

# Novel two-stage concept for ultra-low energy spread beams from plasma accelerators

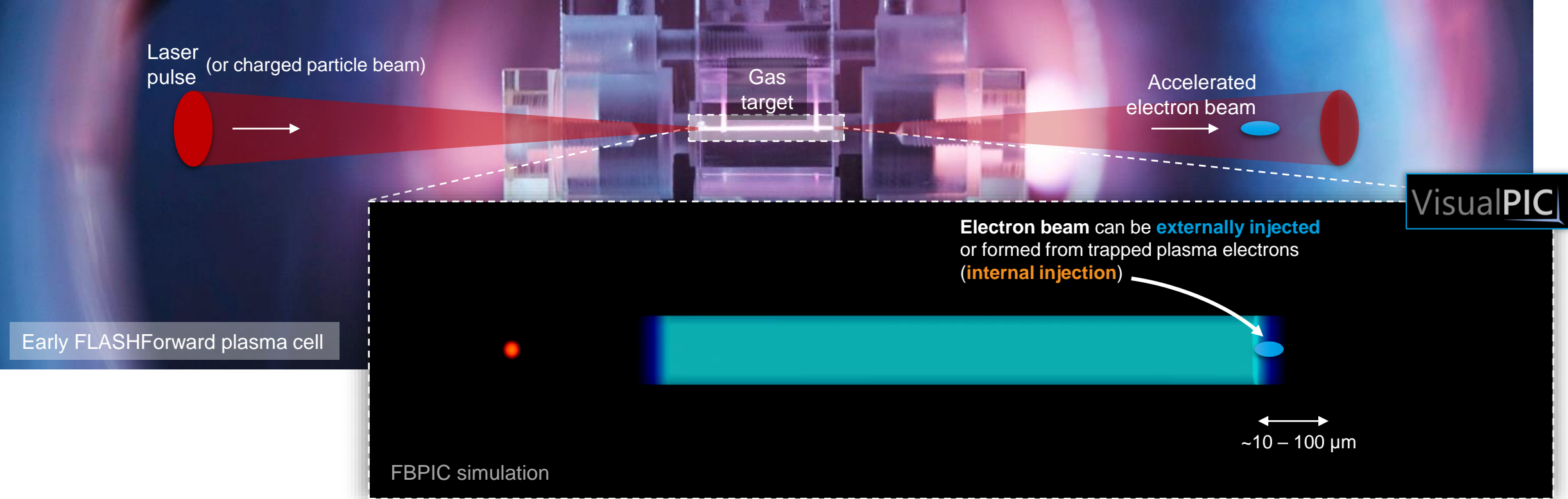
Towards compact plasma-based FELs

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LEAPS WG2 Meeting, 08.09.2020

# Introduction

## Plasma-based acceleration



**Plasma wakefields** can sustain accelerating fields of up to  $\sim 10-100 \text{ GV/m}$  with focusing gradients above  $\sim 1 \text{ MT/m}$

**x1000** more than RF technology

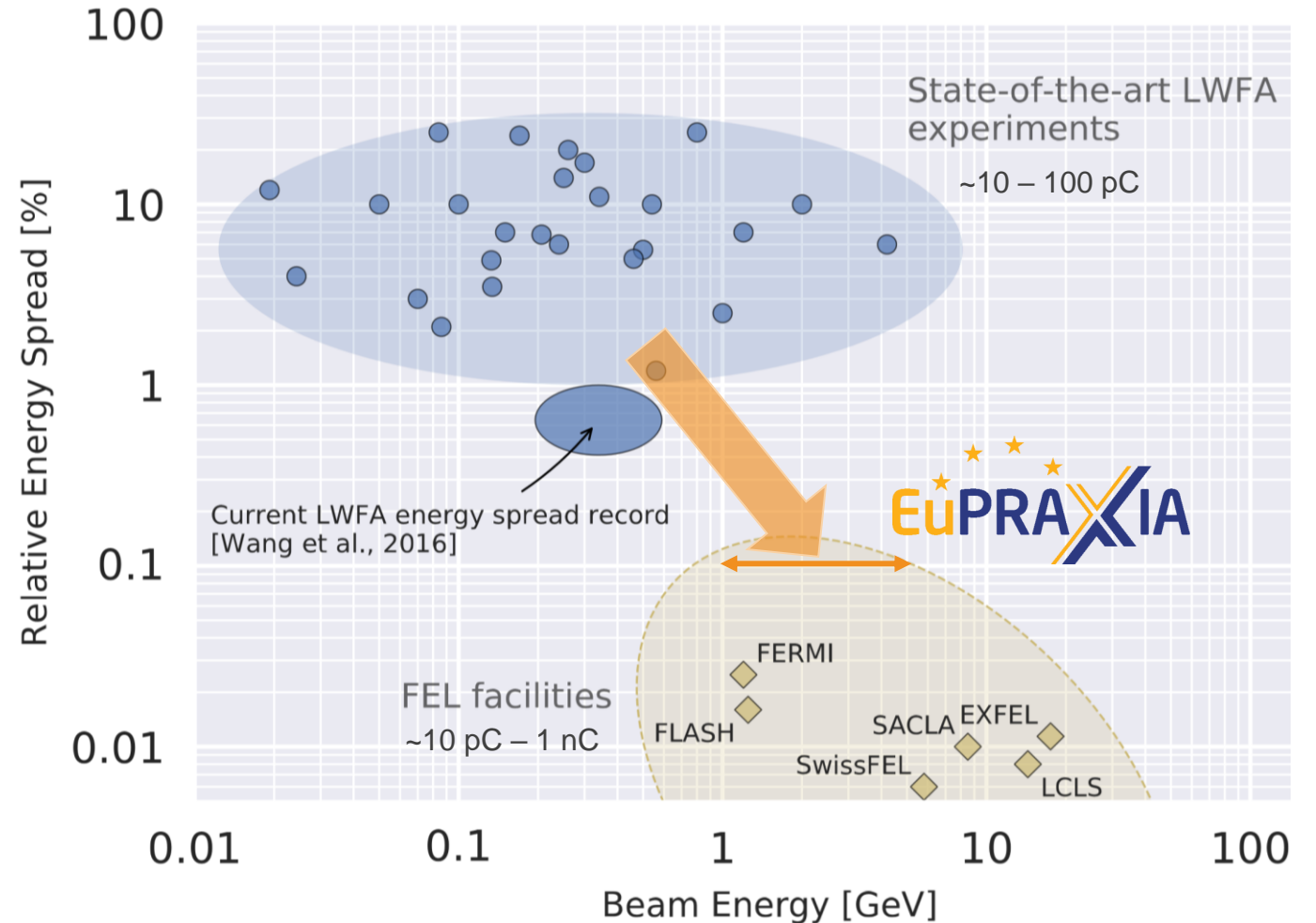
Plasma-based accelerators are a source of **fs-long** beams with **kA** current, reaching **GeV** energy in only **cm** scales [\*]

