


# With nanoplasmonics towards fusion

NAPLIFE 2022

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Energy production = gain with losses

Future energy: nuclear fusion

NAPLIFE: aims, results, plans

Energy crisis

The good fuel: high energy to mass ratio

Alternatives of the present

# Energy crisis



## Summit

The screenshot shows a website banner for the 'Future of Utilities Energy Transition Summit'. At the top left is the 'FUTURE OF UTILITIES' logo. The main header text reads 'FUTURE OF UTILITIES ENERGY TRANSITION SUMMIT'. Below this, it states 'Europe's most significant energy conference' and '15 - 16 March 2023 | Amsterdam'. Two red buttons are visible: 'Download Brochure' and 'Sponsorship Opportunities'. The background features a stage with speakers and an audience.





## Specific data, available energy

J/mg = MJ/kg

<https://afdc.energy.gov/fuels/properties>; [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/energy\\_density](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/energy_density)

- coal 23; brown coal 18; turf 7; wood 11; biomass 10; hulladék 9; olajpala 20
- oil, PB gas 40; bio-fuel 30; waste 25
- natural gas 47; H 40; biogas 20; waste gas 15
- uranium 460.000; fusion 640.000.000

1 kg U  $\approx$  20 tons of coal  $\approx$  0.7 g fusion fuel

Energy production = gain with losses

Future energy: nuclear fusion

NAPLIFE: aims, results, plans

Energy crisis

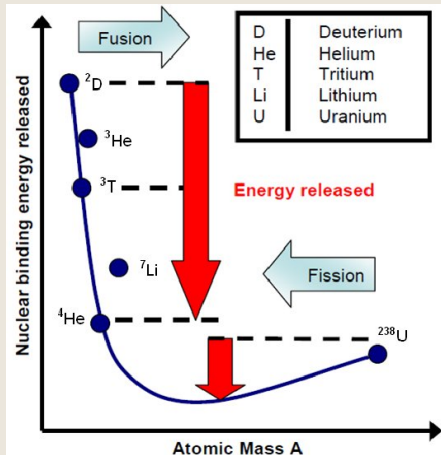
The good fuel: high energy to mass ratio

Alternatives of the present

# The "atomic" force



nuclear techniques





# Thermal and equilibrium

## ITER magnetic confinement





# Direct and sudden

## NIF laser shots

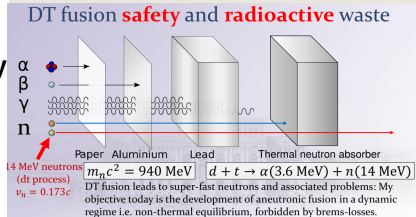
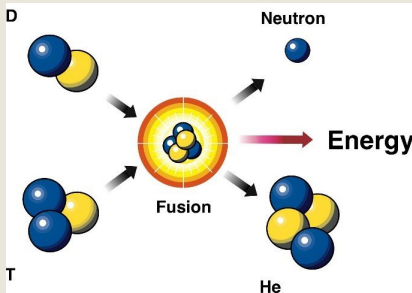




# D + T fusion

why-s and problems

pictures from Rafelski



1. energetic neutrons; 2. global tritium quantity (nuclear power plants)



# Neutronfree fusion

examples (wiki)

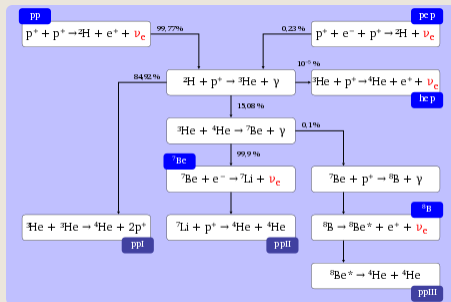
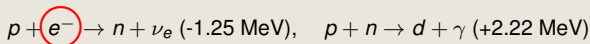
High nuclear cross section aneutronic reactions<sup>[1]</sup>

Isotopes	Reaction
Deuterium - <sup>3</sup> He	${}^2\text{D} + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + {}^1\text{p} + 18.3 \text{ MeV}$
Deuterium - <sup>6</sup> lithium	${}^2\text{D} + {}^6\text{Li} \rightarrow 2 {}^4\text{He} + 22.4 \text{ MeV}$
Proton - <sup>6</sup> lithium	${}^1\text{p} + {}^6\text{Li} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + {}^3\text{He} + 4.0 \text{ MeV}$
<sup>3</sup> He - <sup>6</sup> lithium	${}^3\text{He} + {}^6\text{Li} \rightarrow 2 {}^4\text{He} + {}^1\text{p} + 16.9 \text{ MeV}$
<sup>3</sup> He - <sup>3</sup> He	${}^3\text{He} + {}^3\text{He} \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + 2 {}^1\text{p} + 12.86 \text{ MeV}$
Proton - Lithium-7	${}^1\text{p} + {}^7\text{Li} \rightarrow 2 {}^4\text{He} + 17.2 \text{ MeV}$
Proton - Boron-11	${}^1\text{p} + {}^{11}\text{B} \rightarrow 3 {}^4\text{He} + 8.7 \text{ MeV}$
Proton - Nitrogen	${}^1\text{p} + {}^{15}\text{N} \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C} + {}^4\text{He} + 5.0 \text{ MeV}$



