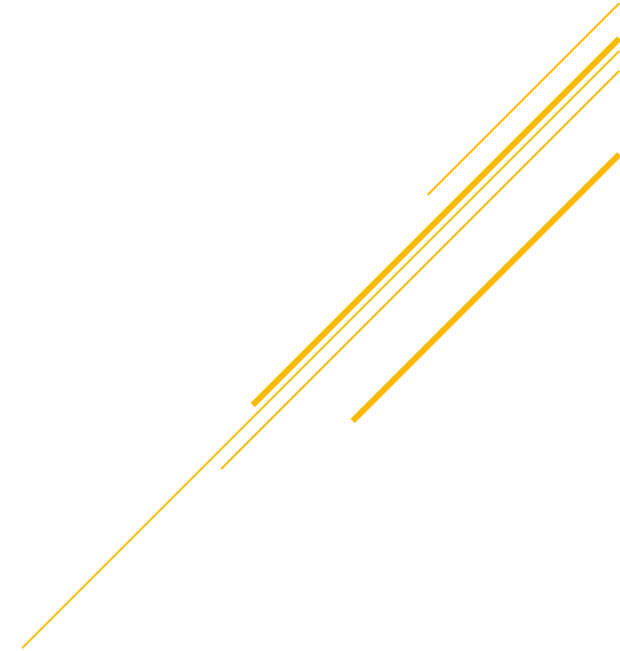




# Behind the Light: 20 years of communicating across borders and cultures

**Silvana Westbury, Project Manager [Lightsources.org](https://lightsources.org)**

# Light source science communicators have a lot to talk about!



# lightsources.org 20 years



Find out more:  
[www.lightsources.org](http://www.lightsources.org)

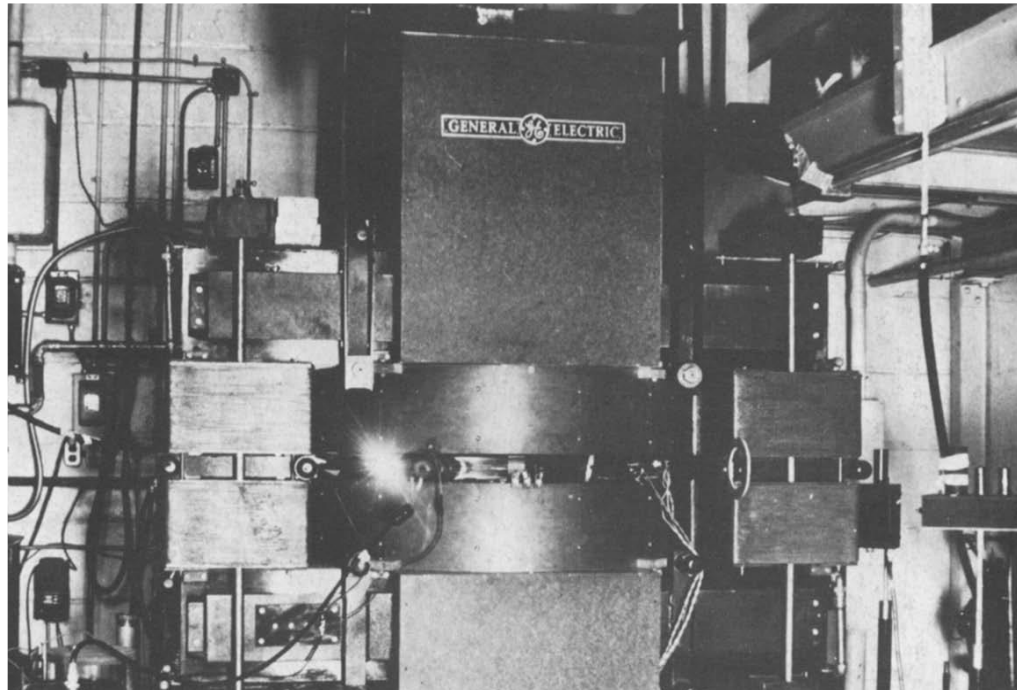
one voice for the  
brightest science since 2004



