



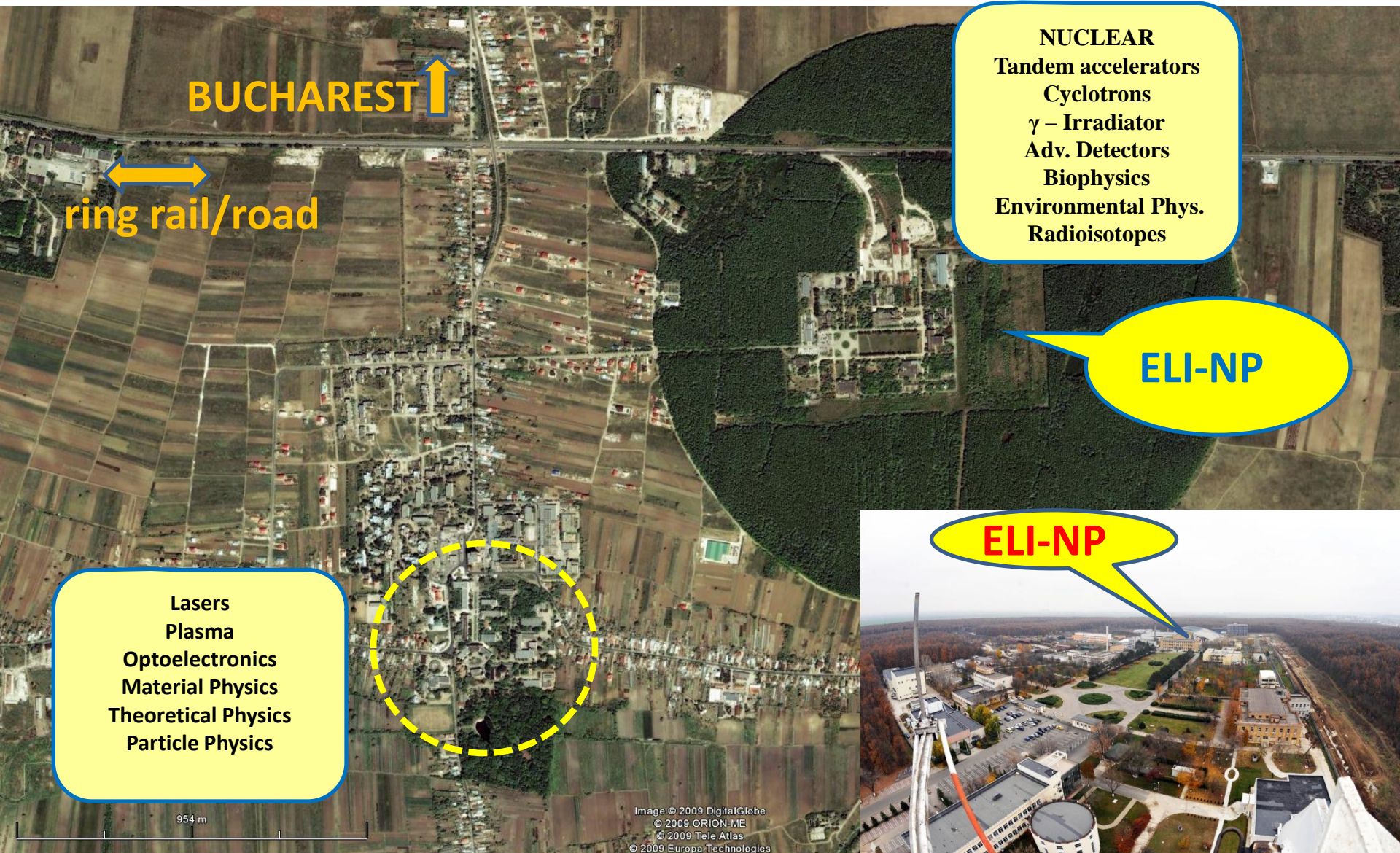
**Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund**

**Sectoral Operational Programme  
„Increase of Economic Competitiveness”  
*“Investments for Your Future”***

***Extreme Light Infrastructure – Nuclear Physics  
(ELI-NP)  
Status and Perspectives***



# *Bucharest-Magurele National Physics Institutes*

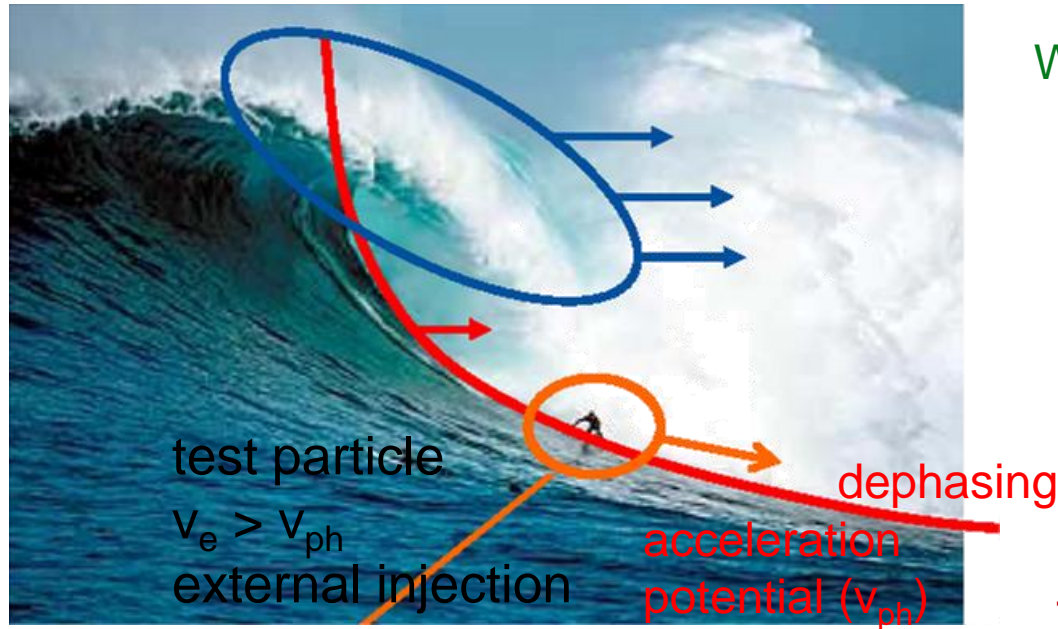


**NUCLEAR**  
Tandem accelerators  
Cyclotrons  
 $\gamma$  - Irradiator  
Adv. Detectors  
Biophysics  
Environmental Phys.  
Radioisotopes

**ELI-NP**

**ELI-NP**

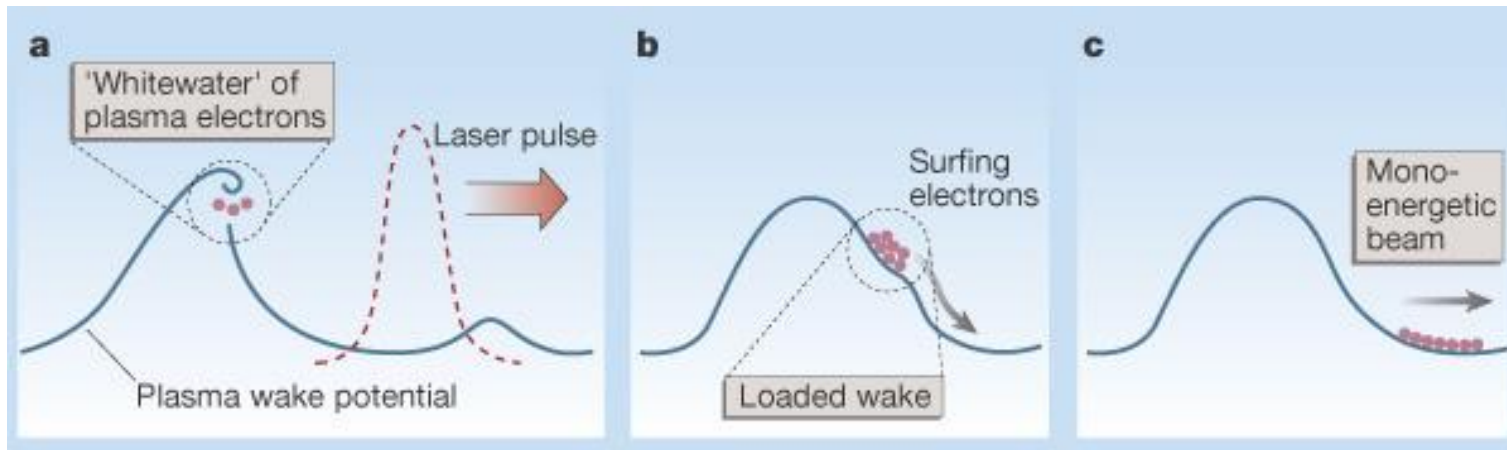
# Laser wake field acceleration of electrons



Wake field: radiation pressure of intense laser pulse excites plasma wave with high amplitude

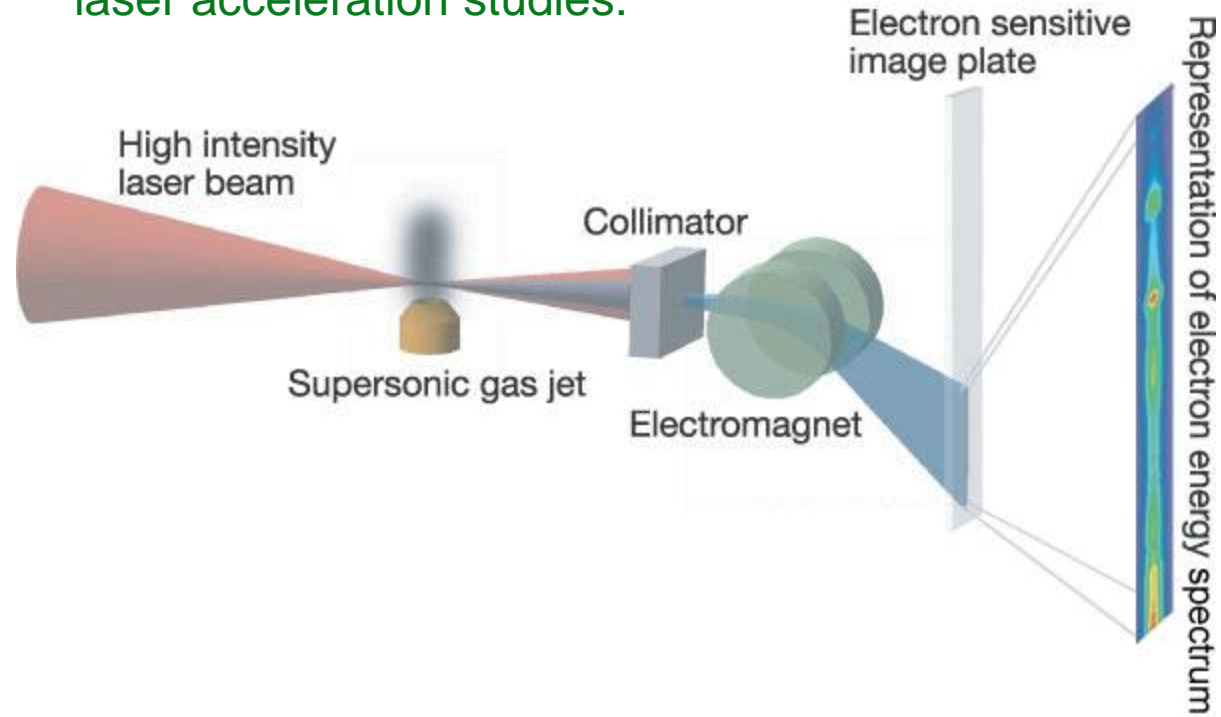
- electron acceleration by 'surfing' on the plasma wave
- efficient for laser pulses shorter than plasma wavelength

