Follow-up

Construction of a Plasma Cell for Plasma Acceleration Experiments at PITZ

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Construction of Plasma Cell at PITZ Hamburg, 10. September 2013







Topic

LAOLA @ PITZ: Studies for Particle Driven Plasma Acceleration

Self-modulation of electron beam (proof of principle for CERNs AWAKE exp.)

use high flexibility of photo cathode laser system:



Example: flat-top e-beam through plasma cell:





Designing a Plasma Cell for the PITZ Experiment

Heat Pipe Oven Prototype was built

How to ionize the gas?





- Problems: Space restrictions at PITZ leads to
 - double cone structure with thin waist
 - strong influence of hole in mirror

> New idea: modify plasma cell to allow side coupling



2.5 mm

Step 1: Insert Window into Side of Tube

> Problems:

- Heating coil has to be redistributed
 - Cannot go across window
- > Hole has to be cut into wick* -> functionality?
 - Flow of liquid Lithium could be disturbed leading to concentration of Lithium in hole area
- > Lithium could stick to window, absorb laser energy
 - Calculation: 20nm liquid Lithium thickness is enough to block 90% of laser light

*steel mesh on tube inside to transport liquid Lithium to the tube center



Step 2: Add Helium Buffer Regions

Prevent Lithium to reach side windows





Plasma Ionization Scenario

- Side coupling of ionization laser here: ArF laser
- > Advantages:
 - No additional optical elements in electron beam line up- or downstream of plasma cell
 - Well defined beginning and end of plasma channel
 - Side windows could also be utilized for diagnostics
- > Challenges:
 - Complicated construction
 - Non-coaxial alignment of electron and laser beams

Plasma Cell Design – Currently in Fabrication



Temperature Simulations of Plasma Cell



Ionization Optics Simulations of Plasma Cell

> Plasma density



> Setup



A few passes are enough

4 passes realized utilizing polarization



Summary

- > Follow-up: plasma acceleration experiment at PITZ
- Standard design of plasma cell (coaxial coupling of ionization laser) difficult to integrate into PITZ beam line

> New idea: side coupling of ionization laser – advantages:

- No additional optical elements in electron beam line
- Well defined beginning and end of plasma channel
- Side windows could also be utilized for diagnostics

Re-design of plasma cell with helium buffered side windows

- Construction in mechanical workshop is ongoing
- > Temperature distribution and plasma ionization was simulated

