



Prospects for extreme photon sources  
at the CERN accelerator complex

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*E. Granados, M.M. Calderon, B. A. Marsh, V. N. Fedosseev, M. W. Krasny, A. Latina, V. Musat, R. Corsini, A. Martens, F. Zomer, X. Lu, K. Cassou, R. Chiche, K. Dupraz, D. Nutarelli, E. Cormier, G. Santarelli, and Y. Dutheil*

*... and many others*

# Outline

## The CERN accelerator complex

- Brief history / introduction, key enabling technologies
- Interest in high-flux Gamma-ray sources: beam cooling, muon sources, dark matter research...

## Gamma Factory

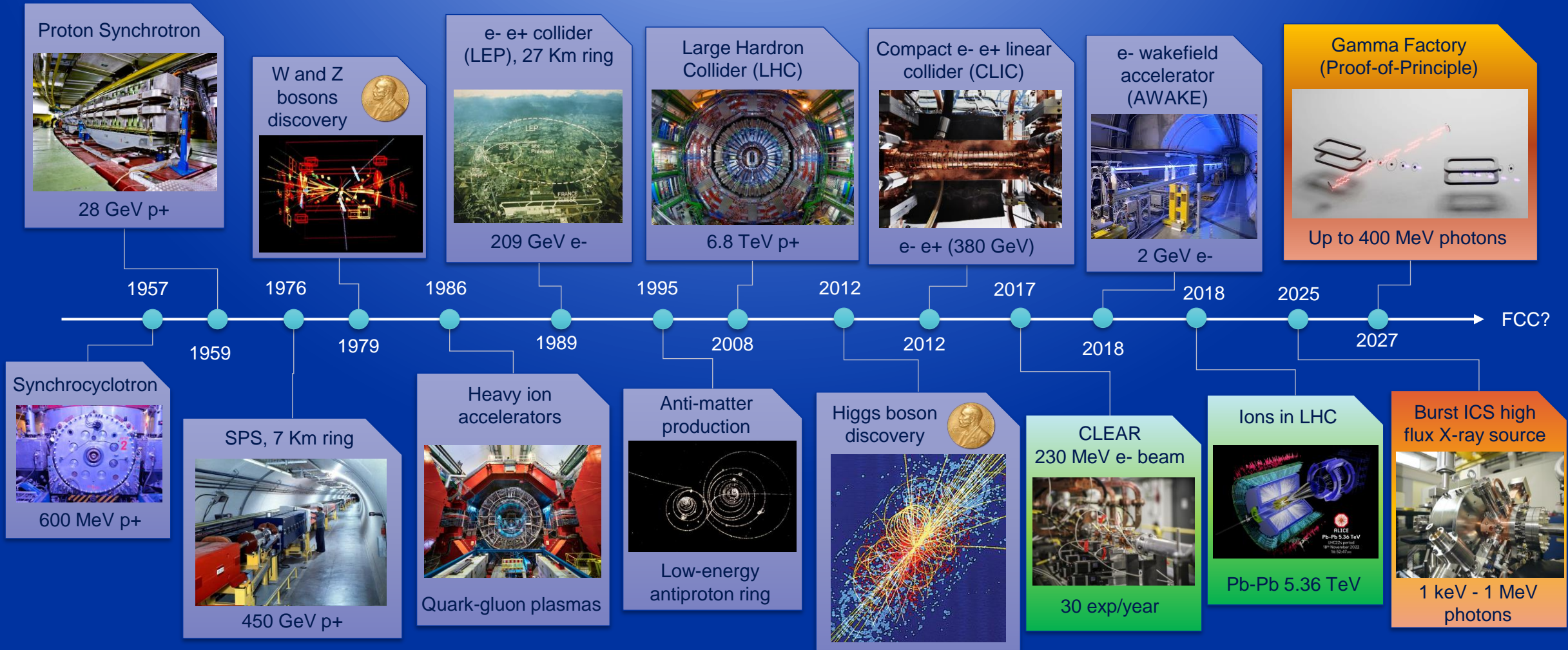
- Concept: exploiting the Doppler effect in ultra-relativistic partially stripped ion beams
- A 7 orders of magnitude Gamma-ray photon flux leap
- Roadmap – Proof of principle experiment in SPS, final experiment in the LHC
- Status: Lasers, experimental area, expected performance

## Inverse Compton Scattering X-ray sources

- Inherited technology from e<sup>+</sup>/e<sup>-</sup> colliders: high charge X-band accelerators in burst-mode operation
- High energy electro-optic frequency combs for Fabry-Perot cavities

## Conclusions

# The CERN accelerator complex



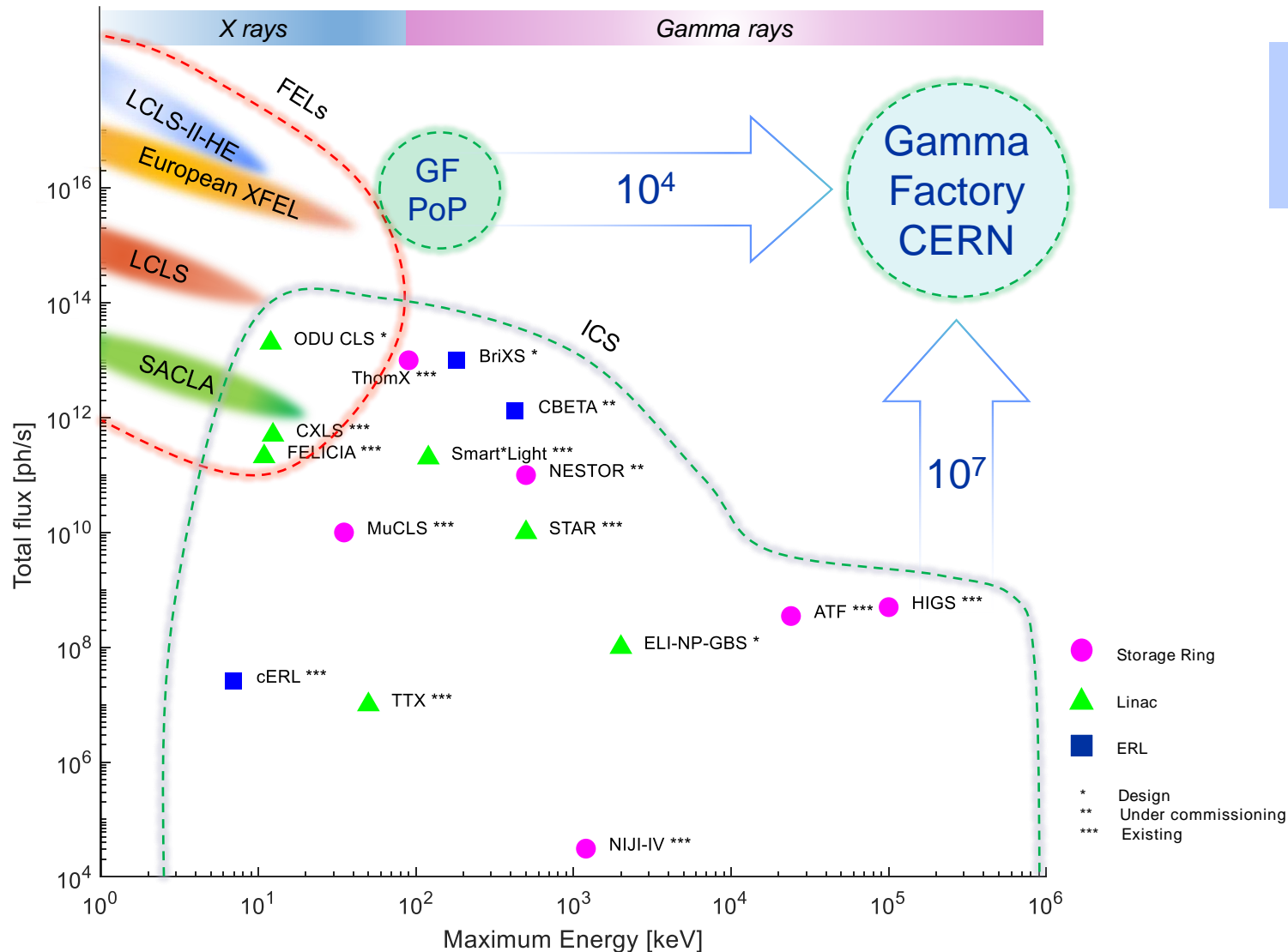
The *CLIC development* of high average current ultrafast electron sources enables the production of **high-flux X-rays**

The demonstration of *heavy ions in LHC* enables the production of **extreme high-flux  $\gamma$ -rays**





# Comparison to other X-ray and Gamma-ray sources



“Can one make a technological leap of 7 orders of magnitude to deliver similar fluxes to FELs in the Gamma-rays?”

