

Non-perturbative QED at LUXE and prospects for future e^+e^- colliders

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HELMHOLTZ



Overview

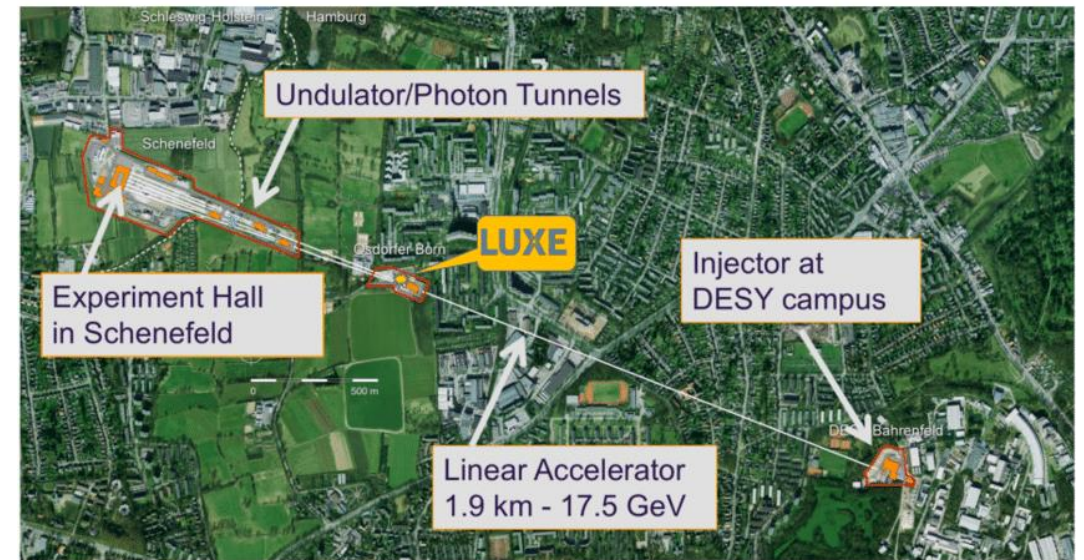
What is the LUXE experiment?

- proposed new experiment at DESY Hamburg & Eu.XFEL
- collisions between XFEL electron beam and high-intensity laser → probe (strong-field) QED in uncharted regime
- New physics search with optical beam dump experiment (NPOD)
- synergy between particle, accelerator and laser physics



What will be covered in today's talk?

- 1) What is strong-field QED and why is it interesting (for linear e^+/e^- colliders)?
- 2) What does LUXE add compared to previous and current SFQED/beam dump experiments?
- 3) What could be prospects for a LUXE-like experiment at a future e^+/e^- collider?



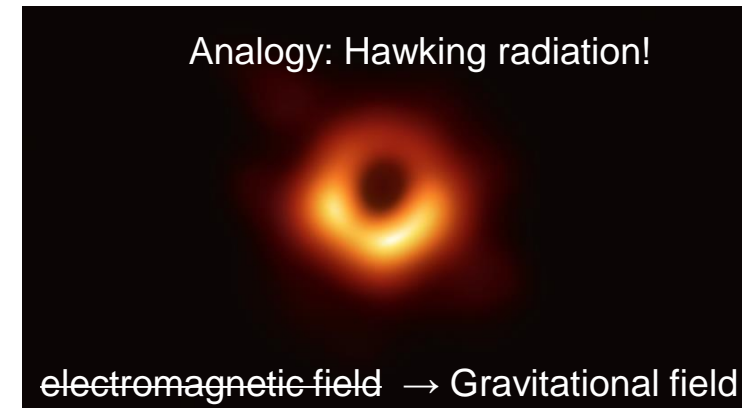
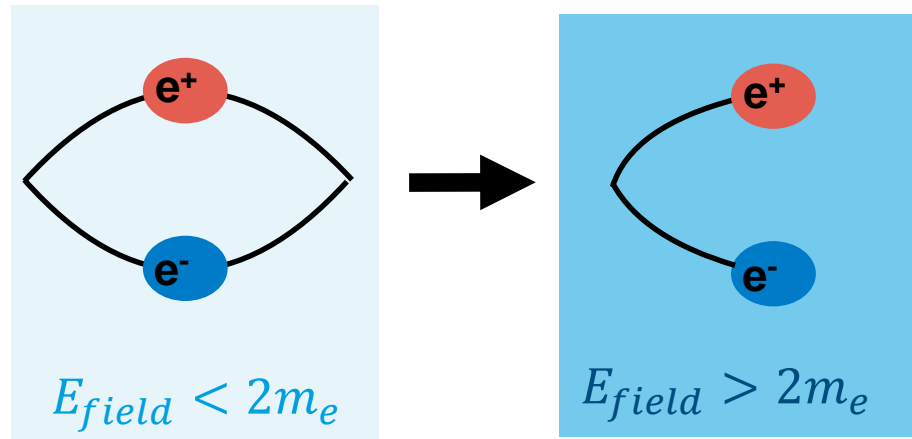
More physics beyond collider at future LC:
[Sakaki-san's talk in Monday plenary](#)

Strong-Field QED (SFQED)

- QED is one of the most well-tested theories in physics → based on perturbative calculations
- LUXE will probe QED in non-perturbative strong-field regime
- strong external field: work by field over Compton wavelength > rest mass of virtual particle
 → Schwinger-Limit
- Schwinger critical field: $\mathcal{E}_{cr} = \frac{m_e^2 c^3}{e\hbar}$ (e.g. for electrical field: $\mathcal{E}_{cr} = 1.32 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ V/m}$)

Field energy:

$$E_{field} = \frac{e\mathcal{E}}{m_e}$$



- Schwinger effect: creation of e^+e^- pair from vacuum in constant field
 → existing fields orders of magnitude too small compared to \mathcal{E}_{cr} , effect unobservable... but:

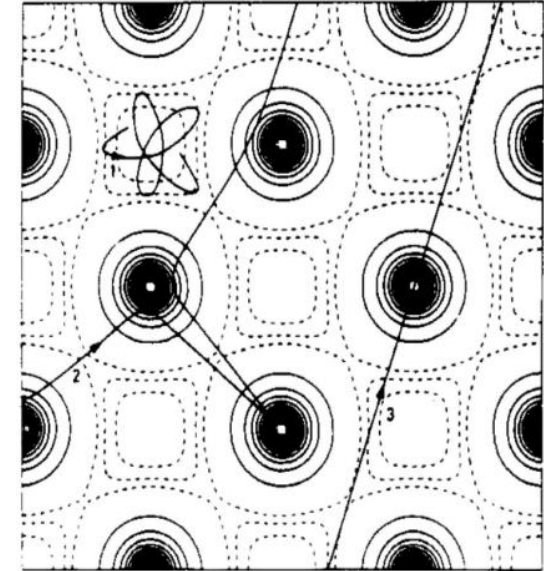
**Non-linear quantum effects accessible in fields below \mathcal{E}_{cr} with relativistic probe particles
 → fields $\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}_{cr})$ in particle rest frame!**

Creating strong fields in the laboratory

NA63: [10.1103/PhysRevD.108.052013](https://arxiv.org/abs/10.1103/PhysRevD.108.052013)

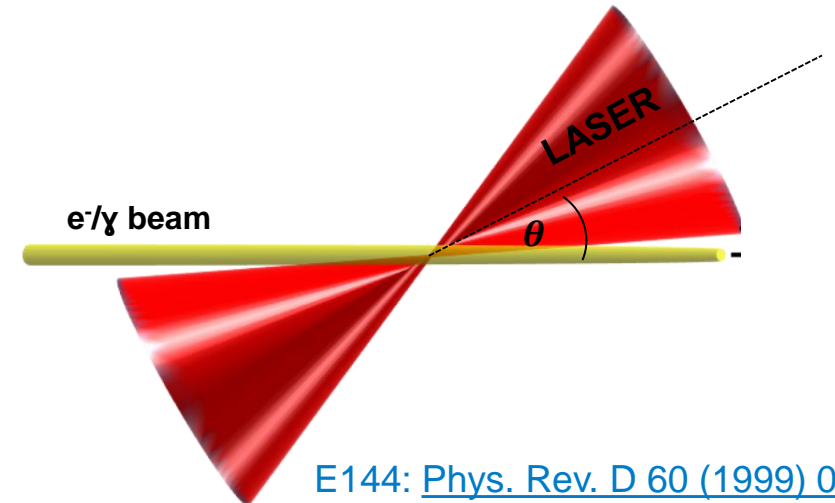
1) Solid state fixed-target experiments (e.g. NA63)

- Highly relativistic electrons impinging on crystalline target
- Crystal: EM field of $\sim 10^{11}$ V/m
→ reach Schwinger limit in probe electron rest frame
- Observed multiple SF-QED processes at critical field



2) Laser – particle beam collisions (LUXE, E320, E144)

- High-intensity optical laser pulse colliding with GeV particle beam (e^- , γ)
- Lorentz-boosted EM field in particle rest frame: $\mathcal{E}^* = \gamma \mathcal{E}_L (1 + \cos\theta)$
- Collisions with secondary GeV photon beam possible (LUXE)
- „Clean lab conditions“: no dependence on solid-state dynamics



E144: [Phys. Rev. D 60 \(1999\) 092004](https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.09204)
E320: [HILAS-2022-HF4B.6](https://arxiv.org/abs/2204.04466)
LUXE: [arXiv:2308.00515](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.00515)

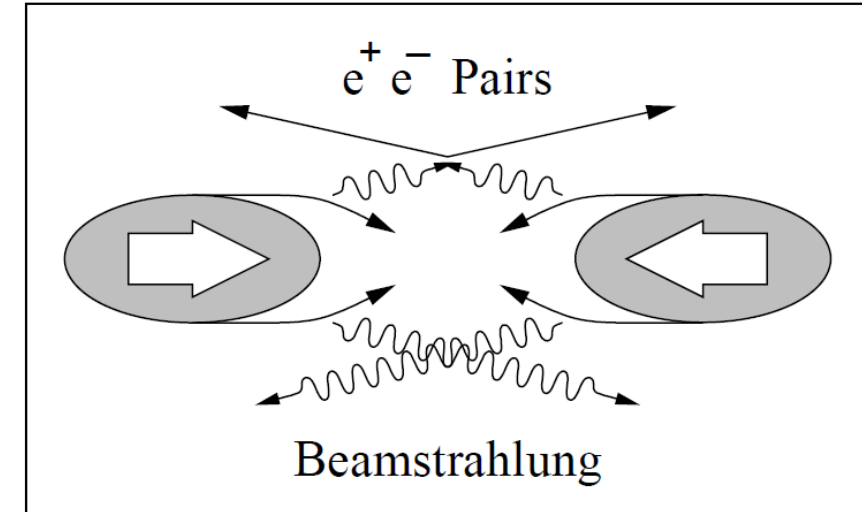
Creating strong fields in the laboratory

Source: [Thesis A. Vogel \(2008\)](#)

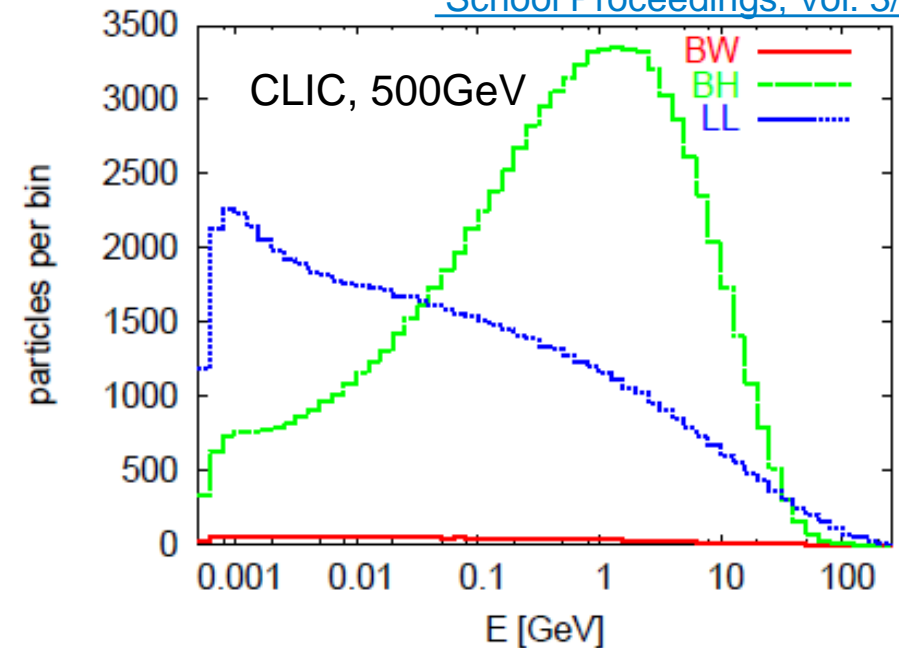
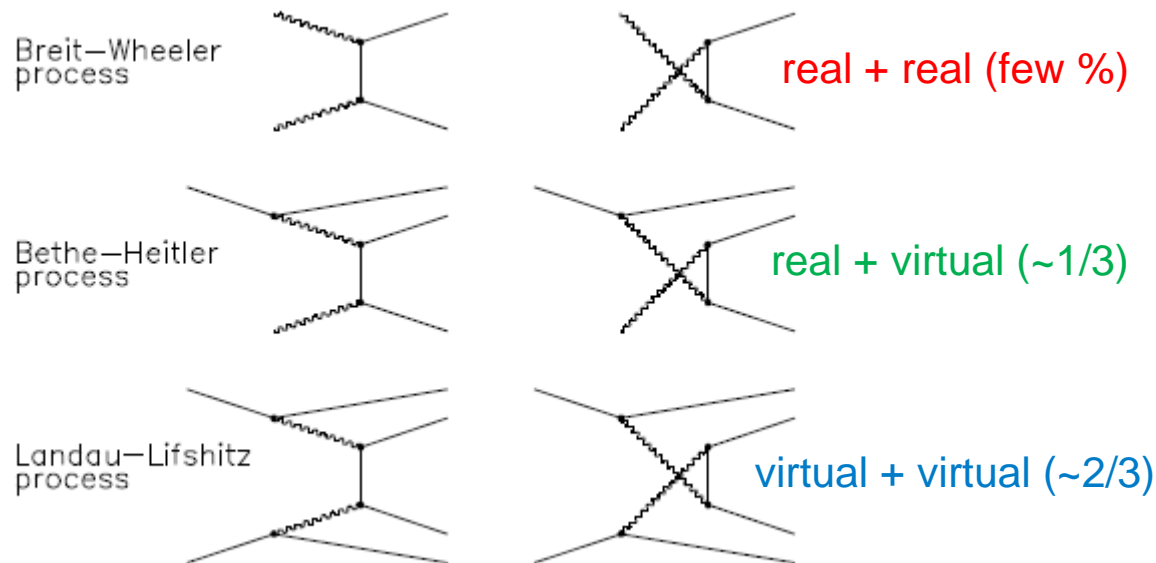
3) Beam-beam interactions (linear colliders)

- Schwinger critical field reached in collision of dense e^+/e^- bunches
→ aided by particle boost
- Pinch effect:
 - particles in one bunch deflected by strong field of the other
 - deflection → Beamstrahlung photons
 - scattering of photons → pair production

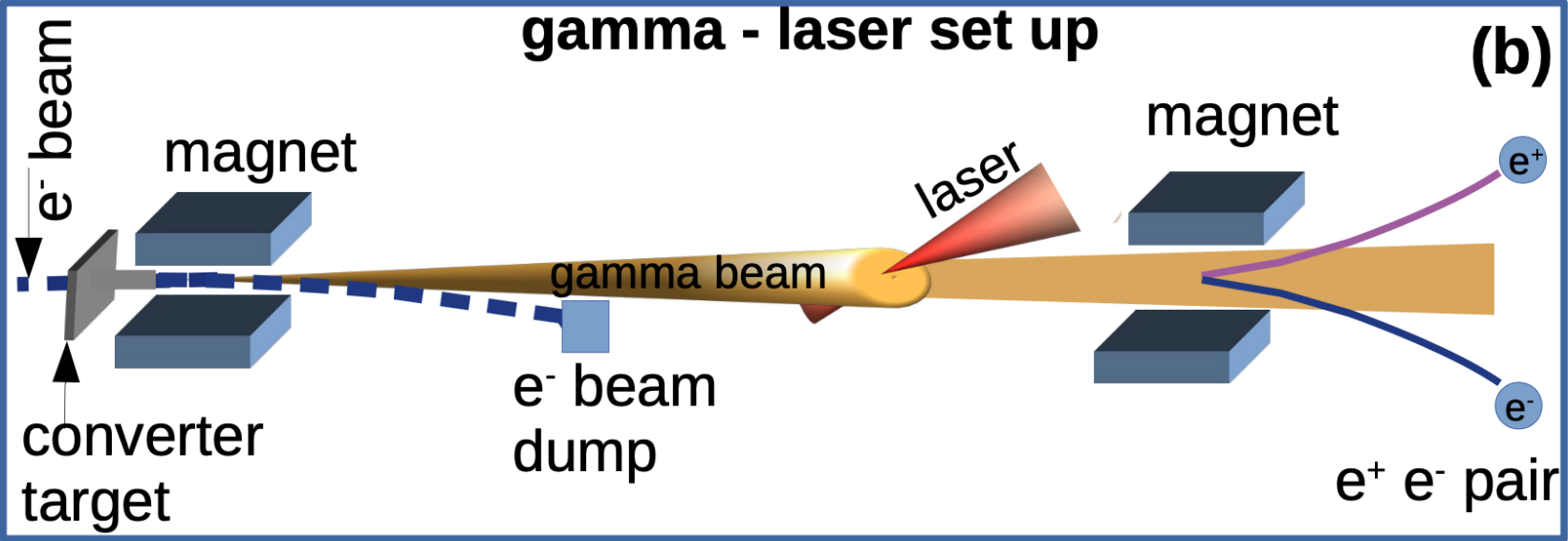
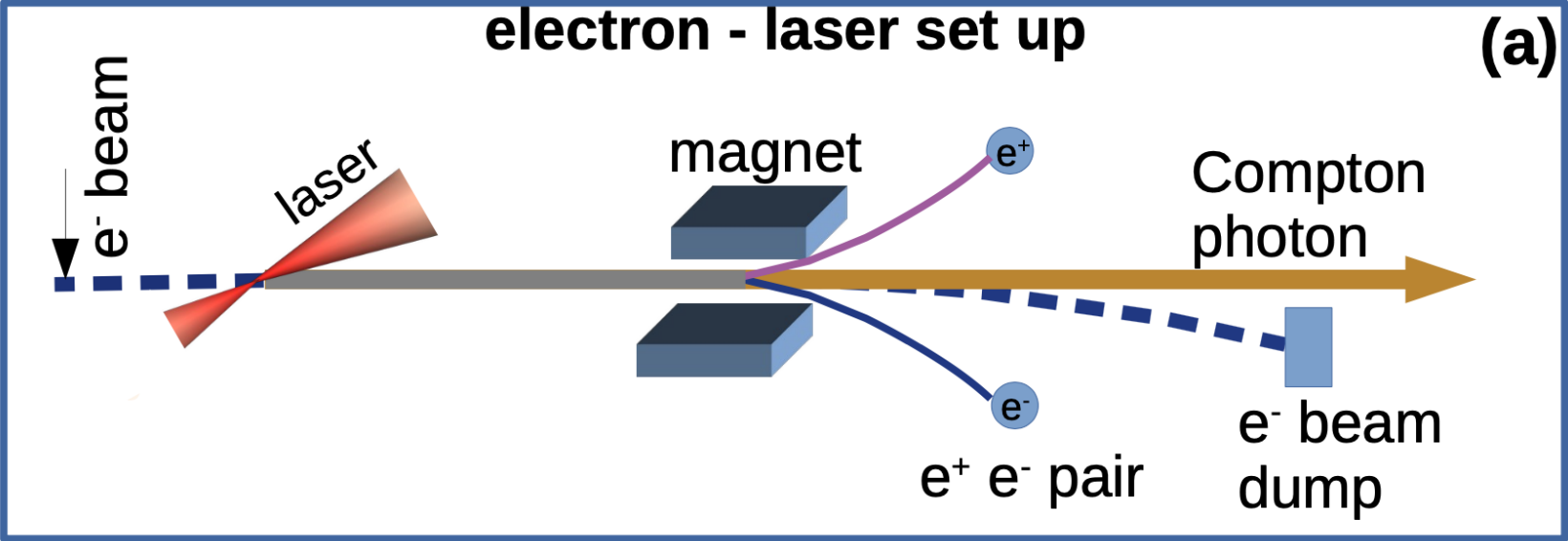
→ Luminosity enhancement, beam energy spread, detector backgrounds



[D. Schulte, CERN Yellow Reports: School Proceedings, Vol. 3/2017](#)

