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Generation of Sub-femtosecond X-ray Pulses at SwissFEL

Alexander Malyzhenkov :: SwissFEL Beam Dynamics :: Paul Scherrer Institut

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Time domain

Longitudinal coherence of SASE* FELs

*SASE=Self Amplified Spontaneous Emission

Partial longitudinal coherence (long electron bunches):



Mode (or spike) duration

e.g. coherence length



- slippage within the gain length
- = cooperation length

=



Longitudinal coherence of SASE FELs

Partial longitudinal coherence (long electron bunches):



Full longitudinal coherence (short electron bunches \sim few coherence lengths):





Single spike SASE FELs

- Ackermann *et al.* "Operation of a free-electron laser from the **extreme ultraviolet** to the water window," Nat. Photonics 1, 336 (2007) @DESY [Nonlinear compression w/o X-band]
- 2. Huang *et al.* "Generating **Single-Spike** Hard X-Ray Pulses **with Nonlinear Bunch Compression** in Free-Electron Lasers," PRL **119**, 154801 (2017) @**LCLS**:







>Adjustable dispersion R₅₆ in BC1 and BC2, and Energy collimator (EC) {with quadrupoles x6}

>Two- or three-stage compressions are possible in this layout



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$$(\sigma_z)_{final} = c_1 m_1 c_2 m_2 R_{56_3} (\sigma_{\Delta\gamma/\gamma})_{initial} + c_3^{-1} (\sigma_z)_i + B_3 (\sigma_z)_i^2 + \dots$$

where: $m_i = E_i / E_{i+1}$, $c_i = (1 + R_{56_i} h_i)^{-1}$, h_i – total chirp before BC_i



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Nonlinear compression: $c_3^{-1} = 0$



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Tunability: compression factors

Compress less in BC1 and BC2 for

shorter pulse duration !



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>"Nonlinearity" of the full compression can be precisely controlled by X-band

Tunability: compression factors + laser heater

Compress less in BC1 and BC2 for

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*TDC=Transverse Deflecting Cavity

S-Band and C-Band TDCs (R_{45} **)** are used for the time diagnostics: -6

$$-ct \rightarrow y' \rightarrow y$$



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Electron beam phase space (ASTRA+ELEGANT):



2-stage:



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Electron beam phase space at the undulator entrance (ASTRA+ELEGANT):





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Advantage of the 2-stage @SwissFEL: longitudinal phase space of the compressed beam can be measured experimentally and directly used for tuning





Δγ

ŧγ

Adjusting the **L1 phase** while looking at the measured longitudinal phase space



t [fs]

K-shape from simulations is benchmarked

 3-stage: uncompressed beam can be measured before the EC and the energy chirp reconstructed







Energy [eV]

J. Rehanek, et al., *J. Instrum.* **12**, P05024 (2017) M. Makita, et al., *Optica* **2**, 912 (2015) PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT

Data Analysis of the acquired spectra and reconstruction of the pulse duration



Spike width and number analysis:

Multiple Gaussian fitting in frequency domain (R²>0.95)

> Fourier limited approximation:

 Number of spikes in time and frequency domain are identical PAUL SCHERRER INSTITUT

Data Analysis of the acquired spectra and reconstruction of the pulse duration



[Data histogramms are courtesy of Y. Arbelo]



Stability of the 3-stage compression

\triangleright Main advantage of the 3-stage compression \rightarrow Super-stable design

> RF Phase in Linac 3 was varied: $\pm 15^\circ$, $\pm 20^\circ$, 0° :



Stability from RF phase jitter in LO, L1 can be trialed the same way

*Fat overlapped spikes are excluded from analysis

[Data histogramms are courtesy of Y. Arbelo]



3-stage compression: undulator dependence experiment (spectra)

Simulations predicted reducing the number of spikes in the frequency domain by opening up undulators: this was confirmed experimentally.

PSSS Spectra along the undulator (5 shots each):



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3-stage compression: undulator dependence experiment (histograms)



[Data histogramms are courtesy of Y. Arbelo]



Summary (main results)

- Analytical model in the linear and 2nd/3rd order approximation was used to find optimum compression scheme
- Electron bunch was strongly compressed using nonlinear multi-stage compression
- ✓ Single spike spectra validating ultra-short pulses were acquired
- Photon pulse durations of less than 1 fs FWHM were reconstructed for variable photon energies (4-12 keV)



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Thank you for your attention!

FEL Beam Dynamics:



Photon Diagnostics:



RF group:

