

# Plasma Wakefield Acceleration Experiment at PITZ

- Introduction
- PWFA principles
- Motivation
- Lithium plasma cell
- Summary

Osip Lishilin, Research Seminar,  
Zeuthen, 2016-07-01

# Particle accelerators are part of modern life

- About 30 000 around the world
- Industrial
  - Cutting/welding
  - Polymerization
  - Sterilization
  - Semiconductor manufacturing
  - Defectoscopy
- Medical
  - Cancer treatment
  - Isotope production
- Security



Photo: wikipedia/Ikiwaner CC BY-SA 3.0

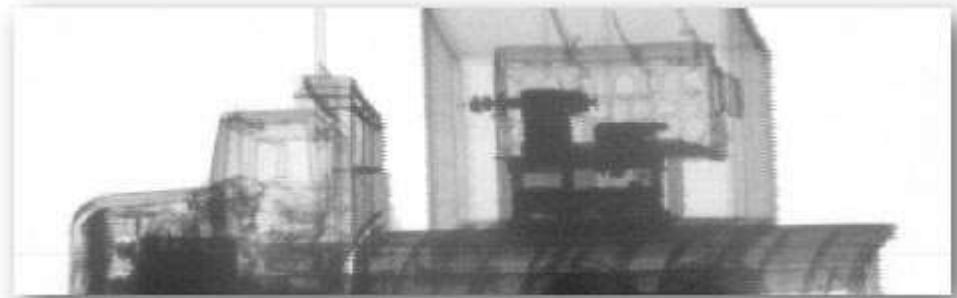


Photo: United States Department of Energy

# But they are expensive

- Heidelberg Ion-Beam Therapy Center ~ €119M



<http://medicalphysicsweb.org/cws/article/research/51684>  
<https://www.klinikum.uni-heidelberg.de/About-us.124447.0.html?&L=1>

- Minimum cost medical system is about €2M



# Why so big?

## > Limitations of accelerating gradient

- Electric field < 100 MV/m

## > Synchrotron radiation

- Energy loss per turn:

$$\Delta\epsilon_T = \frac{4\pi}{3} \beta^3 \gamma^4 mc^2 \frac{r_{cl}}{\rho_L}$$



1 m => 50 MeV Gain

Electric field < 100 MV/m

Image from <http://dx.doi.org/10.5170/CERN-2016-001.1> /CC BY 4.0

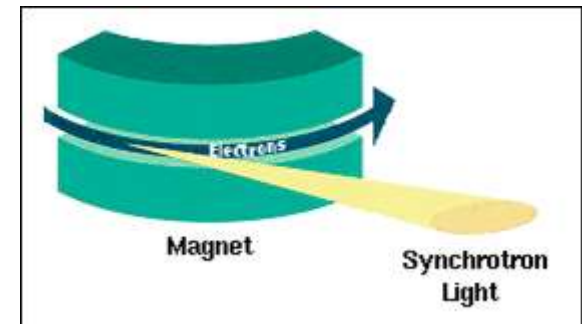
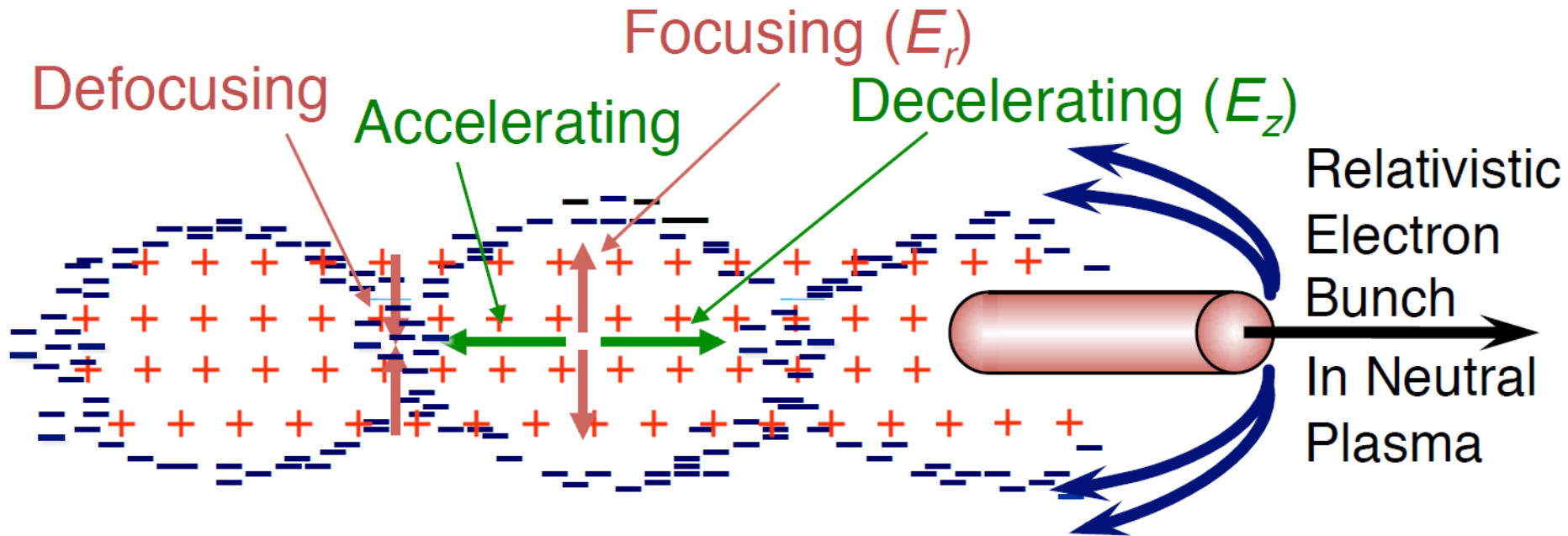


Image: John Adams Institute/ CC BY-SA 3.0

# Plasma Wakefield acceleration

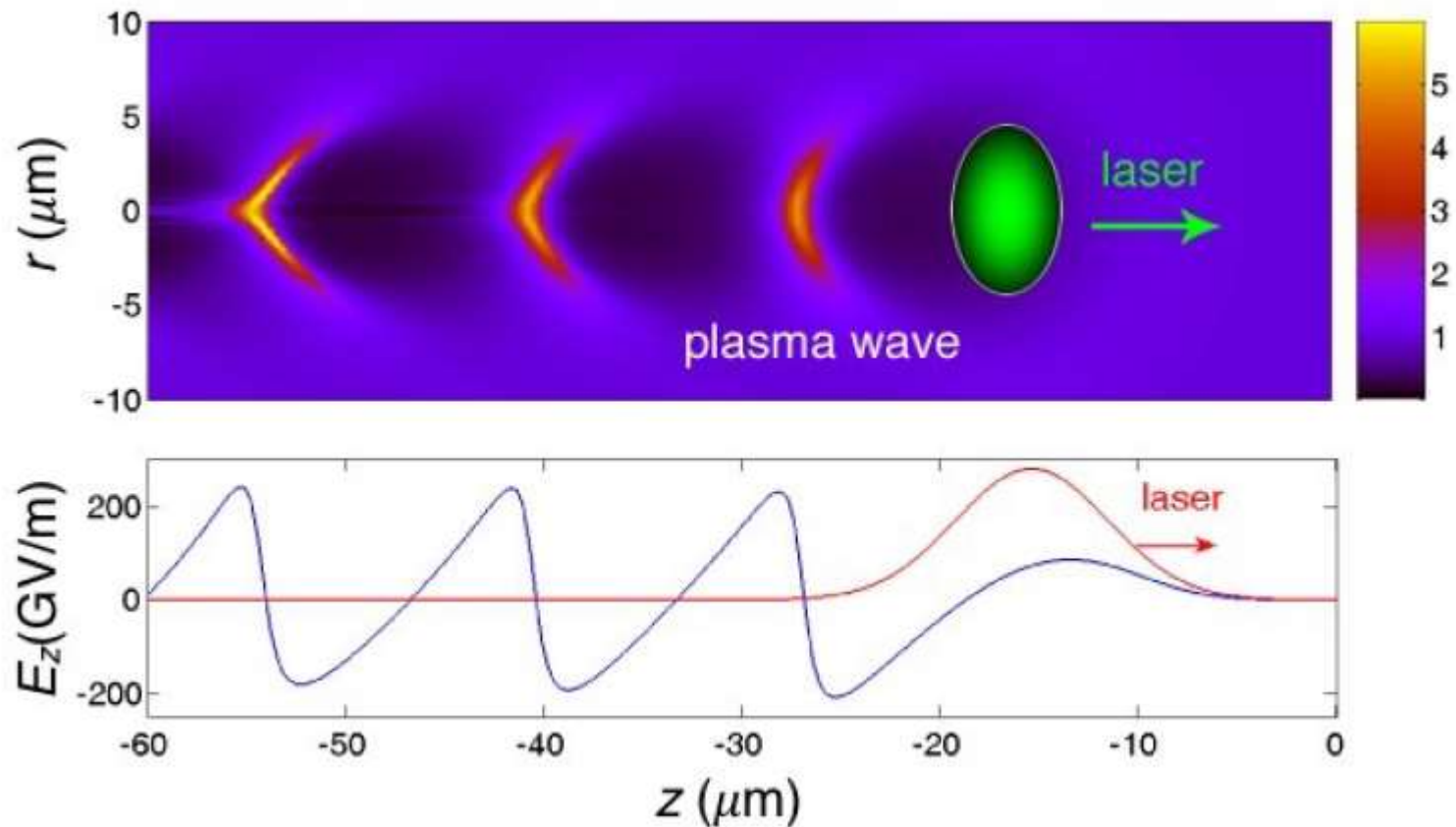
Image from <http://dx.doi.org/10.5170/CERN-2016-001.119> /CC BY 4.0



- > A single bunch drives a large plasma wave which accelerates and focuses particles

# Laser Wakefield Acceleration

Image from <http://dx.doi.org/10.5170/CERN-2016-001.1> /CC BY 4.0

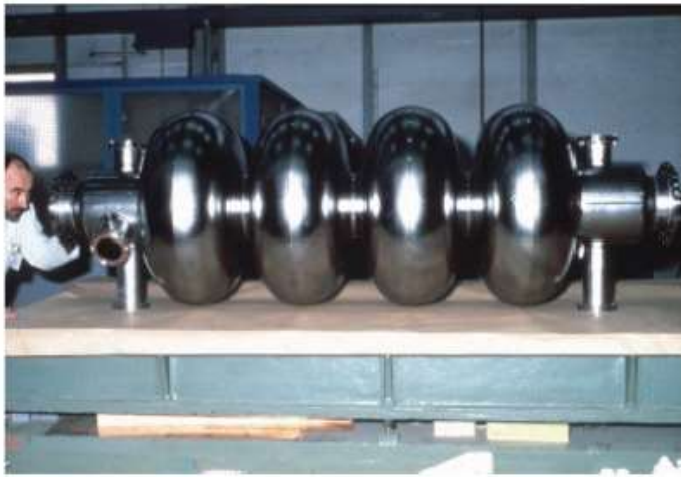


- A laser pulse drives a plasma wave through the ponderomotive force

# Plasma Wakefield Acceleration

Image from <http://dx.doi.org/10.5170/CERN-2016-001.1> /CC BY 4.0

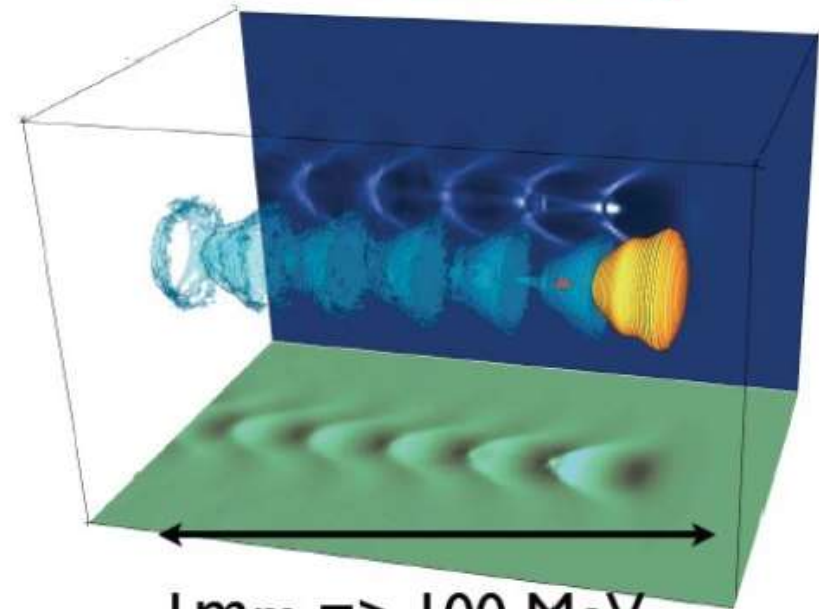
## RF Cavity



1 m => 50 MeV Gain

Electric field < 100 MV/m

## Plasma Cavity



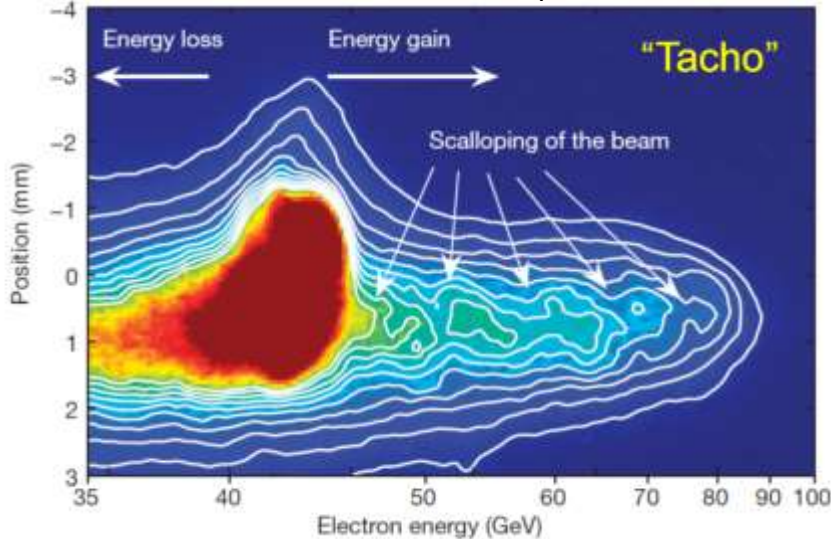
1 mm => 100 MeV

Electric field > 100 GV/m



# Some examples of plasma and laser wakefield acceleration

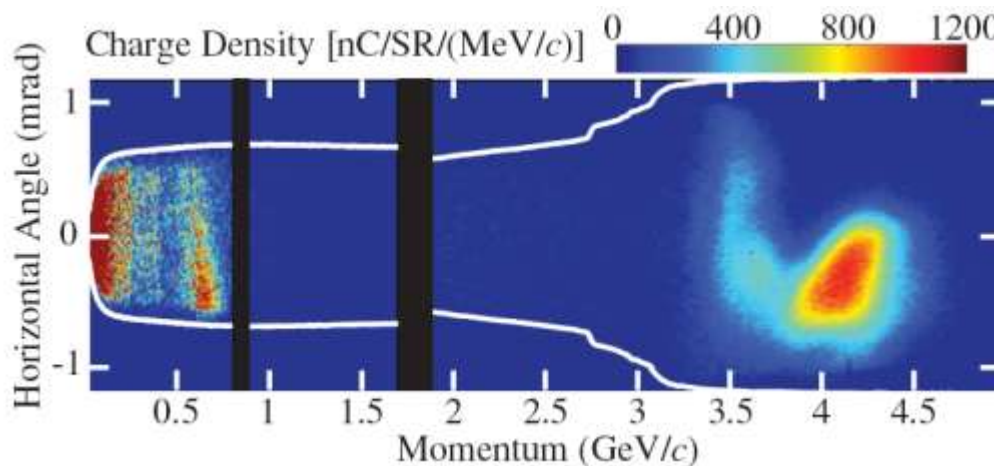
From: Blumenfeld et al. Nature 445, p. 741



## ➤ Beam-driven PWFA at SLAC:

- Initial beam energy 42 GeV (after 3 km of the accelerator)
- Increase of energy up to 84 GeV after passing 85 cm of plasma for a fraction of the beam

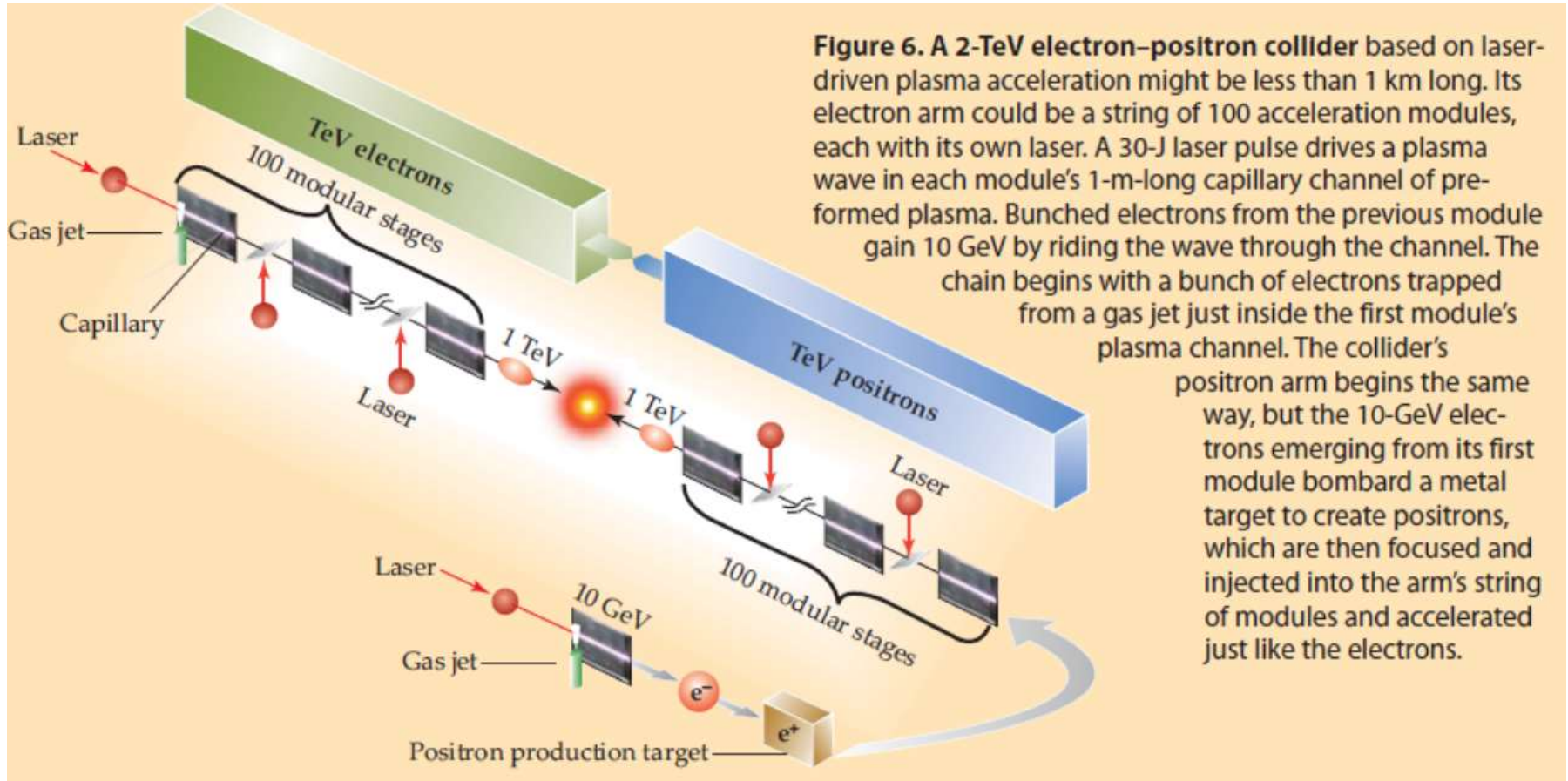
From: W. Leemans et al., PRL 113, 245002 (2014)



## ➤ Laser-driven PWFA at Berkeley

- 4.2 GeV beam
- 9 cm of gas discharge plasma

# Concept for a linear staged plasma accelerator



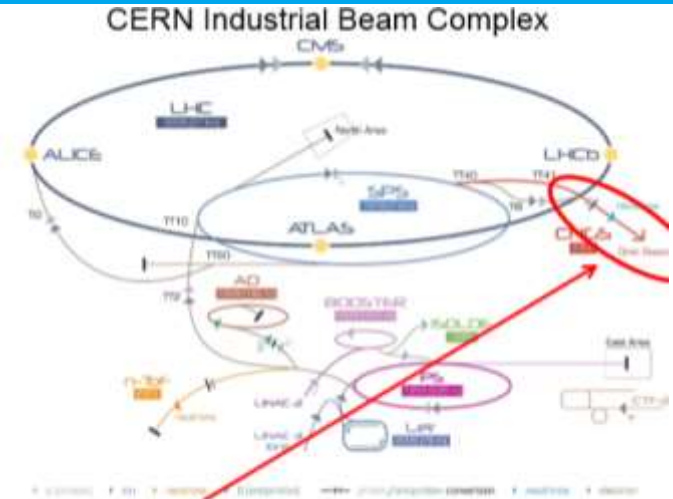
**Figure 6.** A 2-TeV electron-positron collider based on laser-driven plasma acceleration might be less than 1 km long. Its electron arm could be a string of 100 acceleration modules, each with its own laser. A 30-J laser pulse drives a plasma wave in each module's 1-m-long capillary channel of pre-formed plasma. Bunched electrons from the previous module gain 10 GeV by riding the wave through the channel. The chain begins with a bunch of electrons trapped from a gas jet just inside the first module's plasma channel. The collider's

positron arm begins the same way, but the 10-GeV electrons emerging from its first module bombard a metal target to create positrons, which are then focused and injected into the arm's string of modules and accelerated just like the electrons.

