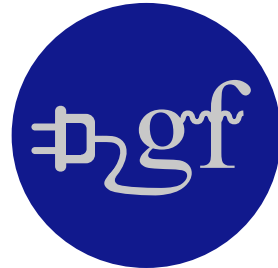


# Gamma Factory concepts and beams for the dark sector



**ARIES, APEC & iFAST SMART PAF Brainstorming  
and Strategy Workshop, March-April 2022**

Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny

LPNHE, CNRS and University Paris Sorbonne and CERN, BE-ABP

## The Gamma Factory proposal for CERN<sup>†</sup>

### Abstract

This year, 2015, marks the centenary of the publication of Einsteins Theory of General Relativity and it has been named the International Year of Light and light-based technologies by the UN General Assembly It is thus timely to discuss the possibility of broadening the present CERN research program by including a new component based on a novel concept of the light source which could pave a way towards a multipurpose Gamma Factory. The proposed light source could be realized at CERN by using the infrastructure of the existing accelerators. It could push the intensity limits of the presently operating light-sources by at least 7 orders of magnitude, reaching the flux of the order of  $10^{17}$  photons/s, in the particularly interesting  $\gamma$ -ray energy domain of  $1 \leq E_{\text{photon}} \leq 400$  MeV. This domain is out of reach for the FEL-based light sources. The energy-tuned, quasi-monochromatic gamma beams, together with the gamma-beams-driven secondary beams of polarized positrons, polarized muons, neutrons and radioactive ions would constitute the basic research tools of the proposed Gamma Factory. The Gamma Factory could open new research opportunities at CERN in a vast domain of uncharted fundamental physics and industrial application territories. It could strengthen the leading role of CERN in the high energy frontier research territory by providing the unprecedented-brilliance secondary beams of polarized muons for the TeV-energy-scale muon collider and for the polarized-muon-beam based neutrino factory.

Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny\*

LPNHE, Universités Paris VI et VII and CNRS-IN2P3, Paris, France

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<sup>†</sup> An Executive Summary of the proposal addressed to the CERN management.

\*e-mail: krasny@lpnhe.in2p3.fr





# Gamma Factory

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>6</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>9,10</sup>, M. Bussmann<sup>38</sup>, P. Constantin<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. Duthel<sup>2</sup>, K. Dzierżęga<sup>7</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. Lamont<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. Pascualtsa<sup>28</sup>, Y. Papaphilippou<sup>2</sup>, A. Petrenko<sup>18,2</sup>, V. Petrillo<sup>12</sup>, L. Pinar<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. Soreq<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. Weiqiang<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>

Today :

~ 100 physicists  
40 Institutes  
13 countries

<sup>1</sup> Royal Holloway University of London Egham, Surrey, TW20 0EX, United Kingdom

<sup>2</sup> CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

<sup>3</sup> Institute of Spectroscopy, Russian Academy of Sciences, Troitsk, Moscow Region, Russia

<sup>4</sup> A.I. Alikhanyan National Science Laboratory, Yerevan, Armenia

<sup>5</sup> School of Physics, University of New South Wales, Sydney NSW 2052, Australia

<sup>6</sup> P.N. Lebedev Physical Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia

<sup>7</sup> Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland

<sup>8</sup> Center for Advanced Studies of Accelerators, Jefferson Lab, USA

<sup>9</sup> Helmholtz Institute, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany

<sup>10</sup> Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-7300, USA

<sup>11</sup> Université Paris Saclay, Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis Irene Joliot Curie (IJCLab), Orsay, France

<sup>12</sup> Department of Physics, INFN-Milan and University of Milan, Milan, Italy

<sup>13</sup> INFN-Padua, Padua, Italy

<sup>14</sup> University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada 89557, USA

<sup>15</sup> University of Malta, Malta

<sup>16</sup> LPNHE, University Paris Sorbonne, CNRS-IN2P3, Paris, France

<sup>17</sup> HI Jena, IOQ FSU Jena and GSI Darmstadt, Germany

<sup>18</sup> Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk, Russia

<sup>19</sup> Rochester Scientific, LLC, El Cerrito, CA 94530, USA

<sup>20</sup> GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung, 64291 Darmstadt, Germany

<sup>21</sup> Braunschweig University of Technology and Physikalisches Technische Bundesanstalt, Germany

<sup>22</sup> FEL Laboratory, Duke University, Durham, USA

<sup>23</sup> University of Padua, Padua, Italy

<sup>24</sup> Center for Beam Physics, LBNL, Berkeley, USA

<sup>25</sup> University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

<sup>26</sup> Tokai Quantum Beam Science Center, National Institutes for Quantum and Radiological Science and Technology, Ibaraki, Japan

<sup>27</sup> Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Lanzhou, China

<sup>28</sup> Institut für Kernphysik, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany

<sup>29</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Delaware, Delaware, USA

<sup>30</sup> Joint Quantum Institute, NIST and the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, USA

<sup>31</sup> Laboratory of Advanced Science and Technology for Industry, University of Hyogo, Hyogo, Japan

<sup>32</sup> Physics Department, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa 3200003, Israel

<sup>33</sup> University of Science and Technology, Hefei (Anhui), China

<sup>34</sup> Extreme Light Infrastructure – Nuclear Physics (ELI-NP), Horia Hulubei National Institute for R&D in Physics and Nuclear Engineering (IFIN-HH), 077125 Bucharest-Magurele, Romania

<sup>35</sup> Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati dell'INFN, Via E. Fermi 54, Frascati (Roma), Italy

<sup>36</sup> Institut für Quantenoptik und Quanteninformation, Technikerstr. 21a, 6020 Innsbruck, Austria

<sup>37</sup> Department of Physics, George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052, USA

<sup>38</sup> Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf Dresden, Saxony, Germany

<sup>39</sup> Helmholtz-Institut Jena, Fröbelstieg 3, 07743 Jena, Germany

<sup>40</sup> Laboratoire des Matériaux Avancés, Institut de Physique des 2 Infinis de Lyon, Campus LyonTech la Doua, bâtiment Virgo, 7 avenue Pierre de Coubertin, 69622 Villeurbanne

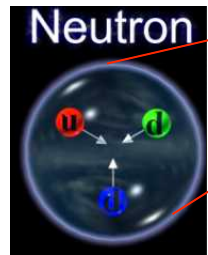
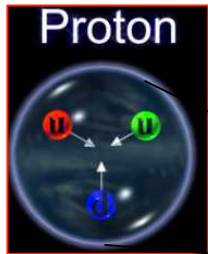
## A potential place of Gamma Factory in the future CERN research programme

- The **next CERN high-energy frontier** project may take **long time** to be approved, built and become operational, ... unlikely before 2045 (FCC-ee) or 2050+ ( $\mu$ -collider)
- The **present LHC research programme** will certainly reach **earlier** (~2035?) its **discovery saturation** (little physics gain by a simple extending its pp/pA/AA running time)
- A strong **need** will certainly arise for a **novel** multidisciplinary programme which could **re-use** (“co-use”) **the existing CERN facilities** (including LHC) in **ways** and at **levels** that were **not necessarily thought of** when the machines were **designed**

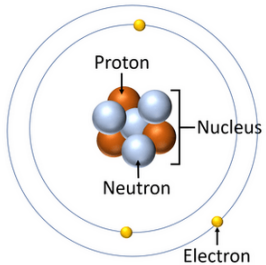
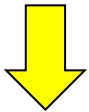
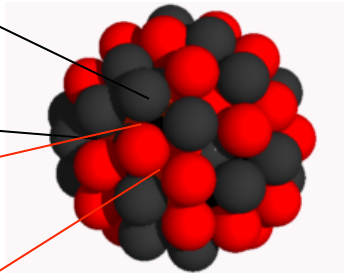
**The Gamma Factory research programme (2035-????)** could fulfil such a role. It can exploit **the existing world unique opportunities** offered by the CERN accelerator complex and CERN's scientific infrastructure (**not available elsewhere**) to conduct new, diverse, and vibrant research.

# The Gamma Factory in a nutshell

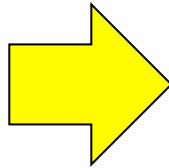
- *The infrastructure and the operation mode of the CERN accelerators allowing to:*
  - *produce, accelerate, cool, and store **beams of highly ionised atoms***
  - *excite their atomic degrees of freedom by **laser photons** to form high intensity **secondary beams of gamma rays***
  - *produce plug-power-efficient diverse **tertiary beams***
  
- *The research programme in a broad domain of science enabled by the “**Gamma Factory tools**”*



**Present LHC beam particles:**



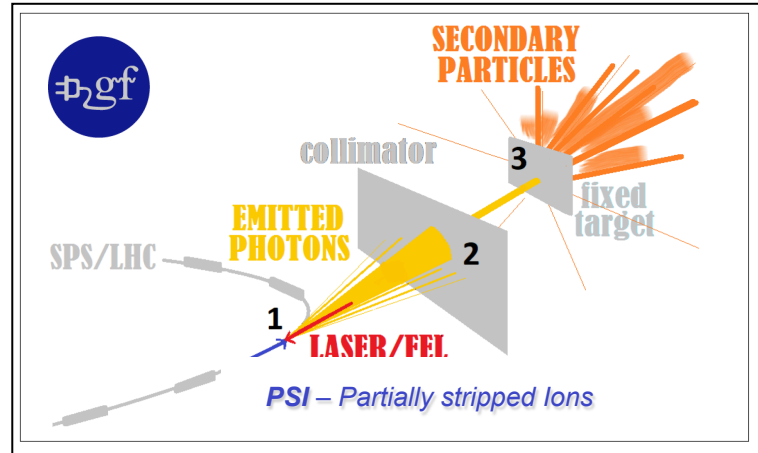
**Future LHC beam particles:**  
*Partially Stripped Ions (highly ionized atoms)*



**The Gamma Factory proposal for CERN**

Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny (Paris U., VI-VII) (Nov 24, 2015)

e-Print: 1511.07794 [hep-ex]



# Atomic beams in the LHC (Hydrogen-like Lead)

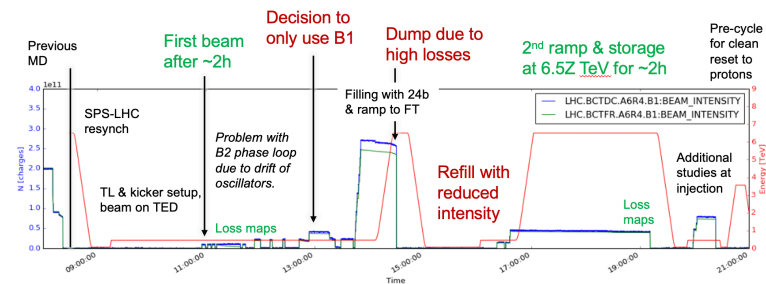
**symmetry** dimensions of particle physics **topics** follow +

A Joint Fermilab/SLAC publication

## LHC accelerates its first "atoms"

07/27/19 | By Sarah Charley

Lead atoms with a single remaining electron circulated in the Large Hadron Collider.



