

# Plasma wake generation (non linear) + blowout regime

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Instituto de Plasmas e Fusão Nuclear

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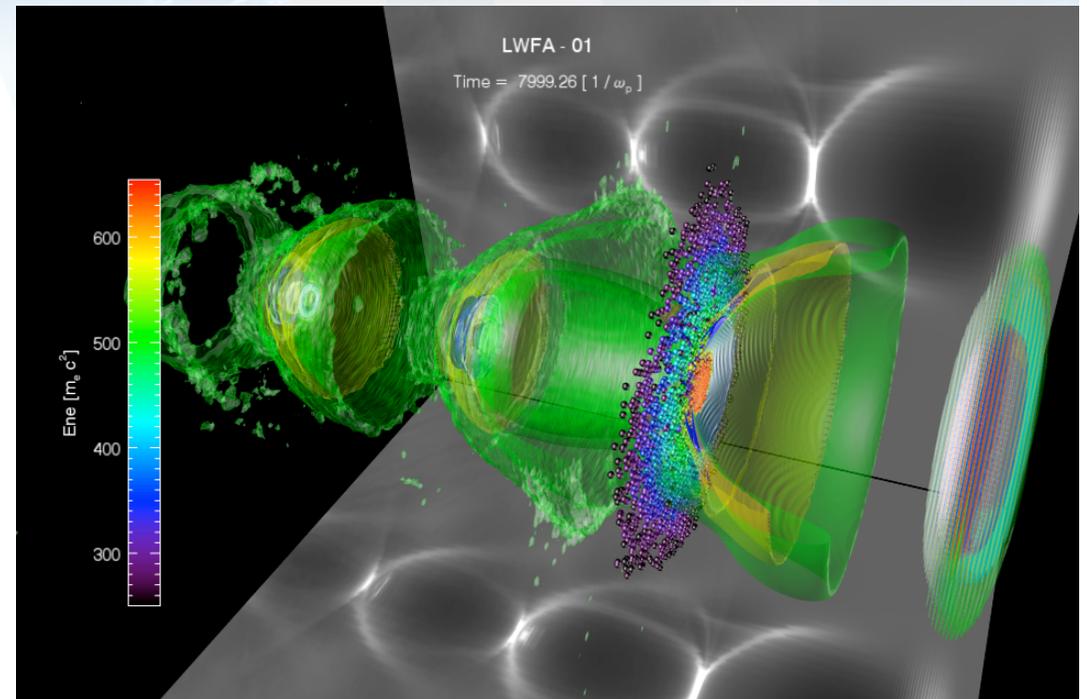
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<http://epp.ist.utl.pt/>

Accelerates ERC-2010-AdG 267841



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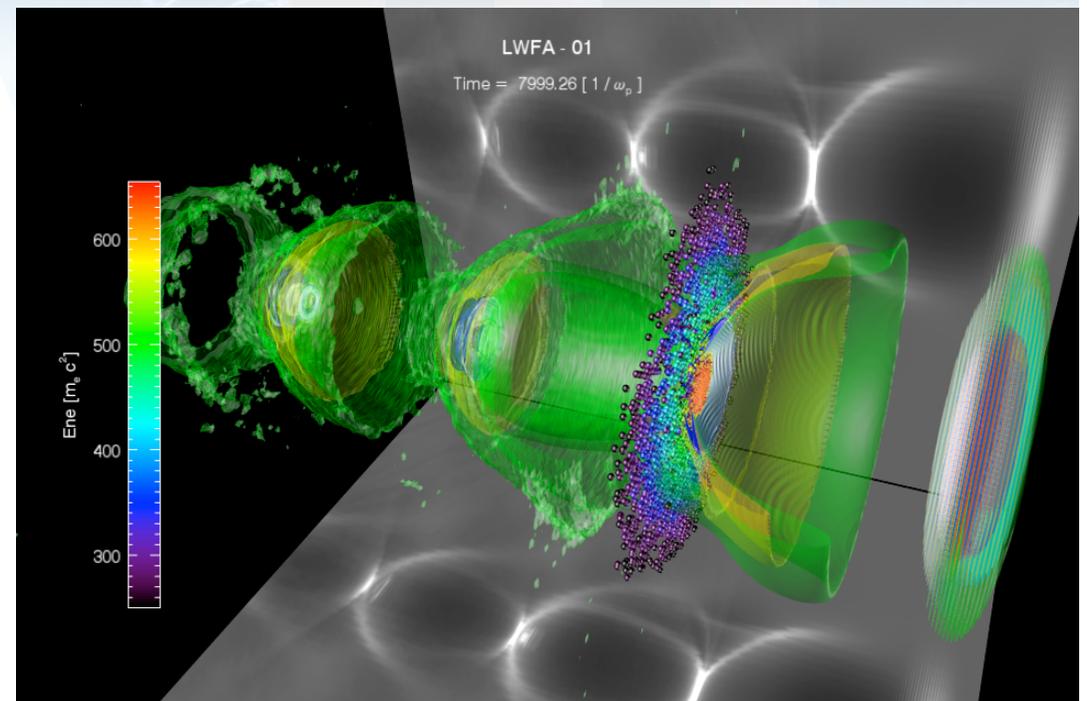
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# Acknowledgments



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- 📌 Simulation results obtained at epp and IST Clusters (IST), Hoffman (UCLA), Franklin (NERSC), Jaguar (ORNL), Intrepid (Argonne), and Jugene (FZ Jülich)



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## Motivation

Plasmas waves always demonstrate nonlinear behavior

## General formalism

Master equation: relativistic fluid + Maxwell's equations

## “Short” pulses

Quasi-static equations, Wakefield generation

## Summary

# Pioneering work in 70s - 80s opened a brand new field



## Plasma based accelerators

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 4

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

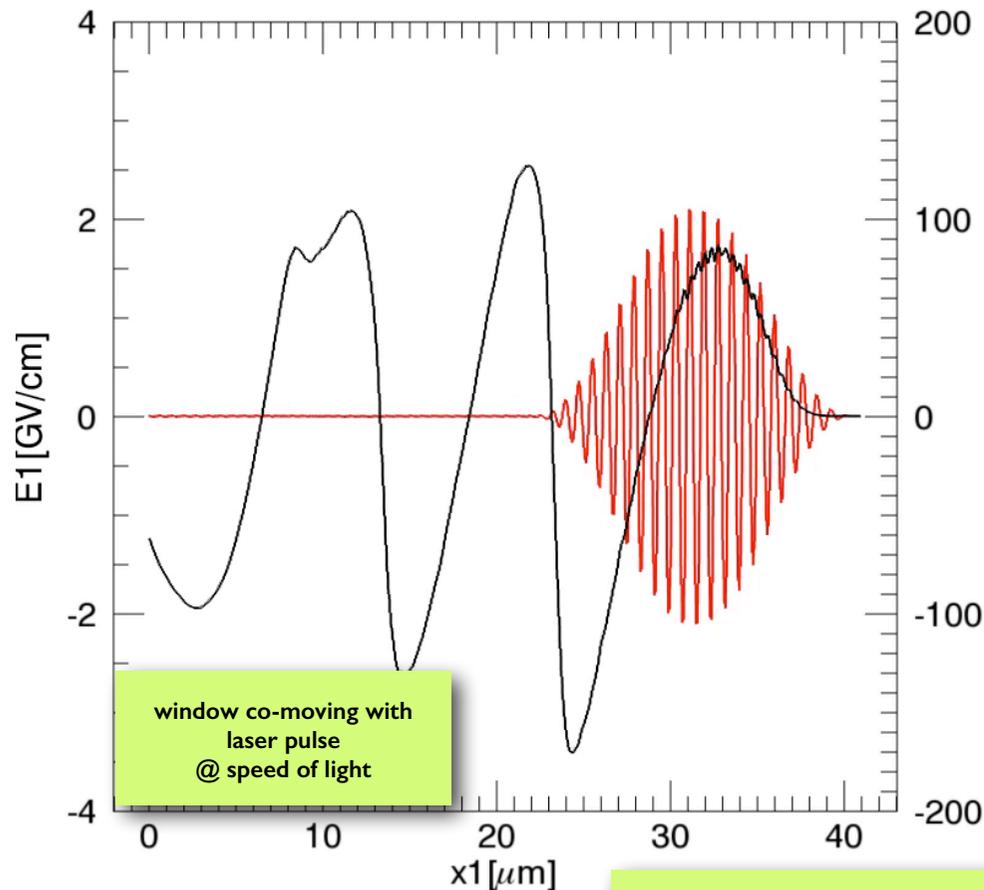
23 JULY 1979

### Laser Electron Accelerator

T. Tajima and J. M. Dawson

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

(Received 9 March 1979)



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<sup>(a)</sup>

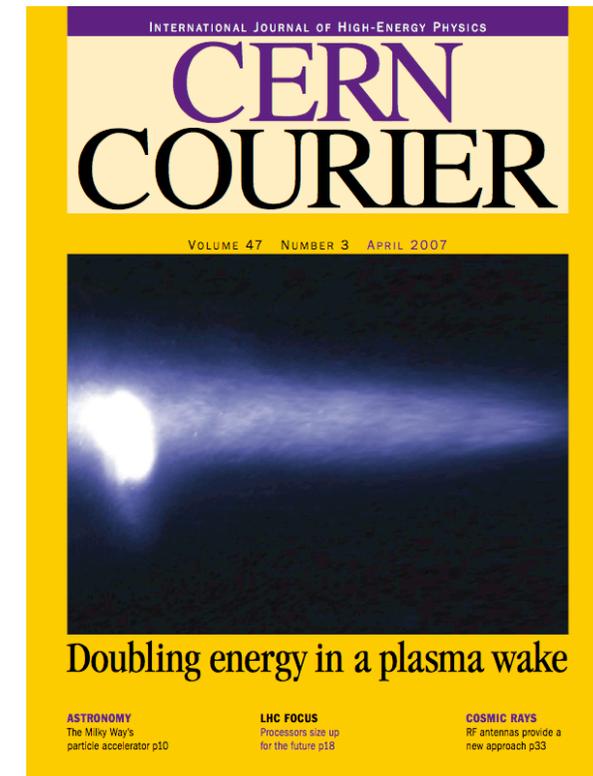
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305

and

J. M. Dawson, Robert W. Huff, and T. Katsouleas

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

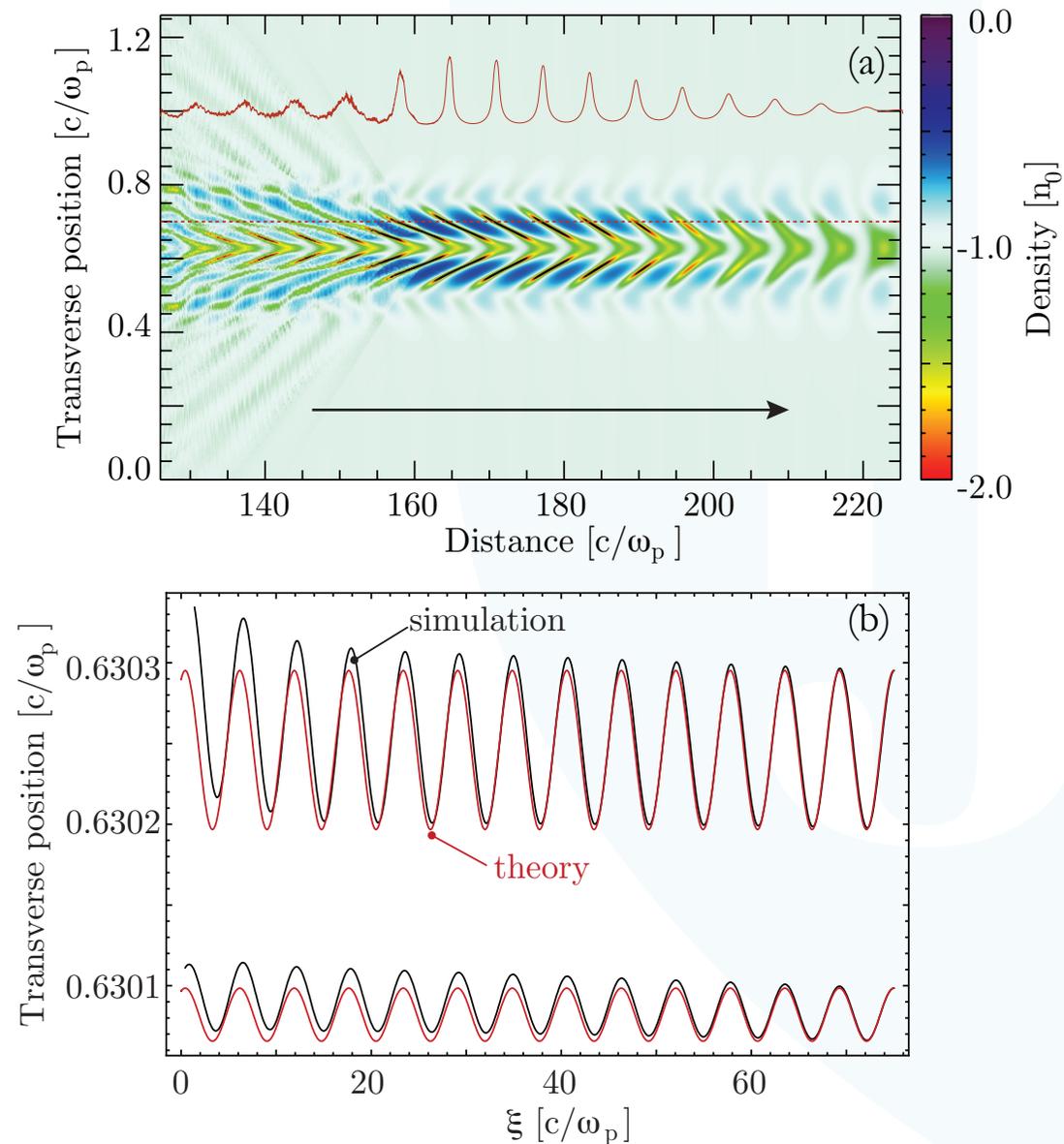
(Received 20 December 1984)



$$E_0 [\text{V/cm}] \approx 0.96 n_0^{1/2} [\text{cm}^{-3}]$$

$$n_0 = 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3} \rightarrow E_0 \approx 1 \text{ GV/cm}$$

# Multidimensional plasma waves are nonlinear



J. M. Dawson, PR **113** 383 (1959); J.Vieira et al, PRL **106** 225001 (2011);  
J.Vieira et al, PoP **21** 056705 (2014)

# Lasers and intense beams drive large waves

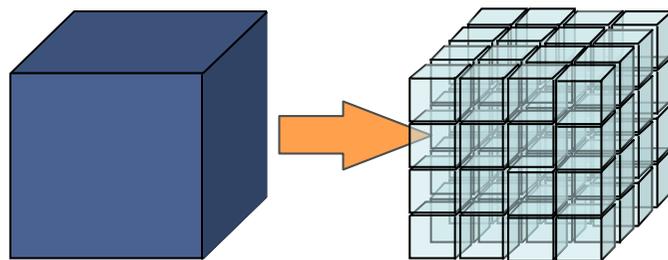


Nazaré, Portugal, Feb 2013

# Simulations play an important role



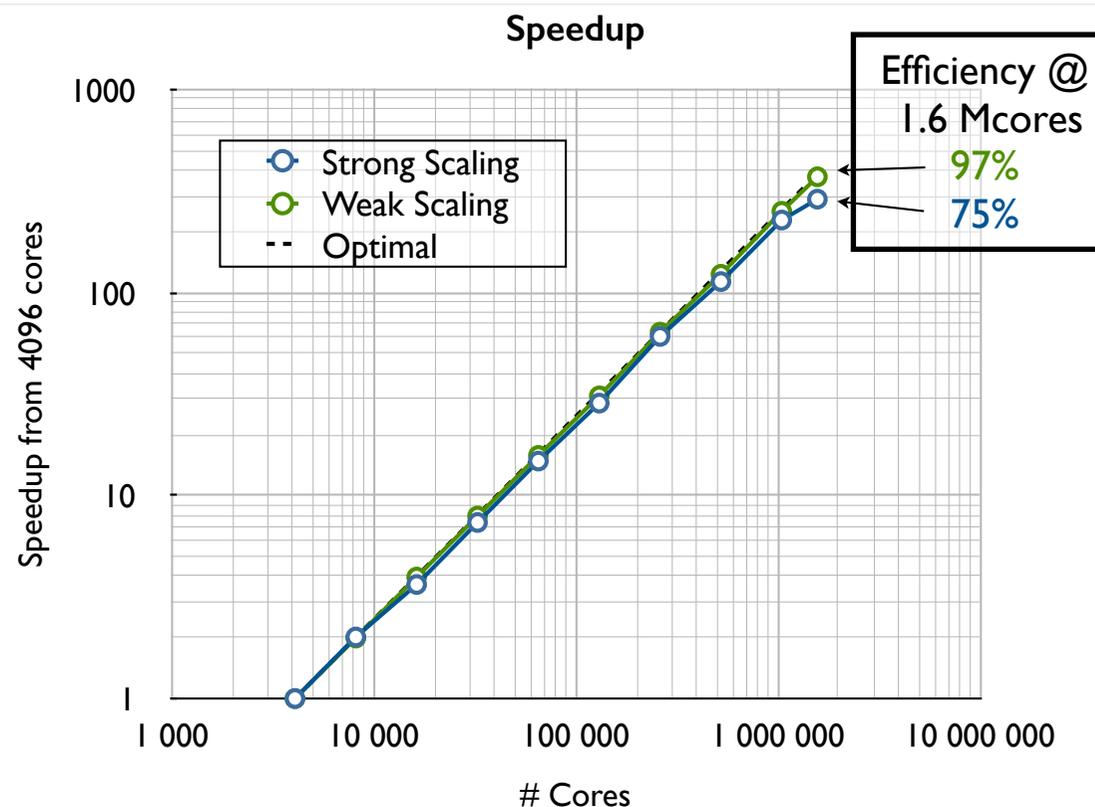
## Scaling Tests



Sim. Volume

Parallel

- Scaling tests on LLNL Sequoia  
4096 → 1572864 cores (full system)
- Warm plasma tests  
Quadratic interpolation  
 $u_{th} = 0.1 c$
- Weak scaling  
Grow problem size  
 $cells = 256^3 \times (N_{cores} / 4096)$   
 $2^3$  particles/cell
- Strong scaling  
Fixed problem size  
 $cells = 2048^3$   
16 particles / cell



LLNL Sequoia  
IBM BlueGene/Q  
#2 - TOP500 Nov/12  
1572864 cores  
 $R_{max}$  16.3 PFlop/s

# Petascale modelling of LWFA



UCLA

## LVFA Performance

- $7.09 \times 10^{10}$  part / s
- 3.12  $\mu$ s core push time
- 77 TFlops (3.3 % of  $R_{\text{peak}}$ )
- Limited by load imbalance

## Peak Performance

- $1.86 \times 10^{12}$  particles
- $1.46 \times 10^{12}$  particles / s
- 0.74 PFlops
- 32% of  $R_{\text{peak}}$  (42% of  $R_{\text{max}}$ )

221184 cores @ Jaguar

## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves always demonstrate nonlinear behavior

## **General formalism**

Master equation: relativistic fluid + Maxwell's equations

## **“Short” pulses**

Quasi-static equations, Wakefield generation

## **Summary**

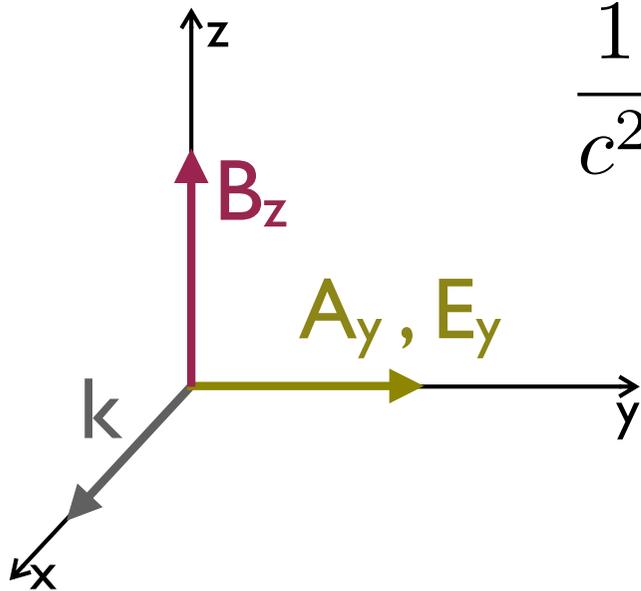
# The wave equation for e.m. waves



## The more standard approach

From Maxwell's equations in Coulomb gauge

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \partial_t^2 \vec{A} + \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{A} = \frac{4\pi}{c} \vec{J} - \frac{1}{c} \partial_t \nabla \phi$$



$$p_y = \frac{eA_y}{c} \quad \text{Conservation of canonical momentum}$$

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \partial_t^2 A_y - \partial_x^2 A_y = \frac{4\pi}{c} J_y = -\frac{4\pi e^2}{mc^2} \frac{n}{\gamma} A_y$$

$$\gamma = \sqrt{1 + \frac{p_x^2}{m^2 c^2} + \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4}}$$

# Linearized wave equation for e.m. waves



## Ordering

$$\frac{p_x}{mc} \quad \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4} \quad \frac{\delta n}{n_0} = \frac{n}{n_0} - 1 \quad \text{All the same order, and } \ll 1$$

$$\frac{1}{\gamma} \simeq 1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{p_x^2}{m^2 c^2}$$

## Wave equation for vector potential of e.m. wave

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \partial_t^2 A_y - \partial_x^2 A_y \simeq -\frac{\omega_{p0}^2}{c^2} \left( 1 + \frac{\delta n}{n_0} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4} \right) A_y$$

# Evolution of the electron density



Equation for the evolution of the electron density in the presence of  $A_y$

Linearizing the continuity equation + time derivative

$$\partial_t \delta n + n_0 \nabla \delta \vec{v} = 0 \quad \partial_t^2 \delta n + n_0 \nabla \partial_t \delta \vec{v} = 0$$

Linearized Euler's equation

$$\partial \delta \vec{v} = -\frac{e}{m} \delta \vec{E} - c^2 \nabla \left( 1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4} \right)$$

Equation for driven electron plasma waves

$$\partial_t^2 \frac{\delta n}{n_0} + \frac{4\pi e^2 n_0}{m_e} \frac{\delta n}{n_0} = c^2 \nabla^2 \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4}$$

## Driven electron plasma waves

$$\left(\partial_t^2 + \omega_{p0}^2\right) \frac{\delta n}{n_0} = \frac{c^2}{2} \nabla^2 \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4}$$

## E.m. waves coupled with plasma + relativistic mass correction

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \partial_t^2 A_y - \partial_x^2 A_y = -\frac{\omega_{p0}^2}{c^2} \left( 1 + \frac{\delta n}{n_0} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 A_y^2}{m^2 c^4} \right) A_y$$

## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves always demonstrate nonlinear behavior

## **General formalism**

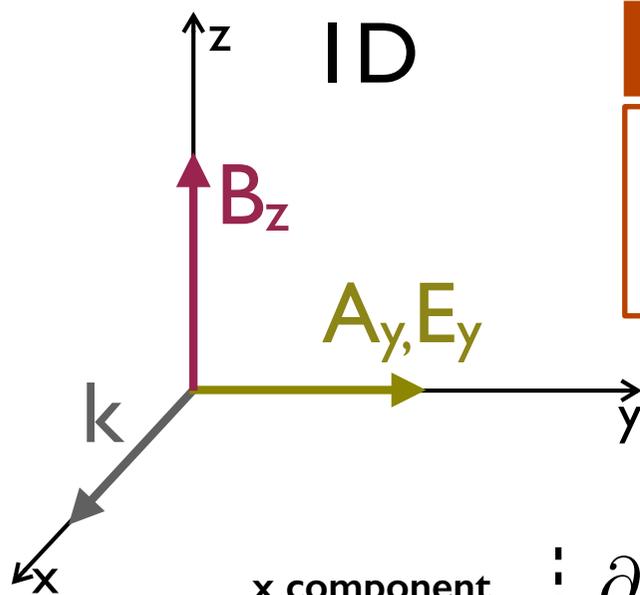
Master equation: relativistic fluid + Maxwell's equations

## **“Short” pulses**

Quasi-static equations, Wakefield generation

## **Summary**

# Starting point: the master equation



ID

Master equation

$$\partial_t^2 \vec{p} + c^2 \nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{p} = - \left[ \omega_{p0}^2 + \frac{1}{m} \nabla \cdot (\partial_t \vec{p} + mc^2 \nabla \gamma) \right] \frac{\vec{p}}{\gamma} - mc^2 \partial_t \nabla \gamma$$

Normalized Units

x component

$$\partial_t^2 p_x + \left( 1 + \partial_t \partial_x p_x + \partial_x^2 \gamma \right) \frac{p_x}{\gamma} + \partial_t \partial_x \gamma = 0$$

y component

$$\partial_t^2 p_y - \partial_x^2 p_y + \left( 1 + \partial_t \partial_x p_x + \partial_x^2 \gamma \right) \frac{p_y}{\gamma} = 0$$



**Remember:** from canonical momentum conservation  $p_y = a_y$

**Electric field normalised to the cold wave breaking limit**

$$E \simeq \frac{m_e c \omega_p}{e} \simeq 0.96 \sqrt{n_0 [\text{cm}^{-3}]} \text{V/cm}$$

**Magnetic field normalised to the cold wave breaking limit multiplied by c**

$$B \simeq \frac{m_e c^2 \omega_p}{e} \simeq 32 \sqrt{n_0 [10^{16} \text{cm}^{-3}]} \text{T}$$

**Scalar and vector potentials normalised to electron rest energy divided by the elementary charge**

$$\phi \simeq A \simeq \frac{m_e c^2}{e} \simeq \frac{0.511 \text{MeV}}{e}$$

**Space and time normalised to the plasma skin depth and inverse of plasma frequency**

$$d \simeq \frac{1}{k_p} \simeq \frac{5.32 \mu\text{m}}{\sqrt{n_0 [10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}]}} \quad t \simeq \frac{1}{\omega_p} \simeq \frac{17 \text{fs}}{\sqrt{10^{18} \text{cm}^{-3}}}$$

**Charge, mass and velocity normalised to the elementary charge, electron mass and speed of light. Momenta normalised to  $m_e c$**

# Everything at c: Speed of light variables



and the envelope approximation

📌 Waves driven by short laser pulses with  $v_{ph} \sim c$

$$\psi = t - x \quad \tau = x \quad p_x \propto e^{-\omega_{p0}\psi} \quad p_y \propto e^{-\omega_0\psi}$$

In speed of light variables

$$\partial_t = \partial_\psi$$

$$\partial_x = \partial_\tau - \partial_\psi$$

One further approximation:  
the envelope approximation

$$\partial_\tau \ll \partial_\psi \quad \partial_\tau \sim (\omega_{p0}/\omega_0)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_\psi^2 p_x + (1 - \partial_\psi^2 p_x + \partial_\psi^2 \gamma) \frac{p_x}{\gamma} - \partial_\psi^2 \gamma &\simeq 0 \\ 2\partial_\tau \partial_\psi p_y + (1 - \partial_\psi^2 p_x + \partial_\psi^2 \gamma) \frac{p_y}{\gamma} &\simeq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Diagram showing arrows pointing to terms in the equations above: a dark red arrow points to  $\partial_\psi^2 p_x$  in the first equation; orange arrows point to  $\partial_\psi^2 p_x$  and  $\partial_\psi^2 \gamma$  in both equations; a dark red arrow points to  $\partial_\psi^2 \gamma$  in the second equation.

