An Adventure in Marrying Laser Arts and Accelerator Technologies

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An example



Typical pump-probe experiment

- **Light source frontiers:**
 - Shorter pulse width
 - More photons
 - Narrower bandwidth
 - Lower cost



An atomic view of phase transition in Al

Siwick et al, Science, 302, 1382 (2003)



Stanford, 1878

Understanding a fast process by freezing the action



E. Muybridge



L. Stanford





All four of a horse's feet leave the ground during a gallop?

Linac Coherent Light Source (LCLS)





Free-Electron Laser (FEL)

SASE (Self-Amplified Spontaneous Emission) FEL



Send a relativistic electron beam through a long undulator

> Output radiation wavelength is determined by:

$$\lambda = \frac{\lambda_w (1 + K^2 / 2)}{2\gamma^2} \qquad K = 0.934B(T)\lambda_w(cm) \qquad \gamma = E / E_0$$

> Wavelength can be changed by varying beam energy

- High energy beam (~GeV) allows generation of x-rays
- Radiation generated in vacuum -> no upper power limit



Physics of a SASE FEL

- \Box e-beam slips back w.r.t radiation by λ per undulator period
- Resonance -> sustained interaction -> bunching -> growth in power



Coherence length << e-beam duration</p>



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Improving the temporal coherence



Seeding FELs to obtain fully coherent x-rays

Self-seeding (undulator + monochromator + undulator)

- Seeding with high-order harmonic generation (HHG) source
- Seeding with UV lasers + frequency upconversion

Fully coherent x-rays + well-defined timing



High-Gain Harmonic Generation (HGHG)



Multiple stages to reach soft x-rays from UV seed laser

240 nm -> 60 nm

60 nm ->

15 nm -> 5 nm

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15 nm

Echo-Enabled Harmonic Generation (EEHG)



- Second laser to imprint energy modulation
- Second chicane to convert energy modulation into density modulation



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z/λ

Echo FEL: Promises and Challenges

Promises

- > Remarkable up-frequency conversion efficiency: $b_n \sim n^{-1/3}$
- UV laser -> soft x-rays in a single stage
- World-wide interest: China / France / Italy / Switzerland / UK / USA



Challenges

- Preservation of long-term (~ns) memory of phase space correlations
- CSR in chicanes; quantum diffusion; introbeam scattering, etc



Preserve long-term memory



Laminar flow: a fluid flows in parallel layers with no disruption between the layers

Very similarly, under conservative forces beam phase spaces do not mix

Courtesy of Youtube



Next Linear Collider Test Accelerator (NLCTA)



Old NLCTA mainly for laser acceleration and rf structure test

Reconfigured for testing ECHO scheme

- An additional x-band rf structure to boost beam energy to 120 MeV
- 3 chicanes and 3 undulators
- Laser system and laser transport
- Quadrupoles, correctors, power supplies
- > OTR, YAG screens, VUV spectrometer, DAQ



Road to Echo-7

- 03-2009: First planning meeting
- 06-2009: Conceptual design finished (funded with \$800 k)
- 09-2009: BES funding arrived
- **12-2009: 120 MeV beam achieved**
- **03-2010:** Beam line completed
- 04-2010: Electron-laser interaction achieved
- 05-2010: First harmonic radiation signal (EEHG+HGHG)
- □ 07-2010: First unambiguous echo signal (Echo- 4)
- **04-2011:** Two deflecting cavities installed
- **07-2011:** First Echo-7 signal obtained in realistic scenario



New NLCTA



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First demonstration of EEHG



"The theory and experimental realization of EEHG are both groundbreaking, with profound implications for FEL science." --Nature Photonics, 4, 739 (2010)

D. Xiang et al., PRL 105, 114801 (2010)



EEHG in the realistic scenario



Transverse cavity (TCAV) 'heater' to increase slice energy spread



 $y' = y_0' + kz_0$ Measure bunch length $\delta = \delta_0 + ky_0$ Increase slice energy spread

Behrens, Xiang and Huang, PRST-AB, 15, 022802 (2012)



