



# Theoretical Basis and Exascale Simulations *for plasma wakefield acceleration*

Maxence Thévenet – DESY

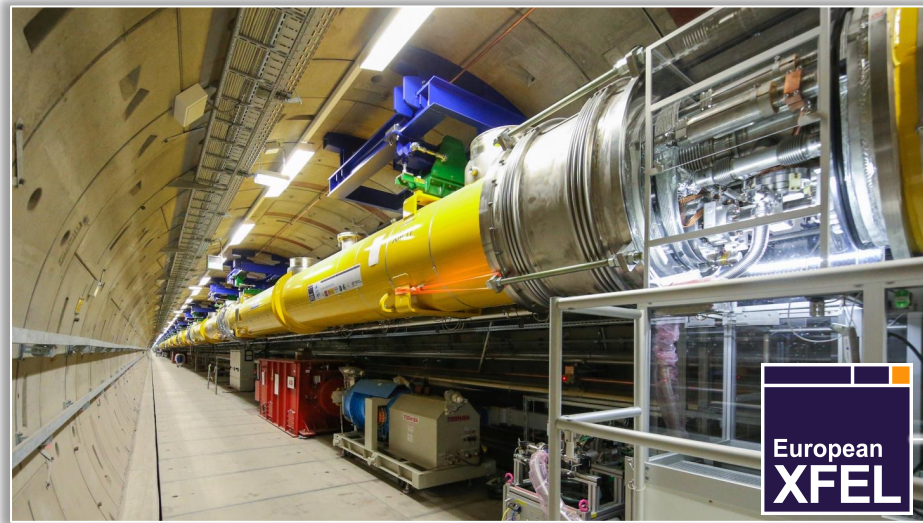
*MPA1 team: theory and  
simulations for plasma acceleration*

- I. Physics of plasma acceleration
- II. The particle-in-cell (PIC) method
- III. High-performance computing
- IV. Recent activities at DESY



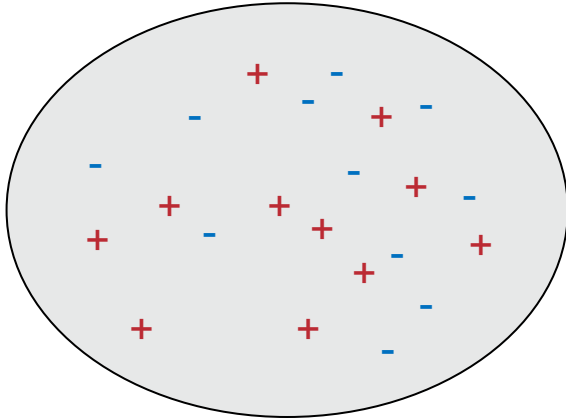
- I. Physics of plasma acceleration
- II. The particle-in-cell (PIC) method
- III. High-performance computing
- IV. Recent activities at DESY

# Particle accelerators are large devices



- Kinetic energy:  $\mathcal{E}_k \propto L \times E_z$
- Conventional accelerators limited to  $E_z < 100 \text{ MV/m}$
- Applications from MeV to TeV energy ranges
- Plasma acceleration  $E_z > 10 \text{ GV/m} \rightarrow 100\text{x more compact}$

# Plasma acceleration: an alternative to conventional technologies



## Plasma

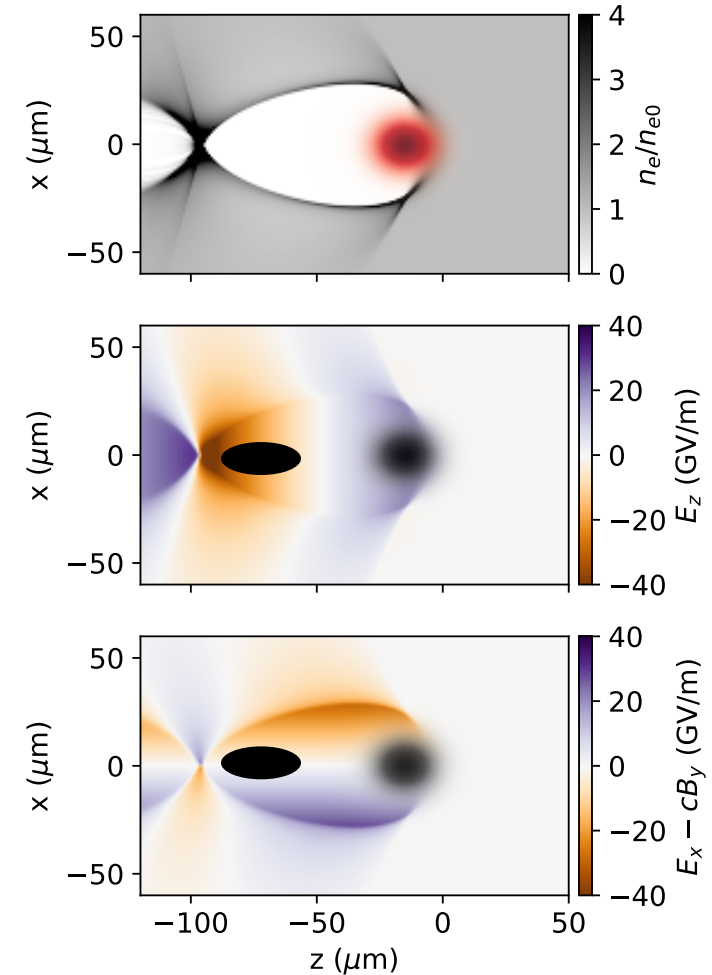
- electrons and ions ( $q/m > 1000x$  larger)
- Sensitive to electromagnetic fields  $\rightarrow$  collective effects
- Electron plasma waves:  $\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{n_e e^2}{m_e \epsilon_0}}$ ,  $k_p = \frac{\omega_p}{c}$ ,  $\lambda_p = \frac{2\pi}{k_p}$

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = -e(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

For the beam:  $v_z \sim c$



Wake  $\sim \lambda_p = 10s - 100s \mu m$   
 Propagation  $\sim mm-m$  distance



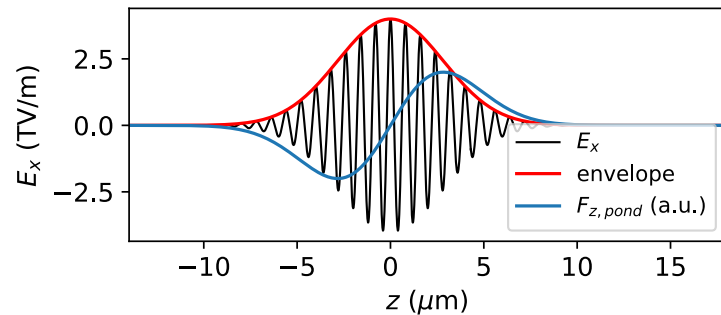
T. Tajima, J. M. Dawson. *PRL* 43.4 (1979)

# The wake can be driven by a particle beam or a laser pulse

## Electron beam

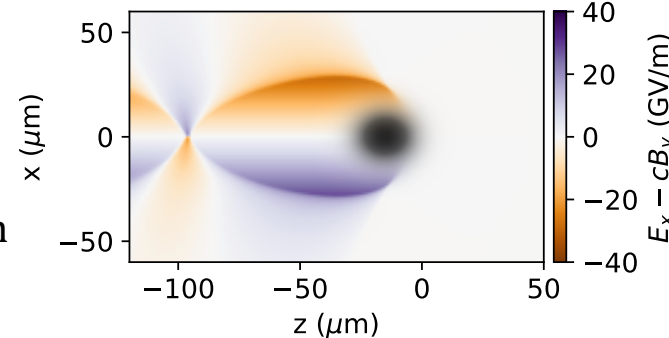
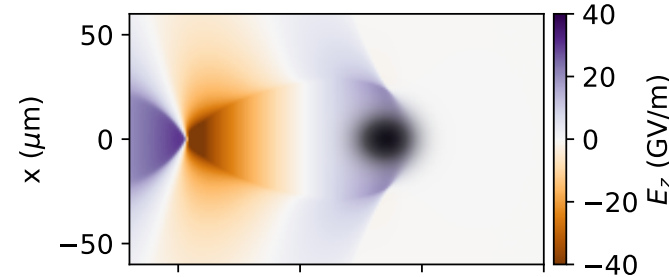
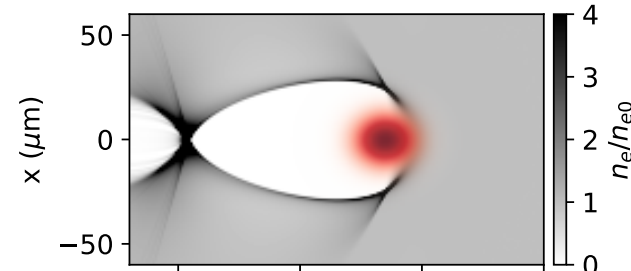
- $L < \lambda_p$
- $\mathbf{v} \sim c\mathbf{e}_z$
- $\rho, \mathbf{J} \rightarrow \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{B}$
- Fields depend on the beam current

