



---

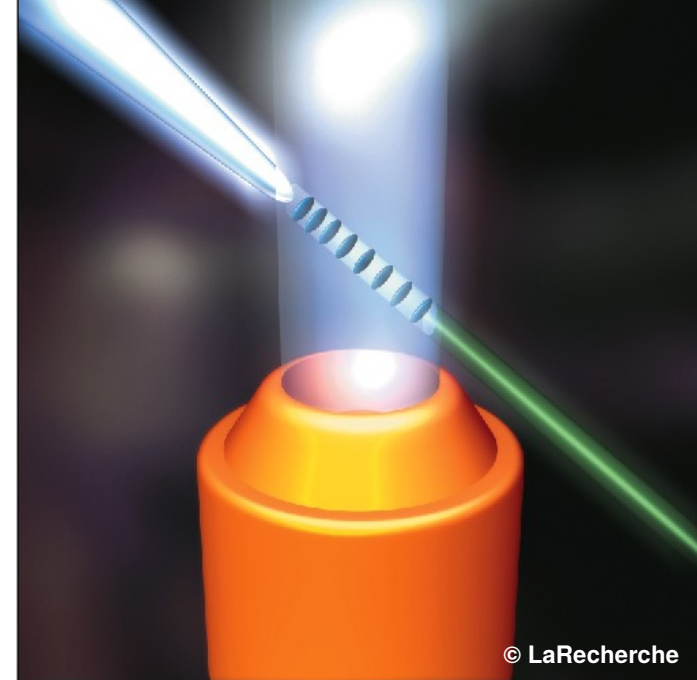
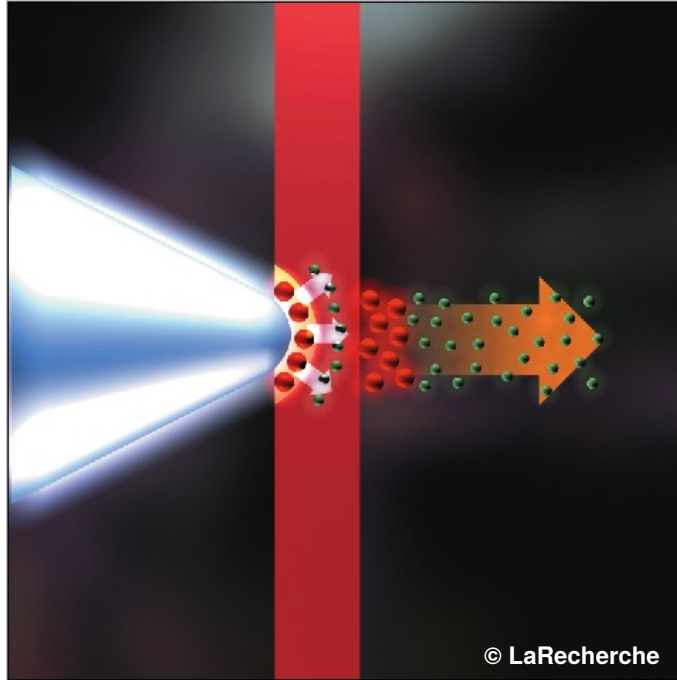
# Focus sur les techniques d'accélération laser-plasma

**Alessandro Flacco**

Laboratoire d'Optique Appliquée  
ENSTA, École Polytechnique, CNRS-UMR7639  
Palaiseau, France

[alessandro.flacco@ensta-paris.fr](mailto:alessandro.flacco@ensta-paris.fr)

---



**High accelerating gradients** (GV/m  $\rightarrow$  TV/m): smaller machines

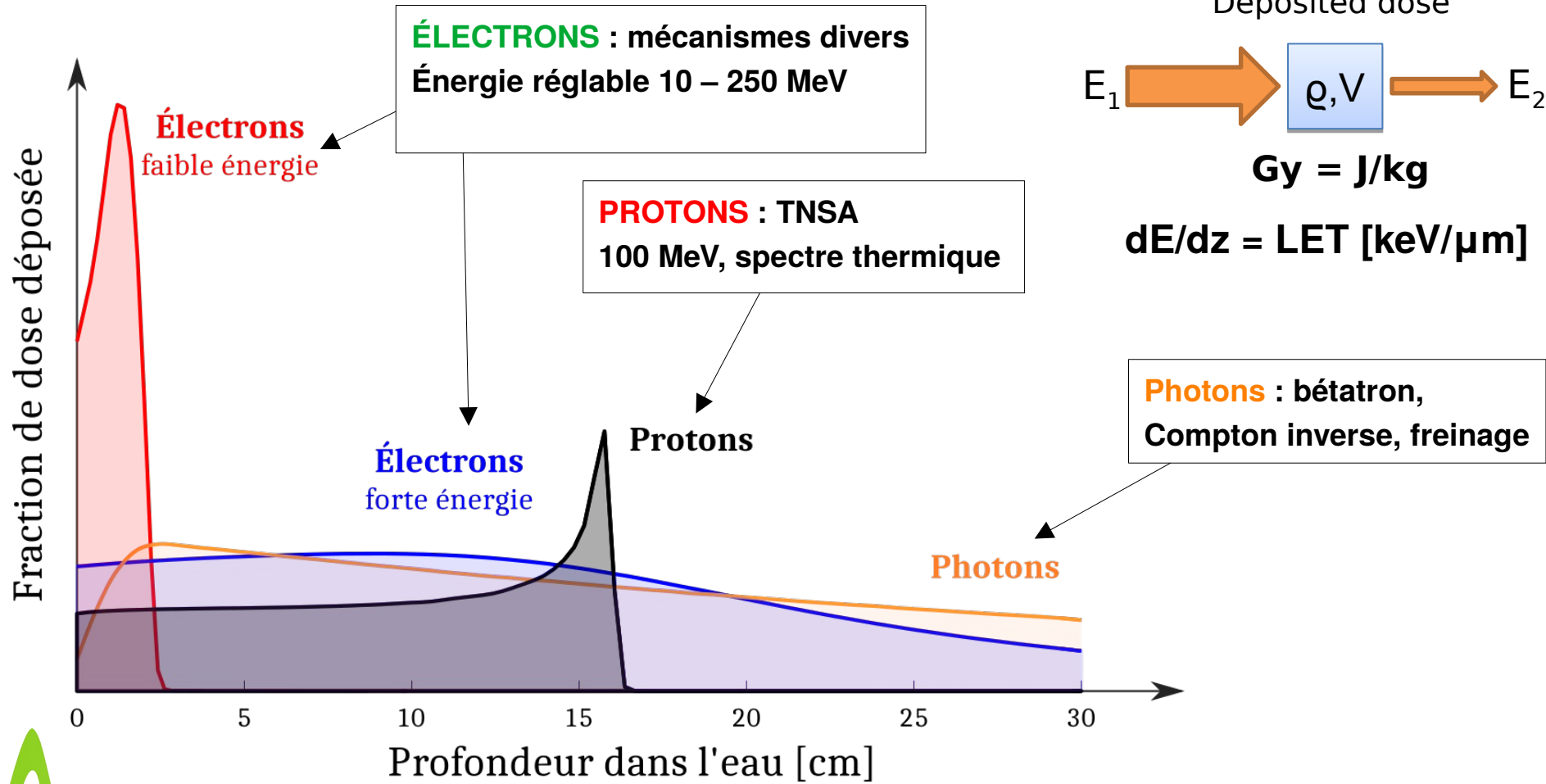
**Industrial advantages:** reduced radioprotection burden, ease of beam distribution

**Exciting features:** rich physics behind, exotic parameters (duration, brilliance, ...), versatility

Energies: 100s MeV (protons),  $> 1$  GeV (electrons)

