

Elettra Sincrotrone Trieste

NEW SCENARIOS OF MICROBUNCHING INSTABILITY CONTROL IN ELECTRON LINACS AND FREE ELECTRON LASERS

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Introduction to the microbunching instability









Introduction to the microbunching instability



3 Towards tunable narrowband THz emission





SASE Free Electron Laser

Self Amplified Spontaneous Emission (SASE)

- amplification, up to saturation, of the spontaneous emission produced by the ebeam entering in the undulator
- requires high quality ebeam with very high peak current (~ kA)
- typical bunch length in the $1-100 \ {\rm fs}$
- usually poor longitudinal coherence (temporally and spectrally spiky emissions)



[B.W.J. McNeil & N.R. Thompson, Nat. Photon. 239 (2010)]



Seeded FEL

Use of external seed laser \rightarrow control the distribution of the electrons within the bunch



Benefits of a seeded FEL:

- final FEL pulses inherit properties of the seed
- improvement of **temporal coherence** of FEL pulses
- control of time duration and bandwidth
- low arrival time jitter
- reduction of undulator chain to reach saturation

Drawback:

- no seeding sources at very short wavelength range
- spectral properties sensitive to the ebeam longitudinal phase-space



Microbunching instability in LINACs

Gain mechanism:

density modulation



linac

bunch comp.

density mod.

• Main ingredients:

LSC (Longitudinal Space Charge) & CSR (Coherent Synchrotron Radiation)

[Saldin et al., NIMA 490, 1 - 8 (2002)], [Saldin et al., NIMA 528, 355 - 359 (2004)]





High-quality e-beam for high-gain FELs ?

- Broadband μBI with maximum gain around few μm.
- Longitudinal phase-space modulated in energy and/or density through μ BI.
- Increase of (energy spread) comparable to the FEL parameter
 curpression of SASE gain
 - \rightarrow suppression of SASE gain.
- One of the methods to control and suppress the μ BI: the **laser heater (LH)** \rightarrow induces a controllable increase of the $\langle energy \ spread \rangle$ to damp the μ BI. [Saldin *et al.*, NIMA **528**, 355 – 359 (2004)]







Microbunching and seeded FELs

- A seeded FEL is more sensitive to e-beam phase-space properties.
- Small imperfections on the phase-space have strong impact on FEL spectrum.
- seed laser modulation $(k_{\rm S})$ superposed to $\mu {\rm Bl}$ modulation $(k_{\mu \rm B})$
- generation of FEL pulses via frequency mixing process:

 $k_{\mathsf{FEL}} = h \times k_{\mathsf{S}} \pm m \times k_{\mu\mathsf{B}}$

• stochastic effect on the FEL spectrum [Z. Zhang et al., PRAB 19, 050701 (2016)]







Introduction to the microbunching instability

2 Multicolor FEL driven by seeded microbunching instability









• Principle

Take advantage of the **microbunching instability gain** occurring in the linear accelerator to imprint a **coherent modulation** onto the electron beam, using a dedicated **laser heater pulse shaping** [E. Roussel *et al.*, PRL **115**, 214801 (2015)]

 \rightarrow seeded microbunching instability !





What's the laser heater (LH)?

The LH induces a homogenous increase of the uncorrelated energy spread to damp the $\mu {\rm BI}.$ Optical wavelength washed out at the exit of the chicane.





• Generation of a modulated laser pulse using chirped pulse beating technique



[Weling and Auston, JOSA B 13, 2783 (1996)]

 $\bullet\,$ LH intensity profile with beating frequency inside the gain curve of μBI





Modulation of the electron beam (1)

• Can we really modulate the ebeam using LH beating ? Smearing condition of the LH chicane: $\lambda \ll 2\pi |R_{52}\sigma_{x'}| = 4 \ \mu m$. Here, optical wavelength = 780 nm and beating wavelength = 32.6 μm .





• Exp. observation of energy distribution (in SPBC1)





• Exp. observation of energy distribution (in SPBC1)



Linear energy chirp (spectro-temporal mapping) ightarrow 0.18 MeV \equiv 32.4 μ m



Microbunching amplification



Initial energy spread modulation amplified by μ Bl gain and converted into energy and density modulation at the bunch compressor.





• Transport of the microbunched ebeam in the undulator chain



Observation of strong coherent transition radiation (COTR) in the IR domain at the exit of the undulators in case of microbunched ebeam.



FERMI is a seeded FEL based on high-gain harmonic generation (HGHG).



 $k_{\text{FEL}} = hk_{\text{S}}$



Impact on FEL emission

FERMI is a seeded FEL based on high-gain harmonic generation (HGHG).

 $k_{\text{FEL}} = hk_{\text{S}} \pm mCk_{\text{B}}$



Observation of sidebands coming from a frequency mixing between the seed wavelength and the beating wavelength (scaled by the compression factor C).



Tunability of FEL spectrum

Tuning of the sideband position by acting:

• on the compression factor C or on the beating wavelength k_B .







Selection and FEL amplification of one sideband by tuning the radiator resonance condition.

FEL in the "dark" part of the seed laser

• FEL-1 range for the "nominal" FERMI seed laser operation (230 - 260 nm)



Increased tunability via LH beating-induced sidebands





1 Introduction to the microbunching instability







Towards tunable narrowband THz emission





• TeraFERMI: parasitic THz beamline in the beam dump area. Ultra-short, high-power THz pulses between 0.3 – 15 THz to pump on electronic, vibrational and magnetic excitations.

[A. Perucchi et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 84, 022702 (2013)]

| Wavelength range | 1 mm – $20~\mu$ m |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| THz pulse energy | 50 μ J – few mJ |
| Operation conditions | FEL-1/FEL-2 |
| | 10/50 Hz |



Courtesy of A. Perucchi



Strategy: modulate the electron beam in the sub-THz/THz range and take advantage of the bunch compression to reach the THz/tens of THz range.

- First application in storage rings (UVSOR, Japan): [C. Evain et al., Phys. Rev. ST Accel. Beams 13, 090703 (2010)]
- Calculation for LINAC: [Z. Zhang et al., Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 20, 050701 (2017)]



1 THz \equiv 300 μm \rightarrow no μBI gain in these wavelengths ... but no need because strong modulations are available at the LH !





Simulation with ELEGANT. Initial condition: $\lambda_B = 200 \mu \text{m}$, $\Delta E = 50 \text{ keV}$.





• Observation of a modulated beam in the tens of THz range at the end of the linac starting from an initial modulation in LH around 2 THz.





Tunable THz modulation

LH PROFILE

PHASE-SPACE



Tunable THz modulation (bis)





Optimization of modulation amplitude

Optimization of the rotation of the structures by controlling the initial modulation amplitude at the LH or by acting on the dispersion strength.



Optimization of modulation amplitude (bis)





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3) Towards tunable narrowband THz emission





- LH pulse shaping: an alternative method to probe and investigate the microbunching instability.
- LH: a powerful tool to control the FEL spectro-temporal properties.
 - Generation of tunable, incommensurate, multicolor FEL pulses. [E. Roussel *et al.*, PRL **115**, 214801 (2015)]
 - Non-gaussian ebeam heating for higher harmonic frequency conversion. [E. Ferrari *et al.*, PRL **112**, 114802 (2014)]
 - LH pulse shaping for FEL pulse duration control. [V. Grattoni, IPAC17, WEPAB034]
- Towards the generation of intense tunable narrowband THz radiation.
- And what about SASE FELs... ?



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