Advanced Laser/Plasma Accelerators and Applications



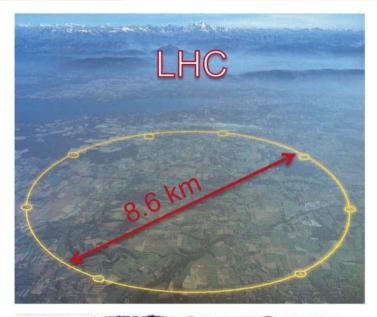
Outline

- Motivation
- Beam Driven Plasmas
- Laser Driven Plasmas
- Towards first applications
- Summary
- For further information:
 - Mark Hogan
 - hogan@slac.stanford.edu

The Higgs has been found. Now what?

- Higgs Boson discovered at the LHC
- Next big machine: linear e⁻e⁺ collider
- SLC only linear collider so far:
 - 3 km long; 2 x 50 GeV beams
- Next collider needs higher energy beams (250GeV - 1.5TeV)
- ILC design: 30km long
- CLIC design: 50km long
- Limited by breakdown of metallic structures and/or cryo-technology
 - Accelerating gradient < 100MeV/m
- Time for a new acceleration technology!

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Important for Photon Science too!

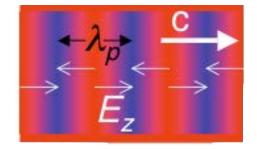


Not everyone has a 3km linac laying around to convert to an XFEL... • High energy enables short wavelengths $\lambda_{rad} = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left(1 + \frac{K^2}{2} + \gamma^2 \theta^2 \right)$ $\varepsilon \leq$

Why Plasmas?

Relativistic plasma wave (electrostatic):

$$\begin{split} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \ \vec{E} &= \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0} \qquad k_p E_z = \frac{\omega_{pe}}{c} E_z = \frac{n_e e}{\varepsilon_0} \\ E_z &= \left(\frac{m_e c^2}{\varepsilon_0}\right)^{1/2} n_e^{1/2} \cong 100 \sqrt{n_e (cm^{-3})} = \frac{1GV/m}{n_e = 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}} \end{split}$$

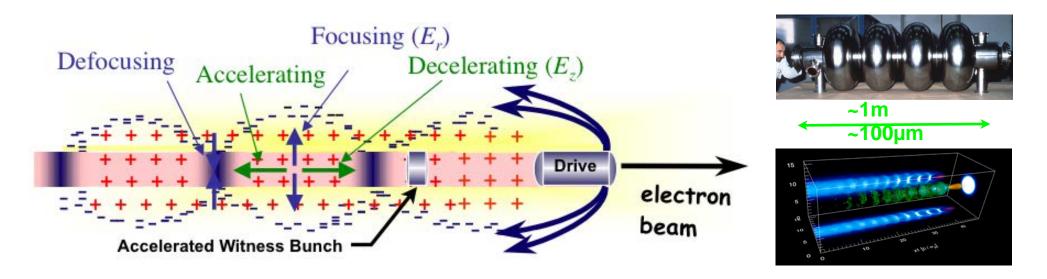


Large Collective Response!

Compare: SLAC linac ~ 20MeV/m

- Plasmas can sustain very large E_z field, acceleration
- Plasmas are already ionized (partially), difficult to break down
- High energy, high gradient acceleration!
- Plasma wave can be driven by:
- Intense laser pulse (LWFA)
- Short particle bunch (PWFA)

The Beam Driven Plasma Wakefield Accelerator

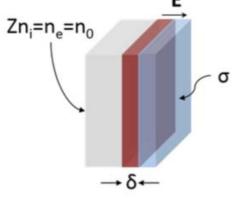


- Two-beam, co-linear, plasma-based accelerator
- Plasma wave/wake excited by relativistic particle bunch
- Deceleration, acceleration, focusing by plasma
- \bullet Accelerating field/gradient scales as $n_{\rm e}^{1/2}$
- Typical: $n_e \approx 10^{17}$ cm⁻³, $\lambda_p \approx 100 \ \mu$ m, G > MT/m, E > 10 GV/m
- High-gradient, high-efficiency energy transformer
- "Blow-out" regime when $n_b/n_p >> 1$

Plasma Frequency

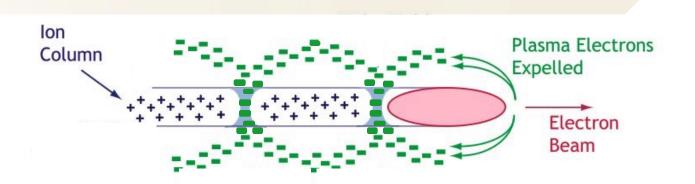
- Imagine an electron layer displaced in one dimension by length δ
- Creates 'two capacitor plates' with surface charge density: $\sigma = en_e \delta$
- Electric field given by:
- Creates a restoring force:
- $E = \frac{\sigma}{\varepsilon_0} = \frac{en_e\delta}{\varepsilon_0}$ $m_e \frac{dv}{dt} = -m_e \frac{d^2\delta}{dt^2} = -eE = \frac{e^2n_e\delta}{\varepsilon_0}$ nonic oscillator equation: $\frac{d^2\delta}{dt^2} + \omega_p^2\delta = 0$ $\omega_p[s^{-1}] \equiv \left(\frac{e^2n_e}{\varepsilon_0m_e}\right)^{1/2} \cong 6 \times 10^4 \sqrt{n_e[cc]}$
- May be re-written as harmonic oscillator equation:
- With a characteristic electron plasma frequency and wavelength:

More rigorous derivation in, e.g. F.F. Chen "Introduction to plasma physics and controlled fusion"



 $\lambda_p \sim 100 \mu m \cdot (n_p [cc]/10^{17})^{-1/2}$

Transverse Forces: Focusing in the Ion Column

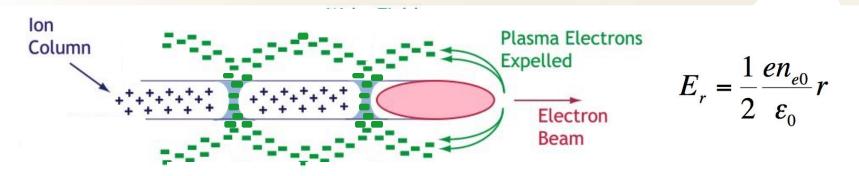


- Uniform ion density n_i = initial plasma density n_{e0}
- Focusing is balance between radial E and v x B ~ Er cBphi
- Assume $n_b/n_p > 1$ and fully blown-out ion column
 - no plasma return currents within the beam (CFI)
 - In beam frame then no currents to drive B_{phi}
- Focusing then simply obtained from Gauss law for an infinite cylinder (approximation)

$$\nabla \cdot E = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0} \implies 2\pi r dz E_r = \frac{\pi r^2 e n_i}{\varepsilon_0} \implies E_r = \frac{1}{2} \frac{e n_{e0}}{\varepsilon_0} r$$

- linear in r (ideal lens, no geometric aberration)
- May preserve incoming emittance

Propagation in the Ion Column – Single Electron



• Motion of a single electron in the ion column:

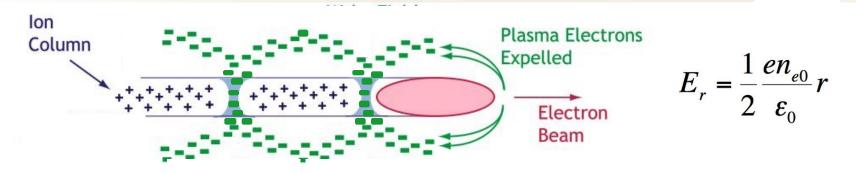
$$\gamma m \frac{dv_{\perp}}{dt} = F_{\perp} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \gamma mc^2 \frac{d^2 r}{dz^2} = e \frac{1}{2} \frac{e n_{e0}}{\varepsilon_0} r \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d^2 r}{dz^2} = \frac{1}{2\gamma c^2} \frac{e^2 n_{e0}}{m\varepsilon_0} r = \frac{\omega_{pe}^2}{2\gamma c^2} r = \frac{k_{pe}^2}{2\gamma} r = k_{\beta}^2 r$$

Harmonic motion as long as no energy gain or loss:

$$\frac{d^2r}{dz^2} = k_{\beta}^2 r \implies r(z) = r_0 e^{ik_{\beta}z}$$

- Relativistic electrons though, so will get synchrotron (betatron) radiation
- Particles oscillate at: $k_{\beta}^2 = \frac{k_p^2}{2\gamma}$ or $\omega_{\beta} = \omega_{pe} / \sqrt{2\gamma} << \omega_{pe}$

Propagation in the Ion Column for a Beam of Electrons



Beam evolution described by the envelope equation:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2} + K\sigma = \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\sigma^3} \quad \text{with} \quad K = \frac{k_p^2}{2\gamma} = k_p^2$$

No evolution of spot size (sigma) when have matched condition:

