

# Wakefield-induced ionization injection in beam-driven plasma accelerators and Self-Similar Staging

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La Biodola, Isola d'Elba, Italy



# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection

in beam-driven plasma accelerators

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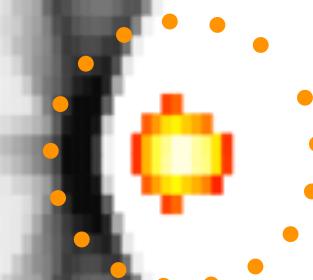
An injection technique for the beam-driven plasma wakefield accelerator in the **blowout regime** that **utilizes only the wakefields to induce ionization and trapping of high-quality electron bunches.**

# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection

A high-current e<sup>-</sup> beam excites a strong plasma wake that accelerate a witness bunch up to 3 GeV energy in 18 mm

## Witness beam (6 pC)

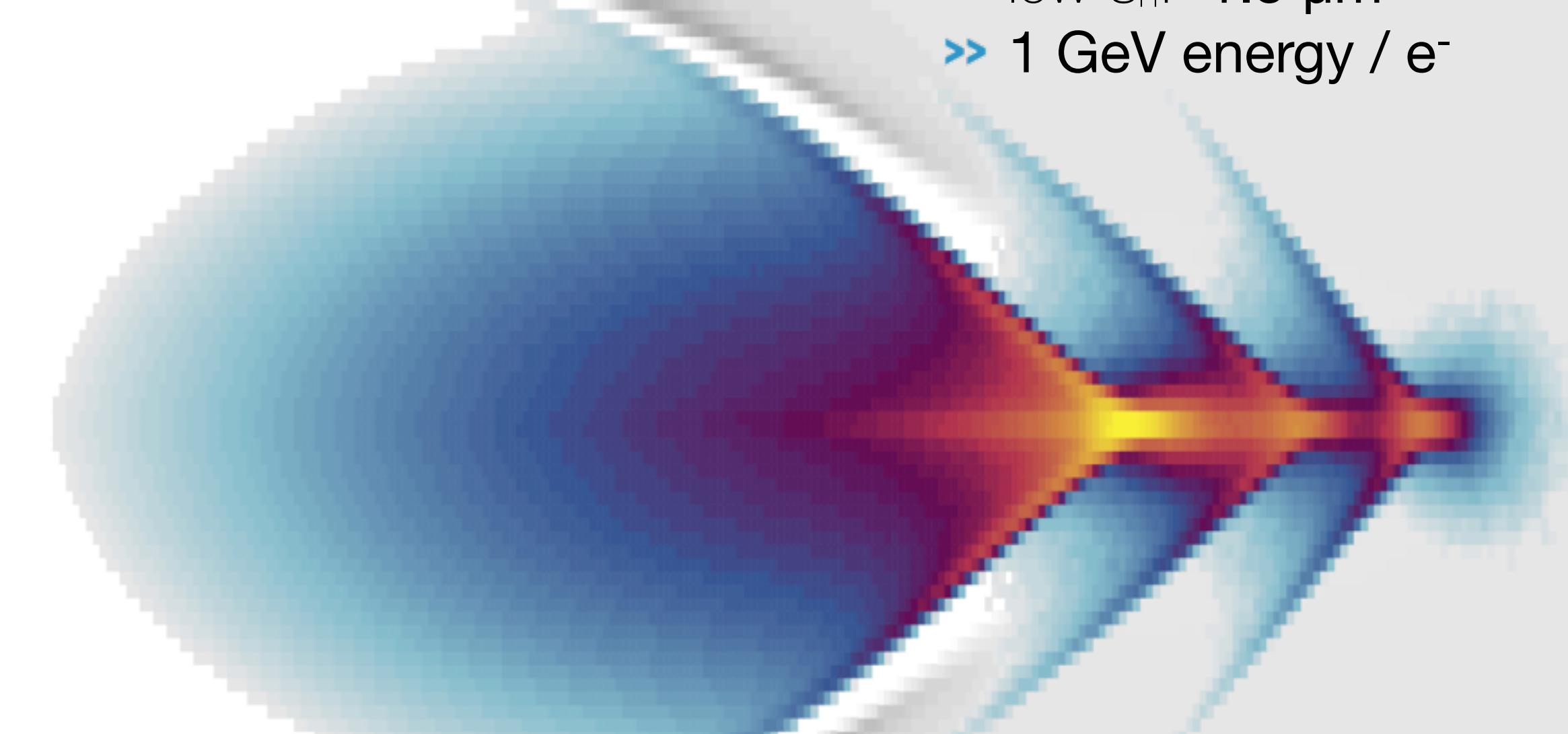
- » High-current 5 kA
- » Ultra-Short 800 as
- » low- $\varepsilon_n$  300 nm
- » 3 GeV energy / e<sup>-</sup>



180 GV/m

## Driver beam (570 pC)

- » High-current: 10 kA
- » Length (resonant): 7  $\mu\text{m}$
- » low- $\varepsilon_n$ : 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$
- » 1 GeV energy / e<sup>-</sup>

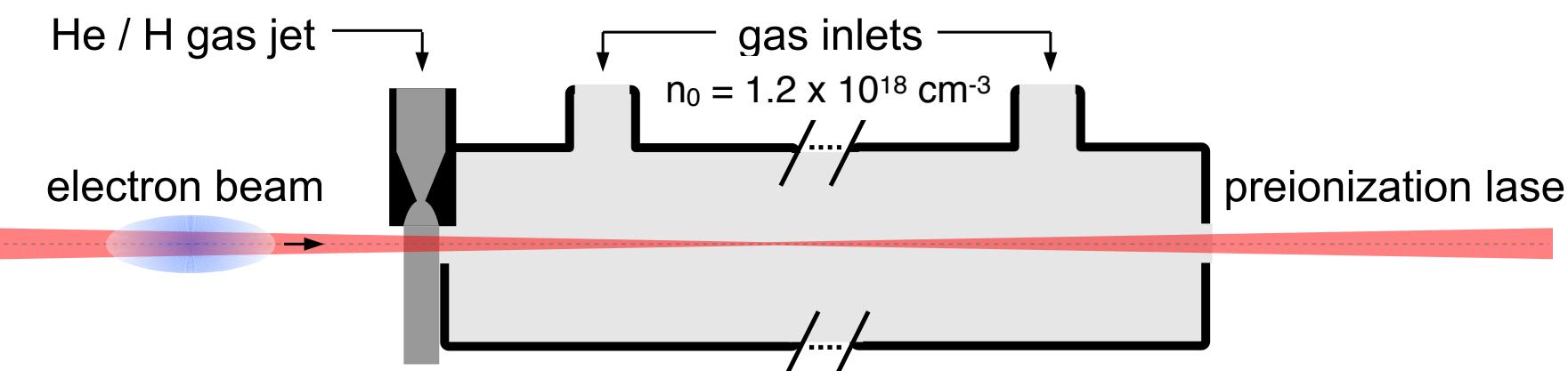


High Transformer ratio: 3

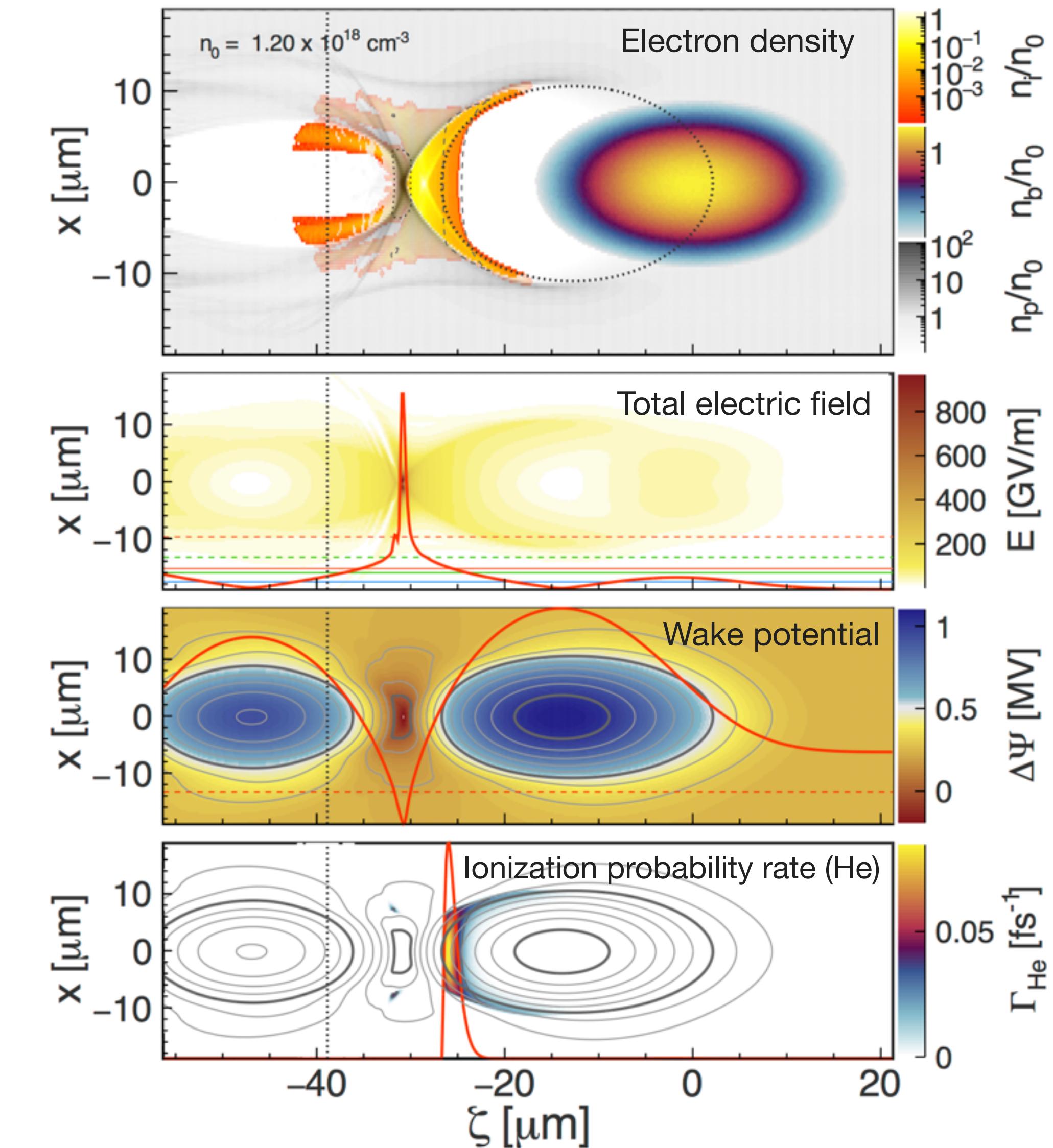
# FLASHForward ►►

$Q_b = 574 \text{ pC}$   
 $I_b = 10 \text{ kA}$   
 $E_b = 1 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\sigma_z = 7 \mu\text{m}$   
 $\sigma_r = 4 \mu\text{m}$   
 $\varepsilon_n = 1 \mu\text{m}$

Wakefield Injection  
plasma density  
 $n_0 = 12 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 $k_p \sigma_z = 1.41$   
dopant species: helium



- Preionization laser with an intensity capable to fully ionize a gas with a low ionization threshold (LIT), e.g. Hydrogen.
- Micro-nozzle fed by the same LIT gas doped with a high-ionization threshold (HIT) gas, e.g. Helium.



## The Blowout regime [1]

*High-current, tightly focused e<sup>-</sup> beams blow out all the plasma electrons from their ions creating a clear ion cavity that propagates at the speed of light.*

High-current beams

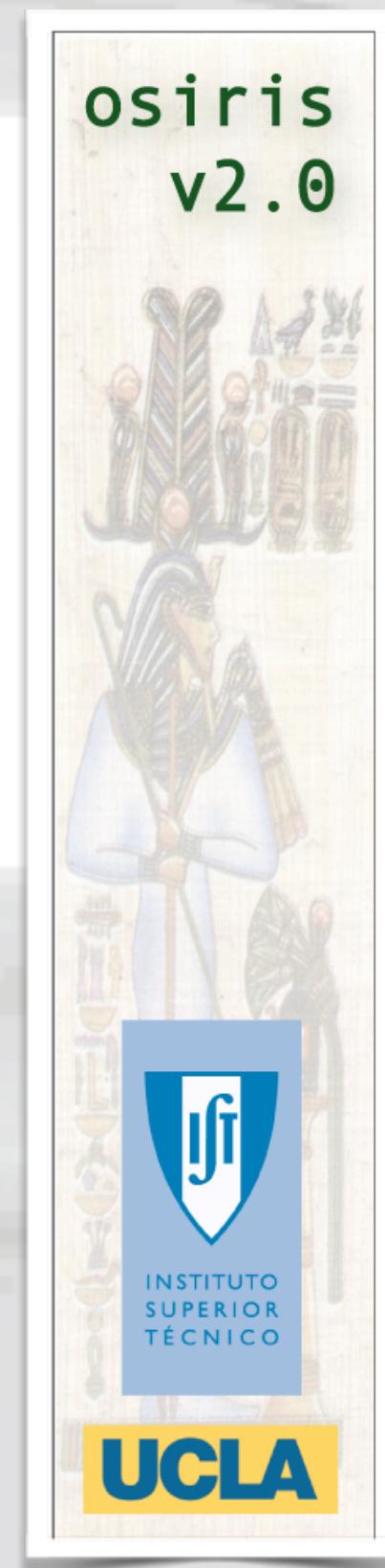
$$I_b \gtrsim 1 \text{ kA}$$

resonant length

$$k_p \sigma_z = \sqrt{2}$$

spot size

$$k_p \sigma_x = 0.8$$

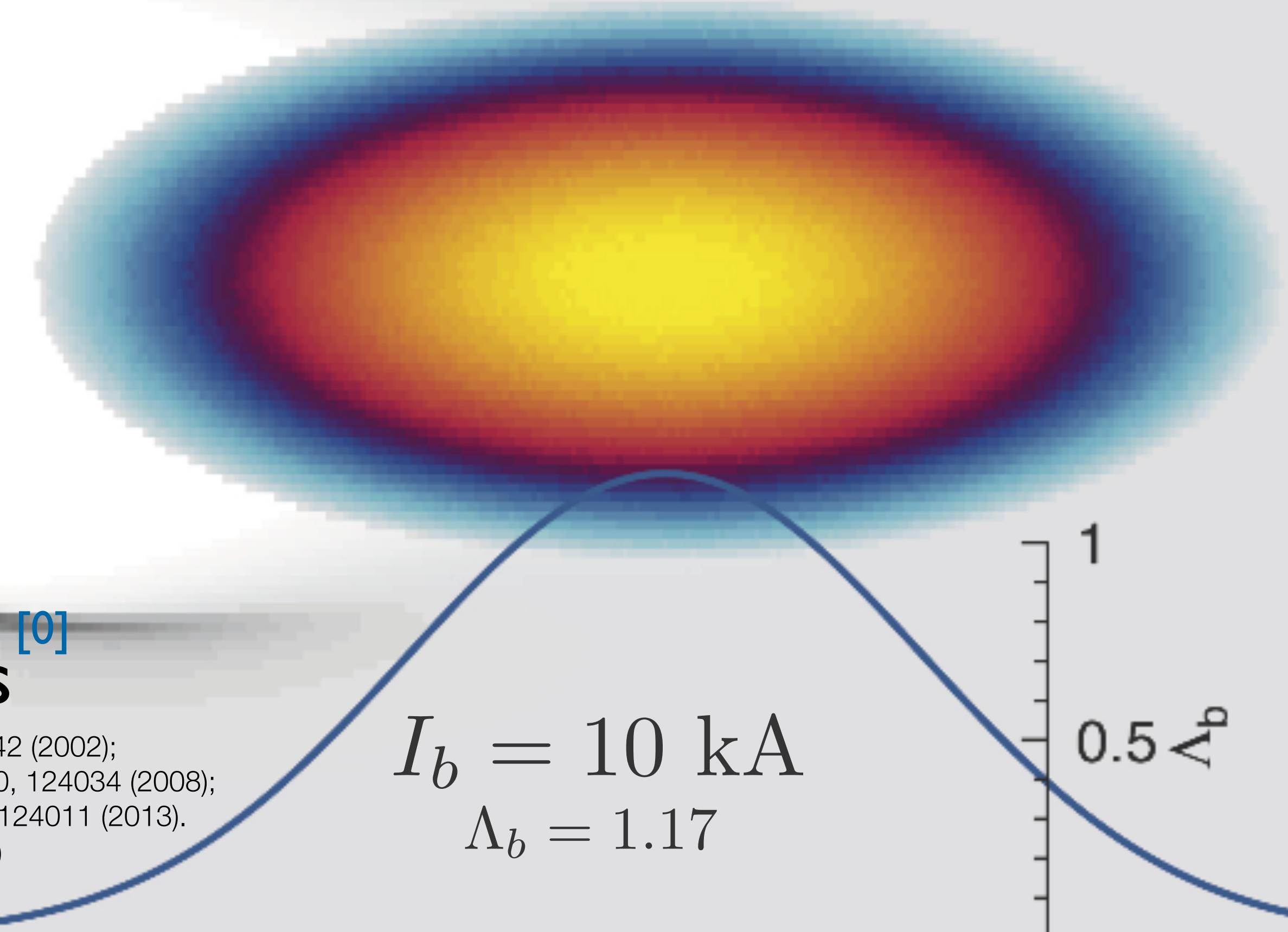


Ion cavity  
(blowout)

