

Plasma activities at SPARC_LAB

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On behalf of the SPARC_LAB collaboration



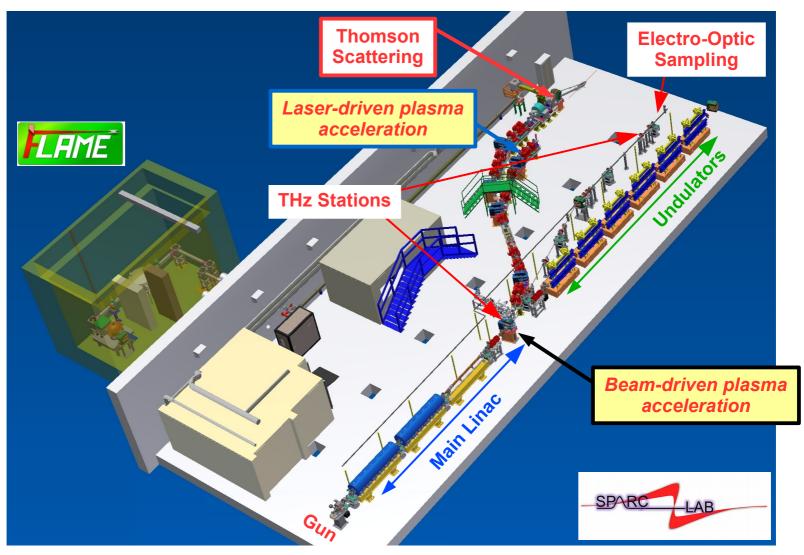
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The SPARC_LAB test-facility





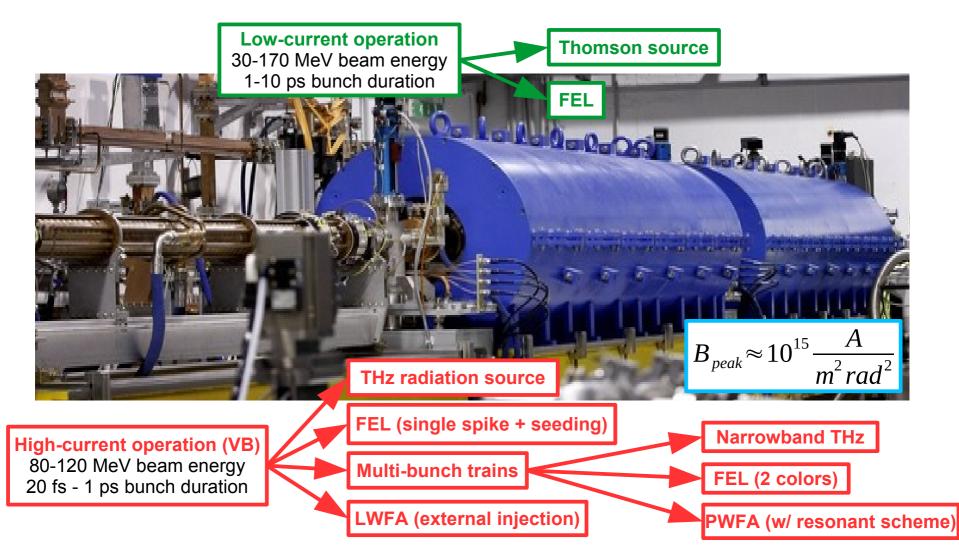
Ferrario, M., et al. "SPARC_LAB present and future." NIMB 309 (2013): 183-188.

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High-brightness photo-injector





Serafini L., Ferrario M. "Velocity bunching in photo-injectors." AIP conference proceedings. 2001. Anderson, S. G., et al. "Velocity bunching of high-brightness electron beams." PRSTAB 8.1 (2005): 014401.



