Generating Femtosecond to Sub-Femtosecond

X-ray pulses in free-electron lasers

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Outline

Introduction/motivation

SASE FELs:

- > Few-fs x-rays with emittance-spoiling foil;
- Sub-fs x-rays from nonlinear compression;
- Self-seeded FELs:
 - Few-fs from a chirped bunch or delay;
 - Sub-fs with a modulated chirped bunch?

Summary





Motivation

- X-rays from 4th generation light sources (FELs) are typically about few 10s to 100s of femtosecond, about 3 orders shorter than 3rd generation storage ring pulses;
- This provides a fantastic tool for ultrafast photon science studies, such as measuring the molecular motions in transition states;
- However, even shorter pulses, sub-fs or attosecond pulses, are also highly interested, tracing electronic motion?

In Neils Bohr's 1913 model of the Hydrogen atom it takes about <u>150 as</u> for an electron to orbit the proton.

- Atomic transient recorder, Nature, 2004



How to make it shorter

• Reduce charge, $\rightarrow 1 \text{ pC}$

- Rosenzweig, Reiche et al., NIM A 2008 (1pC). Ding et al., PRL 2009 (20pC);

Laser-based manipulation

- Zholents and Fawley, PRL 2004;
- Saldin, Schneidmiller and Yurkov, Opt. Commun. 2004;
- Zholents and Penn, PRSTAB 2005 (ESASE)
- Saldin, Schneidmiller and Yurkov, PRSTAB 2006 (chirp + taper)
- Zholents and Zolotorev, New J. Phys. 2008 (angular modulation)
- Ding et al. PRSTAB 2009 (two-color ESASE)
- Xiang, Huang and Stupakov, PRSTAB 2009 (ECHO based)
- Qiang and Wu, APL 2011 (modulation compression)
- A review paper: Beam by design, Hemsing, Stupakov, Xiang and Zholents, Rev. Mod. Phy. 2014.

• Slotted-foil

- Emma et al. PRL 2004
- Prat and Reiche, PRL 2015 (Foil and Delay)

Others

- Schroeder et al., NIM A 2002. (chirp + mono)
- Tanaka, PRL 2013 (ESASE, Foil, and Delay); Tanaka, PRL 2015 (MCHG)
- Thompson and McNeil, PRL 2008; Kur et al, New J. Phys. 2011 (mode locked trains)
- Feng, Chen and Zhao, PRSTAB 2012; Dunning, McNeil and Thompson, PRL 2013 (mode locked trains)
- Huang, Ding, Huang and Qiang, PRSTAB 2014 (nonlinear compression)





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We will focus on recent <u>experimental</u> studies at LCLS, slotted foil, nonlinear compression, etc. Page 5

(1) Slotted foil mode



- 2. E selection correlated with t
- 3. Generate ultrashort single or double e-bunches for FEL

P. Emma, et al, PRL 92, 074801 (2004)





<u>Cross-correlation*</u> measurements for slotted-foil case



XTCAV: Electron and X-ray temporal diagnostic







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XTCAV measures the lasing, and spoiling



Flexible control of duration or delay

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Measurements of pulse control at LCLS

180pC, 4.5GeV, SASE; data on 11/27/2014

Measurements for low charge + slotted foil mode

20pC, 4.6GeV, over-compression mode, SASE

(Ding et al., SLAC-PUB-16312)

Other features with foil (chirped bunch, multicolors)

(2) Sub-fs X-rays from nonlinear compression

The idea: lower harmonic cavity (L1X) amplitude and fully compress the core part of the bunch to produce a stable single current horn.

- based on existing hardware;
- generate > 8 kA peak current;
- reverse taper to control lasing.

~200as hard X-ray FEL pulses (simulations)

- FEL Simulations used Start-to-end electron beam.
- ***** LSC inside the undulator was included.
- ✤ A reverse taper of -1% from 20m to 132m was used.

(S. Huang, Y. Ding, Z. Huang and J. Qiang, PRSTAB 17, 120703, 2014)

Experimental measurements at LCLS

20pC, 9 keV, nonlinear compression; L1X voltage changed from 19 MV to 15, 12 and 10 MV; Used the single-shot hard x-ray spectrometer for diagnostic [1].

Measured single-shot x-ray spectrum vs L1X voltage

Nonlinear compression with L1X 10 MV

(Measured data on 06/16/2015)

(3) Shorter pulse in self-seeding mode

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• Use a chirped bunch [1]

The final x-ray pulse duration is [2]: $\sigma_t = \frac{\sigma_\omega}{u}$

100

For a typical chirped bunch at LCLS, 1% over 30fs, the final pulse could be about **6 fs**. Experiments ongoing at LCLS.

(C. Emma et al., Poster WEP075

[1]: Schroeder et al., NIM A 2002.

[2]: Krinsky and Huang, PRSTAB 2003.

(3) Shorter pulse in self-seeding mode

(4) Sub-fs in self-seeding mode?

- Chirped bunch
- + self-seeding mode
- + laser modulation

Short seed + current spike

(see more from S. Huang, talk TUB03B)

Summary

- Generating pulse durations from ~100 fs to a few fs are routinely deliverable;
- Going to sub-fs regime is an exciting topic both for FEL physicists and photon scientists.

Thanks to all of my colleagues and friends for their contributions to the results discussed here.

