

# “Horizon: Sky is the limit”: Perspective of **Laser** Wakefield Acceleration



**Tangled Web of Quantum Sensors:**  
*Particle Accelerators, Lasers, Electromagnetic Cavities and Atomic Beams*  
Fermi Nat. Lab  
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**Toshiki Tajima**  
University of California at Irvine

Collaboration: S. Chattopadhyay, B. Barish, G. Mourou, V. Shiltsev, T. Ebisuzaki, K. Abazajian, S. Barwick, X. M. Zhang, D. Strickland, P. Taborek, K. Nakajima, F. Zimmermann, X. Yan, Y.M. Shin, J. Wheeler, W. J. Sha, S. Nicks, D. Roa, F. Tamanoi, G. Szabo, H. B. Yu, H. Sobel, T. Tait, J. Feng, A. Sahai, S. Corde, N. Canac, G. Huxtable, E. Barraza



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Collective (**laser wakefield**) acceleration

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Astrophysical wakefields

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= “TeV on a Chip”

4. Nanotube wakefield endoscopic **cancer therapy**

**Wakefields = Collective force**

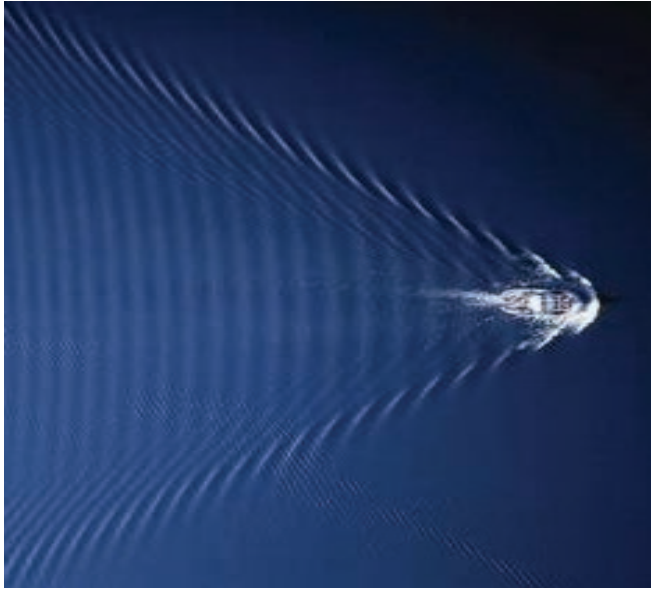






# Laser Wakefield (LWFA):

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



Tsunami phase velocity becomes  $\sim 0$ ,  
causes **wavebreak** and **turbulence**

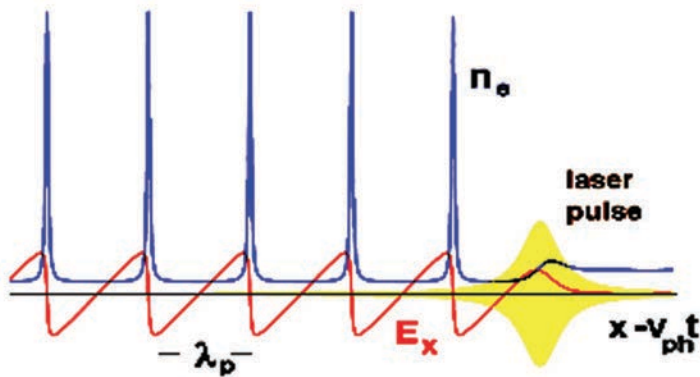


VS

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  $v < c$

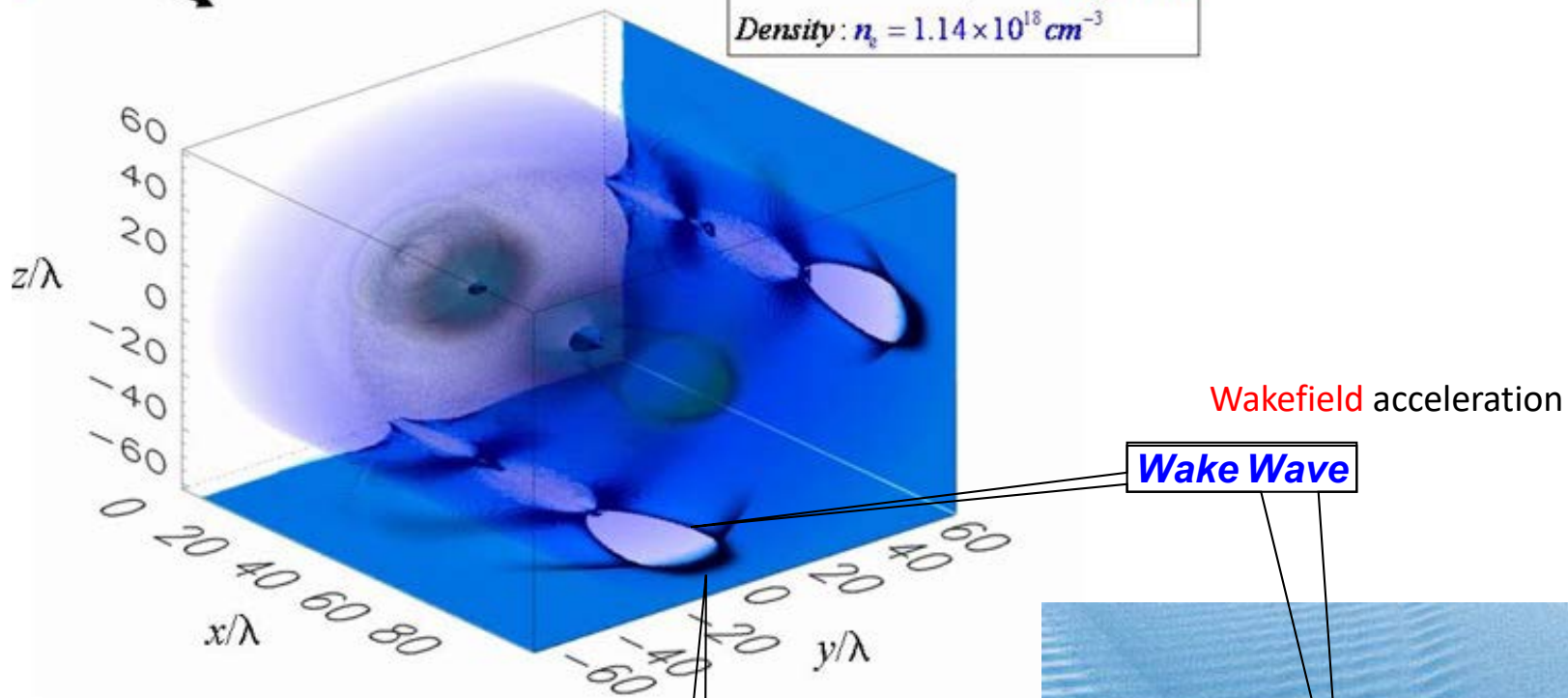


← relativity  
regularizes  
(*relativistic coherence*)



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

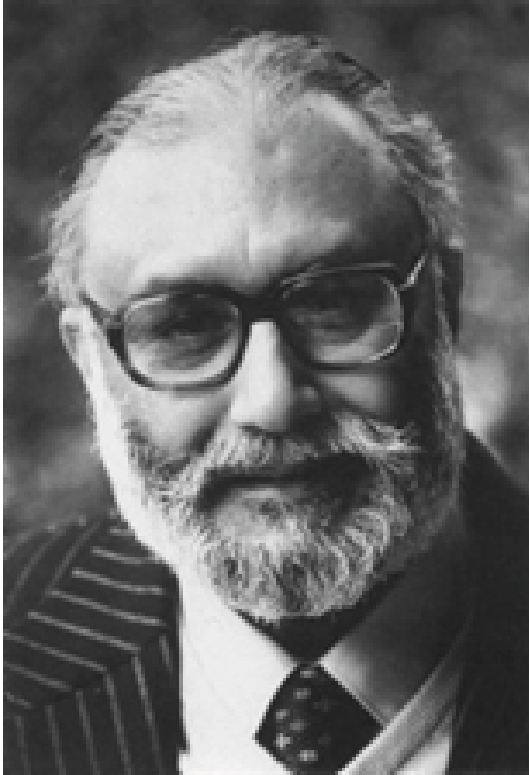
# Laser-driven Bow and Wake



(Bulanov, Esirkepov)



# The late Prof. Abdus Salam



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

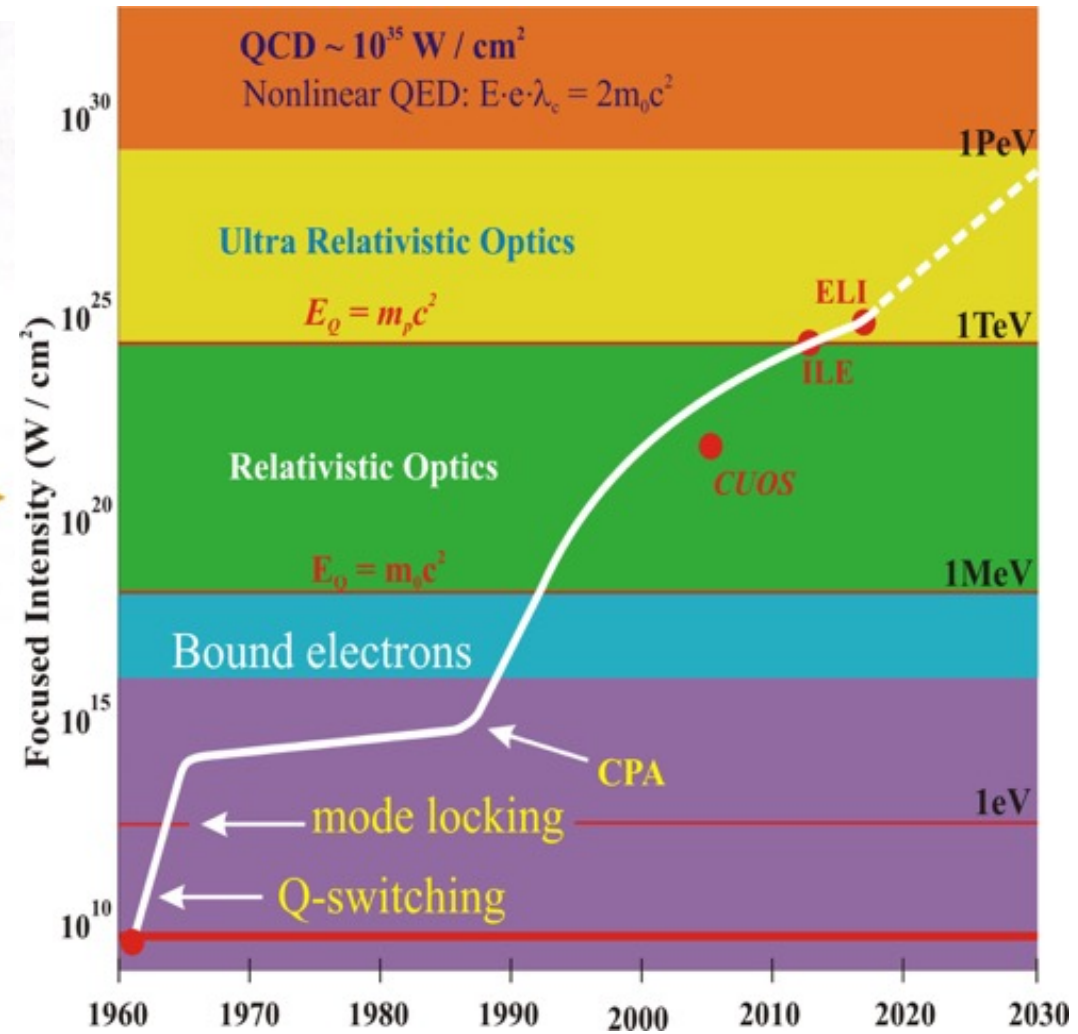
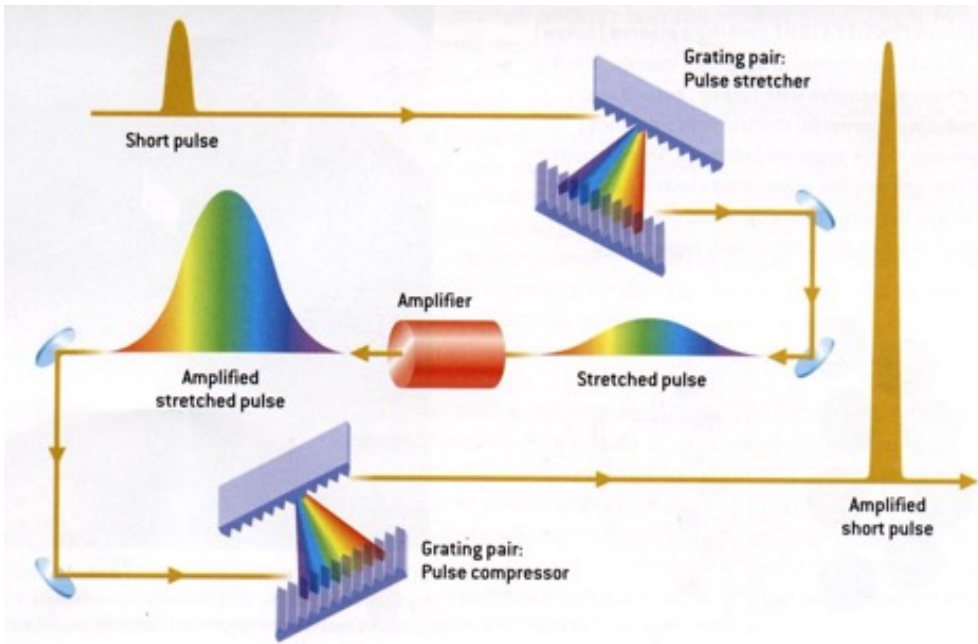
Salam: *'Scientists like me began feeling that we had less means to test our theory. However, with your laser acceleration, I am encouraged'*. (1981)

