

ELBE* – Center for High-Power Radiation Sources

Defects and Hydrogen in Nb films



*Electron Linear accelerator with high Brilliance and low Emittance

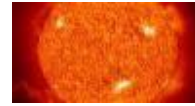
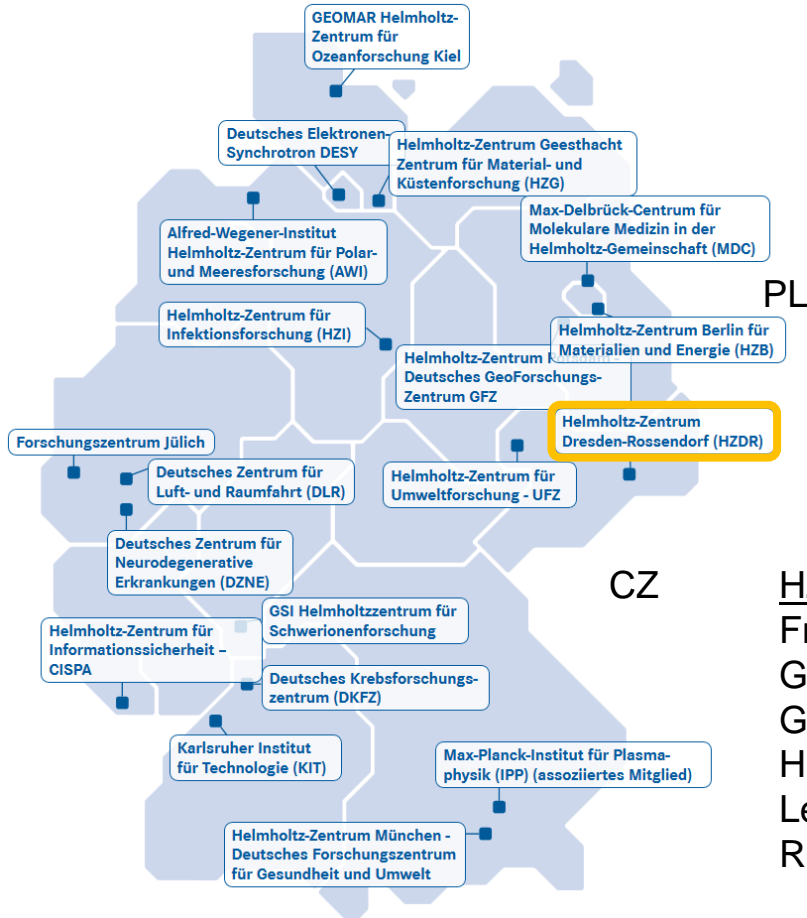
Andreas Wagner

Dept. Head Nuclear Physics Division

Dept. Head Radiation Source ELBE

Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden – Rossendorf, Germany

Helmholtz Center Dresden – Rossendorf



Energy



Matter



Health



Key Technologies



Earth & Env.



Space & Transport



Hermann von Helmholtz
1821 - 1894

HZDR outposts

- Freiberg
- Görlitz (CASUS)
- Grenoble (ESRF)
- Hamburg (European XFEL)
- Leipzig
- Rostock

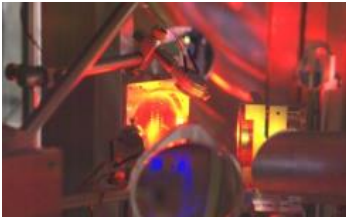
- Resource technologies
- Complex systems
- ROBL beamline
- HiBEF
- Radioisotopes
- High energy density physics

HZDR - large scale research infrastructures



ELBE.

SC electron CW-LINAC



PW-class lasers

Laser particle acceleration

HiBEF



IBC.

Ion beam center

HZDR
INNOVATION

Tech transfer and
industry services



HLD.

> 90 T
magnets

**Proton tumor therapy and
PET Center**



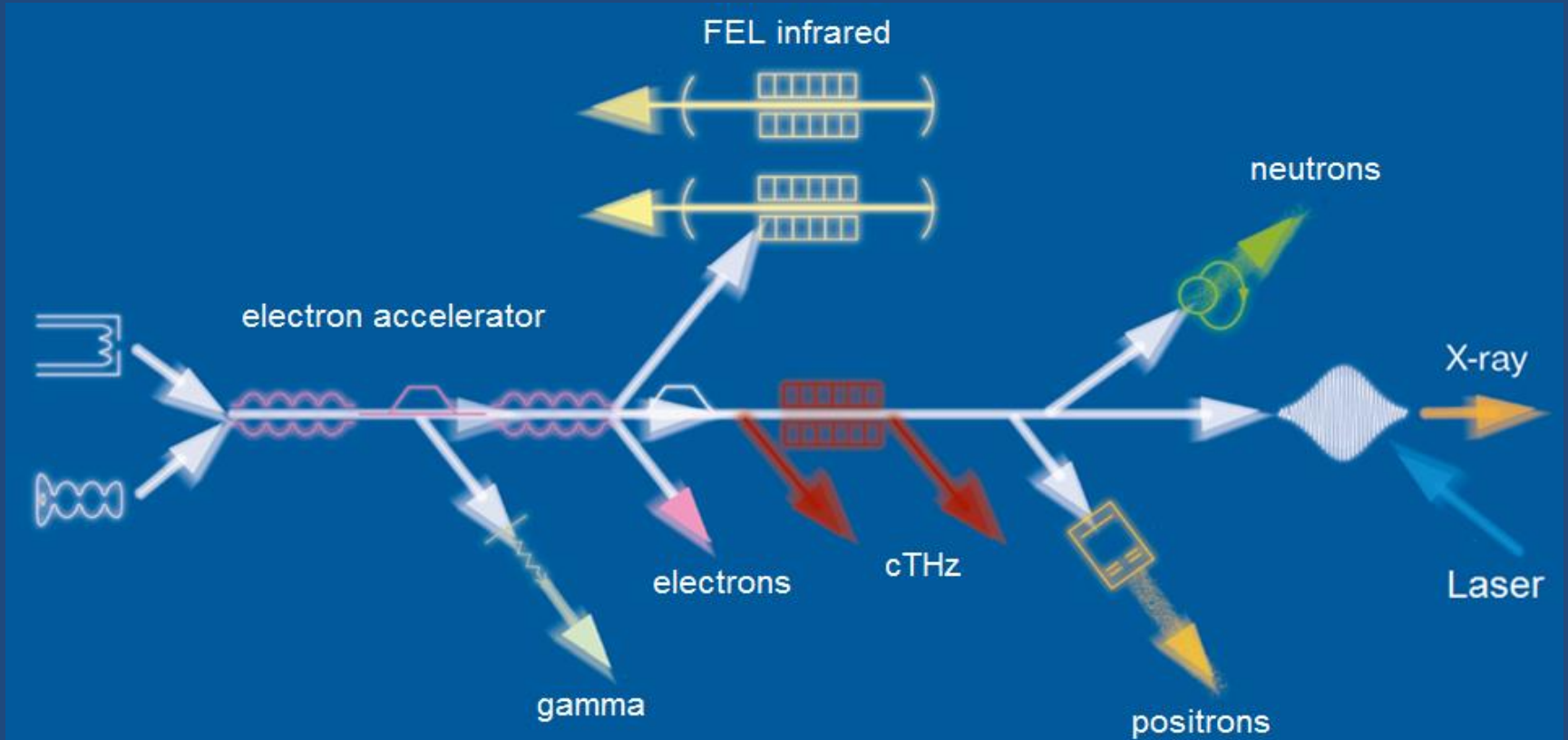
OncoRay

250 MeV protons



ELBE Center for High-Power radiation Sources

(Electron Linear accelerator w/ high Brilliance and low Emittance)

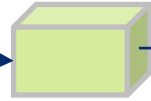
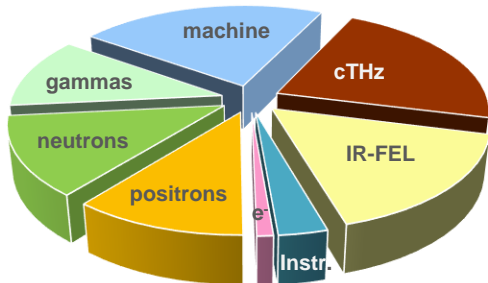


User facilities and science cases

e-Linac

40 MeV, 1.6 mA
CW or pulsed
64 kW

~5800 hrs / year
40 weeks / year
24 / 7 mode



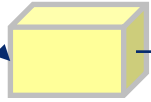
γ - rays
0 – 20 MeV

- Nuclear physics – e-m strength in heavy nuclei
- Nuclear astrophysics – synthesis of elements
- In-sample positron generation



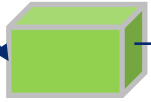
Superradiant THz
0.1 – 2.5 THz, 300 kV/cm
120 μm – 3 mm, 10-250 kHz

- Ultra-fast dynamics at fs – time scales
- Non-linear dynamics, spin-wave coupling
- Materials for high-bandwidth data transmission