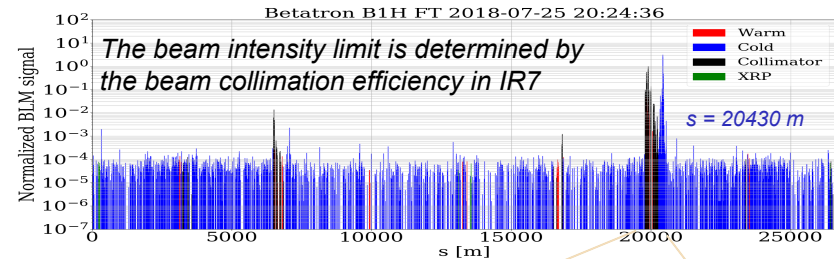
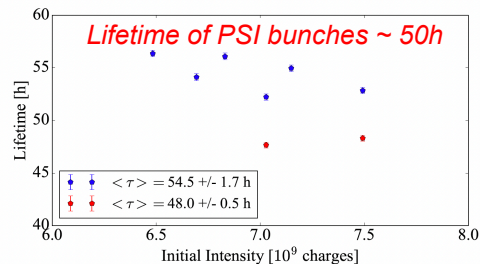
CERN-ACC-NOTE-2019-0012

8 May 2019

Michaela.Schaumann@cern.ch

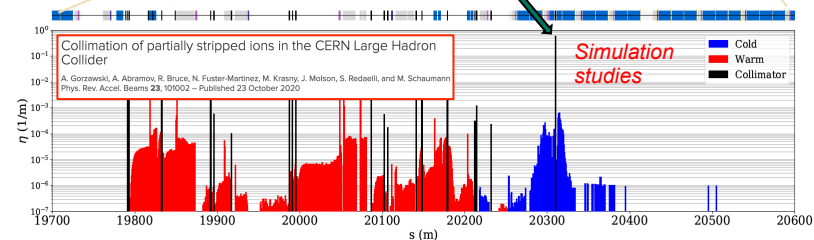
### MD3284: Partially Stripped Ions in the LHC

M. Schaumann, A. Abramov, R. Alemany Fernandez, T. Argyropoulos, H. Bartosik, N. Biancacci, T. Bohl, C. Bracco, R. Bruce, S. Burger, K. Cornelis, N. Fuster Martinez, B. Goddard, A. Gorzawski, R. Giachino, G.H. Hemelsøet, S. Hirlander, M. Jebrañek, J.M. Jowett, V. Kain, M.W. Krasny, J. Molson, G. Papotti, M. Solfaroli Camillocci, H. Timko, D. Valuch, F. Velotti, J. Weuninger  
CERN, CH-1211 Geneva 23



### Mitigation strategies:

1. Dispersion suppressor collimator (TCLD)
2. Crystal collimation
3. Laser collimation

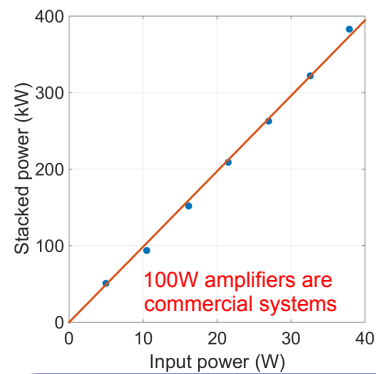
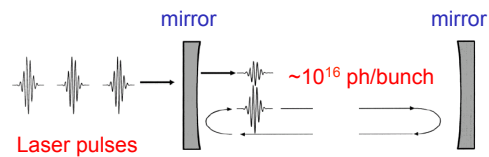


A dedicated LHC MD with crystal collimation of the PSI (H-like Pb) beam is a natural next step...



# Fabry-Pérot (FP) resonators and their integration in the electron storage rings

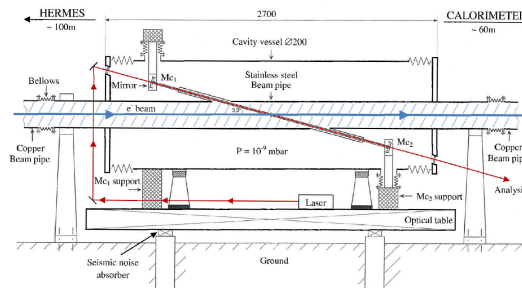
## Fabry-Pérot resonator



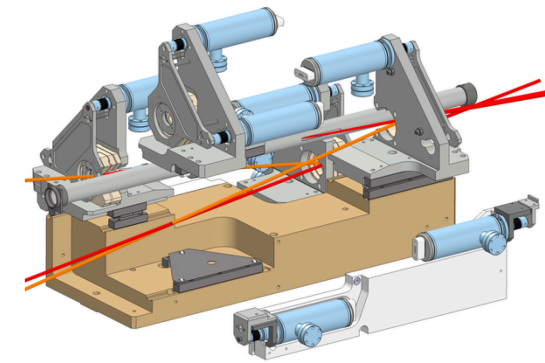
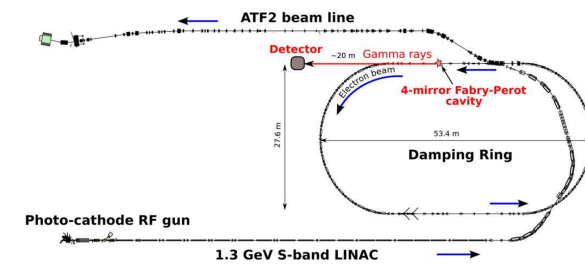
**GF requirement:**  
 < 5mJ pulses @ 40MHz,  
 (200kW photon beam)

Amoudry L. et al., Applied Optics 59(2020)116

## HERA storage ring



## KEK – ATF ring



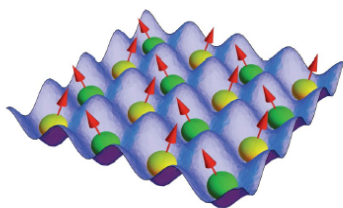
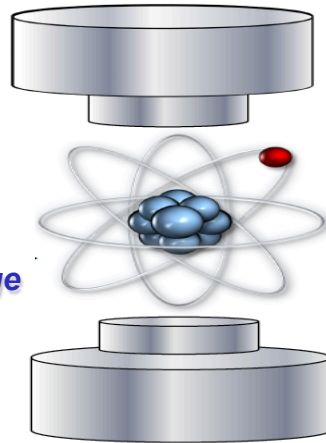
Towards the first integration of the FP resonator in the hadron storage ring →

*GF research tools made from light*

# 1. Atomic traps of highly-charged, “small-size” atoms

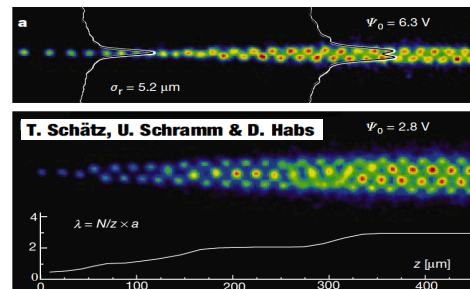
## Atomic rest-frame

Trapped stationary atoms  
Exposed to pulsed magnetic  
and electric fields of the storage  
ring



*Crystalline beams?*

## letters to nature



## Opening new research opportunities:

- Highly-charged atoms – very strong ( $\sim 10^{16}$  V/cm) electric field (QED-vacuum effects)
- Small size atoms (electroweak effects)
- Hydrogen-like and Helium-like atomic structure (calculation precision and simplicity)
- Atomic degrees of freedom of trapped highly-charged atoms can be resonantly excited by lasers
- Circular, repetitive relativistic motion of the GF atomic traps  $\rightarrow$  Lorentz invariance tests and gravitational wave detection



Feature Article | Open Access | © | ⓘ

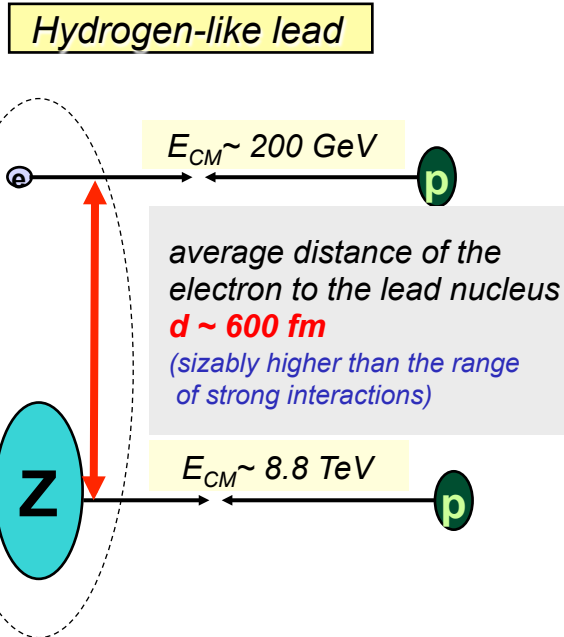
## Atomic Physics Studies at the Gamma Factory at CERN

Dmitry Budker, José R. Crespo López-Urrutia, Andrei Derevianko, Victor V. Flambaum, Mieczysław Witold Krasny, Alexey Petrenko, Szymon Pustelny, Andrey Surzhykov, Vladimir A. Yerokhin, Max Zolotarev ... See fewer authors ^

First published: 09 July 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/andp.202000204>

# 2. Electron beam for ep collisions at LHC

(in the ATLAS, CMS, ALICE and LHCb interaction points)



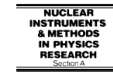
Atomic beams can be considered as **independent electron and nuclear beams** as long as the incoming proton scatters with the momentum transfer  $q \gg 300 \text{ KeV}$ !

Opens the possibility of collecting, by each of the LHC detectors, over one day of the **Pb+81-p** operation, the effective ep-collision luminosity comparable to the HERA integrated luminosity in the first year of its operation (1992) – **in-situ diagnostic of the emittance of partonic beams at the LHC!**



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Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 540 (2005) 222–234

[www.elsevier.com/locate/nima](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/nima)

Electron beam for LHC

Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny

LPNHE, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, 4 Pl. Jussieu, Tour 33, RDC, 75025 Paris, France

Received 14 September 2004; received in revised form 19 November 2004; accepted 23 November 2004

Available online 22 December 2004

Initial studies:

Very recent important development:

PHYSICAL REVIEW ACCELERATORS AND BEAMS **23**, 101002 (2020)

Editors' Suggestion

Collimation of partially stripped ions in the CERN Large Hadron Collider

A. Gorzawski<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, A. Abramov<sup>1,3,†</sup>, R. Bruce<sup>1</sup>, N. Fuster-Martinez<sup>1</sup>, M. Krasny<sup>1,4</sup>,  
J. Molson<sup>1</sup>, S. Redaelli<sup>1</sup>, and M. Schaumann<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>CERN European Organization for Nuclear Research, Esplanade des Particules 1,  
1211 Geneva, Switzerland,

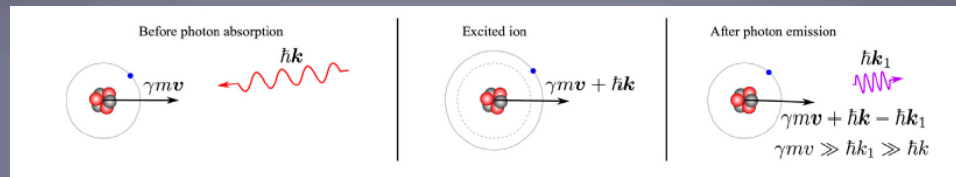
<sup>2</sup>University of Malta, Msida, MSD 2080 Malta

<sup>3</sup>JAL, Egham, Surrey, United Kingdom

<sup>4</sup>LPNHE, Sorbonne University, CNRS/IN2P3, Tour 33, RdC, 4, pl. Jussieu, 75005 Paris, France

✉ (Received 3 August 2020; accepted 5 October 2020; published 23 October 2020)