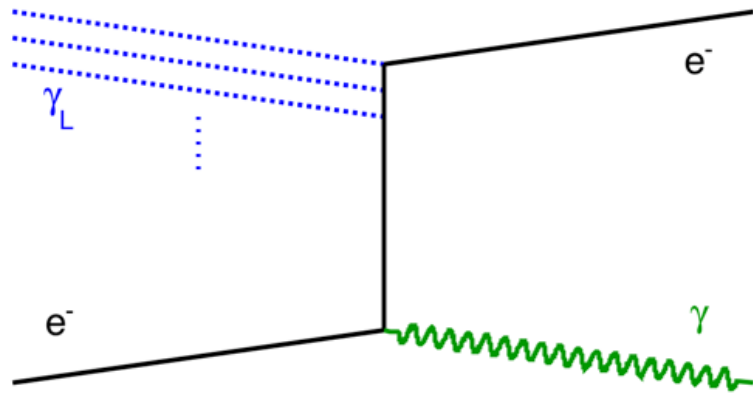


LUXE experimental setup(s)



**Unique
in LUXE!**

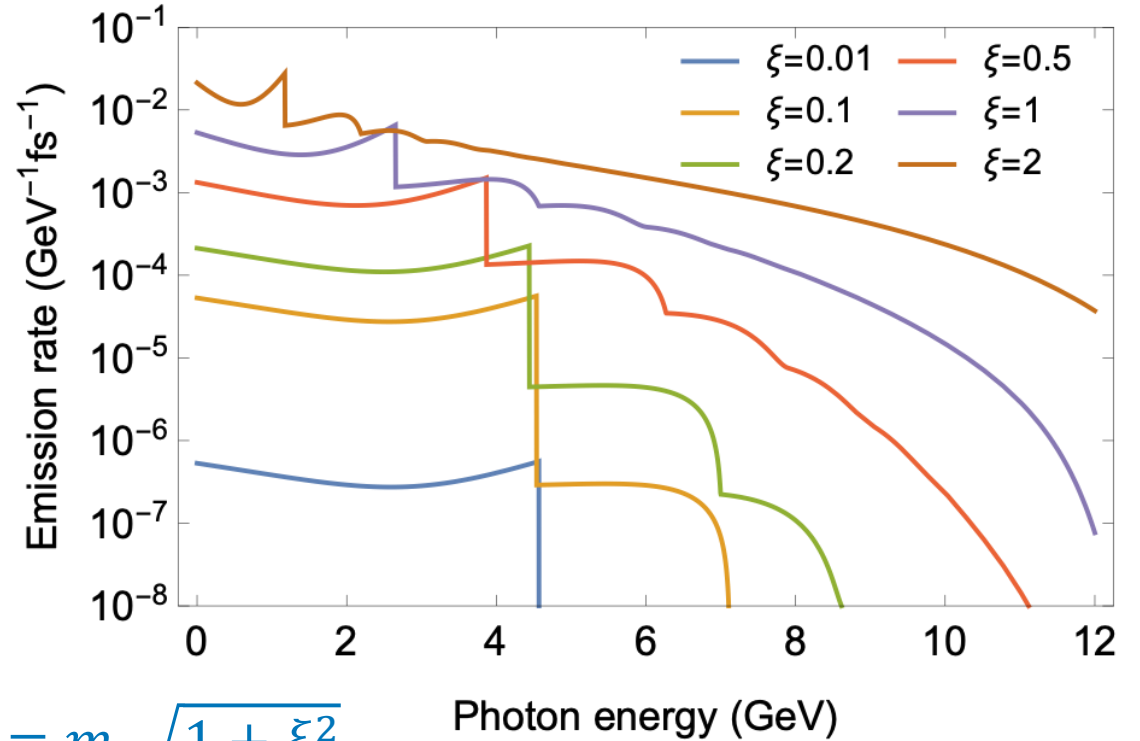
Non-linear Compton scattering



Non-linear Compton Scattering

$$e^- + n\gamma_L \rightarrow e^- + \gamma_C$$

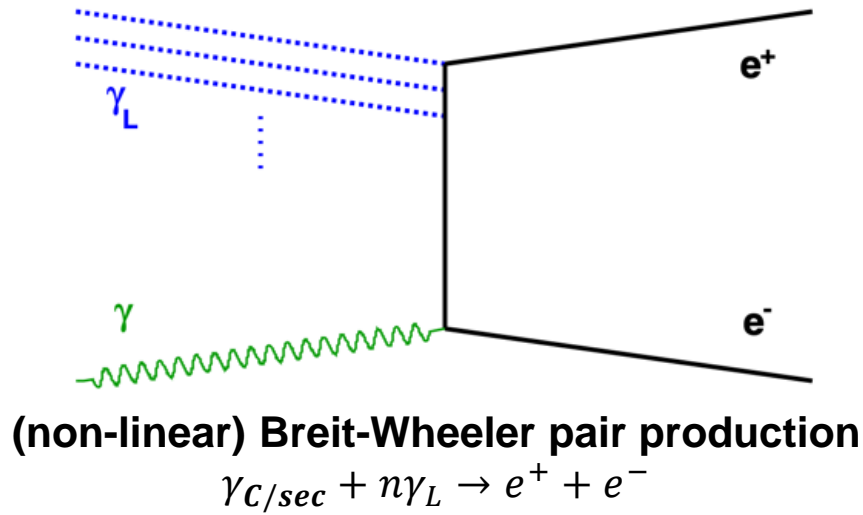
16.5 GeV electron, 800 nm laser, 17.2° crossing angle



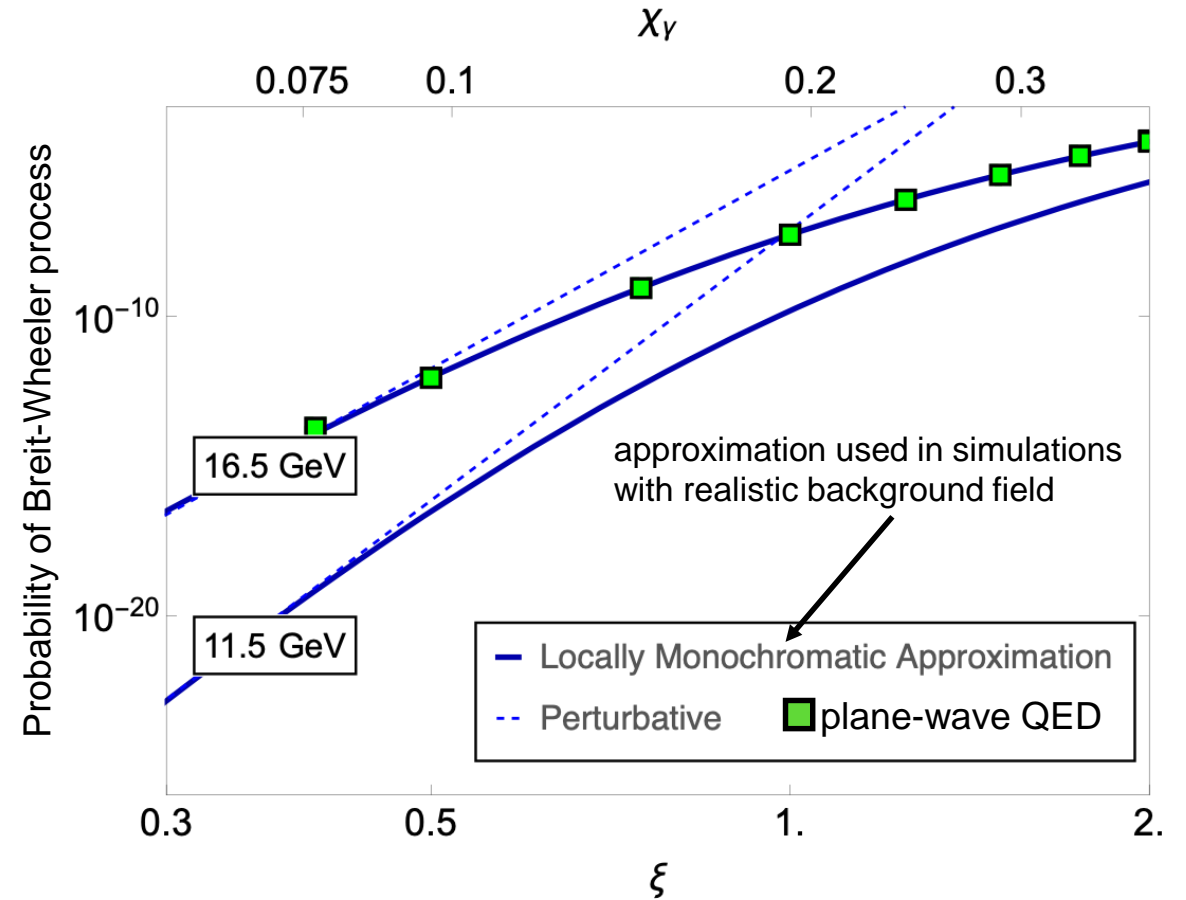
- in strong fields, electron obtains larger effective mass $m_* = m_e \sqrt{1 + \xi^2}$
 - Compton edge shifts with **laser intensity parameter** ξ
 - n -th order harmonics (interaction with n laser photons)
- Note: Non-linear Compton scattering has a classical limit
 - deviation between non-linear QED and non-linear classical Compton: **quantum non-linearity parameter** χ
- Parameters ξ and χ determined by laser intensity and electron beam energy

Different combinations of ξ and χ result in different types of non-linear behavior!

Breit-Wheeler pair production



- initial photon from Compton scattering or secondary beam
- Note: this process has no classical limit (energy threshold)!
 → purely quantum, requires $\chi \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$!

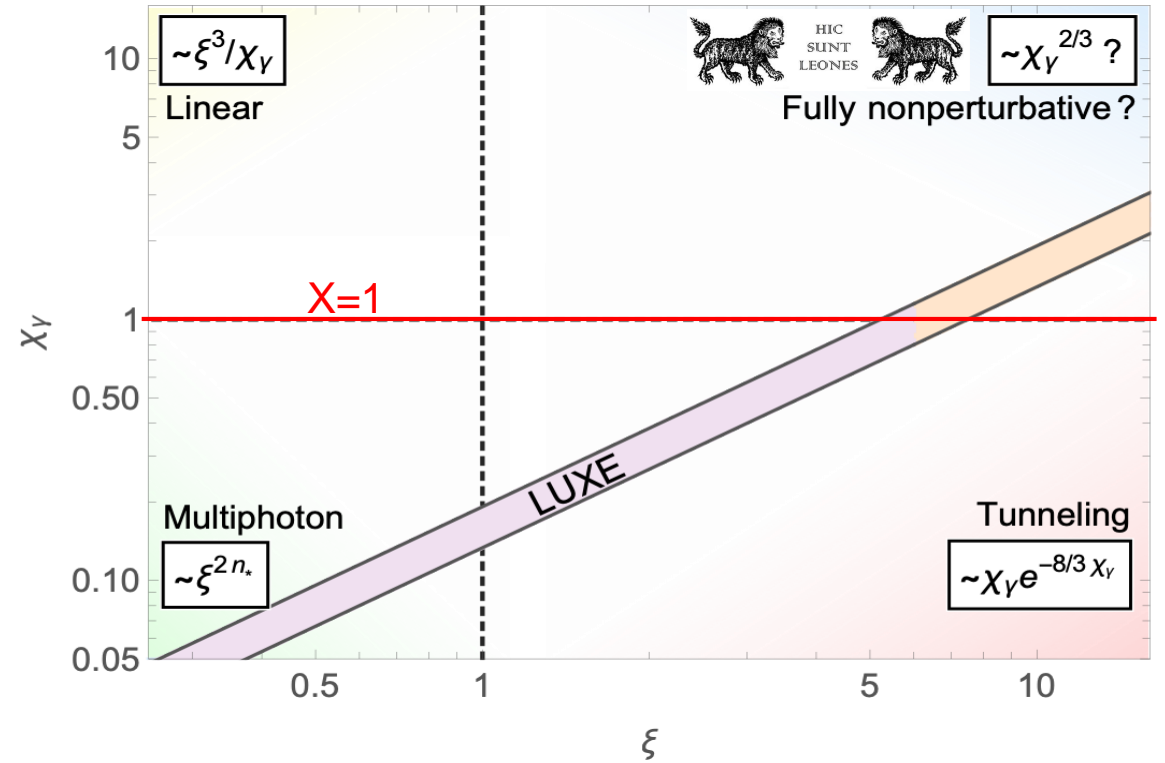
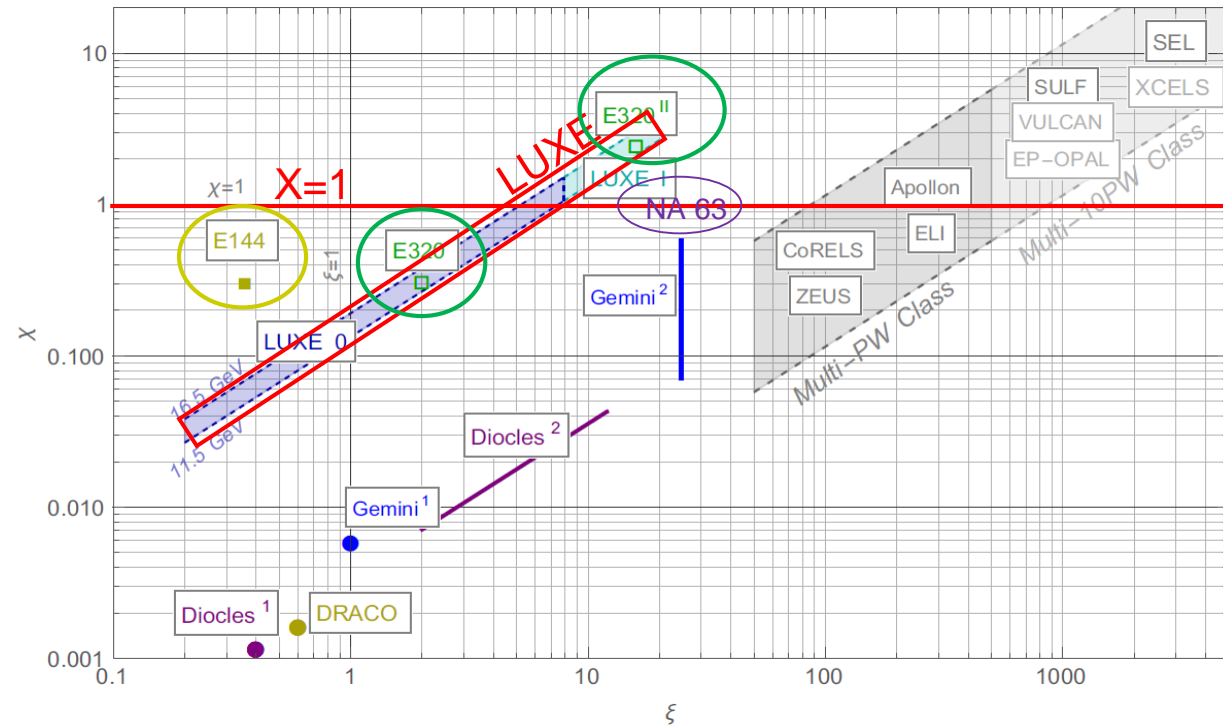


$\xi \ll 1$: $R_{e^+} \propto \xi^{2n} \propto I^n$ Perturbative regime
 → power law

$\xi \gg 1$: $R_{e^+} \propto \chi_\gamma \exp\left(-\frac{8}{3\chi_\gamma}\right)$ Non-perturbative regime
 → departure from power law

LUXE: first experiment to measure Breit-Wheeler pair production with real photons!

LUXE in Strong-Field QED Parameter Space



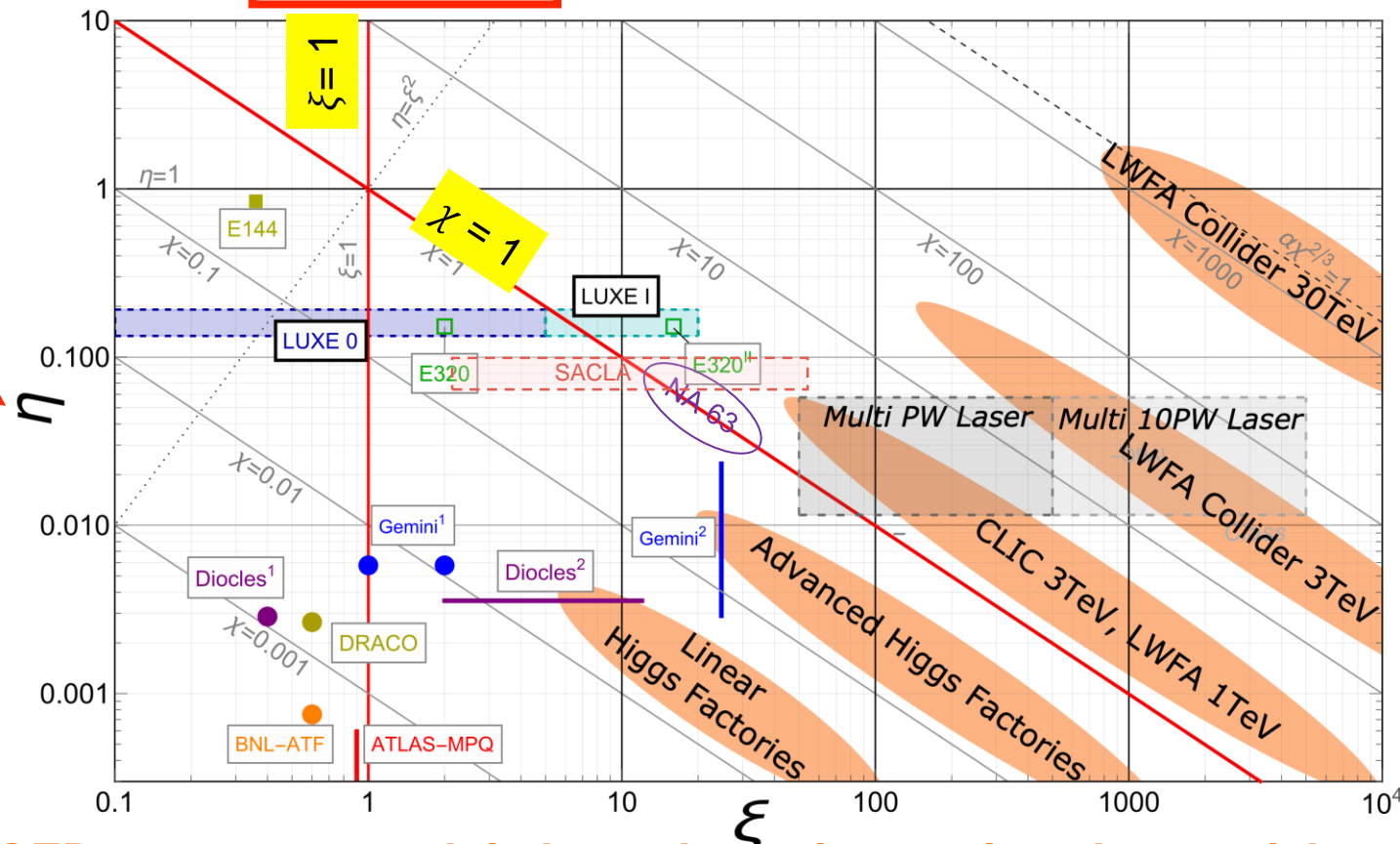
- experimental reach in SF QED parameter space (ξ, χ)
→ mainly determined by: particle beam energy, LASER intensity
- predecessor: E144 (SLAC e-laser collisions, 1990's) reached power-law regime, but not departure [Phys. Rev. D 60 \(1999\) 092004](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ex/9901004)
→ LUXE: three orders of magnitude more powerful laser
- contemporary: E320 (SLAC FACET-II e-laser collisions, operational) similar parameter reach as LUXE after upgrade
→ mode of experiment operation slightly different to LUXE [HILAS-2022-HF4B.6](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.12345)
- LUXE unique ability: continuous high-statistics data-taking with variable laser spot size
→ precision mapping of SFQED parameter space in transition regime

Linear colliders in SFQED parameter space

- Quantum non-linearity parameter χ in collider context often called Υ , with average:
- “intensity parameter”: ξ , or a_0 work by background field over a Compton wavelength
- [arxiv:1807.06968] approximate bunch crossing with half-cycle laser of wavelength $\lambda = 4\sigma_z$
- Peak a_0 (for round beams): $a_0 = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi^3} \frac{r_e}{\sigma_0} N}$

