

Open Access

**PRAB 21, 081301 (2018)**

Quasimonoenergetic laser plasma positron accelerator using particle-shower plasma-wave interactions

Aakash A. Sahai

Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams **21**, 081301 – Published 8 August 2018; Erratum [Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams \*\*24\*\*, 049902 \(2021\)](#)



International Journal of Modern Physics A | Vol. 34, No. 34, 1943008 (2019)

**Schemes of laser muon acceleration: Ultra-short, micron-scale beams**

Aakash A. Sahai, Toshiki Tajima, and Vladimir D. Shiltsev

<https://doi.org/10.1142/S0217751X19430085> | Cited by: 6 (Source: Crossref)

**A. Sahai (PI), CU Denver,**

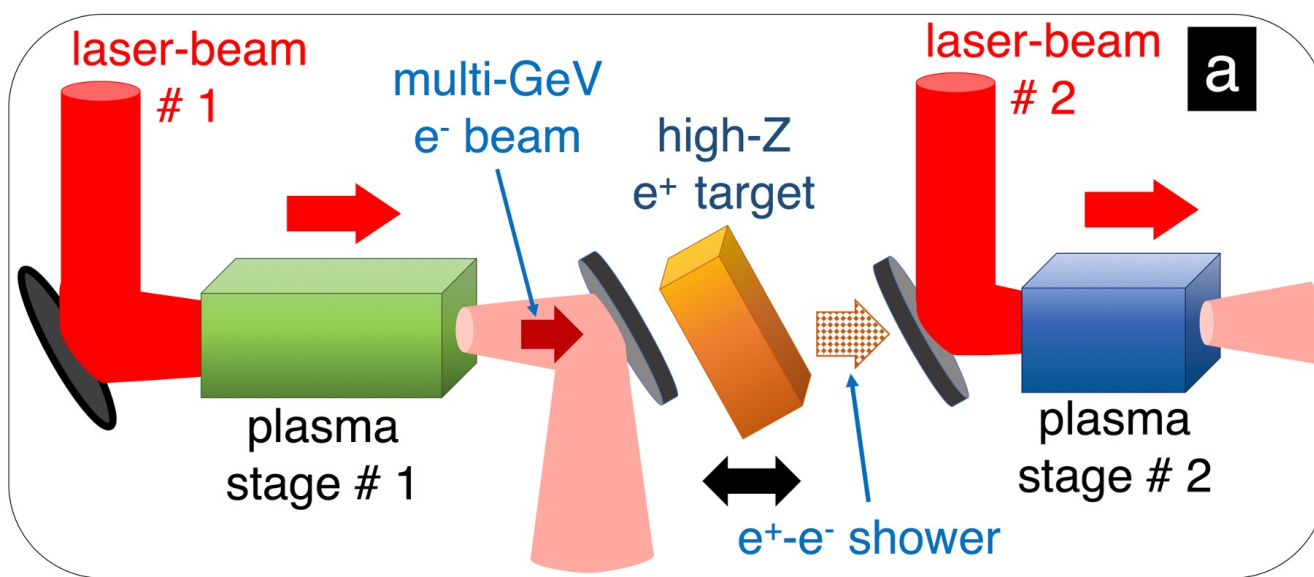
H. Chen, [LLNL \(co-PI\),](#)