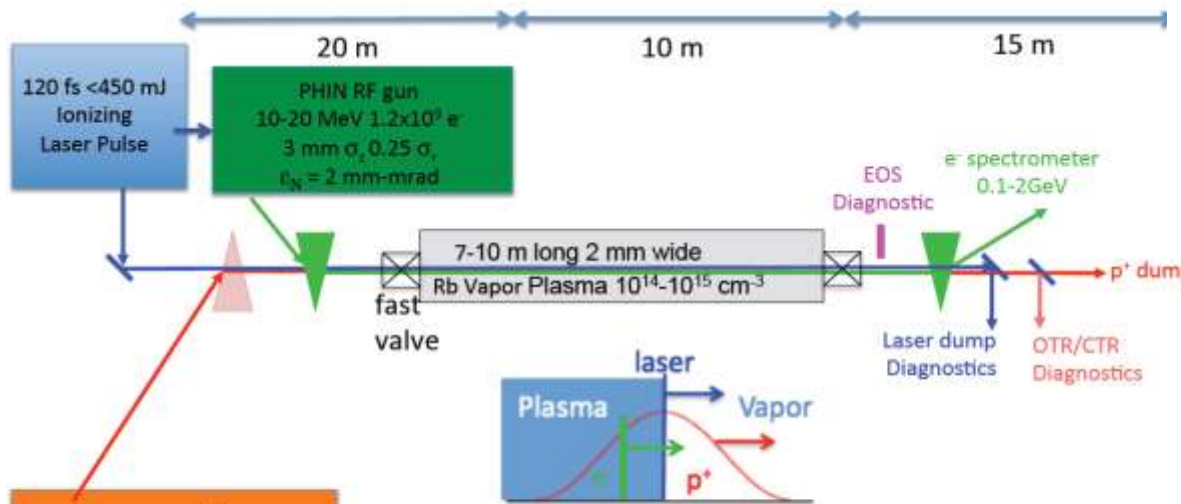
From: Leemans et al., *Physics today*, March 2009, p.44

# EAAC Workshop 2013: Patric Muggli, AWAKE: A Proton-Driven Plasma Wakefield Experiment at CERN

- Use high energy proton beams from SPS to drive plasma wave
- Convert proton beam energy to accelerate electron beam in single stage



CNRS experimental area



400 GeV  $3 \times 10^{11}$   $p^+$   
 12 cm  $\sigma_z$ , 0.2  $\sigma_z$   
 $\epsilon_N = 3.5$  mm-mrad  
 from SPS

Caldwell et al., Nature Physics (2009):

$$E_{z,max} = 240(MV m^{-1}) \left( \frac{N}{4 \times 10^{10}} \right) \left( \frac{0.6}{\sigma_z(mm)} \right)^2$$

- High accelerating gradient requires **short** bunches ( $\sigma_z$  less than  $100\mu\text{m}$ )
- Existing proton machines produce **long** bunches (10cm)

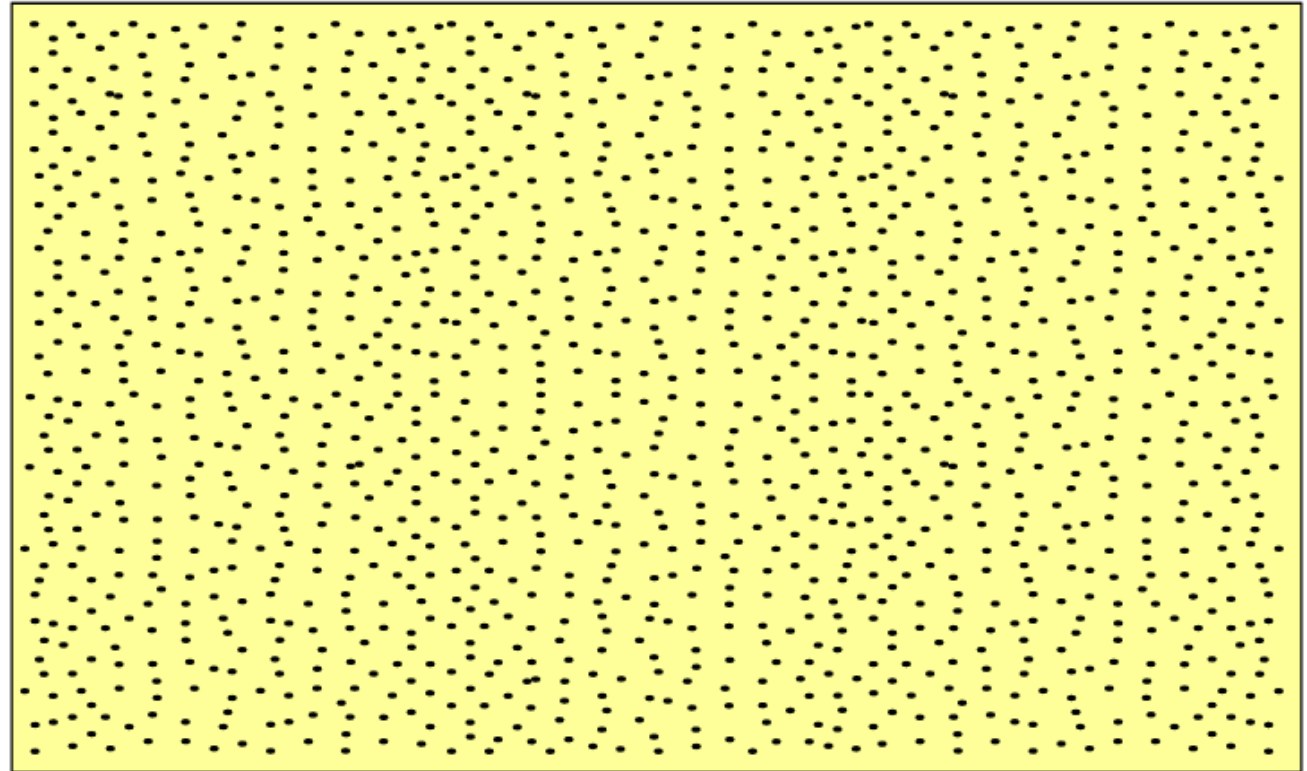
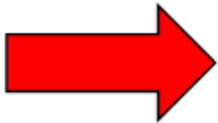
**Self-modulation!**



Courtesy:  
 Patric Muggli, Erdem Öz

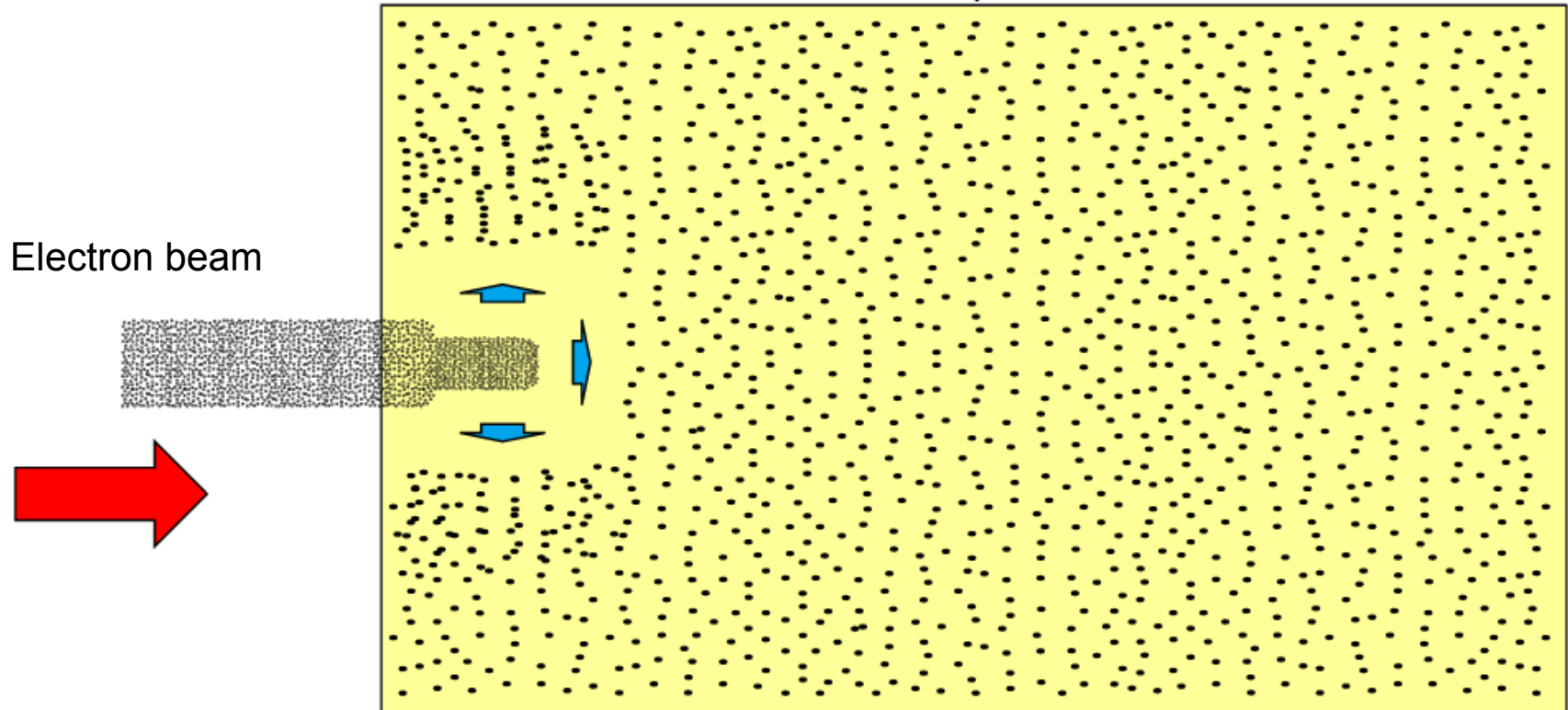


# Self-Modulation instability development

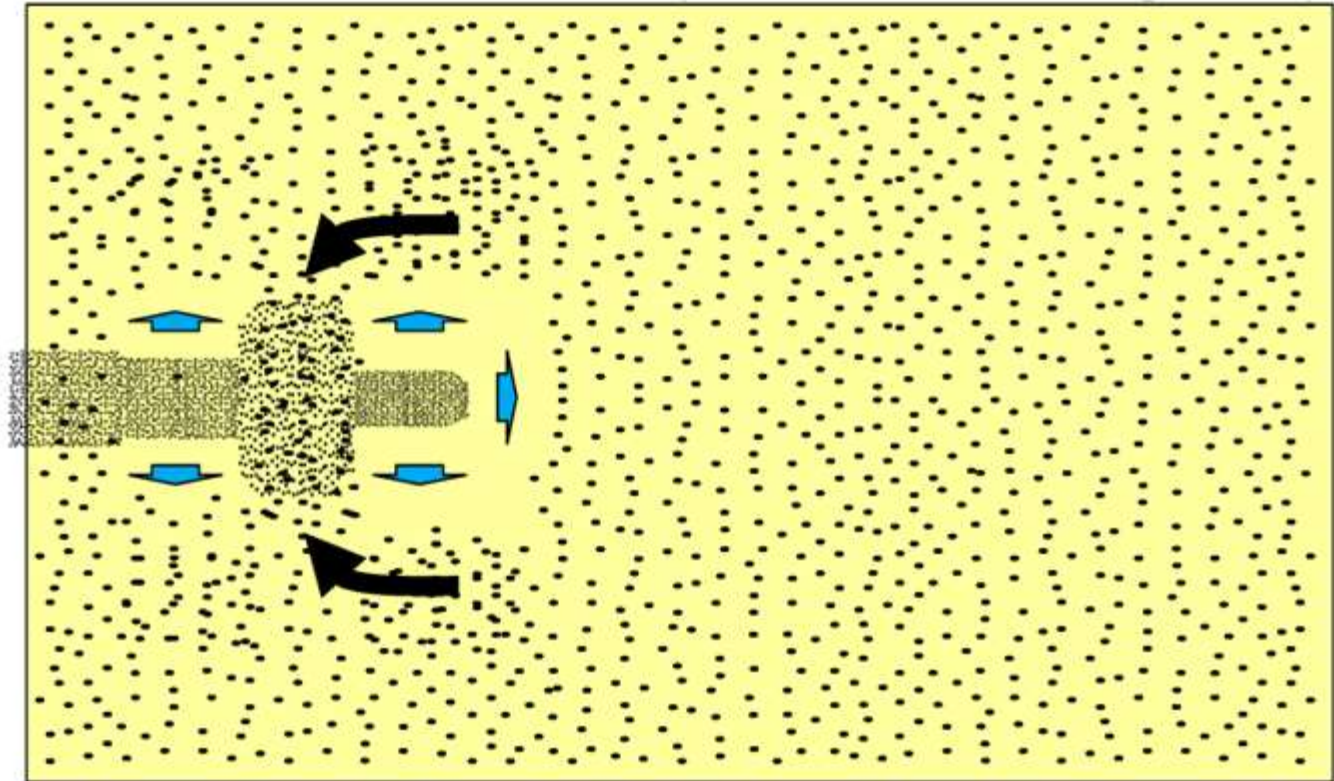


# Self-Modulation instability development

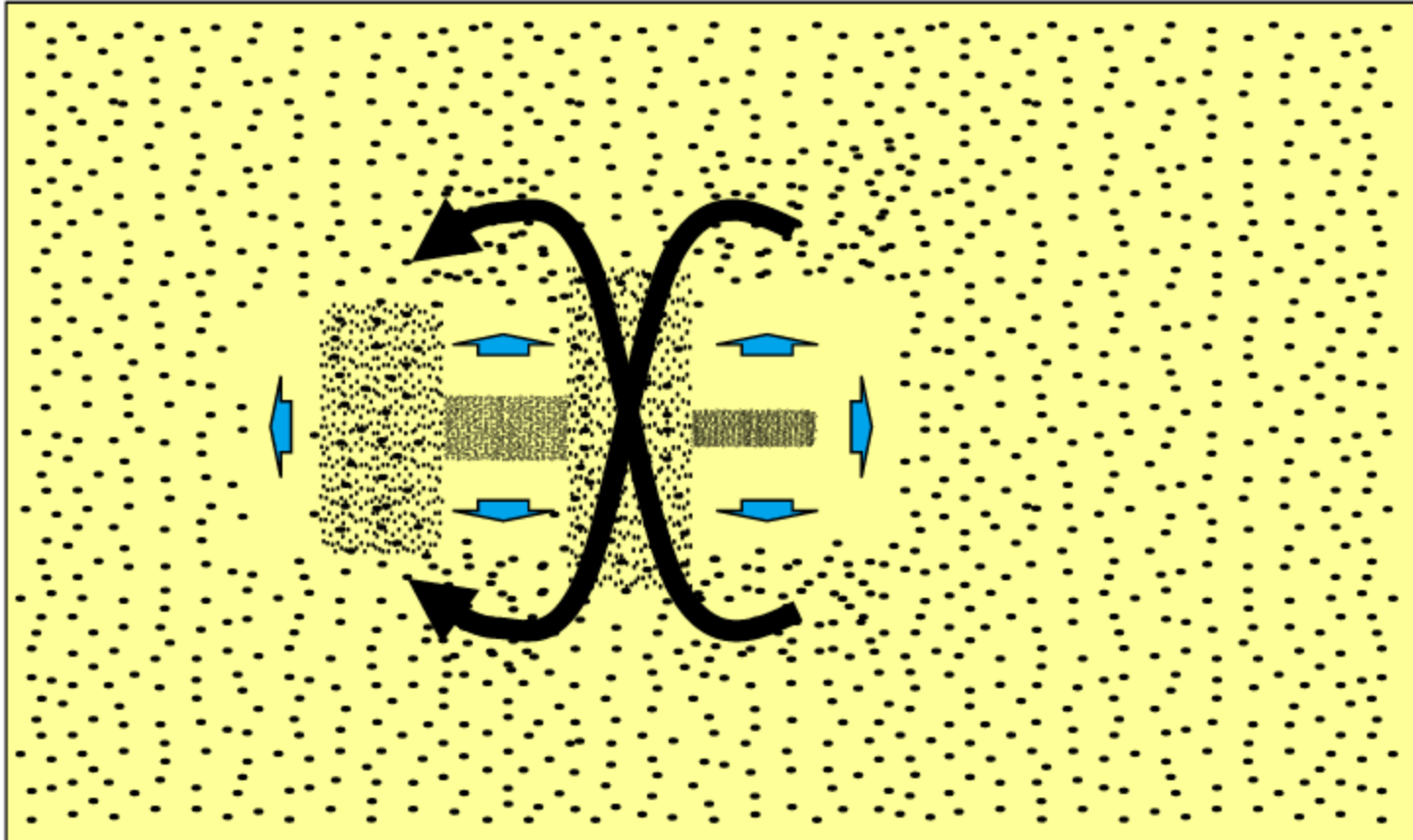
Plasma (only electrons are depicted)