Example:

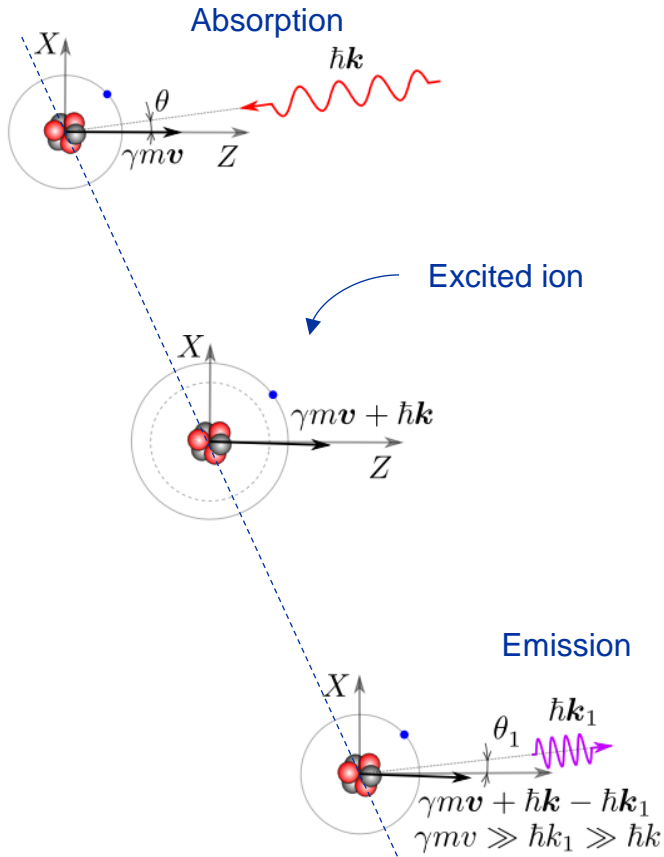
European XFEL	Gamma Factory
27,000 pulses/s	40 MHz
24 keV	400 MeV
$10^{16}$ photons/s	$10^{16}$ photons/s
1.4 mJ/pulse	16 mJ/pulse
38 W (J/s)	<b>640 kW (kJ/s)</b>

The Gamma Factory naturally requires **MW** power and **MJ** of stored beam energy

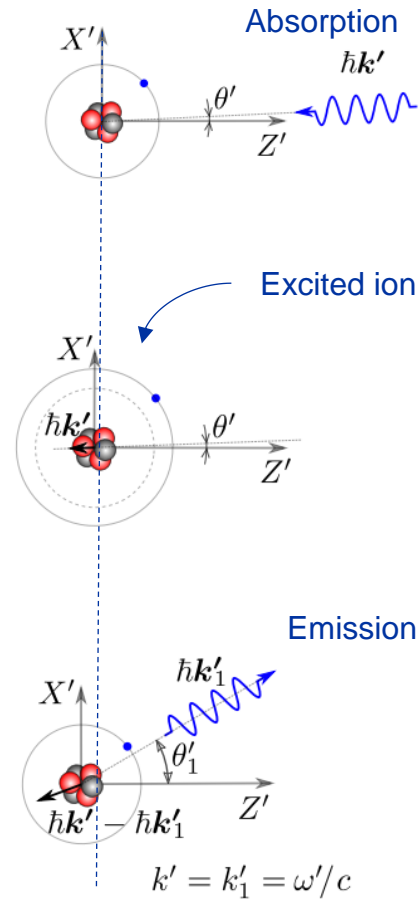
So far, the *only* facility currently providing such beam is the **LHC**

# Basic idea: Use the Doppler effect with ultra-relativistic ions

In the lab frame



In the ion frame



Absorption

Lorentz transformation

$$\omega' \sin \theta' = \omega \sin \theta, \quad \Delta \theta' \approx \frac{\Delta \theta}{2\gamma}$$

$$\omega' = (1 + \beta \cos \theta) \gamma \omega \approx \left(1 + \beta - \beta \frac{\theta^2}{2}\right) \gamma \omega \approx 2\gamma \omega.$$

Emission

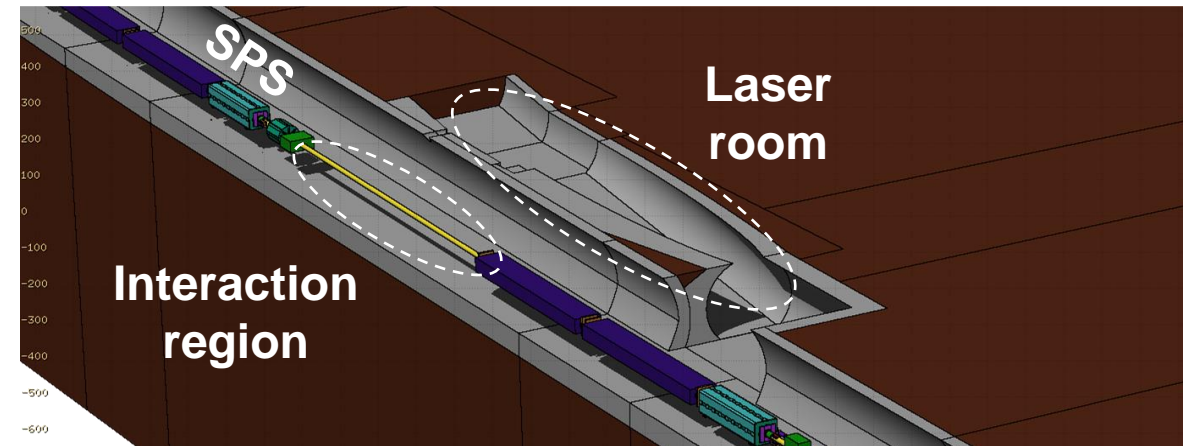
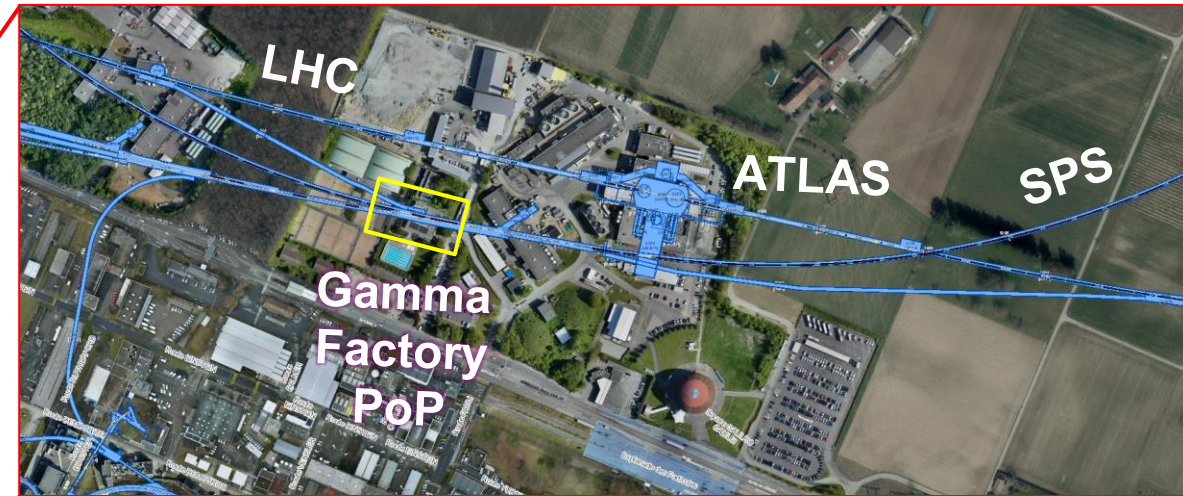
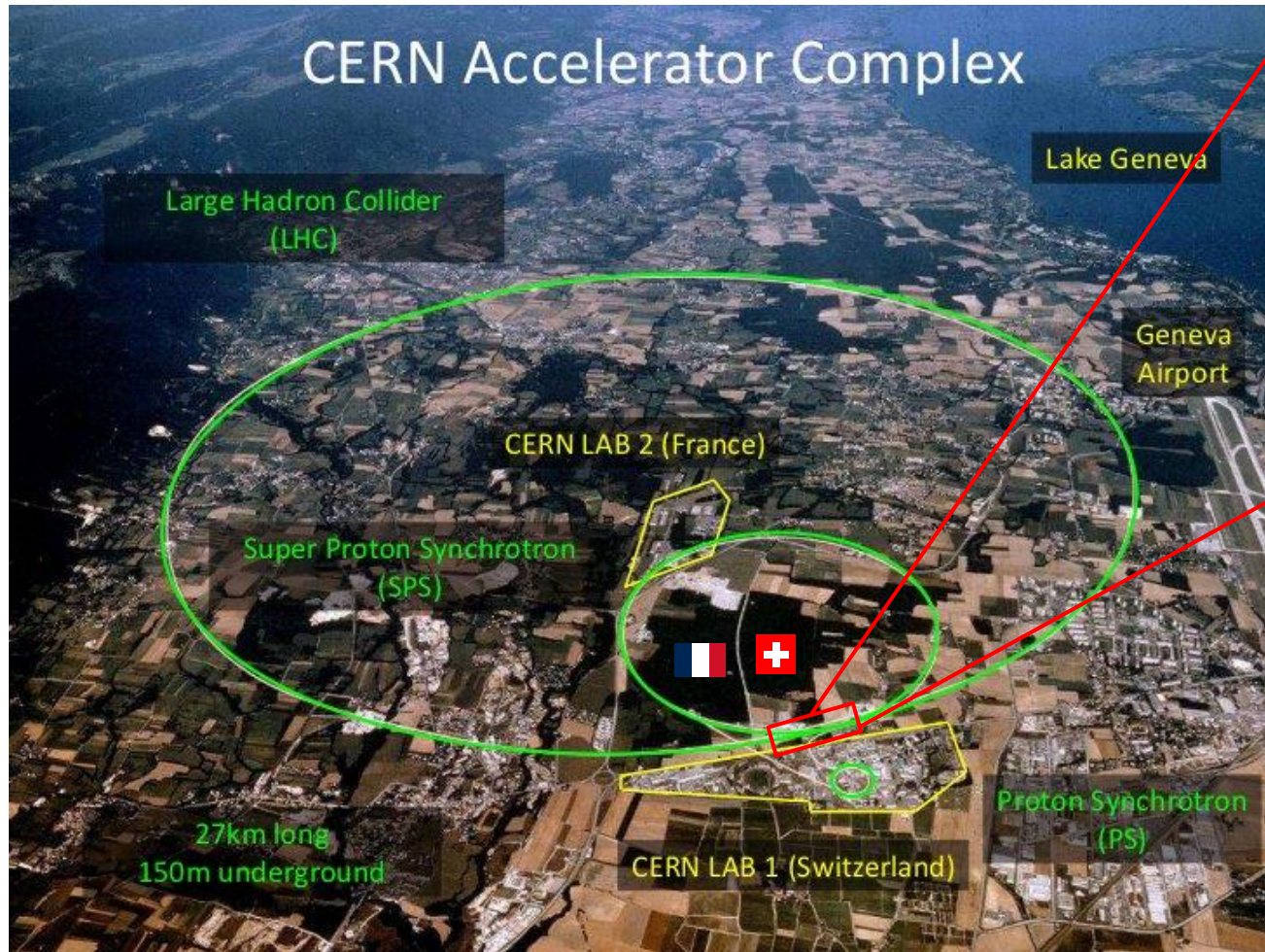
$$\omega_1 \sin \theta_1 = \omega' \sin \theta'_1 \Rightarrow \sin \theta_1 = \frac{\sin \theta'_1}{\gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta'_1)},$$