K. Kusche, M. Polyanskiy, I. Pogorelsky, M. Fedurin, [BNL](#)

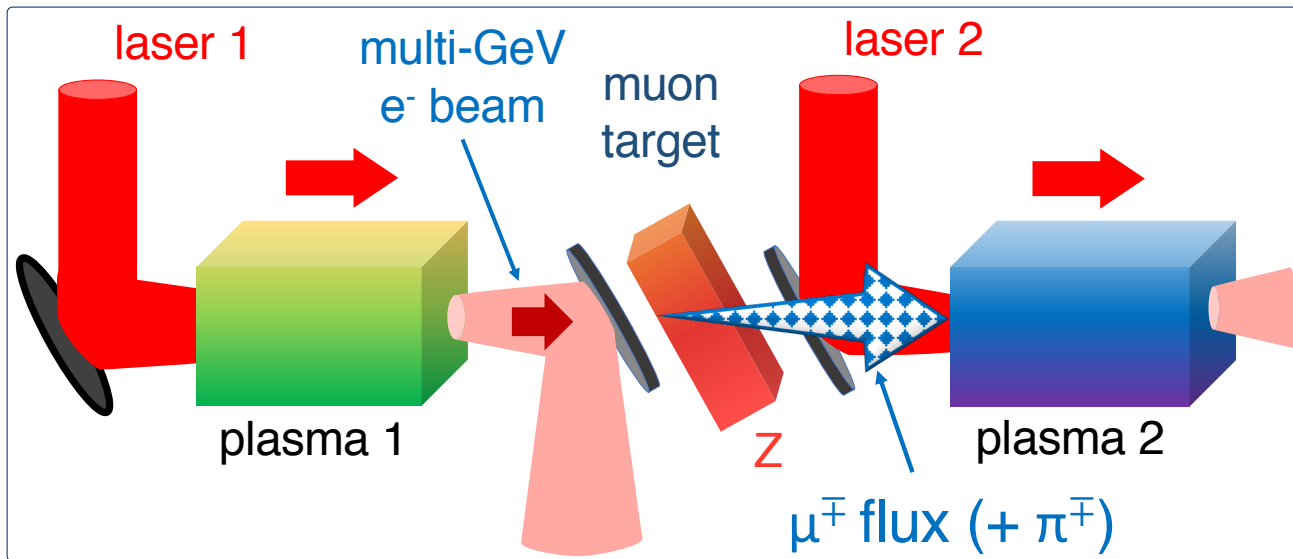
**US Patent 16,770,943:** Method & apparatus for processing a particle shower using a laser-driven plasma

# Objective

# Schematic



Laser positron source  
 (acc./dec. & focusing  
 of  $e^-$ - $e^+$  shower)



Laser muon source  
 (acc./dec. & focusing  
 of  $\mu^-$ - $\mu^+$  shower)

## Tunable, collisionless variation of trapped positron / muon properties

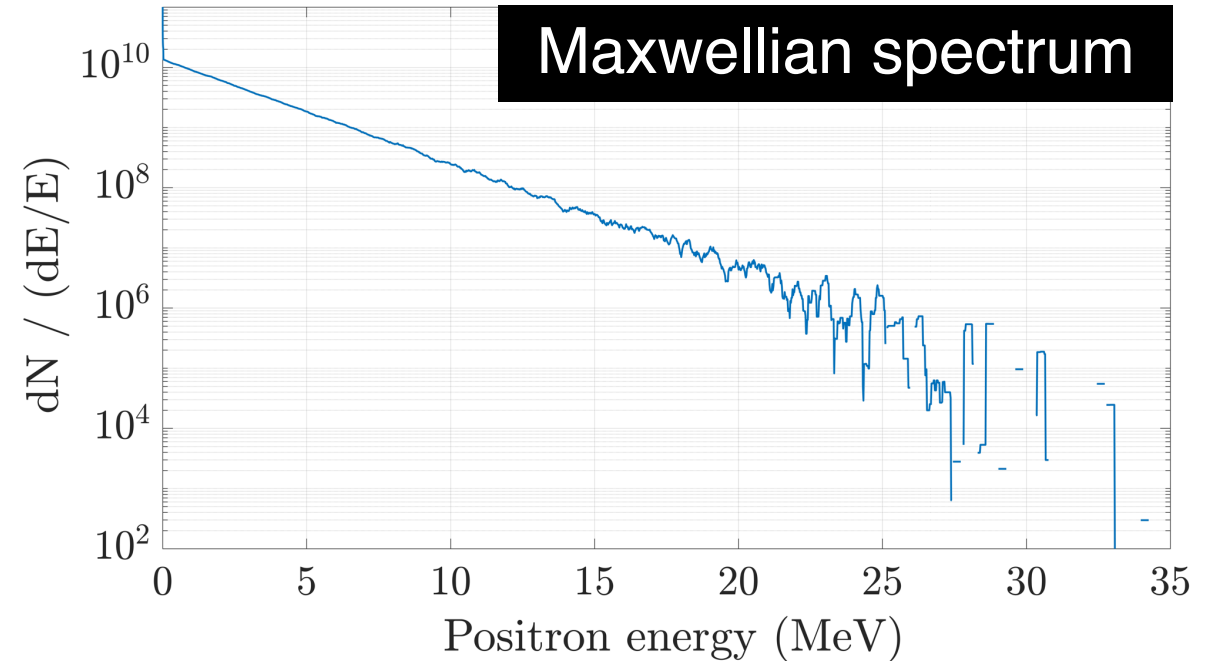
CO<sub>2</sub> laser-driven post-processing of ATF e-beam driven particle showers:

- **UNIQUE:** long wavelength (mid-IR) CO<sub>2</sub> laser (compared to Ti:Sapphire/NIR):  
**larger plasma structures** – easier to physically overlay with the showers  
**slower structures for a lower plasma density** – laser velocity slower for same density
- **UNIQUE: control the interaction** – tunable laser, external electron beam and gas density
- **numerous applications** benefit from a tunable positron / muon beam

# Motivation

shower  $\neq$  beam  
pair-plasma  $\neq$  beam

- showers  $>$  MeV electrons on converter target
- positrons NOT isolated
- positrons still divergent
- un-localized in momentum space



orders-of-magnitude  
roll-off at  
high-energies

# Laser-driven plasma + particle shower

# 1<sup>st</sup>-stage – positron-production stage

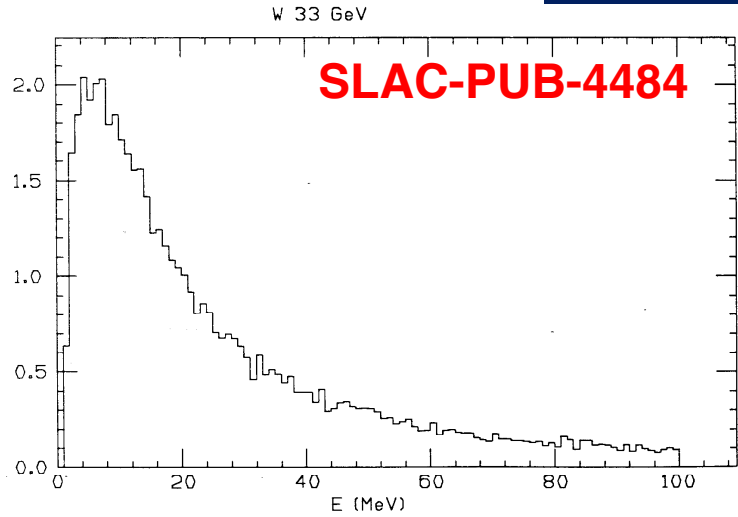


Fig. 3. Yield per 1-MeV energy ( $E$ ) bin versus  $E$  at  $z = 6$  radiation lengths.

