

Experiments towards high-repetition-rate plasma-wakefield acceleration

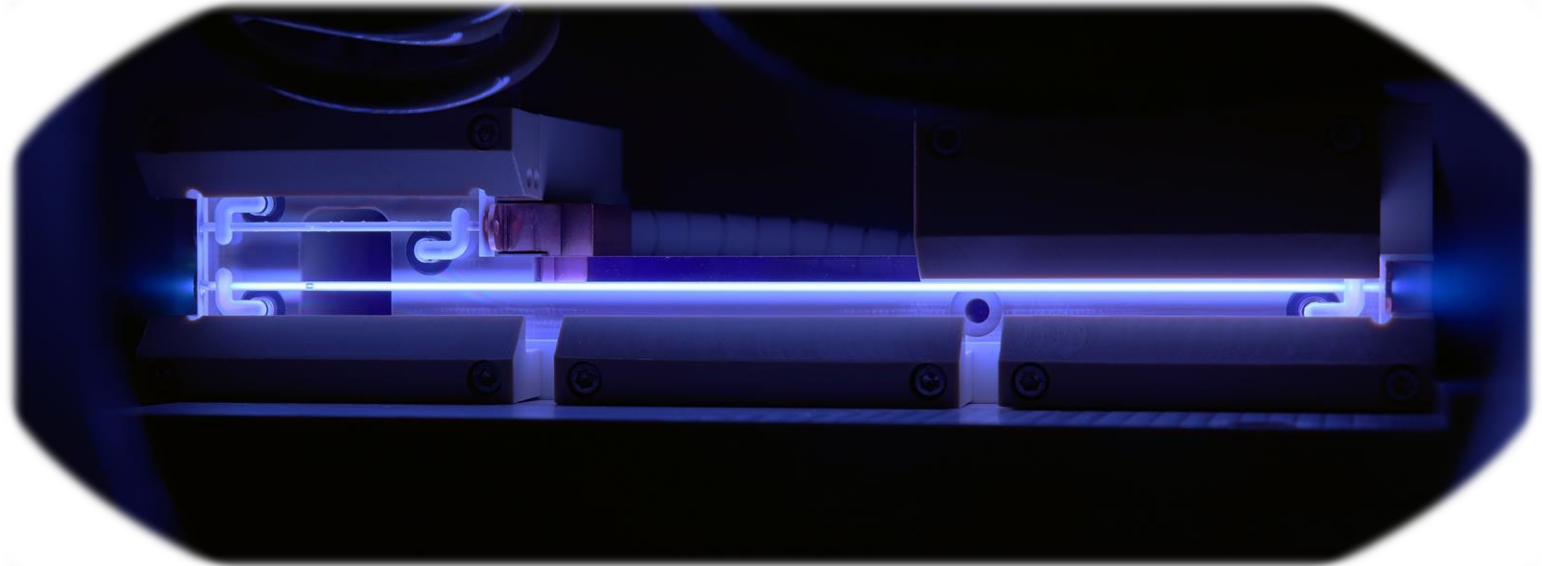
First experimental results on
fundamental repetition rate limits
at FLASHForward

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IPAC 2022

Bangkok, 13.06.2022

HELMHOLTZ RESEARCH FOR
GRAND CHALLENGES

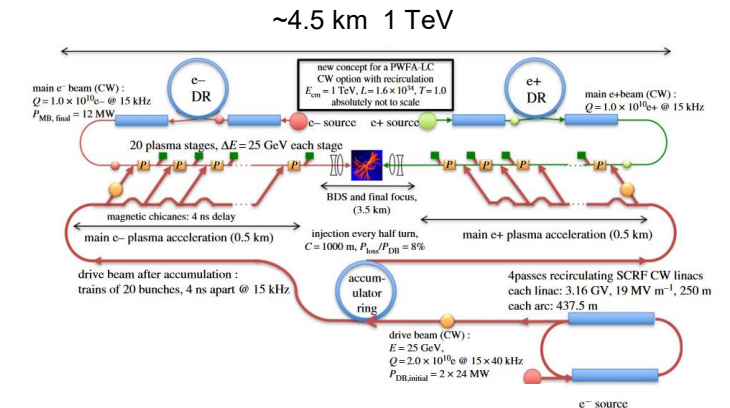
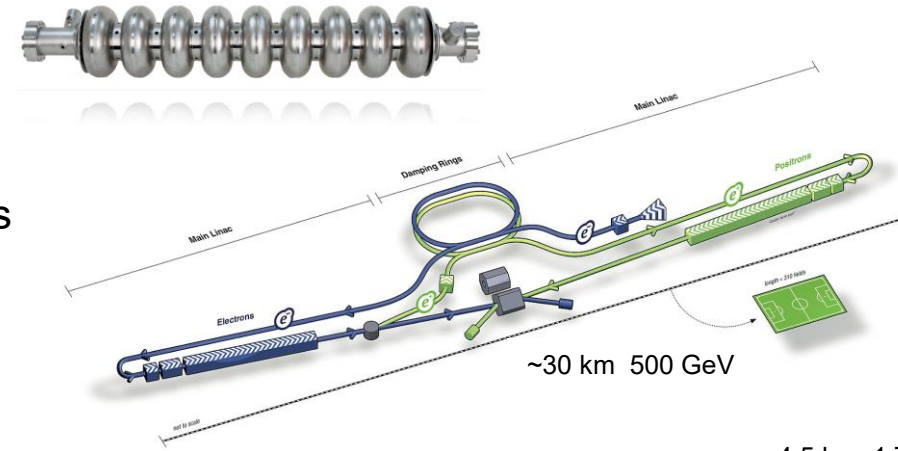
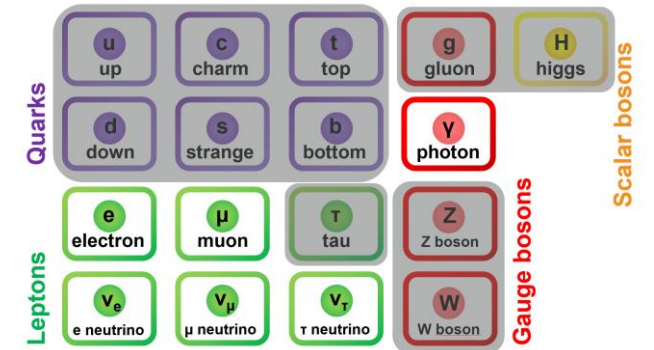


Accelerators – an enabling technology...

