

Conference on Lumiere et Laser, St. Martin de Pallieres, France (Aug.3, 2024)

Laser Wakefield Accelerators and their Applications to Medicine

T. Tajima

Department of Physics and Astronomy,
University of California at Irvine , CA, 92697 USA



UCIRVINE

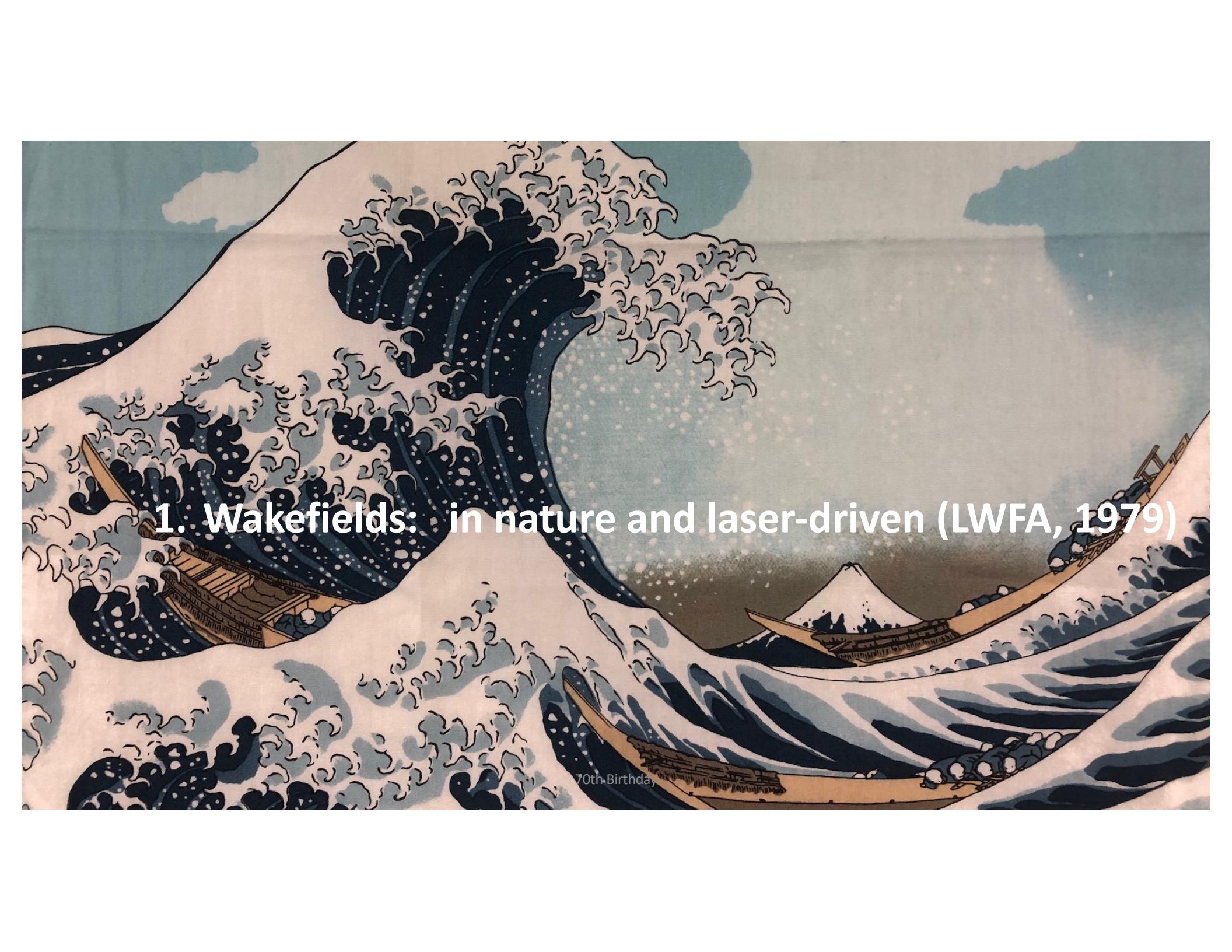
Acknowledgements:

W. J. Sha, D. Roa, D. Strickland, S. Nicks, E. Barraza,
G. Mourou, H. Lee, J. C. Chanteloup, F. Tamanoi,
T. Ebisuzaki, B. Barish, H. Moyses, P. Taborek, V. Shiltsev,
T. Kawachi, M. Mori, P. Chen, F. Krausz, R. Magee

Table of contents

Laser Wakefield Accelerators (LWFA) and Applications to Medicine

1. Wakefields: in nature and laser-driven (LWFA, 1979)
2. High energy LWFA → nonrelativistic LWFA → medical
FLASH (VHEE) therapy by LWFA: realized
3. Microscopic LWFA
4. Fiber laser technology
5. Toward Endoscopic fiber electron radiotherapy



1. Wakefields: in nature and laser-driven (LWFA, 1979)

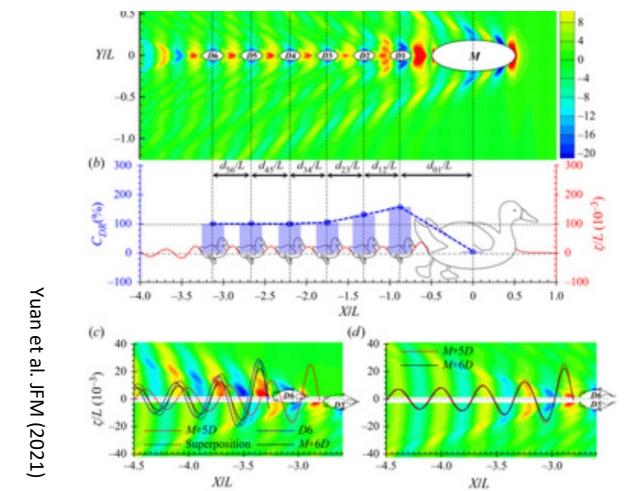
70th Birthday

Wake



Wake by a duck on a lake:

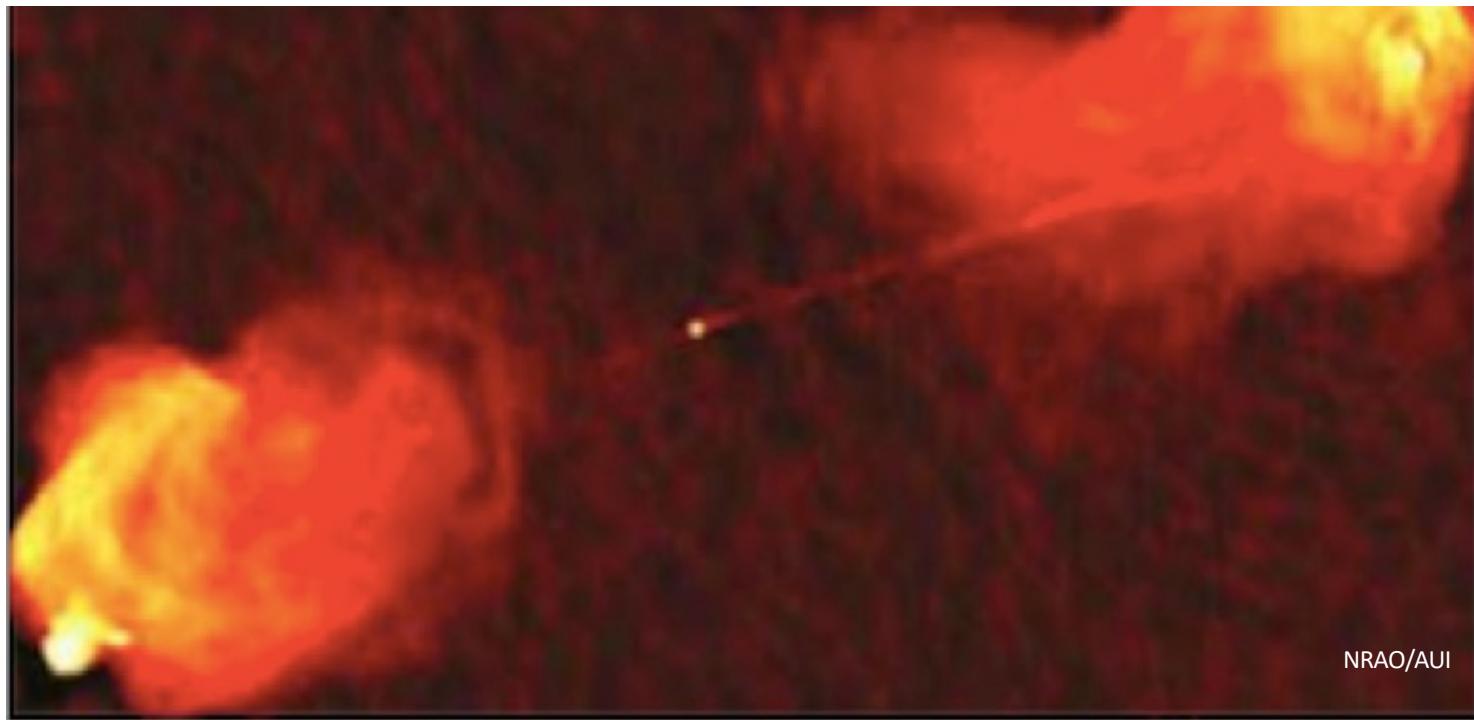
Nature (or mother duck) shows us
(since my undergrad times, 1969 at the Shinobazu- Pond, Tokyo).



Yuan et al. JFM (2021)

LWFA: Self-organized, Robust, Stable Structure
with Huge Fields $\leftarrow v_{ph} \gg v_{th}$

Mother Nature shows us:

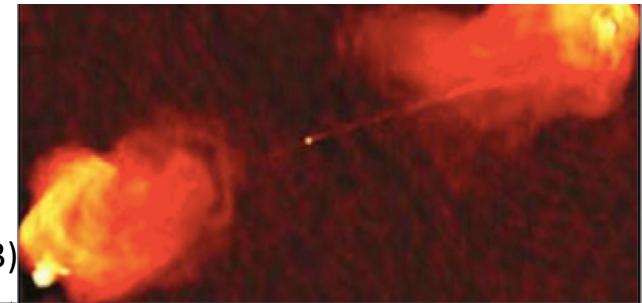


Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays (UHECR) pinpointed from blasar (AGN) observed:
evidence for LWFA from the Universe (Ebisuzaki, Tajima, and Barish, 2023)

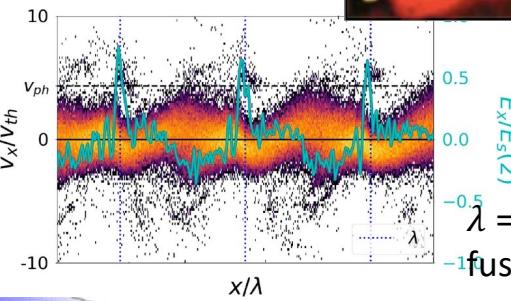
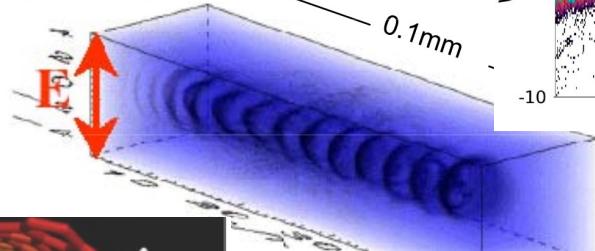
Ranges of wakefields

