

# Assessment of Streaming Instabilities for Neutralized- Ballistic Transport: *A Progress Report*

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# Overview:

- We are working towards an assessment of the possible growth and saturation of two-stream instabilities for heavy ion beams propagating in the reactor chamber.
- In particular, the neutralized-ballistic transport mode is being considered.
- Can we build on the previous work on converging beams (e.g., P. Stroud [1]), or is a new assessment needed?
- Assess impact of instability saturation on net current generation – a possible connection with past simulation work showing net current generation near the beam focus [2].

[1] P. Stroud, “Streaming modes in final beam transport for heavy ion beam fusion,” *Laser and Particle Beams* **4**, 261 (1986).

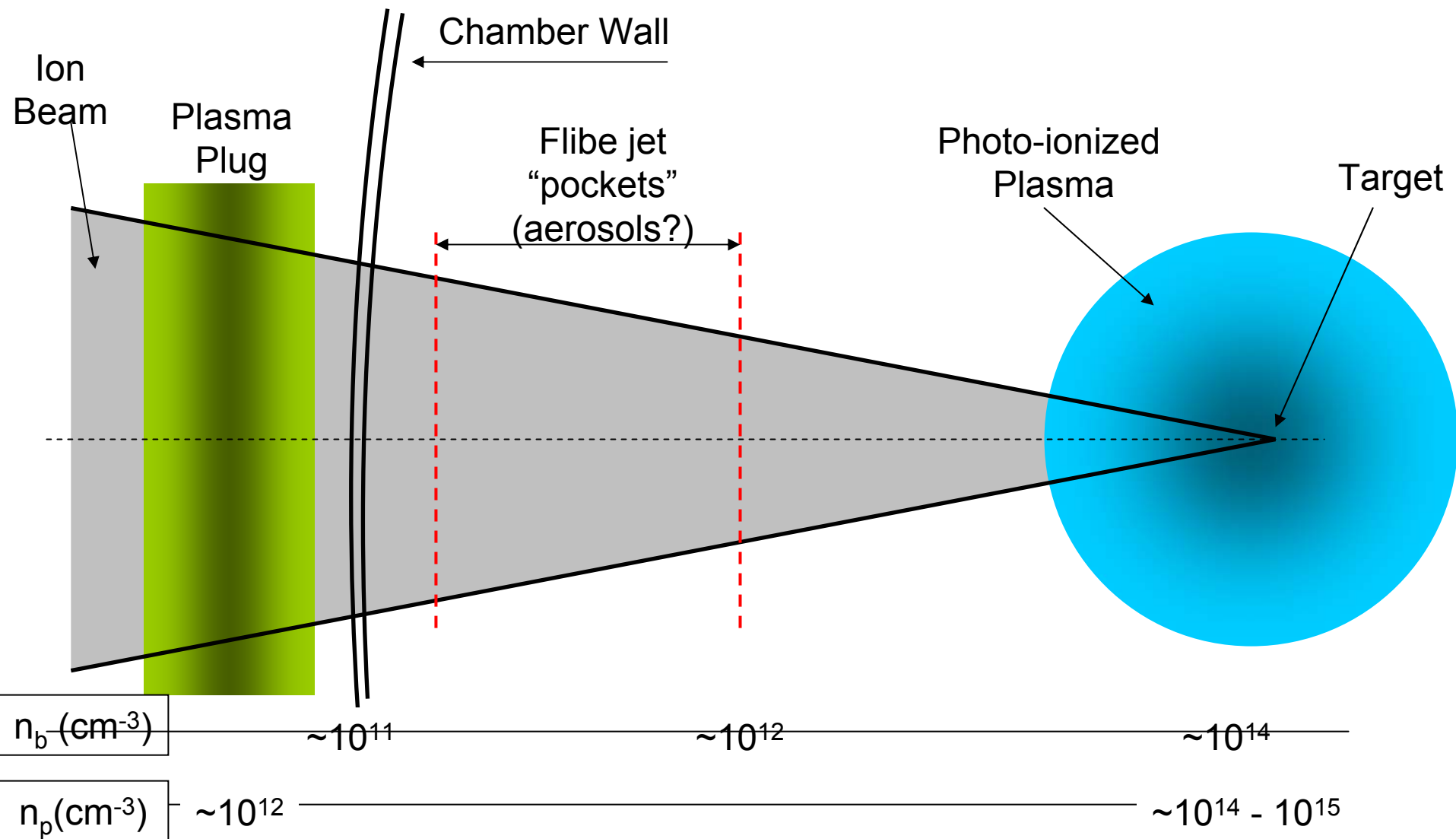
[2] D. R. Welch, et al., *Phys. Plasmas* **9**, 2344 (2002).

Previous analysis [1] of streaming instabilities for a converging heavy ion beam assumed a different baseline parameter set than present “robust point design [3].”

- Ref. [1] assumed 10 GeV heavy ions propagating over 5 – 10 meters in background gas densities of  $10^{11} - 10^{16}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ .
- Results assumed two-stream growth rates based on 1-D dispersion analysis.
- Growth rate compared to rate of beam and plasma density evolution gives spatially dependent  $k_{\text{max}}$  (wave-number of fastest growing mode). If  $k_{\text{max}}$  is changing fast enough, then instability doesn't have time to fully develop.

[3] S. Yu, *et al.*, “An Updated Point Design for Heavy Ion Fusion,” submitted to Fusion Sci. and Technol. (2003).

For Neutralized Ballistic Transport, the ion beam passes through a wide range of background plasma and gas parameters.



# 1-D Studies:

- Benchmark LSP against standard dispersion relations for 2 and 3-species
- Include usage of “HIF” parameters in comparisons.
- 1-D modeling encompasses the “body” mode of the two-stream instability.

# 1-D Studies: Two-stream growth rates

Two-species dispersion relation (Buneman):

$$\frac{\omega_b^2}{(\omega - kv_b)^2} + \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} = 1$$

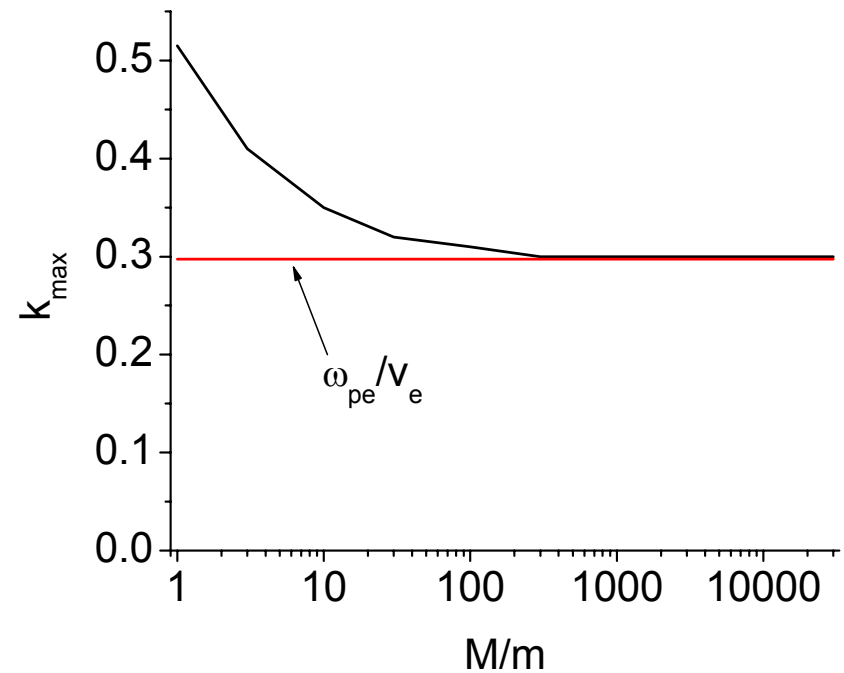
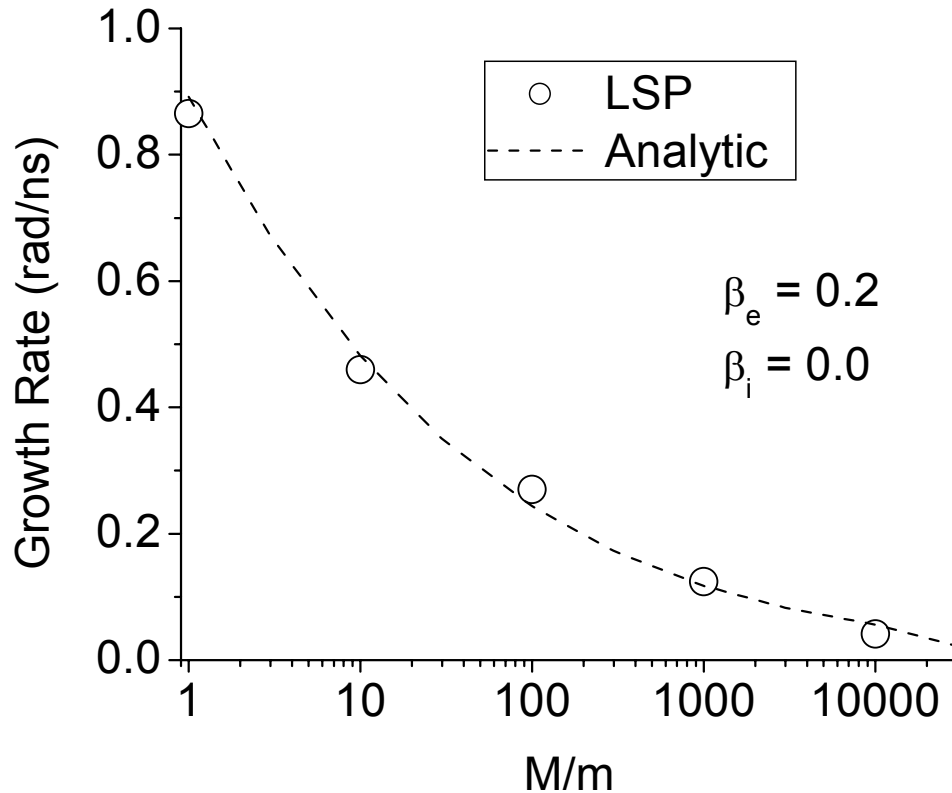
Three-species dispersion relation:

$$\frac{\omega_b^2}{(\omega - kv_b)^2} + \frac{\omega_e^2}{(\omega - kv_e)^2} + \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} = 1$$

# Simulation Configuration:

- 1-D, electrostatic ADI solver
- Periodic boundaries with  $\lambda = 2\pi/k_{\max}$ , with  $k_{\max}$  determined from solutions to dispersion relations.
- Cold species in all cases
- Growth stimulated by small amplitude velocity perturbation applied to electron species ( $\Delta v/v_b \sim 10^{-4}$ )
- Nominal parameters:  $v_b=0.2c$ ,  $n_p=10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

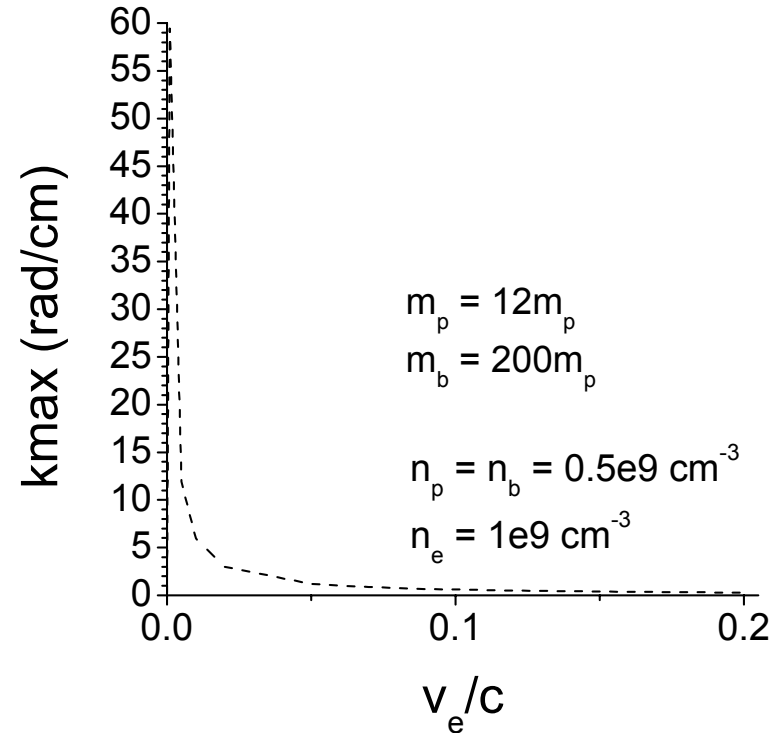
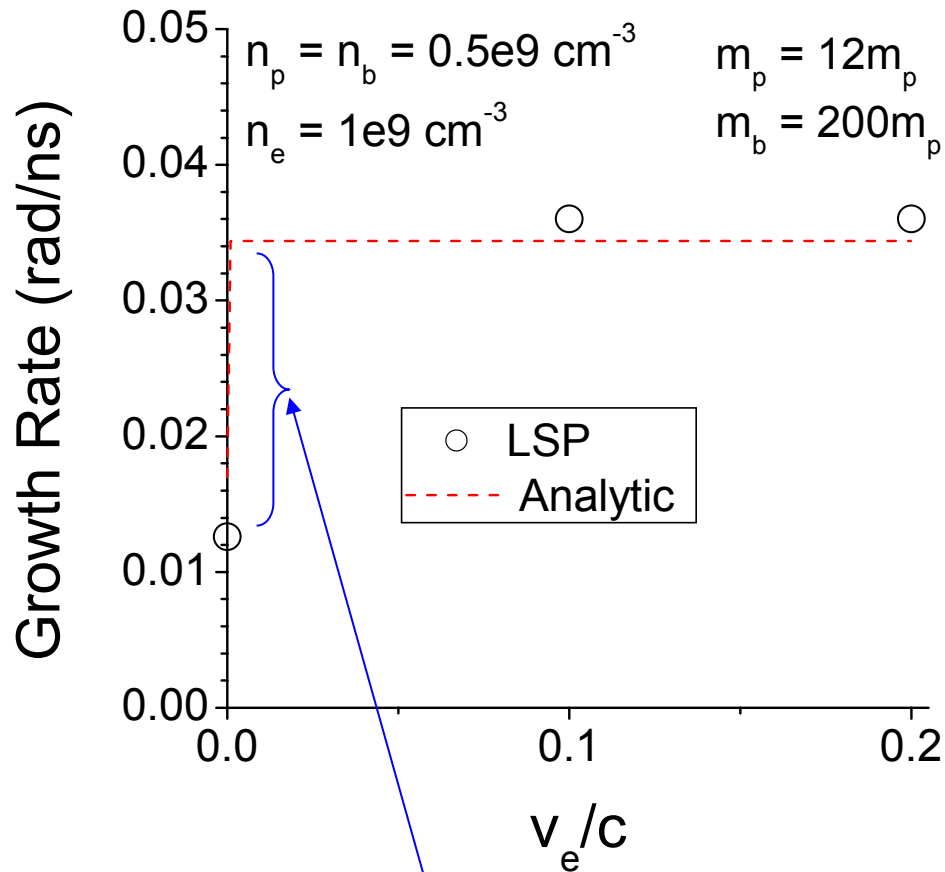
# Two-species, 1-D results: LSP simulations accurately track the basic instability mechanism



Classic  $(M/m)^{1/3}$  scaling for  $M/m > 1000$  (about a proton mass...)

