

10 PetaWatt Laser System for Extreme Light Physics

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THALES →

ELI NP - EXTREME LIGHT INFRASTRUCTURE NUCLEAR PHYSICS ROMANIA



Budget
310 M€
2013-2022



Large Instruments

- **High power laser system : Laser system 2x10 PW**
- High intensity gamma beam system

Experiment

- 8 experimental rooms for gamma, laser and gamma-laser
- Laboratories

Building (2013-2016)

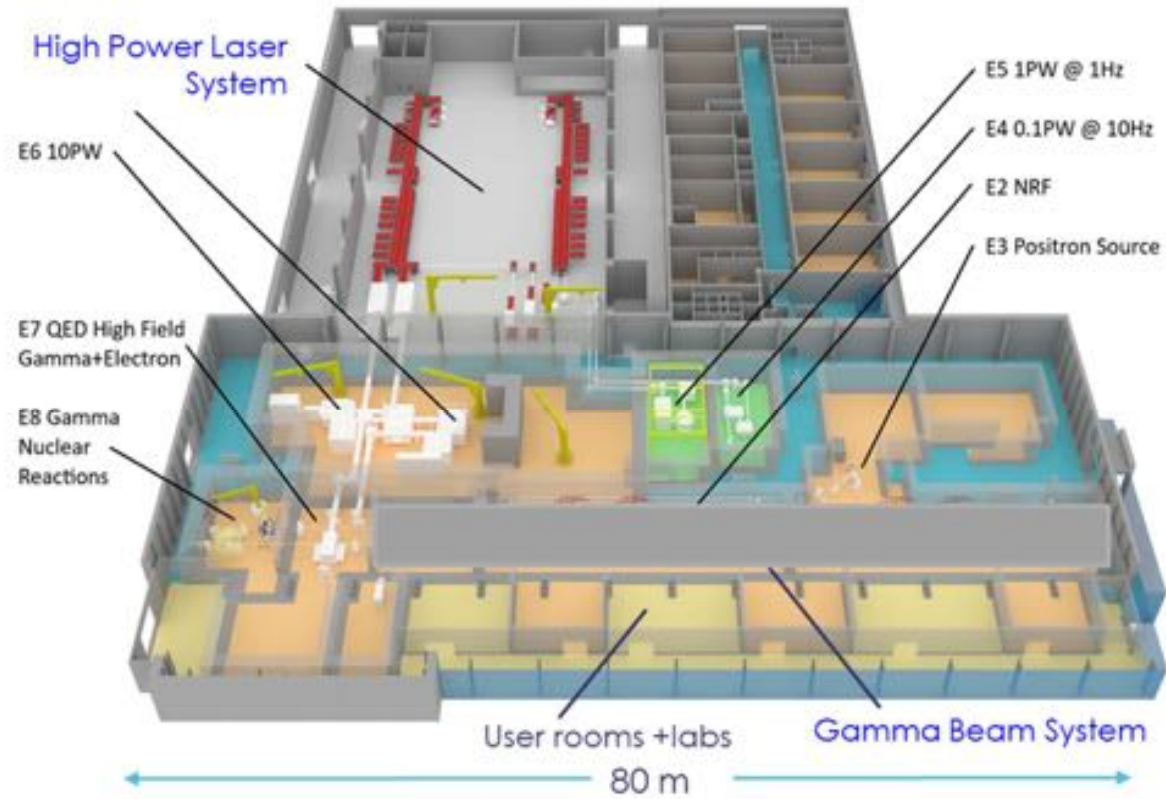
33 000 m²

LBTS

10PW beams transportation



ELI NP - INFRASTRUCTURE





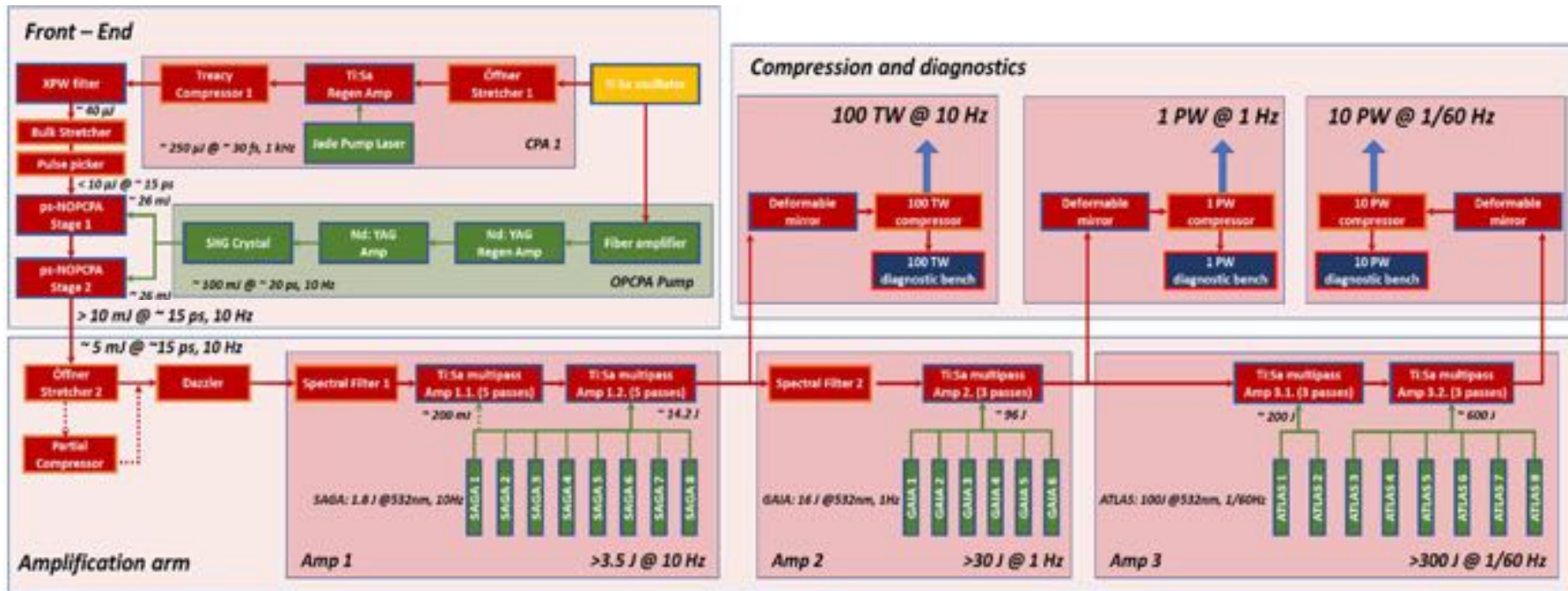
HPLS performances

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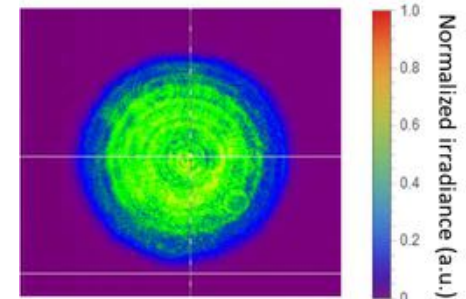
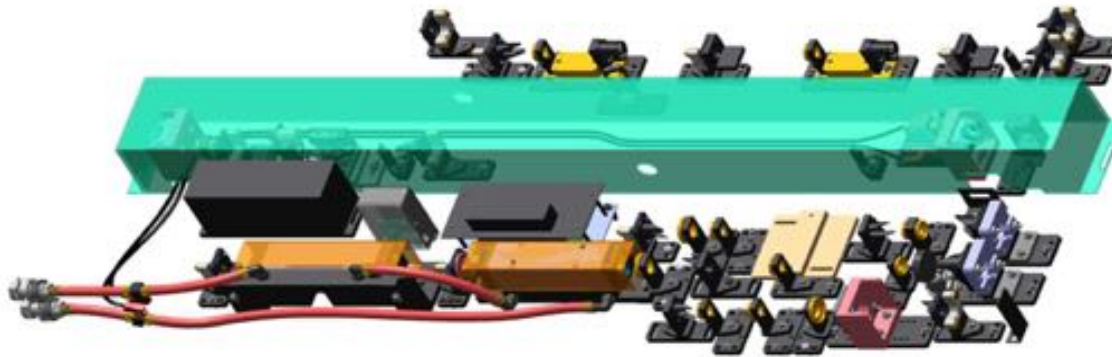
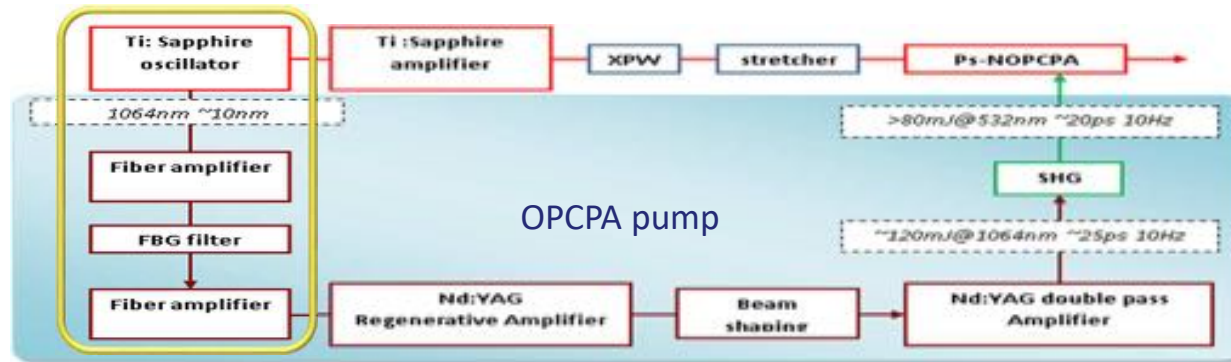
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SYSTEM BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE



HIGH CONTRAST FRONT-END

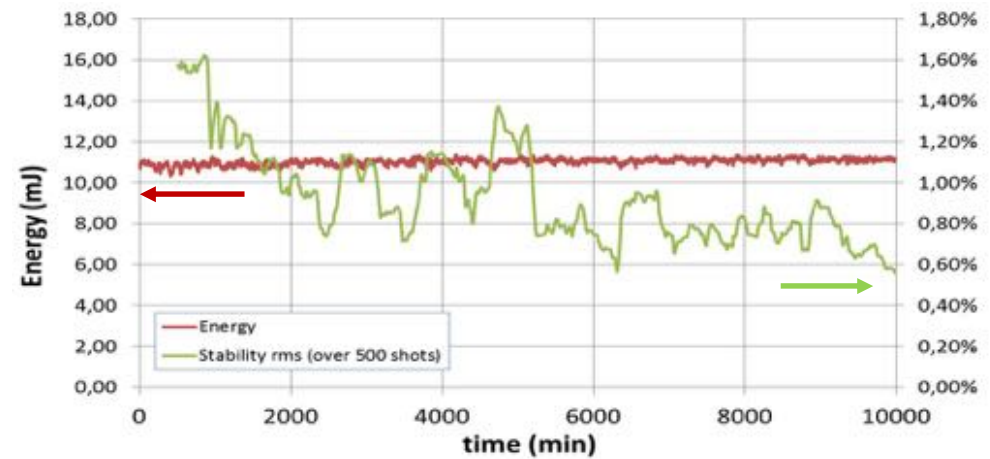
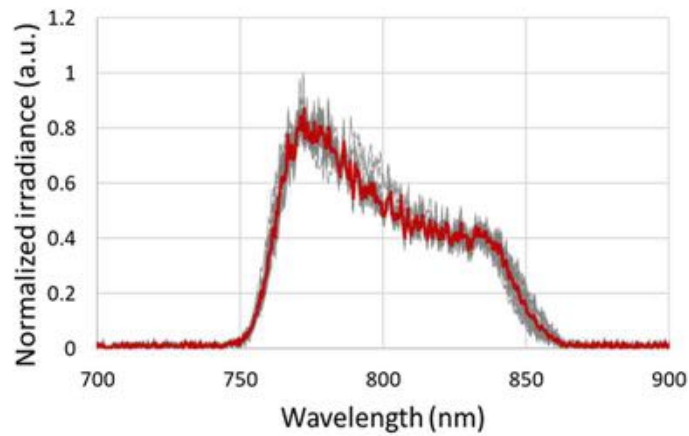
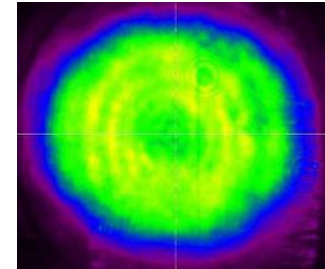
From oscillator supplier



EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

OPCPA

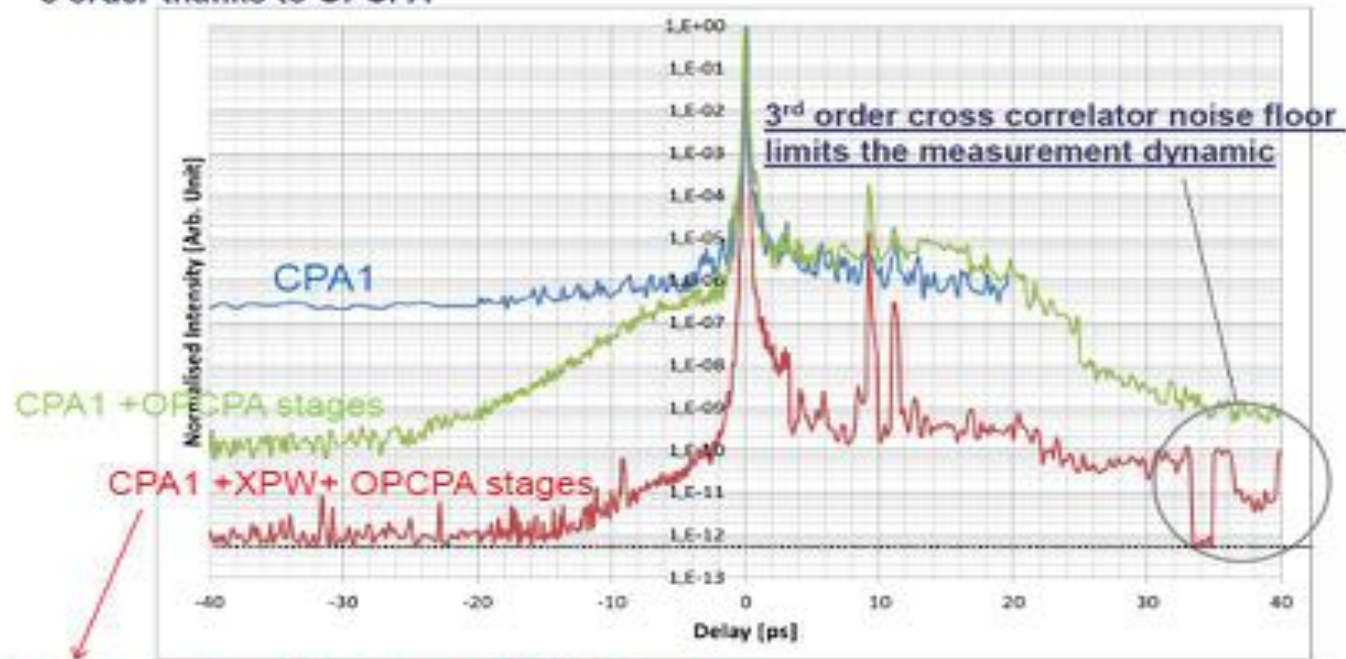
- Energy > 10 mJ
- Pulse duration ~ 20 ps
- Bandwidth FWHM > 75 nm (FT < 20 fs)
- Repetition rate : 10 Hz
- Short term stability < 1 % rms over 500 shots.



CONTRAST RESULTS

Contrast improvement by 7 order of magnitude:

- 4 order thanks to XPW
- 3 order thanks to OPCPA



Compression achieved directly out of OPCPA stages

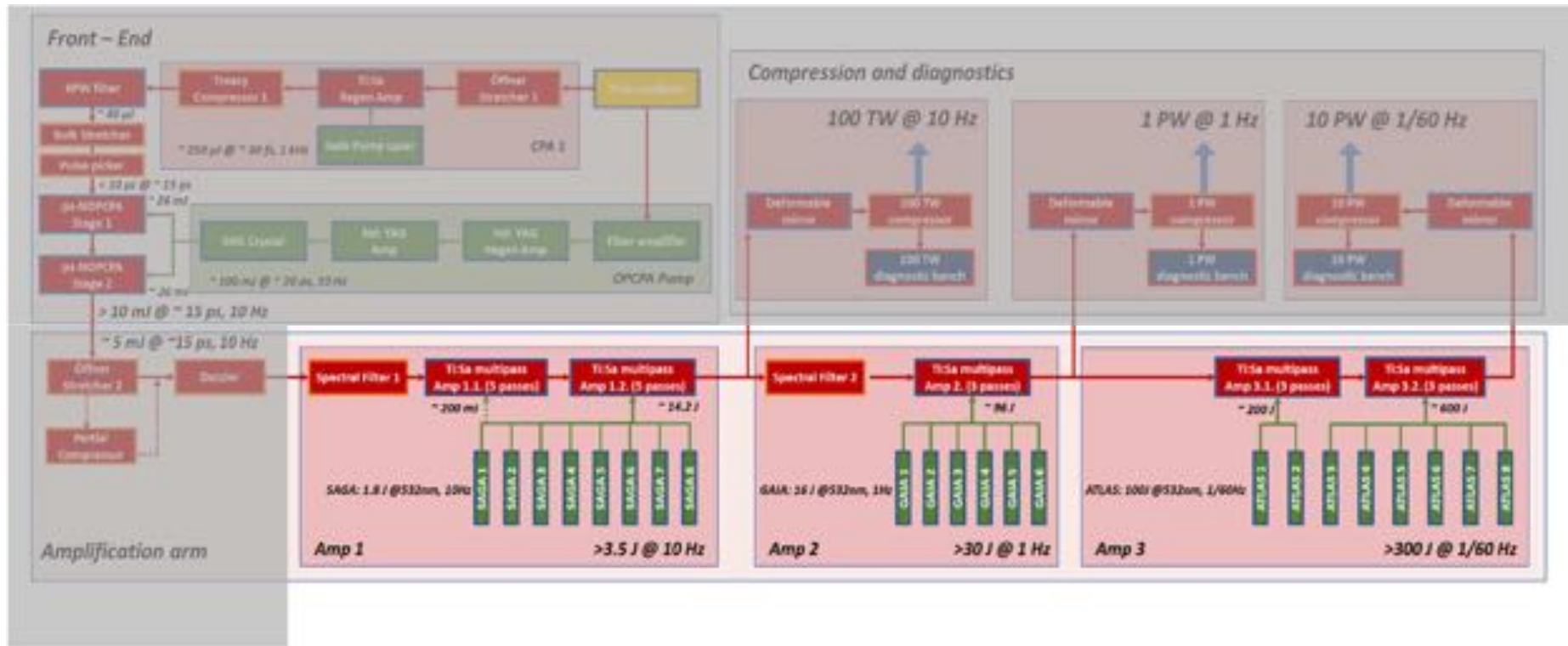
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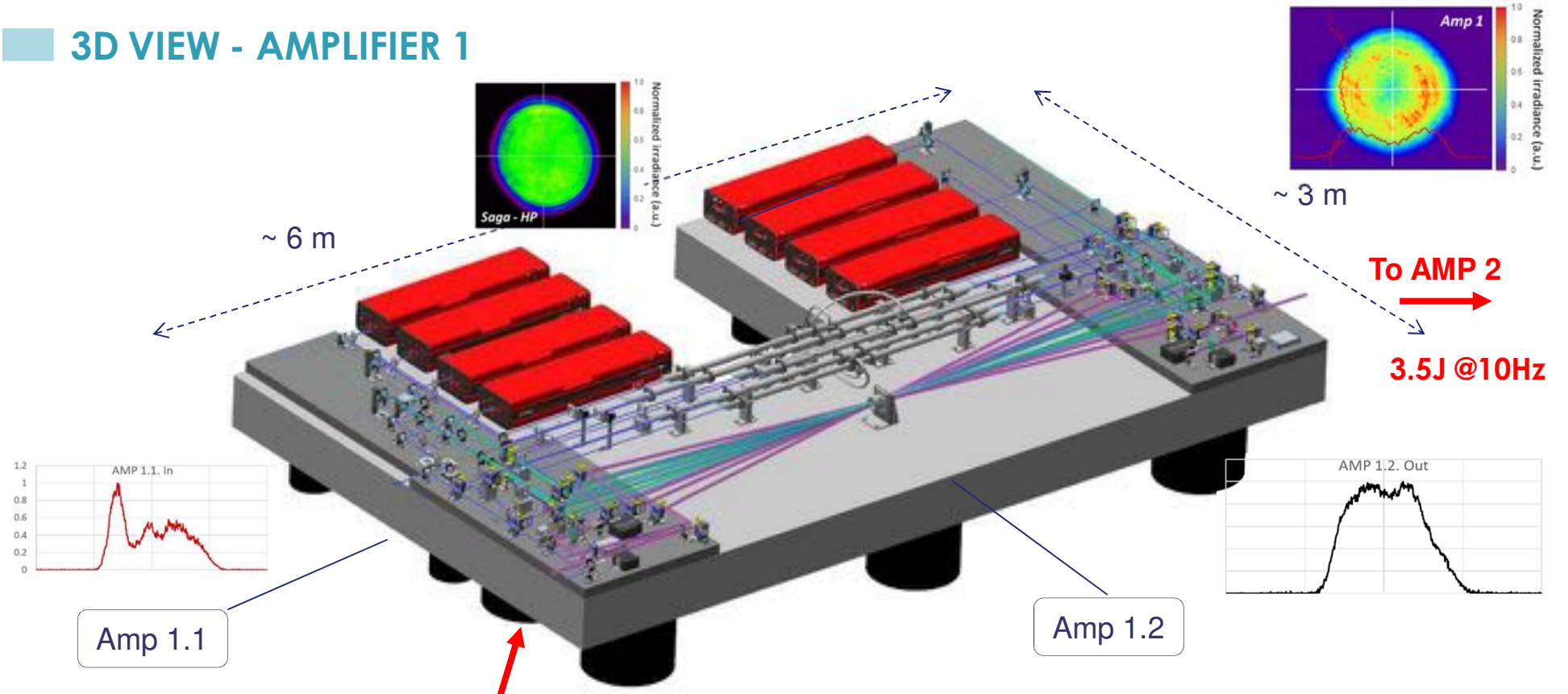
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POWER AMPLIFIERS CHAIN BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE



3D VIEW - AMPLIFIER 1



Amp 1.1

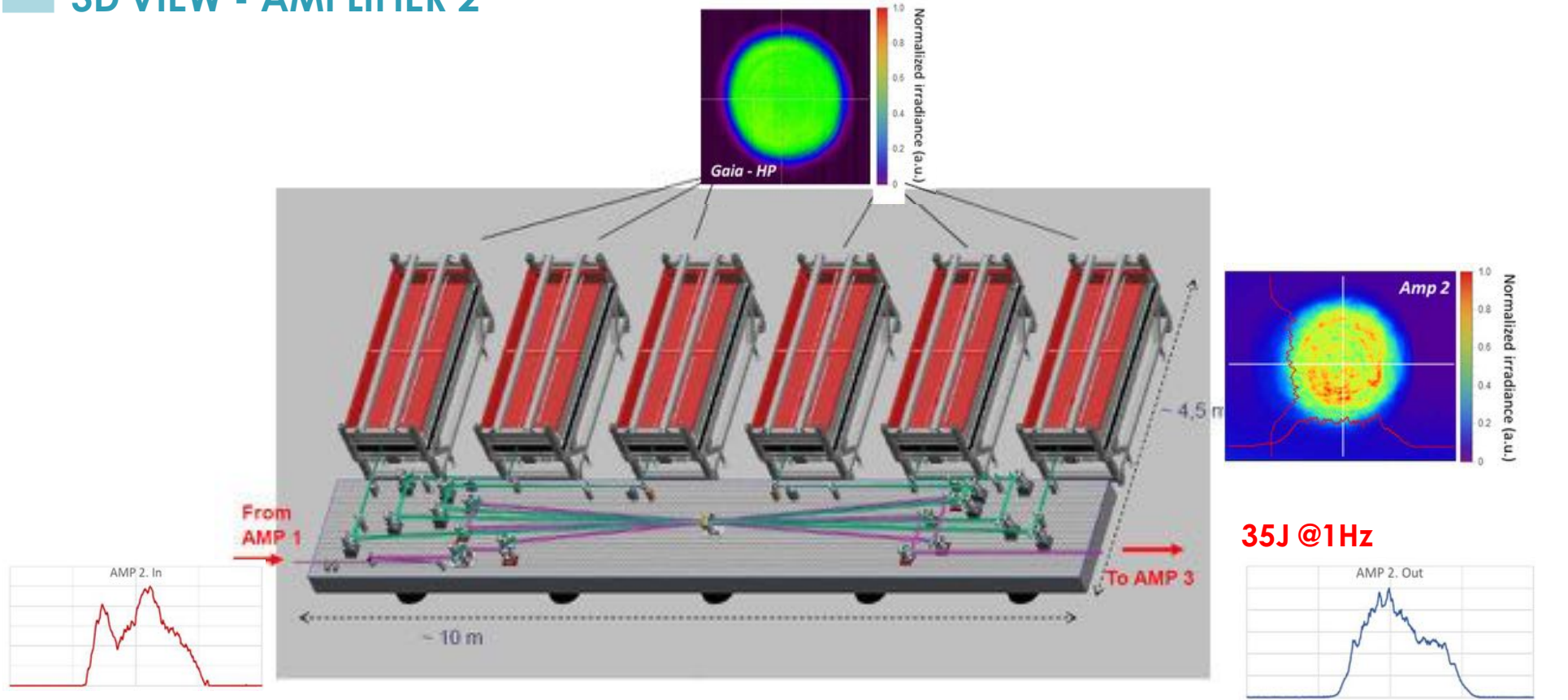
Amp 1.2

From STRETCHER MODULE

To AMP 2
3.5J @10Hz



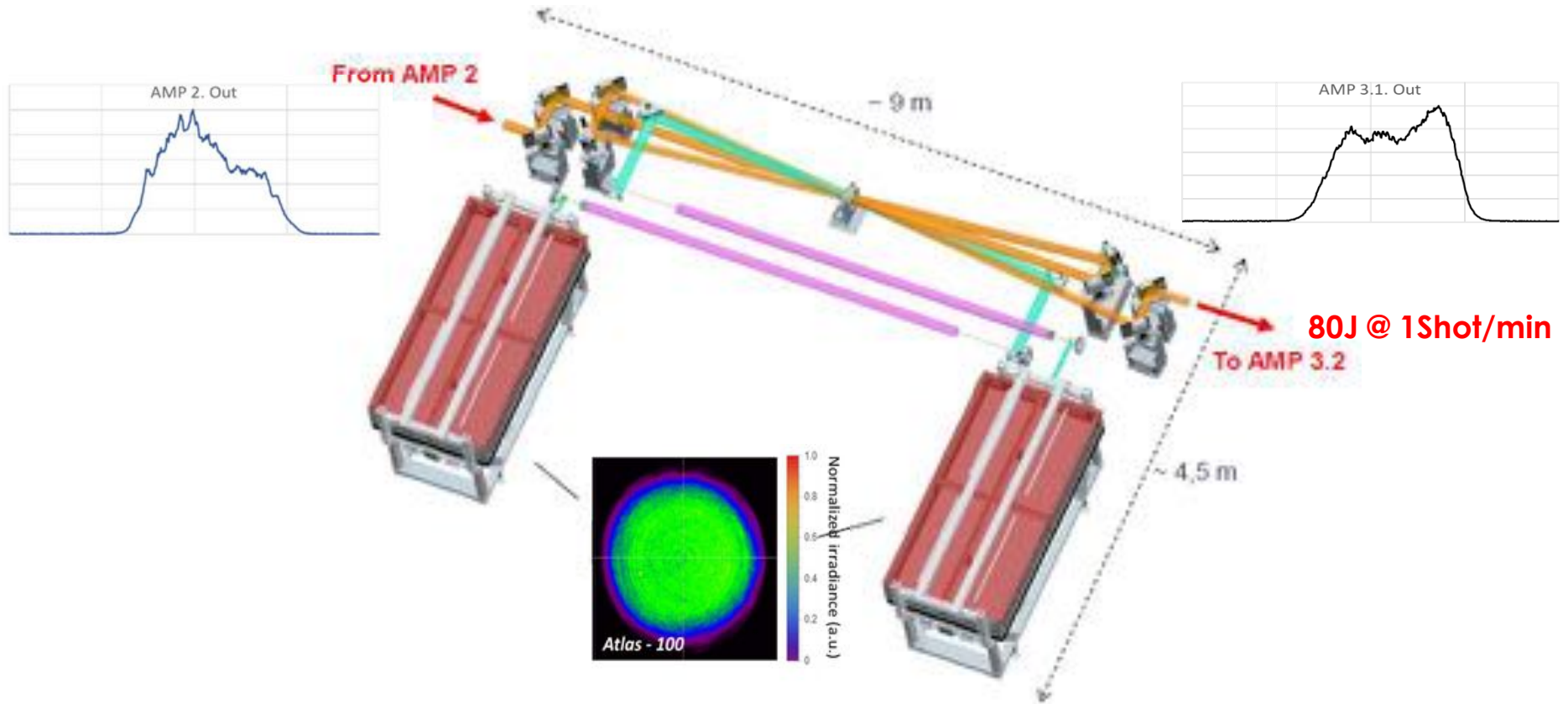
3D VIEW - AMPLIFIER 2



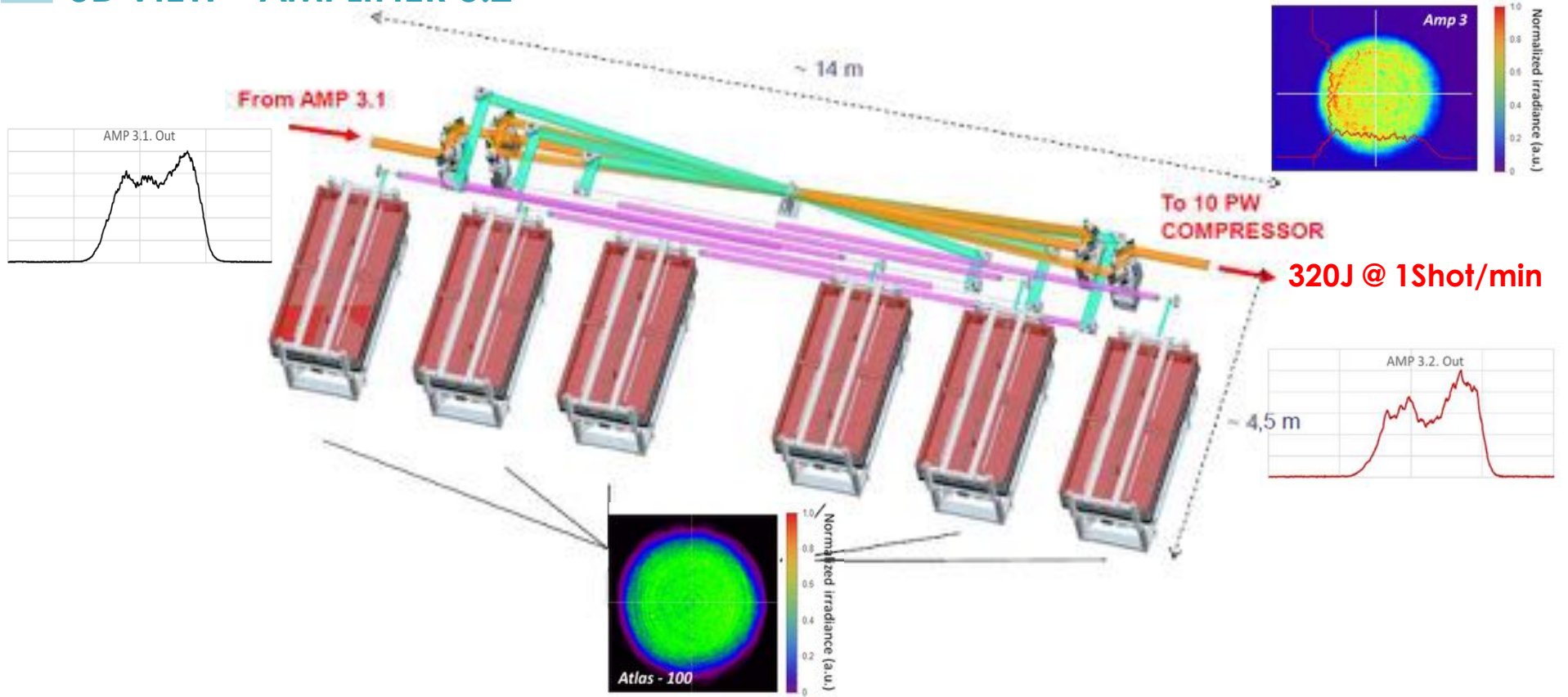
35J @1Hz



3D VIEW - AMPLIFIER 3.1



3D VIEW - AMPLIFIER 3.2



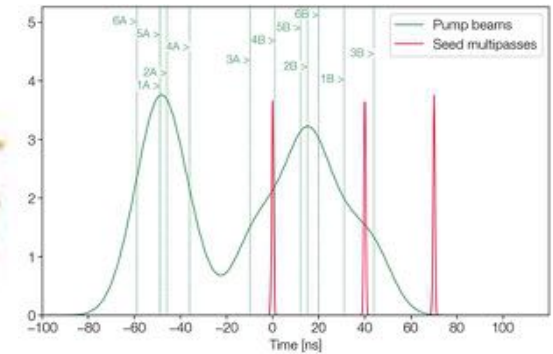
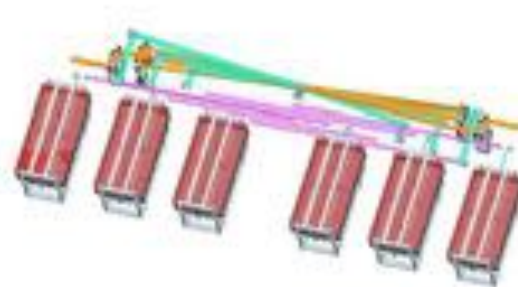
AMPLIFIER 3.2 DETAILED CHARACTERISTICS

◆ Multipass amplifier in bow-tie configuration :

- Input fluency close to Ti:Sa fluency of saturation : $0,7 \text{ J/cm}^2$,
⇒ **3 passes** to reach expected specifications.
⇒ Amplifier in **saturation regime**.
- Pumped by **6 ATLAS 100** on both side of the Ti:Sa crystal | $\sim 600 \text{ J}$.
- Thermal focal length $\sim 10 \text{ km}$ ⇒ thermal load is not an issue.
- Transverse Lasing Threshold ⇒ «Perfect» index matching and pump delaying required.

◆ Performances :

- Repetition Rate **1/60 Hz**
- Crystal diameter **200 mm**
- Output Energy **$\sim 300 \text{ J}$**
- Output fluency @ 45° **$\sim 1,6 \text{ J/cm}^2$**
- Extraction Ratio **$\sim 38 \%$**

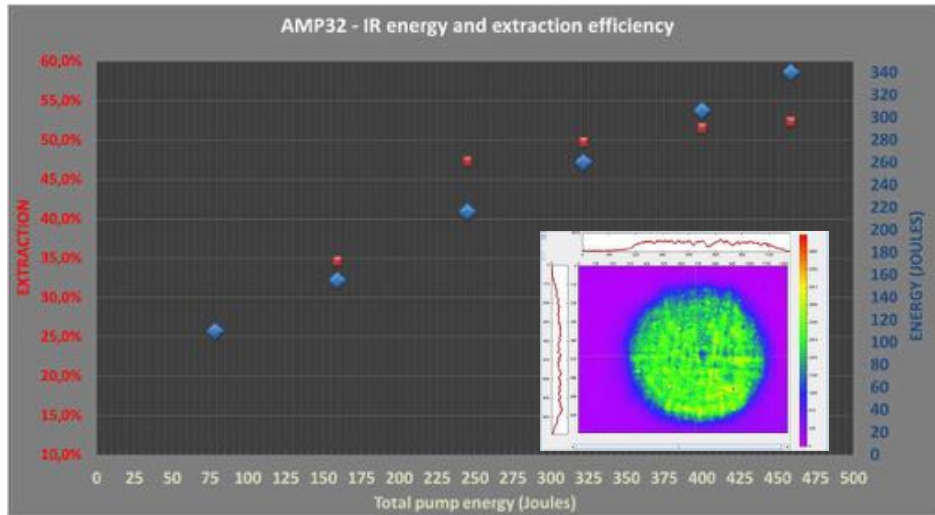


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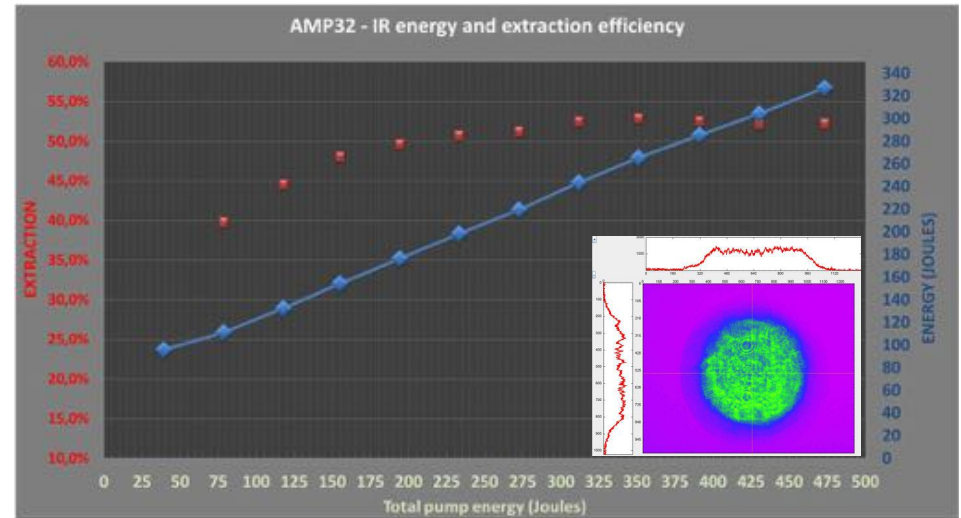


AMPLIFIER OUTPUT

Beam line 1: 340 J



Beam line 2: 327 J



Long term energy stability over 90 minutes at 300J
- average energy = 300J
- energy stability < 2 % rms

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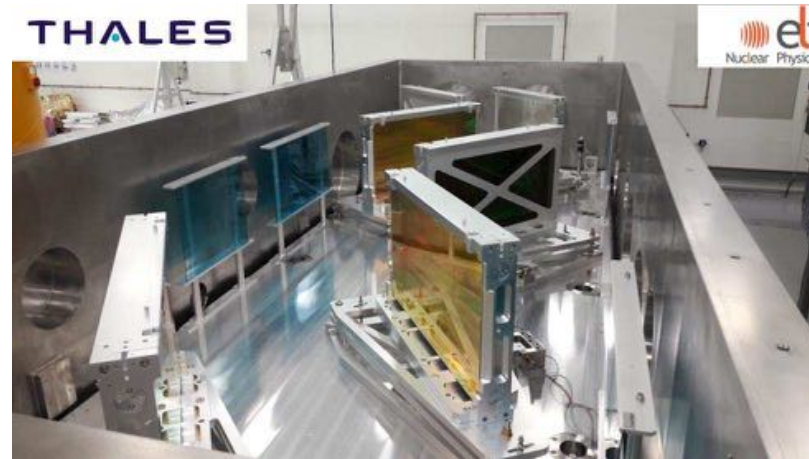
THALES

