

AF6 report

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ABSTRACT: This file is a draft for initial feedback. Please use the gdoc referenced on the Accelerator Frontier web page for all feedback.

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1 Executive Summary

Efficiently harnessing the interaction of charged particles with extremely high electromagnetic fields at very high frequencies is the key to reaching ultra high gradients (GeV/m and beyond) and hence to reducing the dimensions, CO₂ footprint, and costs of future high energy physics machines, with the potential to reduce power consumption and offer e⁺e⁻ and $\gamma - \gamma$ machines at and beyond 15 TeV energies. In addition to proven high gradient and ultra-bright beam generation, these systems have the potential for fast cooling, for short beams to increase luminosity per unit beam power, and for practical energy recovery to extend the reach of high energy physics. Techniques range from laser and beam driven plasma and advanced structure accelerators to advanced phase space manipulations and generation of beams with extreme parameters [1]. Recognizing this promise the last Snowmass and P5/HEPAP recommended, and DOE developed with the community, an organized Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy, and work has been aligned to this strategy [2].

In the last decade advanced accelerator research has seen tremendous progress including the demonstration of multi-GeV acceleration in a single stage [3, 4], positron acceleration [5], efficient loading of the structure [6], the first staging of plasma accelerators [7], demonstration of beam shaping to improve efficiency in plasmas [8] and structures [9], high gradient structures [10] and greatly improved beam quality which recently culminated in the spectacular first demonstrations of laser-driven and beam-driven plasma based FELs [11, 12]. At the same time, potential issues for colliders have been addressed demonstrating that in principle the required nm-class emittance can be preserved (addressing potential limits due to scattering, hosing, and radiation), and that shaped bunches can be used to efficiently accelerate beams without energy spread growth. Driver technologies (SRF linacs, high average power lasers) are developing consistent with the high average luminosity and efficiency needs of future colliders.

While recent results indicate that the main building blocks of future advanced accelerators are workable and promising, significant development is still required. This should in particular further detail methods for high wall-plug efficiency and high repetition rates to fulfill future collider luminosity requirements, for small energy spreads and beam emittance preservation over many acceleration stages and for plasma-based schemes, show that high quality positron beams can be accelerated.

With the goals of addressing these long standing questions and realizing the promise of advanced accelerators, in addition to a strengthened R&D program to solve outstanding critical issues two new research directions can be identified. An integrated design is needed to unite these techniques for future colliders. At the same time, to provide a viable path to an AAC collider, the need is also clear to pursue nearer-term applications both inside and outside high-energy physics.

In order to move forward, a vigorous R&D program is required. The US is in a good position in this respect with several state of the art of beam test facilities mainly dedicated to research in the advanced accelerator field, including FACET-II, BELLA, ATF, AWA and FAST-IOTA as well as numerous universities. Strong R&D using these facilities and programs is needed to push forward the key next steps in the Development Strategy including staging of multiple modules at multi-GeV, high efficiency stages, preservation of emittance for electrons and positrons, and high fidelity phase space and beam shape control, as well as the development of efficient, low-cost

and high repetition rate drivers. The facilities are organized in a beam test facility council which serves to foster collaboration and minimize duplication of efforts. Proposed upgrades of the test facilities (including a kBELLA high repetition rate driver and accelerator demonstrator, positrons at FACET-II, and a GeV-class scalable module at AWA) and new R&D are needed to maintain US position in developing this next generation of capabilities in an international environment with \$B-class investment overseas.

The development of an integrated design study for compact high-gradient colliders is deemed critical to guide the efforts and provide a clear and actionable R&D path. This builds on recent work that has developed collider concepts and parameter sets. The study would provide detailed examples of how the main challenges can be addressed and clarify where experimental demonstrations, or detailed simulations of the relevant sub-systems, are needed. The design study should include enough detail to make cost estimates and should include strategies for demonstration colliders at moderate energies c.a. 100 GeV. In particular, bottom-up estimates will be needed for the new technology and components that have unusually tight tolerances. Developing this will require funding which has not been available to date. Notably, the European roadmap for accelerators includes a full chapter on advanced accelerators and is well aligned with our call for an organized integrated design study. The minimum requested funding for this task is 147 FTE-years and 3.15 MCh. It is critical that in order to avoid losing leadership in this field, a process slowly occurring in many scientific areas as recently highlighted in a high-profile BESAC report [13], the US should at least match in investment.

Successful deployment of advanced concepts in real-world accelerator applications such as coherent and/or incoherent radiation sources will be essential to provide the necessary intermediate steps before compact accelerators can be applied to the most demanding high-energy physics applications. The international community has long recognized the role of such near-term applications as stepping stones for high energy physics machines and has strongly invested in them (see for example the EUPRAXIA project). Even though the advanced accelerator field was born and is still squarely centered in the US, it is telling that the most recent high profile plasma-based FEL demonstrations occurred in Europe and Asia. This kind of research in the US is unfortunately not seen as directly impacting HEP, putting in jeopardy the US leadership in the field.

At the same time, synergies with existing or near future colliders should be explored in the near term. The extremely high fields of advanced accelerator concepts could be used for transverse focusing of the beam, advanced phase space manipulations or particle sources. Possible upgrade paths of existing and near-term machines that could benefit from advanced accelerator concepts should be identified. Efforts on high brightness electron sources, polarized positron generation, high average power laser drivers, and beam delivery systems are particularly important in this regard.

While advanced accelerators in plasmas and structures continue to advance towards collider and near term applications, innovative concepts such as nanoplasmonics and laser-driven structures continue to emerge offering the potential for greater reach, new accelerator components, and near term applications in the future. In this context, advanced accelerator R&D and facilities serve all novel accelerator research. Furthermore, they play a critical role in accelerator and beam workforce development and diversity since they allow hands-on training with strong publication (over 1000 papers/year) for the next generation of accelerator scientists from more diverse communities who are often attracted to the field by the scientific novelty and rich physics of advanced accelerators.

Priority research should continue to address and update the Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy:

- Vigorous research on advanced accelerators including experimental, theoretical, and computational components, should be conducted as part of the General Accelerator R&D program to make rapid progress along the advanced accelerator R&D roadmaps towards an eventual high energy collider, develop intermediate applications, and ensure international competitiveness. Priority directions include staging of multiple modules at multi-GeV, high efficiency stages, preservation of emittance for electrons and positrons, high fidelity phase space control, and shaped beams and deployment of advanced accelerator in real-world applications.
- A targeted R&D program for a integrated design study of a high energy (1–15 TeV) advanced accelerator-based collider should be performed that details all the components of the system, such the injector, drive laser, plasma source, beam cooling, and beam delivery system. This would set the stage for a future conceptual design report, after the next Snowmass.
- Research in near-term application should be recognized as essential to progress towards HEP goals. Mechanisms should be identified for HEP to pay close attention, co-fund and participate to research activities aimed at real-world deployment of advanced accelerators. The interplay and mutual interests in this area between HEP, BES and the new ARDAP office (Stewardship component) within DOE should be strengthened.
- Advanced accelerator should continue to play a key-role in workforce development in accelerator physics. University programs and graduate students greatly benefit from the scientific visibility of the advanced accelerator field. Access to user facilities for graduate students and early career researchers as well as formal and hands on training opportunities in advanced beam and accelerator physics should be continued and enhanced.
- Enhanced driver R&D is needed to develop the efficient, high repetition rate, high average power laser and accelerator technology that will power laser-driven advanced accelerators colliders and societal applications.
- Support of upgrades for Beam Test Facilities are needed to maintain progress on advanced accelerator Roadmaps. These include development of a high repetition rate facility, proposed as kBELLA, to support precision active feedback and high rate; independently controllable positrons to explore high quality acceleration, proposed at FACET-II; and implementation of a integrated SWFA demonstrator, proposed at AWA.
- A study for a collider demonstration facility at an intermediate energy (20–80 GeV), and near term applications, should establish a plan that would demonstrate essential technology and provide a facility for physics experiments at intermediate energy.
- A DOE-HEP sponsored workshop in the near term should update and formalize the U.S. advanced accelerator strategy and roadmaps including updates to the 2016 AARDS Roadmaps

2 Introduction

Research on advanced and novel accelerators has exploded in recent years, motivated by the potential of these techniques to increase the reach of future colliders through improved gradient, efficiency, and component. Progress has been driven by extremely rapid advances in performance (from the demonstration of mono-energetic 0.1 GeV beams just 18 years ago) enabled by advances in high-power lasers based on the 2018 Nobel Prize winning technique of chirped-pulse amplification as well as ultrashort pulse shaped electron drivers (and recently high energy proton drivers). In particular, numerous high-power laser facilities have sprung up worldwide, particularly in Europe and Asia as well as high power beam test facilities. Consequently, over 1000 research papers are published annually in advanced and novel accelerators. This high level of activity is spawning numerous new ideas, concepts, techniques that will help bring a future advanced accelerator based collider to fruition. It also attracts students and new researchers to the field, and provides opportunities that are important for involving more diverse communities, helping to support the goals expressed in the papers [14–17] for diversity, equity and inclusion. Since much of this research is overseas, it is critical that the U.S. make strong investments to ensure global leadership.

