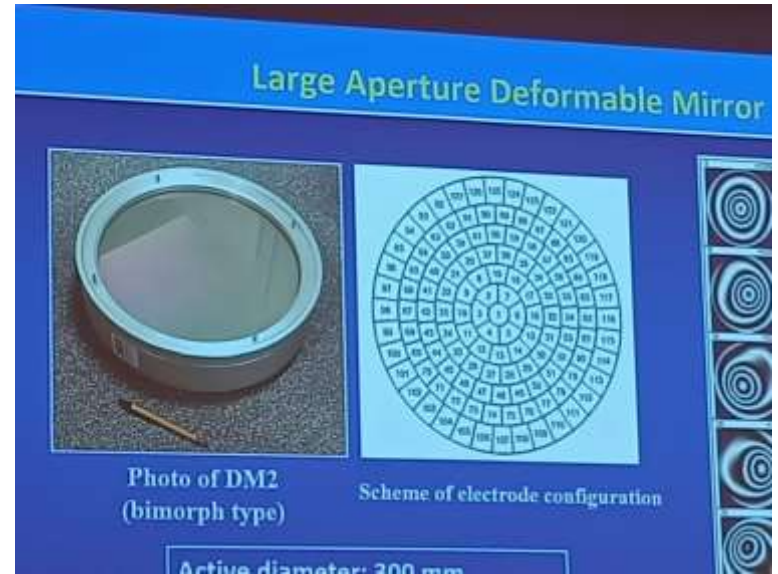


# Heraklion Archaeological Museum – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023



Phaistos disc –  
picture courtesy  
<https://luwianstudies.org/the-phaistos-disc/>



Chang Hee Nam – 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023



# APPLICATIONS OF LASER-PLASMA BASED PROTON & ION SOURCES

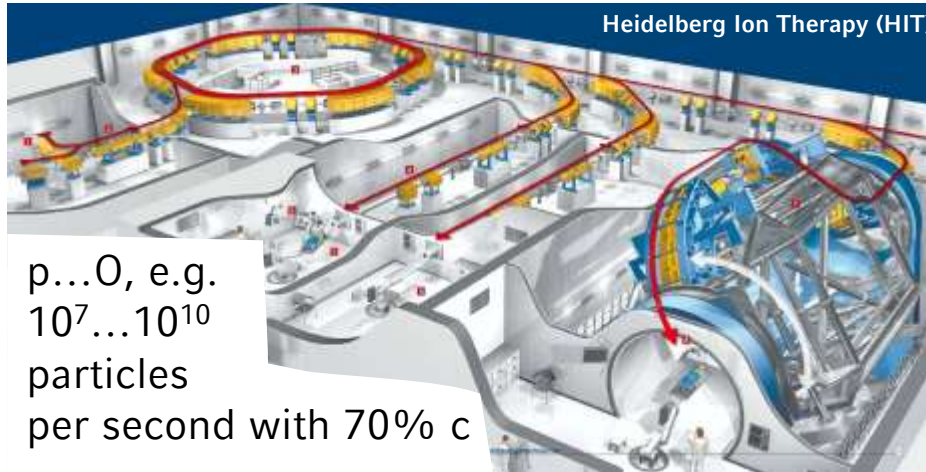
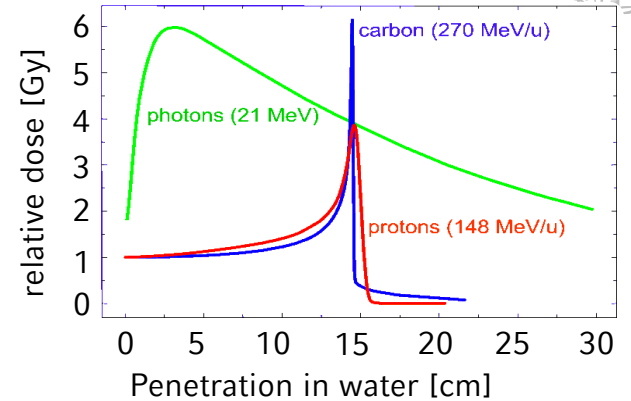


Funding: BMBF, DFG, CALA

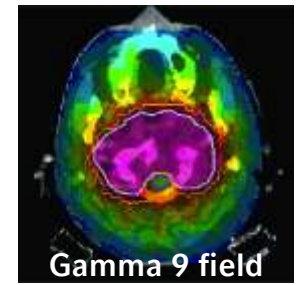
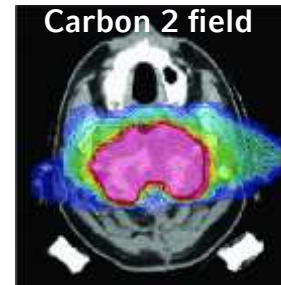
Laser-ION acceleration group  
Jörg Schreiber et al.  
Medical  
Physics,  
Ludwig-  
Maximilians-  
University  
Munich



**1903:** W.H. Bragg, **1929:** Cyclotron, **1946:** Idea Ion therapy (R.R.Wilson), **1952:** protons on patients (184", Berkley) & Synchrotron, **1990:** ESR@GSI & hospital-based proton facility (Loma Linda) **1994:** HIMAC, Chiba, Japan (carbons), **1997:** patient study with C at GSI, **2009:** clinical use (HIT), **2009:** hospital based p-O therapy at HIT, **Today:** ~70 centers (mostly protons)



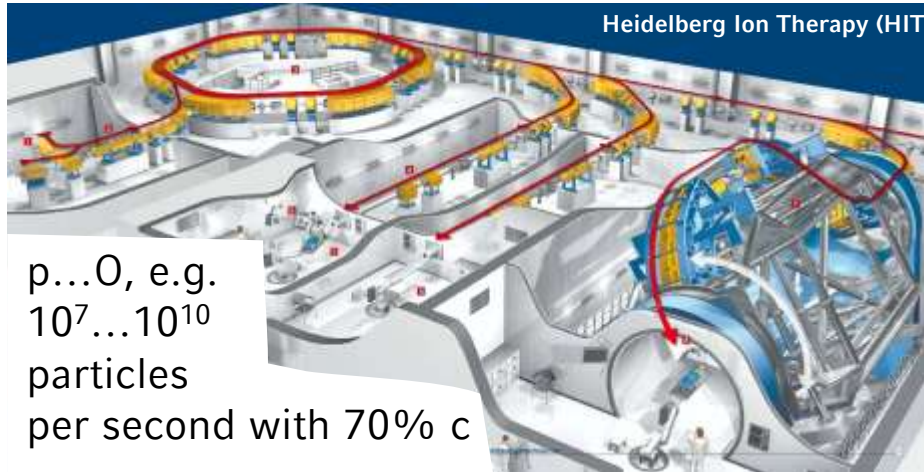
10 30 50 70 90 % of max Dosis



**1903:** W.H. Bragg, **1929:** Cyclotron, **1946:** Idea Ion therapy (R.R.Wilson), **1952:** protons on patients (184", Berkley) & Synchrotron, **1990:** ESR@GSI & hospital-based proton facility (Loma Linda) **1994:** HIMAC, Chiba, Japan (carbons), **1997:** patient study with C at GSI, **2009:** clinical use (HIT), **2009:** hospital based p-O therapy at HIT, **Today:** >100 centers (mostly protons)