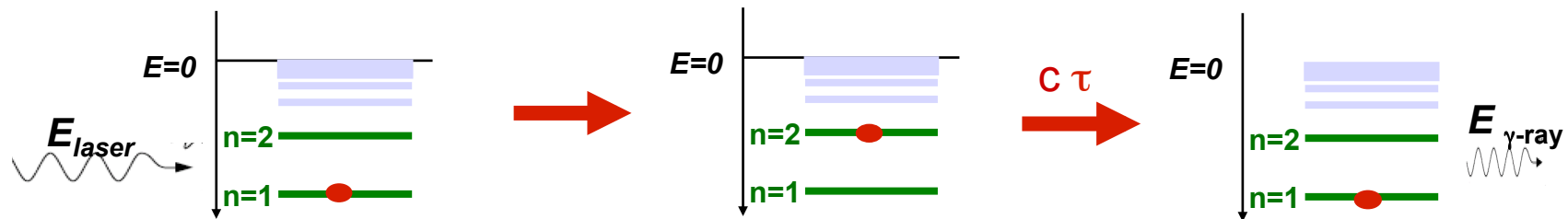
# 3. Gamma Factory $\gamma$ -source



**Novel technology:** Resonant scattering of laser photons on ultra-relativistic atomic beam



# Source properties



## 1. Point-like:

- For high-Z, hydrogen- and helium-like atoms: **decay length ( $c\tau\gamma_L$ )  $\ll 1$  cm**

## 2. High intensity:

- **Resonant process.** A leap in the intensity by **6–8 orders of magnitude** w.r.t. electron-beam-based Inverse Compton Sources (ICS) (at fixed  $\gamma_L$  and laser power)

# Source properties

High energy atomic beams play the role of **high-stability light-frequency converters**:

$$\nu^{\max} \longrightarrow (4 \gamma_L^2) \nu_{\text{Laser}}$$

for photons emitted in the direction of incoming atoms,  $\gamma_L = E/M$  is the Lorentz factor for the ion beam

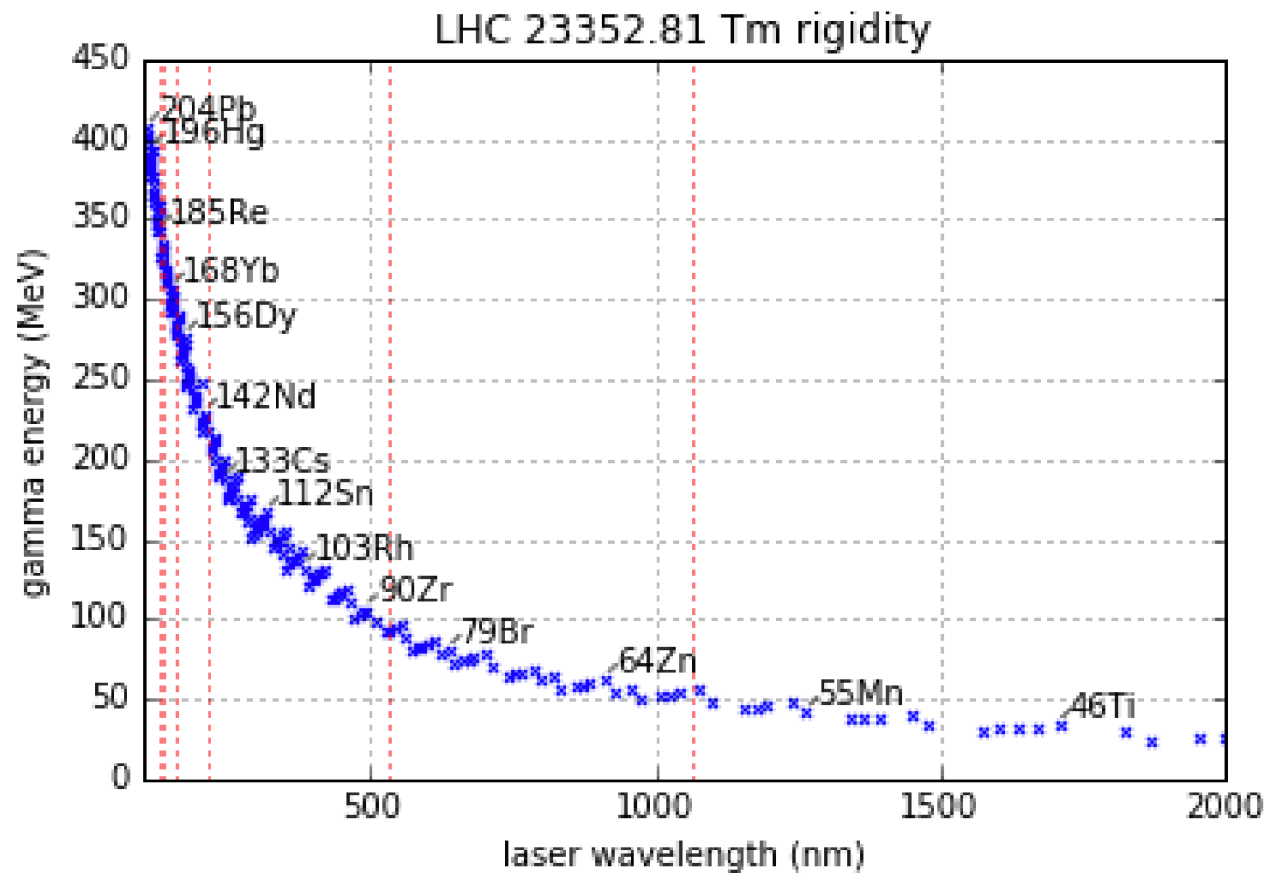
### **3. Tuneable energy and polarisation:**

- The tuning of the beam energy (SPS or LHC), the choice of the ion, the number of left electrons and of the laser type allow to tune the  $\gamma$ -ray energy at CERN in the energy range of 10 keV – 400 MeV (extending, by a factor of **~1000**, the energy range of the FEL X-ray sources); polarisation tuning via laser photon polarisation tuning and the use of helium-like atoms

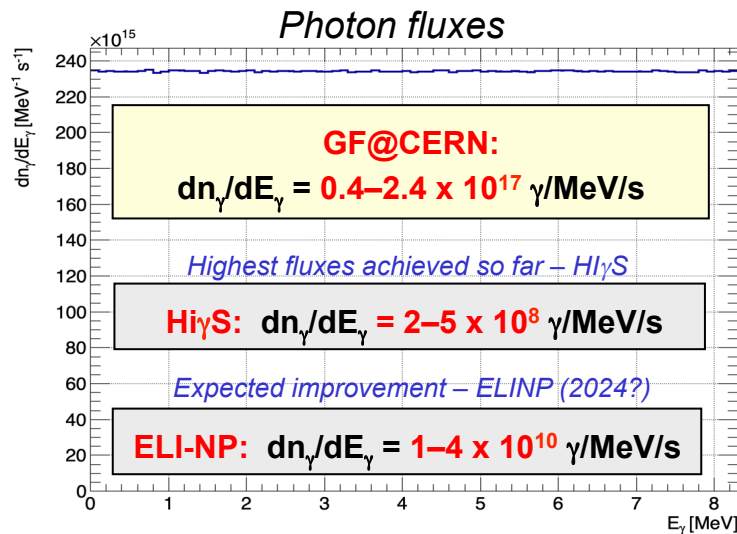
### **4. Plug power efficient:**

- Atoms lose a tiny fraction of their energy in the process of the photon emission. **Important:** No need to refill the driver beam. The RF power is **fully converted** to the power of the photon beam

Radial  $n=1 \rightarrow n=2$  atomic excitation, maximal energy, zero crossing angle



# A concrete example: Nuclear physics application: He-like, LHC Calcium beam, $(1s \rightarrow 2p)_{1/2}$ transition, TiSa laser

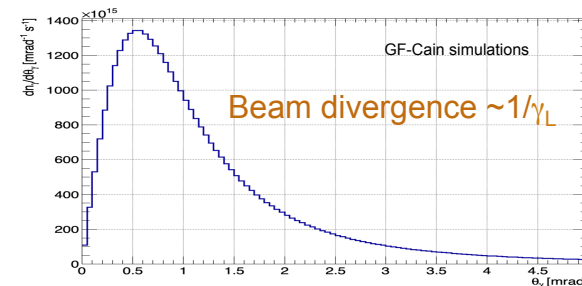
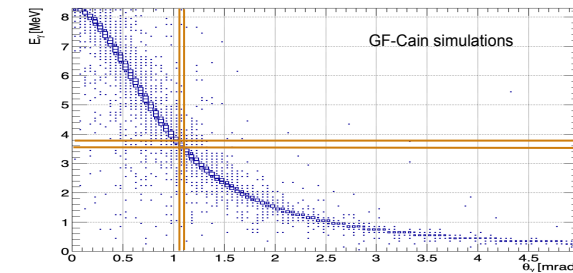


**laser pulse parameters**

- Gaussian spatial and time profiles,
- photon energy:  $E_{\text{photon}} = 1.8338 \text{ eV}$
- photon pulse energy spread:  $\sigma_{\omega}/\omega = 2 \times 10^{-4}$ ,
- photon wavelength:  $\lambda = 676 \text{ nm}$ ,
- pulse energy:  $W_{\text{p}} = 5 \text{ mJ}$ ,
- peak power density  $1.12 \times 10^{13} \text{ W/m}^2$
- r.m.s. transverse beam size at focus:  $\sigma_{\text{x}} = \sigma_{\text{y}} = 150 \text{ um}$  (micrometers),
- Rayleigh length:  $R_{\text{L,x}} = R_{\text{L,y}} = 7.5 \text{ cm}$ ,
- r.m.s. pulse length:  $l_{\text{p}} = 15 \text{ cm}$ .

## 5. Highly-collimated monochromatic $\gamma$ -beams:

- the beam power is concentrated in a narrow angular region (*facilitates beam extraction*)
- the  $(E_\gamma, \Theta_\gamma)$  correlation can be used (*collimation*) to “monochromatize” the beam

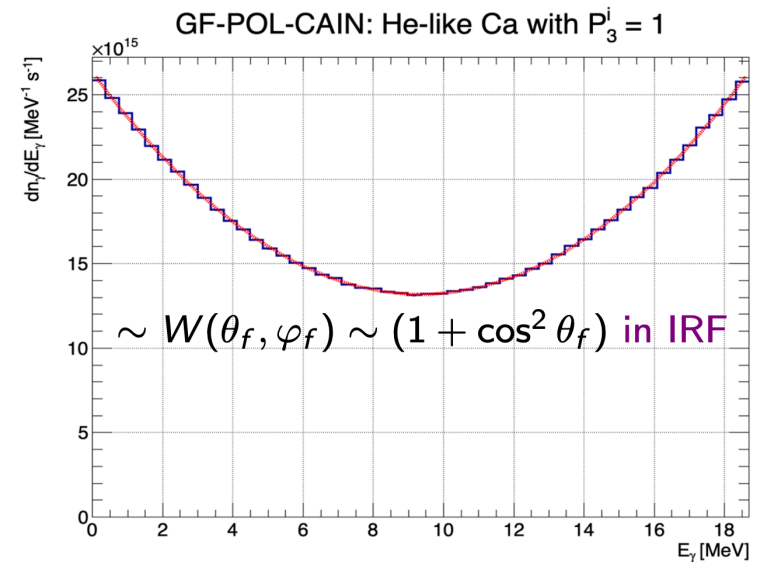


## $nS_0 \rightarrow n'P_1 \rightarrow nS_0$ : Helium-like Calcium $\rightarrow$ RIB @ LHC

- **PSI beam:**  ${}^{40}_{20}\text{Ca}^{18+}$  with transition:  $1s^2 \ ^1S_0 \rightarrow 1s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1$ 
  - transition energy and lifetime:  $\hbar\omega_0 = 3902.3775 \text{ eV}$ ,  $\tau_0 = 6 \text{ fs}$
  - ion mass:  $M_i = 37.332 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
  - ion energy and relative spread:  $E_i = 89.4093 \text{ TeV}$ ,  $\sigma_E = 2 \times 10^{-4}$
  - relativistic factor:  $\gamma_i = 2394.9782$
  - number of ions per bunch  $N_i = 3 \cdot 10^9$
  - Twiss parameters:  $\alpha_x = \alpha_y = 0$ ,  $\beta_x = \beta_y = 50 \text{ m}$
  - geometric emittance:  $\epsilon_x = \epsilon_y = 3 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ m} \times \text{rad}$
  - r.m.s transverse beam size:  $\sigma_x = \sigma_y = 0.1225 \text{ mm}$
  - r.m.s. bunch length  $\sigma_z = 15 \text{ cm}$
- **Laser:** Er:glass – Gaussian spatiotemporal profile, beam angle:  $0^\circ$ 
  - photon energy and rel. spread:  $E_\gamma = 0.8147 \text{ eV}$ ,  $\sigma_\omega = 2 \times 10^{-4}$
  - photon wavelength:  $\lambda_\gamma = 1521.84 \text{ nm}$
  - pulse energy:  $W_l = 0.5 \text{ mJ}$  (2 mJ)
  - peak power density:  $P_{00} = 2.822 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ W/m}^2$
  - r.m.s. transverse beam size at focus:  $\sigma_x = \sigma_y = 0.15 \text{ mm}$
  - Rayleigh length:  $R_{L,x} = R_{L,y} = 41.81996 \text{ cm}$
  - r.m.s. pulse duration:  $\sigma_t = 50 \text{ ps}$  ( $\sigma_t = 500 \text{ ps}$ )