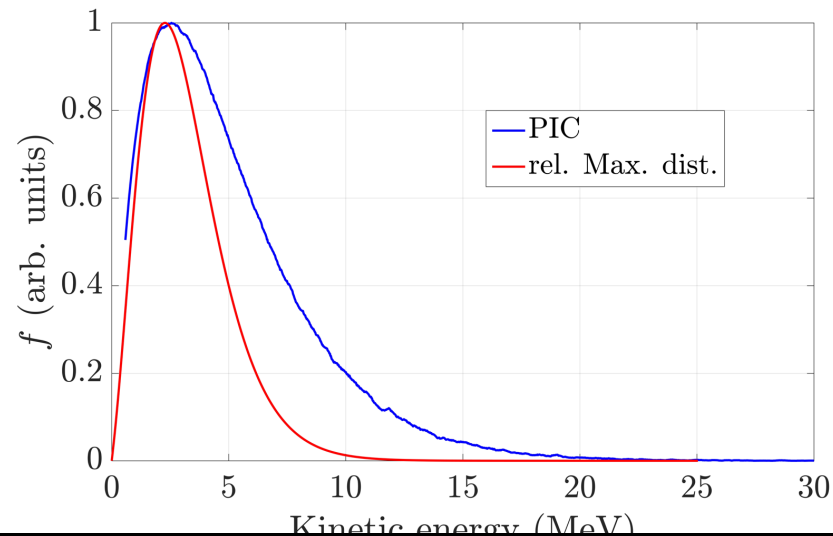
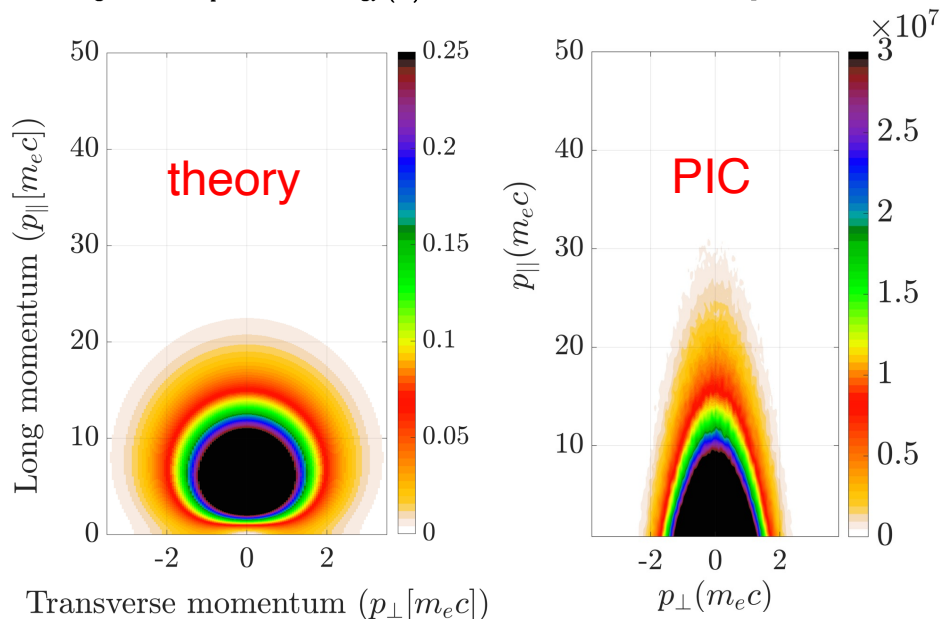
anisotropic relativistic Maxwellian

$$f(\mathbf{p}) = C (p_{\perp}^2 + p_{\parallel}^2) \exp \left[ -\beta_{\perp} \sqrt{1 + p_{\perp}^2 + A p_{\parallel}^2} \right]$$

$$\beta_{\perp} = m_e c^2 T_{\perp}^{-1}, \quad A = T_{\parallel} T_{\perp}^{-1}$$

$$T_{\perp} = 0.2 \text{ MeV} \quad A = 25$$

peak ~ 2.5 MeV  
temperature ~ 200keV  
shower e<sup>+</sup> density 1-10 × 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>





# e<sup>+</sup>-LPA regime - interaction physics

laser-driven plasma-wave  
phase-velocity

$$\beta_{\phi} = \left[ 1 - \omega_{pe}^2 / \omega_0^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

lab-frame shower particle kinetic-energy  
to be trapped

$$\mathcal{E}_{sh} = (\gamma_{sh} - 1) m_e c^2$$

wave-frame shower particle kinetic-energy  
to be trapped

$$\mathcal{E}'_{sh} = \left( \frac{\omega_0}{\omega_{pe}} \gamma_{sh} (1 - \beta_{sh}^{\parallel} \beta_{\phi}) - 1 \right) m_e c^2$$

wave-frame trapping condition  
shower particle trapped in plasma wave

$$e\Psi' \geq \mathcal{E}'_{sh}$$

Open Access

Quasimonoenergetic laser plasma positron accelerator using particle-shower plasma-wave interactions

Aakash A. Sahai  
Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams **21**, 081301 – Published 8 August 2018; Erratum Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams **24**, 049902 (2021)



# e<sup>+</sup>-LPA regime - interaction physics - 2

## lab-frame trapping condition

shower particle trapped in plasma wave  
LONGITUDINAL

$$\Psi = \frac{\omega_{pe}}{\omega_0} \Psi' + c \mathbf{A} \cdot \boldsymbol{\beta}_\phi$$

$$\psi_{th} \geq \gamma_{sh} (1 - \beta_{sh}^{\parallel} \beta_\phi) - \frac{\omega_{pe}}{\omega_0}, \quad \psi = \frac{e\Psi}{m_e c^2}, \quad A_{\parallel} = 0.$$

