

The BMV Project

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Laboratories involved in the *Biréfringence Magnétique du Vide* project :

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Laboratoire National Champs Magnétiques Pulsés, Toulouse, France :

S.Batut (Ph-D), R.Battesti, S.George, B.Griffe, J.Mauchain, M.Nardone, O.Portugall, G.Rikken.

Laboratoire Matériaux Avancés - VIRGO, Lyon, France :

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In collaboration with

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D.Bernard, LLR, Ecole Polytechnique, France.

G.F.Bignami, A.Dupays, M.Roncadelli, INAF-IASF Milano and INFN Pavia, Italy.



LNCMP : **77,3 T**
record européen de champ magnétique

Power supply
24 kV, 14 MJ, 65 kA



**Campus of the Paul Sabatier
University in Toulouse**



BMV Project :

Laboratory tests

BMV experiment at the LNCMP

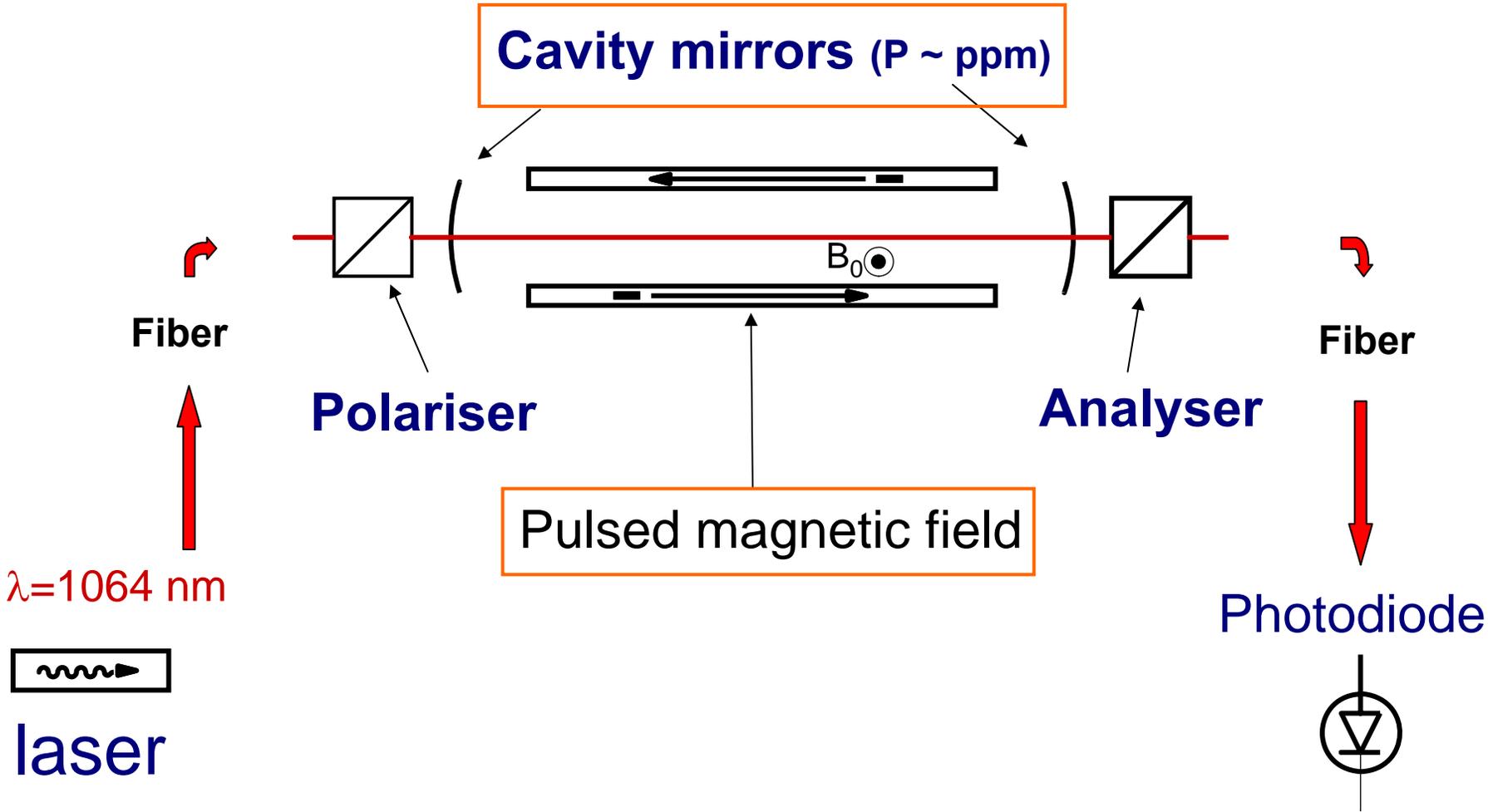
**Funded since 2000
Motivated by QED**

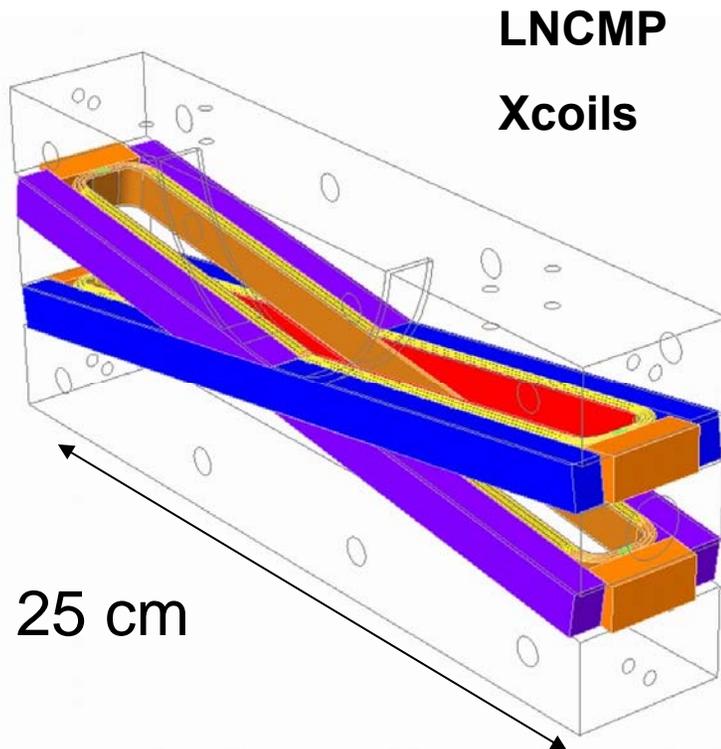
**Photon Regeneration experiment
at LULI**

Astrophysical tests

**Quantum vacuum lensing
&
Photon-Axion conversion**

Experimental scheme : based on Iacopini and Zavattini's idea (1979)



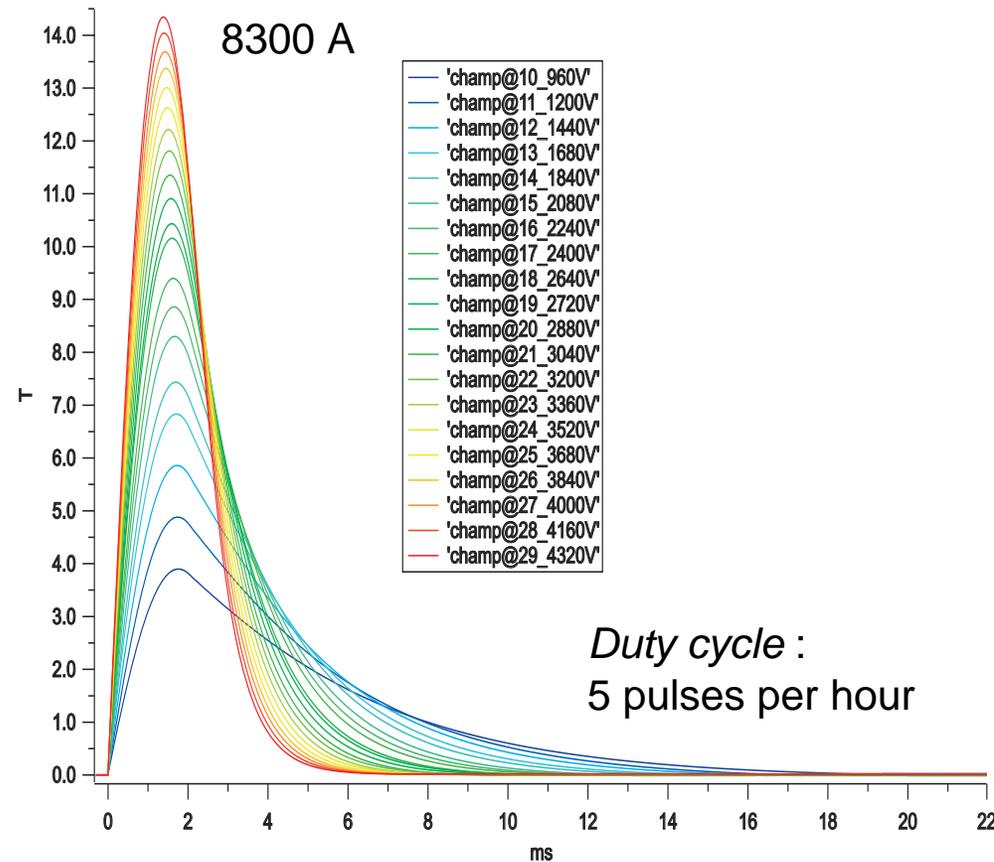


Coils have been aged :