$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dz^2} = 0 \Rightarrow K = \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\sigma^4} = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \quad \text{or} \quad \beta_{matched} = \frac{\sqrt{2\gamma}}{k_p} = \sqrt{2\gamma} \frac{c}{\omega_p}$$

recalling $\sigma^2 = \beta \varepsilon$

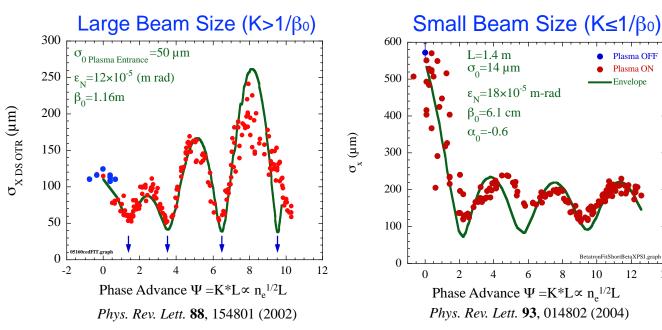
• There is a matched beta (n_p dependent) – not a matched spot size (e_n dependent), e.g. $n_p = 10^{17}$, c/w_p = 17µm and Beta matched = 1mm (<<L_p!). For $e_n = 1µm$, E = 1GeV get a matched sigma = 0.7µm

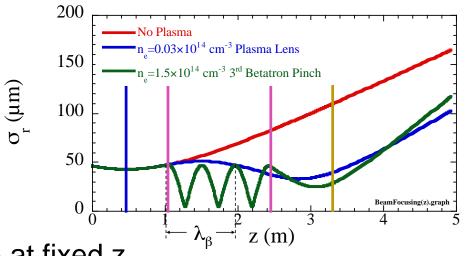
Measured Plasma Focusing for Matched & Mismatched Beams

Start with beam evolution in vacuum

$$\sigma_r(z) = \sigma_{r0} \left(1 + \frac{\varepsilon^2 z^2}{\sigma_0^4} \right)^{1/2} = \sigma_{r0} \left(1 + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{\beta_0^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

- Increase the density/focusing
 - Can't always measure in plasma
 - Look on profile monitor downstream
 - Sigma(z) at fixed np same as sigma(np) at fixed z





- Focusing orders of magnitude larger than beamline quadrupoles
- Well described by simple model

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 Multiple foci within the plasma

Accelerating Fields

 $\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} = -\frac{e\mathbf{E}}{m} \quad \text{Momentum/Force equation}$ $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot n\mathbf{v} \right] = 0 \quad \text{Continuity equation} \quad \boxed{\frac{\nabla OLUME 54, N}{Accelera}}$ $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = -4\pi e(\delta n + n_b) \quad \text{Poisson equation}$

Change variables

$$\zeta = z - ct$$
 and substituting k_p^2 for ω_p^2/c^2

Equation for perturbed density

$$(\partial_{\zeta}^2 + k_p^2)\delta n = -k_p^2 n_b$$

Driving term for E

$$\left(\nabla_{\perp}^2 - k_p^2\right) \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{z}} = -4\pi e \nabla \delta n$$

Simplify in narrow beam limit

$$k_p \sigma_r \ll 1$$

 VOLUME 54, NUMBER 7
 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS
 18 FEBRUARY 1985

 Acceleration of Electrons by the Interaction of a Bunched Electron Beam with a Plasma
 Pisin Chen^(a)

 Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305
 and

 J. M. Dawson, Robert W. Huff, and T. Katsouleas
 Department of Physics, University of California, Los Angeles, California 90024

Finally an equation for Ez behind the beam

$$E_z = \frac{8\pi eN}{\sigma_z^2} u e^{-u} \quad \text{with} \quad u = k_p^2 \sigma_z^2/2$$

Maximized when bunch length matched to np

$$k_p \sigma_z = \sqrt{2}$$
 With notable scaling: $E_z \propto n_p^{1/2} \propto \frac{N}{\sigma_z^2}$

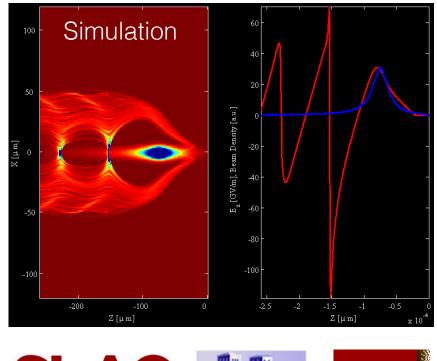
In practical terms

$$eE_z[MeV/m] \simeq 240 \times \left(\frac{N}{4 \times 10^{10}}\right) \left(\frac{0.6}{\sigma_z[mm]}\right)^2$$

e.g. 2E10, 30µm gives 50GeV/m!

E-167: Energy Doubling with a Plasma Wakefield Accelerator in the FFTB

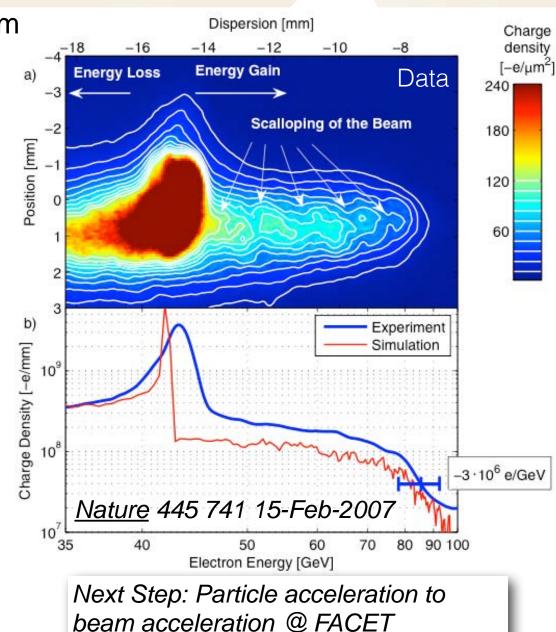
- Acceleration Gradients of ~50GeV/m (3,000 x SLAC)
 - Doubled energy of 45 GeV electrons in 1 meter plasma
- Single Bunch







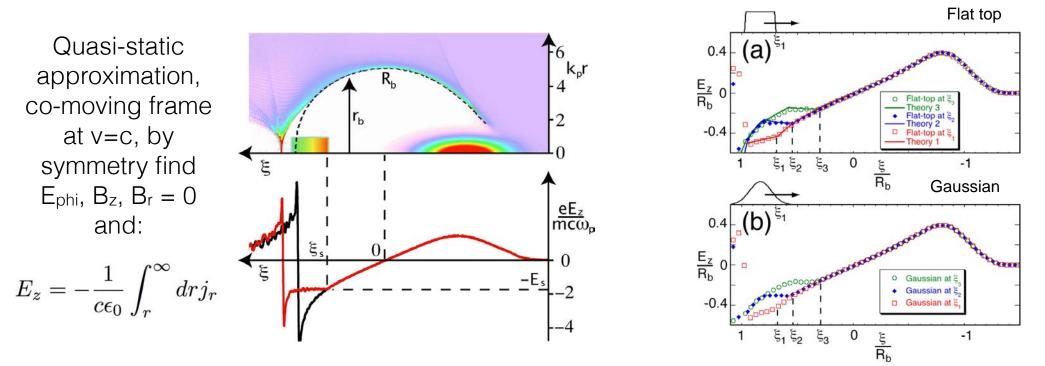




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Beam Loading in Non-linear Wakes

Theoretical framework, augmented by simulations



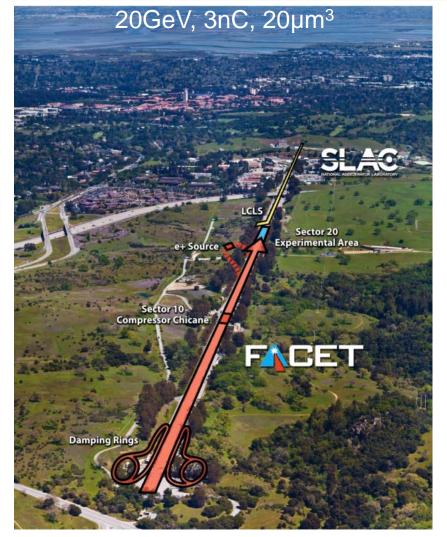
Possible to nearly flatten accelerating wake – even with Gaussian beams

- Gaussian beams provide a path towards $\Delta E/E \sim 10^{-2}$ 10^{-3}
- Applications requiring narrower energy spread, higher efficiency or larger transformer ratio \longrightarrow Shaped Bunches $\mathcal{L} = \frac{P_b}{E_b} \left(\frac{N}{4\pi\sigma_r\sigma_r} \right)$

See: M. Tzoufras et al, Phys. Plasmas 16, 056705 (2009); M. Tzoufras et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 145002 (2008) and References therein

FACET Has a Multi-year Program to Study PWFA





Primary Goal: Demonstrate a single-stage high-energy plasma accelerator for electrons.