## OSIRIS 3D simulations [0]

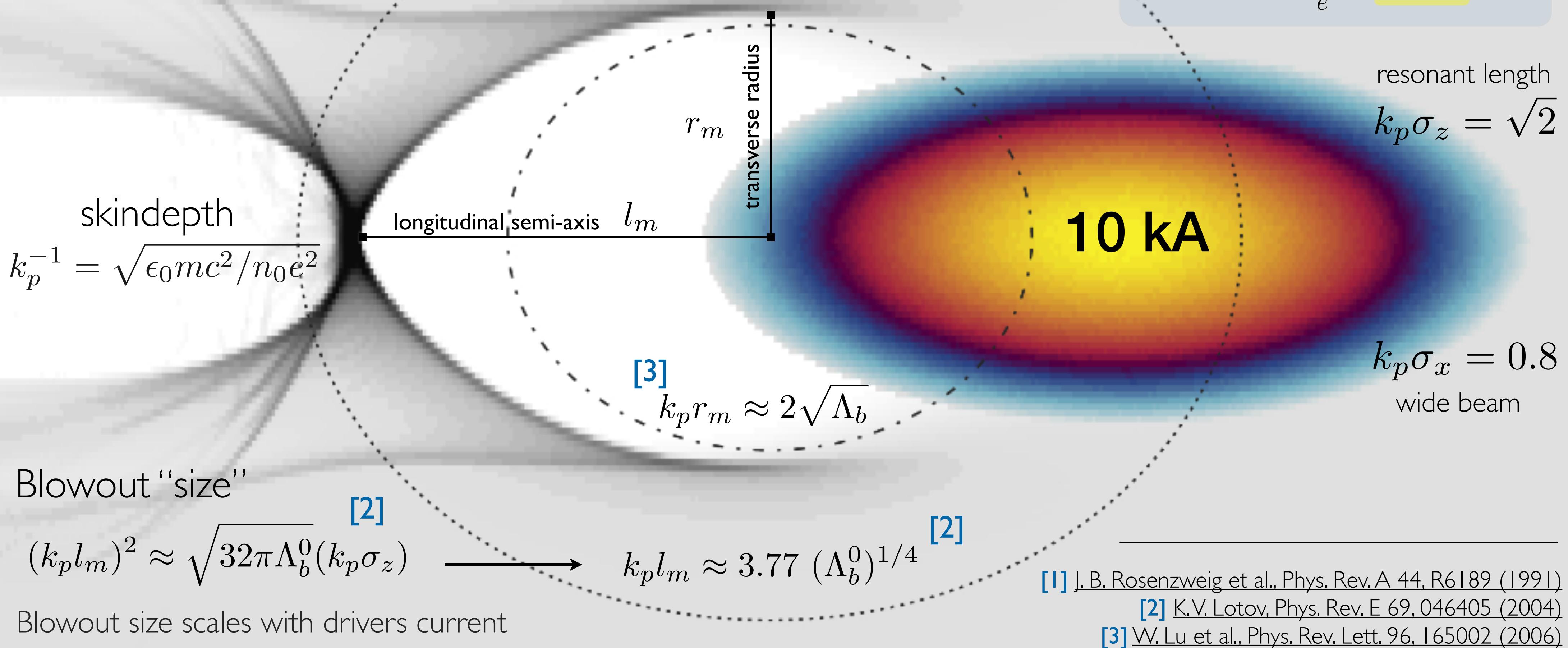
- [0] R.A. Fonseca et al., Lect. Notes Comput. Sci. 2331, 342 (2002);
- R.A. Fonseca et al., Plasma Phys. Controlled Fusion 50, 124034 (2008);
- R.A. Fonseca et al., Plasma Phys. Control. Fusion 55, 124011 (2013).

- [1] J. B. Rosenzweig et al., Phys. Rev. A 44, R6189 (1991)



## The Blowout regime [1]

*High-current, tightly focused e<sup>-</sup> beams blow out all the plasma electrons from their ions creating a clear ion cavity that propagates at the speed of light.*

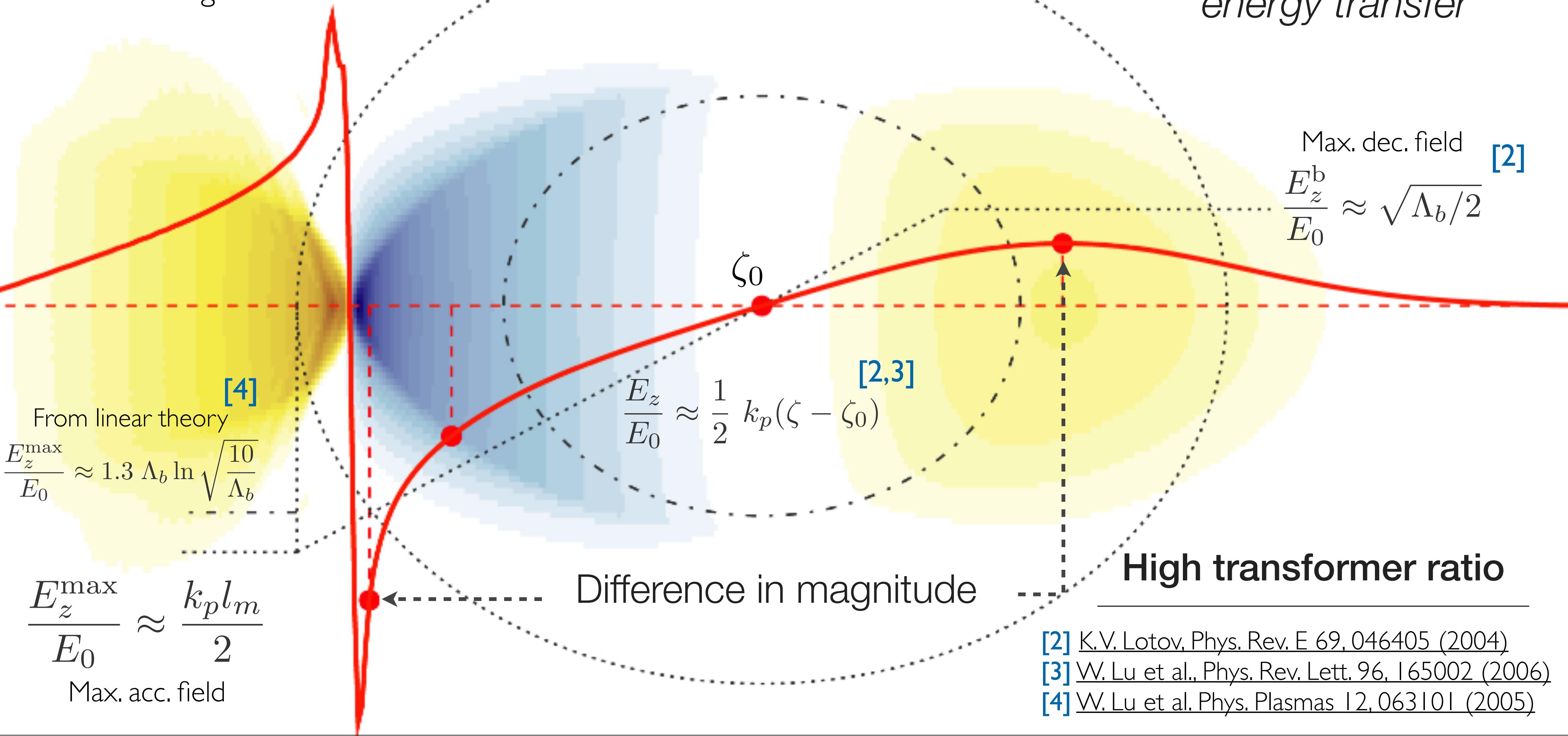


# Longitudinal Electric field

$$E_0 = (mc^2/e) k_p$$

wavebreaking field

*“Most efficient energy transfer”* [2]