# Plasma accelerators as compact Free-Electron Lasers?

## Electron beam requirements

- **GeV** energy in **cm**-scale: towards FELs of **reduced size and cost**?
- FELs impose strict requirements on electron beam parameters:
  - **GeV** energy. ✓
  - **Micron**-level emittance. ✓
  - **Multi-kA peak** current. ✓
  - Relative **energy spread**  $< 10^{-3}$ . ✗
  - **Femtosecond**-long bunches. ✓

See, e.g.: [A. J. Gonsalves et al., PRL, 2019; O. Lundh et al., Nat. Phys., 2011; E. Brunetti et al., PRL, 2010; J. Couperus, Nat. Comm., 2017]



# The EuPRAXIA collaboration

Towards plasma accelerators ready for applications



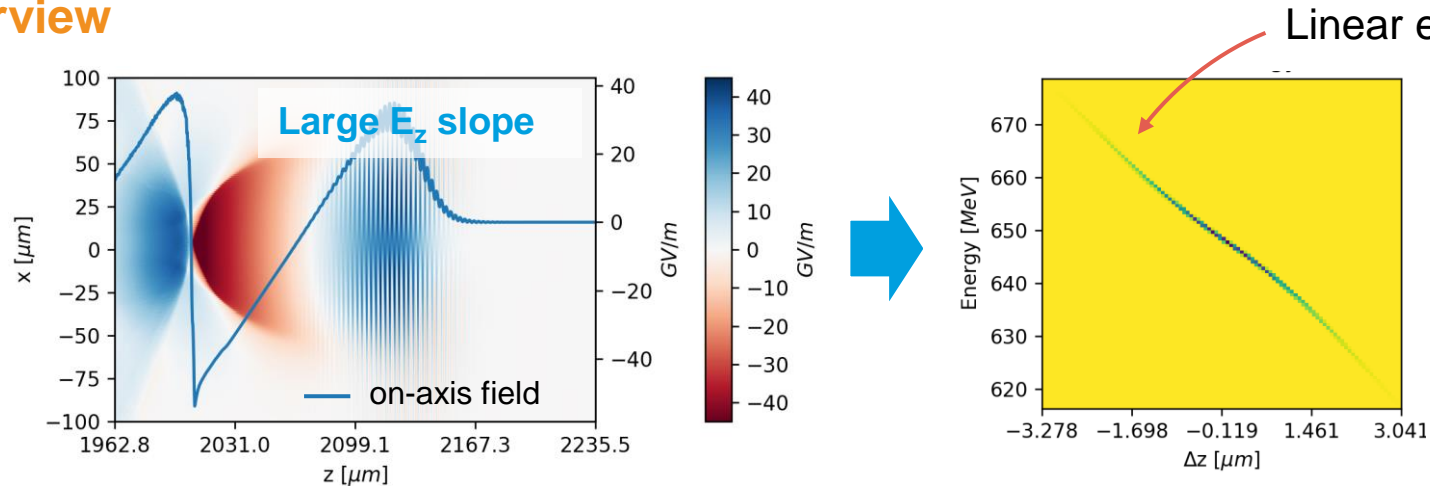
- **Horizon 2020 design study** for a **5 GeV** plasma accelerator **ready for applications** (mainly **FEL**).
- Project coordinator: **Ralph Assmann** (DESY).
- **European collaboration** of plasma-research groups, laser industry and international partners.
- Conceptual design report (**CDR**) submitted October 2019.
- Currently finalizing ESFRI roadmap application.



<http://www.eupraxia-project.eu/>

# Energy spread in plasma accelerators

## General overview



- Large **correlated energy spread**.
- Main source of energy spread (typically **1-10%**).

- Energy chirp can be mitigated through **beam loading** (beam can flatten  $E_z$  if peak current is large enough). [S. Van der Meer, 1985; T. Katsouleas, 1987]
- Several **other proposals** at the theoretical and experimental stage:
  - **Chirp compensation** [G. Manahan et al, 2017; R. Brinkmann et al, 2017]
  - **Beam stretching** [A. Maier et al, 2011; T. André et al, 2018].
  - **Plasma dechirper** [D'Arcy et al, 2019; V. Shpakov et al, 2019; Wu et al, 2019]
- Despite great progress, **no solution** has demonstrated required performance for FEL.