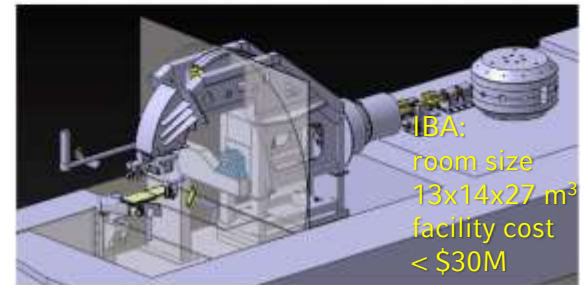


**MEVION:**  
room size  
14x14x14 m<sup>3</sup>  
(footprint < PW laser)



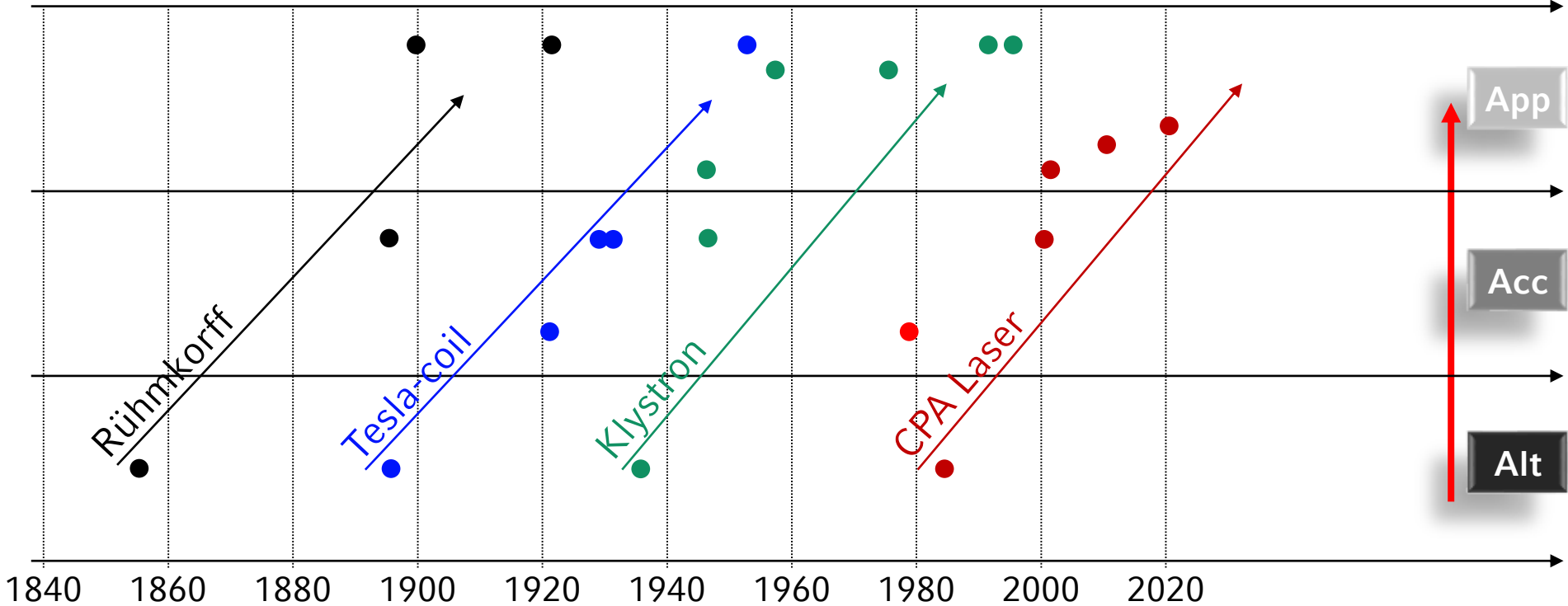
Heidelberg Ion Therapy (HIT)

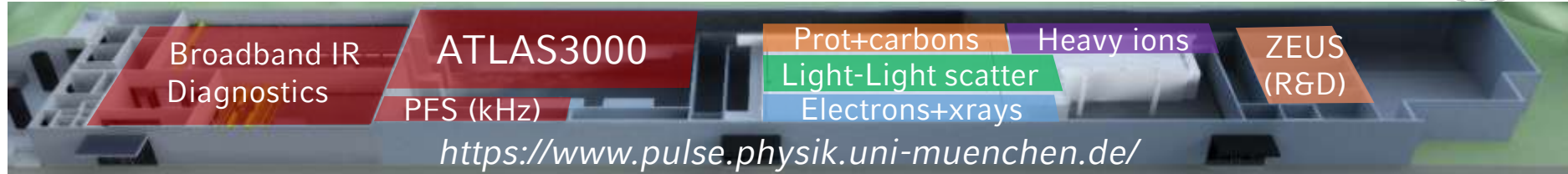
p...O, e.g.  
10<sup>7</sup>...10<sup>10</sup>  
particles  
per second with 70% c



**IBA:**  
room size  
13x14x27 m<sup>3</sup>  
facility cost  
< \$30M

\* U. Linz and J. Alonso Phys. Rev. Accel. & Beams **19**, 124802 (2016)



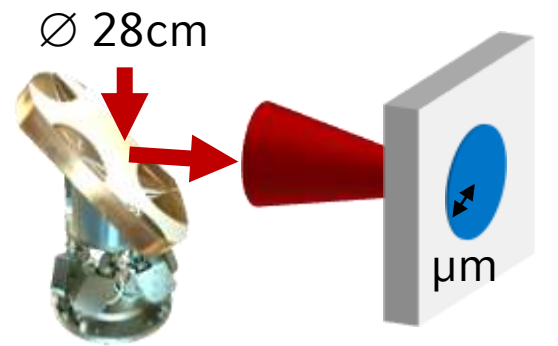
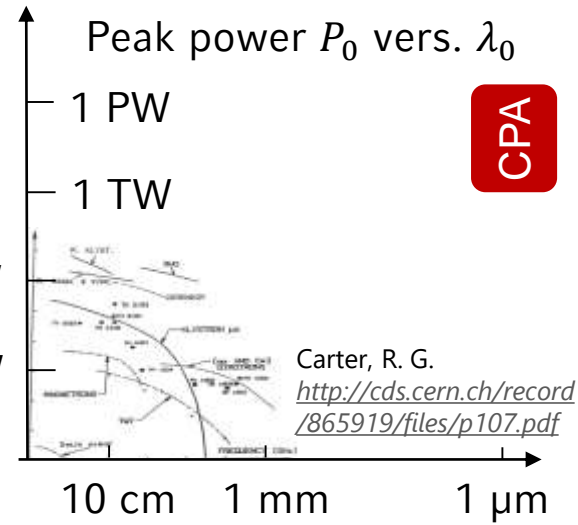
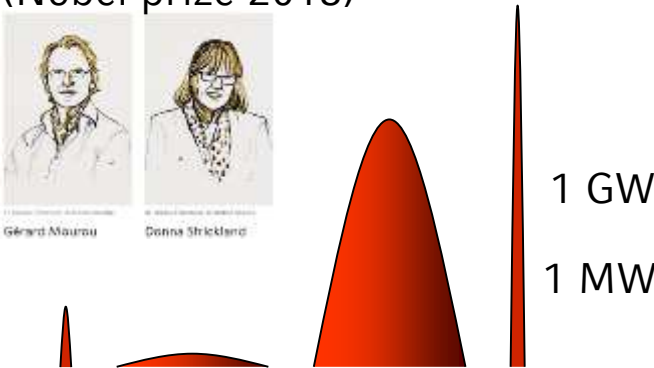


90J amp, 22fs dur, (curr. ~5-10 J on target)

Chirped **P**ulse **A**mplification  
(Nobel prize 2018)

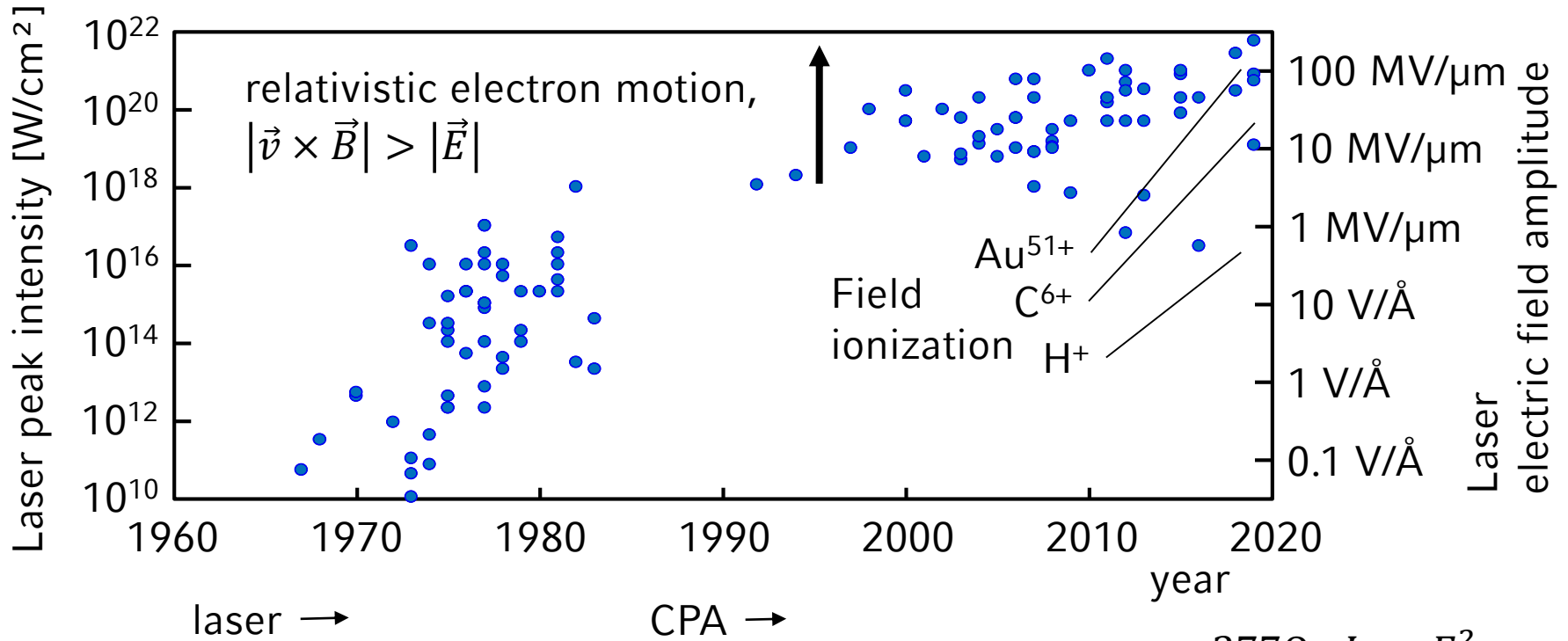


Gérard Mourou    Donna Strickland



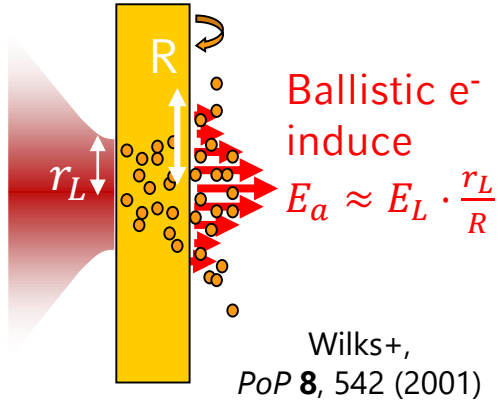
$$E_L = \sqrt{377\Omega \cdot \frac{P_0}{\lambda_0^2}}$$

i.e. large electric field

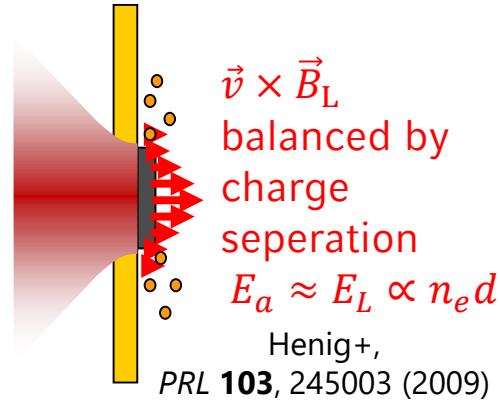


$$377\Omega \cdot I_L = E_L^2$$

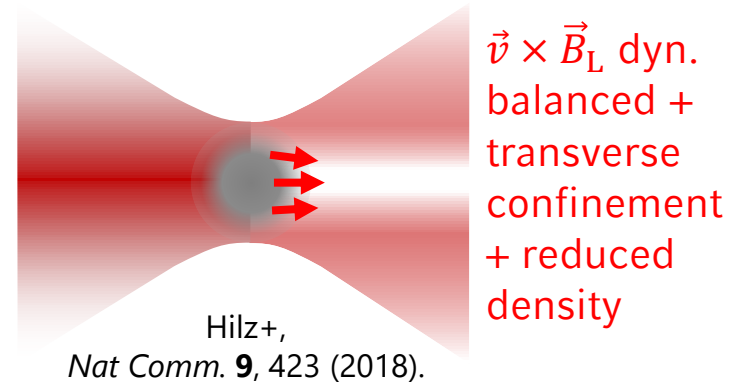
thick target  $d \gg l_{skin}$   
(TNSA)



thin target  $d \approx l_{skin}$   
(RPA)



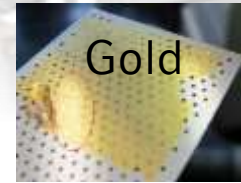
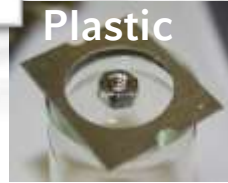
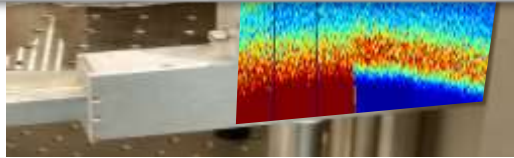
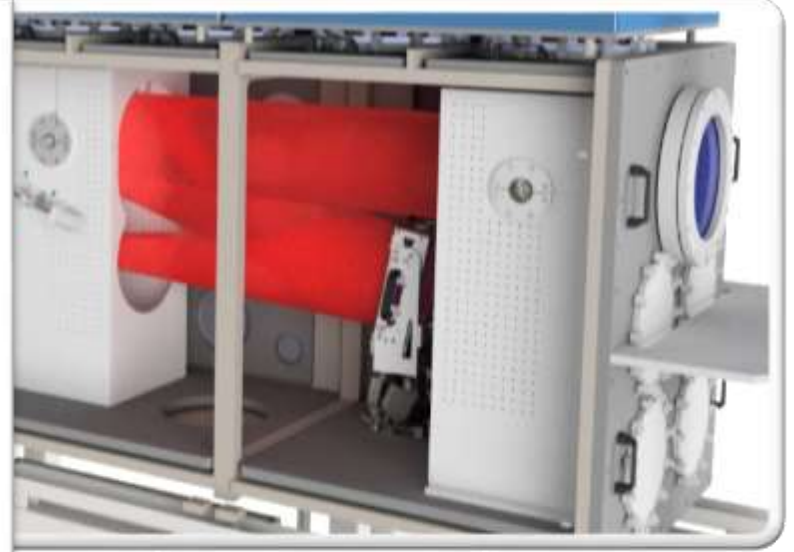
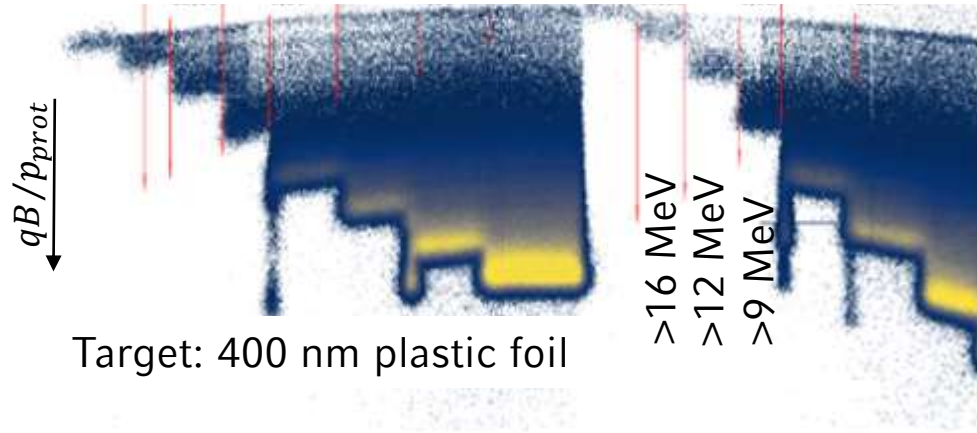
$\mu$ -plasma  $d \approx l_{skin}$ ,  $R \approx r_L$ ,  $n_e \approx \gamma n_c$   
(relativistic tweezer)