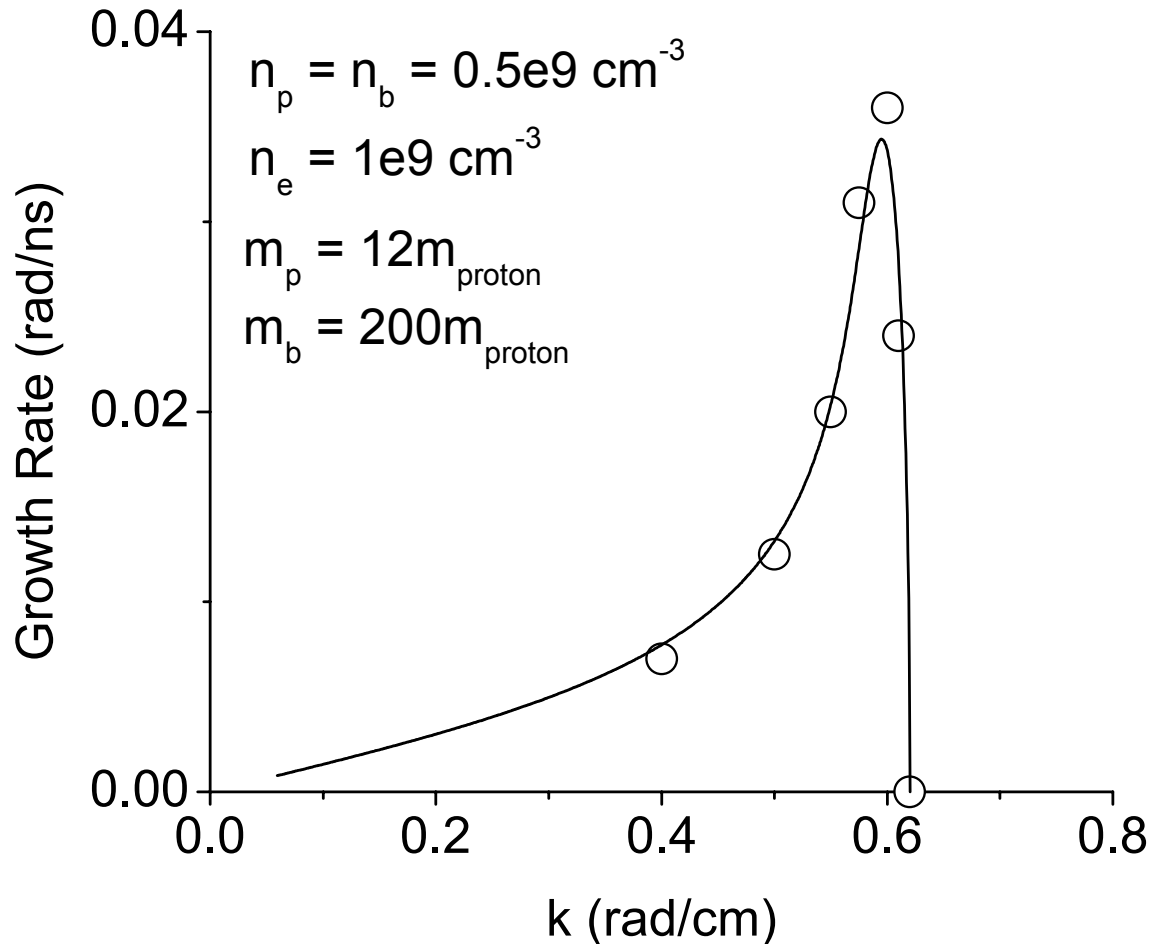


# LSP results in good agreement with 3-species dispersion relation analysis.

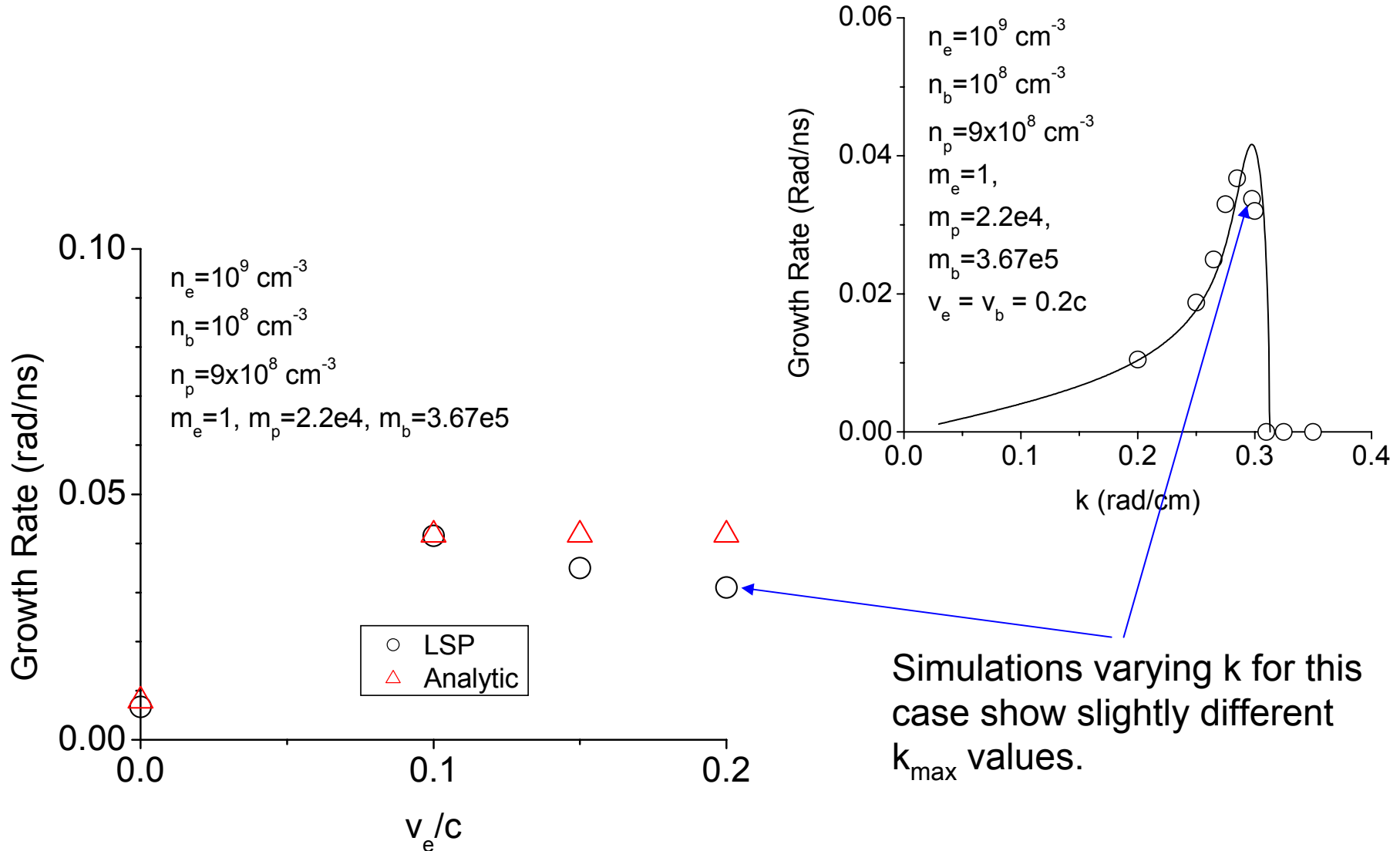


The sudden drop in growth rate at  $v_e = 0$  is because electrons are now only streaming against the more massive beam ions rather than the plasma ions...

LSP simulation scans in  $k$ -space also correctly follow growth rates and real frequencies.

