



LhARA Pre-CDR: Laser
and Proton/Ion Source

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Motivation for a laser-driven ion source

- What are the benefits for a laser driven proton/ion source?
 - High instantaneous dose rates - full treatment doses possible in a single shot?
 - Flash dosing with ultra-short particle beams - sub ps duration.
 - Source flexibility - simple switching of ion species.
 - More compact (cheaper) accelerators - higher accelerating gradients.

Current status of laser accelerators

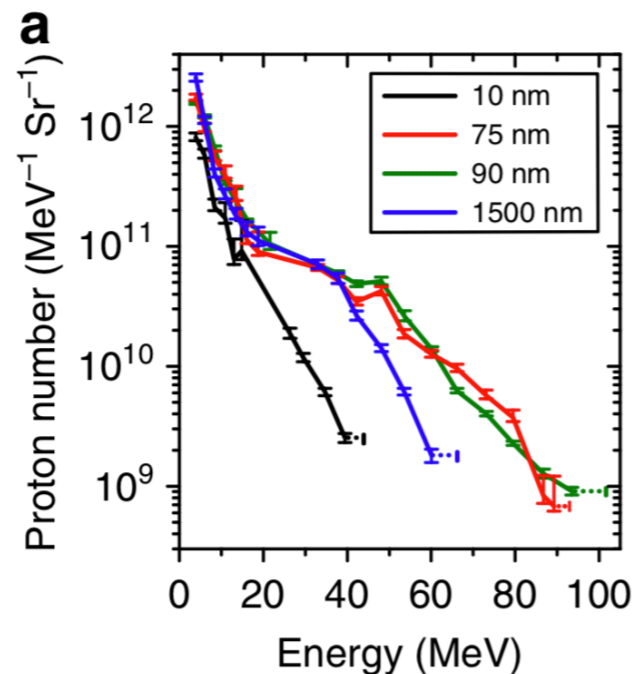
Proton energies at nearly 100MeV

DOI: 10.1038/s41467-018-03063-9

OPEN

Near-100 MeV protons via a laser-driven transparency-enhanced hybrid acceleration scheme

A. Higginson¹, R.J. Gray¹, M. King¹, R.J. Dance¹, S.D.R. Williamson¹, N.M.H. Butler¹, R. Wilson¹, R. Capdessus¹, C. Armstrong^{1,2}, J.S. Green², S.J. Hawkes^{1,2}, P. Martin³, W.Q. Wei⁴, S.R. Mirfayzi³, X.H. Yuan⁴, S. Kar^{2,3}, M. Borghesi³, R.J. Clarke², D. Neely^{1,2} & P. McKenna¹



Carbon energies at nearly over 30MeV/u*

PRL 119, 054801 (2017)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
4 AUGUST 2017

Polarization Dependence of Bulk Ion Acceleration from Ultrathin Foils Irradiated by High-Intensity Ultrashort Laser Pulses

C. Scullion,¹ D. Doria,^{1,*} L. Romagnani,² A. Sgattoni,^{3,†} K. Naughton,¹ D. R. Symes,⁴ P. McKenna,⁵ A. Macchi,^{5,6} M. Zepf,^{1,7} S. Kar,¹ and M. Borghesi^{1,‡}

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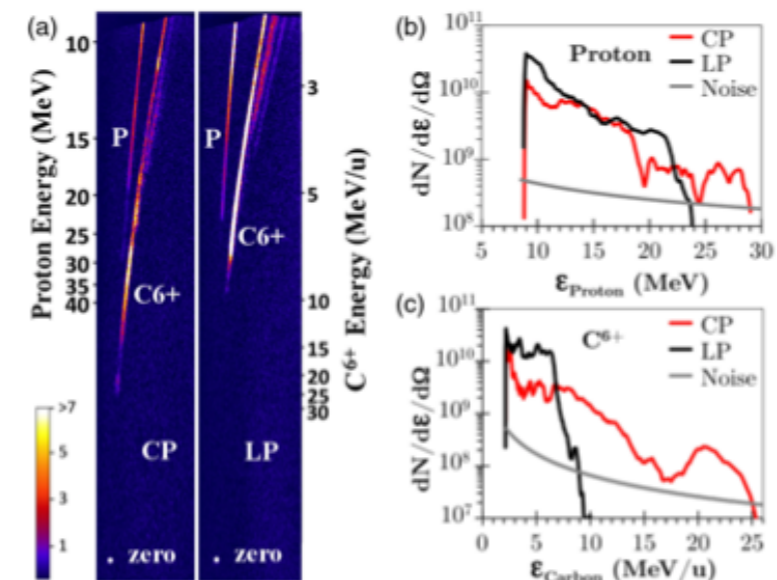
⁴Central Laser Facility, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Oxfordshire OX11 0QX, United Kingdom

⁵SUPA, Department of Physics, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G4 0NG, United Kingdom