## lab-frame trapping condition

shower particle trapped in plasma wave  
TRANSVERSE

$$e\Psi'' \geq \alpha k_B T_{\perp}$$

$$\psi_{th} \geq \alpha \frac{k_B T_{\perp} (m_e c^2)^{-1}}{1 + \mathcal{E}_{sh} (m_e c^2)^{-1}}$$

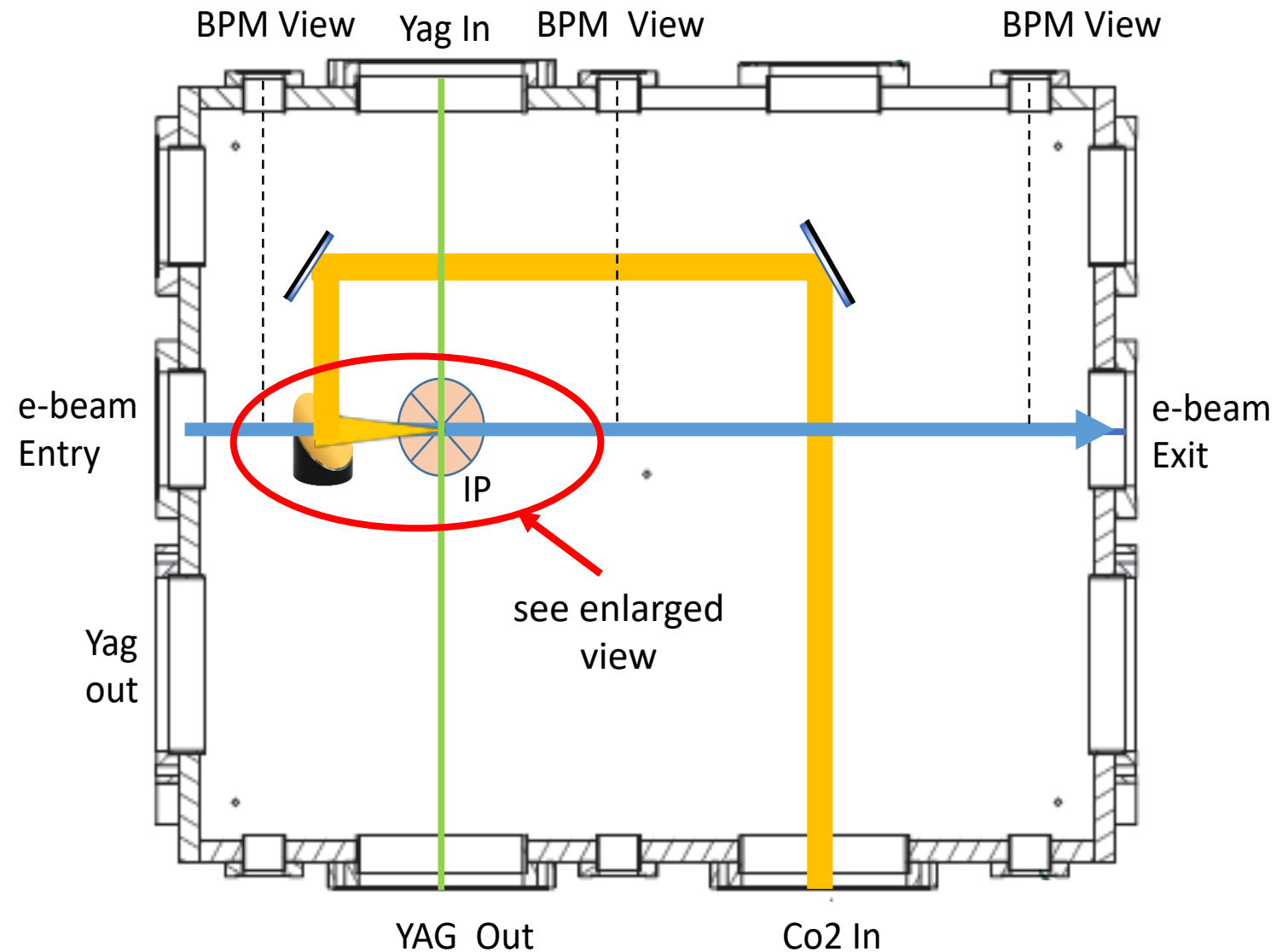
trapping particles with K.E. up to a few keV → **potential ~ 1**