Using the definition

$$\gamma - p_x \equiv \chi$$

$$\left( \frac{p_x}{\gamma} - 1 \right) \partial_\psi^2 \chi = -\frac{p_x}{\gamma}$$

$$2\partial_\tau \partial_\psi p_y + (1 + \partial_\psi^2) \frac{p_y}{\gamma} = 0$$

•  $1/\chi$  is the plasma susceptibility

• Physically, quasi-static means the laser pulse envelope changes in a much longer time scale than the phase or laser pulse envelope does not evolve in the time it takes for an electron to go across the laser pulse ( $\sim$  pulse duration)

• The basis for reduced numerical models (WAKE & QuickPIC)

1D quasi-static equations

$$\partial_\psi^2 \chi = -\frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{1 + p_y^2}{\chi^2} \right)$$

$$2\partial_\tau \partial_\psi p_y + \frac{p_y}{\chi} = 0$$

## Plasma susceptibility

$$\frac{1}{\chi} \equiv \frac{n}{\gamma}$$

With  $\chi = 1 + \phi$

Also written as:

$$\partial_{\psi}^2 \phi + \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 - \frac{1 + p_y^2}{(1 + \phi)^2} \right] = 0$$

$$2\partial_{\tau} \partial_{\psi} p_y + \frac{p_y}{1 + \phi} = 0 \quad p_y = a_y !$$

## Simplified Euler's equation

$$\partial_t p_x = -E_x - \partial_x \gamma$$

$$E_x = -\partial_x \phi \quad \partial_t p_x = \partial_x (\phi - \gamma)$$

In speed of light variables

$$-\partial_{\psi} (\gamma - p_x - \phi) = \partial_{\tau} (\phi - \gamma) \simeq 0$$

$$\chi = \gamma - p_x = \phi + \text{const.} = 1 + \phi$$

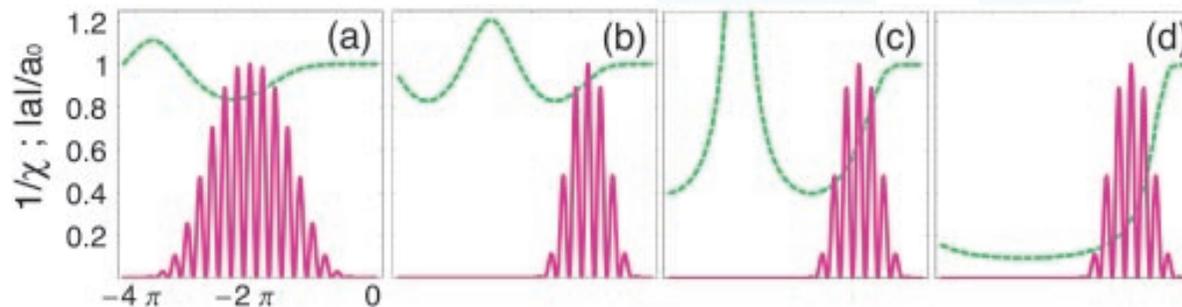
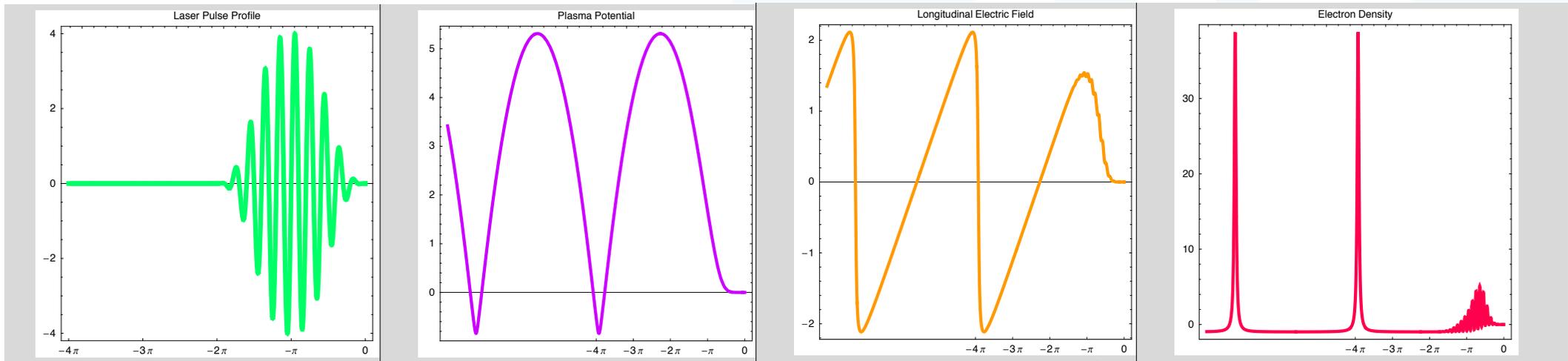
Plasma Potential

# Wakefield generation



Quasi-static equations at the basis of many theoretical developments on laser wakefield

$$a_0=4, L = \lambda_p/2$$



Increasing  $a_0$

# Wakefield structure and wavebreaking



Analytical results can be obtained for specific laser pulse shapes (e.g. square pulse Bereziani & Muruzidze, 90)

$$\gamma_{\perp} = \sqrt{1 + a_{y0}^2}$$

$$\phi_{\max} \sim \gamma_{\perp}^2 - 1$$

$$E_{\max} \sim \frac{\gamma_{\perp}^2 - 1}{\gamma_{\perp}}$$

$$p_{\max} \sim \frac{\gamma_{\perp}^4 - 1}{2\gamma_{\perp}^2}$$

Peak electric field  $\sim a_{y0}$

Optimal pulse length for wakefield excitation

$\lambda_p/2$  Depends on pulse shape

📍 Quasi-static approximation breaks down when **plasma wave breaks**

**plasma sheaths cross**

Wavebreaking limit (cold)

Non relativistic  $\frac{eE_{pw}}{mv_{\phi}\omega_{p0}} = 1$

$$v_{\text{fluid}} \sim v_{\phi} \quad \frac{\delta n}{n_0} \rightarrow \infty \quad \partial_x E_x \rightarrow \infty$$

**Relativistic**  $\frac{eE_{pw}}{mc\omega_{p0}} = \sqrt{2}\sqrt{\gamma_{\phi} - 1}$

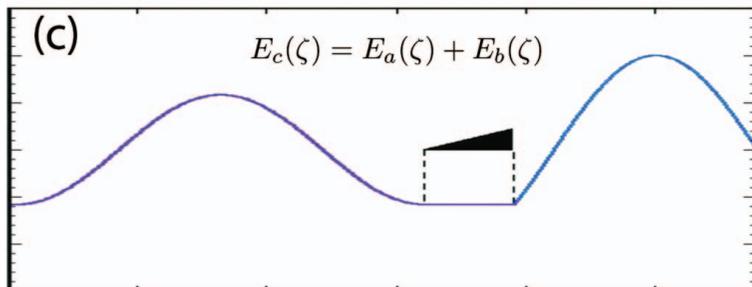
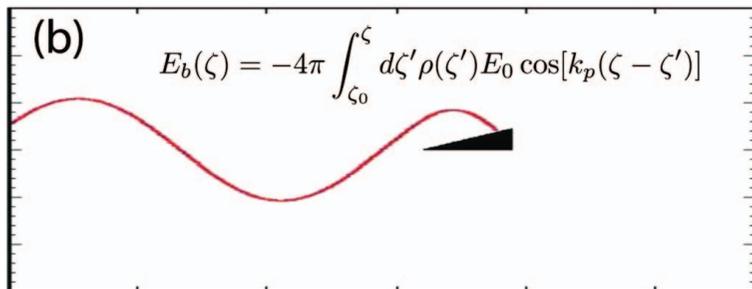
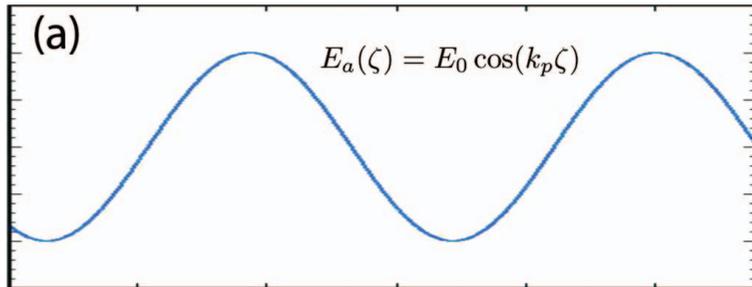
Naïve 1D estimate for breakdown of quasi-static (square pulse)

$$a_{y0 \max} \sim \frac{4.6}{\lambda[1\mu\text{m}]n[10^{19}\text{cm}^{-3}]}$$

# Beam loading in the linear regime



## Beam loading concept



Properly tailored witness electron bunch flattens accelerating wakefield: no energy spread growth!

Optimal scenario: wakefield due to beam cancels plasma wave field exactly

$$N_0 = 5 \times 10^5 \left( \frac{n_1}{n_0} \right) \sqrt{n_0} A$$

Energy spread: as particle energy spread becomes 100% number (N) approaches  $N_0$ :

$$\frac{\Delta\gamma_{\max} - \Delta\gamma_{\min}}{\Delta\gamma_{\max}} = \frac{E_i - E_f}{E_i} = \frac{N}{N_0}$$

Efficiency: tends to 100% when N approaches  $N_0$ .

$$\eta_b = \frac{N}{N_0} \left( 2 - \frac{N}{N_0} \right) \quad \text{Key trade off}$$

The energy gain is less than twice the energy per particle of the driving bunch (transformer ratio)

$$R = \frac{\Delta E_b}{E_d} = 2 - \frac{N}{N_d}$$

# Blow out regime (or the bubble regime)

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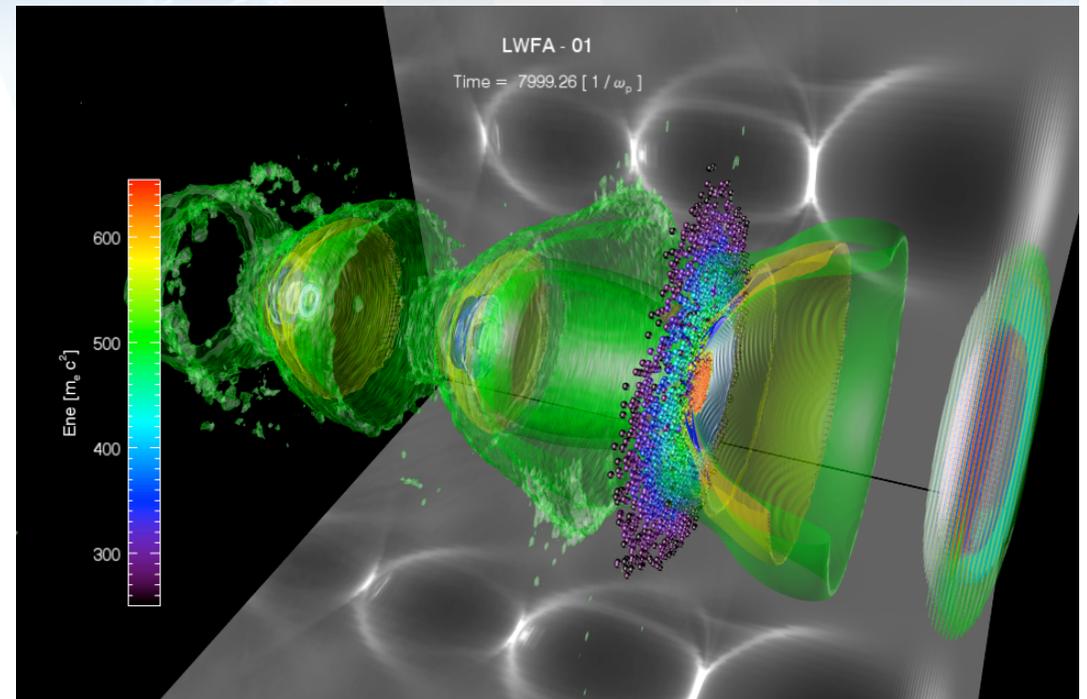
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## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

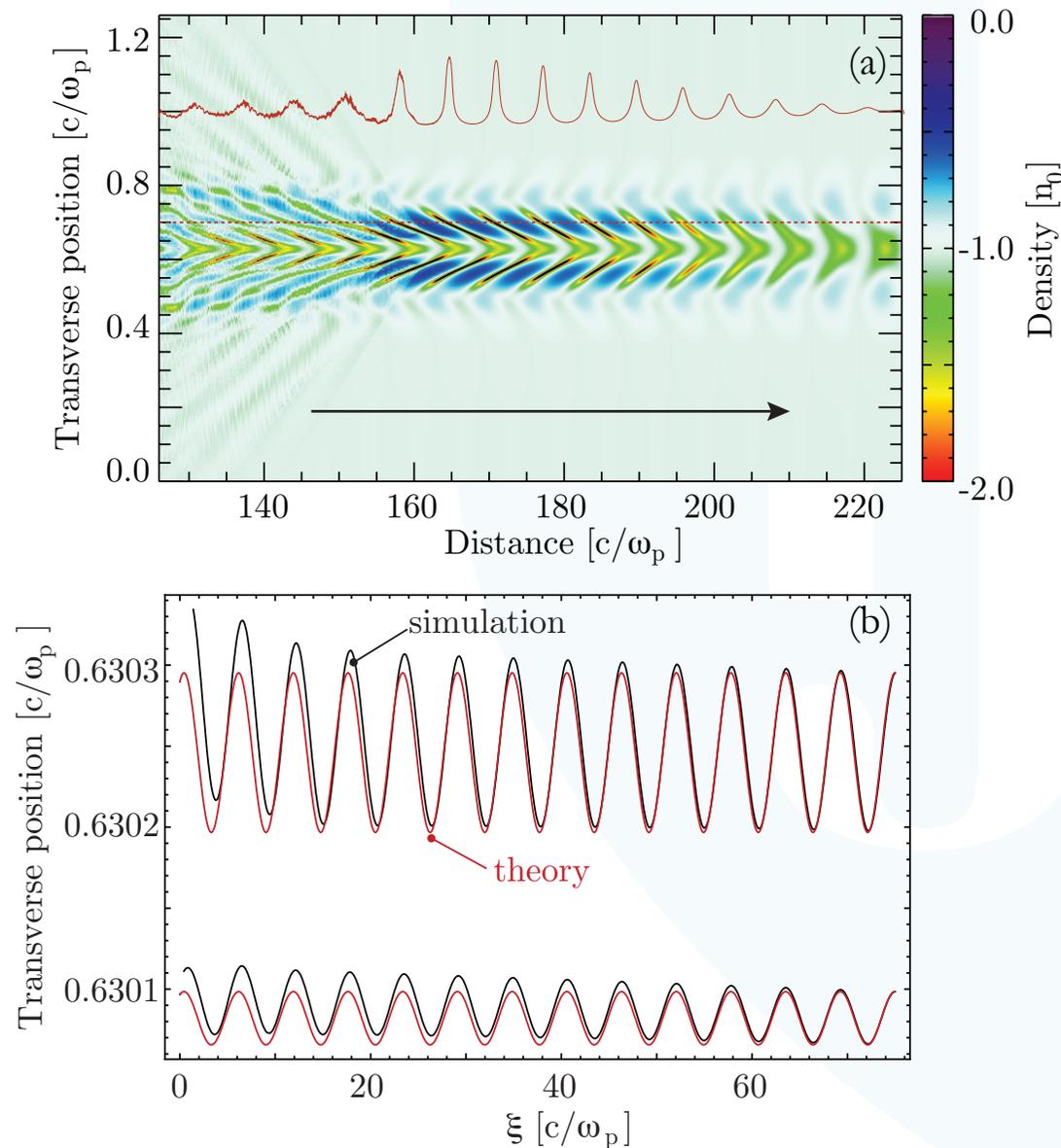
Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

## **Summary**

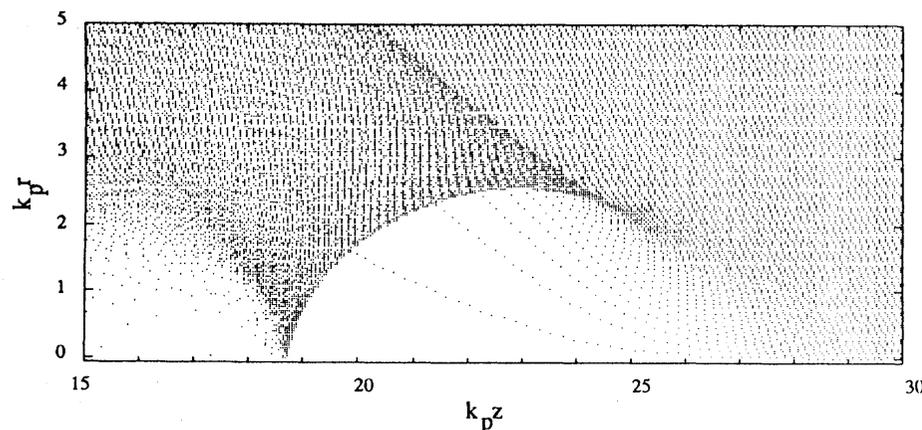
# Wakefields are multidimensional



J. M. Dawson, PR **113** 383 (1959); J.Vieira et al, PRL **106** 225001 (2011);  
J.Vieira et al, PoP **21** 056705 (2014)

## Beam driven

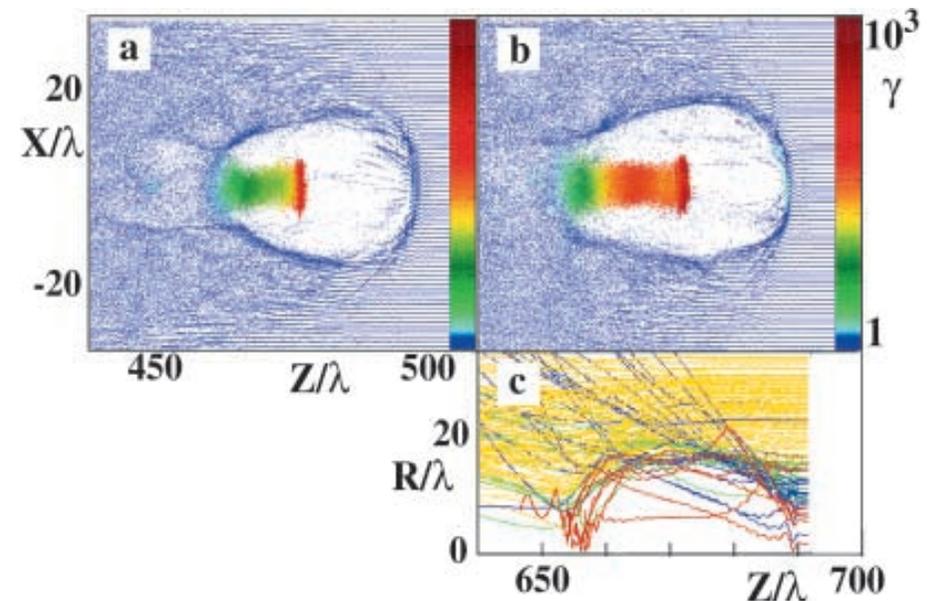
Non-linear plasma wave generation by an electron bunch with  $n_b/n_0 > 1$ . Electron cavitation is a distinctive signature of the blowout regime.