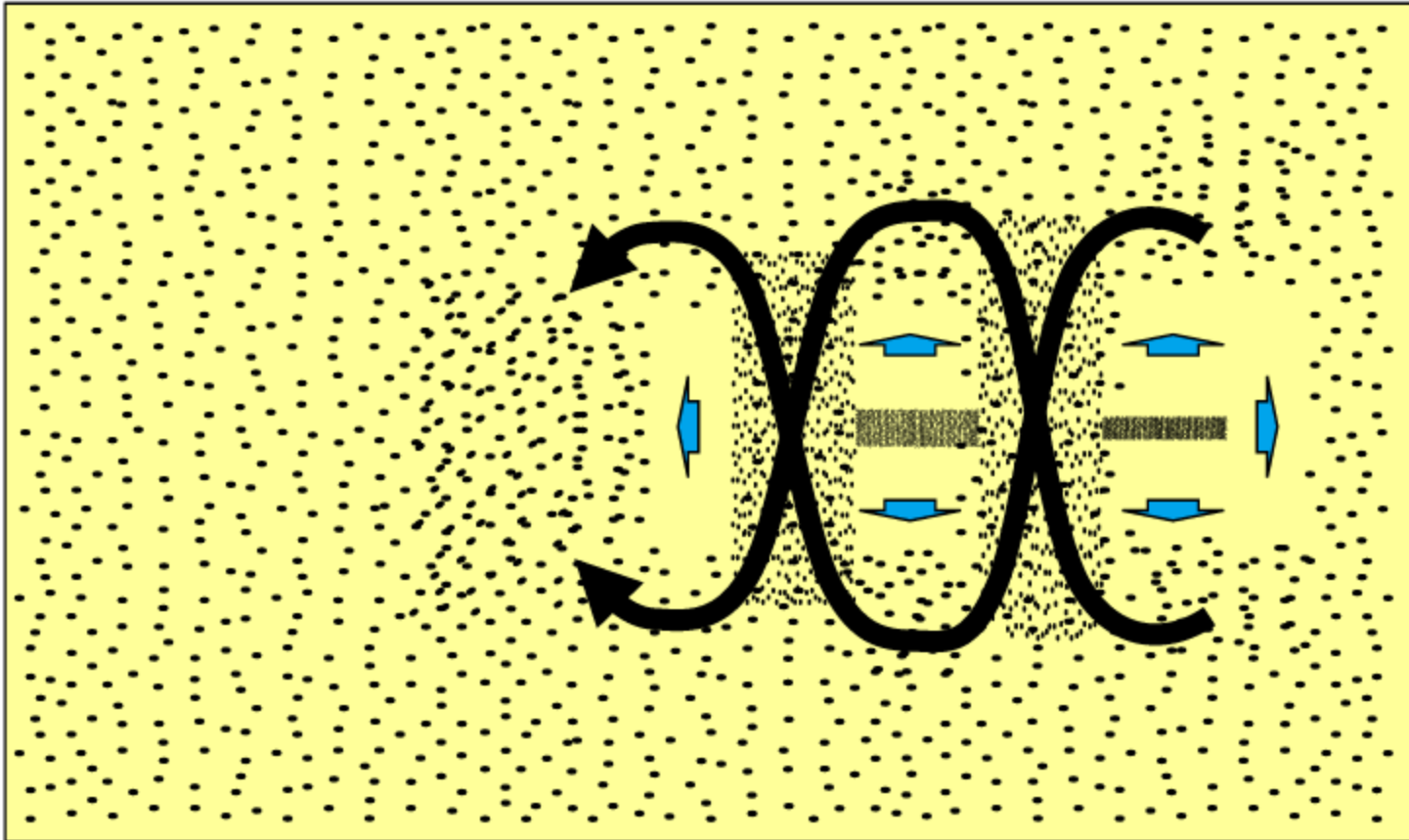
# Self-Modulation instability development



# Self-Modulation instability development

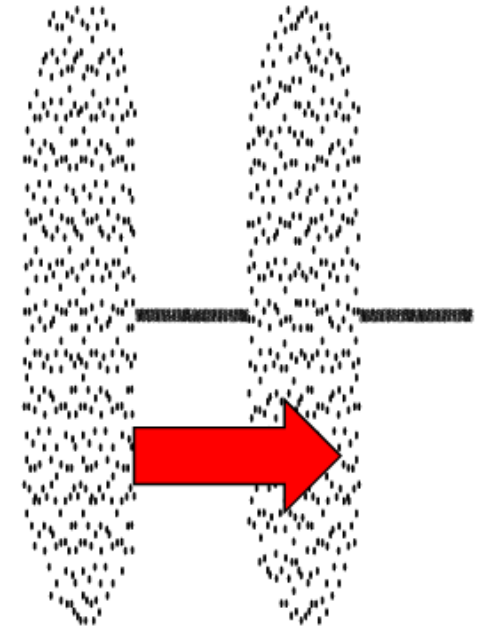
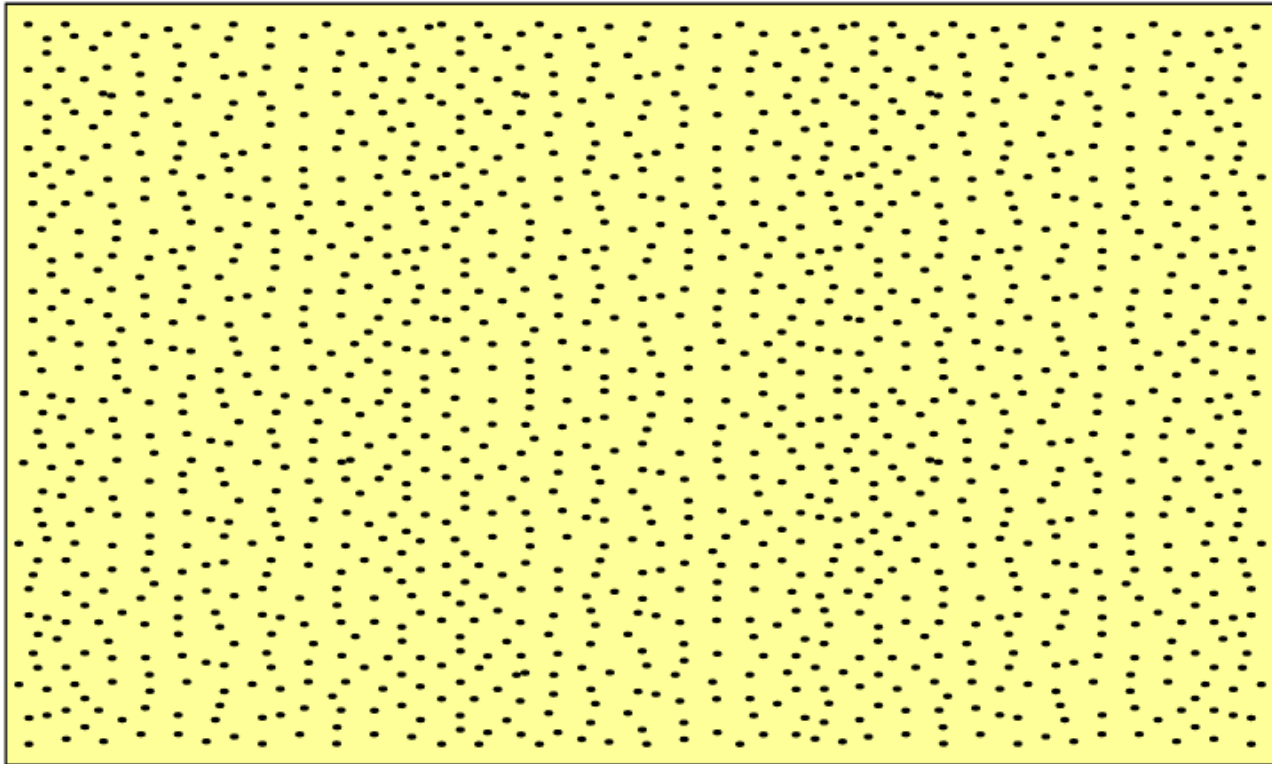


# Self-Modulation instability development





# Self-Modulation instability development



Modulated electron beam

# Simulated Self-modulation Experiment

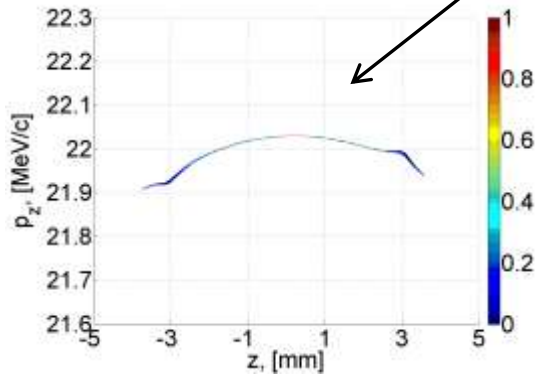
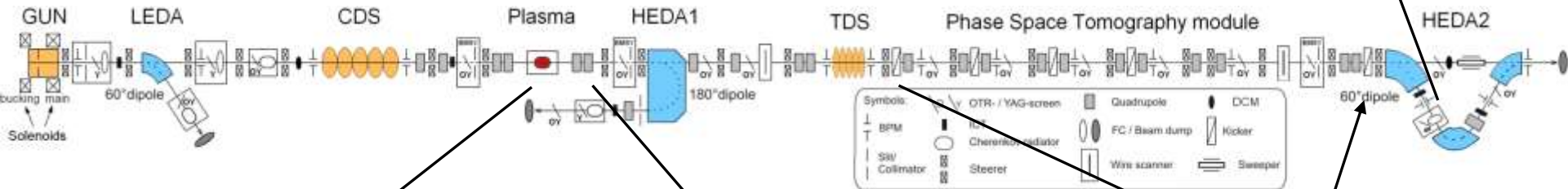
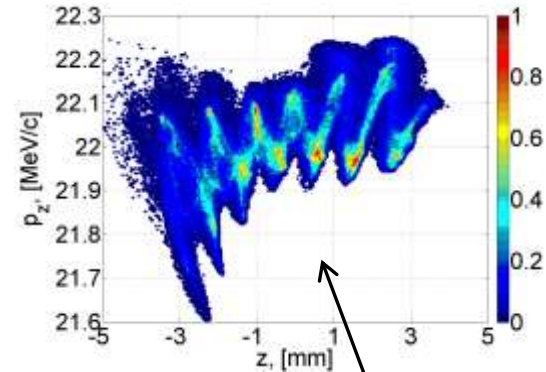
Not fully optimized

## Longitudinal Phase-space studies

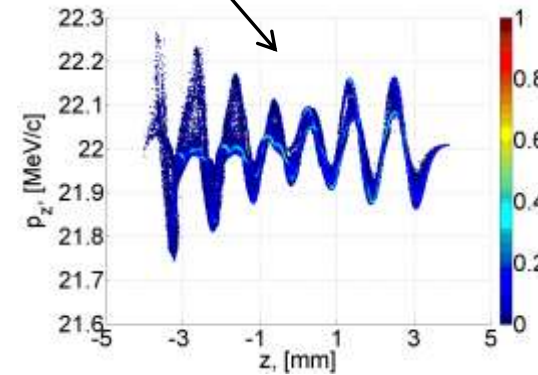
Simulations:  
Martin Khojayan /  
Dmitriy Malyutin

Plasma density:  $10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3} \rightarrow \lambda_p \approx 1 \text{ mm}$

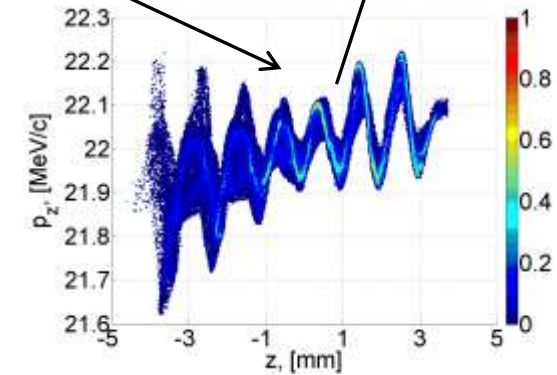
Expected phase space ←



In front of plasma cell



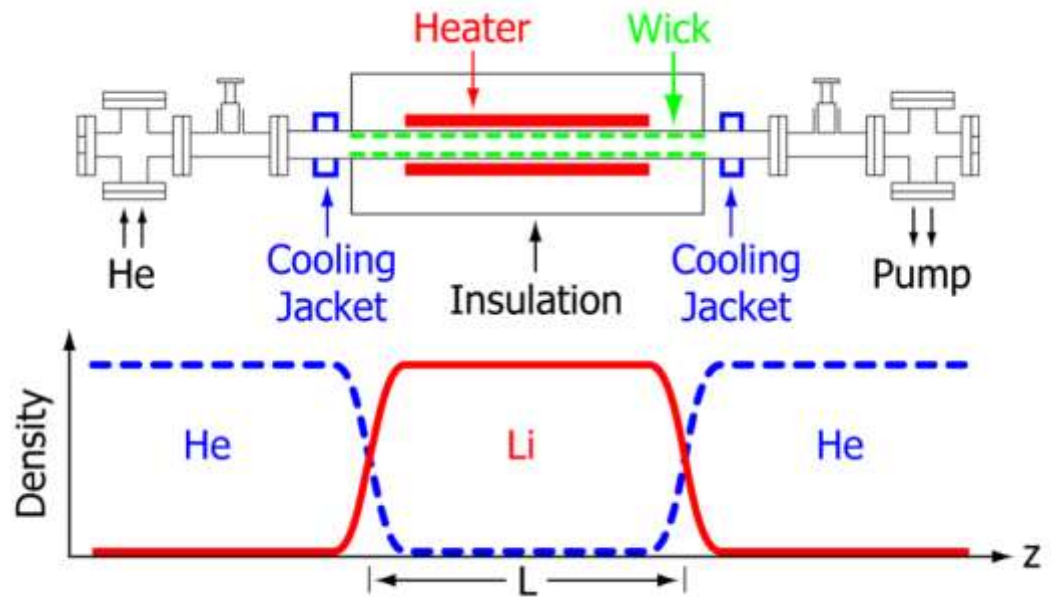
After plasma cell  
(assuming zero initial energy spread)



In front of dipole

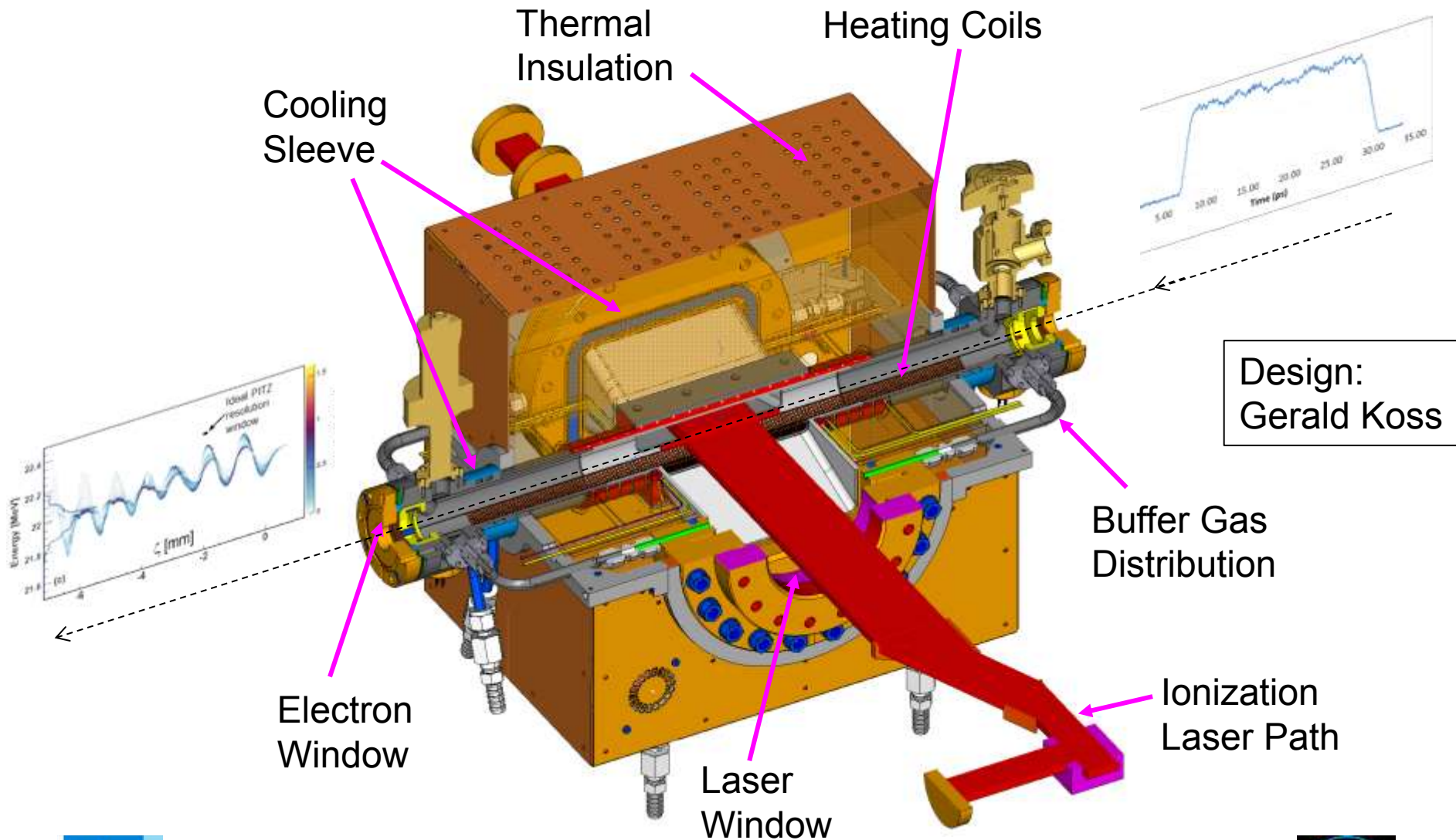
# Plasma source

- Li is heated and evaporated in central zone
- Li vapor particles interact with buffer gas and condense
- Liquid Lithium flows back to the center thanks to the wick
- Buffer gas pressure defines vapor density and power input defines vapor column length

