

The future of VHEE
medical applications:
what simulations are
telling us.

C. Panaino, F. Avella

THE, Spoke 1, Milestones 1.1, 1.2, 1.6



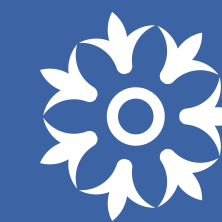
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2. Particle In Cell (Pic) simulations

3. Monte Carlo simulations

3.1 VHEE PDDs database

3.2 VHEE focusing study

3.3 VHEE dosimetric assessment

3.4 OPTIMA: VHEE Treatment Planning System (TPS)

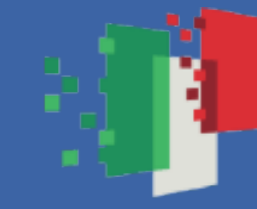
4. Conclusions



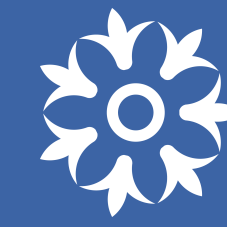
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Very High Energy Electrons

There is a new ingredient on radiotherapy's shelves!



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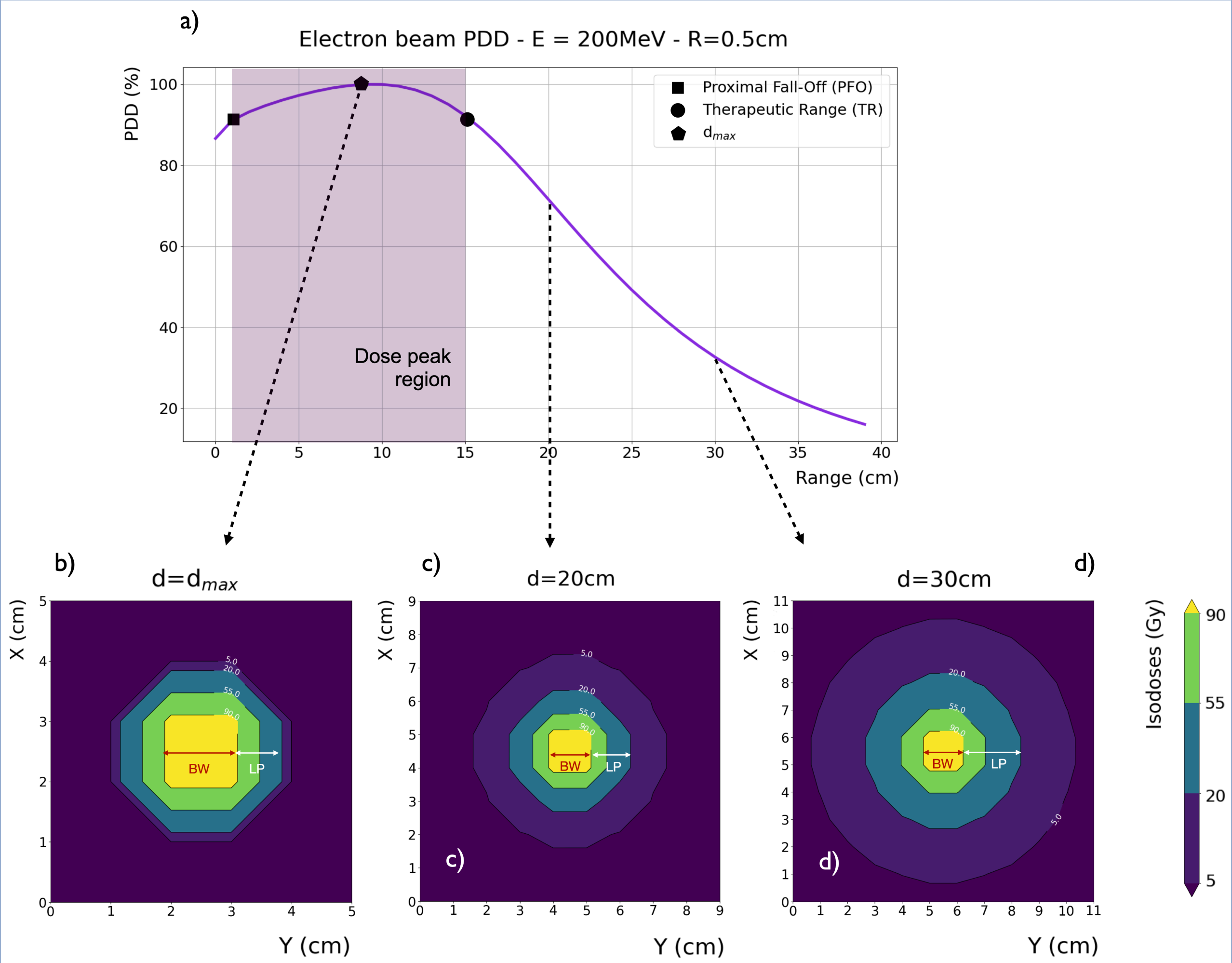
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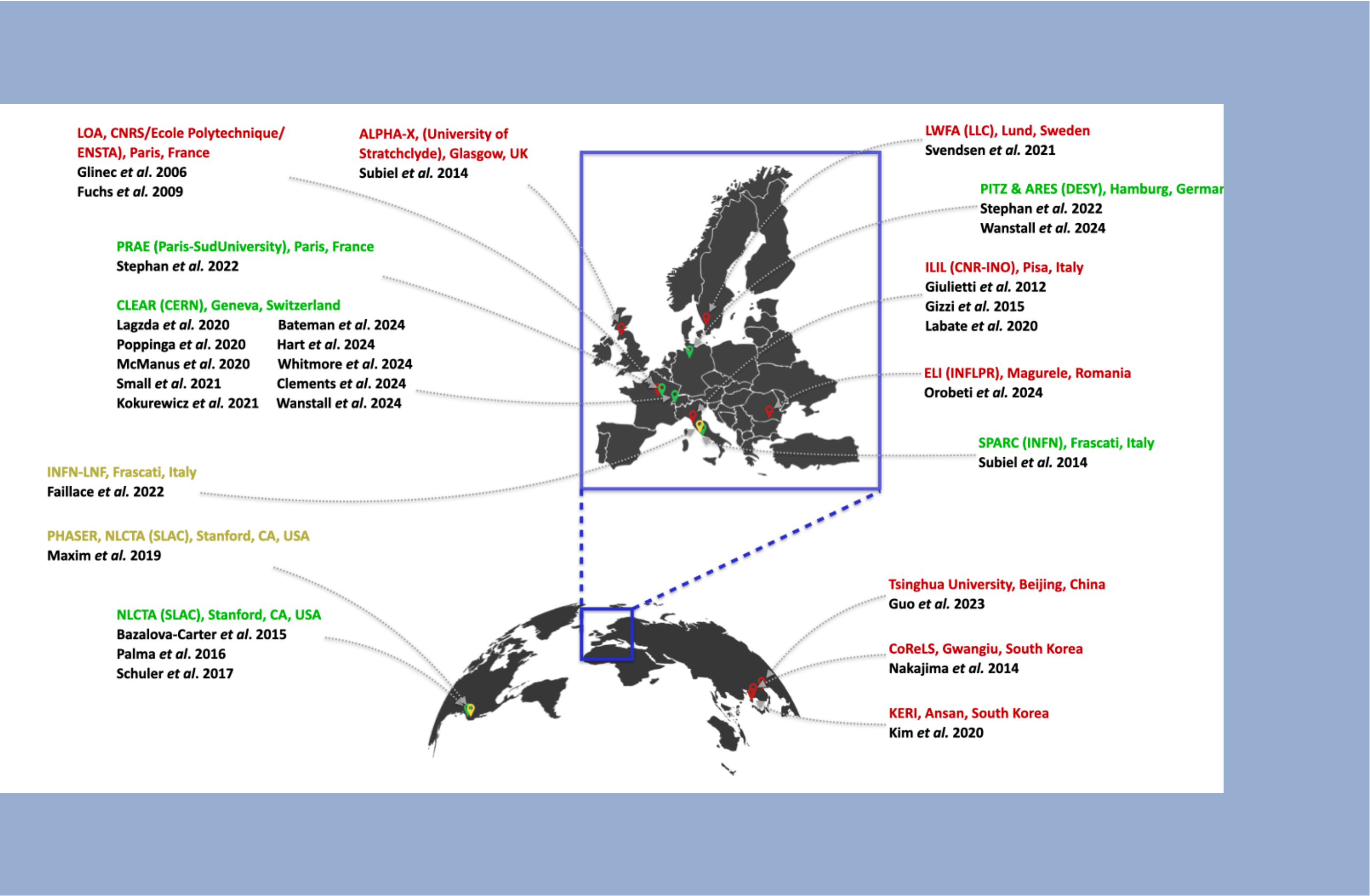


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Where VHEE research is taking place?



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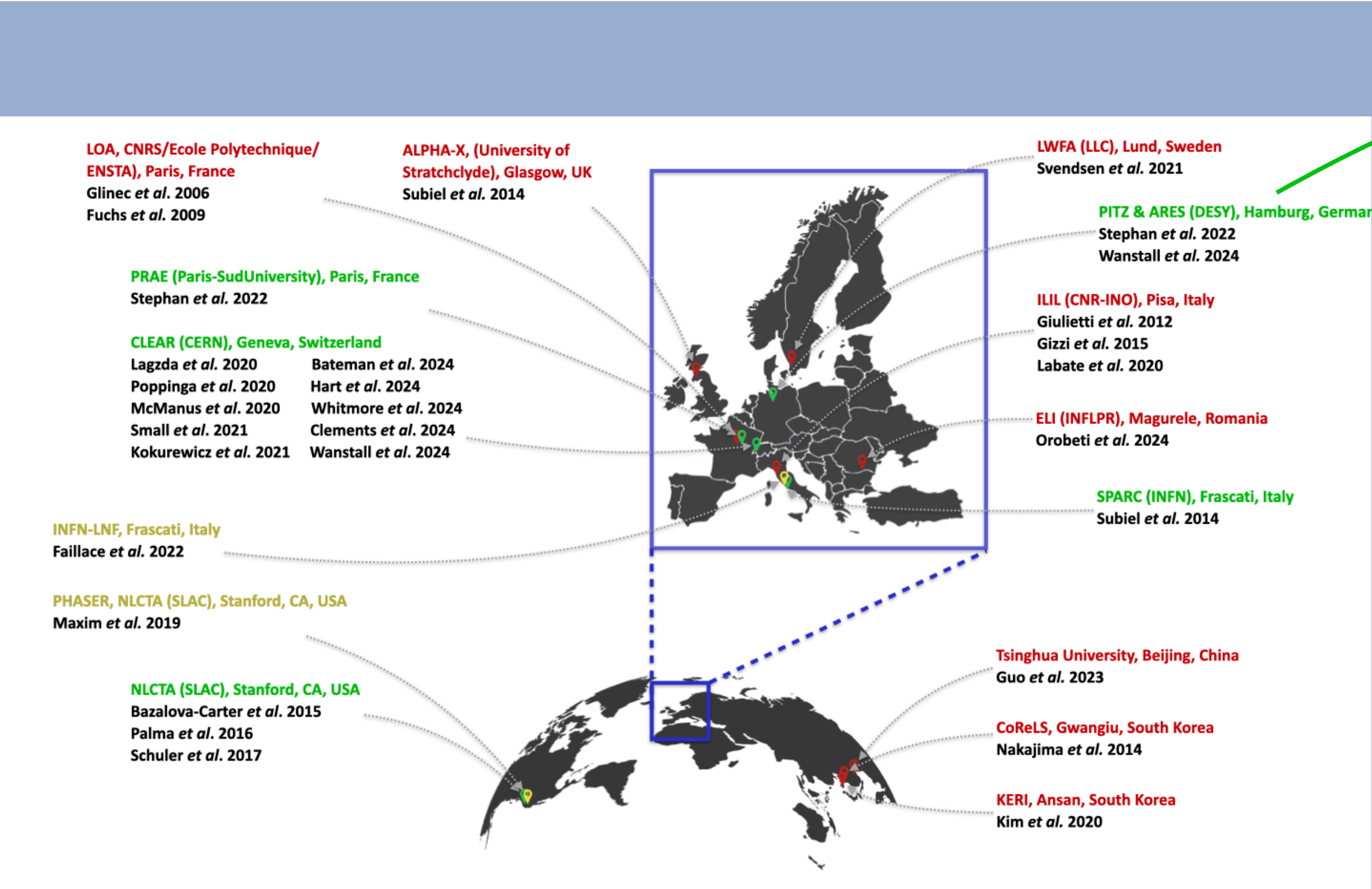


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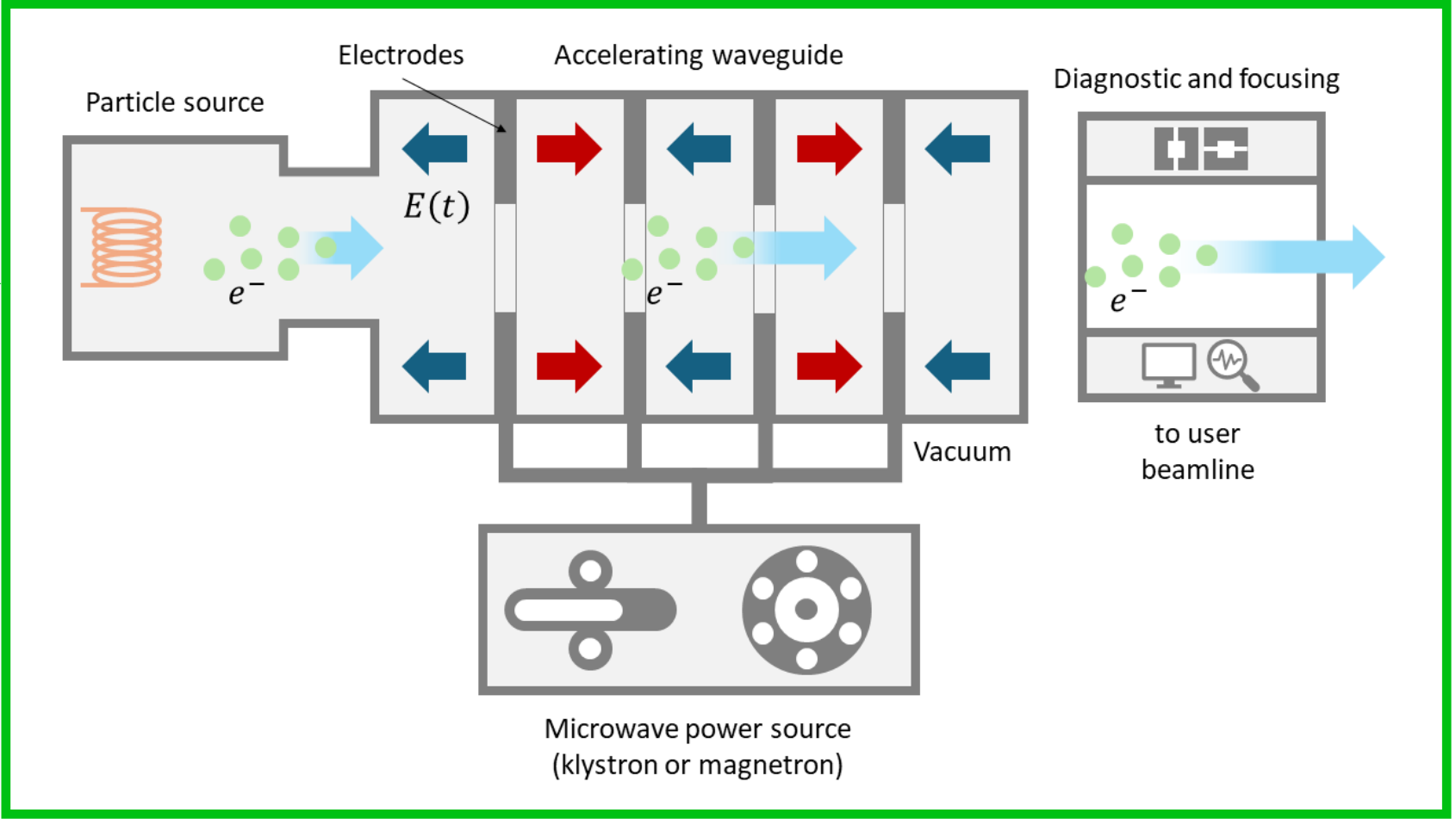


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Where VHEE research is taking place?



RF-based VHEE systems



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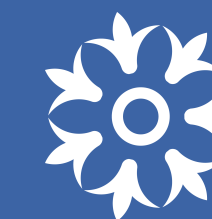
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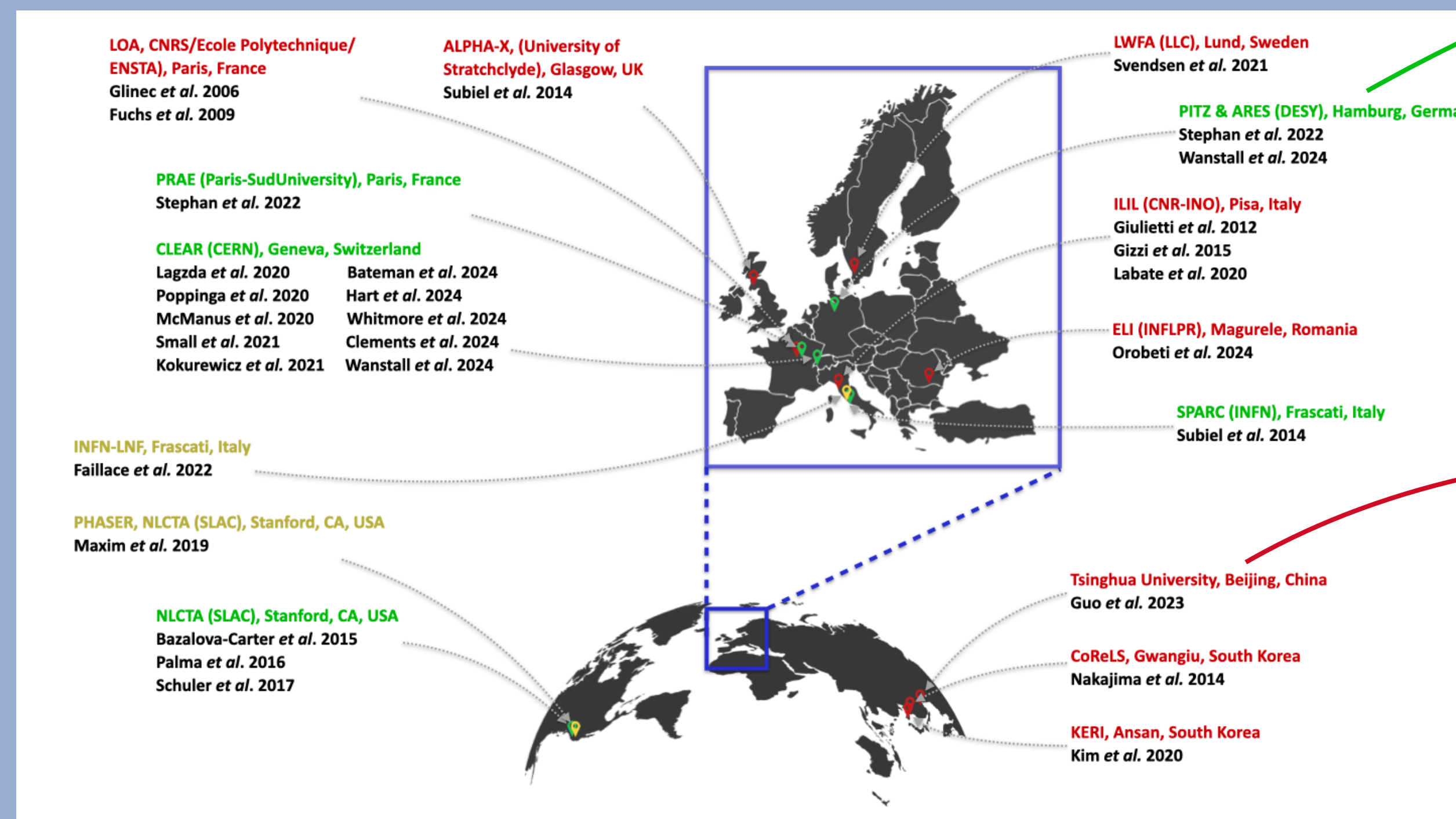


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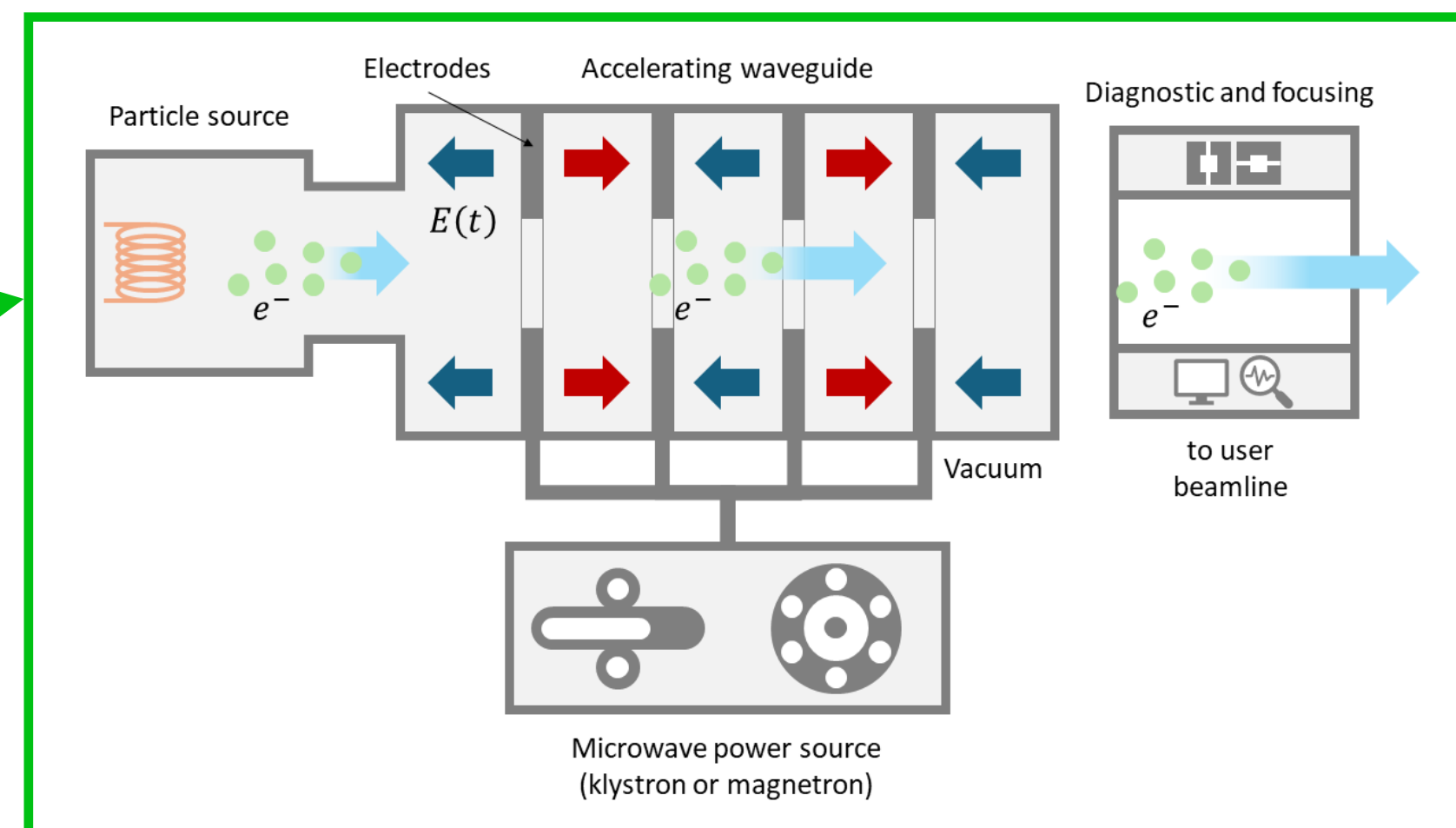


