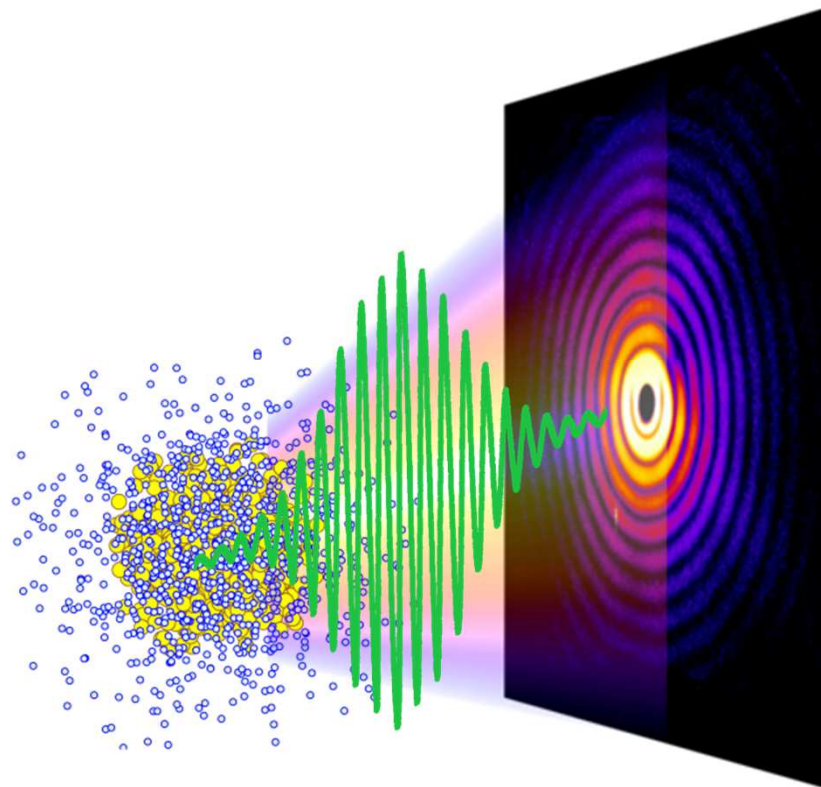


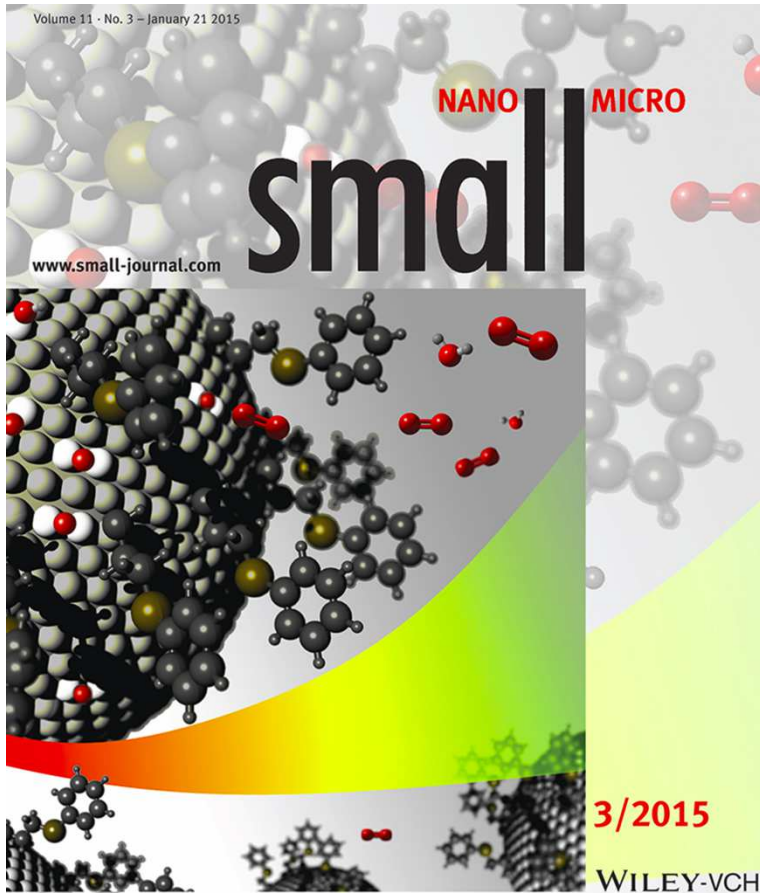
# Structure and dynamics of nanoparticles in intense short wavelength light pulses

Thomas Möller, Technische Universität Berlin  
Nobel Symposium on Free Electron Laser Research  
Sigtuna, June 14-18, 2015



## Interaction of intense short wavelength pulses with clusters





# Nanoparticles and clusters: Issues and Questions

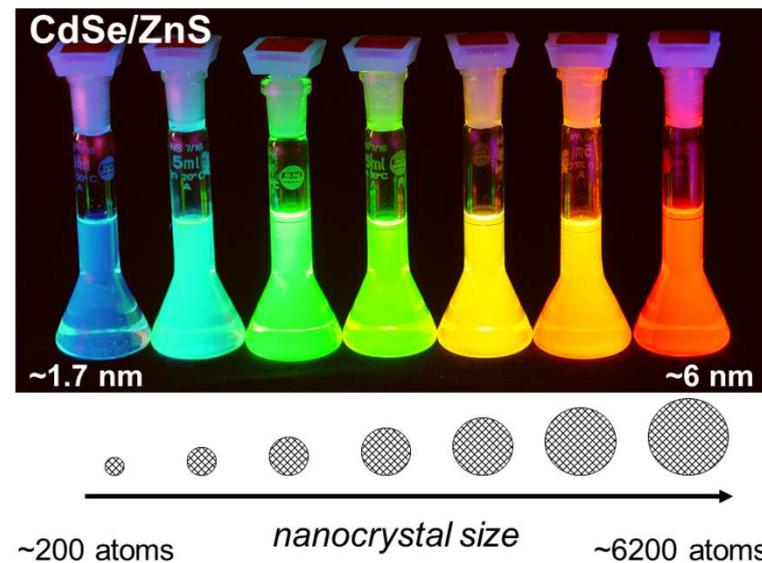
Clusters and nanocrystals are new materials

Size dependent properties

- catalytic activity
- magnetic properties
- photochemical processes
- light induced dynamics
- geometry and shape

Size dependent colour

Novel pigments in tv-screens



Courtesy: H. Weller, Universität Hamburg

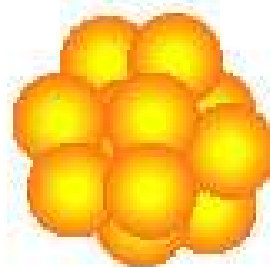
# Atoms / clusters in intense x-ray pulses

What are the differences?

Atom



Cluster



absorption into continuum states

→ ionization

→ **inner** ionization: electron removal from a cluster **atom**

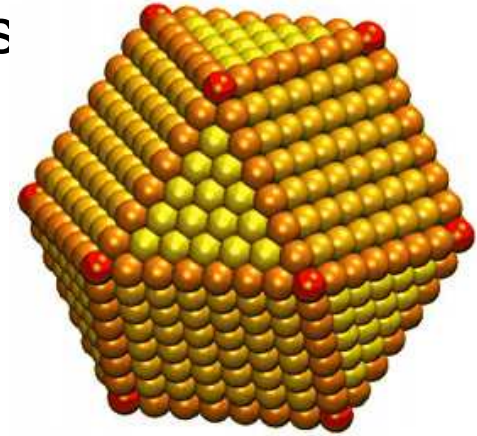
→ **outer** ionization: electron removal from the **cluster**

Last, Jortner, Phys. Rev. A, 62, 013201(2000)

→ Plasma formation

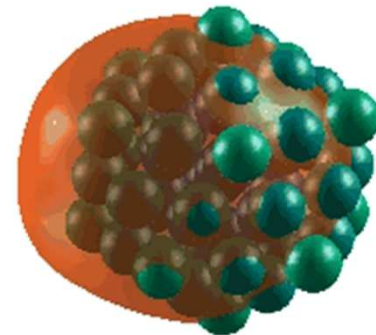
# Properties of clusters / Driving questions

- Shape and structure of **individual** particles
  - Regular shape, non-equilibrium structures ?



W.Zhu et al,  
*JACS* **2013** 135 (45), 16833

- Light induced dynamics
  - ion motion, electron motion
  - collective motion, plasma dynamics?
  - Phase transitions, melting, surface melting

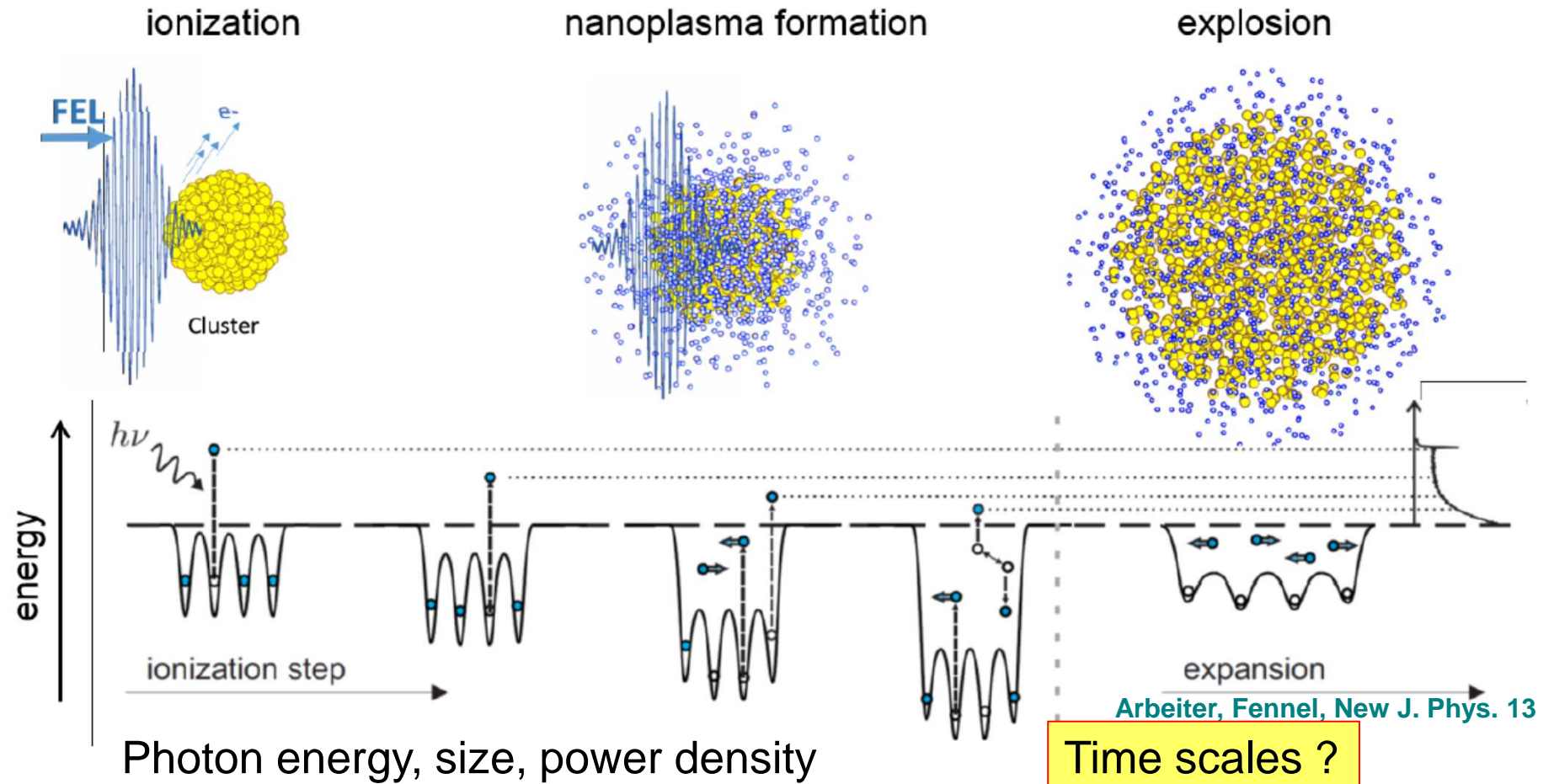


Courtesy of T. Fennel

# Cluster: Nanolab for laser-matter-interaction

Rare gas cluster : simple structure, detailed studies with IR light

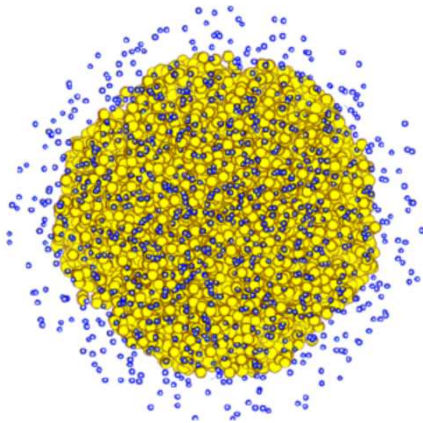
## „Three step model“



Experiments [Wabnitz Nature 420, 482 \(2002\)](#) , [Laarmann , PRL 92, 143401, PRL 95, 063402 \(2005\)](#), [Bostedt PRL 100, 133401](#)  
Theory [R. Santra, PRL 91, 233401 \(2003\)](#), [Siedschlag, Rost, PRL 93, 43402 \(2004\)](#), [Ziaja, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 205002 \(2009\)](#).

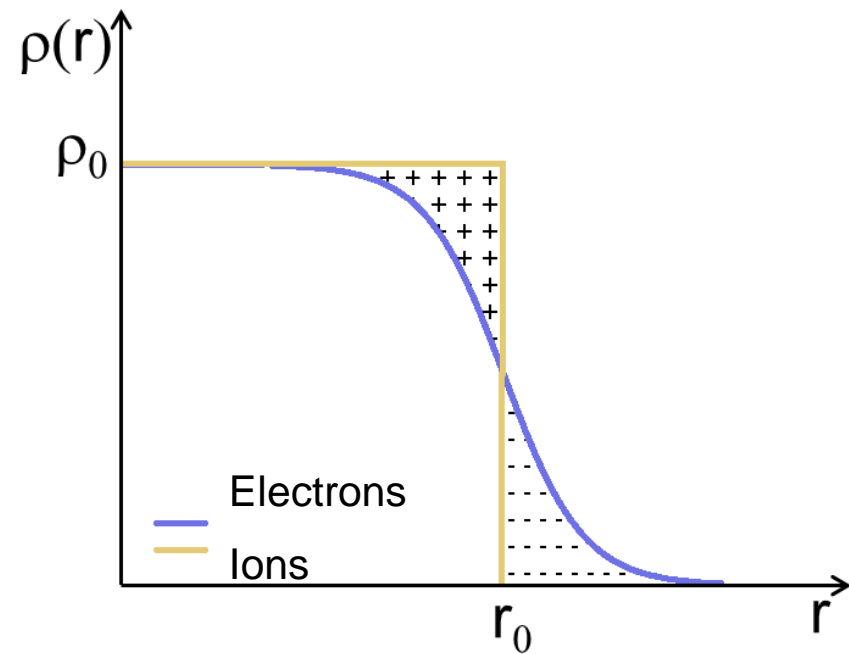
# Nanoplasma formation

What is a nanoplasma?



Questions:

- internal structure
- particle surface / expansion
- electron-ion recombination
- electron and ion dynamics, consequences for imaging?



