

# Workshop on Plasma Physics with Intense Laser and Heavy Ion Beams

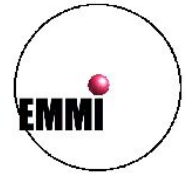
May 20 - 21, 2010 - Moscow, Russia



VNIIEF, Sarov



P.N. Lebedev Physical  
Institute of the Russian  
Academy of Science



IMP, Lanzhou

Uni-Remagen

Experiments on the indirect heating of low Z foam targets

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# Workshop on Plasma Physics with Intense Laser and Heavy Ion Beams

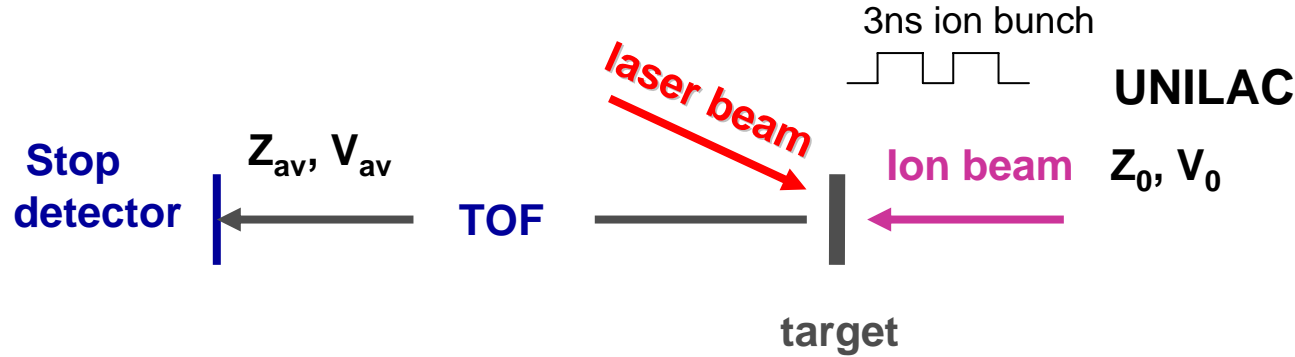
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## Experiments on the indirect heating of low Z foam targets

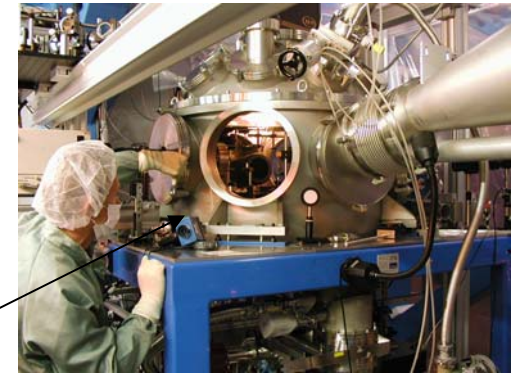
A. Blazevic, N. Zhidkov, V. Vatulin, N. Suslov, A. Kunin, A. Pinegin, D. Schäfer, Th. Nisius, Y. Zhao, U. Eisenbarth, V. Bagnout, N. Orlov, N. Borisenko, G. Vergunova, Th. Wilhein, Th. Stoehlker; V. Fortov

# Laser – Heavy Ion Beam Combined Experiments

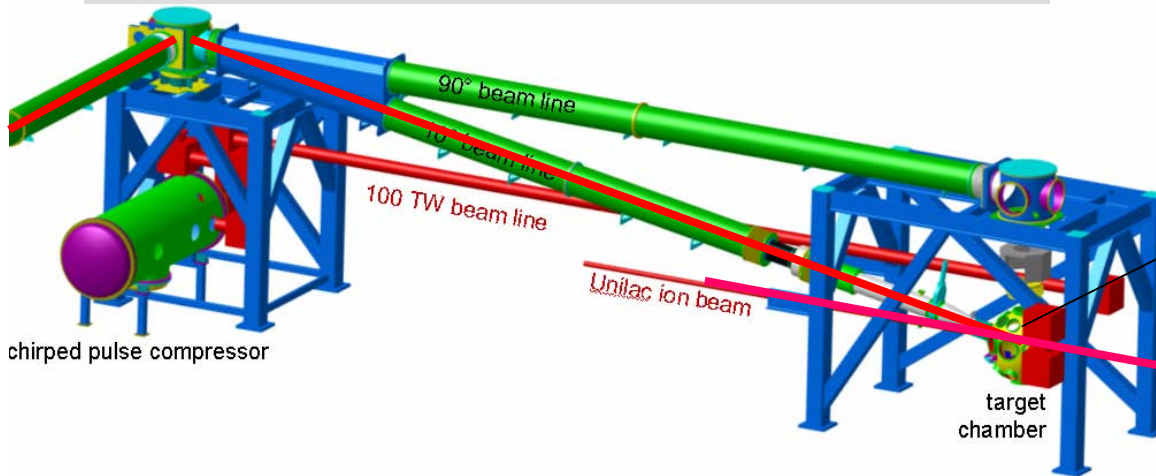
Interaction of heavy ions with ionized matter : increased plasma stopping power



### Target chamber



**PHELIX-laser : 0.3 kJ @ 1-15 ns,  $1\omega$ ,  $2\omega$  (2011)**



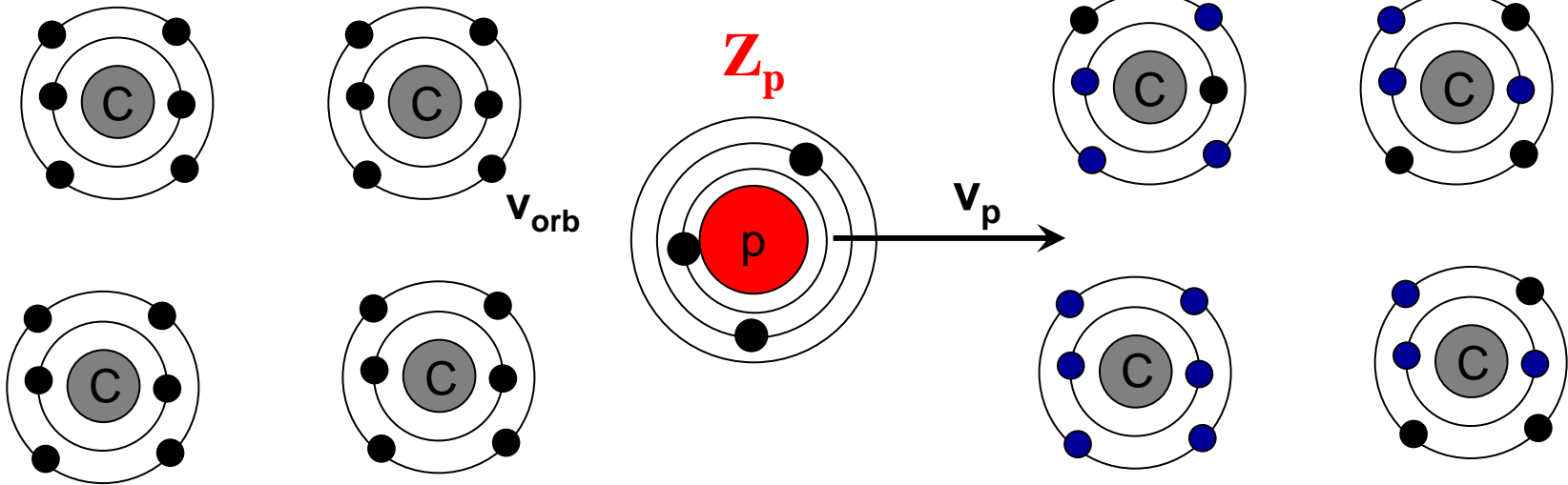
**Heavy ion beam:**  
 $3 < Z < 92$ ,  $E = 3 - 13$  MeV/u,  
RF: 108/36 MHz

# Projectile ion energy loss in partially ionized matter

cold matter

$$dE/dx \sim Z_p^2 / V_p^2$$

plasma



$Z_{solid} < Z_{plasma}$   
since  $\sigma_{RR} \ll \sigma_{bec}$

More effective energy  
transfer to free electrons

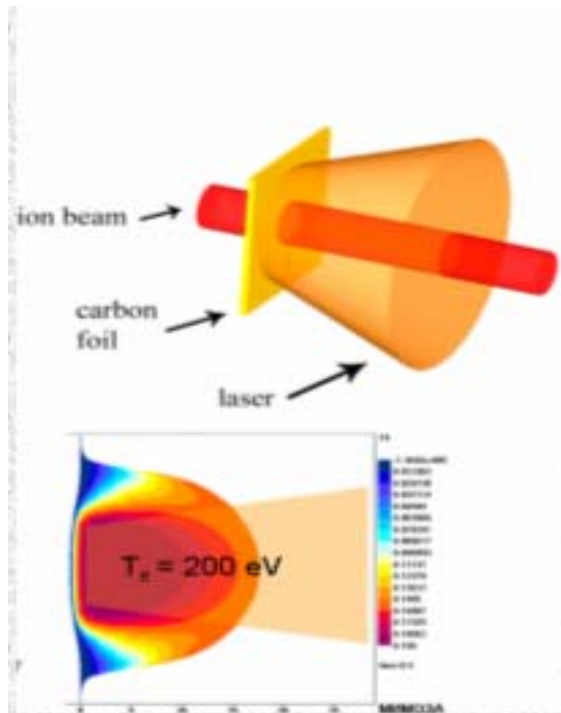
Increase of the ion energy loss in plasma

