



The Cockcroft Institute  
of Accelerator Science and Technology

# The Cockcroft Institute 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



**Peter Ratoff**

**Director, 2014-2023**

## First Day



**July 2014**

## Last Day



**April 2023**

# CI Triple Celebration, April 2017



(1) **New** STFC core grant, (2) **New** home in A Block & (3) **New** full partner (U. Strathclyde)

# The Cockcroft Institute (2004- )

Align with **STFC accelerator strategy**  
& **ESPP** (future colliders & nu beams)

**Sustainability**

**Global challenges** in  
health, security, energy,  
manufacturing &  
environment

secondary  
applications

World class R&D & leadership in  
**conventional RF** based systems,  
**novel methods** of acceleration  
and **underpinning basic science**  
& **technology**

Engage with business & industry  
to develop disruptive technologies  
(**economic & societal impact**)

**The *de-facto* UK centre  
for accelerator R&D**

primary  
applications

**Education, Training &  
Public Engagement**

Maintain the skills & expertise that  
provides the UK with a **broad &  
strong capability** in the field

Contributing to construction  
of national & international  
**accelerator facilities**  
enabling **PP/NP research**  
& **light source users**

**Equality, Diversity & Inclusivity**

**5 Partners**



**GOALS**

# Supporting Particle Physics

Enabling high energy proton collider physics

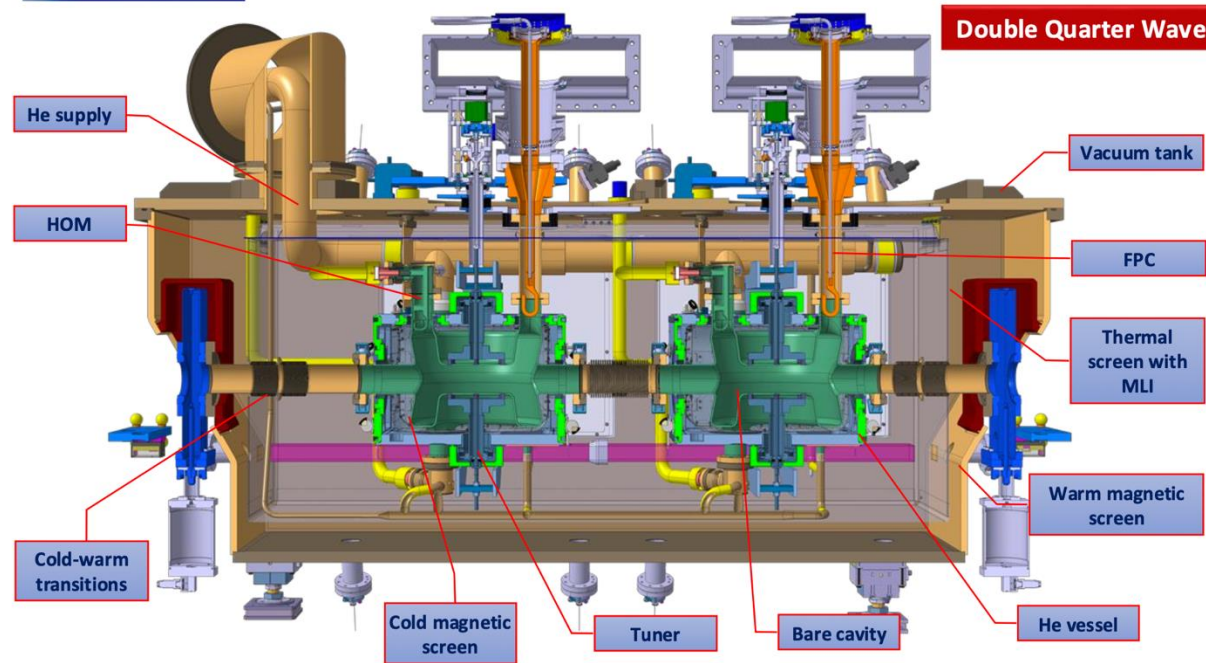
Enabling long baseline neutrino oscillation physics



## HL-LHC Crab Cryomodule

ATLAS Crab

Double Quarter Wave



ASTeC

650 MHz High-beta cryomodules for PIP-II

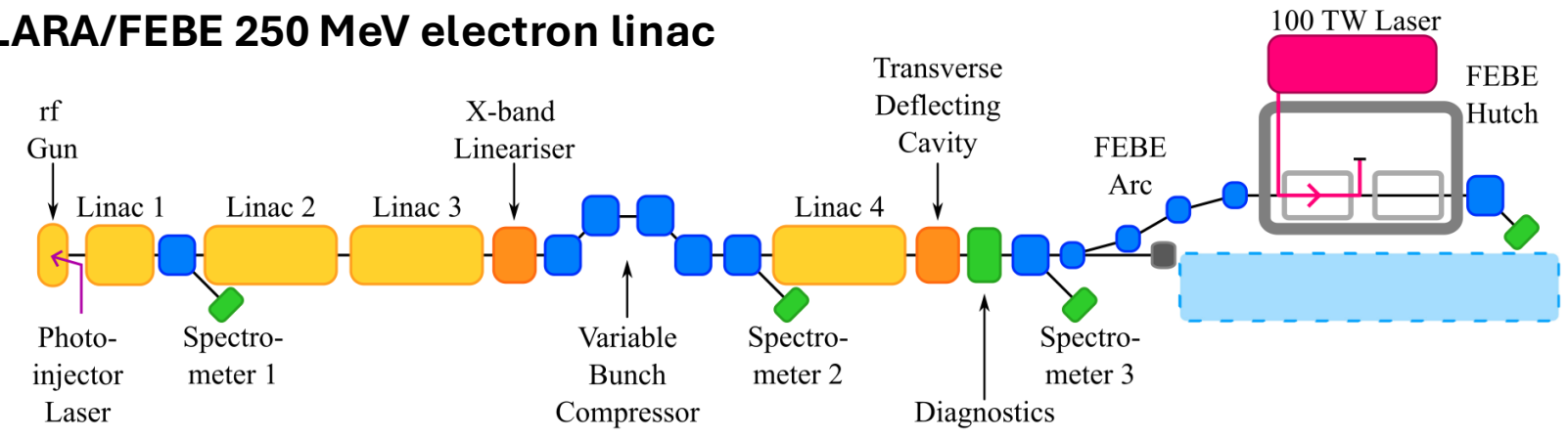
# Supporting the Users of Intense Photon/Electron Beams