100 pulses at 11.5 T

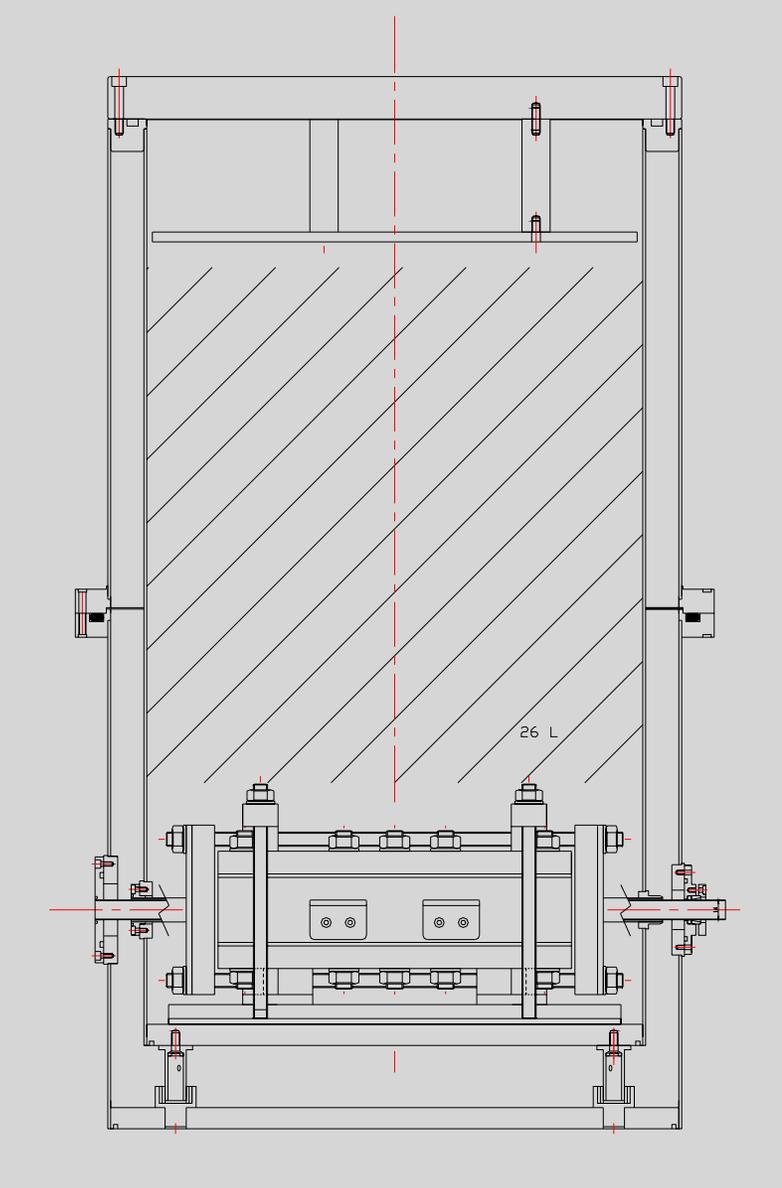
100 pulses at 12.5 T

LN cryostat ready



$$B = 14.3 \text{ T};$$

$$B^2L = 28 \text{ T}^2\text{m}; \quad BL = 2.6 \text{ Tm}$$



Final test
19/9/06

Vacuum
pipe

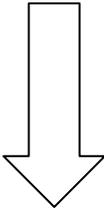
Test result :
No contact between
Vacuum pipe and cryostat
during the pulse !

Magnet R&D

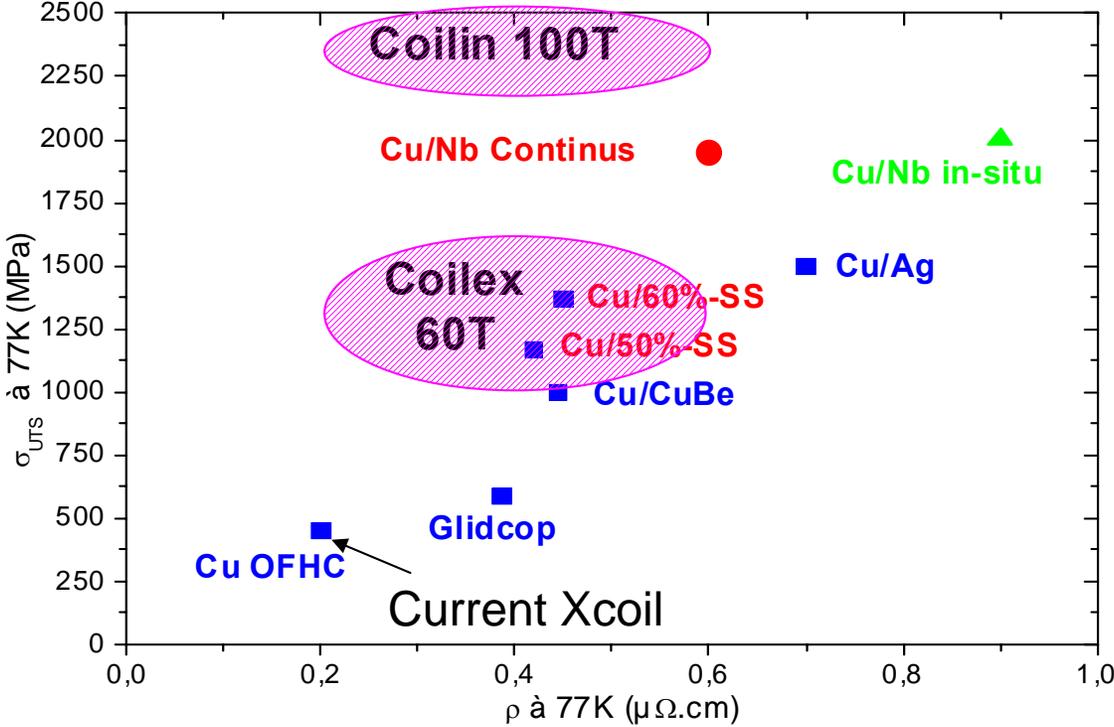
Next steps :

- Computer studies of forces and constraints
- New coils with stronger wire

Goal



25 T



Much stronger conductors available! Trade-off heating versus mechanical strength.

Fabry-Perot Mirrors : 4 ready in Toulouse



Miroirs (HB)22 HBB haute réflectivité pour cavités BMV

Référence	P_D		P_A	T
	Diffusion (ppm) @ 1064 nm Sur \varnothing 16 mm	Au centre	Absorption @ 1064 nm (ppm)	Transmission @ 1064 nm (ppm)
06033/11 concave 8 m, incidence 0°	9	2,4	0,8	1,7 incidence 1°
06033/12 concave 8 m, incidence 0°	8	8	0,8	1,9 incidence 1°
06033/13 concave 8 m, incidence 0°	9	7	0,8	1,5 incidence 1°
06033/14 concave 8 m, incidence 0°	11	2,4	0,8	1,6 incidence 1°