- Meter scale
- High gradient
- Preserved emittance
- Low energy spread ✓
- High efficiency 🗸

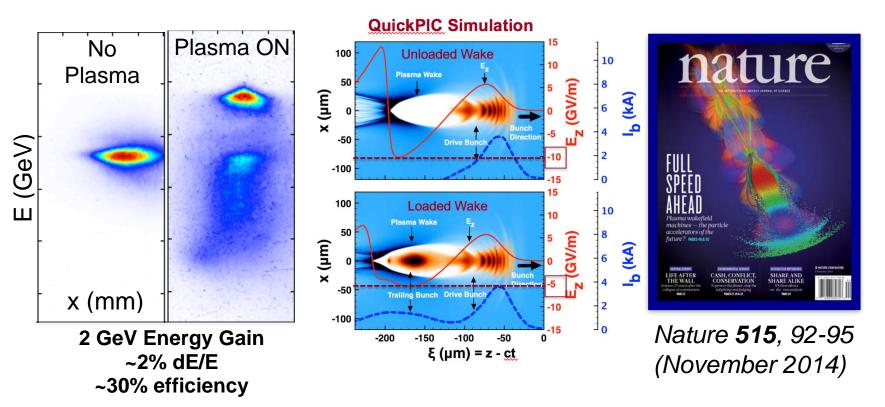
Timeline:

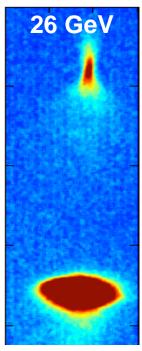
- CD-0 2008 🗸
- Commissioning (2012)
- Drive & witness e⁻ bunch (2012-2013) ✓
- Optimization of e⁻ acceleration (2013-2015)
- First high-gradient e⁺ PWFA (2014-2016)

FACET user program is based on high-energy high-brightness beams and their interaction with plasmas and lasers

High-Efficiency Acceleration of an Electron Bunch in a Plasma Wakefield Accelerator

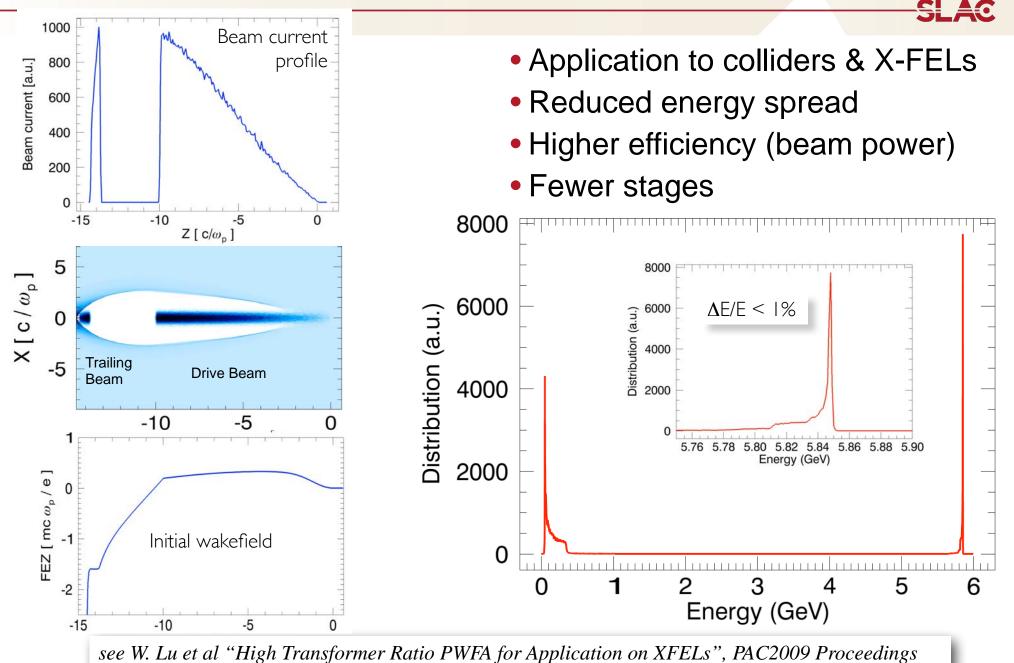
- Inject two beams into the plasma
 - One drives the wake, one samples the wake
- Beam loading is key for:
 - Narrow energy spread & high efficiency





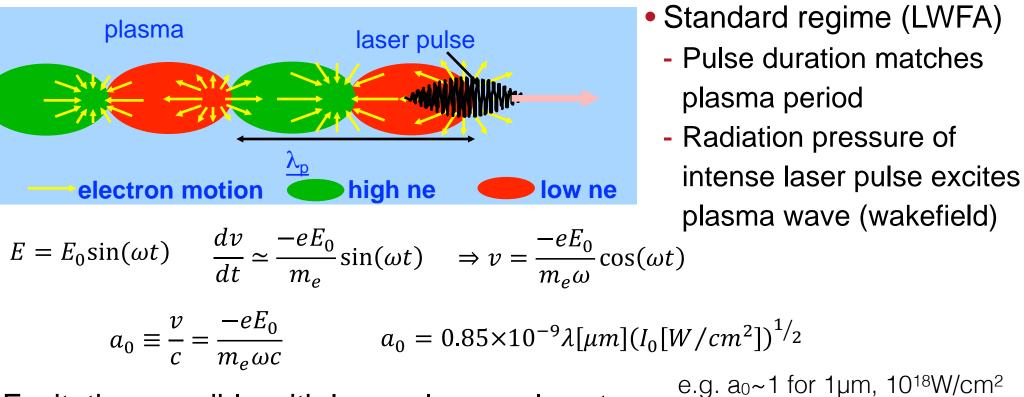
Single shot 6 GeV Energy Gain

Looking Ahead: Shaped Profile for Transformer Ratio ~ 5



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Laser Driven Excitation of Plasma Waves: Laser Wakefield Accelerator (LWFA)



- Excitation possible with longer laser pulses too
 - SMI/Raman Forward Scattering
 - Beat wave
 - Scaling same as for beam drivers
- Electric field of plasma wave (n = density): E ~ $n^{1/2}$ ~ 100 GV/m for n ~ 10¹⁸ cm⁻³
- Laser Pulse length ~ plasma wavelength λ_p L ~ λ_p ~ n^{-1/2} ~ 30 µm (100 fs) for n ~ 10¹⁸ cm⁻³

Tajima, Dawson (79); Gorbunov, Kirsanov (87); Sprangle, Esarey et al. (88), Esaray et al. Rev. Mod. Phys. 81, 1229 (2009)

State-of-the-Art Prior to 2004: Self-Modulated Laser Wakefield Accelerator (SM-LWFA)

Self-modulated regime:

- Laser pulse duration > plasma period
- Laser power > critical power for self-guiding
- High-phase velocity plasma waves by
 - Raman forward scattering
 - Self-modulation instability

Sprangle *et al.* (92); Antonsen, Mora (92); Andreev *et al.* (92); Esarey *et al.* (94); Mori *et al.* (94)

0.75

0.50

0.25

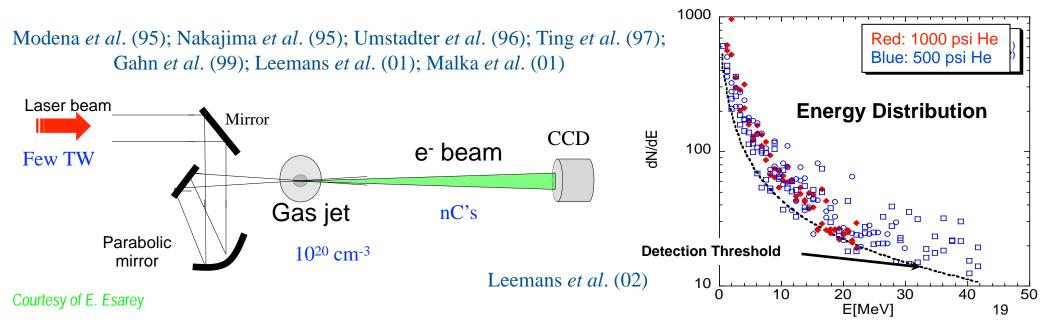
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laser pulse

 a_0

SM-LWFA experiments routinely produce electrons with:

1-100 MeV (100% energy spread), multi-nC, ~100 fs, ~10 mrad divergence



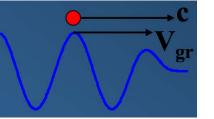
Three Factors Limiting Energy Gain – Three D's of LWFA

SLAC

- Diffraction
 - Order ~mm for 1µm laser with 17µm waist
 - May be overcome with channel guiding or relativistic self-focusing $\pi \omega_0^2$

$$Z_R = \frac{\pi \omega_0}{\lambda}$$

• Dephasing:



Optical diffraction

$$ext{diff} = \frac{\lambda}{\pi_{W_0}}$$

 $ext{diff} = \frac{\lambda}{\pi_{W_0}}$
Channel guiding
 $n = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{2\omega^2}$

 $L_{deplete} \sim \frac{4L_{dephase}}{a^2}$

 $L_{dephase} = \frac{\lambda_p}{2(1-\beta_n)} \approx \frac{\lambda_p^3}{\lambda^2} \propto n_p^{-3/2} \quad \text{e.g. 10^{18/cc, 1} \mu m = 3cm}$