# Electrons in the fusion

PEP process, Widom-Larsen (wiki)



## Widom-Larsen theory

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Widom-Larsen theory** is a proposed explanation for supposed **Low Energy Nuclear Reactions** (LENR) developed in 2005 by Allan Widom and Lewis Larsen. In the paper describing the idea, they claim that ultra low momentum neutrons are produced in the **cold fusion** apparatuses<sup>[1]</sup> during **weak interactions** when protons capture "heavy" electrons from **metallic hydride** surfaces.<sup>[2]</sup> One source has held that it is "unlikely the electron energy threshold for neutron production can be reached in a metal lattice system without a substantial energy input."<sup>[3]</sup>

The idea was expanded by Jyotindra Srivastava together with Widom and Larsen in 2014, who went on to propose that it could be an explanation for neutrons observed in exploding wire experiments, **solar corona** and flares, and neutron production in **thunderstorms**.<sup>[4]</sup> However, unrealistic concentrations of free electrons are needed for the neutron yield to be a significant component of thunderstorm neutrons, discounting the explanation.<sup>[5][6][7]</sup>

# NAPLIFE individual features

Idea, plan, initial results

- 1 Plasmonic collectivity, energy concentration, threshold lowering, lifetime cca. 20 – 30 fs
- 2 Far from equilibrium, lightspeed, simultaneous ignitions
- 3 Nanoantennas in target, ultrashort, high contrast laser pulses ( $10^6$ , 40 fs @ Wigner)
- 4 Energy balance and fusion products at low energy: microcraters,  $D/(2D+H)$

# Nanofusion

plasmons: barrier reduced, energy hot spots

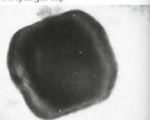


## The Lycurgus Cup A Roman Nanotechnology

Ian Freestone<sup>1</sup>, Nigel Meeks<sup>2</sup>,  
Margaret Sax<sup>2</sup> and Catherine Higgitt<sup>2</sup>

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) image of a silver-gold alloy particle within the glass of the Lycurgus Cup

50 nm



(a)



(b)

The Lycurgus Cup 1958,1202.1 in reflected (a) and transmitted (b) light. Scene showing Lycurgus being enmeshed by Ambrosia

# Fusion cross section

when electrons screen the Coulomb barrier (Wong+Shih 2022)

$$\text{Formula } \sigma(E, U_s) = \frac{S(E+U_s)}{E+U_s} \left[ e^{\pi \sqrt{2.29 \text{ MeV} / (E+U_s)}} - 1 \right]^{-1}$$

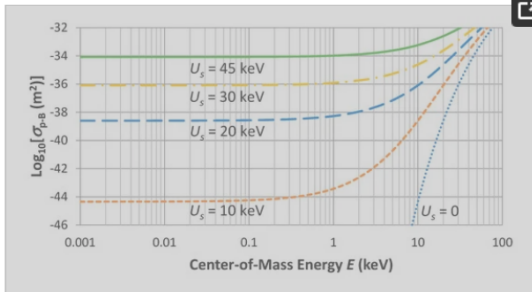


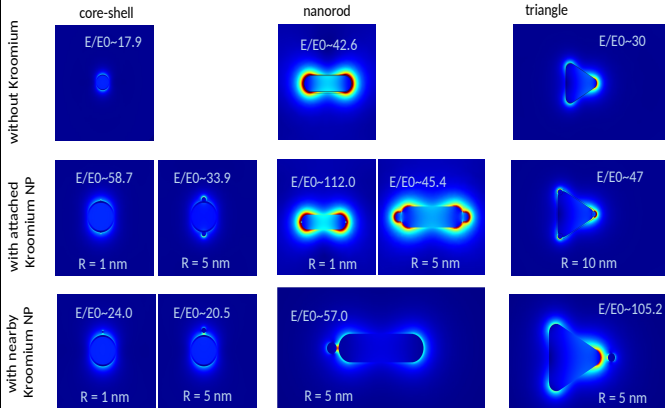
Figure 1.  $p\text{-}^{11}\text{B}$  cross section as function of particle energy for the screening electron densities up to  $U_s = 45$  keV. The cross section below  $E = 1$  keV grows over 10 orders of magnitude (from  $10^{-44}$  to  $10^{-34} \text{ m}^2$ ) when  $U_s$  increases from 10 to 45 keV.



