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Lepton Facilities in Europe - Status and Perspectives

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We present the status of European lepton accelerators, which are operated successfully for the fields of nuclear, hadron and low-energy particle physics. A special emphasis is given to the GeV-scale fixed-target accelerators ELSA in Bonn and MAMI in Mainz. Furthermore, the physics programme of the upcoming new MESA accelerator is discussed. At MESA, the innovative concept of energy-recovery (ERL) is combined with a light internal gas target, which opens new avenues for precision physics.

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