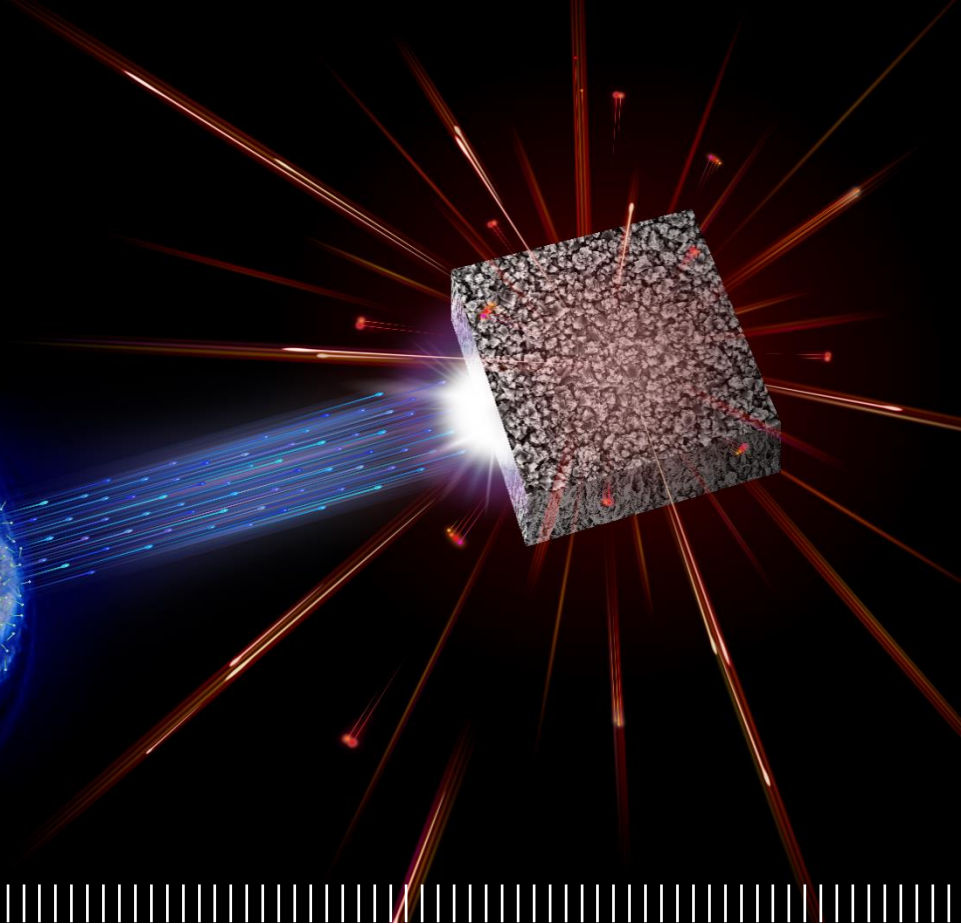
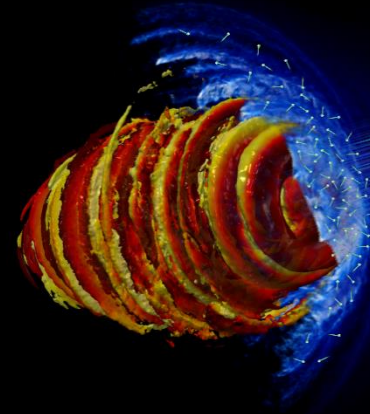




Multidisciplinary Applications of laser-driven Ions

Experimental demonstration of laser-driven differential Particle Induced X-ray Emission and Proton Activation Analysis

Francesco Mirani



ERC-2022-PoC No. 101069171

PANTANI



POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863



Department of Energy

- Activities performed within the framework of an **ERC-PoC grant**



ERC-2022-PoC No. 101069171

PANTANI

at



POLITECNICO MILANO 1863

- Present **team** members:



M. Passoni

Principal Investigator



D. Dellasega



M. Zavelani



V. Russo



A. Pola



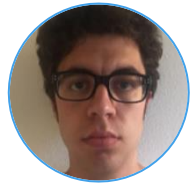
A. Maffini



A. Formenti



F. Mirani



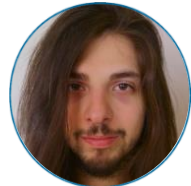
D. Vavassori



M. Galbiati



D. Orecchia



F. Gatti

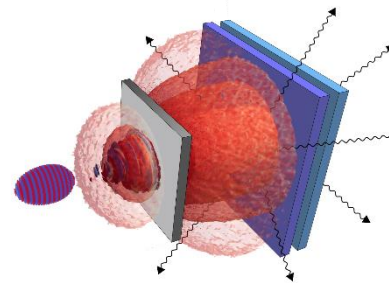
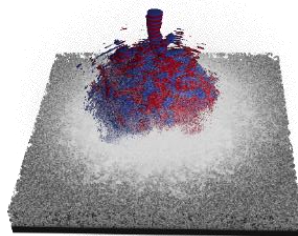
- **Collaboration** with industrial companies:




www.ensure.polimi.it

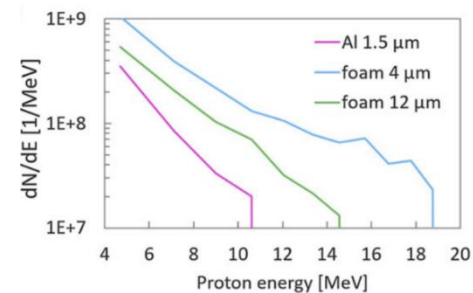
Theoretical & experimental activities @ PoliMi

 **Theoretical studies** of laser-driven particle acceleration and interaction with matter (**Smilei**), , )



L. Fedeli, et al. *New J. Phys.* 22.3 (2020): 033045.
A. Pazzaglia, et al. *Commun Phys* 3.1 (2020): 1-13.
A. Formenti, et al. *New J. Phys.* 22.5 (2020): 053020.
A. Formenti, et al. *PPCF* 64.4 (2022): 044009.

 Pulsed-Laser Deposition (**PLD**) and **Magnetron Sputtering** to produce advanced materials (e.g. **Double-Layer Targets**)



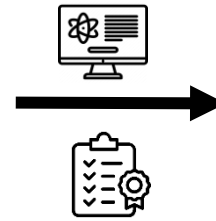
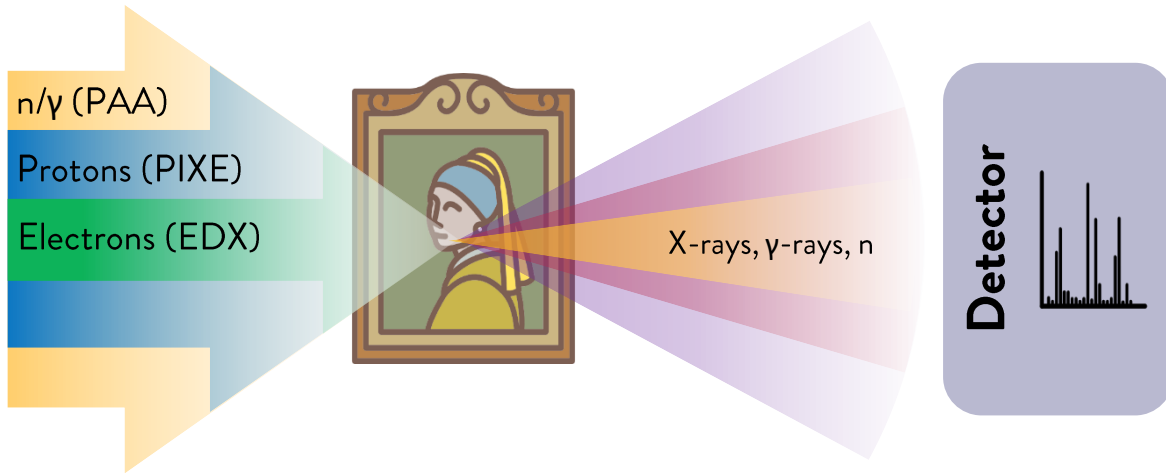
A. Maffini, et al. *Phys. Rev. Mater.* 3.8 (2019): 083404.
I. Prencipe, et al. *New J. Phys.* 23.9 (2021): 093015.
D. Dellasega, et al. *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 556 (2021): 149678.
A. Maffini, et al. *Appl. Surf. Sci.* (2022): 153859.

 Study **applications** of laser-driven particle sources in **materials science**



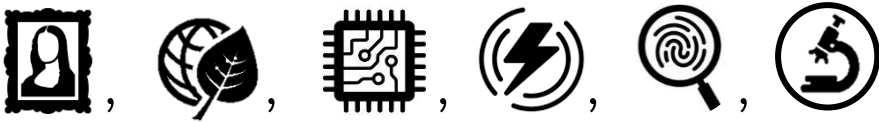
M. Passoni, et al. *Sci. Rep.*, 9.1 (2019): 9202.
F. Mirani, et al. *Commun. Phys.* 4.1 (2021): 1-13.
F. Mirani, et al. *Sci. Adv.* 7.3 (2021): eabc8660.
F. Mirani, et al. Under review at *Phys. Rev. Appl.*

Characterization of materials via Ion Beam Analysis



- **Concentrations & Depth profiles** (differential PIXE) at surface.
- Bulk analysis of **large objects**.
- **Imaging and elemental radiography** of non-homogeneous samples.

