

# Centro Láseres Pulsados Ultracortos Ultraintensos



**CLPU** CENTRO DE  
LÁSERES  
PULSADOS

 **ICTS**  
Infraestructuras  
Científicas y Técnicas  
Singulares

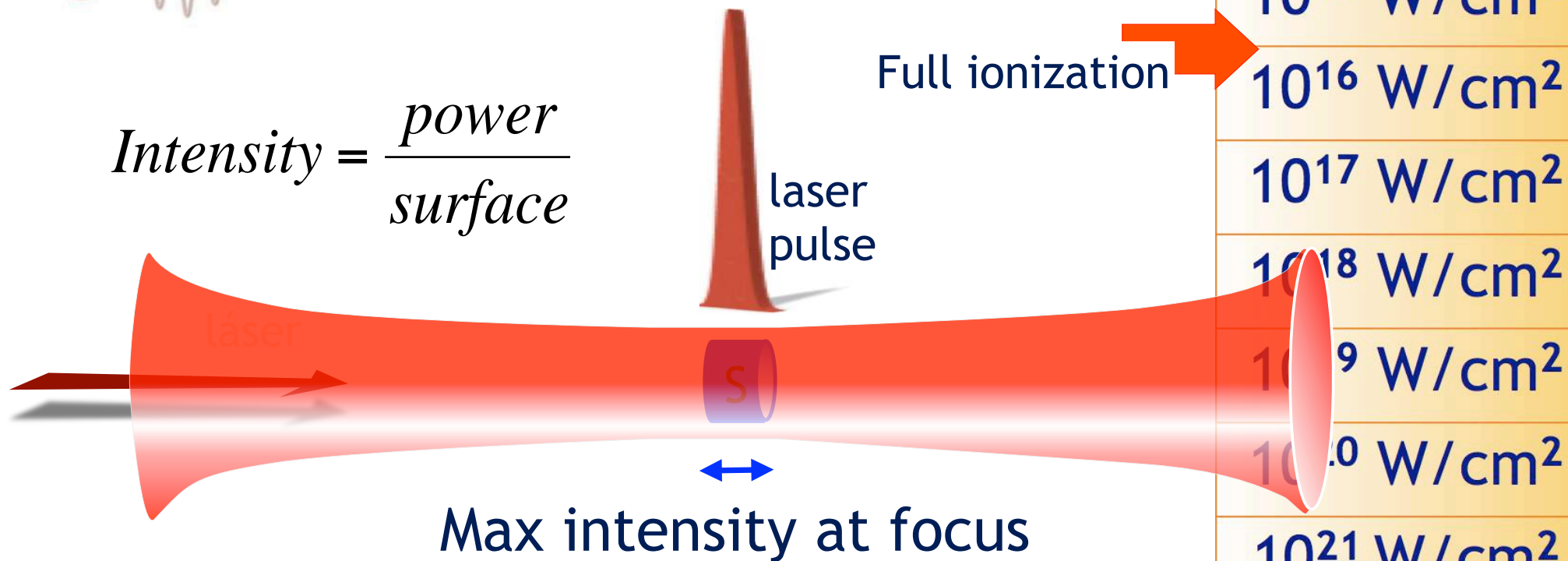
# The VEGA laser



# Intensity is the key parameter



$$\text{Intensity} = \frac{\text{power}}{\text{surface}}$$



$10^{14}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{15}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{16}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{17}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{18}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{19}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{20}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{21}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{22}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{23}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

$10^{24}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

Concentration  
of energy in  
space and time

Today's world record



# ULTRAHIGH-INTENSITY LASERS: PHYSICS OF THE EXTREME ON A TABLETOP

Over the past ten years, laser intensities have increased by more than four orders of magnitude<sup>1</sup> to reach enormous intensities of  $10^{20}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>. The field strength at these intensities is on the order of a teravolt per centimeter, or a hundred times the Coulombic field binding the ground state electron in the hydrogen atom. The electrons driven by such a field

are relativistic, with an oscillatory energy of 10 MeV. At these intensities, the light pressure,  $P = I/c$ , is extreme, on the order of giga- to terabars. The laser interacting with matter—solid, gas, plasma—generates high-order harmonics of the incident beam up to the 3 nm wavelength range, energetic ions or electrons with mega-electron-volt energies (figure 1), gigagauss magnetic fields and violent accelerations of  $10^{21} g$  ( $g$  is Earth's gravity). Finally, the interaction of an ultraintense beam with superrelativistic

By stretching, amplifying and then compressing laser pulses, one can reach petawatt powers, gigagauss magnetic fields, terabar light pressures and  $10^{22}$  m/s<sup>2</sup> electron accelerations.