In the US, three core technologies are being pursued in a coordinated program where results from each inform the others, as organized by the 2016 DOE Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy. In a Laser Plasma Accelerator (LPA), or Laser Wakefield Accelerator (LWFA), an intense laser pulse propagating in an underdense plasma ponderomotively drives an electron plasma wave (or wakefield) [18, 19]. The plasma wave has a relativistic phase velocity and can support large fields suitable for charged particle acceleration and focusing. This concept is detailed in the white paper [20]. Similar structures can be driven by the space charge force of a relativistic particle beam, known as Plasma Wakefield Acceleration (PWFA) as detailed in the white papers [21, 22]. Particle beams can also drive large fields in structures (metallic, dielectric), known as Structure Wakefield Acceleration (SWFA) which is another advanced accelerator concept as detailed in the white papers [23, 24]. While in the long term these two drivers offer risk mitigation, distinct benefits (e.g. field shaping with lasers, lack of dephasing with beams), and the potential for a hybrid collider taking advantage of the best of each, in the short term the R&D facilities explore different aspects which benefit all options. These are supported by strong progress in supporting techniques including particle sources [25], drivers [26], and near term applications [27, 28] that reinforce the path to a collider. While these technologies are progressing strongly towards collider needs as summarized in the above papers and the ITF report [29], other new techniques continue to emerge and be developed ranging from laser driven structures [30] to nanoplasmonics [31, 32] demonstrating the rich potential of future accelerators to extend the reach of physics.

Strategy updates developed in both Europe and the U.S. in the past decade prioritize R&D on advanced accelerator concepts including plasma and advanced structure based accelerators. The 2014 *Report of the Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel (P5)* [33] highlights the importance of high-gradient acceleration technologies for future colliders (page 47):

There is a critical need for technical breakthroughs that will yield more cost-effective accelerators. For example, ultra-high gradient accelerator techniques will require the development of power sources (RF, lasers, and electron beam drivers) compatible with high average power and high wall plug efficiency, and accelerating structures

(plasmas, metallic, and dielectric) that can sustain high average power, have high damage threshold, and can be cascaded. Engagement of the national laboratories, universities, and industry will be essential for comprehensive R&D to meet these challenges. Advancing these technologies will benefit many other areas of science and technology.

This was reinforced by a subsequent Accelerator Research and Development Subpanel *Accelerating Discovery: A Strategic Plan for Accelerator R&D in the U.S.* [34]. This report stressed the need to adequately support advanced acceleration R&D towards future HEP colliders, as well as required demonstration facilities (pages 11 and 30).

Similarly, the need to intensify development of high-gradient and plasma-based accelerator technology was strongly recommended in the recent report *2020 Update of the European Strategy for Particle Physics* [35] (page 9):

Innovative accelerator technology underpins the physics reach of high-energy and high-intensity colliders. It is also a powerful driver for many accelerator-based fields of science and industry. The technologies under consideration include high-field magnets, high-temperature superconductors, plasma wakefield acceleration and other high-gradient accelerating structures, bright muon beams, energy recovery linacs. The European particle physics community must intensify accelerator R&D and sustain it with adequate resources. A roadmap should prioritize the technology, taking into account synergies with international partners and other communities such as photon and neutron sources, fusion energy and industry. Deliverables for this decade should be defined in a timely fashion and coordinated among CERN and national laboratories and institutes.

This 2020 European Strategy report [35] was followed by a report of the European *Laboratory Directors Group* [36] that developed an accelerator R&D plan and concluded (page 137):

The field of high-gradient plasma and laser accelerators offers a prospect of facilities with significantly reduced size that may be an alternative path to TeV scale e+e- colliders. Though presently at an earlier development stage than the other accelerators, first facilities in photon and material science are now feasible and are in preparation. These accelerators also offer the prospect of near term, compact and cost-effective particle physics experiments that provide new physics possibilities supporting precision studies and the search for new particles.

The expert panel has defined a long term R&D roadmap towards a compact collider with attractive intermediate experiments and studies. Such machines are an option for a compact collider facility beyond the timeline of an eventual FCC-hh facility. A delivery plan for the required R&D has been developed and includes work packages, deliverables, a minimal plan, connections to ongoing projects and an aspirational plan. The panel recommends strongly that the particle physics community supports this work with increased resources in order to develop the long term future and sustainability of this field, and the US program needs similar prioritization.

In addition to the HEP community, the following reports stressed their strong interest in and support of advanced accelerator technology, highlighting synergies and possible technology spin-offs including near term applications:

- The 2019 report of the *Basic Research Needs Workshop on Compact Accelerators for Security and Medicine* [37] states strong interest in and support for compact 100 MeV to 100 GeV accelerators based on laser-driven wakefields (pages 44, 77, 78, 158, 193, 196, 201 and 202).
- The 2019 *Brightest Light Initiative Workshop* [38] report states that (page 3.18):

Extreme acceleration gradients in laser-plasma accelerators can be leveraged for future applications and light sources that need low-emittance, high-brilliance beams by investing in short-pulse laser systems with kHz to MHz repetition rates.

- The 2020 *Report of the Fusion Energy Sciences Advisory Committee* [39], titled ‘Powering the Future Fusion & Plasmas’ (pages 18 and 35) recommends to (page 35):

Pursue the development of a multi-petawatt laser facility – and a high-repetition-rate high-intensity laser facility in the US, in partnership with other federal agencies where possible.

- The 2021 *Plasma Science, Decadal Report* [40] put forward five recommendations encouraging collaborative research on plasma acceleration in theory, computation, and experiments (pages 158–160).

In this report, we summarize the state of the field, drawing from the individual white papers and the ITF report to which we refer the reader for detailed material. First, we give an overview of the recent high level results that continue to advance the relevance of these accelerators to future colliders. Next, we describe analysis of potential collider issues, which so far indicate that there are not barriers to such a machine and motivate a integrated design study as a next step. Context of US efforts with the recent European roadmap and international collaboration are presented. Near term applications will use such accelerators before a collider, and we describe the important role their development on the path towards a collider. These developments are based on a strong network of test facilities, which need continued investment to maintain progress and US global leadership position. Other advanced concepts which continue to increase the potential of future accelerators, and the role of advanced accelerators in the accelerator community workforce are discussed. We conclude with a summary and priority directions for the field.

3 Plasma and structure based accelerator R&D

The field of laser and beam driven plasma, and beam driven structure, accelerators has continued to see rapid progress over the last decade and since the last Snowmass process, addressing key components as identified in the last Snowmass process and P5 subpanel-recommended Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy, published by DOE in 2016. These include: collider-relevant single stage energies, capability to stage plasma accelerators including timing and alignment, capability to accelerate and focus positrons, efficient acceleration using tailored drive beams, and greatly improved beam quality. Driver and plasma techniques with potential to support operation at collider class rates of 10's of kHz are emerging. As detailed in the section below, studies have also started to address integration of these elements into collider concepts addressing issues such as instability mitigation and preservation of low emittance. As described in Section 8, new and alternative concepts continue to emerge and advance the field.

Since the first demonstration of high-quality beams from LPAs in 2004 [41–43], steady progress has been made increasing the beam energy gain in a single plasma stage with both laser and beam drivers. The current record LPA energy gain of 7.8 GeV was obtained in 2018 by guiding a 0.85 PW laser in a 20 cm-long (corresponding to about 15 diffraction lengths) laser-heated capillary discharge waveguide [44]. Development of laser guiding techniques that allow an LPA to operate at low plasma densities, while still keeping the laser driver tightly focused over distances much longer than its characteristic diffraction length are critical to the realization of high-energy LPAs. In this respect, several schemes for the production of meter-scale plasma waveguides using optical-field-ionization techniques have been recently proposed and validated [45, 46] and the next step will be to combine these with high energy drivers to push energies to and potentially beyond 10 GeV per stage. A collider would consist of many such stages, since in plasmas the stage energy is linked to average gradient and charge and this energy yields minimal overall length and appropriate interaction point charge [47, 48].

High-efficiency acceleration of a discrete trailing bunch of electrons that contains sufficient charge to extract a substantial amount of energy from the high-gradient, nonlinear wake (as required for an efficient collider) has been demonstrated in a beam driven plasma accelerator [49]. Acceleration of about 74 picocoulombs of charge contained in the core of the trailing bunch gained about 1.6 gigaelectronvolts of energy per particle, with a final energy spread as low as 0.7 per cent (2.0 per cent on average). The experiment combined high accelerating gradient of about 4.4 gigavolts per metre and a collider relevant energy-transfer efficiency from the wake to the bunch that can exceed 30 per cent (17.7 per cent on average). New facilities using beam (FACET-II) and laser (BELLA 2nd beamline) will offer increased control of the trailing bunch to further increase efficiency.