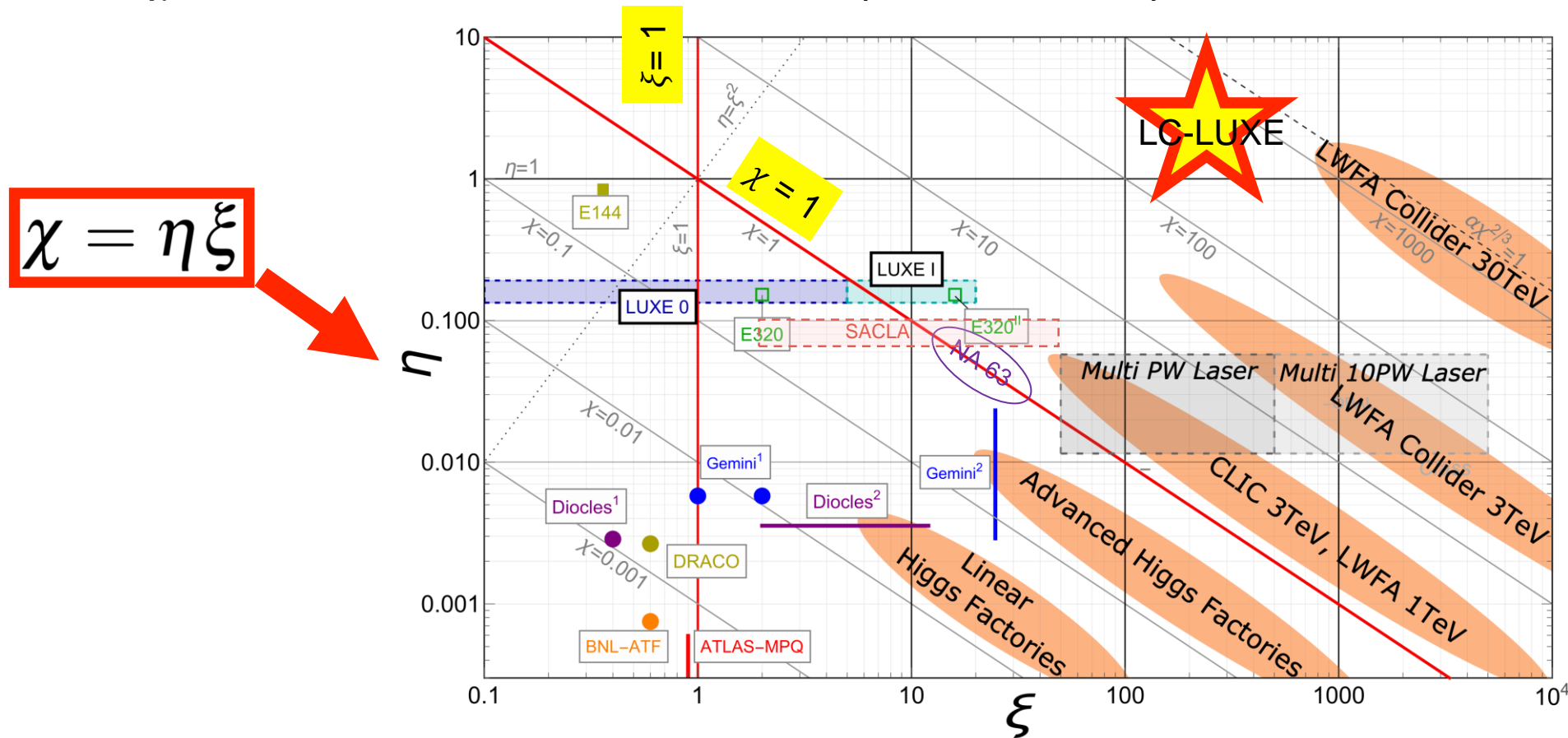
$$\Upsilon = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\langle E_c \rangle}{E_{\text{beam}}} = \frac{5r_e^2 \gamma N_e}{6\alpha_e \sigma_z (\sigma_x^* + \sigma_y^*)}$$

$$\chi = \eta \xi$$



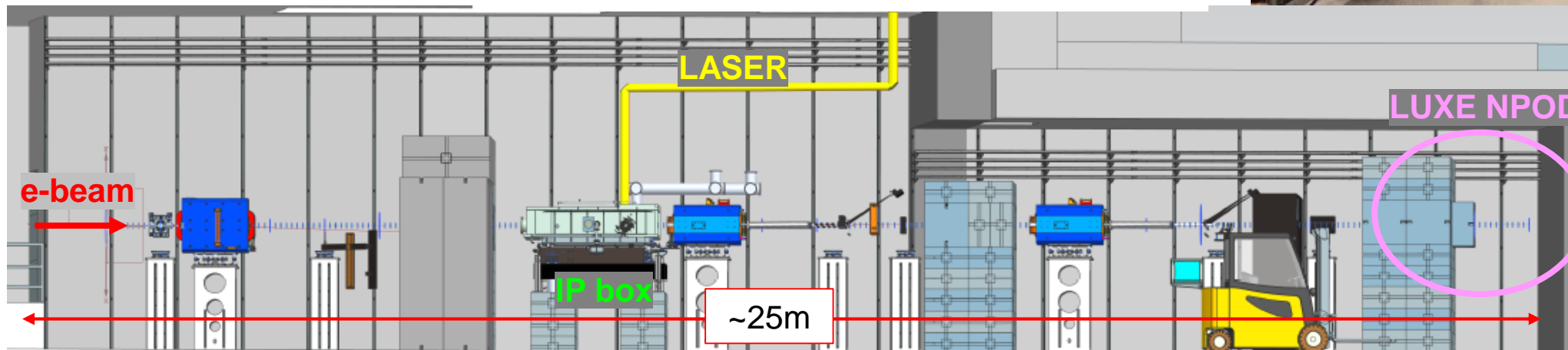
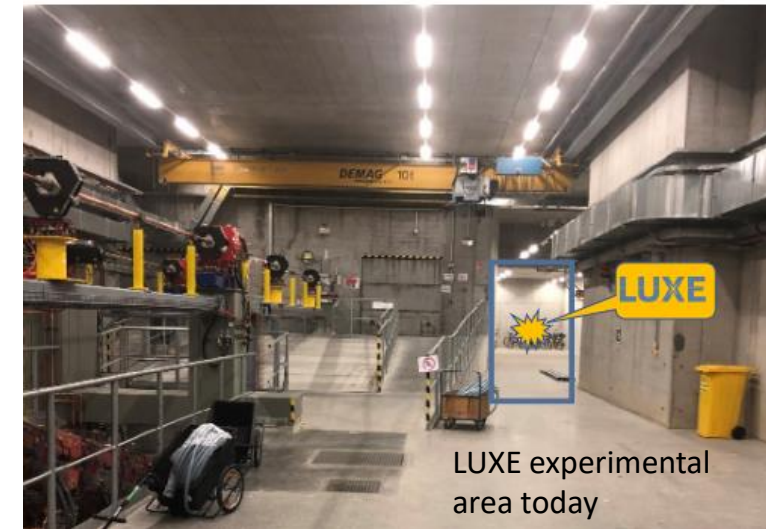
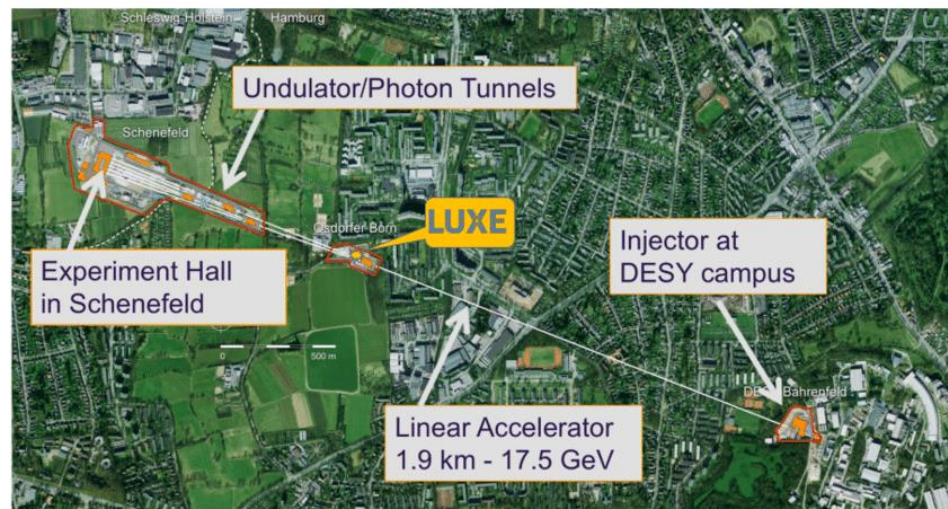
A LUXE-type experiment at a linear collider?

- SFQED experiments could be an interesting add-on to future collider facilities
→ e.g. extract few bunches from the main line and collide with a laser
- „LC-LUXE“: LUXE-type experiment at ILC: e-beam energy 16.5 GeV (LUXE) → 125 GeV → 500 GeV
→ $\chi \cong 0.4 \rightarrow 30 \rightarrow 120$, future laser developments could improve further



An LC-LUXE would enter the completely unknown fully non-perturbative regime!

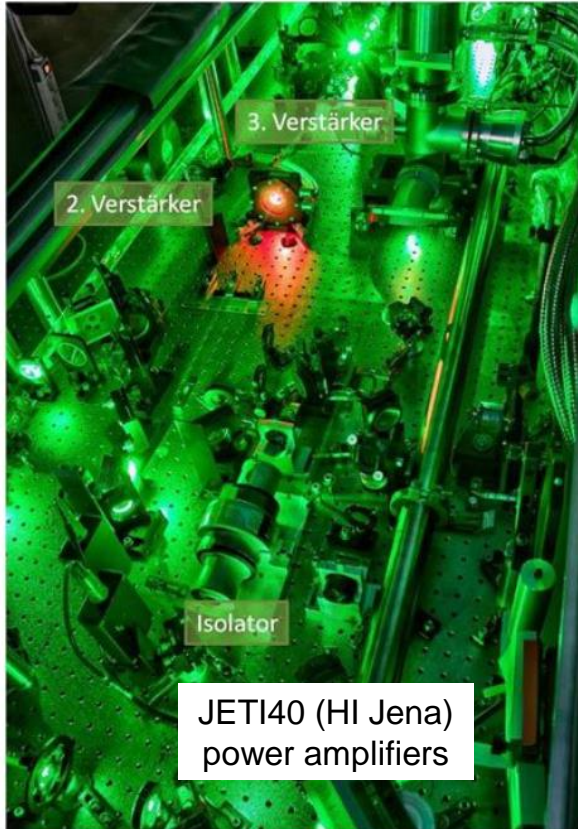
LUXE overview



- LUXE uses high-quality 16.5 GeV Eu.XFEL electron beam before undulators
- Experiment location: Existing annex for future second Eu.XFEL fan(~2030's+) → Unique possibility to build and operate LUXE before that!
- Extract 1 bunch (out of 2700 bunches) per XFEL train for collision with laser

XFEL e ⁻ Beam Properties important for LUXE	
Energy	16.5 GeV
#electrons/bunch	1.5 · 10 ⁹
repetition rate	10 Hz

The LUXE laser



Laser intensity:

$$I = \frac{E_L}{\Delta t \pi d^2}$$

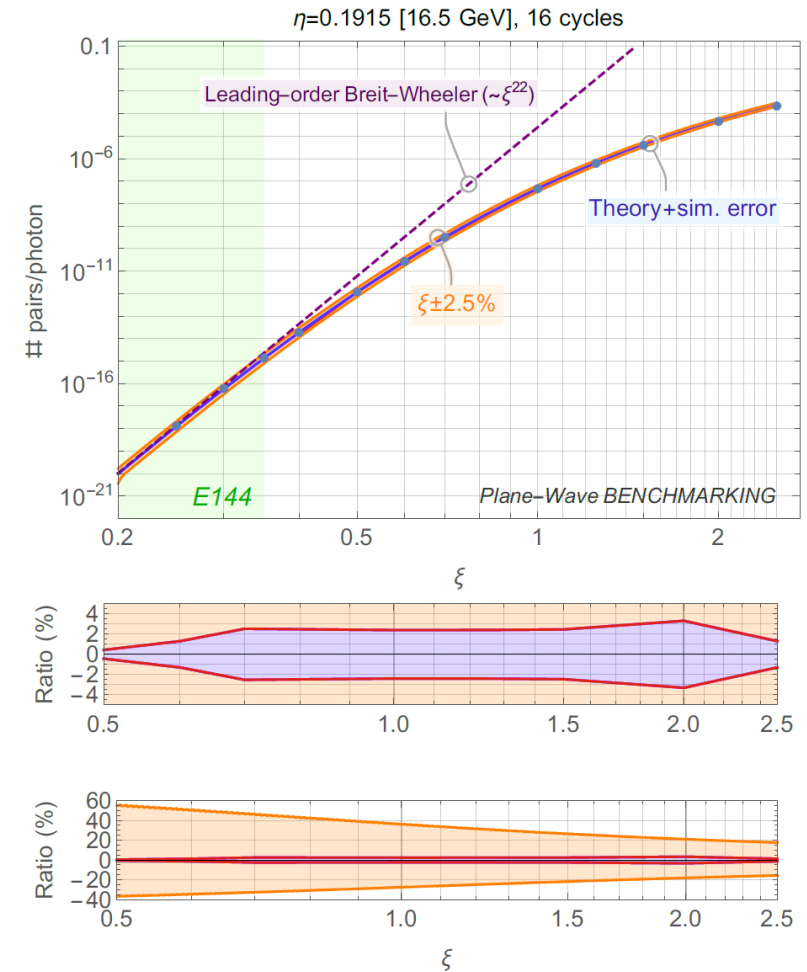
E_L : laser energy (J)

Δt : pulse length (s)

πd^2 : focus area (m²)

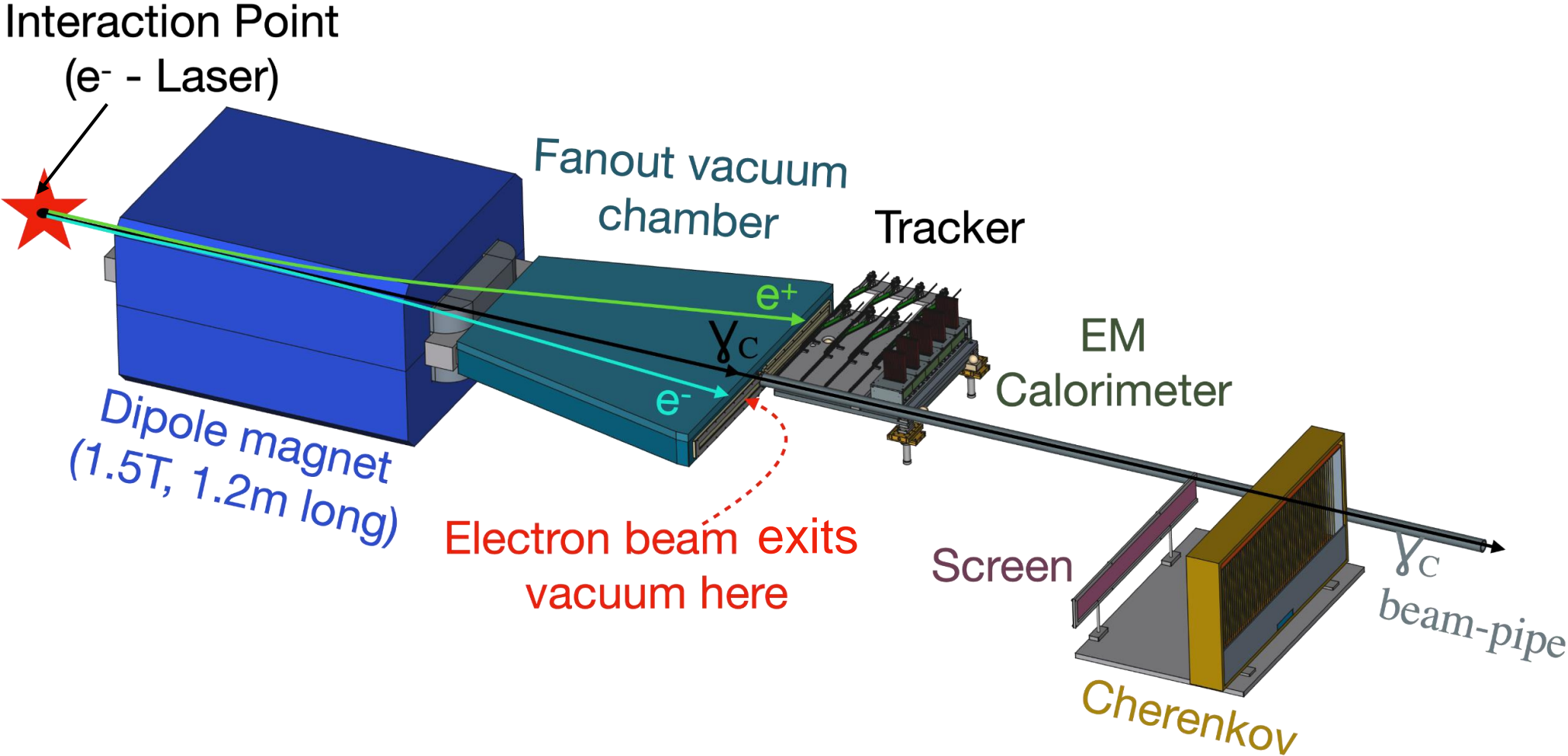
LUXE basic Laser parameters

active medium	Ti:Sa
wavelength (energy)	800nm (1.55eV)
crossing angle	17.2°
pulse length	30fs
spot size	≥3μm
power	40TW / 350TW
peak intensity [10 ¹⁹ W/cm ²]	13.3 / 120



- LUXE laser: TiSa (40TW, upgradeable to 350TW) → scan SFQED parameter space: vary laser spot size
- electron boost: current state-of-the-art in laser intensity is sufficient → need exceptional shot-by-shot stability
- LASER intensity uncertainty has a large impact on sensitivity → high-precision LASER diagnostics

LUXE IP Detectors

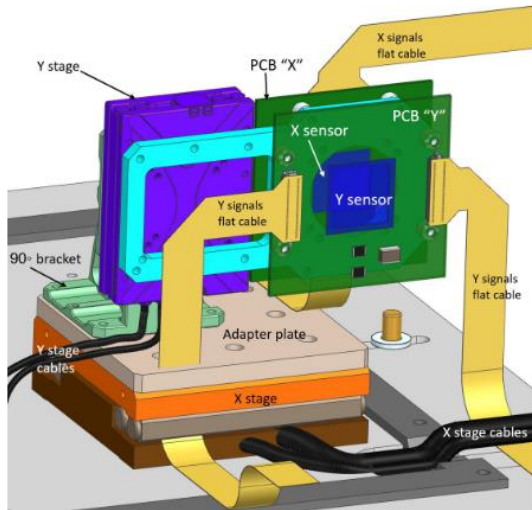
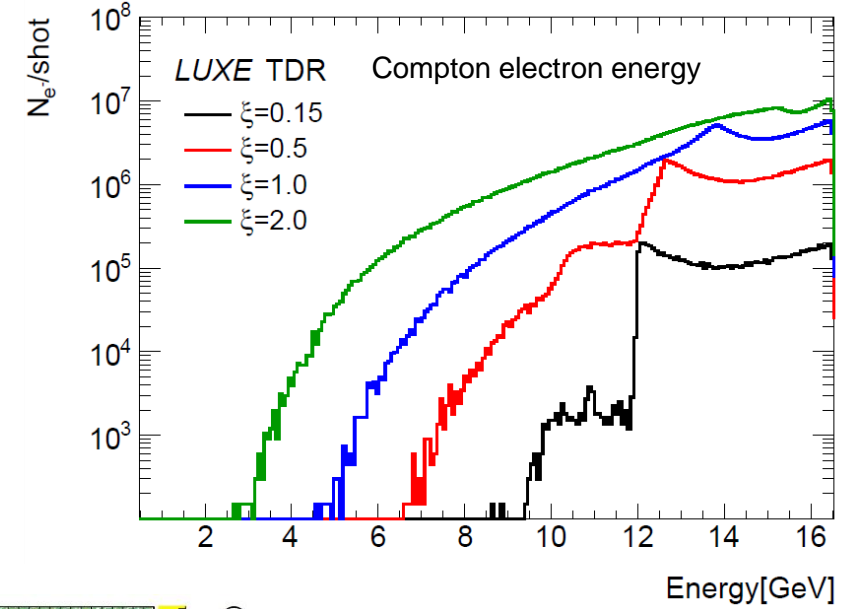
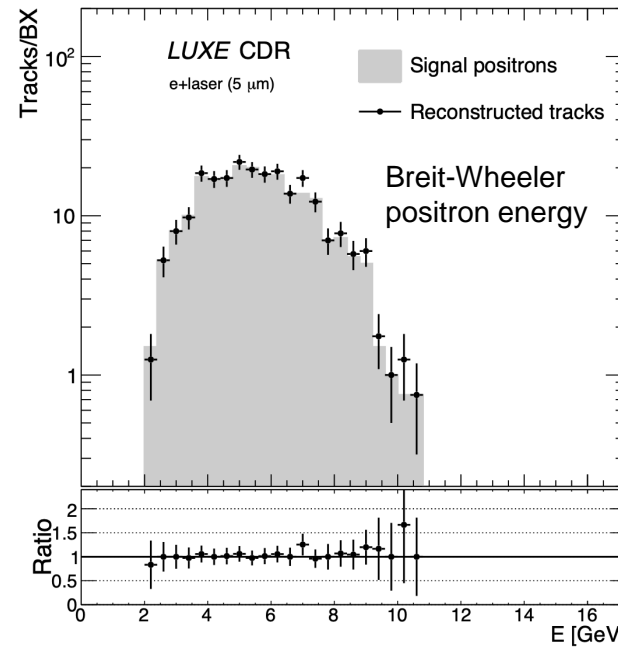
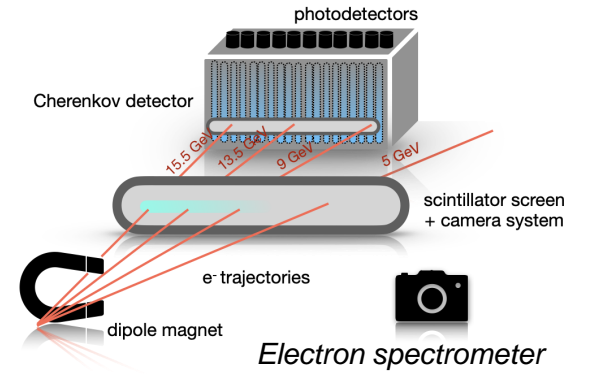
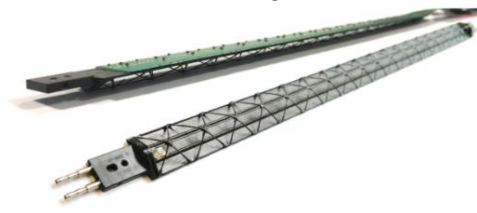


