

# Physics considerations for laser-plasma linear colliders

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C.G.R. Geddes

# P5 report recommends effort towards development of 10 TeV pCM collider and encourages development of self-consistent design for a wakefield-based collider.

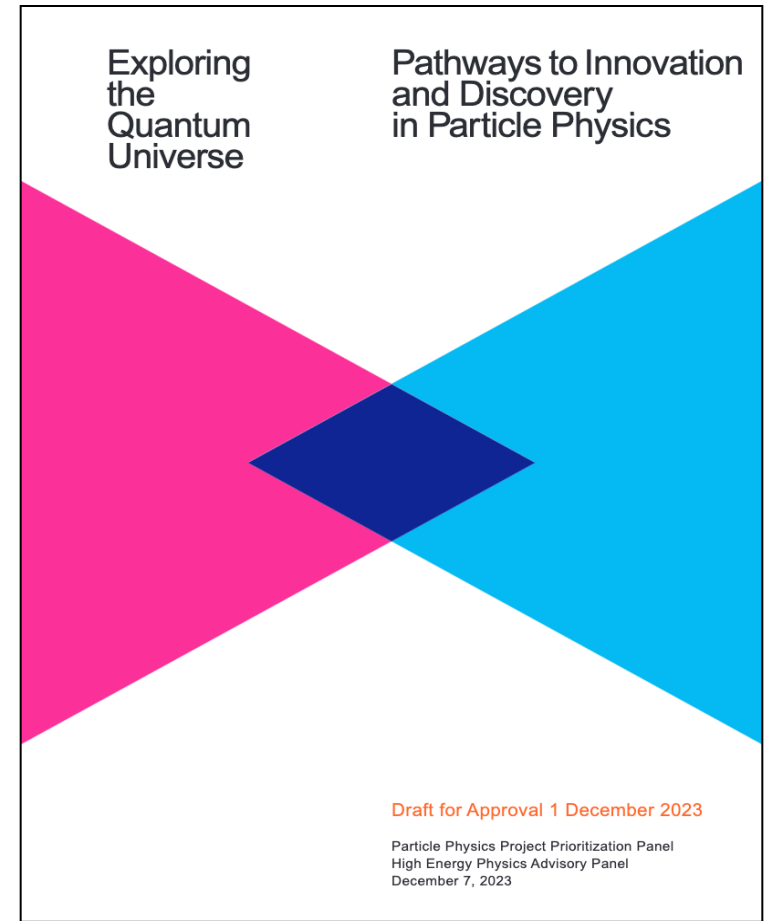
“Recommendation 4: **Support** a comprehensive **effort** to develop the resources - theoretical, computational, and technological — essential to our 20-year vision for the field. This includes an **aggressive R&D program** that, while technologically challenging, could yield revolutionary accelerator designs that **chart a realistic path to a 10 TeV pCM collider.**”

“Parallel to the R&D for a Higgs factory, **the US R&D effort should develop a 10 TeV pCM collider**, such as a muon collider, a proton collider, or **possibly** an electron-positron collider **based on wakefield technology.**”

## → Challenges with all technologies...

“**Wakefield** concepts for a collider are in the early stages of development. **A critical next step is the delivery of an end-to-end design concept**, including cost scales, **with self-consistent parameters** throughout.”

<https://www.usparticlephysics.org/2023-p5-report/>



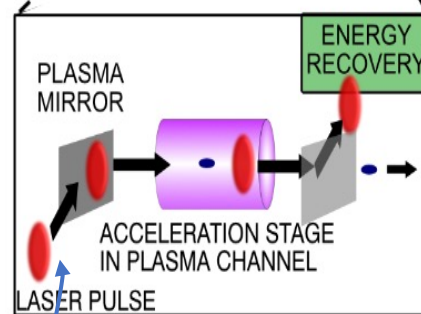
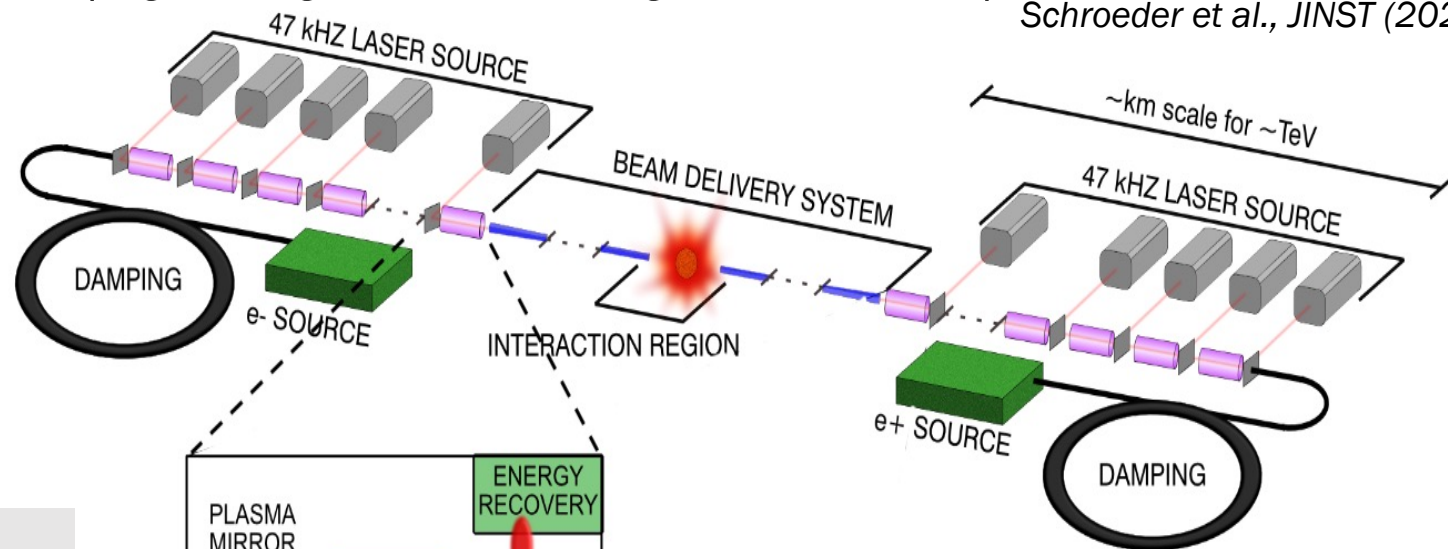
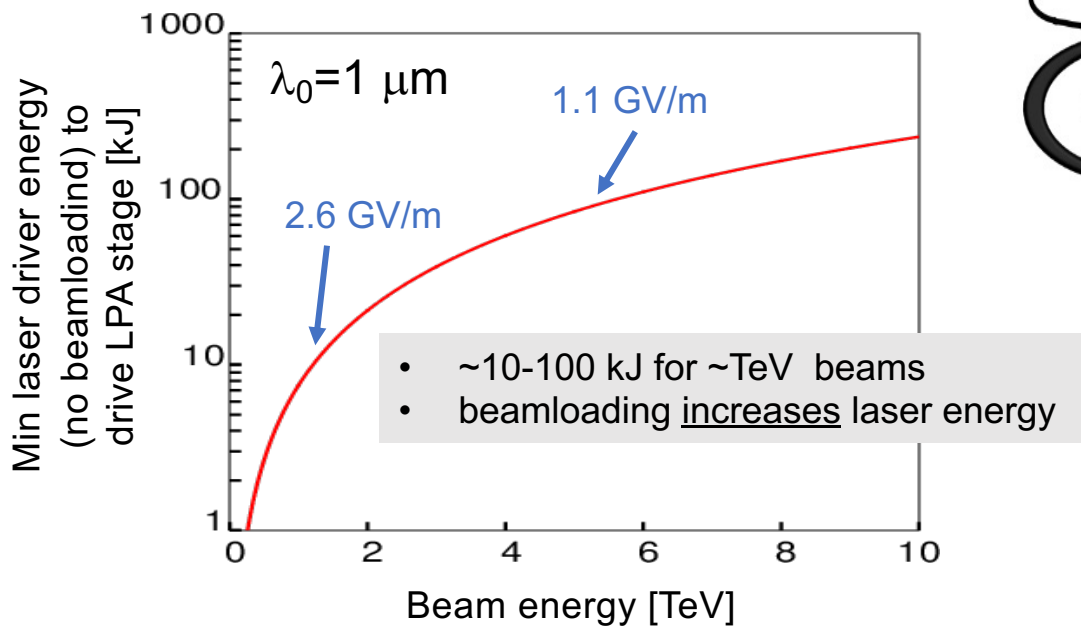
# Overview of the presentation

- **Schematic for a multi-TeV-class LPA-based collider**  
→ Use “straw-person” design to identify key R&D challenges (linac only in this talk);
- **Characterize LPA performance for fixed laser energy and wavelength (i.e., fixed laser technology)**  
→ Max. energy gain, stage length, optimal bunch charge, etc. in different regimes (e.g., self-guided, channel-guided);
- **Present examples of collider-relevant stages (self-guided and channel-guided)**  
→ Discuss beam quality preservation during staging;
- **Recap of challenges & potential solutions**
- **Summary and conclusions**

# Conceptual design of a multi-TeV-class LPA-based collider: preliminary considerations

Setup based on staging of LPAs (high av. gradient  $\rightarrow$  length  $< 1$  km/TeV) *Benedetti et al., arXiv (2022)*  
*Schroeder et al., JINST (2023)*

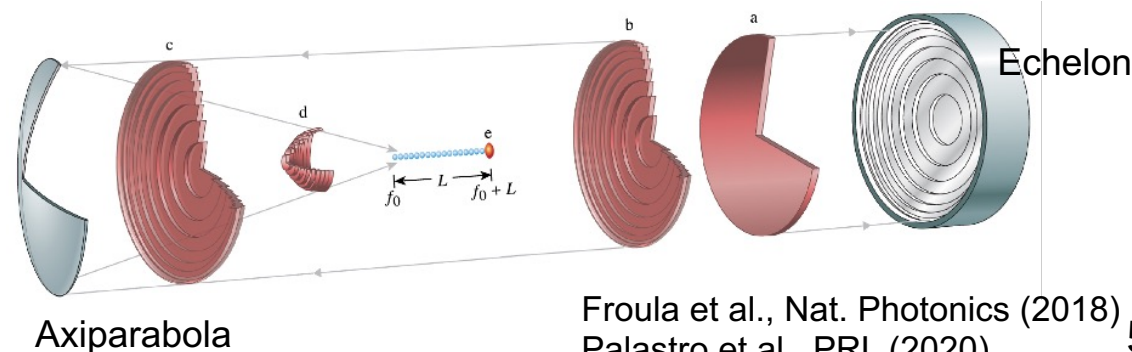
Staging  $\rightarrow$  path to high-energy maintaining low laser energy (and high gradient)



