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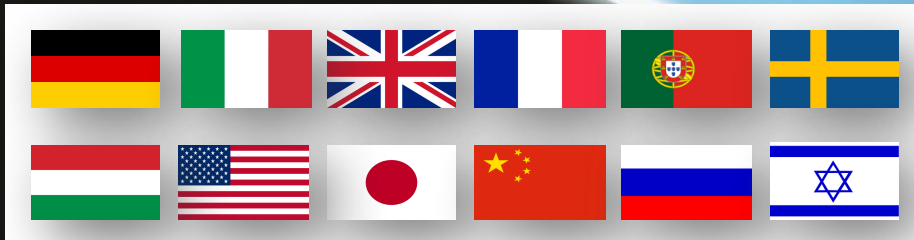


# Laser Drivers for the EuPRAXIA beamlines

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*On behalf of the EuPRAXIA Laser Design WP4*



<http://eupraxia-project.eu>





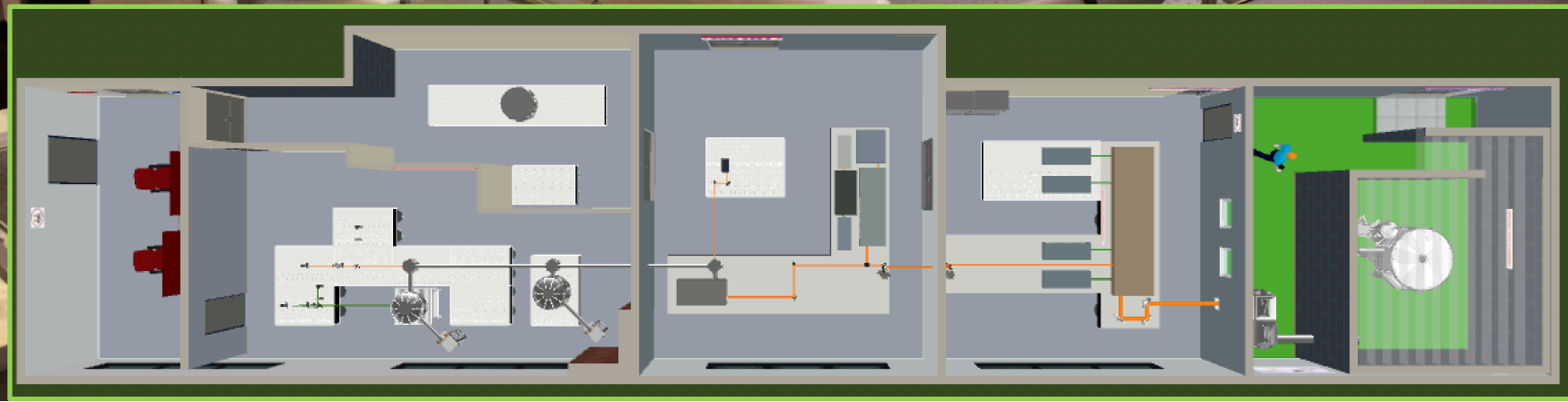
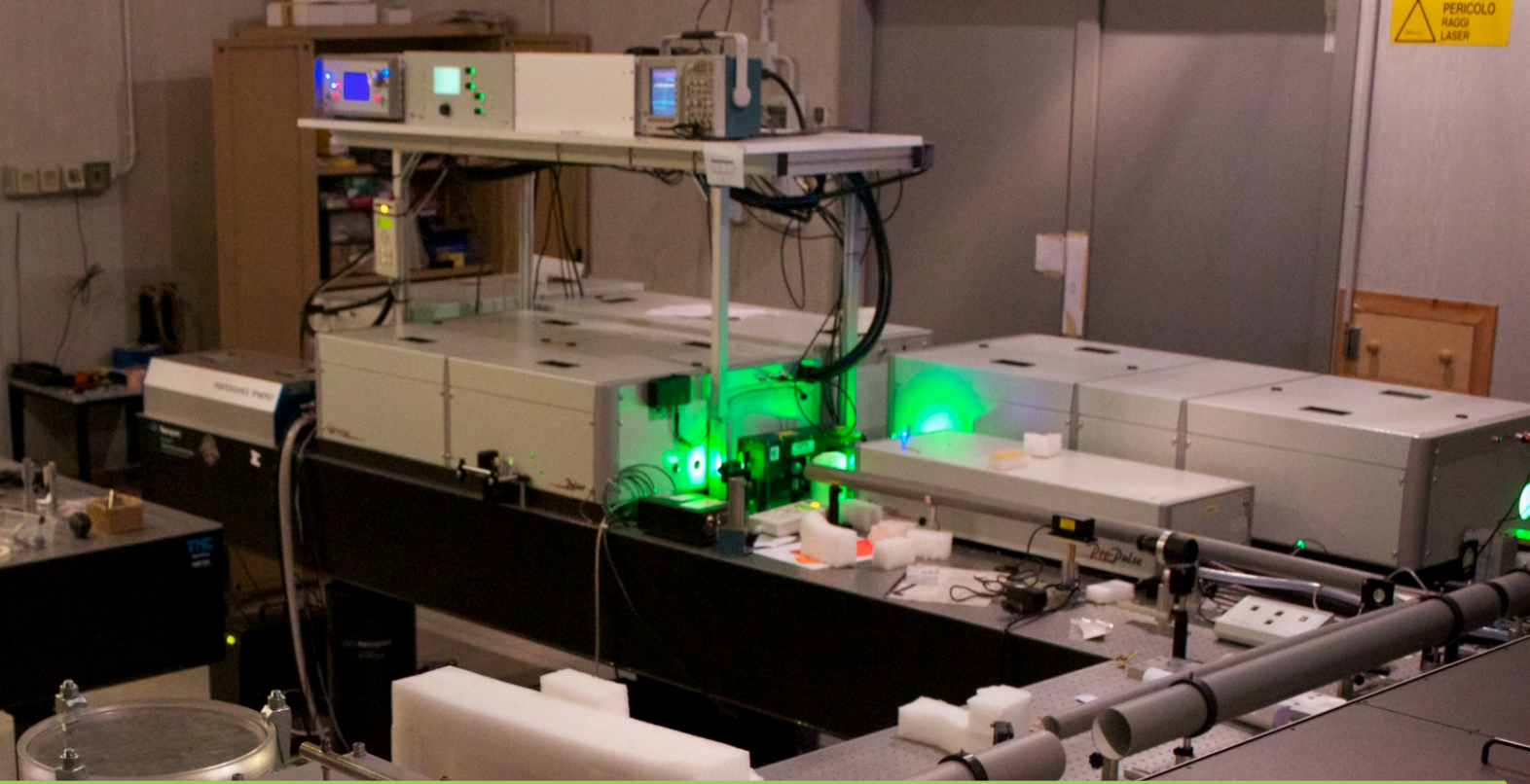
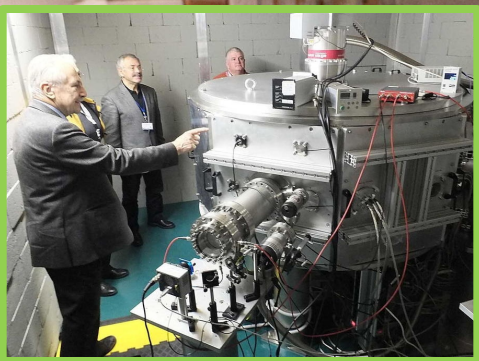


*Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche*

**Area della Ricerca di Pisa**







# Laboratorio di Irraggiamento con Laser Intensi

Istituto Nazionale di Ottica – Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche





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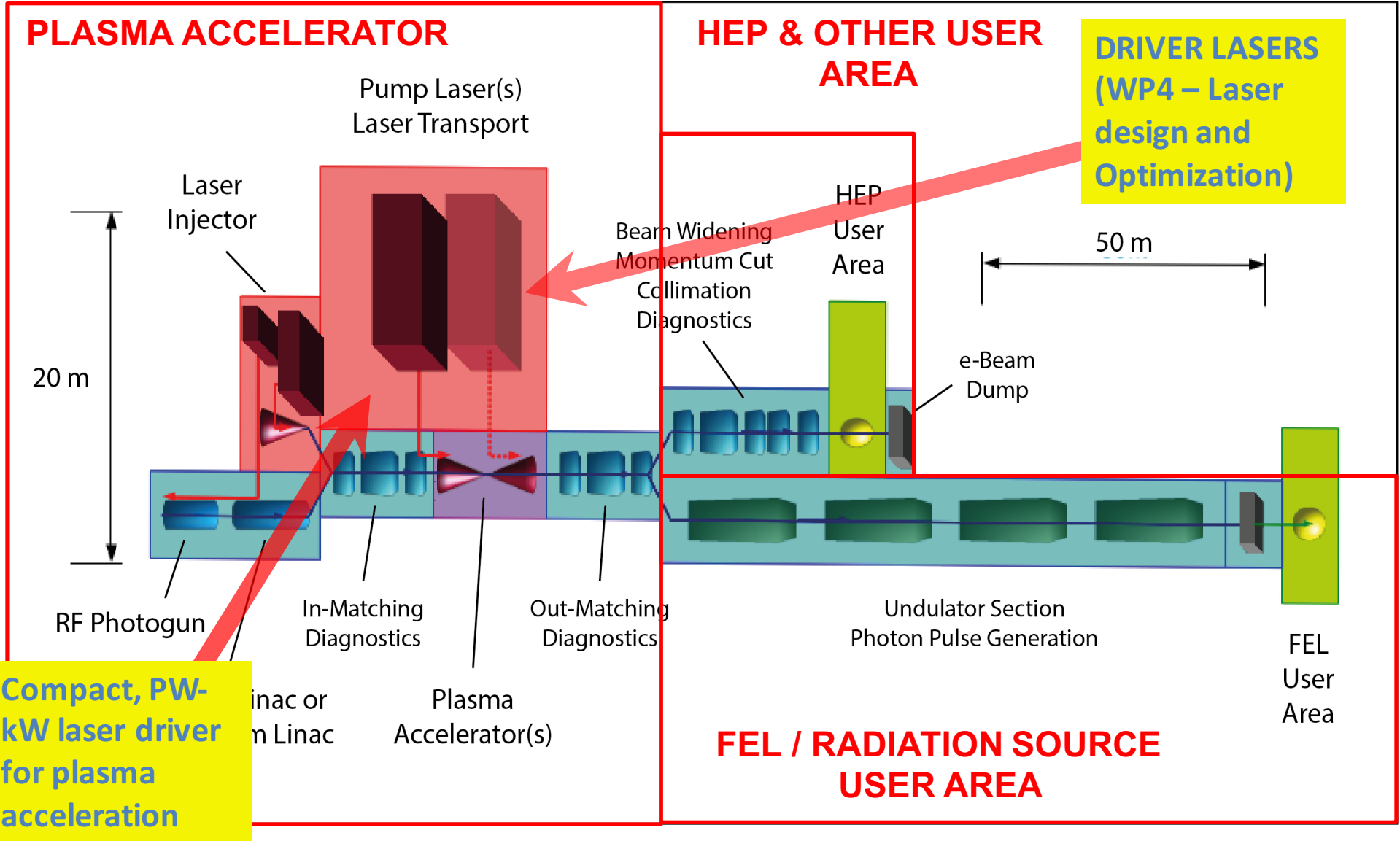
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- Introduction to EuPRAXIA
- Strategy for a PW-kW laser for EuPRAXIA
- Main EuPRAXIA laser features
- Preliminary laser design
  - Main industrial components
- Needed key industrial developments
- Conclusions







EuPRAXIA is a **conceptual design study** for a **5 GeV electron plasma accelerator** as a European research infrastructure. Goals:

1. Address **quality**. Show **plasma accelerator technology is usable**:
  - Incorporate established accelerator technology for optimal quality
  - Combine expertise from accelerator, laser labs, industry, international partners
  - Develop new technical solutions and a few use cases
2. Show **benefit in size and cost** versus established RF technology:
  - Proposed solutions must offer a significant benefit, e.g. fitting constrained spaces (small labs, hospitals) and/or must be less effective.
  - Cost benefits must include low operational costs (turn-key, industrial lasers at high repetition rate, cost-effective RF components, ...): small team, remote OP, ...