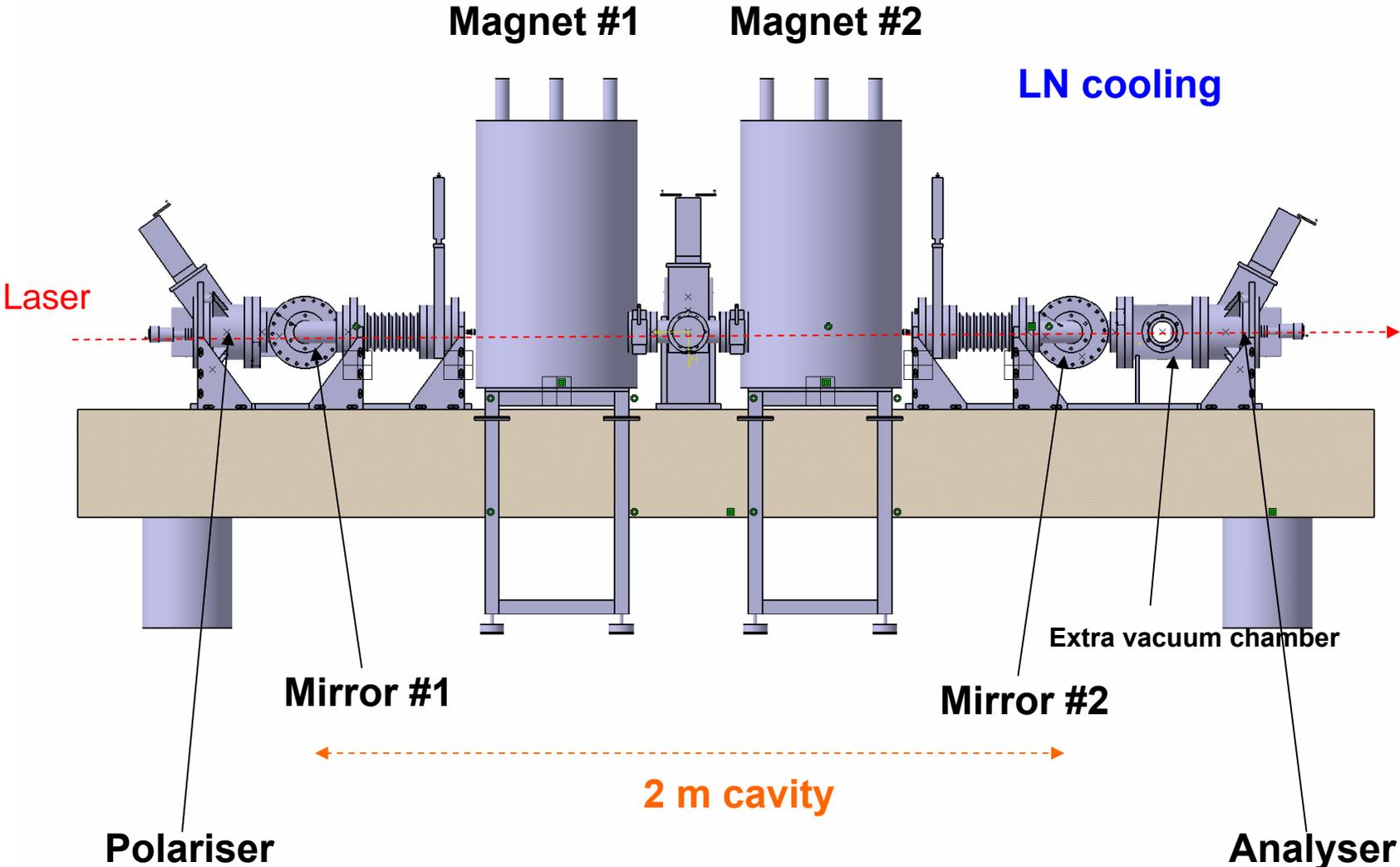
$$650\,000 \geq F = \frac{\pi}{T + P_D + P_A} \geq 290\,000$$

ppm loss cavity mirrors need special care



Experimental « clean room » at the LNCMP





Experimental set up

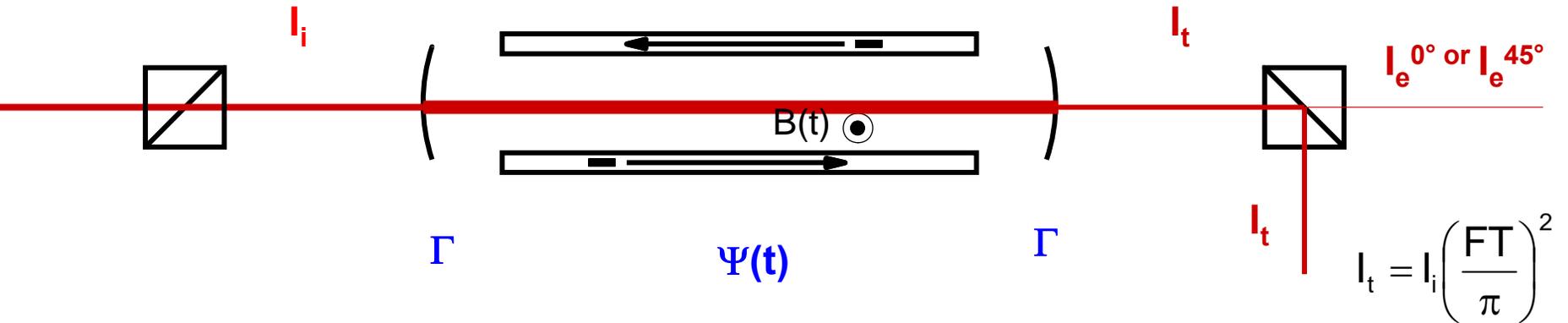
Optical set up completed july 2006



First data with low finesse cavity and magnetic field before end 06

BMV experimental scheme

0°, 45° Light polarisation with respect to B



Γ cavity birefringence
 Ψ(t) ellipticity to be measured
 σ² polarizers extinction

$$I_e^{45^\circ} = I_t \sigma^2 + I_t (\Gamma + \Psi(t))^2 = I_t (\cancel{\sigma^2} + \Gamma^2) + 2I_t \Gamma \Psi(t) + I_t \cancel{\Psi(t)^2}$$