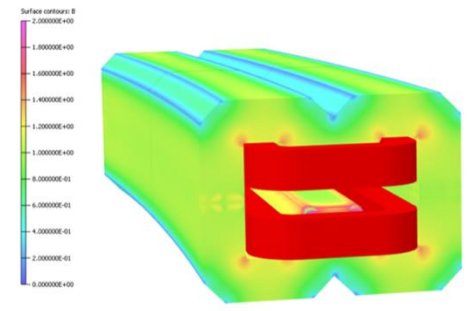
**UK XFEL  
Science Case**  
Executive Summary



## CLARA/FEBE 250 MeV electron linac

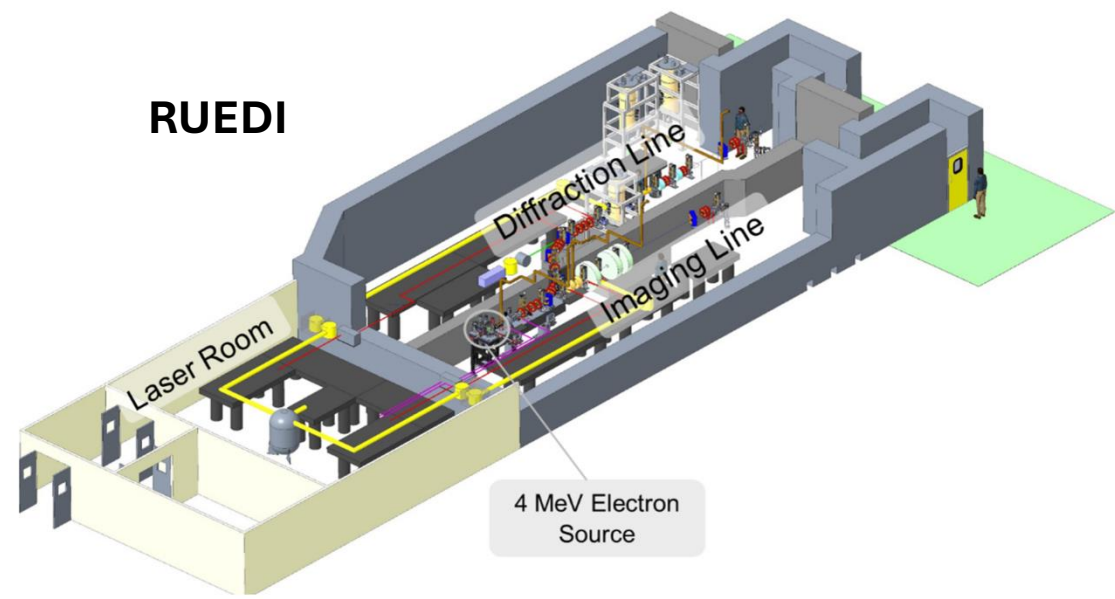


## Diamond-2 Booster Magnets



3D field profile of one of the multifunction booster synchrotron dipole magnets. The magnet is used to bend, focus, and correct the beam as it is accelerated. The magnet is compact with a high peak field and small aberrations, allowing the booster to achieve very high performance.

## RUEDI



RUEDI facility design showing the layout of the Diffraction and Imaging beamlines, flanked by the facility laser systems.

## The three R's ...

- **R**eading
- **wR**iting
- **aR**ithmetic

## The three R's ...

- **R**eading
- **wR**iting
- **aR**ithmetic



## The five R's ...

- **gR**adients
- **R**adiotherapy
- **R**esources
- **R**esilience
- **R**eviews

