

Optical afterburner for a SASE FEL: first results from FLASH

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FEL Beam Dynamics Group Meeting, February 14, 2011







- Makes "optical replica" of X-ray pulses.
- Uses intrinsic features of SASE process.
- Very simple scheme, does not require external lasers etc.

Saldin, Schneidmiller, Yurkov, Phys. Rev. ST-AB 13, 030701 (2010)





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- There are density and energy modulations on the scale of FEL wavelength (Angstroem) with a chaotically changing amplitude on the scale of L_c.
- There is (practically) no density modulation on the scale $\rm L_{\rm c.}$
- There is mean energy loss on the same scale L_c .



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t [fs]

-60

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TDR-2006 case:

1 nC, $\varepsilon_n = 1.4$ mm-mrad

R₅₆= 50 μm

Low emittance case:

200 pC, $\varepsilon_n = 0.4$ mm-mrad

 R_{56} = 10 µm







 $R_{56} = 50 \ \mu m$ $R_{56} = 200 \ \mu m$ $R_{56} = 500 \ \mu m$



One can control modulation scale by changing R₅₆





Solid: R_{56} = 50 µm, dot: R56= 200 µm, dash: R56= 500 µm









Solid: R_{56} = 50 µm, dot: R56= 200 µm, dash: R56= 500 µm



Pulse energy within coherent angle, 10% BW

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- "Visualization" of X-ray pulse, i.e. translating its width and shape into optical range (making "optical replica").
- On-line measurement with FROG or similar devices.
- Radiator, transport, measurement: $\Delta \omega \gg 1/\Delta T_{sase}$
- Measure ensemble-average envelope.







Simulation of a single shot reconstruction: SASE1 at saturation:







Resolution is limited by:

- Pulse duration of pump and probe pulses
- Timing jitter between the two pulses









- At FLASH 10 fs long (FWHM) soft X-ray pulses can be delivered to users.
- At LCLS low charge bunches (20 pC) are believed to produce single-digit fs pulses (hard and soft X-rays).
- However, the resolution of PP experiments at both facilities is several hundred fs due to a timing jitter.
- There are different approaches to cope with timing jitter; the most natural is to produce both pulses by the same electron bunch.



Proposal for PP experiments at FLASH (2001)



European

 $P(\lambda) = p_1(\lambda)[N_e + N_e(N_e - 1)|F(\lambda)|^2]$



Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 475 (2001) 363-367



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www.elsevier.com/locate/nima

Development of a pump-probe facility combining a far-infrared source with laser-like characteristics and a VUV free electron laser

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- FIR undulator has been proposed by collaboration of DESY and JINR (Dubna) in 2001 (B. Faatz et al., NIMA 475(2001)363).
- FIR undulator and THz beamline have been designed, manufactured and installed at FLASH in 2007 by collaboration of DESY, Hamburg University and JINR (O. Grimm et al., NIMA 615, (2010)105, M. Gensch et al., Infrared Physics & Technology, 51 (2008) 423).





THz streak camera at FLASH



photonics

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Single-shot terahertz-field-driven X-ray streak camera

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•Two beams (FIR and soft X-ray) were transported about 100 m via separate beam lines and combined in time and space.

•Measured timing jitter was less than 5 fs rms.

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Few-femtosecond timing at fourth-generation X-ray light sources

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- Coherent edge radiation (THz) is produced by a short electron bunch behind SASE undulator (FIR undulator off)
- Radiation is transported down the THz beamline and cross-corelated with high-power PP laser
- Timing accuracy 7 fs rms is achieved





Complicated electron bunches





Lasing part(s): current, emittance, energy spread, mismatch, orbit etc.

Optical afterburner concept is intrinsic to SASE process: only those parts of the bunch radiate that produce SASE.



First measurements at FLASH:

European XFEL

4 shifts (Nov. and Jan./Feb.), SASE at 8 and 21 nm, 100-250 uJ



- Is the coherent optical radiation coming from SASE and not from the microbunching instability in optical range?
- Do we get sufficient intensity to do FROG measurements?



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FIR undulator is used as a dispersive element. Two options for radiator:

injector laser

e-gun

- FIR undulator (horisontal polarization);
- select vertical polarization, use edge radiation and/or CSR from the dipole





Horizontal polarization from the source









SASE at 8 nm, FIR undulator at 10 um





THz undulator tuned to 10um.



SASE at 8 nm, FIR undulator at 10 um









300 pulses for each time step (30 bunches per train, 10 Hz, 1 s)

SASE at 8 nm, FIR undulator at 800 nm





Autocorrelation





< 350 fs (FWHM);

Pulse duration should be in a range 200-300 fs (no FROG reconstruction done yet)

SASE at 8 nm (230 uJ), FIR undulator at 800 nm, charge 0.7 nC







- Optical afterburner concept successfully tested at FLASH: clear effect, pulse energies up to 1 uJ, first FROG traces taken.
- With some additional effort it will become a standard tool for on-line. diagnostics of SASE pulse duration and for pump-probe experiments at FLASH (on-going project).
- European XFEL (and other facilities of this kind) can profit from this scheme as well.





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