- Broad range of applications:



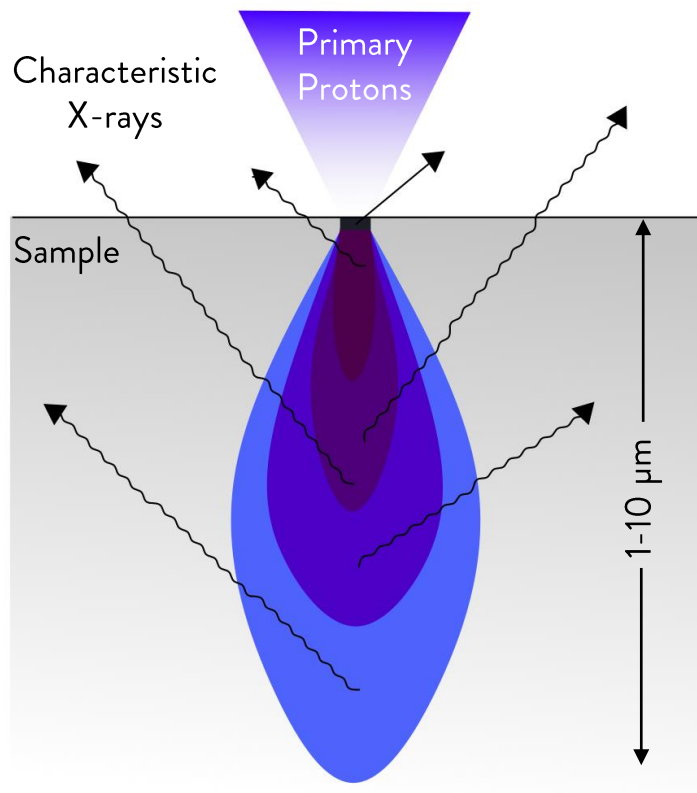
- **!** Different sources / accelerators, **lack of flexibility** (e.g. energy control).



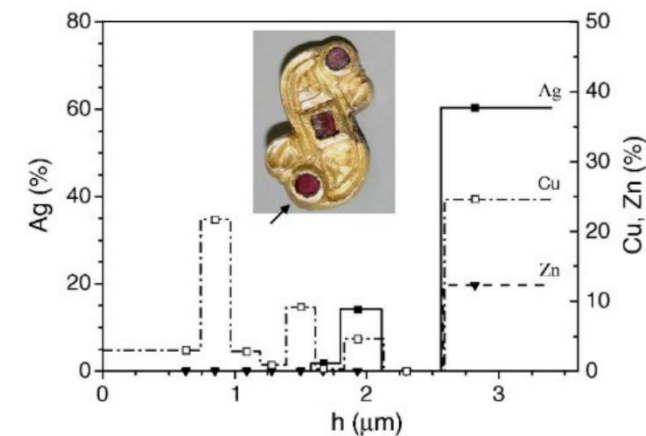
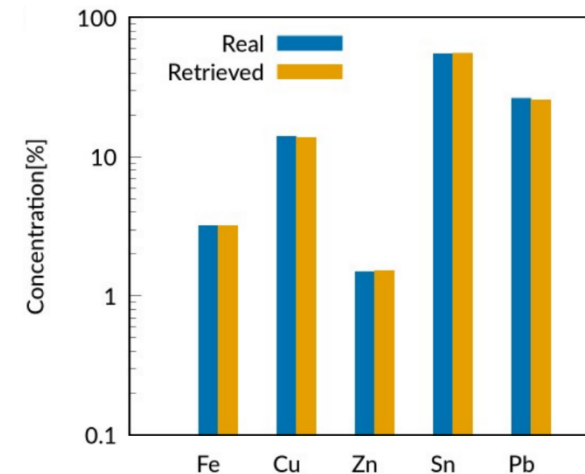
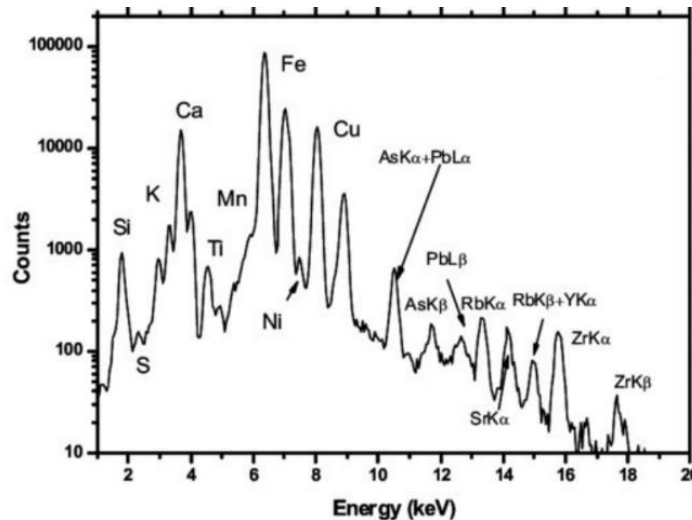
Verma, Hem Raj. Atomic and nuclear analytical methods. Springer, 2007.
E. H. Lehmann, J. Archaeol. Sci. Rep. 19 (2018): 397-404.

P. A. Mandò, et al. Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. B: Beam Interact. Mater. At. 239.1-2 (2005): 71-76.
J. Salomon, et al. Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res. B: Beam Interact. Mater. At. 266.10 (2008): 2273-2278.

Particle Induced X-ray Emission (PIXE)

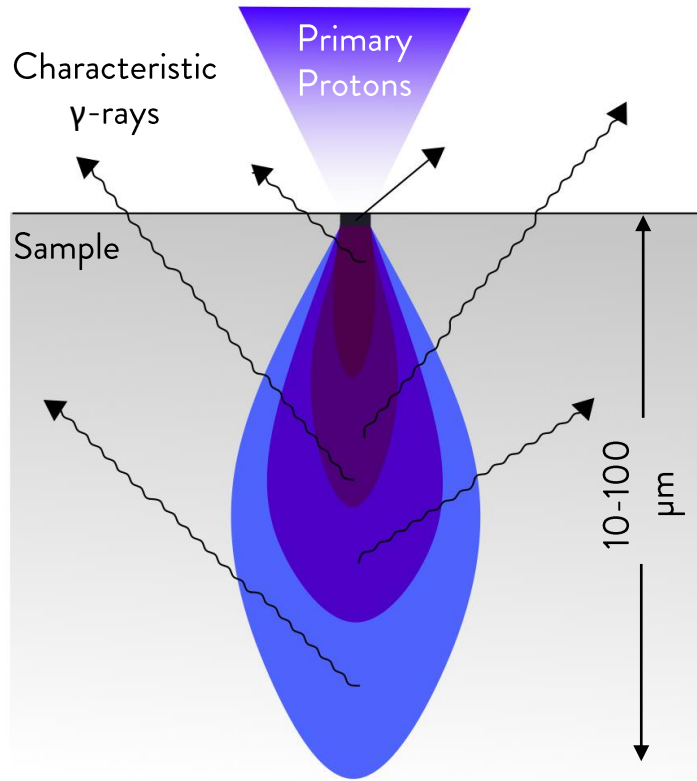


- **2-5 MeV** monoenergetic ions (**protons**).
- Detection of the emitted **X-rays**.
- **Concentrations & Depth profiles** (*differential PIXE*)
- Probed thickness up to **~ 1 – 10s μm** in solids.

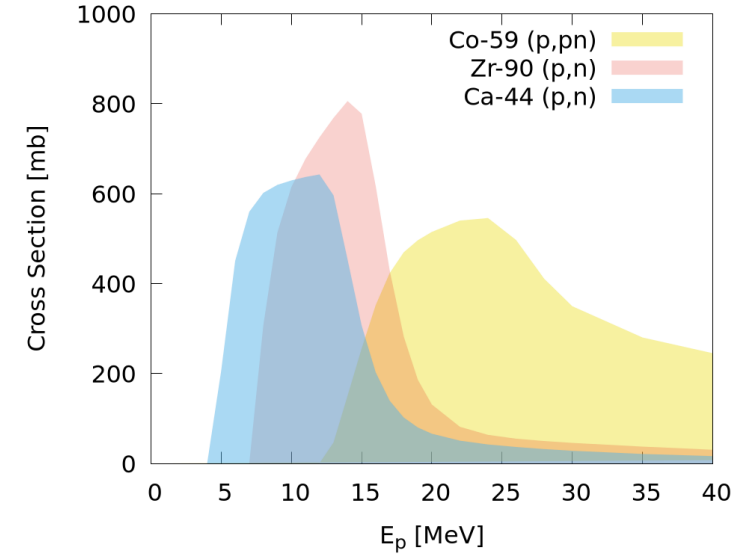
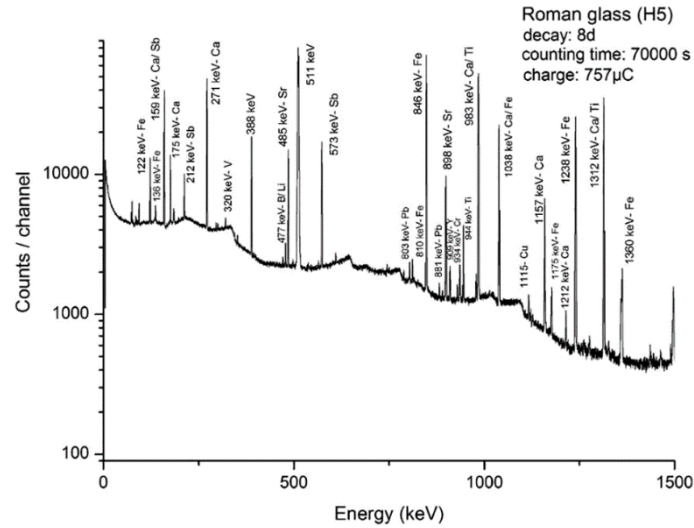


No standard materials are required \rightarrow Spectra analysed with **software** in literature (theoretical description of PIXE).

Deep Proton Activation Analysis (DPAA)



- **10s MeV** monoenergetic protons.
- Detection of the delayed γ -rays.
- **Concentrations** of elements and isotope specific.
- Probed thickness up $\sim 10 - 100\text{s } \mu\text{m}$ in solids.



Commonly with **standard materials**.