$$\omega_1 = \gamma(1 + \beta \cos \theta'_1) \omega' \approx 2\gamma^2(1 + \beta \cos \theta'_1) \omega.$$

$$v^{\max} \rightarrow (4 \gamma_L^2) v_i$$

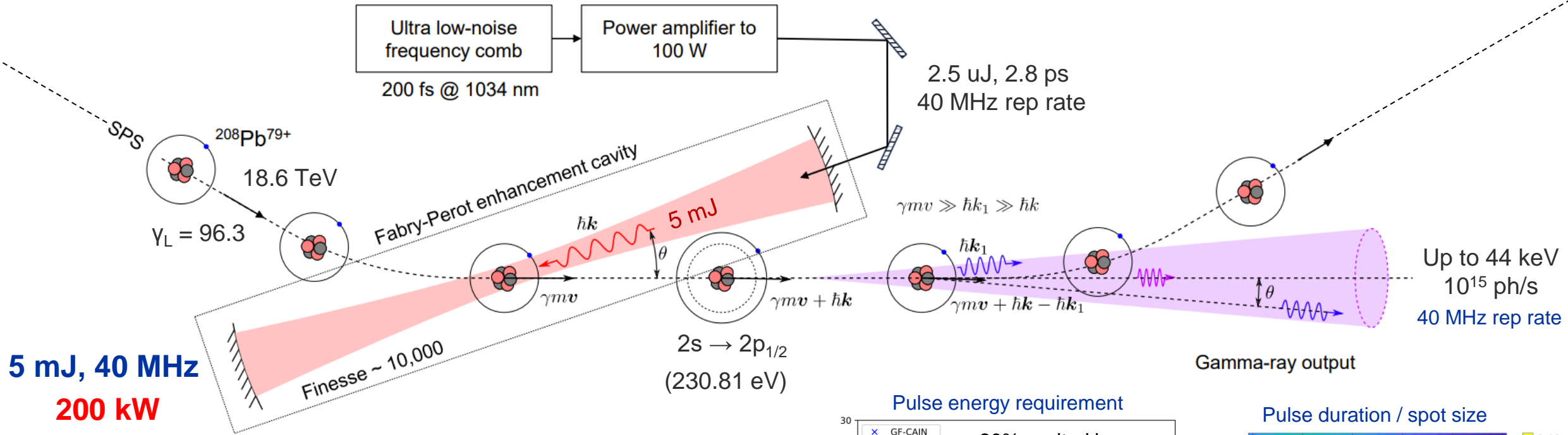


# Proof of principle experiment location





# Proof of principle experimental setup



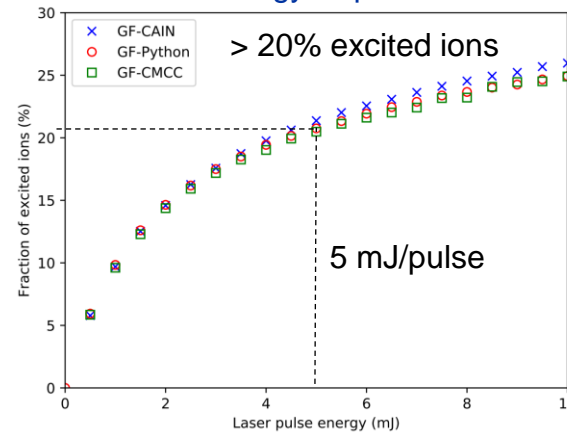
$$\mathcal{F} = 10,000 \approx 2\pi/\mathcal{L} \Rightarrow G \approx 4T_1/\mathcal{L}^2 \approx 5000$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{A_1 + A_2}_{\substack{\text{Absorption} \\ 10^{-6}}} + \underbrace{D_1 + D_2}_{\substack{\text{Diffraction} \\ 10^{-5}}} + \underbrace{T_1 + T_2}_{\substack{\text{Transmission} \\ 10^{-4}}}$$