## Laser pulse

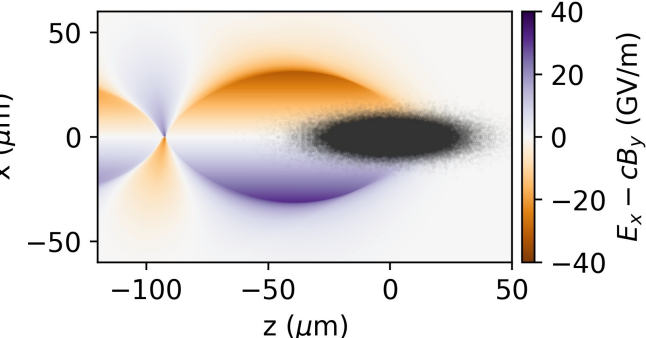
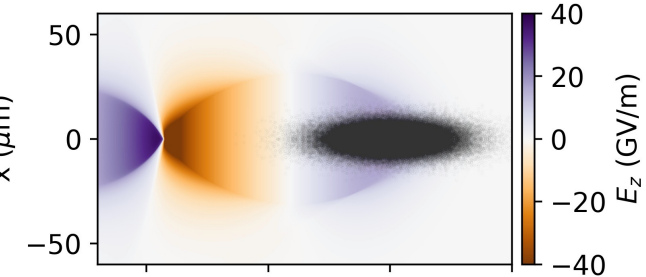
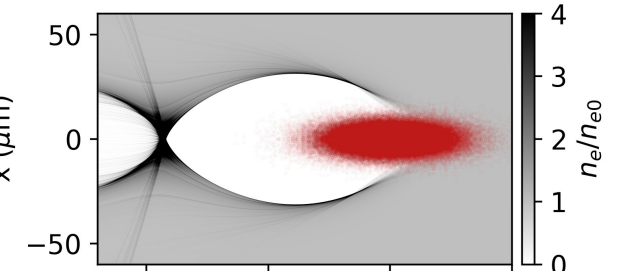


- Length  $L < \lambda_p$ , width  $w_0 < \lambda_p$ , wavelength  $\lambda = 0.8 \mu\text{m}$
- $a_0 = \frac{eE_0}{m_e\omega c}$ ; non-relativistic  $a_0 \ll 1$
- Ponderomotive force:  $\mathbf{F}_p = -\frac{1}{2m_e\bar{\gamma}} \nabla \overline{|qA_x^2|}$

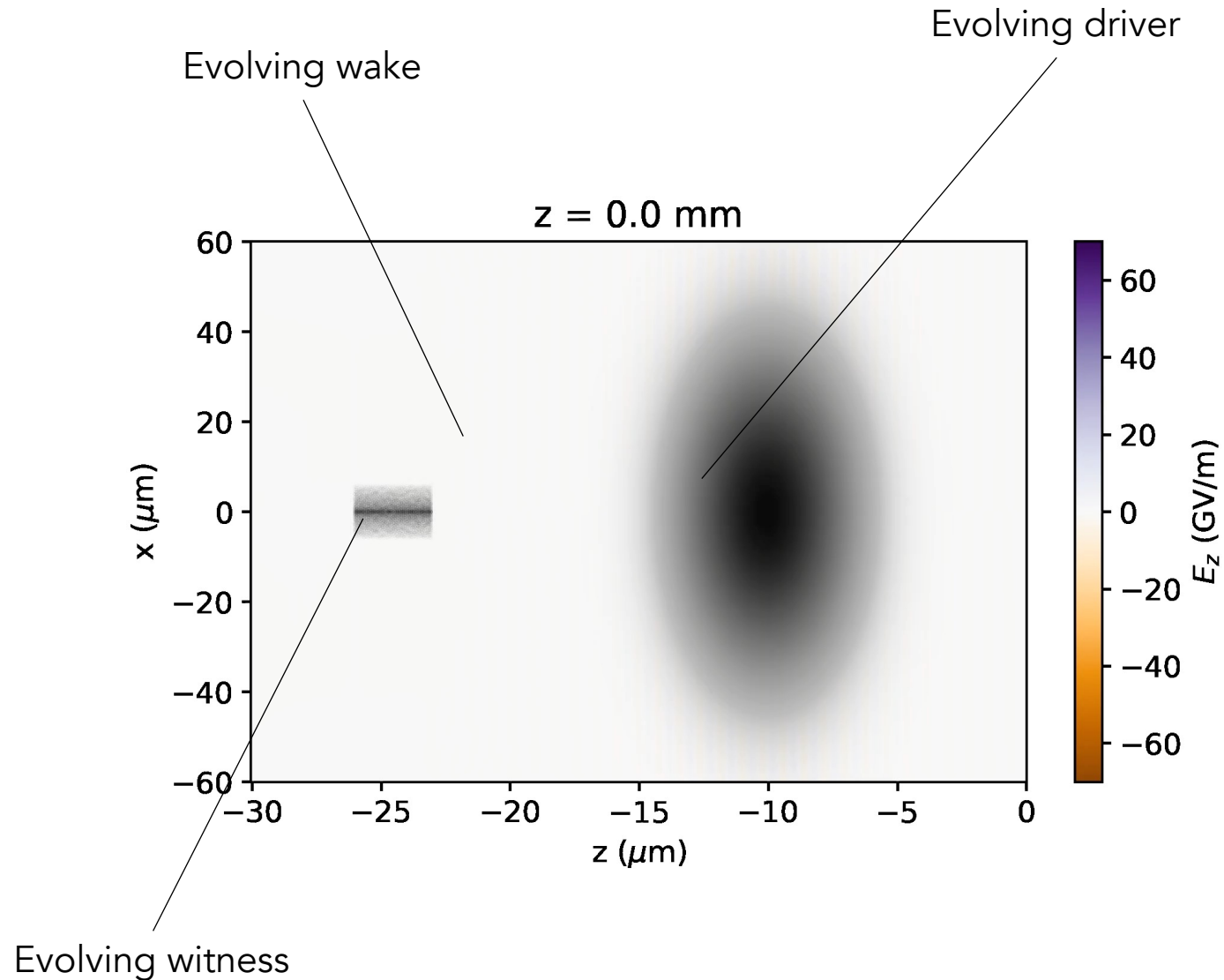
Laser pulse



Electron beam



# Wakefield acceleration is a complex dynamic process



# Wake excitation 1/2: linear regime

- Small perturbation of electron density
- Co-moving coordinate  $f(z, t) \rightarrow f(\zeta = z - ct, t)$
- Quasi-static approximation: Neglect some time derivatives
- Electrons behaves as a laminar fluid  $\rightarrow$  cold fluid theory
- Convenient variable: pseudo-potential

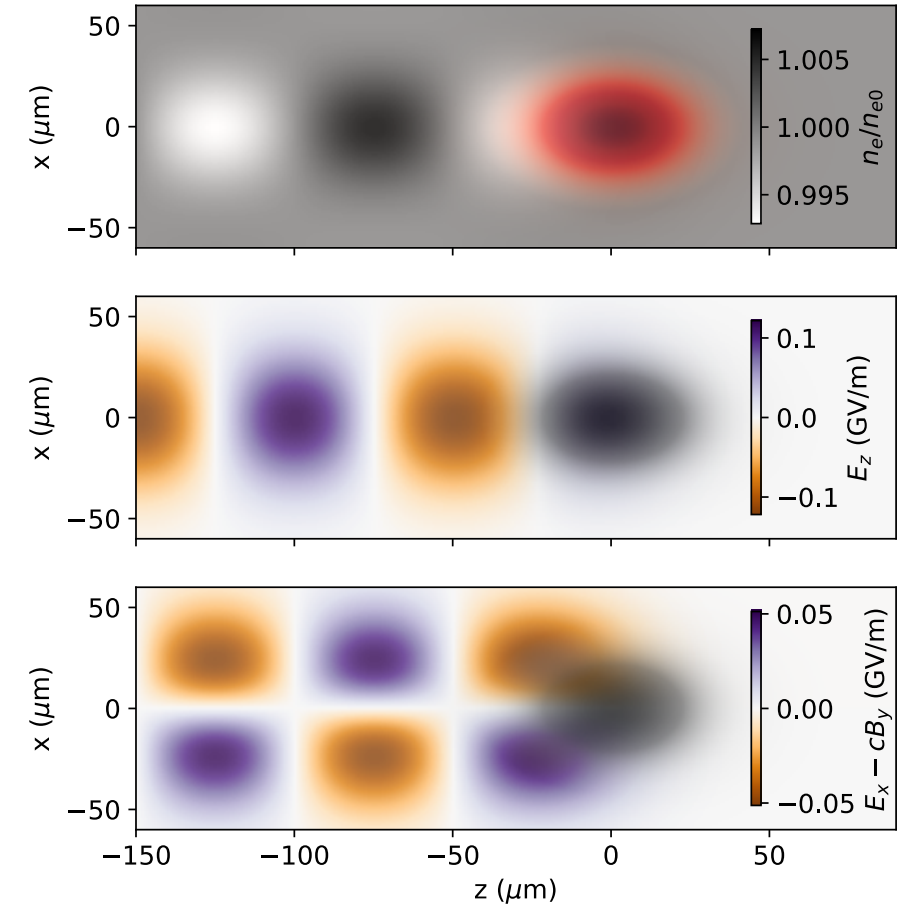
$$\psi = \phi - a_z$$

$$\mathbf{F} = m_e c^2 (-\partial_\zeta \psi \mathbf{e}_z + \nabla_\perp \psi)$$
 for an electron with  $\mathbf{v} \sim c \mathbf{e}_z$

$$\psi = \frac{-k_p}{2} \int_\zeta^{+\infty} \overline{|\mathbf{a}_l^2(\mathbf{u})|} \sin(k_p(\zeta - u)) du$$