T. Tajima, J.M. Dawson PRL 43 (1979)



# Laser-Acceleration of Electrons

typical setup for electron laser acceleration studies:



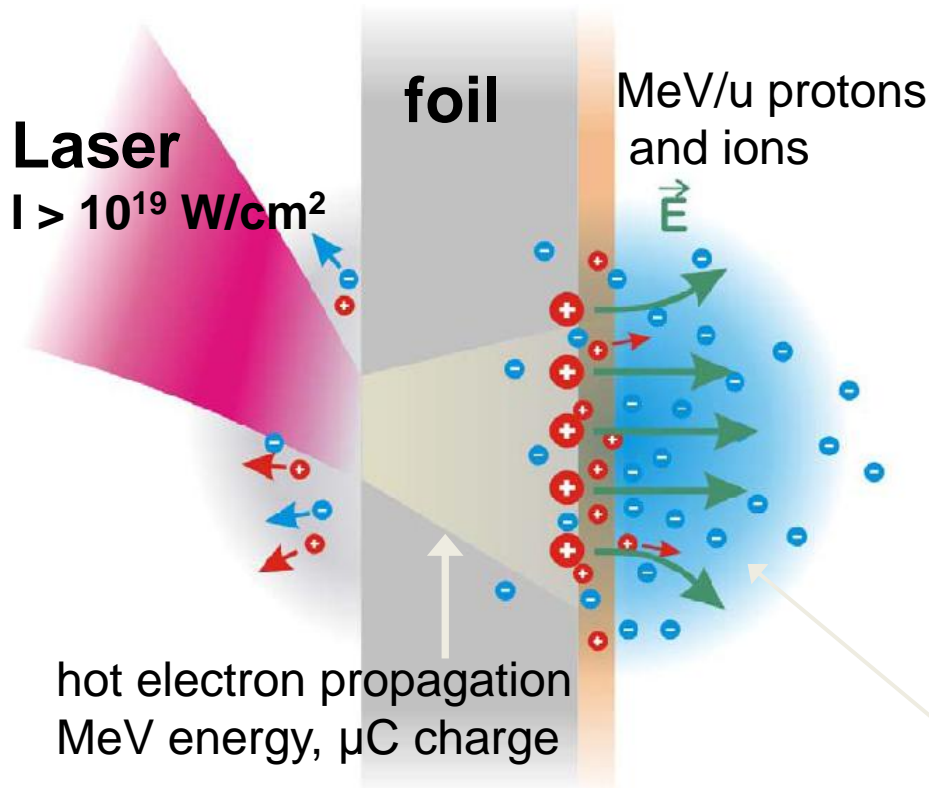
Nature 431 (Sept. 2004):  
 3 groups report on laser acceleration of (low-emittance) electron beams with (quasi-monochromatic) 70-200 MeV

rapidly expanding field :  
 since 2000 : >150 x PRL  
 > 10 x Nature

Today ~3 GeV electrons

# Laser-Ion Acceleration

## Target Normal Sheath Acceleration (TNSA)



- electron acceleration
- hot (MeV) electrons penetrate the ( $\mu\text{m}$ ) foil
- quasi-static field forms normal to target surface

- use thick (metallic) foil targets ( $\sim\mu\text{m}$ )

proton source: CH contamination on foil surfaces (typically  $\sim 50\text{\AA}$ )  
ion source: foil bulk material

- space charge field:

$$E \sim T_{\text{hot}} / \lambda_{\text{Debye}} \sim \text{MeV}/\mu\text{m} = 10^{12} \text{ V/m}$$

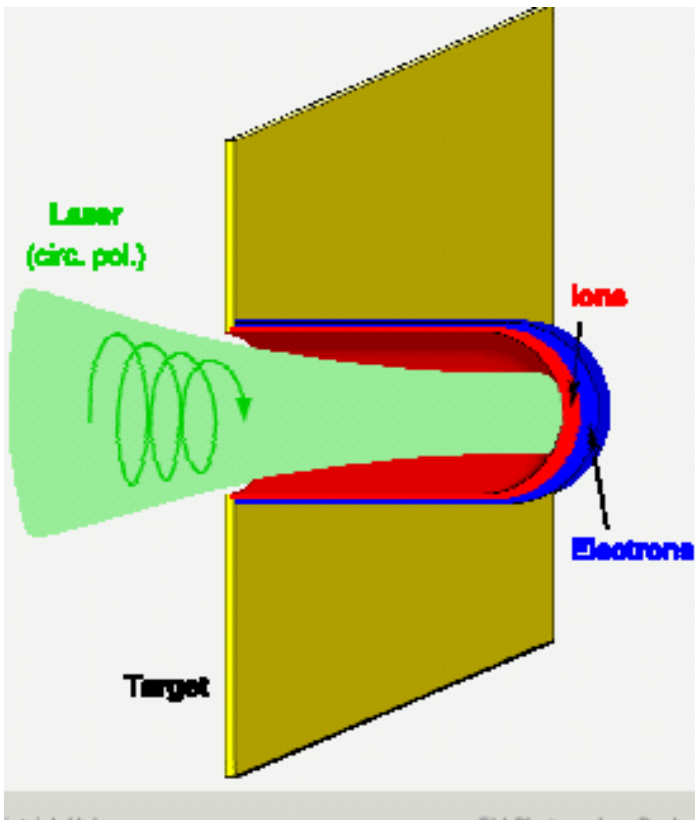
- conversion efficiency:  
(from laser to ions)

$$E_{\text{ion}} \propto \sqrt{I_{\text{Laser}}}$$

# *Laser-Ion Acceleration*

## *Radiation Pressure Acceleration RPA*

- thin targets ( $\sim$  nm thick diamond-like carbon foils)



Electrons and ions accelerated  
at solid state densities  $10^{24} \text{e cm}^{-3}$   
**never reached before**  
(Classical beam densities  $10^8 \text{e cm}^{-3}$ )  
on very short distance ( $\mu\text{m}$ - $\text{mm}$ )

$$E \sim I_{\text{laser}}$$

Energy reached equal to a 400m up-  
to-date accelerator (reduction of  
scale of  $10^9$ )

## **Large equipment:**

- High power laser system, 2 x 10PW maximum power (2013-2018)

*Thales Optronique SA and SC Thales System Romania (~65 M€)*

- High intensity gamma beam system (2014-2018)

*European Consortium EuroGammaS led by INFN Rome (~65 M€):*

*INFN (Italy), University “La Sapienza” Rome (Italy), CNRS (France), ALSYOM (France), ACP Systems S.A.S.U. (France), COMEB Srl (Italy), ScandiNova Systems (Sweden)*

*Subcontractors: MENLO SYSTEMS GmbH, RI Research Instruments GmbH(Germany), DANFYSIK (Denmark), STFC(UK), Instrumentation Technology, Cosylab D.D. (Slovenia), M+W SrL (Italy), CELLS(Portugal), Amplitude Technologies (France)*

## **Experiments:**

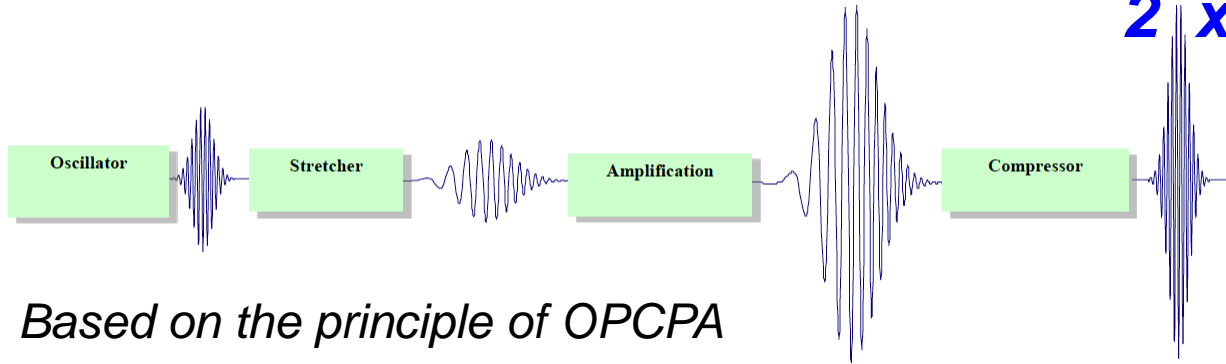
8 experimental areas, for gamma, laser, and gamma+laser (~50 M€)

