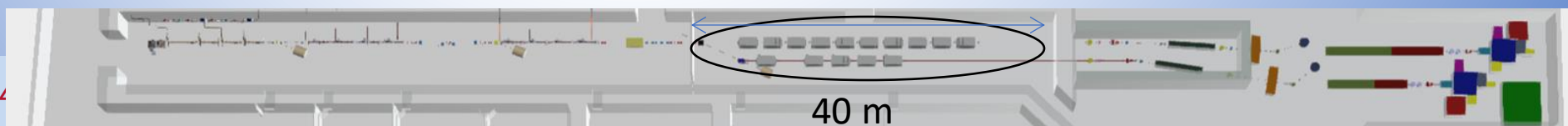
Undulator parameters	ARIA	
	Modulator	Radiator
Period (mm)	100	55
Active length (m)	3.0	8.4
Seeding laser	OPA configuration	
Seeding wavelengths (nm)	320-400 + 600-800	
Seeding energy	>20 μ J	
Seeding duration	200 fs	



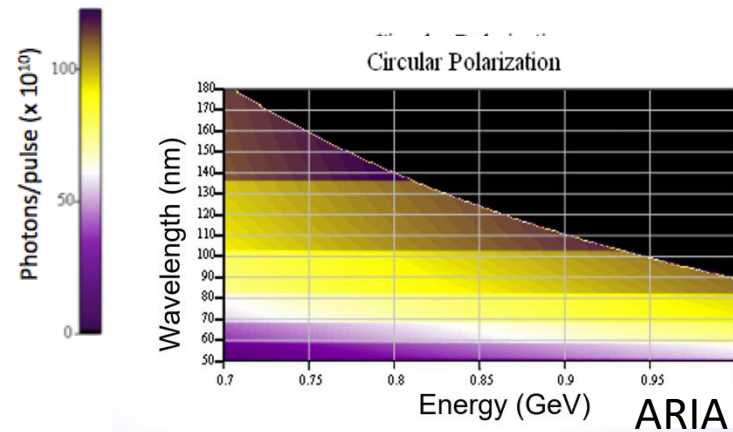
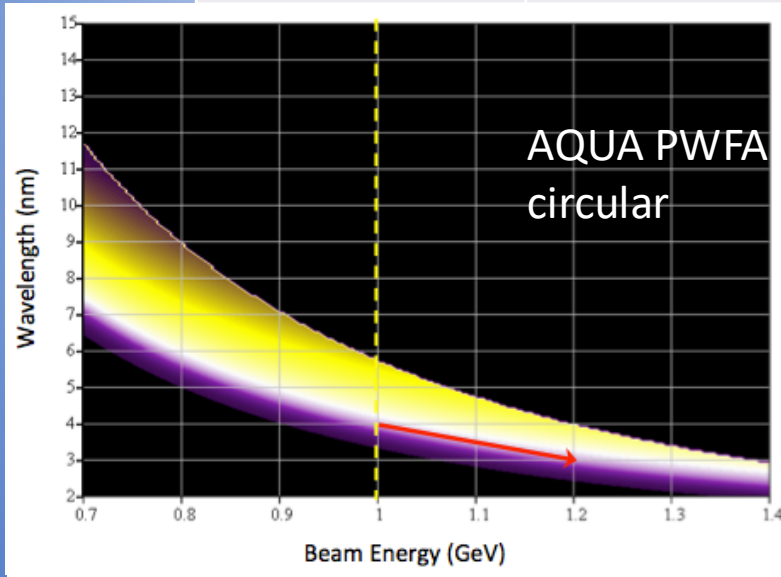
APPLE X undulator allow for polarization tuning (from linear to circular)



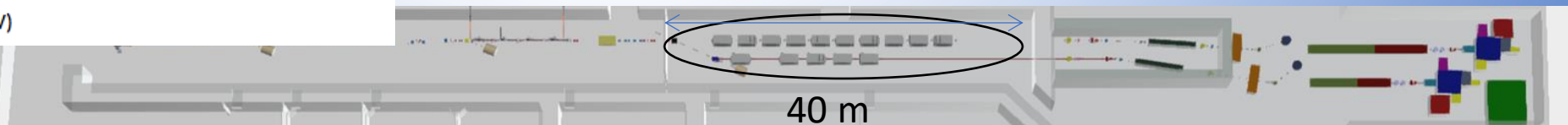
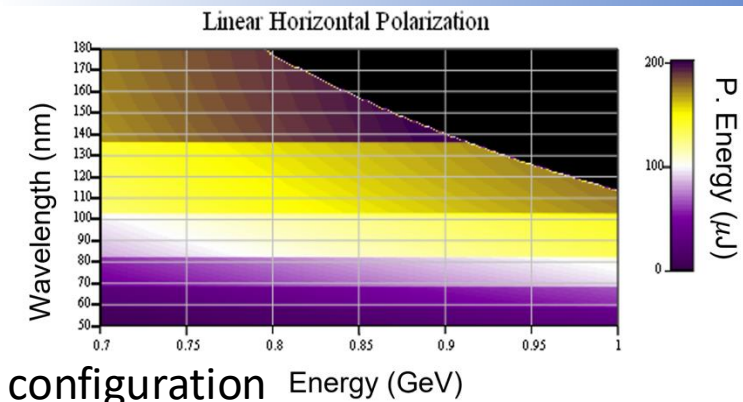
Seed laser tunability

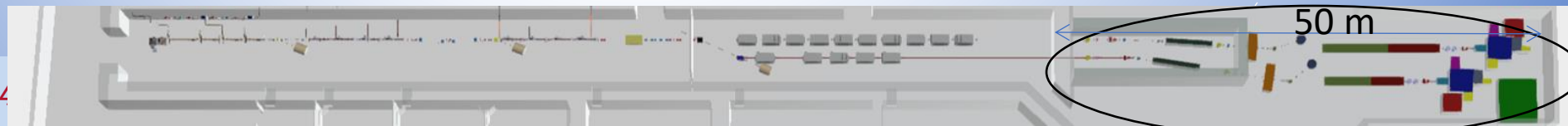
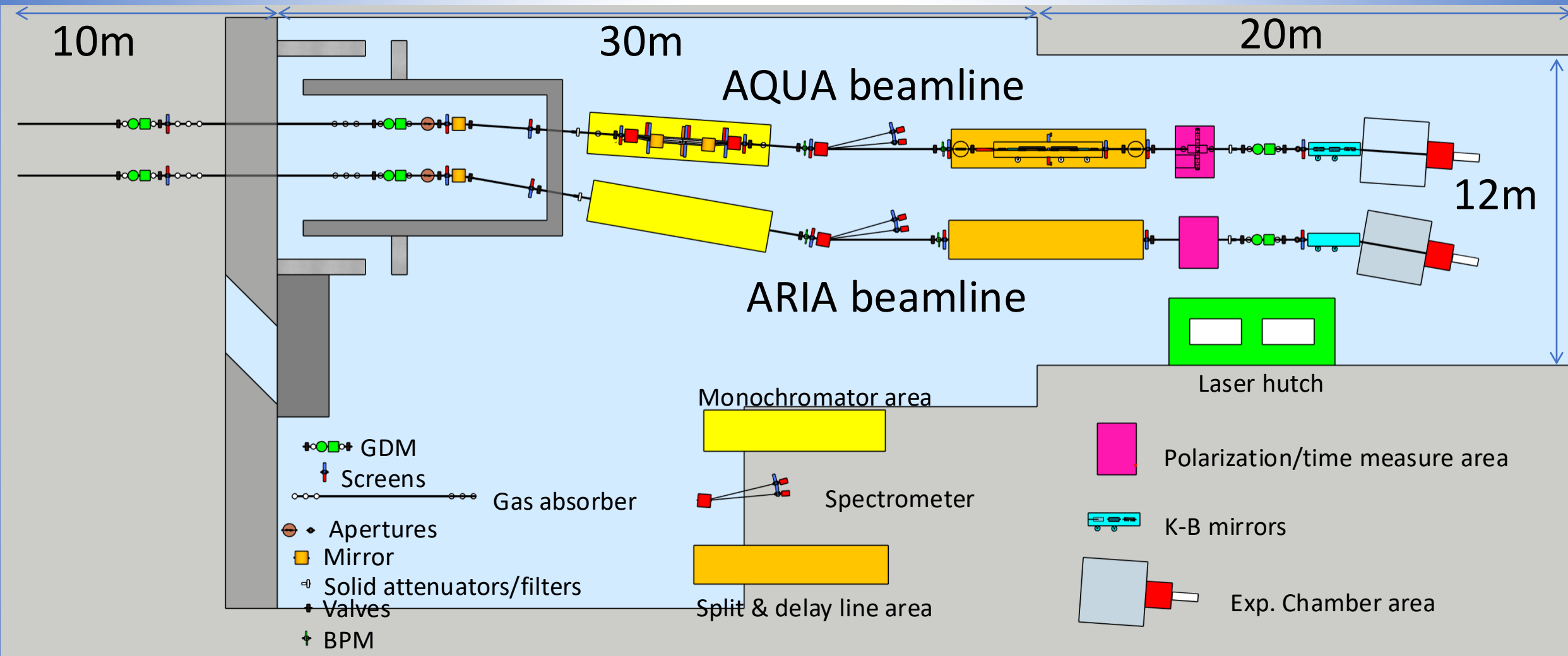