G rard A. Mourou, Christopher P. J. Barty and Michael D. Perry

time-resolved x-ray experiments in the femtosecond range, or at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) to test nonlinear quantum electrodynamics by the interaction of the high-intensity pulses with superrelativistic electrons.

Some of the new tabletop-laser principles have been implemented on existing large laser systems built

for laser fusion. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Commissariat   l'Energie Atomique (CEA) in Paris, the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in the UK and the Institute of Laser Engineering in Osaka, Japan, have all added subpicosecond pulse capabilities to their nanosecond lasers, pushing their peak power by three orders of magnitude from 1 terawatt to 100–1000 TW.

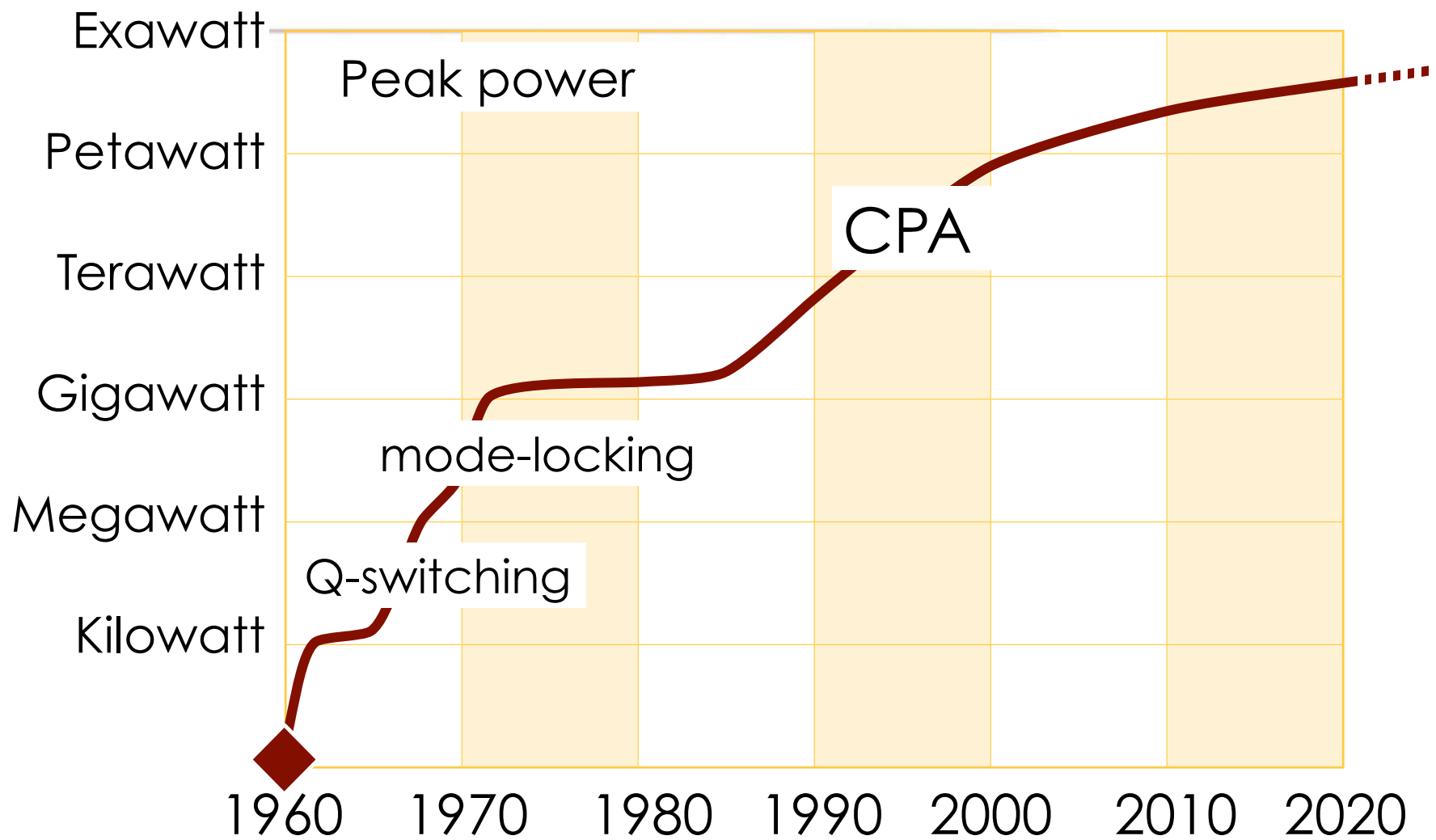
Figure 2 presents the focused intensity of lasers as a