# Schemes of the plasma target production

## Direct laser heating

**Ideal plasma:**

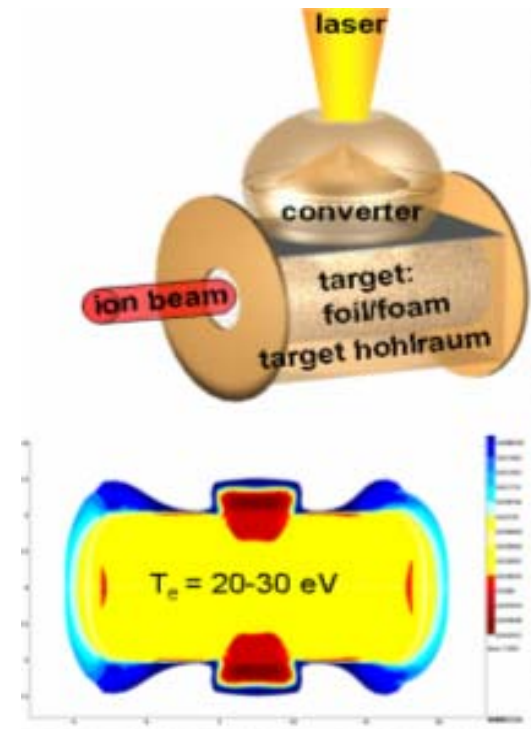
$T_e \sim 200$  eV, fully ionized



## Heating with hohlraum radiation

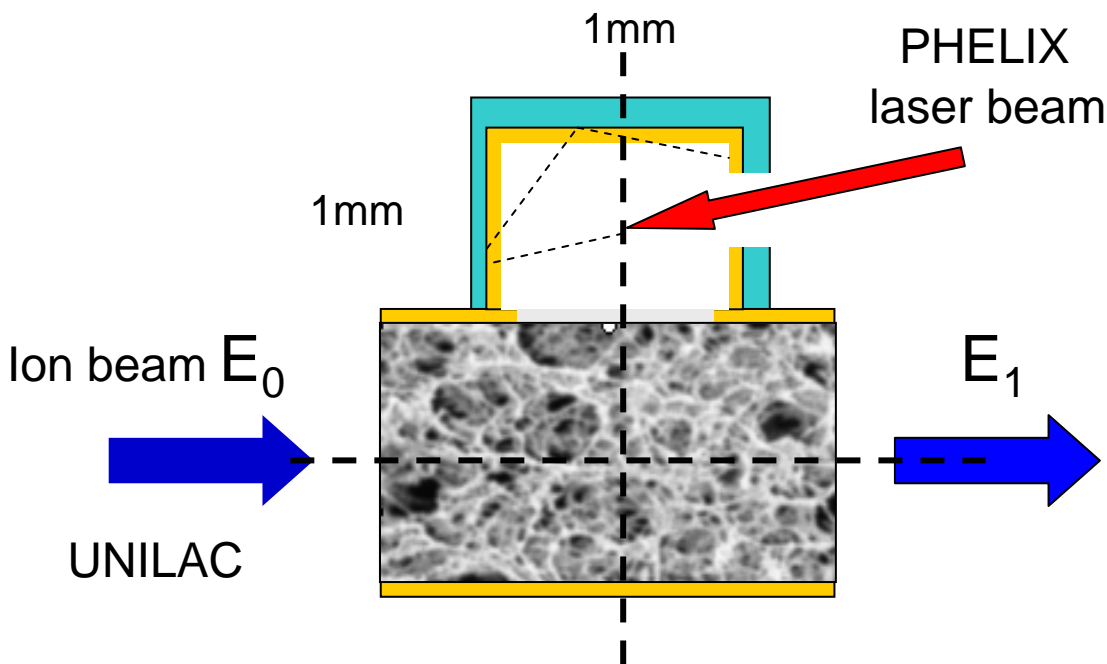
**homogeneous plasma:**

$T_e \sim 30$  eV, partially ionized



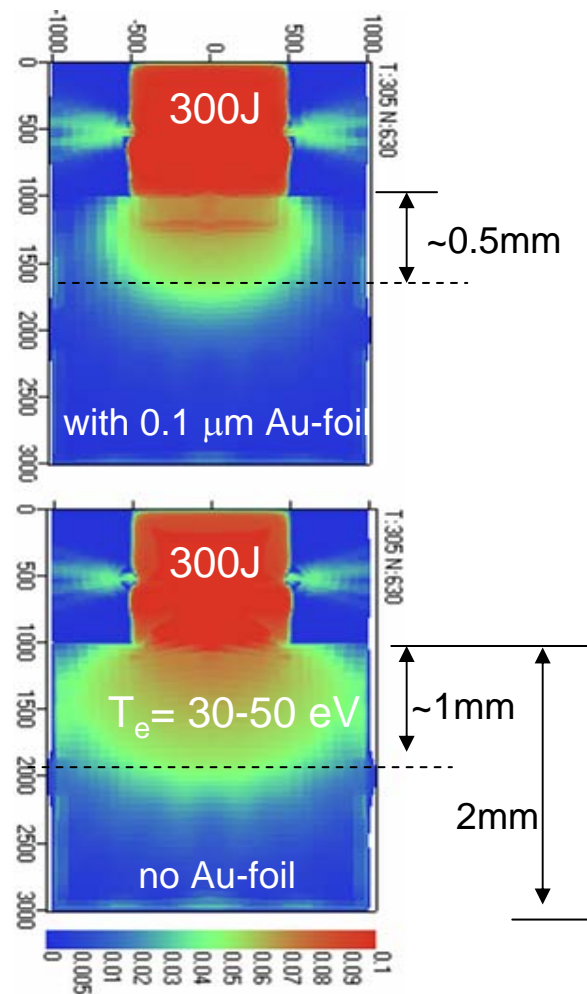
# Numerical optimization of the hohlraum target geometry

Calculations for the current PHELIX parameters  
300J, 1 ns, 250 $\mu$ m, 1 $\omega$ , 10 degree beam-line



VNIIEF, Sarov, Nov. 2009

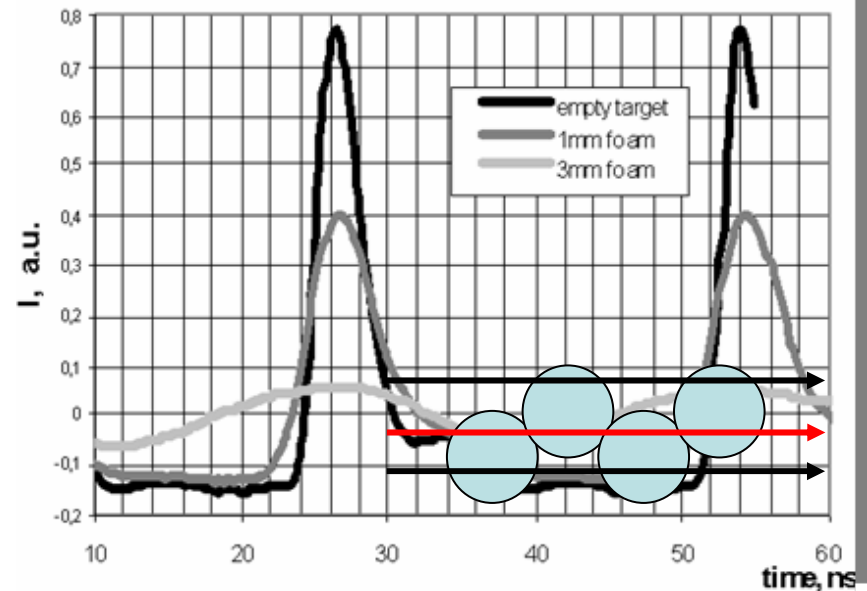
2-D hydrodynamics combined with  
2-D multi group radiation transport



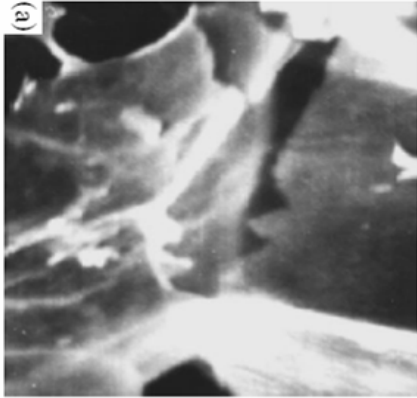
# Why foams?

## Properties under the ion and laser beam:

1. Effective conversion of the laser energy into  $T_e$
2. Slow dynamics of expansion ( $\rho$ ,  $T \sim \text{const}$  over ns)
3. Fast ( $\sim$ sub ns) homogenization after the laser heating
4. Energy broadening of the ion bunch caused by the porous structure has to be acceptable (no merging of the subsequent ion bunches)



# Variety of low Z foam structures

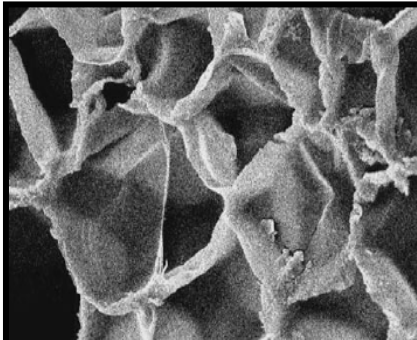


10μm

**$C_8H_8O_3$  foam (agar-agar) of 1-20 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>**

Randomly distributed thin fibers

**TRINITI, Mishen, VNIIEF-Sarov Iskra 5**

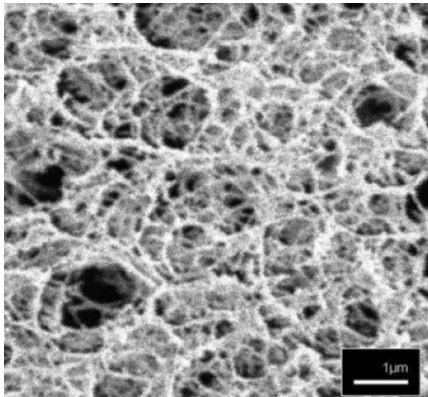


10μm

**Polystyrene (CH)<sub>n</sub> 1-20 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>**

Quasi regular sponge like structure (3D network)

**TRINITI, Mishen**



**TAC - cellulose triacetate  $C_{12}H_{16}O_8$  1-30 mg/cm<sup>3</sup>**

3-D regular network with open cell structure,

The most fine pore structure ( ~ 1μm)

remains stable up to 220C

**PALS, LIL, GSI**



# Experimental Goal

## Goal of the project:

creation of homogeneous long lasting (>3 ns - the length of the ion bunch) partially ionized plasma of  $10^{20}$ - $10^{21}$  electron density

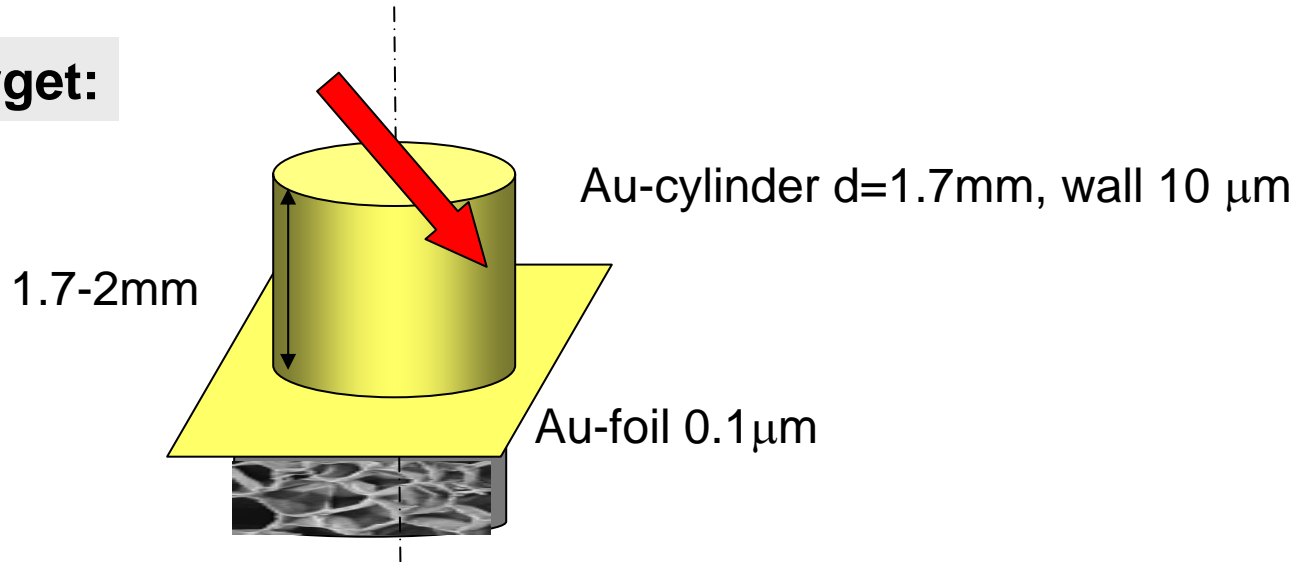
## Approaches:

- Indirect heating of low Z foams by means of hohlraum radiation
- Direct heating of the low Z foams with undercritical density/supersonic ionization