$\lambda : 10^{-13} \text{ cm} \leftarrow \text{lab} \rightarrow 10^{19} \text{ cm}$

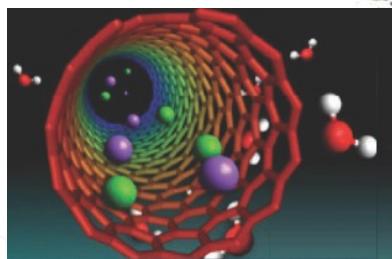
$\lambda = 10^{19} \text{ cm}$
(AGN jets and
UHECR, 2023)



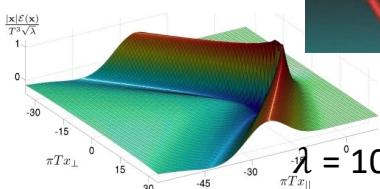
$\lambda = 10^{-4} \text{ cm}$ (LWFA, 2004)
(gas tube)



$\lambda = 1 \text{ cm}$ (beam-driven
fusion plasma, Nicks,
2021)



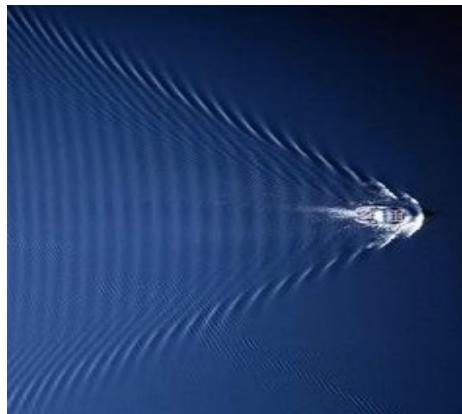
$\lambda = 10^{-7} \text{ cm}$
Nanotube use for LWFA



$\lambda = 10^{-13} \text{ cm}$ (nuclear QCD plasma)

Laser Wakefield (LWFA):

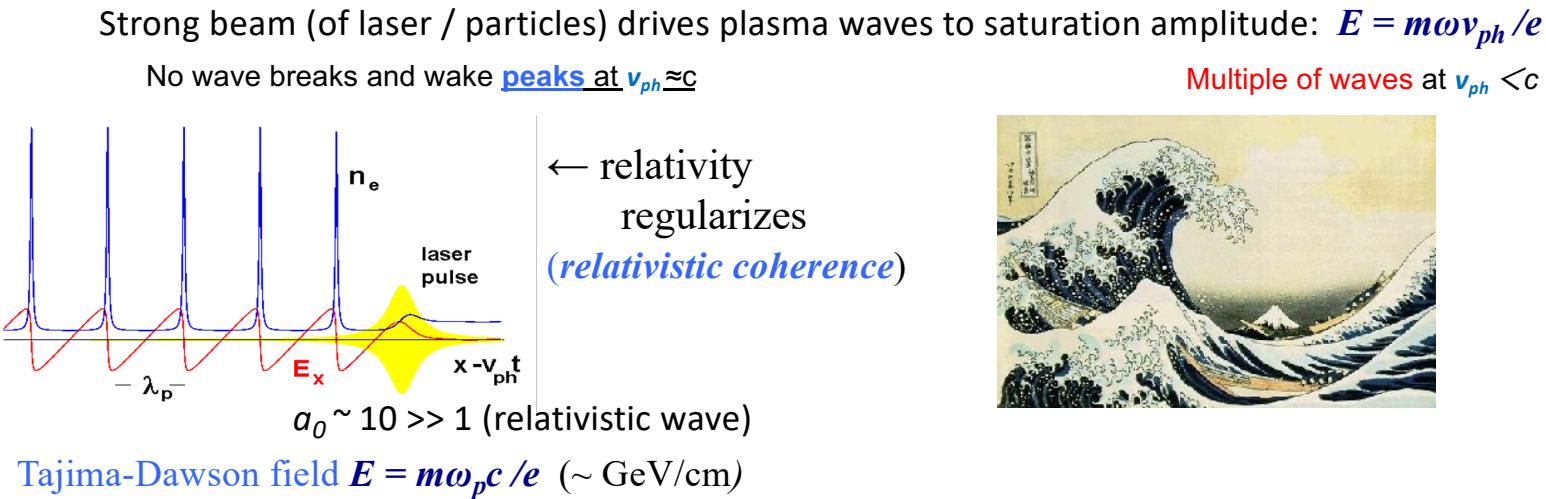
Wake phase velocity $v_{ph} \gg$ water movement speed
maintains **coherent** and **smooth** structure



vs



Tsunami phase velocity v_{ph} becomes ~ 0 ,
causes **easier trapping** and **acceleration of more #**



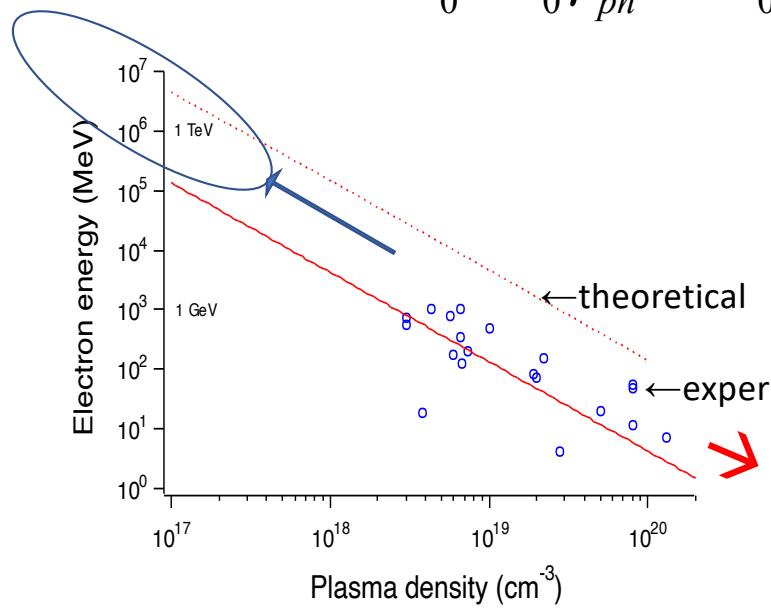
Multiple of waves at $v_{ph} < c$

With low phase velocity
More particle trapping

Theory of wakefield: photons to electrons extreme high energies \leftrightarrow nanoscopic accelerator

$$\Delta E \approx 2m_0c^2a_0^2\gamma_{ph}^2 = 2m_0c^2a_0^2 \left(\frac{n_{cr}}{n_e} \right), \quad \text{(when 1D theory applies)}$$

Tajima / Dawson, 1979)



In order to avoid wavebreak,

$$a_0 < \gamma_{ph}^{1/2},$$

where

$$\gamma_{ph} = [n_{cr}(\omega) / n_e]^{1/2}$$

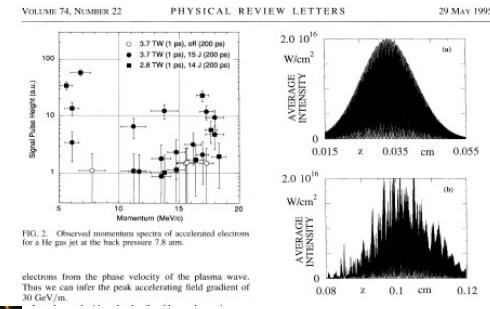
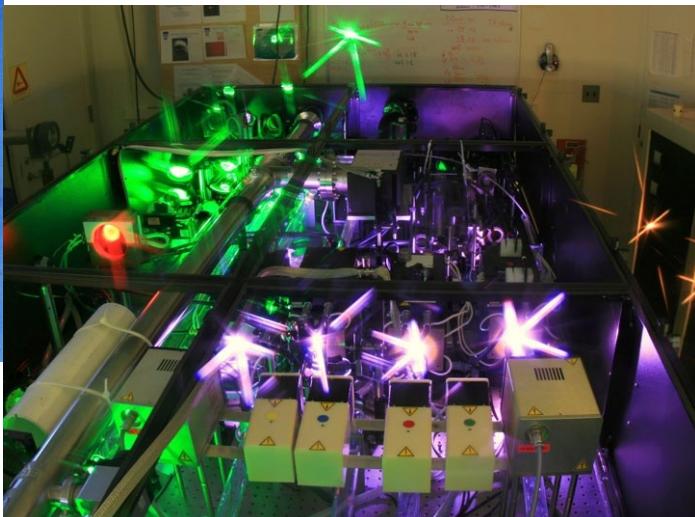
$$n_{cr} = 10^{21}/\text{cc (1eV photon)}$$

$n_e = 10^{16-19}$ (gas) $\rightarrow 10^{21}$ /cc (porous solid)

Demonstration (1994), realization, and applications of laser wakefield accelerators (1979)



(2004)



(Michigan)

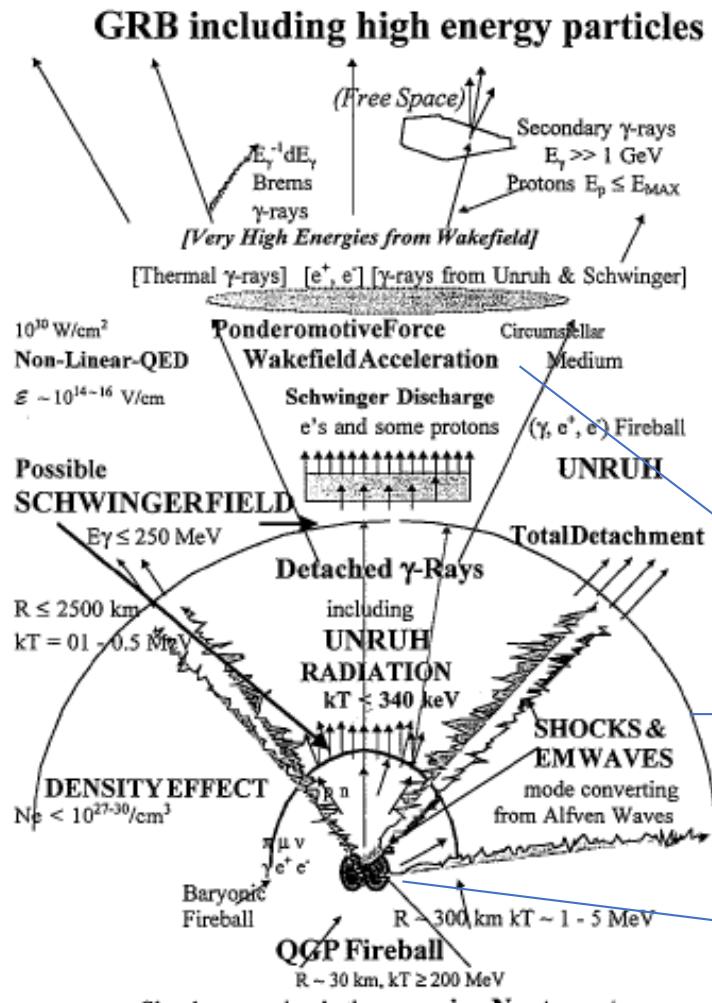
First expt: Nakajima, et al (1994, 1995)



4 GeV laser accelerator LBL

3GeV Synchrotron SOLEIL





Cosmic Acceleration by LWFA

Prophetic picture (2000)

NS-NS collision
triggers →

QGP (Quark-Gluon plasma)
Shocks / **gravitational waves**
Accretion disk
Jets
Alfvén waves and EM waves
Wakefield acceleration
GRB (gamma bursts)

.....
→ Gravitational wave
→ see next page

Figure 8. A schematic illustration of the proposed concept.