# Higher accelerating field gradients → more compact accelerators

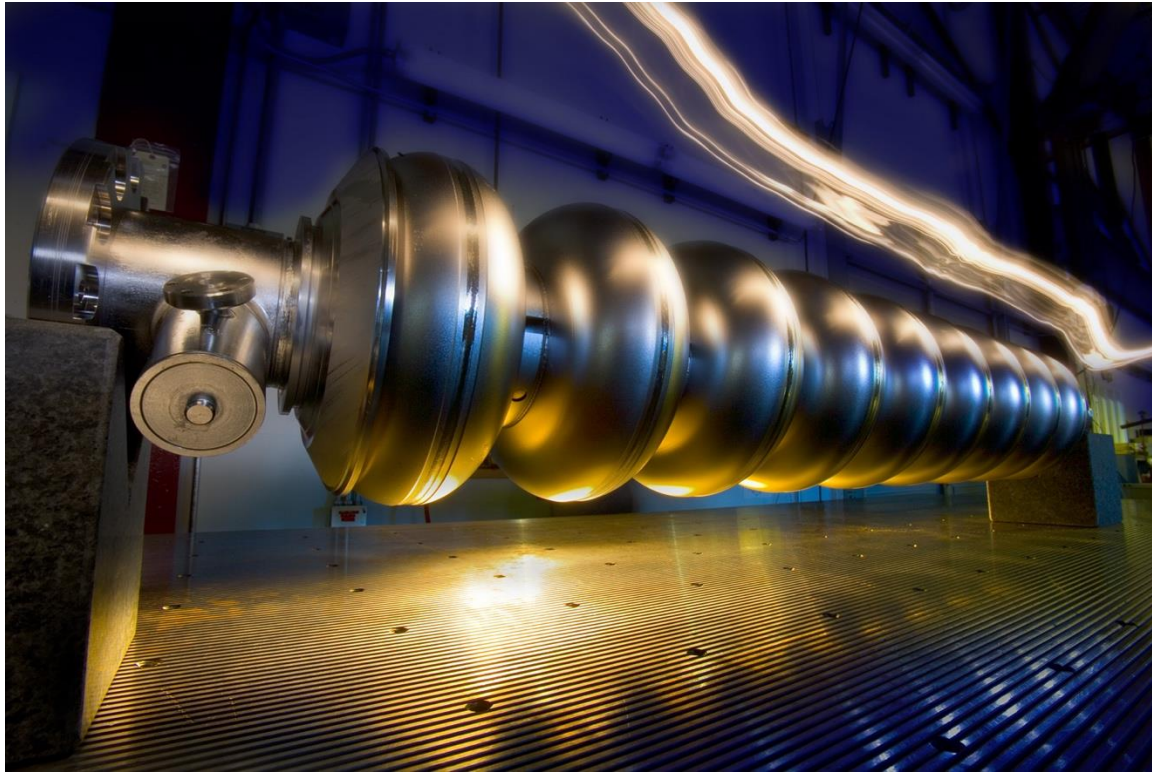
## Conventional RF Acceleration

~ 100 MV/m

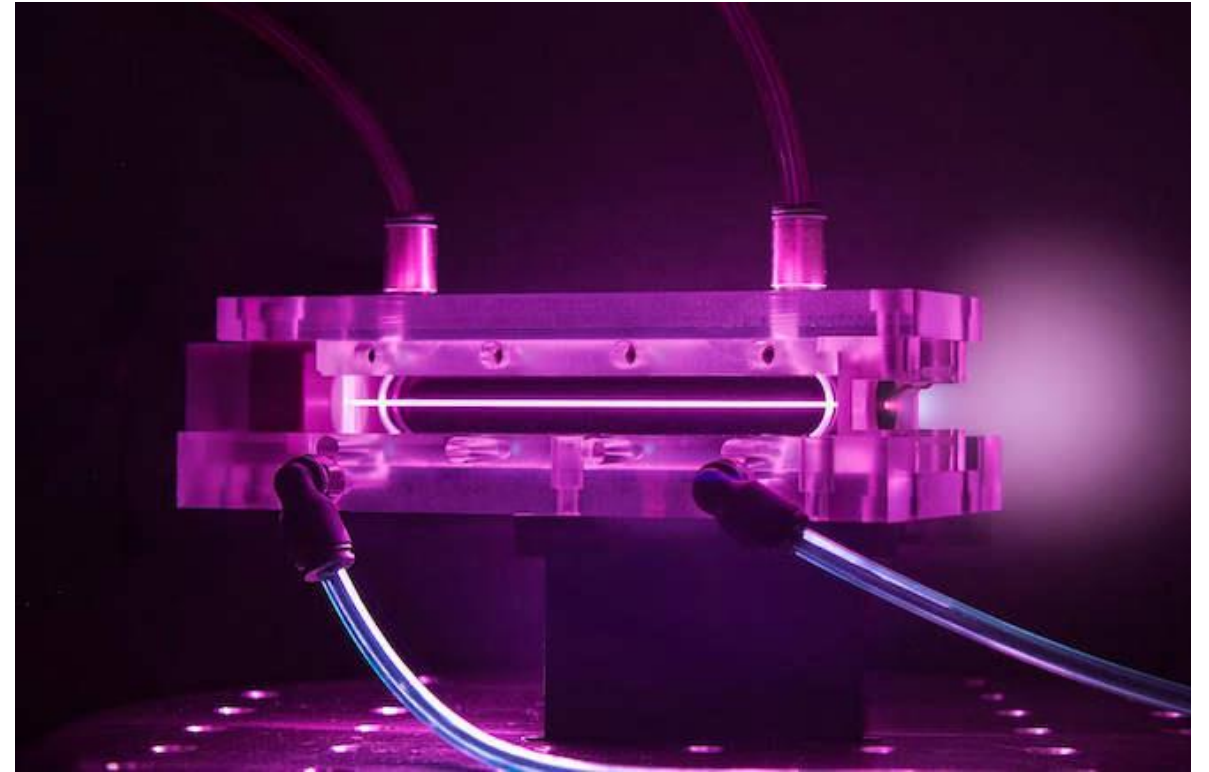
**gRad**

## Novel Plasma Wakefield Acceleration

~ 10 GV/m



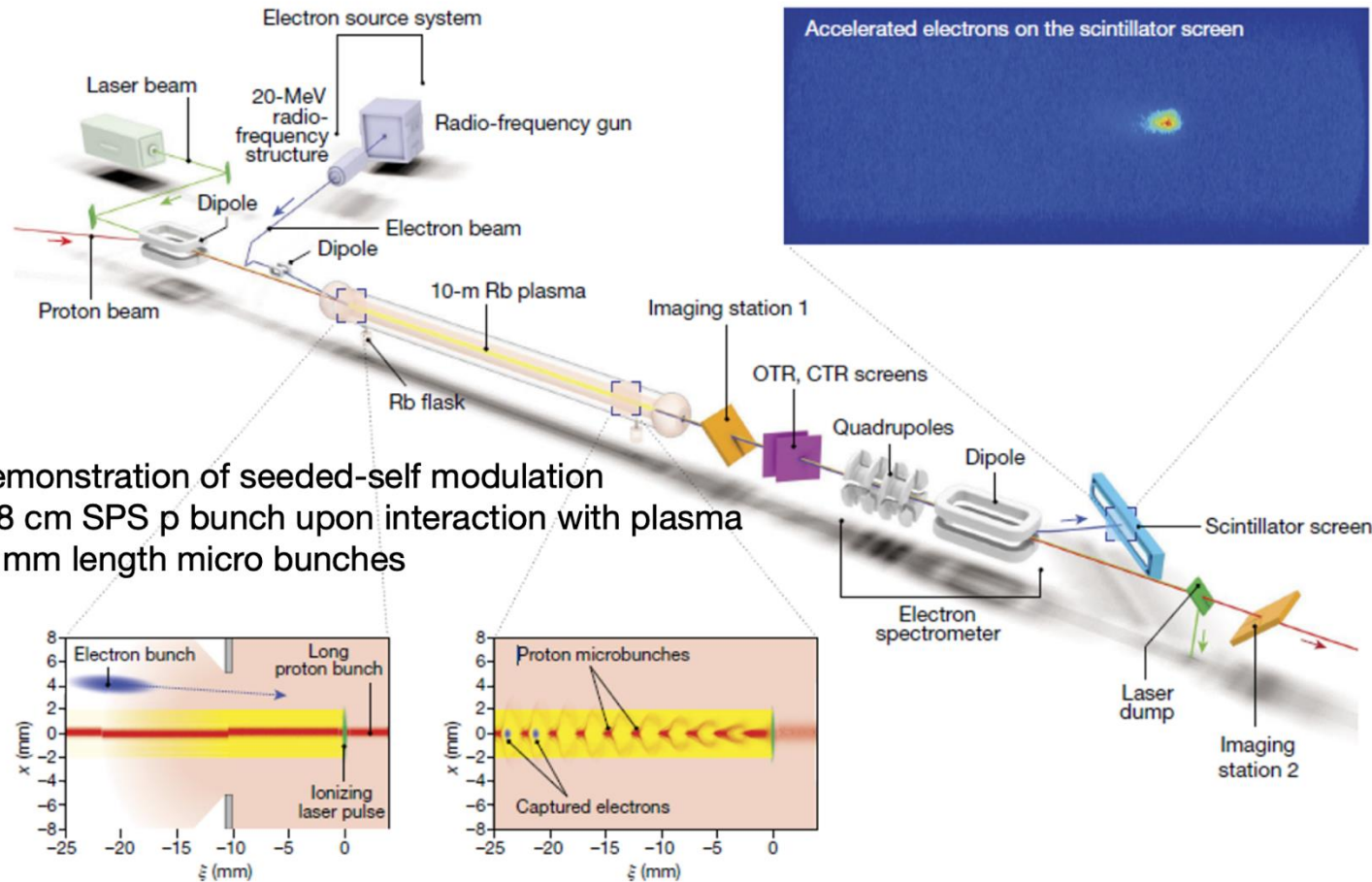
100 cm