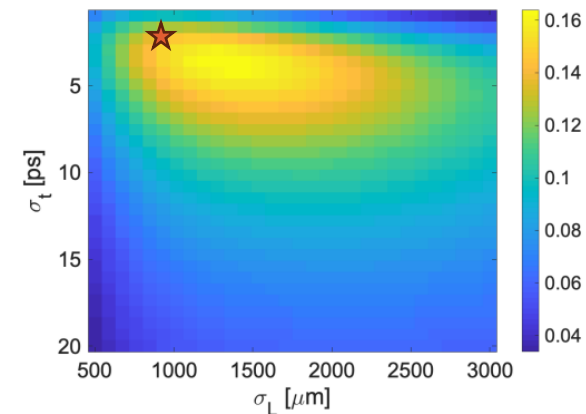
Frequency comb linewidth < 2 kHz

"LIGO-type" mirrors

Pulse energy requirement

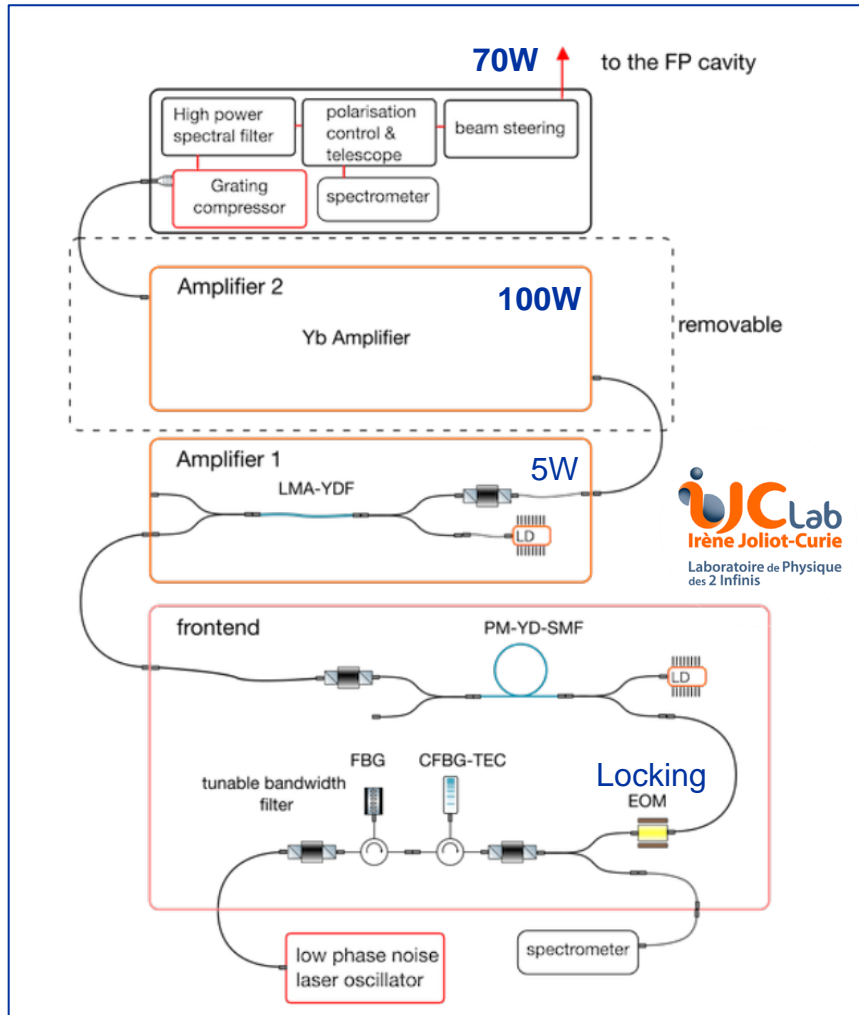


Pulse duration / spot size

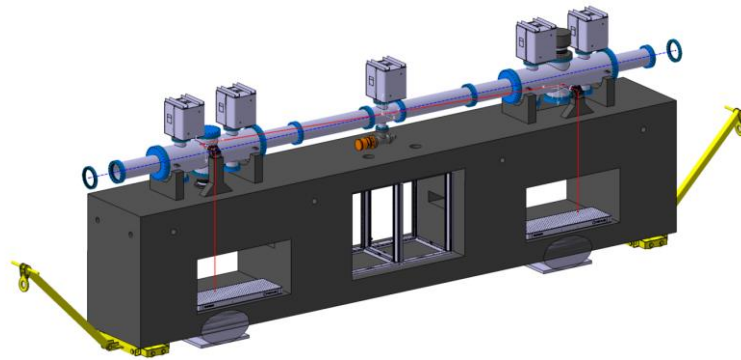


# Laser systems and integration into SPS

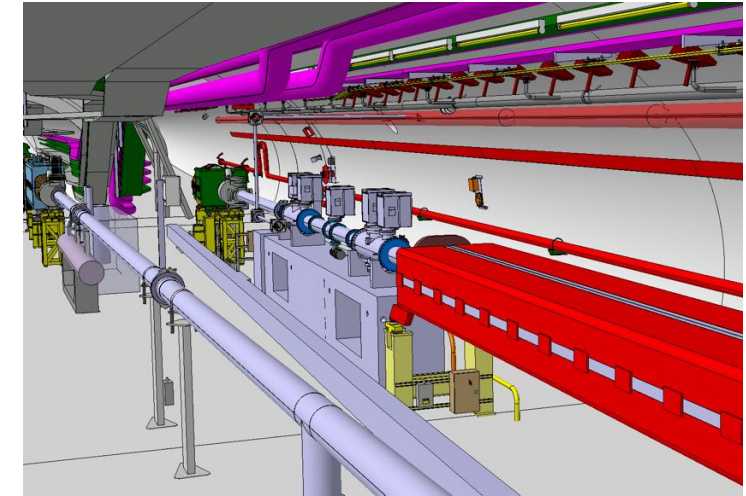
## Laser system



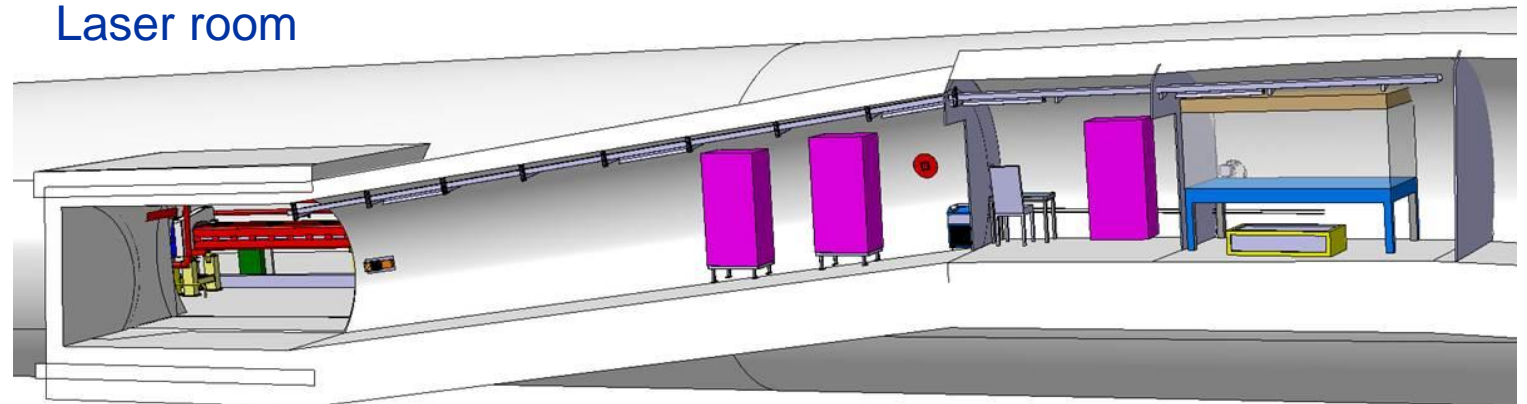
## Fabry-Perot cavity assembly



## Integration in SPS



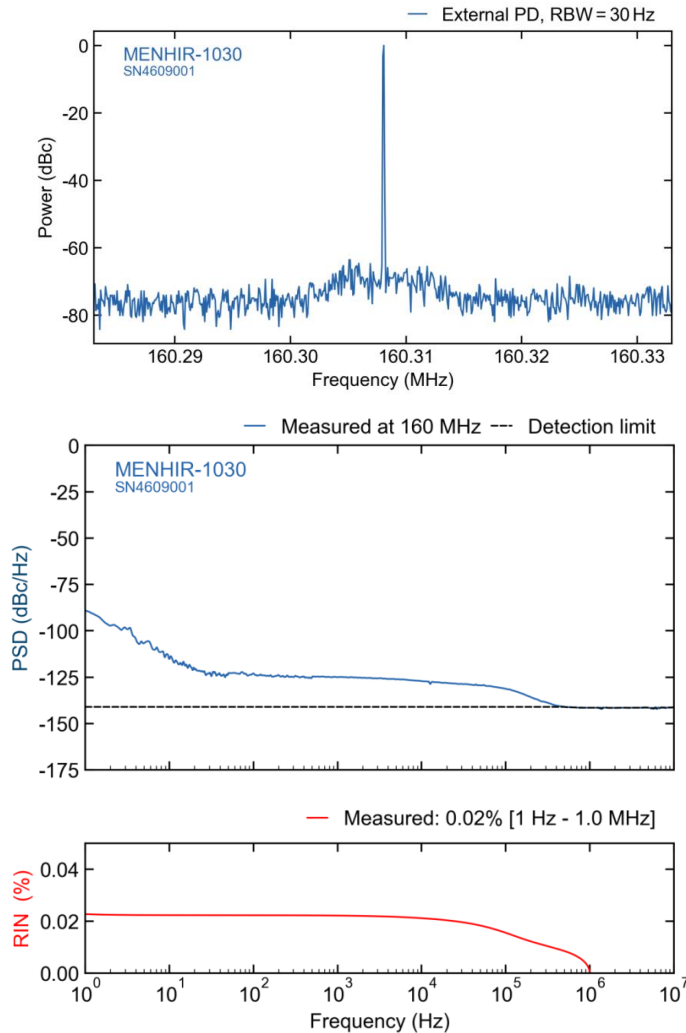
## Laser room



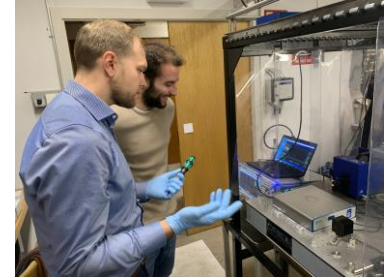
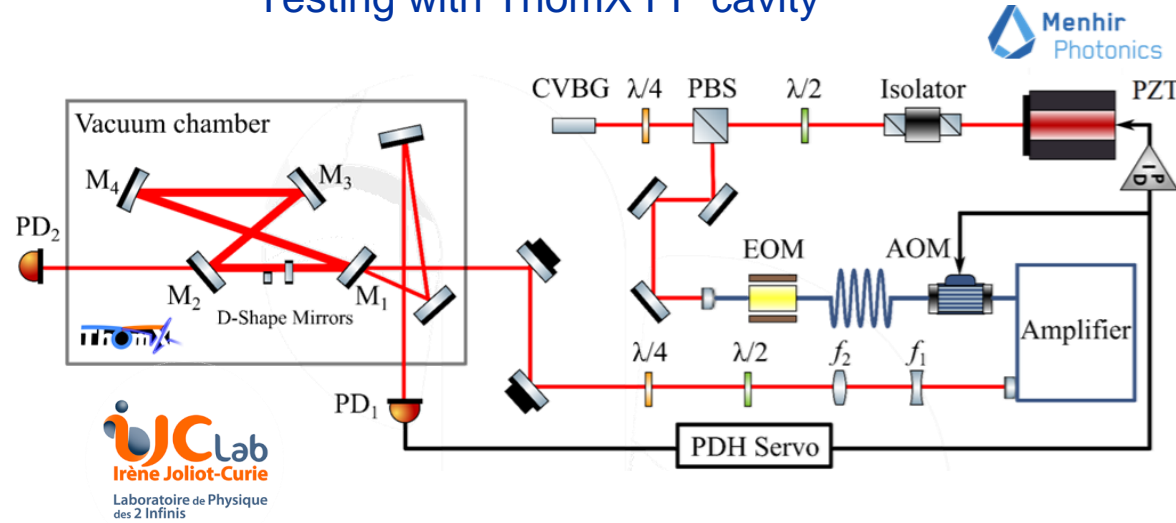