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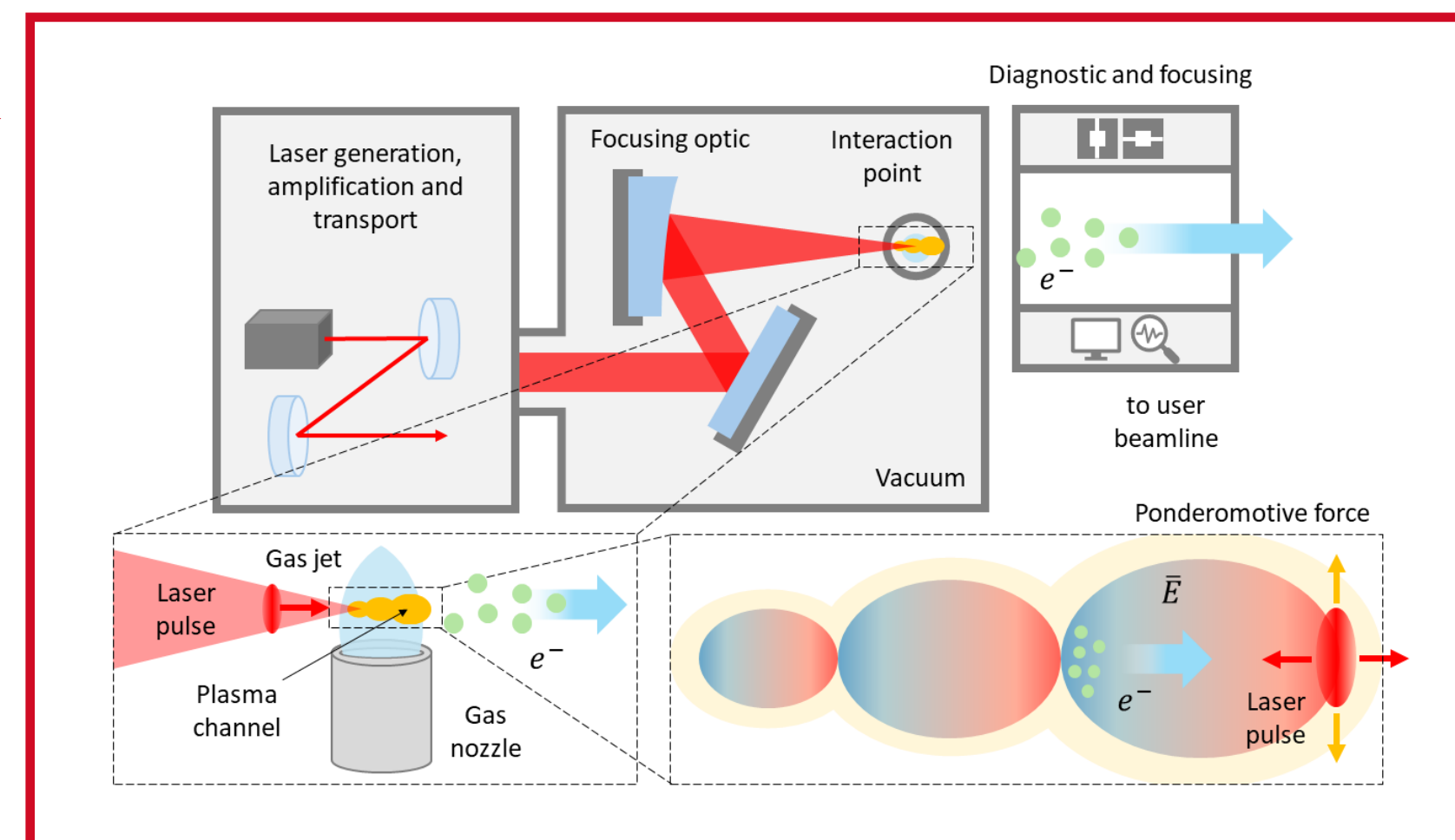
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RF-based VHEE systems



LWFA-based VHEE systems



Very High Energy Electrons



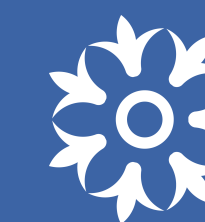
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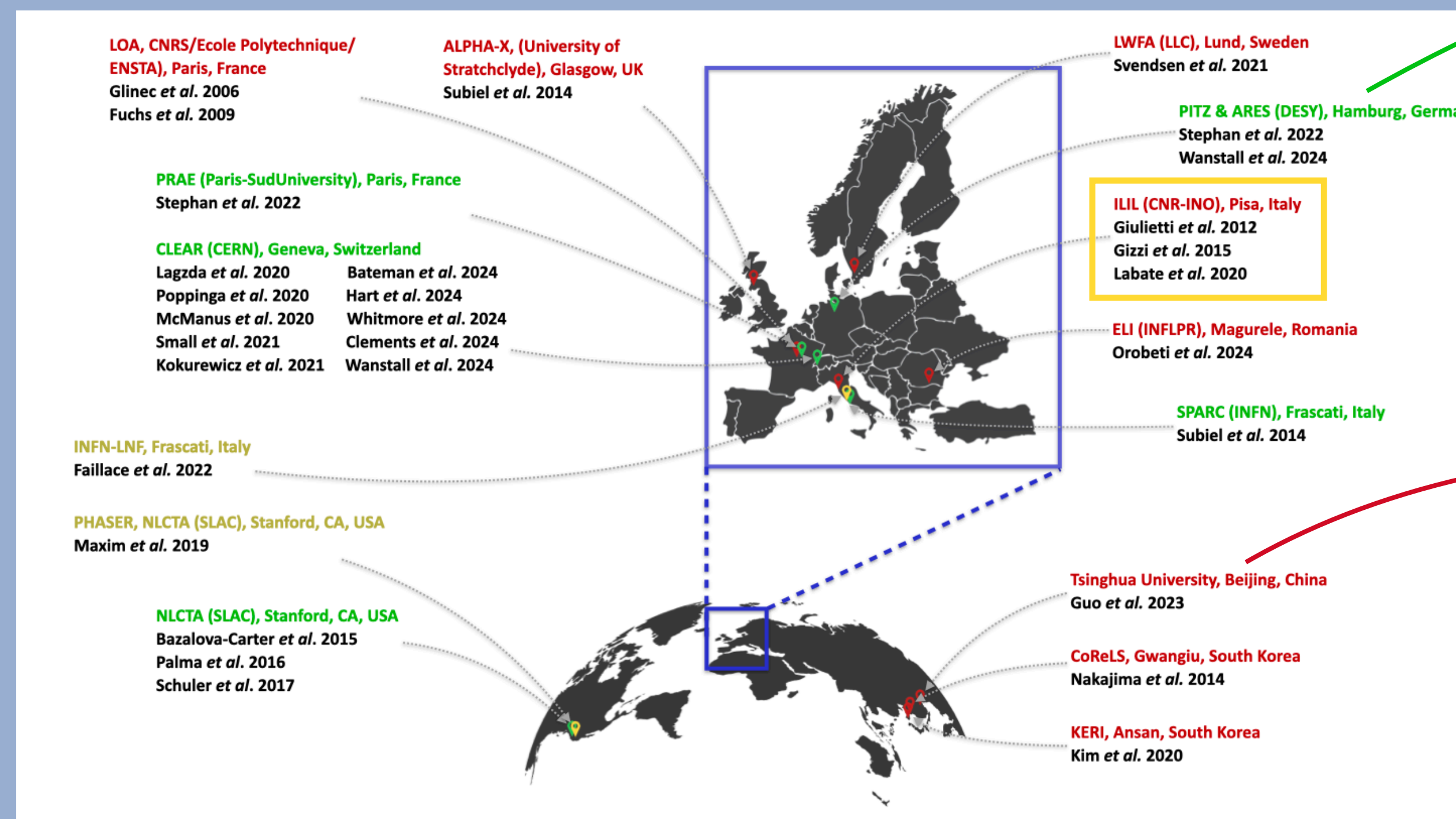


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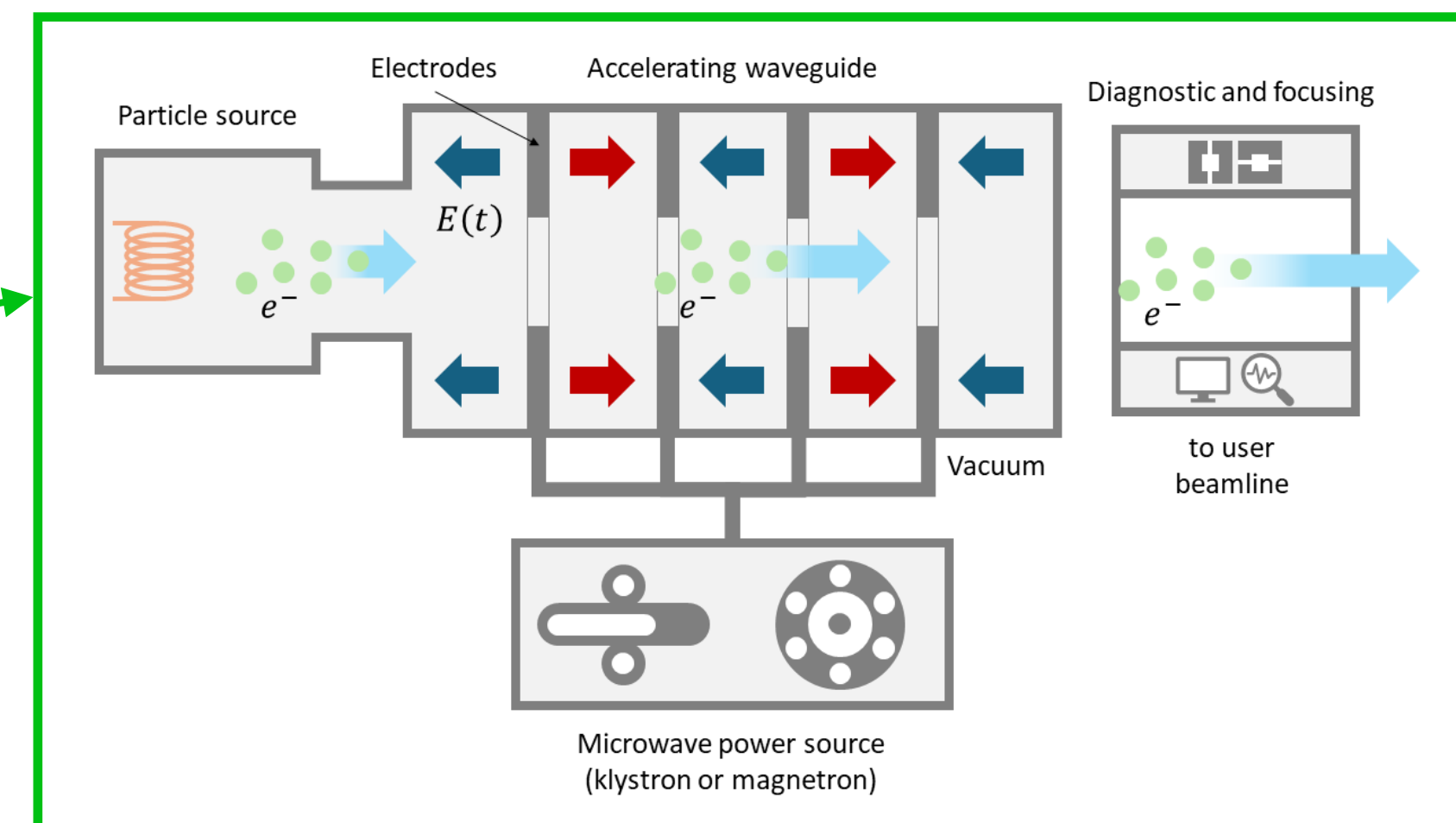


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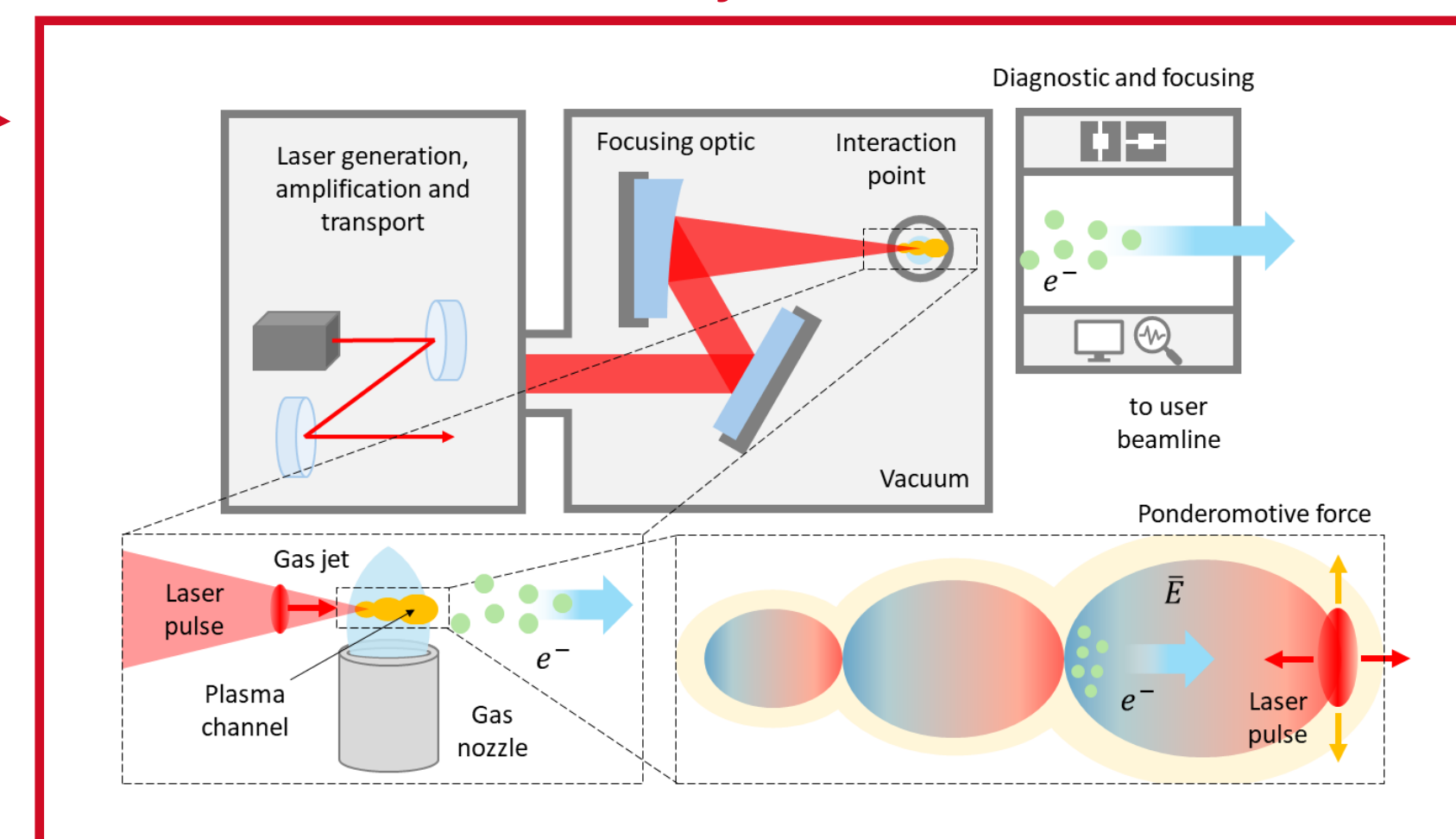
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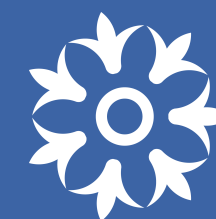
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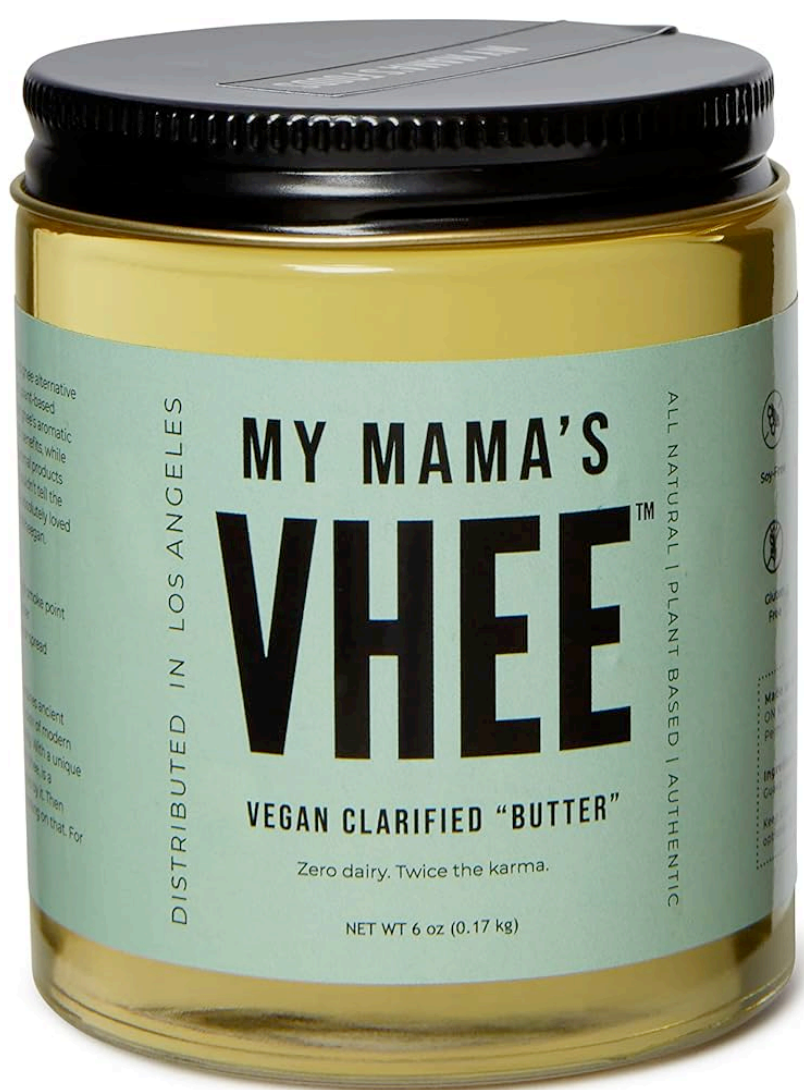


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Review

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Very High-Energy Electron Therapy Toward Clinical Implementation: A Review Study

[Costanza Maria Vittoria Panaino](#)*, [Simona Piccinini](#)*, [Maria Grazia Andreassi](#), [Gabriele Bandini](#),
[Andrea Borghini](#), [Marzia Borgia](#), [Angelo Di Naro](#), [Luca Umberto Labate](#), [Eleonora Maggiulli](#),
[Maurizio Giovanni Agostino Portaluri](#), [Leonida Antonio Gizzi](#)

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doi: 10.20944/preprints202411.0913.v1

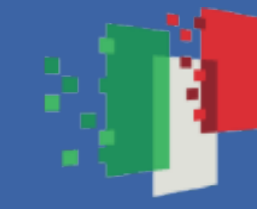
Keywords: External beam radiotherapy; VHEE; FLASH radiotherapy



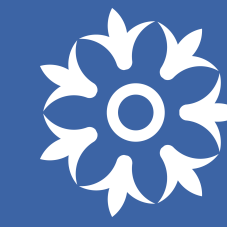
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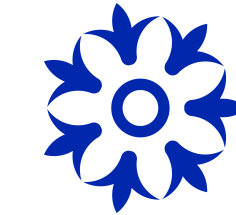
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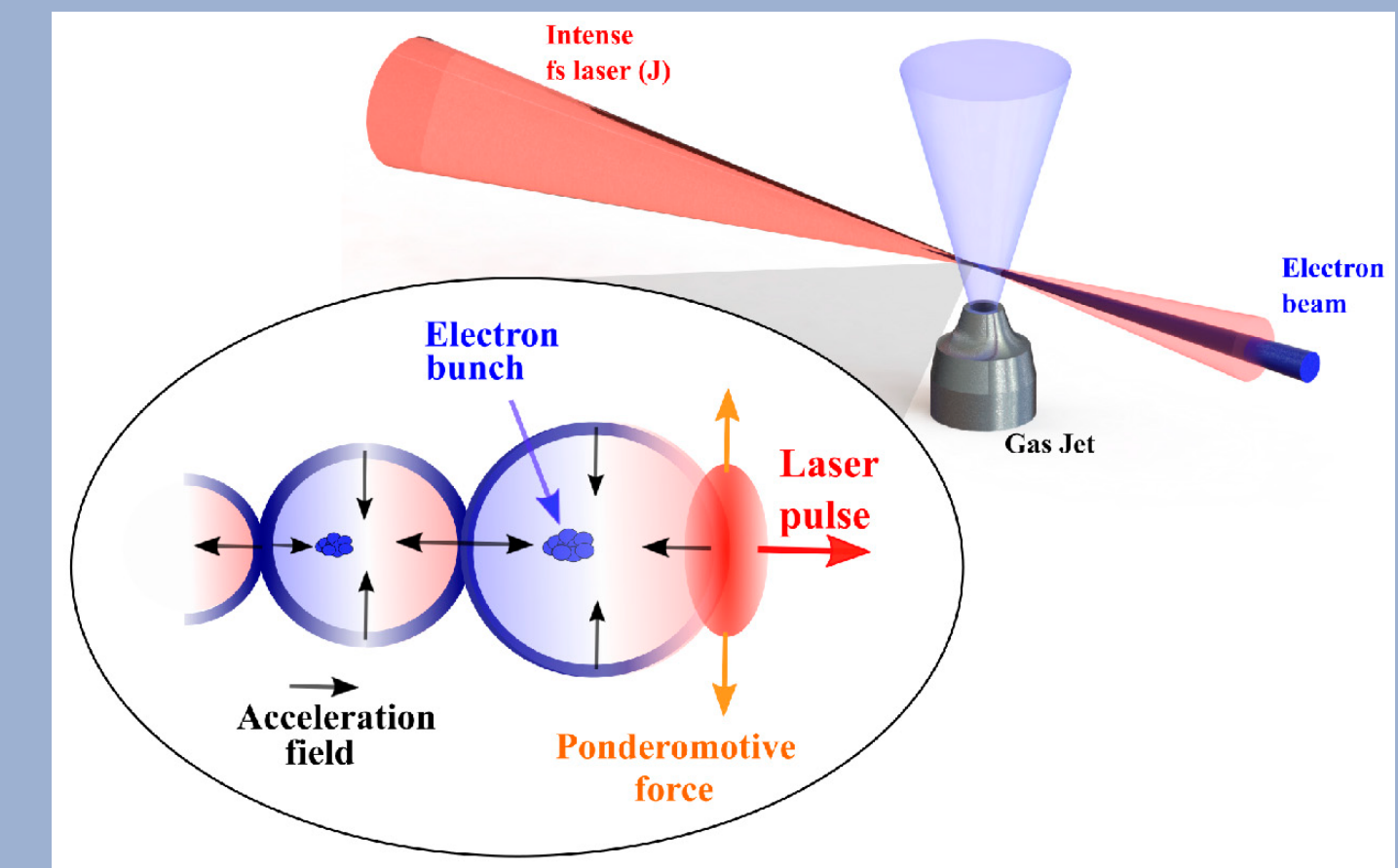
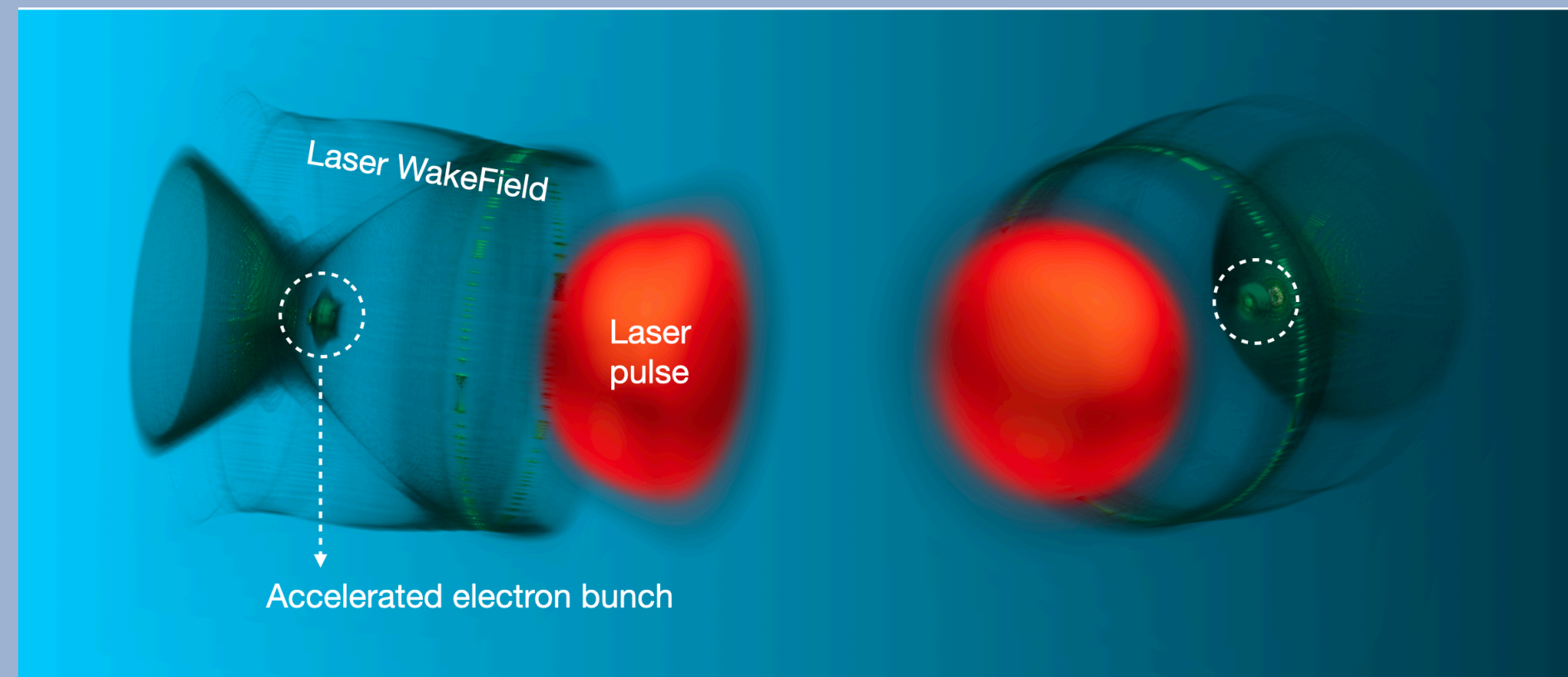
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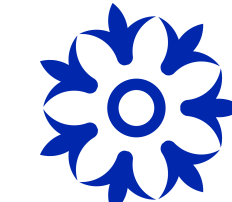


In laser-plasma accelerators, VHEE beams are produced by focusing an intense and ultrashort laser on a target.

