

TOWARDS PLASMA-ACCELERATION FOR COLLIDERS: **STAGING OF PLASMA ACCELERATORS**

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HELMHOLTZ
RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES

ACCELERATORS FOR HIGH ENERGY PHYSICS

- > High-energy physics demand higher energy and lower cost:
 - > *Solution:* Plasma accelerators — significantly higher acceleration gradients.
- > Simultaneously, particle colliders have strict demands for luminosity:

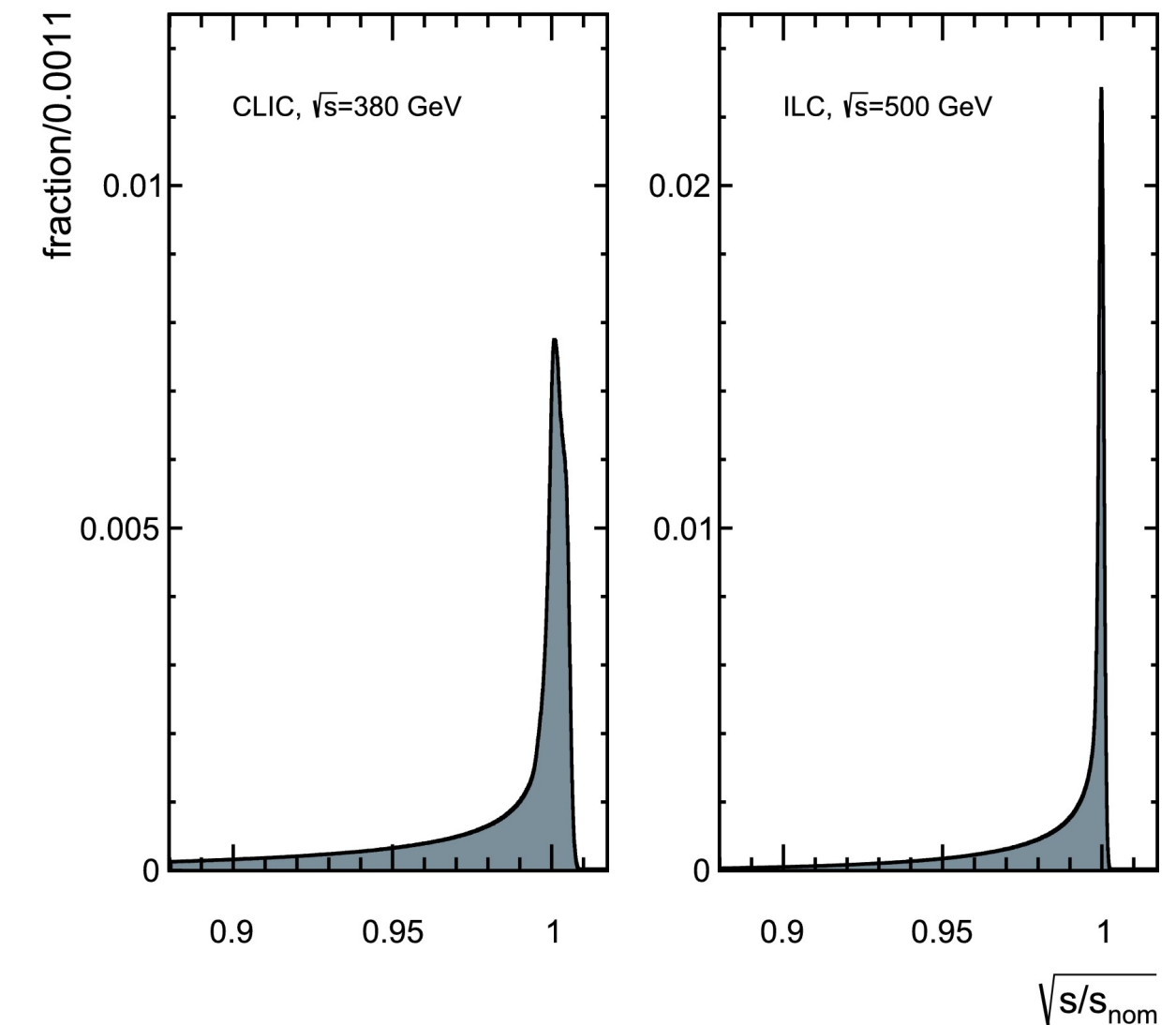
$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{H_D}{8\pi m_e c^2} \frac{P_{\text{wall}}}{\sqrt{\beta_x \beta_y}} \frac{\eta N}{\sqrt{\epsilon_{nx} \epsilon_{ny}}}$$

High repetition rate → P_{wall}

High energy efficiency → η

Low energy spread (luminosity spectrum, final focusing) → $\beta_x \beta_y$

Low emittance High stability → $\epsilon_{nx} \epsilon_{ny}$



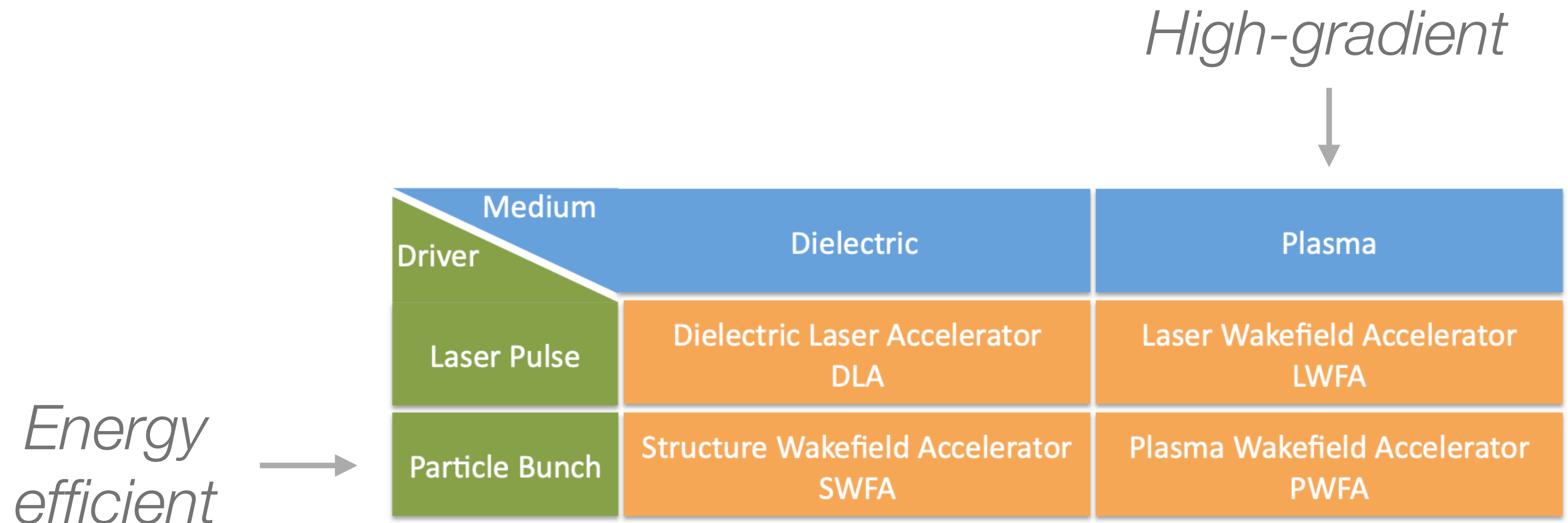
Luminosity distribution across collision energies.
Source: M. Boronat *et al.*, Phys. Lett. B 804, 135353 (2020).

$$\eta = \eta_{\text{wall} \rightarrow \text{DB}} \times \eta_{\text{DB} \rightarrow \text{WB}}$$

↑
Beam-drivers are orders of magnitude more efficient than laser-drivers (for now)

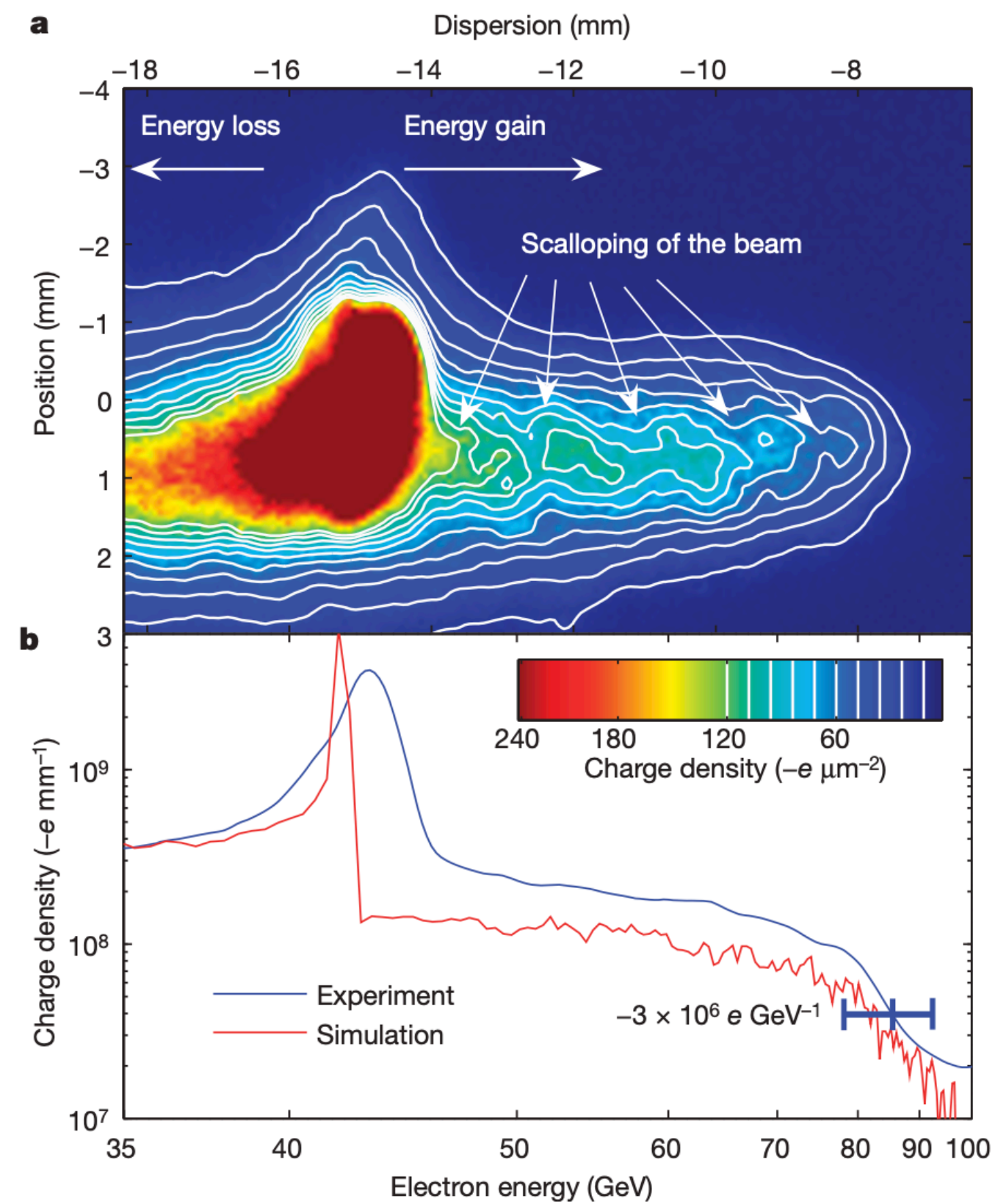
- > Energy efficiency motivates use of beam-driven plasma acceleration.

THE COLLIDER CHOICE: BEAM-DRIVEN PLASMA ACCELERATION



Source: Cros & Muggli et al., ANAR Roadmap 2017

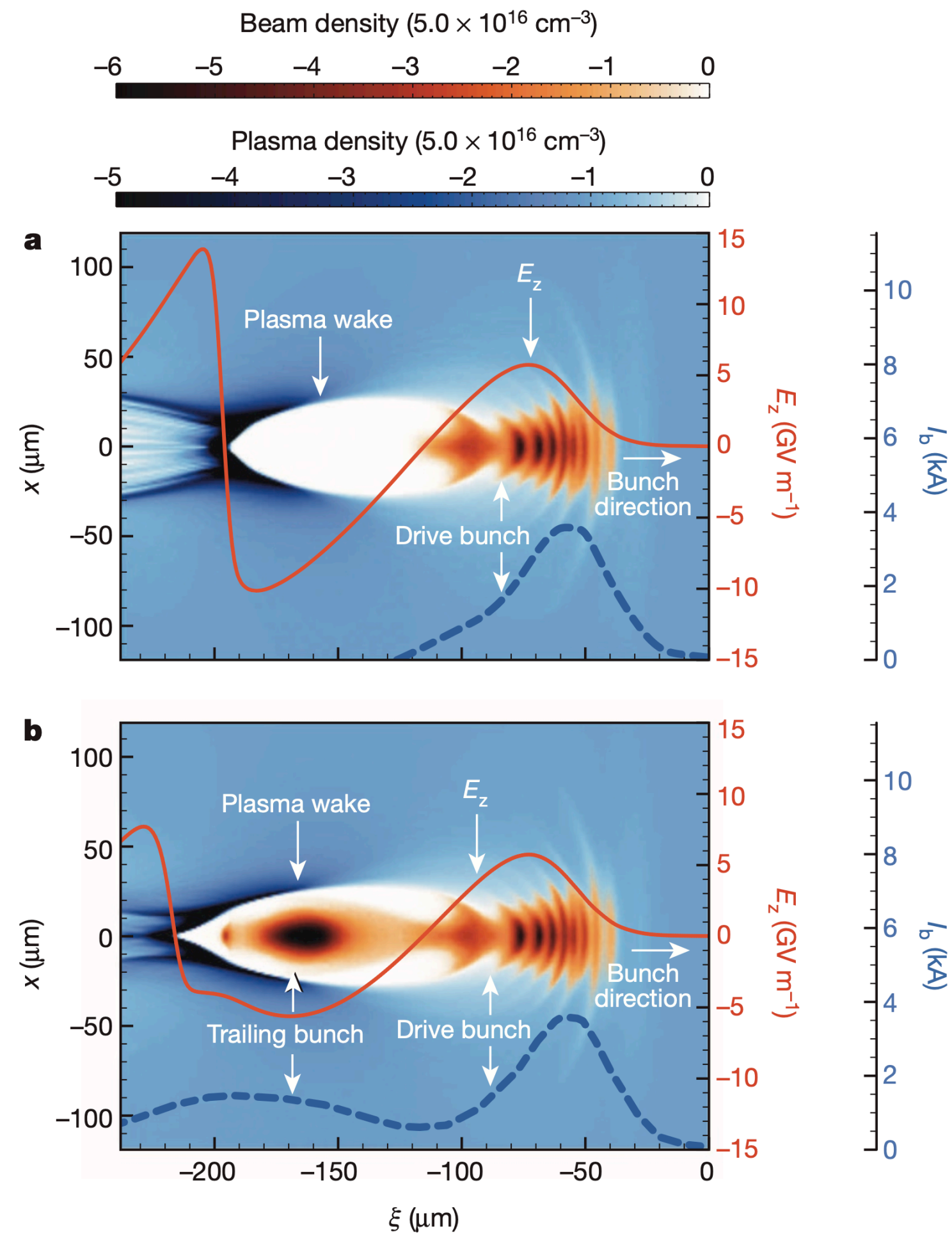
STATUS QUO IN PLASMA-WAKEFIELD ACCELERATION: HIGH GRADIENTS



Energy doubling from 42 GeV to 85 GeV in a PWFA at SLAC (FFTfB).

Source: Blumenfeld et al. Nature 445, 741 (2007).