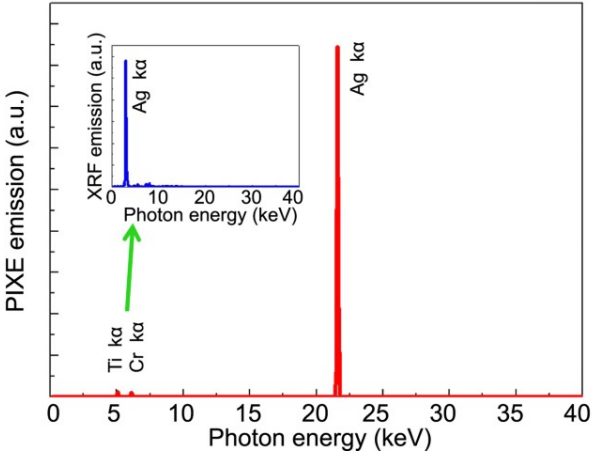
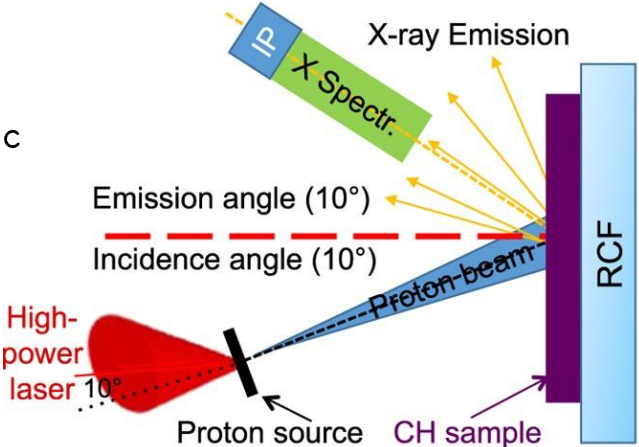
Proposed also with reference-free **software**.

Overview of PIXE with laser-driven sources



Proof-of-principle experiment of laser-driven PIXE elemental analysis.

- Collect characteristic X-ray spectra.
- Identification of the elements.



- No damage of samples relevant in cultural heritage field.

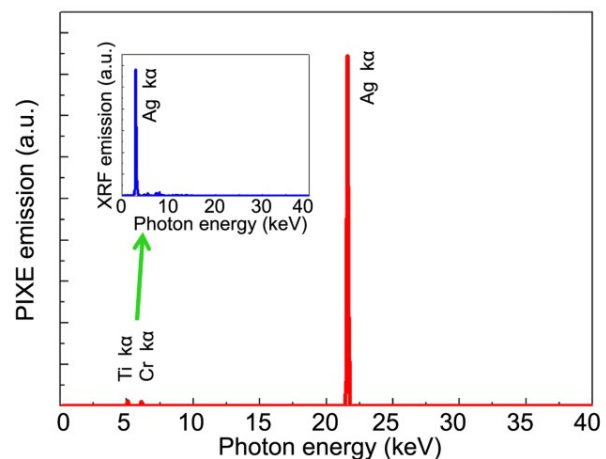
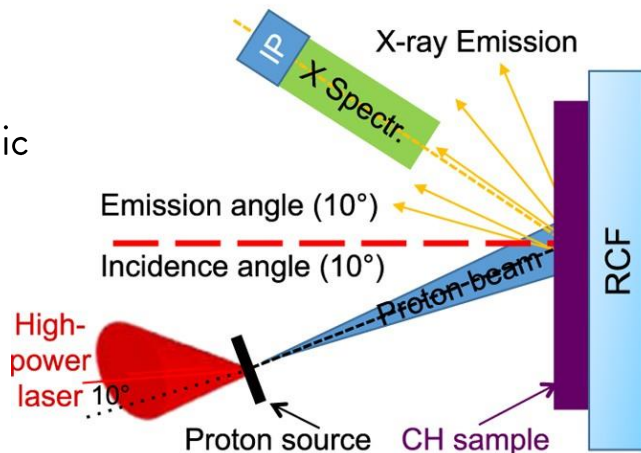
M. Barberio, et al. *Sci. Rep.* 7.1 (2017): 1-8.

Overview of PIXE with laser-driven sources



Proof-of-principle experiment of laser-driven PIXE elemental analysis.

- Collect characteristic X-ray spectra.
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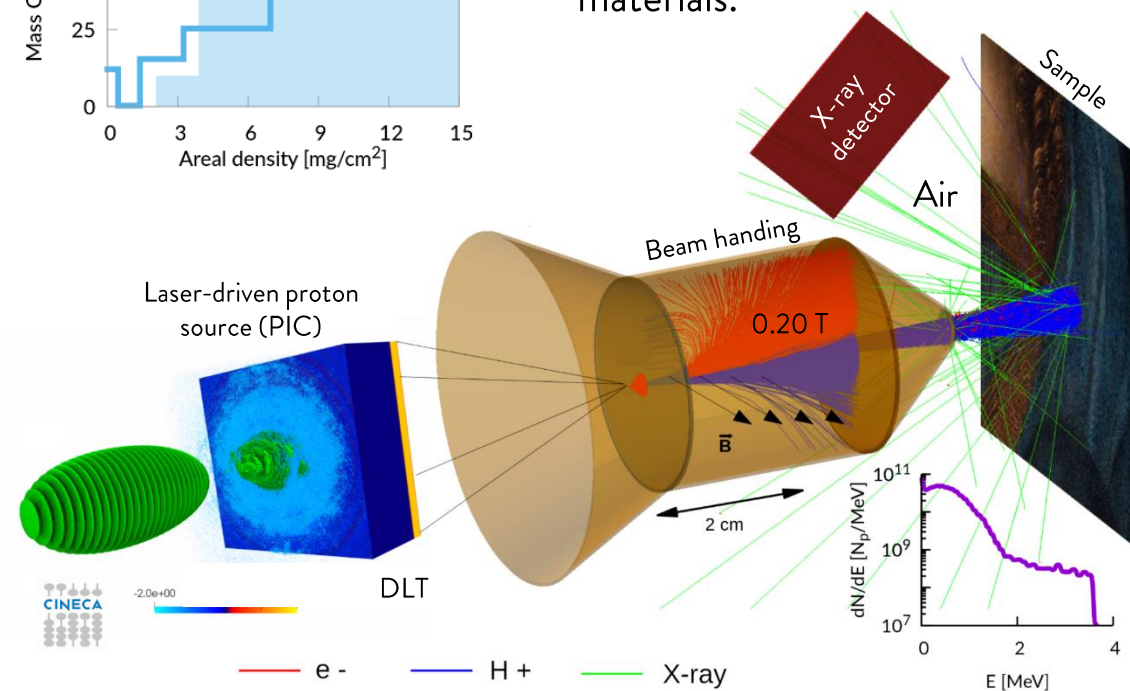
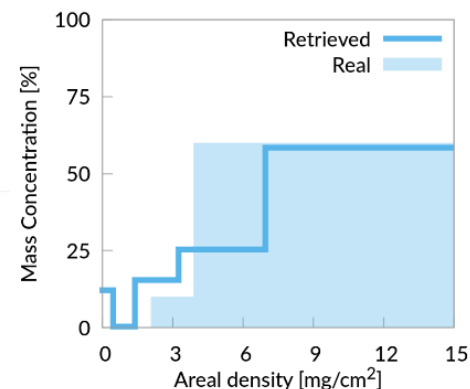


- No damage of samples relevant in cultural heritage field.



Theoretical background for laser-driven PIXE quantitative analysis.

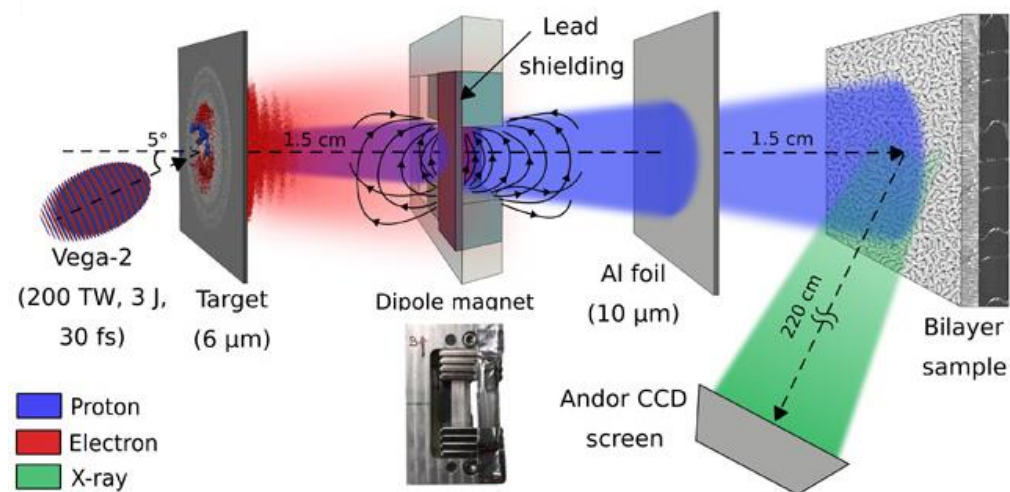
- Concentrations of homogenous samples.
- Concentration profiles (differential PIXE) of non-homogeneous materials.



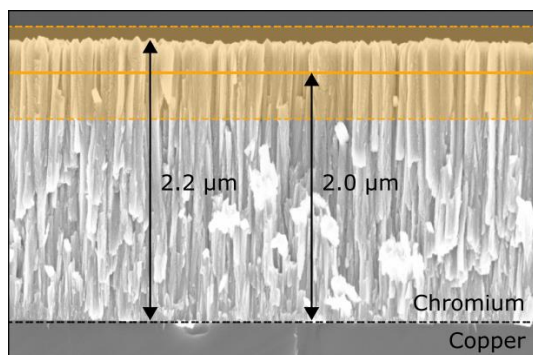
Overview of PIXE with laser-driven sources



Experiment of combined laser-driven **PIXE** quantitative analysis & **EDXS**.



- Retrieve the thickness of a micrometric thick layer.
- Faster elemental analysis of thicker samples with PIXE + EDXS.