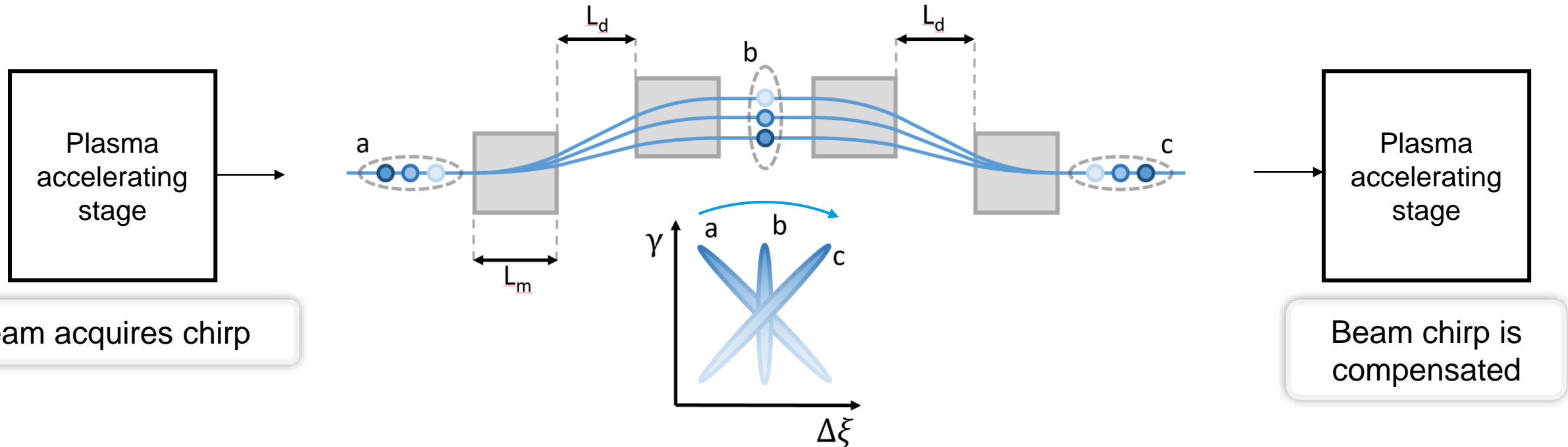
## Alternative idea:

**Taking advantage** of energy chirp to achieve beams with **ultra-low energy spread**

# An alternative approach

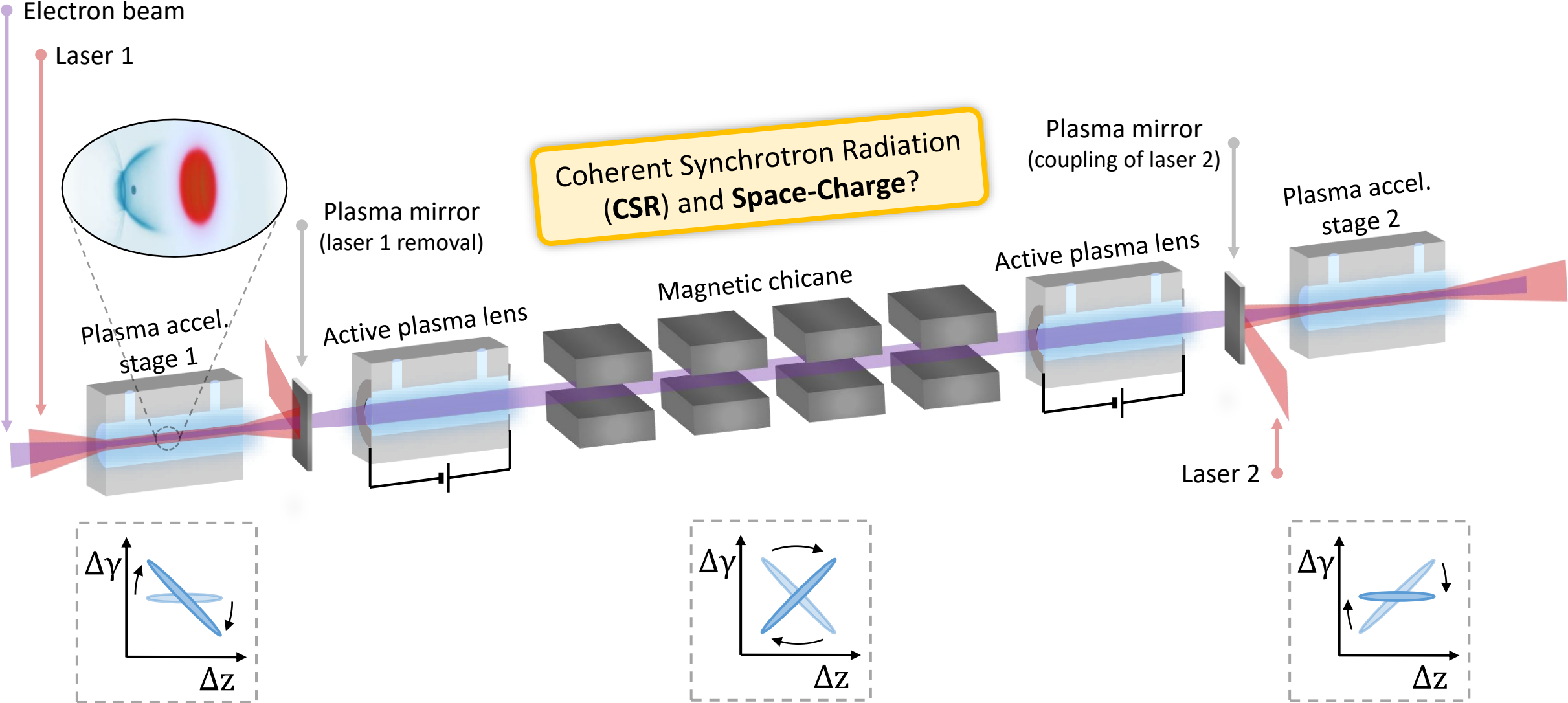
## Taking advantage of the energy chirp

- Energy chirp naturally occurs in plasma accelerators.
- Improves beam stability (hosing mitigation). [T. Mehrling et al., PRL, 2017; R. Lehe et al., PRL, 2017]
- Offers new possibilities for achieving low energy spread beams:



# New plasma-acceleration concept

## Acceleration in two stages with a magnetic chicane



# Potential issues

## CSR and SC in the chicane

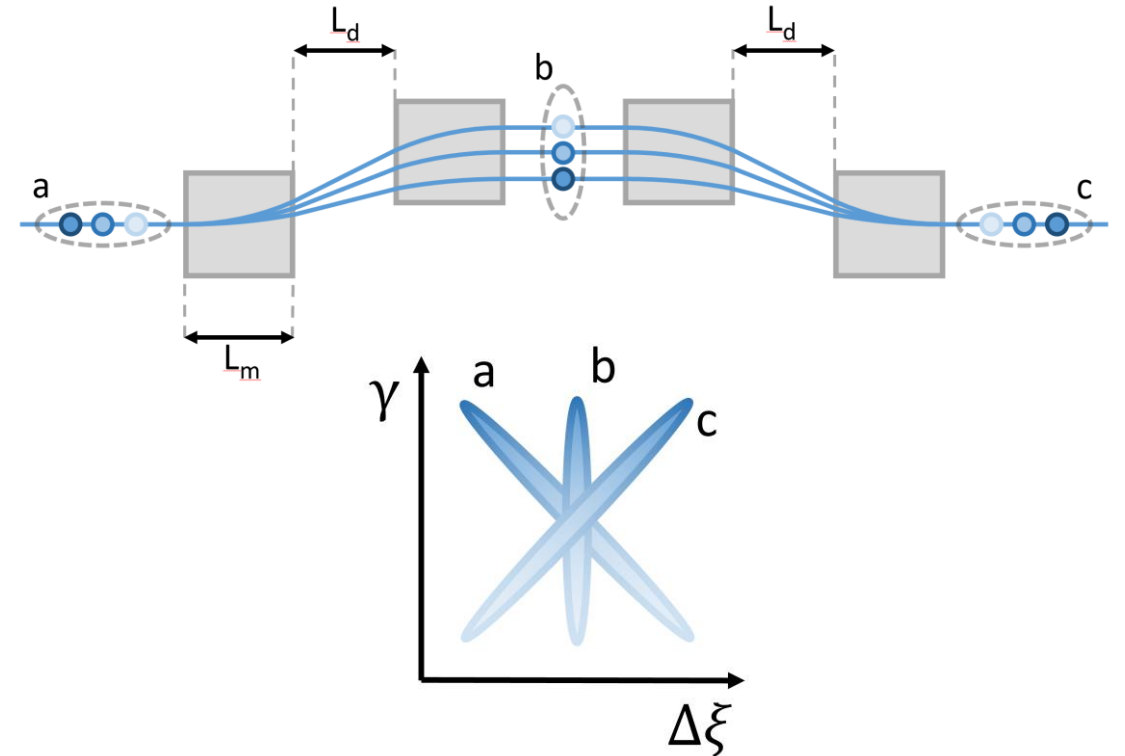
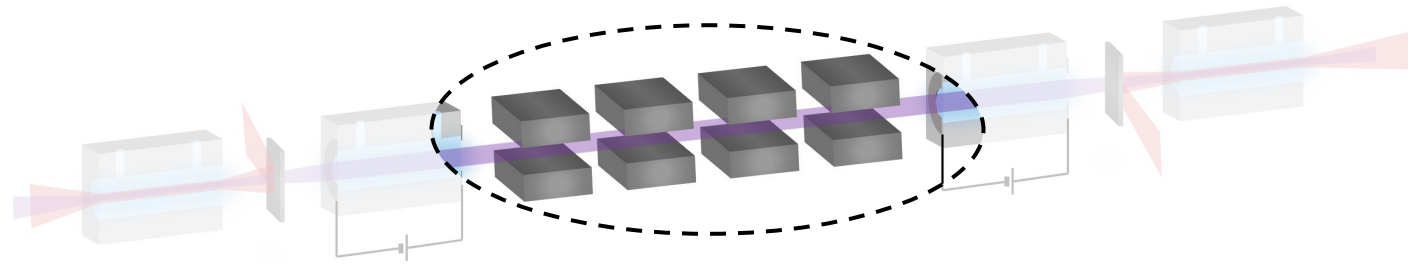
- Beam undergoes full compression  $\rightarrow$  SC?
- Bending in the dipoles  $\rightarrow$  CSR?

### Space charge

- **GeV energy**,  **$\sim 10$  pC charge** and **small distance** minimize its impact.
- Detailed studies with ASTRA show negligible impact.

### Coherent synchrotron radiation

- Very **small bending angle** is needed to invert the beam ( $\theta < 1^\circ$ ), thanks to the **large energy chirp**. **Compact chicane** possible.
- Detailed studies with CSRtrack show no negative impact on beam parameters.



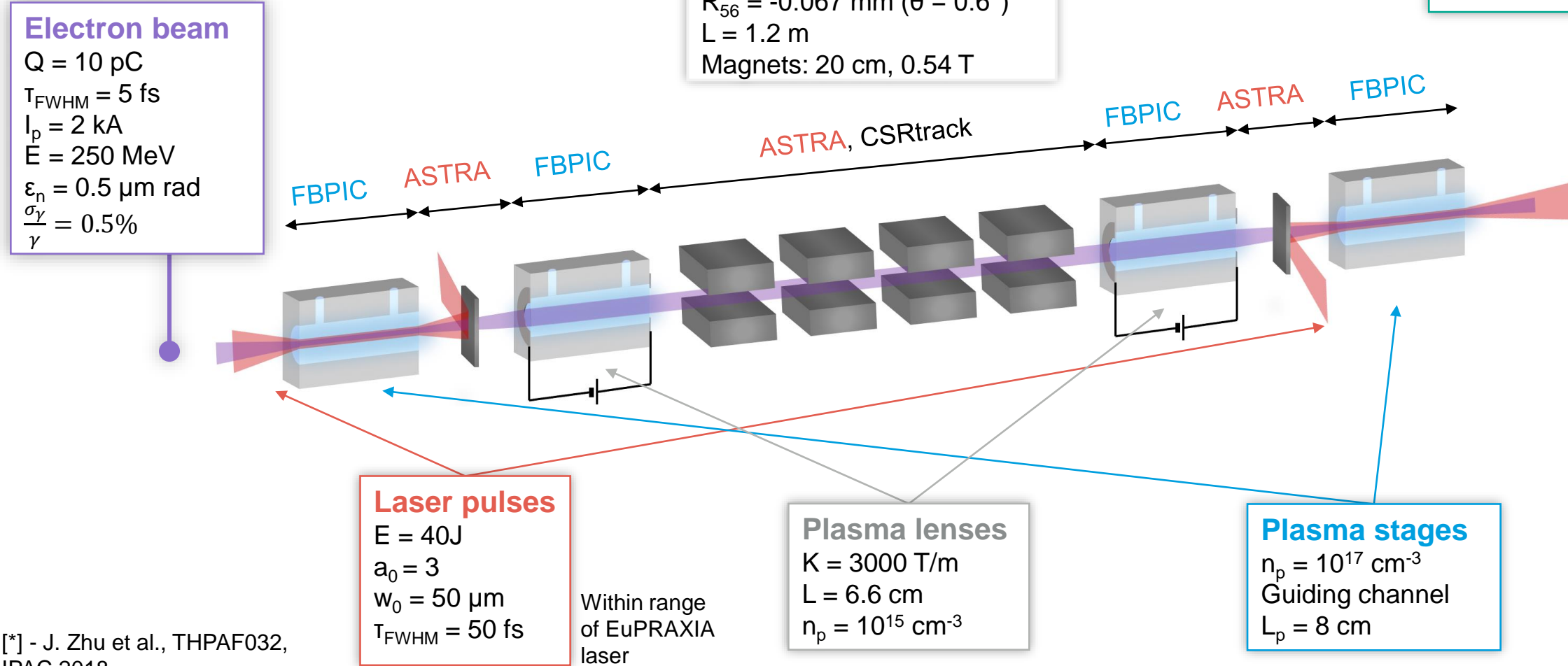
**Space charge** and **CSR** are **not an issue** for the considered parameter range