*Note: EuPRAXIA will initially be **low wall-plug power efficiency***

- *Efforts with **industry and laser institutes** to improve rep. rate & efficiency (incorporate all viable laser technologies with higher efficiency)*

Application to FEL requires low (total) energy spread (<1%) and low emittance (<1mm mrad)

1. Improve **technical components and approaches in plasma accelerator** concepts producing already GeV class beams:

- Improved laser technology
- Feedbacks
- New and old concepts for solutions in one stage all plasma facility

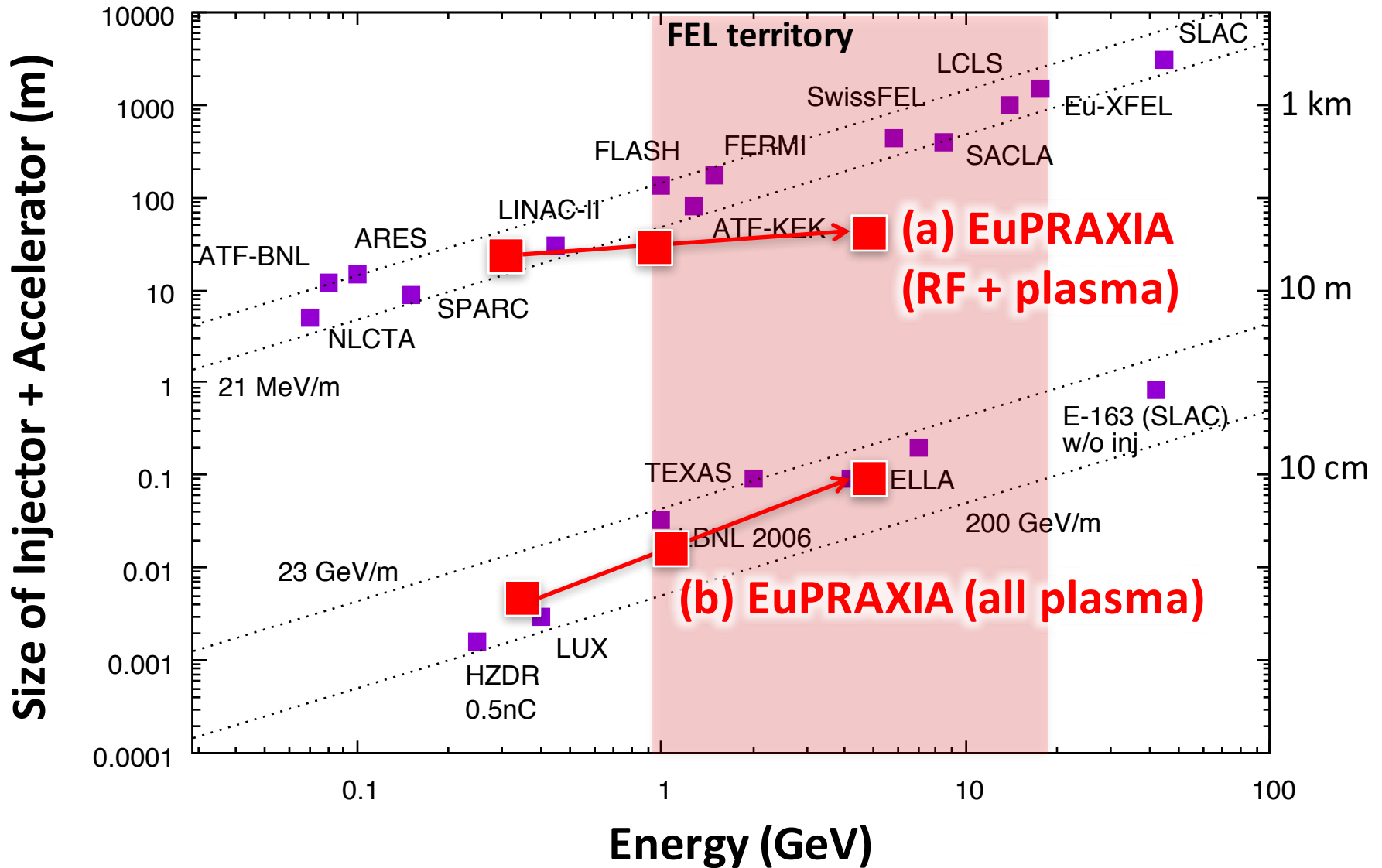
2. Start with a **high quality beam from a small RF injector** and boost it to high energy:

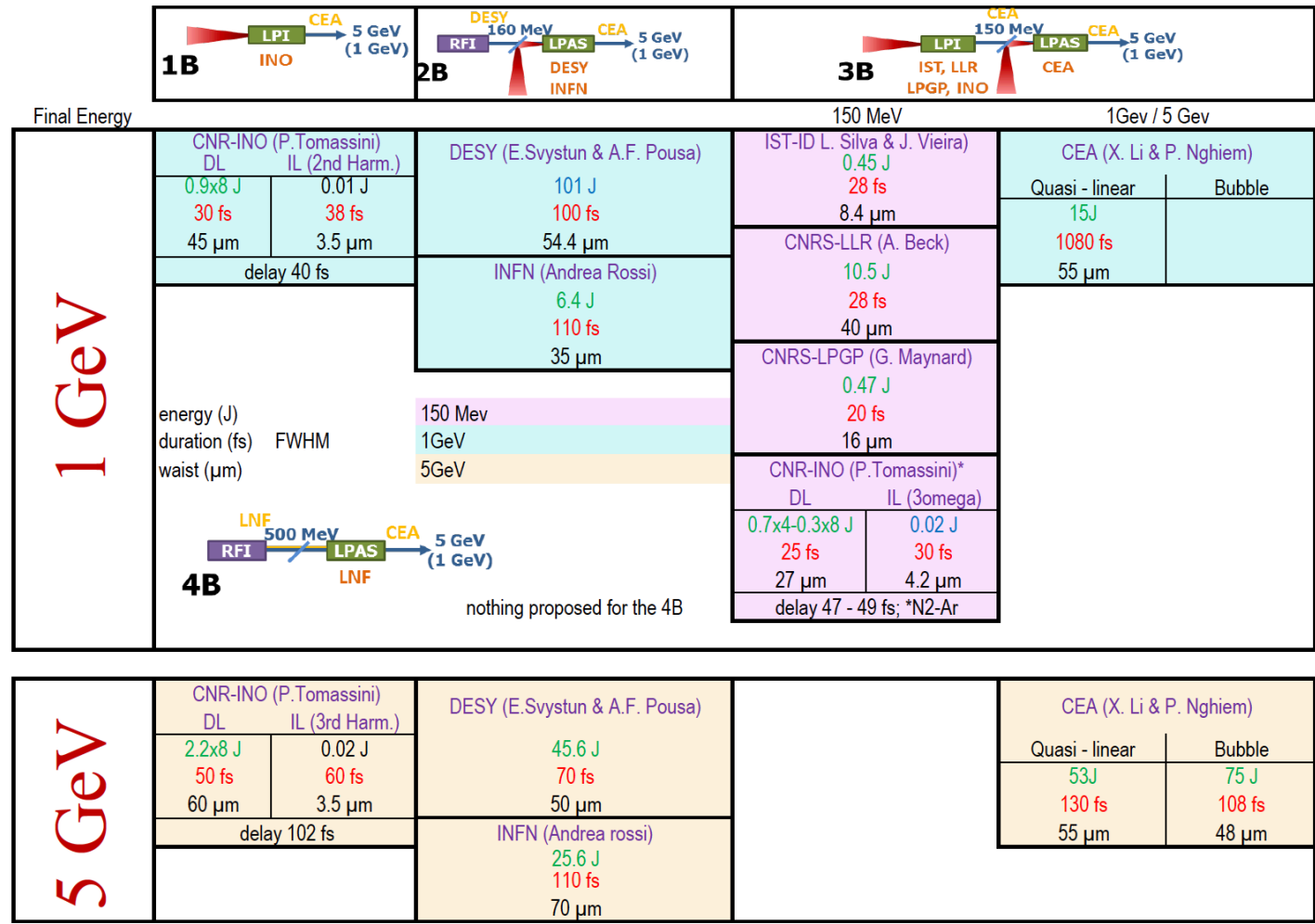
- Starting point quality is assured (start with FEL quality beam)
- Solve new issues, e.g. timing: new solutions needed
- Fully stageable → path to high energy





Short time scale: EuPRAXIA Laser design based on technology with high TRL  
 Guideline: exploring extension of existing concepts and prototypes



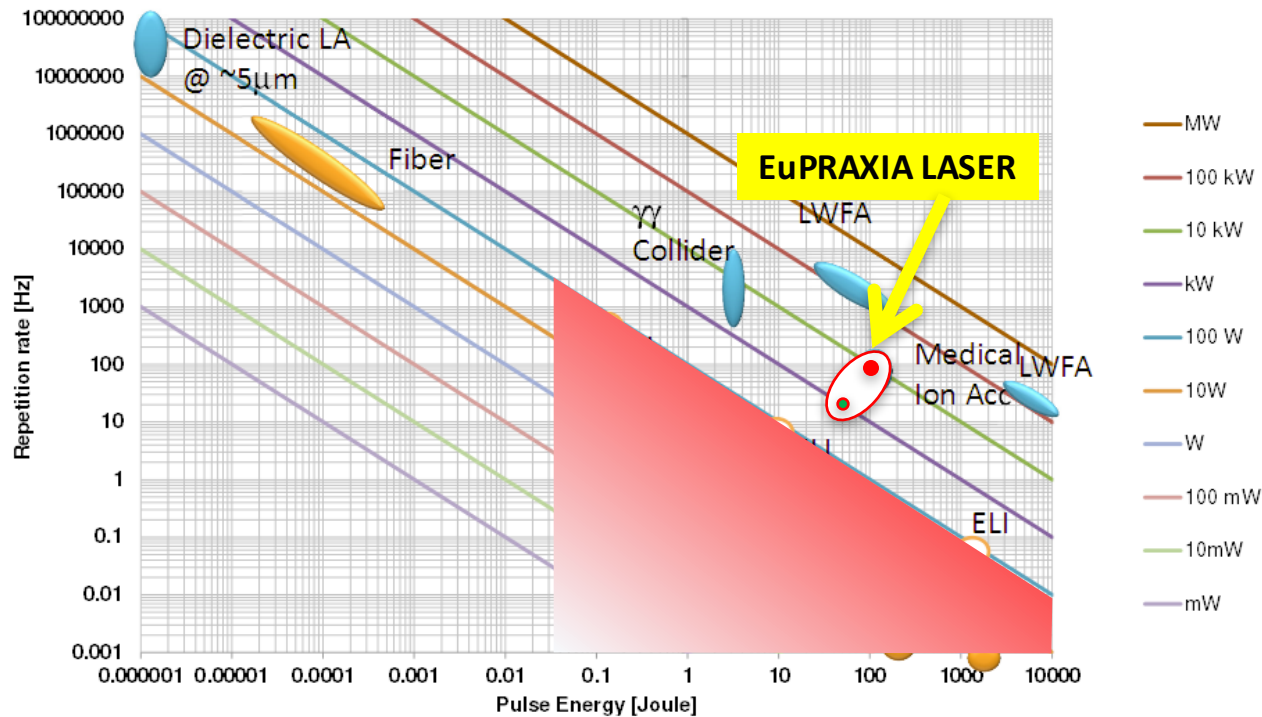


Large BW ( $\approx 30$  fs) required for injector/1GeV stage. May be relaxed ( $\approx 50$  fs) for 5GeV stage.  
 Not compatible with many available direct CPA schemes (Nd, Yb).  
 MULTI-PULSE drivers attracting increasing attention.