Duration: 10fs - ps

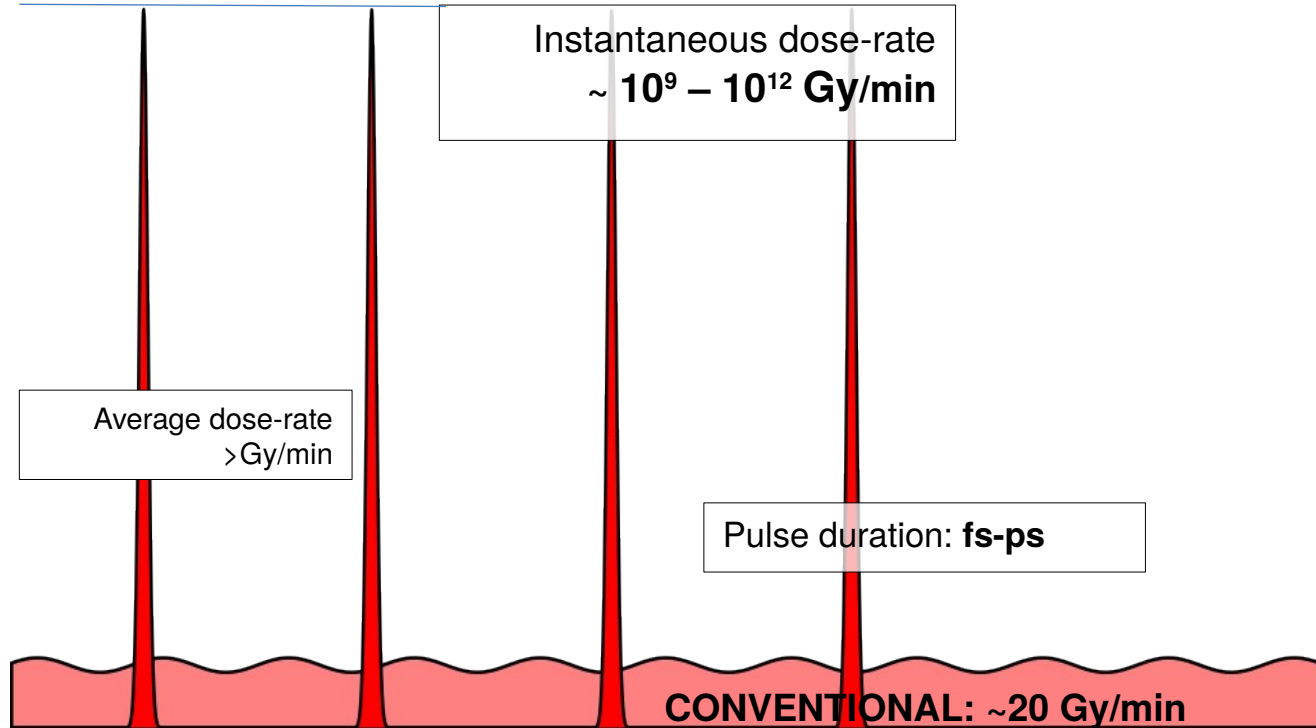
Charges: pC – 100s nC



# Echelle temporelle : *fractionnement rapide*(\*)

**Considering common ~1Watt average power laser:**  
(at ~20 Gy/min. condition)

## LASER-DRIVEN



Repetition: Hz - kHz (or single)

**High rep. rate**, low dose  
kHz, 100s  $\mu$ Gy/pulse.  
*Continuous-like?*

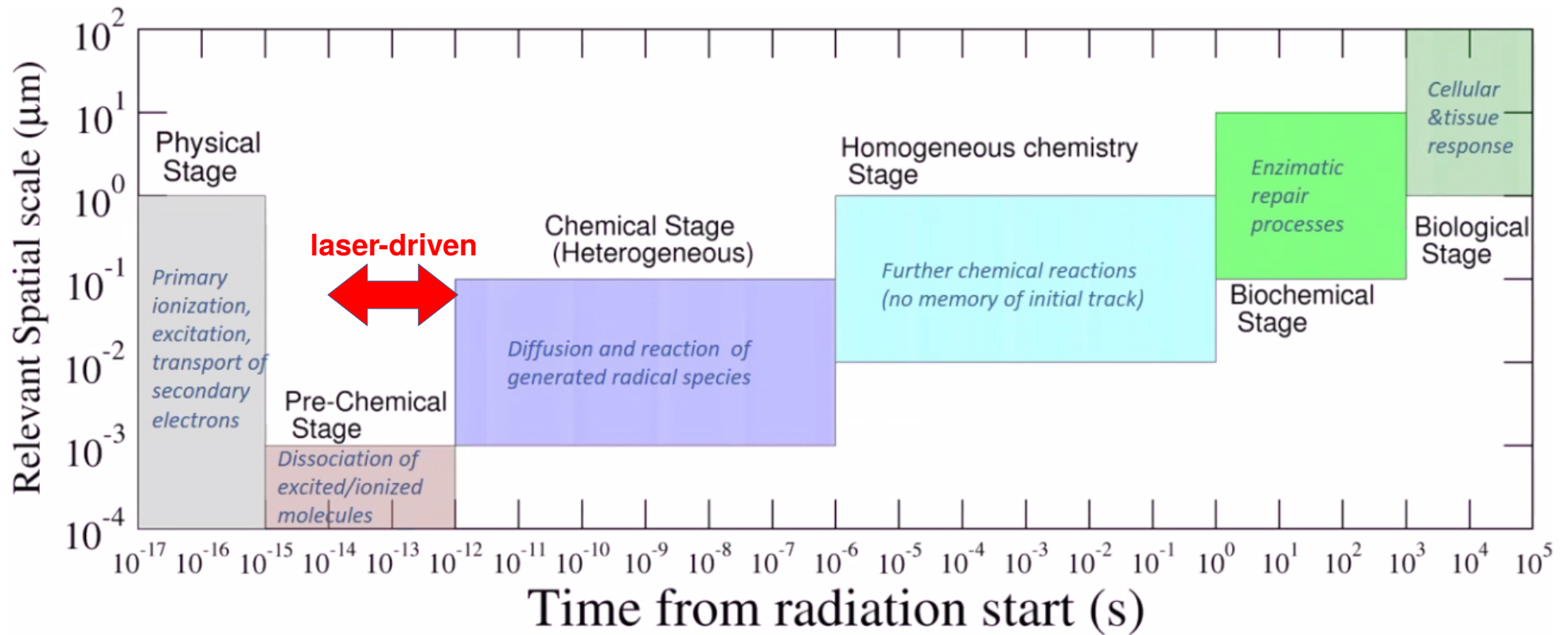


**~Hz rep. rate**, ~100s mGy/pulse.  
*Fast-fractionated* (\*)

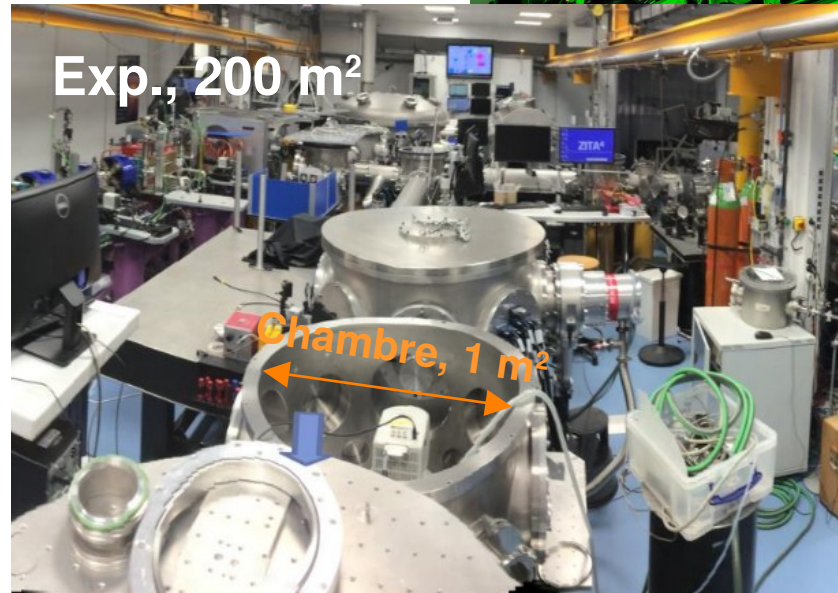
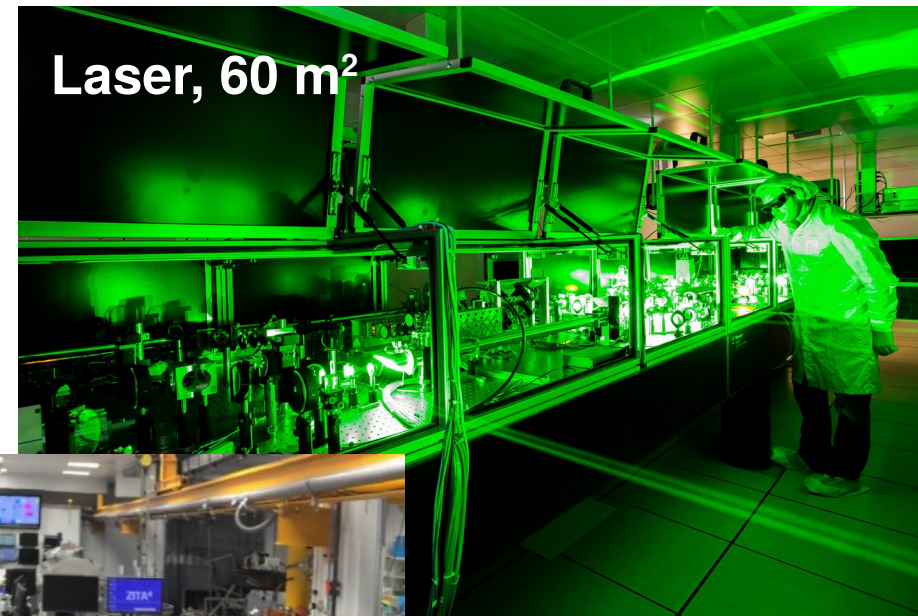
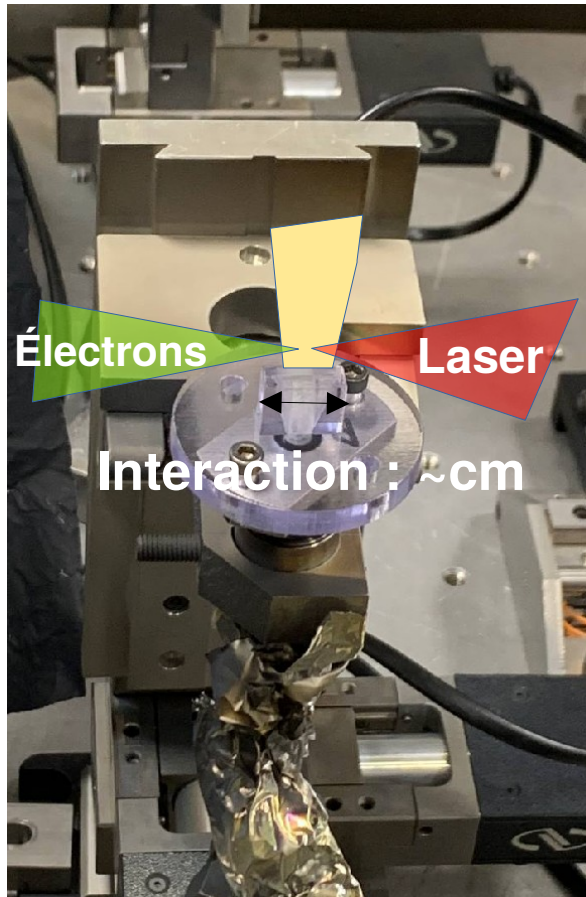