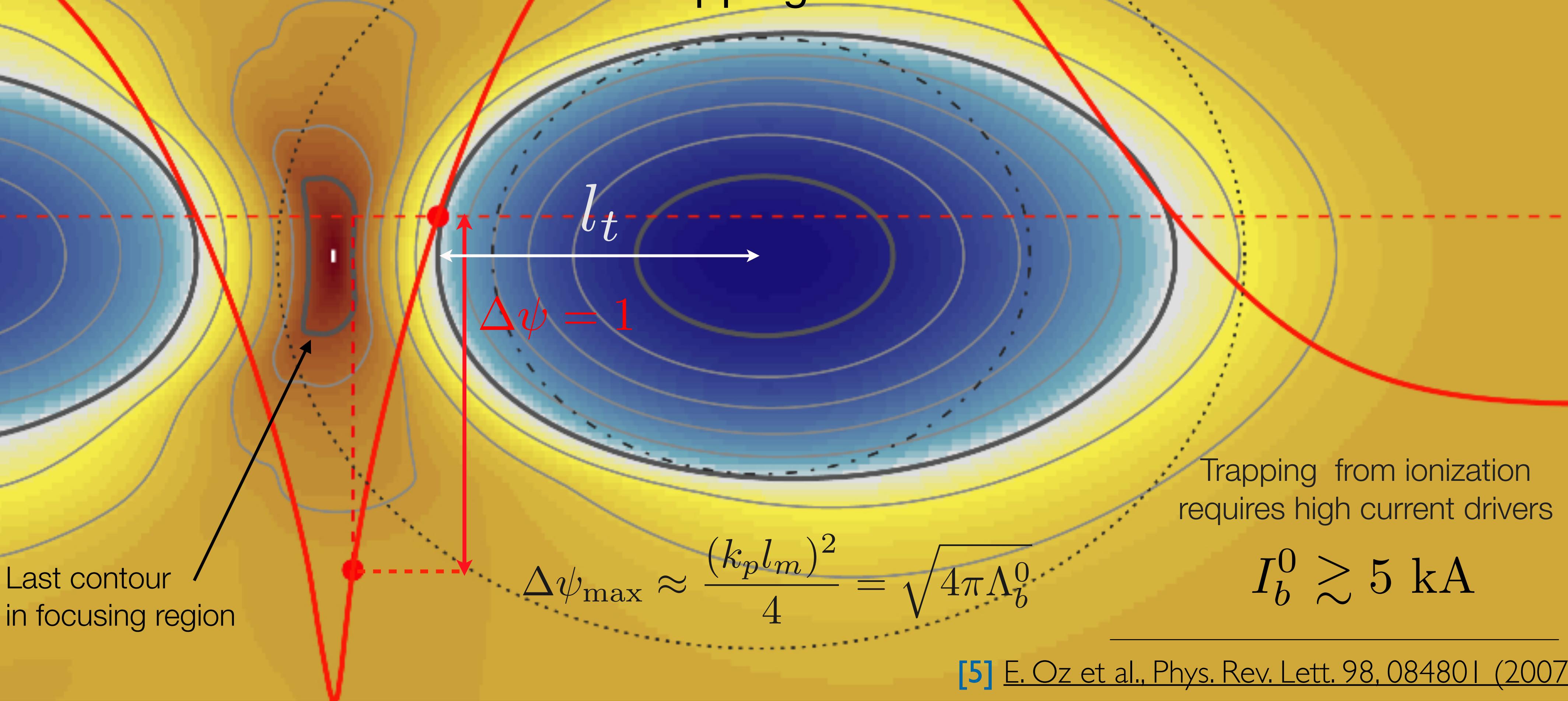


$$\psi \equiv - \int (E_z/E_0) k_p d\zeta$$

Necessary (but not sufficient)  
trapping condition

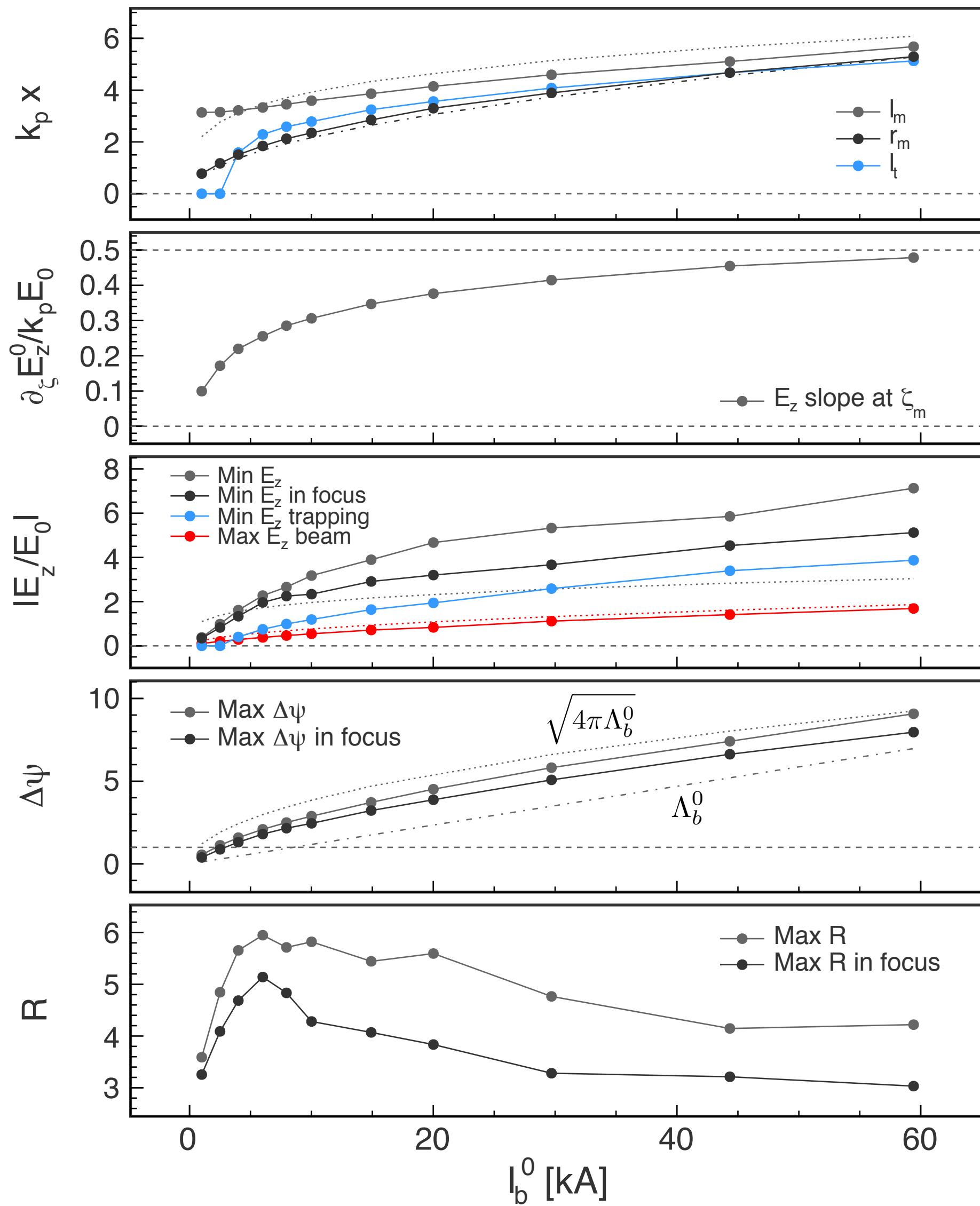
$$\psi_i - \psi_f = 1$$

Trapping zone



# The Blowout regime of beam-driven plasma wakes

## Blowout model scalings vs 3D PIC (OSIRIS)



Driver-beam

$$k_p \sigma_z = \sqrt{2} \quad k_p \sigma_x = 0.1$$

resonant length      narrow beam

$$k_p \epsilon_n = (k_p \sigma_x)^2 \sqrt{\gamma/2}$$

matched emittance

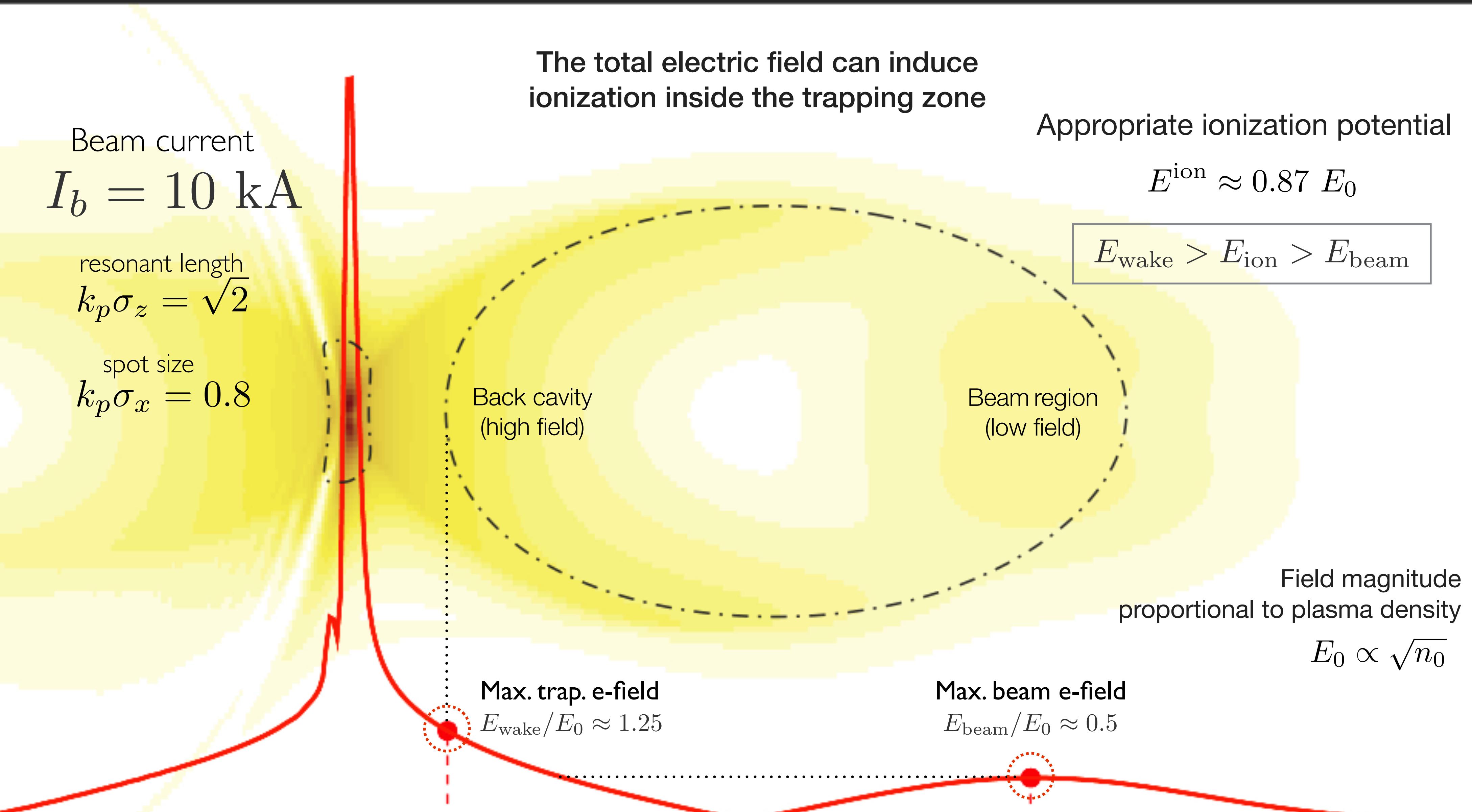
Trapping from ionization

$$I_b^0 \gtrsim 5 \text{ kA}$$

WII injection

$$I_b^0 \gtrsim 8.5 \text{ kA}$$

## Electric field magnitude



Match the beam  
to the plasma density

$$k_p \sigma_z \approx \sqrt{2}$$

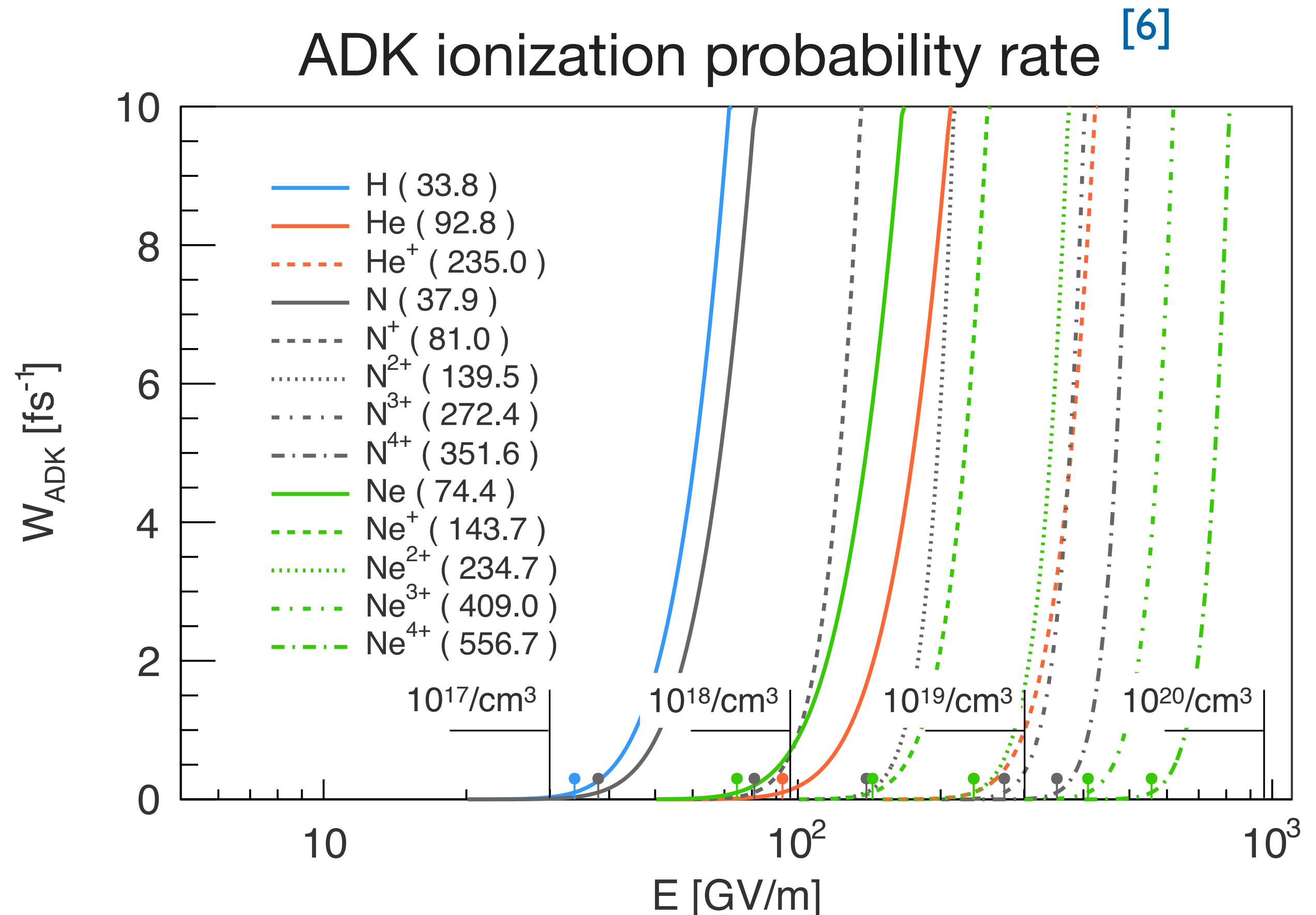
Select the appropriate  
dopant species

$$E_0 \propto \sqrt{n_0}$$

Ionization probability rate [7]

$$W_{\text{ADK}}[\text{fs}^{-1}] \simeq 1.52 \frac{4^{n^*} \xi_i [\text{eV}]}{n^* \Gamma(2n^*)} \left( 20.5 \frac{\xi_i^{3/2} [\text{eV}]}{E [\text{GV/m}]} \right)^{2n^*-1} \exp \left( -6.83 \frac{\xi_i^{3/2} [\text{eV}]}{E [\text{GV/m}]} \right).$$

$$n^* \simeq 3.69 Z / \xi_i^{1/2} [\text{eV}]$$



[6] M.V. Ammosov et al, Sov.Phys.JETP 64, 1191 (1986)

[7] D.L. Bruhwiler et al, Phys.Plasmas 10, 5 (2003)

# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection

## Wakefield ionization and trapping

$$n_0 = 1.2 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

Beam current

$$I_b = 10 \text{ kA}$$

resonant length

$$\sigma_z = 7 \mu\text{m}$$

spot size

$$\sigma_x = 4 \mu\text{m}$$

The total electric field can induce ionization inside the trapping zone

Appropriate ionization potential

$$E^{\text{ion}} \approx 91 \text{ GV/m}$$

$$E_{\text{wake}} > E_{\text{ion}} > E_{\text{beam}}$$

Back cavity  
(high field)

Beam region  
(low field)

$$E_{\text{He}}^{\text{ion}} \approx 93 \text{ GV/m}$$

$$E_0 = 105 \text{ GV/m}$$

Helium (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Neon (2<sup>nd</sup>)

Neon (1<sup>st</sup>)

Max. trap. e-field

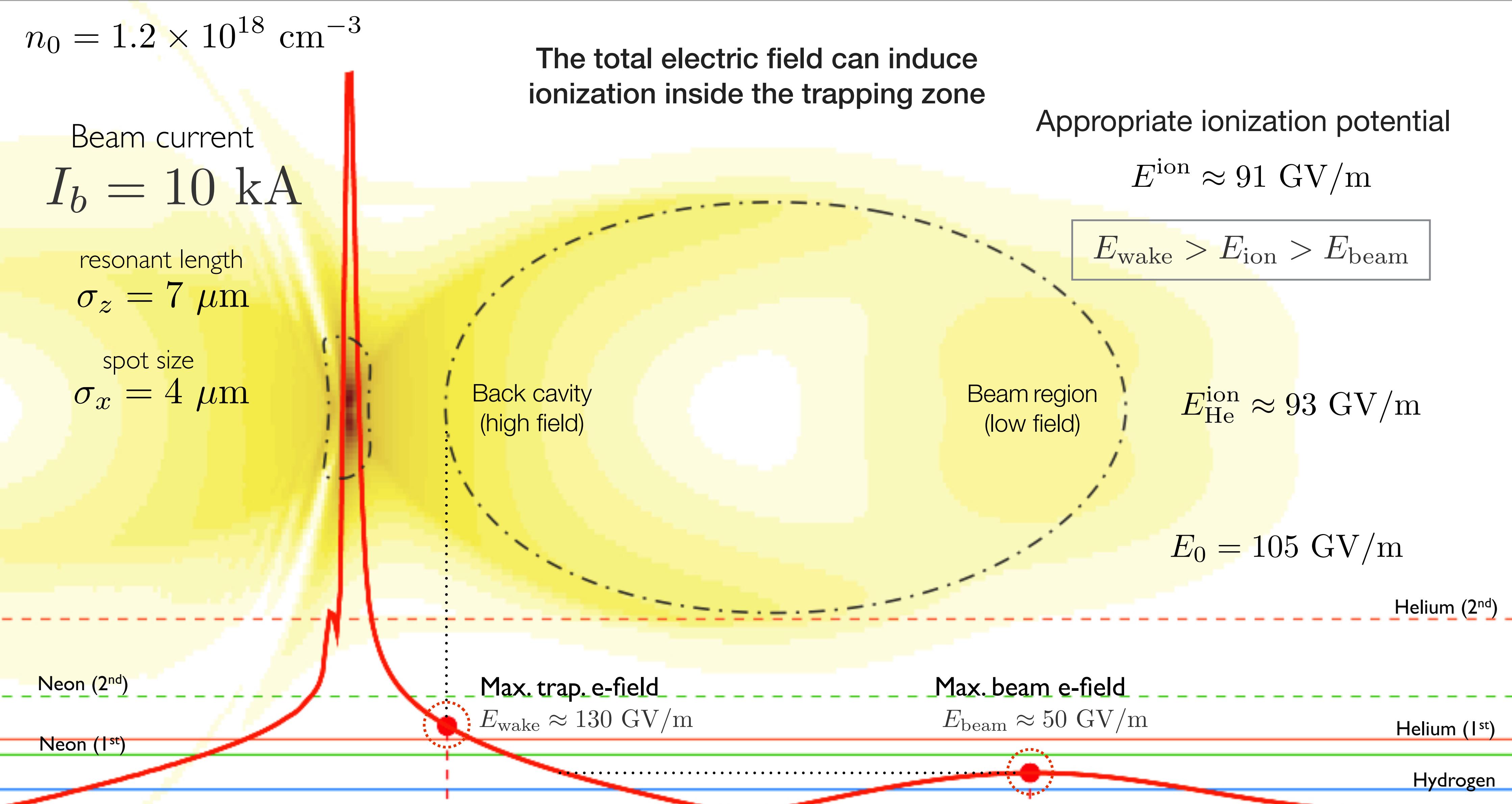
$$E_{\text{wake}} \approx 130 \text{ GV/m}$$

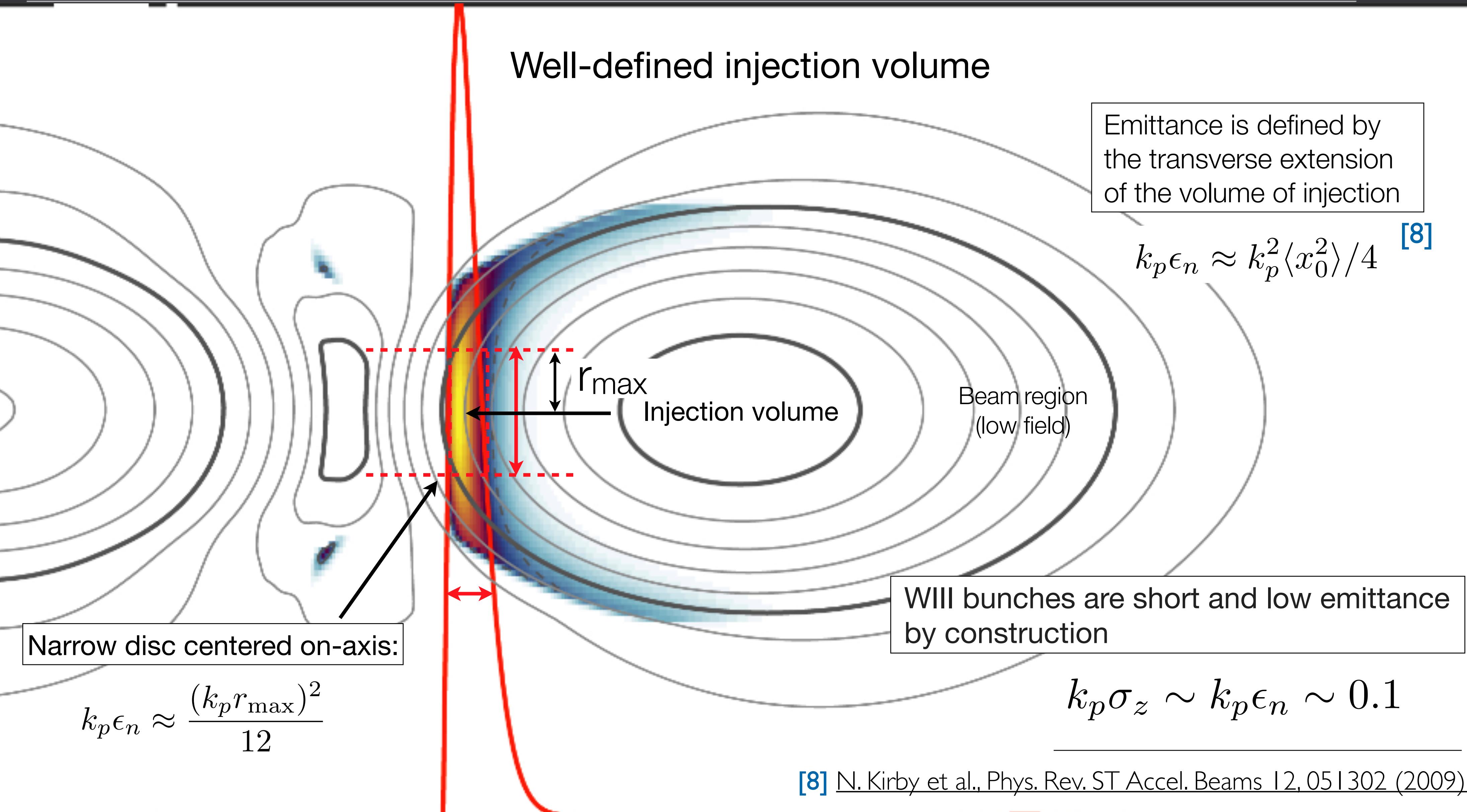
Max. beam e-field

$$E_{\text{beam}} \approx 50 \text{ GV/m}$$

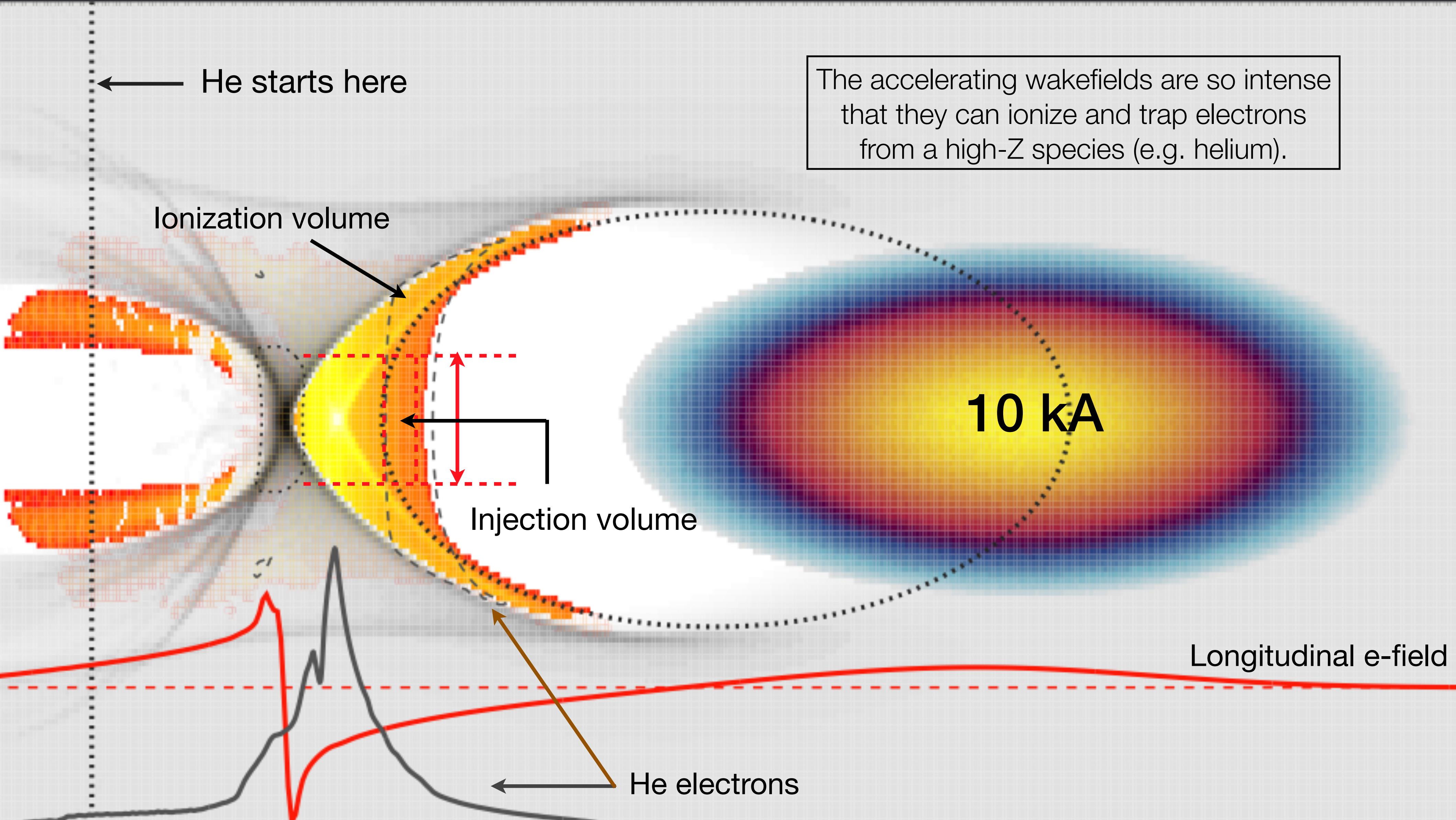
Helium (1<sup>st</sup>)