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

Effort: many scientists over many years to realize his vision / dream  
High field science: spawned

(NB: Prof. C. Rubbia et al.  
discovered his bosons at CERN, 1983)

# Enabling technology: **laser** revolution



G. Mourou invented **Chirped Pulse Amplification** (1985)

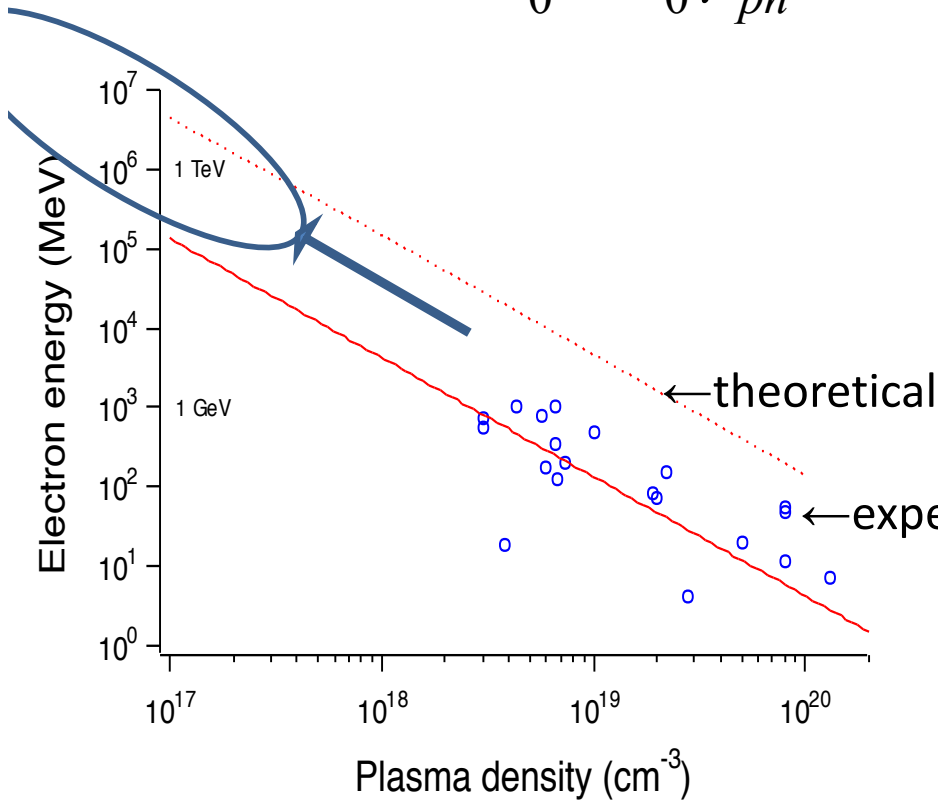
**Laser** intensity exponentiated since,

to match the required intensity for Tajima-Dawson's **LWFA** (1979)



# 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

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

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

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

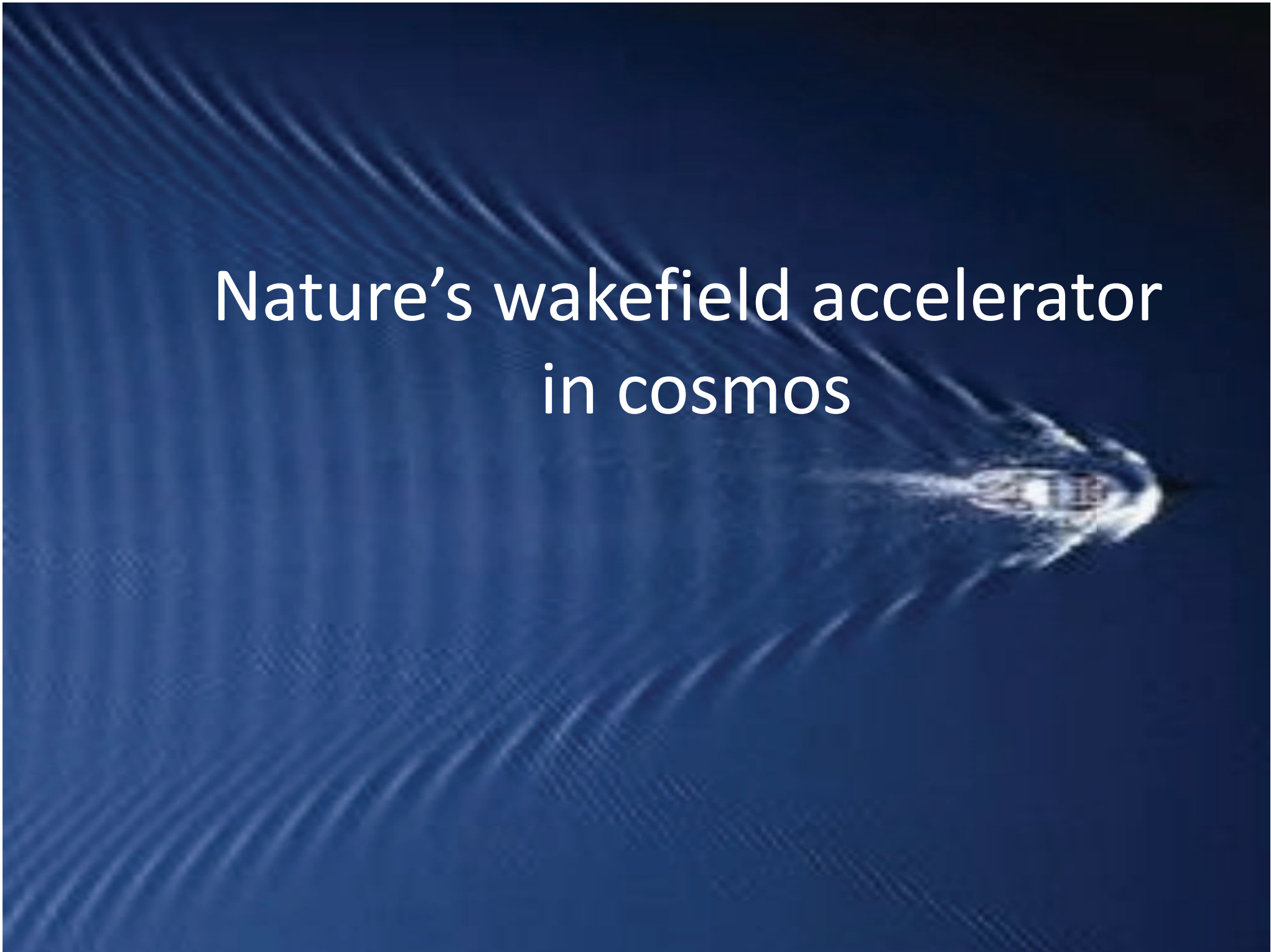
$$n_e = 10^{16} \text{ (gas)} \rightarrow 10^{23} / \text{cc} \text{ (solid)}$$

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

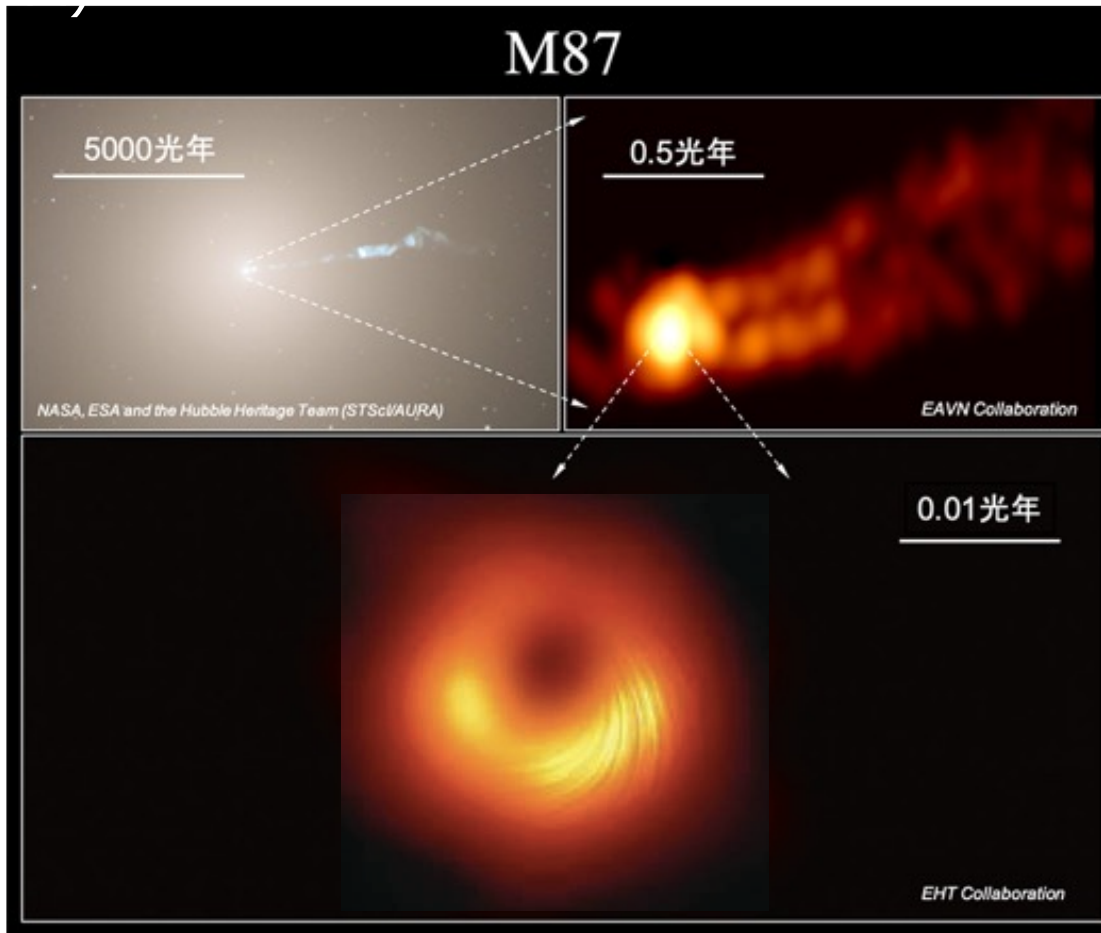
dephasing length

pump depletion length

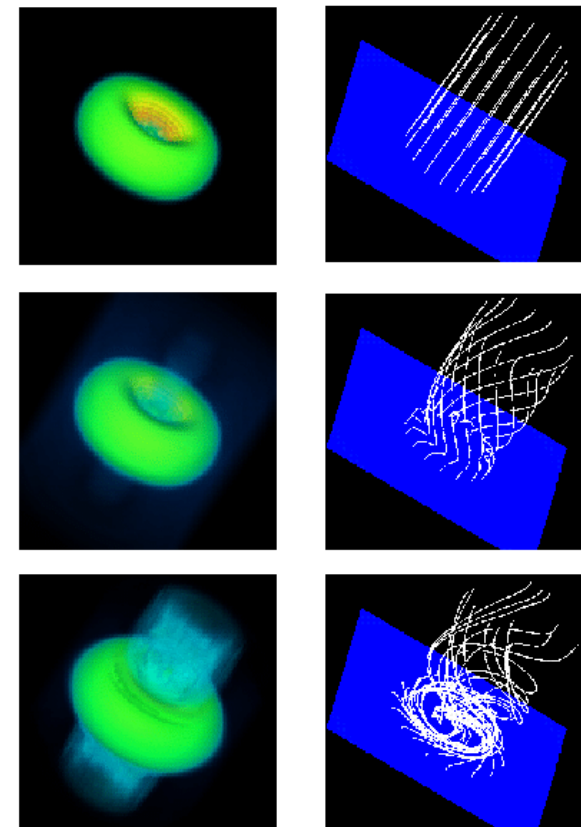
# Nature's wakefield accelerator in cosmos