# Extreme lasers

vs

# Big Lasers





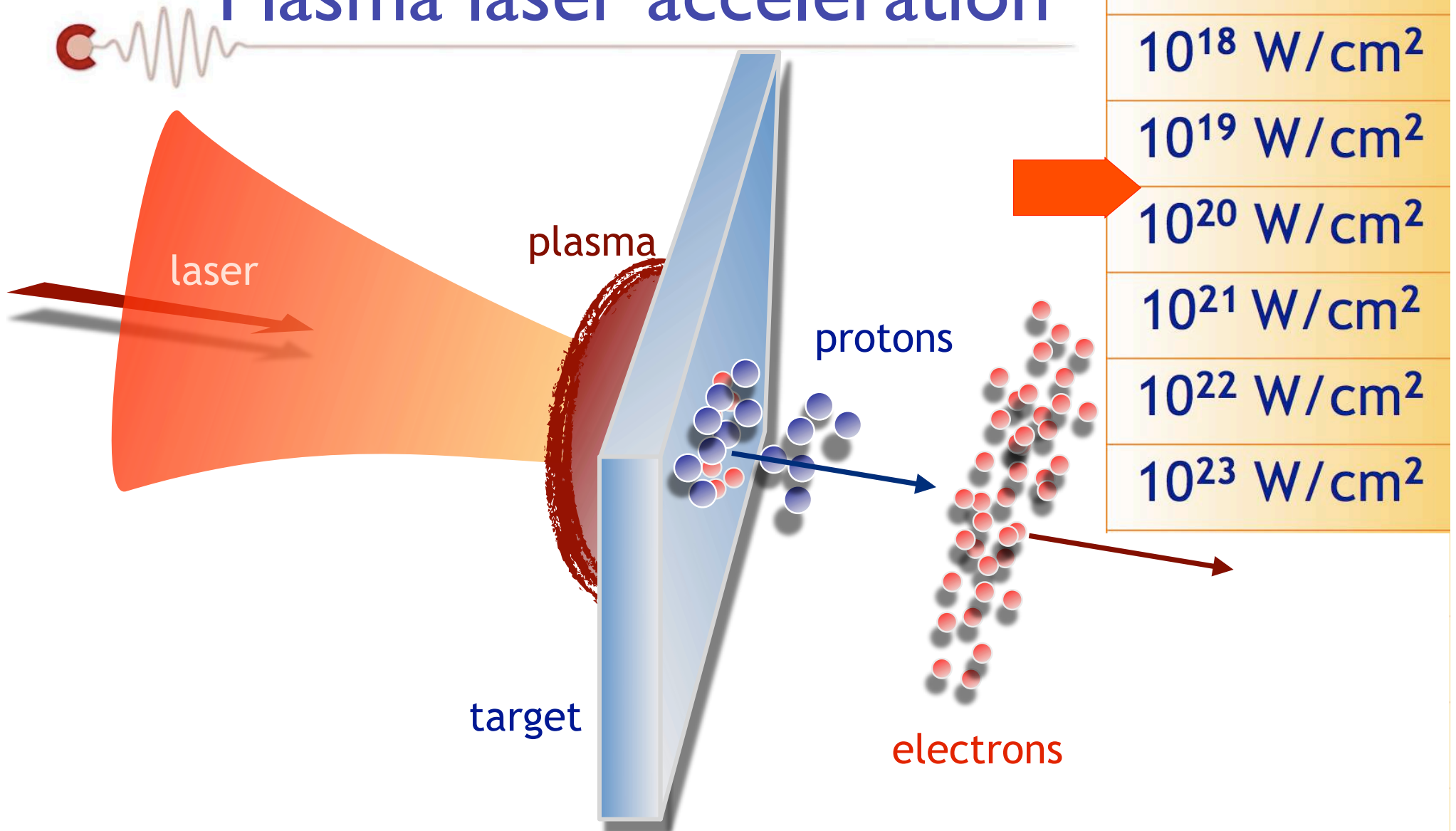
**Extreme  
lasers are not  
too big!!!**