Wakefield acceleration by Neutron collision now observed

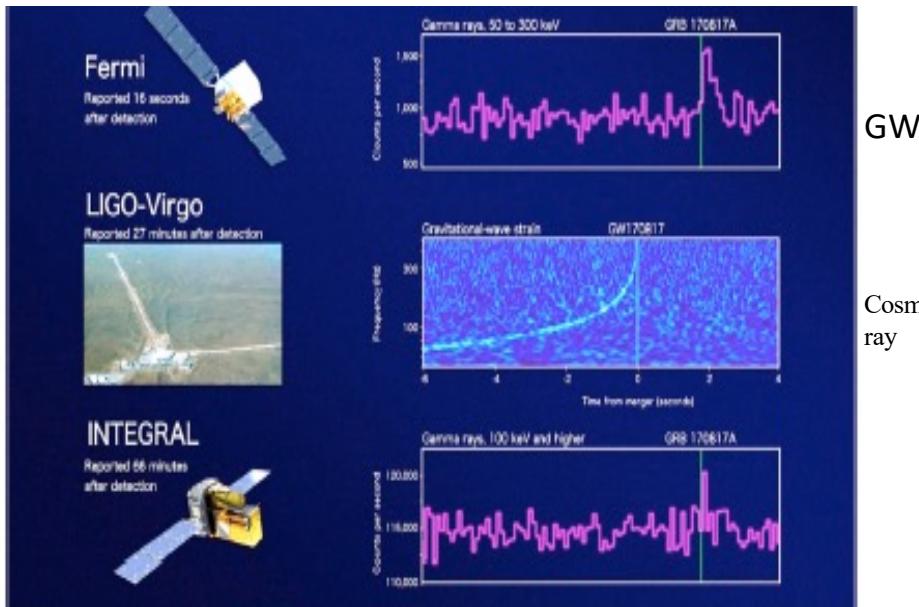


Fig. 5. Gamma-ray emission detected by Fermi and Integral satellites from the neutron star merging event (GW170817) delayed by 1.7 seconds compared with gravitational wave burst [79]. This time difference may be explained by the time to build-up the system for the acceleration of charged particles, described in the present

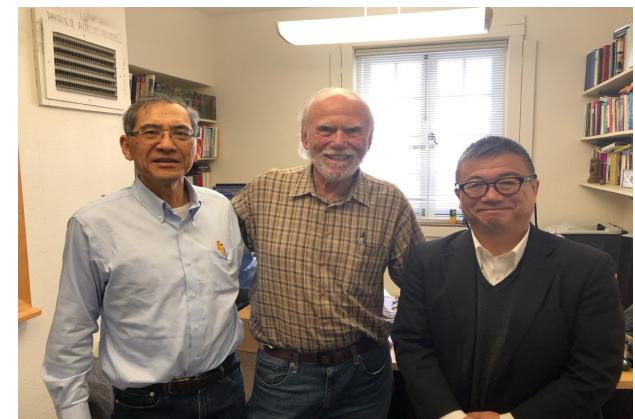
Prediction (2000, Takahashi[†] and Tajima)
proved to be observed (2017, Barish's LIGO):

from accretion disk
and jets emanated from NS-NS collision →

GW emission and gamma emission (Nobel)

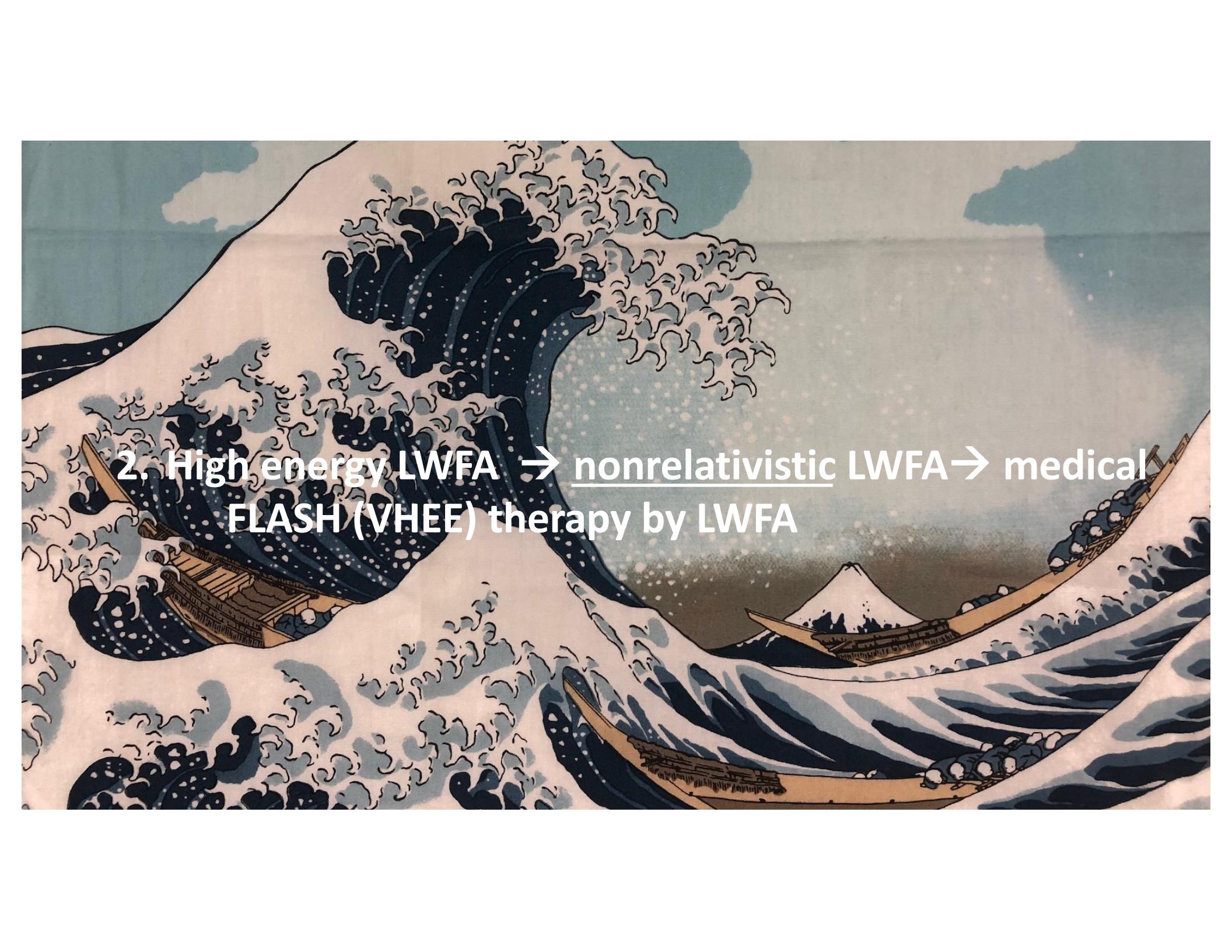
LIGO (2017)

(Laser Interferometric Gravitational wave Observatory)



T. Tajima B. Barish T. Ebisuzaki
at LIGO

Also **UHECR** (Ultra High Energy Cosmic Rays) emanated by **AGN** (Active Galactic Nuclei) (2014, 2023)



2. High energy LWFA → nonrelativistic LWFA → medical
FLASH (VHEE) therapy by LWFA

LWFA drives FEL X-rays (More recent firsts)

(beside the future laser-driven high energy accelerators)

1. Compact LWFA acceleration for various local needs for or with **beam sources** (e.g. fusion reactors)
2. Compact **X-ray FEL** using LWFA accelerators
e.g. X-ray FEL amplified driven by LWFA, W.T. Wang et al., Nature (2020) [also Labat, et al., Nat. Phot.(2023)]

Free-electron lasing at 27 nanometres based on a laser wakefield accelerator

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03678-x>

Received: 5 August 2020

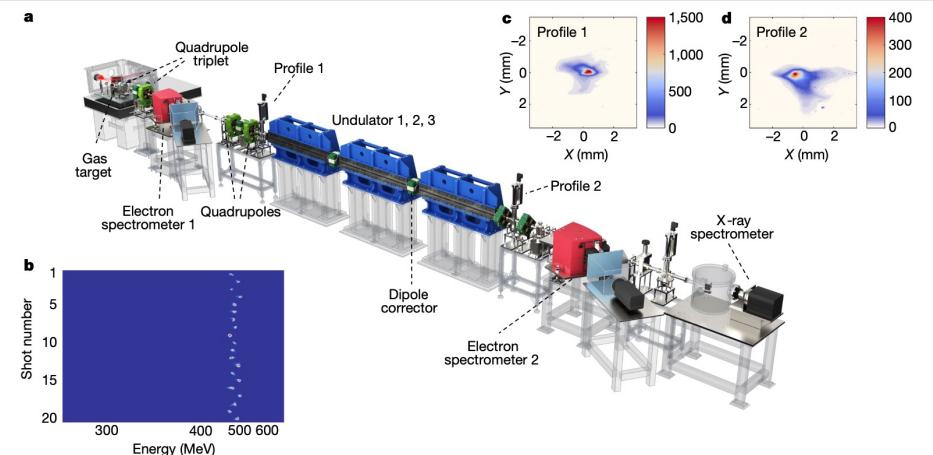
Accepted: 28 May 2021

Published online: 21 July 2021

 Check for updates

Wentao Wang^{1,2*}, Ke Feng^{1,4}, Lintong Ke^{1,2}, Changhai Yu¹, Yi Xu¹, Rong Qi¹, Yu Chen¹, Zhiyong Qin¹, Zhijun Zhang¹, Ming Fang¹, Jiaqi Liu¹, Kangnan Jiang^{1,3}, Hao Wang¹, Cheng Wang¹, Xiaojun Yang¹, Fenxiang Wu¹, Yuxin Leng¹, Jiansheng Liu^{1,2}, Ruxin Li^{1,3,5} & Zhihuan Xu¹

X-ray free-electron lasers can generate intense and coherent radiation at wavelengths down to the sub-Ångström region^{1–5}, and have become indispensable tools for applications in structural biology and chemistry, among other disciplines⁶. Several X-ray free-electron laser facilities are in operation^{2–5}; however, their requirement for large, high-cost, state-of-the-art radio-frequency accelerators has led to great interest in the development of compact and economical accelerators. Laser wakefield accelerators can sustain accelerating gradients more than three orders of magnitude



Now turn to the next application:

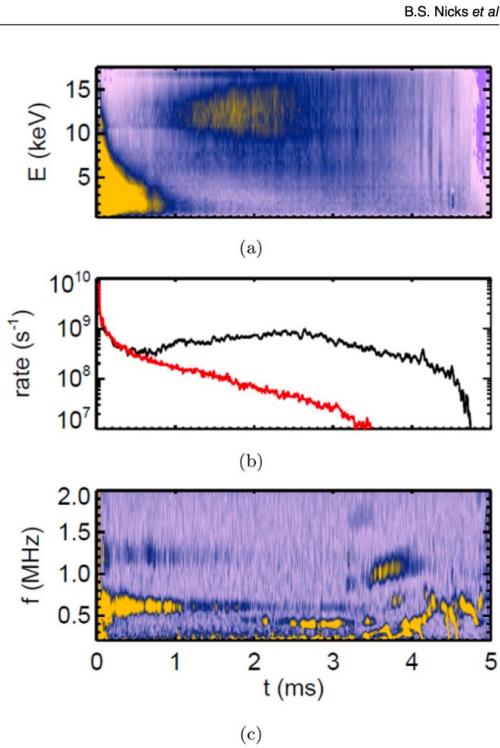
3. Compact **Flash electron radiotherapy** source by LWFA (see next pages)
4. LWFA at the **tip of endoscope**: even tinier electron source (see later pages)

Wakefield acceleration in fusion plasmas (recent firsts)

Ion beam-driven wakefield drives **fusion neutrons** observation from D + D **fusion** (ref.1)

also **fusion alphas** from p + B¹¹ **fusion** (ref.2)

B.S. Nicks et al



Beam-excited waves →



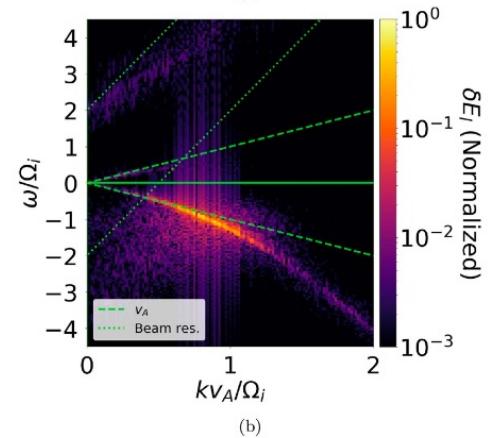
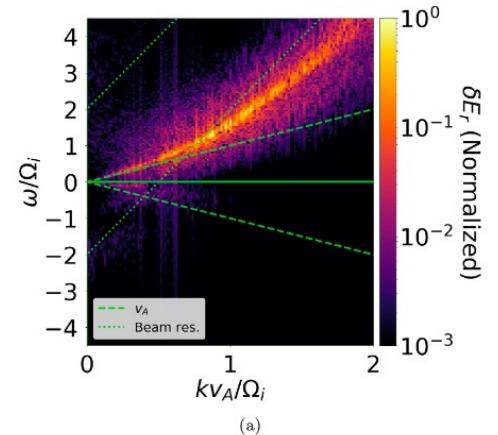
← Neutron emission when **beam is on** (black)
and when **beam is not on** (red)

first evidence

Beam → **wakefields** → **acceleration of tails** → **fusion**

Ref.1 Magee, et al. Nature Phys. (2019)

Ref.2 Magee, et al., Nature Comm. (2023)



LWFA electron radiotherapy Flash (VHEE) : Realized

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Focused very high-energy electron beams as a novel radiotherapy modality for producing high-dose volumetric elements

: 20 July 2018
: 1 July 2019
1 online: 25 July 2019

scientific reports

(2021)

OPEN

A focused very high energy electron beam for fractionated stereotactic radiotherapy

Kristoffer Svendsen¹, Diego Guénot¹, Jonas Björklund Svensson^{1,2}, Kristoffer Persson¹, Anders Persson¹ & Olle Lundh¹

An electron beam of very high energy (50–250 MeV) can potentially produce a more favourable radiotherapy dose distribution compared to a state-of-the-art photon based radiotherapy. To produce an electron beam of sufficiently high energy to allow for a long penetration depth (several cm), very large accelerating structures are needed when using conventional radiotherapy technology, which may not be possible due to economical or spatial constraints. In this paper we show transport and focusing of laser wakefield accelerated electron beams with a maximum energy of 100 MeV.

[based on the usual LWFA]

Radiothérapie Flash : la recherche préclinique avance

MARDI 25 MAI 2021  Soyez le premier à réagir

La radiothérapie Flash, qui génère des rayonnements de très haute intensité en temps très court, pourrait bien être une nouvelle modalité de radiothérapie. C'est ce qu'espèrent les chercheurs de l'Institut Curie qui travaillent sur ElectronFlash, une recherche expérimentale fournie par la société SIT.

 L'Institut Curie et la société SIT ont récemment signé un premier projet conjoint de recherche dans le domaine de la radiothérapie Flash.

Ils disposent aujourd'hui d'une plateforme de recherche expérimentale (ElectronFlash) performante, fiable et opérationnelle. Ils ont mis en place une voie vers des applications cliniques de la radiothérapie Flash. Bien que l'imagerie, la balistique et la dosimétrie ont progressé significativement ces dernières décennies, les technologies de délivrance des doses n'ont pas beaucoup évolué. La radiothérapie Flash a permis de découvrir de nouvelles applications dans les laboratoires de l'Institut Curie par la délivrance de rayons à haute intensité dans un court laps de temps.

L'Institut Curie effectue un gros travail de recherche sur cette technologie depuis 2019, en étroite collaboration avec la société SIT. Ils ont conçu la plateforme de recherche expérimentale (ElectronFlash) installée sur le site de l'Institut Curie à Orsay. De nombreux travaux de recherche sont en cours avant de passer en phase clinique. Il s'agira de déterminer les paramètres physiques de la radiothérapie Flash, de démontrer son efficacité anti-tumorale sur des modèles *in vitro* et précliniques et de préparer les applications cliniques.

Le but de ces travaux est de faire émerger la prochaine génération d'accélérateurs de particules, notamment en radiothérapie, pour proposer des traitements moins lourds aux patients.

Paolo Royan

Réagir à cet article



LA RÉFÉRENCE
POUR LE SUIVI
DES TRAVAILLEURS
EXPOSÉS



Sur le même thème : Radiothérapie

Les plus lus

Les plus récents

La SFRO élit un nouveau bureau pour les deux prochaines années

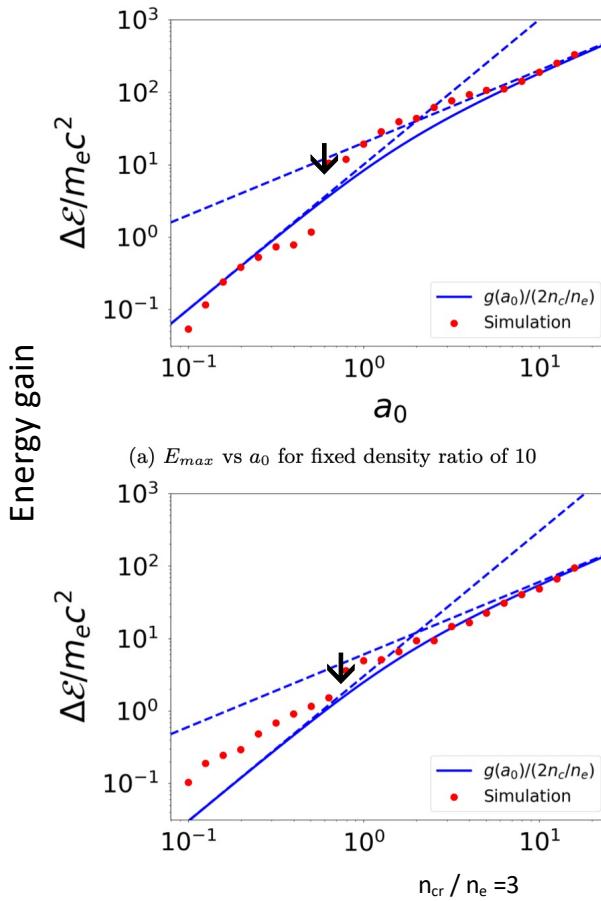
14/02/2024 : Le nouveau Bureau de la Société Française de Radiothérapie Onologique vient d'élire sa nouvelle présidence en la personne du Pr Véronique Vendrelly. Il s'inscrira dans la continuité des actions de l'équipe précédente et sera assisté de trois collègues (CHU/CHG - CCLC/ESPIC - SEcteur libéral).



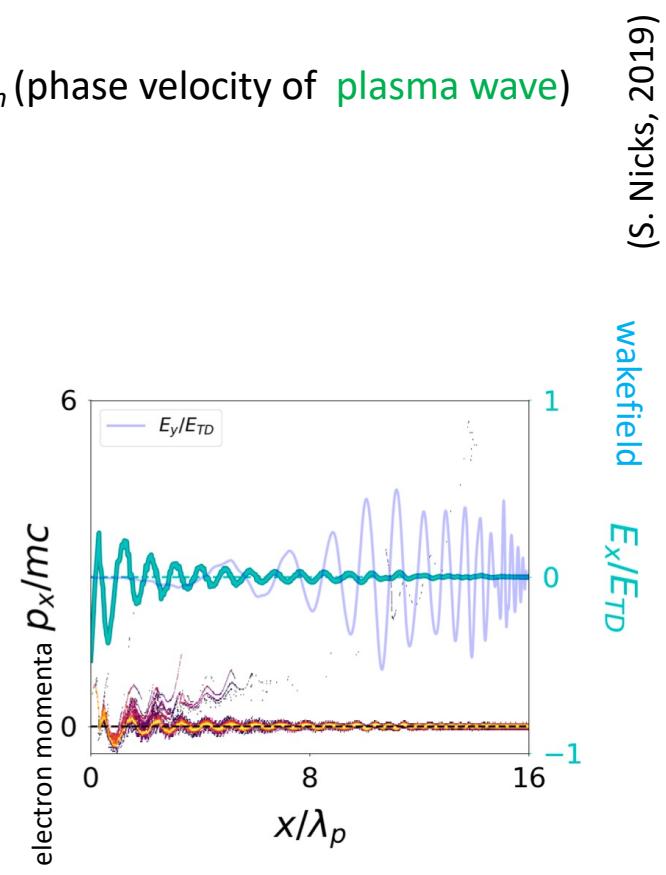
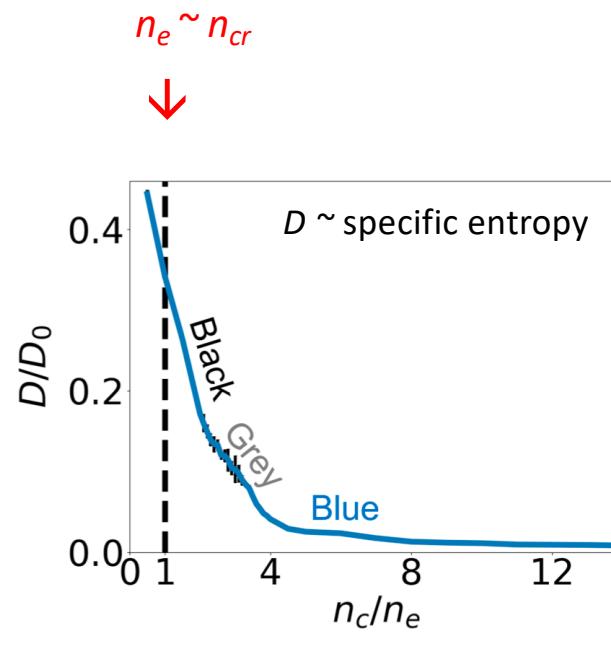
3. Toward Microscopic LWFA, beat wave excitation