- Short pulse PW-kW laser technology (CPA, diode pumping);
- High repetition rate to allow user operation while enabling active stabilization via feedback loops;
  - Minimum 20 Hz, but exploring 100 Hz option
- Average power ranging from 1kW to 10 kW;
- Extraordinary performances of beam transport, focusing, diagnostics with the reliability of an industrial system.
- Pump lasers, TiSa crystal management and compressor gratings at 100 Hz need funding and demonstrators prior to final TDR – collaboration ready to start.

A PW-class system, with **demanding high average power** (>1 kW, ideally 10 kW)



The EuPRAXIA **PW-kW** laser is, by all means, a unique system.

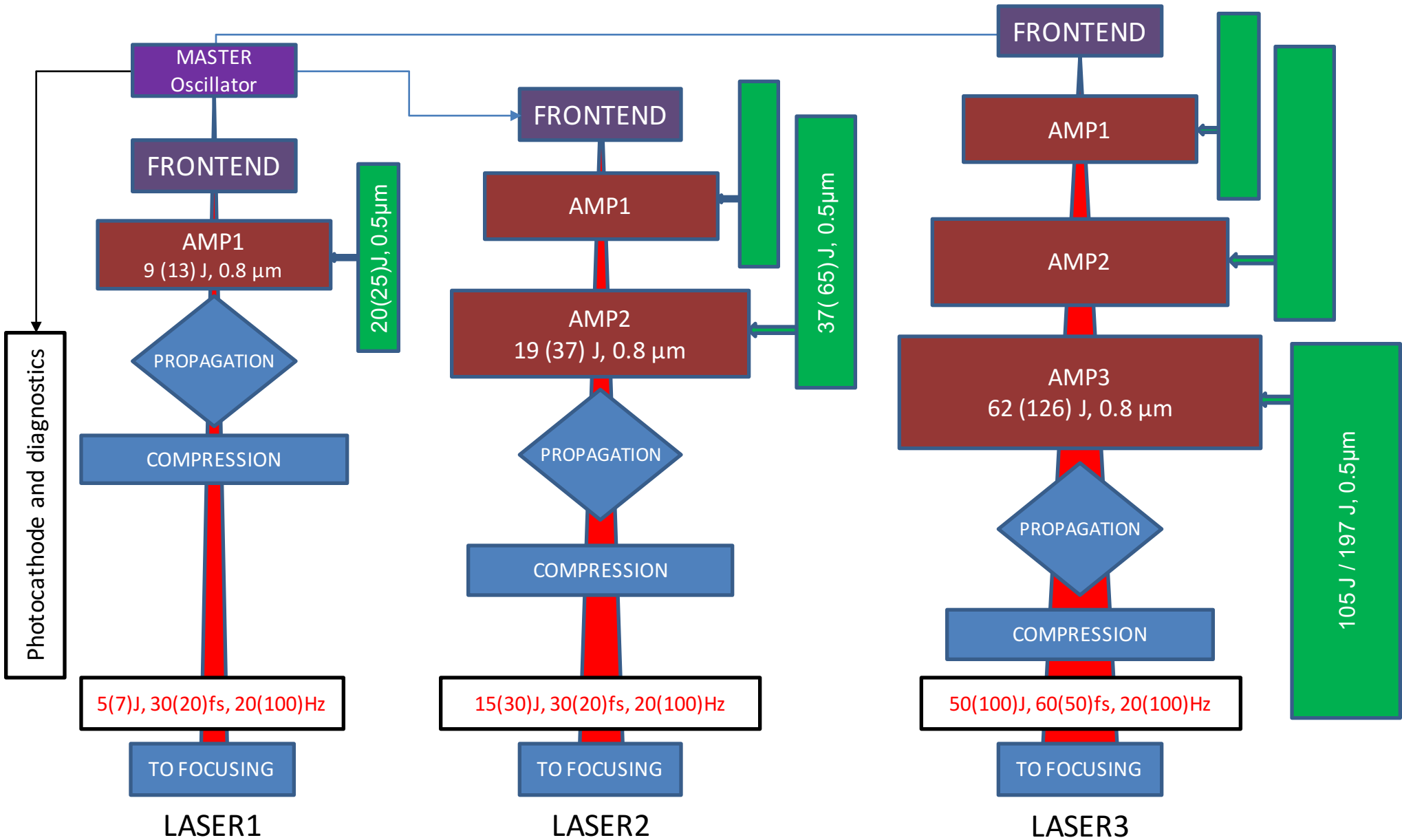
Programmes worldwide (e.g. kBELLA, LBNL, US) are exploring similar concepts.

EU can build on current leadership in PW laser technology to keep the pace.

- **EuPRAXIA requires up to tens of kW** average laser power with PW peak power and up to 100 Hz repetition rate;
- **Consensus** reached in the EuPRAXIA laser community is that Ti:Sa technology pumped by diode-pumped solid state (DPSSL) lasers provides a relatively safe ground, with major European industrial endeavour in place;
- **Recent developments** match our requirements, with DPSSL prototypes pump lasers offering kW performances with potential scalability to 10s of kW at the required wavelength of 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ;
- At the same time, **other technologies are developing** aiming at higher rep. rates, higher average power levels and even more efficient configurations.



- **Fiber laser technology** offers the best WPE >50% in CW mode and coherent combination is being developed (FSU Jena-Fraunhofer IOF and Ecole Polytechnique-Thales in France). Suited if EuPRAXIA evolves towards lower energy per pulse >10 kHz;
- **Direct Chirped Pulse Amplification** with lasing media pumped directly by diodes is ideal for higher efficiency and higher rep-rate (see also M4.2 milestone report of April 2017)
- **Direct CPA concepts explored** in benchmarking phase and bottlenecks emerged concerning the minimum achievable pulse duration and scaling;
- **More recently**, motivated by kBELLA project (LBNL, US) and also by EuPRAXIA, new concepts are emerging in this scenario (LLNL), now entering design and prototyping for intermediate average power levels;
- **Consideration is given** to such schemes in view of significant ongoing developments for possible complementary combinations.





LASER 1 - Injector 150 MeV

Parameter	Label	P0	P1
Wavelength (nm)	$\lambda_1$ (nm)	800	800
Maximum energy on target (J)	$E_{target}$	5	7
Maximum output energy (J)	$E_{out}$	8.8	12.5
Energy tuning resolution (% of targeted value)	$dE$	7	5
Total output energy (incl. Diagnostic beams)	$E_{tot}$	7	10
Pulse length (FWHM) (fs)	$\tau_1$	30	20
Repetition rate (Hz)	$f_1$	20	100
Requirement on energy stability (RMS) %	$\sigma_{<E>}$	1	0.6

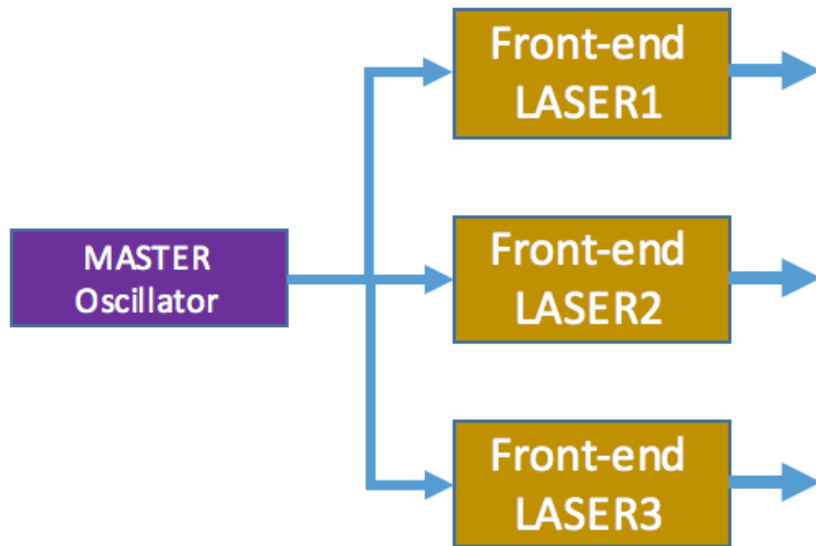
LASER 2 - Injector 1 GeV

Parameter	Label	P0	P1
Wavelength (nm)	$\lambda_2$ (nm)	800	800
Maximum energy on target (J)	$E_{target}$	15	30
Maximum output energy (J)	$E_{out}$	18.8	37.5
Energy tuning resolution (% of targeted value)	$dE$	7	5
Shortest pulse length (FWHM) (fs)	$\tau_2$	30	20
Repetition rate (Hz)	$f_2$	20	100
Requirement on energy stability (RMS) %	$\sigma_{<E>}$	1	0.6

LASER 3 - Driver 5 GeV

Parameter	Label	P0	P1
Wavelength (nm)	$\lambda_2$ (nm)	800	800
Maximum energy on target (J) *	$E_{target}$	50	100
Maximum output energy (J)	$E_{out}$	62.5	125
Energy tuning resolution (% of targeted value)	$dE$	7	5
Shortest pulse length (FWHM) (fs)	$\tau_2$	60	50
Repetition rate (Hz)	$f_2$	20	100
Requirement on energy stability (RMS) %	$\sigma_{<E>}$	1	0.6