in the **electron compression phase** of the wave

# BNL ATF expt. design

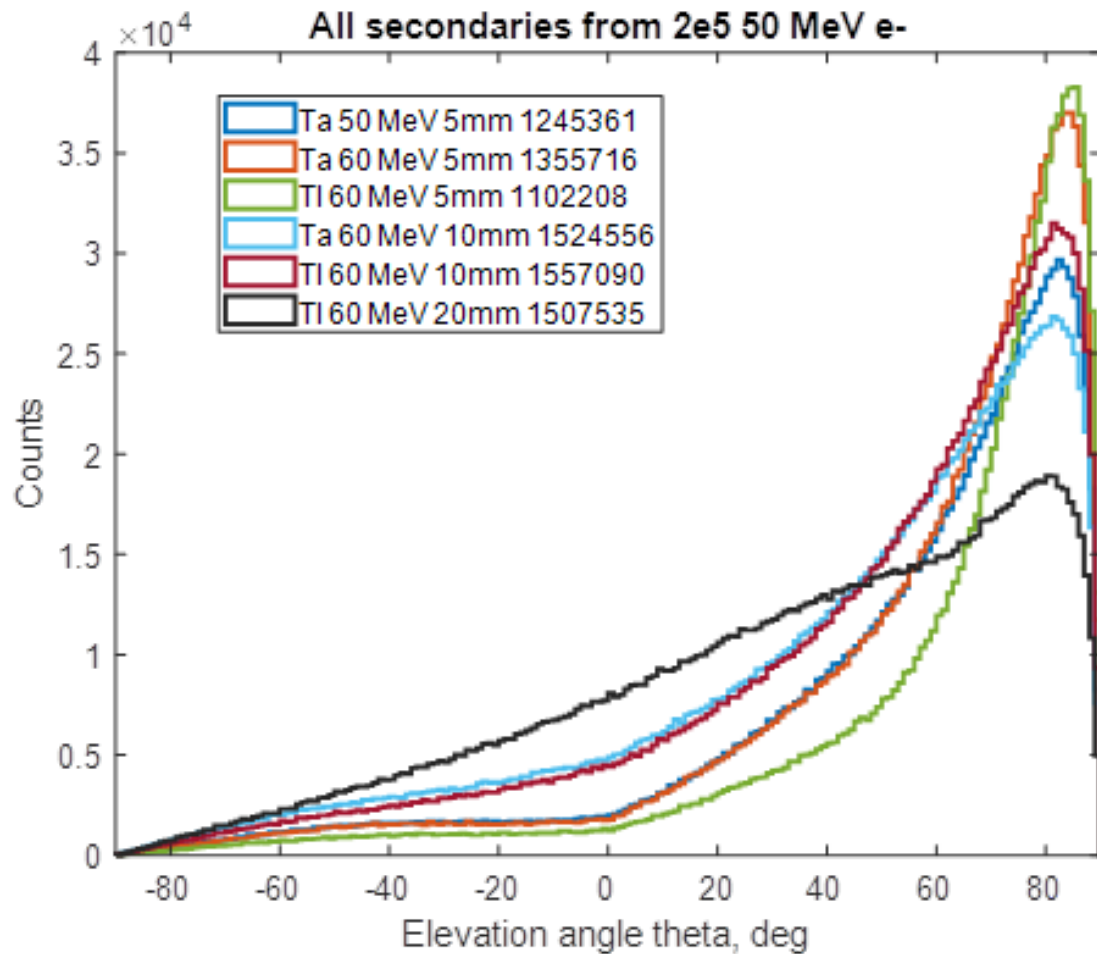
# Yr. 1 - experimental layout

- BL# 1 vacuum chamber & gas jet
- vacuum chamber on BL#1 – space for our spectrometer
- DOES NOT disturb the setup for ongoing experiments
- insert a high-Z target holder in the beam path (removable)

