

High Repetition Rate mJ-level Few-Cycle Pulse Laser Amplifier for XUV-FEL seeding

- Laser amplifier development: applications at high repetition rate FELs
- The FLASH-II FEL seeding project
- Requirements for an XUV seed source and for the driver laser amplifier
- High repetition rate amplifier system for XUV seed generation
enabling technologies: Optical Parametric Chirped Pulse Amplification
Ultrashort-pulse OPCPA pump amplifier systems

F. Tavella - Helmholtz Institut Jena

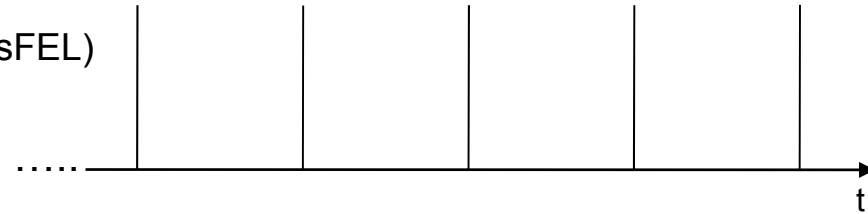


“4th” Generation Light Sources – repetition rates.

single-pass FEL

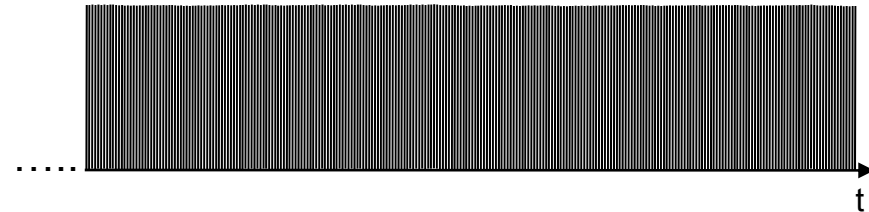
(LCLS, Spring8 XFEL, Fermi@Elettra, SparcX, SwissFEL)

tens to hundreds of pulses/second



ERL

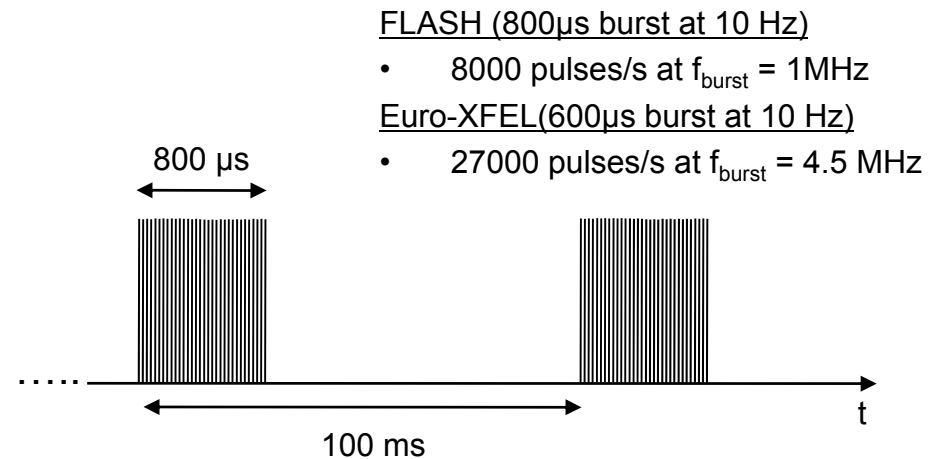
high repetition rate (quasi-cw)
up to GHz repetition rate



single-pass burst-mode FEL

(FLASH, European XFEL)

(cryogenically-cooled LINAC modules)
thousands of pulses/second



FLASH at DESY – Laser Amplifier Applications.

