

A Journey with Lasers and
Physics at High Intensities
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Intertwined Inventions of **CPA** and **Wakefields**

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Invention of Laser wakefield accelerator (LWFA) (1979;
Calls for 10^{18} W/cm², 100fs laser)

- **CPA invented (1985)**

First LWFA experiment (1994): Nakajima →
collider application (more efficient, more fluence laser)

- **CAN fiber laser invented (2009,2013)**

Real-world app; Laser accelerator in body

- **Thin Film Compression (2014)**

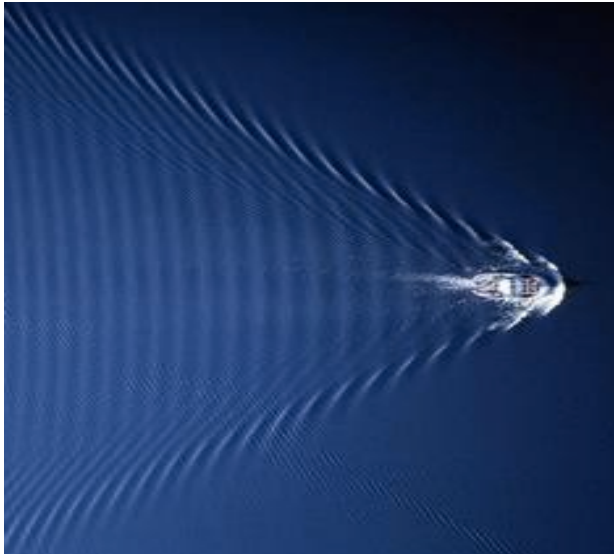
→ X-ray laser

“ TeV on a chip”



Laser Wakefield (1979):

Wake phase velocity \gg water movement speed
maintains **coherent** and **smooth** structure



Tsunami phase velocity becomes ~ 0 ,
causes **wavebreak** and **turbulence**

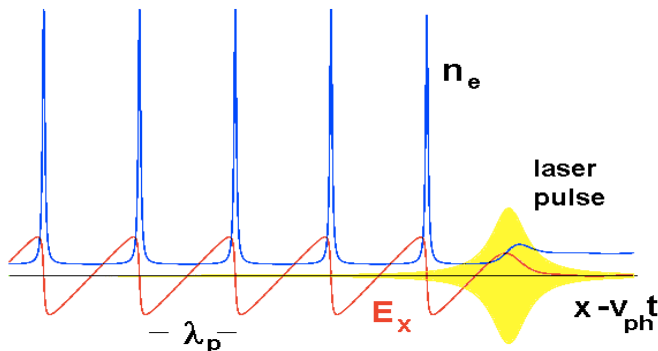


VS

Strong beam (of **laser** / particles) drives plasma waves to saturation amplitude: $E = m\omega v_{ph} / e$

No wave breaks and wake **peaks** at $v \approx c$

Wave **breaks** at $v < c$



← relativity
regularizes
(*relativistic coherence*)



Relativistic coherence enhances beyond the Tajima-Dawson field $E = m\omega_p c / e$ (\sim GeV/cm)

The late Prof. **Abdus Salam** (1981)

At ICTP Summer School (Trieste, 1981), Prof. **Abdus Salam** summoned me and discussed about **laser wakefield** acceleration.

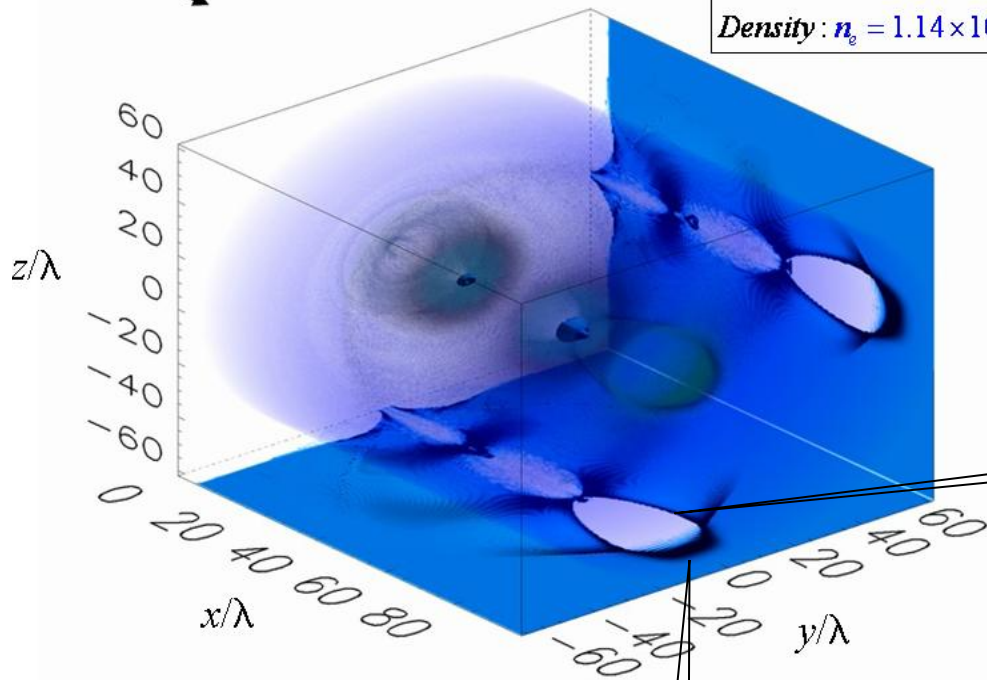


Salam: *‘Scientists like me began feeling that we had less means to test our theory. However, with your laser acceleration, I am encouraged’*. **(1981)**

He organized the Oxford Workshop on **laser wakefield** accelerator in **1982**.

