



Cockcroft Postgraduate Lectures 2021

Introduction to Short Wavelength Accelerators (I)

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Lecture I

- ❖ Particle accelerators
- ❖ Why short wavelength accelerators?
- ❖ Why plasmas?
- ❖ Why lasers?
- ❖ Laser wakefield accelerators (LWFA)
 - ❖ Electron acceleration from LWFA
 - ❖ Radiation sources
 - ❖ Proton/ion acceleration
- ❖ Conclusions

Lecture II

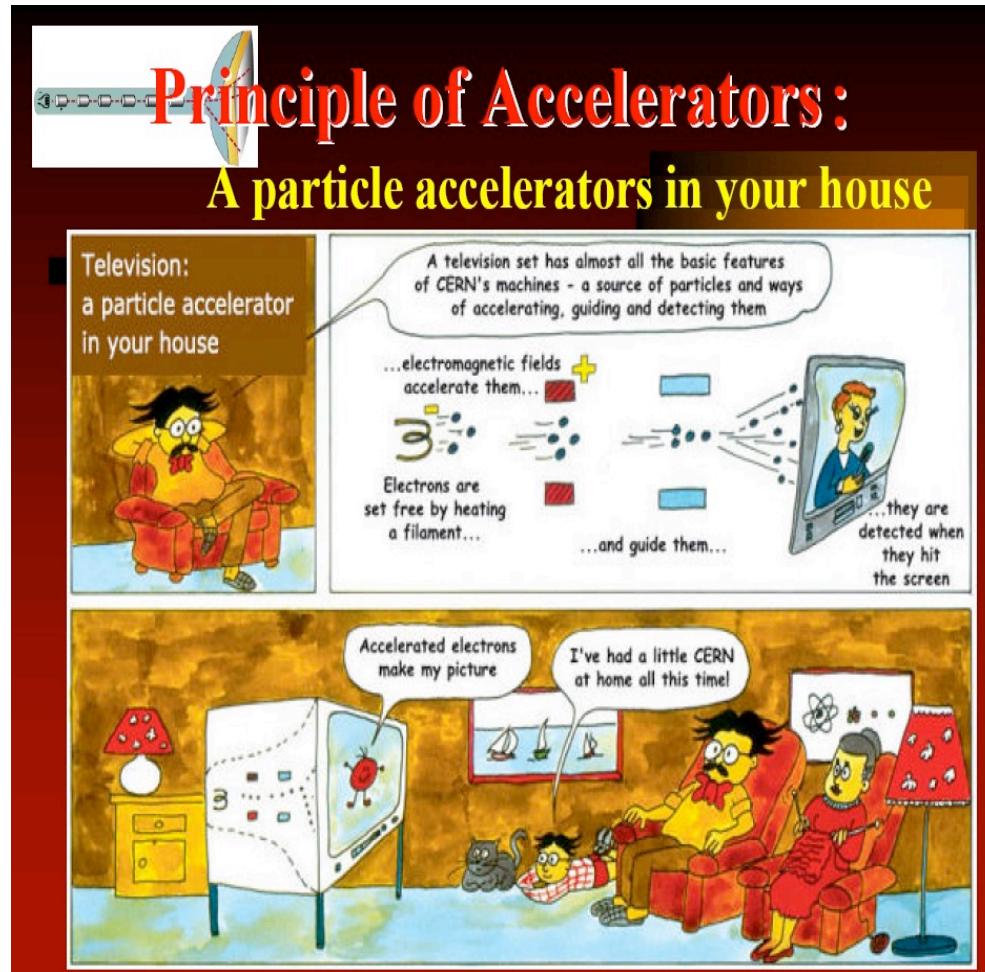
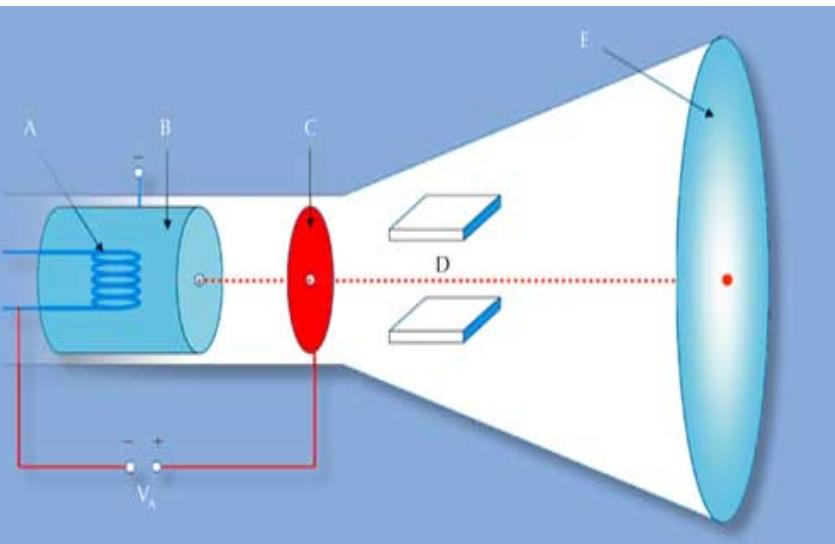
- ❖ Beams from conventional accelerators
- ❖ Plasma wakefield accelerators (PWFA)
 - ❖ Electron driven PWFA
 - ❖ Positron driven PWFA
 - ❖ Proton driven PWFA
- ❖ Dielectrics in accelerators
 - ❖ Laser driven dielectric accelerators
 - ❖ Beam driven dielectric accelerators
- ❖ Conclusions and future perspectives

Learning objectives-Lecture I

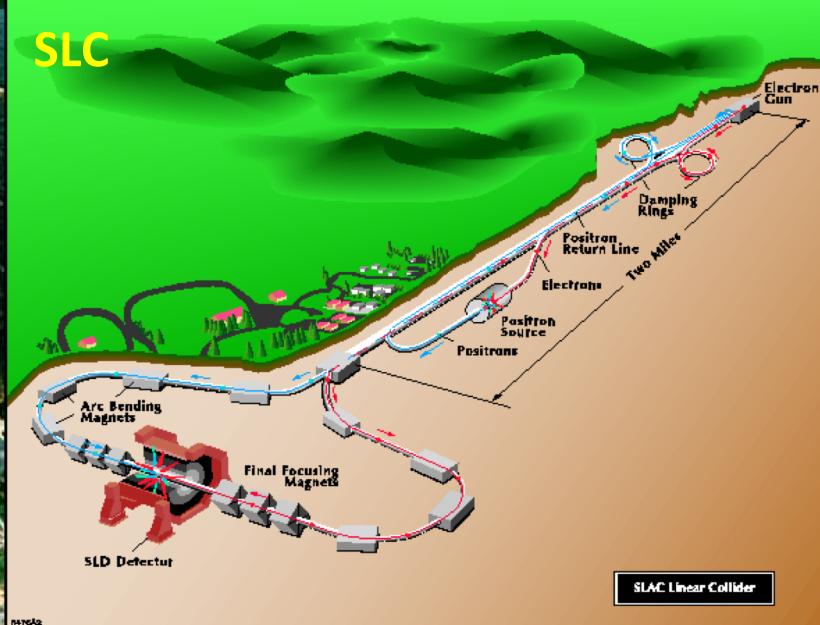
- ? Motivations for short wavelength accelerators
- ? How laser-plasma acceleration works
- ? Limitations of laser-plasma accelerators
- ? Applications of laser-plasma accelerators

Particle accelerators

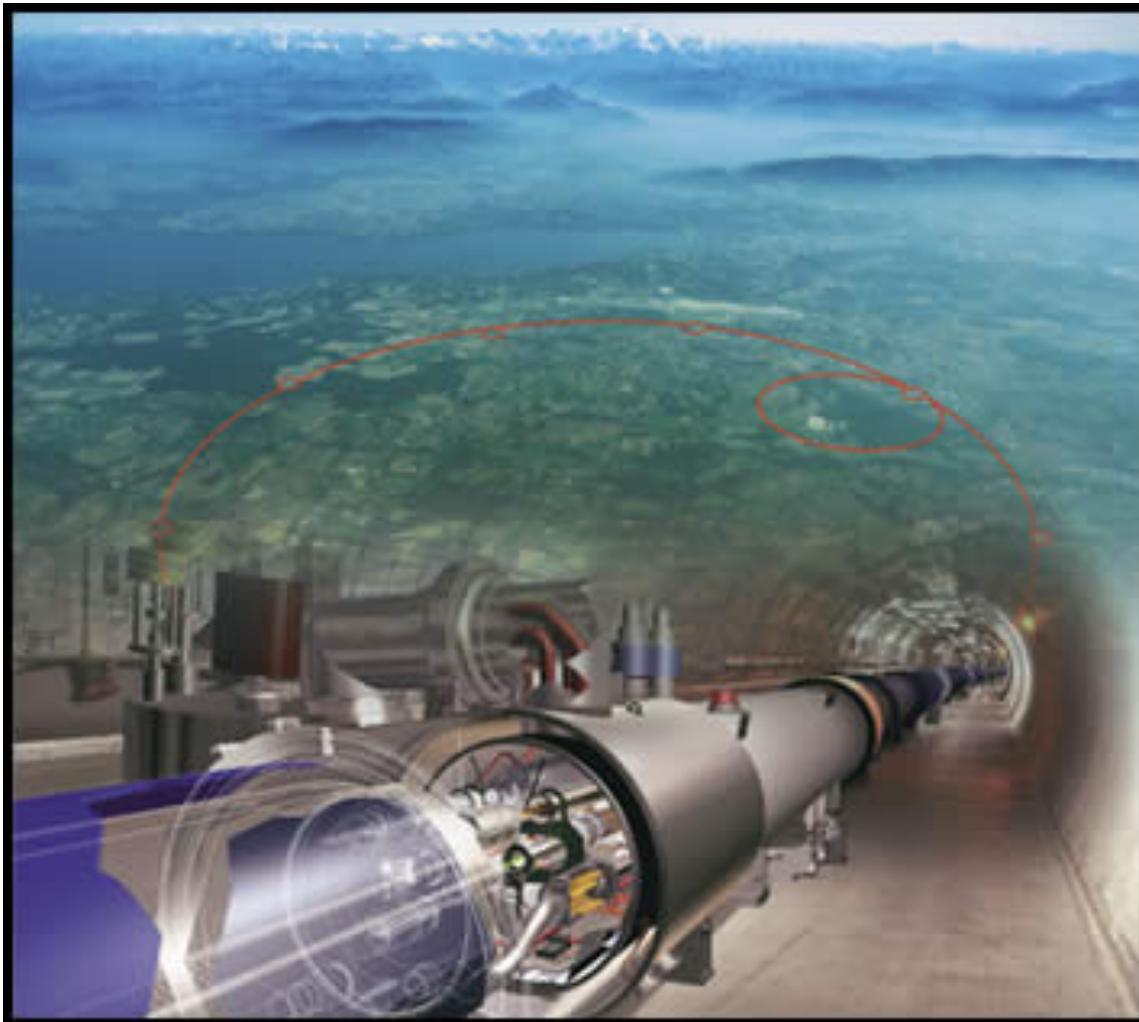
- A **particle accelerator** is a device that uses electromagnetic fields to propel charged particles to high speeds and to contain them as beams.
- An ordinary CRT television set is a simple form of accelerator.



Giant machines



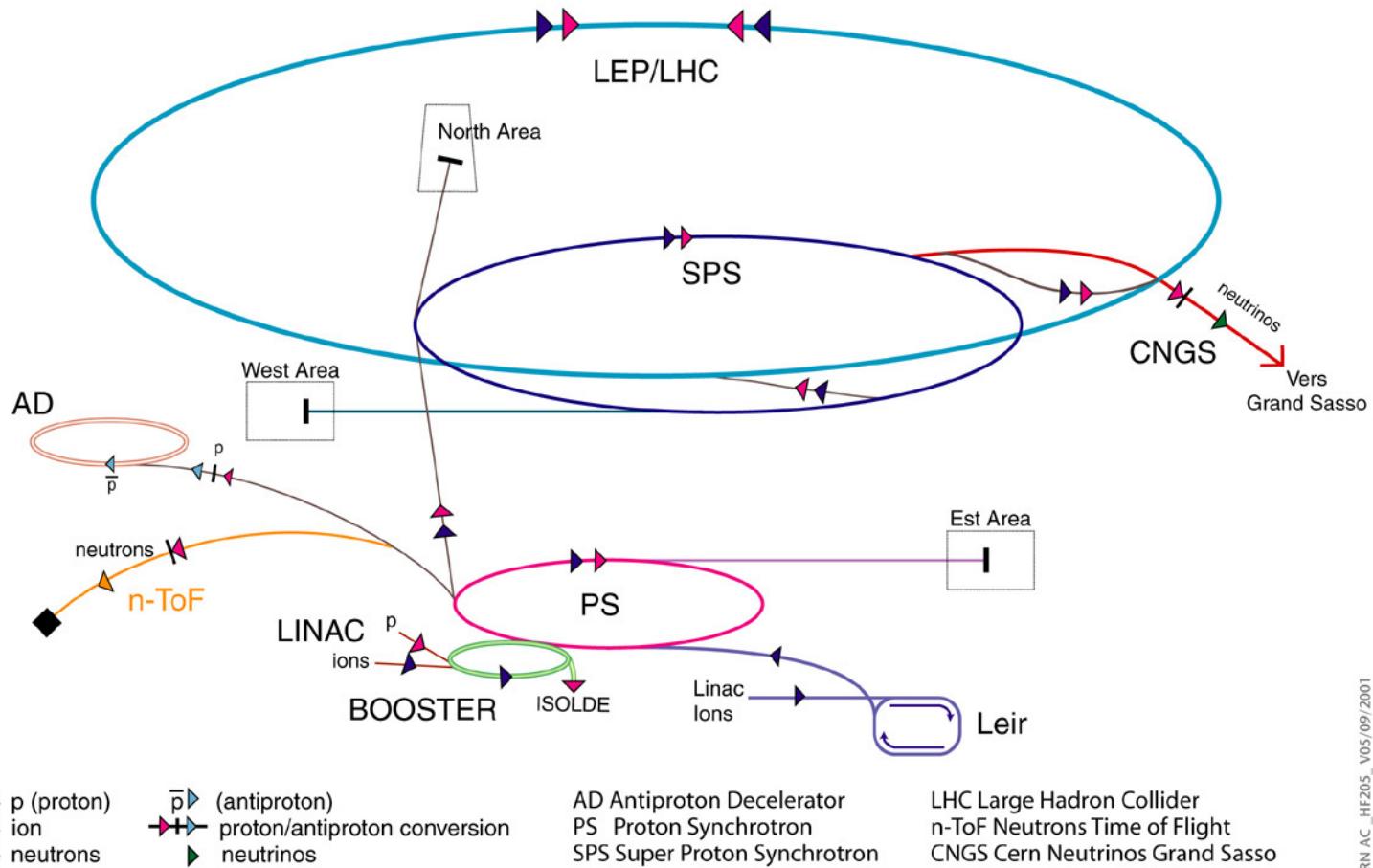
World biggest machine



- **LHC**: the world biggest accelerator, both in energy and size
- Grand start-up and perfect function at injection energy in September 2008
- An electrical fault halted the machine running
- First collisions in late 2009 (2.36 TeV)
- 7 TeV collisions in March 2010
- Higg bosons have been found on July 2012 !
- Record beam energy 6.5 TeV in April 2015
- Shut down for HL-LHC in late 2018

Complex machines

Accelerator chain of CERN (operating or approved projects)



The human's curiosity on the micro-world has always been the driving force behind the development of particle accelerators. The history of accelerators is a continuous upgrade for higher energy and better performance !

Then, what is the future of this technology, especially for the HEP machines?

BUT how?

Solutions:

Short wavelength accelerators

Motivations

- Sizes and costs reach the limit
- Traditional accelerators
 - Gradient: <100 MV/m limited by material breakdown
 - Thus large facilities
- To shrink the facility one needs higher gradient:
 - Higher frequency to avoid breakdown:
 - L band (1.3 GHz)=>S band (3 GHz)=>C band (4-8 GHz)
 - X band (11 GHz)=>Ku band (15 GHz)=>
 - To go further=> optical frequency (\sim 100 THz)
- How about using higher breakdown materials (e.g. dielectrics?)
- How about using material already broken (plasmas)?

Motivations

- For a given peak power P of the RF, the field in structure increases as wavelength reduced by

$$E \sim P^{1/2} / \lambda$$

- The increase in breakdown fields is predicted to scale as from $f^{1/4}$ to $f^{7/8}$.

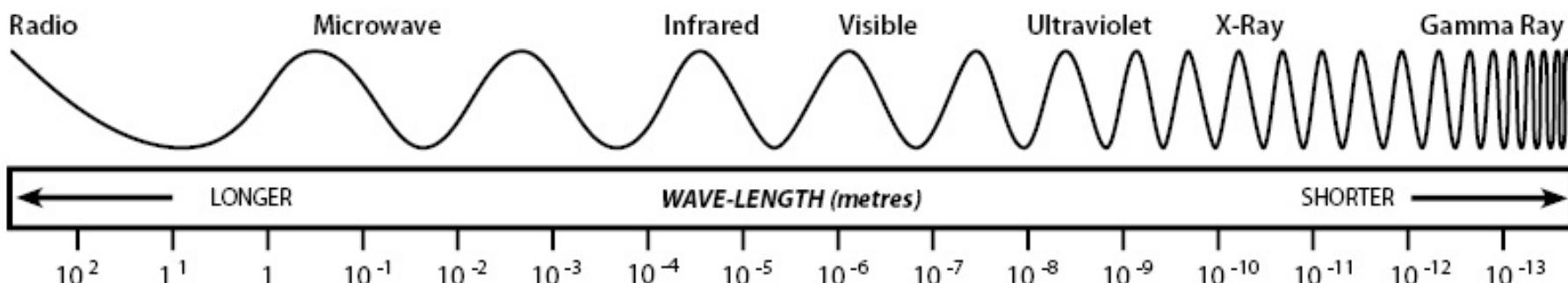
T. Katsouleas, AIP Proceedings 807 (2006)

THE ELECTRO MAGNETIC SPECTRUM

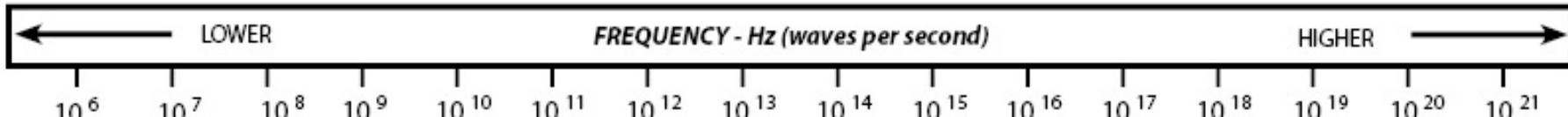
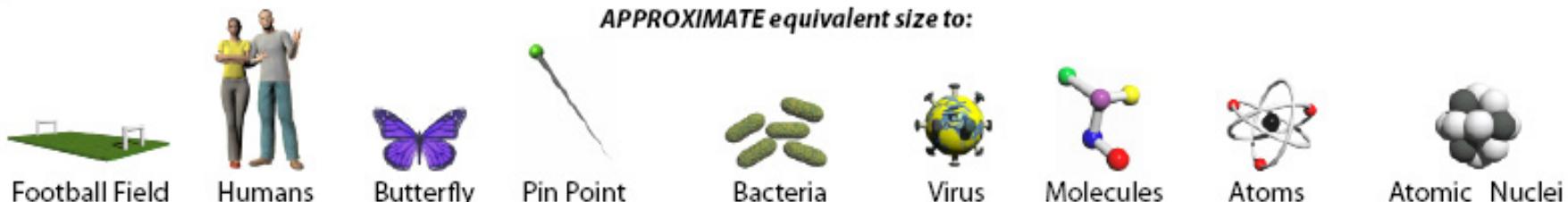
1 metre = 100cm 1 cm = 10mm 1 millimetre = 1000 microns 1 micron = 1000 nanometres (nm) - one nanometre is one billionth of a metre

$$10^{-5} = 0.00001 \quad 10^5 = 100,000$$

WAVE (type)



APPROXIMATE equivalent size to:



Electromagnetic Radiation detected by the human eye is called visible light and falls approximately between 700 and 400 nanometres

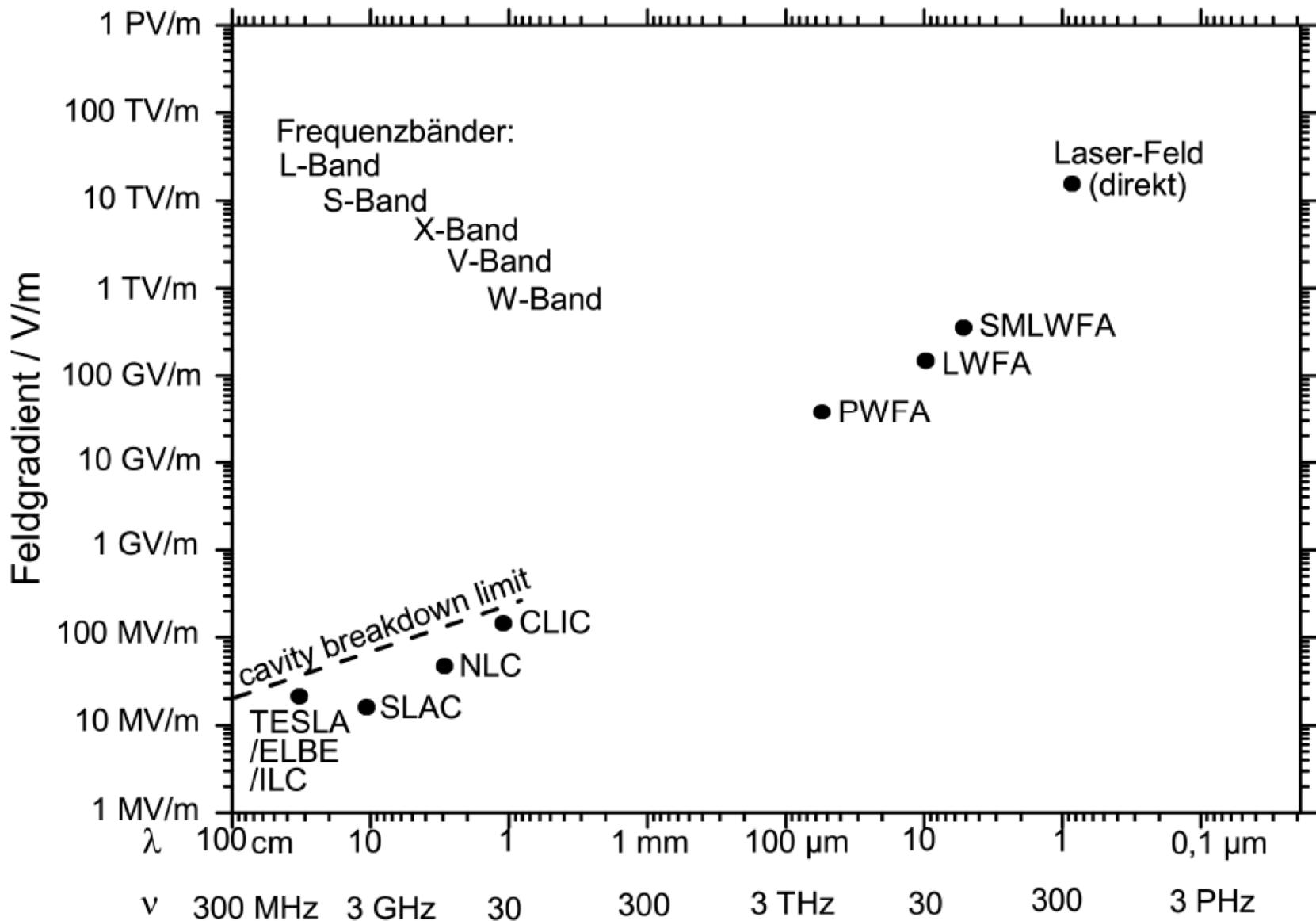


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Frequency bands

Frequency band	Frequency range (GHz)	Wavelength range (cm)
L band	1–2	15–30
S band	2–4	7.5–15
C band	4–8	3.75–7.5
X band	8–12	2.5–3.75
Ku band	12–18	1.67–2.5
K band	18–27	1.11–1.67
Ka band	27–40	0.75–1.11
V band	40–75	0.4–0.75
W band	75–110	0.27–0.4

Gradient vs. wavelength



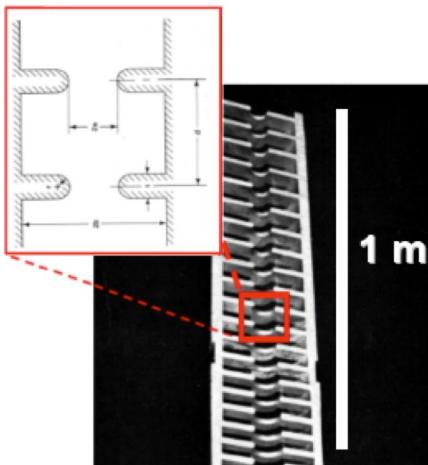
Comparisons

Conventional Accelerator

Copper Structure with irises

Powered by microwaves

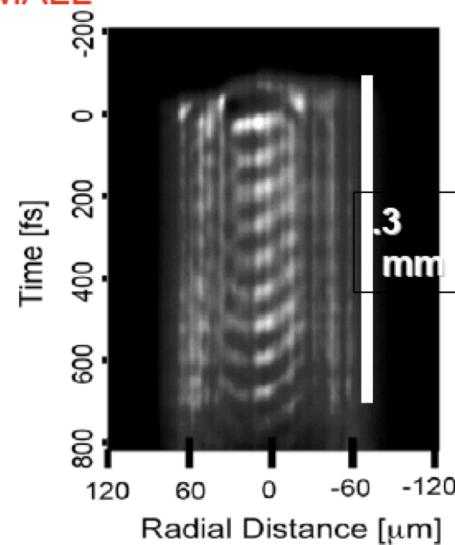
*Energy Gain 20 MV/m
Structure Diameter 10cm*



Plasma Accelerator

*Ionized Gas
Lifetime, few picoseconds
Powered by a Laser or
electron beam pulse
Energy Gain 20 GV/m
Diameter 0.1-1 mm*

BIG PHYSICS BECOMES SMALL



M.Downer U.Tex

Why plasma?

Long term future of High-Energy physics requires the need for new high-gradient technology

Gradients from 1GeV/m to 200 GeV/m are possible from relativistic plasma waves

Conventional Accelerators

- Limited by peak power and breakdown
- 20-50 MeV/m

Plasma

- No breakdown limit
- 10-200 GeV/m

Brief history

- Concept on laser-plasma based acceleration was proposed by [Tajima & Dawson in 1979](#).
- The key idea was to excite **large amplitude plasma electron waves by using short pulse laser (LWFA)** in high density plasma.
- However, there was no such a laser in that era, and beat wave could excite the plasma waves as well.
- In 1986, P.Chen et al proposed to use electron bunch to excite the plasma wave (**PWFA**) and this idea was confirmed by [Rosenzweig et al.\(1988\)](#).
- In 1992, [Kitagawa et al.](#) succeeded in electron acceleration by using **PBWA** (Plasma Beat wave) method.
- In 1995, [Nakajima et al.](#) succeeded to accelerate electrons up to 100 MeV by using **LWFA** method.
- In 1988, [Mourou et al.](#) invented **CPA** (Chirped Pulse Amplification) method for short pulse laser amplification and was put in practical use around 1995.

1st paper on plasma accelerator

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 4

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

23 JULY 1979



Laser Electron Accelerator

T. Tajima and J. M. Dawson

Department of Physics, University of California, Los Angeles, California 90024

(Received 9 March 1979)



An intense electromagnetic pulse can create a weak of plasma oscillations through the action of the nonlinear ponderomotive force. Electrons trapped in the wake can be accelerated to high energy. Existing glass lasers of power density 10^{18} W/cm^2 shone on plasmas of densities 10^{18} cm^{-3} can yield gigaelectronvolts of electron energy per centimeter of acceleration distance. This acceleration mechanism is demonstrated through computer simulation. Applications to accelerators and pulsers are examined.

Collective plasma accelerators have recently received considerable theoretical and experimental investigation. Earlier Fermi¹ and McMillan² considered cosmic-ray particle acceleration by moving magnetic fields¹ or electromagnetic waves.² In terms of the realizable laboratory technology for collective accelerators,

the wavelength of the plasma waves in the wake:

$$L_i = \lambda_w / 2 = \pi c / \omega_p. \quad (2)$$

An alternative way of exciting the plasmon is to inject two laser beams with slightly different frequencies (with frequency difference $\Delta\omega \sim \omega_p$) so that the beat distance of the packet becomes

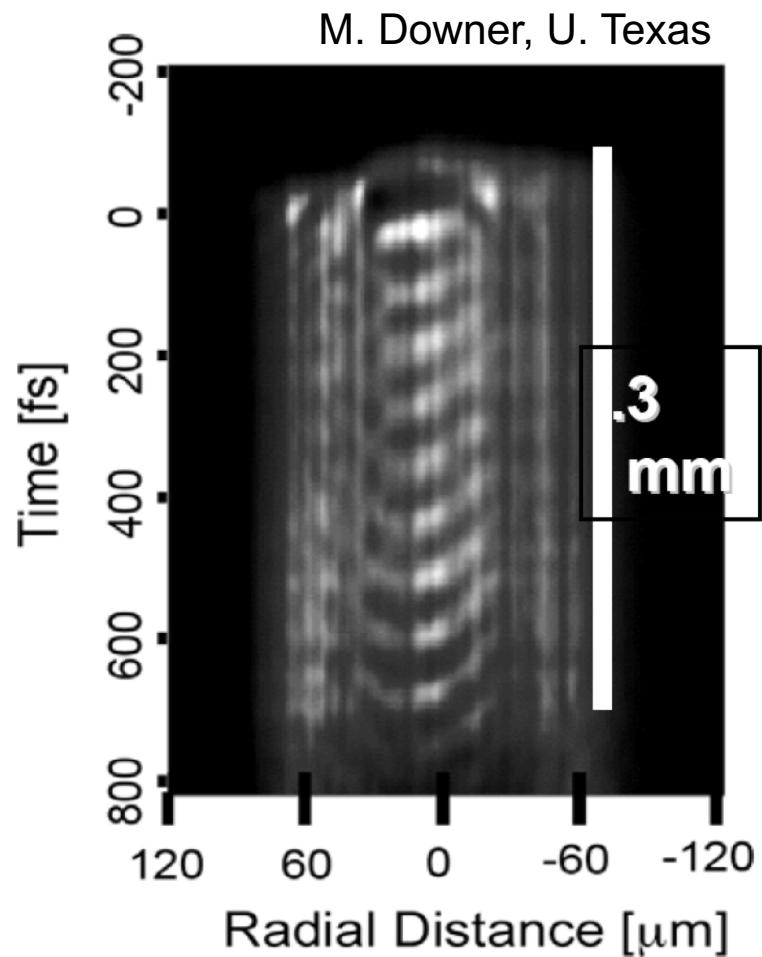
Accelerating field in plasma is 3-4 orders of magnitude higher than conventional accelerators!

