

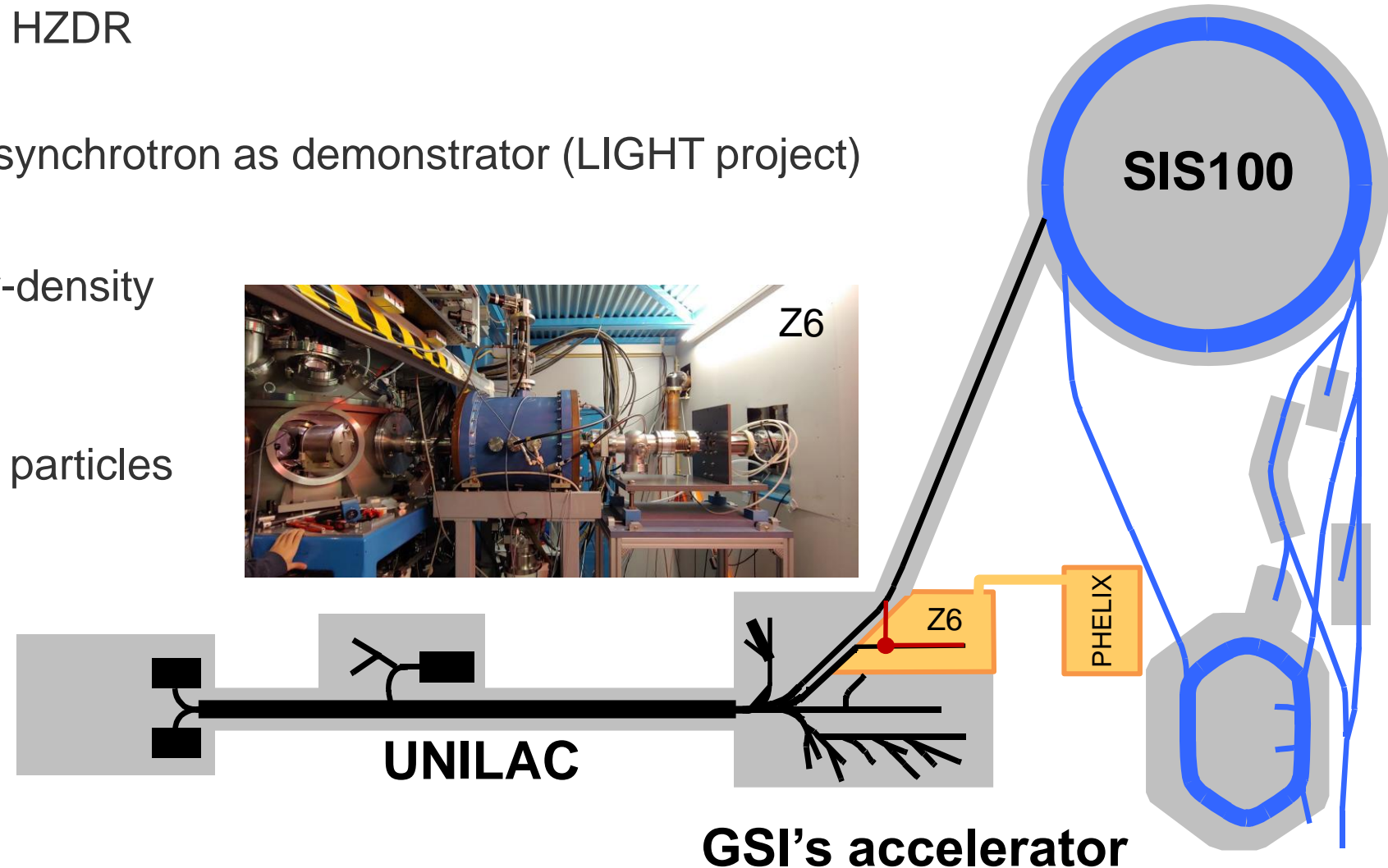
Laser-driven ion acceleration and applications at Helmholtz

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Motivation for laser-driven ion acceleration at Helmholtz

- Applications in oncology at HZDR
- Injection of GSI's SIS-100 synchrotron as demonstrator (LIGHT project)
- Backlighting of high-energy-density matter at FAIR/GSI
- Neutron and spin-polarized particles (Jülich, GSI)