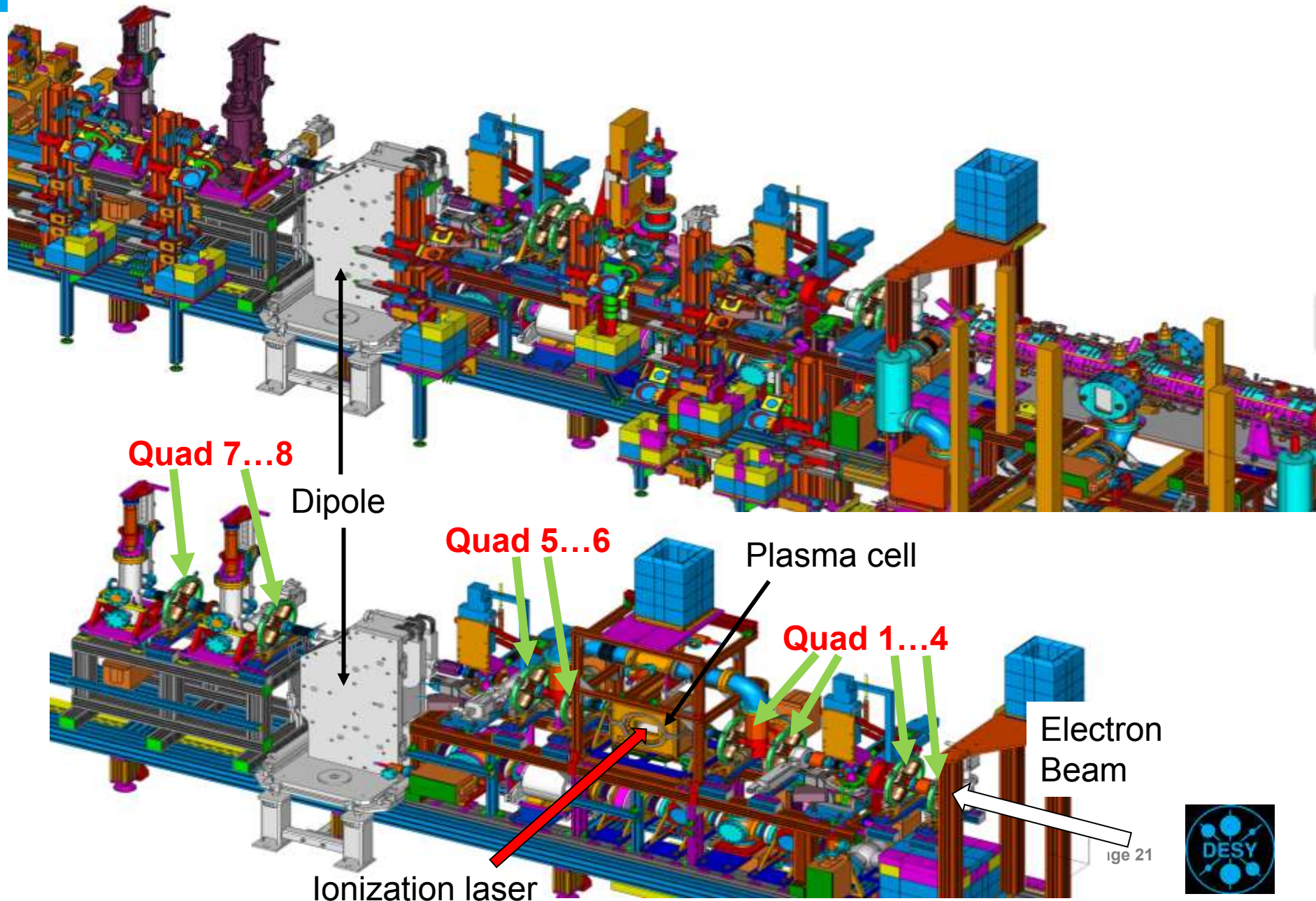


P. Muggli et al. "Photo-Ionized Lithium Source for Plasma Accelerator Applications", *IEEE Trans. Plasma Science* 27(1999), pp. 791-799

# Plasma cell design



# Beam Line Remodeling



# Electron windows: experiments in the beamline

## > Two experimental runs with:

- KW30: 62.5 hours of operation, interrupted by blockade of the beam path
- KW36-37: 131 hours of the operation, interrupted by run out of N<sub>2</sub> for the ionization laser beamline, loss of beam intensity and breakdown of the plasma cell heater

## > Experimental conditions:

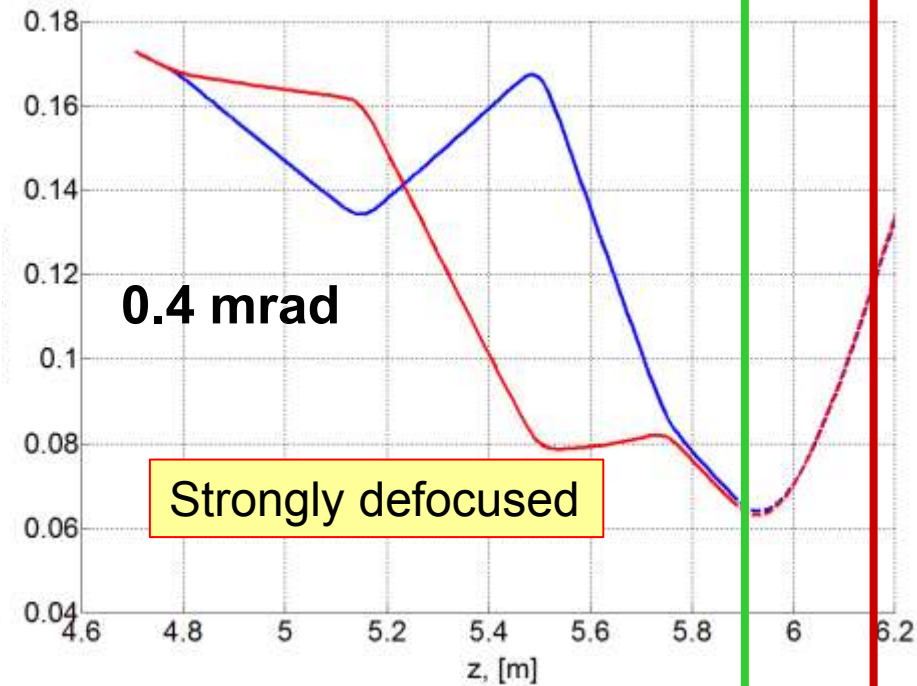
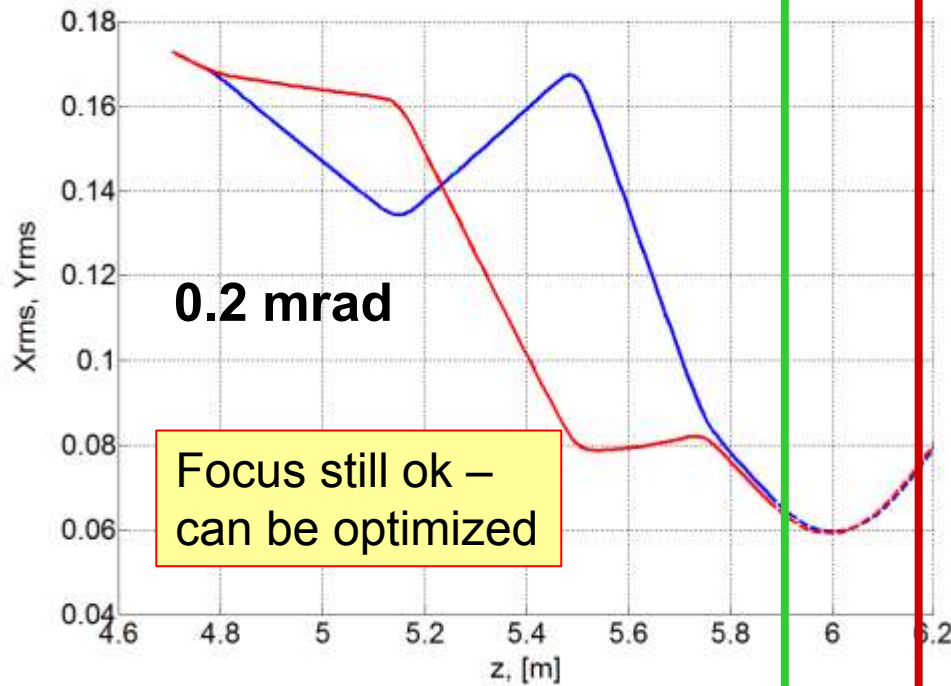
- 8  $\mu\text{m}$  Kapton windows
- Gun: 6MW; on-crest; 250  $\mu\text{s}$  pulse length
- Photocathode laser running with flat top profile
- Booster: 3.1MW; on-crest; 200  $\mu\text{s}$  pulse length
- 100 pc bunch charge; 22 MeV; 1-2 pulses
- Ionization laser: 300 mJ, but big fraction of energy was lost due to laser beamline imperfections

# Electron windows: maximum acceptable scattering

- ASTRA simulations: electron beam scattering impedes focusing into the plasma

Window position

Middle of plasma cell

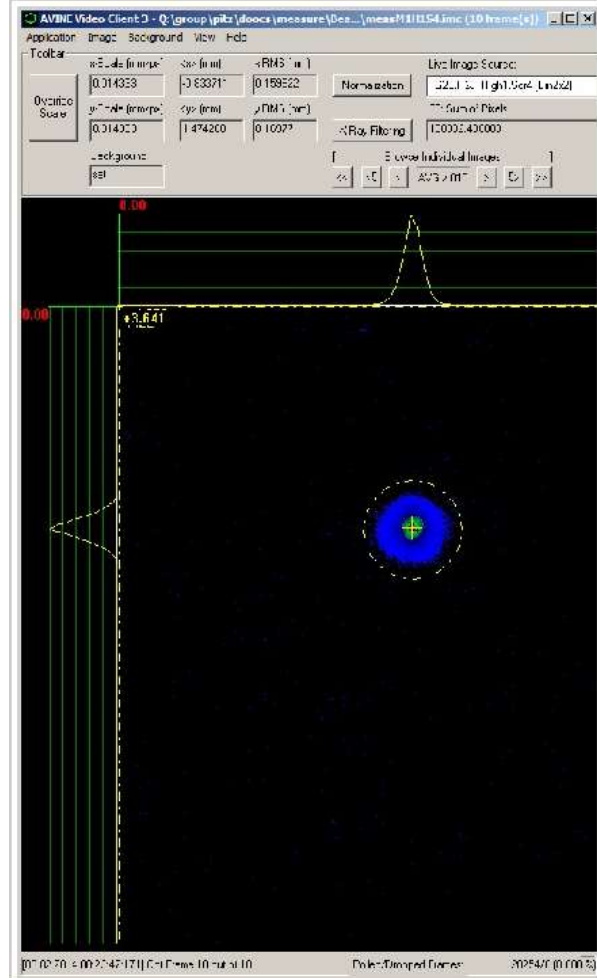


- Maximal agreeable scattering angle: 0.2 mrad

# Electron windows: experiments in the beamline

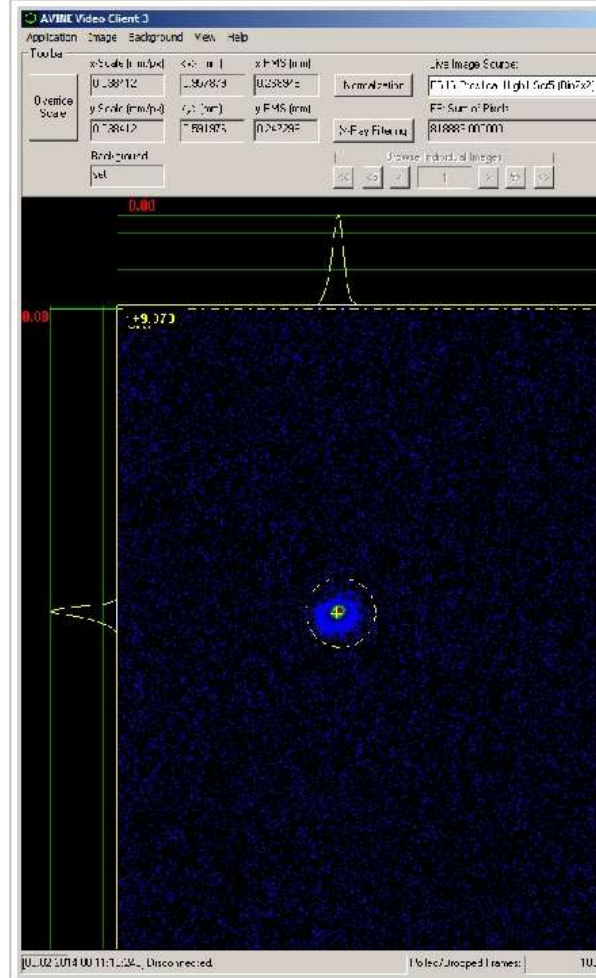
08.02.2014 00:36 M. Gross, G. Pathak Beam at High1.Scr4

Xrms = 0.159mm  
Yrms = 0.169mm



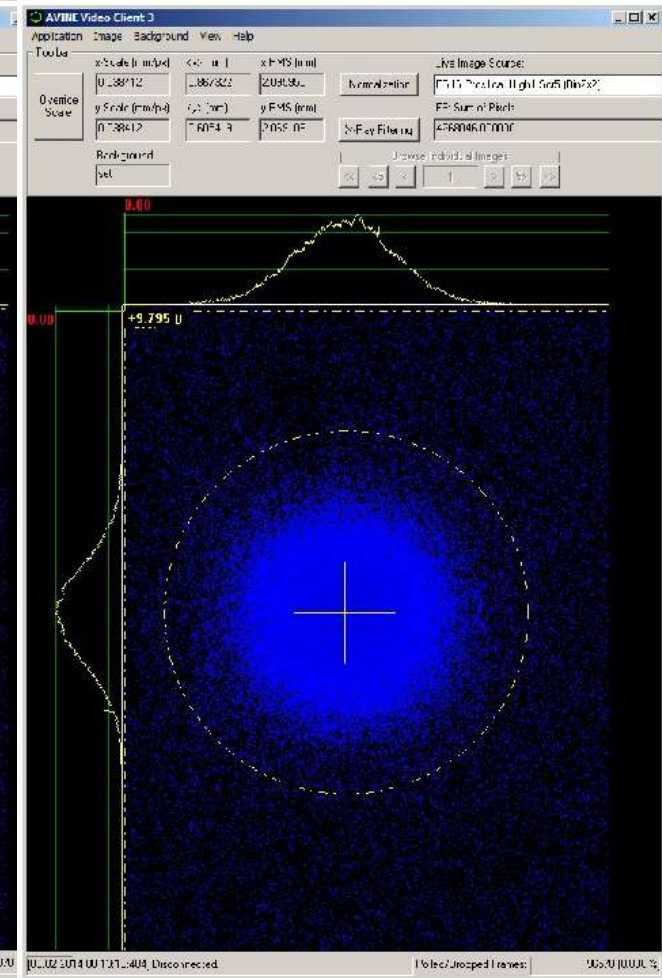
08.02.2014 00:11 M. Gross, G. Pathak Beam at High1.Scr5 - MI, n

Xrms = 0.268mm  
Yrms = 0.247mm



08.02.2014 00:13 M. Gross, G. Pathak Beam with Kapton at High1.Scr.5

Xrms = 2.095mm  
Yrms = 2.069mm

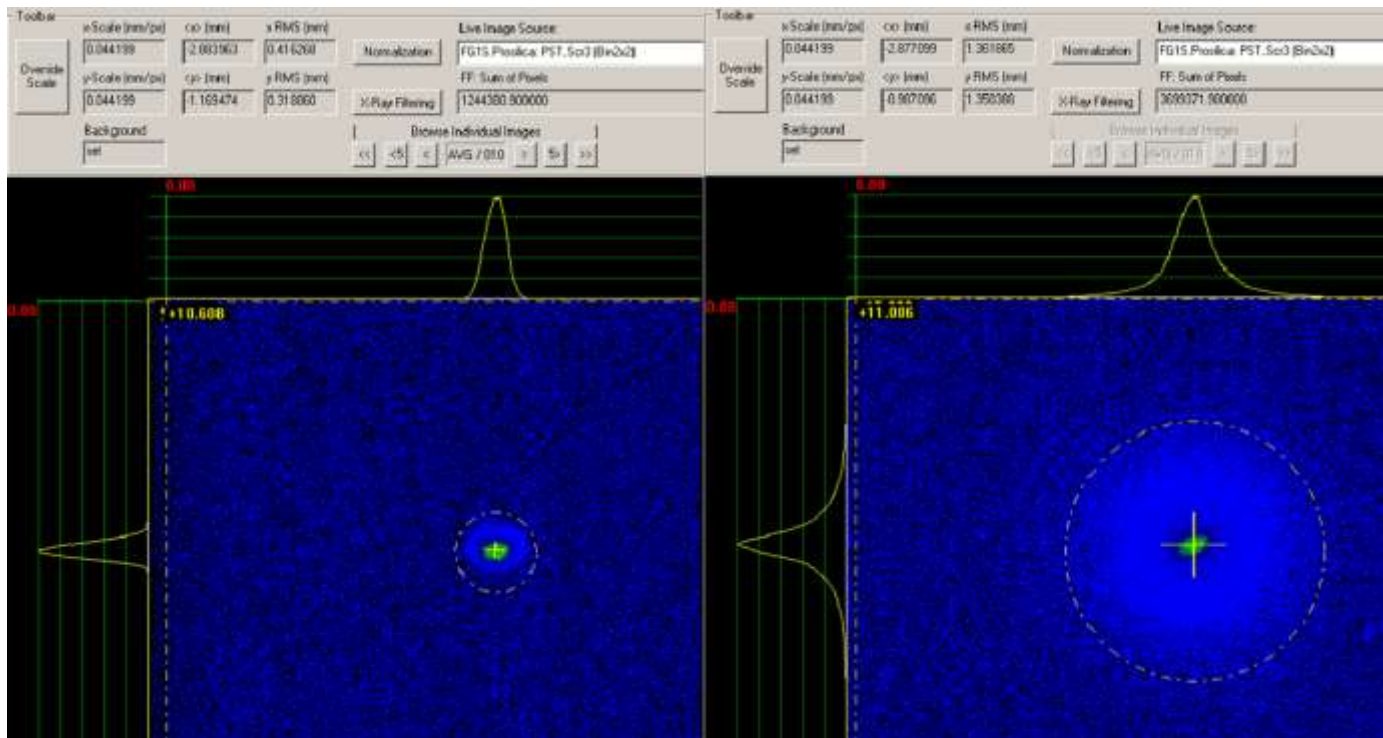


> 50  $\mu$ m Kapton

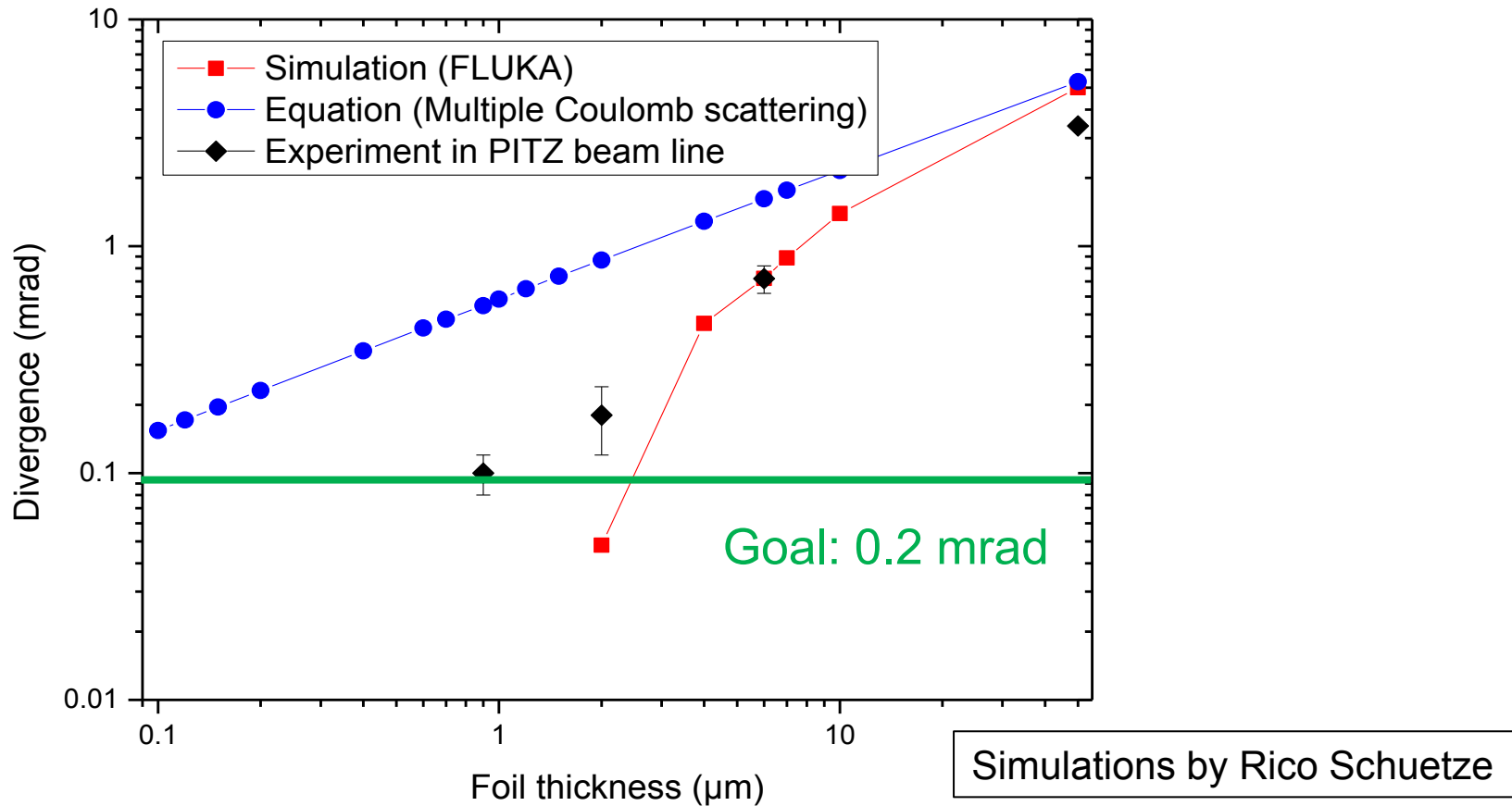


# Electron windows: experiments in the beamline

- 0.9  $\mu\text{m}$  PET, coated with Al (37.5 nm) both sides
  - Experimental: less than 0.1 mrad beam divergence
  - Scattering values preliminary confirmed by FLUKA simulation
  - Gas permeability is acceptable
  - Mechanical/thermal stress test ongoing