# Outline

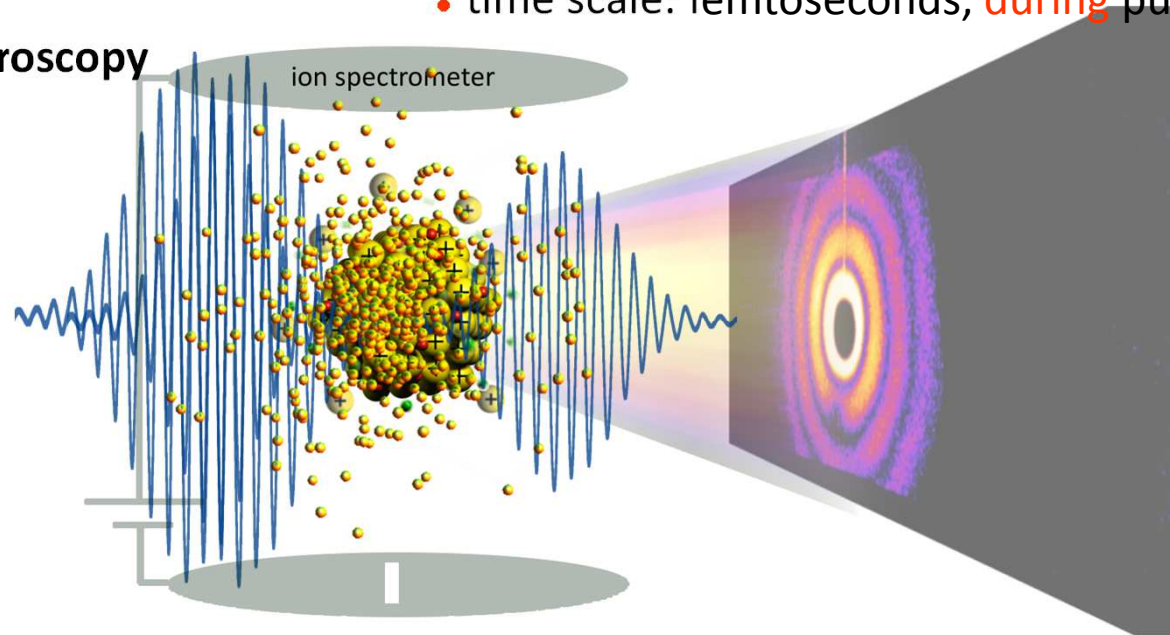
- How we got started: initial experiments at TTF-FEL
- Nanoplasma formation
  - Ar clusters, autoionization of He clusters
- Imaging with soft X-rays
  - Single clusters, spatial evolution of plasma, shape of metal clusters, in flight holography
- Time resolved studies
  - IR –X-ray Pump-probe Xe clusters
- New opportunities

# Method: Simultaneous imaging and spectroscopy

- Soft x-ray scattering**
- size and shape of the clusters
  - electronic configuration during interaction  
→ change of refractive index
  - time scale: femtoseconds, **during** pulse

## Ion and electron spectroscopy

- ionisation and recombination
- kinetic energies, expansion process
- time scale: fs up to hundreds of ps after the pulse



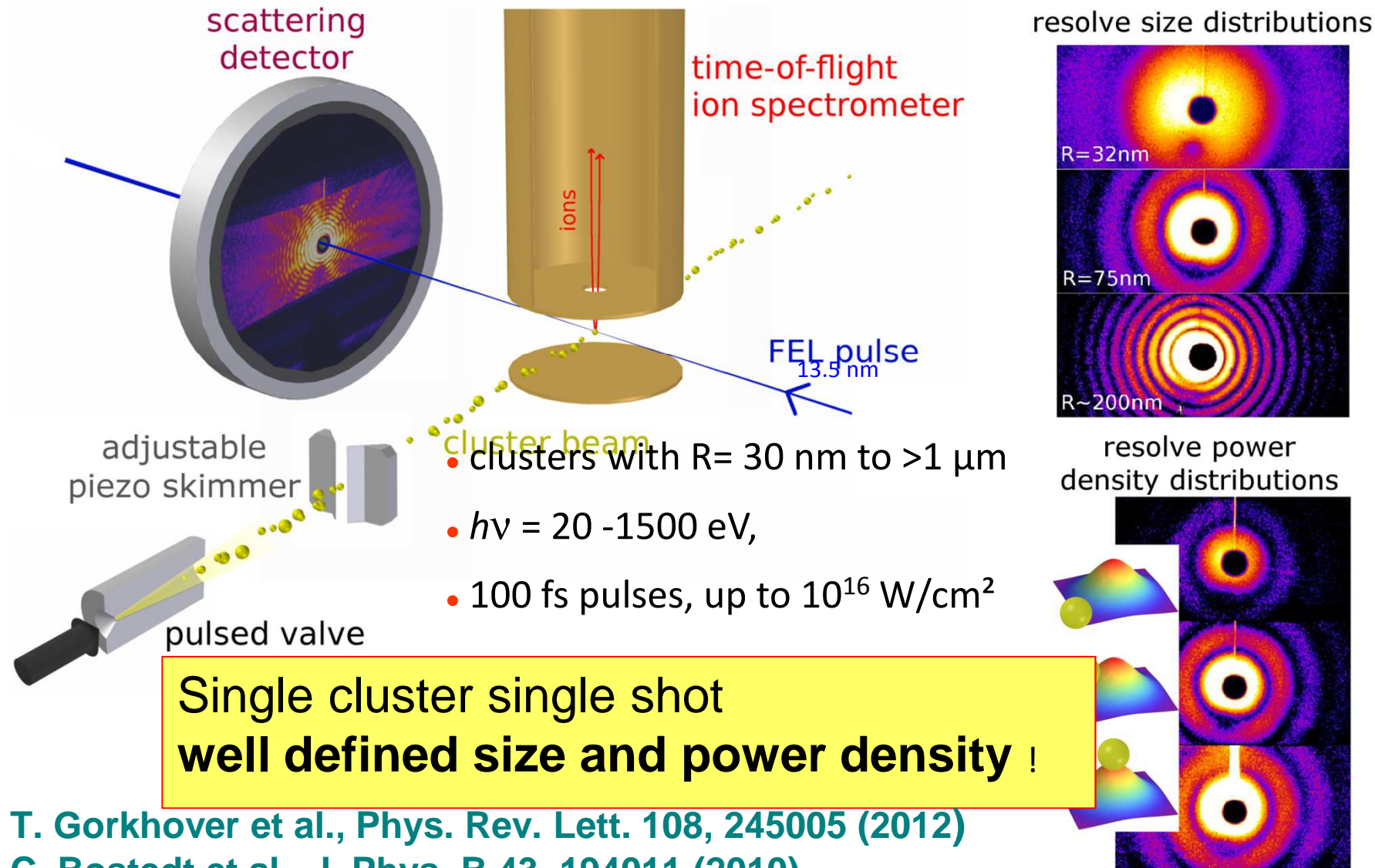
## Pump-probe techniques

- excite cluster with a pump pulse (NIR/XUV)
- probe explosion with a delayed XUV pulse
- time scale: resolve full range from sub-ps to ns

**Complementary methods looking into different timescales!**

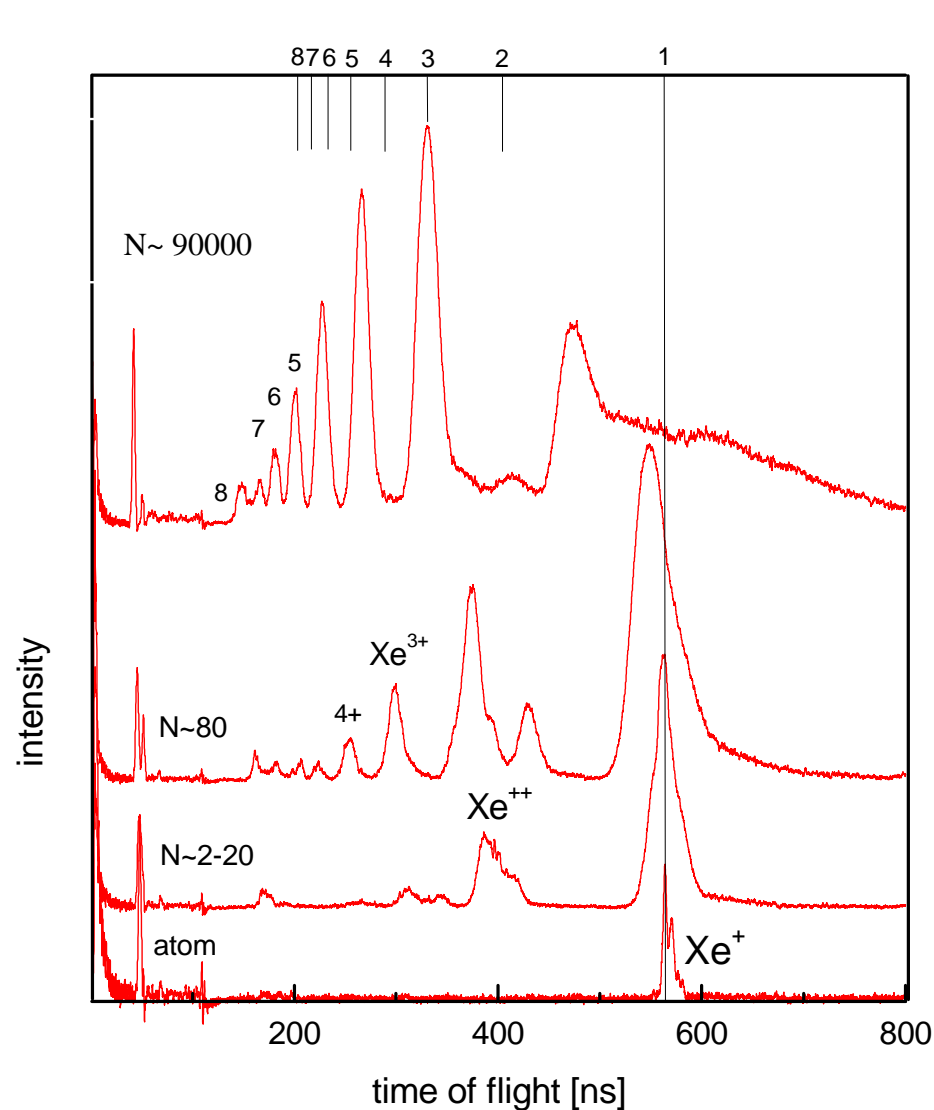


# Setup: Simultaneous imaging and ion spectroscopy: Single cluster intensity distribution: no averaging



T. Gorkhover et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 245005 (2012)  
C. Bostedt et al., J. Phys. B 43, 194011 (2010)

# First results from the TTF-FEL at DESY (98 nm): Ion spectra of Xenon atoms and clusters



$1 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ W/cm}^2$   $E_{\text{phot}} = 12.8 \text{ eV}$   
 $I_{p_{\text{Xe}}} = 12.1 \text{ eV}$

H. Wabnitz et al,  
 Nature 420, 482(2002)

- multiply charged ions from clusters, keV energy
- singly charged atoms
- detailed theoretical work to explain the enhanced absorption

plasmabsorption (IB)  
 ionisation continuum lowering

R. Santra, Ch. H. Green PRL 91, 233401 (2003),

C. Siedschlag, J. M. Rost, PRL 93, 43402 (2004)

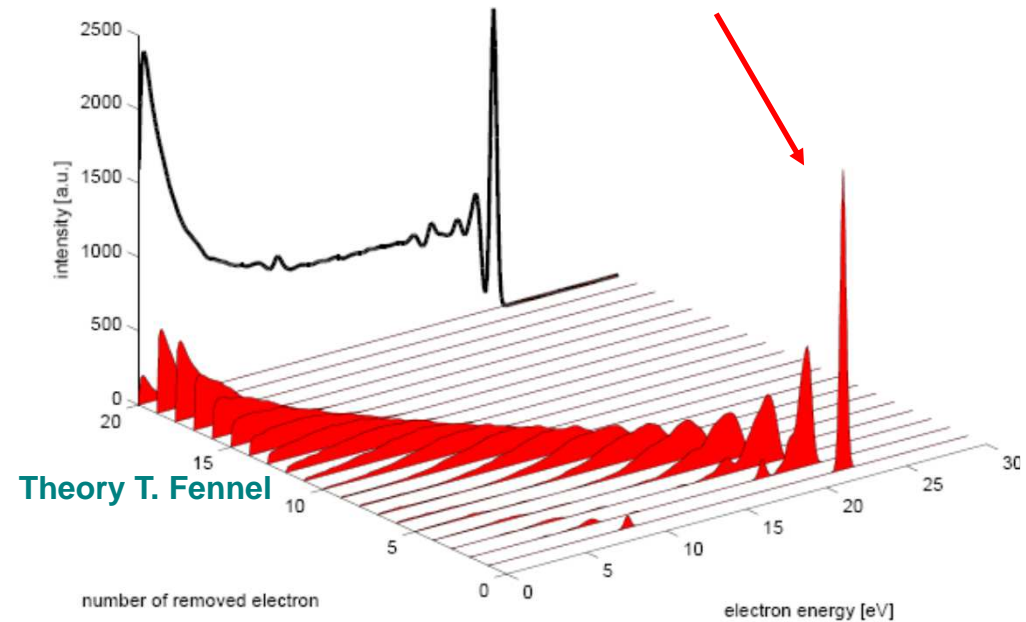
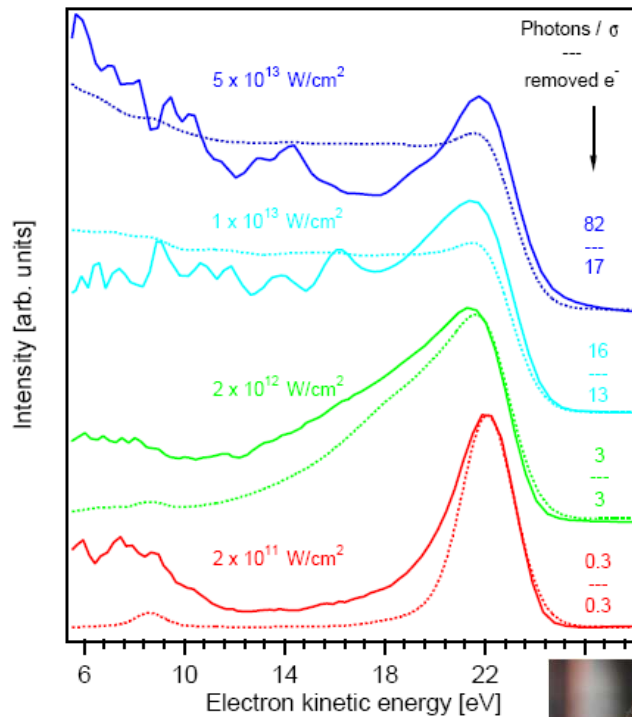
B. Ziaja et. al PRL 102, 205002 (2009).