Plasma-based activities



Plasma lens

- Characterization of the focused beam (→ emittance) with active/passive lenses
- Tests with different geometries (short/long capillaries with small/large hole radii)

Plasma dechirper

- Tests with different beam configuration (energy-chirp, charge, duration)
- Complete characterization (→ emittance, energy spread)
- Tests with different geometries (short/long capillaries) and plasma densities

Plasma acceleration

- Deceleration studies (single bunch, different charge and duration)
- Acceleration and characterization of a small-charge witness bunch
- Studies with multi-drivers configuration

Plasma bending

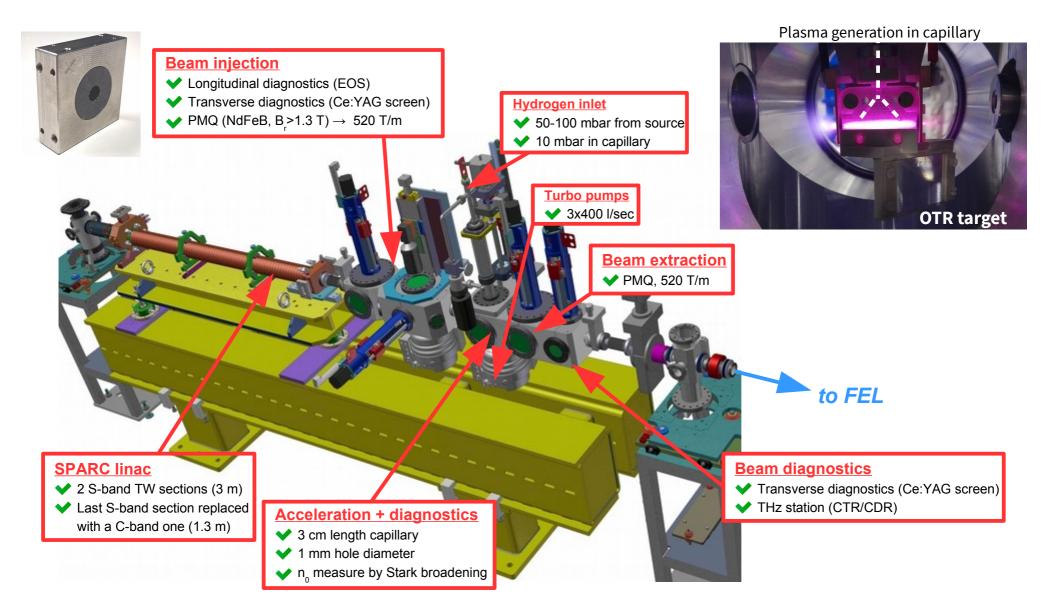
Characterization of curved capillary geometries with large discharge currents (few kA) Proof-of-principle experiment of particle bending