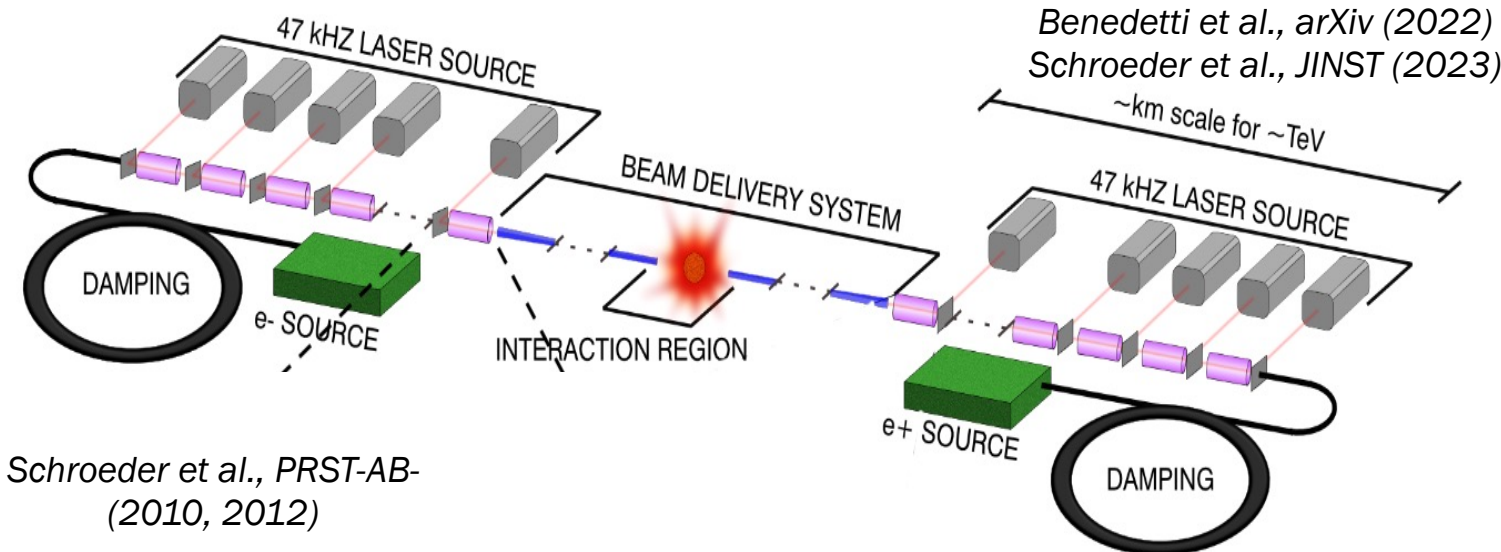
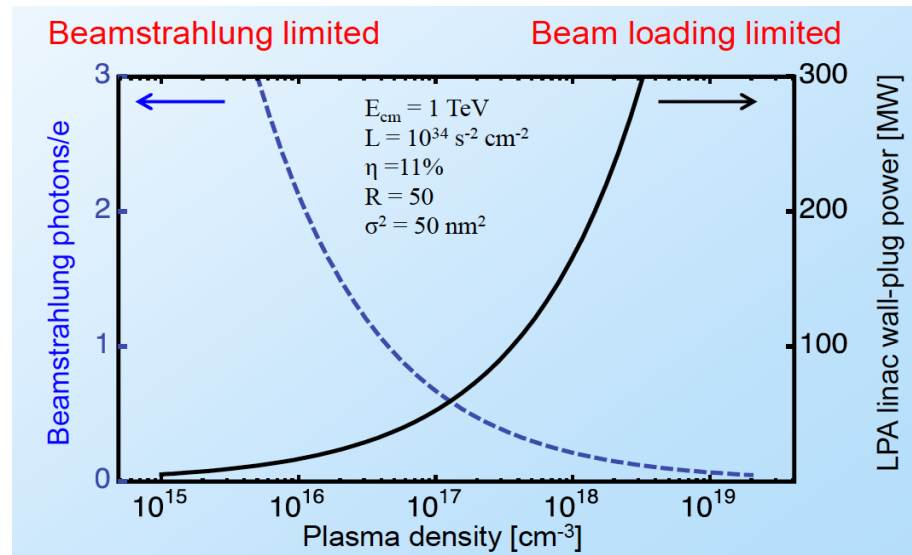
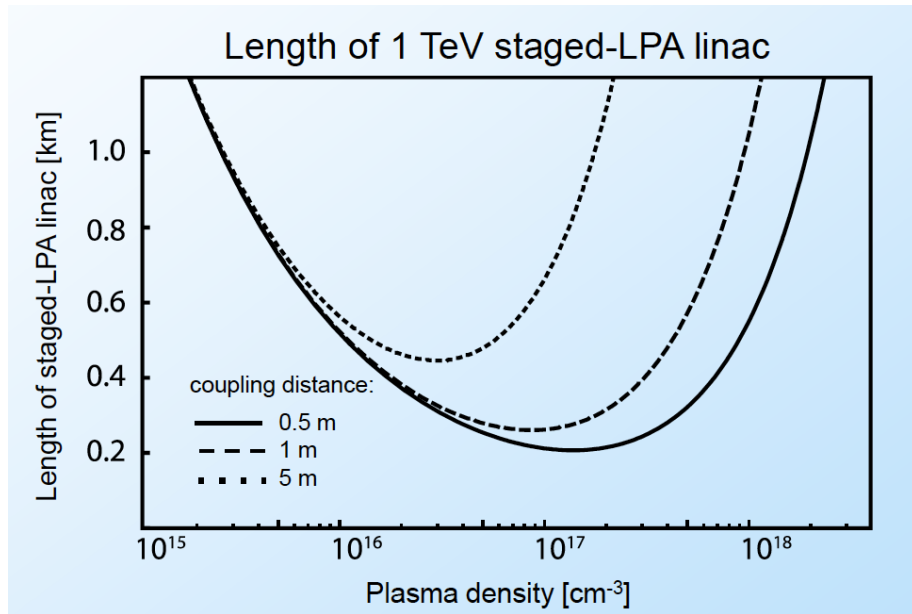
LPA stage in “standard” configuration  
 $\rightarrow$  NO “flying focus” or “traveling wave” concept (low efficiency since portion of the laser at focus is never depleted)

- Staging requires in-coupling new laser pulse at each stage
- Keeping high average... in-coupling...

See talk by M. Backhouse (Wed 12pm) ... short ... mirrors ( $L_c \sim 1$  m)



# Conceptual design of a multi-TeV-class LPA-based collider: LPA and bunch properties



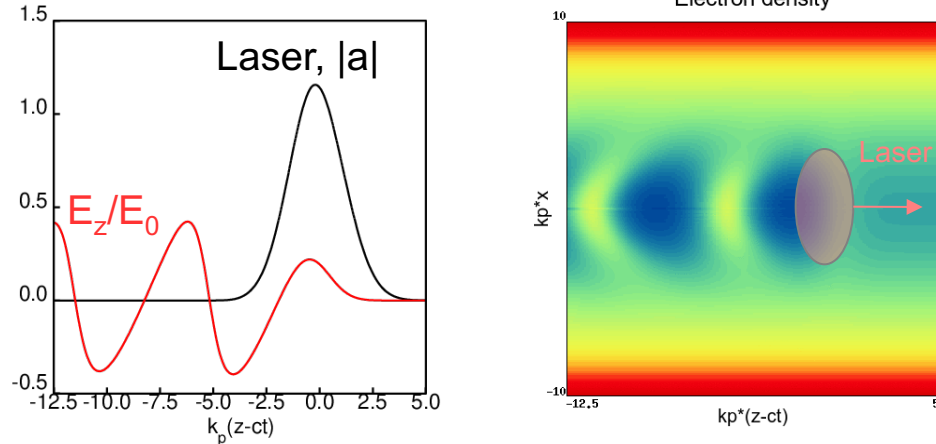
**LPA properties** determined by minimization of wall-plug power, beamstrahlung, and linac length + achieve desired luminosity ( $\sim 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  @ 1 TeV):

- $n_0 \sim 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \rightarrow$  10s of J laser / stage
- multi-GeV energy gain / stage
- high bunch charge (>100s pC)
- high bunch quality (emittance < 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$ , energy spread < 1%)
- high efficiency (10s %, laser  $\rightarrow$  wake, wake  $\rightarrow$  beam, ...)
- $\sim 100\text{s}$  LPA stages/TeV

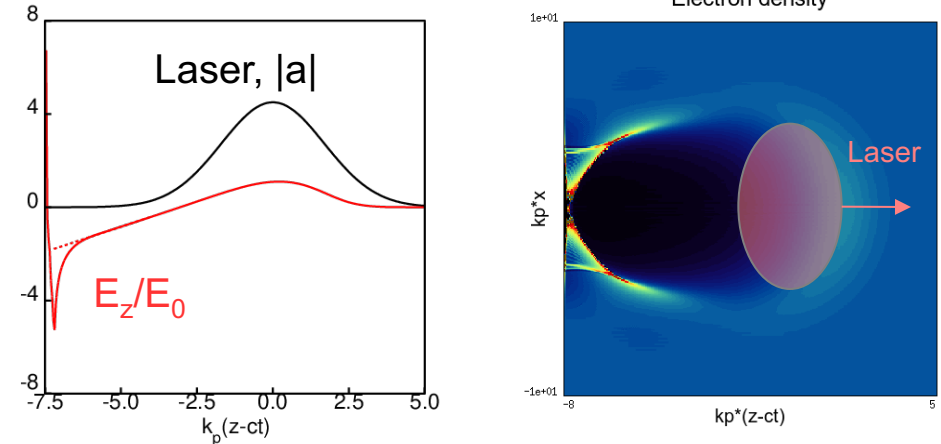
What type of LPA stage can best fulfill these requirements?  
Can staging preserve the required high bunch quality?

# Characterization of LPA performance in different regimes for given laser technology (i.e., fixed energy and wavelength)

## Channel-guided LPA



## Self-guided LPA



Lu et al., PR ST-AB (2007)

- Laser driver:  $a_0 \sim 1$ ,  $k_p w_0 \sim 3$ ,  $k_p L \sim 1$  ( $\sim$ resonant)  
 → **Guiding provided by plasma channel** ( $P/P_c \sim 1$ )  
 → Operates best in quasi-linear regime ( $a_0 < \sim 3$ ), nonlinear possible  
 → Fixing normalized laser parameters, wavelength, and laser energy determines on-axis density:

$$n_0 \propto \frac{a_0^{4/3} (k_p w_0)^{4/3} (k_p L)^{2/3}}{\lambda_0^{4/3} U_0^{2/3}}$$

( $n_0 = 1.2 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $U = 10 \text{ J}$ ,  $\lambda_0 = 0.8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ,  $a_0 = 1.5$ ,  $k_p w_0 = 3$ ,  $k_p L = 1$ )

- Laser driver\*:  $a_0 \sim 4.5$ ,  $k_p w_0 = 2\sqrt{a_0}$ ,  $L_{\text{fwhm}} = (2/3)w_0$   
 → **Self-guiding** ( $P/P_c \gg 1$ )  
 → Operates in nonlinear regime  
 → Fixing laser strength, wavelength, and laser energy determines density:

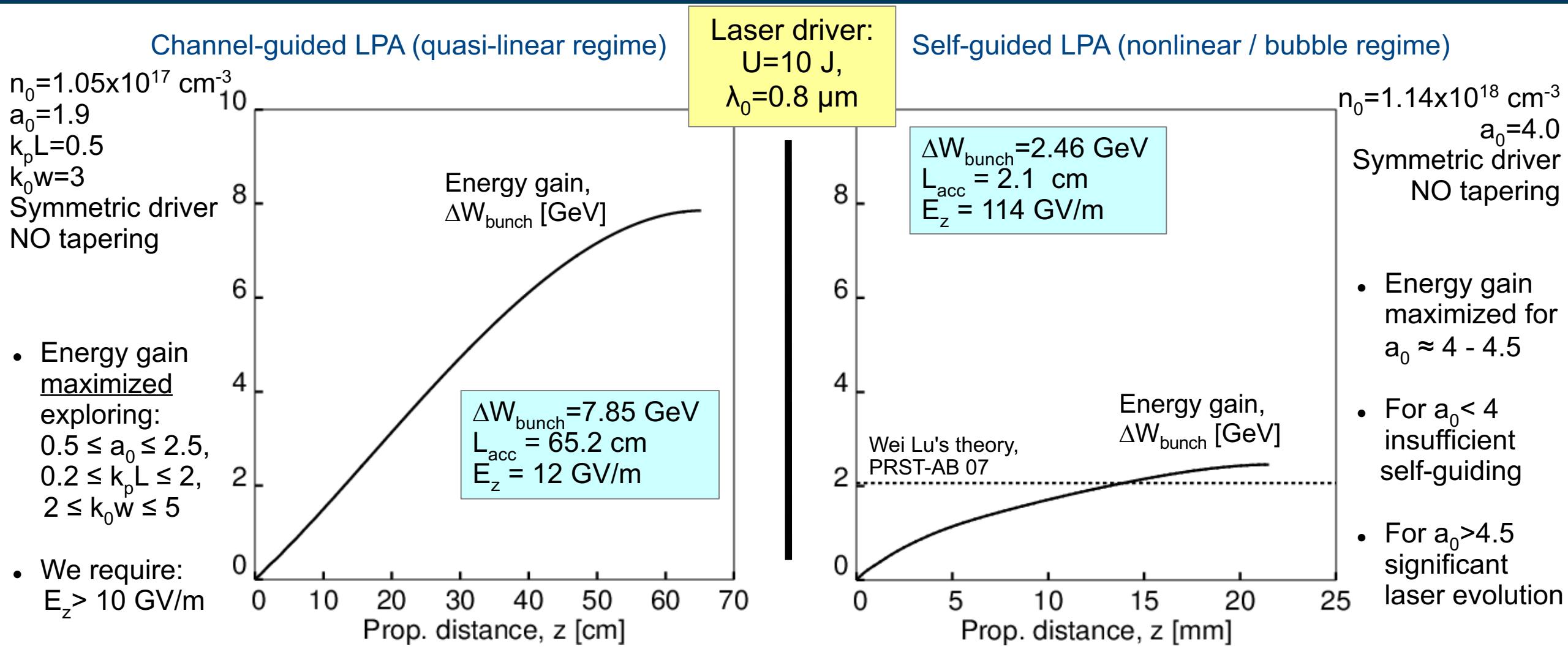
$$n_0 \propto \frac{a_0^{7/3}}{\lambda_0^{4/3} U_0^{2/3}}$$

( $n_0 = 1.5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  for  $U = 10 \text{ J}$ ,  $\lambda_0 = 0.8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ,  $a_0 = 4.5$ )

Energy gain:  $\Delta W_{\text{bunch}} \sim n_0^{-1} \lambda_0^{-2}$

- Energy gain in channel-guided LPAs **larger** than for self-guided LPAs owing to **much lower density of operation** (which compensates for the larger gradients available in self-guided stages)

# For given laser energy and wavelength max energy gain in channel-guided LPAs is larger than in self-guided LPAs (for negligible beamloading and short bunches)

