

Bachelors defense

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Plan

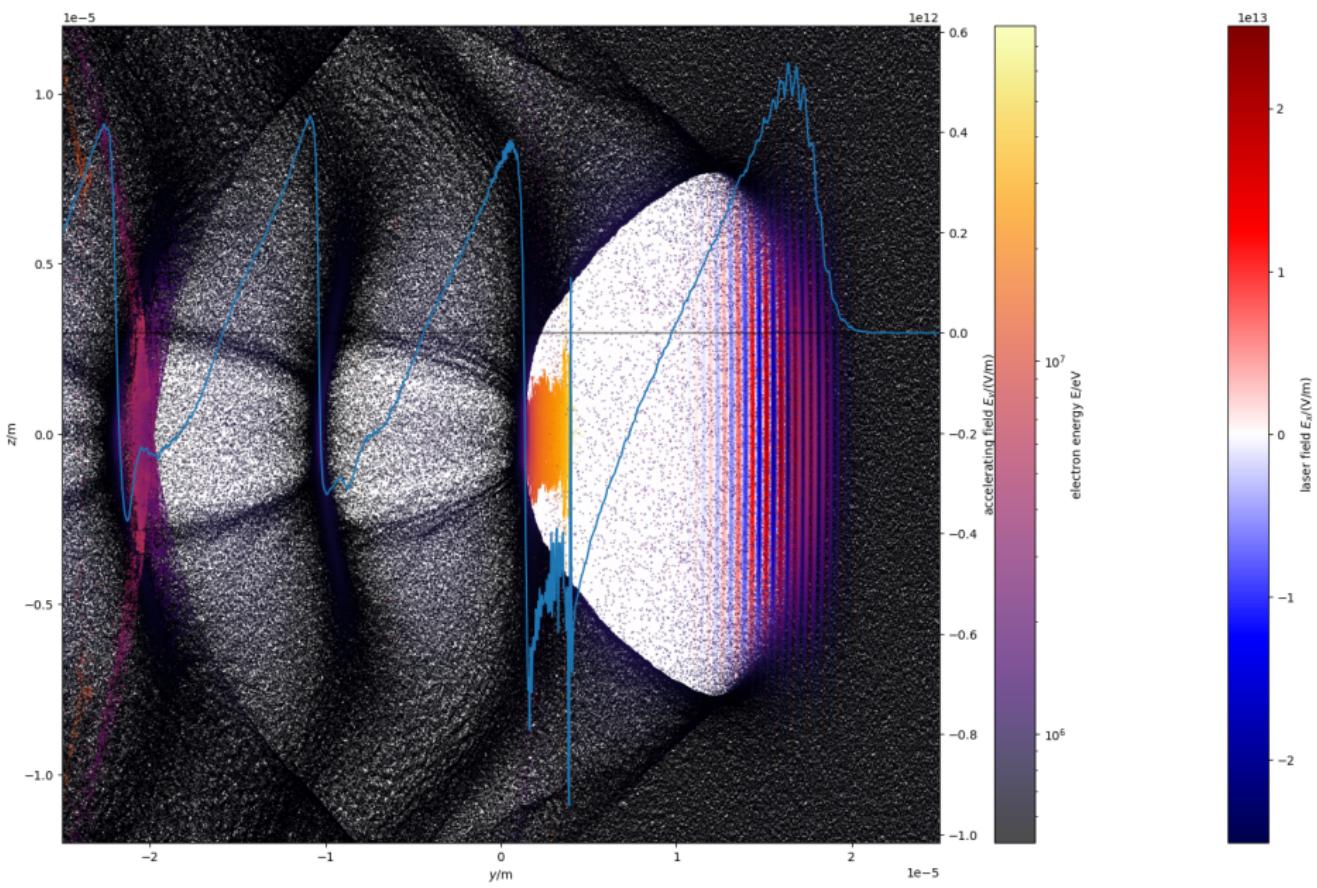
My idea

- ▶ Motivation LWFA
- ▶ Flying focus as solution?
- ▶ programs
- ▶ Lasy lasers in PICoGPU
- ▶ flying focus laser simulations
- ▶ Summary
- ▶ What now?

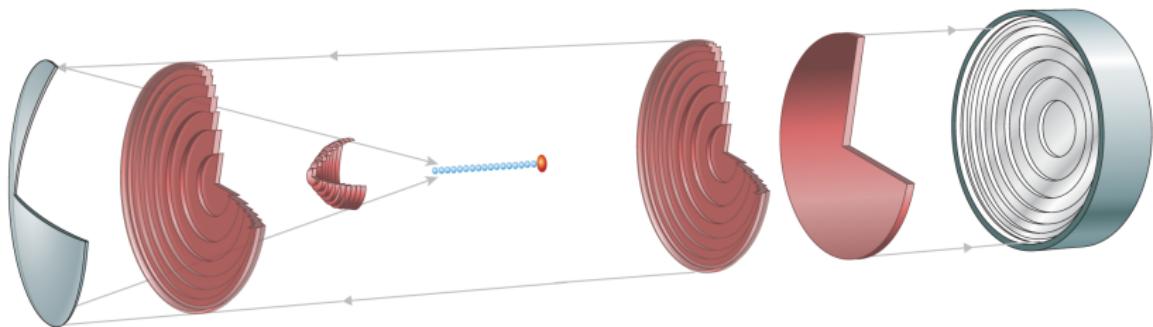
With Jessicas help

- ▶ Why? DLWFA
- ▶ Flying focus in PICoGPU
- ▶ Lasy + implementation
- ▶ Flying focus doesn't work - why?
 - ▶ tests
 - ▶ tests
- ▶ Conclusion
 - ▶ why doesn't it work
 - ▶ Now Lasy lasers available in PICoGPU
 - ▶ back to LWFA

LWFA

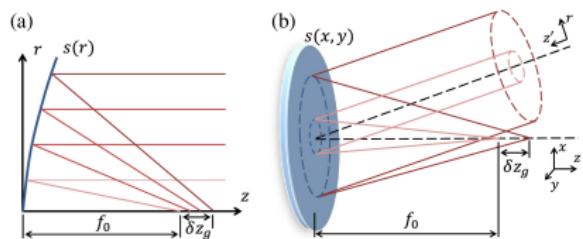


Flying focus lasers



The flying focus setup. Image taken from Palastro et al [3].