J.B. Rosenzweig et al, Phys. Rev. A 44, R6189 (1991)

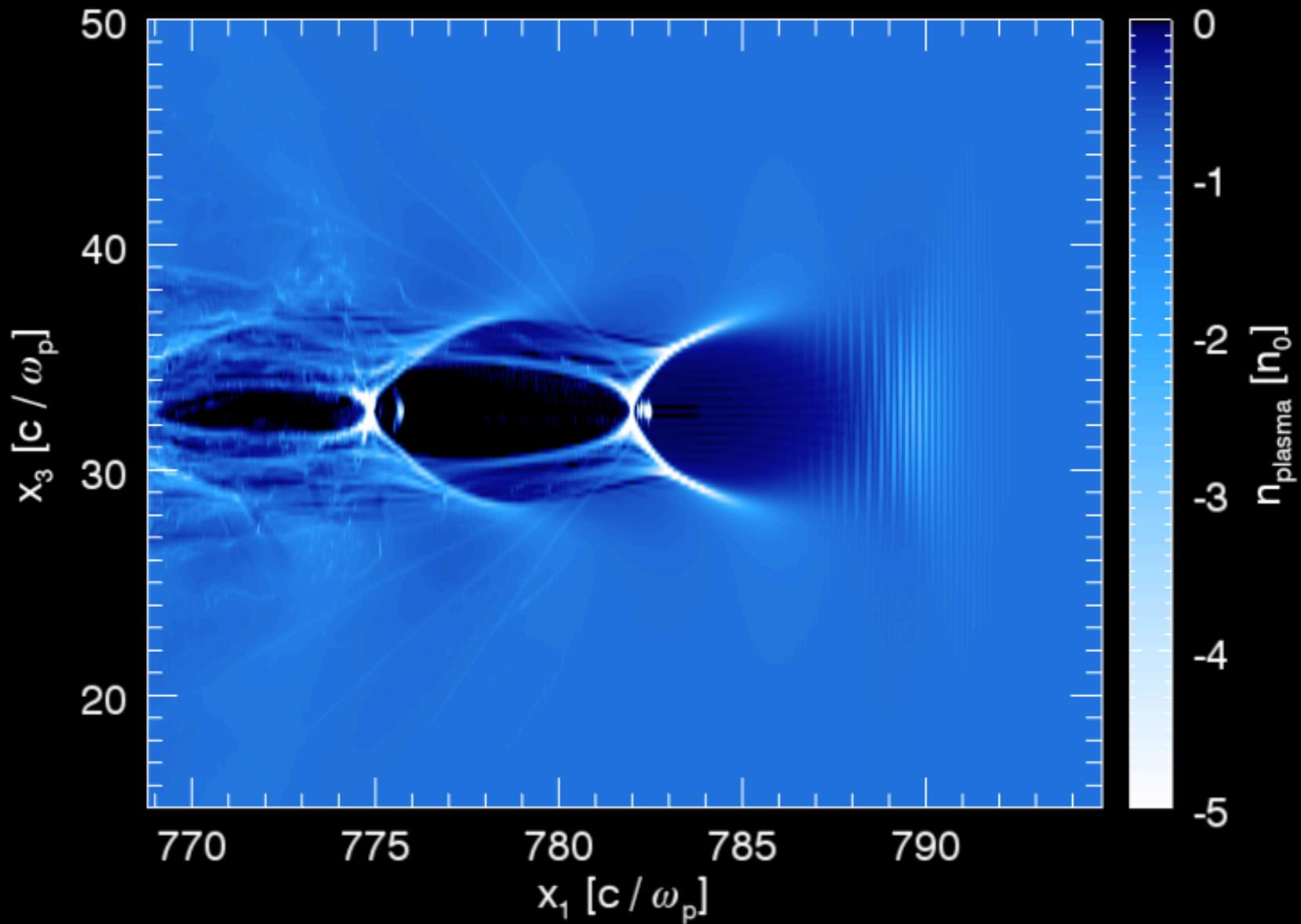
## Laser driven

Plasma wave generation and electron acceleration driven by ultra-high intensity laser with  $a_0 \gg 1$

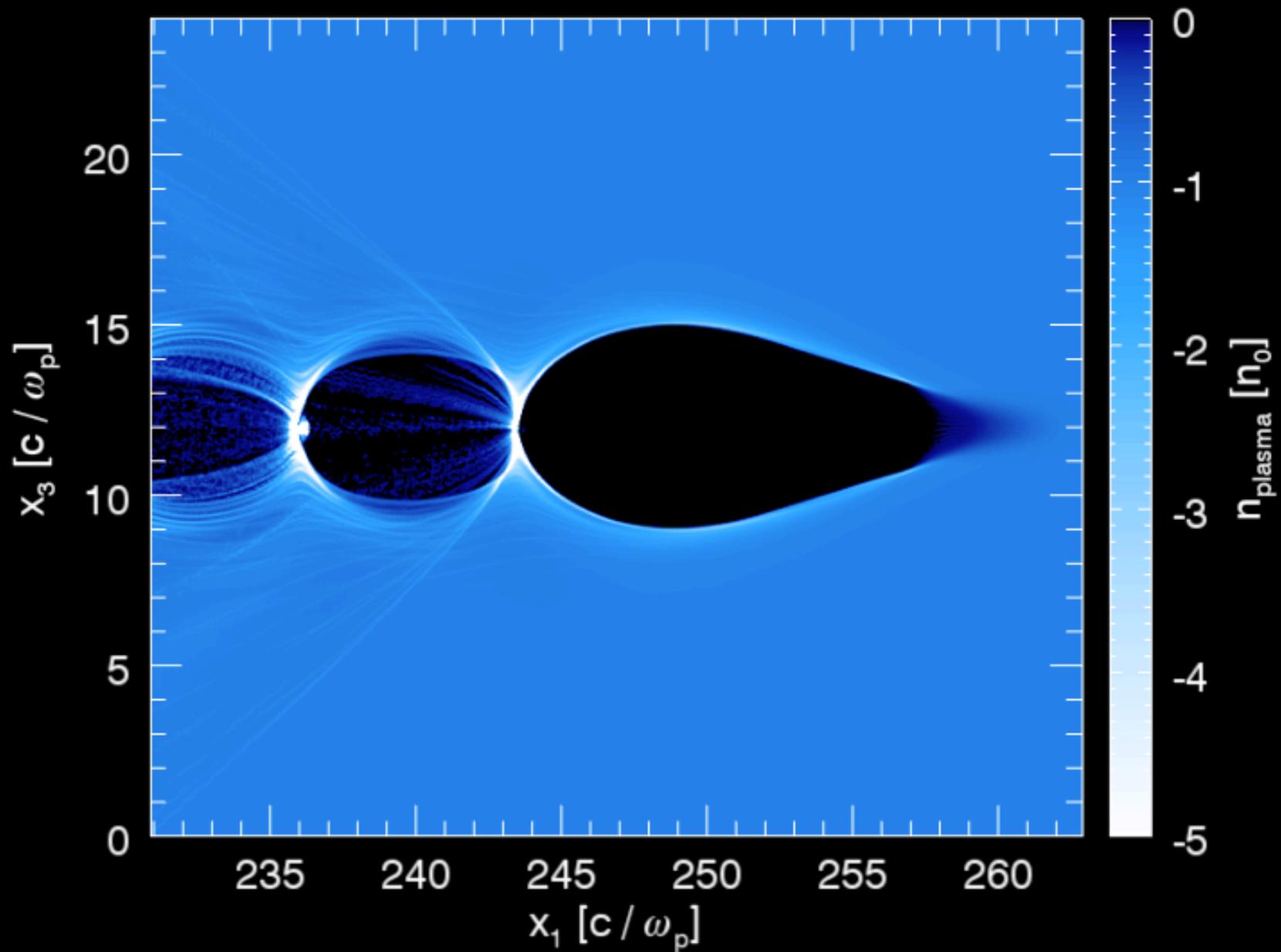


A. Pukhov, J.Meyer-Ter-Vehn, Appl. Phys. B 74, 355 (2002)

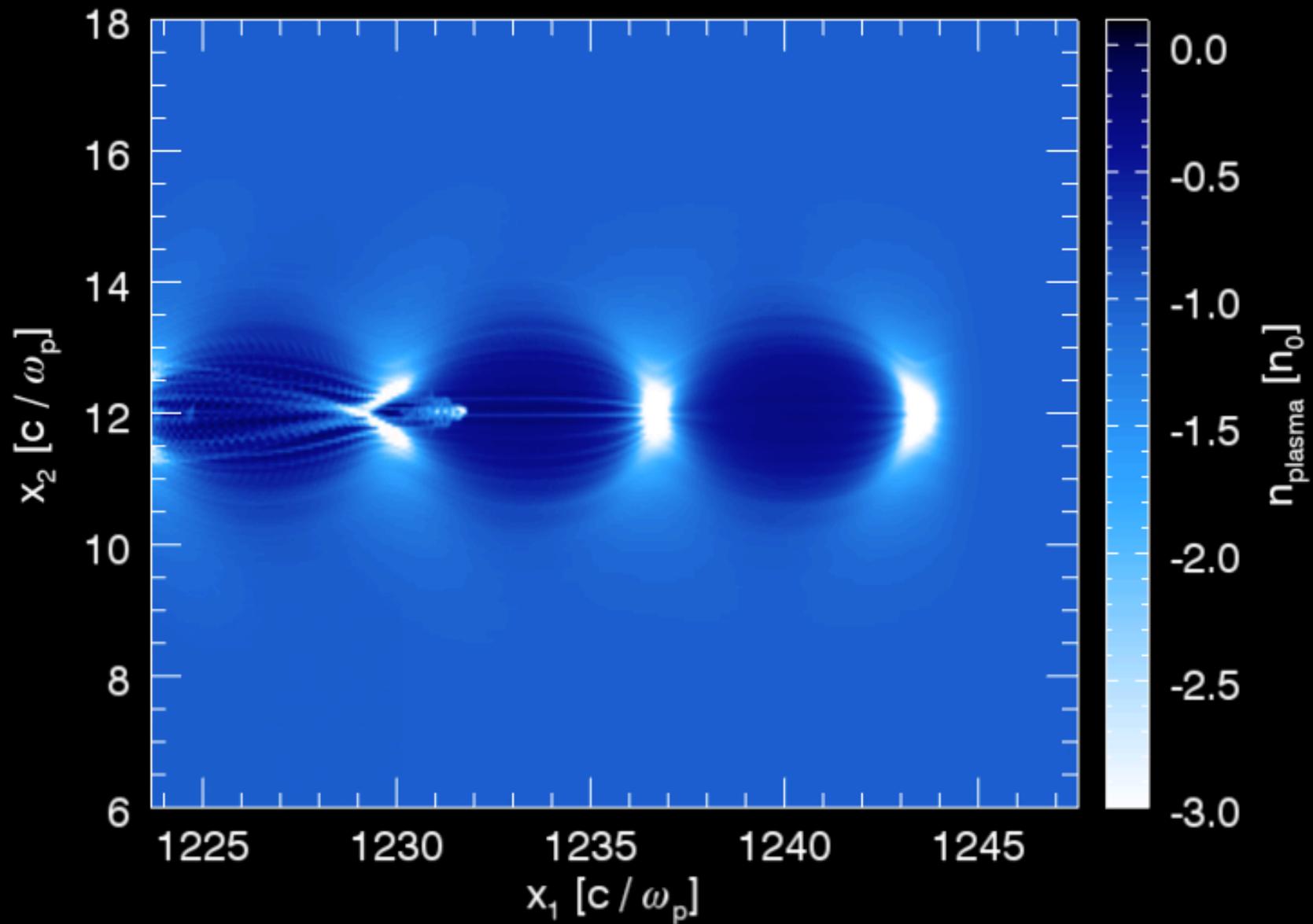
# Laser blowout



# Electron beam blowout



# And for positron drivers?



## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

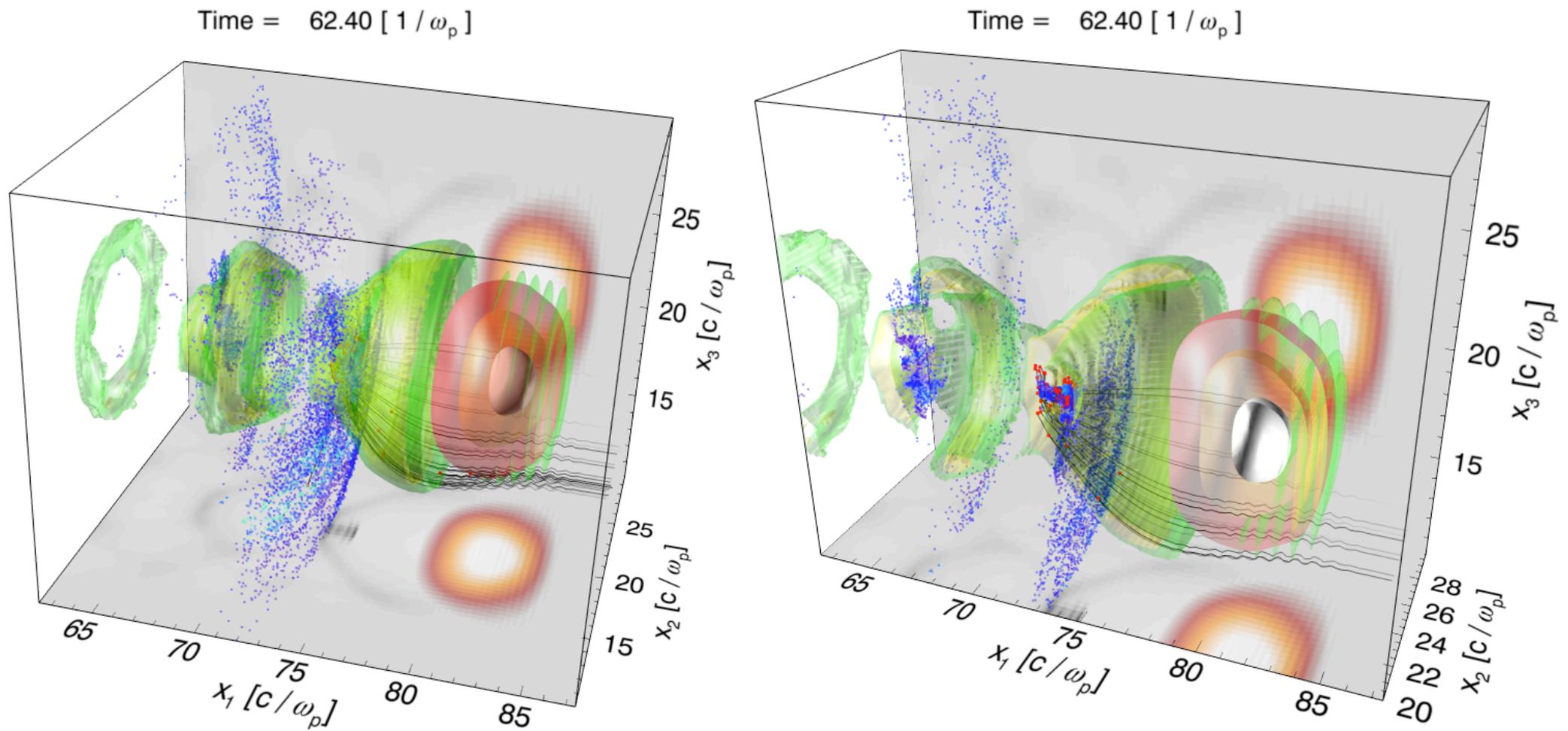
Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

## **Summary**

# Structure of laser driven wakefield



## Self-injection provides electrons for acceleration

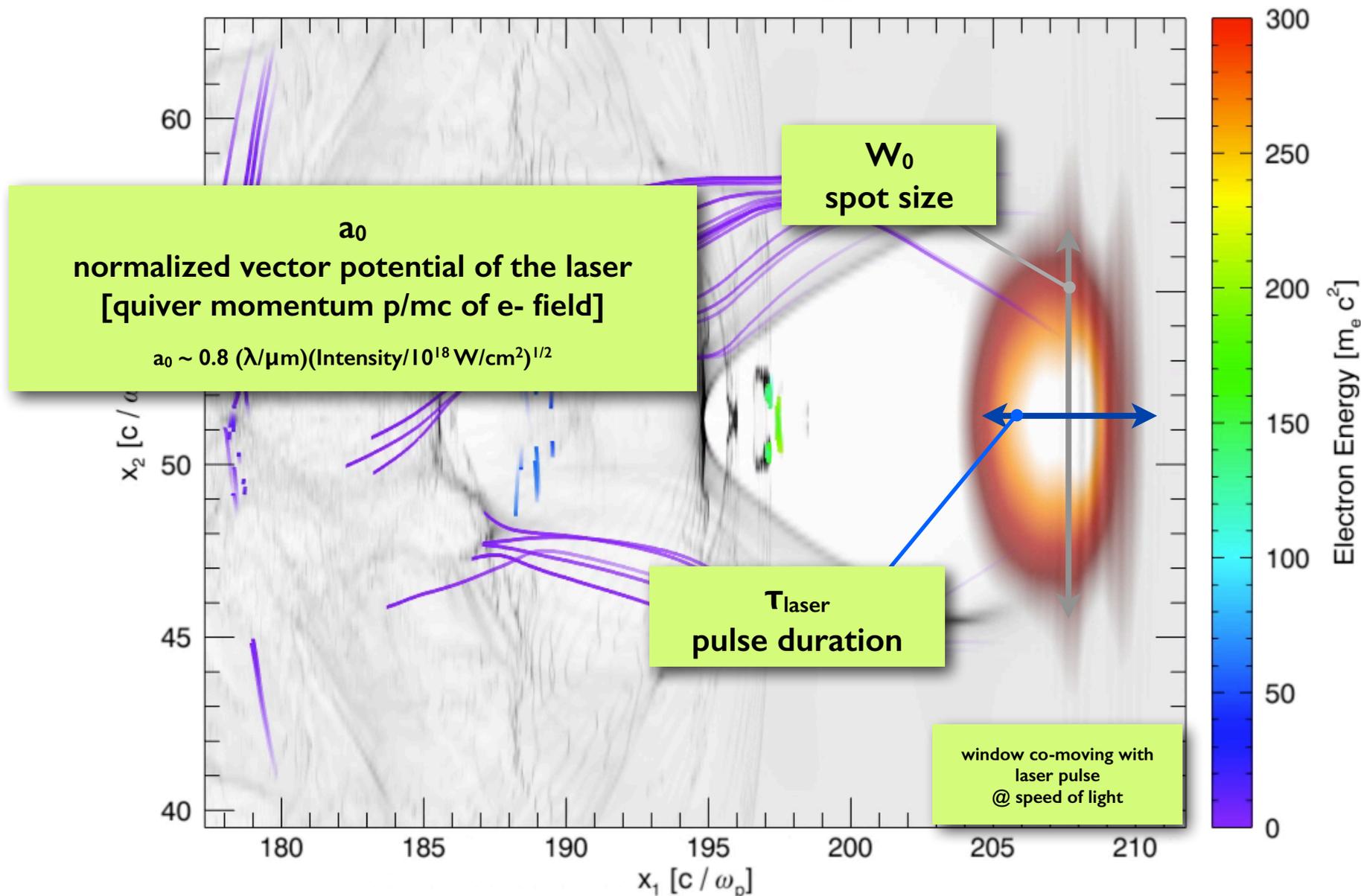


# Blow-out regime of laser wakefield acceleration



## Self-injection, Dephasing, and Depletion

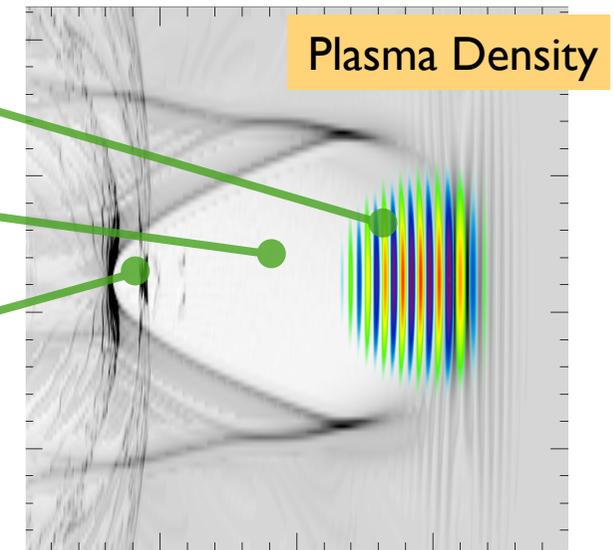
Time = 162.64 [ 1 /  $\omega_p$  ]



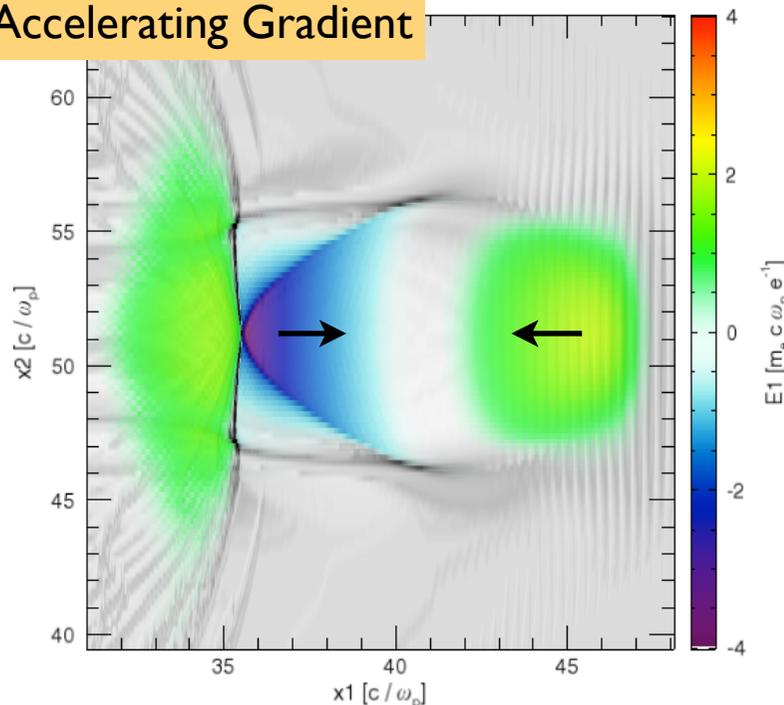
# Blow-out regime of laser wakefield acceleration



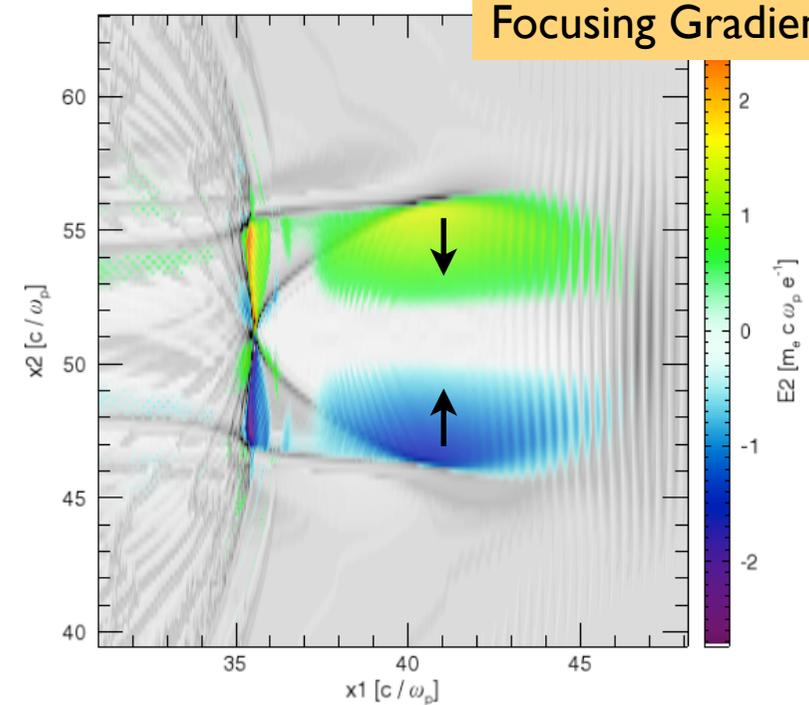
- Intense laser pulse pushes electrons away from axis
- Electron void is formed behind laser
  - Blowout-regime/ bubble regime
- Electrons return to axis due to ion channel force
- Trajectory crossing leads to self injection when outer sheet near spot-size reaches axis
- Ion column creates strong accelerating and focusing gradients



Accelerating Gradient

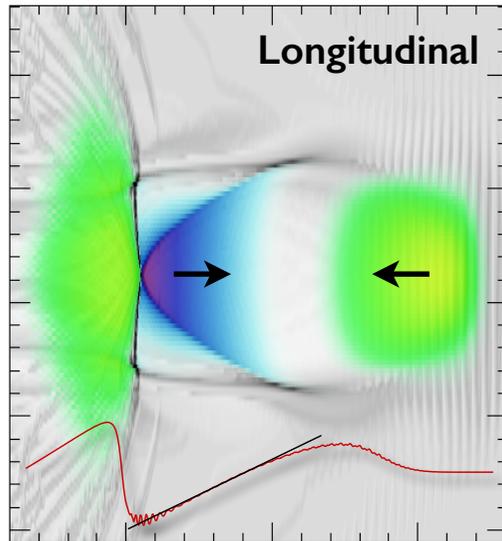


Focusing Gradient



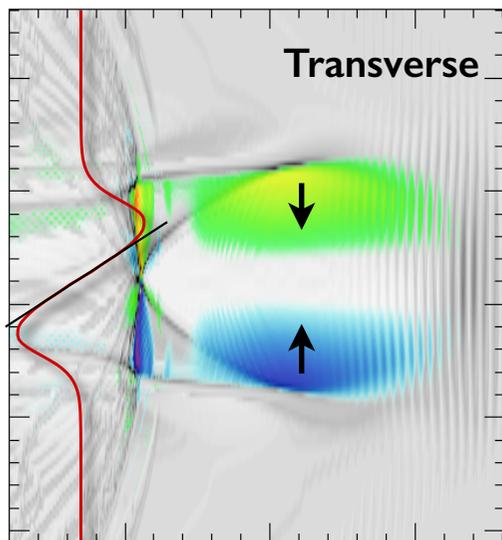
## Dynamics of the laser and e- define key parameters

### Electric fields created by laser pulse



Linear accelerating gradient

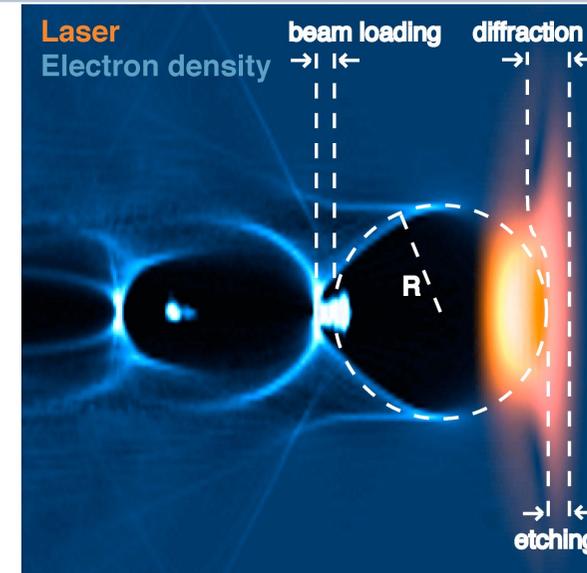
$$E_{z \text{ max}} \approx \sqrt{a_0}$$