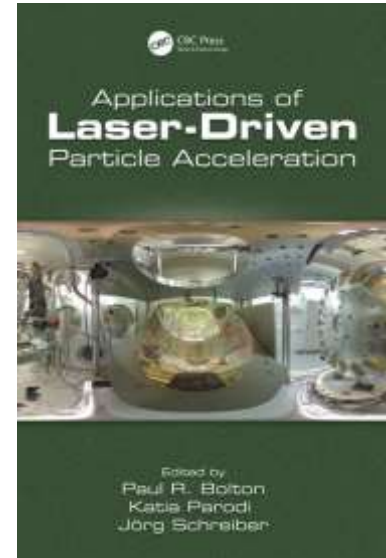
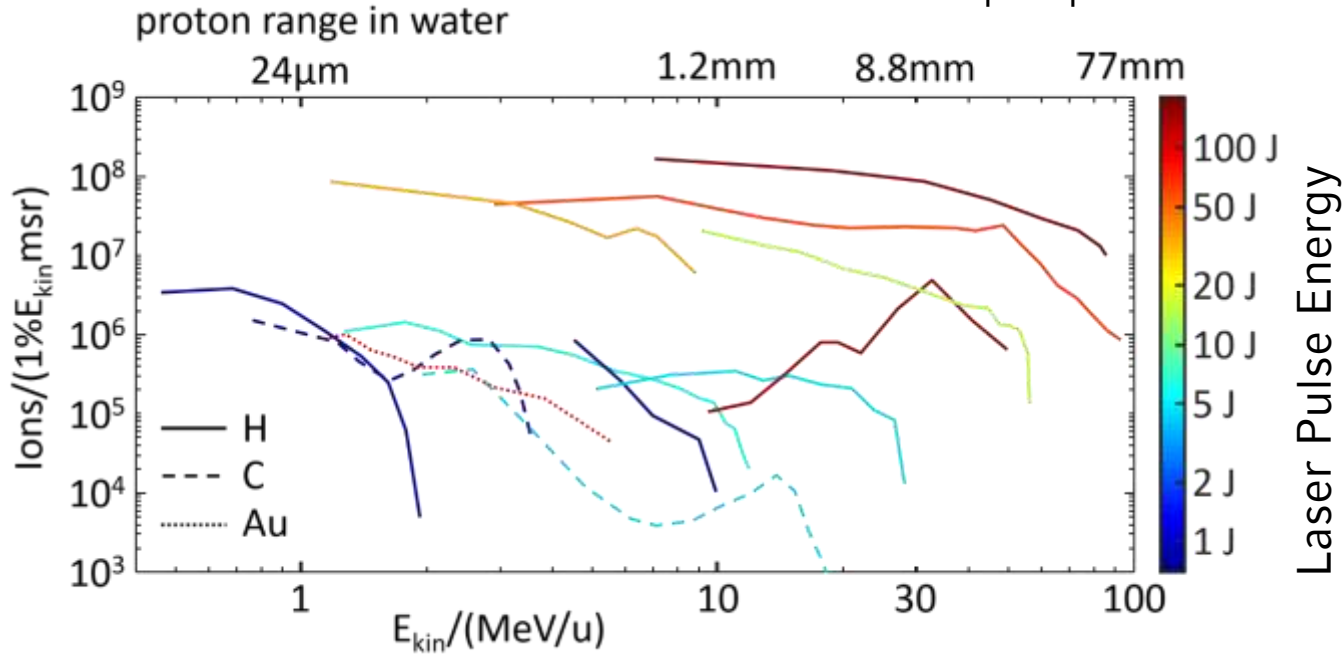
Optimization strategy during last 20 years: laser-pulse energy  $\uparrow$ , pre-pulses  $\downarrow$ , target thickness (size)  $\downarrow$ , repetition rate  $\uparrow$ , reproducibility  $\uparrow$  ...



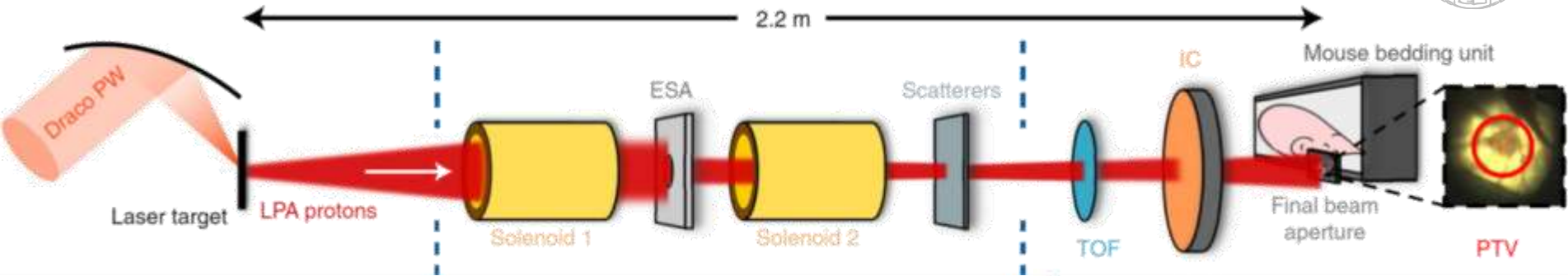
Proton signal on 10x5cm<sup>2</sup> Radeye sensor + Al degrader stripes



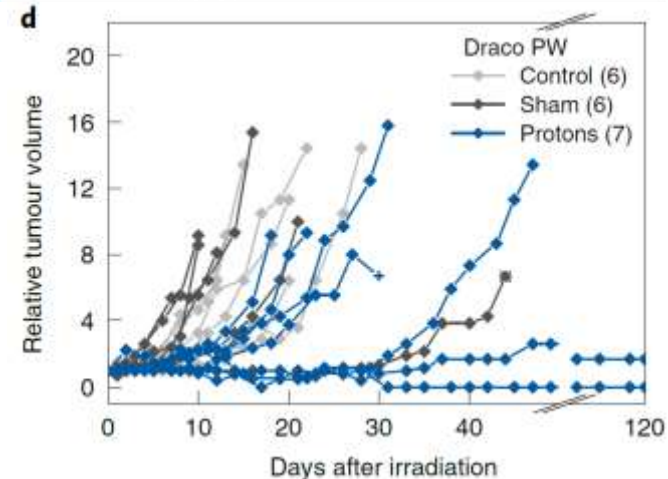
Albert+ 2020 roadmap on plasma accelerators *New J Phys* **23**, (2021).