# Quick history lesson!

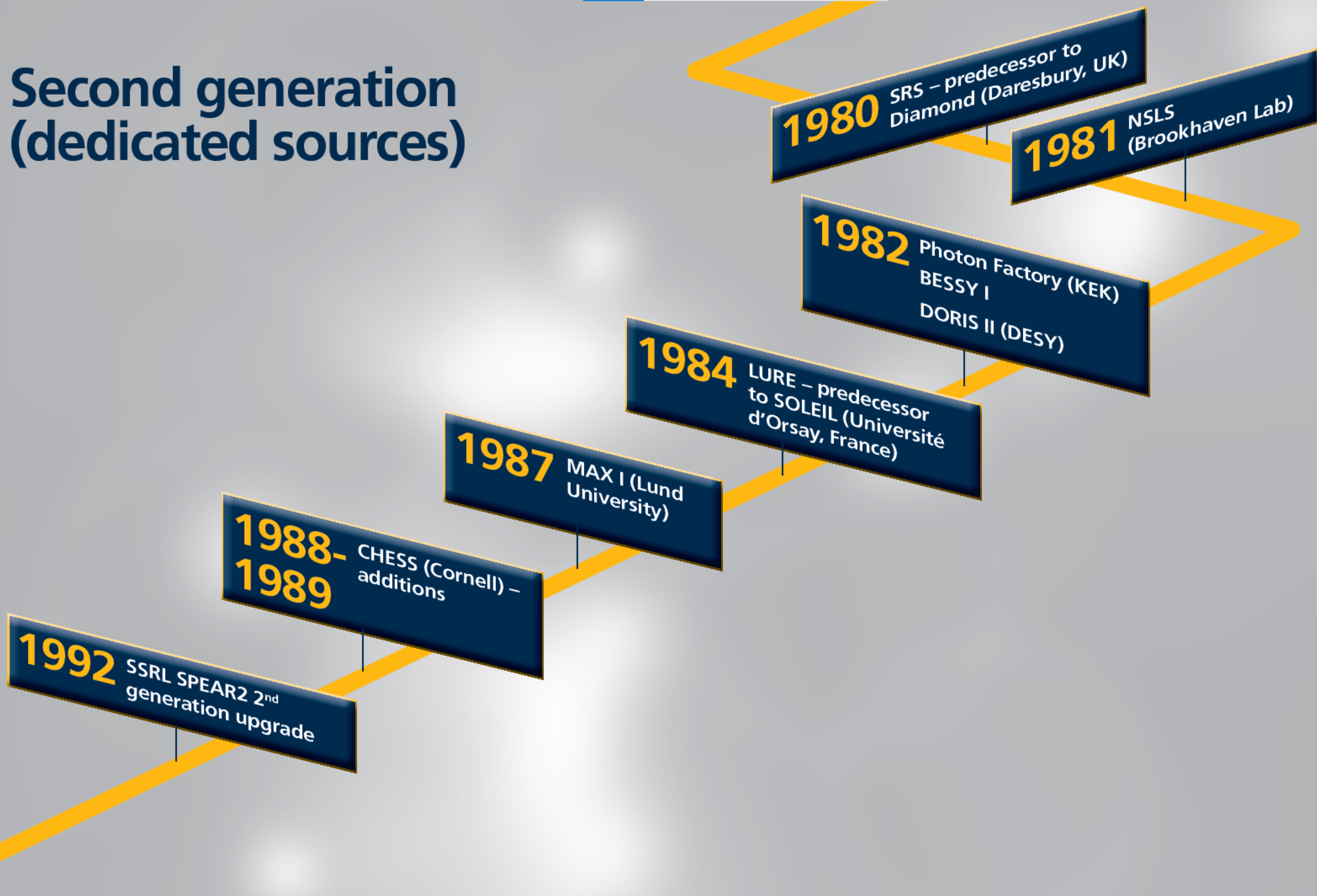
The year is 1947.....

The first observation of synchrotron radiation took place on General Electric's 70-MeV electron synchrotron in Schenectady, New York, on April 24, 1947





# Second generation (dedicated sources)



# Third generation (optimised for brightness) and Fourth generation (FELs and new/upgraded synchrotrons)



# 2004: How the Lightsources.org journey began....

Inspiration came from our colleagues in the particle physics community



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A communication resource from the world's particle physics laboratories.

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## lightsources.org

News, information, and educational materials about the world's light source facilities

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July 2005  
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User Proposal Deadlines  
Meetings

Science Highlights  
SPRL: Geological and geohydrogeologic Factors Influencing Mercury Speciation in Mine Wastes

Terahertz Radiation

What are T-Rays and what can we use them for?  
SPRING-8: A Technical Report

July 15, 2005  
**Condensation to a very dense state and selective adsorption of an explosive gas, acetylene**  
... The structural analysis demonstrates that acetylene molecules align in each micropore, and the adsorption sites arranged regularly on the micropore surfaces hold on tight to and stabilize an alignment of acetylene molecules. ...

July 15, 2005  
**Watching the birth and death of exotic molecules**  
... Researchers from Korea, Italy, France and the ESRF have just observed how a molecule changes structure after being hit with a short flash of laser light. Thanks to very intense pulses of X-rays from the synchrotron and novel data analysis, they were able to confirm a long standing hypothesis regarding the evolution of this molecule. ...