Highlights of plasma accelerators

Acceleration, Radiation Sources, Refraction, Medical Applications



Our dream



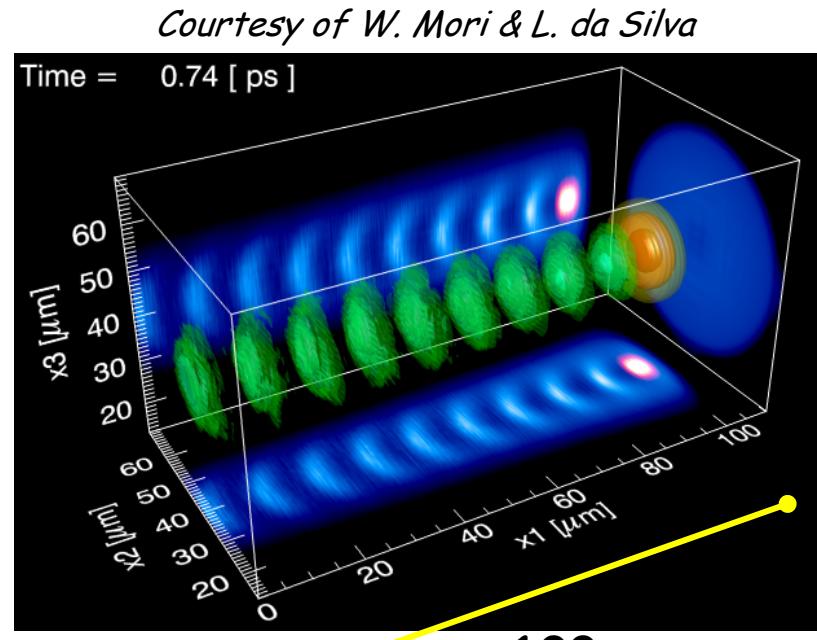
Conventional accelerator limitations

$E\text{-field}_{\max} \approx \text{few } 10 \text{ MeV /meter}$ (Breakdown)
 $R > R_{\min}$ Synchrotron radiation



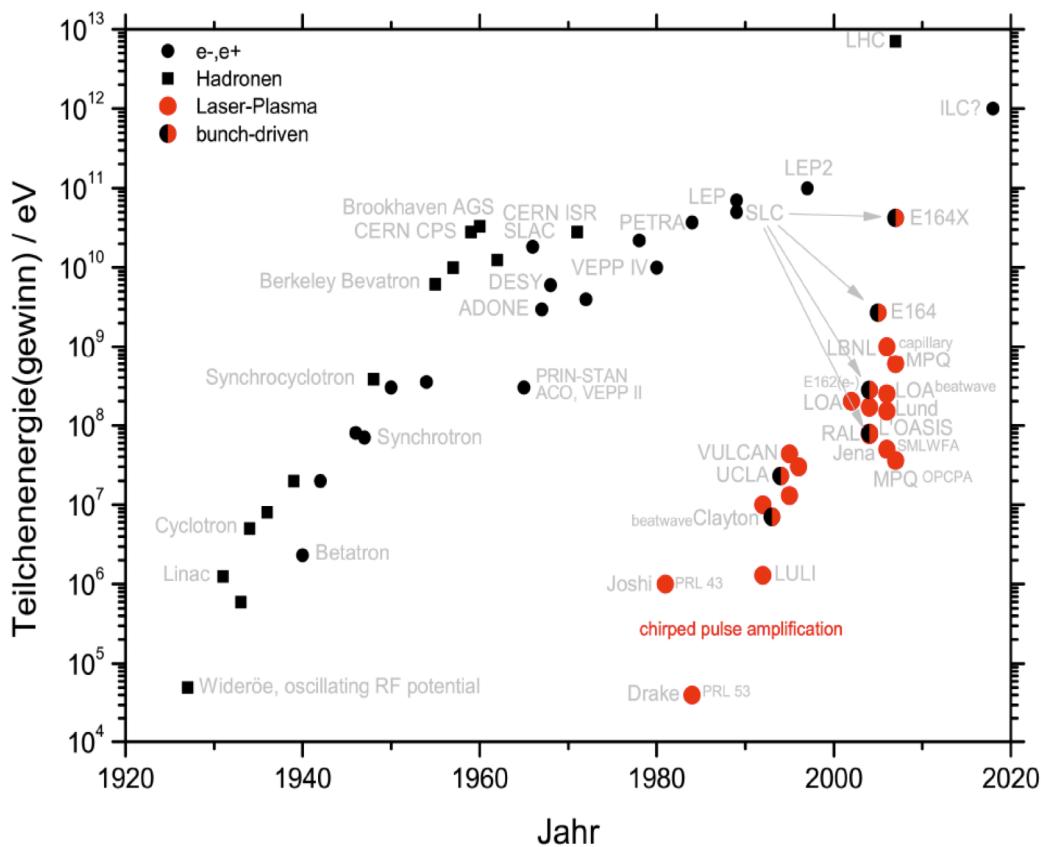
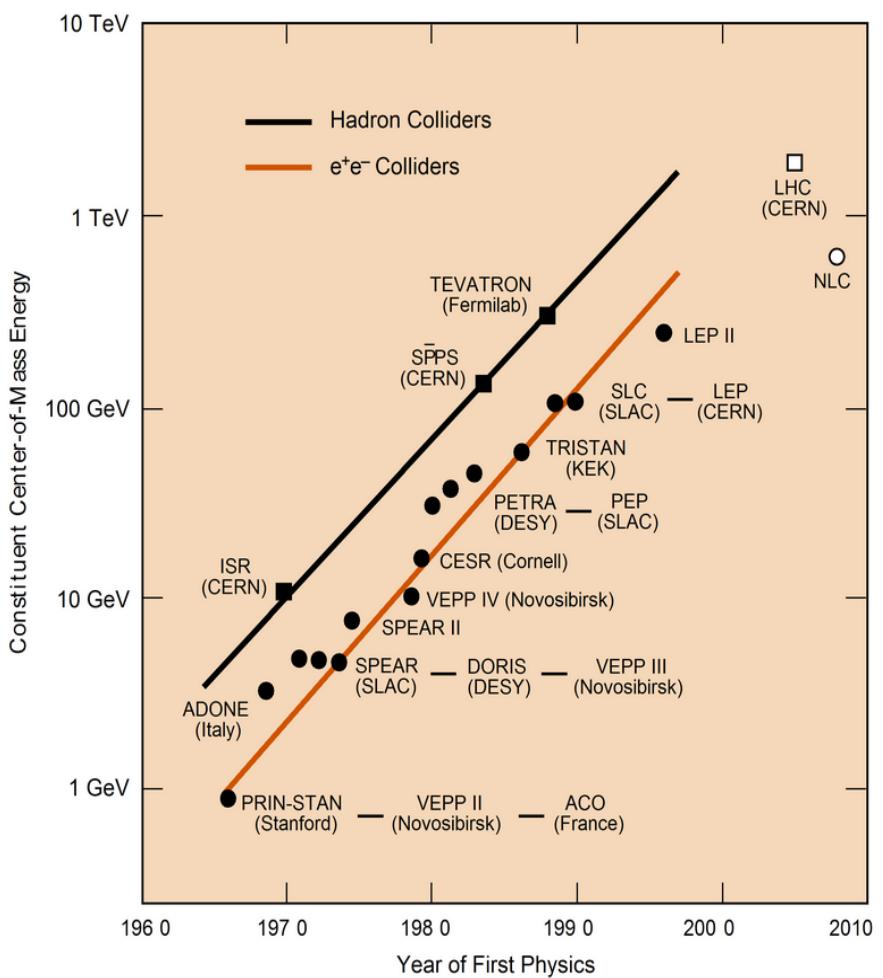
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RF cavity



Plasma cavity

New Livingston plot

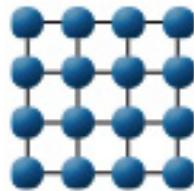


What is plasma?

Solid



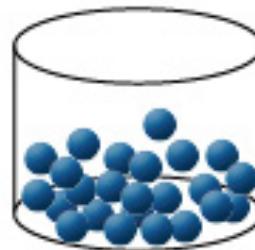
Example
Ice



Liquid



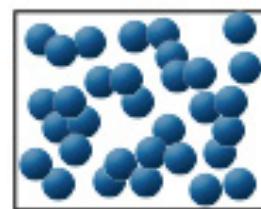
Example
Water



Gas



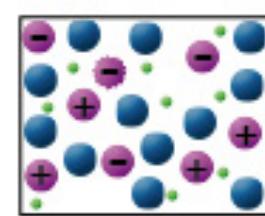
Example
Steam



Plasma



Example
Ionised Gas



● Molecules

– + Ions

• Electrons

A D D H E A T

What is plasma?

- What is a plasma?

Plasma is loosely described as an electrically neutral medium of unbound positive and negative particles (i.e. the overall charge of a plasma is roughly zero).

- Quasi-neutrality

Number of densities of electrons n_e , and ions n_i , with charge state Z are locally balanced $n_e \approx Zn_i$

- Breakdown medium (no further breakdown)

Free electrons + ions

Types of plasmas

Type	Electron density n_e (cm ⁻³)	Temperature T_e (eV*)
Stars	10^{26}	2×10^3
Laser fusion	10^{25}	3×10^3
Magnetic fusion	10^{15}	10^3
Laser-produced	$10^{18} - 10^{24}$	$10^2 - 10^3$
Discharges	10^{12}	1-10
Ionosphere	10^6	0.1
ISM	1	10^{-2}

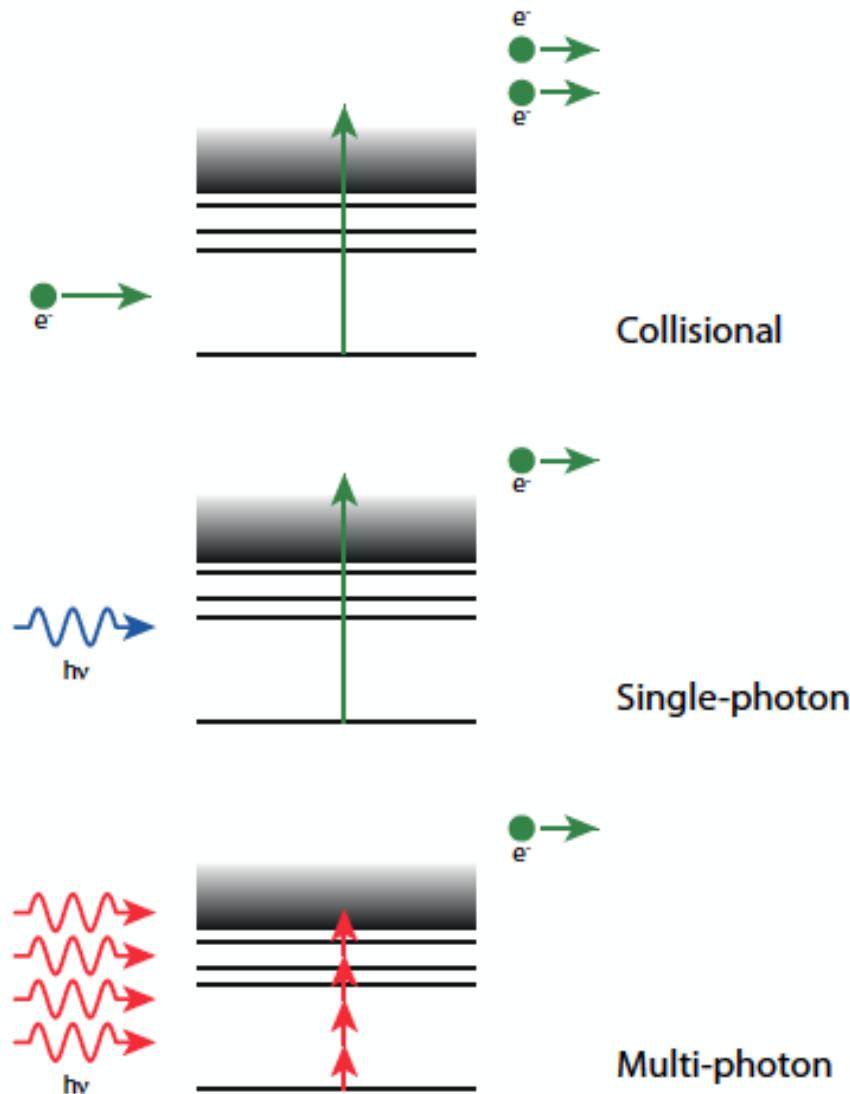
Specifications of plasmas

* 1 eV=11600 K

Plasma sources

- Gas ionization to plasma
- Several ways to produce plasma
- Lasers, RF (DC) field, particle beams can be used to produce plasmas
 - Collisional ionization
 - Single photon ionization
 - Multi-photon ionization

Plasma sources



Ionization of gas into plasma

Components in plasmas:

Electrons

Ions

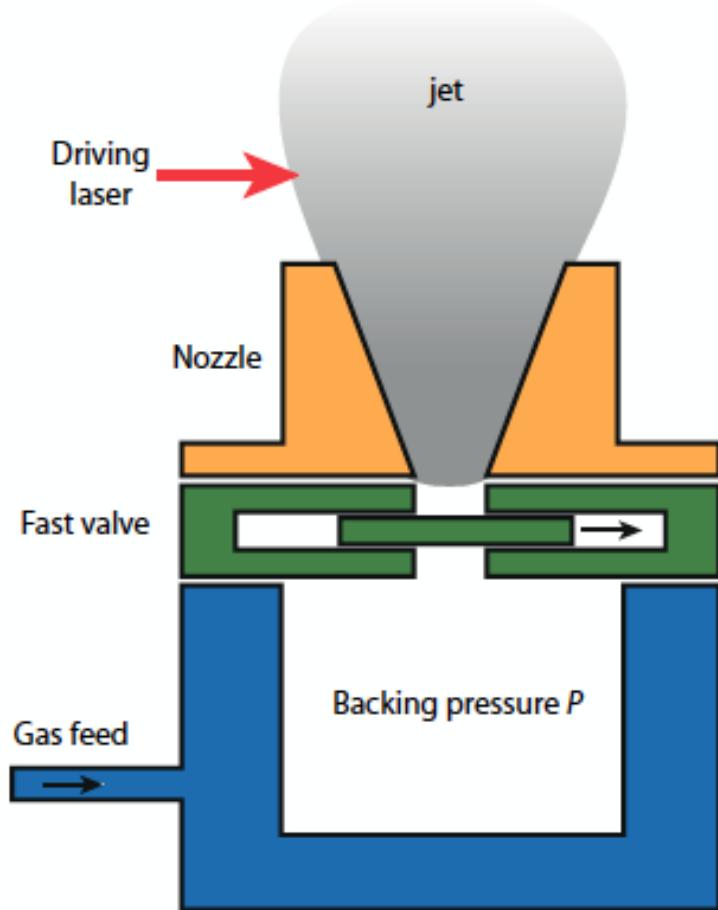
Atoms (molecules)-not ionized

Plasma sources in use

- Supersonic gas jet (LWFA)
- Discharge plasma source (LWFA+PWFA)
- Capillary discharge waveguide (LWFA+PWFA)
- Heat pipe ovens (PWFA)
- Others (helicon plasma source)

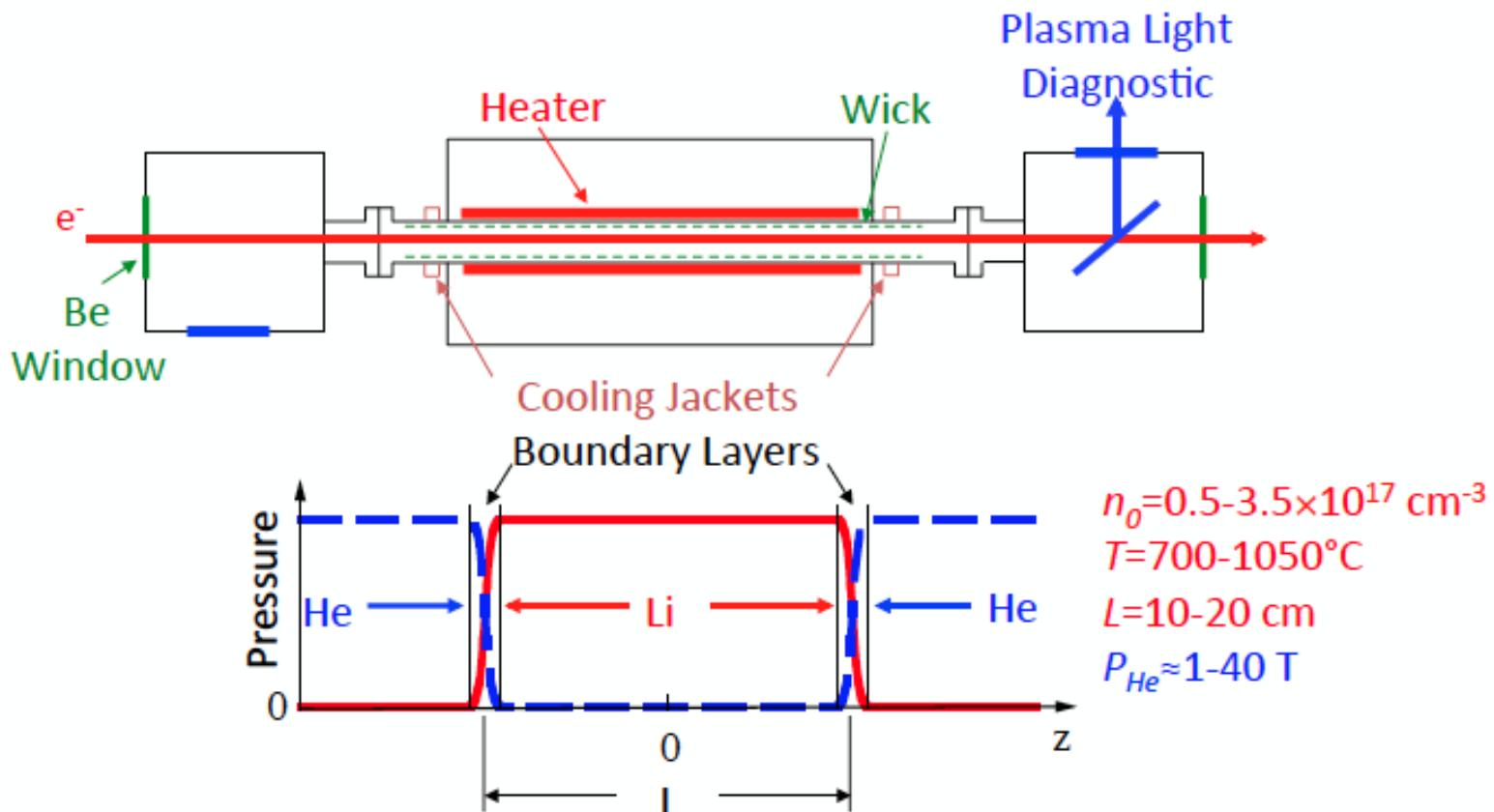
Supersonic gas jet

- ▶ Supersonic nozzles provide near-flat-top density profile for laser wakefield experiments
- ▶ Plasma density controlled by varying backing pressure behind jet -
 - Typically 10 - 100 bar depending on nozzle diameter and desired density
- ▶ n_e typically $10^{17} - 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- ▶ Length typically few mm
 - larger nozzle diameters give lower densities (fortuitously matched to increase in dephasing length)



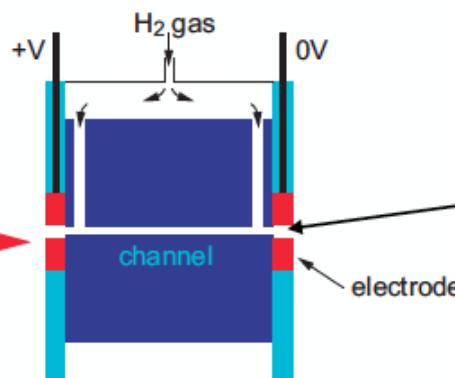
S. Hooker, talk at CERN CAS, 2014

Heat pipe ovens

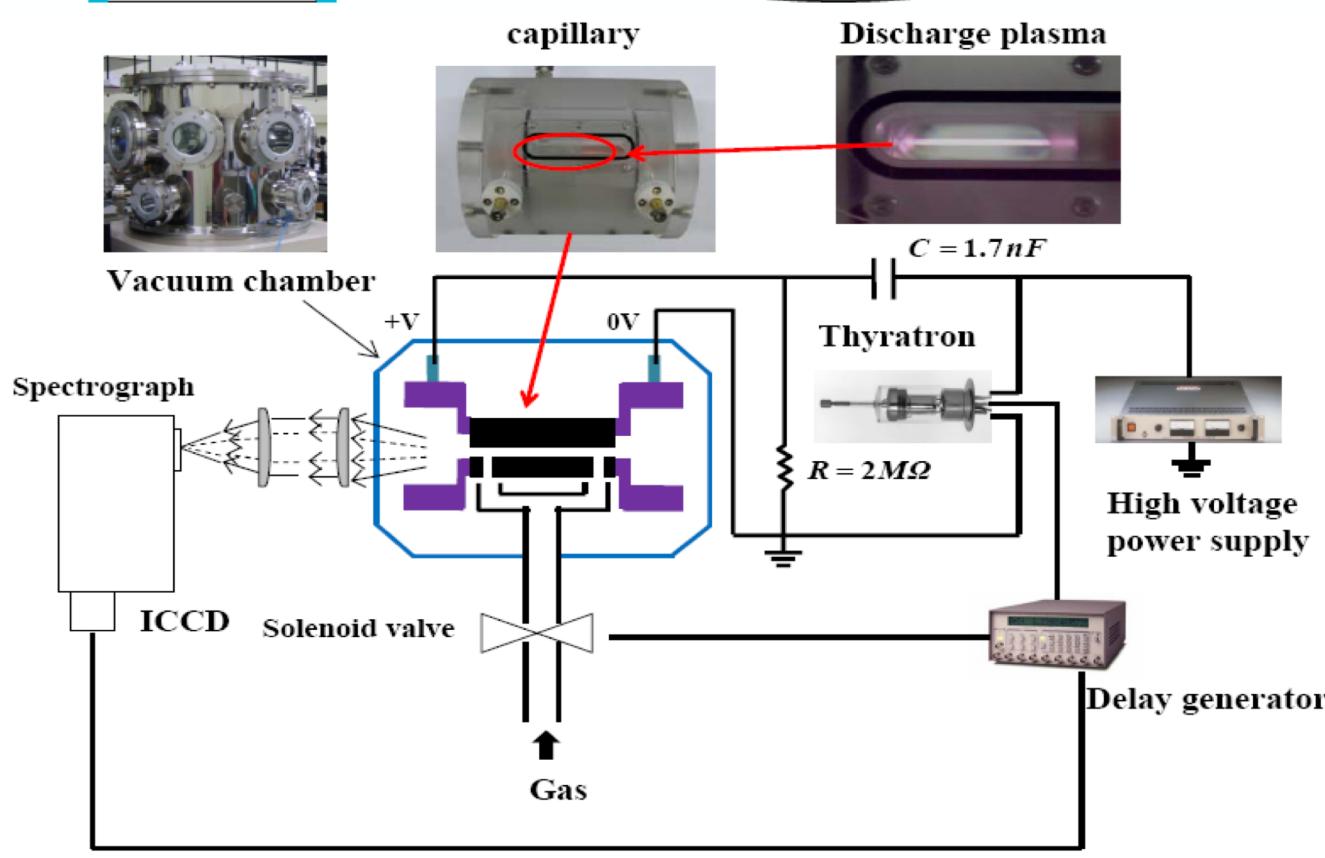
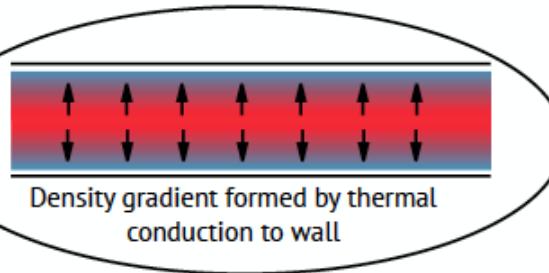


P. Muggli et al. IEEE Trans. Plasm. Sci. 27 791 (1999)

Discharge plasma source

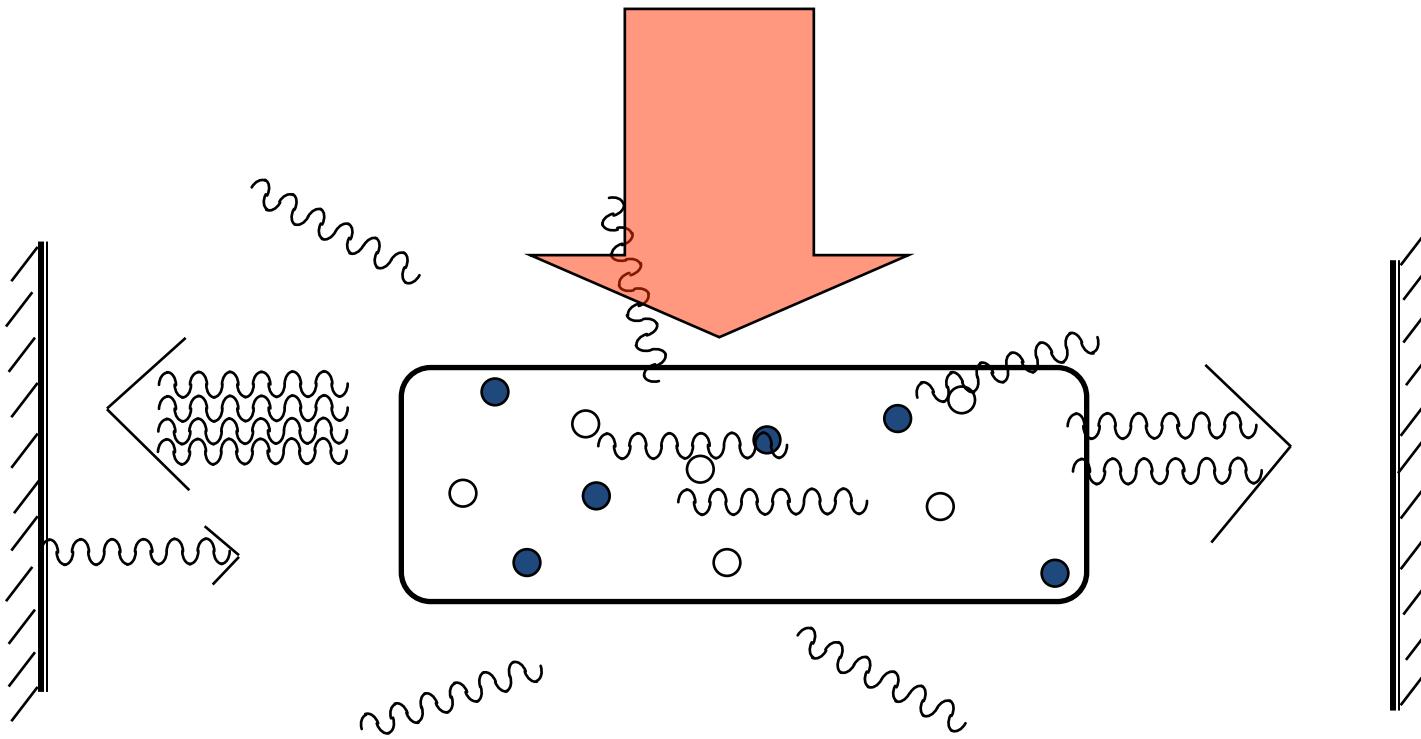


D.J. Spence & S.M. Hooker *Phys. Rev. E* **63** 015401 (2000)
A. Butler *et al.* *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **89** 185003 (2002)
N.A. Bobrova *et al.* *Phys. Rev. E* **65** 016407 (2002)



Lasers

Light amplification in an optical cavity

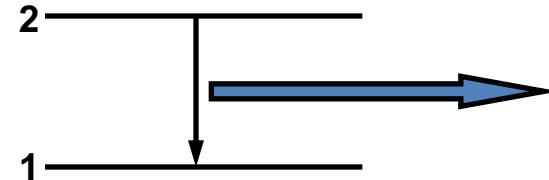


Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation (LASER)

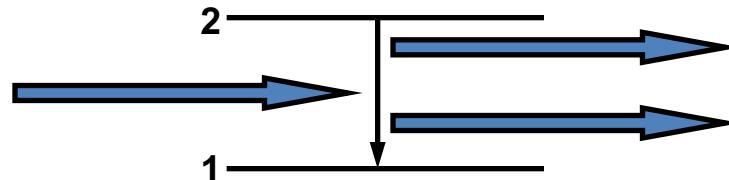
Three processes

Three basic processes:

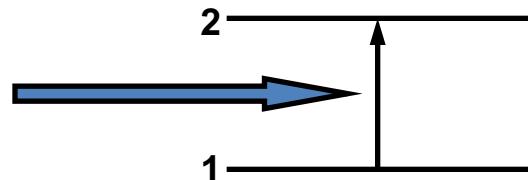
Spontaneous Emission



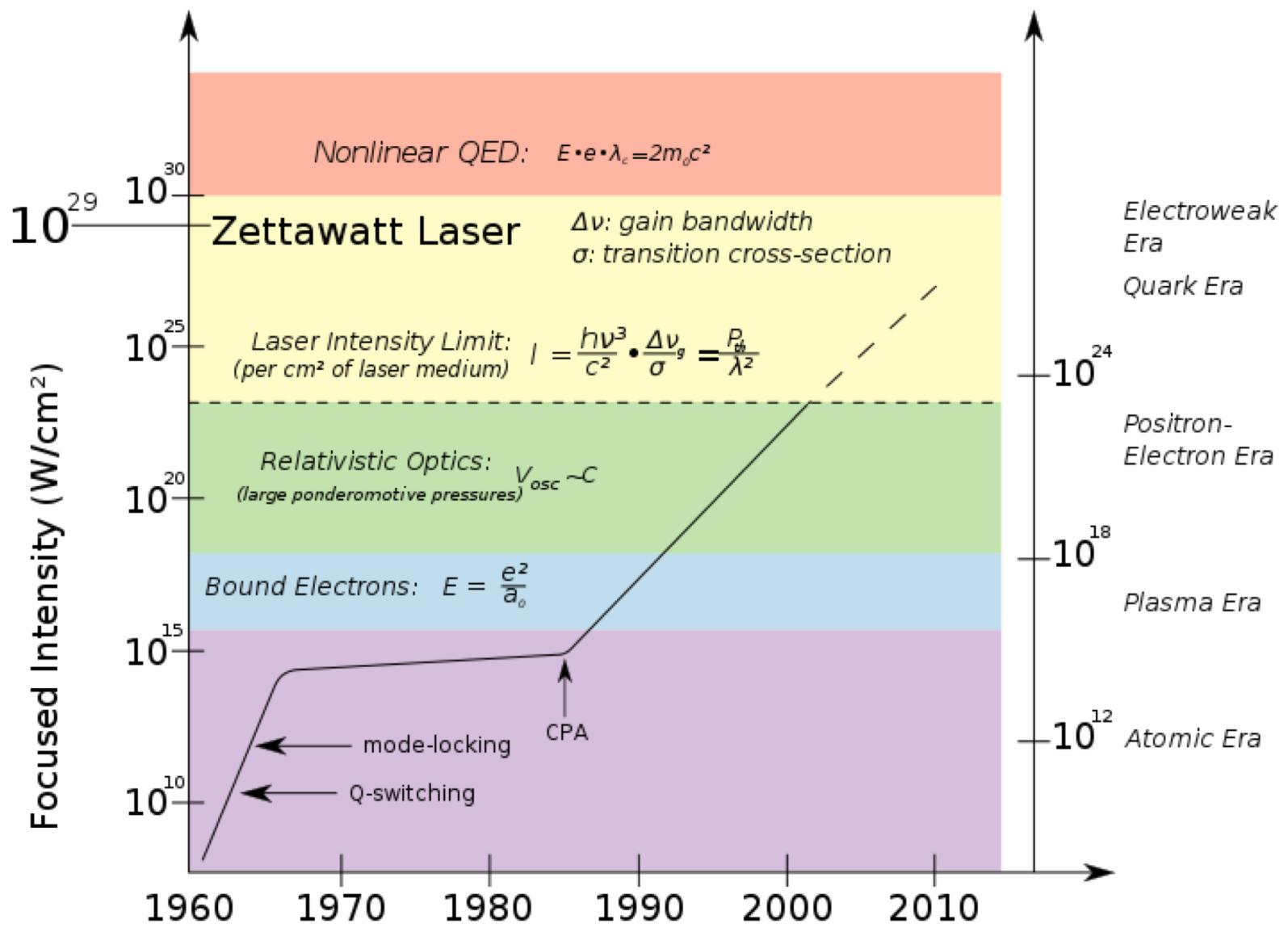
Stimulated Emission



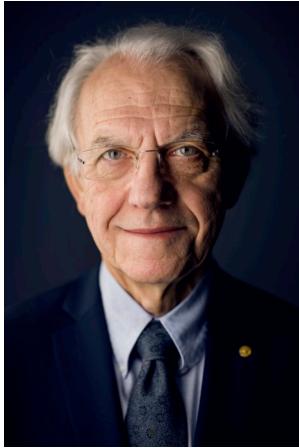
Absorption



Modern lasers



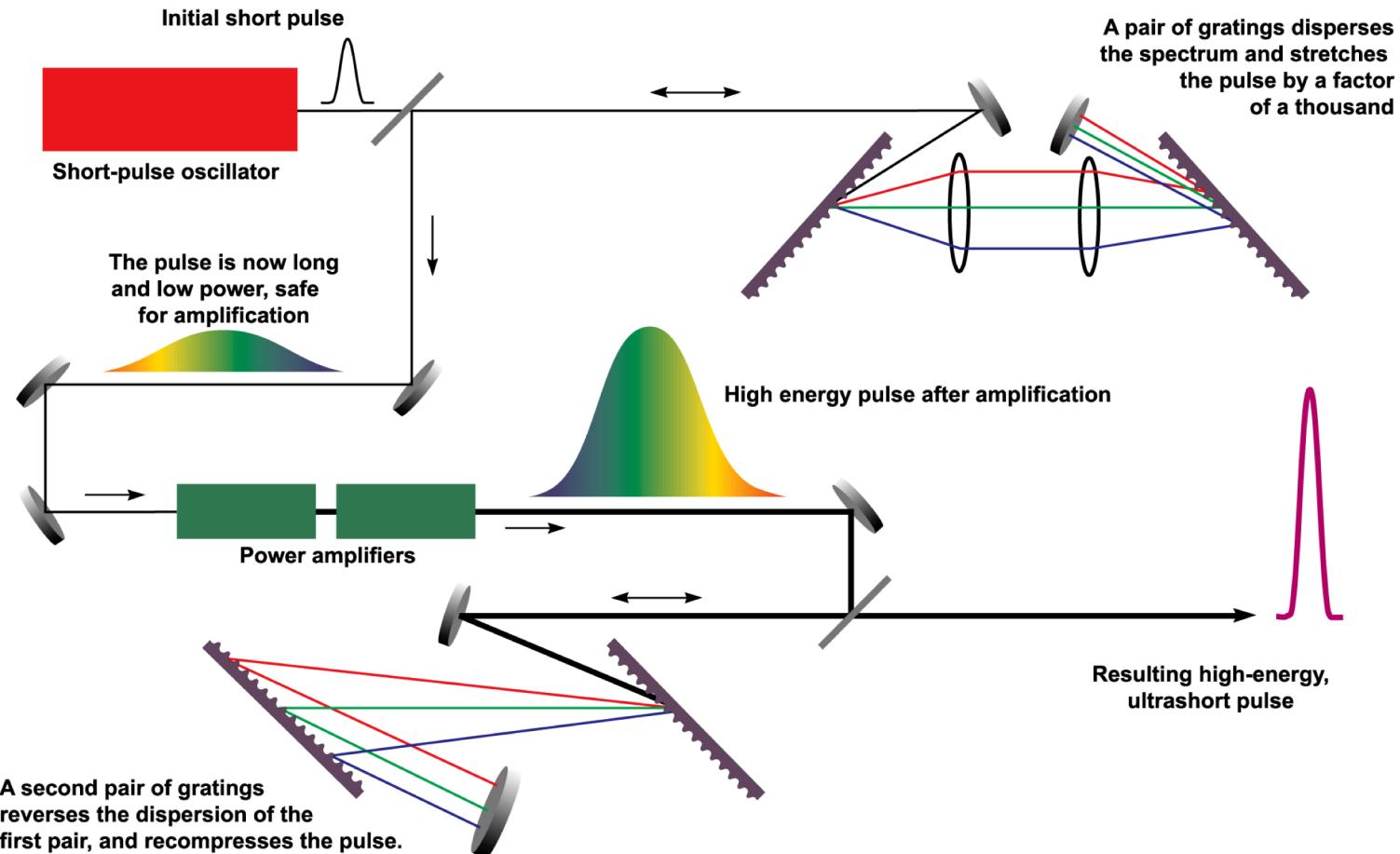
Chirp pulse amplification (CPA)