# Cluster ionisation and nanoplasma formation: Electron spectra of Ar clusters:

- experiment
- theory

**Ar<sub>150</sub> clusters, 38 eV,  
a few 10<sup>11</sup> ~ 10<sup>14</sup> W/cm<sup>2</sup>**

First electron



Theory T. Fennel

**sequential emission of electrons**

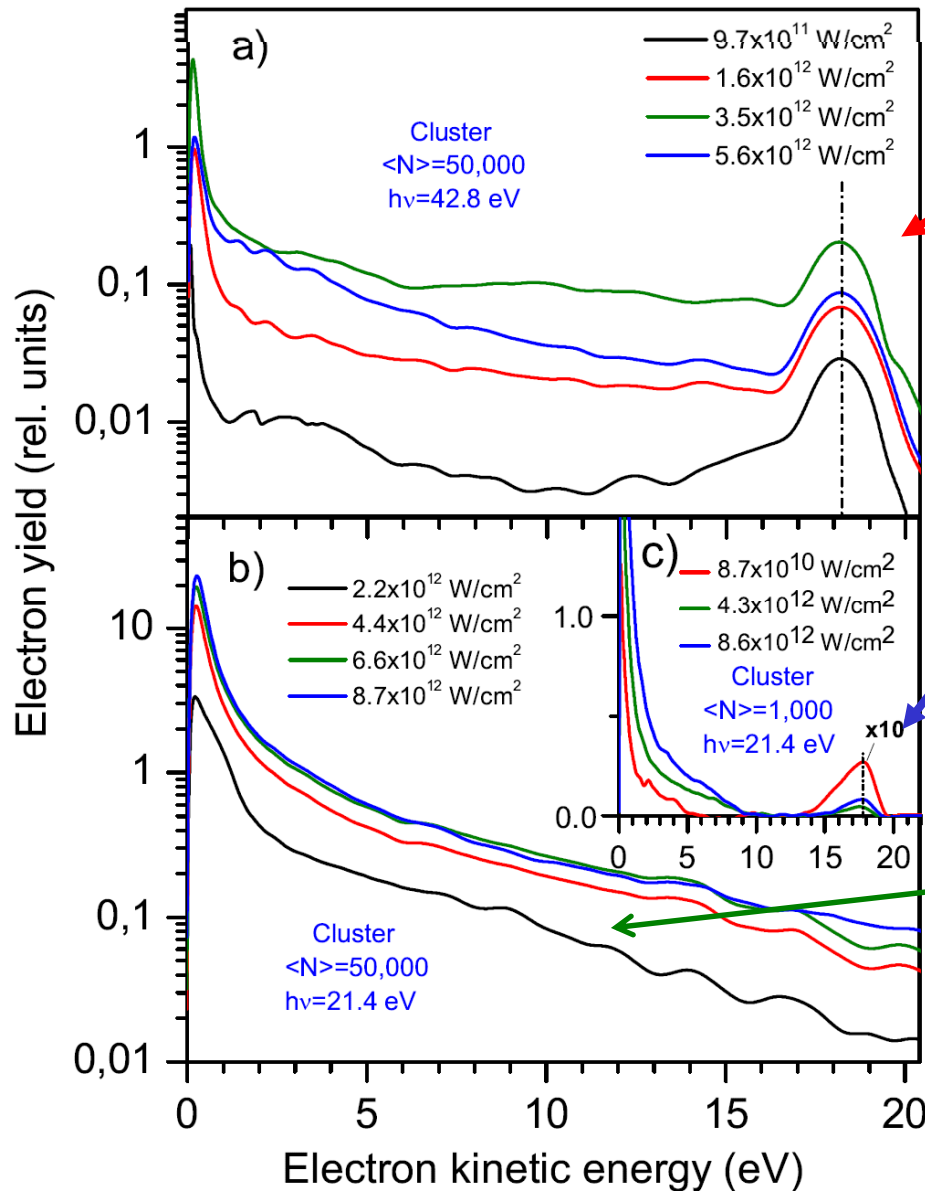
**only a small percentage of generated photoelectrons can leave the cluster**

→ **nanoplasma**

C. Bostedt et al.  
Phys. Rev. Letters 100,  
133401 (2008)



# Ionisation below and above $I_p$ : Electron spectra of He clusters



FERMI

Direct photo emission  
42.8 eV (2x 21.4 eV)

ICD,  $1s \rightarrow 2p$ , 21.4 eV

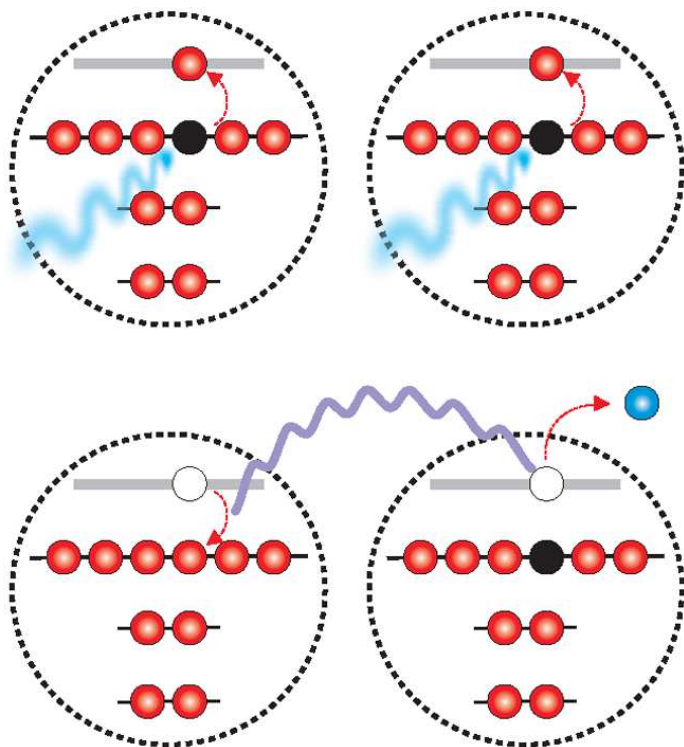
Collective  
autoionisation



Y. Ovcharenko et al.  
PRL 112, 073401 (2014)

# ICD type Autoionisation

Proposed for Ne clusters

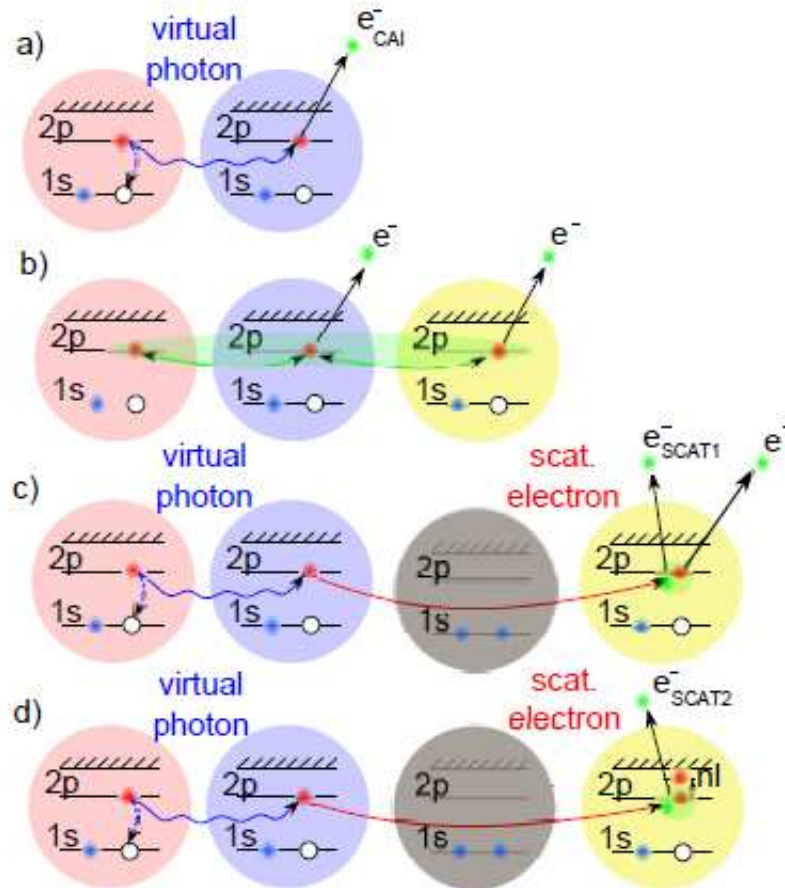


A. Kuleff et. al.

Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 043004 (2010)

- With intense light sources, multiple atoms in the cluster can be excited,  $2p \rightarrow 3s$
- ICD between neighboring atoms leads to ionization of one of the atoms
- Ionization rate through ICD sequential one photon absorption (linear process)  $\gg$  2 photon ionization (nonlinear)

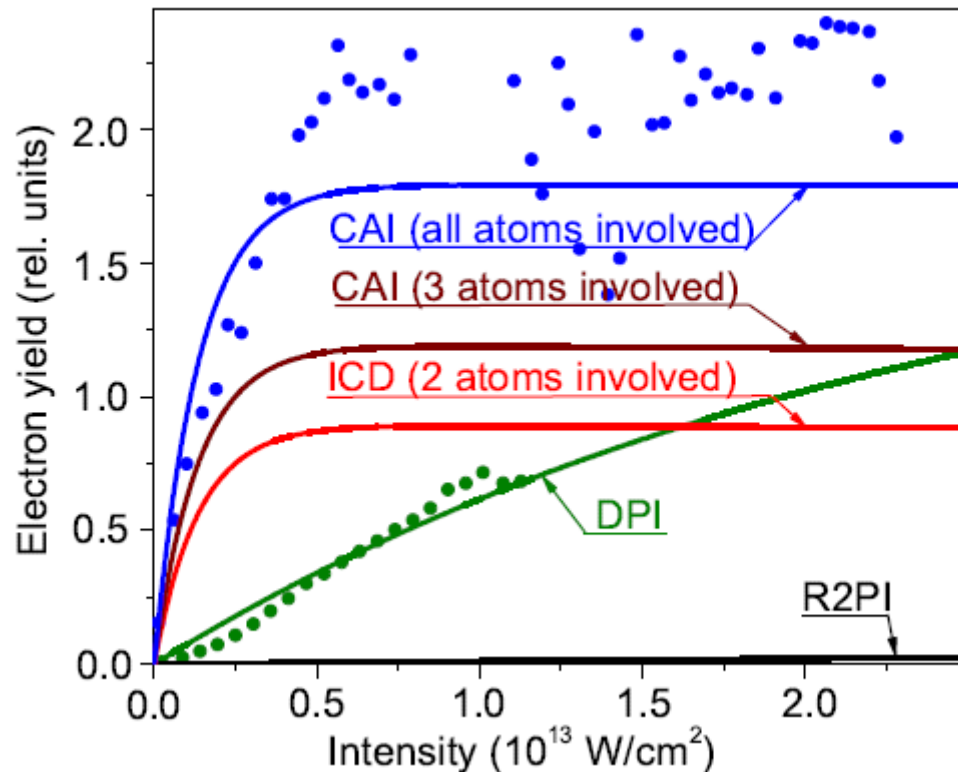
# Different autoionisation processes



Inelastic collision between electrons and excited atoms

- A new type of nanoplasma is formed
- Many excited atoms are involved at the same time

# Collective autoionization extremely efficient



- electron yield linear at 'low' power density
- saturation at high power density

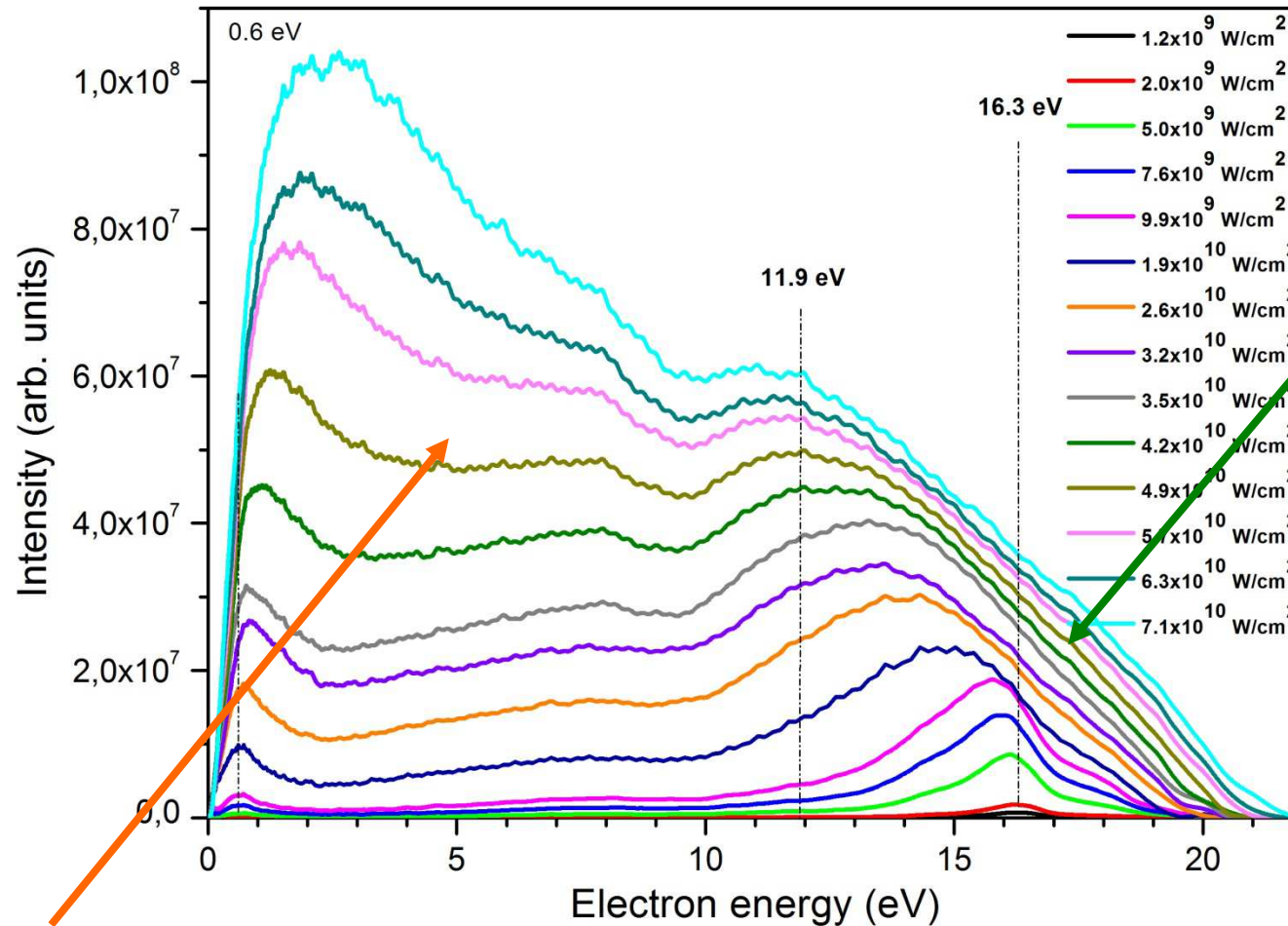
A. LaForge et al.  
Scientific Reports 4, 3621 (2014)

Y. Ovcharenko et al.  
PRL 112, 073401 (2014)

- much more efficient than **direct** photoemission at least two photon process

# Transition from ICD type to collective autoionization

He cluster N= 50000



ICD,  
two atoms  
Next to each  
other, isolated

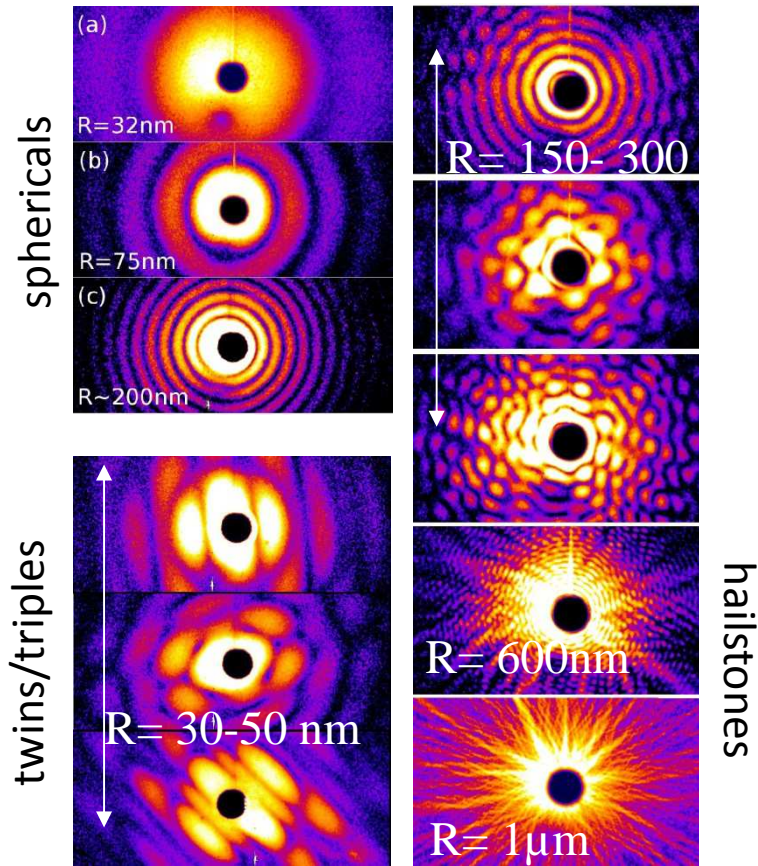
Time scale  
sub fs?