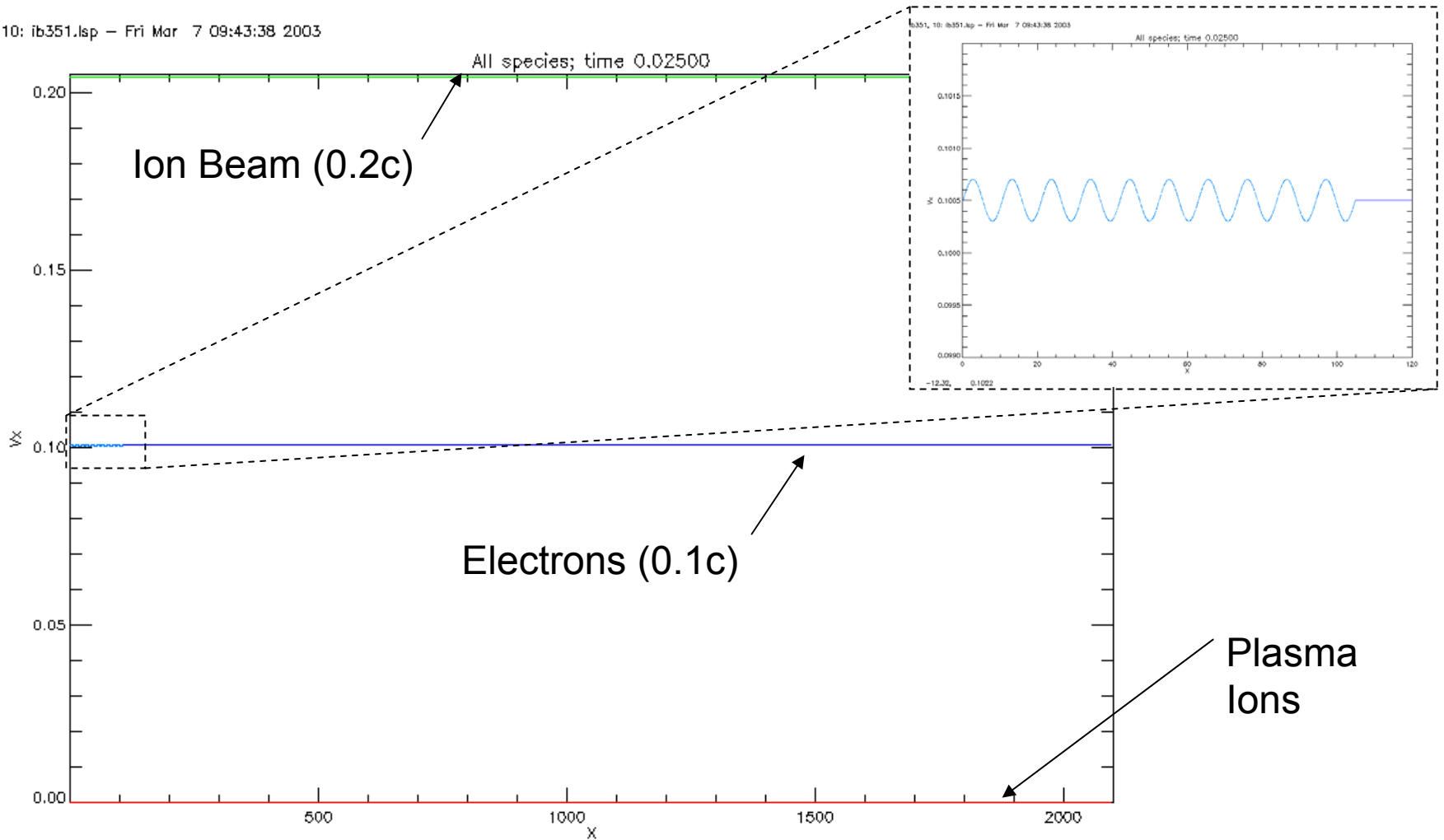


# 1-D, 3-species with “dense” plasma ( $n_p/n_b=9$ ):



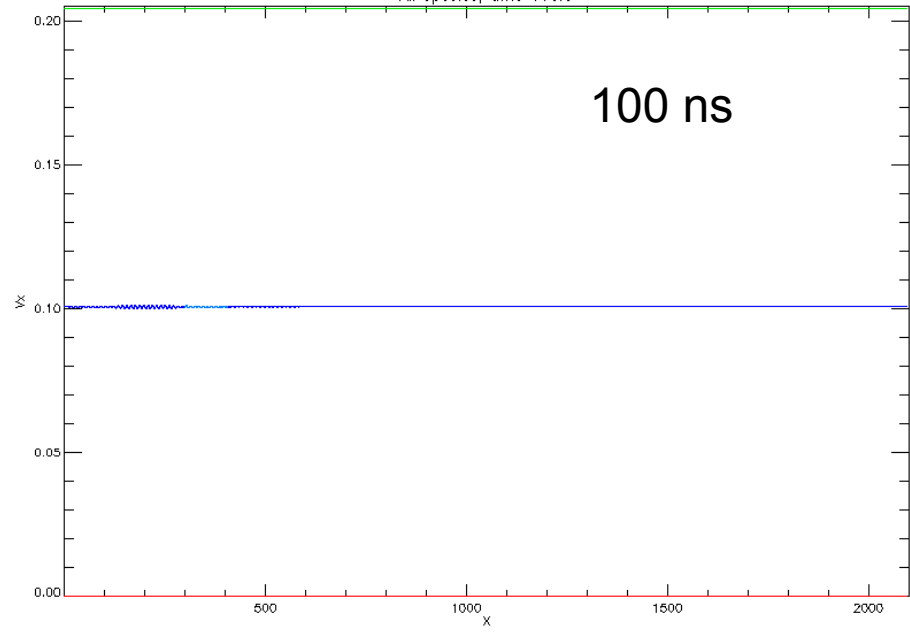
# 1-D simulation (periodic) with $L=200\lambda_{\max}$ , initial perturbation region is $10\lambda_{\max}$ :

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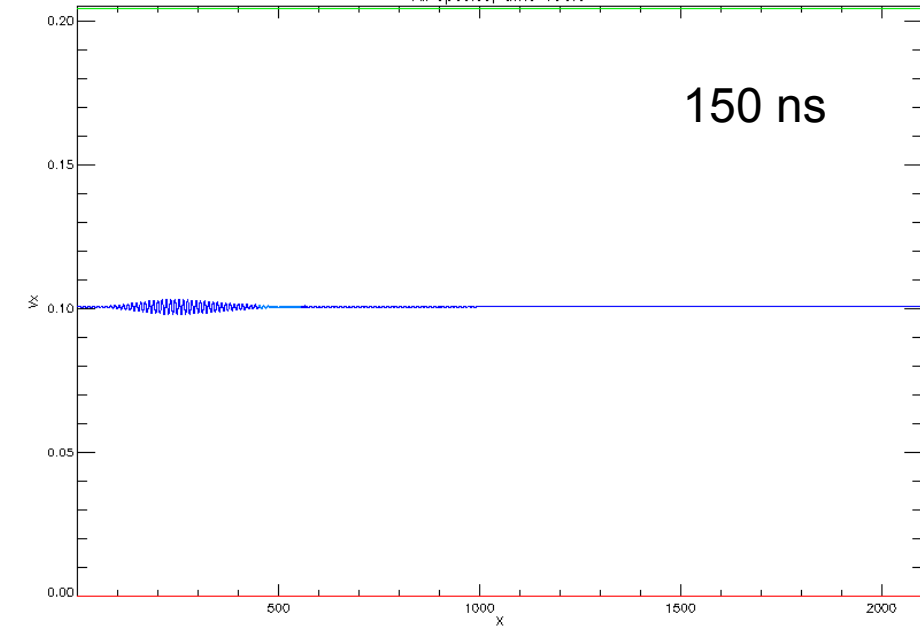