Linear focusing force

$$k_p R \simeq 2\sqrt{a_0}$$

### Matched laser parameters



Match laser spot size to bubble radius

$$k_p R \simeq k_p W_0 = 2\sqrt{a_0}$$

For maximum energy gain:  
trapped e- dephasing before pump depletion

$$L_{\text{etch}} \simeq c\omega_0^2/\omega_p^2\tau_{\text{FWHM}} \quad L_{\text{etch}} > L_d \quad L_d \simeq \frac{2}{3} \frac{\omega_0^2}{\omega_p^2} R$$

$$c\tau_{\text{FWHM}} > 2R/3$$

# Different regimes for LWFA

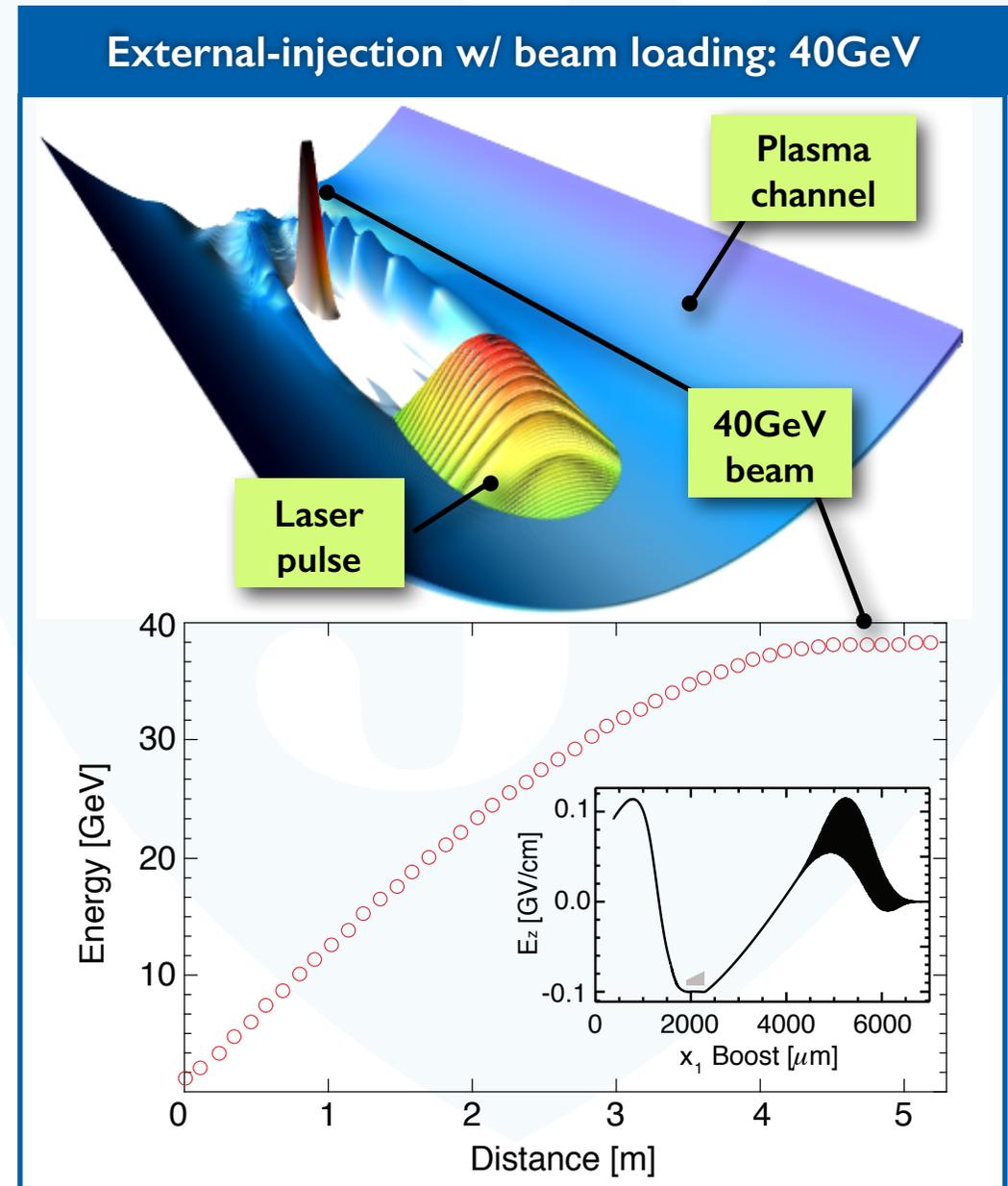
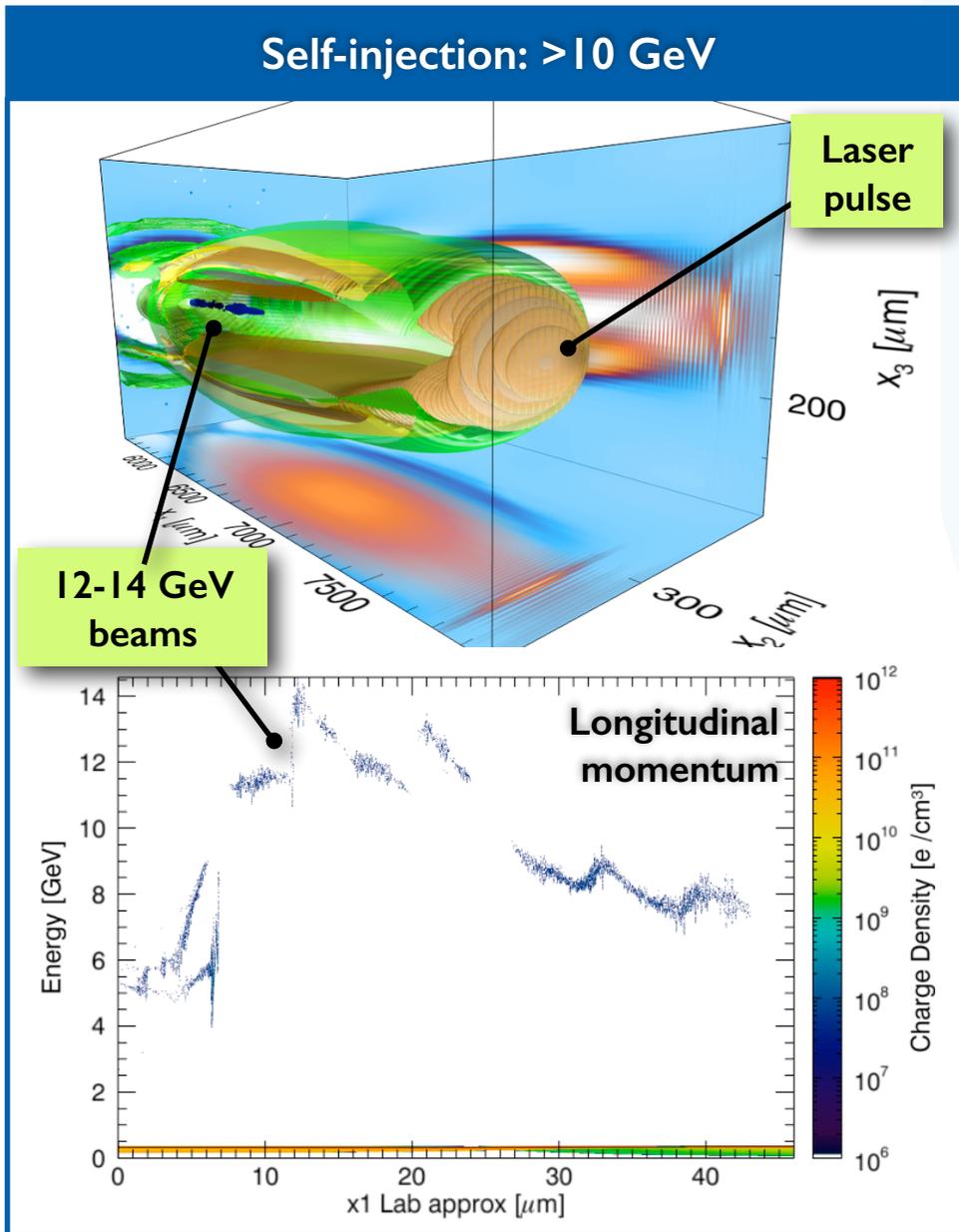


		Maximum electron energy			
		<b>Self-guiding</b>		<b>External-guiding</b>	
		Self Injection I*	Self Injection II**	Self Injection**	External Injection**
<b>Main goal</b>	Maximize Charge	←—————→		Maximize electron energy	—————→
<b>Efficiency</b>	19%	←—————→		$\sim 0.52/a_0$	—————→
<b>Typical <math>a_0</math></b>	$\gtrsim \sqrt{2n_c/n_p}$	PW range $\sim (n_c/n_p)^{1/5}$		$\gtrsim 3$	$\sim 2$
<b>Laser pulse</b>		<b>Plasma</b>		<b>Injected bunch</b>	
$\tau_{\text{FWHM}}[\text{fs}] \simeq 53.22 \left(\frac{\lambda_0[\mu\text{m}]}{0.8}\right)^{2/3} \left(\frac{\epsilon[\text{J}]}{a_0^2}\right)^{1/3}$		$n_p[10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}] \simeq 3.71 \frac{a_0^3}{P[\text{TW}]} \left(\frac{\lambda_0[\mu\text{m}]}{0.8}\right)^{-2}$		$\Delta E[\text{GeV}] \simeq 3 \left(\frac{\epsilon[\text{J}]}{a_0^2} \frac{0.8}{\lambda_0[\mu\text{m}]}\right)^{2/3}$	
$W_0 = \frac{3}{2} c \tau_{\text{FWHM}}$		$L_{\text{acc}}[\text{cm}] \simeq 14.09 \frac{\epsilon[\text{J}]}{a_0^3}$		$q[\text{nC}] \simeq 0.17 \left(\frac{\lambda_0[\mu\text{m}]}{0.8}\right)^{2/3} (\epsilon[\text{J}] a_0)^{1/3}$	

\* S. Gordienko and A. Pukhov PoP (2005)

\*\* W. Lu et al. PR-STAB (2007)

# Acceleration distances can be reduced by orders of magnitude



# Parameter range for 300J laser system



	<b>Self-guiding</b>		<b>External-guiding</b>
	Self Injection I*	Self Injection II**	External Injection**
<b>Laser</b>			
a0	53	5.8	2
Spot [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	10	50	101
Duration [fs]	33	110	224
<b>Plasma</b>			
Density [ $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ]	$1.5 \times 10^{19}$	$2.7 \times 10^{17}$	$2.2 \times 10^{16}$
Length [cm]	0.25	22	500
<b>e- Bunch</b>			
Energy [GeV]	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>53</b>
Charge [nC]	14	2	1.5

\* S. Gordienko and A. Pukhov PoP (2005)

\*\* W. Lu et al. PR-STAB (2007)

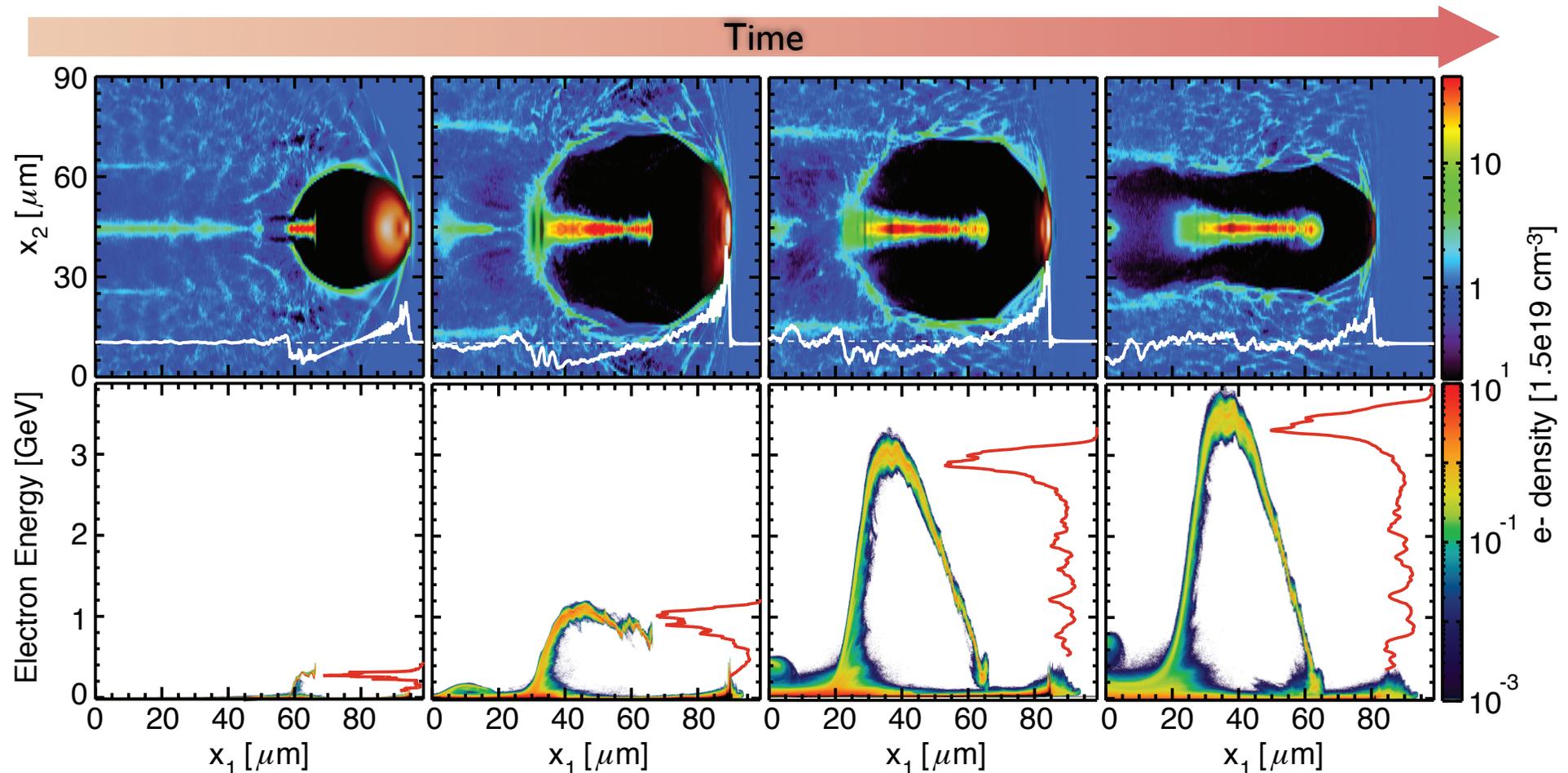
# +3 GeV self-injection in strongly nonlinear regime

Extreme blowout  $a_0=53$



UCLA

S.F. Martins et al, Nature Physics (April 2010)

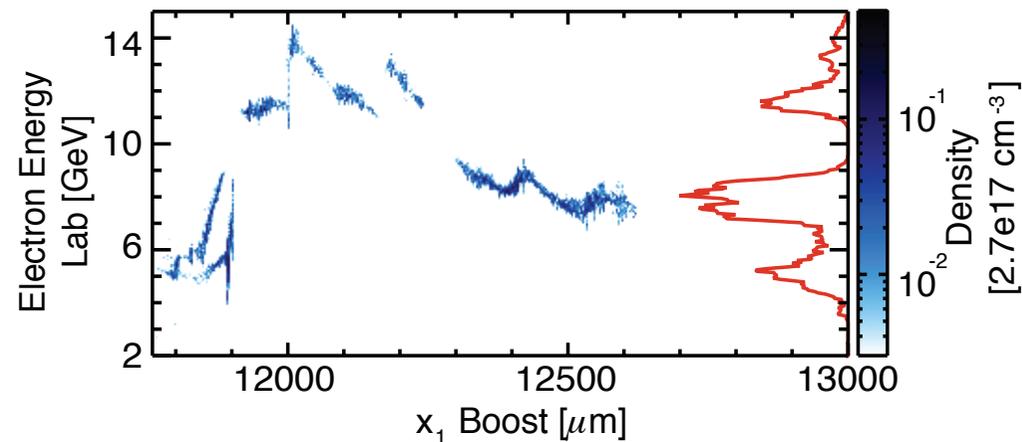
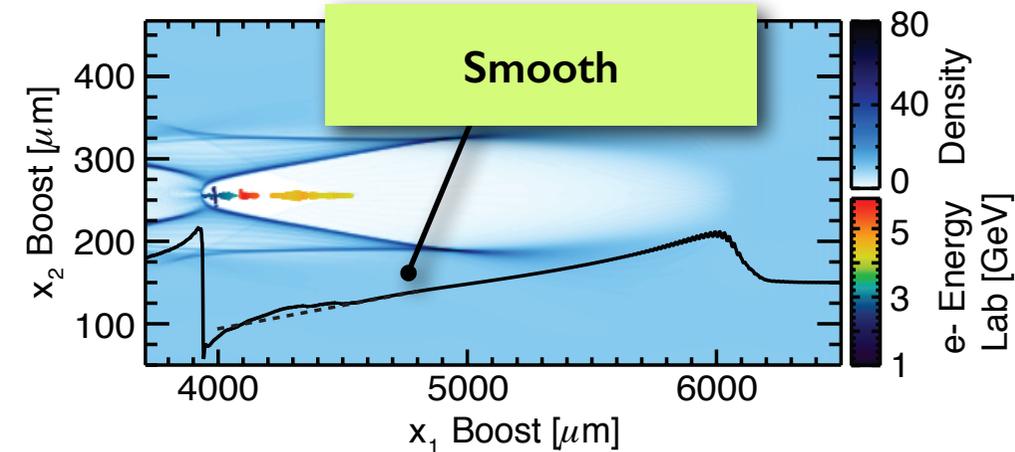
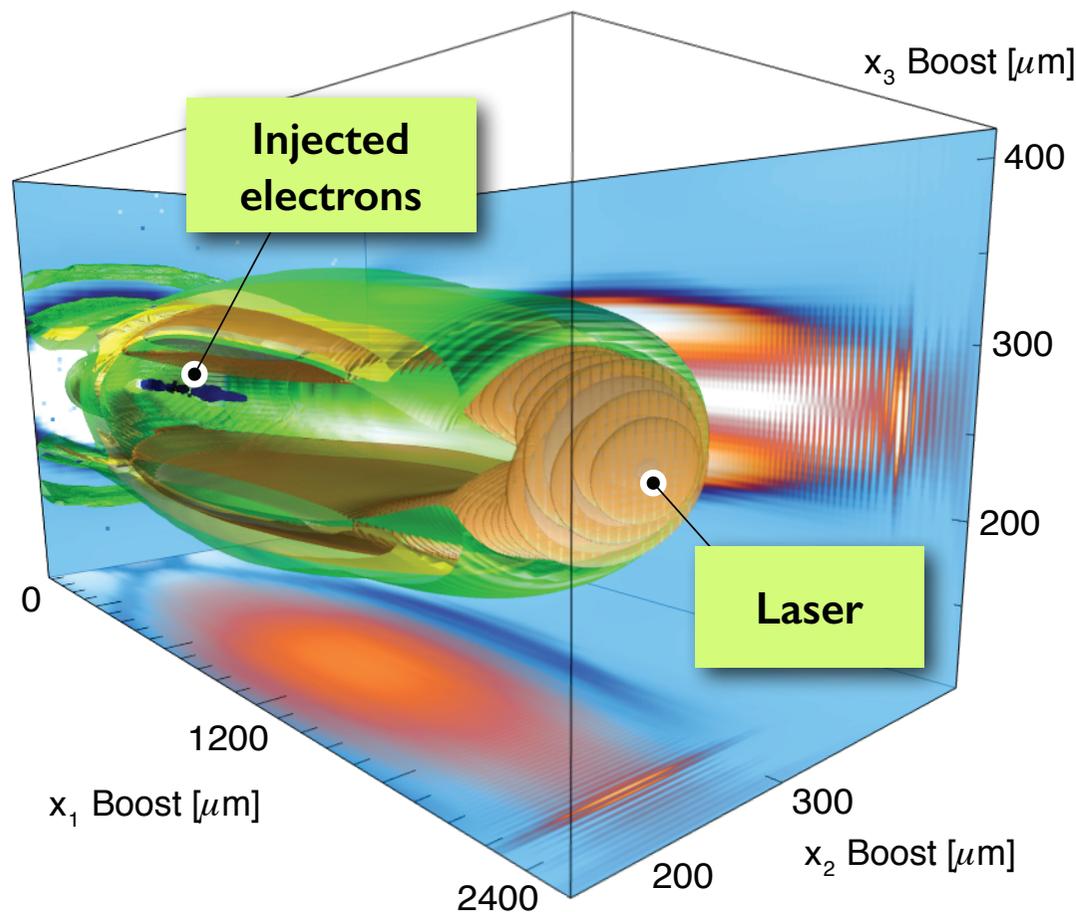


