



Review of Beam-Driven Plasma Wakefield Experiments at SLAC

Spencer Gessner

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory and Stanford University e-mail: sgess@slac.stanford.edu

We review the history and progress of beam-driven plasma wakefield acceleration [1,2,3] at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. Beginning with the FFTB facility and continuing with FACET and FACET-II, SLAC has 25 years' experience with PWFA experiments. We highlight the first plasma lens experiment [4], positron acceleration [5] and "energy doubling" experiment [6] at FFTB, demonstration of two-bunch acceleration [7] and mono-energetic positron acceleration [8] at FACET, and recent results on high-quality plasma acceleration [9] at FACET-II. We conclude with a discussion of the P5-recommended 10 TeV Wakefield Collider Design Study [10], and describe future plasma acceleration initiatives at SLAC, including PWFA for near-term HEP applications.



Fig. 1: Aerial view of SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory showing the evolution of plasma wakefield accelerator beam test facilities from FFTB (1999 - 2006) to FACET (2010 - 2016) to FACET-II (2020 -).

References

- [1] Chen et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 54 (1985)
- [2] Ruth et al. Part. Accel. 17 (1985)
- [3] Lindstrøm et al. arXiv:2504.05558 (2025)
- [4] Ng et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 87 (2001)
- [5] Blue et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 90 (2003)
- [6] Blumenfeld et al. Nature 445, (2007)
- [7] Litos et al. Nature 515, (2014)
- [8] Corde et al. Nature 524 (2015)
- [9] Storey et al. In preparation
- [10] Gessner et al. arXiv:2503.20214 (2025)