

High average power femtosecond laser driver for plasma accelerators by compression of spectrally broadened high energy Yb:YAG laser pulses



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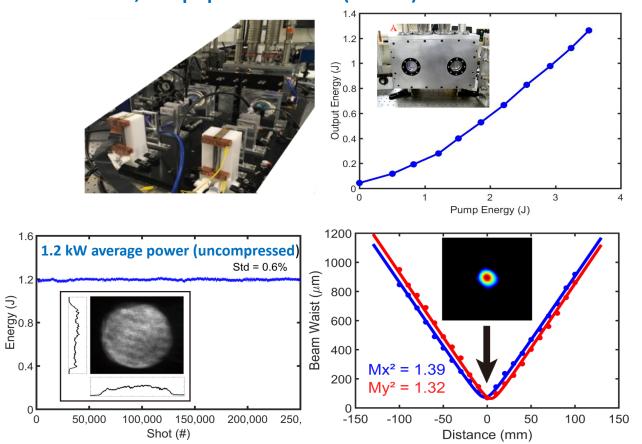
^{1.} Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

^{2.} few-cycle Inc., Montreal

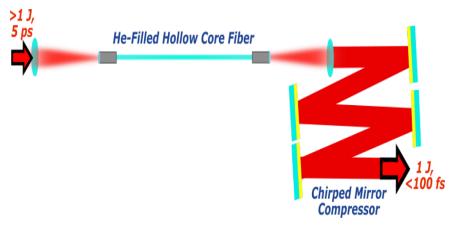
^{3.} XUV Lasers Inc., Fort Collins, CO

1. Efficient generation of ps pules of Joule energy at kW average power in cryogenically cooled Yb:YAG amplifiers

1.1 J, 4.5 ps pulses at 1 kHz (1.1 kW) demonstrated



2. Spectral broadening and compression in large large ID hollow-core fibers provides a path forward for the direct generation of sub-100 fs high energy laser pulses at high average powers



- Compression factor of 33 were achieved in a single compression stage
- Average power scaling has been tested at the half kW average power level
- 0.7 J, 7 ps pulses have been compressed to 240 fs at 10 Hz repetition rate



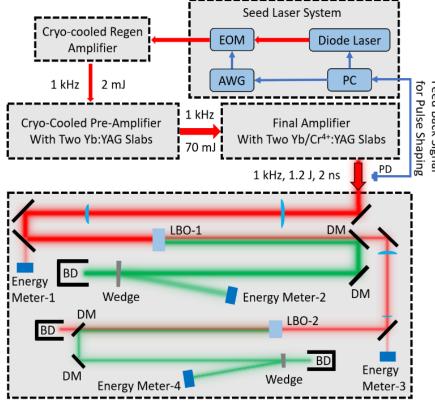


kW average power green amplifiers to pump high energy femtosecond lasers at kHz repetition rates for plasma accelerators

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- Ti:Sa is mature technology that makes possible Pw lasers
- Scaling to kHz repetition rate requires multi- J green pump pulse generation at kW average power
- 1.2 J, 1030 nm ns pulses have been generated at 1 kHz (1.2 kW average power)
- ~ 80% doubling efficiency in LBO demonstrated