# Laser front-end performance

## Excellent phase-noise performance



## Testing with ThomX FP cavity



	Demo	GF PoP
FSR	160 MHz	40 MHz
Cavity linewidth	10 kHz	4 kHz
Finesse	24,000	10,000
Gain	6,700	5,000
Coupling efficiency	70%	70%
Amplified power	70 W	50 W
Estimated power	<b>320 kW</b>	<b>180 kW</b>

Feb 2024

## Next steps:

Tender amplifier to 100W  
Installation at SPS in 2025-27

PoP experiments at SPS  
**2027-2032**

## Stable 500 kW average power of infrared light in a finesse 35 000 enhancement cavity

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X.-Y. Lu,<sup>1,2</sup> R. Chiche,<sup>1</sup> K. Dupraz,<sup>1</sup> F. Johora,<sup>1</sup> A. Martens,<sup>1,a)</sup> D. Nutarelli,<sup>1</sup> Y. Peinaud,<sup>1</sup> V. Soskov,<sup>1</sup> A. Stocchi,<sup>1</sup> F. Zomer,<sup>1</sup> C. Michel,<sup>3</sup> L. Pinard,<sup>3</sup> E. Cormier,<sup>4</sup> J. Lhermite,<sup>5</sup> X. Liu,<sup>2</sup> Q.-L. Tian,<sup>2</sup> L.-X. Yan,<sup>2</sup> W.-H. Huang,<sup>2</sup> C.-X. Tang,<sup>2</sup> V. Fedosseev,<sup>6</sup> E. Granados,<sup>6</sup> and B. Marsh<sup>6</sup>

### AFFILIATIONS

<sup>1</sup>Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, IJCLab, 91405 Orsay, France

<sup>2</sup>Department of Engineering Physics, Tsinghua University, Beijing 100084, China

<sup>3</sup>Laboratoire des Matériaux Avancés-IP2I, CNRS, Université de Lyon, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, F-69622 Villeurbanne, France

<sup>4</sup>Laboratoire Photonique Numérique et Nanosciences (LP2N), UMR 5298, CNRS-IOGS-Université Bordeaux, 33400 Talence, France

<sup>5</sup>Université de Bordeaux-CNRS-CEA, Centre Lasers Intenses et Applications (CELIA), 351 cours de la Libération, F-33405 Talence, France

<sup>6</sup>CERN, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland

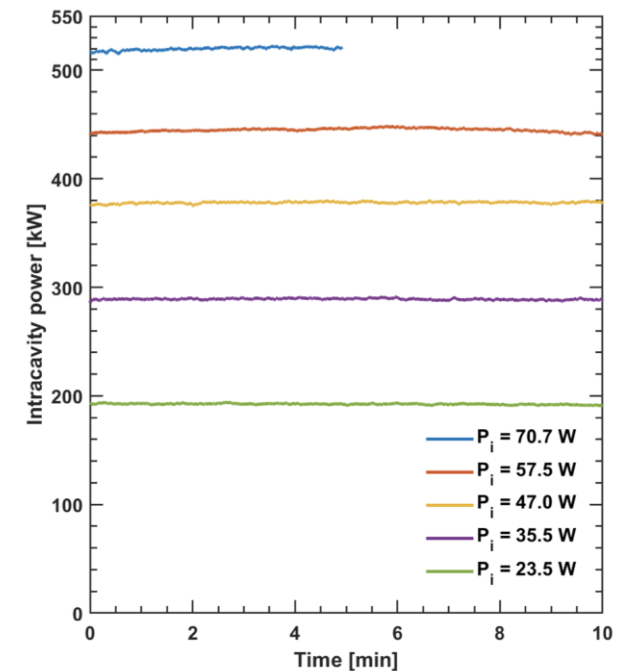
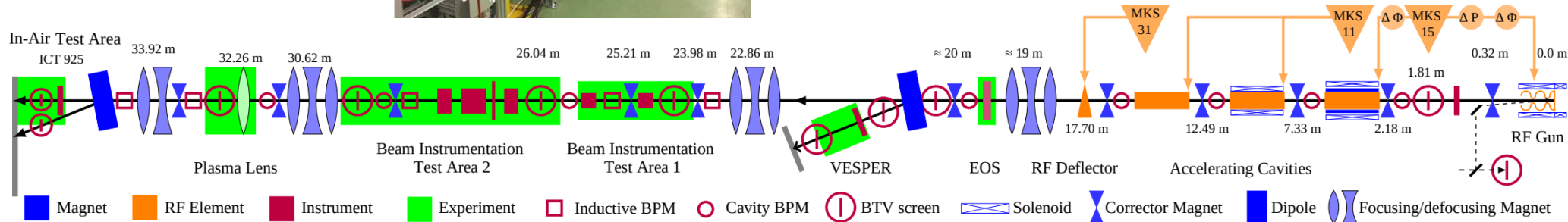
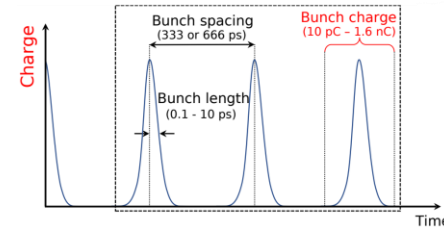
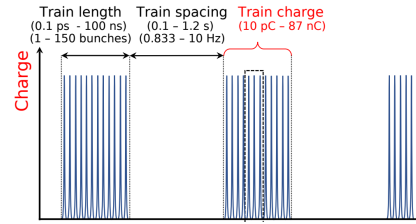


FIG. 3. Experimental measurements of intracavity power as a function of time for various values of injection power  $P_i$ .

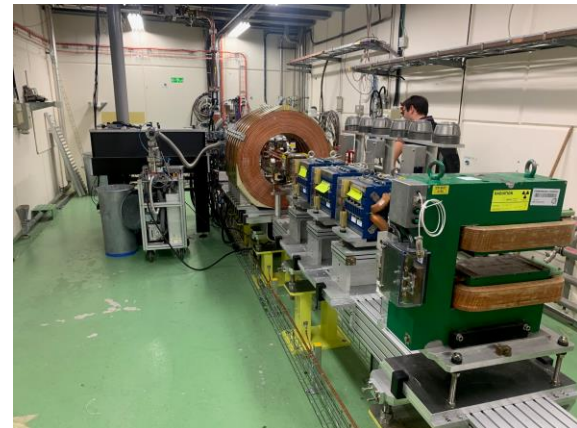
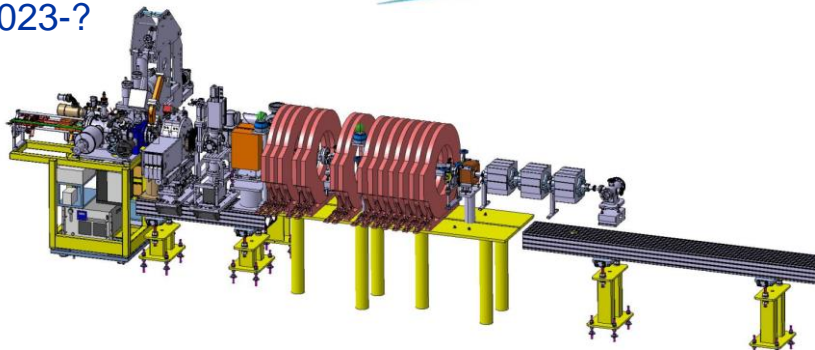
# Electron sources available at CERN

**clear**  
2017-2030



<b>CLEAR</b>
30 - 220 MeV
7 nC/bunch
1 - 150 bunches
1 - 10 Hz train rep rate
3 GHz
Cs <sub>2</sub> Te photocathode