IR-FELs
5 – 250 μm, 2 μJ
1.2 – 60 THz, 13 MHz

- Near-field microscopy
- Semiconductor spectroscopy, quantum dots
- Small bandwidth



Neutrons
0.1 – 10 MeV
10⁴ n/(s cm²), 100 kHz

- Materials for fusion reactors
- Nuclear transmutation
- Neutron time-of-flight



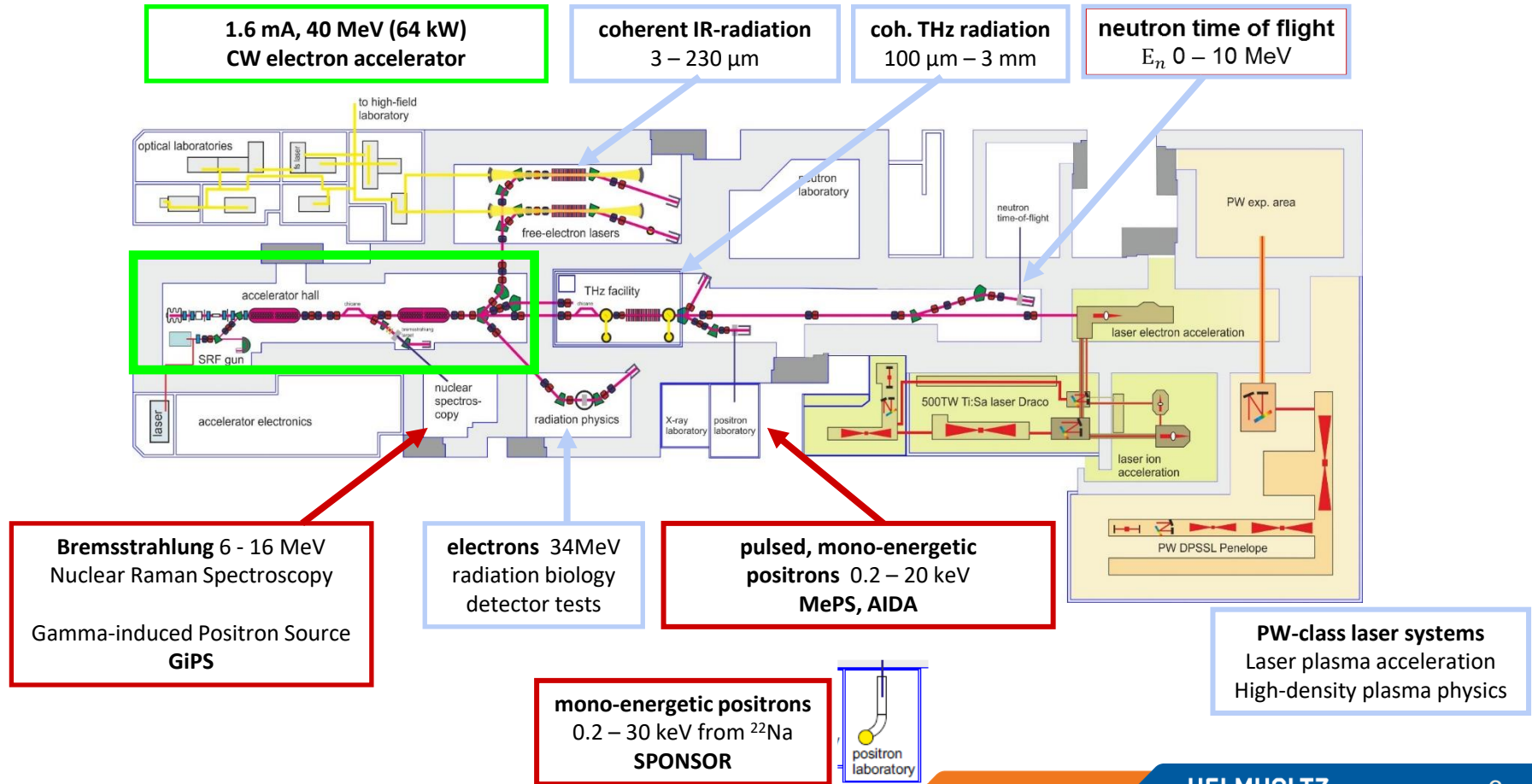
Positrons
0.5 – 20 keV,
5·10⁶ e⁺/s

- Solid state physics – spectroscopy of defects
- Thin film semiconductors
- Porosimetry

Direct electrons
10 – 40 MeV

- Rad. biology – high local dose rates
- Technological developments
- Isotope production

ELBE Center for High-Power radiation Sources



ELBE Center for High-Power radiation Sources

Dresden Semper
Opera House

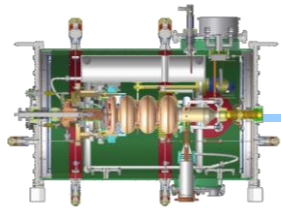
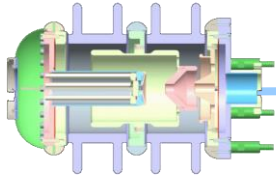
110 m



Superconducting Accelerator

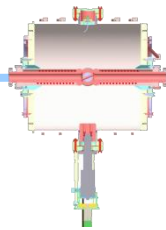
SC resonant cavities developed by TESLA Technology Collaboration. Employed in CEBAF, FLASH, **ELBE**, EU-XFEL, LCLS-II, Lighthouse,...

Thermo-ionic
DC injector 250 keV
120 pC



SRF CW gun with
CsTe photocathodes
7.5 MV / m
250 pC (1 nC WIP)