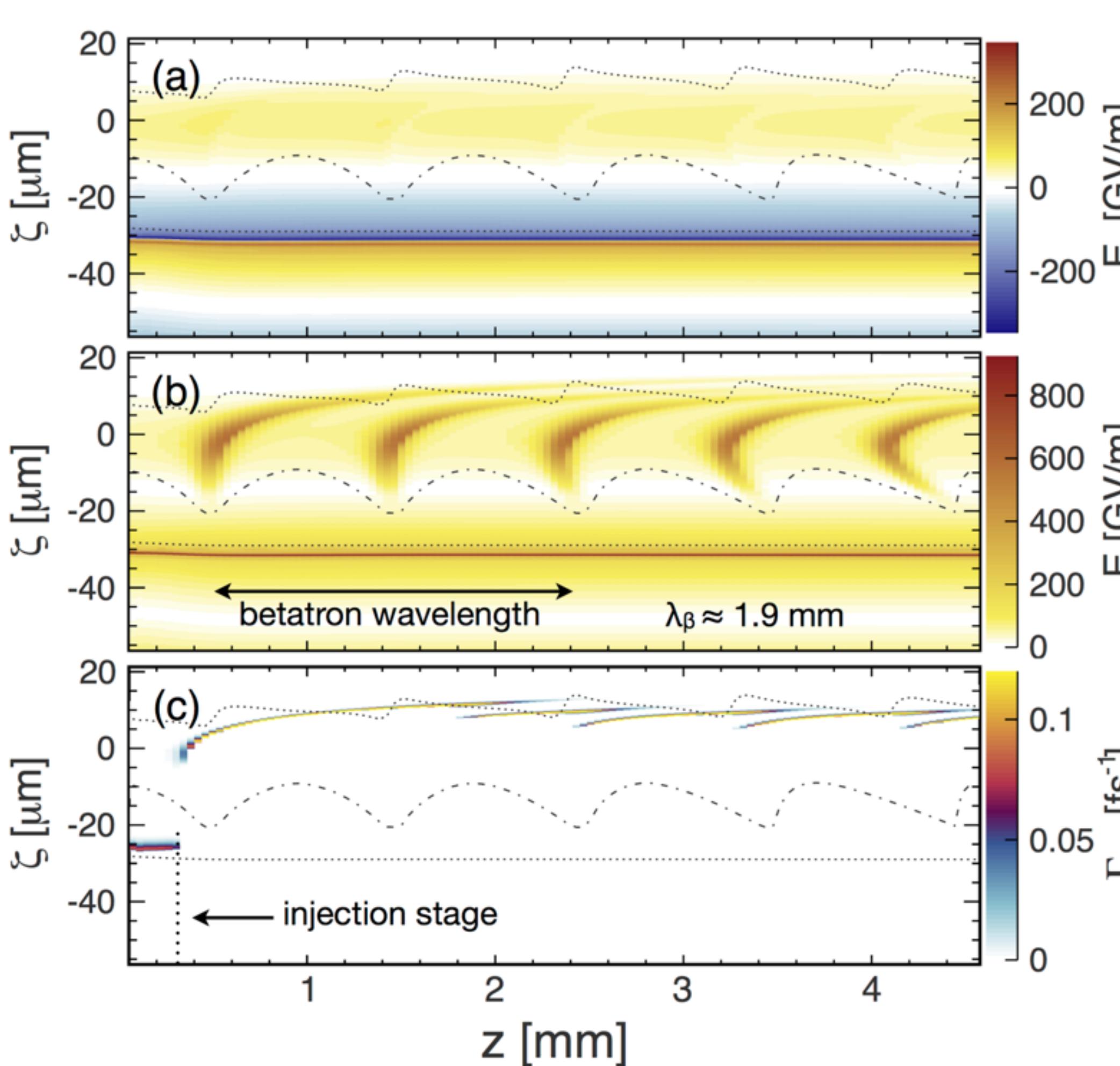
Hydrogen





# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection Injection Volume



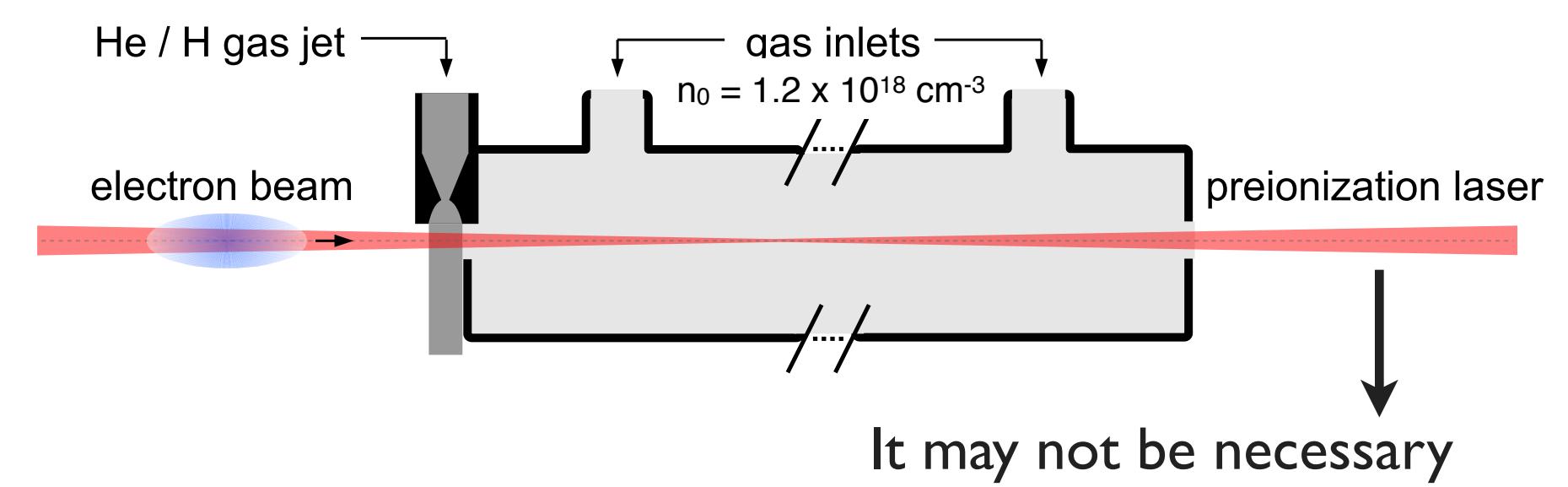


Betatron wavelength  $\lambda_\beta = \sqrt{2\gamma} \lambda_p$

$$E_x^{\max}/E_0 \approx 0.45 \Lambda_b/k_p \sigma_x$$

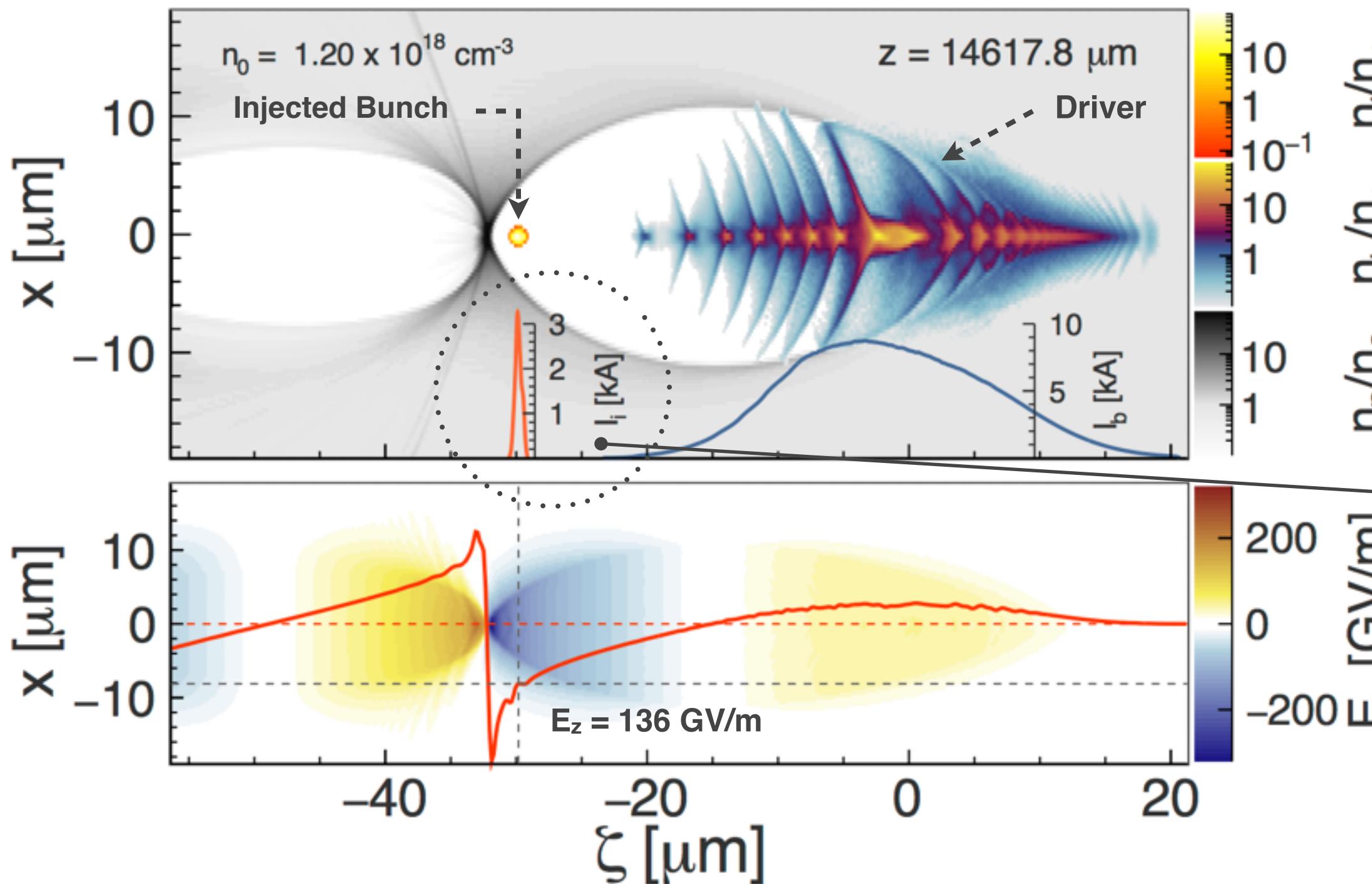
Ionization by the radial electric fields of the beam strongly depends on the beams radius, which undergoes betatron oscillations.

[9] The dopant high-Z species is confined in a narrow jet at the beginning of the plasma cell



[9] L. Schaper et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A740 208-211(2014)