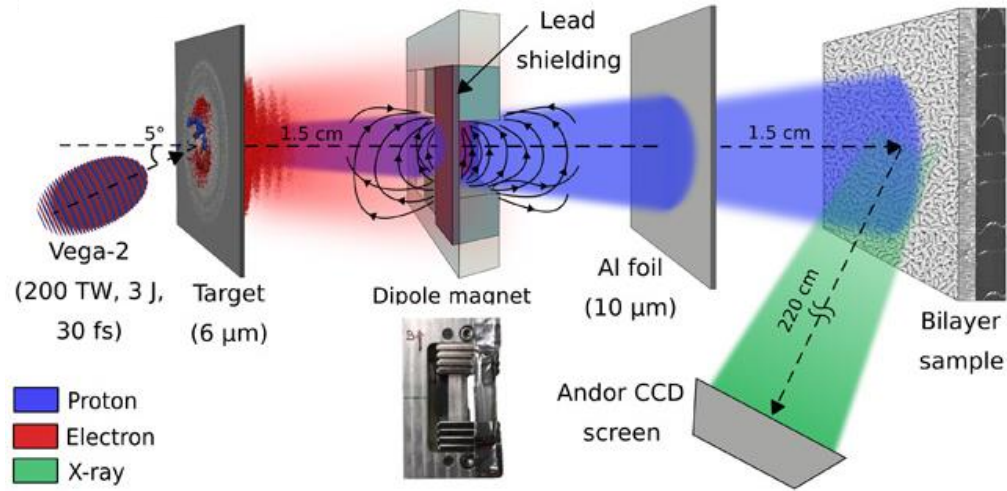


F. Mirani, et al. *Sci. Adv.* 7.3 (2021): eabc8660.

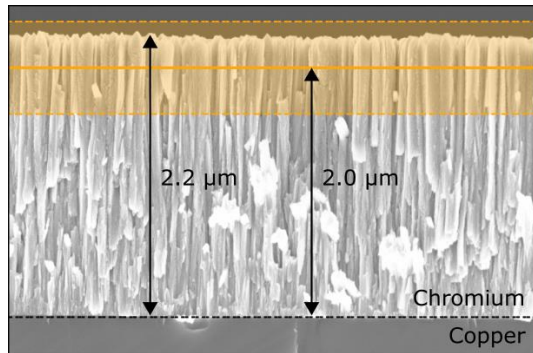
Overview of PIXE with laser-driven sources



Experiment of combined laser-driven PIXE quantitative analysis & EDXS.

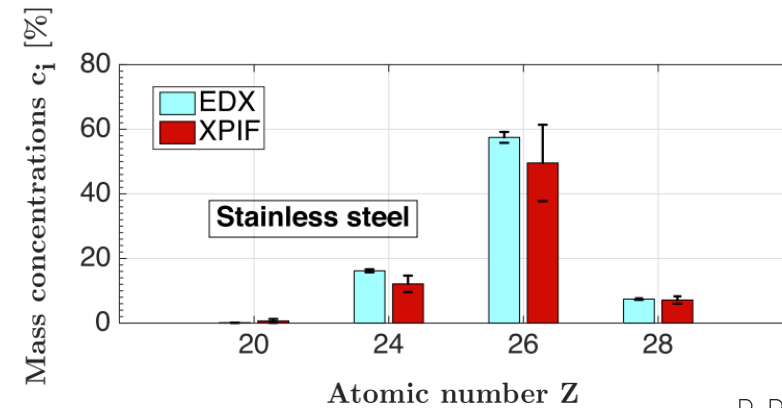
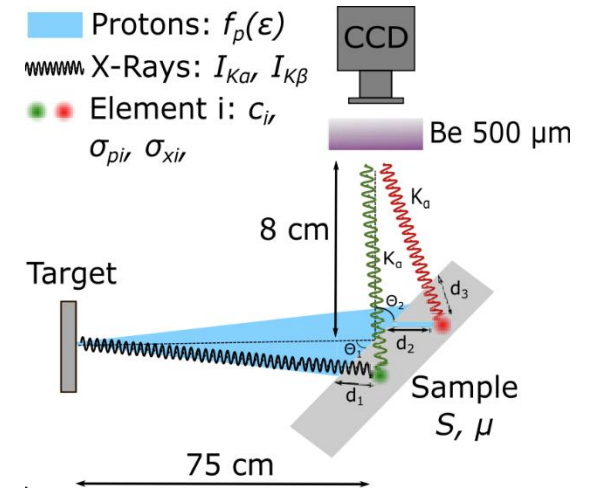


- Retrieve the thickness of a micrometric thick layer.
- Faster elemental analysis of thicker samples with PIXE + EDXS.



Experiments of combined laser-driven PIXE quantitative analysis & laser-driven XRF.

- Retrieve concentrations in homogeneous samples.
- Faster analysis of thicker samples with PIXE + XRF.



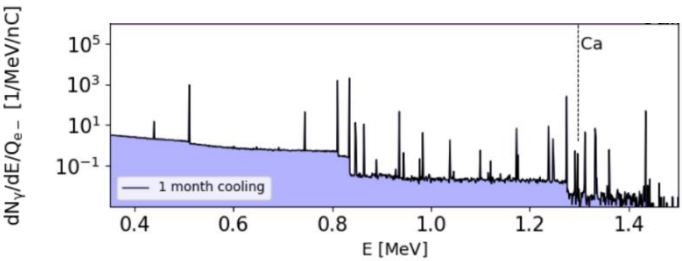
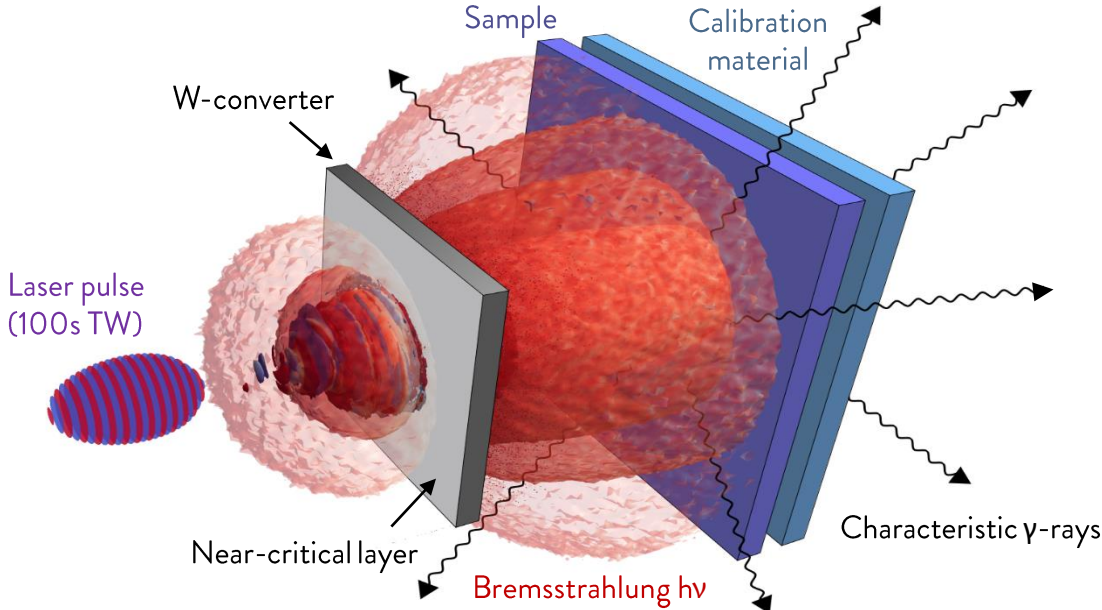
P. Pilar, et al. *Sci. Rep.* 11.1 (2021):1-10.

F. Boivin, et al. *New J. Phys.* 24.5 (2022): 053018.

F. Mirani, et al. *Sci. Adv.* 7.3 (2021): eabc8660.

Other materials characterization techniques with laser-driven sources

- Laser-driven **Photon Activation Analysis** for bulk composition (several mm).

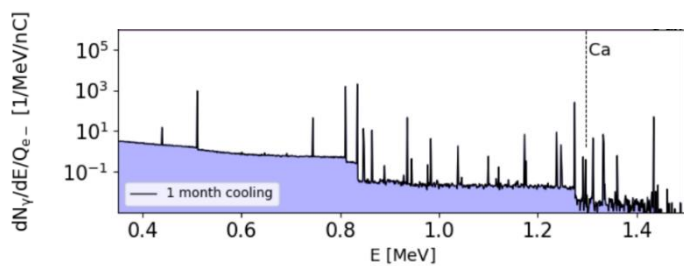
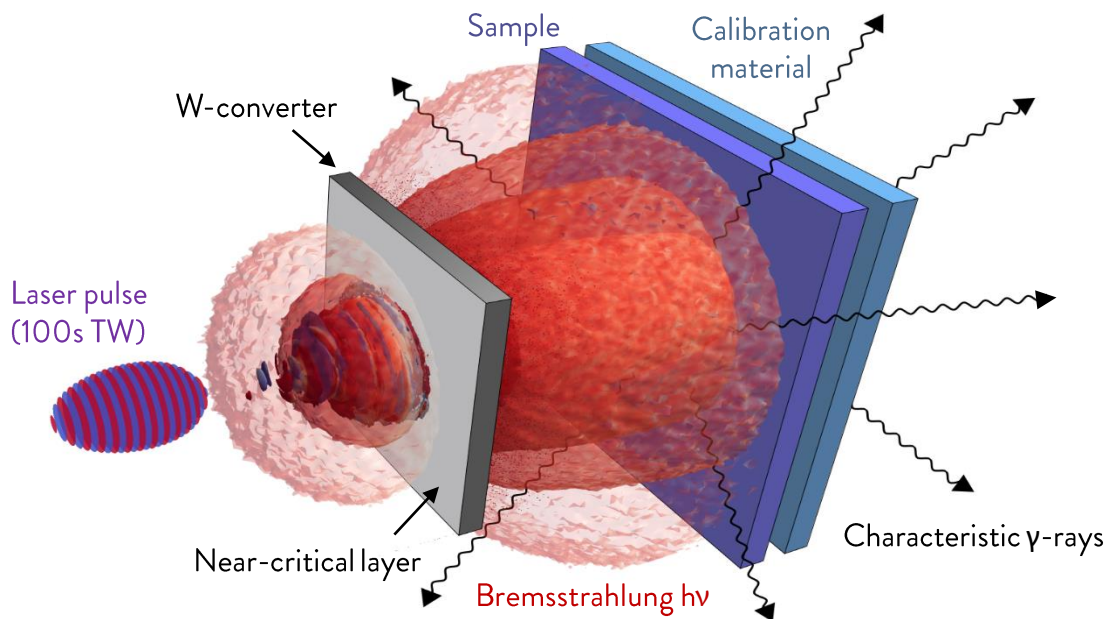


- Characteristic delayed γ -ray emission.