**Laboratory frame**  
3000x256x256 cells  
 $\sim 10^9$  particles  
 $10^5$  timesteps

**3.4 GeV**  
**17 nC**

# +10GeV self-injection in nonlinear regime

Controlled self-guided  $a_0=5.8$



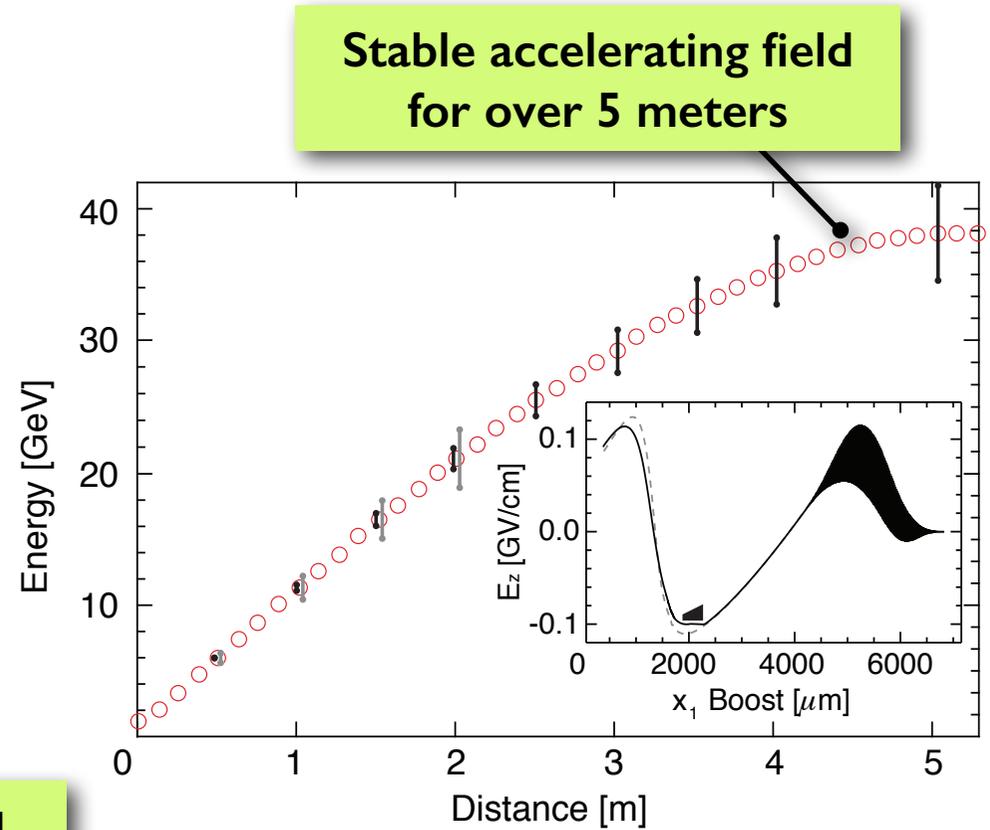
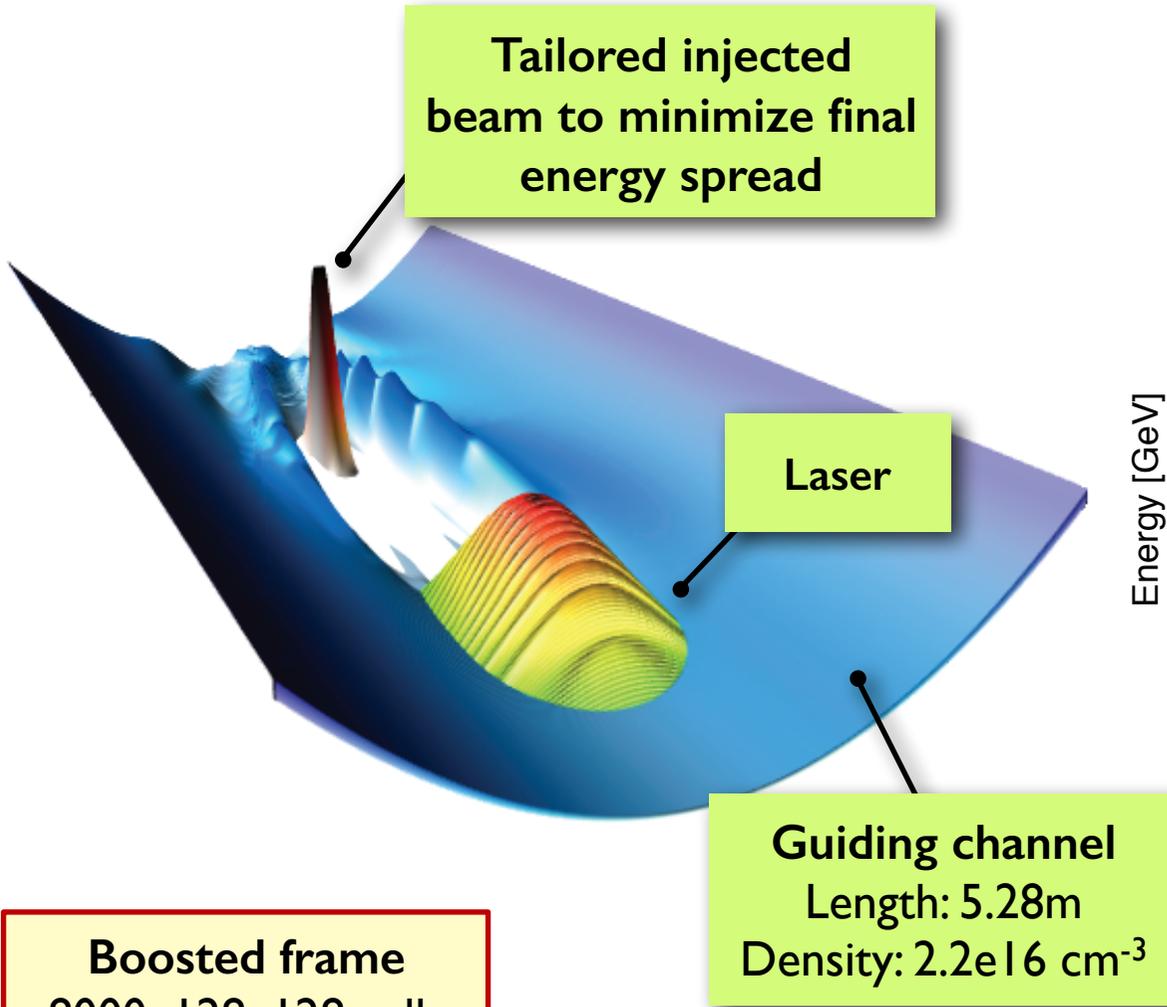
**Boosted frame**  
7000x256x256 cells  
 $\sim 10^9$  particles  
 $3 \times 10^4$  timesteps

**$\sim 300\times$  faster  
than lab simulation**

**7-12 GeV  
1-2 nC**

# +40GeV with externally injected beams

Channel guided  $a_0=2$

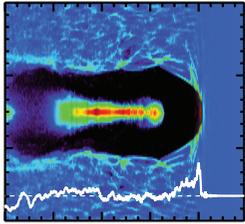


**Boosted frame**  
8000x128x128 cells  
 $\sim 5 \times 10^8$  particles  
 $2 \times 10^5$  timesteps  
 $\gamma=10$

**$\sim 300\times$  faster  
than lab simulation**

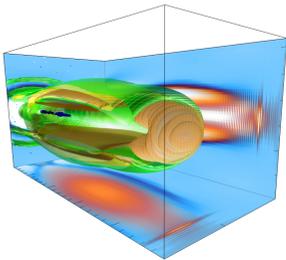
**40 GeV  
 $\sim 1 \text{ nC}$**

## Extreme blowout :: $a_0=53$



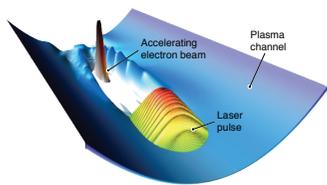
- ▶ Very nonlinear and complex physics
- ▶ Bubble radius varies with laser propagation
- ▶ Electron injection is continuous  $\Rightarrow$  very strong beam loading
- ▶ Wakefield is noisy and the bubble sheath is not well defined

## Controlled self-guided :: $a_0=5.8$



- ▶ Lower laser intensity  $\Rightarrow$  cleaner wakefield and sheath
- ▶ Loaded wakefield is relatively flat
- ▶ Blowout radius remains nearly constant
- ▶ Three distinct bunches  $\Rightarrow$  room for tuning the laser parameters

## Channel guided :: $a_0=2$



- ▶ Lowest laser intensity  $\Rightarrow$  highest beam energies (less charge)
- ▶ External guiding of the laser  $\Rightarrow$  stable wakefield
- ▶ Tailored electron beam that initially flattens the wake
- ▶ Controlled acceleration of an externally injected beam to very high energies

## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

## **Summary**

## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

## **Summary**



**Determine the equation of motion for a fluid element in the quasi-static approximation and assuming no sheath crossing**

**Determine the structure of the fields (cylindrically symmetric) for a model of the current/charge system in the bubble/blowout**

**Determine the equation of motion for the inner surface of the blowout region ( $r = r_b$ )**

# Generic particle Hamiltonian in 3D



Hamiltonian for a charged particle:

$$H = \sqrt{m_e^2 c^4 + (\mathbf{P} + e\mathbf{A}/c)^2} - e\phi$$

Canonical momentum  $(\mathbf{P}=\mathbf{p}-e\mathbf{A}/c)$       Vector potential      scalar potential

New co-moving frame variables:

$$\xi = v_\phi t - x$$

Distance to the head of a beam moving at  $v_\phi$

$$\tau = x$$

Propagation distance

Hamiltonian in the co-moving frame

$$\mathcal{H} = H - v_\phi P_{\parallel}$$

## Chain rule for co-moving frame variables

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} = v_{\phi} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{d\xi}{dt} = (v_{\phi} - v_{\parallel})$$

## Hamilton's equations in co-moving frame

$$\frac{dP_{\parallel}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial \xi} - \frac{\partial H}{\partial \tau}$$

$$\frac{dH}{dt} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} = v_{\phi} \frac{\partial H}{\partial \xi}$$

## General evolution of the co-moving frame Hamiltonian

$$\underbrace{(v_\phi - v_{\parallel})}_{=d/dt} \frac{d\mathcal{H}}{d\xi} = \left[ \mathbf{v} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial \mathbf{A}}{\partial \tau} - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \tau}}_{\text{use the chain rule}} \right]$$

=d/dt

use the chain rule

$\Delta\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(t_f) - \mathcal{H}(t_i)$  depends on initial and final positions only:

$$\Delta\mathcal{H} = \int \frac{d\mathcal{H}}{dt} dt = \int \frac{d\xi}{v_\phi - v_{\parallel}} \frac{d\mathcal{H}}{d\xi}$$

Integration over the particle's trajectory

$\sim 0$  for a non-evolving wake/driver (quasi-static approximation)

## General constant of motion under quasi-static approximation

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta H &= \Delta\gamma - v_\phi \Delta p_{\parallel} - (\Delta\phi - v_\phi \Delta A_{\parallel}) \\ &= \Delta\gamma - v_\phi \Delta p_{\parallel} - \Delta\psi\end{aligned}$$

pseudo potential  
 $\Psi = \Phi - v_\phi A_{\parallel}$

## Constant of motion for a particle initially at rest in region of vanishing fields

$$\gamma (1 - \beta_{\parallel}) = 1 + \psi$$

For  $\beta_{\parallel} \rightarrow 1 \Rightarrow \Psi \rightarrow -1$

For  $\beta_{\parallel} \rightarrow -1 \Rightarrow \Psi \rightarrow \infty$

$$-1 < \psi < +\infty$$

# Lorentz force equation for the radial motion of a plasma electron under the quasi-static approximation



**Goal: write Lorentz force in the co-moving frame ( $v_\phi = c = 1$ )**

**Use constant of motion to write total time derivative:**

$$\frac{d}{dt} = (1 - v_\parallel) \frac{d}{d\xi} = \frac{1 + \psi}{\gamma} \frac{d}{d\xi}$$

↓  
velocity normalised to c

**Use constant of motion to write total time derivative:**

$$p_\perp = \gamma v_\perp = (1 + \psi) \frac{dr_\perp}{d\xi} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{dp_\perp}{dt} = \frac{1 + \psi}{\gamma} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left[ (1 + \psi) \frac{d}{d\xi} \right]$$

**Recast  $\gamma$  using constant of motion**

$$\gamma = \frac{1 + p_\perp^2 + (1 + \psi)^2}{2(1 + \psi)}$$

# Lorentz force equation for the radial motion of a plasma electron under the quasi-static approximation



$$\frac{2(1+\psi)^2}{1+(1+\psi)^2\left(\frac{dr}{d\xi}\right)^2+(1+\psi)^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left[ (1+\psi) \frac{dr}{d\xi} \right] = F_{\perp}$$

$$F_{\perp} = - (E_r - v_{\parallel} B_{\theta})$$

particles do not move  
in  $\xi$  under the q.s.a.

## Potentials associated with electromagnetic fields under q.s.a.:

All other fields vanish for a cylindrically symmetric configuration



---

$$E_z = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \xi}$$

accelerating field

$$E_r = -\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \xi}$$

radial electric field

$$B_{\theta} = -\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \xi}$$

azimuthal magnetic field



Determine the equation of motion for a fluid element in the quasi-static approximation and assuming no sheath crossing

**Determine the structure of the fields (cylindrically symmetric) for a model of the current/charge system in the bubble/blowout**

Determine the equation of motion for the inner surface of the blowout region ( $r = r_b$ )

## Equations for potentials under q.s.a.:

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{A_r}{r^2} = n_e v_{\perp}$$

plasma density normalised to background density ( $n_0$ )

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial A_{\parallel}}{\partial r} \right) = n_b + n_e v_{\parallel}$$

particle beam driver density normalised to  $n_0$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) = n_e + n_e v_{\parallel} - 1$$

immobile ion density normalised to  $n_0$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) = n_b + n_e - 1$$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r A_r = - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \xi}$$

Gauge condition

## Right hand side of Lorentz force:

$$F_{\perp} = - (E_r - v_{\parallel} B_{\theta}) = \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} - v_{\parallel} \frac{\partial A_{\parallel}}{\partial r} \right) + (1 - v_{\parallel}) \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial \xi} - \frac{1}{\gamma} \nabla_{\perp} \left| \frac{a_L}{2} \right|^2$$

## General solutions for potentials:

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right) = n_b + n_e - 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \phi = \phi_0(\xi) - \frac{r^2}{4} + \lambda(\xi) \ln(r)$$

ion contribution (no electrons in blowout)

beam shape

$$\lambda(\xi) = \int_0^{\infty} r n_b dr$$

$\xi$  dependence:  
blowout shape

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial A_{\parallel}}{\partial r} \right) = n_b + n_e v_{\parallel} \quad \longrightarrow \quad A_{\parallel} = A_{\parallel 0}(\xi) + \lambda(\xi) \ln r$$

From gauge condition:

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) = n_e + n_e v_{\parallel} - 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad A_r = A_{r0}(\xi) r \quad \longrightarrow \quad A_{r0}(\xi) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d\psi_0}{d\xi}$$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) = n_e + n_e v_{\parallel} - 1 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \psi = \psi_0(\xi) - \frac{r^2}{4}$$

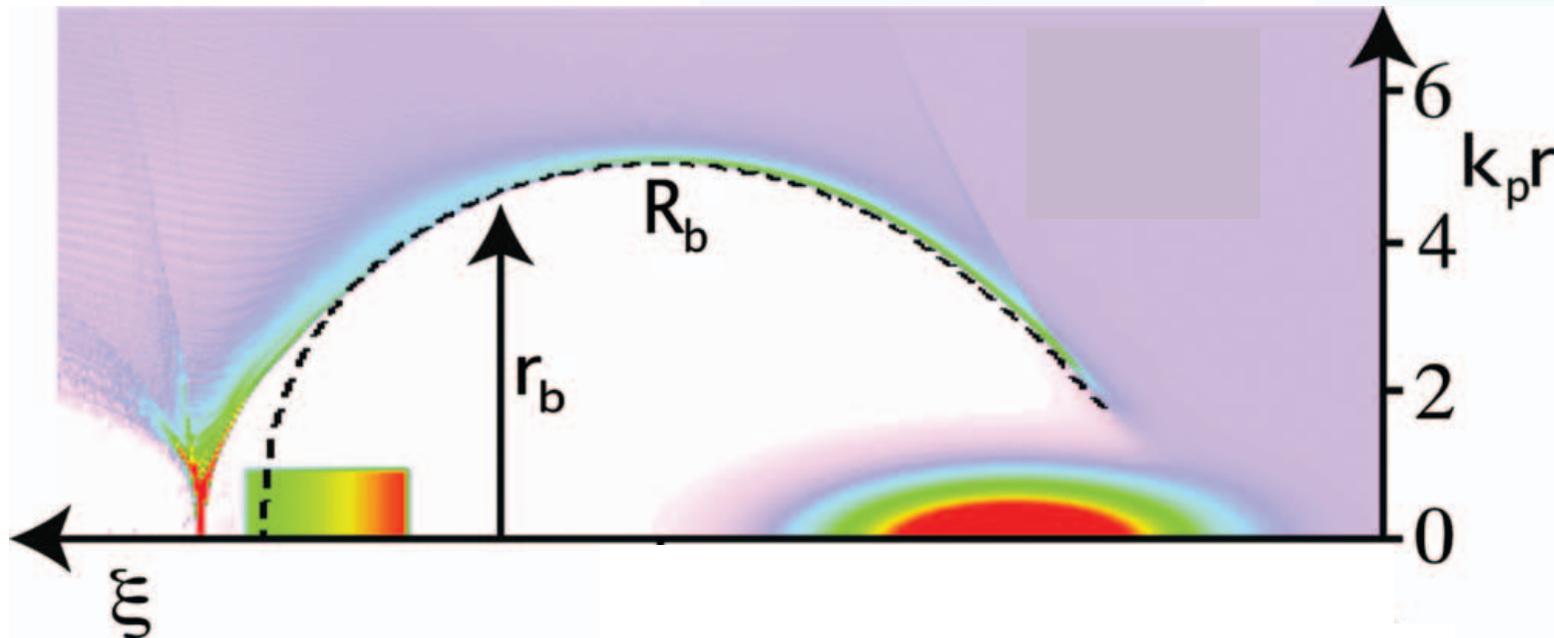
# Find equation of motion for the electron layer defining the blowout region



Right hand side of Lorentz force re-written

$$F_{\perp} = -\frac{r}{2} + (1 - v_{\parallel}) \frac{\lambda(\xi)}{r} + (1 - v_{\parallel}) \frac{dA_{r0}}{d\xi} r - \frac{1}{\gamma} \nabla_{\perp} \left| \frac{a_L}{2} \right|^2$$

**Goal: write the Lorentz force for the motion of the thin electron sheath that defines the blowout:**





$$F_{\perp} = -\frac{r}{2} + (1 - v_{\parallel}) \frac{\lambda(\xi)}{r} + (1 - v_{\parallel}) \frac{dA_{r0}}{d\xi} r - \frac{1}{\gamma} \nabla_{\perp} \left| \frac{a_L}{2} \right|^2$$

Recall:

$$(1 - v_{\parallel}) = \frac{1 + \psi}{\gamma} \quad \gamma = \frac{1 + p_{\perp}^2 + (1 + \psi)^2}{2(1 + \psi)}$$

The pseudo potential  $\Psi$  (see how important it is!) fully determines the motion of the blowout region

$$\frac{d}{d\xi} \left[ (1 + \psi) \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} \right] = r_b \left\{ -\frac{1}{4} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{(1 + \psi)^2} - \left( \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} \right)^2 \right] \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2 \psi_0}{d\xi^2} + \frac{\lambda(\xi)}{r_b^2} - \frac{1}{\left( \psi_0 - \frac{r_b^2}{4} \right)} \nabla_{\perp} \left| \frac{a_L}{2} \right|^2$$

Recall differential equation for  $\Psi$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) = n_e + n_e v_{\parallel} - 1$$

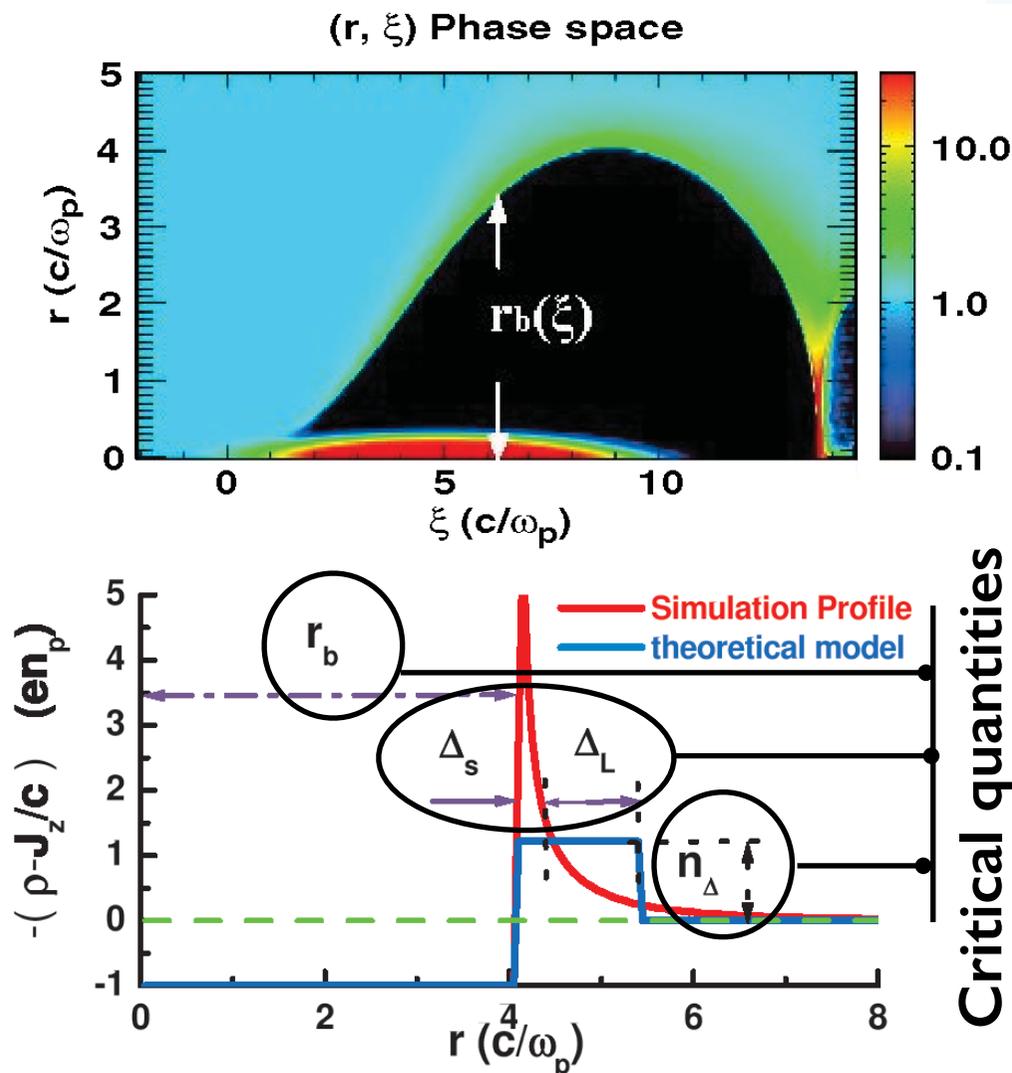
Use Green's function method to find an integral solution

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(r, \xi) = & \ln r \int_0^r r' [n_e(r', \xi) (1 - v_{\parallel}(r', \xi)) - 1] dr' \\ & + \int_r^{\infty} r' \ln r' [n_e(r', \xi) (1 - v_{\parallel}(r', \xi)) - 1] dr' \end{aligned}$$

Boundary condition:  $\Psi$  vanishes away from the blowout region

$$\int_0^r \underbrace{r' [n_e(r', \xi) (1 - v_{\parallel}(r', \xi)) - 1]}_{\bullet} dr' = 0$$

Need model for  $n_e(1-v_{\parallel})$



**Boundary condition:**

$$\int_0^r r' [n_e(r', \xi) (1 - v_{\parallel}(r', \xi)) - 1] dr' = 0$$

**leads to:**

height of the blowout sheath

$$n_{\Delta}(\xi) = \frac{r_b^2}{(r_b + \Delta)^2 - r_b^2}$$

width of the blowout sheath

$$\Delta = \Delta_s + \Delta_L$$

**Non-relativistic  
blowout**

$$\alpha(\xi) = \frac{\Delta}{r_b} \gg 1$$

**Relativistic  
blowout**

$$\alpha(\xi) = \frac{\Delta}{r_b} \ll 1$$

## General expression for $\Psi$

$$\psi [r_b (\xi)] = \frac{r_b^2}{4} \left( \frac{(1 + \alpha)^2 \ln (1 + \alpha)^2}{(1 + \alpha)^2} - 1 \right)$$

$\equiv \beta$

## Non-relativistic blowout regime

$$\psi (r, \xi) \simeq \frac{r_b^2}{4} \ln \frac{1}{r_b} - \frac{r^2}{4}$$

## Ultra-relativistic blowout regime

$$\psi (r, \xi) \simeq (1 + \alpha) \frac{r_b^2}{4} - \frac{r^2}{4}$$



**Determine the equation of motion for a fluid element in the quasi-static approximation and assuming no sheath crossing**

**Determine the structure of the fields (cylindrically symmetric) for a model of the current/charge system in the bubble/blowout**

**Determine the equation of motion for the inner surface of the blowout region ( $r = r_b$ )**

## Equation describing the motion of the blowout region

$$A(r_b) \frac{d^2 r_b}{d\xi^2} + B(r_b) r_b \left( \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} \right)^2 + C(r_b) r_b = \frac{\lambda(\xi)}{r_b} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{d|a|^2}{dr} \frac{1}{(1 + \beta r_b^2/4)^2}$$

$$A(r_b) = 1 + \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{\beta}{2} + \frac{1}{8} r_b \frac{d\beta}{dr_b} \right) r_b^2$$

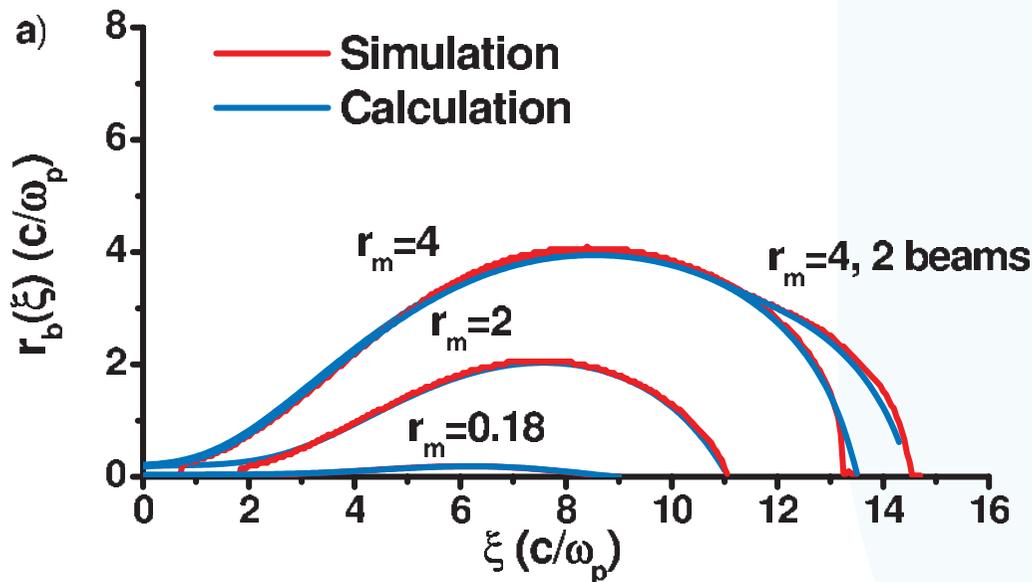
$$B(r_b) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4} \beta + \frac{3}{4} r_b \frac{d\beta}{dr_b} + \frac{1}{8} r_b^2 \frac{d^2 \beta}{dr_b^2}$$

$$C(r_b) = \frac{1}{4} \left( 1 + \frac{1 + |a|^2/2}{1 + \beta r_b^2/4} \right)$$

Assume that  $\Delta$  does not depend on  $\xi$ .