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UNIQUE OPTICAL COMPONENTS WORLDWIDE FOR ELI NP



Diffractive optical gratings for pulse compression up to 1 meter size
Manufacturer HORIBA France



Gratings integrated in the vacuum vessel

9 gratings manufactured

Grating size : 1015 x 575 mm²



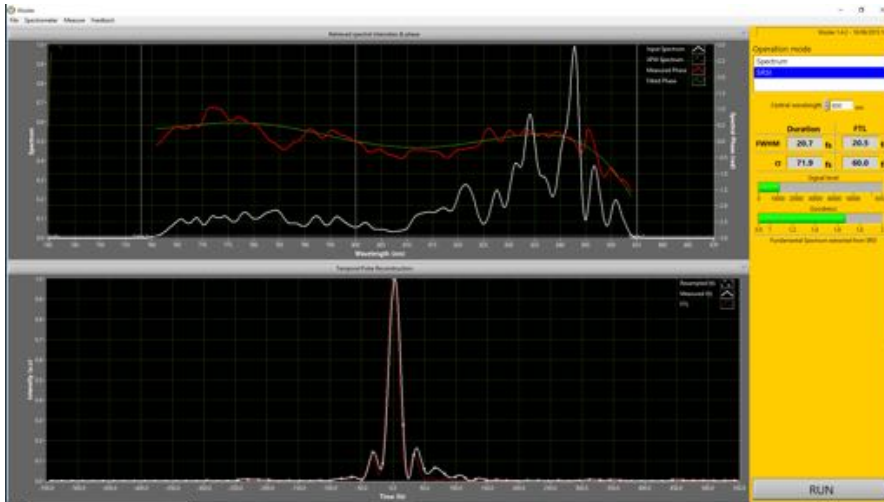
DIAGNOSTIC BENCH – 10 PW



COMPRESSOR OUTPUT - BEAM LINE 2

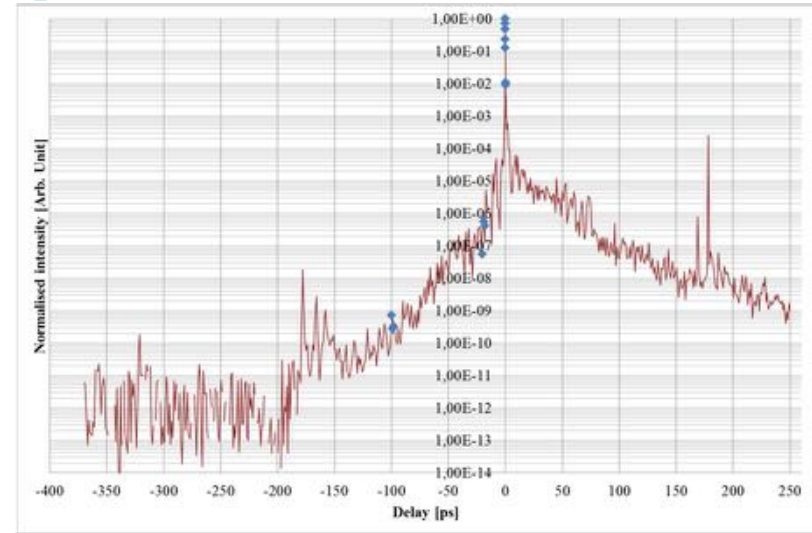
(MEASUREMENTS AT FULL APERTURE WITH ENERGY ATTENUATED BEFORE COMPRESSOR)

Pulse compression 21.7 fs



➤ Compressor efficiency 74 % / Amplifier output = 327 J

Picosecond contrast > 10¹³:1 before -200 ps



* : measurements made at 1Hz 22 J and 1shot/Min 320 J

Measured in partnership with



Dr. Daniel Cardenas
Dr. Hans Koop

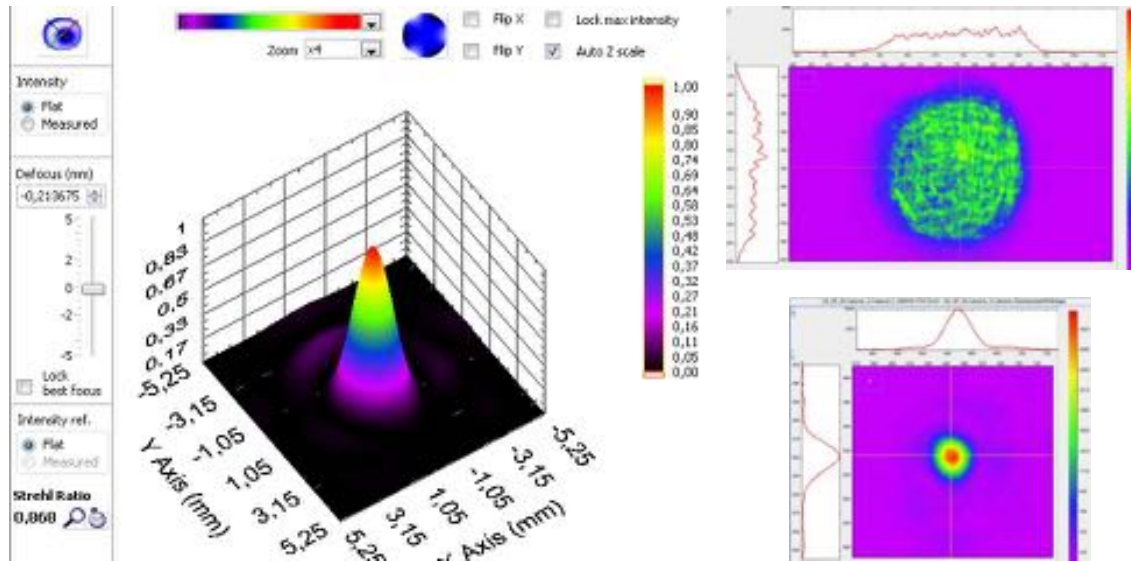


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ELI NP - 10 PW BEAM LINES CHARACTERISATION – SPATIAL PARAMETERS

Wavefront and beam pointing stability

- Strehl ratio $> 0,8$ with deformable mirror
- Beam pointing stability $< 1,2 \mu\text{rad rms}$ over 100 minutes



D=450mm FWHM / reduction factor 180x

imagine  optic™

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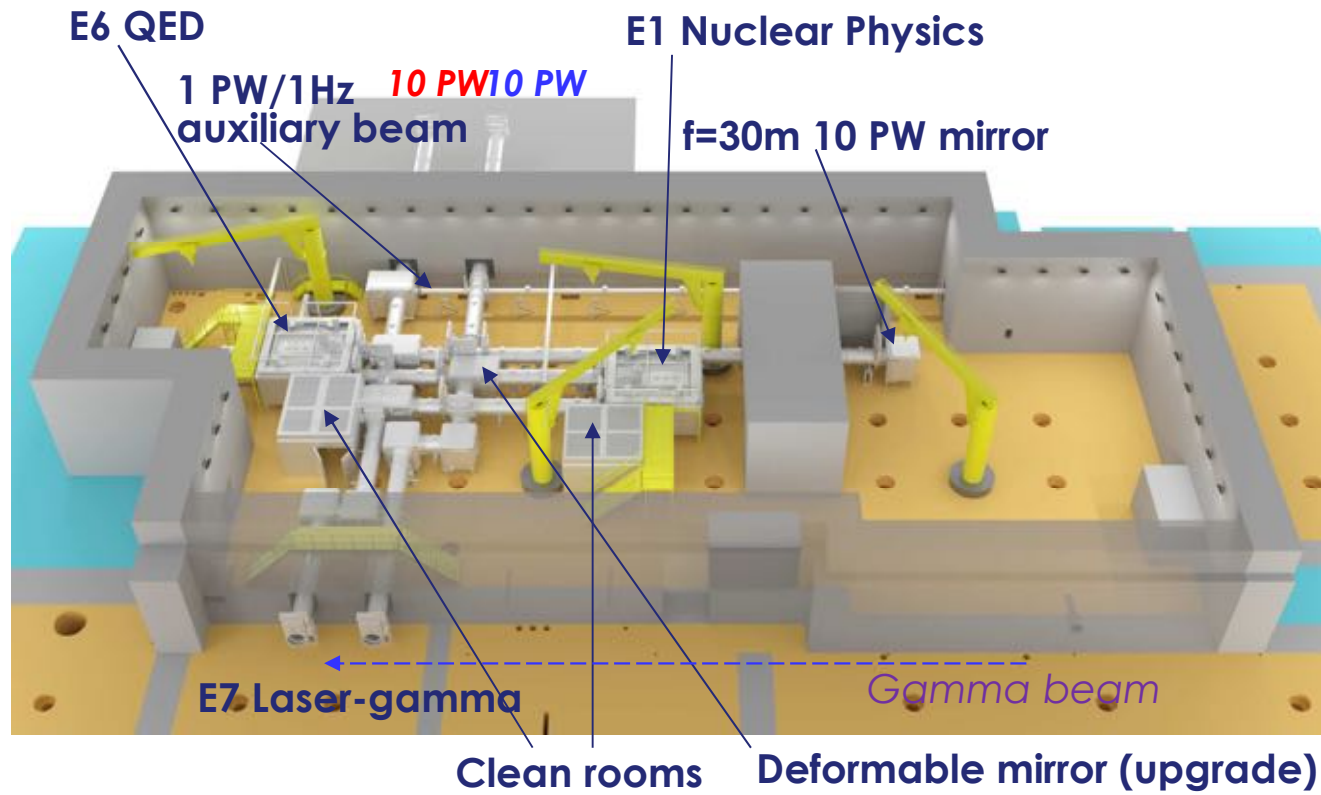


LBTS



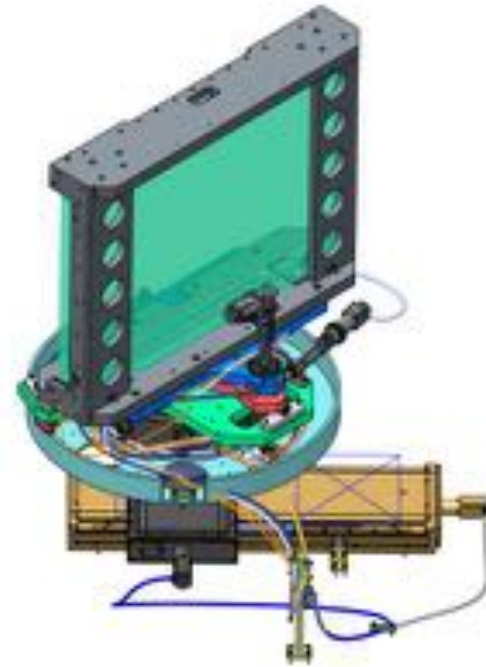
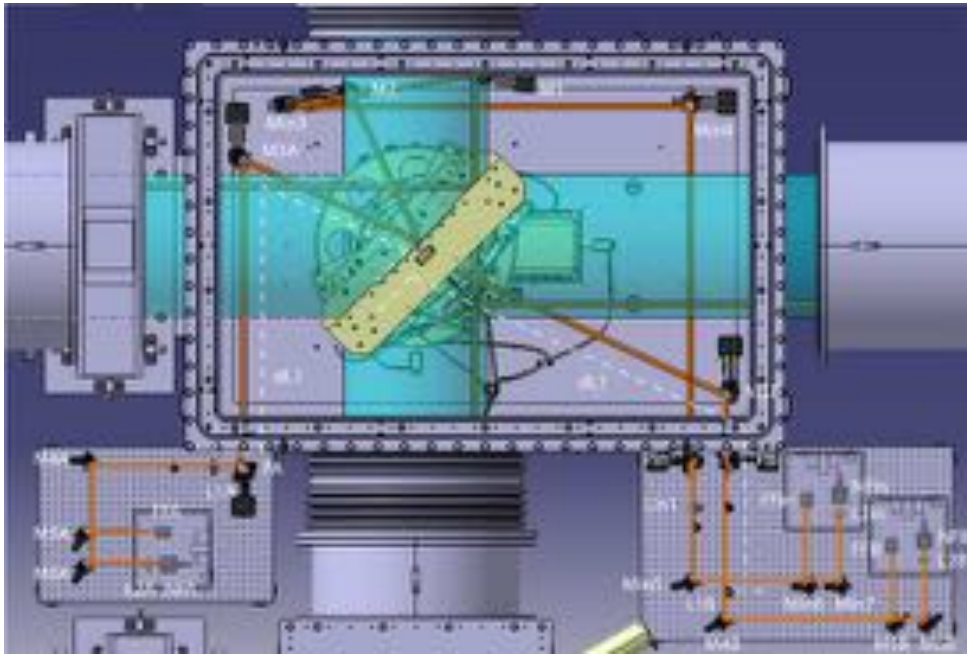
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ELI NP - EXPERIMENTAL AREAS LASER MATTER INTERACTION



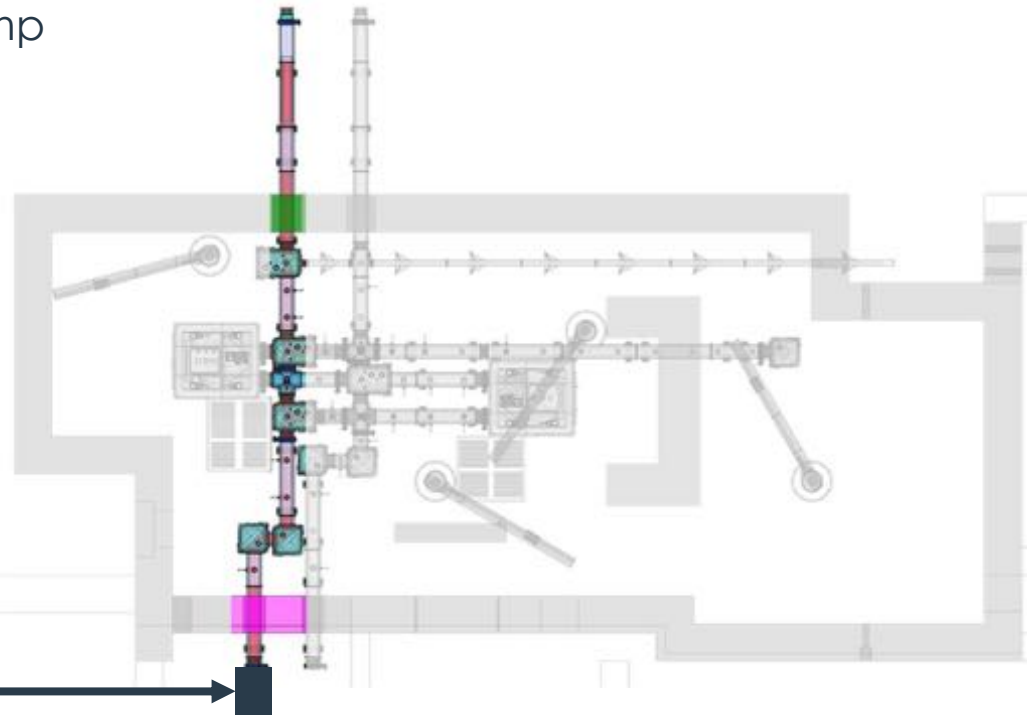
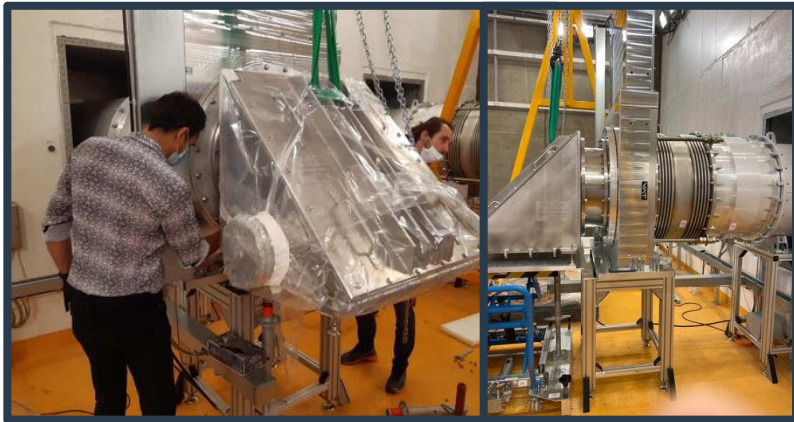
ELI NP - LASER BEAM TRANSPORT SYSTEM

- Mirrors with motorization stages and monitoring of the positions



ELI NP - LBTS TEST PURPOSE

- Full power beam propagation through LBTS
- Beam blocked with a dedicated dump



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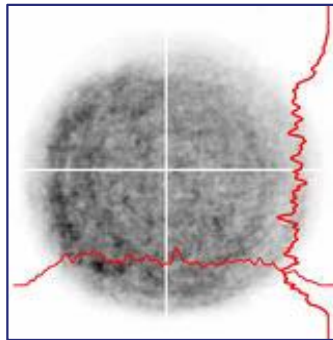
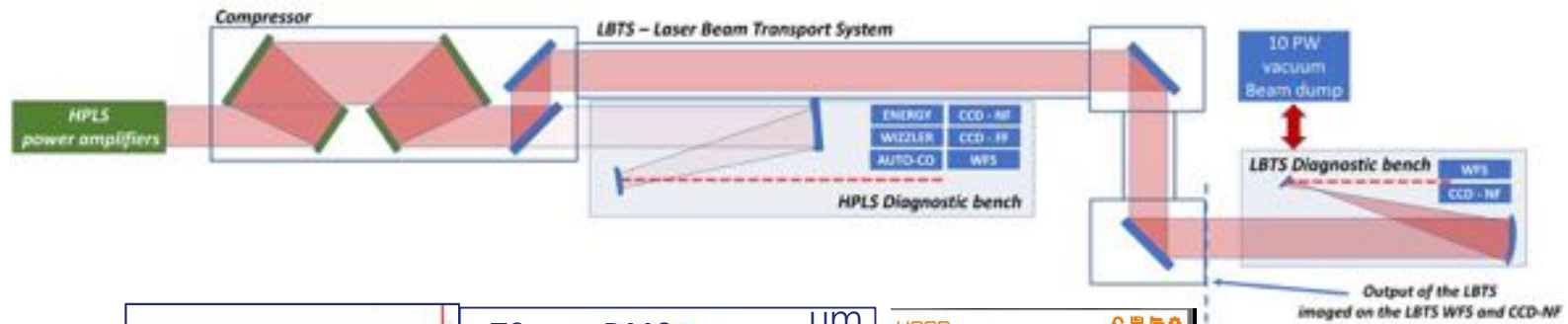
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& SECURITY

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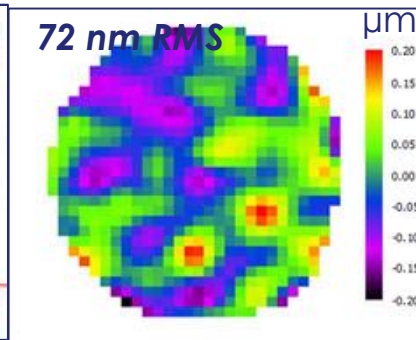
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ELI NP - LBTS TEST CONFIGURATION – STEP 1

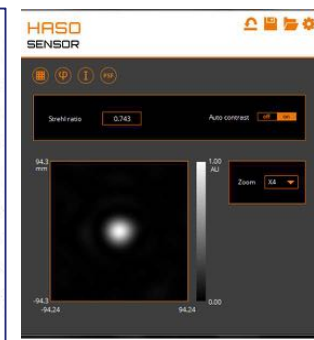
HPLS laser running at full energy attenuated before compressor for beam profile analysis after propagation through the LBTS and transmission efficiency



NF LBTS output

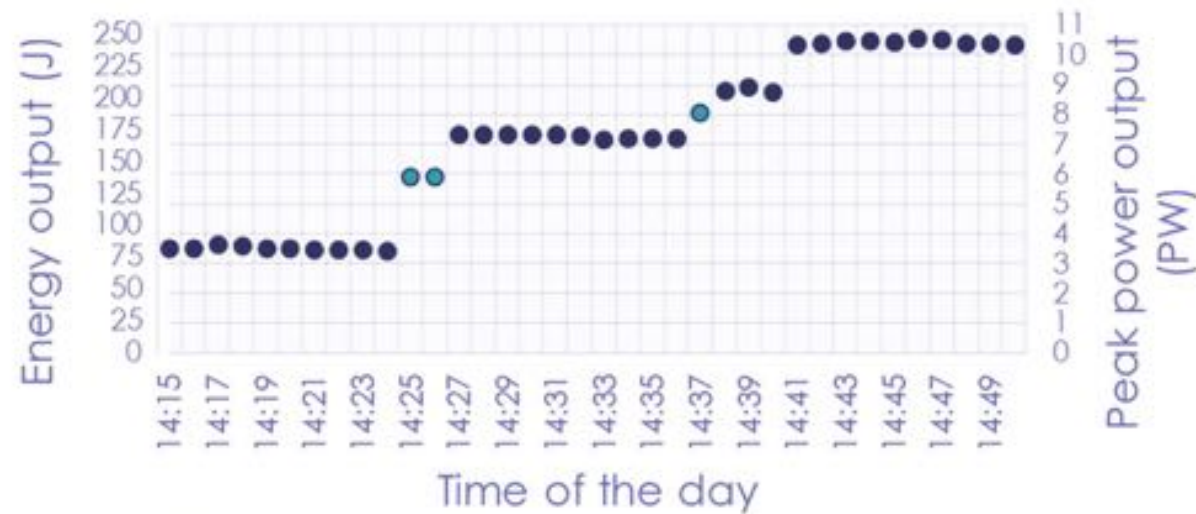


Wavefront map, Strehl ratio > 0,7



ELI NP - LBTS TEST CONFIGURATION – STEP 2

- Beam dump installation replacing the diagnostic bench
- HPLS running at full energy/full power sent through the compressor and the LBTS

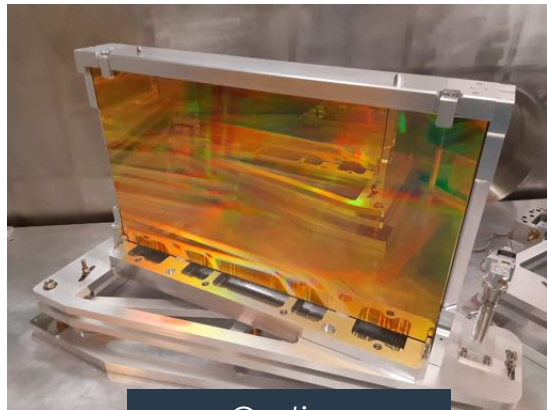


- Several shots at 3PW, 7PW and 10 PW (energy/power increase by turning on pump laser on the last amplifiers)

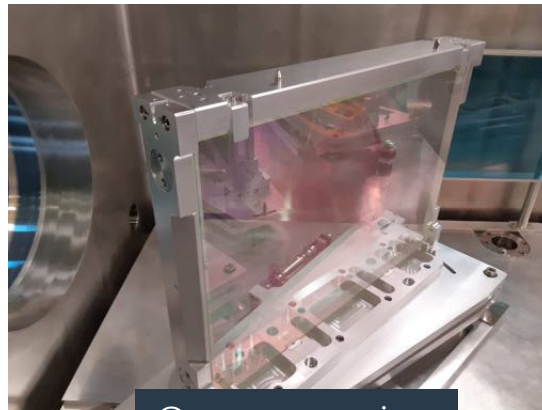


ELI NP - LBTS TEST CONFIGURATION – STEP 3

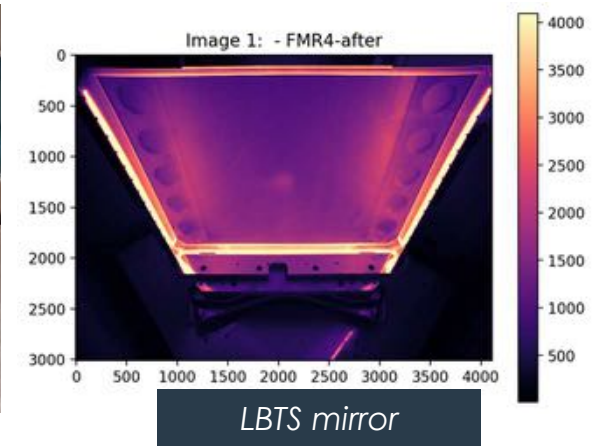
- Verification of transmission efficiency
- Visual inspection of optical components within HPLS compressor and LBTS



Grating



Compressor mirror



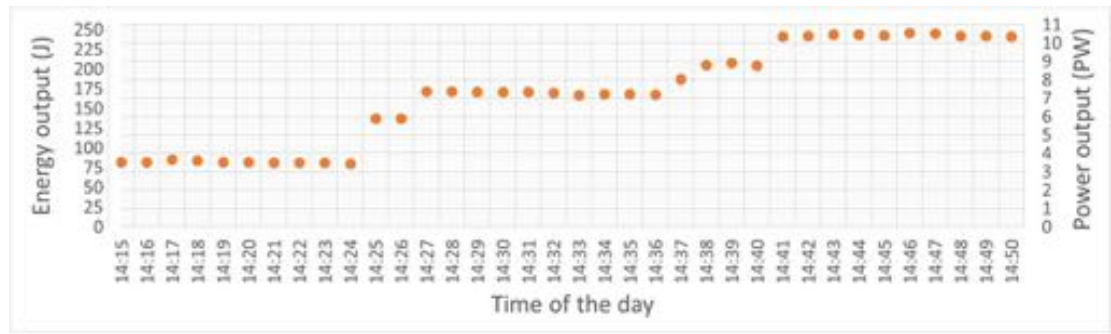
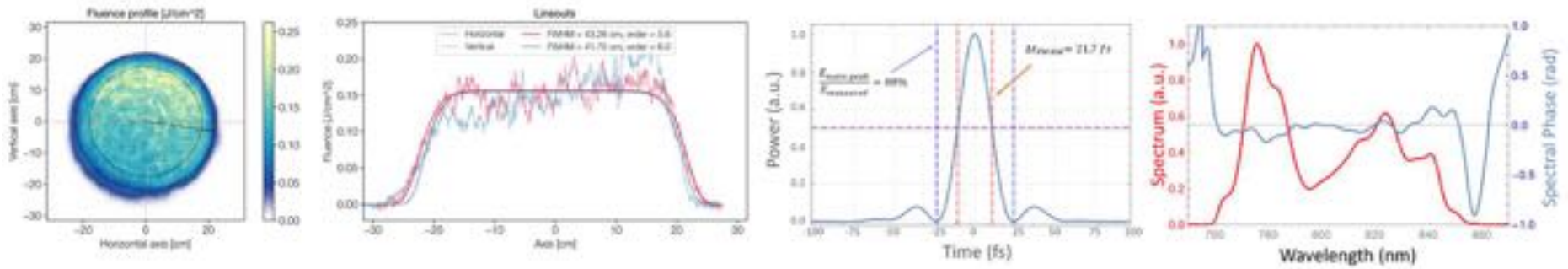
LBTS mirror