G. Mourou



D. Strickland



2018 Nobel Prize in Physics !

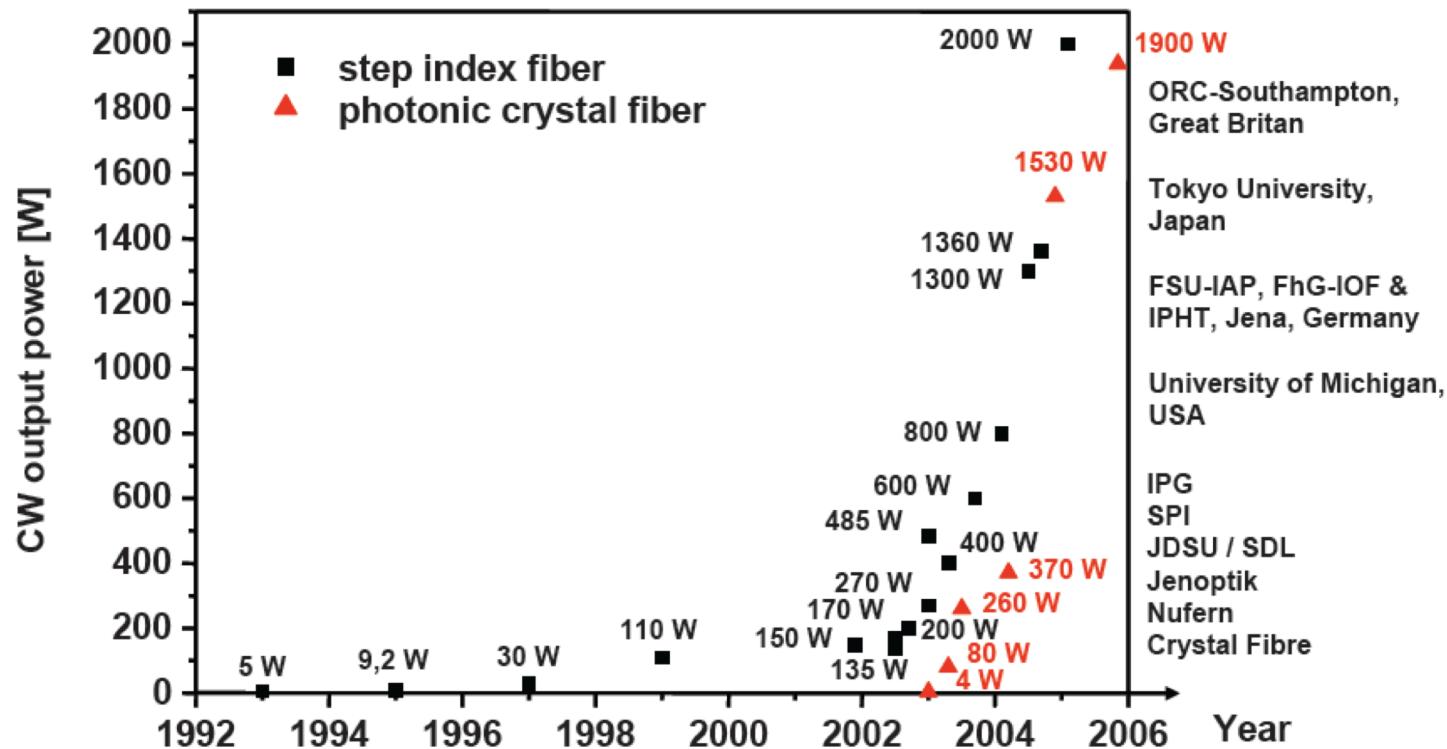
New trend: Fiber lasers

Tailored Light
Tailored Light - Licht nach Maß

Diode-pumped double clad fiber laser (cw output)

evolution of cw fiber laser

> 6 kW @ 2010

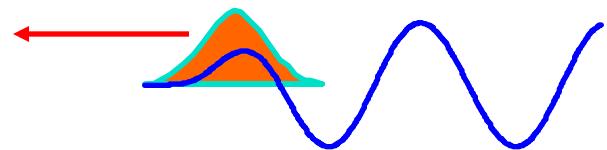


Advantages of lasers

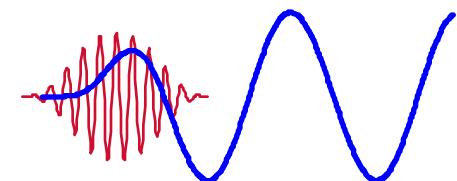
- Most experiments around the world work on laser wakefield acceleration.
- Lasers can be procured in a university framework.
- With laser-generated wakefields you can **capture and accelerate plasma-electrons to generate the beam** from scratch.
- With present state-of-the-art laser one can create mono-energetic beams via LWFA!
- No need for heavy beam infrastructure up to some beam energy.
- The more powerful the laser, the higher the energy of the beam that one can create!

Types of plasma-based accelerators

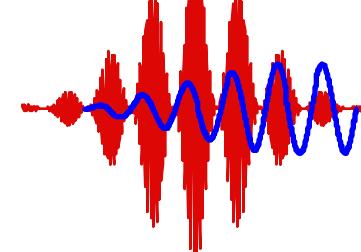
- Plasma Wake Field Accelerator(PWFA)
A high energy electron/proton bunch



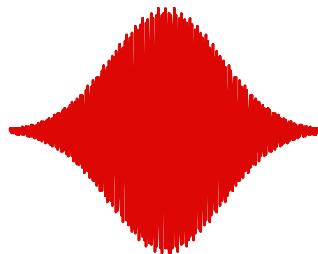
- Laser Wake Field Accelerator(LWFA)
A single short-pulse of photons



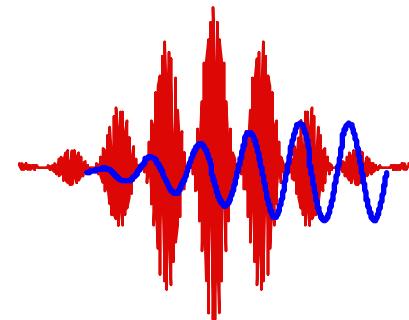
- Plasma Beat Wave Accelerator(PBWA)
Two-frequencies, i.e., a train of pulses



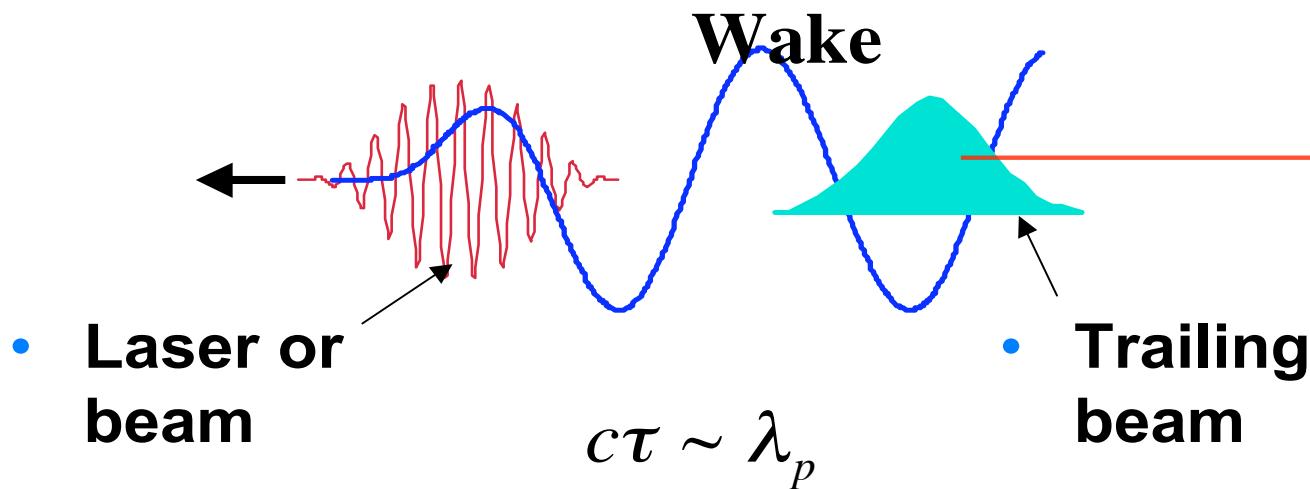
- Self Modulated Laser
Wake Field Accelerator
(SMLWFA)
**Raman forward scattering
Instability**



evolves to



Basic principle-laser wakefield accelerators



The key is the super high accelerating gradient!

$$E_{Acc} \approx \sqrt{n_p [cm^{-3}]} V/cm$$

e.g. $n_p = 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, the accelerating field will be 100 GeV/m!

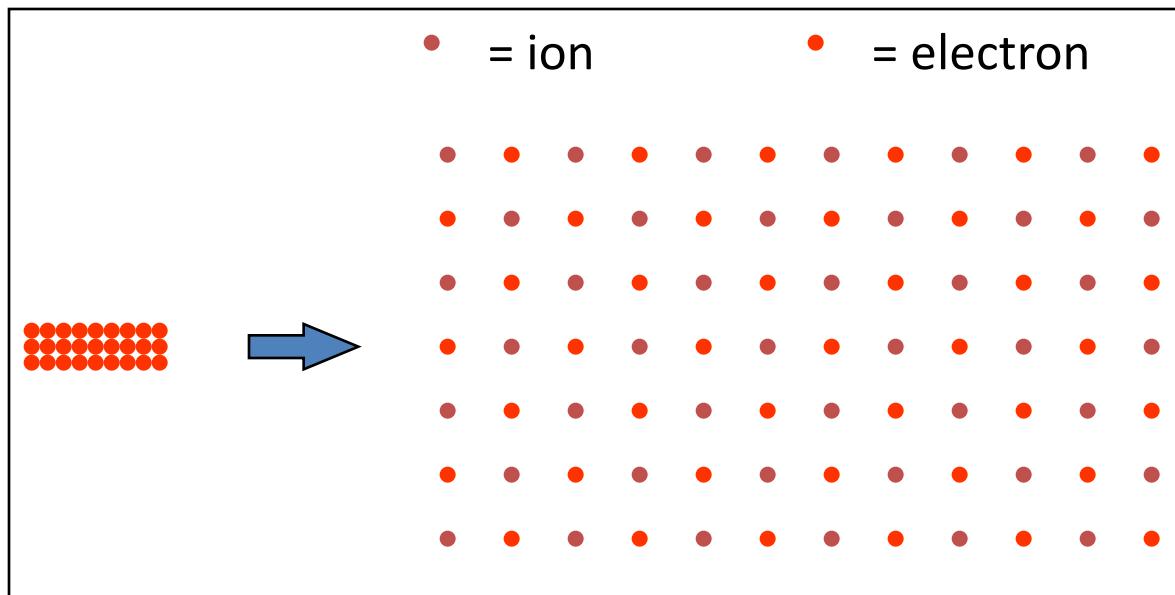
3 orders of magnitude higher than the fields in conventional accelerators !

Basic principles

I) Generate homogeneous plasma channel:

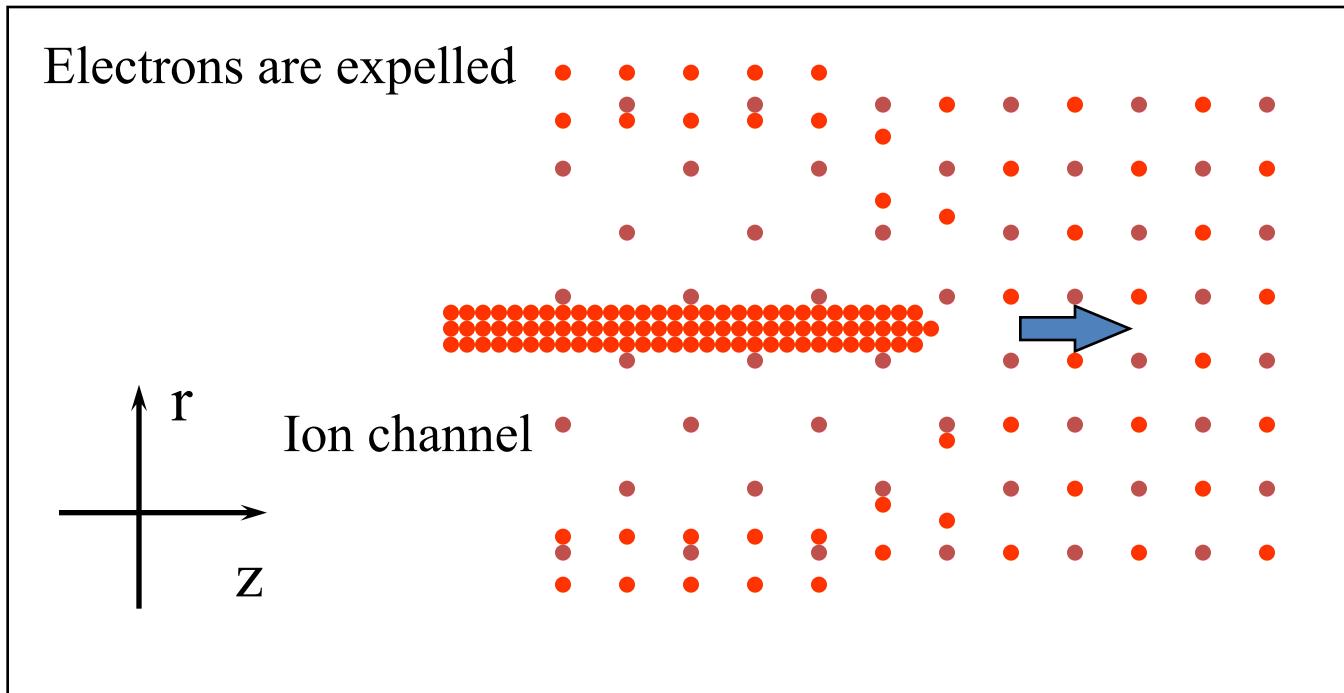


II) Send laser beam or electron beam towards plasma:



Basic principles

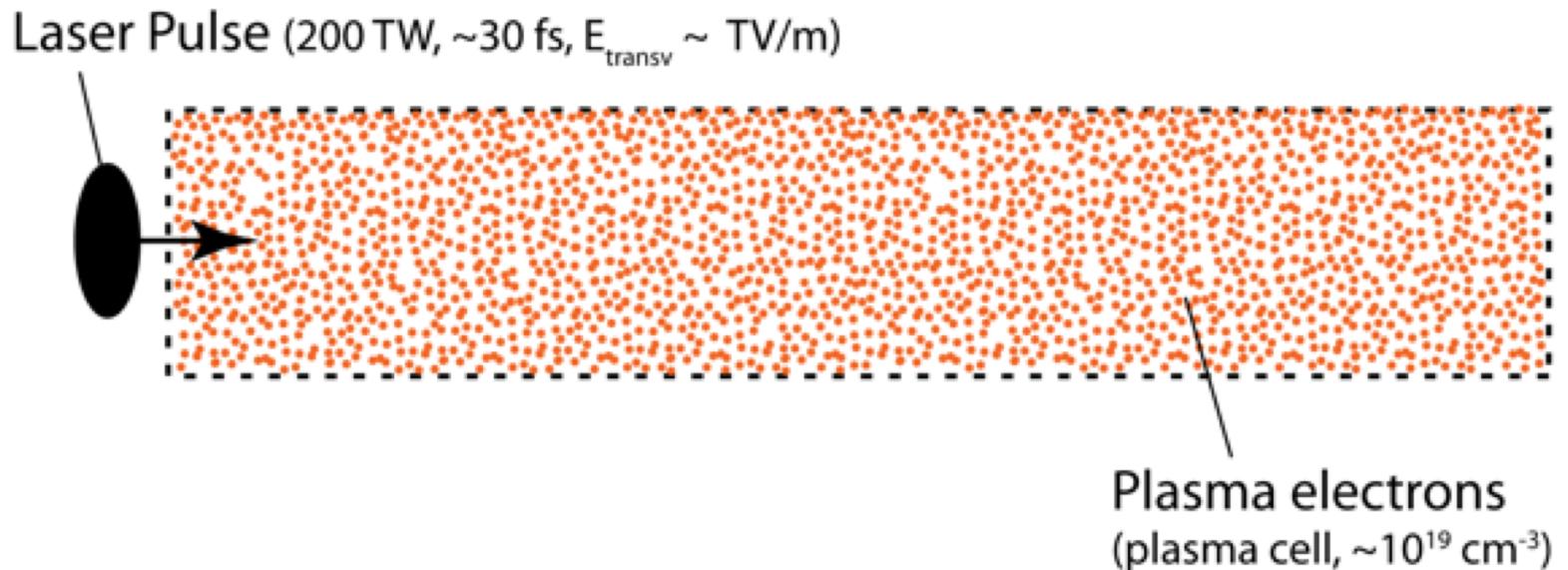
III) Excite plasma wakefields:



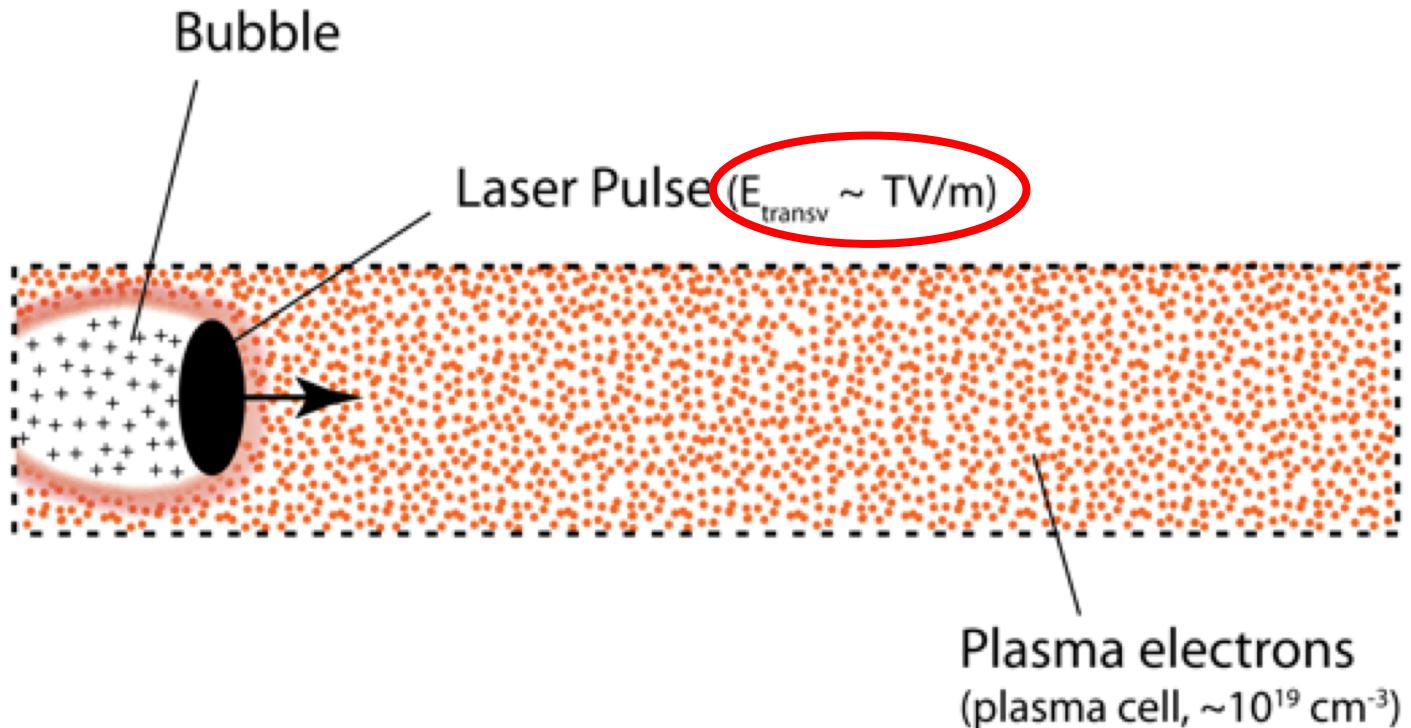
Ponderomotive force or space charge force of the beams ejects plasma electrons (ambient electrons) promptly along radial trajectories

Pure ion channel is left: Ion-focused regime, underdense plasma

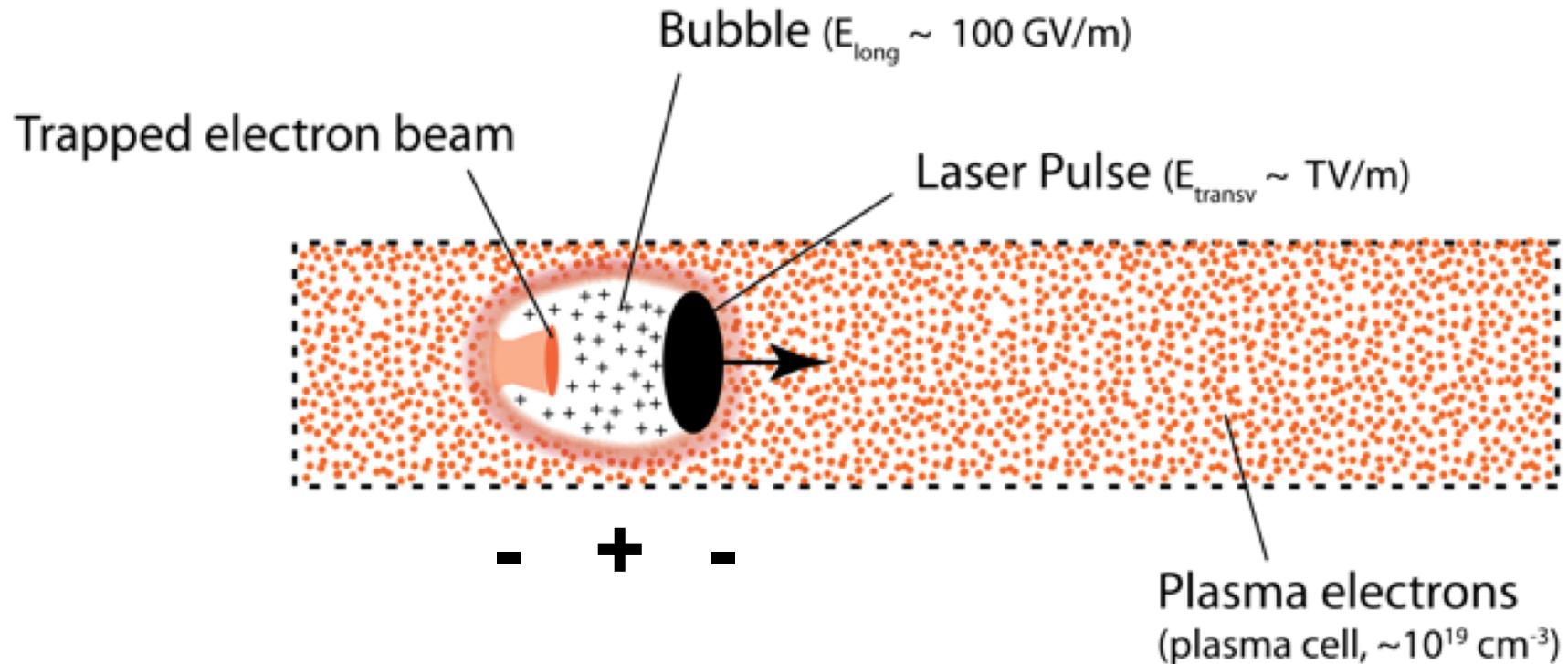
Laser plasma acceleration



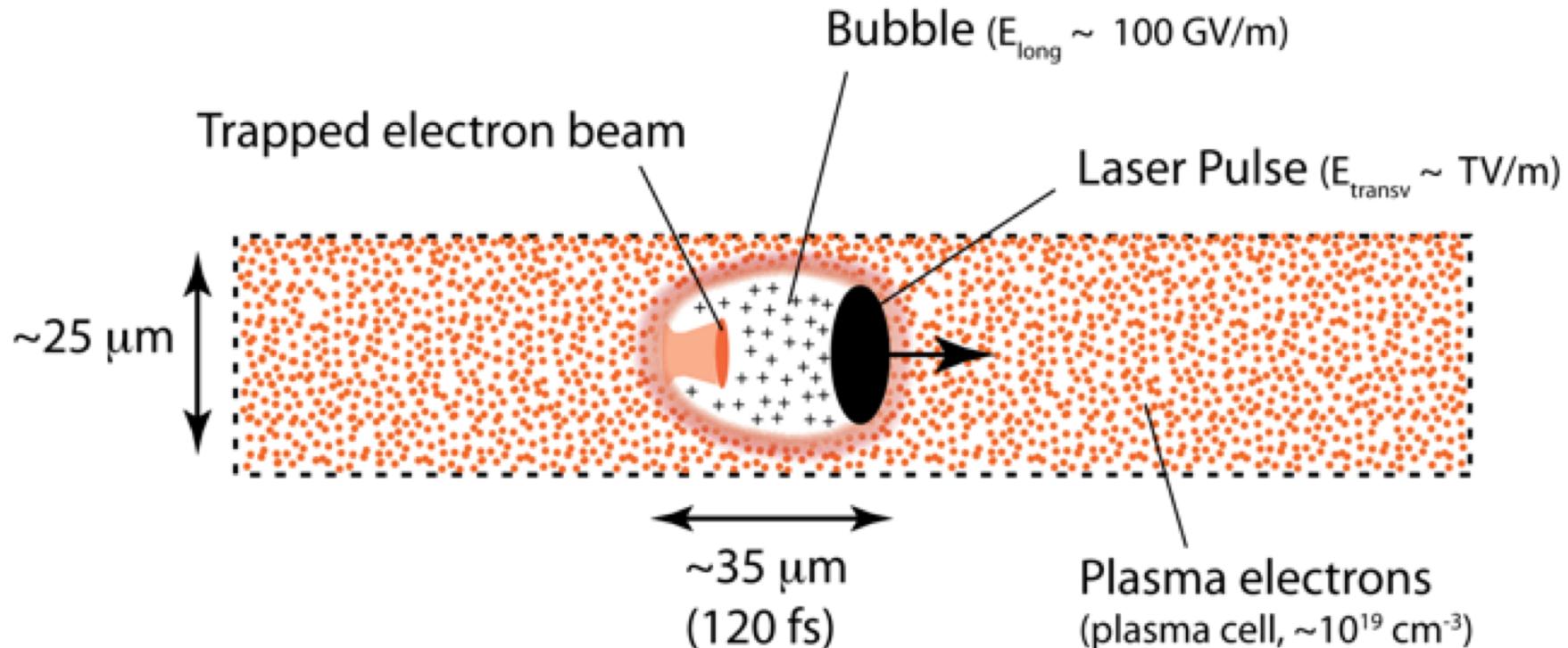
Laser plasma acceleration



Laser plasma acceleration

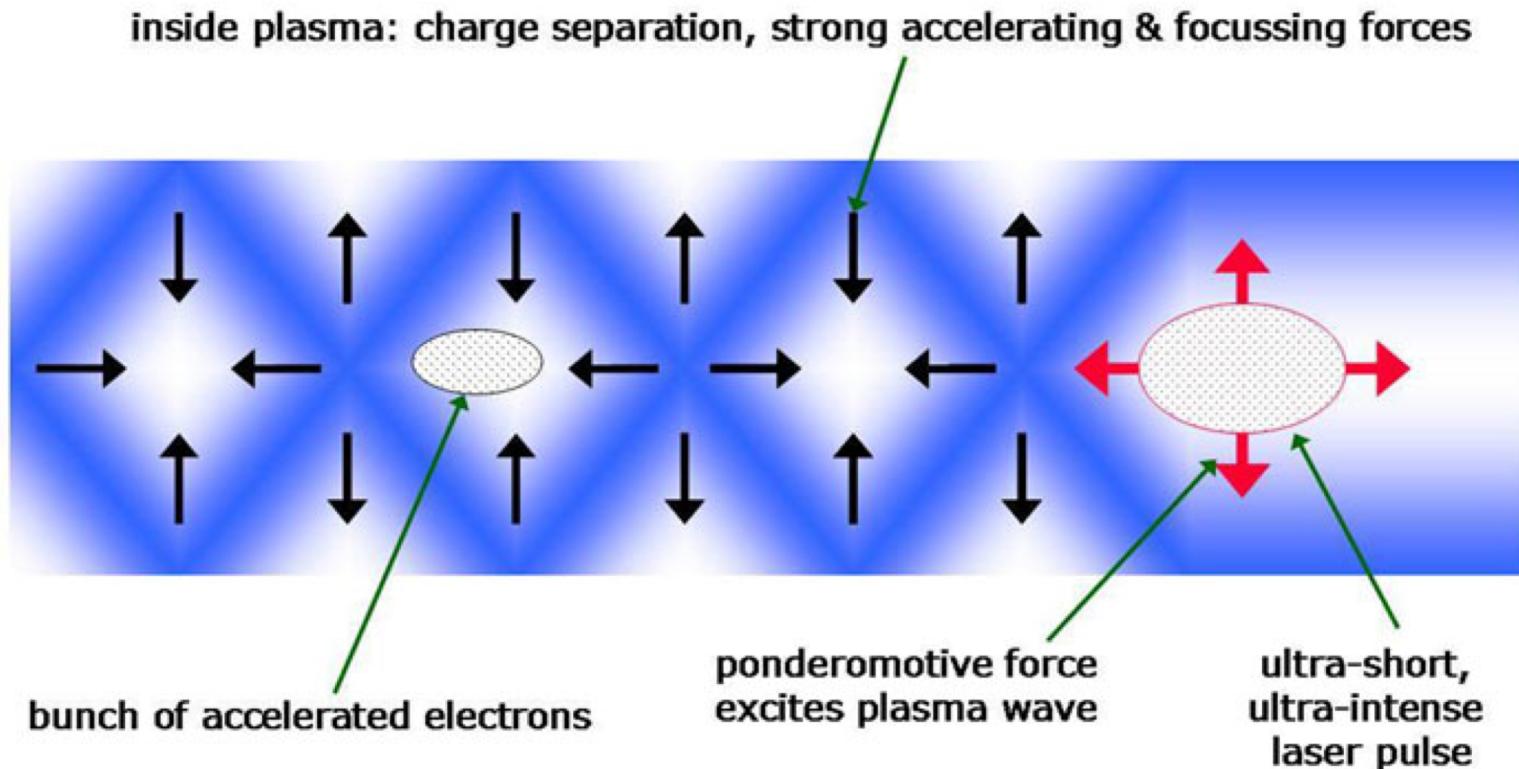


Laser plasma acceleration



This accelerator fits into a human hair!