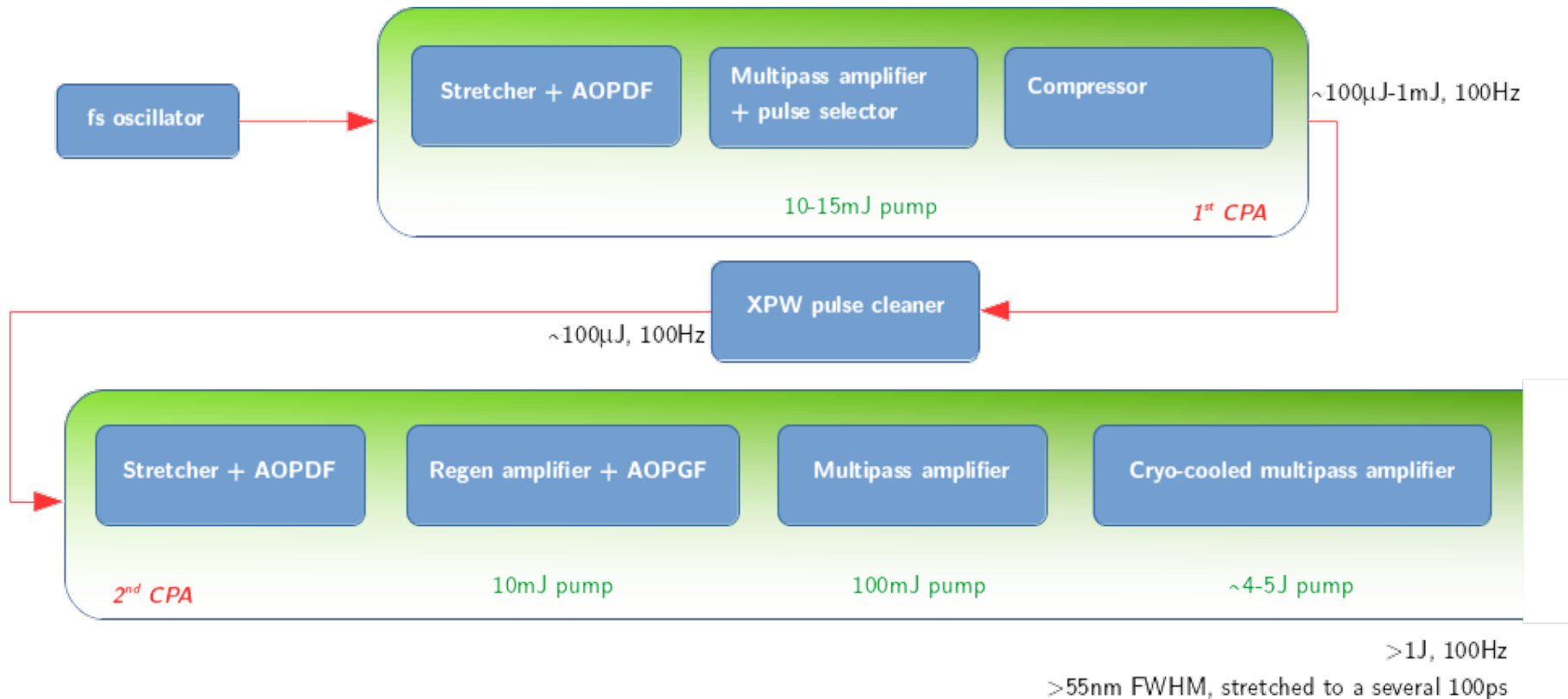
Each laser beamline required independent spectral amplitude/phase control that is carried out in the front-end: EuPRAXIA required three independent front-end sections seeded by the same laser oscillator independently as per the requirements of the seeding of each of the three amplification chains



- Overall synchronization: single master oscillator, broadband
- Independent adjustment of spectral amplitude for each amplification chain: separate front –ends, with the same architecture
- Pulse energy 1.0-1.5 J
- Stretched pulse duration  $\sim 500$  ps
- Main requirement: high pre-pulse contrast

Each of these front-end will deliver stretched pulses with  $\sim 1$ J energy to the subsequent amplification stages

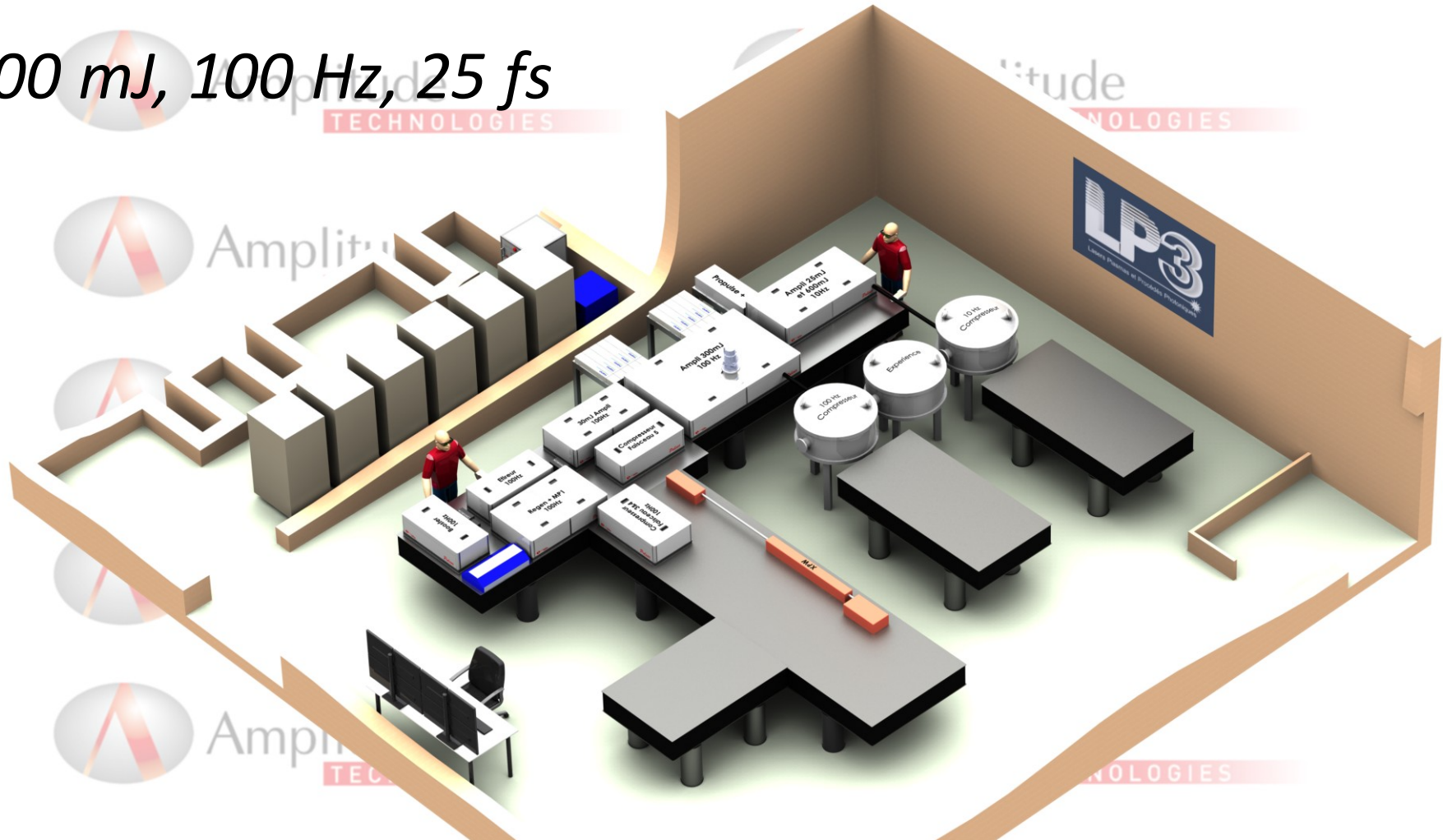
State of the art components to ensure pulse energy for the main amplifiers with large bandwidth (short pulse duration), control of spectral phase, high contrast ...



Starting from existing industrial systems at 100 Hz



*300 mJ, 100 Hz, 25 fs*



## Design guidelines

- Modularity: possibility to use the same amplification stages in the different laser chains
- Scalability: possibility to upgrade from P0 to P1 performance level, “simply” by increasing pump energy and rep rate (conservative design at P0)
- **High extraction efficiency (esp. at P1) to reduce pump energy requirements**
- **Thermal management issues**

## Methodology

- Evaluation of the amplification parameters (energy, spectrum, beam size, stability, parasitic lasing) with numerical simulations (MIRO - CEA);
- Validation of modelling with existing systems up to multi-J level;
- Preliminary thermomechanical evaluation by means of FEA simulations (LAS-CAD);

## Results

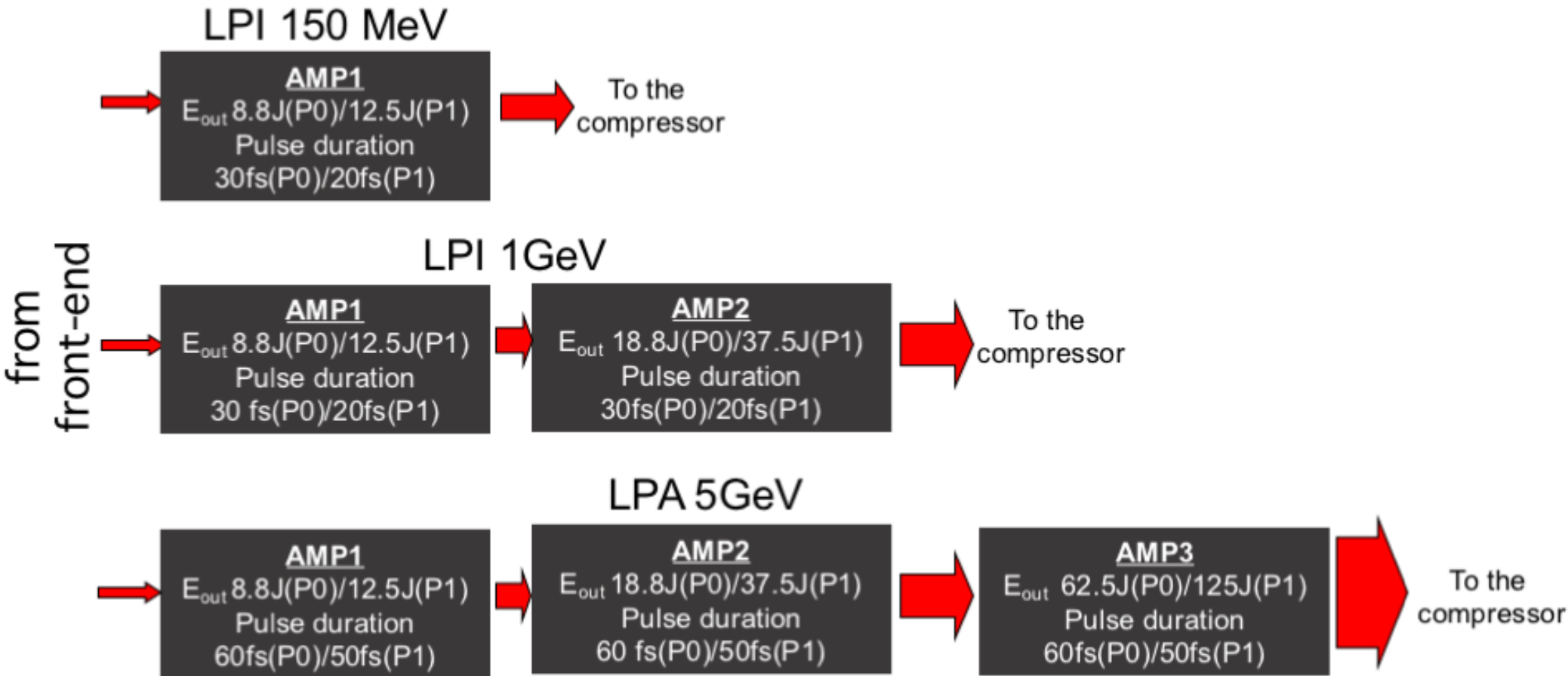
- Main parameters for each stage: pump energy, extracted energy, beam size, spectral shift, parasitic gain
- Energy stability vs pump and seed energy fluctuations
- Evaluation of thermal aberrations
- Cooling strategies: liquid flow cooling
- ASE/PL mitigation strategies: Extraction during pumping

This section contains a comprehensive grid of technical reports and diagrams. Key elements include:

- Tables:** Numerous data tables, such as 'Table 1: Parameters of the laser system', 'Table 2: Characteristics of the laser pulses', and 'Table 3: Comparison of different laser configurations'.
- Diagrams:** Schematic diagrams of laser components, beam propagation paths, and experimental setups.
- Plots:** Graphs showing laser pulse profiles, beam profiles, and performance metrics.
- Textual Content:** Detailed technical descriptions and analysis of the laser design process.