# Heating of low Z foams with Au-hohlraum radiation

**PHELIX Laser:**  $1\omega$ , 1.4 ns, 200-270 J,  $d \sim 200\mu\text{m}$ ,  $>10^{14}\text{ W/cm}^2$ , contrast  $10^{-6}$

**Target:**



**CHO-foam  $2-20\text{ mg/cm}^3$**

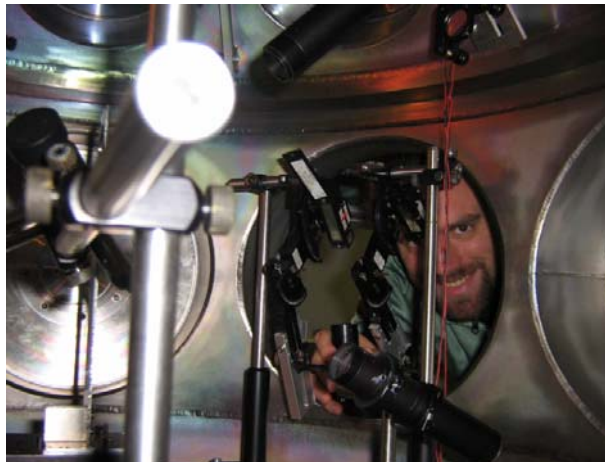
**areal density  $\rho x \sim 150-500\ \mu\text{g/cm}^2$**

# International collaboration

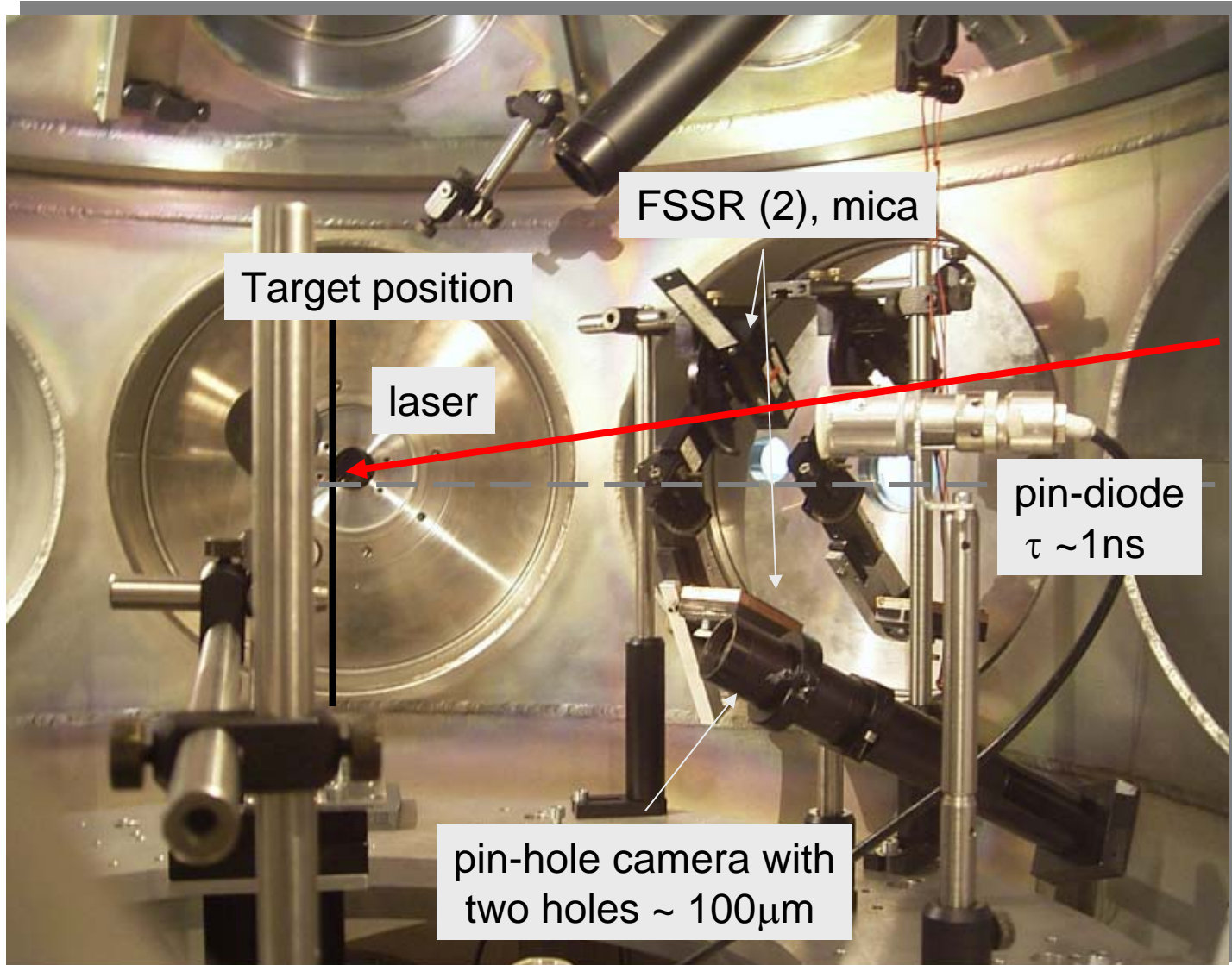
## Participants:

- VNIIEF-Sarov, Russia;  
*Numerical optimization of the target design, experimental support*
  - Joint Institute for High Temperatures, Moscow,  
*carbon plasma opacities calculations*
  - Lebedev Physical Institute, Moscow, Russia;  
*foam target production, calculations of the foam hydrodynamics*
  - Institute of Modern Physics, Lanzhou, China  
*experimental support (x-ray diagnostics)*
  - Rhein-Ahr-Campus Remagen, University of Applied Sciences, Germany;  
*experimental support (absolute calibrated transmission grating)*
- Plasma Physics Division GSI

# Last experimental campaign on February 2010

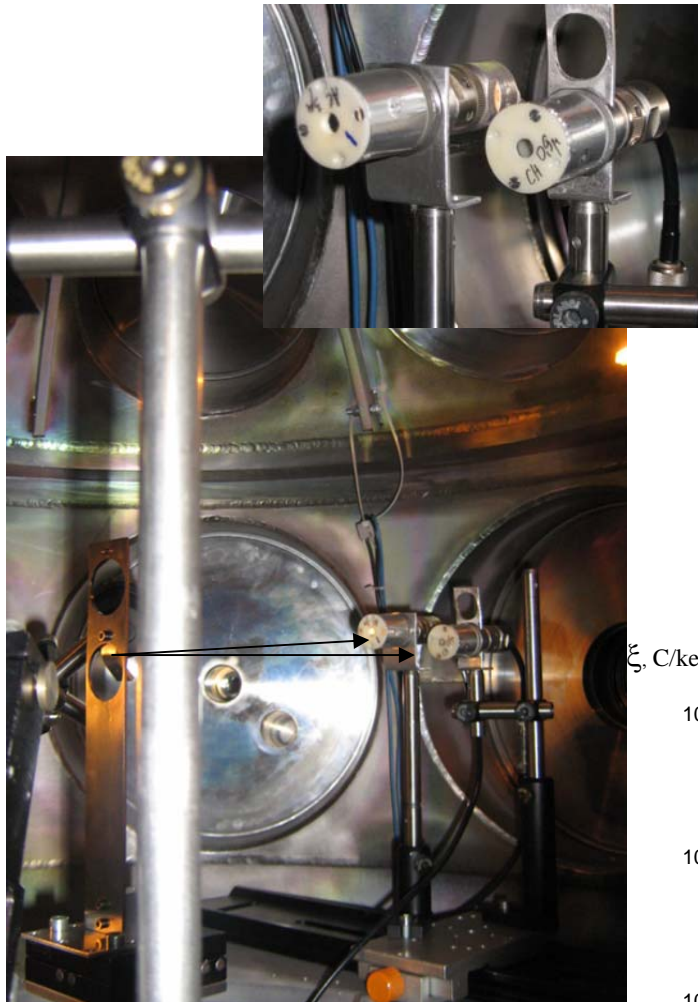


# Front-side diagnostics in experiment on the February 2010

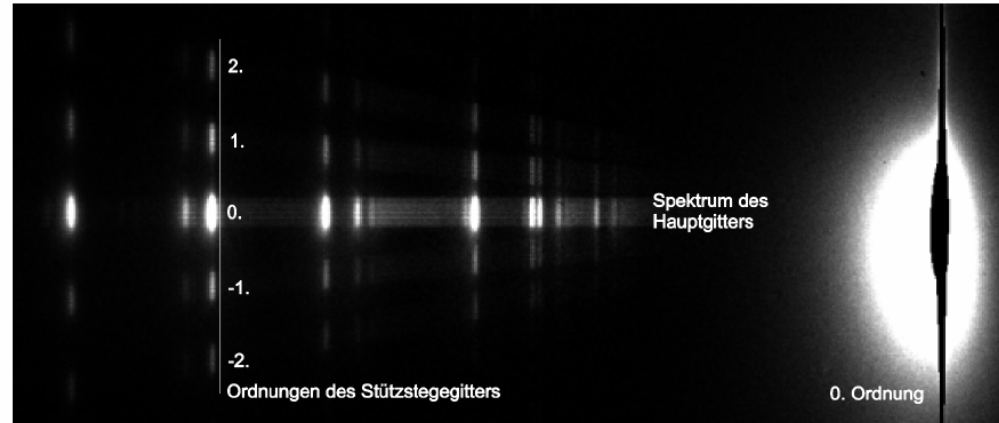


# Back-side diagnostics in experiment on the February 2010

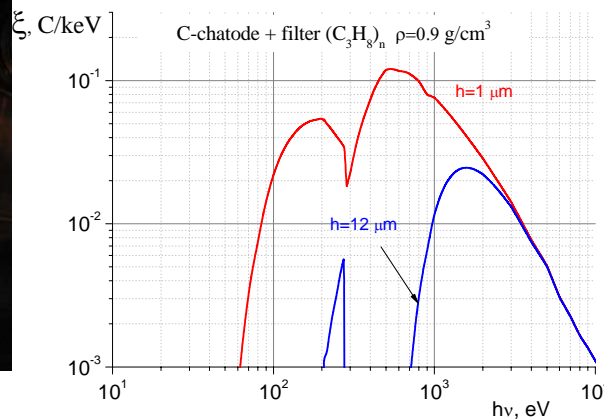
Pin-diodes : temporal evolution of the X-ray signal