-192.7, 0.2190

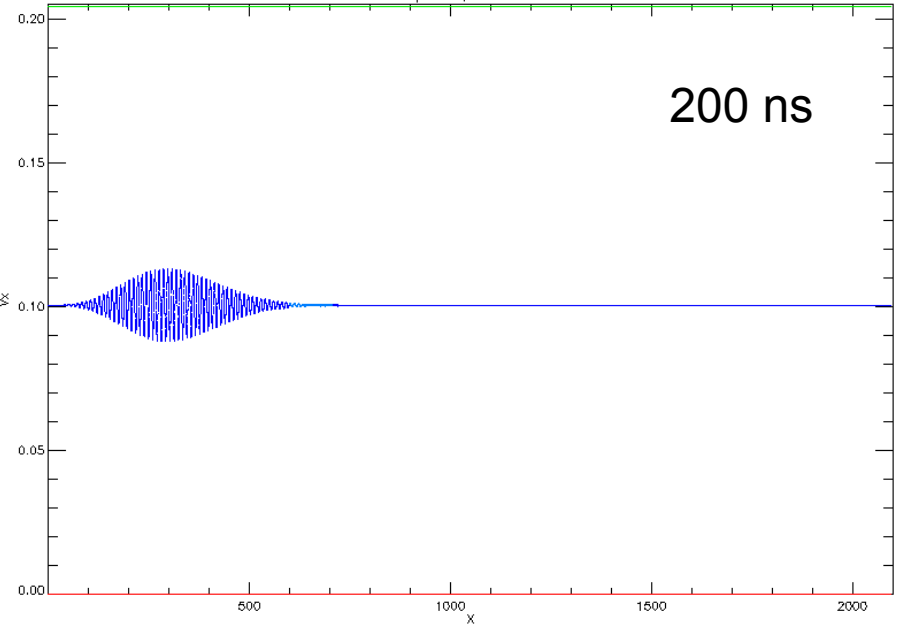
All species; time 100.0



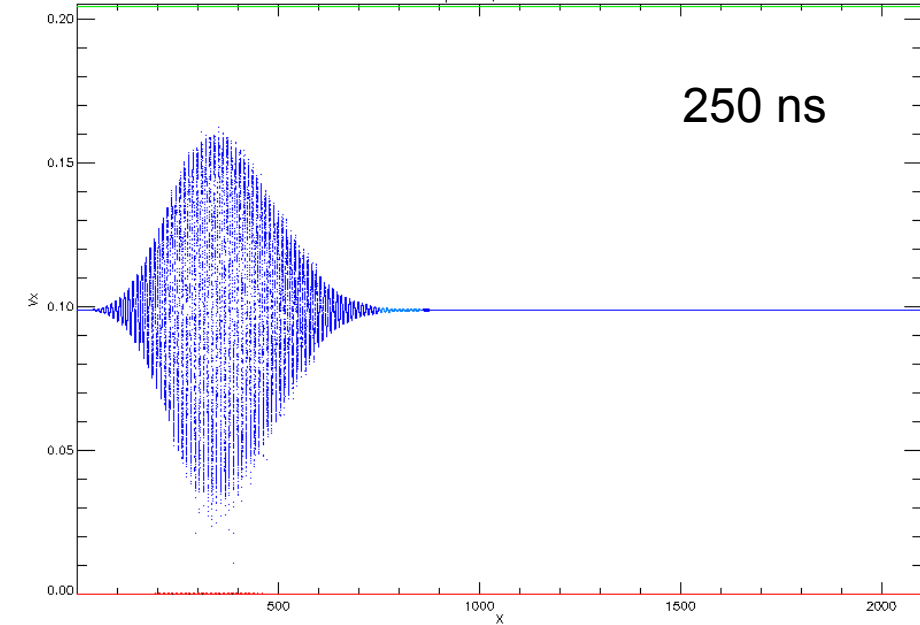
All species; time 150.0



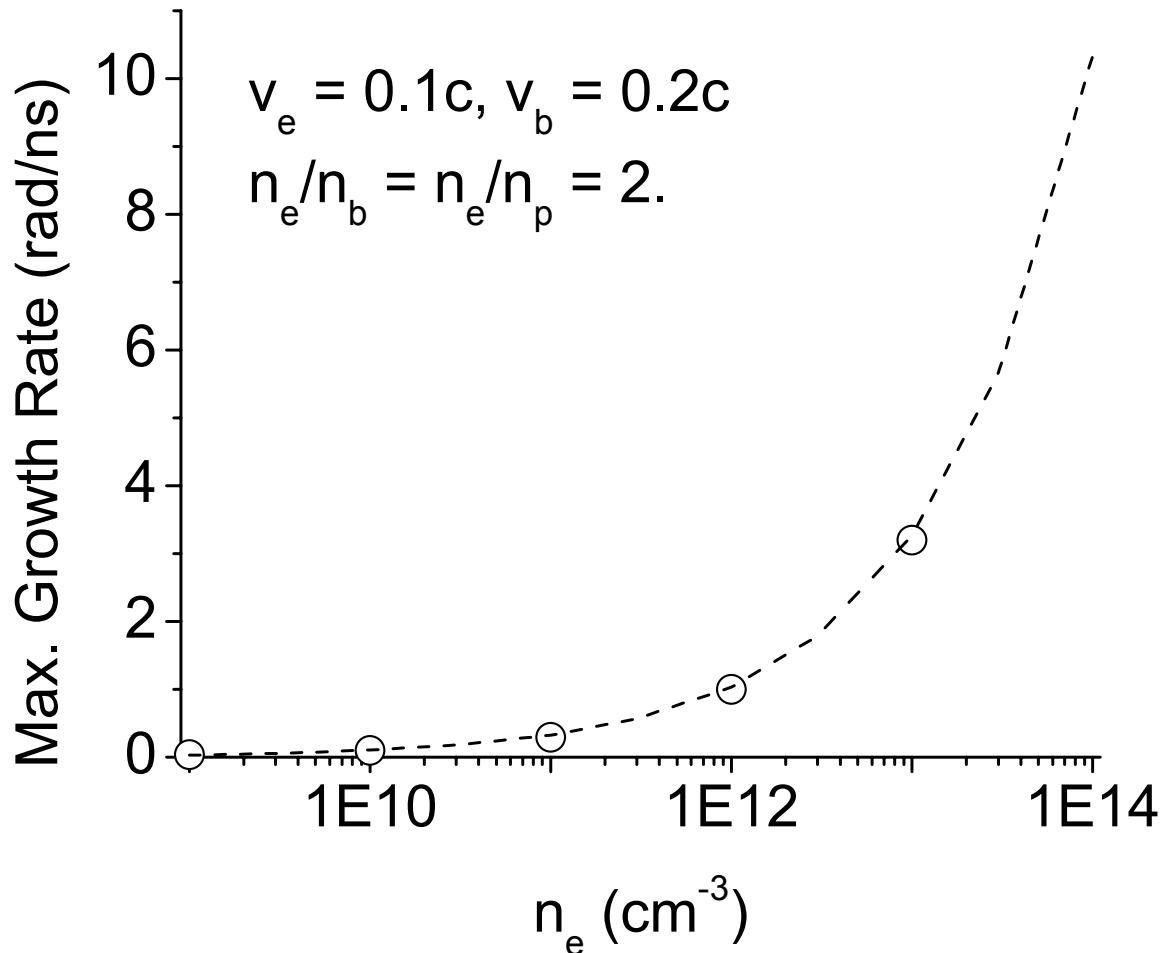
All species; time 200.0



All species; time 250.0



1-D density scan illustrates density scaling (growth  $\propto n_e^{1/2}$ ).



## 2-D ( $r,z$ ) two-stream growth for radially bounded ion-beam-plasma systems:

- Dispersion relation developed for 2-D “hard-edge” beam system.
- Numerical solution in time for system of equations for “soft” beam profiles.
- Direct comparisons with 2-D LSP simulations (electrostatic).
- 2-D LSP EM simulations giving finite net current fractions – in progress.

# 2-D dispersion analysis for “hard-edge” ion beam in plasma:

Assumptions:

Charge Neutral:  $n_e(r) = n_b(r) + n_p$

Current Neutral:  $v_e(r) = \frac{n_b(r)}{n_b(r) + n_p} v_b$

Linearized Equations (single wave-number,  $f \sim e^{ikz}$ ):

$$\frac{\partial v_z}{\partial t} = -ikV_o v_z - v_r \frac{\partial V_o}{\partial r} + \frac{q}{m} e_z$$

<- Momentum

$$\frac{\partial v_r}{\partial t} = -ikV_o v_r + \frac{q}{m} e_r$$



# 2-D dispersion analysis for “hard-edge” ion beam in plasma (*cont.*):

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = -ik(N_o v_z + nV_o) - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (rN_o v_r) \quad \leftarrow \text{Continuity}$$

$$ike_r = \frac{\partial e_z}{\partial r} \quad \leftarrow \text{Fields}$$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial e_z}{\partial r} \right) - k^2 e_z = -4\pi e i k (n_b + n_p - n_e)$$

For  $f \sim e^{i\omega t}$

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \varepsilon \frac{\partial e_z}{\partial r} \right) - \varepsilon k^2 e_z = 0$$

$$\varepsilon = 1 - \sum_i \frac{\omega_i^2}{(\omega - kV_{oi})^2}$$

$$e_z(r) = \begin{cases} AI_o(kr), & 0 \leq r \leq r_b \\ B[I_o(kR_w)K_o(kr) - I_o(kr)K_o(kR_w)], & r_b \leq r \leq R_w \end{cases}$$