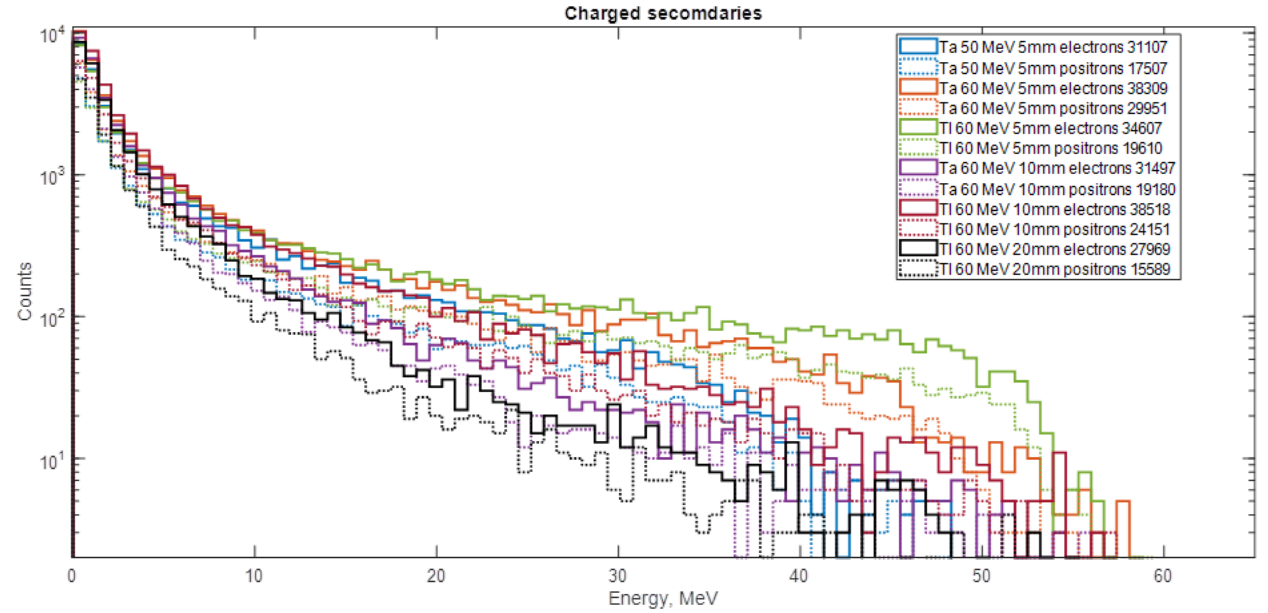
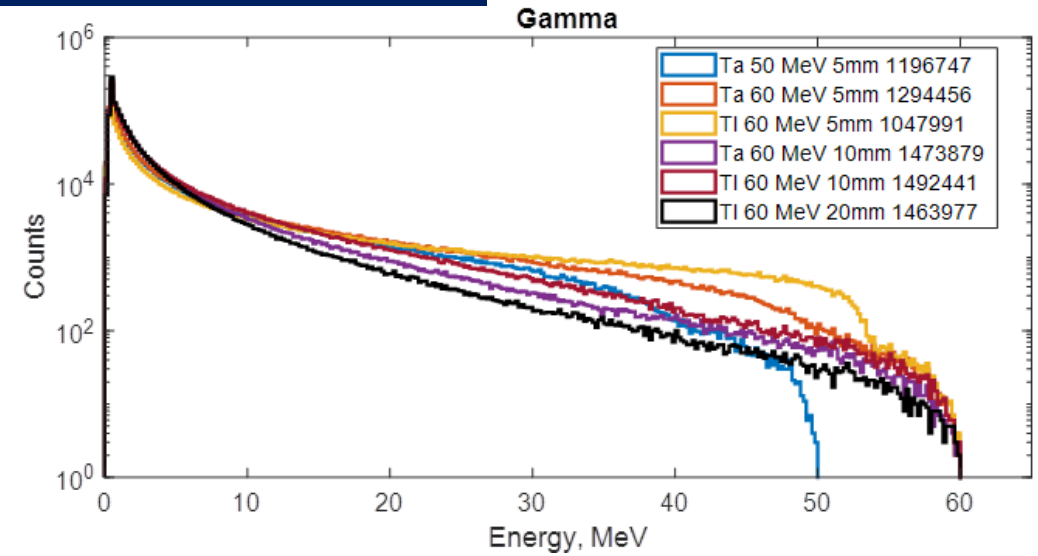