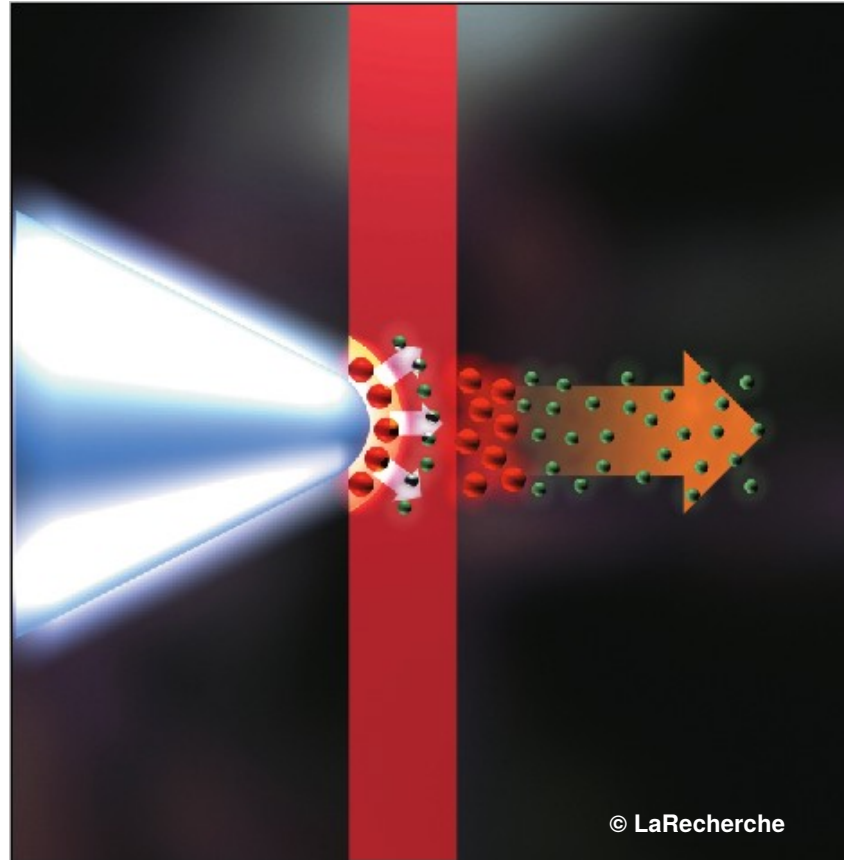
**Single pulse** (>10Gy) irradiation  
**FLASH** (?)

(\*) Bayart et al., Sci Rep. 2019

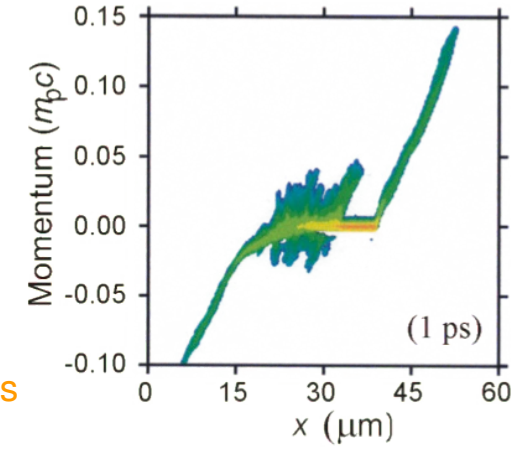
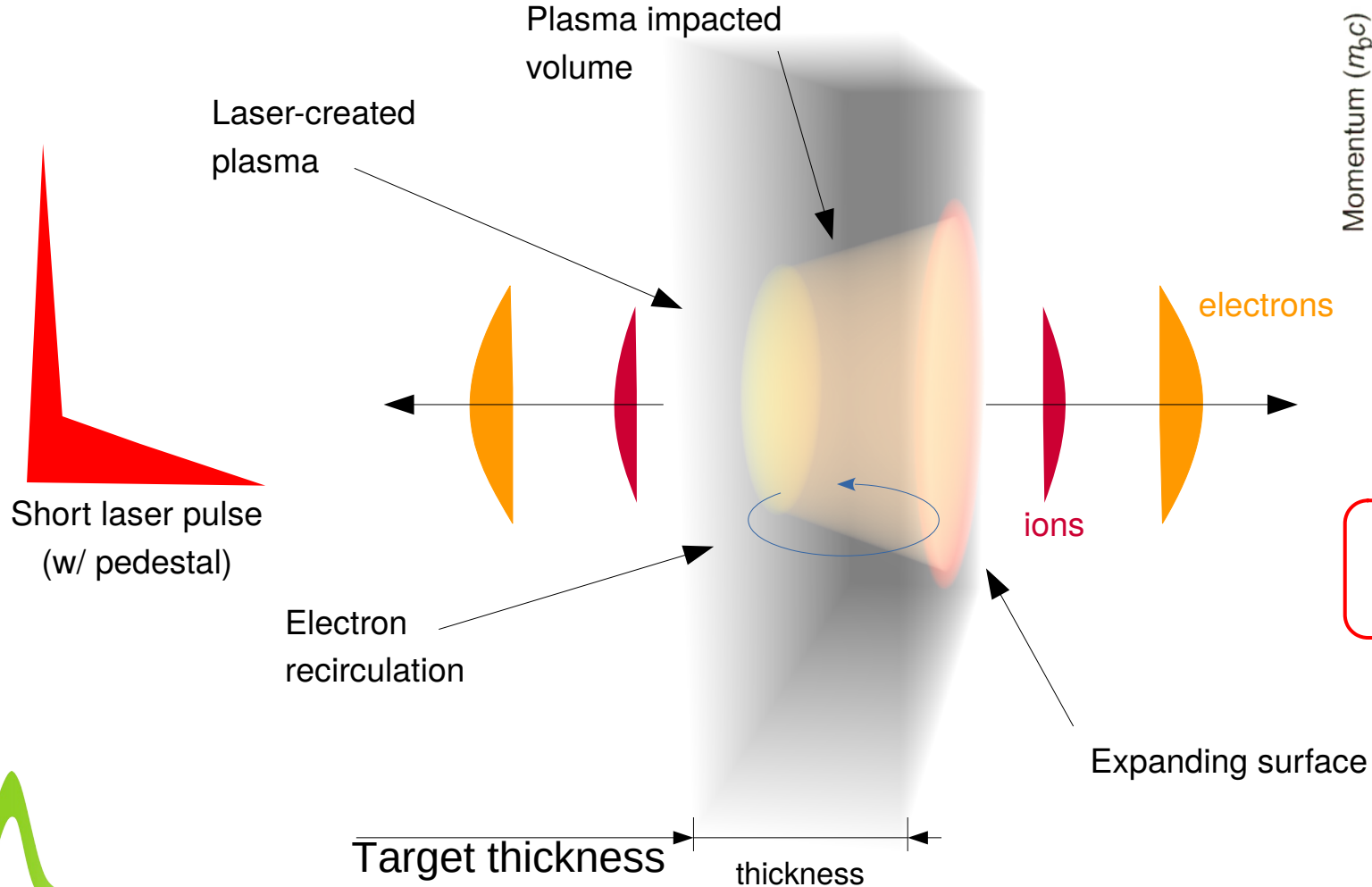


(courtesy E. Scifoni, Uni TN)