Burst-mode Laser amplifiers from MBL
(e.g. FLASH pump-probe laser)
Extremely reliable: “24-7” operation

needed for seeding
increase of average power x 100
up to 10 x shorter pulses



FLASH injector,
acceleration,
bunch-compression

This development requires new technology
Inhouse development

Photo-Injector laser amplifier

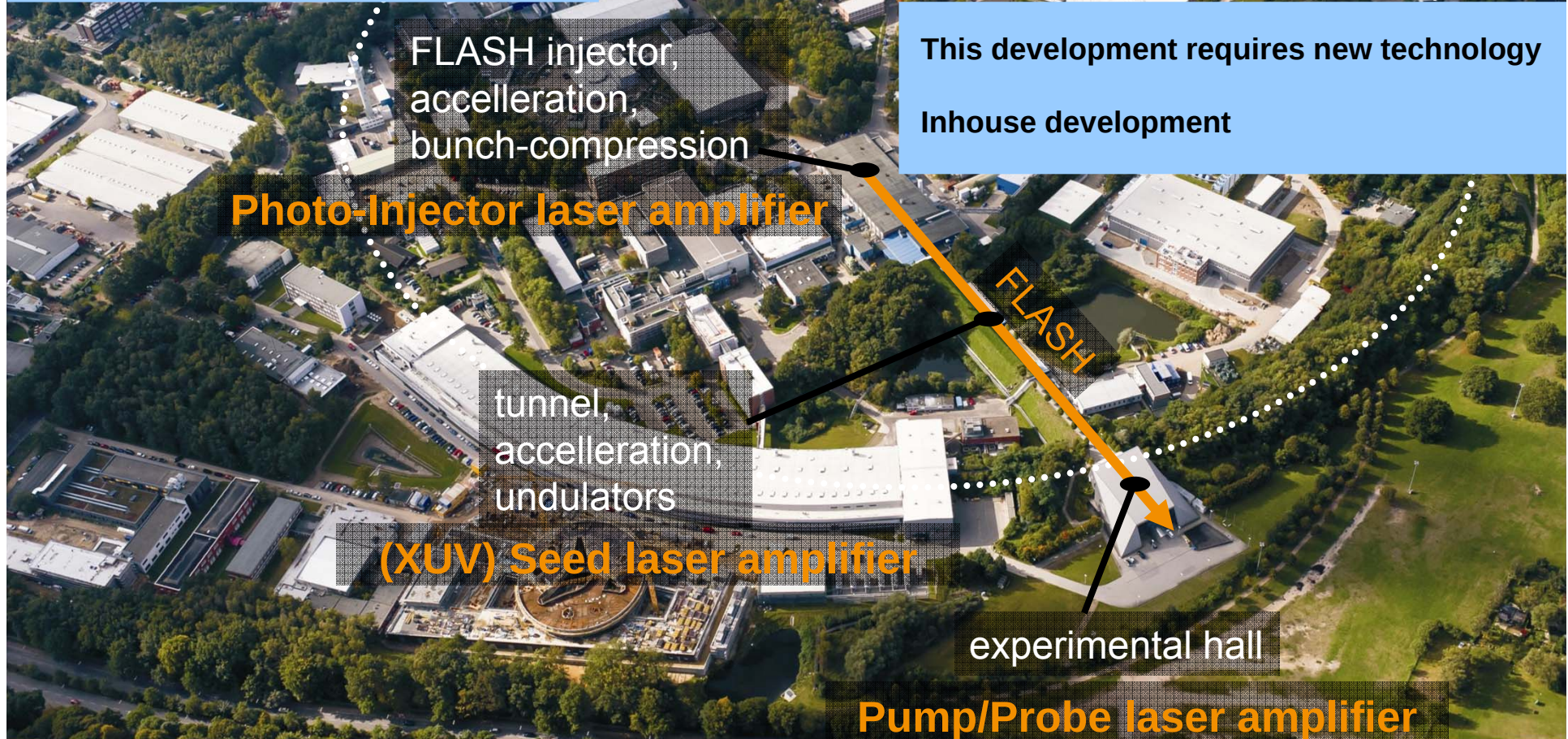
tunnel,
acceleration,
undulators

(XUV) Seed laser amplifier

FLASH

experimental hall

Pump/Probe laser amplifier



Laser amplifier development for applications at FEL light sources.

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Seeding.

SASE radiation properties for a large class of experiments is insufficient:

- More timing stability for pump probe is needed (<10 fs)
- Single mode laser is required (no uncorrelated SASE pulse modes/structure)

Solution: seeding with very well defined spectral and temporal pulse properties

G. Lambert et al, Nature Physics 4, 296-300, (2008).

Electrons interact with an external seed source (laser-driven XUV pulses)

- Full transverse and longitudinal coherence
- Offer improved spectral and temporal pulse properties by seeding schemes
- Pump-probe experiments with small temporal jitter possible
- Ultimately: phase control for FEL pulses

FLASH II – Undulator Section.