He 1s > 2p, collective autoionisation,  
network, plasma

Y. Ovcharenko, M. Mudrich, A. LaForge,  
et al. in preparation

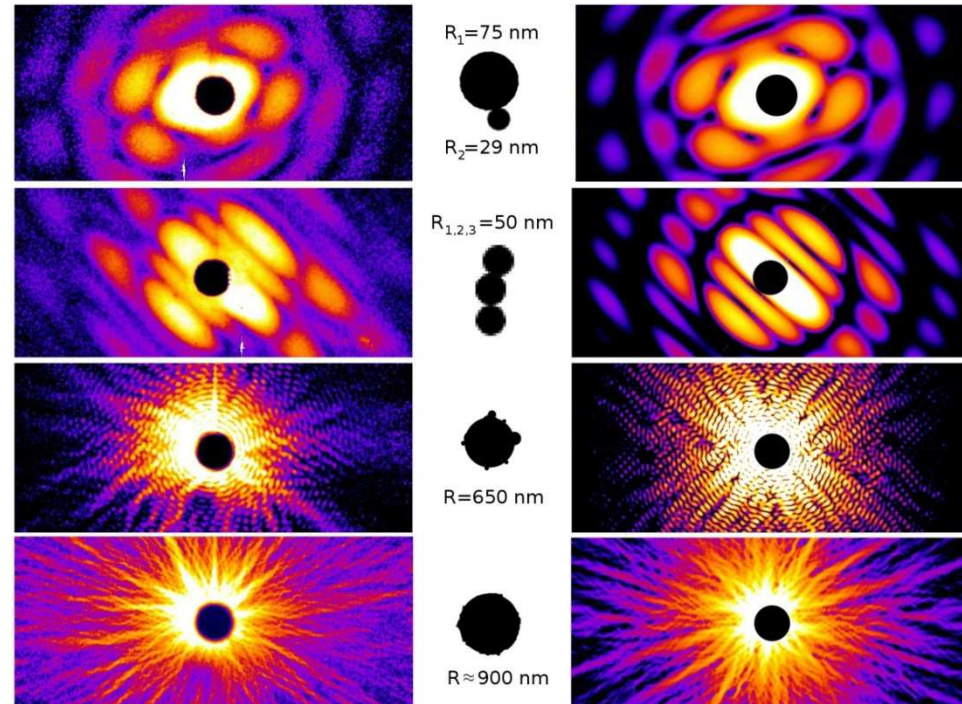


# Morphology of large xenon clusters

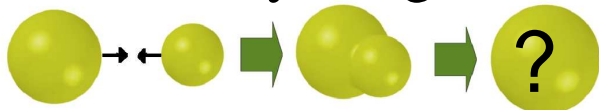


Experimental pattern  
2D-Fourier transformation

2D-projection



Growth by coagulation



D.Rupp et. al, J. Pys.B 43,194011(2010).  
JCP 141, 044306 (2014)

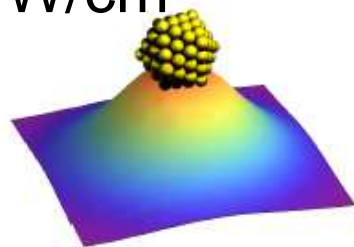
- Direct imaging of growth by coagulation
- Non-spherical shapes freeze out (“hailstones”)

# Single cluster intensity distribution: no averaging

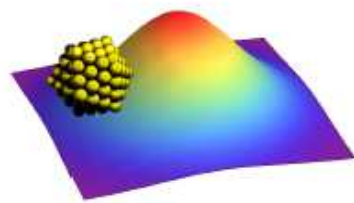
Focal density distribution

Hit in focus

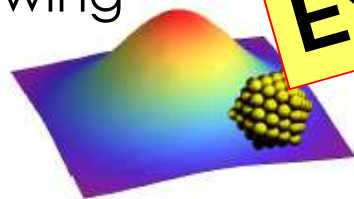
$10^{14} \text{ W/cm}^2$



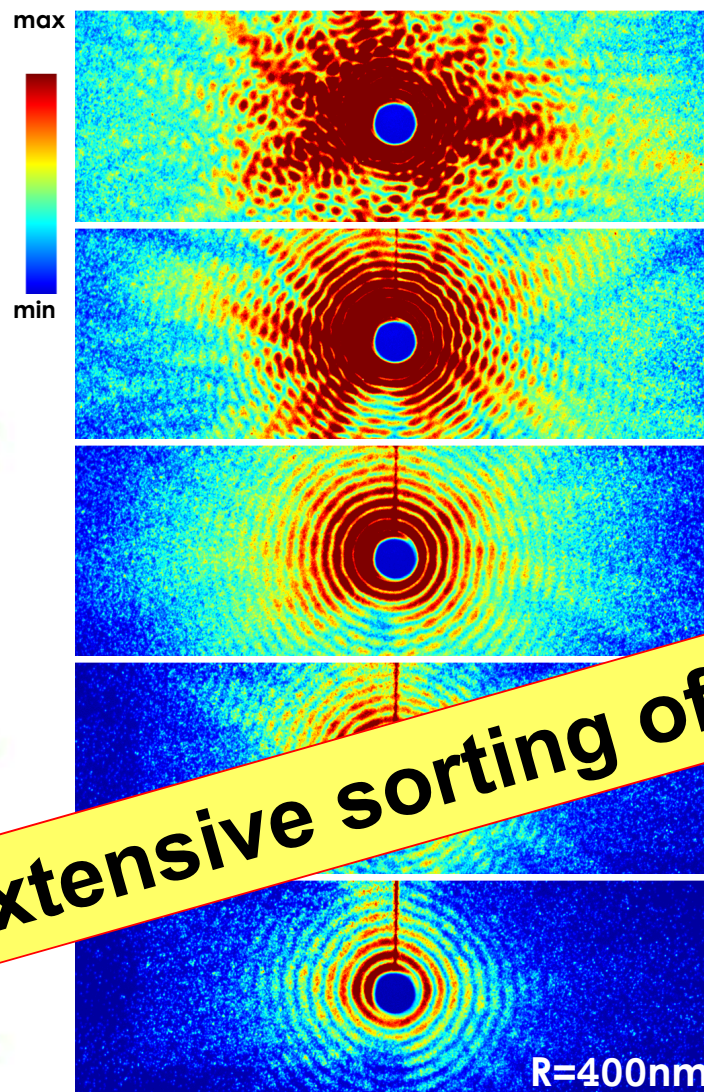
Hit in side



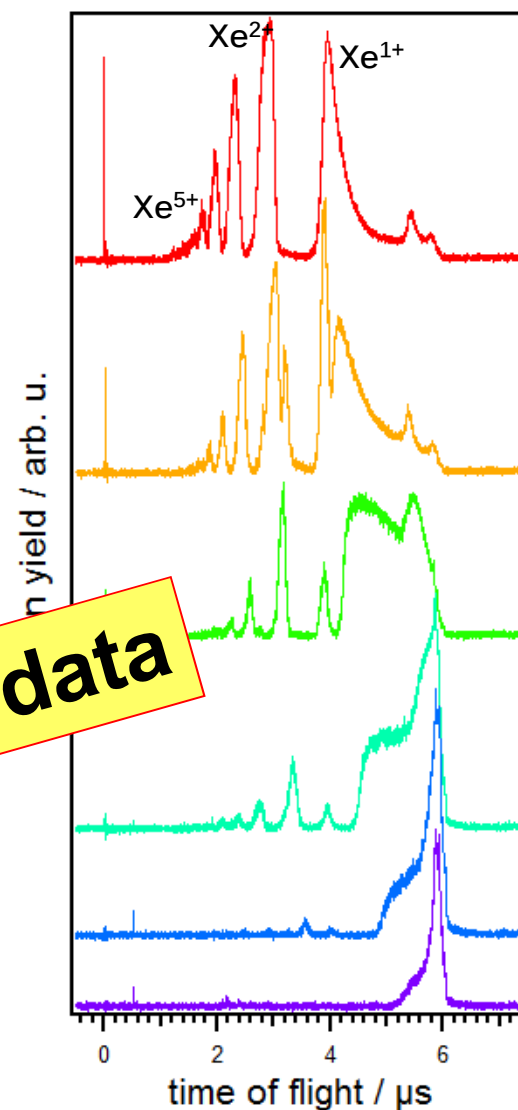
Hit in wing



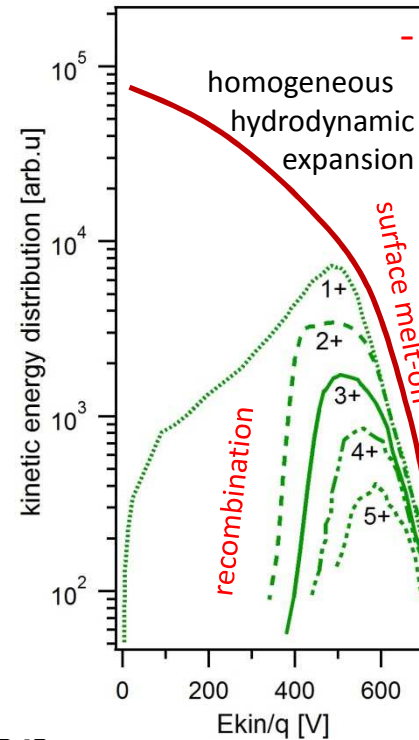
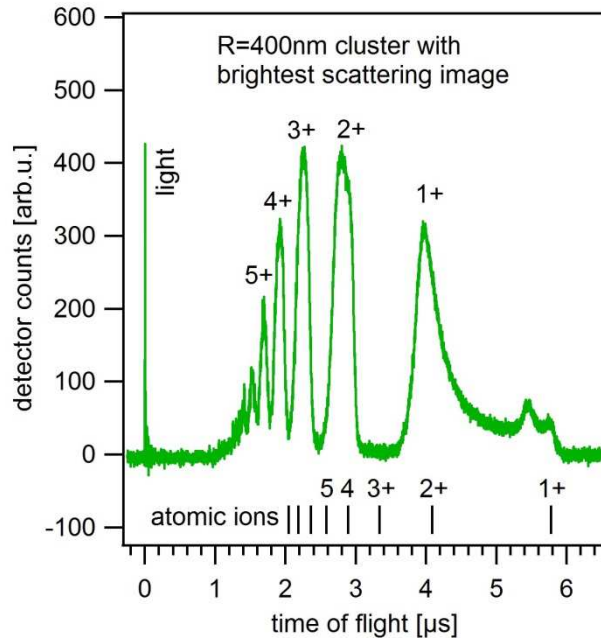
$5 \times 10^{12} \text{ W/cm}^2$



**Extensive sorting of data**

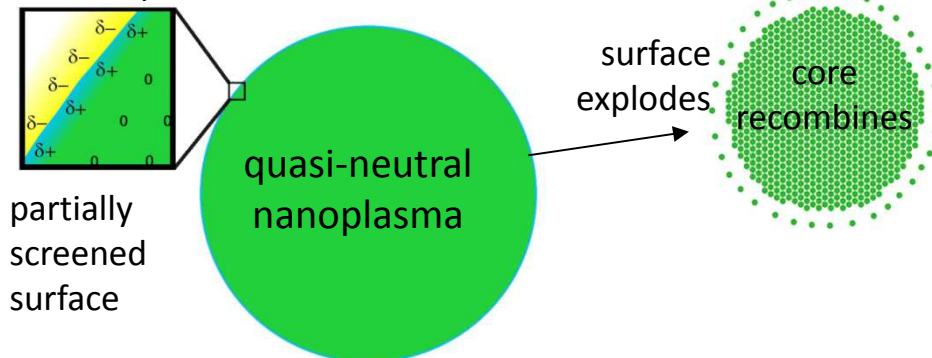


# Single cluster ion spectra: Signatures of strong recombination



Very sharp lines;  
narrow kinetic energy distribution

electron spill out

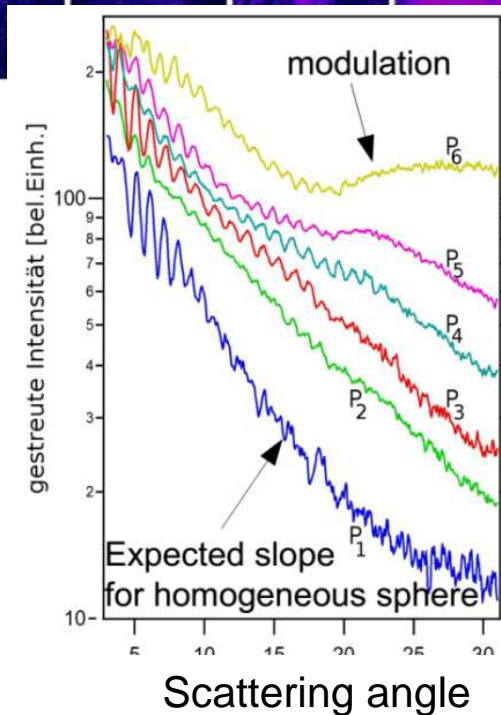
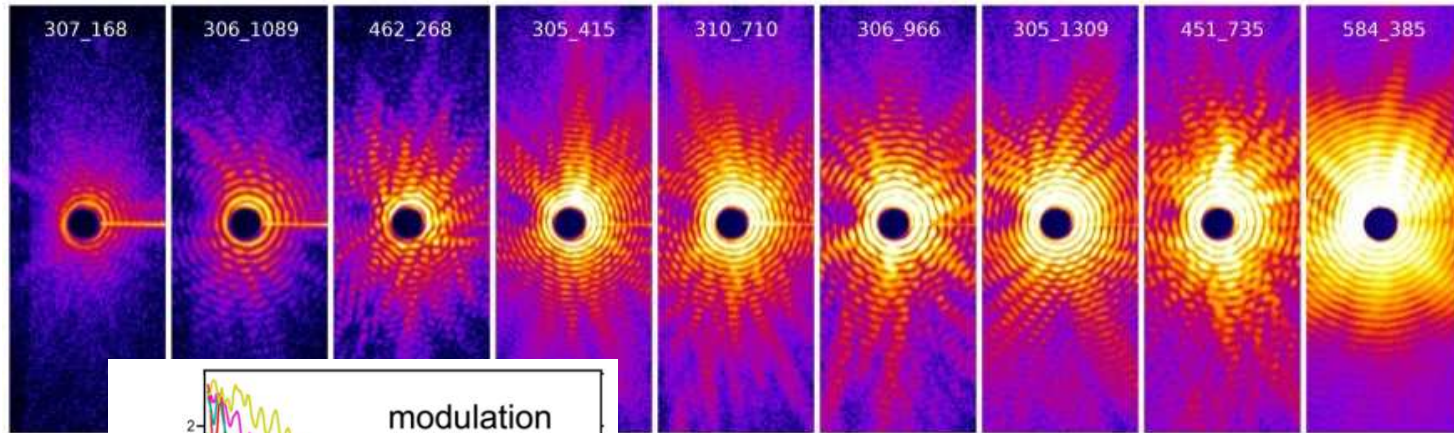
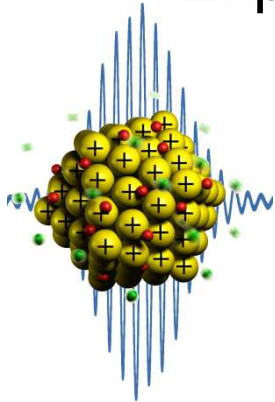