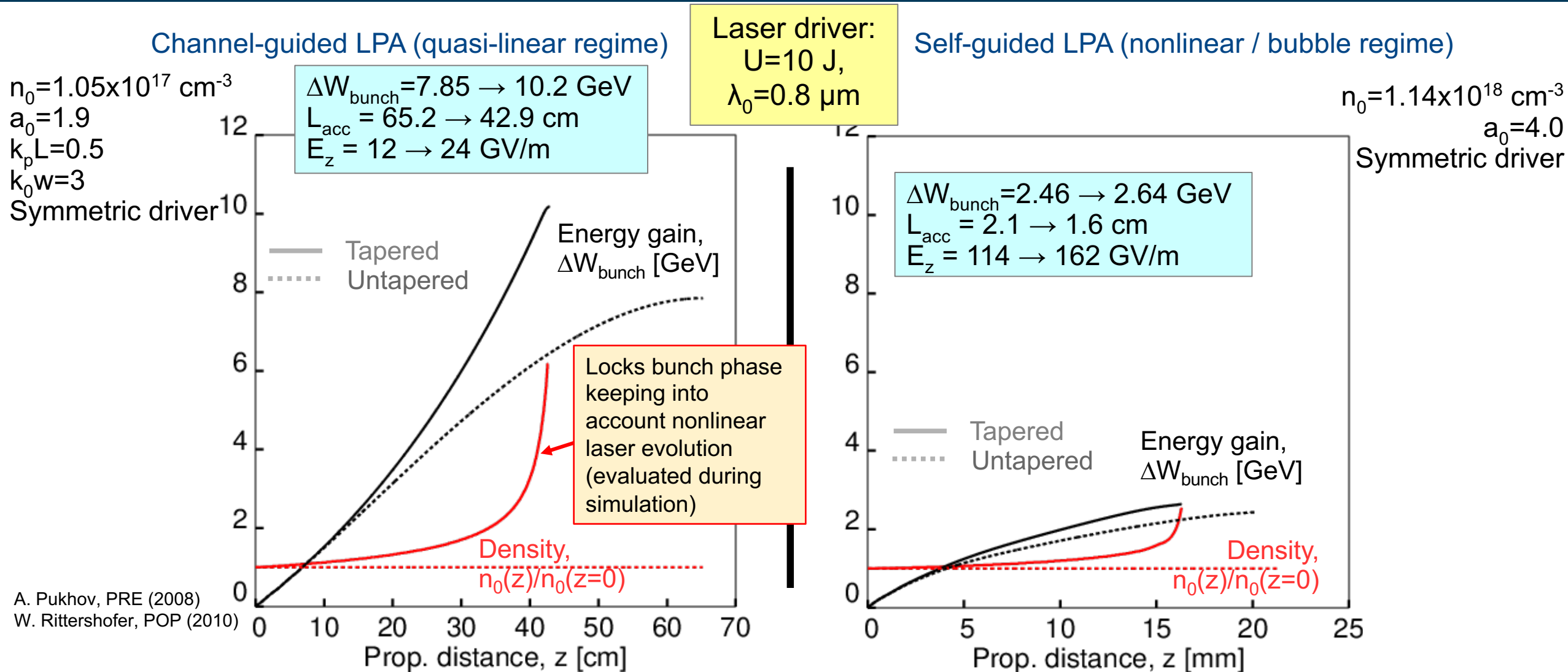


→ Energy gain in channel-guided LPAs can be >3 times larger than in self-guided LPAs

→ Scaling laws:  $\Delta W_{\text{bunch}} \sim U^{2/3} \lambda_0^{-2/3} - L_{\text{acc}} \sim U$



# Energy gain in quasi-linear channel-guided stages can be increased with optimal (includes laser evolution effects) longitudinal density tapering



→ Energy gain in channel-guided LPAs can be ~4 times larger than in self-guided LPAs w/ tapering

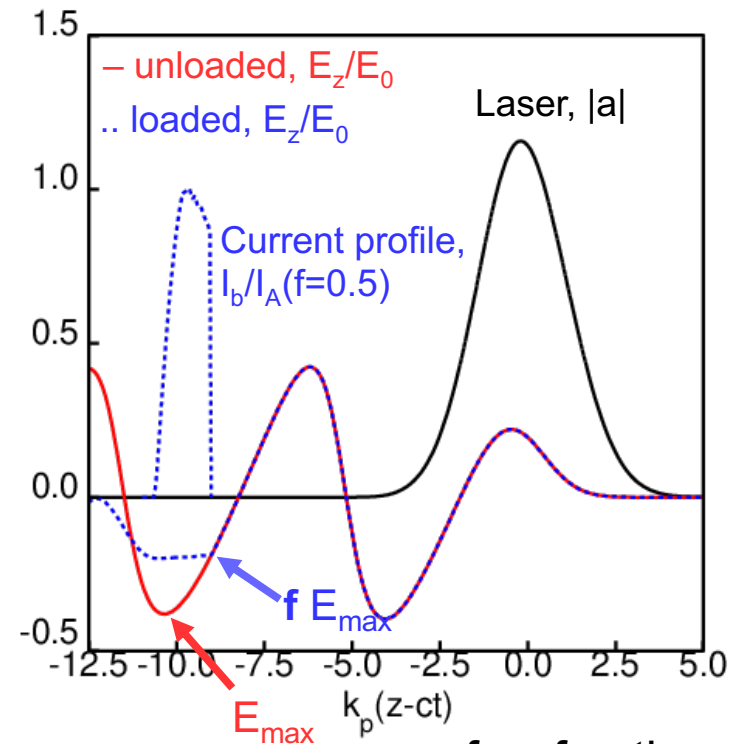
→ Density tapering more effective for channel-guided/quasi-linear stages than for self-guided/nonlinear stages 9

# Determining characteristic charge that can be accelerated in an LPA requires identifying bunch profile that flattens the wake (i.e., absorbs energy from the wake)

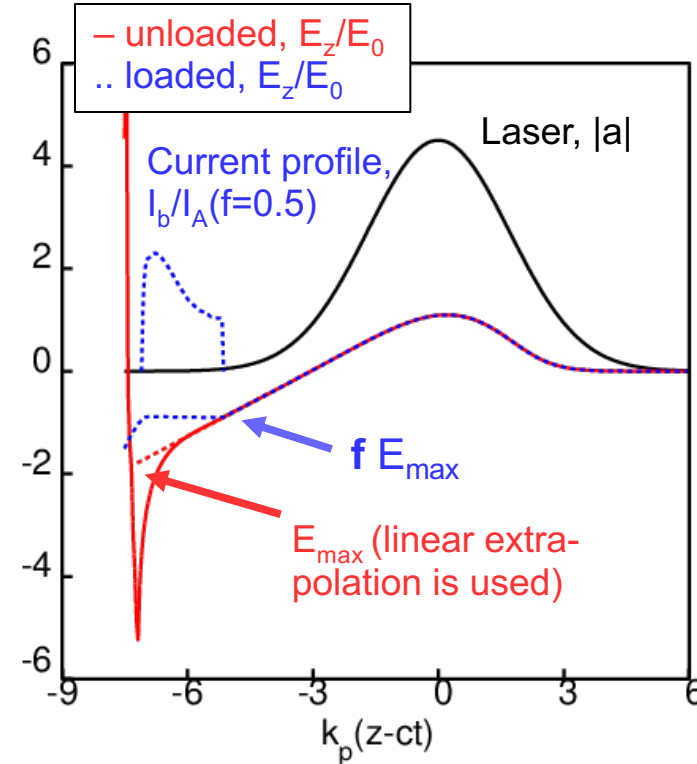
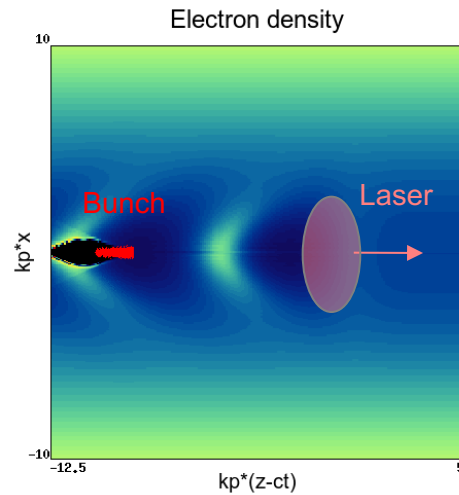
Characteristic charge  $\leftrightarrow$  current profile that flattens the wakefield within the bunch (i.e., absorbs wake's energy)

## Channel-guided LPA (quasi-linear regime)

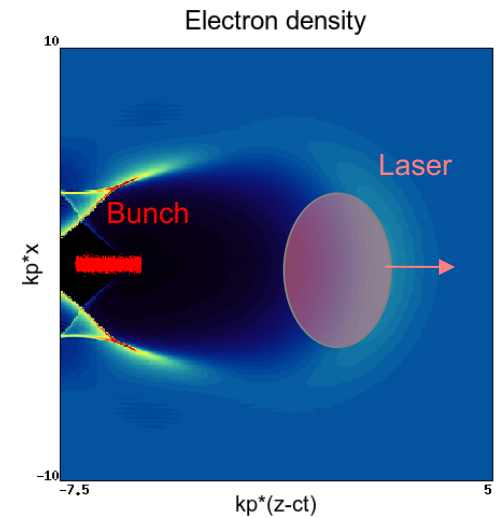
## Self-guided (nonlinear / bubble regime)



$a_0=1, k_p w_0=4, k_p L=1.8$



$a_0=4.5$



$f \rightarrow$  fraction of the max accelerating field ( $E_{max}$ ) experienced by the bunch

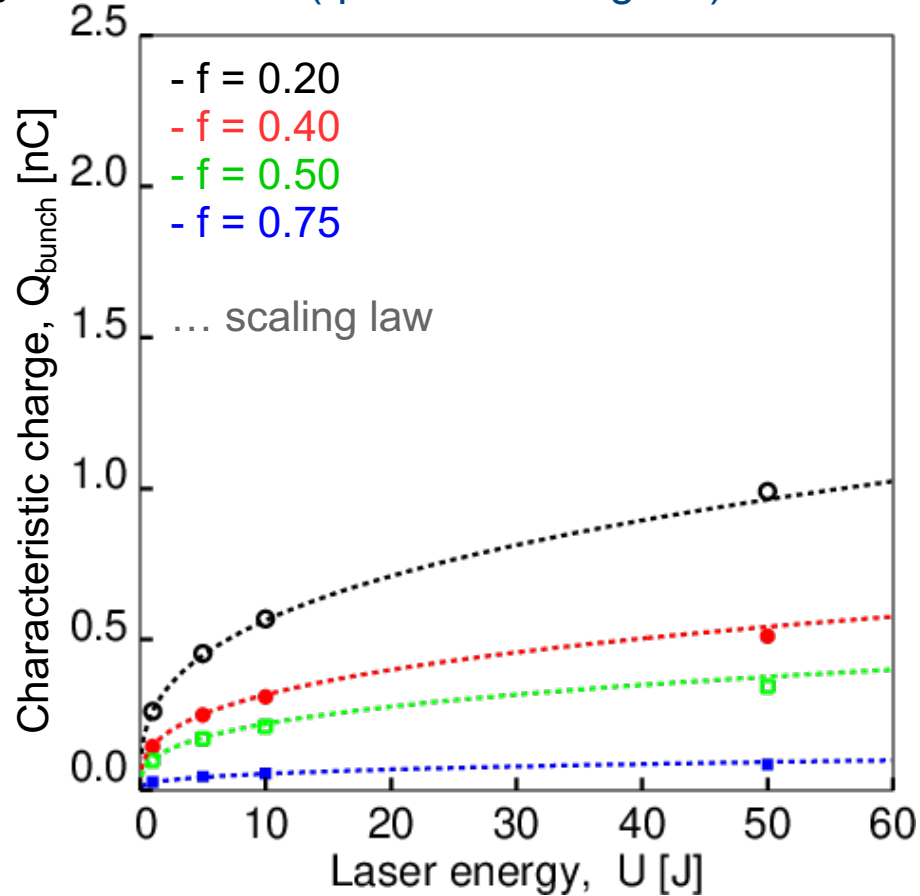
- Linear regime (i.e.,  $E_z/E_0 \ll 1$ )  $\rightarrow$  triangular profile (Katsouleas et al., Part. Accel., 1987)
- Blowout regime (requires  $\delta n \sim n_0$ , i.e.,  $a_0 > 8-10$ )  $\rightarrow$  trapezoidal profile (Tzoufras et al., PRL, 2009)

$\rightarrow$  Characteristic current profile depends on the LPA regime and can be computed numerically

# For given laser energy the characteristic bunch charge accelerated in self-guided LPAs is larger than in channel-guided LPAs