# 2-D dispersion analysis for “hard-edge” ion beam in plasma (*cont.*):

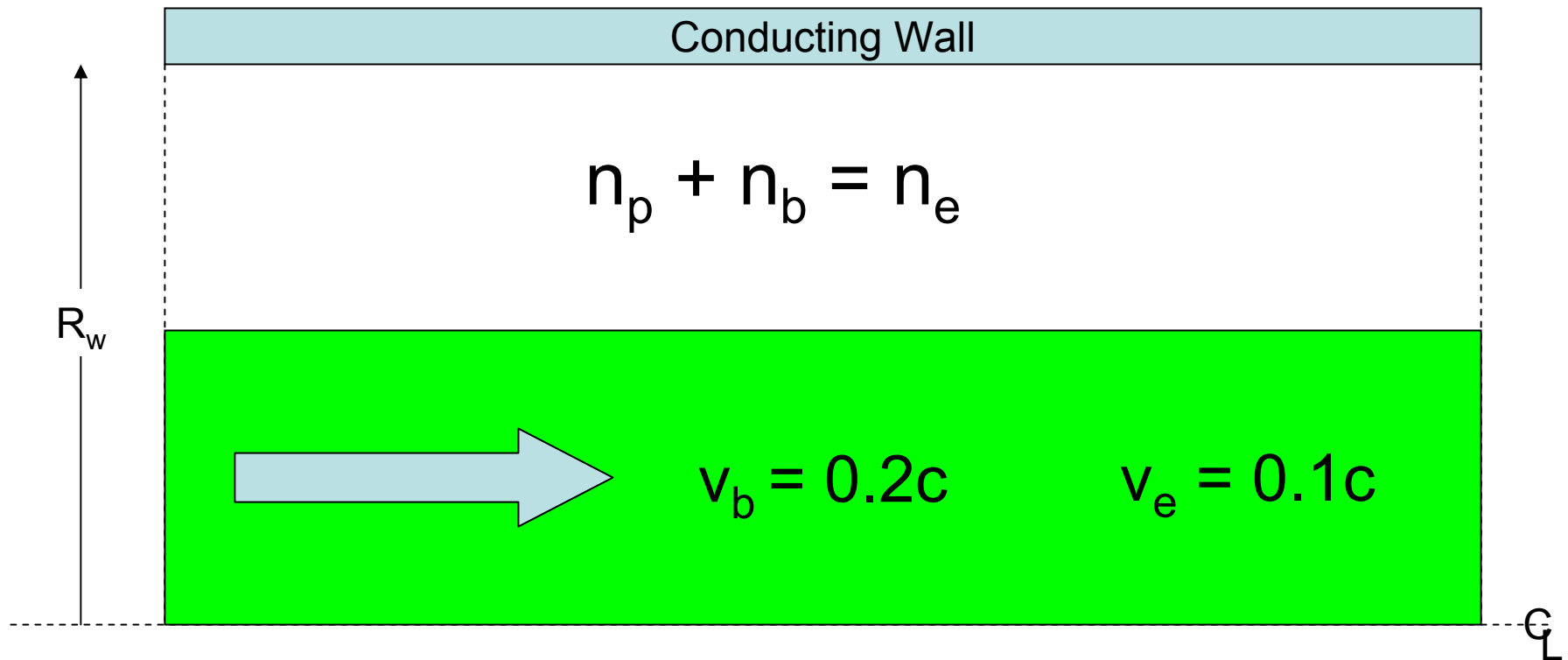
Matching  $e_z$  and jump condition on  $\varepsilon \partial e_z / \partial r$  at  $r_b$  gives:

$$1 - \frac{\omega_{e1}^2}{(\omega - kV_e)^2} - \frac{\omega_b^2}{(\omega - kV_b)^2} - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} = -\alpha \left[ 1 - \frac{\omega_{e2}^2}{\omega^2} - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \right]$$

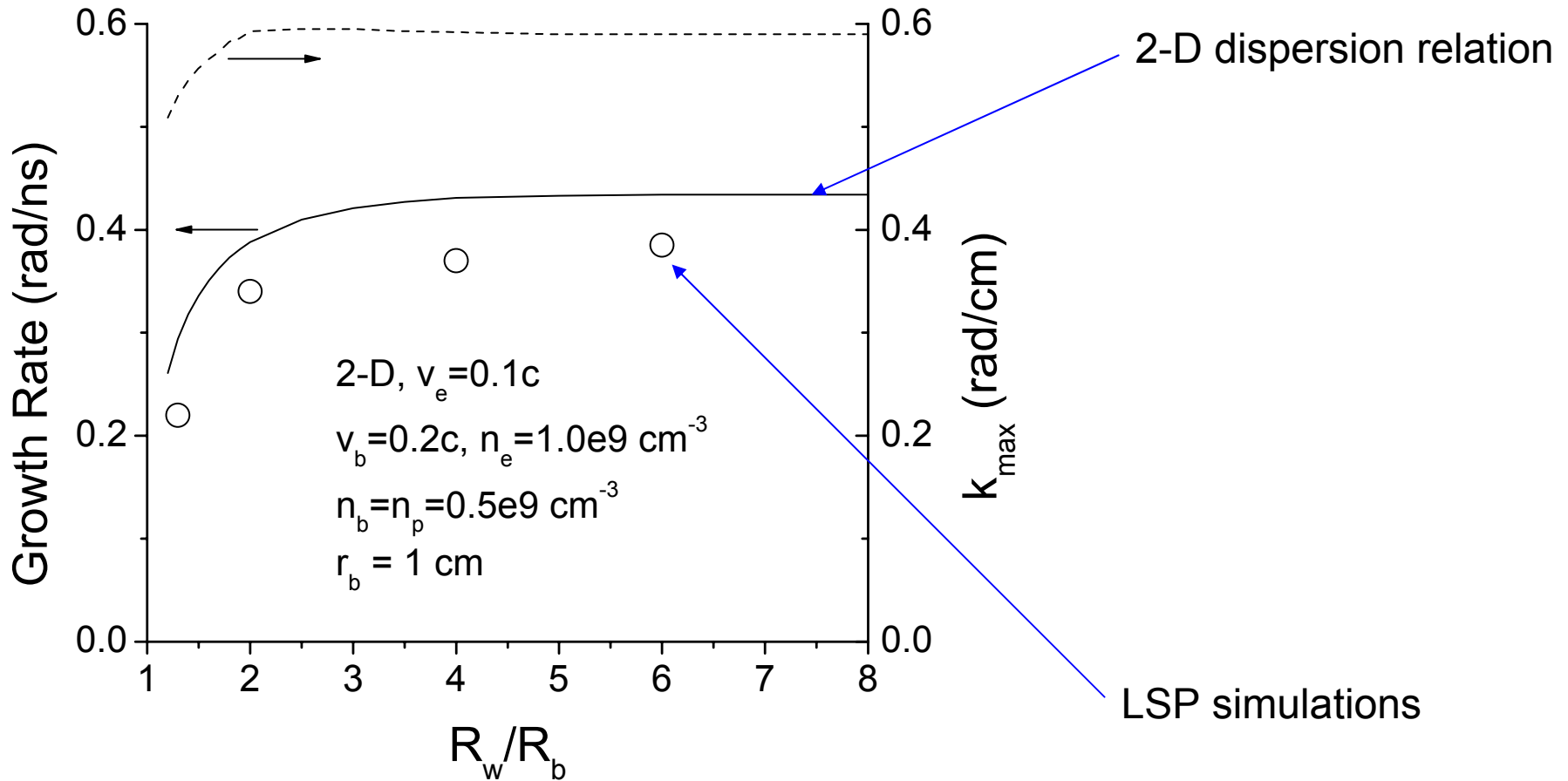
$$\alpha = \frac{I_o(kr_b) [I_o(kR_w) K_1(kr_b) + I_1(kr_b) K_o(kR_w)]}{I_1(kr_b) [I_o(kR_w) K_o(kr_b) - I_o(kr_b) K_o(kR_w)]}$$

This dispersion relation describes the growth of surface waves on a beam/plasma column.