$\rightarrow$  Resonant excitation  $k_p L \sim 1$

$\rightarrow$  Harmonic waves,  $1/4$  plasma wavelength focusing/accelerating



**Condition for (quasi-)linear regime**

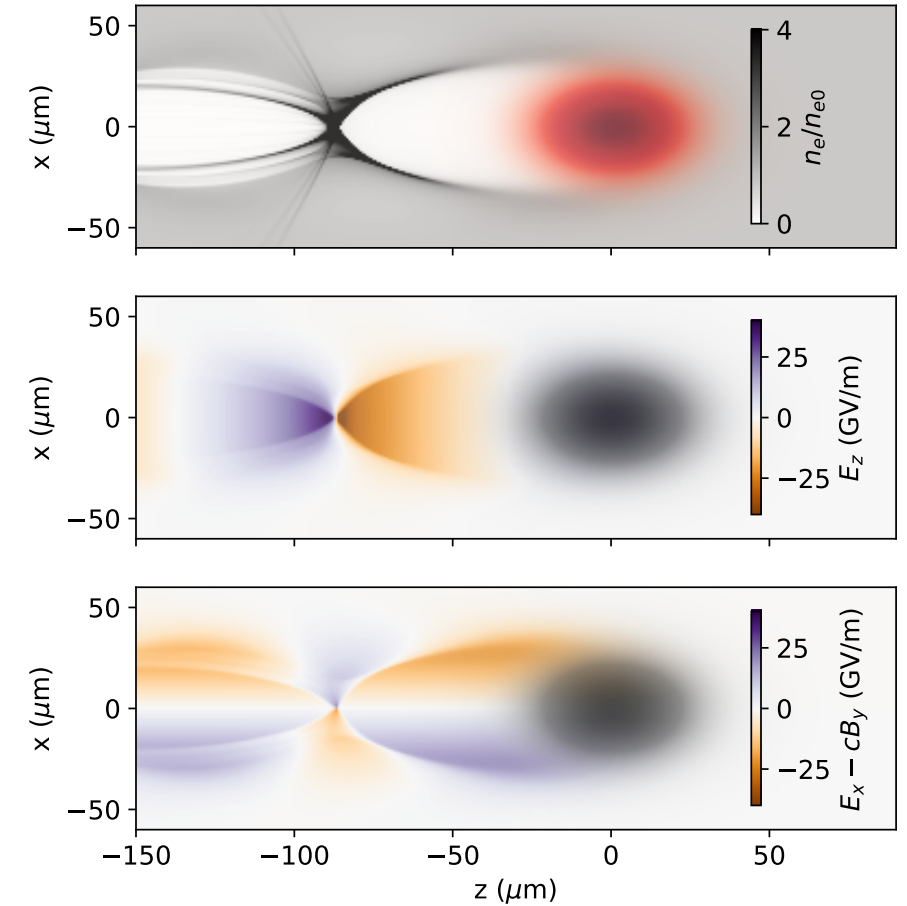
**Laser** for  $k_p L \sim 1$  &  $k_p w_0 \leq 1$ ,  $a_0 < 1$

**Beam** for  $k_p L \sim 1$  &  $k_p R \leq 1$ ,  $\frac{n_b}{n_e} < 1$

L.M. Gorbunov and V.I. Kirsanov, Sov. Phys. JETP 66 (1987)

# Wake excitation 2/2: blowout regime

- Fluid description is not accurate
  - Cold non-relativistic wave-breaking field [1]  $E_0 = \frac{m_e \omega_p c}{e}$
  - In the ion cavity
    - $E_r - cB_\theta = \frac{E_0 k_p r}{2}$  [2] Linear and independent on z
    - $E_z$  independent on r
  - Semi-analytic models [3,4] for  $E_z$
- Excellent properties for accelerating a beam



Condition for the blowout regime

Laser for  $k_p L \sim 1$  &  $k_p w_0 \leq \sqrt{a_0}$ ,  $a_0 \gg 1$

Beam for  $k_p L \sim 1$  &  $k_p R \leq 1$ ,  $\frac{n_b}{n_e} \gg 1$

- [1] J. M. Dawson Phys. Rev. **113** (1959)  
[2] J. B. Rosenzweig et al., PRA **44** (1991)  
[3] A. Pukhov et al., PPCF **64** (2004)  
[4] W. Lu et al., PRL **96** (2006)

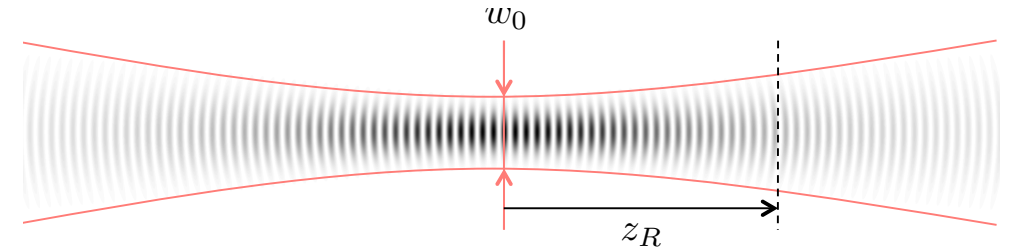


# Laser pulses and particle beams are affected by the plasma

## Laser driver

### In vacuum

- $v_\phi \sim c, v_g \sim c$
- Diffraction over the Rayleigh length  $z_R = \frac{\pi w_0^2}{\lambda}$



### In a plasma: refractive index $\eta_r = 1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{2\omega^2}$

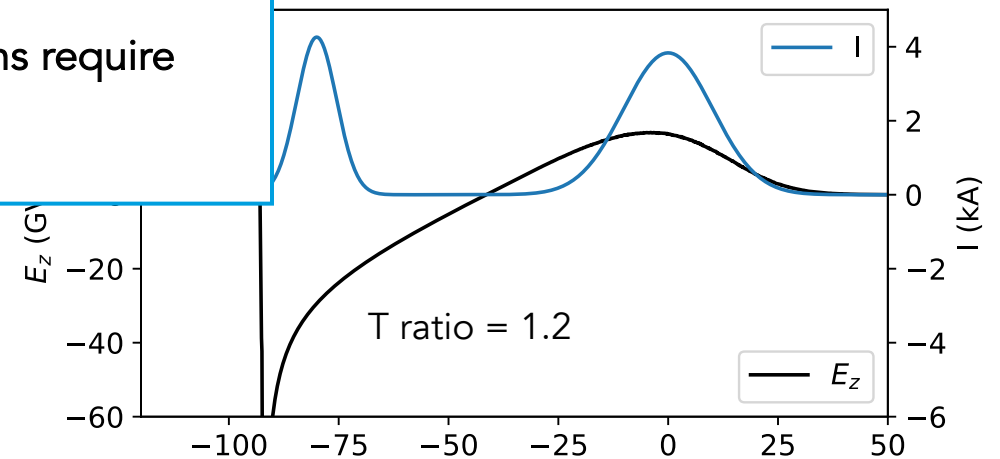
- $v_{wake} = v_g = \left(1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{2\omega^2}\right)c < c \rightarrow$
- Relativistic self-focusing  $P_c = 2$

Numerous effects are hard to evaluate analytically

→ Quantitative predictions require numerical simulations

## Driver and witness particle beams

- Decelerating driver & accelerating witness  $\gamma$  transformer ratio
- Betatron oscillations  $\omega_\beta = \frac{\omega_p}{\sqrt{2\gamma}}$
- Trapping of a witness beam

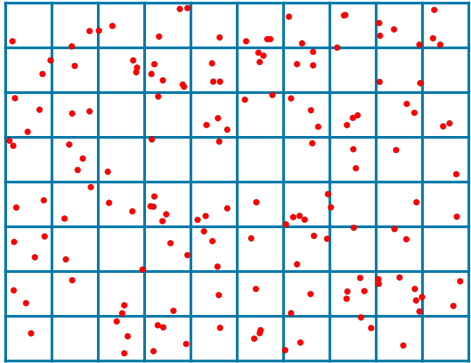
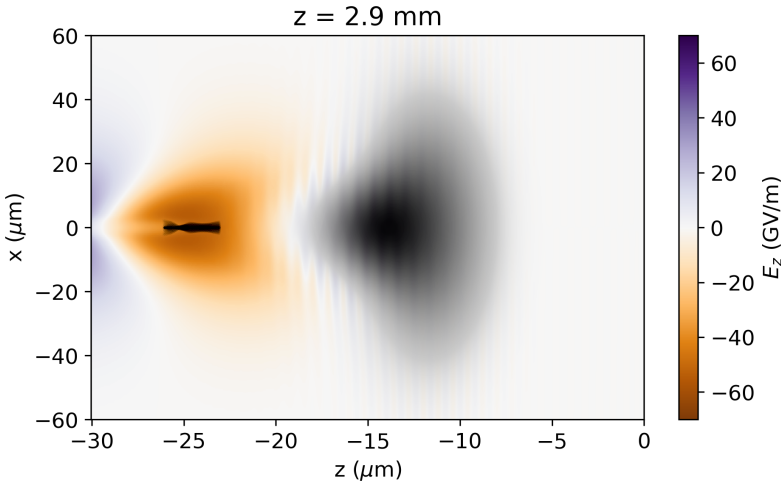


Chen, PRL (1986)

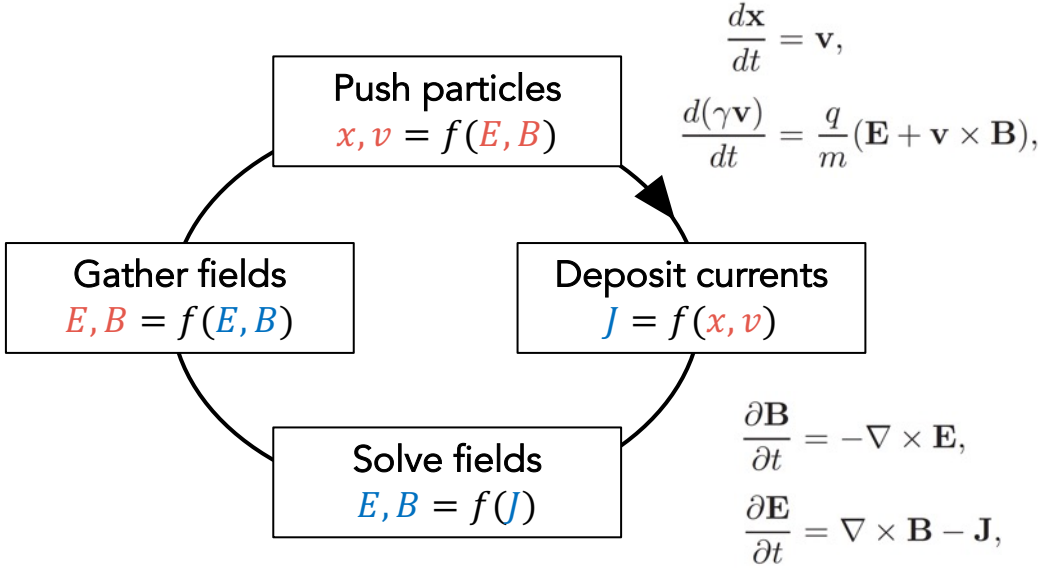


- I. Physics of plasma acceleration
- II. The particle-in-cell (PIC) method
- III. High-performance computing
- IV. Recent activities at DESY