High gradient structures driven by beams have been developed to GeV/m class gradients. A high charge electron beam was used to excite a wakefield in a dielectric-lined waveguide structure [10]. Gradients of more than 1.3 GeV/m were observed in a dielectric wakefield accelerator of 15 cm length, with sub-millimetre transverse aperture, by measuring changes of the kinetic state of relativistic electron beams and accelerating gradients of 320 MeV/m were demonstrated. An X-band Photoinjector was powered by 400 nC drive bunch train and demonstrated reliable operation at 400 MeV/m with very low breakdown rates [50]. These results improve on previous measurements by an order of magnitude and show promise for dielectric wakefield accelerators and X-band

Photoinjectors as sources of high-energy electrons.

Precise control over the 6D phase space distribution[51] is necessary to maximize the efficiency of an AAC-based linear collider. Tailored distributions can also be used to mitigate collective effects and mitigate the beam breakup instability. An emittance exchange beamline was recently used to shape the longitudinal current profile of a high-charge electron bunch to demonstrate record high transformer ratio. Such a beam was used to excite nonlinear plasma wakefields in a hollow-cathode plasma cell and a transformer ratio of $R=7.8$ was measured [8]. Using the same emittance exchanger, researchers measured a transformer ratio of 5 in a collinear dielectric wakefield structure[9]. These results are key steps in advancing PWFA and SWFA technology on the roadmap towards a viable linear collider.

A proof-of-principle demonstration of staging was recently made using two independent laser-driven plasma stages [52], establishing that timing and alignment are possible. In this proof-of-principle experiment, stable ~ 100 MeV electron beams from the first LPA (length $\lesssim 1$ mm) were focused by a discharge capillary-based active plasma lens of length 1.5 cm into a 3.3 cm-long LPA powered by a second laser pulse that was in-coupled into the second stage by means of a plasma mirror. The second LPA stage operated in a dark-current-free, quasi-linear regime, and captured and accelerated by ~ 100 MeV a fraction of the beam. Future experiments are being prepared to explore multi-GeV staging and high capture efficiency including the newly commissioned BELLA 2nd beamline and others. In a similar effort, a proof-of-principle SWFA experiment yielded the first experimental demonstration of a staged two beam wakefield accelerator[?] at the AWA, where a high-brightness 0.5 nC electron bunch gained equal amounts of energy in two stages corresponding to an average acceleration gradient of 70 MeV/m. Relevant physics of stage in and out coupling and emittance preservation will also be studied at facilities such as FACET-II, ATF and others.

Acceleration of positron beams was demonstrated using a beam driven plasma wakefield, a important step towards a future collider. A single, high energy (20 GeV), high charge (~ 1 nC), short (~ 30 μm) positron bunch was launched into a 30 cm-long lithium heat pipe oven plasma source. The results surprisingly produced a mono-energetic positron beam that gained several GeV of energy, revealing a previously unpredicted regime of non-linear positron PWFA physics [53]. Positron wake generation and loading were also explored in experiments using hollow channels created by a Bessel laser beam ionizing a tube of neutral gas [54], a promising approach for future colliders[55] that enable symmetric acceleration of electron and positron beams.

The Advanced Proton Driven Plasma Wakefield Acceleration Experiment (AWAKE) experiment demonstrated the ability to accelerate electrons in a high-energy proton beam-driven plasma wakefield accelerator (PDWFA) [56], detailed in [22]. This takes advantage of existing infrastructure to produce high energy, high charge proton beams and to transfer that energy to an electron beam over a relatively short distance.

Plasma lenses can focus electron beams with strengths several orders of magnitude stronger than quadrupole magnets. In passive plasma lenses [57–59], the transverse focusing force in the underdense, nonlinear blowout plasma wake regime is due to the presence of the stationary plasma ions. Active plasma lenses [60] can focus particles of either charge using an axial current carried in a plasma column, which creates an azimuthal focusing field, and focusing of high brightness beams [61] and emittance preservation [62] have been demonstrated. Both are far stronger than conventional quadrupoles. Such lenses were a key part of the recent staging demonstration [52],

allowing coupling of stages at cm scale, and emittance preservation [63] has been demonstrated. These plasma lenses may provide both compact coupling between stages to preserve gradient, and additional options for beam delivery subsystems and continued R&D is needed to establish methods for collider scale beams.

Particle sources based on plasma accelerators enable beams with tens of nm rad normalized emittances due to the very high fields these structures sustain, and regimes with transverse field linearity, as detailed in [25]. Ultralow-emittance beams have been demonstrated using plasma density downramps to control injection trajectories [64–69] which may give rise to slice normalized emittances down to tens of nmrad [70]. It offers huge tunability with regard to the downramp profile in 3d-space and time [71] which experiments using laser- preformation [72] and hybrid LWFA-PWFA [73] are developing. Ionization can birth particles matched in the structure for nm-class beams. Multiple colliding laser pulses can offer advanced control of phase space [74–76]. Advances in injection supported greatly improved beam quality which recently culminated in the spectacular first demonstrations of laser-driven and beam-driven plasma based FELs [11, 12]. So far LPAs have demonstrated the production of high-quality electron beams with HEP-relevant parameters, such as relative energy spreads to and below 1% [76–79], normalized emittances of $\sim 0.1 \mu\text{m}$ [80, 81], durations inferred to be 1-3 fs [82, 83], and high charge (100s of pC) [67, 84], even though the best parameters were not all achieved, in general, simultaneously. Simulations indicate reaching these parameters simultaneously is feasible with plasma controlled injection which has the potential to circumvent the need for damping rings in conventional accelerators, which are not capable to produce beams with emittances that allow for reaching the required luminosities. There is the potential also for directly generating polarized beams [85, 86] and for rapid linear cooling systems based on plasma undulators [87, 88].

Reaching the necessary luminosities for a linear collider will likely require the acceleration of thousands of bunches per second. Driver technologies (SRF linacs, high average power lasers) have developed substantially in the last 10 years. For laser driven approaches, new diode-pumped solid-state laser technologies are needed to address collider rates and efficiency as detailed in [26]. The fiber laser solution, combining many ultra-short pulses generated from fiber amplifiers in time, space, and wavelength [89–91], offers high wall-plug efficiencies and excellent thermal management. Hundred-mJ-class sub-scale demonstrations integrating representative components are in progress at collider relevant rates. A flexible high-rate laser driver utilizing bulk Tm:YLF crystals [92, 93] near $2 \mu\text{m}$ wavelength is an inherently high-efficiency, single laser beam solution and recently Joule-class extraction (at low average power to date) has been demonstrated. Cryogenic Yb is a high maturity option operating at Joules at kHz. This indicates that multiple feasible driver paths exist, and sustained R&D will be needed to reach technical readiness for application as LPA collider drivers [94–96]. SRF technologies for beam drivers have similar maturity to other accelerators to meet needs of future colliders, and require specific bunch formats. The recovery time of a beam-driven plasma accelerator was recently measured for the first time at FLASHForward at 63 ns, while kHz discharge experiments were completed at LBNL, and it has been shown that laser formed plasma structures are capable of high repetition rate operation [97]. Acceleration at kHz rates to energies of $\sim 15 \text{ MeV}$ has been demonstrated [98]. These results indicating that both drivers and targets at the required many-kHz rates are feasible. The next step is a new facility for high repetition rate (kHz) lasers. By enabling active feedback to correct jitter (possible at and above

kHz rates due to the frequency spectrum of ground motion) this will enable precision LPA R&D towards collider performance requirements.

Progress over the past decade has established that the main building blocks of a future collider are potentially workable, have the potential to offer significant scale and cost advantages, and should be developed fully. Key issues identified by the past Snowmass, P5, Accelerator R&D subpanel, and subsequent Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy have been addressed to the extent realistic within funding limits. These include experimental demonstration of multi-GeV stages, efficient acceleration, and initial proofs of principle of staging of multiple modules and positron acceleration. The development of large scale simulations supported these results and indicate they can be scaled to high performance. The community is positioned to take the next steps in development, including:

- Development of high energy electron stages towards collider charge and efficiency, using techniques such as matched laser guiding and shaped electron drive beams enabled by new facilities
- Higher energy staging with high capture efficiency and techniques for preservation of emittance
- Development of sub-0.1 micron emittances and their transport using advanced optical injection mechanisms and plasma shaping techniques
- High quality positron acceleration, accessible using extensions of FACET-II and BELLA
- Experiments at high repetition rate, accessible on new facilities as detailed below
- Development of supporting technologies such as efficient high repetition rate drivers, plasma lenses for high gradient focusing, diagnostics and advanced simulations

As detailed in the following section, conceptual parameters have been developed for future colliders. As detailed in section 7 experimental test capabilities have been developed for staging (BELLA 2nd Beamline), together with capabilities for high performance PWFA with multiple bunches (FACET-II) and structure wakefields (AWA and FACET-II), while a capability for positron tests has been designed and proposed (FACET-II Positrons).