## Driver and witness bunch after 14.6 mm

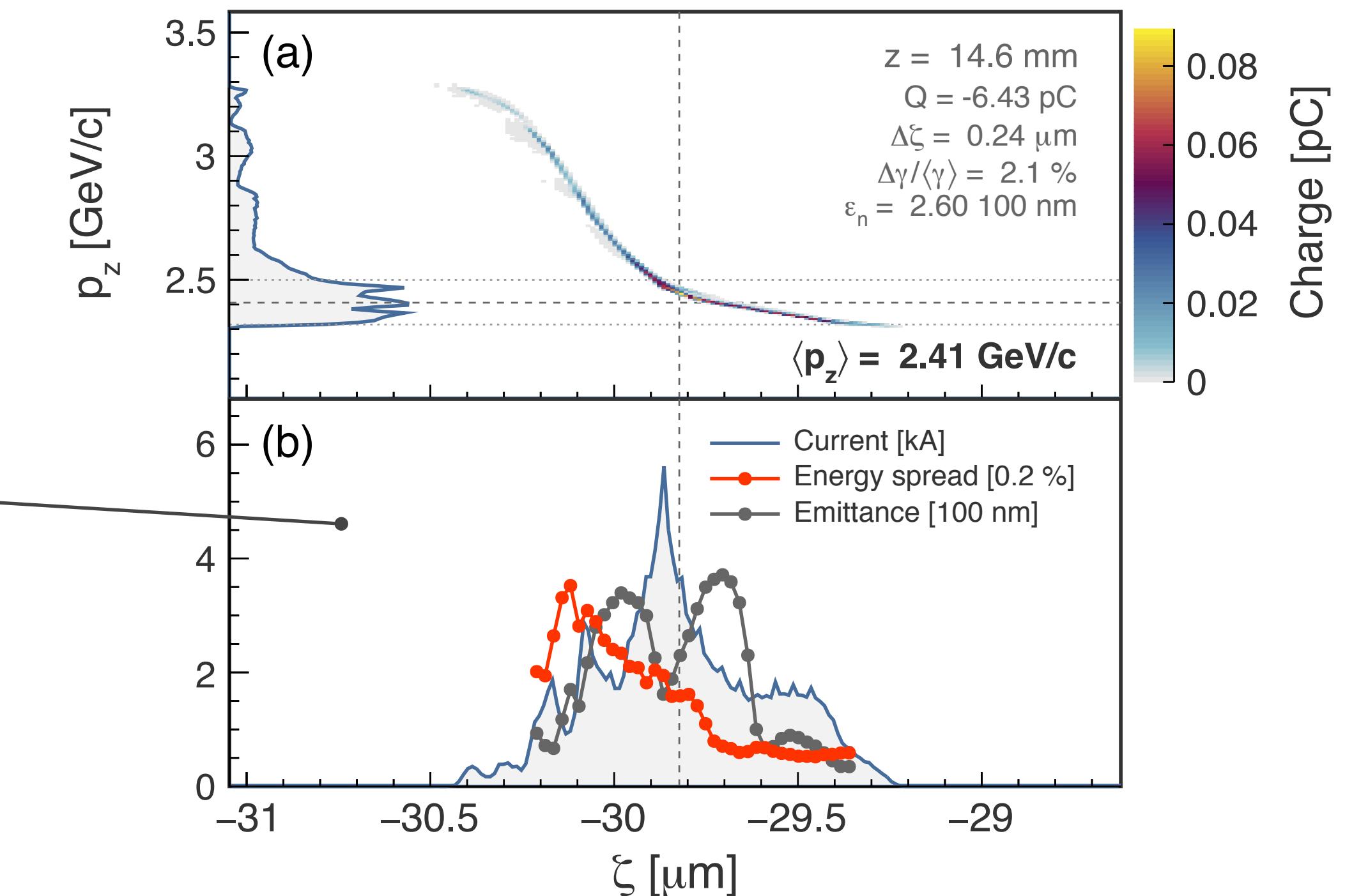


### Transformer ratio

$$R \equiv |E_z^{\text{witness}}/E_z^{\text{driver}}| \approx 3$$

Up to 3 GeV/e<sup>-</sup> in 2 cm

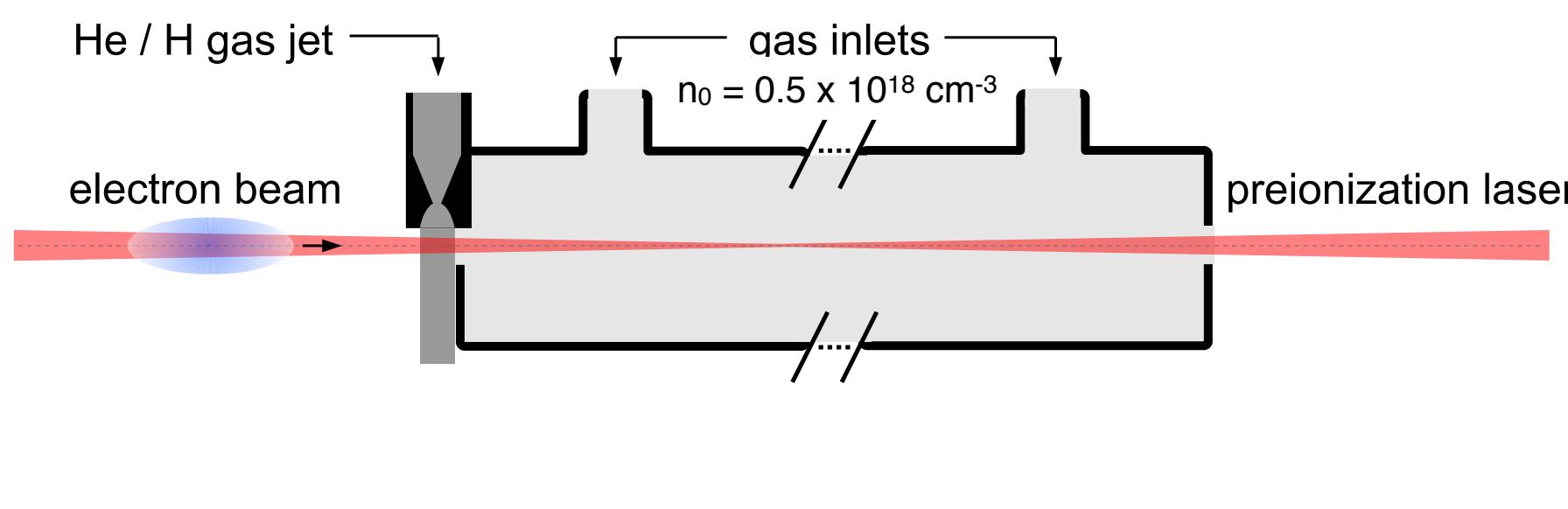
## Witness properties after 14.6 mm



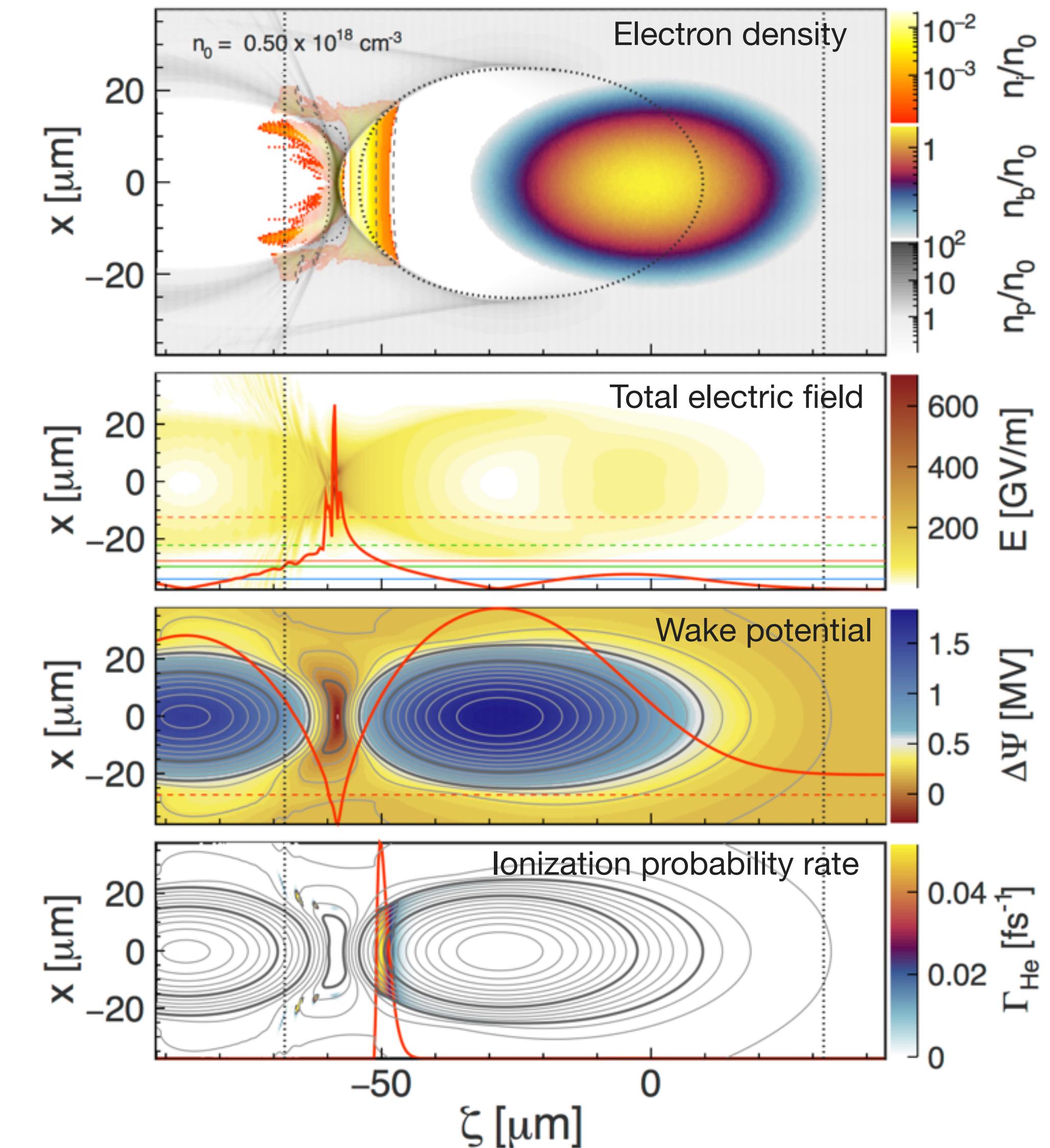
- » High-current (tunable): **5 kA**
- » Ultra-short bunches: **770 as**
- » Low emittance: **300 nm**.
- » Low uncorrelated energy spread  $\sim 1\%$

**FACET** [10,11]

$Q_b = 2.7 \text{ nC}$   
 $I_b = 22 \text{ kA}$   
 $E_b = 23 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\sigma_z = 14 \mu\text{m}$   
 $\sigma_x = 10 \mu\text{m}$   
 $\varepsilon_x = 50 \mu\text{m}$   
 $\varepsilon_y = 5 \mu\text{m}$



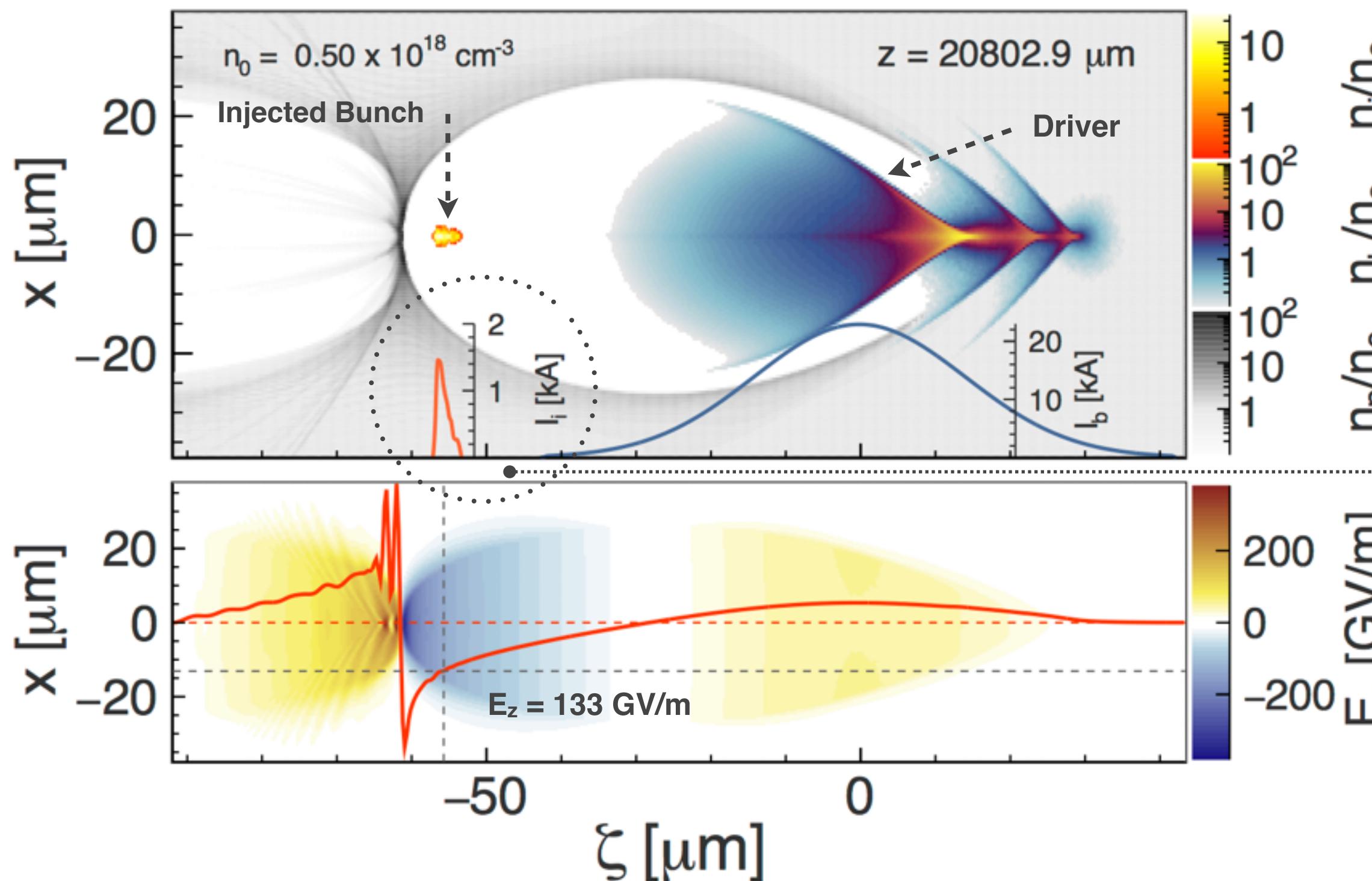
Wakefield Injection  
plasma density  
 $n_0 = 5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 $k_p \sigma_z = 1.86$   
dopant species: helium



[10]. S. Z. Li and M. J. Hogan, SLAC-PUB-14412.

[11]. M.J. Hogan et al, New J.Phys. 12 (2010) 055030.

## Driver and witness bunch after 20.8 mm

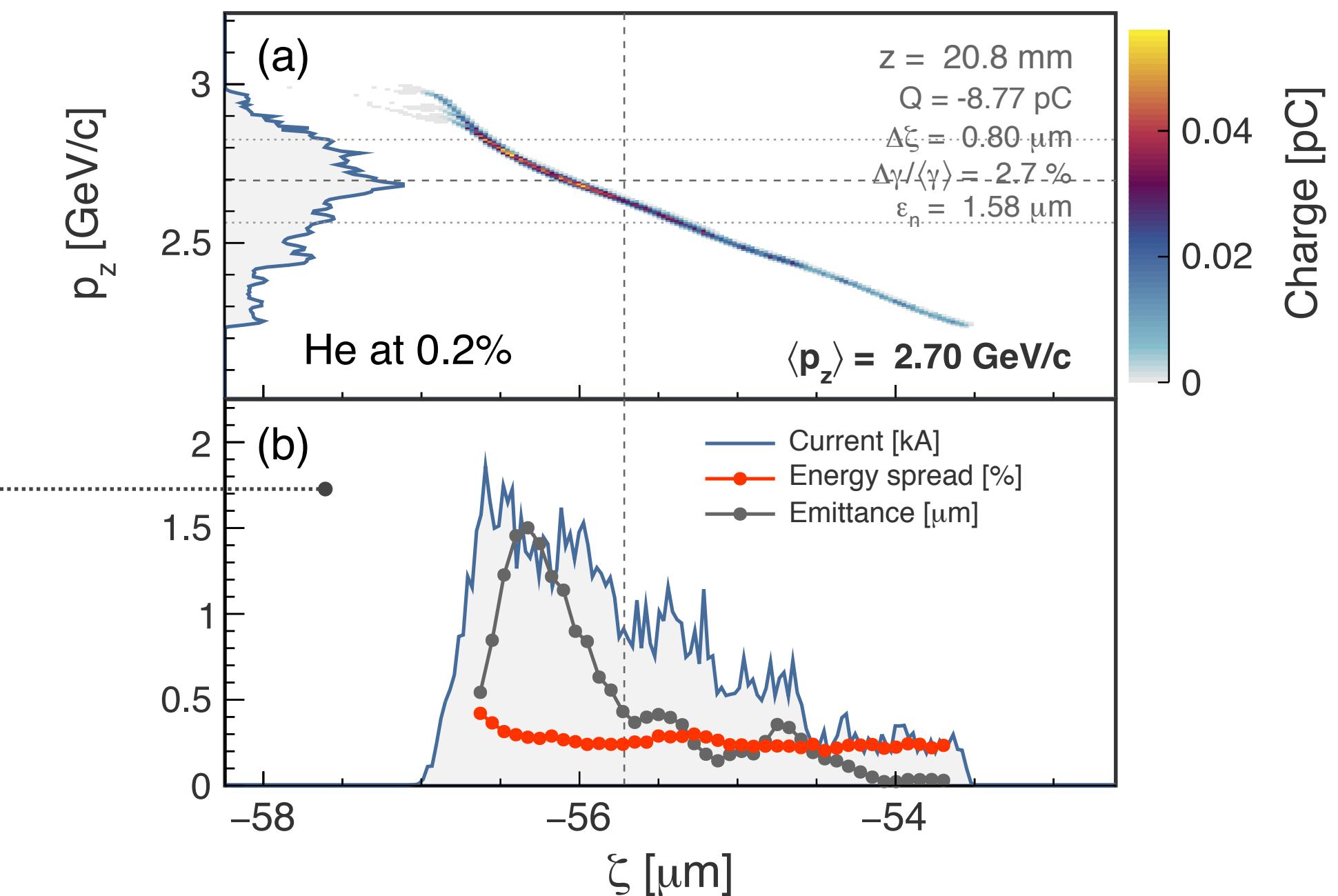


Transformer ratio

$$R \equiv |E_z^{\text{witness}} / E_z^{\text{driver}}| \approx 2$$

Up to 46 GeV in ~50 cm

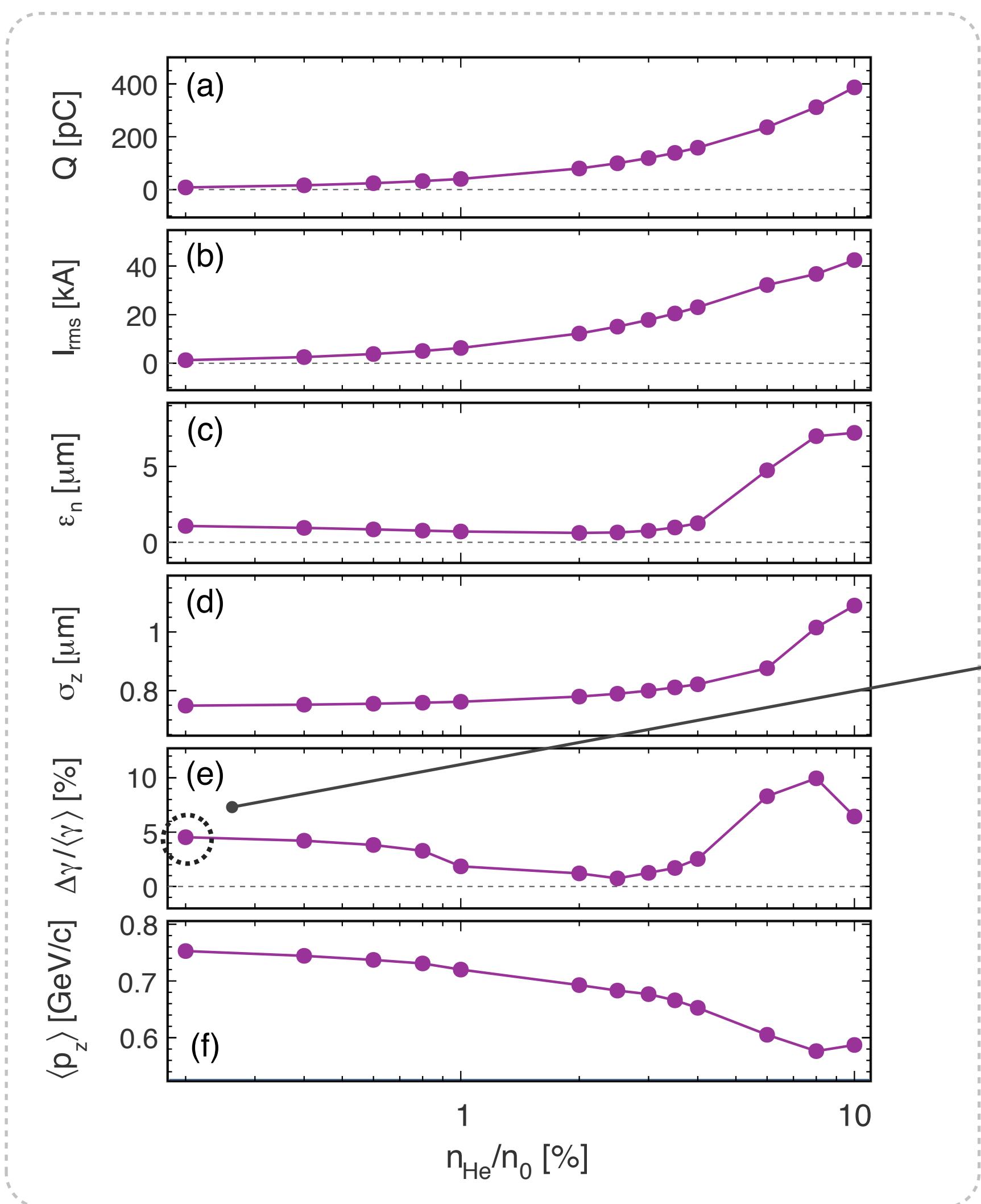
## Witness properties after 20.8 mm



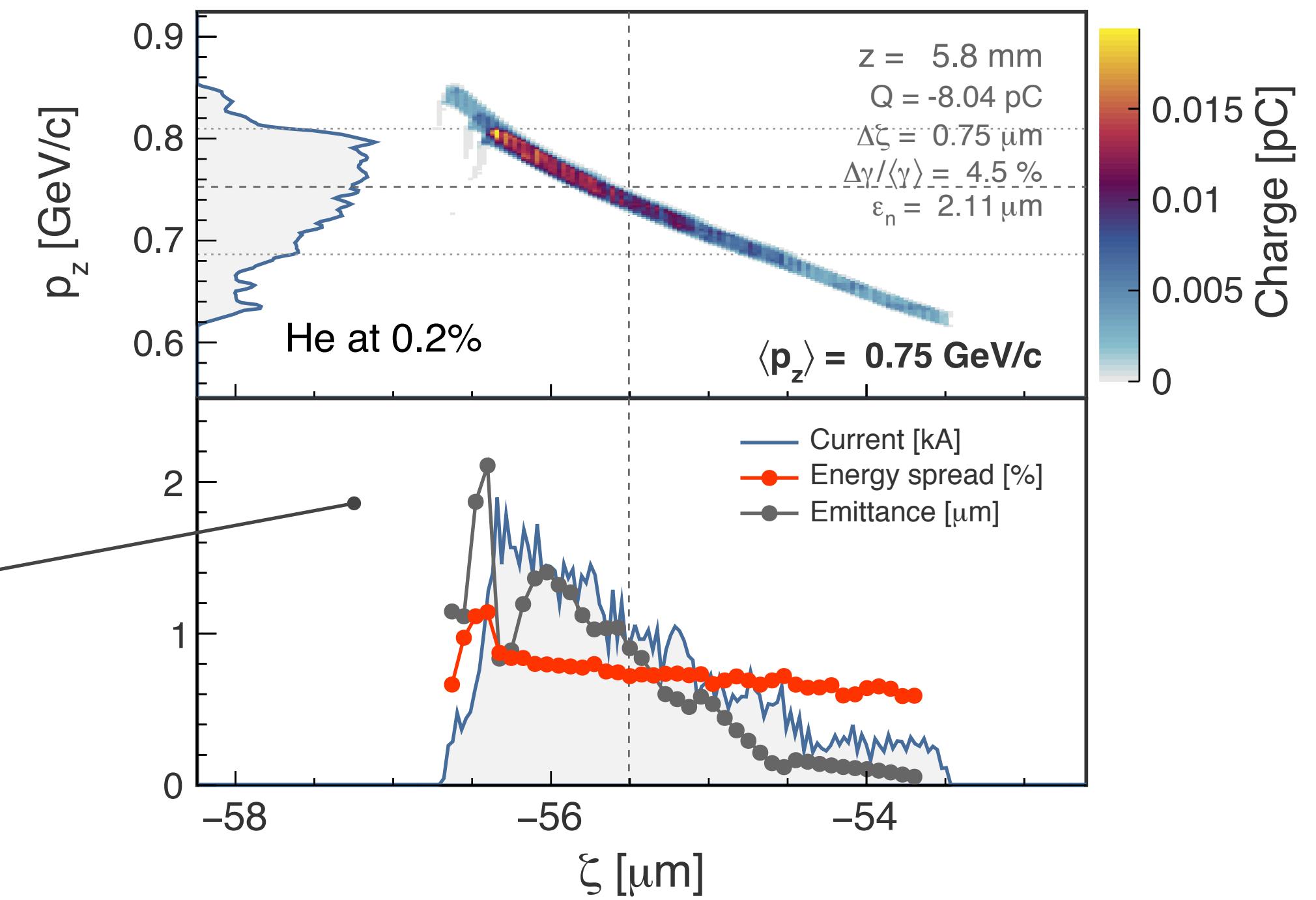
- » High-current (tunable): **~2 kA**
- » Ultra-short bunches: **2.7 fs**
- » Low emittance: **1.5 μm.**
- » Low uncorrelated energy spread **~0.3%**

# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection

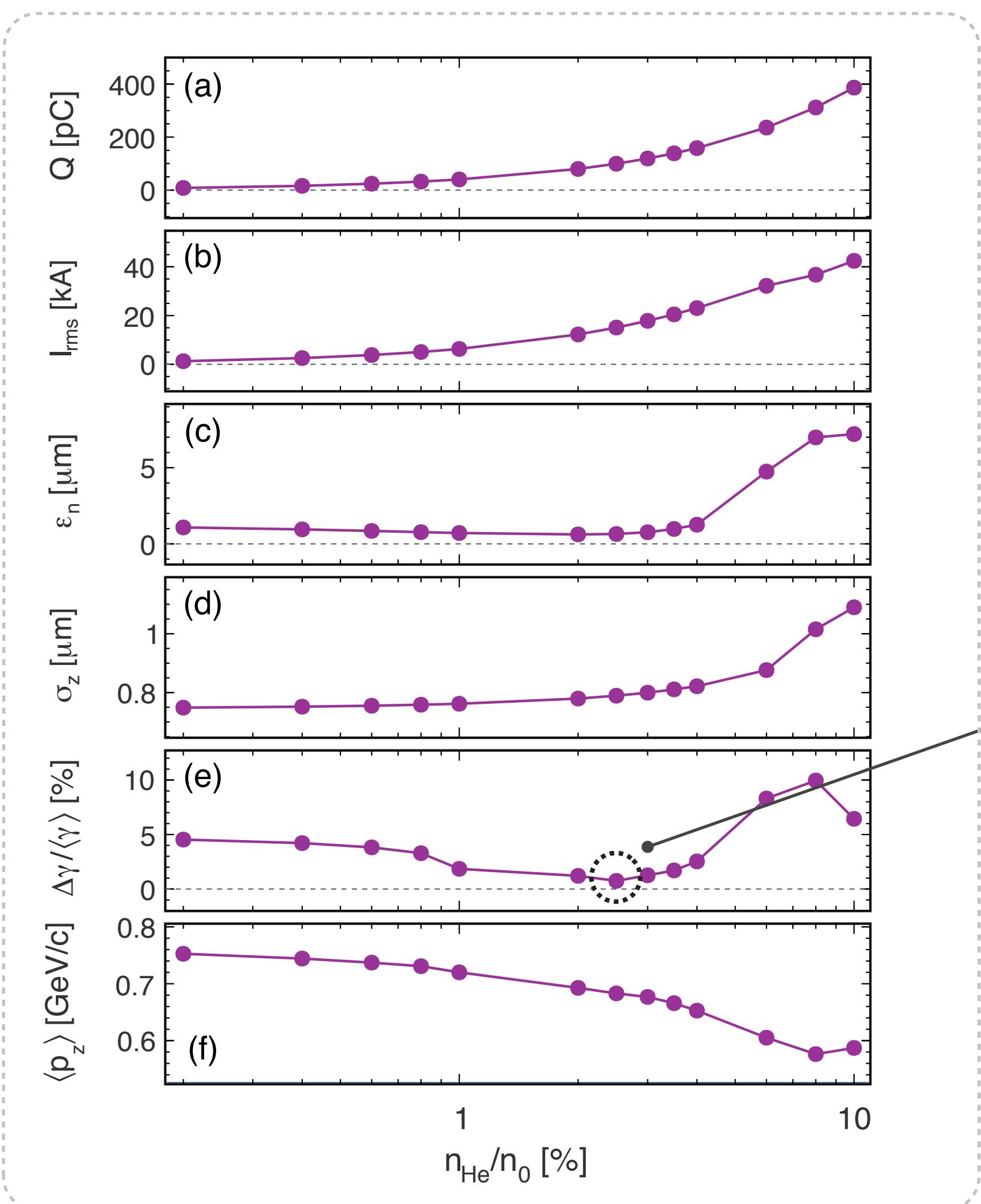
## Beam loading for energy spread reduction



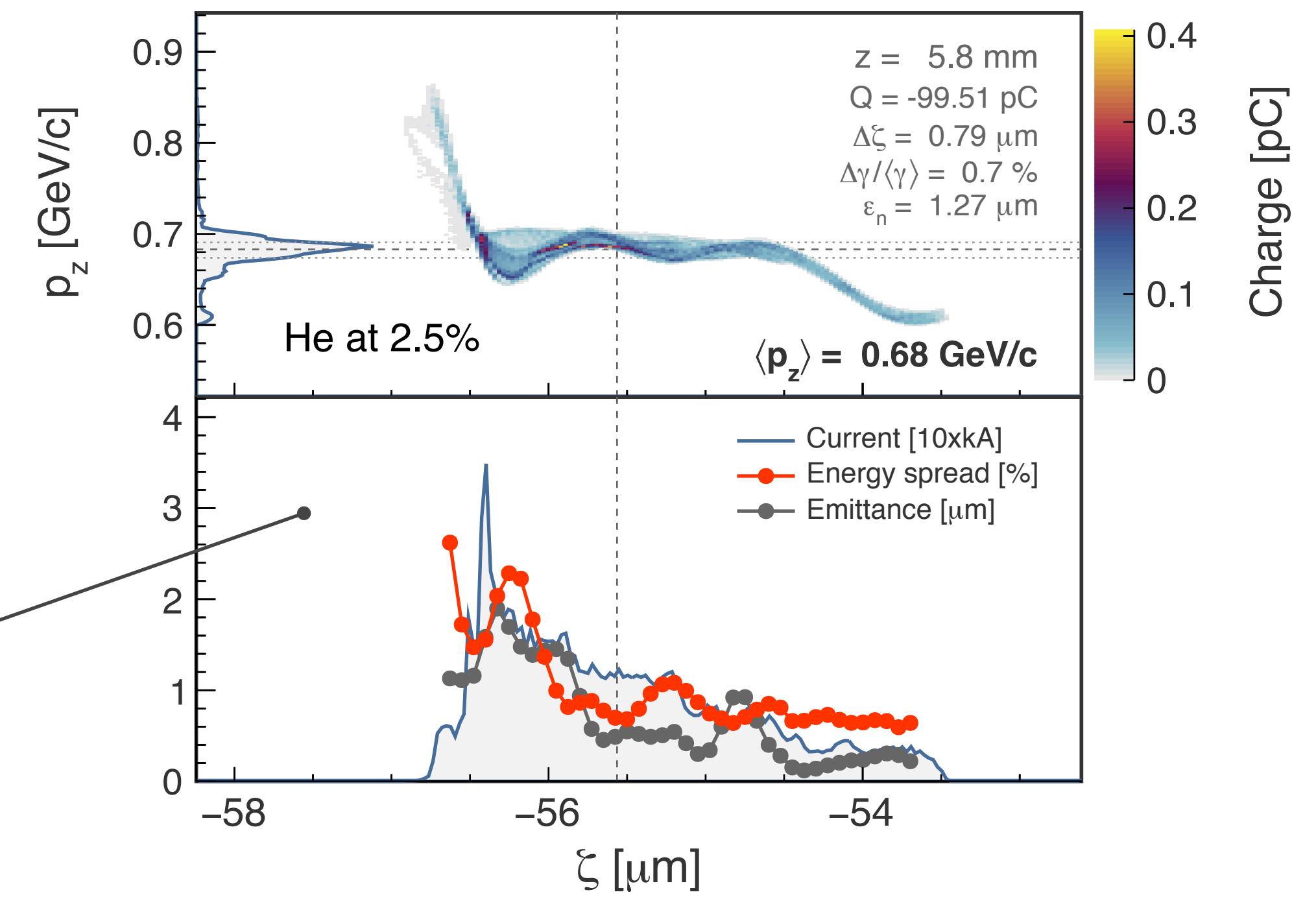
Improved energy spread + higher current



Short ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$ ), low-current ( $\sim 2\text{kA}$ )  
low-emittance ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$ ) and  
linearly chirped  
**GeV-electron beams**



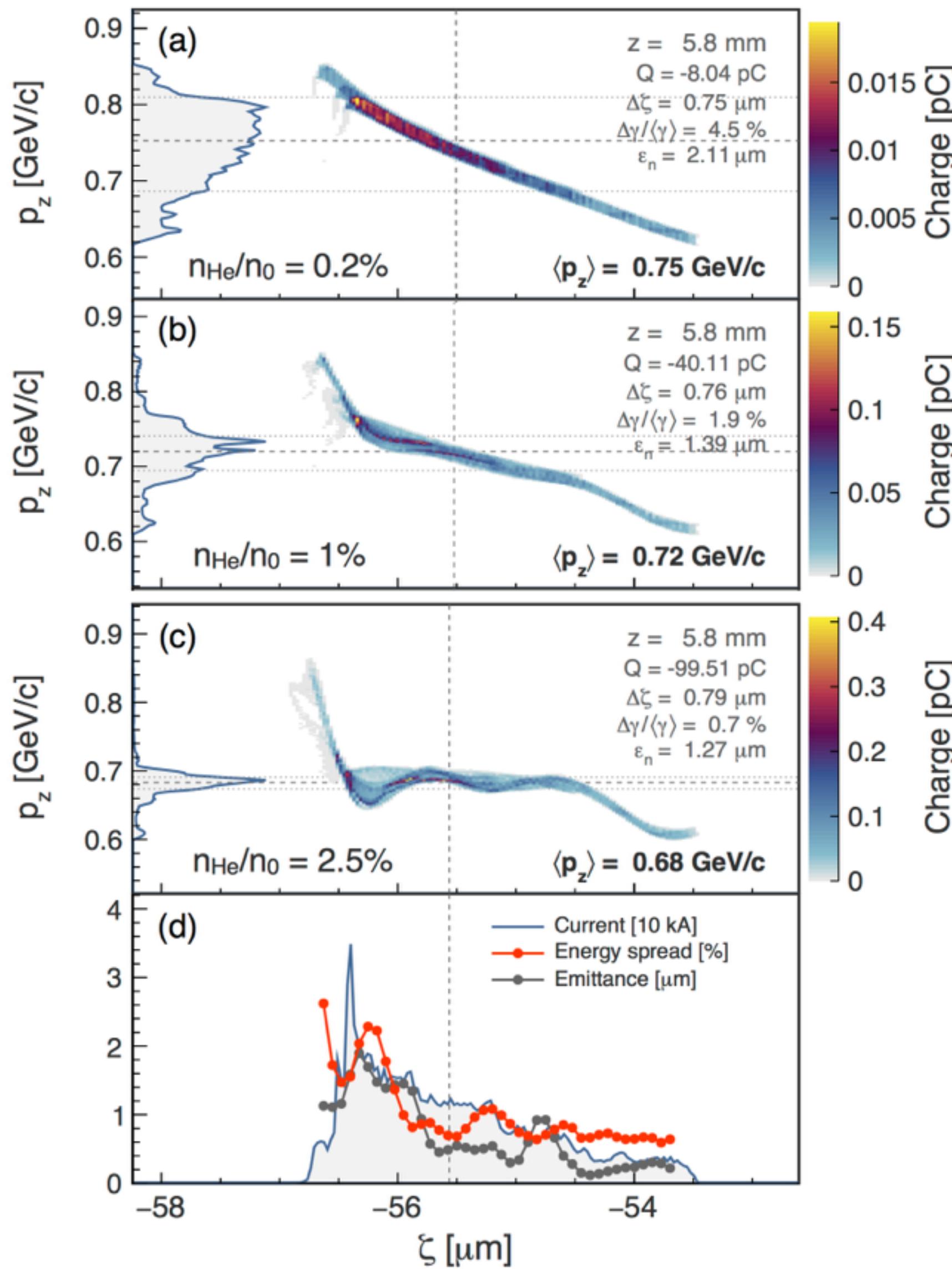
Improved energy spread + higher current



Short ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$ ), high-current ( $\sim 20\text{kA}$ )  
low-emittance ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$ ) and  
quasi-mono-energetic  
**GeV**-electron beams

# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection

## Beam loading for energy spread reduction



[10] Witness bunch profile for perfect beam loading

$$\Lambda_w = \sqrt{\left[\frac{E_z^w}{E_0}\right]^4 + \left[\frac{k_p r_m}{2}\right]^4} - \frac{E_z^w}{E_0} k_p (\zeta - \zeta_w).$$

Witness/driver current ratio

$$\frac{\Lambda_w}{\Lambda_d} \approx \sqrt{\left(\frac{R_w}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^4 + 1}$$

for reduced energy spread

High-current (~20kA)  
low-emittance (~ $\mu\text{m}$ )  
quasi-mono-energetic  
**GeV**-electron beams

High-brightness for applications  $B \propto \frac{I_b}{\epsilon_n^2}$

[10] M.Tzoufras et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 101.145002 (2008)

## Requirements

- » **High-current drivers** ( $I_b^0 > 8.5 \text{ kA}$ )  
to operate a strong blowout regime.

$$k_p \sigma_z \simeq \sqrt{2}$$

Resonant length

$$k_p \sigma_x \simeq 1$$

Moderate spot size

$$k_p \epsilon_n < (k_p \sigma_x)^2 \sqrt{\gamma/2}$$

Low emittance

- » A jet with dopant species  
with **appropriate ionization threshold**.

$$E_{\text{wake}} > E_{\text{ion}} > E_{\text{beam}}$$

- » Plasma cell technology  
for the experimental setup.

## Features

- » Ultra-short, high-quality bunches.  
Injected beams are short and low-emittance

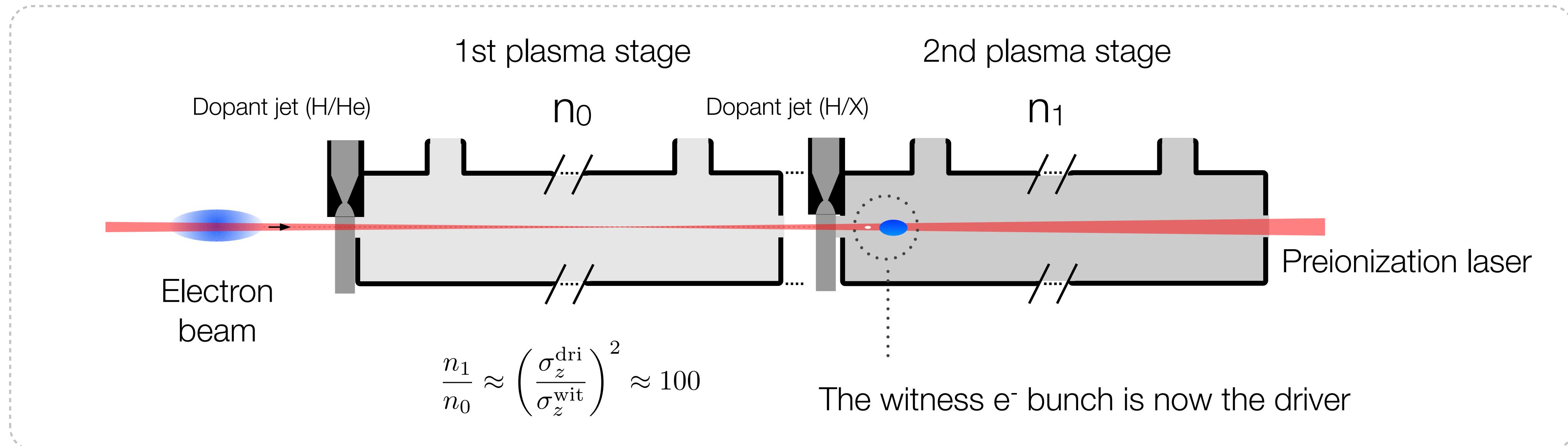
$$k_p \sigma_z \approx k_p \sigma_r \approx k_p \epsilon_n \approx 0.1$$

- » High-current, low-energy spread  
by controlled beam loading

- » Energy doubling/tripling:  
Transformer ratio  $\geq 2$

WII bunches can do WII injection  
in higher plasma densities !!