- ▶ Built from an axiparabola and a radial group delay echelon (RGD)
- ▶ Axiparabola:
 - ▶ Focuses light onto a line
 - ▶ ?
- ▶ RGD:
 - ▶ ?



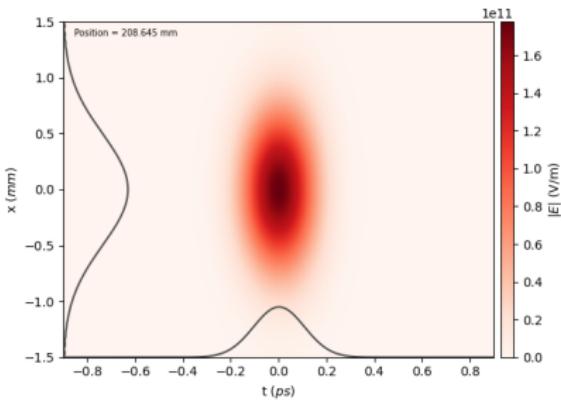
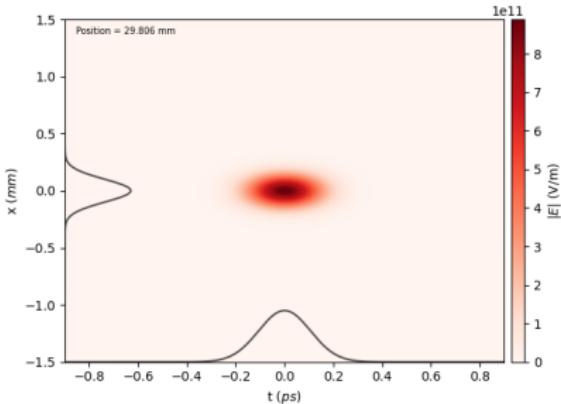
Axiparabola functionality. Image taken from Smartsev et al [4].

More flying focus stuff?

Lasy [1]

- ▶ A python library for simulating Laser pulses in a vacuum
- ▶ Uses complex envelope of the laser field
- ▶ angular spectrum propagation

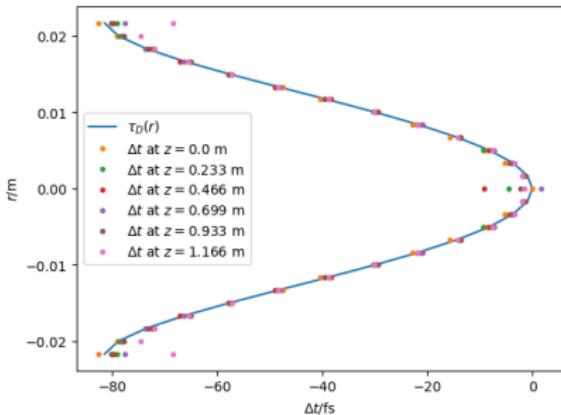
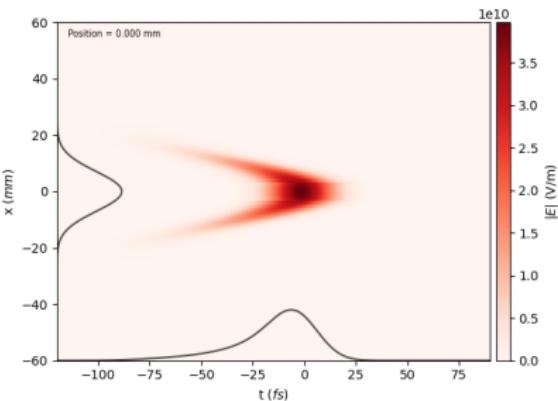
Images: Example of a Gaussian pulse being propagated by Lasy. Top: generated at the focus, Bottom: 6 z_R after the focus.



Implementing the flying focus: RGD

- ▶ Implemented from scratch as Lasy optical element
- ▶ Following the description by Ambat et al [2]
- ▶

Images: A Gaussian pulse after interacting with the RGD. Top: field envelope, Bottom: Test results. even after long distances the shape still holds.



more RGD?

Implementing the flying focus: Axiparabola

Importing to PICoNGPU

Test 1

Test 2

Possible reasons for failure

Now Lasy lasers available in PICoGPU

Back to LWFA?

References I

-  Lasy 0.6.2 documentation.
<https://lasydoc.readthedocs.io/en/latest>.
Accessed october 2025.
-  M. V. Ambat, J. L. Shaw, J. J. Pigeon, K. G. Miller, T. T. Simpson, D. H. Froula, and J. P. Palastro.
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-  J. P. Palastro, J. L. Shaw, P. Franke, D. Ramsey, T. T. Simpson, and D. H. Froula.
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Phys. Rev. Letters, 124, 2020.

References II

-  Slava Smartsev, Clement Caizergues, Kosta Oubrerie, Julien Gautier, Jean-Philippe Goddet, Amar Tafzi, Kim Ta Phuoc, Victor Malka, and Cedric Thaury.
Axiparabola: a long-focal-depth, high-resolution mirror for broadband high-intensity lasers.
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