Parameter	Unit	AQUA PWFA	AQUA X-band	ARIA PWFA	ARIA X-band
Radiation Wavelength	nm	3-10	4-10	50-150	50-150
	eV	415-120	310-120	25-8	25-8
Photons per Pulse	$\times 10^{12}$	0.25-1	0.25-1	10-60	12-150
Photon Bandwidth	%	0.3	0.3	0.05	3
Configuration		SASE		HGHG seeding	



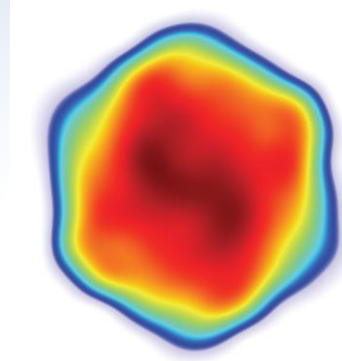
ARIA X-band configuration



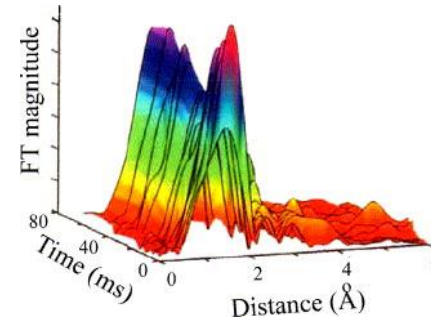


Experimental techniques and typology of **samples**

Coherent imaging



X-ray spectroscopy



Raman spectroscopy

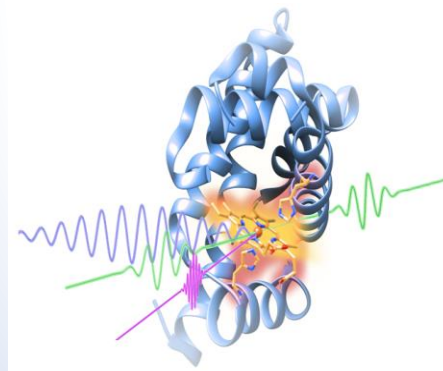
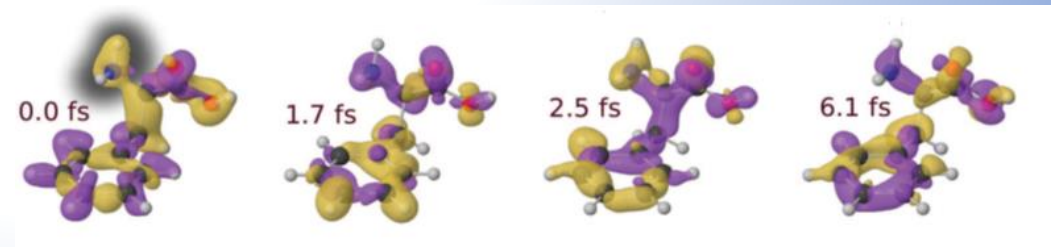
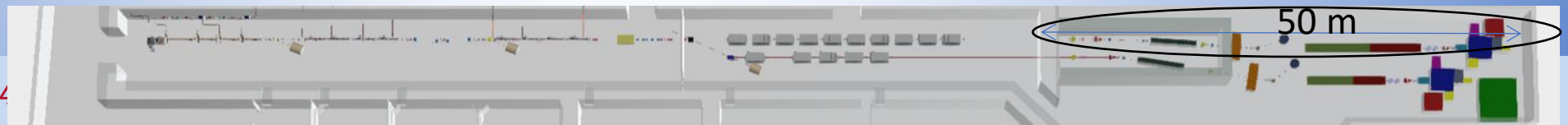


Photo-fragmentation of molecules

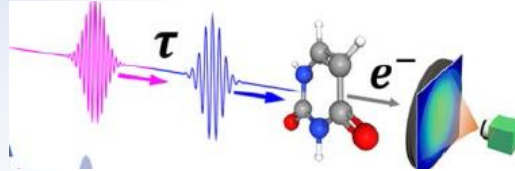


- (Large) Viruses
- Organelles
- Bacteria/Cells
- Organic molecules
- Metals
- Semiconductors
- Superconductors
- Magnetic materials



Defining experimental techniques and typology of **samples (and applications)**

Photoemission Spectroscopy



Photoelectron Circular Dichroism



Raman spectroscopy

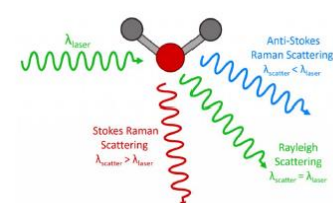
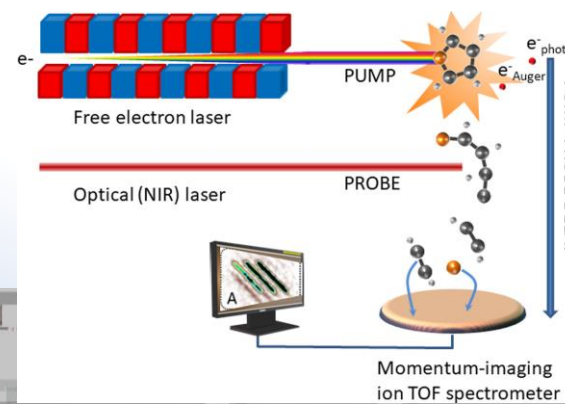


Photo-fragmentation of molecules
Time of Flight Spectroscopy



Gas phase & Atmosphere
(Earth & Planets)

Aerosols

(Pollution, nanoparticles)

Molecules & gases

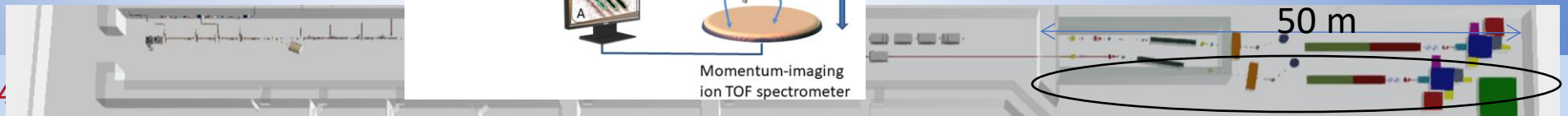
(spectroscopies, time-of-flight)

Proteins

(spectroscopies)

Surfaces

(ablation & deposition)



EuAPS: EuPRAXIA Advance Photon Sources

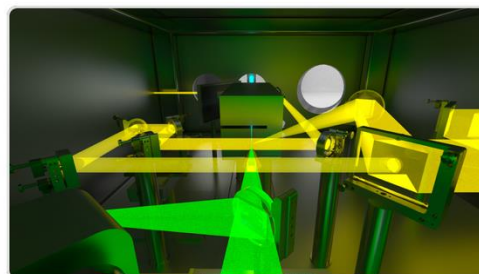
- Principal Investigator: M. Ferrario,
- Infrastructure Manager: C. Bortolin,
- Management and Dissemination: A. Falone



Research

The **EuPRAXIA Advanced Photon Sources (EuAPS)** project, led by INFN in collaboration with CNR and University of Tor Vergata, foresees the construction of a laser-driven “betatron” X Ray user facility at the LNF SPARC_LAB laboratory. EuAPS includes also the development of high power (up to 1 PW at LNS) and high repetition rate (up to 100 Hz at CNR Pisa) drive lasers for EuPRAXIA. EuAPS has received a financial support of 22.3 MEuro from the PNRR plan on “creation of a new RI among those listed in NPRI with medium or high priority” and has received the highest score for the action 3.1.1 of the ESFRI area “Physical Sciences and Engineering”.