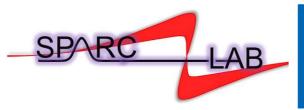


Experimental setup



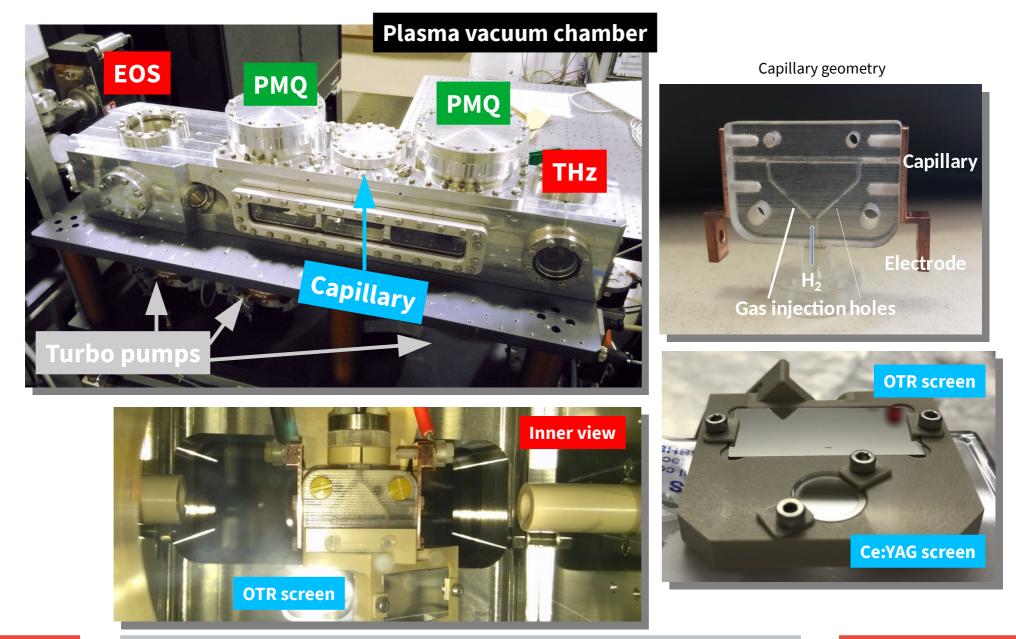






Plasma interaction chamber





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Compact and tunable PMQ triplets



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Three PMQs installed, z-position tunable

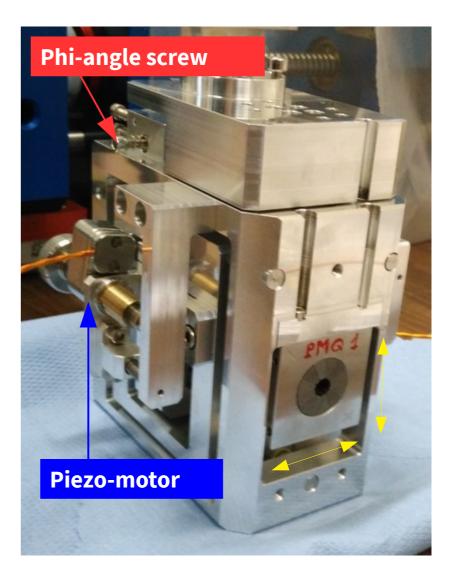
Two PMQs movable, 1 fixed

- Minimum distance ~ 2-3 mm
- Maximum distance ~ 8-10 mm

Piezo-actuators allow to z-move each PMQ

- 20 nm resolution
- Feed force > 40 N
- Holding force > 100 N
- UHV (10⁻⁹ mbar)
- Non-magnetic



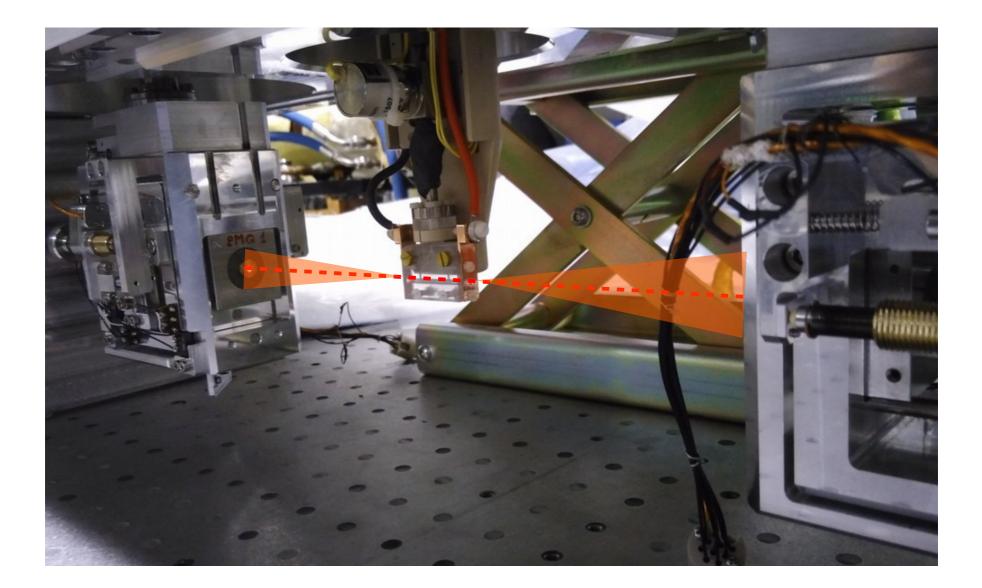


Pompili, R., et al. "Compact and tunable focusing device for plasma wakefield acceleration." Review of Scientific Instruments 89.3 (2018): 033302.