HHG-mode

Wavelength 10-40 nm

Peak power 1-5 GW

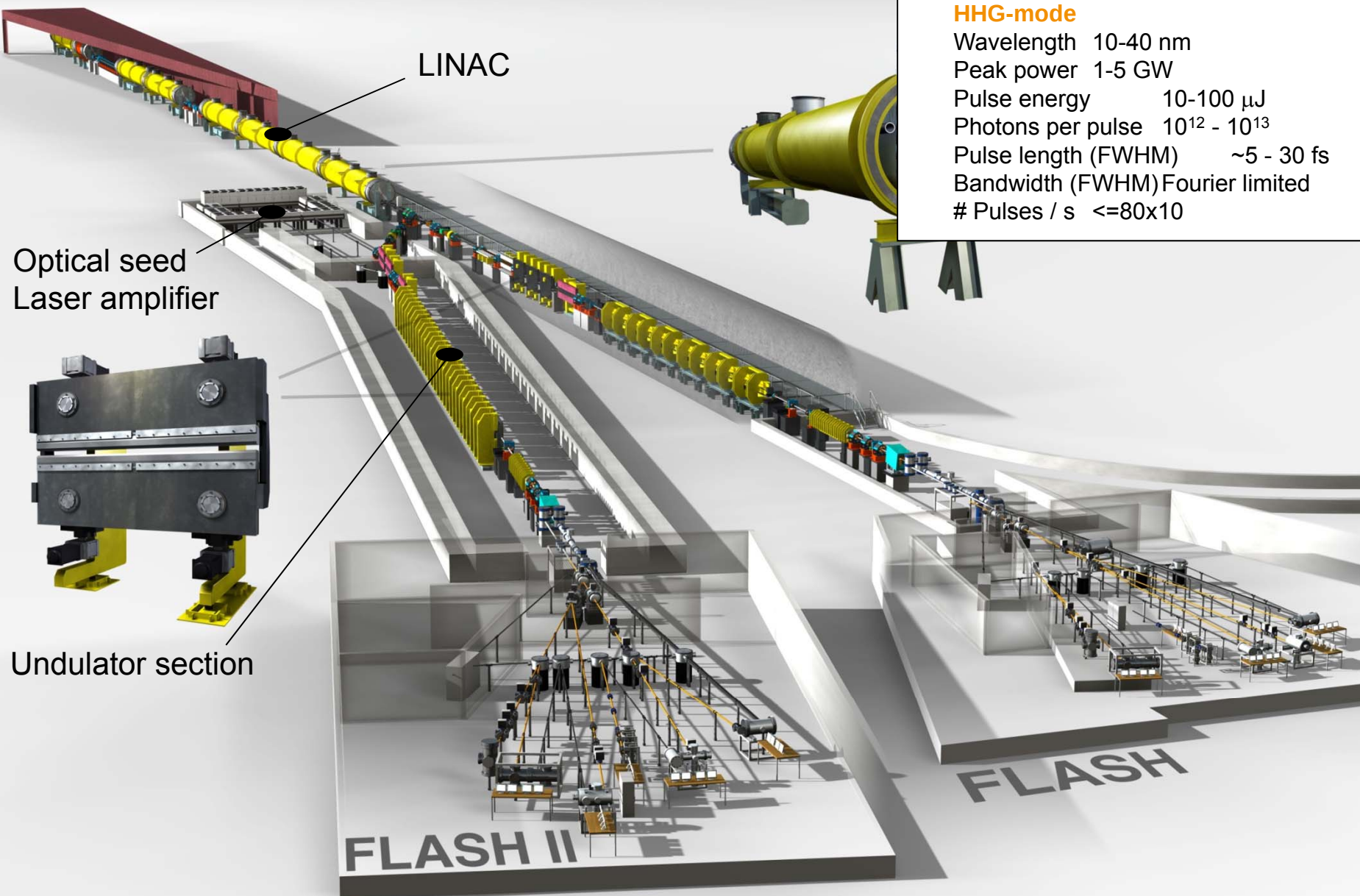
Pulse energy 10-100 μJ

Photons per pulse $10^{12} - 10^{13}$

Pulse length (FWHM) $\sim 5 - 30$ fs