# Electron windows: comparison



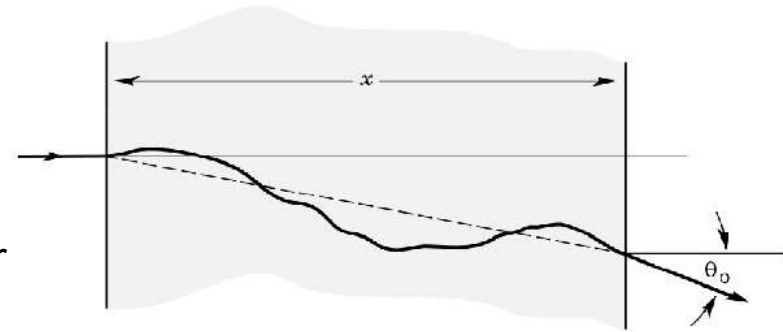
- 2014.02.07N – Kapton 50 μm + (?) Gold 5 nm
- 2014.05.15A – Mylar 6 μm + Gold coating of unknown thickness

- 2015.03.07M – Mylar 2 μm
- 2015.10.22M – PET (Mylar) 0.9 μm + 37.5 nm Al coating both sides

# Electron windows: FLUKA simulations

## > Multiple scattering

- a particle undergoes a number of scatterings per each step, resulting a small deviation from initial trajectory
- Valid only if number of elementary scatterings per step is large enough



## > Single scattering

- based on the Rutherford formula
- Every interaction is a separate step ->demands **much more CPU time** compared to multiple scattering

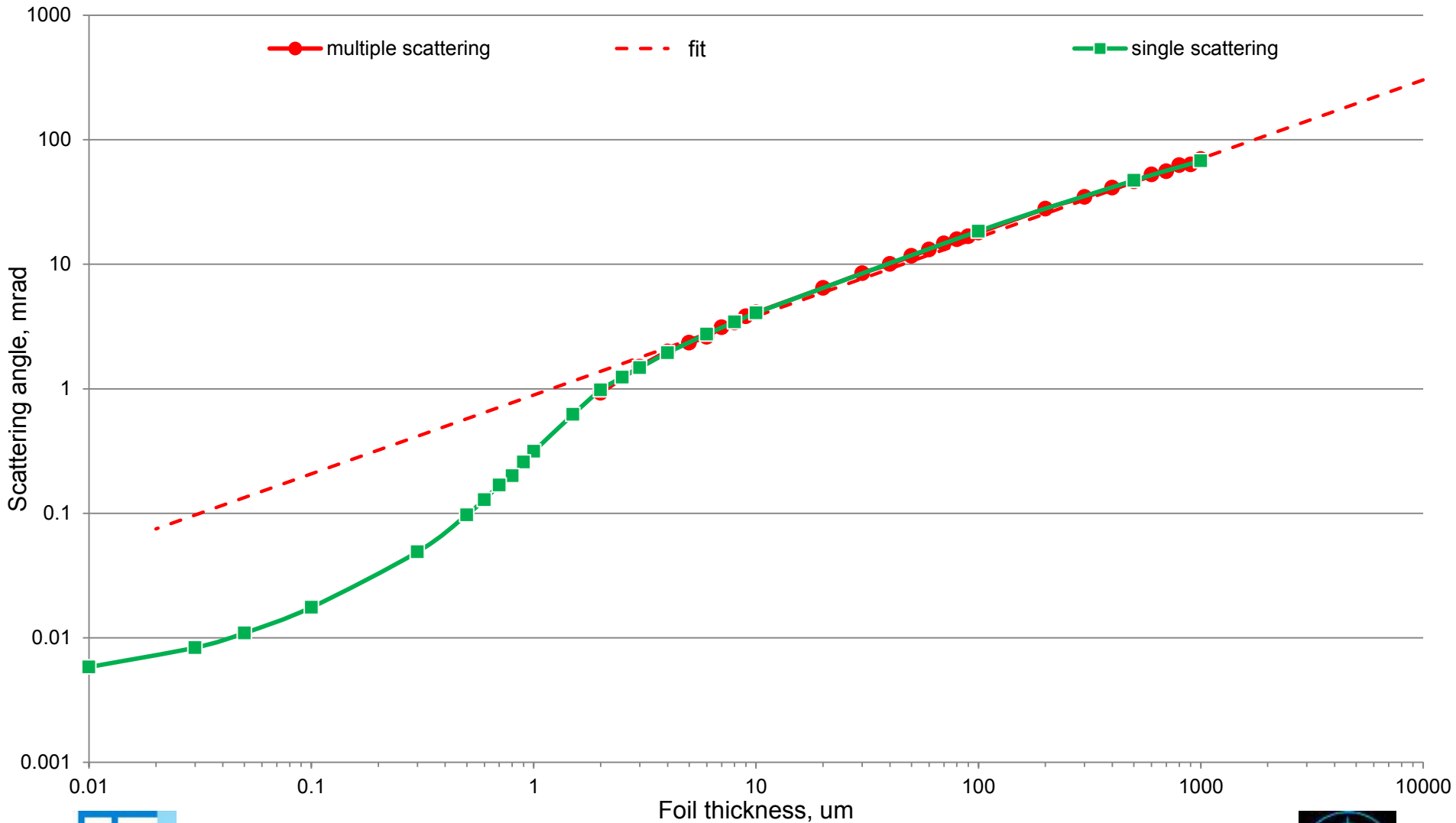
"FLUKA: a multi-particle transport code"

A. Ferrari, P.R. Sala, A. Fassò, and J. Ranft,  
CERN-2005-10 (2005), INFN/TC\_05/11, SLAC-R-773

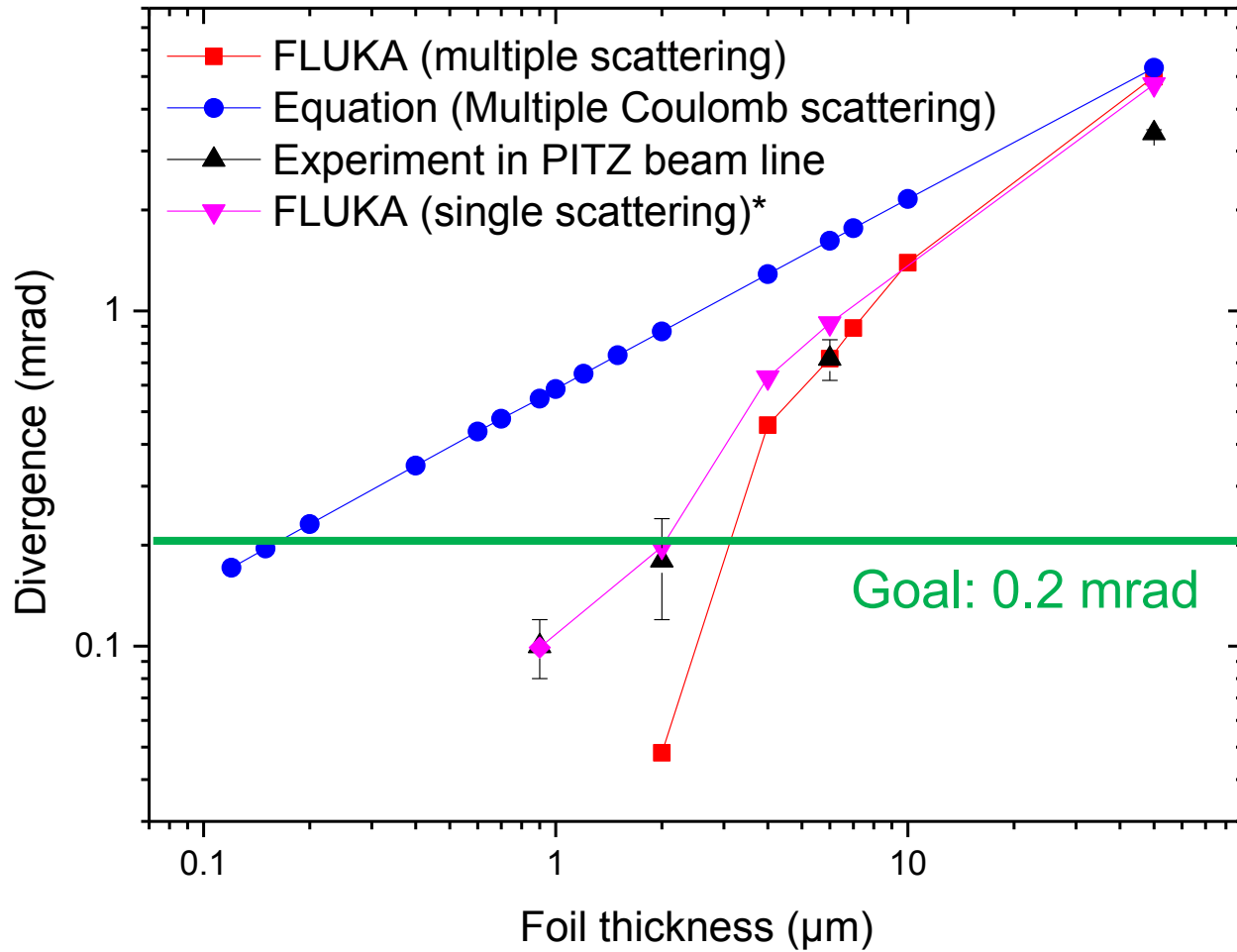


# Electron windows: multiple and single scattering in FLUKA

## Scattering on aluminium



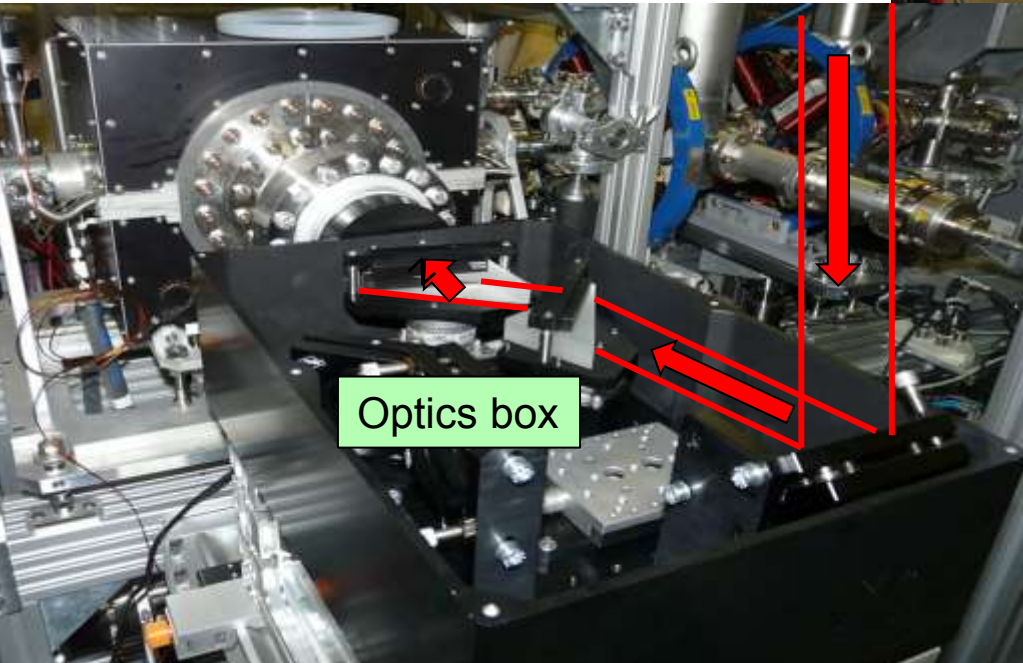
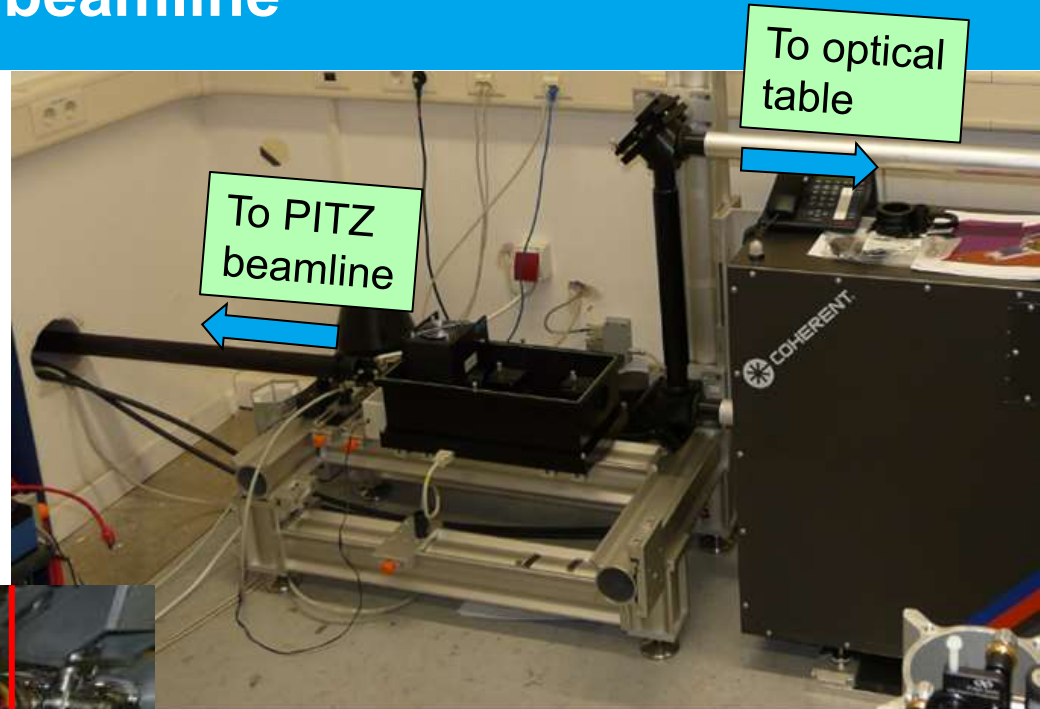
# Electron windows: summary



Goal: 0.2 mrad

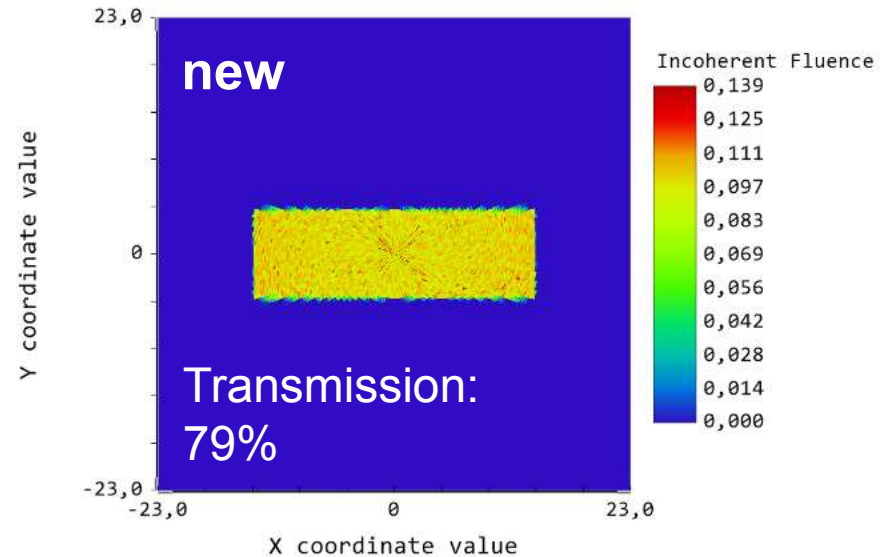
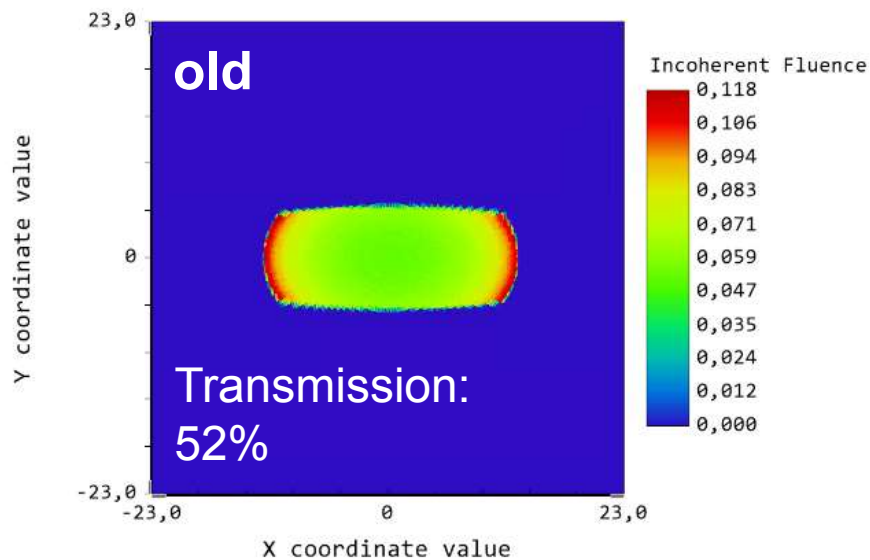
# Ionization Laser and laser beamline

- > Coherent COMPexPro 201: ArF Excimer Laser, 193 nm, up to 400 mJ / pulse, 10 Hz