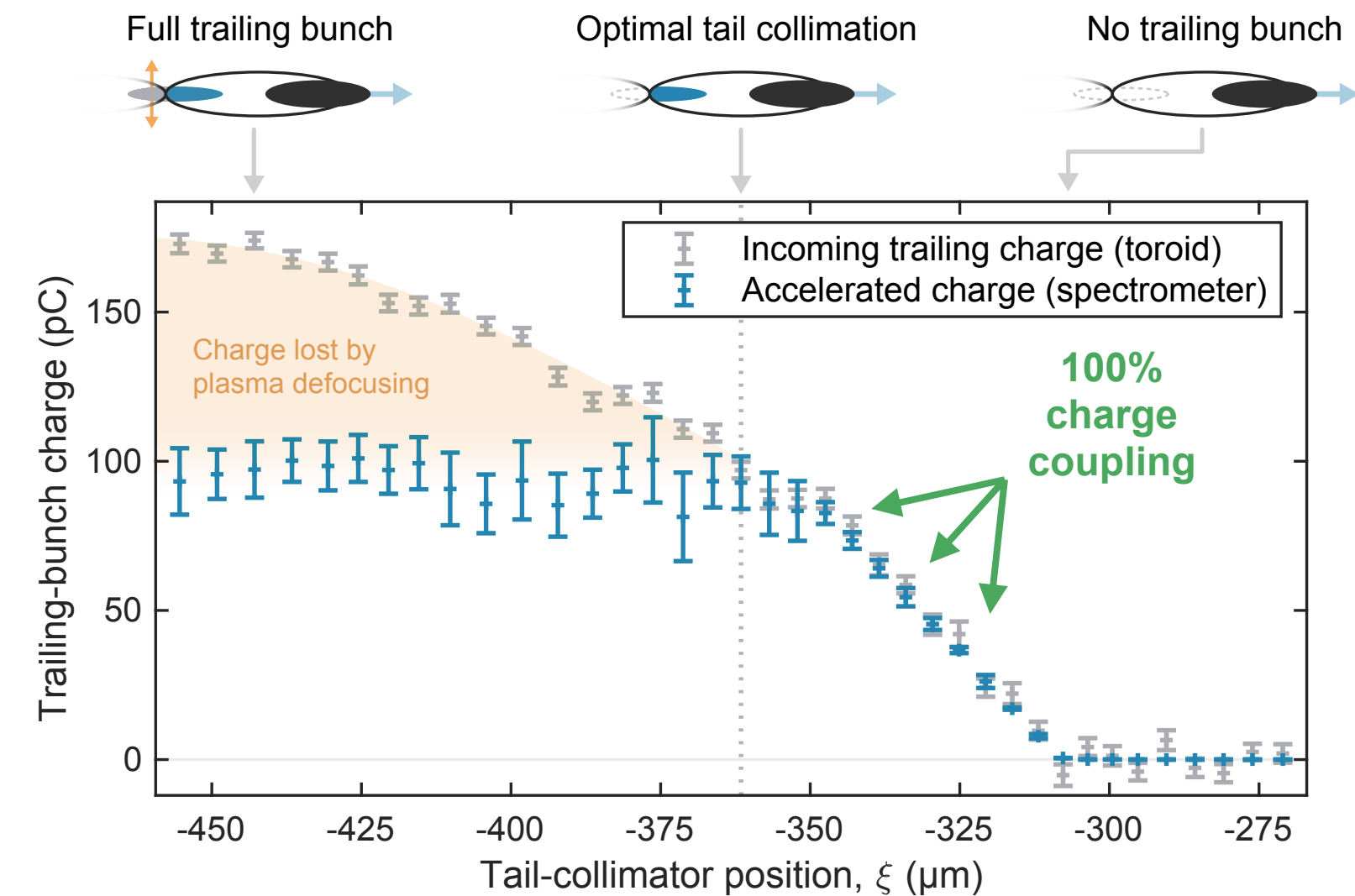
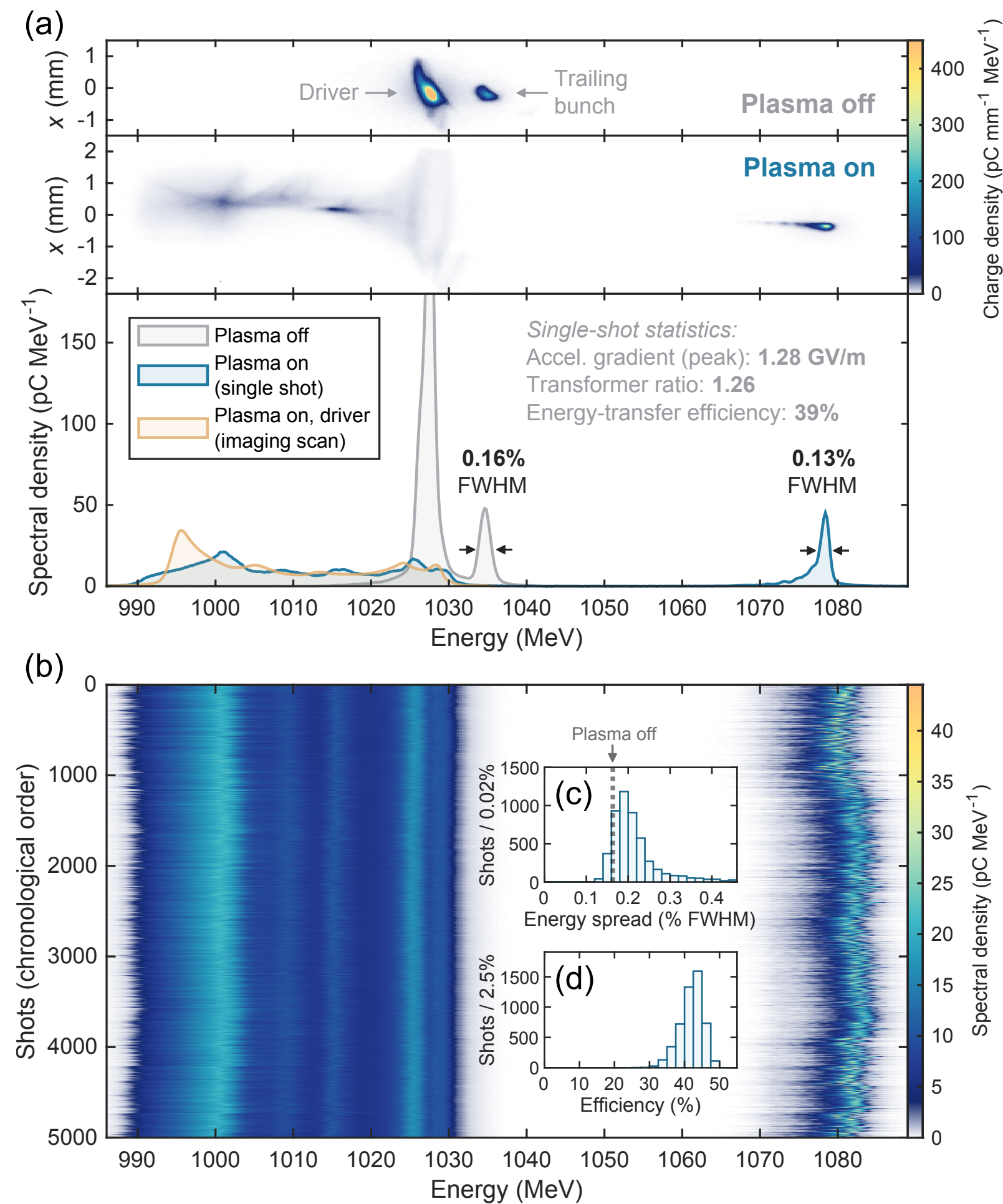
STATUS QUO IN PLASMA-WAKEFIELD ACCELERATION: HIGH EFFICIENCY



Experimental demonstration of up to 30% energy efficiency at FACET, SLAC.

Image credit: M. Litos et al., Nature 515, 92 (2014)

STATUS QUO IN PLASMA-WAKEFIELD ACCELERATION: BEAM QUALITY



Preservation of 100-pC-level charge, at FLASHForward.

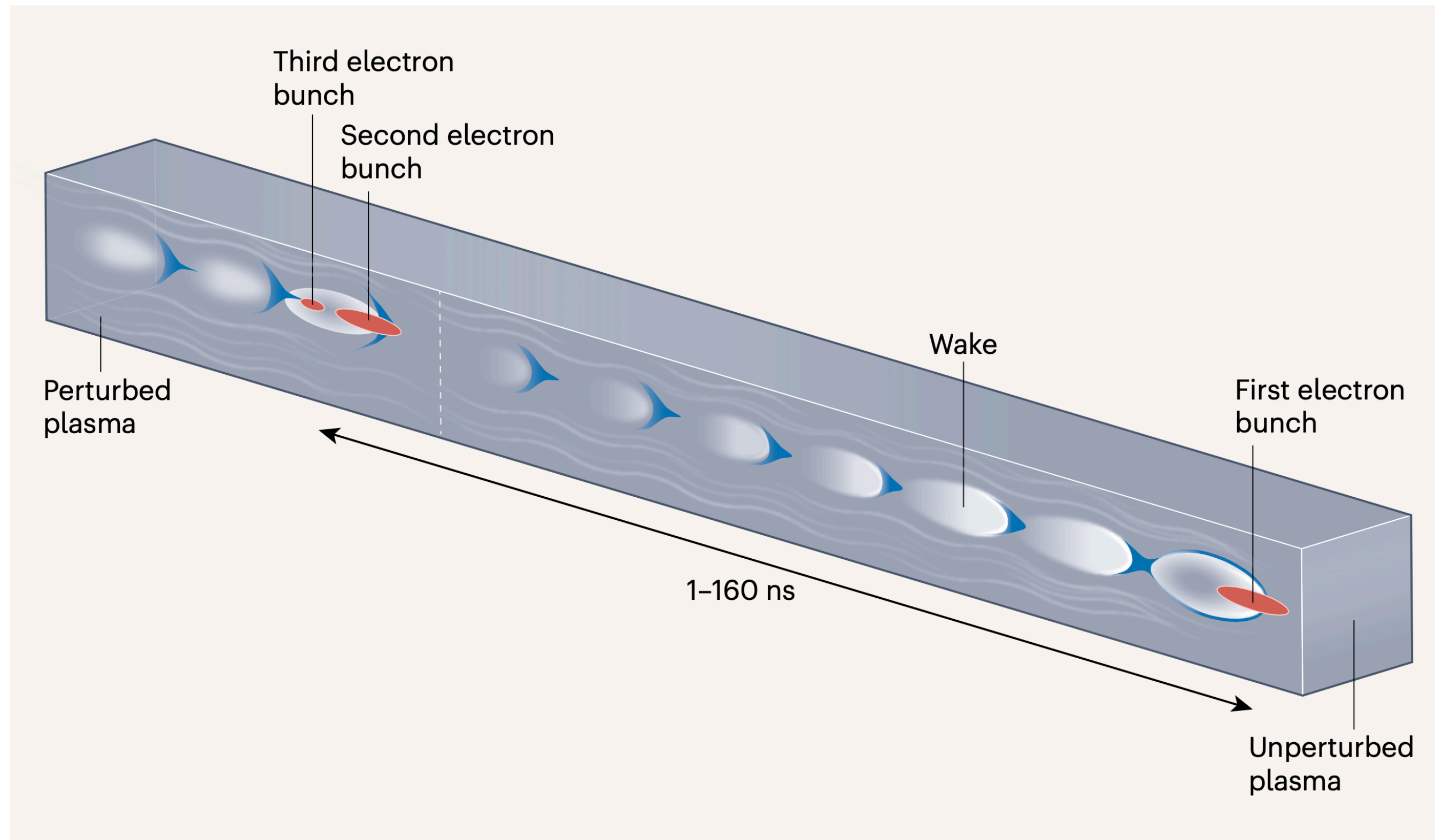
Image credit: C. A. Lindstrøm *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 014801 (2021)

...and emittance?
 (we're on it!)

Preservation of 0.1%-level energy spreads, at FLASHForward.

Image credit: C. A. Lindstrøm *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 014801 (2021)

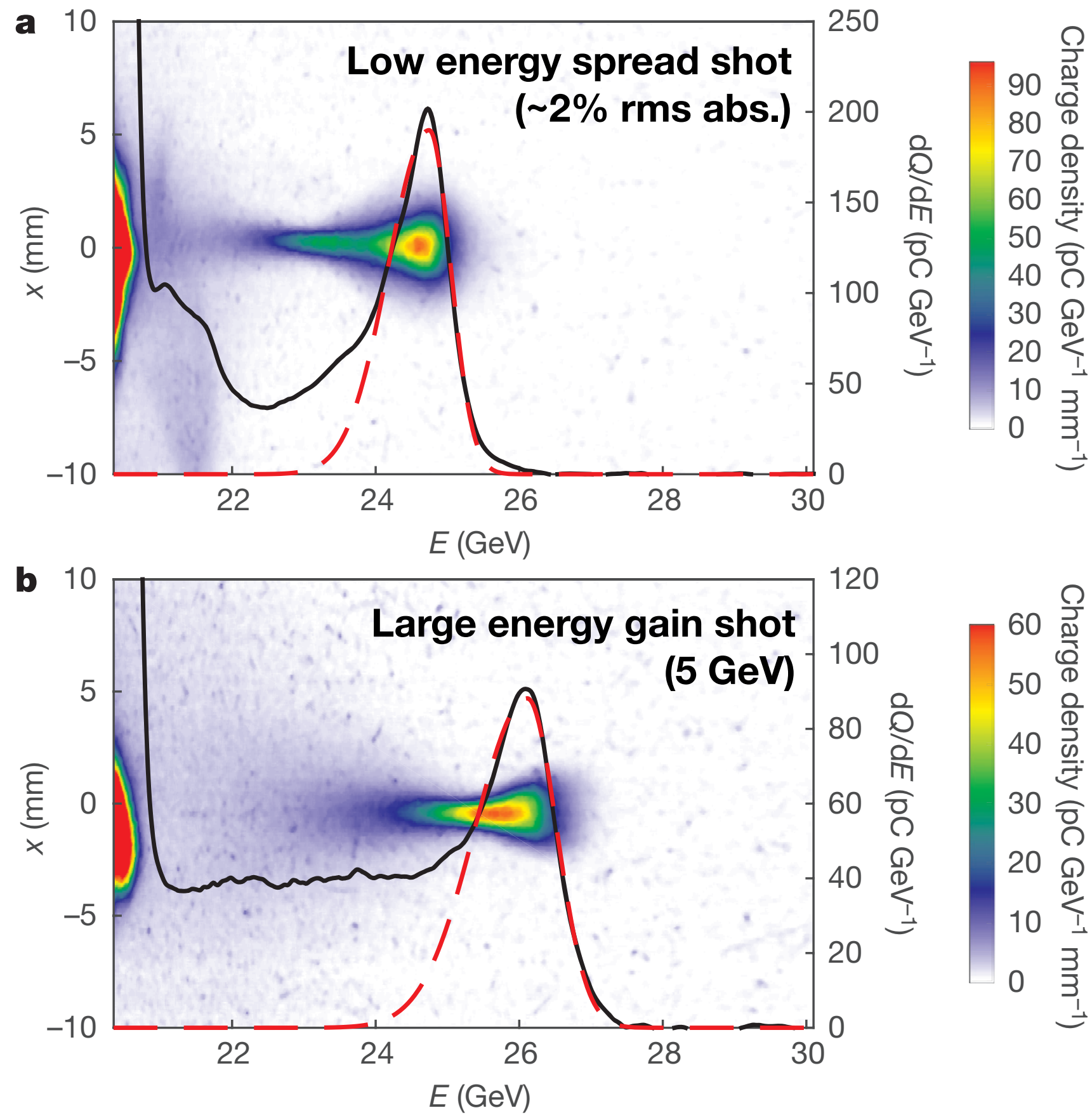
Published in Nature **TODAY!**



Potential for multi-MHz repetition rates demonstrated experimentally at FLASHForward.

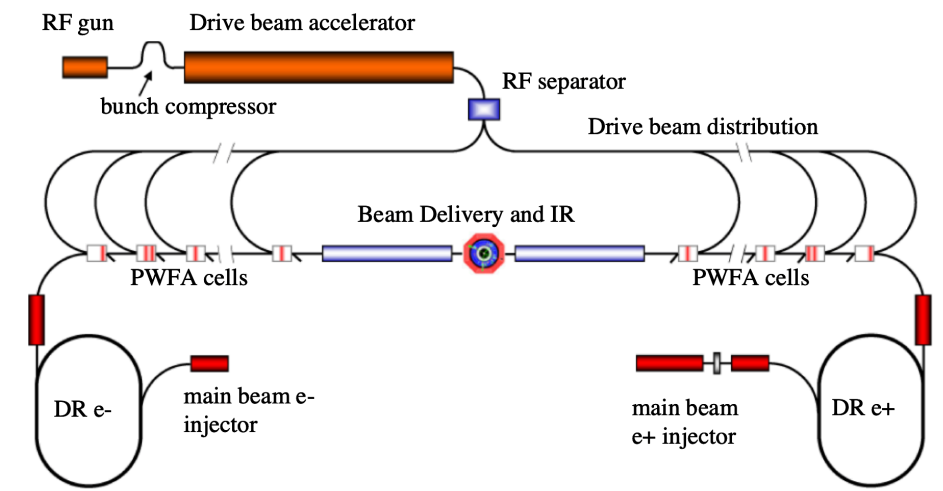
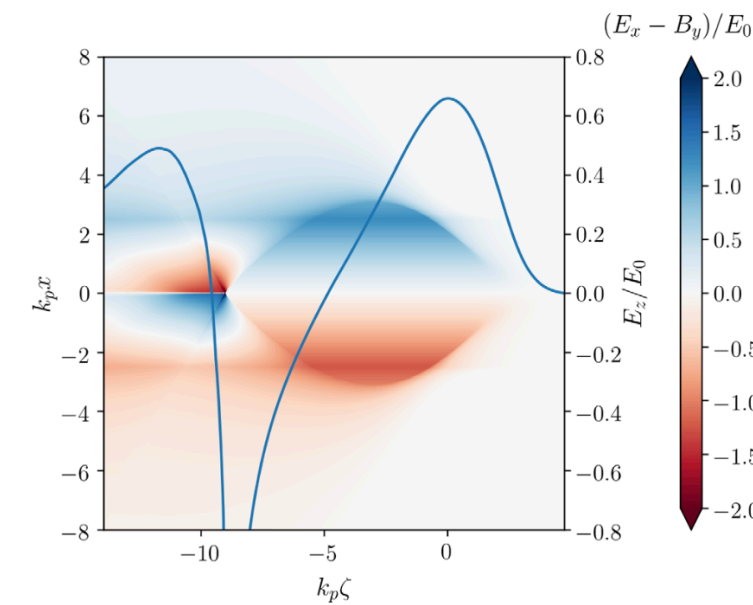
Source: [R. D'Arcy et. Nature 603, 58 \(2022\)](#)

STATUS QUO IN PLASMA-WAKEFIELD ACCELERATION: POSITRONS



GV/m gradient acceleration of positrons at FACET, SLAC.
Image credit: S. Corde *et al.*, Nature 524, 442 (2015)

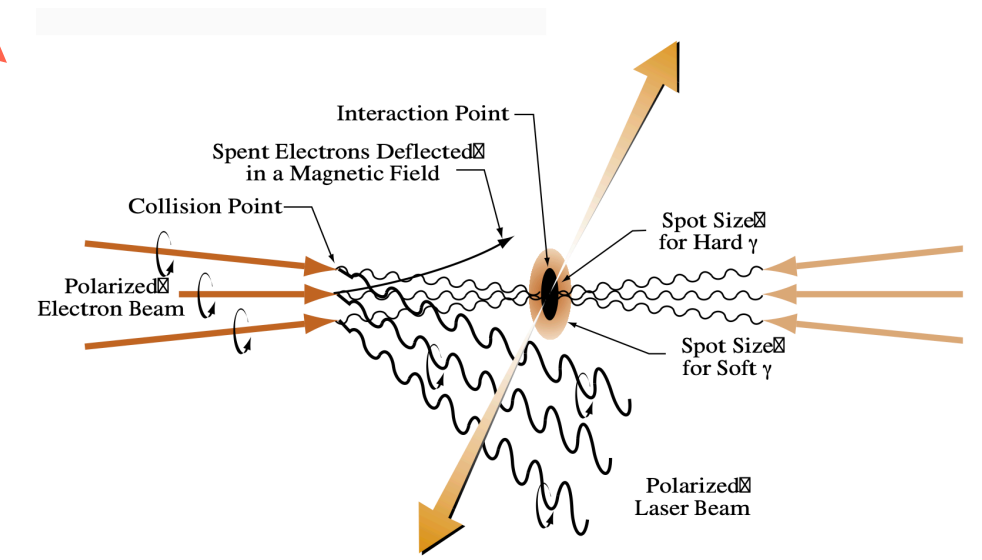
Evolution



Strawman design of a plasma collider.
Source: Pei *et al.*, Proc. PAC'2009 (2009), p. 2682.

