Synergies with UK plasma wakefield research

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PWASC

- Plasma Wakefield Accelerator Steering Committee (PWASC) was established to represent UK groups working on plasma wakefield accelerators, and to help coordinate their activities.
- Members drawn from UK research groups, the Central Laser Facility, and the two Accelerator Science Institutes.
- Recently produced a roadmap for plasma accelerator research to 2040
 - Available at https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.09205



Plasma wakefield accelerators



- A laser or particle beam driver expels electrons from the region of the pulse to form a trailing plasma wave (a Langmuir wave)
- Wake amplitude greatest when $\omega_p \tau \approx 1$
- The wakefield moves at speed of laser pulse (close to speed of light)
- Electric fields within wakefield can accelerate charged particles

		Comment
Laser intensity	10 ¹⁸ W cm ⁻²	1 J, 50 fs, 25 μm
Plasma density	10 ¹⁸ cm ⁻³	i.e. 100 mbar
Accel. field	100 GV m ⁻¹	10 ³ to 10 ⁴ > RF machine
Plasma period	100 fs	Need short laser pulses, get short electron bunches
Plasma wavelength	30 µm	

Plasma wakefield accelerators



A note on nomenclature LWFA: Laser Wakefield Accelerator PWFA: Plasma Wakefield Accelerator (i.e. beam-driven!)

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Status

- GeV beams from cm-scale stages routine
- 100 eV radiation from undulators
 - Schlenvoigt et al. *Nat. Phys.* **4** 130 (2008)
 - Fuchs et al. *Nat. Phys.* **5** 826 (2009)
- 10 150 keV radiation from betatron motion
 - Kneip et al. Nat. Phys. 6 980 (2010)
 - Cippiccia et al. Nat. Phys. 7 861 (2011)
- 1 MeV from Thomson scattering
 - Powers et al. *Nat. Photon.* **8** 28 (2013)
 - Khrennikov et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 114 195003 (2015)
- Proof-of-principle imaging with betatron radiation sources
 - flies, fish, human bone
 - transient phenomena (e.g. shocks)



Representative parameters*

Parameter	Typical values from plasma accelerators	Conclusion	*These parameter	
Beam energy <i>E</i>	< 8 GeV (laser driver) < 42 GeV (beam driver)	\checkmark	values are	
Energy spread $\Delta E / E$	~ 1%			
Bunch charge	10 - 1000 pC	\checkmark	not been obtained	
Bunch duration	< 5 fs	\checkmark	simultaneously!	
Rep. rate	< 10 Hz	×		
Norm emittance ε _n	0.1 - 2 mm mrad	\checkmark		
Jitter: energy	1 - 5%	×		
Jitter: charge	5 - 50%	×		
Jitter: pointing	0.5 - 3.0 mrad	×		

• Large energy spread

Large jitter





Low repetition rate







Plasma accelerator research in the UK

- University groups
 - ~10 university groups
 - Several university-scale, multi-TW laser systems (Imperial College, Oxford, QUB,...)
- SCAPA
 - Peak laser power up to 350 TW @ 5 Hz
 - Capacity for 7 accelerator beamlines
- National laboratories
 - CLF at RAL
 - CLARA at Daresbury
- International facilities
 - AWAKE project at CERN
 - FACET & FACET-II at SLAC
 - ELI
 - Laserlab Europe
 - LaserNetUS





EuPRAXIA

- EU-funded design study on plasma-based accelerators.
- 7"flagship science goals":
 - FEL: 10¹⁰ photons / pulse, 0.2 36 nm
 - X-ray betatron beamline: 10¹⁰ photons / pulse, 5 18 keV, 100 Hz
 - Positron beamline: 0.5 MeV 10 MeV, 100 Hz
 - ICS source: 600 MeV
 - ...
- UK groups constitute 6 of 16 partners ... receive 21% of funding ... provide leader / coleader of 3 of 8 WPs
- Next phase:
 - 10-year, multi €100M programme
 - Beam-driven plasma accelerator (1 GeV) & FEL; X-band technology
 - Laser-driven plasma accelerator (5 GeV) & FEL
 - Construct laser- and beam-driven plasma accelerator beamlines
 - UK likely to host Excellence Centre on applications

Extreme Photonics Application Centre (EPAC)



- £81.2M centre for applications of laser-driven sources in industry, medicine, security etc.
- £10M MOD funding
- LWFA driven beams at 1PW, 10Hz: Up to 10GeV beams, xrays
- Significant Industrial backing based on proof-of-principle tests
 – cased approved based on economic impact
- Significant UK investment in plasma accelerators

Public announcement still embargoed!



EPAC Baseline Specs



- 30J, 30fs, 10Hz laser into two fully operational target areas:
 - 40m x 9m area for LWFA
 - 18m x 10m area for LWFA, proton / ion acceleration
- Plasma acceleration to produce multi-GeV electrons and bright xray sources spanning keV to multi-MeV.
- Ultrafast, small source-size xrays to offer a powerful capability for scientific and industrial imaging and spectroscopy.
- High flux ion and neutron production from solid targets at high repetition rate
- Capacity to introduce second beamline as a future development



Science & Technology Facilities Council UK Research and Innovation

New Opportunities: EuPRAXIA @EPAC



- EU Funded development of 100Hz, 10J system, yielding multi-100TW @ 10Hz (10M€ H2020 funding)
- Potential to build additional beamlines, adding onto EPAC building





UK Research and Innovation

Possible synergies with a UK XFEL programme

- Future plasma stage as an energy booster ?
- Potential for plasma accelerators to boost brightness
- Future *additional* plasma-driven FELs (multi-FEL illumination?)
- Compact betatron or Compton sources?
- Utilization of target area "under the mound":
 - Access to post-FEL electron beam for LWFA / PWFA , high-field science research
- Diagnostics
- There maybe others ...