Laser-driven Bow and Wake

Density: $n_e = 1.14 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$



Wakefield acceleration

Wake Wave

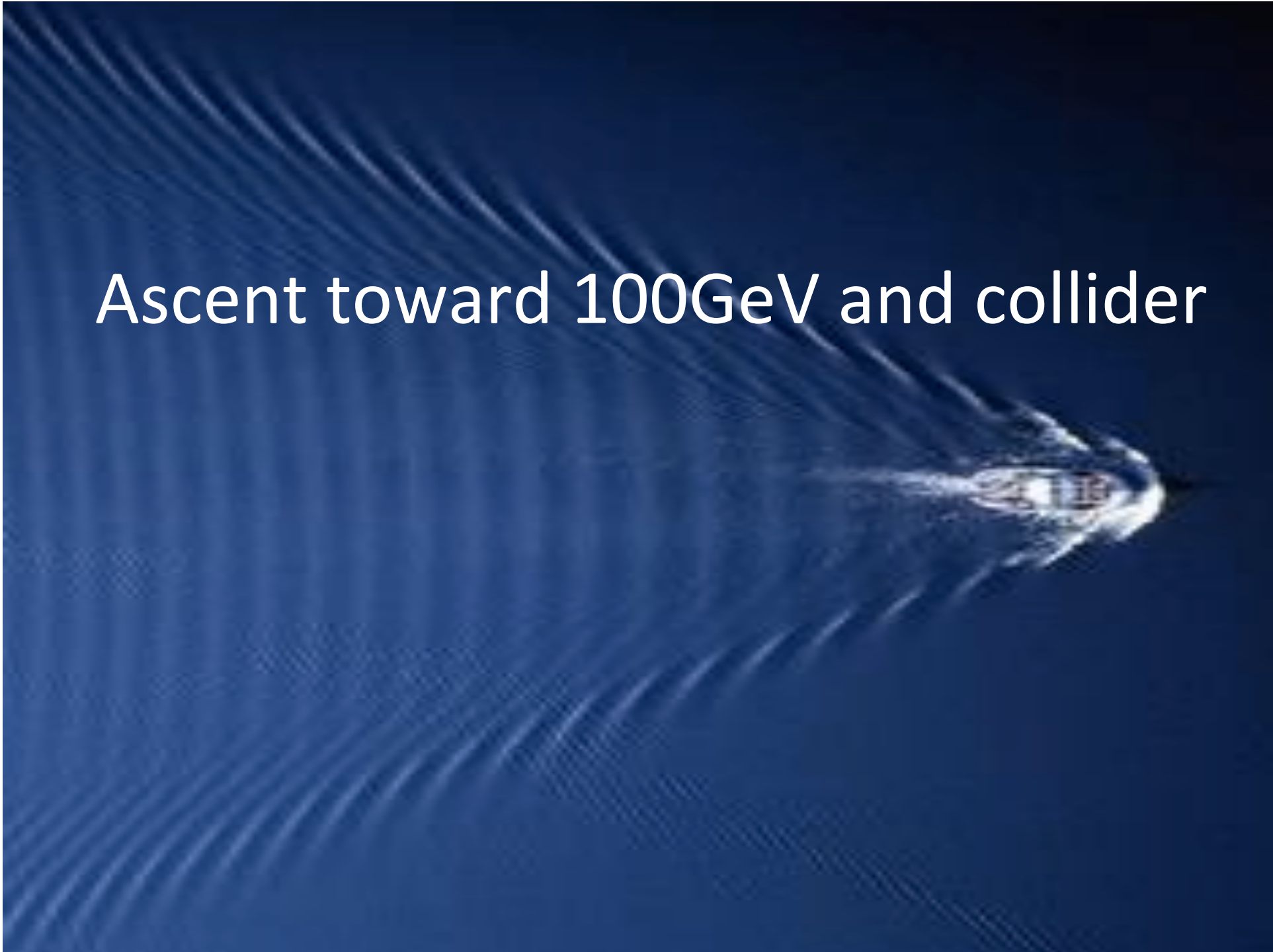


(Bulanov, Esirkepov)

