



Contribution ID: 188

Type: **Poster**

Plasma Target Characterisation at FLASHForward

Knowledge of the plasma density and its spatial and temporal evolution are important for realising controlled plasma wakefield acceleration at FLASHForward. The BOND laboratory at DESY, Hamburg houses a plasma target characterisation experiment which is currently being developed. We present the initial results of the characterisation of discharge-ignited plasmas in cylindrical ‘capillary’ type targets using two diagnostic techniques: emission spectroscopy and two-colour laser interferometry.

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Track Classification: ARD