<https://www.alpa.physik.uni-muenchen.de/>



- Exponential proton spectrum up 70 MeV shaped by transport line for hom. Irradiation of a 5 mm diameter, 4 mm depth Planning Target Volume
- $(4.0 \pm 0.4)$  Gy within  $\sim 3$  min, i.e. 6 to 9 accumulated bunches with **nanosecond duration**
- 92 animals irradiated, 7 with laser-acc. protons



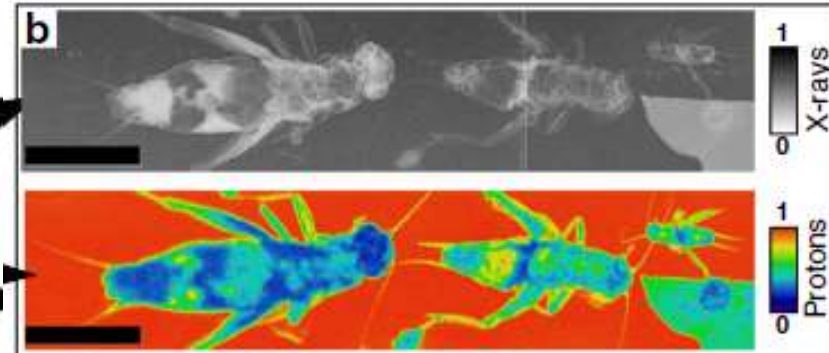
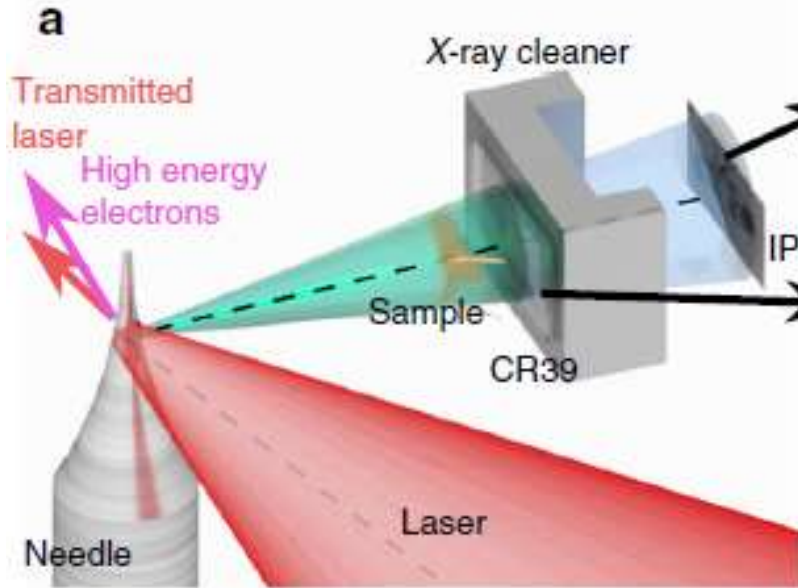
Kroll+, Nature Physics 18(3), 316-322 (2022)



Laser-plasma	Non-laser (RF)
Single bunch every second (large #!)	Continuous beam (micro-bunch train)
Broad energy distribution (100%) yet short bunch (fs...ps...ns)	Mono-energetic (ns...μs bunches)
Spray (10° divergence) yet small source (μm)	Beam
Intrinsically synchronous to multiple radiation modalities	Non-trivial in sub-ns (unless operated with photo-cathode (-anode))
Source and acceleration combined (high field, high density, small emittance)	

**What are interesting applications of the “back-illuminated photo-anode”?**

## Simultaneous Imaging by

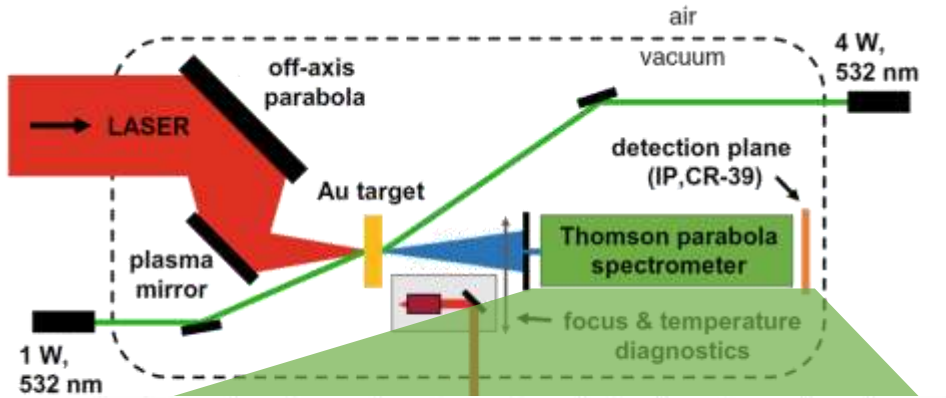


X-rays  
&  
protons

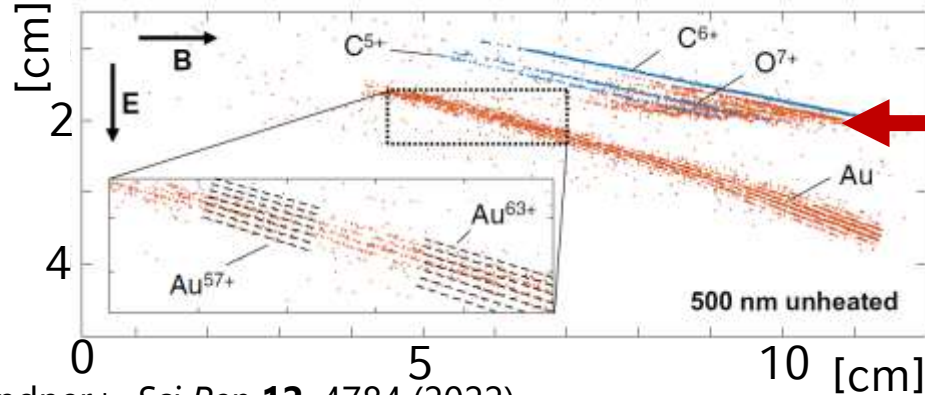
Protons and X-rays:

- originate from same  $\mu\text{m}$ -small source
- are generated within  $<$  picosecond
- have large divergence (spray)