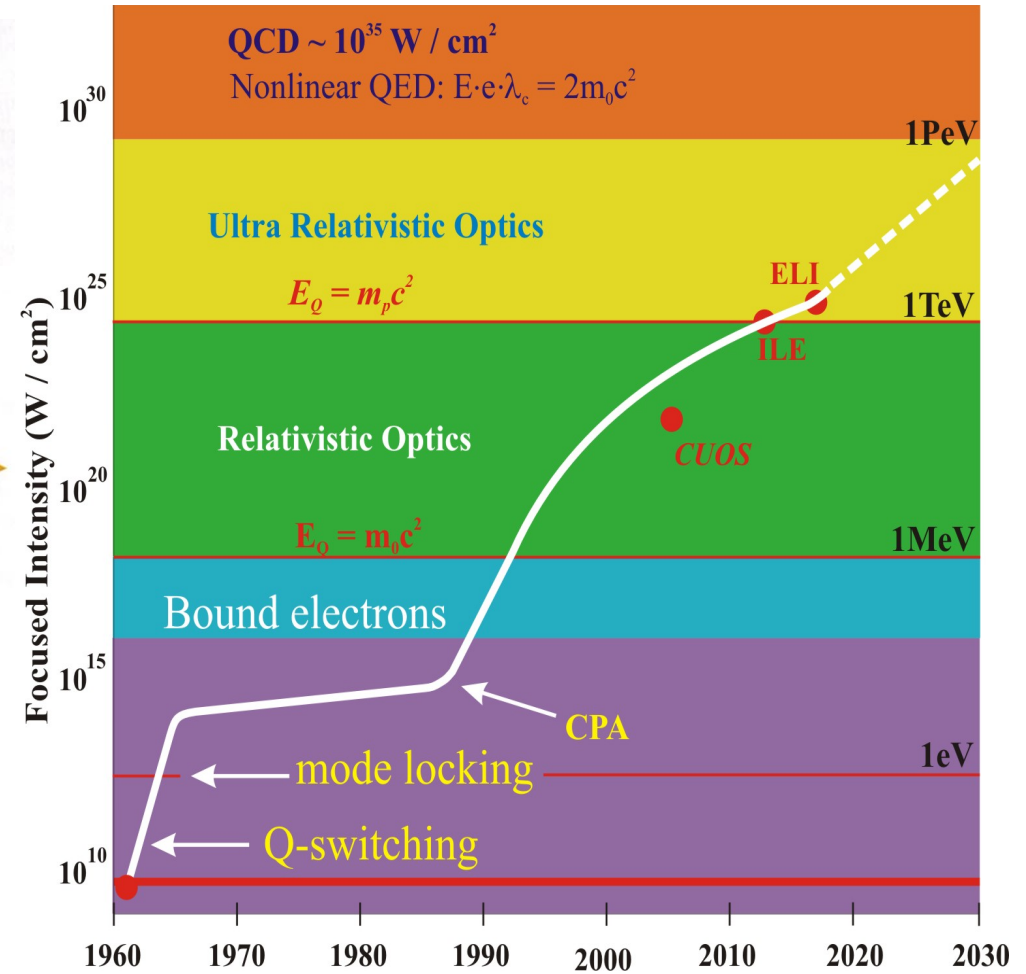
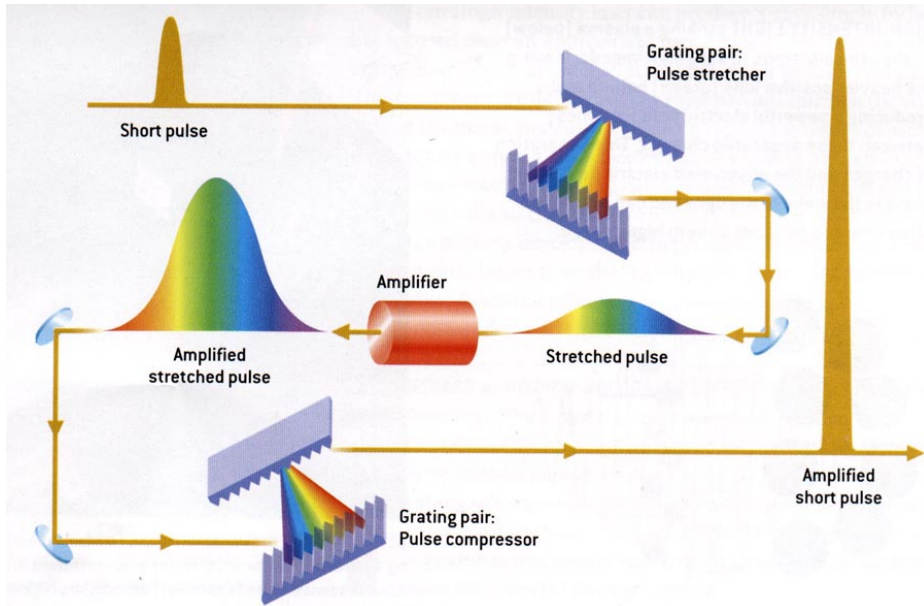
Bow Wave

Ponderomotive acceleration

Ascent toward 100GeV and collider



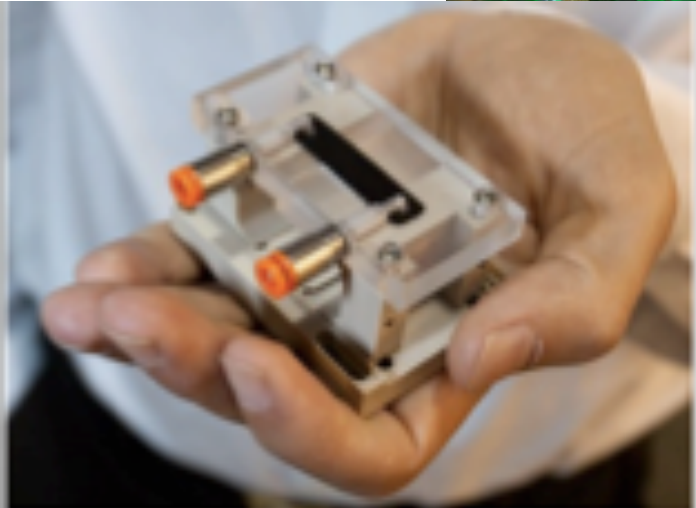
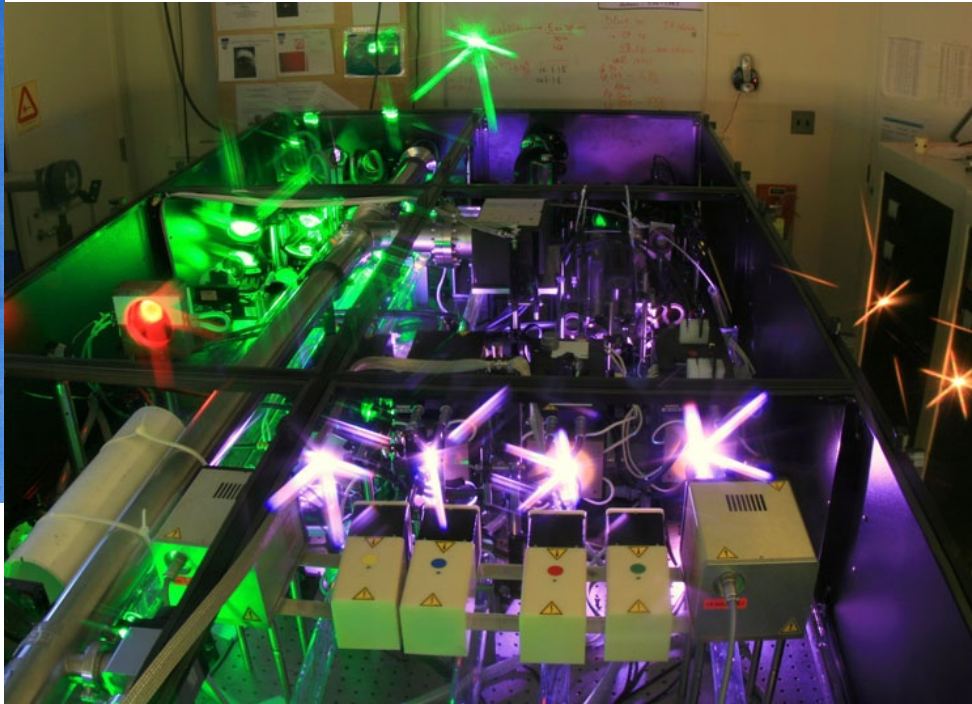
Enabling technology: laser revolution