Echo-7: mission accomplished

Evidence of high harmonics from EEHG



Two TCAVs and a VUV spectrometer installed in 04/2011

4th to 7th harmonics from HGHG suppressed with increased beam slice energy spread

 7th harmonic from EEHG generated when energy modulation is about 2~3 times the beam slice energy spread

D. Xiang et al., PRL, 108, 024802 (2012)



Other applications of 'laser + beam'

A few examples

- Narrow-band THz emission from laser-modulated beam
- Isolated attosecond x-ray pulse
- Mode-locked x-rays
- Laser assisted emittance exchange

Femtosecond x-rays in a strong ring using angular-modulated electron beam



Other applications of 'laser + beam'

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Narrow-band THz from laser-modulated beam



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Attosecond x-ray pulse

□ A few-cycle Infrared (IR) laser is used to imprint an energy chirp for bunch compression, which extends the harmonic number to a few hundred

A few-cycle Infrared (IR) laser for selection of an isolated attosecond pulse



Xiang et al., PRST-AB, 12, 060701 (2009)

Two-color attosecond x-ray pulses, Zholents and Penn, NIM A, 612, 254 (2010)



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Mode-locked x-rays



Explore the dynamics of a large number of atomic states simultaneously

Physics of mode locking x-rays

- Modulating the amplitude of the seed (carrier) to generate sidebands $\omega_0 \pm \omega_L$
- Modulation of sidebands lead to new modes $\omega_0 \pm 2\omega_L$; This process repeats.....
- Characteristics of mode locking x-rays
 - X-rays span a wide frequency with equally spaced sharp lines
 - Attosecond pulse train



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Mode-locked x-rays



D. Xiang et al., to-be-submitted

- ~5 sharp lines equally separated by 0.5 eV
- ~10¹¹ photons per frequency line
- Enable single-shot x-ray spectroscopy
- Variable number of modes and mode spacing
- Naturally synchronized with modulation laser
- First step towards 'x-ray communications'



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Emittance exchange (EEX)



Laser assisted emittance exchange





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Femtosecond x-rays in a strong ring using angular-modulated electron beam



Coherent femtosecond x-rays in storage rings



Angular modulation



Xiang and Wan, PRL, 104, 084803 (2010)



Research summary



Ongoing research (FY12)

Laser-sampling of beam longitudinal phase space



- Narrow-band THz radiation from laser-modulated beam
- Optical linearizer

Using 795 nm laser to linearize the modulation from a 1590 nm laser



Emittance exchange with chicane-type beam line

Mode-locked multichromatic x-rays at LCLS



Integrate ERL with FEL

Oscillator working in the harmonic lasing mode



5 GeV, 20 pC, 20A, 0.08 µm -> Lasing at 8~40 keV possible

Using 'optical linearizer' to pack electrons into tight nano-bunches; Realize FEL with low-current beam and no exponential gain is needed



Integrate ERL with FEL

A bypass line dedicated for FEL



Bilderback et al., NJP 12, 035001 (2010)



- Develop new concepts for enhancing light source capability
 - X-ray frequency comb enabled by high rep-rate laser & beam





Advanced beam diagnostics

- Non-invasive beam characterization with optical diffraction radiation
- > Non-invasive bunch length measurement with a single-shot interferometer





D. Xiang, Ph.D thesis, 2008





- 10~100 times higher energy than conventional UED
- 1000000 times higher repetition rate than relativistic UED
- Open up new opportunities for UED, electron crystallography
- Understand an ERL injector in more detail



Summary

- Accelerator physics becomes cute in 21st century
- New opportunities enabled by accelerator based light source
 - ----- Capture the ultrafast and probe the ultrasmall
- Realizing the next generation x-ray light sources requires extensive R&D in accelerator physics
 - Generation and preservation of high brightness beam
 - Advanced techniques for beam manipulation and diagnostics

Marrying laser and electron beams will trigger new concepts and benefit accelerator/laser/user communities

> 'The state-of-the-art light source facility of the future will include a complete marriage of accelerator principles and laser art' -----from a panel on novel light source initiated by the US DOE

> > Many thanks to my colleagues and the Echo-7 team!

Thank you!

