

# Electron plasma acceleration and the EuPRAXIA project

Roman Walczak

John Adams Institute & Department of Physics, University of Oxford, UK

## ► Brief history

UK

- Last year Highlights →
- Good News
- Plans →
- Facilities/lasers
- EuPRAXIA
- Summary

## ► laser driven

- accelerating structure and laser pulse guiding
- electron injection
- radiation
- diagnostics
- electron beam optics
- theory
- other

## ► electron driven

## ► proton driven

► T. Tajima and J.M. Dawson, Laser Electron Accelerator, PRL Vol. 43, 267 (July 1979)

- One very high intensity (short) laser pulse

OR

- two not so short high energy pulses with the beat frequency matching plasma frequency.

RL 83 057

BEAT-WAVE LASER ACCELERATORS

FIRST REPORT OF THE R.A.L. STUDY GROUP

J. D. Lawson

<u>Participants</u>	<u>Field of Interest</u>
J E Allen*	Plasma Physics
R Bingham	Plasma Physics
J Butterworth	Particle Beam Transport
F E Close	High Energy Physics
R G Evans	Plasma Physics and Lasers
J D Lawson	Accelerators
G H Rees	Accelerators
R D Ruth+	Accelerators

### From the Abstract:

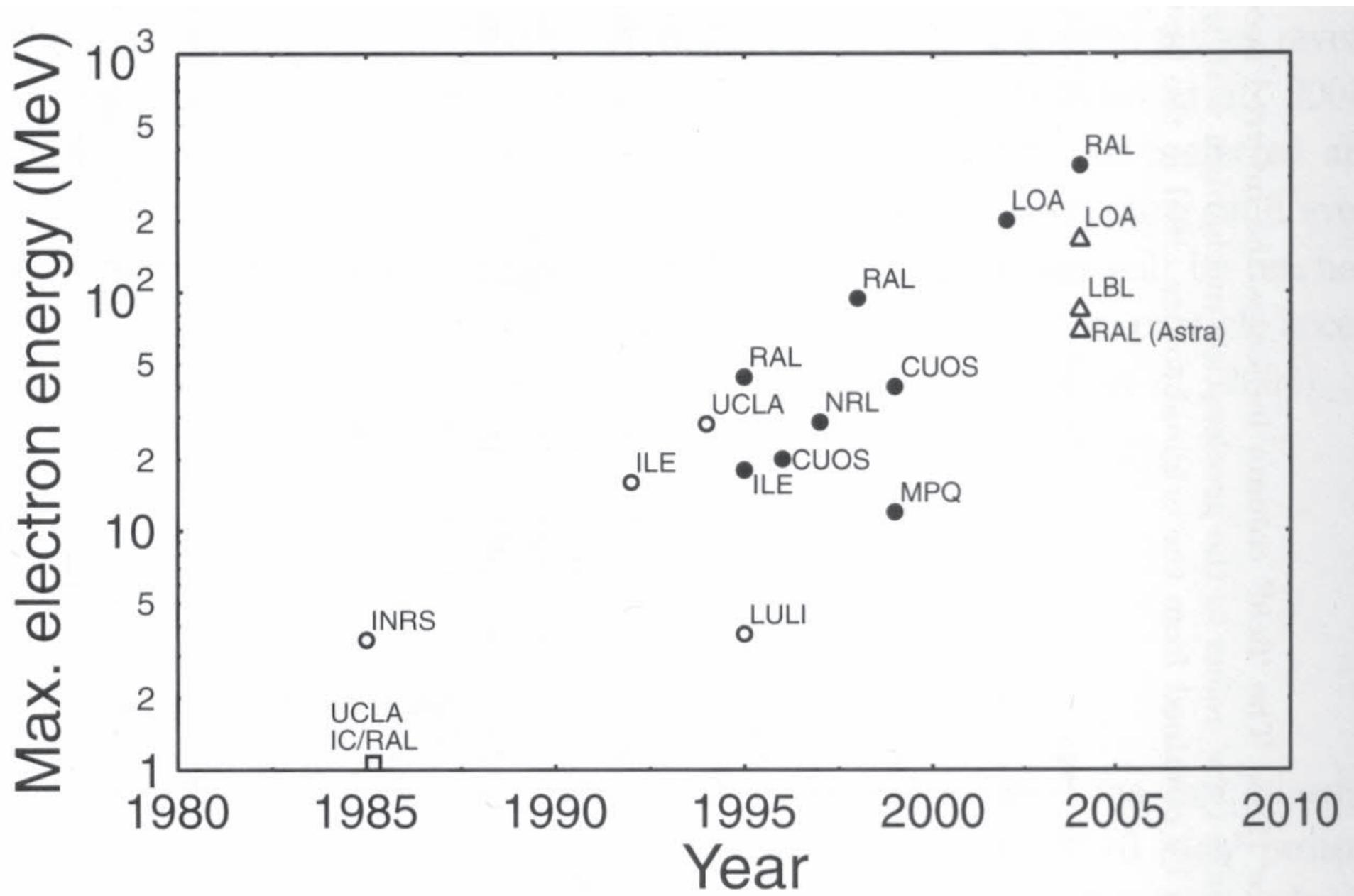
An attempt is being made to see what is involved in constructing a high energy accelerator using laser beat-wave principle...

High energy means here TeV level

Please note participants' fields of interest

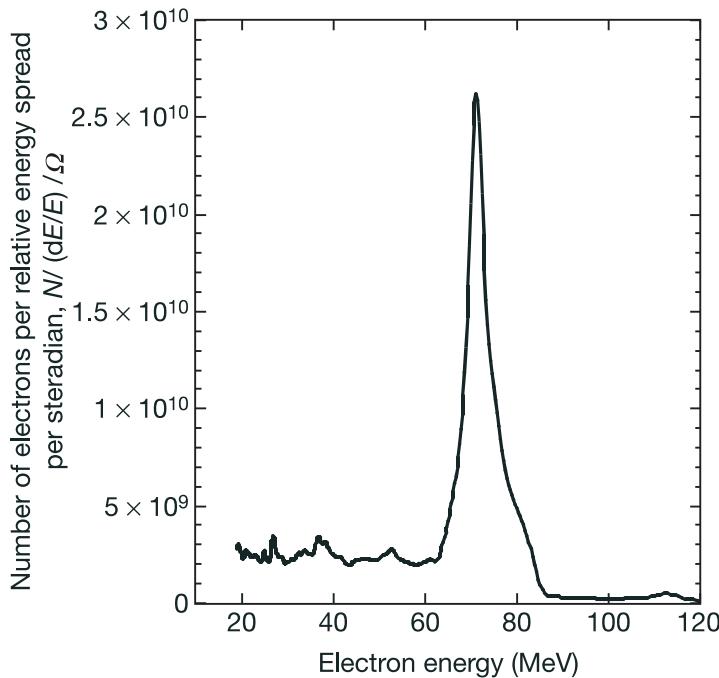
\* University of Oxford.

+ Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and CERN.



credit: P. Gibbon "Short Pulse Laser Interactions with Matter", ICP 2005

## ► The breakthrough



2004

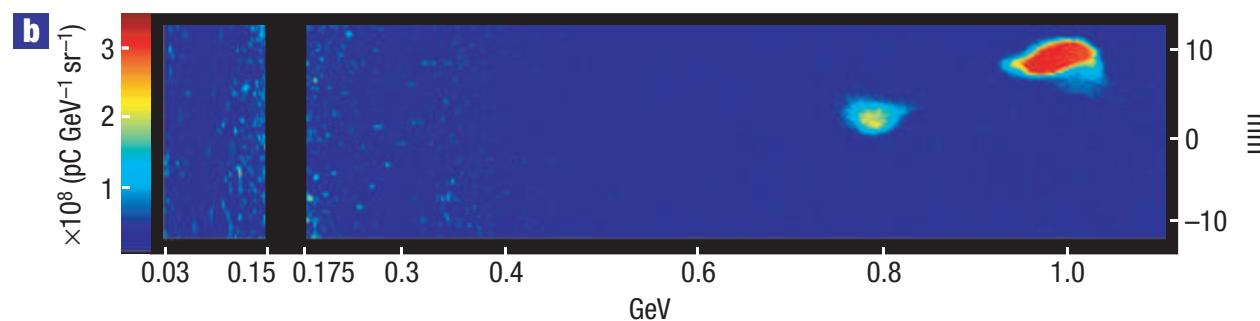
### Monochromatic beam

CLF, IC, Strathclyde, UCLA.

S.P.D. Mangles et al., Nature 431, 535-538 (2004)  
and

J. Faure et al., Nature 431, 541-544, (2004)

C.G.R. Geddes et al., Nature 431, 538-541 (2004)

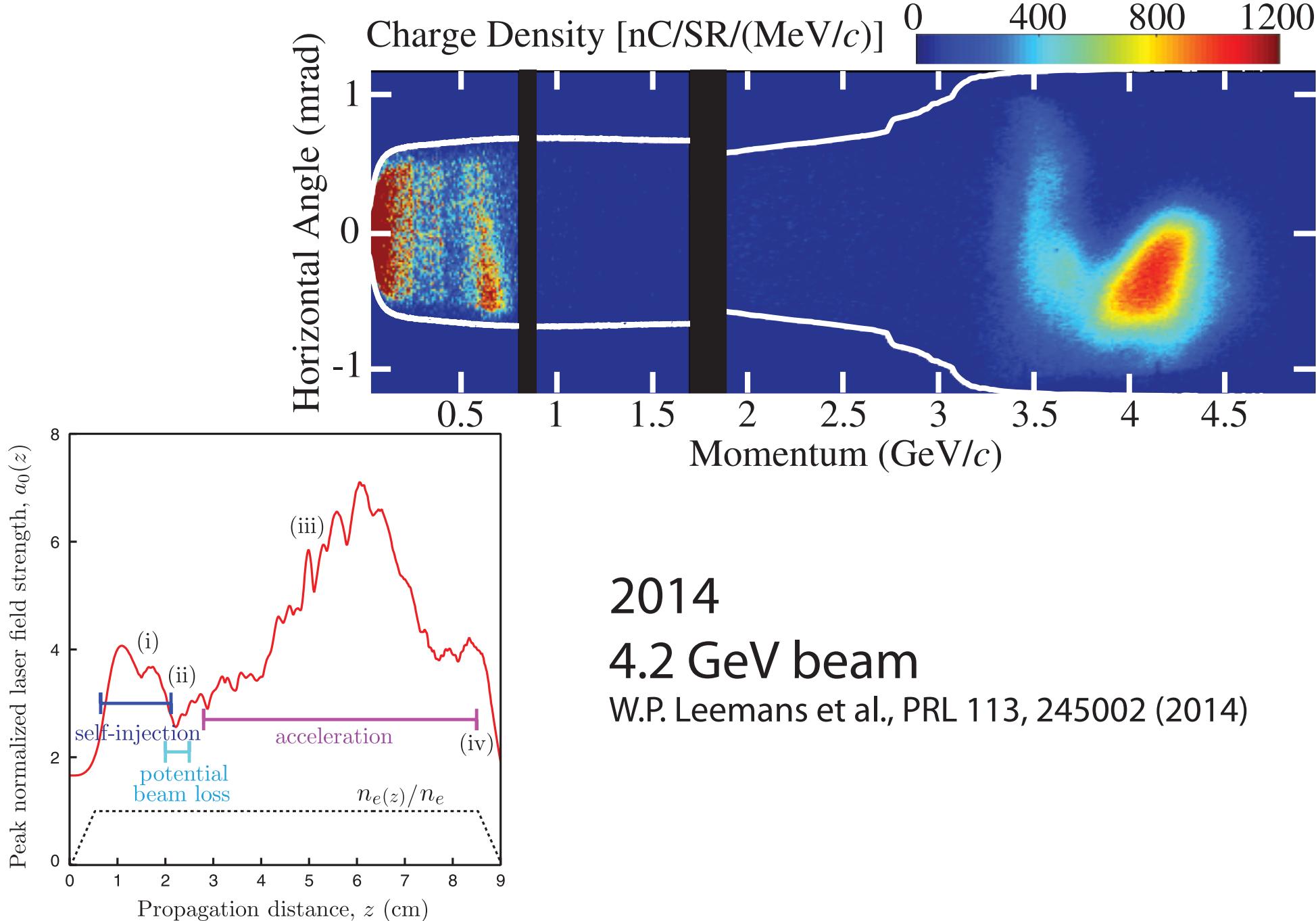


2006

### GeV beam

LBNL, Oxford, Tokyo.