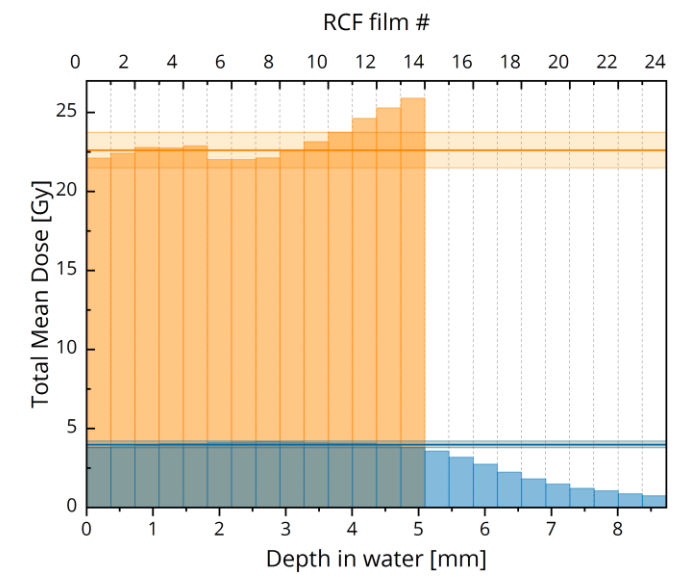
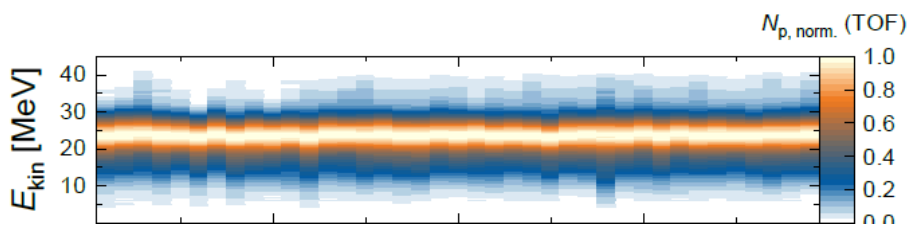
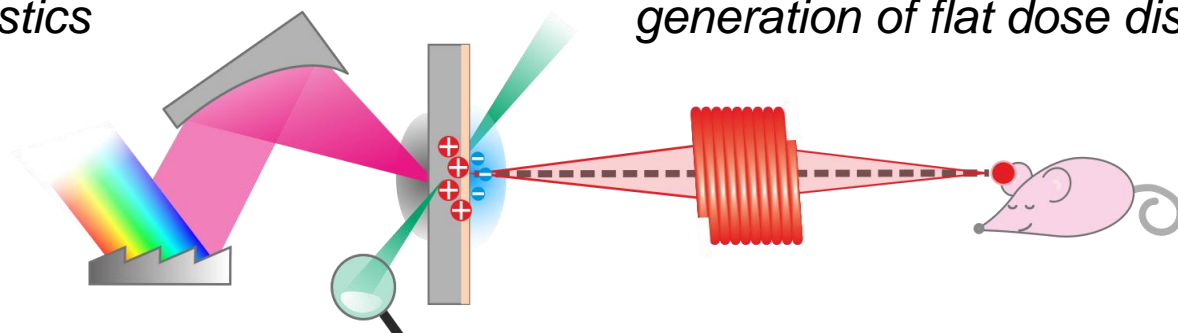


First in-vivo proton irradiation at a compact laser plasma accelerator

- Goal: investigate high dose rate effects (in medicine and materials research)
- proton pulses have been routinely generated in TNSA mode over many month on demand - filtered spectra for application – depth dose distribution (> 20 Gy / shot)