G. Mourou-D. Strickland invented **Chirped Pulse Amplification** (1985)
 Laser intensity exponentiated since,
 to match the required intensity for Tajima-Dawson's **LWFA** (1979)

Demonstration, realization, and applications of

laser wakefield accelerators



4 GeV laser accelerator LBL



3GeV Synchrotron SOLEIL



Theory of **wakefield** toward extreme energy

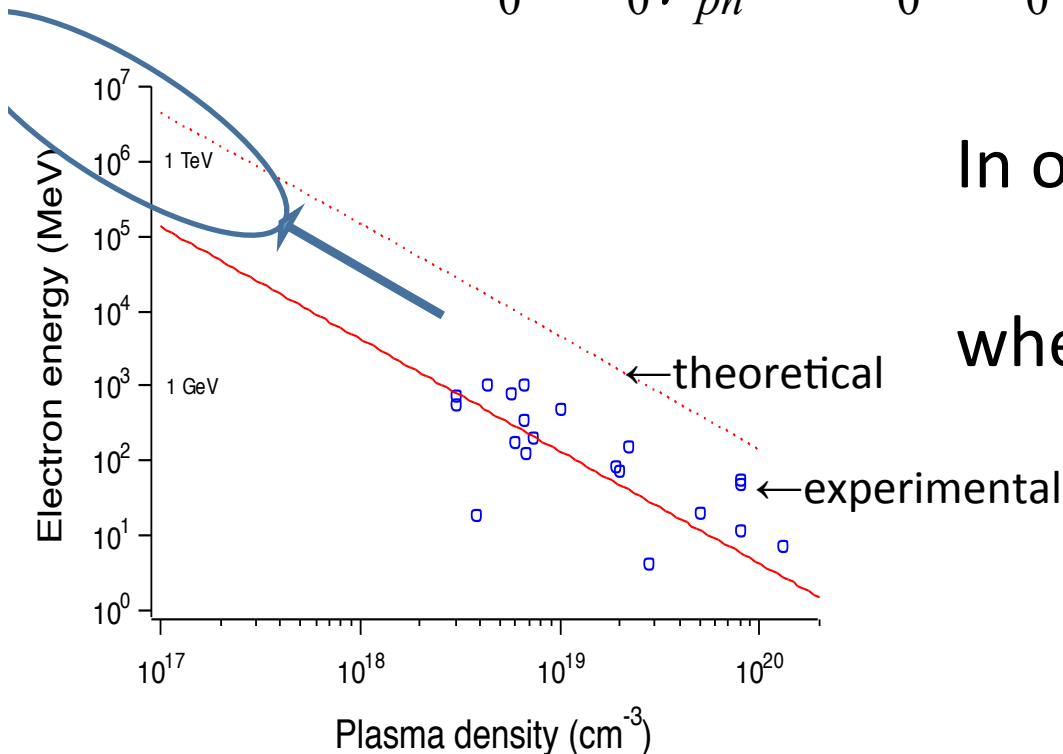
$$\Delta E \approx 2m_0c^2 a_0^2 \gamma_{ph}^2 = 2m_0c^2 a_0^2 \left(\frac{n_{cr}}{n_e} \right), \quad (\text{when 1D theory applies})$$

In order to avoid wavebreak,

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

where

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



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

$$\rightarrow 10^{29} \text{ (10keV photon)}$$

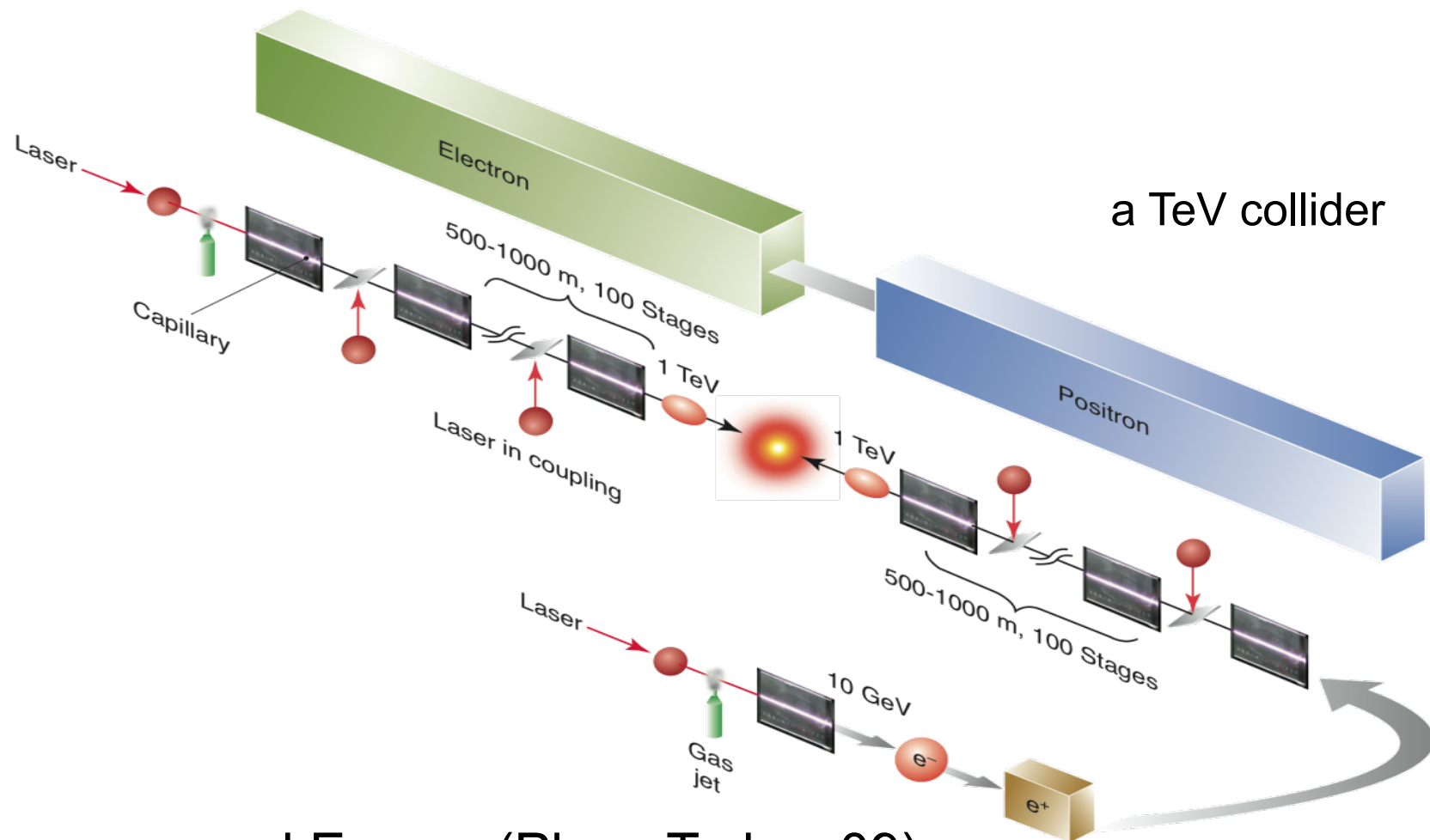
$$n_e = 10^{16} \text{ (gas)} \rightarrow 10^{23} \text{ (solid)}$$