**Two complementary detector technologies per measurement
→ cross-calibration, reduction of systematic uncertainties**

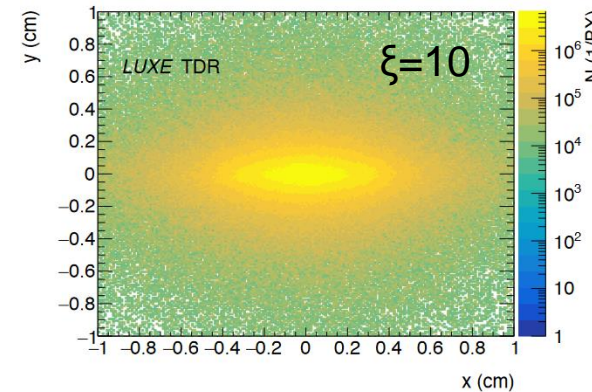
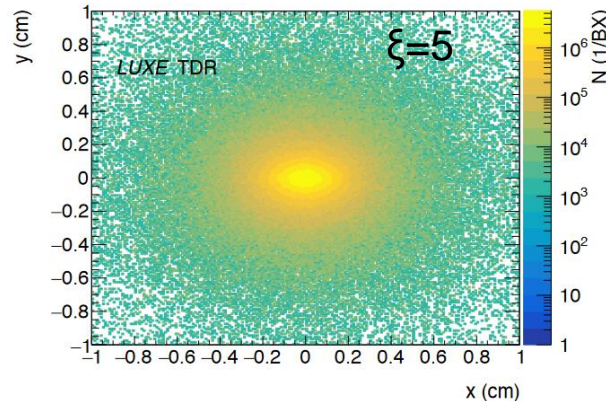
LUXE Particle Detectors

- e^+ : Si pixel tracker,
high-granularity Si-W calorimeter
→ high signal efficiency, momentum resolution
- e^- : scintillation screen & camera system,
Cherenkov detectors
→ high rate tolerance, background rejection
- γ : sapphire strip beam profiler,
conversion spectrometer
lead-glass flux monitors
→ complementary ξ measurement

ALPIDE tracking detector stave



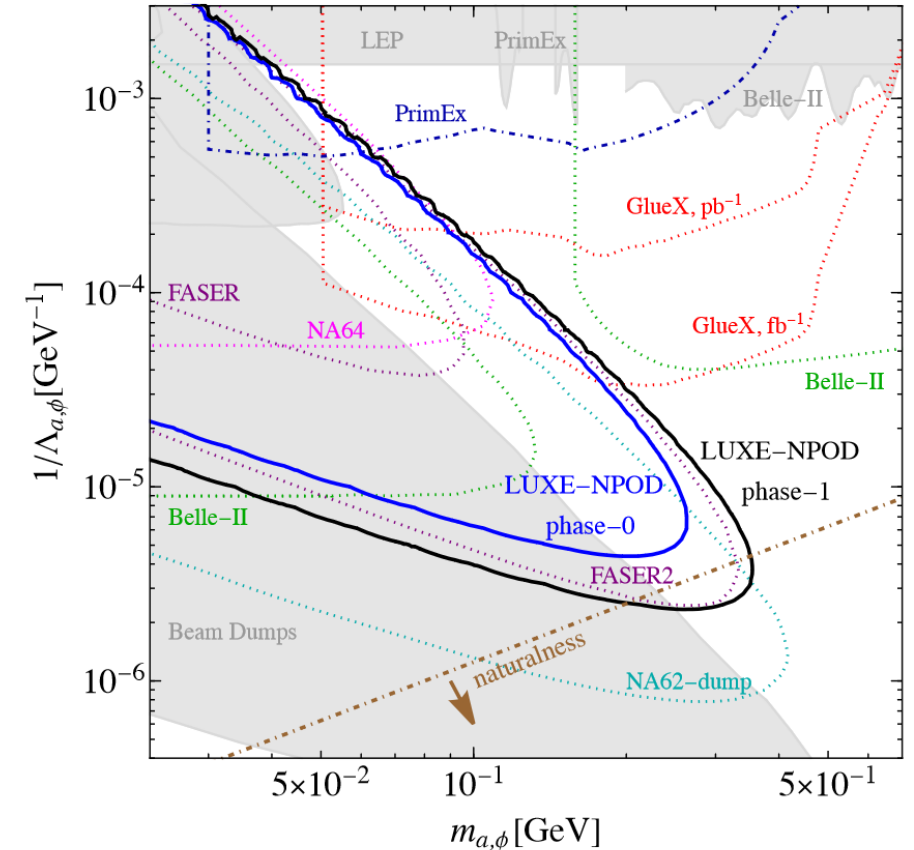
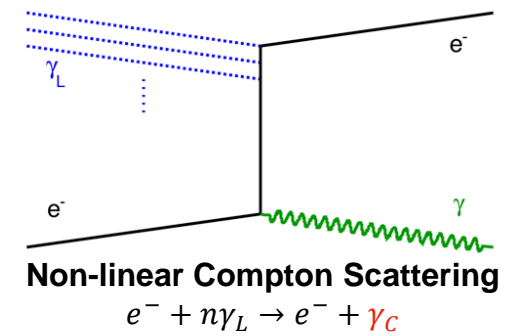
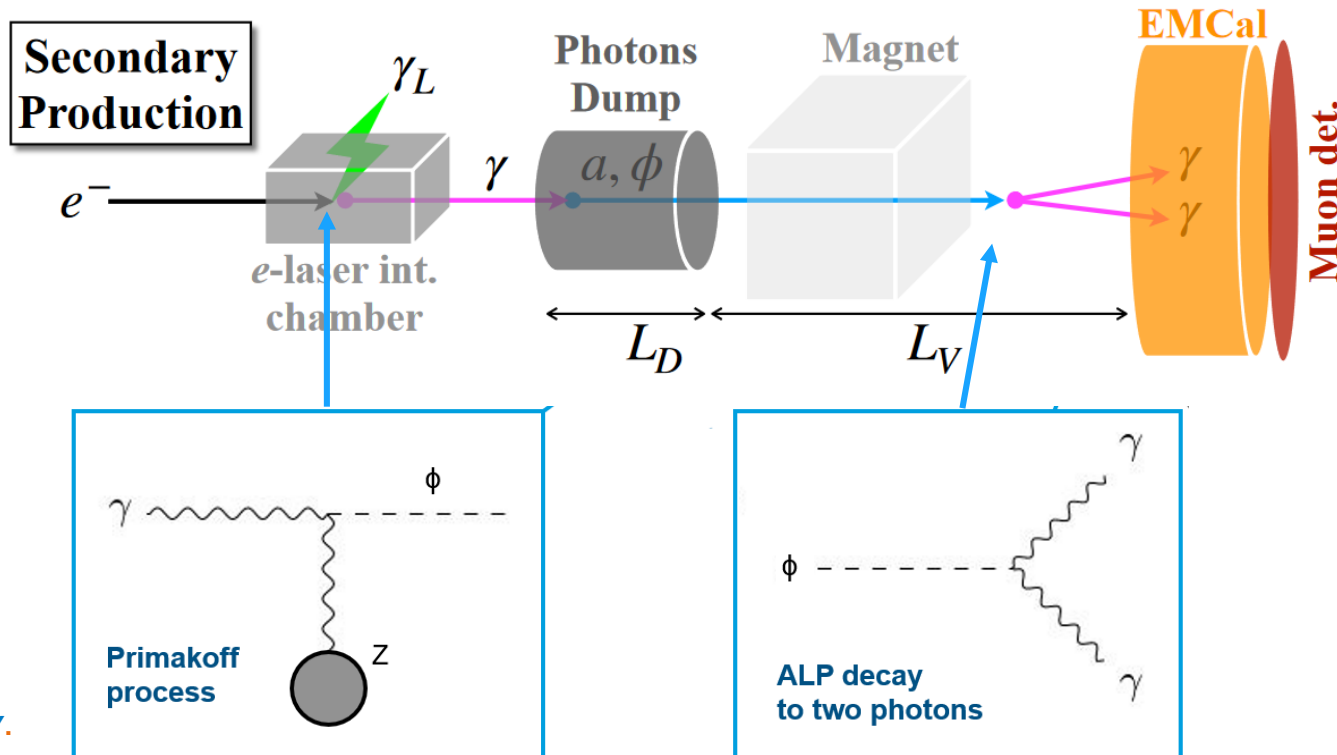
Gamma Beam Profiler



LUXE: interesting near-term application for new detector technologies

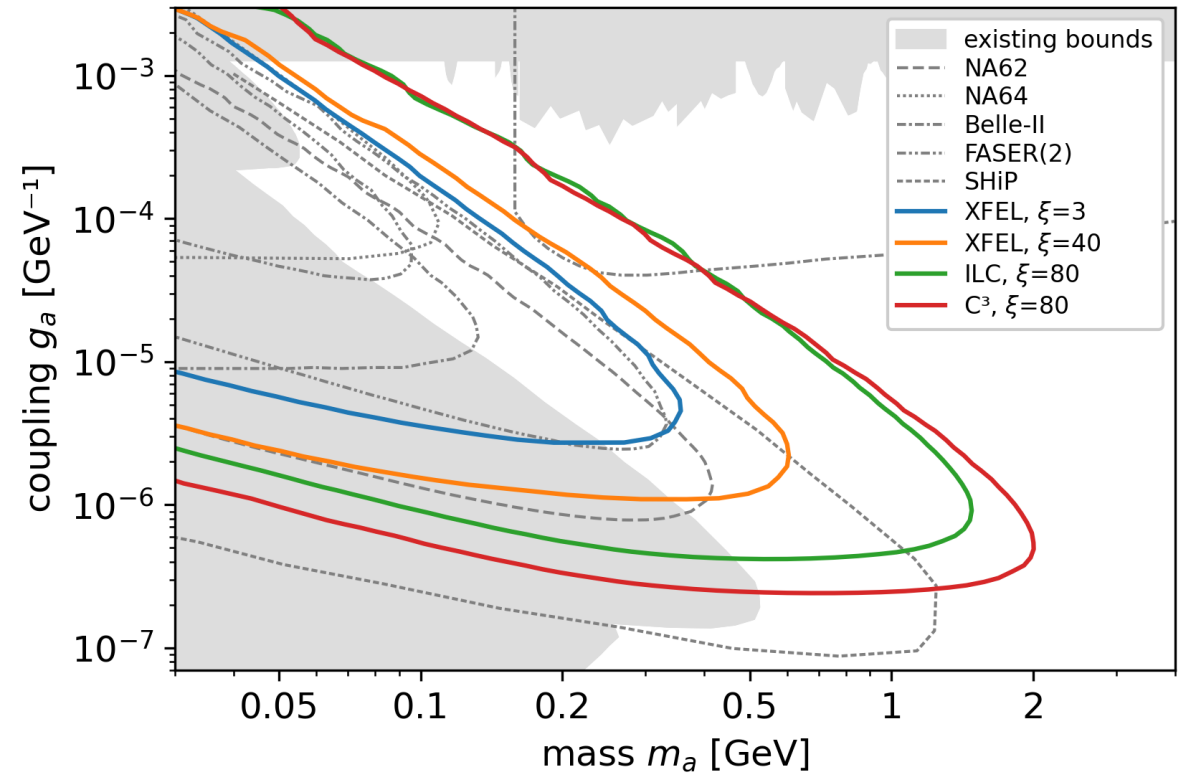
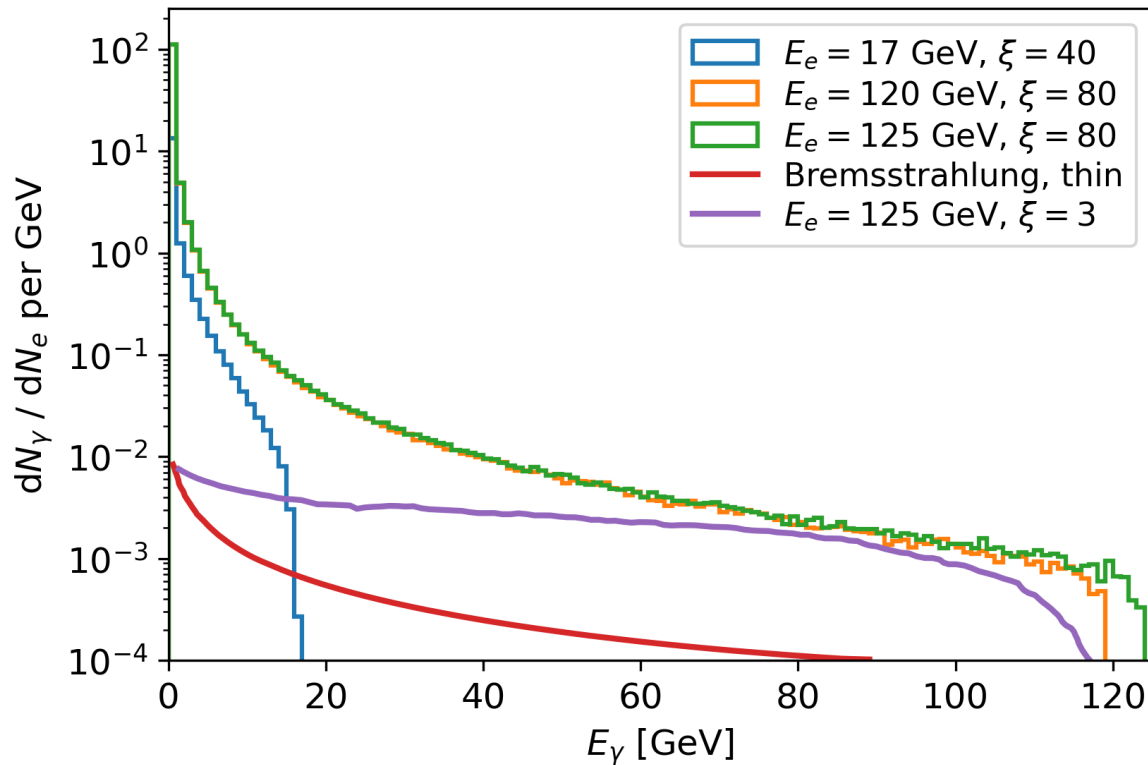
LUXE BSM Searches (LUXE-NPOD)

- LUXE will produce a high-intensity photon beam through Compton Scattering
 - produce e.g. axion-like (ALPs) in photon beam-dump
 - detect via new particle decay to two photons
- production of new particles also possible in primary electron/LASER interaction
- advantage of photon-on dump compared to electron-on dump: lower background
- conceptual design of photon detector with pointing capabilities ongoing
 - similar technologies applicable as e.g. in SHiP



Prospects for NPOD at future facilities?

- Higher effective luminosity and higher beam energies allow for gain in ALP sensitivity
- Additional gain by optimizing the laser intensity parameter (goal: enhance rate of photons with $E_\gamma > 1$ GeV)
- Significant extension in reach possible



Summary

LUXE: explore QED in uncharted regime with unprecedented precision

- probe transition from perturbative to non-perturbative QED
- LUXE-NPOD beam-dump experiment sensitive to sub-GeV ALPs
- approval at DESY & EuXFEL ongoing

LUXE and future (linear) e^+e^- colliders:

- SF-QED relevant for beam-beam interaction (could be studied in special high- Υ runs)
- LUXE-like e-beam-laser collision experiment at future linear collider could probe the fully non-perturbative regime
- LUXE detectors: testbed for new technologies e.g. for future colliders
- NPOD-like beam dump experiment has significantly extended reach in sensitivity

More documentation?

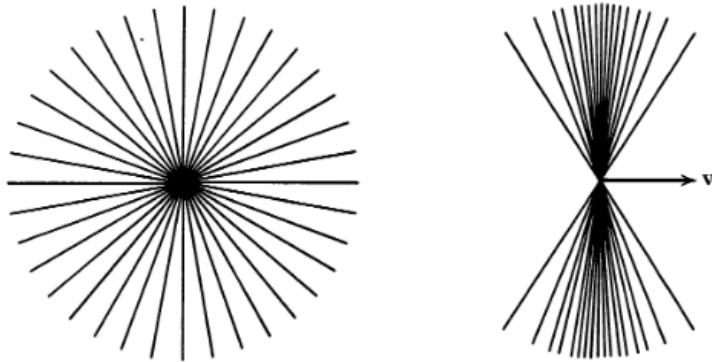
- LUXE TDR: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.00515>
- Website: <https://luxe.desy.de>



Backup

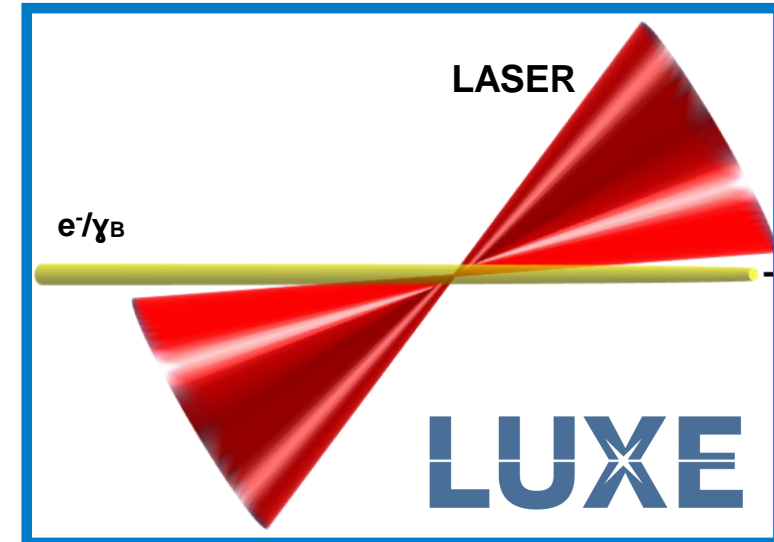
SFQED with relativistic probes

- In the lab: reach fields at Schwinger limit in the rest frame of highly relativistic probe particles
→ LUXE: 16.5 GeV electrons + multi-TW optical LASER



