# Generation and characterization of ultrashort e-beams for X-ray FELs

DOE Early-Career Program (starting from 04/2010)

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**SLAC** National Accelerator Laboratory

Accelerator and Detector Research and Development Program Principal Investigators' Meeting

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# Motivation/background

- The successful operation of the LCLS has opened vast opportunities for ultrashort studies. For nominal operation with 250 pC:
  - $\checkmark$  x-ray pulses 70fs 300fs, ~2 orders shorter than SR;
  - ✓ Peak brightness, ~10 orders higher than SR;
- A low charge (~20 pC) operation mode has also been established, expected to produce a few fs e-beam. However, no direct diagnostic tools available at LCLS to measure the electronbunch length.
- Also, the x-ray users are interested to have even shorter x-ray pulses, fs to sub-fs, for dynamic studies.
- □ The characterization on the x-ray temporal duration is also a challenging problem, even for a few hundred fs pulses.



# We proposed...

To study new methods and physics of <u>generation</u> ultrashort (fs) e-beams:

- ✓ Low charge optimization?
- ✓ Slotted-foil?

To develop new techniques for <u>characterization</u> of the ultrashort pulses:

- ✓ Higher RF frequency deflecting?
- ✓ Optical streaking?
- ✓ Frequency domain methods?



# **Generation of ultrashort beams**



## **Optimization studies:** low charge +foil/taper



We explored methods to generate single-spike xray pulses mainly based on simulations\*:

At soft x-ray, may combine low-charge and slotted-foil or undulator taper;

At hard x-ray, may obtain sub-fs x-ray pulses at full-compression by adjusting L1 rf phase;

Experimental studies are hard to perform due to the absence of diagnostic tools.



#### Spectrum measurements





Accelerator and Detector PI Meeting Aug. 22-23, 2011



### A single-shot method to measure fs bunch length by longitudinal mapping\*



- Final energy spread/profile corresponds to compressed bunch length/profile.
- Wake fields from L3 has to be compensated.

\* Z. Huang, K. Bane, Y. Ding, P. Emma (PRST, 2010); based on a technique by T. Smith (2000)



#### A-line as a high-resolution spectrometer



A-line restart and instrumental upgrades are supported from the early-career program.



### Measurement vs. simulation (40 pC)

BC2 R56=-24.7mm to get  $\sigma_z$ , and R56=-35 mm and L3 -90 deg to get  $\sigma_\delta$ Shifted L2 phase to compare measurement with simulations (5% cut area)



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### X-band transverse deflector: principle



#### X-band deflector: both e-beams and x-ray pulses\*



1000

-30 -20 -10 0 time (fs) 10 20 30

time (fs)

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### **XTCAV progress and schedule**

✓ This deflector proposal has been categorized into the "must-do" list during the LCLS Scientific Advisory Committee review in this spring;

- ✓ We get supports from LCLS on the hardware and engineering;
- ✓ Early-career program supports physicists' time;
- ✓ Has started from this July. To be ready in two years.



With this diagnostic tool, we will further study low-charge optimization and new methods for generation of ultrashort x-ray pulses.



Other related work on ultrashort measurements

- Optical streaking using a Ti:Sa laser;
  Y. Ding et al., to present at FEL11
- Optical streaking on ionized low-energy beams
  L. Wang et al., to present at IPAC11
- Longitudinal mapping
  - D. Xiang and Y. Ding, PRSTAB 13, 094001 (2010)
- Statistical analysis from spectral correlation function
  - A. Lutman et al., to present at FEL11

### Y. Ding, invited talk at FEL11 on the ultrashort topic.



# **Future plans**

- We will converge and focus on the X-band transverse deflector program to develop a reliable diagnostic tool for ultrashort e-beam and x-ray pulse temporal measurements in the coming two years;
- ➢ With the new diagnostic tool, we plan to study lowcharge optimization based on both simulations and experiments, and further explore new schemes for ultrashort generation;
- Continue on study of the optical and frequency domain methods.



- Thanks the DOE Early-career program support
- Thanks the great team and SLAC/LCLS support

# THANK YOU



#### **Measurement examples on PR18**