**See also: A viable laser driver for a user plasma accelerator**  
 L.A.Gizzi, P. Koester, L. Labate, F. Mathieu, Z. Mazzotta, G. Toci, M. Vannini  
 NIM (EAAC2017 proc.),2018, in press  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.05546>

Amplifiers' performances modelled to size components and confirm basic estimates





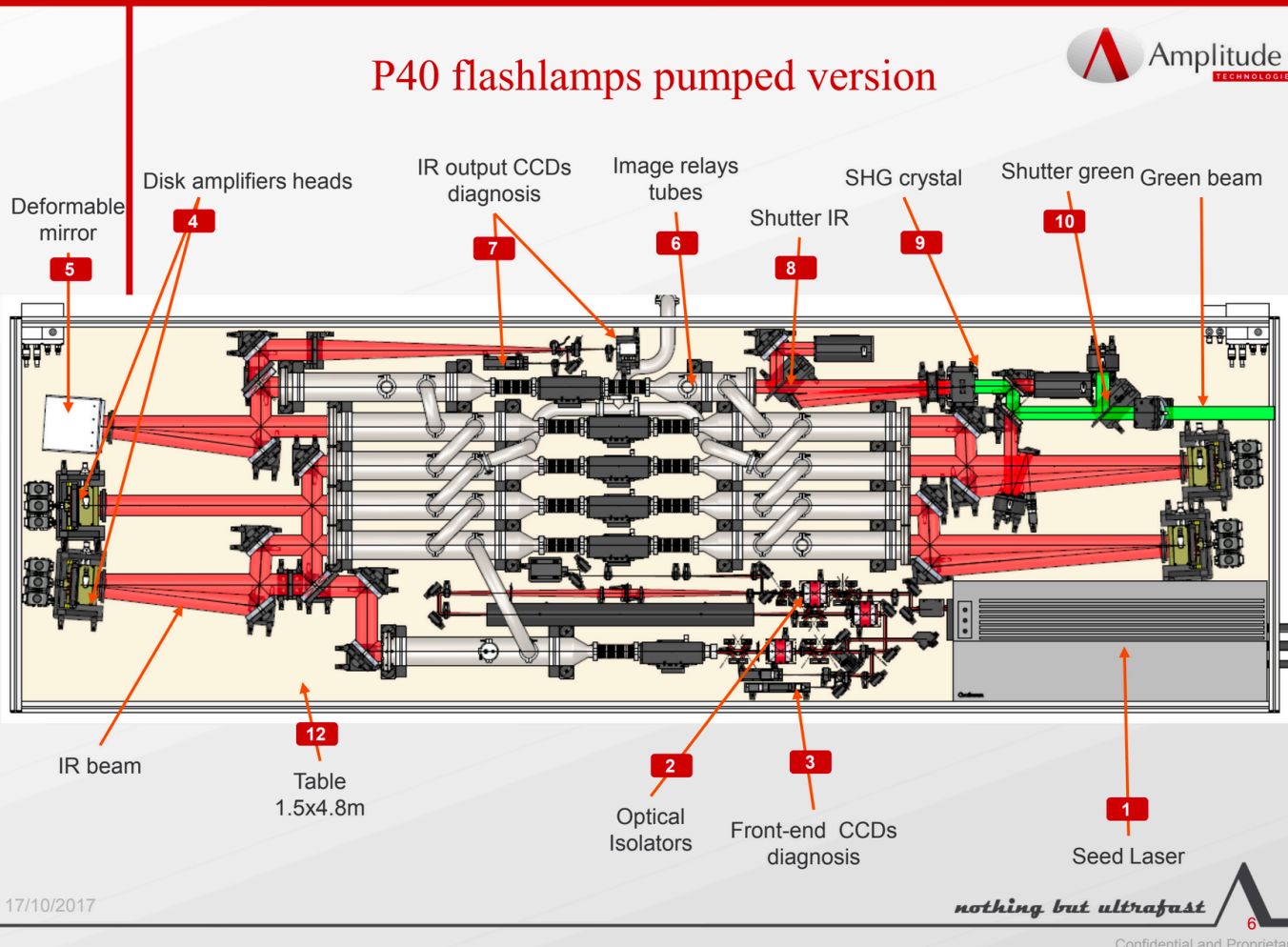
Power amplifiers require high average power pump lasers

	Target E (J)	Out E (J)	PRF (Hz)	Seed E (J)	Design Out E (J)	0.5μm Pulse E (J)	Extr. Eff. (%)	<P> (532 nm) (kW)	Thermal Load (kW)	IR Pulse E (J)	<P> (1μm) (kW)
LASER1 (AMP1) P0	7,0	8,8	20	1,5	8,9	19,2	39	0,4	0,2	27,4	0,5
LASER1 (AMP1) P1	10,0	12,5	100	1,5	12,7	25,7	44	2,6	1,3	36,7	3,7
LASER2 (AMP2) P0	15,0	18,8	20	6,3	19,1	37,2	35	0,7	0,4	53,1	1,1
LASER2 (AMP2) P1	30,0	37,5	100	8,8	37,5	65,2	44	6,5	3,3	93,1	9,3
LASER3 (AMP3) P0	50,0	62,5	20	18,8	62,4	105,0	42	2,1	1,1	150,0	3,0
LASER3 (AMP3) P1	100,0	125,0	100	37,5	126,0	197,0	45	19,7	9,9	281,4	28,1

Total fundamental wavelength average power estimates ranges from **5 kW** (20 Kz) to **40 kW** (100 Hz)

## Industrial unit (P60): conversion to diode pumping fully designed

### P40 flashlamps pumped version



Flashlamp pumped Nd:YAG/  
**DPSSL possible**  
**80 J** output energy demonstrated  
 @ 10 Hz, 1064 nm  
 60 J SHG energy @ 532 nm :  
 design target (**40 J** demonstrated)

- Cost of diode still an issue – currently 5x total (including operational) costs compared to flashlamps.
- Expected to decrease in 5-10 yrs.
- Maintenance free operation for 25-30 yrs.

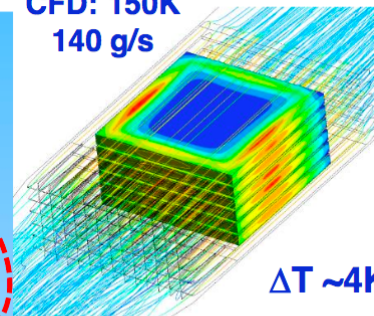
- 6 x Yb:YAG slabs
- 4-pass relay-imaging design
- NF, FF diagnostics on each pass



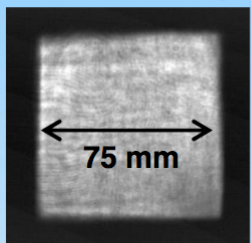
120 mm square  
8.5 mm thick

Konoshima Chemical Co.,Ltd.

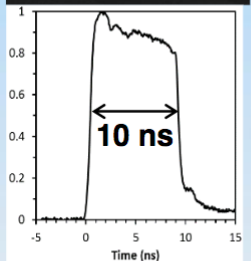
CFD: 150K  
140 g/s



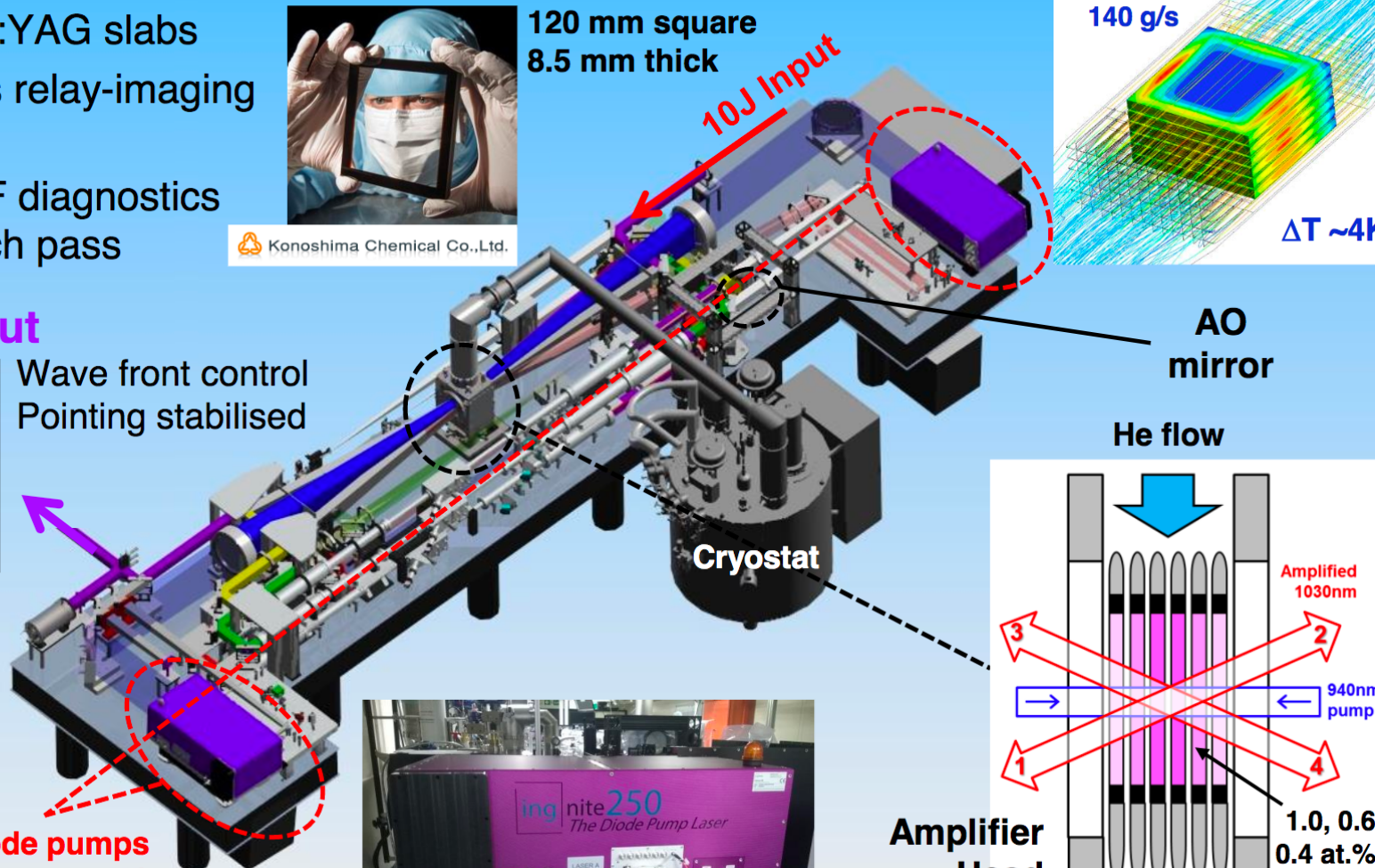
## 100J output



Wave front control  
Pointing stabilised

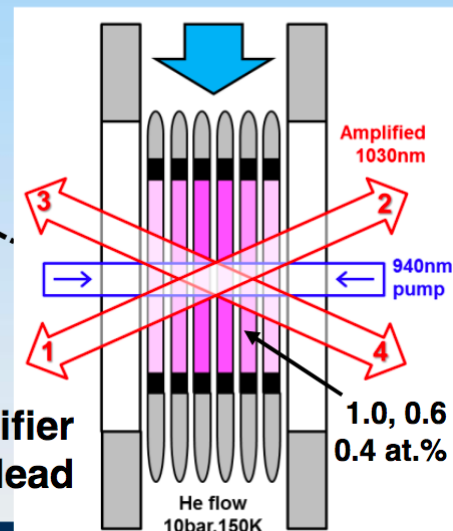


Diode pumps  
(2 x 280 kW)