W.P. Leemans et al.,  
Nat.Phys. 2, 696 (2006)



2014  
 4.2 GeV beam  
 W.P. Leemans et al., PRL 113, 245002 (2014)

## Emerging main directions:

### In the US

- ▶ a roadmap to high energy colliders; TeV energies

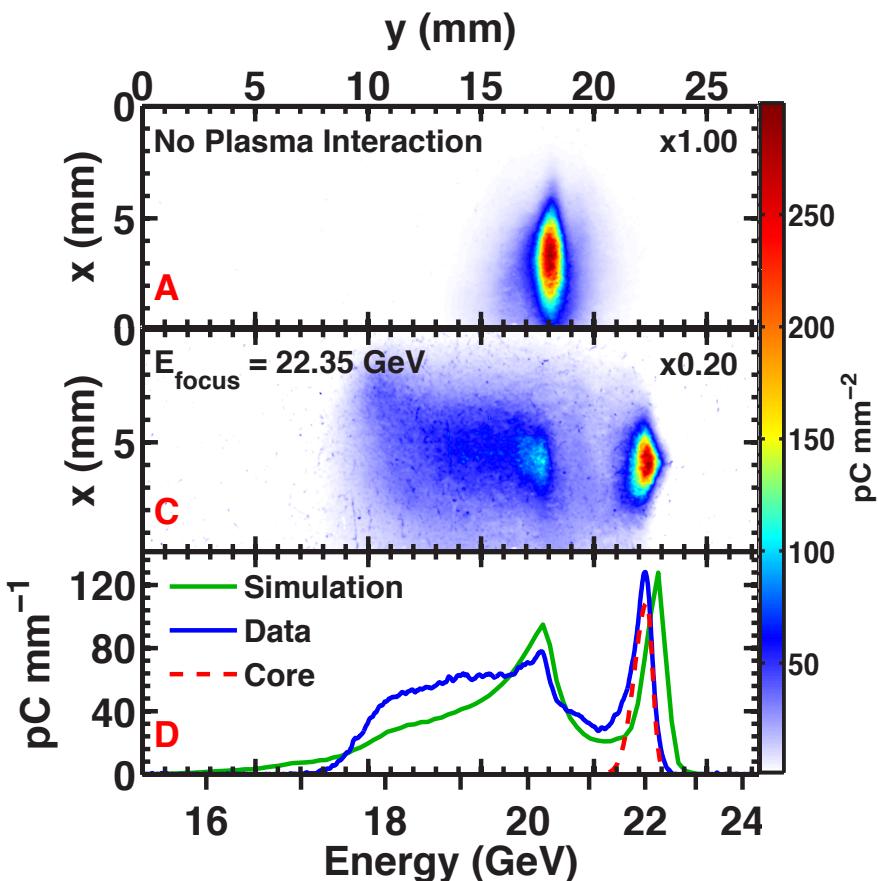
### In Europe

- ▶ a roadmap to light sources; GeV energies

### All agree

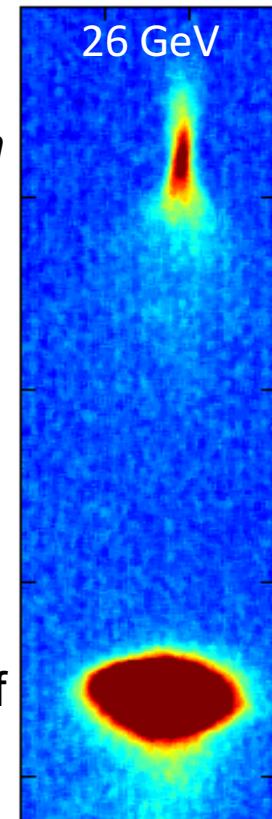
- ▶ more efficient, higher repetition rate lasers are needed

# FACET two-bunch results



- 1.7 GeV energy gain in 30 cm of Li vapour plasma.
- 2% energy spread.
- Accelerated bunch has charge  $\sim 70 \text{ pC}$
- Up to 30% wake-to-bunch energy transfer efficiency (mean 18%).
- 6 GeV energy gain in 1.3 m of plasma.

1.3 m plasma



2014



M. Litos et al., Nature 515 (2014) 92

credit: M. Wing, Physics at the Terascale 2015

# Proton Drivers for PWFA

Proton bunches as drivers of plasma wakefields are interesting because of the very large energy content of the proton bunches.

## Drivers:

PW lasers today,  $\sim 40$  J/Pulse

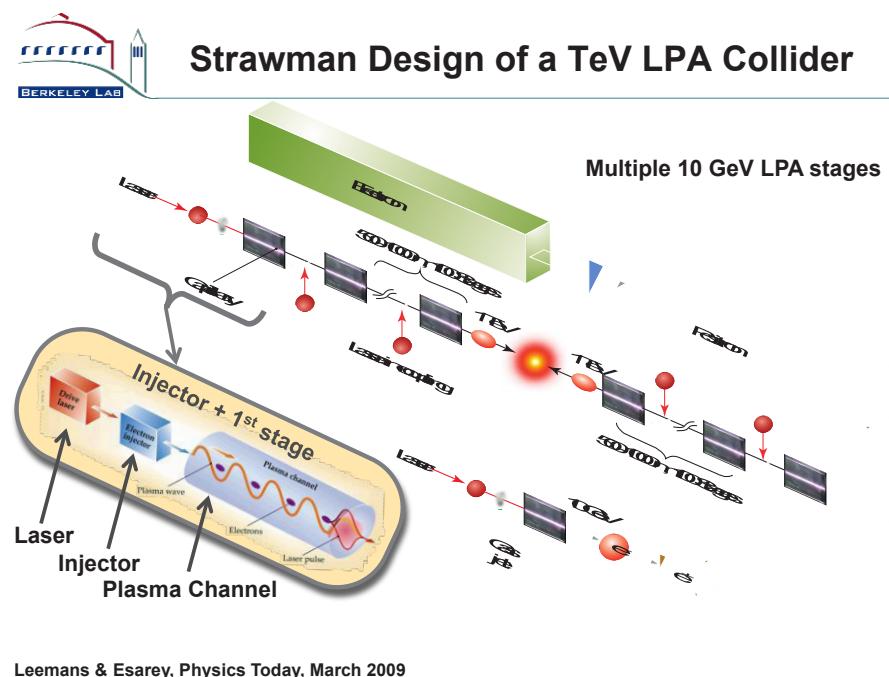
FACET, 30J/bunch

SPS 20kJ/bunch

LHC 300 kJ/bunch

## Witness:

$10^{10}$  particles @ 1 TeV  $\approx$  few kJ



Energy content of driver allows to consider single stage acceleration

credit: A. Caldwell, SPSC Meeting 2015

# AWAKE

AWAKE Collaboration: 16 Institutes world-wide:



Requests under consideration:

Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology  
(UNIST), Korea

Wigner Institute, Budapest

Swiss Plasma Center group of EPFL

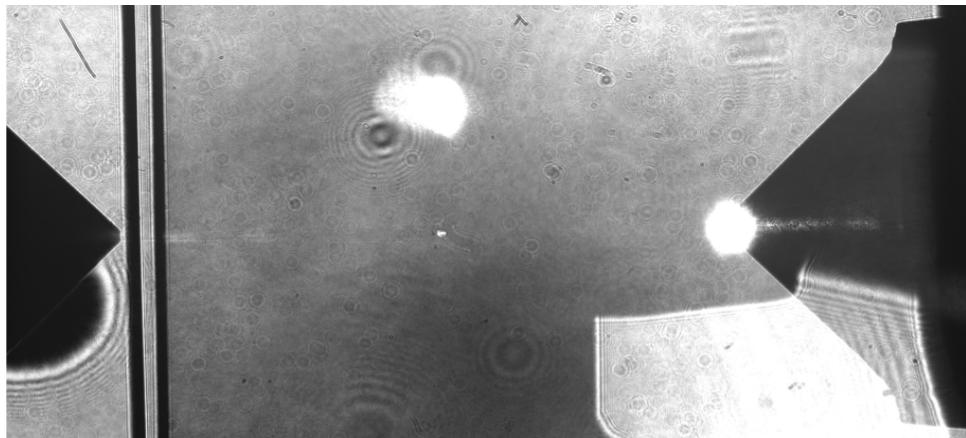
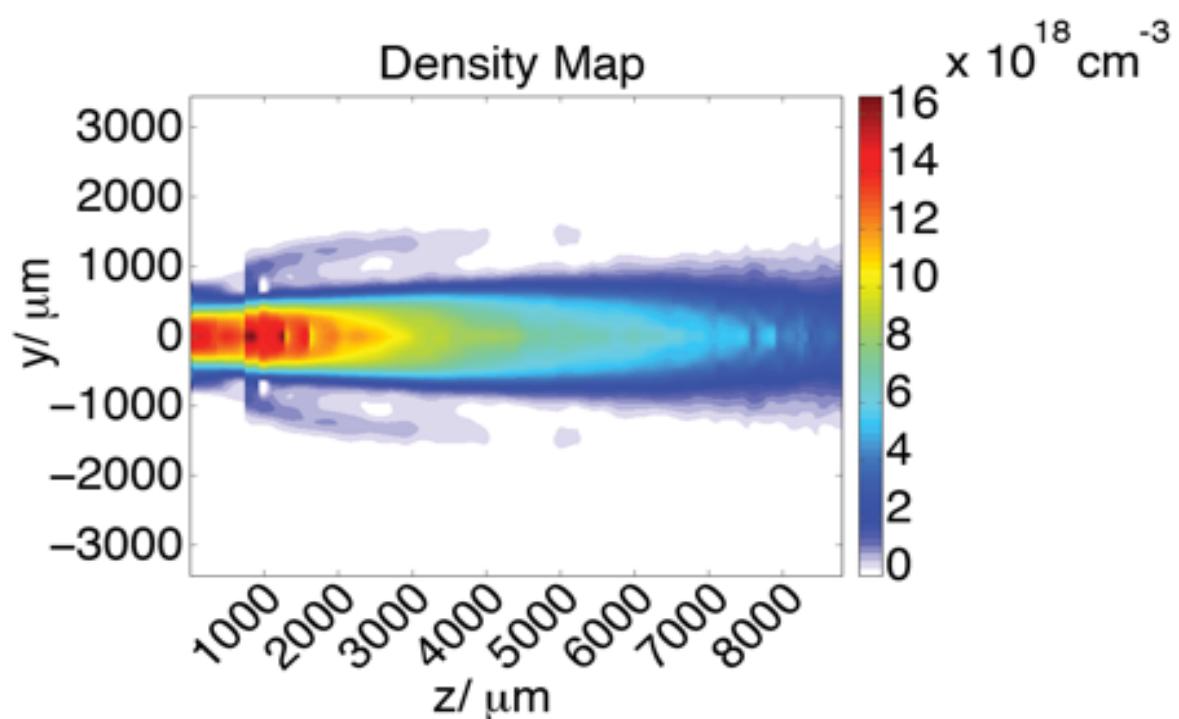
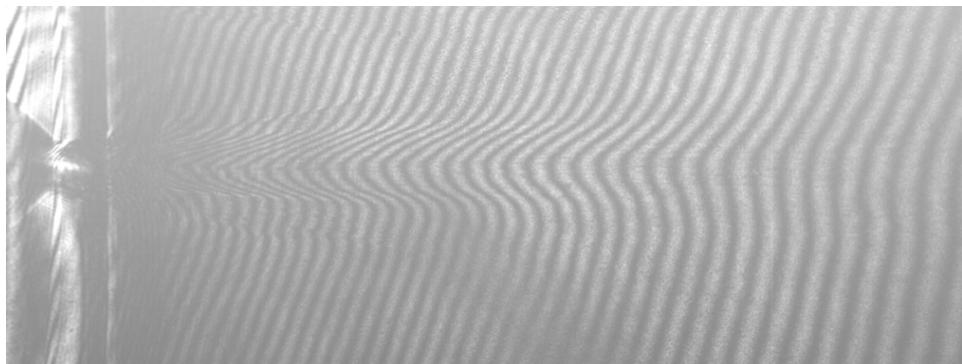
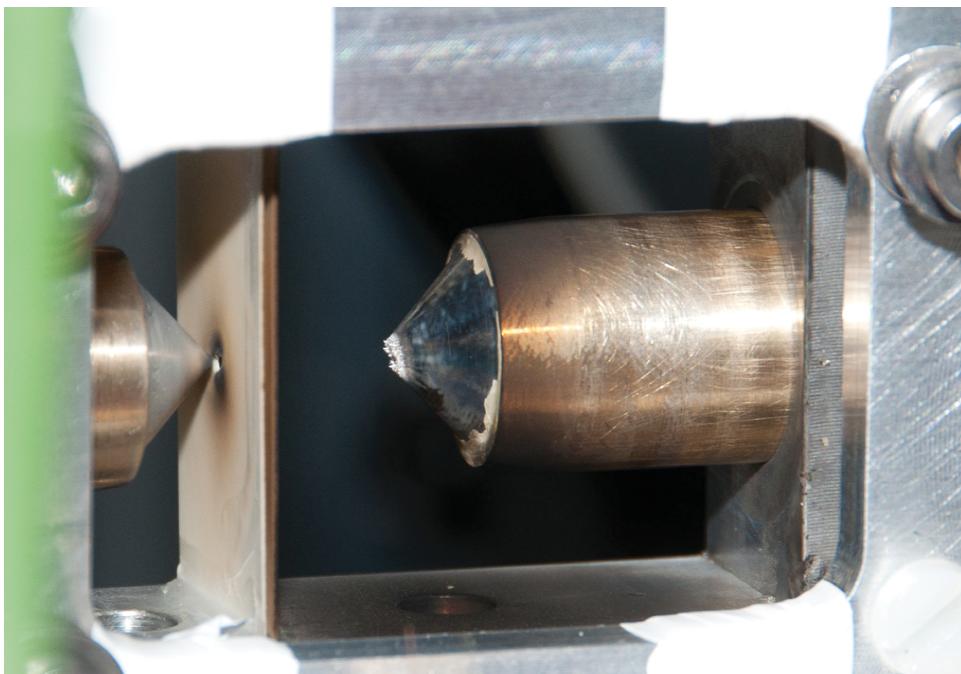
Further groups have also expressed their interest to  
join AWAKE.

credit: A. Caldwell, SPSC Meeting 2015

John Adams Institute for Accelerator Science,  
Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics &  
Novosibirsk State University  
CERN  
Cockcroft Institute  
DESY  
Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf  
Instituto Superior Técnico  
Imperial College  
Ludwig Maximilian University  
Max Planck Institute for Physics  
Max Planck Institute for Plasma Physics  
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory  
TRIUMF  
University College London  
University of Oslo  
University of Strathclyde