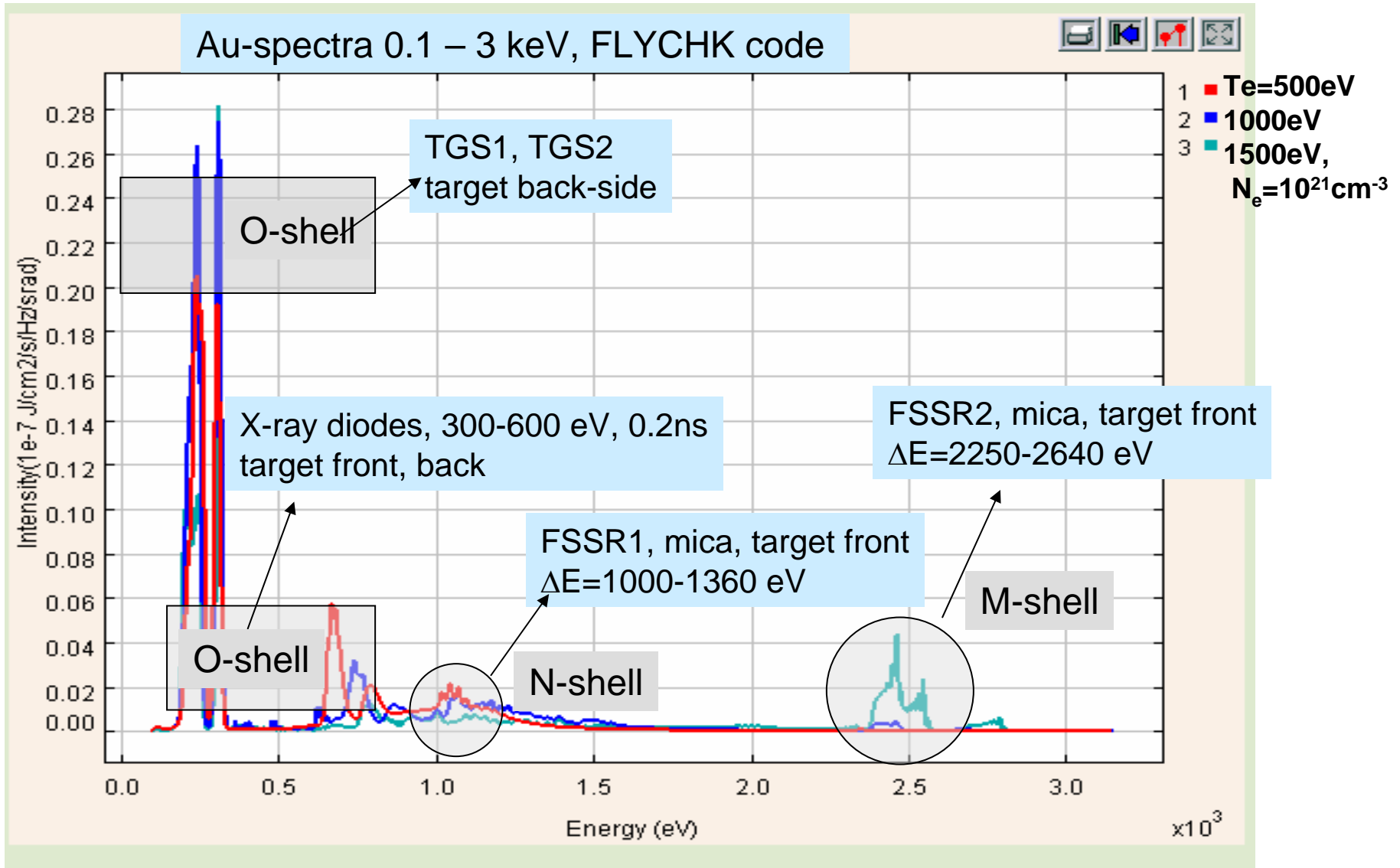
Transmission grating spectrometer (2):  
Spectral analysis of the radiation field (1-20nm)



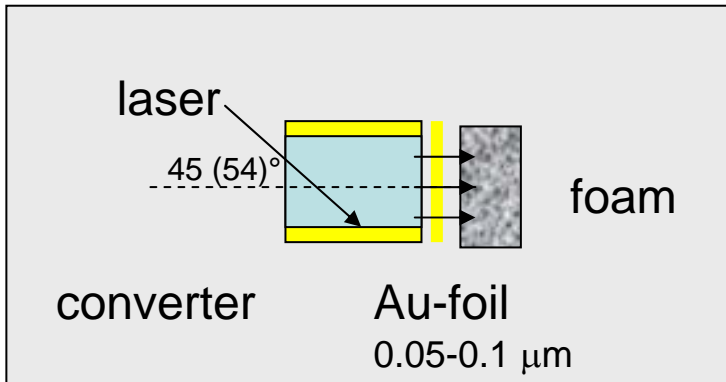
Recorders: UF4 and CCD-camera



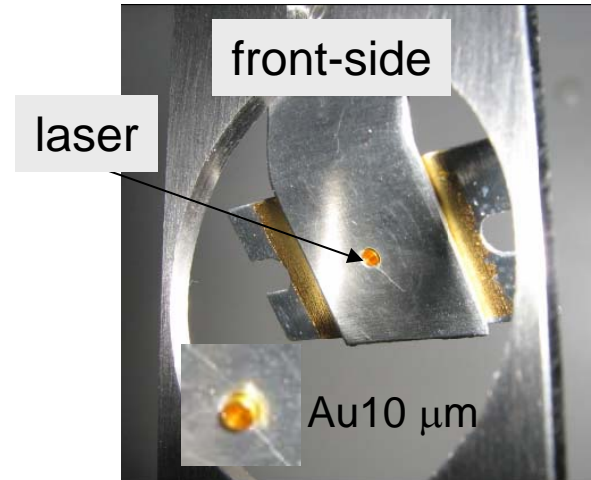
# Radiation of Au-plasma observed with different diagnostic tools



# Combined targets: converter + foam/foil



GSI-converter

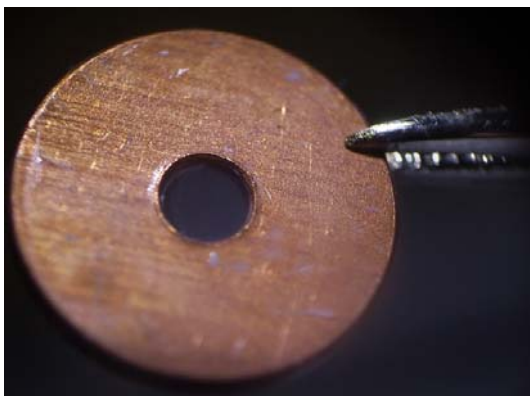


GSI-converter+foam

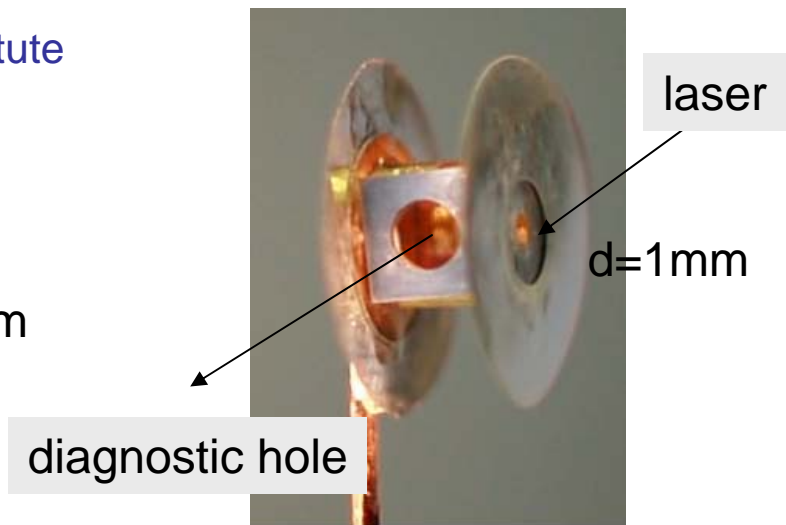


1.  $(\text{CH})_n$ , foils /  $(\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{O}_3)$  foams, [A. Pinegin, VNIIEF Sarov](#)  
 $\rho = 1.1\text{g/cc}$ ,  $0.9\ \mu\text{m}$ ;  $\rho=0.1\text{g/cc}$   $90\ \mu\text{m}$ ;  $\rho=0.01\text{g/cc}$   $900\ \mu\text{m}$
2. TAC ( $\text{C}_8\text{O}_6\text{H}_{12}$ ), [N. Borisenko, Lebedev Physical Institute](#)

Sarov-converter

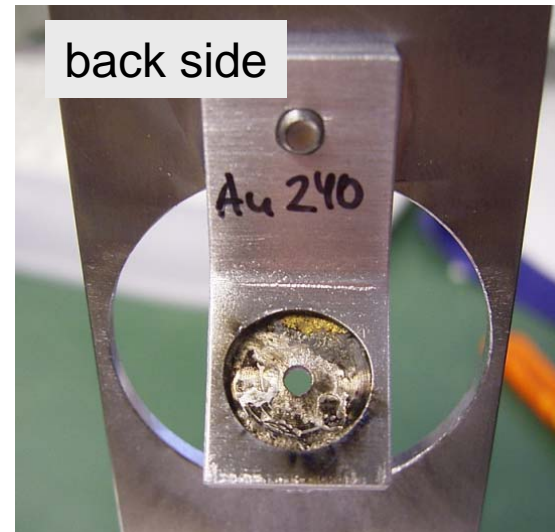
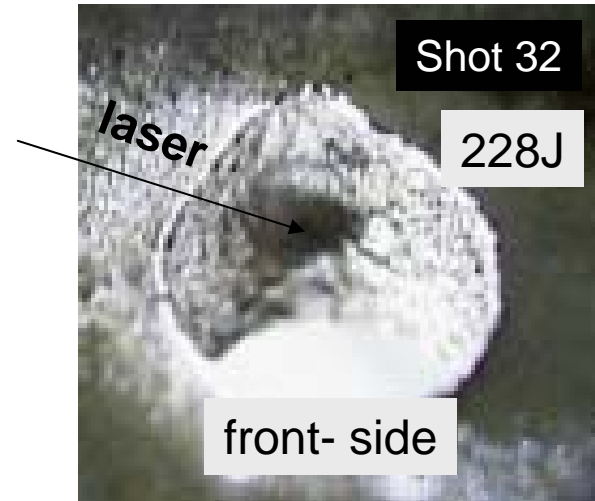
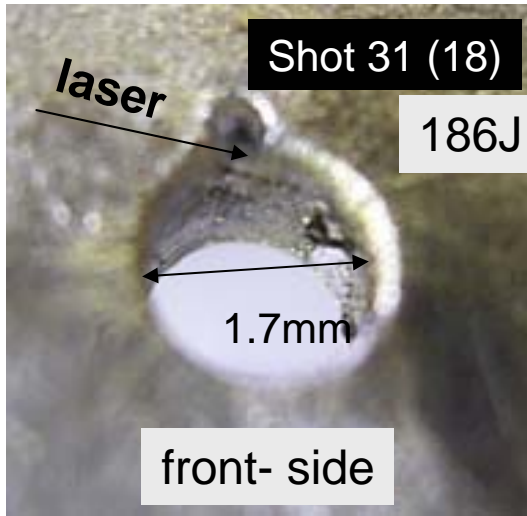


TAC ( $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$ ):  
 $2\text{mg/cc}$   $800\text{-}1000\ \mu\text{m}$