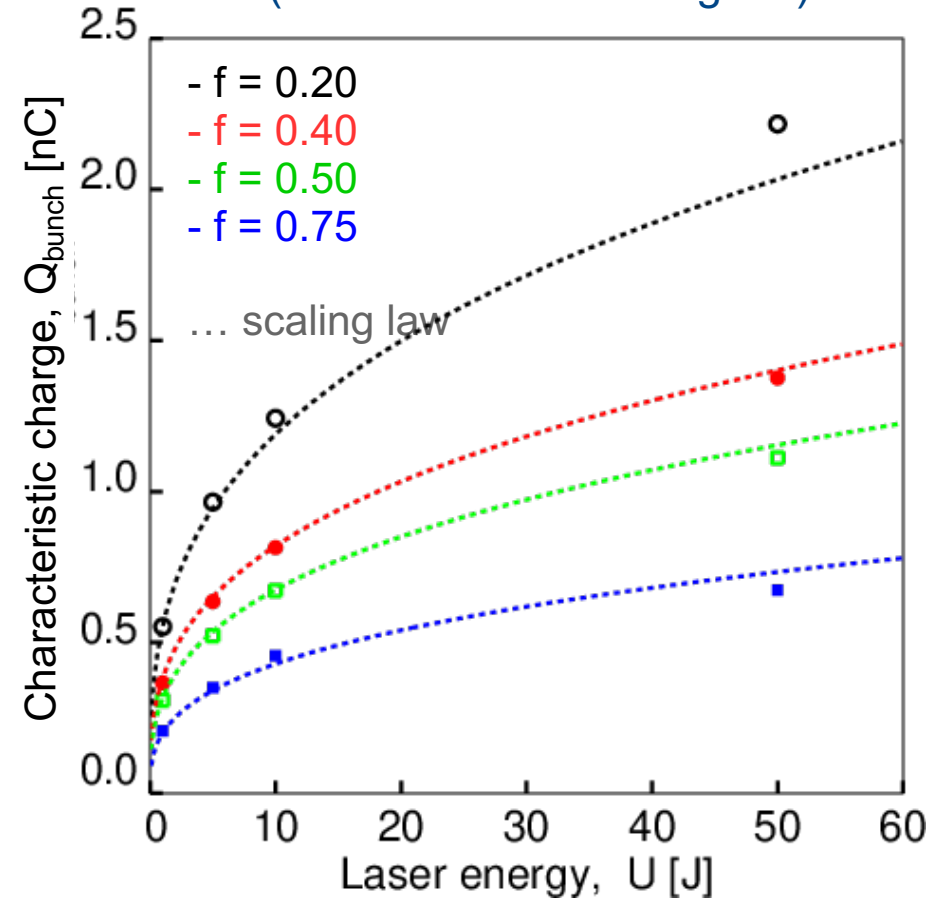
$a_0=1.6, k_p w_0=4,$   
 $k_p L=1.8, \lambda_0=0.8 \mu\text{m}$

Channel-guided LPA  
 (quasi-linear regime)



Self-guided LPA  
 (nonlinear / bubble regime)

$a_0=4.5,$   
 $\lambda_0=0.8 \mu\text{m}$

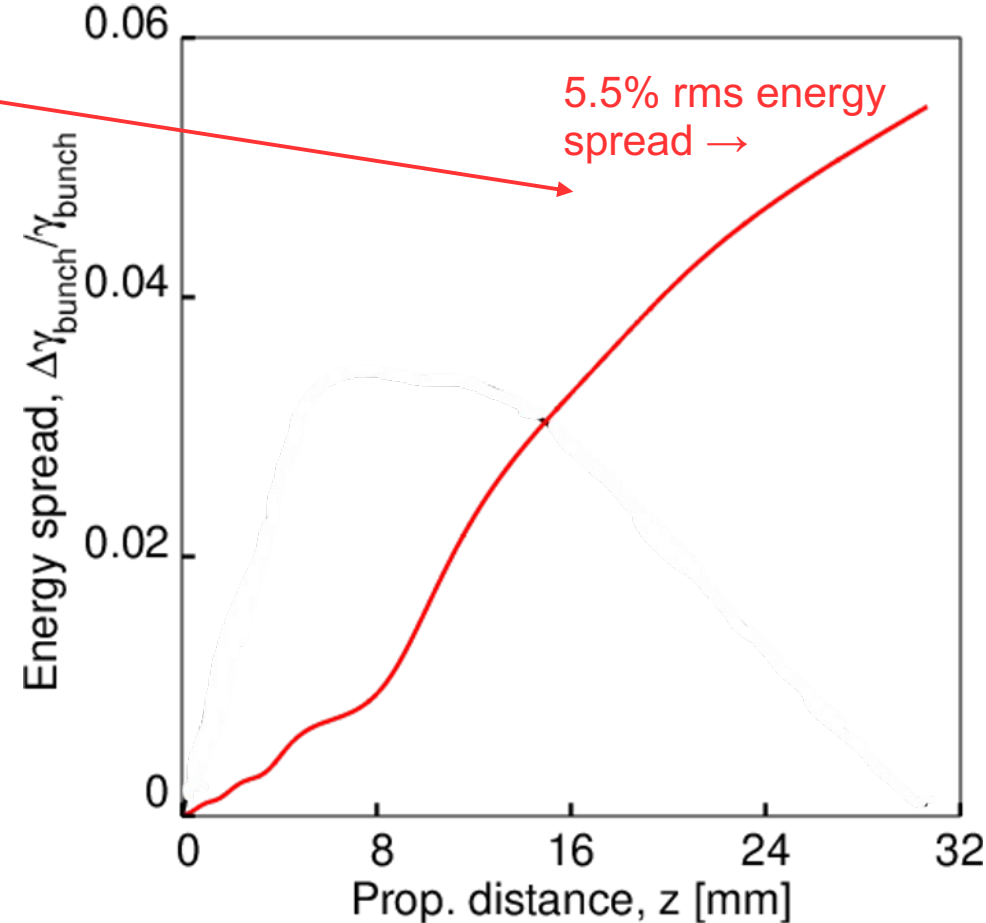
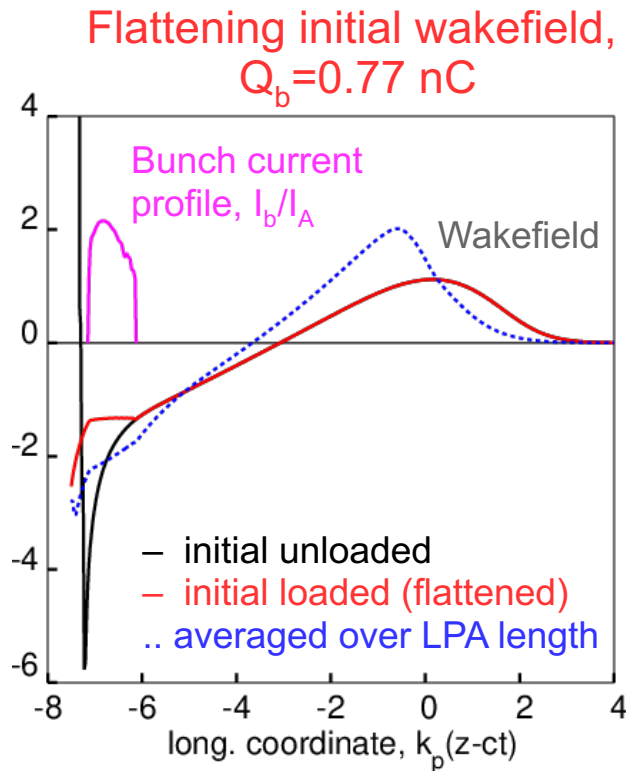


Scaling of the accelerated charge:  $Q_{\text{bunch}}(U, \lambda_0) \sim U^{1/3} \lambda_0^{2/3}$

→ Charge in self-guided LPAs is >2-8 times larger than for channel-guided LPAs (owing to larger acc. gradient)

# Production of beams with a small energy spread requires flattening the wakefield **AVERAGED** over the LPA length

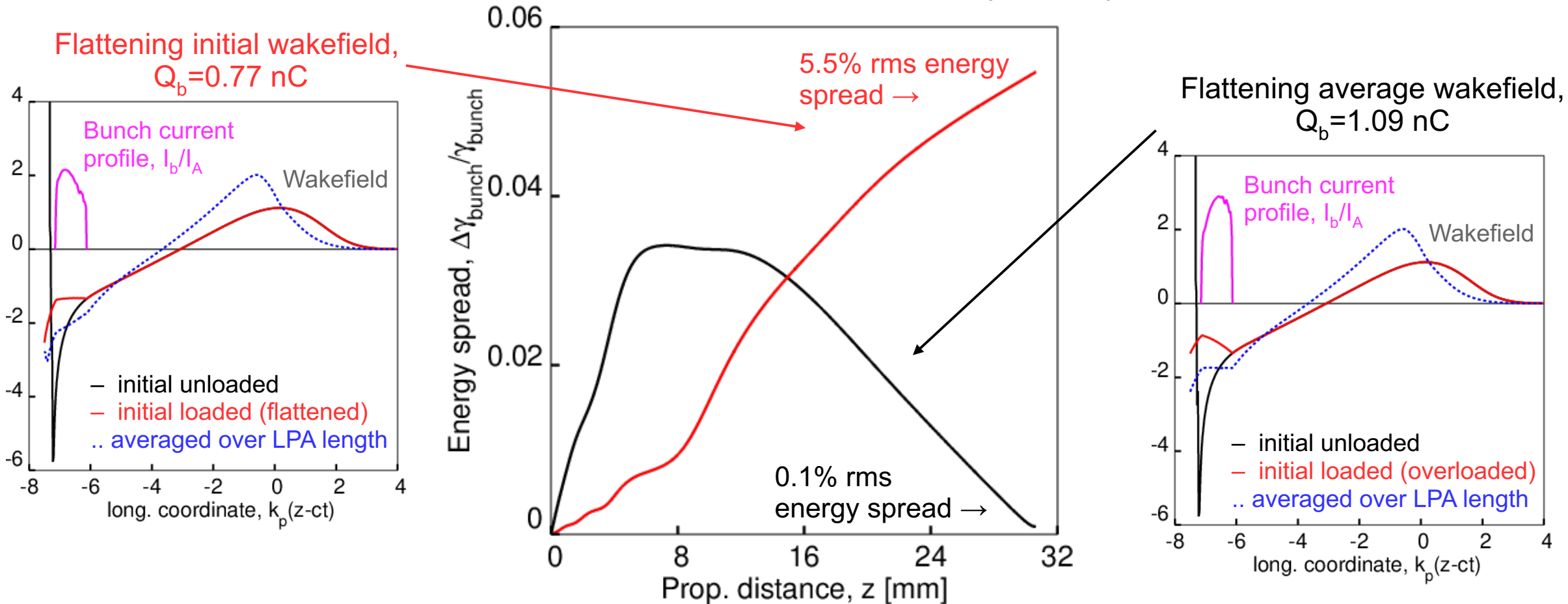
Self-guided LPA (bubble/nonlinear):  $U=50$  J [ $a_0=4.5$ ,  $\lambda_0=0.8$   $\mu\text{m}$ ],  $f=0.75$



- Current profile that flattens initial wake not optimal to minimize energy spread  
 $\rightarrow$  bunch acquires energy chirp (= energy spread) because of laser evolution

# Production of beams with a small energy spread requires flattening the wakefield **AVERAGED** over the LPA length

Self-guided LPA (bubble/nonlinear):  $U=50$  J [ $a_0=4.5$ ,  $\lambda_0=0.8$   $\mu\text{m}$ ],  $f=0.75$



- Current profile that flattens initial wake not optimal to minimize energy spread
  - $\rightarrow$  bunch acquires energy chirp (= energy spread) because of laser evolution
- Optimal beam profile: energy chirp imparted initially (overloading) compensated during acceleration
  - $\rightarrow$  minimum energy spread achieved at the end of the stage

# A self-guided stage operating in the bubble regime providing high-gradient, high-charge, and high-efficiency acceleration has been designed

Schroeder et al.,  
JINST (2022)

Laser:  $U=50$  J,  $\lambda_0=1.0$   $\mu\text{m}$ ,  $a_0=4.5$ ,  $T_0=80$  fs,  $w_0=36$   $\mu\text{m}$   
 Plasma:  $n_0= 3.4 \times 10^{17}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ , stage length = 3.1 cm, linear taper (+74%)

$\Delta W_{\text{bunch}} = 3.08$  GeV (100 GV/m)  
 $Q_{\text{bunch}} = 1.3$  nC –  $L_{\text{bunch}} = 9.3$   $\mu\text{m}$  –  $I_{\text{bunch}} = 49$  kA  
 Energy spread = 0.1%

Energy considerations:

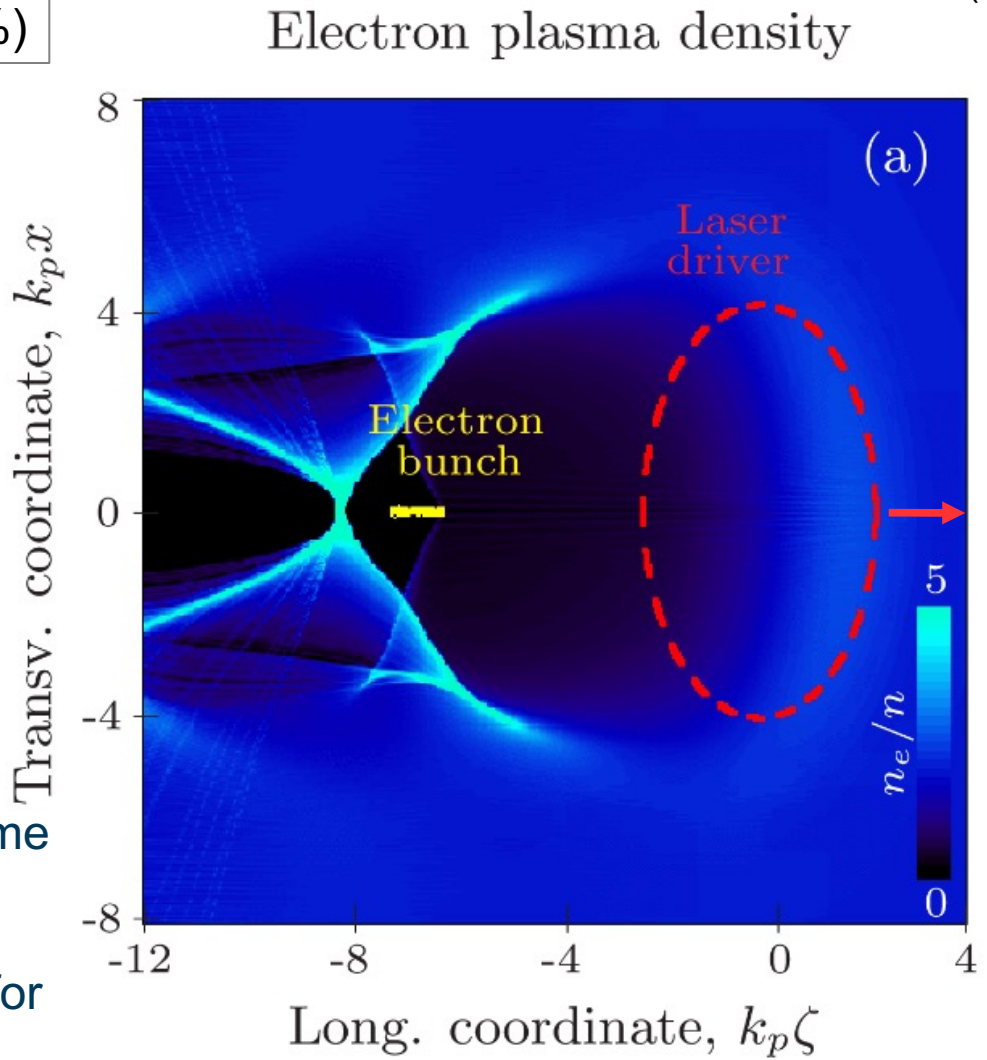
- Wake-to-bunch energy transfer = 40%
- Laser driver depletion = 20% → remaining laser driver energy could be returned to the grid with photovoltaic

→ ~320 LPA stages/TeV

→ Not suitable for positron acceleration (diff. time required for positron arm, e.g. See talk by S. Corde (Thu 9.30am) at IAC, FRAB 2019)

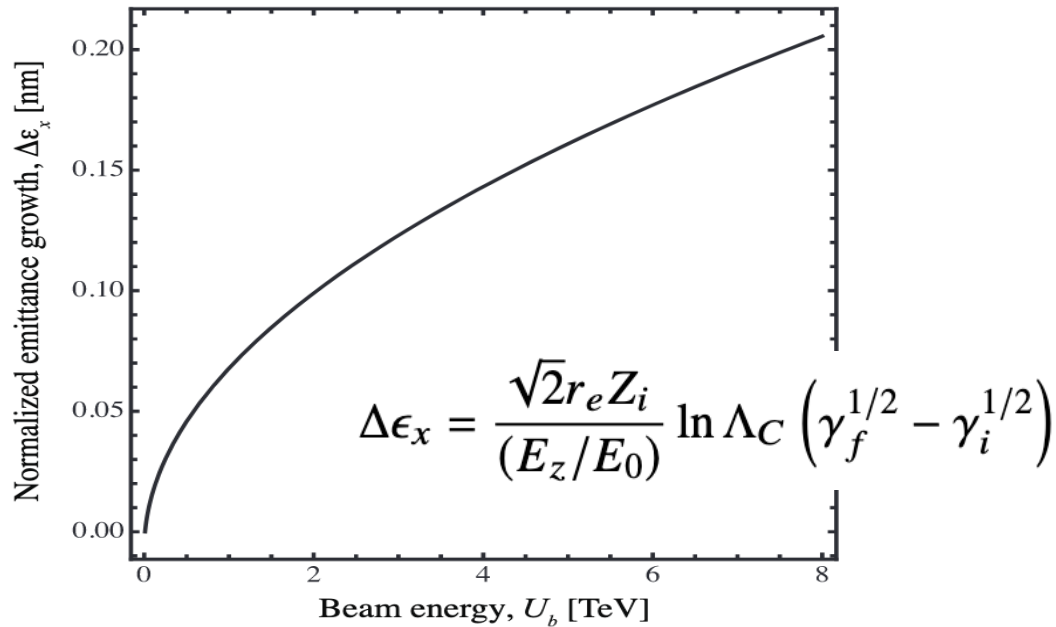
→ Strong focusing yields small bunch size (~nm @ ~ TeV energies for collider-relevant emittances):

**challenging for inter-stage transport and alignment!**

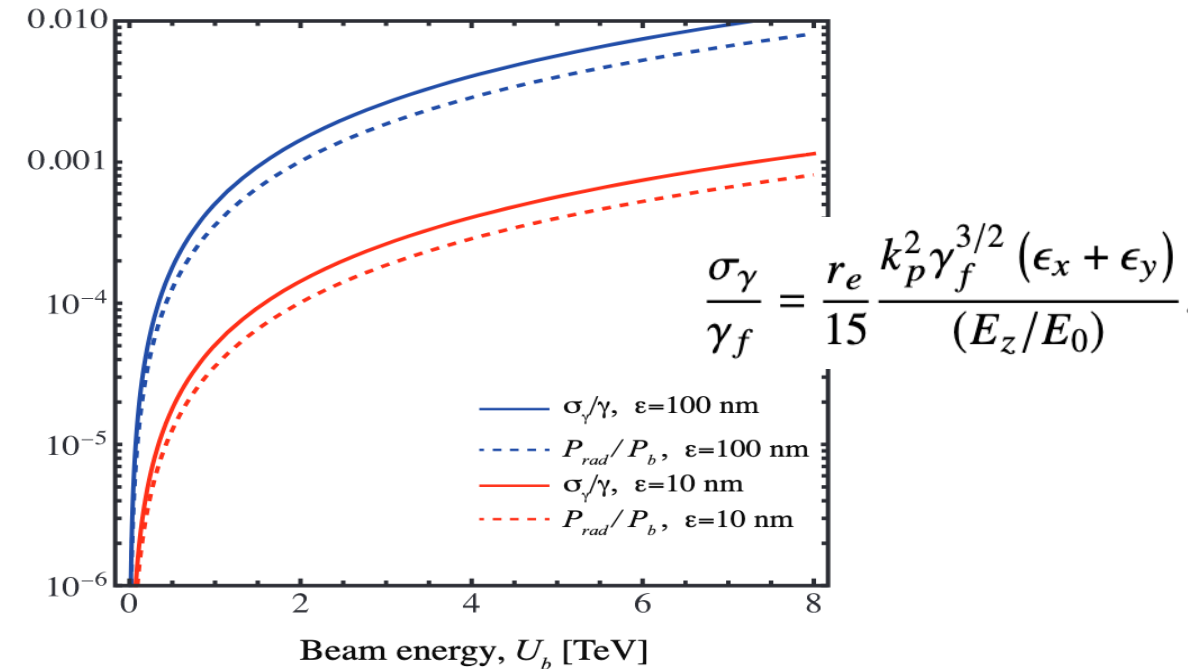


# LPA stage in the bubble regime provides quality-preserving acceleration

- **Coulomb scattering:** emittance growth from collisions with background ions (Hydrogen) is **< nm for multi-TeV beams** owing to strong focusing provided by bubble wake.



- **Betatron radiation:** for low emittance beams the **synchrotron radiation-induced energy spread and power loss are < 1%**.



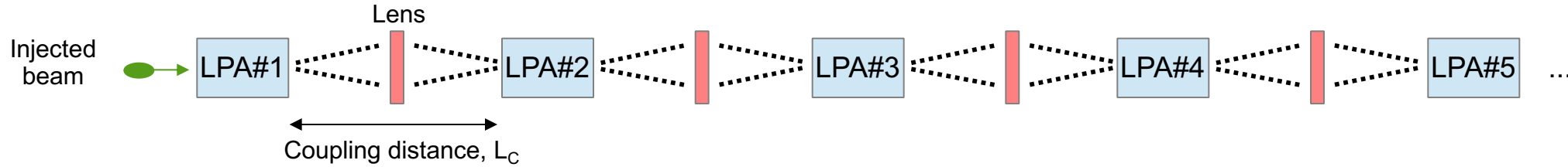
- **Transverse beam stability:**
  - beam hosing suppressed by spread in betatron frequency induced by background ion motion triggered by the high-charge, low-emittance, and high-energy beam;
  - beam emittance from ion motion suppressed by bunch tapering (no emittance growth)

Mehrling et al., PRL (2018)  
 Benedetti et al, PRAB (2017)  
 Benedetti et al., Phys. Plasmas (2021)

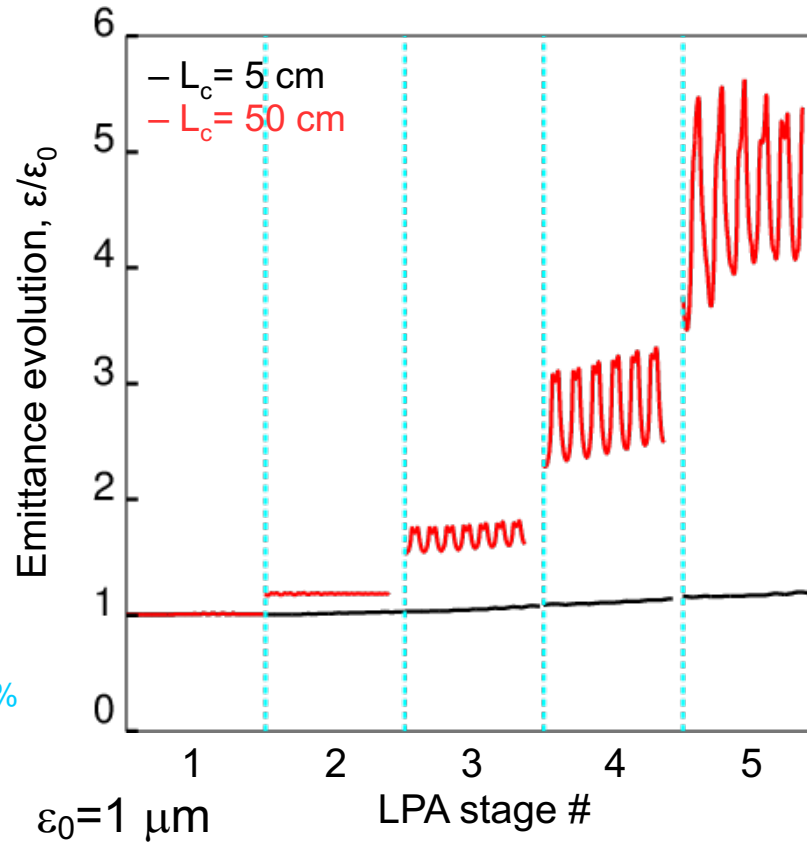
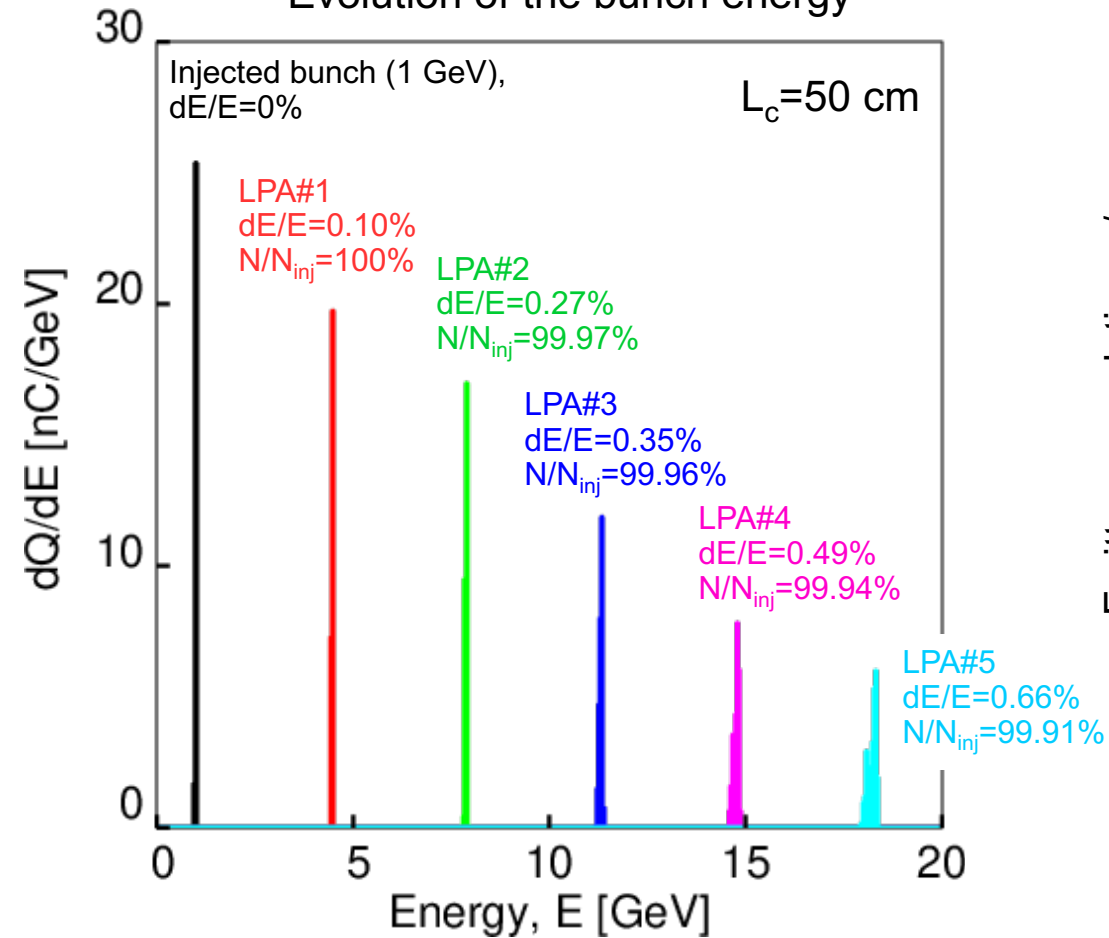
Results assume round beam. Flat beams could be prone to emittance mixing!