Basic principles



A ponderomotive force (red arrows) arising from the light pressure pushes aside the plasma electrons to generate the wake. The electrostatic fields associated with this wake is utilised to produce accelerating fields which are 3-4 orders of magnitude larger than is possible in the RF cavity of a conventional accelerator.

Laser parameters

Written the laser field in term so the vector potential \mathbf{A}

$$\mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{c\partial t}, \quad \mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$$

Define the normalized vector potential as

$$\mathbf{a} = \frac{e\mathbf{A}}{m_e c^2}$$

And the **laser strength parameter** is given by

$$a_0 = \left(\frac{2e^2 \lambda_0^2 I}{\pi m_e^2 c^5} \right)^{1/2} \cong 0.855 \times 10^{-9} I^{1/2} [\text{W/cm}^2] \lambda_0 [\mu\text{m}]$$

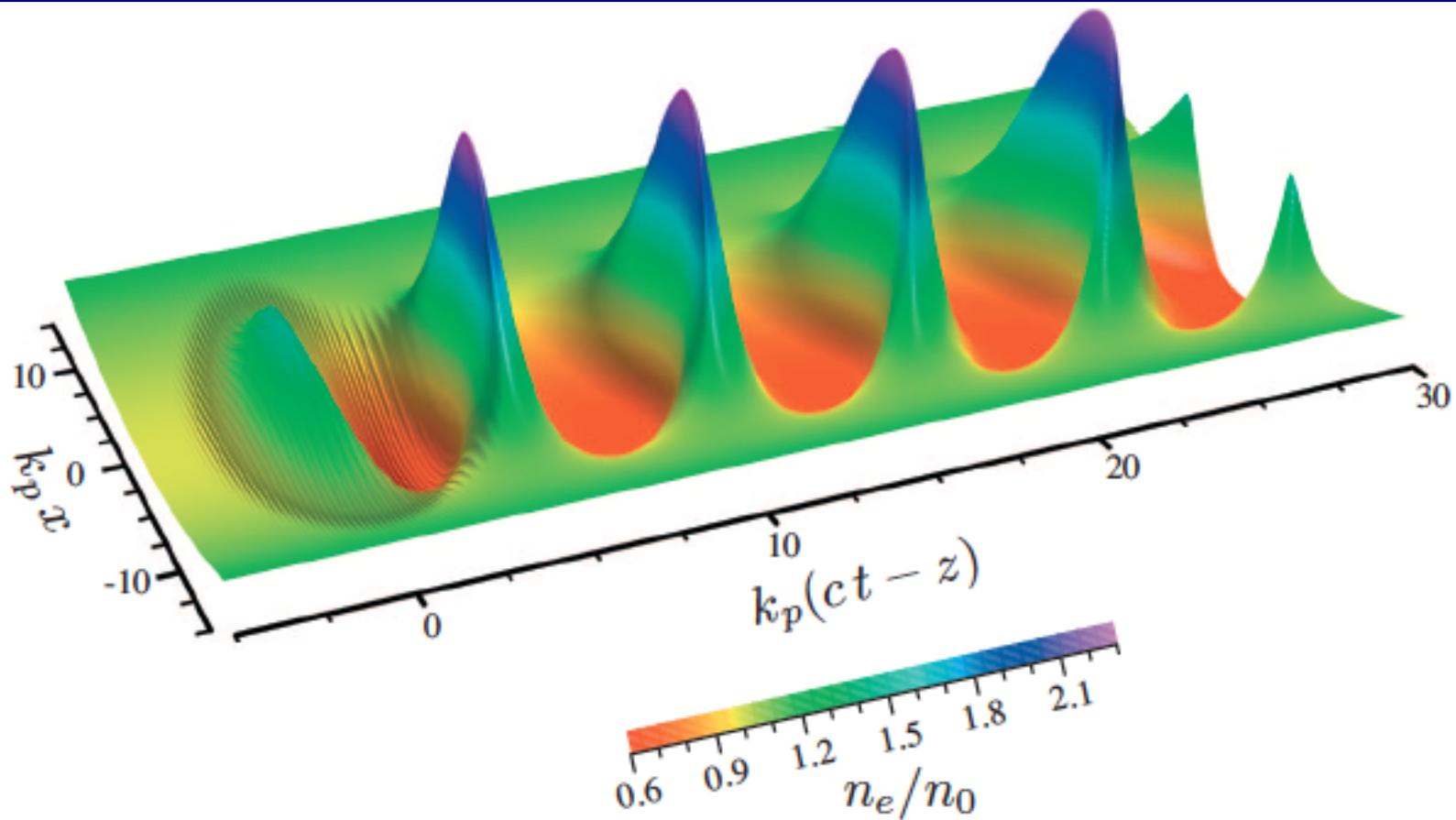
I : laser peak intensity, λ is the wavelength

The amplitude of the transverse electric field of linearly polarized laser is

$$E_L [\text{TV/m}] = \frac{m_e c^2 k}{e} a_0 \cong 3.21 \frac{a_0}{\lambda [\mu\text{m}]} \cong 2.7 \times 10^{-9} I^{1/2} [\text{W/cm}^2]$$

At $I = 1 \times 10^{18} \text{ W/cm}^2$, $E_L = 2.7 \text{ TV/m}$

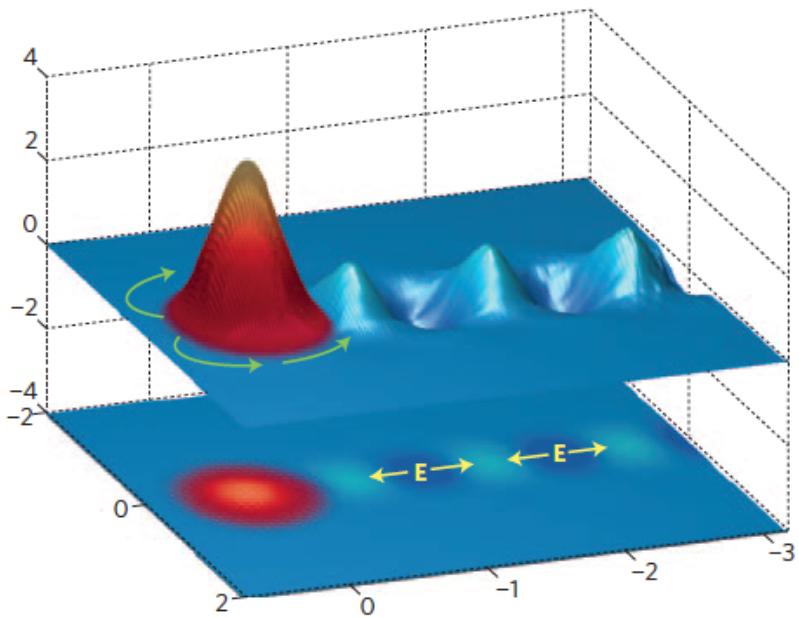
Plasma density perturbation



Plasma density perturbation excited by Gaussian laser pulse,
laser pulse is travelling to the left with $a_0 = 1.5$

Linear & non-linear regimes

a



b

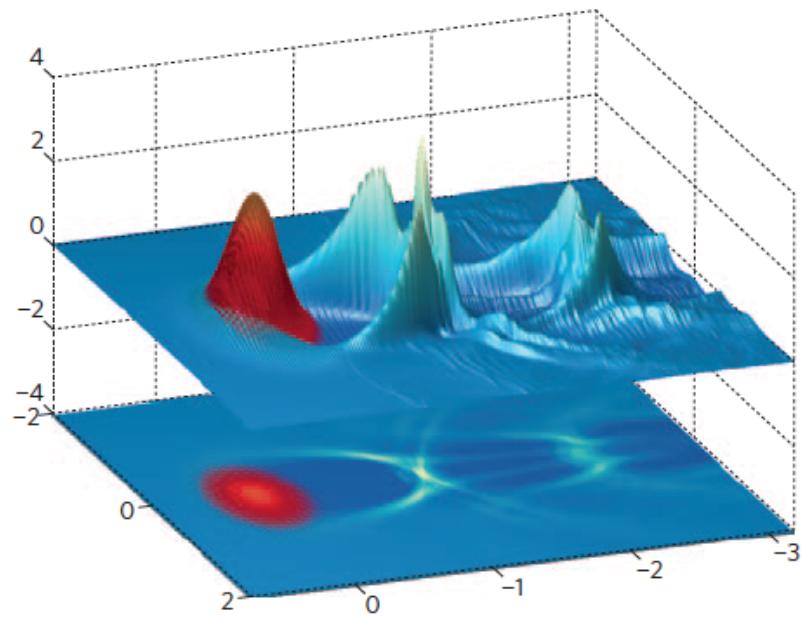
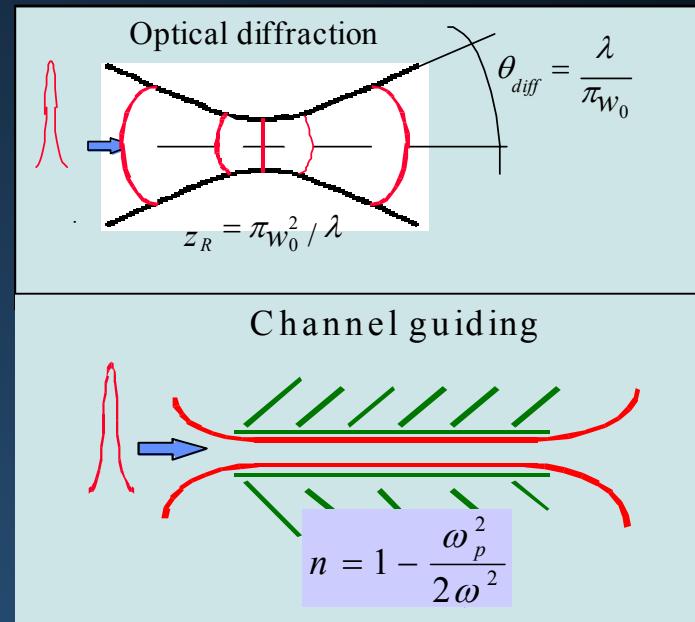


Figure 1 | Plasma waves driven by intense laser pulses. The laser pulse (red-yellow) propagates from right to left and excites a trailing plasma wave. The plasma wave amplitude (blue-green) is shown for laser pulses with initial values of the normalized laser intensity parameter of **a**, $a_0 = 0.5$, corresponding to the linear regime, and **b**, $a_0 = 4.0$, close to the bubble regime — as indicated by the excitation of a highly nonlinear plasma wave and the formation of a 'cavity' immediately behind the laser pulse. The spatial coordinates are in units of the plasma wavelength; the vertical scale is in arbitrary units, but that in **a** has been magnified by a factor of ten relative to that in **b**. In **a**, the path of plasma electrons pushed by the ponderomotive force of the laser is indicated by the green arrows and the longitudinal electric field within the plasma wave is shown in yellow. These simulations were performed using the OSIRIS 2.0 code¹¹⁰.

S. Hooker, Nature Photonics 2013

Limiting factors in LWFA

- **Diffraction:** order mm!
(but overcome w/ channels or relativistic self-focusing)



$$L_{dph} \text{ order } 10 \text{ cm} \times 10^{16}/n_o$$

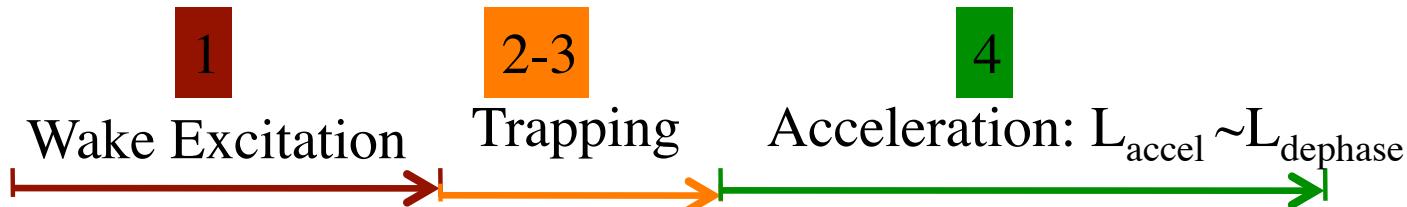
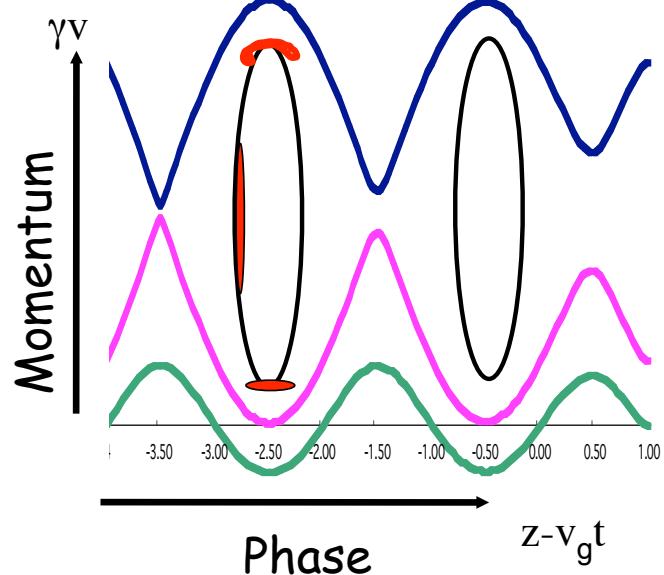
- **Dephasing:** For small intensity ($a_0 < 1$) $\gg L_{dph}$
For relativistic intensities ($a_0 \sim 1$), $L_{dph} \sim L_{depl}$

Producing a mono-energetic beam

1. Excitation of wake (e.g., self-modulation of laser)
2. Onset of self-trapping (e.g., wavebreaking)
3. Termination of trapping (e.g., beam loading)
4. Acceleration
 - If $>$ dephasing length: large energy spread
 - If \approx dephasing length: monoenergetic

- Dephasing distance:

$$L_{dph} \approx (\lambda_p^3 / \lambda^2) \propto n_e^{-3/2}$$



Useful tips

- Plasma wake field amplitude: $E_{acc} = (m_e c \omega_p / e)$
- Plasma frequency: $\omega_p = (n_e e^2 / m_e \epsilon_0)^{1/2}$
- Plasma wavelength: $\lambda_p = 2\pi c / \omega_p = 3.3 \times 10^{10} / \sqrt{n_p (cm^{-3})} [\mu m]$

- Depletion length: $L_d = (\omega_0 / \omega_p)^2 c \tau$
- Rayleigh length: $Z_R = \pi w_0^2 / \lambda$
- Dephasing length: $L_d \approx \lambda_p^3 / \lambda^2$

- Ponderomotive force: $F_p = -\nabla U_p \propto -\nabla I$

Final beam energy

- Energy gain by a particle of charge q is given as

$$W \approx qEd$$

- The phase speed of wake is (group velocity of an electromagnetic wave in a plasma)

$$\frac{v_g}{c} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{n_e}{n_c}} \approx 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{n_e}{n_c}$$

- n_e is the electron density of the plasma, n_c is the critical density for propagation of the electromagnetic wave (i.e. when the plasma frequency ω_p equals the frequency of the electromagnetic wave, ω_0)
- The lower the plasma density, the faster the phase speed

Final beam energy

- Dephasing will be caused due to difference between the electron velocity and the wake phase velocity

$$L_{\text{dephasing}} \approx \frac{n_e}{n_c} \lambda_p \propto n_e^{-\frac{3}{2}}$$

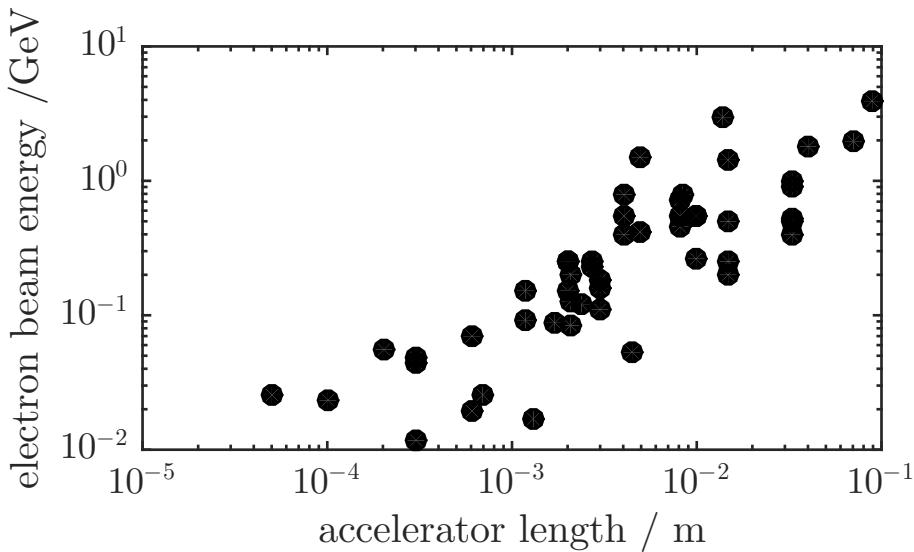
- The maximum electric field that a plasma can support increases with the plasma density

$$E_{\text{max}} \cong m_e c \omega_p / e \propto \sqrt{n_e}$$

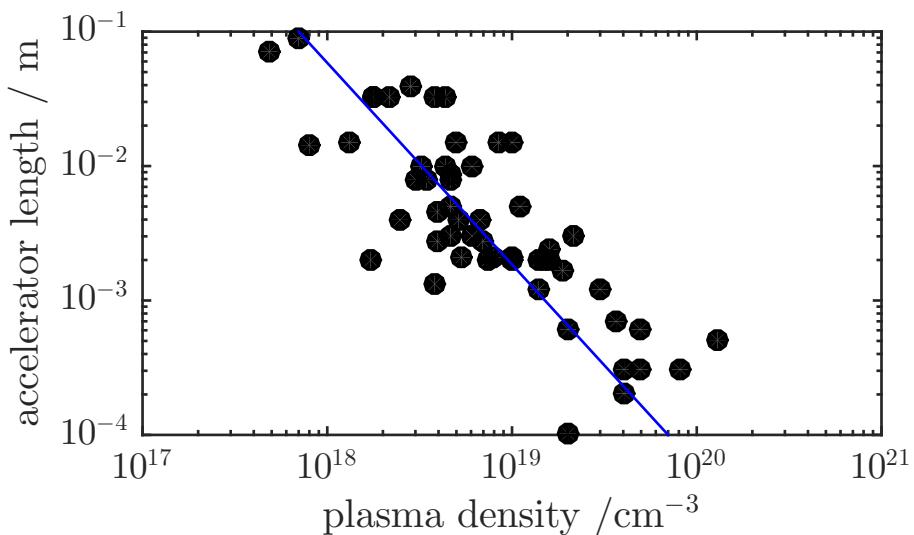
- The maximum energy that can be gained by an electron in a plasma wave as a function of plasma density is therefore written as

$$W(n_e) \approx E_{\text{max}} L_{\text{dephasing}} \propto \frac{1}{n_e}$$

Scaling laws



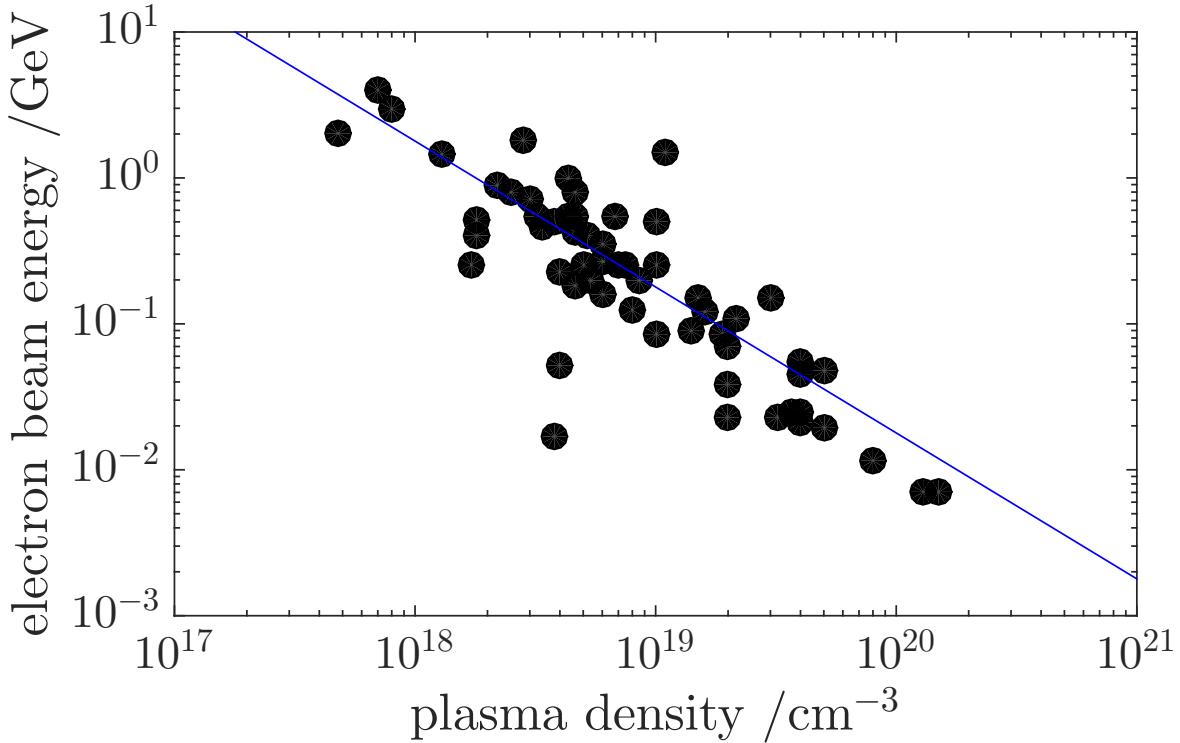
Electron beam energy vs.
accelerator length (2004-2014)



Accelerator length vs.
plasma density (2004-2014)

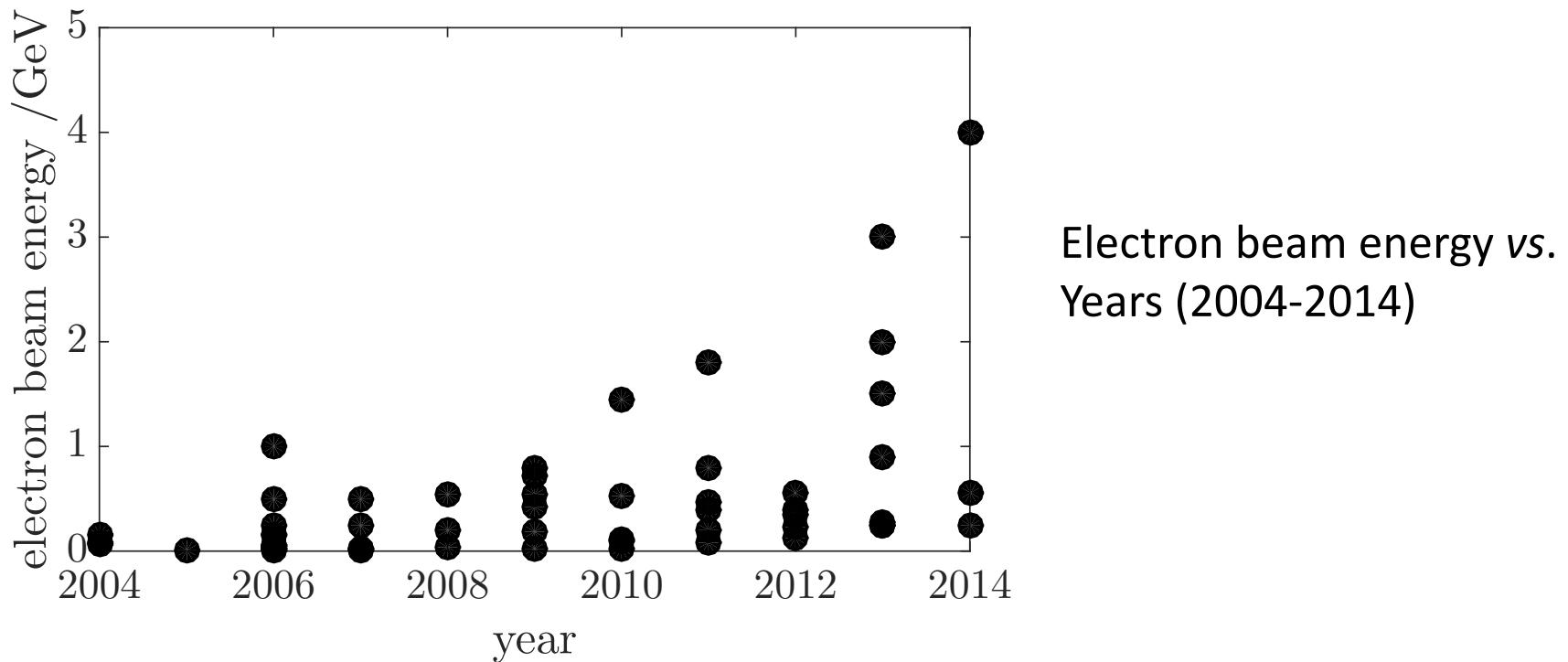
S.P.D. Mangles, CERN -2016-001

Scaling laws



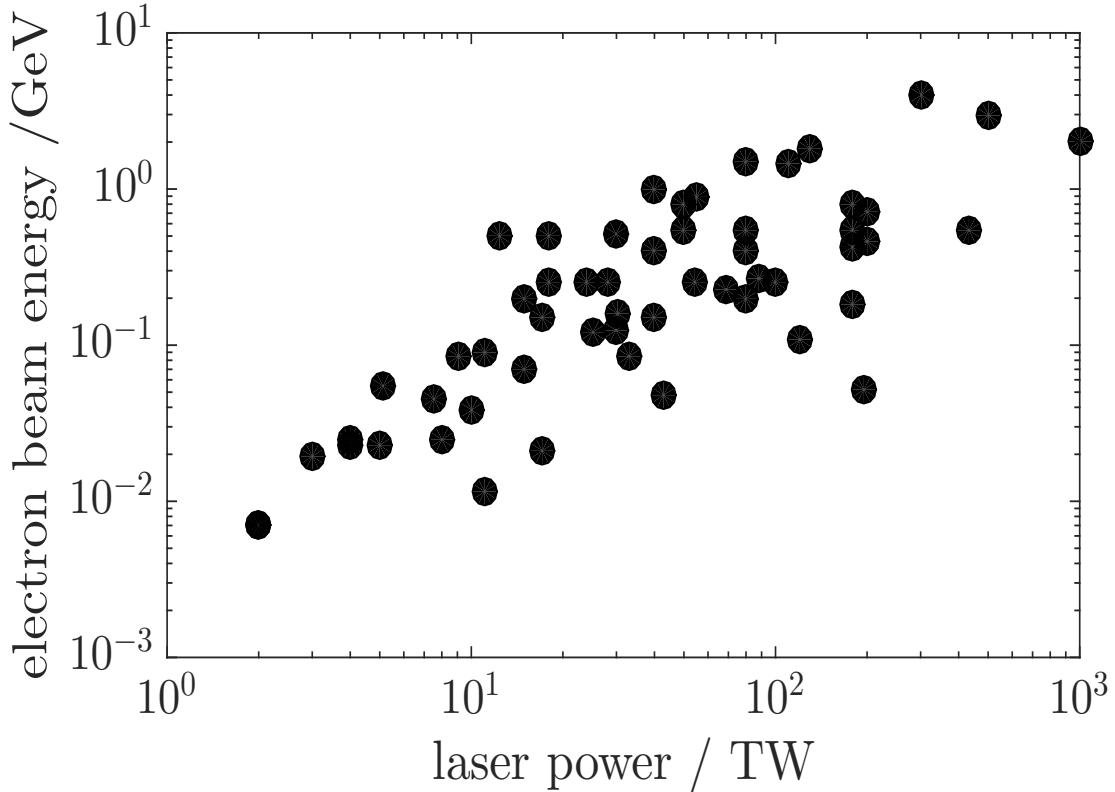
Electron beam energy vs.
plasma density (2004-2014)