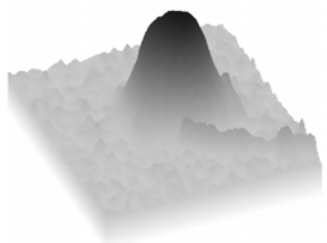
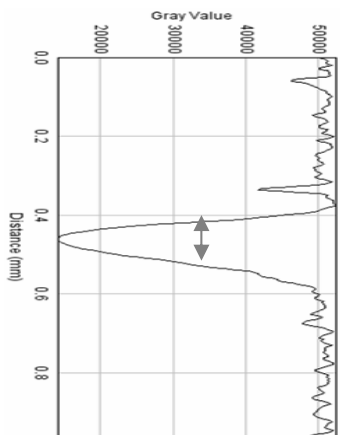
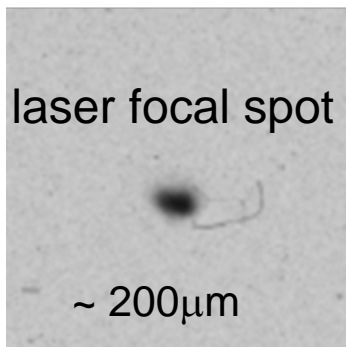


# Hohlraum targets after shots

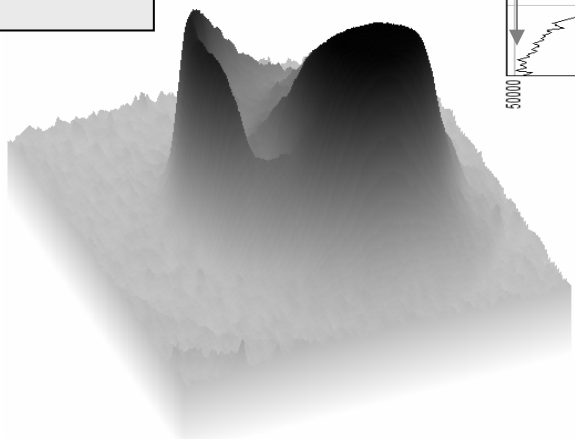
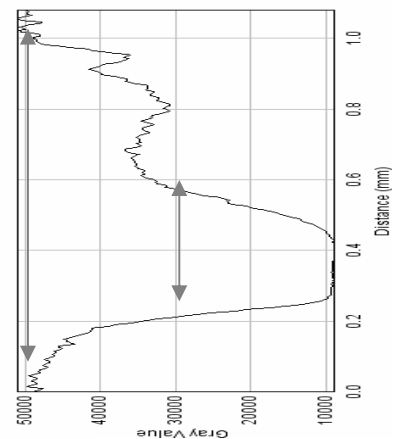
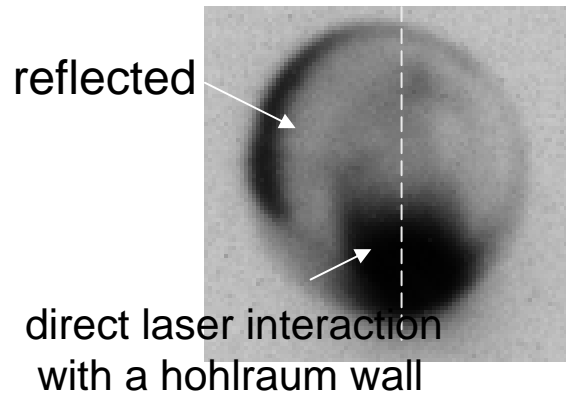
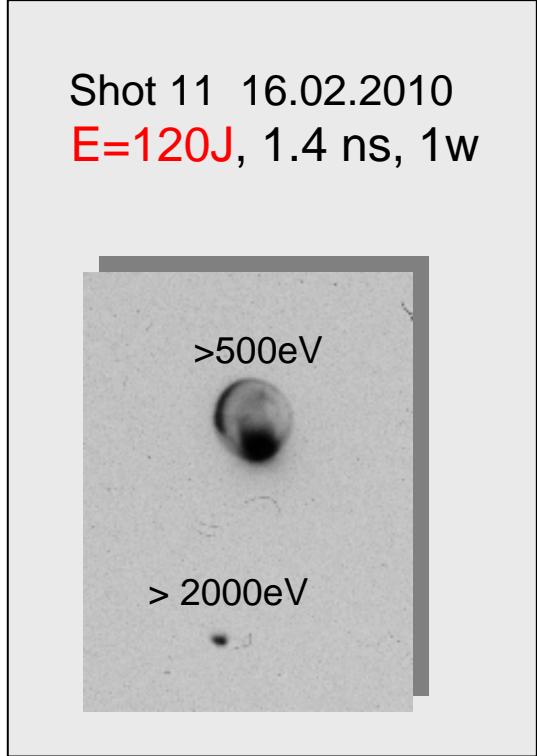


# Pin-hole images of hohlraum plasma at low laser energies

Pin-hole images N5 ( $d=100\ \mu\text{m}$ ,  $M\sim 1$ ,  $\delta x\sim d(M+1)/M\sim 200\ \mu\text{m}$ )

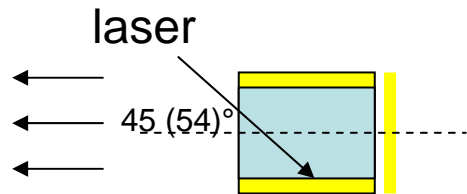


Shot 11 16.02.2010  
 $E=120\text{J}$ , 1.4 ns, 1w

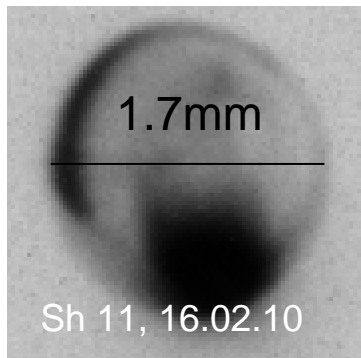


# Hohlraum plasma radiation depending on the laser energy

Pin-hole images of the hohlraum plasma radiating  $h\nu > 0.5$  keV (front)

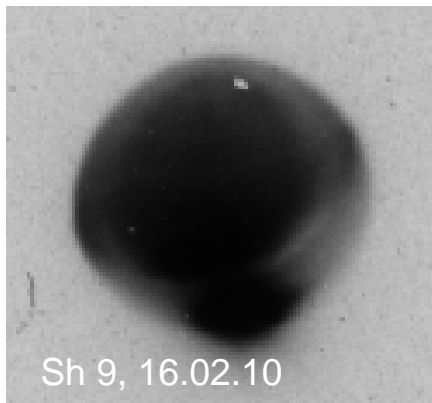
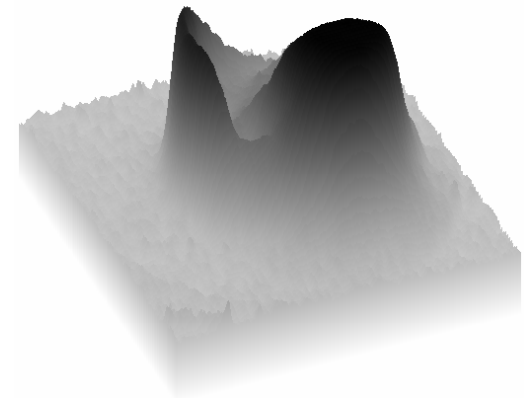


$$d=100 \mu\text{m}, M\sim 1, dx\sim d(M+1)/M\sim 200\mu\text{m}$$



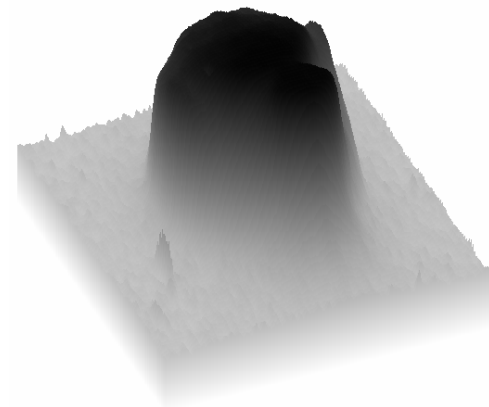
Inhomogeneous

$$E_{\text{las}}=117\text{J}$$



Homogeneous

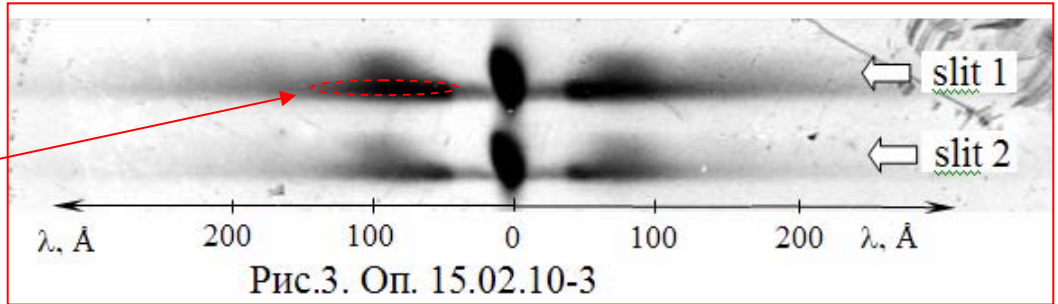
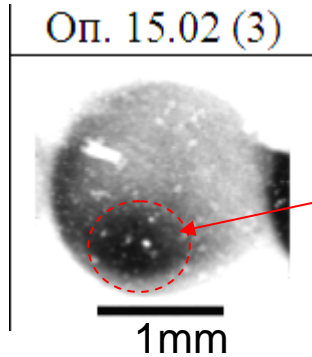
$$E_{\text{las}}=170\text{J}$$



At low laser energies radiation from the focal spot dominates in the spectrum.

$E=77\text{J}$ ,

target: GSI-converter  $d=1.9\text{ h}=1.9\text{mm}$ , wall  $10\ \mu\text{m Au}$  ; bottom:  $\text{Au}-170\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$



Pin-hole image ( $\sim 0.2\text{ keV}$ , back) strongly inhomogeneous

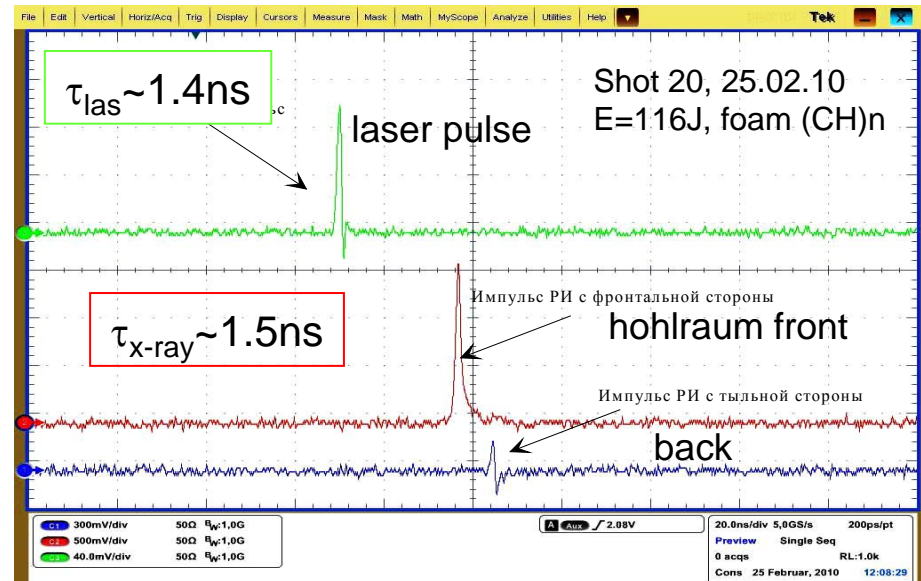
Transmission grating spectrometer: (hohlraum back) overlapping of the hohlraum and focal spot radiation