New since 2014 SPSC report

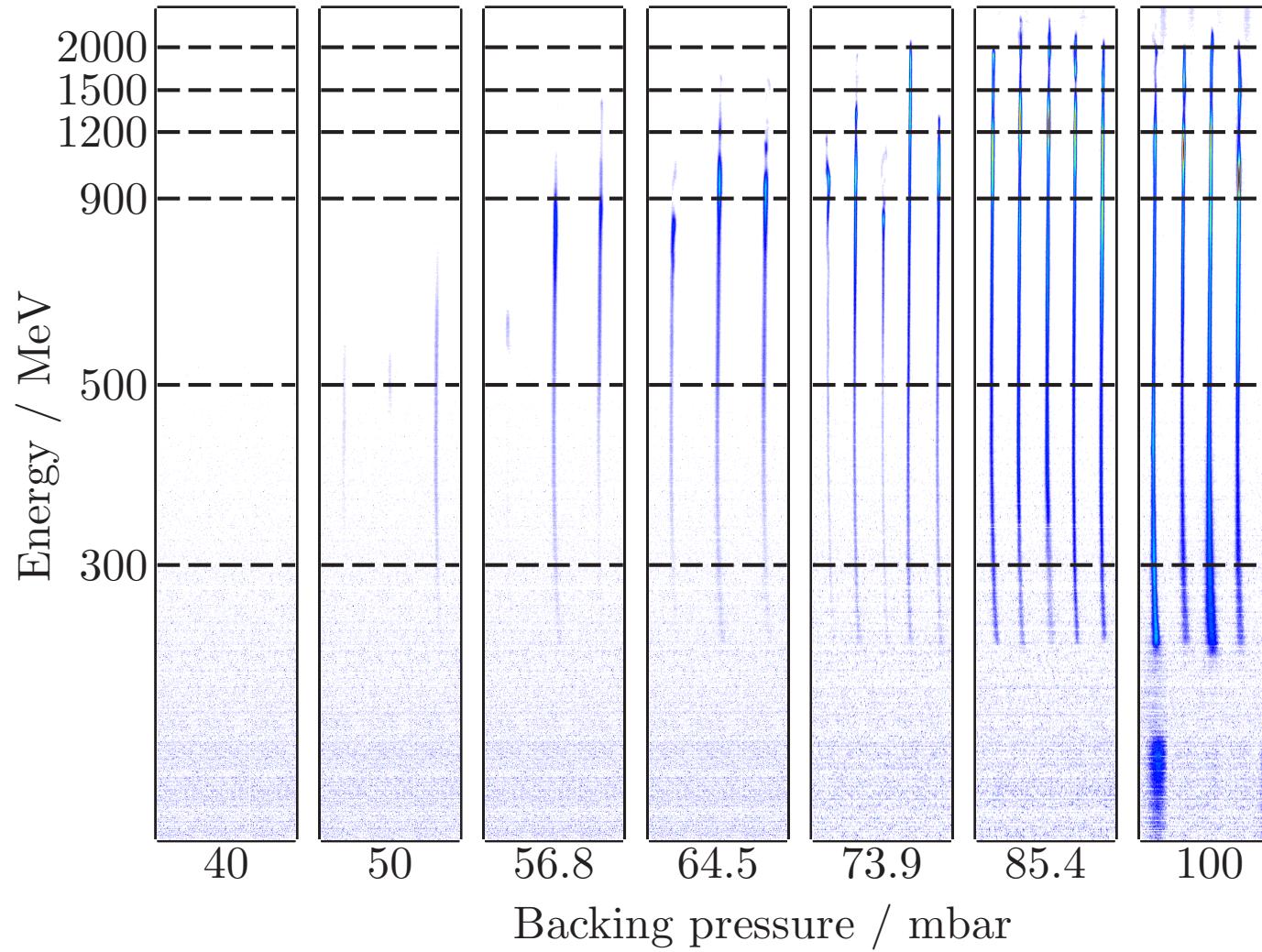
8



IC at CLF's GEMINI; 2015

credit: Z. Najmudin

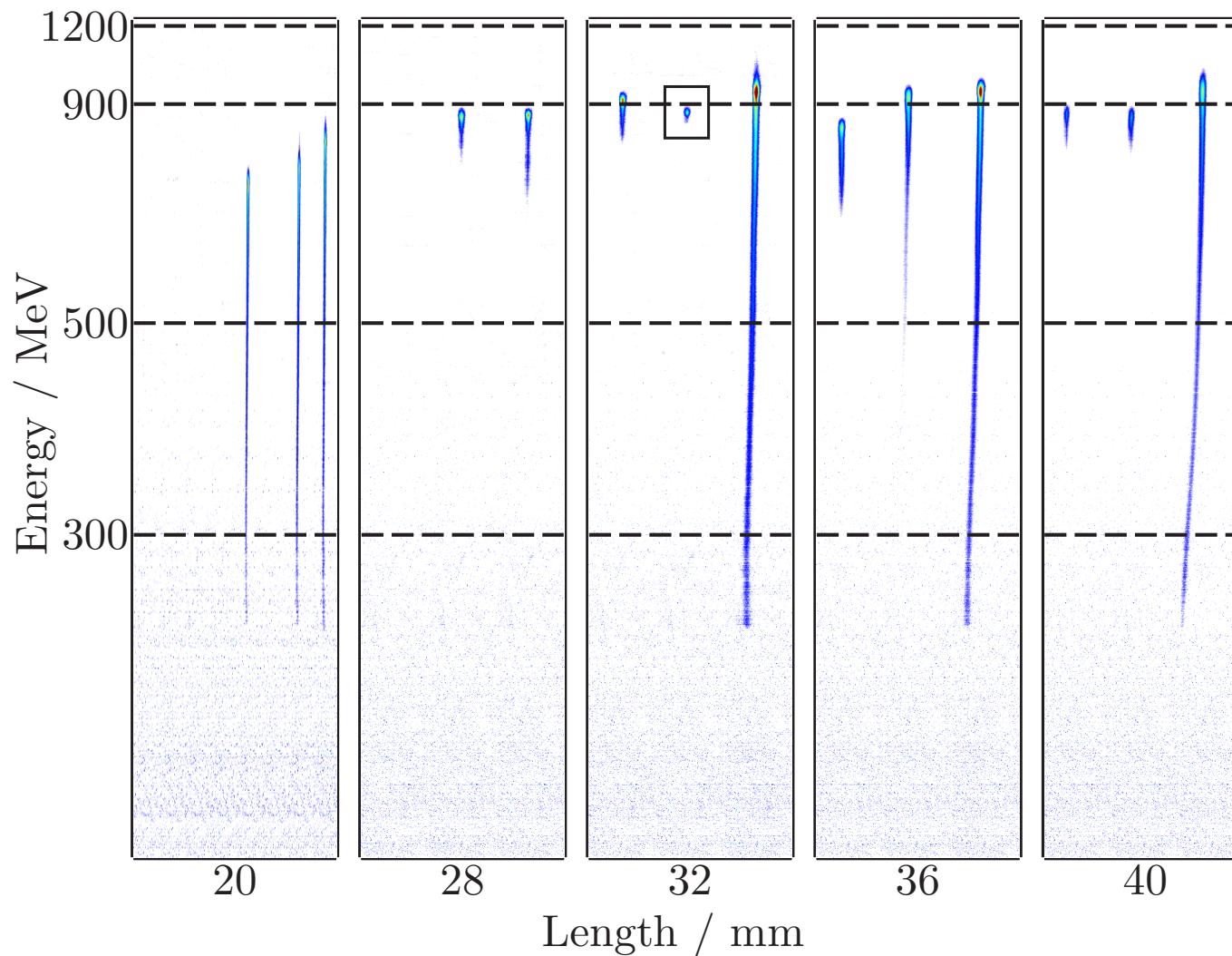
# Extended electron energies for same laser energy



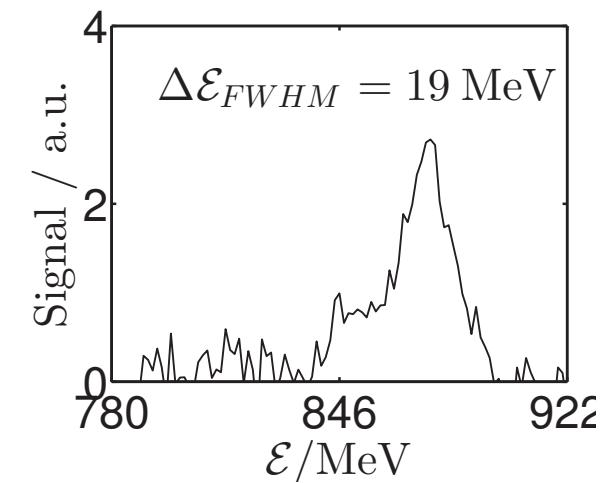
Energy on target  
 $10.0 \pm 0.3 \text{ J}$   
 $L_{cell} = 20 \text{ mm}$

IC at CLF's GEMINI; 2015

credit: Z. Najmudin

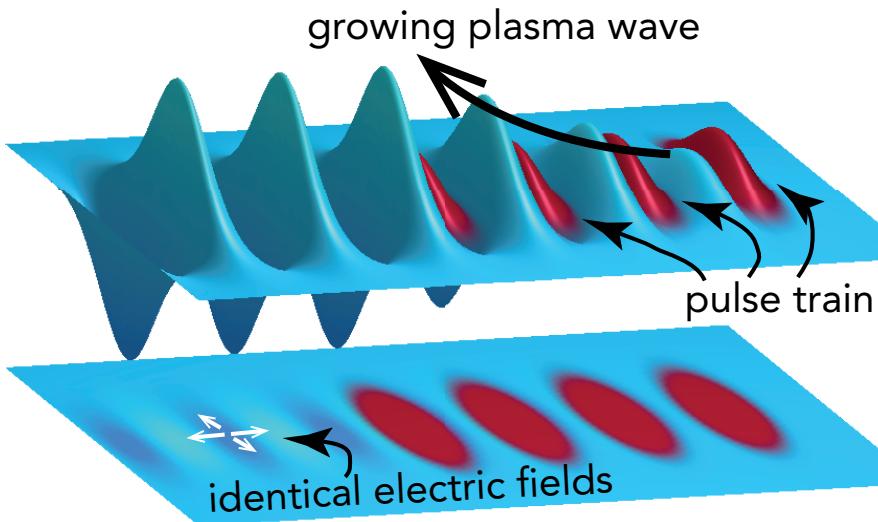


Energy on target  
 $9.5 \pm 0.2$  J  
 Backing pressure  
 55 mbar

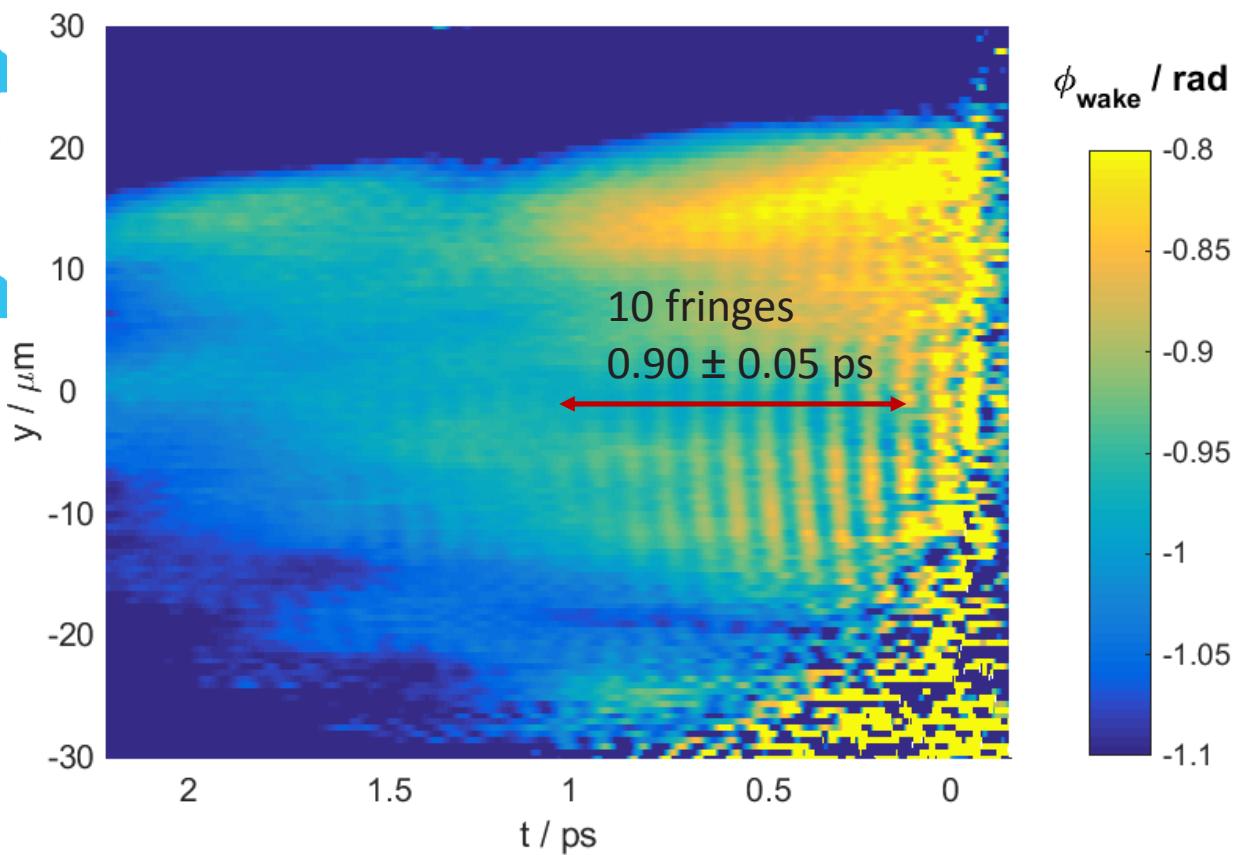


IC at CLF's GEMINI; 2015

credit: Z. Najmudin



Multi-pulse LWFA  
Only 4 laser pulses shown. In reality would use 10 - 100!