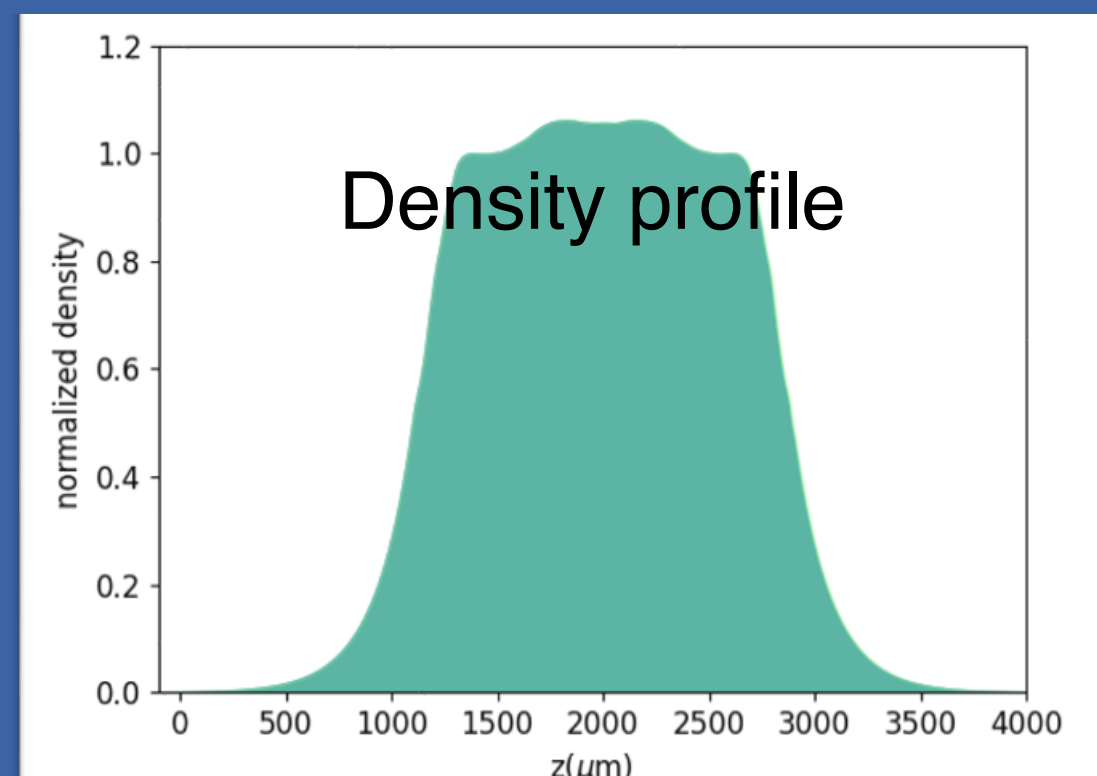
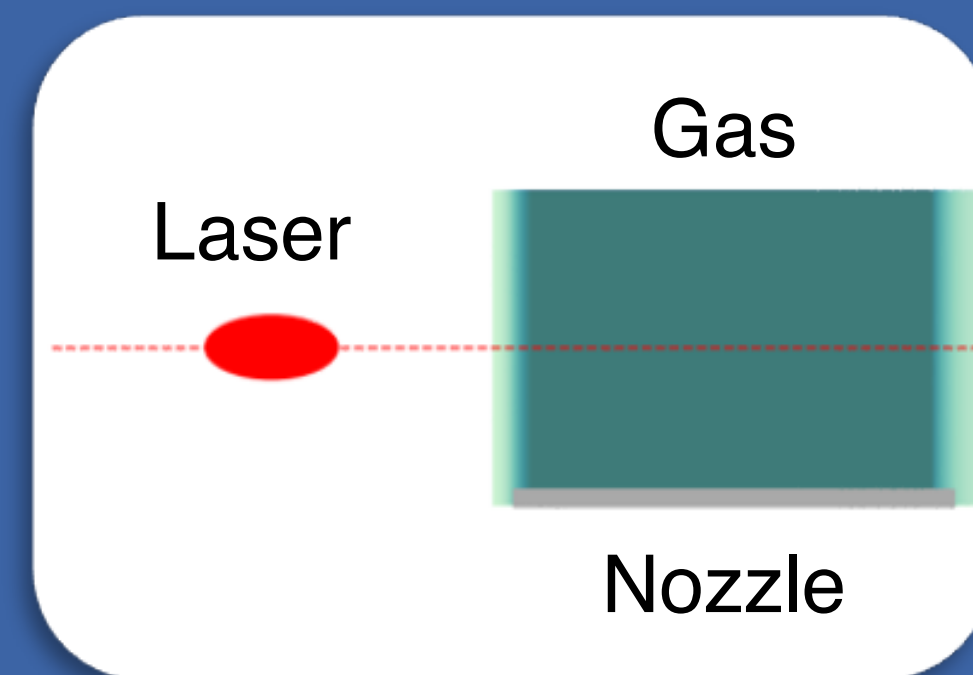
- **Target** = supersonic helium gas jet, a "transparent" plasma through which the laser can propagate.

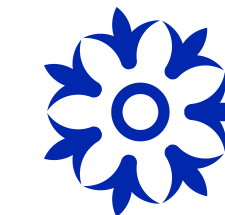


PIC (Particle-In-Cell) is a numerical technique allowing to simulate the dynamics of a large collection of charged particles (e.g, electrons or ions) interacting with electromagnetic fields *in a reduced description* (i.e, dynamics of macroparticles).

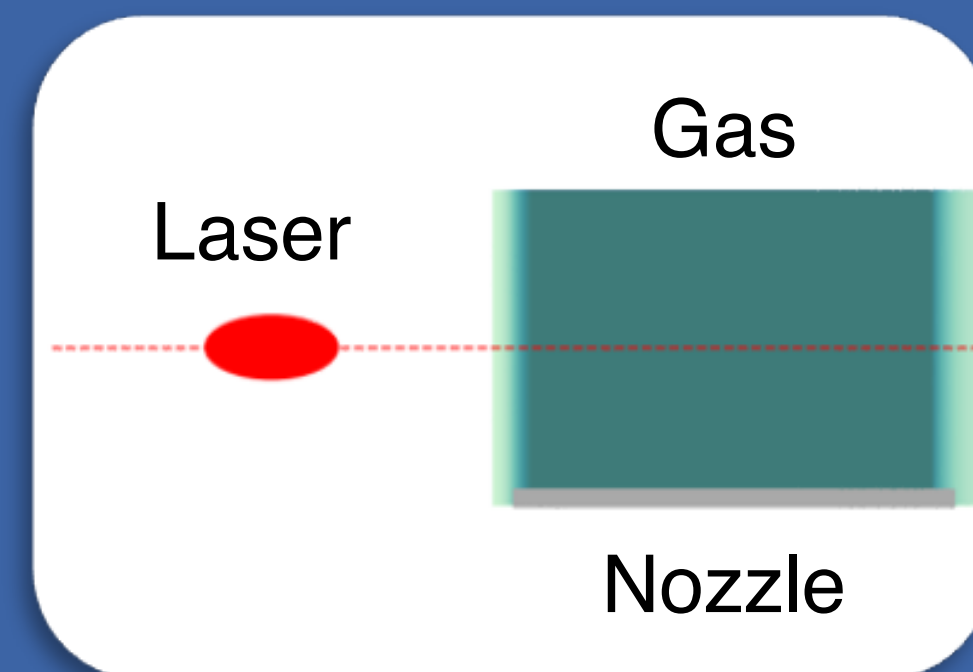


PIC simulations can handle scenarios of increasing complexity, starting from simple systems like a single nozzle.

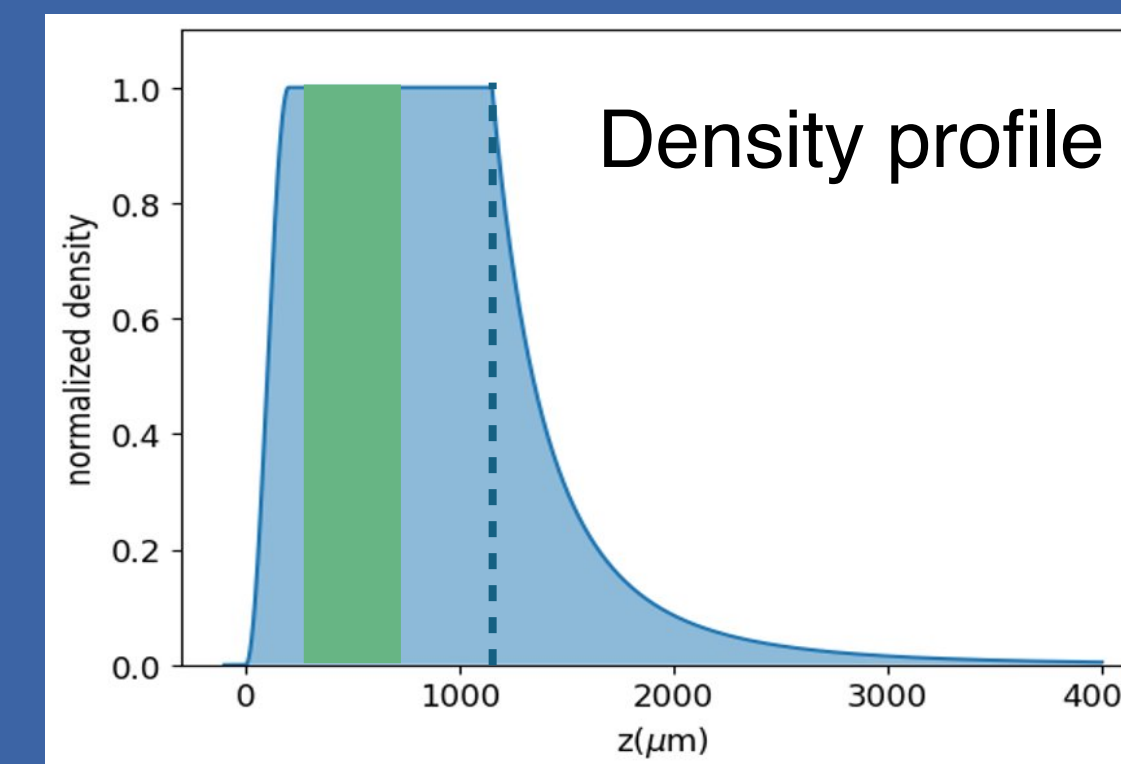
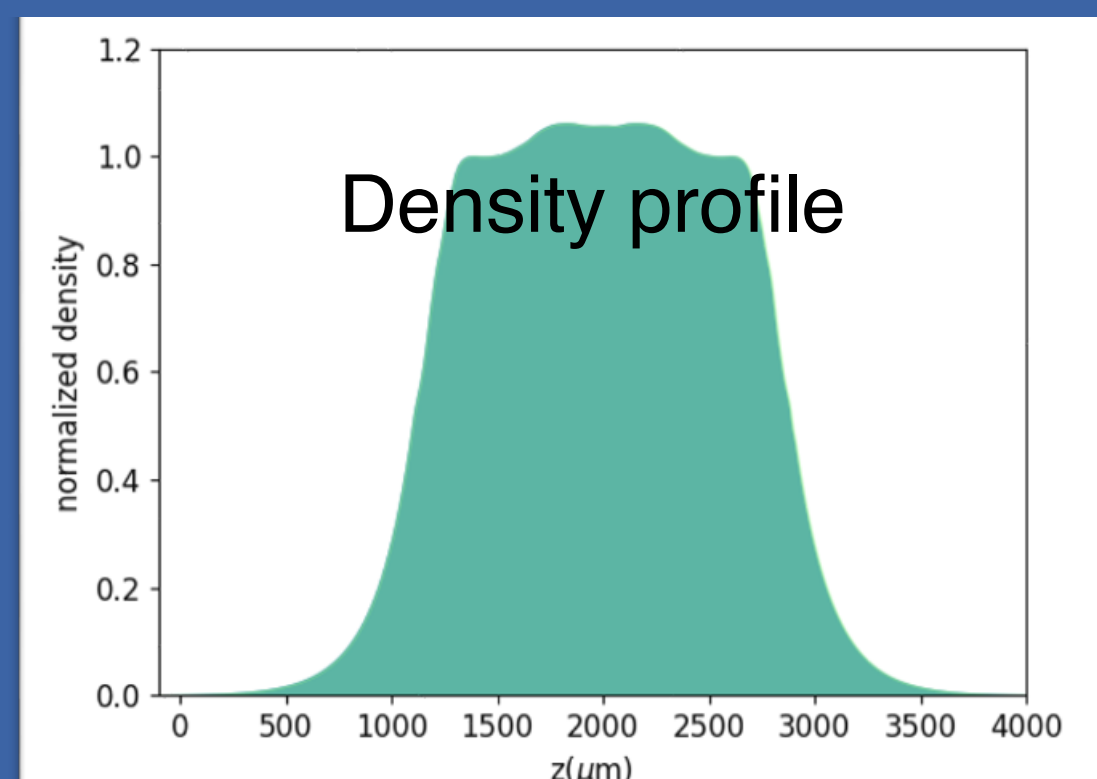
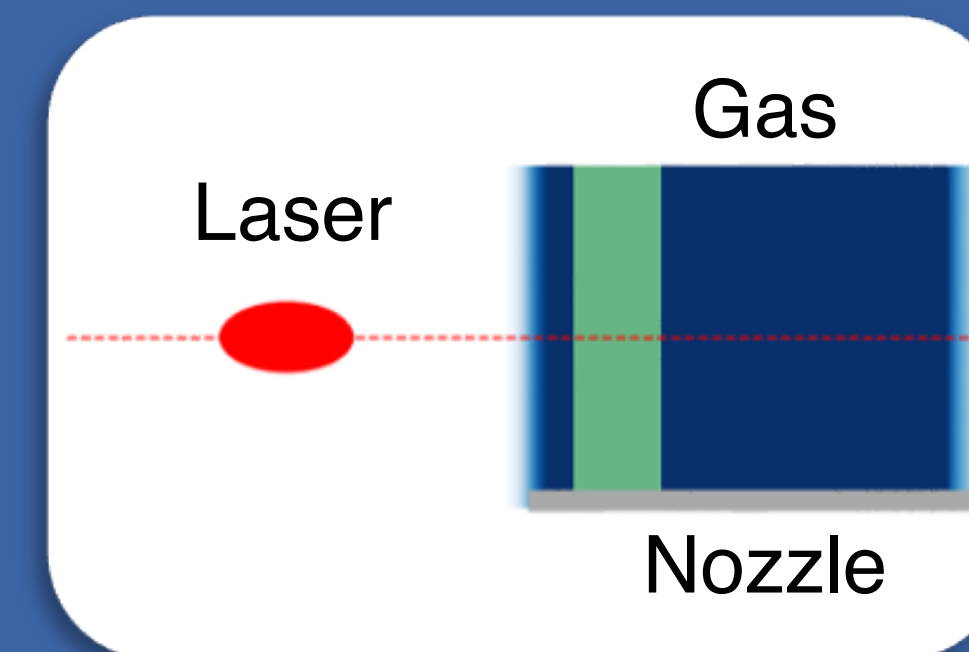




PIC simulations can handle scenarios of increasing complexity, starting from simple systems like a single nozzle.



PIC simulations can also model complex systems that encompass all three stages of laser-plasma interactions: injection, acceleration, and extraction.



*JET-LEA, Bando a
cascata PNRR.*

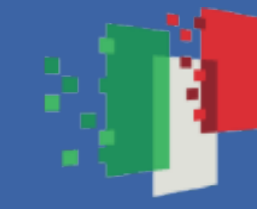
*R. Buonpane,
Università della
Campania*



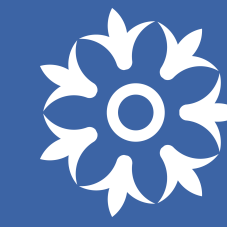
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VHEE PDD database



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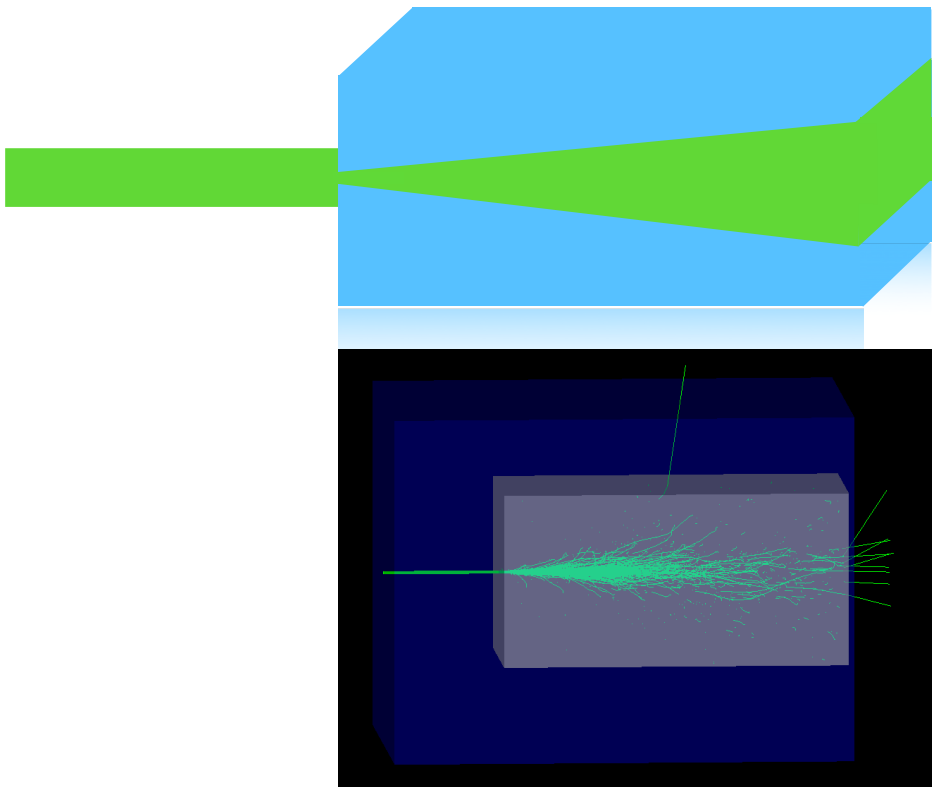


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50pm5.txt	200pm10.txt	300pm50.txt
50pm10.txt	200pm20.txt	300pm60.txt
50pm15.txt	200pm30.txt	300pm90.txt
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150pm50.txt	300pm15.txt	400pm40.txt
150pm60.txt	300pm30.txt	400pm20.txt



PDD Calculator

Select the option that you would like to work with:

Option1: PDD/PDDs from energy values

Option2: PDD from energy spectrum

Option3: PDD from energy spectrum components

Developed for scientific research

VHEE PDD database



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PDD Calculator

Select the option that you would like to work with:

Option1: PDD/PDDs from energy values

Option2: PDD from energy spectrum

Option3: PDD from energy spectrum components

Developed for scientific research

Enter energy and sigma values [MeV] (one per line):

155 12
101 34
133 22.6
141 16

Enter the depth value in water [cm]:

15

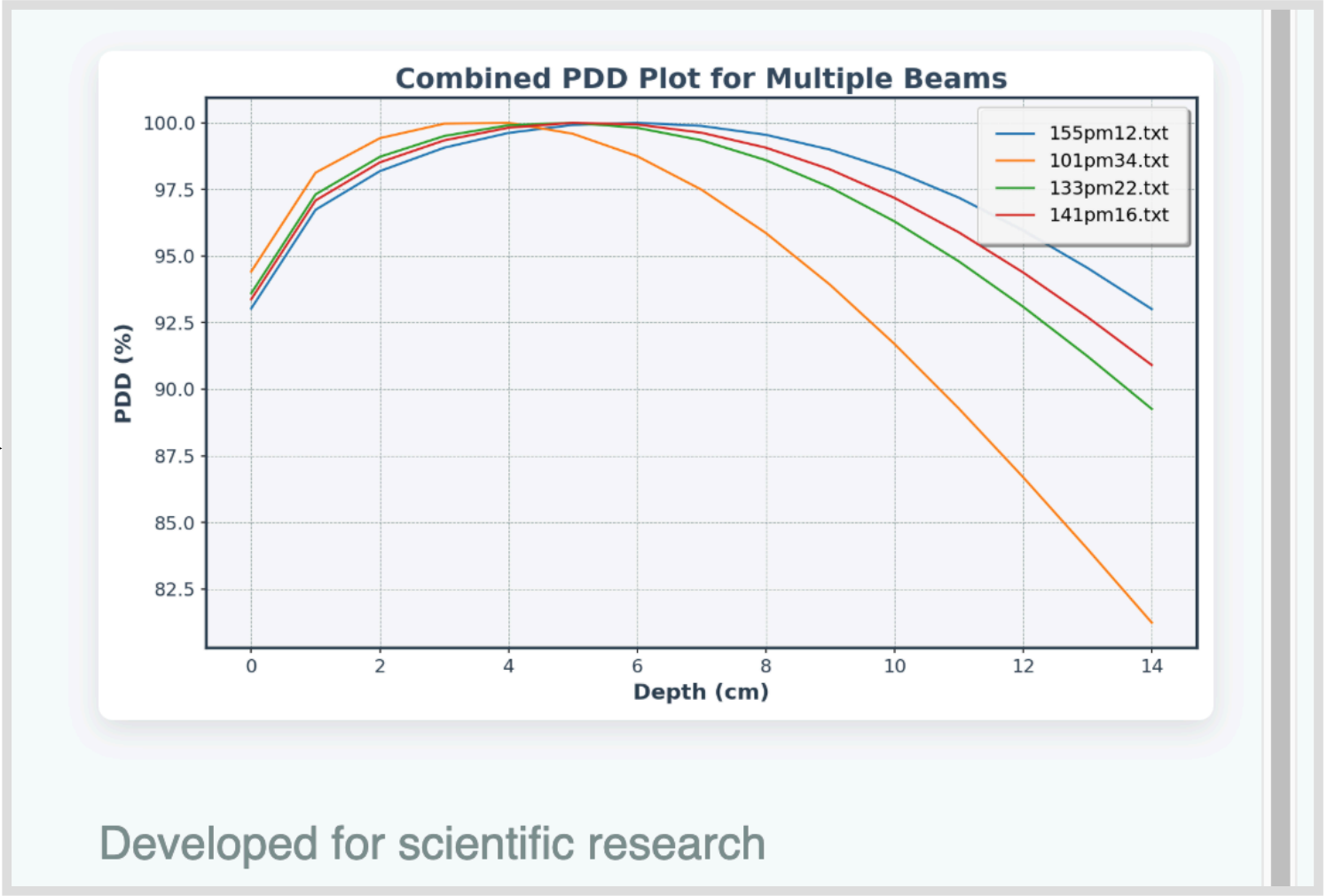
Select mode:

☒ Integral ☐ On-axis

New feature: Both

Submit

Calculating...