If successful (e^+e^- collider)

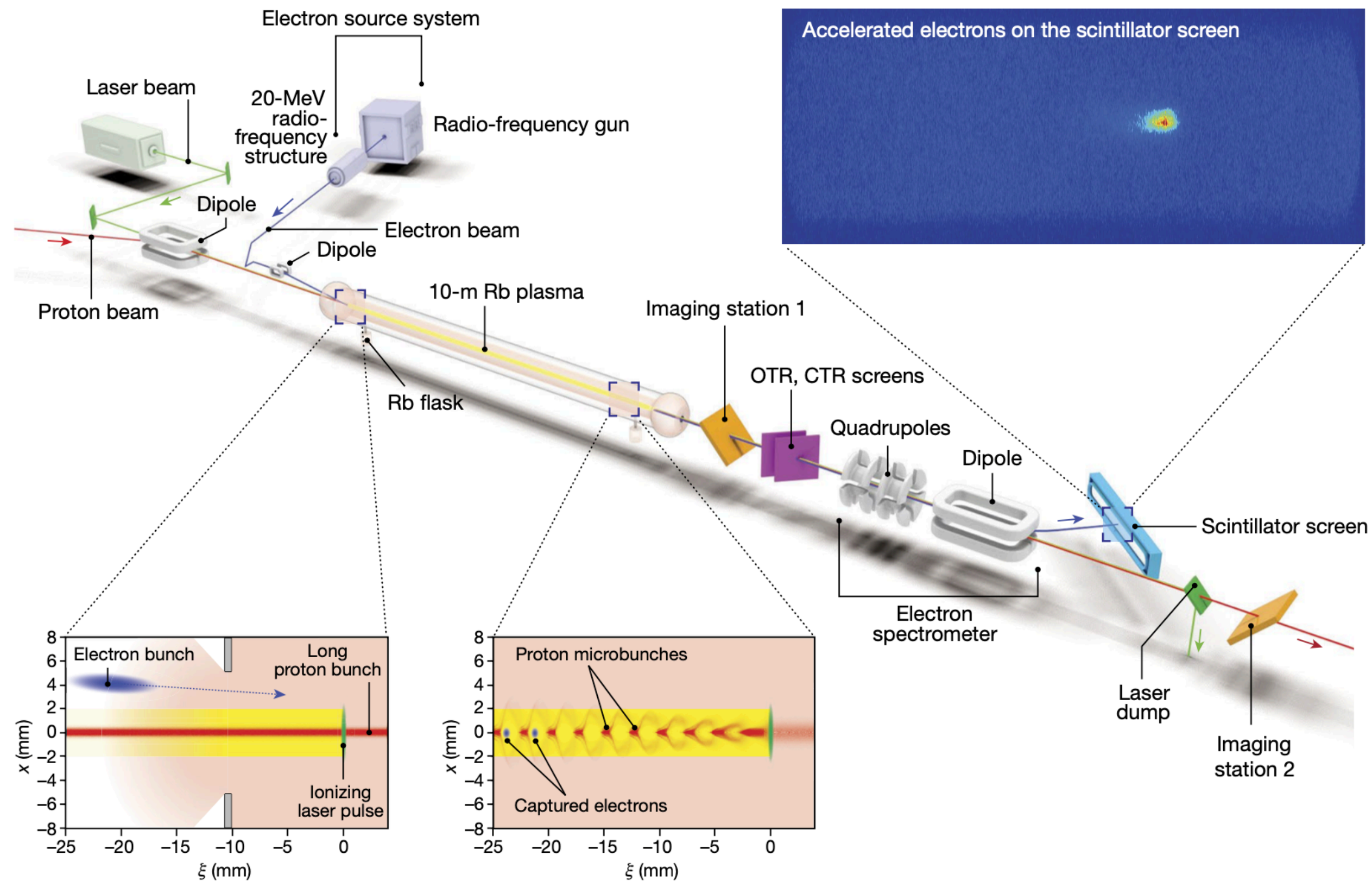
If unsuccessful ($\gamma-\gamma$ collider)



Gamma-gamma interaction.
Source: Kim & Sessler (1996)

REACHING VERY HIGH ENERGY — BUT HOW?

REACHING VERY HIGH ENERGY: IN ONE STAGE?

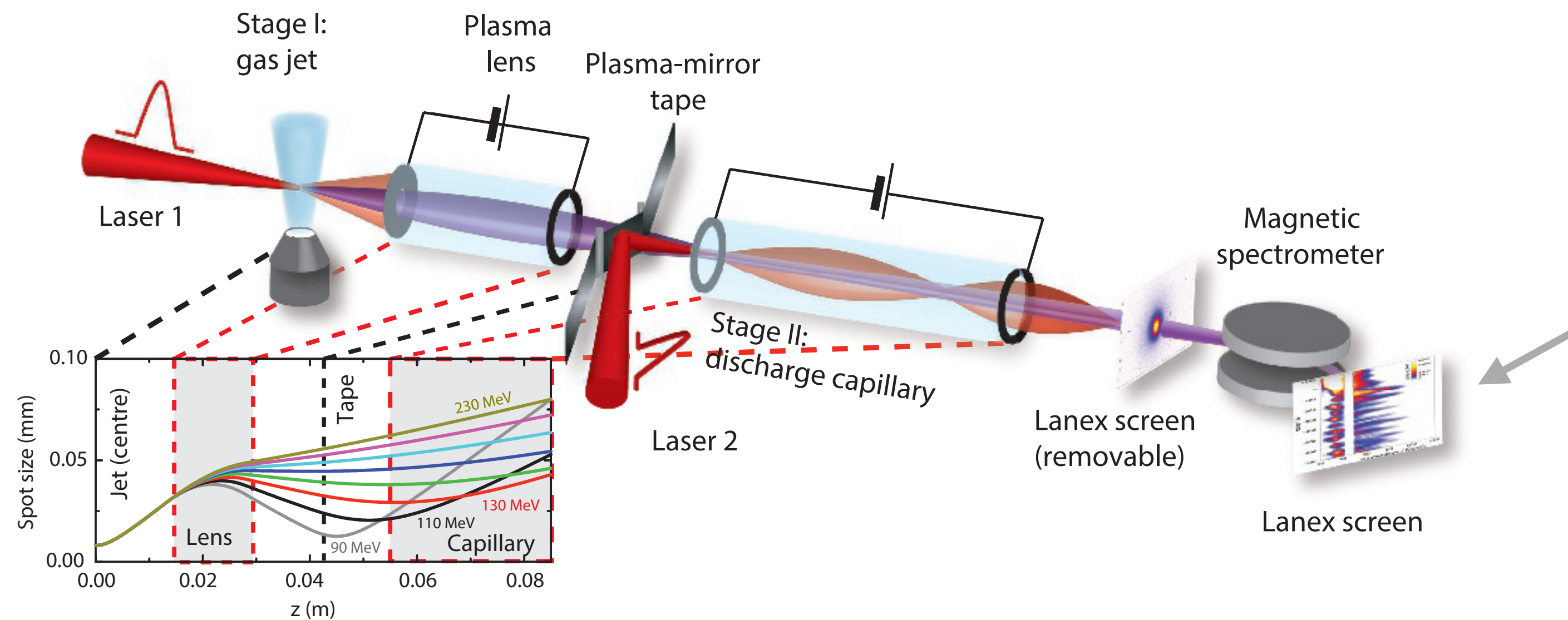


Major problems:
Repetition rate
Energy efficiency

Plasma accelerator driven by 400 GeV protons from SPS, at CERN's AWAKE experiment.

Source: Adli et al. Nature 561, 363 (2018).

REACHING VERY HIGH ENERGY: IN MULTIPLE STAGES?



Problem:
Only ~3.5% of the charge survived

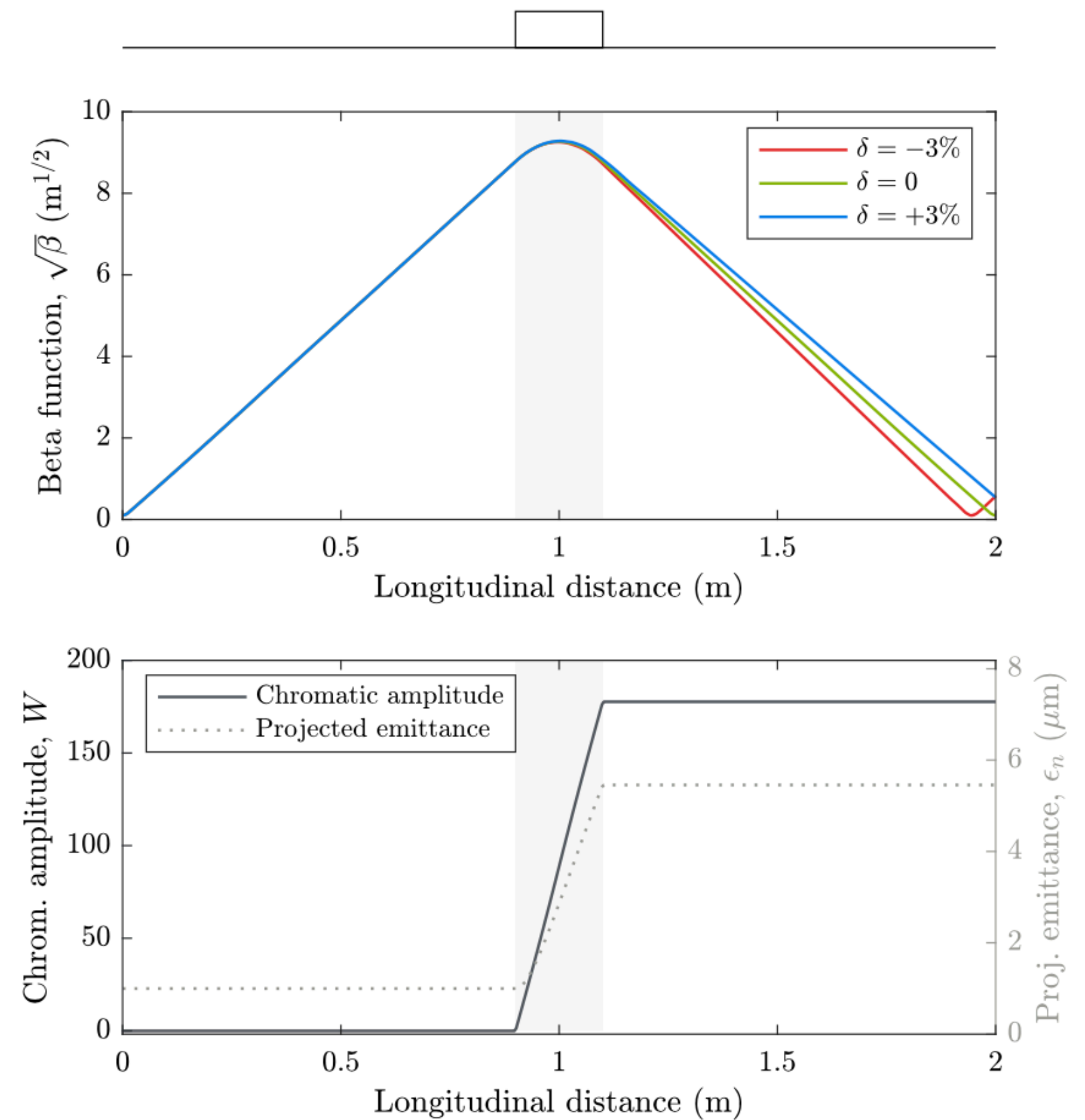
Proof-of-principle demonstration of staging at LBNL (laser driven).

Image source: Steinke et al., Nature 530, 190 (2016).

MAIN CHALLENGES WITH STAGING

Review: **C. A. Lindstrøm, Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 24, 014801 (2021)**

- > Staging is nontrivial for four reasons:
 - > **In- and out-coupling of drivers**
 - > **Emittance growth from chromatic mismatching**
 - > **Synchronization**
 - > **Compactness**
- > **Chromaticity is particularly challenging** in plasma accelerators because they typically operate with:
 - > High-divergence
 - > Large/finite energy-spread beams.
- > Several staging designs exist, but **none so far preserve the charge and emittance** such that a large number of stages is feasible.



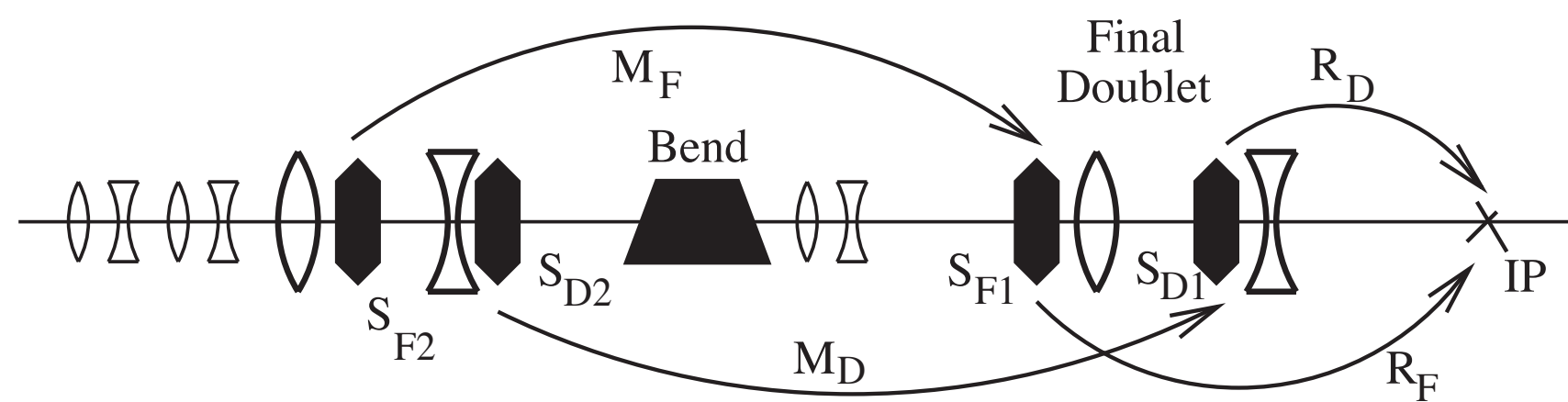
Projected emittance growth due to unequal focusing of different energies (i.e., chromaticity).