D. Rupp



# Single cluster scattering patterns

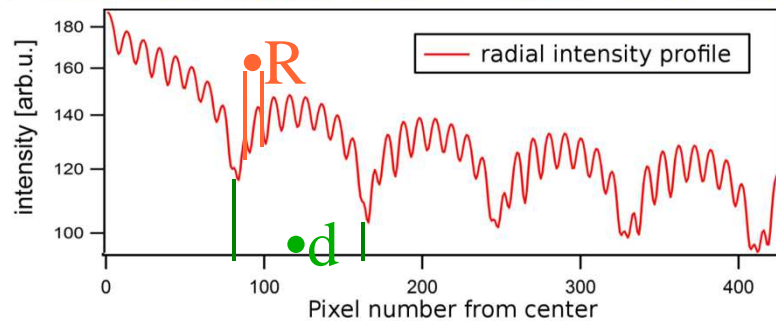
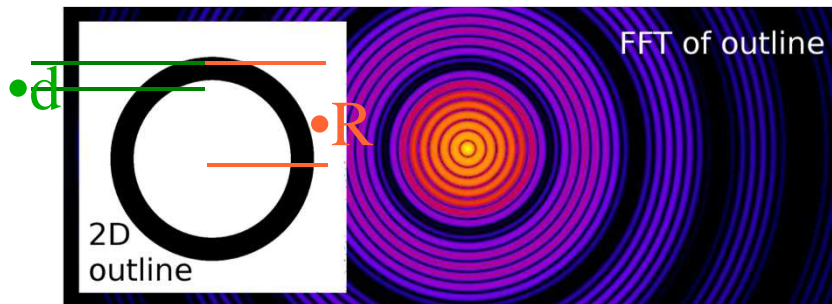
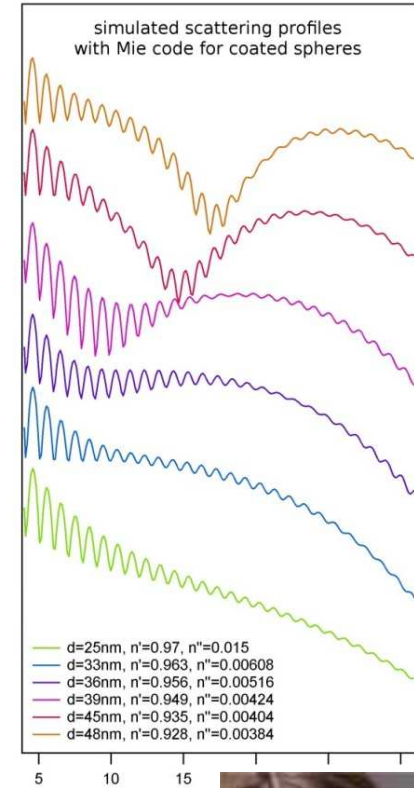
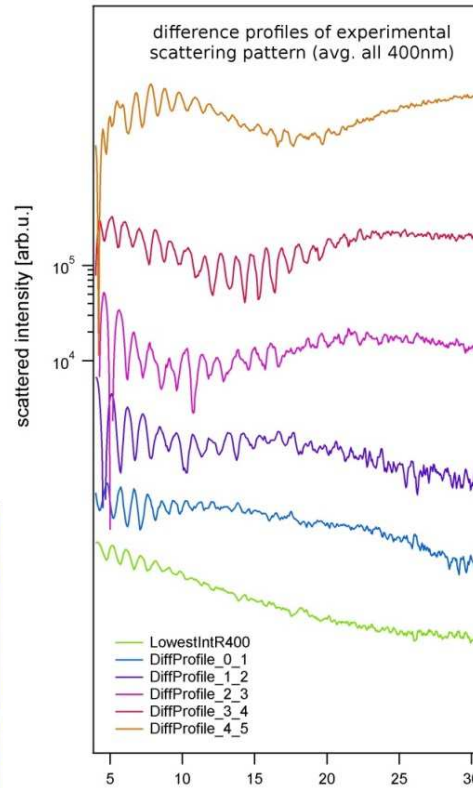
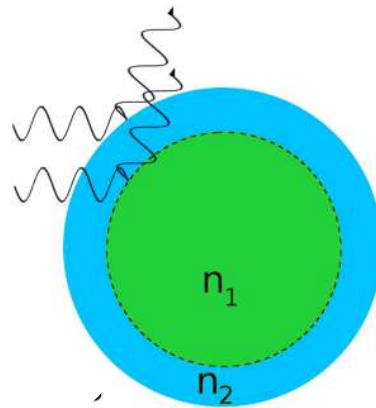
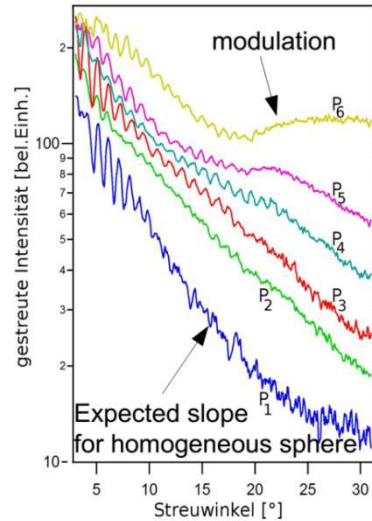
- Exposure power density (Intensity at position of the cluster)



400 nm radius

- Ultrafast electronic changes during the 100 fs light pulse

# Nanoplama-shell with different refractive index



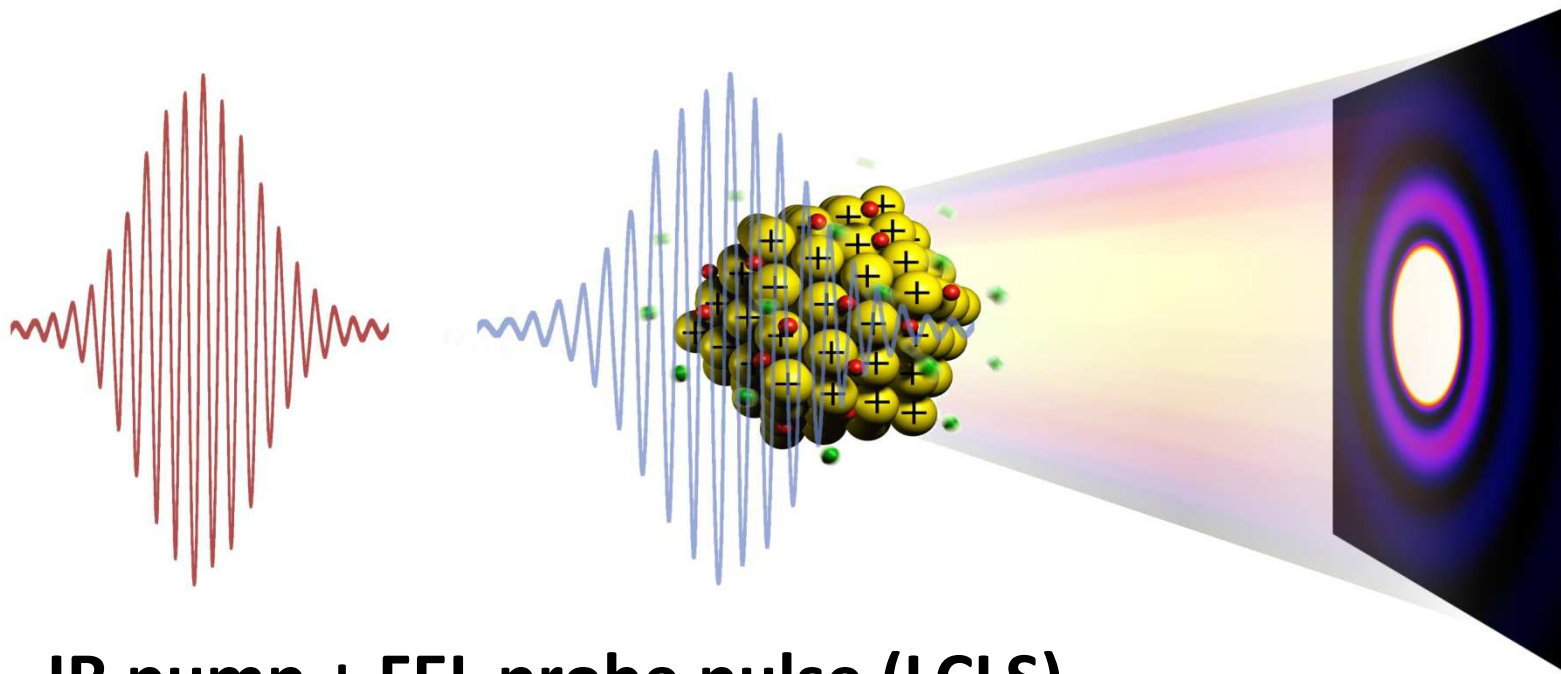
From bottom to top:  
 Weakly absorbing outer shell  
 Increasing thickness 25-50nm  
 Decreasing real part of the refractive index



D. Rupp PhD thesis

# Time resolved imaging of exploding clusters

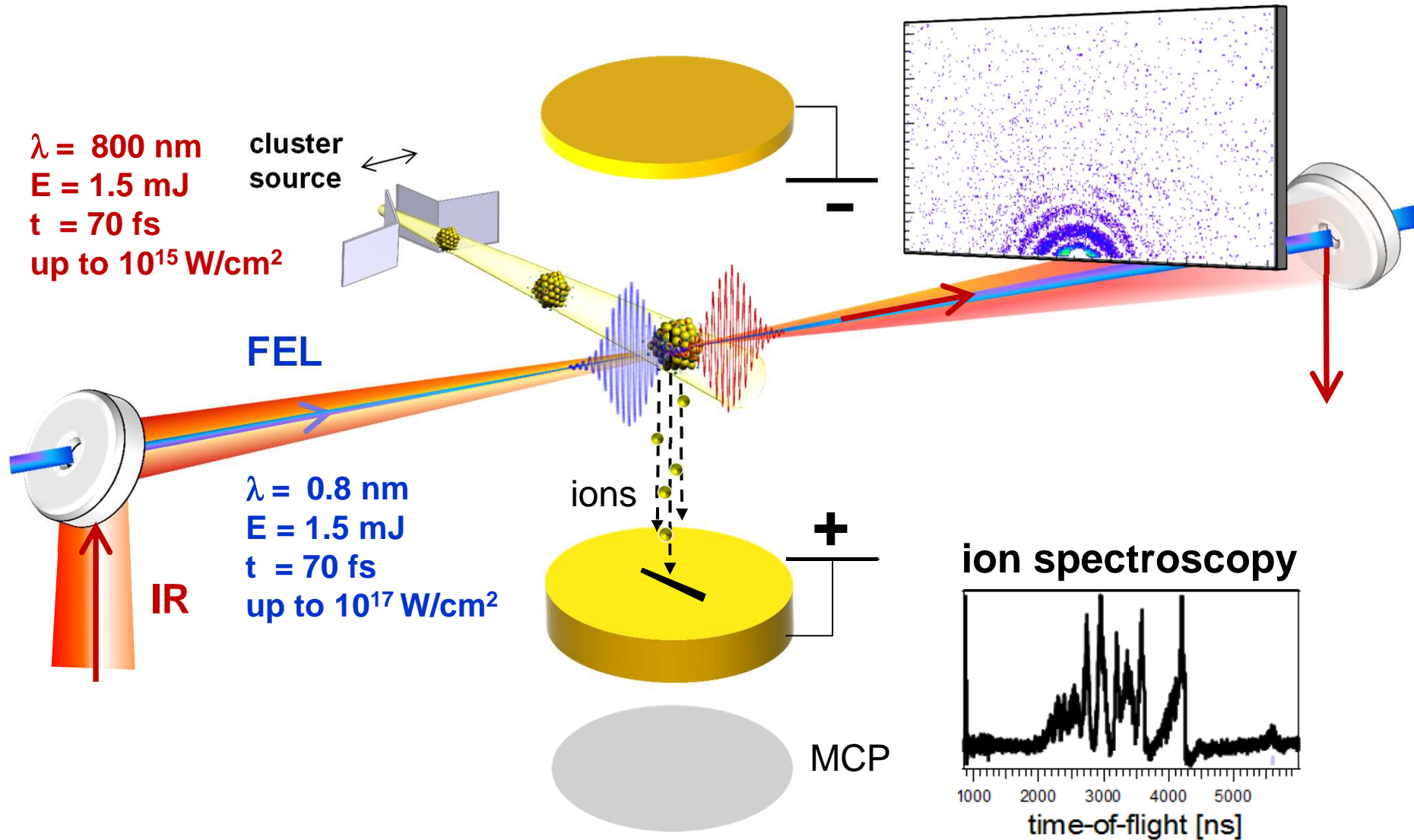
Scattering sensitive to both, changes in electronic and geometric structure