- No losses of efficiency (~ 60%) and no damages observed



COMPRESSOR OUTPUT - BEAM LINE 2

Calculated peak power = 10,2PW (in the main pulse)





10PW Focusing optics

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ELI NP - ELI A EUROPEAN PROJECT

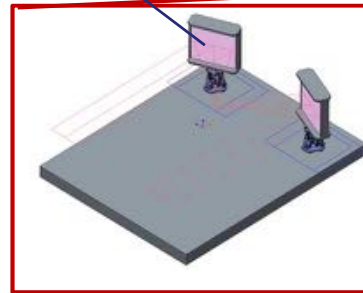
Delivery of set of optics for focusing the 10PW beams

- Q=2 OAPM + 2 spare
- Q=1 LFM + 1 spare

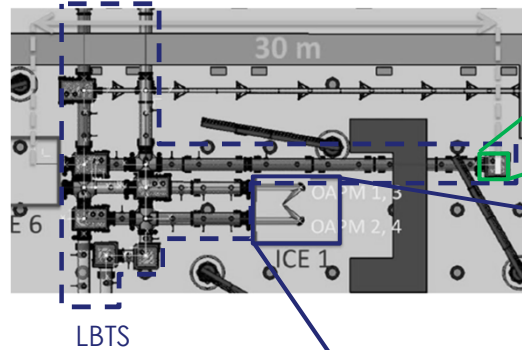
Parabola - OAPM – Off-axis Parabola & Frame Short Focal Length Mirrors

Dimension : 700x650mm (150kg)
 Focal : 1,5m (numerical aperture f/2,1)
 Deviation : + & - 45°
 LIDT : 250mJ/cm²
 WFE : <50nm

OAPM- Short focal Parabola Mirror and hexapods



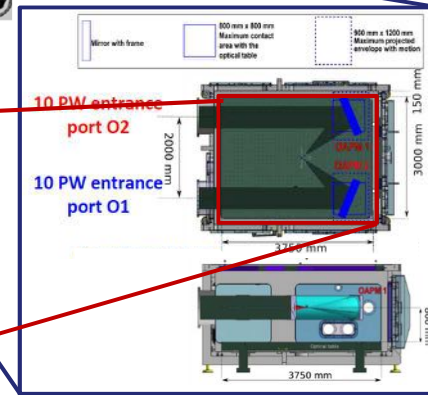
LFM -Long focal Sphere (mirror with frame only)



Sphere – LFM Long Focal Length Mirrors Square Spherical Mirror

Dimension : 650x650mm (150kg)
 Focal : 30,5m (numerical aperture f/46)
 Deviation : 0°
 LIDT : 250mJ/cm²
 WFE : <50nm

To be installed on the mechanical motorized mount delivered through LBTS



Customer Furnished Item



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Operation contract

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ELI NP SYSTEM

Thales joined the Extreme Light Infrastructure for Nuclear Physics (**ELI-NP**) program in 2013 to develop the High Power Laser System (HPLS), the **most powerful system of its kind in the world**.

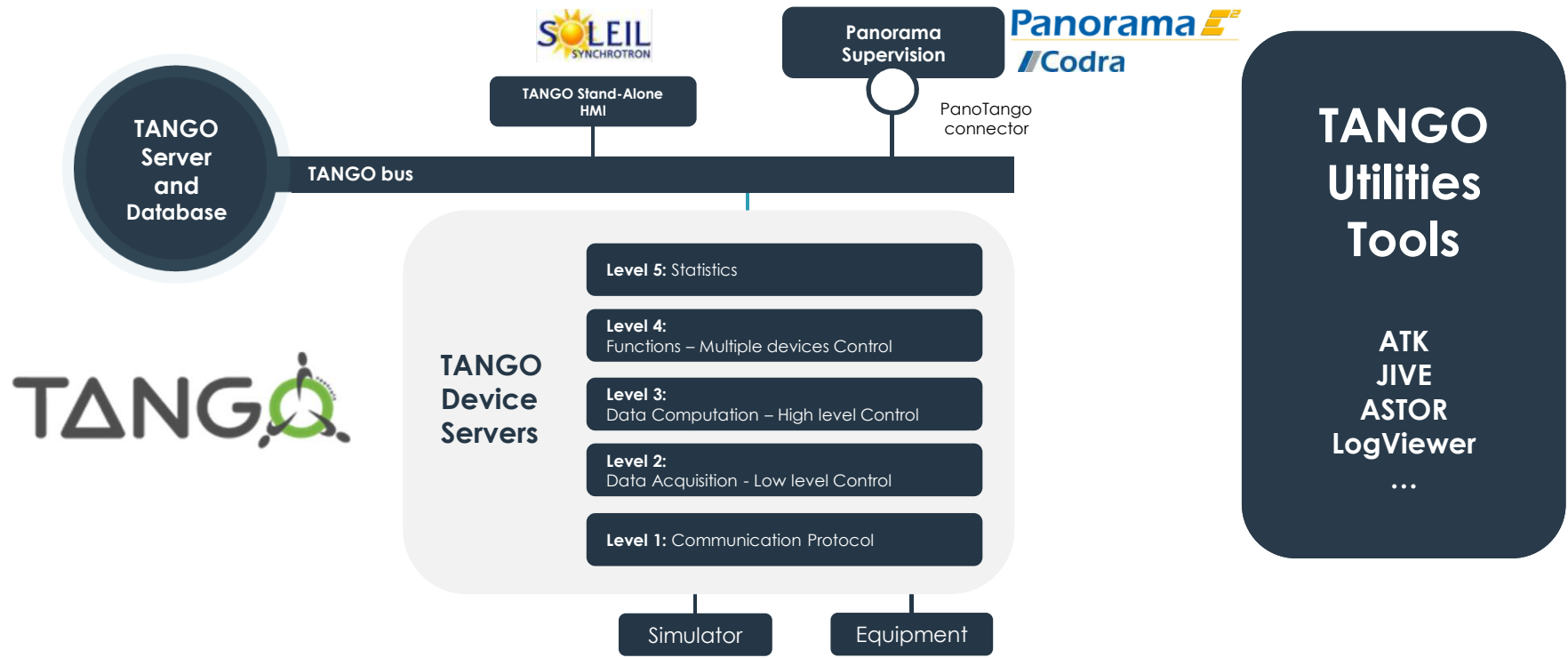
This laser will support research in nuclear physics and help advance human understanding of the physics of matter



- Thales intervene by**
- **Operating** the system from laser preparation to experiences management (beam available from 9am to 6pm)
 - **Training** ELI NP team regarding our dedicated program launched in 2019 for our users
 - **Maintaining** the system with preventive and corrective maintenance

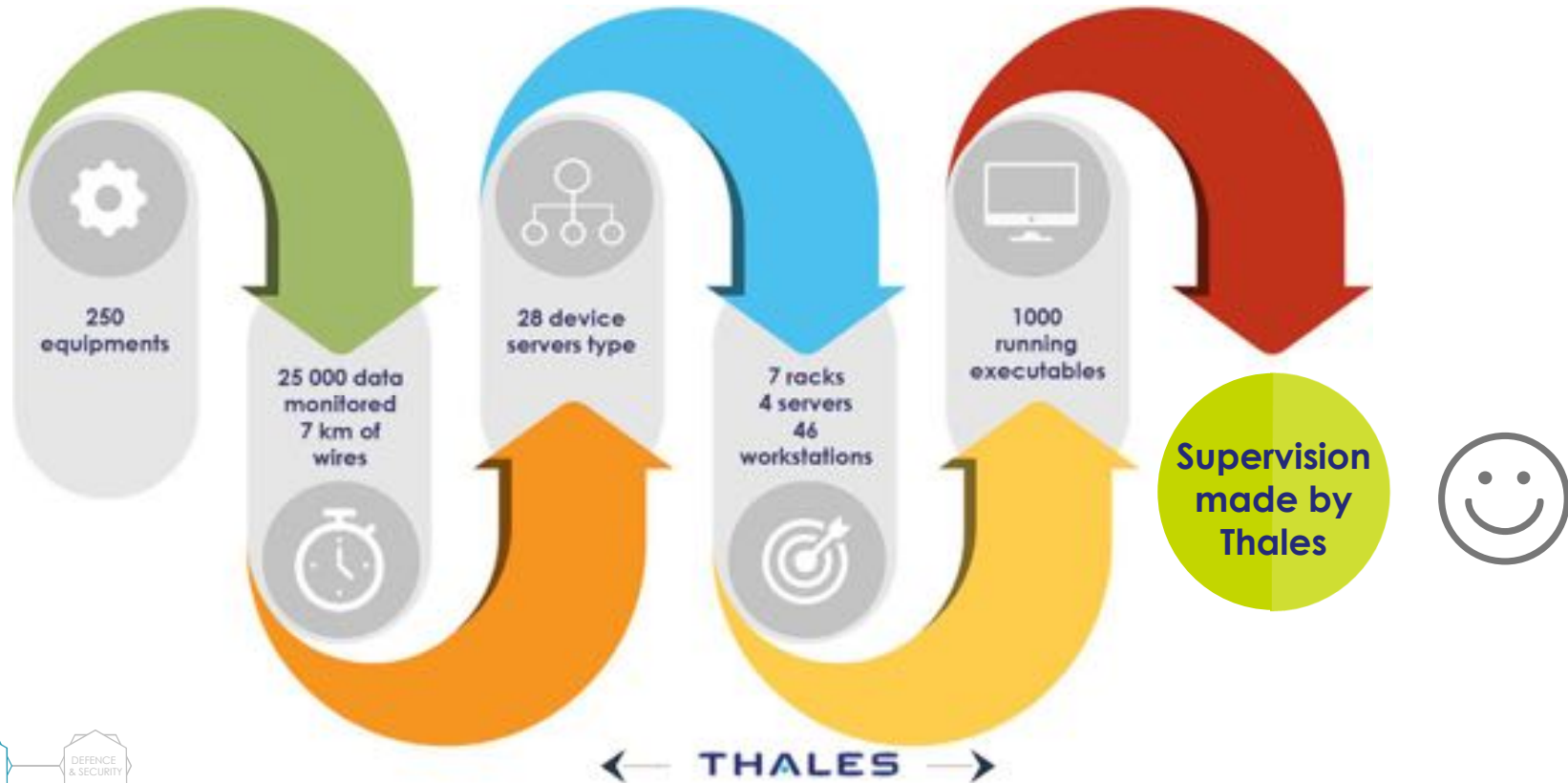


ELI NP - FROM LABVIEW HMI TO FULLY ERGONOMIC SUPERVISION



SYSTEM CONTROL

High number of equipment : not easy to control by one person



SYSTEM DETAILED CHARACTERISTICS

Full supervision software coupled with internal diagnostics



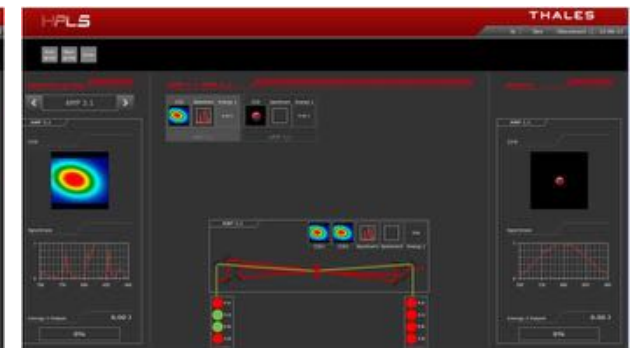
Left screen, available views

- Start
- Installation setup
- Alarms
- Logs



Middle screen, one single view

- **Upper part:** global view with energies
- **Lower part:** global view with alarms



Right screen, available views

- Stage synthetic view
- Diagnostic bench synthetic view
- CSCI detailed view



■ ELI NP - CONTROL ROOM

Dedicated Supervision software solution developed by Thales to start, operate, monitor and diagnose Thales systems and subsystems