**Buildings** (2013-2015) : 33000sqm total – *STRABAG* (~65M€)

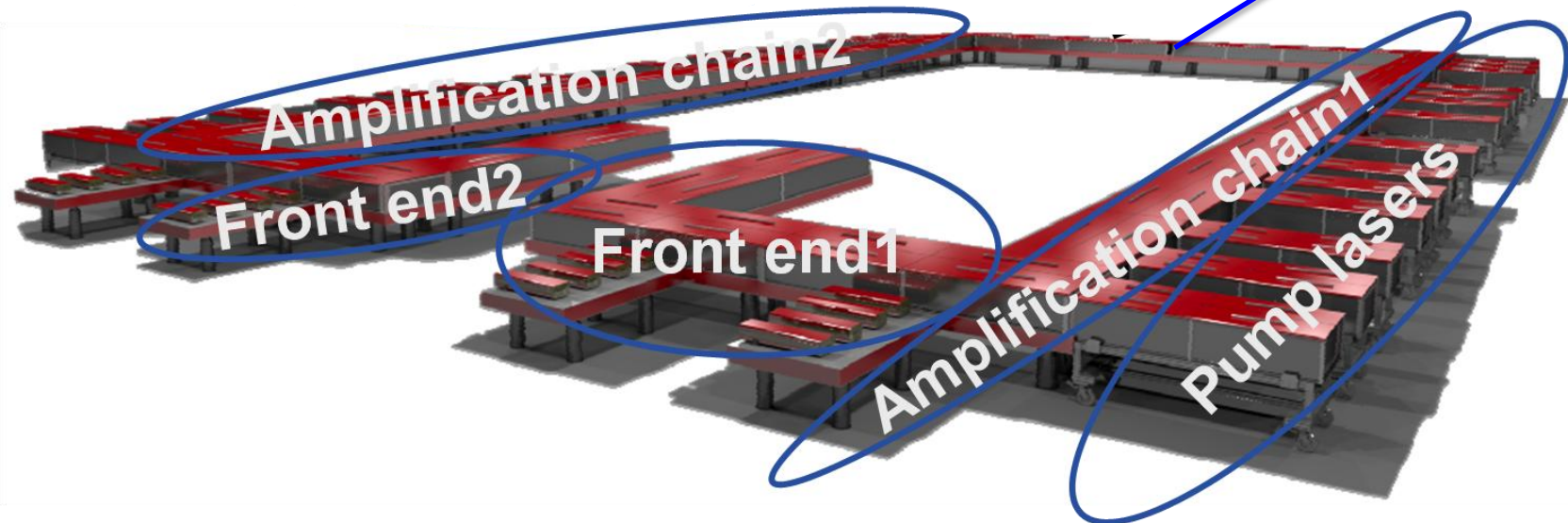
# High Power Laser System

**THALES Optronique** 2013-2018

**2 x 0.1 PW      10Hz**  
**2 x 1 PW      1 Hz**  
**2 x 10 PW      0.1 Hz**

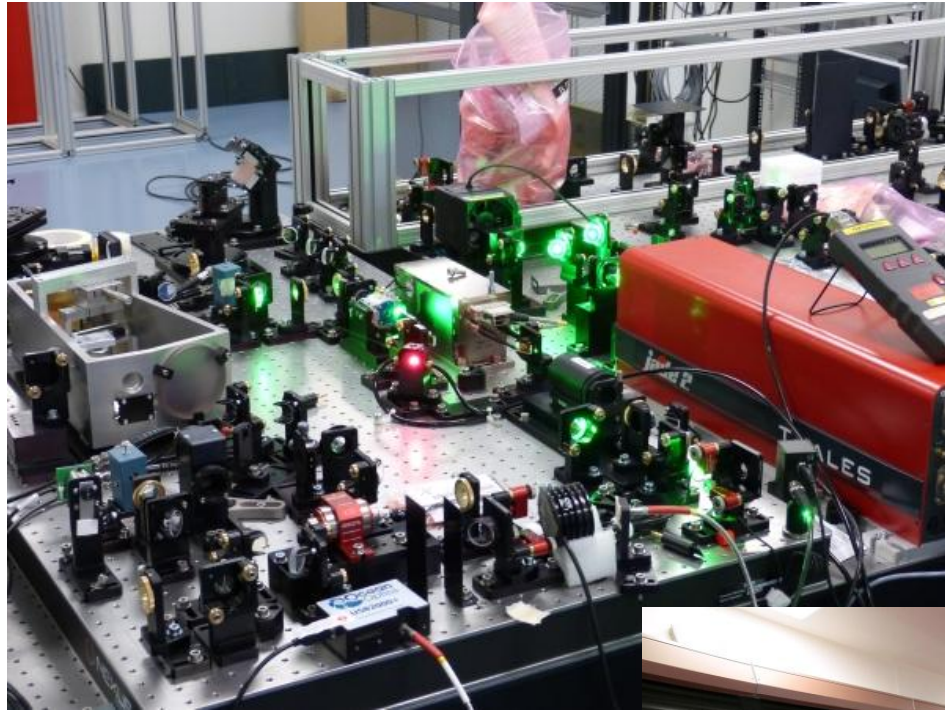


*Based on the principle of OPCPA*



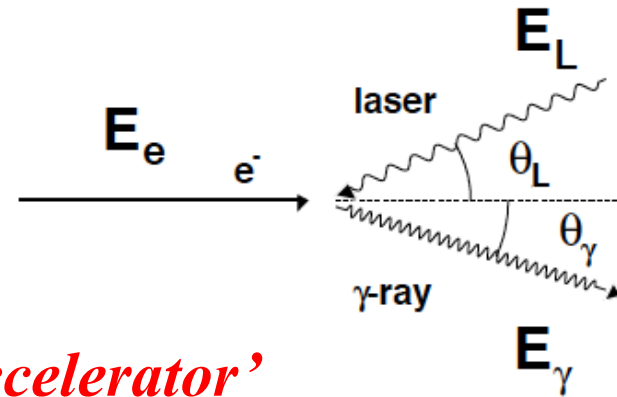


# *High Power Laser System*



# Gamma Beam System

$$E_{\gamma} = n \cdot 2\gamma_e^2 \cdot \frac{1 + \cos \varphi}{1 + (\gamma_e \theta)^2 + a_0^2 + \frac{4\gamma_e E_L}{mc^2}} \cdot E_L$$



Compton backscattering: ***‘Photon accelerator’***

$$E_{\gamma} = 4\gamma_e^2 E_L$$

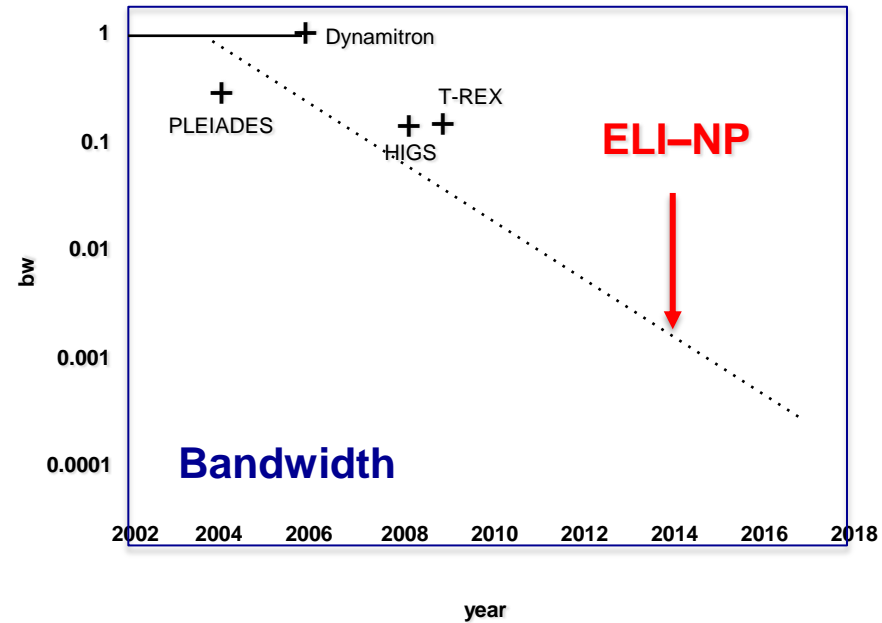
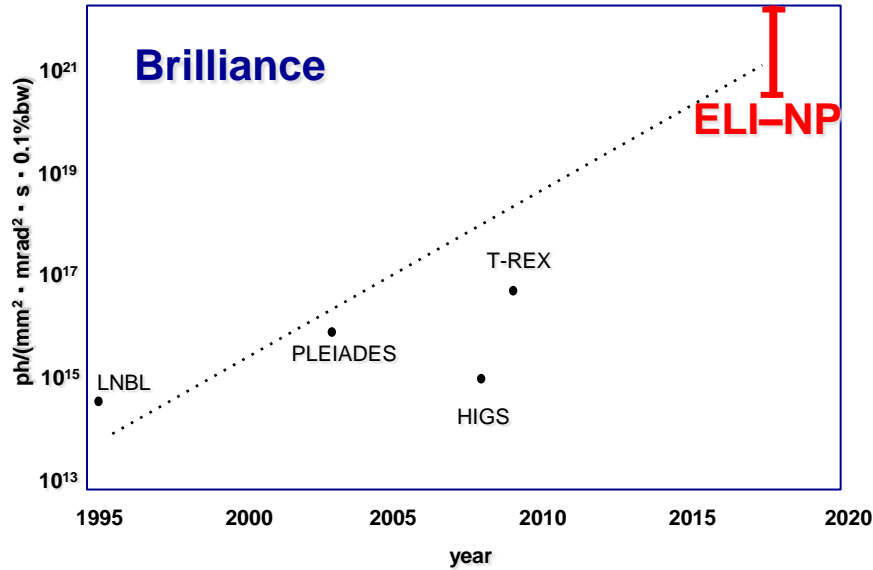
$$E_e = 720 \text{ MeV} \Rightarrow \gamma_e \sim 700 \Rightarrow E_{\gamma} \sim 20 \text{ MeV}$$

but very weak cross section:  $6.6 \cdot 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2$

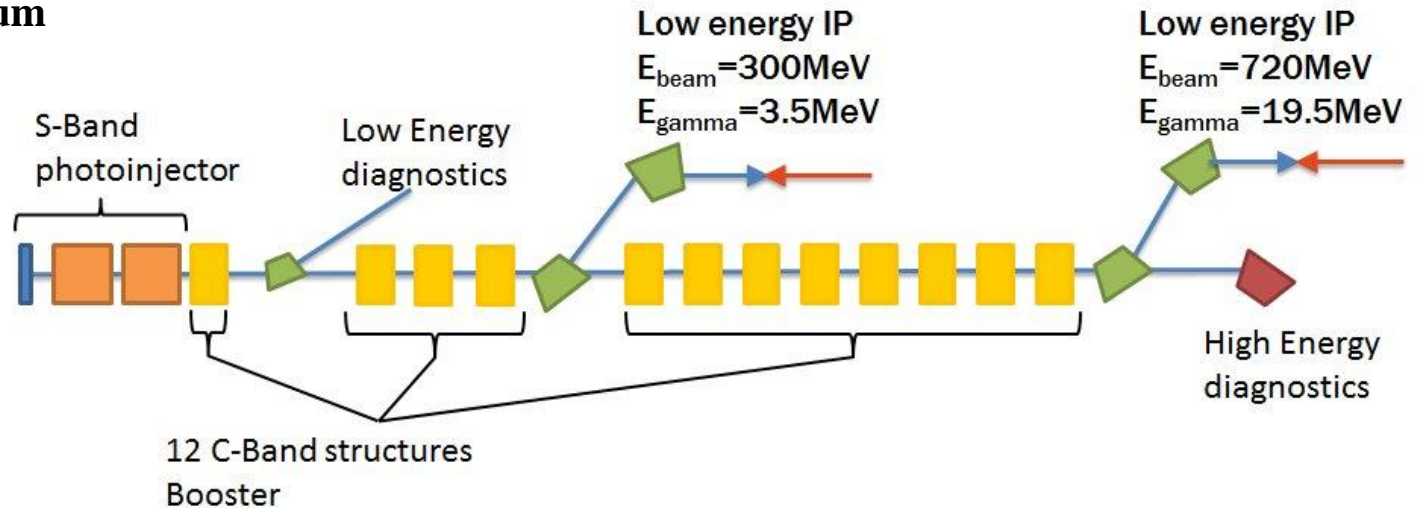
Therefore for a brilliant  $\gamma$  beam, one needs:

- high intensity electron beams
- very brilliant optical photon beams
- very small collision volume
- very high repetition frequency