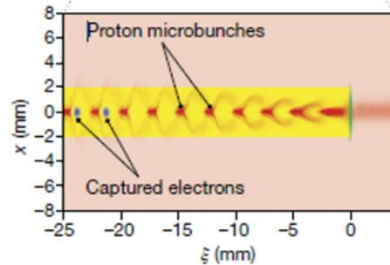
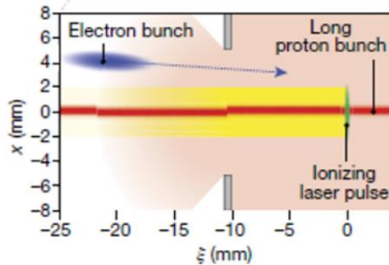
10 cm

# High gRadients

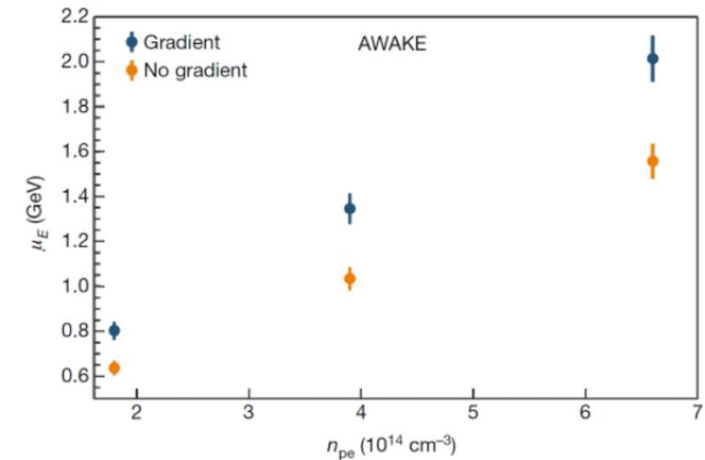
## AWAKE Run 1 (2016-2018)



- Demonstration of seeded-self modulation
- 6-8 cm SPS p bunch upon interaction with plasma
- <1mm length micro bunches