# Plasmonics at work

nanoantenna form variations (M. Csete)

## Near-field enhancement with individual plasmonic nanoresonators & Kroonium nanoparticles

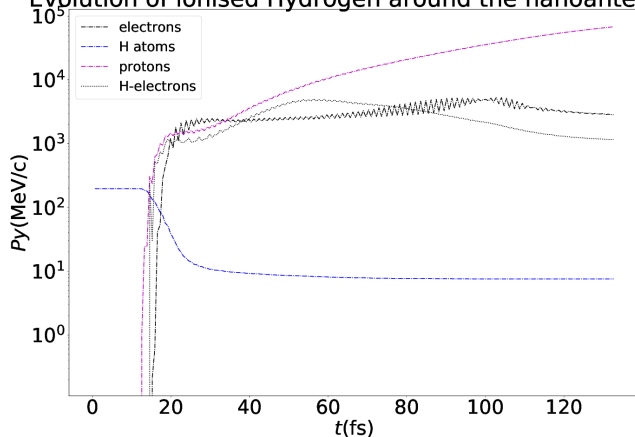


# Kinetic model: PIC

Single nanorod

time evolution (I. Papp)

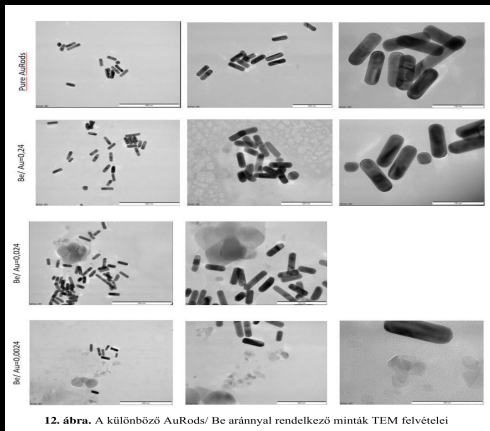
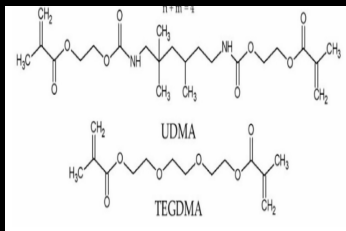
## Evolution of ionised Hydrogen around the nanoantenna



# NAPLIFE NANO



## Scattered nanorod patterns (A.Bonyar, M.Veres)

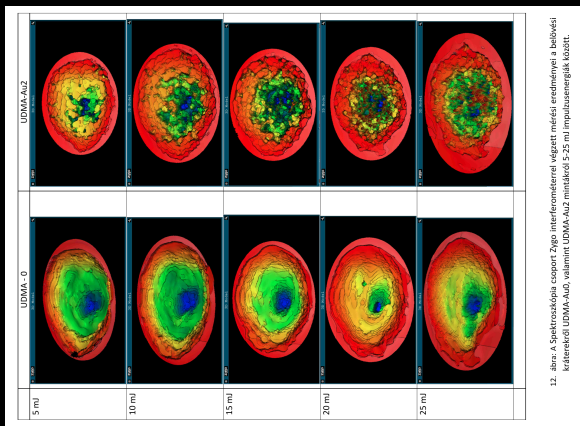


12. ábra. A különböző AuRods/ Be aránnyal rendelkező minták TEM felvételei

# NAPLIFE CRATER

Craters w/o Au

(J.Kaman, A.Szokol)



# NAPLIFE CRATER

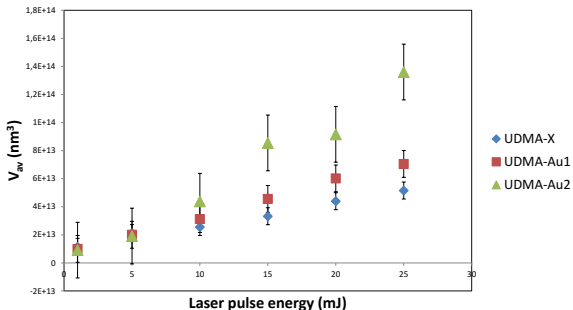


crater volumes vs pulse energy



## Crater volume

The analysis of the crater volumes – in 5 different points for every energy and target



ICNFP 2022 - Ágnes Nagyné Szokol - 7 September 2022

# NAPLIFE RAMAN

UDMA - TEGDMA copolymer (M. Veres)

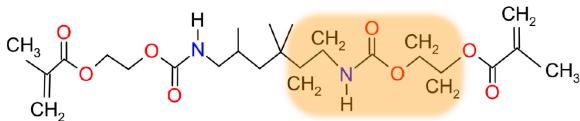


Figure 1. Chemical structure of UDMA monomer together with the selected part used for further modeling and calculations.