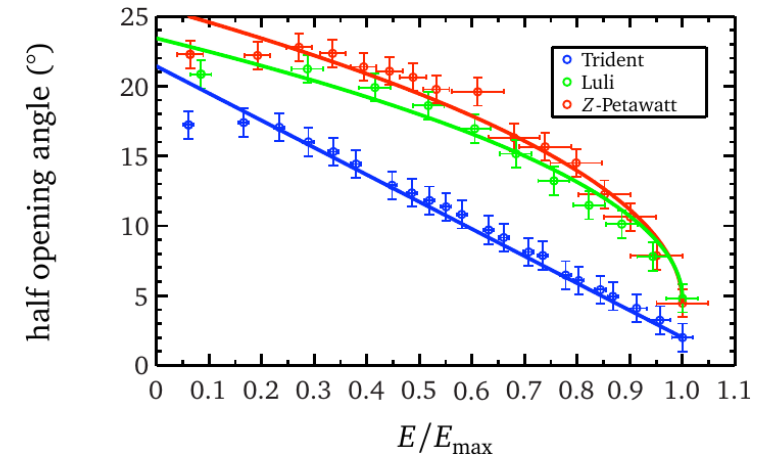
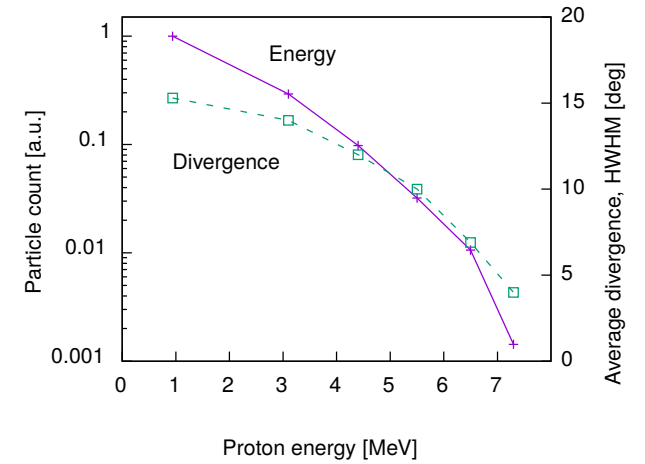
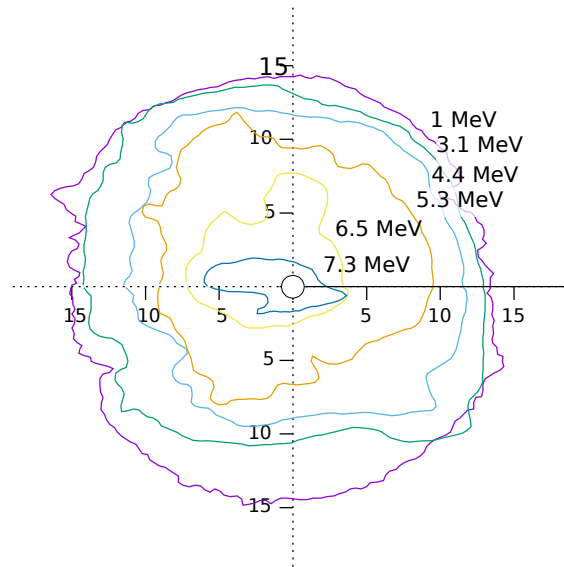
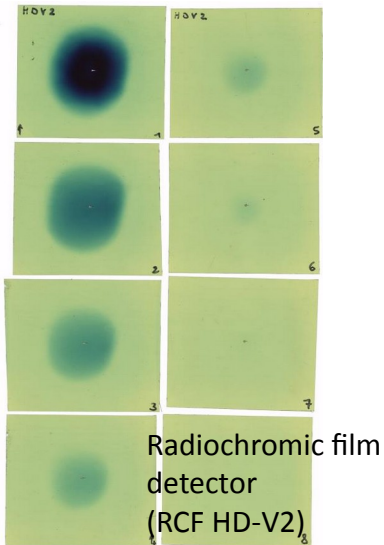
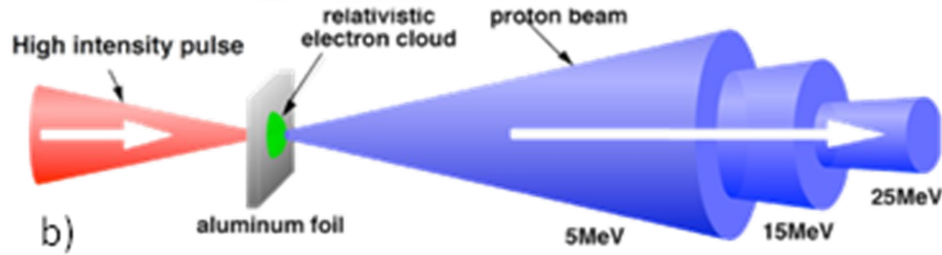
# TNSA: Target Normal Sheath Acceleration



$$E_p \propto I_0^{1/2}$$



# Energy, charge and divergence

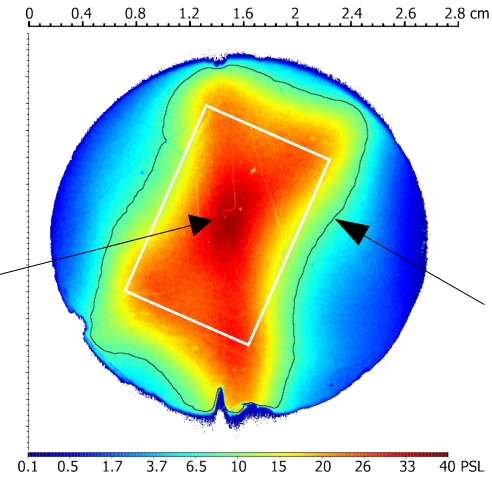
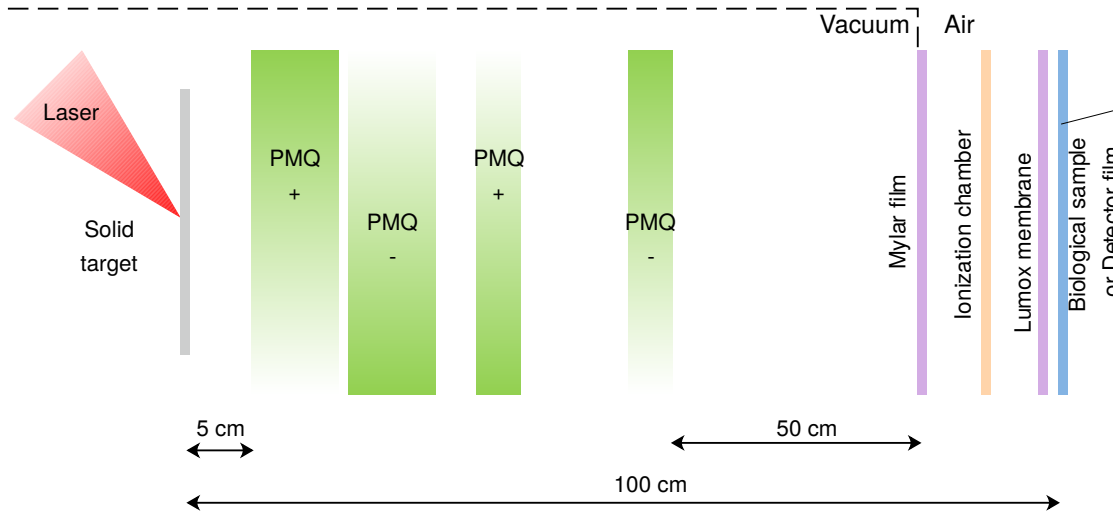


**Charge: 1 – 10 nC** (depending on laser energy and waist)

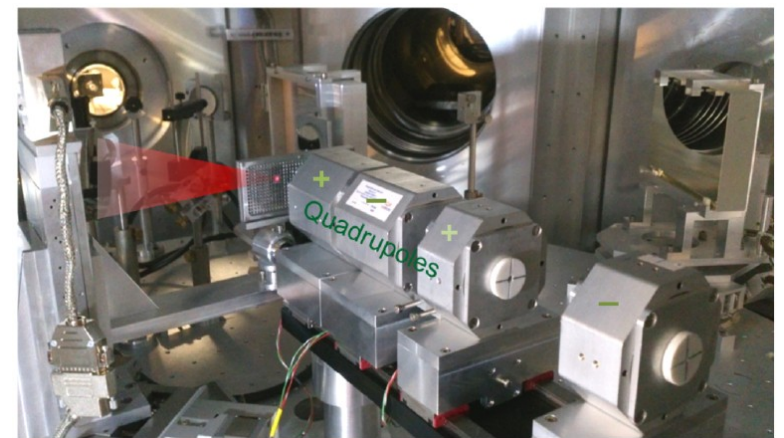
**Spectrum: thermal** (with sharp cutoff)

M. Roth, doi:10.5170/CERN-2016-001.231 (2016)

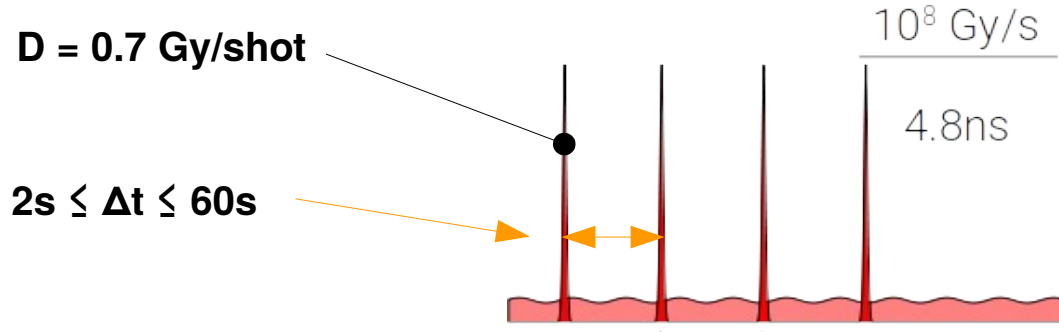
# Transport par quadrupoles permanents (LOA, 2017)



$10^8$  protons/ $2 \text{ cm}^2$   
( $\sim 50/100 \text{ um}^2$ )  
0.7Gy/shot ( $\sim \text{ns}$ )