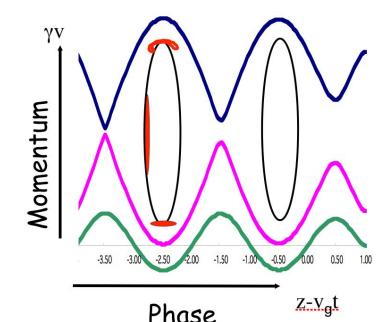
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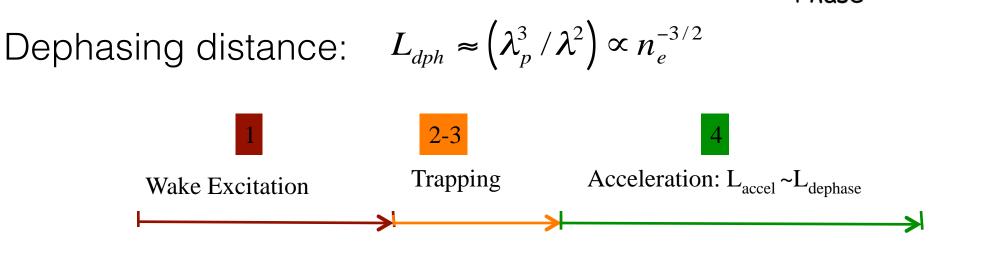
- Depletion
 - For small intensities (a₀<1) >> L_{dephase}
 - For relativistic intensities a₀>1, L_{dephase}~ L_{depletion}

E. Esarey et al. Reviews of Modern Physics 81 1229 (2009)

LWFA: Production of a 'Monoenergetic' Beam

- 1. Excitation of wake (e.g., self-modulation of laser)
- 2. Onset of self-trapping (e.g., wavebreaking)
 - Requires high density
 - Large fields and slow vph
- 3. Termination of trapping (e.g., beam loading)
- 4. Acceleration
 - If > dephasing length: large energy spread
 - If ≈ dephasing length: monoenergetic





Breakthrough Results: High Quality Bunches

30 Sep 2004 issue of *nature*: Three groups report production of high quality e-bunches

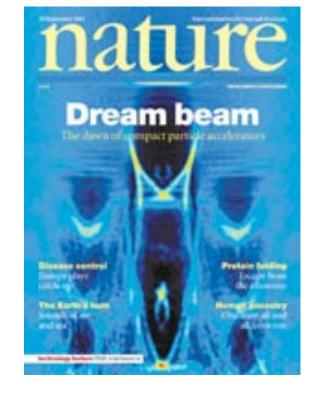
Approach 1: Plasma channel

- LBNL/USA: Geddes et al.
 - Plasma Channel: 1-4x10¹⁹ cm⁻³
 - \bullet Laser: 8-9 TW, 8.5 $\mu\text{m},$ 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: 2×10¹⁹ cm⁻³
 - Laser: 12 TW, 40 fs, 0.5 J, 2.5×10^{18} W/cm², 25 μ m
 - E-bunch: 1.4×10^{8} (22 pC), 70 MeV, $\Delta E/E=3\%$, 87 mrad
- LOA/France: Faure et al.
 - No Channel: 0.5-2x10¹⁹ cm⁻³
 - \bullet Laser: 30 TW, 30 fs, 1 J, 18 μm
 - E-bunch: 3×10⁹ (0.5 nC), 170 MeV, ∆E/E=24%,10 mrad

Channel allows higher e-energy with lower laser power

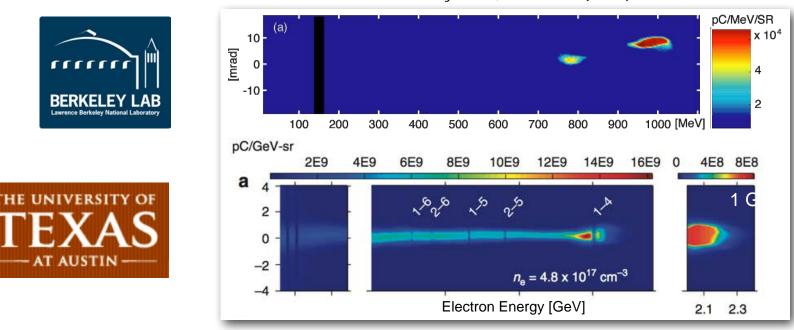


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Race for Maximum Energy Gain

Laser Driven Plasmas:

- 50 GeV/m fields, stable over cm's
- High quality <µm emittance beams created and accelerated in the plasma



Nature Physics 2, 696 - 699 (2006)

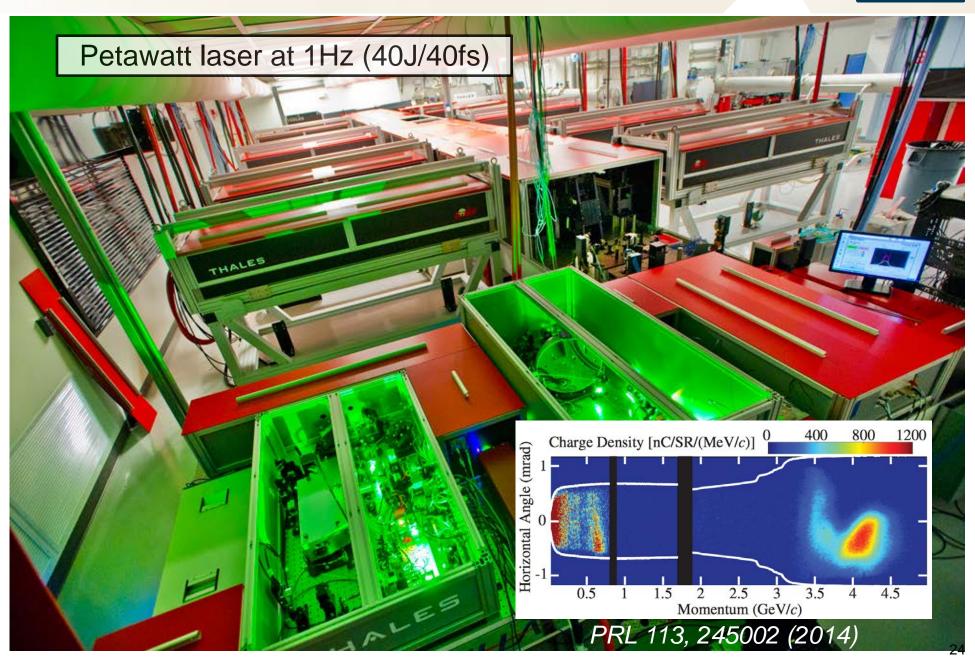
Nat Commun. 4:1988 doi: 10.1038/ncomms2988 (2013)

How to balance or overcome the three D's of LWFA:

 Diffraction (guiding), De-phasing (lower denisty, tailored plasma profiles), Depletion (more laser energy)

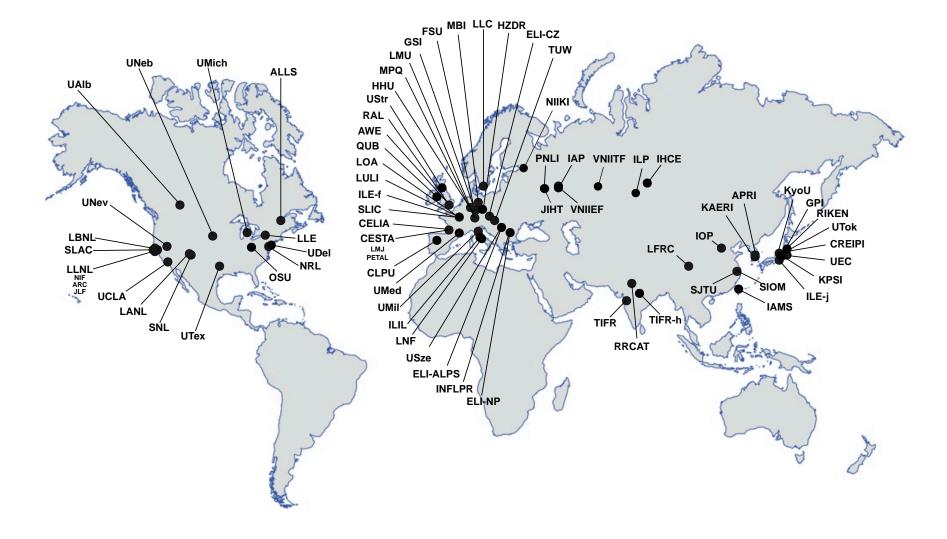
BELLA Laser at Lawrence Berkeley Lab (LBNL)





2010 ICUIL World Map of Ultrahigh Intensity Lasers

Many groups looking into ways to improve not just peak energy, but also stability, beam quality

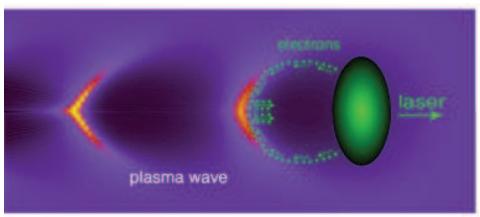


Controlled Injection for Better Beam Quality & Stability

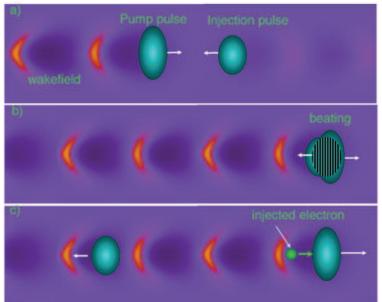
Standard Injection

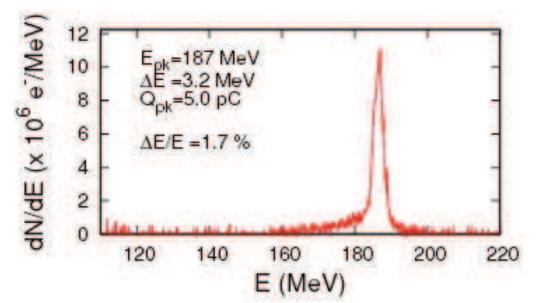
 Electrons circulate around the cavitated region before being trapped and accelerated at the back of the laser pulse