### Witness e-beam energy gain



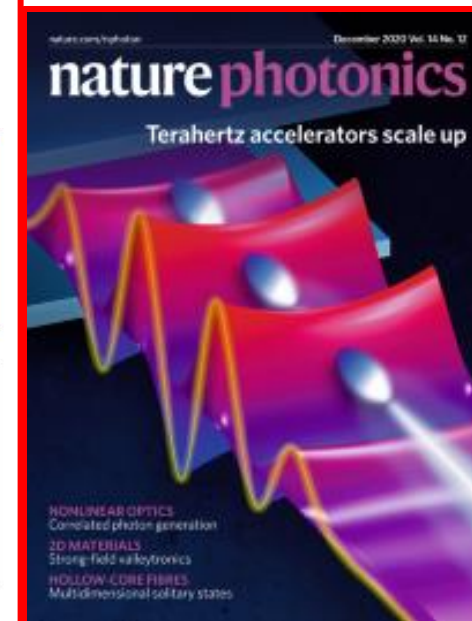
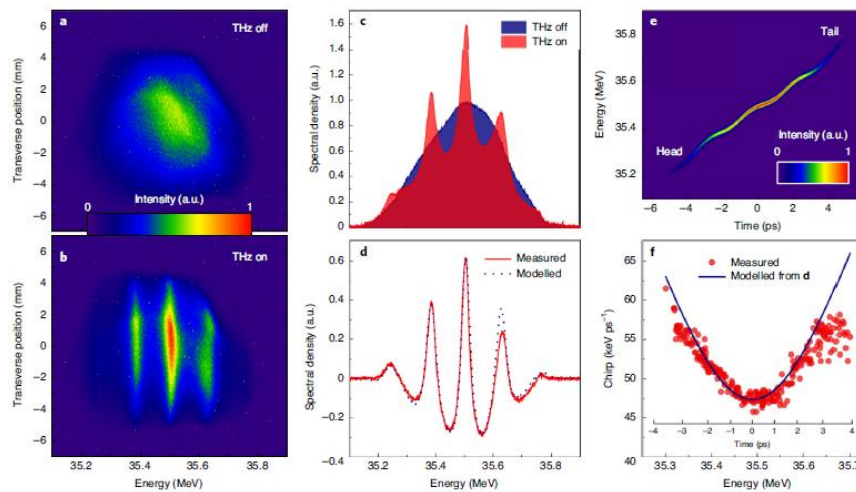
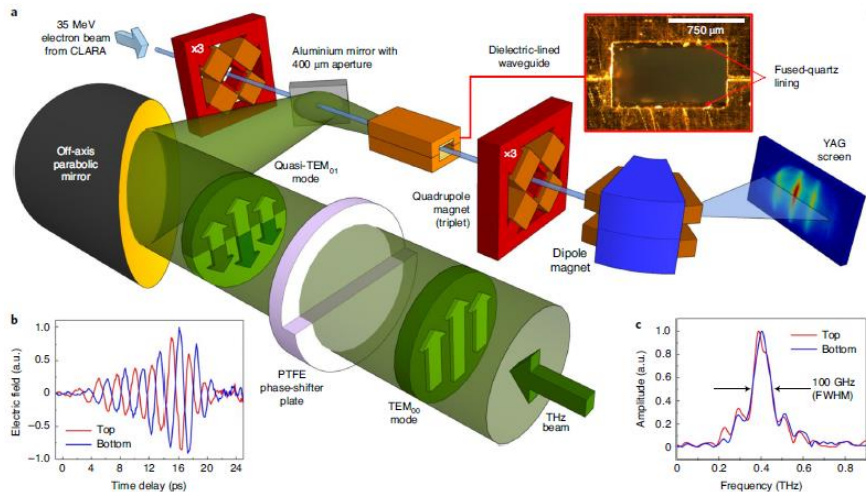
- Acceleration from 20 MeV to  $2.0 \pm 0.1$  GeV was achieved
- with a plasma density of  $6.6 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  over 10 m.
- Avg. acceleration gradient  $\sim 200$  MV/m.

# CLARA Run 1 – THz acceleration of relativistic electrons

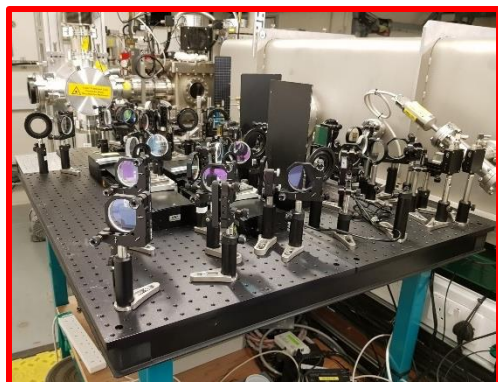
M.T. Hibberd *et al.* *Nat. Photon.* 14, 755-759 (2020)

First THz-driven linear acceleration of a relativistic electron beam

Narrowband THz pulse in dielectric-lined waveguide 10 keV peak energy gain



Our group's front-cover publication in Nature Photonics

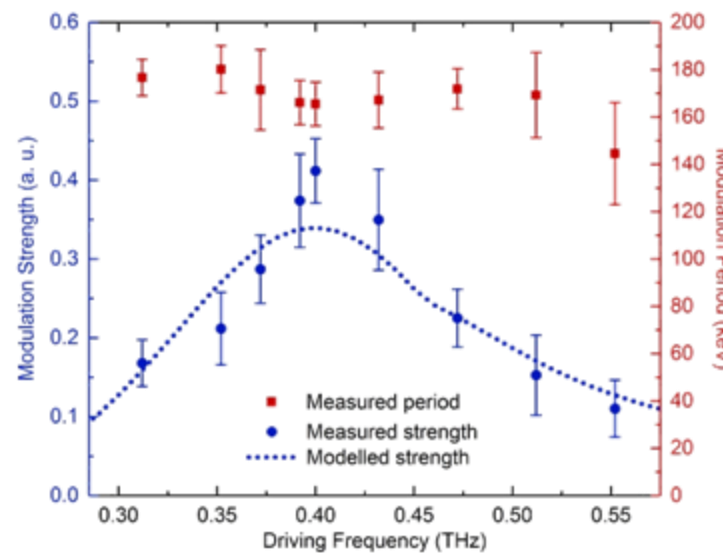


THz optics including source generation, timing overlap and electro-optic detection

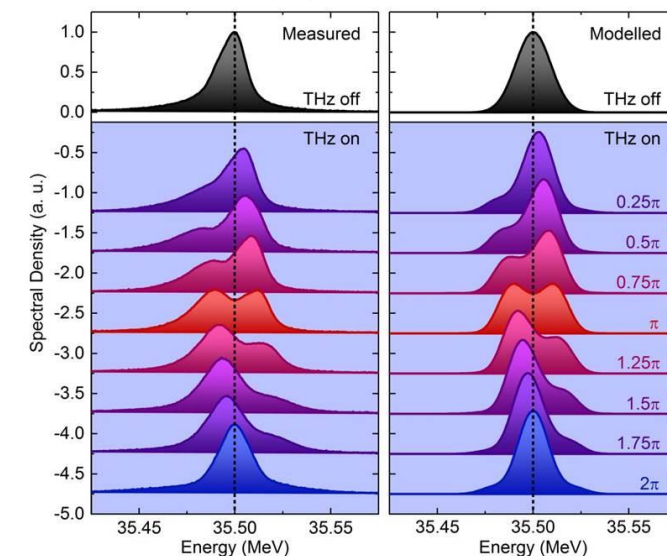


Arrangement inside interaction chamber including waveguide and THz transport

Demonstrated phase-velocity matched interaction and capability for longitudinal phase space diagnostic