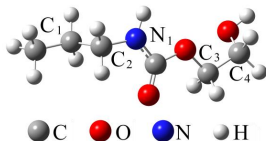
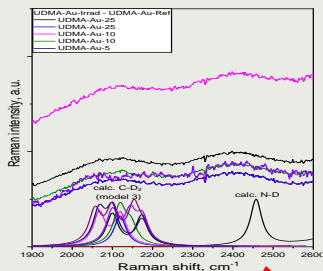
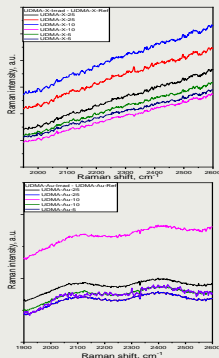


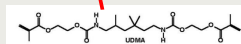
Figure 2. Optimized (B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p)) geometry of UDMA model ( $C_1H_2$ - $C_2H_2$  and  $C_3H_2$ - $C_4H_2$  groups are in anti and gauche conformational states, respectively).

# NAPLIFE RAMAN

Raman signals: vibration of molecular bonds (Veres)

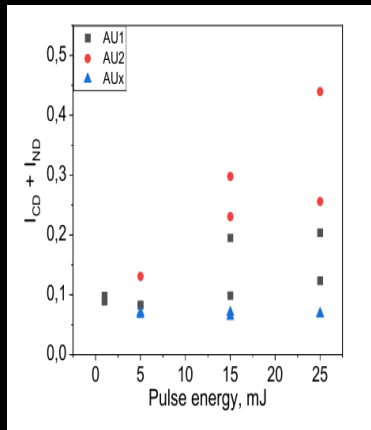
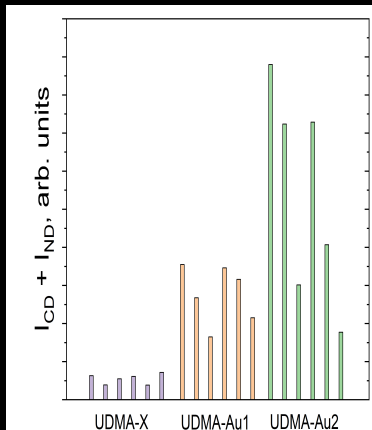


$I_{\text{laser}} > 10^{16}$



# NAPLIFE RAMAN

Raman signals: molecular vibrations from various spots in teh crater

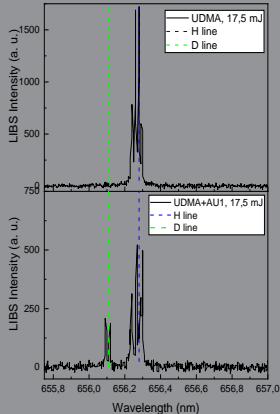




# NAPLIFE LIBS



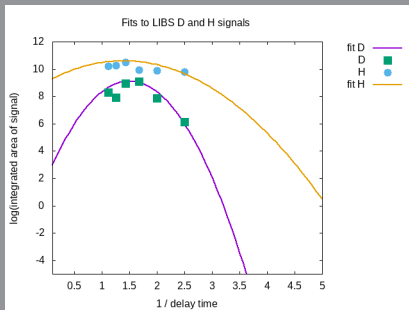
LIBS: atomic ionisation  $\rightarrow$  D/H (Aladi)



# NAPLIFE LIBS++

LIBS: kinetic energy estimate (Kroó, Biró)

Delay times  $\rightarrow$  velocity distribution (rough proxy)



$$t_{max} \approx 0.6 \mu s, t_{light} \approx 0.13 ns, t_{2 \rightarrow 3} \approx 2 fs.$$

$$v_D \approx 70 km/s, E_{D,kin} \approx 50 eV,$$

$$\frac{v_D}{c} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-4}.$$

# NAPLIFE FUTURE

## plans and suggestions

### Our further plans:

- Nuclear detection (CR39)
- ELI cooperation (similar and bigger lasers)
- Variation of the shooting geometry
- Nanoparticles and medium matter variations
- energy, deuteron and  $\alpha$  observation