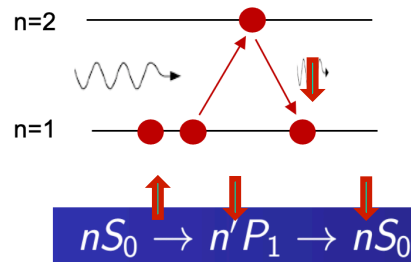
## circular laser photon polarisation



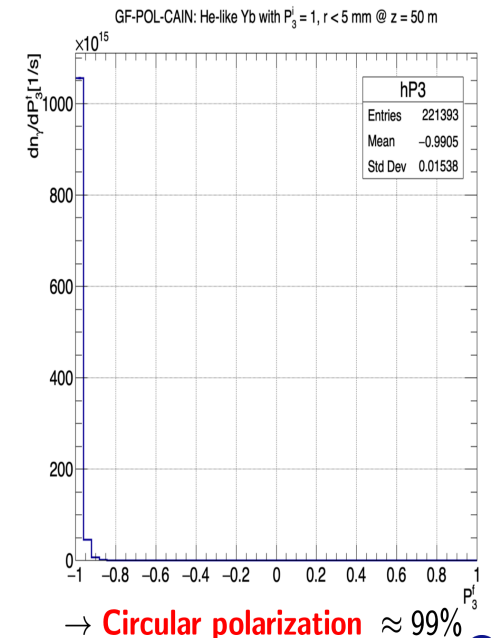
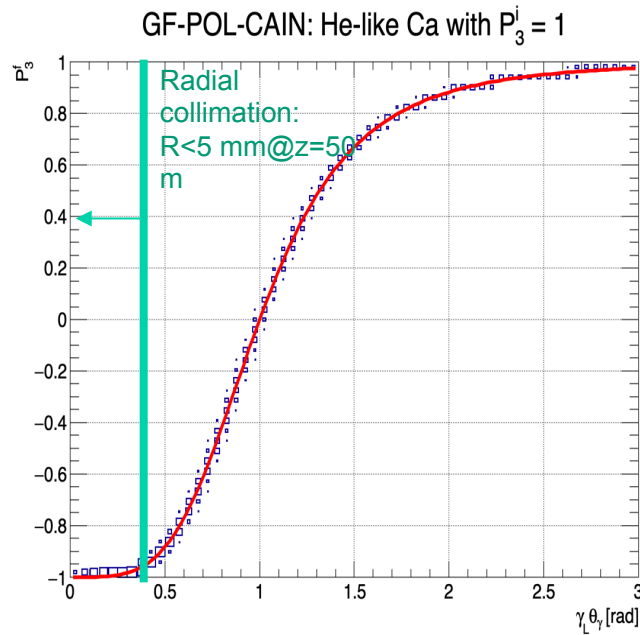


# An example: He-like, Calcium beam, Er:glass laser (1522 nm) - circular polarisation

A trick:  $1s^2\ 1S_0 \rightarrow 1s^1\ 2p^1\ 1P_1$  transition in He-like atoms

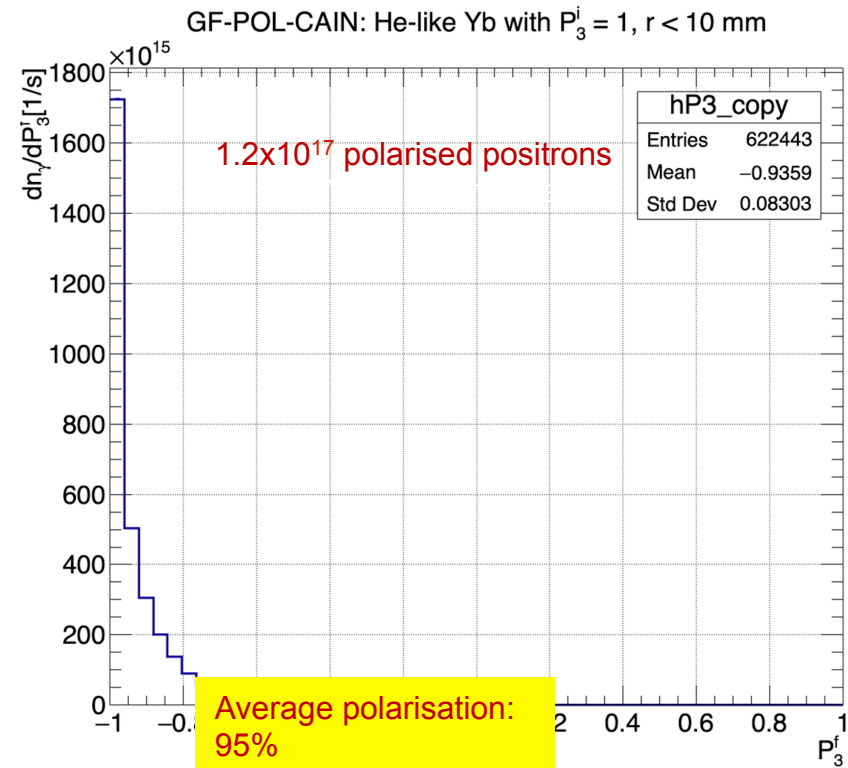
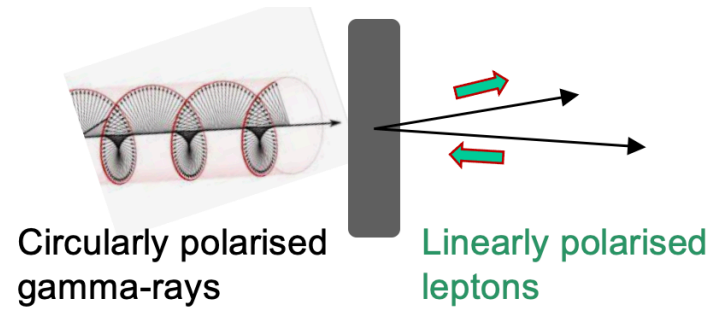


Closed transition in Helium-like atoms ( $n=1, n'=2$ ) preserve initial polarisation of the laser light

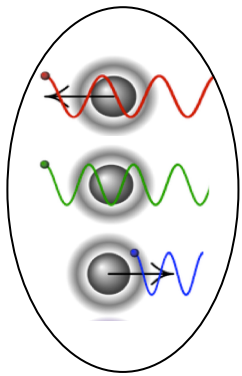


For more details see presentations at our recent, November 2021, Gamma Factory workshop: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1076086/>

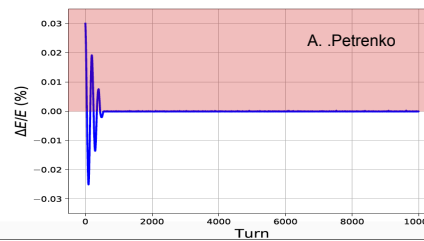
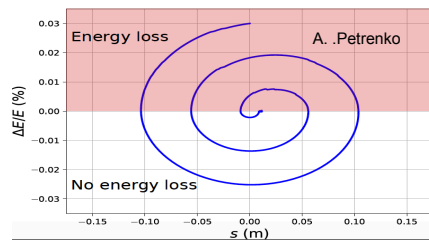
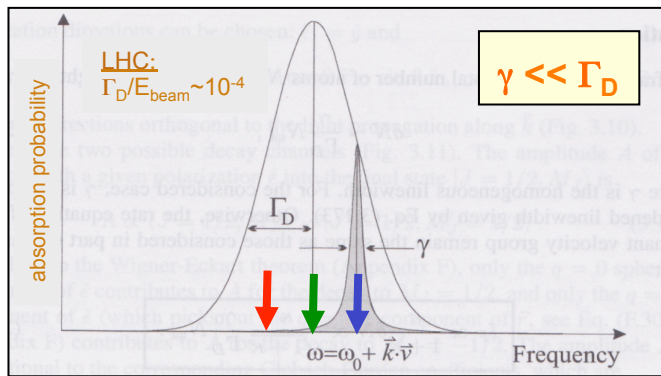
## Polarized lepton source from polarized gamma beams