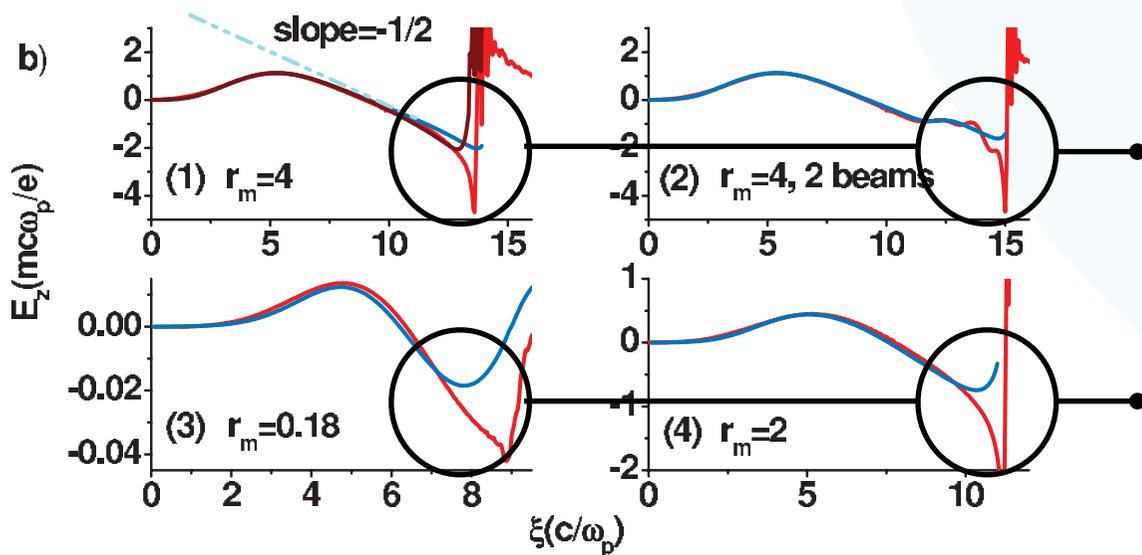
Does not hold at the back of the bubble where  $\Delta \sim r_b$

# Theory compares very well with computer simulations



Very good agreement for a wide range of conditions

From weakly-relativistic to strongly relativistic blowouts



Perfect match except at the back of the bubble where  $\Delta \sim r_b$

The blowout is close to a sphere regardless of the nature of the driver (laser or particle bunch)



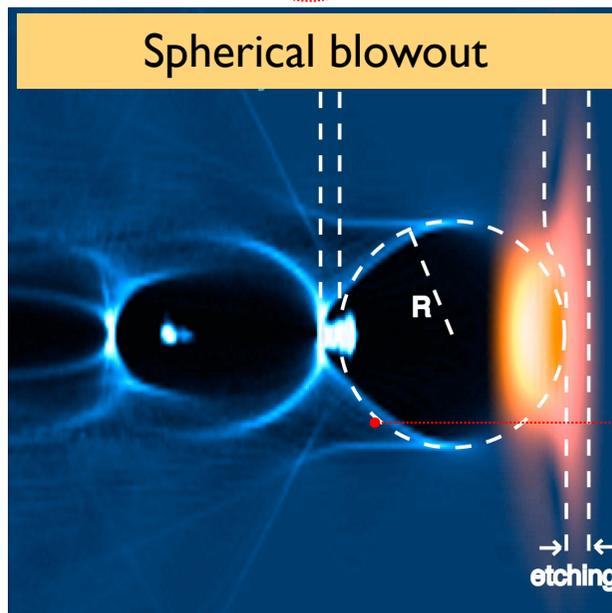
### Ultra-relativistic blowout:

$$r_b \frac{d^2 r_b}{d\xi^2} + 2 \left( \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} \right)^2 + 1 = \frac{4\lambda(\xi)}{r_b} - \frac{d|a|^2}{dr} \frac{1}{(1 + \beta r_b^2/4)^2}$$

=0 right after the driver

### Equation for surface of a sphere:

$$r_b \frac{d^2 r_b}{d\xi^2} + \left( \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} \right)^2 + 1 = 0$$



The factor '2' leads to stronger bending of  $r_b$  at the back of the bubble

W. Lu et al, PRL 96 165002 (2006)

## Recall field expressions

$$E_z = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \xi}$$

## Ultra-relativistic blowout ( $\alpha \ll 1$ ):

$$\psi(r, \xi) \simeq (1 + \alpha) \frac{r_b^2}{4} - \frac{r^2}{4}$$

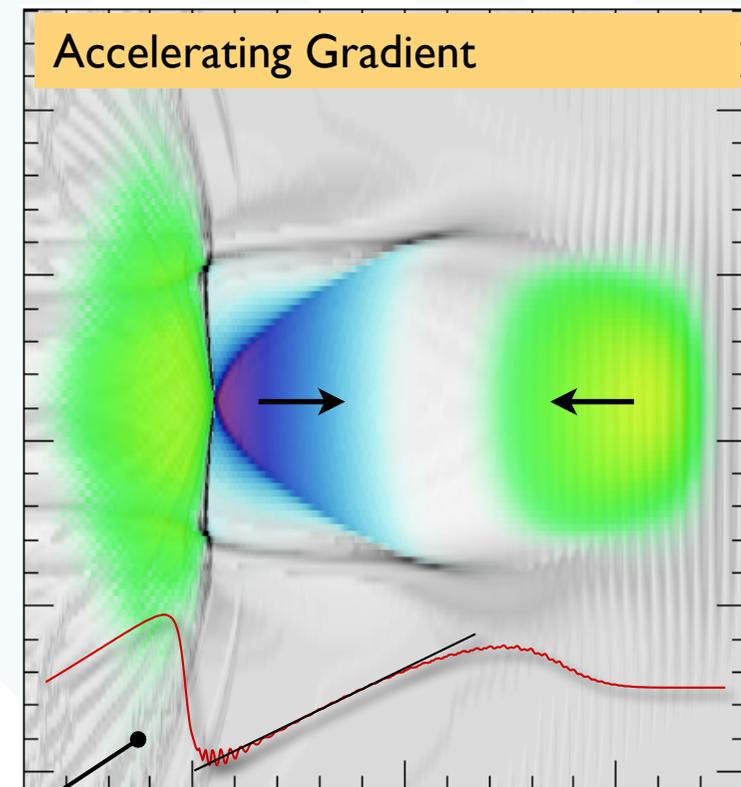
## Ultra-relativistic blowout ( $\alpha \ll 1$ ):

$$E_z \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{dr_b}{d\xi}$$

Integration of the equation for  $r_b(\xi)$  yields at the center of the bubble:

$$E_z \simeq \frac{\xi}{2} \quad E_z^{\max} \simeq \frac{R_b}{2}$$

W. Lu et al, PRL 96 165002 (2006)



## Recall field expressions

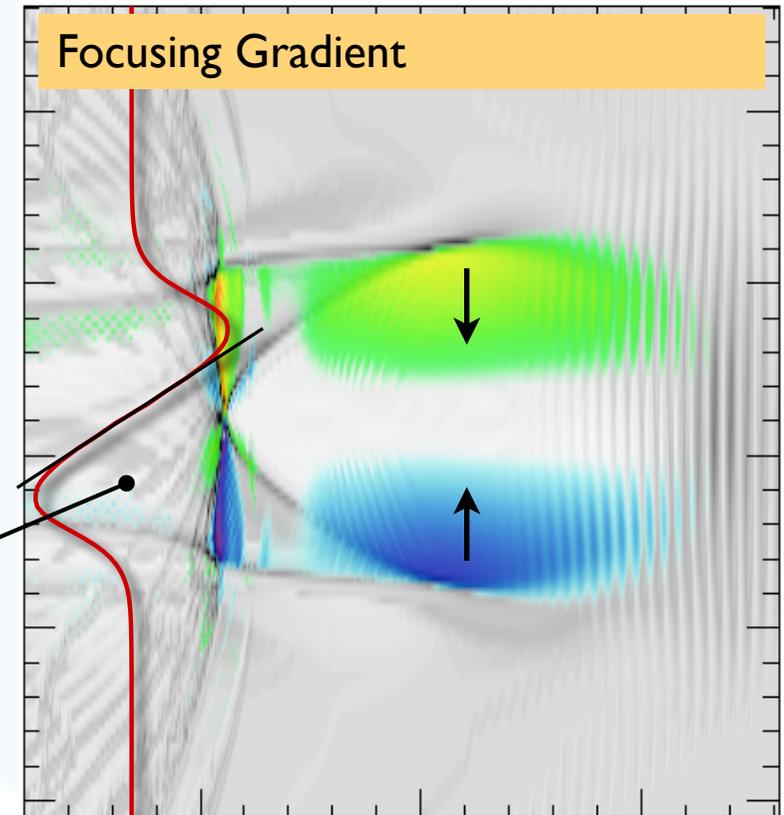
$$E_r = -\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial\xi} \quad B_\theta = -\frac{\partial A_z}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial A_r}{\partial\xi}$$

## Focusing for relativistic particle

$$E_r - \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ v = c = 1}}{B_\theta} = -\frac{\partial(\phi - A_{\parallel})}{\partial r} = -\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial r}$$

## Linear focusing force:

$$E_r - B_\theta = \frac{r}{2}$$



## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

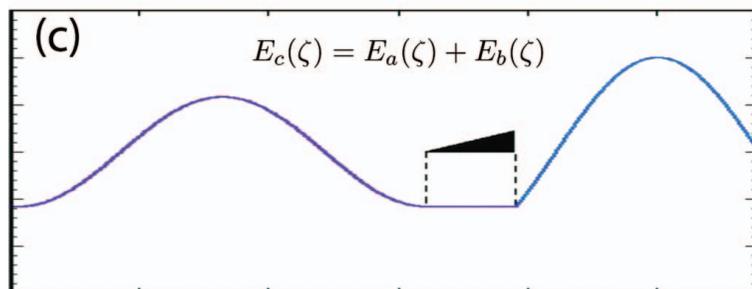
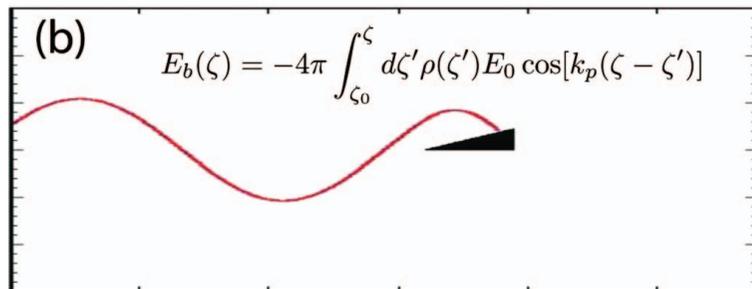
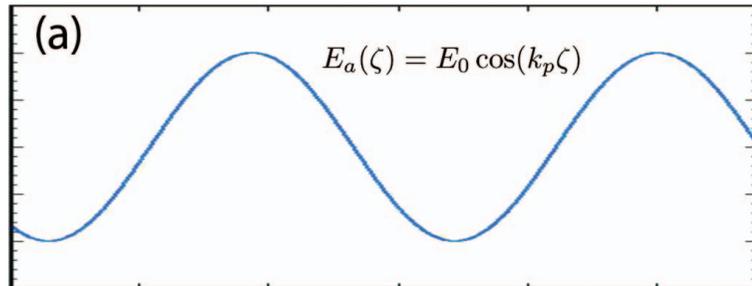
## **Summary**

# Beam loading: achieving high quality bunches with low energy spreads



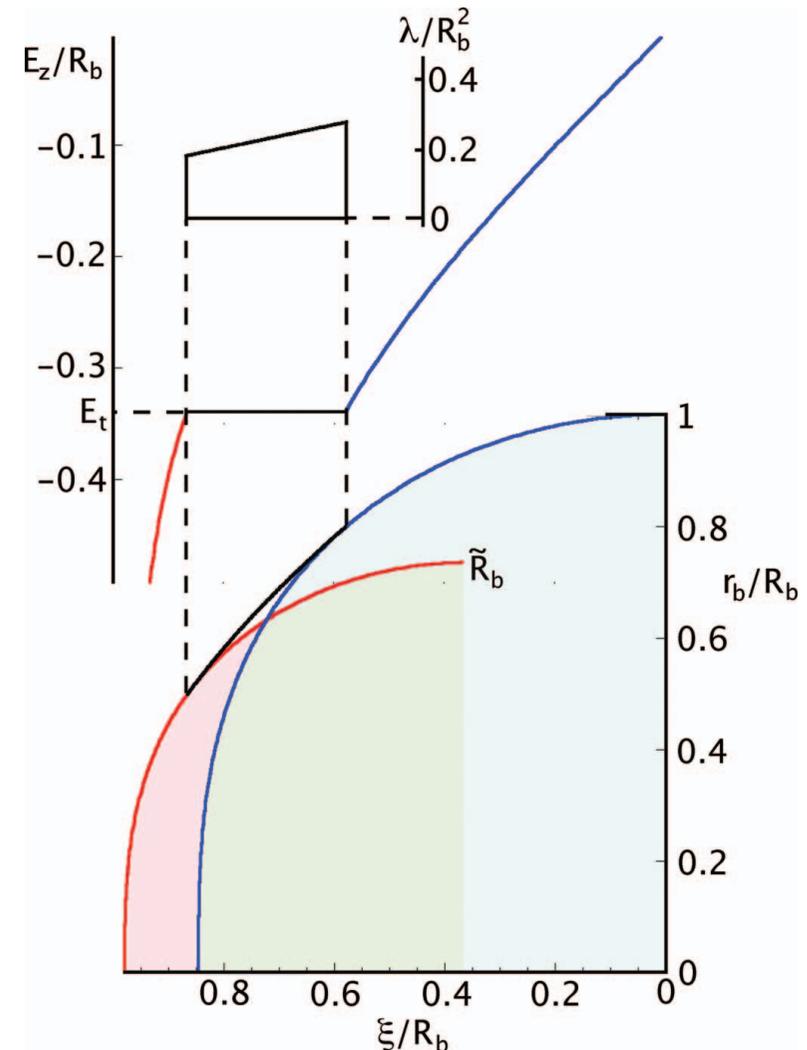
**Goal: find the optimal beam profile that flattens accelerating fields**

## Linear regime



**Properly tailored witness electron bunch flattens accelerating wakefield: no energy spread growth!**

## Blowout regime



M. Tzoufras et al (2008)

**Goal: find an exact solution for  $E_z$  at any position after the driver**

## Beam loading in the blowout

$$E_z = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \xi}$$

+

$$r_b \frac{d^2 r_b}{d\xi^2} + 2 \left( \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} \right)^2 + 1 = \frac{4\lambda(\xi)}{r_b^2}$$

=

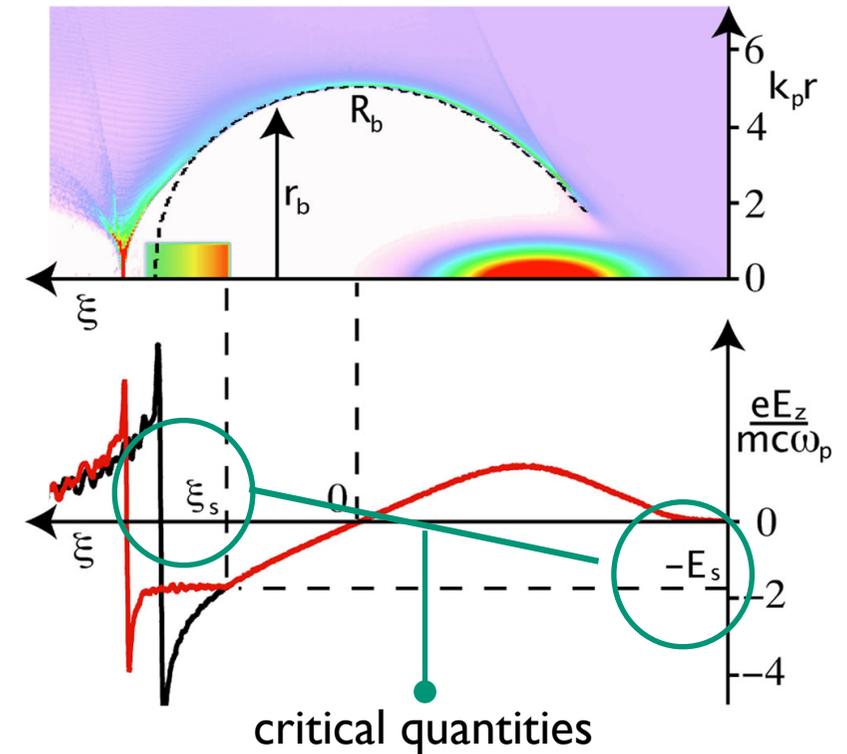
$$E_z = \frac{1}{2} r_b \frac{dr_b}{d\xi} = -\frac{r_b}{2\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\frac{16 \int l(\xi) \xi d\xi + C}{r_b^4} - 1}$$

$l$  is the current density of the witness beam

M. Tzoufras et al, PRL **101** 145002 (2008);

M. Tzoufras et al, PoP **16** 056705 (2009);

## Trapezoidal bunches lead to ideal beam-loading



$$l(\xi_s) = \sqrt{E_s^4 + \frac{R_b^4}{16}}$$

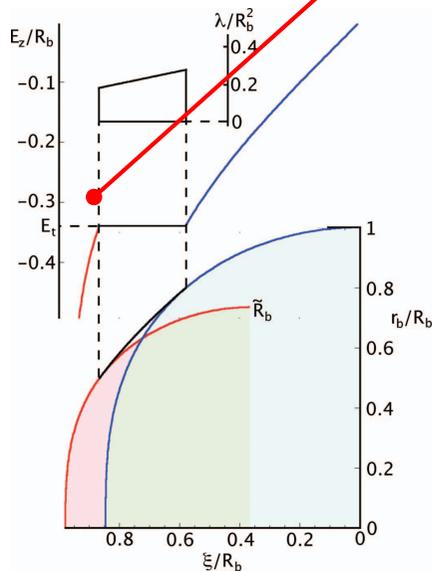
$$l(\xi) = \sqrt{E_s^4 + \frac{R_b^4}{16} - E_s (\xi - \xi_s)}$$

trapezoidal bunch

## Maximum charge in the blowout

Witness goes all the way until the bubble closes ( $r_b=0$ )

$$Q_{tr} = \frac{\pi R_b^4}{16 E_t}$$



**Smaller  $E_t$ : increases but final energy gain lowers**

M. Tzoufras et al, PRL 101 145002 (2008);

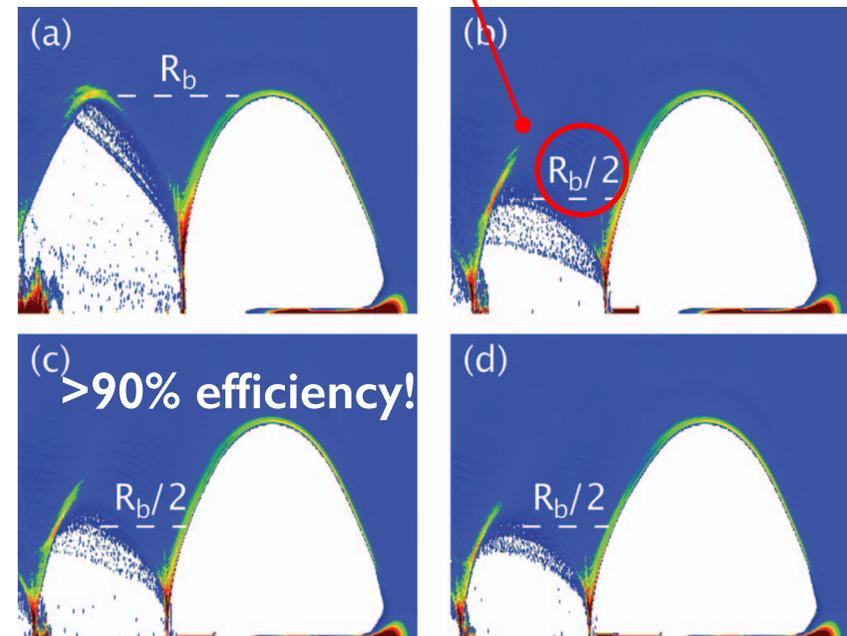
M. Tzoufras et al, PoP 16 056705 (2009);

## Efficiency

Efficiency: ratio between absorbed energy and total wakefield energy

$$\eta = 1 - \left( \frac{\tilde{R}_b}{R_b} \right)^4 = \frac{Q_F}{Q_{tr}}$$

actual beam charge



# Engineering formulas for the maximum injected charge

## Scaling for maximum number of particles

Energy in longitudinal ( $\epsilon_{\parallel}$ ) and focusing ( $\epsilon_{\perp}$ ) wakefields:

$$\epsilon_{\parallel} \simeq \epsilon_{\perp} \simeq \frac{1}{120} (k_p R_b^5) \left( \frac{m_e^2 c^5}{e^2 \omega_p} \right)$$

Energy absorbed by N particles (average accelerating field  $E_z \propto R_b/2$ ):

$$\epsilon_{e^-} \simeq \frac{m_e c^2 N R_b}{4}$$

Estimate for total particle number ( $r_e$  is the classical electron radius):

$$N \simeq \frac{1}{30} (k_p R_b)^3 \frac{1}{k_p r_e}$$

## Formulas

Number of particles as a function of laser parameters:

$$N \simeq 2.5 \times 10^9 \frac{\lambda_0 [\mu\text{m}]}{0.8} \sqrt{\frac{P[\text{TW}]}{100}}$$

Efficiency is  $N \times \Delta E$  / Laser energy:

$$\Gamma \simeq 1/a_0$$

Higher efficiencies using more moderate laser intensities but still in the blowout.