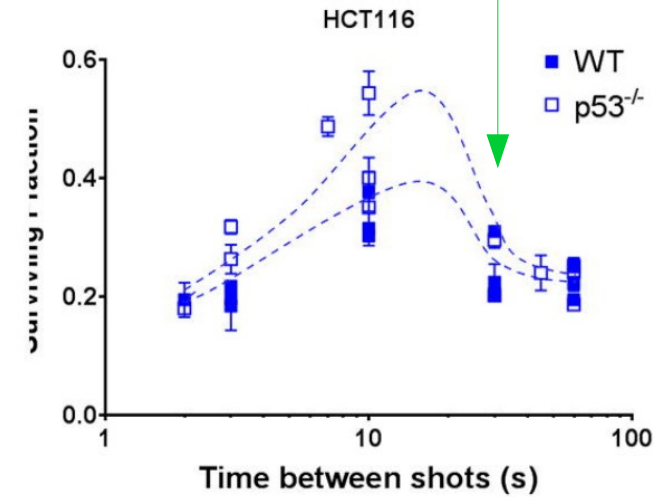
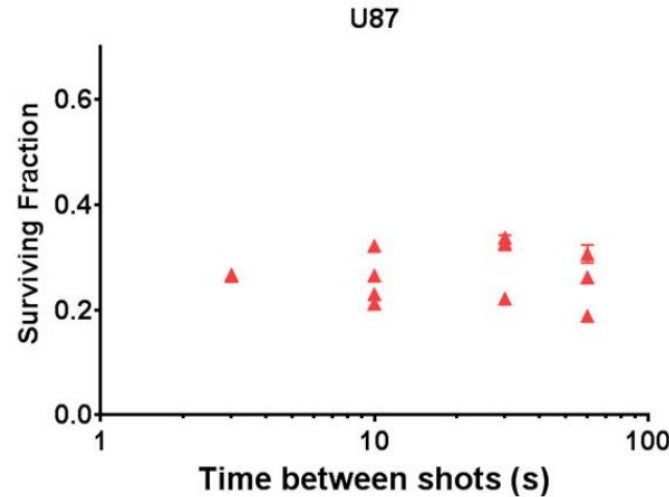
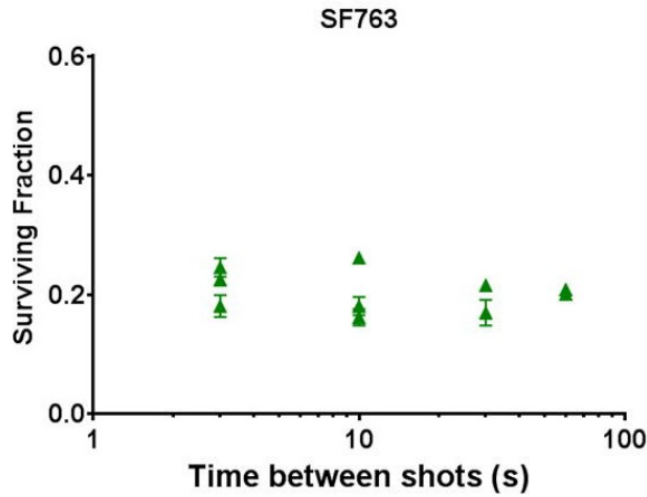


L. Pommarel, Ph.D thesis, EDOM 2017  
F. Schillaci, L. Pommarel et al., J. Inst. 2016  
L. Pommarel et al, Phys. Rev. Acc. Beam, 2017

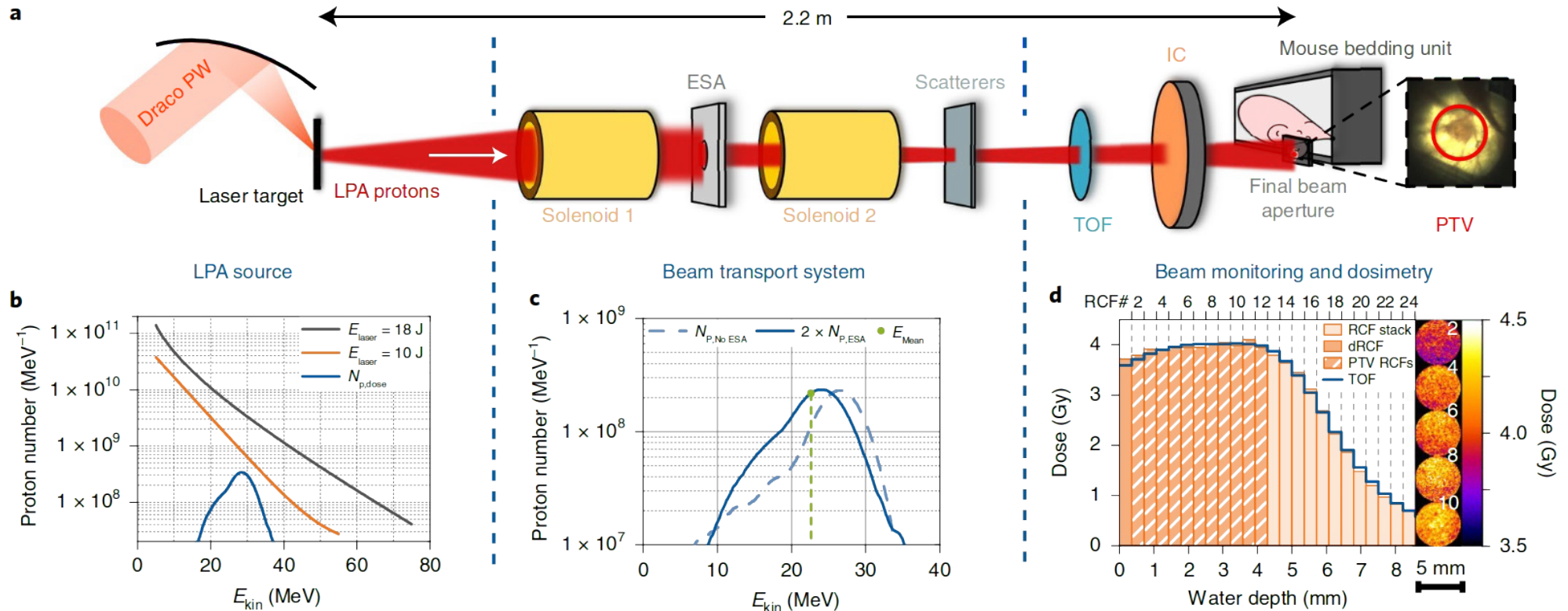


- Toxicity varies with time (at constant dose)
- $D_{10}(\text{WT}) \rightarrow D_{10}(\text{p53})$

Varying pace at  $D_{10}(\text{HCT116-WT}) \approx 4.2 \text{ Gy (6 shots)}$



# Transport par solénoïde pulsé (HZDR Dresde, 2022)



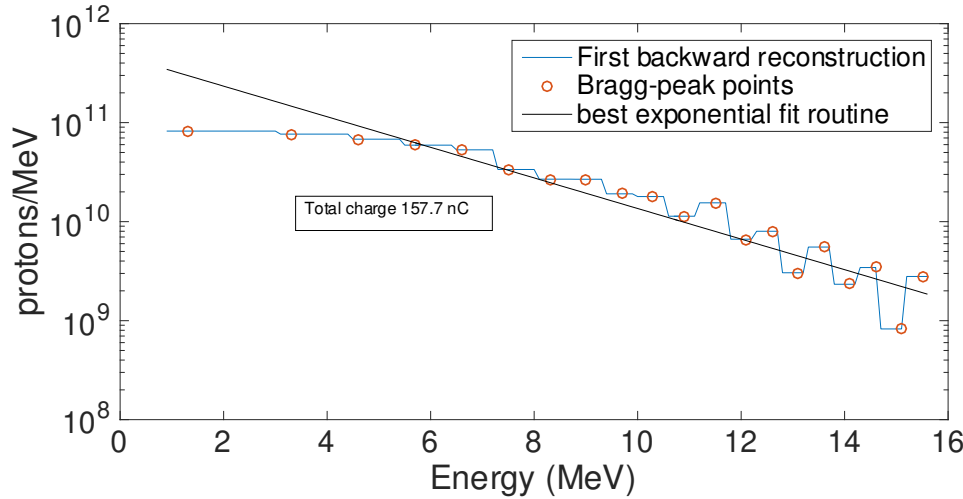
4 Gy/tir, 5 mm diamètre,  
4 mm SOBP

Kroll et al, Nat Phys 2022

# Single pulse laser irradiation: FLASH

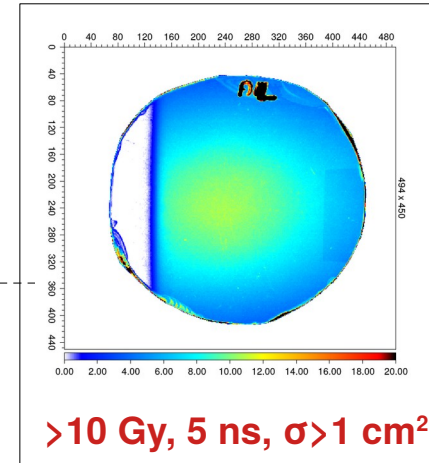
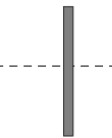
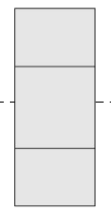
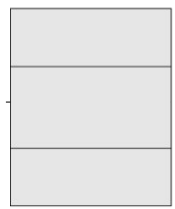