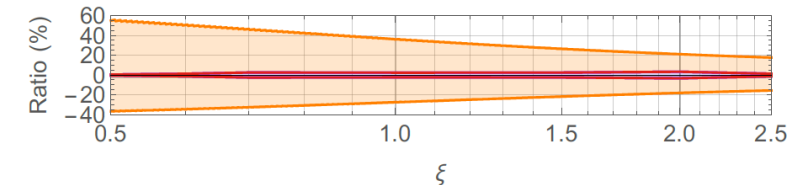
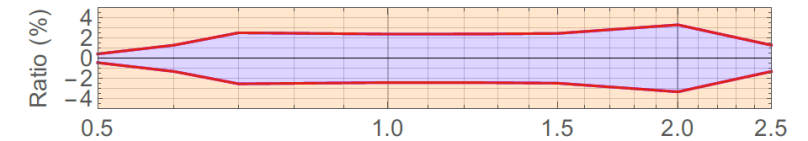
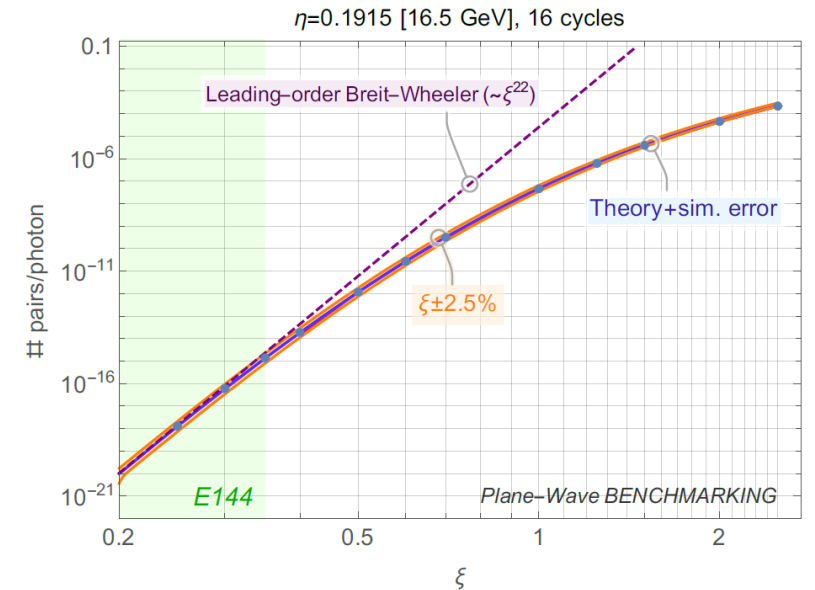
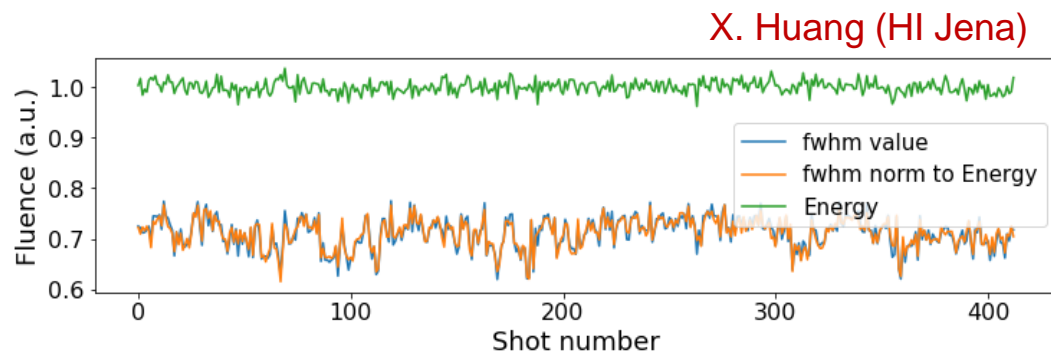
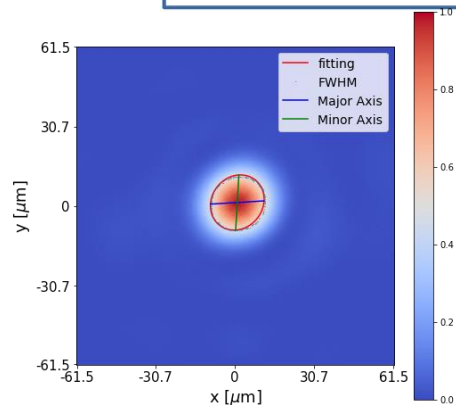
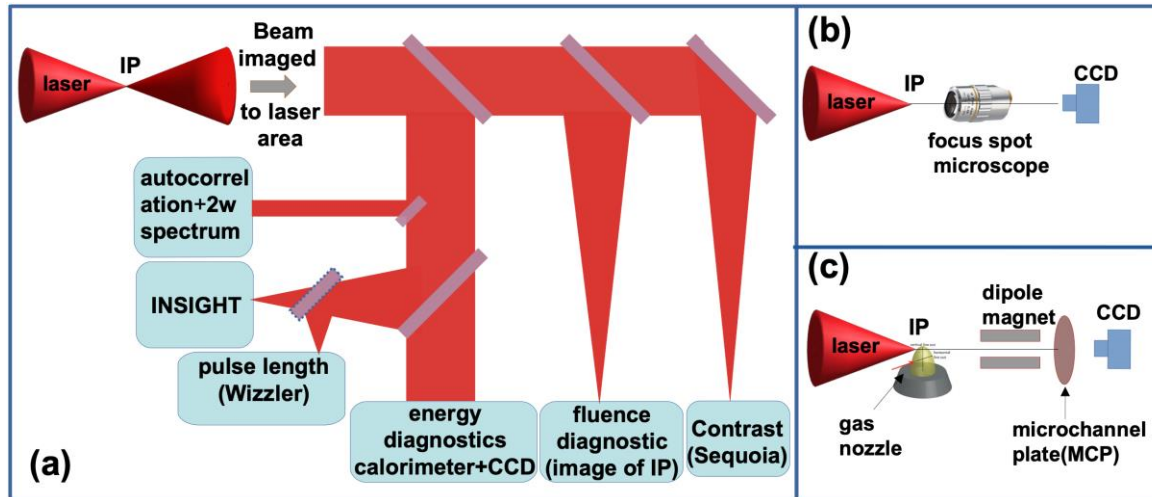
J. D. Jackson, *Classical Electrodynamics* 3rd. Edition

$$\mathcal{E}_{rest\ fr.} = \gamma \mathcal{E}_{lab\ fr.}$$



- Important consequence of having a relativistic probe:
→ any field background can be approximated as a plane wave

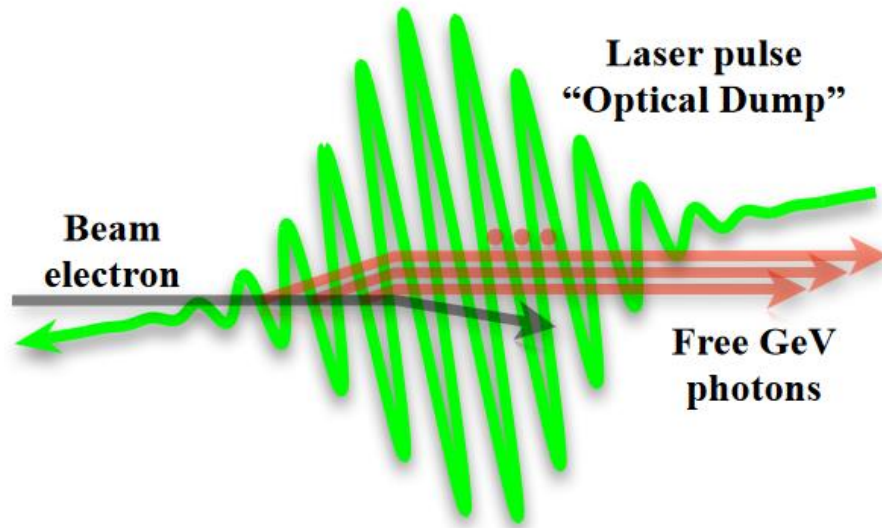
Laser Diagnostics



- LASER characterization quantities: energy, pulse length, spot size
→ many (partially redundant) measurements on re-imaged laser pulse
- LASER intensity uncertainty has a large impact on sensitivity!
- goal: $\leq 5\%$ absolute uncertainty on LASER intensity, $\leq 1\%$ shot-to-shot uncertainty
DESY. → achievable with foreseen diagnostics suite

What is necessary to make a LUXE-NPOD experiment work?

Photon beam creation



Conditions for photon beam creation („time hierarchy“):

$$1/\omega_L \ll \tau_\gamma \lesssim t_L \ll \tau_{ee}$$

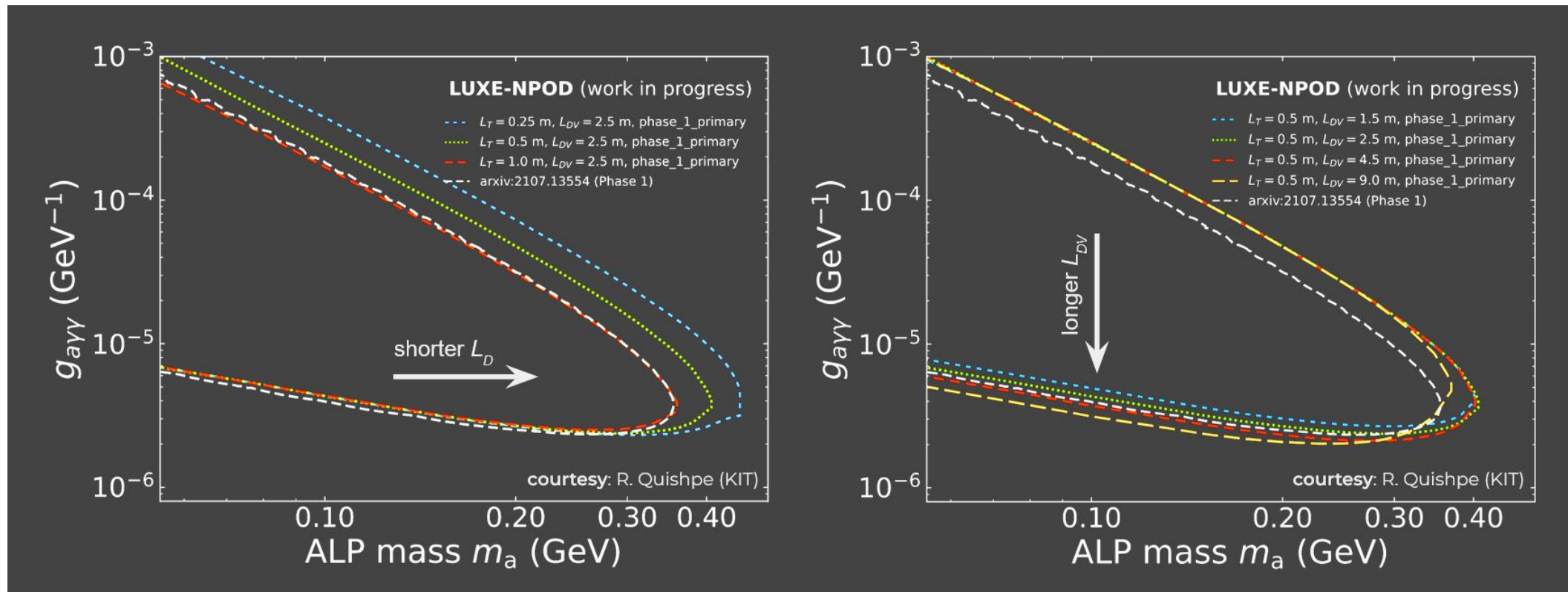
- Laser oscillation much faster than GeV radiation time-scale:
→ Laser can be treated as a background field
- γ radiation time-scale smaller than laser pulse length:
→ laser pulse is a thick target, electrons radiate most of their energy
(LUXE NPOD: not the case, dump electrons off-axis)
- γ radiation time much shorter than pair-production time
→ photons free-streaming in laser pulse

What is necessary to make a LUXE-NPOD experiment work?

Dump and detector geometry optimization

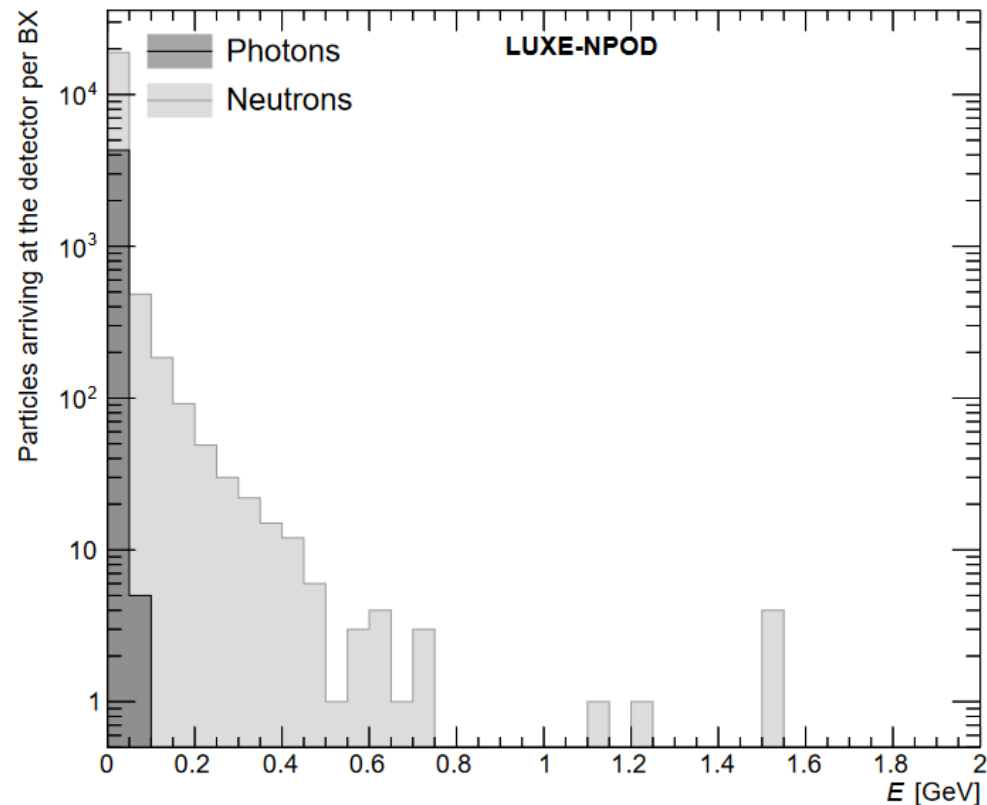
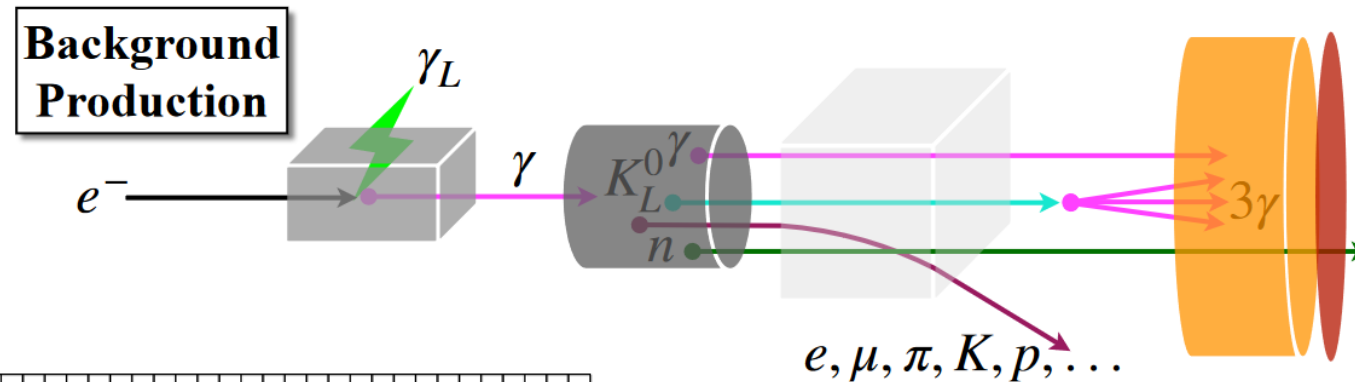
Geometry considerations:

- Shorter dump: ALPS with larger couplings can escape the dump and decay in the decay volume
- Longer decay volume: ALPS with smaller couplings can decay in the decay volume



What is necessary to make a LUXE-NPOD experiment work?

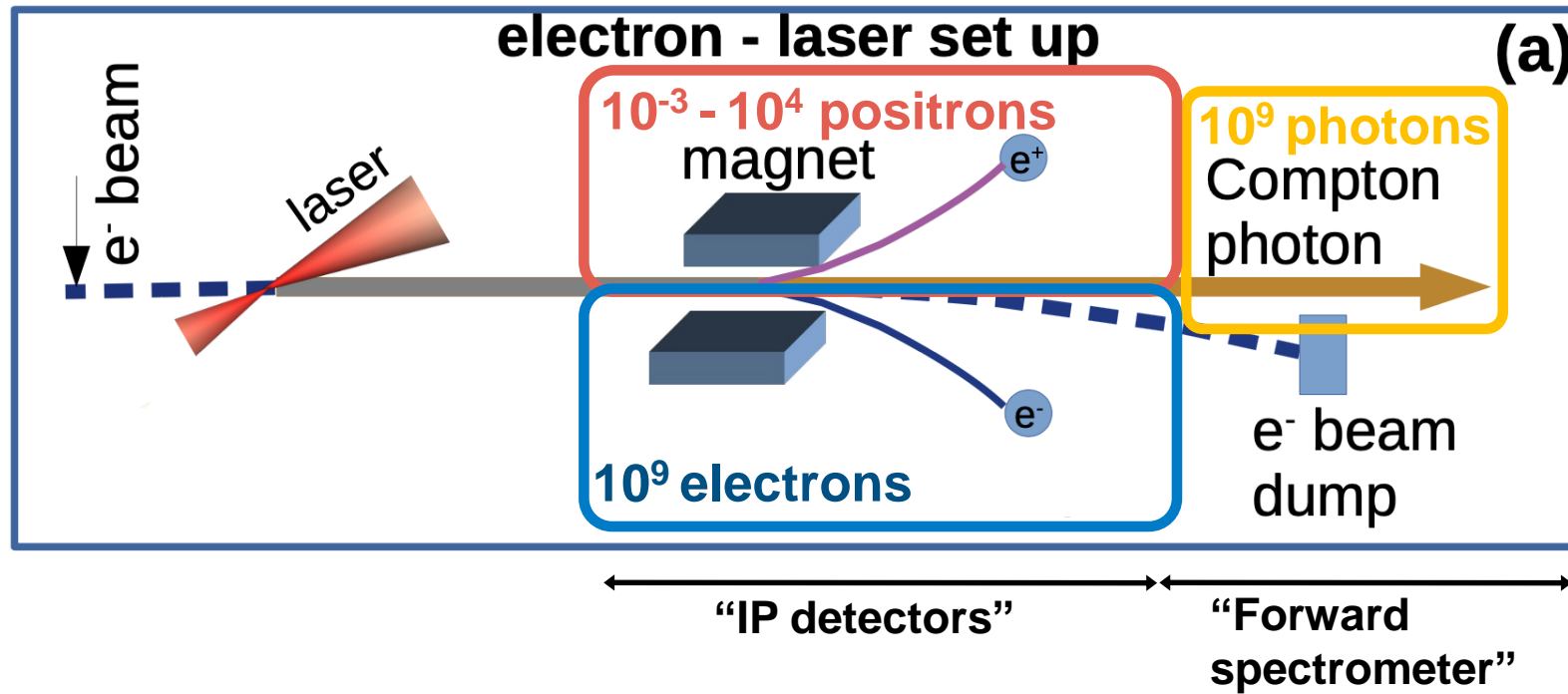
Backgrounds



Background rejection:

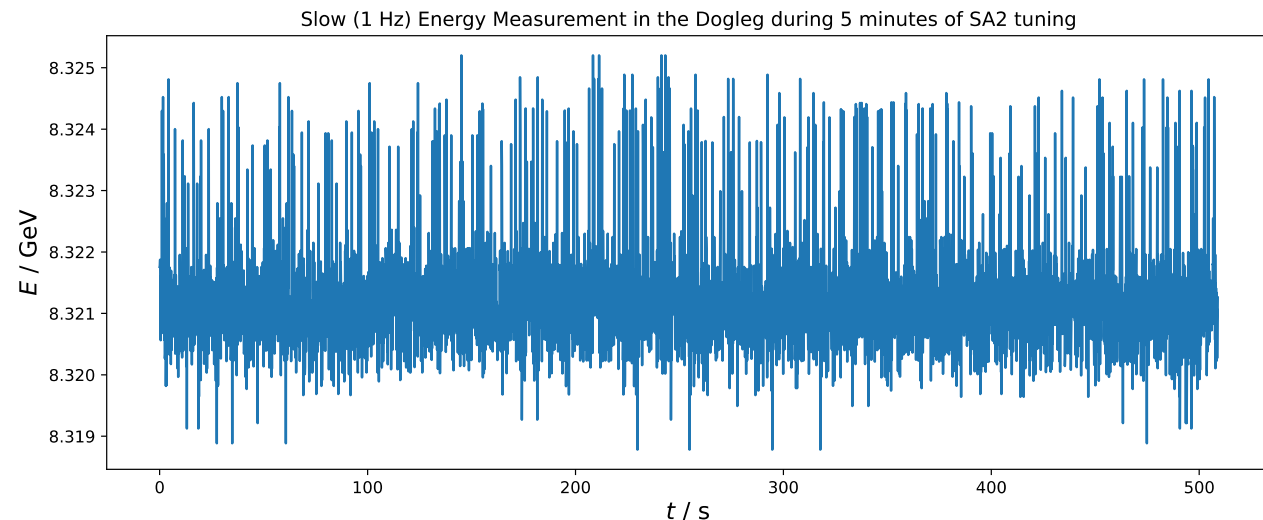
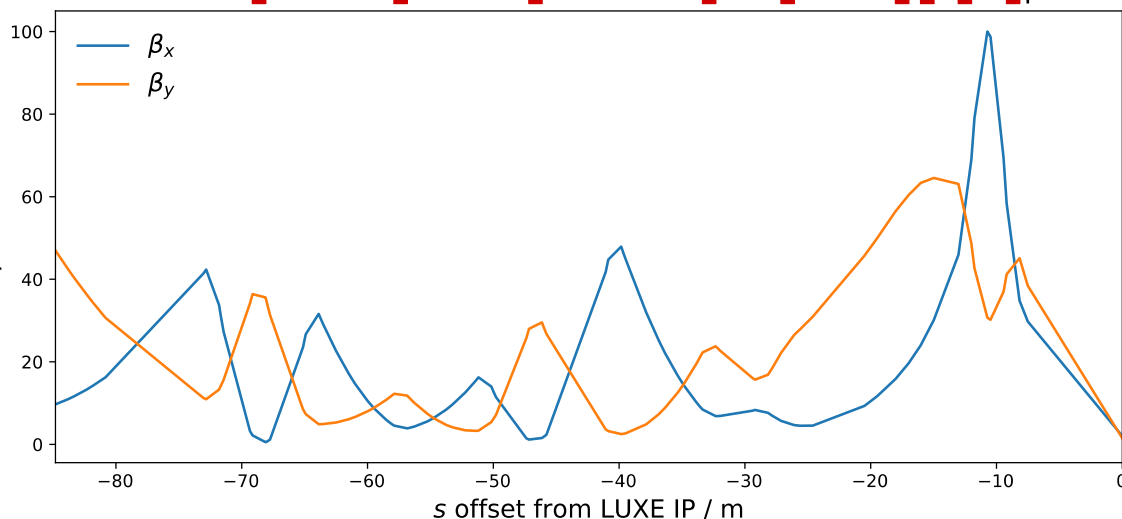
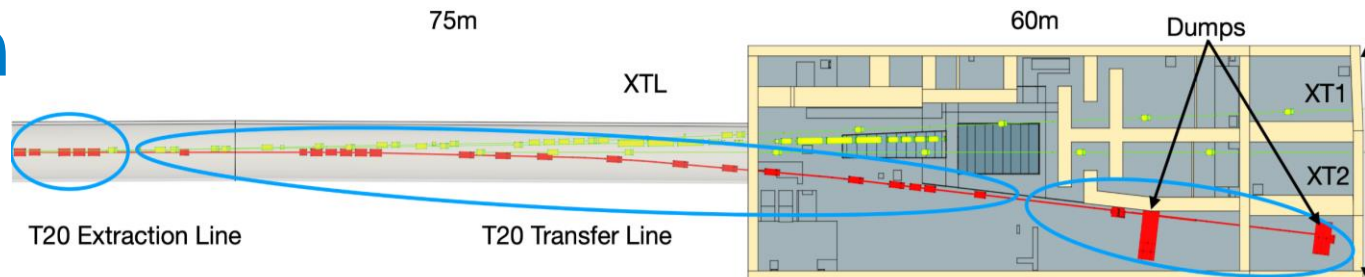
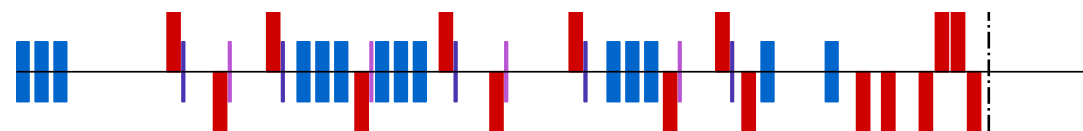
- Background Types: mis-identified neutrons, charged particles, real background photons
- Geant4 simulations for LUXE phase-1 with simplified detector configuration (W beam dump, $L_D=1\text{m}$, $L_V=2.5\text{m}$, $R_V=1\text{m}$)
- Photons: soft background
- Neutron background can be mitigated by energy cut $E > 0.5\text{ GeV}$