↓
I_e^{0°}

We need

$$\Psi(t) = \frac{I_e^{45^\circ} - I_e^{0^\circ}}{2I_t \Gamma} \quad \text{avec} \quad \Gamma = \sqrt{\frac{I_e^{0^\circ}}{I_t}}$$

I_t, I_e^{0°}, I_e^{45°}

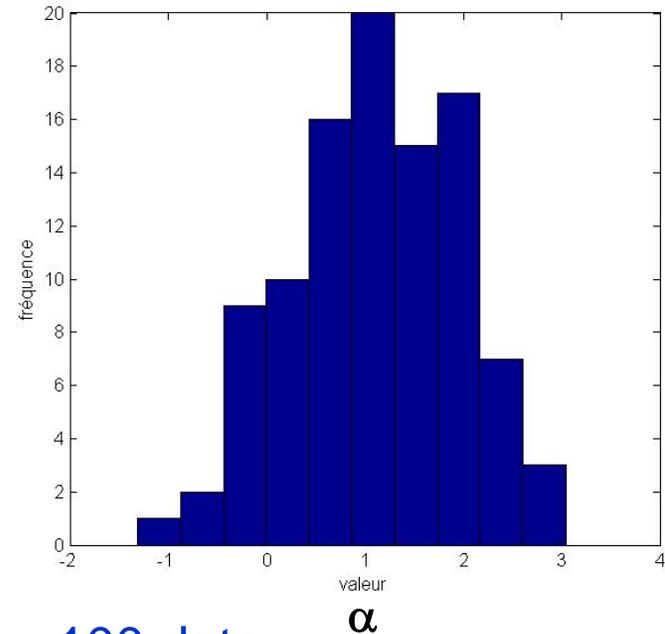
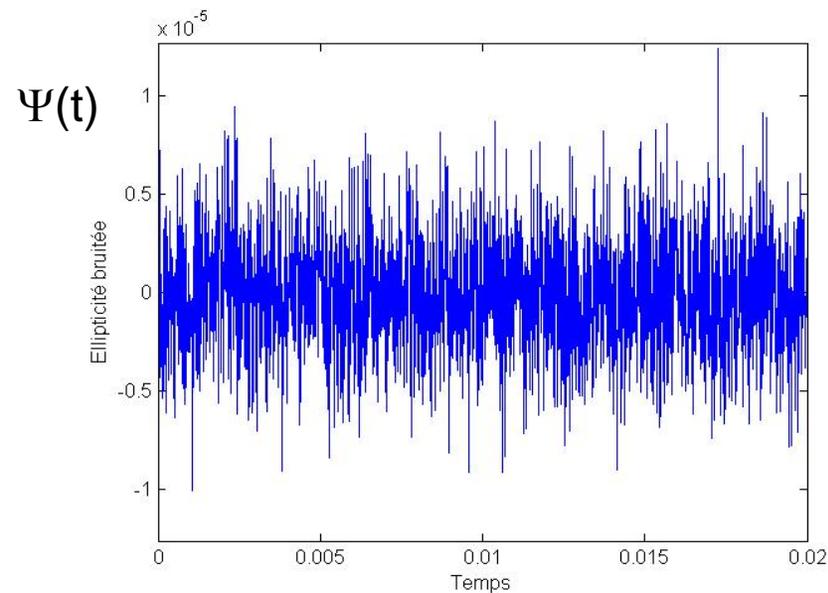
And we can check that :
 Without field = 0° polarisation