4 Collider Concepts and Integrated Design Study

Advanced wakefield based accelerator technologies provide a path to a multi-TeV lepton collider. The high-gradient structures significantly reduces the length of the accelerating sections. The wakefield accelerators naturally accommodate short bunches, which reduce beamstrahlung and enhance luminosity. Low emittance beams can also be generated in plasmas, which also increases luminosity. Wakefield accelerators can also support efficient transfer of energy from the drive bunch to the witness bunch. These factors yield a novel, compact, less-expensive accelerator option for exploring energy-frontier physics. The advanced accelerator based collider concepts can be considered as a stand-alone concept or as an upgrade to an existing sub-TeV linear collider facility.

Detailed conceptual designs of AAC-based colliders have not been completed. However, several preliminary studies have been performed (for details, see white papers submitted to Snowmass21 proceedings [20, 21, 23, 99]). These studies have been used to help identify the expected operational parameters to guide the R&D toward developing AAC-based collider concepts (See, e.g., Ref. [100]). The general approach is based on wakefield accelerator modules and staging. Each wakefield module is powered by a separate drive beam (electron or laser). Depletion of the drive beam energy by exciting wakefields within the module ultimately limits the length of an individual modules, although there may be other considerations that determine the optimal length. Each module would yield an energy gain of 1–10 GeV, depending on the specific design and approach. Higher energies are obtained by coupling, or staging, additional modules.

In the past decade, there have been significant advances in addressing collider issues. Theoretical studies have demonstrated that in principle the required nm-class beam quality can be preserved in future colliders (addressing potential limits due to scattering [101, 102], hosing [103, 104], matching [105–107], and ion motion [108–111]), and that shaped bunches can be used to efficiently accelerate beams without energy spread growth [8, 9]. The high gradients accessible may make beam and/or laser energy recovery practical for improved efficiency. These indicate that fundamentally an AAC collider is likely to be able to access many-TeV energies, and form the basis for future integrated designs.

It is envisioned that an AAC-based high-energy collider would initially operate at TeV center-of-mass energies, and be upgraded to >10 TeV. Parameters for center-of-mass energies of 1 TeV, 3 TeV, and 15 TeV for the various AAC technologies have been studied. Further discussion of these parameters and details can be found in the individual white papers. Note that the 1 TeV and 3 TeV colliders are envisioned as precision machines and use flat beams (asymmetric emittances in vertical and horizontal planes) to reduce the beamstrahlung background. The 15 TeV collider is envisioned as an energy frontier machine and uses round beams to reach the high luminosity at reduced power. It should be emphasized that these numerical examples are representative of what could be achieved using AAC-based linacs, and optimization will be performed during the development of an integrated design study. AAC technology is rapidly advancing, with new innovations appearing at a swift pace, and we fully expect that the AAC collider designs and numerical parameters will evolve as new innovations and inventions in this field emerge.

Owing to the ultra-high accelerating gradients, to reach several TeV beam energies, an AAC-based linac would be of km scale. For example, a geometric gradient of 2 GV/m (which is conservative), requires only 0.5 km in each linac arm to reach 1 TeV beam energies. This offers

the possibility of re-using the tunnels of an existing conventional linear collider complex to greatly extend the energy reach of the facility as a future upgrade. For example, one could consider using the ILC infrastructure (or some other RF-based linear collider) to upgrade the beam energy by replacing the RF cavities with AAC stages. Upgrading to $\sqrt{s} = 1$ TeV or 3 TeV, with the parameters in [25] could be supported by the ILC site power. The unused main linac tunnel length could be employed to extend the Beam Delivery System to accommodate the higher beam energies, as well as space for linear cooling sections to further reduce the beam emittance. Additional bunch compressors would be required to achieve the short, 10- μ m-scale, bunch length needed for the highest frequency wakefield accelerators. Furthermore, achieving high beam energies is straightforward by adding additional AAC stages. The achievable luminosity would be limited by the site power of the repurposed ILC design. AAC technology may provide a long-term upgrade path to continue realizing new physics reach in realistic stages using the infrastructure of a RF linear collider facility.

Accelerators are essentially a power source and a structure. In high-gradient advanced accelerator concepts the structures can be made of metals, dielectrics or plasmas and the power source is typically a high-current electron beam or high-power laser pulse. The advanced accelerator based collider concepts discussed in this section align with the three directions supported by DOE HEP General Accelerator R&D (GARD) and combine structures and power sources as follows: (1) laser-driven plasma-based accelerators, also referred to as laser-plasma accelerators (LPAs) or as laser wakefield accelerators, (2) beam-driven plasma-based accelerators, also referred to as plasma wakefield accelerators (PWFA), and (3) beam-driven structure-based accelerators, also referred to as advanced structure wakefield accelerators (SWFA). For details on these approaches, as well as numerous references, please see the individual white papers on these topics [20, 21, 23]. Rapid progress has been made on individual accelerator components as highlighted in Section 3. The international landscape is described in Section 5 and the importance of developing and demonstrating near term applications as stepping stones towards deployment of AAC technologies is discussed in Section 6. In the paragraphs below we highlight high-level priority research directions for the different technologies and in Section 7 describe the accelerator test facilities and upgrades envisioned to enable this research program.

For Laser Plasma Accelerators (LPA) research is focused on both the accelerator technology and the auxiliary systems compatible with laser-plasma-accelerated particle beams. Multi-GeV staging is the highest near-term research priority for LPA development including the development of compact methods to couple the particle beam between stages, minimizing beam loss and preserving beam emittance. Advanced laser-plasma injection techniques [25] should be pursued to generate ultra-low emittance (<100 nm) electron beams that will have applications in addition to colliders while also serving as tools to develop techniques to measure and transport the low emittance beams needed for collider applications. Current high-peak-power laser systems operate at a few Hz repetition rates, and laser-plasma acceleration techniques, including plasma targetry, laser shaping, diagnostics, etc., will need to be developed for high repetition rates (tens of kHz). Laser technology is advancing rapidly, driven by applications ranging from in industry to defense. Recent studies have identified how these advances can be leveraged to create plasma accelerators driven by high peak and average power short pulse lasers [26]. Demonstration facilities and experiments are envisioned as next steps for developing suitable driver technology (see Section 7).

In a beam-driven plasma accelerator, the plasma is a transformer that takes a high-current low-voltage electron beam and converts it to a high-voltage lower-current beam in a series of compact plasma cells. For example, a 10 GeV beam with a 1 MHz repetition rate similar to systems now being deployed for XFELs around the world, could be transformed into a 1 TeV beam with a repetition rate of 10 kHz for collider applications. The heart of such a system is the plasma cell and recent demonstrations have operated with gradients and efficiencies proposed for plasma collider concepts. The challenge now is to achieve the same high-gradient and high-efficiency acceleration already demonstrated and described in Section 3 while also preserving the beam emittance. As in laser plasma accelerators, this involves properly matching the beams into the strong focusing within the plasma, controlling chromaticity as well as mitigating the beam break-up instability, ion motion and other mechanisms of emittance growth. External injection of beams into plasma accelerator stages can at best preserve the beam quality of the incoming beam. Internal injection methods which may produce beams with tens of nm rad normalized emittances are being developed as surrogates to study collider quality beams. Staging not only enables reaching high particle energies, but can also be used for passive feedback and correction systems that can greatly improve the beam quality and stability [112]. To maintain the high average accelerating gradient, compact methods for interstage geometries need to be developed that scale well to very high energy. Ideas exist involving plasma lenses but limitations may arise at high intensities and need to be investigated. Current state-of-the-art plasma-accelerator experiments typically operate at the Hertz-level.

The inter-bunch frequency in a plasma-based collider will be defined by the time it takes for the plasma to recover to approximately its initial state after the long-term plasma motion caused by driving a wake and significant developments in plasma-source technology will be required. Although there are differences between the way laser and electron beam drivers propagate in a plasma, much of the physics for accelerating beams to high-energy with low-emittance is common for both approaches. Designs will need to account for precision alignment and jitter tolerances, and high efficiency coupling of many stages, in small accelerator structures. Often times advances in theory, modeling and experimental techniques from one field benefits the other and there is a strong synergy between the goals of each technology.

It is worth noting that an alternative form of beam driven plasma acceleration using high-energy proton beams as plasma wakefield drivers is being investigated by the AWAKE Collaboration, centered in Europe [113]. This technique takes advantage of the availability of high-energy, relativistic proton bunches (such as those available from proton synchrotrons) to drive large amplitude wakefields (GV/m) in a single plasma over distances sufficient to produce hundreds of GeV to TeV electron bunches. The relatively low repetition rate of the proton bunches has led to consideration of applications other than a traditional electron-positron collider, such as replacing secondary particle sources for dark photon search experiments or TeV electron-proton collisions for very-high energy ep/eA collider.