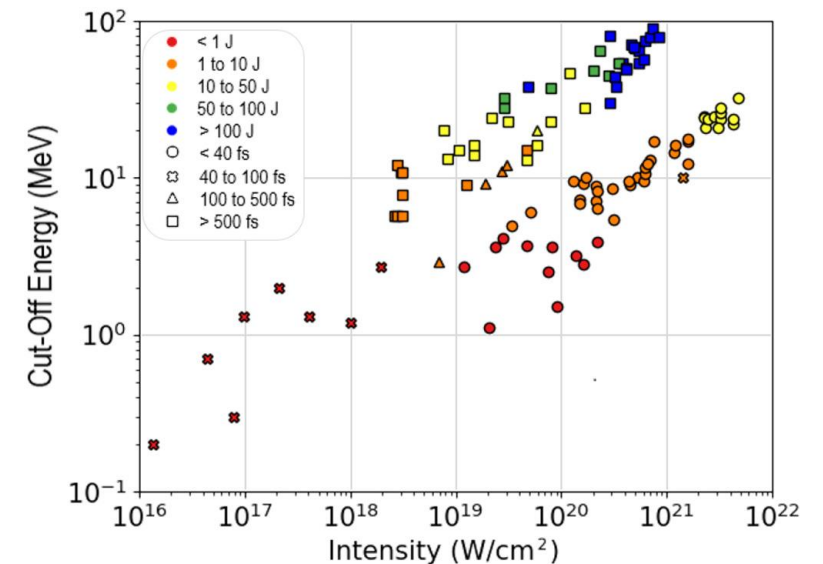
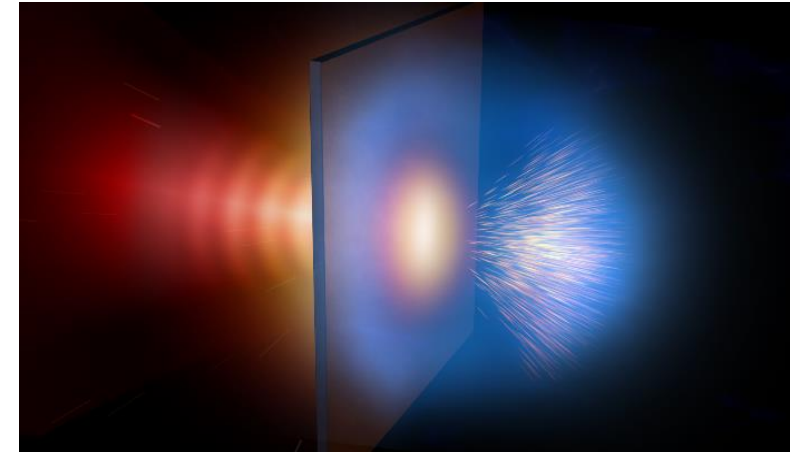
*PW laser (15J in 30fs PM-cleaned)
full on-target diagnostics*

*compact **pulsed magnet beam transport** (cf LIGHT)
generation of flat dose distribution in single pulse*



F. Kroll, E. Beyreuther, et al., in review; T. Ziegler, et al., Sci. Rep. 11, 7338 (2021); F. Brack, et al., Sci. Rep. 10, 9118 (2020)

- Pioneered in 2020 at LLNL (USA)¹
- Relies on the generation of strong transient (picosecond) gradients and charge separation
 - local fields \sim TV/m
- Currently an active field of R&D
 - particle generation (efficiency, particle energy, divergence)
 - beam manipulation and conditioning (HZDR, ELI Med, LIGHT)
- Helmholtz currently leading in this field

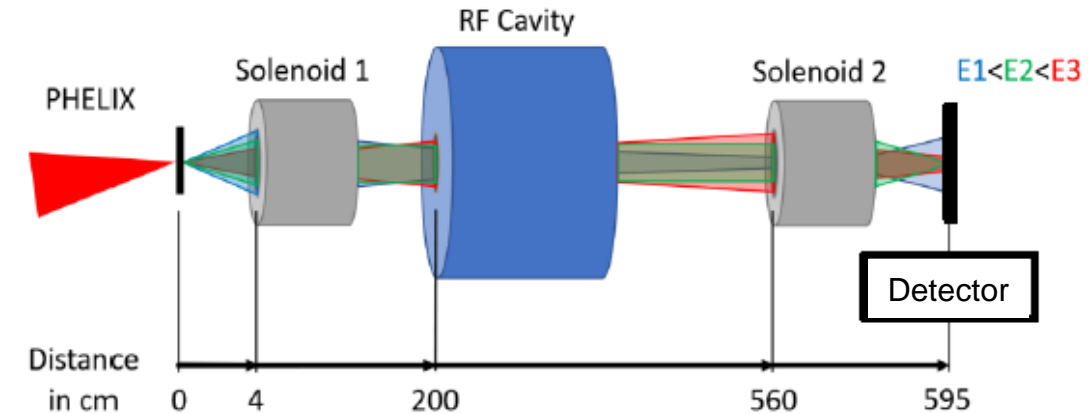


[M. Zimmer et al., Phys. Rev. E **104**, 045210 (2021)]