# Gamma Beam System



**EuroGammas Consortium**  
Lead by INFN Italy



# *Gamma Beam System*



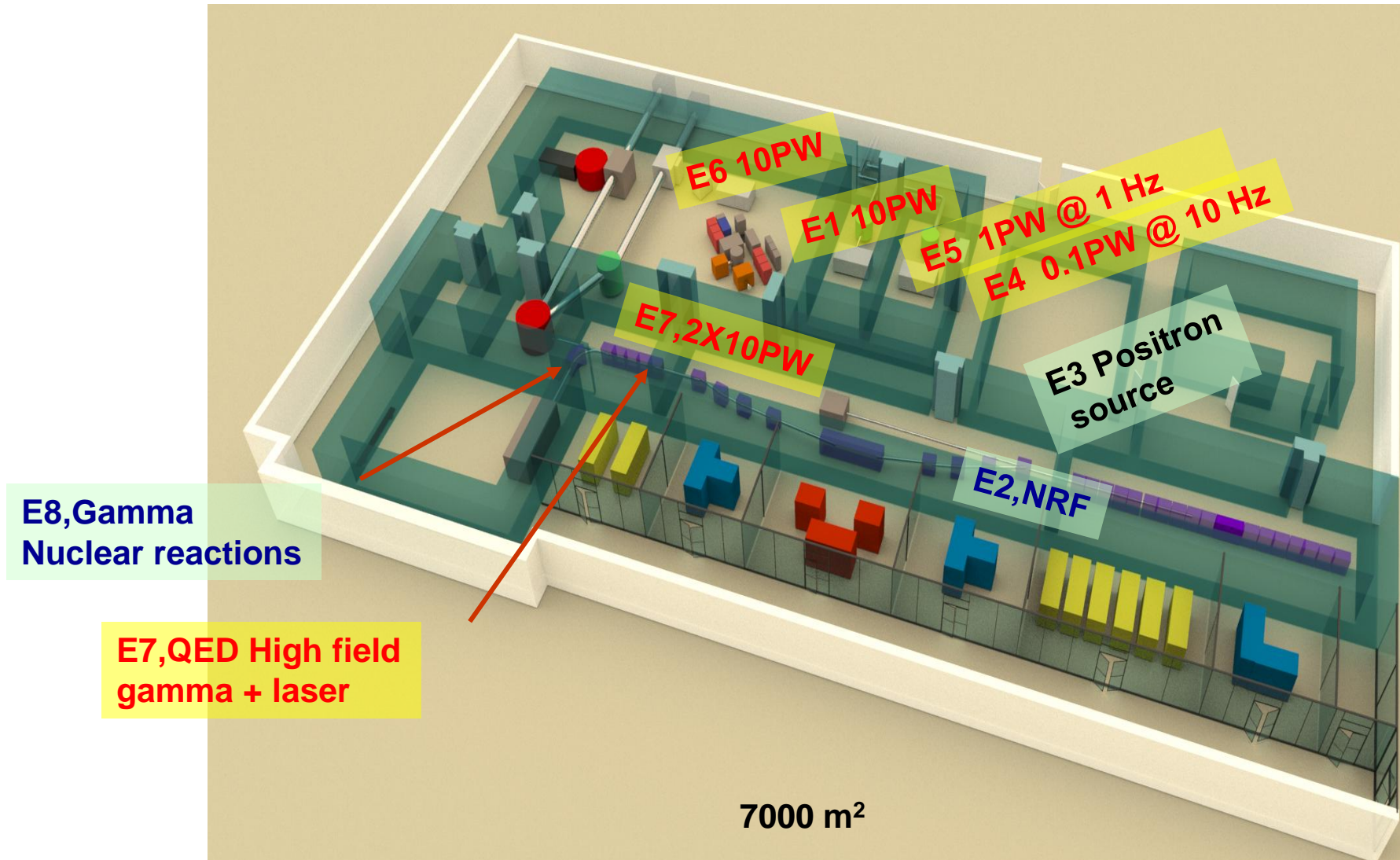
**SOLENOID B**  
Module 2  
Factory Acceptance Test



Alignment test at Danfysik have been performed, that will be demonstrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, when LNF & STFC Daresbury staff visit

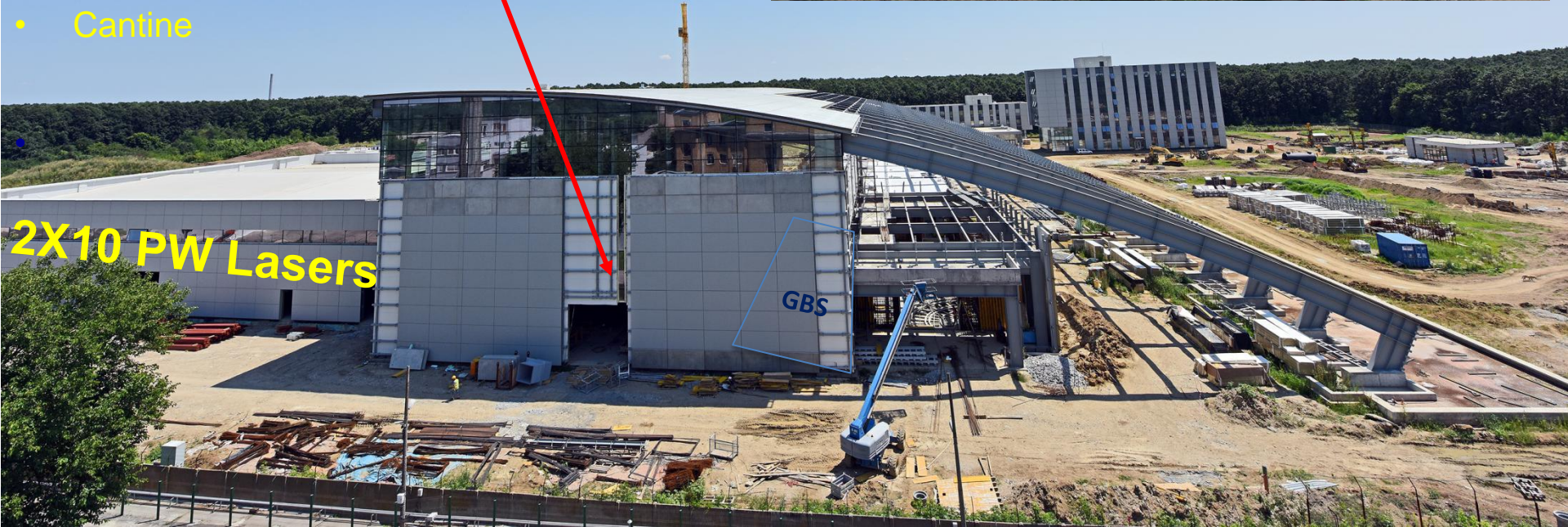


# Experiment Building



# Buildings, 33000 m<sup>2</sup> total

- HPLS 2000 m<sup>2</sup>
- GBS
- Workshops and Laboratories
- Experiments 7000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Office Building
- Guest House
- Cantine



- **Nuclear Physics experiments to characterize laser – target interaction**
- **Exotic Nuclear Physics and astrophysics**  
complementary to other ESFRI Large Scale Physics Facilities (FAIR, SPIRAL2)
- **Applications based on high intensity laser and very brilliant  $\gamma$  beams**

# *Scientific Program*

## **Gamma Beams System**

- **NRF Experiments and applications**
- **Photo-fission experiments**
- **$(\gamma, n)$  experiments**
- **$(\gamma, p)$  experiments**
- **Positron source for material science**

## **High-Power Laser System**

- **Laser delivery and beam lines**
- **Fission-fusion experiments**
- **Strong field QED**
- **Laser + Gamma interaction**
- **Applications**

