

Solid hydrogen micro spheres for laser proton acceleration

Jens Polz¹, Anton Kalinin², Rui Costa Fraga², Robert Grisenti², Georg Becker¹, Diethard Klöpfel¹, Malte Kaluza^{1,3}

1) *Institut für Optik und Quantenelektronik, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität, D-07743 Jena*

2) *Institut für Kernphysik, Goethe-Universität, D-60438 Frankfurt, Germany*

3) *Helmholtz Institut Jena, D-07743 Jena*

Solid hydrogen micro spheres have been used as internal targets for storage rings since the 1990ies (e.g. [1]). But due to their dimensions and low spatial stability, these pellet generators are of low value for laser plasma interaction experiments, where high spatial and temporal stability of the hydrogen droplets is required.

Here we present our approach of a compact cryogenic source [2] for laser plasma interaction experiments. The cryogenic source is delivering 9 μm sized hydrogen pellets at a repetition rate of 2 MHz with high spatial and temporal stability.

[1] Ekström *et al.*, "Hydrogen pellet targets for circulating particle beams", Nucl. Instrum. Meth., **371**, 572-574 (1996)

[2] Costa Fraga *et al.*, Rev. Sci. Instrum. **83**, 025102 (2012)