# Jet of M87 Galaxy



## 3D Structure of Disk and Jet

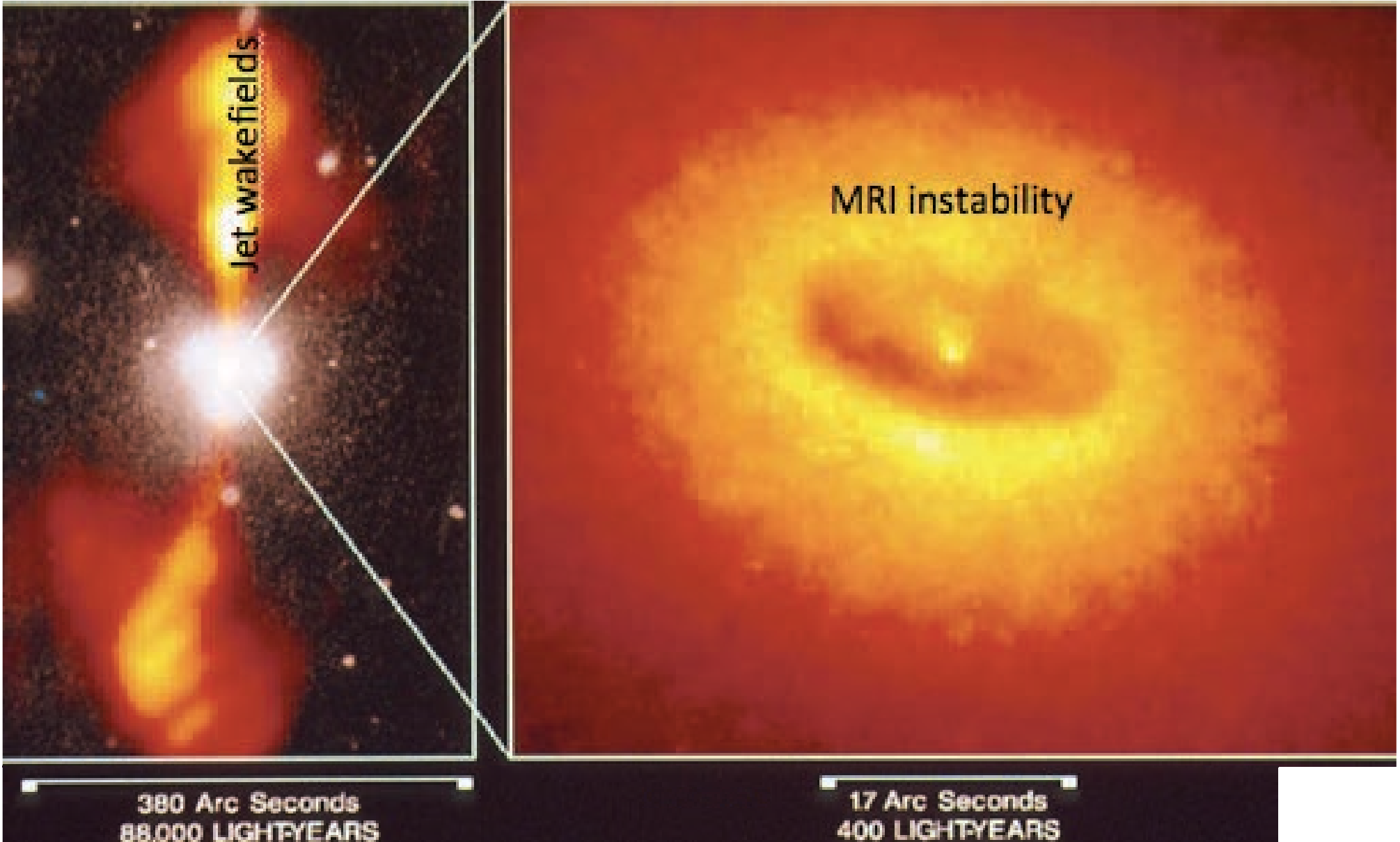


T. Tajima and K. Shibata, Plasma Astrophysics  
(Perseus Publishing, Cambridge Massachusetts

# Hubble Space Telescope image of jets and disk

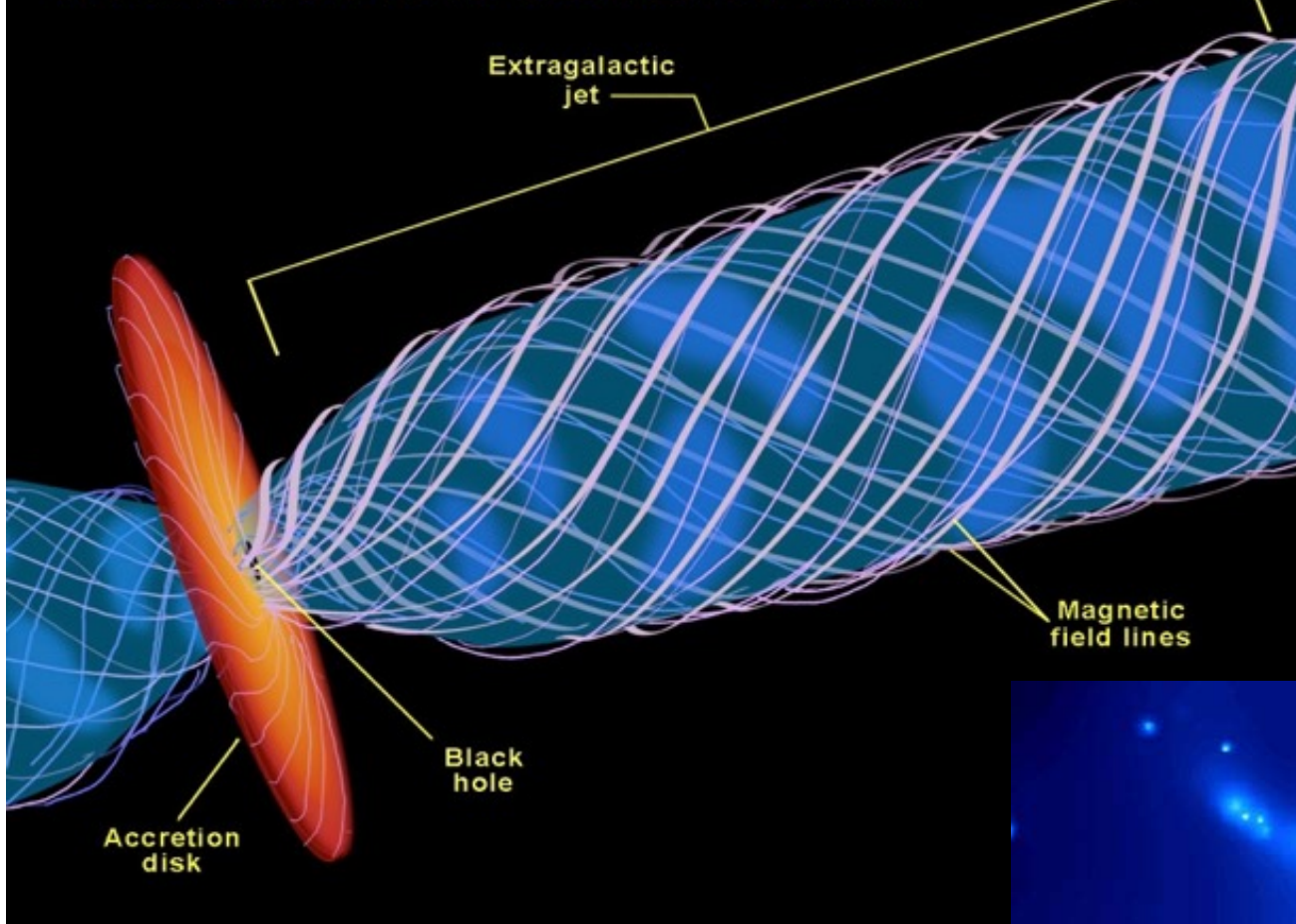
Ground-based optical/radio image

HST image of a gas and dust disk





## Formation of extragalactic jets from black hole accretion disk



Fermi's 'Stochastic Acceleration'  
(large synchrotron radiation loss)



Coherent **wakefield** acceleration  
(no limitation of the energy)

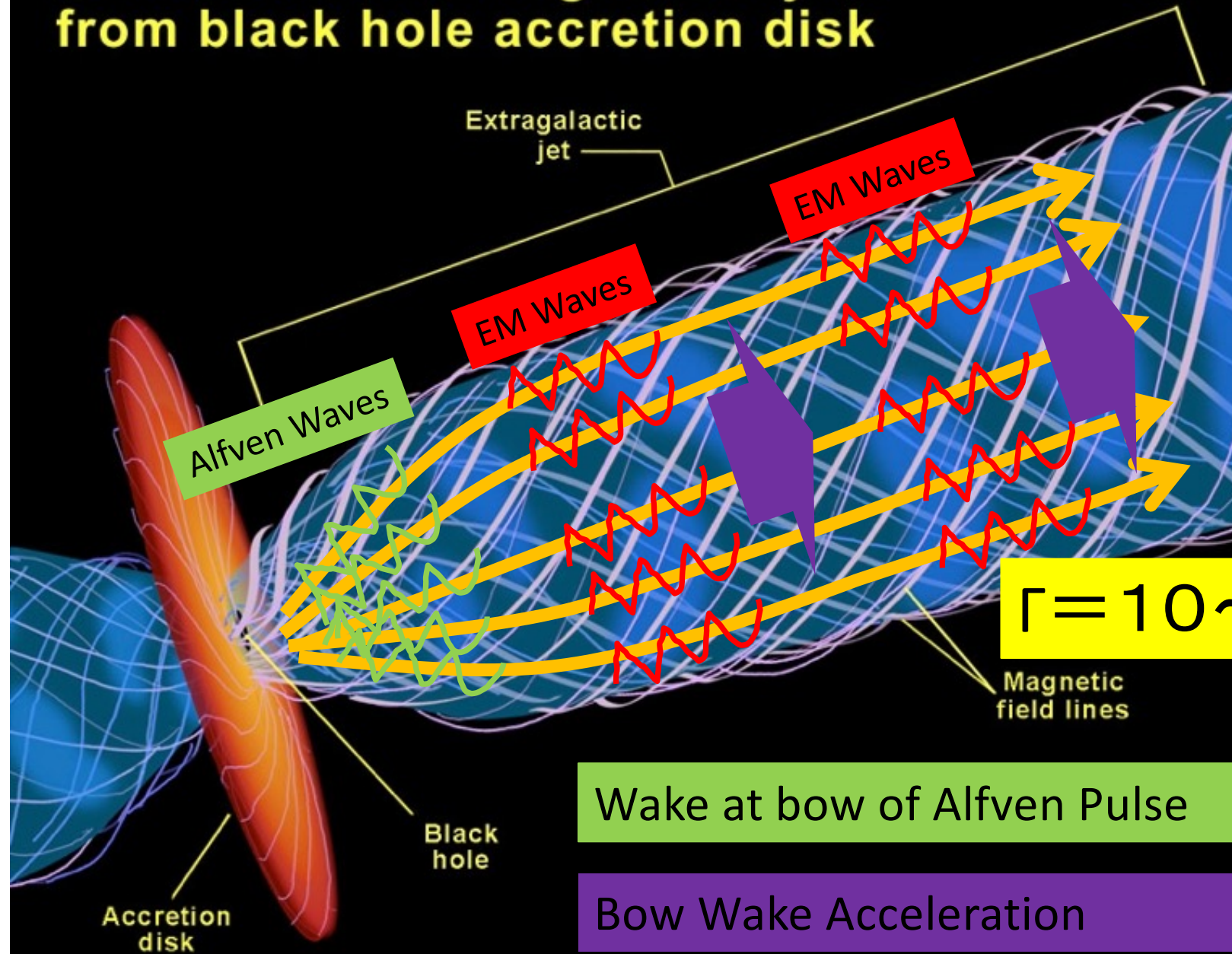
### Nature's **LWFA** : Blazar jets

extreme high energy cosmic rays ( $\sim 10^{21}$  eV)  
episodic  $\gamma$ -ray bursts observed  
consistent with **LWFA** theory

Ebisuzaki-Tajima (2014)