Colliding Pulse Injection



- Beatwave of two laser counter propagating laser pulses
- Controls injection process/location for higher quality/stability

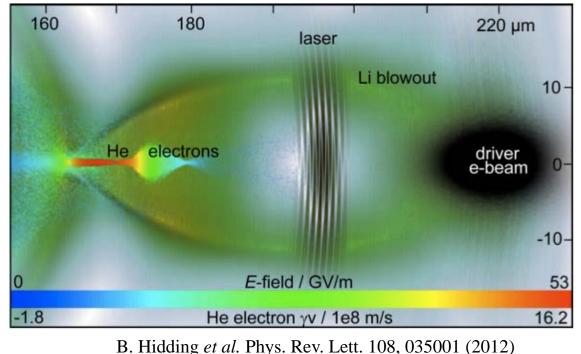




See: Esarey et al, PhysRevLett.79.2682 and Victor Malka (2010). Laser Plasma Accelerators: towards High Quality Electron Beam, Laser Pulse Phenomena and Applications, Dr. F. J. Duarte (Ed.), ISBN: 978-953-307-405-4 and References within 26

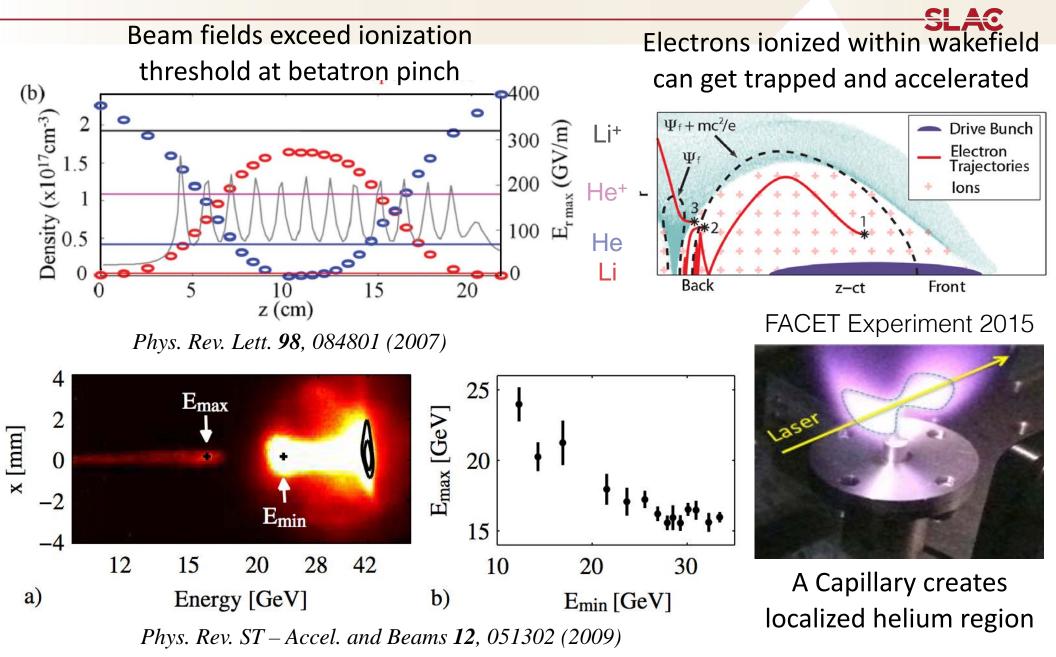
Underdense Plasma Photocathode a.k.a. the 'Trojan Horse Technique'

- Plasma bubble (wake) can act as a high-frequency, high-field, high-brightness electron source
- Photoinjector + 100GeV/m fields in the plasma = Ultra-high brightness beams
 - Unprecedented emittance (down to 10⁻⁸ m rad)
 - Sub-µm spot size
 - fs pulses
- Two gas species with relatively high & low ionization potential
- Electron beam forms plasma in LIT gas and drives strong wakefield (bubble)
- Injection laser (short pulse, tight focus, fs synchronization) releases HIT electrons in the bubble



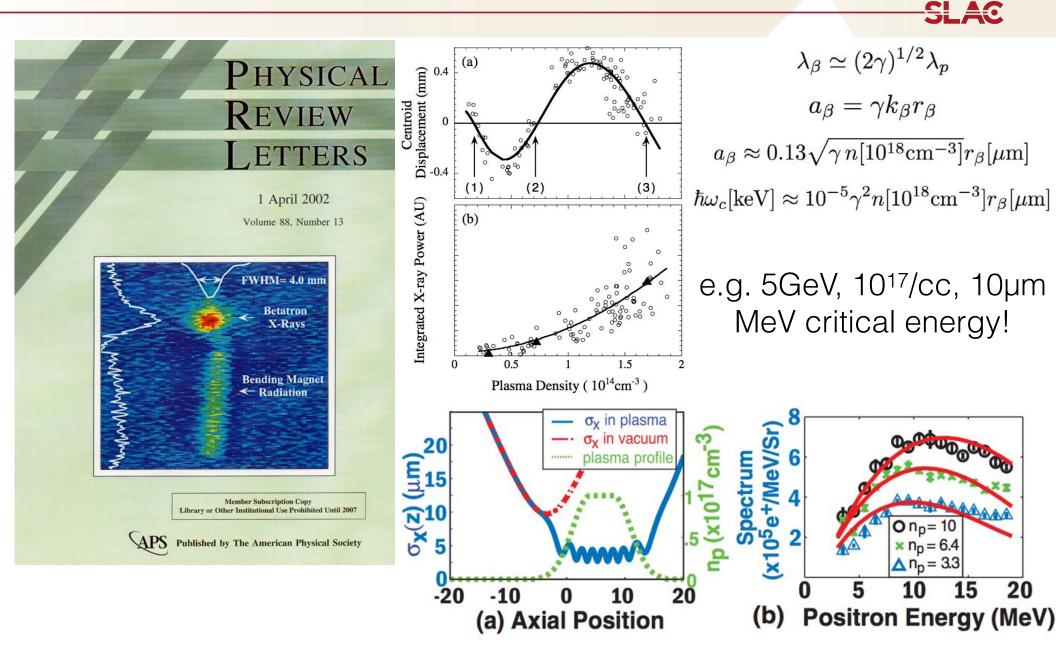
Experiment in progress at FACET - stay tuned!

Ionization-Induced Electron Trapping in Ultra-relativistic Plasma Wakes



With lasers: A. Pak et al., PRL 104, 025003 (2010), C. McGuffey et al., PRL 104, 025004 (2010)

X-Ray Emission & Positron Production by X-Rays Emitted by Betatron Motion In A Plasma Wiggler

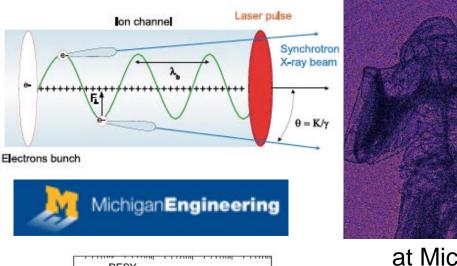


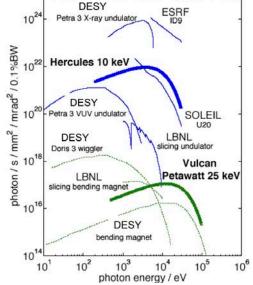
Physical Review Letters 97, 175003 (2006)

Betatron Radiation & Search for First Applications

SLAC

Femtosecond bursts of x-rays from electron acceleration (up to 800 MeV) can be used for phase contrast imaging





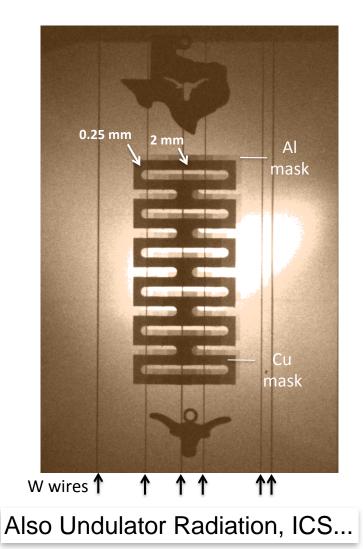
at Michigan:

Hercules 100 TW, S. Kneip, et. al., APL (2011) . Kneip et al., Nature Physics (2010)