# Start-to-end simulations

## Beamline parameters for a 5 GeV accelerator

Based on simulations from J. Zhu for hypothetical 250 MeV ARES linac upgrade [\*]



**Electron beam**  
 $Q = 10 \text{ pC}$   
 $T_{\text{FWHM}} = 5 \text{ fs}$   
 $I_p = 2 \text{ kA}$   
 $E = 250 \text{ MeV}$   
 $\epsilon_n = 0.5 \text{ } \mu\text{m rad}$   
 $\frac{\sigma_y}{\gamma} = 0.5\%$

**Chicane**  
 $R_{56} = -0.067 \text{ mm } (\theta = 0.6^\circ)$   
 $L = 1.2 \text{ m}$   
 Magnets: 20 cm, 0.54 T

Not to scale.  
 Actual length  $\sim 1.5 \text{ m}$ .

**Laser pulses**  
 $E = 40 \text{ J}$   
 $a_0 = 3$   
 $w_0 = 50 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$   
 $T_{\text{FWHM}} = 50 \text{ fs}$

Within range of EuPRAXIA laser

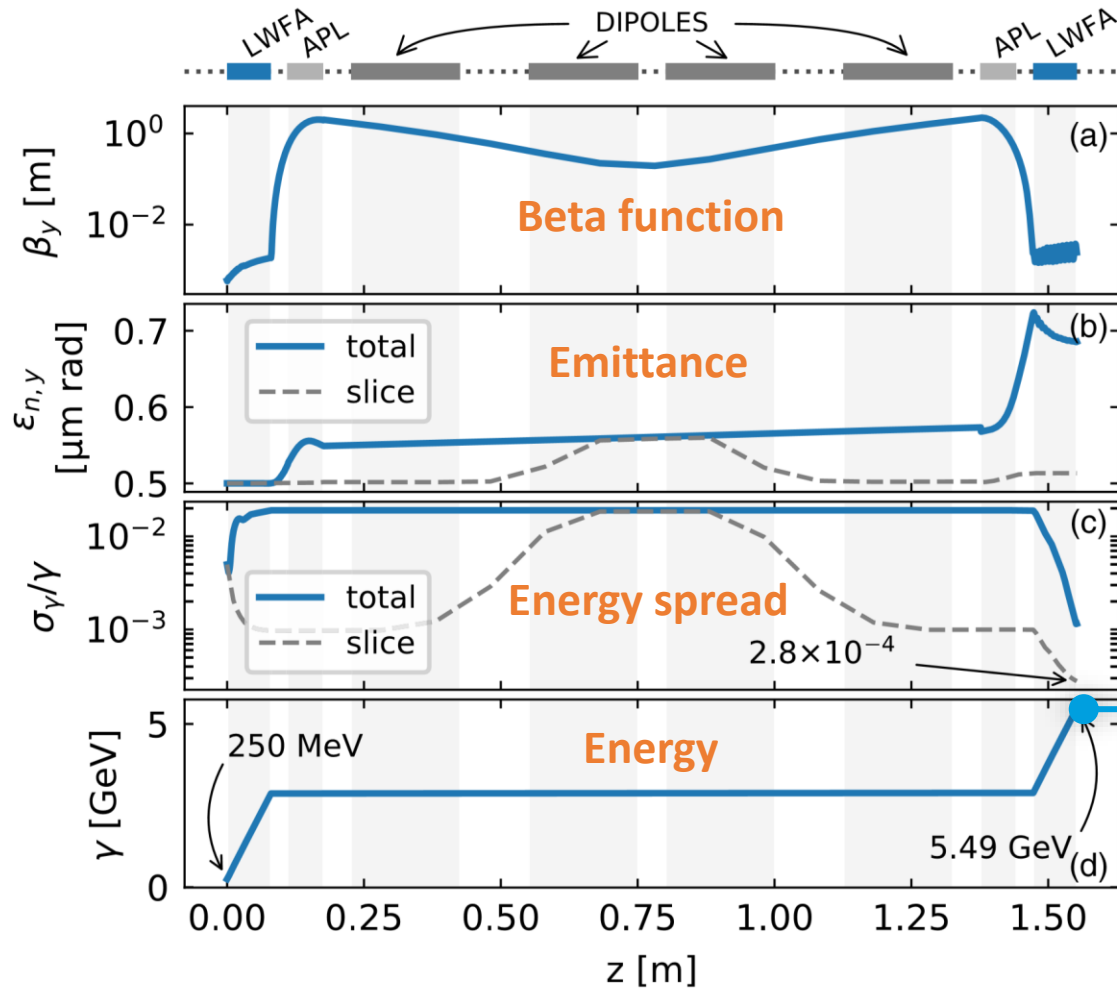
**Plasma lenses**  
 $K = 3000 \text{ T/m}$   
 $L = 6.6 \text{ cm}$   
 $n_p = 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