Temporal evolution of the hohlraum radiation (pin-diode)

$\tau$ -resolution  $\sim 1\text{ns}$

Energy range:  $0.3\text{-}0.6\text{ keV}$

X-ray duration  $\sim$  laser pulse

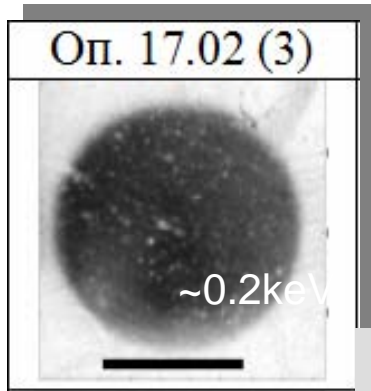
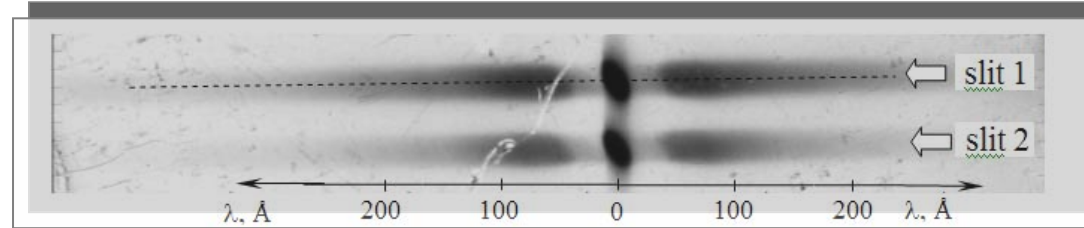
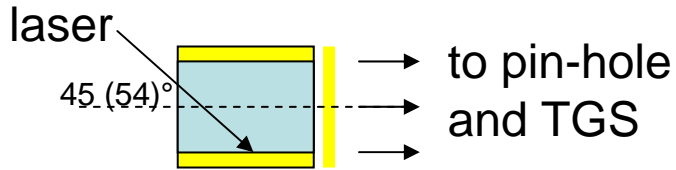


# Hohlraum radiation temperature **40 eV** at laser energy of **240J**

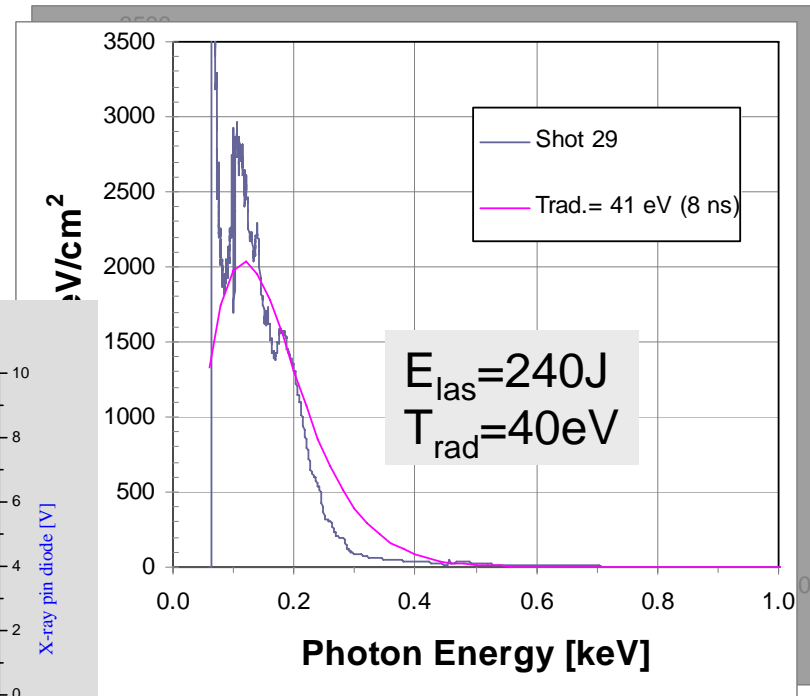
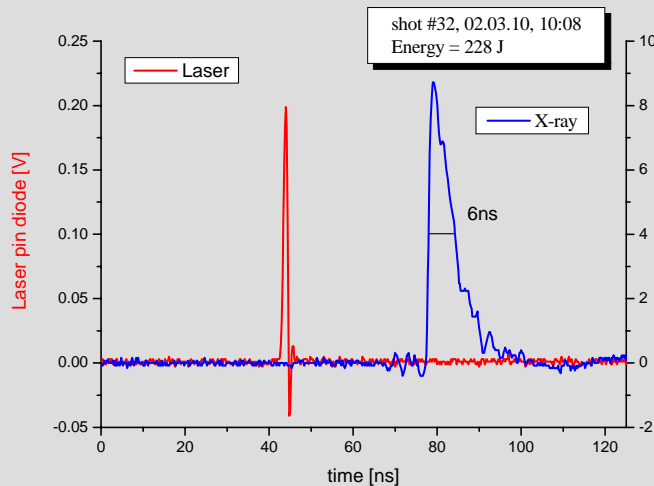
$E_{\text{las}}=200\text{J}$

target – GSI-converter

TGS-Sarov



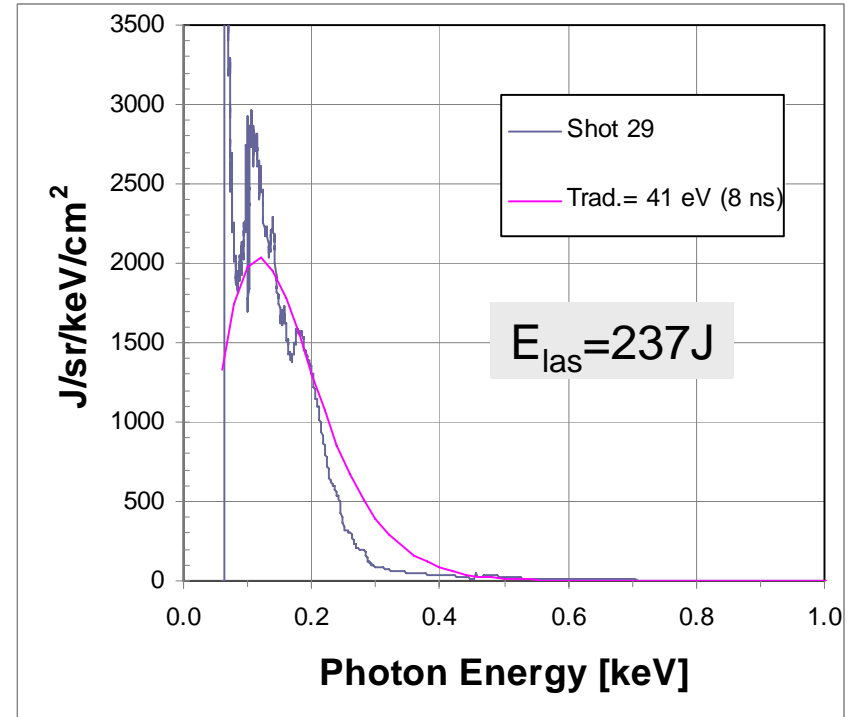
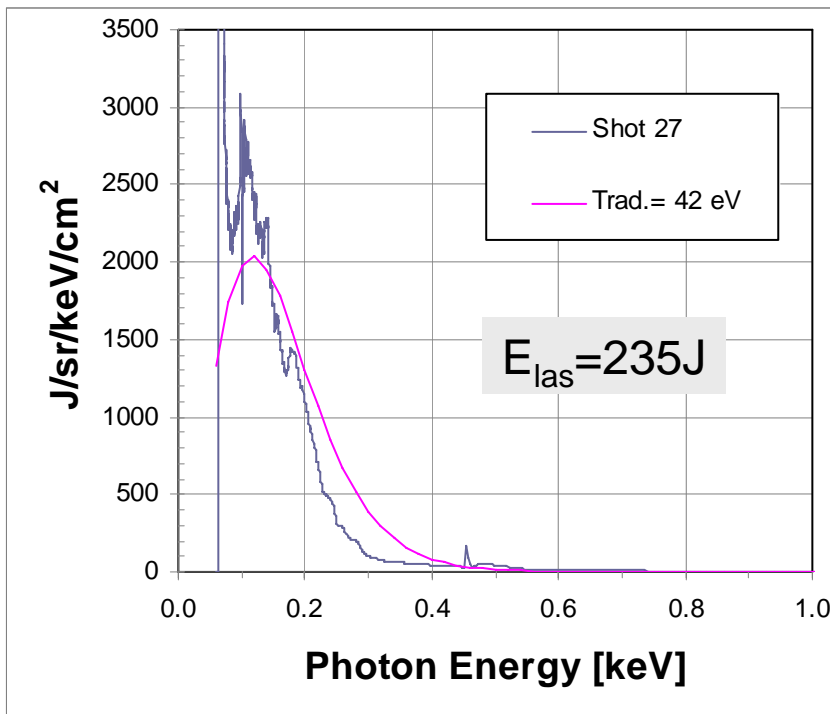
pin-hole image



Up to 17%! conversion of the laser energy into soft X-rays

40 J in soft X-rays!

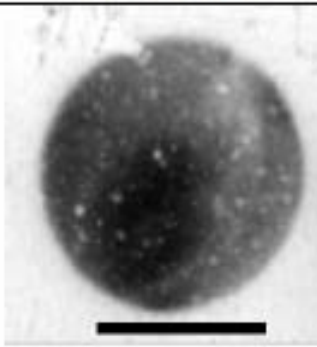
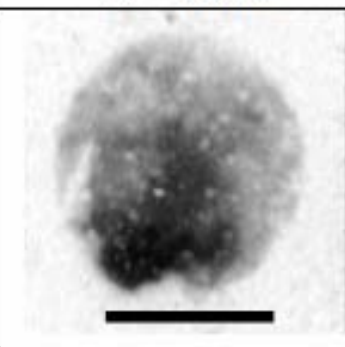
Hohlraum radiation temperature 40 eV at laser energy of 240J

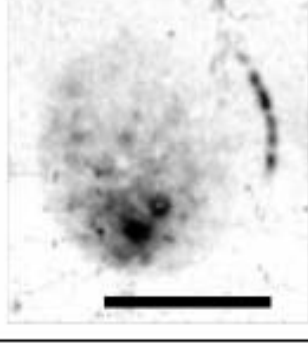
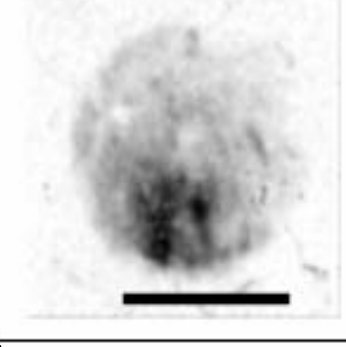