...with limits

- ▶ Accelerators are a story of success
 - ▶ Enabled the establishment of standard model, ...
 - ▶ Key tools in High-energy physics, Life sciences, Material sciences, Medical treatment, ...
 - ▶ Supporting increasing number of industrial applications
- ▶ Radiofrequency cavities core technology of current machines
- ▶ Accelerating gradient in metal cavities limited
 - Large scale facilities
 - Future linear colliders 10's of km size

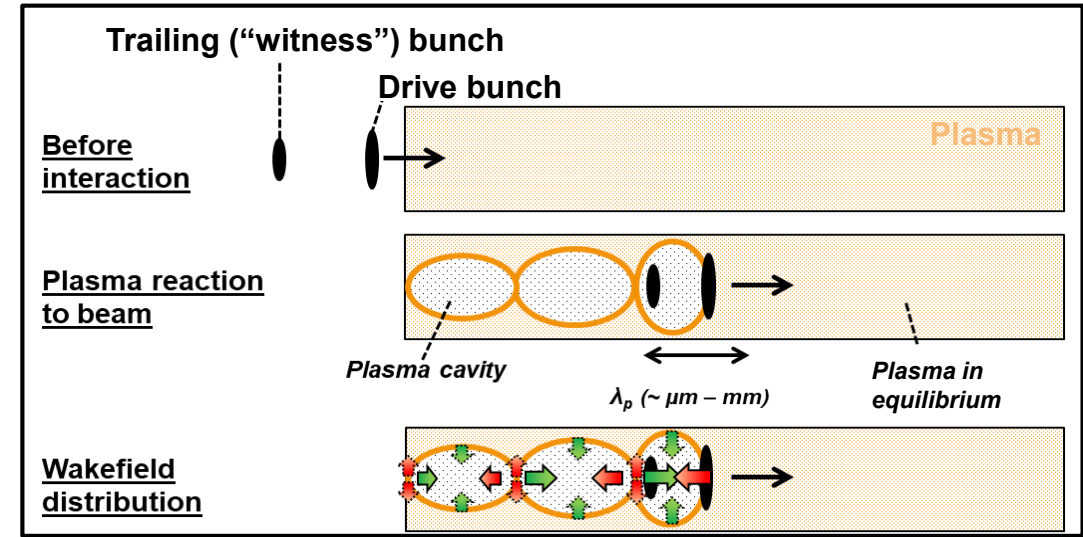
→ Can we advance accelerators beyond current limits?



Plasma-wakefield acceleration (PWFA)

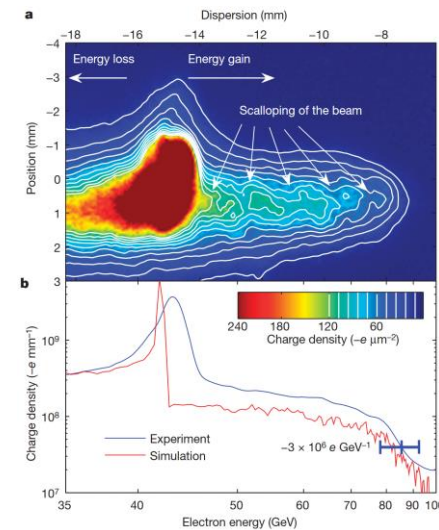
General introduction and state of the art

- ▶ Excitation of electron density oscillation in plasma by a particle bunch
- ▶ Charge separation → electrical fields
- ▶ Trailing bunch gains energy in wakefields

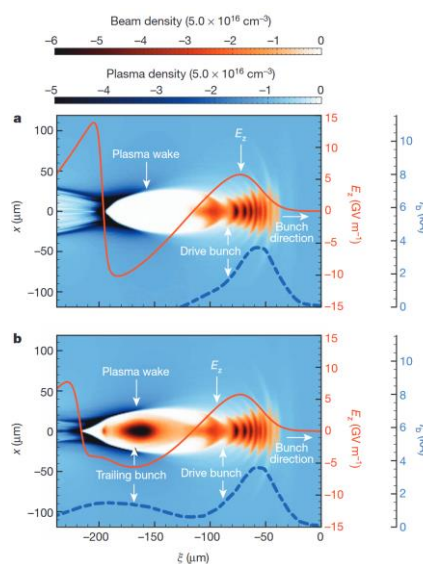


- ▶ Gradients ≤ 52 GV/m demonstrated
- ▶ Energy spread preservation demonstrated
- ▶ Experiments towards emittance preservation ongoing

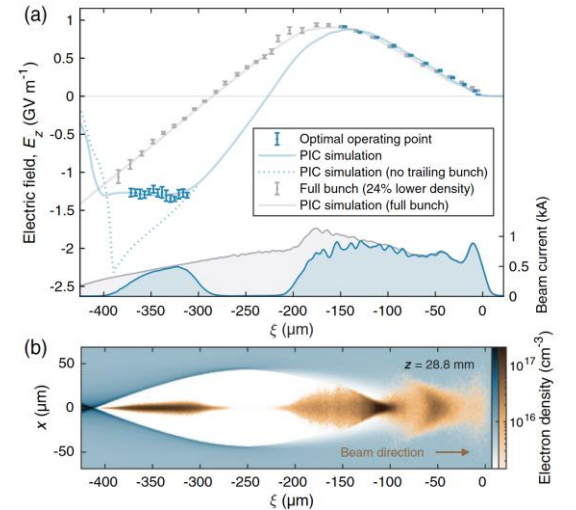
I. Blumenfeld *et al.*, Nature **445**, 741 (2007)
High gradient acceleration



M. Litos *et al.*, Nature **515**, 92 (2014)
High instantaneous efficiency



C. Lindström *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **126**, 014801 (2021)
High instantaneous efficiency + energy spread preserved