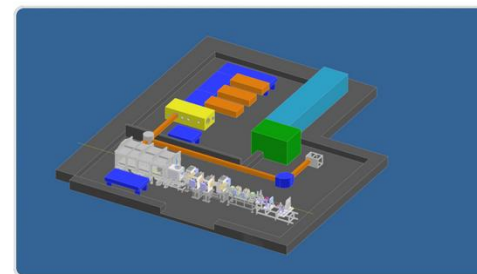
A. Cianchi (Uni ToV)



Betatron Radiation Source

[READ MORE](#)

P. Cirrone (INFN-LNS)



High Power Laser Beamline

[READ MORE](#)

L. Labate (CNR-INO)



High Repetition Rate Laser Beamline

[READ MORE](#)



Finanziato
dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU



Ministero
dell'Università
e della Ricerca

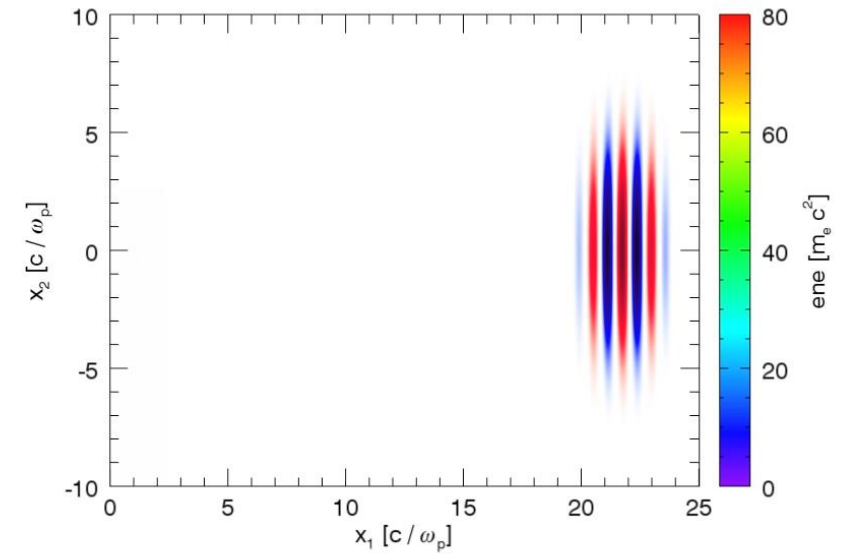
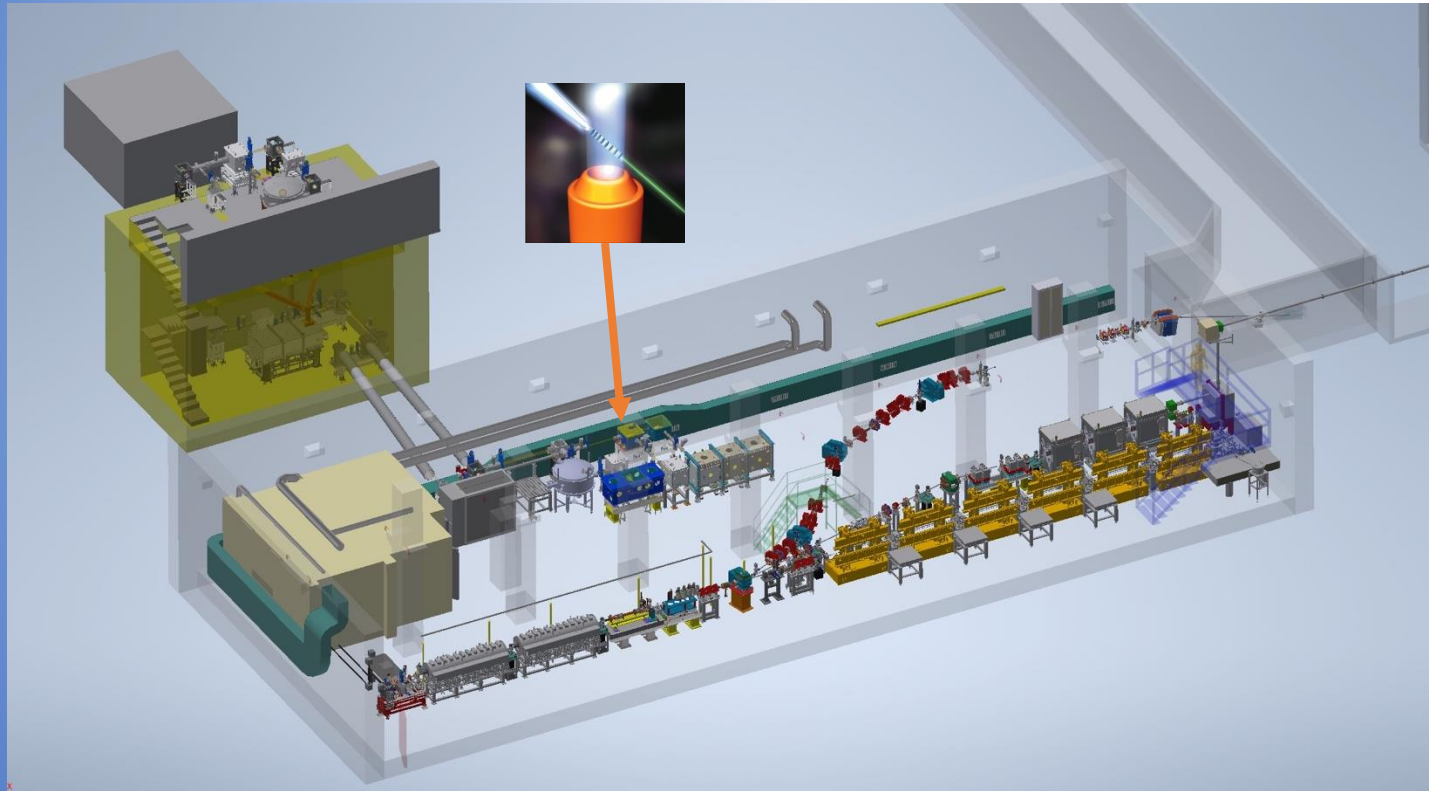


Italiadomani
PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



Betatron Radiation Source at SPARC_LAB

Electron beam Energy [MeV]	50-800
Plasma Density [cm^{-3}]	$10^{17} - 10^{19}$
Photon Critical Energy [keV]	1 - 10
Nuber of Photons/pulse	$10^6 - 10^9$



