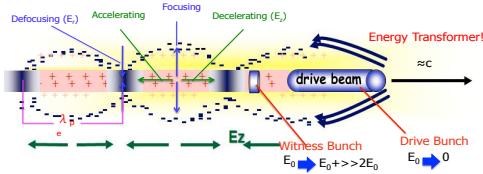
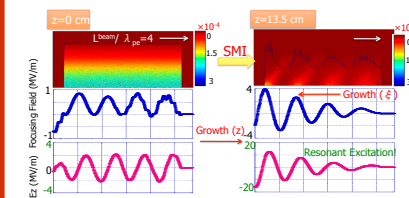


Plasma Wakefield Accelerator (PWFA)

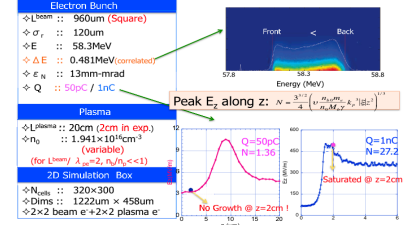


- PWFA requires high-energy (TeV) and short drive beam (~100um)!
- High energy bunch available at CERN, but too long (~12cm)
- SMI could modulate long bunches into small ones

Self Modulation Instability (SMI)

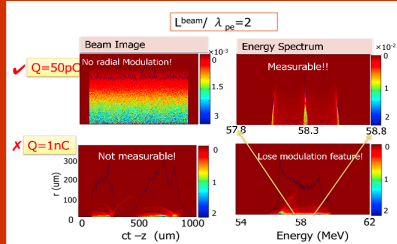


- Initial Noise: initial E_z field, Driven Force: Focusing field
- Demonstrated by simulation, by never by experiments yet!
- No diagnostics to measure directly the radial modulation
- Energy modulation is measurable, and is the seed for radial modulation



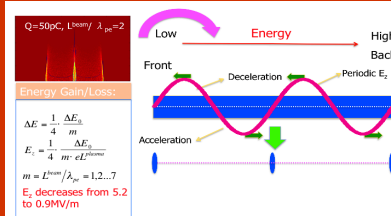
- At $z=2\text{cm}$: $Q=50\text{pC}$ has no SMI growth
- $Q=1\text{nC}$ reaches the saturation of SMI

Simulation



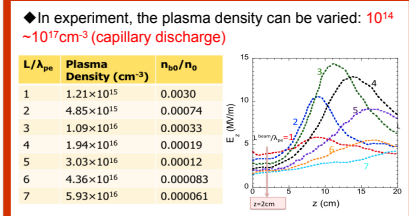
- $Q=50\text{pC}$ is chosen in the experiment due to the energy modulation feature!

Simple Model



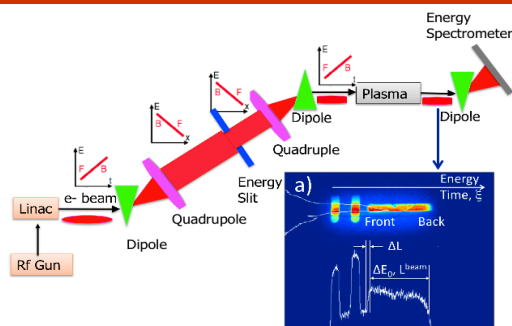
- The energy beamlets are formed when the energy gain/loss is small compared to the initial energy spread of the beam $\rightarrow Q=50\text{pC}$
- $L_{\text{beam}}/\lambda_{pe} \uparrow \rightarrow E_z \downarrow$

Simulation

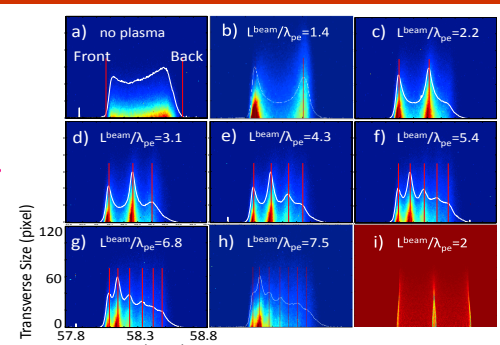
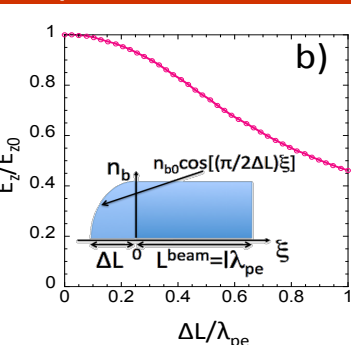


- ◆ In experiment, the plasma density can be varied: $10^{14} \sim 10^{17}\text{cm}^{-3}$ (capillary discharge)
- ◆ At $z=2\text{cm}$, no SMI growth for various plasma densities
- ◆ Initial E_z decreases with n_0 , ranging between $4\text{--}1.2\text{MV/m}$, as desired for the energy modulation to be visible.
- ◆ Consistent with linear theory calculation

Experimental Data



- Large $\Delta L/\lambda_{pe} \rightarrow$ less rapid current rise \rightarrow lower initial $E_z \rightarrow$ slower saturation
- In the experiment, $\Delta L/\lambda_{pe} < 0.3 \rightarrow E_z/E_{z0} > 0.9 \rightarrow$ well seeded instability



- Fringes visible when $n_e \uparrow \rightarrow E_z \downarrow$ when $n_e \downarrow$ as predicted by simulations
- Good agreement between simulation and experimental results

Conclusion

- ◆ Simulations show the 50pC ATF beam is subject to periodic energy modulation at 2cm propagation distance, which is an important evidence of SMI seeding.
- ◆ Simulations show that SMI does not grow significantly over the 2cm plasma for 50pC ATF beam
- ◆ Experiment demonstrates the first observation of SMI seeding through energy modulation
- ◆ Simulations show well-seeded instability in the experiments