**IR pump + FEL probe pulse (LCLS),**

**CAMP** L. Strüder et al. Nucl. Instr. Meth. A 610, 483 (2010)

# Experimental setup in CAMP

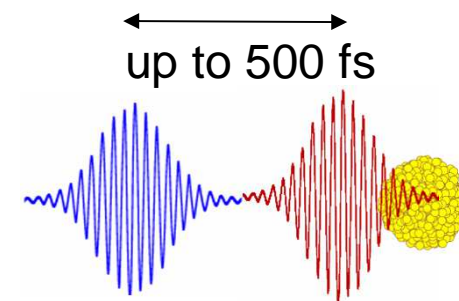
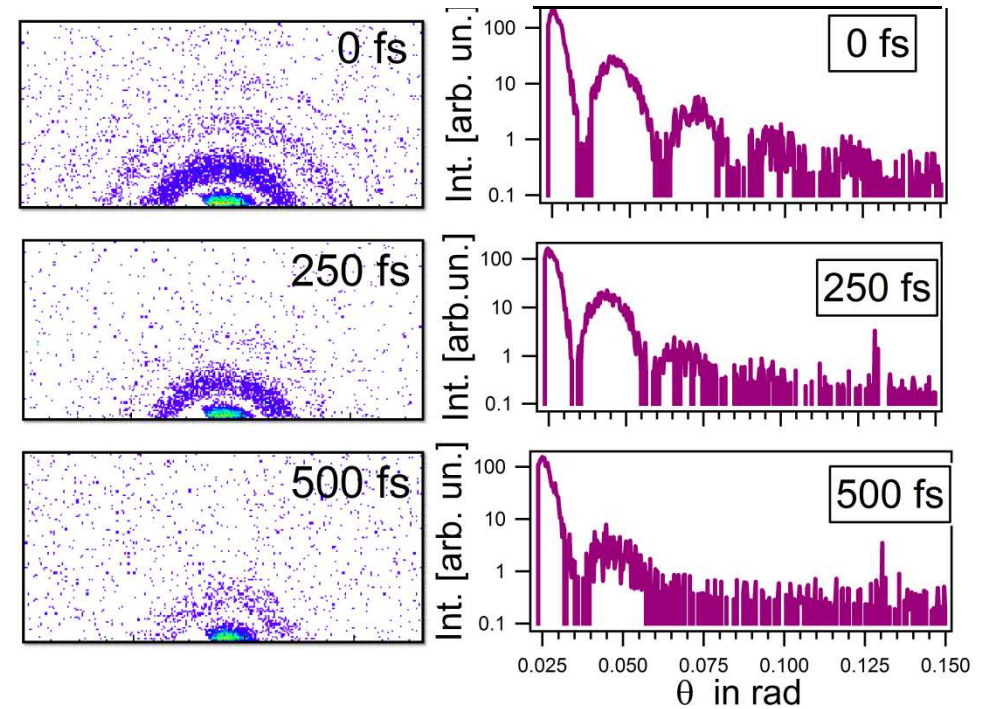
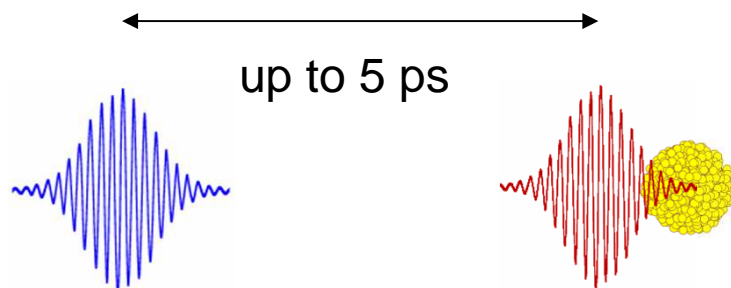
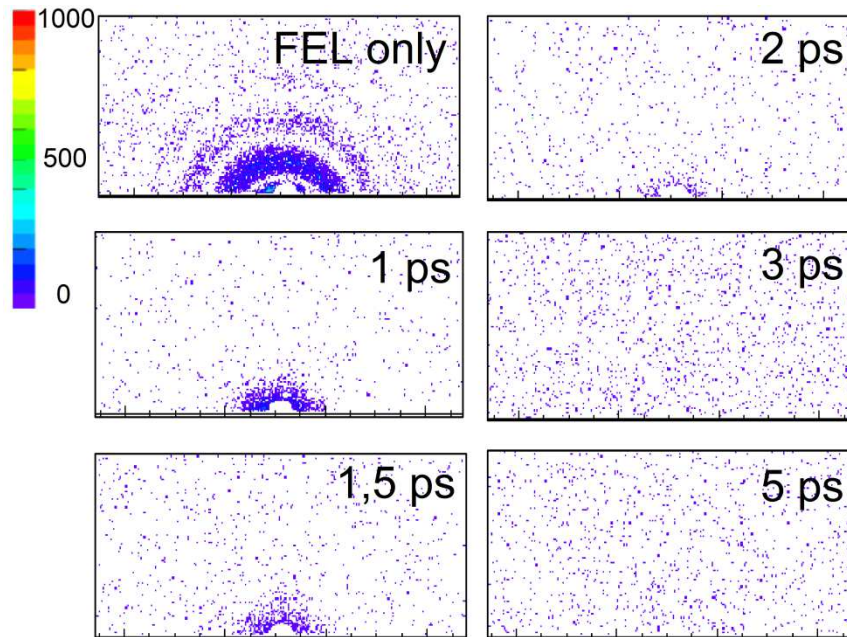


X-ray only: T. Gorkhover et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 108, 245005 (2012)  
S. Schorb, T. Gorkhover, et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 100, 121107 (2012)

# Delay dependent X-ray diffraction

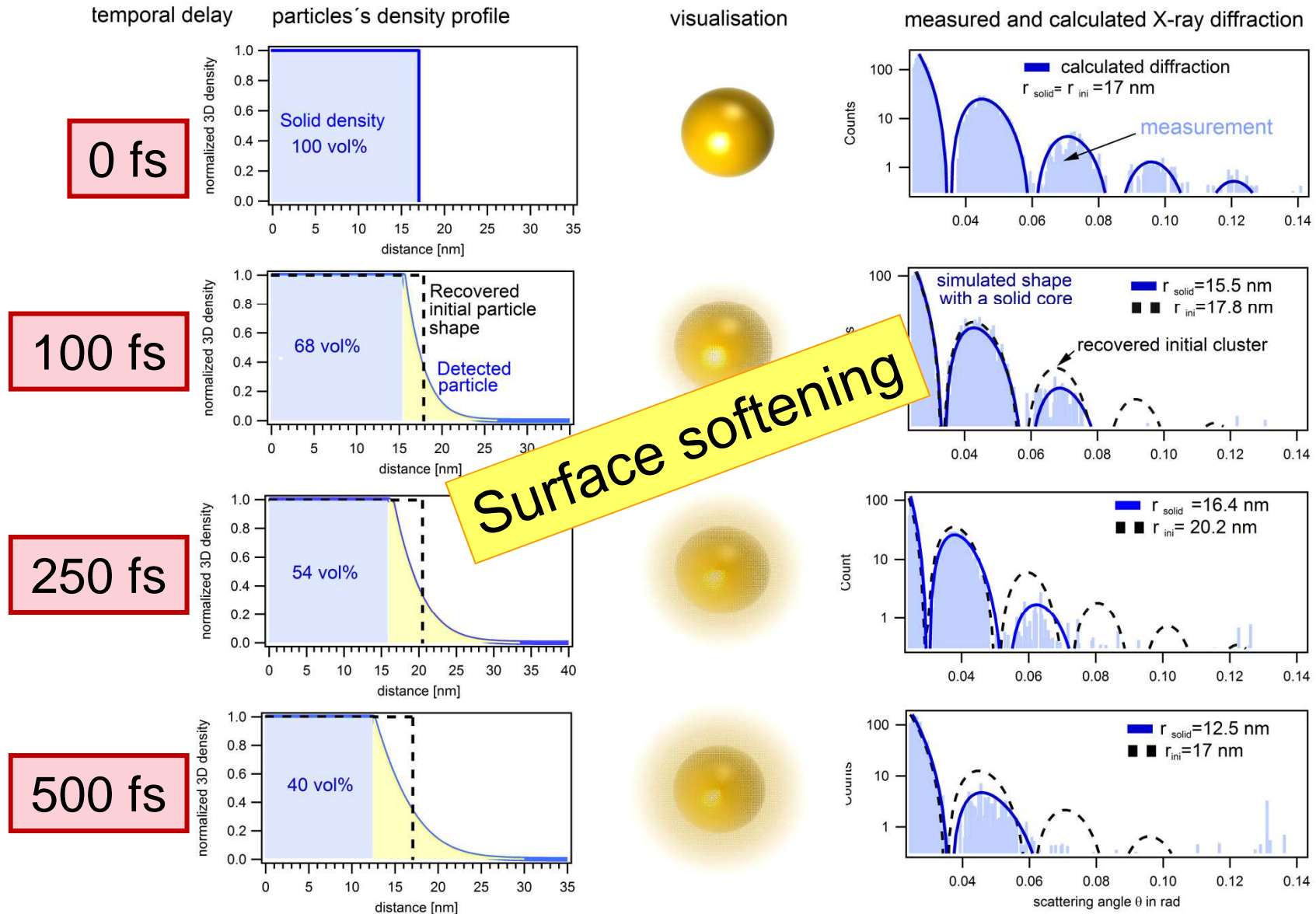
Xe clusters 20 nm radius  
X-ray pulse 1.5 mJ, 1.5 nm

T.Gorkhover, PhD. thesis,





# Comparison with simulation



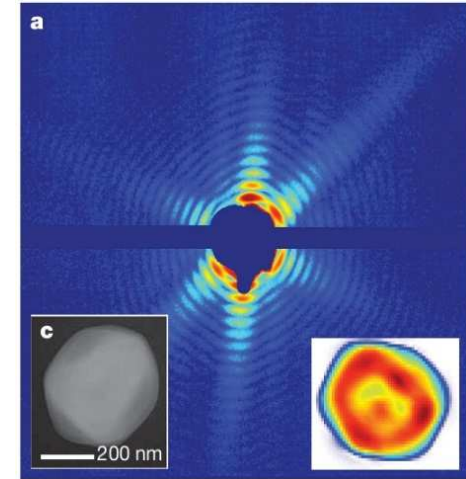
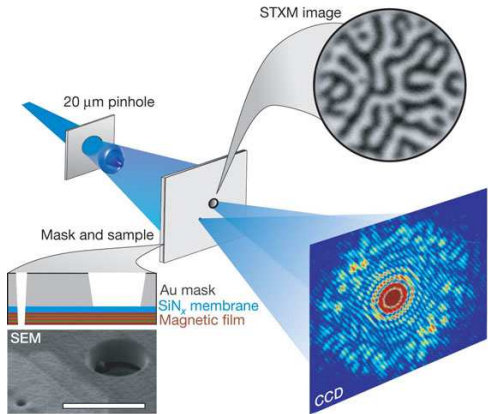
# New imaging approaches

Holography: overcoming the phase problem

# „In-flight“ holography

Tais Gorkhover, C. Bostedt et al

## High resolution imaging of single gas phase nanoparticles



Eisebitt, S., et al., Nature **432**, 885 (2004)

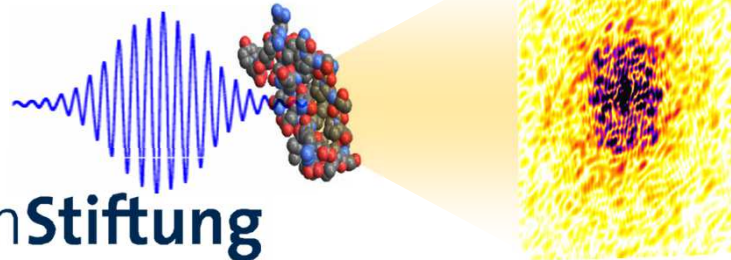
Geilhufe, J. et al., Nature Communications **5**, 3008 (2014)

M. M. Seibert et al., Nature **470**, 78 (2011)

## X-ray Fourier holography

## Single nanoparticle imaging

??????



T. Gorkhover



Volkswagen **Stiftung**

# X-ray Fourier holography

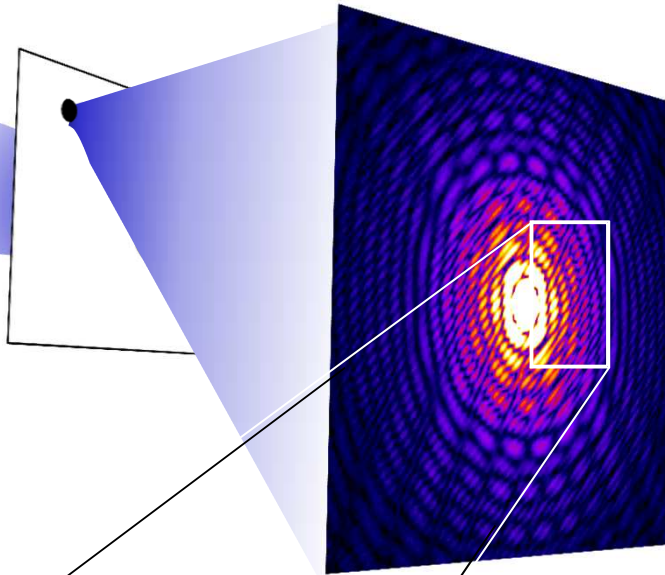
reference



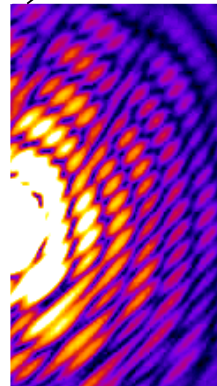
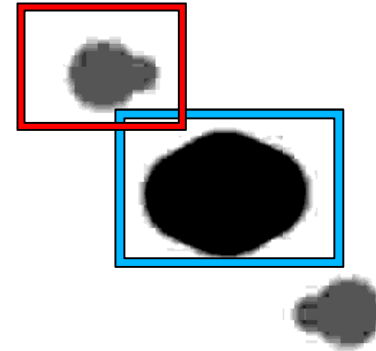
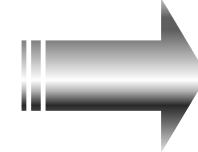
sample