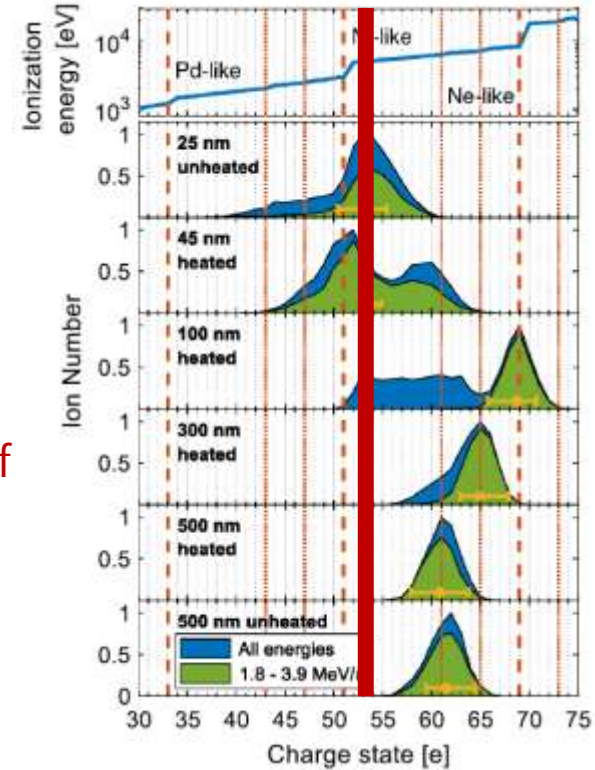
Ostermayr+ Nat Comm 11 (2020) 6174



Charge higher than expected from field ionization

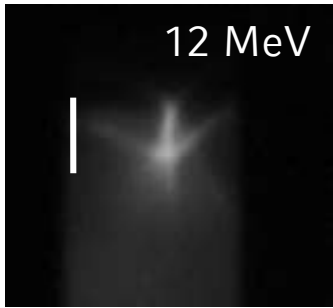


Indications of swift Au-fission fragments

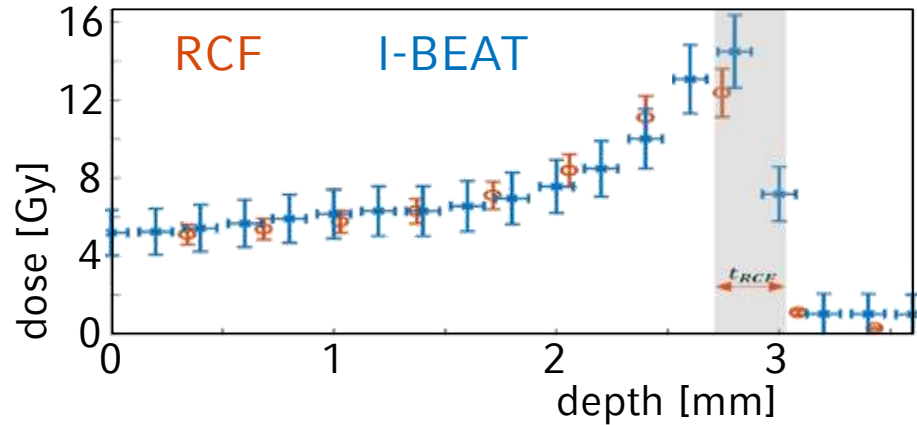
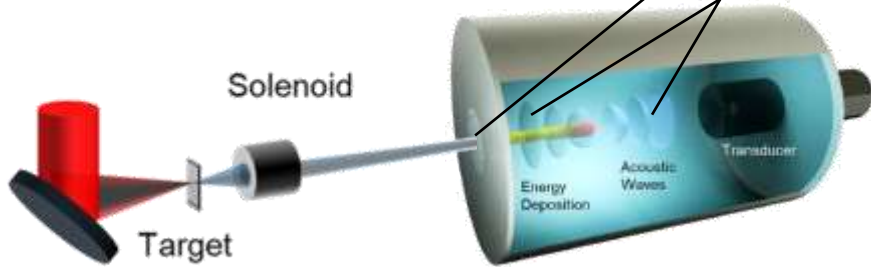
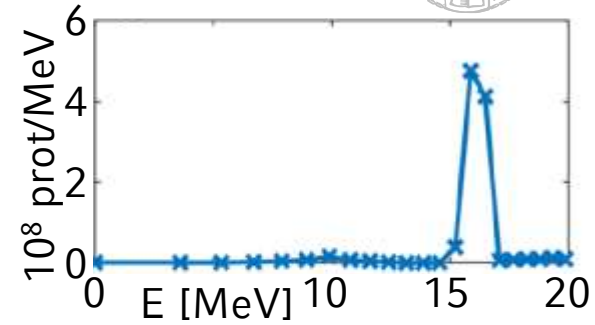
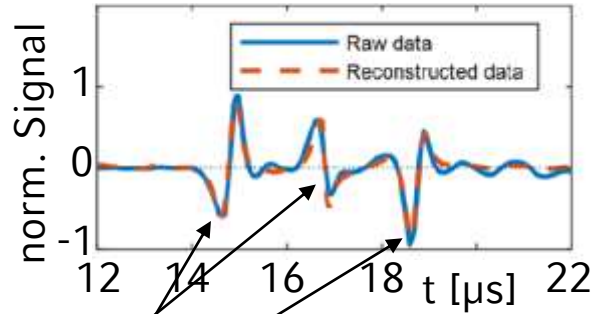


Lindner+, *Sci Rep* **12**, 4784 (2022)

Proton focus on  
scint. (~1.8 m  
down stream)



Instead of **dose** (Scint, RCF, CR39, ...), we measure the acoustic pulse from the "heat" deposited by ions ( $\sim$  spatial **dose gradient**) Askaryan, Hydrodynamic radiation from the tracks of ionizing particles in stable liquids. (1957), Assmann+ Med Phys 42, 567-574 (2015).

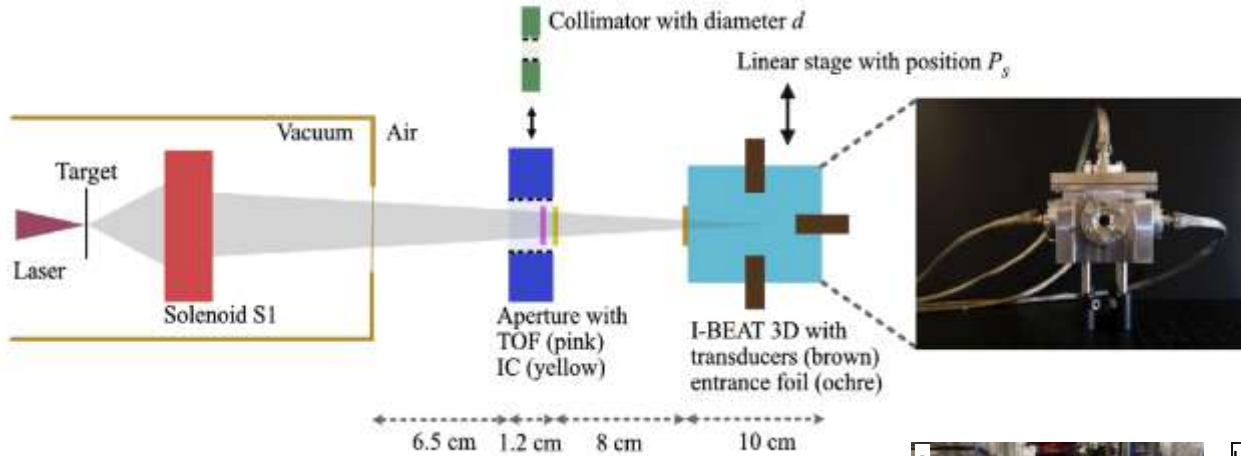


Haffa+ Sci Rep 9 (2019) 6714



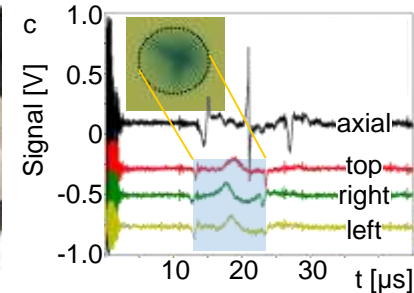
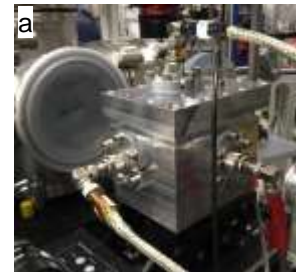
# A typical reconstruction problem ...