# Plasma accelerators



# Plasma laser acceleration





# Particle accelerators

Ultracompact particle accelerators with extreme fields



Conventional accelerator

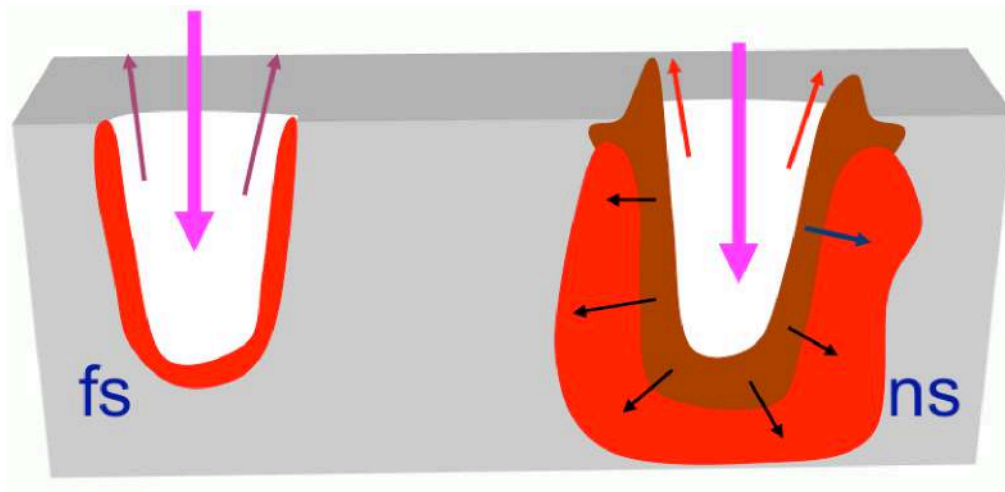
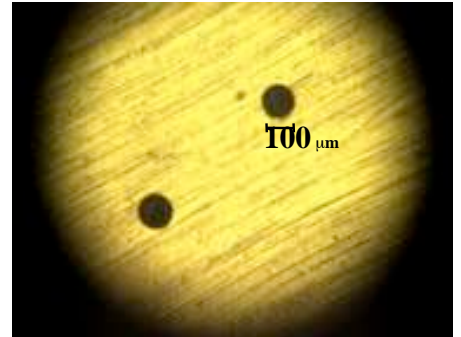
Laser Accelerator  
Wim Leemans, Berkeley



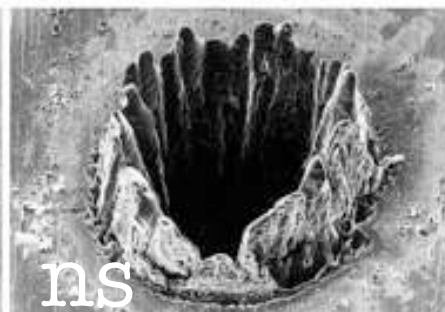
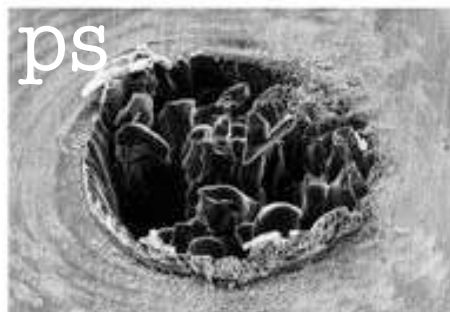