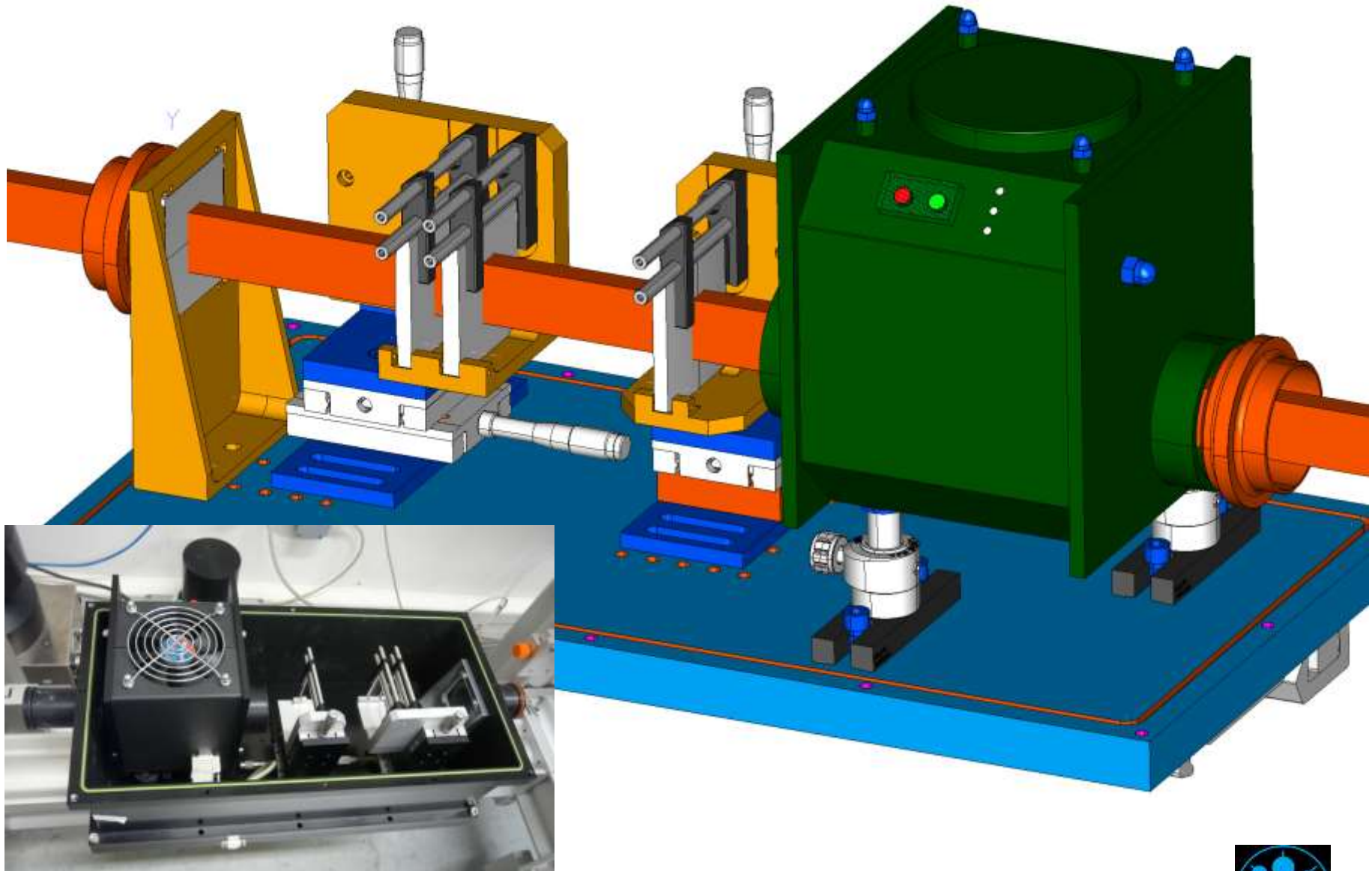
- > Side coupling advantage: Well defined and adjustable plasma channel length
  - Option: Add filter to implement density ramps or other plasma profiles

- Laser output: 24mm x 10mm with 3mrad x 1mrad divergence
  - Beam transport over  $\approx 12\text{m}$  from laser aperture to plasma cell
  - Compensation of divergence done so far with spherical lenses  $\rightarrow$  cutting at apertures
  - Now: 4 cylinder lenses (2 per axis) with AR coating for individual compensation



- ZEMAX simulated laser distribution at plasma cell position (before beam expander)

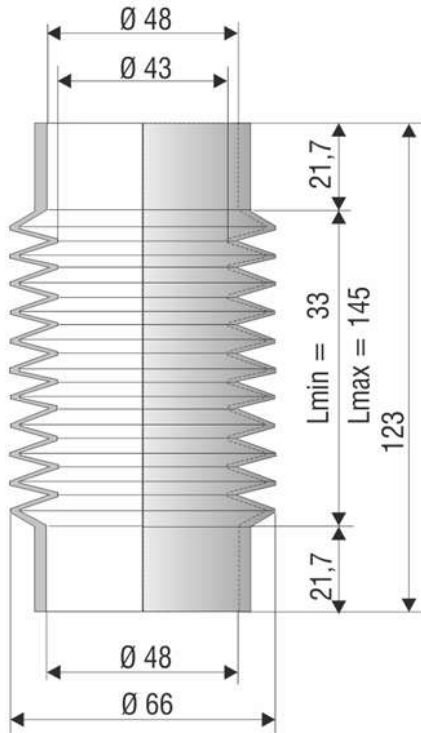
# New Setup of Optics Box with Cylinder Lenses





# Improved Beamline Setup

Bellows made from NBR rubber



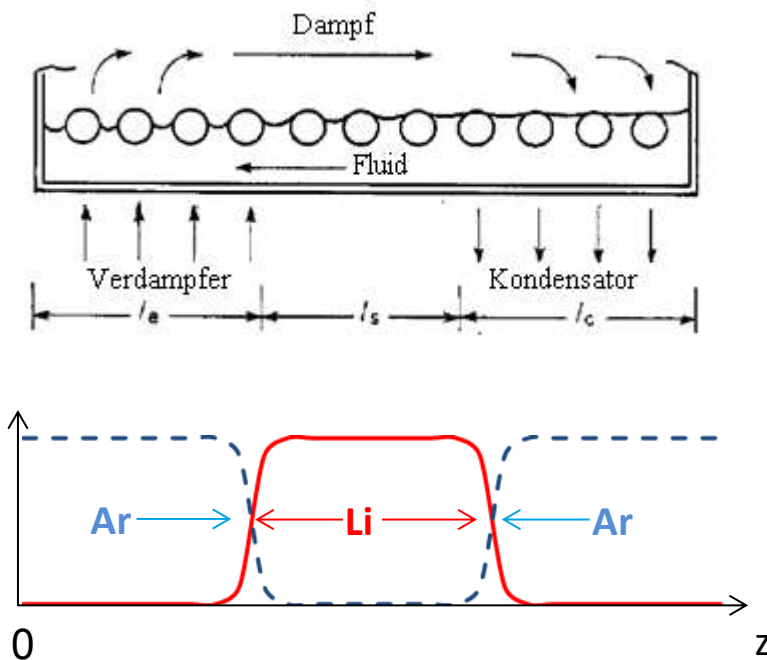
Improved setup with bellows and clamps for increased mechanical stability



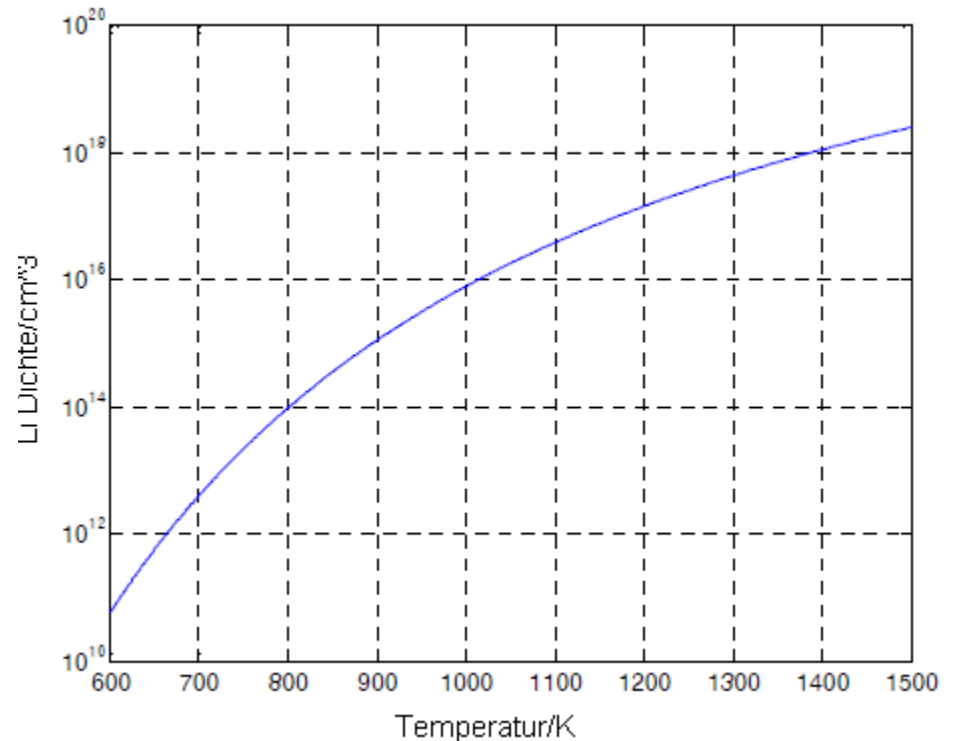
➤ Result: No gas leakage measurable

# Plasma cell: Heat pipe oven

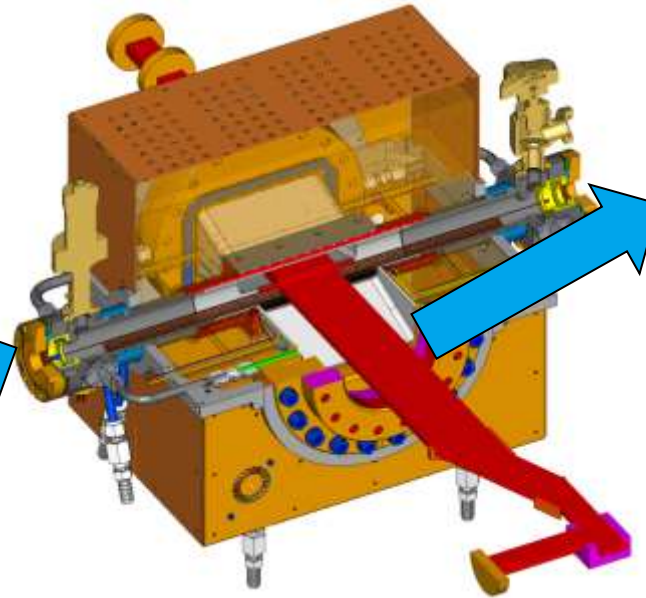
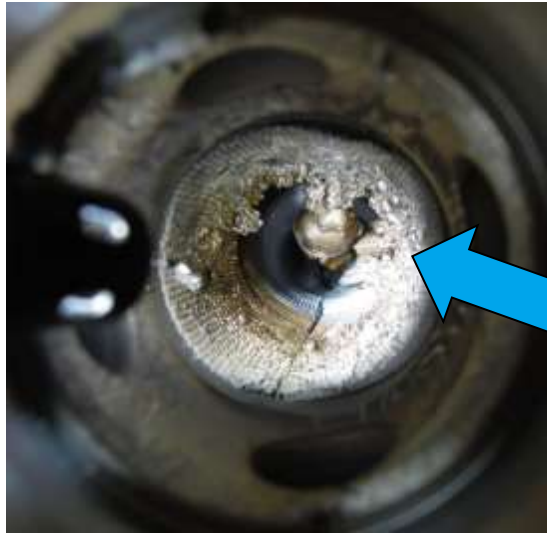
- > The plasma cell is designed as a heat pipe with a metal mesh inside the oven acting like a wick.



- > Desired vapor density of  $10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  corresponds to 1000 K

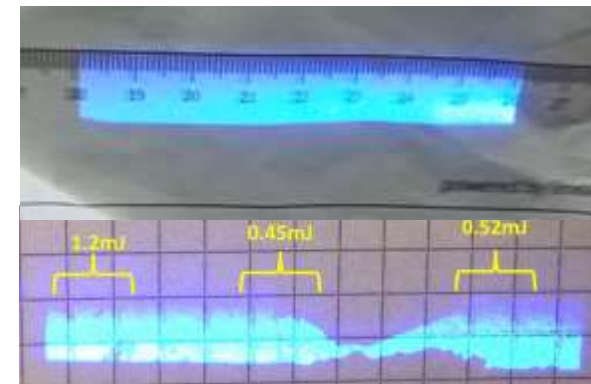


# Plasma cell status after extraction from the tunnel in 2015



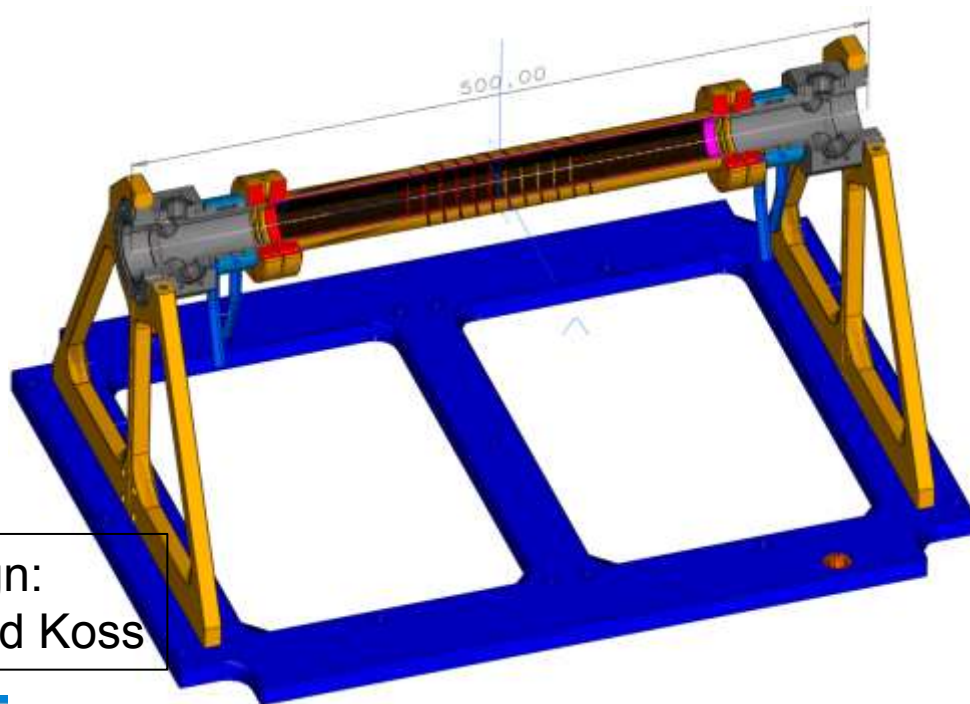
- > The problem of lithium condensation was partially solved by adjusting the buffer gas pressure and extending side arms.

- > Ionization laser profiles before and after few days of operation:



# Plasma cell: mesh->grooves

- Mesh did not provide a stable lithium transport last year
- A small heat pipe setup was manufactured to study the lithium transport in grooves and optimal parameters of the heat pipe operation

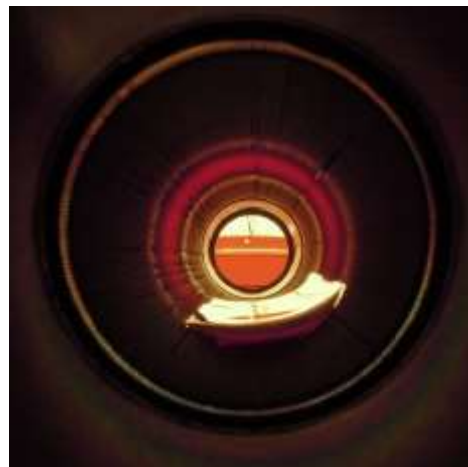


Design:  
Gerald Koss

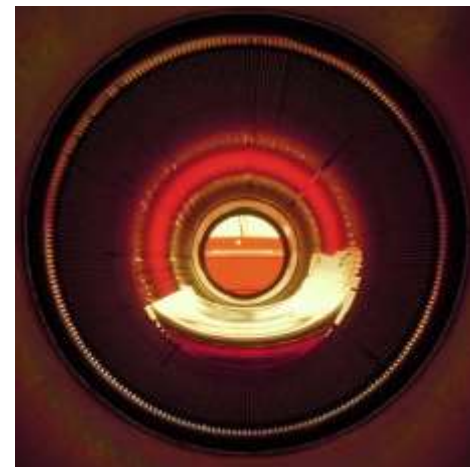
# Lithium transport works well (March 2016)