Image source: Lindstrøm, Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 24, 014801 (2021)

(1) **Achromatic staging with
nonlinear plasma lenses**

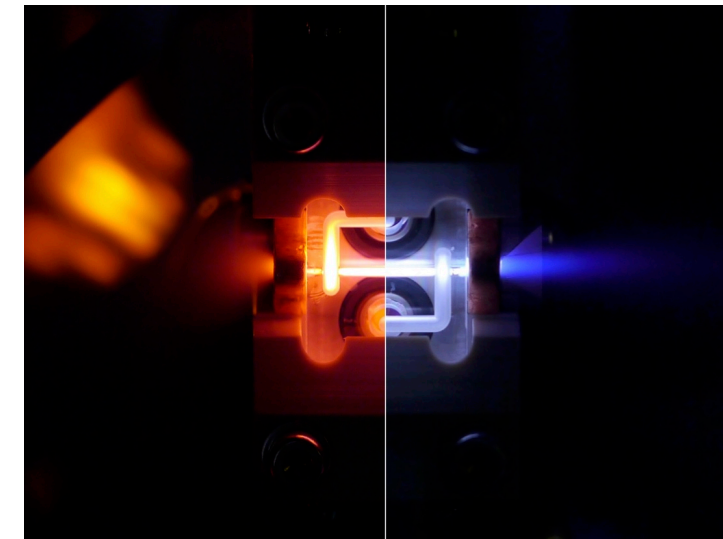
(2) Self-correction mechanism
in longitudinal phase space

TRANSVERSELY TAPERED PLASMA LENSES

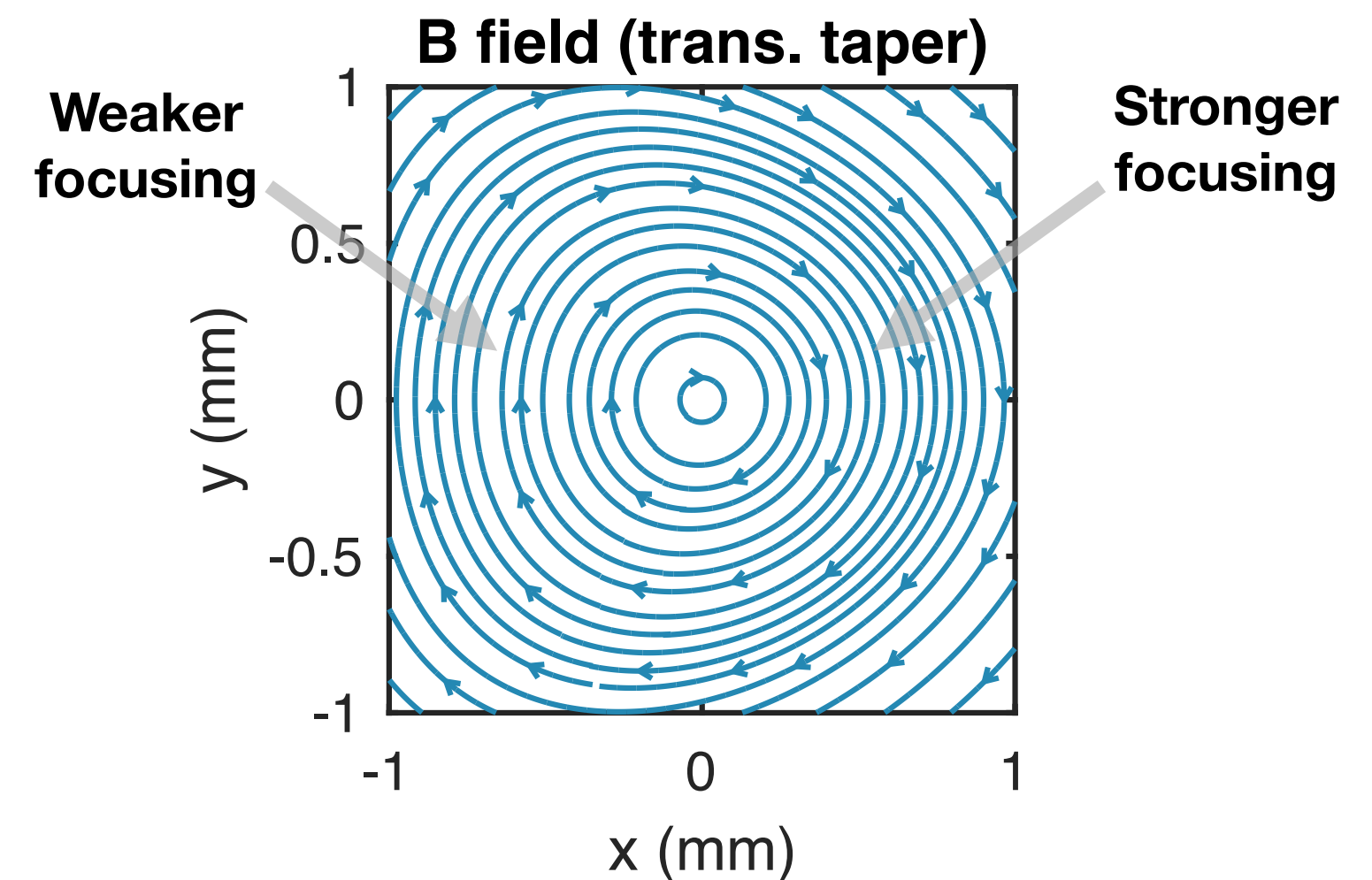
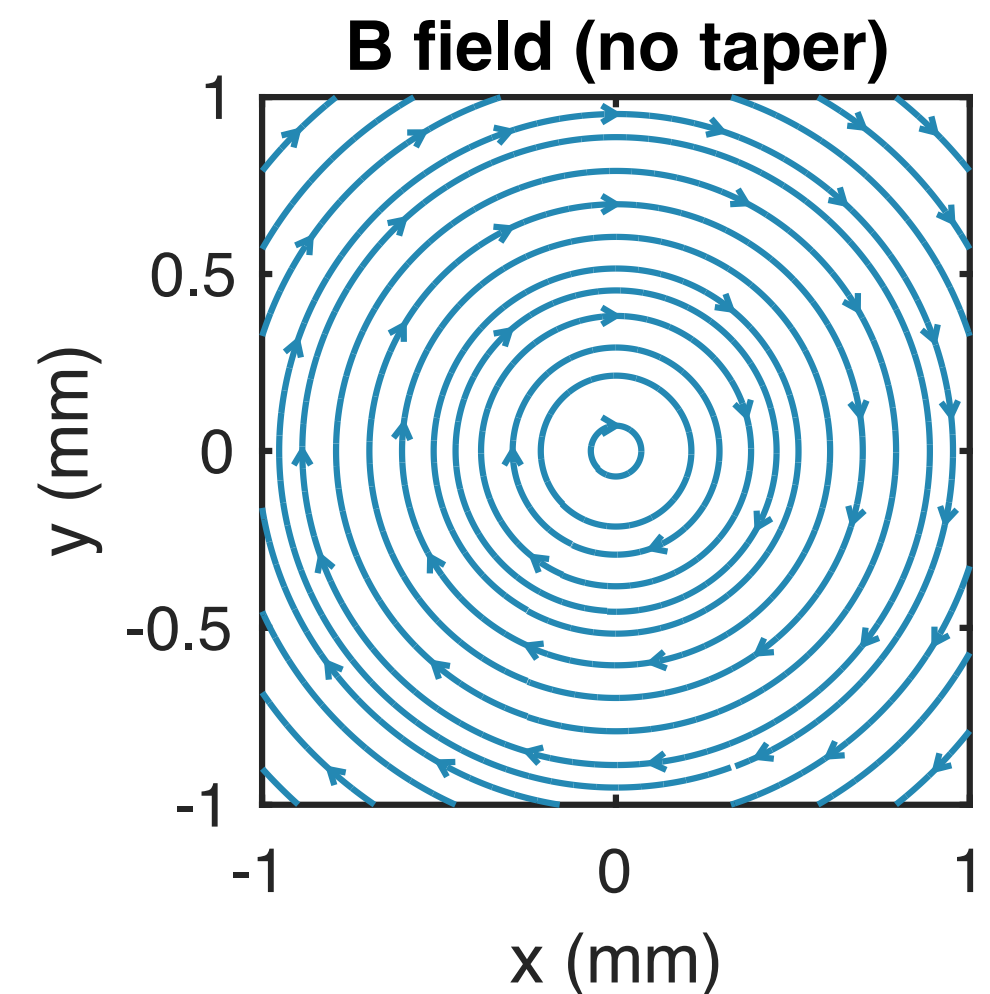


Schematic view—two sets of sextupoles (separated by 180 degree phase advance) are placed close to strong quadrupoles.

Image source: Raimondi & Seryi, Phys. Rev. Lett. 86, 3779 (2001)



Active plasma lens



Transverse magnetic field profile in a regular active plasma lens (top) versus a transversely tapered plasma lens (bottom).

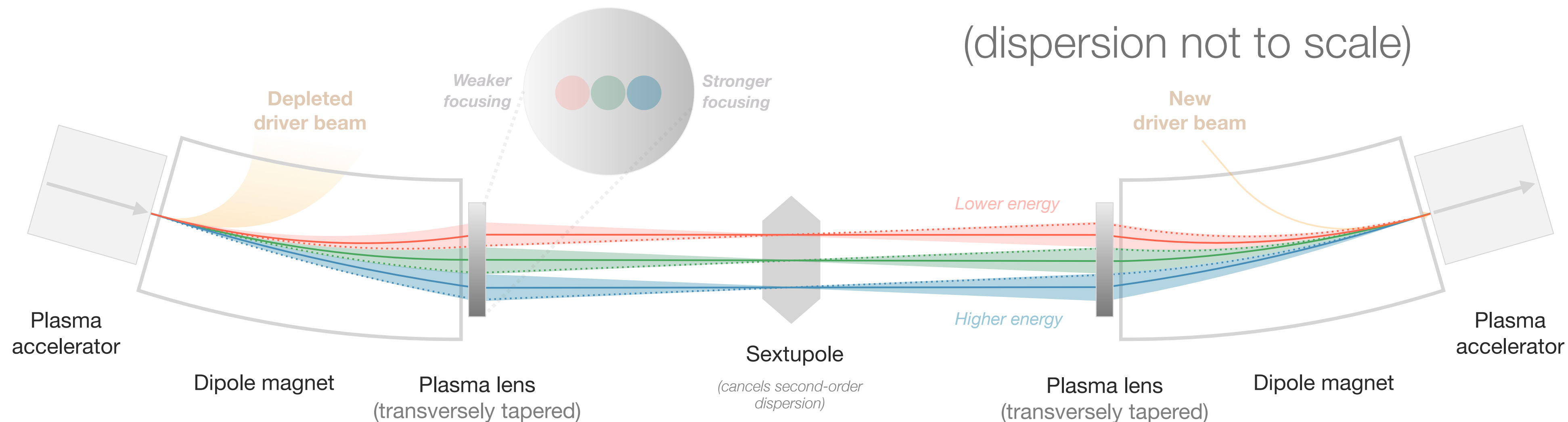
- > **Local chromaticity correction:** sextupoles close to the quadrupoles (requires dispersion from dipoles)
- > The magnetic field (assuming an APL) is given by

$$B_x = -g \left(x + \frac{1}{D_x} \frac{(x^2 + y^2)}{2} \right) \quad B_y = g \left(y + \frac{1}{D_x} xy \right)$$

where g is the magnetic field gradient, and $1/D_x$ is the (relative) transverse gradient.

- > This field is **similar, but not identical to a sextupole** field (there is a sign difference in one plane).

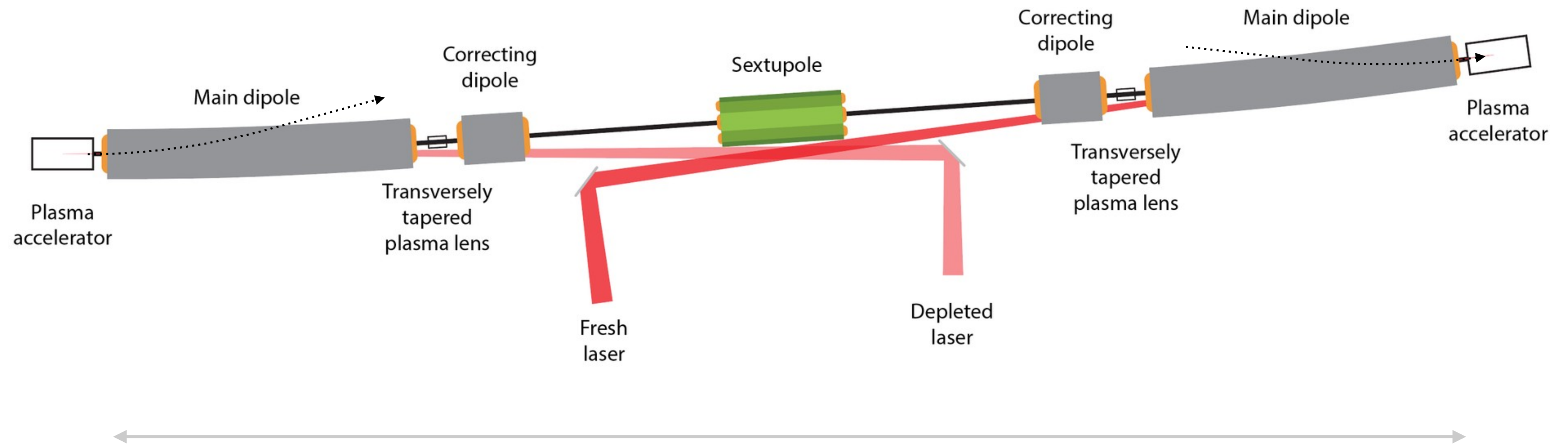
NONLINEAR BEAM OPTICS FOR EMITTANCE-PRESERVED STAGING



Schematic overview of the lattice (dispersion not to scale), showing conceptually how each energy slice is transversely achromatically.

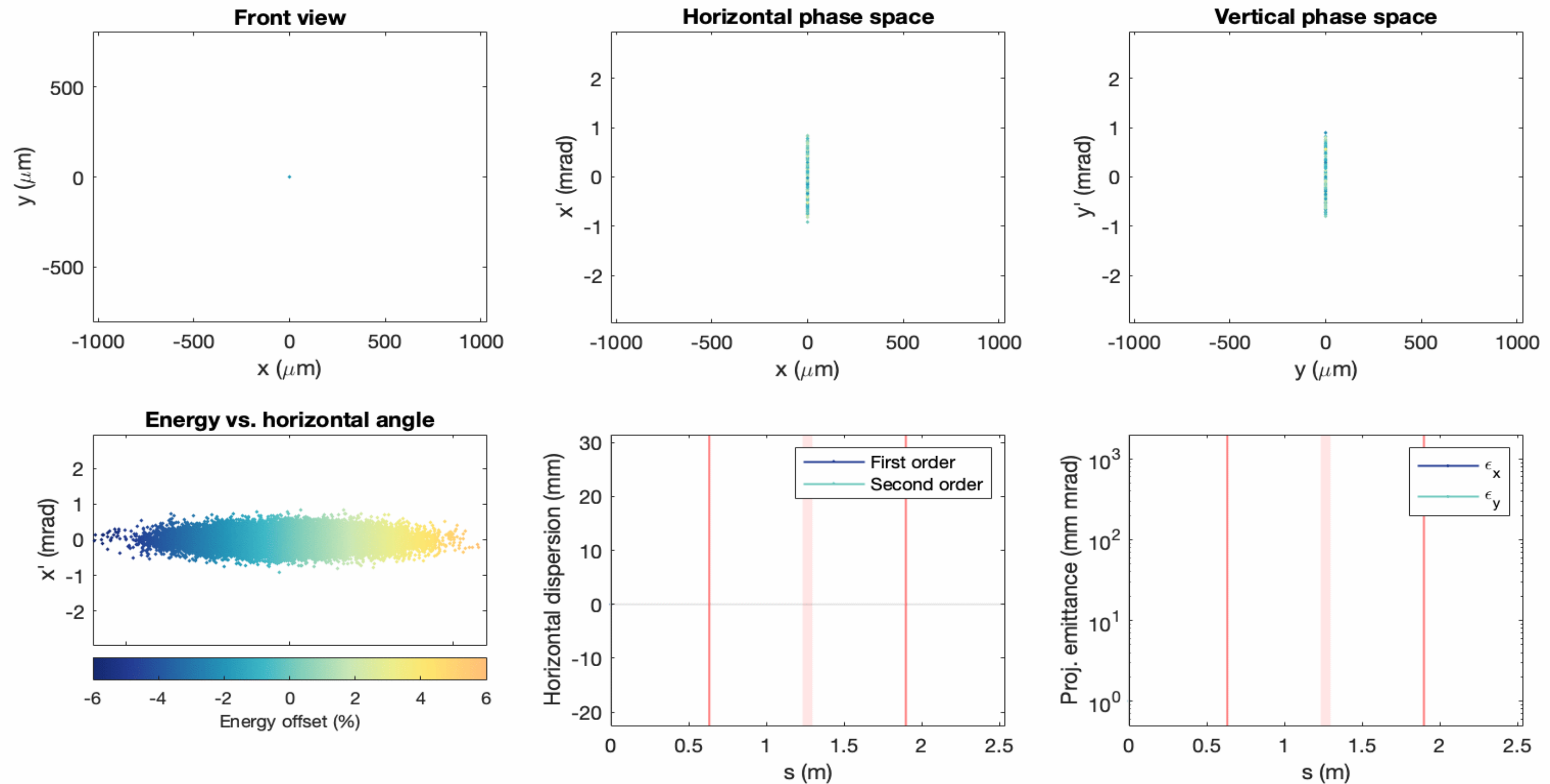
- > The simplest possible lattice that provides achromatic and emittance-preserving transport between stages is:
 - > *Two dipoles and two transversely tapered plasma lenses are used for chromaticity correction.*
 - > *A central sextupole fixes the second-order dispersion.*
- > Can be used for separating **both beam- and laser drivers.**