See talk by S. Diederich (Thu 9am)

# Emittance preservation requires development of achromatic inter-stage transport elements for e-beam

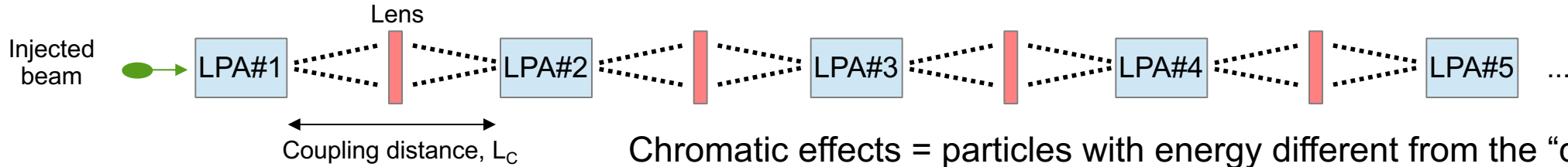


Evolution of the bunch energy

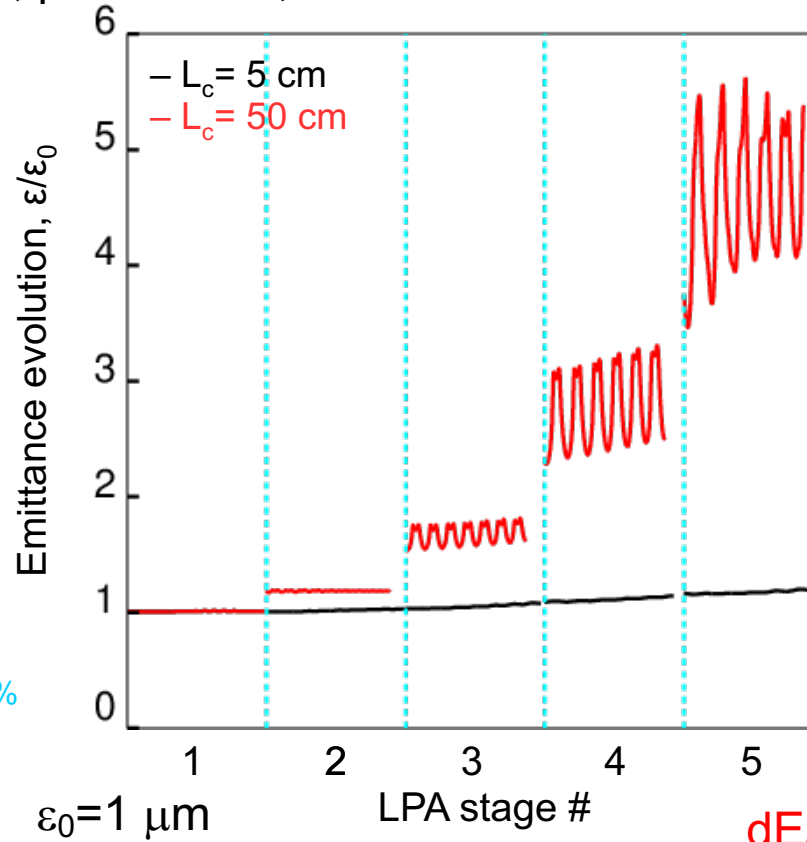
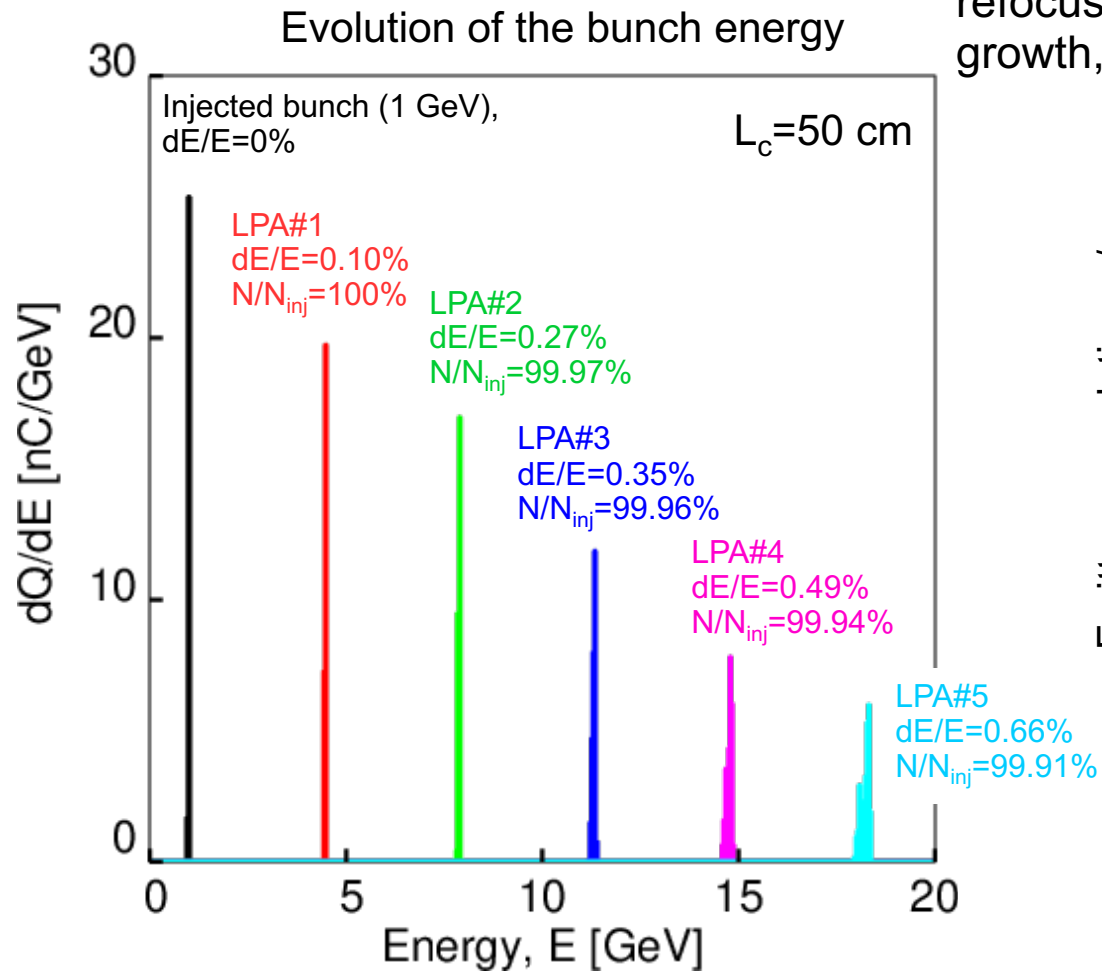




# Emittance preservation requires development of achromatic inter-stage transport elements for e-beam



Chromatic effects = particles with energy different from the “design” value are refocused at incorrect transverse location: mismatch, additional emittance growth, particle loss,...



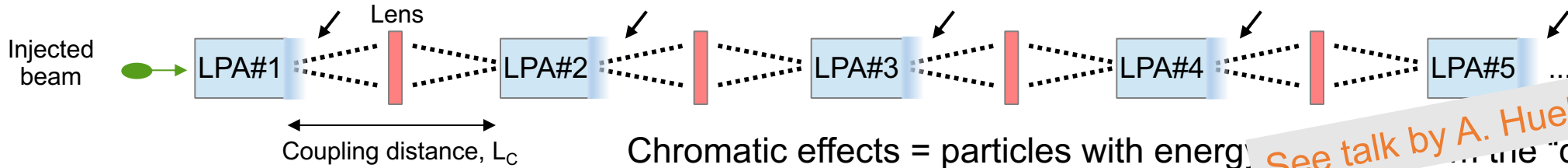
Emittance growth from chromaticity in drifts:

$$\Delta \varepsilon \simeq \left( \frac{\varepsilon_0}{\sigma_0} \right)^2 \frac{\sigma_\gamma}{\gamma_0} \frac{s}{\gamma_0}$$

A.G.R Thomas and D. Seipt, PRAB (2022)