Bandwidth (FWHM) Fourier limited

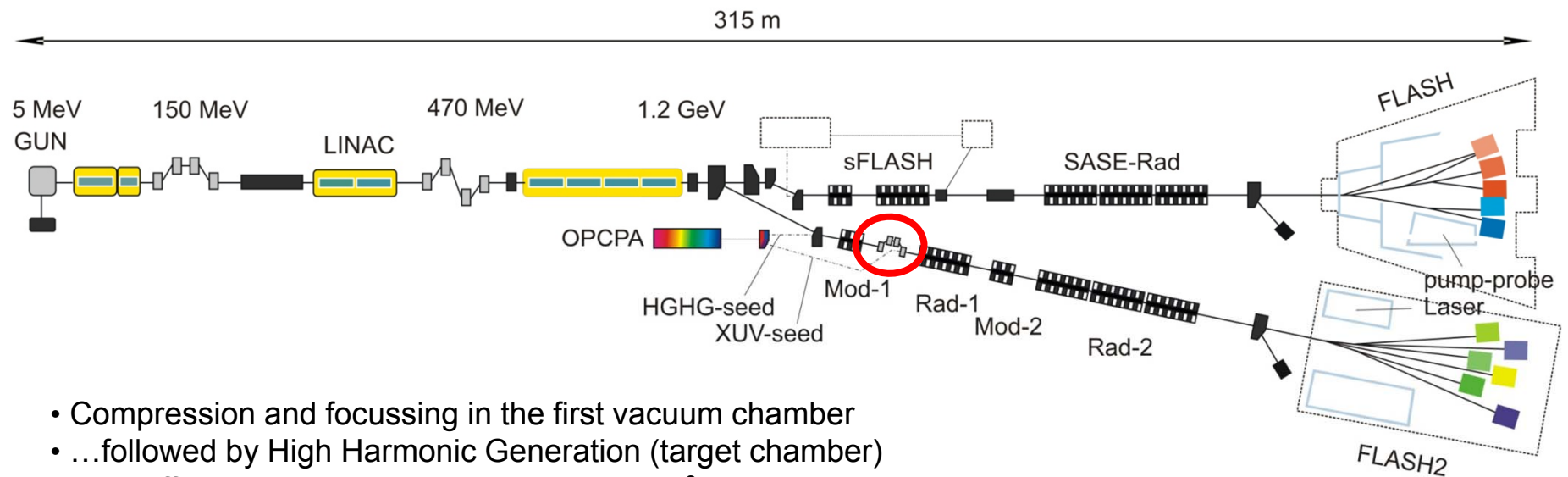
Pulses / s $\leq 80 \times 10$



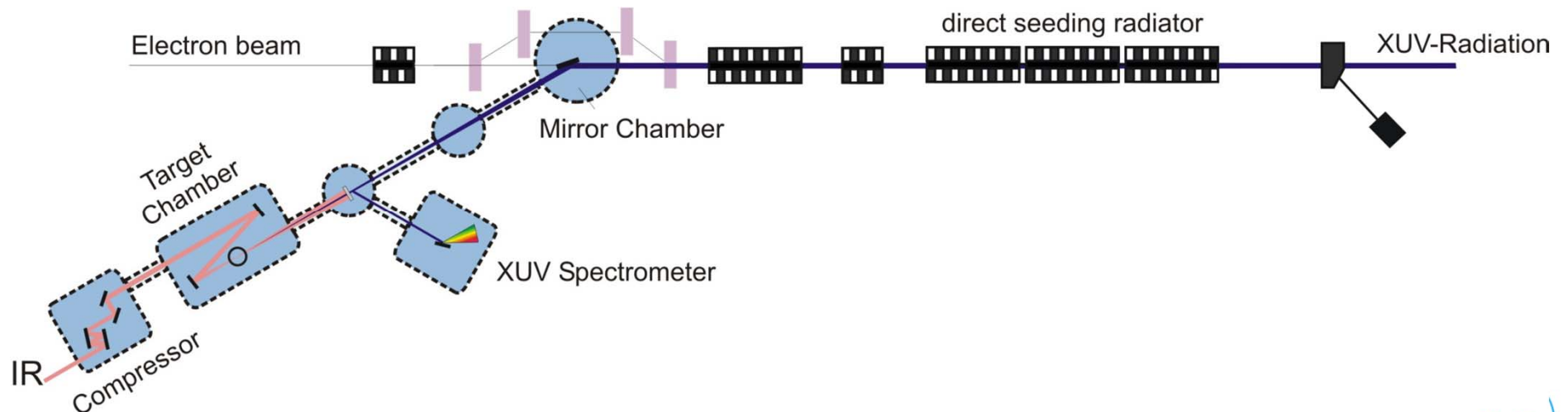
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HHG incoupling.