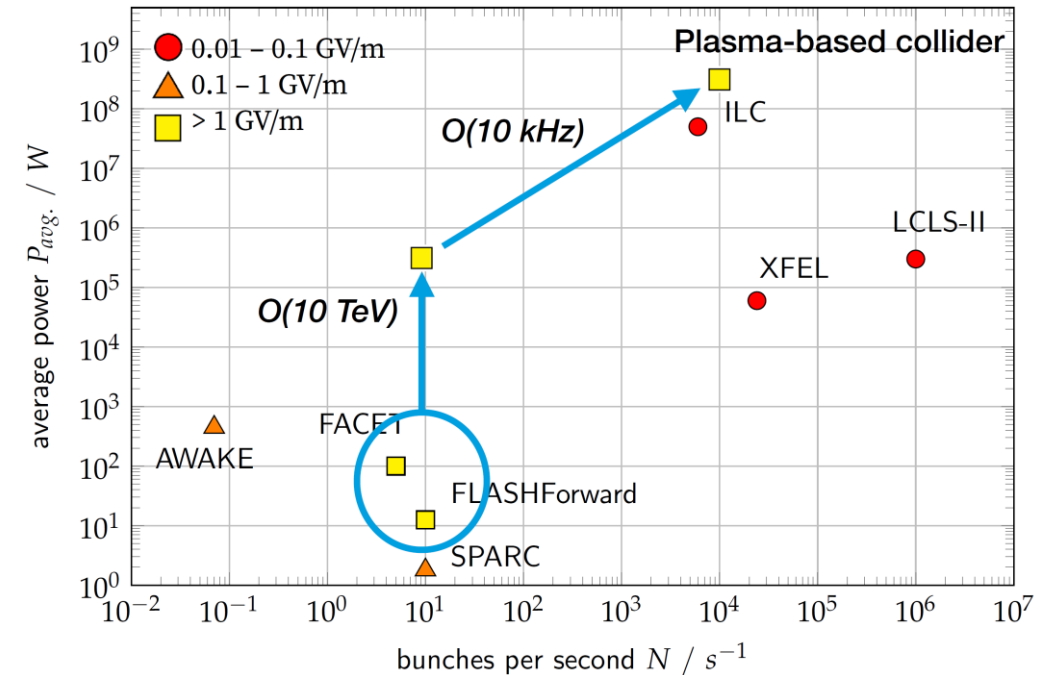


Applications and high repetition rates

Experimental demands in HEP and photon science

- ▶ Two main fields of application for PWFA
 - ▶ **High-energy physics** machines
 - ▶ Soft/hard X-ray **free-electron lasers**
- luminosity and (int.) brightness **require high average power**, i.e., many bunches/sec
- ▶ Various bunch patterns used in conventional machines
 - ▶ *< ~100Hz CW* (LCLS I, SwissFEL, SACLA, PAL FEL, ...)
 - ▶ *MHz burst @ 5-10 Hz* (Eu XFEL, FLASH, ILC)
 - ▶ *GHz bursts @ 50 Hz* (CLIC)
 - ▶ *MHz CW* (LCLS II, Eu XFEL)

→ Advance PWFA from **O(Hz)** → **O(kHz / MHz)** !?

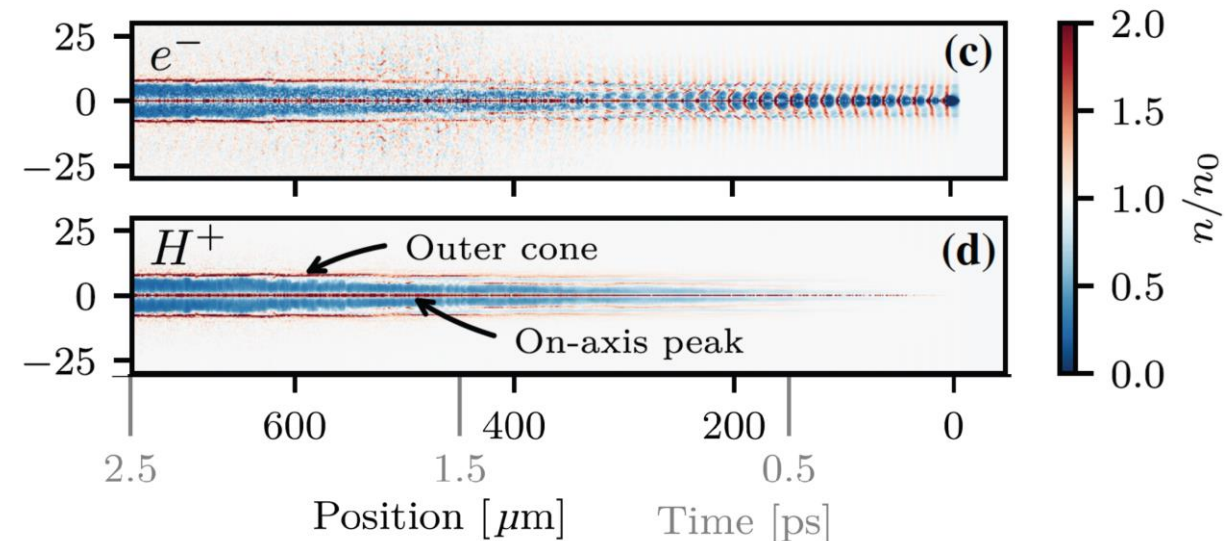


Fundamental limits for high-repetition-rate PWFA

Identifying possible operation modes

- ▶ Various constraints yet unknown
 - ▶ *Reset of plasma source* → Train repetition rate
 - ▶ *Plasma stability / heat accumulation / heat load on plasma source* → Bunch train length
 - ▶ **Plasma recovery** → Fastest repetition rate
- ▶ Electron redistribution to equilibrium $\sim \text{few } 1/\omega_{pe}$
- ▶ Plasma-ion & electron redistribution?
- ▶ Ion motion measured
→ how long is plasma affected?

Source: M.F. Gilljohann *et al.*, Phys. Rev. X **9**, 011046 (2019)