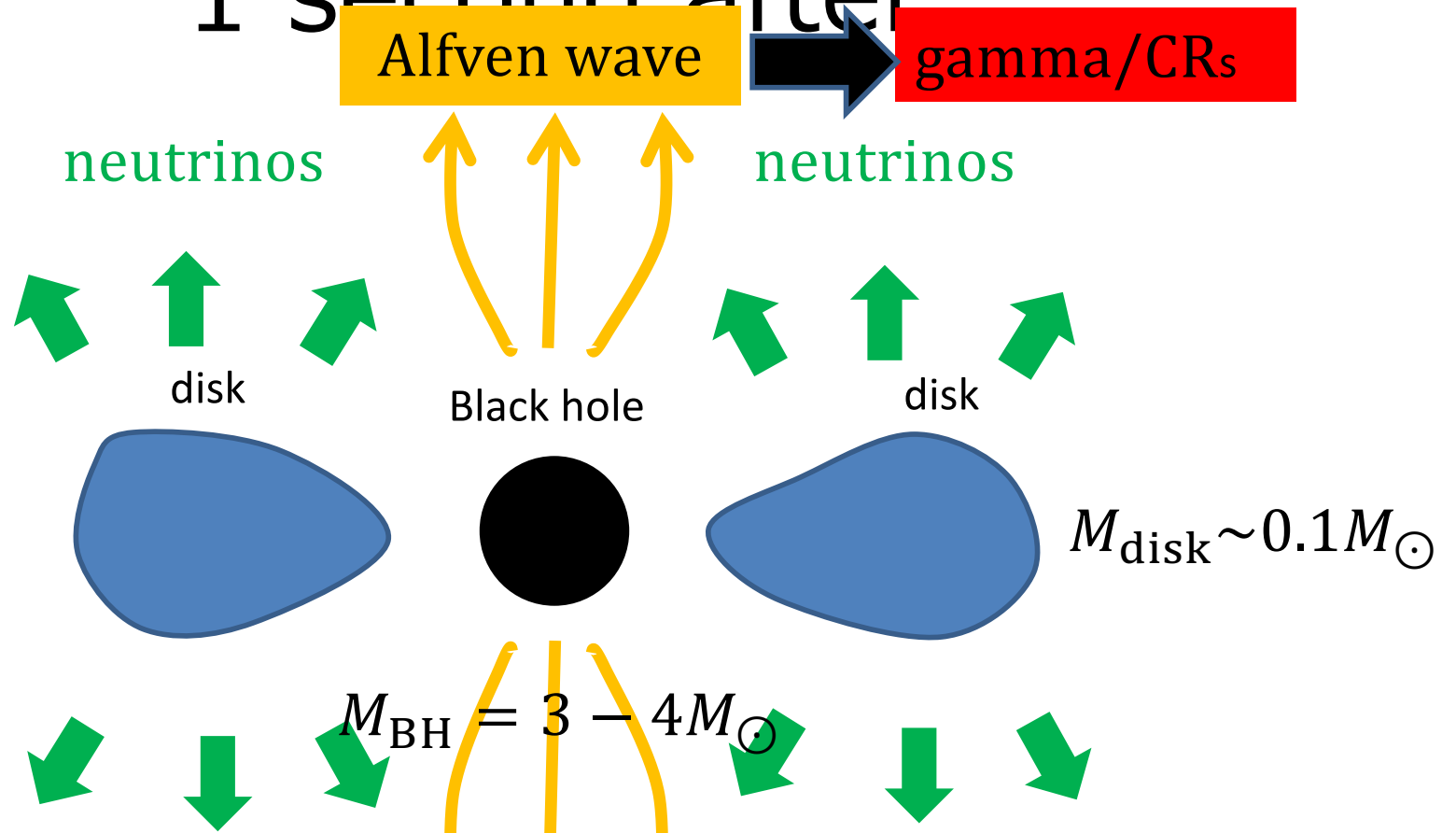


# Formation of extragalactic jets from black hole accretion disk



# NS-NS merger $\rightarrow$ BH + Disk

1 second after



$$L_{\nu} \sim 10^{52} \text{ erg/s} \sim L_A$$

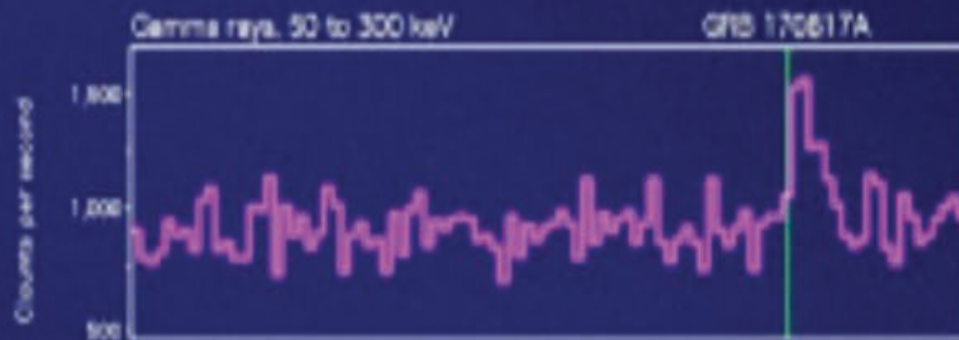
Central Engine of GRB/Hypernova



# Gravitational wave and Gamma bursts

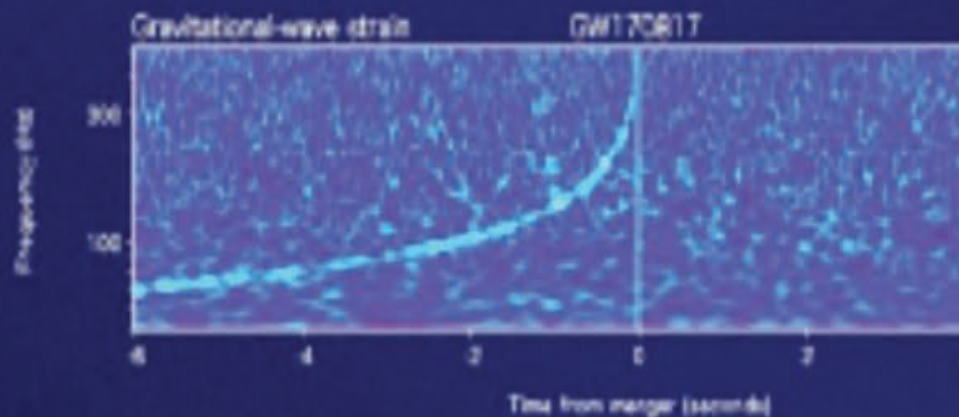
## Fermi

Reported 16 seconds  
after detection



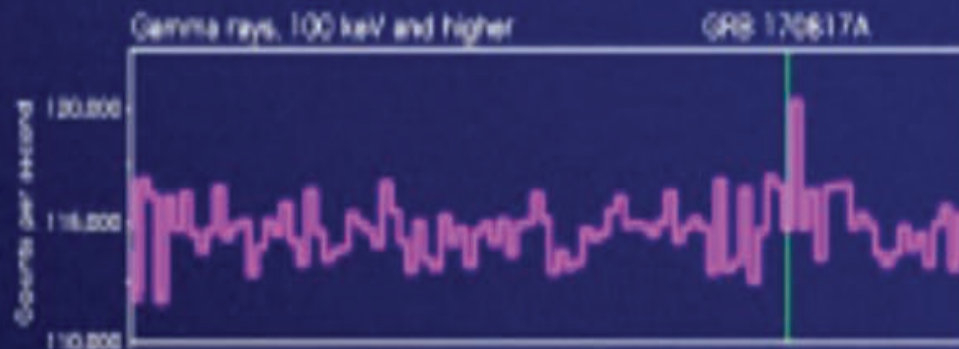
## LIGO-Virgo

Reported 27 minutes after detection



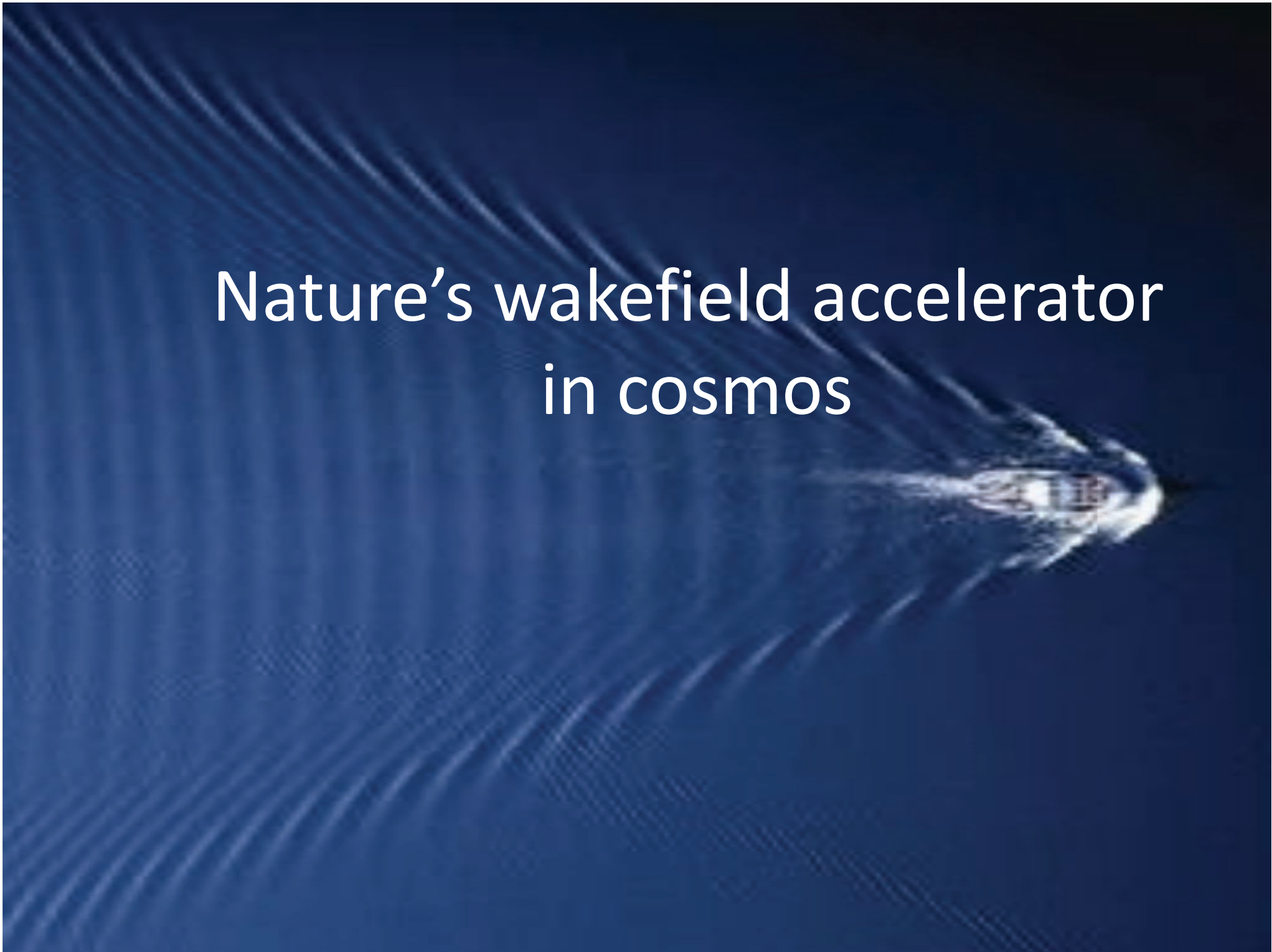
## INTEGRAL

Reported 66 minutes  
after detection



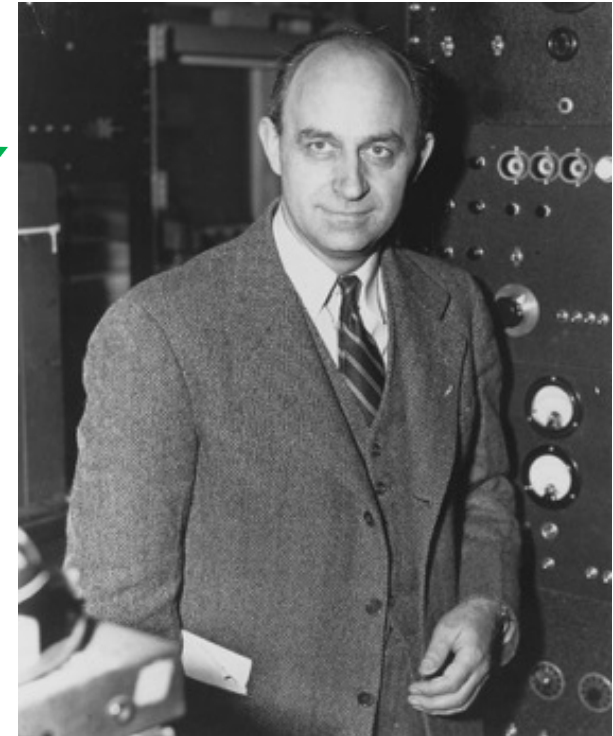
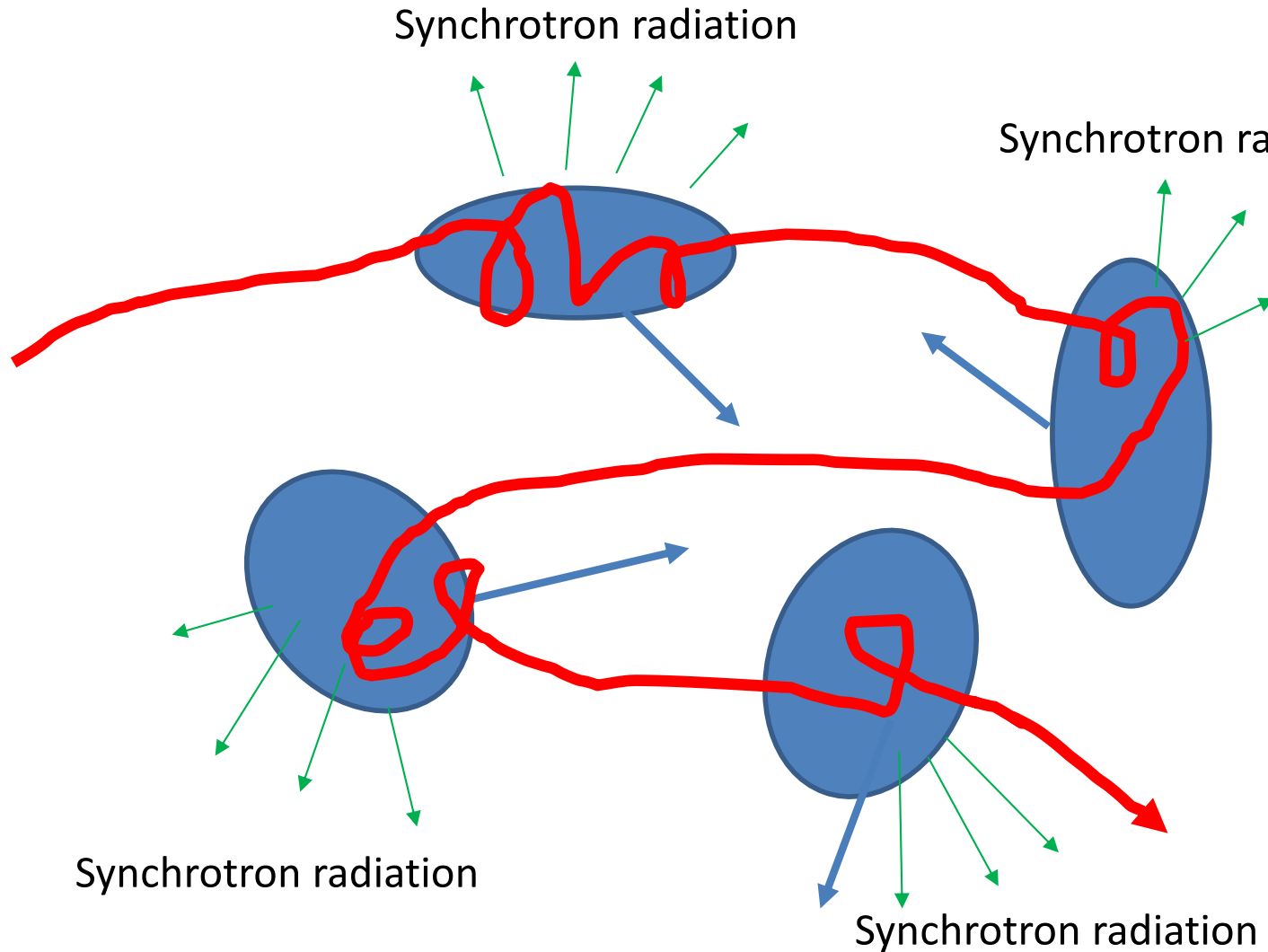


# Nature's wakefield accelerator in cosmos



# Fermi mechanism

incoherent  
requires bending → synchrotron loss



By Department of Energy. Office of Public Affairs

E. Fermi, ApJ 119 (1954) 1.

# Ultrahigh Energy Cosmic Rays (UHECR)

Fermi mechanism runs out of steam  
