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Challenges in modeling beam driven plasma accelerators

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Contributions and acknowledgements

Contributions from

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OSIRIS 2.0





osiris framework

- Massivelly Parallel, Fully Relativistic
 Particle-in-Cell (PIC) Code
- Visualization and Data Analysis Infrastructure
- Developed by the osiris.consortium \Rightarrow UCLA + IST

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http://cfp.ist.utl.pt/golp/epp/ http://exodus.physics.ucla.edu/



code features

- Scalability to ~300 K cores
- SIMD hardware optimized
- Tunnel (ADK) and Impact Ionization
- Optimized higher order splines
- Parallel I/O (HDF5)
- Boosted frame in 1/2/3D
- Ponderomotive guiding center

Advancing plasma based wakefield acceleration requires synergistic approach between experiments and simulations





Challenges:

- accurate modeling/interpretation of state-of-the-art experiments
- It designing near-future plasma-based wakefield acceleration experiments



Laser wakefield accelerators

Importance of laser profiles Full scale modeling with boosted frames and envelope equation for laser

Self-modulated plasma wakefield accelerators

I-I0 meter long plasma simulations of future proton and lepton driven experiments.

Conclusions



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Understanding experimental results requires accurate description laser profile





Knowledge of a_0 to % level accuracy required to reproduce experiments near threshold for self-injection





Dark current suppression near self-injection threshold. Experiments with no dark current may be operating near threshold.

State-of-the-art LWFA modeling with full PIC: Full-scale 3Dof entire mm-long gas jets



full-scale modeling: >1 mm-long target

goo

t, IC/ad

800

1000

- Multi-level ionization
- → 3×10¹⁰ cells
- ▶ 6x10¹⁰ particles
- 3×10^4 time-steps
- ▶ ~ 0.4 million CPUh/run

Full-scale 3D modeling of next generation LWFA experiments is very challenging



Laser is bottleneck for LWFA simulations	Reduced models
Accurate simulations resolve smallest structure laser wavelength ~ I μm cell size ~ 0.025 μm	 Quasi-static approximation Ponderomotive guiding center approximation Expansion in Fourier modes
Time step is bounded to cell size c dt ~ 0.025 μ m I m plasma ~ Ix10 ⁶ /0.025 dt's ~ 10 ⁸ dt's Number of particle pushes	Full scale PIC
4 particles in each grid cell	Boosted frames
(10 ⁶ x10 ⁴)part.x10 ⁸ pushes~10 ¹⁸ pushes Simulation time and cost 10 ¹⁸ x1µs ~ 10 million CPU hours 10million-CPUh*0.04Eur/CPUh ~ 100KEur!	 No approximations High comp. savings Large boost instabilities

Ponderomotive guiding center approximation



Ponderomotive guiding center algorithm Laser pulse envelope equation: $\frac{\partial a}{\partial \tau} = \frac{1}{2i\omega_0} \left(1 + \frac{1}{i\omega_0} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \right) \left(\chi + \nabla_{\perp}^2 \right) a$

laser frequency

laser envelope

Ponderomotive guiding center pusher:

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{p}}{\mathrm{d}\tau} = q \left(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{q}{\langle m \rangle} \nabla |a|^2 \right)$$

slow varying slow varying electric (E) and magnetic (B) fields momentum

Features:

 $\tau = t$

- ✓ Large boosted frame like computational savings (ω_0^2/ω_p^2)
- \checkmark lonization seeding for self-modulated wakefields in 10-100 meter plasmas
- ✓ Ionization energy depletion

D. Gordon, W. Mori, T. Antonsen, IEEE-TPS, 28 1135-1143 (2000).

Excellent agreement with standard Osiris



Boosted frame simulation set-up









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Self-modulated proton driven wakefield accelerator **Experiment at CERN to occur in 2-4 years**





Self-modulation instability in 3D



Propagation direction

Plasma density

Self-modulated particle bunch beamlets



Particle bunch

Creating plasma and cut proton bunch simultaneously **Ionizing laser pulse**



Ionization seeding is similar to cut bunch



- Laser pulse creates ultra-relativistic ionization front
- Ionization front acts as if long proton bunch is sharply cut giving initial kick to plasma e⁻s
- Resolving I micron laser wavelength for 10 meters requires Ponderomotive Guiding Center Approximation



J Vieira et al PRL 109 145005 (2012)

Creating plasma and cut proton bunch simultaneously **Ionizing laser pulse**





- Laser pulse creates ultra-relativistic ionization front
- Ionization front acts as if long proton bunch is sharply cut giving initial kick to plasma e⁻s
- requires 0.1-1.0 J laser pulses for Rubidium (high Z material)





- Ionization seeding for self-modulation and ionization laser depletion
- Reduced models?

E209 SLAC FACET self-modulation experiment of long e^{-} and e^{+} beams





Self-modulation @ SLAC

- ▶ n₀ :: 2.3 x 10¹⁷ cm⁻³
- γ_b^{SLAC} :: 4x Ι 0⁴
- $\rightarrow \sigma_z^{SLAC}$:: 700 μ m = 60 λ_p
- → (n_b/n₀)^{SLAC} :: 0.01-0.1

Goals

- Measure self-modulation instability
- Competition between hosing and self-modulation
- Role of ion motion, etc.



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Laser wakefield acceleration

- Accurate descriptions of laser intensity profile are critical for excellent agreement between theory and simulations
- Boosted frames + ponderomotive guiding center algorithms enable high computational savings

Self-modulated plasma wakefield acceleration

- Self-modulation vs hosing competition requires 3D simulations
- 3D modeling of proton driven wakefields with full PIC is beyond reach
- Ponderomotive guiding center: ionization seeding including extra physics (ionization laser energy depletion, etc.)
- Reduced models for 3D: Quasi-static, Hybrid. Is physics the same?