Structure Wakefield Accelerators come in two formats, the short-pulse Two-Beam Accelerator (TBA) and the Collinear Wakefield Accelerator (CWA)[114]. They are distinguished by whether the drive and main beams traverse the same structure. In the short-pulse TBA configuration, the drive beam energy is extracted and converted into an RF pulse in a power extraction and transfer structure, that is then used to accelerate the main beam in a separate accelerating structure. In both cases, the high charge drive beam creates significant beam dynamics issues that need to be controlled by

designing and testing structures that mitigate wakefields and damp higher order modes. For the TBA approach, RF breakdown is mitigated by operating with high-gradients ($>300\text{MeV/m}$) and RF pulses an order of magnitude shorter than conventional techniques (10ns). In the CWA approach, producing high-charge beams with shaped longitudinal profiles increases the gradient and energy boost per stage and robust techniques for shaping these high-current beams is under development. High-gradients and high-transformer ratios have been demonstrated and programs [115] will scale up the total energy gain to more than 100MeV while preserving the accelerated beam emittance and then focus on staging two or more cells together for more than a GeV energy gain. Controlling wakefields, limiting emittance growth and maximizing efficiency with shaped beams are common elements to all three AAC schemes leading to synergy in research activities and a collaborative approach across technologies.

With core research on high gradient accelerator stage showing strong progress towards collider needs, innovative ideas are emerging for supporting systems such as the beam delivery system (BDS). The BDS transports the beam from the accelerator and brings it to a focus at the Interaction Point and includes diagnostic sections for measuring the beam energy, emittance, and polarization, as well as collimators for machine protection. The length of the BDS system increases with collision energy and in the absence of new ideas could dominate size for advanced accelerators. Such novel ideas for a future BDS systems that will reduce the size of the system and increase the luminosity of linear colliders based on Advanced Accelerator techniques are detailed in [116]. Plasma lenses can reduce chromaticity, increase energy acceptance, and reduce the length of the final focusing elements, while novel collimation techniques can reduce length. Luminosity enhancement can be realized due to naturally short beams from Advanced Accelerators, and may be complemented using round beams or novel Machine Detector Interface (MDI) designs that can accommodate plasma lenses and large backgrounds.

Development of enhanced modeling capabilities is required in order to guide the RD effort towards a TeV collider. For example, the numerical modeling, in 3D, of plasma accelerators using conventional Particle-In-Cell (PIC) codes is a computationally challenging task. Modeling a collider requires simulating a chain of hundreds of stages together with all the optics required for inter-stage beam transport and driver in-coupling. In addition, ensemble runs of simulations on large parameter space will be required to estimate tolerances and assess the impact of non-ideal effects (e.g., misalignment, tilts, etc.). The development of simulation tools needed for the design of a multi-TeV collider will require robust and sustained team efforts based on collaborations in the accelerator modeling community, as well as coordination between national laboratories and university groups. These collaborations should leverage the past, ongoing, and future efforts from the DOE SciDAC and the Exascale Computing Project.

Advocates for linear colliders are primarily interested in electron-positron collisions. This is because electron-positron collisions are “clean”: collisions between electrons and positrons have a well-defined center of mass (CM) and zero initial quantum number. In addition, the CM energy and beam polarization can be scanned to precisely probe physics near a particle resonance. Electron-positron collisions require high-energy positron beams, and this presents a unique challenge for the plasma based concepts because the acceleration of positron beams in nonlinear plasma wakefields is different from the electron beam case. As described in Section 3, many alternatives to the non-linear blowout regime have been proposed and tested yielding many of the qualities needed

for a collider: multi-GeV/m accelerating gradient, multi-GeV energy gain and percent level energy spread. For collider applications, further advances are needed that deliver all of the key ingredients at the same time: high-gradient acceleration, multi-GeV energy gain, high efficiency and emittance preservation. A variety of ideas have been put forward that propose engineering the drive beam [117, 118] and/or the plasma source [119–121] to meet these demands and will be testable with facility upgrades discussed in Section 7. Additionally, plasma accelerators offer techniques to reduce the cost and footprint of the positron source, including bremsstrahlung radiators or undulators driven by compact accelerators, and the potential for compact linear cooling mechanisms such as plasma undulators [87, 88]. These could benefit any future collider.

An alternative that does not require positron acceleration is to construct a $\gamma\text{-}\gamma$ collider, that is, an e^-e^- collider with conversion of the e^- beams to γ s near the interaction point, which is one of the examples in [20]. This conversion can be done by Compton scattering from a low-photon-energy laser beam [122]. A scheme using highly compressed e^- bunches is also being studied [123]. A $\gamma\text{-}\gamma$ collider at the Higgs boson resonance would be interesting in the near term; this would require only 80 GeV/ e^- beam, assuming 80% energy transfer to the γ s. For longer-range goals, a $\gamma\text{-}\gamma$ collider may be just as effective as an e^+e^- collider in exploring new particles with masses in the energy region of 10 TeV and above [124].

A critical advance will be the development of an integrated design study for an AAC-based collider that will include preliminary designs for all the collider subsystems. Key components include the electron source, positron source, cooling system, bunch compressors, the accelerator, and the beam delivery system (BDS) to the interaction point (IP). This should be an international effort, seeking to enhance AAC collider designs by leveraging the decades of experience of conventional collider development and drawing from the best elements of each AAC technology. Beyond the next decade, it is envisioned that a low-energy (few tens of GeV) collider demonstrator would be required. Given the cost of such a facility, a robust science case needs to be developed (e.g., such an energy range may have potential applications to nuclear physics and QCD experiments). With sufficient funding, such a facility could be constructed and commissioned on the 20-year timescale. It is anticipated that, with sustained funding, a technical design report for a multi-TeV collider could be completed in the 25+ year timescale. These are captured as a high-level recommendations within the Executive Summary in Section 1.

5 European Roadmap and international collaboration

Europe has established a strong R&D program in advanced accelerators. Several European projects and plans have been presented in Snowmass meetings or in white papers. In Europe, future R&D plans and goals for particle physics machines have recently been assessed by an expert panel and the findings were published in the European roadmap report for accelerator R&D, see [?].

The advanced accelerator R&D in Europe is driven forward in an integrated effort, covering usage of this new technology for the full range of beam energies relevant for applied and fundamental research. At present first user facilities involving plasma accelerators are being set up for photon and material science in the European research landscape. The "European Plasma Accelerator with eXcellence In Application" (EuPRAXIA)[?] is an officially selected and government supported project on the roadmap of the "European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures" (ESFRI), aimed at 5 GeV electron beams of high quality. National and European funding support for EuPRAXIA has reached 150 M€ and an EU-funded Preparatory Phase project is preparing its full implementation. Latest R&D achievements in Europe include the Nature-published free electron lasing of an electron beam after passing through a beam-driven plasma accelerator, demonstrated at the EuPRAXIA SPARC_lab facility in LNF/INFN[12].

As described in the report of the European expert panel, national and regional activities in Europe will continue through the end of the 2020s with a strong R&D and construction programme, aiming mainly at low energy research infrastructures, for example to drive a free-electron laser or to deliver ultrafast electron diffraction. Various important milestones have been and will be achieved in internationally leading programmes at CERN, CLARA, CNRS, DESY, various centres and institutes in the Helmholtz Association, INFN, LBNL, RAL, SCAPA, and others. New European research infrastructures (RI) involving lasers and plasma accelerator technology have been driven forward in recent years, namely ELI and EuPRAXIA, both placed on the ESFRI roadmap.

The European expert panel found that plasma-based accelerators have produced multi-GeV bunches with parameters approaching those suitable for a linear collider. It concludes that significant reduction in size and, perhaps, cost of future accelerators can therefore in principle be envisaged, also for particle physics machines. The European expert panel recommends in its report that the work directed at applied research machines should be complemented by early tests and R&D activities targeted at High Energy Physics (HEP). Given that funding for ongoing activities in Europe is mostly from non-HEP sources, several HEP-related aspects are currently not prioritised, for example: staging to high energy; efficiency; acceleration of positron bunches and beam polarisation. It is though noted that the AWAKE collaboration and experiment at CERN is fully funded by Particle Physics and has develops the usage of proton bunches and their high stored energy as drivers of plasma wakefields to accelerate electrons [125]. AWAKE has a clear science roadmap for the next decade, which aims to bring the proton driven plasma wakefield acceleration technology to a stage, where first particle physics experiments can be proposed.

The European expert panel states in its executive summary that important progress has been made in demonstrating key aspects of plasma and dielectric accelerators, in particular in terms of energy and quality of the accelerated bunch from laser, electron and proton driven plasma accelerators. Also, rapid progress in underlying technologies, e.g. lasers, feedback systems, nano-control, manufacturing, etc. has been achieved. Given the state of development and work to be done

the European expert panel and roadmap foresees that "a plasma-based collider can only become available for particle physics experiments beyond 2050. The feasibility of a collider based on plasma accelerator schemes remains to be proven." Key challenges to reach the high energy frontier were identified and include the following aspects:

- Demonstrate on paper and in experiment the acceleration of high electron bunch charge (>800 pC with good beam quality) in plasma, sufficient to reach the goal of specific luminosity.
- Develop on paper a scheme for multi-stage positron bunch acceleration in plasma, that can provide a sufficient bunch charge and emittance. Confirm in experiments.
- Develop emittance preservation at the nanometer scale, including measurement and correction procedures.
- Develop sufficient wall plug to beam power efficiency.
- Demonstrate staging designs of multiple structures with high energy gain and all optical elements, including tolerances and detailed length and cost scaling.
- Investigate in detail high repetition rate and associated power-handling and efficiency issues.