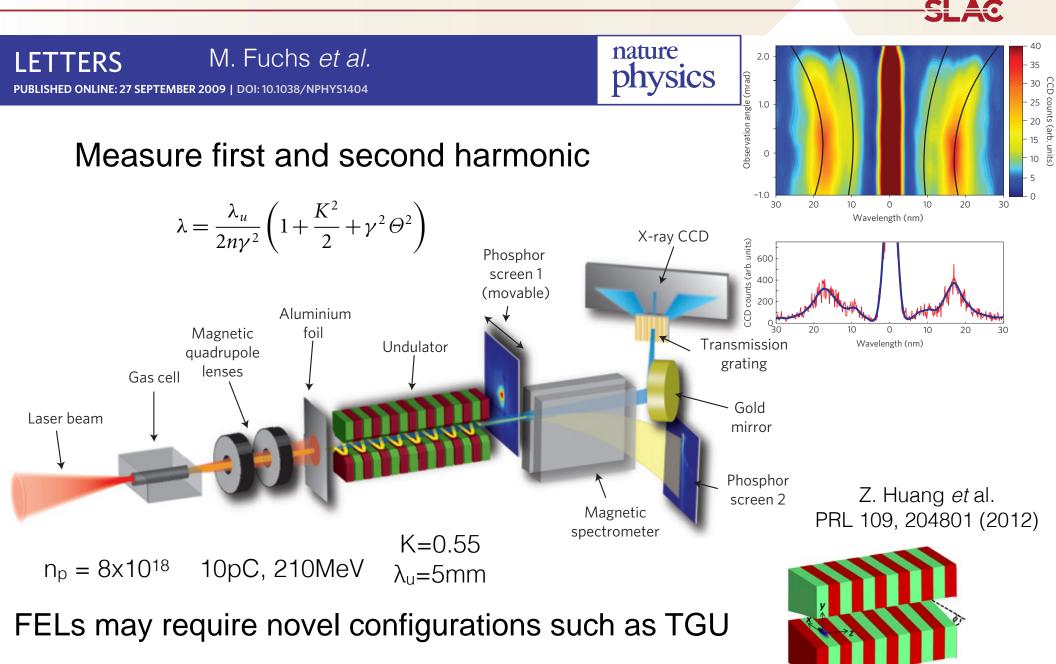
> Petawatt, kJ laser S. Kneip, et. al., PRL (2008)

...and elsewhere:

Rousse, *PRL* **93**, 135005 (2004) Kneip *et al.*, *Nature Phys.* **6**, 980 (2010) Cipiccia *et al.*, *Nature Phys.* **7**, 867 (2011)

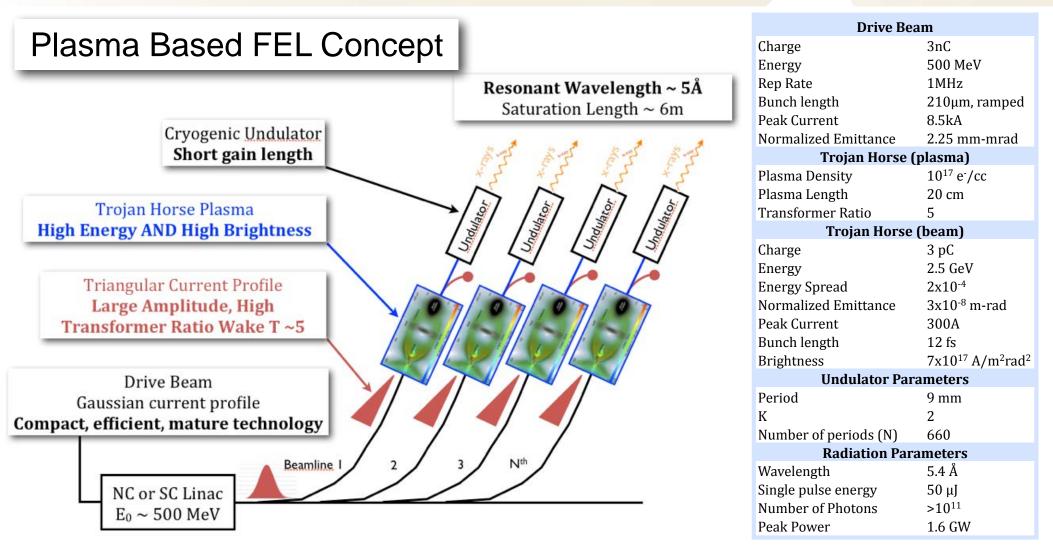


Laser Driven Soft X-ray Undulator Source



Imagine a New Generation of Light Sources

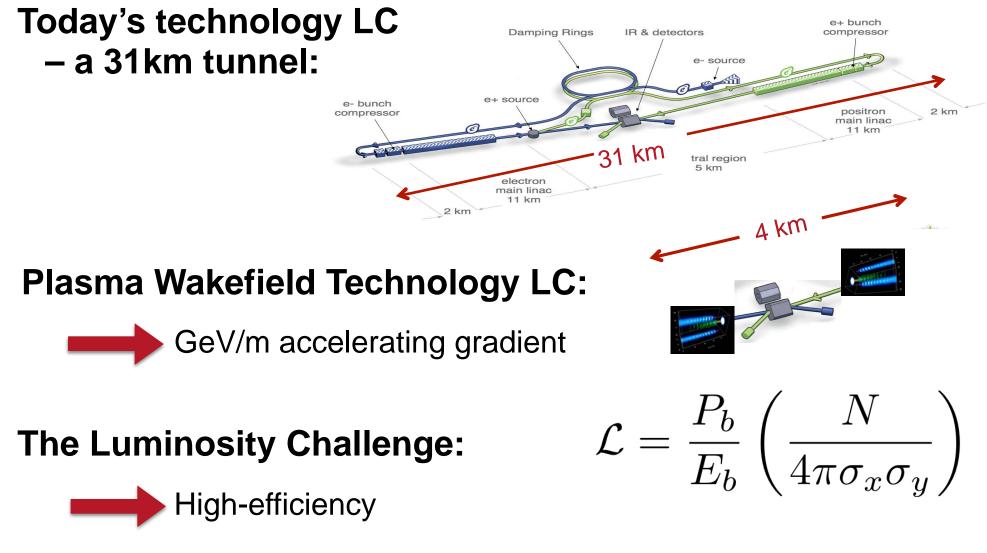
SLAC



Leverage high rep-rate beam drivers with plasma as source of high-brightness high-energy electrons

The Scale for a TeV Linear Collider

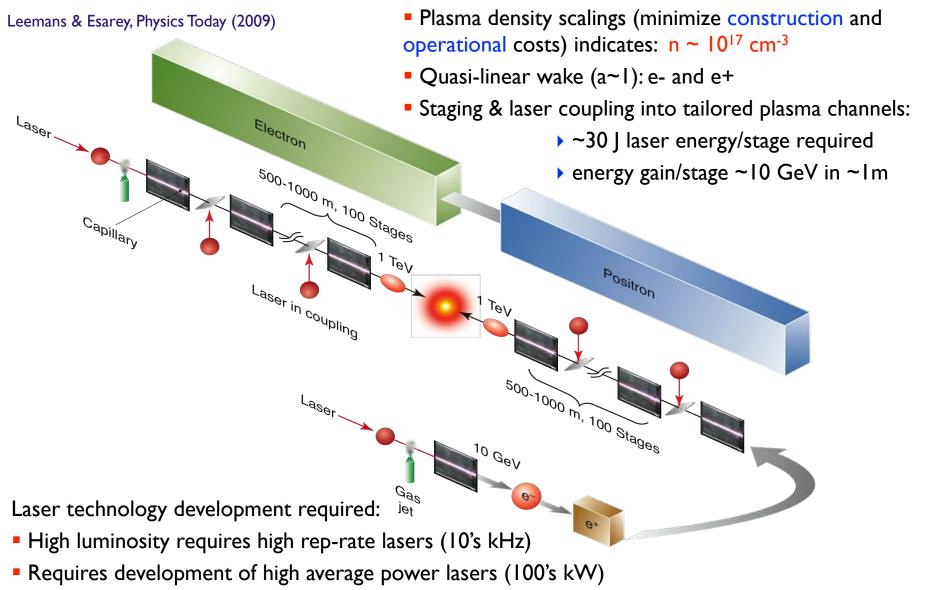
UCLA -SLAC



...and must do it for positrons too!

Laser-plasma Accelerator Based Collider Concept

SLAC

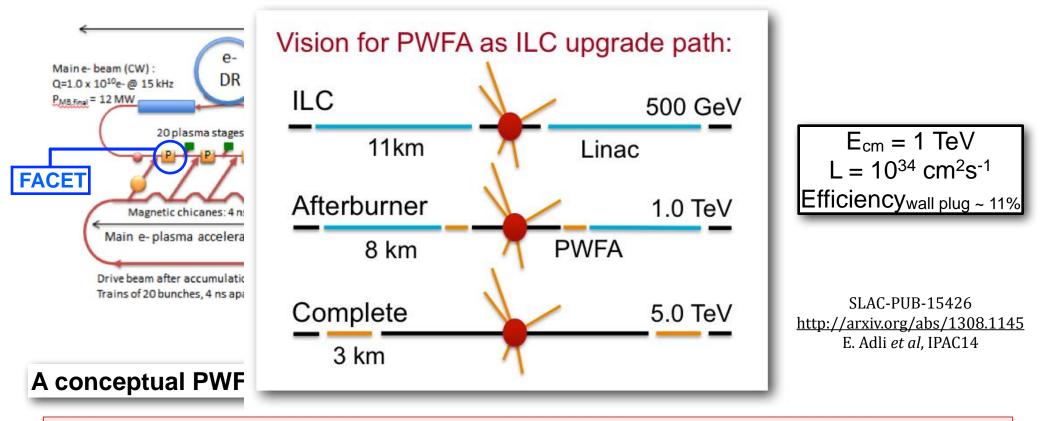


High laser efficiency (~tens of %)