70th Birthday

Exploration of Transition to $a_0 < 1$ regime and near-critical density $n_e \sim n_{cr}$



v_{gr} (group velocity of photon) = v_{ph} (phase velocity of plasma wave)
 $\ll c$

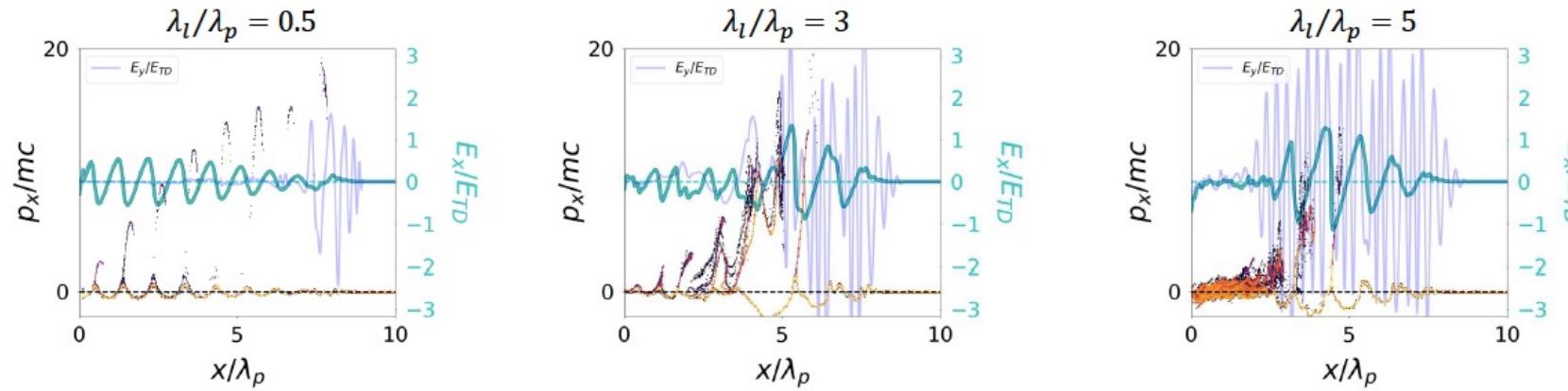


LWFA in low energy high-density regime

S. Nicks et al. Int. J. Mod. Phys. A34, 1934019 (2019).

Self-Modulation

- Fiber lasers → long pulse better
- Self-modulation: long pulse breaks → small pulses
- Pulse length λ_l/λ_p scanned, $n_c/n_e = 10$, $a_0 = 1$
- Long pulses → Laser/wakefield modulated

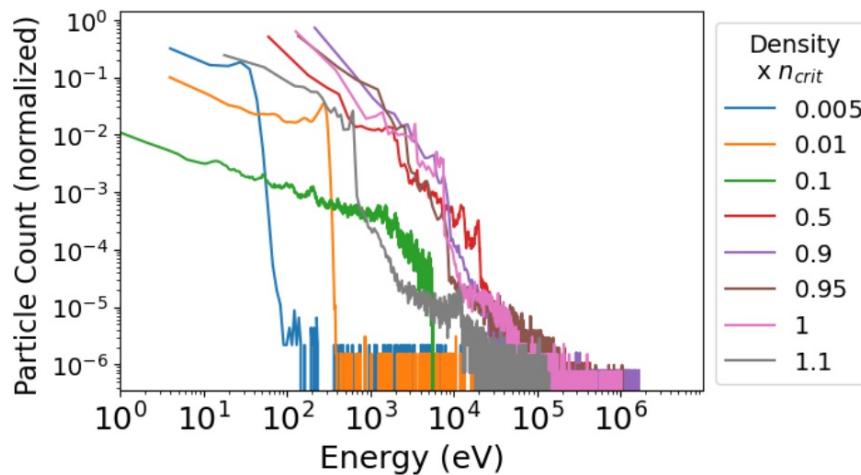


Simulation study: low intensity laser near critical density

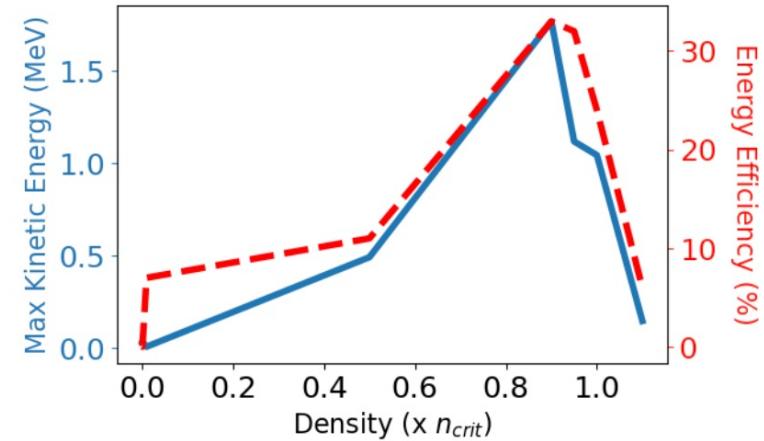
Barraza, Tajima, Strickland, Roa (Photonics, 2022)

Photonics 2022, 9, x FOR PEER REVIEW

5 of 11



(a)



(b)

Figure 3. Energy distributions, maximum kinetic energies, and laser to total particle energy efficiency with respect to plasma density for BWA simulations after 1 ps using gaussian lasers with intensities of $I_0/I_{crit} = 0.1$ and pulselength of 100 fs. The seed laser wavelength was held at $\lambda = 1 \mu\text{m}$.

First Experimental Realization of LWFA in nonrelativistic regime in microcavity (2024)

AIP Advances

ARTICLE

pubs.aip.org/aip/adv

Experimental realization of near-critical laser wakefield acceleration: Efficient 100-keV-class electron beam generation by microcapillary targets

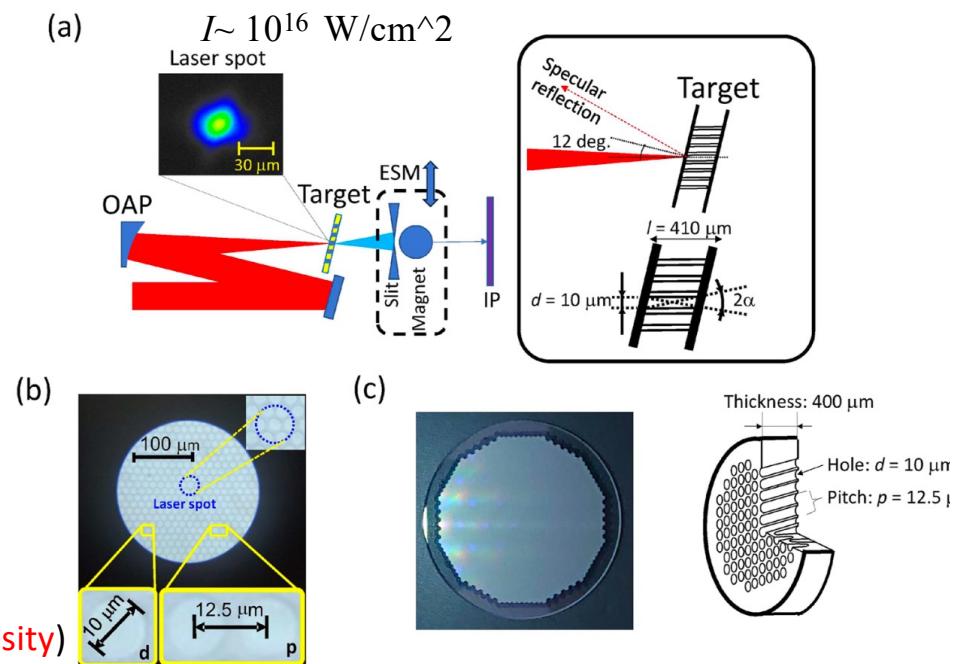
Cite as: AIP Advances 14, 035153 (2024); doi: [10.1063/5.0180773](https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0180773)

Submitted: 17 October 2023 • Accepted: 29 December 2023 •

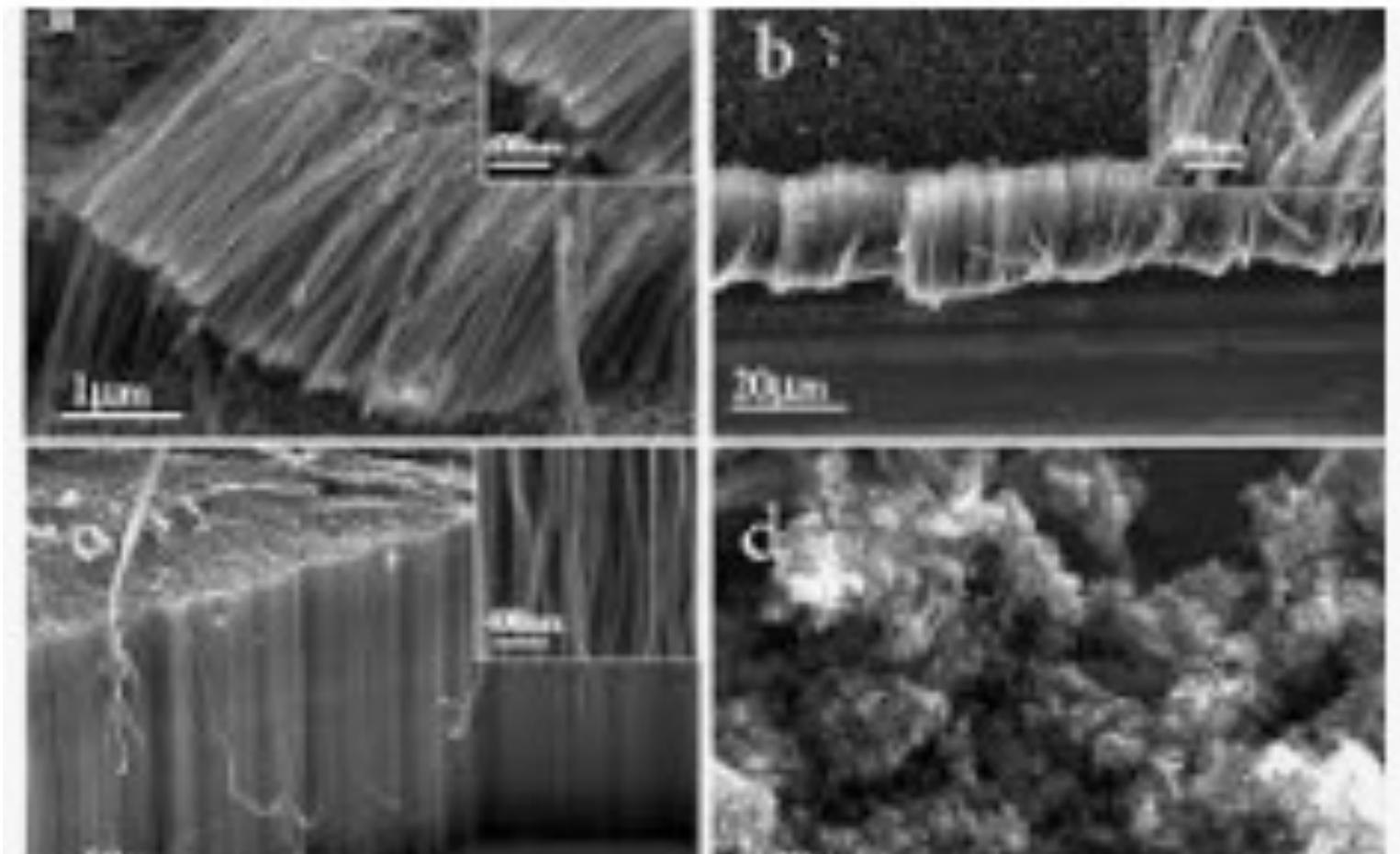
Published Online: 28 March 2024

Michiaki Mori,^{1,a}  Ernesto Barraza-Valdez,² Hideyuki Kotaki,¹  Yukio Hayashi,¹ M. Kiminori Kondo,¹  Tetsuya Kawachi,³  Donna Strickland,⁴  and Toshiki Tajima¹