POSSIBLE LAYOUT FOR STAGING WITH LASER DRIVERS



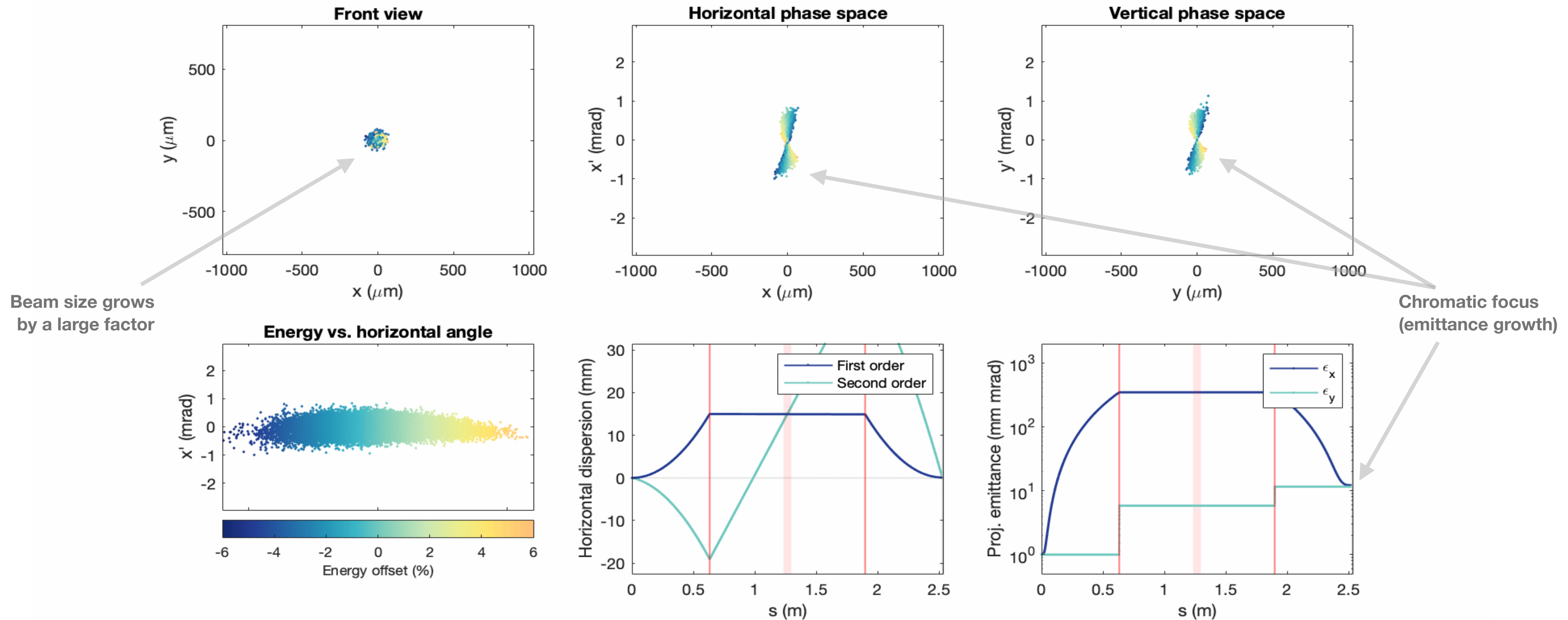
Scale: ~2.5 m @ 4 GeV
(scales with $\sqrt{\text{Energy}}$)

SIMULATION: USING REGULAR (NON-TAPERED) PLASMA LENSES



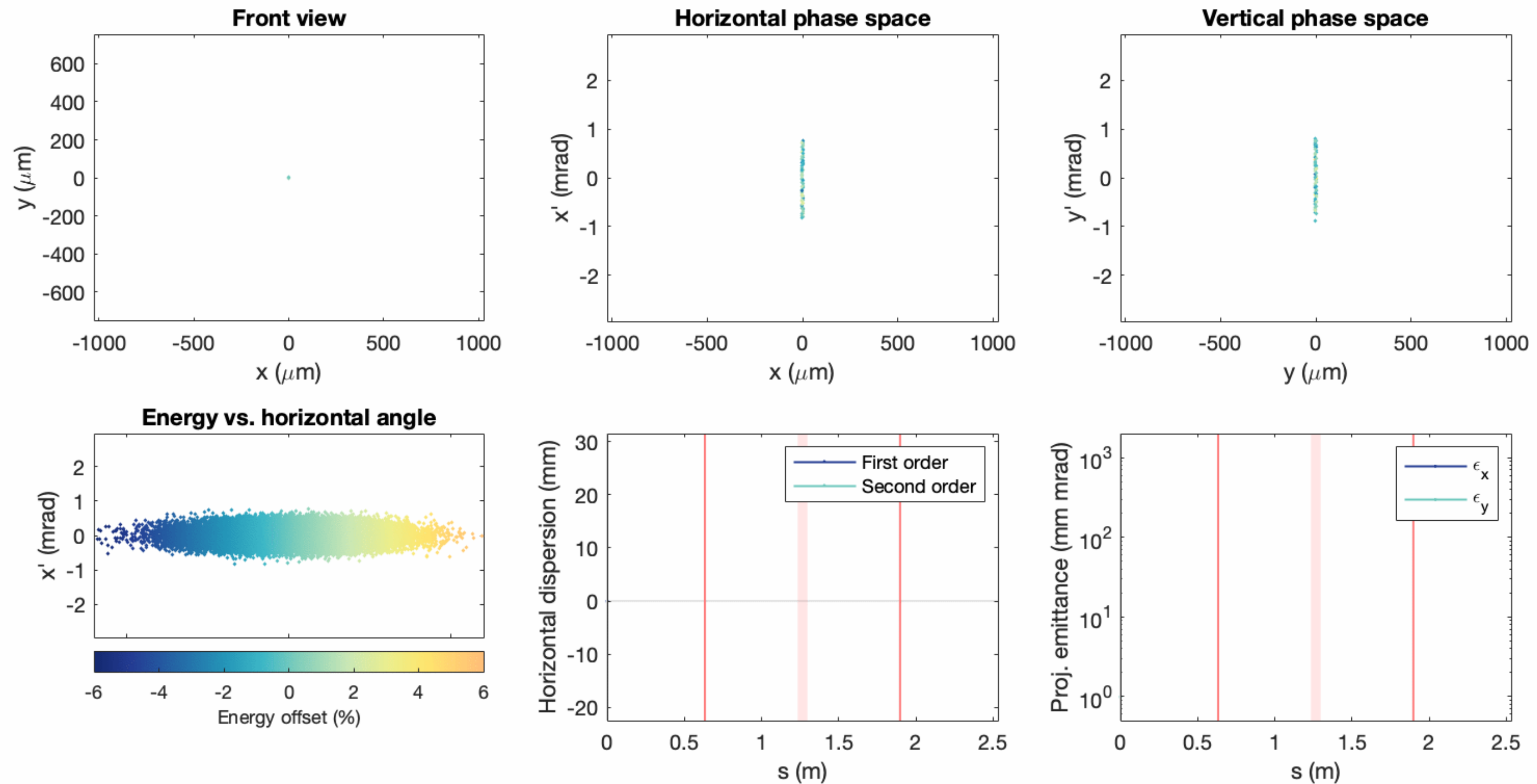
> **Setup: 4 GeV beam, 1.5% rms energy spread, 3.3 mm beta function, 1 mm mrad emittance, 1 T dipole field.**

SIMULATION: USING REGULAR (NON-TAPERED) PLASMA LENSES



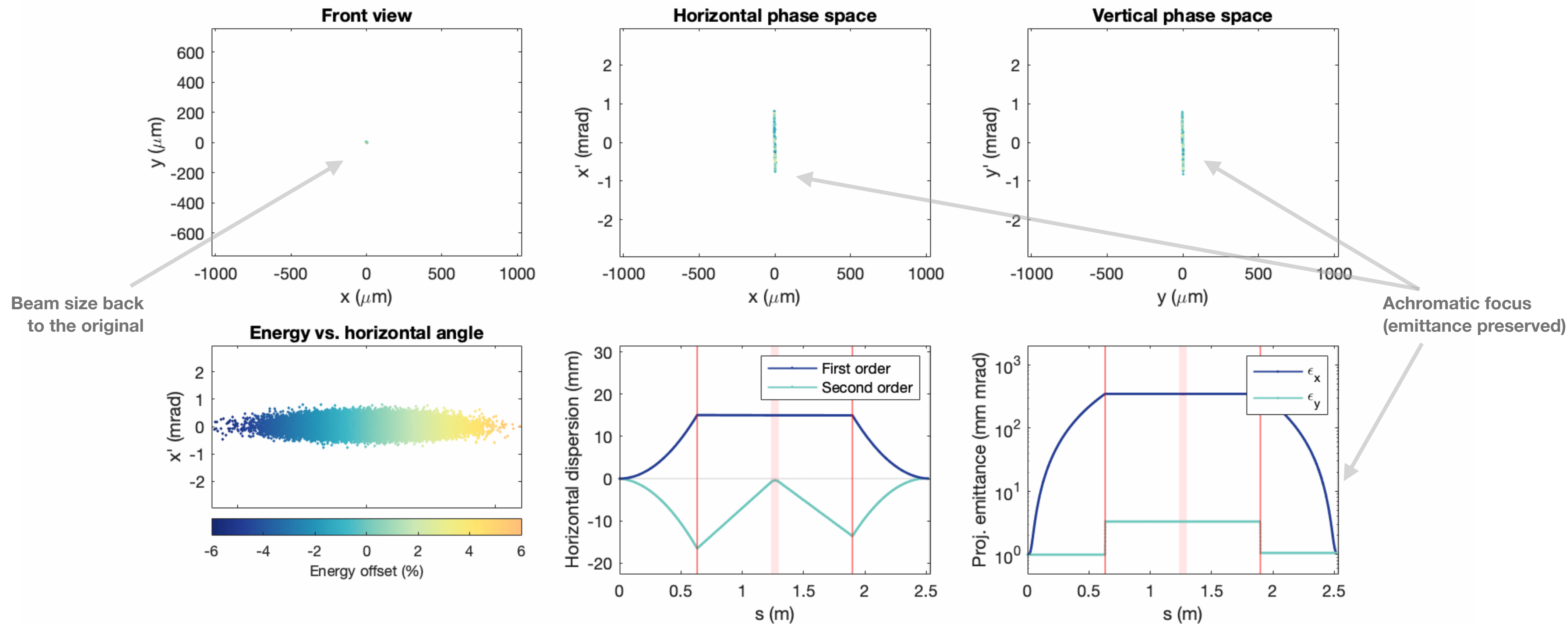
> A strong chromaticity is observed, resulting in a large (projected) emittance growth (here: a factor ~ 10 per stage).

SIMULATION — USING NONLINEAR (TAPERED) PLASMA LENSES



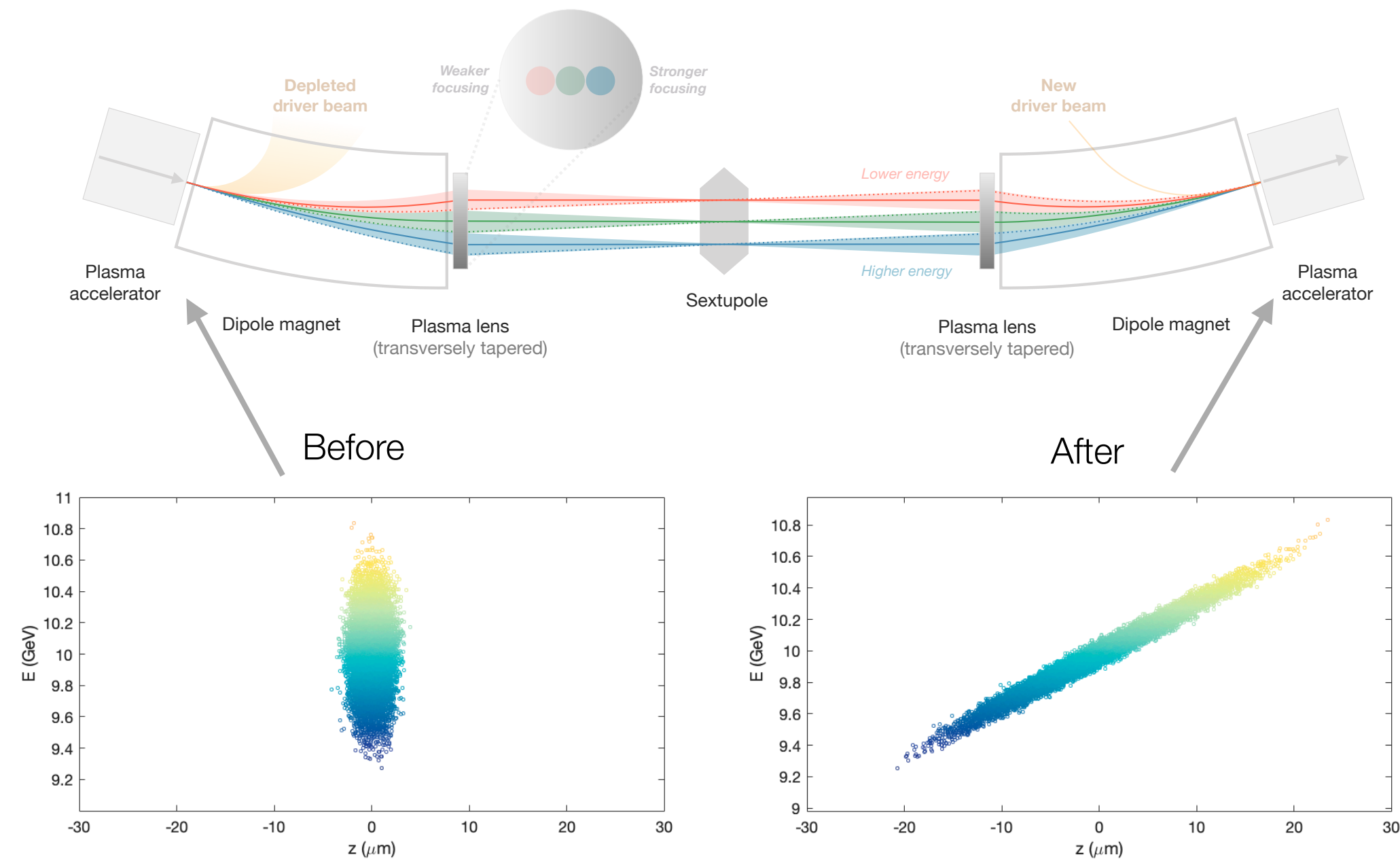
- > **Setup: 4 GeV beam, 1.5% rms energy spread, 3.3 mm beta function, 1 mm mrad emittance, 1 T dipole field.**
- > Emittance is preserved despite large energy spreads.

SIMULATION — USING NONLINEAR (TAPERED) PLASMA LENSES



- > **Setup: 4 GeV beam, 1.5% rms energy spread, 3.3 mm beta function, 1 mm mrad emittance, 1 T dipole field.**
- > Emittance is preserved despite large energy spreads.

LONGITUDINAL LATTICE DISPERSION: THE BUNCH LENGTH IS NOT CONSTANT...



ELEGANT simulation of a 10 GeV beam in a 4-meter long lattice ($L = 1$ m long dipoles) with dipole strength $B = 1$ T. We observe that the longitudinal phase space is sheared, indicating a positive R_{56} (consistent with the formula).

- > In the proposed lattice, **the longitudinal lattice dispersion (R_{56}) is not cancelled:**
- > This results in a small bunch compression/stretching between stages...

$$R_{56} = \frac{B^2 e^2 c^2 L^3}{3E^2} \neq 0$$

TWO NOVEL SOLUTIONS

(1)

Achromatic staging with
nonlinear plasma lenses

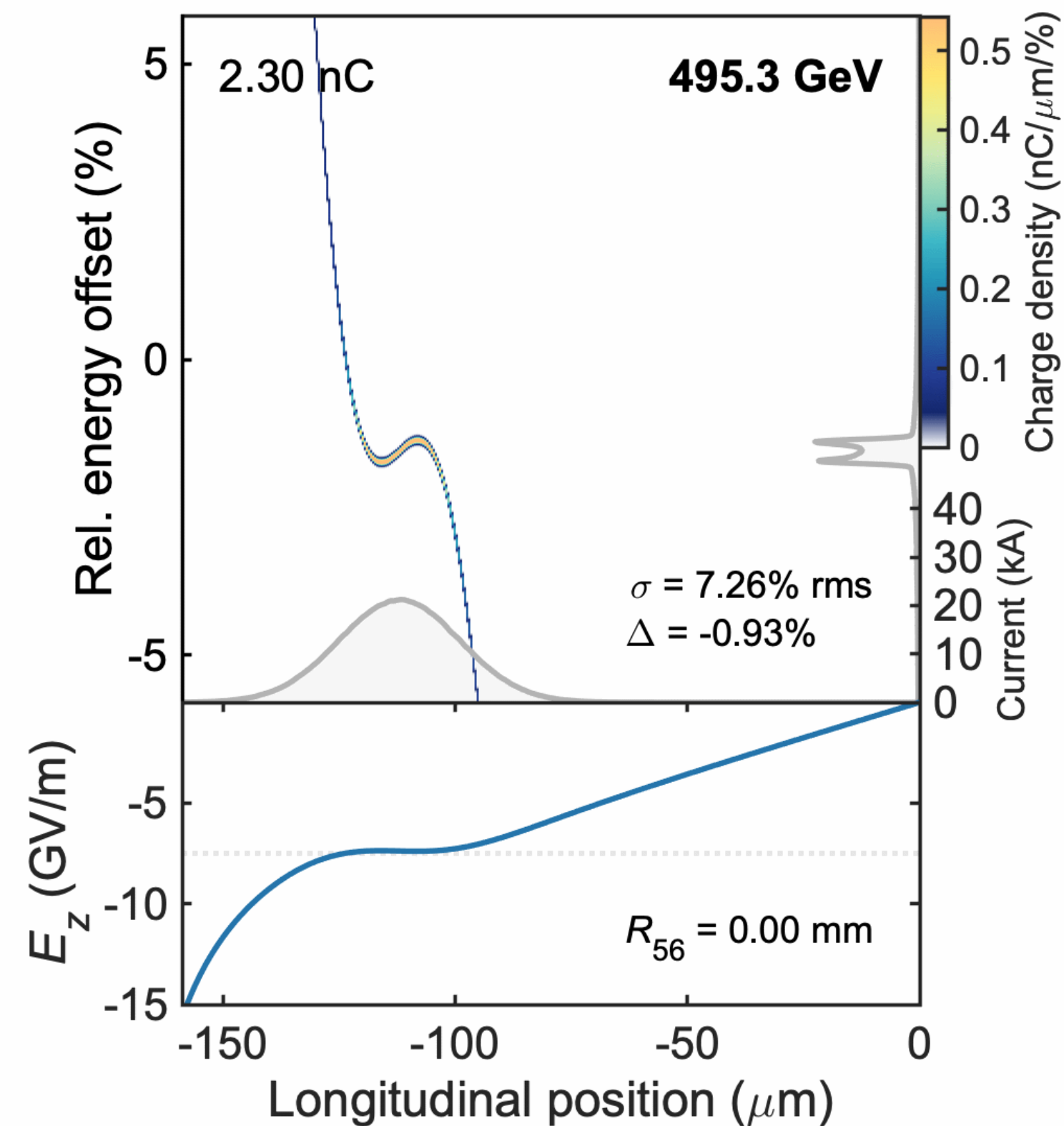
(2)