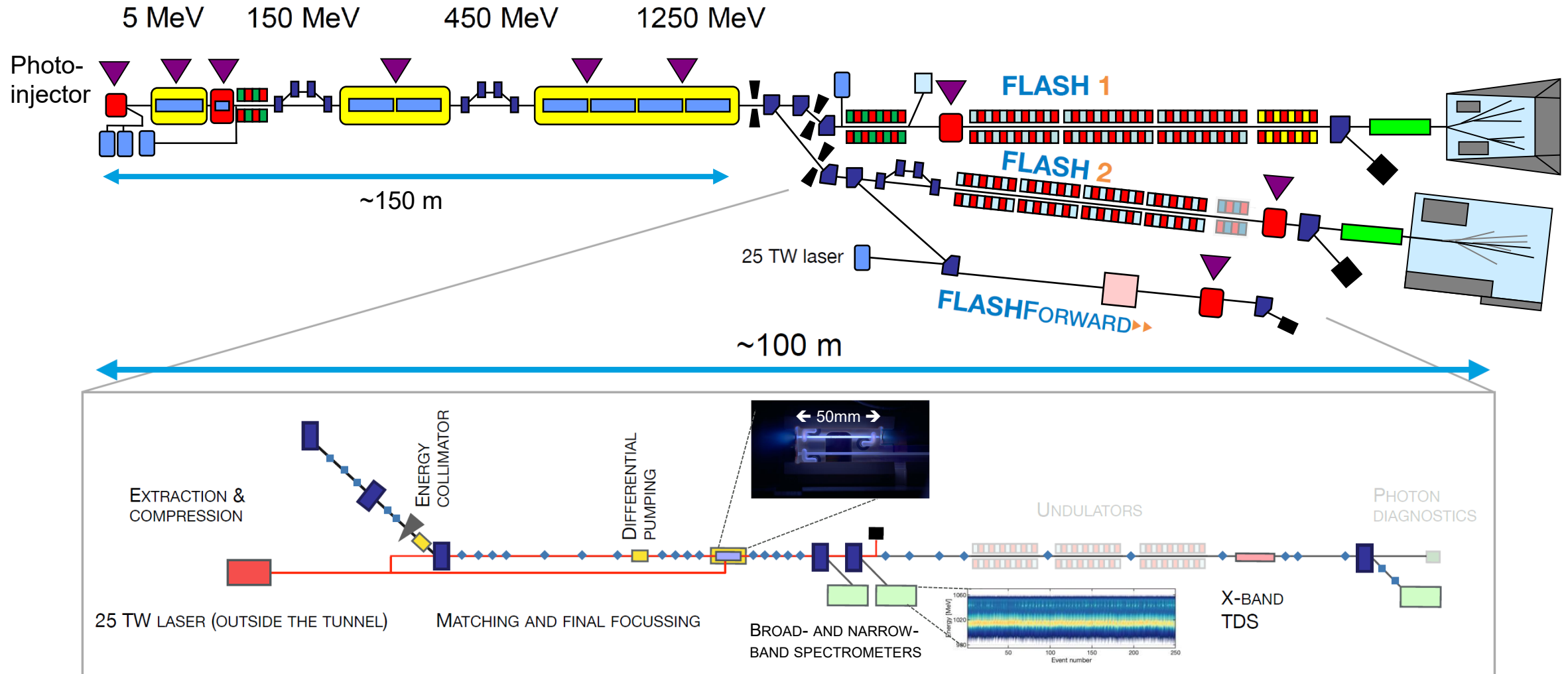


The FLASHForward facility

PWFA at the FLASH FEL drive linac

ACC → SCRF modules
BC → Bunch compressors

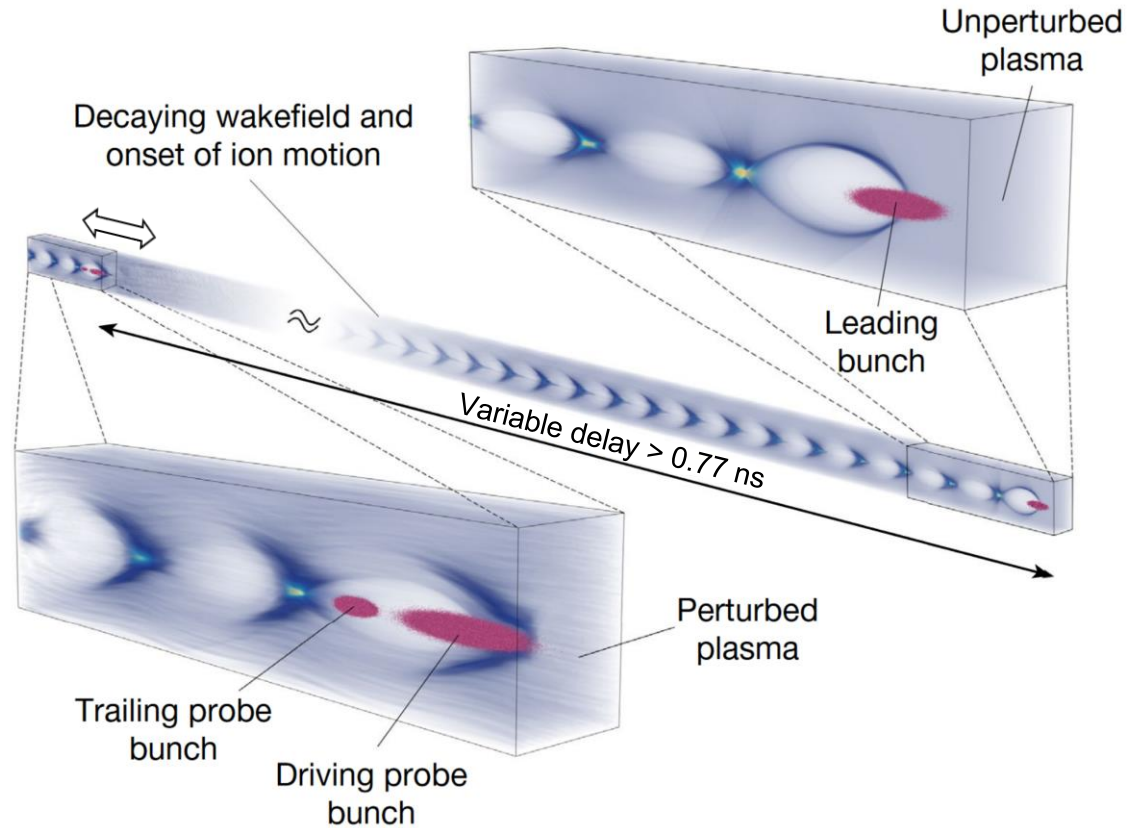
Poster WEPOST033
S. Schröder *et al.*
Wednesday 16:20-18:20



Plasma recovery experiment at FLASHForward

Probing perturbed plasma time evolution

- ▶ 2 independent bunches from linac
 - ▶ 1st bunch directly to plasma
 - ▶ 2nd bunch collimated into driver/trailing pair
 - ▶ Separation tunable in 0.77 ns steps ($\rightarrow < 800 \mu\text{s}$)
- ▶ 1st bunch drives wake / perturbs plasma
- ▶ 2nd bunch pair probes evolution
- ▶ Can vary exp. conditions
 - ▶ Gas species
 - ▶ Plasma density
 - ▶ Bunch charge/current