LUXE Particle Detectors



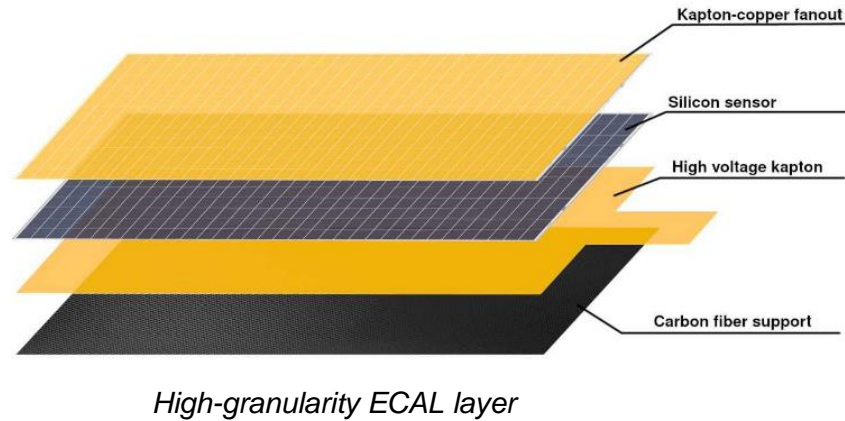
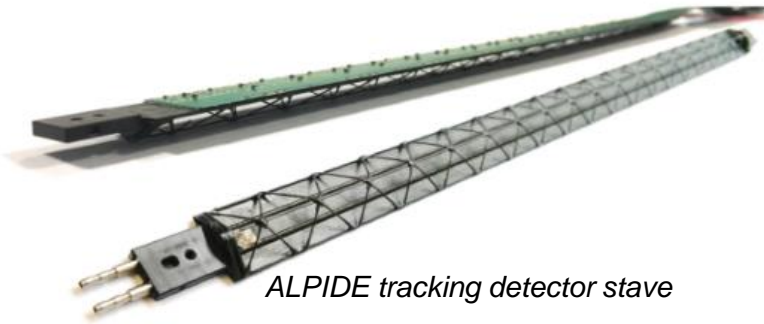
- goal: detection of electrons, positrons and photon fluxes and energy spectra
- particle fluxes vary between $\sim 0.001 e^+$ and 10^9 (e^- and γ) per laser shot!
- use technologies adapted to respective fluxes of signal and background

T20 electron beam extraction



- Goal: kick out 1 bunch at angle -6.742° and transport to LUXE experimental area
- Lattice: Fast kicker magnet, Septa (asymmetric deflection magnets), Dipoles (deflection), Quadrupoles (focusing)
- Performance:
 - beam spot size: $\sigma_x = 9.3\mu\text{m}$, $\sigma_y = 8.1\mu\text{m}$
 - pulse size 130fs
 - jitter parameters (measured):
 - shot-to-shot position variation: $1\mu\text{m}$
 - time-of-arrival jitter: 20fs
 - energy variation: 0.01%

Positron Detection System

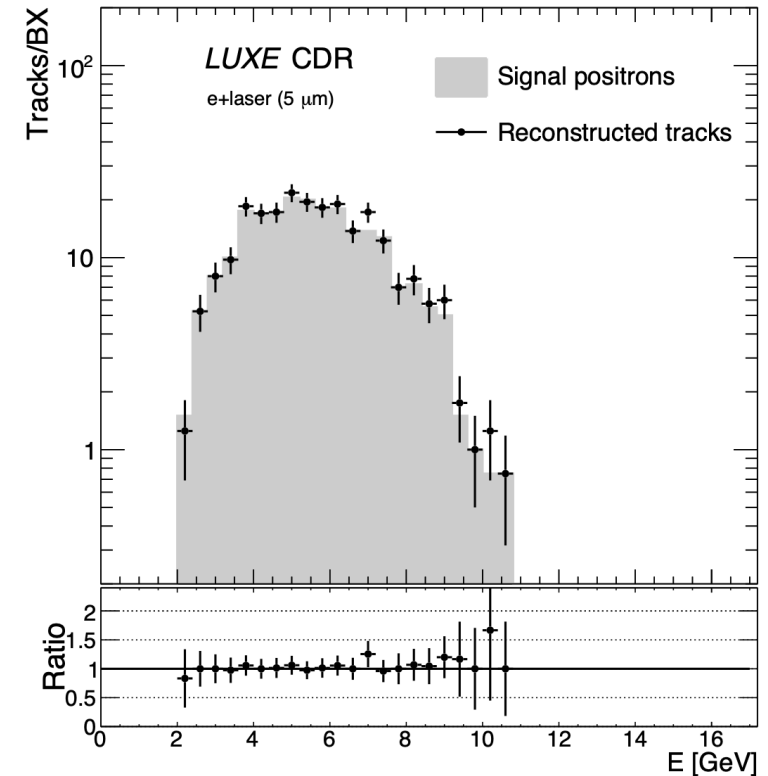


Silicon Pixel Tracker:

- four layers of ALPIDE silicon pixel sensors → developed for ALICE pixel tracker upgrade
- pitch size (27 x 29 μm), 5 μm resolution
- tracking: $\varepsilon > 98\%$, $\frac{\delta p}{p} \approx 0.3\%$
- very small background (<0.1 event / bunch crossing)

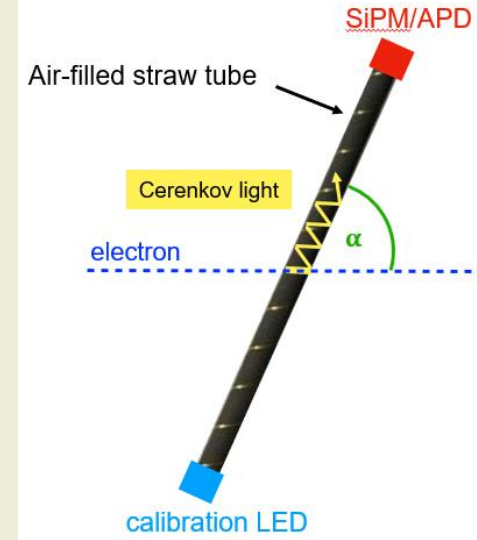
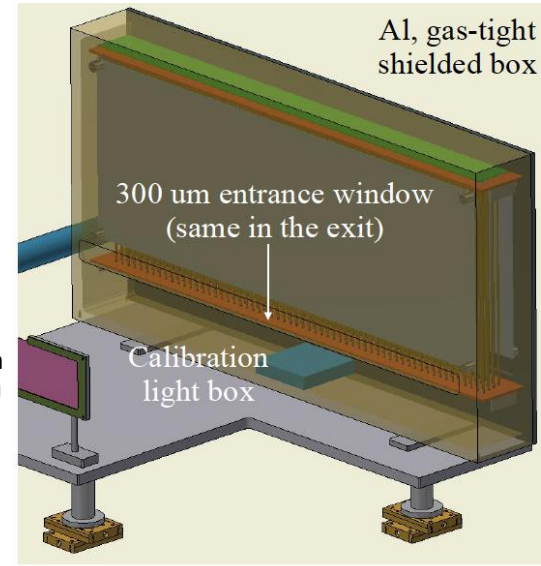
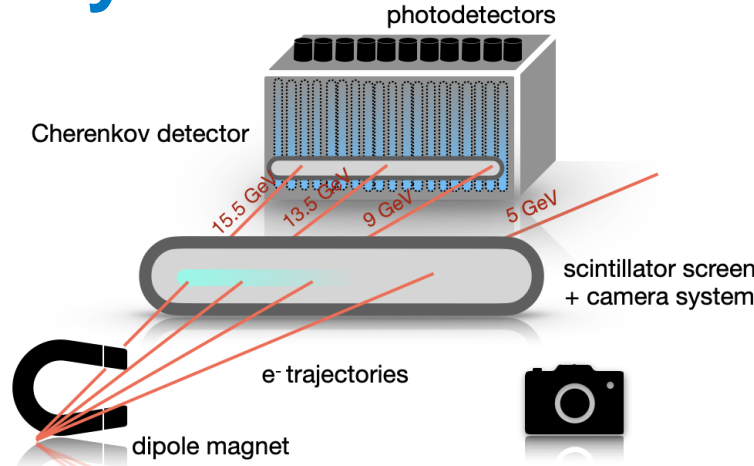
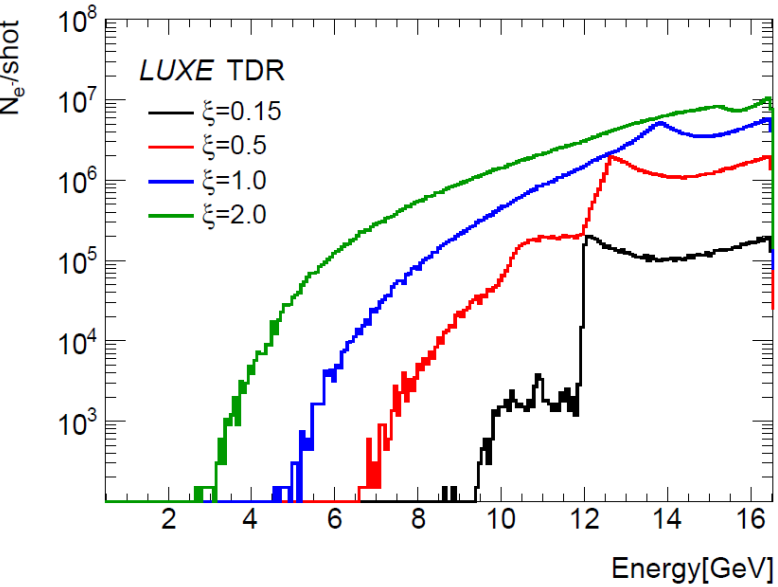
Si – W High-granularity Calorimeter:

- 20-layer sampling calorimeter – high granularity: independent energy measurement through shower and position
- shower medium: 3.5mm Tungsten plates ($1X_0$), active medium: Silicon sensors ($5 \times 5 \text{cm}^2$, 320 μm thick)
- read out by FLAME ASIC (developed for FCAL)



Positron detectors: High signal efficiency, high resolution!

Electron Detection System

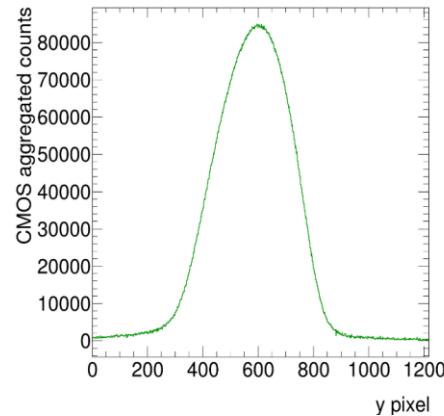


Scintillator screen (LANEX):

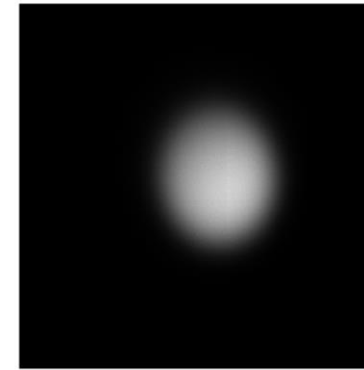
- camera takes pictures of scintillation light
- resolution of full system $\sim 500\mu\text{m}$

Cerenkov detector:

- finely segmented ($\phi = 4\text{mm}$) Air-filled channel (reflective tubes as light guides) \rightarrow charged particles create Cherenkov light
- Active medium Air: low refractive index - reduce light yield, suppress backgrounds (Cherenkov threshold 20 MeV)



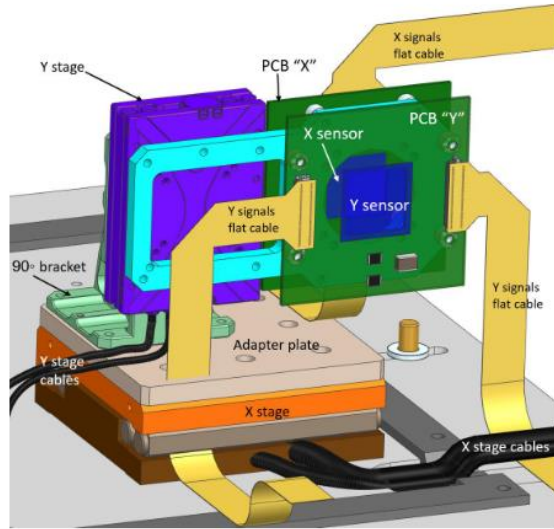
Beam spot imaged on Scint. Screen



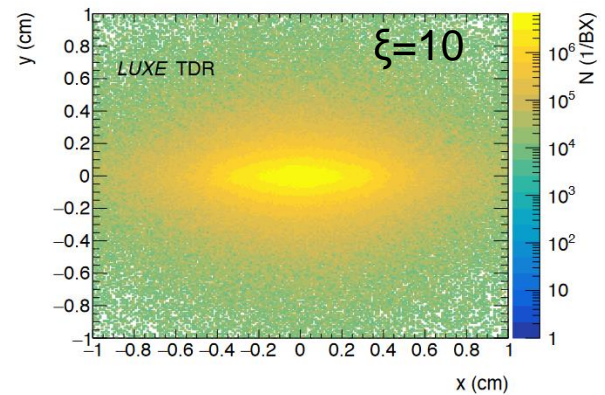
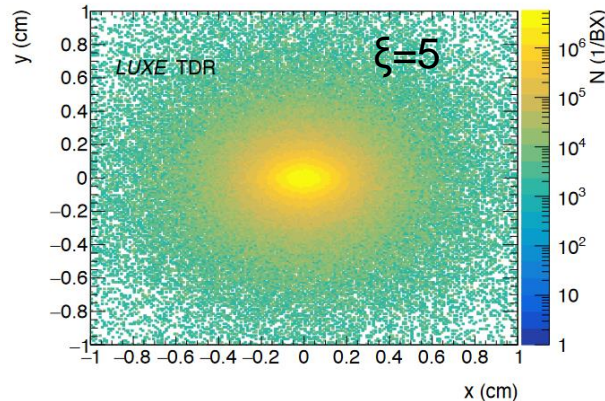
Straw prototype

Electron detectors: High rate tolerance, large dynamic range!

Photon Detection System

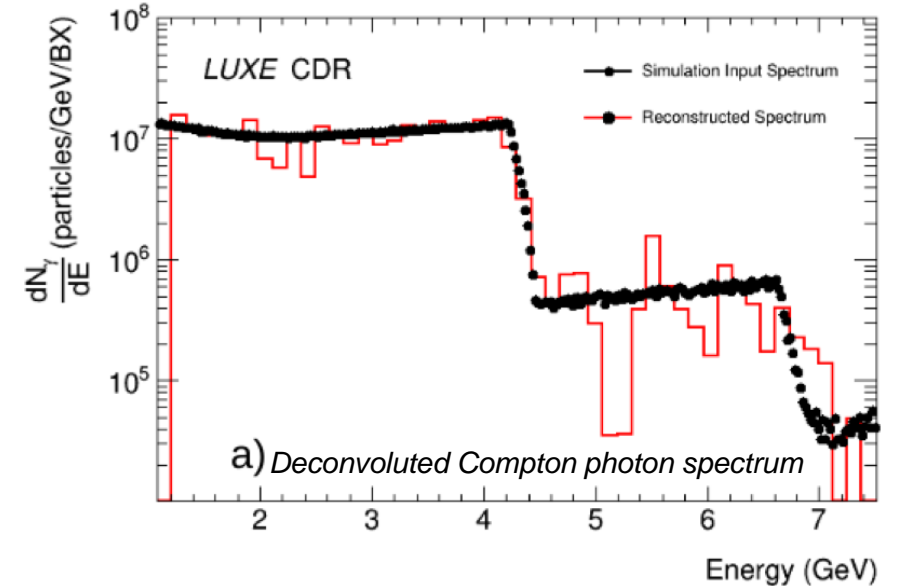
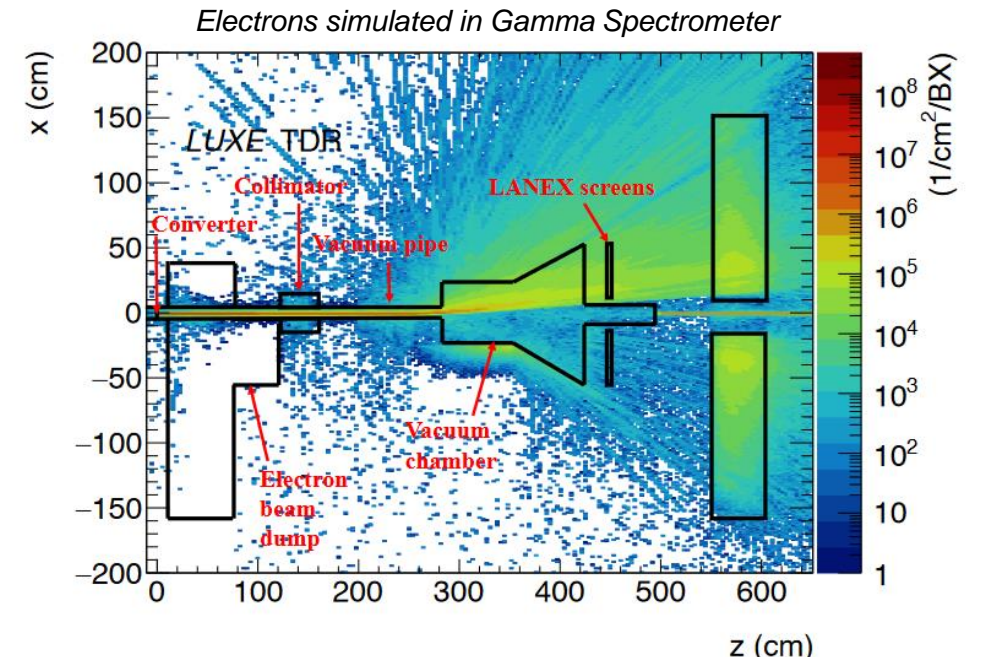


