

LhARA Capture

- M King, Strathclyde University - Epoch
 - Laser foil interaction modelling, Prof. P McKenna group – CLF RAL
 - **'Near-100 MeV protons via a laser-driven transparency-enhanced hybrid acceleration scheme'**
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-018-03063-9>.
 - 'Thick foils are hard to model'
 - Agreed to exchange model parameters – cross-checking.
 - Ongoing informal co-operation.

- HT Lau – Smilei
 - Smearing 2D results into 3D to allow beam tracking
 - Cartesian co-ords, results in ‘square’ distribution
 - Possibly explore cylindrical co-ords with appropriate weighting
 - Challenges relate to normalisation of results to reality
 - 2D sims known to over-estimate particle energy and flux
 - 3D sims restricted by computing resource
 - M King input suggests this is a well known and understood problem with no universally accepted solution
 - everyone else fudges the issue too

- Simulate plasma instability
 - ‘New’ design of Gabor lens
 - Plasma more unstable than current design
 - Need to add ExB regions to induce plasma rotation to stabilise
 - Explored active options to drive rotation
- Simulate previous designs to understand ‘interesting’ results.
 - Previous results show array of pencil beams ‘split’ into array of rings
 - Diagnostic is time integrated
 - Thesis is pencil beams are precessing in time, tracing a ring pattern
 - Some indications from 3D model that a hollow, off centre plasma distribution may be able to reproduce these effects