# Particle-in-Cell: self-consistent plasma & fields description



Regular mesh  
Macroparticles



Lagrangian description of plasma  
Eulerian description of fields

→ 3D simulations of plasma acceleration are very expensive

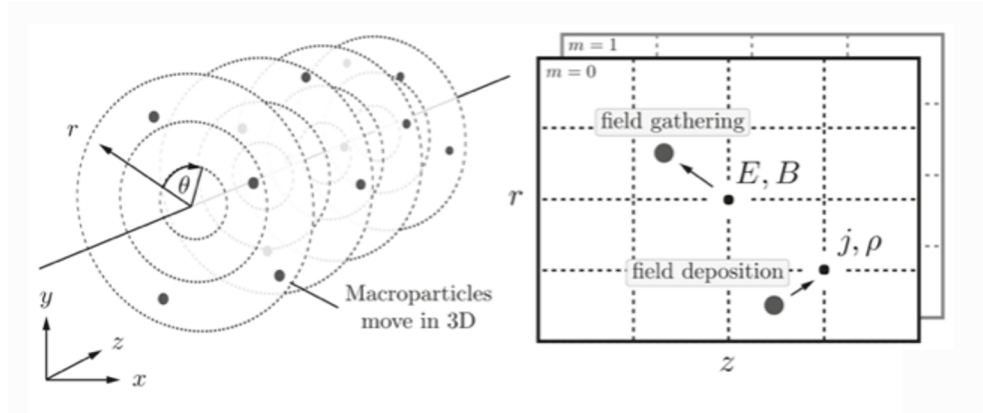
# Several methods & approximations are well-suited to PIC

## ➤ Reduced geometry: Azimuthal decomposition or RZ

- CALDER-circ, OSIRIS, QPAD, FBPIC, WarpX

→ Quasi-cylindrical problems

Lifschitz, A. F., et al. *JCP* 228.5 (2009)



- **The fields are decomposed into azimuthal modes**

$$F(r, z, \theta) = \text{Re} \left[ \sum_{m=0}^{N_m-1} \hat{F}_m(r, z) e^{im\theta} \right]$$

m=0: purely cylindrical mode

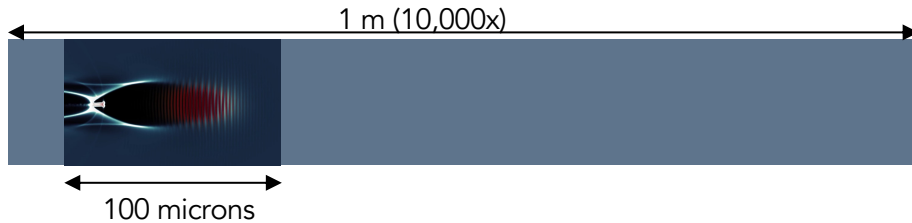
m=1: dipole mode

m=2: quadrupole mode

- **Each azimuthal mode is represented by a 2D r-z grid**

[https://fbpic.github.io/overview/pic\\_algorithm.html#cylindrical-grid-with-azimuthal-decomposition](https://fbpic.github.io/overview/pic_algorithm.html#cylindrical-grid-with-azimuthal-decomposition)

# Several methods & approximations are well-suited to PIC



Problem: the CFL condition limits the time step to  $\Delta t < c\Delta z$

## ➤ Boosted frame method

J.-L. Vay PRL 98, 130405 (2007)



- Reduces number of time step by orders of magnitude
- Prone to Numerical Cherenkov Instability (NCI)
- Methods exist to mitigate NCI (PSATD + Galilean transform [1,2], RIP [3])

[1] R. Lehe et al., PRE 94 (2016)

[2] M. Kirchen et al., Phys. Plasmas 23 (2016)

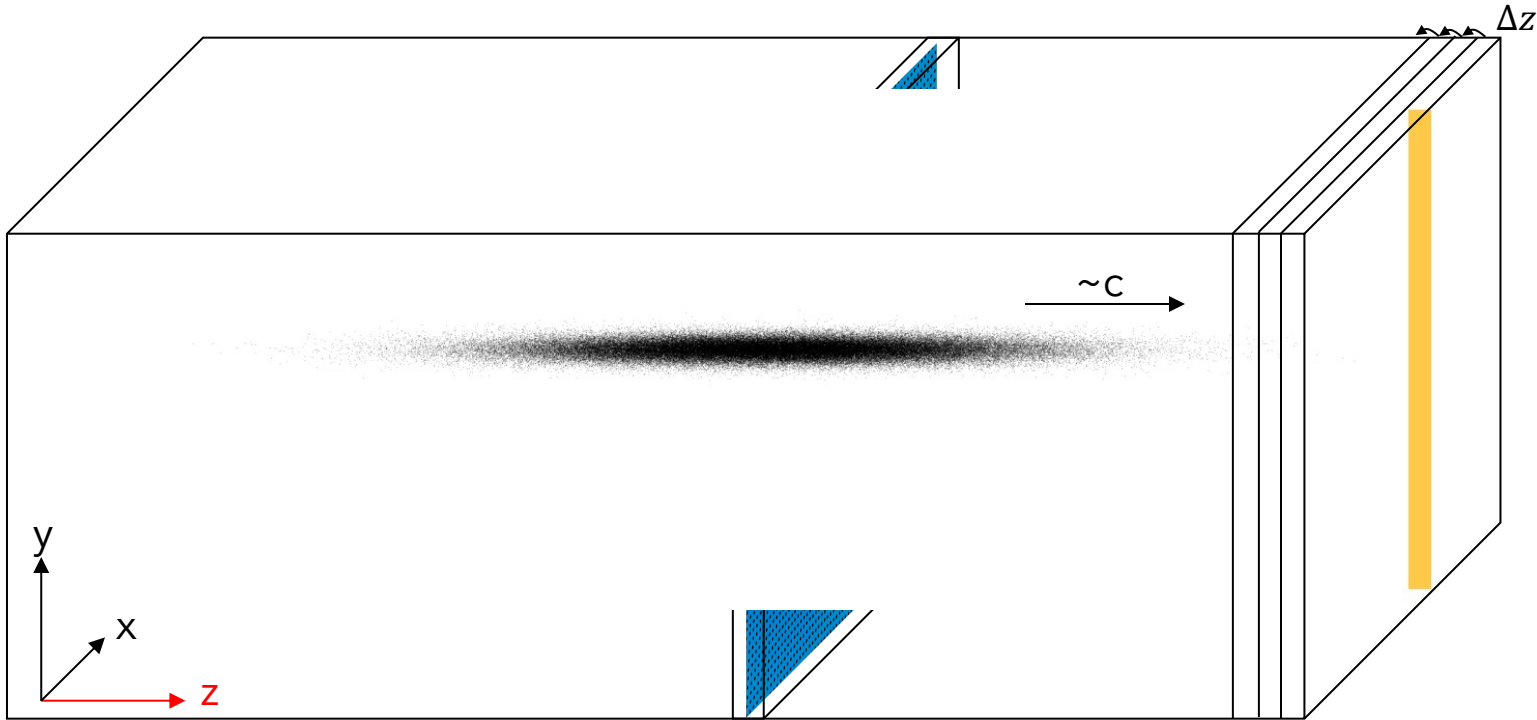
[3] A. Pukhov JCP 418 (2020)

## ➤ Reduced model: quasi-static PIC (QS-PIC)

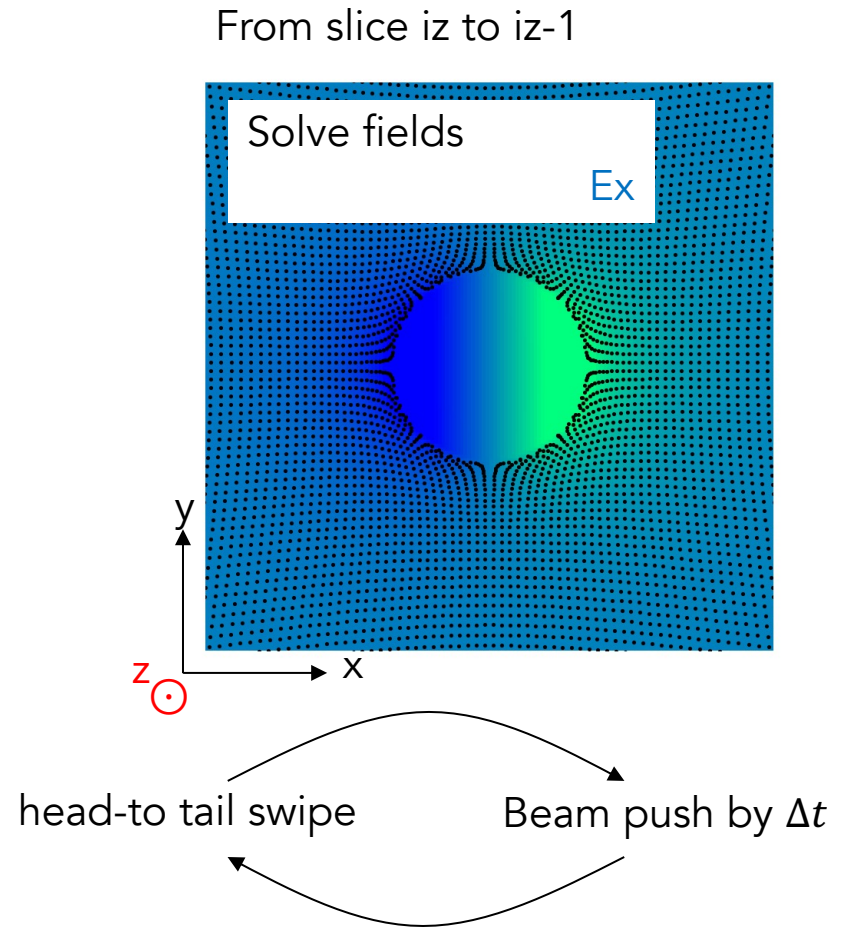
- Beam & wake:  $v \sim ce_z$
- Quasi-static approximation
- From the driver at a given time, calculate the plasma response → no history