Experiments at HZDR (DRACO PW) with 10 ... 30 MeV protons

4 transducers reveal energy, energy spread, lateral position & size, particle number

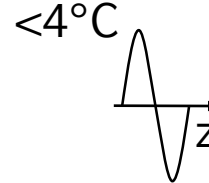
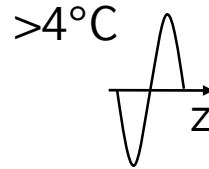
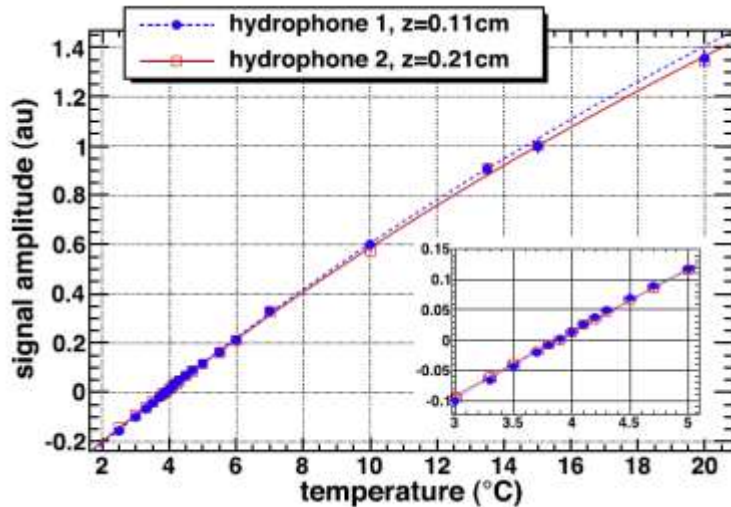


Gerlach+ HPLSE 11 doi:10.1017/hpl.2023.16 (2023).

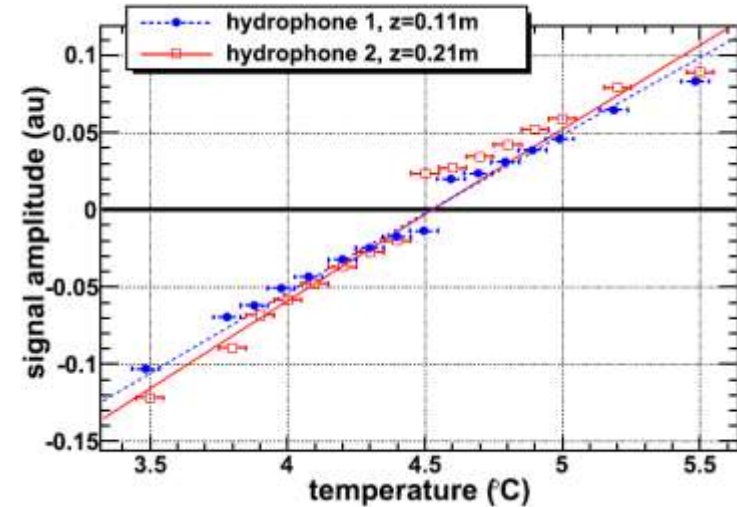
Excitation → heating →  
Expansion/contraction → acoustic pulse

Lahmann, R. *et al.* Thermo-acoustic sound generation in the interaction of pulsed proton and laser beams with a water target. *Astroparticle Physics* **65**, 69-79, doi:10.1016/j.astropartphys.2014.12.003 (2015).

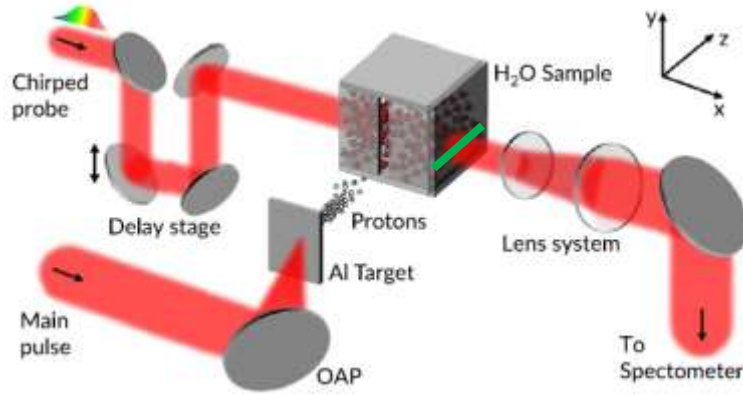
## Opto-acoustics (laser pulse)



## Iono-acoustics (protons)

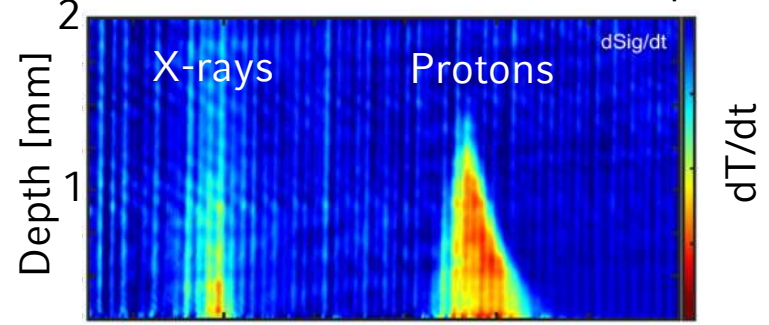
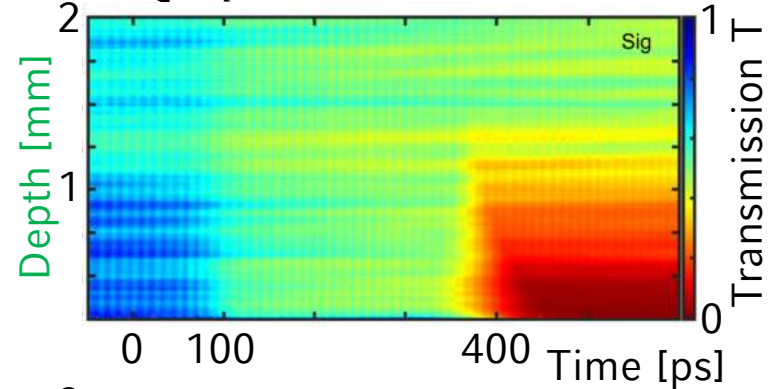


Derive accelerating and probe laser from same pulse:  
**Proton pump – optical probe** with picosecond time and  $\mu\text{m}$  spatial resolution



Solvation of electron takes 65 ps after proton impact (>20 ps longer than in photolysis) ... charge effect?

$$\lambda_{probe} = 800 \text{ nm} \pm \delta$$

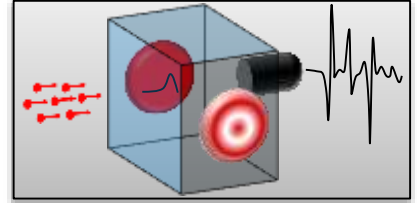


Prasselsperger+ PRL 127, 186001 (2021)

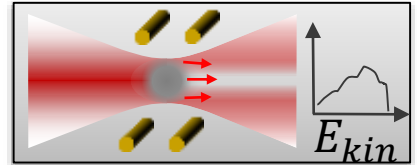
Provide a reliable source of energetic protons and carbons for applications (Laser, Controls, Targets, Simulation, ...)



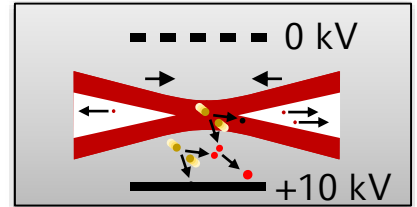
Can we measure processes that initiate radiation damage by energetic protons and carbons with micrometer spatial and picosecond temporal resolution?



Can we reach ion kinetic energies beyond 100 MeV/u with PW-laser pulses and what is the appropriate target (converter)?



Can we measure light-by-light scattering in pure vacuum?





Laser-ION source can provide intense bunches of protons (meanwhile beyond 100 MeV), and/or heavier ions (50 MeV/u  $^{12}\text{C}$ , 7 MeV/u  $^{197}\text{Au}$ ) with very high charge.

Laser-based sources, beamlines and instrumentation mature (e.g. mouse irradiation at HZDR).