Near-whole bunch acceleration limited by the CLARA bunch length

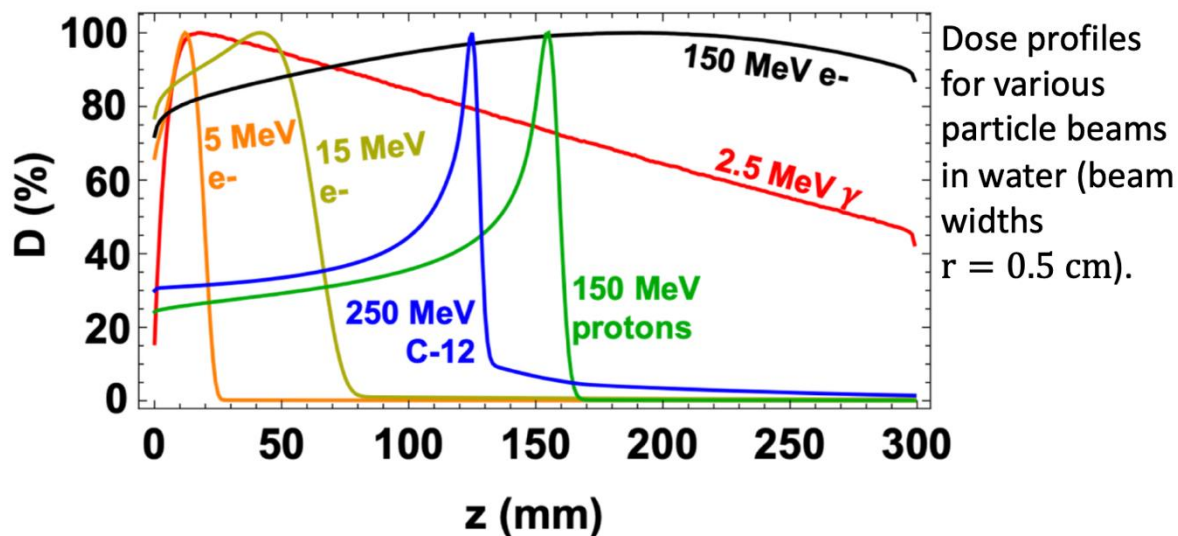


# Radiotherapy



The Christie  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Very High Energy Electron (VHEE) Therapy



- **Photons:** The *most commonly used*, peak dose deposited close to the skin surface
- **Protons:** *High cost* and *limited availability*, *Well-defined finite range* in matter
- **Electrons:** Used for treating *superficial tumours*. *Lateral scattering*.
- **VHEE:** Higher dose range, less lateral scattering

## Proton Beam Therapy

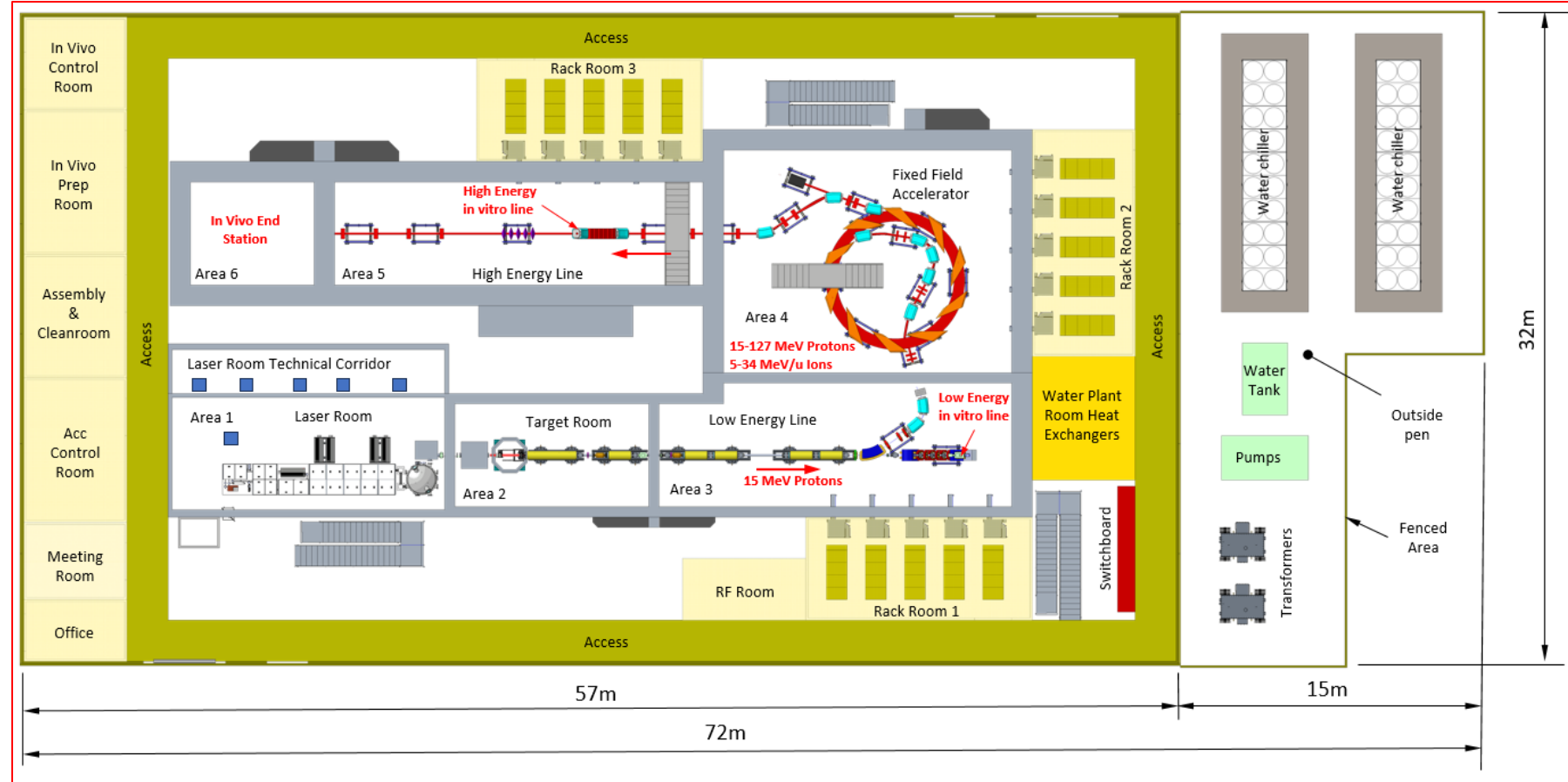
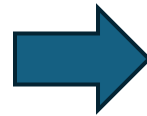
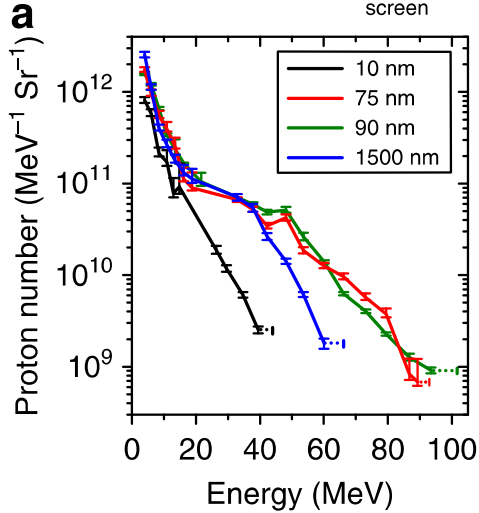
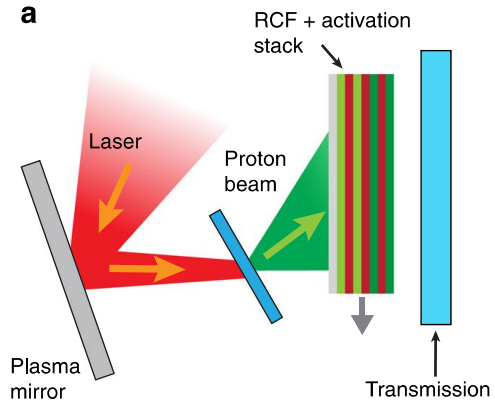