dE/E < 0.001% required for emittance preservation @ 1 TeV

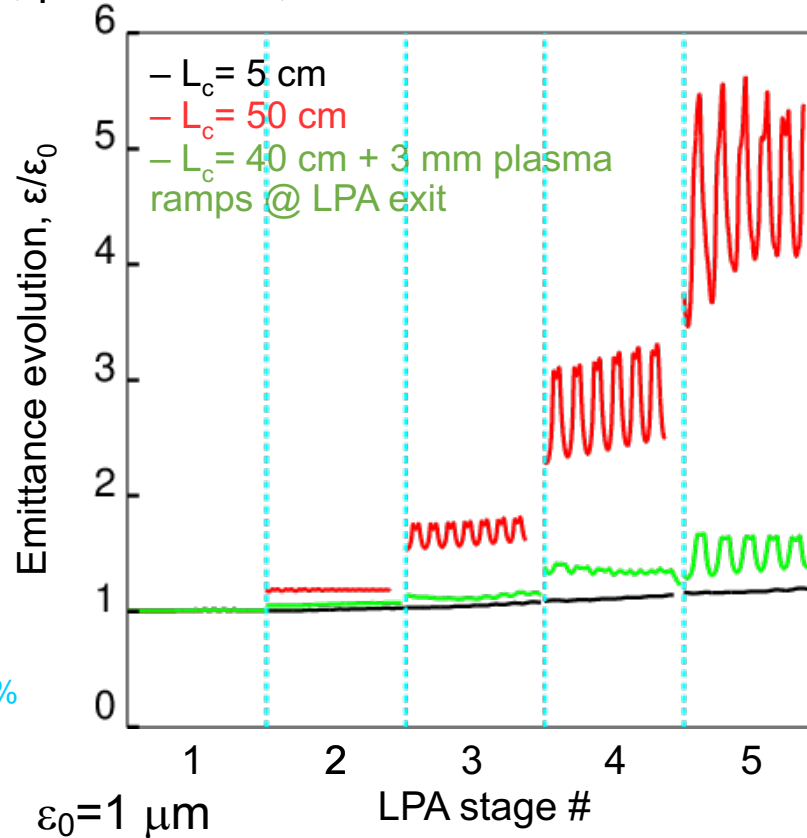
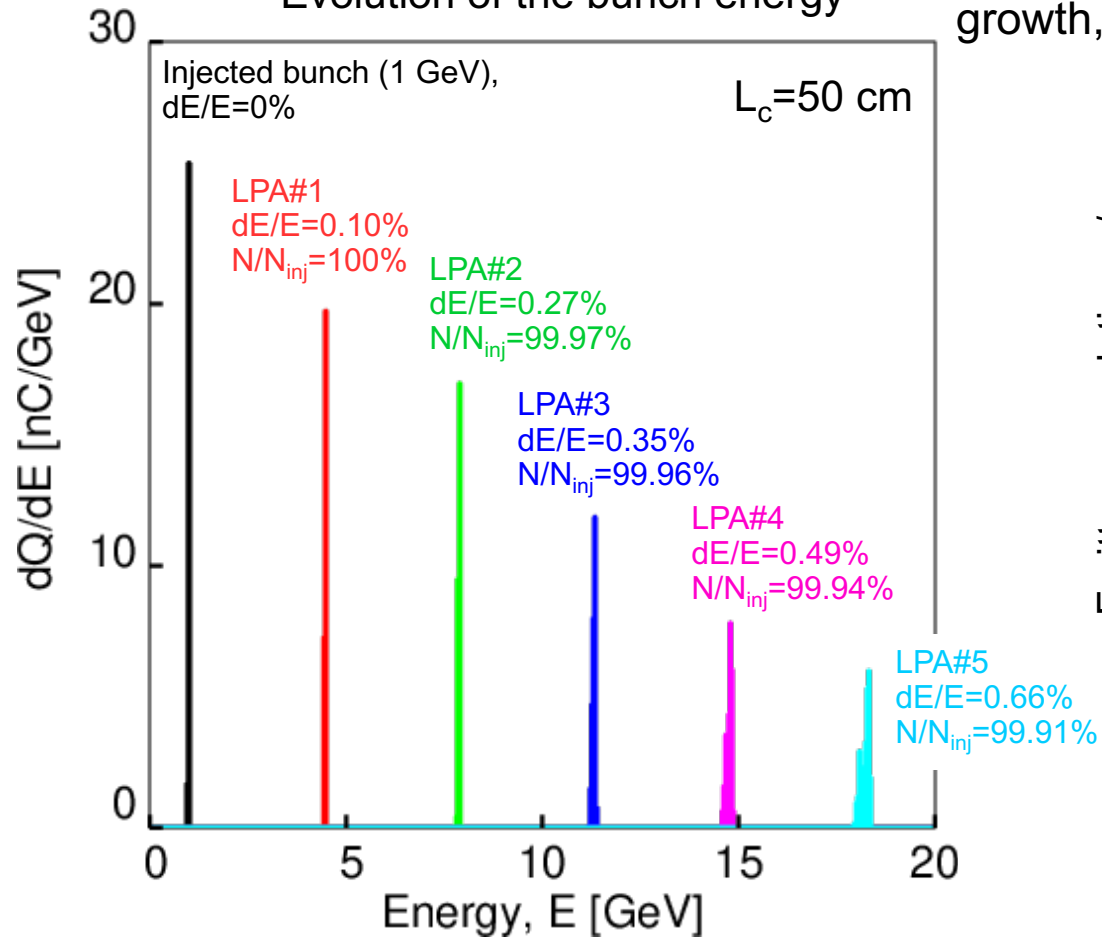
# Emittance preservation requires development of achromatic inter-stage transport elements for e-beam



See talk by A. Huebl (Wed 3pm)

Chromatic effects = particles with energy ... the "design" value are refocused at incorrect transverse location ... mismatch, additional emittance growth, particle loss, ...

Evolution of the bunch energy



Emittance growth from chromaticity in drifts:

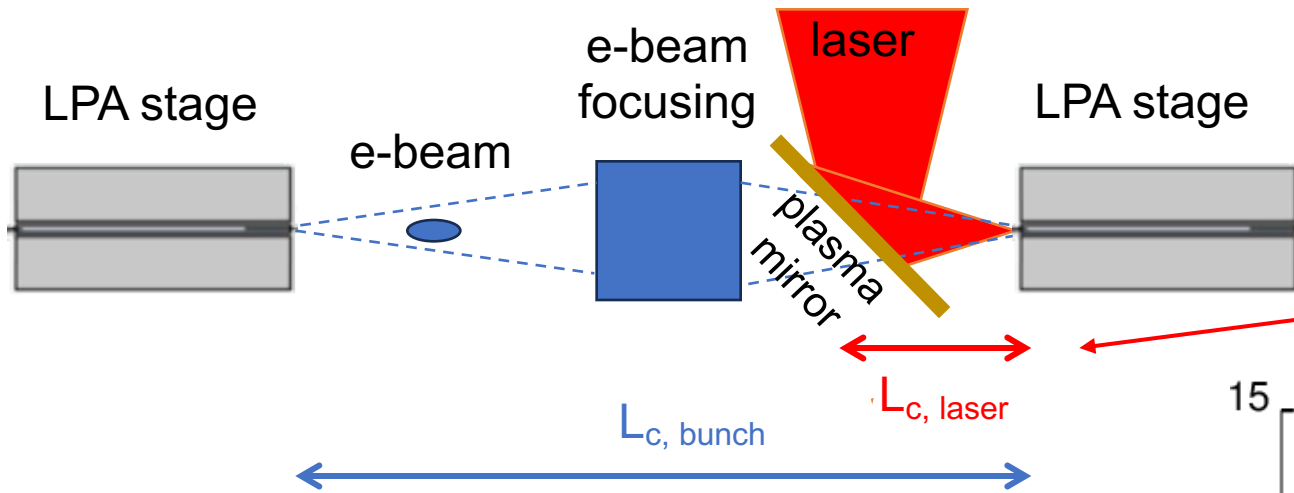
$$\Delta \varepsilon \approx \left( \frac{\varepsilon_0}{\sigma_0} \right)^2 \frac{\sigma_\gamma}{\gamma_0} \frac{s}{\gamma_0}$$

Exit ramp expands beam size preserving emittance (if  $k_\beta L_{\text{ramp}} \gtrsim 1$ ):  $\varepsilon_0/\sigma_0$  **decreases!**

- Ramps become (too) long at high energy
- Development of achromatic focusing optics (or with large chromatic acceptance) required

→ **compactness challenging!**

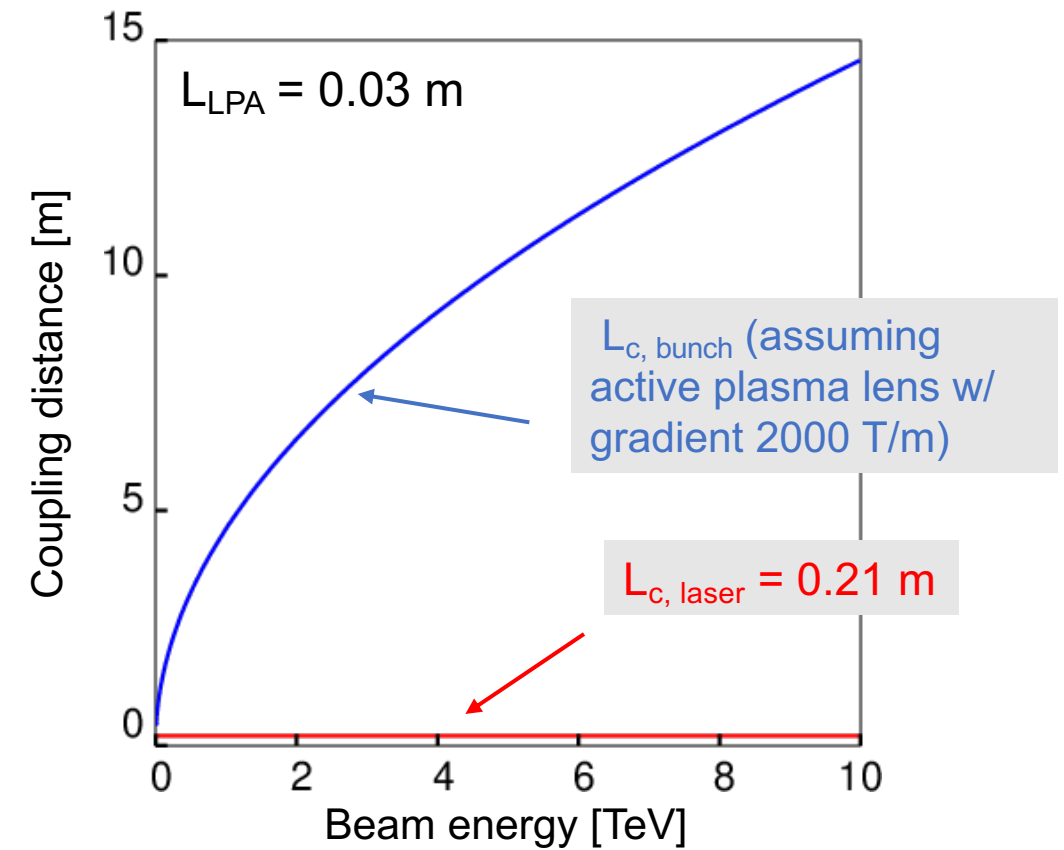
# Minimum coupling distance between stages determined by refocusing of tightly-focused bunch (not laser in-coupling)



Determined by laser intensity  
@ plasma mirror ( $I_{\text{pm}} \sim 10^{16} \text{ W/cm}^2$ )

Determined by focusing gradient (~ fixed to its max value) and beam energy  
 $\rightarrow L_{c, \text{ bunch}} \sim \gamma^{1/2}$

- Average gradient decreases with energy (LPA stages are further and further apart)
- Focusing optics always needed for tightly focused bunches (ballistic transport possible above >44 TeV)



# A channel-guided stage operating in the quasi-linear regime providing high-gradient, high-charge, and high-efficiency acceleration has been designed

Schroeder et al.,  
NIMA (2016)

Laser:  $U=8.9$  J,  $\lambda_0=1.0$   $\mu\text{m}$ ,  $a_0=1.8$ ,  $T_0=73$  fs,  $w_0=41$   $\mu\text{m}$

Plasma (hollow channel):  $n_0=0.96 \times 10^{17}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ,  $R_c=24$   $\mu\text{m}$ , stage length = 78 cm w/ optimal taper

$\Delta W_{\text{bunch}} = 5.05$  GeV (6.5 GV/m)  
 $Q_{\text{bunch}} = 0.24$  nC –  $L_{\text{bunch}}=30$   $\mu\text{m}$  –  $I_{\text{bunch}}=5$  kA  
Energy spread = 0.8%

Energy considerations:

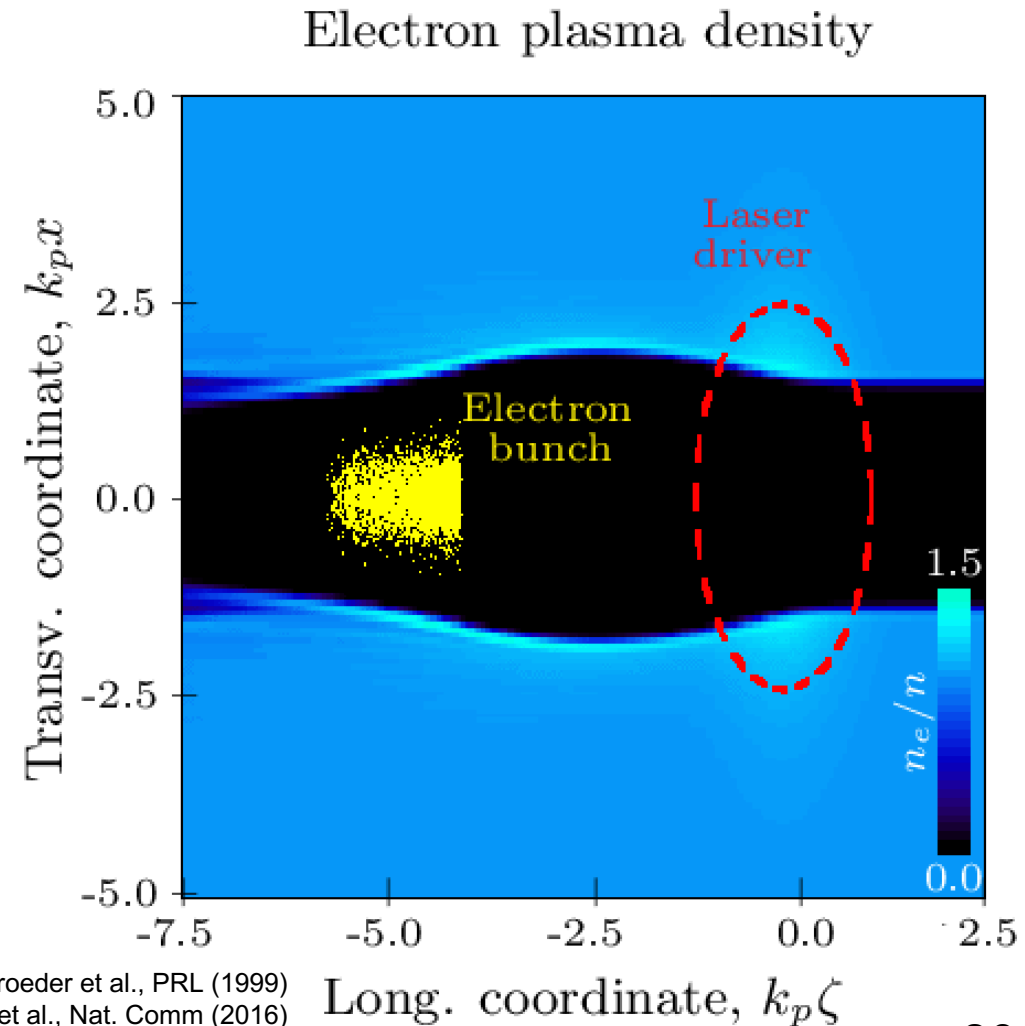
- Wake-to-bunch energy transfer = 68%
- Laser driver depletion = 20% → remaining laser driver energy could be returned to the grid with photovoltaic