⁶Dipartimento di Fisica Enrico Fermi, Università di Pisa, 56127 Pisa, Italy

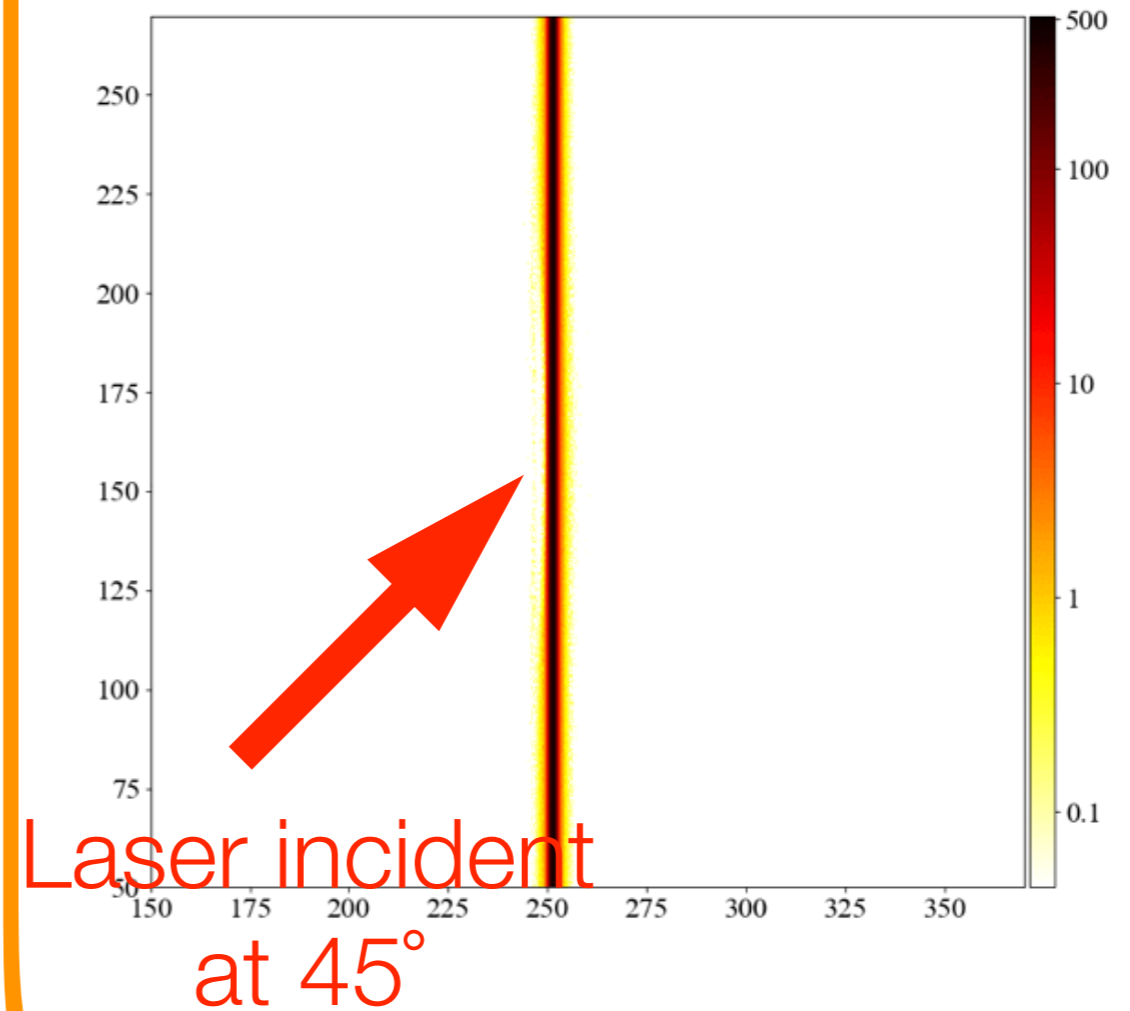
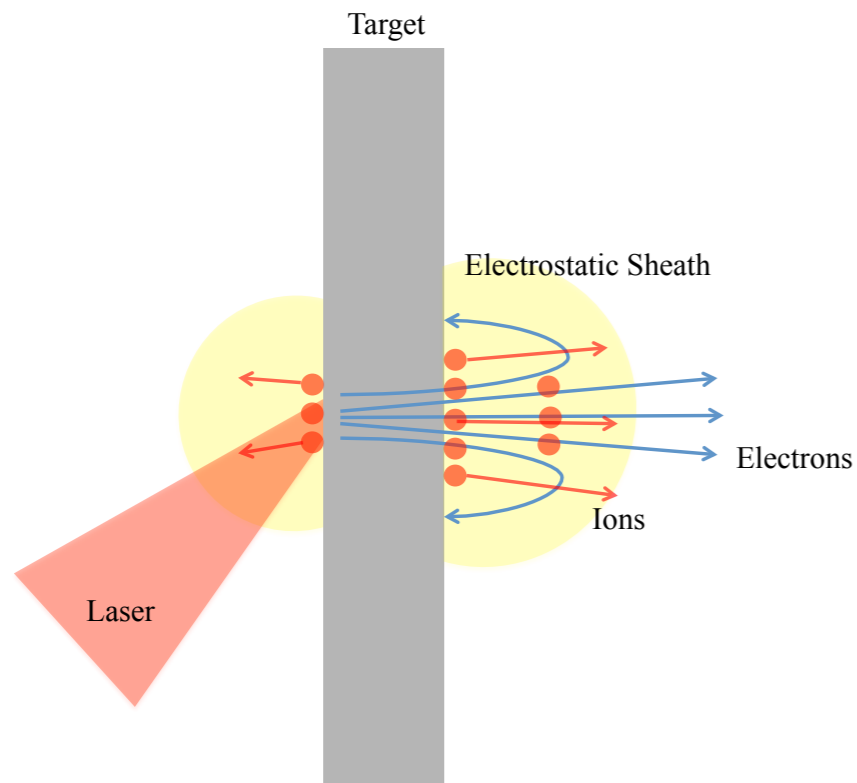
⁷Helmholtz Institute Jena, 07743 Jena, Germany