# 4. Doppler laser cooling methods of high energy beams

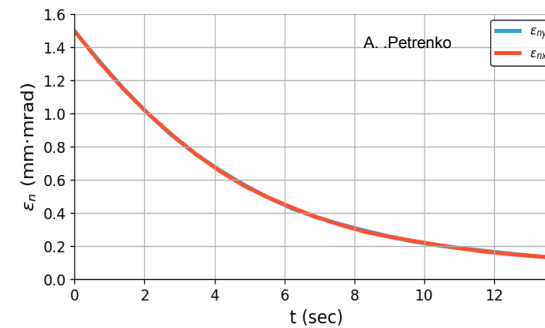


Bunch



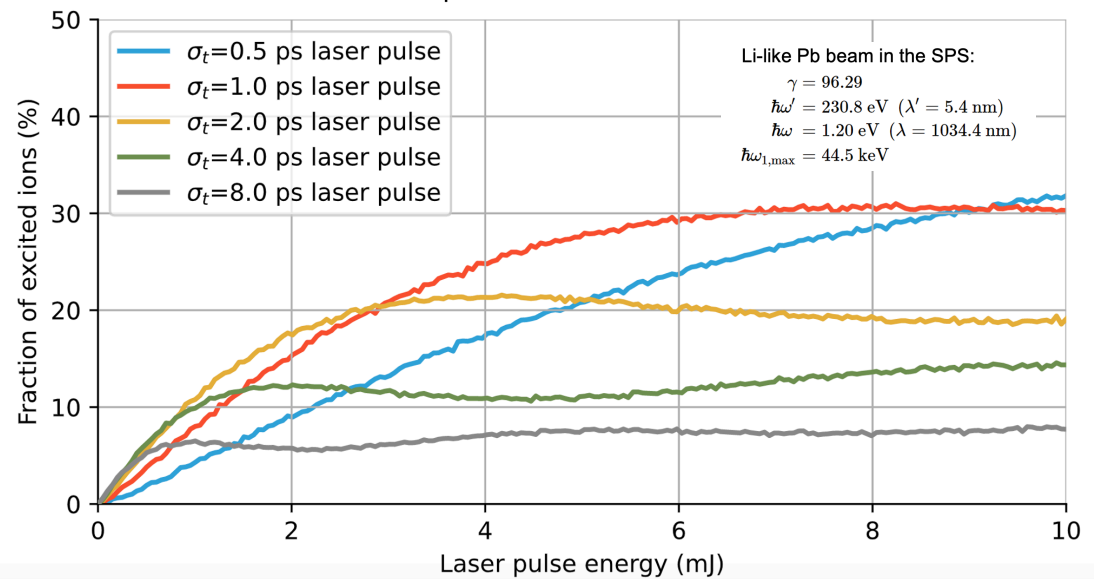
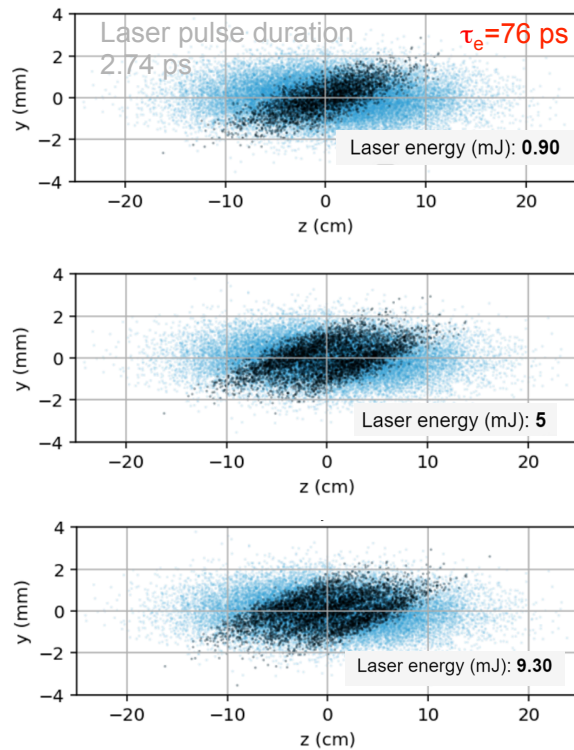
**Beam cooling speed:** the laser wavelength band is chosen such that only the ions moving in the laser pulse direction (in the bunch rest frame) can resonantly absorb photons.

Opens a possibility of forming at CERN hadronic beams of the required longitudinal and transverse emittances within a seconds-long time scale



Simulation of laser cooling of the lithium-like Ca(+17) bunches in the SPS: [transverse emittance evolution](#).

## 5. Atomic Quantum interference effects



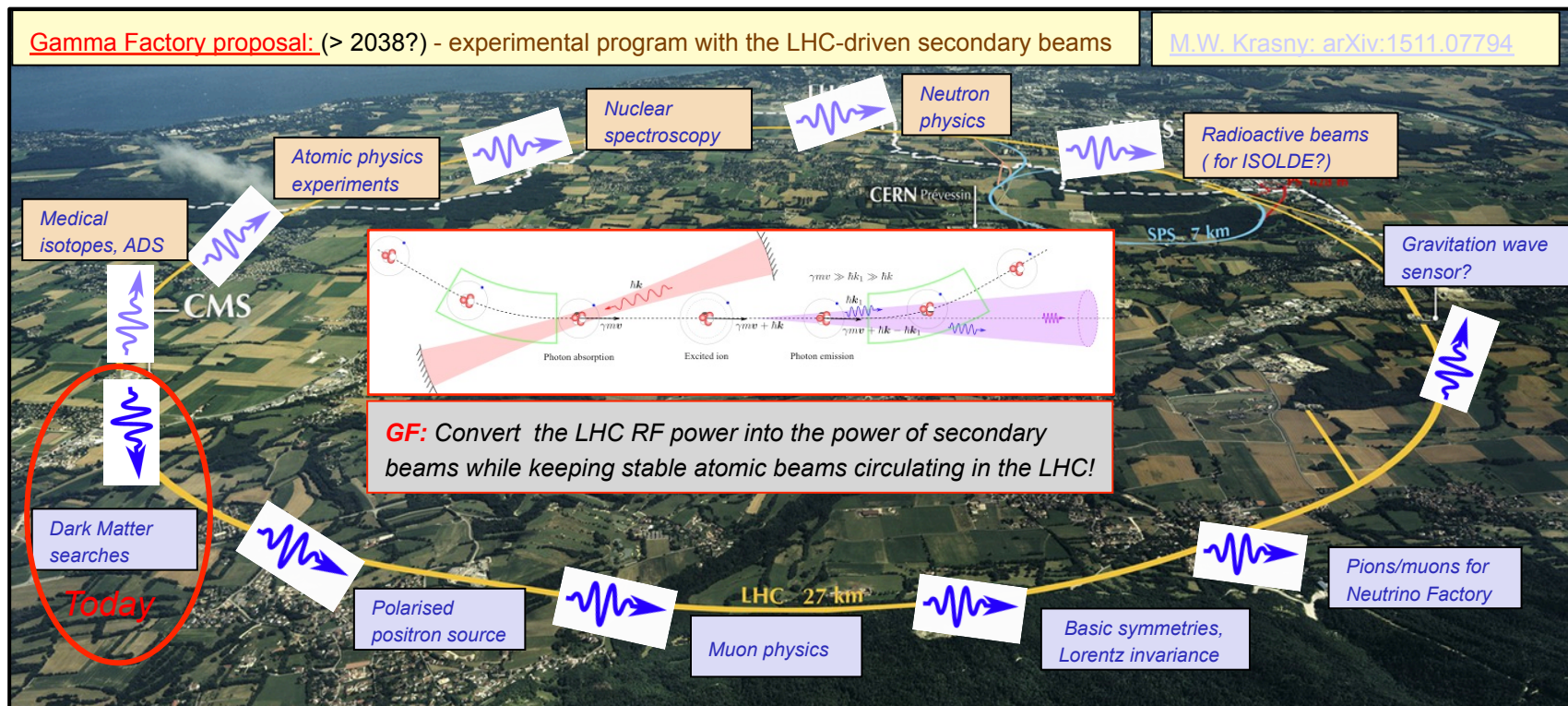
Clear imprint of Quantum-Mechanical interference effects (Rabi oscillations) on the observables which will be measured in the GF-PoP@SPS experiment!

## 6. Tertiary beams' sources – Intensity/quality targets

- **Polarised positrons** – potential gain of up to **a factor of  $10^4$**  in intensity w.r.t. the KEK positron source, satisfying both the LEMMA and the LHeC requirements
- **Pions** – potential, gain by **a factor of  $10^3$** , **gain** in the spectral density ( $dN_{\pi}/dEdp_{\tau}dP$  [ $\text{MeV}^{-2} \times \text{MW}^{-1}$ ]) with respect to proton-beam-driven sources at KEK and FNAL ( $P$  is the driver beam power)
- **Muons** – potential gain by **a factor of  $10^3$**  in intensity w.r.t. the PSI muon source, charge symmetry ( $N_{\mu^+} \sim N_{\mu^-}$ ), polarisation control, no necessity of the muon beam cooling (to be proven)?
- **Neutrinos** – fluxes comparable to NuMAX but: (1) **Very Narrow Band Beam**, driven by the small spectral density pion beam and (2) unique possibility of creating **flavour- and CP-tuned beams** driven by the beams of polarised muons
- **Neutrons** – potential gain of up to **a factor of  $10^4$**  in intensity of primary MeV-energy neutrons per 1 MW of the driver beam power
- **Radioactive ions** – potential gain of up to **a factor  $10^4$**  in intensity w.r.t. e.g. ALTO



# The LHC as a driver of secondary beams (*operation mode*)



# The SPS as a driver of secondary beams

1974-2021: 47 years of the experimental program with the SPS extracted beams

North Area



West Area



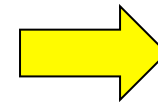
# Energy footprint: Comparison of the **DESY-XFEL** and the **CERN GF** photon sources

## DESY-XFEL

- Wall-pug power – 19 MW
- Driver beam power consumption – 600 kW
- Photon beam power 600 W
- **beam power efficiency ~ 0.1 %**
- **overall plug-power consumption efficiency ~ 0.003 %**  
(thanks to Andrea Latina for these numbers)

## CERN-GF

- wall-pug power – 200 MW (total CERN)
- wall-pug power – 125 MW (LHC)
- beam lifetime 10 h
- **driver beam power consumption = photon beam power**  
(power to ramp the beam to requisite energy negligible)
- **beam power efficiency ~ 99 %**
- **overall energy spending efficiency ~1%**  
(for 2 MW GF photon beams)



**CERN GF photon source** energy footprint is expected to be **smaller**, by a factor of 300, than the **DESY-XFEL photon source...**  
*...for the fixed power of the produced photon beam*

## Research with the Gamma Factory research tools

- **particle physics** (studies of the basic symmetries of the universe, **dark matter searches**, precision QED and EW studies, vacuum birefringence studies, Higgs physics in  $\gamma\gamma$  collision mode, rare muon decays, precision neutrino physics, ...).
- **accelerator physics** (beam cooling techniques, low emittance hadronic beams, plasma wake field acceleration, high intensity polarized positron and muon sources, beams of radioactive ions and neutrons, very narrow band, and flavour-tagged neutrino beams).

- **nuclear physics** (confinement phenomena, nuclear spectroscopy, nuclear photo-physics, fission research, gamma polarimetry, physics of rare radioactive nuclides, ...).
- **atomic physics** (electronic and muonic atoms, pionic and kaonic atoms).
- **applied physics** (accelerator driven energy sources, cold and warm fusion research, medical isotopes' and isomers' production, ...).

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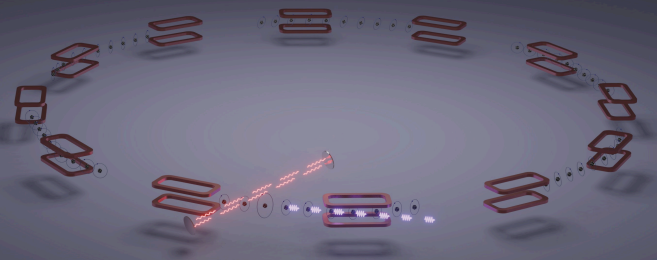
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**Physics Opportunities with the Gamma Factory**

Guest edited by Dmitry Budker, Mikhail Gorchtein, Mieczyslaw Witold Krasny, Adriana Pálffy, and Andrey Surzhykov



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Special Issue: Physics Opportunities with the Gamma Factory

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**EDITORIAL**

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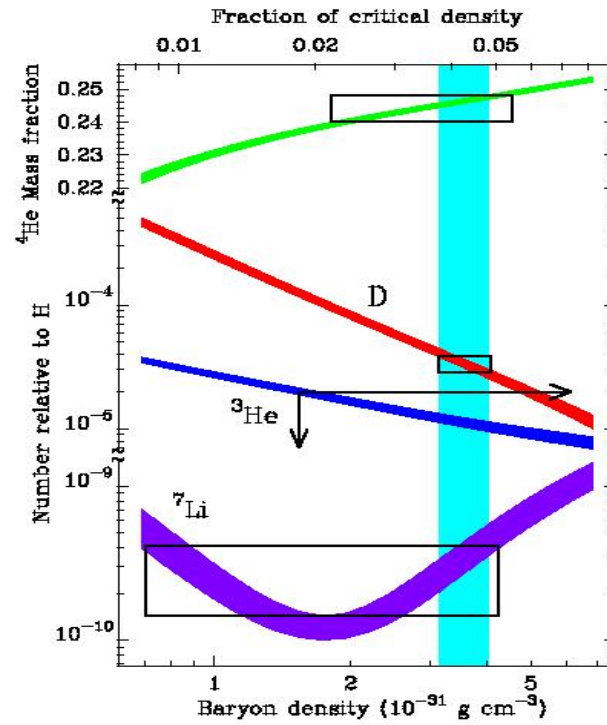
**From Einstein to CERN's Gamma Factory – the Story of  
*Annalen der Physik* Continues**