→ No CFL condition, large time step for the beam  
→ Cannot capture injection

# 3D QS-PIC simulations rely on 2D PIC loop in $\zeta$ from head to tail



- Only 1 slice of fields and plasma particles
- Head-to-tail swipe to calculate fields on each slice ( $N_z$ )
- For each slice, 2D PIC iterations (in  $z$ ) with Poisson solves
- Can be parallelized transversally and longitudinally



# Comparison EM-PIC & QS-PIC

|                            | EM-PIC  | QS-PIC  |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Algorithm                  | Fields and particles advanced in time<br>$\partial_t f = \dots$     | Beam particles advanced in time<br>Plasma particles advanced in space $\zeta$<br>Fields: 2D Poisson equation $\Delta_{\perp} f = s$ |
| Data                       | $n_x n_y n_z (10 + ppc * 10)$                                       | $n_x n_y (10 + ppc * 10)$   |
| Operations                 | $n_t$ PIC iterations $n_x n_y n_z$                                  | $n_t n_z$ PIC iterations $n_x n_y$  |
| Existing codes             | CALDER, EPOCH, FBPIC, OSIRIS,<br>PICongPU, Smilei, Vsim, WarpX, ... | HiPACE++, INF&RNO, LCODE, QuickPIC,<br>QPAD, WAND-PIC, ...  |
| Advantages and limitations | General but expensive   | Large time step but injection not always captured   |

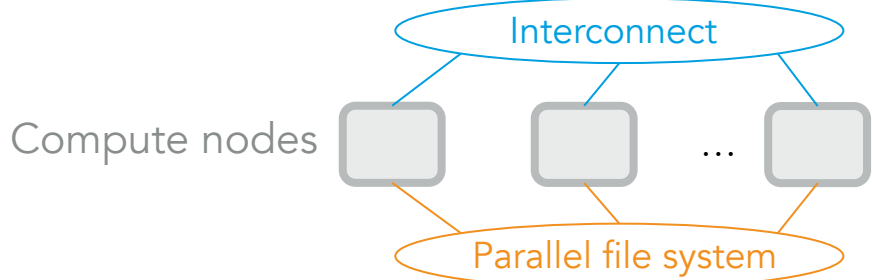
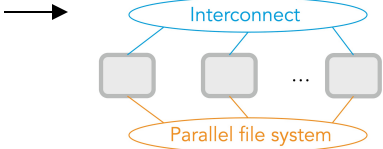
- Languages (Python, C++, C, Fortran, etc.)
- Capabilities (boosted frame) & methods
- Physics (collisions, ionization, QED)
- Geometries (1/2/3D, quasi-cylindrical)
- Open-source, supported platforms



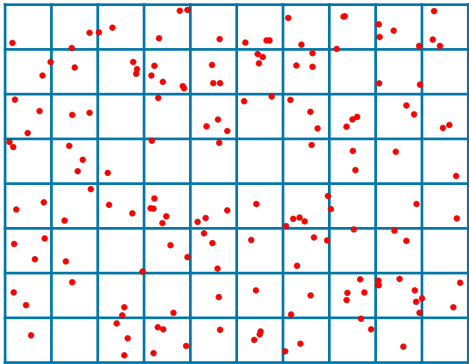
- I. Physics of plasma acceleration
- II. The particle-in-cell (PIC) method
- III. High-performance computing (HPC)
- IV. Recent activities at DESY



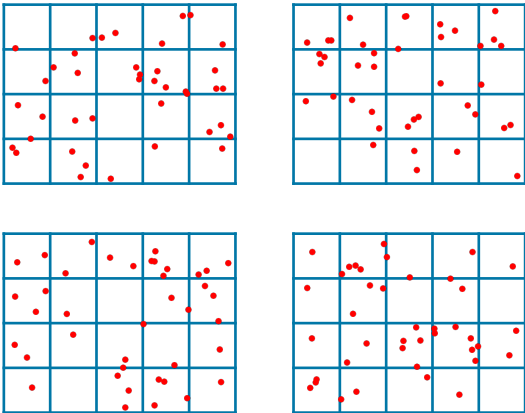
# Supercomputers accelerate parallel applications



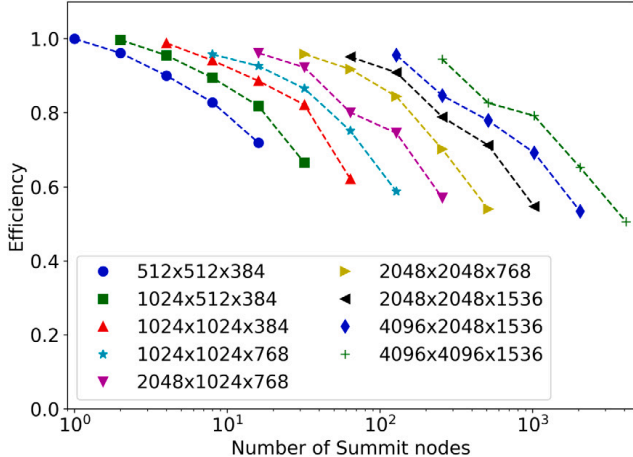
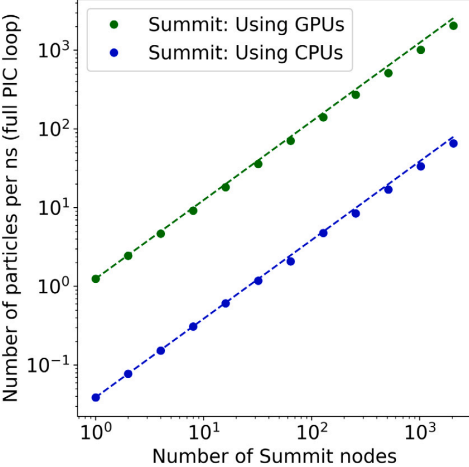
In practice for PIC



Domain decomposition



WarpX

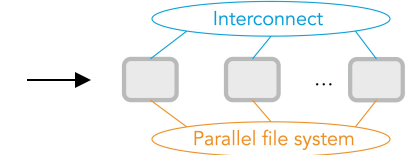


- Data must be exchanged at each iteration
  - Fields: 1 (or more) boundary "ghost" cells
  - Particles: changing sub-domain
- Halo exchange

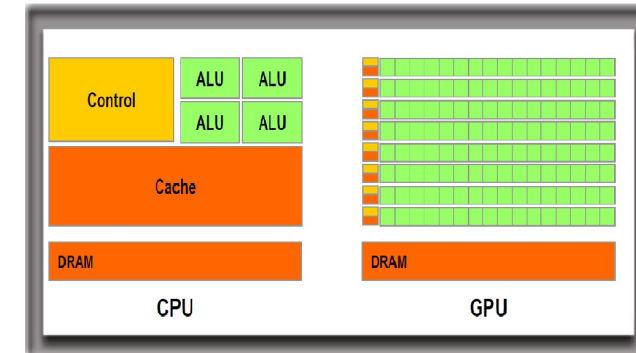
Strong scaling (total problem size = cst)  
Weak scaling (problem size per node = cst)

A. T. Myers et al., Parall. Comp. 108 (2021)

# CPU & GPU: different approaches to HPC



CPU: central processing unit  
GPU: graphics processing unit (GPGPU)



| Rank     | Machine                   | Node architecture |
|----------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 (26)   | Fugaku (Japan)            | CPU (Arm)         |
| 2 (28)   | Summit (USA)              | CPU + GPU         |
| 3 (32)   | Sierra (USA)              | CPU + GPU         |
| 4 (53)   | Sunway TaihuLight (China) | CPU + GPU         |
| 5 (7)    | Perlmutter (USA)          | CPU + GPU         |
| 6 (16)   | Selene (USA)              | CPU + GPU         |
| 7 (111)  | Tianhe-2A (China)         | CPU               |
| 8 (11)   | JUWELS Booster (Germany)  | CPU + GPU         |
| 9 (25)   | HPC5 (Italy)              | CPU + GPU         |
| 10 (180) | Voyager-EUS2 (USA)        | CPU + GPU         |

## Data movement dominates computation time

$$\text{Time of data migration} = \text{latency} + \frac{\text{message size}}{\text{bandwidth}}$$

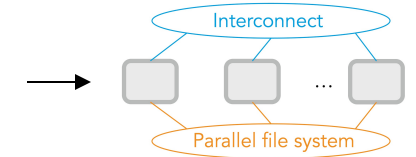
CPU: low latency → high-speed serial processors

GPU: high bandwidth → high-throughput parallel processors

CPU: 10s of very fast & independent cores  
GPU: 1000s of slow cores doing the same operation

<https://www.nextplatform.com/2019/07/10/a-decade-of-accelerated-computing-augurs-well-for-gpus/>  
Kirk, David B., and W. Hwu Wen-Mei. Morgan kaufmann, 2016.  
www.top500.org

# A portability layer helps support multiple architectures



## ➤ Performance-portability

- In particular GPU computing
- Portability layer (Kokkos, Alpaka, RAJA) C++

```
for(int i=0; i<N; i++){  
    xp[i] += 1.;  
}
```

```
CUDA (NVIDIA)  
kernel(int* xp) {  
    int i = blockIdx.x *  
            blockDim.x  
            + threadIdx.x;  
    if (i<N) xp[i] += 1; }  
kernel<<<N, 256>>>(xp);
```

## ➤ Open Source & Open Repository

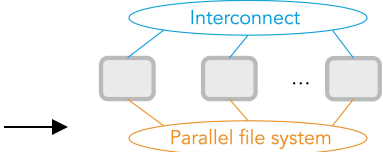
- Software can be freely used, modified and shared
- Encourages flexible, modular code
- Favor good dependency graph rather than duplication

```
Kokkos::ParallelFor( N,  
    [=] (int i) {  
        xp[i] += 1.;  
    }  
);
```

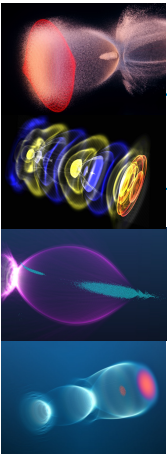


...