X-rays

diffraction pattern



Inverse FFT



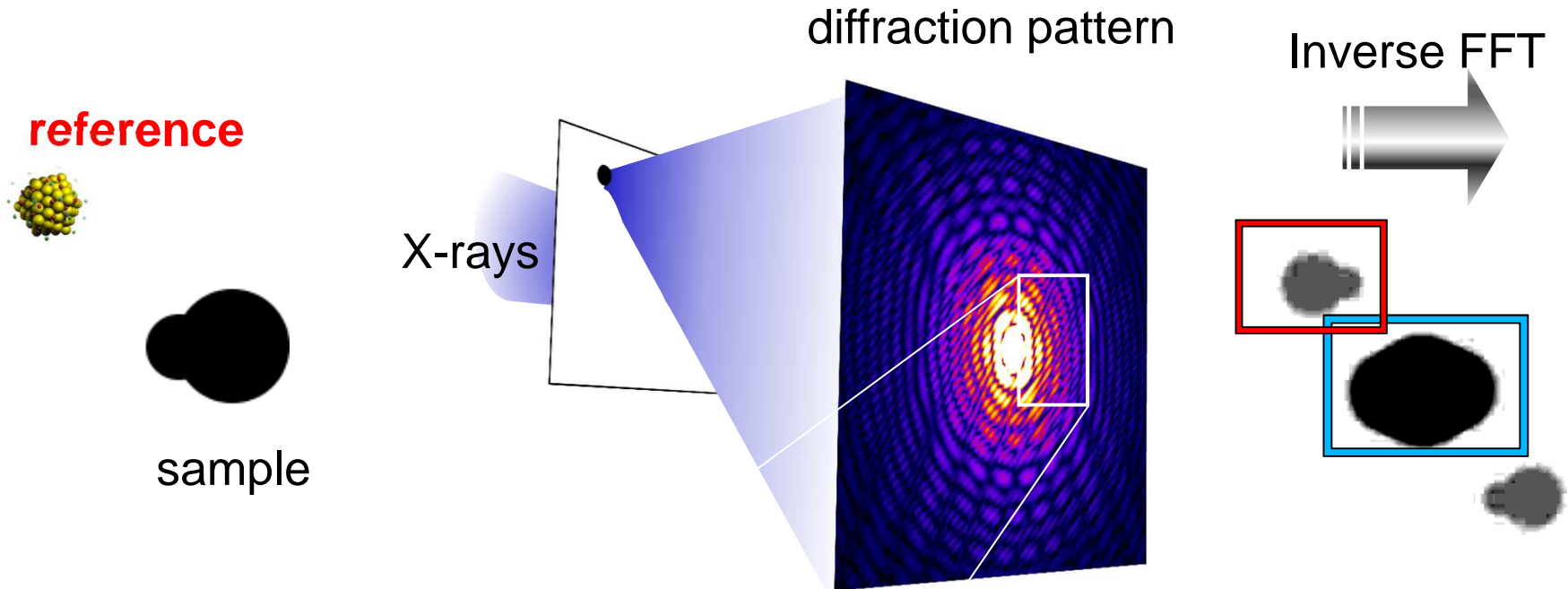
measured  $I_H(x, y)$

$$= |\psi_s(x, y) + \psi_r(x, y)|^2$$

$$= |\psi_s(x, y)|^2 + |\psi_r(x, y)|^2$$

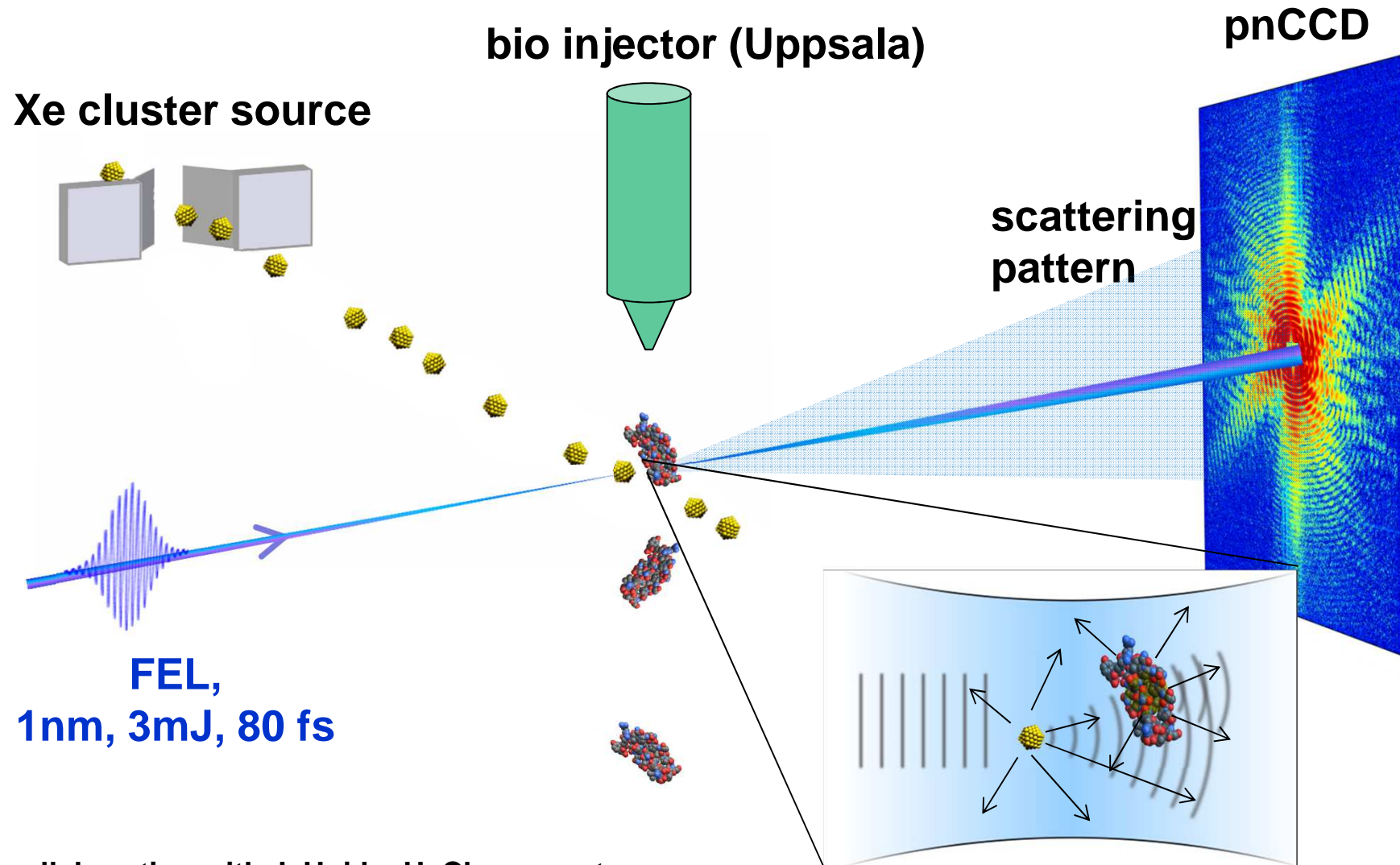
$$+ \psi_s^*(x, y)\psi_r(x, y) + \psi_s(x, y)\psi_r^*(x, y)$$

# „In-flight“ X-ray Fourier holography



Gas phase single particle holography:  
instead of a fixed mask, use randomly injected Xe clusters

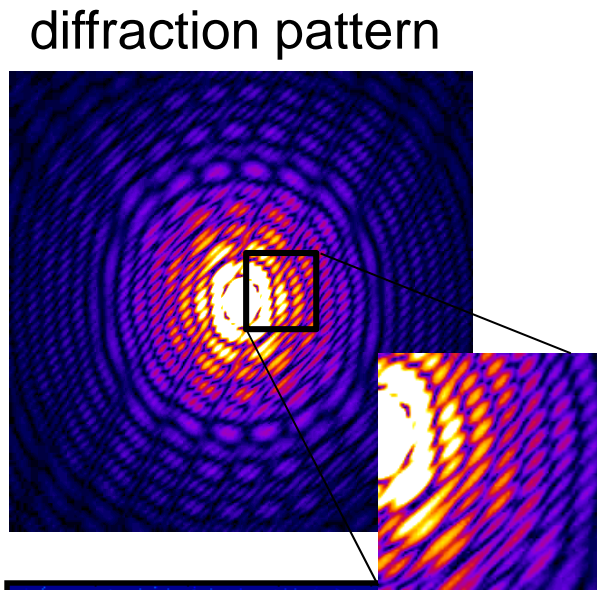
# Experimental setup in LAMP



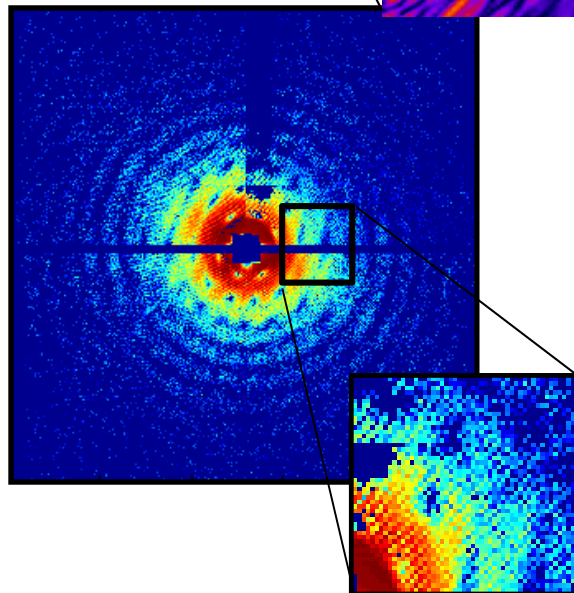
collaboration with J. Hajdu, H. Chapman teams

# Holograms of twin particles

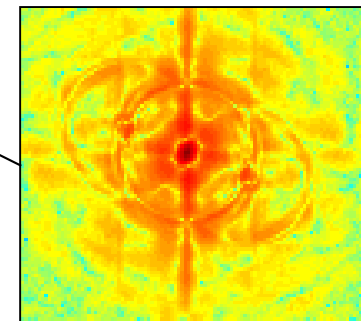
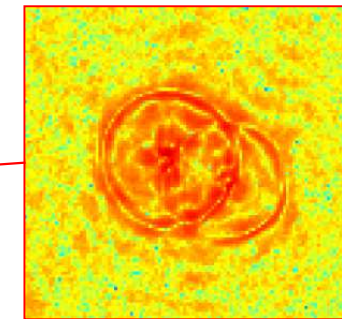
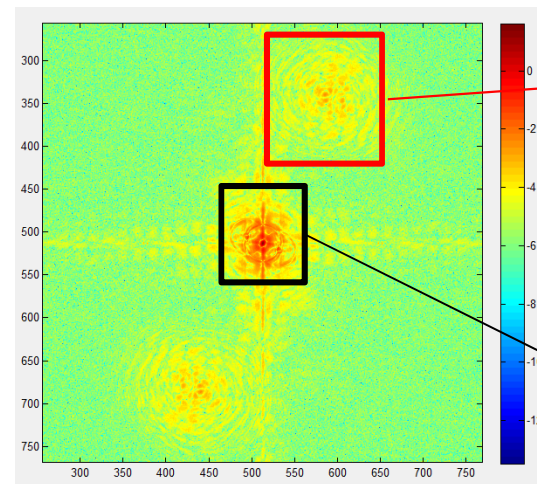
simulation



experiment

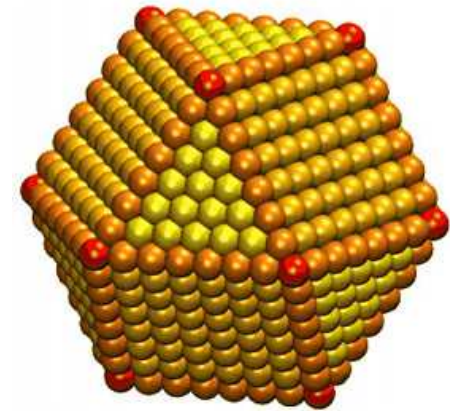


inverse 2D FFT



# Imaging of metal clusters

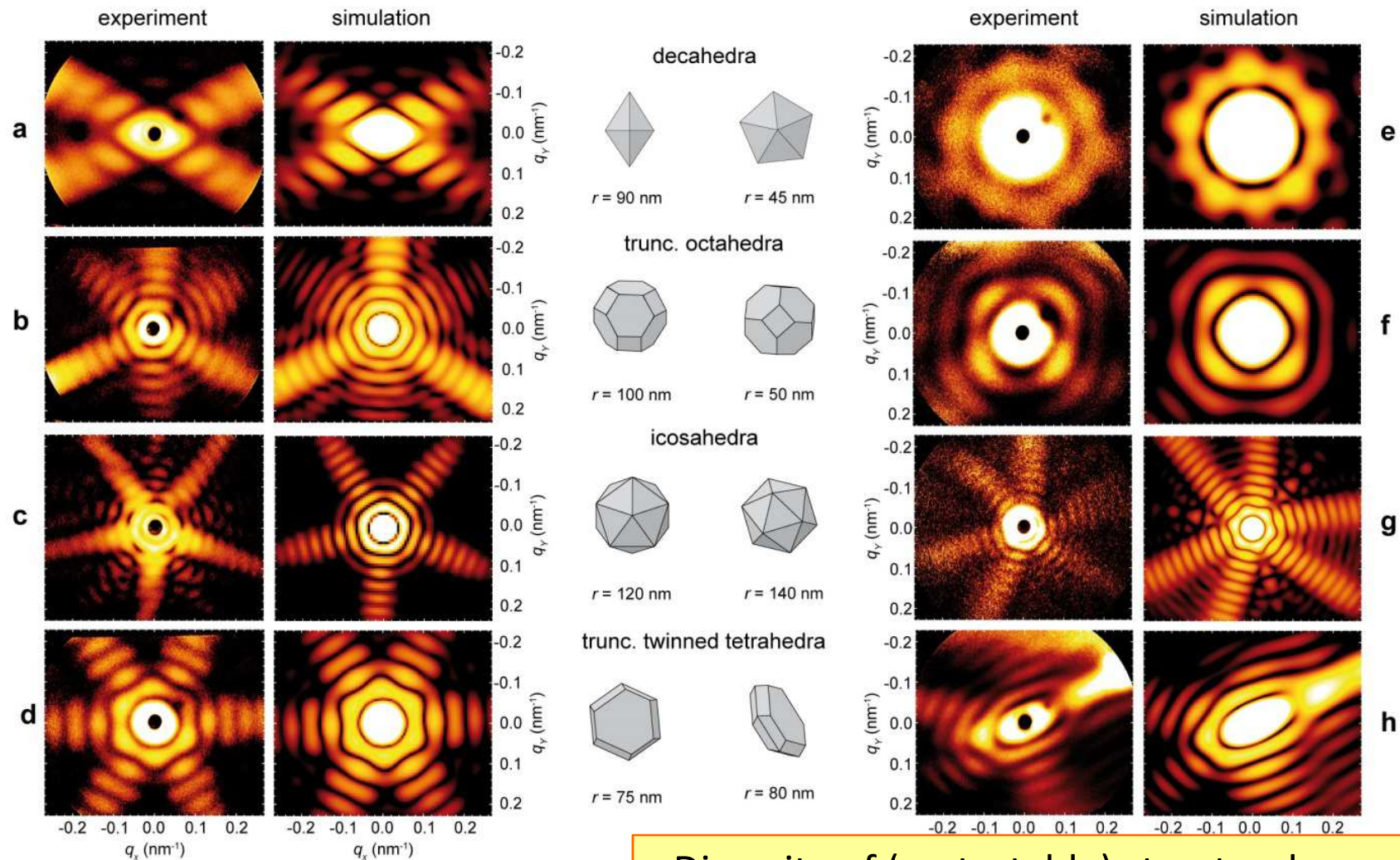
- Nanoplasma effects ?
- Regular shape, non-equilibrium structures ?