Courtesy J. Vieira, R. Fonseca/GoLP/IST Lisbon

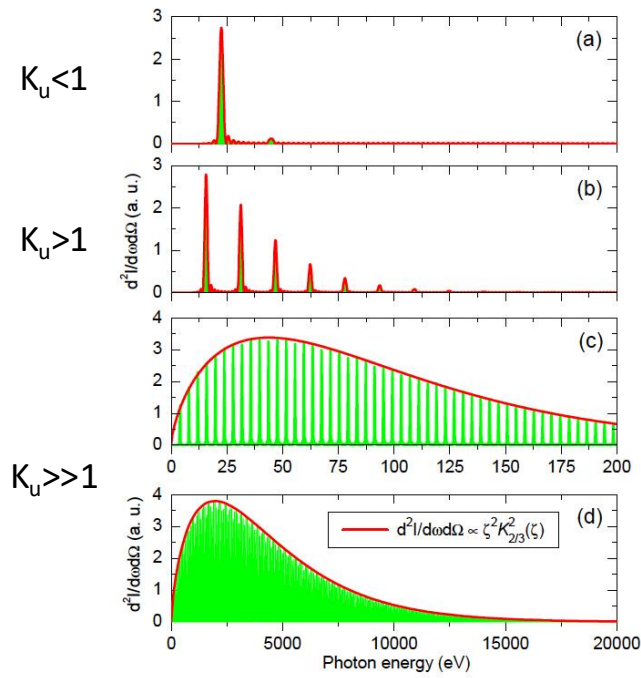
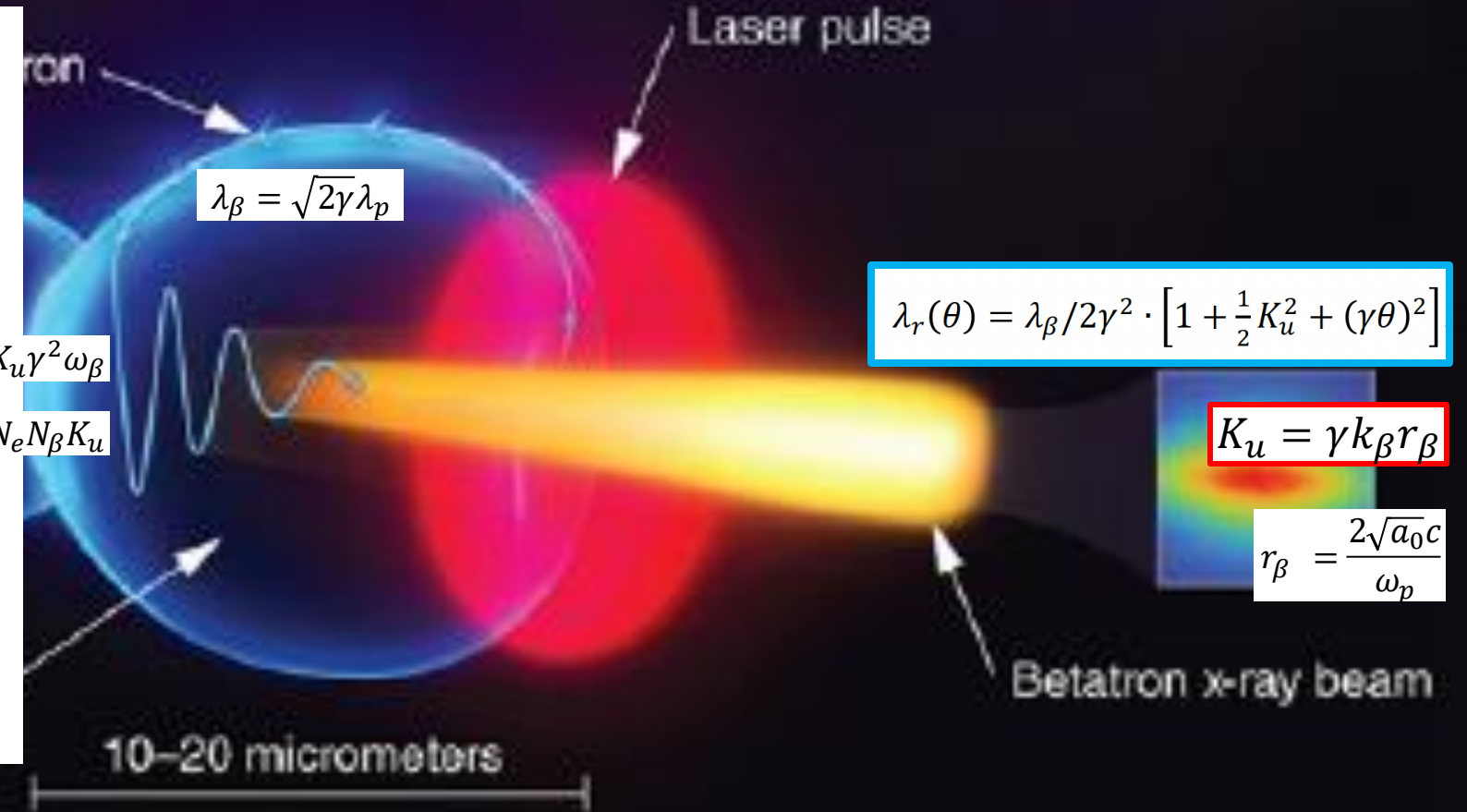


Figure 3.3: Calculated betatron radiation spectra in a plasma column with density of $7 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The electron energy is 15 MeV, and oscillation amplitudes are (a) $0.1 \mu\text{m}$, (b) $0.5 \mu\text{m}$, and (c) $1.6 \mu\text{m}$. (d) shows the case of a 100 MeV electron with an oscillation amplitude of $1.6 \mu\text{m}$.

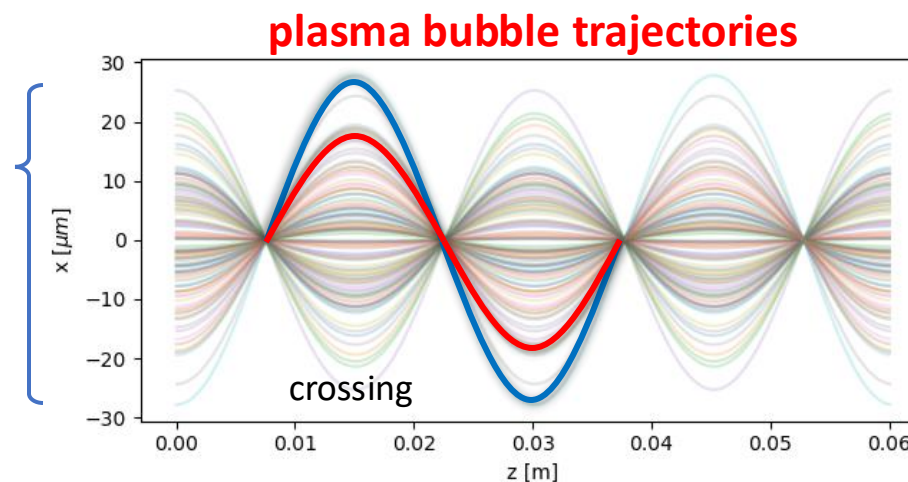
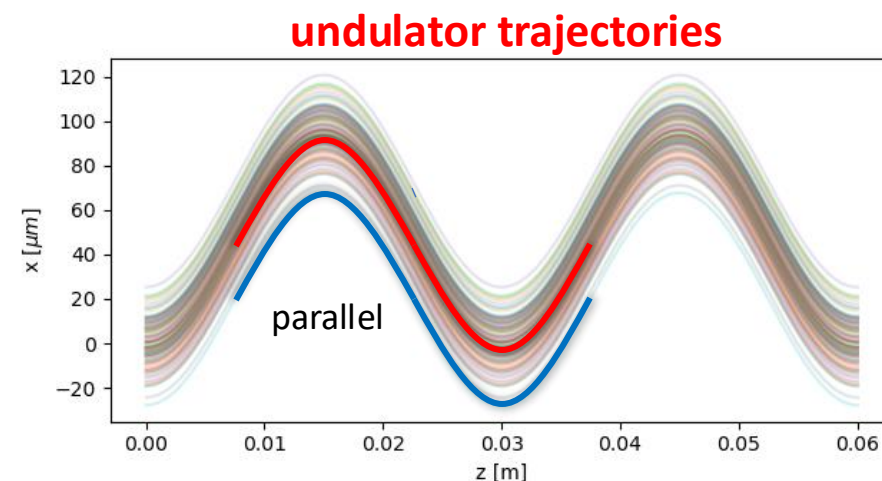