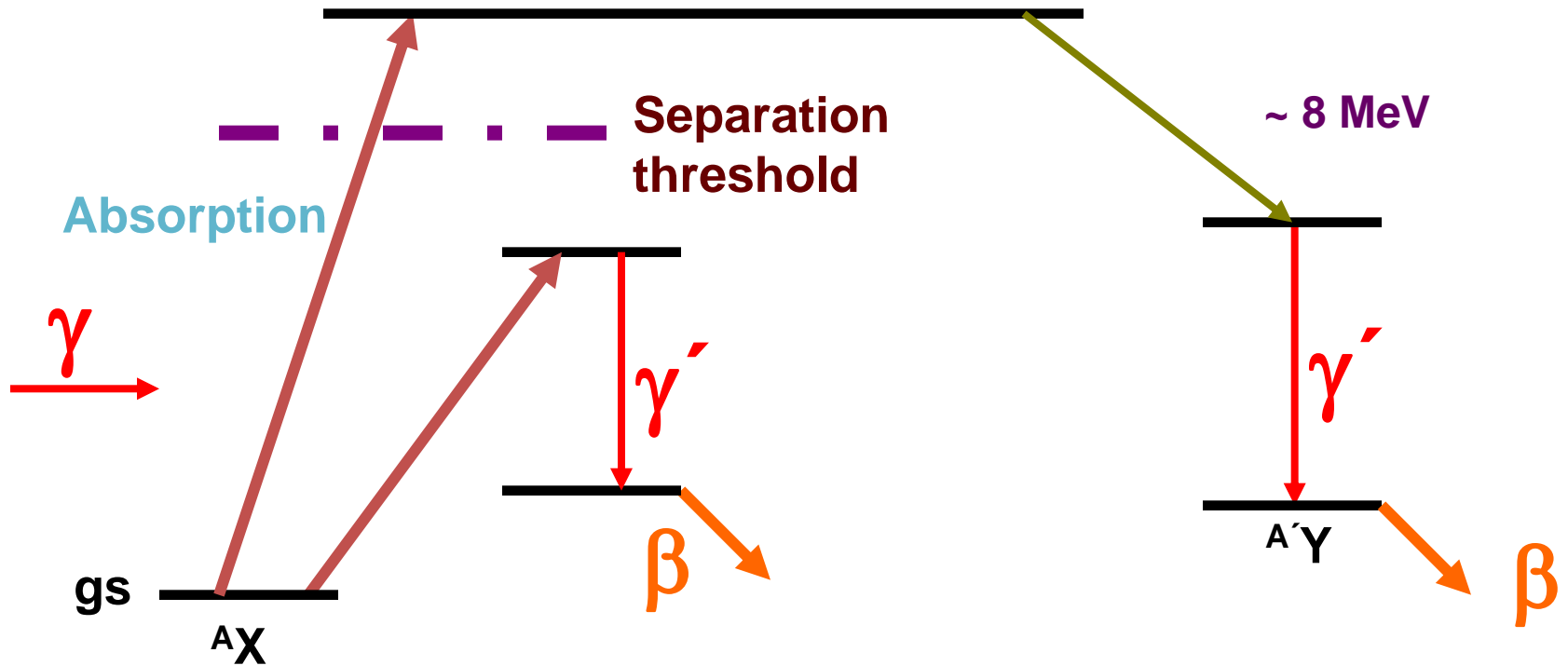
**International  
Workgroups**

**25 MoU with major  
Laser and Nuclear Physics  
labs and Institutions**



# Gamma Beam System

## Photonuclear Reactions



**Nuclear Resonance Fluorescence (NRF)**

**Photoactivation**

**Photodisintegration (–activation)**

**Photo–fission**

## Electromagnetic dipole response of nuclei

### Nuclear structure

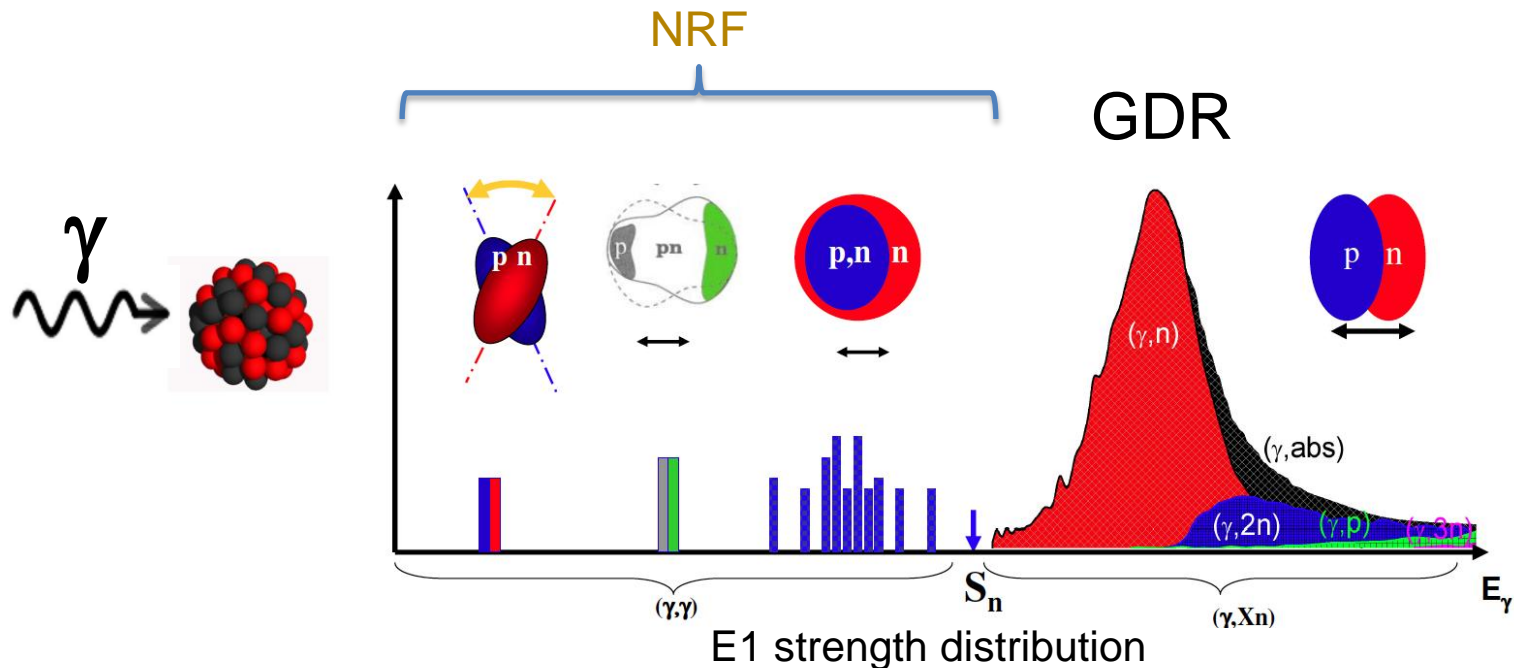
- Modes of excitation below the Giant Dipole Resonance (GDR)

### Impact on nucleosynthesis

- Gamow window for photo-induced reactions in explosive stellar events

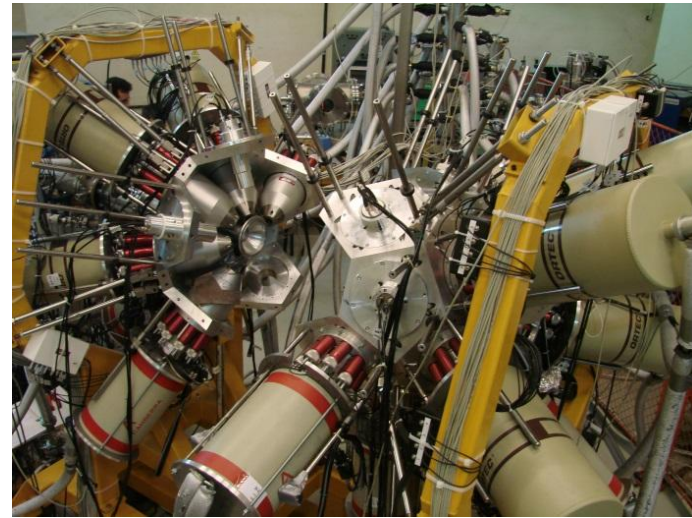
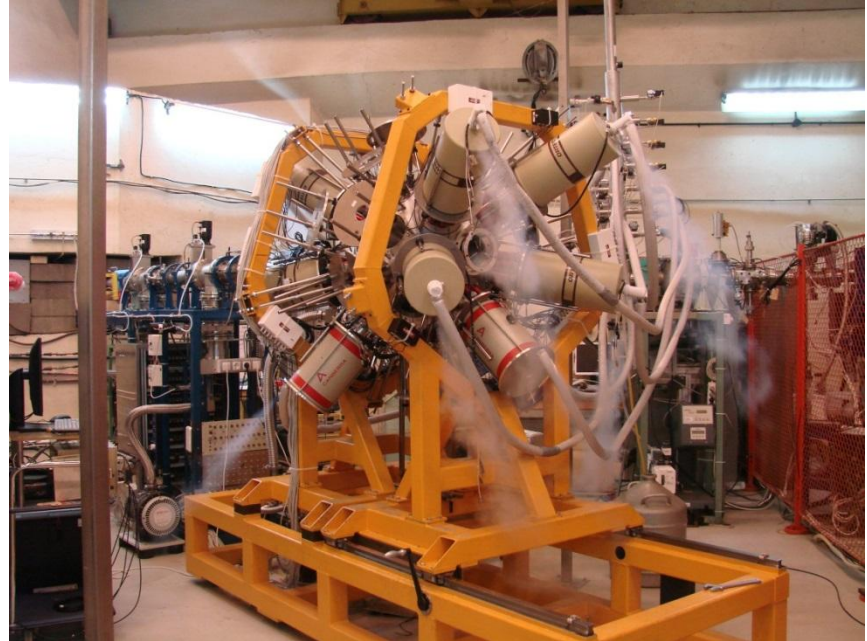
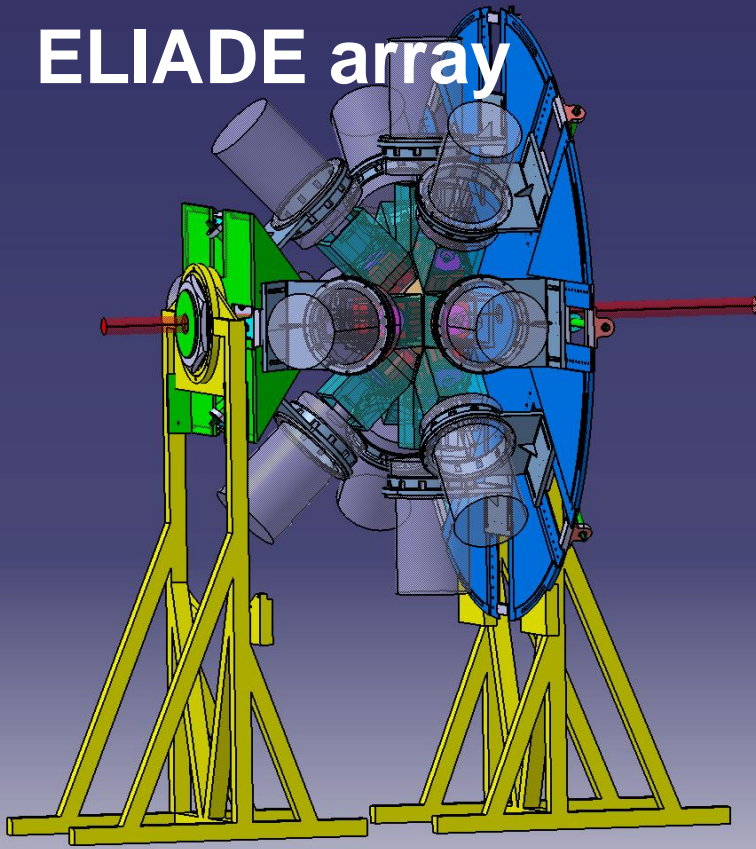
### Understanding exotic nuclei

- E1 strength will be shifted to lower energies in neutron rich system

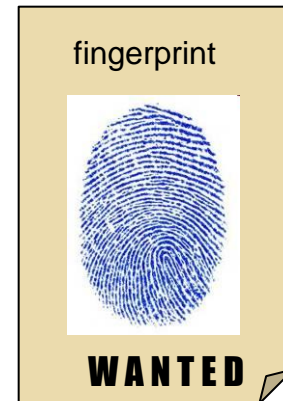
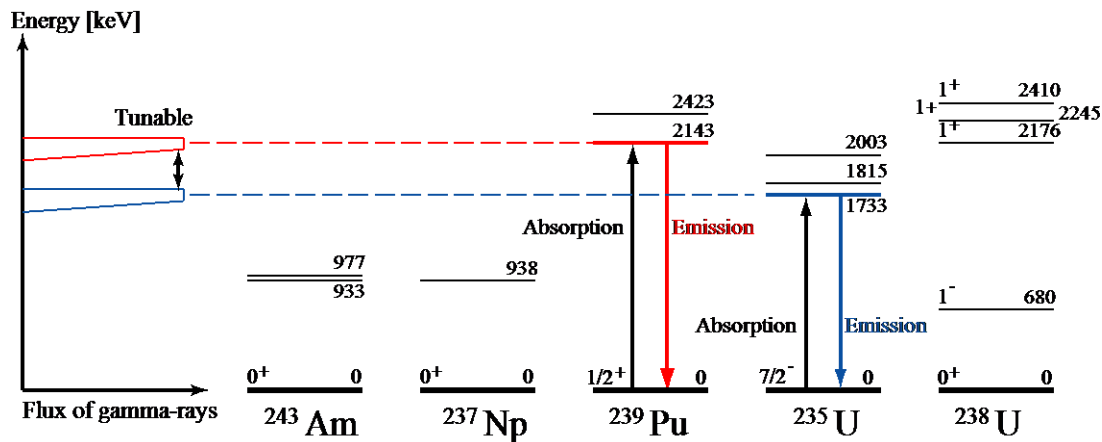


# *NRF $\gamma$ -ray spectroscopy*

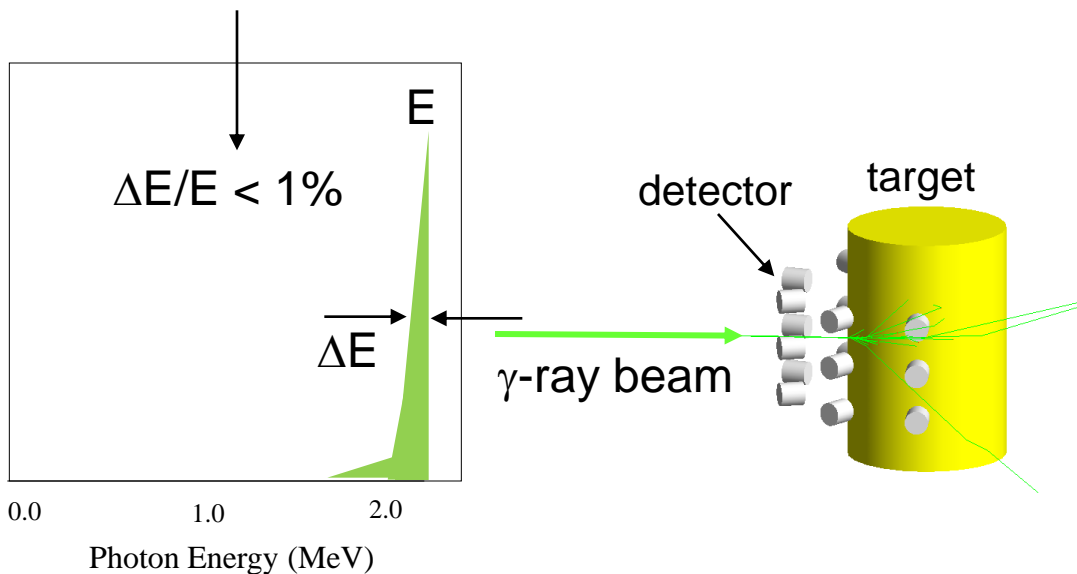
ELIADE array



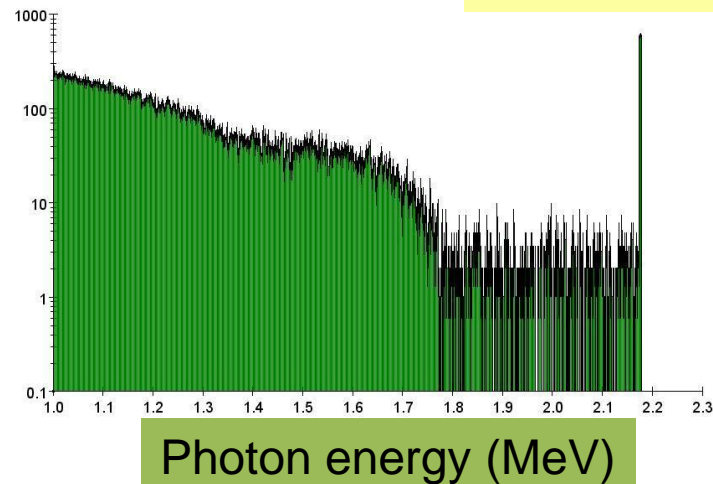
# Applications of NRF to Nuclear Materials