M. Tzoufras et al, PRL **101** 145002 (2008);

W. Lu PRSTAB **10** 0301061 (2007)

Dephasing, Diffraction, Depletion

$$\Delta E = eE_z L_{\text{acc}}$$

**Dephasing**

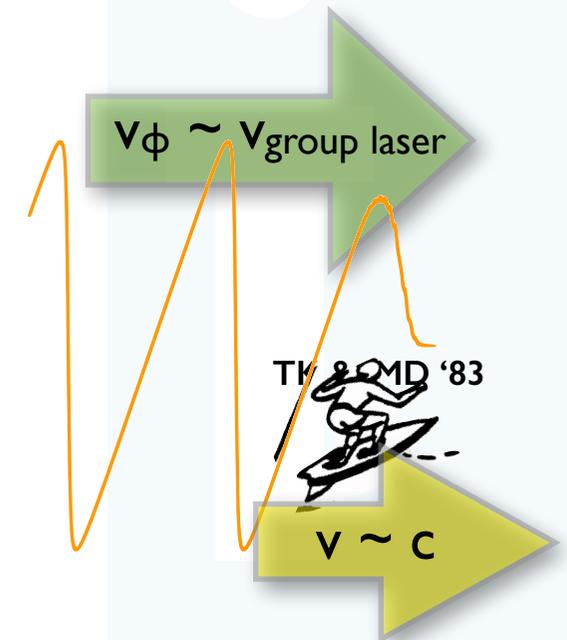
electrons overtake accelerating structure  
in  $L_{\text{dph}} \sim 10 \text{ cm}/n_0 [10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}]$

**Diffraction**

laser pulse diffracts in  
scale of  $Z_r$  (Rayleigh length)  $\sim$  few mm

**Depletion**

laser pulse loses its energy to the plasma in  $L_{\text{depl}}$   
for small  $a_0$ ,  $L_{\text{depl}} \gg L_{\text{dph}}$  ; for  $a_0 > 1$ ,  $L_{\text{depl}} \sim L_{\text{dph}}$



Stable wakefields are critical to provide high quality bunches with high energies

## Beam waist evolution in blowout

waist

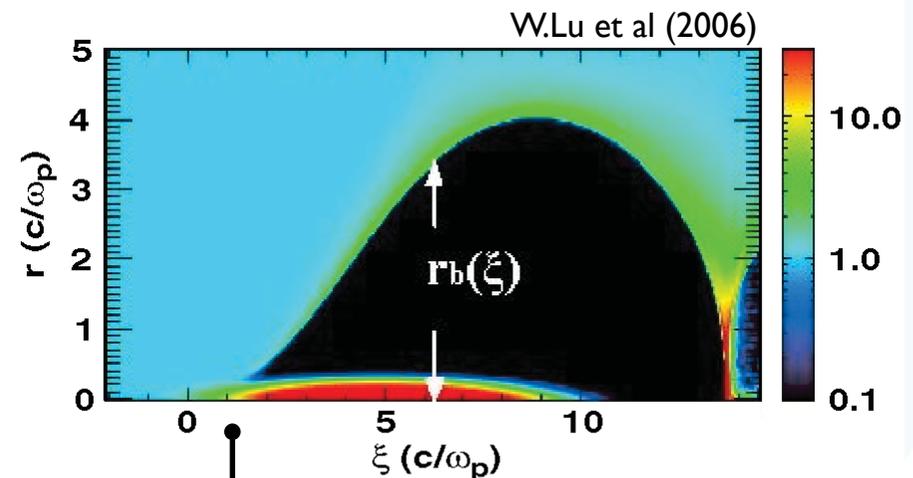


$$K = \frac{\omega_p}{c\sqrt{2}\gamma}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_r}{dz} + \left( K^2 - \frac{\epsilon_N^2}{\gamma^2 \sigma_r^4} \right) \sigma_r = 0$$

=0 for matched propagation

linear focusing forces lead to extremely stable beam propagation



beam head can erode as it ionises the plasma and/or is not travelling in the blowout

## Laser pulse body guiding

### Blowout radius:

$$F_p \sim \frac{a_0}{w_0} \sim F_{ion} \sim \frac{r_b}{2}$$

↓

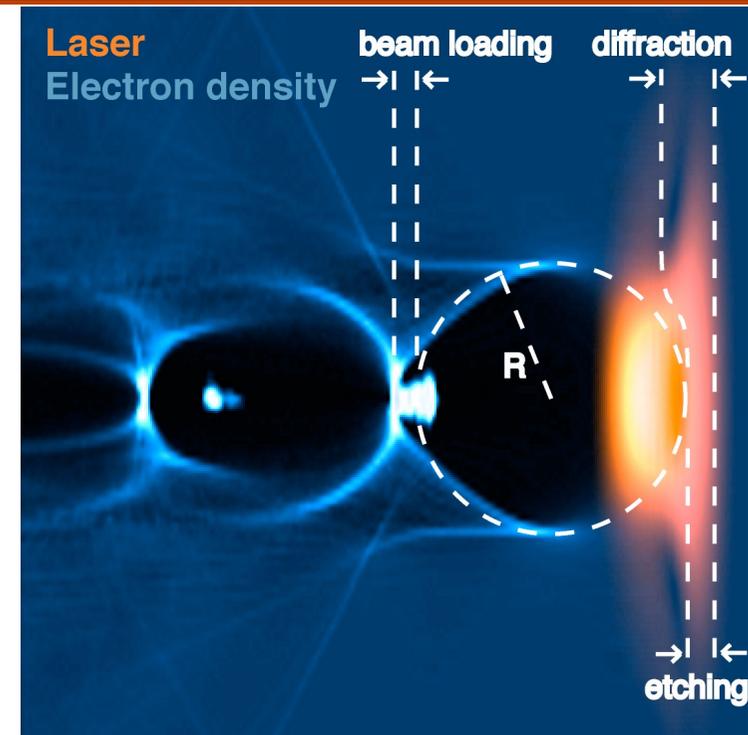
spot-size (normalised to  $1/k_p$ )

### Guiding condition:

$$k_p w_0 \sim k_p R_b \sim 2\sqrt{a_0}$$

spot-size matched to the blowout radius

## Laser pulse front guiding



etching rate higher than  
diffraction rate

$$a_0 \sim (n_c/n_p)^{1/5}$$

## Acceleration length

### Pump depletion:

$$\frac{v_{\text{etch}}}{c} L_{\text{etch}} \simeq c\tau_{\text{FWHM}}$$

$$\frac{v_{\text{etch}}}{c} = \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2}$$

$$L_{\text{etch}} \sim c\tau_{\text{FWHM}} \frac{\omega_0^2}{\omega_p^2}$$

### Dephasing:

$$\frac{(c - v_\phi)}{c} L_d = R_b$$

$$v_\phi = v_g - v_{\text{etch}} = 1 - \frac{3}{2} \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega_0^2}$$

$$L_d = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\omega_0^2}{\omega_p^2} R_b$$

## Minimum pulse duration

De-phasing larger or equal to pump depletion:

$$\tau_{\text{FWHM}} \geq \frac{2R_b}{3}$$

Optimal condition: no energy left in the driver after dephasing:

$$\tau_{\text{FWHM}} = \frac{2R_b}{3}$$

# Scalings for the maximum energy in a LWFA



## Average accelerating field

$$E_z \simeq \frac{\xi}{2} \quad E_z^{\max} \simeq \frac{R_b}{2} \quad R_b \simeq 2\sqrt{a_0}$$



$$\langle E_z \rangle \sim \frac{\sqrt{a_0}}{2}$$

## Maximum energy

$$\Delta E = m_e c^2 \langle E_z \rangle L_{\text{accel}}$$



$$\Delta E = \frac{2}{3} m_e c^2 \left( \frac{\omega_0}{\omega_p} \right)^2 a_0$$

# Blowout regime vs linear regime



## **Maximum charge**

The blowout regime maximizes the charge that can be accelerated. Thus the number of energetic particles can be much larger in the blowout regime.

## **Maximum energy**

The maximum energy is larger in the linear regime than in the non-linear regime as it implies the use of lower densities where electrons take longer to dephase and the laser takes longer to deplete.

## **Beam quality**

Focusing forces are linear in the blowout regime. Thus, particle bunches can accelerate with little emittance growth. This is generally not possible in the linear regime as the focusing force is non-linear.

## **Stability**

In the laser case, external guiding structures are required to focus the laser pulse in the linear regime. In the blowout regime, the laser can be self-guided by the plasma wave it creates. This leads to very stable accelerating and focusing fields.

## **Positron acceleration for a linear collider**

Recent work shows that positrons can accelerate in non-linear regimes. Until recently this was thought to be impossible.

## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

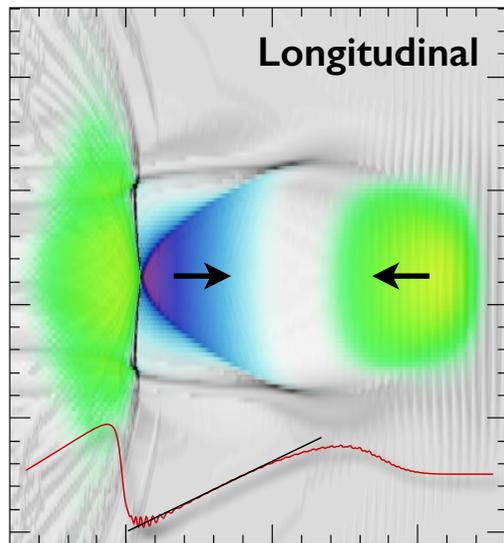
## **Summary**

# Acceleration + focusing for positrons is limited



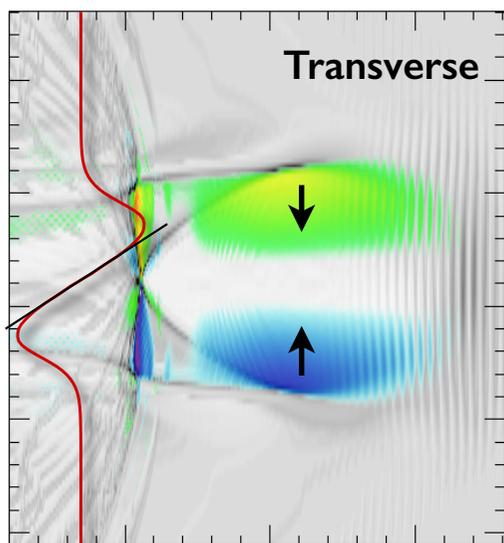
## Dynamics of the laser and e- define key parameters

### Electric fields created by laser pulse



Linear accelerating gradient

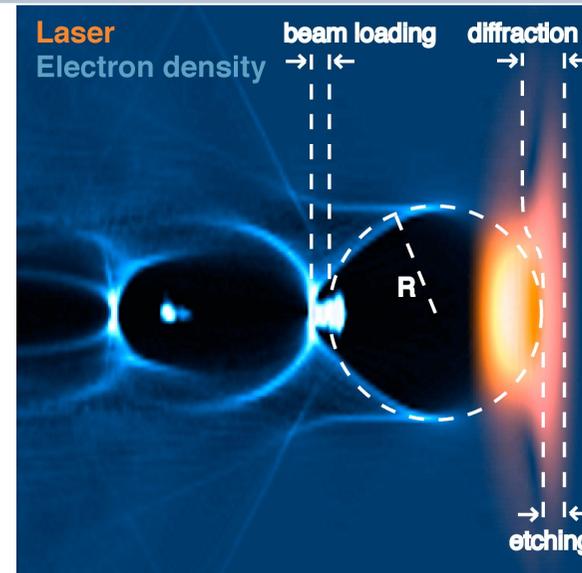
$$E_{z \text{ max}} \approx \sqrt{a_0}$$



Linear focusing force

$$k_p R \simeq 2\sqrt{a_0}$$

### Matched laser parameters



Match laser spot size to bubble radius

$$k_p R \simeq k_p W_0 = 2\sqrt{a_0}$$

For maximum energy gain:  
trapped e- dephasing before pump depletion

$$L_{\text{etch}} \simeq c\omega_0^2/\omega_p^2\tau_{\text{FWHM}} \quad L_{\text{etch}} > L_d \quad L_d \simeq \frac{2}{3} \frac{\omega_0^2}{\omega_p^2} R$$

$$c\tau_{\text{FWHM}} > 2R/3$$

Positrons can not ride large amplitude plasma waves because they are quickly defocused away from the plasma wave.



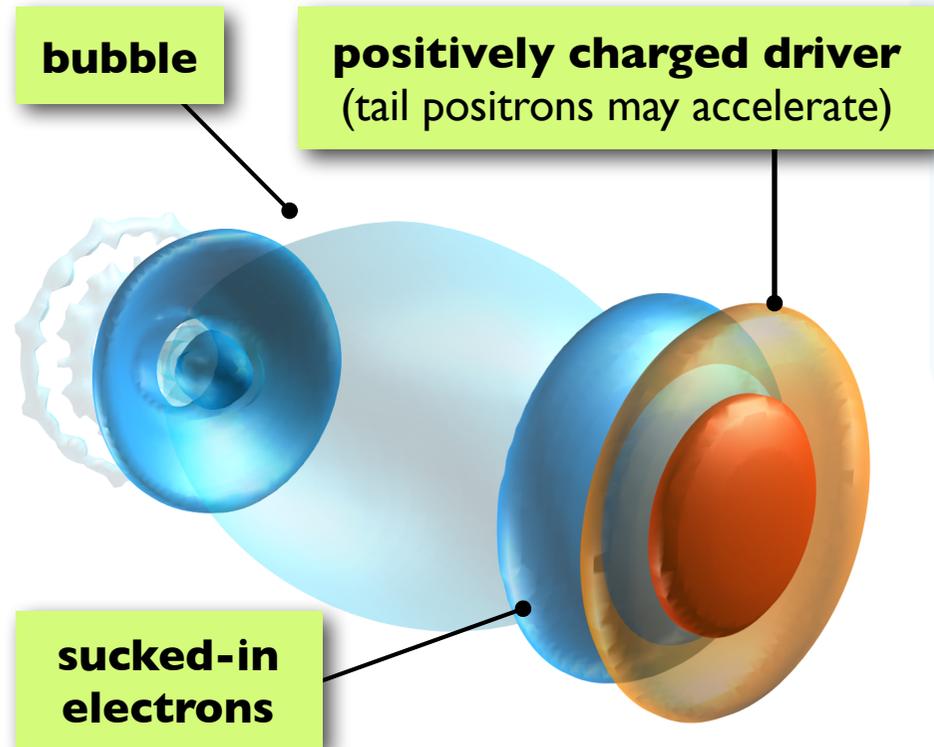
Large amplitude plasma waves ideal for electron acceleration...



...but not for positron acceleration

World's biggest wave (Nazaré, Portugal)

## Model for suck-in regime

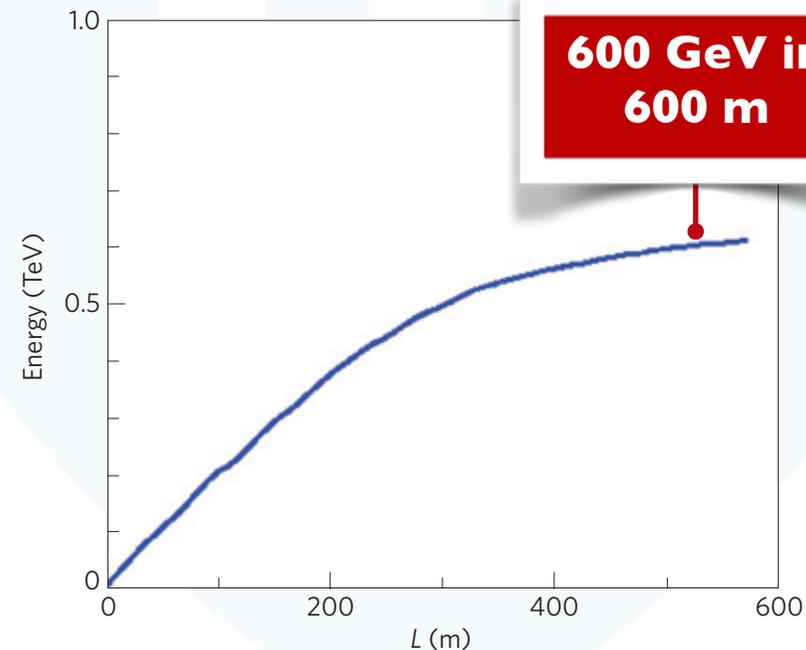


Onset of Suck-in regime - scaling determined from equation of motion for plasma electrons

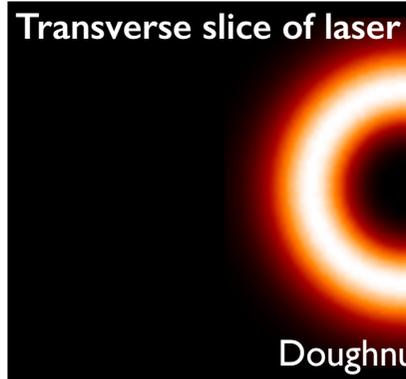
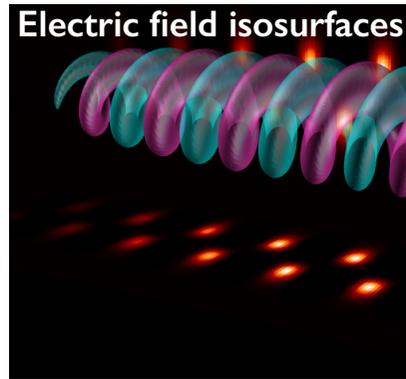
$$\tau_{\text{col}} \simeq \sqrt{\pi} \left( \frac{r_0}{\sigma_r} \sqrt{\frac{m_b}{4\pi n_b e^2}} \right) \ll \lambda_p / c$$

## Proton driven plasma wakefield accelerator

- ▶  $p^+$  plasma wake similar to  $e^+$
- ▶ beam loading is also identical
- ▶ requires  $p^+$  bunches shorter than  $c/\omega_p$



LG lasers have doughnut

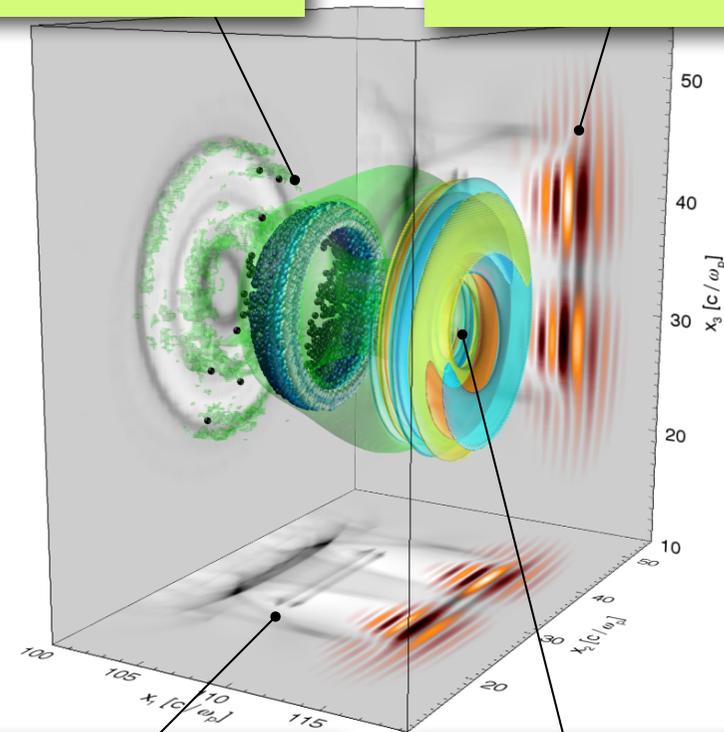


$$a_r(r) = c_{l,p} \left( \frac{r}{w_0} \right)^{|l|} \exp \left( - \right)$$

LG lasers drive doughnut plasma waves

**hollow electron bunch**

**Laguerre-Gaussian laser**



**doughnut plasma wave**

**positrons can accelerate here**

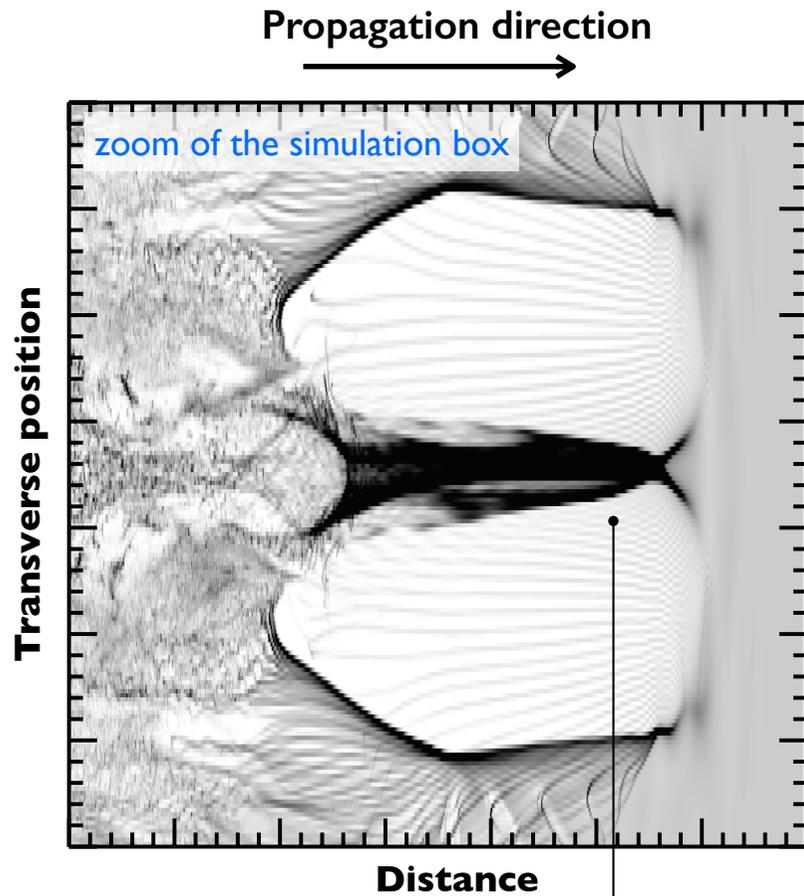
J.Vieira and J.T. Mendonça PRL **112**, 215001 (2014)

# Three dimensional simulations confirm positron acceleration mechanism in strongly non-linear regimes



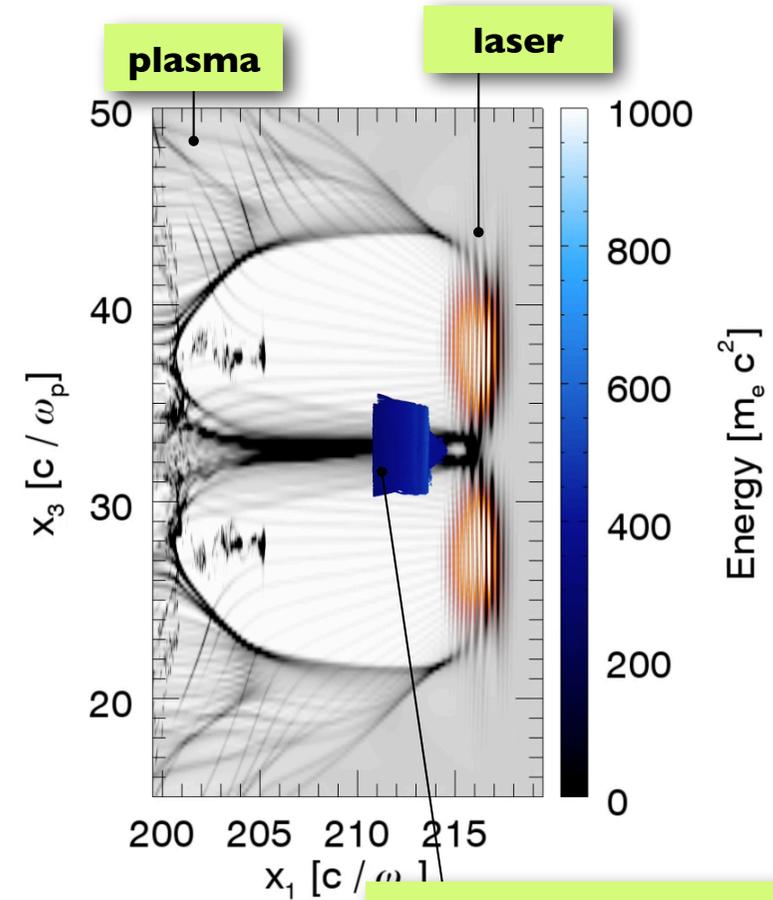
J.Vieira and J.T.Mendonça PRL **112**, 215001 (2014)

## Onset of positron focusing and acceleration



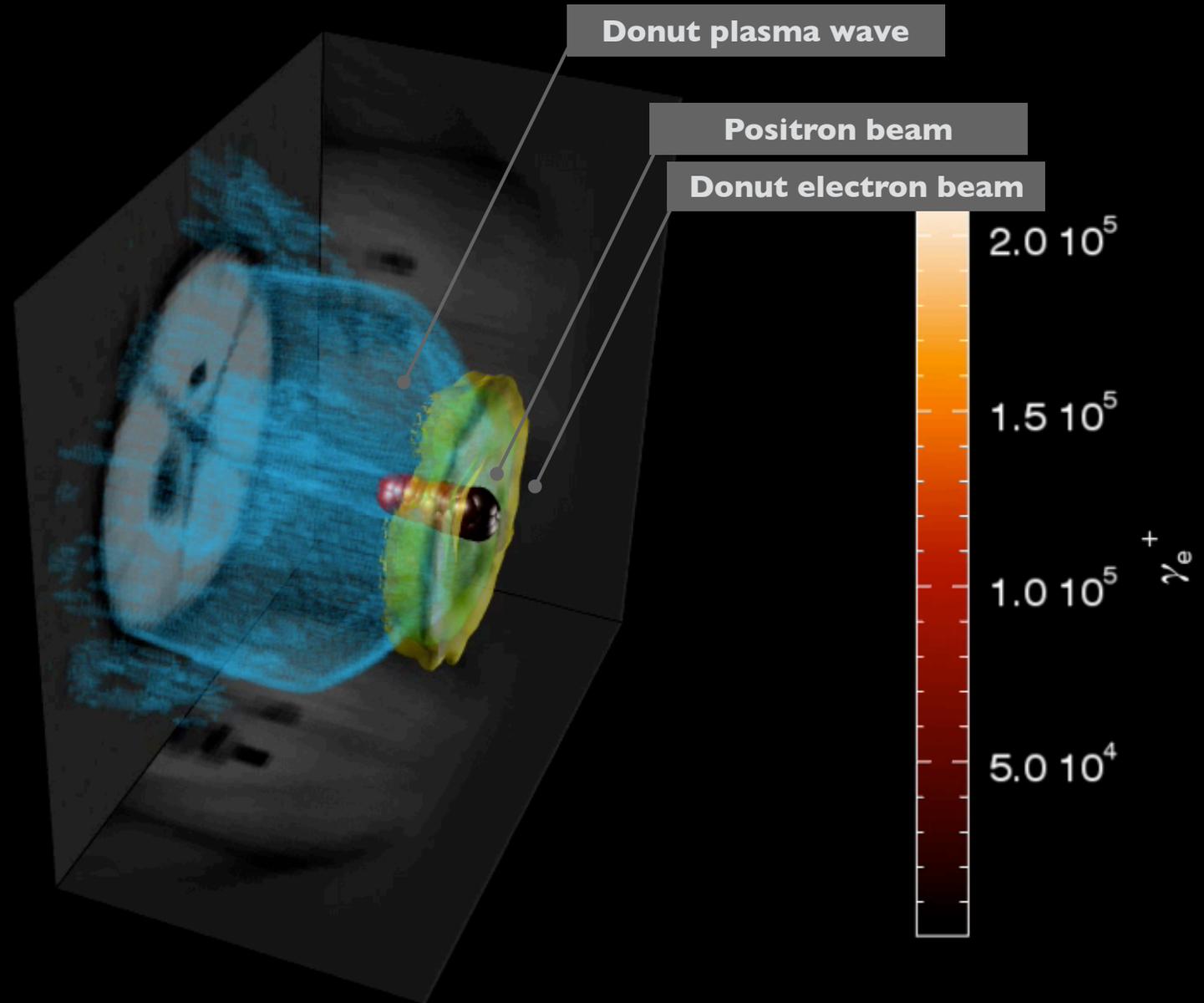
Plasma electrons merge on-axis providing positron focusing