(Received 23 May 2016; published 2 August 2017)



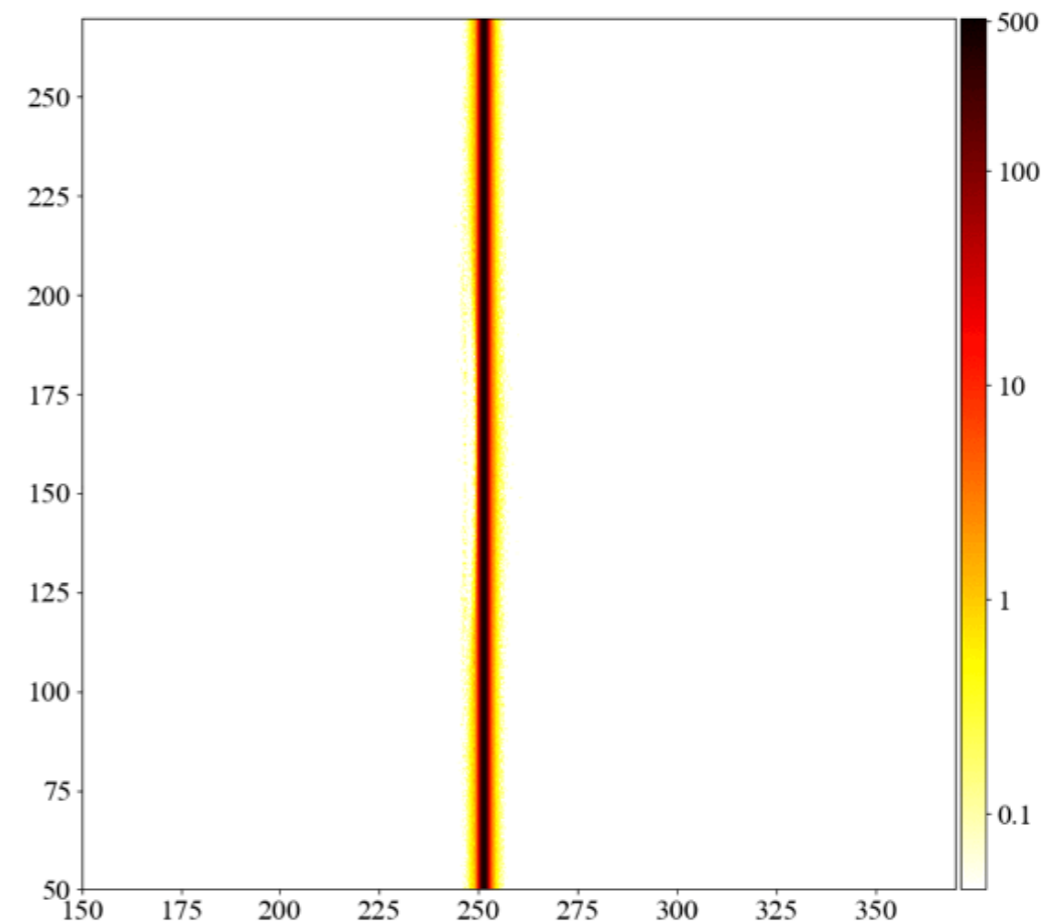
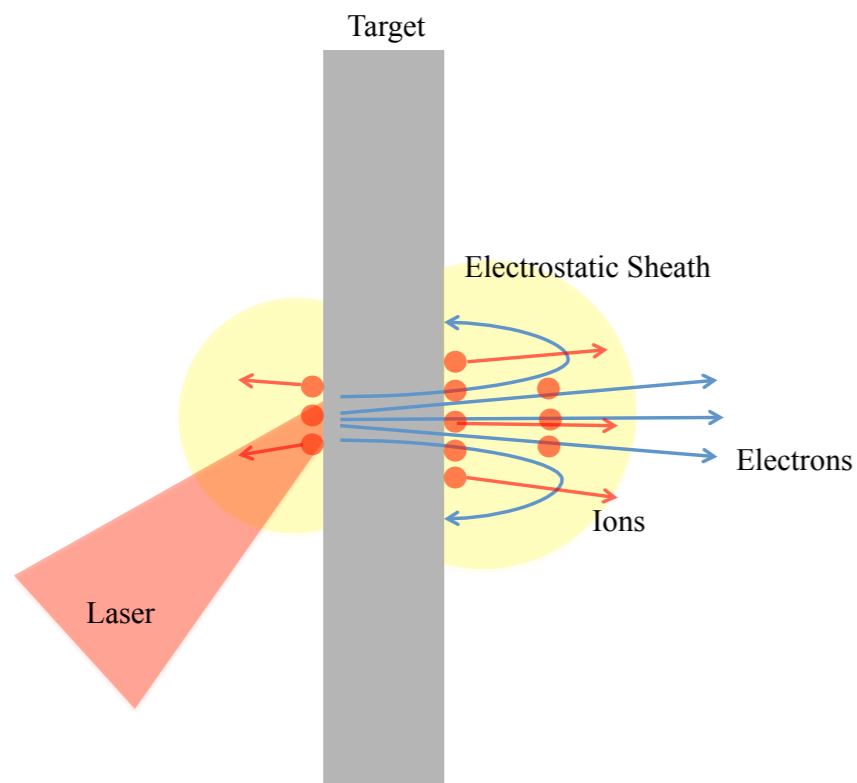
Current status of laser accelerators