Given the strong potential gain with compact accelerators and the remaining challenges to be addressed, the panel recommended a strong work program with additional funding for HEP-oriented R&D in novel accelerators. It was found that most progress has been achieved in plasma accelerators. Dielectric laser accelerators are in an earlier stage of development but are of potential interest on the longer horizon and are hence a part of the European future roadmap. Required additional resources for a European minimal plan amount to 147 FTE-years and 3.15 MCHF of investment. The aspirational plan would require additional resources for 147 FTE-years and 35.5 MCHF investment, beyond the minimal plan.

The panel in Europe proposed a three-pillar R&D roadmap for novel accelerators. A feasibility and pre-CDR study forms the first pillar and will investigate the potential and performance reach of plasma and laser accelerators for particle physics. In addition a realistic cost-size-benefit analysis is included and will be performed in a comparative approach for different technologies. A second pillar relies on technical demonstrations to prove suitability of plasma and laser accelerators for particle physics. A third pillar connects the work on novel accelerators to other science fields and to other applications.

The European strategy for novel accelerators has explicitly reached out to collaborators in the US and Asia. It is clear that the work in Europe should be closely inter-linked and coordinated (or even integrated) with activities in the US or Asia. The European EuPRAXIA project includes US and Asian collaborators. The proposed "Feasibility and pre-CDR Study" is closely related to the Integrated Design Study proposed in the Snowmass process. A common study or at least very close collaboration would leverage important synergy and should be envisaged. US accelerator R&D facilities like BELLA and FACET-2 offer unique and world-leading experimental capabilities. The European plan foresees that those capabilities are fully exploited and installations are not unnecessarily replicated in Europe. Such a collaborative, open innovation approach will follow the long tradition of particle physics. It will ensure most efficient use of resources and fastest progress.

Adequate coordination, collaboration and funding schemes at the global level do, however, not exist for novel accelerators and remain to be designed and set up. Such structures could possibly be formed inside ICFA and adopting some ideas from the "Advanced LinEar collider study GROup" ALEGRO[?].

6 Near term applications as stepping stones towards high energy physics deployment

Particle accelerators have been developed from the beginning of their century-long history to serve the needs of high energy physics community, pushing the energy and intensity frontiers in the search of better understanding of the subatomic world. At the same time, the capabilities of these machines to focus the electromagnetic energy into very high quality beams and the characteristics of the radiation emitted by these beams has been recognized early on and a myriad of uses of accelerators have been developed extending from pure scientific (material studies through electron or x-rays techniques such as microscopy, diffraction or spectroscopy, gamma rays for nuclear science) to more industrial (material processing, sterilization, nondestructive evaluation, security and nuclear nonproliferation, defense and space applications) to health sciences (radiation and therapy) applications.

The field of high gradient advanced accelerator followed a similar trajectory: born in recognition of fundamental limits of conventional RF-based accelerators, in the quest for higher particle energies. In recent years, though, an abundance of applications of compact particle accelerators and their associated radiation sources (electron, protons, X-rays, gammas, etc.) has emerged. Not only do advanced concepts shrink down the accelerator size, and cost, but they enable entirely new frequencies and time-scales and corresponding radiation pulses. Controlling and diagnosing matter on ultra-small and ultra-short scales has been highlighted as the key driver of innovation and discovery [126].

Building and developing advanced accelerators for near term application is critical to advance the technology as described in [27, 28]. Deferring real world use of this technology to very high energy collider-like machines will not allow to test and solve the myriad of technical challenges that separate an accelerator physics experiment from a working particle accelerating machine. Improving the output beam quality, the drive beam control, the energy transfer efficiency will only take place if actual users of plasma and laser based accelerators put the time in to perfect these machines. A very telling example is the XFEL where thanks to vibrant user community pushes the accelerator technology to frontiers that were certainly not foreseeable two decades ago. The US funding agencies should recognize that constraining advanced accelerators to high energy physics would strongly limit the possibilities for development and in the end the final success of this technology. While it is true that advanced accelerator have significant ground to cover with respect to conventional RF-based accelerators, real-world deployment at energies lower than what needed for HEP colliders and application is actually a needed and unavoidable step before the wider HEP community can entrust this technology with its future. This is in addition to providing important societal benefits e.g. in bringing diagnostic capabilities now only accessible in large facilities to clinical and industrial settings.

Note that at the international level, strong competition has emerged for accelerator development for near-term applications. For example, two plasma-accelerator milestone demonstrations of free-electron lasing [? ?], known to critically depend on excellent electron beam phase space characteristics, highlight recent advances. In addition, the 2022 European particle physics report has specifically called out near-term applications (see “Integration and Outreach” in Fig. 4.1 of [127]) as critical in achieving the long-term roadmap goals, which has led to concrete investments. The Eupraxia project [128] is a concrete example of a community-driven merging of accelerator

concept and application needs. It cannot be ignored that while the field of plasma accelerator was first born and developed in the US, the two aforementioned plasma-based FEL demonstrations occurred in Asian and European facilities. A recent report from BESAC came out on International Benchmarking of the US competitiveness and s

Following the previous 2013 Snowmass meeting, the relevance of near-term applications of accelerators was only discussed in the context of communication and awareness among the general public (Section 10.4.2 in Ref. [?] states “*Particle physics research has had a significant impact on other areas of science. Examples include applications developed for health and medicine...*”). This sentiment was echoed in the 2014 P5 report [33] through “*In return, developments within the particle physics community have enabled basic scientific research and applications in numerous other areas. This broad, connected scientific enterprise provides tremendous benefits to society as a whole.*”. However, we feel that the urgency to direct the funding and efforts to near-term application development has been lacking in these previous reports. A stronger emphasis on near-term applications of advanced accelerator concepts is critical both to society in general but also to the robustness of accelerator technology itself. Dedicated funding should be channeled towards strengthening accelerator applications that fall outside of the long-range particle collider mission. A successful near-term application environment will naturally guide particle accelerator technology to maturity. Applications demand robust day-to-day performance with minimal start-up time, control over parameters such as particle flux and energy, active stabilization concepts to keep the “up-time” large throughout the day, pump-probe synchronization, and reduction in operational expenses such as energy usage and component replacements, among others.

While this was recognized in the 2016 Advanced Accelerator Development strategic report [?] which put near-term applications on the high-energy physics roadmap, we emphasize that such language be included in the 2021 Snowmass and 2022 P5 reports. Furthermore, we emphasize that the near term applications discussed here enable opportunities for cross-cutting development in other Accelerator Frontier priorities (e.g. novel RF technology discussed in these proceedings [?]) as well as in the Community Engagement Frontier (e.g. industrial applications based on FLASH radiation therapy in these proceedings [?]) .

In terms of the need for application-oriented facilities, the applications can be divided in two categories. For those where significant R&D is still needed (for example, plasma-based and other advanced X-ray FEL concepts), it would be critical to obtain financial support for novel capabilities and beamlines at existing and new facilities. For those applications where proof-of-principle concepts have matured already (for example, betatron X-ray sources and laser-driven particle beams), a dedicated beamline or facility is lacking where these sources can be permanently exploited, allowing both for efficient user-access as well as dedicated photon or particle source optimization. Many of the successes to date have been realized in short, few weeks-long campaigns, followed by beamline reconfiguration for other experiments. This has hampered source optimization, stability improvements, and integration of advanced transport and sample technology.

Table 1 summarizes a selection of key near-term applications that are, or will be, enabled by advanced accelerator concepts in the next 5-10 years. These span broadly across light source, medical and fundamental science applications and are described in detail in [129].

Source	Example application	Status	Readiness in 5-10 years
Plasma-based FEL [130]	Single-shot high-res imaging, non-linear excitation	Experimental feasibility demonstrated, two high-impact papers in 2021	Realistic at higher flux and photon energy in < 5 years
Corrugated-structure FEL [131]	Medical imaging	Conceptual Development	Technology to be explored
Cryo-cooled Copper FEL [132]	Ultrafast Imaging, Attosecond Science	Conceptual Design	Technology to be explored
Betatron X-rays [133, 134]	Single-shot phase-contrast imaging of micro-structures	Extensive demonstrations	Ready now
Compton-scattered X-rays [133, 134]	Compact dose-reduced medical imaging, security, HED/IFE dynamics	Proof-of-principle sources demonstrating applications including advanced imaging	Tunable and mono-energetic in < 5 years
Advanced gamma ray sources [135–138]	Security, efficient imaging at reduced dose	Experimental demonstrations (plasma based). Conceptual Development (non-plasma based)	Plasma-based ready now. Non-plasma based technology to be explored
VHEE [139–141]	Low dose radiotherapy	Well established, needs stability emphasis	Ready now at compact low rep rate sources
Laser-solid ions [142]	Medical imaging, FLASH therapy, HED diagnostic	Extensive demonstrations in TNSA regime	Ready now, >100 MeV protons in <5 years
High-energy particle beams [?]	Beam-dump explorations, astro-physical plasmas	Initial experiments planned	Results from initial experiments expected in ~5 years

Table 1: High-level summary of near term applications of advanced accelerators described in the manuscript. References, example applications, status and readiness in 5-10 years are included for each source.