VHEE PDD database



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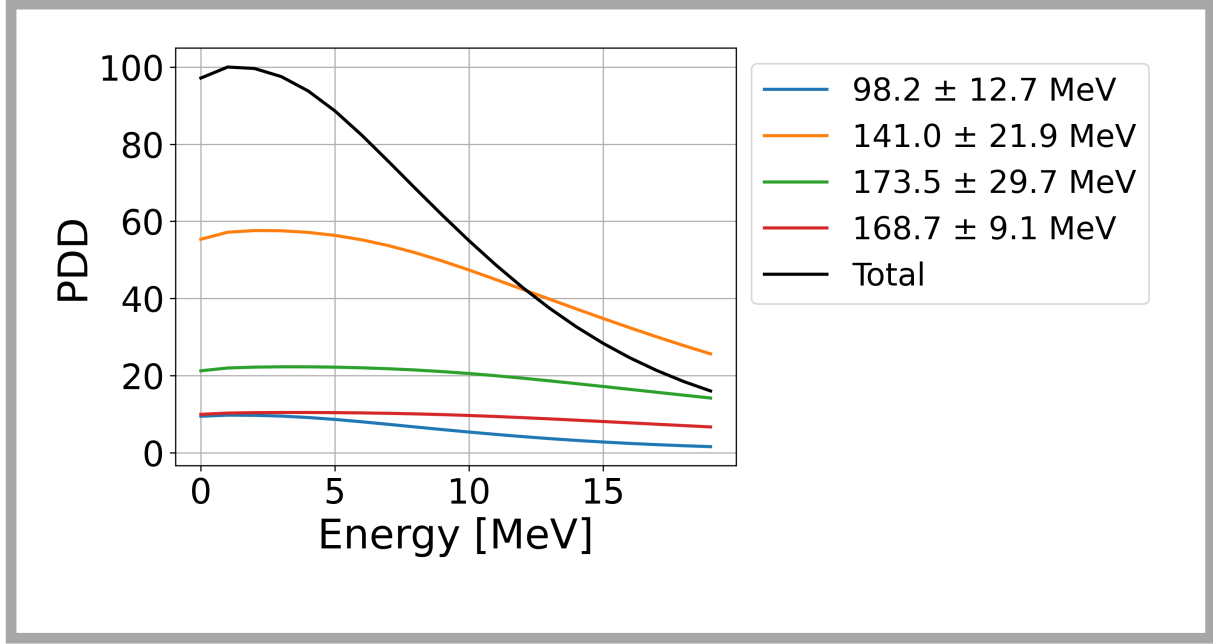
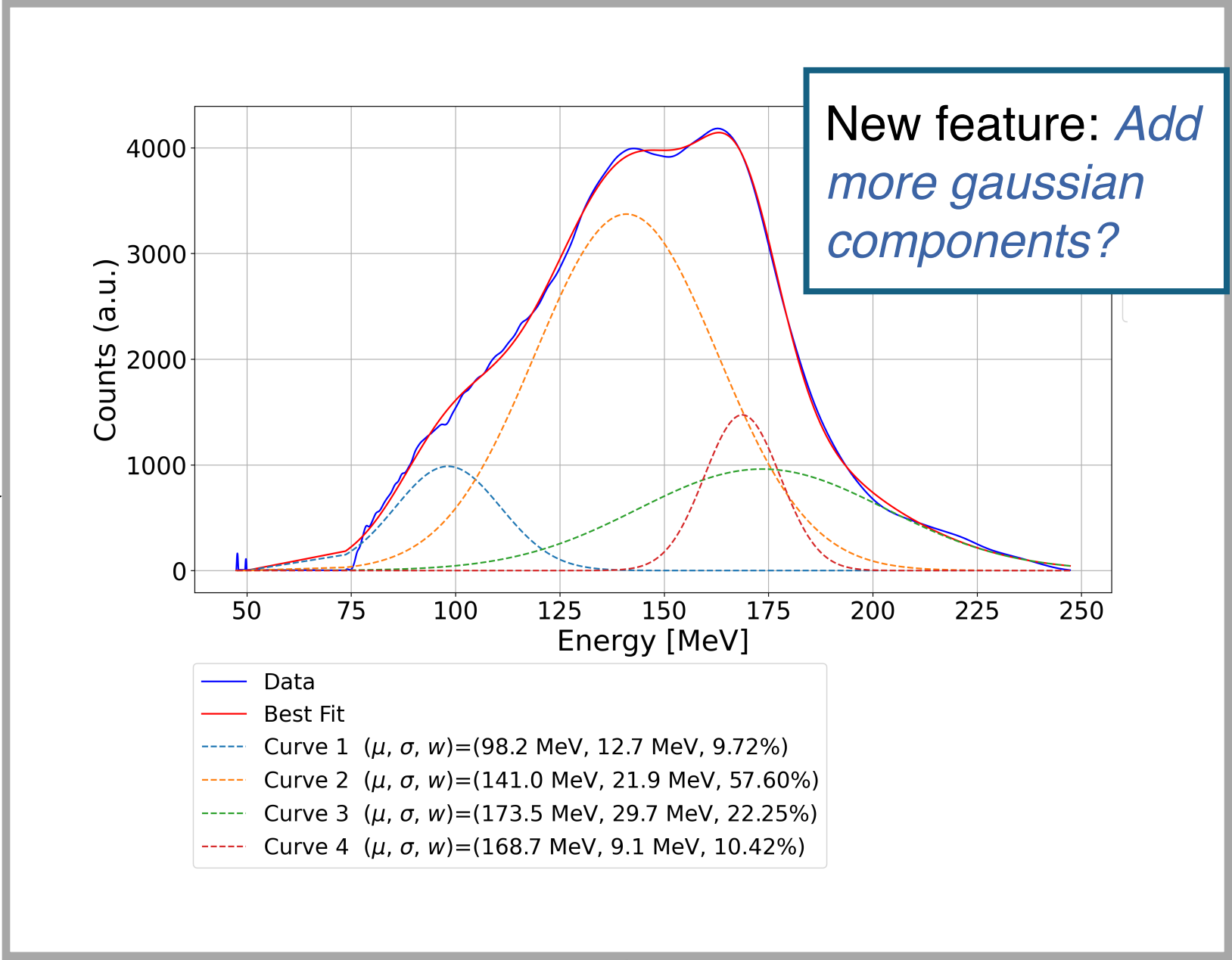
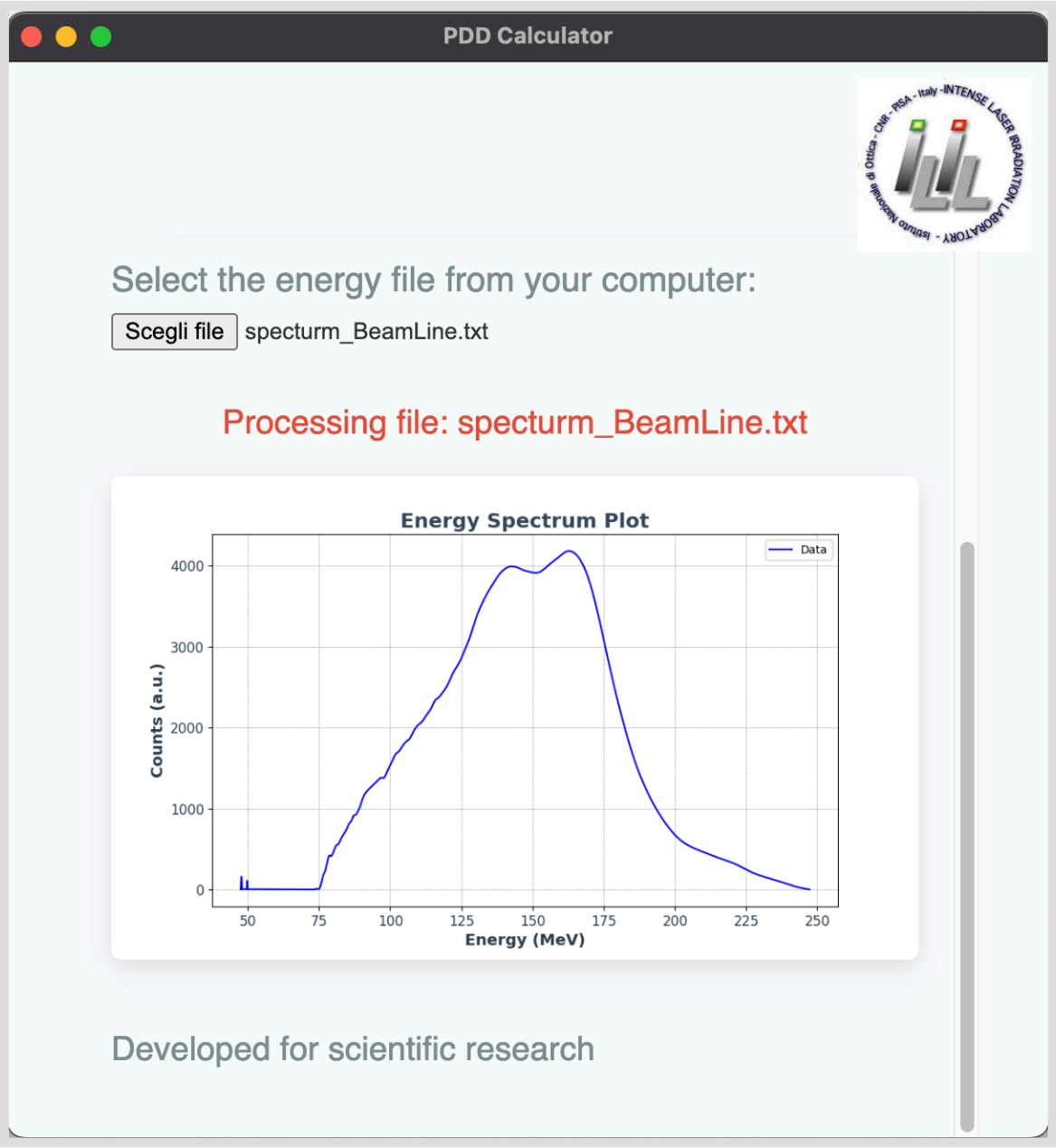
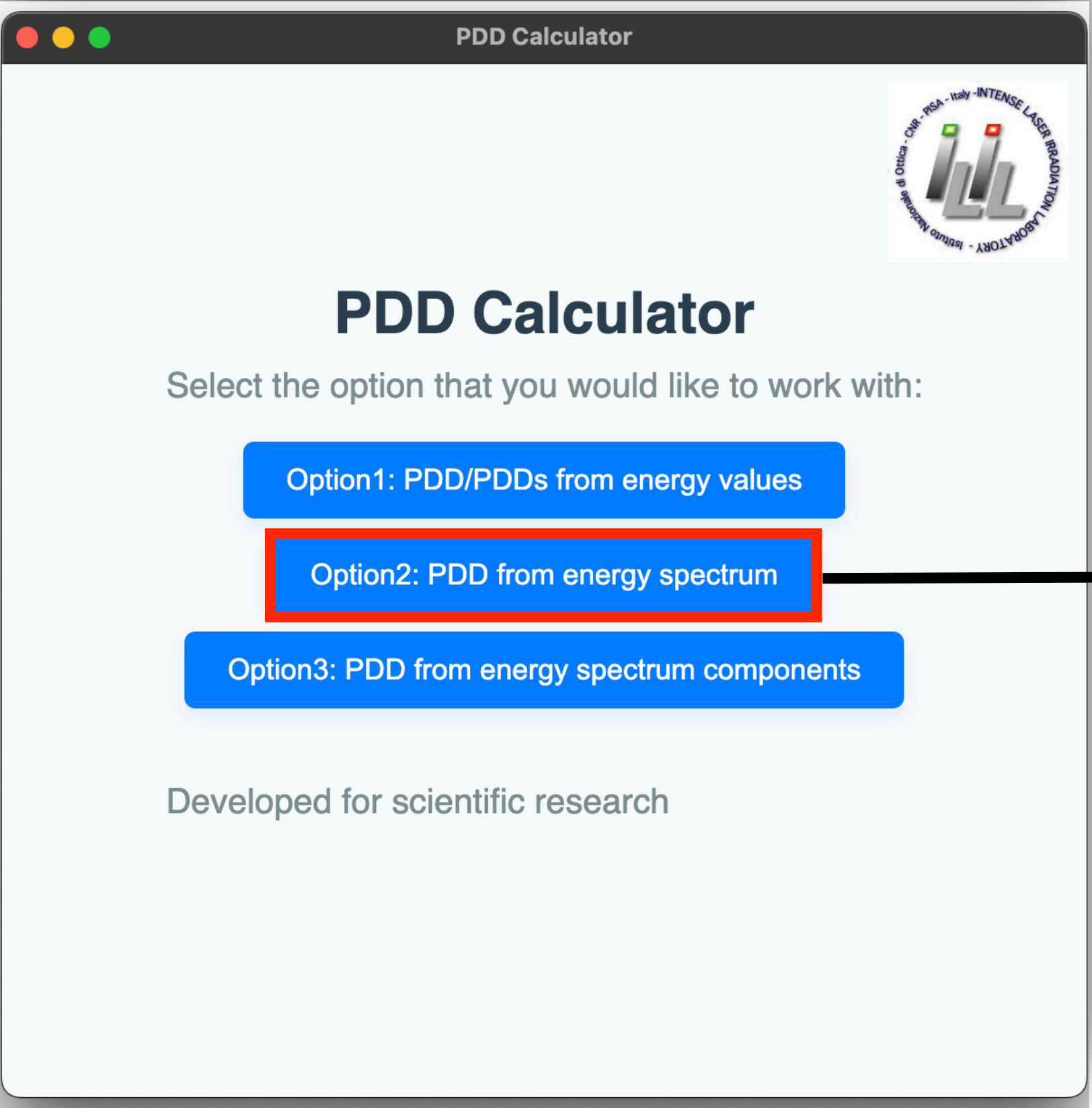
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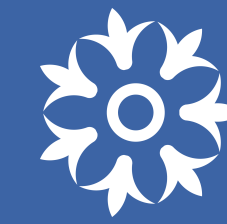
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PDD Calculator



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Select the option that you would like to work with:

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Option2: PDD from energy spectrum

Option3: PDD from energy spectrum components

Developed for scientific research

Enter energy, spread, and weight values [MeV] (one set per line):

e.g., 150 40 0.5

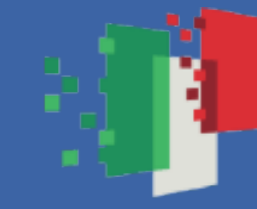
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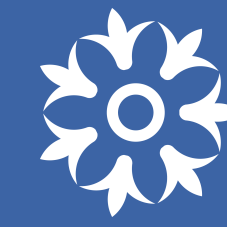
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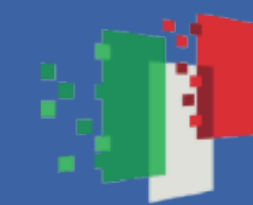
Beam Focusing



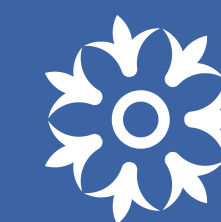
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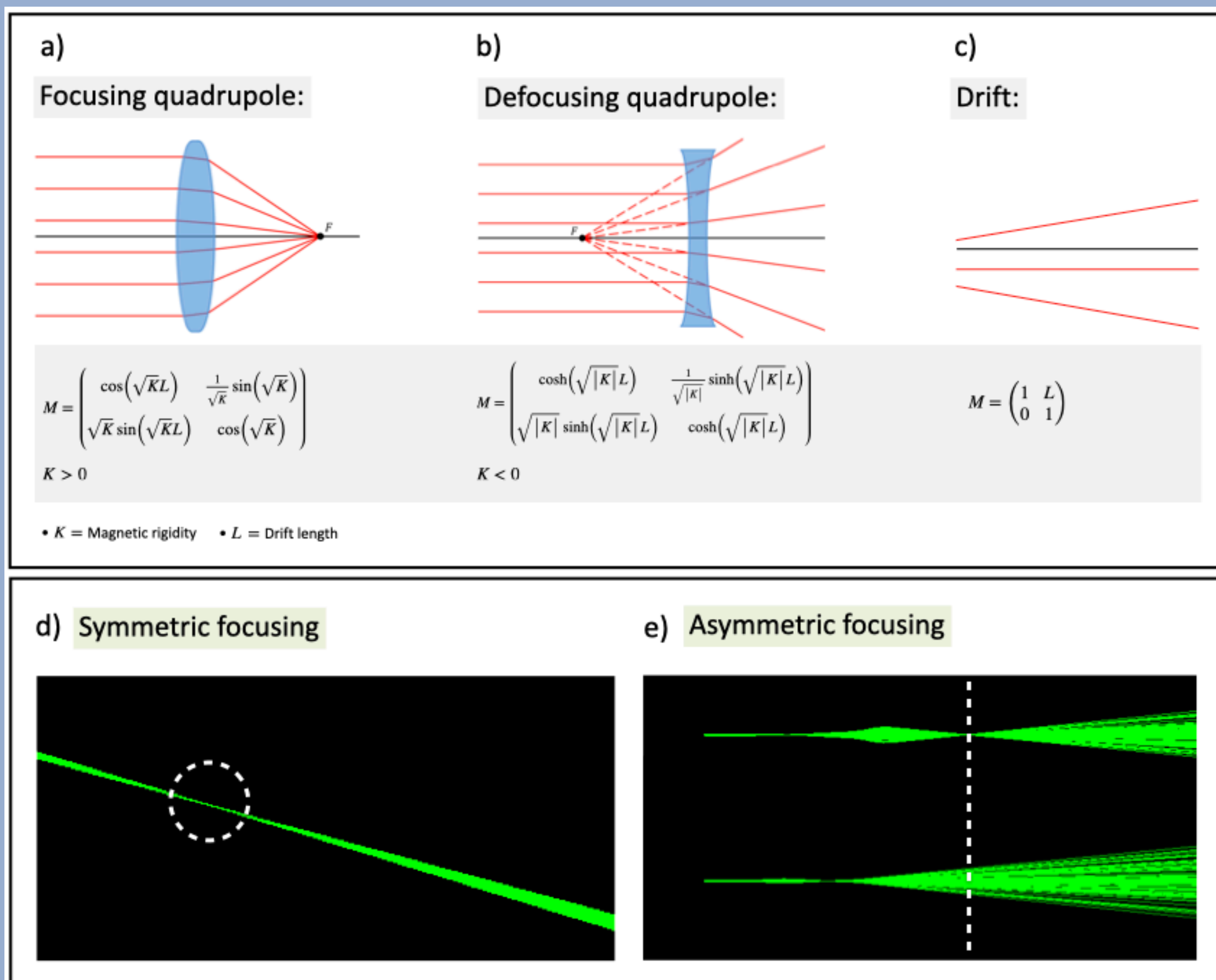
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From a clinical prospective beam focusing offers several benefits such as:

- lowering entrance dose;
- reducing lateral scattering in depth;
- precisely targeting small 3D volumes

It also allows to improve the beam point stability!

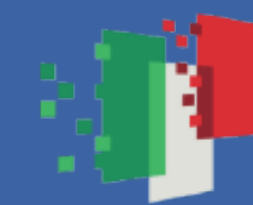
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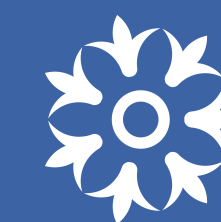
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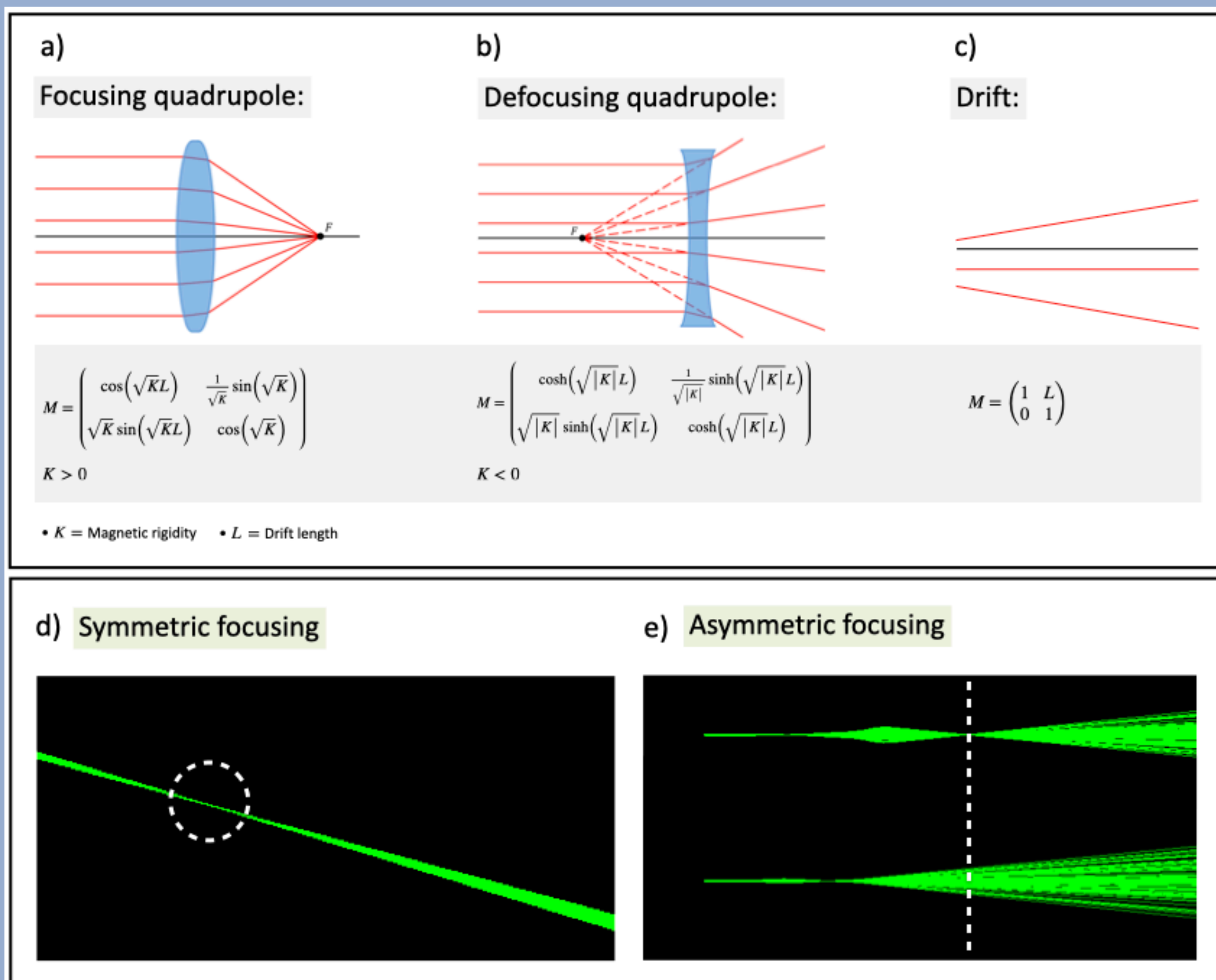
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Beam Focusing



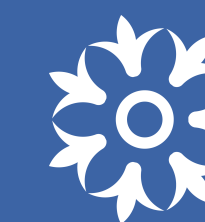
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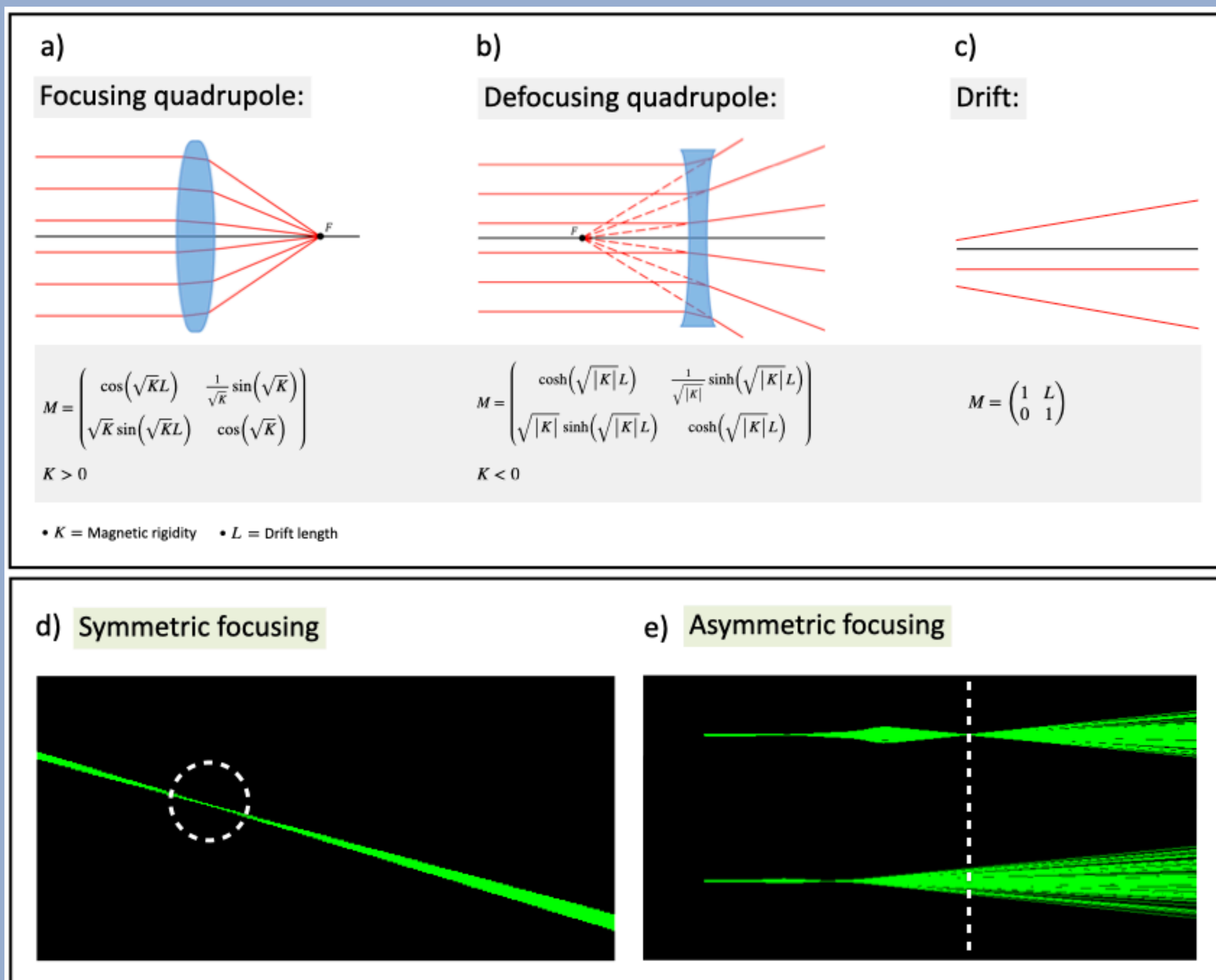
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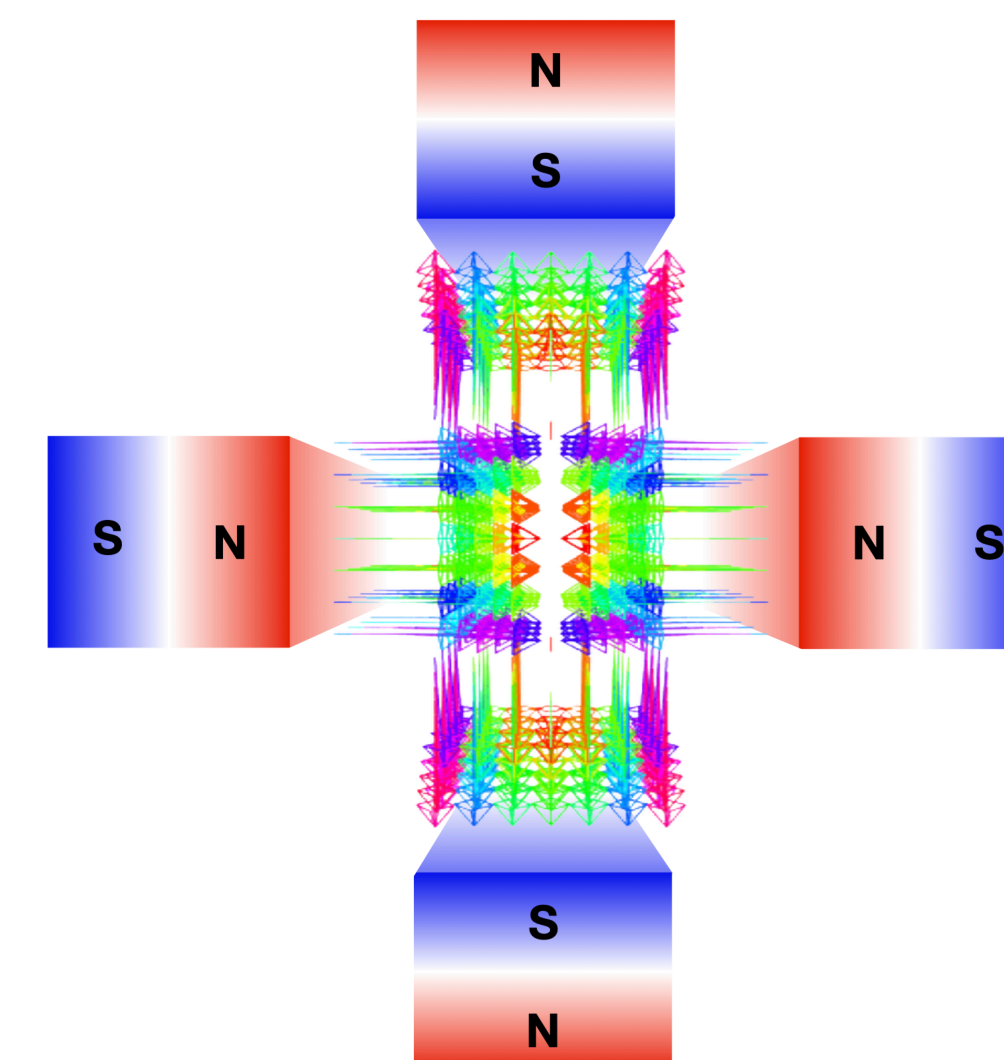
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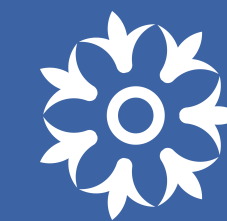
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Defocusing quadrupole:
Length L , $K < 0$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \cosh(\sqrt{|K|}L) & \frac{1}{\sqrt{|K|}} \sinh(\sqrt{|K|}L) \\ \sqrt{|K|} \sinh(\sqrt{|K|}L) & \cosh(\sqrt{|K|}L) \end{pmatrix}$$