# Femtosecond micromachining

# Micromachining



Pulse duration is fundamental

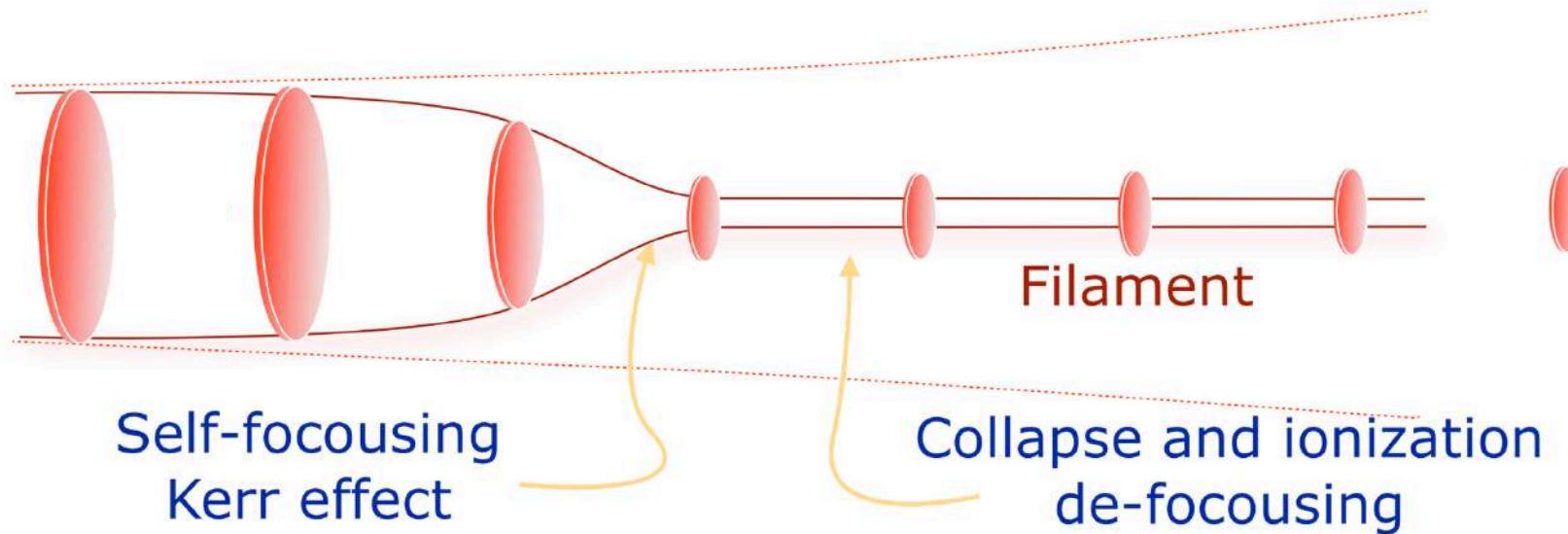


Chichkov et al, Appl. Phys. A 63 (1996)