**Plasma stages**  
 $n_p = 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 Guiding channel  
 $L_p = 8 \text{ cm}$

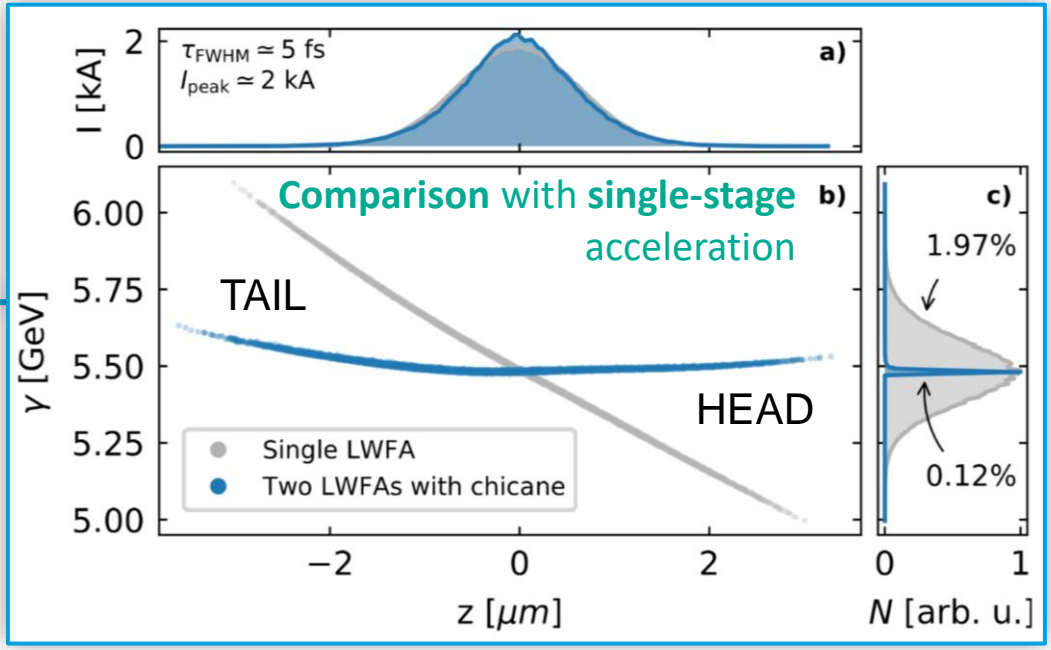
[\*] - J. Zhu et al., THPAF032, IPAC 2018

# Start-to-end simulations

## Results



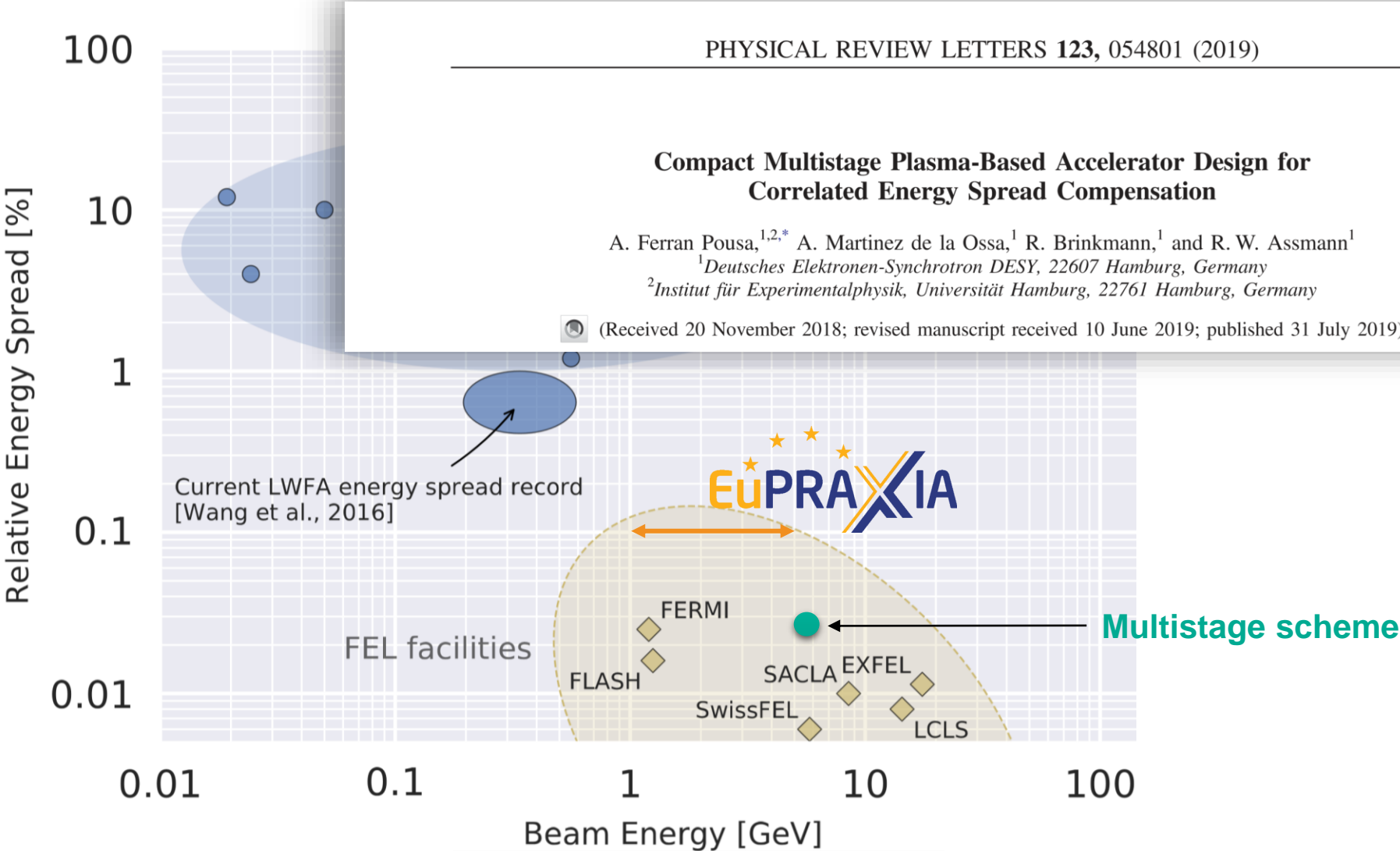
- Beam maintains **sub-micron emittance**.
- **Energy chirp** is **successfully compensated** in second stage.
- Final **energy spread**:
  - **0.12%** (total)
  - **0.028%** ( $2.8 \times 10^{-4}$ ) (0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  slice)
- Final energy of **5.5 GeV**. **FEL-range values**