2.176 MeV for U-238

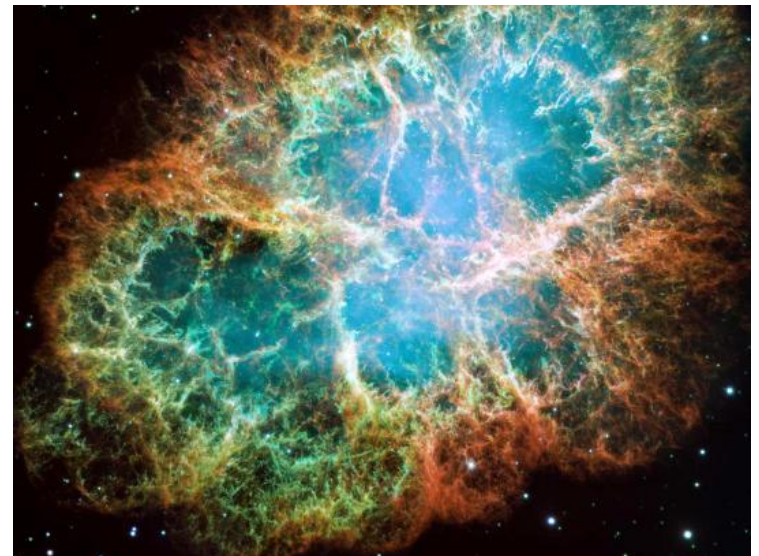
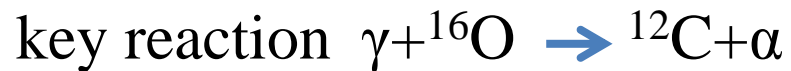


NRF signal  
U-238  
2.176 MeV

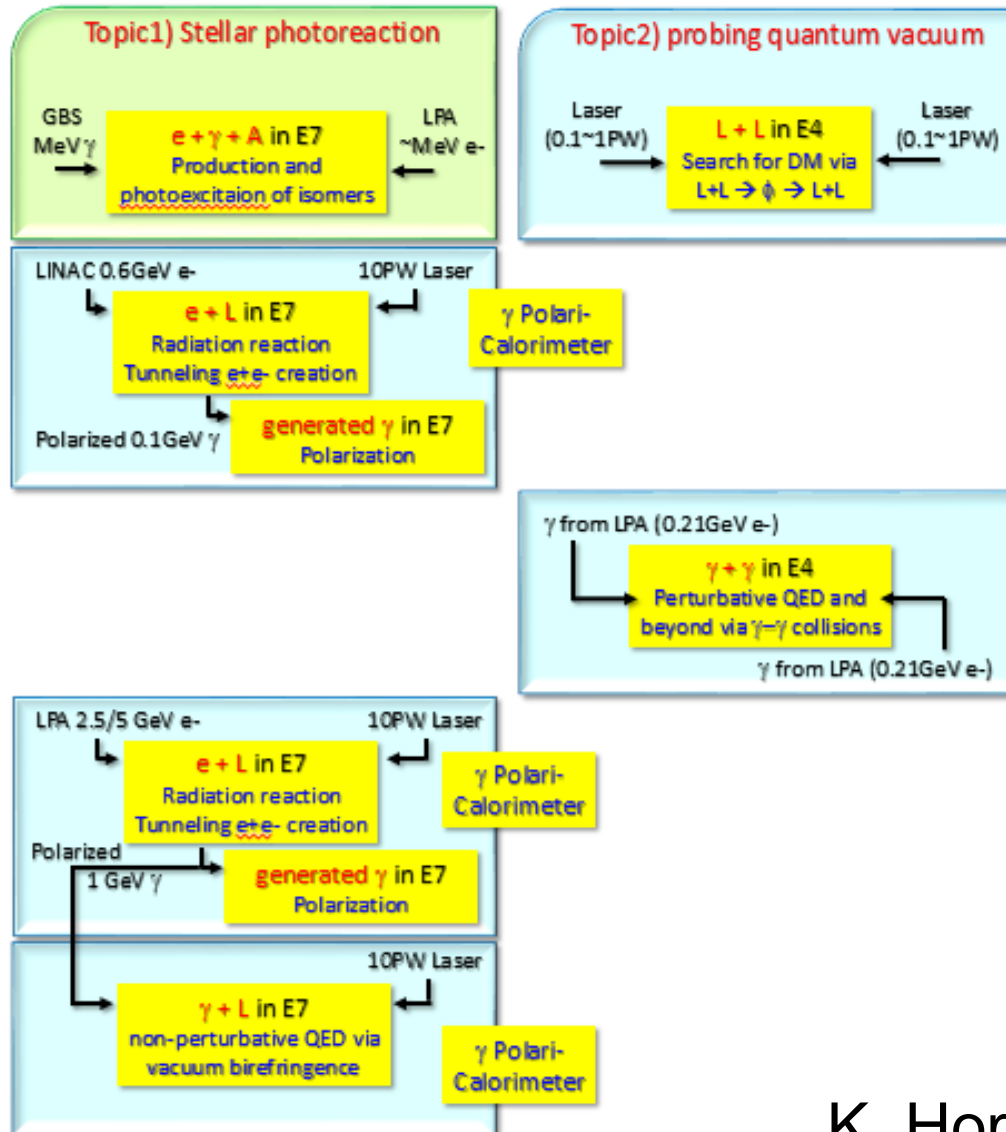


# *Astrophysics: s- and p - process*

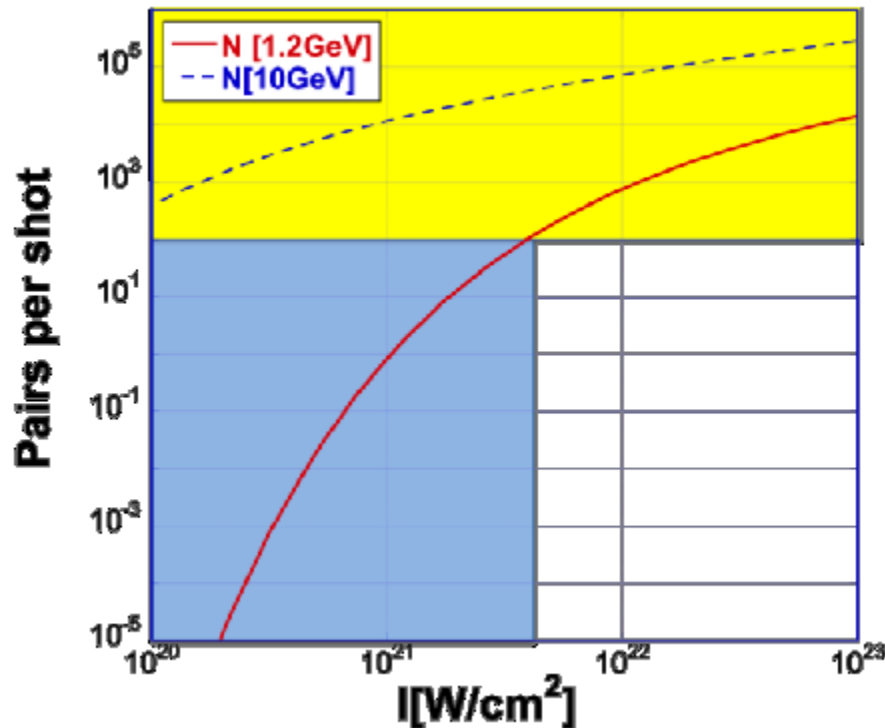
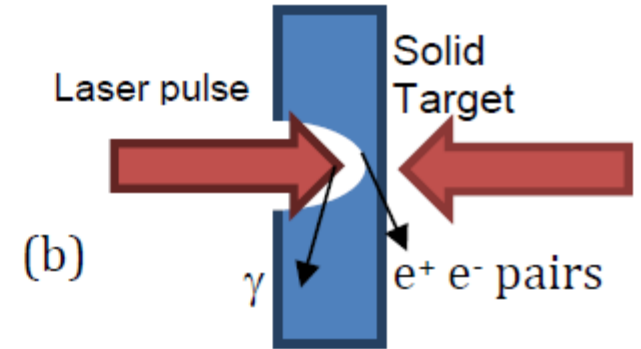
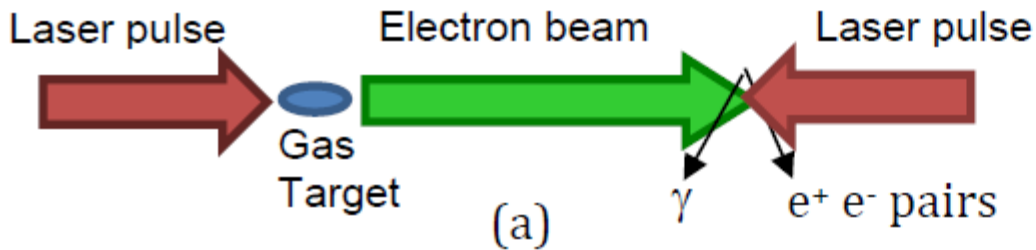
- Neutron Capture Cross Section of s-Process Branch in Inverse Reactions ( $\gamma, n$ )
- Measurements of ( $\gamma, p$ ) and ( $\gamma, \alpha$ ) Reaction Cross Sections for p –process-Nucleosynthesis



