Abstract Submitted for the DPP11 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Radiation Pressure Dominant Acceleration: Polarization and Radiation Reaction Effects in 3D PIC Simulations M. TAMBURINI, Pisa University, T.V. LISEYKINA, Rostock University , F. PEGORARO, Pisa University, A. MACCHI, INO - CNR Pisa — Polarization and Radiation Reaction (RR) effects in the interaction of a superintense laser pulse $(I>10^{23}W/cm^2)$ with a thin plasma foil are investigated with three dimensional Particle-In-Cell (PIC) simulations. For a linearly polarized laser pulse, strong anisotropies such as the formation of two high-energy clumps in the plane perpendicular to the propagation direction and significant radiation reactions effects are observed. On the contrary, neither anisotropies nor significant radiation reaction effects are observed for circularly polarized laser pulses. In both cases, the deformation of the initially flat plasma foil leads to the self-making of a quasi-parabolic shell that focuses the impinging laser pulse to an intensity up to over nine times the initial peak intensity.

¹Work sponsored by MIUR, FIRB project SULDIS. Use of supercomputing facilities at CINECA within the ISCRA project TOFUSEX is acknowledged.

Francesco Pegoraro Pisa University

Date submitted: 25 Jun 2011 Electronic form version 1.4