# Absorption of soft-X-rays in foam targets

Hohlraum X-ray image (back) in 0.2-0.27 keV photon energy

Increased absorption at  $E_{\text{las}} > 200\text{J}$

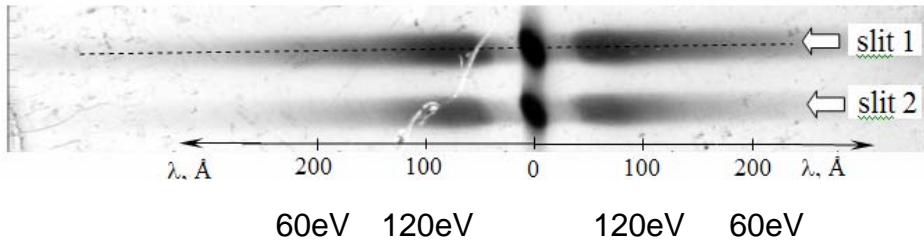
24.02 (1) E=127J	25.02 (2) E=116J
	
Converter d=1.7mm bottom Au~ 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  <b>No foam!</b>	Converter d=1.7mm bottom Au~150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ <b>Foam: <math>(\text{CH})_n</math></b> <b>0.01g/cc; 300 <math>\mu\text{m}</math></b> <b><math>\rho_x=300\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2</math></b>

24.02 (3) E=218J	25.02 (1) E=216J
	
Converter d=1.7mm bottom Au~ 150? $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ <b>Foam: <math>(\text{CH})_n</math></b> <b>0.1g/cc; 90 <math>\mu\text{m}</math></b> <b><math>\rho_x=900\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2</math></b>	Converter d=1.7mm bottom Au~ 160 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$ <b>Foam: <math>(\text{CH})_n</math></b> <b>0.1g/cc; 45 <math>\mu\text{m}</math></b> <b><math>\rho_x=450\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2</math></b>

# 75% absorption of the hohlraum radiation in the foam target

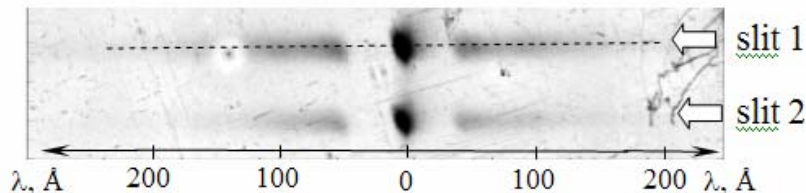
Shot 17.02.10(2) E=120J

Target: converter d=1.7mm,h=1.7mm, wall 10  $\mu\text{m}$  Au, bottom Au 168 $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