Oxford at CLF's ASTRA; 2015

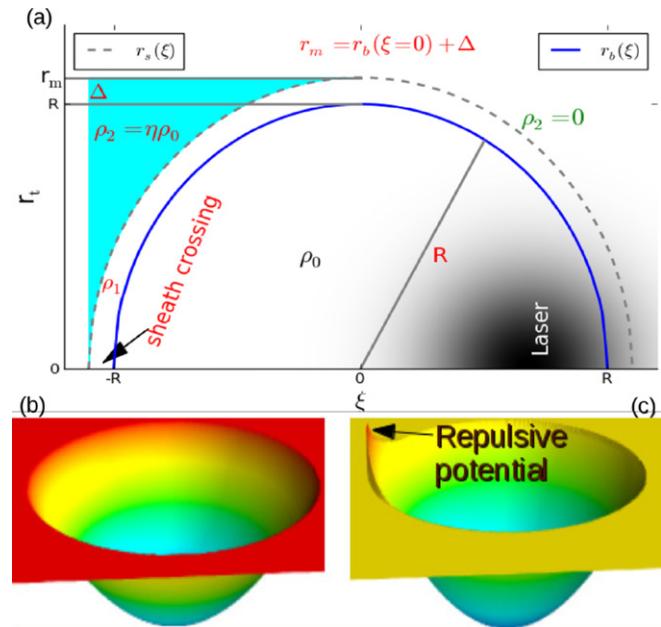
Accelerating and guiding

## ASTRA TA2 at CLF

Split a single pulse into a train of pulses and use it in a proof-of-principle demonstration of MP-LWFA concept.

Method: Frequency Domain Holography

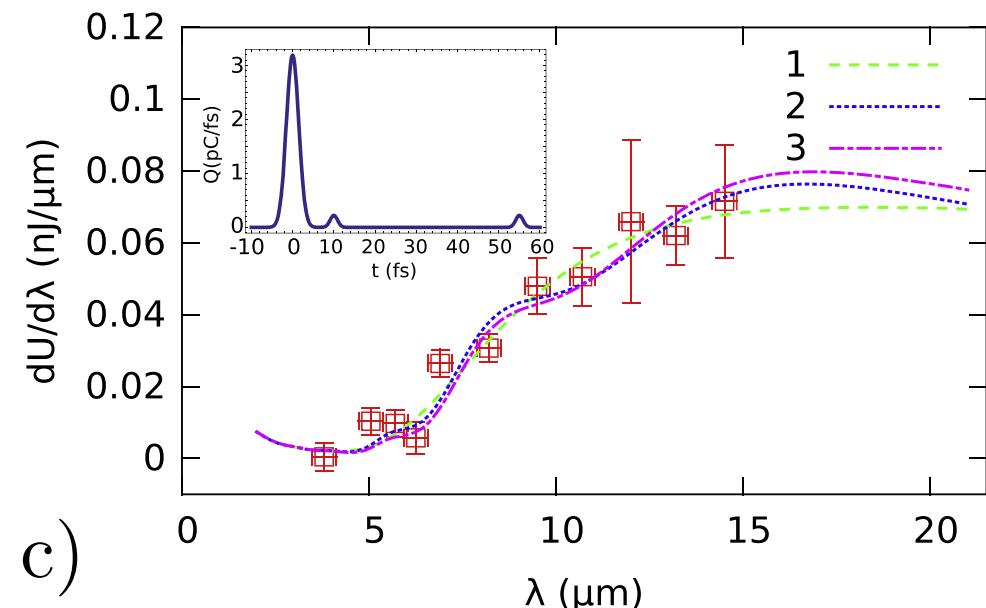
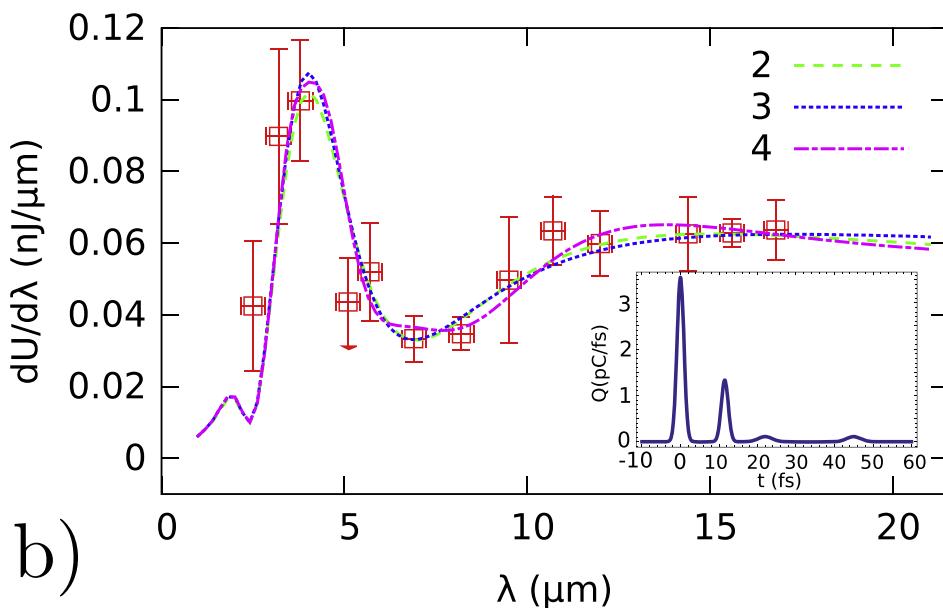
An example of interference fringes due to a plasma wake.  
A paper in preparation.



Near-threshold electron injection  
at the back of a plasma bubble.

Measurements at ALPHA-X

M.R. Islam et al. New J. Phys. 17 (2015) 093033  
Strathclyde and St. Andrews.



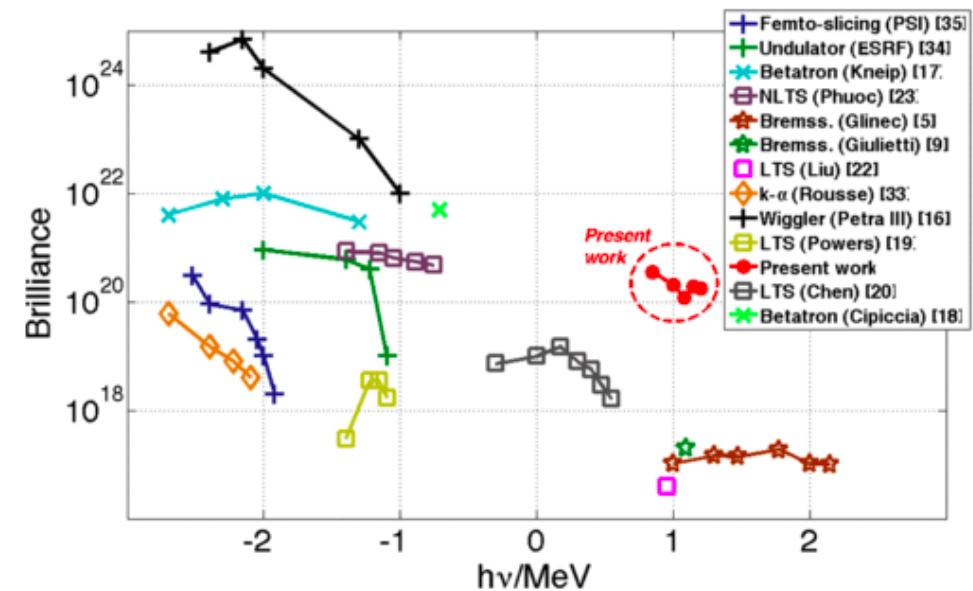
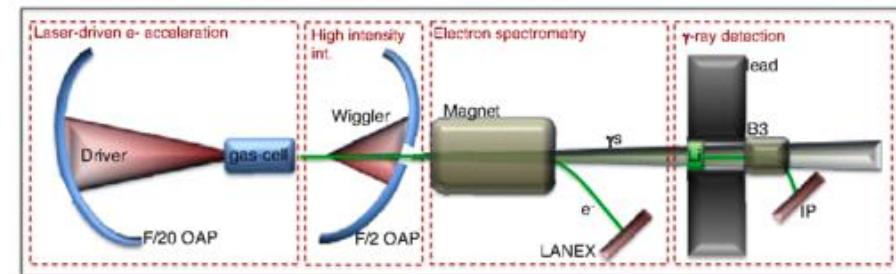


## Brightest ever gamma ray source!

QUB-led team produced a gamma-ray beam in the multi-MeV range with highest peak brilliance ever produced!

They used nonlinear-Thompson scattering: scattering the north beam off an electron beam produced by the south beam

Gemini is uniquely placed to do such experiments with its dual-beam capability



Phys. Rev. Lett. **113**, 224801 (2014)



Imperial College London



Queen's University  
Belfast

credit: R. Pattathil and G. Sarri



Science & Technology  
Facilities Council

Roman Walczak  
University of Oxford  
IoP-PAB 2016, 8 Apr 2016



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD



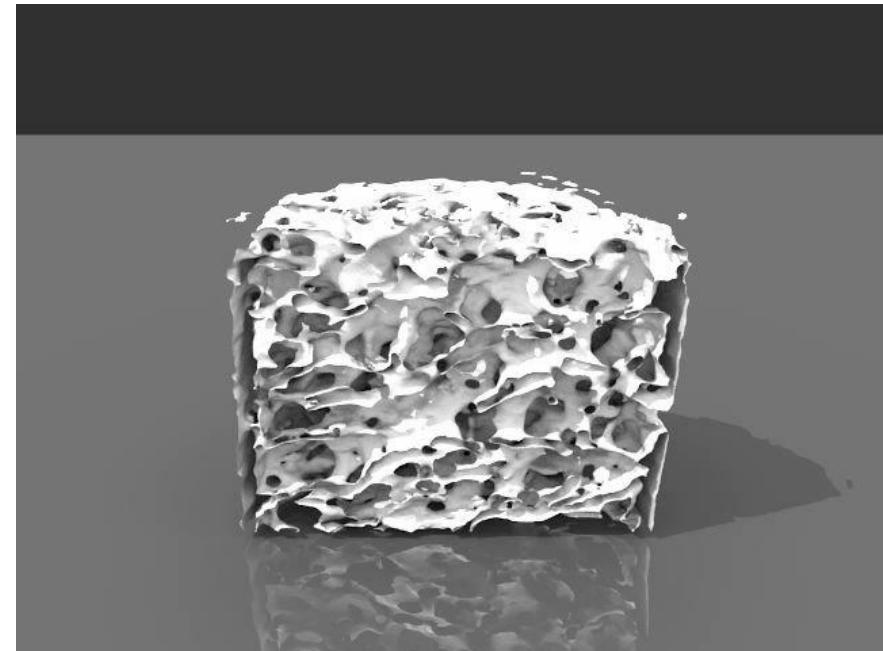
# X-ray tomographic imaging using Gemini

Radiation

Imperial College London

Betatron x-rays generated by CLF's GEMINI laser was used for tomographic imaging of trabecular bone tissues

The semi-coherent x-rays produced by the laser accelerated electrons enable phase-contrast imaging, bringing the dream of compact, affordable high resolution x-ray imaging for medical and biological applications a step