F. Mirani, et al. *Commun. Phys.* 4.1 (2021): 1-13.

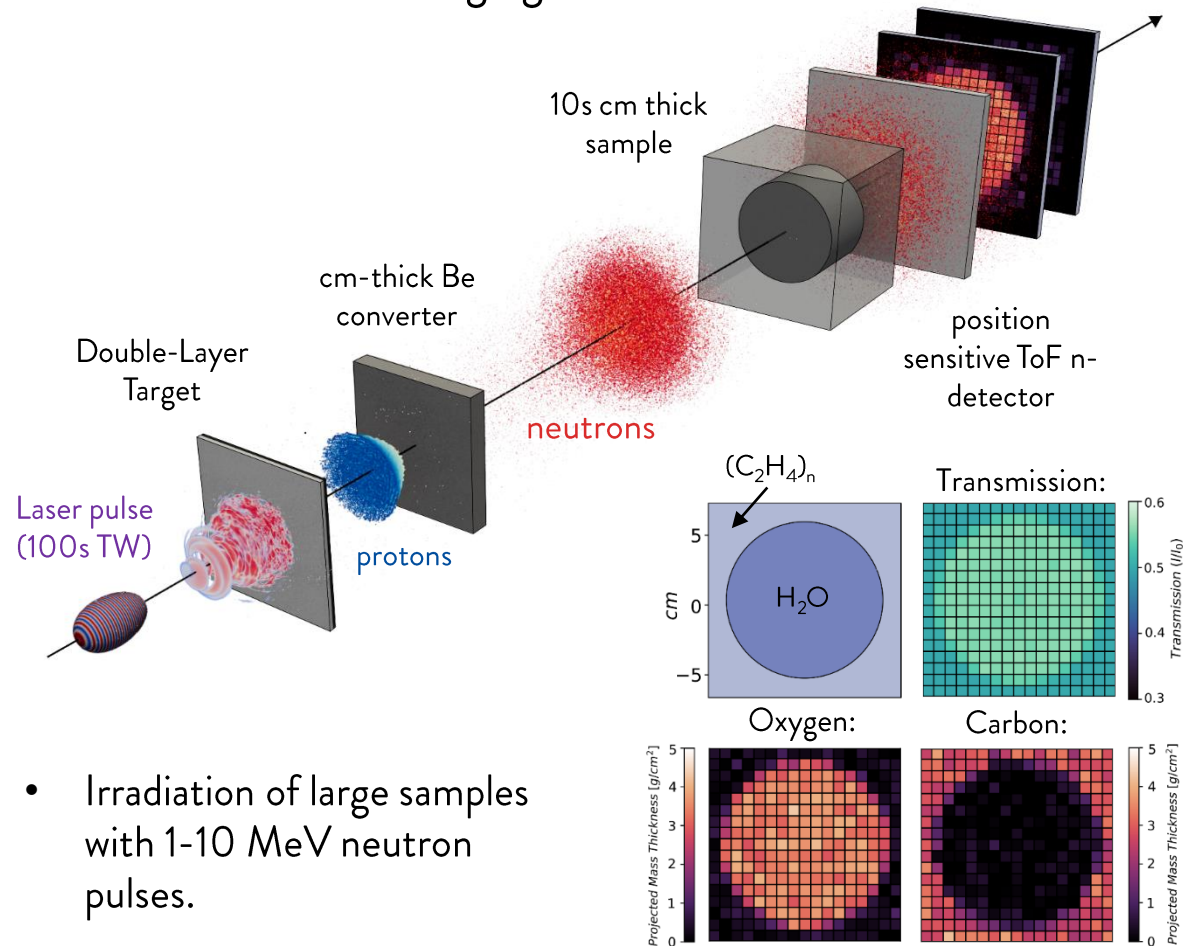
Other materials characterization techniques with laser-driven sources

- Laser-driven **Photon Activation Analysis** for bulk composition (several mm).



- Characteristic delayed γ -ray emission.

- Laser-driven **Fast Neutron Radiography** for elemental imaging.



- Irradiation of large samples with 1-10 MeV neutron pulses.

Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline



Perform a proof-of-principle **laser-driven differential PIXE** experiment and investigate its full-potential.



Highly relevant for **artworks!**

Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline

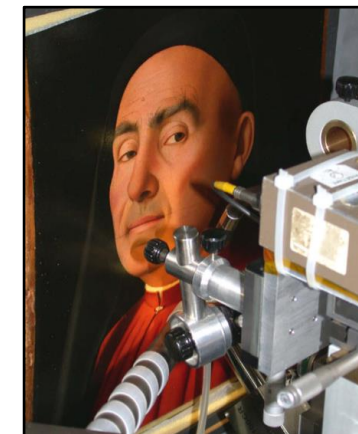
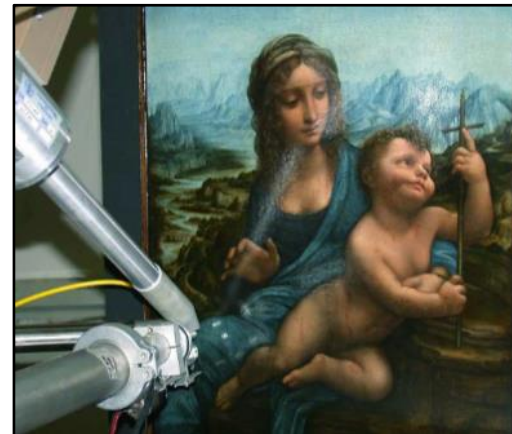


Perform a proof-of-principle **laser-driven differential PIXE** experiment and investigate its full-potential.



Highly relevant for **artworks!**

- crucial for **restoration** of paintings, canvas (intrinsically composed by several layers) and statues.
- Study of the **painting technique** and **manufacturing of pigments**.



M. Bertasa, et al *JCH* 53 (2022): 100-117.
P. Pouli, et al. *Acc. Chem. Res.* 43.6 (2010): 771-781.

N. Grassi. *Nucl Instrum Methods Phys Res B* 267.5 (2009): 825-831.
P.A. Mandò, et al. *Nucl Instrum Methods Phys Res B* 239.1-2 (2005): 71-76.

Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline

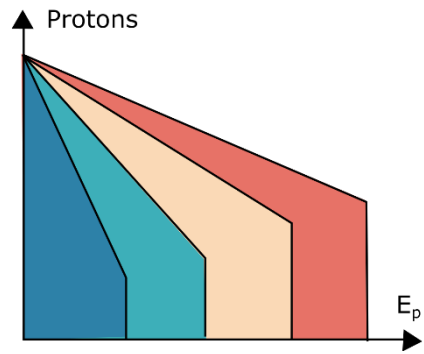


Perform a proof-of-principle **laser-driven differential PIXE** experiment and investigate its full-potential.



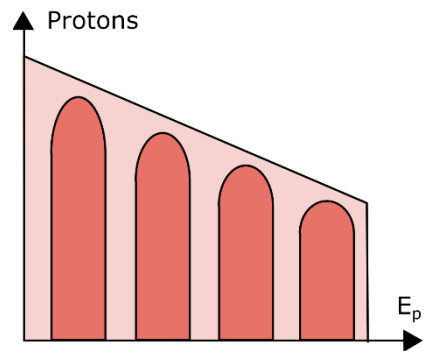
Highly relevant for **artworks!**

1. Irradiation of **non-homogeneous samples** with **different proton spectra** and collect characteristic X-rays.
2. **Reconstruction**, via theoretical models and codes, of the **concentration depth profiles** of the elements.

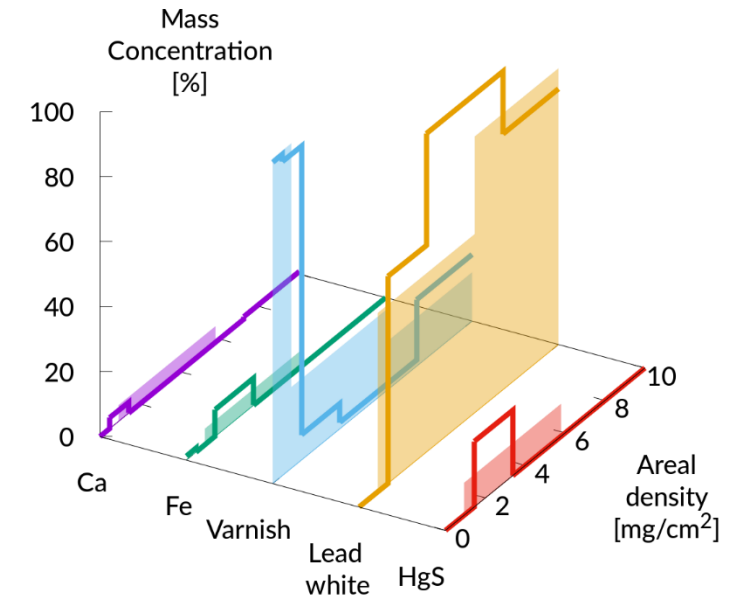
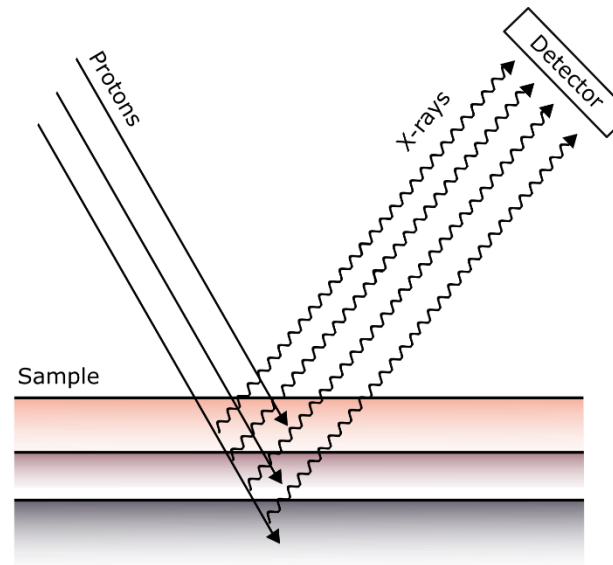


Several spectra from different targets.

vs →



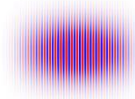
Energy selection from one spectrum.



Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline

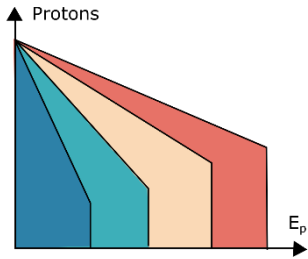


Technical requirements for the laser and instrumentation:



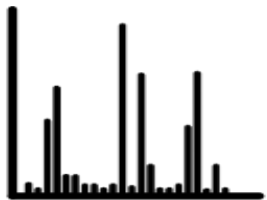
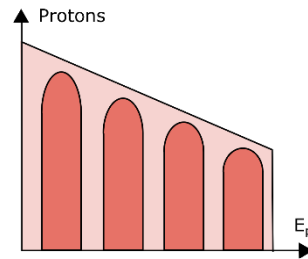
Short term **laser parameter:**

- 30 J energy
- 30 fs time duration
- 0.1 – 1 Hz repetition rate
- $10^9 - 10^{10}$ protons/shot
- 3-30 MeV energy



Diagnostics to measure the **proton energy spectra**.

Energy selector and transport system.



CCD camera for X-ray spectroscopy.



... to perform laser-driven PIXE:

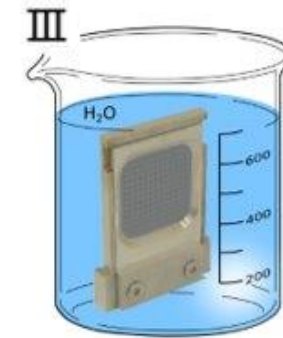
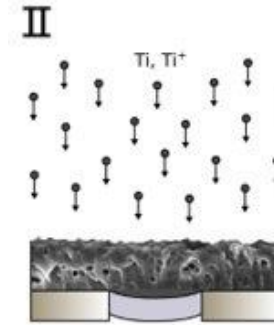
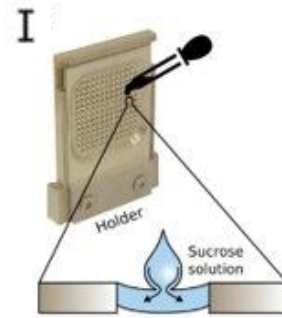
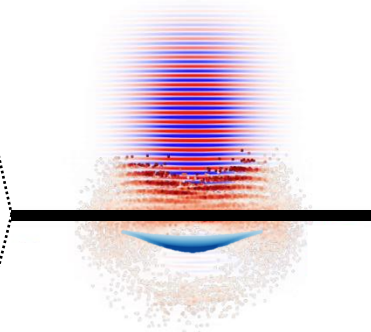
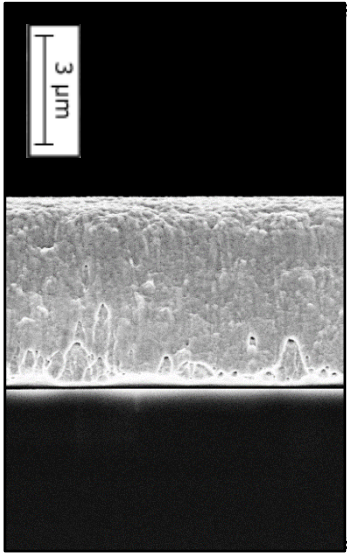
- **No mono-energetic protons** are strictly required.
- **No knowledge of the proton number** is required.

Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline

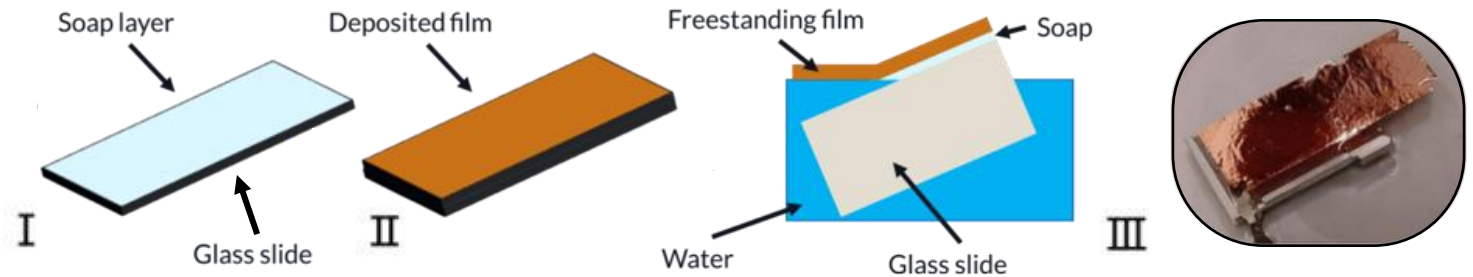
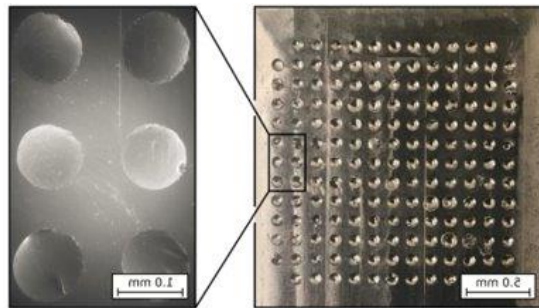


User-owned equipment from PoliMi: metal targets with controlled thickness produced with Magnetron Sputtering.

- **First strategy:**



- **Second strategy:**



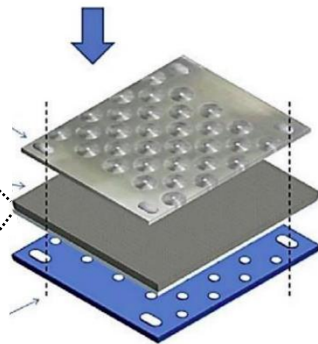
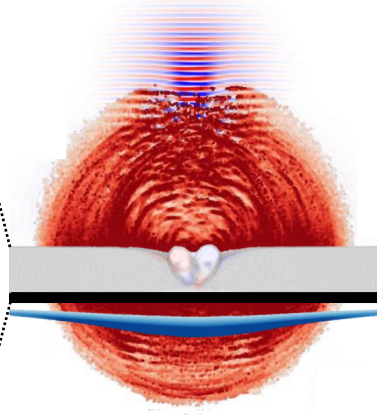
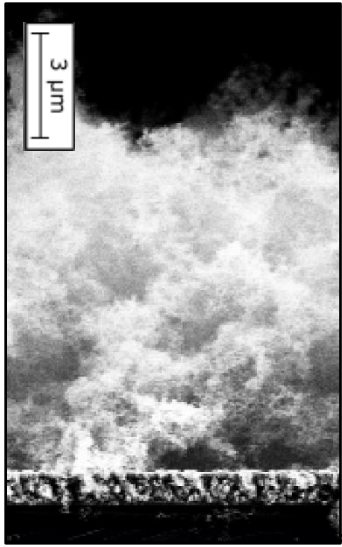
- Different materials, thicknesses from ~ **10s nm** to **microns**.



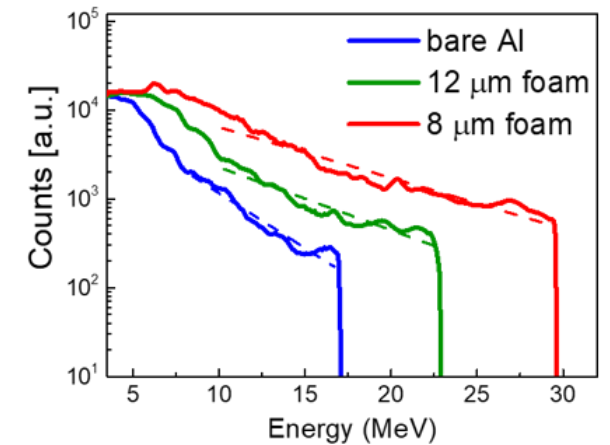
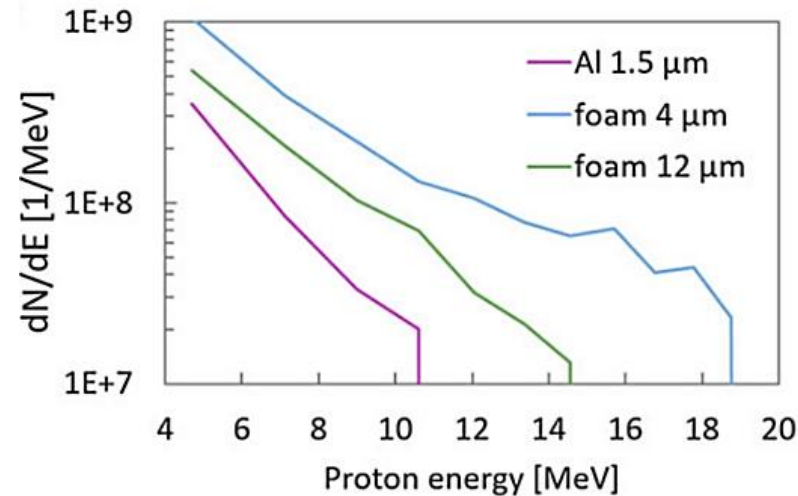
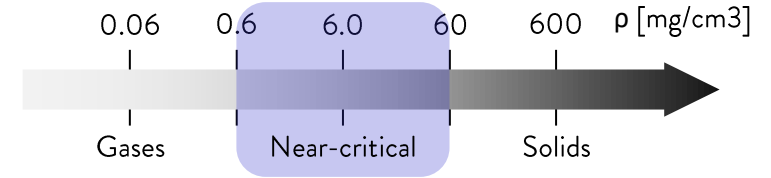
Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline



User-owned equipment from PoliMi: near-critical **Double-Layer Targets** to control the enhance the energy.