Basic signal analysis

$$\Psi(t) = \alpha B(t)^2$$

$$\alpha = \frac{\int_0^T \Psi(t) B(t)^2 dt}{\int_0^T B(t)^4 dt}$$

Computer simulation : Ellipticity + noise



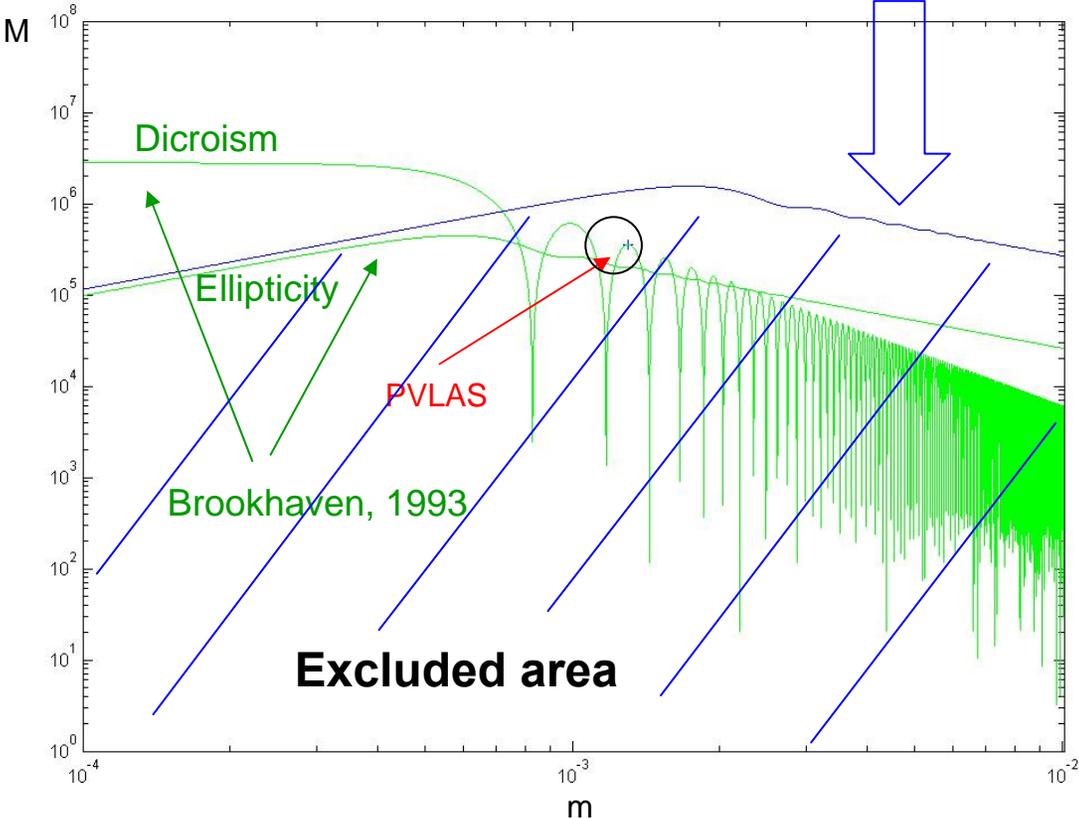
100 data

- $BL = (2x)2.3 \text{ Tm}; B^2L = (2x)21 \text{ T}^2\text{m}$
- finesse $\geq 200\,000$
- Sensitivity = $10^{-8}/\text{Hz}^{1/2}$

Expected :

BMV, 30 pulses, 1 day

Test of PVLAS results in 2007



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**First data end 06
PVLAS test in 07**

**Photon Regeneration experiment
at LULI**

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&
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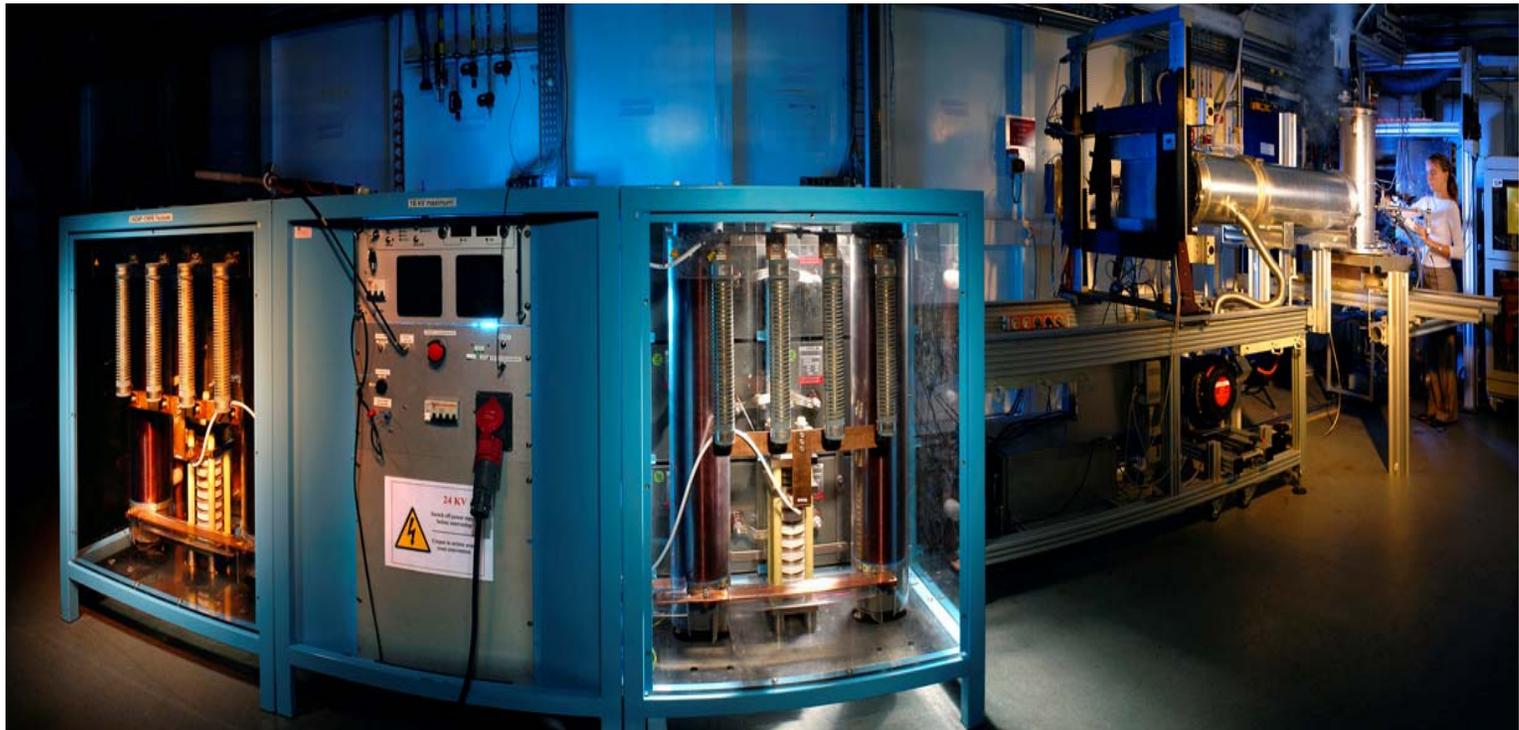
Photon Regeneration experiment at LULI

(*Laboratoire pour l'Utilisation des Lasers Intenses*)