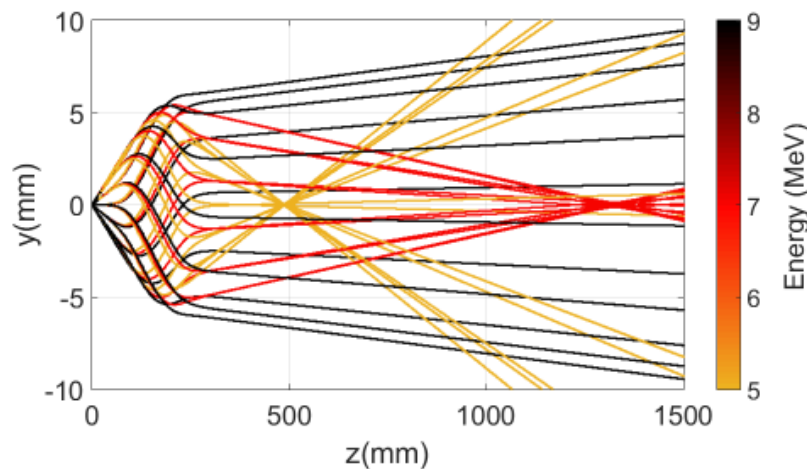
1 – R.A. Snavely et al. PRL (2000)

Challenges in laser-driven acceleration at GSI: beam conditioning and injection

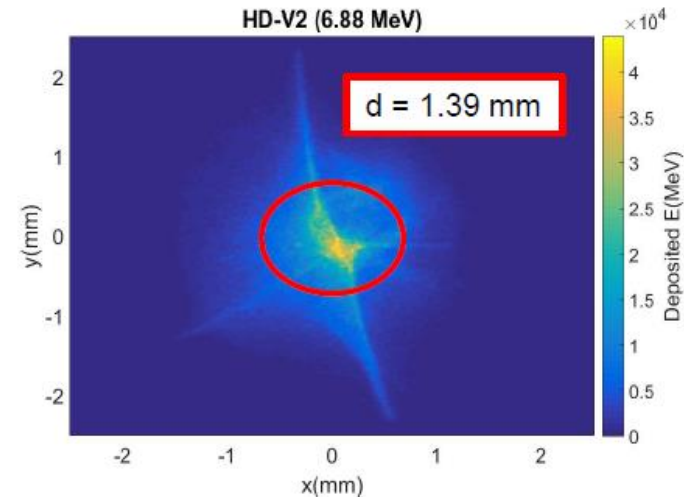
- Laser-ion acceleration uses TNSA for its efficiency and robustness
- The source emittance is very low but it is rapidly destroyed because of its **angular divergence** and **chromaticity**