# Femtosecond filamentation

# Femtosecond laser filamentation



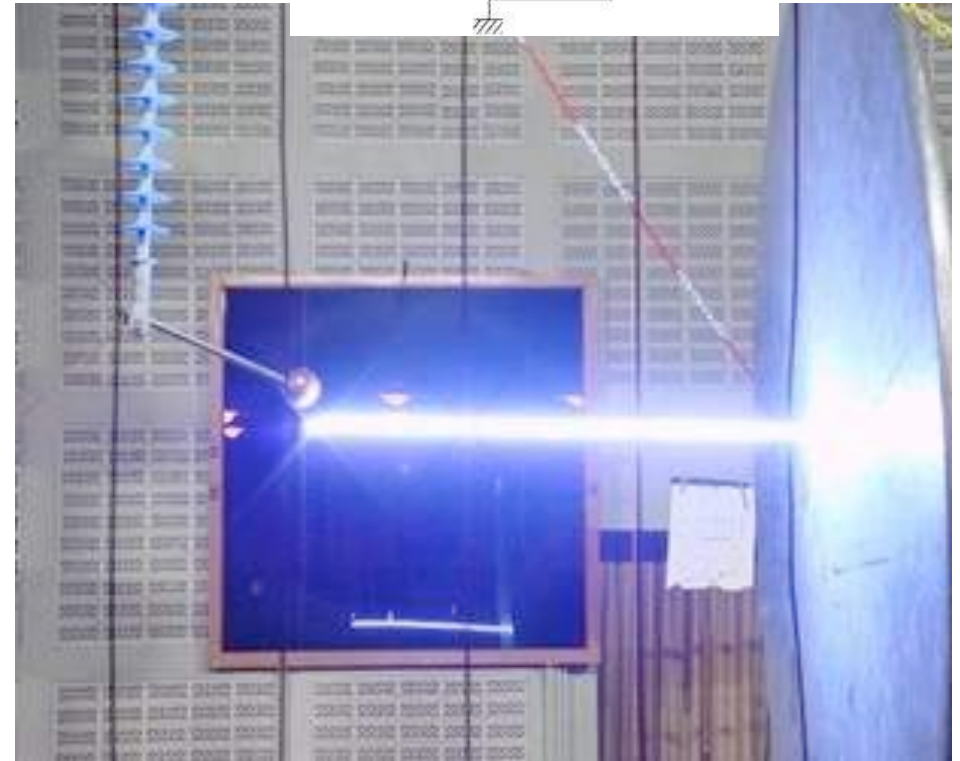
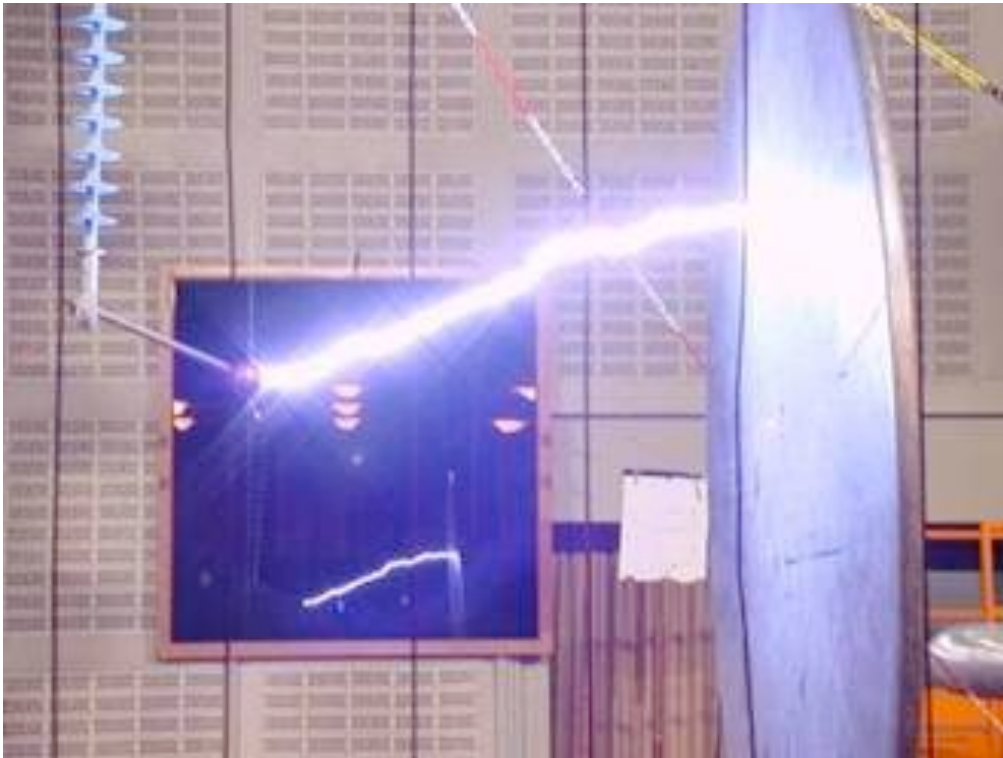
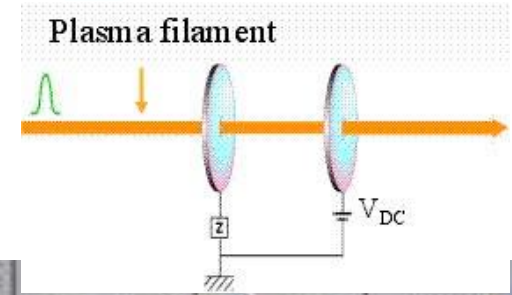
meter