Injection, acceleration and extraction





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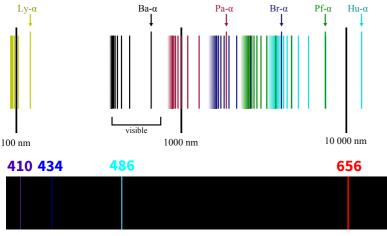


The goal of our activities is to apply plasma technology to new accelerator facilities

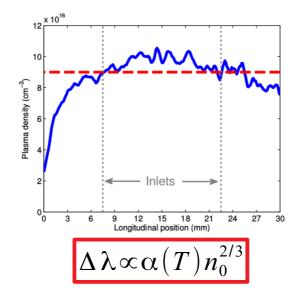
- Provide plasma acceleration (up to several GV/m) while preserving the high-brightness of the accelerated beam (emittance, energy spread)
- Demonstrate the possibility to use active plasma lenses as focusing device

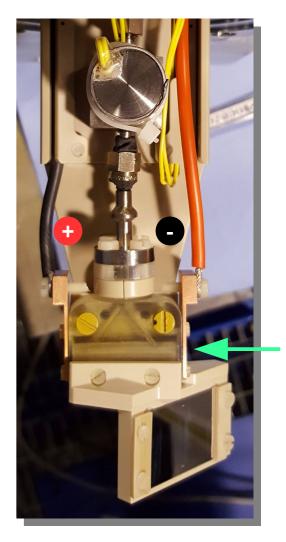
It requires a deep study of the plasma properties and capillary geometry

- Characterization of the plasma density profiles (longitudinal and transverse)
- Shaping of the capillary, use of different materials (sapphire, 3D-printed samples, ...)



Hydrogen emission spectrum lines in the Balmer series





Active-plasma lens



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Discharge-current flowing in a gas-filled capillary

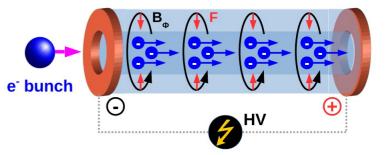
• The gas acts like a conductor between the two electrodes

How it works

- By the Ampere law, an azimuthal magnetic field is induced
 - It radially grows across the current and decreases outside of it
- The capillary radially confine the gas and, thus, the current

Benefits

- Cylindrical symmetry in focusing (like solenoids)
- Favorable focusing strength K~1/γ (like quadrupoles)
- Large focusing gradients (~ kT/m) → short focal length
- Tunability by adjusting the current amplitude



$$B_{\phi}(r) = \frac{\mu_0}{r} \int_0^r J(r') r' dr'$$

Similar to "passive" lenses

This is the real added value!

Panofsky, Wolfgang Kurt Hermann, and W. R. Baker. "A Focusing Device for the External 350-Mev Proton Beam of the 184-Inch Cyclotron at Berkeley." Review of Scientific Instruments 21.5 (1950): 445-447.

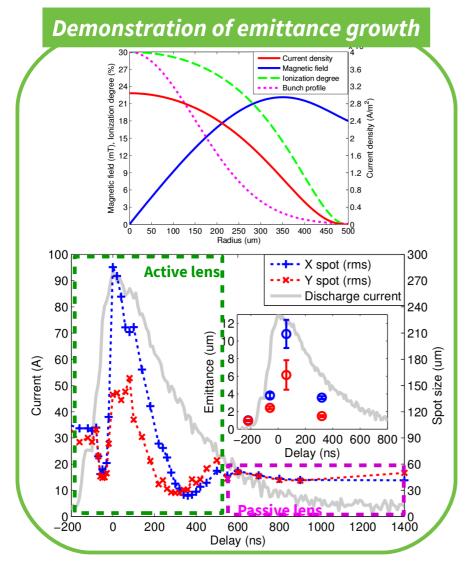
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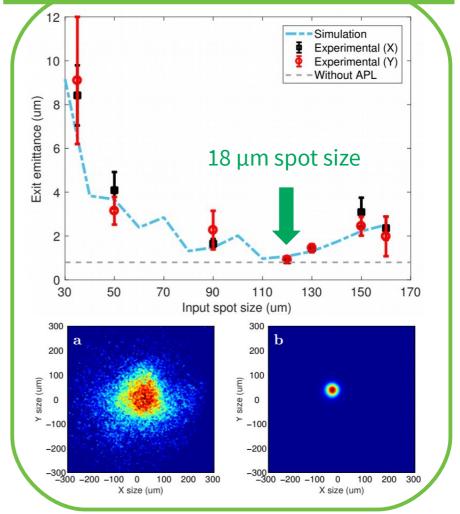
Summary of results @ SPARC_LAB