Scaling laws



S.P.D. Mangles, CERN -2016-001

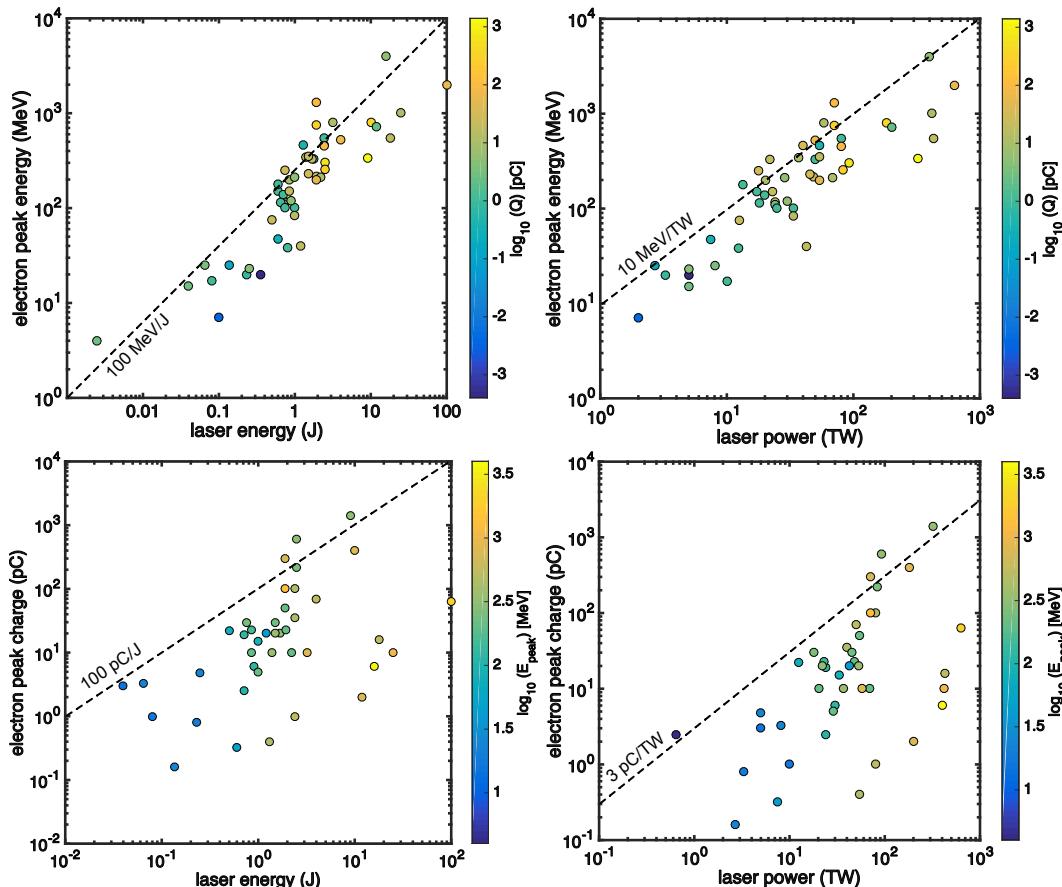
Scaling laws



Electron beam energy vs.
laser power (2004-2014)

S.P.D. Mangles, CERN -2016-001

Scaling laws



J. Wenz and S. Karsch, arXiv:
2007.04622v1 (2020)

Fig. 9: Experimental results for energy and charge: Experimentally, the best results for electron peak energy and charge closely follow extremely simple scaling laws with respect to the laser power and energy. Note that these "laws" are no fit to the data, just lines to guide the eye. Data is based on 50+ publications on LWFA during the last 15-20 years [95]

Experiments for high quality beam

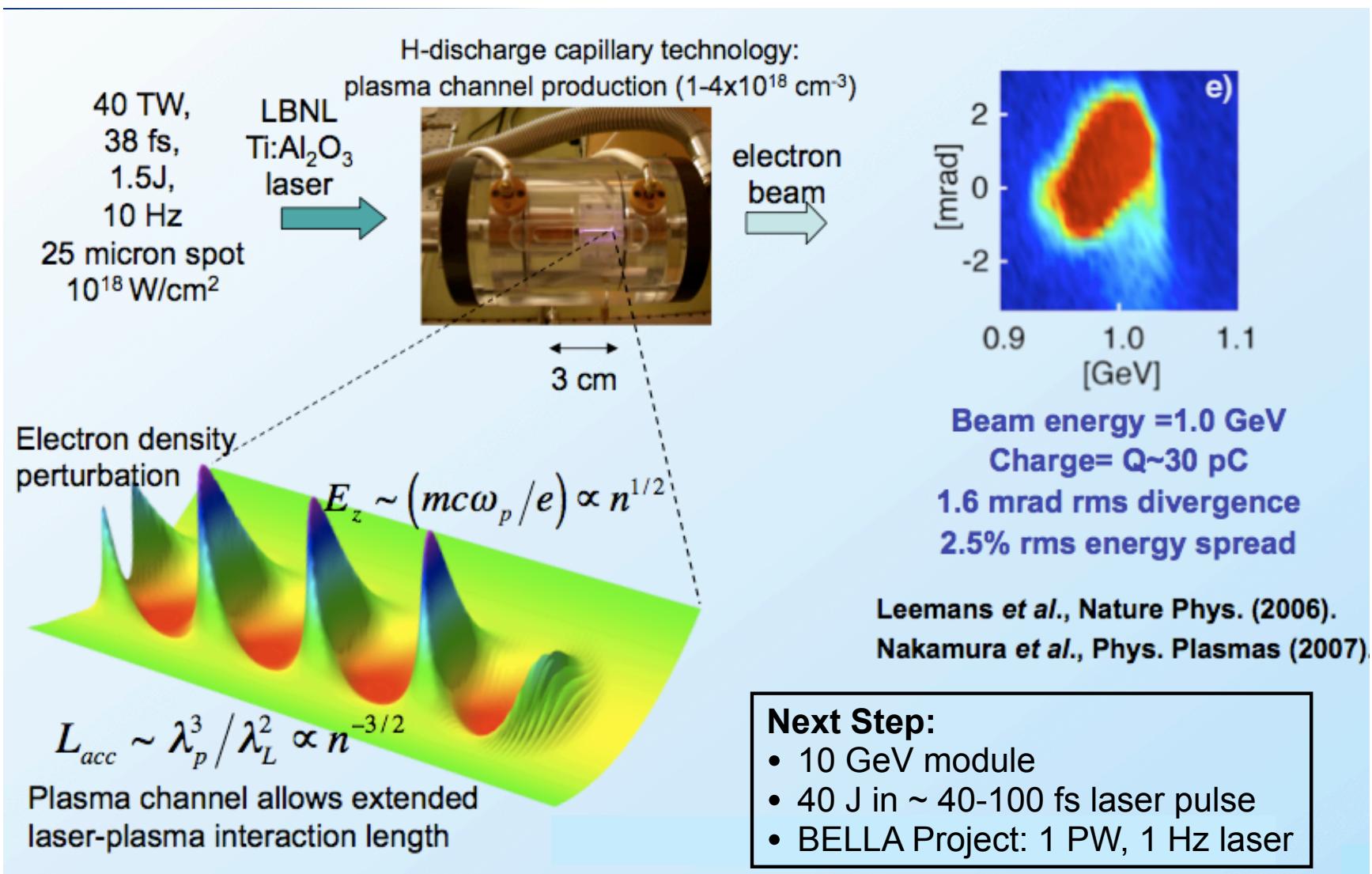
30 Sep 2004 issue of *nature*:

Three groups report production of high quality e-bunches

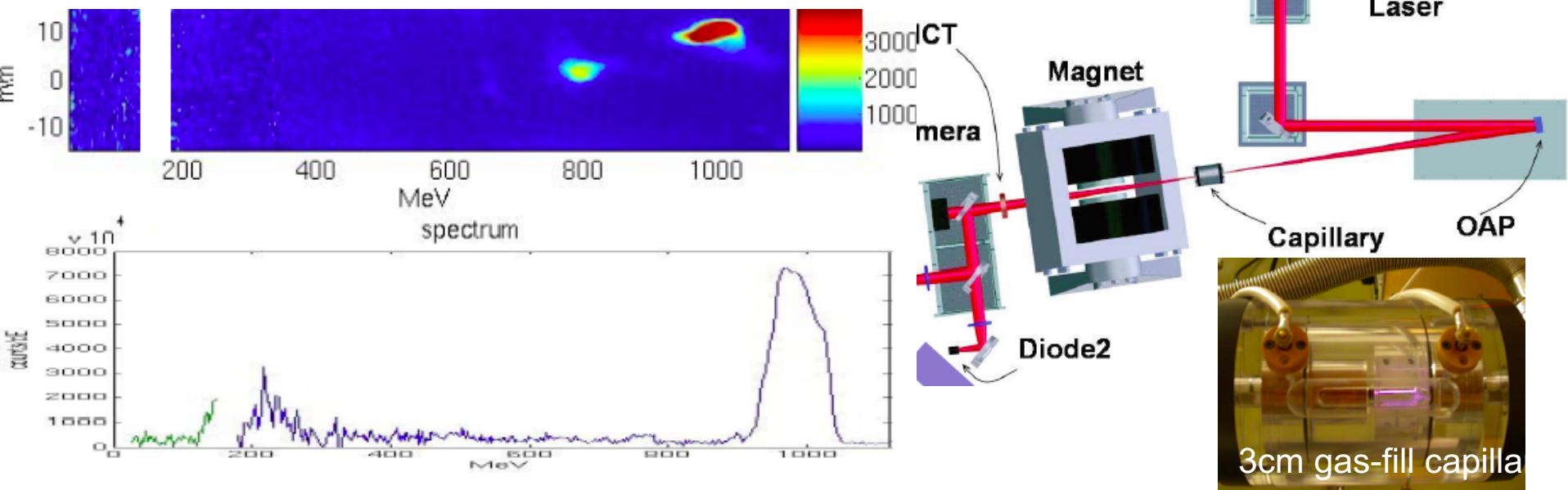
- Approach 1: Plasma channel
 - LBNL/USA: Geddes et al.
 - Plasma Channel: $1-4 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - Laser: 8-9 TW, 8.5 μm , 55 fs
 - E-bunch: 2×10^9 (0.3 nC), 86 MeV, $\Delta E/E=1-2\%$, 3 mrad
 - Approach 2: No channel, larger spot size
 - RAL/IC/UK: Mangles et al.
 - No Channel: $2 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - Laser: 12 TW, 40 fs, 0.5 J, $2.5 \times 10^{18} \text{ W/cm}^2$, 25 μm
 - E-bunch: 1.4×10^8 (22 pC), 70 MeV, $\Delta E/E=3\%$, 87 mrad
 - LOA/France: Faure et al.
 - No Channel: $0.5-2 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - Laser: 30 TW, 30 fs, 1 J, 18 μm
 - E-bunch: 3×10^9 (0.5 nC), 170 MeV, $\Delta E/E=24\%$, 10 mrad
 - Channel allows higher e-energy with lower laser power



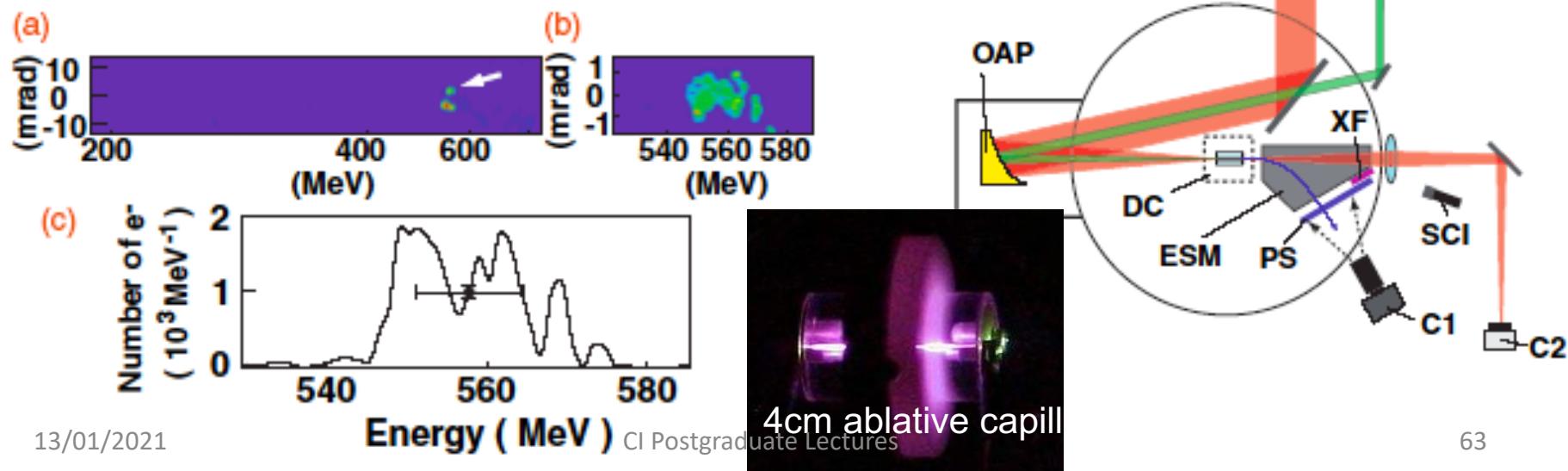
1 GeV experiment at LBNL



1 GeV capillary accelerator experiment at LBNL/Oxford U.

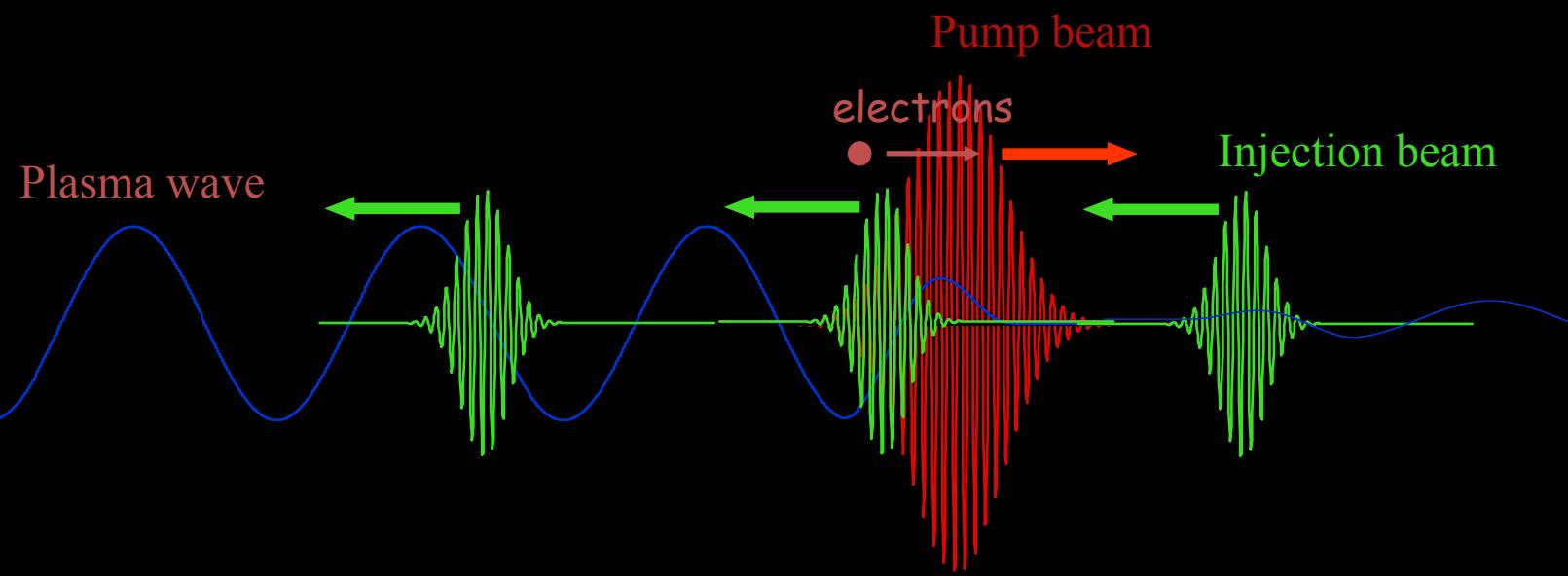
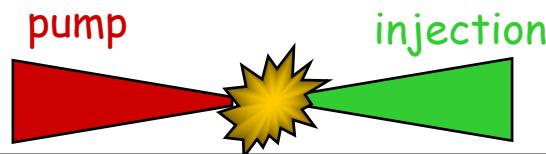


0.56 GeV capillary accelerator experiment at CAEP/KEK



Controlling the injection

Counter-propagating geometry:



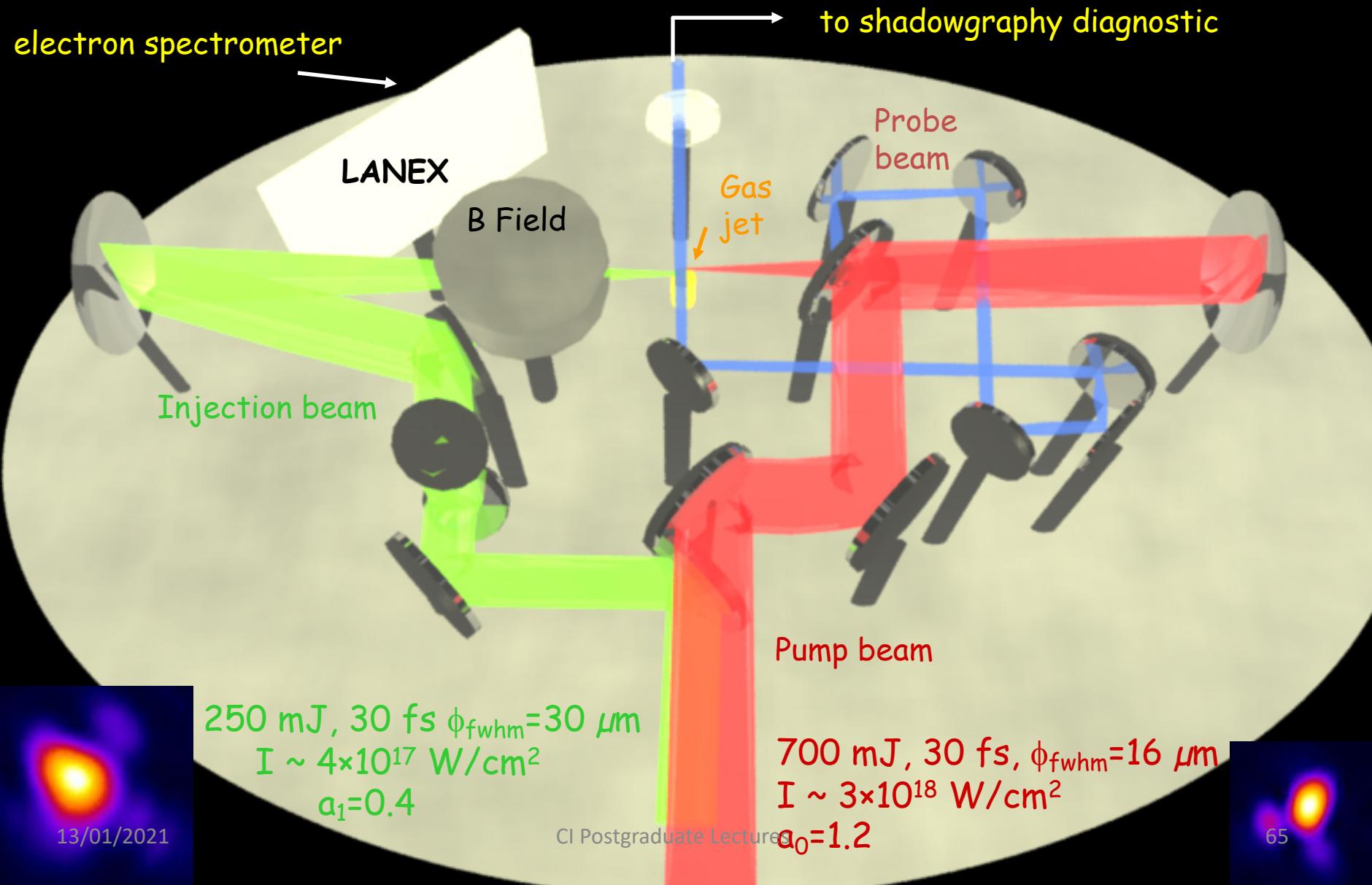
Ponderomotive force of beatwave: $F_p \sim 2a_0a_1/\lambda_0$ (a_0 et a_1 can be "weak")

Boost electrons locally and injects them:

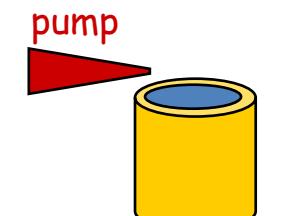
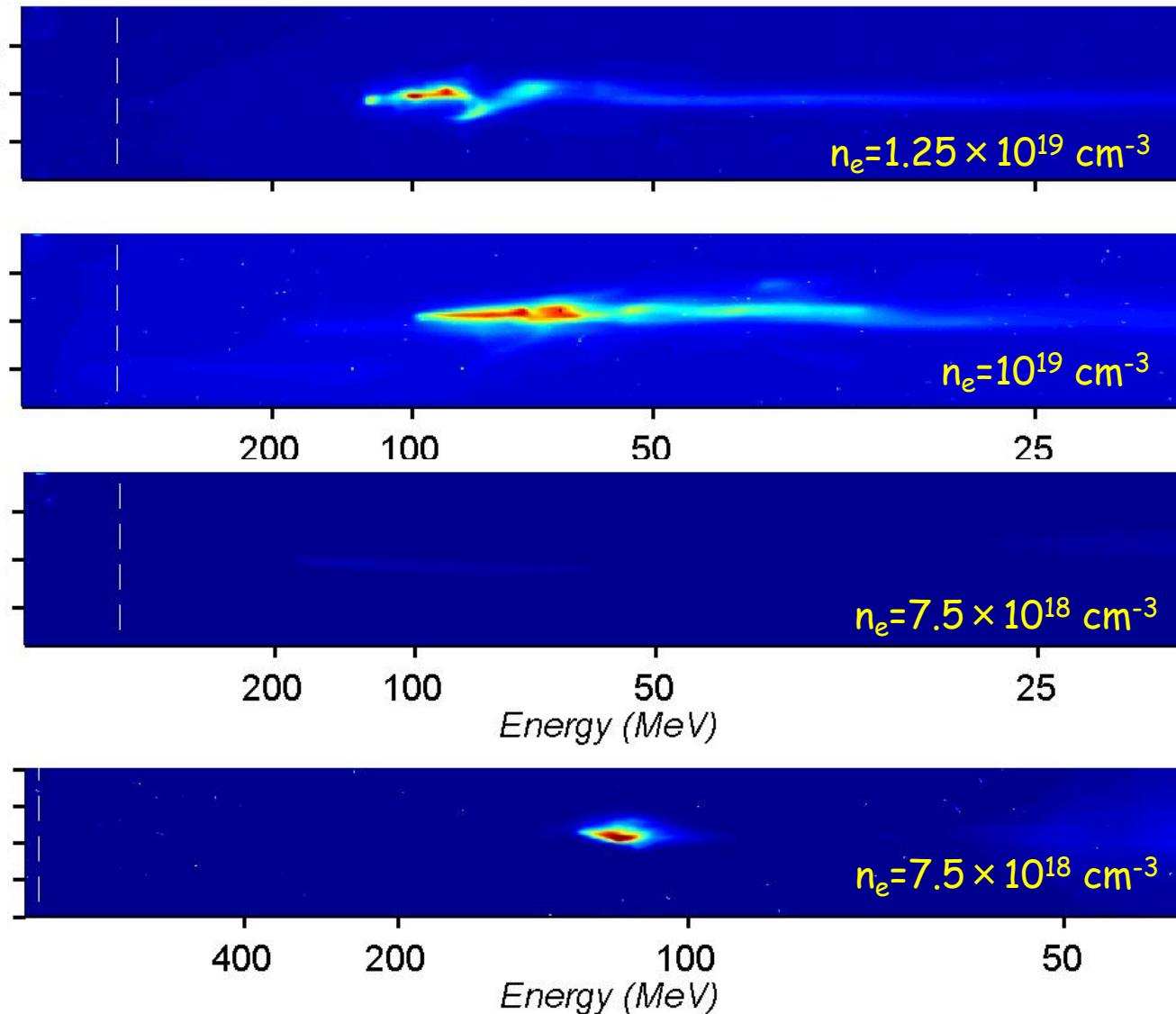
INJECTION IS LOCAL IN FIRST BUCKET

E. Esarey et al, PRL 79, 2682 (1997), G. Fubiani et al. (PRE 2004)

Experimental set-up

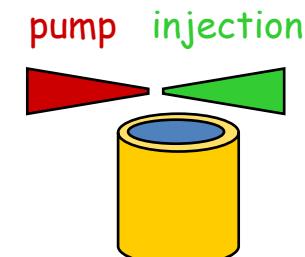


From self-injection to external injection



Single beam

Self-injection
Threshold

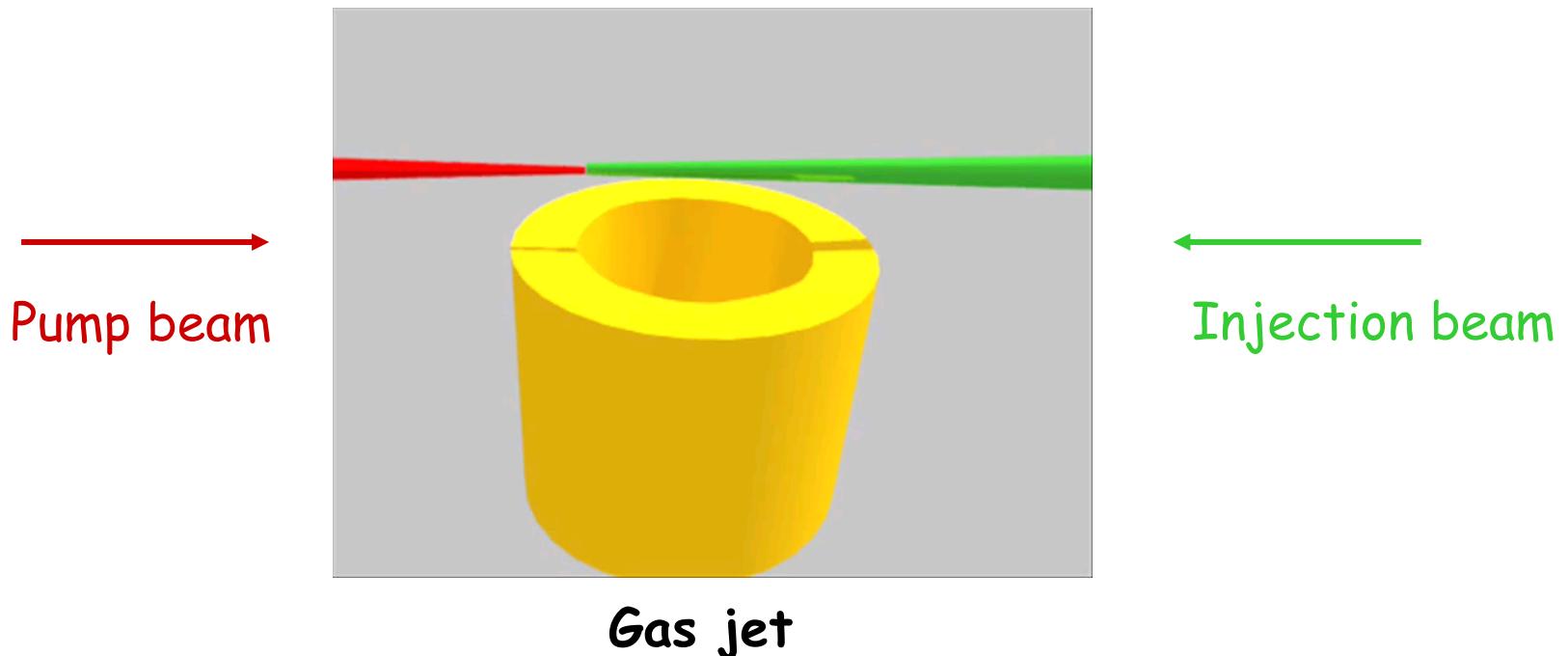


2 beams

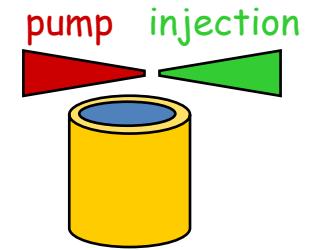
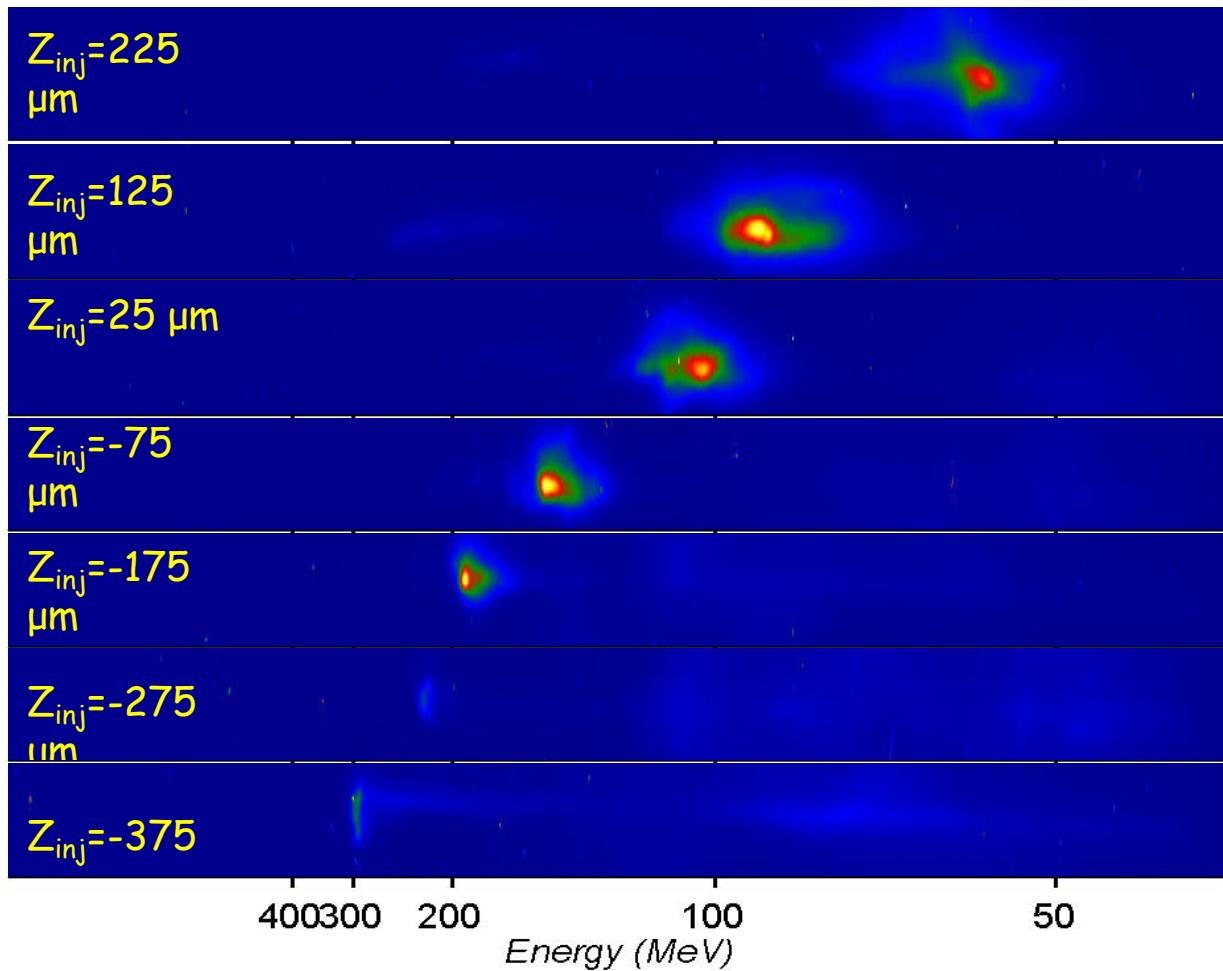
Controlling the acceleration length

By changing delay between pulses:

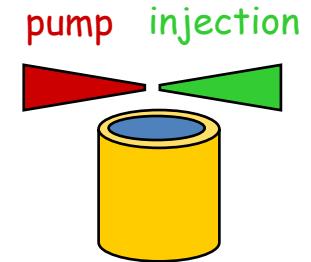
- Change collision point
- Change effective acceleration length
- Tune bunch energy