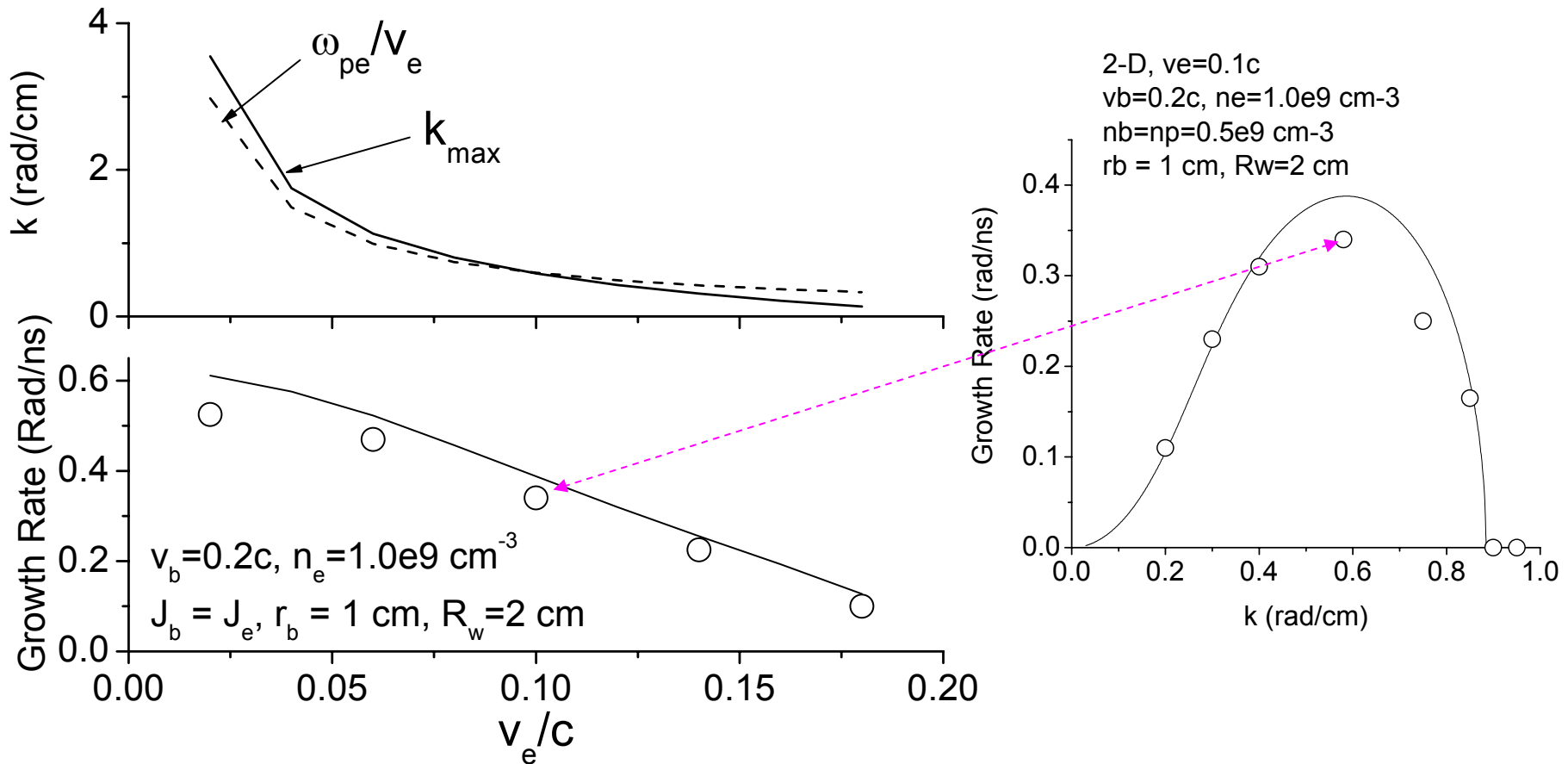
# 2-D Problem Geometry



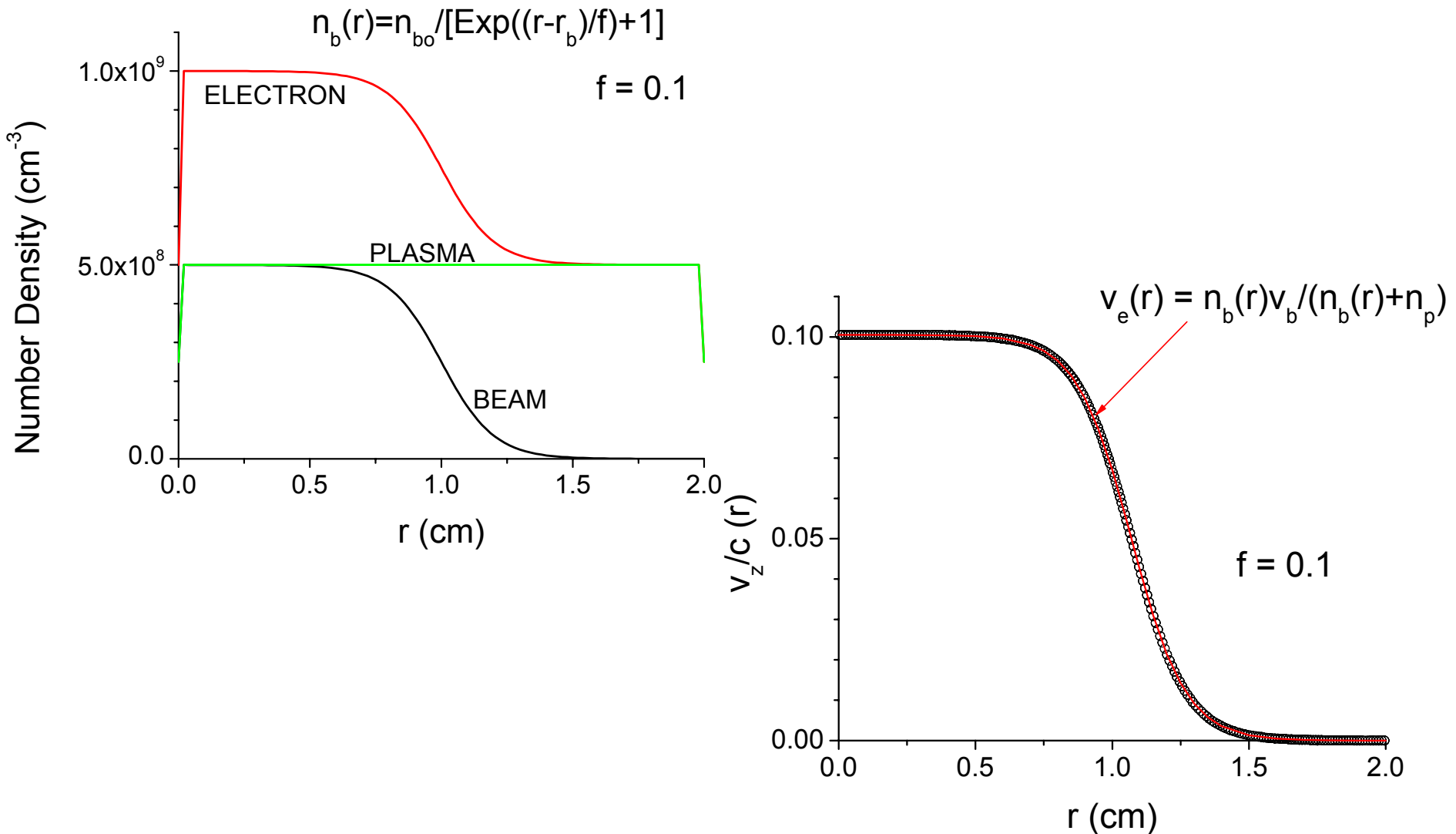
# Hard-edge-profile ion beam simulation and theory results: influence of radial boundary minimal at modest values of $R_w/r_b$ .