beyond  $10^{19}$  eV

due to *synchrotron radiation*

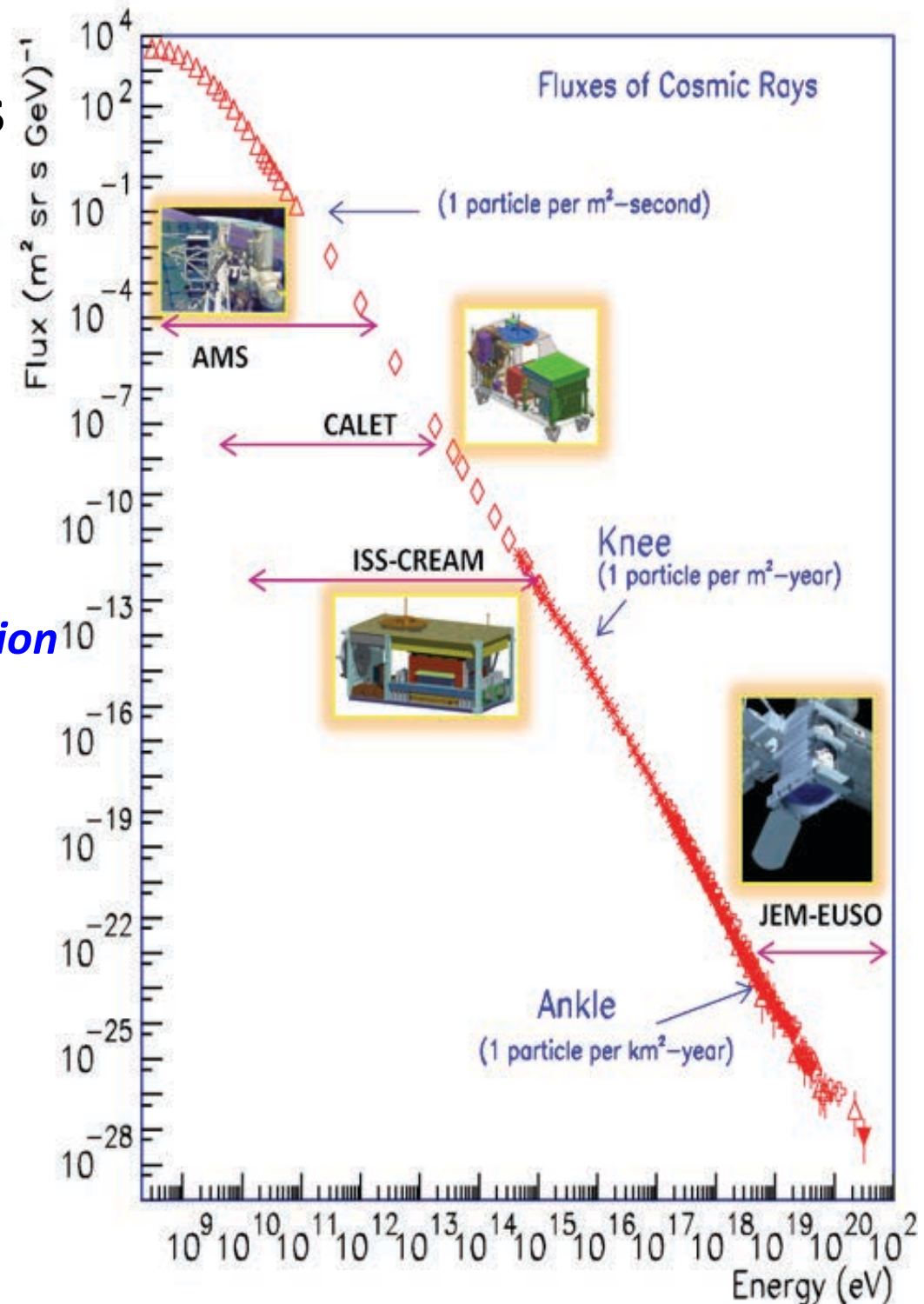
Wakefield acceleration

comes in rescue

prompt, intense, *linear acceleration*

small synchrotron radiation

radiation damping effects?

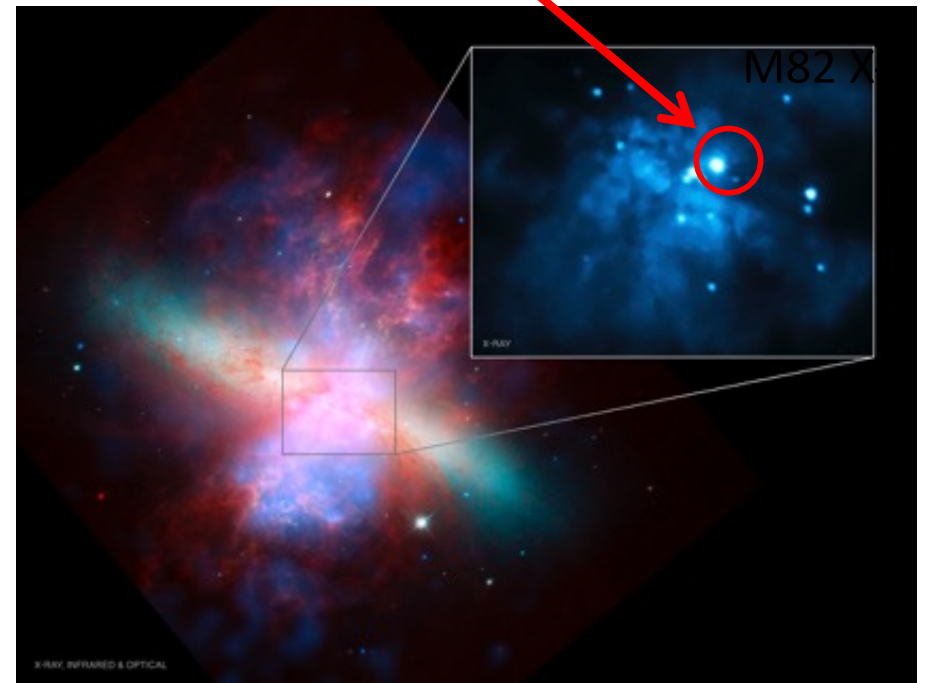


# M82: Nearest Starburst Galaxy

M82 X-1: 1000-10000  $M_{\odot}$  BH



Just after the collision with M81



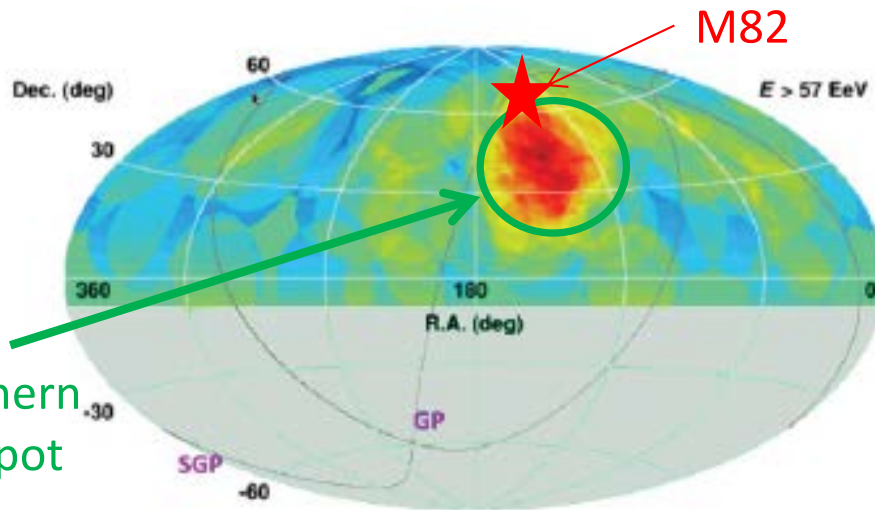
Composite of X-ray, IR, and optical emissions

NASA / CXC / JHU / D. Strickland; optical: NASA /  
ESA / STScI / AURA / Hubble Heritage Team; IR:  
NASA / JPL-Caltech / Univ. of AZ / C. Engelbracht;  
inset – NASA / CXC / Tsinghua University / H. Feng  
et al.

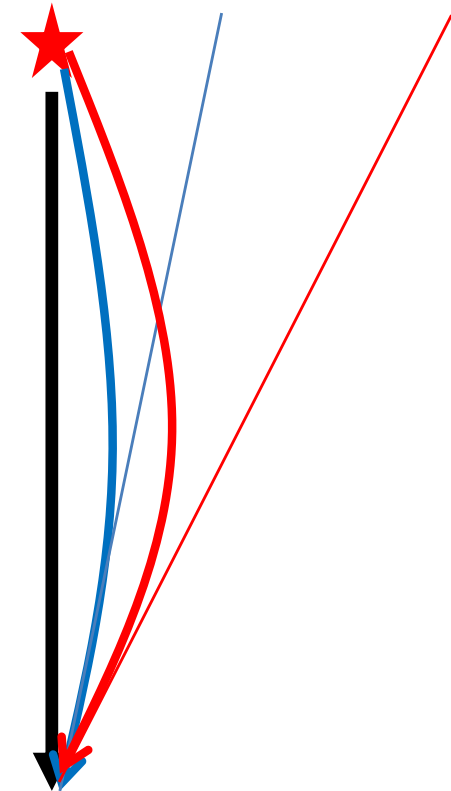


# Arrival Direction Map (cosmic rays $> 5 \times 10^{19}$ eV)

TA



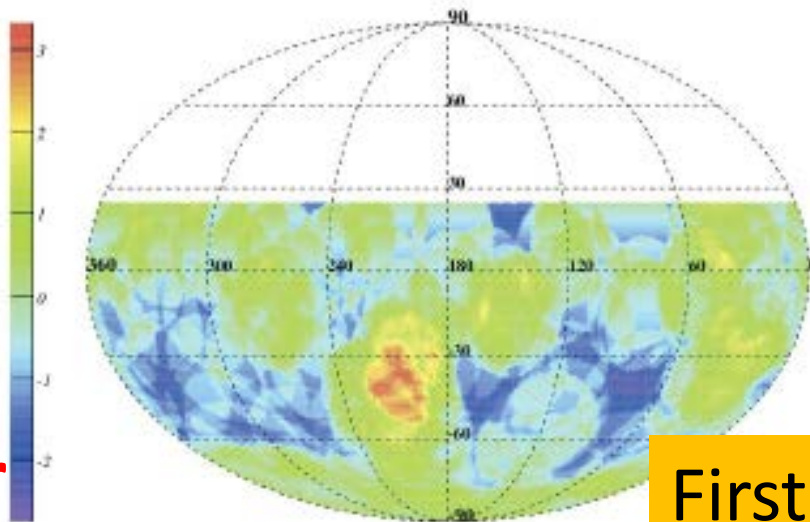
M82 M82 M82



Magnetic bending of charged particles

Northern hot spot

Auger



First Identification of CR sources?