(most efficient acceleration by LWFA happens **near critical density**)



Carbon nanotubes on a substrate:
→ toward **Carbon Nanoforest** (instead of plasma w/vacuum)



Laser Wakefield Acceleration near critical density: Beat wave

gaseous plasma → **nanotube**

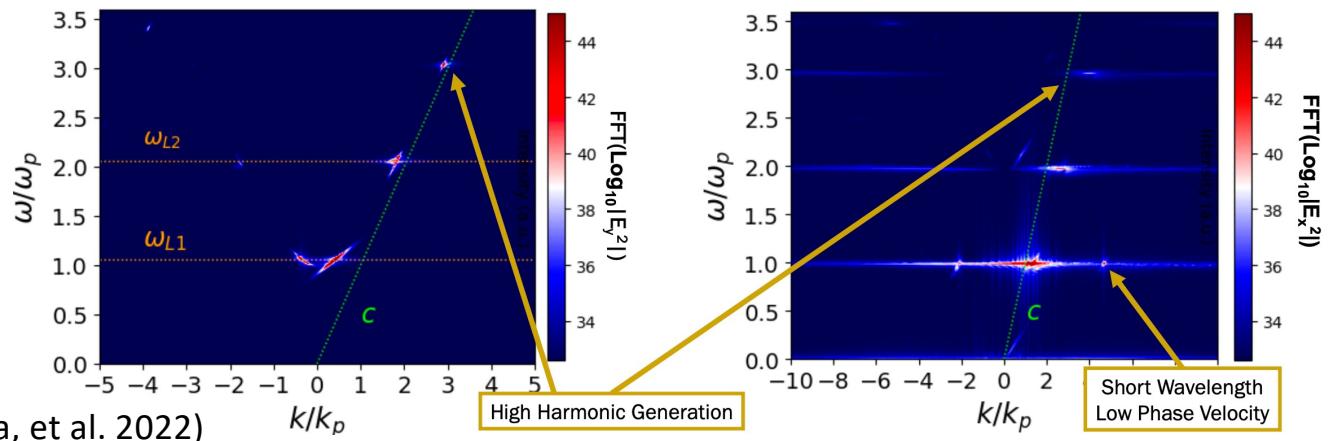
e.g. Bundle of packed nanotubes
with a few nm diameter
 $2\mu\text{m}$ thick target

Excitation of electron acceleration possible with $I \sim 10^{14} \text{ W / cm}^3$

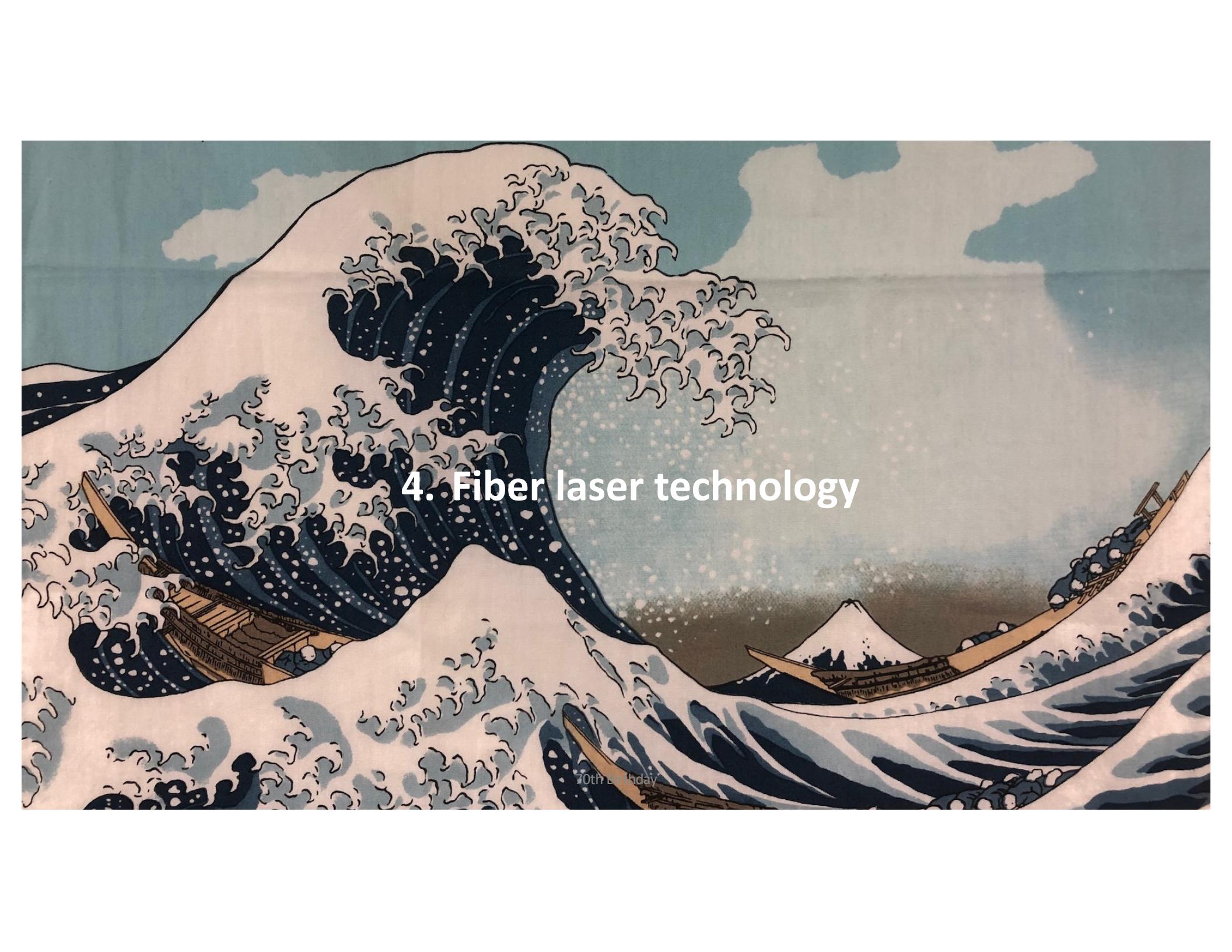
Coupling gets **stronger** near $n_e = 10^{21} \text{ /cc}$
← overlap of **plasma waves** with different v_{ph}
← curved laser $\omega(k)$, varied v_{gr}

Dispersion Relation: FFT($\text{Log}_{10}|E_x|^2|$)

- High Harmonic Generation
- Short Wavelength and Low Phase Velocity Electrostatic Waves allow for more efficient particle acceleration



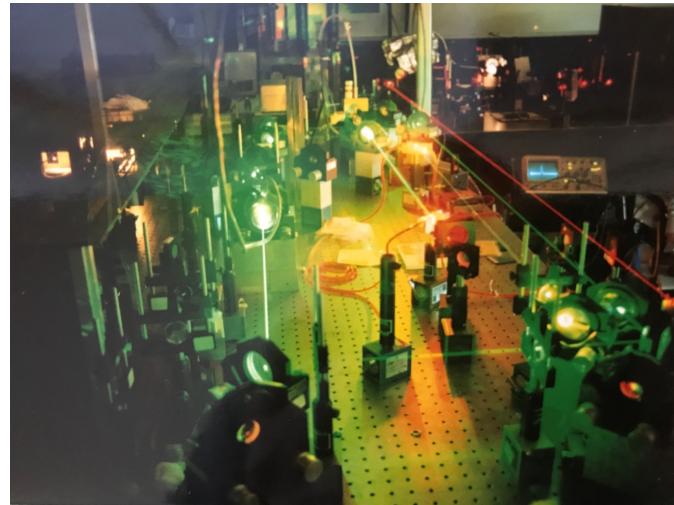
(Barraza, et al. 2022)



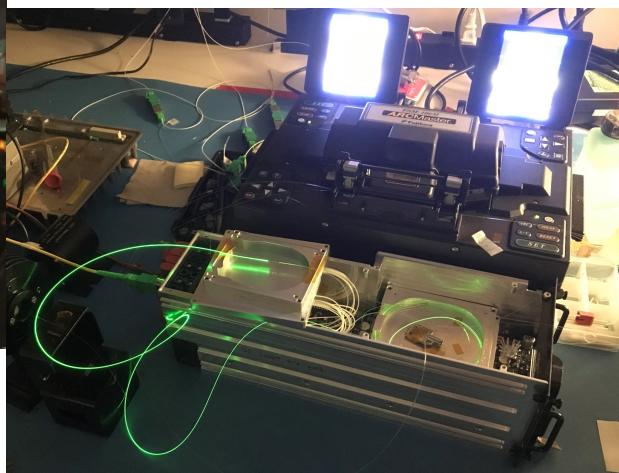
4. Fiber laser technology

70th Birthday

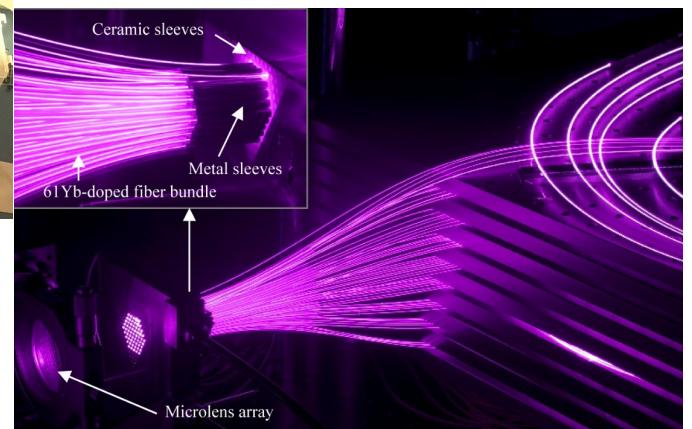
Free-Space Laser vs. Fiber Laser



CPA laser
(LWFA stimulated CPA)



Fiber lasers
(See Dr. W. Sha's talk on Aug. 5, 2024)



(CAN fiber laser;
Prof. Chanteloup, Aug. 5, 2024)