FACET in the Middle of the 2nd Phase of PWFA

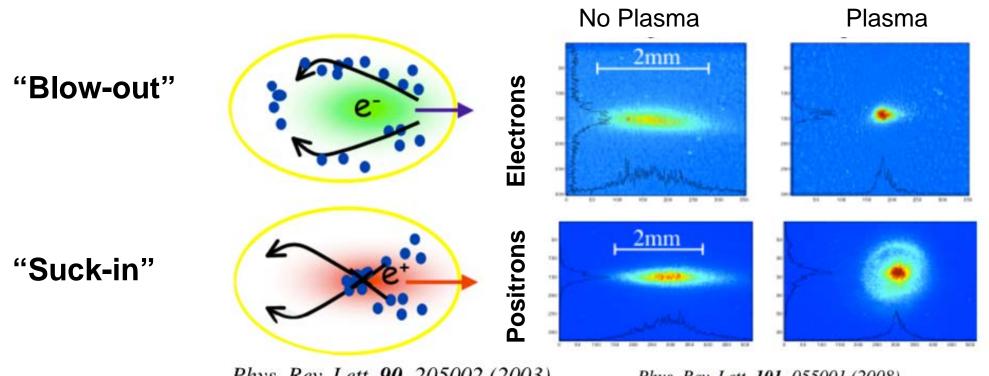
SLAC

- SLAC FFTB demonstrated electron acceleration with 50GeV/m for 85cm
- FACET addresses issues of a single stage
- FACET-II staging, high-brightness beams



FACET-II program will optimize positron acceleration and investigate issues of staging multiple plasma cells for very high energy

Extending to Positrons is Not Trivial



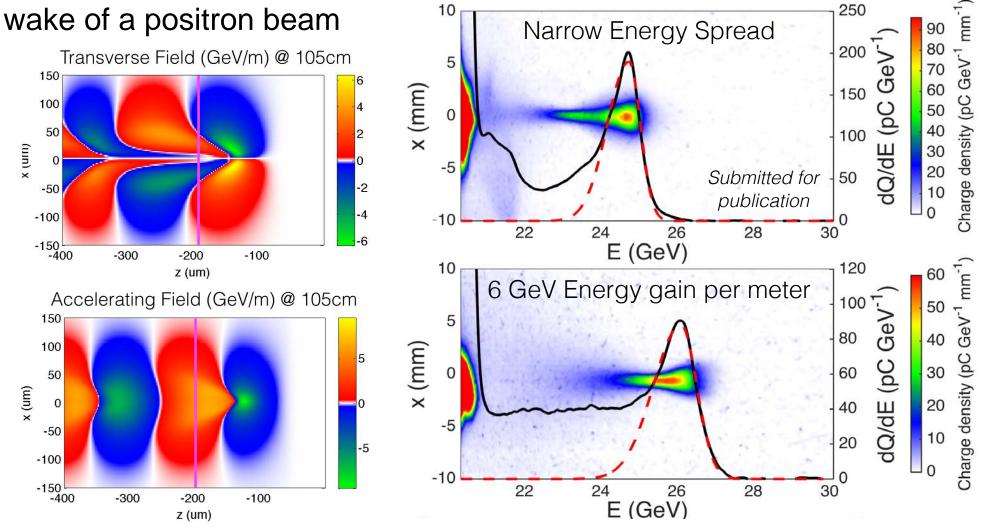
Phys. Rev. Lett. 90, 205002 (2003)

Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 055001 (2008)

Experiments at SLAC FFTB in 2003 showed that the positron beam was distorted after passing through a low density plasma.

Multi-GeV Acceleration of Positrons

New regime: focusing and accelerating region for positrons in the



This study is important for plasma afterburner as an energy doubler

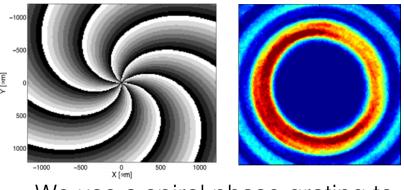
Understanding the Result: Longitudinal and Transverse Beam Loading

Unloaded Loaded Plasma Density (8.0 ×10¹⁶ cm⁻³) Plasma Density (8.0 ×10¹⁶ cm⁻³) -4 -3 -3 20 60 Beam Density (10¹⁶ cm⁻³ **Plasma Wake Plasma Wake** 40 10 20 Ez (GV/m y (Jum) Direction Direction 0 -20 -10 **Drive Bund** -40 **Drive Bunch** -60 0 20 -150 -200 -100 -50 -200 -150 -100 -50 0 0 ξ (µm) ξ (µm)

Some plasma electrons remain on axis and both guide the positron beam and flatten the accelerating fields!

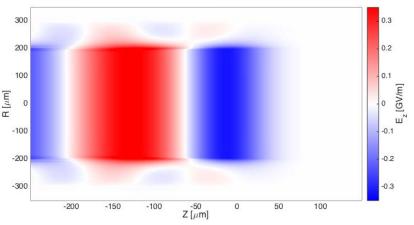
E225: Hollow Channel Plasma Wakefield Acceleration

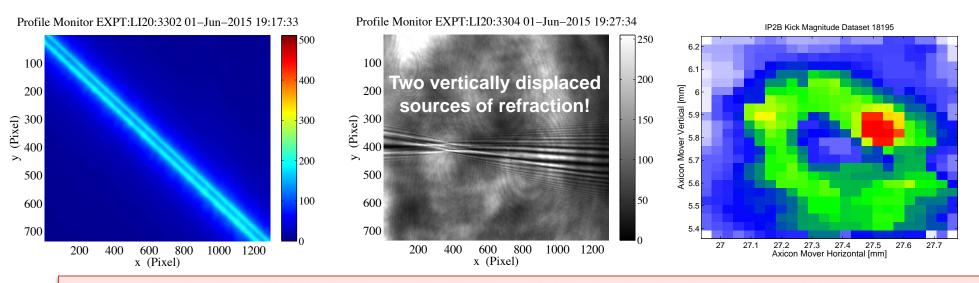
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We use a spiral phase grating to create hollow laser beams

Accelerating Fields with No Focussing Forces





Verified we can create and align the hollow channel to the positron beam

AWAKE Collaboration Will Study Proton Driven PWFA

ARTICIES

E-24 APRIL 2009 | D

Proton-driven plasma-wakefield acceleration

Allen Caldwell¹*, Konstantin Lotov^{2,3}, Alexander Pukhov⁴ and Frank Simon^{1,5}

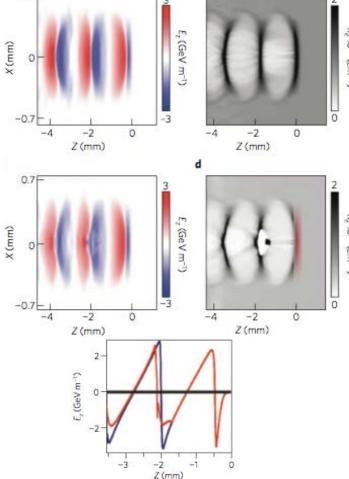
ne 1015 (cm-3) E, (GeV m⁻¹) 0 -4 -2 -20 Z(mm) Z (mm) 7, 10¹⁵ (cm⁻³) E_z (GeV m) -2 0 -4 -2 0 Z(mm) Z(mm) 2 E2 (GeV m-1) -2

Idea to Harness the Large Stored Energy in Proton Bunches to make High Energy Electrons

Goals of the AWAKE Collaboration:

- >500 GeV e- in single long plasma cell (400m)!
- Requires short proton bunches (100µm vs 10 cm)
- Study physics of self-modulation of long p bunches
- Probe wakefields with externally injected e-
- Study injection dynamics for multi-GeV e-
- Develop long, scalable and uniform plasma cells
- Develop schemes for production and acceleration of short p bunches





