

Abstract Submitted  
for the DPP19 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Efficient petawatt beam redirection for GeV class laser plasma accelerated electron beams using thin film liquid crystal plasma mirrors<sup>1</sup>**

A ZINGALE, N. A. CZAP, The Ohio State University, S. K. BARBER, J. BIN, J. VAN TILBORG, A. G. GONSALVES, F. ISONO<sup>2</sup>, K. NAKAMURA, S. STEINKE, C. G. R. GEDDES, C. B. SCHROEDER, E. ESAREY, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA, D. W. SCHUMACHER, The Ohio State University — State-of-the-art laser-plasma accelerators (LPA's) can routinely produce GeV electron beams. Further development of this technology requires better control of the petawatt beam near the LPA, including beam redirection into and out of the electron beamline via ultrathin plasma mirrors. Here we report on an experiment done at the BELLA PW facility that achieved 94% attenuation via beam redirection and absorption using ~30 nm thick liquid crystal plasma mirrors. Liquid crystal films were formed in situ on-demand and successfully used to protect an active plasma lens placed about 20 cm downstream. Additionally, emittance degradation arising from well-known Coulomb scattering interactions is intrinsically suppressed due to the nm scale thicknesses of the films. We describe the device capabilities and associated diagnostics developed, film survival tests in the LPA environment, and the transmittance as a function of intensity. We describe a simple model of plasma mirror performance at high intensities.

<sup>1</sup>This work is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under Contract Nos. DE-SC0018192 and DE-AC02-05CH11231.

<sup>2</sup>Applied Science and Technology, University of California, Berkeley

Anthony Zingale  
The Ohio State University

Date submitted: 03 Jul 2019

Electronic form version 1.4