ingeneric

Amplifier  
Head



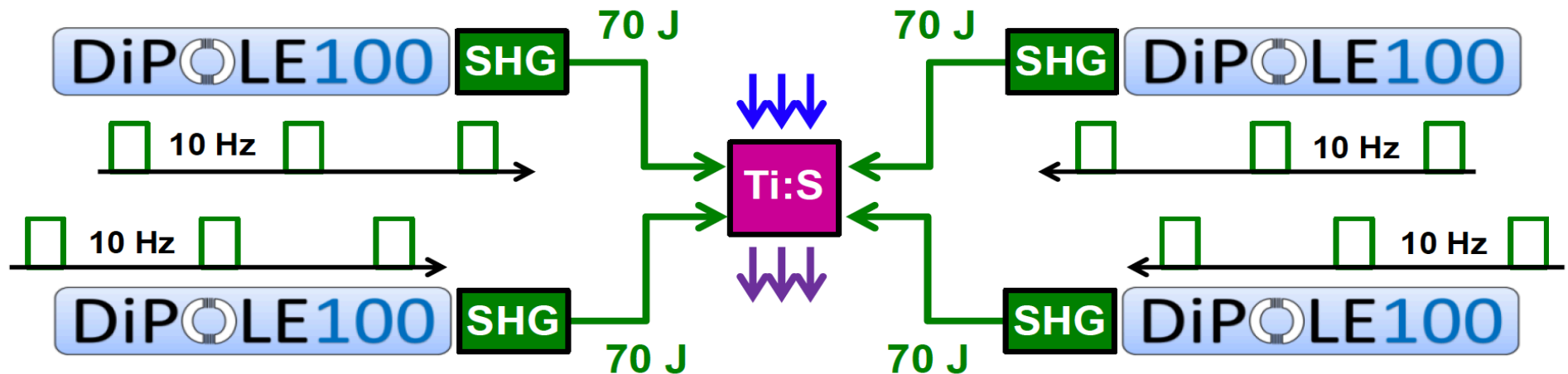
Parameter	L1	L2	L3
<b>Pulse rate (Hz)</b>	<b>20 (100)</b>	<b>20 (100)</b>	<b>20 (100)</b>
<b>Wavelength</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>515</b>
Energy (J)	19 (26)	37 (65)	105 (200)
Power (kW)	0.4 (2.6)	0.7 (6.5)	2.1 (20)
Conversion	70%	70%	70%
<b>Wavelength</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>1030</b>
Energy (J)	27 (37)	53 (93)	150 (280)
Power (kW)	0.5 (3.7)	1.1 (9.3)	3.0 (28)
Extraction	25%	25%	25%
<b>Diode</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>940</b>
Power (kW)	2.0 (15)	4.4 (37)	12 (112)

**DiPOLE**

**Building blocks exist (or available in near future) for Baseline performance**

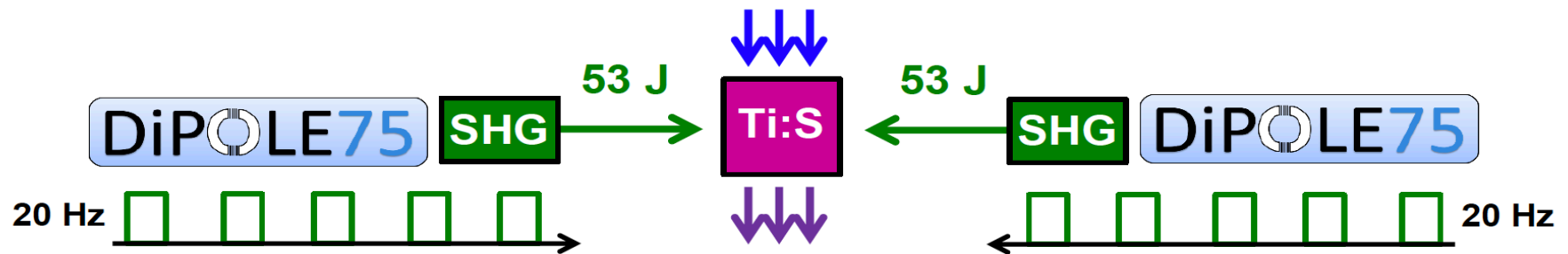
P. Mason, M. Divoký, K. Ertel, J. Pilar, T. Butcher, M. Hanuš, S. Banerjee, J. Phillips, J. Smith, M. D. Vido, A. Lucianetti, C. Hernandez-Gomez, C. Edwards, T. Mocek, J. Collier, Kilowatt average power 100j-level diode pumped solid state laser, Optica 4 (4) (2017) 438–439

- L3 Baseline: 105 J @ **515 nm**, 20 Hz
  - Interleave 4 x DiPOLE100 @ 10 Hz
- 140 J @ **515 nm**, 20 Hz





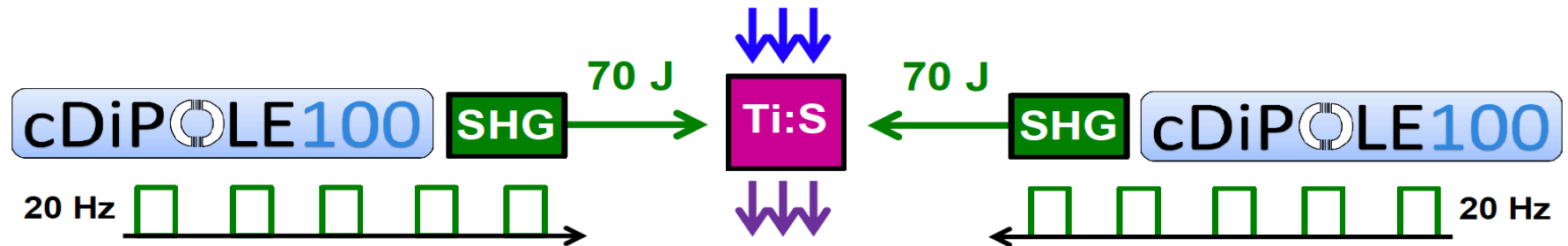
- L3 Baseline: 105 J @ **515 nm**, 20 Hz
  - DiPOLE150 @ 10 Hz (4.1 kW thermal load)
  - 2 x DiPOLE75 @ 20 Hz
- 105 J @ **515 nm**, 20 Hz



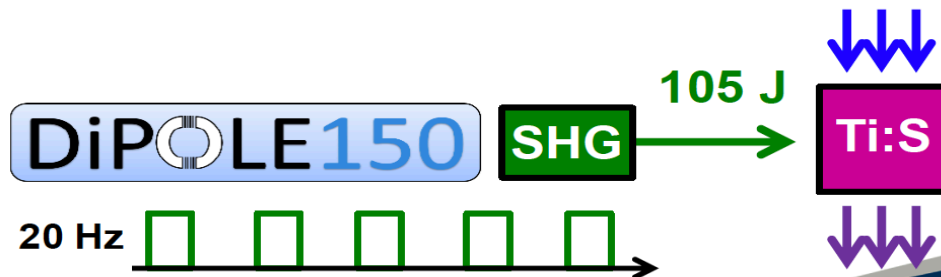
- L3 Baseline: 105 J @ **515 nm**, 20 Hz
  - Operate @ higher fluence  $\Rightarrow$  reduce aperture
  - Higher gain  $\Rightarrow$  fewer amplifier stages
  - Relax beam quality  $\Rightarrow$  higher thermal load ( $P_{avg}$ , PRF)
  - 2 x compact-DiPOLE100 @ 20 Hz (5.5 kW load)

**Compact**

**Simpler  
& more  
affordable**



or 1 x DiPOLE150 @ 20 Hz (8 kW load)



## FBH brilliant high duty cycle pump: small-series prototype

Novel chip, carrier



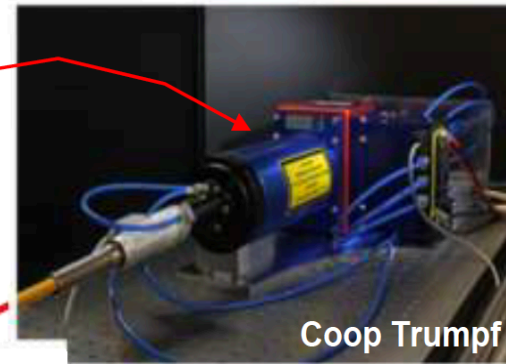
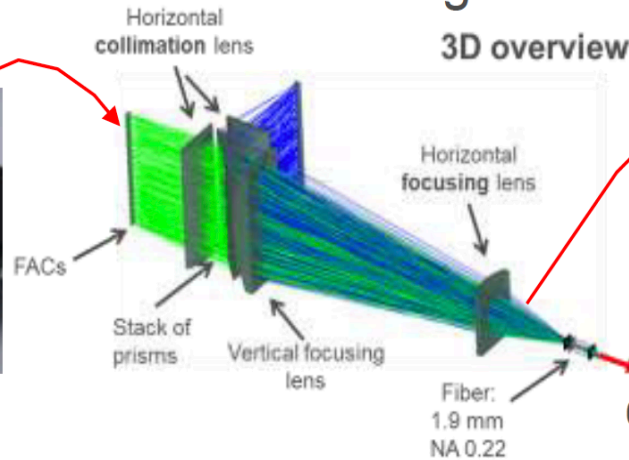
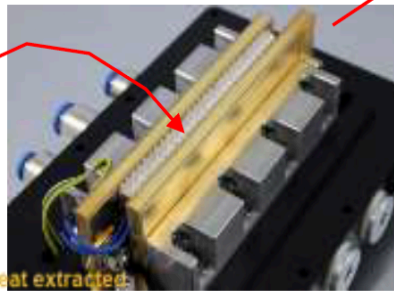
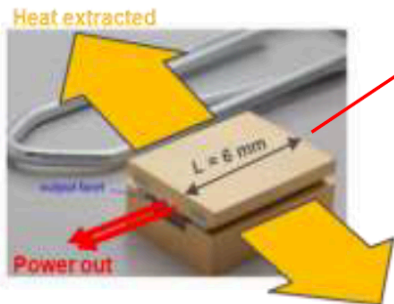
Novel passive Side cooler