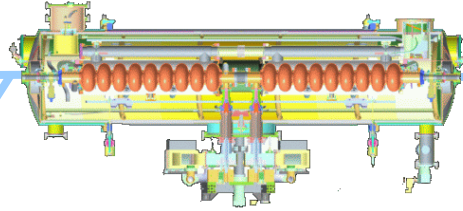
250 MHz
buncher



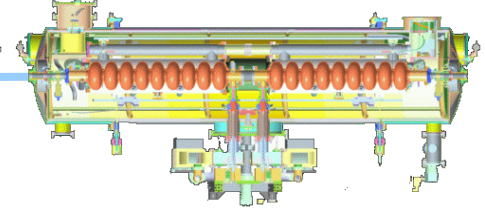
1.3 GHz
buncher



Accelerator module
2 x 9-cell cavities



Accelerator module
2 x 9-cell cavities



$E_{\text{beam}} = 35 - 40 \text{ MeV}$

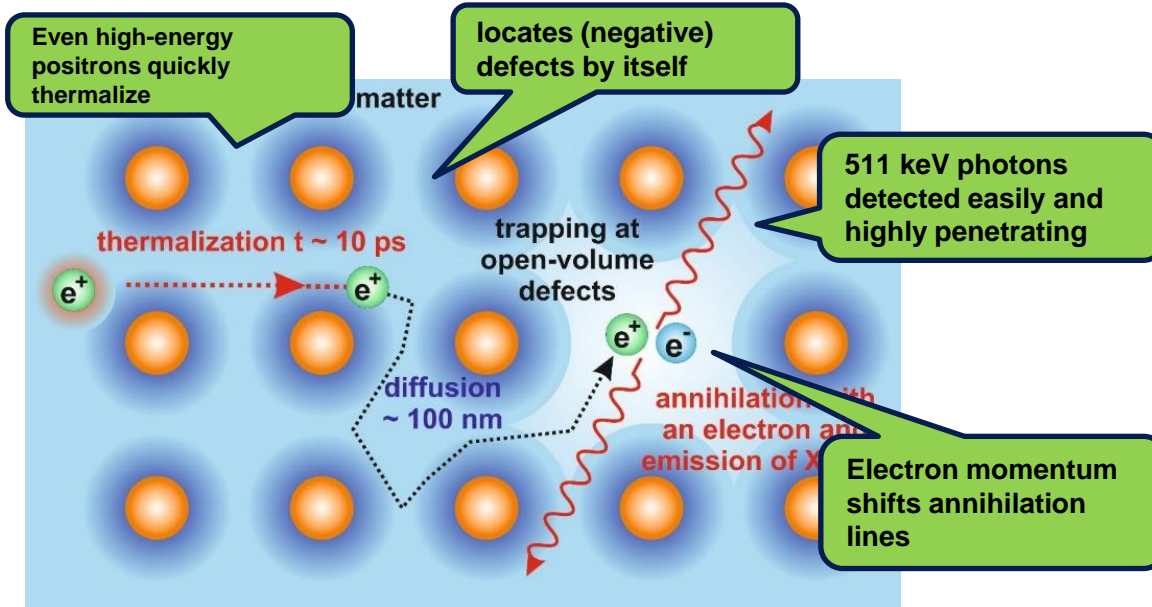
$I_{\text{ave}} = 1.6 \text{ mA}$

$P_{\text{ave}} = 56 - 64 \text{ kW}$

in cw-mode @ 13 MHz

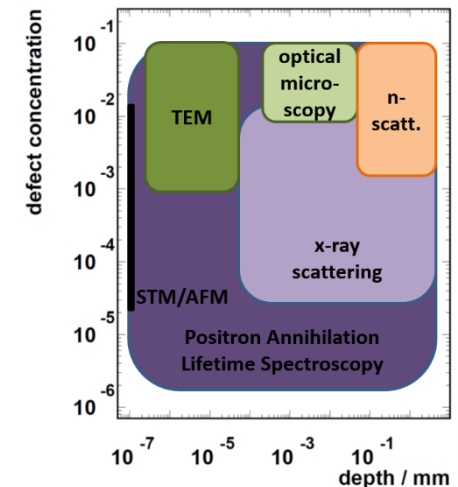
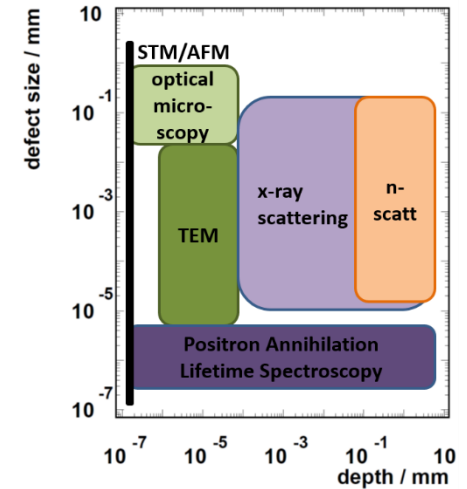
SRF gun in routine operation for high-charge modes since 2016
Mainly serves cTHz and photo-neutron source at 10 – 250 kHz

Positron Annihilation: basics

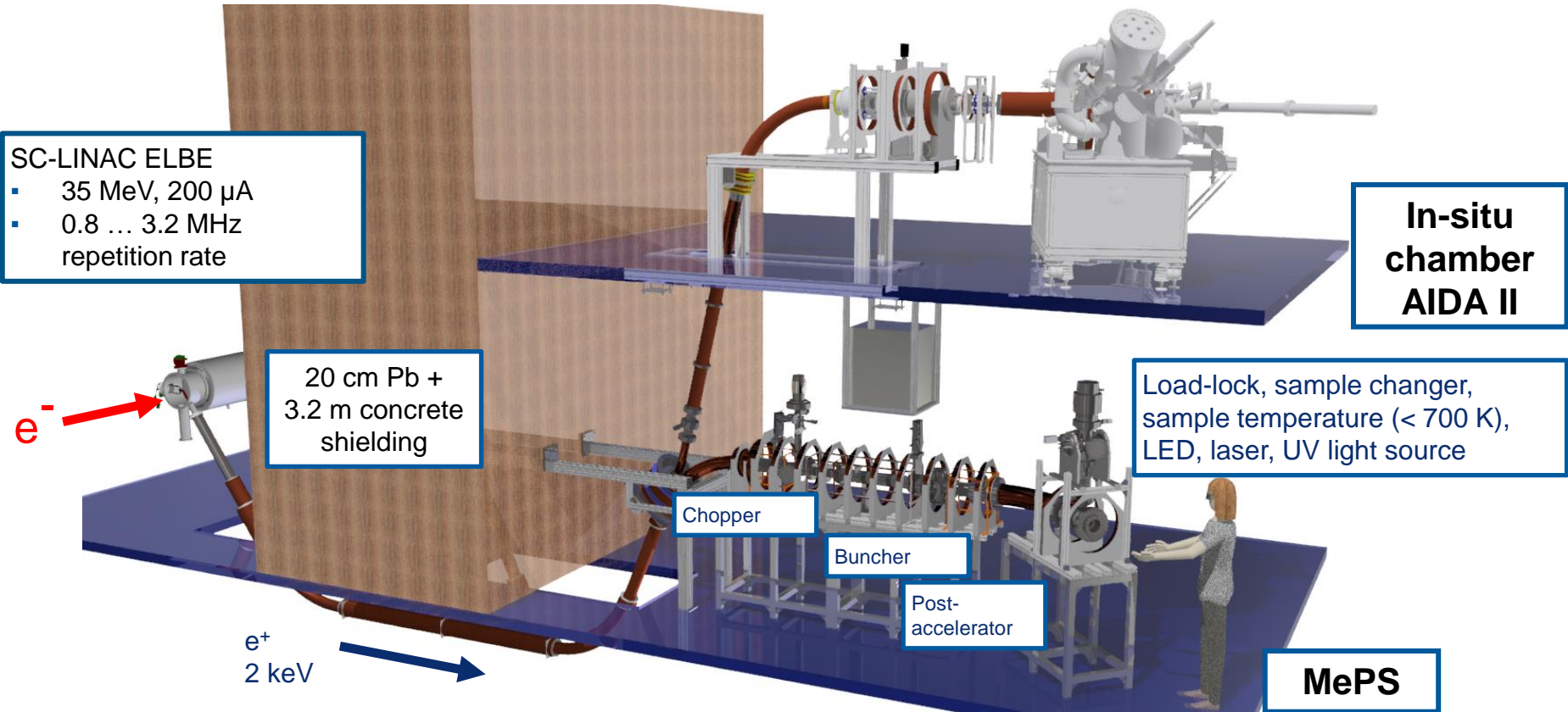


The e^+ probes...

- local electron density and electron momentum
- defect concentrations by component's intensity
- defect sizes and types by annihilation lifetime
- large volumes due to large diffusion lengths

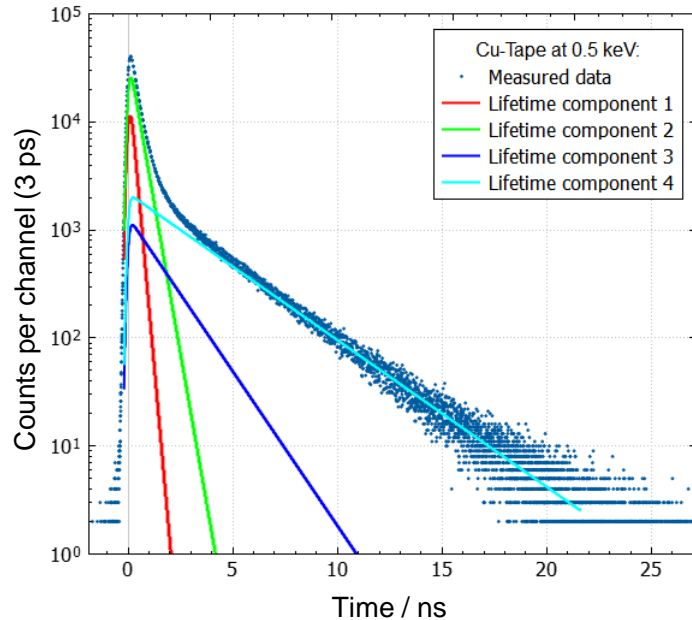


MePS – The Mono-energetic Positron Source @ ELBE



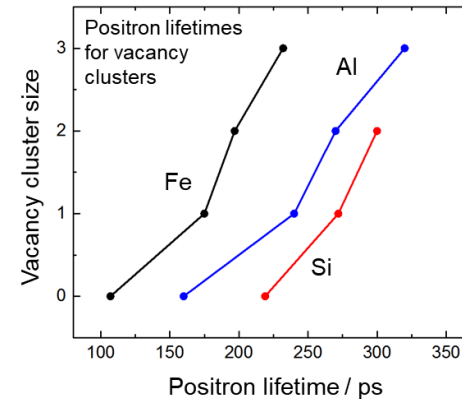
Positron Annihilation: basics

- Decomposing positron annihilation lifetime distribution
- Lifetime correlates with size of cluster vacancies



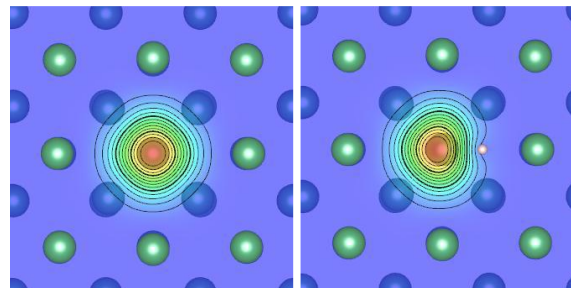
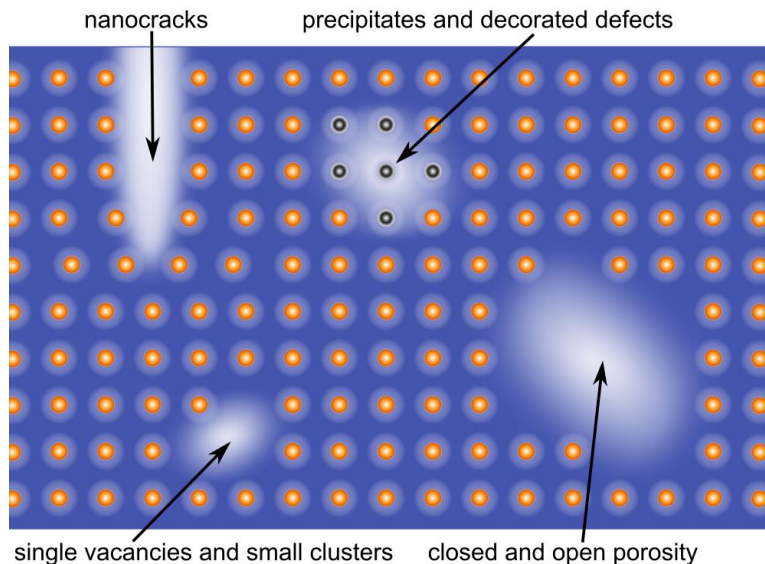
$$f(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{k_0} (a_j * R)(t) + B$$
$$a_j(t) = \begin{cases} A_j \exp(-t/\tau_j), & t > 0 \\ 0, & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

