Title : Power and high-energy lasers

Acronym : B2

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Pre-requisites : First year of MSc in Physics or Engineering Schools.

Credits : 3 ECTS

Language : French/English

Keywords : Power lasers - High energy lasers - Very short pulse lasers - Laser diagnostics - Hot plasmas - Laser architectures and amplifier chains - Design and dimensioning of a PW laser.

Some notions on power lasers are given. The example of the LIL, LMJ and PETAL chains is presented. The module ends with pratical works on lasers.

Laser technology

History of lasers. High energy and high intensity lasers. Materials for the optical elements of the end chain. Diagnostics of lasers in a radiative environment. Examples : LIL and LMJ.

Laser architectures and amplifying chains

LIL and LMJ amplifier chains: implementation and diagnosis. High energy and very short pulse lasers: design and dimensioning of a PW laser, management of large lasers: LMJ and PETAL.

The Miro software

Design and dimensioning of a laser chain with the Miro software.

Experimental work on lasers

Smoothing, alignment and interferometry; Mac-Zehnder interferometer; Amplification, frequency conversion.