Focusing quadrupole:
Length L , $K > 0$

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\sqrt{K}L) & \frac{1}{\sqrt{K}} \sin(\sqrt{K}L) \\ -\sqrt{K} \sin(\sqrt{K}L) & \cos(\sqrt{K}L) \end{pmatrix}$$

α , β and γ are the Twiss parameters

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(s) \\ x'(s) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{\beta_s}{\beta_0}} [\cos \varphi_s + \alpha_0 \sin \varphi_s] & \sqrt{\beta_s \beta_0} \sin \varphi_s \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\beta_s \beta_0}} [(\alpha_0 - \alpha_s) \cos \varphi_s - (1 + \alpha_0 \alpha_s) \sin \varphi_s] & \sqrt{\frac{\beta_s}{\beta_0}} [\cos \varphi_s - \alpha_s \sin \varphi_s] \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x'_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

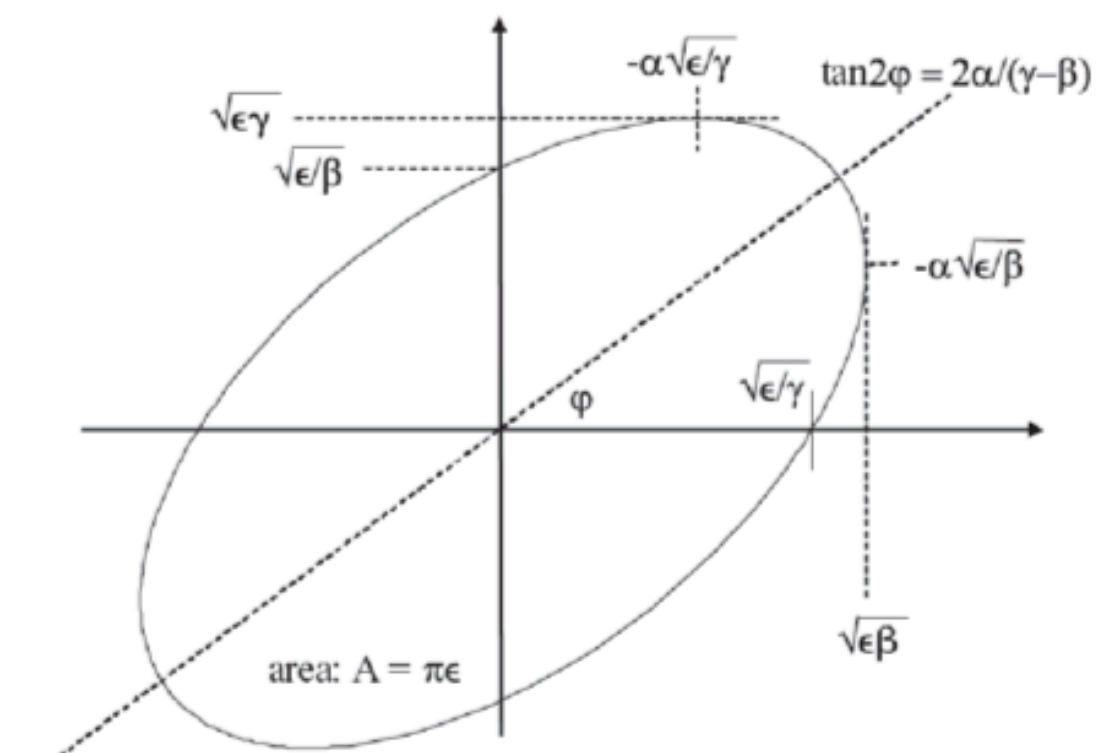
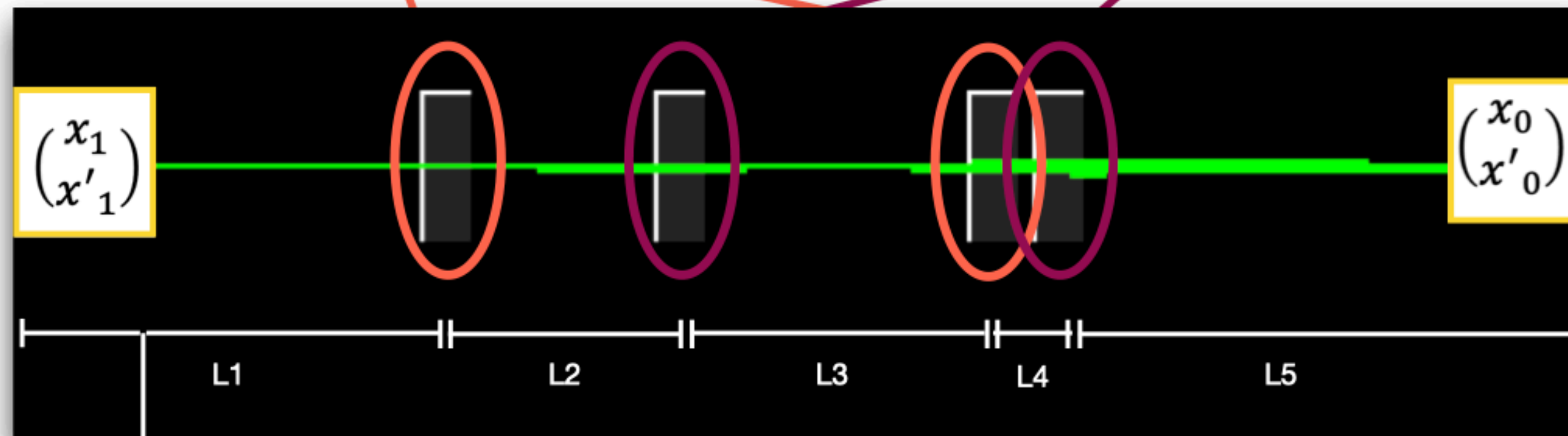


Fig. 5.2. Phase space ellipse

Development of an optimisation algorithm (Python) that identifies the optimal L_1 , L_2 , L_3 , L_4 values



$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x'_1 \end{pmatrix} = M_{Dn} \cdot M_{Qn} \cdot M_{Dn-1} \cdots M_{B1} \cdot M_{D2} \cdot M_{Q1} \cdot M_{D1} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x'_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

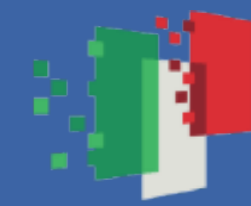
$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x'_1 \end{pmatrix} = M(s_1, s_0) \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ x'_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$M_{Drift} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & L \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

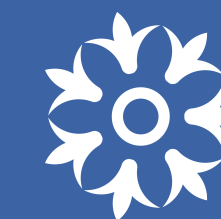
Beam Focusing



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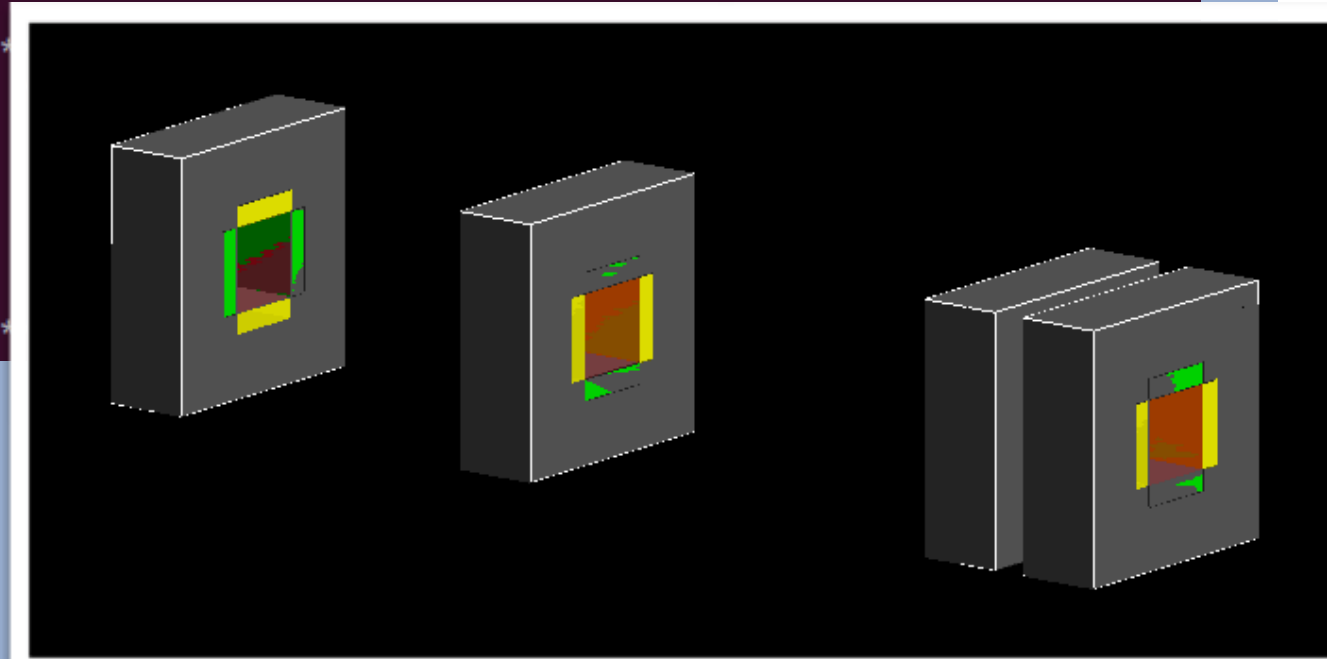
THE Tuscany Health Ecosystem

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Nprimaries	1
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Qy	4
Qx	4
Qbeta	4
Qtype	4
Qgamma	4
Qvolume	4
Qalpha	4
OutputPrefix	8

```
*****
Geant4 version
```



Beam Focusing



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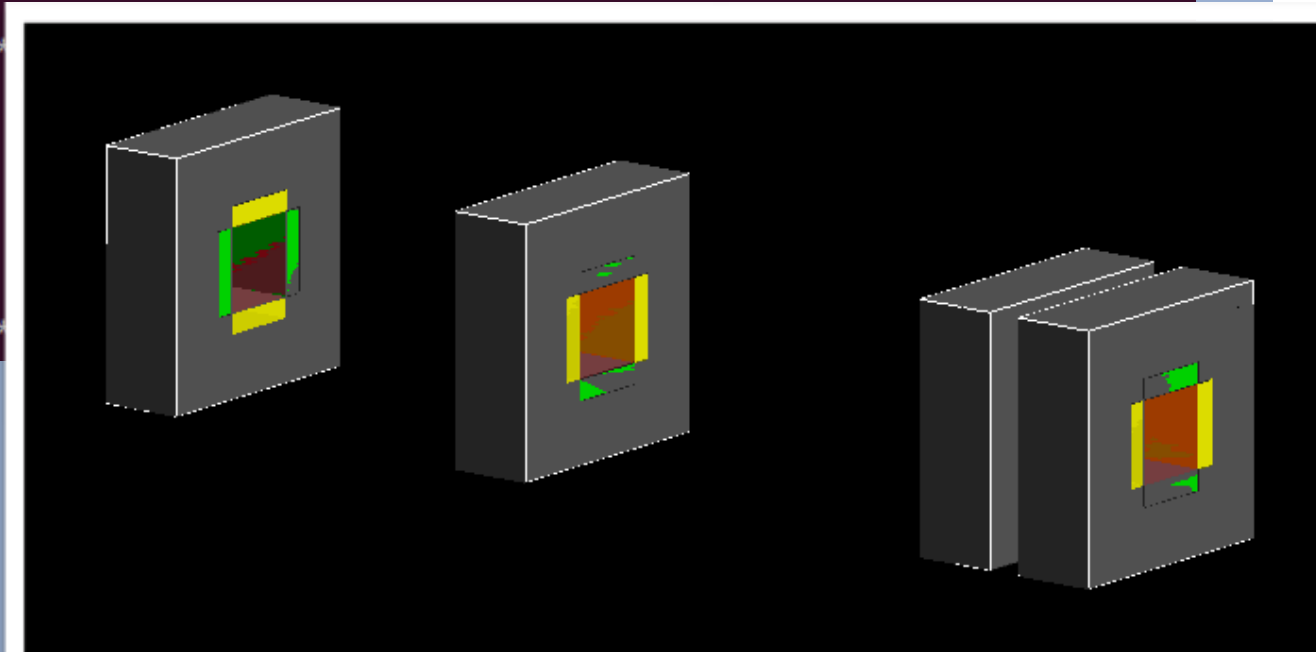
THE Tuscany Health Ecosystem

[illegible][illegible]

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>> Config file successfully read
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Qz	4
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Qx	4
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Qtype	4
Qgamma	4
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Qalpha	4
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Geant4 version



Before compiling...

Focusing



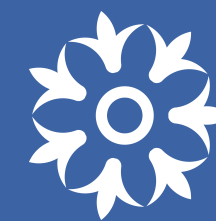
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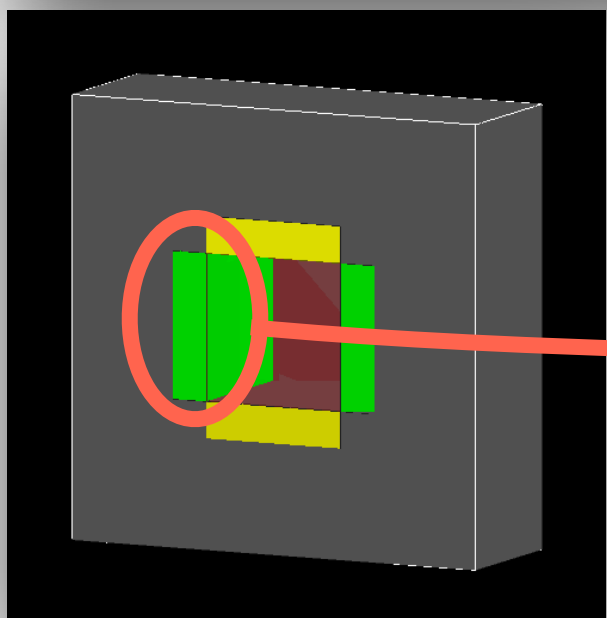
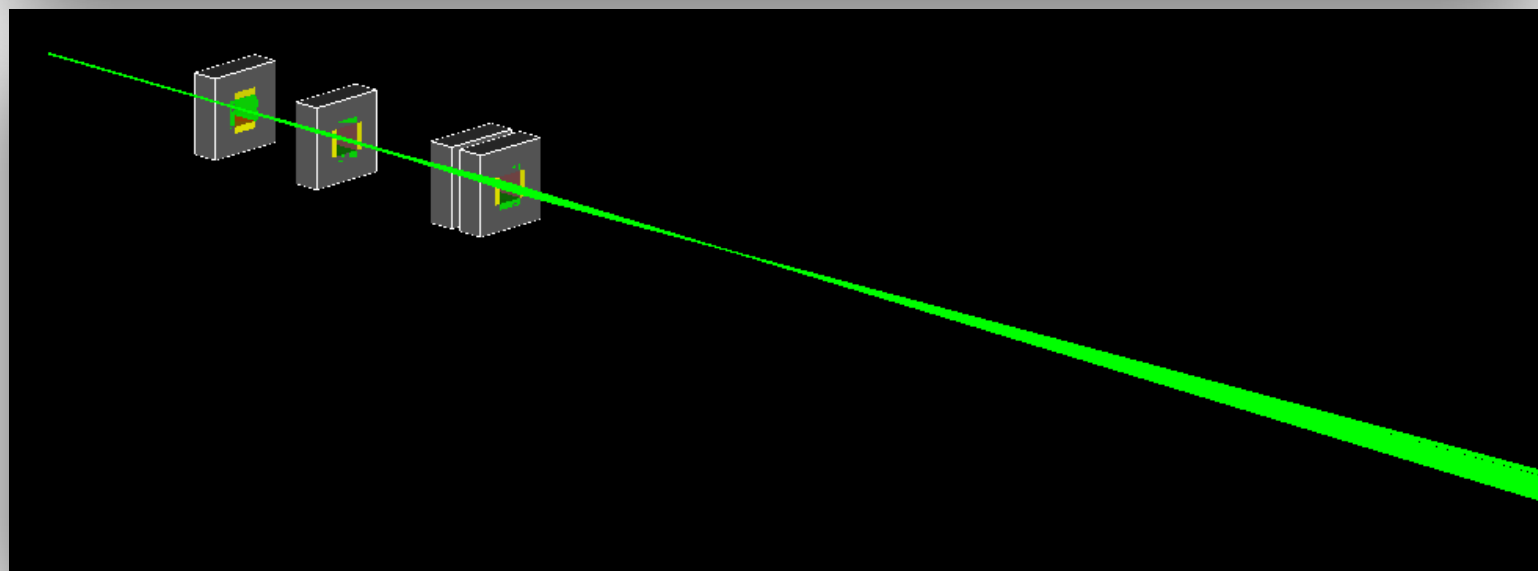
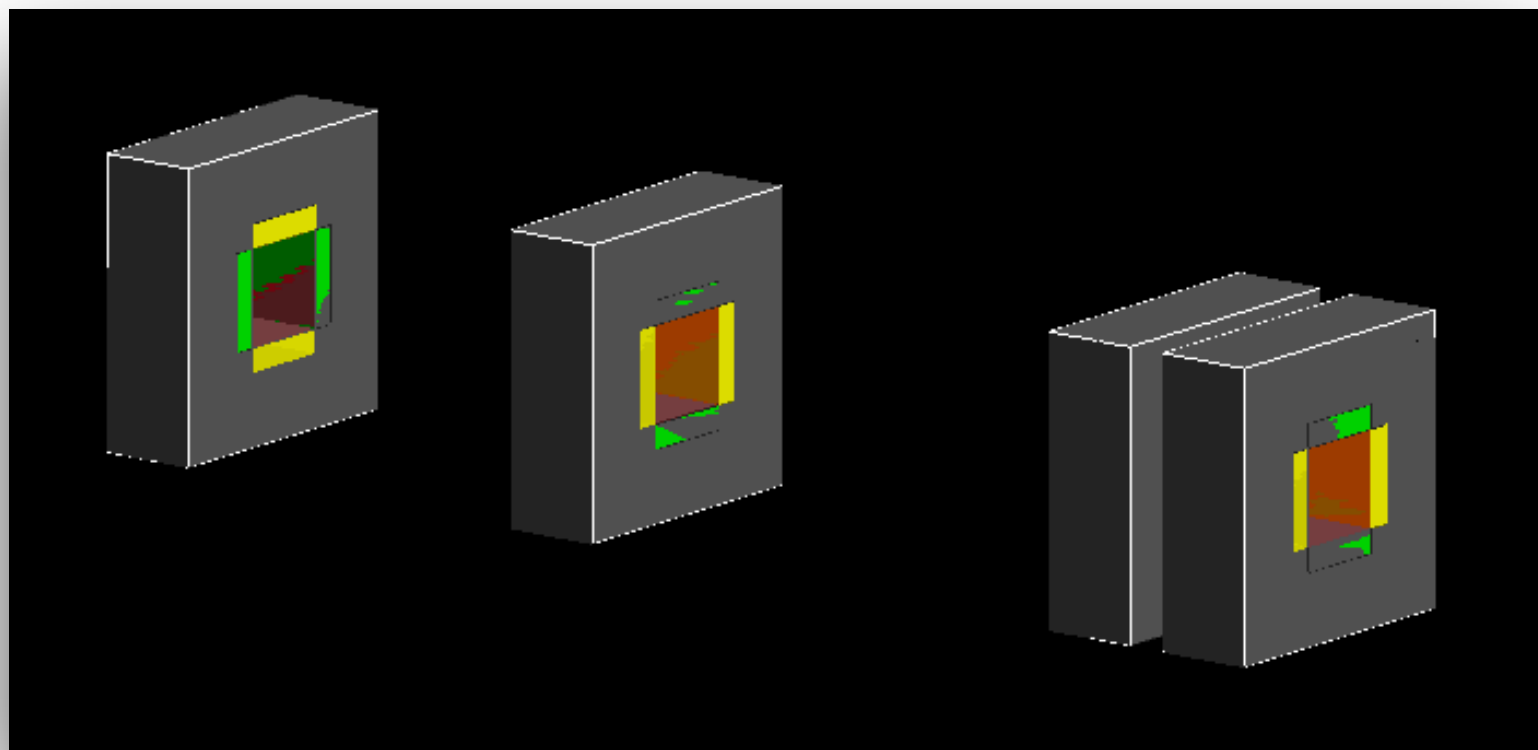
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1. Technical information

Neodymium supermagnet - Block magnet 60 x 30 x 15 mm, holds approx. 56 kg

Article ID	Q-60-30-15-N
EAN	754015945671
Material	NdFeB
Shape	Block
Size	60 x 30 x 15 mm
Side 1	60 mm
Side 2	30 mm
Side 3	15 mm
Pole faces	60 x 30 mm
Tolerance	±0.1 mm
Direction of magnetisation	Axis 15 mm
Coating	Nickel-plated (Ni-Cu-Ni)
Manufacturing method	sintered
Magnetisation	N40
Strength	approx. 56 kg (approx. 549 N)
Displacement force	approx. 11 kg (approx. 110 N)
Max. working temperature	80°C
Weight	205,2000 g
Curie temperature	310 °C
Residual magnetism Br	12000-12000 G, 1.26-1.29 T
Coercive field strength bHc	10.5-12.0 kOe, 860-955 kA/m
Coercive field strength JHc	≥12 kOe, ≥955 kA/m
Energy product (BxH)max	36-40 MGOe, 363-318 kJ/m³