**CTF-2**  
2023-?



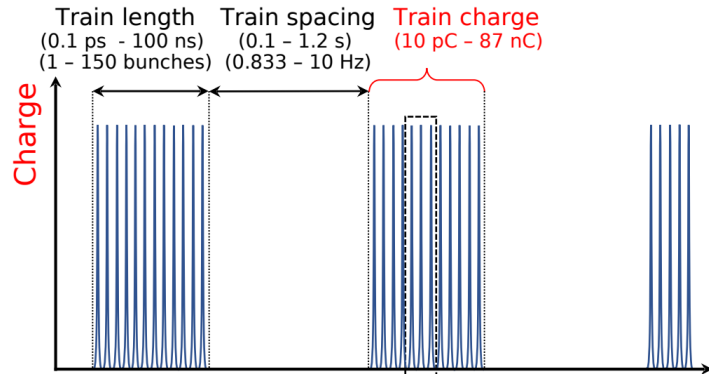
<b>CTF2 / CLIC</b>
6 - 150 MeV
1 - 2 nC/bunch
1 - 10,000 bunches
1 - 5 Hz trains
12 GHz (X-band)



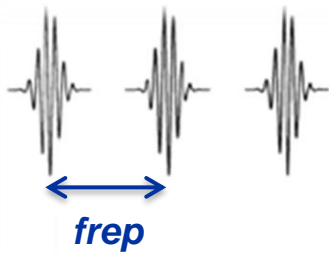


# Burst-mode enhancement cavities

## Injected electron bunches

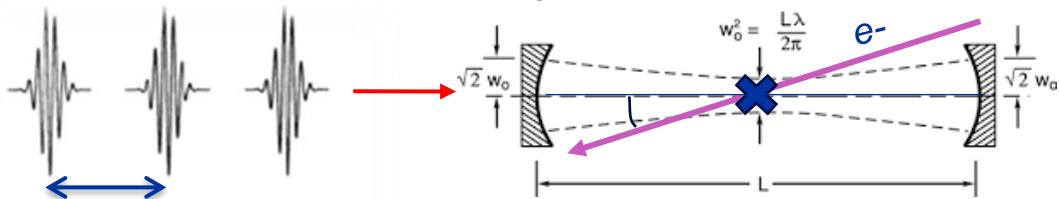


## Injected laser pulses

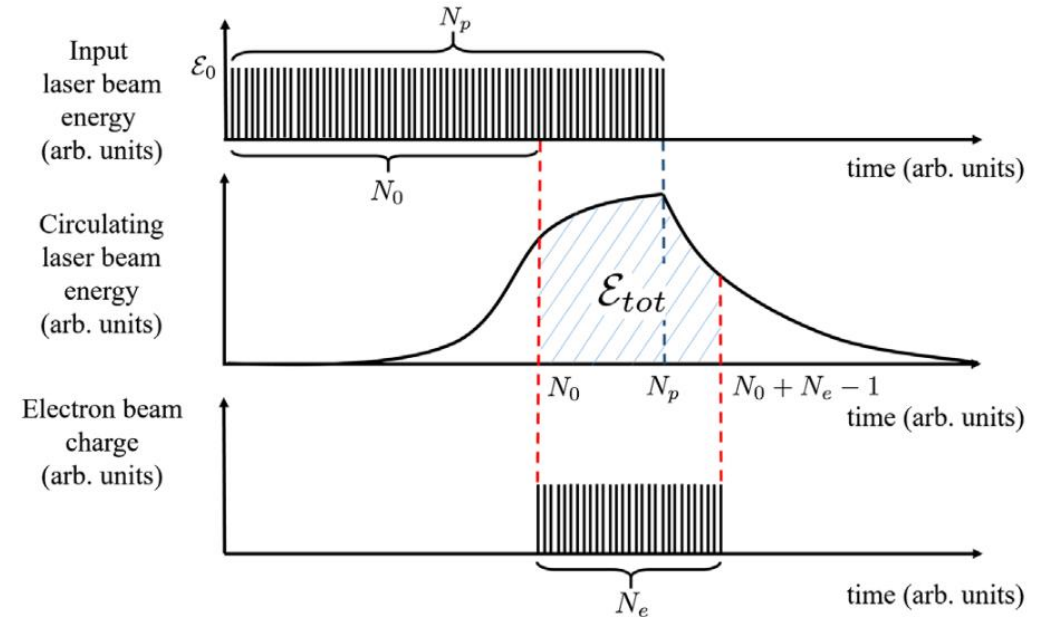


(Coupler) mirror

Spherical mirror



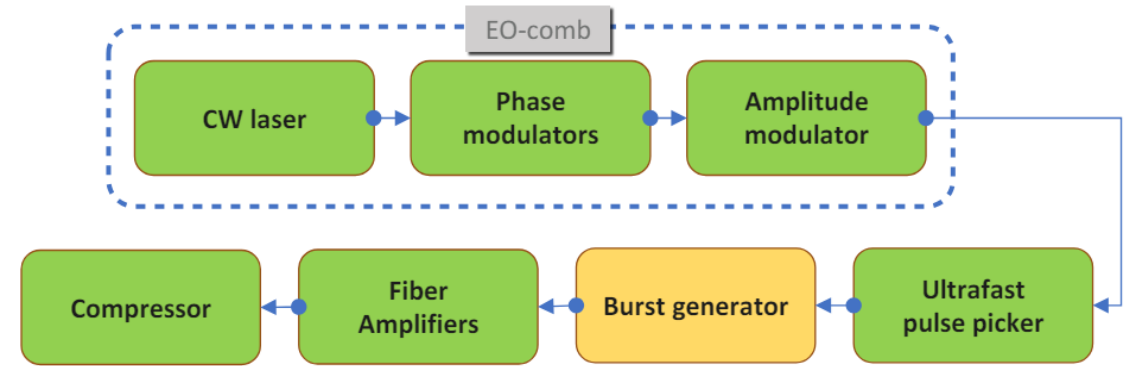
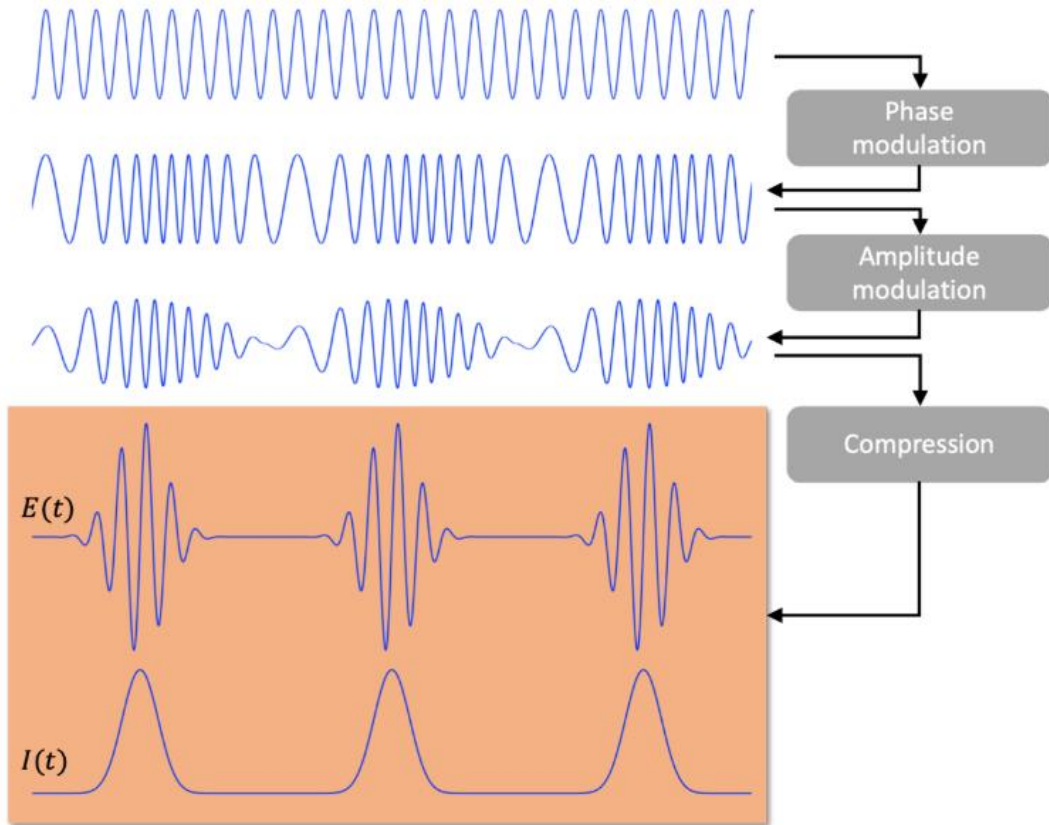
## Burst-mode transient energy storage



Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams **21**, 121601 (2018)