→ ~200 LPA stages/TeV + suitable for positron acceleration

→ Negligible emittance growth from Coulomb scattering and no energy spread from synchrotron radiation

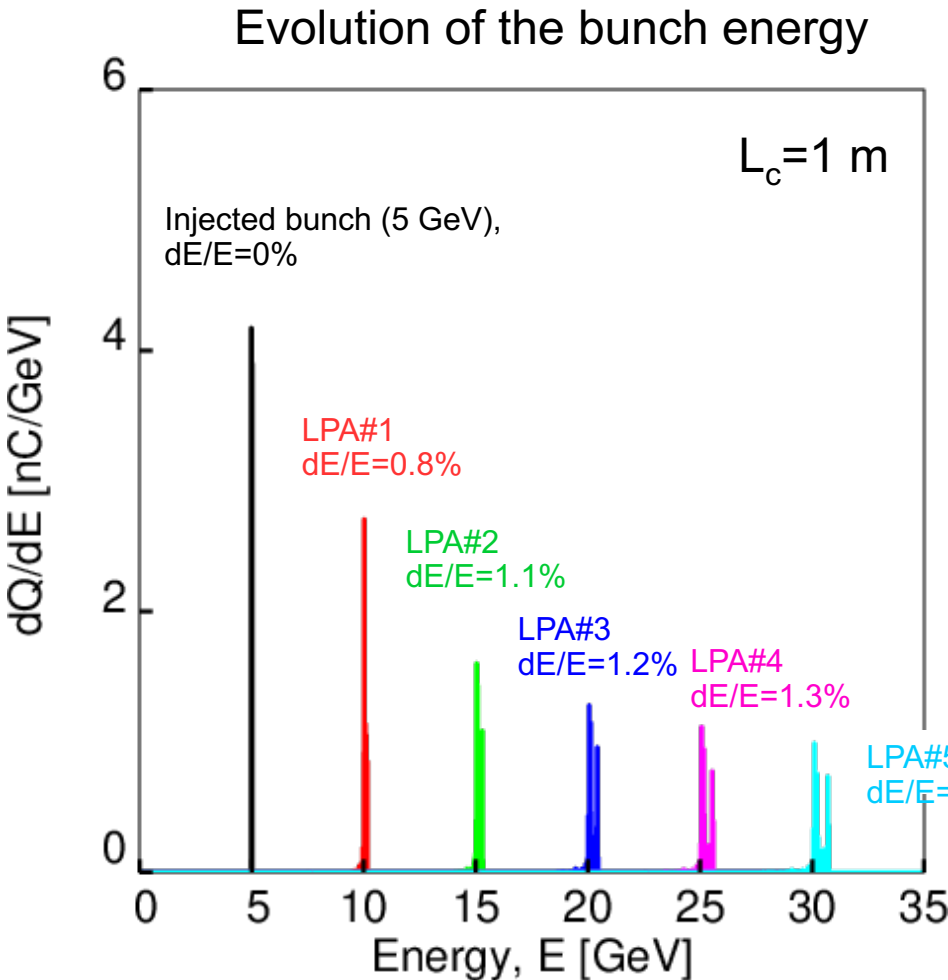
→ Unstable w/o strong focusing: stabilization based on structured channel under investigation

→ Hollow-channel allows for large (~ $\mu\text{m}$ -scale) beam size:  
**relaxed constraints on inter-stage transport and alignment!**



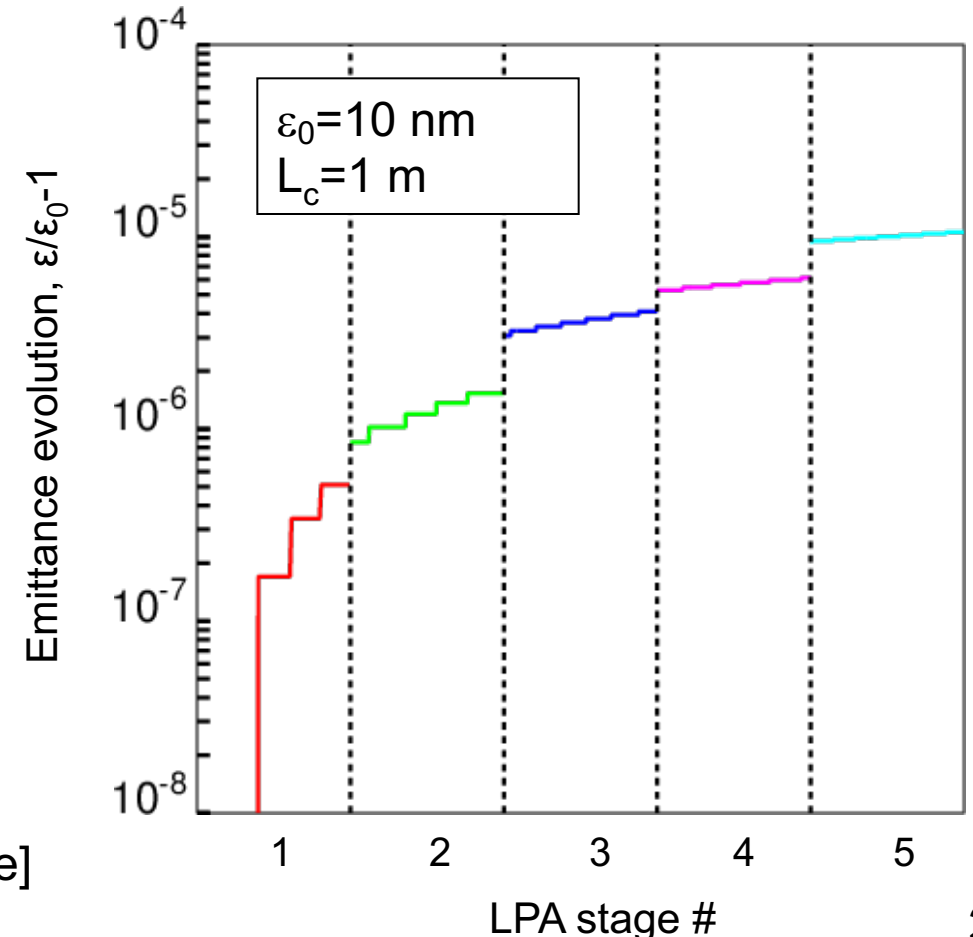
Schroeder et al., PRL (1999)  
Gessner et al., Nat. Comm (2016)  
Lindstrøm et al., PRL (2018)

# Use of large bunch sizes (enabled by hollow channel) results in suppression of chromatic emittance growth, relaxes alignment tolerances, and enables compact staging



$$\Delta \varepsilon \simeq \left( \frac{\varepsilon_0}{\sigma_0} \right)^2 \frac{\sigma_\gamma}{\gamma_0} \frac{s}{\gamma_0}$$

For bunches with  $\varepsilon_0 = 10 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\sigma_0 = 5 \mu\text{m}$ , and  $\sim 1\%$  energy spread:  
 →  $\Delta \varepsilon \ll 1 \text{ nm}$  in meter-scale drifts  
 → Applies to any stage where  $\sigma_0$  can be controlled



Inter-stage: ballistic (no focusing)  
 [matching w/ conventional quadrupoles in  $< \sim \text{m}$  scale distance possible]

# Recap of LPA-based collider challenges and potential solutions (some requiring significant R&D)

- **Laser diffraction**
  - Self-guiding in nonlinear regime
  - Guiding in pre-formed plasma channel
- **Laser-particle beam dephasing**
  - Plasma tapering
- **Laser energy depletion (with high gradient)**
  - Staging with compact driver in-coupling
- **Positron focusing and acceleration (with high quality)**
  - Use plasma columns/filaments
  - Use hollow channels
- **High laser-to-beam efficiency (no energy spread growth)**
  - Shaped particle beams
  - Laser energy recovery
- **Heating of plasma**
  - Use an “energy recovery” pulse
- **High-average laser power**
  - Fiber laser combining
- **Scattering in plasma**
  - Strong plasma focusing
  - Use (near-) hollow channels
- **Emittance growth via ion motion**
  - Use hollow channel
  - Adiabatic, slice-by-slice, matching
- **Beamstrahlung mitigation**
  - Short bunches
  - Flat beams in hollow channels
- **Beam break-up / other transverse beam instabilities**
  - Detune betatron freq. (e.g., ion motion or energy spread)
  - Stagger tuning
- **Alignment tolerances in linac:**
  - Control beam size
- **Non-linac subsystems requiring (major) R&D:**
  - beam (e<sup>+</sup>/e<sup>-</sup>) source (this could be laser-based)
  - beam cooling
  - polarization
  - BDS, ...

# Summary and conclusions

## High-level e-/e+ collider parameters based on hollow channel LPAs

Center-of-mass energy [TeV]	15
Beam energy [TeV]	7.5
Luminosity [ $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ ]	50
Particles/bunch [ $10^9$ ]	1.2
Beam power [MW]	65
RMS bunch length [ $\mu\text{m}$ ]	8.5
Repetition rate [kHz]	47
Time between collisions [ $\mu\text{s}$ ]	21
Beam size at IP, x/y [nm]	4/0.25
Linac length [km]	3.3
Facility site power (2 linacs) [MW]	1100

## High-level $\gamma/\gamma$ collider parameters based on bubble regime LPAs

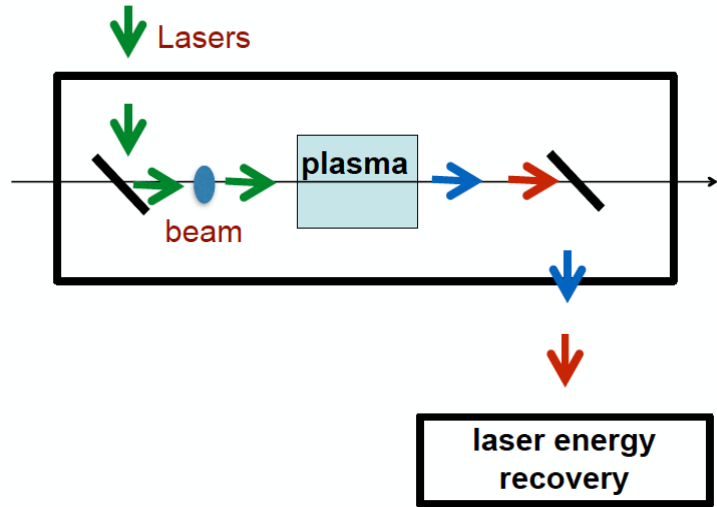
Center-of-mass photon energy	15 TeV
Photon beam energy	7.5 TeV
Electron beam energy	9.1 TeV
Beam power	12.5 MW
Repetition rate	1.1 kHz
Time between collisions	0.9 ms
Vertical beam emittance	100 nm
Horizontal beam emittance	100 nm
Final focus beta functions, $\beta_x^* = \beta_y^*$	0.15 mm
Scattering wavelength	36 $\mu\text{m}$
Geometric luminosity	$2 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Facility site power (2 linacs)	415 MW

- Energy frontier particle physics community desires  $\sim 10$  TeV pCM collider (P5 recommendation);
- LPAs potential candidates as drivers: high-gradient (relatively short linac), accelerate short bunches (saves power);
- Schematic for a LPA-based collider developed to guide R&D:
- Linac issues analyzed in this talk:
  - Characterization of LPAs operating in different regimes with fixed laser energy and wavelength (energy gain, optimal bunch current profile for high-efficiency and low-energy spread, tapering, etc.);
  - Designed collider-relevant LPA stages providing high-energy, high-efficiency, high-quality acceleration;
  - Emittance preservation during staging;
- Self-consistent design and integration of all sub-systems requires strong community effort (and \$\$).

# Backup



# Wall-to-beam energy efficiency could be improved using a lower energy laser pulse to recover part of the unused energy in the plasma (and reduce heating of plasma)



- Drive laser deposits energy into plasma wave (frequency red-shifts)
- Energy-recovery laser absorbs energy from wake (frequency blue-shifts)

- Re-use laser in another LPA stage
- Send to photovoltaic (targeted to laser wavelength) [energy recovery]
- Reduce unused energy in the plasma [heat management]

Requires tuning of the LPA stage so energy absorption for bunch and recovery pulse is optimized. Presence/absence of actual improvement depends on efficiencies (laser  $\rightarrow$  wake, wake  $\rightarrow$  bunch, photovoltaic recovery, pulse creation)

- Driver only
- Driver + bunch
- Driver + bunch + recovery