# BNL ATF simulations

# simulations of ATF-beam driven positron-electron showers



GEANT4 Acknowledgement

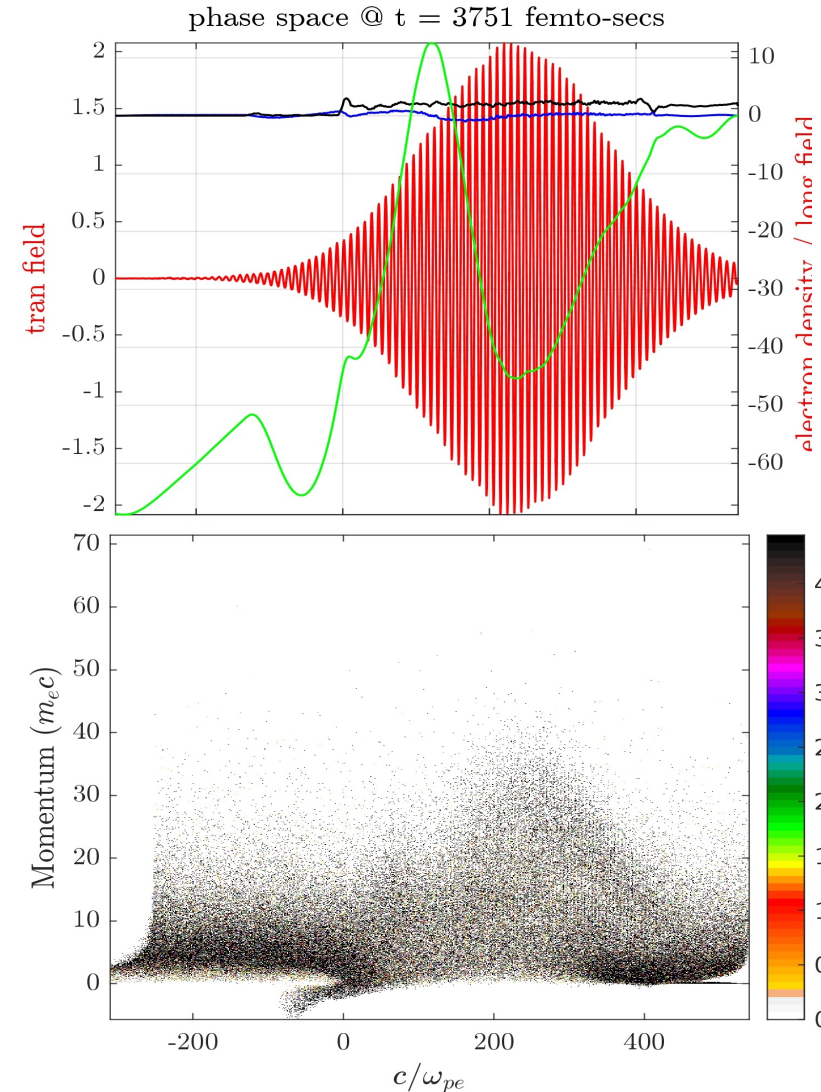


# sim of CO<sub>2</sub> laser driven plasma processing

- 2D PIC EPOCH simulations – CO<sub>2</sub> laser-driven post-processing of ATF beam-driven showers
- Shower properties determined using GEANT4
- Initialize a long shower ~ 2.5 ps
- CO<sub>2</sub> Laser-driven structures – can trap and slow-down positrons

Plasma parameters	1TW	2TW
Density	$2 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	
Critical Power ( $P_c$ )	1.1 TW	1.1 TW
$P/P_c$	0.88	1.87
matched- $w_0$	32 $\mu\text{m}$	36 $\mu\text{m}$
$a_0$	1.52	1.95
$\lambda_\beta$	1.45 mm	1.45 mm
$Z_R$ (matched- $w_0$ )	0.32 mm	0.4 mm
$\sigma_r/w_0$	0.9	0.8

**Strongly Mismatched Regime of Nonlinear Laser-Plasma Acceleration: Optimization of Laser-to-Energetic Particle Efficiency**  
 10.1109/TPS.2019.2914896



2D PIC simulation of CO<sub>2</sub> laser driven post-processing of shower



Thanks → any questions