**CTF2:  $2 \times 10^{10}$  ph/s @ 890 eV**  
**CLEAR:  $3 \times 10^{10}$  ph/s @ 740 keV**

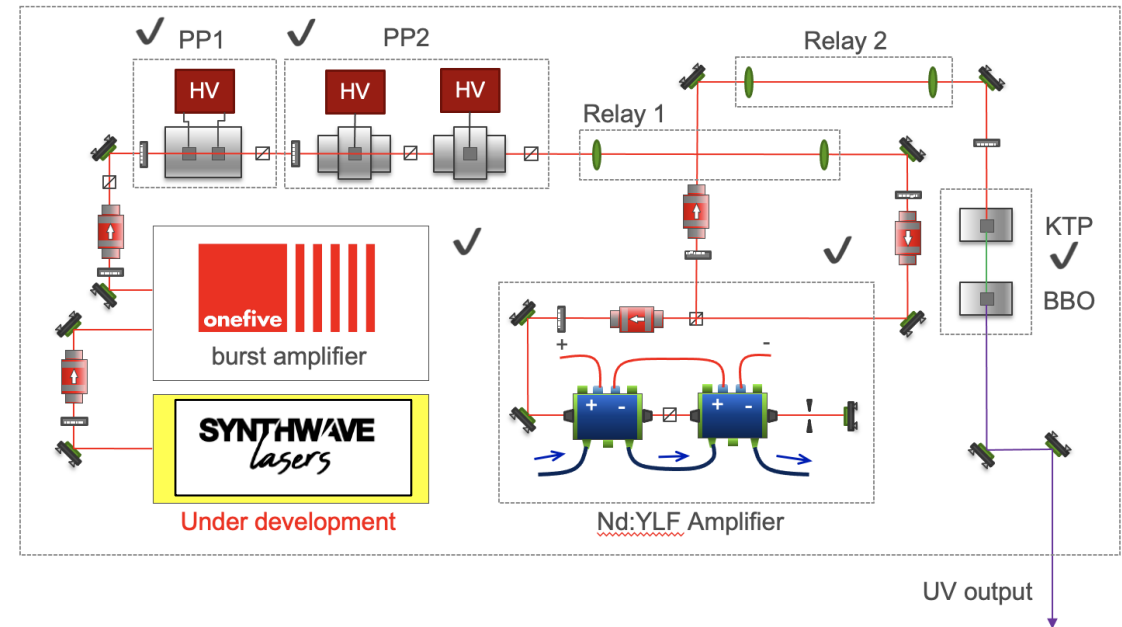
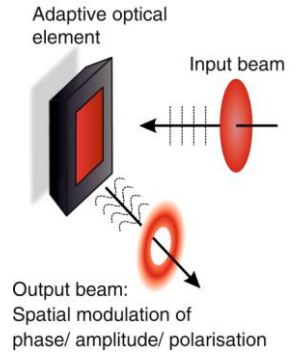
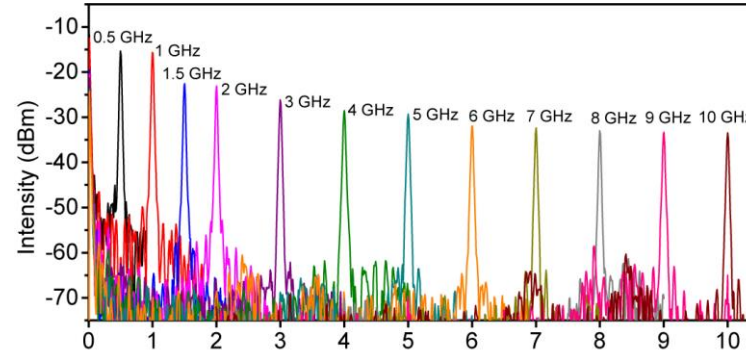
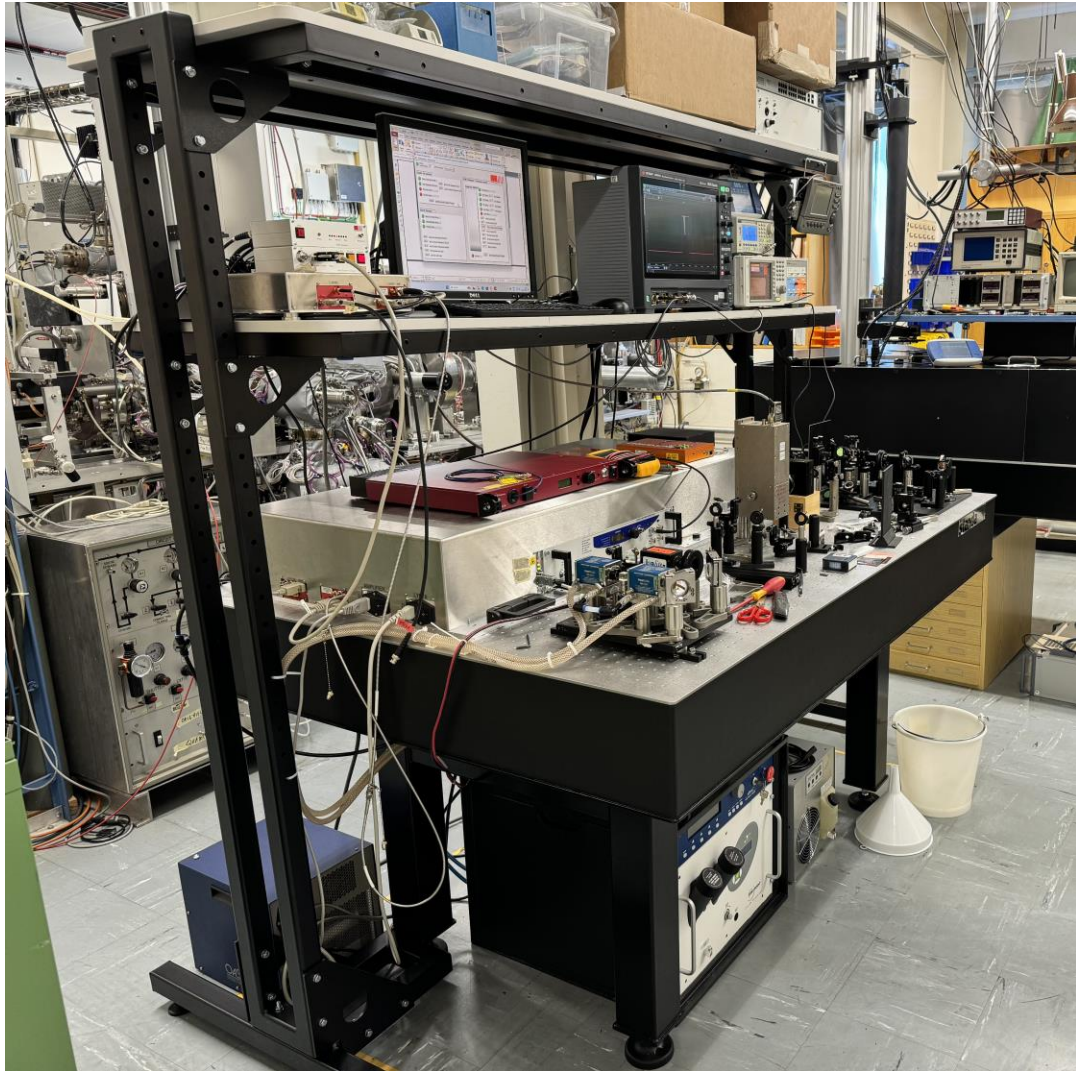
# Electro-Optic GHz repetition rate frequency combs



## Gigapico Burst Mode:

Wavelength (Yb):	1030 nm
Average power:	40 W
Maximum burst energy:	1 mJ
Maximum pulse energy:	10 $\mu$ J
Pulse repetition rate :	0.25 GHz to 18 GHz
Burst repetition rate:	50 kHz to several MHz
Pulse duration:	800 fs to 2 ps
Number of pulses per burst:	10 to several 1000

# Electro-Optic GHz repetition rate frequency combs





# Conclusions

The CERN accelerator complex provides a variety of unique beams for high photon energy production

## Gamma Factory

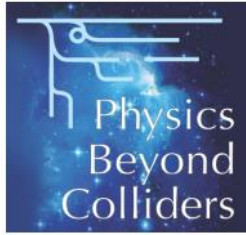
- Phase I – Proof of principle experiment starting 2027 to produce 44 keV photons at  $10^{15}$  ph/s
- Phase II – in LHC up to 400 MeV photons at  $10^{16}$  ph/s

## Inverse Compton Scattering X-ray sources

- High energy electro-optic frequency combs at multi-GHz repetition rate development underway
- Currently 2 electron beam user facilities operative with lasers and diagnostics for X-ray experiments
- Burst-mode high charge electron accelerators can yield 1 – 700 keV photons at  $10^{10}$  ph/s