**x20 reduction of energy spread**

# Comparison to current state-of-the art experiments

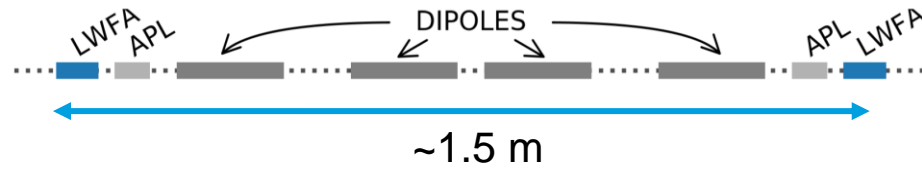
## Beam parameters reach FEL regime



# Conceptual design for EuPRAXIA

## Beyond first proof-of-principle simulations

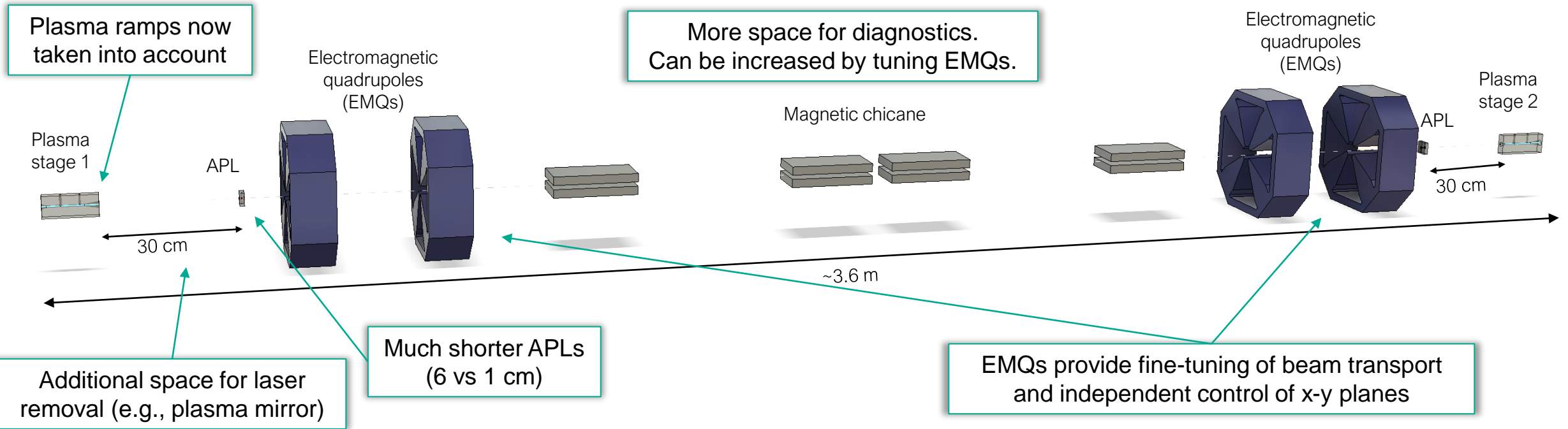
Proof-of-principle layout (to scale)



Very **compact** but:

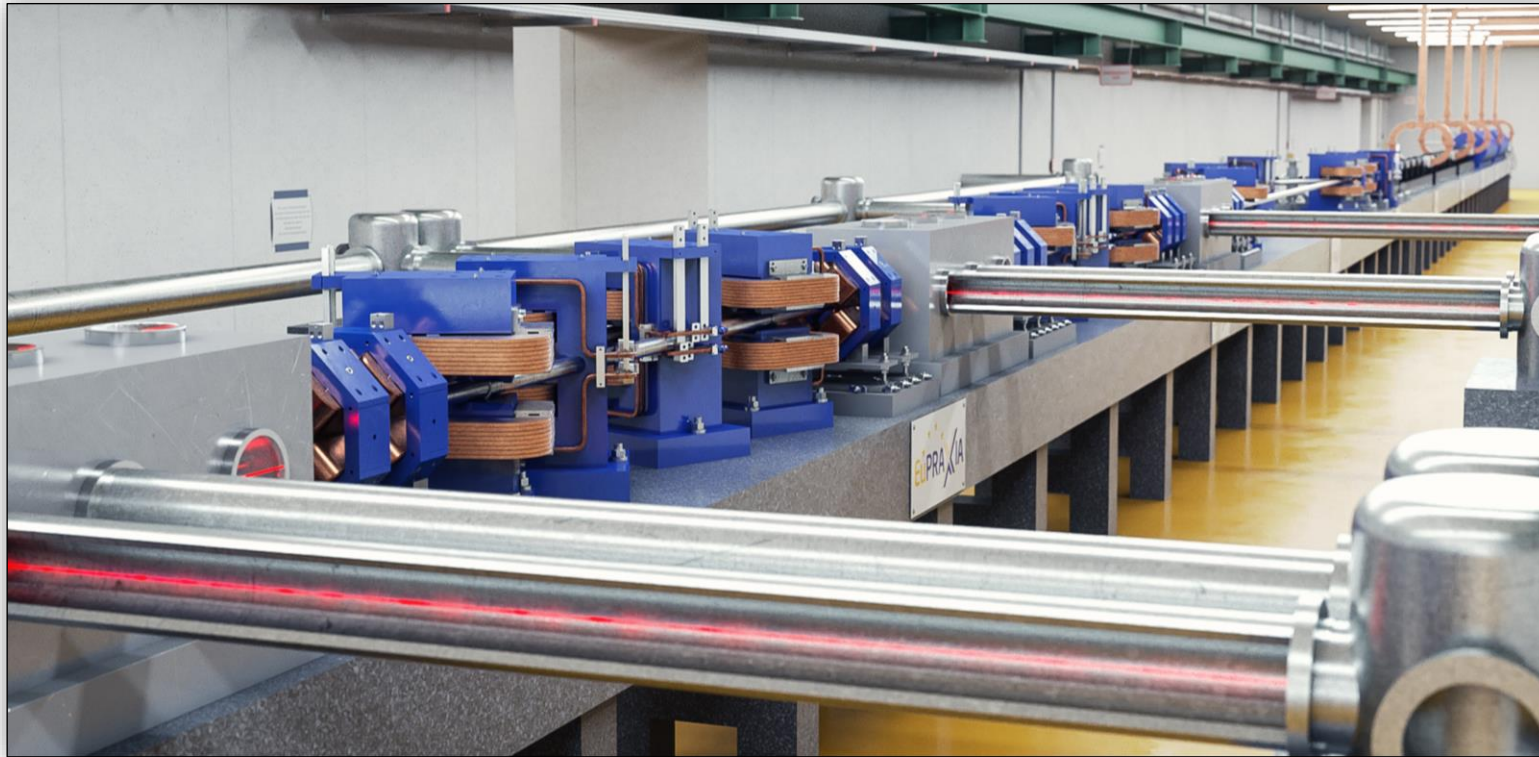
- Short drifts.
- No space for diagnostics.
- Beam transport relies only on APLs.
- ...

## Conceptual design for EuPRAXIA:



# Conceptual design for EuPRAXIA

Multistage acceleration chosen as baseline option



CDR: <http://www.eupraxia-project.eu/eupraxia-conceptual-design-report.html>

Multistage concept **chosen as a baseline option** in **EuPRAXIA CDR**

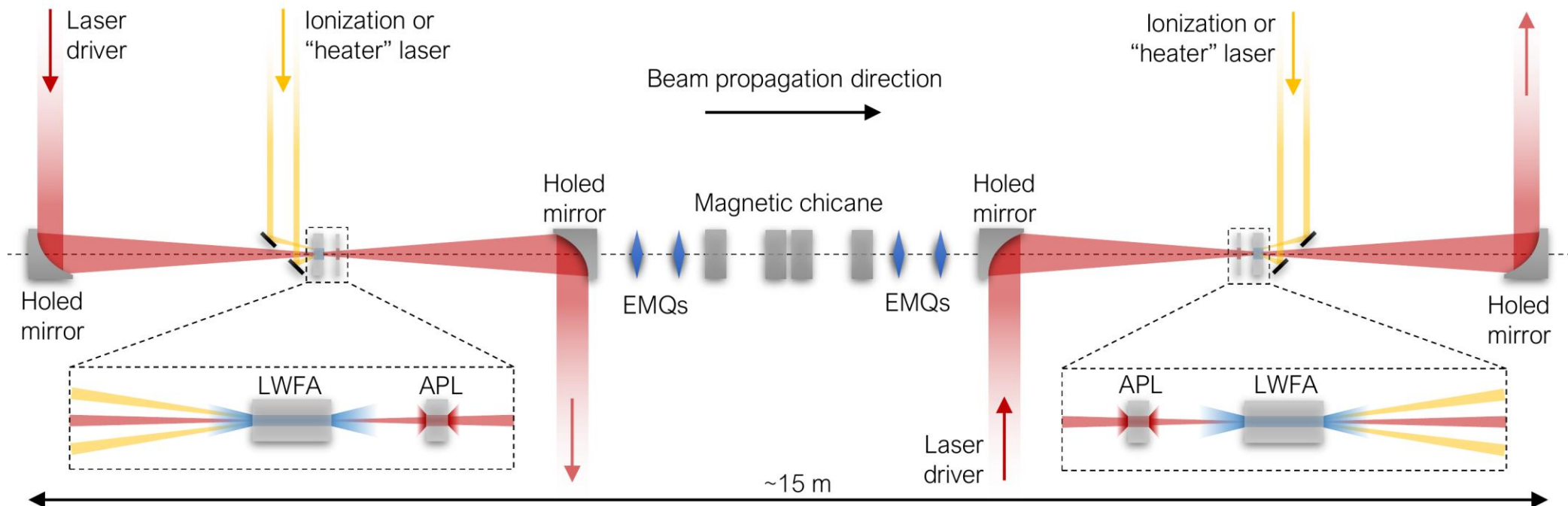
# Conceptual design of a 1 GeV beamline at SINBAD

## A lower energy design with current technology

- **1 GeV** beamline design with **5 J** (2x2.5 J) laser system.
- **11 pC** beam based on **ARES** parameters.
- Use **conventional** mirrors.
- More **realistic** plasma profiles based on fluid **simulations** [\*].

**Start-to-end simulations** show good performance:

- **1 GeV** energy.
- **sub-micron** emittance.
- **sub-percent** energy spread.
- **≤0.1%** slice energy spread.



# Conclusion

- This **multistage approach** to plasma acceleration provides a new path towards ultra-low energy spread.
- Could deliver **multi-GeV** beams with **sub-permille energy spread** and **sub-micron emittance**.
- Possible path towards **compact and cost-effective FELs**.
- Potential issues such as **CSR** and **space-charge** **do not have significant impact**.
- Chosen as **baseline option** for 5 GeV plasma-based FEL in the **EuPRAXIA CDR**.
- Conceptual designs at lower energy (1 GeV) and currently-available laser technology also possible.

**Thank you!**