Focusing



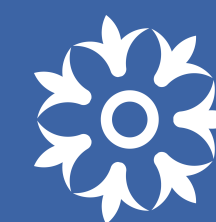
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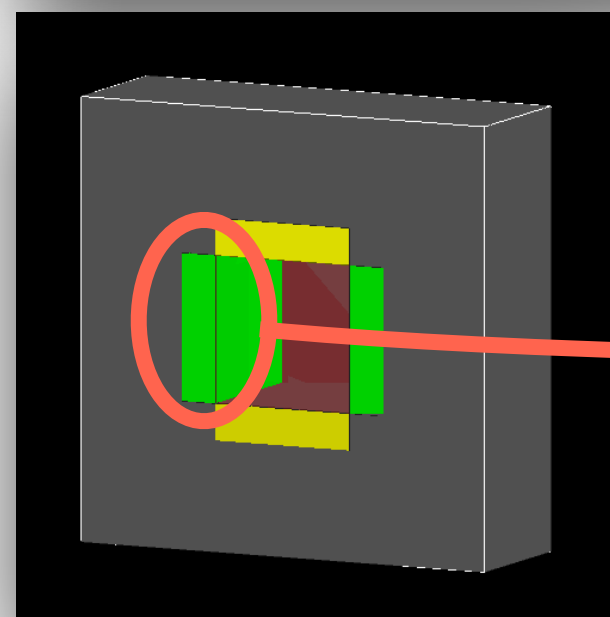
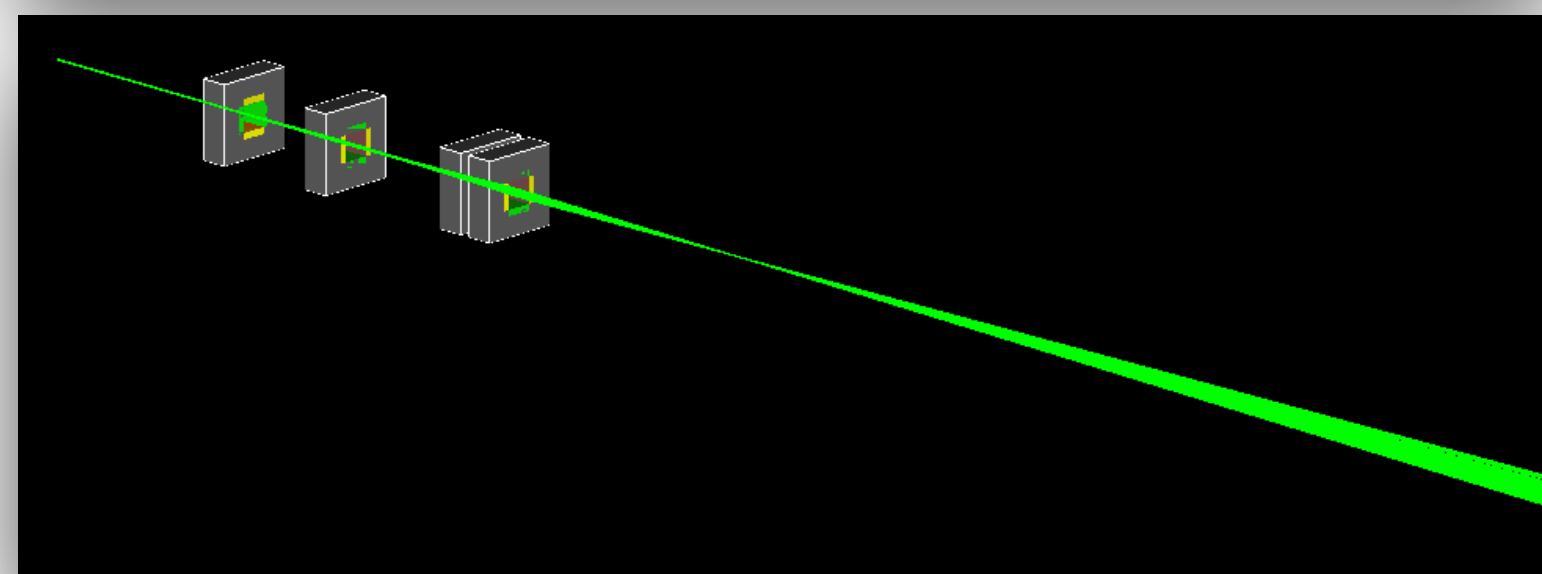
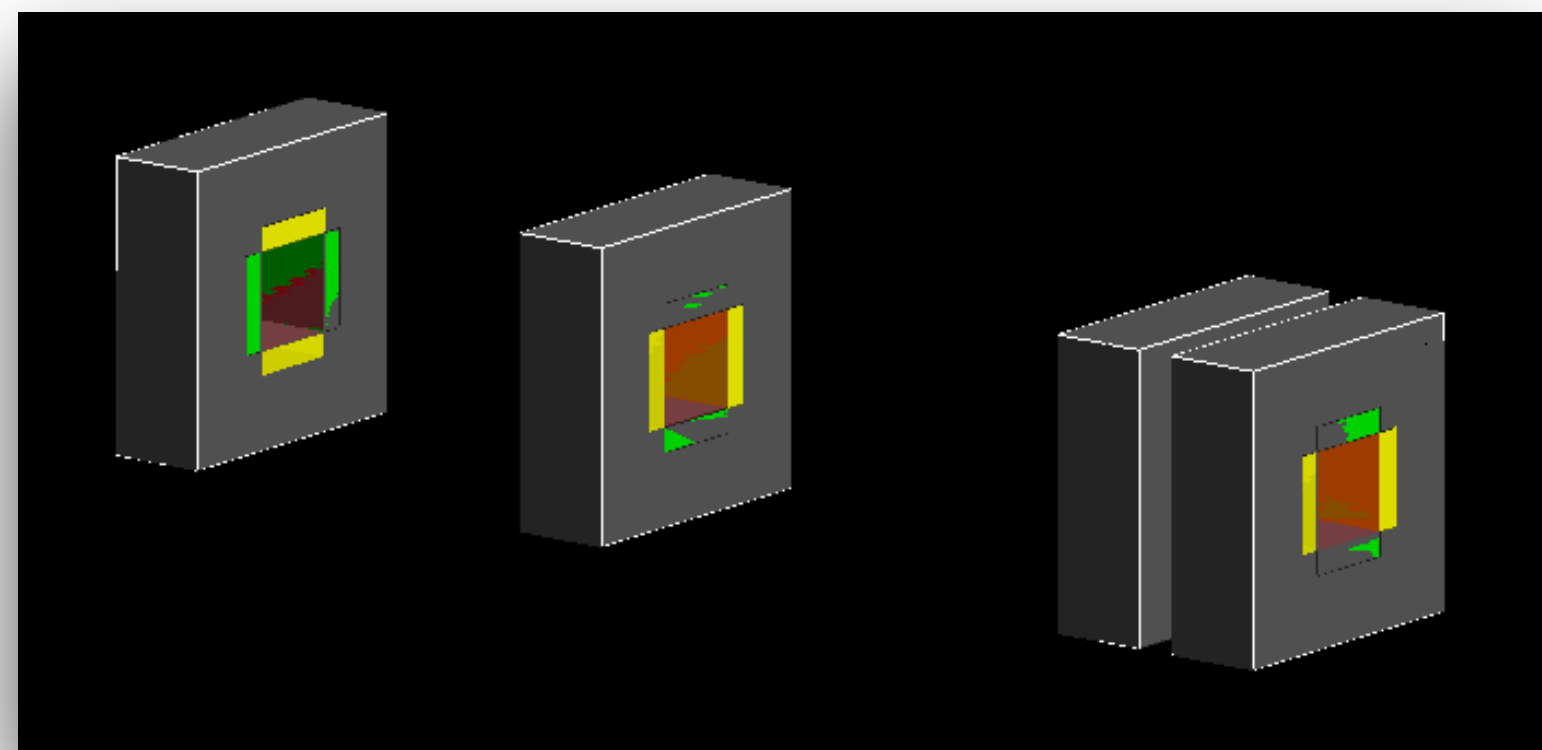
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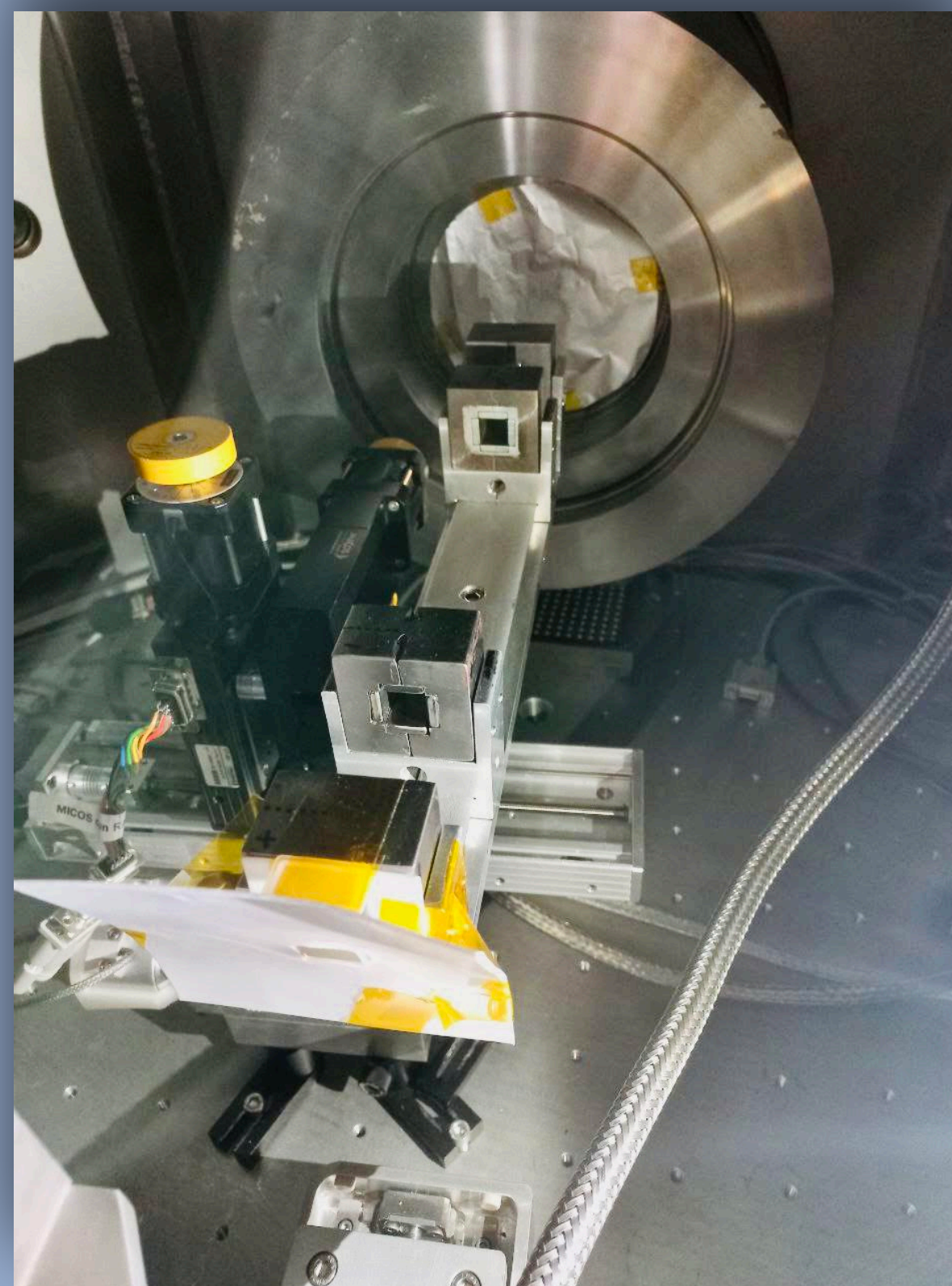
1. Technical information

Neodymium supermagnet - Block magnet 60 x 30 x 15 mm, holds approx. 56 kg

Article ID	Q-60-30-15-N
EAN	7540155456571
Material	NdFeB
Shape	Block
Size	60 x 30 x 15 mm
Side 1	60 mm
Side 2	30 mm
Side 3	15 mm
Pole faces	60 x 30 mm
Tolerance	±0.1 mm
Direction of magnetisation	Axis 15 mm
Coating	Nickel-plated (Ni-Cu-Ni)
Manufacturing method	sintered
Magnetisation	N40
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Max. working temperature	80°C
Weight	205,2000 g
Curie temperature	310 °C
Residual magnetism Br	12000-12000 G, 1.26-1.29 T
Coercive field strength bHc	10.5-12.0 kOe, 860-955 kA/m
Coercive field strength bHc	≥12 kOe, ≥955 kA/m
Energy product (BxH)max	35-40 MGOe, 303-318 kJ/m³



In the lab...



With the MBL the point size is reduced from 1.15×0.90 cm to 0.60×0.44 cm, whereas the point stability deviation is reduced from 1.99 to 0.55 and from 2.81 to 0.44, for σ_x and σ_y , respectively.

Focusing



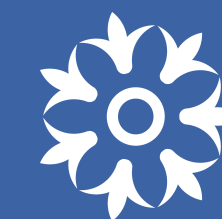
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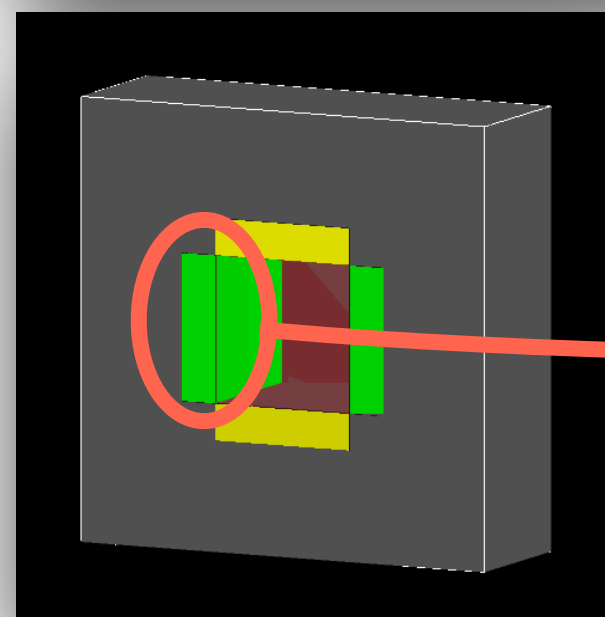
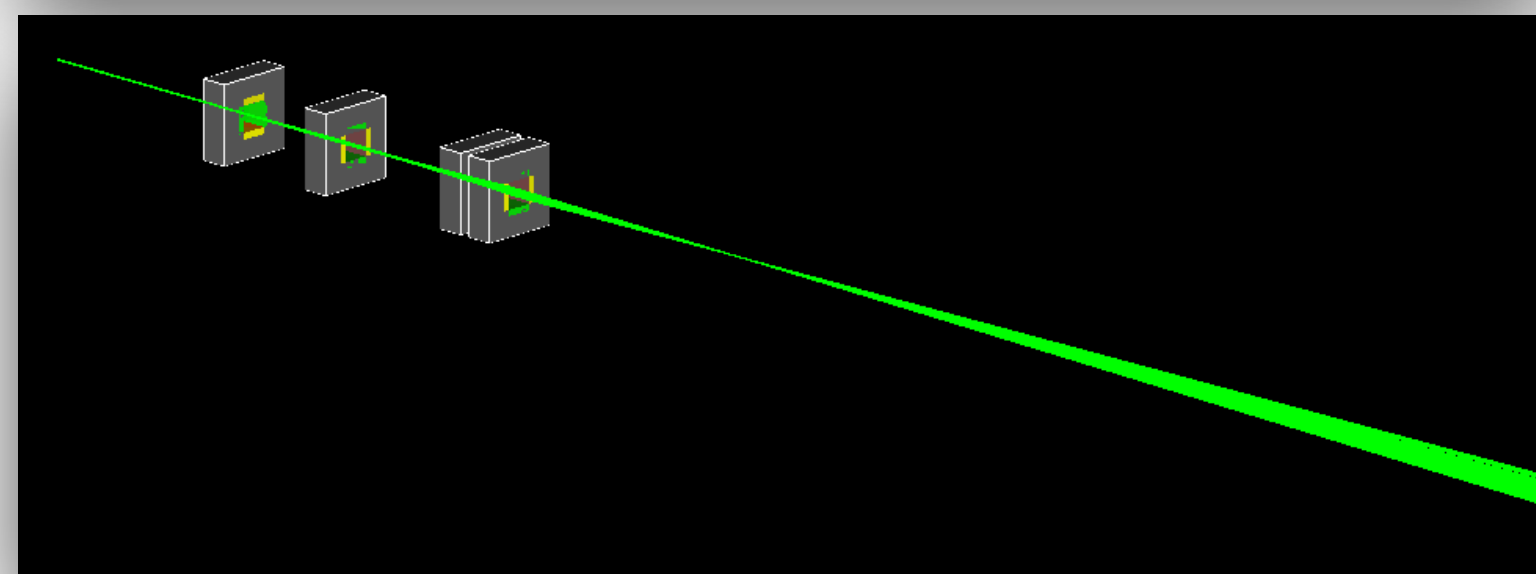
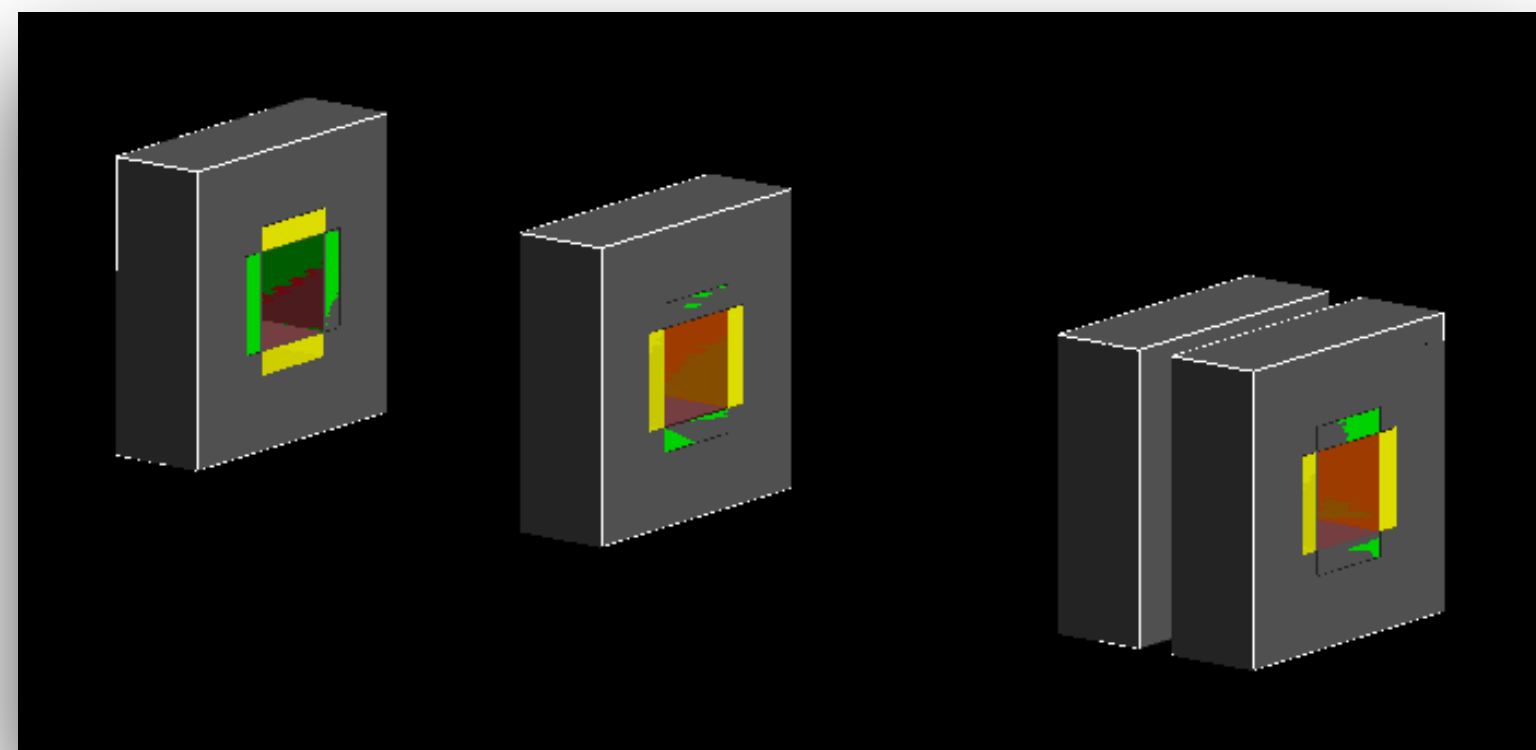
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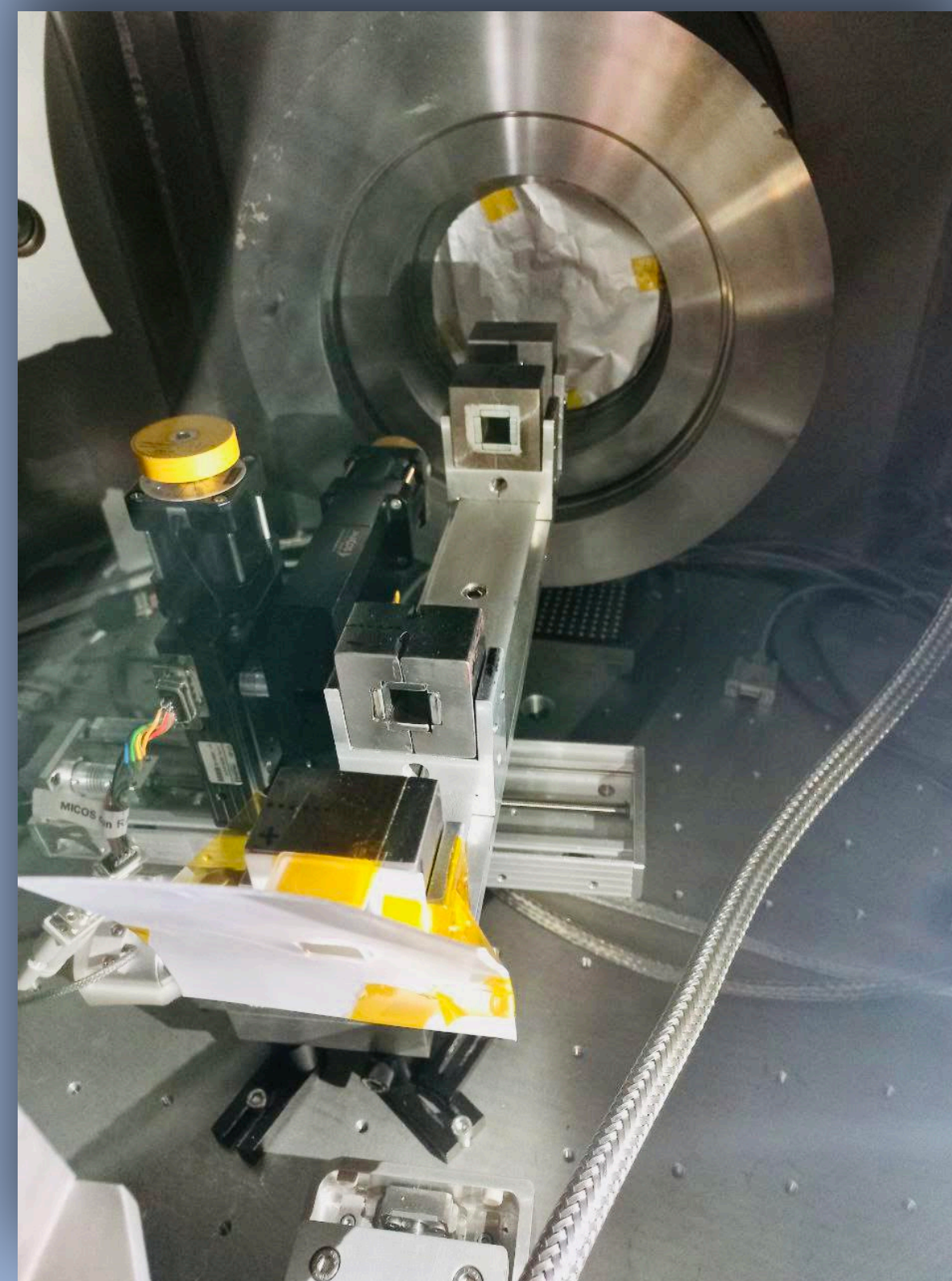
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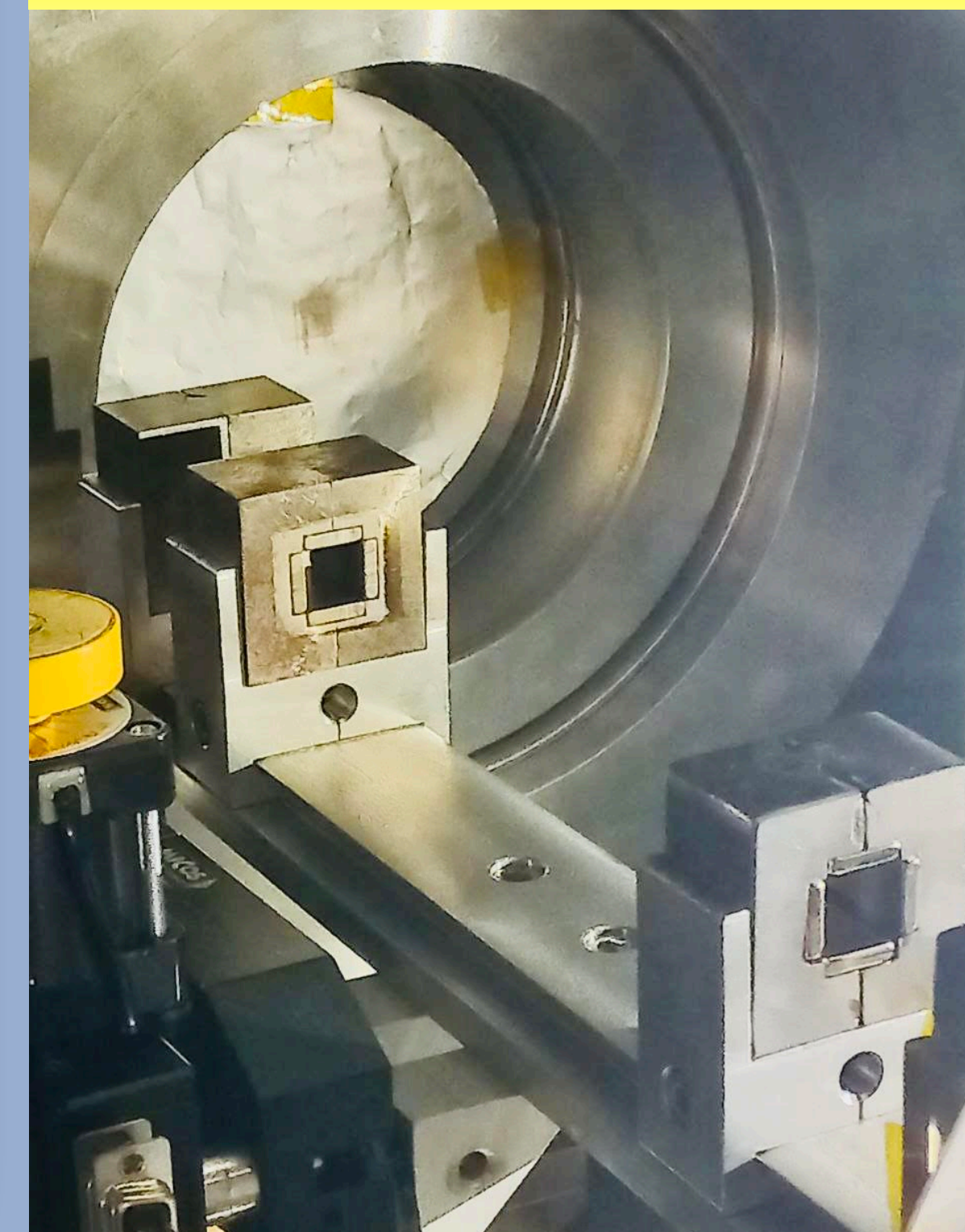
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In the lab...