- Production of low-density carbon foams with **Pulsed-Laser Deposition**.
- **Higher conversion efficiency** of laser energy into particle energy.



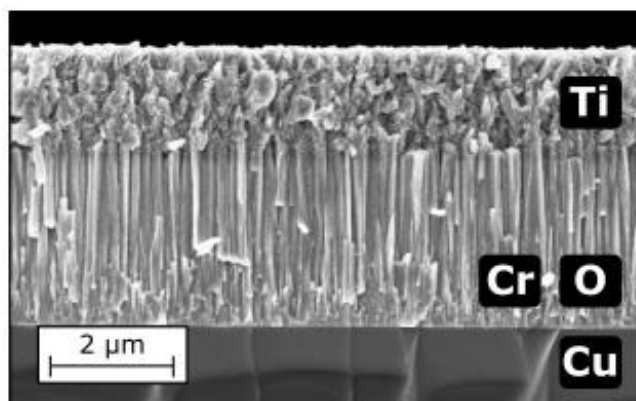
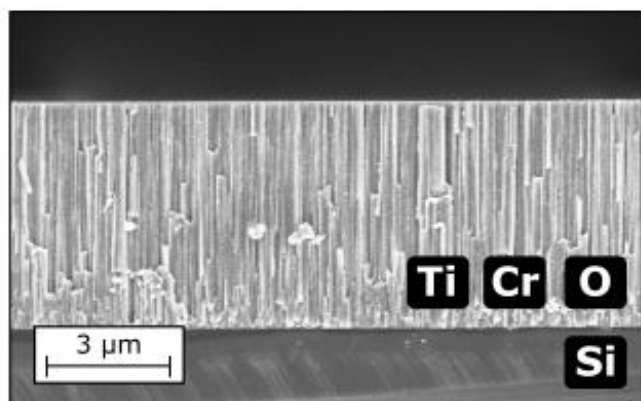
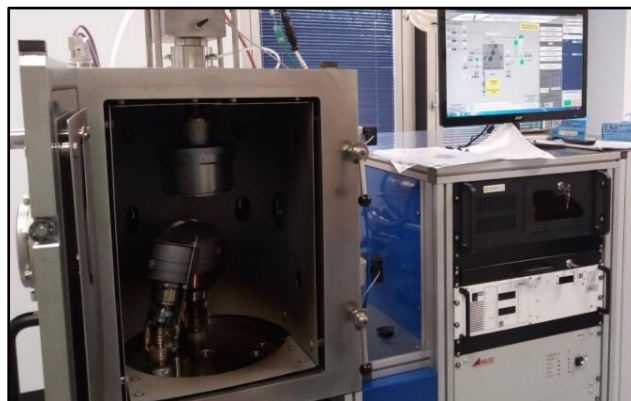
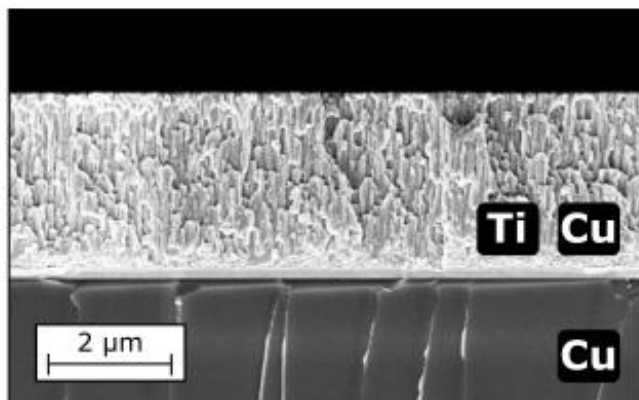
A. Maffini, et al. *Appl. Surf. Sci.* (2022): 153859.
 A. Maffini, et al. *Phys. Rev. Mater.* 3.8 (2019): 083404.

I. Principe, et al. *PPCF* 58.3 (2016): 034019.
 I. Principe, et al. *New J. Phys.* 23.9 (2021): 093015.

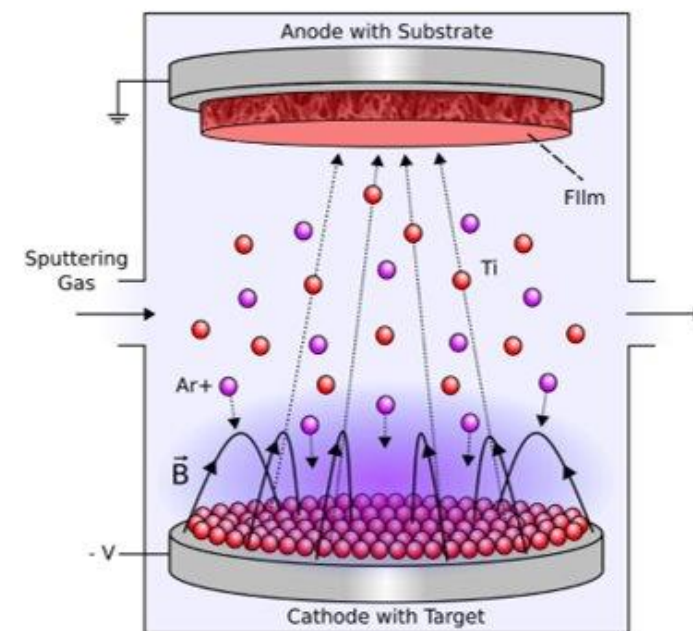
Possible experiment @ the ELIMAlA beamline



User-owned equipment from PoliMi: **multi-elemental, multi-layer samples** produced with High Power Impulse Magnetron Sputtering.



- Control the **deposition time** → **thickness** of the layers
- Control the **applied power** → **concentration** of the elements