nature

0.7

physics

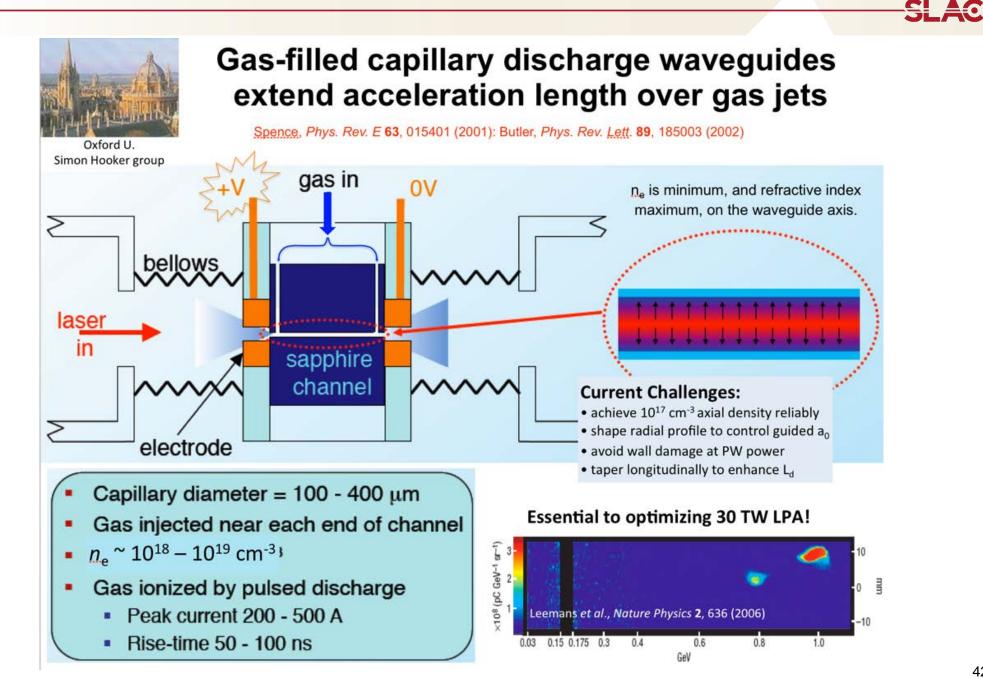
Conclusions

SLAC

- There is tremendous optimism and tremendous progress in plasma acceleration around the world
- There is a healthy mix of competition and collaboration
- Need larger projects AND smaller R&D "can't connect the dots looking forward"
- Plenty of room for new ideas (positrons, ultra-dense beams, kHz rep rates...)
- Need a bridge application on the way to HEP, likely photon science, maybe plasma based XFEL
- Stability, reliability won't get you the cover of Nature but they are crucial to a user facility so likely developed close to one
- Combine compelling scientific questions, University-Lab collaborations, and state of the art facilities and experienced experimentalists, powerful scientific apparatus and rapid scientific progress follow naturally from these three

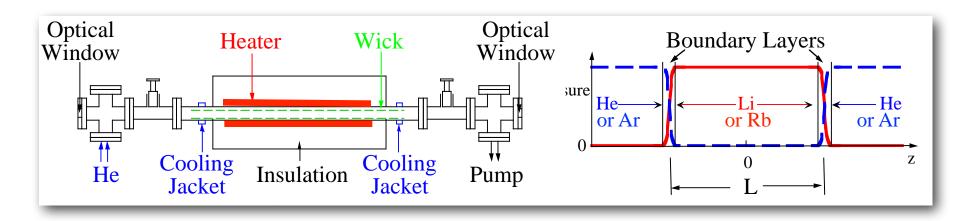
Thank you to all my colleagues who contributed material for this talk!

Plasma Source Development: Jets to Capillaries



Beam Experiments Using Meter Scale Plasmas: Alkali Metal Vapor, Hydrogen Cells...

Plasma source starts with a heat pipe oven: Scalable, $n_0 = 10^{14} \cdot 10^{17} \text{ e}^{-1}/\text{cm}^{-3}$, L = 20-200 cm



Peak Field For A Gaussian Bunch:

$$E = 6GV/m \frac{N}{2x10^{10}} \frac{20\mu}{\sigma_r} \frac{100\mu}{\sigma_z}$$

Ionization Rate for Li:

$$W_{Li}[s^{-1}] \approx \frac{3.60 \times 10^{21}}{E^{2.18}[GV/m]} \exp\left(\frac{-85.5}{E[GV/m]}\right)$$

See D. Bruhwiler et al, Physics of Plasmas 2003

...but can suffer from Head Erosion

$$V[\mu m/m] = (3.6617 \cdot 10^4) \epsilon_i^{1.73} [eV] \frac{\epsilon_N[mm \cdot mRad]}{\gamma} \frac{1}{I^{3/2}[kA]}$$

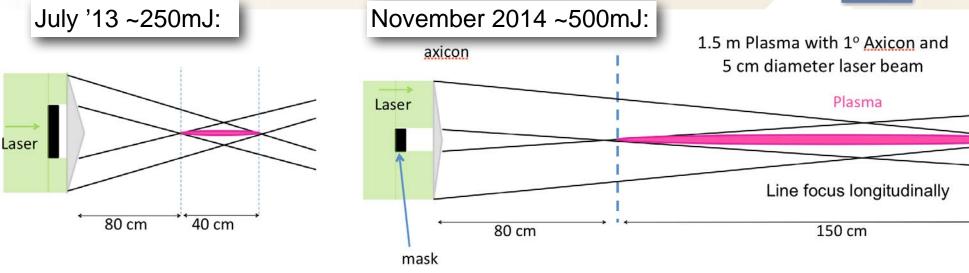
UCLA

SLAC

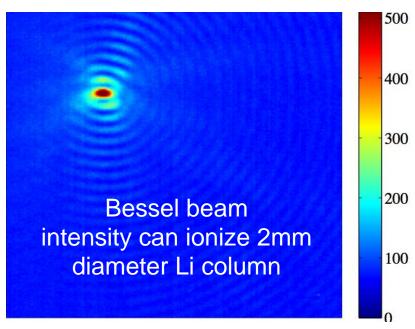
Low ionization potential alkali vapors can be ionized by the beam or a laser

Use a Laser to Turn Lithium Vapor into a Plasma – Axicon Geometry Determines the Plasma Length

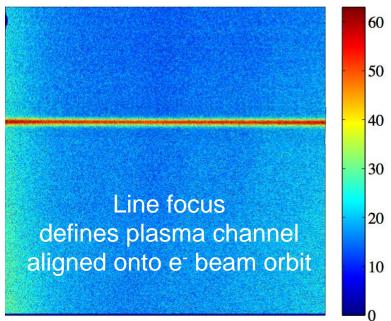
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Measured Transverse Profile



Side View of Plasma Column



Use Laser Infrastructure to Directly Image Wakefields

• Plasma has many roles: laser waveguide, electron source, accelerator...

• Structure is dynamic and evolving – would like to 'see' this in the lab

"Frequency Domain Holography" Images Wakefields in a Single-Shot

N. Matlis et al., "Snapshots of laser wakefields," Nature Physics 2, 749 (2006)

Wakefield snapshots see laser-plasma acceleration physics in unprecedented detail

P. Dong et al., "Holographic Visualization of Laser Wakefields," New Journal of Physics 12, 045016 (2010).

Frequency-Domain "Streak Camera" Records EVOLUTION of Plasma Bubble in ONE shot

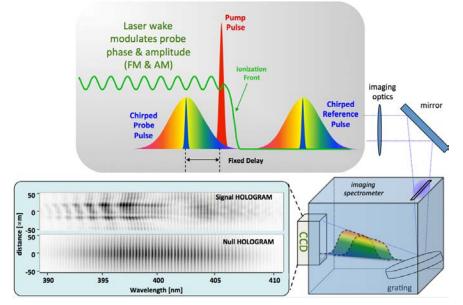
Z. Li *et al., Opt. Lett*. 35, 4087 (2010) Research Highlight, *Nature Photonics* **5**, 68 (2011)

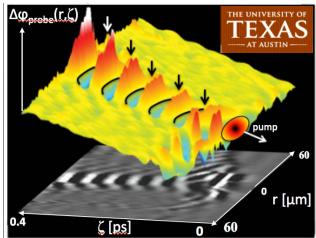
Frequency-domain tomography (FDT) records multiple phase streaks in one shot...

Z. Li et al., Nature Commun. (2014)

Confirm details of wake structure:

- Relativistic wave front curvature
- Peaks grow, narrow & break behind pump





Beams vs Lasers

Physics:

- Wakes and beam loading are similar
 - Minor differences in transverse profiles
- Driver propagation and coupling efficiency:
 - Beams more easily propagate over meter scales (no channel needed)

 $L_R \sim \pi \sigma^2 / \lambda \sim \pi \sigma^2 / 1 \mu \text{ vs } \beta^* \sim \pi \sigma^2 / \epsilon_v \sim \gamma \pi \sigma^2 / 1 \mu$

- Beams have higher coupling efficiency to wake (~2x)
- Lasers can distort due to de-phasing, dispersion, photon deceleration, but to the plasma a 25GeV and 2GeV beam are nearly identical

Economics:

- Lasers can more easily reach the peak power requirements to access large amplitude plasma wakes
 - \$100K for a T³ laser vs \$5M for even a 50MeV beam facility

$$L = \frac{P_{beam}}{4\pi E_{beam}} \frac{N}{\sigma_x \sigma_y} H_D$$

- Average power costs sets the timescale for HEP applications
 - \$10⁴/Watt for lasers currently x 200MW ~ \$2T driver. Much research on developing high power lasers but...
 - \$10/Watt for CLIC-type RF x 100MW ~ \$1B driver
 - Lasers need considerable development and \$/Watt costs are guess

Why aren't electrons accelerated in circular machines?

- High energy (multi-GeV) electron beams have many applications in HEP (SLC, PEP-II) and Photon Science (LCLS)
- A charged particle emits radiation when accelerated.
 - For the classical case, Larmor's formula applies:

$$P \propto \frac{2Ke^2}{3c^7} \left[\frac{E^4}{m^4} \frac{1}{r^2} \right]$$



- The good: allows devices like synchrotron light sources and free electron lasers to work, and can be used to cool beams to make them brighter
- The bad: radiating can degrade the beam (especially coherent radiation)
- The ugly: power lost per revolution in a circular machine scales as P~γ⁴~E⁴/m⁴ low-mass electrons radiate too much!