- well-suited for defect characterizations in Nb



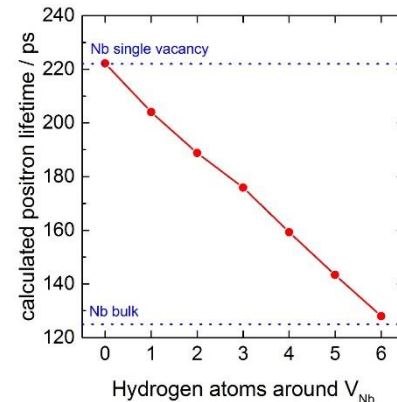
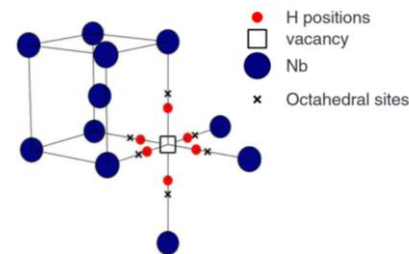
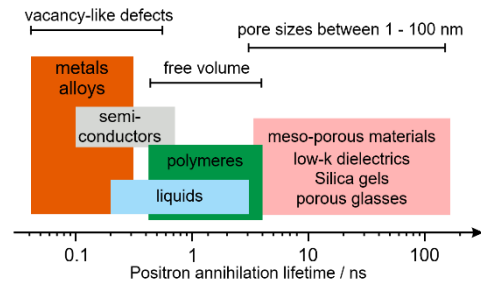
Positron Annihilation: basics

Open-volume defects, vacancy clusters, precipitates and defect decorations



Positron wave functions in a Nb vacancy

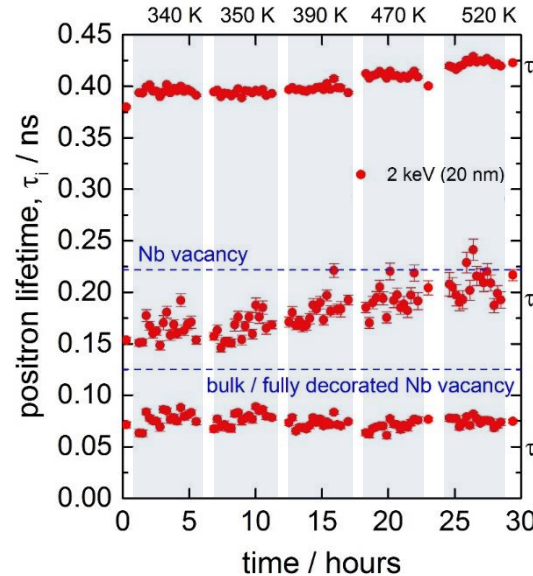
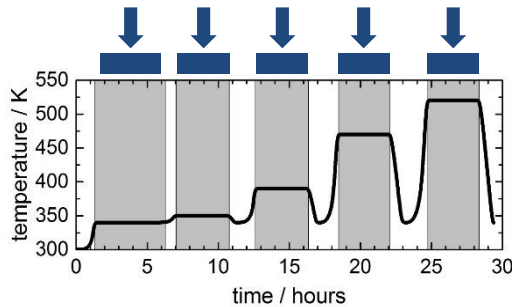
+ relaxed ion configurations for v-H complex in the (001) plane (DFT calculations by J. Čížek, Charles-U Prague)



- well-suited for the study of decorated defects → vacancy-hydrogen complexes $v+nH$ in Nb

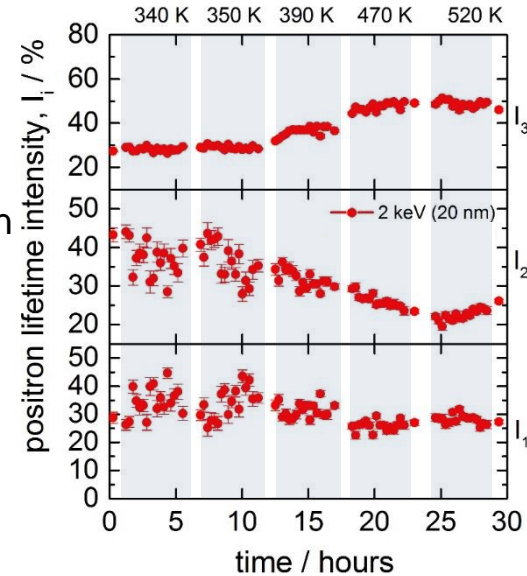
Vacancy kinetics during in-situ low-T baking

■ $v+nH$ complex dynamics in surface near region



Cluster formation

H-release



- $T \geq 390$ K: shows most significant changes (already after short times)
 - $v+nH$ concentration (I_2) decreases
 - hydrogen release from the complexes (τ_2 increases)
 - defect type and surface states start to change (τ_3 increases)

M. Wenskat, et al. "Vacancy-Hydrogen interaction in niobium during Low-temperature Baking." *Scientific reports* 10.1 (2020) 8300

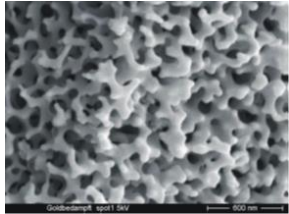
M. Wenskat, et al. "Vacancy dynamics in niobium and its native oxides and their potential implications for quantum computing and superconducting accelerators"

Phys. Rev. B 106 (2022) 094516

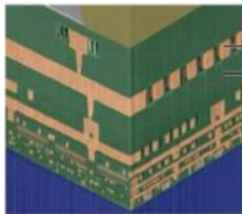
L. Chiari, et al. "Formation and time dynamics of hydrogen-induced vacancies in nickel" *Acta Materialia* 219 (2021) 117264

Positron Science Cases

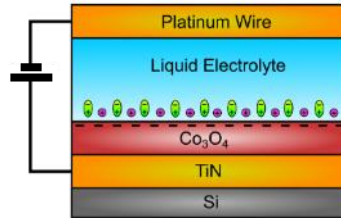
- Pulsed beams: **annihilation lifetime spectroscopy** for thin films, bulk materials, fluids, gases and (coincidence) **Doppler broadening spectroscopy**



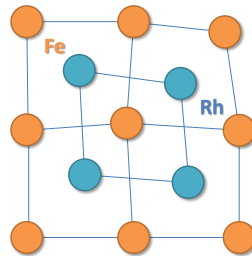
porous glasses,
membranes,
metal-organic
frameworks



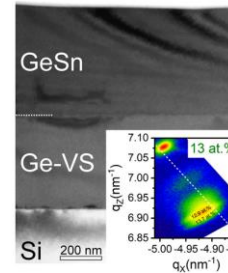
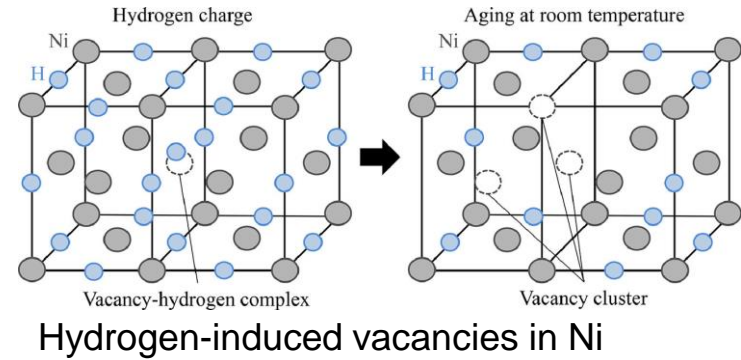
low-k dielectrics
for CMOS devices