LABORATOIRE  
D'OPTIQUE ET  
BIOSCIENCES  
ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE

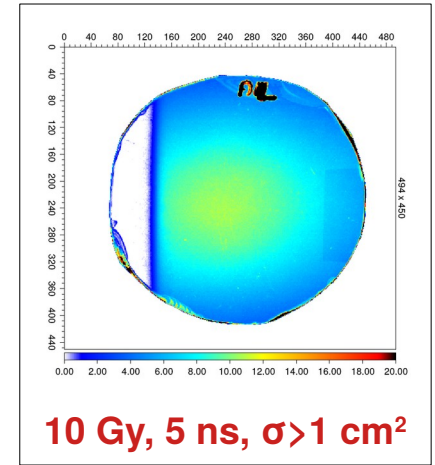
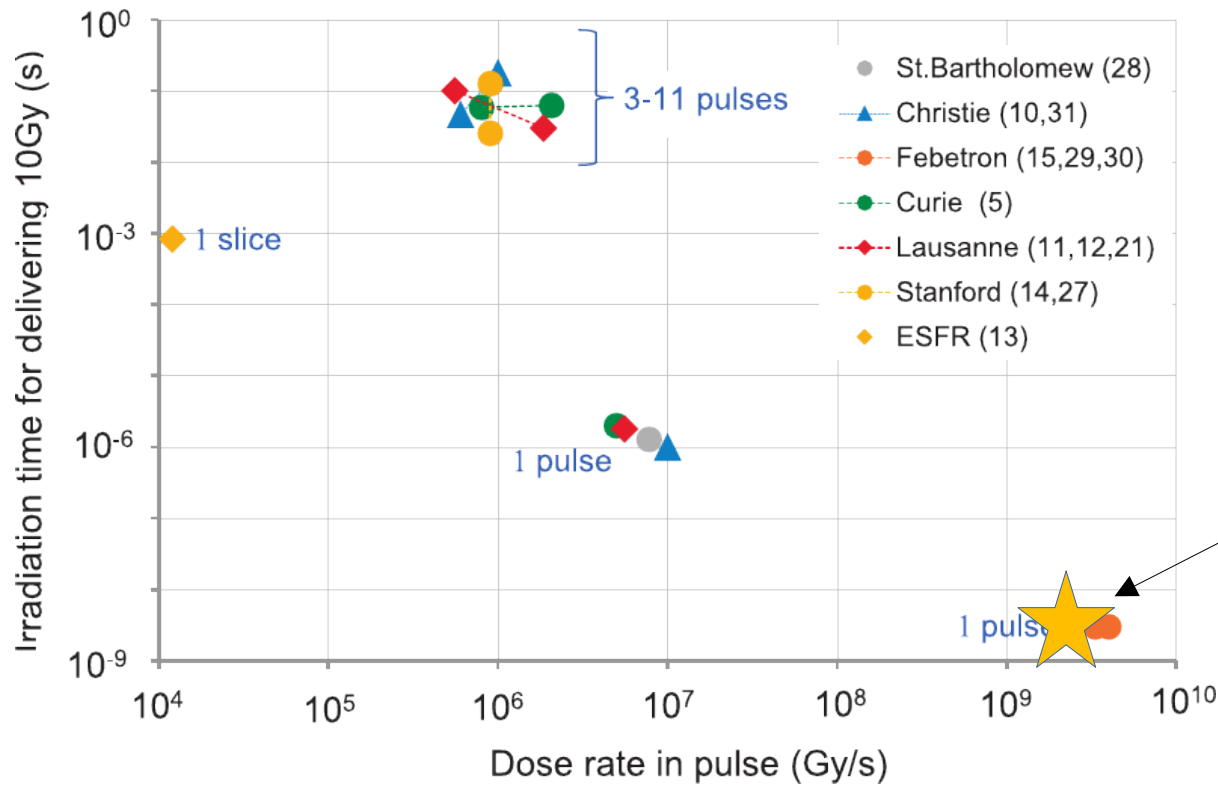


**PROTON SOURCE**  
Duration: ~ps  
Charge: > 150 nC/pulse  
 $E_{\max}$ : 20 MeV

Pico2000  
laser



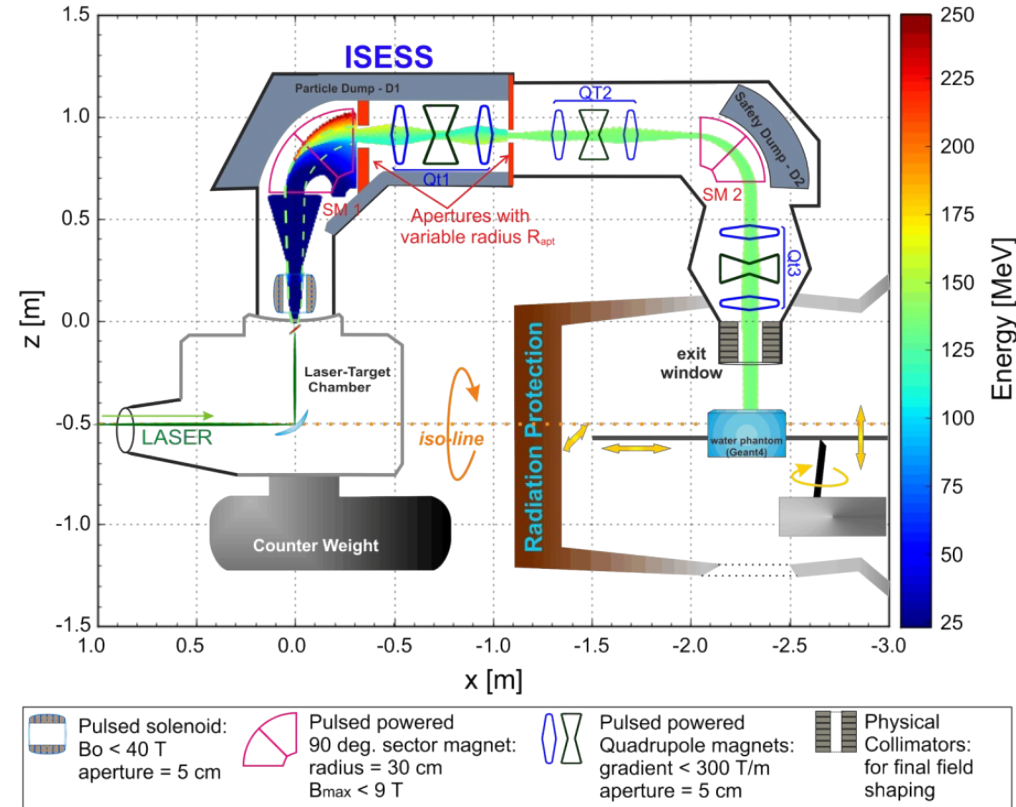
## Conditions to obtain a reproducible FLASH effect



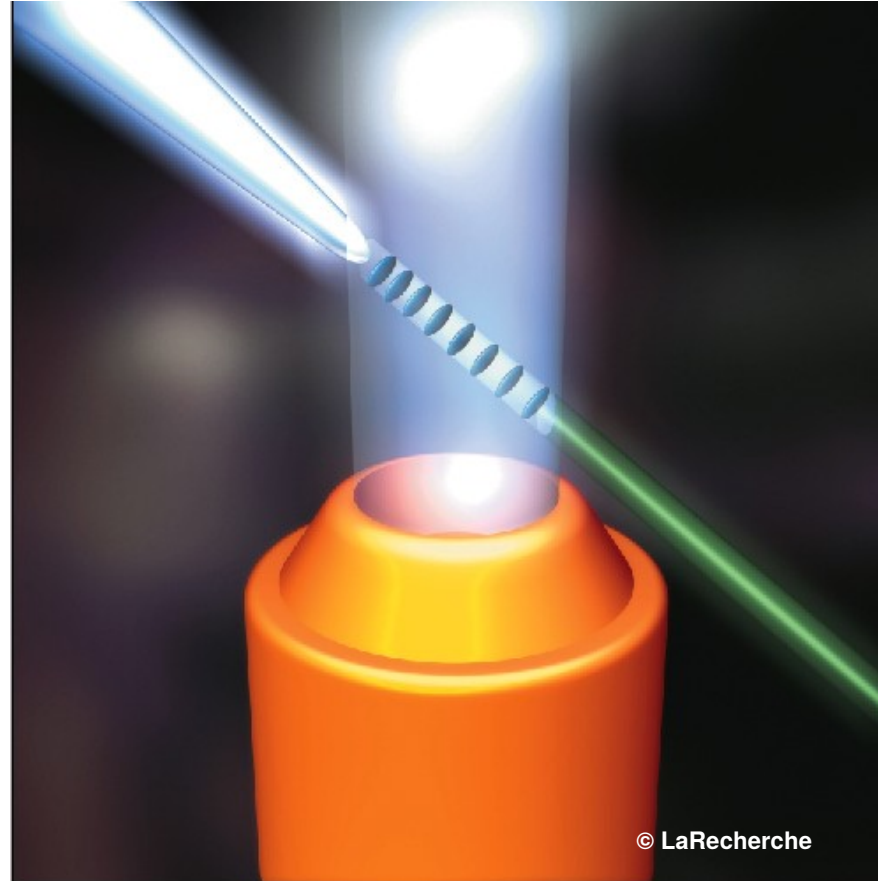
(although **high-LET** radiation quality)