NHS/Christie PBT Centre opened at end of 2018  
with dedicated **Research Room**

# gRadiants + Radiotherapy

Synthesis of high-gRadiant (plasma) acceleration & Radiotherapy

Ion Therapy Research Facility (ITRF) Conceptual Design Study (2022-2024)



100 MeV protons from thin metal foils @ CLF  
 Nature Comms. (2018) 9:724  
 Strathclyde/CI/QUB/CLF

**Daresbury Laboratory**

RF, Cryo, Diagnostics, Laser & Vacuum labs

**University of Strathclyde**

**People, Money & Facilities**

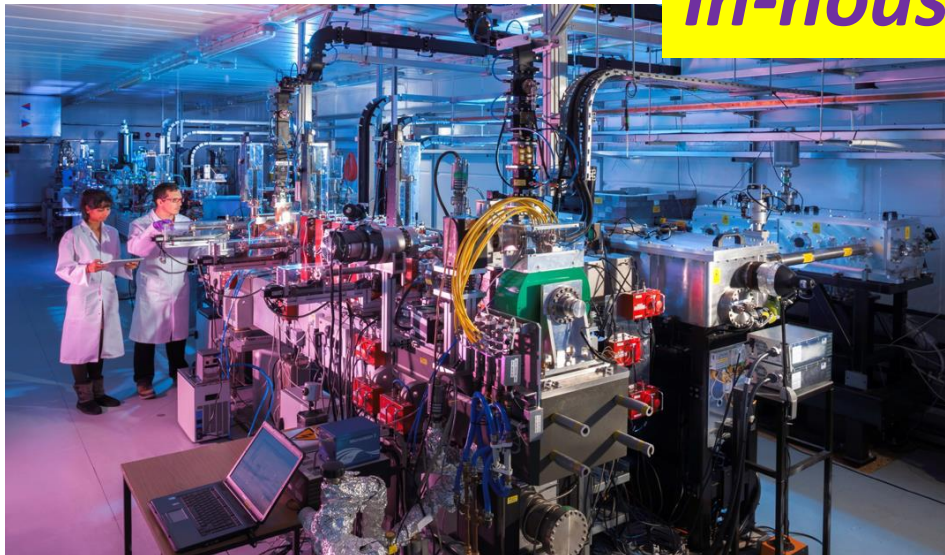


**Resources**

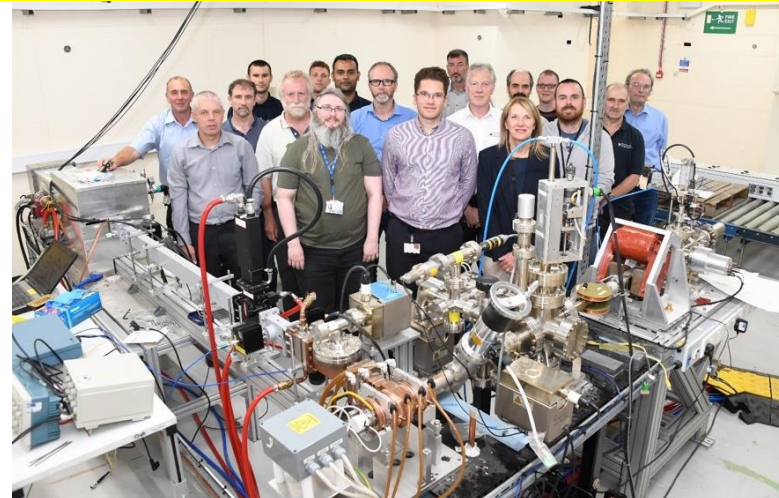


**SCAPA  
7 beamlines**

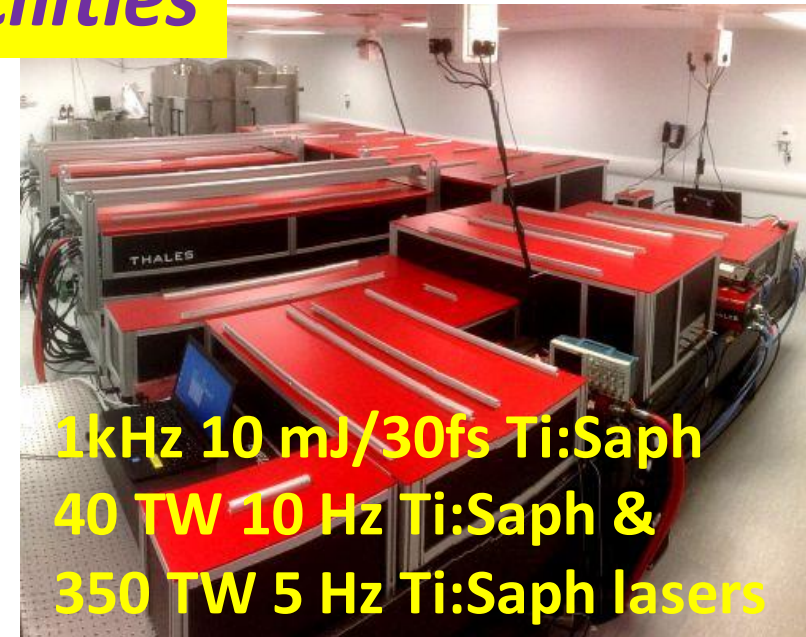
*In-house developed labs & facilities*



**CLARA/VELA (4-250 MeV)**

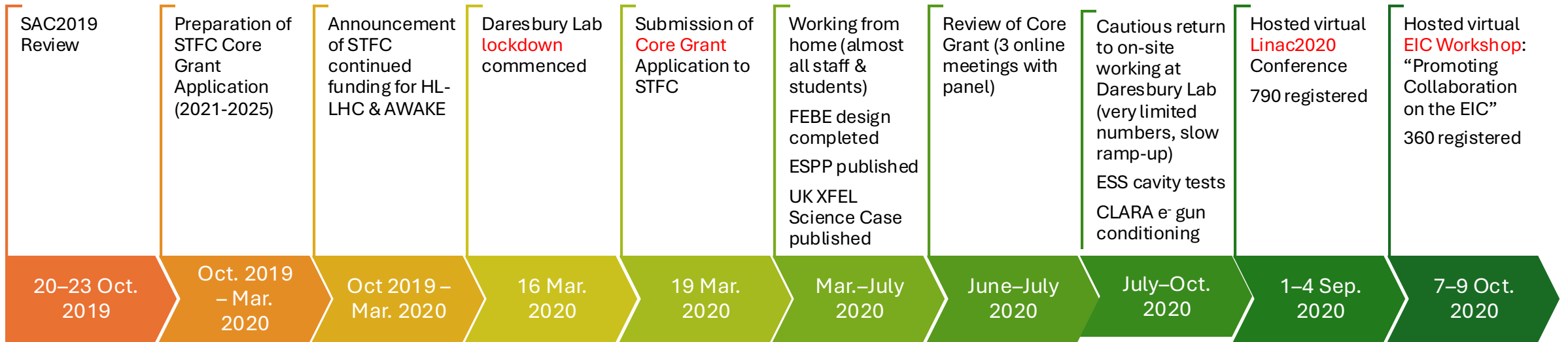


**3.5 MeV Compact Linac**



**1kHz 10 mJ/30fs Ti:Saph  
40 TW 10 Hz Ti:Saph &  
350 TW 5 Hz Ti:Saph lasers**

# The 2019/20 Calendar & the impact of Covid-19



**Resilience**





# Cockcroft Institute Science Advisory Committee, Daresbury Lab, October 2022

## Reviews



“Coming out of two years of severe COVID-19 related restrictions, CI appears to have weathered the storm well and has ramped up activities to (or even beyond) pre-pandemic levels.

CI is clearly a sought-after partner in accelerator physics and enters 2023 in a much stronger position than some five to eight years back.

The many students and postdocs attracted by CI to the science and technology of accelerators ensures the next generation of practitioners and underscores CIs strength. CI is positioned well to face the future!”