# Combined Laser Gamma Experiments

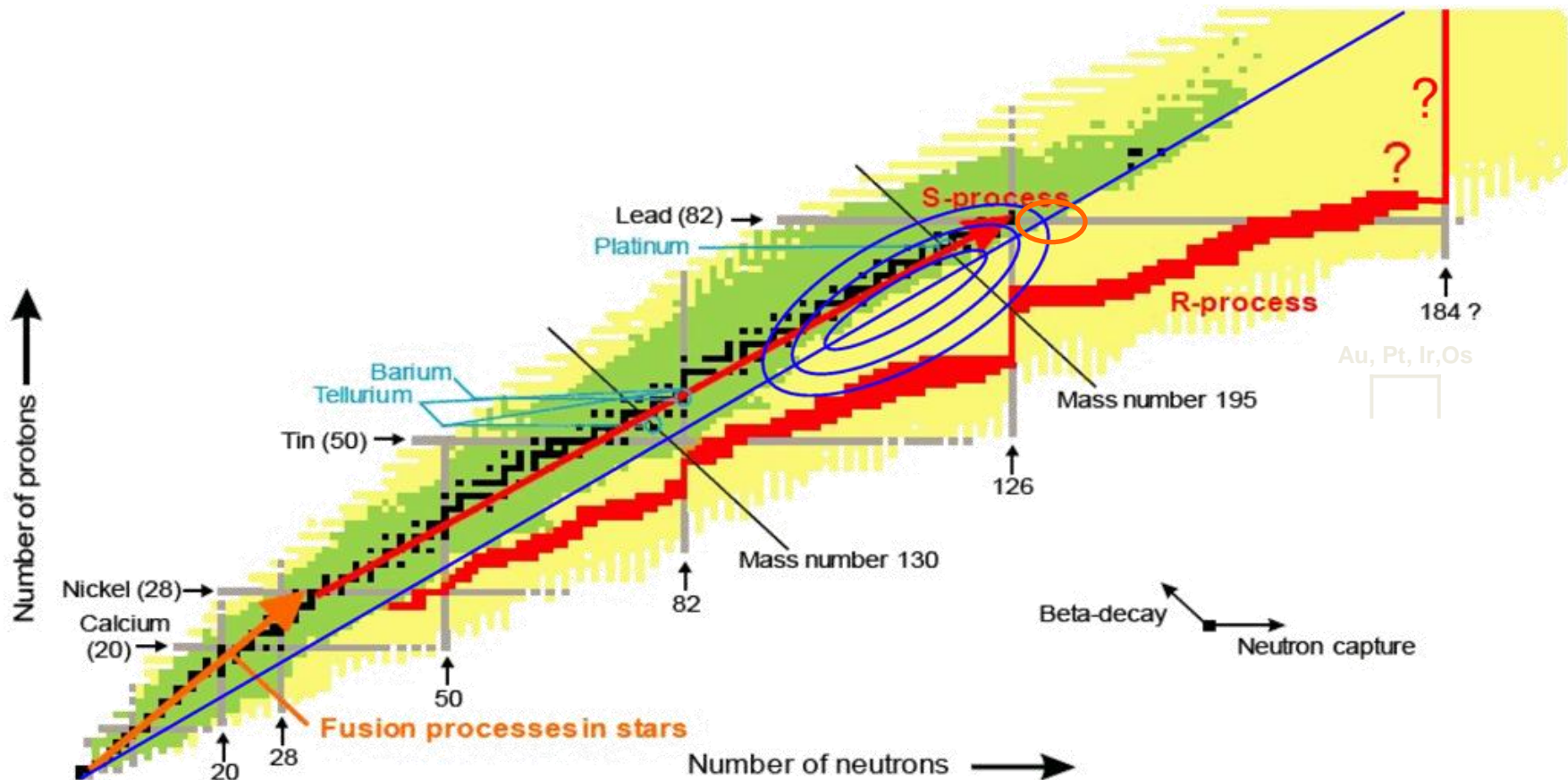


# High Field Physics and QED Experiments



D. Jaroszynski et al.

- **s-process:** ( $\gamma, n$ ) reactions
- **p-process** ( $\gamma, p$ ) and ( $\gamma, \alpha$ ) Reactions; key reaction  $\gamma + {}^{16}\text{O} \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C} + \alpha$
- **r-process:**  $N=126$ , bottleneck for understanding nucleosynthesis of actinides



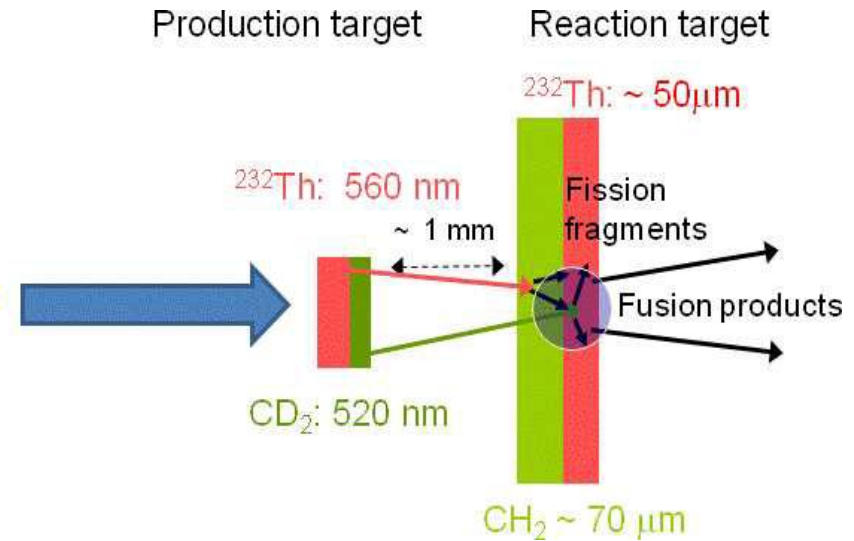


# Laser Nuclear Physics Experiment

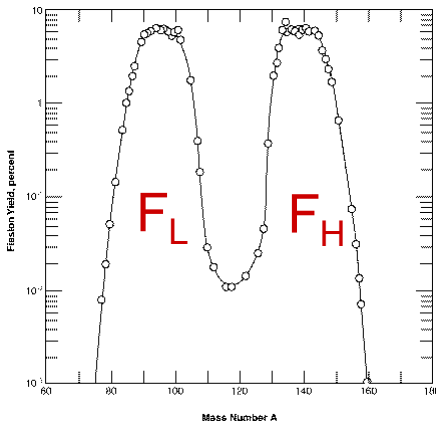
Study of exotic nuclei of astrophysical interest produced using high density ion bunches : **fission–fusion reactions.**

n–rich nuclei around N = 126 waiting point

high-power, high-contrast laser:  
150-300 J, 21 fs (7-14 PW)  
 $1.2 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ W/cm}^2$   
focal diam. ~ 3  $\mu\text{m}$



## Mass distribution of fission of $^{232}\text{Th}$



$$\langle A_L \rangle \sim 91, \quad \Delta A_L \sim 14 \text{ amu (FWHM)}$$

$$\Delta A_L \sim 22 \text{ amu (10\%)}$$

$$\langle Z_L \rangle \sim 37.5 \quad (\text{Rb, Sr})$$

**Fusion of (light) fission products :**  
 **$F_L + F_L \Rightarrow (A \sim 200, Z \sim 70, N \sim 126)$**

# *Nuclear Photonics Applications*



**HEU Grand Challenge**  
*detection of shielded material*



**Nuclear Fuel Assay**  
*100 parts per million per isotope*



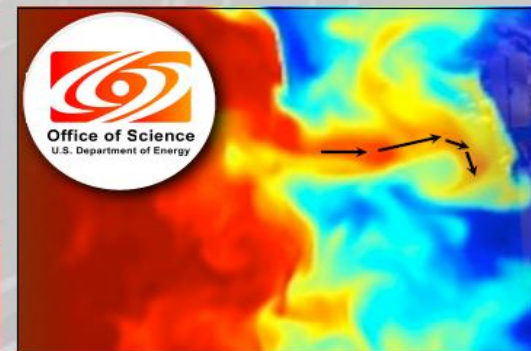
**Waste Imaging & Assay**  
*non-invasive content certification*



**Precision Imaging**  
*micron-scale & isotope specific*



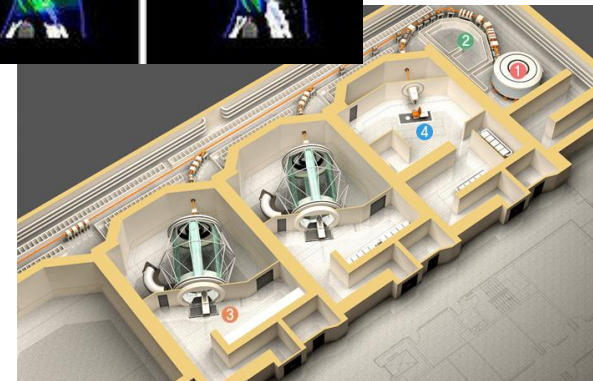
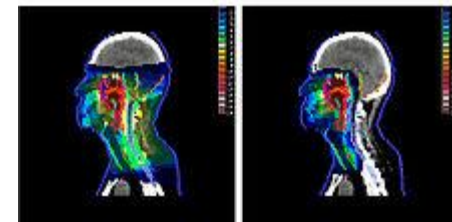
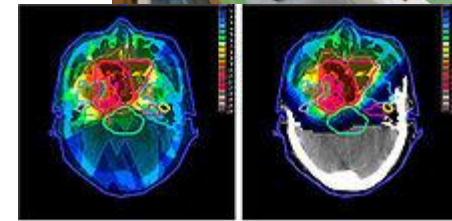
**Medical Imaging**  
*low density & isotope specific*



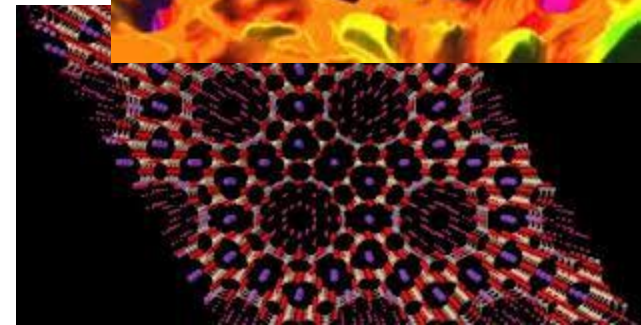
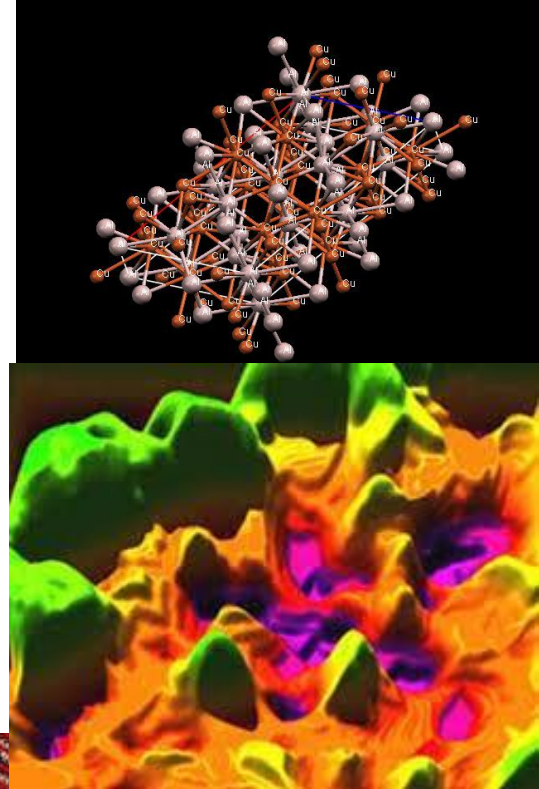
**Dense Plasma Science**  
*isotope mass, position & velocity*