Betatron motion: trajectory crossing

- While in a magnetic undulator the oscillation amplitude is given by particle energy and **undulator strength K** , inside the bubble it's given by the axial offset
- This gives an **intrinsic K -spread** due to the source size (beam spot), greater in case of on axis injection
- The **nearly continuous K distribution** reaches very low values, **enhancing low energy spectral intensity**

$$K = \gamma k_{\beta} r_{\beta}$$

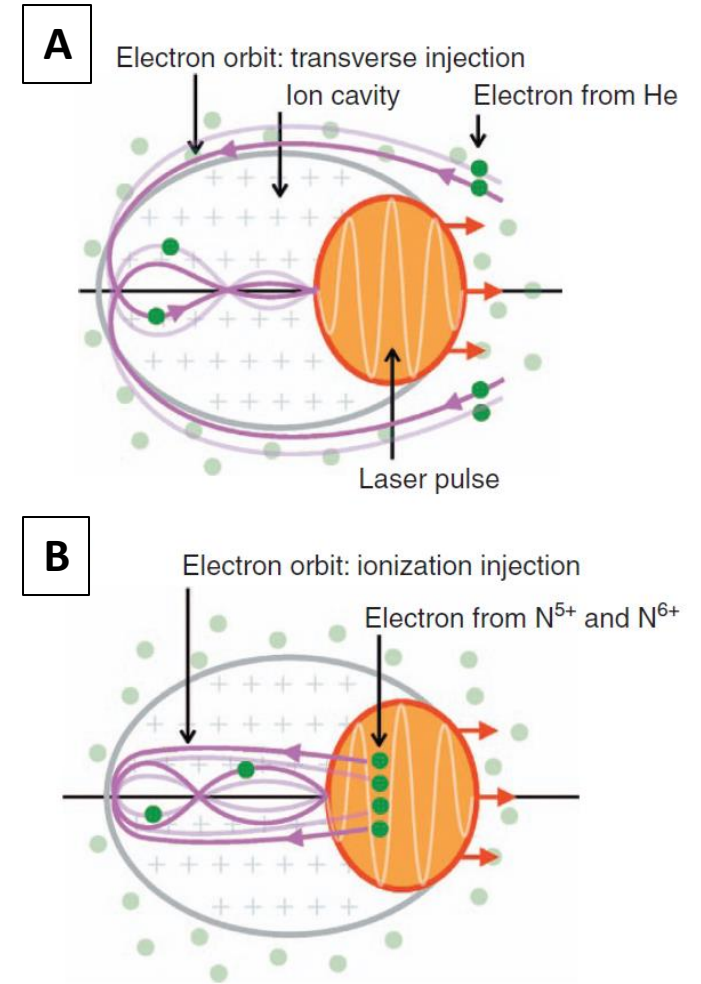
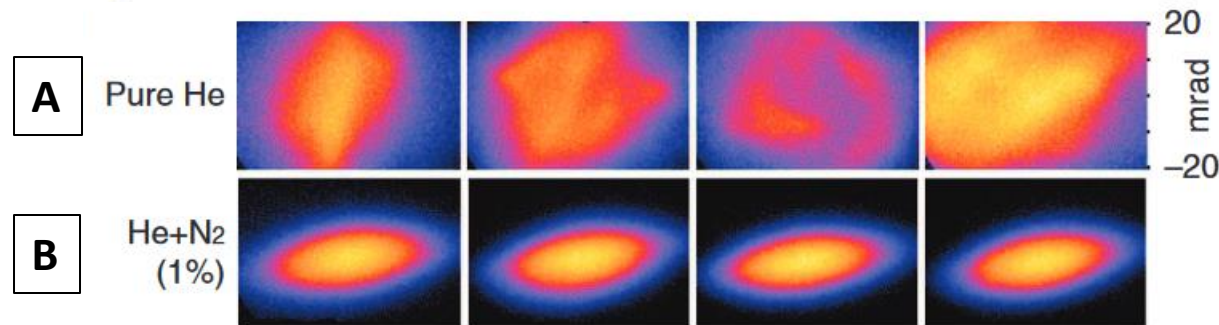
γ ← particle energy
 k_{β} ← betatron wavenumber
 r_{β} ← oscillation amplitude





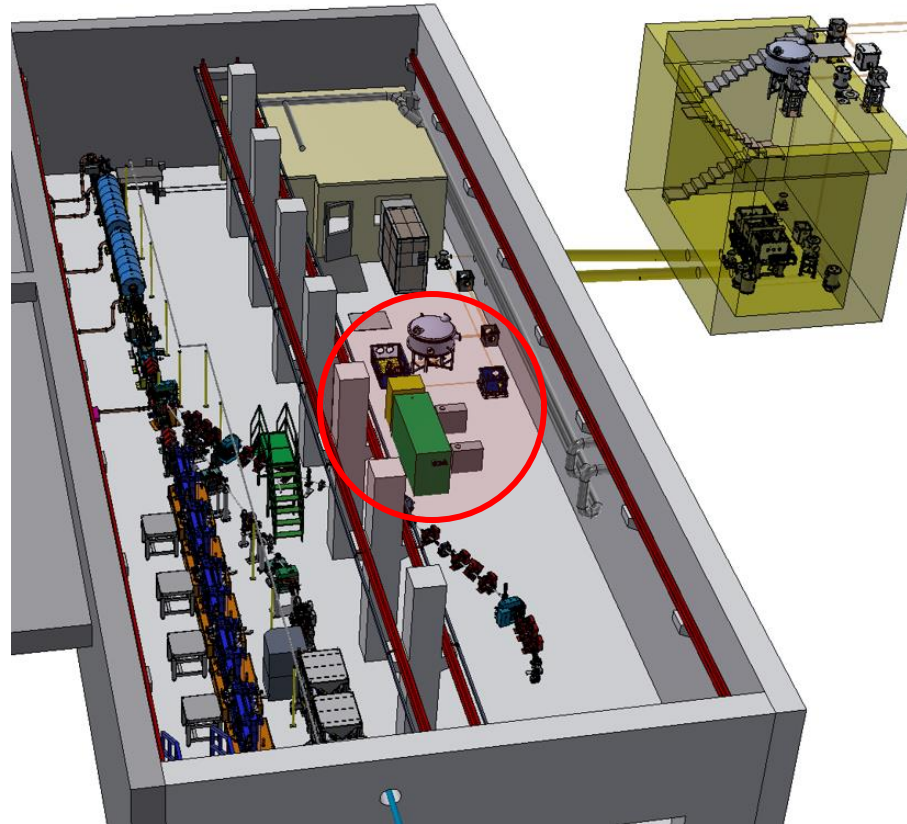
Self-injection VS Ionization injection

- **A – Self-injection:** some of the main gas component ionized electrons oscillate around the bubble and get **trapped inside the wake**, with a typically **unstable transverse injection**.
- **B – Ionization injection:** adding a **doping gas** with higher atomic number (e.g. nitrogen) some of the dopant electrons are **ionized directly inside the bubble**. This gives an intrinsically **more stable longitudinal injection**.



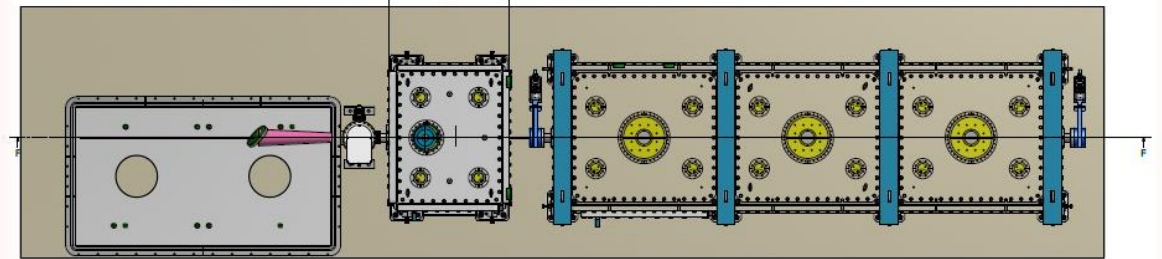
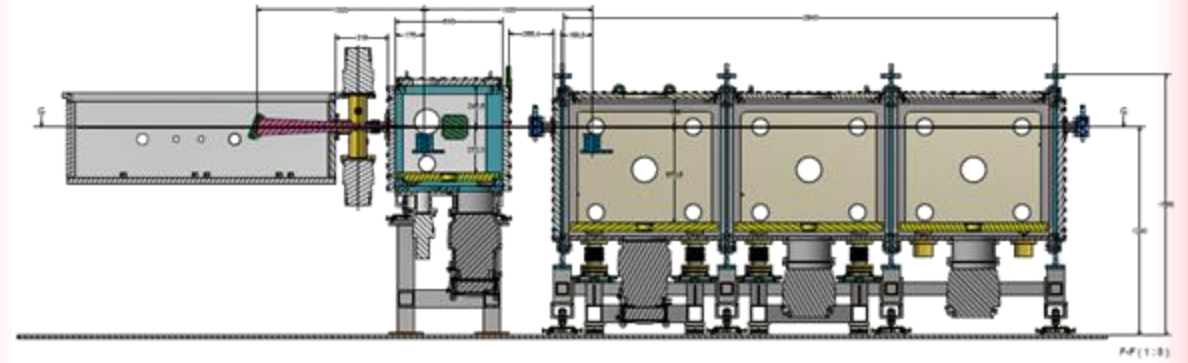