Page 24

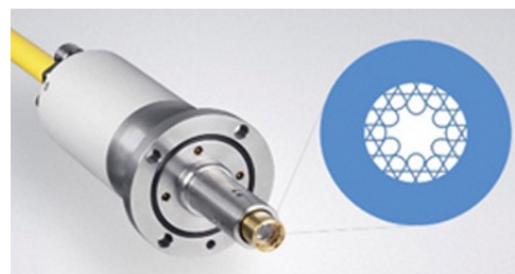
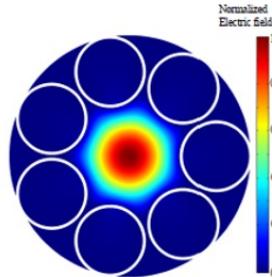
Fiber laser technology

Application	Average Power	Pulse Width	Peak Power	Spatial Mode	Focused Intensity
Metal cutting (heat)	1 to 100 kW	Continous	same as average	MM	10^7 W/cm^2 (CW)
Semiconductor Processing	10 to 1000 W	1 to 100 ns	MW (10^6 W)	MM/SM	10^9 W/cm^2 (peak)
Glass cutting (cold ablation)	> 10 W	$\leq 0.5 \text{ ps}$	Hundreds of MW	SM	10^{13} W/cm^2 (peak)
Portable LWFA (>10 keV electrons)	1 to 10 W	$\leq 1 \text{ ps}$	$\geq \text{GW} (10^9 \text{ W})$	SM	$\geq 10^{14} \text{ W/cm}^2$ (peak)

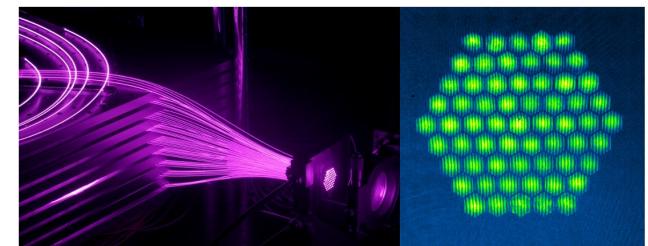
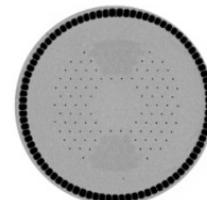
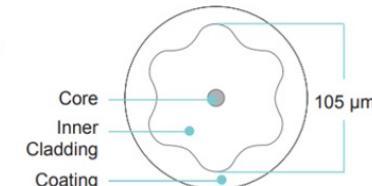
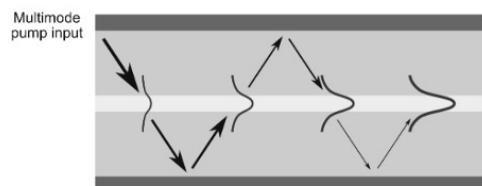
MM: multi-mode (spatial)

SM: single mode

Under the collaboration with
Dr. Donna Strickland on going



**hollow core fiber laser
delivery**



(Dr. W. J. Sh; Dr. J. Chanteloup)

From Conventional electron accelerator (and X-ray) to **Fiber Laser** for Therapy

Electron energies by accelerator: 6-20MeV
(→ X-rays)



LWFA provides high dose "FLASH" therapy



Furthermore, much tinier with **fiber**

$$L_e \sim 1 \text{ cm} / 10\text{MeV} \rightarrow 10 \text{ micron} / 10\text{keV}$$