# openPMD for I/O in PIC simulations



Your favorite code



# openPMD

- ✓ Archive (FAIR) & share
- ✓ Analyze & plot (openPMD-viewer, VisualPIC)
- ✓ Interface with other codes  
Beam optics, ICS, FEL, ML
- ✓ In-situ visualization?



Standard I/O format for particle and mesh data  
Pioneered at HZDR, contributors worldwide

- standard <https://github.com/openPMD>
- API <https://github.com/openPMD/openPMD-api>
- viewer <https://github.com/openPMD/openPMD-viewer>

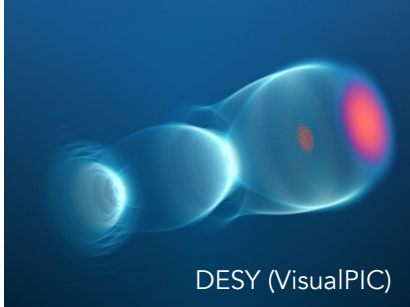
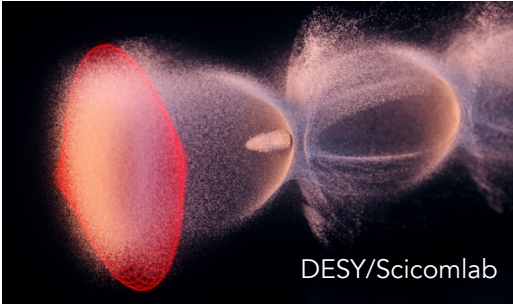

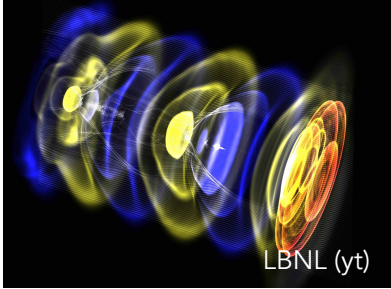
- openPMD: high-quality standard for particle & mesh data**
- reliable tool for start-to-end simulations
- adopt FAIR principles for longevity
- encourage benchmarks and collaboration in a (reasonably) user-friendly way.
- Good adoption in PIC community
- Wraps around performant file formats (HDF5, ADIOS2)



- I. Physics of plasma acceleration
- II. The particle-in-cell (PIC) method
- III. High-performance computing (HPC)
- IV. Recent activities at DESY

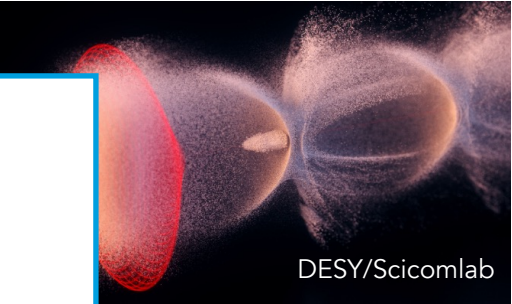
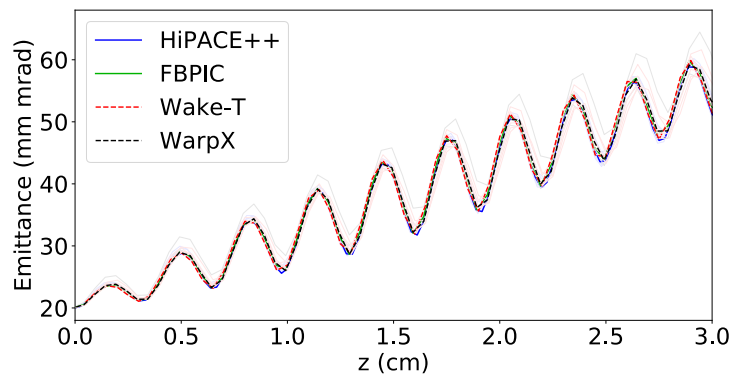
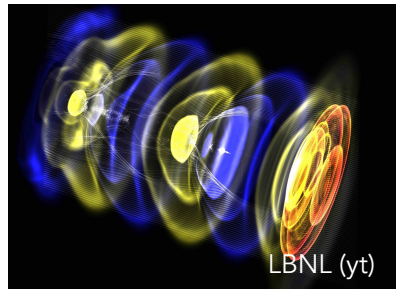
# DESY actively contributes to multiple plasma acceleration codes

And uses more

|                   | Quasistatic  | Electromagnetic  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Quasi-cylindrical | <p><b>Wake-T</b> (DESY)<br/>→ <i>Conceptual designs (sec-min)</i><br/>MPA1</p> <p>Open-source openPMD<br/><a href="https://github.com/AngelFP/Wake-T">https://github.com/AngelFP/Wake-T</a></p>  <p>DESY (VisualPIC)</p>       | <p><b>FBPIC</b> (LBNL + UHH + ...)<br/>→ <i>LPA RZ with injection</i><br/>LUX (M. Kirchen, S. Jalas)</p> <p>Open-source GPU openPMD<br/><a href="https://github.com/fbpic/fbpic">https://github.com/fbpic/fbpic</a></p>  <p>DESY/Scicomlab</p>                    |
| 3D                | <p><b>HiPACE++</b> (DESY + LBNL)<br/>→ <i>3D without injection</i><br/>MPA1</p> <p>Open-source GPU openPMD<br/><a href="https://github.com/Hi-PACE/hipace">https://github.com/Hi-PACE/hipace</a></p>  <p>DESY (VisualPIC)</p> | <p><b>WarpX</b> (LBNL + ...)<br/>→ <i>3D with injection, QED</i><br/>Minor contribution</p> <p>Open-source GPU openPMD<br/><a href="https://github.com/ECP-WarpX/WarpX">https://github.com/ECP-WarpX/WarpX</a><br/>or PConGPU, OSIRIS, ...</p>  <p>LBNL (yt)</p> |

# DESY actively contributes to multiple plasma acceleration codes

And uses more

|                   | Quasistatic  | Electromagnetic  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Quasi-cylindrical | <p><b>Wake-T (DESY)</b></p> <p>→ Concealed<br/>MPA1</p> <p>Open-source<br/><a href="https://github.com/DESY/Wake-T">https://github.com/DESY/Wake-T</a></p> | <p><b>FBPIC (LBNL + UHH + ...)</b></p>  <p>DESY/Scicomlab</p>   |
| 3D                | <p><b>HiPACE++</b></p> <p>→ 3D with<br/>MPA1</p> <p>Open-source<br/><a href="https://github.com/Hi-PACE/hipace">https://github.com/Hi-PACE/hipace</a></p>  | <p><b>Beam-driven wakefield acceleration</b></p> <p>1 GeV, 5 <math>\mu\text{m}</math> width, 20 <math>\mu\text{m}</math> emittance, 1 nC,<br/>20 <math>\mu\text{m}</math> long, <math>10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}</math> plasma, <math>n_b/n_0 = 8</math></p>  <p>In collaboration with the WarpX team, LBNL<br/><a href="https://github.com/ECP-WarpX/WarpX">https://github.com/ECP-WarpX/WarpX</a><br/>or PIconGPU, OSIRIS, ...</p>  <p>LBNL (yt)</p> |

# HiPACE++ 1/3 – a quasi-static PIC on GPU (and CPU)

- Collaboration with the ECP WarpX team
- C++, full re-writing of HiPACE (DESY, LBNL)
- GPU porting of the FULL PIC loop for orders-of-magnitude speedup
- Built on top of AMReX & openPMD
  - Data structures and communications
  - Performance-portability (ParallelFor)
  - 10000 LOC, 2000 comments
  - Proper HiPACE++ code: 18% compilation time
- HPC programming standards
  - Documented, open-source, open-repository, CMake
  - Continuous Integration
  - Two unit systems (normalized, SI)
  - Single or double precision

→ *Beam-driven used in production, laser-driven work-in-progress*

**HiPACE++**



open  
**PMD**



**AMD**

3D quasi-static PIC code

**Lead dev/PI(s) :**

DESY + LBNL

<https://github.com/Hi-PACE/hipace>

**Language:** C++

**Doc:** <https://hipace.readthedocs.io>

**2021, just starting**

**HiPACE++: a portable, 3D quasi-static Particle-in-Cell code**

S. Diederichs,<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup> C. Benedetti,<sup>2</sup> A. Huebl,<sup>2</sup> R. Lehe,<sup>2</sup>

A. Myers,<sup>2</sup> A. Sinn,<sup>1</sup> J.-L. Vay,<sup>2</sup> W. Zhang,<sup>2</sup> and M. Th evenet<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY, Notkestra e 85, 22607 Hamburg, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, 1 Cyclotron Rd, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

<sup>3</sup>University of Hamburg, Institute of Experimental Physics,

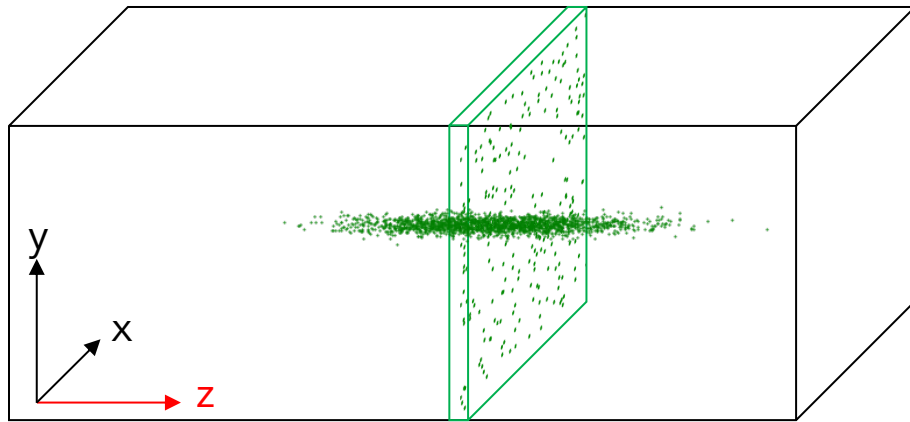
Luruper Chaussee 149, 22607 Hamburg, Germany