Pompili, R., et al. Applied Physics Letters 110.10 (2017): 104101. Marocchino, A., et al. Applied Physics Letters 111.18 (2017): 184101.

Demonstration of emittance preservation



Pompili, R., et al. Physical Review Letters 121.17 (2018): 174801.







We have proved for the first time that the nonlinear focusing of an active plasma lens strongly affect the beam emittance

Main findings

Nonlinearities when using low discharge-currents in a partially ionized gas (**100 A** initially)

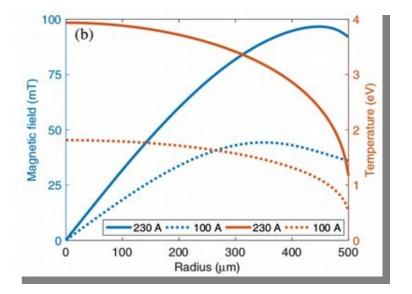
Transverse plasma wakefields (passive lens effect) add more nonlinearities

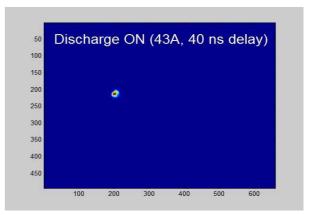
Demonstration of emittance preservation

Active lens: larger currents (**250 A**, now up to **600 A**) produce more linear fields and larger H_2 ionization

Passive lens: low bunch densities are favorable

Next steps: test different capillary geometries







Plasma dechirper



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Working principle



Tuning of the bunch longitudinal phase-space (LPS) through the wakefields excited in a plasma

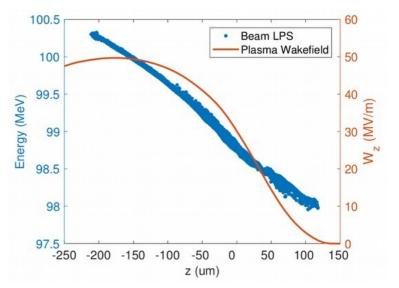
Large wake (up to GV/m) allow to impress a time-energy correlation (\Rightarrow chirp) on the bunch with small structures (cm-size)

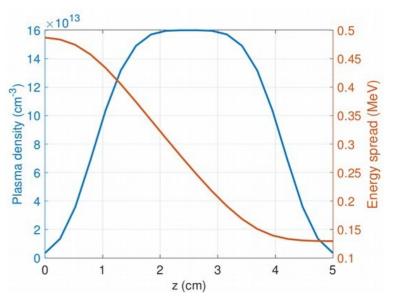
Several knobs can be used

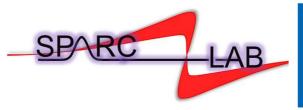
Plasma density (large densities → large wakes)
Bunch density (large densities → large wakes)
Length of the plasma channel (cumulative effect)

Applications

Energy-chirp removal (aka "dechirper") Bunch compressors (R₅₆ in dogleg/chicane beamlines)