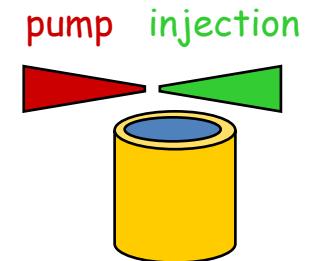
Tunable monoenergetic bunches



late injection

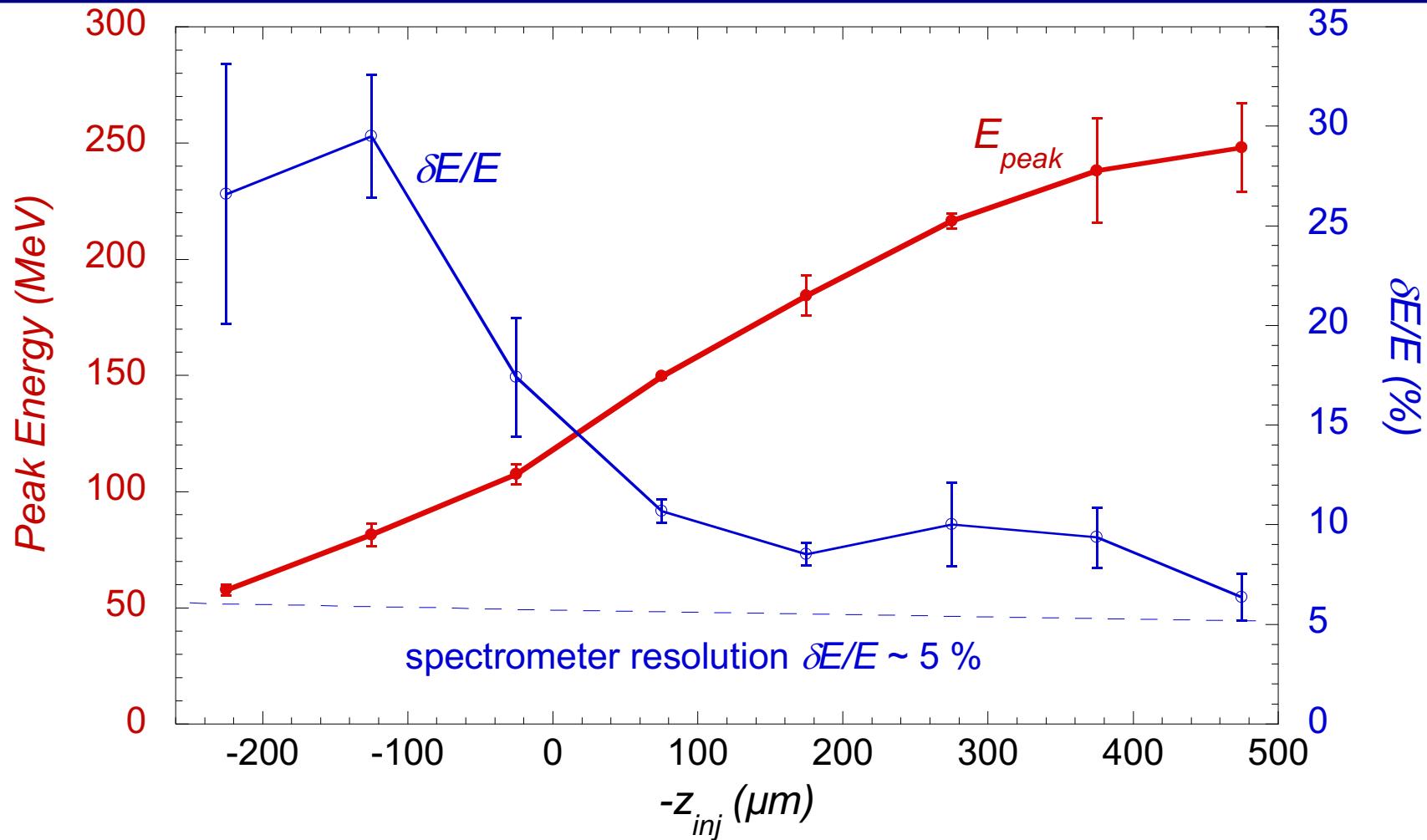


middle injection



early injection

Tunable monoenergetic electrons bunches



190 MeV gain in 700 μm : $E=270$ GV/m

Compare with $E_{max}=mc\omega_p/e=250$ GV/m at $n_e=7.5 \times 10^{18}$ cm $^{-3}$

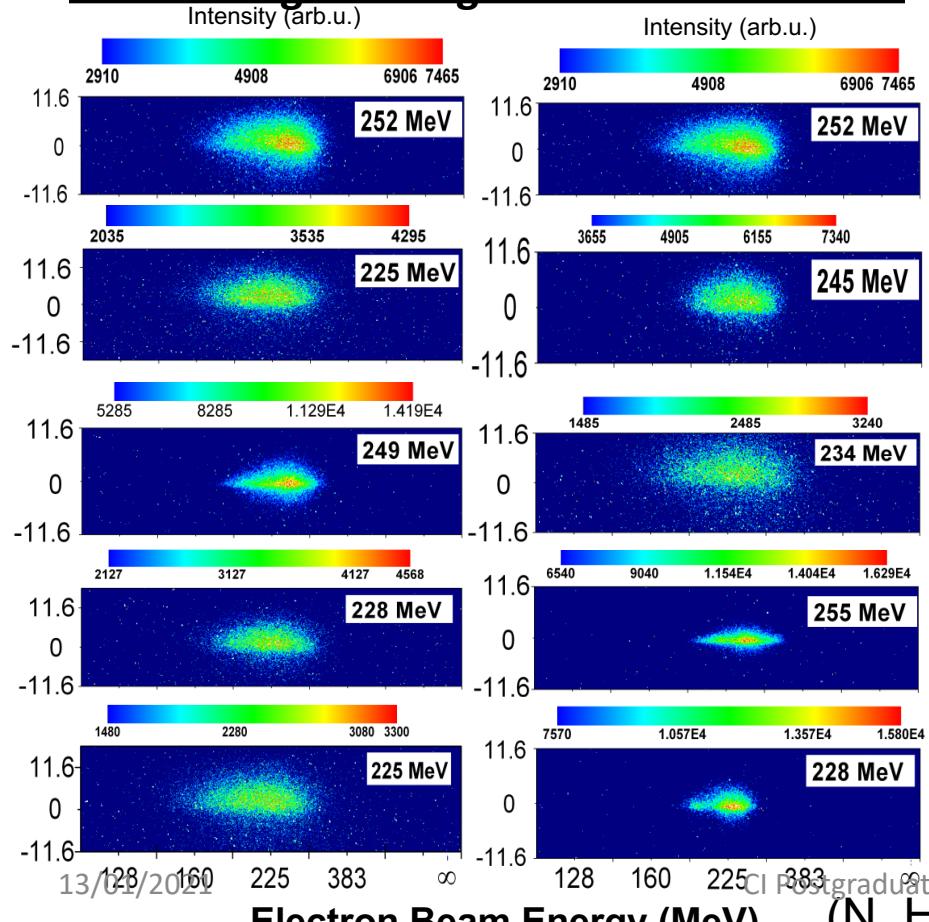
Stable electron beams and more high-energies from 1 cm gas jet at GIST, Korea

Mean electron energy = 236.9 MeV

SD/Mean E = 5 %

Charge: ~100pC

Divergence angle: ~a few mrad



Recent results at 50 TW

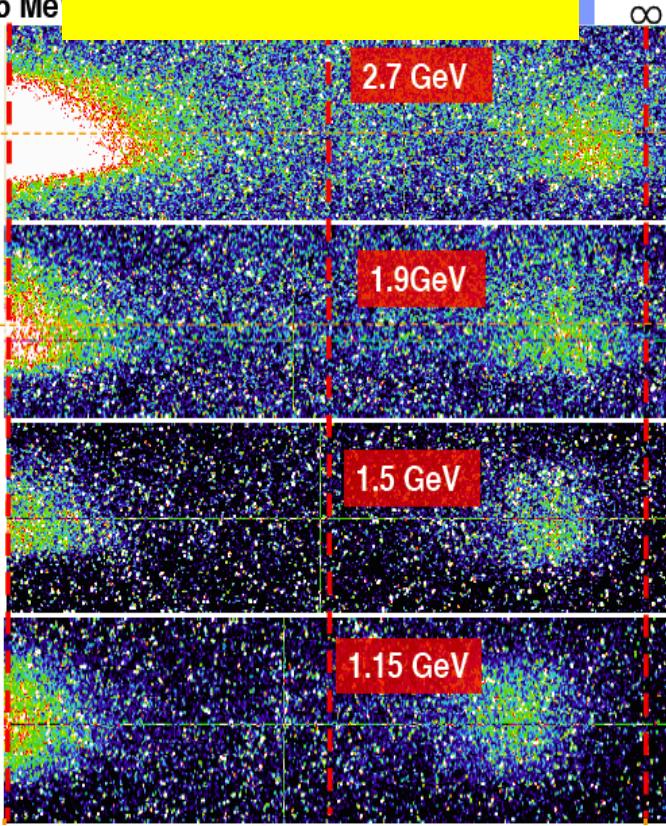
225 MeV

2.7 GeV

1.9GeV

15 GeV

17-01



Dual stage LWFAs

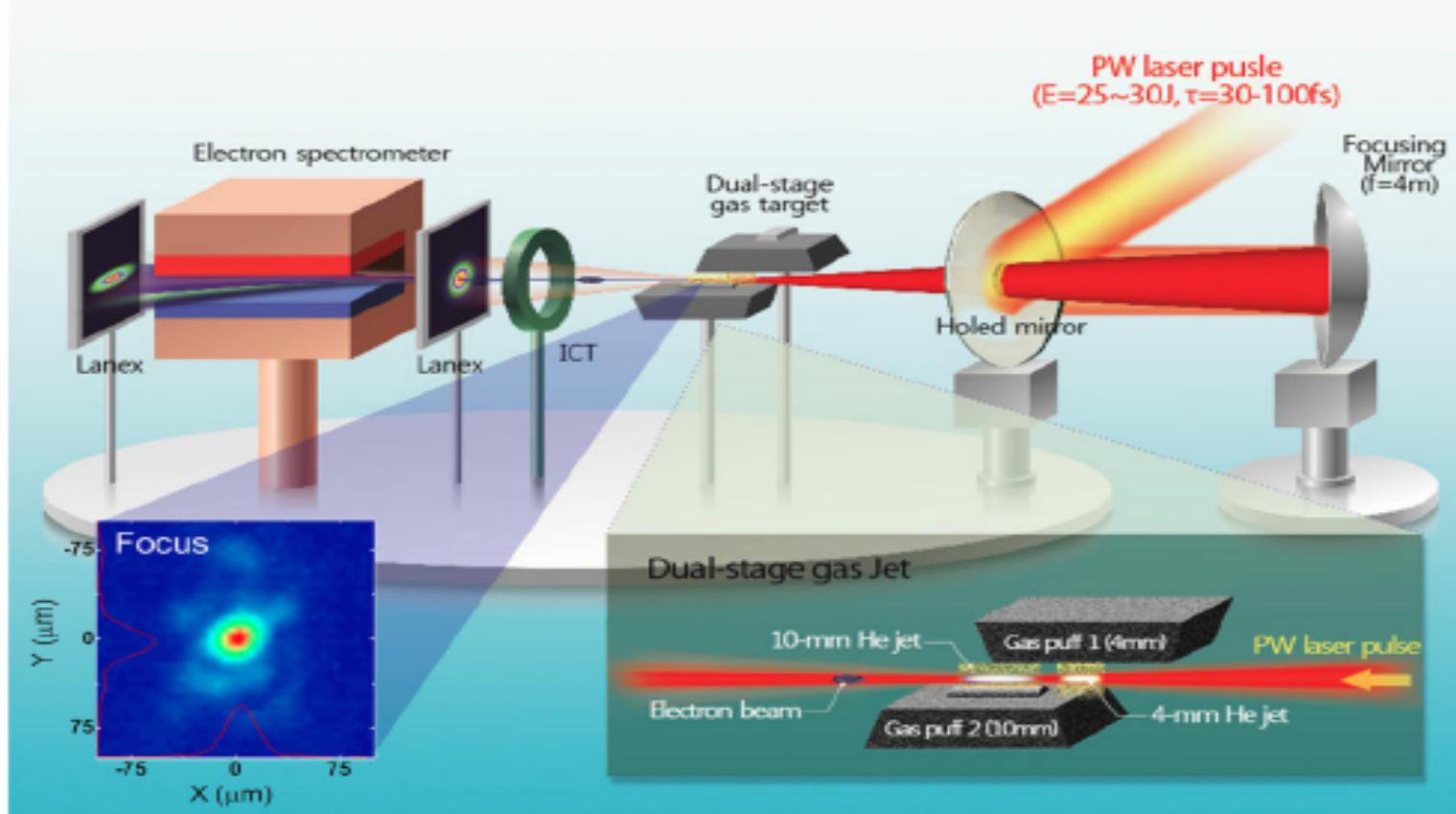
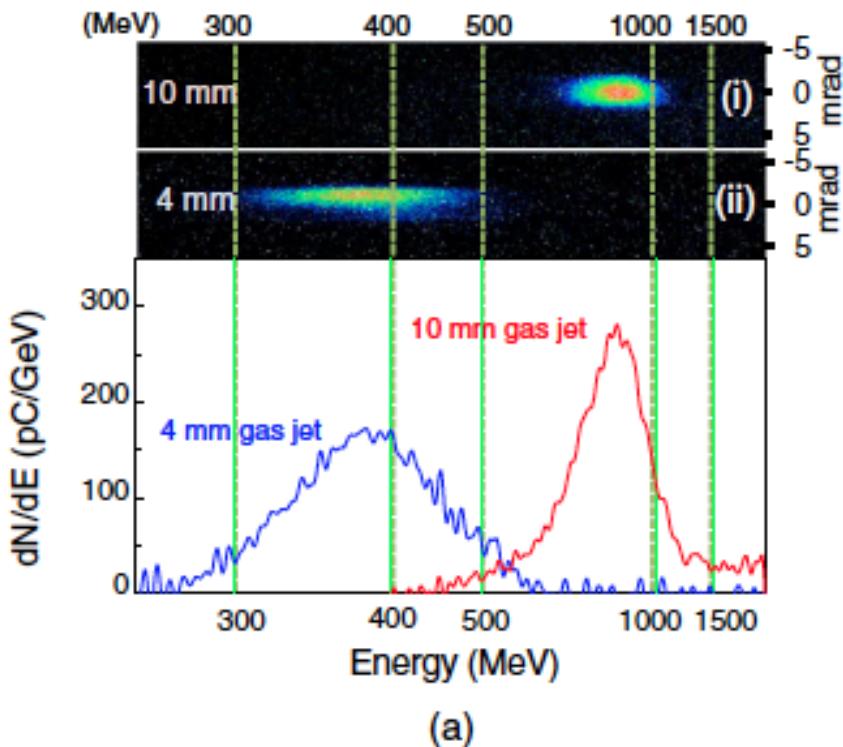


FIG. 1 (color online). Experimental layout. The dipole magnet has length of 30 cm and magnetic field strength of 1.33 T, which was installed 1 m away from the gas-jet target. Two Lanex screen have been installed at the entrance and exit of the magnet to measure electron beam profile and energy, respectively. The ICT was installed between gas jet and dipole magnet to measure the charge of the electron beam.

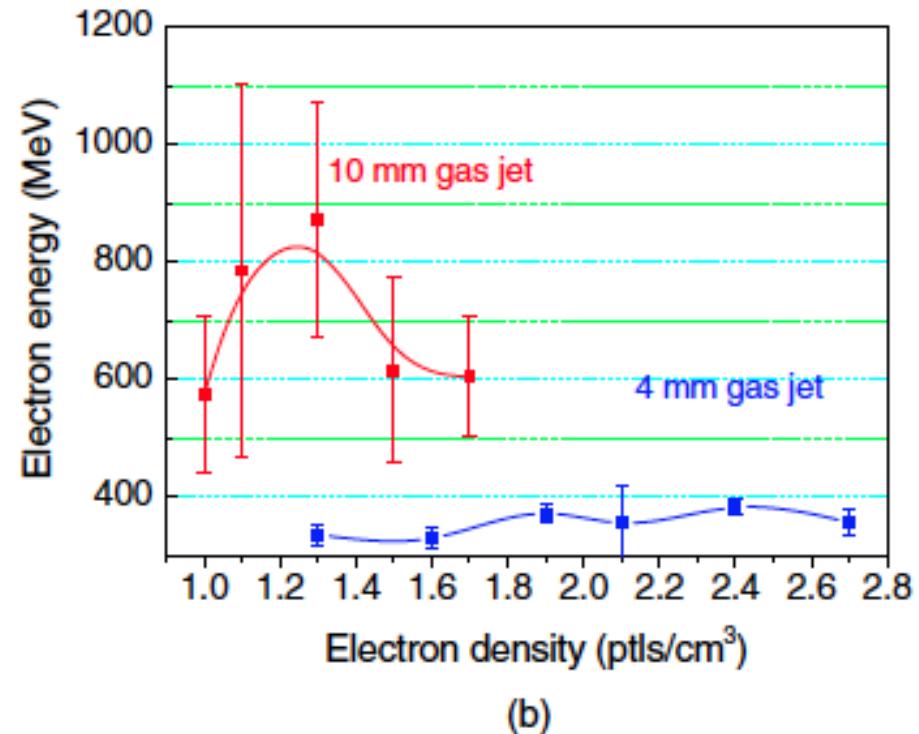
H.T. Kim, PRL 111, 165002 (2013)

GIST, Korea

Dual stage LWFAs



(a)



(b)

FIG. 2 (color online). (a) Electron energy spectrum for 10-mm [red line and image (i)] and 4-mm [blue line and image (ii)] gas jets. (b) Electron energy with respect to the electron density.

H.T. Kim, PRL 111, 165002 (2013)

2 GeV barrier

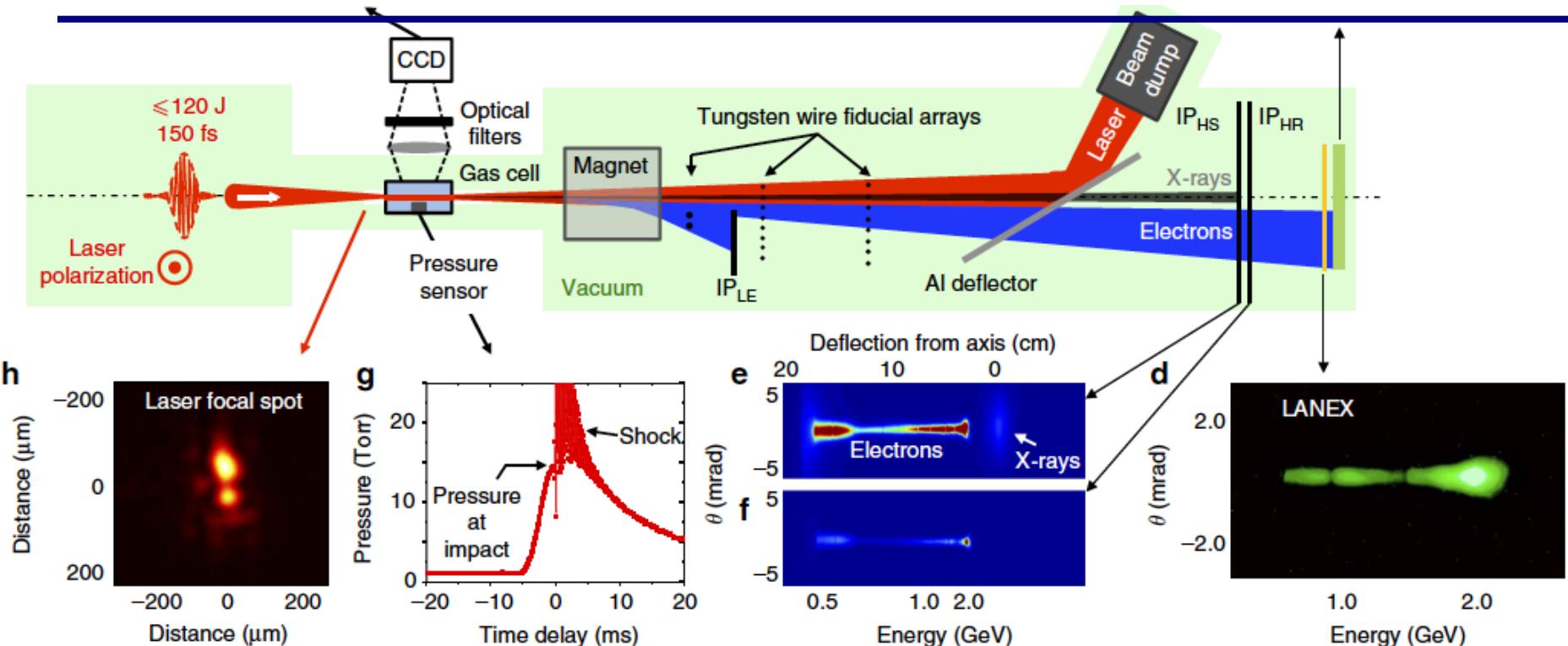
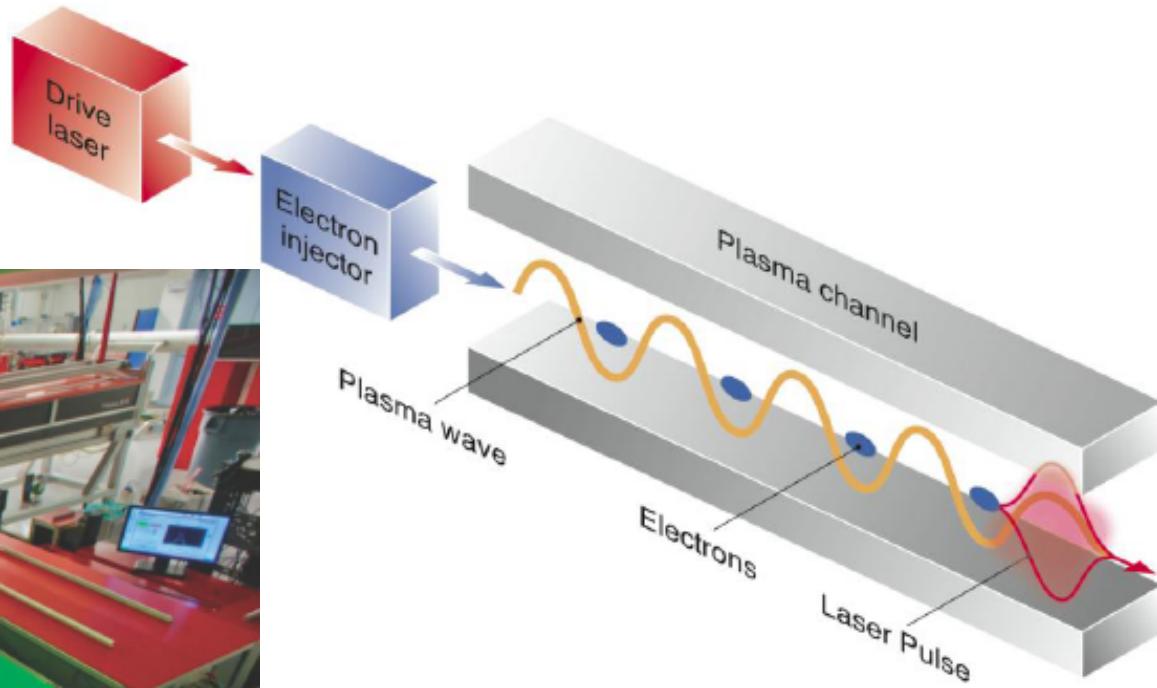


Figure 1 | Schematic diagram of PW laser-driven wakefield accelerator. The main components were enclosed in a vacuum chamber, highlighted in green, which was kept at 10^{-6} Torr. The PW laser pulse, entering from the left and linearly polarized perpendicular to the plane of the drawing, was focused into the gas cell, where it created a He plasma and wake that captured and accelerated electrons to 2 GeV. Electrons and betatron X-rays emerging from the cell exit aperture passed through a magnetic field, then through two linear arrays of eight 127 μm diameter tungsten-wire fiducials located 1.256 and 1.764 m, respectively, downstream from the cell exit. A 25-μm thick Al foil deflected the transmitted laser pulse to a beam dump. Undeflected X-rays and energy-dispersed electrons above 0.5 GeV passed through this foil, and exposed in sequence a high-sensitivity (HS) imaging plate (IP_{HS}), a high-resolution (HR) IP (IP_{HR}), a phosphorescing screen (LANEX) and a plastic scintillator. An additional IP_{LE} recorded low-energy (LE) electrons (< 0.35 GeV) after they passed through a third array of fiducials. Surrounding panels highlight various diagnostics and details, clockwise from upper left: (a) transversely scattered light, spectrally filtered and imaged to a CCD camera (the dashed rectangle shows the region near the cell exit from which betatron X-rays originated, as determined by X-ray triangulation); (b) trajectories of 2 GeV electrons for shots that yielded the results in Fig. 2a,b (labelled 'a' and 'b', respectively) relative to the fiducial arrays (labelled 1-1 through to 1-8 for the first array and 2-1 through to 2-8 for the second array); (c-f), unprocessed data showing electrons up to 2.3 GeV and fiducial shadows for the shot that yielded the results in Fig. 2a, as detected on (c) scintillator, (d) LANEX, (e) IP_{HS} (also showing undeflected X-rays) and (f) IP_{HR}; (g) He pressure versus time, and an acoustic shock when the laser pulse arrived, as recorded by a fast pressure transducer; (h) a typical laser focal spot.

Petawatt laser facility at LBNL



**Short pulse laser
laser guiding in plasma
(3'D' effect:
diffraction, dephasing, depletion)**

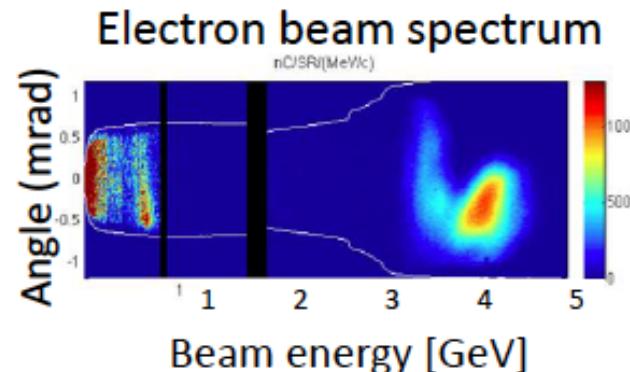
Recent results-LWFA

BELLA: 4.25 GeV beams from 9 cm plasma channel with 390 TW laser pulses

- With conventional technology this energy requires a 200 m long accelerator, a downsizing factor of 10,000
- Present investment in Laser Plasma Acceleration has potential to achieve ~10 GeV energy level in future experiments
- New BELLA facility commissions world-record petawatt laser for LPA science (>1 PW at 1 Hz)

W.P. Leemans et al., PRL 113, 245002 (2014)

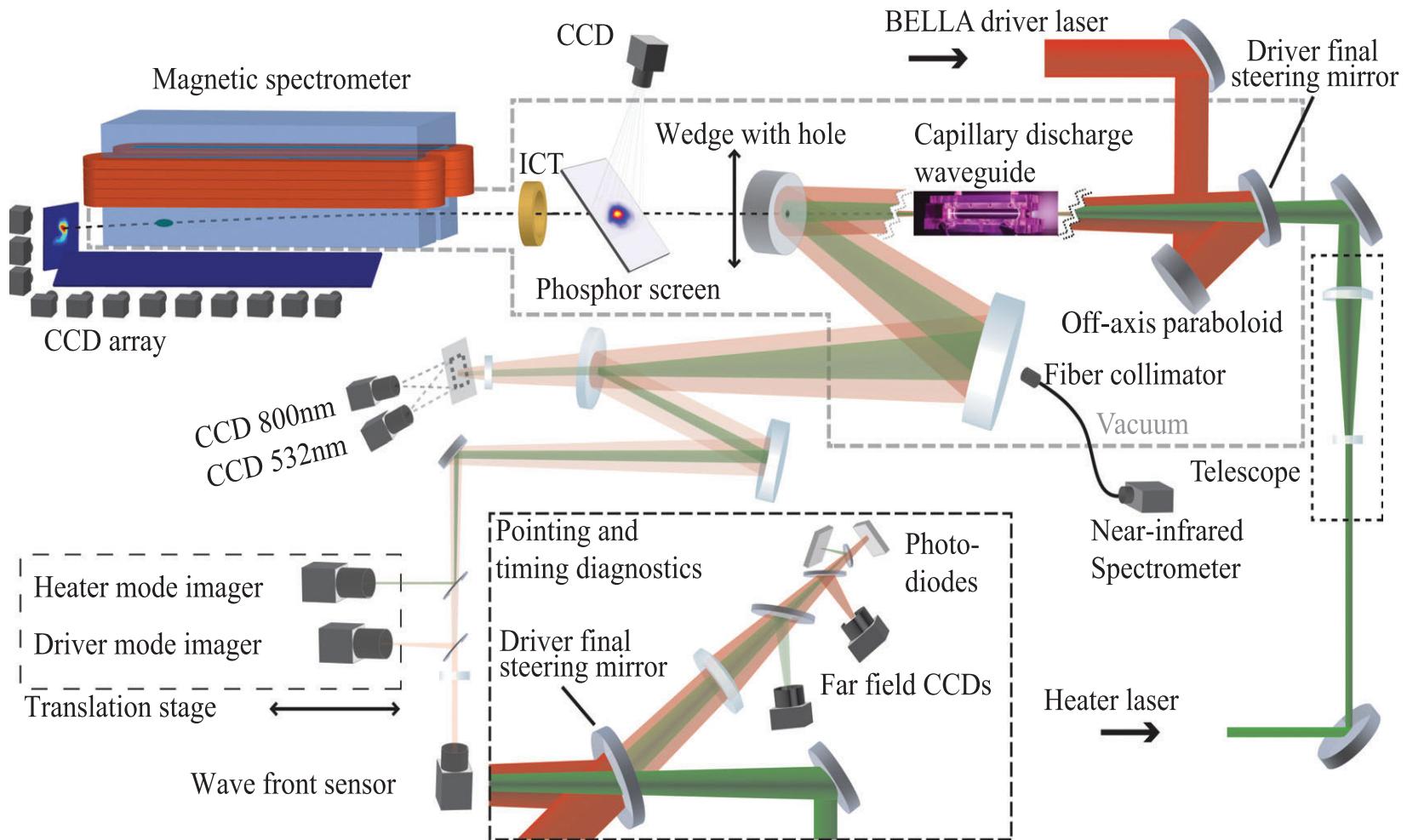
9 cm long capillary discharge



Impact

New technology with potential for far lower accelerator size and cost

Highest energy record



Gonsalves, et al., PRL 122, 084801 (2019)

Highest energy record

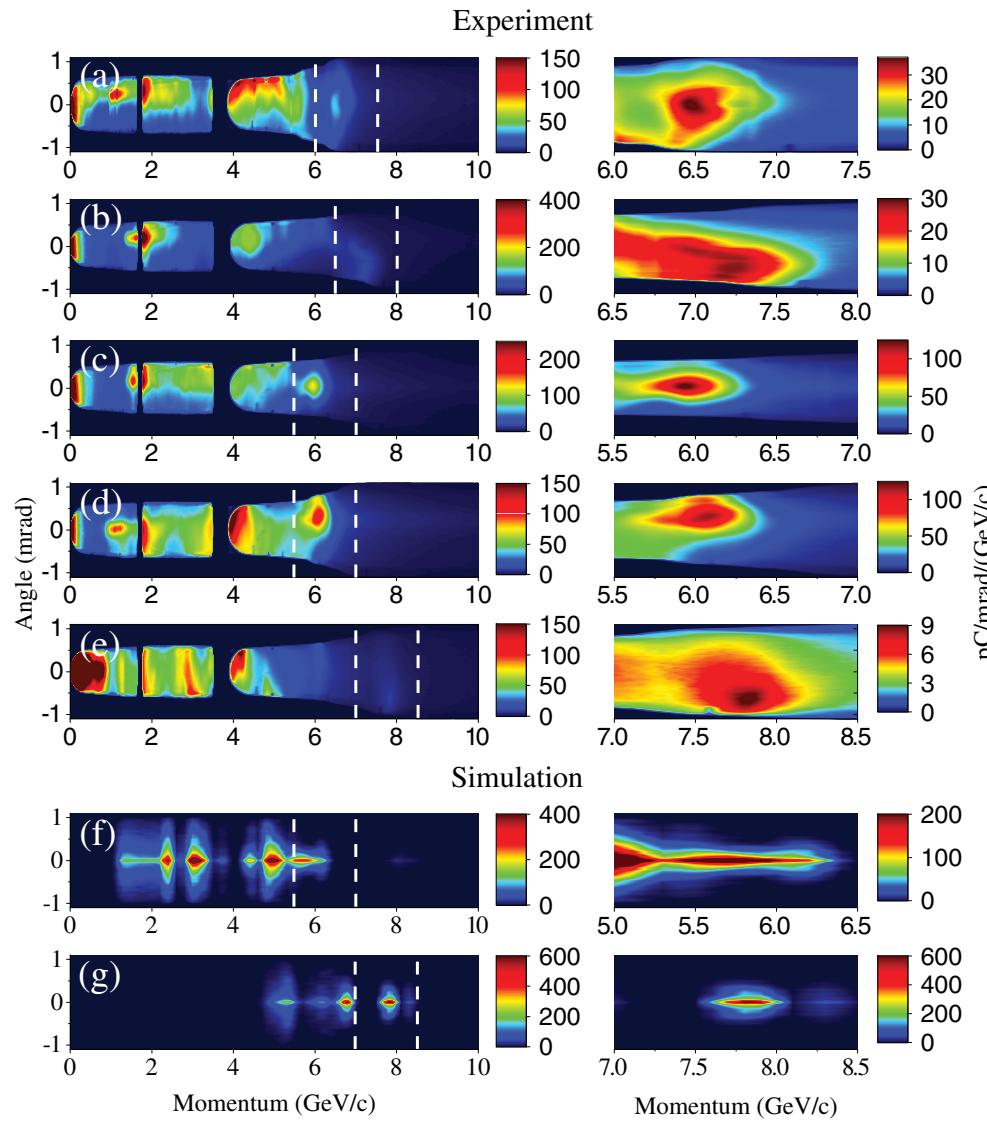


FIG. 4. (a)–(e): Electron beams measured by the magnetic spectrometer for $n_0 = 3.4 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $r_m = 69 \mu\text{m}$ and laser power 850 TW. The driver laser pulse arrival was timed with the peak of the heater pulse. The heater pulse arrived 300 ns after the peak of the discharge current, except for (e), where the delay was 420 ns, and the heater-induced density reduction was measured to be larger, with $n_0 = 2.7 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ and $r_m = 61 \mu\text{m}$. The white dashed lines show the regions that are plotted in the right hand column, which shows the detailed spectrum of the highest energy peaks. The electron beam spectrum simulated by INF&RNO using the MARPLE-retrieved density profile (with $n_0 = 3.4 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$) is shown in (f). In (g) a simulation is shown for the parameters of (e) using a transversely parabolic and longitudinally uniform density profile.