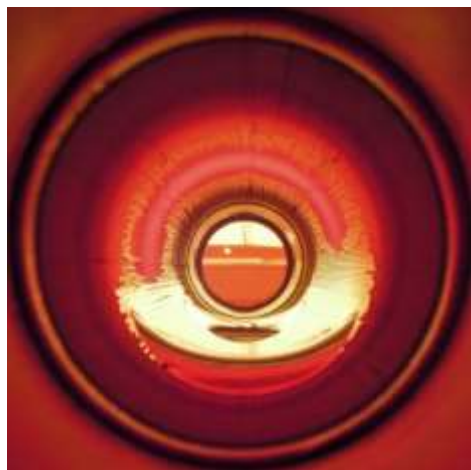
560 °C



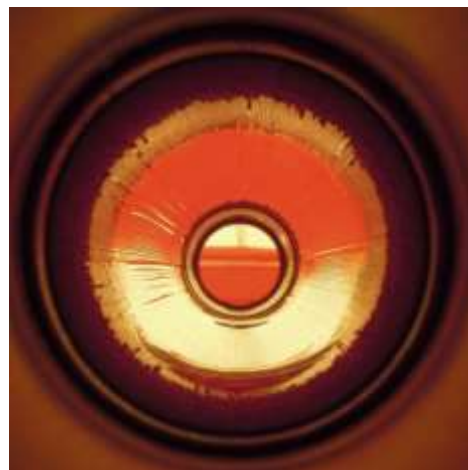
605 °C



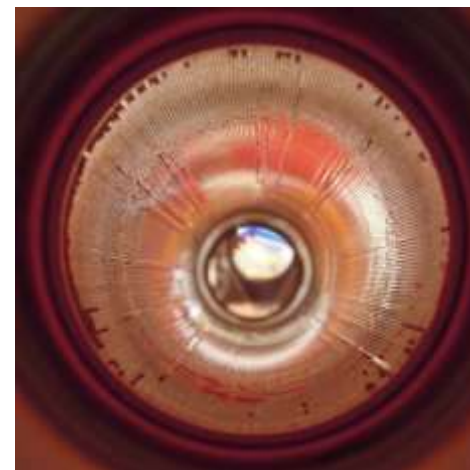
650 °C



700 °C



1 day at 700 °C

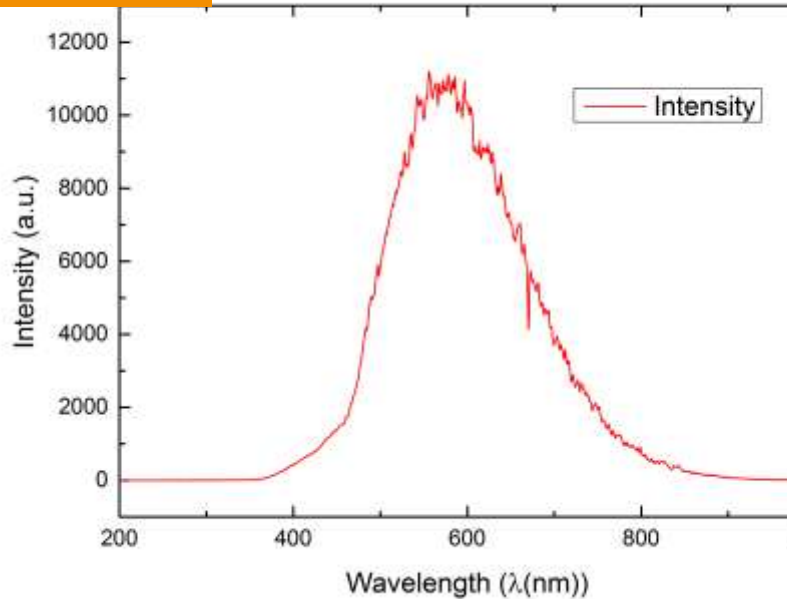


1 week at 700 °C

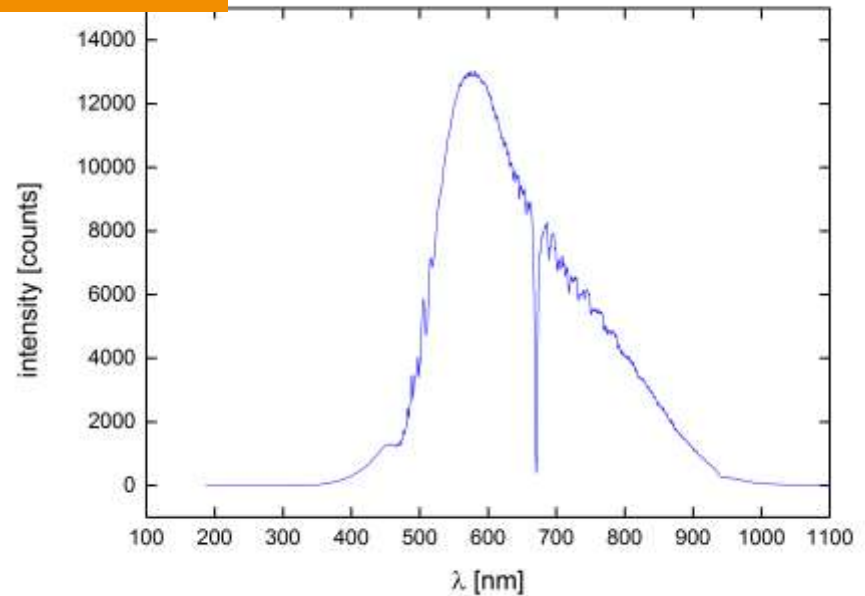


# White Light absorption

Sep. 2015



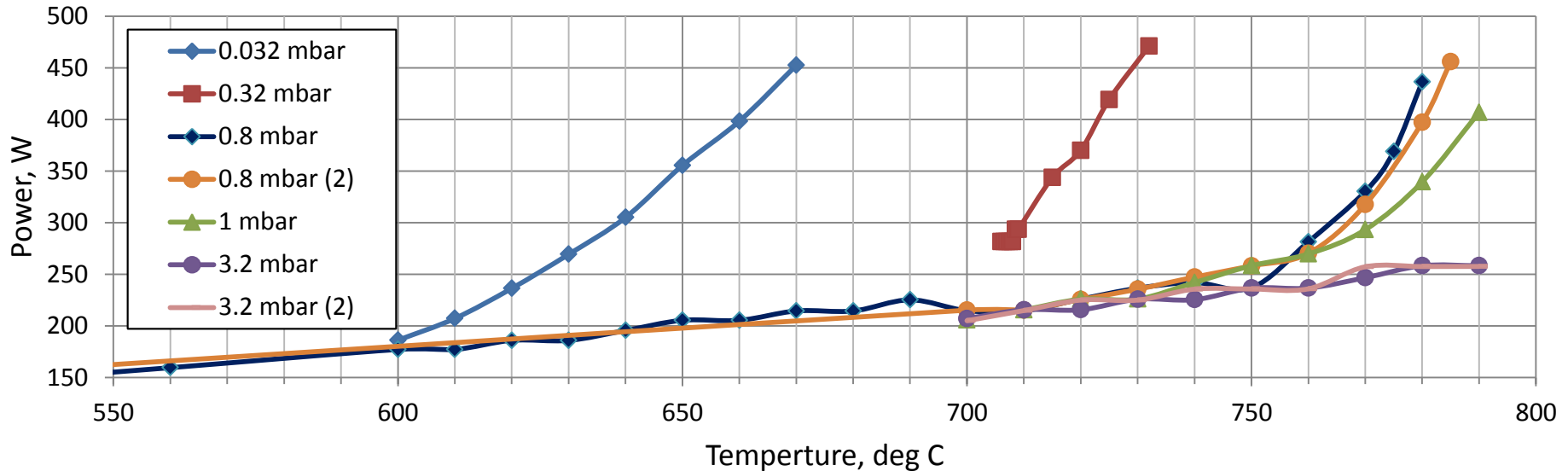
Apr. 2016



- > The white light absorption shows an increase of vapor density compared to the previous setup

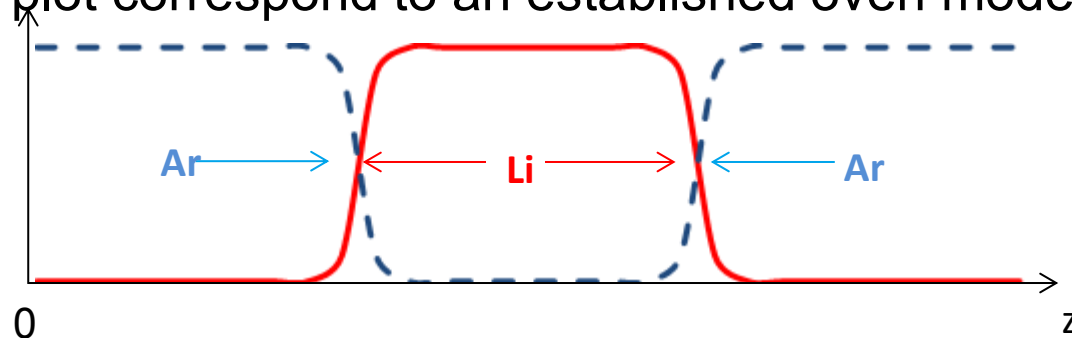
# Heat pipe regimes

Temperature setpoint vs. power input for different buffer gas pressures

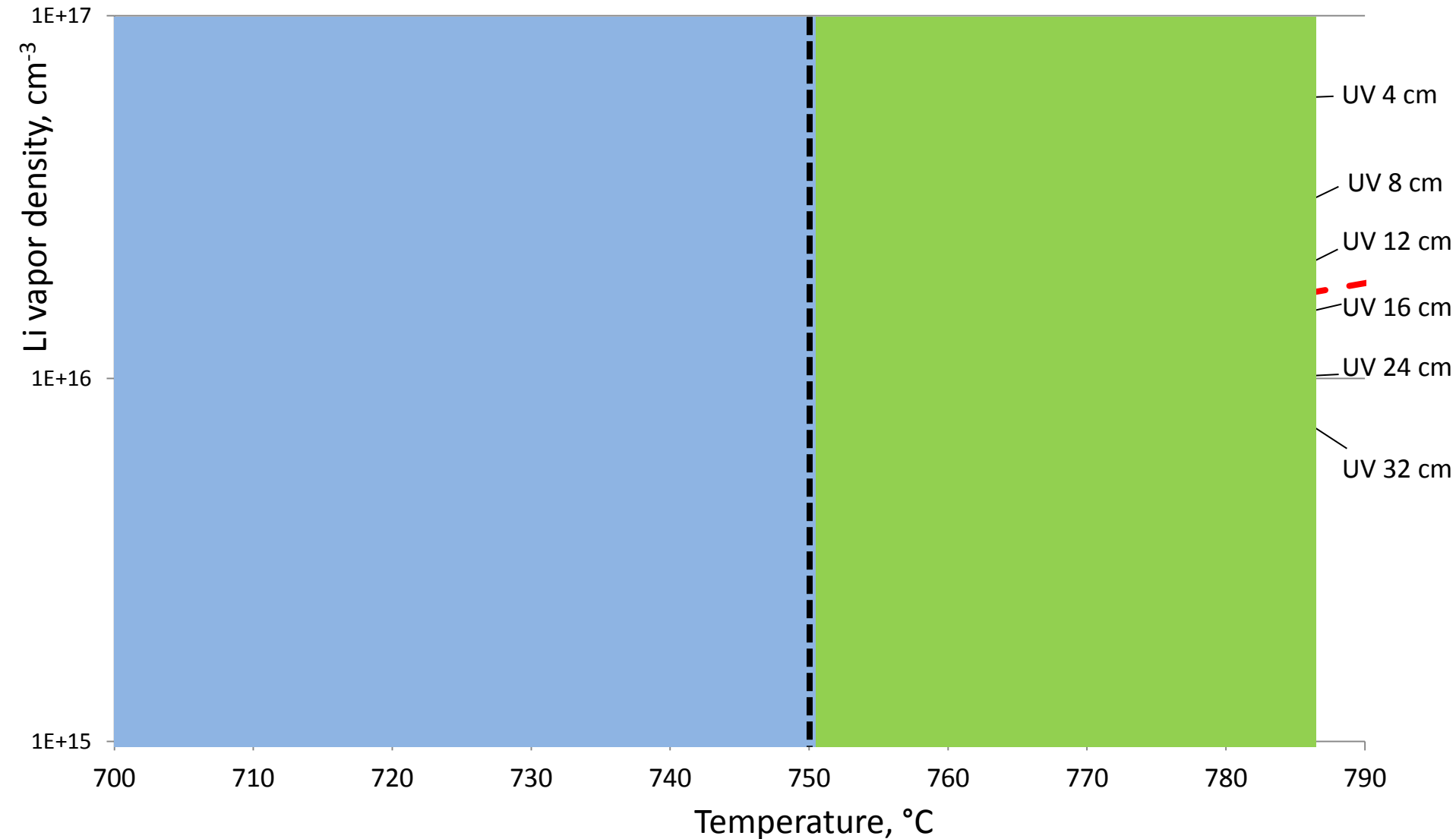


➤ 0.8 mbar was selected as an optimal pressure

➤ Kinks on the plot correspond to an established oven mode:



# UV absorption (0.8 mbar)

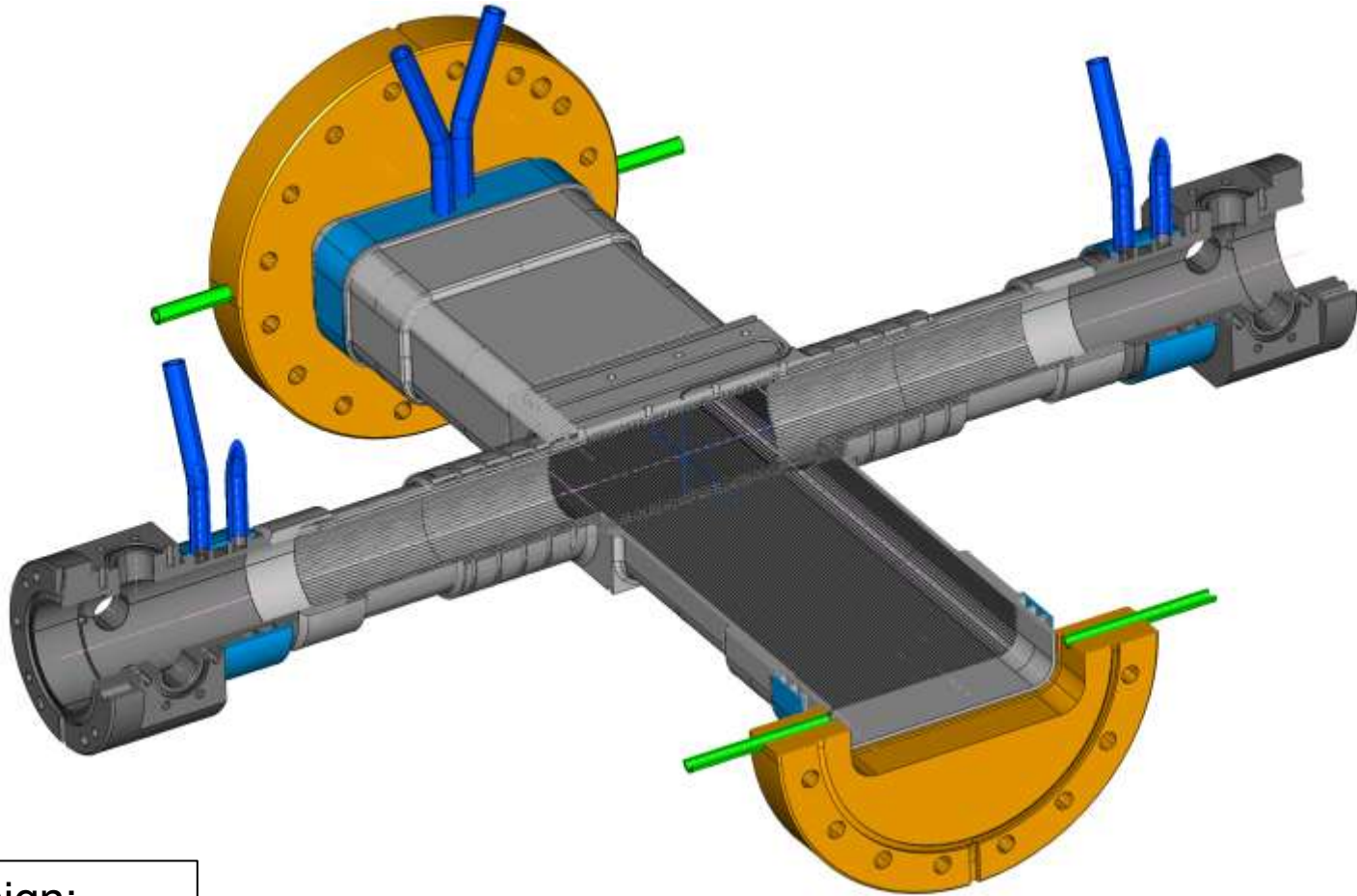


$$n_o L = -\frac{1}{\sigma} \left( \frac{E_{\text{transmitted}}}{E_{\text{incident}}} \right)$$





# New plasma cell



Design:  
Gerald Koss

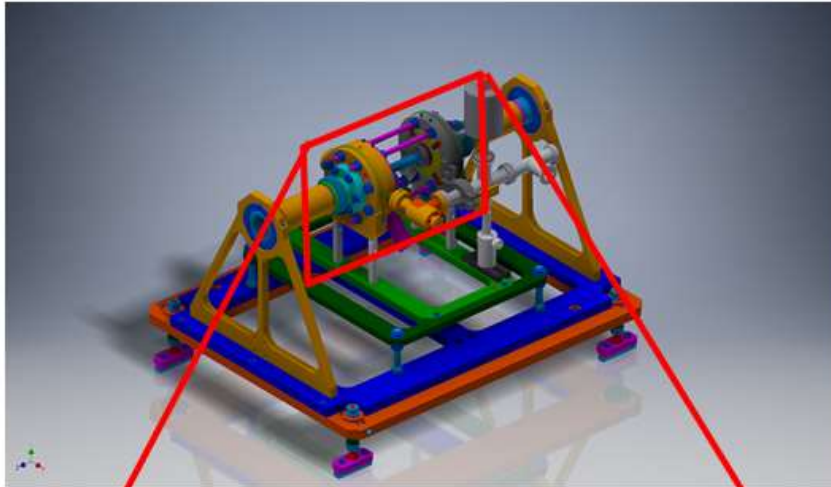
> Is being manufactured, first experiments this summer

# Summary

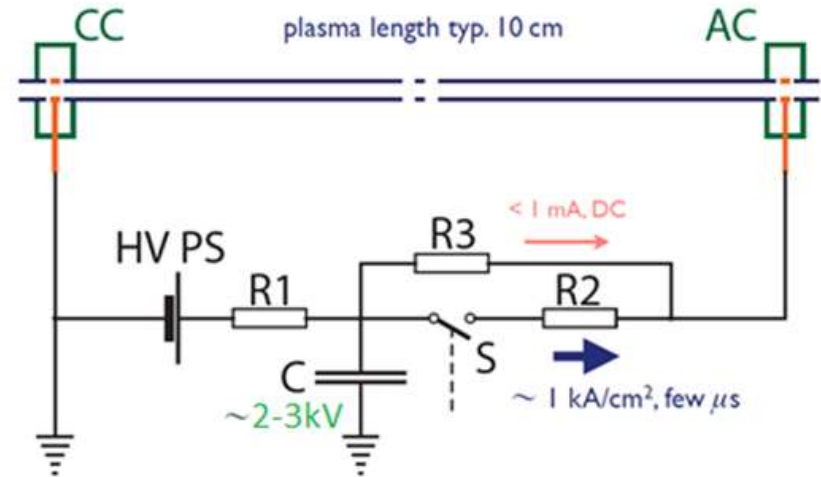
<u>Problems</u>	<u>Solutions</u>
Heating wires overpowered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stronger heater / better heat insulation</li></ul>
Lithium accumulation in cooling zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Axial grooves or finer mesh → better lithium transport</li><li>• Longer side arms</li></ul>
Insufficient density of lithium vapor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stronger heater / better heat insulation</li><li>• Fine adjustment of buffer gas pressure</li></ul>
Only 10% laser pulse energy delivered to plasma cell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Better optics (e.g. cylinder lenses; antireflection coating)</li><li>• Better beamline sealing</li></ul>
Electron windows increase achievable focus size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thinner electron window foils</li></ul>