## Experimental setup



WII bunches can do WII injection  
in  $10^2$  times higher plasma densities !!

Witness in the second PWFA stage  
» 10 times shorter and lower emittance.  
» Higher current.  
»  **$10^2$  times brighter!**  
» “Redoubles” the energy per electron.

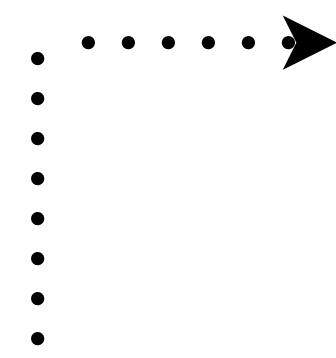
# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection Self-Similar Staging: First simulations



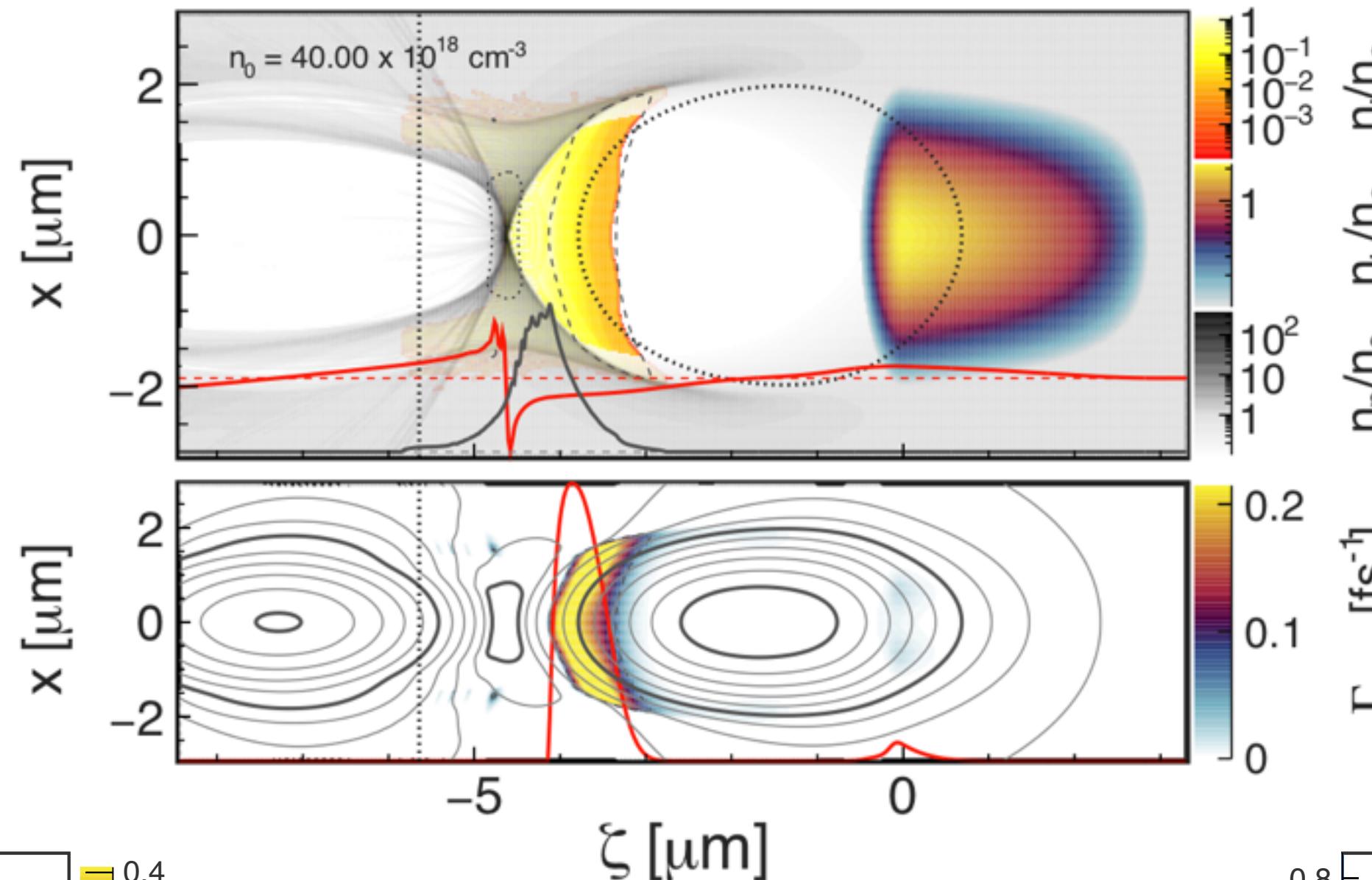
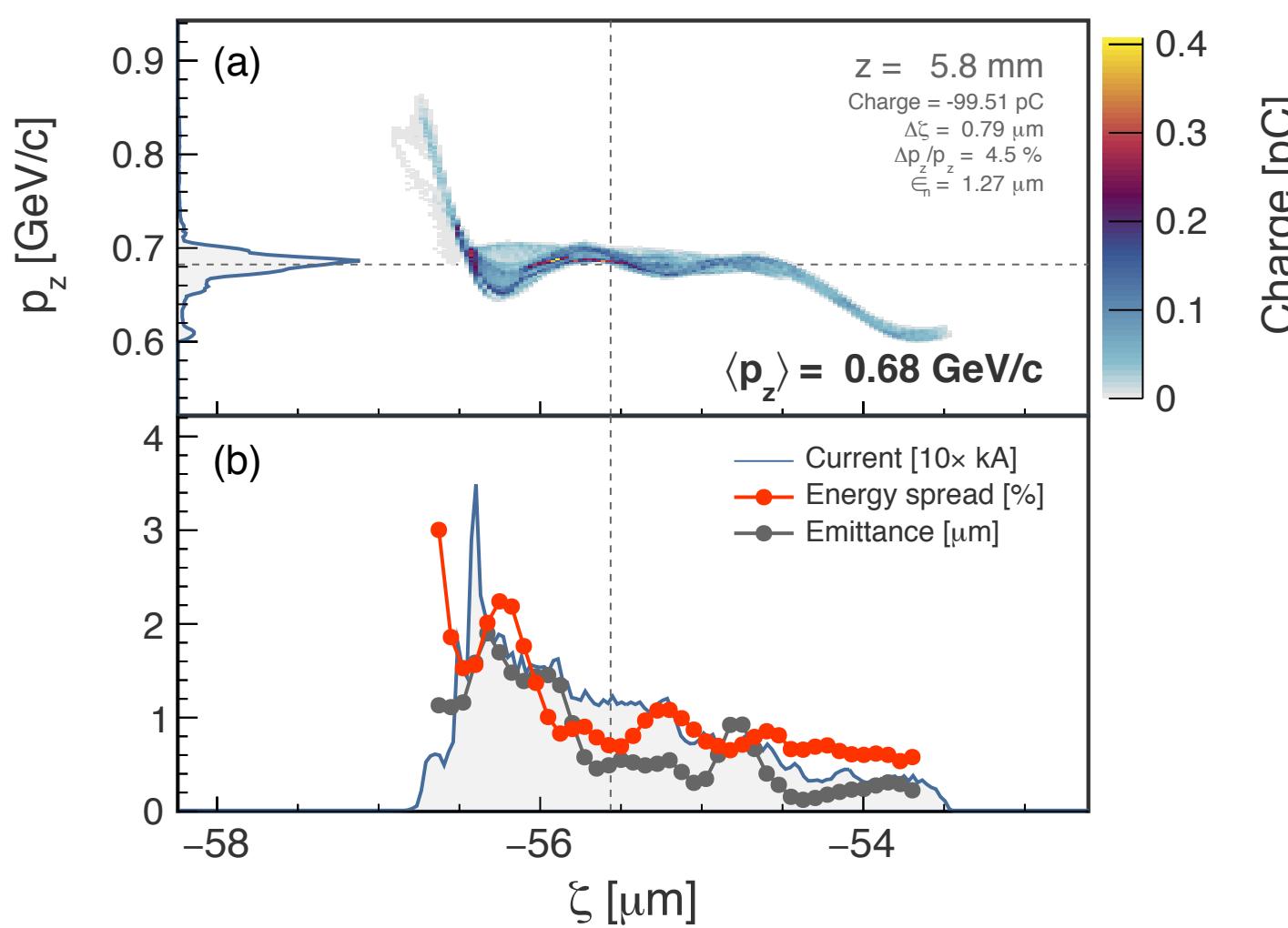
$$n_0 = 4 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

Ionization threshold 90 eV

$\text{N}^{5+}$  (IP 98 eV)

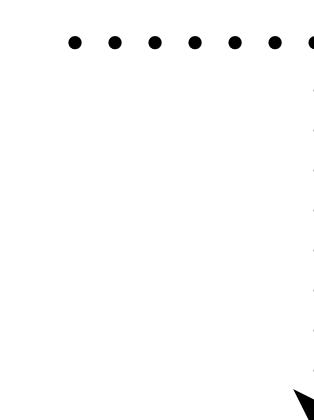


The witness bunch  
is now the driver

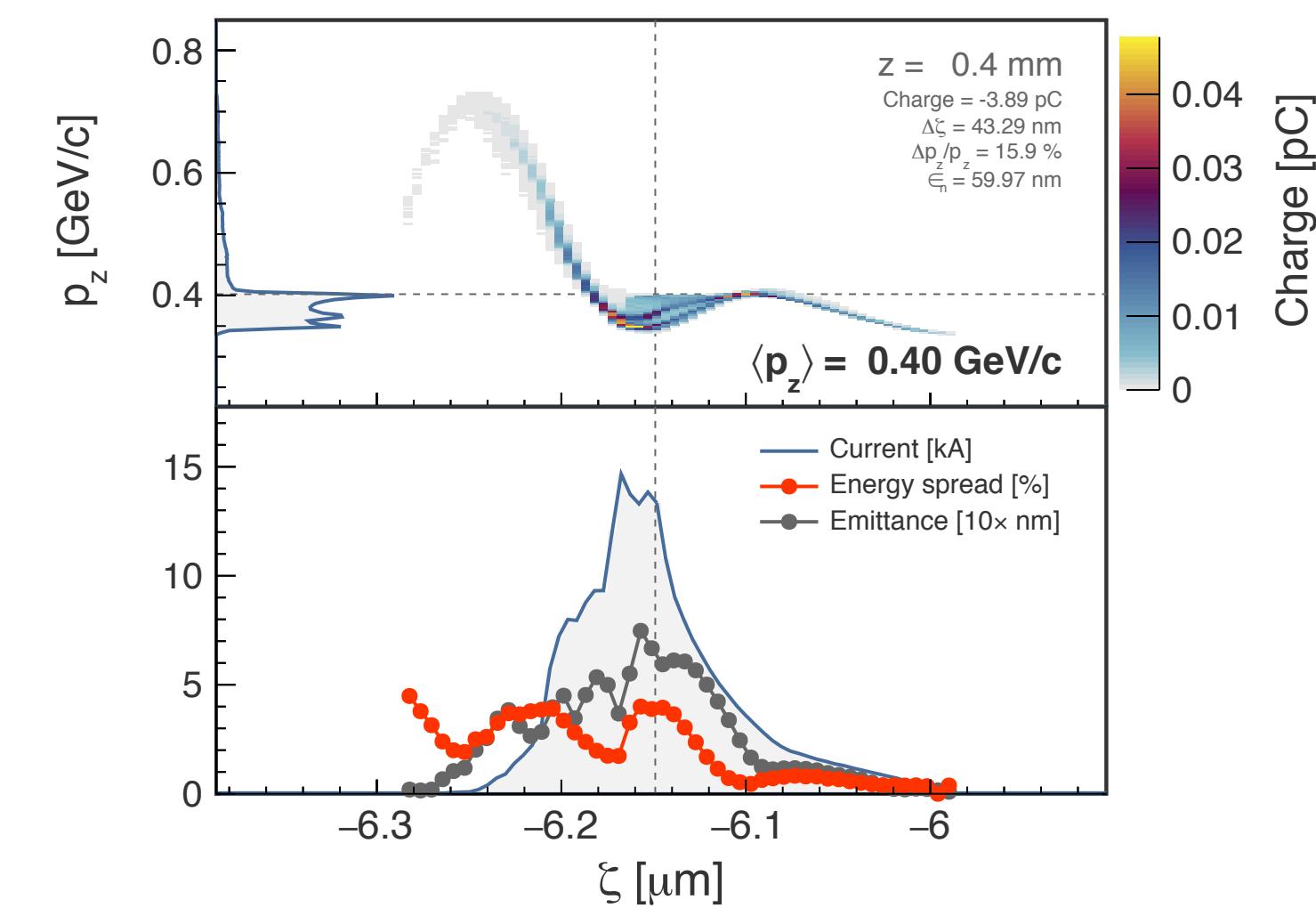


$$E_z^{\text{wit}} \approx 1 \text{ TV/m}$$

Up to 92 GeV in ~9 cm



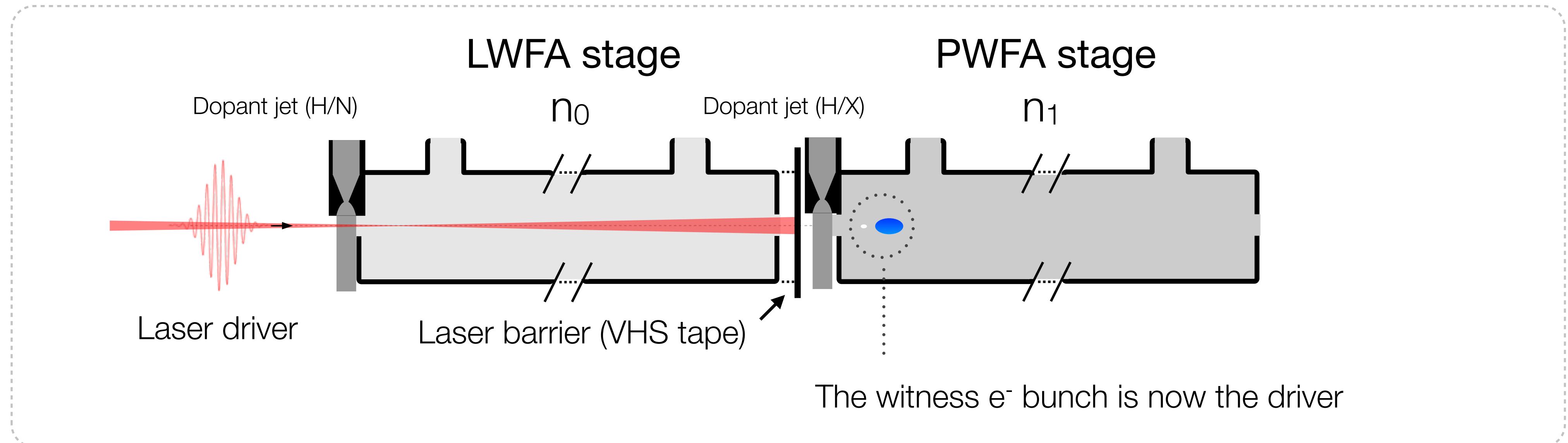
Second witness



## Properties

- » High-current **15 kA**.
- » Ultra-short **140 as**.
- » Ultra-low emitt. **60 nm**.
- » Transformer ratio **~2**.

## Experimental setup



Electrons beams from LWFA  
can do WII injection!

if they have enough current ~10kA

Witness in the PWFA stage  
» 10 times shorter and lower emittance.  
» Higher current.  
»  $10^2$  times brighter!  
» “Doubles” the energy per electron.