Gamma Beam Profiler

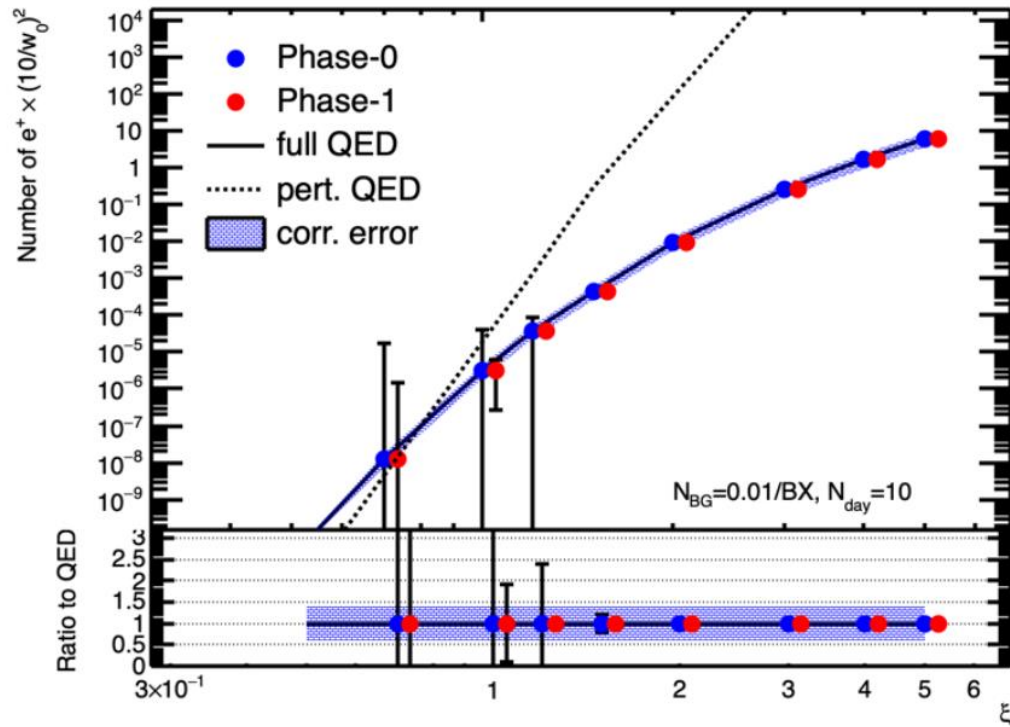


Gamma detector technologies:

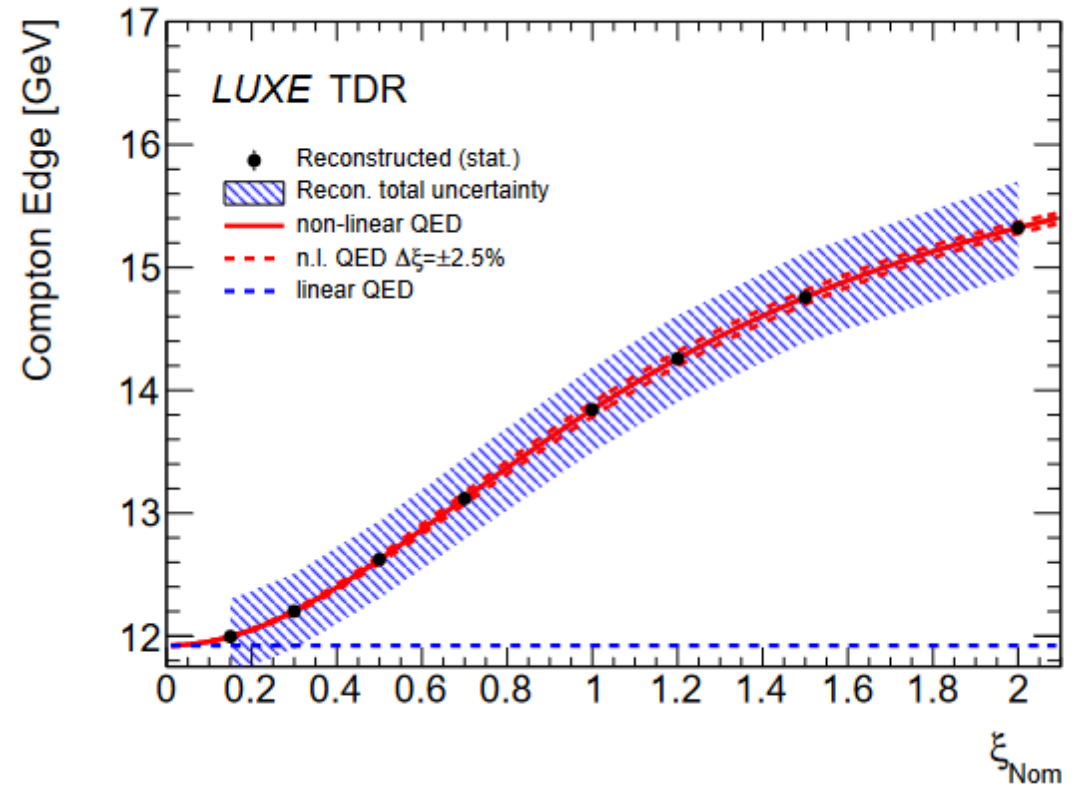
- Gamma profiler (sapphire strips)
 - γ beam location and shape
 - precision measurement of Laser intensity
- Gamma spectrometer with scintillator screens behind converter
 - flux, energy spectrum ($\frac{\delta E}{E} < 2\%$)
- Gamma dump backscattering calorimeter → photon flux



Expected Results



- Number of Breit-Wheeler pairs produced in photon-Laser collisions
- assuming 10dy of data-taking and 0.01 background events/bunch crossing
- 40% correlated uncertainty to illustrate effect of uncertainty on ξ



- Compton edge position as function of ξ in electron-laser collisions
- assuming 1h data-taking, no background
- 2% correlated uncertainty to illustrate impact of energy resolution

SFQED parameters

Intensity parameter:

$$\xi = \sqrt{4\pi\alpha} \left(\frac{\mathcal{E}_L}{\omega_L m_e} \right) = \frac{m_e \mathcal{E}_L}{\omega_L \mathcal{E}_{cr}}$$

- measure of coupling between probe and Background (laser) field (also: square root of laser intensity)
- $\xi \geq 1$: non-perturbative regime

Quantum parameters:

$$\chi_e = (1 + \cos \theta) \frac{E_e}{m_e} \frac{\mathcal{E}_L}{\mathcal{E}_{cr}}$$
$$\chi_\gamma = (1 + \cos \theta) \frac{E_\gamma}{m_e} \frac{\mathcal{E}_L}{\mathcal{E}_{cr}}$$

- ratio of background laser field and Schwinger critical field
- $\chi \geq 1$: non-linear quantum effects become probable (e.g. pair production)

Energy Parameter

$$\eta = \frac{\chi}{\xi} = (1 + \cos \theta) \frac{\omega_L E_{e/\gamma}}{m_e^2}$$

- (dimensionless) energy of collision between probe particle and background

Note:

\mathcal{E}_L : Laser field

\mathcal{E}_{cr} : Schwinger critical field

θ : Laser - probe crossing angle

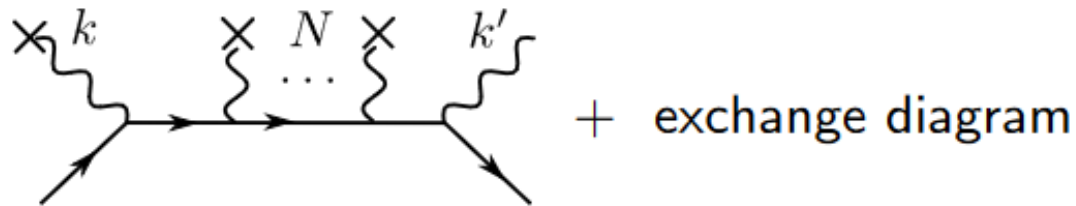
ω_L : Laser frequency

$E_{e/\gamma}$: probe electron (photon) energy

Different combinations of ξ and χ result in different types of non-linear behavior!

Compton scattering in strong fields

- Consider Compton scattering in plane-wave background field: $A(x) = A_0 \sin(k \cdot x)$

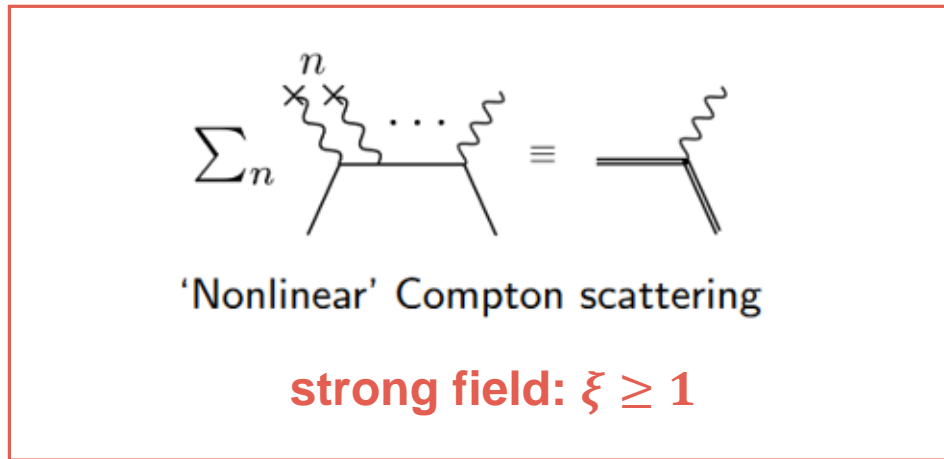
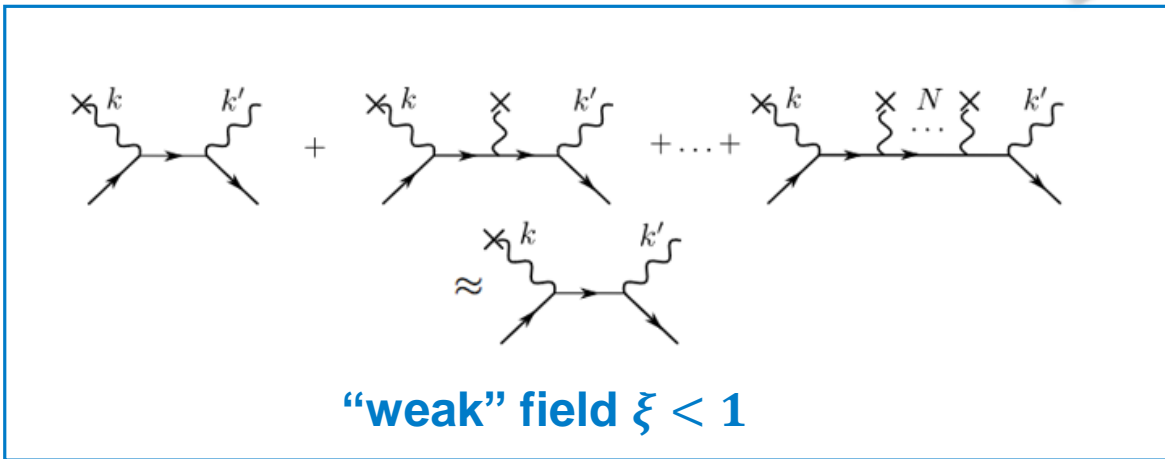


fine structure constant

Probability $P \sim \alpha \left(\frac{eA_0}{m} \right)^{2N} = \alpha \xi^{2N}$

$$\xi = \frac{eA_0}{m}$$

'Classical nonlinearity / intensity parameter', ξ .

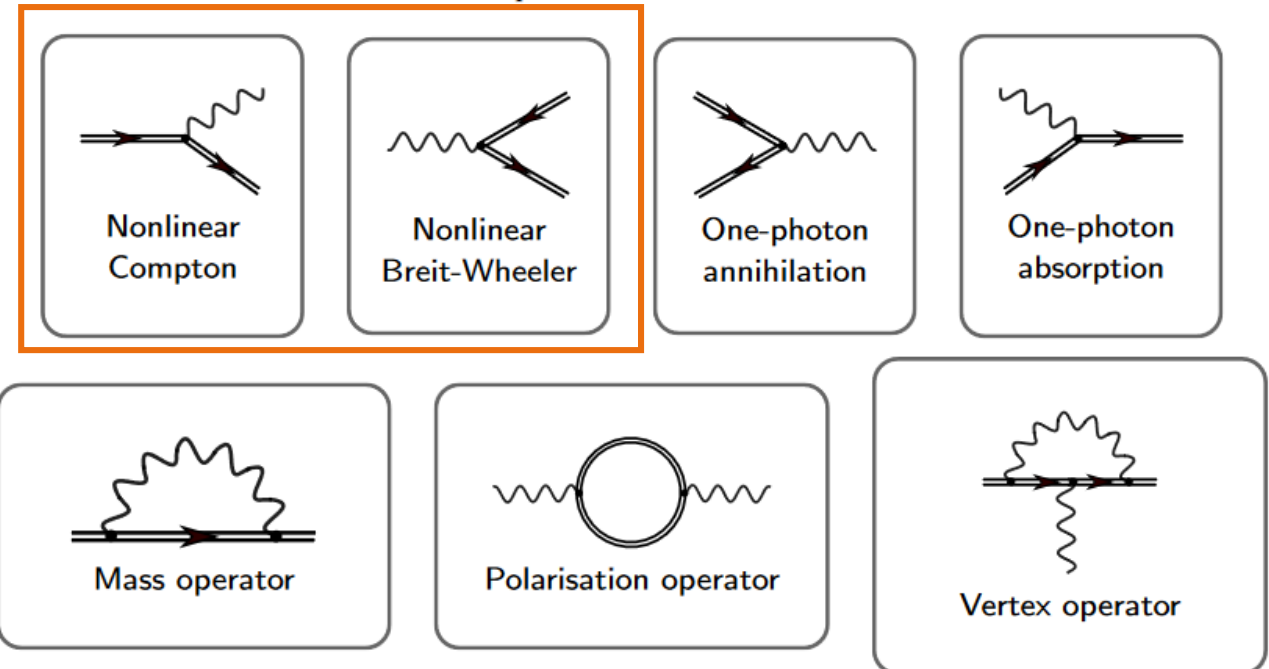
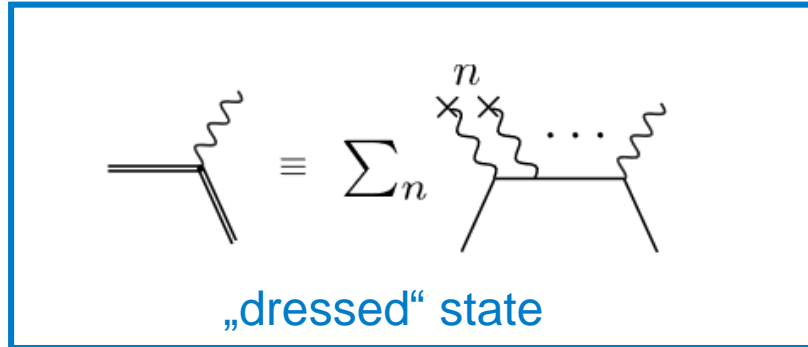


Strong field ($\xi \geq 1$): Need to take into account all order diagrams!

The Furry picture

- How to do calculations? Solve equations of motion (Dirac equation) in field background
→ analytical solutions exist in plane wave background („Volkov wave functions“)
- derive Feynman rules for „dressed“ states („Furry expansion“)
→ treat background exactly, particle scattering perturbatively ($\alpha \ll 1$)

$$\mathcal{L} = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + \bar{\psi} (i\cancel{D} - m) \psi}_{\text{‘unperturbed’}} \underbrace{-e\bar{\psi} \cancel{A} \psi}_{\text{interaction}},$$



LUXE Status & Planning

- LUXE initiated in 2017
- 2024: international collaboration with ~100 members
→ significant contributions by external partners
- Technical Design Report (TDR) released in 2023
→ funding acquisition ongoing
- foresee staged construction in EuXFEL shutdowns
→ first phase-0 data-taking could start after 3-year construction period



The LUXE Collaboration

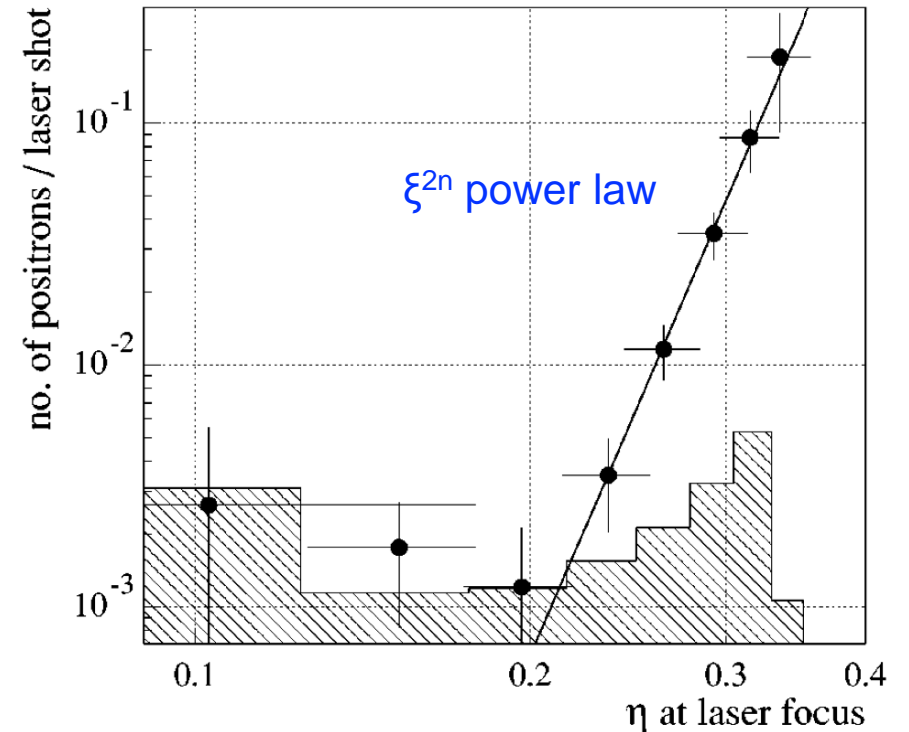
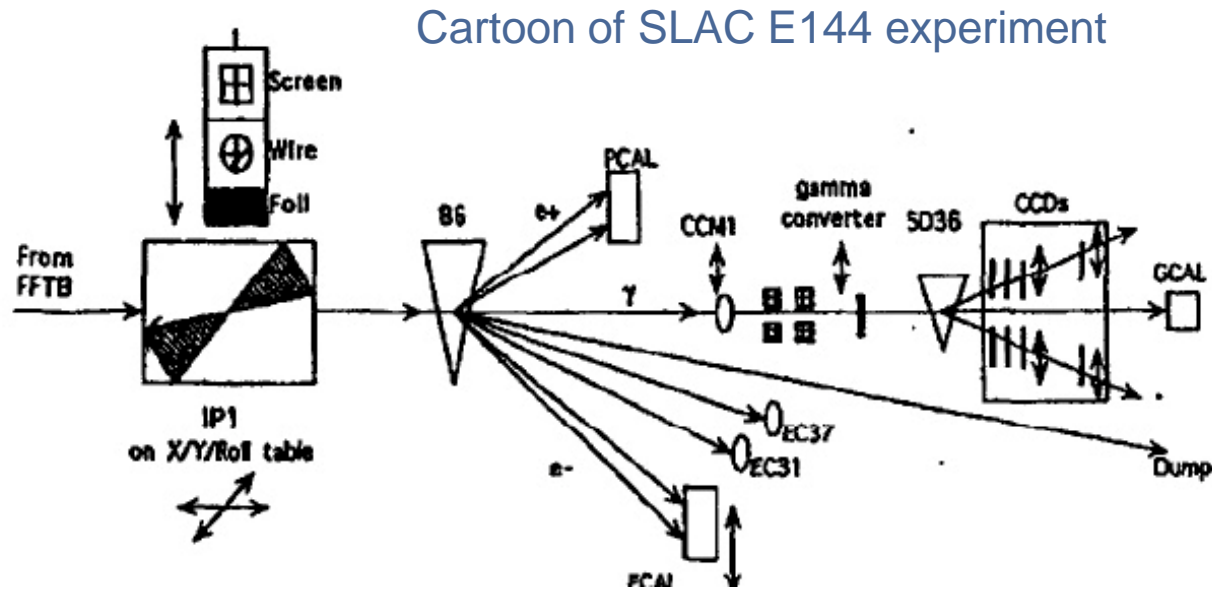
LUXE

[arXiv:2308.00515 \[hep-ex\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.00515)