**Self-correction mechanism
in longitudinal phase space**

LINEAR-COLLIDER EXAMPLE: ACCELERATION TO 500 GeV WITH AN IMPERFECT BEAM

Single plasma-accelerator stage (no R_{56})

Starts at 10 GeV



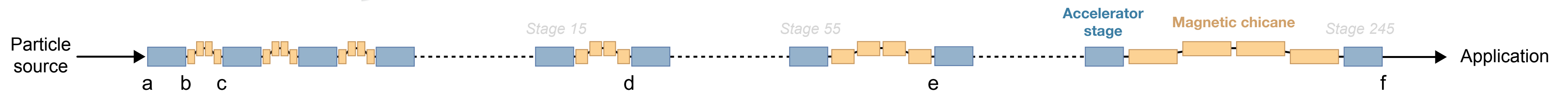
Plasma density:
 10^{16} cm^{-3}

245 stages
2 GeV per stage

(= a single 490 GeV stage)

THE PROPOSED SETUP

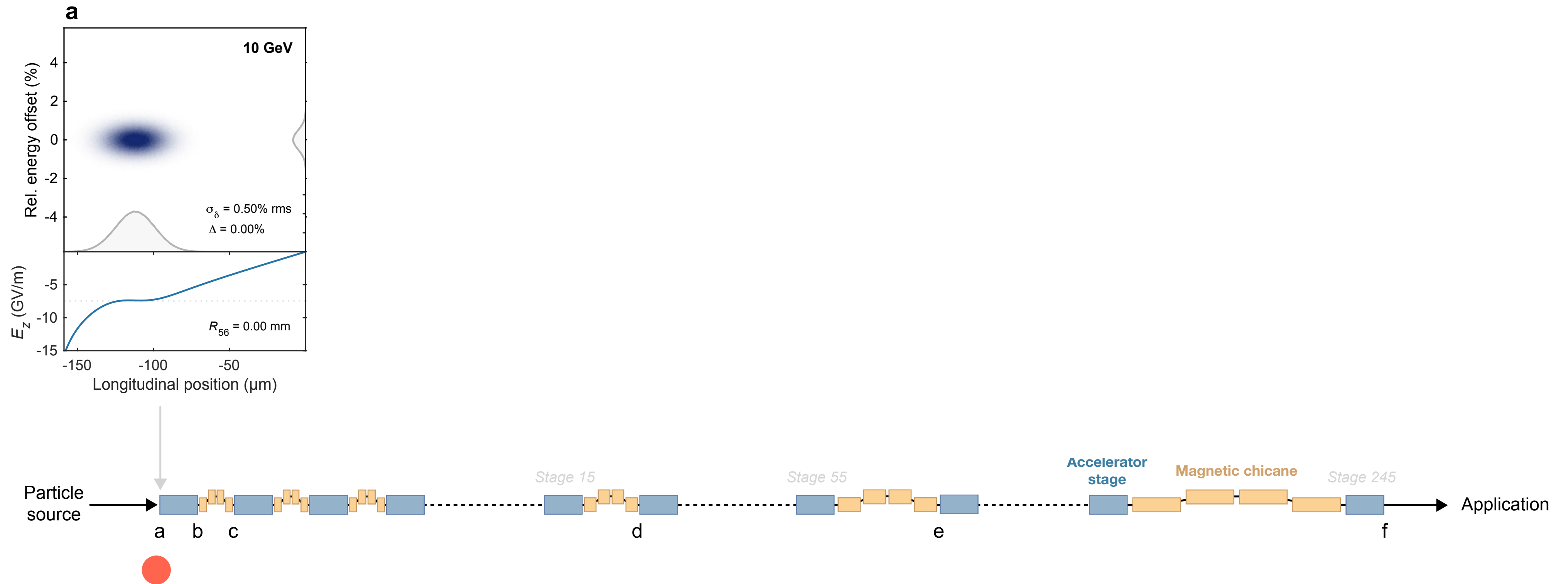
Large number of stages
+
Magnetic chicanes between stages } “Linear synchrotron”
+
Strong beam loading ← New part



Assuming: Preserved transverse phase space

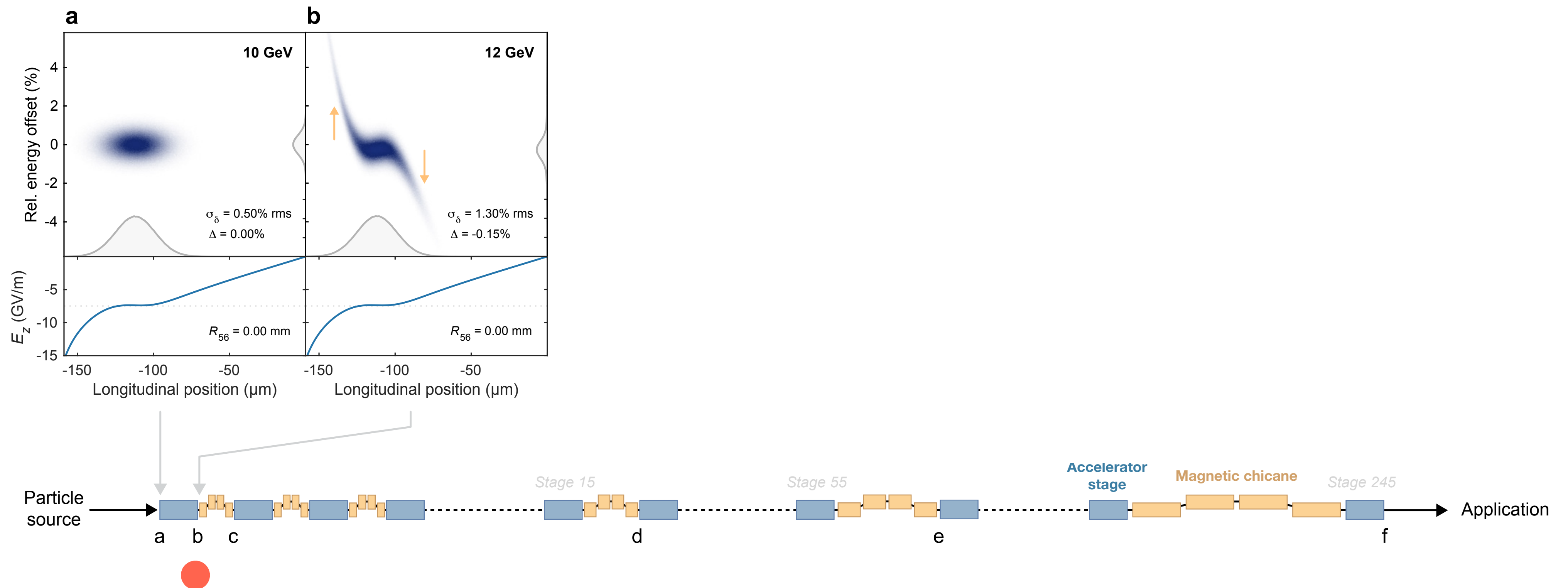
R_{56} scales as $1/\sqrt{\text{Energy}}$ (any scaling works)

A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



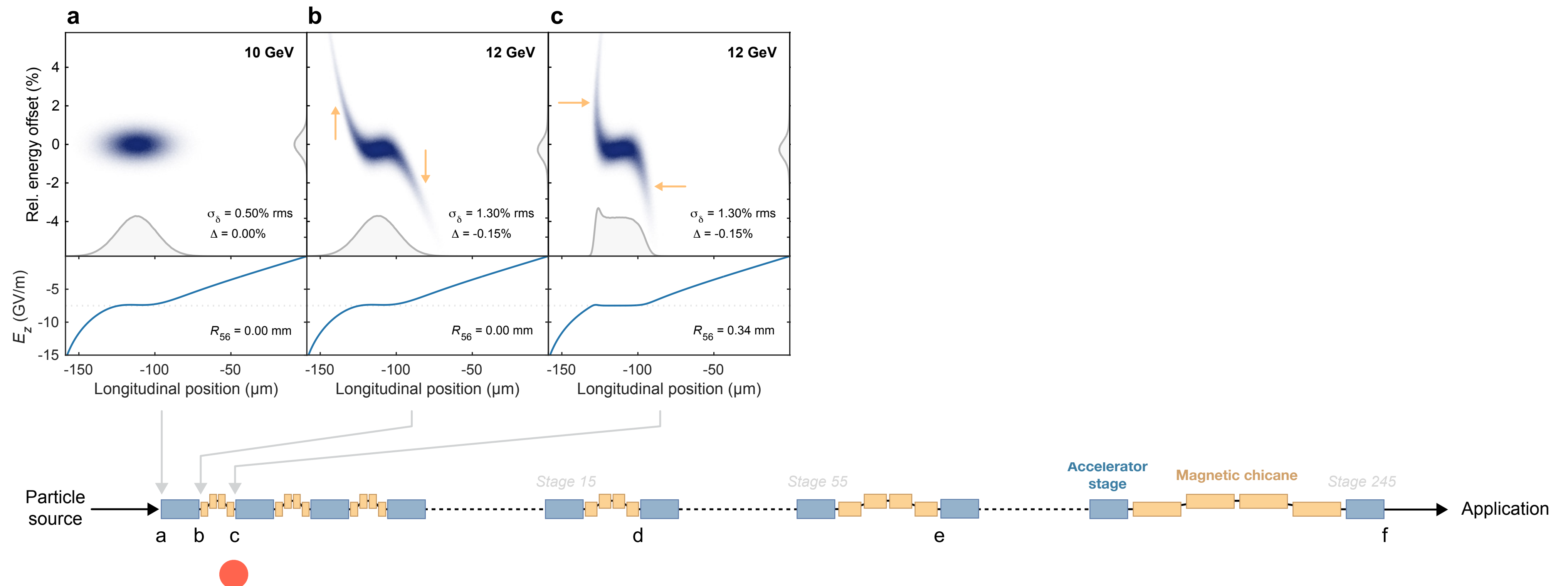
Initial particle distribution

A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



Plasma accelerator stage:
Particles gain energy based on their position

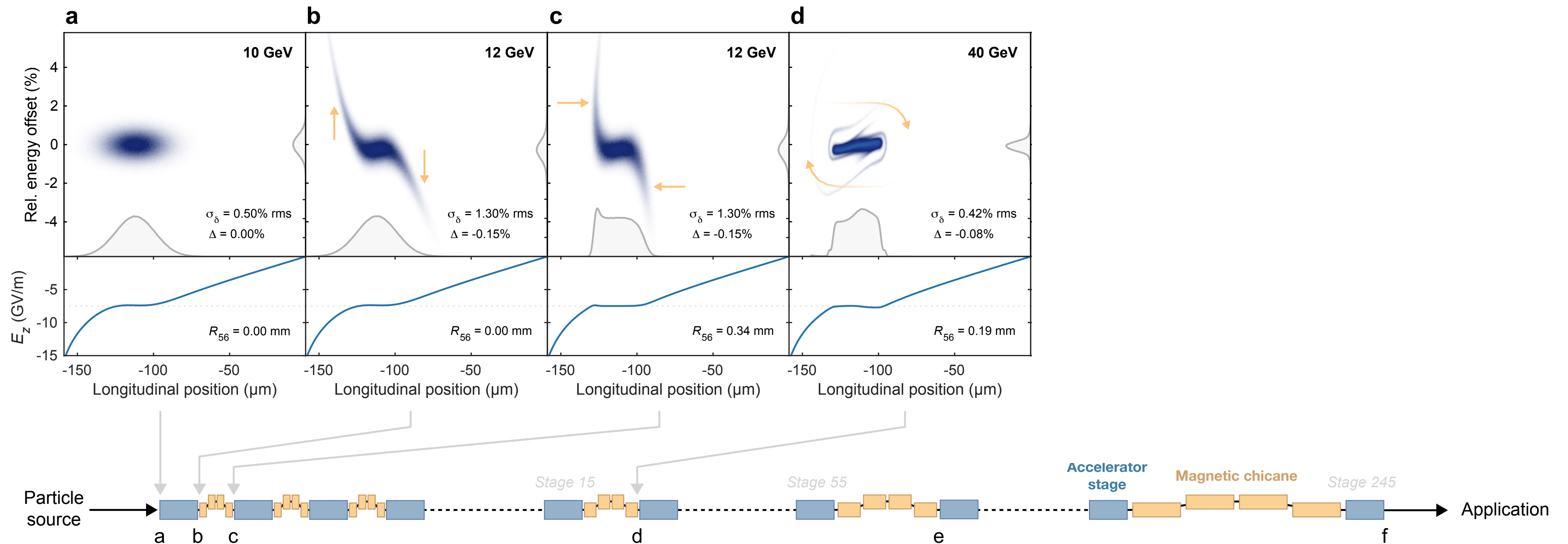
A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



Magnetic chicane:

Move particles longitudinally based on energy offset

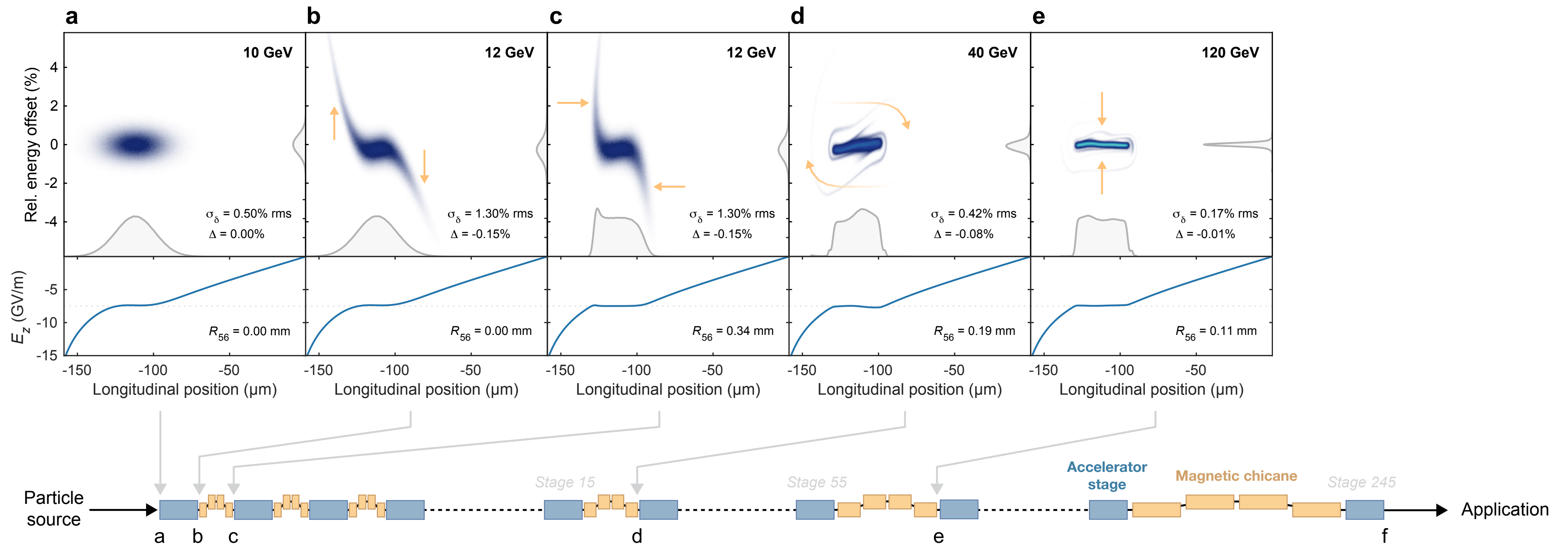
A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



Several stages:

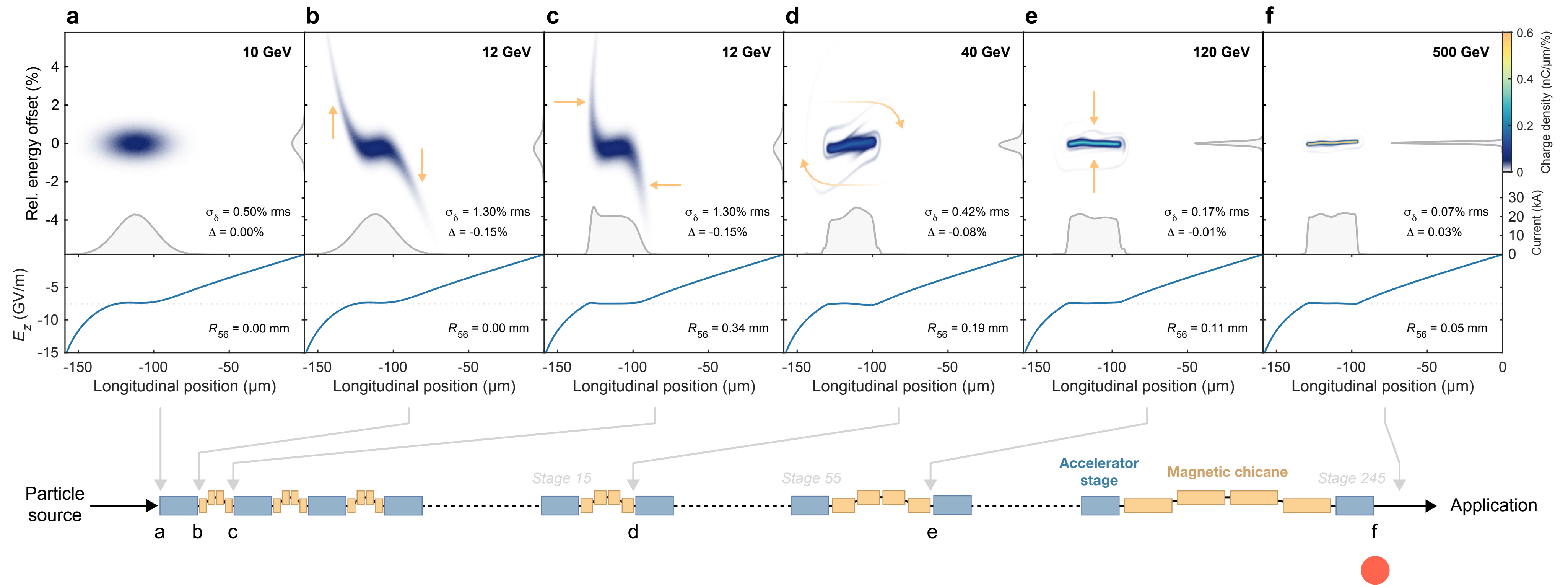
Particles move in oval tracks,
converging to an equilibrium current profile

A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



More stages:
*Relative energy spread and offsets
 damped with energy gain*

A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



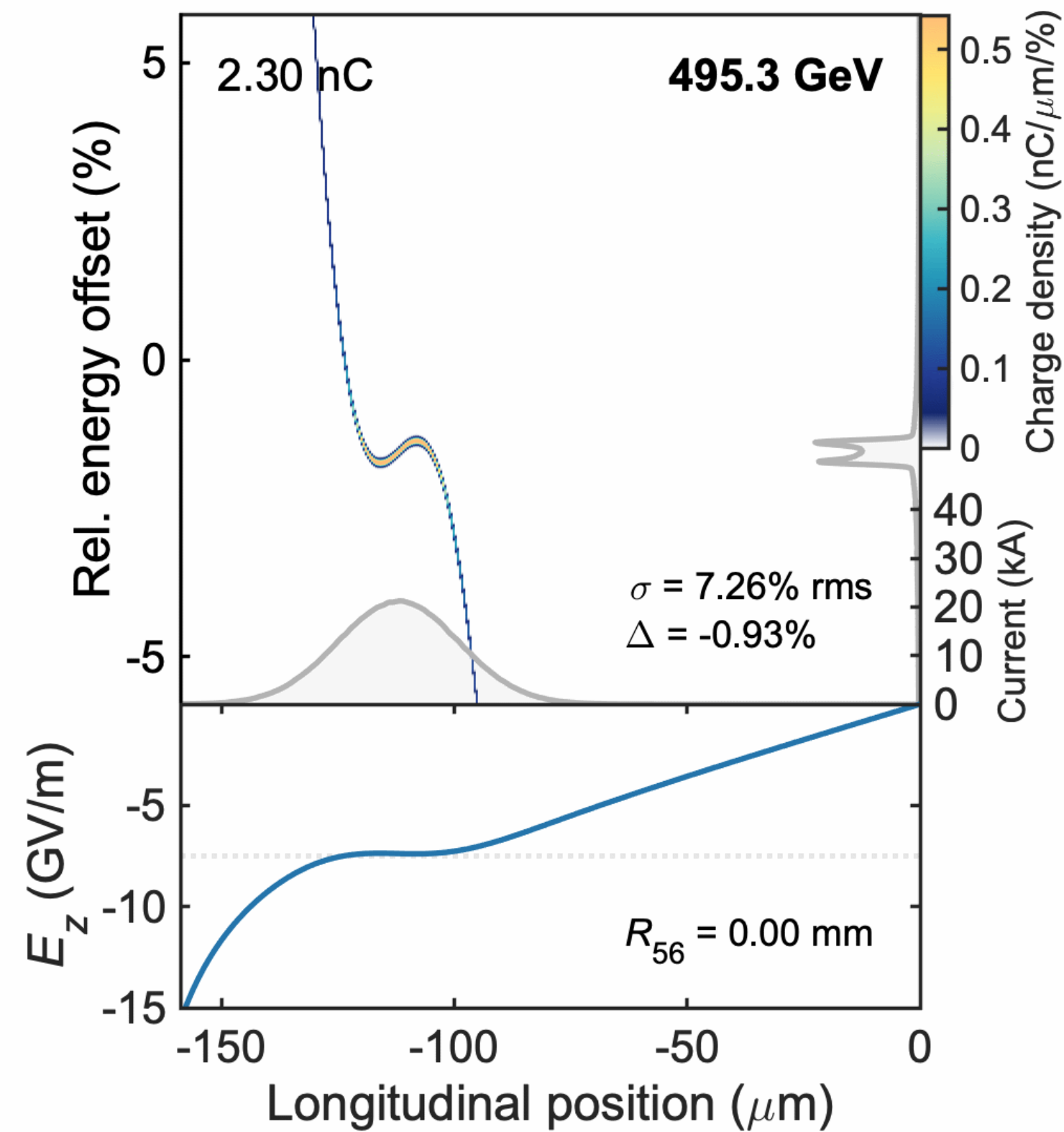
End result:

Optimal current profile, flattened wakefield
low energy spread, small energy offset

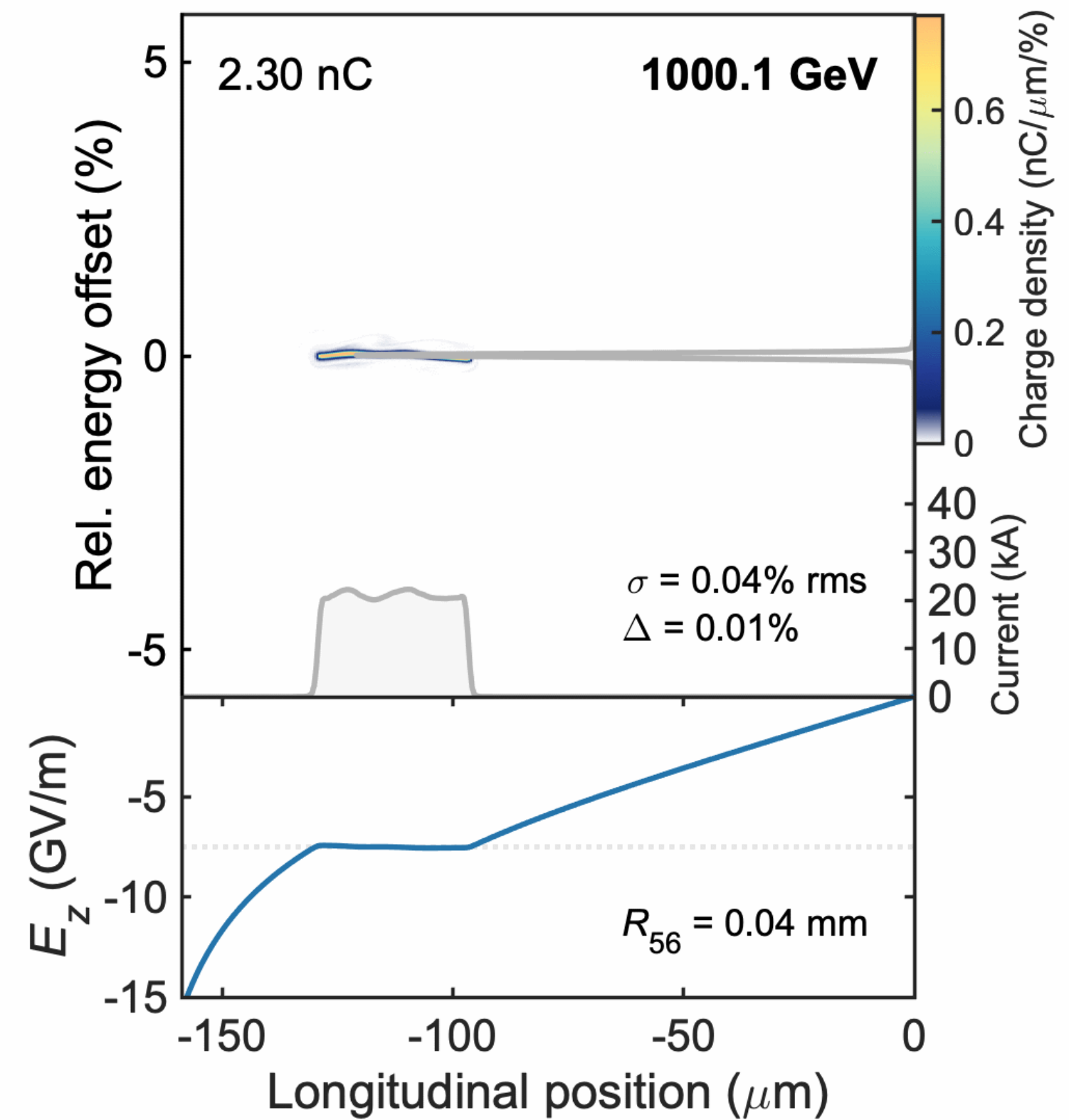
A SELF-CORRECTION MECHANISM IN LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE

Preprint: [C. A. Lindström, arXiv:2104.14460 \(2021\)](#)

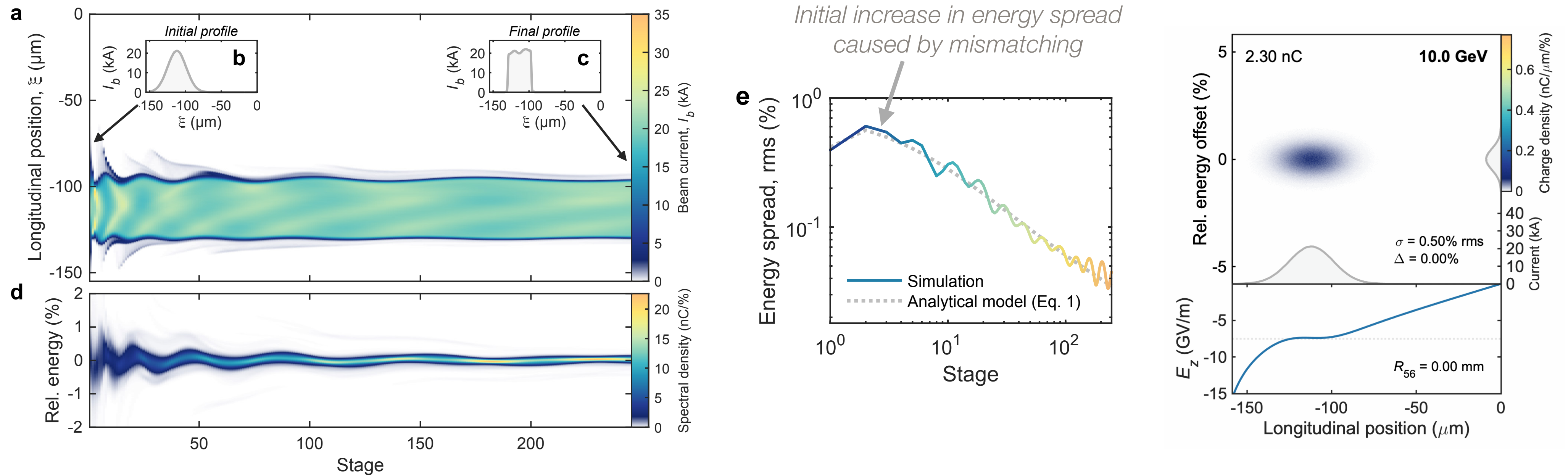
No R_{56} —no correction
(same as before)



With multistage correction



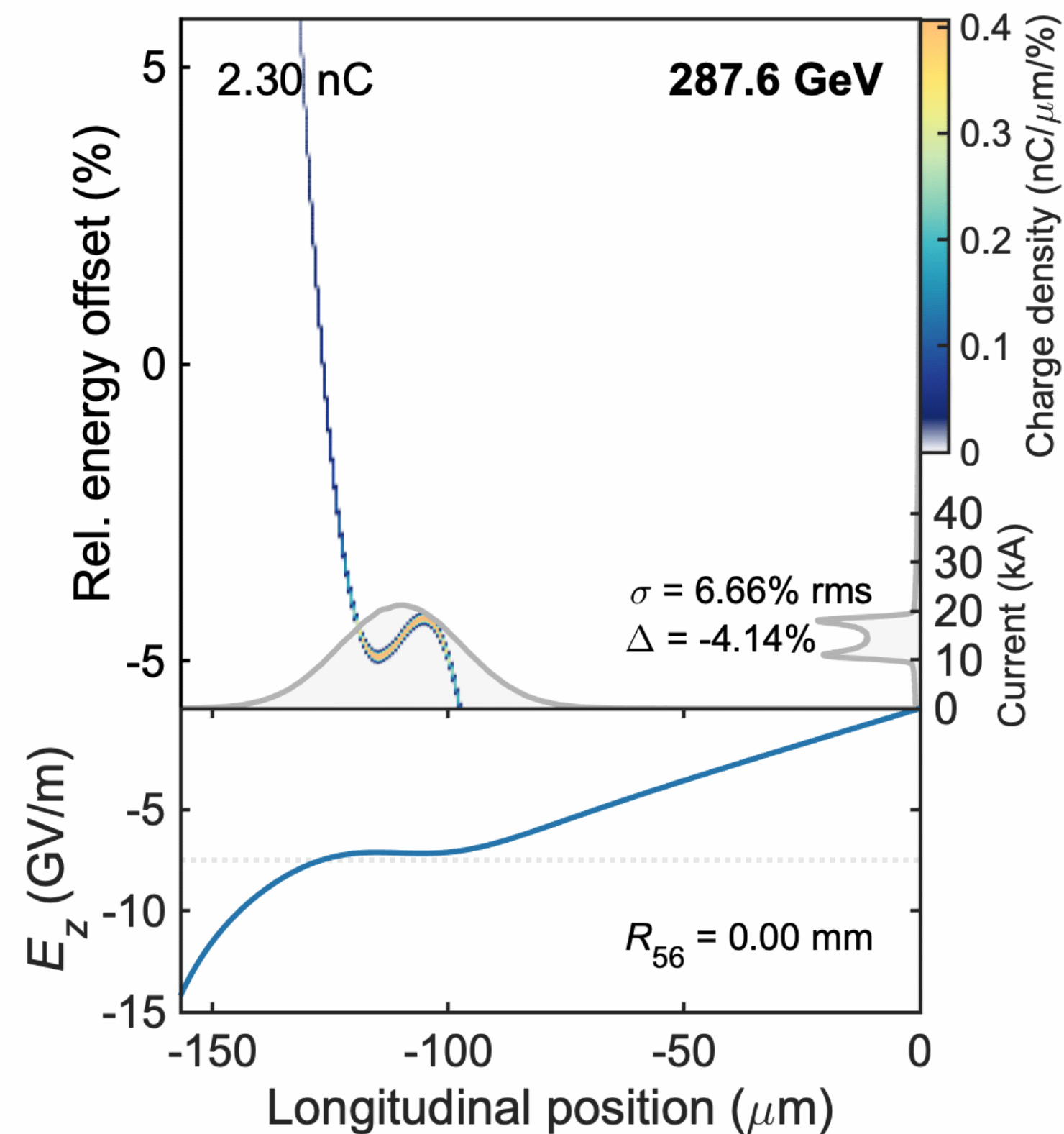
SELF-MATCHING IN THE LONGITUDINAL PHASE SPACE