Gonsalves, et al., PRL 122, 084801 (2019)

Application of LWFA based accelerators

LWFA based TeV collider parameters

Plasma density scalings:

$$E_0 \propto n^{1/2}$$

$$L_{\text{stage}} \propto n^{-3/2}$$

$$W_{\text{stage}} \propto n^{-1}$$

$$U_L \propto n^{-3/2}$$

$$N_b \propto n^{-1/2}$$

Collider density scalings (for fixed luminosity):

$$f \propto n$$

$$N_{\text{stage}} \propto n$$

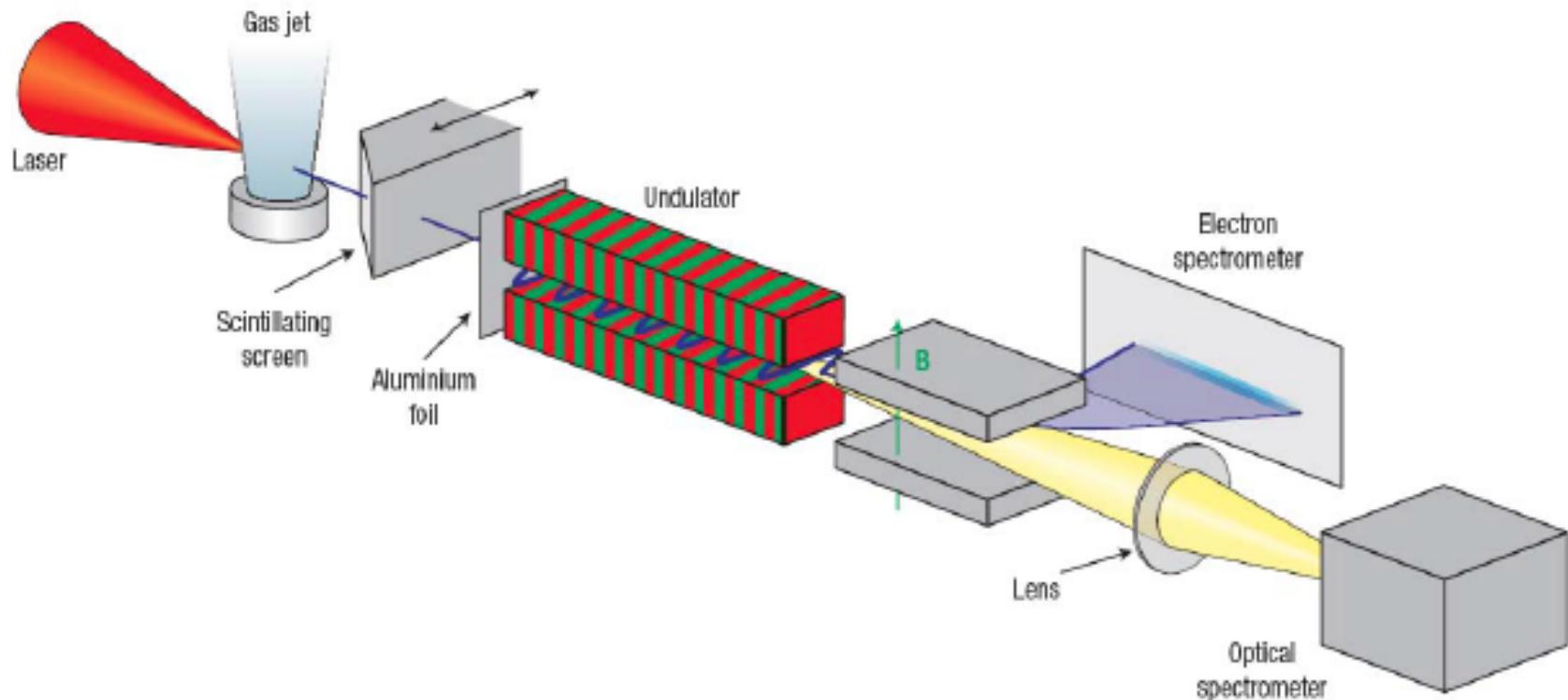
$$P_b \propto n^{1/2}$$

$$P_{\text{laser}} \propto n^{-1/2}$$

13/01/2021

Plasma number density, n_0	10^{17} cm^{-3}
Energy, center of mass, E_{cm}	1 TeV
Beam energy, γmc^2	0.5 TeV
Number per bunch, N	4×10^9
Collision rate, f	15 kHz
Beam Power, $P_b = f N \gamma mc^2$	4.8 MW
Luminosity, \mathcal{L}	$2 \times 10^{34} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$
Bunch length, σ_z	1 μm
Horizontal rms beam size at IP, σ_x	0.1 μm
Vertical rms beam size at IP, σ_y	1 nm
Horizontal normalized emittance, ϵ_{nx}	1 mm-mrad
Vertical normalized emittance, ϵ_{ny}	0.01 mm-mrad
Beamstrahlung parameter, Y	35
Plasma wavelength, λ_p	105 μm
Energy gain per stage, W_{stage}	10 GeV
Single stage laser-plasma interaction length	0.9 m
Drive laser coupling distance between stages	0.5 m
Laser energy per stage	40 J
Laser wavelength	1 μm
Initial normalized laser intensity, a_0	1.5
Average laser power per stage	600 kW
Number of stages	50
Main linac length	70 m
Efficiency (wall-plug to beam)	5%

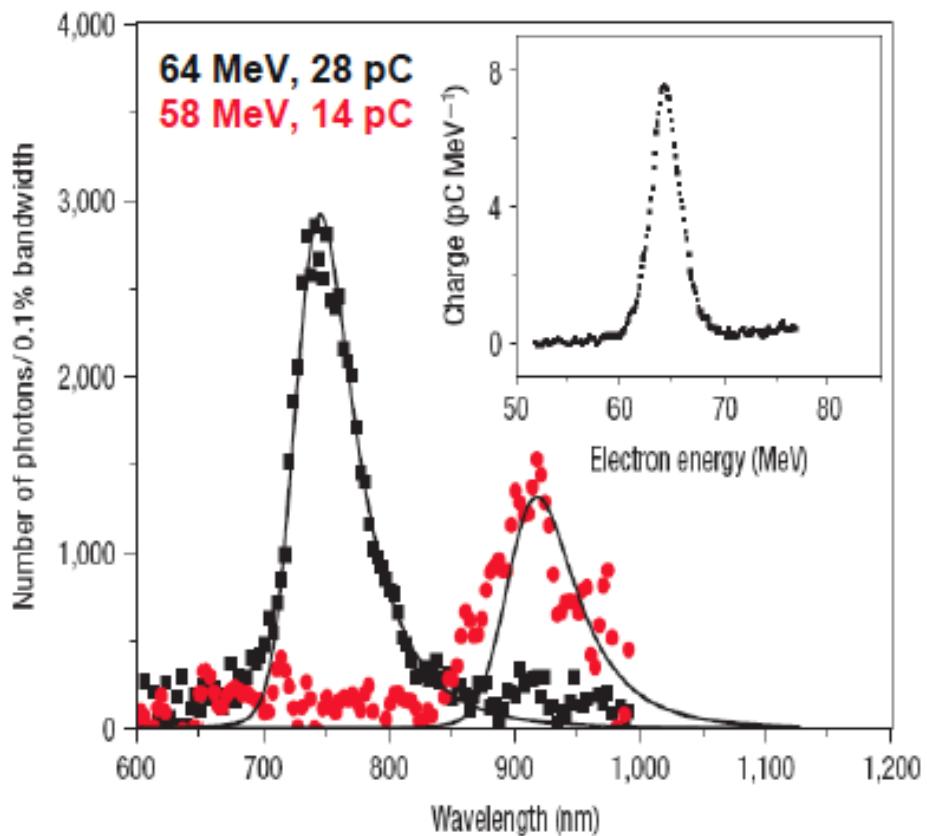
Undulator radiation



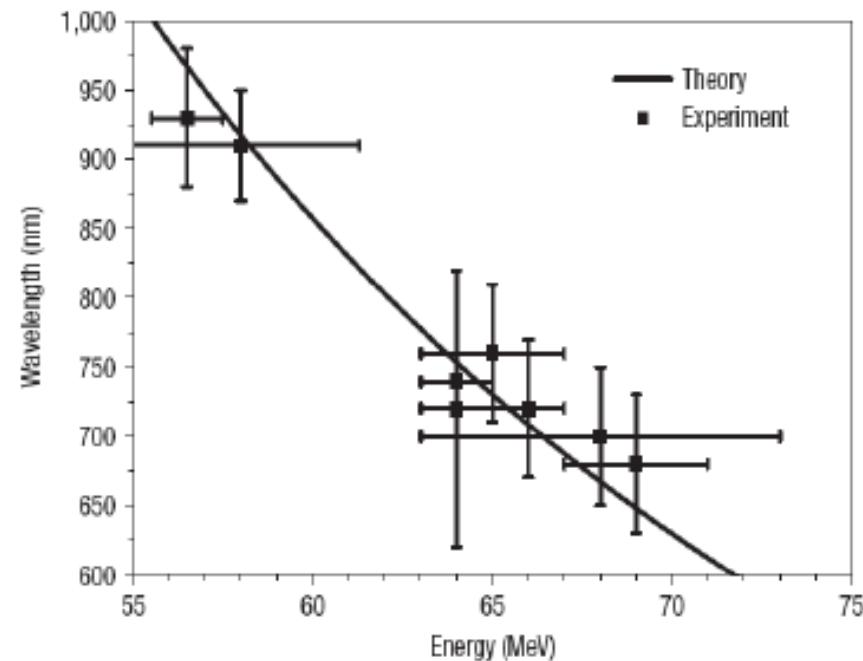
H.P. Schlenvoigt et al., **Nature Physics** 4, 130-133 (2008)

Undulator radiation

Radiation spectrum



Rad wavelength vs. beam energy



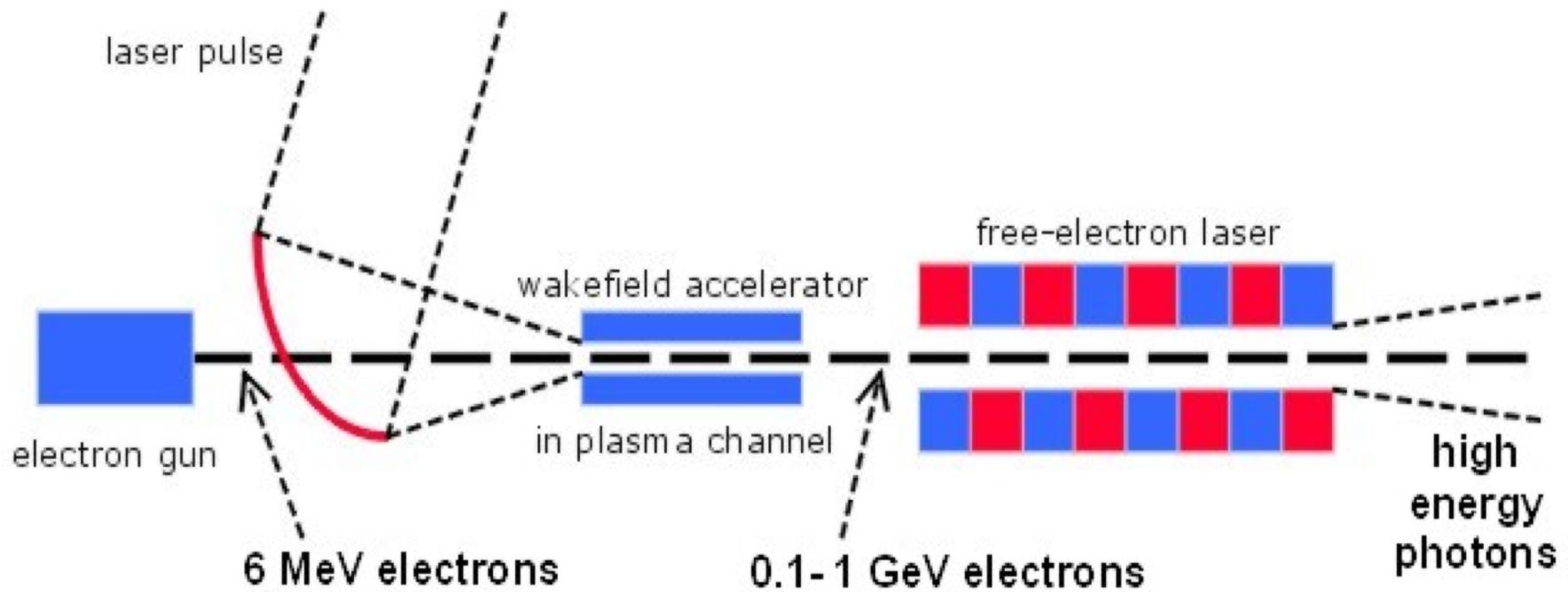
$$\lambda = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left(1 + \frac{K^2}{2} \right)$$

H.P. Schlenvoigt et al., **Nature Physics** **4**, 130-133 (2008)

X-ray production at ALPHA-X

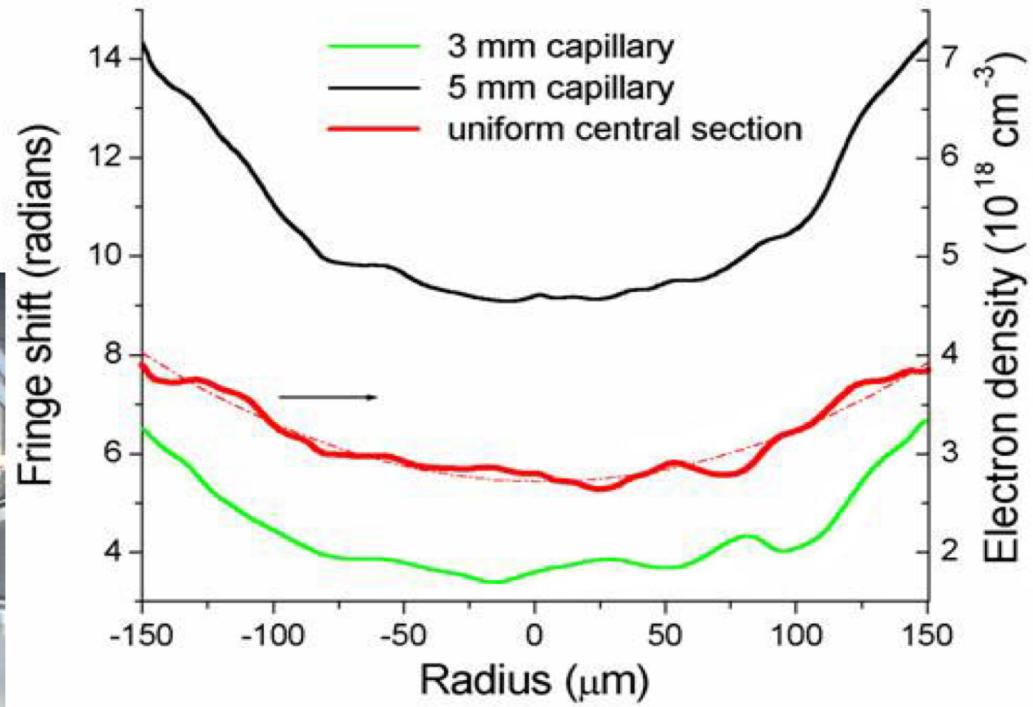
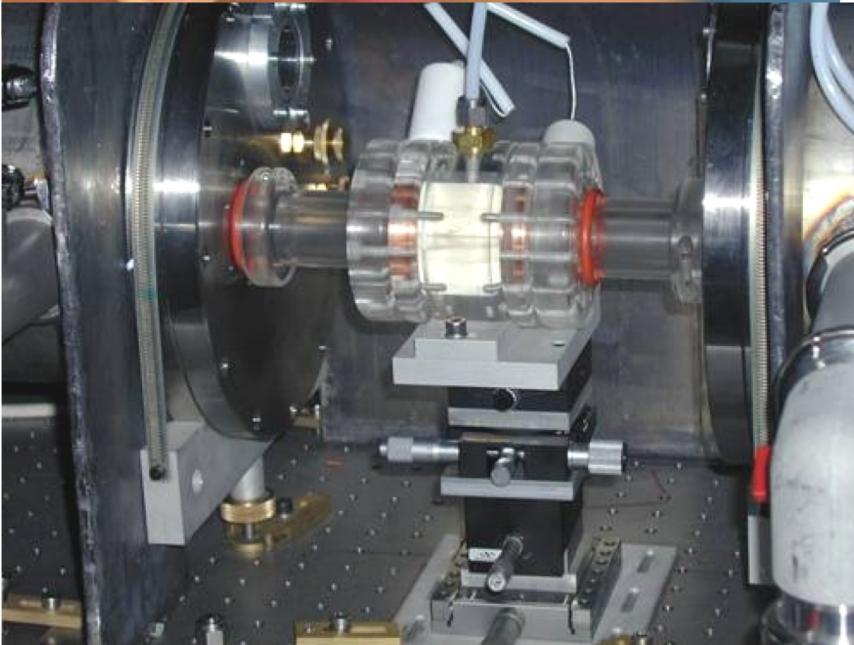
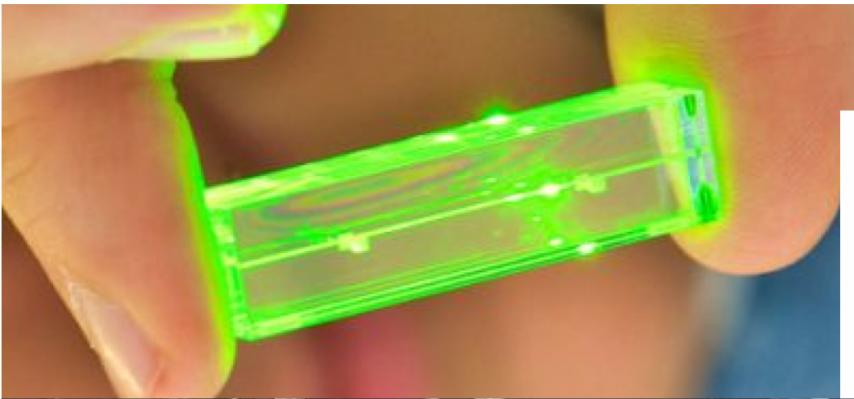
- ALPHA-X (*Advanced Laser-Plasma High-energy Accelerators towards X-rays*)
- Its aim is to develop laser-plasma accelerators and apply these to producing **coherent short-wavelength radiation** in a free-electron laser. To realize these objectives an interdisciplinary programme involving advanced plasma, laser and electron beam physics has been set up. The ultra-short pulses of short wavelength radiation from these compact sources have the potential of revolutionizing time-resolved studies in a wide range of applications.
- The ALPHA-X project began in September 2002.

Layout of ALPHA-X

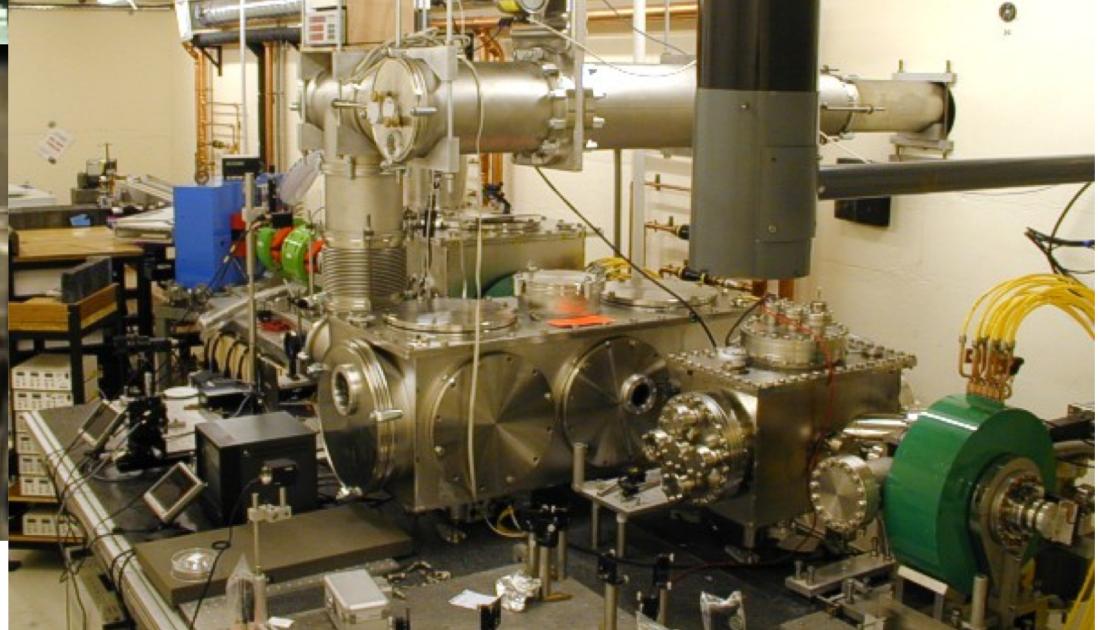
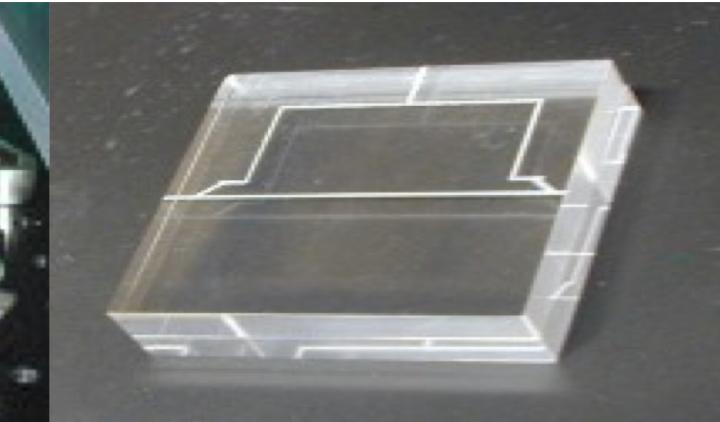
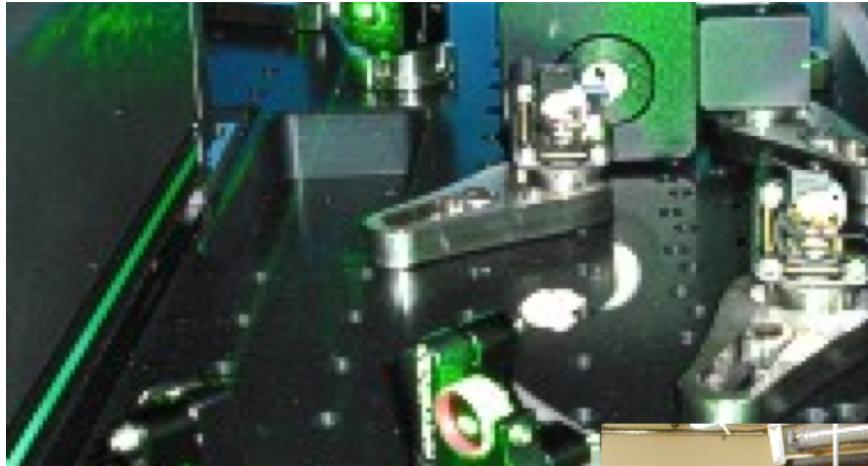


Schematic overview of the ALPHA-X set-up

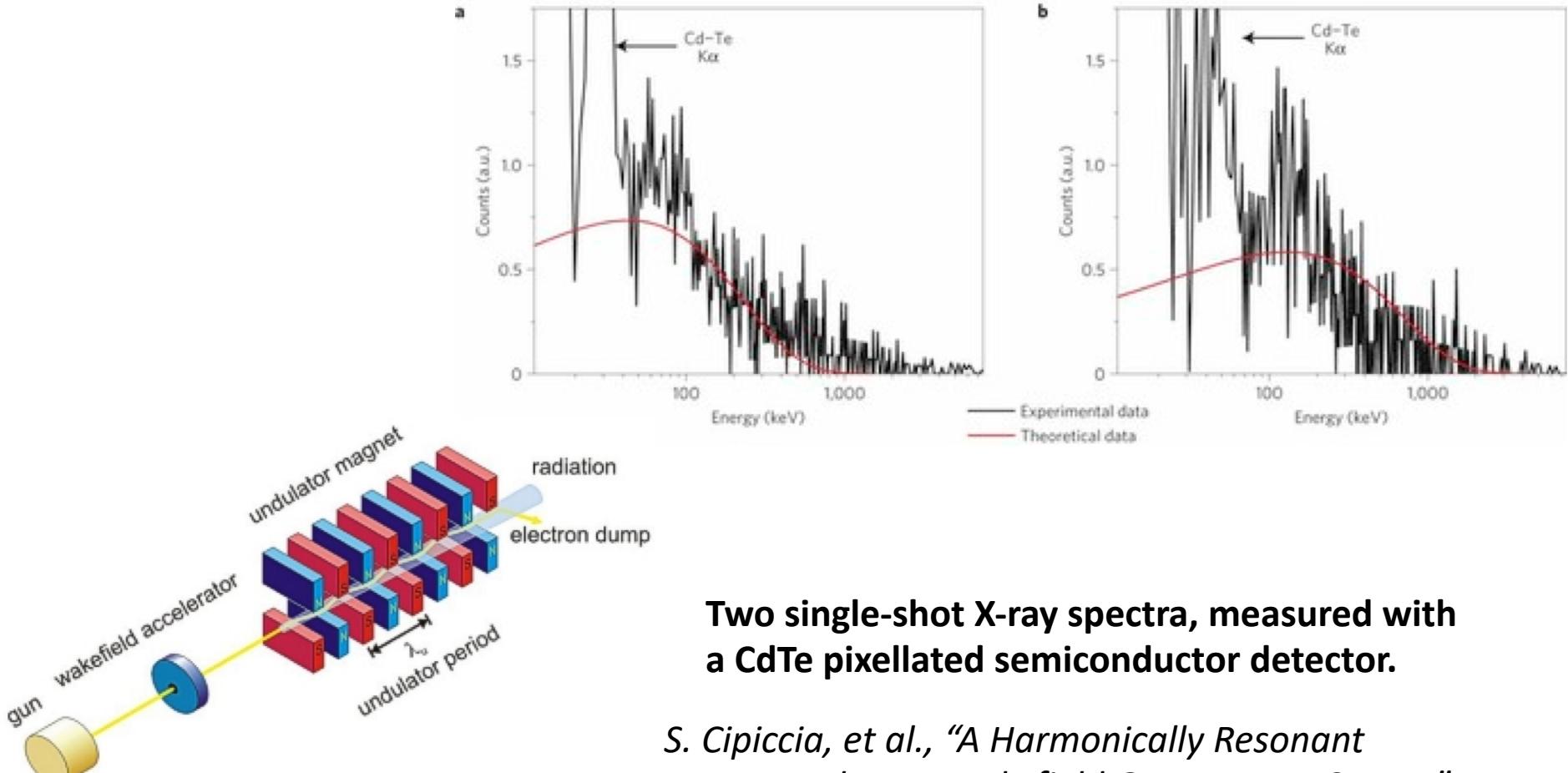
Plasma source-capillary cell



Hardware



Photons



S. Cipiccia, et al., “A Harmonically Resonant Betatron Plasma Wakefield Gamma-Ray Source”, Nature Phys. 7, 867 (2011)

X-rays from betatron radiation

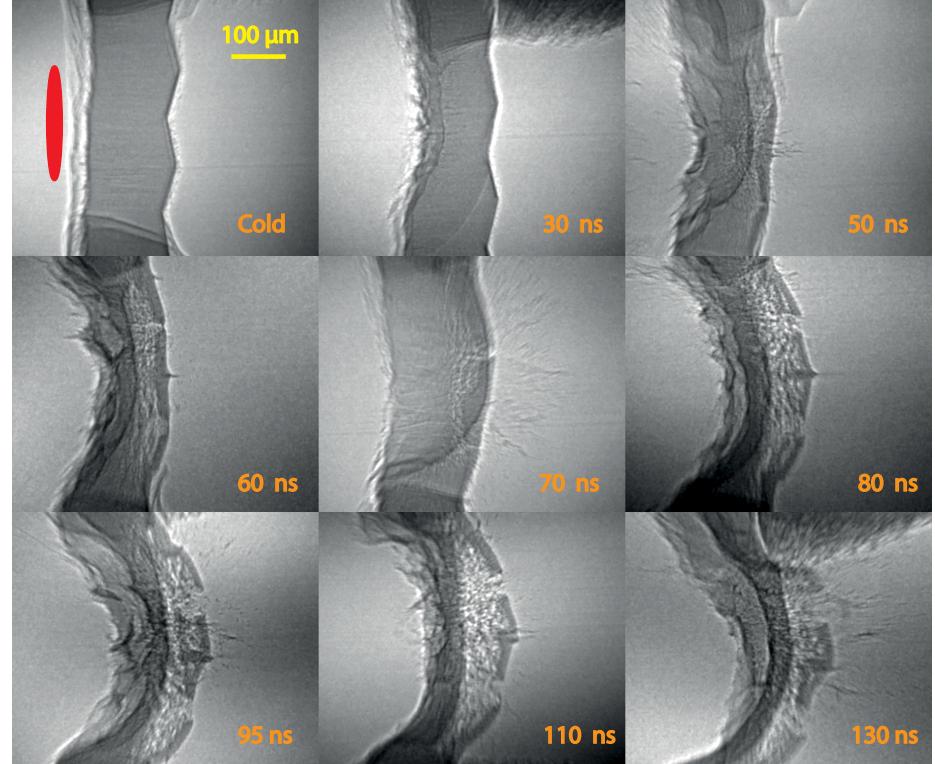
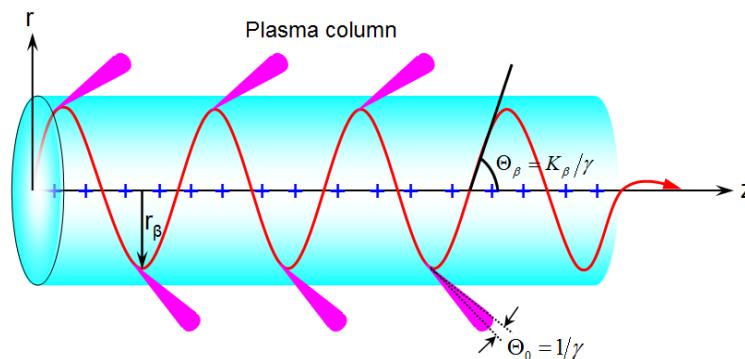
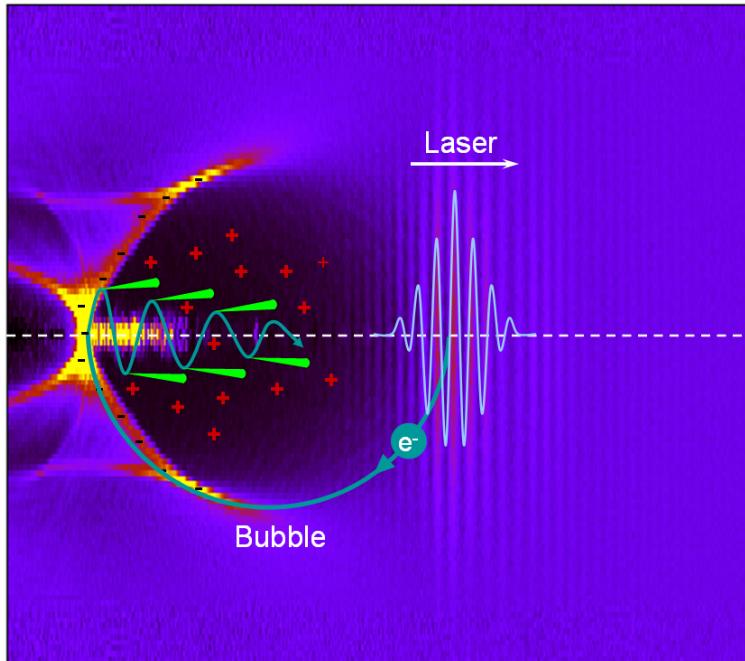


Figure 6.30: Betatron x-ray images of shocks travelling through aluminium taken at a range of delays. The red ellipse in the top left image shows the FWHM size of the drive laser spot. The orange numbers are the delay between the arrival of the shock drive laser and the betatron probe.