# Conclusions protons

- Accélérateur compacte ↗
- Gradient accélérateur très important (TV/m) ↗
- Énergies thérapeutiques difficiles à obtenir ↘
- Spectre difficile à manier (grosse pertes d'efficacité) ↘  
→ plus grand laser !
- Option : « gantry pulsé »

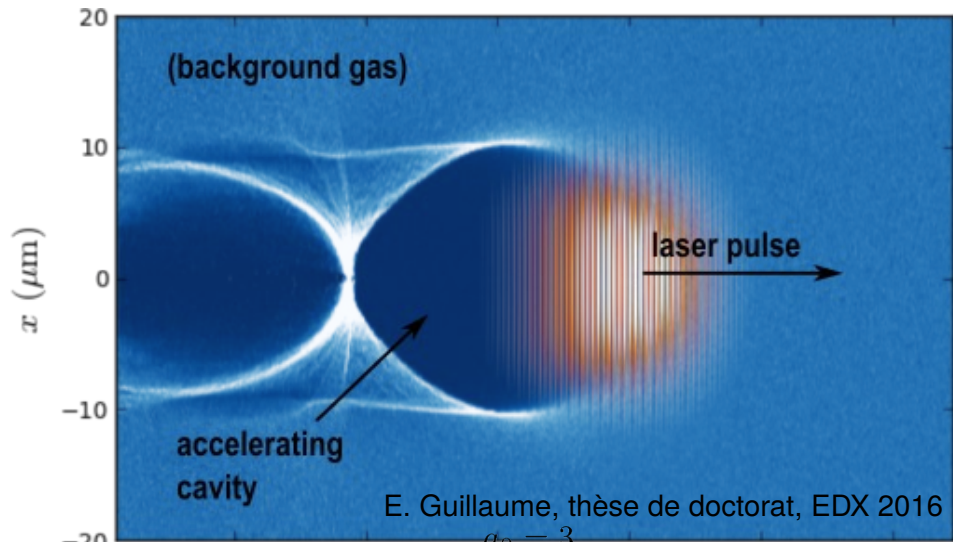


Masood et al, APB 2014

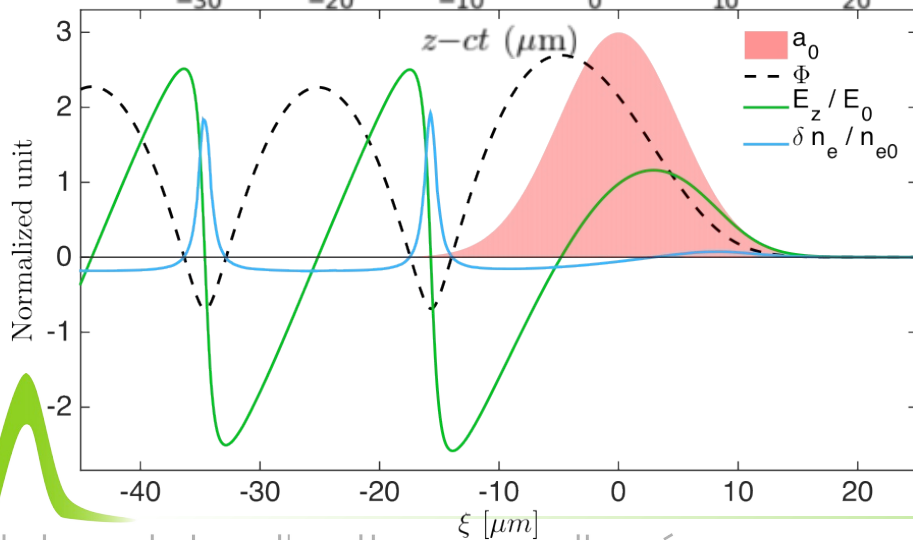


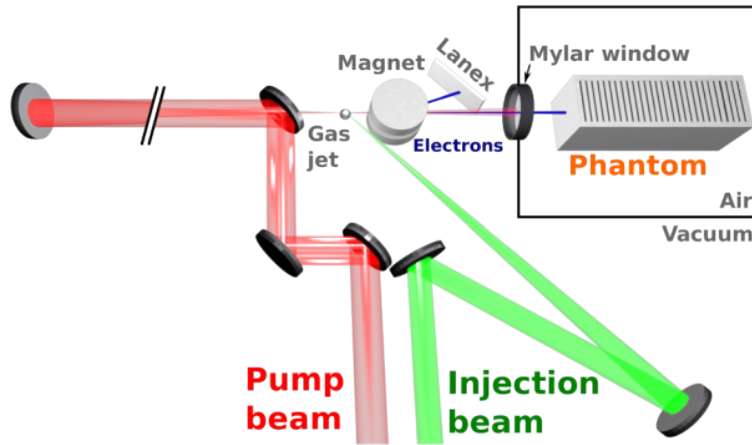


# Accélération d'électrons par laser

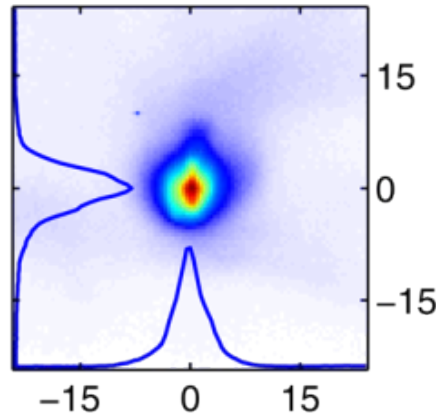
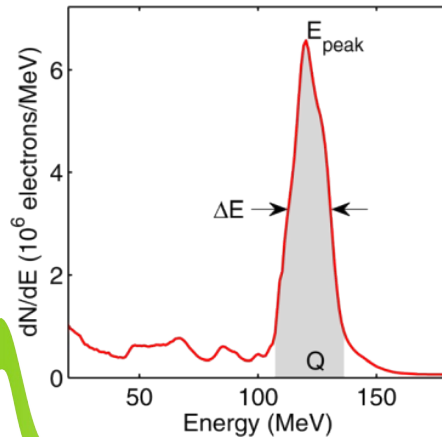


- Formation d'une onde de sillage
- Formation d'une cavité accélératrice
- Piégeage et accélération des électrons
- Énergies et conditions diverses...

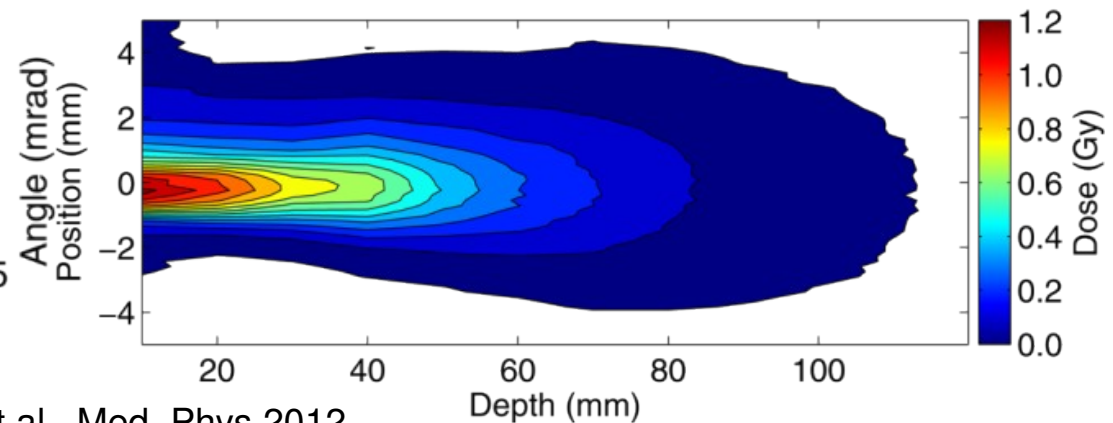




- Faisceau peu divergent (irradiation directe, PBS)
- Contrôle sur le spectre (changement d'énergie)
- $E = 120$  MeV (spectre piqué)
- $\sim 100$ s mGy/tir, mais petite surface