Many acceleration methodologies, but most studied and best characterised is sheath acceleration



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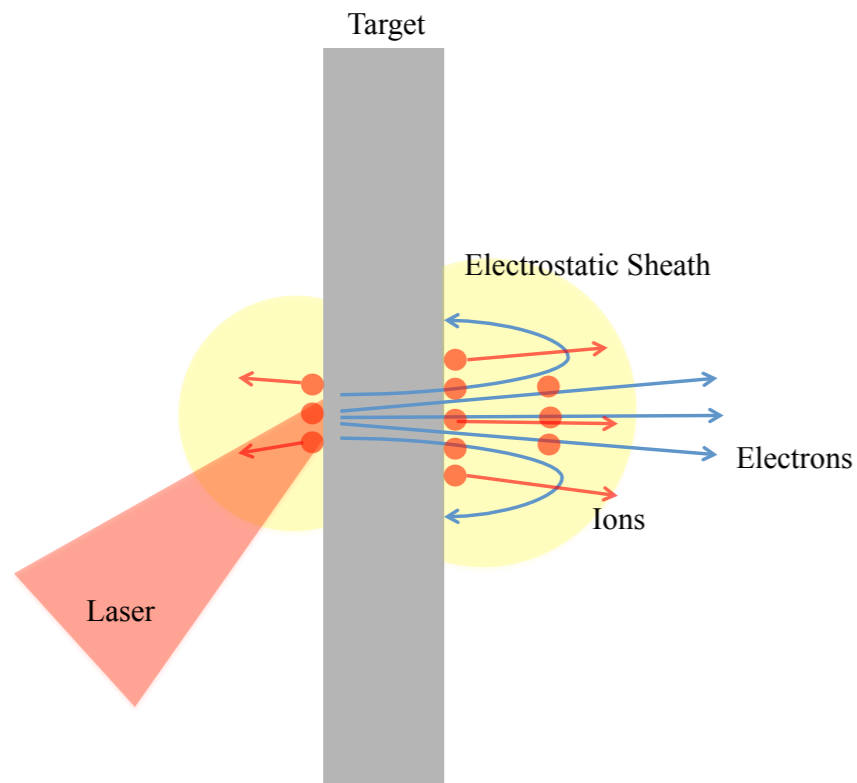
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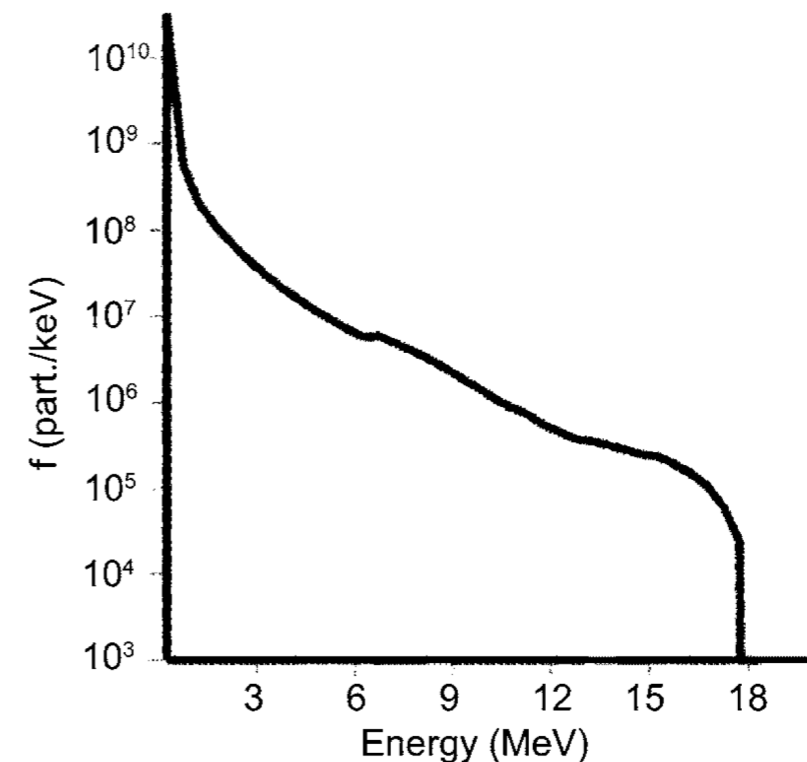
Courtesy of G. Hicks

Current status of laser accelerators

Many acceleration methodologies, but most studied and best characterised is sheath acceleration



15MeV energies for LhARA injection achievable as part of thermal particle distribution