Custom beam forming



Brilliant, high duty cycle fibered module



130W from 1.2mm  
Peak: ~ 245 W  
60% efficiency  
2x brighter than bars

1...20% DC  
1...100ms  
Passive cooling

6 kW 60% efficiency  
 $M^2 \sim 300 \times 300$

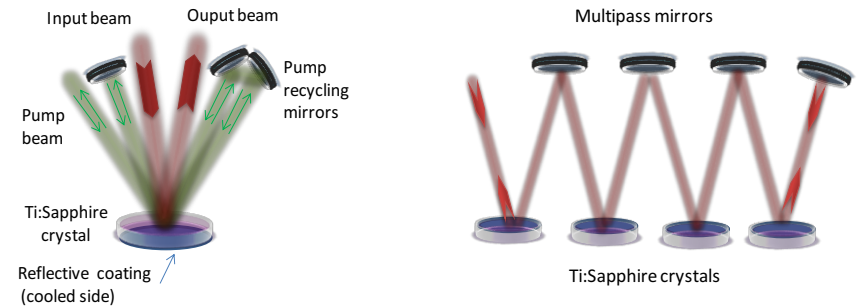
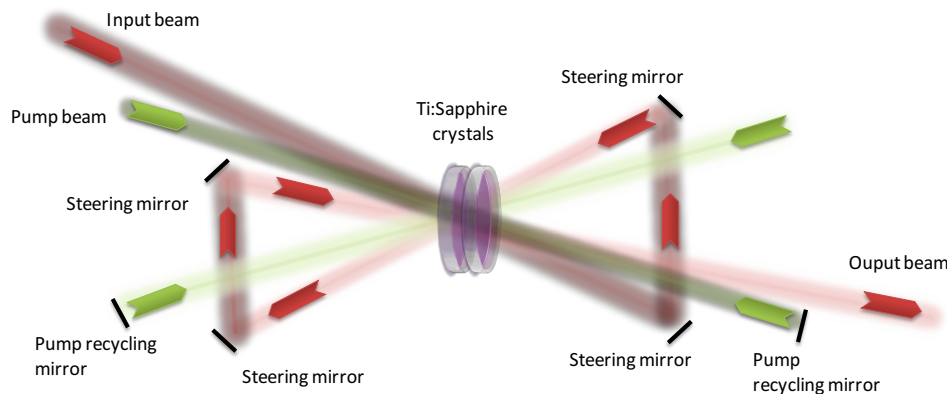
1.4 MW/cm<sup>2</sup>-sr  
50% efficiency  
 $M^2 \sim 700$

**6 units delivered to Max Born Institut, Berlin; 2 in build**

Transmission vs. “active mirror” configuration is currently being evaluated to account for thermal management

## “Active mirror” geometry

### Transmission geometry

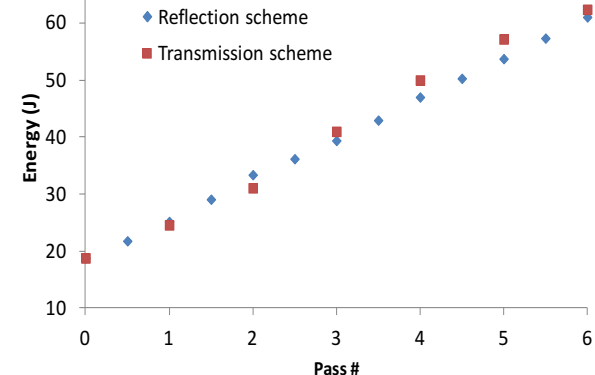


**Pro:** Well established concept with no propagation through cooling fluid  
**Con:** limited cooling (single face), to be modelled

**Pro:** More efficient (double-side) cooling and reduced complexity;

**Con:** propagation through flowing cooling liquid

### Gain comparison (AMP3)



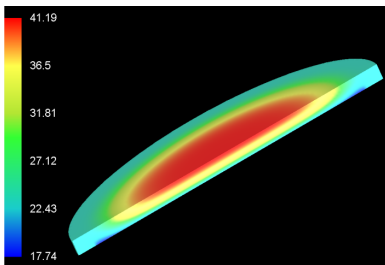
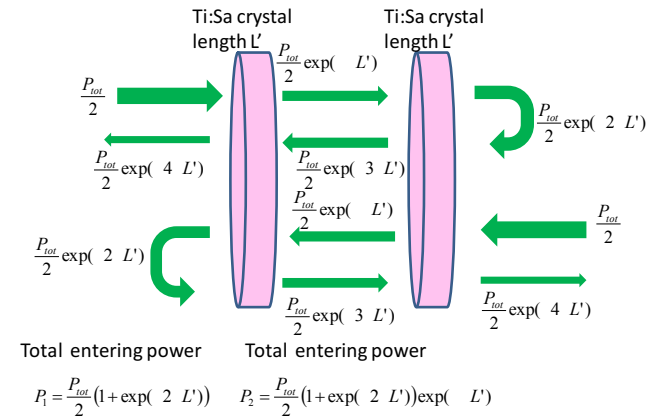
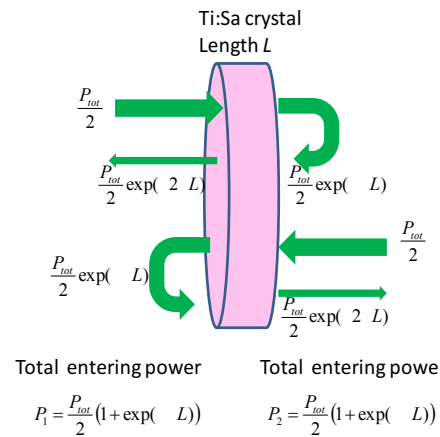
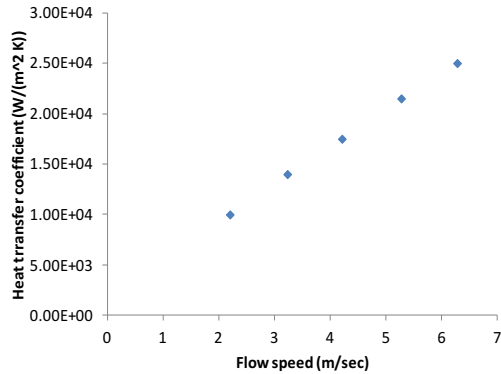
\*) Water cooled Ti:Sa amplifier (“Active Mirror” configuration) under development at ELI-HU (After V. Cvykov *et al.*, Opt. Lett, **41**, 3017, 2016)

\*\*) Fluid (D<sub>2</sub>O) cooled Nd:YAG laser, 20 kW CW pump power, D<sub>2</sub>O (After X. Fu *et al.*, Opt. Express, **22**, 18421 (2014)

\*\*\*) Fluid (Siloxane) cooled Nd:YLF laser, 5 kW CW pump power (After Z. Ye *et al.*, Opt. Express, **24**, 1758 (2016)

Transmission vs. “active mirror” configuration is currently being evaluated to account for thermal management

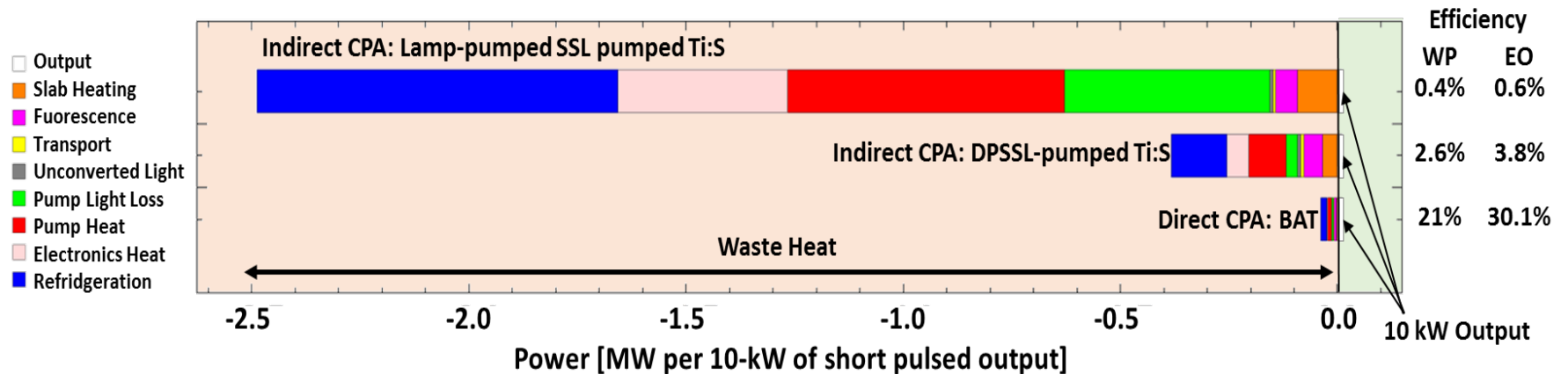
## Water cooling



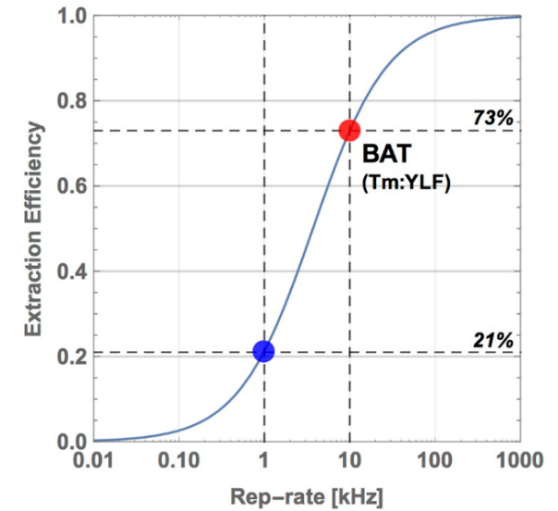
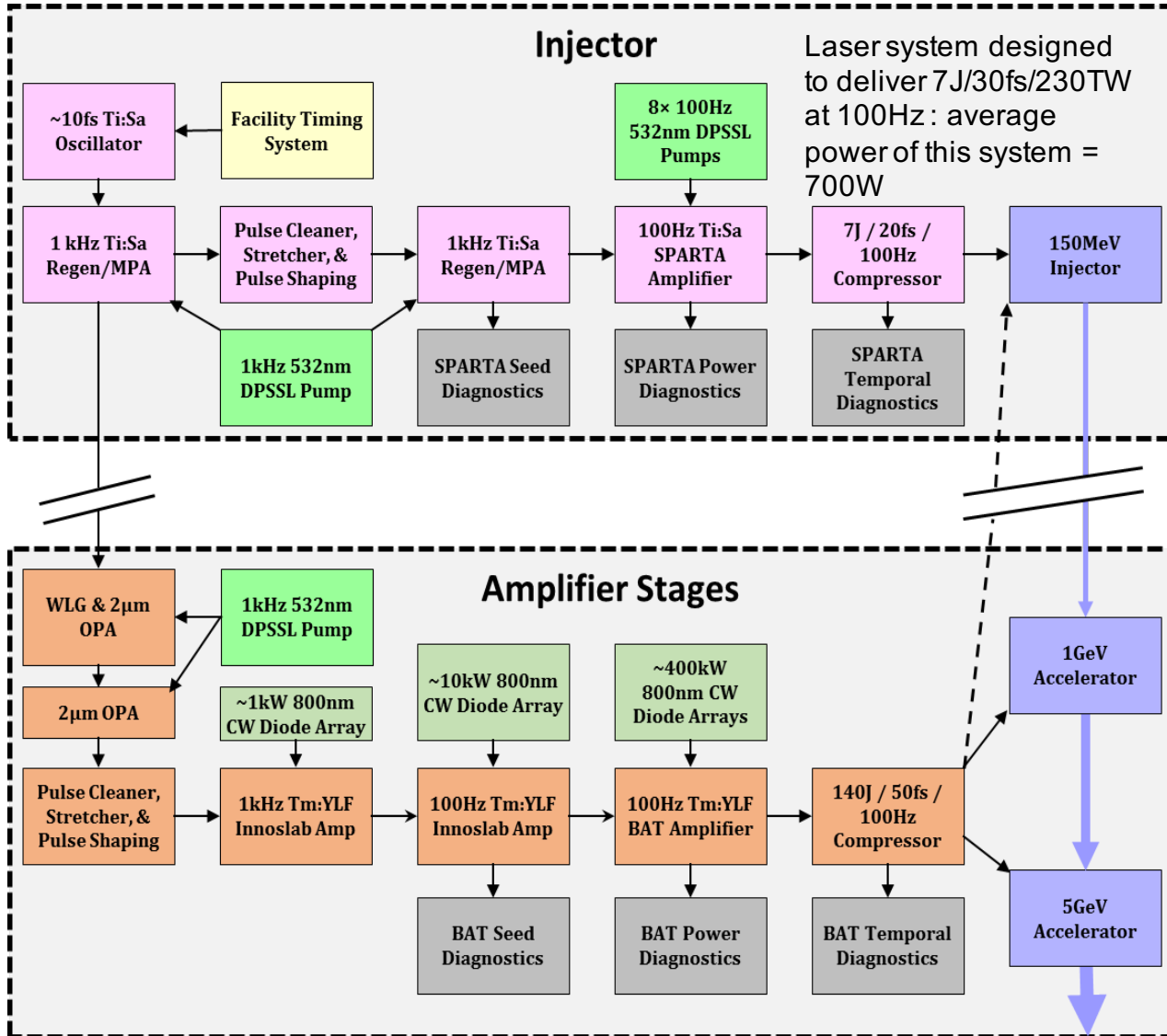
Both cooling schemes are capable of reducing the transverse temperature gradients to manageable values.