Technical Design Report for the LUXE Experiment

H. Abramowicz¹, M. Almazan Soto², M. Altarelli³, R. Aßmann⁴, A. Athanassiadis⁴, G. Avoni⁵, T. Behrke⁴, M. Benettoni⁶, Y. Benhammou¹, J. Bhatt⁷, T. Blackburn⁸, C. Blanch², S. Bonaldo⁶, S. Boogert^{9,10}, O. Borysov¹¹, M. Borysova¹², V. Boudry¹², D. Breton¹³, R. Brinkmann⁴, M. Bruschi⁵, F. Burkart⁴, K. Büßer⁴, N. Cavanagh¹⁴, F. Dal Corso⁶, W. Decking⁴, M. Deniaud¹⁵, O. Diner¹⁶, U. Dosselli⁶, M. Elad¹, L. Epshteyn¹⁶, D. Esperante², T. Ferber¹⁷, M. Firlej¹⁸, T. Fiutowski¹⁸, K. Fleck¹⁴, N. Fuster-Martinez², K. Gadow⁴, F. Gaede⁴, A. Gallas¹⁹, H. Garcia Cabrera², E. Gerstmayr¹⁴, V. Ghencescu¹⁹, M. Giorato⁶, N. Golubeva⁴, C. Grojean⁴, F. Grutti⁴, G. Grzelak²⁰, J. Hallford¹⁷, L. Hartman⁴, B. Heinemann⁸, T. Heinzl²², L. Helary⁴, L. Hendriks⁴, M. Hofmann¹, D. Horn¹, S. Huang¹, X. Huang^{4,21,23}, M. Idzik¹⁸, A. Irlin², R. Jacobs⁴, B. King²², M. Klute¹⁷, A. Kropf^{4,21}, E. Kroupp¹⁶, H. Lahno¹¹, F. Lasagni Manghi⁵, J. Lawhorn¹⁷, A. Levanon¹, A. Levi¹⁶, L. Levinson¹⁶, A. Levy¹, I. Levy²⁴, A. Liberman¹⁶, B. Liss⁴, B. List⁴, J. List⁴, W. Lohmann⁴, J. Maalmi¹³, T. Madlener⁴, V. Malka¹⁶, T. Marsault¹¹, S. Mattiazzo⁶, F. Meloni⁴, D. Miron¹, M. Morandin⁶, J. Moron¹⁸, J. Nanni¹², A.T. Neagu¹⁹, E. Negodin⁴, A. Paccagnella⁶, D. Pantano⁶, D. Pietruch¹⁸, I. Pomerantz¹, R. Pöschl¹³, P.M. Potlog¹⁹, R. Prasad⁴, R. Quishpe¹⁷, E. Ranken⁴, A. Ringwald⁴, A. Roich¹⁶, F. Salgado^{25,26}, A. Santra¹⁶, G. Sarri¹⁴, A. Sävert^{25,26}, A. Sbrizzi⁵, S. Schmitt⁴, I. Schulthess⁴, S. Schuwalow¹¹, D. Seipt^{23,27}, G. Simi⁶, Y. Soreq²⁸, D. Spataro^{4,21}, M. Streeter¹⁴, K. Swientek¹⁸, N. Tal Hod¹⁶, T. Teter^{23,28}, A. Thiebault¹³, D. Thoden⁴, N. Trevisani¹⁷, R. Urmanov¹⁶, S. Vasiukov⁴, S. Walker⁴, M. Warren⁷, M. Wing⁴, Y.C. Yap⁴, N. Zadok¹, M. Zanetti⁶, A.F. Zarnacki²⁹, D. Zbinkowski²⁹, K. Zembaczynski²⁹, M. Zepf^{23,27}, D. Zerwas¹⁵, W. Ziegler^{23,27}, M. Zuffa³

E144 experiment at SLAC

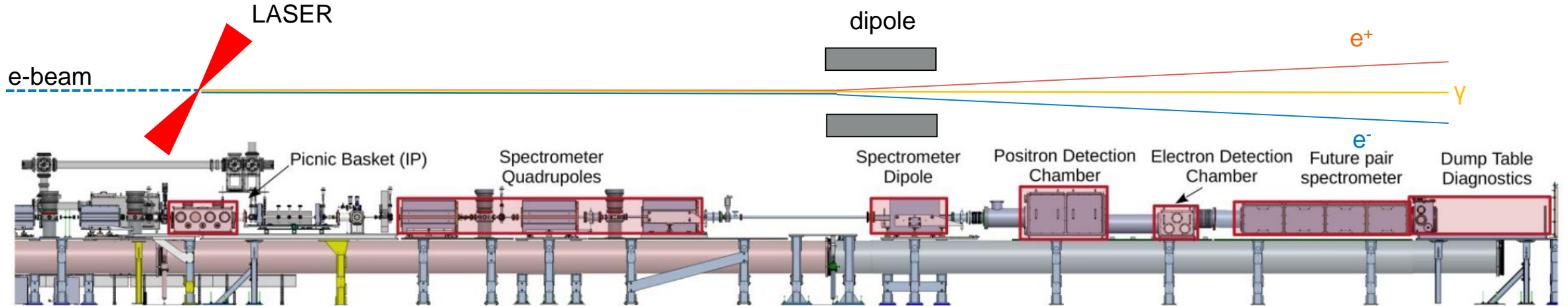


- E144: SLAC experiment in 1990's using 46.6 GeV electron beam (e+LASER only!)
- reached $\chi \leq 0.25$, $\xi < 0.4$
- observed process $e^- + n\gamma_L \rightarrow e^- e^+ e^-$
- observed start of the ξ^{2n} power law, but not departure

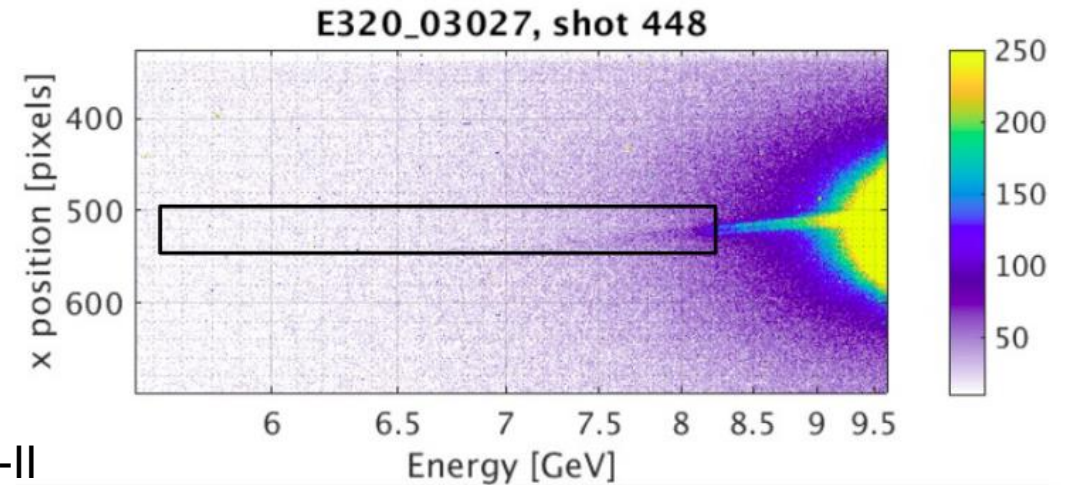
LUXE : Three orders of magnitude more powerful laser than E144, will enter non-perturbative regime

E-320 experiment at SLAC

[Link](#) to E320 overview by S. Meuren

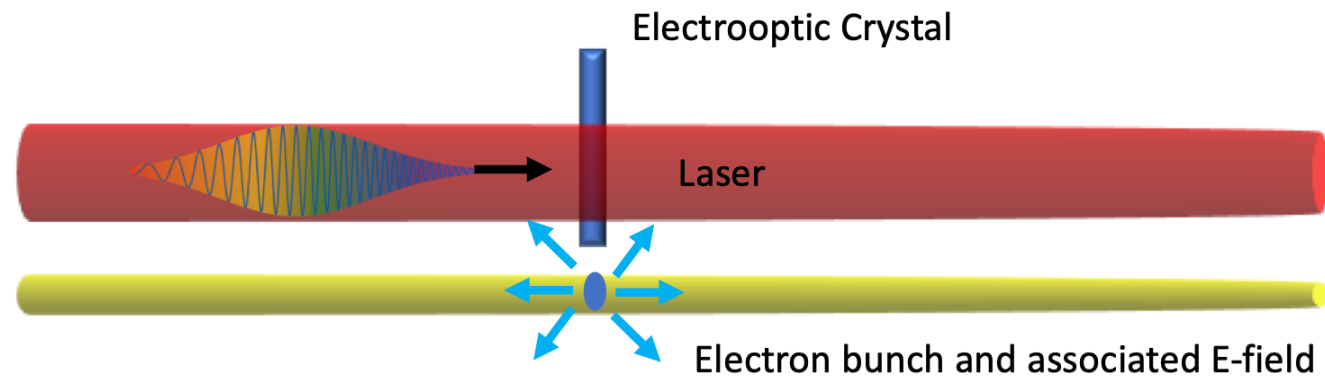


- E320: ongoing SF-QED experiment at SLAC using 13 GeV electron beam (FACET-II) and 16 TW optical Laser
- first electron-LASER collisions in 2022
- By design: similar parameter reach as LUXE (after Laser and Detector upgrades)
- Main differences to LUXE:
 - electron-Laser collision mode only
 - E-320 data-taking time limited due to other users of FACET-II



Synchronization

- critical: spatial and temporal overlap of electron beam and LASER
- temporal overlap requirement (30fs LASER pulse, >100fs electron bunch)
→ at least half the pulse width (50fs)
- XFEL developed world-leading synchronization system
→ synchronization of two RF signals to <13fs
- synchronise the XFEL.EU master clock oscillator to the oscillator of the Laser
→ already used across XFEL to synchronize LASERS and accelerator
→ fine-tune repetition rate via piezo-elements controlling LASER cavity size
- stability against temperature variations: isolation and active feedback loops
- spatial overlap: beam pointing monitoring systems for both electron and LASER beam

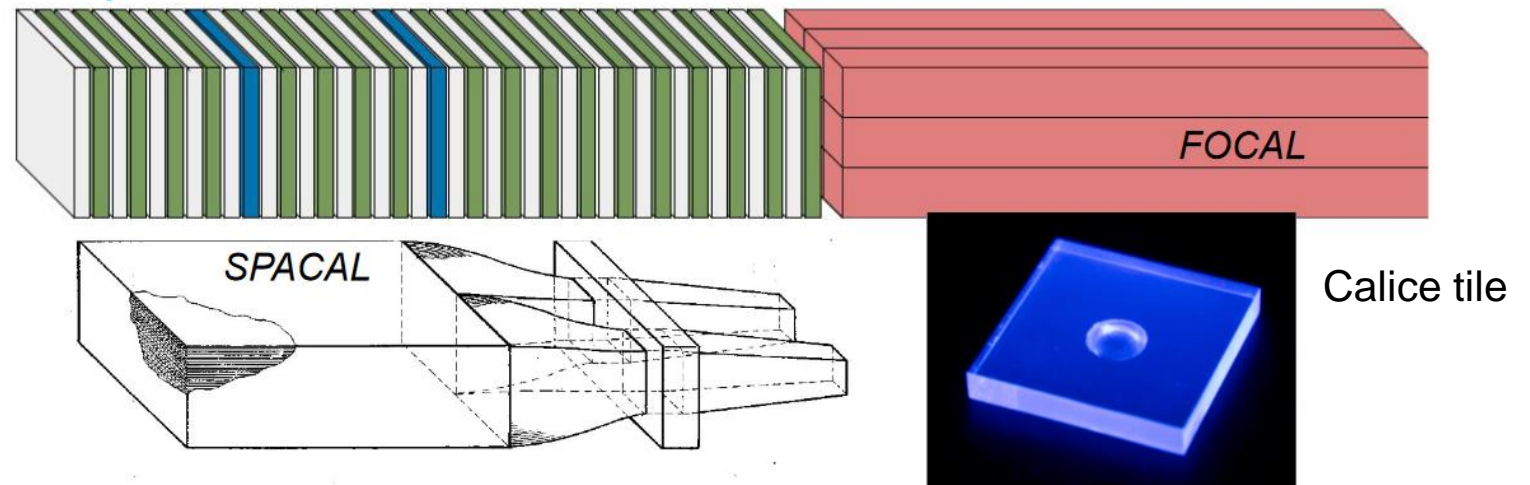


LUXE-NPOD Dump and Detector Optimization

- Optimised photon dump geometry to minimise background and maximise signal
→ Computing challenge: simulate $O(10^9)$ electrons with Geant4 for each geometry
- Optimal detector characteristics for signal detection and background rejection:
 - Signal efficiency (Photon separation $\sim 2\text{cm}$)
 - Background suppression (neutrons: shower shape and timing $< 1\text{ns}$, radius $r < 0.5\text{m}$)
 - Precise ALP invariant mass (photon direction and energy, non-resonant rejection)→ Ideal: Tracking calorimeter

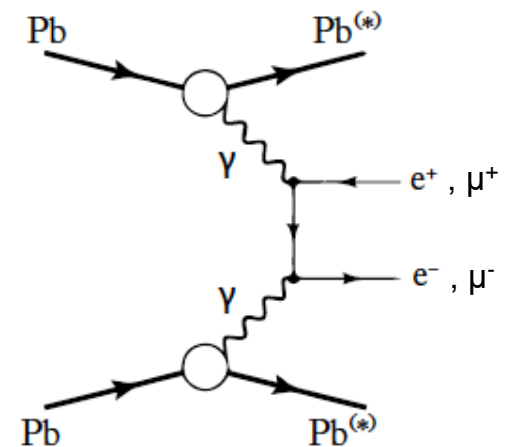
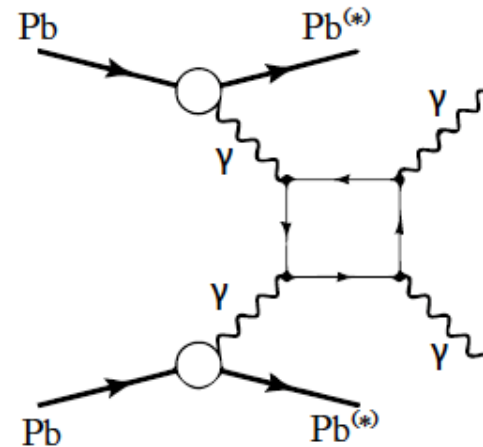
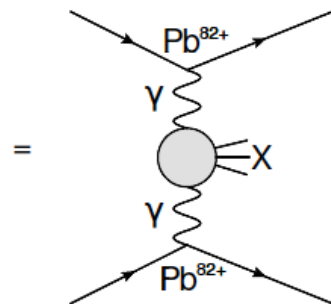
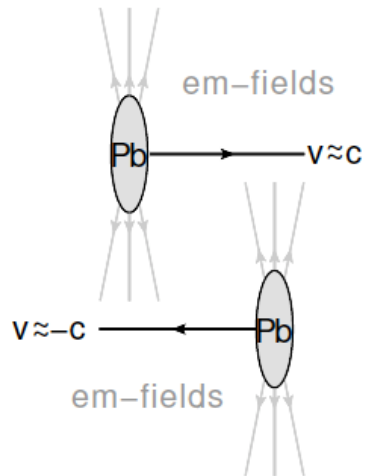
Existing detector options:

- Alice FoCal.
- H1 SPACAL.
- Calice SiPM on Tiles



How does LUXE relate to LHC light-by-light scattering?

- LHC: photon-photon interaction in ultra-peripheral heavy-ion collisions (UPC)
 - e.g. $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow \mu\mu$
- UPC: fields above the Schwinger limit can be reached in the lab
- main difference to LUXE: in UPC, EM field is extremely short-lived, cannot travel over macroscopic distances
- this regime is still covered by linear perturbative QED

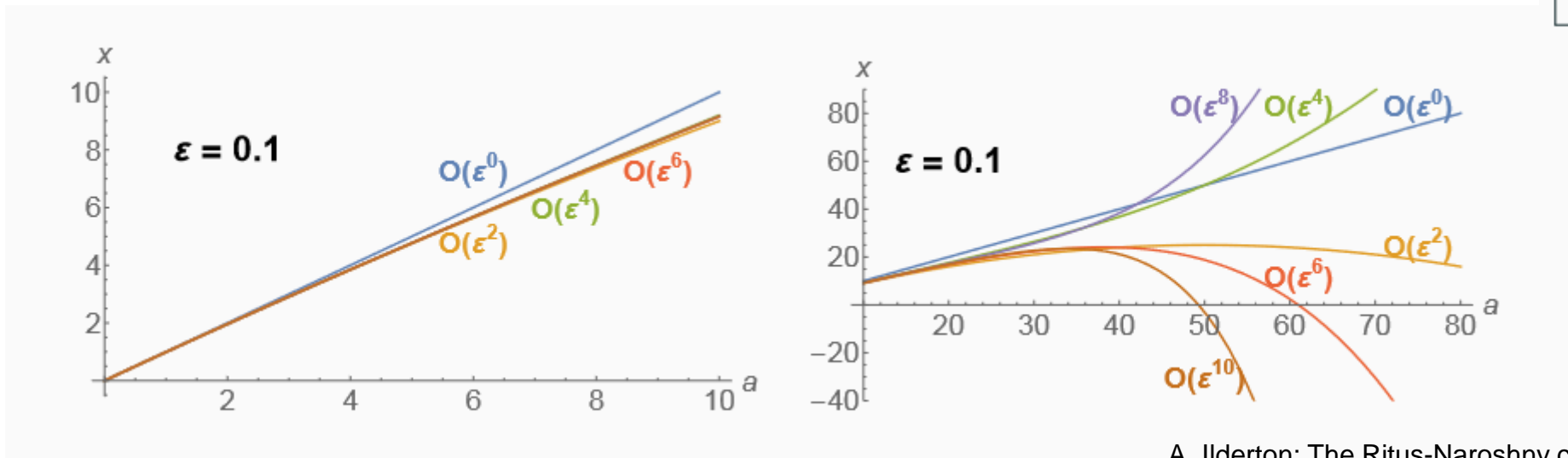


Figures from: arXiv:2010.07855v3
(Also a nice review to read, if you want to know more!)

Ritus-Naroshny Conjecture



- Ritus-Naroshny Conjecture: in the vicinity of sufficiently strong fields, the Furry expansion breaks down → perturbative QED coupling α is modified by the field strength: $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha\chi^{2/3}$
- Conjecture interpreted to hold for any „locally constant“ background (field constant over formation length scale of physics process)



$$a \leftrightarrow a_0, \epsilon^2 \leftrightarrow \alpha$$

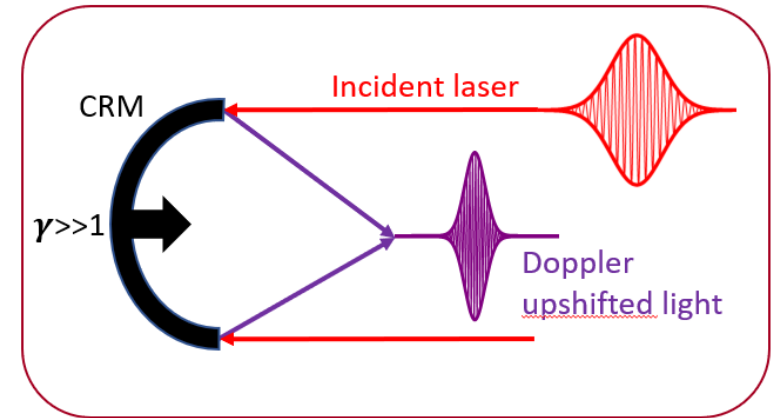
A. Ilderton: The Ritus-Naroshny conjecture: A tutorial

Creating strong fields in experiments

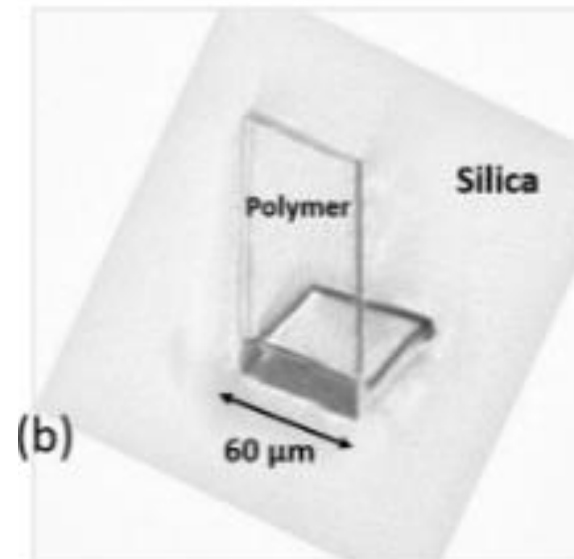
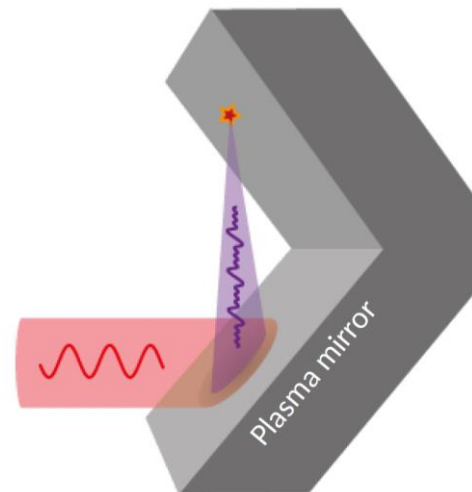
C. Thaury et al, Nat. Phys (2007)
Dromey et al, Nat. Phys (2009)

3) Relativistic curved mirrors

- Doppler-boosting Laser intensity using curved relativistic mirrors
- „Plasma mirrors“ ejected by impinging laser light on solid state target
→ currently under study in simulation (cf.)
- solid-state fixed target experiment, or collision with particle beam
→ reach extreme regions of SF-QED phase space



L-shaped target



Vincenti et al, Nat. Comm. (2014)
Fedeli et al, PRL (2021)

Contact

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