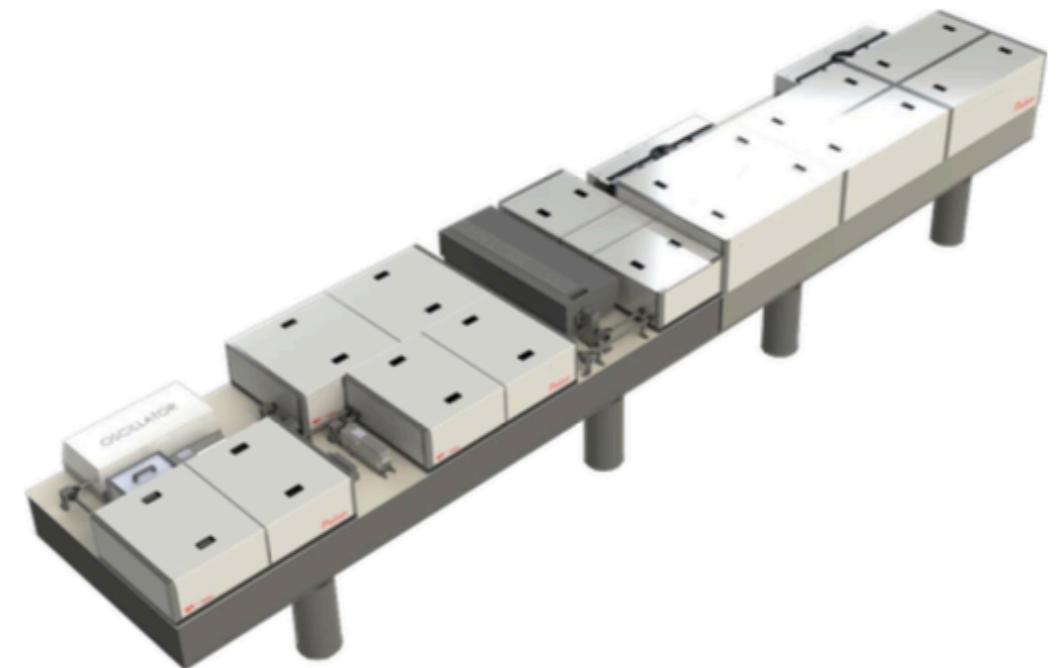


How to achieve these particle beams

A number of commercial laser systems are available to purchase of the order 100TW which should be capable of producing stable, >15MeV peak energy beams.

Example of laser options from Amplitude:

	Pulsar 60	Pulsar 140
Rep. rate		5 Hz ⁽¹⁾
Pulse Duration		< 25 fs ⁽²⁾
Peak Power ⁽³⁾	> 60 TW	> 140 TW
Contrast ⁽⁴⁾		> 1: 10 ¹⁰
Energy Compressed	1.5 J	> 3.5 J
Energy shot-to-shot Stability		< 1% RMS
Strehl ratio ⁽⁵⁾		> 0.85

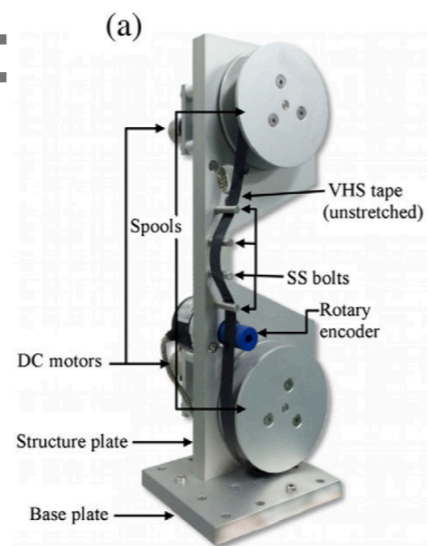
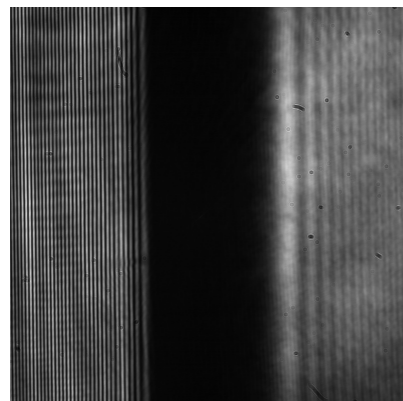


Would aim for ~100TW system

Targetry

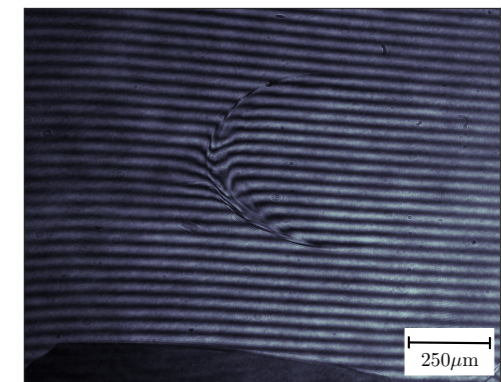
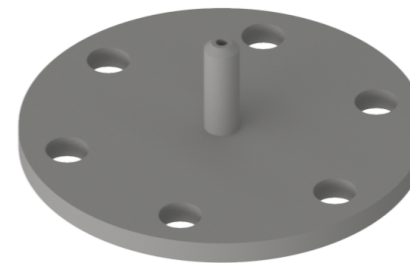
Requirement for 10Hz operation:

Tape targets:



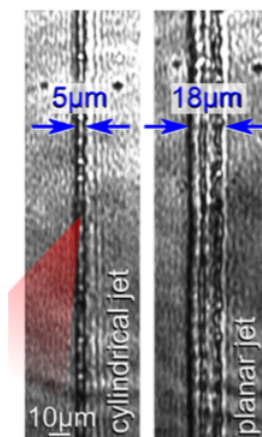
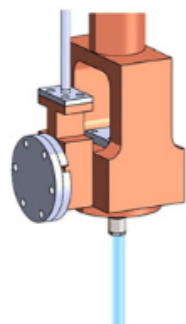
Noaman-ul-Haq et al. PRAB (2017)

Gas jets:



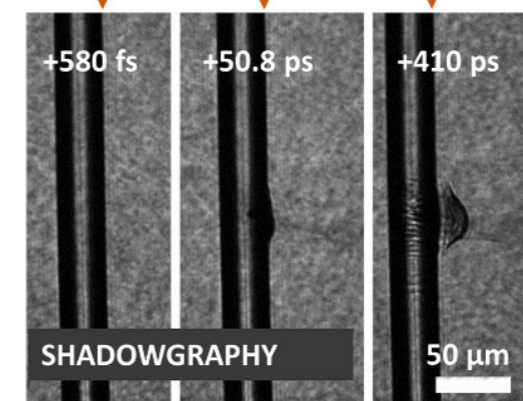
Cryogenic targets:

Hydrogen Jet



L Obst et al. Sci. Rep. 2017

Liquid sheets:

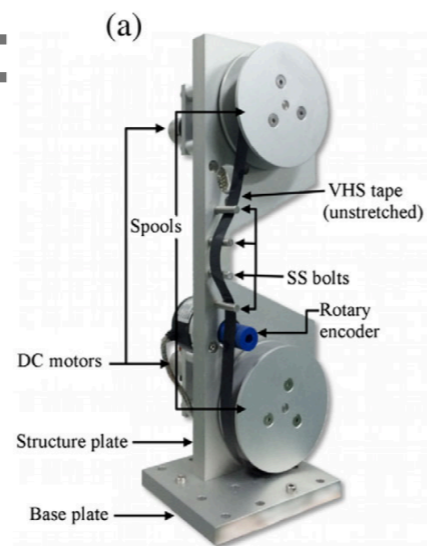
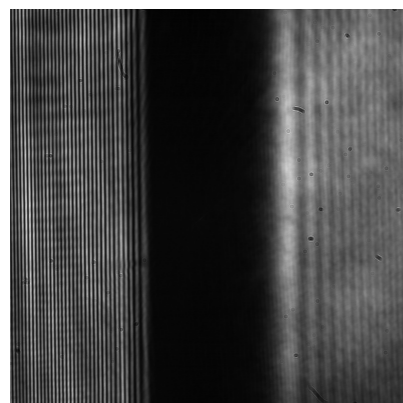


S. Feister et al. Rev. Sci. Inst. (2014)

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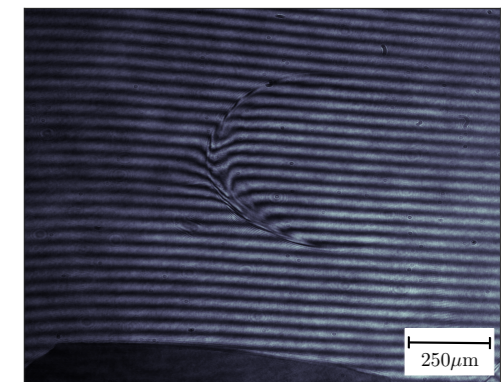
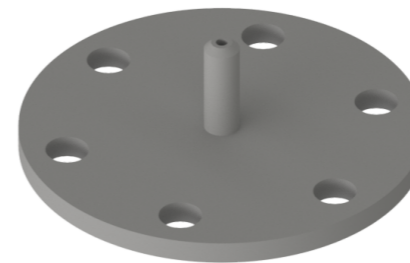
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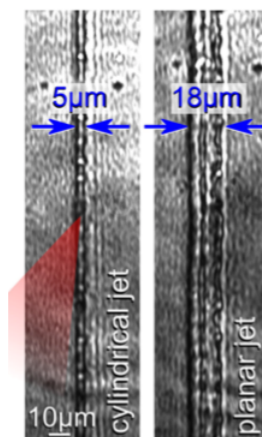
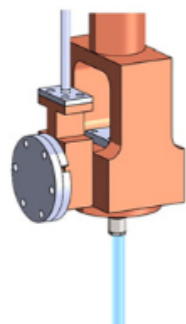
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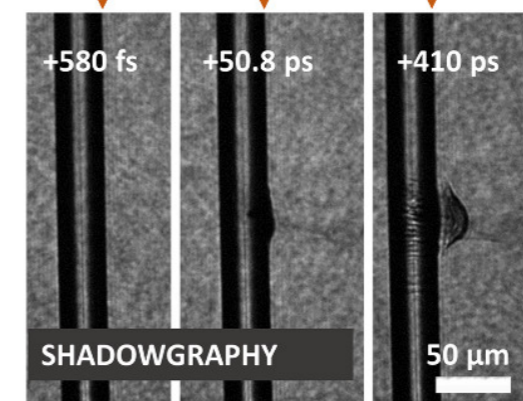
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L Obst et al. Sci. Rep. 2017