# Acknowledgements

## Gamma Factory Collaboration:



100+ physicists from 40 institutes in 15 countries

A. Abramov<sup>1</sup>, A. Afanasev<sup>37</sup>, S.E. Alden<sup>1</sup>, R. Alemany Fernandez<sup>2</sup>, P.S. Antsiferov<sup>3</sup>, A. Apyan<sup>4</sup>, G. Arduini<sup>2</sup>, D. Balabanski<sup>34</sup>, R. Balkin<sup>32</sup>, H. Bartosik<sup>2</sup>, J. Berengut<sup>5</sup>, E.G. Bessonov<sup>9</sup>, N. Biancacci<sup>2</sup>, J. Bieroń<sup>7</sup>, A. Bogacz<sup>8</sup>, A. Bosco<sup>1</sup>, T. Brydges<sup>36</sup>, R. Bruce<sup>2</sup>, D. Budker<sup>3,10</sup>, M. Bussmann<sup>38</sup>, P. Constantini<sup>34</sup>, K. Cassou<sup>11</sup>, F. Castelli<sup>12</sup>, I. Chaikovska<sup>11</sup>, C. Curatolo<sup>13</sup>, C. Curceanu<sup>35</sup>, P. Czodrowski<sup>2</sup>, A. Derevianko<sup>14</sup>, K. Dupraz<sup>11</sup>, Y. Duthheil<sup>2</sup>, K. Dzierżega<sup>2</sup>, V. Fedosseev<sup>2</sup>, V. Flambaum<sup>25</sup>, S. Fritzsche<sup>17</sup>, N. Fuster Martinez<sup>2</sup>, S.M. Gibson<sup>1</sup>, B. Goddard<sup>2</sup>, M. Gorshteyn<sup>20</sup>, A. Gorzawski<sup>15,2</sup>, M.E. Granados<sup>2</sup>, R. Hajima<sup>26</sup>, T. Hayakawa<sup>26</sup>, S. Hirlander<sup>2</sup>, J. Jin<sup>33</sup>, J.M. Jowett<sup>2</sup>, F. Karbstein<sup>39</sup>, R. Kersevan<sup>2</sup>, M. Kowalska<sup>2</sup>, M.W. Krasny<sup>16,2</sup>, F. Kroeger<sup>17</sup>, D. Kuchler<sup>2</sup>, M. Lamoni<sup>2</sup>, T. Lefevre<sup>2</sup>, T. Ma<sup>32</sup>, D. Manglunki<sup>2</sup>, B. Marsh<sup>2</sup>, A. Martens<sup>12</sup>, C. Michel<sup>40</sup>, S. Miyamoto<sup>31</sup>, J. Molson<sup>2</sup>, D. Nichita<sup>34</sup>, D. Nutarelli<sup>11</sup>, L.J. Nevay<sup>1</sup>, V. Pascualutsa<sup>28</sup>, Y. Papaphilippou<sup>2</sup>, A. Petrenko<sup>18,2</sup>, V. Petrillo<sup>12</sup>, L. Pinard<sup>40</sup>, W. Placzek<sup>7</sup>, R.L. Ramjiawan<sup>2</sup>, S. Redaelli<sup>2</sup>, Y. Peinaud<sup>11</sup>, S. Pustelny<sup>7</sup>, S. Rochester<sup>19</sup>, M. Safronova<sup>29,30</sup>, D. Samoilenko<sup>17</sup>, M. Sapinski<sup>20</sup>, M. Schaumann<sup>2</sup>, R. Scrivens<sup>2</sup>, L. Serafini<sup>12</sup>, V.P. Shevelko<sup>6</sup>, Y. Soreh<sup>32</sup>, T. Stoehlker<sup>17</sup>, A. Surzhykov<sup>21</sup>, I. Tolstikhina<sup>6</sup>, F. Velotti<sup>2</sup>, A. Viatkina<sup>9</sup>, A.V. Volotka<sup>17</sup>, G. Weber<sup>17</sup>, W. Weigiang<sup>27</sup>, D. Winters<sup>20</sup>, Y.K. Wu<sup>22</sup>, C. Yin-Vallgren<sup>2</sup>, M. Zanetti<sup>23,13</sup>, F. Zimmermann<sup>2</sup>, M.S. Zolotarev<sup>24</sup> and F. Zomer<sup>11</sup>

## Electron facilities at CERN:



## Partners and collaborators:

### Lasers & Optics



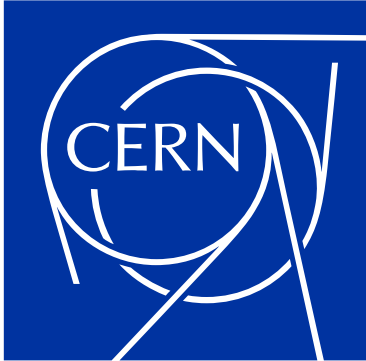
### Electron sources



And many others...

### Laser-particle interactions



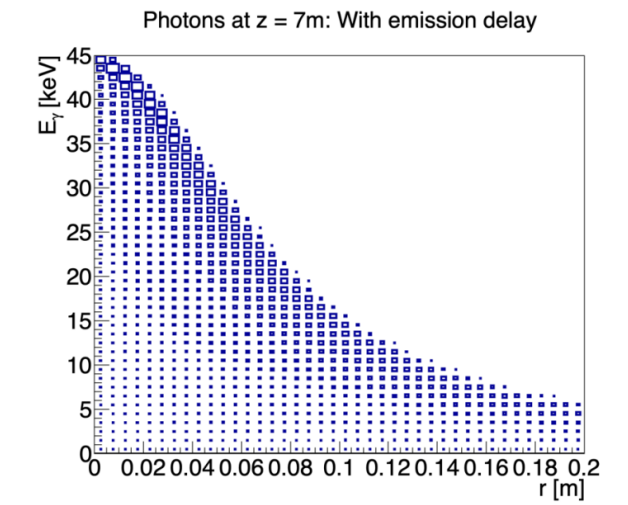
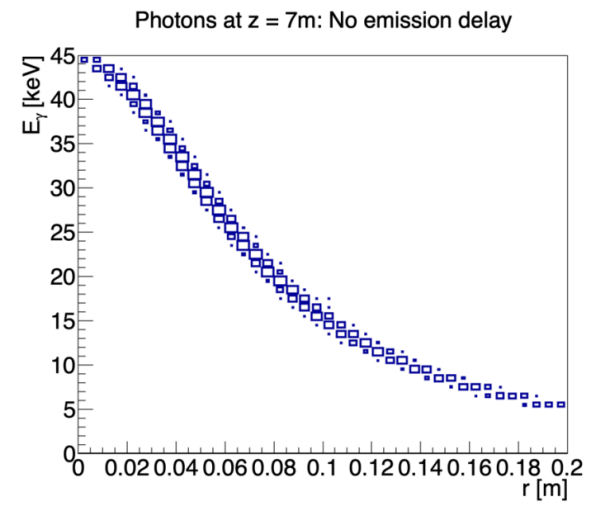
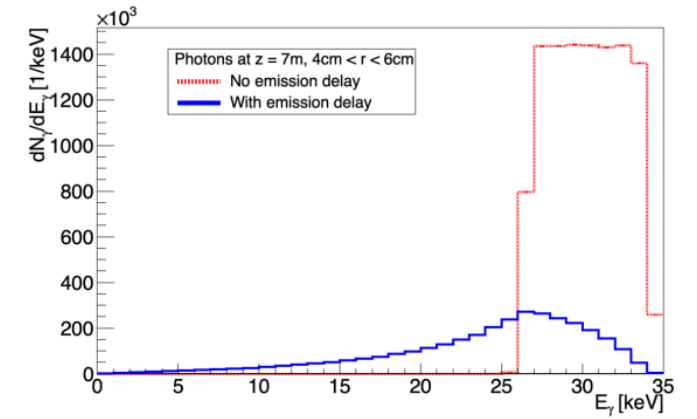
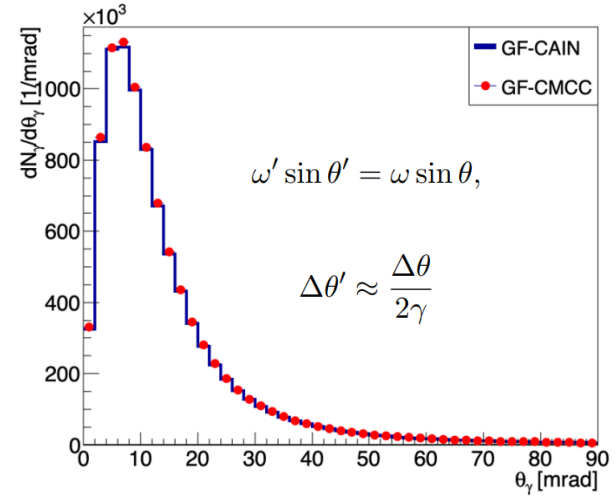


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# Expected performance

	Phase I	Phase II
	<b>GF PoP</b>	<b>Gamma Factory</b>
Ion beam	$^{208}\text{Pb}^{79+}$	$^{208}\text{Pb}^{81+}$
	18.652 TeV (SPS)	578.9 TeV (LHC)
	40 MHz	40 MHz
Produced photons	<b>44 keV</b>	<b>400 MeV</b>
	$10^{15}$ photons/s	$10^{16}$ photons/s
	0.2 $\mu\text{J}/\text{pulse}$	16 mJ/pulse
	<b>7 W (J/s)</b>	<b>640 kW (kJ/s)</b>



J. Bieroń, M. W. Krasny, W. Płaczek, S. Pustelny, Optical Excitation of Ultra-Relativistic Partially Stripped Ions. *ANNALEN DER PHYSIK* 2022, 534, 2100250.