Cole, Sci. Reports (2015)  
<https://www.llnl.gov/str/Sep06/Kinney.html>  
<http://www.skyscan.be>

credit: R. Pattathil and Z. Najmudin

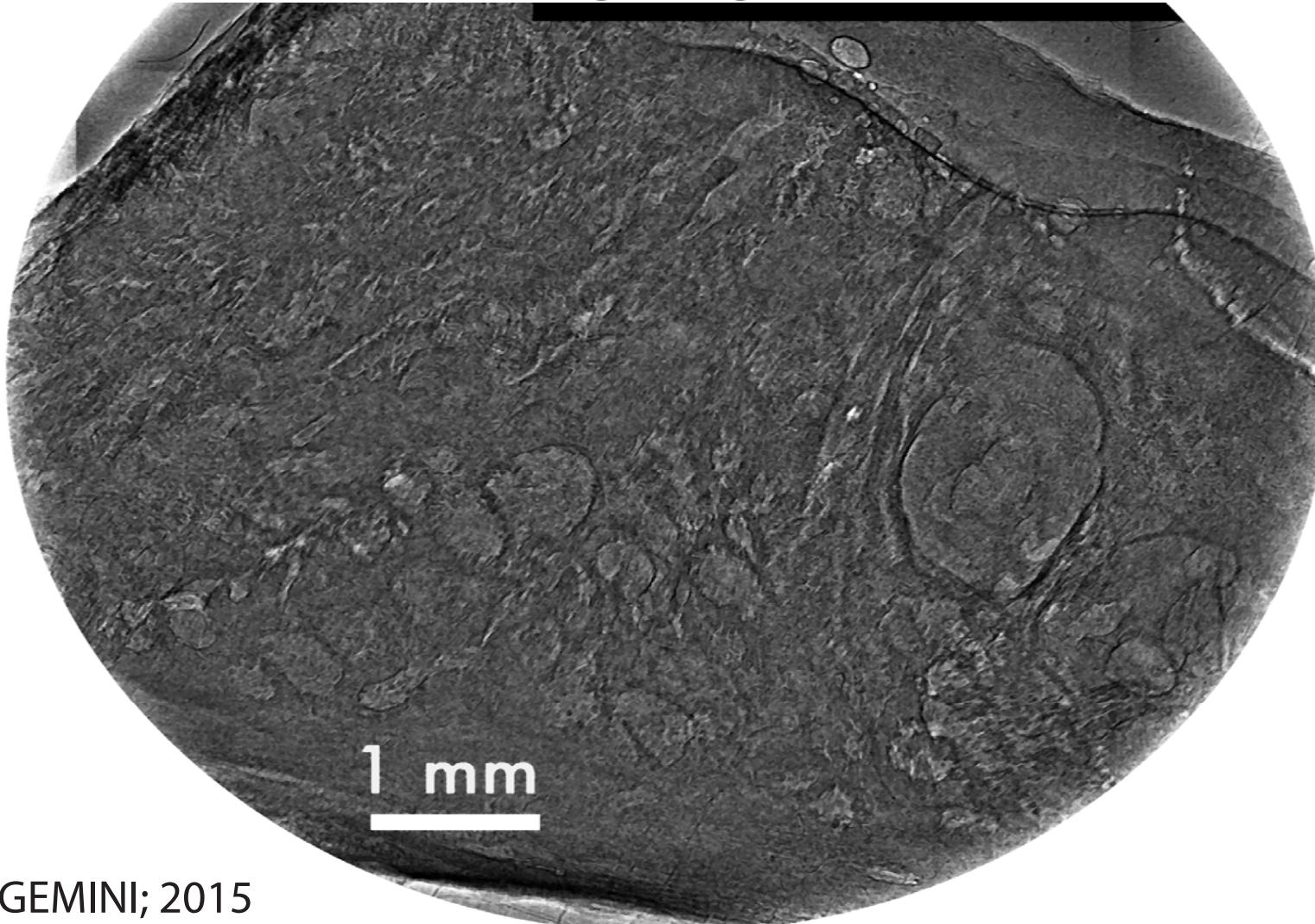
Science & Technology Facilities Council

Roman Walczak  
University of Oxford  
IoP-PAB 2016, 8 Apr 2016



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

# Prostate Imaging with Gemini



IC at CLF's GEMINI; 2015

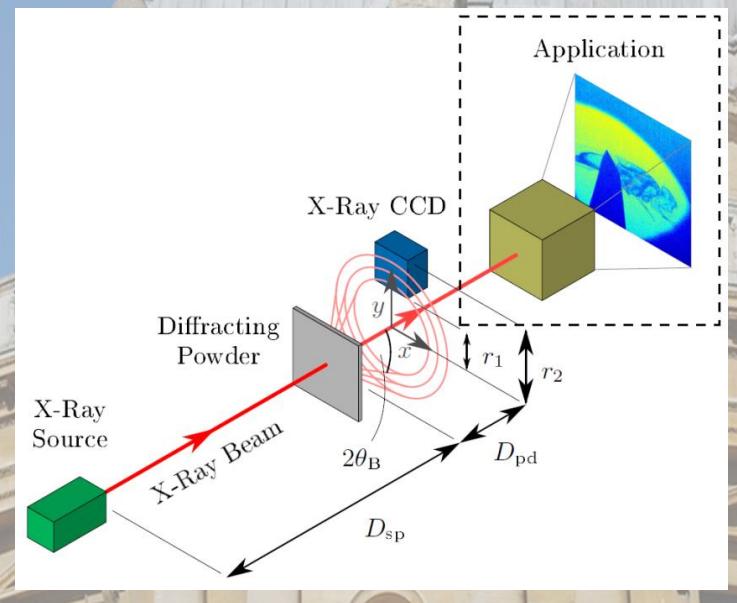
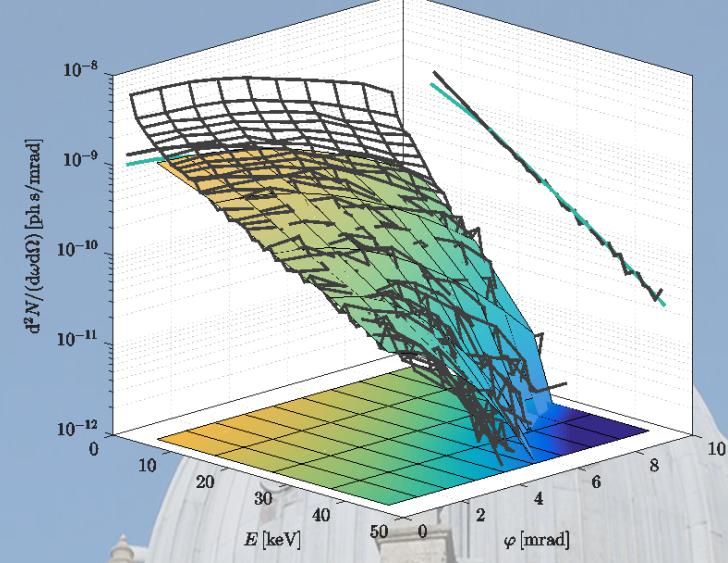
**Lopes N. et al. X-ray phase contrast imaging of biological specimens with femtosecond pulses of betatron radiation from a compact laser plasma wakefield accelerator. In Preparation (2016).**

credit: Z. Najmudin

# X-ray Characterisation by Energy-Resolved Powder (XCERP) Diffraction



- Single-shot measurement of bright X-ray beams, e.g., betatron radiation from LWFAs
- Non-destructive technique to allow *simultaneous* measurement and application
- Measures angularly-resolved spectrum without requiring assumptions of spectral shape
- Powder diffraction from a *known* material used to infer details about the *unknown* X-ray beam
- Uses single photon method to resolve energy of photons incident on X-ray CCD

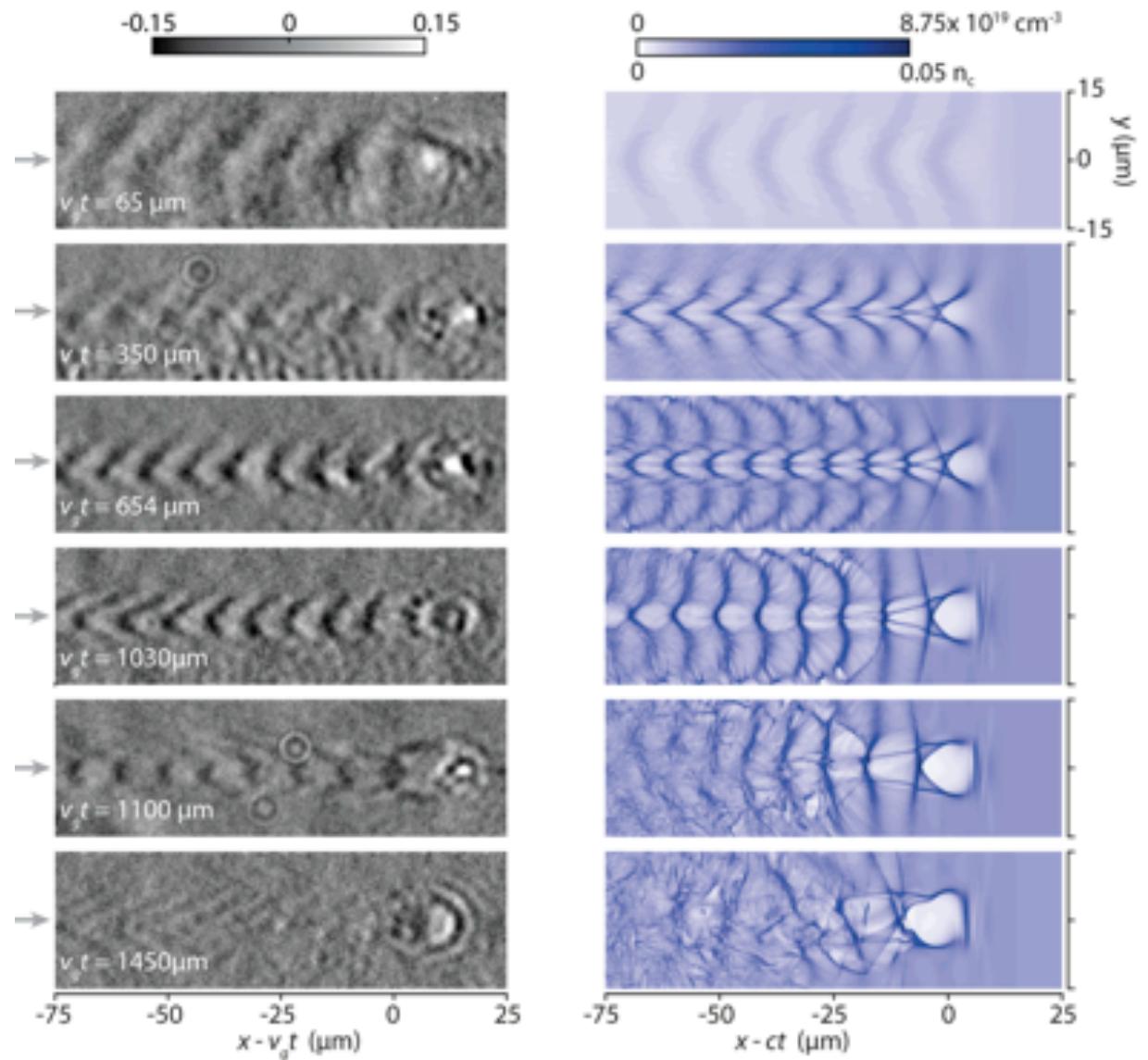


credit: G. Cheung; submitted for publication 2016

A. Sävert, et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **115**, 055002 (2015)

- ▶ Transverse shadowgraphy with ultrfast probe pulse
- ▶ Direct observation of wakefield
- ▶ Excellent agreement with simulations

IC and IOQ Jena



credit: Z. Najmudin

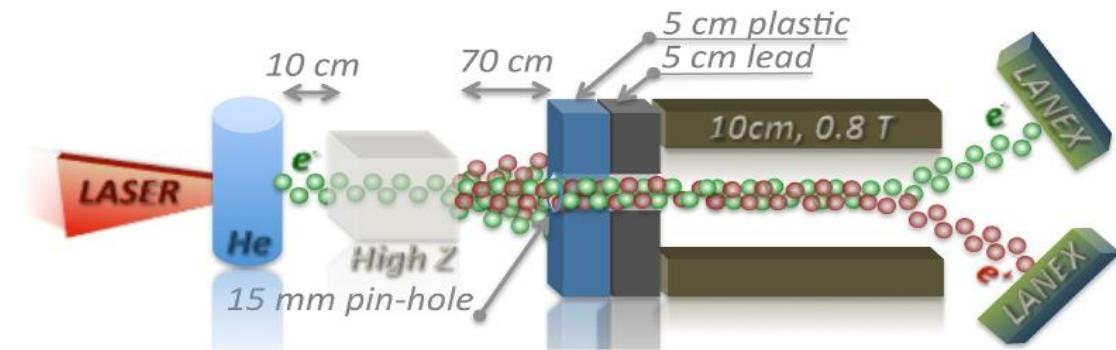


# Using Gemini to make copious electron–positron plasma

QUB-led experiment in Gemini creates copious amounts of electron–positron plasma.

Electron–positron plasmas are emitted by some of the most energetic or powerful objects in the Universe, such as black holes, pulsars and quasars. These plasmas are associated with violent emission of gamma-rays in the form of short-lived bursts, which are among the most luminous events ever observed in the Universe.

This experiment re-created some of these conditions in the laboratory



credit: R. Pattathil and G. Sarri

Nature Comm. 6, 6747 (2015)

## Strathclyde

- Currently 12 senior members (including Prof. Z.M. Sheng)
- Development of codes such as ICL, Betatron and CPL, PUFFIN; use of PIC codes such as OSIRIS, VORPAL, EPOCH, WAKE; fluid codes such as MULTI, HELIOS, etc.
- Relativistic laser-plasma based radiation sources from THz to gamma-rays, including transition radiation, mode conversion, Thomson/Compton scattering, betatron radiation, Raman amplification.

## St. Andrews and CLF

Stimulated Raman and Brillouin scattering, in particular Raman and Brillouin amplification.

Photon acceleration as a wakefield diagnostics.

Relaxation of the wakefield in plasma channels for high rep rate operation.

Beam loading.

## Lancaster

Investigated the implications of Stern-Gerlach-type forces in laser wakefield accelerators.

Developed a new kinetic theory of radiation reaction.

Developed a fundamentally new formulation of radiation reaction of electrons in ultraintense laser fields based on higher order Maxwell electrodynamics.

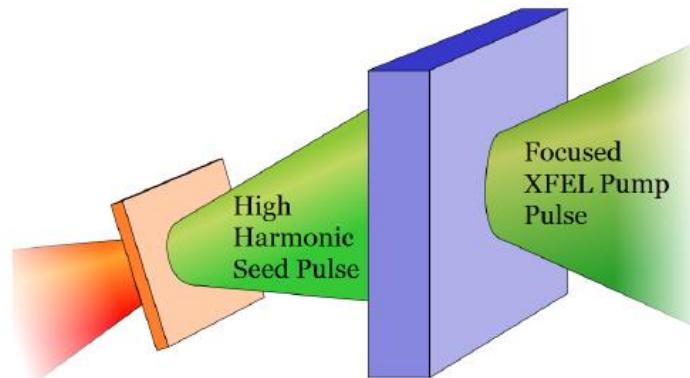
Developed a new simulation tool for Laser-Plasma interactions using spatially compact finite energy laser pulses.