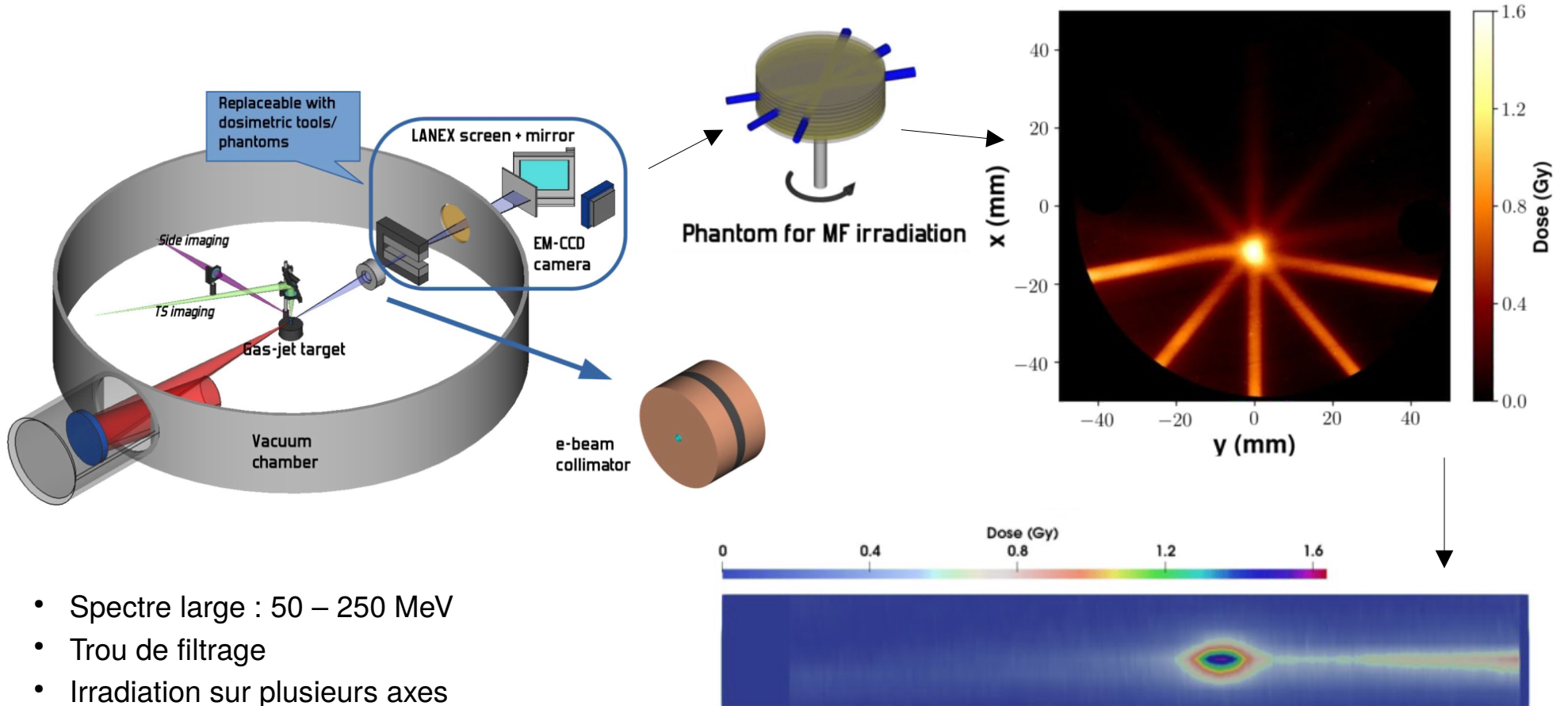


Distribution de dose dans équivalent-eau



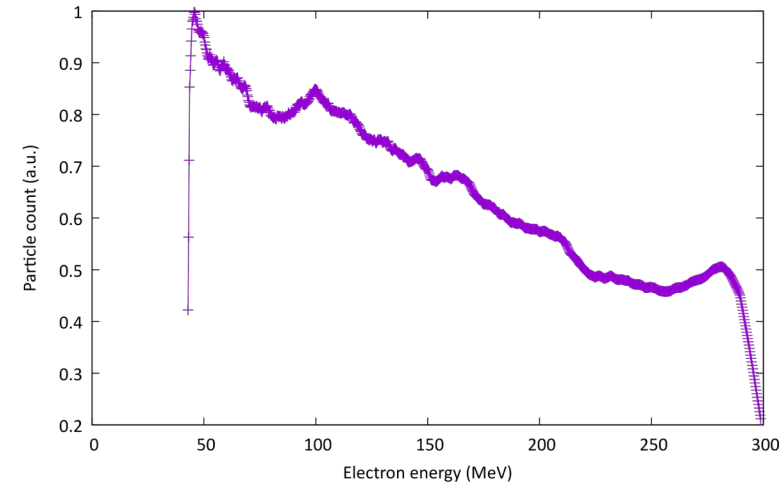
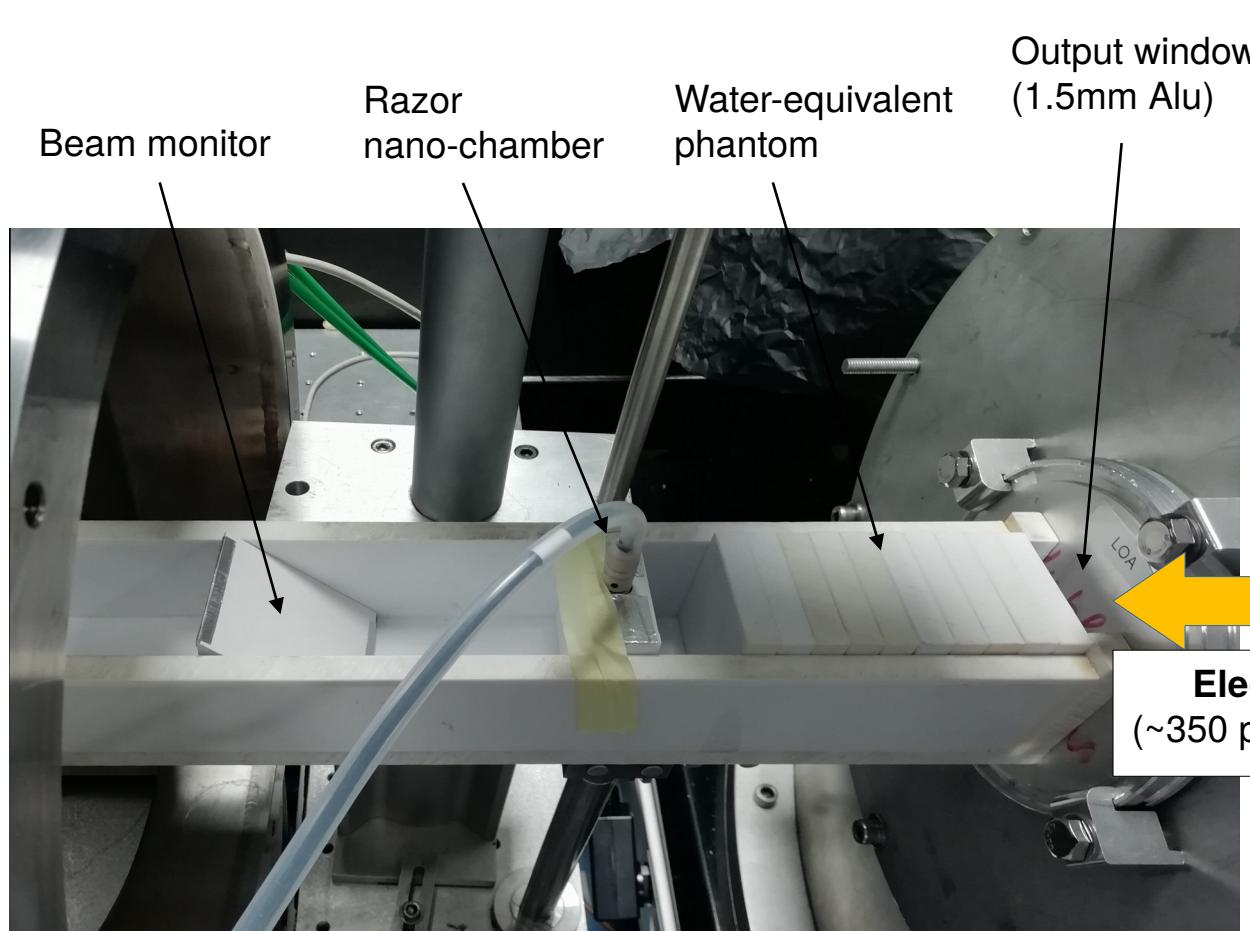
Lund et al., Med. Phys 2012

# Irradiation multi-axe (Pise, 2020)



- Spectre large : 50 – 250 MeV
- Trou de filtrage
- Irradiation sur plusieurs axes

Labate, L. et al. SciRep 2020



**$D_{5\text{cm}} = 1.1 \text{ Gy/shot}$**   
 $D'_{5\text{cm,inst}} > 1 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ Gy/s}$   
 $D'_{5\text{cm,avg}} = 66 \text{ Gy/min}$

**$D_{10\text{cm}} = 400 \text{ mGy/shot}$**   
**( $\pm 3.5\%$  rms)**  
 $D'_{10\text{cm,inst}} > 4 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ Gy/s}$   
 $D'_{10\text{cm,avg}} = 20 \text{ Gy/min}$   
Diamètre:  $1 \text{ cm}^2$

- Accélérateur compacte ↗
- Gradient accélérateur assez important (GV/m) ↗
- Énergies thérapeutiques déjà disponibles ↗
- Le spectre permet une marge de contrôle (LEE, VHEE, spectre, etc.) ↗
- Nécessité de filtrage du faisceau (mais pbs possible) ↘
- Option : « gantry tout optique » ↗

- Radiobiologie : étude de très haut débits de dose en modalité de « fractionnement rapide ».
- FLASH-Laser : une seule impulsion (problématique) ou grande puissance moyenne (possible).
- Applications pré-cliniques :
  - Protons : 4 mm SOBP, 10 Gy/tir (state-of-the-art).
  - Électrons : pas de limitation de pénétration,  $\sim$ Gy/tir.cm<sup>2</sup> (10s Gy/min)
- Perspective clinique ?