7 Facilities

Demonstrating the viability of emerging accelerator science ultimately relies on experimental validation. A portfolio of beam test facilities at US National Laboratories and Universities, as well as international facilities in Europe and Asia, are used to perform research critical to advancing accelerator science and technology (ST). These facilities have enabled the pioneering accelerator research necessary to develop the next generation of energy-frontier and intensity-frontier User Facilities. The current portfolio of beam test facilities and an overview of their research mission, the recent achievements, and the upgrades required to keep the US competitive in light of the large investments in accelerator research around the world is given in [36]. The mission of the US beam test facilities is carried out by a broad community of accelerator scientists, drawn from Universities, Industry, and National Laboratories and has three core aims,

1. Provide the experimental testbeds where (1) exploratory accelerator research can be conducted (2) emerging accelerator research can be validated and (3) promising accelerator technology can be programmatically developed and undergo integration testing.
2. Develop accelerator ST needed to enable the next generation of HEP User Facilities for the energy- and intensity frontiers as well as other SC facilities such as light sources.
3. Educate and train future scientists and engineers.

The capabilities of the US beam test facilities possess one or more of the following capabilities: (O(100) MeV energy drive beams, O(10) Petawatt drive lasers, O(1) Gigawatt RF power sources, high-quality charged particle sources (e.g. low emittance electron beams), advanced beam manipulation systems (e.g. nonlinear integrable optics, optical stochastic cooling, emittance exchange) and capabilities to develop AI/ML for accelerator science.

Rapid progress was made by US beam test facilities since the previous Snowmass Process. In 2015, the P5 strategic plan [33] made multiple recommendations to the HEP General Accelerator R&D (GARD) program and the beam test facilities were instrumental in addressing many of these. Most importantly, various roadmaps were successfully formulated by the GARD community in response to P5 to clearly articulate the long-term research needed to develop the next generation of energy-frontier and intensity-frontier machines. For example, the 2016 Advanced Acceleration Concepts (AAC) Roadmap identified a series of milestones, many of which were demonstrated at the US beam test facilities. Milestones achieved include multi-GeV/m accelerating gradients, record-setting transformer ratios, the first demonstration of optical stochastic cooling, ion acceleration, etc. In addition to HEP milestones, multiple spin offs from the beam test facilities have impacted mid-term applications, such as BES light-sources, with its role in the development of the RF photoinjector, demonstration of SASE FEL, etc. as well as near-term spinoffs impacting societal applications in the medical, security, and industrial fields with the development of compact accelerators.

Upgrades to US beam test facilities will require significant investment by USDOE-HEP to ensure the US GARD program remains internationally competitive. In turn, upgraded beam test facilities are needed to enable DOE-HEP to build a cutting-edge program in the energy and intensity frontiers. For example, the European Strategy for Particle Physics has committed considerable

funds to accelerator R&D in Europe. All USDOE GARD beam test facilities have near-term upgrades underway. Proposals for mid-term upgrades have been developed to continue progress on the roadmaps and support from DOE-HEP is needed to realize these plans: kBELLA at LBNL for high rep-rate, precision laser plasma acceleration and subsequent applications, restoring the positron capability at SLAC FACET-II to demonstrate collider compatible techniques for accelerating positrons in plasma, CO₂ laser power upgrade at BNL ATF for acceleration of electrons and ions with near-IR wavelengths, bunker expansion and drive beam energy upgrade at ANL AWA for GeV/m structure wakefield acceleration and proton injector and electron lens/cooler for non-linear beam optics studies and a broad research program on beam dynamics at FAST/IOTA.

In the long-term, several options are under consideration ranging from a greenfield beam test facility to re-using the infrastructure of next-generation facilities such as ILC, CLIC, FNAL site linac, C3... etc with Advanced Acceleration technology. Once again, long-term plans require serious study and support. In the long term, the US community is exploring a possible greenfield beam test facility to enable a large-scale demo of the application to AAC and possibly support medium-energy research in elementary particle physics.

Beam test facilities have been instrumental in advancing accelerator science technology throughout their history. Enabled by the capabilities of our test facilities impressive progress has been made since the last Snowmass in 2013.

The primary goal of the US DOE GARD program is to carry out accelerator-based particle physics research in support of the priorities defined in the P5 strategic plan [33]. At the highest level, GARD supports three different lines of accelerators: the Intensity-Frontier with intense protons, the Energy-Frontier with a hadron collider and the Energy-Frontier with an e⁺e⁻ linear collider. To accomplish this, a set of recommendations were made to the HEP GARD program by the HEPAP Accelerator R&D Subpanel Report published in April 2015 [34]. Specifically, the subpanel published 15 recommendations for the GARD program and beam test facilities were instrumental in addressing 7 of these recommendations.

A comprehensive update on all of the GARD subpanel recommendations was presented at the 2019 November HEPAP meeting [143]. Highlights of progress made on the subpanel recommendations in which the GARD beam test facilities were crucial and examples of milestones accomplished include progress in both the intensity and energy frontiers. Intensity-Frontier accelerator science saw the first demonstration of Optical Stochastic Cooling [144]. Energy-Frontier linear collider accelerator science delivered multi-GeV/m accelerating gradients and multi-GeV energy gain in plasma accelerators using beam-drivers at FACET [4, 49] and laser-drivers at BELLA [3], multi-GeV/m positron acceleration at FACET [53, 145], staging of two plasma accelerator modules at BELLA [52], demonstration of controlled injection in a plasma wakefield accelerator [68], record setting transformer ratios at AWA in both structures [9] and plasmas [8], pioneering work at ATF on shock wave monoenergetic ion acceleration [146], nonlinear effects in inverse Compton scattering (red shift, higher harmonics) [147], high-gain high-harmonic generation FEL [148], fundamental research of electron acceleration in dielectric in structures (eg. using 3D woodpile structures [149] and using metamaterial structures [150]), fundamental research on nonlinear Thomson scattering [151], and novel methods for controlled optical injection of electrons into wakefields [152].

8 Other advanced concepts for high gradient acceleration

Besides the three main technologies (beam and laser driven plasmas, and beam driven structures) which after the last Snowmass have formed the core of the field and have been organized in the Strategy Roadmaps, new concepts continue to emerge and offer potential to improve performance of future accelerators. In this section we will discuss some of these novel schemes including laser-driven dielectric structures [153] and nanostructured plasmas [31, 154]. In principle, as recognized in the European roadmap more recently and in the series of Alegro workshops few years back, the field of advanced accelerators could symmetrically be organized including the possibility where either laser or charged particle beams can be the drivers and the wave can be supported either by plasma or by a near field structure (dielectric or plasmonic).

Laser-driven structures have been left off the advanced accelerator strategy roadmap, but significant progress has been made in the last 10 years in developing laser-driven microstructure accelerators based on dielectric laser acceleration (DLA), plasmonically-enhanced metasurface laser accelerators (MLA), and various photonic crystal configurations, which we here collectively refer to as laser-driven structure-based accelerators (LSA). This is mostly due to generous funding from the MOore foundation (ACHIP program) which has enabled reaching key-milestones such as GV/m scale gradients, generation of attosecond electron bunches and on-chip miniaturization of various accelerator components.

As an advanced accelerator concept, this approach offers some unique advantages. The acceleration mechanism is inherently linear and occurs in a vacuum region in a static structure. In addition to the stability benefits this affords, the acceleration effect is inherently dependent on the phase of the laser field, which makes it possible to dynamically fine-tune accelerator performance by manipulation of the incident laser phase profile. The acceleration mechanism also works equally well for positrons and electrons. Due to its unique low-charge high repetition rate bunch format, this approach may provide a possible source technology for proposed fixed-target light dark matter searches using single few-GeV electrons. In addition, the projected beamsstrahlung energy loss for a multi-TeV collider scenario is in the few percent range, as opposed to tens of percents for conventional RF accelerators. Furthermore, the primary supporting technologies (solid state lasers and nanofabrication) are mature and already at or near the capabilities required for a full-scale accelerator based on this approach. The LSA approach could significantly lower the cost per GeV by leveraging commercial developments of the integrated circuit and telecommunications industries. This is similar to the way that accelerators were developed in the 1950's and 1960's where they tapped into technology developed during WWII, e.g. microwave communications/radar/weapons development.