$$L_d = \frac{2}{\pi} \lambda_p a_0^2 \left(\frac{n_{cr}}{n_e} \right), \quad L_p = \frac{1}{3\pi} \lambda_p a_0 \left(\frac{n_{cr}}{n_e} \right),$$

dephasing length

pump depletion length

Laser driven collider concept



Leemans and Esarey (Phys. Today, 09)

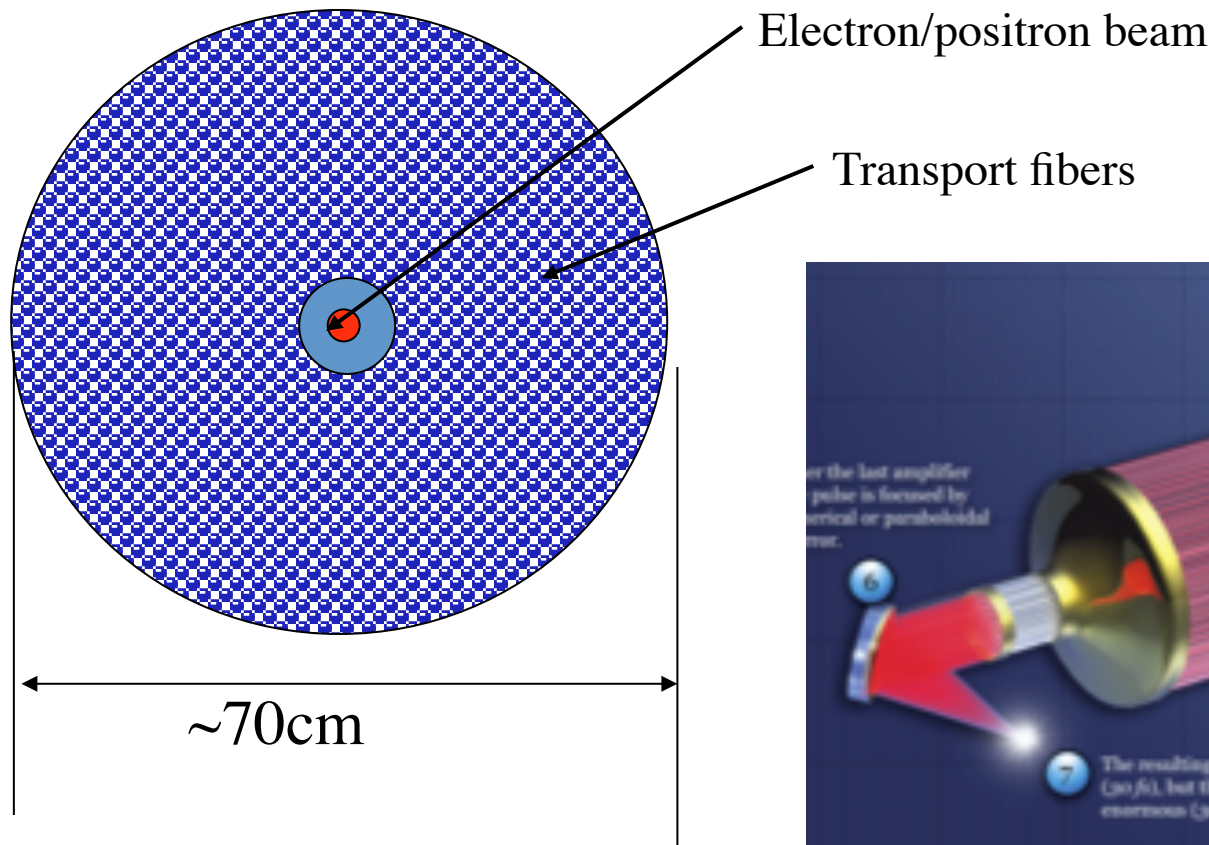
ICFA-ICUIL Joint Task Force on Laser Acceleration (Darmstadt, 10)