See Dr M. Salvadori talk...



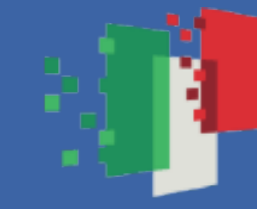
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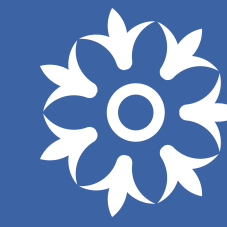
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2. Particle In Cell (Pic) simulations

3. Monte Carlo simulations

3.1 VHEE PDDs database

3.2 VHEE focusing study

3.3 VHEE dosimetric assessment

3.4 OPTIMA: VHEE Treatment Planning System (TPS)

4. Conclusions



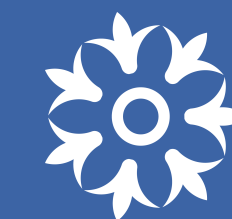
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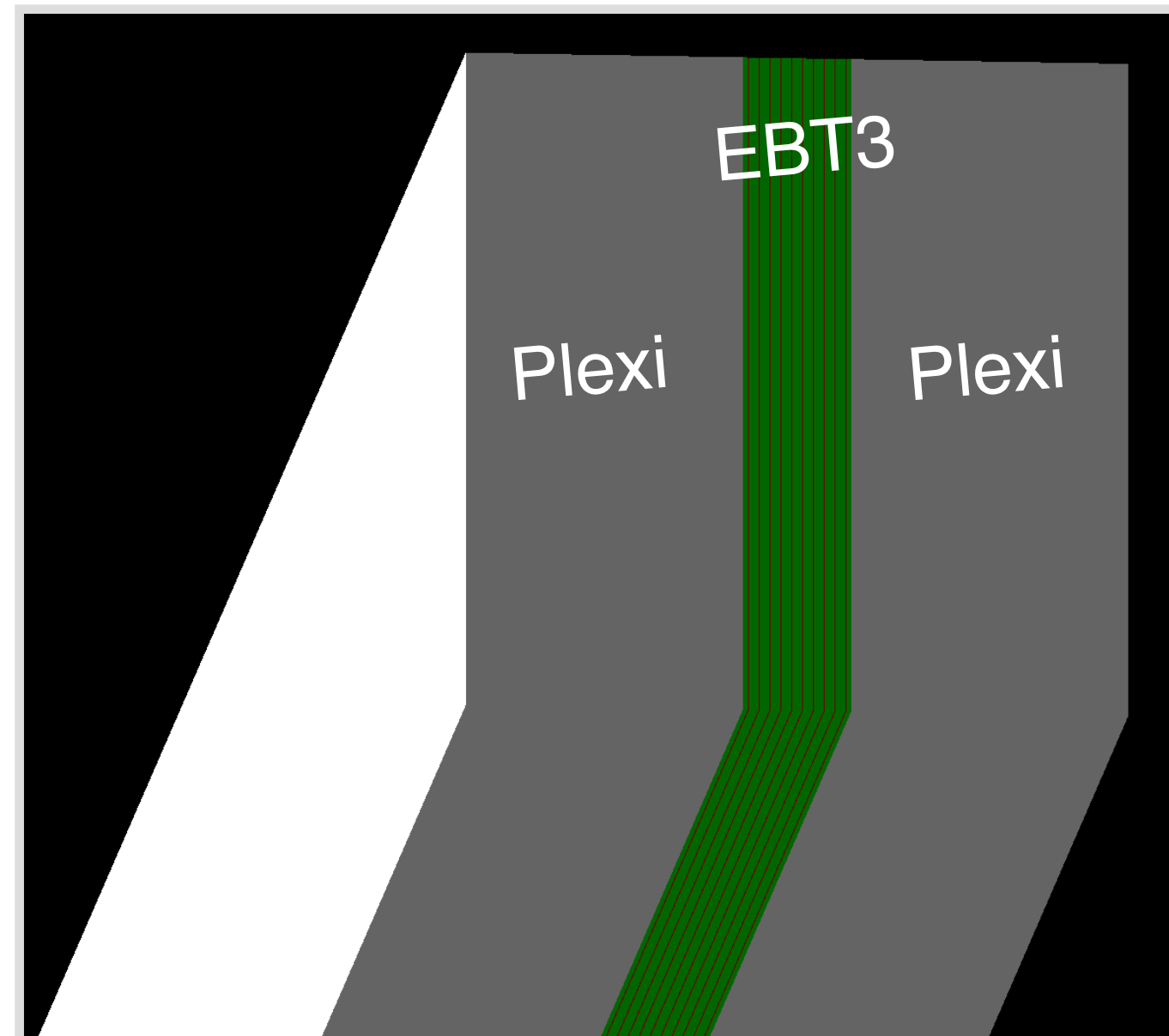
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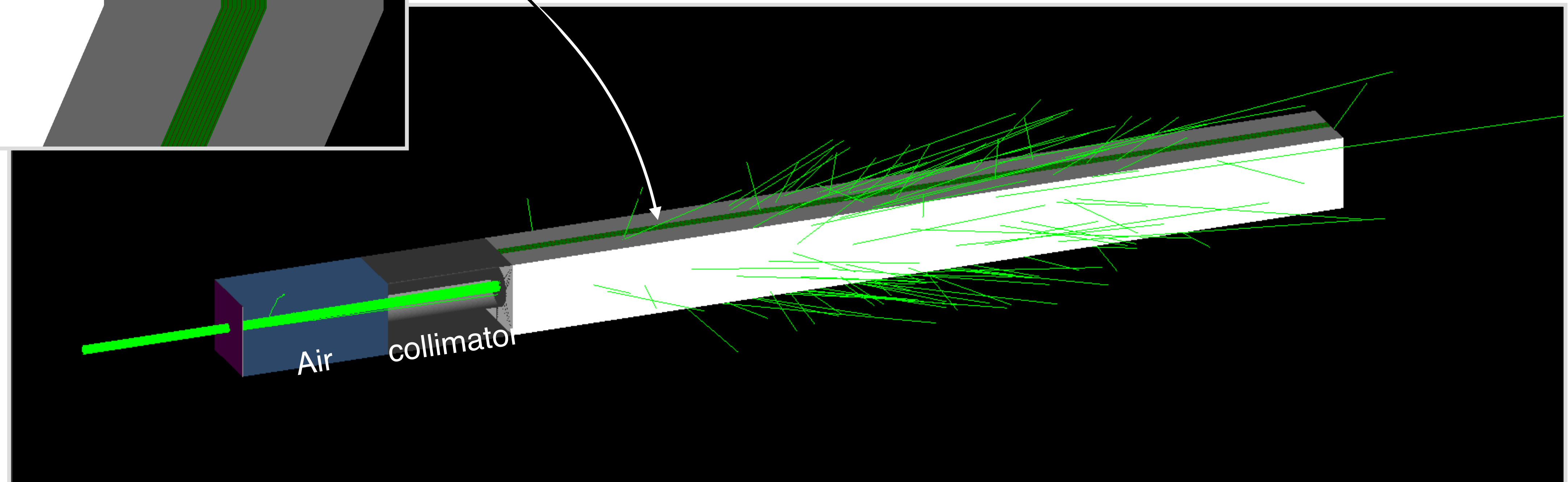


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VHEE Dosimetric assessment

Set-Up 1





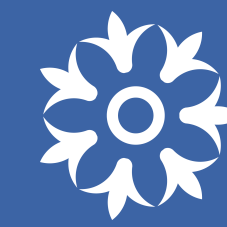
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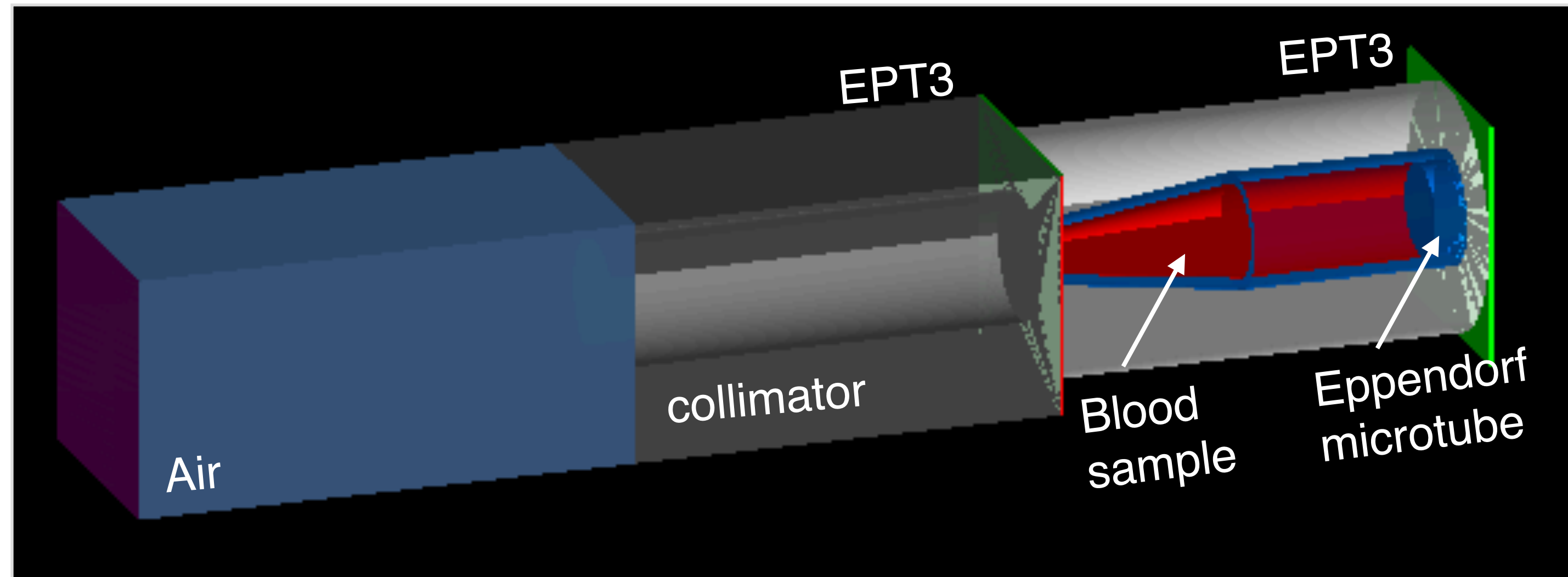
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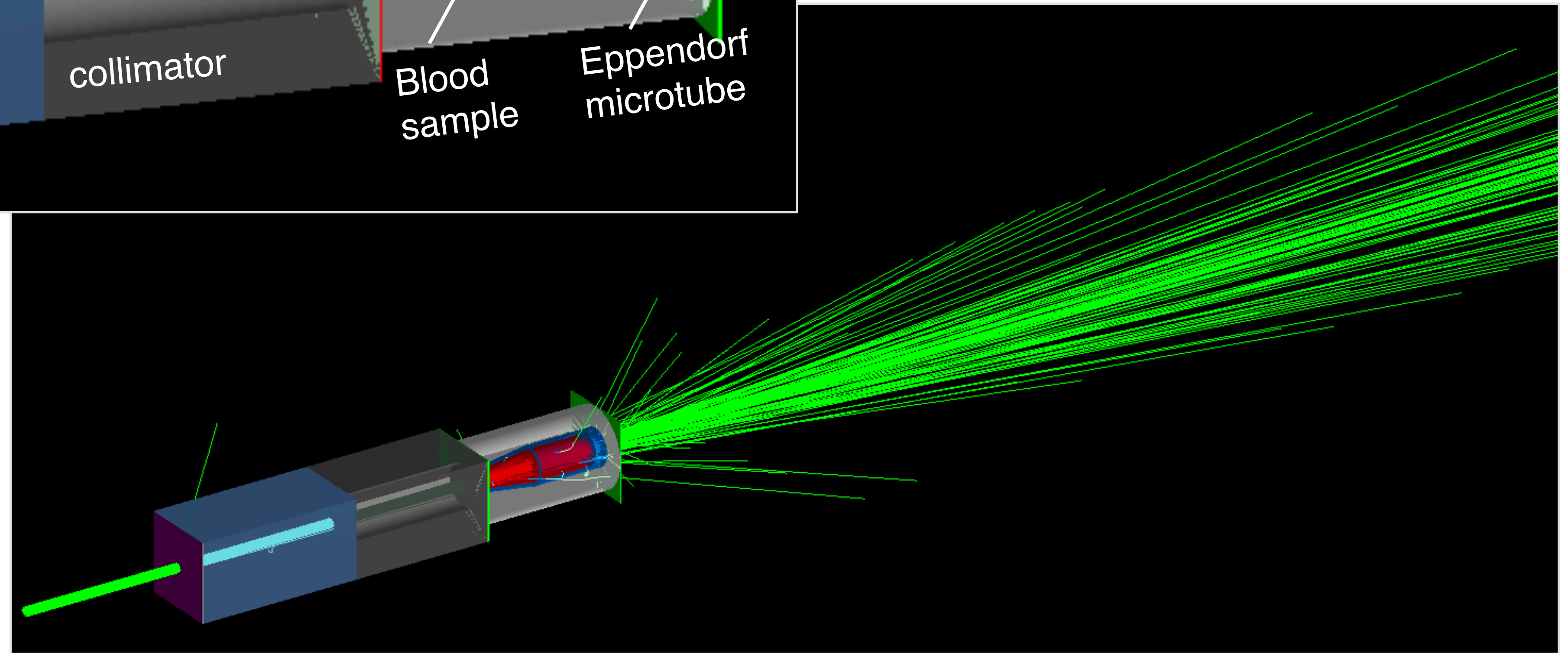


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VHEE Dosimetric assessment

Set-Up 2

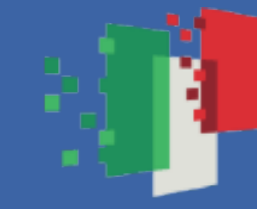




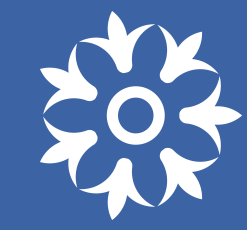
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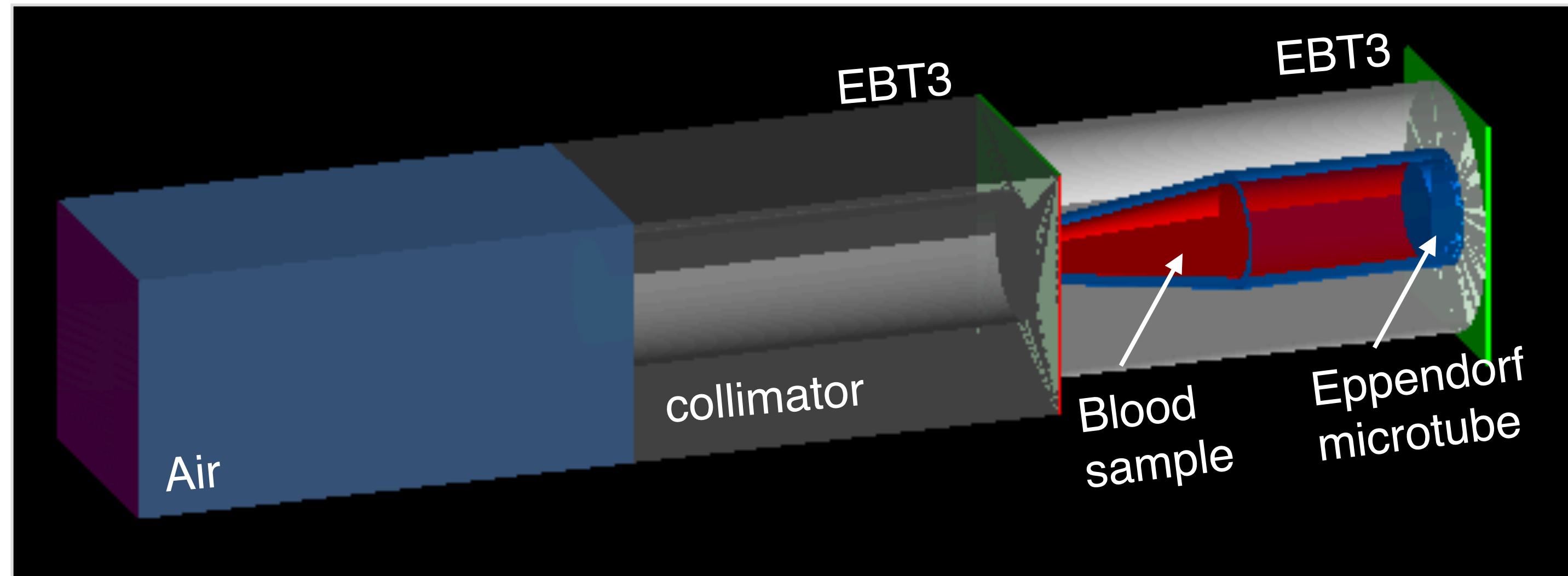
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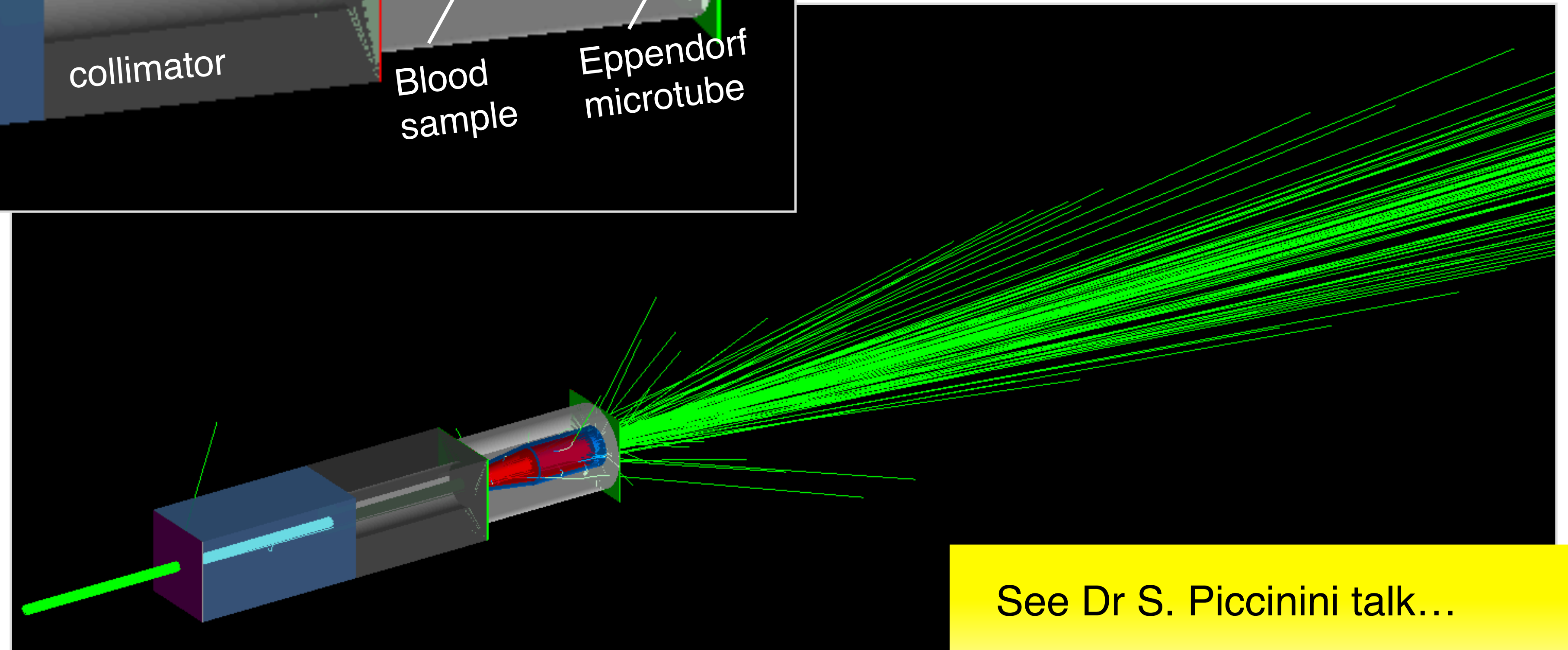


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VHEE Dosimetric assessment

Set-Up 2



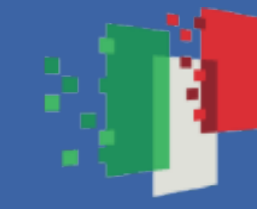
See Dr S. Piccinini talk...



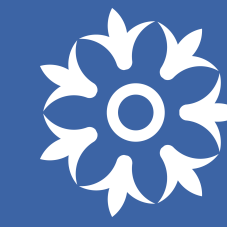
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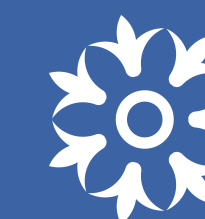
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PiOneering Precision RadioTherapy - Inverse Monte Carlo-based Treatment Planning System for Very High Energy Electron Beams



European Research Council
Established by the European Commission

Panaino

Part B2

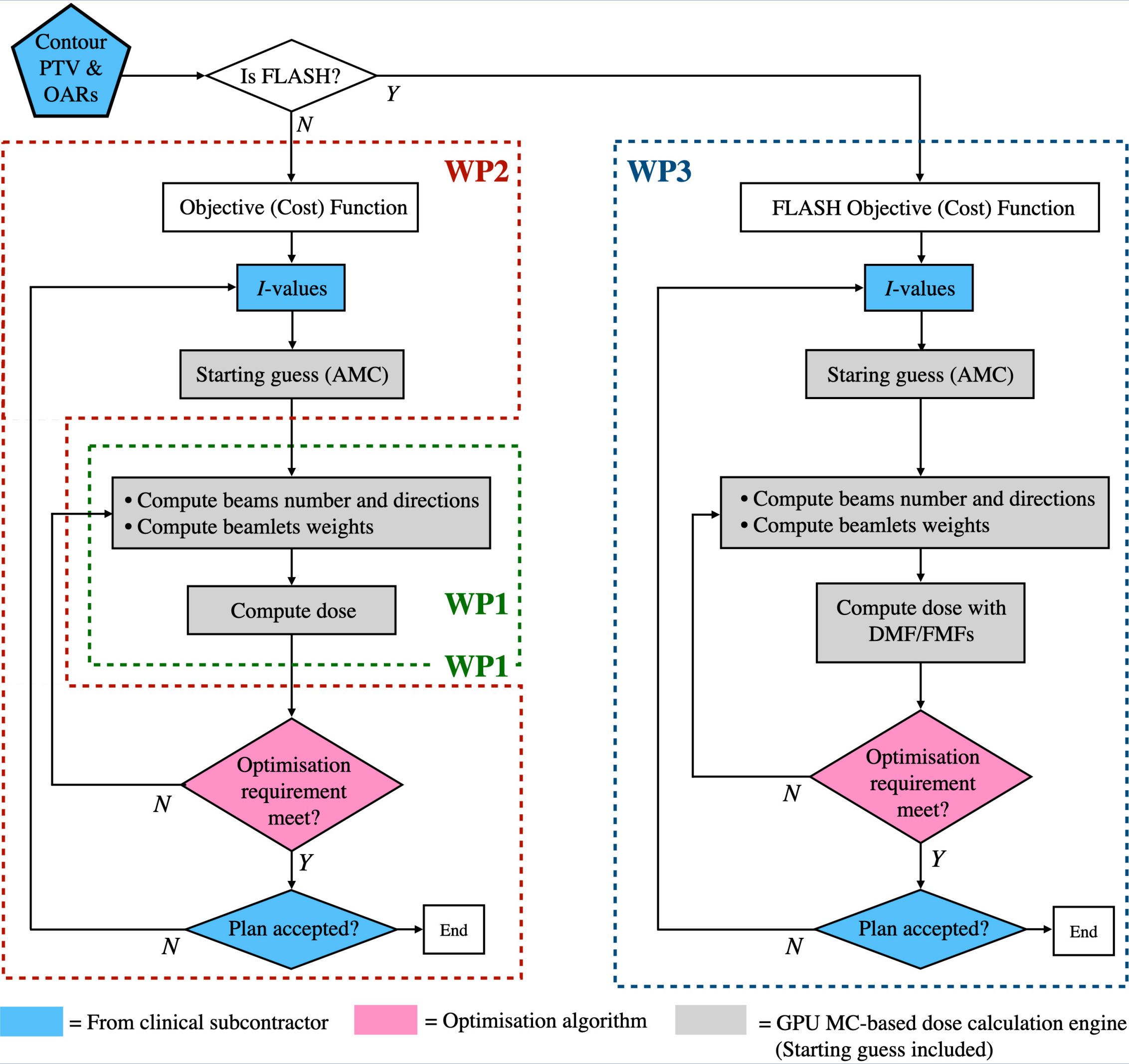
ERC Starting Grant
Research Proposal [P

PiOneering Precision RadioTherapy - Inverse Monte Carlo-based
Very High Energy Electron Beams