J. Wood, PhD thesis (2017-ICL)

Proton/ion acceleration

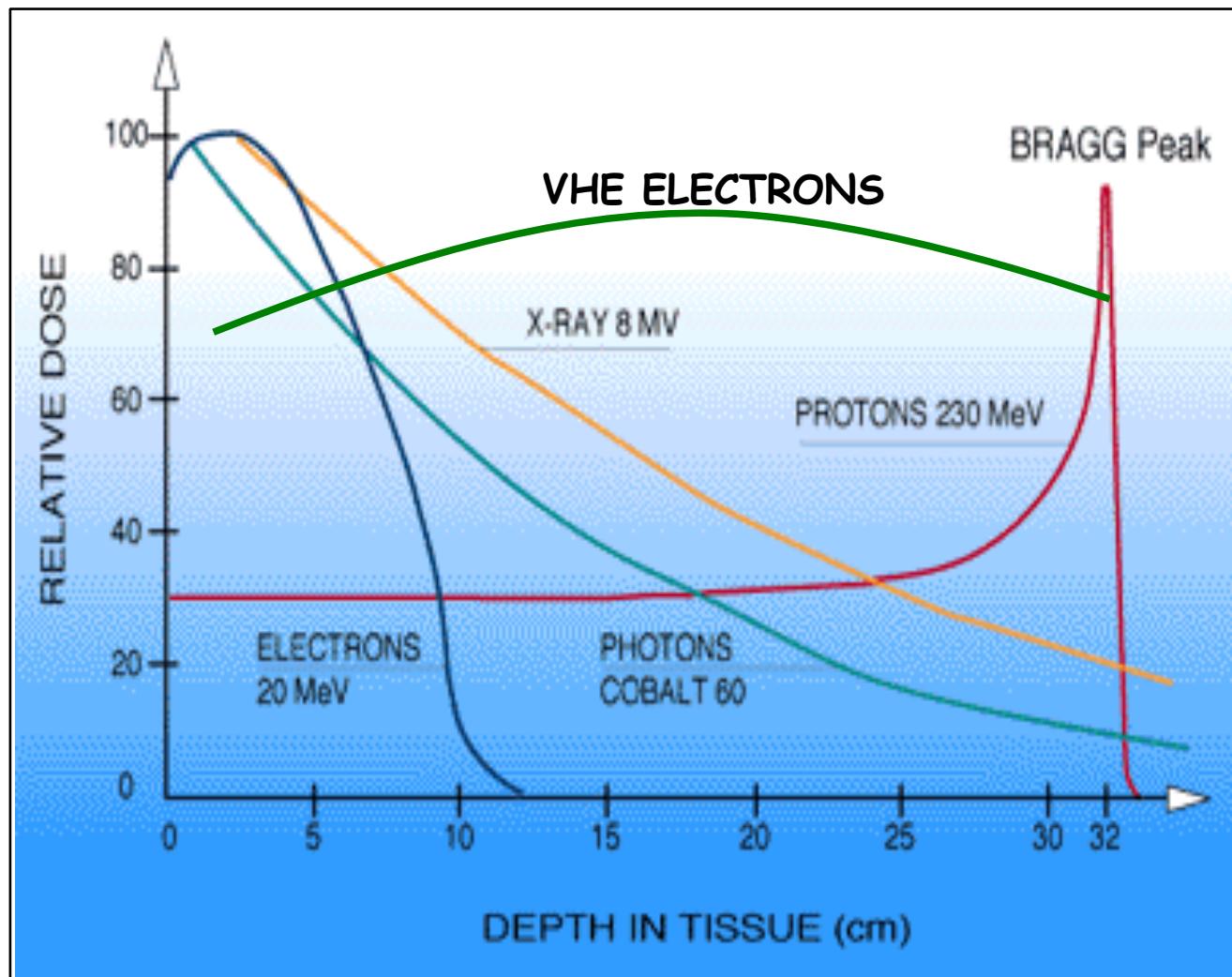
■ Proposed mechanisms

- Laser direct acceleration: light pressure (Shen, PRE 64, 056406 (2004)), needs $a=300$
- Laser driven electrostatic shock (Silva, PRL. 92, 015002 (2004)).
- Laser plasma bubble (Shen, PRE 76, 055402 (r), 2007), $a=300$
- “Target normal sheath acceleration” (B. M. Hegelich, et al., Nature 439, 441 (2006); H. Schwoerer, et al., Nature 439, 445 (2006).)

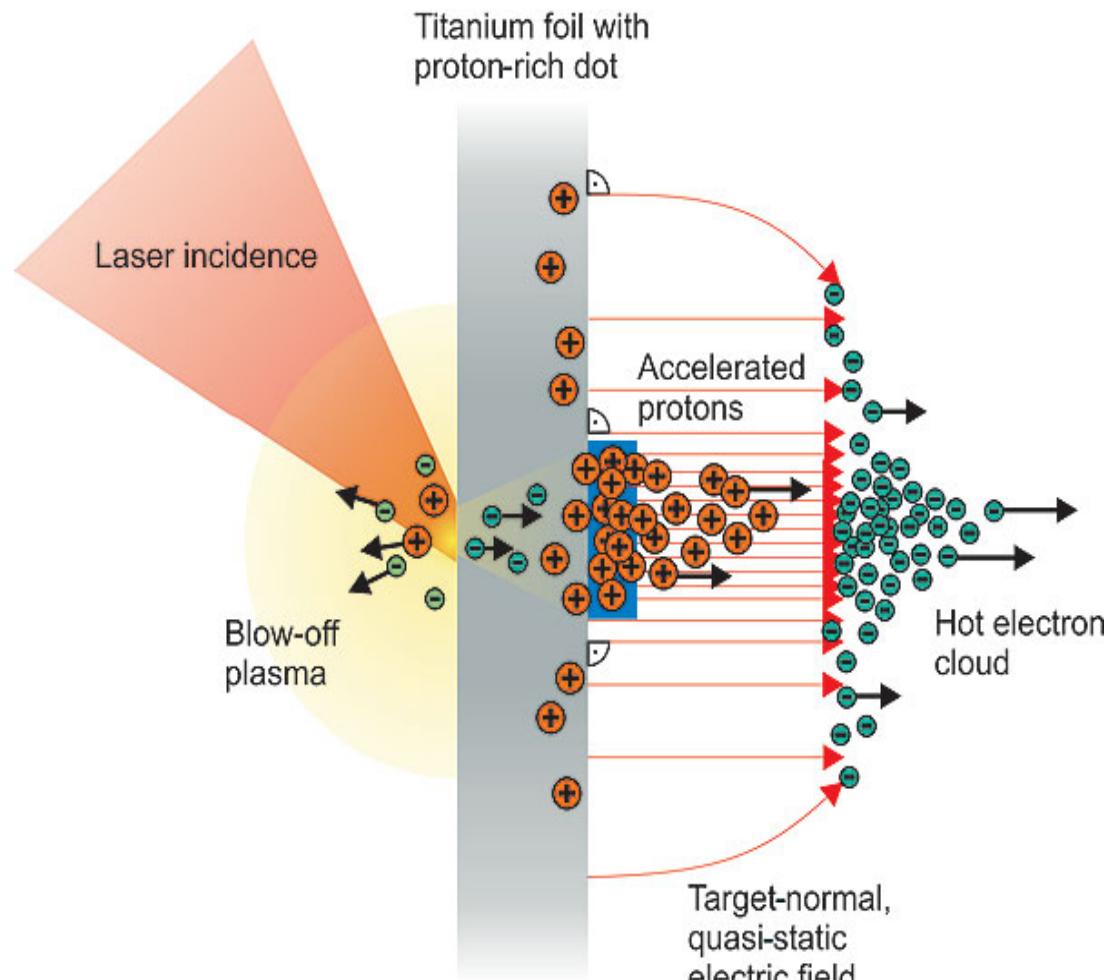
■ Demonstrated “Target normal sheath acceleration” :

- quasi mono energetic protons of MeV/proton
- B. M. Hegelich, et al., Nature 439, 441 (2006); H. Schwoerer, et al., Nature 439, 445 (2006).

Medical application: Radiotherapy



Target normal sheath acceleration of protons



$$\text{laser intensity } I_L = 3 \times 10^{19} \text{ W cm}^{-2}$$

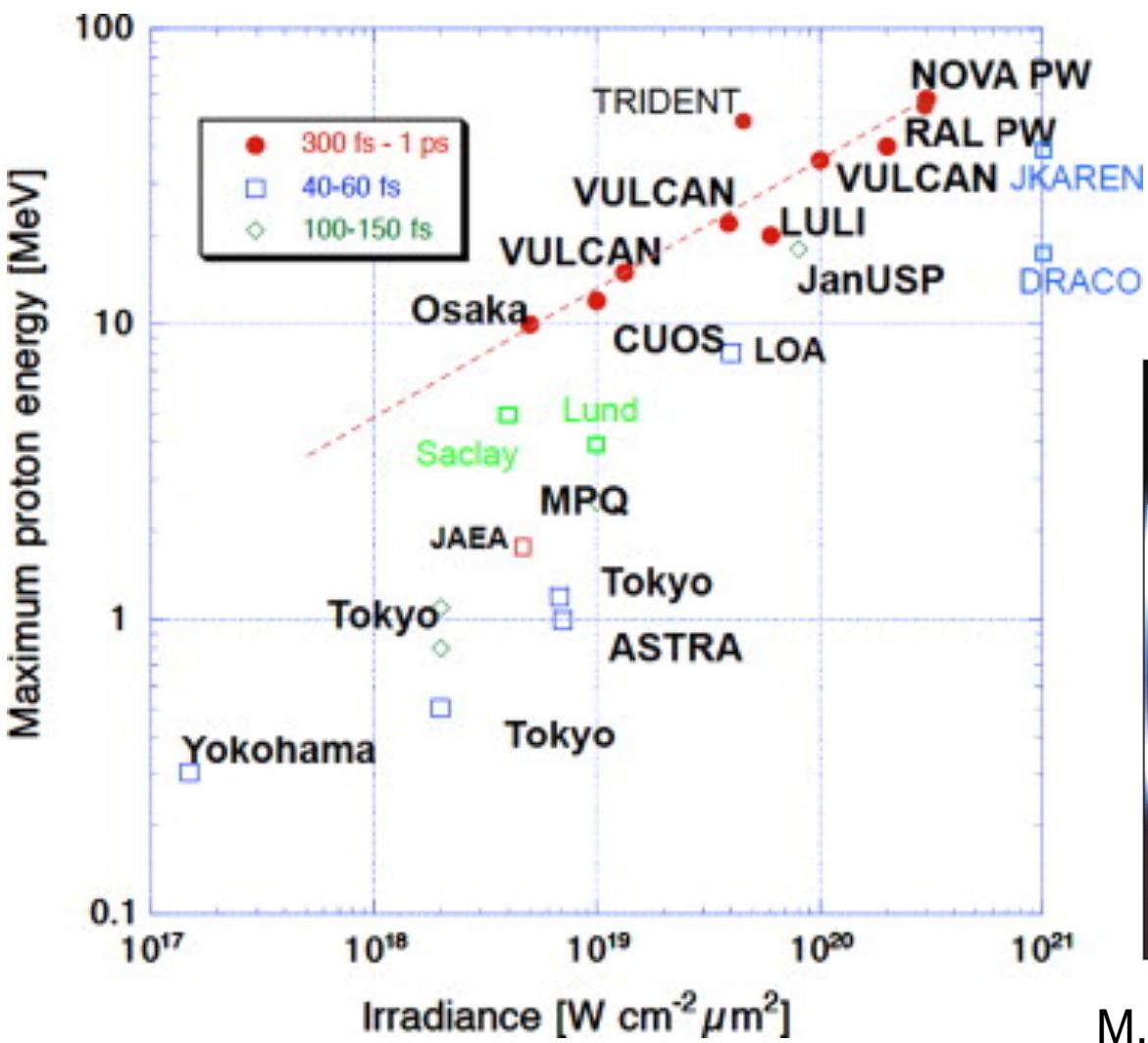
Schwoerer, et al., Nature (London) 439, 445 (2006).

13/01/2021

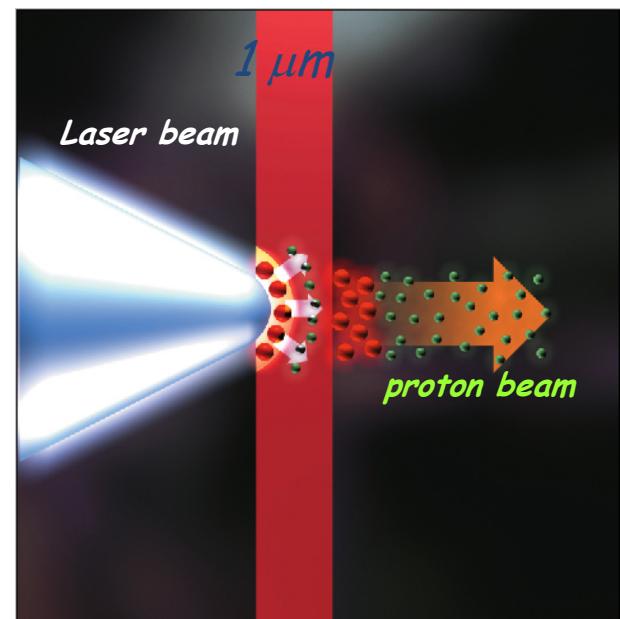
CI Postgraduate Lectures

A terawatt (TW)-laser pulse is focused onto the front side of the target foil, where it generates a blow-off plasma and subsequently accelerates electrons. The electrons penetrate the foil, ionize hydrogen and other atoms at the back surface and set up a Debye sheath. The inhomogeneous distribution of the hot electron cloud causes a transversely inhomogeneous accelerating field (target normal sheath acceleration—TNSA). Applying a small hydrogen-rich dot on the back surface enhances the proton yield in the central part of the accelerating field, where it is nearly homogenous. These protons constitute the quasi-monoenergetic bunch.

Proton/ion acceleration



Survey of TNSA cut-off energies measured in experiments so far, plotted vs. irradiance and labeled according to pulse duration.



M. Borghesi, NIMA 740, 6-9 (2014)

Important equations

Quantity	Definition	Engineering Formula
Gaussian Laser Beam Parameters (a_0)		
Focal Spot	$2w_0 = \frac{4\lambda_L}{\pi} \frac{f}{D} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\ln 2}} d_{FWHM}$	$w_{\frac{1}{e^2}-\phi} [\mu\text{m}] = f/\# @ \lambda_L = 0.8 \mu\text{m}$
Confocal Parameter	$2z_R = 2\pi w_0^2 / \lambda_L$	$\Delta z [\mu\text{m}] = 2(f/\#)^2 @ \lambda_L = 0.8 \mu\text{m}$
Peak Power	$P_0 = 2\sqrt{\frac{\ln 2}{\pi}} \frac{W_L}{t_{FWHM}}$ $P_0 = \frac{\pi}{4 \ln 2} d_{FWHM}^2 I_0$	$P_0 [\text{TW}] = 940 \frac{W_L [\text{J}]}{t_{FWHM} [\text{fs}]}$ $P_0 [\text{TW}] = 0.011 d_{FWHM}^2 [\mu\text{m}] I_0 [10^{18} \frac{\text{W}}{\text{cm}^2}]$
Peak Intensity	$I_0 = \left(\frac{4 \ln 2}{\pi}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{W_L}{t_{FWHM} d_{FWHM}^2 [\mu\text{m}]}$ $I_0 = \frac{2\pi^2 \epsilon_0 m_e^2 c^5}{e^2} \frac{a_0^2}{\lambda_L^2}$	$I_0 [10^{18} \frac{\text{W}}{\text{cm}^2}] = 83 \times 10^3 \frac{W_L [\text{J}]}{t_{FWHM} [\text{fs}] d_{FWHM} [\mu\text{m}]}$ $I_0 [10^{18} \frac{\text{W}}{\text{cm}^2}] = 1.37 \frac{a_0^2}{\lambda_L^2 [\mu\text{m}]}$
Vector Potential	$a_0 = \frac{e}{\pi m_e c^2} \sqrt{\frac{I_0}{2\epsilon_0 c}} \lambda_L$	$a_0 = 0.85 \sqrt{I_0 [10^{18} \text{W cm}^{-2}]} \lambda_L [\mu\text{m}]$
Peak Electric Field	$E_0 = \frac{ea_0}{cm_e \omega_L}$	$E_0 [10^{12} \text{V/m}] = 3.2 \frac{a_0}{\lambda_L [\mu\text{m}]}$
Plasma Parameters ($n_e \propto k_p$)		
Plasma Wavelength	$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{n_{e,0} e^2}{m_e \epsilon_0}}$	$\lambda_p [\mu\text{m}] = \frac{33.4}{\sqrt{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}]}}$
Wavebreaking Field	$E_{p,0} = \frac{m_e c \omega_p}{e}$	$E_{p,0} [\text{GV m}^{-1}] = 96 \sqrt{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}]}$
Plasma Gamma Factor	$\gamma_p = \sqrt{\frac{n_{cr}}{n_e}}$	$\gamma_p = 33.4 \frac{1}{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}] \lambda_L [\mu\text{m}]}$
Critical Density	$n_{e,c} = \frac{\epsilon_0 m_e}{e^2} \omega_L^2$	$n_{e,c} [\text{cm}^{-3}] = \frac{1.1 \times 10^{21}}{\lambda_L^2 [\mu\text{m}]}$
LWFA Parameters in the Bubble Regime ($r_b = 2\sqrt{a_0}/k_p$)		
Dephasing Length	$L_d = \frac{2}{3\pi} \sqrt{a_0} \lambda_L \left(\frac{n_c}{n_{e,0}} \right)^{3/2}$	$L_d [\text{mm}] = 7.9 \sqrt{a_0} \left(\frac{\lambda_L^{-4/3} [\mu\text{m}]}{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}]} \right)^{3/2}$
Electric Field	$E_p = \frac{m_e c \omega_p}{e} \sqrt{a_0}$	$E_p [\text{GV m}^{-1}] = 96 \sqrt{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}]} \sqrt{a_0}$
Electron Energy	$W_{el} = \frac{2a_0}{3} \left(\frac{n_c}{n_{e,0}} \right) m_e c^2$	$W_{el} [\text{MeV}] \approx 380 \frac{a_0}{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}] \lambda_L^2 [\mu\text{m}]}$
Optimum Charge	$Q_{opt} = \frac{\pi c^3}{e^2} \sqrt{\frac{m_e^3 \epsilon_0^3}{n_{e,0}}} a_0^{\frac{3}{2}}$	$Q_{opt} [\text{pC}] = 75 \sqrt{\frac{a_0^3}{n_{e,0} [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}]}}$

J. Wenz and S. Karsch,
arXiv:
2007.04622v1 (2020)

LWFA- current status

Laser plasma acceleration has demonstrated:

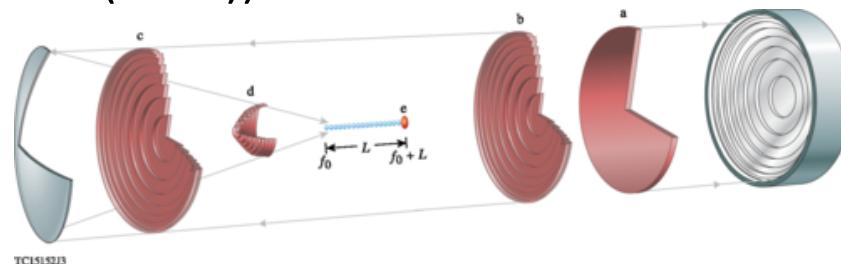
- Energy gains of 1 MeV to 8 GeV
- E-fields of 1 GV/m to 1000 GV/m
- Good e-beam quality : Emittance $\sim \pi \text{mm mrad}$
- Charge at high energy
- Quasi monoenergetic
- Very high peak current : 100 kA

LWFA advantages:

- Provide e-beam with new parameters :
 - Ultrashort
 - High current
 - Collimated
 - Compact and low cost

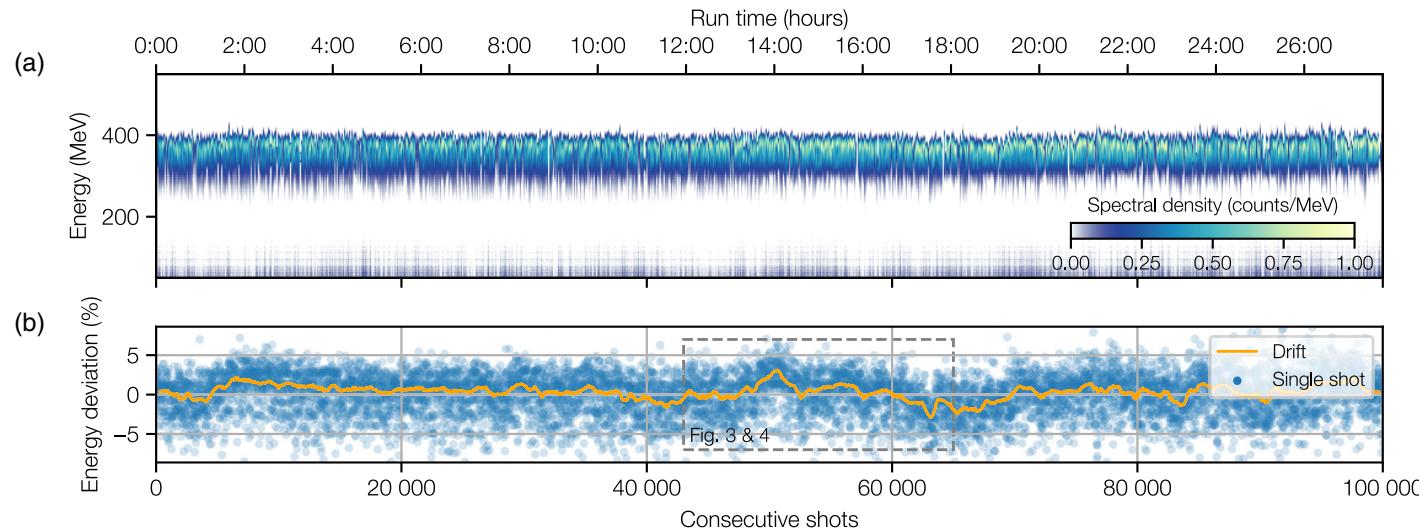
New developments

- Dephasingless laser wakefield acceleration (DLWFA)
(J.P. Palastro, et al., PRL 124, 134802 (2020))



- Long time operation of LPA

(A. R. Maier et al., Phys. Rev. X 10, 031039 (2020))



ICUIL World Map of Ultrahigh Intensity Laser Capabilities



C.P.J. Barty

Future perspectives

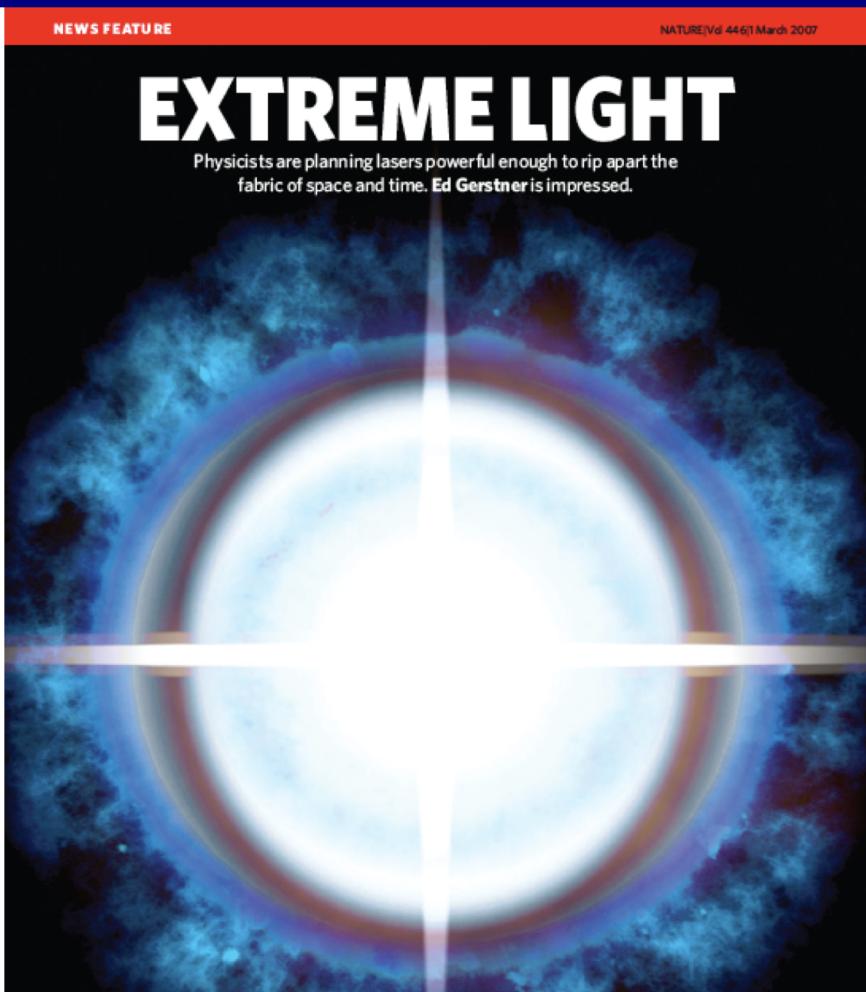
Design future accelerators based on LWFA:

- Higher charge, e.g. nC
- Low emittance
- Small energy spread
- Stable beam
- Guiding or PW class laser system
- Dual stage to multi stage coupling/synchronization

Accelerator system development:

- Compact XFEL
- Applications (chemistry, radiotherapy, material science)
- Colliders for HEP

Extreme Light Infrastructure-ELI



**European Project
for development of
extreme light**

**Beam acceleration
is one work package**

... hundreds of GeV ...

Projection from the actual experimental and theoretical data achieved with 100 TW laser to ELI indicates that hundreds of GeV electron bunch could be generated. Indeed, the central

Future perspectives -ELI

Pushing the energy frontier

ELI – Extreme Light Infrastructure

Centres in the Czech Republic,
Romania, Hungary.

10 – 200(?) PW lasers at up to
10Hz, compared to 1PW now

Goal of 10s GeV



Future perspectives-other facilities

Pushing towards applications

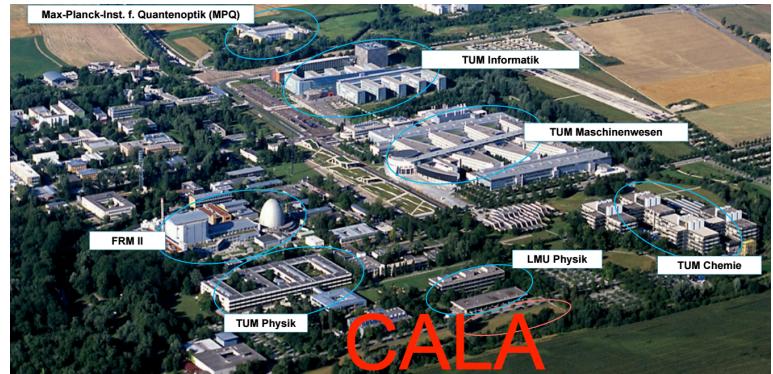
CALA - Centre for Advanced Laser Applications, Munich

3PW @ 10 Hz

SCAPA – Scottish Centre for the Application of Plasma-based Accelerators

0.35 – 1 PW

Designed for x-ray imaging and hadron therapy applications



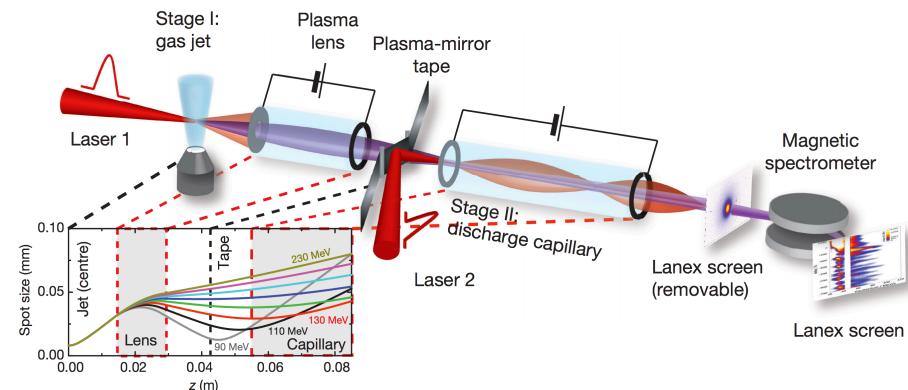
Future perspectives

Pushing towards accelerators

EuPRAXIA – project to develop dedicated 5 GeV LWFA facility

R. Assmann, et al., The European Physical Journal Special Topics 229 (24) 3675 (2020)

Demonstration of LWFA staging, required to beat limitations on laser pulse energy



S. Steinke *et al*, Nature, 2016

Conclusions

- Short wavelength accelerators hold great promise to miniaturize the future machines
- The development of laser plasma based accelerators have achieved great success in the last few decades.
- The ultimate target is to get high quality beams (high energy, low emittance , low energy spread, high current, ultrashort pulse, etc.).
- The applications of LWFA is enormous, not only for HEP, but also many other areas, e.g. FEL, radiation sources, VHEE, proton therapy, colliders.

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Learning outcomes-Lecture I

- ✓ Motivations for short wavelength accelerators
- ✓ How laser-plasma acceleration works
- ✓ Limitations of laser plasma accelerators
- ✓ Applications of laser-plasma accelerators

Surfing waves, dreaming tiny!