filament diameter  
70 microns  
from S L Chin  
Laval Univ



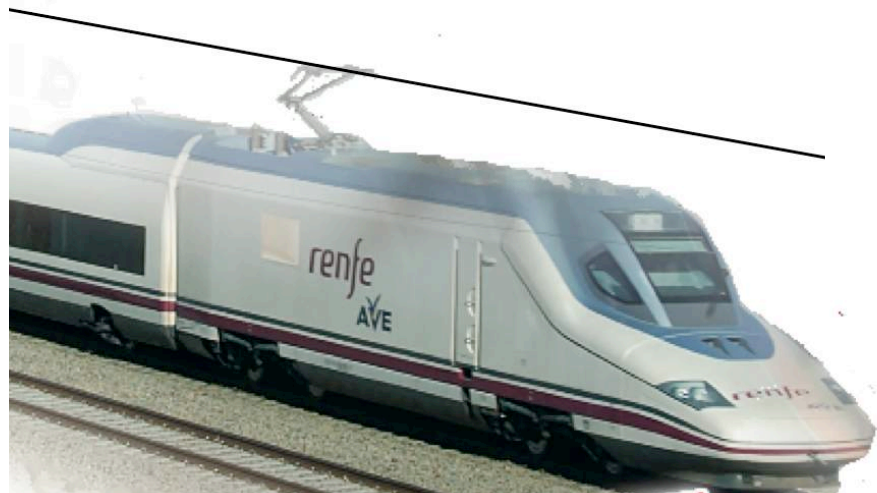
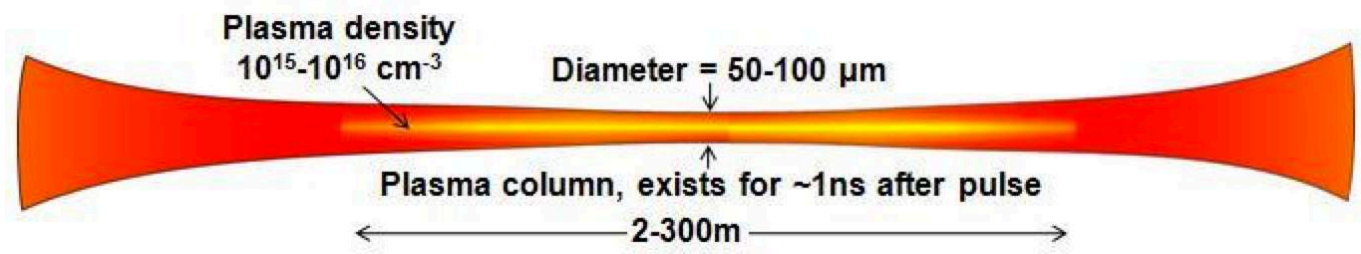
# Electrical discharge guiding