*Gamma Factory light on the dark sector*



# The mass of the Universe

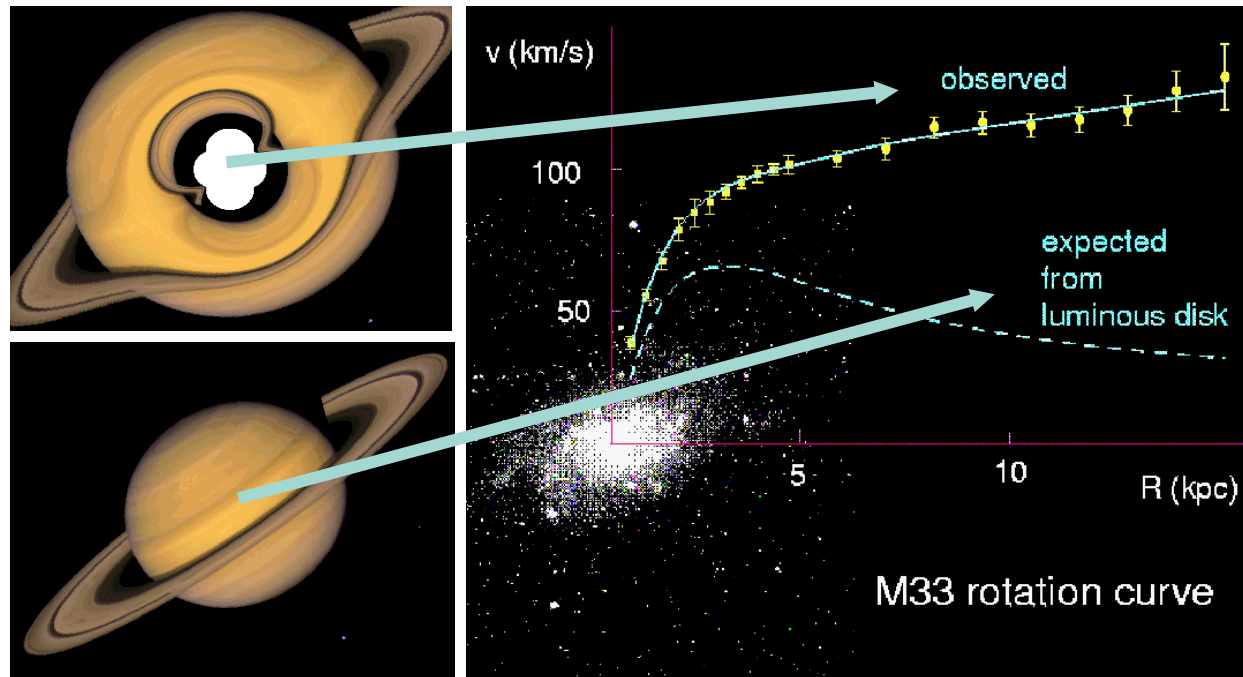
indirect measurement method





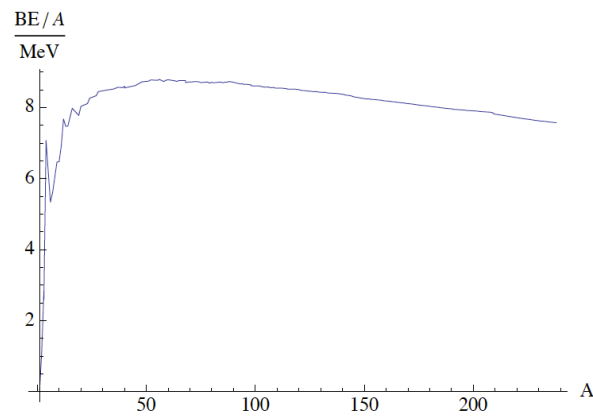
# The mass of the Universe

direct measurement method



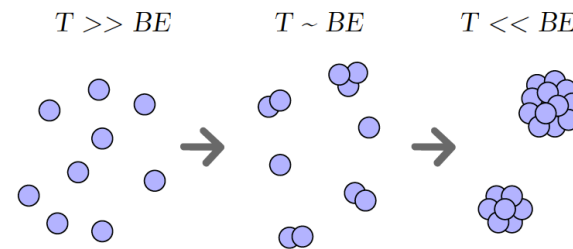
# The example of dark nuclei

SM nuclei

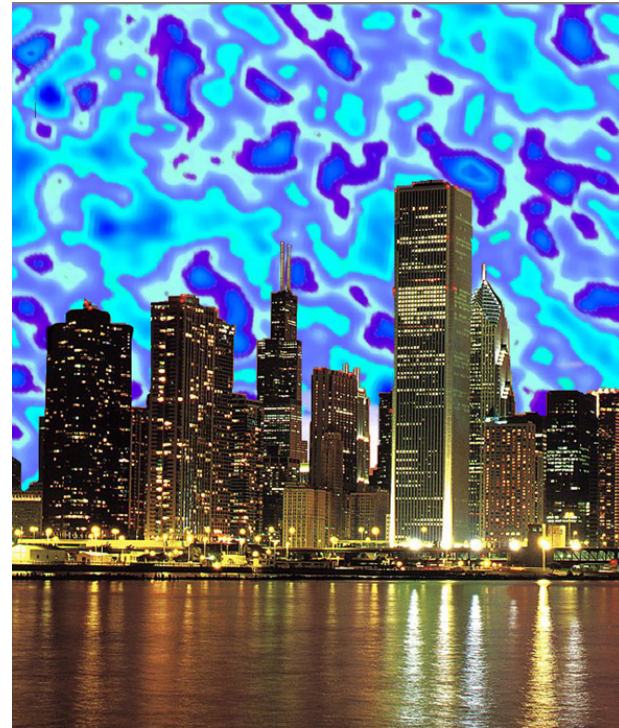


Dark nucleosynthesis

Free energy  $F = E - TS$ :  
large  $T \Rightarrow$  everything dissociated  
small  $T \Rightarrow$  large states favoured

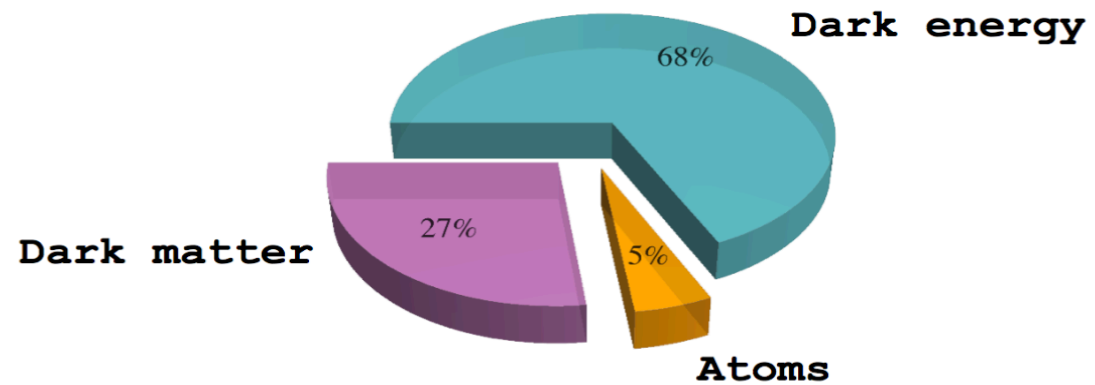


## Measuring dark energy



The result

## The Universe is Dark



## The guiding puzzle for new ideas

- Why the dark energy, dark matter and visible matter are “almost” equally abundant?
- Does it tell us that the dark matter has similar properties as the normal matter (dark atoms, dark molecules, dark nuclei...) but “refuses” to communicate with normal matter?

# The dark matter messengers

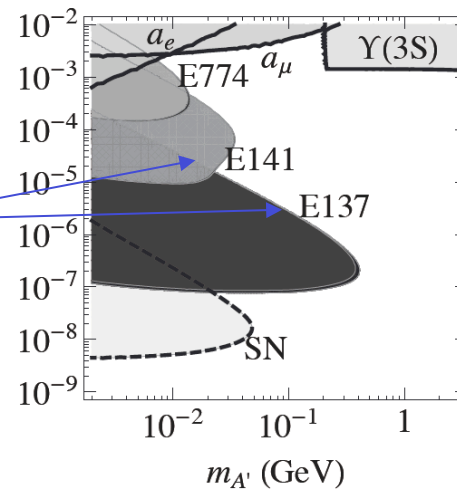
- “Higgs” portal (matter and dark matter in the same superconducting medium)
- Neutrino portal
- Dark photon portal  
( $Z/\gamma$  mixing in the SM and photon/dark photon mixing)
- Axion and Axion Like portals

# Dark Gauge Forces

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \epsilon_Y F^{Y,\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{4} F'^{\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu} + m_{A'}^2 A'^\mu A'_\mu, \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}}$  is the Standard Model Lagrangian,  $F'_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{[\mu} A'_{\nu]}$ , and  $A'$  is the gauge field of a massive dark  $U(1)'$  gauge group [1]. The second term in (3) is the kinetic

Rejection regions of SLAC Experiments in the 80-ties  
(more in tomorrow's talk)



SLAC-PUB-13650  
SU-ITP-09/22

# The dark matter detection in GF

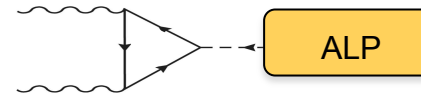
- “Produce and detect” DM particles (photon beams)
- Detect the cosmic origin DM particles (fully and partially stripped ion beams )



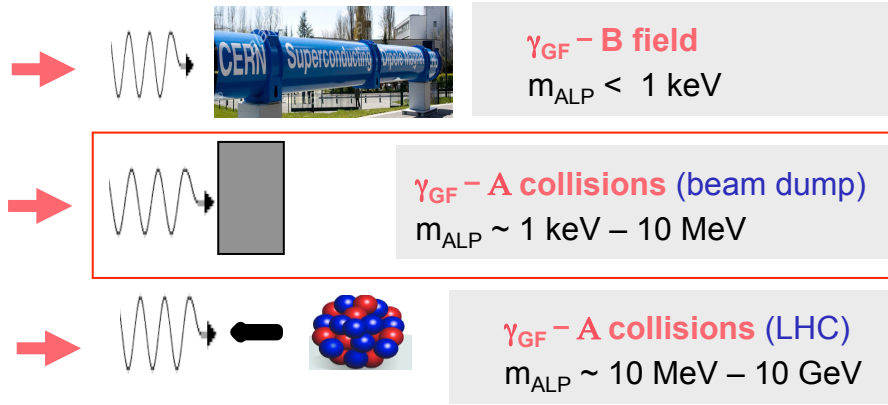


# DM searches (and studies): Axion-Like-Particles (ALP) example

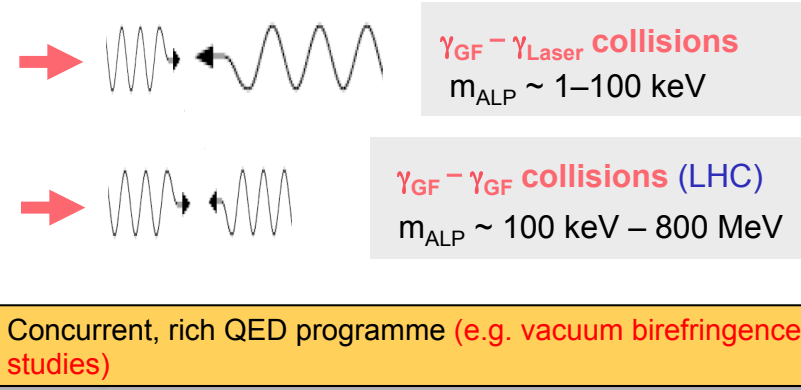
Collision schemes for ALP production:



Search phase



“Production” phase



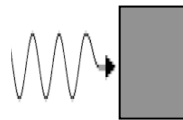
## Three principal advantages of the Gamma Factory photon beams:

- **Large fluxes:**  $\sim 10^{25}$  photons on target over year (SHIP –  $10^{20}$  protons on target).
- **Multiple ALP production schemes** covering a vast region of ALP masses (**sub eV – GeV**)
- **Once ALP candidate seen**  $\rightarrow$  a unique possibility to **tune the GF beam energy to the resonance.**

# Gamma Factory APL-finding potential (beam-dump search mode)

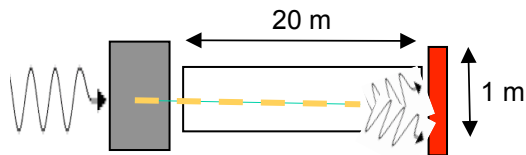
Search phase

Example: beam-dump search mode

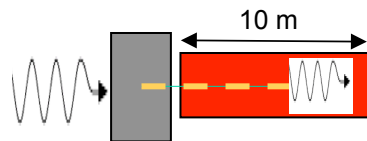


$\gamma_{GF} - A$  collisions  
1.6, 0.2, 0.02 GeV  
beams (A, B, C)

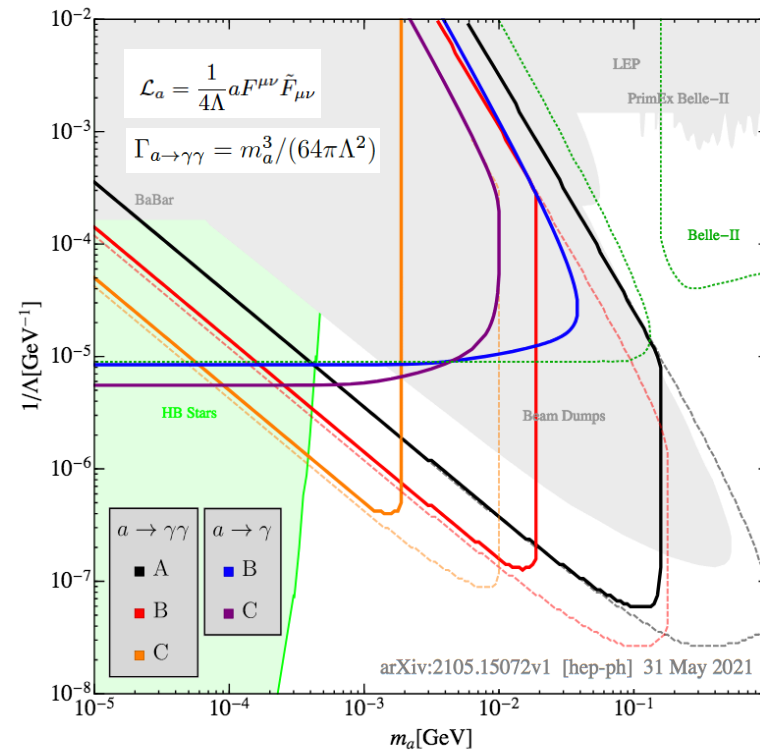
Two appearance modes:



➤ decay:  $a \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  (A, B, C)



➤ reversion:  $aN \rightarrow \gamma N$  (B, C)



# Gamma Factory dark photon discovery potential (beam-dump search mode)

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'^2 - \varepsilon e \sum_f q_f \bar{f} A' f$$

$$\gamma e \rightarrow e X$$

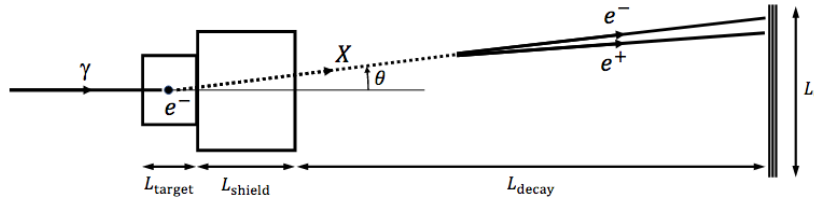


FIG. 1. **Experiment layout.** The experiment consists of a (graphite) target with thickn  $L_{\text{target}} = 1$  m, followed by a (lead) shield with thickness  $L_{\text{shield}} = 2$  m, an open air decay reg with length  $L_{\text{decay}}$ , and a tracking detector, centered on the beam axis, which we take to be a circular disk with diameter  $L_{\text{det}}$ . The GF photon beam enters from the left and produces an particle through dark Compton scattering  $\gamma e \rightarrow e X$ . The  $X$  particle is produced with an angl relative to the GF beamline and decays to an  $e^+e^-$  pair, which is detected in the tracking detect

Gamma Factory Searches for  
Extremely Weakly-Interacting Particles

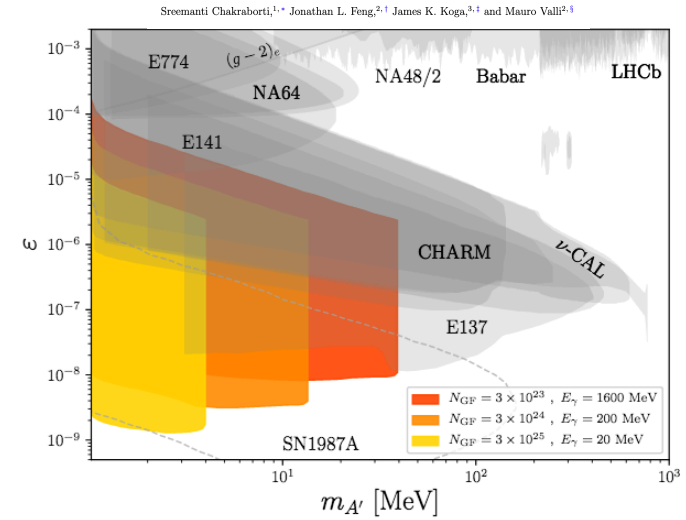


FIG. 3. **Dark photon sensitivity.** The sensitivity reach for the three sets of GF parameters  $(E_\gamma, N_{\text{GF}})$  indicated, each corresponding to a year of running, and detector parameters  $L_{\text{decay}} = 12$  m and  $L_{\text{det}} = 3$  m. The contours are for 3  $e^+e^-$  signal events and assume no background. The gray shaded regions are existing bounds from the terrestrial experiments indicated [32–42] (for further details, see also [43, 44]), from  $(g-2)_e$  [45], and the dashed gray line encloses the region probed by supernova cooling, as determined in Ref. [46].

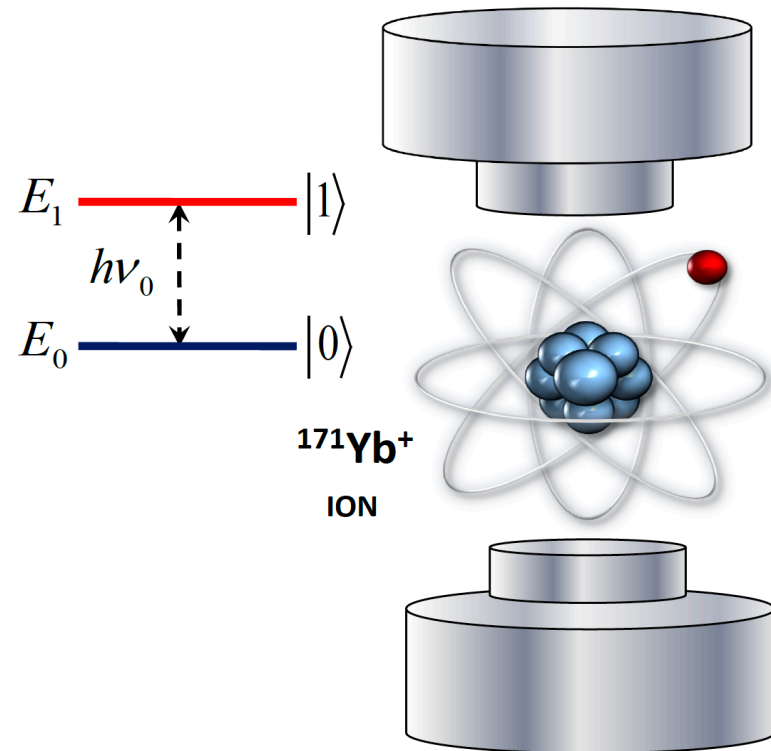
*A comment on the possibilities to search for the  
cosmic origin DM  
particles with LHC-”stored” atomic clocks*

# Ingredients for an atomic clock

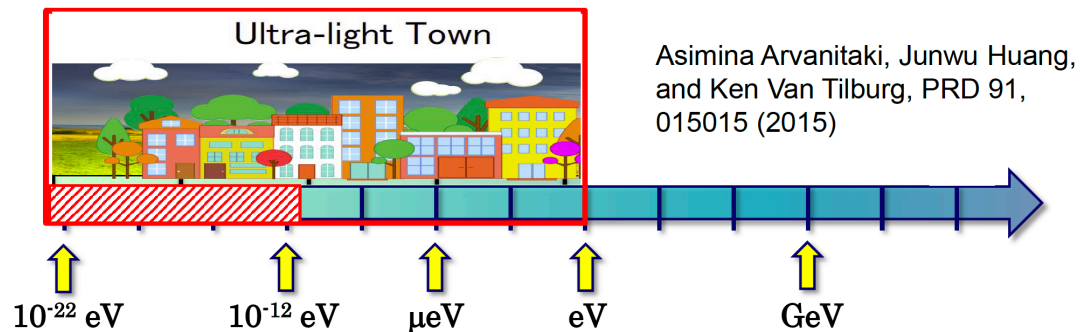
1. Atoms are all the same and will oscillate at exactly the same frequency (in the same environment):

**You now have a perfect oscillator!**

2. Take a sample of atoms (or just one)
3. Build a laser in resonance with this atomic frequency
4. Count cycles of this signal



## How to detect **ultralight** dark matter with clocks?



Dark matter field  $\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t + \vec{k}_\phi \times \vec{x} + \dots)$   
couples to electromagnetic interaction and “normal matter”

It will make fundamental coupling constants and mass ratios oscillate

Atomic energy levels will oscillate so **clock frequencies will oscillate**

Can be detected with monitoring ratios of clock frequencies over time (or clock/cavity).