The EuAPS source



Interaction
point

Experimental
chamber



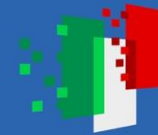
≈ 3m



Finanziato
dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU



Ministero
dell'Università
e della Ricerca



Italiadomani
PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



Photon Science @ EuAPS

- Imaging of biological (and cultural heritage) samples
 - Exploits the brilliance and coherence of betatron radiation, requires small divergence and good focusing
- Static X-ray Spectroscopy
 - Relatively easy, but does not exploit the radiation time structure
- Ultra-fast X-ray spectroscopies exploiting ultra-short betatron pulses
 - More complicated, requires timing between pump and probe pulses, but fully exploits the fs pulse duration
- Time-resolved imaging (ultrafast dynamics)
- Wide angle scattering, diffraction
 - Depending on the samples, requires monochromatic beams with high flux

Plasma-Generated X-ray Pulses: Betatron Radiation Opportunities at EuPRAXIA@SPARC_LAB

Francesco Stellato ^{1,2,*}, Maria Pia Anania ³, Antonella Balerna ³, Simone Botticelli ², Marcello Coreno ^{3,4}, Gemma Costa ³, Mario Galletti ^{1,2}, Massimo Ferrario ³, Augusto Marcelli ^{3,5,6}, Velia Minicozzi ^{1,2}, Silvia Morante ^{1,2}, Riccardo Pompili ³, Giancarlo Rossi ^{1,2,7}, Vladimir Shpakov ³, Fabio Villa ³ and Alessandro Cianchi ^{1,2}

Condensed Matter 7.1 (2022): 23.

Courtesy F. Stellato



Finanziato
dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU



Ministero
dell'Università
e della Ricerca



Italiadomani
PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



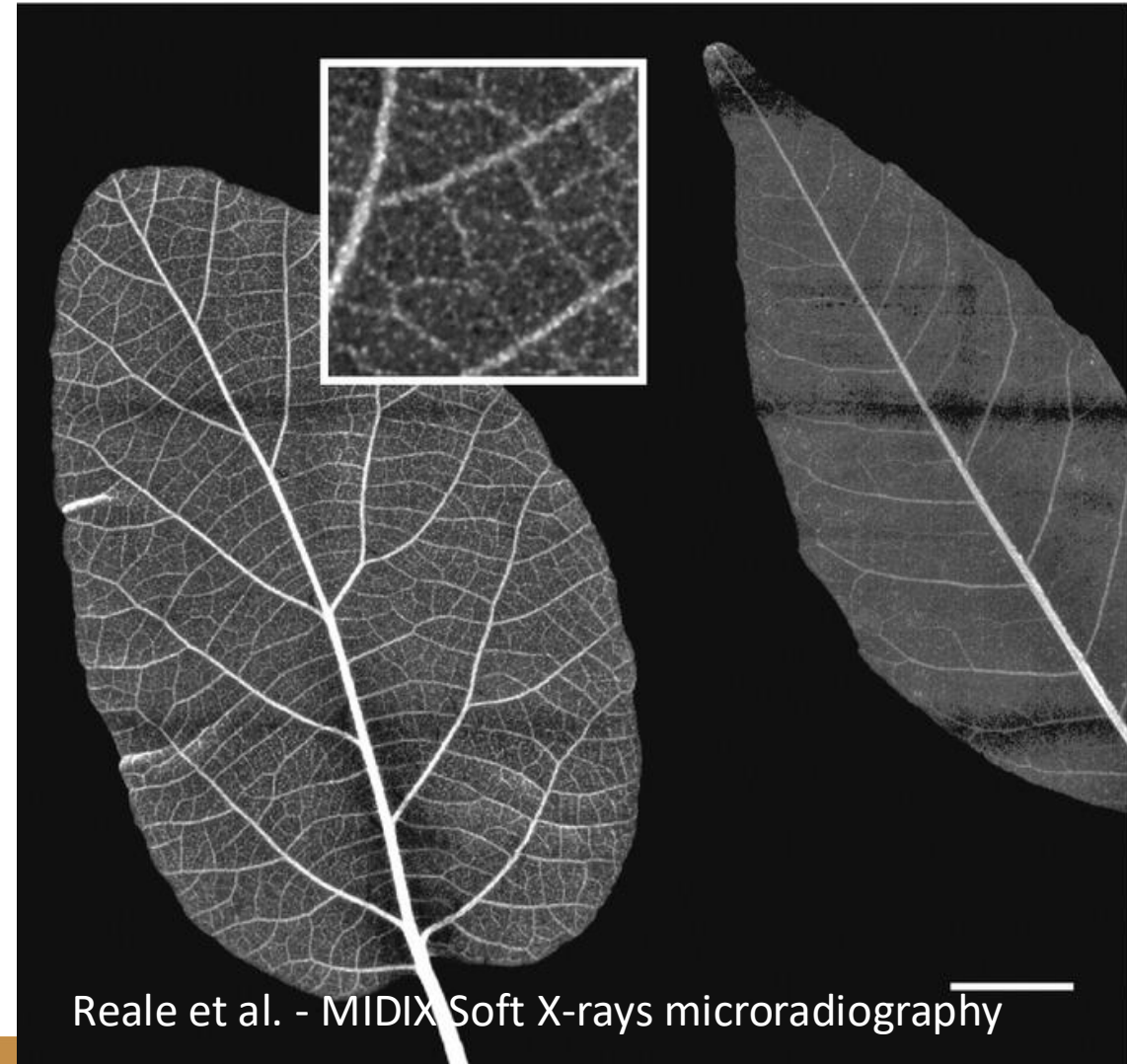
Imaging – The pilot experiment

Green science

X-ray imaging of leaves (and wood)

aiming at the (tens of) microns resolution

Experiments performed with the broad radiation spectrum **filtered** by different materials to obtain **difference maps** emphasizing the presence of heavy metal contaminants → **pollution control**