Laser plasma





# Train power supply ...



No need of mechanical contact  
pantograph-catenary



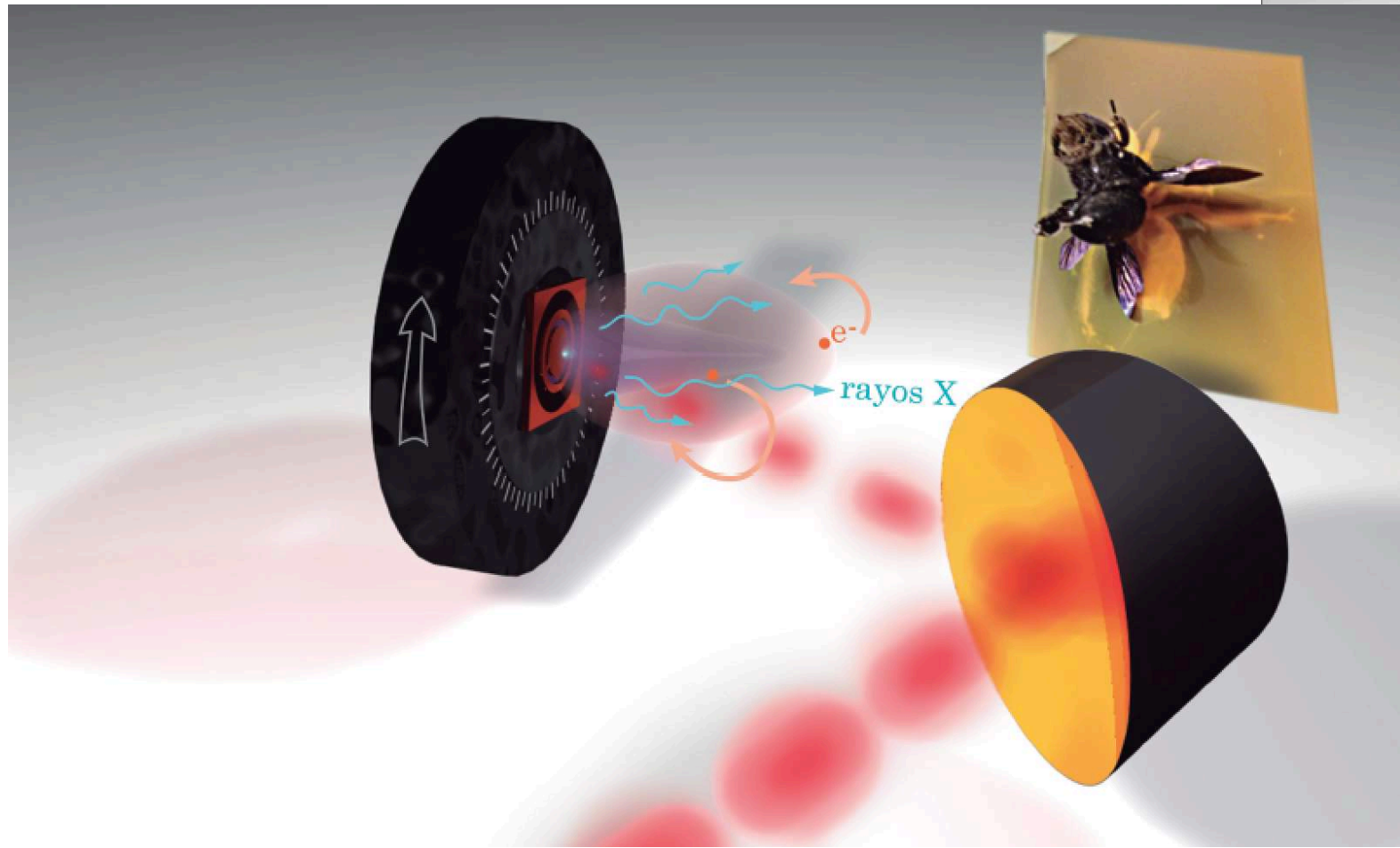



# One application: Laser-induced X-ray sources



# Fran Valle

## X-ray source



	peak power	energy	duration	repetition rate	operation
VEGA 1	20 TW	600 mJ	30 fs	10 / sec	2007
VEGA 2	200 TW	6 J	30 fs	10 / sec	2013
VEGA 3	1 PW	30 J	30 fs	1 /sec	2016
	10 GW	5 mJ	120 fs	1000/seg	2013
	10 GW	< mJ	6 fs	1000/seg	2013



# Proyectos actuales

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Seguridad vial

Faros coche

Materiales

Laser industrial

Security, inspección de mercancías

Redes eléctricas alta tensión

Vacío y ultraalto vacío

Cirugía de precisión

Radioterapia X

Radioterapia protones

Diagnostico PET

Detectores de radiactividad

+ pulsos rayos X

+ attosegundos

+ desarrollo tecnología  
láser (Mauricio Rico)

# The VEGA laser





# Gracias !!!



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[www.clpu.es](http://www.clpu.es)