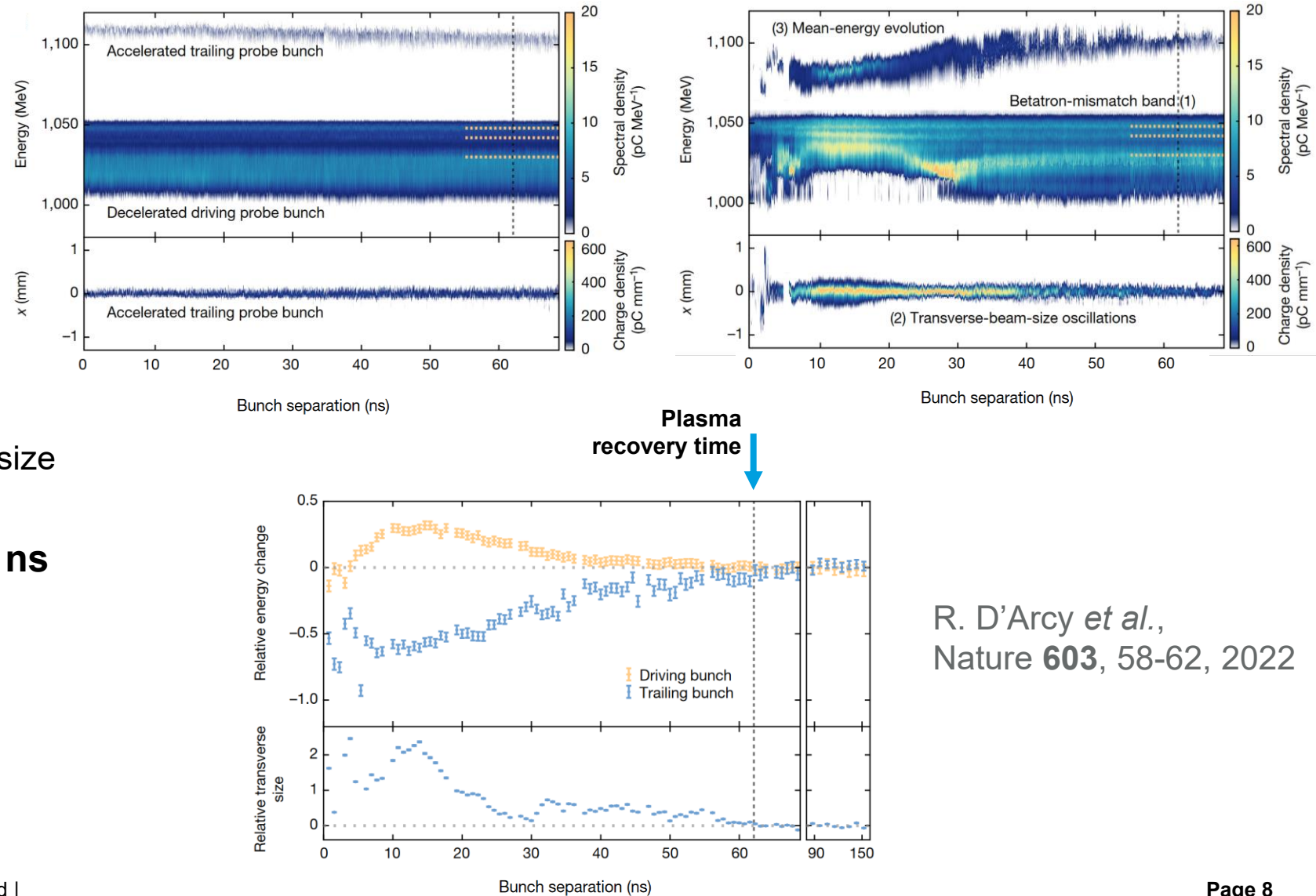


R. D'Arcy *et al.*,
Nature **603**, 58-62, 2022

Plasma recovery time

First measurement of evolution time of plasma perturbation

- ▶ Compare perturbed & unperturbed cases
- ▶ Compensate plasma density evolution
- ▶ Observed evolution of
 - ▶ Trailing probe bunch energy
 - ▶ Trailing probe bunch transverse size
- ▶ Measured **recovery time of 63 ns**
 - ▶ Argon plasma
 - ▶ Initial density $1.75 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - ▶ 1.5 kA bunch perturbing plasma

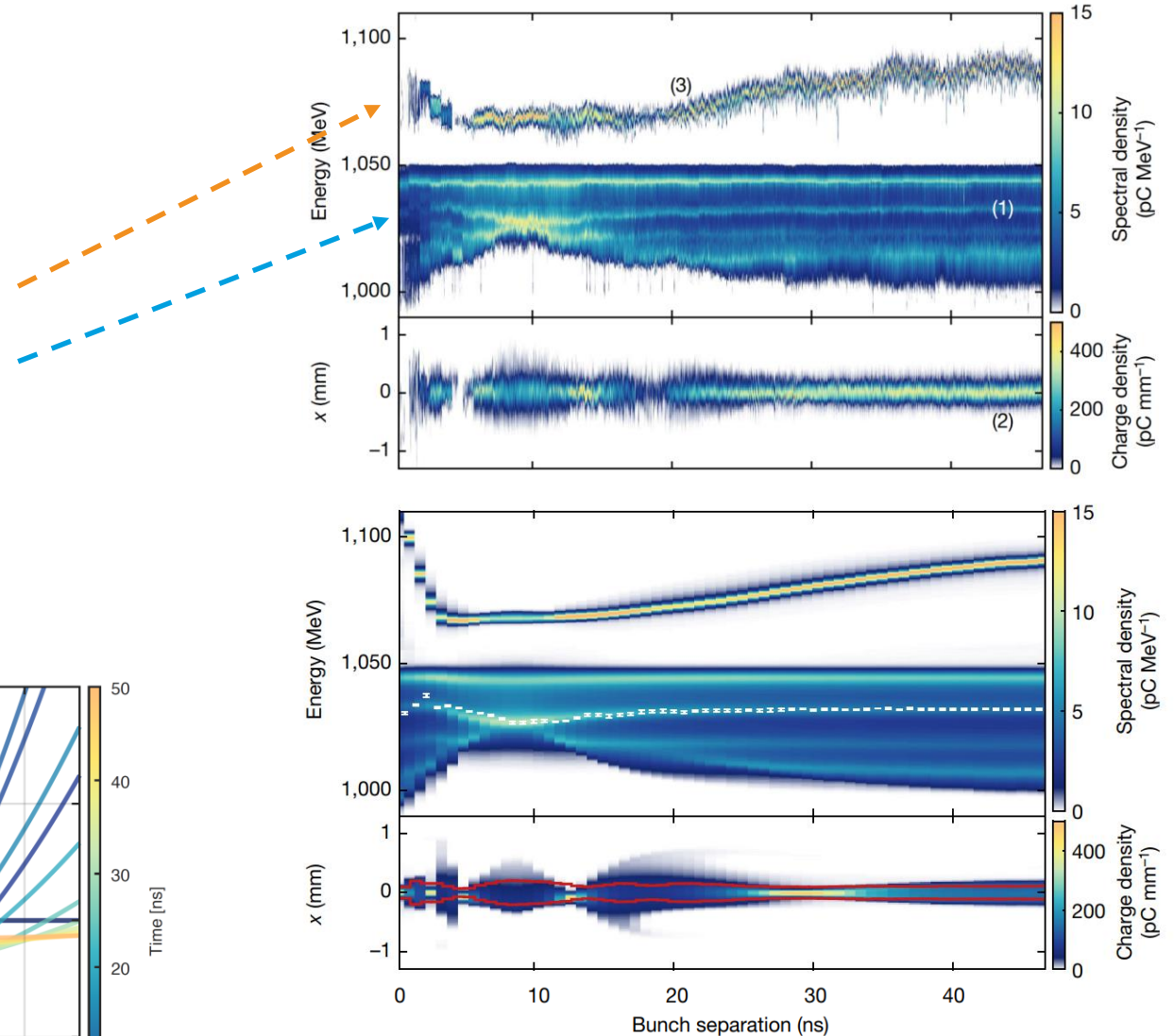
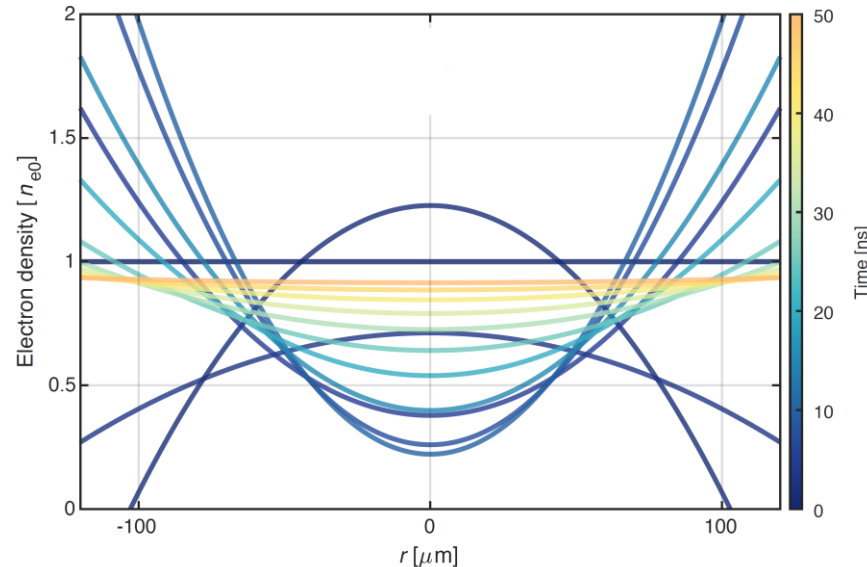