Jerry Blazey  
Ulrich Dorda  
Angeles Faus-Golfe  
Massimo Ferrario (remote)

(NIU)  
(SCK CEN/MYRRHA)  
(IJCLab)  
(INFN Frascati)

Stephen Gibson  
Anna Grassilino (remote)  
Ryoichi Hajima  
Mark Hogan

(RHUL/JAI)  
(FNAL)  
(QST)  
(SLAC)

Jens Knobloch, Chair  
Wim Leemans  
Eduard Prat  
Frank Zimmermann

(HZB/Universität Siegen)  
(DESY)  
(PSI)  
(CERN)

# The Cockcroft Institute @20

- The **Cockcroft Institute** has existed for just over **20 years** & acquired a **global reputation**
- Builds on **60 years** of accelerator operations at **Daresbury Laboratory**
- Established a strong **education/training** programme (**>300 PhDs**) & award-winning **public engagement**
- Partnership of 4 universities & STFC accelerator department – **250+ staff & students**
- Contributing to local, national & international accelerator **facilities, basic R&D, technology transfer**
- Past highlights – **ALICE ERL (1<sup>st</sup> in Europe)** and **EMMA NS-FFA (World's 1<sup>st</sup>)**
- Recent highlights – **ESS SCRF cavities, CLARA, HL-LHC crab cavities, AWAKE p-PWFA, Muon g-2, ZEPTO magnets, high efficiency klystrons, thin film SCRF**
- Bright (near) future: **PIP-II cryomodules; CLARA/FEBE & SCAPA exploitation (THz & plasma acceleration)**
- Supporting NWE radiotherapy hub including **VHEE, PBT (Christie) & Ion Therapy Research Facility/LhARA**
- Longer term future: **RUEDI (£125M), Electron-Ion Collider, UK XFEL design study, FCC, PWFA user facilities**