Looking towards the future, while synergistic applications (i.e., those needing ultra-compact accelerators) provide an opportunity for cost-sharing the technology development, overall the LSA technology has had significantly lower funding levels than other advanced accelerator technologies and essentially no funding dedicated to closing technology gaps unique for multi-TeV linear colliders. This is partly due to the perception that there is not a credible technology path for a 30 MW linear collider beam due to the small, micron-sized apertures, even when dividing the main beam power into multiple, parallel accelerating channels. This needs to be addressed as early in the LSA technology roadmap as possible. The key steps needed for a LSA linear collider development

include the following near-term technology demonstrations: (1) low-cost high-efficiency dielectric structures with sufficient thermal conductivity and controllable wakefield effects; (2) focusing schemes with sufficiently high gradient that minimize beam interception but do not dilute the beam quality; and (3) low-cost, high-efficiency, and high-power drive lasers that have sub-cycle phase and timing control. Successful demonstration of these capabilities will show that the LSA technology is a credible alternative multi-TeV linear collider technology and provide motivation for a future multi-stage linear collider prototype.

Far-field laser based acceleration (IFEL) scales badly with energy, but this technology can be important for low energy and to boost efficiency conversion between electromagnetic waves and relativistic beams in optical energy recirculation schemes.

In addition there are new emergent ideas to engineer the medium and take advantage of internal structure to further enhance the acceleration process. For example, plasmonic modes offers the potential to achieve PetaVolts per meter fields, that would transform the current paradigm in collider development in addition to non-collider searches in fundamental physics. PetaVolts per meter plasmonics relies on collective oscillations of the free-electron Fermi gas inherent in the conduction band of materials that have a suitable combination of constituent atoms and ionic lattice structure. As the conduction band free electron density, at equilibrium, can be as high as 10^{24}cm^{-3} , electromagnetic fields of plasmonic modes are of the order of $10\text{pV}/\text{m}$. Engineered materials not only allow highly tunable material properties but quite critically make it possible to overcome disruptive instabilities that dominate the interactions in bulk media. Due to rapid shielding by the free electron Fermi gas, dielectric effects are strongly suppressed. Because the ionic lattice, the corresponding electronic energy bands and the free electron gas are governed by quantum mechanical effects, comparisons with plasmas are merely notional. Based on this framework, it is critical to address various challenges that underlie PetaVolts per meter plasmonics including stable excitation of plasmonic modes while accounting for their effects on the ionic lattice and the electronic energy band structure over femtosecond timescales. Plasmonic colliders can shape the future by bringing high energy physics at the tens of TeV to multi-PeV center-of-mass-energies within reach.

Channeling acceleration in solid-state plasma of crystals or nanostructures, e.g., carbon nanotubes (CNTs) or alumina honeycomb holes, also has the promise of ultrahigh accelerating gradients $O(1\text{-}10\text{ TeV}/\text{m})$, continuous focusing of channeling particles without need of staging, and ultimately small equilibrium beam emittances naturally obtained while accelerating. Several methods of wake-field excitation are being considered including ultra-short or micro-bunched electron beams and laser pulses, ion clusters, etc. While beams of muons are the most suitable for potential future high energy physics colliders based on the crystal PWA. Support of these experimental efforts augmented with corresponding PIC plasma simulation will be required to expand the ongoing R&D program and achieve the milestone demonstration by the end of this decade of 1 GeV acceleration over 1 mm of solid crystal/CNT structure.

9 Conclusion and R&D priorities

A vigorous continued program of R&D on advanced accelerators is needed, continuing strong recent progress in key accelerator elements to enable future colliders. Numerous significant results have been obtained since the last P5 report, including the production of high quality electron bunches at 8 GeV from a single stage, new demonstrations of and concepts for positron acceleration, the staging of two LPA modules, demonstration of hollow channels, novel injection techniques for ultra-high beam brightness, investigation of processes that stabilize beam break up, and new technologies for high-average-power, high-efficiency lasers. Conceptual parameters have been developed for future colliders, potential issues such as instabilities have been addressed and there appear to be mitigation techniques such that none prevent a future collider and indeed advantages such as energy recovery and short beams will benefit such a machine. The community is ready to both continue R&D and to start a integrated design study to further guide the R&D program. While the US has significant leadership in the field and well positioned test facilities, \$B-class overseas investments mean that re-invigoration of the R&D effort is important to maintain position in this fast developing field.

Priority research should continue to address and update the Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy:

- Vigorous research on advanced accelerators including experimental, theoretical, and computational components, continue as part of the General Accelerator R&D program to make rapid progress along the advanced accelerator R&D roadmaps towards an eventual high energy collider, develop intermediate applications, and ensure international competitiveness. Priority directions include staging of multiple modules at multi-GeV, high efficiency stages, preservation of emittance for electrons and positrons, and shaped beams.
- A targeted R&D program for a integrated design study of a high energy (1–15 TeV) advanced accelerator-based collider be performed that details all the components of the system, such the injector, drive laser, plasma source, beam cooling, and beam delivery system. This would be followed by a conceptual design report after the next Snowmass.
- Research in near-term application should be recognized as essential to progress towards HEP goals. Mechanisms should be identified for HEP to pay close attention, co-fund and participate to research activities aimed at real-world deployment of advanced accelerators. The interplay and mutual interests in this area between HEP, BES and the new ARDAP office (Stewardship component) within DOE should be strengthened.
- Advanced accelerator should continue to play a key-role in workforce development in accelerator physics. University programs and graduate students greatly benefit from the scientific visibility of the advanced accelerator field. Access to user facilities for graduate students and early career researchers as well as formal and hands on training opportunities in advanced beam and accelerator physics should be continued and enhanced.
- Enhance R&D on laser drivers to develop the efficient, high repetition rate, high average power laser and accelerator technology that will power laser-driven advanced accelerators colliders and societal applications.

- Support of upgrades for Beam Test Facilities are needed to maintain progress on advanced accelerator Roadmaps. These include development of a high repetition rate facility, proposed as kBELLA, to support precision active feedback and high rate; independently controllable positrons to explore high quality acceleration, proposed at FACET-II; and implementation of a integrated SWFA demonstrator, proposed at AWA.
- A study for a collider demonstration facility at an intermediate energy (20–80 GeV), and near term applications, that would demonstrate essential technology and provide a facility for physics experiments at intermediate energy.
- A DOE-HEP workshop in the near term to update and formalize the U.S. advanced accelerator strategy and roadmaps including updates to the 2016 AARDS Roadmaps

This program is consistent with the recommendations of previous reports to prioritize ANA research, including the previous P5 and HEPAP subcommittee reports, the European Strategy and Laboratory Directors Group reports, and several others (see Sec. ??). Such a program will position the US and partner programs to realize the promise of a new generation of colliders with potential energy reach to or beyond the 10 TeV scale. In addition to the long term goal of a high energy collider, ANAs can provide compact sources of particles and photons for a wide variety of near-term applications in science, medicine, and industry which will provide both societal benefit and leverage for high energy physics. At the same time, the highly published and innovative research will serve to attract new people to accelerator work and will be important in realizing a more diverse field.

A Summary bullet points

- Advanced accelerators in beam and laser driven structures/plasmas offer future e+e-/gg colliders to 15 TeV range: combining high precision with energy reach. Gradients 10 GeV/m and beyond (few TeV/km geometric)
- Compactness, high fields, enablers for e+e- colliders of up to 15 TeV with 10 GeV/m gradients.
- Ultra-bright beam generation, fast cooling. Short beams that increase Luminosity per unit Power (L/P), potential for practical energy recovery
- Driver technologies (SRF linacs, high average power lasers) are developing to meet needs of future colliders
- Strong progress since last Snowmass: 10 GeV class beams, positrons, and FEL-lasing demonstrating high beam quality.
- Community ready for integrated collider design study: follows logically from 2016 Advanced Accelerator Development Strategy
- Competitive field with strong investment overseas including prioritization in European planning (European minimum ask for particle physics-oriented AAC effort of 147 FTE-years + 3.15 MCh).
- International community recognizes critical value of near term applications as stepping stones for HEP and to leverage societal impact (EUPRAXIA, DESY, CERN).
- Synergies with existing or near future machines (plasma lens, beam shaping, upgrade paths, etc.) should be identified. Efforts on electron, positron, laser sources, and beam delivery systems are particularly important in this regard.
- Strong R&D investment needed in next generation upgrades of the test facilities: KBELLA, positrons at FACET, CO2 laser upgrade at ATF, energy upgrade at AWA and proton injector at FAST/IOTA.
- Advanced accelerator community is at the forefront in scientific visibility and serves as a strong attraction for workforce development.
- New concepts (nanoplasmonics, laser-driven structures) continue to emerge and continue to offer ever higher gradient in the future
- Facilities developed for advanced accelerators serve all novel accelerator research, even beyond the roadmap technologies of LWFA, PWFA, SWFA. They provide beams for testing novel concepts such as DLA and NPA, plasmonic accelerator and channeling-based schemes and train the new generation of accelerator scientists.
- Need for common project and thrust - collider Integrated Design Study and/or intermediate demonstrator. Potential to re-use facilities of nearer term Linear colliders offering attractive physics path for the field

Acknowledgments

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