Beamlines commissioning

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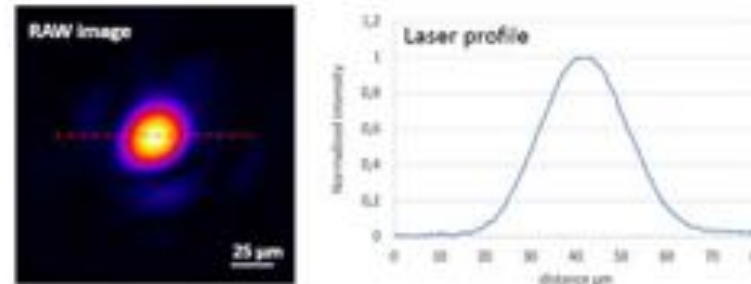
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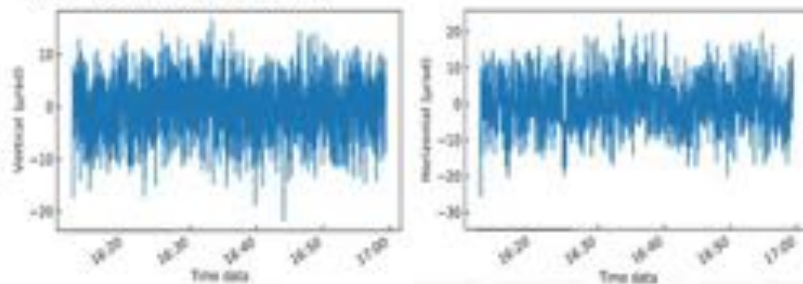
100TW COMMISSIONING

- Max Energy: < 2.5 J
- Pulse duration: ~ 25 fs
- Central wavelength: ~ 810 nm
- Beam diameter: ~ 54 mm
- Laser pointing fluctuation: ~ ±7 μrad
- Parabolic mirror: 1.5 m focal length (F# ~28)
- Spot size diameter: ~ 22±2 μm at FWHM
- Encircled energy: ~ 75% @ 1/e²

The laser spot is measured at full power, with attenuation wedges

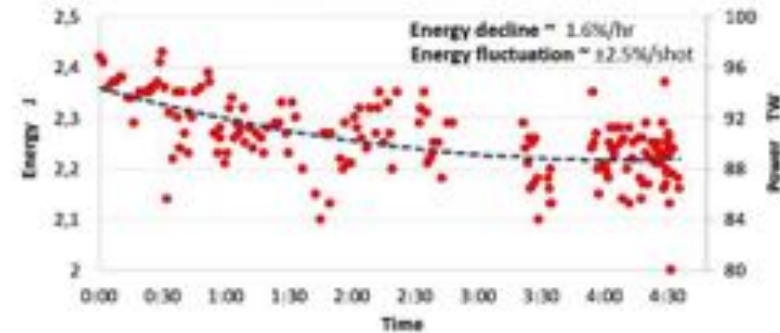


Laser pointing fluctuation



Laser pointing stability representing the laser far-field horizontal and vertical pointing fluctuation as function of time. The r.m.s. of the fluctuations is 4.7 μrad.

Laser energy drift J



Stability of the laser pulse energy as function of time. The corresponding power is represented on the right axis.

100TW COMMISSIONING

Experimental setup for LWFA (E4 Area)



Diagnostics (all at full power shot)

- Electron spectrometer (~0.7 Tesla magnet)
- Laser FarField and NearField monitoring
- Optical probing of gas jet
- Top view of gas jet self-emission
- Electron beam pointing/divergence
- Optical spectrometer for laser pulse
- Pulse duration



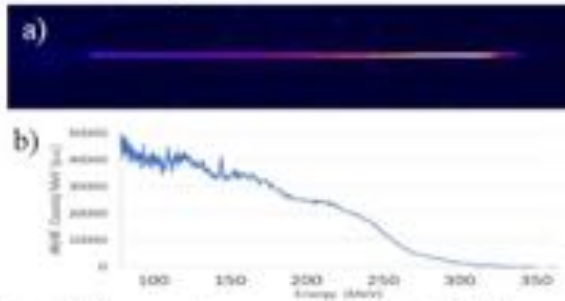
Target: 2mm dia. gas-jet

Gas: He, He + 2%N

Electron density scan in the range of 10^{18} e/cm³

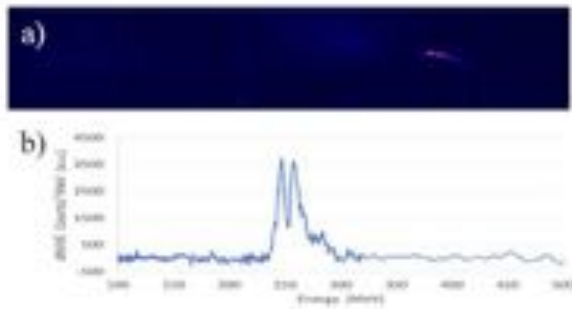
100TW COMMISSIONING

Gas: He + 2% N₂



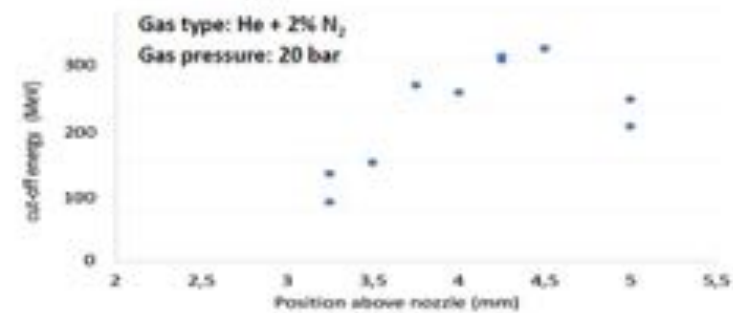
Typical electron continuum spectrum obtained with gas admixture of He and 2% N₂: a) Lanex image; b) analyzed energy spectrum.

Gas: He



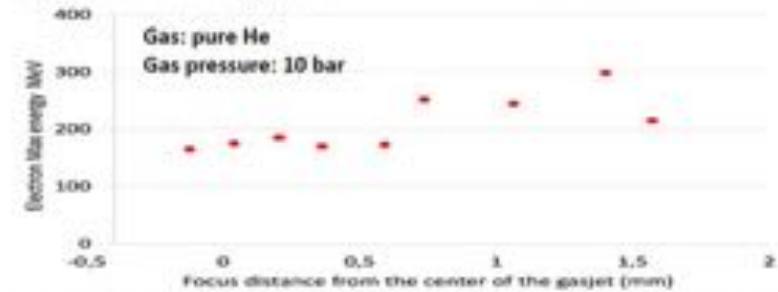
Typical electron peak spectrum obtained with pure He gas: a) Lanex image; b) analyzed energy spectrum.

Electron cut-off energy scan



Vertical scan for several distances from the nozzle taken to map the trend for the maximum electron energy at a fixed gas pressure of 20 bar.

Electron cut-off energy scan

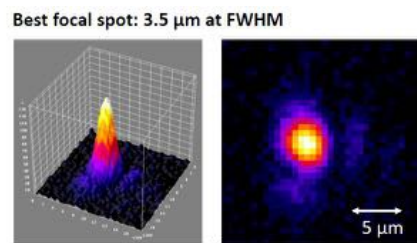


Electron maximum energy versus laser focal position from the center of the gas jet. The scan was done at 2.4 mm above the nozzle (i.e., $n_e \sim 7 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$).

1PW COMMISSIONING

Phase 1

- TNSA proton acceleration, commissioning experiment to assess the HPLS 1 PW performance and test diagnostics, following the ELI-NP ISAB plan
- Improved ion acceleration (TNSA/RPA) in 2 steps, by using a deformable mirror before the focusing mirror and a single plasma mirror, in preparation for the 10 PW experiments.



Laser intensity at 1 PW \sim sub- 10^{22} W/cm²

The focal spot was measured at full power using wedges



Phase 2

- LWFA commissioning experiment at 1 PW by using a gas cell, step towards the 10 PW experiments.

10 PW COMMISSIONING (APPROVED BY ISAB)

E1 experimental area

- Laser beam: 2 x 10 PW (~250 J, ~25 fs, 810nm, 1/60 Hz)
- OAP mirror: 2 x F/2.7 (laser beam diameter ~ 55cm)
- Laser intensity expected: ~ sub- 10^{23} W/cm²
- Laser-driven ion acceleration / accelerating protons above 200 MeV
- γ -flash generation / Showing the fast scaling growth of gamma yield..

E6 experimental area

- Laser beam: 2 x 10 PW (~250 J, ~25 fs, 810nm, 1/60 Hz)
- One short, one long focal / OAP mirror: ~ F/52 for 10 PW and ~ F/150 for 1 PW
- Laser intensity expected : up to a few 10^{20} W/cm²
- LWFA / accelerating electrons in the GeV energy range





Thank You !



E4 Experiment: laser characteristics

100 TW Laser nominal parameters

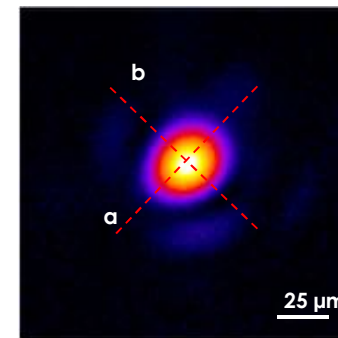
Max Energy: ~ 2.5 J (max, after compressor)
Pulse duration: ~ 25 fs
Beam diameter: ~ 56 mm
Laser pointing fluctuation: ~ 30 μ rad

100 TW Laser experimental parameters

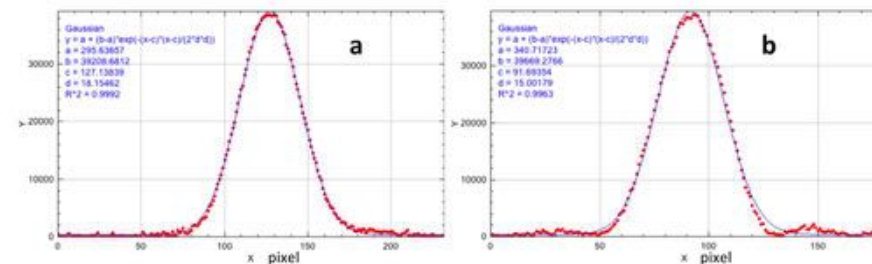
Max Energy: ~ 1.9 J (max on gas target)
Pulse duration: ~ 25 fs
Parabolic mirror: 1500 mm focal length (F# ~28)
Spot size diameter: ~ 18 μ m at FWHM
Encircled energy : ~ 70 - 75% @ $1/e^2$

Laser focal spot

The laser spot is measured at full power

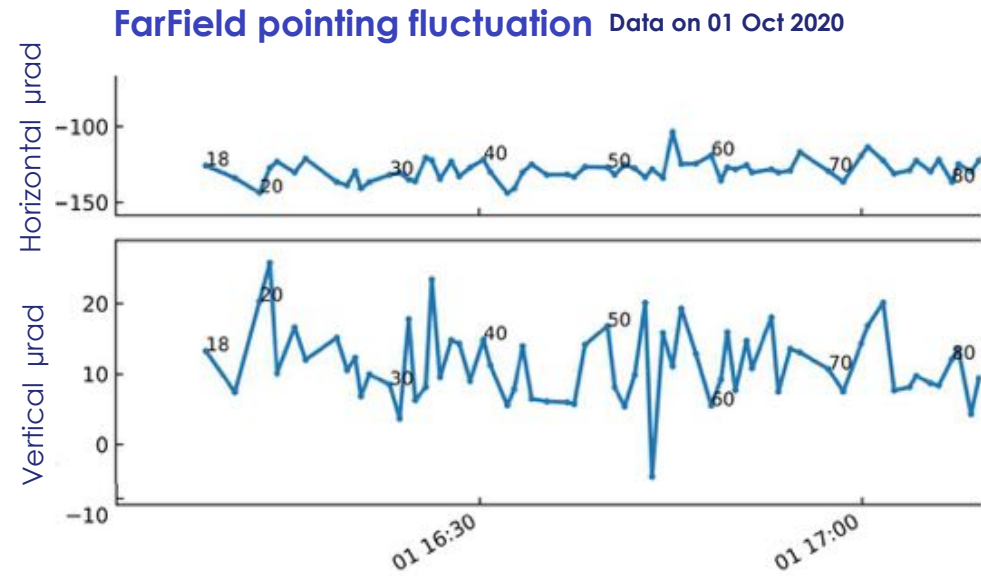
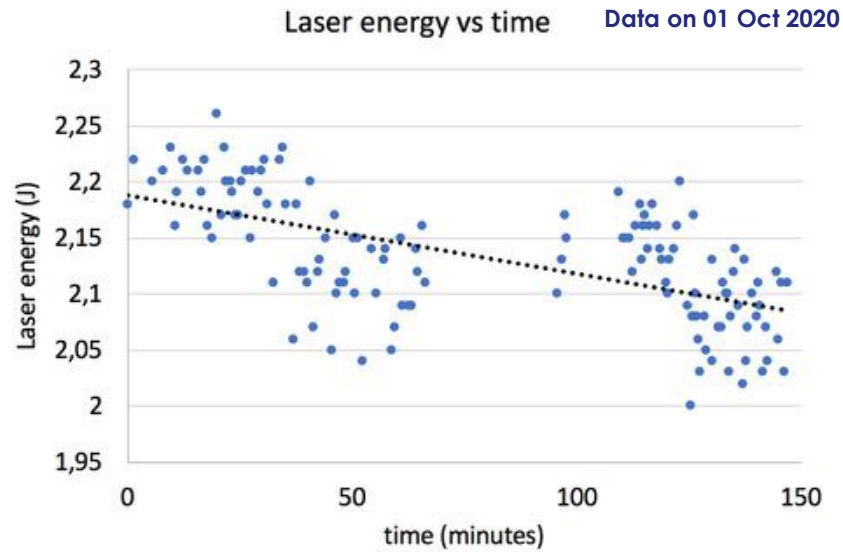