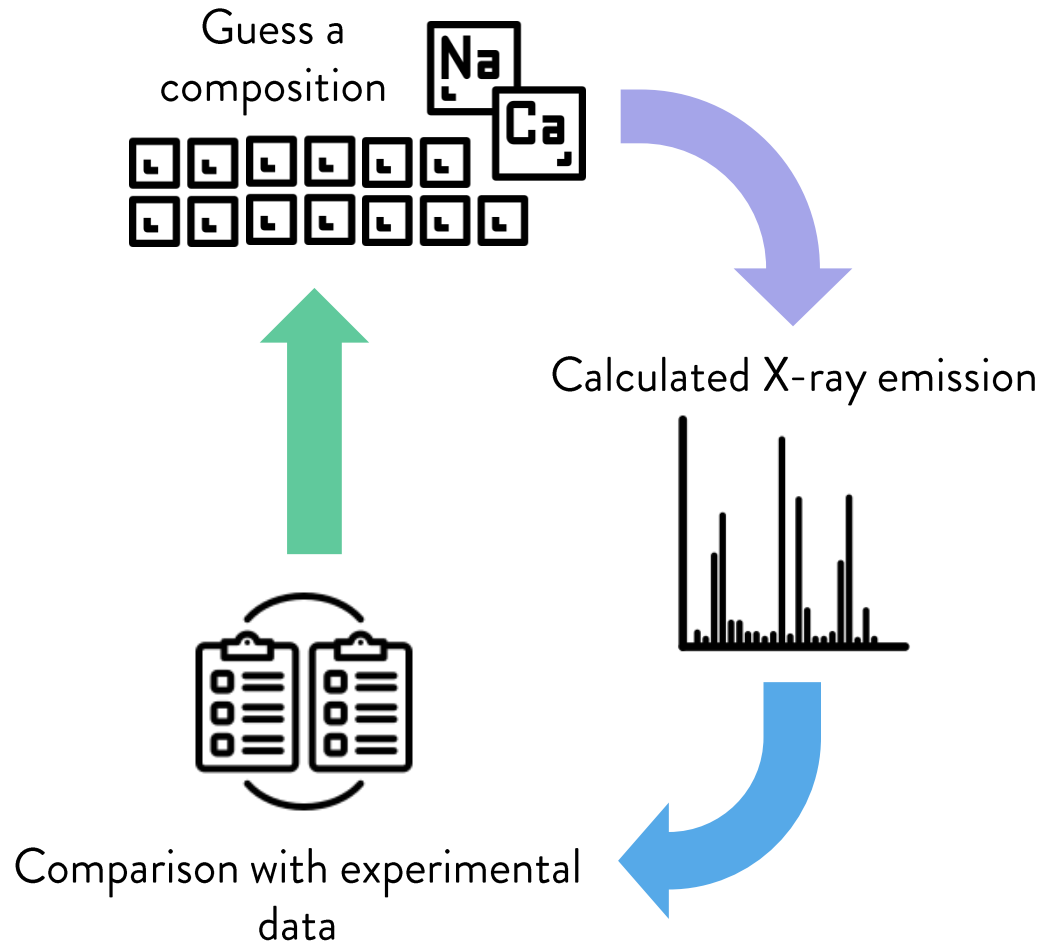


D. Dellasega, et al. *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 556 (2021):149678.

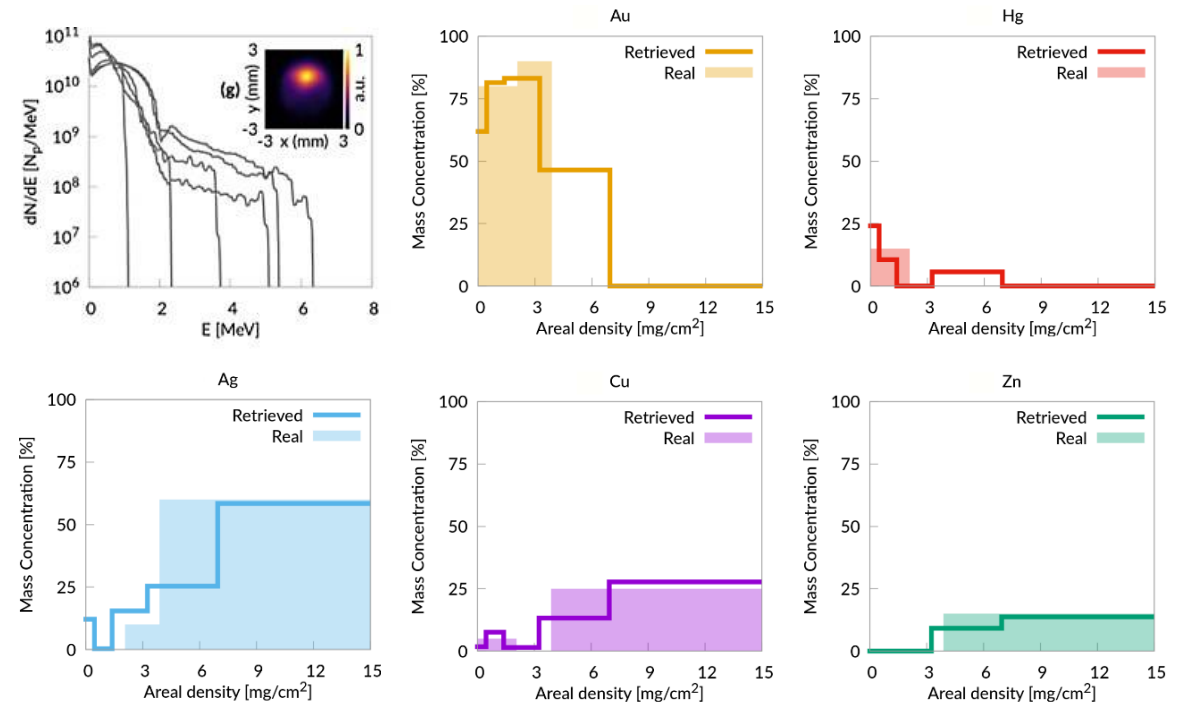
Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline



Software developed at Polimi for the laser-driven PIXE spectra analysis.



- Already **tested** on Monte Carlo **simulated data** for laser-driven differential PIXE

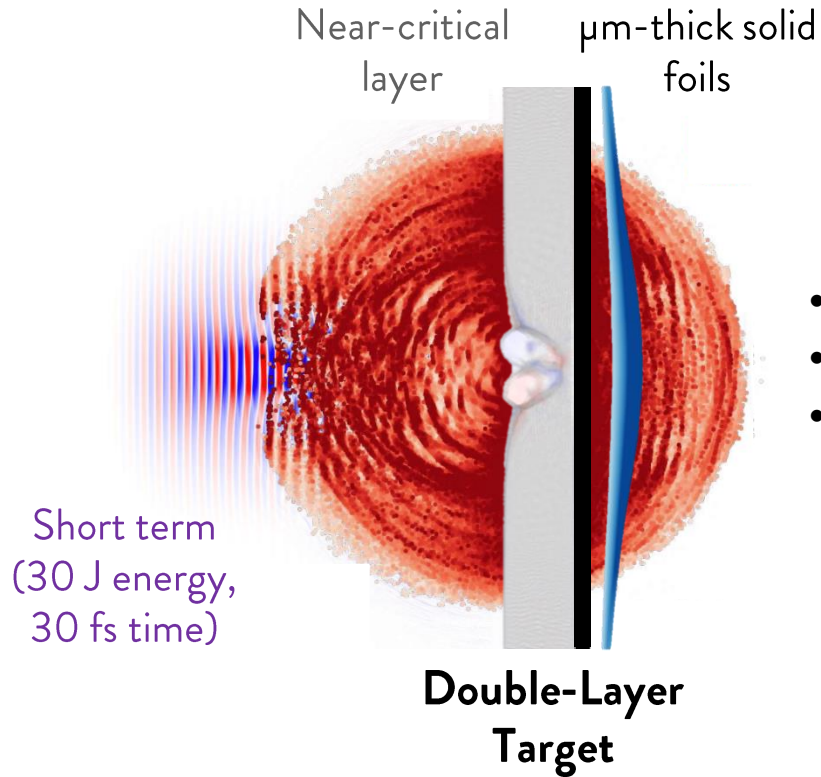


M. Passoni, et al. *Sci. Rep.*, 9.1 (2019): 9202.

Possible experiment @ the ELIMAIA beamline

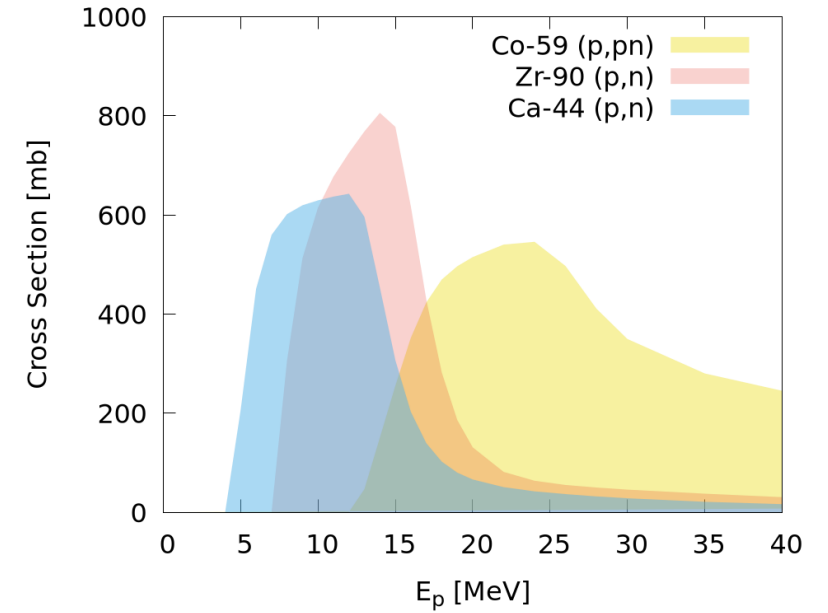


Laser-driven **Charged Particle Activation Analysis** (CPAA)



- **> 30 MeV** energy
- **Broad** energy spectra
- **> 10^{11}** protons

- **Enhance** the **proton number** to achieve **high γ -rays yields**.
- No need of energy selection.



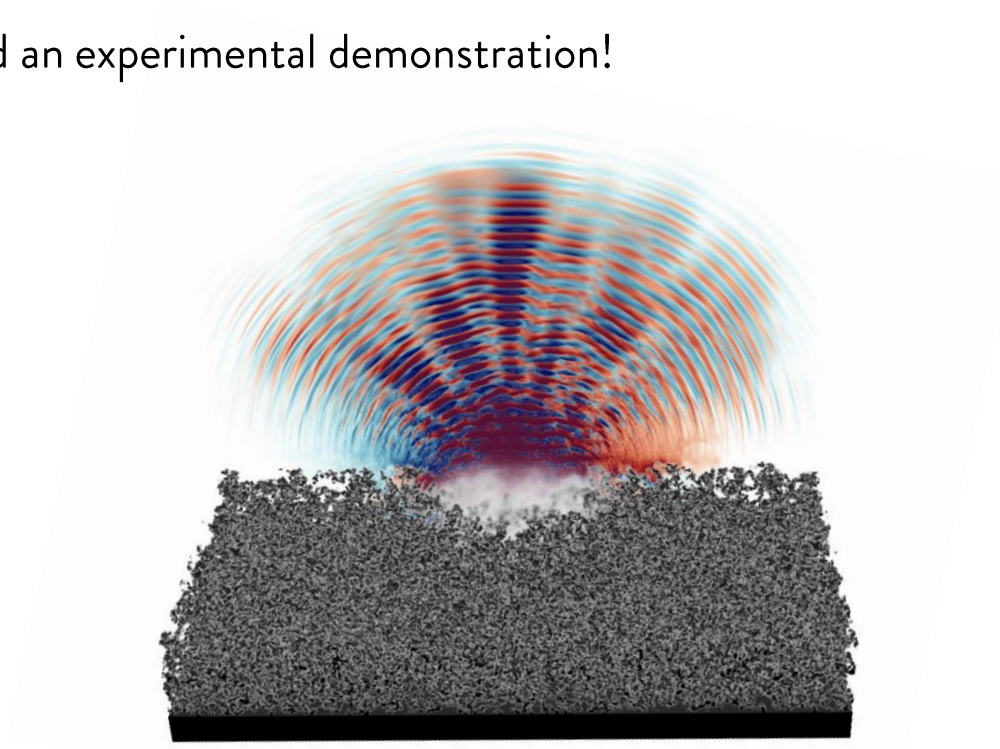
- Irradiation of thick  standard materials.
- Possibility to provide γ -ray detectors from



POLITECNICO
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Summary & conclusions

- **Laser-driven radiation sources** are **promising** for **materials characterization** and in particular for artworks.
 - **Multiple radiations** → **multi-purpose** (surface, bulk, stratigraphic analysis and imaging).
- **Differential PIXE** (one the most ambitious) and **PAA** still need an experimental demonstration!
- **ELIMAIA beamline** offers **the best chance**:
 - Broad range of proton energies.
 - Energy tunability and selection.
 - High number of particles.
 - High repetition rate.



Thank you for the attention!