Propylene Carbonate Na^+
magneto-ionics



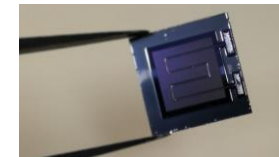
magnetic phase transitions
through ion irradiation



semiconductors
for optoelectronics



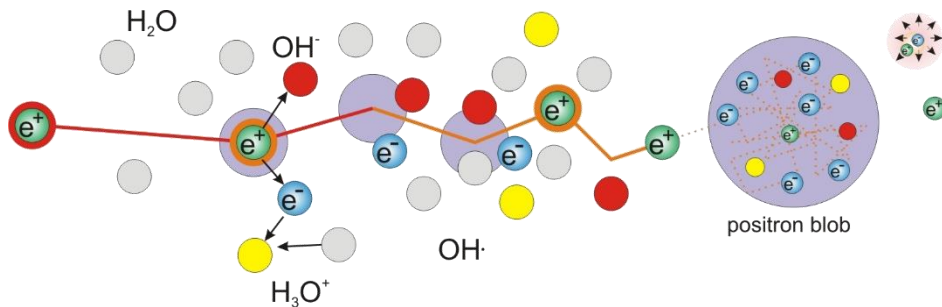
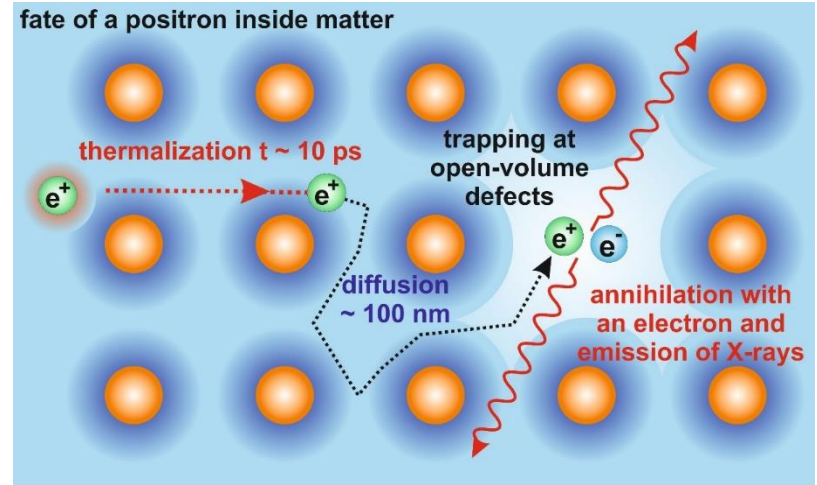
Niobium-hydrides &
superconductivity



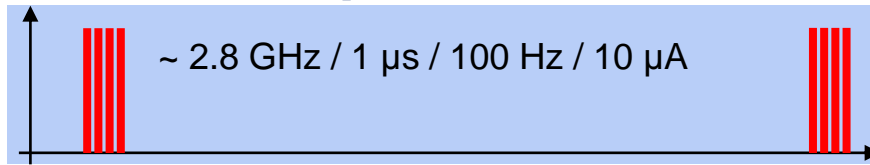
micro-solid oxide fuel cells

Positrons in matter – fundamentals to materials research

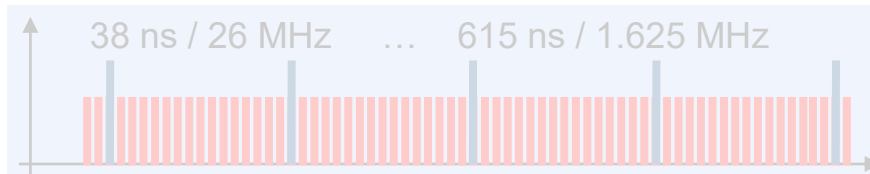
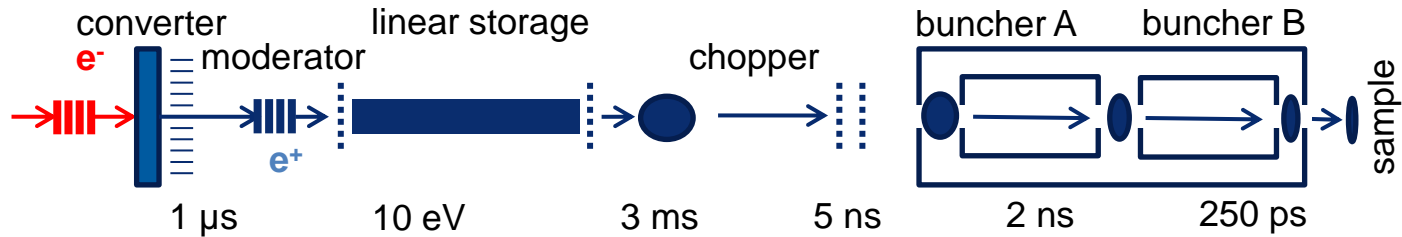
- porosimetry on the nm-scale
 - low-k SiO₂ for CMOS devices (DFG)
 - gas-separation membranes
- single⁺-vacancy defect analysis
 - superconductors (H in Nb for SRF, YBCO)
 - FeCr, ODS, HEA for fission/fusion
 - semiconductors (ZnO, CIGS, Ge, Ga₂O₃,)
 - defect-induced magnetism (FeRh)
 - magneto-ionics (O₂ or N₂-mediated)
- chemical environment of defects
 - decoration, alloying, segregation
- positronium chemistry (medicine)



Accelerator-driven positron sources

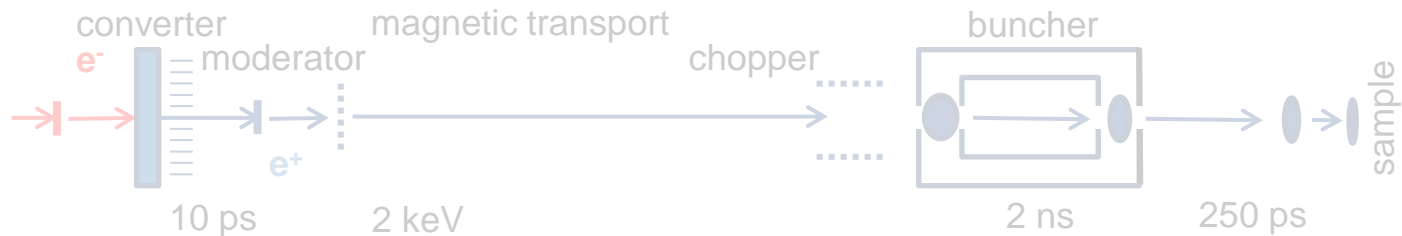


NC-LINAC in macro-bunched mode

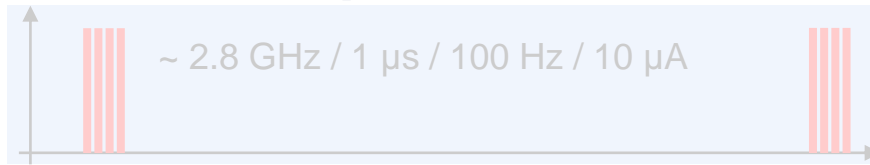


SC-LINAC in CW mode

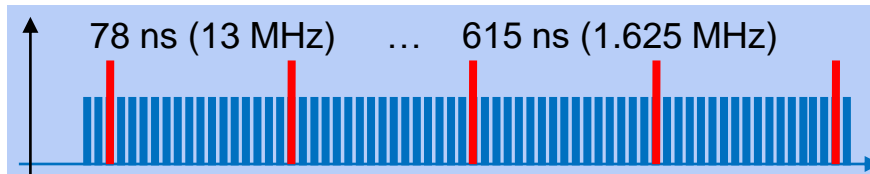
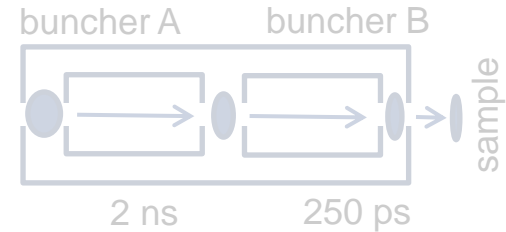
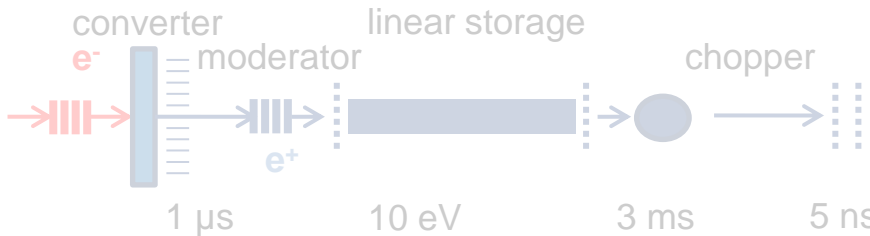
EPOS / MePS facility