Finanziato
dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU



Ministero
dell'Università
e della Ricerca



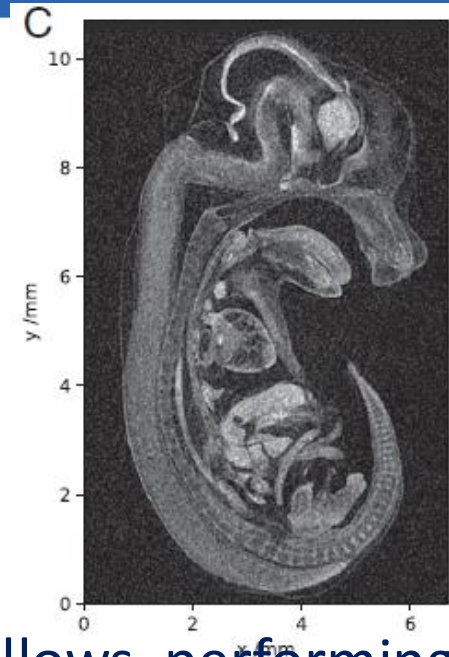
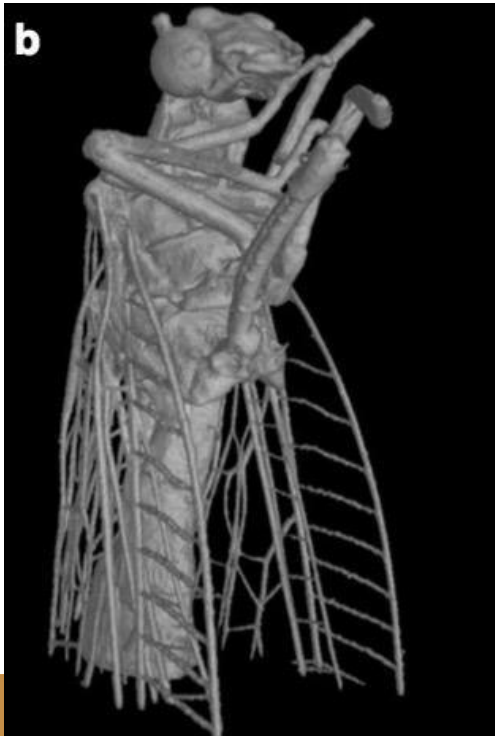
Italiadomani
PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



Imaging – CT and Phase Contrast

Betatron sources can fill the gap between synchrotrons and X-ray tubes and **Computer Tomography (CT)**

Guo *et al.* Scientific Reports 2019
Cole *et al.* PNAS 2018

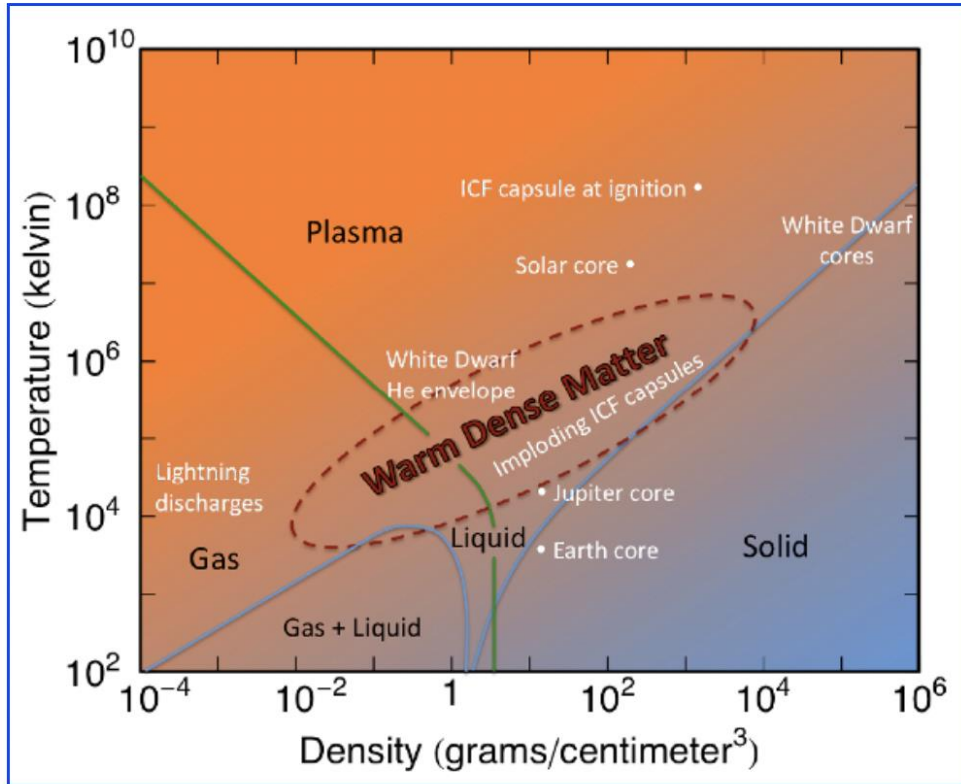


Betatron sources have a **spatial coherence** that allows performing **Phase Contrast Imaging (PCI)**. In PCI, one measures the difference in wavefront, while in “traditional” imaging one measures the difference in the **X-ray absorption coefficient** between different “objects”

PCI provides better **contrast** than radiography, especially when dealing with biological samples. Wenz *et al.* Nature communications 2015



Material Science Applications: Warm Dense Matter (WDM)



WDM occurs in:

- Cores of large planets;
- Systems that start solid and end as a plasma;
- X-ray driven inertial fusion implosion (aspects of indirect-drive inertial fusion).

The investigation of such warm dense matter (WDM) is one of the great challenges of contemporary physics.

Femtosecond lasers can rapidly heat matter, leading to ultrafast solid-liquid-WDM transitions, followed by a more complex multiphase expansion at a picosecond time scale. Highly nonequilibrium states of matter are expected, due to the finite rate of energy transfer from the excited electrons to the lattice.

As the atomic structure modification is supposed to be driven by the photoexcited electrons, it is of primary importance to determine the respective time scales of the evolution of both electron and atomic structures.

Mahieu, B., et al. "Probing warm dense matter using femtosecond X-ray absorption spectroscopy with a laser-produced betatron source." *Nature Communications* 9.1 (2018): 3276.

Ultrahigh brightness beams from plasma photoguns

A. F. Habib,^{1,2} T. Heinemann,^{1,2,3} G. G. Manahan,^{1,2} L. Rutherford,^{1,2} D. Ullmann,^{1,2,4}
 P. Scherkl,^{1,2} A. Knetsch,³ A. Sutherland,^{1,2,5} A. Beaton,^{1,2} D. Campbell,^{1,2,6} L. Boulton,^{1,2,3}
 A. Nutter,^{1,2,7} O. S. Karger,⁸ M. D. Litos,⁹ B. D. O'Shea,⁵ G. Andonian,^{10,11} D. L. Bruhwiler,¹²
 J. R. Cary,^{9,13} M. J. Hogan,⁵ V. Yakimenko,⁵ J. B. Rosenzweig,¹⁰ and B. Hidding^{1,2}