# Need low energy, long-lived atomic (nuclear) transitions to search for low mass DM particles

## Ultralight dark matter

$$\frac{\phi}{M^*} \mathcal{O}_{\text{SM}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{L}_\phi = \kappa \phi \left[ + \frac{d_e}{4e^2} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \dots \right] \quad \alpha = \alpha^{\text{SM}} + \delta\alpha$$

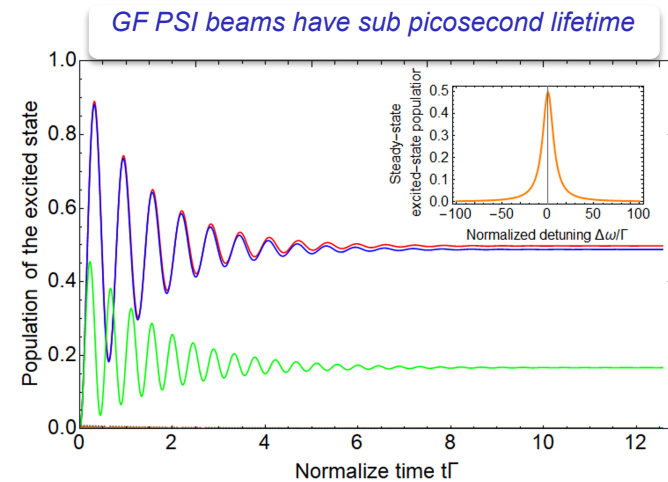
Dark matter photons

$\phi(t) = \phi_0 \cos(m_\phi t + \vec{k}_\phi \times \vec{x} + \dots)$  **Then, clock frequencies will oscillate!**  
 DM virial velocities  $\sim 300$  km/s

| $\tau$ [s] | $f = 2\pi/m_\phi$ [Hz] | $m_\phi$ [eV]       |
|------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| $10^{-6}$  | 1 MHz                  | $4 \times 10^{-9}$  |
| $10^{-3}$  | 1 kHz                  | $4 \times 10^{-12}$ |
| 1          | 1                      | $4 \times 10^{-15}$ |
| 1000       | 1 mHz                  | $4 \times 10^{-18}$ |
| $10^6$     | $10^{-6}$              | $4 \times 10^{-21}$ |

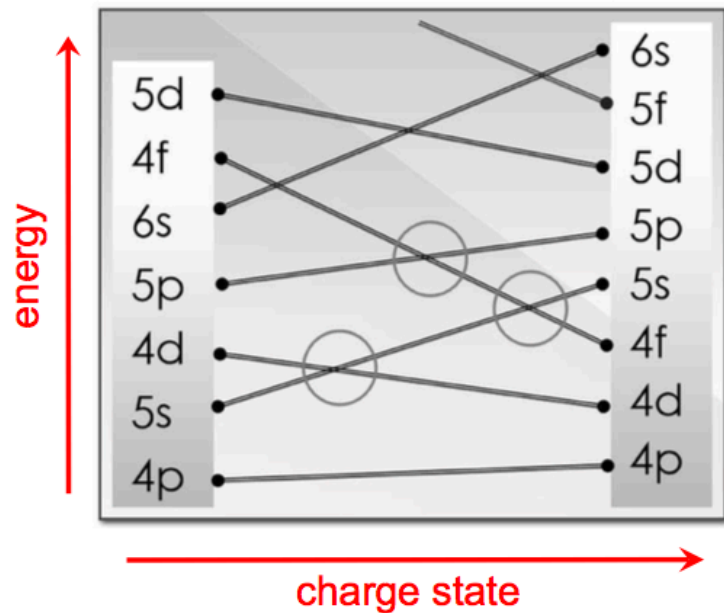
One oscillation per second

One oscillation per 11 days



Excited state life time must be at least in microsecond range  $\rightarrow$

- nuclear transitions
- energy level crossing for highly charged ions
- hyperfine splitting



| Isotope           | $T_{1/2}^{\beta}$          | $E_{\alpha}$ (keV) | $I_{\beta}$        | $I_{\alpha}$     | $\lambda L$     | $T_{1/2}^{\alpha\beta}$ (s) | $\alpha(K)$        | $\alpha(L)$        |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <sup>229</sup> Th | 7880 y                     | 0.008 <sup>a</sup> | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 5.19 × 10 <sup>3</sup>      | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>235</sup> U  | 7 × 10 <sup>8</sup> y      | 0.076              | 7/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 1/2 <sup>+</sup> | E3              | 7.03 × 10 <sup>23b</sup>    | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>201</sup> Hg | stable                     | 1.565              | 3/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 1/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 3.76 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>     | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>205</sup> Pb | 1.7 × 10 <sup>7</sup> y    | 2.329              | 5/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 1/2 <sup>-</sup> | E2              | 9.07 × 10 <sup>2</sup>      | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>181</sup> Ta | stable                     | 6.238              | 7/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 9/2 <sup>-</sup> | E1              | 4.34 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>     | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>239</sup> Pu | 2.4 × 10 <sup>4</sup> y    | 7.861              | 1/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 2.04 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>169</sup> Tm | stable                     | 8.410              | 1/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 1.07 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>     | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>83</sup> Kr  | stable                     | 9.406              | 9/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 2.80 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>     | -                  | 14                 |
| <sup>187</sup> Os | stable                     | 9.756              | 1/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 9.01 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>137</sup> La | 6 × 10 <sup>4</sup> y      | 10.560             | 7/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 1.04 × 10 <sup>-5</sup>     | -                  | 93.2               |
| <sup>45</sup> Sc  | stable                     | 12.400             | 7/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | (M2)            | 1.96 × 10 <sup>2</sup>      | 362                | 54                 |
| <sup>235</sup> U  | -                          | 13.034             | 1/2 <sup>+</sup> d | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 2.43 × 10 <sup>-7e</sup>    | -                  | -                  |
| <sup>73</sup> Ge  | stable                     | 13.284             | 9/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>+</sup> | E2              | 3.1 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>      | 299                | 666                |
| <sup>51</sup> Fe  | stable                     | 14.413             | 1/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 9.32 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | 7.35               | 0.78               |
| <sup>151</sup> Eu | ≥ 1.7 × 10 <sup>18</sup> y | 21.541             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 2.62 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 21.7               |
| <sup>149</sup> Sm | stable                     | 22.507             | 7/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 2.24 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 22.2 <sup>f</sup>  |
| <sup>119</sup> Sn | stable                     | 23.871             | 1/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 1.07 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 4.1                |
| <sup>161</sup> Dy | stable                     | 25.651             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>-</sup> | E1              | 9.59 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | -                  | 1.79 <sup>g</sup>  |
| <sup>201</sup> Hg | stable                     | 26.272             | 3/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 4.61 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | -                  | 55.9 <sup>g</sup>  |
| <sup>129</sup> I  | 1.6 × 10 <sup>7</sup> y    | 27.793             | 7/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 1.02 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 4.06               |
| <sup>229</sup> Th | 7880 y                     | 29.190             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 3.26 × 10 <sup>-8h</sup>    | -                  | 168 <sup>f</sup>   |
| <sup>40</sup> K   | 1.2 × 10 <sup>9</sup> y    | 29.830             | 4 <sup>-</sup>     | 3 <sup>-</sup>   | M1              | 5.47 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | 0.26 <sup>f</sup>  | 0.023 <sup>f</sup> |
| <sup>201</sup> Hg | stable                     | 32.145             | 3/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 5.04 × 10 <sup>-9h</sup>    | -                  | 30.8 <sup>f</sup>  |
| <sup>237</sup> Np | 2.1 × 10 <sup>6</sup> y    | 33.196             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 9.92 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | -                  | 131 <sup>f</sup>   |
| <sup>125</sup> Te | stable                     | 35.492             | 1/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 2.15 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | 11.69              | 1.602              |
| <sup>189</sup> Os | stable                     | 36.200             | 3/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 1/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 1.09 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | -                  | 15.6               |
| <sup>121</sup> Sb | stable                     | 37.129             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 4.06 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | 9.36               | 1.227              |
| <sup>129</sup> Xe | stable                     | 39.578             | 1/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 1.25 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | 10.27              | 1.41               |
| <sup>233</sup> U  | 1.6 × 10 <sup>5</sup> y    | 40.351             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1 <sup>i</sup> | 1.03 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 374 <sup>f</sup>   |
| <sup>243</sup> Am | 7364 y                     | 42.20              | 5/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 6.43 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | -                  | 110                |
| <sup>229</sup> Th | 7880 y                     | 42.435             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 7/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 2.59 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | -                  | 99.3 <sup>f</sup>  |
| <sup>240</sup> Pu | 6561 y                     | 42.824             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.55 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 658                |
| <sup>246</sup> Cm | 4706 y                     | 42.852             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.31 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 770 <sup>f</sup>   |
| <sup>248</sup> Cm | 3.5 × 10 <sup>5</sup> y    | 43.400             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.22 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 724 <sup>f</sup>   |
| <sup>234</sup> U  | 2.5 × 10 <sup>5</sup> y    | 43.498             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.80 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 520                |
| <sup>244</sup> Pu | 8.1 × 10 <sup>7</sup> y    | 44.2               | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | (E2)            | 1.23 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 560                |
| <sup>242</sup> Pu | 3.7 × 10 <sup>5</sup> y    | 44.54              | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.20 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 543 <sup>f</sup>   |
| <sup>238</sup> U  | 4.5 × 10 <sup>9</sup> y    | 44.916             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.26 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 444                |
| <sup>236</sup> U  | 2.3 × 10 <sup>7</sup> y    | 45.242             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.38 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 429                |
| <sup>235</sup> U  | 7 × 10 <sup>8</sup> y      | 46.103             | 7/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 9/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 7.15 × 10 <sup>-10</sup>    | -                  | 40                 |
| <sup>183</sup> W  | ≥ 6.7 × 10 <sup>20</sup> y | 46.484             | 1/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 3/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 1.73 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | -                  | 6.46 <sup>f</sup>  |
| <sup>232</sup> Th | 1.4 × 10 <sup>10</sup> y   | 49.369             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 1.15 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>     | -                  | 244                |
| <sup>81</sup> Kr  | 2.3 × 10 <sup>6</sup> y    | 49.57              | 7/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 9/2 <sup>+</sup> | M1              | 9.41 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | 1.117 <sup>f</sup> | 0.169 <sup>g</sup> |
| <sup>235</sup> U  | -                          | 51.697             | 1/2 <sup>+</sup> d | 5/2 <sup>+</sup> | E2              | 8.34 × 10 <sup>-8e</sup>    | -                  | 226                |
| <sup>230</sup> Th | 7.5 × 10 <sup>4</sup> y    | 53.227             | 0 <sup>+</sup>     | 2 <sup>+</sup>   | E2              | 8.08 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | -                  | 166.8              |
| <sup>157</sup> Gd | stable                     | 54.536             | 3/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 1.74 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | 9.50 <sup>l</sup>  | 2                  |
| <sup>239</sup> Pu | 2.4 × 10 <sup>4</sup> y    | 57.275             | 1/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>+</sup> | E2              | 3.58 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>     | -                  | 161.1              |
| <sup>237</sup> Np | 2.1 × 10 <sup>6</sup> y    | 59.540             | 5/2 <sup>+</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>-</sup> | E1              | 1.86 × 10 <sup>-7h</sup>    | -                  | 0.376 <sup>f</sup> |
| <sup>155</sup> Gd | stable                     | 60.010             | 3/2 <sup>-</sup>   | 5/2 <sup>-</sup> | M1              | 2.04 × 10 <sup>-9</sup>     | 7.25               | 1.48               |



# Conclusions

- ❑ *Gamma Factory can create, at CERN, a variety of novel research tools, which could open novel research opportunities in a very broad domain of basic and applied science*
- ❑ *Examples of such tools were presented in this talk*
- ❑ *The Gamma Factory research programme can be largely based on the existing CERN accelerator infrastructure – it requires “relatively” minor infrastructure investments*
- ❑ *Gamma Factory has a significant potential to produce, detect and investigate the properties of the keV/MeV mass-range DM particles (if they exist)*
- ❑ *Its potential to detect DM waves of cosmic origin remains to be demonstrated*