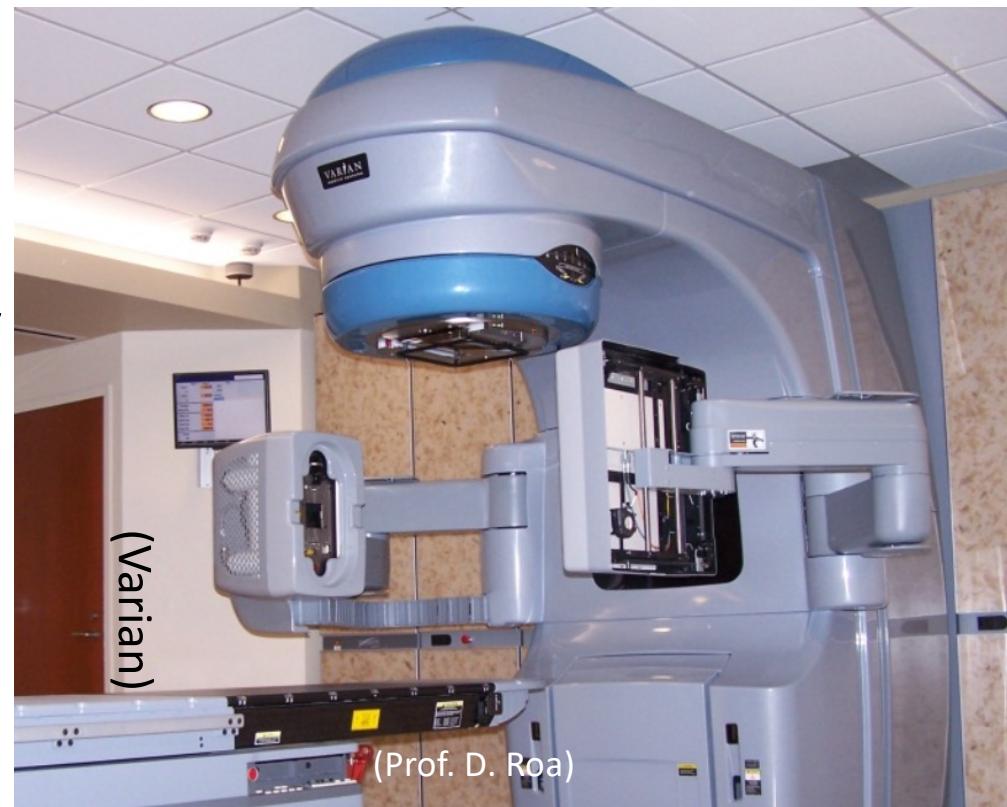
Body penetration

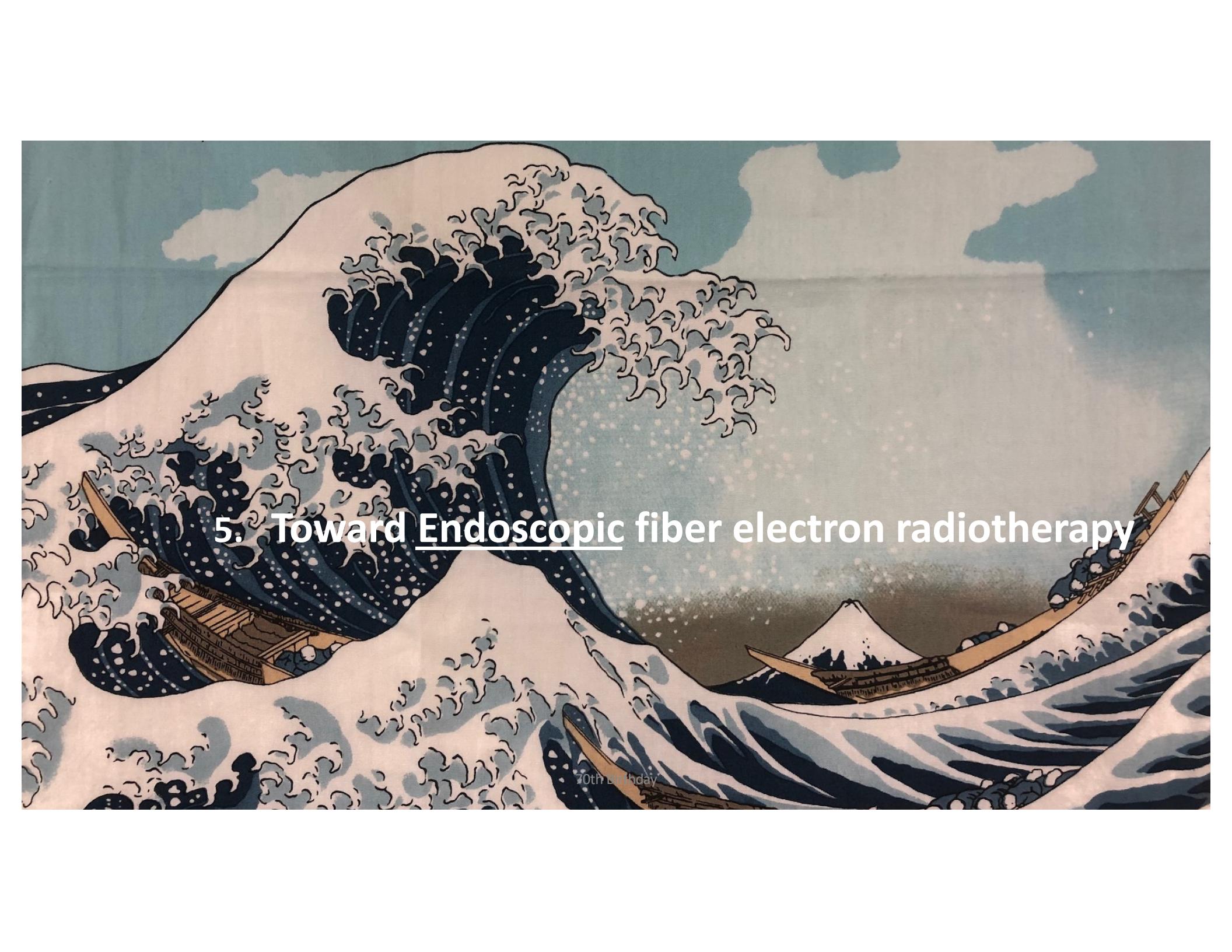


Cancer cell size

← 5-10m

(next room) →

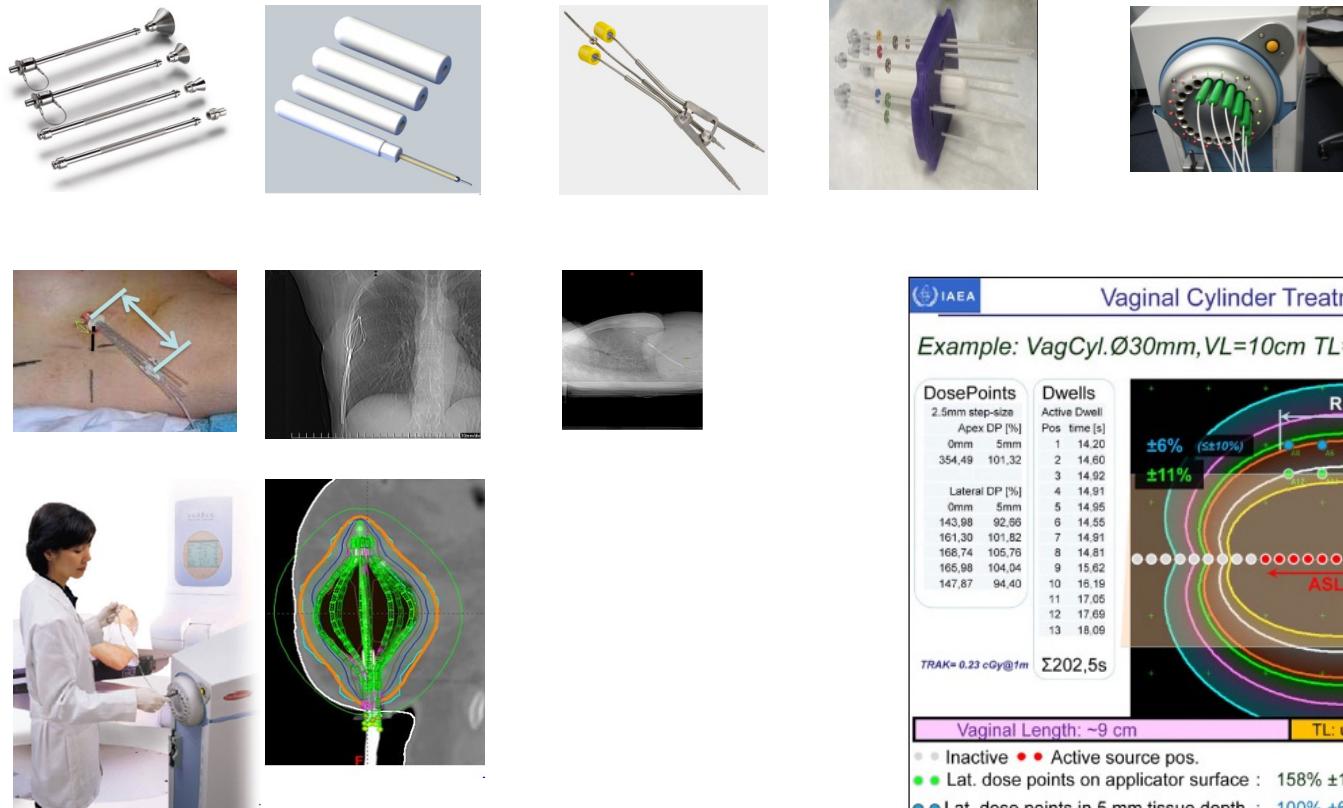




5. Toward Endoscopic fiber electron radiotherapy

70th Birthday

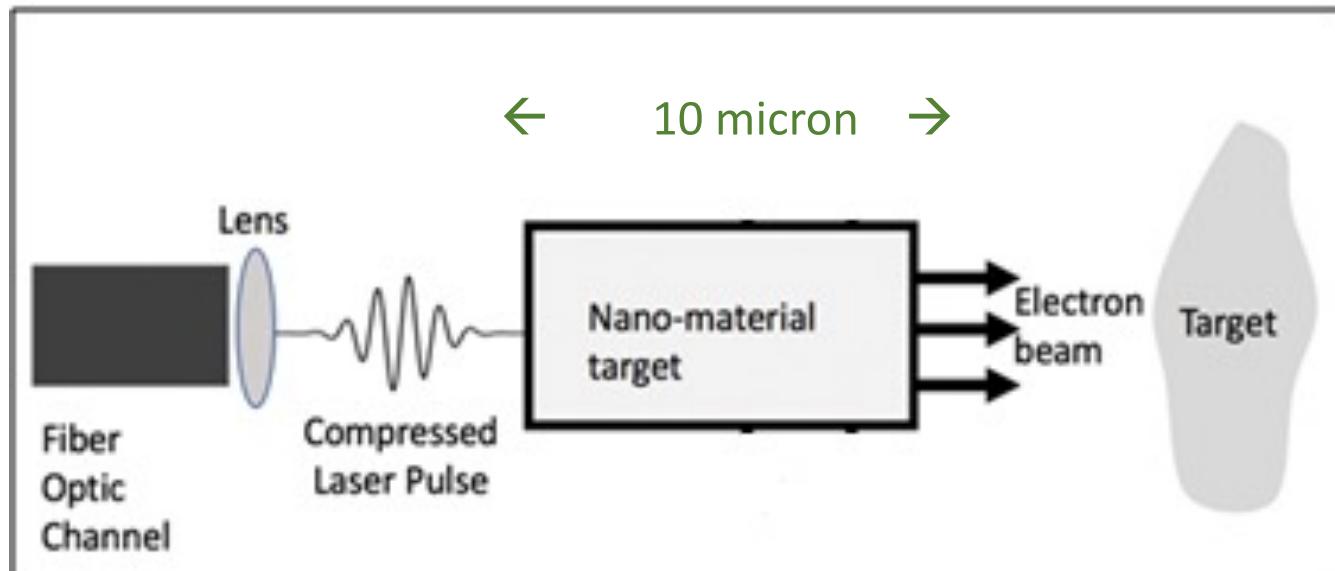
Current radiotherapy applications (from skin, vagina, uterine, breast, etc.)



→ Much smaller, **endoscopic** in ours

(Prof. D. Roa)

In situ / endoscopic fiber delivery of **electron** radiotherapy of cancer (Roa et al, 2022)



Fiber laser drives *in situ* **nanotube** target
in front of **cancer cells**

→ **Compactification, accurate** (no collateral damage), and **cheap**

(Dr. Sha, this workshop, 2024)

Cost estimate comparison with Brachy therapies



	<u>LWFA – HDR</u>	Iridium-192-HDR	Cobalt-60-HDR
Purchase Estimate	\$100K - \$300K	\$700K - \$900K	\$700K - \$900K
Room Shielding	None	\$200K - \$500K	\$200K - \$500K
Source Replacement	None	~\$10K every 4-6 months	~130K every 60 months
Downtime due to Source Replacement	None	1-2 days	1-2 days

(Prof. D. Roa, preliminary estimate)

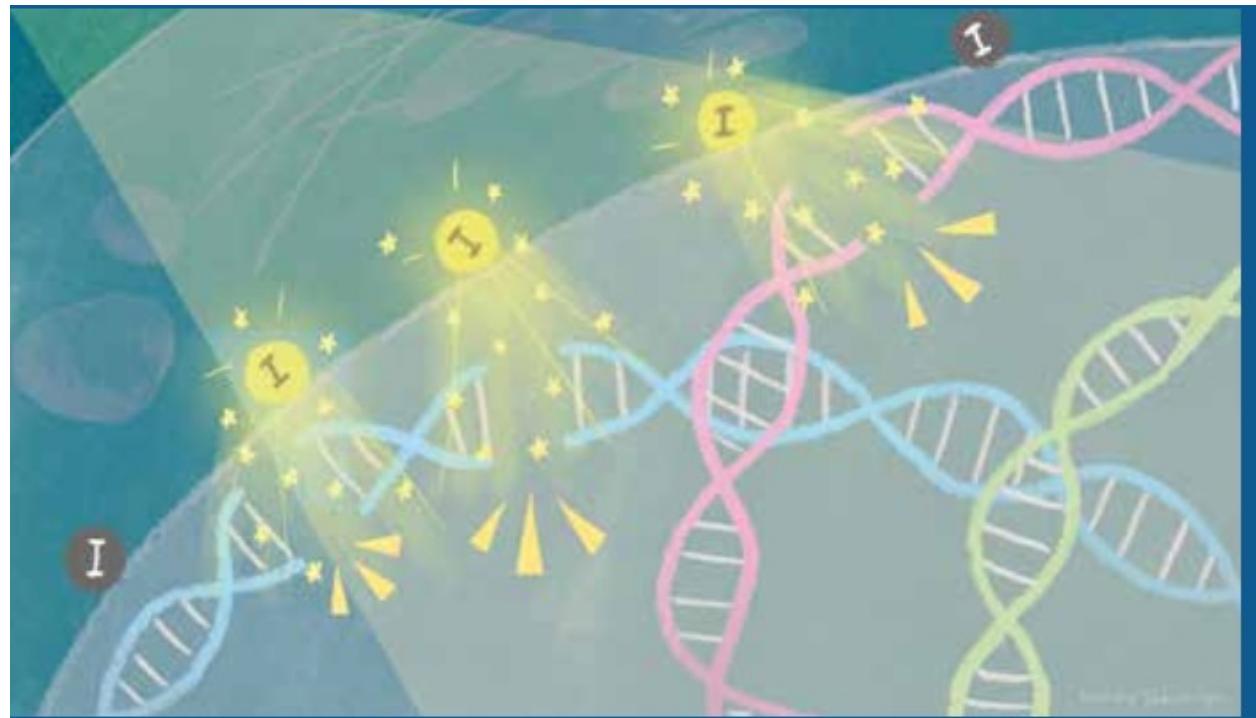
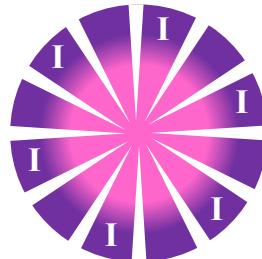
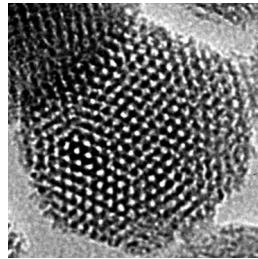
Vector nanomedicine with high-Z metal to target cancer cells for electron radiotherapy

High-Z attached to the vector:

stop **electrons**

Nanoparticle vector:

delivered to **cancer cell**



Nanomolecular vector medicine used for Auger electrons (after Prof. F. Tamanoi, Tajima, et al., 2022)

Summary

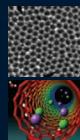
1. Laser wakefield: robust structure and strong compact acceleration
2. LWFA found in Universe and applied to FEL, Fusion, FLASH Therapy, etc.
3. Near critical density (e.g. nanotube material) → low phase velocity LWFA
4. Micron-scale low energy electrons ($> 10\text{keV}$, $< \text{MeV}$), with fiber laser
5. Endoscopic (through fiber) delivery of electrons for radiotherapy
← replacing Brachy therapy

Thank you very much!

World Scientific
www.worldscientific.com

Recent advancements in generation of intense X-ray laser ultrashort pulses open opportunities for particle acceleration in solid-state plasmas. Wakefield acceleration in crystals or carbon nanotubes shows promise of unmatched ultra-high accelerating gradients and possibility to shape the future of high energy physics colliders. This book summarizes the discussions of the "Workshop on Beam Acceleration in Crystals and Nanostructures" (Fermilab, June 24–25, 2019), presents next steps in theory and modeling and outlines major physics and technology challenges toward proof-of-principle demonstration experiments.

Chattpadhyay • Mourou
Shiltsev • Tajima



BEAM ACCELERATION IN
CRYSTALS AND NANOSTRUCTURES

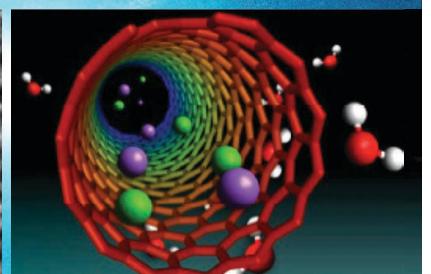
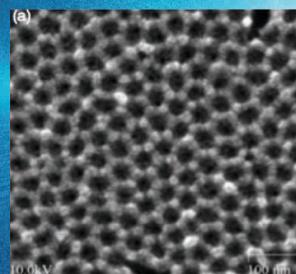
ISBN 978-981-121-712-8



BEAM ACCELERATION IN CRYSTALS AND NANOSTRUCTURES

Edited by

**Swapan Chattpadhyay • Gérard Mourou
Vladimir D. Shiltsev • Toshiki Tajima**



Book published (2020)

World Scientific