Boost the energy and the quality of electron beams produced in LWFA accelerators to the next level

Laser driver

$\lambda_0 = 800 \text{ nm}$

$P_0 = 24.4 \text{ TW}$

$\tau = 25 \text{ fs}$   
(FWHM on intensity)

Energy in the pulse: 640 mJ

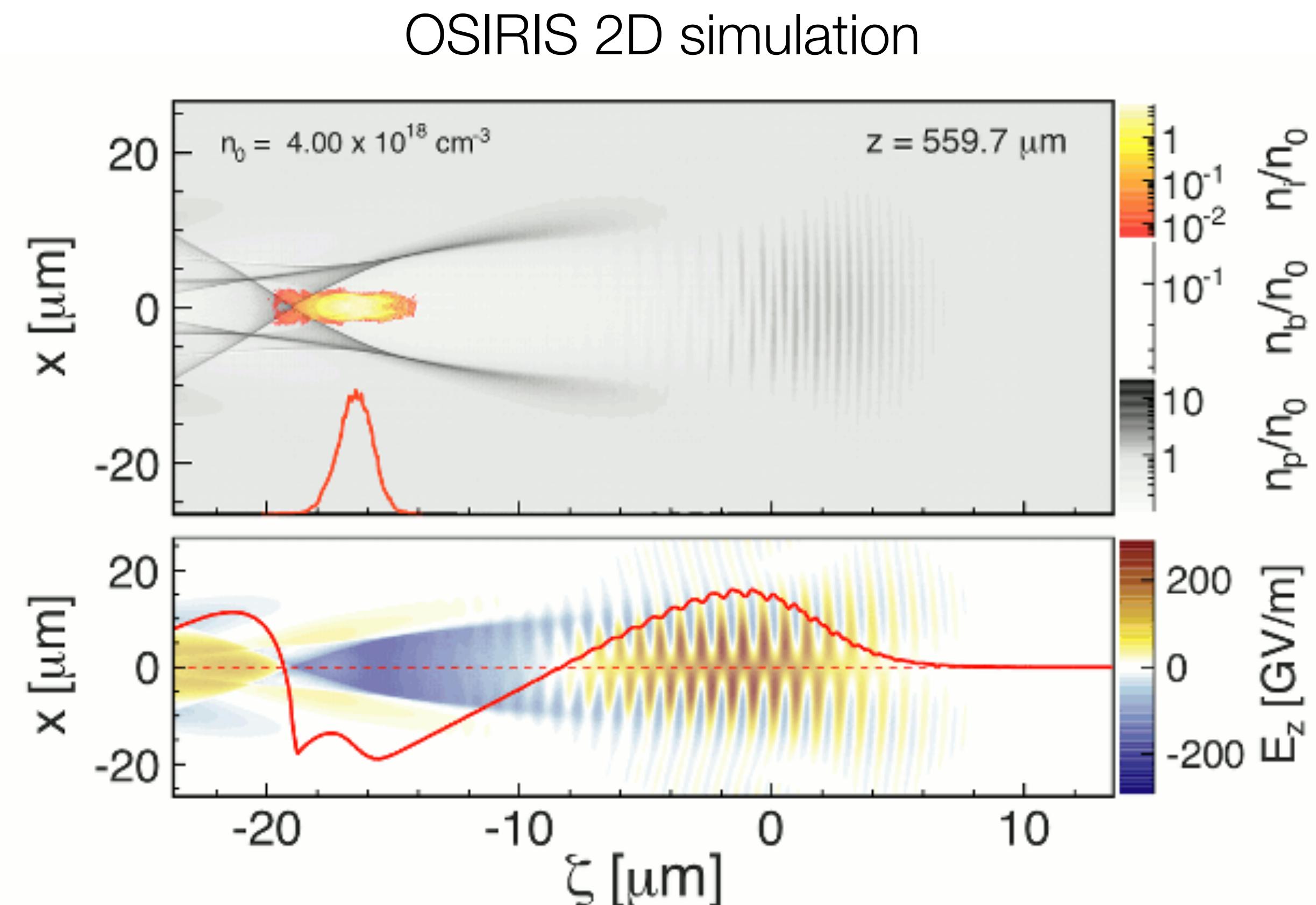
Matched conditions

$$k_p R_b \simeq k_p w_0 = 2\sqrt{a_0}$$

$$n_0 = 5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3} \rightarrow a_0 = 3.1$$

High current witness from LWFA (experiments)

- O. Lundh et al., Nat. Phys 7, 219 (2011).
- S. M. Wiggins et al., Plasma Phys. Controlled Fusion 52, 124032 (2010).



Injection-jet: H doped with N

$$L_{\text{jet}} = 100 \mu\text{m} \quad n_N/n_H = 1\%$$

Laser driver

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$P_0 = 24.4 \text{ TW}$

$\tau = 25 \text{ fs}$   
(FWHM on intensity)

Energy in the pulse: 640 mJ

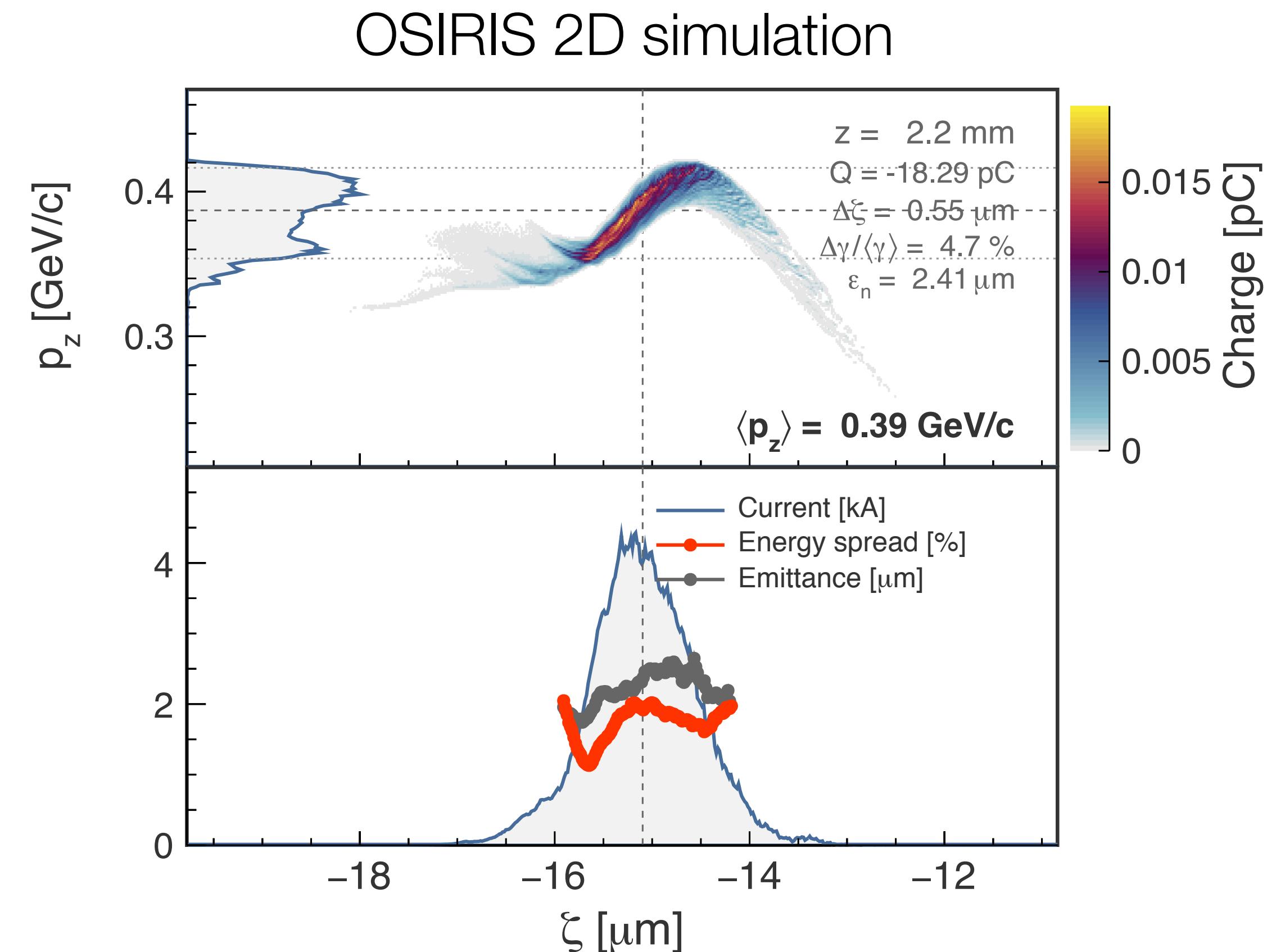
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Injection-jet: H doped with N  
 $L_{jet} = 100 \mu\text{m}$     $n_N/n_H = 1\%$

# Wakefield-Induced Ionization Injection

## Needs

- » High-current electron drivers ( $I_b > 8 \text{ kA}$ ) to operate a strong blowout regime.
- » A dopant species  $E_{\text{wake}} > E_{\text{ion}} > E_{\text{beam}}$  with appropriate ionization threshold.
- » Plasma cell technology for the experimental setup.

## Features

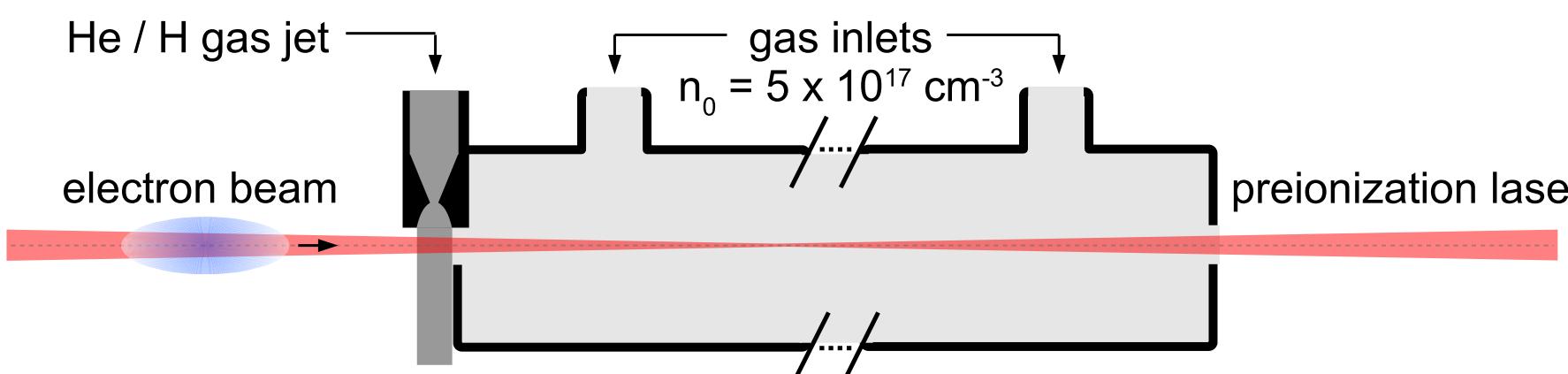
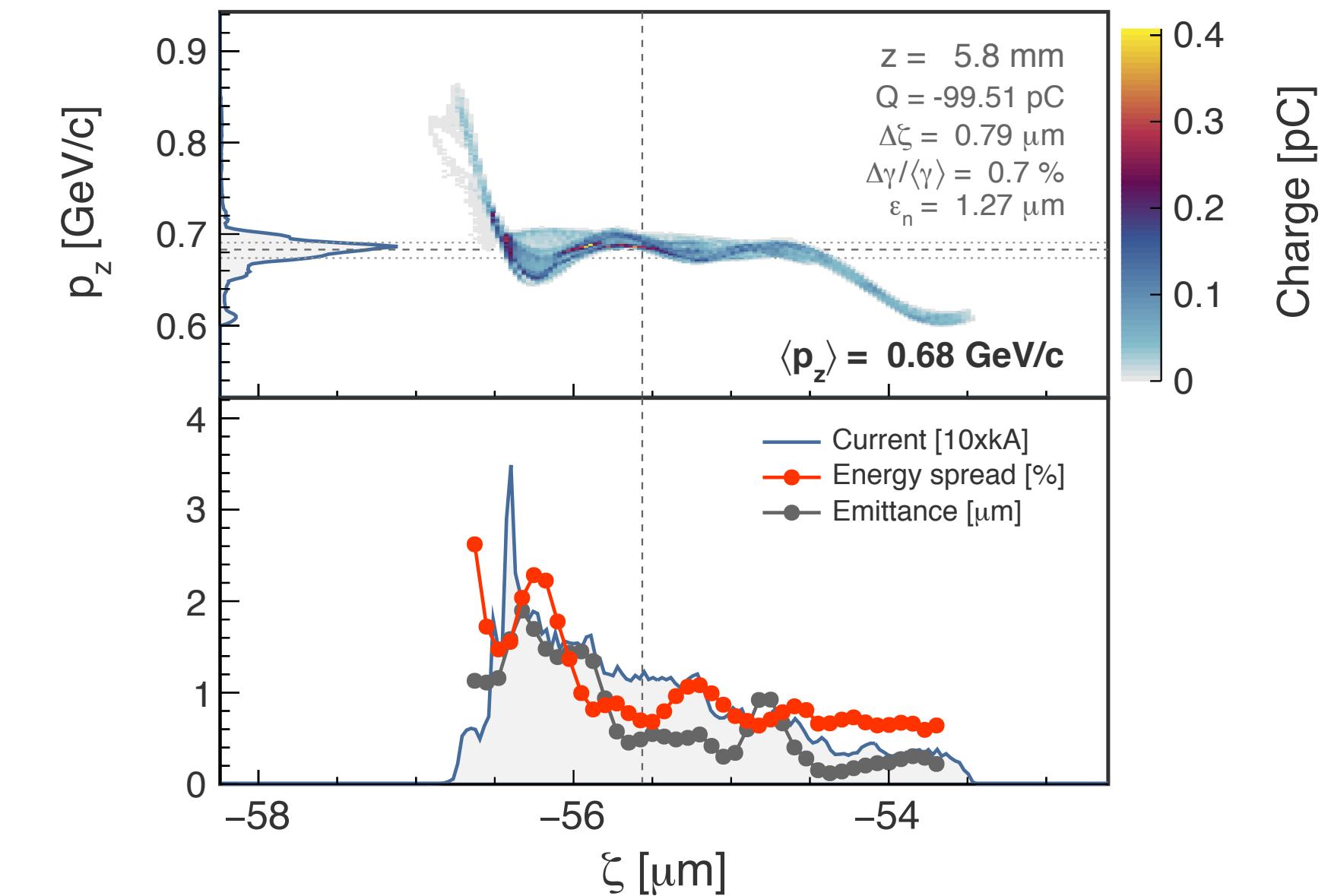
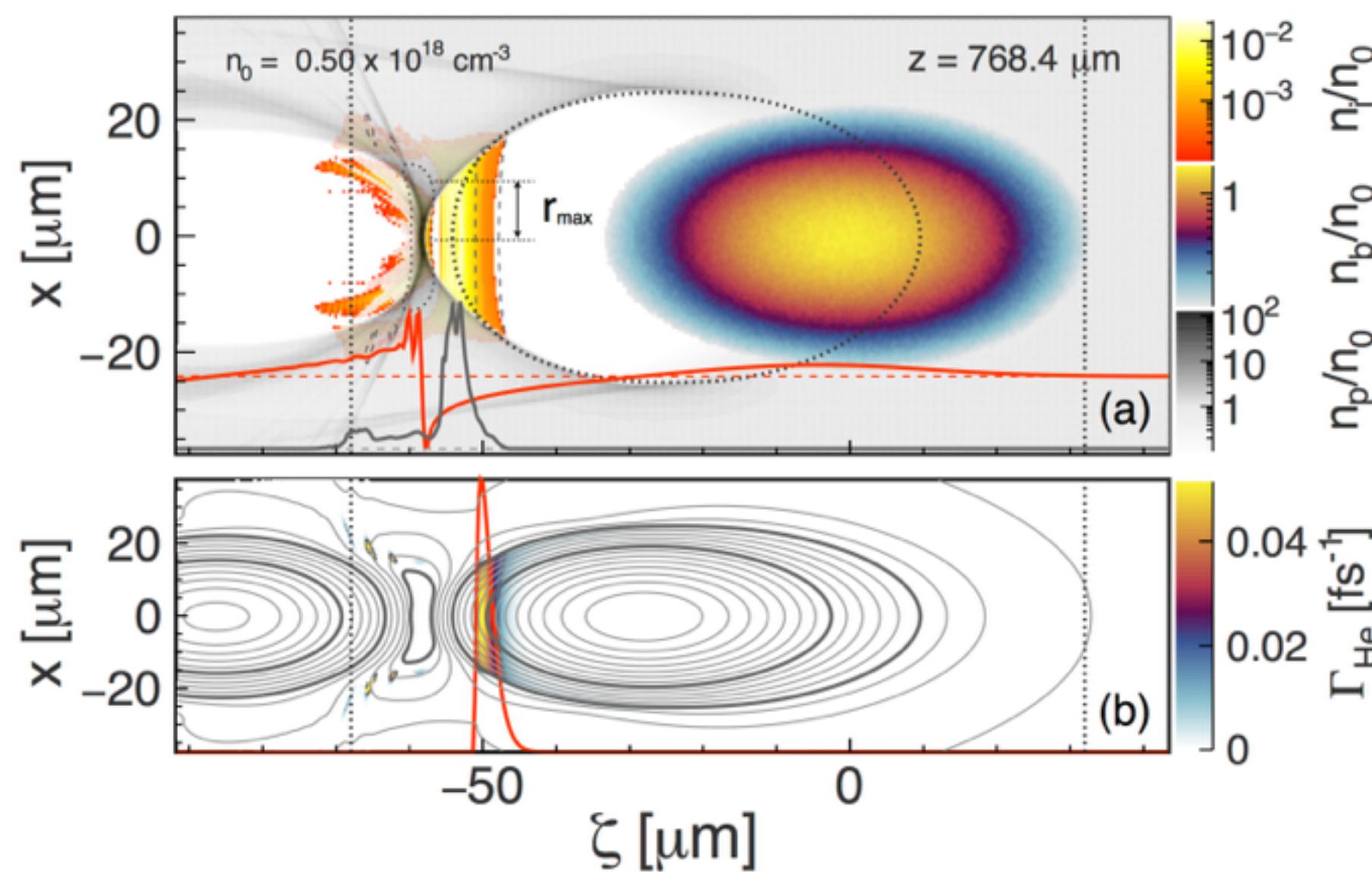
- » Controlled ionization-based injection.  
Injects from a narrow and well-defined region
- » Simple experimental setup.  
No need for extra devices
- » Stable operation.  
Not very sensitive to driver fluctuations

## Produces

- » Ultra-short, high-quality bunches.  
Naturally, Injected beams are short and low-emittance  
$$k_p \sigma_z \sim k_p \epsilon_n \sim 0.1$$
- » High-current, quasi-mono-energetic electron-beams.  
by controlled beam loading
- » Energy doubling: Transformer ratio  $\geq 2$

## Self-Similar Staging

- » The produced bunches could do WII injection at  $10^2$  times higher plasma density.
- » Short and high-current electron beams from LWFA could do it as well.
- » To produce 10 times reduction in emittance and length with double the energy per electron.
- »  **$10^2$  times brightness enhancement.**



Short ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$ ), high-current ( $\sim 20\text{kA}$ )  
low-emittance ( $\sim \mu\text{m}$ ) and  
quasi-mono-energetic  
**GeV-electron beams**

- Preionization laser with an intensity capable to fully ionize a gas with a low ionization threshold (LIT), e.g. Hydrogen.
- Micro-nozzle fed by the same LIT gas doped with a high-ionization threshold (HIT) gas, e.g. Helium.

**WII bunches can do WII injection**  
in  $10^2$  times higher plasma densities  
for the production of  $10^2$  times higher  
brightness  $e^-$  beams