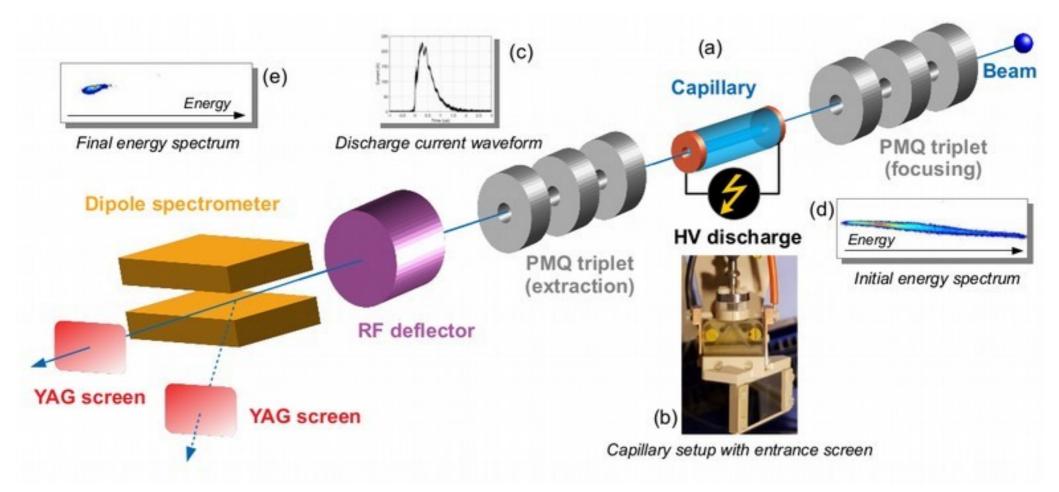


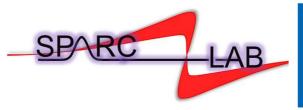




Experimental setup

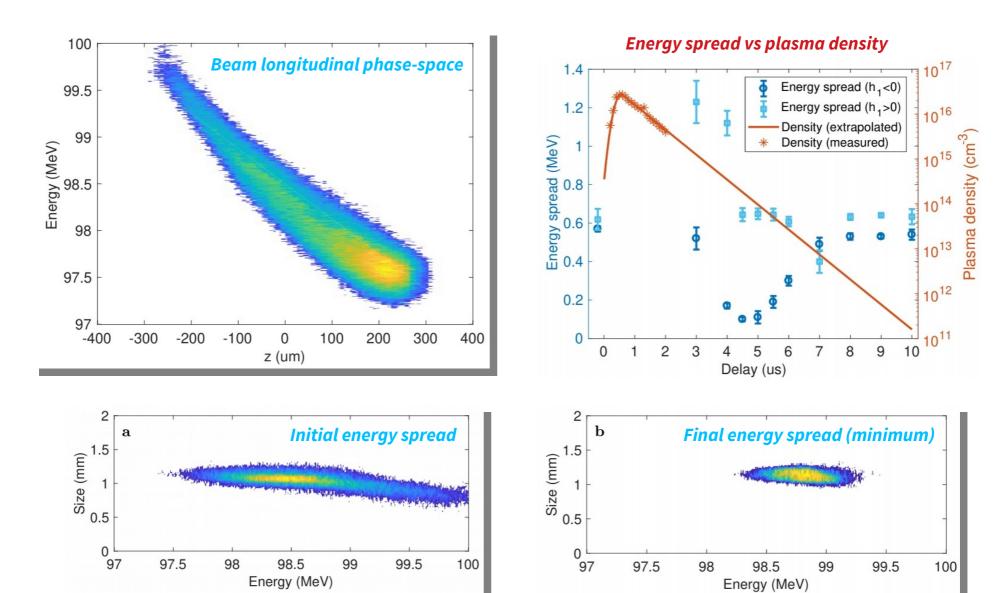






Experimental results





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17/22

Bending with plasma



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Bending magnets are widely employed in accelerator facilities

- Deflect particle beams to a different location, e.g. in experimental beamlines
- Manipulation of the beam longitudinal phase space (LPS), e.g. compression in chicane/dogleg beamlines
- Generation of synchrotron light

Different solutions can be implemented, depending on the beam energy, deflection angle and space constraints

- Electromagnetic dipoles (tunable, simple, cheap; small magnetic fields)
- Permanent magnets (simple, cheap, compact; no tunability, maximum field strength ~1.5 T)
- Super-conducting technology (large fields up to ~10 T, tunable; expensive, large size, needs cryogenic systems)
- Advanced concepts, e.g. channeling in crystals