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Modeling of plasma recovery

Understanding the measured beam evolution

- ▶ Deduce transverse plasma properties from
 - ▶ Probe witness beam energy gain (\rightarrow on-axis density)
 - ▶ Focal lines of beam (\rightarrow transverse density curvature)
- ▶ Measurements reproduced well in simulation
- ▶ Plasma channel w/ shape evolving over 63 ns

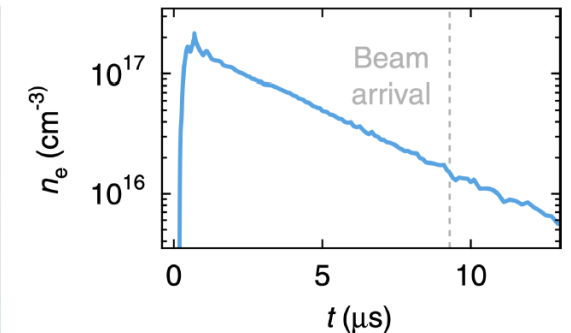
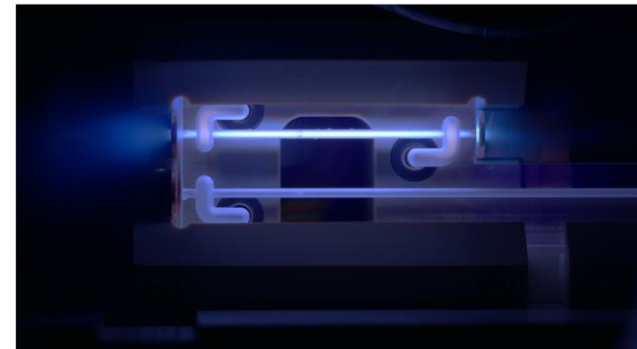
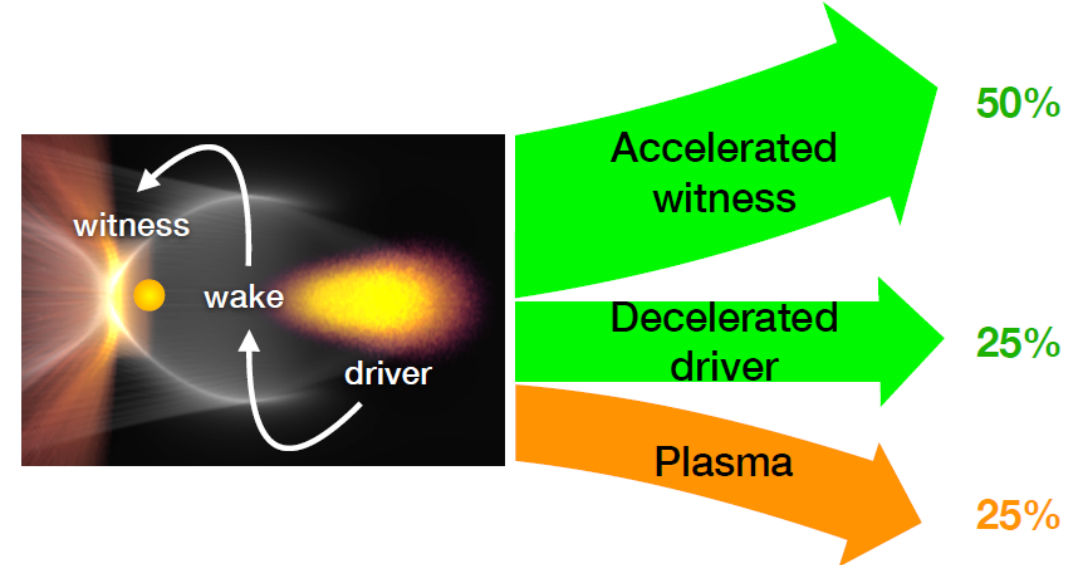


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Plasma recovery in the bigger context