Campus of the
École Polytechnique
Outside Paris



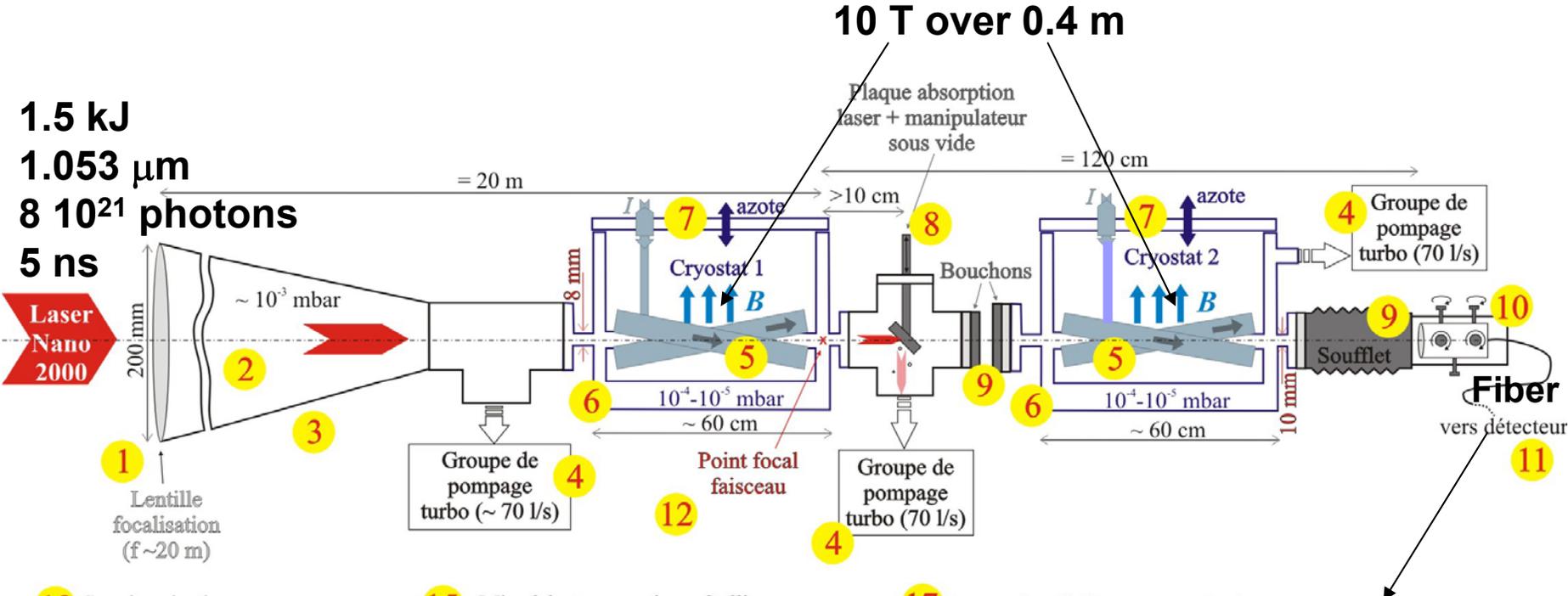
thanks to BMV pulsed magnets



24 kV; $3 \times (1,2)^3 \text{ m}^3$

Pulsed magnet *portable* supply (here at the ESRF, Grenoble)

Experimental scheme



- 13 Synchronisation
- 14 Passage de cables, installation

- 15 Mise à la terre parties métalliques
- 16 Prise de données

- 17 Protocoles d'alignement et de tir
- 18
- 19

**Commercially available
single photon counter,
0.2 detection efficiency,
5 10⁻⁵ counts/ns noise**

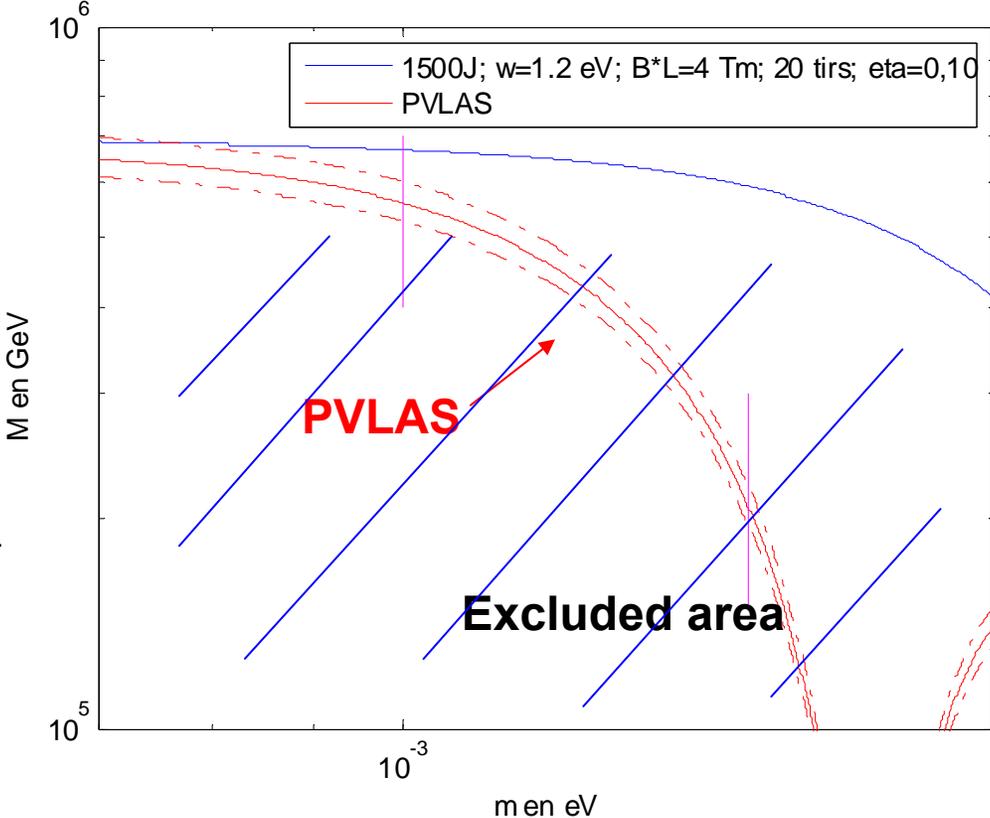
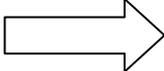
Laser room at LULI



Tight schedule : everything in place at LULI for march 2007 !