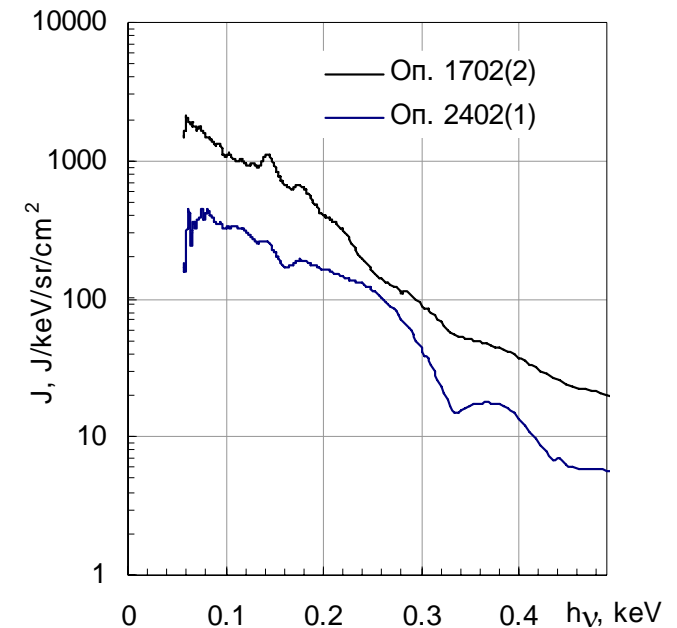


Shot 24.02.10(1) E=130J

Target: converter+ 0.002g/cc 800mm TAC



4 times absorption

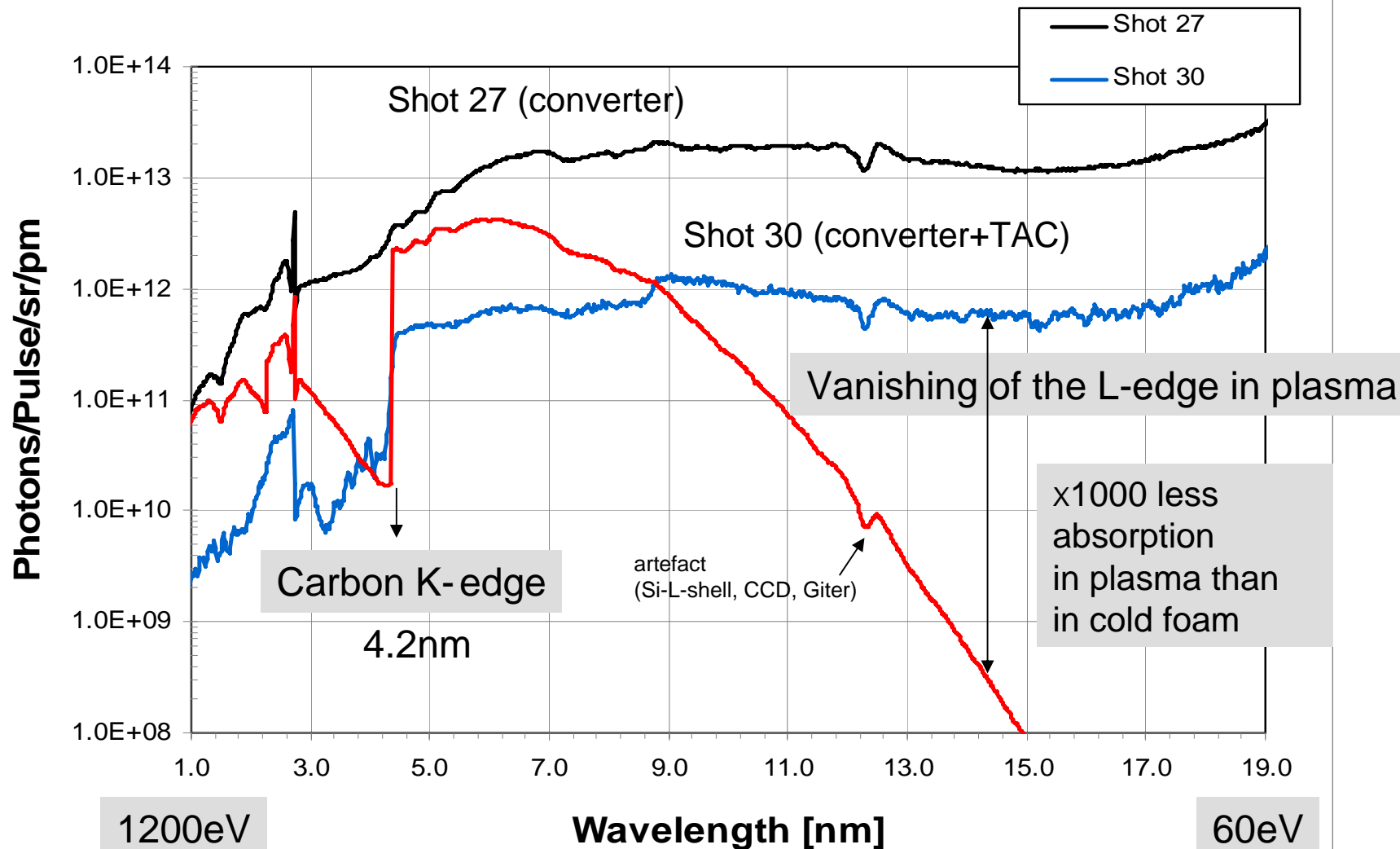


results N. Suslov, VNIEF, Sarov

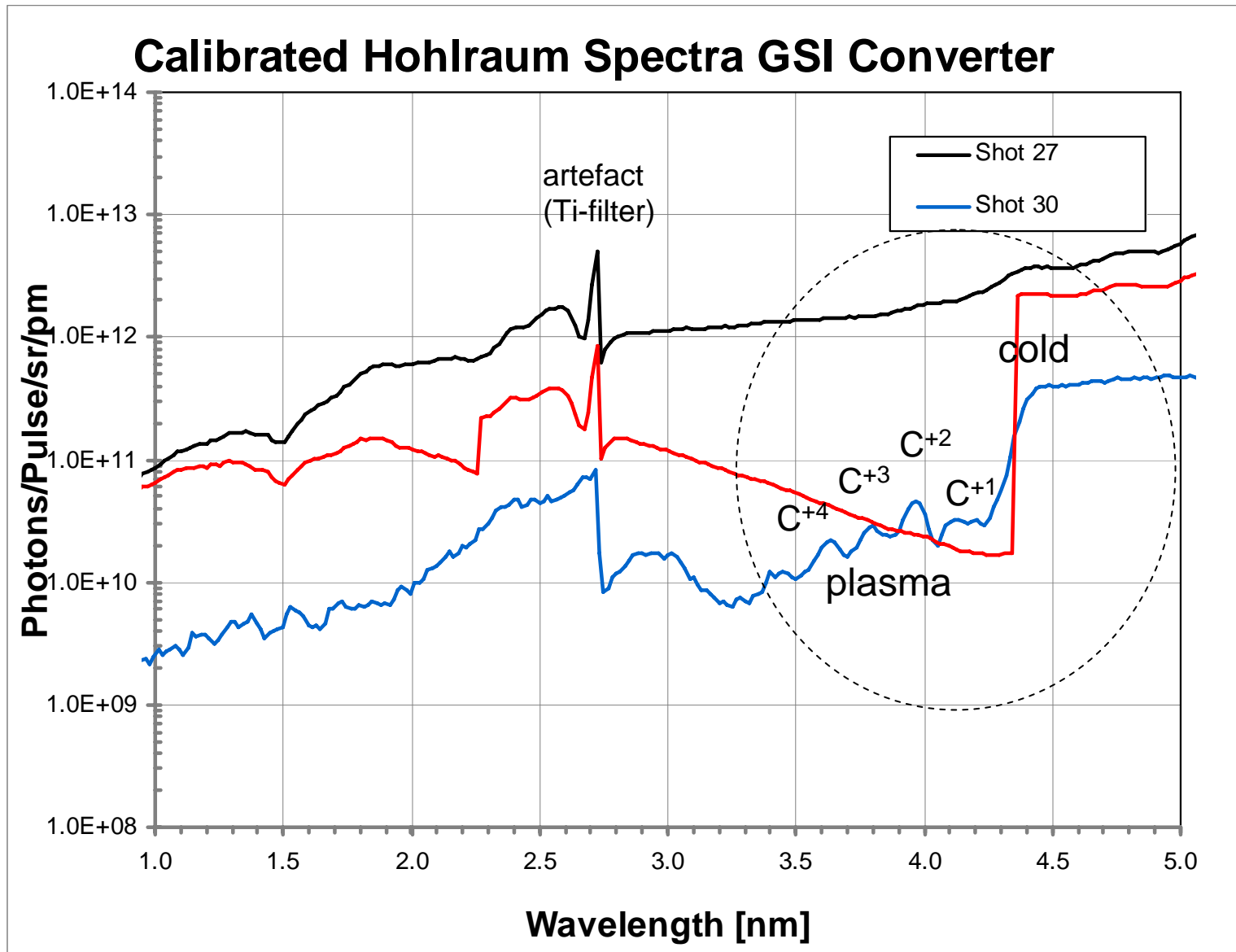


# Absorption properties of heated to plasma foams

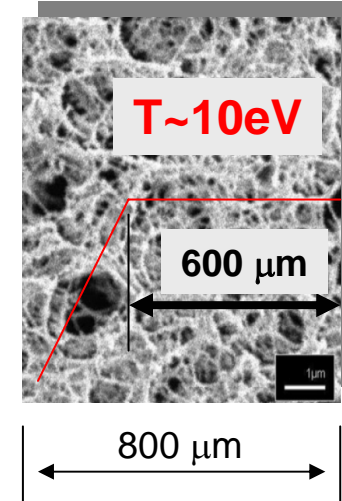
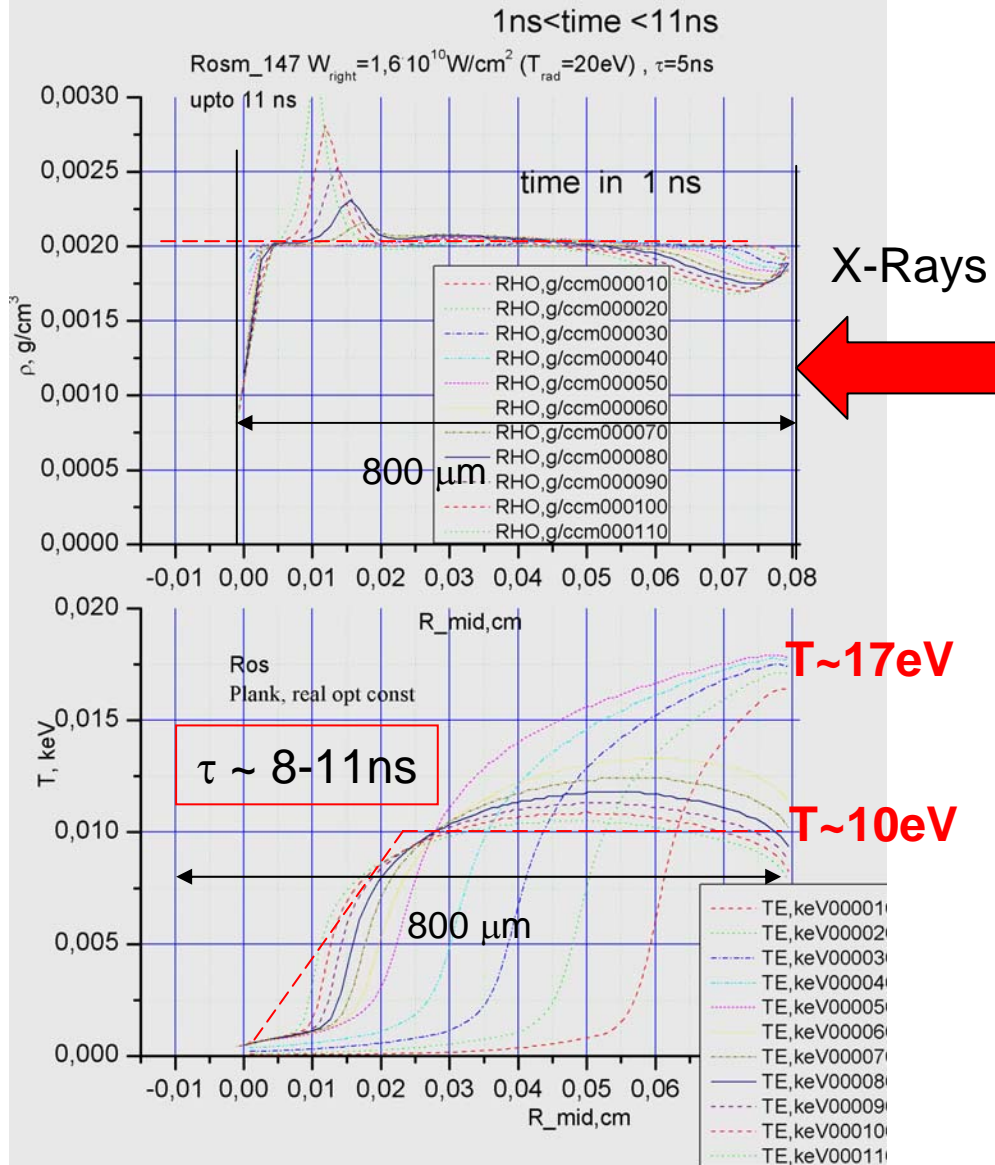
## Calibrated Hohraum Spectra GSI Converter



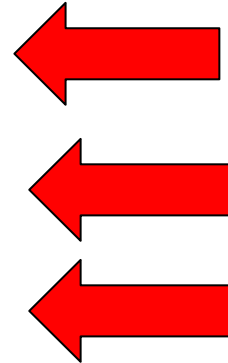
# Deformation of Carbon K-edge in plasma



# Hydrodynamics of TAC-foam heated with Planck radiation



$T_{rad} = 20\text{eV}$   
 $\tau = 5\text{ns}$

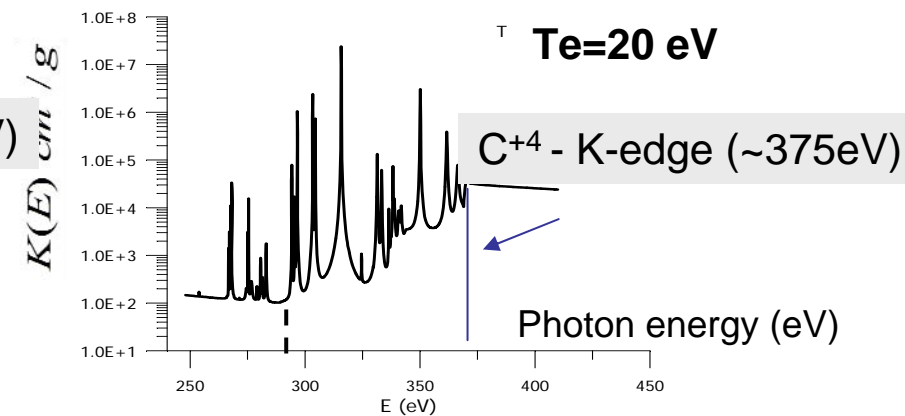
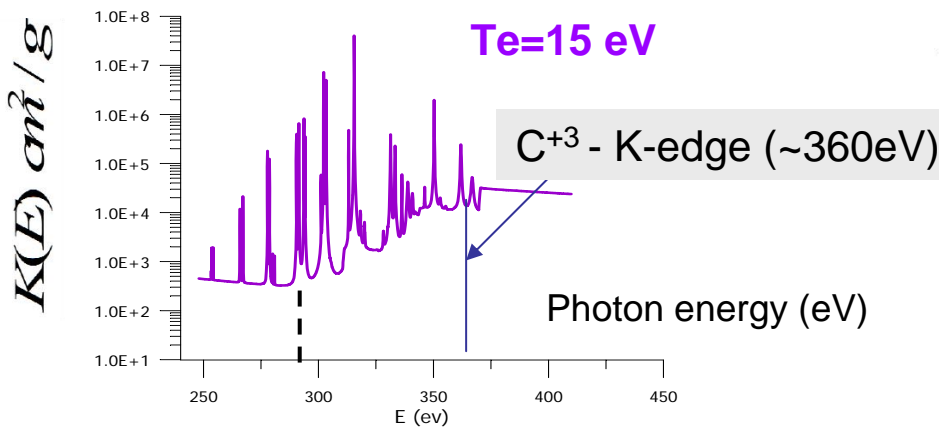
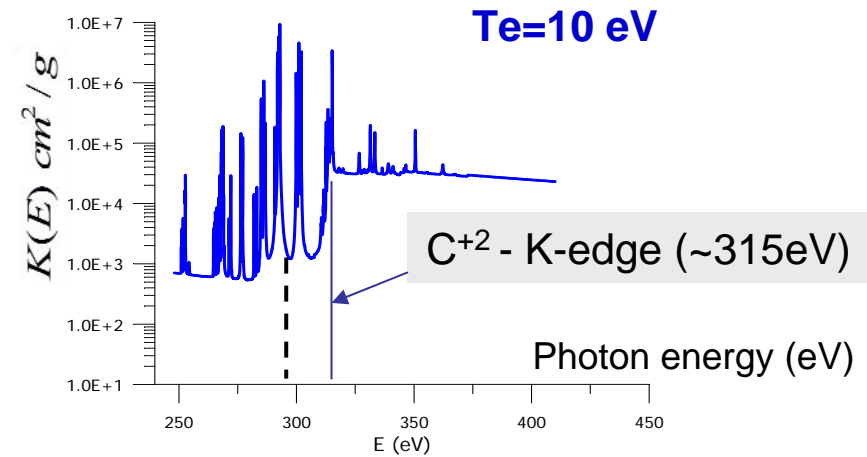
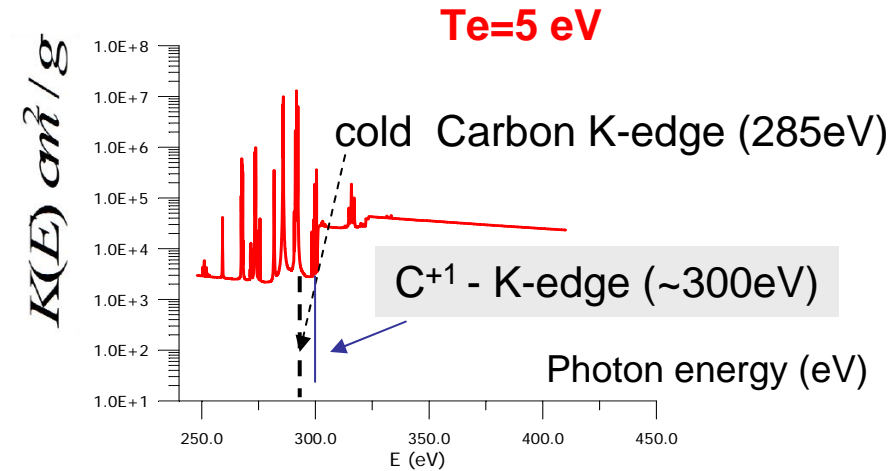


**TAC-foam ( $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$ )**  
**0.002g/cc , 800 $\mu\text{m}$  thick**  
 **$\rho x = 1.6\text{mg/cm}^2$**

3-D network,  
1  $\mu\text{m}$  pore-size  
0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  solid wall

# The spectral coefficient for x-ray absorption $K(E)$ in Carbon plasma Dependence on the electron temperature and density

Absorption of 0.003 g/cc carbon plasma  
Ion Model, Nikolay Orlov, JIHT, Moscow, 26.12.2009



# Experiments on the indirect heating of foam targets

## Converter:

- $T_{\text{rad}} = 30 - 40 \text{ eV}$     $d = 1.7 \text{ mm}$     $\tau = 5 - 8 \text{ ns}$
- $E_{\text{x-rays}} \sim 10 - 40 \text{ J}$  ; 5-17% of the laser energy
- $I_{\text{x-rays}} = 0.5 - 2 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ W/cm}^2$

## Foam:

- Effective (10 fold) absorption of soft x-rays
- Vanishing of the Carbon L-edge in Plasma, deformation of K-edge: diagnostic of the plasma temperature and ionization degree .
- Rich experimental data on the hohlraum radiation field and opacities of plasma with a coupling parameter

$$\Gamma \sim 0.3 - 0.5 ; \quad z = 2 - 4$$

$$n_i = 10^{20} - 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$