## Demonstration of positron acceleration



focused+accelerated positrons

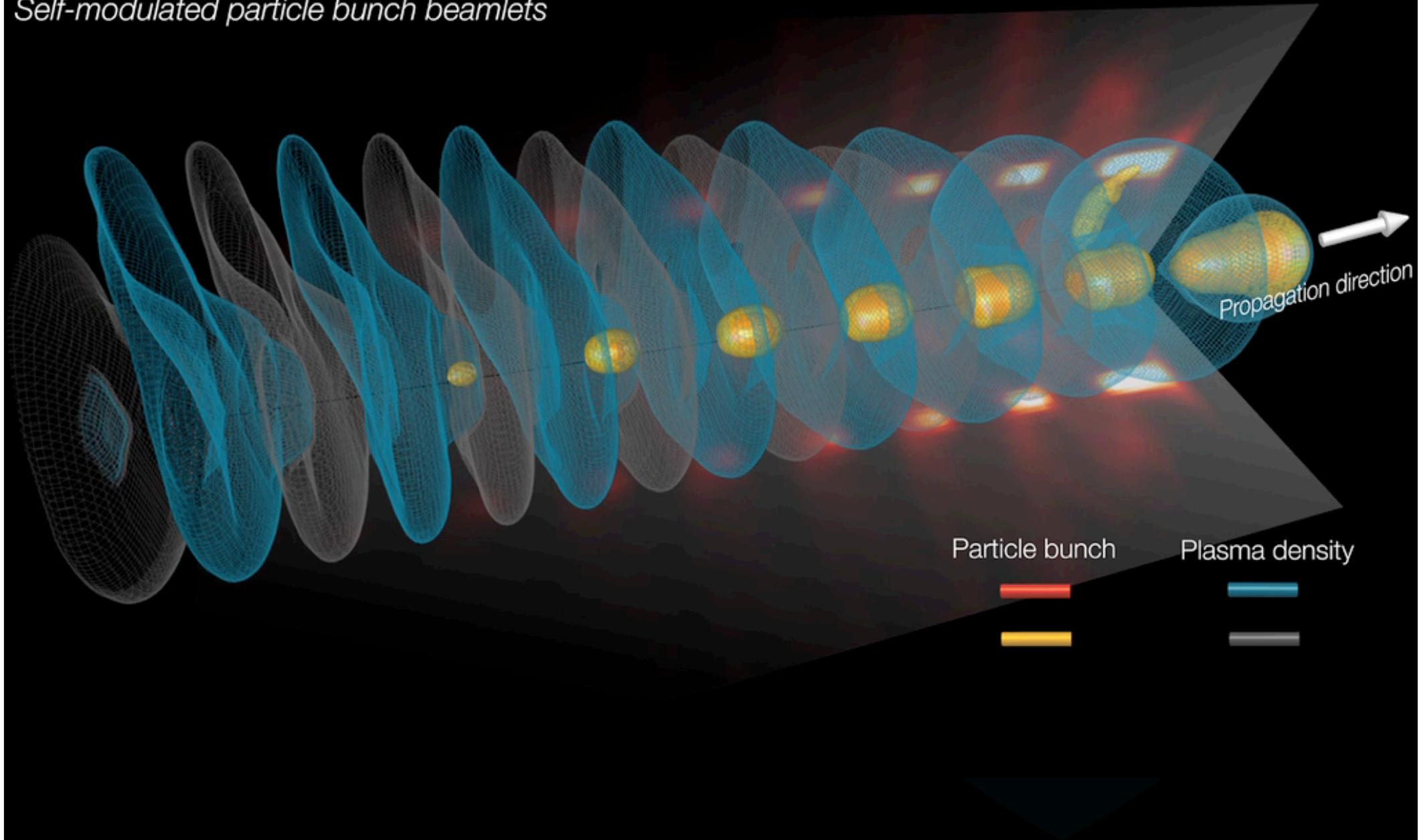
# Positron acceleration using SLAC type ring electron bunches



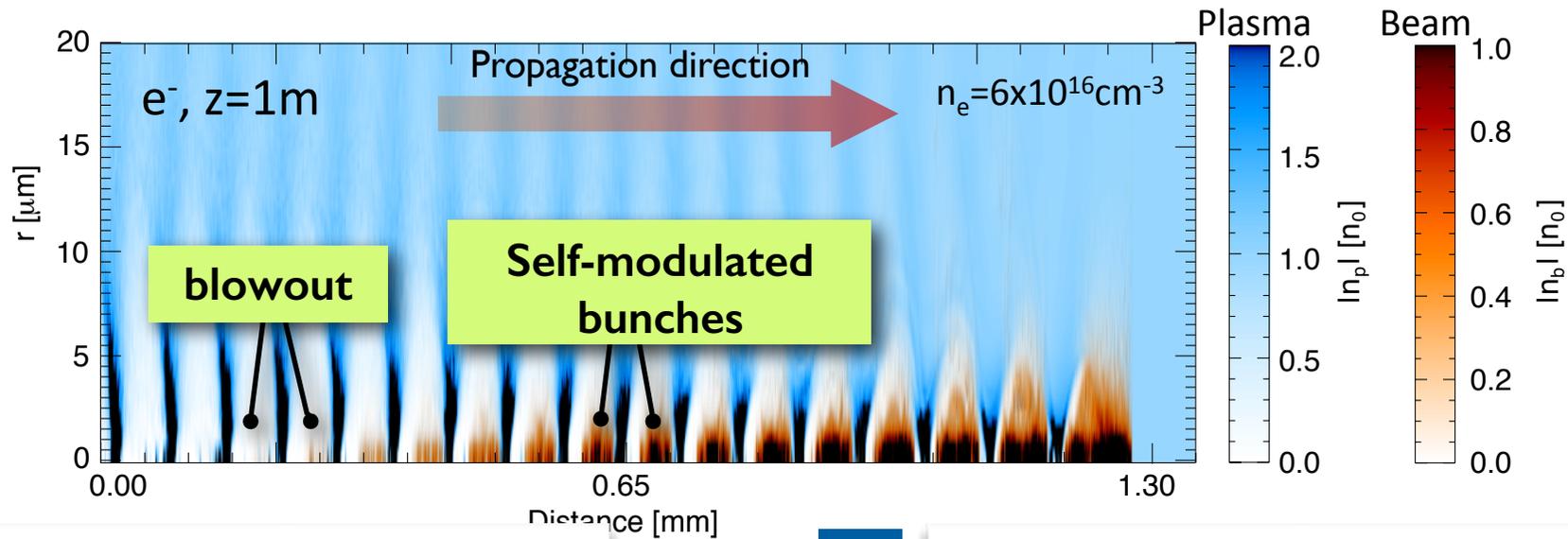
# What about long beams?



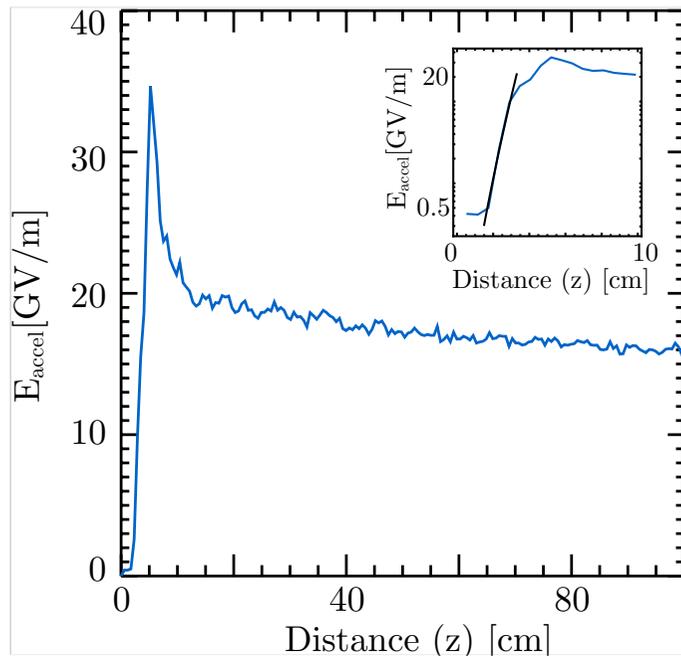
*Self-modulated particle bunch beamlets*



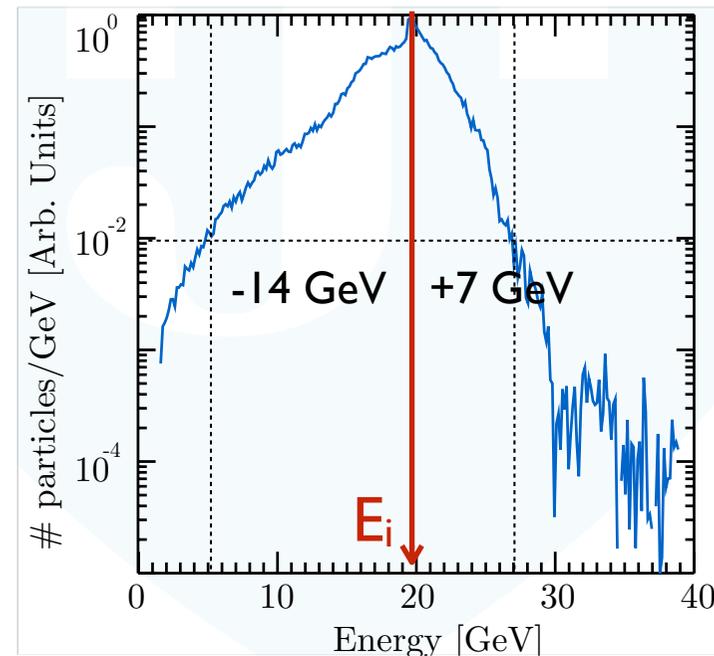
# The self-modulation may drive plasma wakefields in the blowout



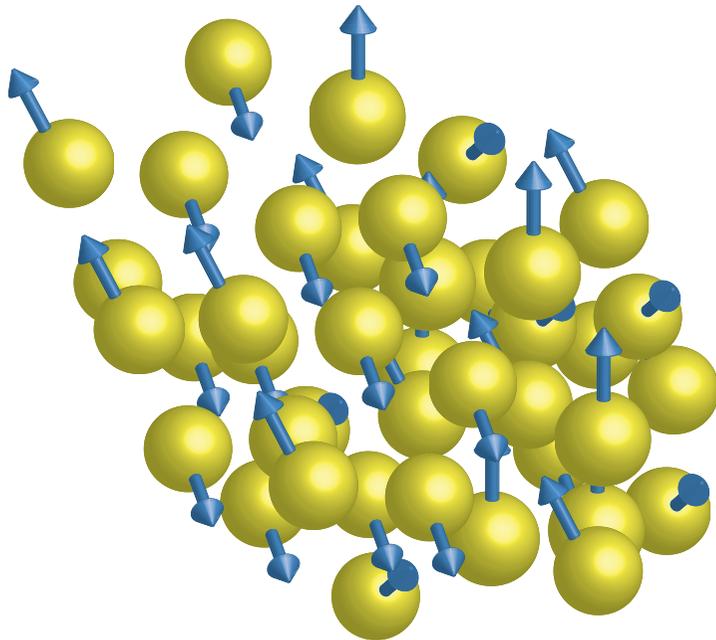
20 GeV/m after 10 cm



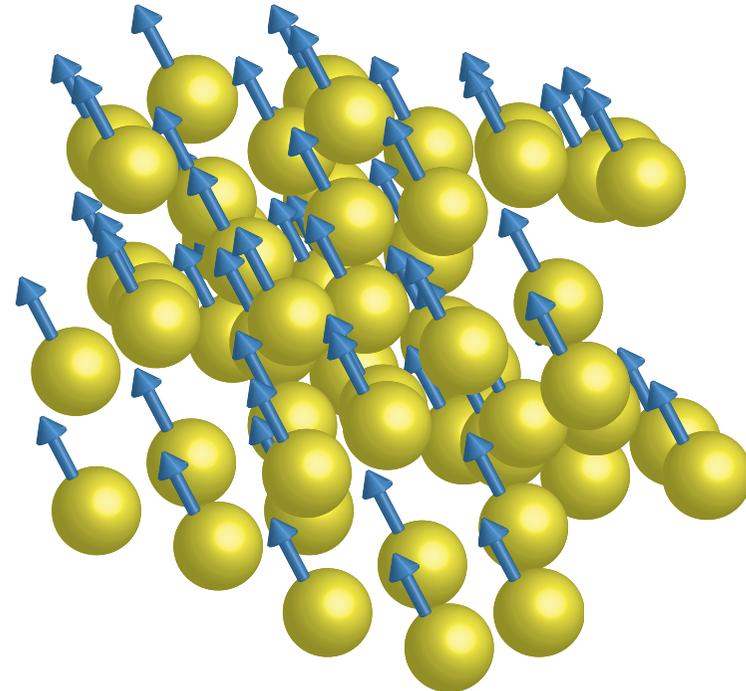
10 GeV @ 1% energy level



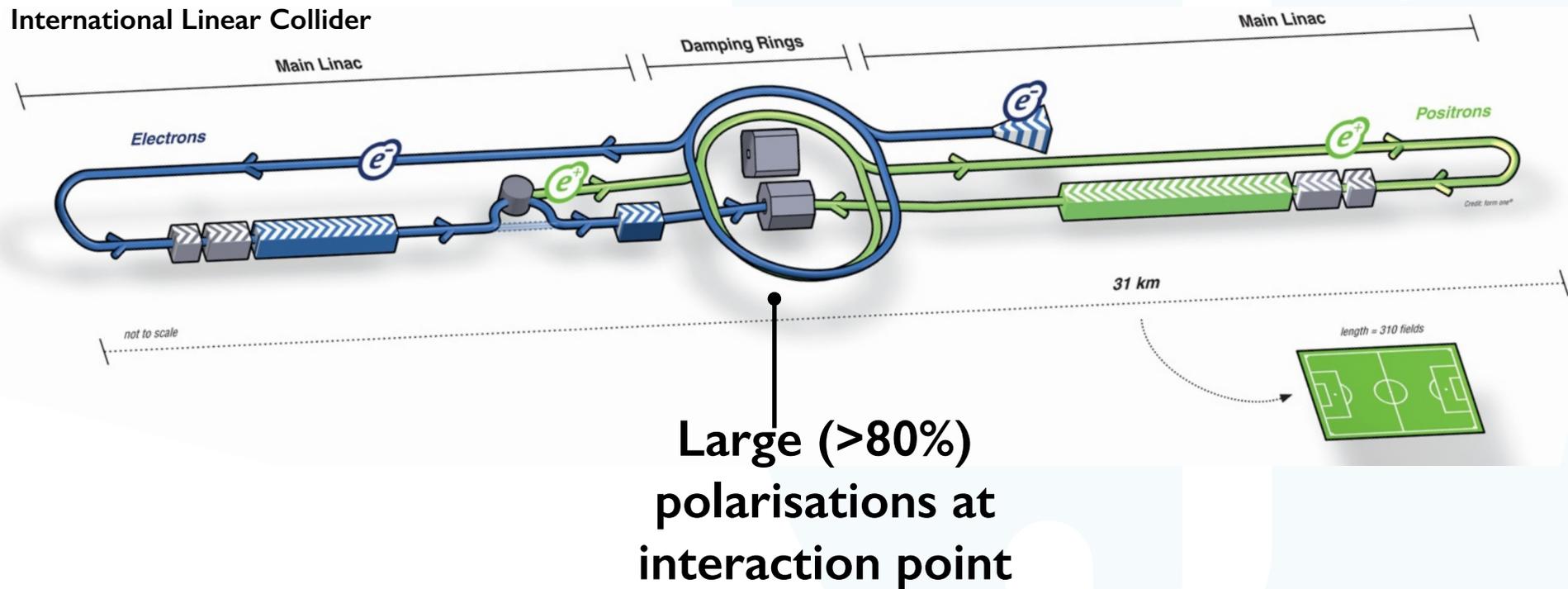
## Un-polarized beam



## Polarized beam



**Beam polarization is the average spin vector including the contributions from all beam particles**



## Relativistic spin-precession equation

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = - \left[ \left( a + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) (\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{E}) - \mathbf{v} \frac{a\gamma}{\gamma + 1} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{B} \right] \times \mathbf{s} = \boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{s}.$$

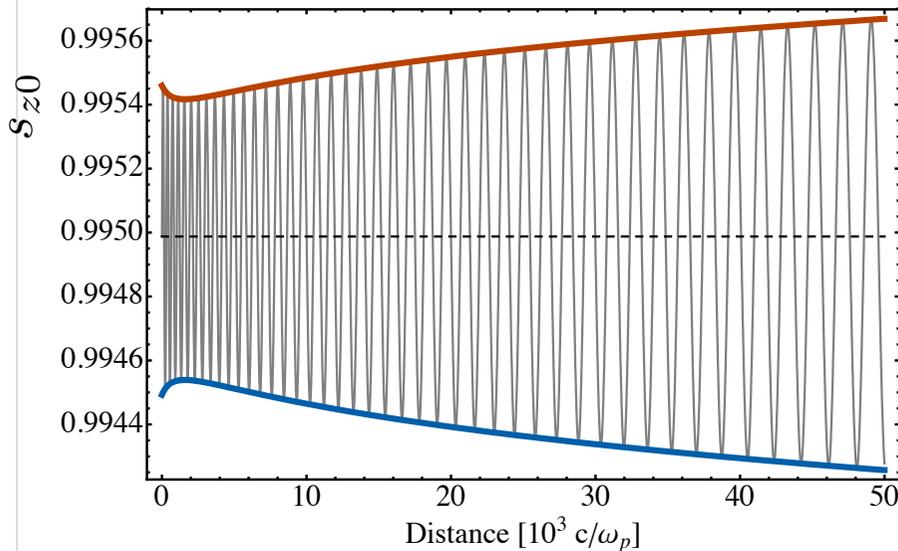
Can plasmas provide polarised beam sources?

# Spin precession is very small in plasma waves in the blowout regime



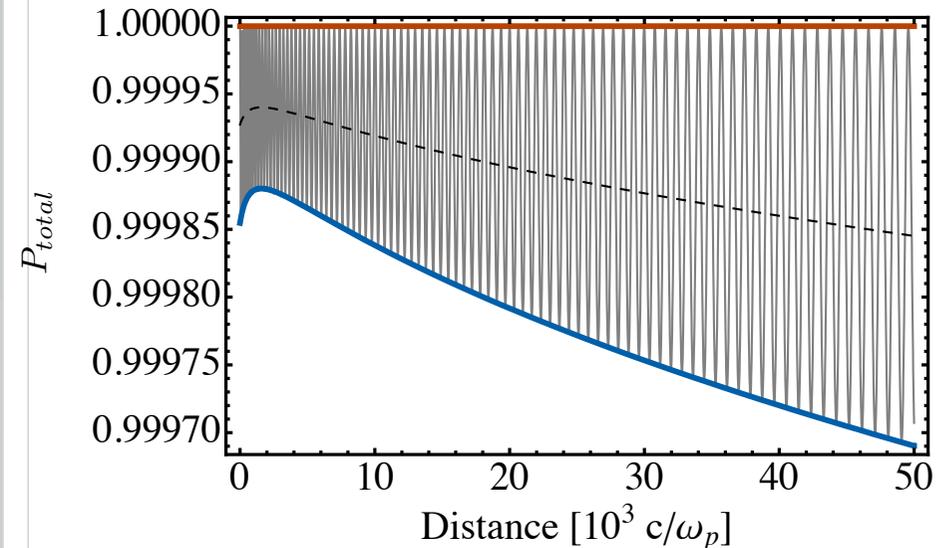
$$s_z(t) = \sqrt{1 - s_{\phi 0}^2} \sin \left[ \int_0^t \left( a + \frac{1}{\gamma} \right) F_r dt + \arctan \left( \frac{s_{z0}}{s_{\phi 0}} \right) \right] \ll 1$$

## Single electron



The **individual beam particle spin variations are very small** even for the standards to conventional accelerators

## Electron beam - Polarization



The total beam polarisation variations **are also very small and are on the order 0.01 % for very high accelerations**

## **Motivation**

Plasmas waves are multidimensional

## **Blowout regime**

Phenomenological model

## **Theory for blowout**

Field structure and beam loading

## **Challenges**

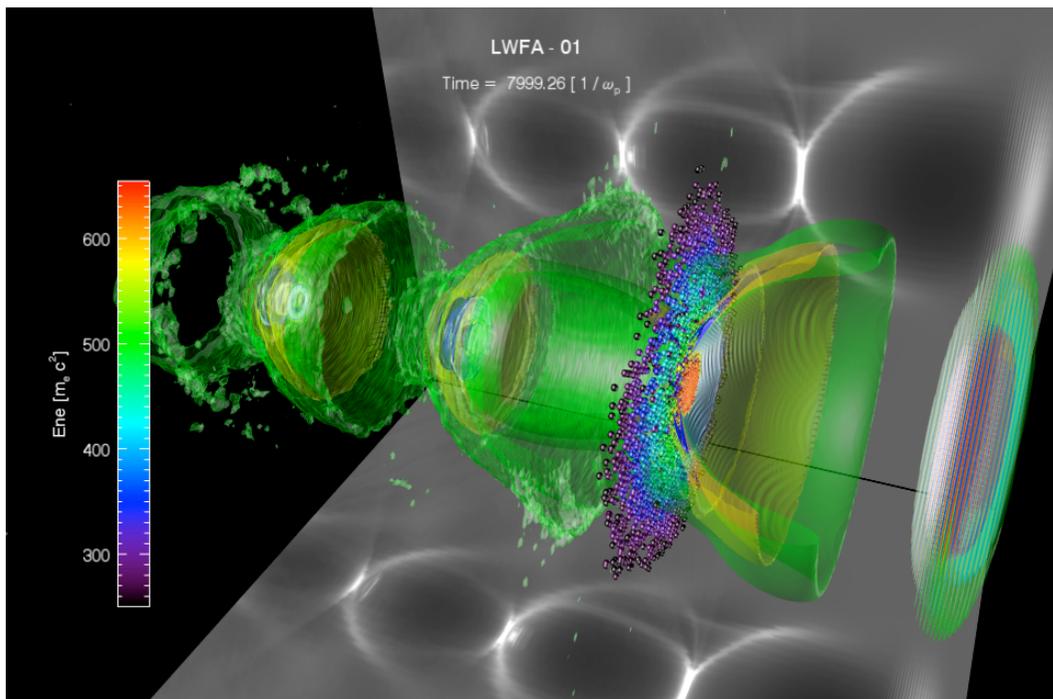
Positron acceleration, long beams, polarized beams

## **Summary**

# Summary and take home messages

**Plasma waves are intrinsically nonlinear  
(even when driven in the linear regime!)**

**Blowout regime suitable for  
electron acceleration**



## Challenges

**Blowout/suck-in theory for  
more complex drivers (e.g.  
positrons/protons, ring drivers)**

**Positron acceleration in the  
blowout regime**

**Reduced models to capture self-  
injection**