## Warwick

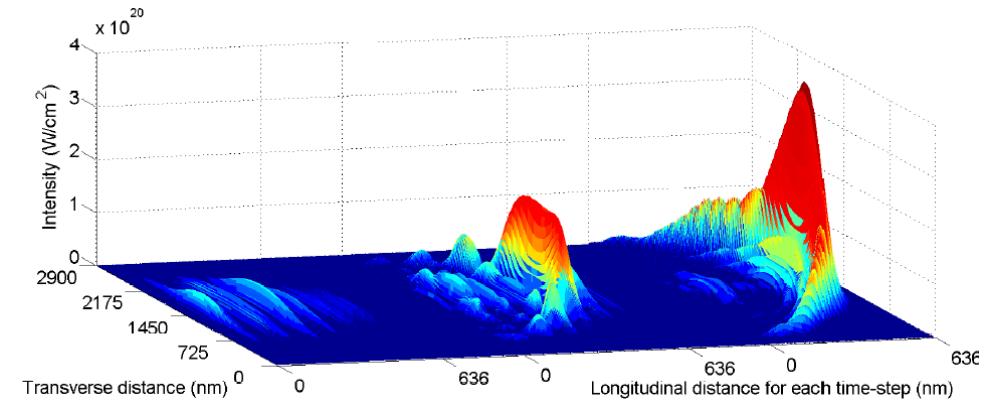
Development and maintenance of EPOCH PIC code.

credit: B. Hidding, J. Gratus, A. Cairns and B. Bingham

# Energetic coherent attosecond pulse generation



Concept



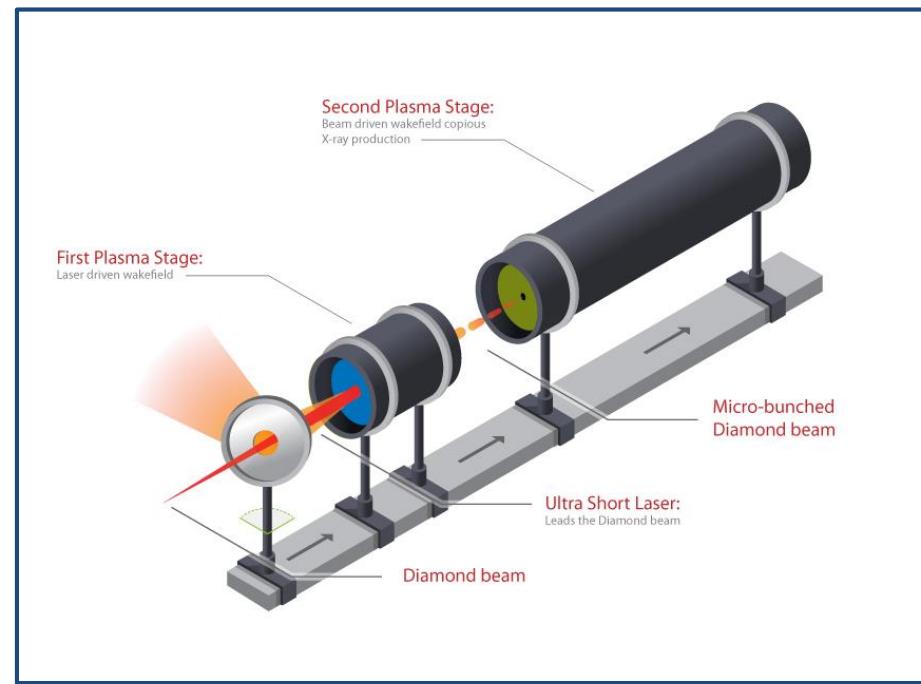
Amplification of seed pulse

Raman amplification of X-ray lasers – simulations match analytic model to show that coherent mJ, 0.4 fs, 1-10 nm laser pulses can be generated using high power lasers coupled to XFEL's

J. Sadler *et al.*, Scientific Reports 5, 16755 (2015) Oxford, CLF and Strathclyde

credit: P. Norreys

# A plasma wiggler for the Diamond Light Source



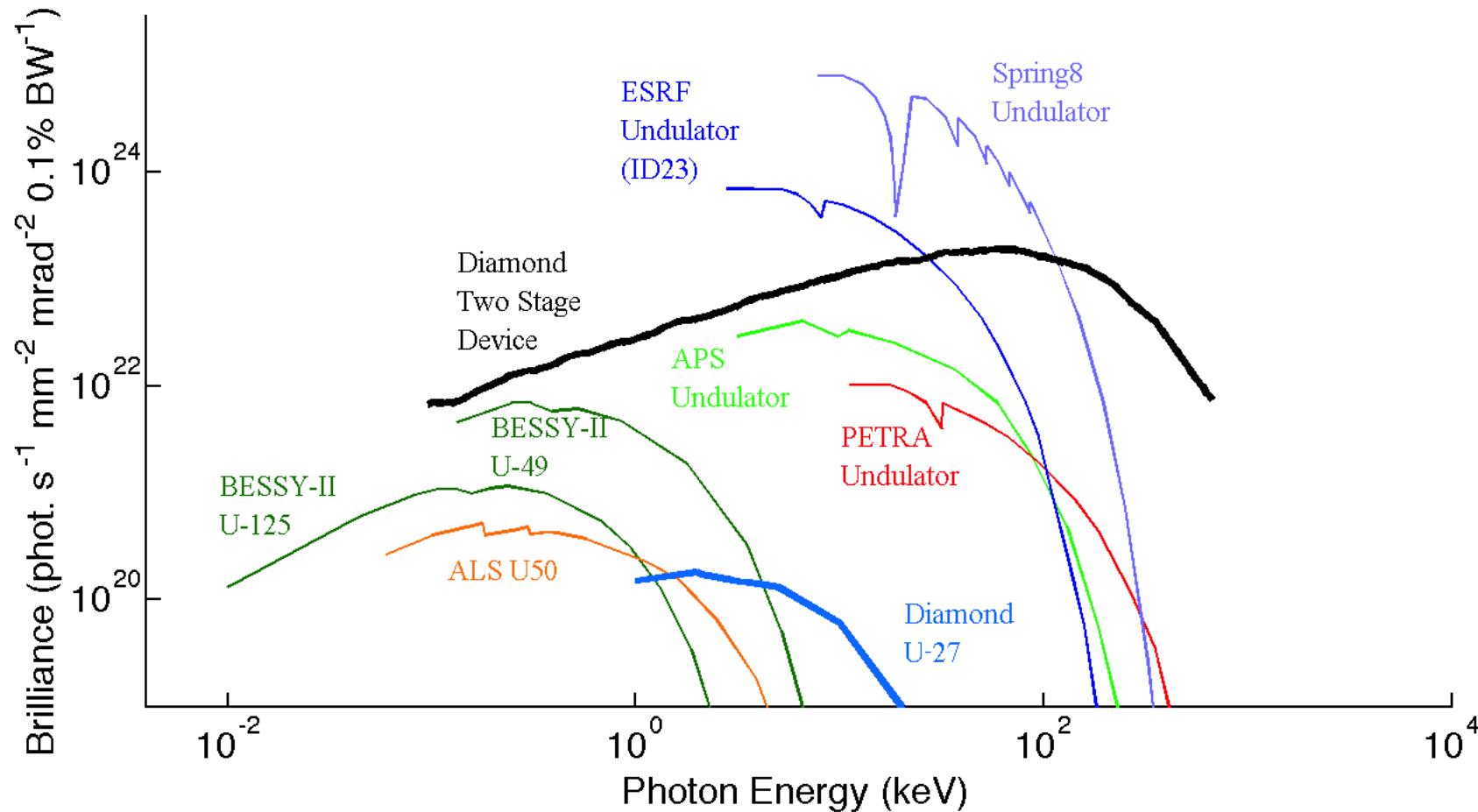
Dr Jimmy Holloway –submitted to Scientific Reports March 2016

Collaboration between University College London, the John Adams Institute, University of Michigan, the Diamond Light Source and the Central Laser Facility

credit: P. Norreys

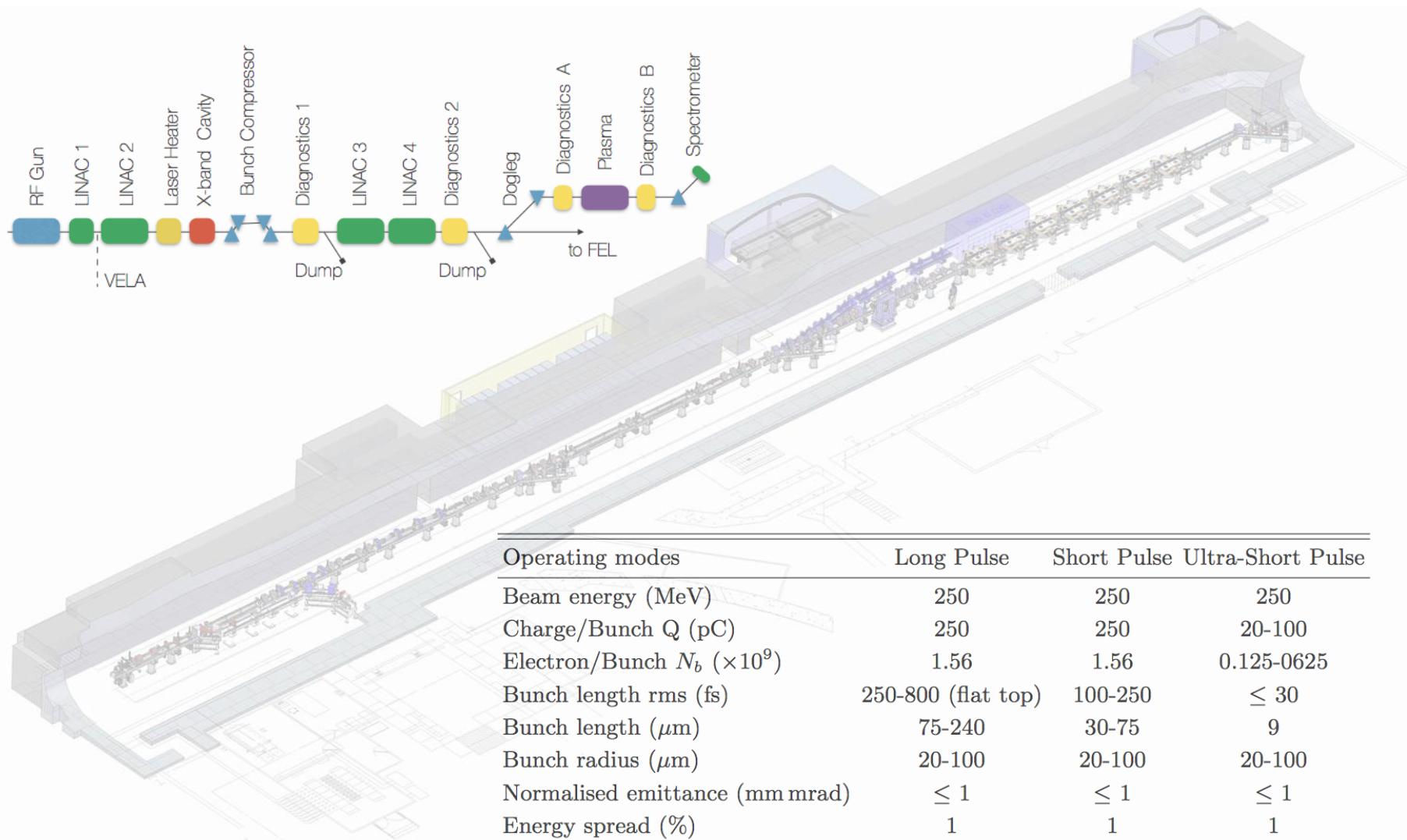
Roman Walczak  
University of Oxford  
IoP-PAB 2016, 8 Apr 2016