Many new application possibilities (small emittance, synchronous, multimodal, large #/bunch) ... more than just protons/ions.

Synergistic developments with non-laser accelerator technology (photo-anode for hybrid accelerators, ionoacoustic detection,...).

Laser-plasma acceleration and applications is a vibrant field and can be exploited now!

Thank your for your attention and interest!

**LION: M. Bachhammer, A. Schmidt, J. Liese, L. He, A. Prasselsperger, L. Doyle, S. Gerlach, F. Balling, HF: E.G. Fitzpatrick, L. Geulig, M. Weiser and students!**

Alumni: M. Afshari, J. Gebhard, J. Hartmann, M. Speicher, T. Rösch, F. Englbrecht, P.R. Bolton, F. Lindner, P. Hilz, Y. Gao, T. Ostermayr, D. Haffa, K. Allinger, J. Bin, D. Kiefer, W. Ma, M. Würl, M. Zhou, C. Kreuzer, S. Lehrack, S. Reinhardt

Funding: BMBF, DFG, CALA



**Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München:** K. Parodi+, J. Bortfeldt, G. Dedes, F. Krausz+, S. Karsch+, M. Groß, P. Thirolf+, H. Wirth, O. Gosau, N. Gjotev, F. Saran, G. Schilling

**Queens University Belfast (UK):** B. Dromey+

**Texas University at Austin (US):** M. Hegelich+

**GSI Darmstadt (Germany):** B. Zielbauer, V. Bagnoud+

**TU Darmstadt (Germany):** M. Roth+, G. Schaumann,

**HZDR Dresden (Germany):** U. Schramm+, M. Bussmann+

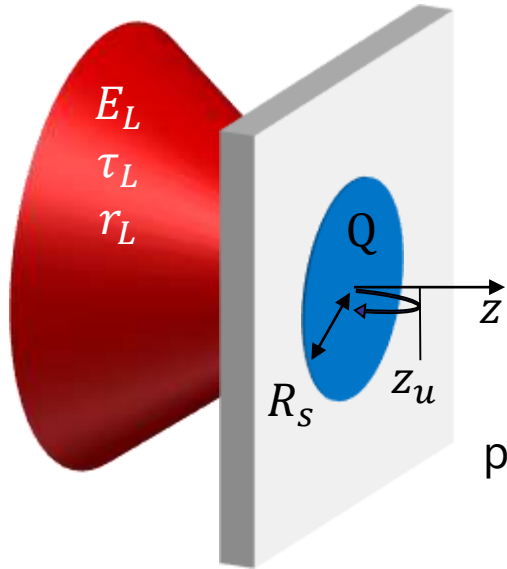
**FSU Jena (Germany):** M. Zepf, P. Hilz, +

**Peking University (China):** W. Ma

**SIOM (China):** J. Bin

**TAU (Israel):** I. Pomerantz+





Number of energized electrons:  $N_e = \eta E_L / E_e$

Induced charge:  $Q = N_e 2z_u / (c\tau_L) \ll N_e$

on-axis Potential:  $-e\Phi(z, r=0) = E_\infty \left( 1 + z/R_S - \sqrt{1 + (z/R_S)^2} \right)$

potential barrier:  $E_\infty = \frac{Qe^2}{2\pi\epsilon_0 R_S} = 2m_e c^2 \sqrt{\eta P_L / P_{Re}}$

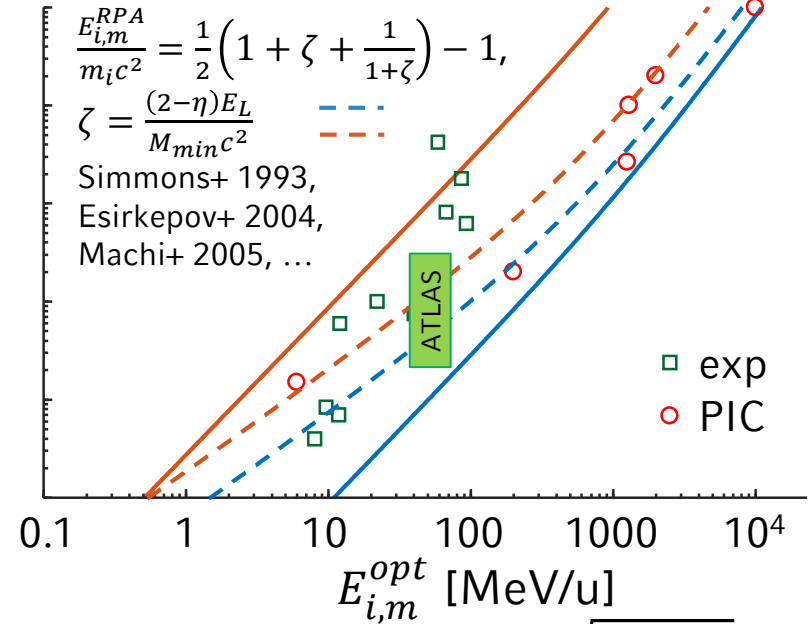
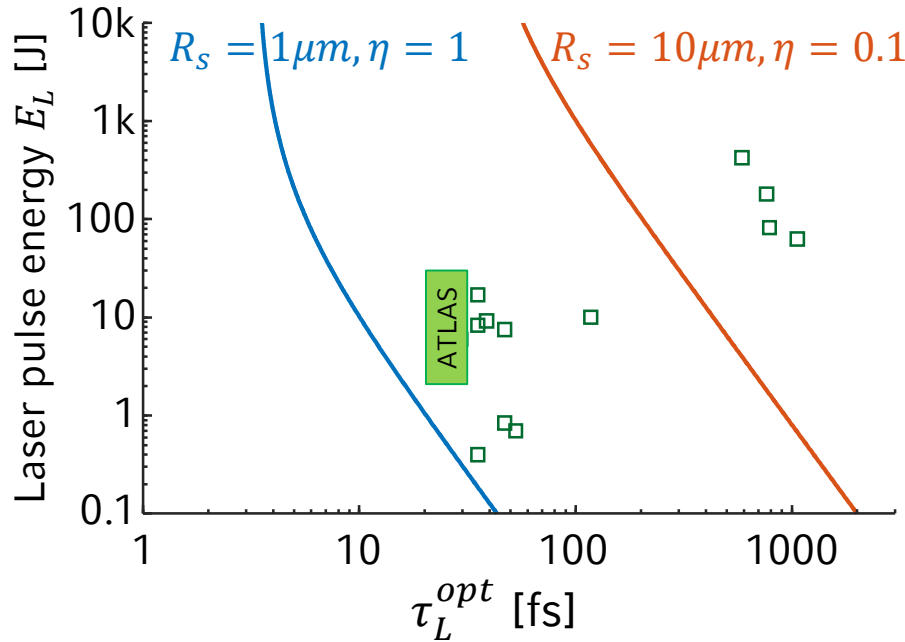
potentially (finite) highest kinetic ion energy:  $E_{i,\infty} = q_i E_\infty \propto \sqrt{\eta P_L}$

Integrating the (relativistic) eom of a single ion from 0 to  $\tau_L$  yields definition formula for maximum ion energy  $E_{i,m} = X^2 E_{i,\infty} : \frac{\tau_L}{R_S/c} = F_R(X; E_{i,\infty})$

Schreiber+ HPLSE 2 (2014) e41

→ optimum pulse duration  $\tau_L^{opt}$  (and  $E_{i,m}^{opt}$ ) for a given  $E_L$  (and choice of  $\eta$  and  $R_S$ )





electron confinement requires  $E_e = \eta E_L / N_e < E_\infty = \frac{N_e e^2}{2\pi \epsilon_0 R_s} \rightarrow N_e = q_i N_i > \sqrt{\frac{\eta E_L}{2mc^2} \frac{R_s}{r_e}}$