(Dated: September 22, 2021)

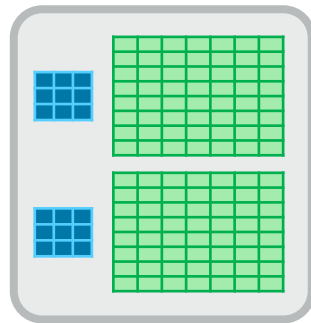
arXiv



# HiPACE++ 2/3 – the GPU porting strategy exploits fast single-GPU



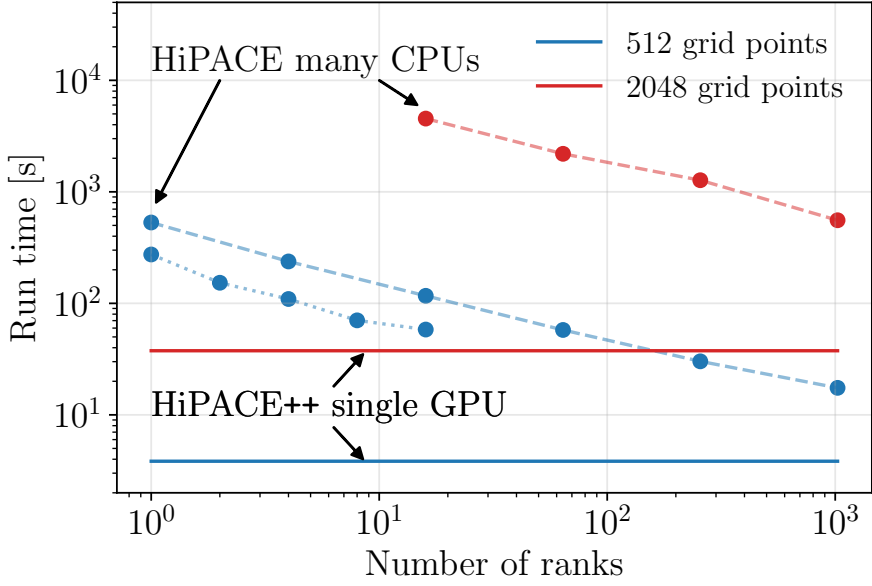
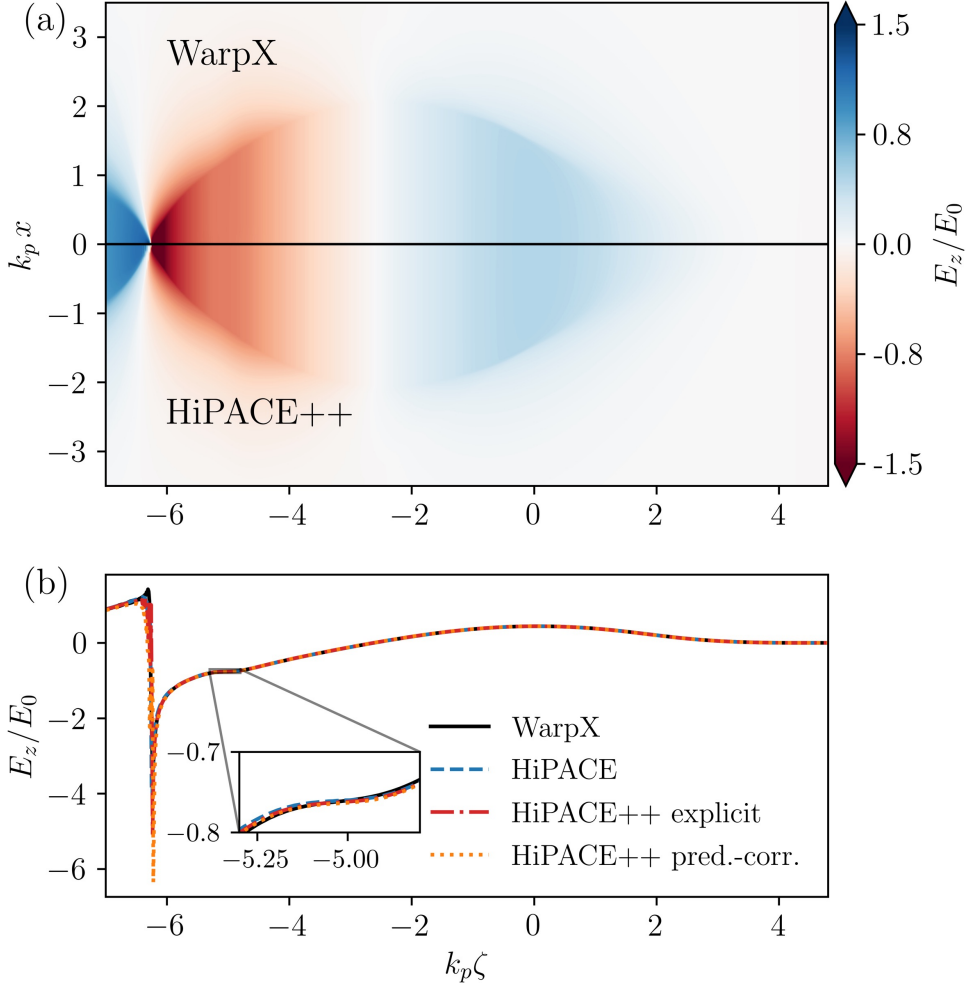
40 CPU cores +  
10,000 GPU cores



Poster:

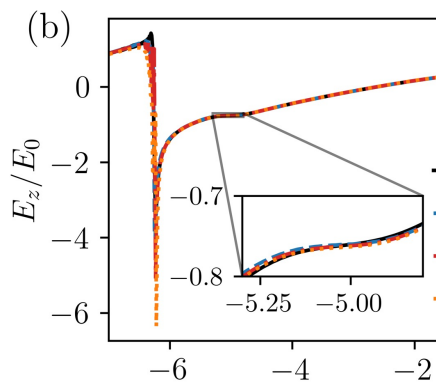
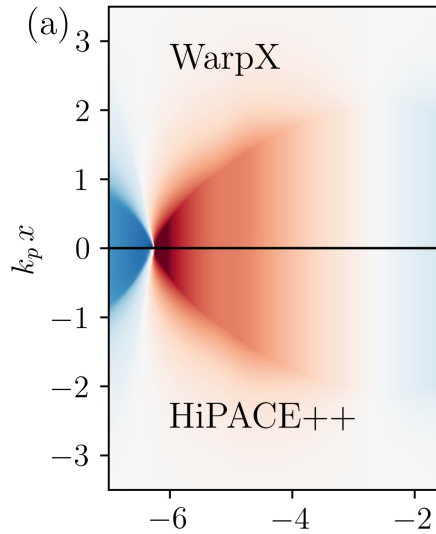
- Low memory required for computing (on the device)
  - $N_x \times N_y \times N_{fields}$  grid cells ( $E, B, J, \rho$ )
  - $N_x \times N_y \times N_{ppc}$  plasma macro-particles
  - A few millions beam macro-particles
  - All compute data on the device
- Many 2D Poisson solves (FFT) & Helmholtz solves (MG)
  - $N_x = N_y = 2048$  is a large problem
  - $N_z \times N_{steps} \times 10 = 10^7$  Poisson solves
  - single-GPU cuFFT vs. FFTW
- All other operations (current deposition etc.) work well on GPU  
As demonstrated by WarpX, PICongPU, etc.

# HiPACE++ 3/3 – benchmarks & performance



➤ Excellent scaling to hundreds of GPUs

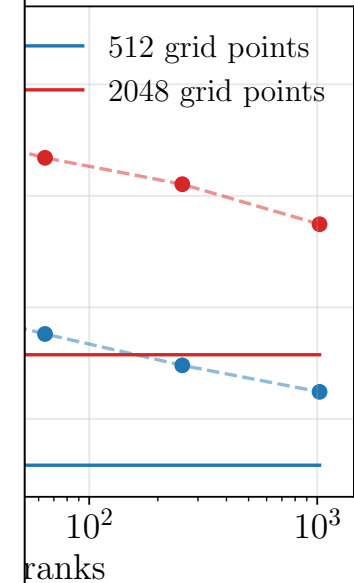
# HiPACE++ 3/3 – benchmarks & performance



- Successfully benchmarked
- HiPACE++ on 1 GPU (1/4 node)
  - 10x faster** (on the JUWELS Booster) than HiPACE on 1024 CPU codes (22 nodes)
- High-resolution simulations within minutes
- Production simulations from laptop float to HPC

S. Diederichs, poster 12, *Modelling Positron Acceleration with HiPACE++*

A. Sinn, poster 47, *Improving Performance and Numerics of the Quasi-static PIC Code HiPACE++*



- Excellent scaling to hundreds of GPUs

# Conceptual design study: a plasma injector for PETRA IV (PIP4)

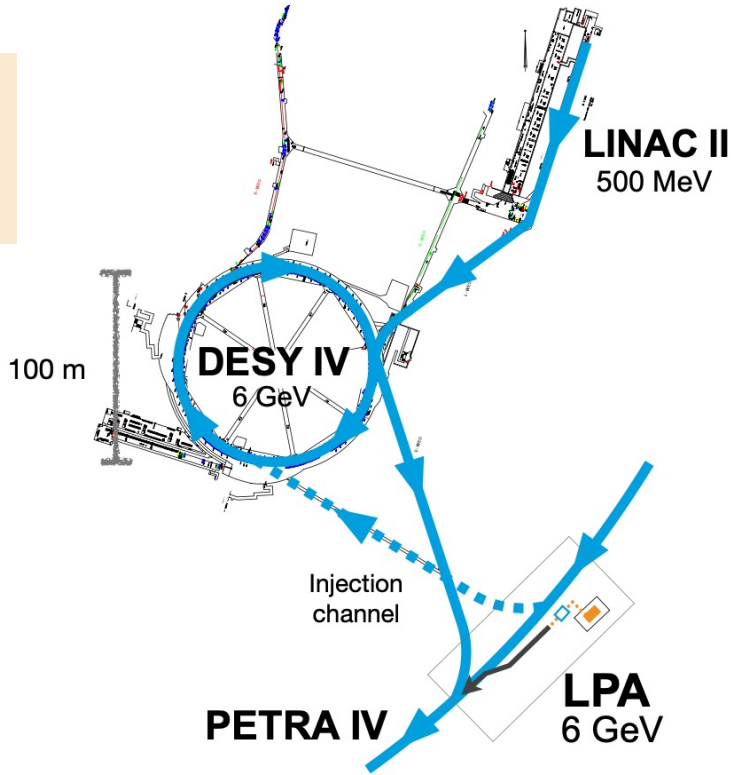
## The team

I. Agapov, S. Antipov, R. Brinkmann, A. Ferran Pousa, S. Jalas, L. Jeppe, M. Kirchen, W. P. Leemans, A. R. Maier, A. Martinez de la Ossa, J. Osterhoff, M. Thévenet