# A plasma wiggler for the Diamond Light Source



credit: P. Norreys

# Plasma Accelerator Research Station/PARS

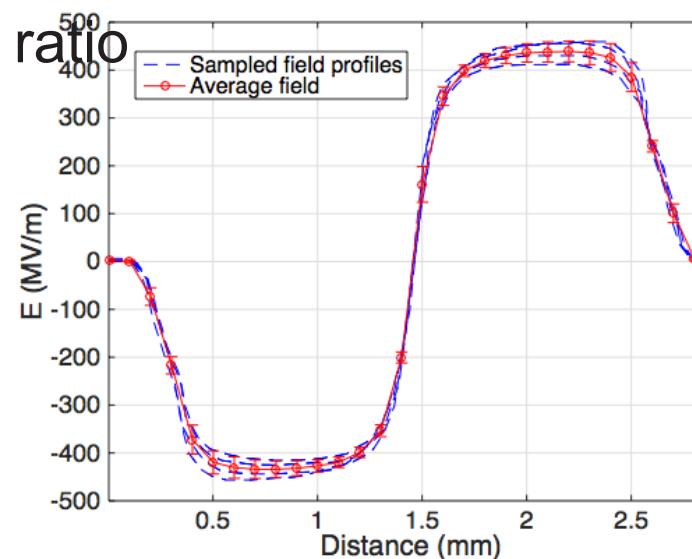
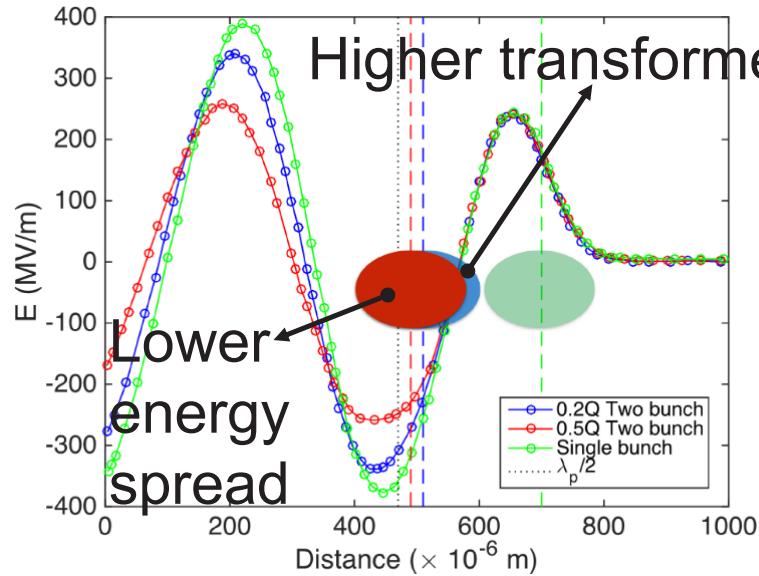
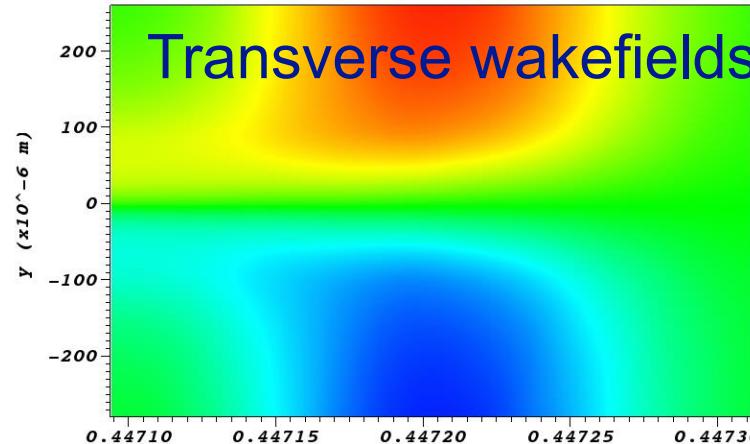
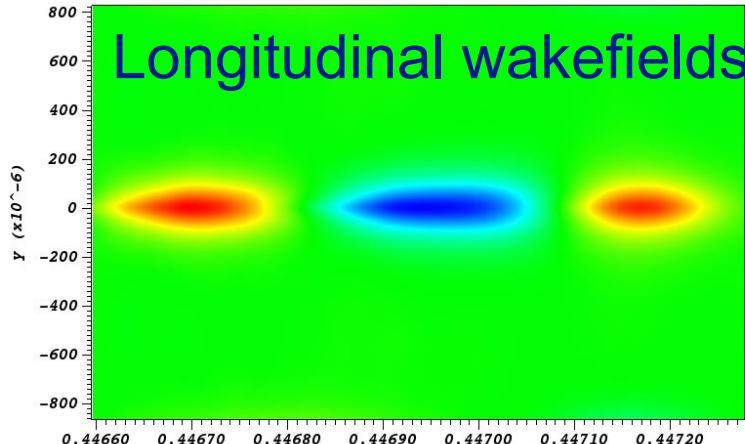


in collaboration with Deepa Angal-Kalinin and other ASTeC and CI colleagues

credit: Q. Xia

# Two Bunches

## PARS Project



O. Mete, et al., Physics of Plasmas 22, 103117 (2015)

credit: Q. Xia

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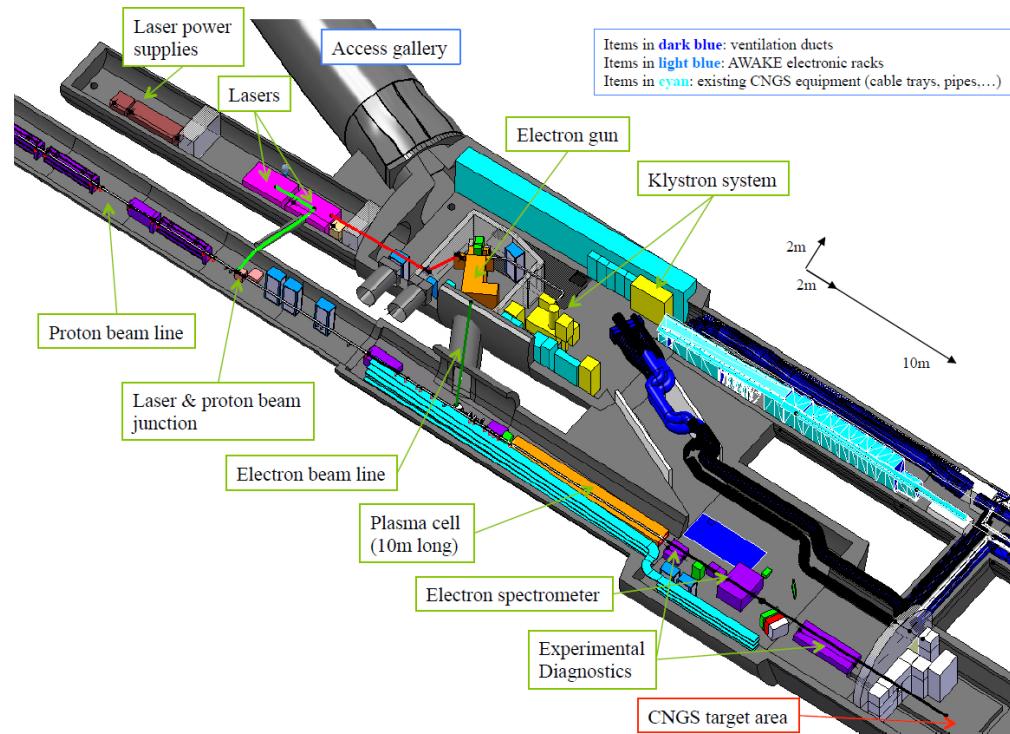


# AWAKE proof-of-principle experiment

## CERN

Towards a TeV  $e^-e^+$  collider  
using a proton-driven  
wakefield accelerator

Novel photon acceleration  
diagnostic to measure the  
wakefield amplitude growth  
along the plasma column  
concept developed in Oxford  
Physics, the John Adams  
Institute and the Central Laser  
Facility.



Oxford  
CLF  
Strathclyde  
UCL

M. Kasim *et al.*, Phys. Rev. ST Accel. Beams **18**, 030402 (2015)  
M. Kasim *et al.*, Phys. Rev. ST Accel. Beams **18**, 081302 (2015)

credit: P. Norreys

Significant investments at Lancaster University:

The group becomes bigger

two new Professors

and 5 new PDRAs



## Alec Thomas: Joining Lancaster University in May 2016

2014 – 2016, Associate Professor, University of Michigan

2008 – 2014, Assistant Professor, University of Michigan

2007, PhD Plasma Physics, Imperial College London

Research: Experimental/Theoretical laser-plasma interactions /

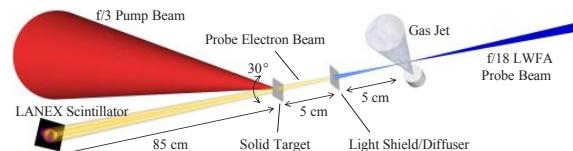
Laser Wakefield Acceleration



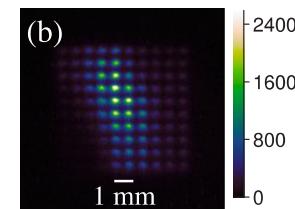
### Recent research:

- Bright and spatially coherent laser-plasma sources of X-rays
  - The X-rays generated from betatron oscillations in laser wakefield accelerators [1] emanated from a small source [2,3] and have femtosecond duration [4] and scale up to high power [5].
- Nonlinear inverse Compton scattering and positron sources using LWFAs
  - LWFA accelerated electrons were used for a compact all-optical inverse Compton scattering source [6] and positron sources on a tabletop [7,8].
- High repetition rate laser wakefield acceleration with a 10 mJ laser:
  - Generating electrons by plasma wakefield acceleration on a downramp at 500 Hz [9] to explore high-repetition rate operation of LWFA such as the use of feedback systems and emittance control [10].
- Radiation Reaction in Intense Laser Interactions with Relativistic Electrons:
  - Radiation reaction is an unsolved theoretical problem. We have modeled this for proposed nonlinear inverse Compton scattering [11] and laser-solid interaction experiments [12].

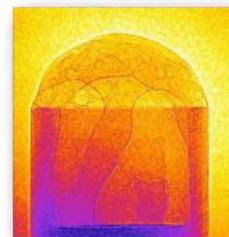
fs pump-probe measurements



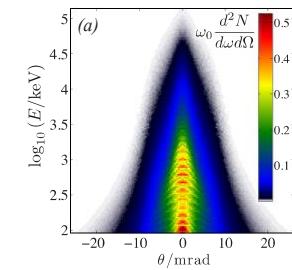
LWFA emittance control



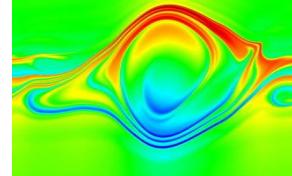
X-ray phase contrast imaging



Nonlinear Compton Scattering



Relativistic plasma kinetics



1. F. Albert, et al, Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion 56 (2014). "
2. S. Kneip, et al, Nature Phys. 6, 980 (2010). "
3. S. Kneip, et al, Phys. Rev. Spec. Top.-AB 15, 021302 (2012). "
4. W. Schumaker, et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 015003 (2013). "
5. A. G. R. Thomas, Phys. Plasmas 17, 056708 (2010). "
6. G. Sarri, et al, Physical Review Letters 113 (2014). "
7. G. Sarri, et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 255002 (2013). "
8. G. Sarri, et al, Nat. Commms. 6, 6747 (2015). "
9. Z.-H. He, et al, New J. Phys. 15, 053016 (2013). "
10. Z.-H. He, et al, Nat. Commms. 6, 7156 (2015). "
11. A. G. R. Thomas, et al, Phys. Rev. X 2, 041004 (2012). "
12. P. Zhang, et al, New J. Phys. 17, 043051 (2015). "
13. Z. H. He, et al, Physical Review Letters 113 (2014). "



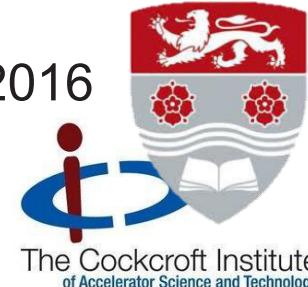
# Louise Willingale: Joining Lancaster University in May 2016

2014 – 2016, Assistant Professor, University of Michigan

2008 – 2011, Postdoc, 2011 – 2014, Assistant Research Scientist, University of Michigan

2007, PhD Plasma Physics, Imperial College London

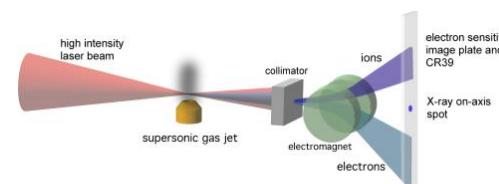
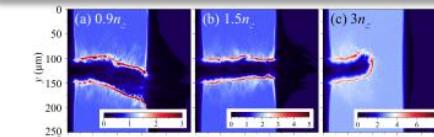
Research: Experimental high-intensity laser plasma interactions / ion acceleration



## Previous research:

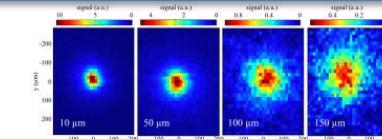
- Laser-driven ion acceleration from underdense and near-critical density plasmas
- Laser-driven ion acceleration via Target Normal Sheath Acceleration (TNSA)
- Proton radiography of laser plasma interactions
- Relativistic intensity channel formation
- Direct Laser Acceleration (DLA) of electrons
- Relativistically Induced Transparency effects
- Laser-driven magnetic reconnection

L Willingale, et al, Physical Review Letters, 102, 125002 (2009)

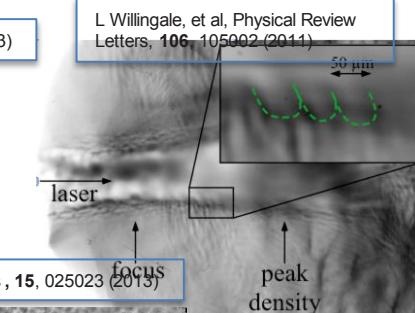


L Willingale, et al, Physical Review Letters, 96, 245002 (2006)

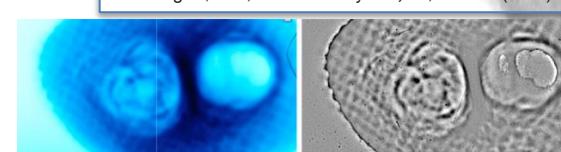
L Willingale, et al, Physics of Plasmas, 20, 123112 (2013)



L Willingale, et al, Physical Review Letters, 106, 105002 (2011)



L Willingale, et al, New J. of Physics, 15, 025023 (2013)



L Willingale, et al, Physics of Plasmas, 17, 043104 (2010)

# Future work at Cockcroft/Lancaster experimental plasma based accelerators



- Photon sources using laser driven wakefield accelerators
- Strong field physics relevant to plasma based accelerator schemes
- Beam driven plasma wakefield acceleration
- High repetition-rate laser wakefield acceleration and detailed control of plasma waves
- Laser-Driven Collisionless Shock Ion Acceleration
- Direct Laser Acceleration of Electrons
- Relativistically Induced Transparency (RIT) in Plasmas