July 18, 2005 - Design News  
**Controlling Beams of Light**  
... Precisely positioning bending magnets keeps electrons on the right path in synchrotron particle accelerator. ...

July 16, 2005 - New Scientist  
**Kiwis reach for higher fruit**  
... The most significant investment is NZ\$5 million towards a synchrotron in Melbourne. Scheduled for completion in 2007, the A\$50 million (US\$39 million) instrument will be used to probe molecular structures. ...

July 15, 2005 - Science Magazine (subscription)  
**Light Budgets Force Lab Layoffs**  
... Officials at the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Advanced Light Source (ALS) at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Laboratory (SSRL) say the cutbacks, which include shutting down one beamline at each facility, are necessary to free up money for new projects, such as brighter beams. ...





# 2024: How we look today....

The screenshot shows the homepage of lightsources.org. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo 'lightsources.org' and '20 years' anniversary text. Below the navigation bar, there is a main banner image of a large circular building at night. To the right of the banner, there are statistics: 183,000+ unique articles published, 130,000+ protein structures deposited, 8,000+ staff employed, and 26 member organisations. There is also a 'NEWSLETTER' section with a 'Subscribe' button. Below the statistics, there is a 'Latest News' section with four news items, each with a thumbnail image and a brief description.

lightsources.org  
One voice for the brightest science since 2004

Home About Lightsources.org For Users Careers Light sources of the world

Located at DESY, Hamburg, the European Synchrotron owes its success to the international cooperation of 22 partner countries.

183,000+ unique articles published by our user community and staff

130,000+ protein structures deposited by our user community and staff

8,000+ staff employed by our facilities

26 member organisations representing 32 facilities worldwide

NEWSLETTER  
Lightsources.org weekly update  
Subscribe

Latest News

- Gut enzymes may explain differential disease and FDA-approved drug outcomes
- A powerful tool for nanoparticles analysis in complex biological media
- Groundbreaking ceremony for new technology and start-up centre at DESY
- European XFEL opens modern exhibition and conference centre





# Communicating across borders and cultures

Our  
website

Newsletter  
Articles  
Videos

Attending  
Conferences  
& User  
Meetings

Virtual  
events  
aimed at  
key  
audiences

Virtual and  
in person  
meetings



**Always looking for new ideas!**

# Benefits: science community, stakeholders, general public



**Stronger together!**

# Benefits to the collaboration members



**Enriching our communications activities!**

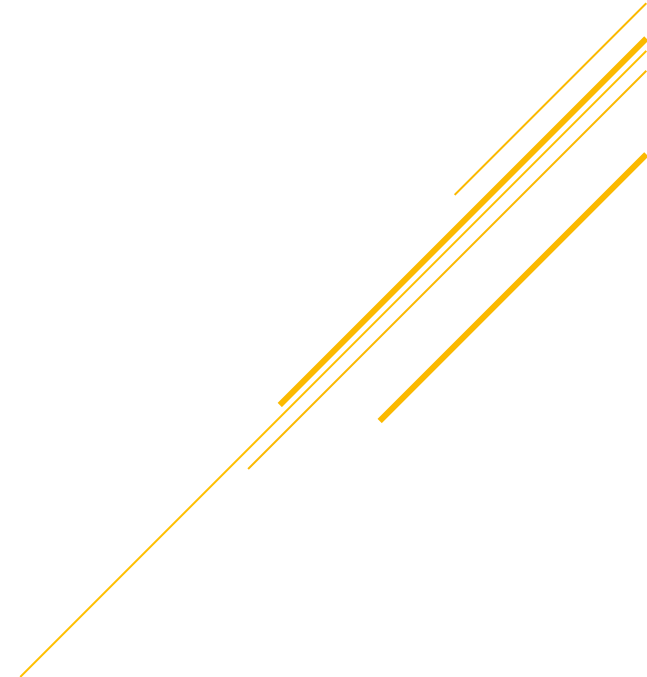


# The future: the next decade



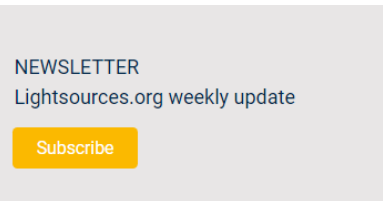
 Huge shout to Diamond for all the in-kind support Lightsources.org is given across finance, events and the website!

**One Voice for the Brightest Science**  
**Home for the global light source community**



# Thanks for listening!

## Time for questions and sharing thoughts.....



**Weekly Newsletter  
(subscribe via website)**



[www.lightsources.org](http://www.lightsources.org)



Credit: SKAO



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Contact Silvana at [webmaster@lightsources.org](mailto:webmaster@lightsources.org)