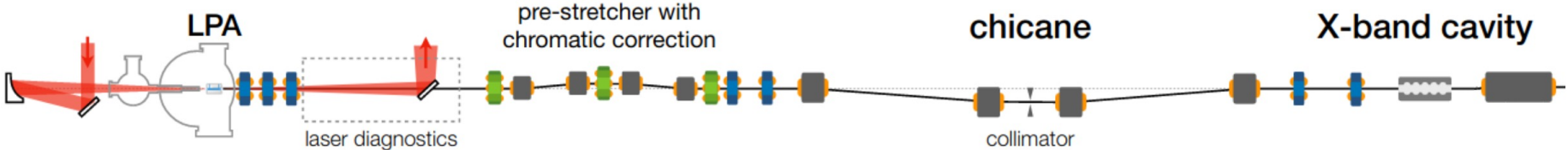
Petra IV [1] is the upgrade of the Petra III storage ring for synchrotron radiation (2.3 km, 6 GeV), proposing orders-of-magnitude increase in X-ray brightness.

Specs: 6 GeV, > 1 nC/s, 1% energy spread

- LPA based on the LUX design [2]
  - 500 MeV prototype [3] & 6 GeV injector
  - Novel energy compression concepts required [4]
- CDR in 2022 (S2E simulations), commissioning in the decade



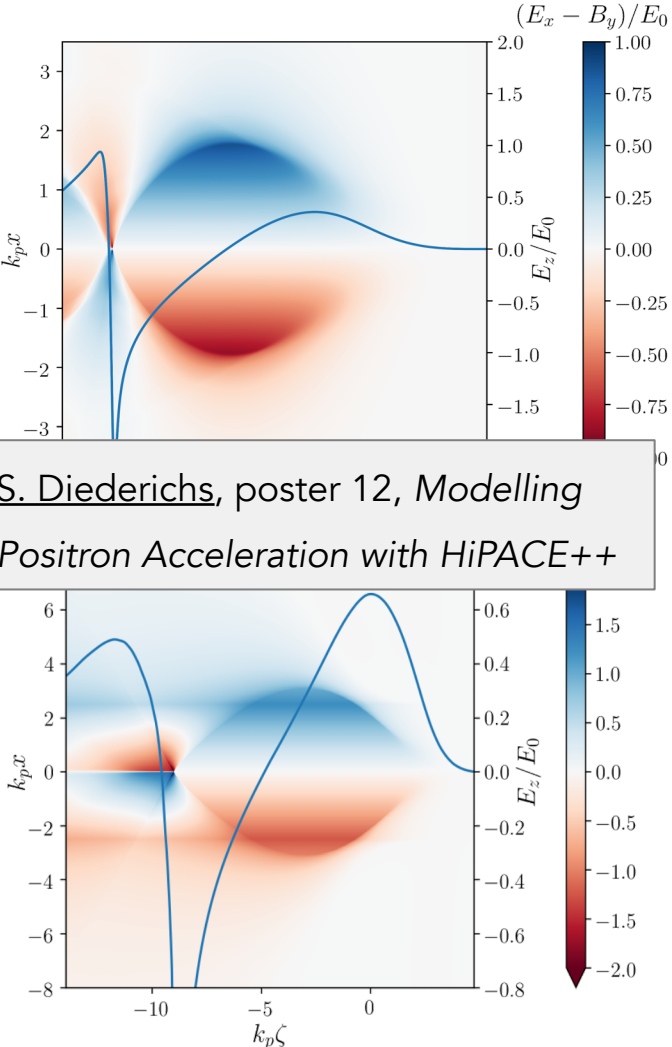
Can the whole injector be replaced by a LPA?



[1] [https://www.desy.de/research/facilities\\_projects/petra\\_iv](https://www.desy.de/research/facilities_projects/petra_iv)  
[2] Kirchen, Manuel, et al. *PRL* 126.17 (2021); LUX PI: A. R. Maier  
[3] Antipov, S. A., et al. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2106.07367* (2021).  
[4] J.A. Ferran Pousa, et al. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2106.04177* (2021).

# Other activities in theory and simulations at DESY

## Positron acceleration (S. Diederichs)



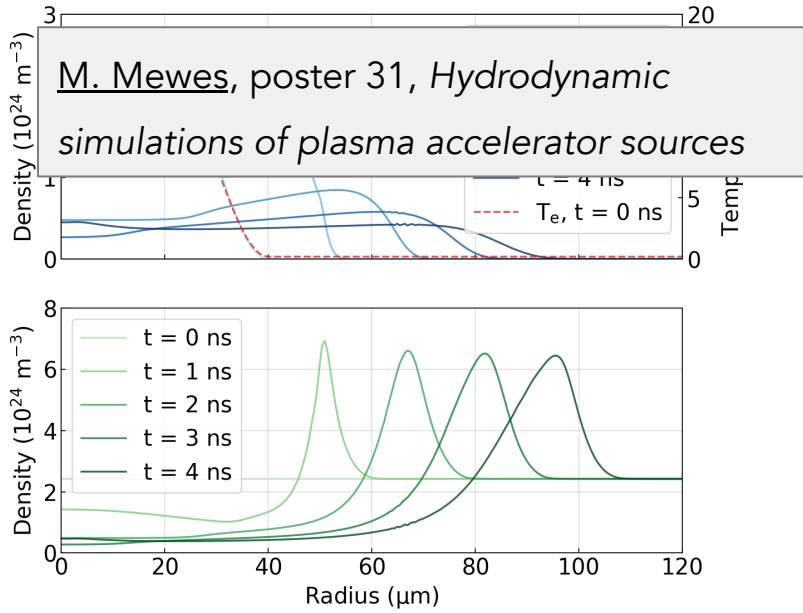
S. Diederichs, poster 12, *Modelling Positron Acceleration with HiPACE++*

## Plasma hydrodynamic simulations (M. Mewes)

### Capillary discharge



### Hydrodynamic Optical Field Ionization (HOFI)



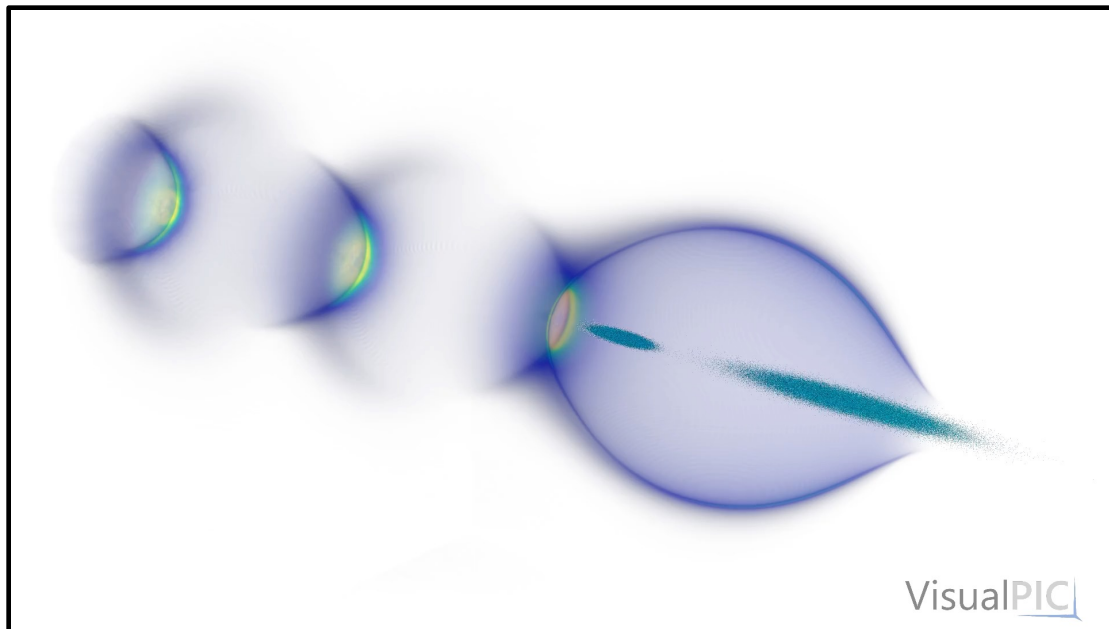
M. Mewes, poster 31, *Hydrodynamic simulations of plasma accelerator sources*

## Conclusion

- Basic understanding of plasma acceleration
- Numerical simulations provide invaluable support to the development of plasma acceleration
- PIC provides modelling
- HPC efforts benefit from modern code practices (open-source, dependencies, portability layers)

## Our efforts

- Improve simulation capabilities
- Address domain challenges
  - Positron acceleration
  - Plasma Injector for Petra IV (PIP4)
  - Reduce energy spread (dechirper)
  - Investigate plasma sources



Thank you for your attention

Contributions from:

DESY Severin Dieredichs, Angel Ferran Pousa, Alberto Martinez de la Ossa, Mathis Mewes, Alexander Sinn; LUX team

James Cook University (AU) Gregory Boyle

LBNL The WarpX team (PI: Jean-Luc Vay)

All HiPACE++ contributors