First sign of anisotropy in charged particles

# Cen A



- Distance : 3.4Mpc
- Radio Galaxy
  - Nearest
  - Brightest radio source
- Elliptical Galaxy
- Black hole at the center w/  
relativistic jets

# Anti-correlation between the **luminosity** and the **power index** from Blazars

Anti-correlation of Luminosity  $L$  and Power index  $p$  in time



Wakefield theory anticipated (Ebisuzaki 2014)

Power index  $p$  vs. Luminosity  $L$  for several Blazars (more in Abazajian et al. arXiv 2017)

Blazar Variability from Wakefield Phenomena

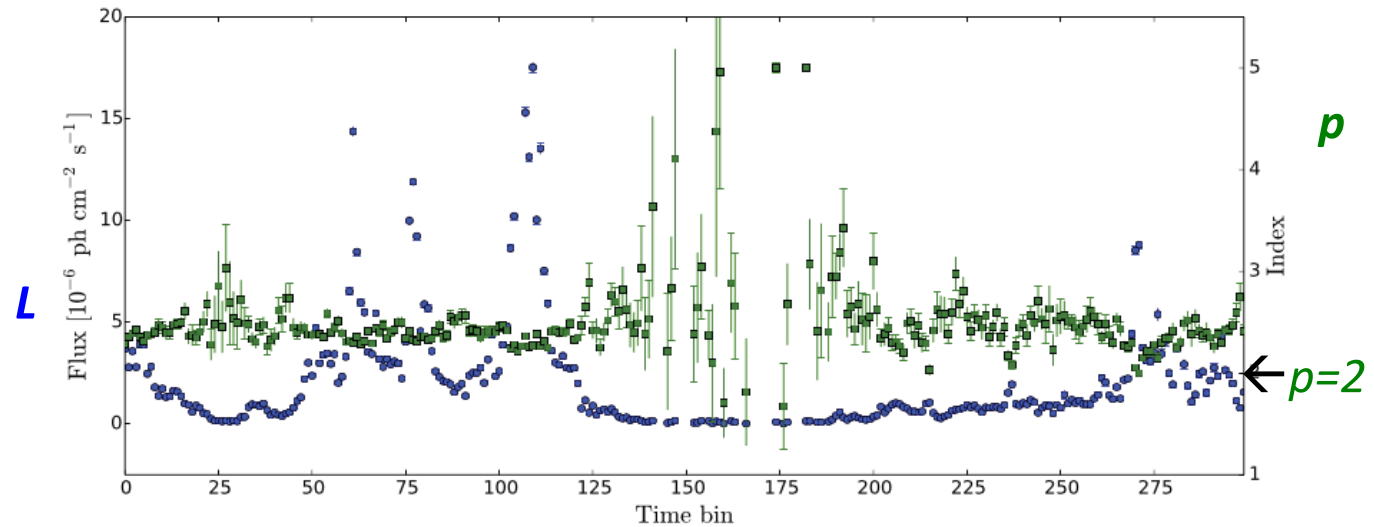
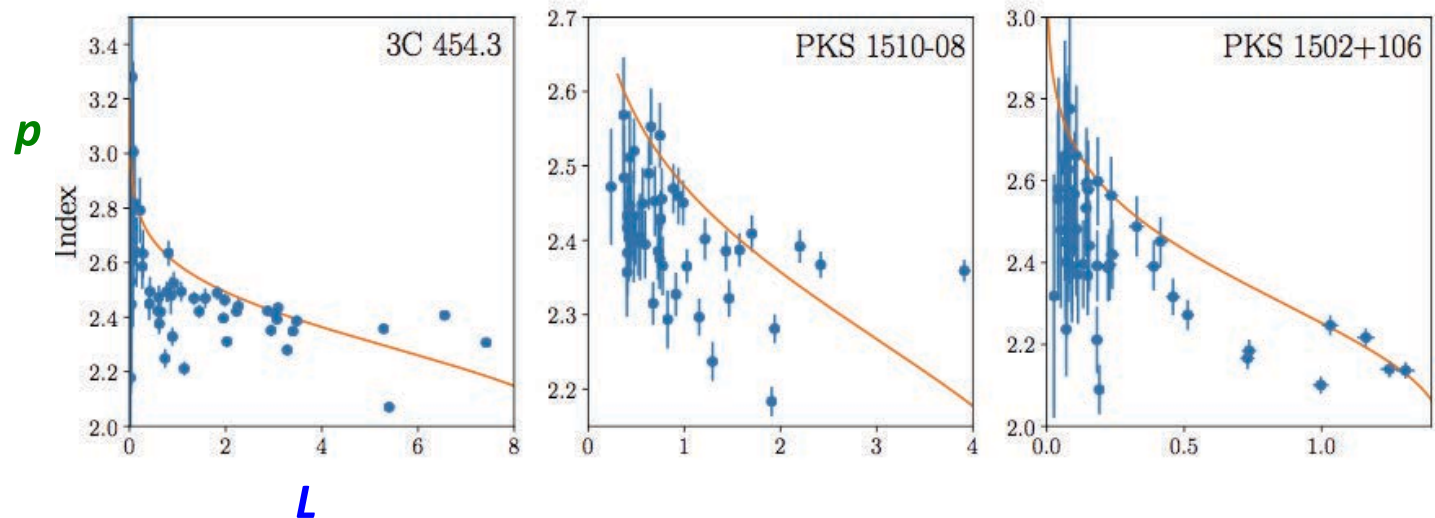


FIG. 2.— Shown are the flux (blue circles, left axis) and spectral index (green squares, right axis) for 3C 454.3 in 300 time bins of 7.9 days duration. An anti-correlation can be seen: the peaks in flux correspond to dips in the spectral index and vice versa.

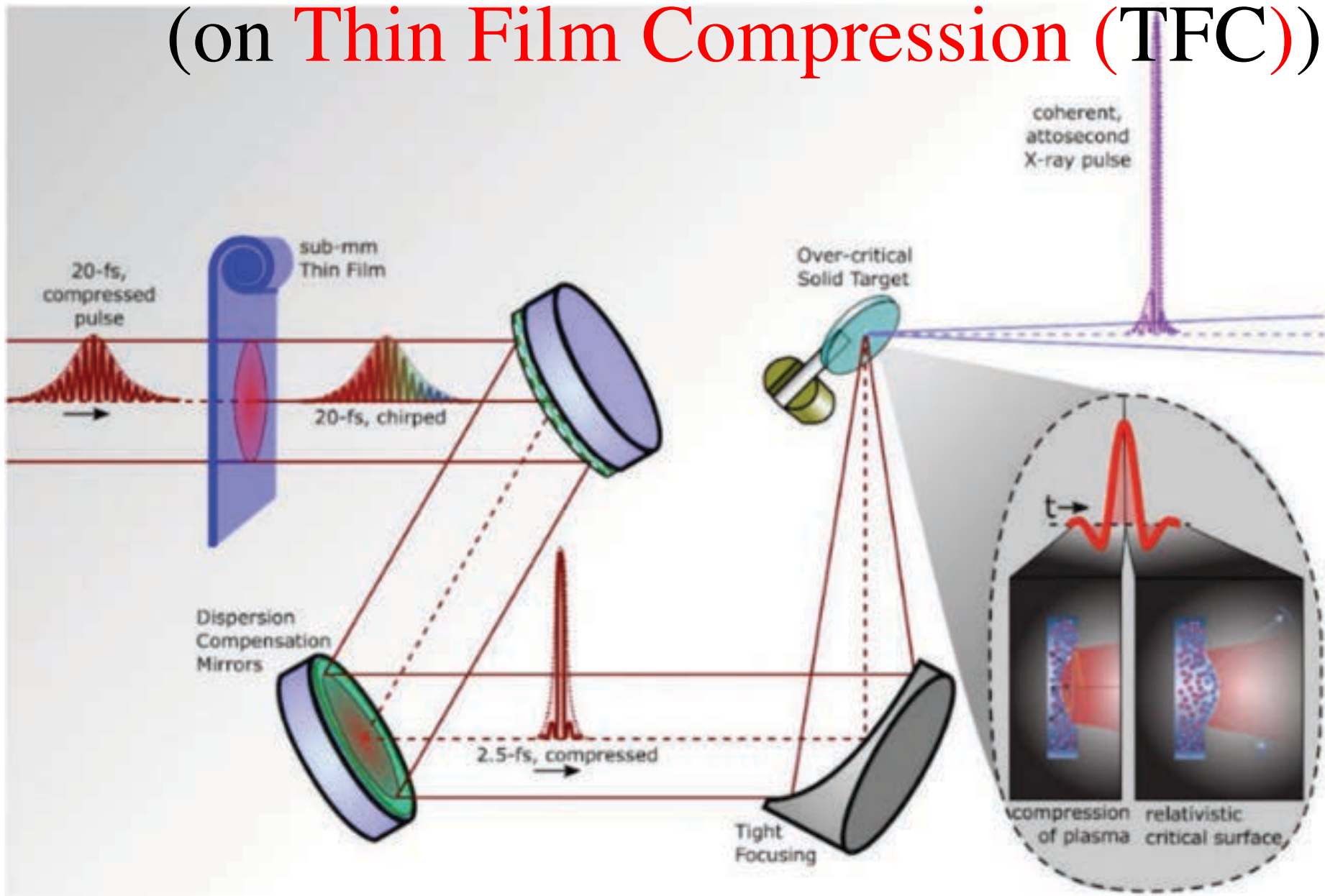


Single-cycled **laser** and “TeV on a chip”





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



# Motivation:

1. Invention of **Thin Film Compression** (TFC, 2013) opened up **Laser Wakefield Acceleration** (LWFA, 1979) in **X-ray** regime,

$$E_{TD} = m\omega_{pe} c / e; \quad \Delta\varepsilon = 2mc^2 a_0^2 (n_{cr} / n)$$

compactifying further by  $10^3$  over the gas plasma LWFA

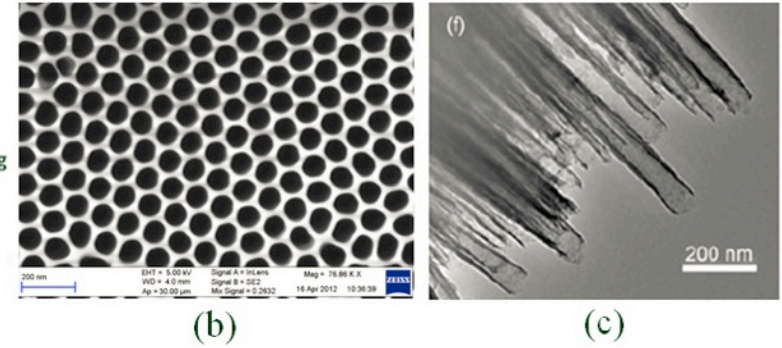
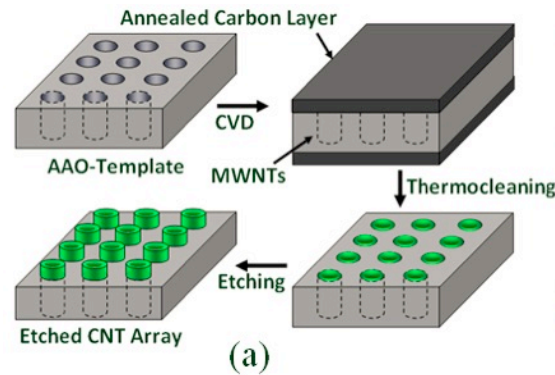
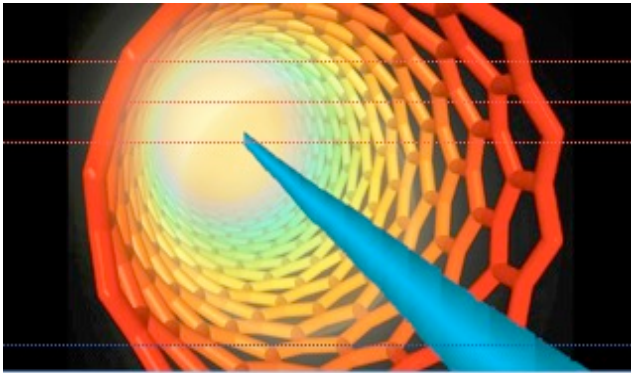
2. X-ray frequency exceeds the nanomaterial's plasma frequency  $\omega_{pe}$