Scan in electron velocity for 2-D “hard-edge” beam profile shows a broader k-range around peak growth values compared to 1-D dispersion analysis:

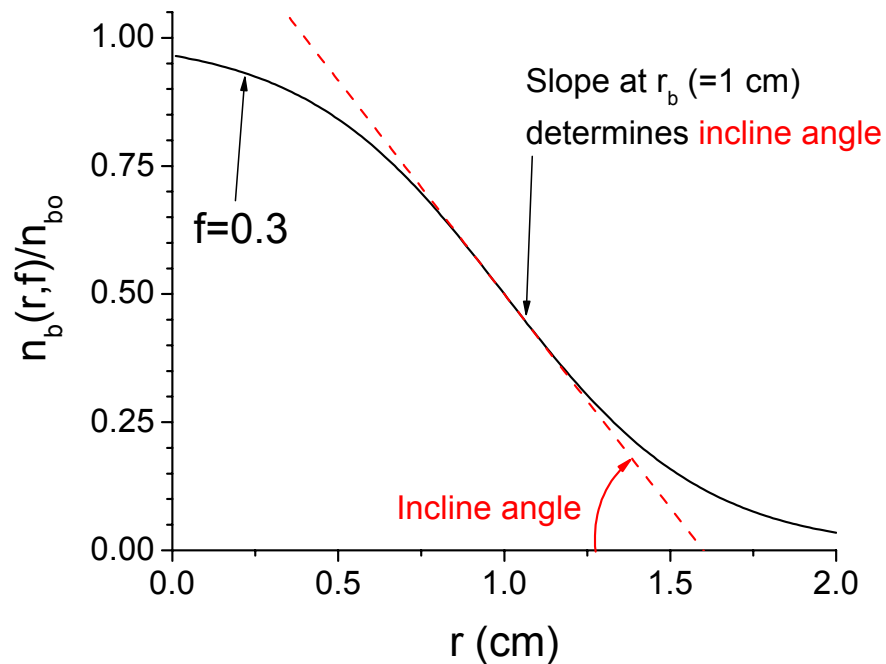
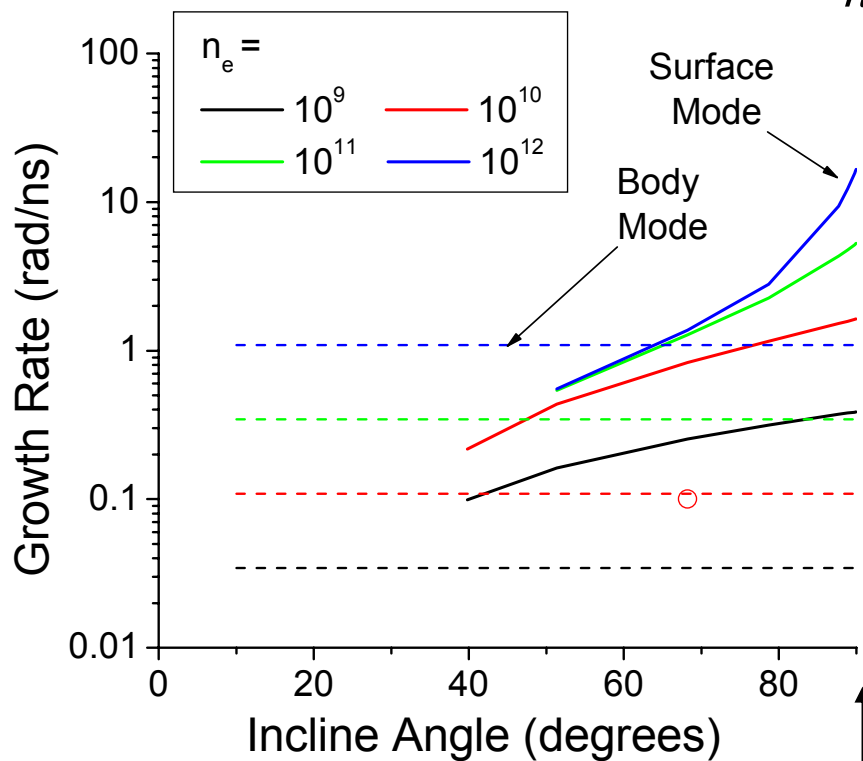


Simulations are compared directly the 2-D model using a radial profile (charge and current neutral):



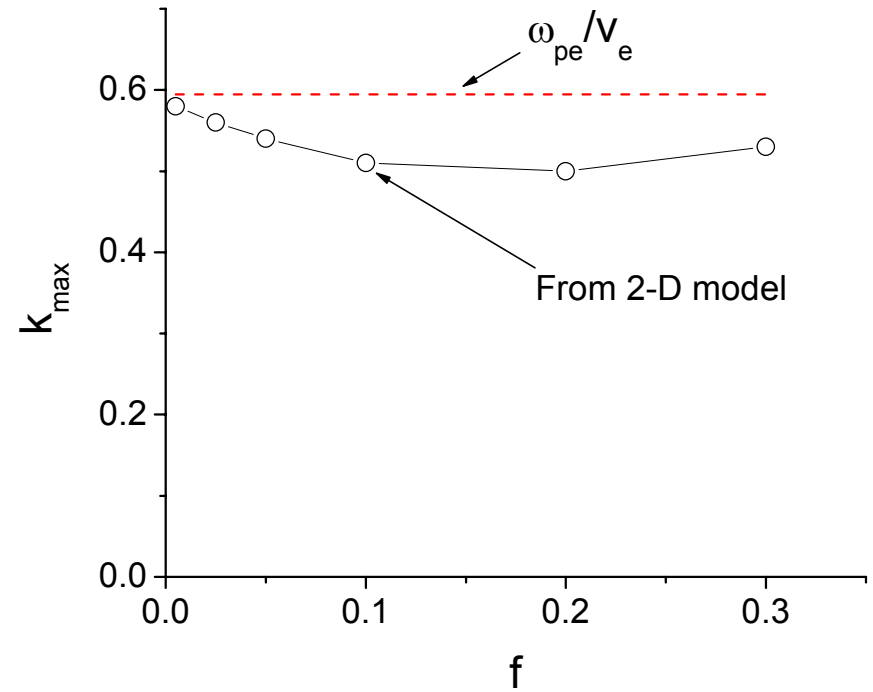
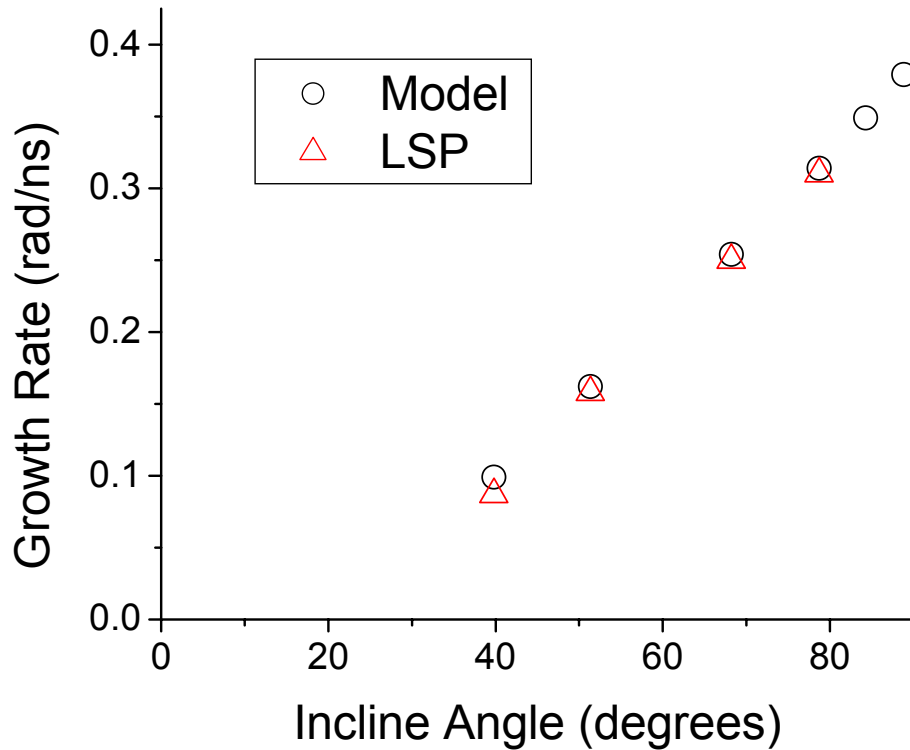
For the range of beam/plasma densities of interest, body (1-D) and surface (2-D) modes can have comparable growth rates:

$$\frac{n_e}{n_b} = \frac{n_e}{n_p} = 2$$



"hard-edge" beam profile

# Simulations and theory in good agreement over a wide range of beam-edge profiles





# Status:

- Initial two-stream studies have provided basic growth-rate scaling and important benchmarks for PIC.
- Converging ion beam studies are underway in “idealized” limit (collisionless, uniform background plasmas, etc.)
- EM studies of net current evolution are also planned as part of this analysis.