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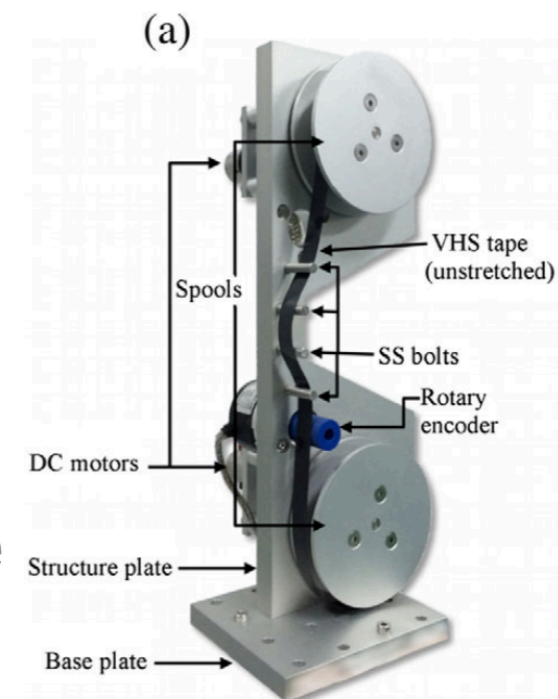
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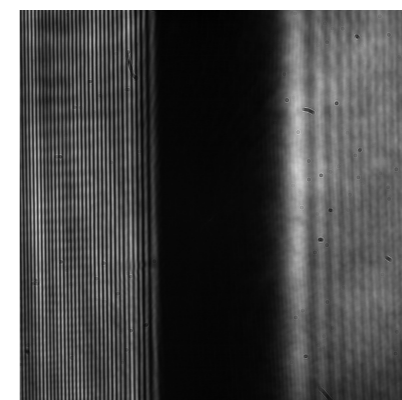
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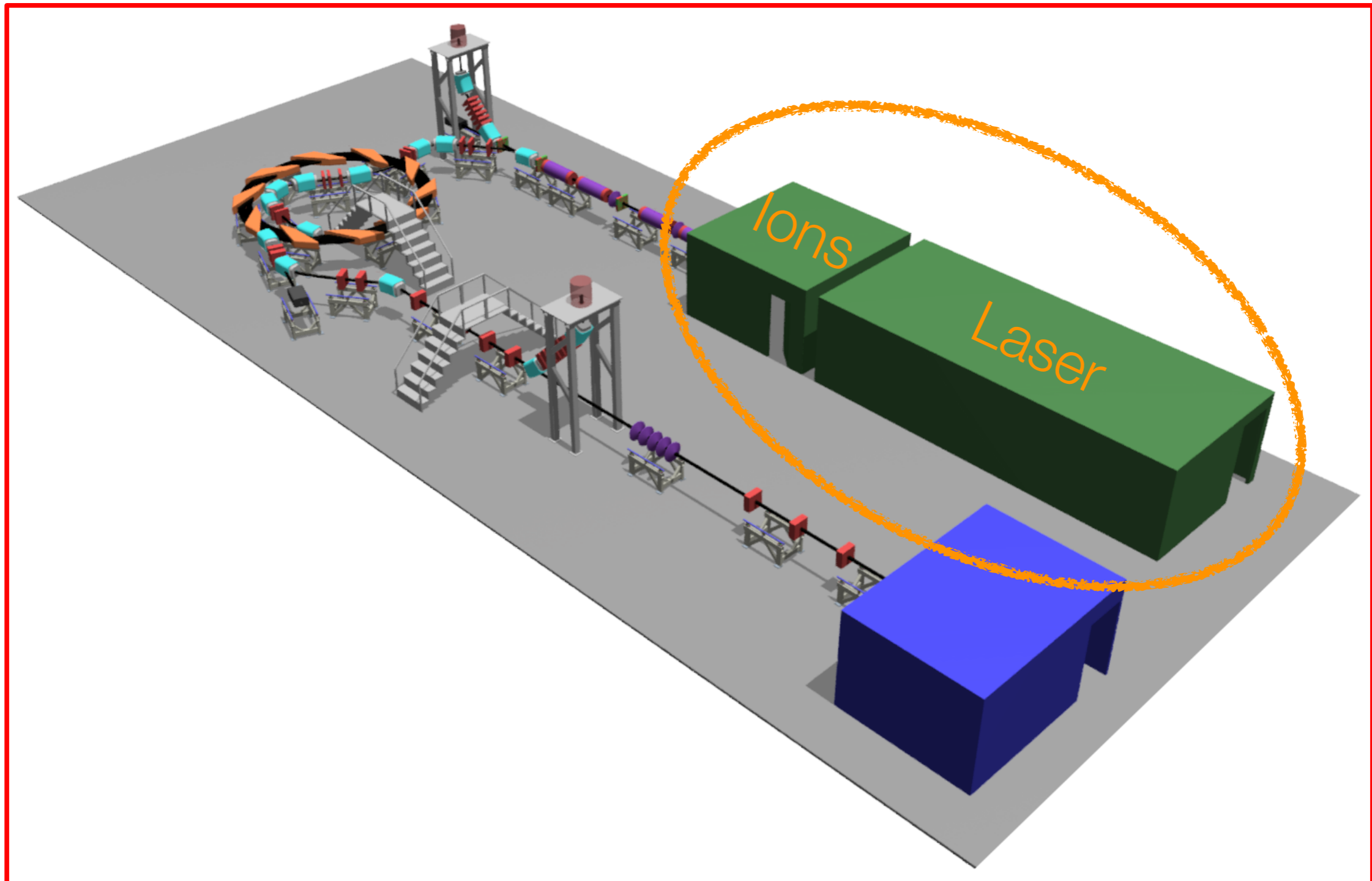
- Well established technology - relatively simple & IC experience
- Selection of tape materials available - **Mylar**, Kapton, Ti...
- 10Hz repetition rate or higher
- More advanced, etched targets possible - enhanced acceleration?