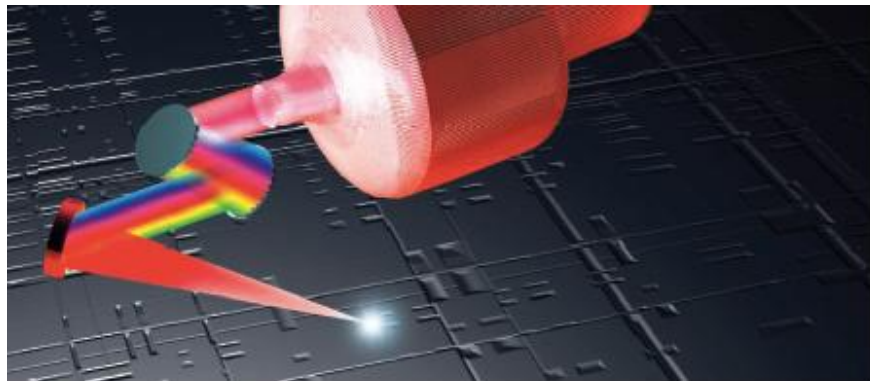
# Radioisotopes for medical use

- New approaches and methods for producing radioisotopes urgently needed
- *Mo-99 and other medical isotopes used globally for diagnostic medical imaging and radiotherapy*
- $^{195m}\text{Pt}$ : In chemotherapy of tumors it can be used to exclude "non responding" patients from unnecessary chemotherapy and optimizing the dose of all chemotherapy



- novel experimental studies of material behavior – thanks to extreme fields intensity provided by the laser and gamma-ray beams
- the behavior of materials subject to extreme radiation doses
- **polarized positron beam – new microscopy**





## Enormous reduction in scale

### PARTICLE PHYSICS

## Europe Aims for a Cut-Rate Superlaser To Power Future Particle Accelerators

Could the light at the end of high-energy physics' increasingly long tunnels be ... light? The field's appetite for ever more powerful accelerators is running up against society's willingness to pay. The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN, the European particle physics laboratory near Geneva, Switzerland, with its 27-kilometer circular tunnel and detectors the size of cathedrals, cost close to \$10 billion. Next, physicists want to build the 31-kilometer-long International Linear Collider at up to \$25 billion, and they are talking about even bigger machines and longer tunnels. Sooner or later, these ambitions will be stymied—unless some new, radically cheaper accelerator technology succeeds. A team of European physicists sees hope in the light of simple fiber-optic lasers.

Researchers have known for decades that laser pulses can accelerate charged particles, but only in the past few years have they produced beams of high enough quality for particle physics. The remaining stumbling block is quantity: Lasers that can produce sufficiently intense pulses at high enough repetition rates with reasonable efficiency just don't exist.

Now, a consortium of European physics labs says that it can meet the necessary spec without building a new superlaser. The trick is to take fiber lasers—a workhorse of the telecommunications industry—and combine their output into a superbeam. In an 18-month pilot project funded by €500,000 from the European Union, the labs coaxed 64 fiber lasers to merge their beams smoothly. If the European Union's next 7-year research budget allows—it is now being finalized—they hope to scale up to a full-size demonstrator with thousands of fibers.

Physicists are reaching the limits not only of national budgets, but also of technology. To search for new physics, they would ultimately like to accelerate leptons, such as electrons and positrons, to energies in excess of 5 trillion electron volts (5 TeV). But doing so with today's technology would consume hundreds of megawatts (MW) of electricity—the entire output of a medium-sized power station. "There is no technology for over-5-TeV lepton colliders," says Roy Aleksan of France's Atomic Energy Commission lab at Saclay. The problem is that the radio-frequency waves now

cles: ions, and elect  
If a high-powered p  
into a plasma, the t  
the light pushes the  
out of the way but  
heavier ions, leavin  
deficient bubble of  
by a region of nega  
electrons rush back  
ful electric field pa  
tion of travel. This  
huge boost in speed  
from the plasma ori  
cially injected to tal

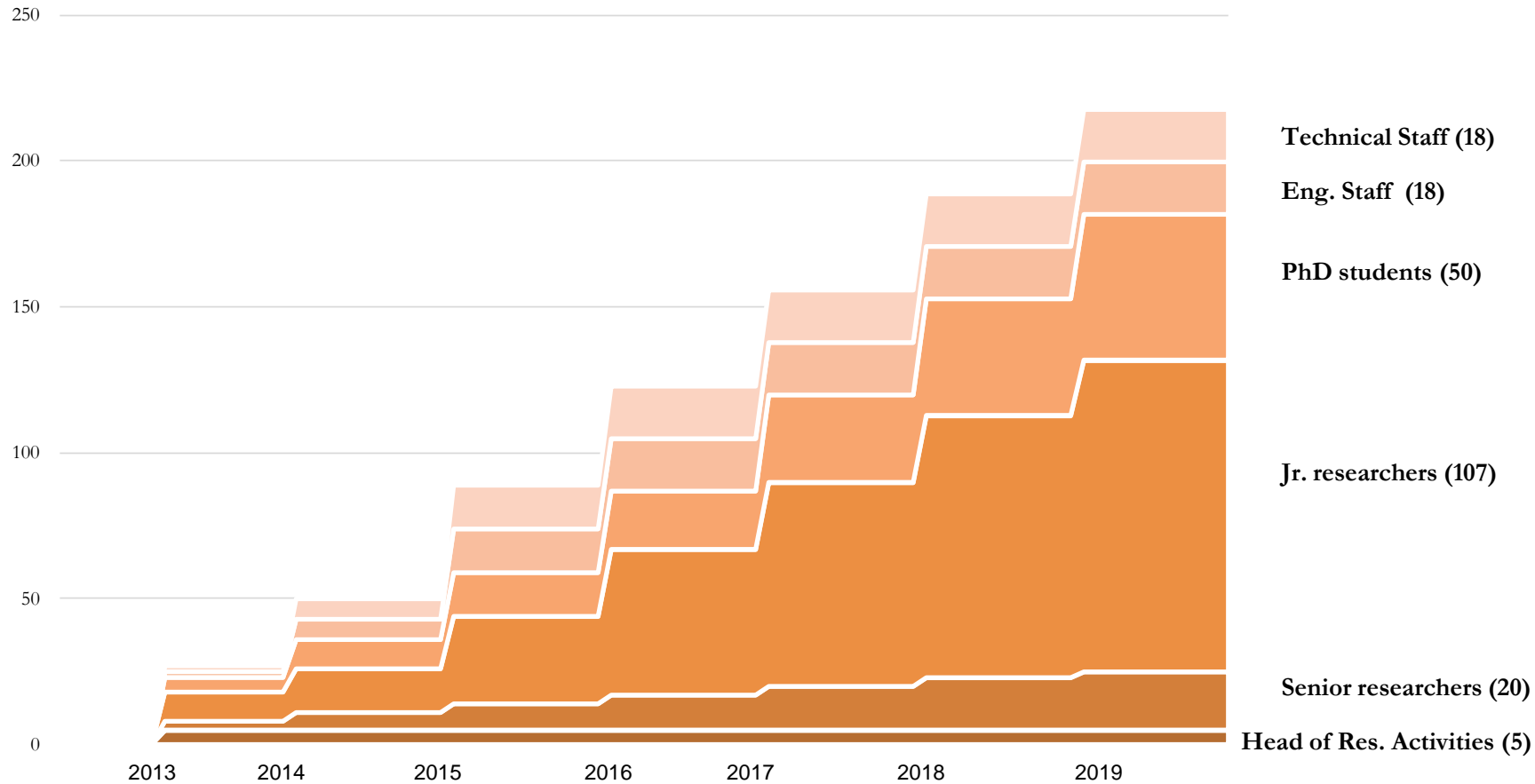
When Dawson  
this wakefield-acce  
pulses could not  
and powerful enoi  
however, Gérard  
Strickland of the l  
devised chirped pu  
This takes a mod  
laser pulse and str  
ger, lower-powered  
gated pulse throug  
its energy, and so  
to its original lengt  
power. Almost all  
power lasers use C  
( $10^{15}$  watt) pulses.  
With such pulse  
duce accelerating  
10 billion to 100  
(GV/m), three ord  
than conventional

**"People said it was crazy."**

—GÉRARD MOUROU  
ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE,  
PALAISEAU, FRANCE



# *Human Resources*





EUROPEAN UNION



GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA



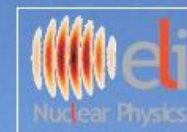
Structural Instruments  
2007-2013

Sectoral Operational Programme “Increase of Economic Competitiveness”  
*“Investments for Your Future!”*



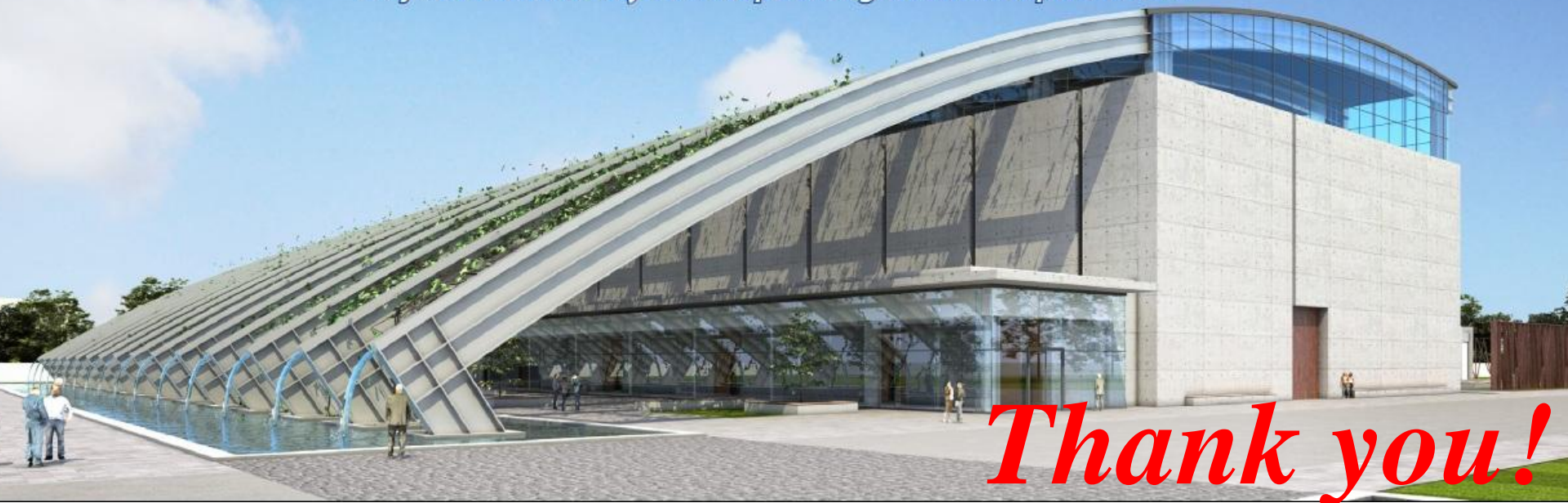
**Extreme Light Infrastructure - Nuclear Physics**

**(ELI-NP) - Phase I**



[www.eli-np.ro](http://www.eli-np.ro)

*Project co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund*



***Thank you!***