## Direct CPA (required for >100Hz) - energy efficient.

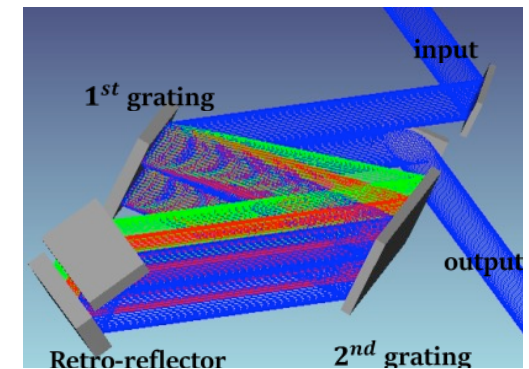
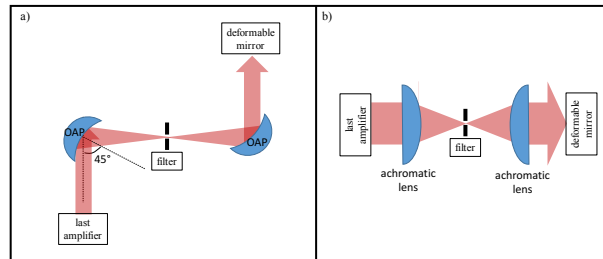
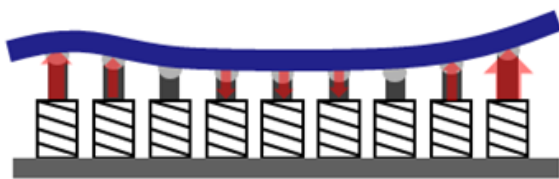
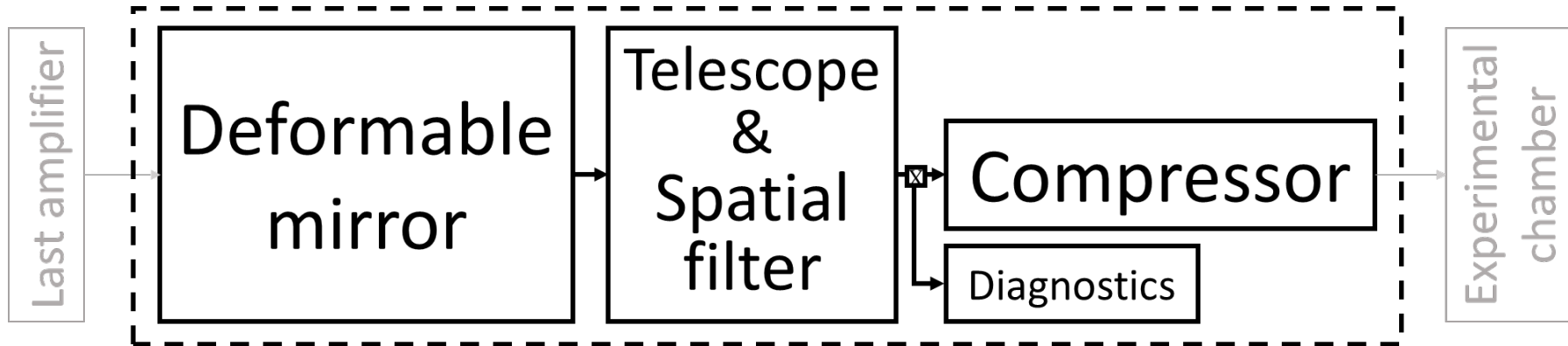


## Tm:YLF: Big-Aperture-Thulium Laser (BAT\*)



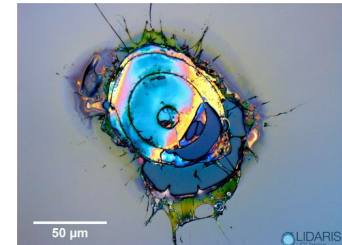
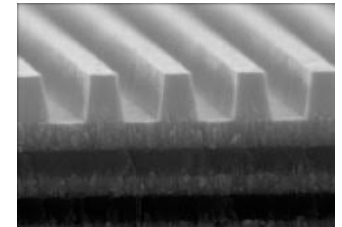
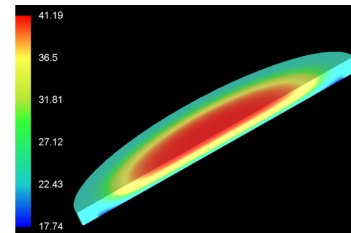
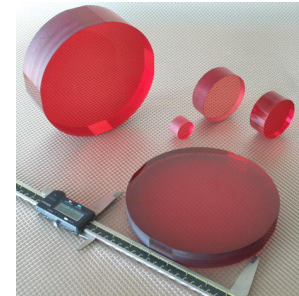
- Central wavelength at 1.9 μm,
- Pulse duration potentially as short as 50 fs
- WPE very high for >10 kHz (<5% at 100 Hz)

Main challenges: large optics, **mechanical stability**, **cooling of gratings**, beam quality control ...



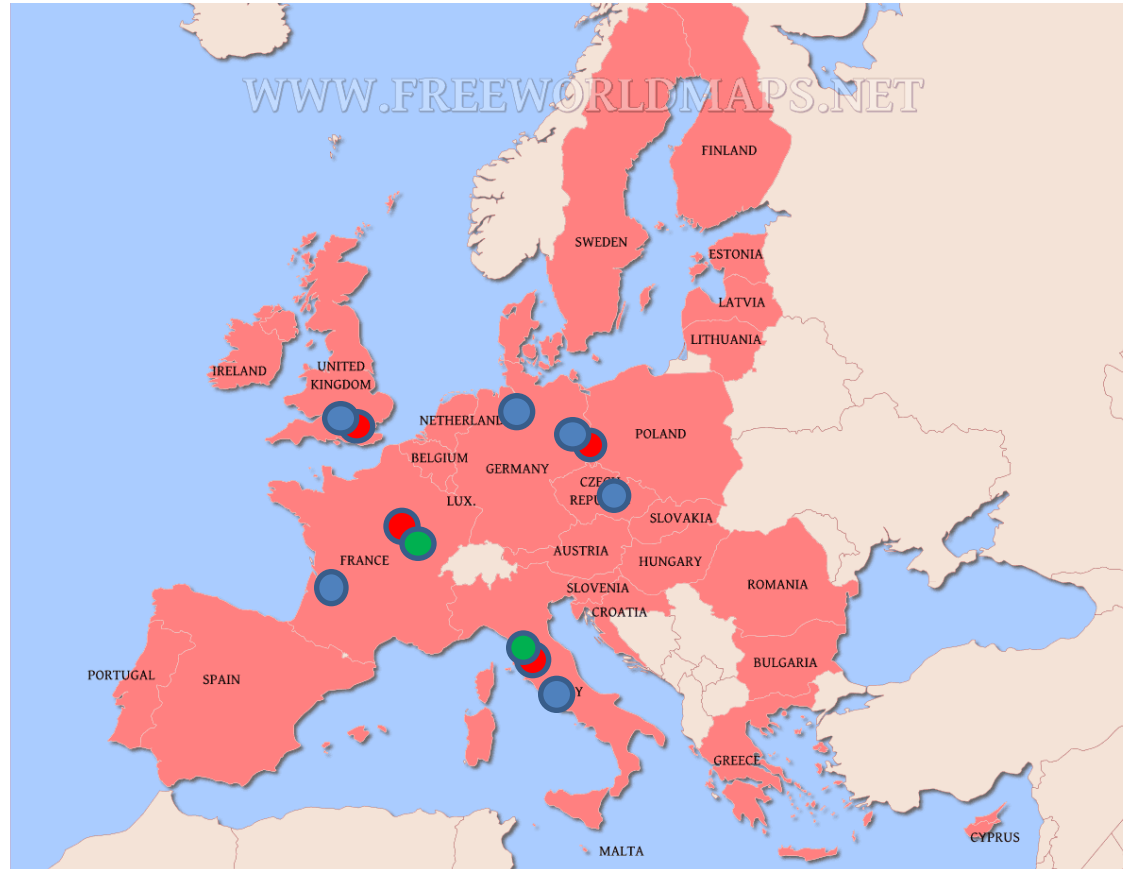
## EuPRAXIA laser relies on industrial development in:

- Pumping technology: diode (direct or indirect) pumping;
- Gain media: material should be industrially available at laser quality, scalable in size and capable of supporting large bandwidth and efficient cooling;
- Grating technology to improve for higher damage threshold and smaller beam size
- Optics Damage threshold
- Thermal load, management, dissipation
- Vacuum technology
- Mechanical stabilization (active and passive);



Major R&D and technology transfer to embed in final systems

A wide collaboration is ready to be involved to tackle open issues





- EuPRAXIA aiming at high quality plasma acceleration;
- PW-kW laser system driver, beyond current state-of-the-art ;
- Design phase ongoing: preliminary Ti:Sa design with existing pump-lasers (P60 with DPSSL, DiPOLE ... );
- Also considering evolution towards higher repetition rate with more efficient (direct CPA) and more scalable architectures (e.g. Tm:YLF).
- Significant development/demonstrators needed to solve standing issues in pumps, thermal management of Ti:Sa, compressor gratings, beam pointing.

## 16 Participants



## 22 Associated Partners

(as of October 2016)