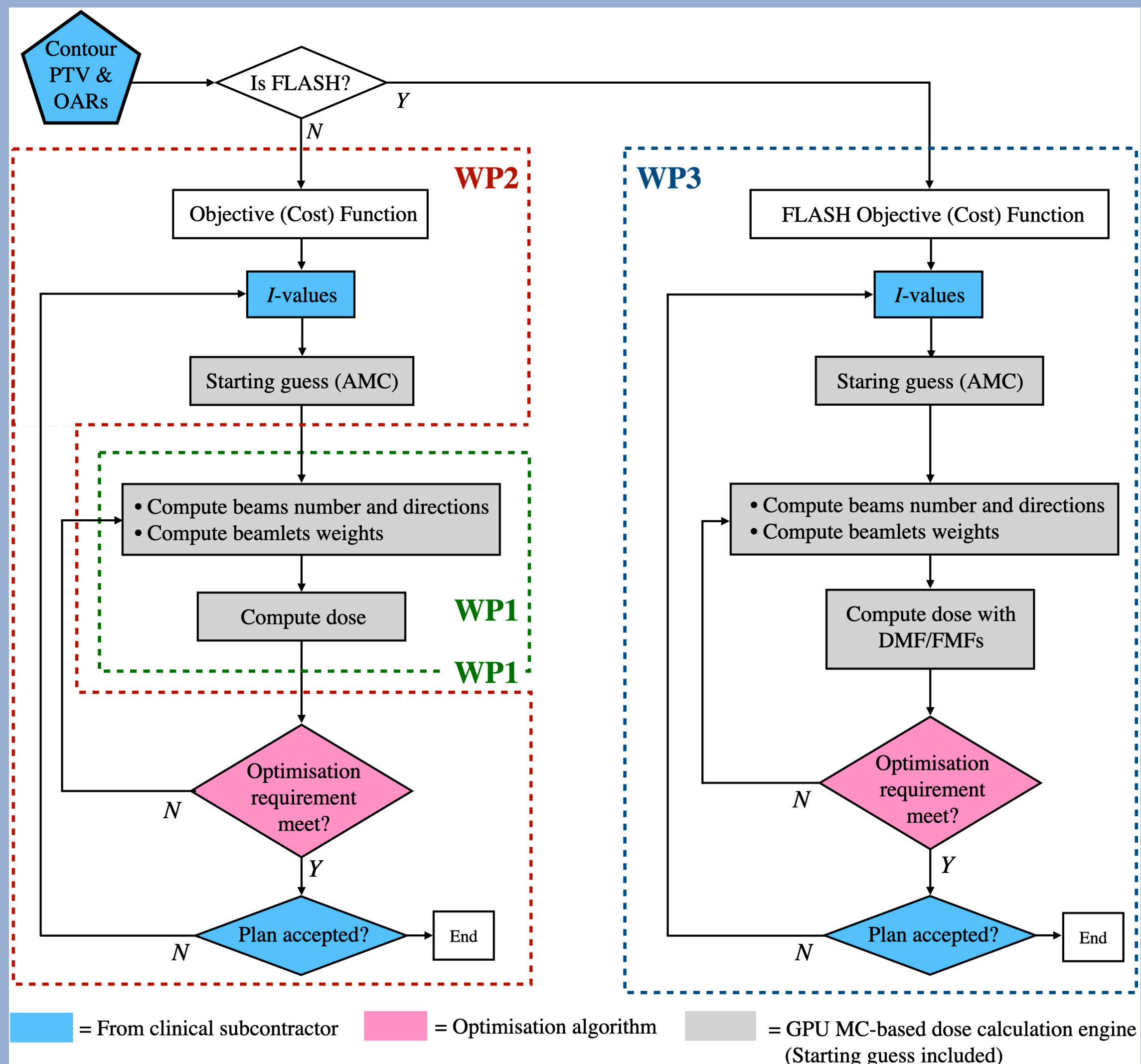
Part B2: The scientific proposal (max. 14 pages)

a. State-of-the-art and objectives

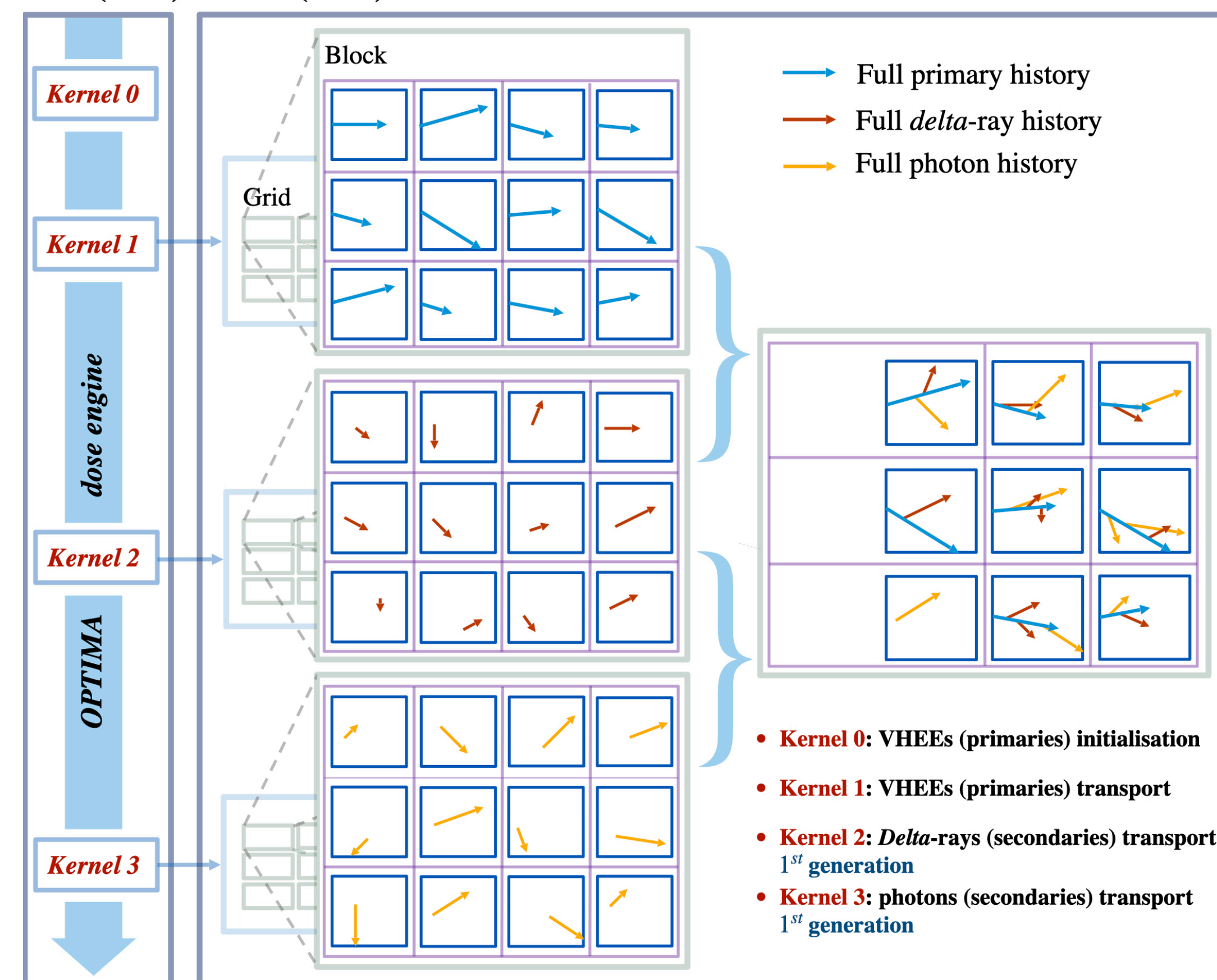
Over the past two decades, Very High Energy Electron (VHEE) beams (1-10 MeV), have gained significant attention for their potential in cancer treatment. They offer advantageous physical properties and represent a promising alternative to conventional radiotherapy. However, clinical implementation requires considerable advancements, particularly in Treatment Planning Systems (TPS). Advanced software suite used in clinical settings to design and deliver radiation therapy to a tumor, while minimising radiation exposure to adjacent healthy tissues. Monte Carlo (MC) methods is highly desirable due to their accuracy in simulating the position within the patient's body. This project aims to develop a novel TPS specifically designed for VHEET. OPTIMA will leverage advanced Monte Carlo simulations, ensuring high computational efficiency and



Why GPU?

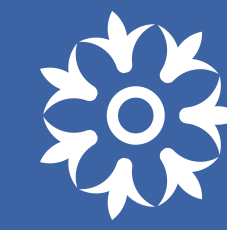
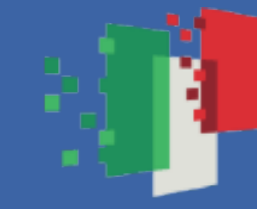


Host (CPU) Device (GPU)



FASTEST-THE, Bando a cascata PNRR.

G. De Nunzio, Università del Salento



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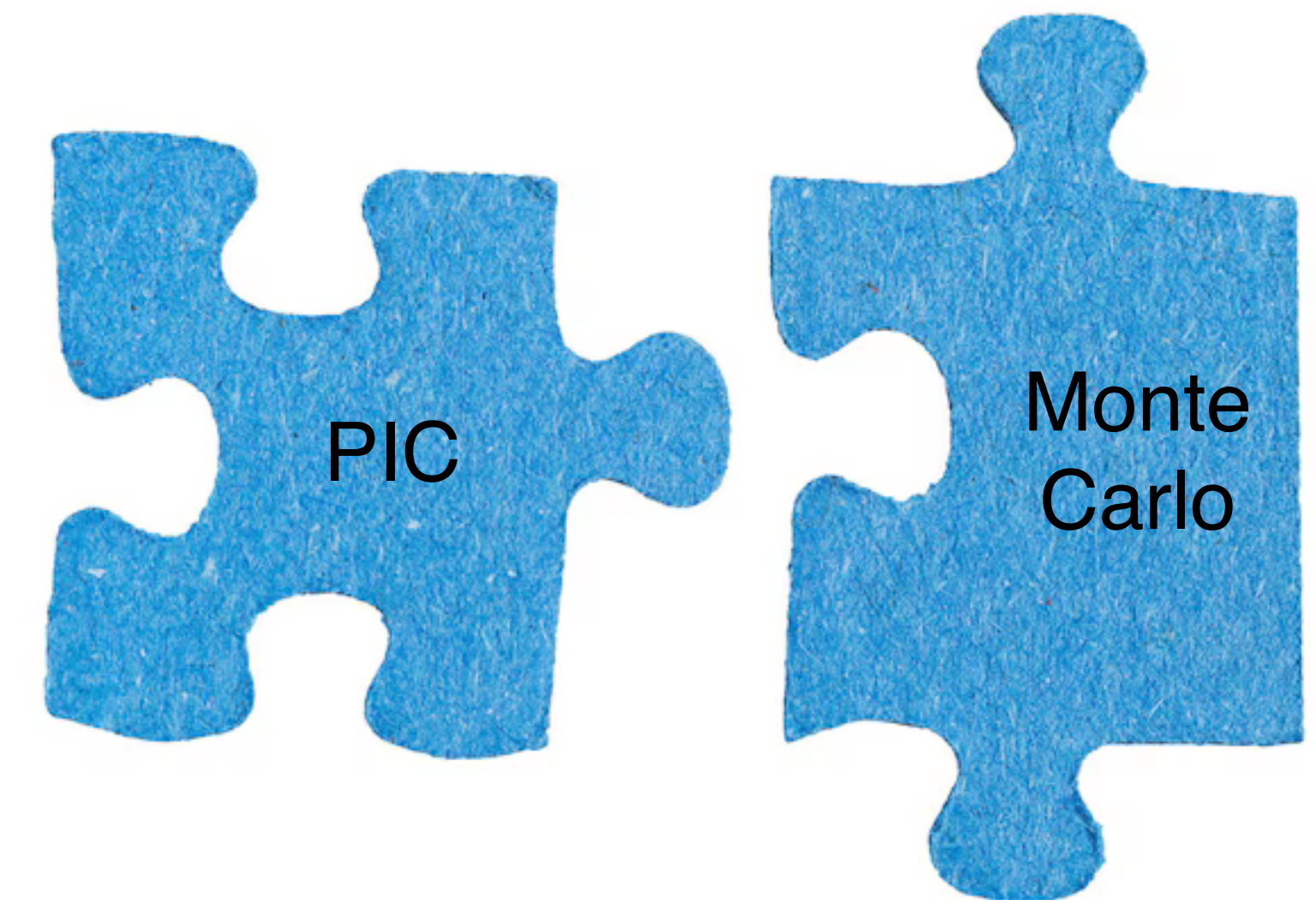
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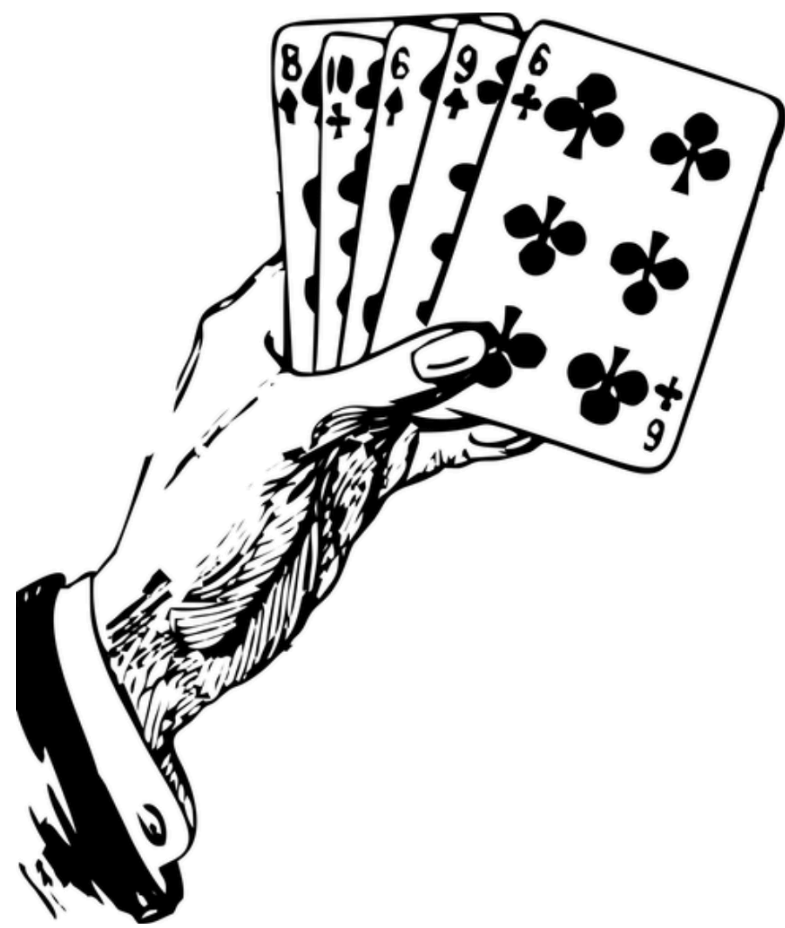
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4. Conclusions



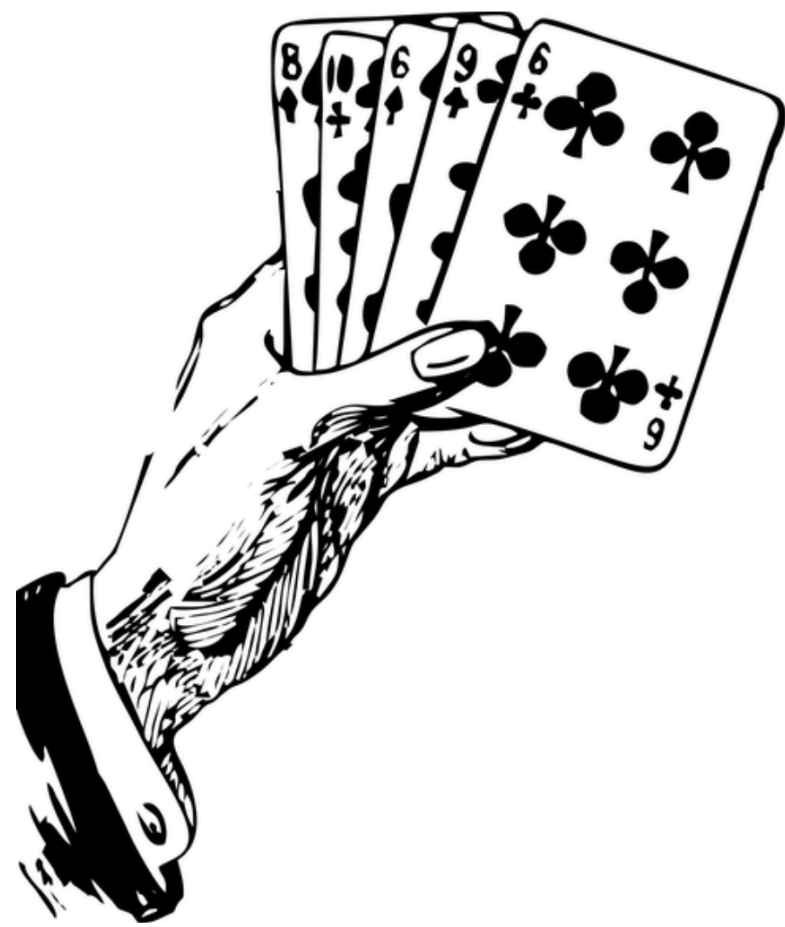
What my mum
thinks I am doing



What my mum
thinks I am doing

$$1+2=3$$

What experimental
physicists think I am doing



$$1+2=3$$

What experimental
physicists think I am doing

What my mum
thinks I am doing

$$\begin{aligned} \phi &= \beta S \cos(\beta n) \quad \Delta = k\lambda - \max \quad \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}} \quad T = 2\pi\sqrt{LC} \quad v = 2\pi Rn = \omega R \\ &\quad \Delta = k\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2} - \min \quad x = x_0 + v_1 t \\ &\quad \omega = \frac{2\pi}{T} = 2\pi\nu \quad V = \sqrt{\frac{RTC_p}{\mu C_v}} \quad \nu = \sqrt{\frac{3kT}{m_0}} = \sqrt{\frac{3RT}{M}} \quad S_x = x - x_0 \\ A &= FS \cos \alpha \quad A = -F_{mp} S \quad A = mgh \quad V - V_0 = \beta V_0 (t - t_0) \quad E_k = \frac{mv^2}{2} = eU_s \quad \nu = \frac{m}{M} = \frac{N}{N_A} \quad v_\varphi = \frac{S}{t} \\ A &= -mgh \quad R = \frac{m\nu}{qB} \quad T = \frac{2\pi m}{qB} \quad m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1-\beta}} \quad X_c = \frac{1}{\omega C} \quad t = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{1-\beta}} \quad v_\varphi = \frac{v_0 + v}{2} \\ A &= \frac{kx^2}{2} \quad Q = cm(t_2 - t_1) = U + A \quad S_s = h - h_0 = v_{0y}t + \frac{g_y t^2}{2} \quad N = \frac{A}{t} \quad W = \frac{kq_1 q_2}{\epsilon r} \quad \bar{E}_\kappa = \frac{3}{2} kT \quad y = |3\sin 2x| - 1 \quad X_L = \omega L \quad \beta = \frac{v^2}{c^2} \quad \vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{a}t \\ N &= F\nu \quad T = 2\pi\sqrt{\frac{l}{g}} \quad \Delta = k\lambda + \frac{\lambda}{2} - \min \quad S_x = V_{0x}t + \frac{a_x t^2}{2} \quad F_A = \rho g V \quad S_1 = \frac{v_1^2 - v_{0x}^2}{2a_x} \\ N &= F\nu \quad E_k = \frac{mv^2}{2} \quad \varphi = \frac{kq}{\epsilon r} \quad V_x = V_0 - at \quad S_x = \frac{a_x}{2} \left(t^2 + 2 \frac{V_{0x}}{a_x} t \right) \quad P_1 = P - F_A \quad \vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{g}t \\ E_p &= mgh \quad E = \frac{kx^2}{2} \quad V = \frac{\lambda}{T} \quad \vec{p} = \frac{m_0 v}{\sqrt{1-\beta}} \quad S_x = \frac{a_x}{2} \left(t^2 + 2 \frac{V_{0x}}{a_x} t + \frac{V_{0x}^2}{a_x^2} - \frac{V_{0x}^2}{a_x^2} \right) \quad F_2 = F_1 \frac{S_2}{S_1} \quad \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{S}}{t} \\ E &= E_k + E_p = \text{const} \quad A = \frac{mv_i^2}{2} - \frac{mv_f^2}{2} \quad \eta = \frac{A_n}{A} = \frac{N_n}{N} \end{aligned}$$

What I think I am doing



1+2=2

What my mum
thinks I am doing

What
physic



What I am actually doing

$$\phi = \beta S \cos(\beta n) \quad \Delta = k\lambda - \max \quad \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}} \quad T = 2\pi\sqrt{LC} \quad v = 2\pi Rn = \omega R$$

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$$m = \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1-\beta}} \quad X_c = \frac{1}{\omega C} \quad t = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{1-\beta}} \quad v_\varphi = \frac{v_0 + v}{2} \quad S_x = x - x_0$$

$$1 + A \quad S_y = h - h_0 = v_{0y} t + \frac{g_y t^2}{2} \quad \beta = \frac{v^2}{c^2} \quad \vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{a} t \quad \vec{S} = \vec{v}_0 t + \frac{\vec{a} t^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} k T \quad y = |3 \sin 2x| - 1 \quad X_L = \omega L \quad S_1 = \frac{v_1^2 - v_{0x}^2}{2a_x}$$

$$+ \frac{\lambda}{2} - \min \quad S_x = V_{0x} t + \frac{a_x t^2}{2} \quad F_A = \rho g V \quad P_1 = P - F_A \quad \vec{v} = \vec{v}_0 + \vec{g} t$$

$$at \quad S_\lambda = \frac{a_x}{2} \left(t^2 + 2 \frac{V_{0x}}{a_x} t \right) \quad F_2 = F_1 \frac{S_2}{S_1} \quad \vec{v} = \frac{\vec{S}}{t}$$

$$\frac{v_0 v}{-\beta} \quad S_x = \frac{a_x}{2} \left(t^2 + 2 \frac{V_{0x}}{a_x} t + \frac{V_{0x}^2}{a_x^2} - \frac{V_{0x}^2}{a_x^2} \right) \quad S_\lambda = \frac{a_x}{2} \left(t + \frac{V_{0x}}{a_x} \right)^2 - \frac{V_{0x}^2}{2a_x}$$

$$A = \frac{mv_i^2}{2} - \frac{mv_f^2}{2} \quad \eta = \frac{A_\eta}{A} = \frac{N_\eta}{N}$$

What I think I am doing



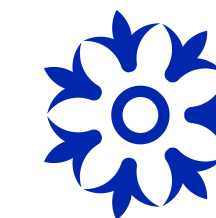
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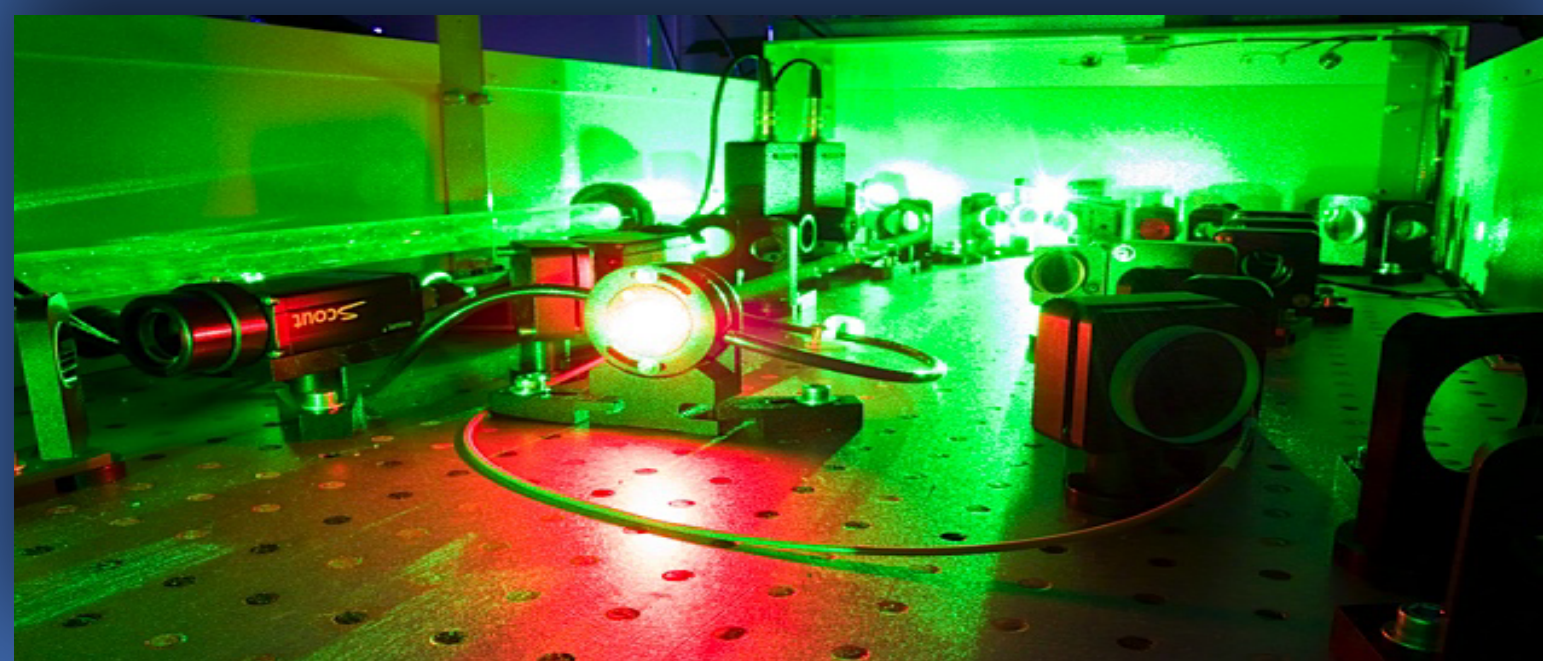
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PIANO NAZIONALE
DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA



THE
Tuscany Health Ecosystem



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