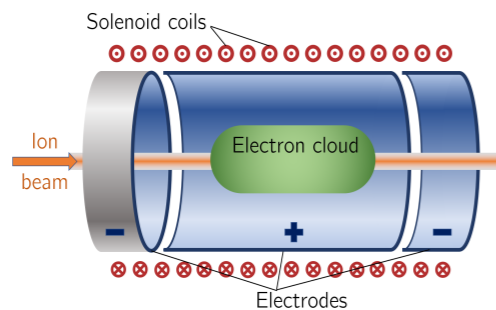
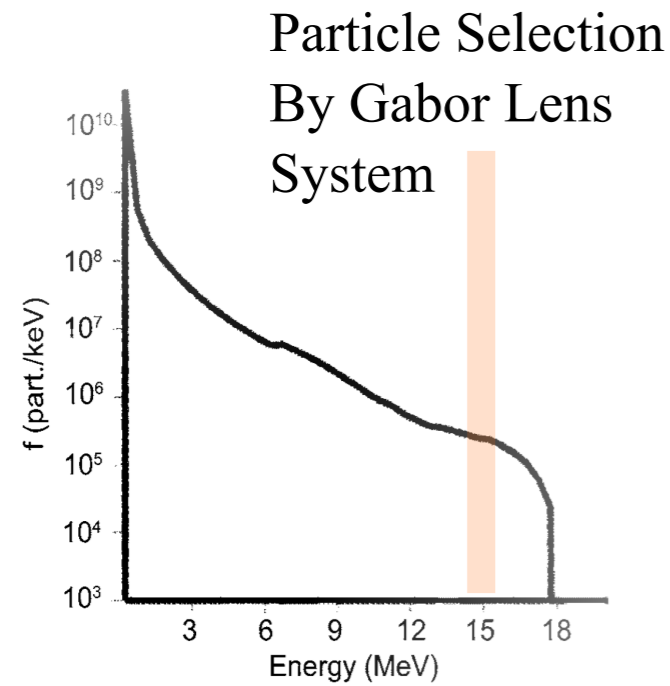
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Proposed Layout

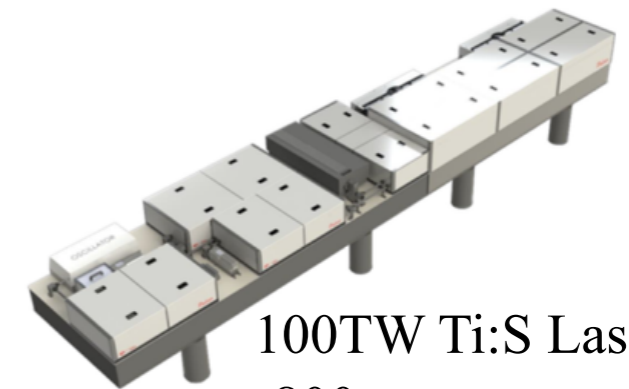
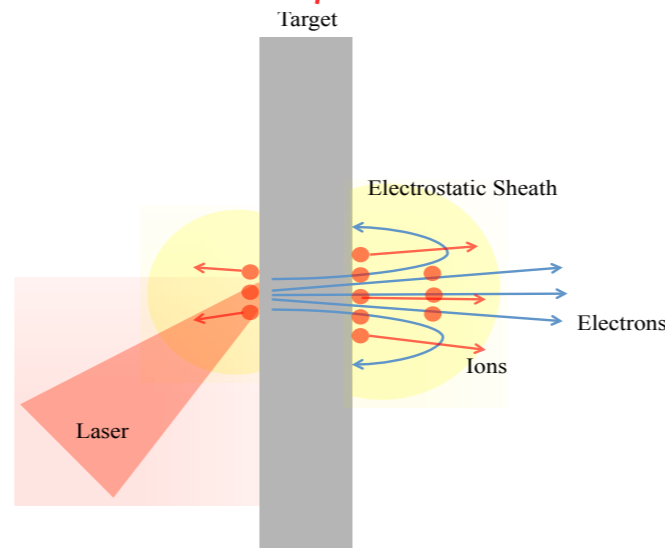
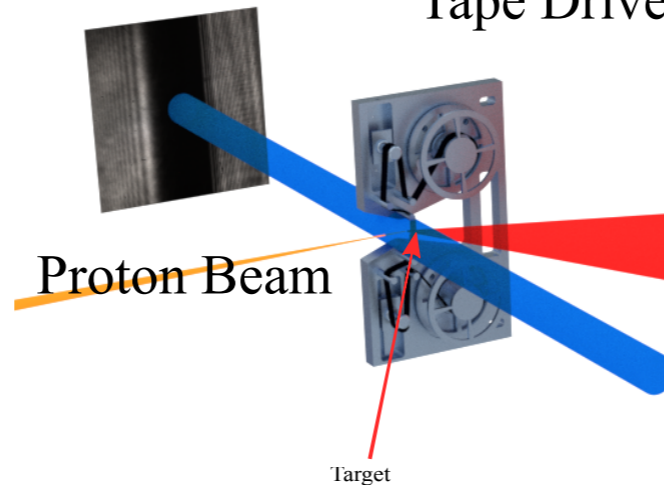


Proposed Layout



Gabor Lens Capture System

Transverse Probe - 400nm
Tape Drive



100TW Ti:S Laser:
-800nm
-3J, 25fs
-10Hz
-<1% stability

f/3 Focussing
Parabola

R&D Effort Requirements

- Continued development of tape drives to minimise the shot to shot variation in focal plane position and to ensure surface flatness - ongoing now.
- Adoption of machine learning and genetic algorithms for proton/ion source optimisation at 10Hz - beam charge, peak energy, beam divergence.
- On shot, passive diagnostics for ion beam characterisation - needed?

Summary

- Laser driven source offers unique properties which might be desirable for particle therapy.
- Sheath acceleration is well understood and offers appropriate beam parameters for LhARA.
- R&D requirements ongoing and manageable.