Next hurdles towards high average power PWFA

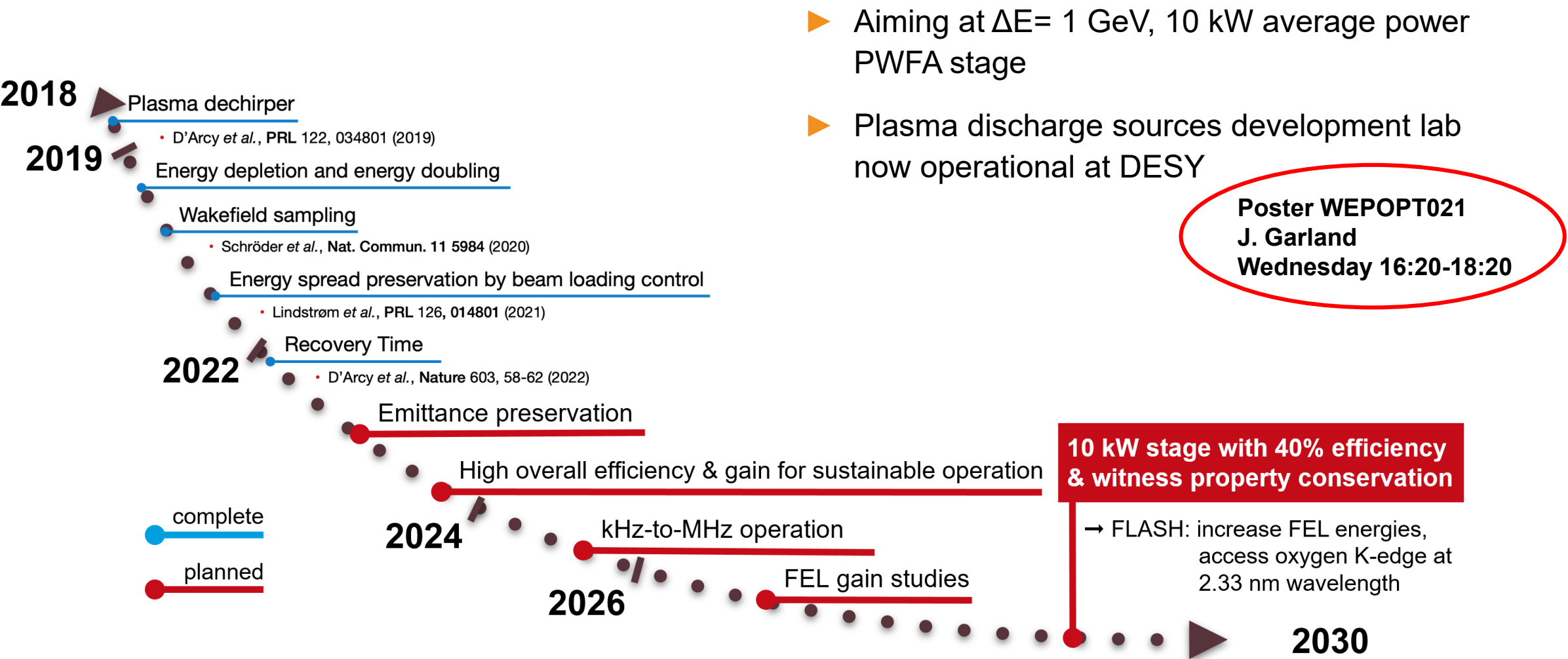
- ▶ Measured recovery time allows repetition rate of $O(10 \text{ MHz})$
→ $O(1 \text{ MHz})$ operation mode of various machines
- ▶ Various physics issues to tackle
 - ▶ Further understanding of dependencies of recovery
 - ▶ Supply of similar plasma media at MHz
 - ▶ Source technology?
 - ▶ Containment of plasma/gas?
 - ▶ Target PWFA efficiency $\sim 50\%$
→ manage/remove excess heat from plasma source



J.M. Garland *et al.*, Rev. Sci. Instrum. **92** 013505 (2021)

FLASHForward roadmap

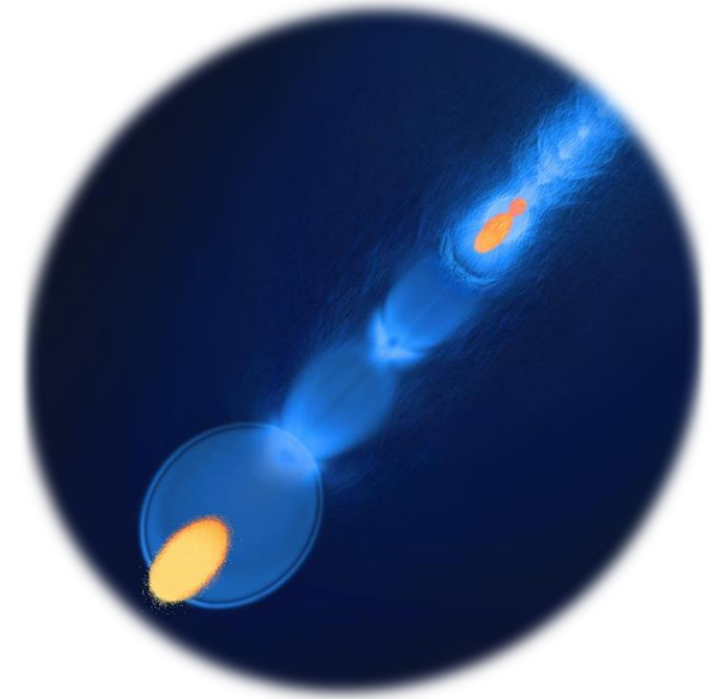
Path towards demonstration of a ready-to-use PWFA stage



Summary & Outlook

Status and prospects

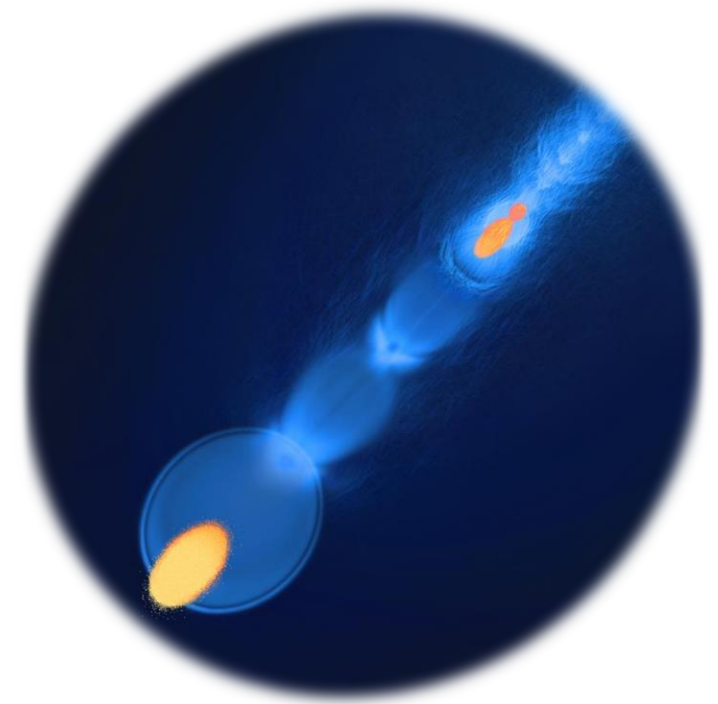
- ▶ **First measurement of fundamental repetition rate limit** in a PWFA
→ Repetition rates of $\mathcal{O}(10 \text{ MHz})$ in principle possible
 - ▶ FLASH provides ideal conditions for these studies
 - ▶ **Further studies** on repetition rate limiting effects commencing
 - ▶ **Parameter dependencies** of ion motion limits
 - ▶ **Bunch train stability**
 - ▶ **Plasma sources**
 - ▶ **Beam induced effects on longer time scales**
- ➔ **FLASHForward now in full motion towards high-average-power PWFA!**