➤ Continue plasma experiments in summer 2016 with improved hardware

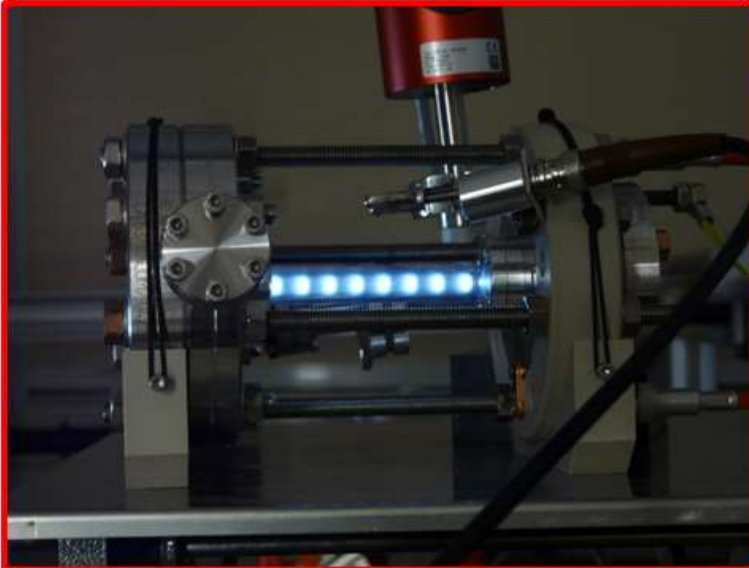
# Gas discharge plasma cell



Design of the discharge plasma cell



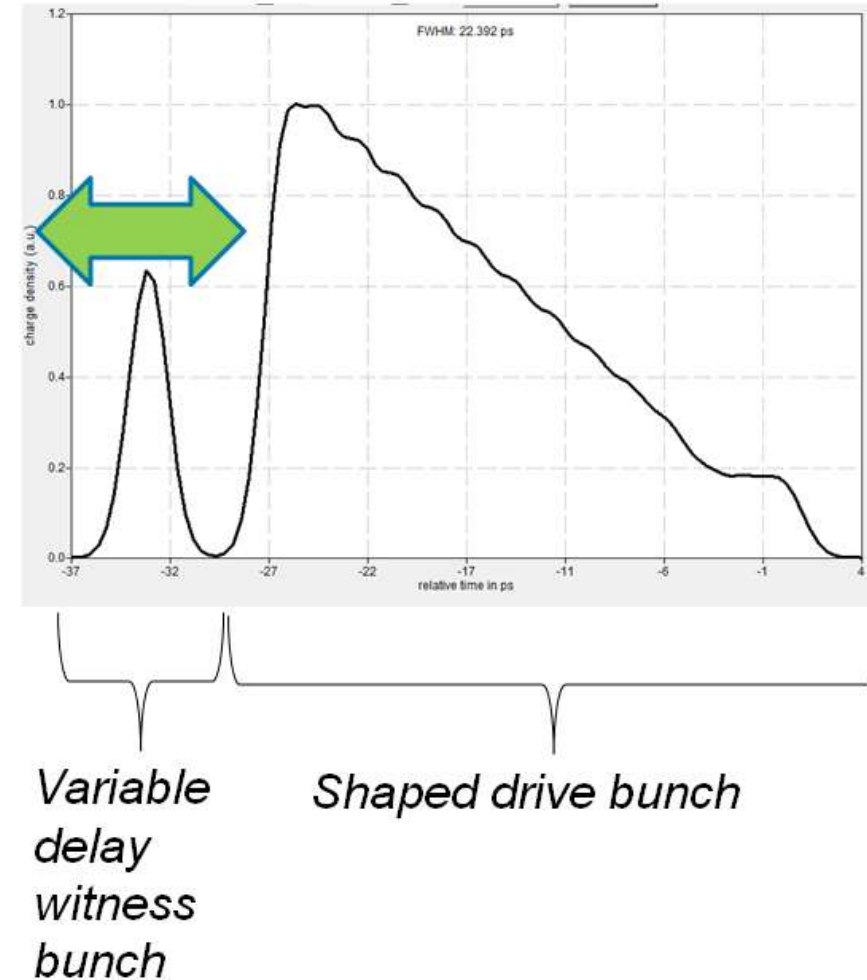
Layout of the discharge circuit



- > Cell was manufactured
- > Electronics and vacuum parts taken into operation
- > “Paschen“-insulation works
- > Electronics tested until 2 kV, 550 A (max. 3 kV, 600 A)
- > No major problems observed

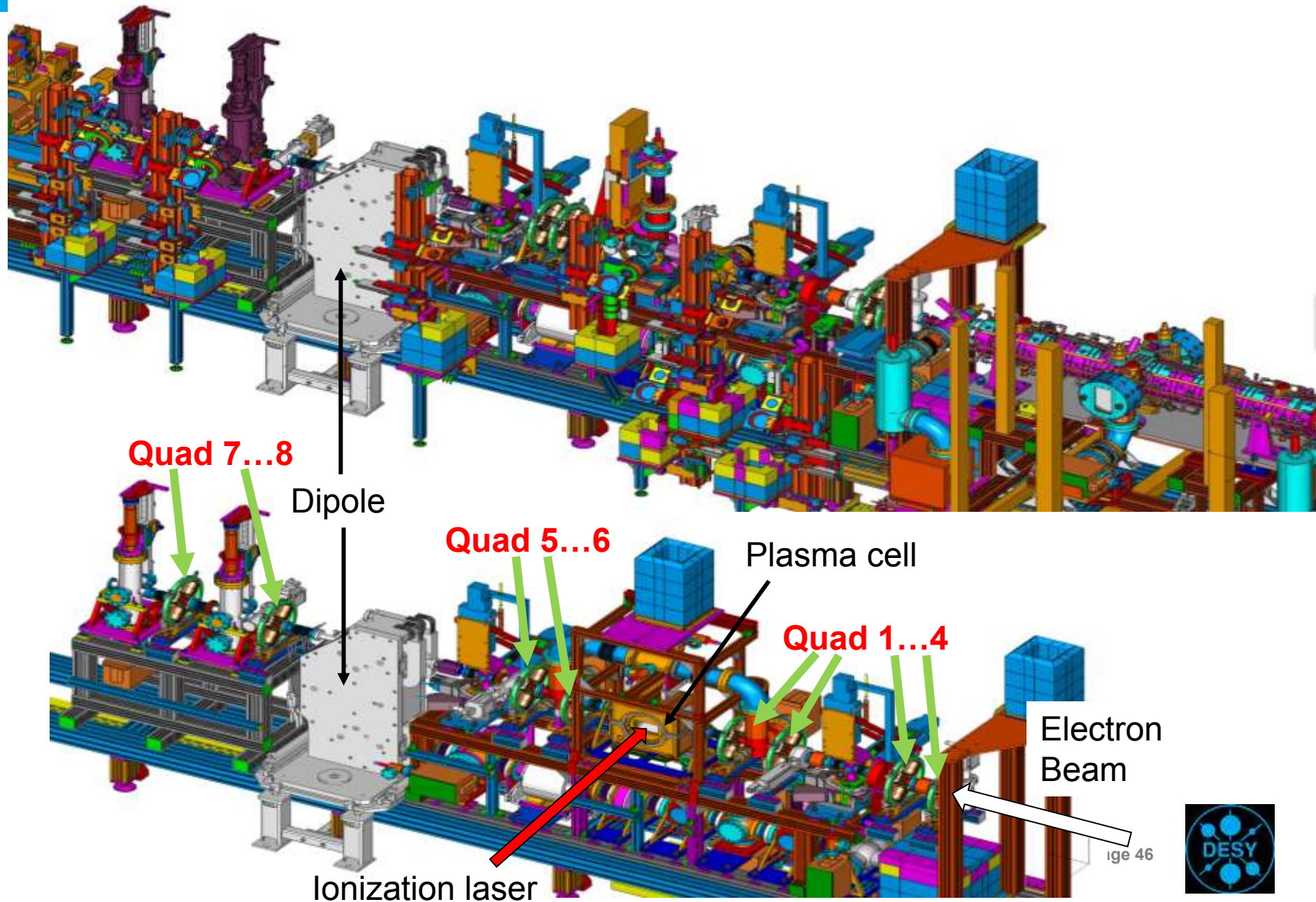
# Upgrade of the MBI photocathode laser system

- > Adding a witness pulse with variable delay to each laser pulse
  - Higher flexibility
  - Preliminary studies, e.g. measurement of plasma wavelength
- > Adjustable driver/witness ratio
- > Keep possibilities of existing system



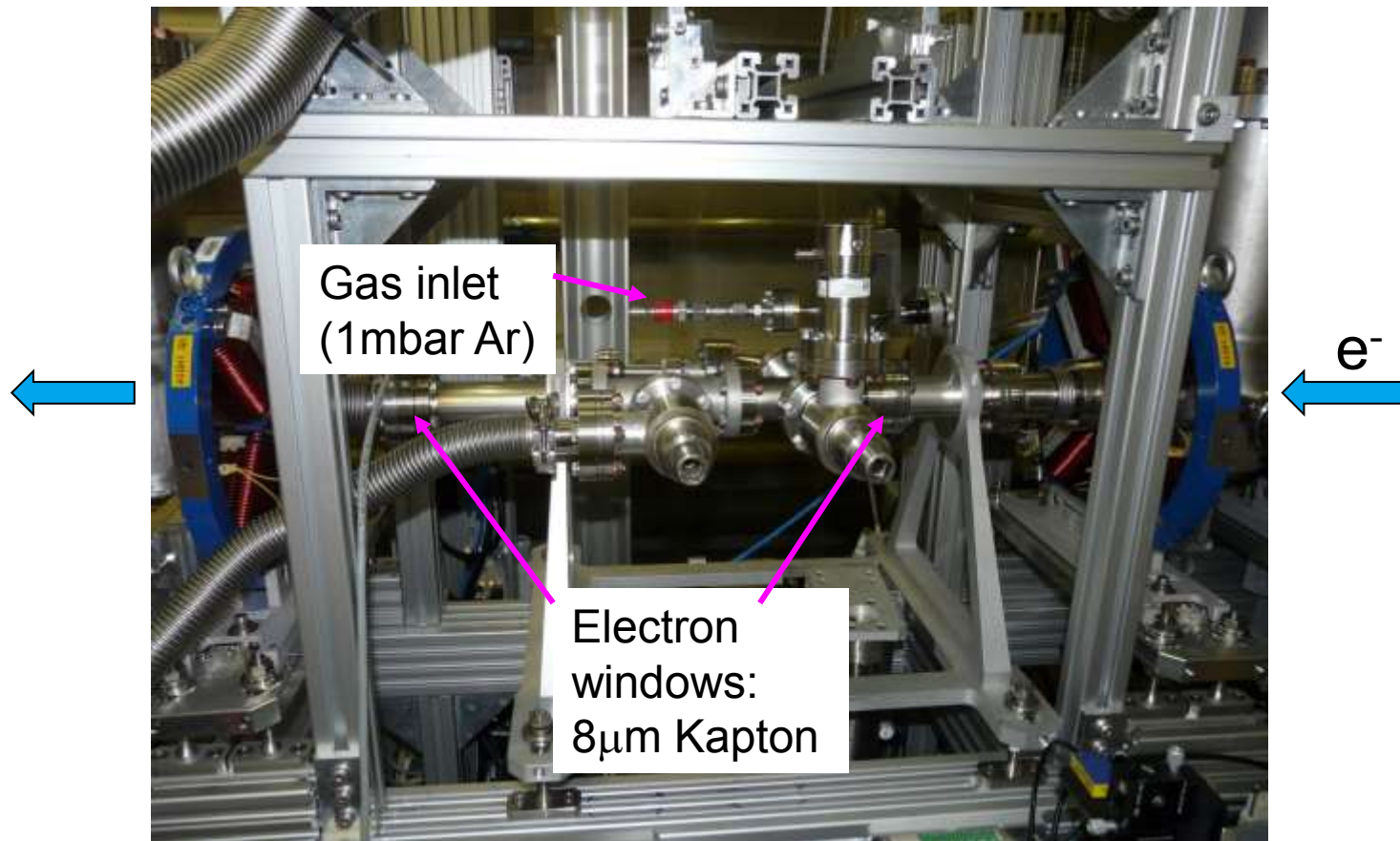
# Backup

# Beam Line Remodeling



# Pre-experiment #2: Dummy Plasma Cell

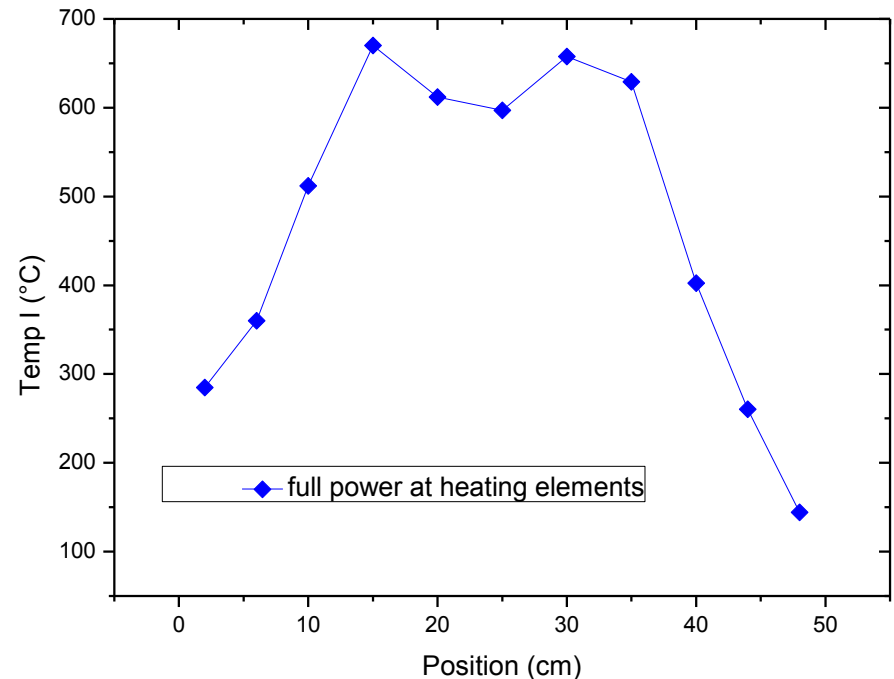
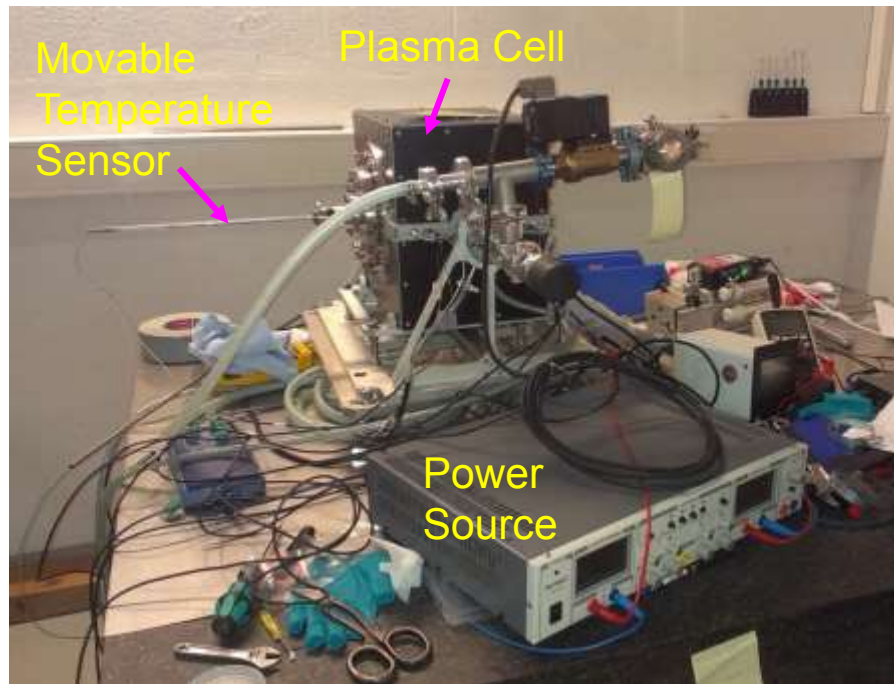
- Purpose: test of interaction electron beam  $\leftrightarrow$  electron window foils



# Commissioning of PITZ Plasma Cell

## ➤ Measurement of longitudinal temperature profile

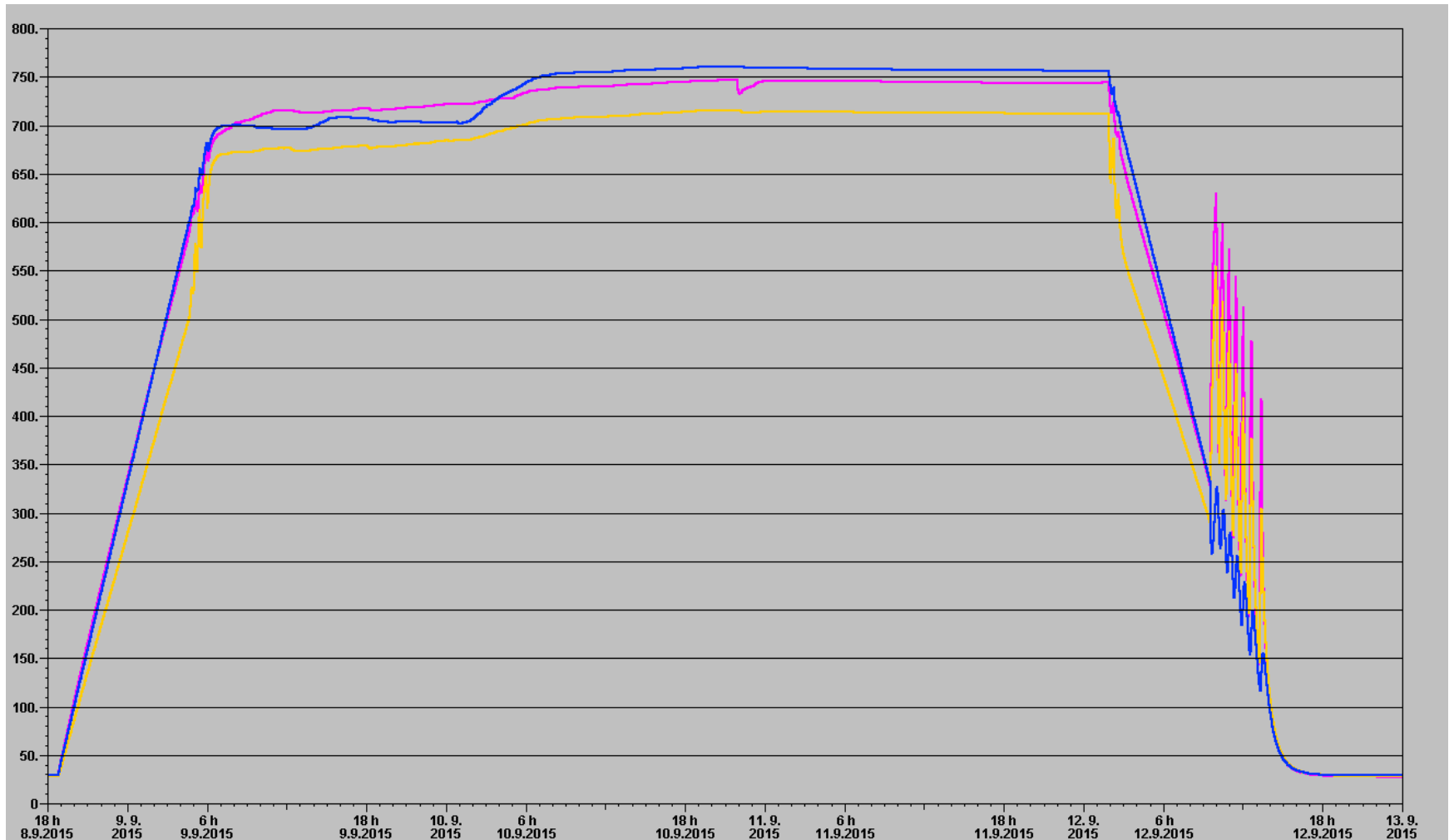
- Preliminary results



- Maximal temperature  $\approx 700^\circ\text{C}$  → enough to reach Li gas density of  $\approx 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Temperature dip: influence of cross-shaped plasma cell



# Plasma cell temperature history



# Theory: Multiple Coulomb Scattering

## > From: Claus Grupen “Teilchendetektoren”: Multiple Coulomb Scattering

The rms of the projected scattering angle distribution:

$$\theta_{rms} = \frac{13.6 \text{ MeV}}{\beta pc} z \sqrt{\frac{x}{X_0}} \left[ 1 + 0.038 \ln \left( \frac{x}{X_0} \right) \right]$$
$$\beta pc = 22 \text{ MeV}; z = 1; X_0 = 0.28 \text{ m}$$

## > Important: Radiation length $X_0$

- Gold: 0.3 cm
- Kapton (Polyimide): 28.6 cm
- Beryllium: 35.3 cm
- Polyethylene: 50.3 cm

# Heat pipe: transport limitations

Table 3: Heat pipe transport limitations

Limitation	Mesh screen	Axial grooves
Capillary limitation	1282.1 Pa > 172.1598 Pa	4230.7 Pa > 41.8974 Pa
Sonic Limit	635.25 J/s	676.66 J/s
Entrainment Limit	2457 J/s	5422 J/s
Boiling Limit	$4.387 \times 10^6$ J/s	$5.7295 \times 10^7$ J/s
Viscous Limit	1043 J/s	1198.7 J/s