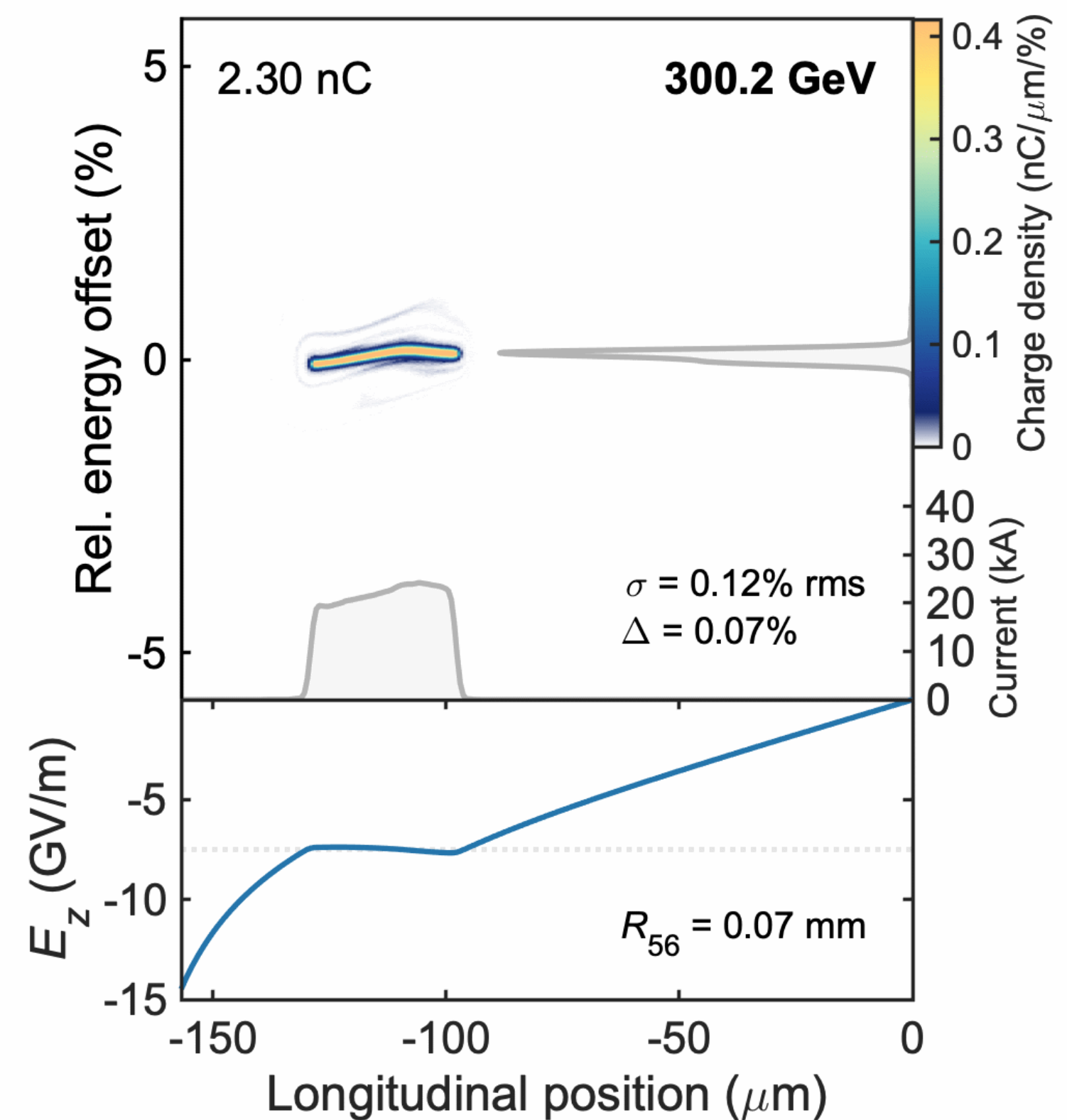
- > Similar to mismatching and emittance growth in transverse phase space.
- > Before: **A “mismatched” bunch in longitudinal phase space** (wrong current profile and phase for the wakefield)
- > After: **A (self-)matched bunch in longitudinal phase space**
 - > **Absolute energy spread** (and abs. longitudinal emittance) **only increases** during the matching process
 - > **Relative energy spread** (and rel. longitudinal emittance) **is eventually damped** with acceleration

EXAMPLE #1: BUNCH INJECTED TOO EARLY (10 FS)

No correction

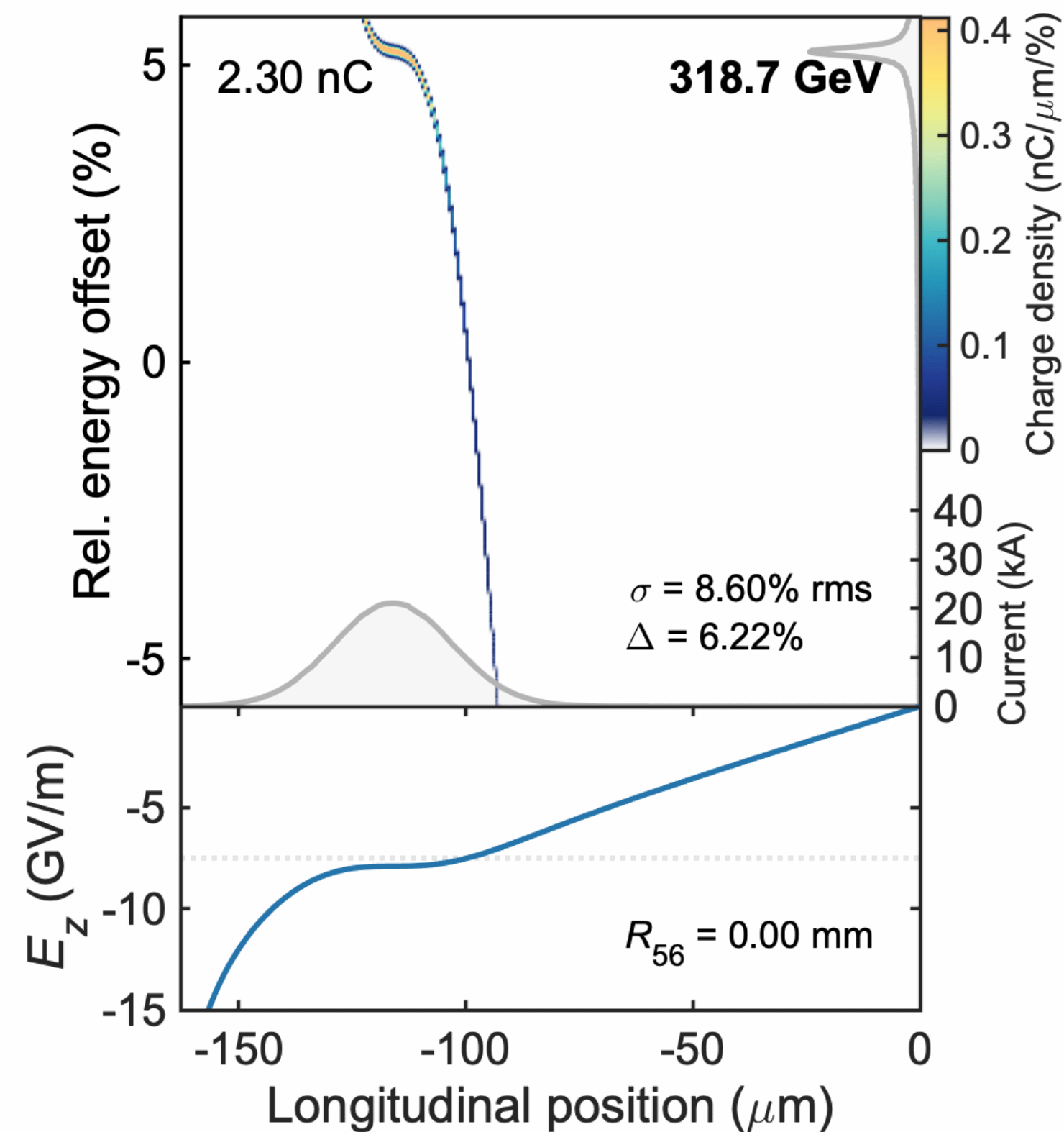


With multistage correction

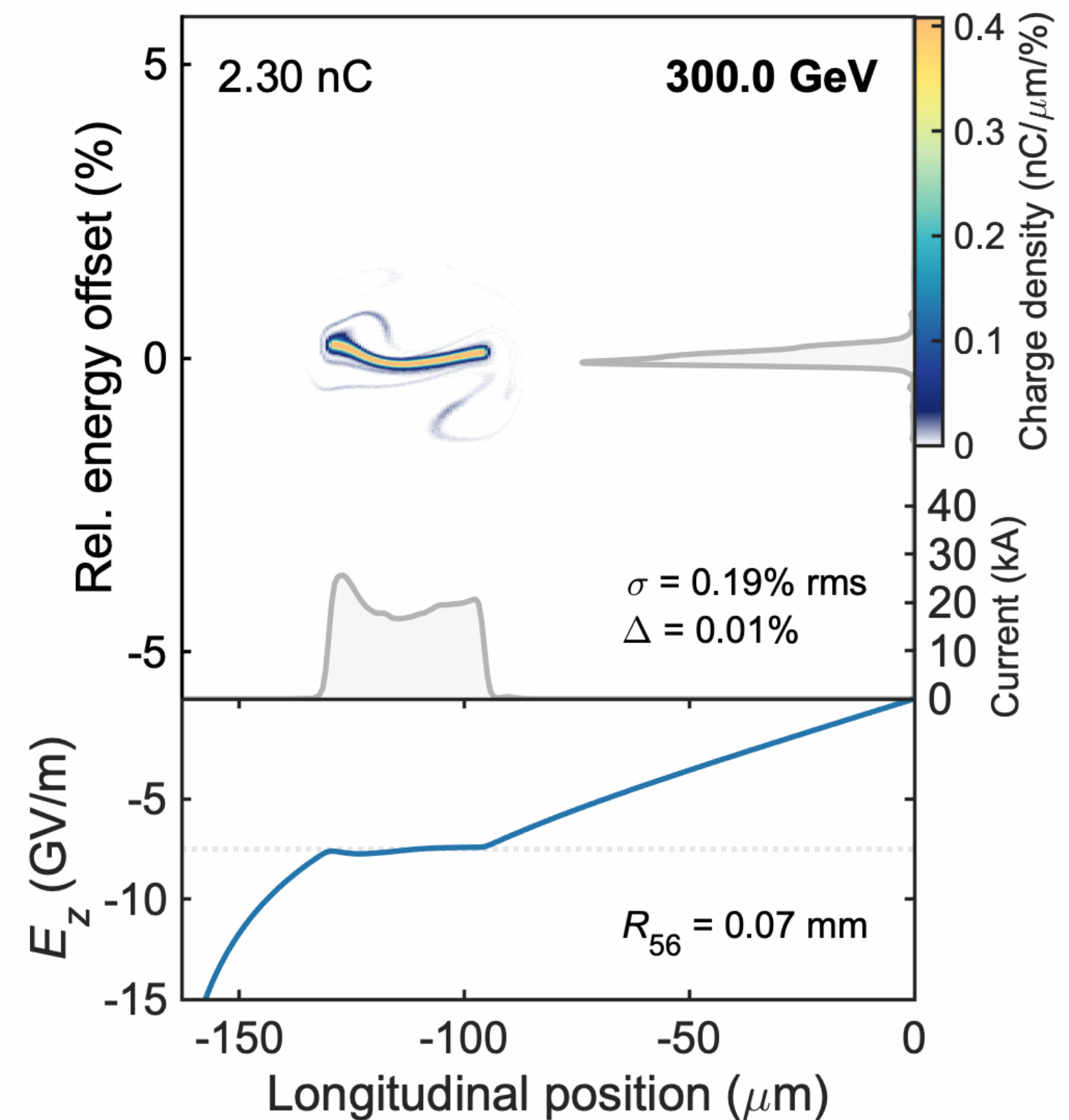


EXAMPLE #2: BUNCH INJECTED TOO LATE (10 FS)

No correction



With multistage correction



TIMING TOLERANCES IMPROVE DRAMATICALLY

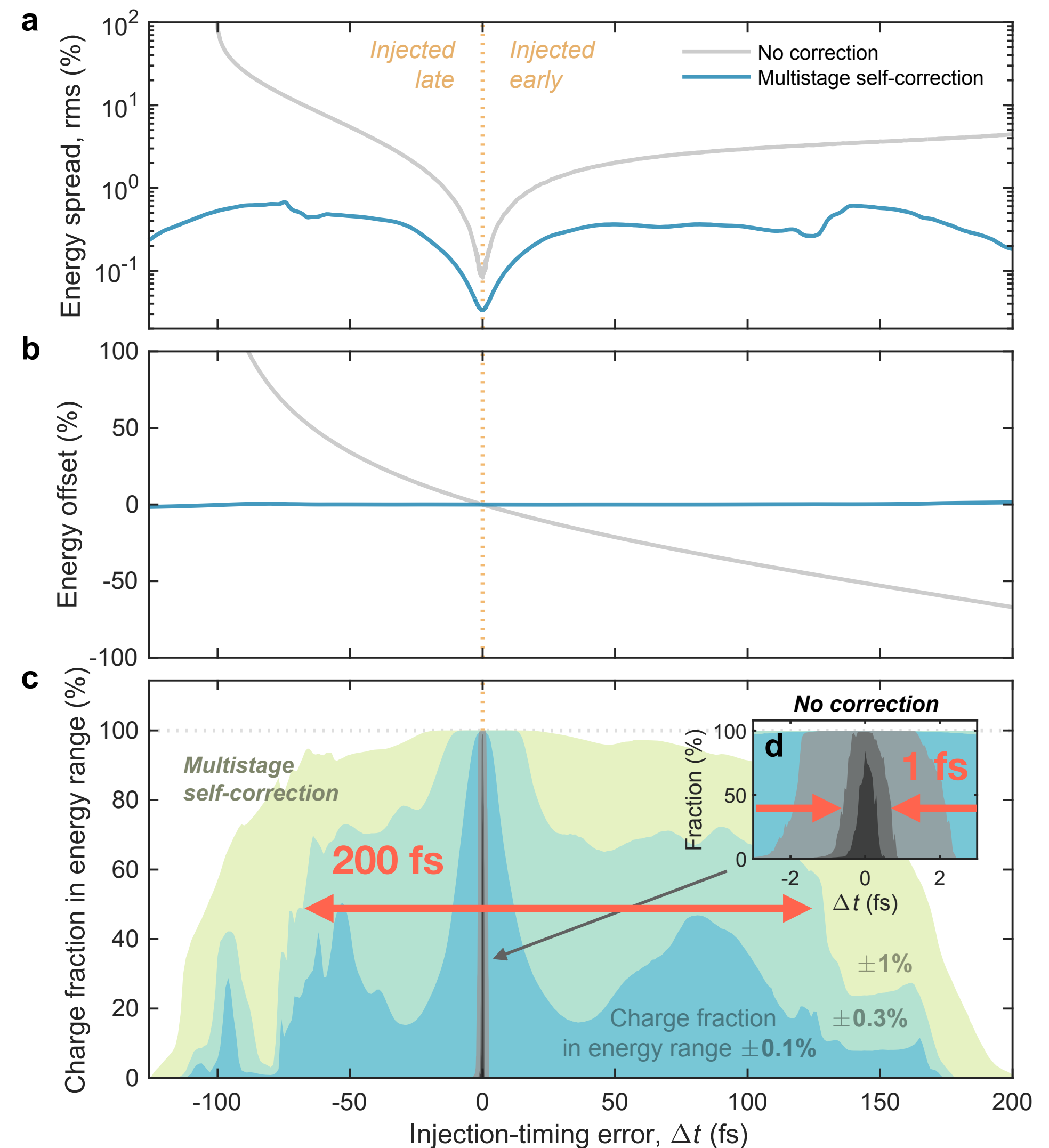
> Scan of injection timing/phase 

> *Timing tolerance in this example:*

- > Assuming 0.3% FWHM energy acceptance.
- > ~1 fs FWHM without correction
- > **~200 fs FWHM with self-correction.**

> Orders of magnitude improvement

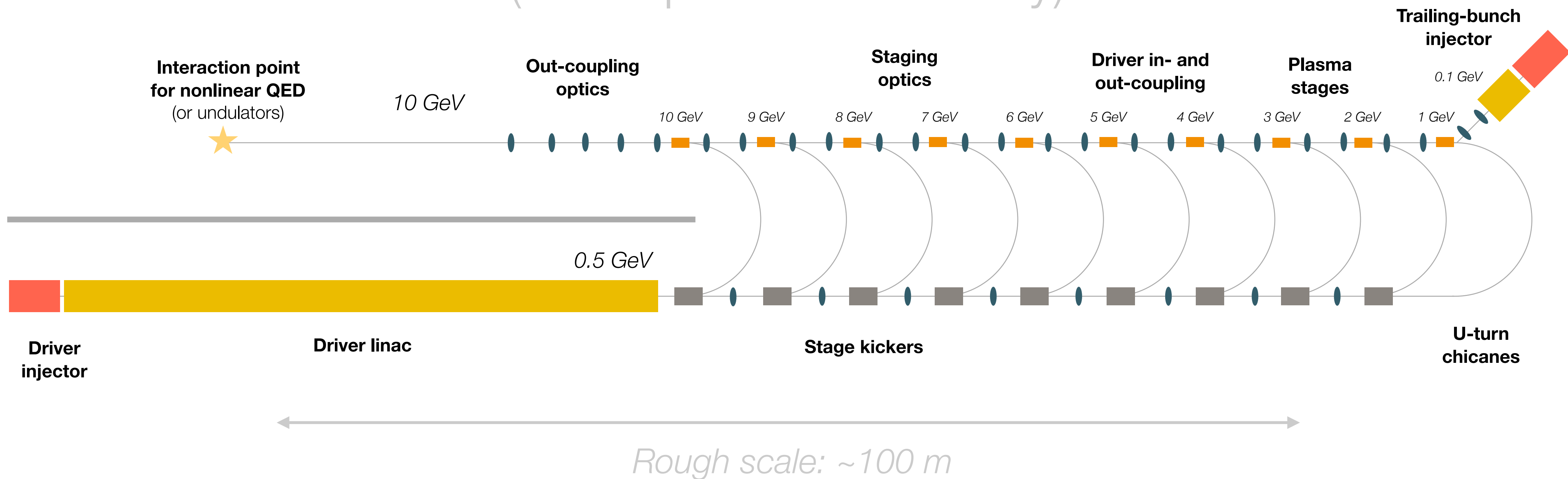
> Well within state-of-the-art synchronization (~10 fs).



MARS SHOT INITIATIVE: A MULTI-STAGE PLASMA ACCELERATOR AT DESY?

- > Can we demonstrate these concepts experimentally at DESY?
- > Large and long-term project, much R&D to be done prior.
- > **Applications: nonlinear QED, potentially x-ray FEL**

(conceptual sketch only)



SUMMARY

- > Plasma accelerators hold great promise for compact colliders.
 - > Much recent progress across the board.
- > Staging of plasma accelerators is key to reaching very high energy, but is challenging.
- > Two novel concepts may change this:
 - > Nonlinear plasma lenses for achromatic stage coupling.
 - > Intra-stage chicanes create a self-correction mechanism with high stability.
- > Experimental demonstration is still a ways away
 - > However, concepts are being considered at DESY (Mars Shot Initiative).
 - > *Watch this space...*