simulations of trajectories in the first solenoid

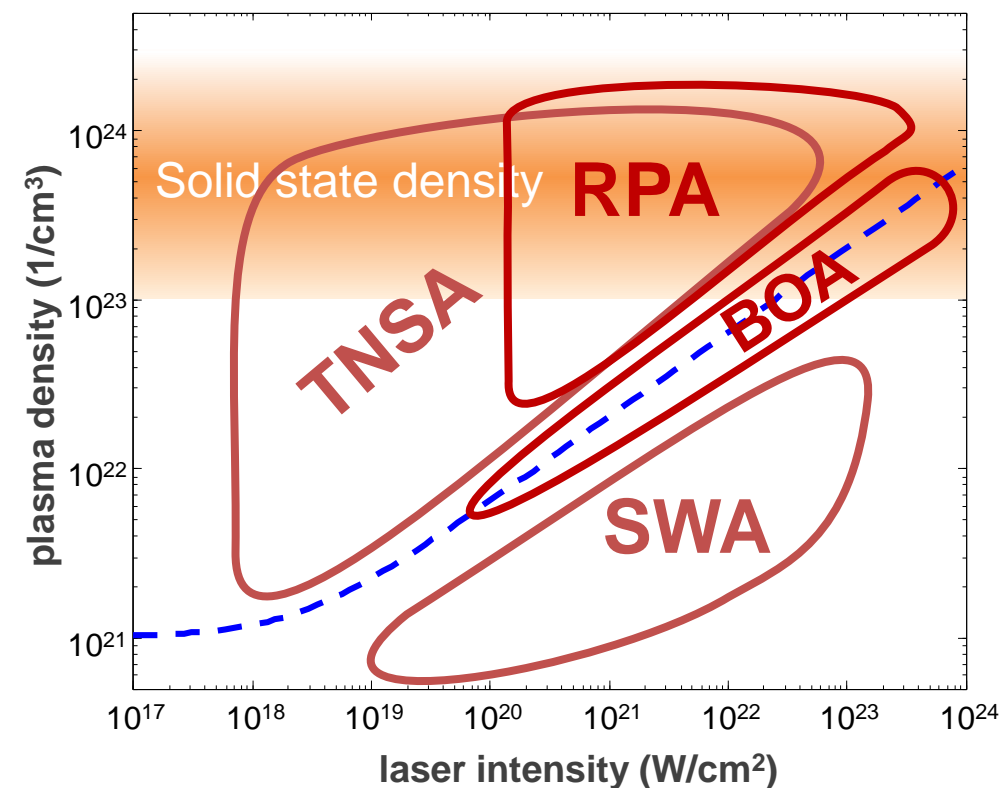


beam profile at the end of the LIGHT beamline



Challenges in laser-driven acceleration at GSI: source development – particle acceleration

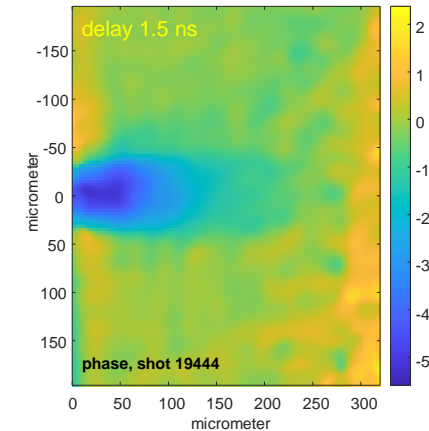
- Target Normal Sheath Acceleration (TNSA) is the most robust and extensively experimentally studied scheme – with drawbacks (spectrum, divergence)
- Radiation Pressure Acceleration relies on opaque plasma during the interaction
- Relativistically-Induced Transparency Acceleration (RITA or BOA) works at the transition between opaque and transparency and yields the best results so far
- Shock-Wave Acceleration requires under-critical plasma and advanced gas jet targets, but are adapted to high repetition rates -> IN2P3



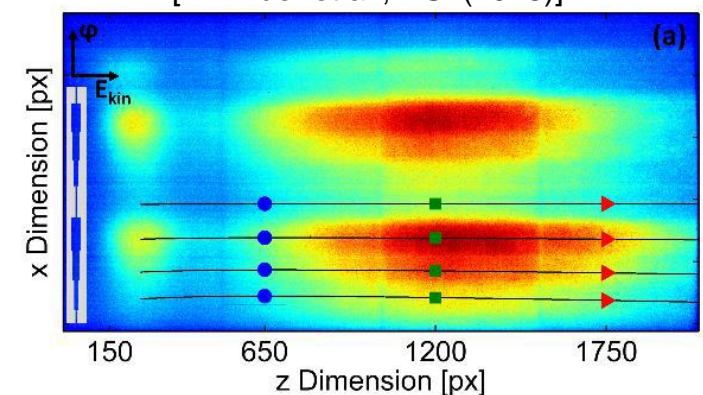
A perfect understanding of the plasma conditions during the interaction is essential

- For shock-wave acceleration, a precise knowledge and control of the gas jet density distribution is mandatory
 - GSI has developed a suite of optical measurement tools integrated within the WOMBAT package (open source https://git.gsi.de/phelix/lv/wombat_ce)
- The laser-driven ion beams, non-standard online beam characterization tools must be developed

Plasma characterization by interferometry (GSI)



Radeye detector trace in a Thomson parabola
[F. Linder et al., RSI (2018)]



- are there CNRS members interested in spending a sabbatical year at KIT, DESY or GSI?
 - not immediately but discussion going with CELIA/LULI (INP)
- would short term trips (longer than a "meeting day trip" but well shorter than a year-long sabbatical) further your project
 - project in 2022: target characterization and metrology (Master), looking for candidates on post doc level that could apply for external sources (DAAD)
- discussions of all DMLab topics (like the kickoff)
 - must be looked at. One likely topic is on detection and signal analysis.