5

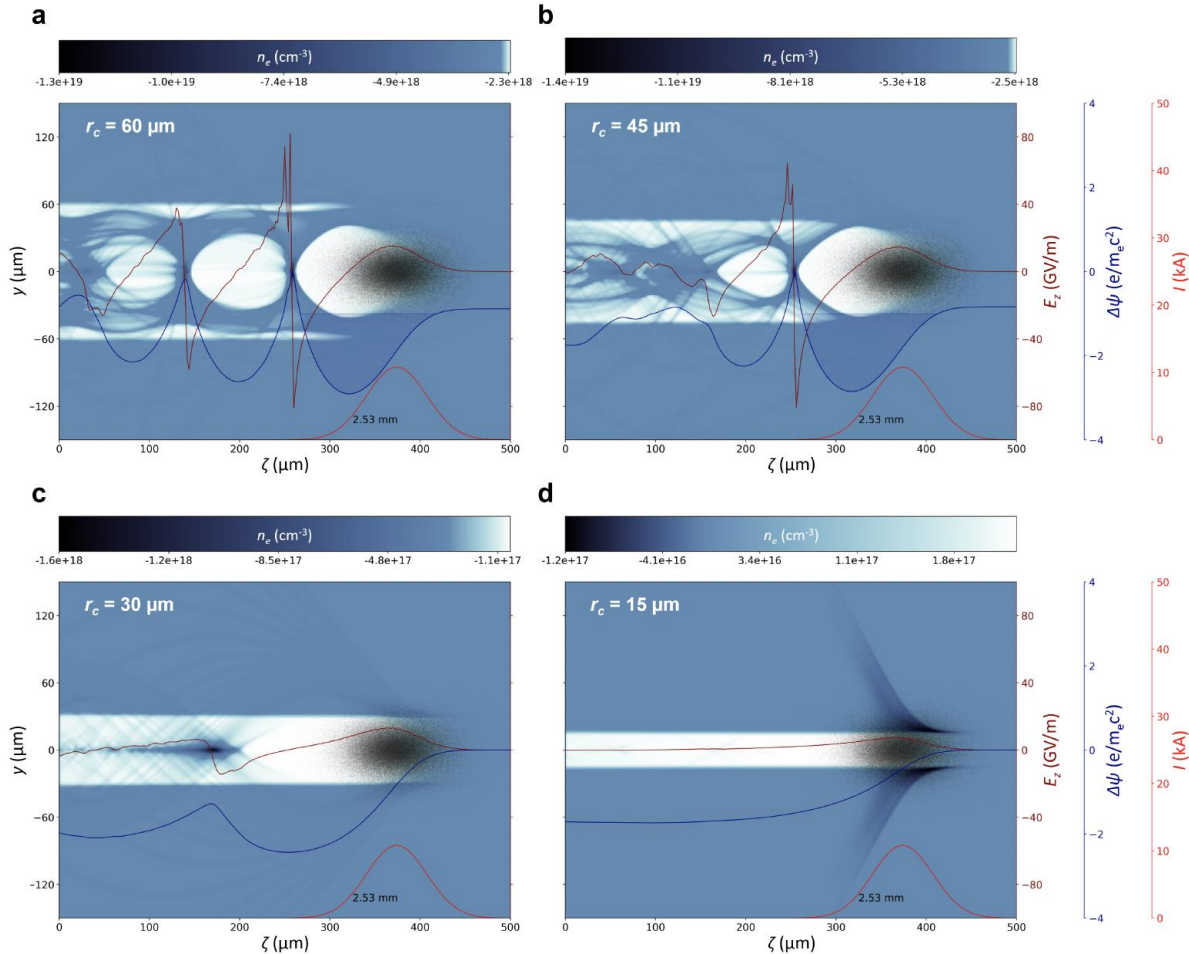


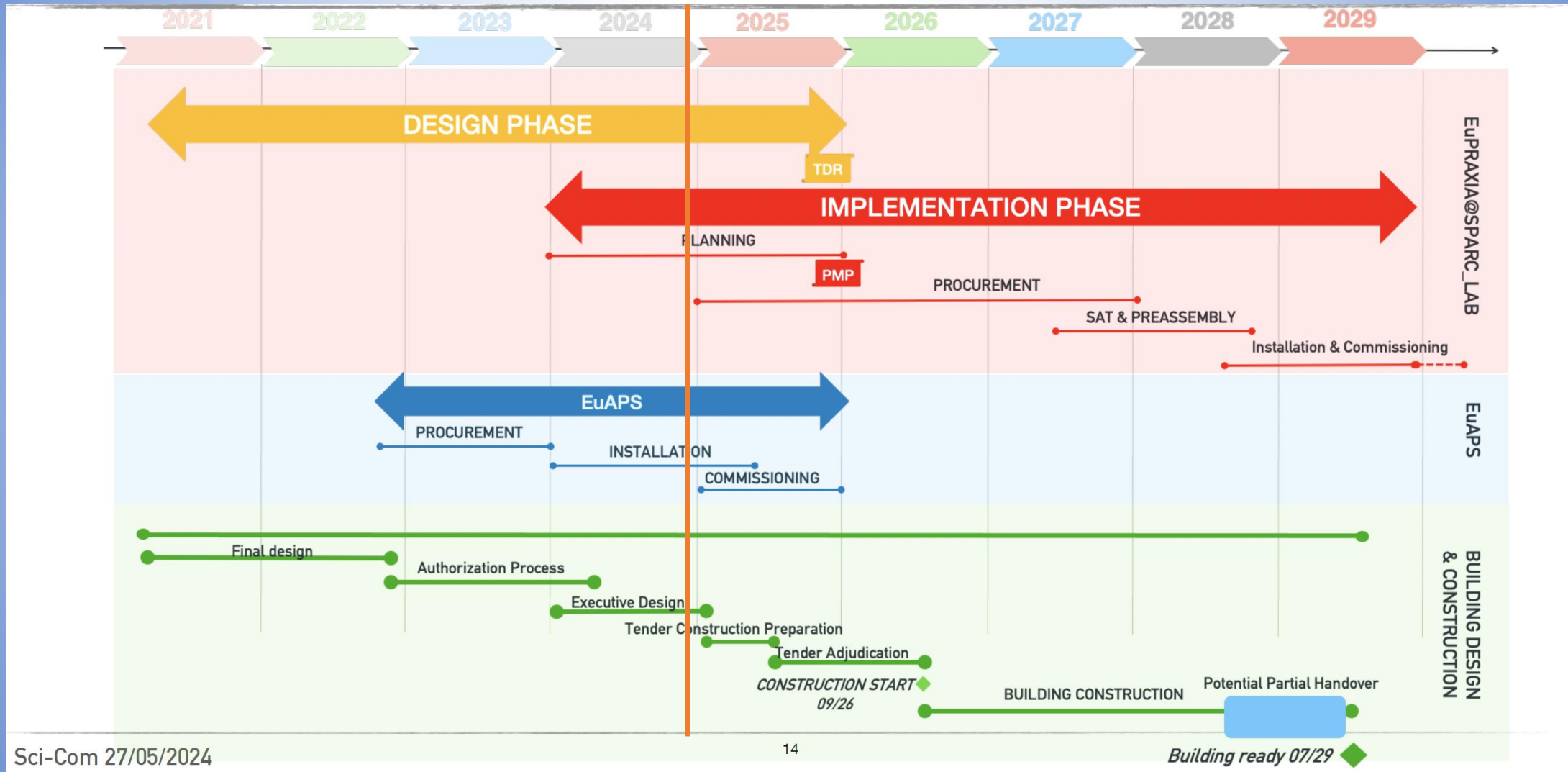
FIG. 3. 3D PIC-simulations (VSim) of intense electron beam interaction with a preionized plasma channel of different radii r_c . The FACET electron driver beam (black) propagates to the right, expels plasma electrons and sets up a nonlinear PWFA blowout as in a) and b), or for a thinner channel generates a wakeless ion channel as in c) and d) that could be used e.g. for light source applications.

- Neutral plasma creation through ionization laser
- Blowout of the plasma electrons through the driver beam

◆ plasma electrons are expelled from the plasma region toward the neutral gas region

- negligible restoring force outside column
- negligible accelerating force inside column
- linear restoring force inside column

E. Chiadroni et al., INFN-CSN5 project “Beta-test” at SPARC_LAB





Thank for your attention

LPAW 2025

Laser and Plasma Accelerators Workshop 2025

14-18 April 2025, Ischia Island, Italy



<https://agenda.infn.it/event/42311/>

The **Laser and Plasma Accelerators Workshop 2025 (LPAW 2025)** will be held at **Hotel Continental Ischia**, in the **Ischia Island (Campania, Italy)**, from **Monday 14 to Friday 18 April 2025**.

The Laser and Plasma Accelerators Workshop (LPAW) series is one of the leading workshops in the field of plasma-based acceleration and radiation generation.

The following scientific topics will be the main focus of the conference:

- Plasma-based lepton acceleration (experiments, simulations, theory, diagnostics...).
- Plasma-based ion acceleration (experiments, simulations, theory, diagnostics...).
- Secondary radiation generation and applications (experiments, simulations, theory, diagnostics...).

John Dawson Thesis Prize

“John Dawson Thesis Prize” is awarded on a biannual basis to the best PhD thesis in the area of plasma accelerators driven by laser or particle beams. The prize will be awarded for fundamental (theoretical or experimental) or applied aspects.

Each prize winner will receive a certificate of merit, up to 500 Euros, and financial support to attend the “Laser and Plasma Accelerators Workshop,” where the prize will be awarded.

- Plasma accelerators have advanced considerably in beam quality, **achieving FEL lasing.**
- EuPRAXIA is a design and an ESFRI project for a distributed European Research Infrastructure, **building two plasma-driven FEL's in Europe.**
- EuPRAXIA FEL site in Frascati LNF-INFN is sufficiently funded for **first FEL user operation in 2029.**
- Second EuPRAXIA FEL site will be selected in next months, among **3 excellent candidate sites.**
- Concept today **works in design and in reality.** Expect (solvable) problems in stability for **24/7 user operation.** Facility needed to demonstrate!
- **Additional fund raising is continuously going on**

