20th Advanced Accelerator Concepts Workshop













European Research Council

Spatiotemporal dynamics of beam-plasma instabilities in the ultra-relativistic regime

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On behalf of:

E305 Collaboration (SLAC, UCLA, CU Boulder, U. Oslo, Stony Brook U., MPIK, CEA, LOA)

Work supported by the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (Miniature beam-driven Plasma Accelerators project, Grant Agreement No. 715807) and by the ANR (UnRIP project, Grant No. ANR- 20-CE30-0030)

Numerical simulations were performed using HPC resources from PRACE (Grant No. 2017174175) and GENCI-TGCC (Grants No. 2018- A0040507594, No. 2019-A0060510786, 2020-A0080510786 and 2021- A0100510786 to run PIC simulations.



Motivations

Relativistic streaming instabilities are pervasive in astrophysics...



T. Katsouleas, role of Weibel instability in astrophysics and cosmic jets.

- They are thought to play a key role in blazars, cosmic magnetisation at interstellar and intergalactic scales and highenergy explosive transients (e.g. GRB).
- > Are of fundamental importance as provide a mechanism for energy conversion from particles to EM fields and to **gamma rays**.

Motivations

Relativistic streaming instabilities are pervasive in astrophysics...



T. Katsouleas, role of Weibel instability in astrophysics and cosmic jets.

- > They set important limitations on the feasibility of experimental concepts such as **ICF** or a **plasma-based acceleration**.
- They can channel beam kinetic energy into y-rays (Benedetti, A., Tamburini, M. & Keitel, C.H. Giant collimated gamma-ray flashes. [Nature Photon 12, 319–323 (2018)])

- They are thought to play a key role in blazars, cosmic magnetisation at interstellar and intergalactic scales and highenergy explosive transients (e.g. GRB).
- Are of fundamental importance as provide a mechanism for energy conversion from particles to EM fields and to gamma rays.

... but also in laboratory plasmas



Towards controlled experiments at SLAC - the E305 experiment

E-305: Beam filamentation and bright gamma-ray bursts



Simulated beam density at saturation of FACET-II beam propagating in an Al target (credits to G. Raj).

E-305 experiment at FACET-II facility at SLAC with the goal of:

- Study relativistic beam-plasma instabilities with plasma densities in the range 10¹⁸⁻²⁴ cm⁻³, by sending FACET-II 10 GeV electron beams into gaseous or solids targets.
- Charaterize resulting γ-ray radiation
- Study the interplay of different modes in the nonlinear stage
- Investigate additional physics such as collisional effects in exotic nonequilibrium warm dense matter states (solid), finite bunch length and finite beam size effects, and competition with plasma wakefields (gas)

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See A. Knetsch talk for experimental results



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Relativistic beam-plasma instabilities



Finite beam effects in ultra relativistic beam-plasma instabilities





In accelerator facilities, particles beams have a **finite spatial extent**.

- ➢ Finite bunch length (longitudinal): →
- ➤ Finite beam size (transverse): →

Spatiotemporal dynamics*

Electron beam self-focusing

*A. Bers, in Handbook of Plas. Phys., (North-Holland Physics Publishing, 1983): TSI

*V. B. Pathak, et. al., New J. Phys. 17, 043049 (2015): CFI

Simulated FACET-II-like beam propagating in uniform plasma

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Finite beam effects in ultra relativistic beam-plasma instabilities

PHYSICAL REVIEW RESEARCH 4, 023085 (2022)

Spatiotemporal dynamics of ultrarelativistic beam-plasma instabilities

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(Received 27 June 2021; accepted 28 February 2022; published 2 May 2022)