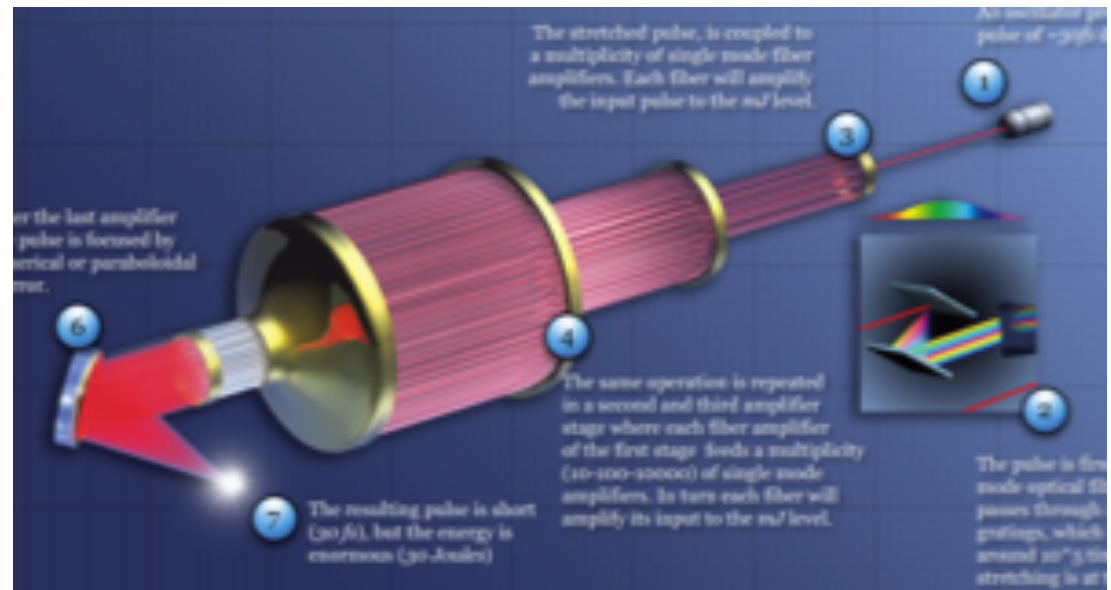
CAN Laser:

Need to Phase

32 J/1mJ/fiber ~ 3x10⁴ Phased Fibers!



G. Mourou: patent (2009)
 Mourou, Brookesby, Tajima,
 Limpert (2013)



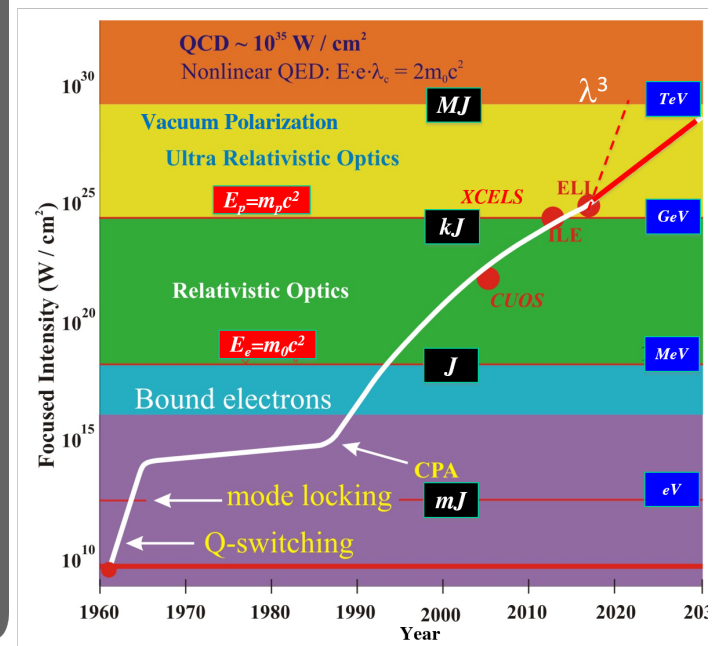
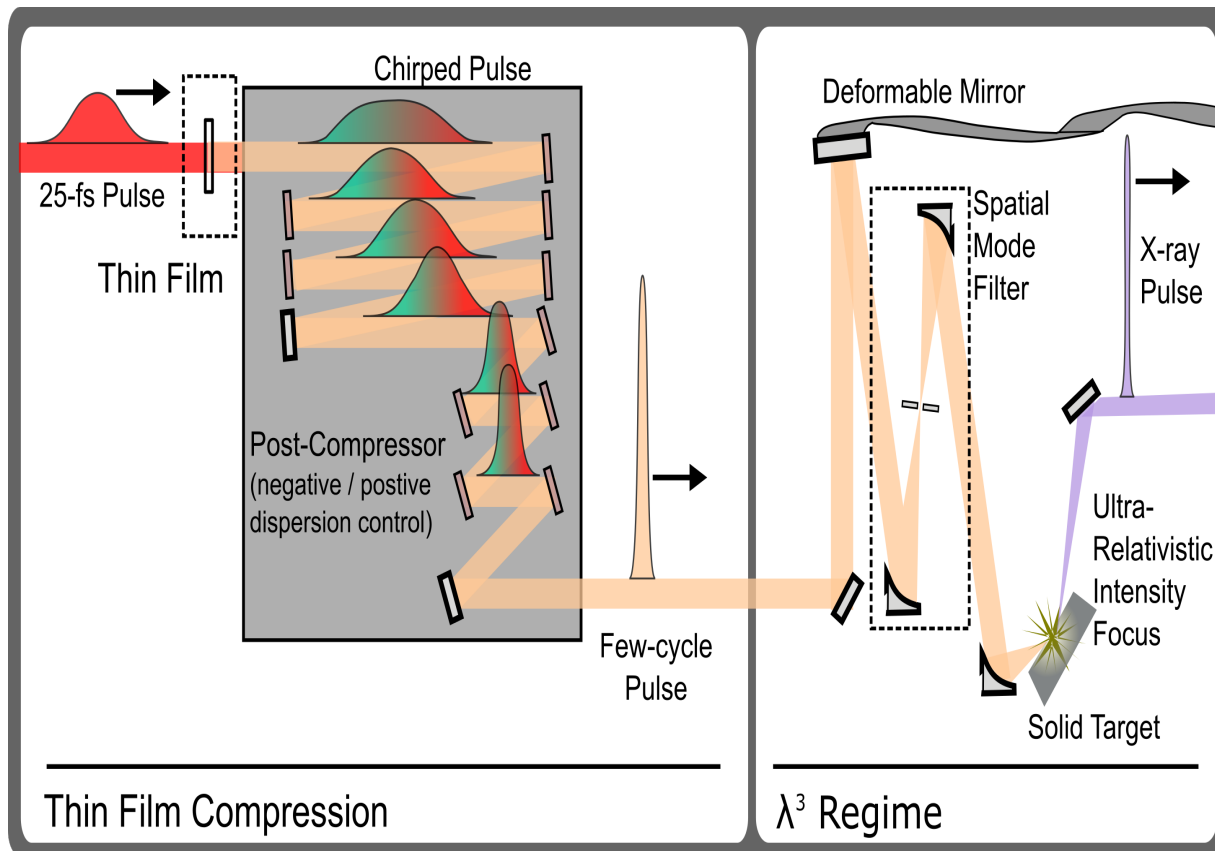
Length of a fiber ~2m