→ **carbon-nanotubes**

higher than 10TV/m wakefield (2014)

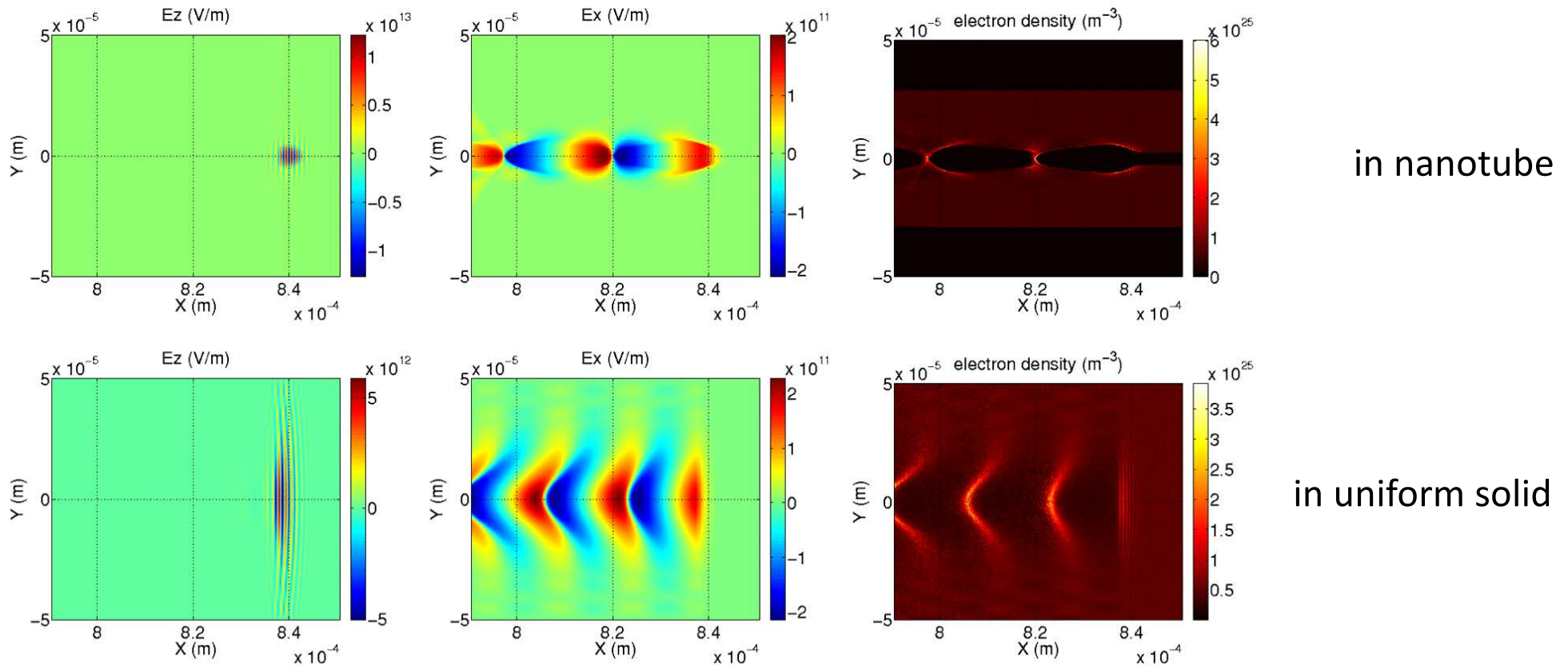
→ Explore **X-ray** wakefield accelerator in nanotube = “TeV on a Chip”

# Why Nanotubes



- High density ↔ Higher acceleration gradient ( $\sim \text{TeV} / \text{cm}$ )
- Provides external structure to guide laser and electron beam
- No slowdown of electrons by collisions
- Intact for time of ionization (fs)
- More coherent electrons and betatron radiation

# X-ray LWFA in a tube vs. uniform solid

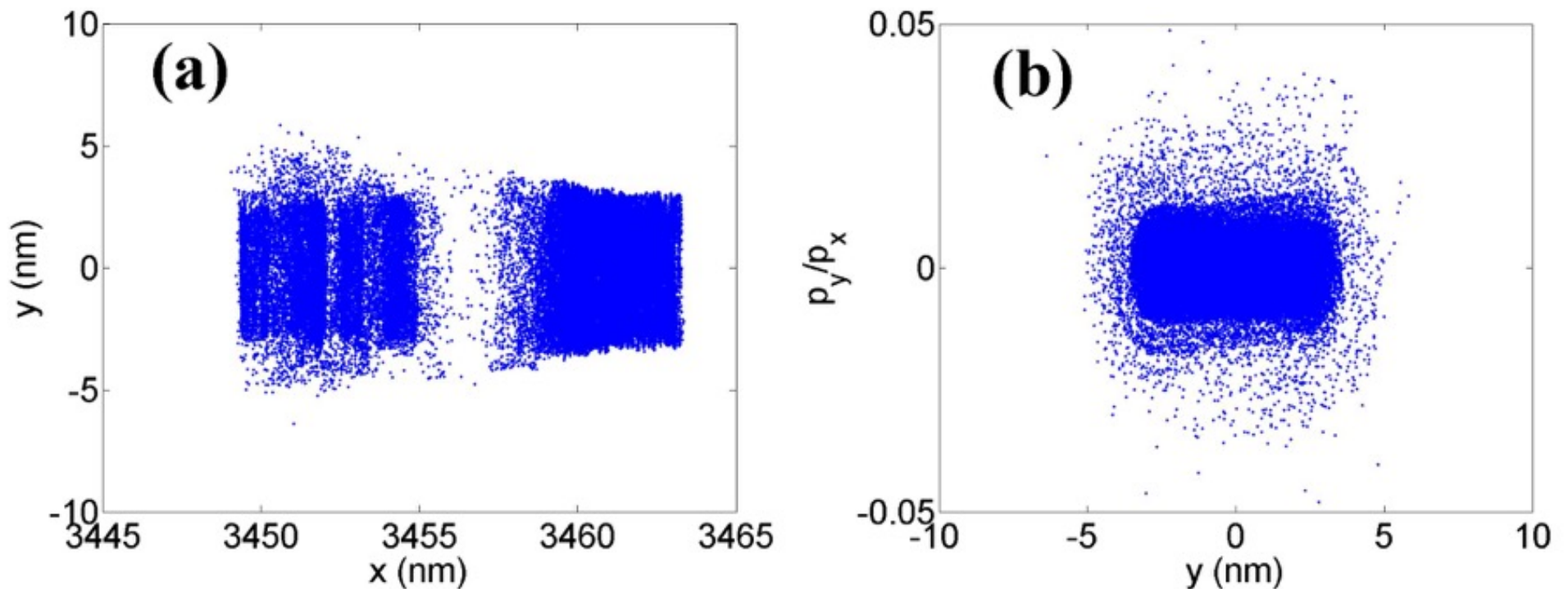


A few-cycled 1keV X-ray pulse ( $a_0 \sim O(1)$ ), causing 10TeV/m wakefield in the tube  
more strongly confined in the tube  
cf: uniform solid



# Beam emittance reduction

X-ray laser driven wakefield  
emittance reduction (much smaller transverse dimension)



(a) The space distribution ( $x, y$ ) and (b) the transverse phase space ( $y, p_y/p_x$ )

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

# Fermi's PeV Accelerator

Now

TeV on a chip  $\rightarrow$  PeV over 10m  $\rightarrow$  check superstring theory?



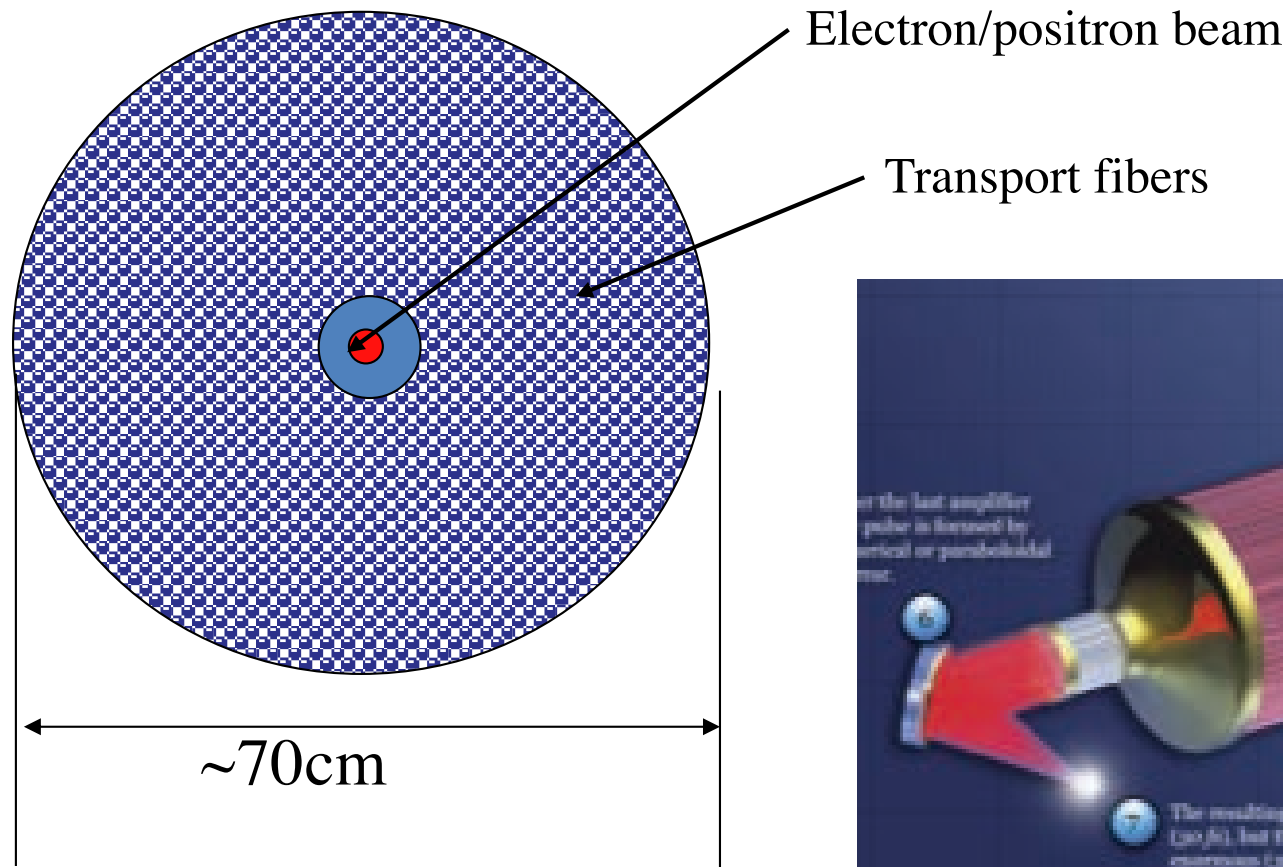
# Nanotube cancer therapy



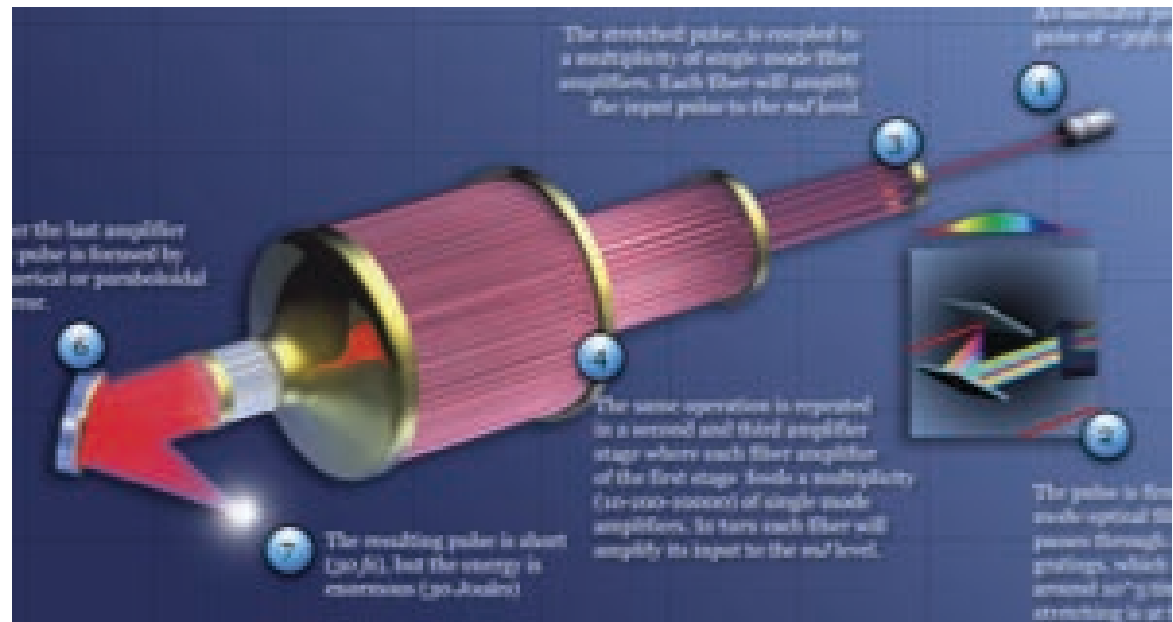
# CAN Laser:

Need to Phase

32 J/1mJ/fiber ~  $3 \times 10^4$  Phased Fibers!



Mourou, Brookesby, Tajima, Limpert (2013)



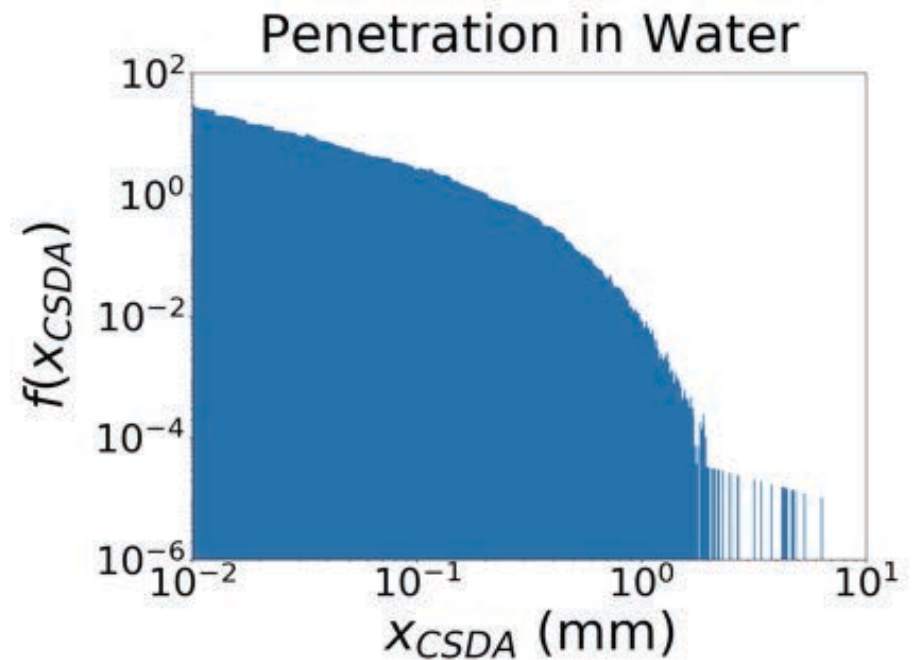
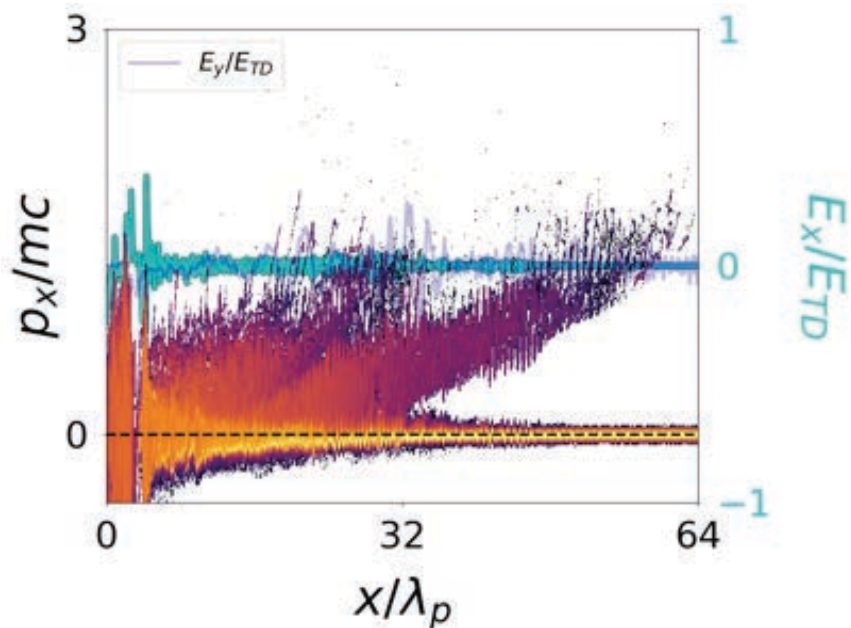
Length of a fiber ~2m

Total fiber length ~  $5 \times 10^4$  km



# High density wakefields for medicine

- Micron accelerator (in body?) by optical laser
- Nanomaterials target: density  $\sim 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$



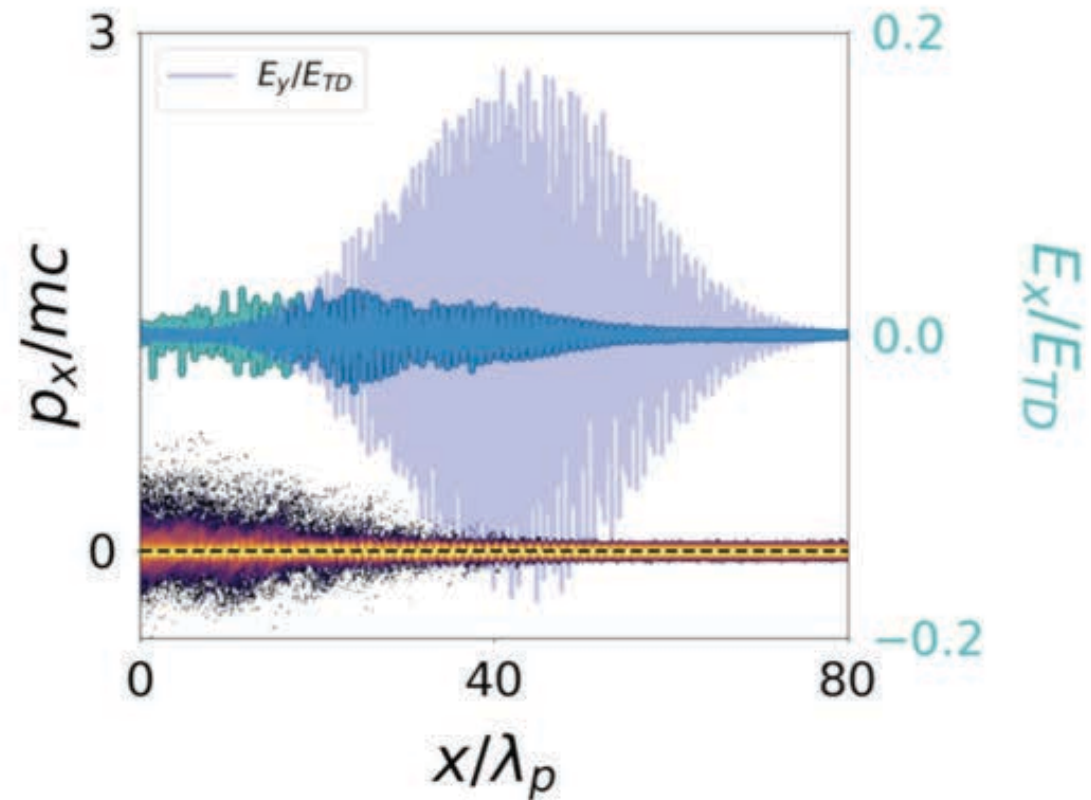
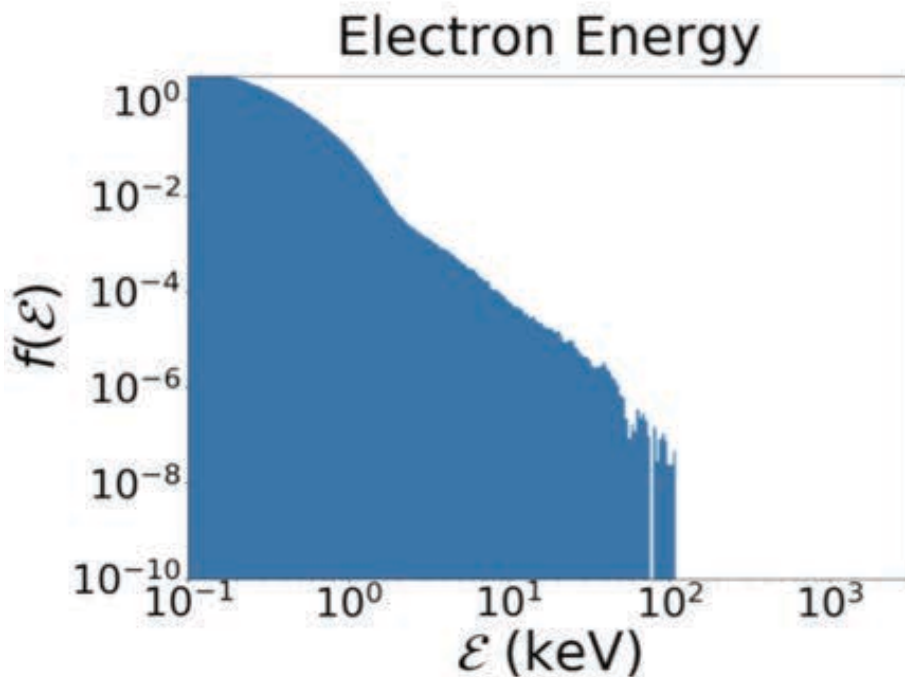
Critical density wakefield acceleration (< MeV) : e.g. skin cancer

Nicks et al. (2019)

# Beatwave wakefield acceleration of electron acceleration in low intensity **laser**

- Two laser pulses, each @  $a_0 = 0.03$
- $a_0 = 0.03 \rightarrow 1.2 \times 10^{15} \text{ W/cm}^2$
- Wavelength:  $\lambda_0 = 1 \mu\text{m}$
- $\omega_1 = \omega_0 + \omega_p/2, \omega_2 = \omega_0 - \omega_p/2$
- Pulse length:  $\approx 300 \text{ fs}$

← Tajima-Dawson (1979)



Very low intensity **laser** with **nanotubes** → no vacuum necessary

S. Nicks, et al. (2020)

# Conclusions

- 1994-**LWFA** Demonstrated (Nakajima et al): ultrafast pulses, coherent collective (robust) intense (GeV/cm) accelerators.
- But B years ago, Mother Nature sent message she did
- **Wakefields**: Nature's favored acceleration for **gamma ray** bursts, UHECR from Blazars; NS collisions
- TFC → Single-cycled **laser** → single-cycled **X-ray**
- **Wakefield in nanostructure** (TeV/cm):  
**TeV on a chip accessible\***
- Toward PeV (~10-100m)
- Applications: tiny ( $\mu\text{m}$  size) **LWFA** radiotherapy of cancer

\* Fermilab conf book: "Beam Acceleration in Crystals and Nanostructures" (WSP, 2020)



# THE FUTURE OF ACCELERATOR PHYSICS

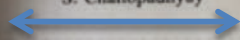
The Tamura Symposium Proceedings

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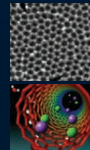
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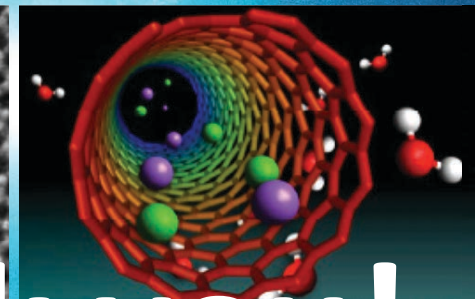
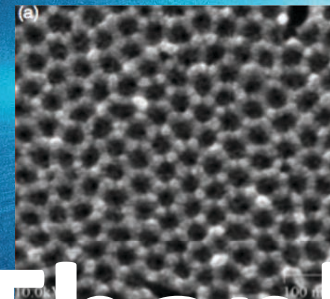


# BEAM ACCELERATION IN CRYSTALS AND NANOSTRUCTURES

Edited by

Swapan Chattopadhyay • Gérard Mourou  
Vladimir D. Shiltsev • Toshiki Tajima

BEAM ACCELERATION IN  
CRYSTALS AND NANOSTRUCTURES



# Thank you!

“Accelerator  
Unprecedented and huge  
Curious baby  
Embraced by Mother Mountain  
Where’s her beautiful white coat?”  
(Toshiki, Geneva, Feb. 13, 2020)

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