Active Bending Plasma (ABP) is an extension of the APL mechanism

- The Lorentz force due to the current-induced magnetic field pushes the particles toward the capillary axis
- The same applies in a curved capillary: particles stay close to the bent path
- Plasma can sustain large currents (> 70 kA proved). As an example, 25 kA current pulses (τ~200-300 ns) produce ~6 T magnetic fields

What such a technology can offer

- Compactness. Large deflection angles, no need of cryogenic systems
- Tunability. The bending is tuned by adjusting the discharge-current
- Cheap solution (capillary+discharge pulser)
- Preservation of the beam Longitudinal Phase-Space (LPS) → not possible with devices providing constant magnetic fields

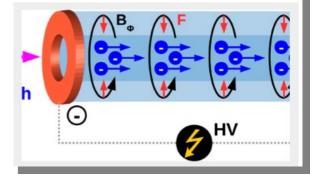


JAN 25 2018

Editor's picks

24/01/19

Guiding of charged particle beams in curved capillary-discharge waveguides Pompili et al.



Pompili, R., et al. "Guiding of charged particle beams in curved capillary-discharge waveguides." AIP Advances 8.1 (2018): 015326.





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The guiding efficiency of the ABP is tested with numerical simulations

The device (simulated by CST Studio)

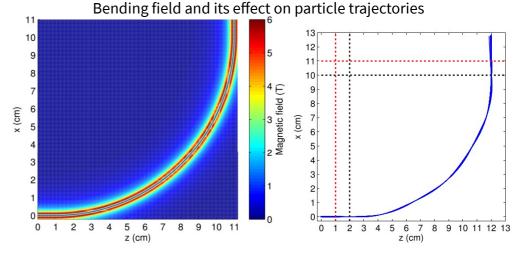
- 10 cm curvature radius
- 1 mm capillary hole diameter
- Filled by H₂ gas (density 10¹⁹ cm⁻³)
- 25 kA current discharge

The beam (simulated by **GPT**)

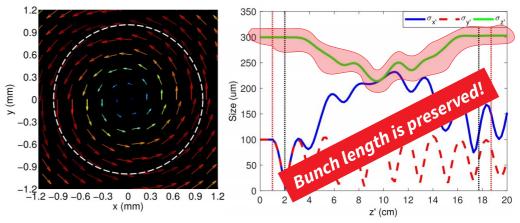
- **100 MeV** (0,1% energy spread)
- $\sigma_{x,y} = 100 \ \mu m, \sigma_z = 300 \ \mu m$

21/22

• 1 µm normalized emittance



Field lines across the capillary and evolution of beam envelopes (x,y,z)



NB: synchrotron emission not included in simulations!



Longitudinal phase space preservation

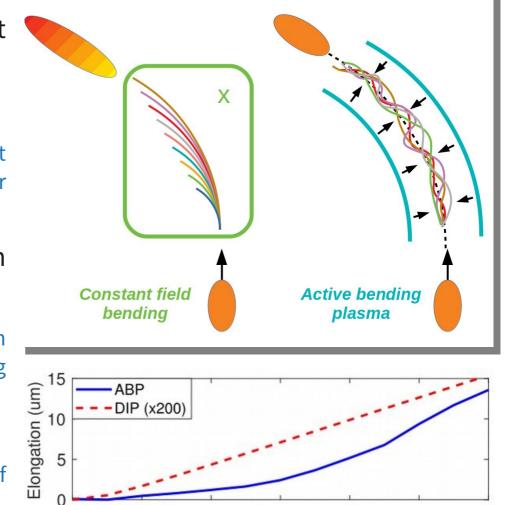


Conservation of bunch length is a direct consequence of ABP working mechanism

- Its magnetic field is radially increasing
- Large energy particles → large offset with respect to the capillary axis → stronger deflection (larger field)

Bunch elongation is negligible even with large energy spreads

- The ABP does not require any manipulation on the beam LPS as in the case of standard bending magnets!
 - No dispersion-matching optics (quads, sextupoles)!
- Simple and affordable solution in view of compact machines.



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Thank you!



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