Total fiber length ~ 5 10⁴km

Single-cycled **laser** and “TeV on a chip”

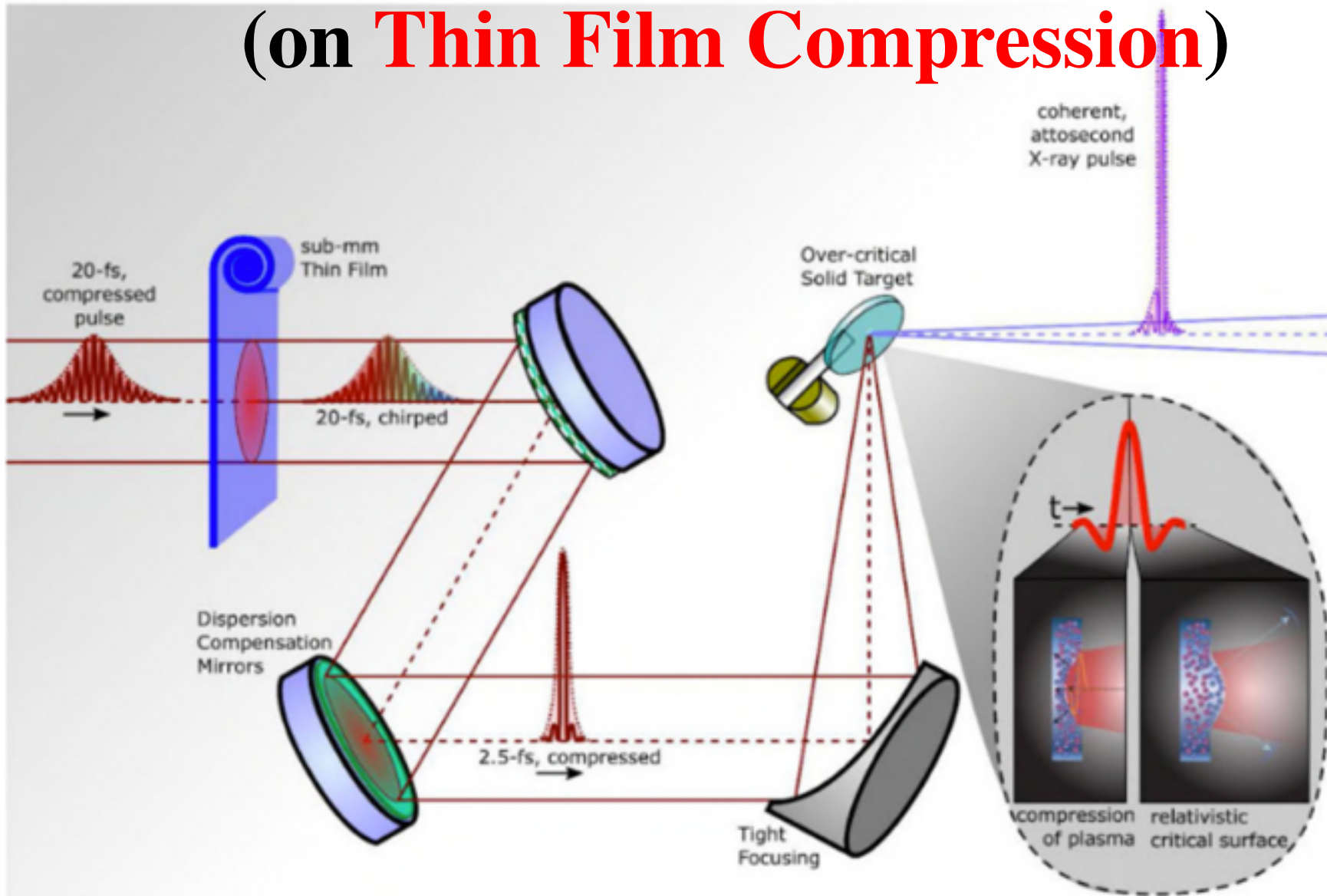


Thin film compression and single-cycle optical and X-ray lasers



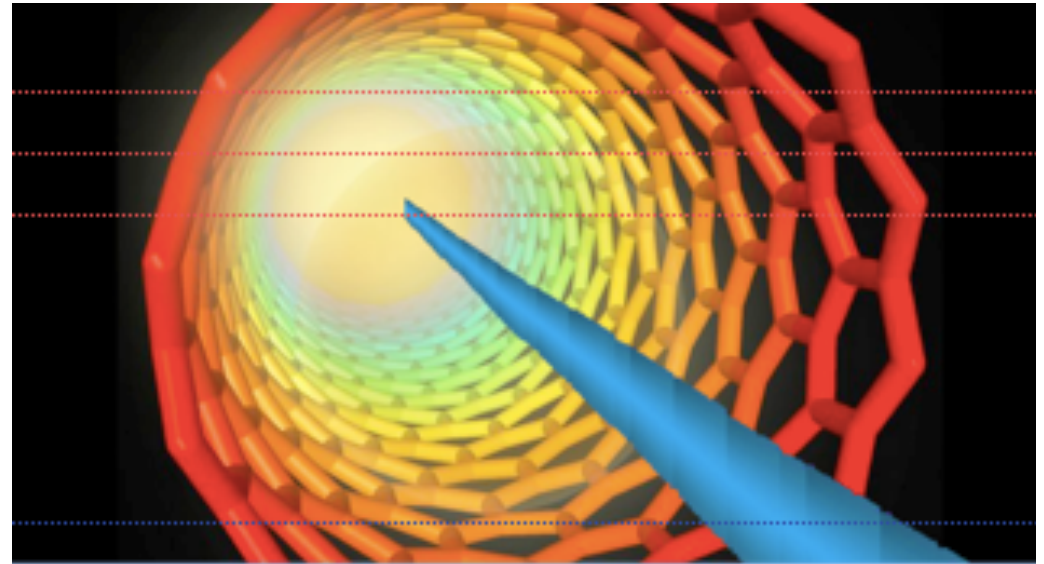
→ High Field Science

Next Generation X-ray Lasers (on Thin Film Compression)