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- ▶ **First measurement of fundamental repetition rate limit** in a PWFA
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***Thank you for
your
attention!***

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Contact

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Elektronen-Synchrotron

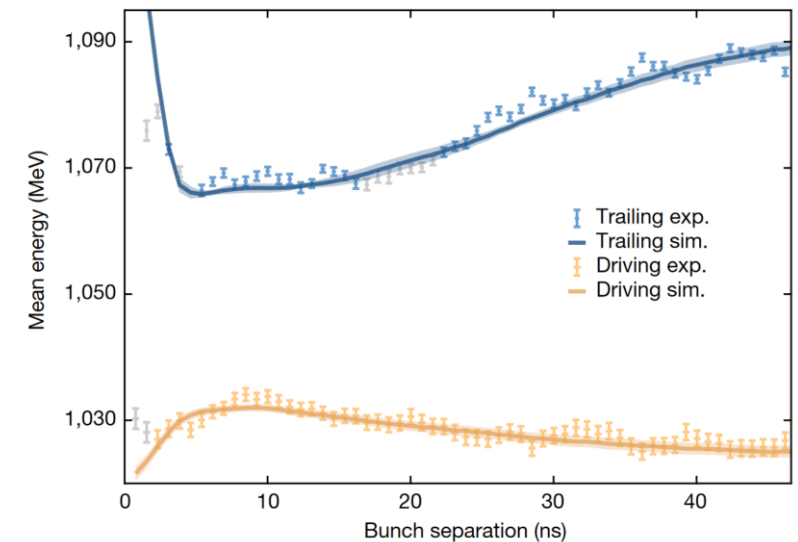
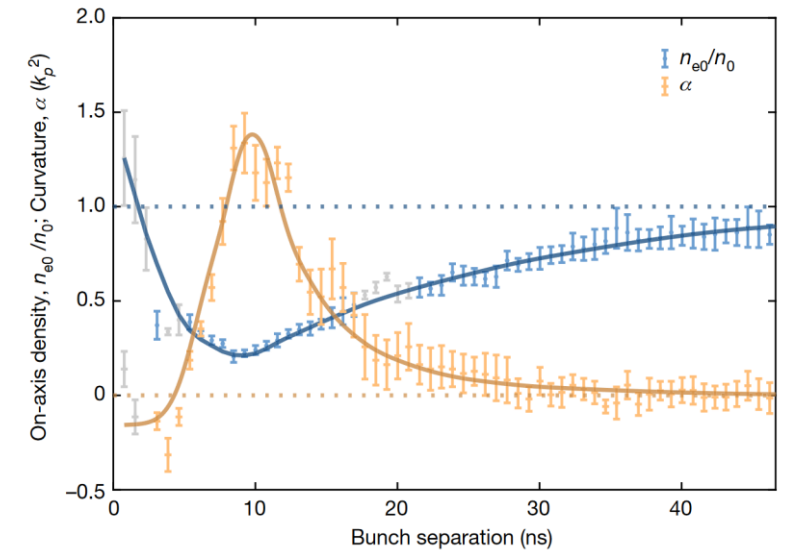
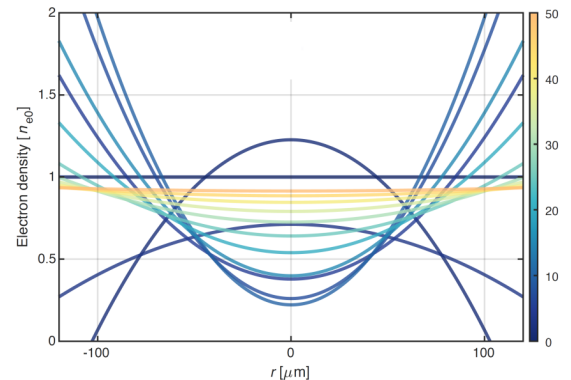
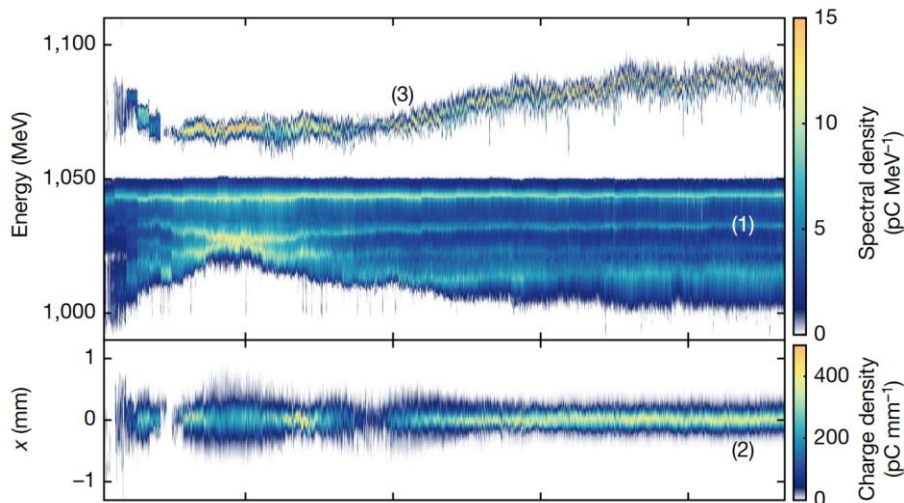
www.desy.de

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Modeling of plasma recovery

Understanding the measured beam evolution

- ▶ Deduce transverse plasma properties from
 - ▶ Focal lines of beam (\rightarrow transverse density curvature)
 - ▶ Probe witness beam energy gain (\rightarrow on-axis density)
- ▶ Very good agreement w/ simulations
- ▶ On-axis density spike evolving into “hollow” channel



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Nature **603**, 58-62, 2022