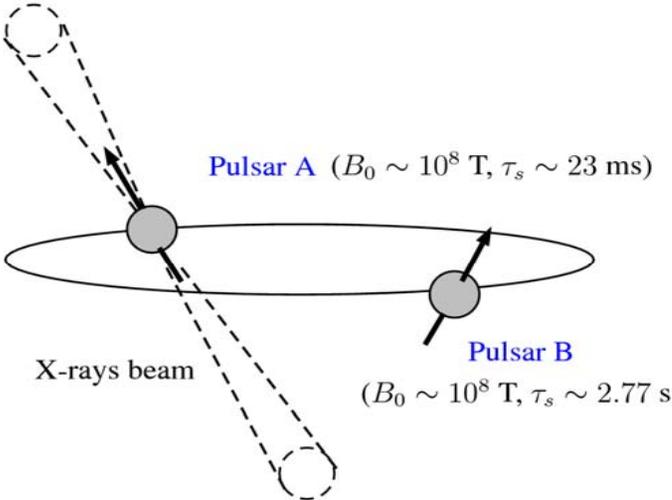
about 1 photon per pulse expected according to PVLAS

Limits after 20 pulses of 1500 J each (5 days)



Very high magnetic fields in the cosmos ? Pulsars ($10^7 \text{ T} \rightarrow 10^{11} \text{ T}$)

Neutron star Binary System J0737-3039



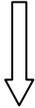
Discovered by M.Burgay et al. in 2003

Seen almost edge on !
Radio beam eclipse !

Revolution time : 2 h 45 min.

■ Photon-axion Conversion

NASA GLAST

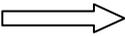


Modulation of the photon flux

■ Quantum Vacuum Lensing

- Variation of the vacuum refraction index along the photon trajectory

ESA XMM-Newton



BMV Project :

Laboratory tests

BMV experiment at the LNCMP

**Operational
Summer 2006
PVLAS test in 07**

**Photon Regeneration experiment
At LULI**

**Proposal to be
submitted, juin 06
for runs in 07**

Astrophysical tests

Quantum vacuum lensing

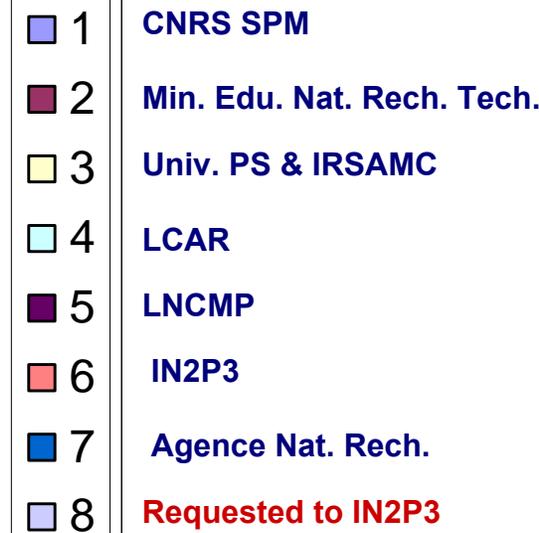
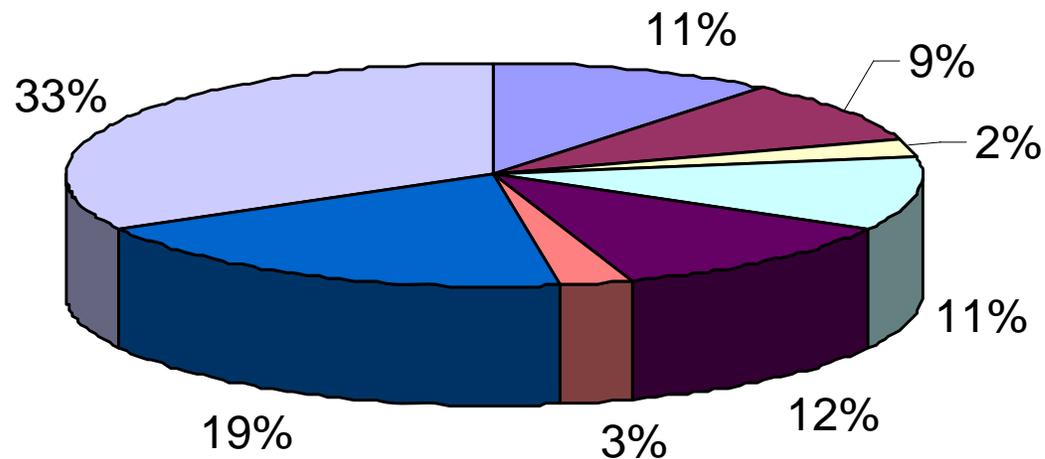
**X_rays observation :
XMM/Newton
Scheduled in 07**

Photon-Axion conversion

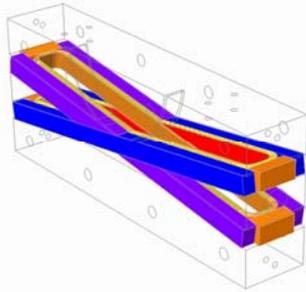
**γ _rays observation :
GLAST, operational in 07
Approved**

Budget 2000-2008 (without salaries)

1 M€ project



6 Physicists, 2 PhD Students, 15 Engineers and Technicians



The BMV Project

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