Accelerator-driven positron sources

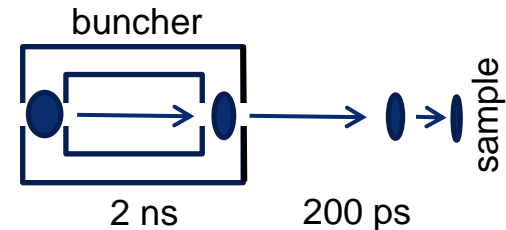
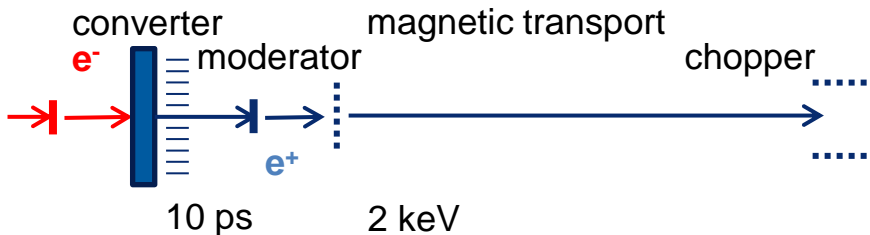


NC-LINAC in macro-bunched mode

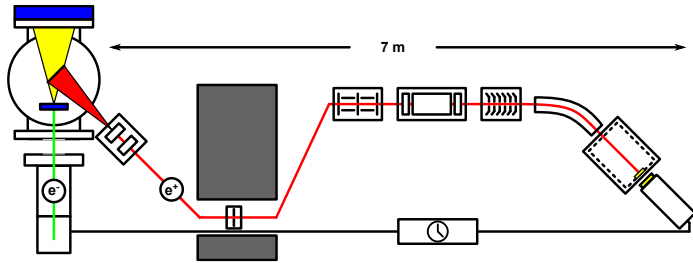


SC-LINAC in CW mode

EPOS / MePS facility



Positron User Facilities



Mono-energetic Positron Source

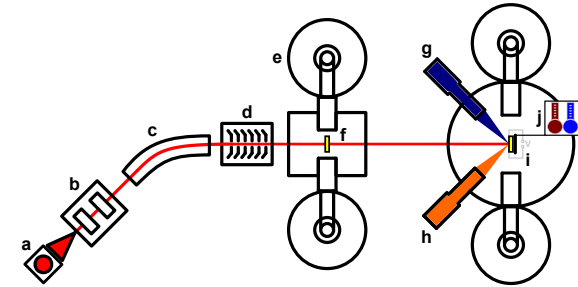
- 35 MeV, 200 μ A, 1.625 MHz electron beam drives
- 0.5 – 16 keV e^+ beam for PALS
300 K – 550 K sample temperature
typically **250 kcps event rate**
(120 kcps at 511 keV)
- 10 Mevts PALS spectrum in 80 s, fully digital data taking and online processing
A. Wagner, et al., AIP Conf. Proc. 1970, 040003 (2018)

SPONSOR

- ^{22}Na -based (2 GBq)
 e^+ beam
30 eV – 30 keV for CDBS coupled to

AIDA

- 35K -1300 K
- MBE, ion irradiation
- sheet resistance

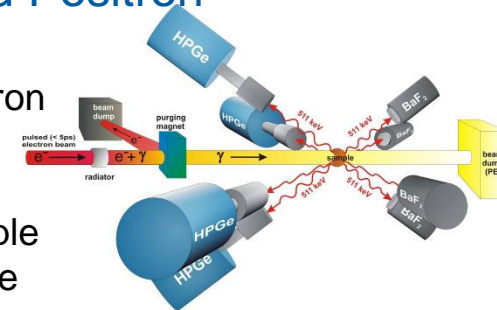


W. Anwand, et al., Def & Diff. Forum 331 (2012) 25

Gamma-ray induced Positron Source

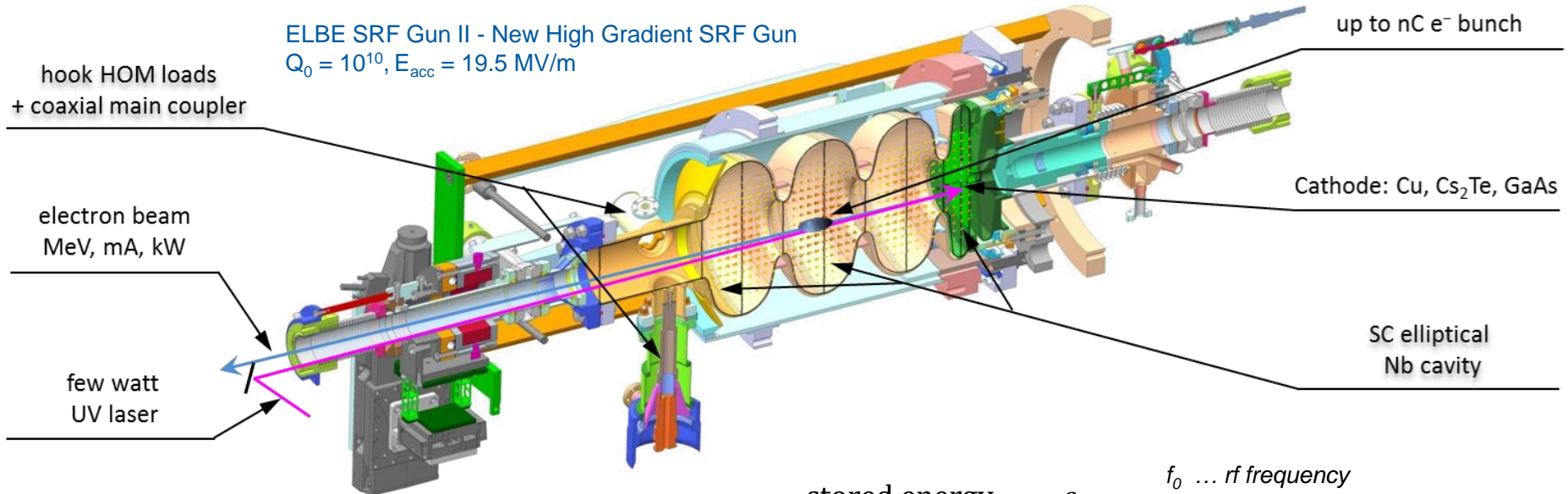
- 16 MeV, 700 μ A electron beam generates bremsstrahlung
- e^+ formed inside sample
- Suitable for radioactive samples, gases, fluids

M. Butterling, et al., Nucl. Instr. Meth. B 269, 2623 (2011)



Hydrogen and defects in Niobium – SC cavities

A. Arnold et al., Proc LINAC2014, Geneva, Switzerland



ELBE SRF Gun II - New High Gradient SRF Gun
 $Q_0 = 10^{10}$, $E_{acc} = 19.5$ MV/m

$$Q_0 = 2\pi f_0 \frac{\text{stored energy}}{\text{dissipated power}} = \frac{G}{R_s}$$

f_0 ... rf frequency
 G ... geometry-dependent constant
 R_s ... surface resistivity

TESLA-type SRF cavities are used at
 CEBAF@JLAB, FLASH & XFEL (Hamburg),
ELBE@HZDR Dresden, MESA (Mainz)

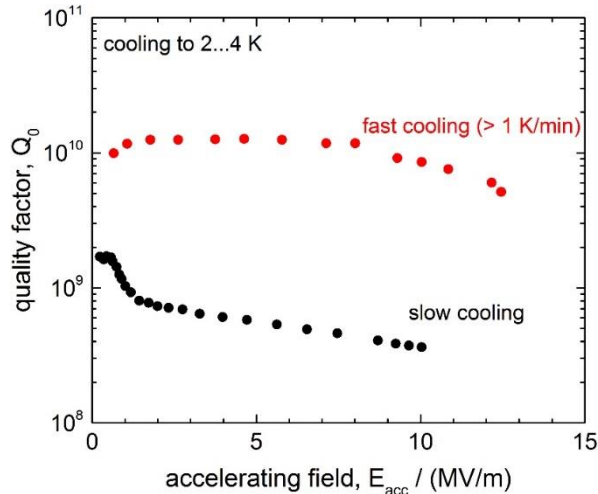
Cu: $R_s = 10$ m Ω , $Q_0 = 10^3 \dots 10^4$, max gradient 1 MV/m
Nb: $R_s = \text{few n}\Omega$, $Q_0 = 10^{10} \dots 10^{11}$, max gradient 50 MV/m,
 operated at 2...4 K

Thermal cavity treatment

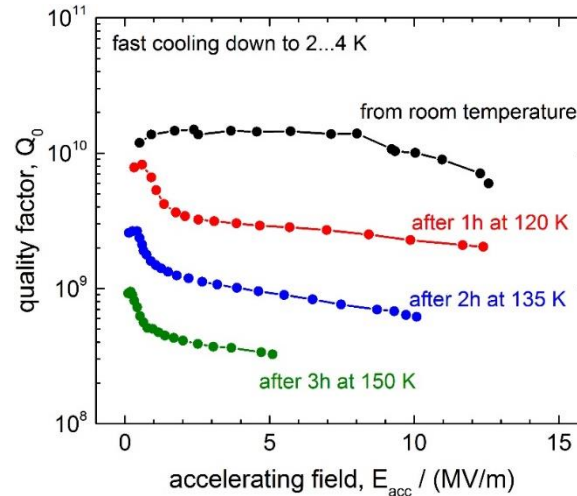
- Q disease
- increase of the surface losses at cryogenic temperatures
- sets in even at low values of the applied accelerating field



significant losses for slow cooling



huge effect of temperature cycle



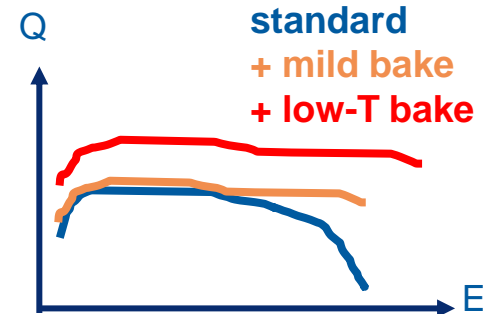
B. Aune *et al.*, Proceedings of the 1990 Linac Conference, 253-255 (1990)