D. Jaroszynski (director), P. McKenna, Z.-M. Sheng, B. Hidding,  
M. Wiggins, G. Welsh, R. Gray, K. Ledingham. **et al.**

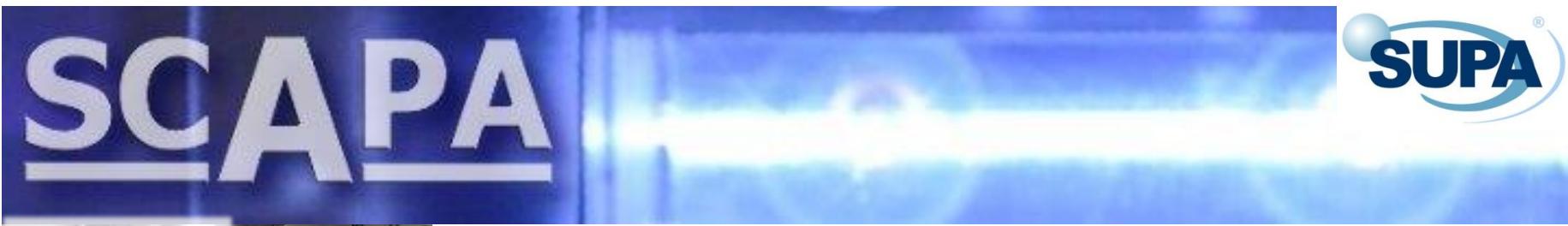
## Scottish Centre for the Application of Plasma-based Accelerators

- Collaborative research opportunity for the whole faculty, Scotland and the UK!
- £8M investment + additional infrastructure funds (SFC, SUPA, UoS..)
- Accelerator and Light Source R&D
- Strong engagement in European and other large projects
- In-depth programme of **applications, knowledge exchange & commercialization**



credit: B. Hidding

- 3 high-power laser systems, initially up to 350 TW (40 TW ALPHA-X laser now, 350 TW in 2016)
- 3 shielded radiation caves, fully vibration-isolated, w/ 2000 tons of concrete shielding
- up to 7 accelerator application beam lines for programmatic R&D
- ~1200 m<sup>2</sup> on two levels
- High-energy particle beams: electrons, protons, ions, positrons, neutrons
- High-energy photon beams: fs duration, (coherent) VUV, X-ray & gamma-rays

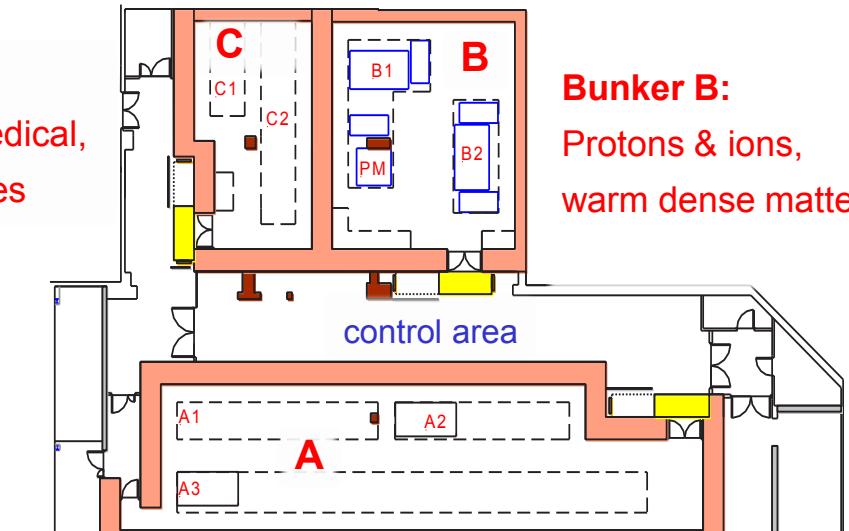


Level 1: radiation caves, level 2: laser clean rooms



**Bunker C:**  
Health, medical,  
life sciences

**Bunker B:**  
Protons & ions,  
warm dense matter



credit: B. Hidding



# EuPRAXIA – Addressing the Quality Issue



- Our question for the next 4 years:

**Assuming no resource limits – What would be the best  
1 – 5 GeV e- plasma accelerator we can build? And what  
could we use it for (pilot users)?**

The diagram illustrates the scope of EuPRAXIA's research. On the left, a large box contains the text: "NOVEL FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH" and "COMPACT EUROPEAN PLASMA ACCELERATOR WITH SUPERIOR BEAM QUALITY". To the right of this box is the EuPRAXIA logo. Below the logo, a smaller box contains the text: "'RF unit test' for plasma accelerators".

NOVEL FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

COMPACT EUROPEAN PLASMA ACCELERATOR WITH SUPERIOR BEAM QUALITY

EuPRAXIA

"RF unit test"  
for plasma accelerators



# The EuPRAXIA Steering & WP Leader Team



plus 18  
associated  
partner  
institutes



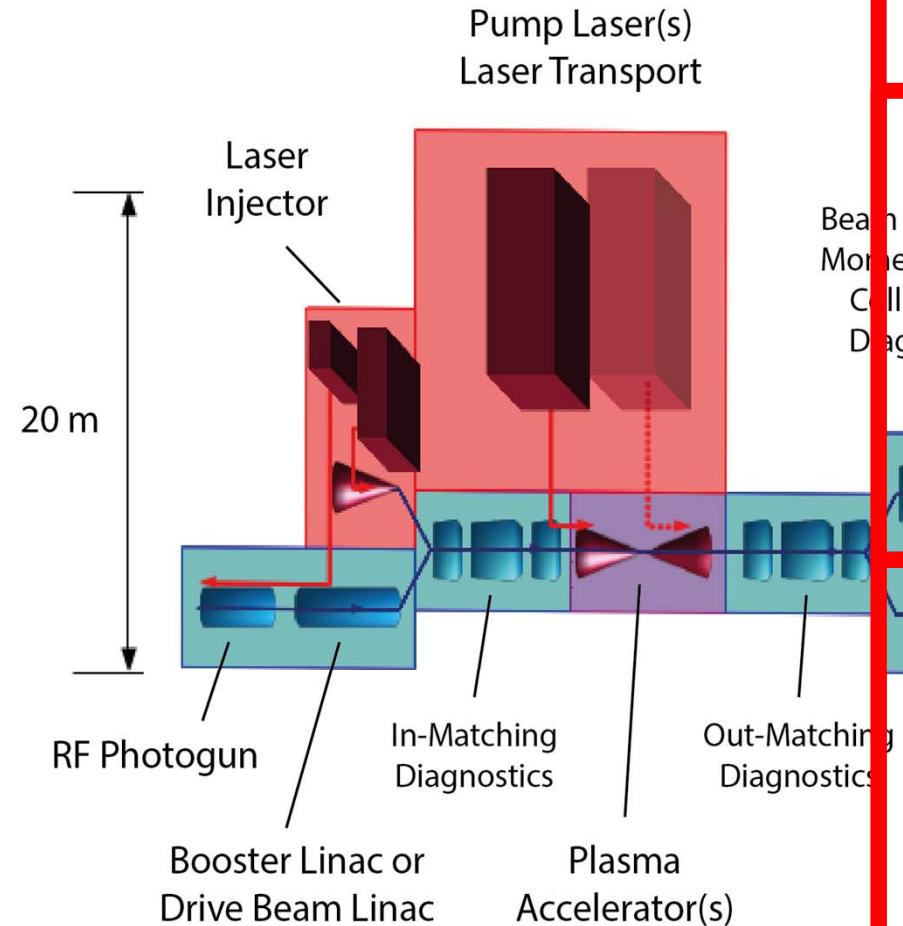
R. Assmann, 01/2016

Plasma Linear Collider Workshop LBNL

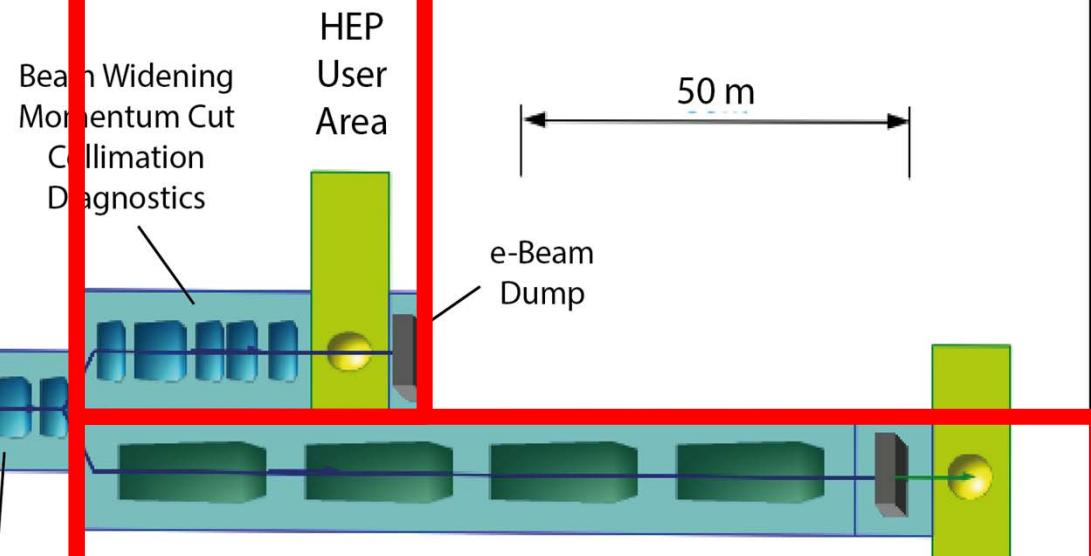


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## PLASMA ACCELERATOR



## HEP & OTHER USER AREA



## FEL / RADIATION SOURCE USER AREA

# *EuPRAXIA*

Beam Parameter	Unit	Value
Particle type	-	Electrons
Energy	GeV	1 – 5
Charge per bunch	pC	1 – 50
Repetition rate	Hz	10
Bunch duration	fs	0.01 - 10
Peak current	kA	1 – 100
Energy spread	%	0.1 – 5
Norm. emittance	mm	0.01 – 1
FEL wavelength	nm	1 - 15

**Table 1.1: Electron beam parameters as presently foreseen.** A commercially available laser driver (e.g. currently available 1 PW Ti: Sa laser) or a custom built electron beam could be adequate drivers for the plasma acceleration. The parameters give access (1) to an FEL in the EUV to X-ray regime (1 – 15 nm) and (2) to short electron pulses with high brightness for HEP detector tests, material tests and other applications.

# Design Study

EU funding:  
3 M€

European Laser  
Industry

European Accele-  
rator Industry

Collaboration  
Board

Scientific Advisory  
Board

Project  
Coordinator  
*DESY*

Project  
Office  
*DESY*

Steering  
Committee

WP1: Project Management  
and Technical Coordination  
*DESY – CNRS*

WP8: Outreach and Liaison  
*ULIV – USTRATH*

WP2: Physics and Simulation  
*CEA – IST*

WP9: Alternative e-Beam  
Driven Plasma Structure  
*DESY – INFN*

WP3: High Gradient Laser  
Plasma Acc. Structure  
*CNRS – ICL*

WP10: Use of Other Novel  
Technologies  
*DESY – UMAN*

WP4: Laser Design and  
Optimization  
*CNR – CNRS*

WP11: FEL Application  
Prototyping  
*CNRS – UHH*

WP5: Electron Beam Design  
and Optimization  
*INFN – CEA*

WP12: Acc. Prototyping and  
Experiments at Test Facilities  
*STFC – UROM*

WP6: FEL Pilot application  
*SOLEIL – ENEA*

WP13: Alternative Radiation  
Generation  
*USTRATH – ICL*

WP7: High Energy Physics  
and other Pilot Applications  
*CNRS – UOXF*

WP14: Hybrid Laser-Electron-  
Beam Driven Acceleration  
*USTRATH – DESY*

EU Project  
Office DESY

VOCAL platform  
(University  
Liverpool)

Initial Training  
Networks ITN  
(University  
Liverpool et al)

ERC Synergy  
Grant AXSIS  
(DESY, UHH)

ERC Advanced  
Grants  
X-five (CNRS),  
COXINEL (SOLEIL)

Existing Facilities  
ELI-Beamlines  
CILEX-APOLLON  
Helmholtz VI  
INFN SPARC  
STFC CLF  
Laser Lab  
CERN AWAKE  
etc

- Produce with EU funded manpower by end of 2019 an outstanding design report for **European 5 GeV plasma accelerator with superior beam quality & pilot applications:**
  - Include technical description with full performance estimates.
  - Include full cost estimate.
  - Include options for sites in Europe, both by partners and associated partners. Aim for open and friendly site competition. My view: If we get a next step project (1XX M€) anywhere → major success!
- International associated partners and industry are involved from the beginning → keep it open within rules.
- In 2020: EU and national funding agencies have required info for decision on future accelerator research infrastructures.

# Summary

- ▶ UK belongs to the leaders of the field since day one.
- ▶ There is a reach spectrum of high quality research
- ▶ EuPRAXIA (significant UK participation) provides a framework for coherent research in Europe.
- ▶ Researchers in the UK have started a process leading to better coordination of their research across UK which in turn would make an impact of UK reserach on the field even bigger. It would also lead to UK policy regarding large projects in the UK and in Europe; such as for example EuPRAXIA European plasma accelerator which might be built somewhere.