Laser focal spot profiles



E4 Experiment: laser statistic

100 TW Laser energy variation

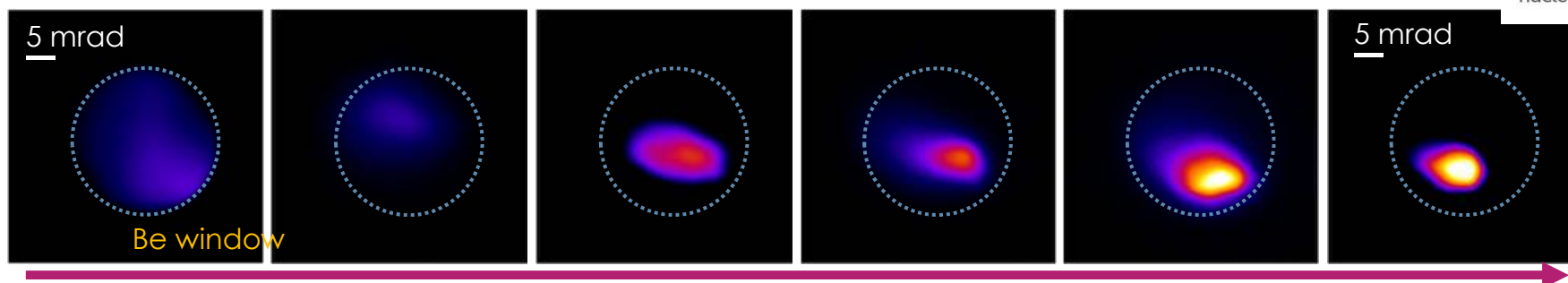


- Laser mean energy ~ 2.15 J
- Energy shot-to-shot fluctuation ~ 1.7 %
- Energy drift during the day ~ -42 mJ/hr



Experimental data for He + 2% N

On-axis diagnostics: electron beam profile

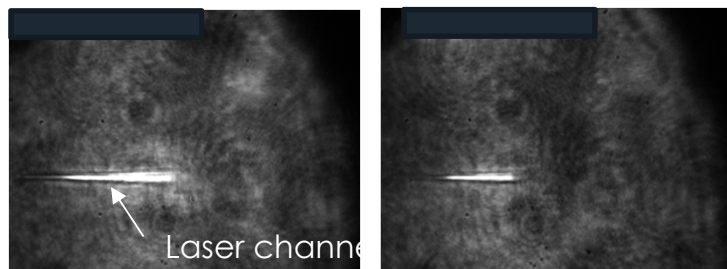


Electron beam profile improvement with further optimization

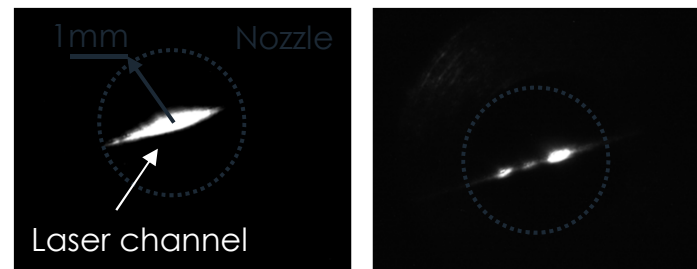
Electron beam divergence ~ 5 mrad, and pointing $\sim \pm 5$ mrad

Optical probe

Shadowgraphy



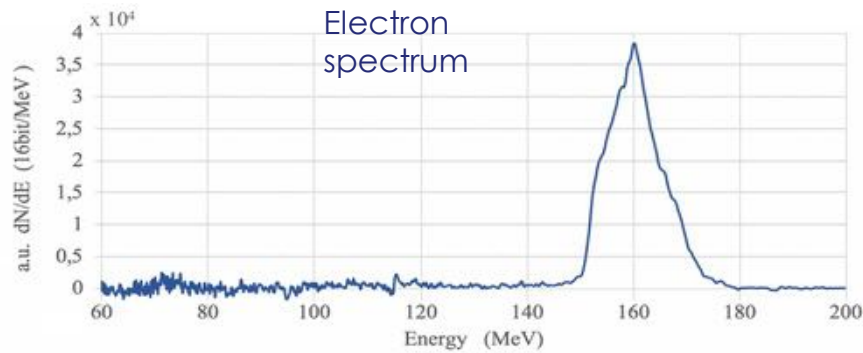
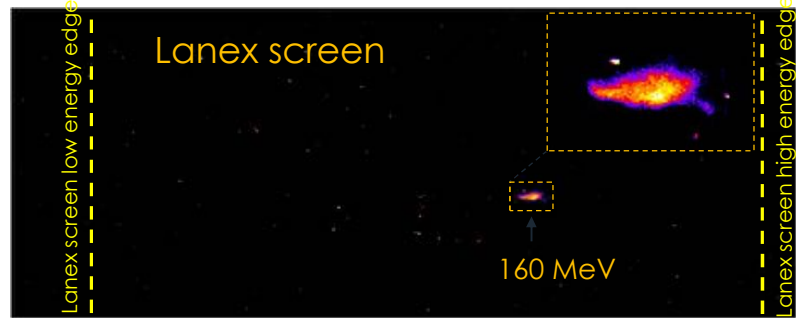
Top view: scattered radiation



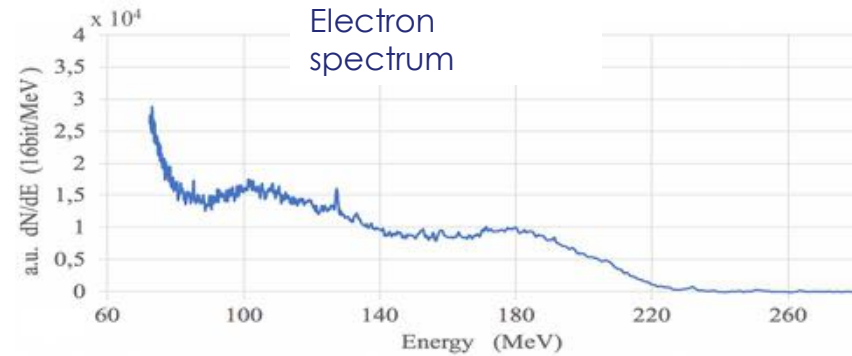
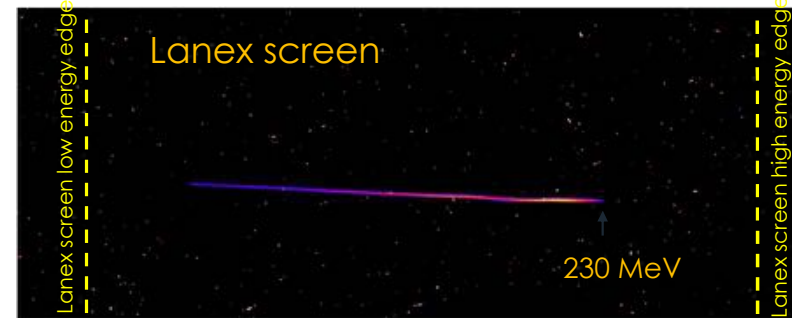
Experimental data for He and He + 2%N

Typical electron spectra obtained with gas density of $\sim 3.5 \times 10^{18}$ atom/cm³

Typical quasi-monoenergetic spectrum with pure He gas



Typical broadband spectrum with He + 2% N₂ gas



ELI NP - ELI A EUROPEAN PROJECT

ELI – Extreme Light Infrastructure

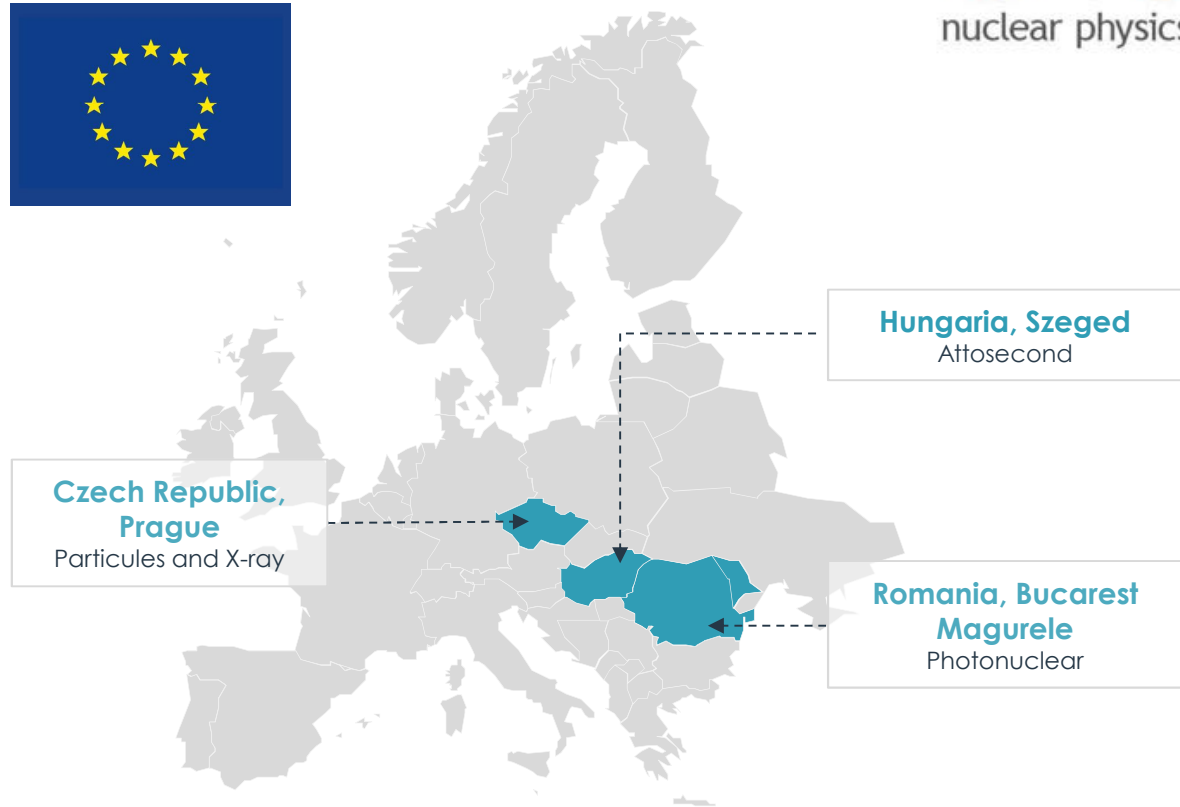
850 millions euros

from ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) raised to develop four ELI laboratories



**GERARD MOUROU
& DONA STRICKLAND**

Inventor of the CPA with Dona Strickland and both Winners of the 2018 Nobel Prize

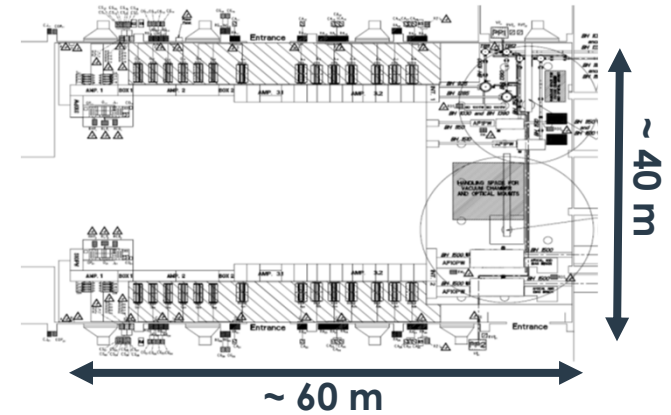
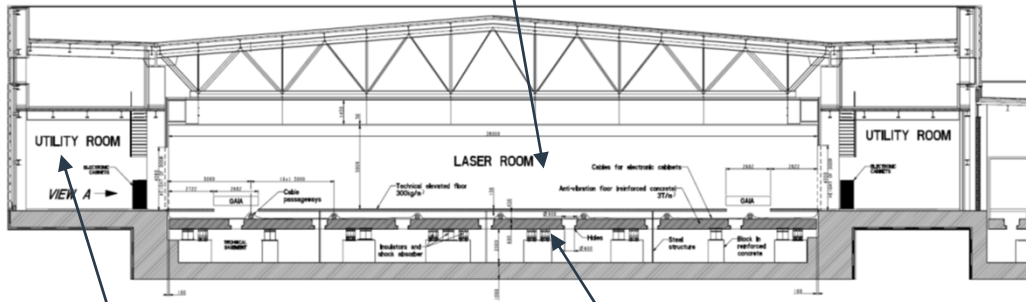


ELI NP - LASER ROOM



Laser room 2400 m²

- Clean room: ISO7
- Temperature regulation: 22°C +/- 0.5°C
- Humidity regulation: [35%-50%]
- Floor stability: VC-E (3 µm/s) according to the ASHRAE criteria
- Flatness default lower than 9 mm



ELI NP - HPLS ARCHITECTURE : TI:SA LASER, DOUBLE CPA CONFIGURATION

System aiming to deliver two laser beams with three possible peak power

- 2x10 PW, 1 tir/min
- 2x1 PW, 1 Hz
- 2x100 TW, 10 HZ

48 pump lasers

A dedicated clean room (ISO7)
 2 400 m²