B. Bonin & R. R oth, Particle Accelerators 40, 59-83 (1992)

C. Antoine & S. Berry, AIP Conf. Proc.671, 176 (2003)

Curing Q disease

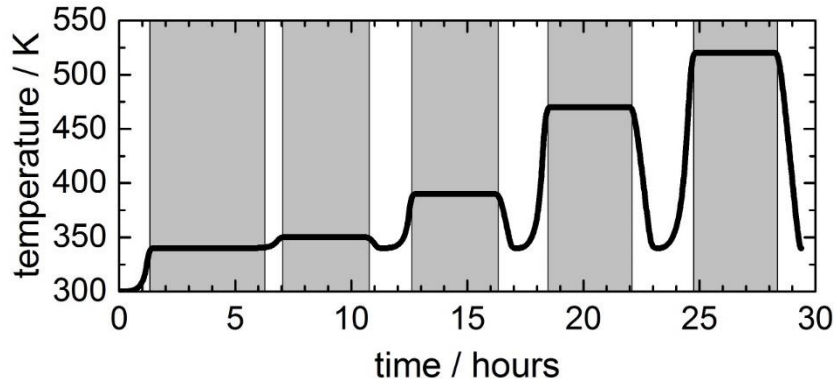
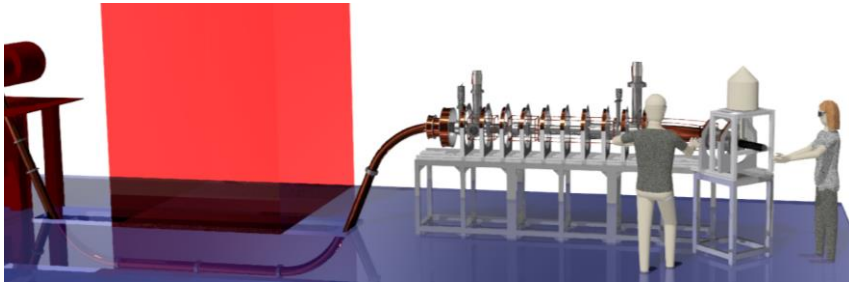
- rapid cool down inhibits the hydride formation
 - can cause damages due to thermal stress
- typical procedure^{1,2} to increase Q and keep the H concentration below 10 ppm
 - chemical polishing (remove up to 100 μm), but incorporates H
 - baking at 1050 K for 3 h in vacuum ($< 10^{-5}$ mbar) to remove H
 - several hundreds ppm of H remain in the lattice in the near-surface layer
 - chemical polishing (remove up to 100 μm), again incorporates H
 - **mild bake**: at 390 K for 48 h ($< 10^{-6}$ mbar) to avoid high-field Q slope (accidentally found!)
 - **low-T bake**³: only 350 K for first 2 h
 - Q losses reduced by factor 2
 - increased achievable accelerating field by $>10\%$



[1] P. Kneisel et al., AIP Con Proc 927, 84 (2007) JLAB
[2] G. Ciovati et al., Phys Rev Acc & Beams 13.2, 022002 (2010), JLAB
[3] A. Grassellino et al., arXiv 1806.09824 (2018)

Vacancy kinetics

- In-situ baking at MePS



- **Mono-energetic Positron Source MePS at HZDR:**

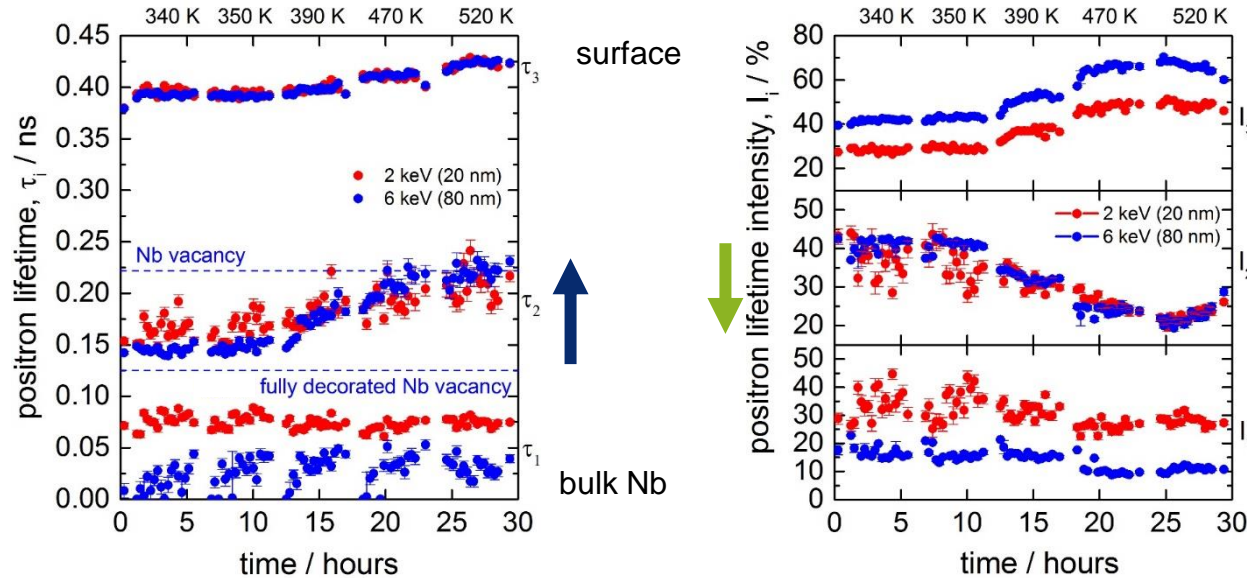
- depth-resolved PALS up to 10 keV (in 2019)
- high intensity: 10^6 counts in 2 minutes
- well-suited for study of dynamic effects

In-situ measurements

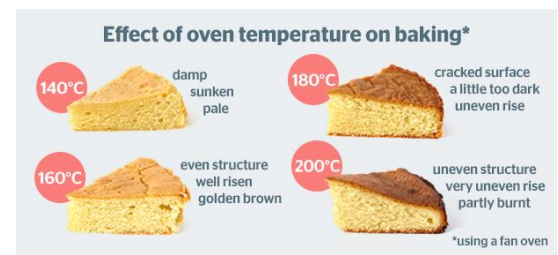
- in-situ baking at different temperatures for 4 hours and measuring at different energies all the time
- depth profile at 340 K after each annealing step

Vacancy dynamics

V+nH show complex dynamics near surface



- T = 390 K: shows most significant changes (already after short times)
- T > 390 K: hydrogen released from complexes (τ_2 increases)
v+nH concentration (I_2) decreases



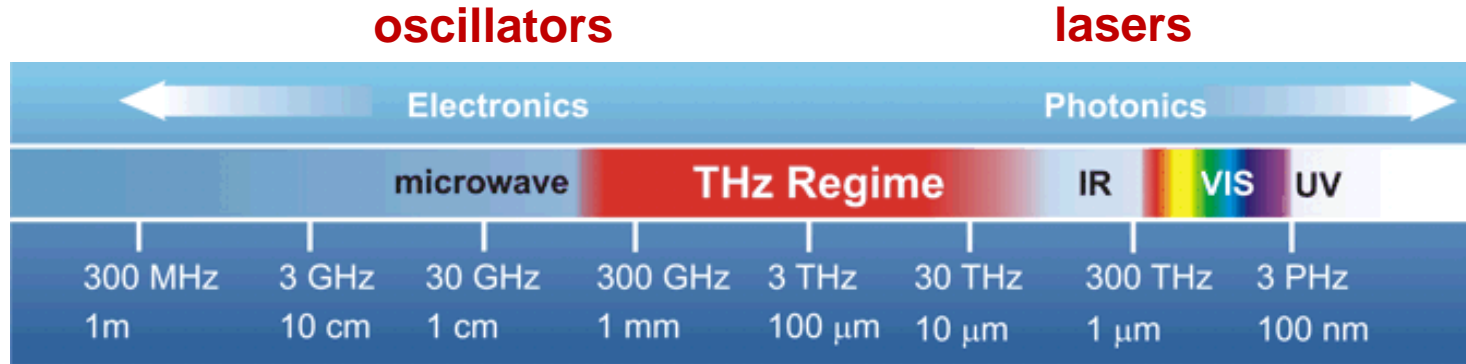
Collaboration:
Hamburg U, DESY, HZ Berlin,
U Wuppertal, U Siegen,
U Kaiserslautern, U Bremen,
CU Prague, CTU Prague