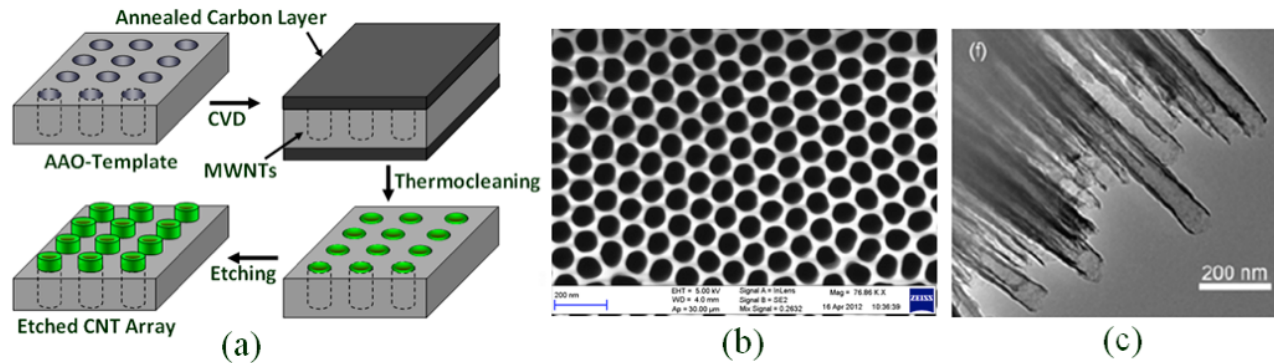


Wakefield acceleration in nano tube

Carbon nanotube with
Particle beam / X-ray pulse



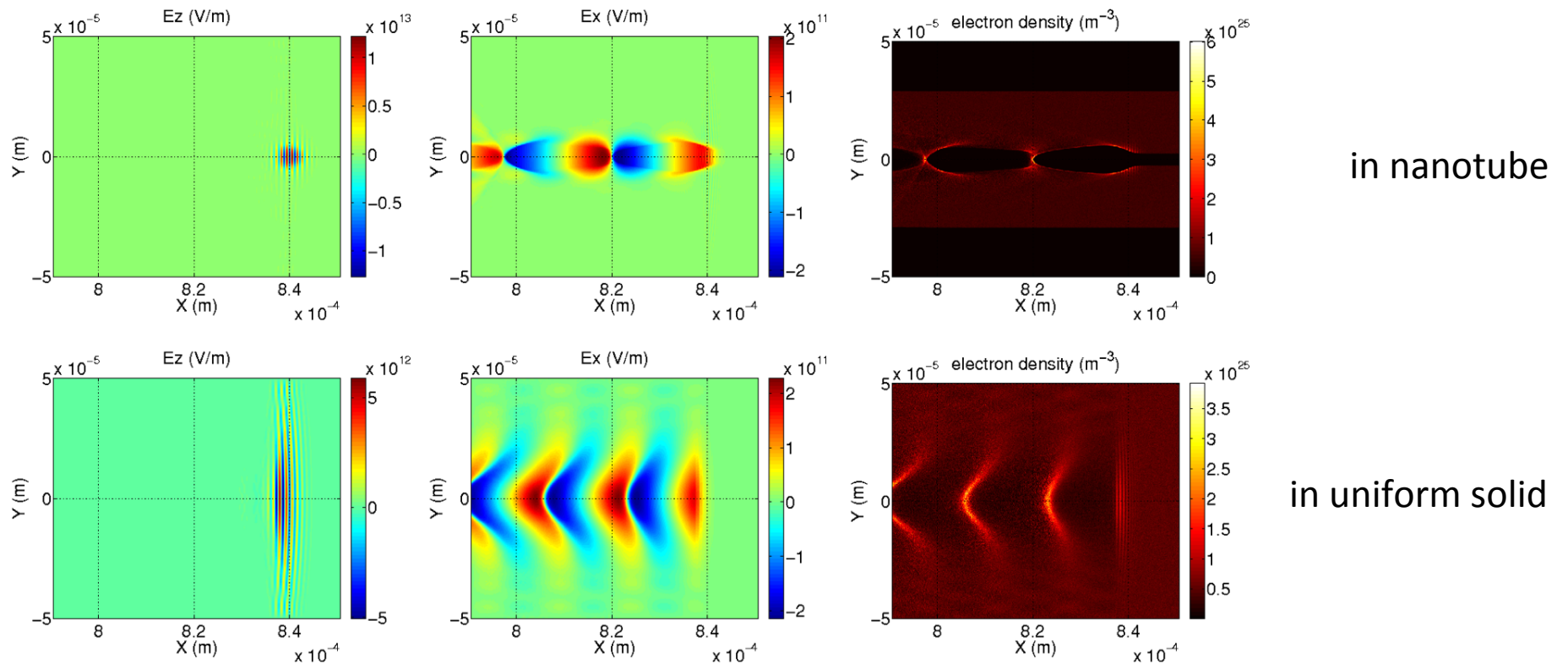
Porous nanomaterial



→ TeV on a Chip ($E \sim \text{TeV} / \text{cm}$)

→ PeV over 10m

X-ray LWFA in a tube vs. uniform solid



A few-cycled 1keV X-ray pulse ($a_0 \sim O(1)$), causing 10TeV/m wakefield in the tube
more strongly confined in the tube
cf: uniform solid

$$\alpha = \frac{\hbar^2}{e c}$$

Fermi PeV Accelerator

Path to TeV on a chip; PeV on a basketball court