An electron or electron-positron beam streaming through a plasma is notoriously prone to microinstabilities. For a dilute ultrarelativistic infinite beam, the dominant instability is a mixed mode between longitudinal twostream and transverse filamentation modes, with a phase velocity oblique to the beam velocity. A spatiotemporal theory describing the linear growth of this oblique mixed instability is proposed which predicts that spatiotemporal effects generally prevail for finite-length beams, leading to a significantly slower instability evolution than in the usually assumed purely temporal regime. These results are accurately supported by particle-in-cell (PIC) simulations. Furthermore, we show that the self-focusing dynamics caused by the plasma wakefielde the finite-width beams can compete with the oblique instability. Analyzed through PIC simulations for multitate two processes in realistic systems bears important implications for multitate the self-focus for multitate the self supervised of the set of the se



beam

Simulated FACET-II-like beam propagating in uniform plasma

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DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevResearch.4.023085

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 v_b

10

 $y[\mu m]$

Beam density

Analytical model: cold semi-inifinite beam in uniform plasma, $(\xi = v_b t - x, \tau = t)$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \partial_{\tau}^{3} + v_{b} \partial_{\tau}^{2} \partial_{\xi} + \frac{8i}{3^{3/2}} \Gamma_{\text{OTSI}}^{3} \end{pmatrix} \delta n_{p} (\tau, \xi) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \sum_{j=0}^{-10} \sum_{j=0}^{-10$$

 $\times 10^{18}$

5 🦕

0

 $n_b[cm^-$



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Anlytical model: cold semi-inifinite beam in uniform plasma, $(\xi = v_b t - x, \tau = t)$

$$\left(\partial_{\tau}^{3} + v_{b}\partial_{\tau}^{2}\partial_{\xi} + \frac{8i}{3^{3/2}}\Gamma_{\text{OTSI}}^{3}\right)\delta n_{p} = 0$$



Pic simulations show good agreement with the model

Purely temporal growth with $\gamma \approx 20$





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$$\delta n_p(\xi,\tau) \propto \begin{cases} \exp\left(\Gamma_{\text{OTSI}}\tau\right) & \text{for } \tau \leq \xi/v_b \\ \exp\left[\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2^{2/3}}(\sqrt{3}+i)\Gamma_{\text{OTSI}}\left(\frac{\xi}{v_b}\right)^{1/3}\tau^{2/3}\right] & \text{for } \tau \gg \xi/v_b \end{cases}$$



For finite length particle bunches such that $\sigma_x/c \ll \Gamma_{\text{OTSI}}^{-1}$ the instability is dominated by spatiotemporal growth

Significant slow-down of the OTSI instability for short ultra-relativistic particle bunches

Finite transverse beam-size: transverse wakefields vs. instability

- Beam self-focusing from plasma wakefields excited by finite-size, nonneutral beams can quench the instability.
- Such inhibition occurs if the betatron frequency*

 $\omega_{\beta}^{-1} = \sqrt{\gamma_b m_e / \partial_r W_{\perp}}$

gets larger than the effective (spatiotemporal) OTSI growth rate

$$\tau_{OTSI} = 2 \left(\frac{N_{\rm exp}}{3\Gamma_{\rm Obl}}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{v_b}{\xi}\right)^{1/2}, \, \xi = \sigma_x$$

For a given beam charge, increasing plasma density density favors the instability.

https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.11625



Summary and Overview

- The finite extent of particle beams from accelerators has an impact on the dynamics of the instability
 - Spatiotemporal effects lead to a significantly slower evolution of the instability.
 - Competition with self-focusing dynamics can quench the instability.
- Results relevant to design and interpret future accelerator experiments on ultrarelativistic beam-plasma instabilities.



Summary and Overview

• The finite extent of particle beams from accelerators has an impact on the dynamics of the instability

- Spatiotemporal effects lead to a significantly slower evolution of the instability.
- Competition with self focusing dynamics can quench the instability Ongoing experimental campaign: see A. Knetsch talk.
- Results relevant to design and interpret nuture accelerator experiments on unrarelativistic beam-plasma instabilities.



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Thank you for your attention

Back-up

Finite transverse beam-size: transverse wakefields vs. instability