Wenskat, M. et al. *Phys. Rev. B* 106(2022), 094516
Wenskat, M. et al. *Scientific Reports* 10(2020), 8300

Secondary beams: THz radiation – from electronics to photonics

$$1 \text{ THz} \triangleq 300 \mu\text{m} \triangleq 33 \text{ cm}^{-1} \triangleq 4.1 \text{ meV}$$



Graphik: R. Huber

in various units:

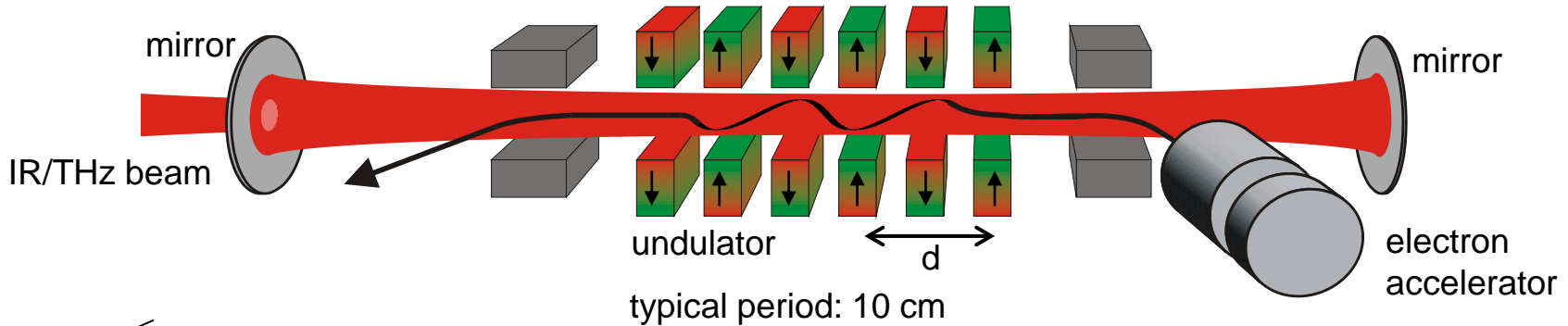
Frequency: 0.3 – 30 THz
Wavenumber: 10 – 1000 cm^{-1}
Energy: ~ 1 – 100 meV
Wavelength: 1 mm – 10 μm

In some ranges no good laboratory (table-top) sources are available:

THz,
UV, X-ray

Secondary beams: Free-Electron Lasers

FEL – 1971 (Stanford), 2005 UV & 2017 X-ray (FLASH, DESY Hamburg)



Undulator parameter $K = \theta \cdot \gamma = eBd/2\pi mc \sim 1$

(θ is the maximum electron deflection angle,
 $1/\gamma$ is also the width of the emitted radiation cone)

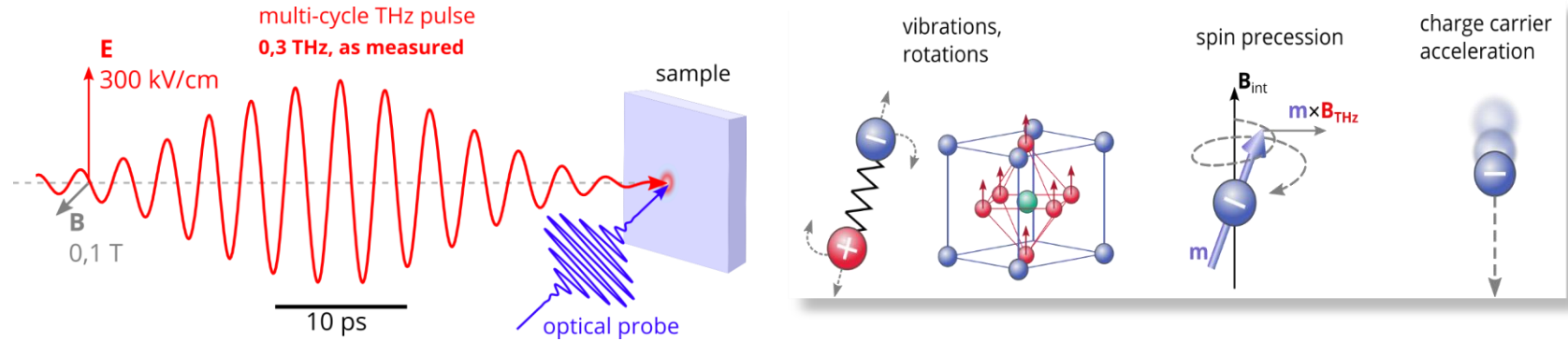
$$\lambda_L = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left(1 + \frac{K^2}{2} \right)$$

wavelength of undulator radiation

THz pulses as pump for nonlinear dynamics

DRIVE

THz pulses **drives** material into transient exotic phase
→ field (E or B) acts as **selective** (non)linear perturbation

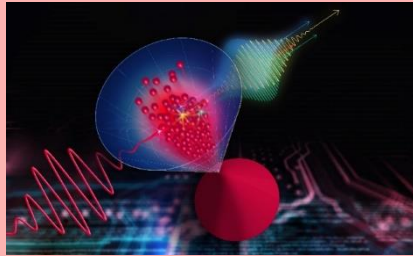


- Coherent **selective excitation** of relevant modes, avoiding parasitic electronic excitation
- How and on what timescales do degrees of freedom interact?

- Strong modifications of macroscopic properties possible → phase transitions, metastable states, tailored functionality, quasiparticle excitations

THz science cases

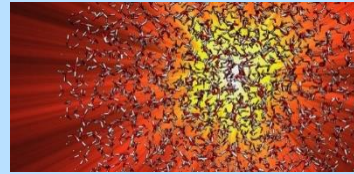
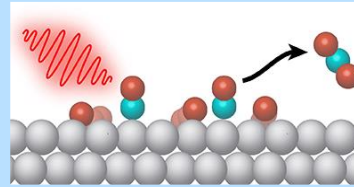
Control of Materials with THz light



- Electronic or structural phase transitions
- THz nonlinear optics
- Superconductivity
- Spin dynamics
- Exotic quantum properties

→ Materials and processes for information and energy technology

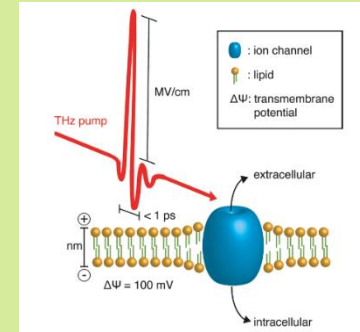
Selective Chemistry



- Trigger for reactions
- Steering reaction pathway
- Temperature jumps

→ Catalytic materials and processes, fundamentals of water chemistry

Biology in highest electric fields

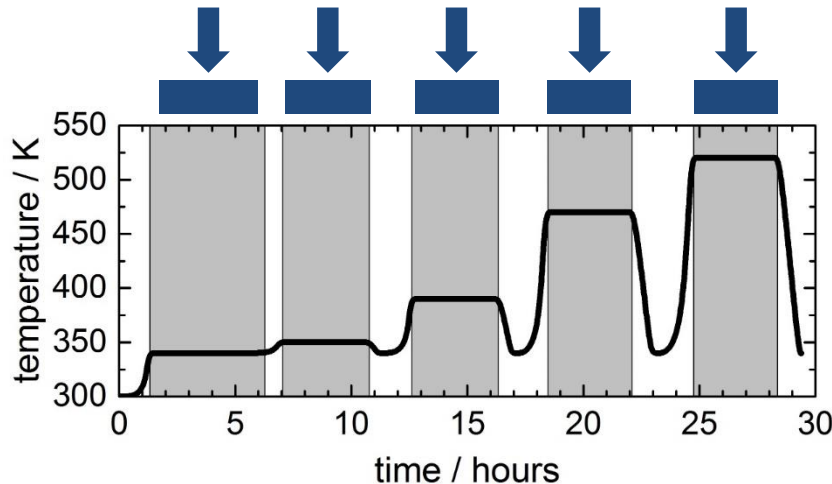


- Hydration shell dynamics
- Potential-driven processes in aqueous solutions

→ Elementary cellular mechanisms

Vacancy kinetics during in-situ low-T baking

- In-situ Positron Annihilation Lifetime Spectroscopy at pELBE



In-situ measurements

- in-situ baking at different temperatures for 4 hours and measuring at different energies all the time
 - depth profile at 340 K after each annealing step
-
- focus on the vacancy dynamics: measurement during temperature treatment
 - study two different material depths: 20 nm and 80 nm (RF layer ~ 100 nm)