W.Zhu et al,  
*JACS* **2013** 135 (45), 16833



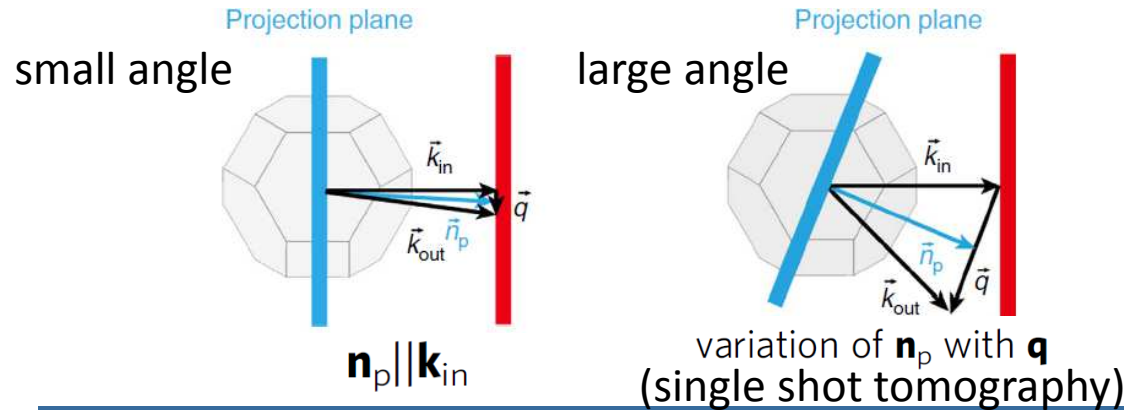
# Morphology of large gas-phase silver clusters



I. Barke, et. al, *Nature Communications* 7187 (2015)  
 collaboration with Rostock

- Diversity of (metastable) structural motives
- 3D information in a single-shot image

# Key to 3D sensitivity: large angle scattering



$$I(\mathbf{q}) \propto \left| \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) e^{i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r}} d^3r \right|^2$$

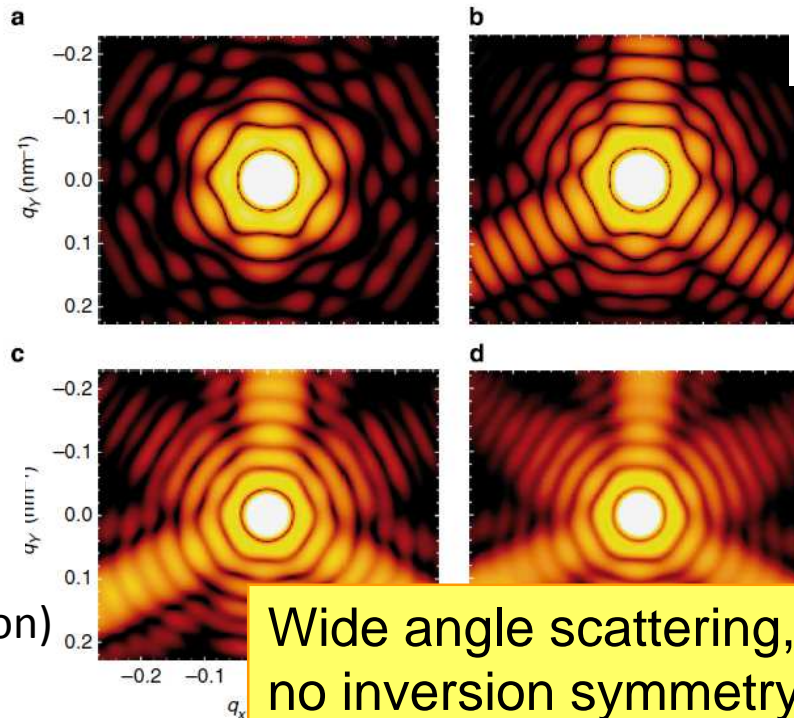
$$\mathbf{n}_p = \mathbf{k}_{in} + \mathbf{q}/2$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}_\perp) = \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) dr_{\parallel}$$

$$I(\mathbf{q}) \propto \left| \rho(\mathbf{r}_\perp) e^{i\mathbf{q}\mathbf{r}_\perp} d^2r_\perp \right|^2$$

trunc. oct.,  $r=120$ ,  $\lambda=13.5\text{nm}$

Born 2D projected

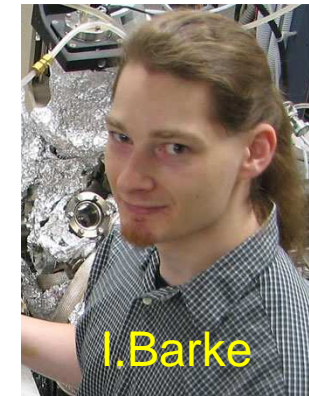


Born 3D

+ effective absorption

(used for quick identification)

Born 3D



full solution of continuum Maxwell Eq. via FDTD

(used for refinement)

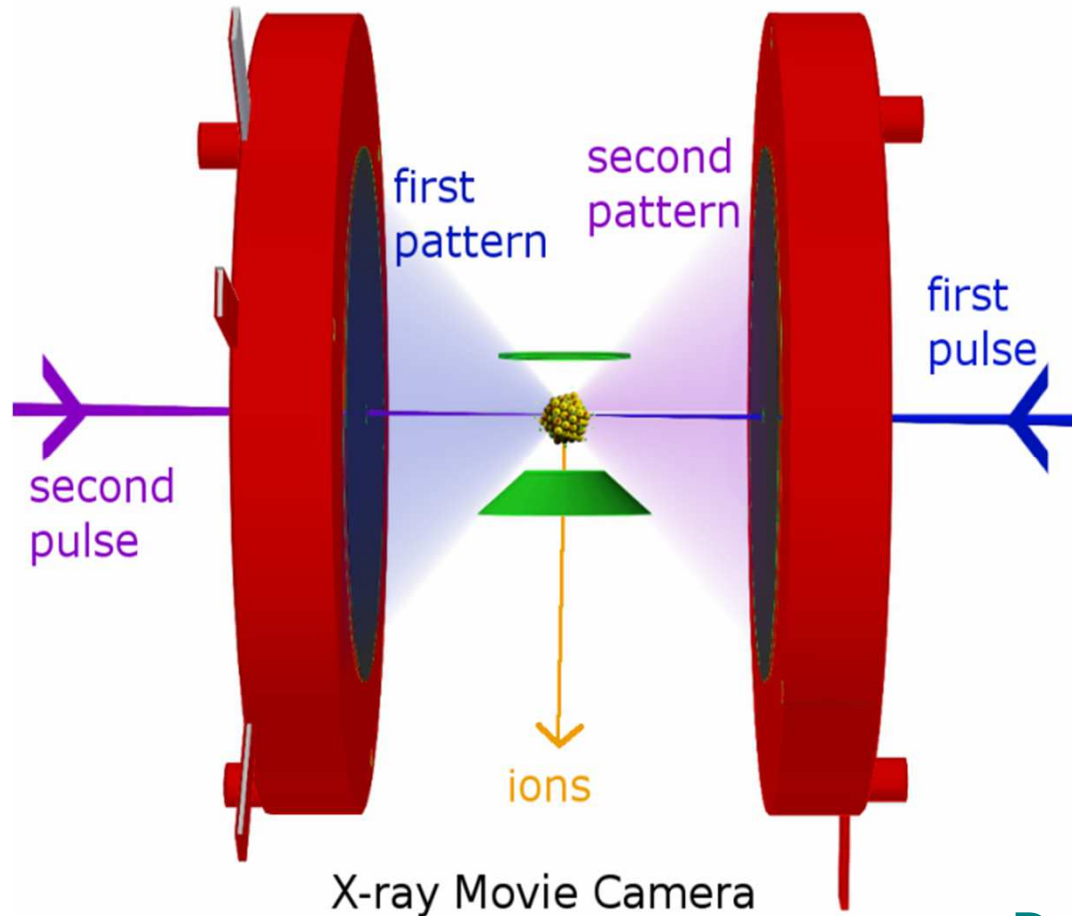
Wide angle scattering,  
no inversion symmetry:  
→ 3D Structure

I. Barke et. al,  
Nature communications 7187 (2015)

# Outlook

Novel approach for time resolved imaging

# Two images from a single clusters at different times

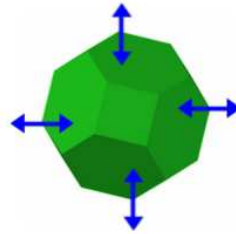


D. Rupp, TU-Berlin

# Collective oscillations/dynamics in nanoparticles, surface melting



a)

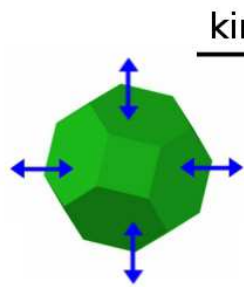


b)



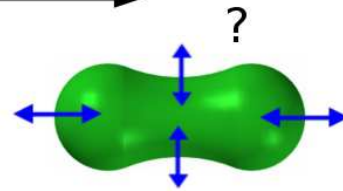
c)

Size selected

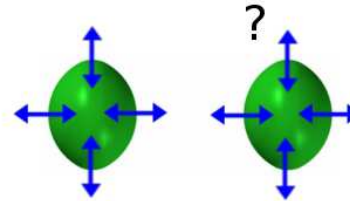


d)

kinetic energy →

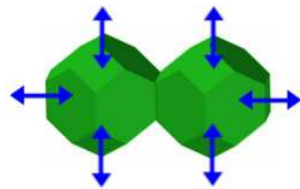


e)

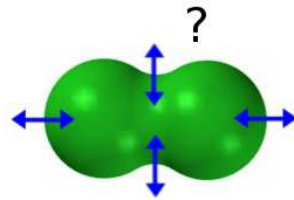


f)

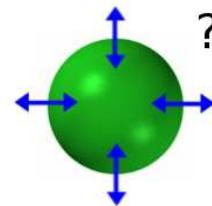
Damping?



g)



h)

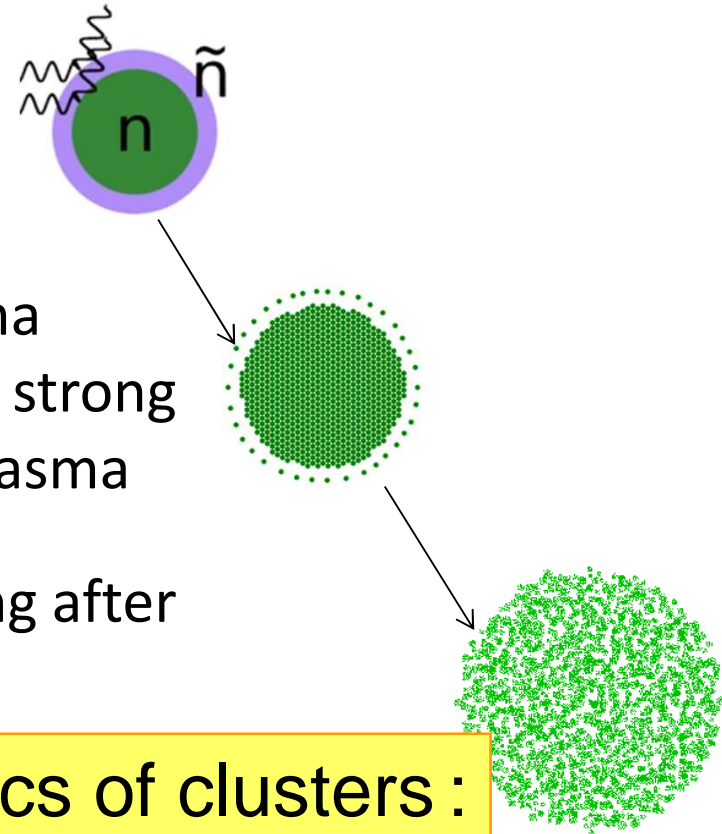


i)

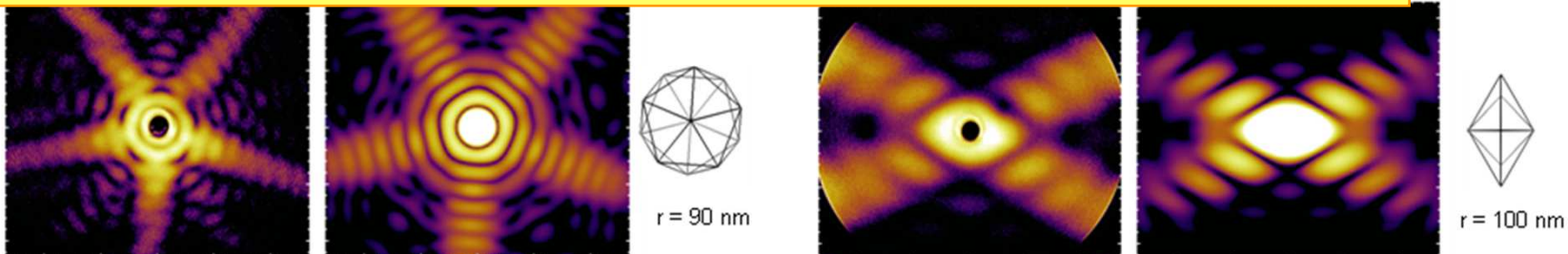
Vis /XUV pump probe

# Summary and outlook: Clusters in intense X-ray pulses

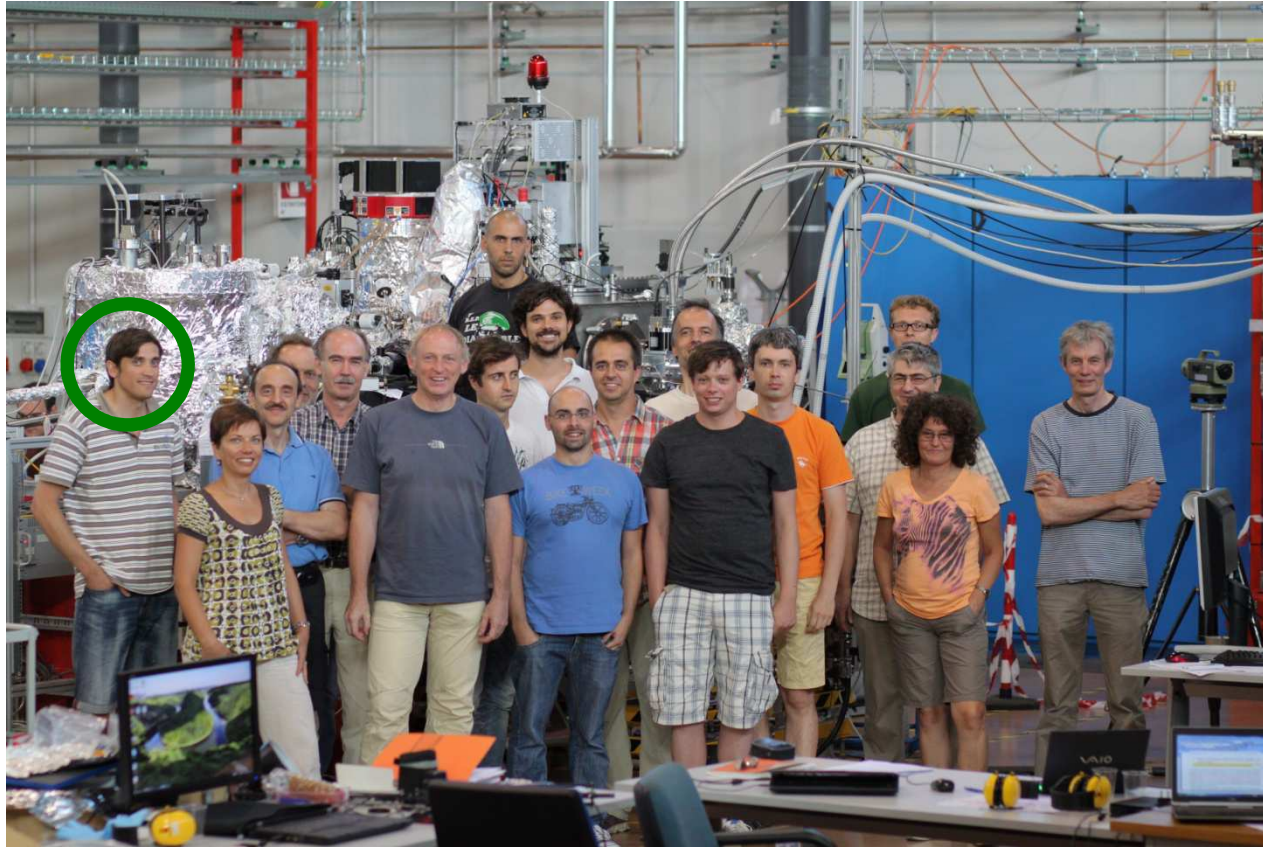
- Scattering pattern: ultrafast electronic changes due to plasma generation
- electron and ion spectra: nanoplasma formation explosion of a thin surface, strong recombination in the quasi-neutral plasma
- Time-resolved: image surface melting after tens of ps, debris after ps-ns



Imaging structure and dynamics of clusters :  
A lot of exciting physics ahead of us!



## Experiments at FERMI / LDM collaboration: He cluster



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