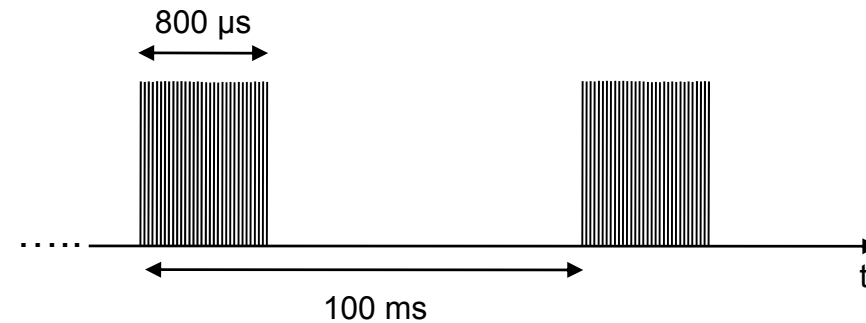


- Compression and focussing in the first vacuum chamber
- ...followed by High Harmonic Generation (target chamber)
- Two differential pumping stages to reach 10^{-8} mbar
- XUV diagnostics (spectrum, power, spatial+temporal overlap,...)



Requirements for laser amplifier system and the XUV source.

Prototype (for FEL seeding)
10Hz Bursts of 800 μs length
100 kHz (1 MHz) intra-burst rep-rate
>1 mJ energy per intra-burst pulse
~7 fs pulsewidth, $\lambda_c \approx 750 \text{ nm}$
synchronization to the machine <10 fs



XUV seed : few nJ/harmonic

Harmonic conversion efficiencies of $\gg 10^{-6}$

Seed power

to overcome the background noise
presuming a good transverse coupling
seed~100xnoise (**>5-30 pJ**)

spatial and temporal overlap

(Input seed transverse mode size and overlap ...)

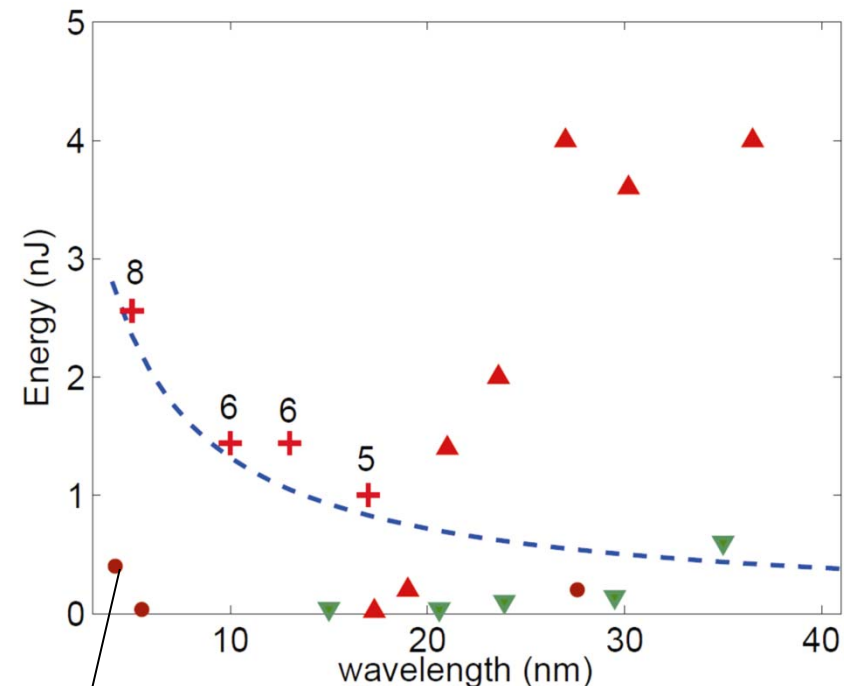
What is an acceptable jitter?

Learn from s-FLASH project

Bandwidth requirements
couple well to FEL gain curve

High repetition rate

to be able to fully exploit the seeding



M. Zepf et al., Phys. Rev. Lett **99**, 143901, (2007)

Quasi-Phase-Matching (QPM) with multi-jet arrays.

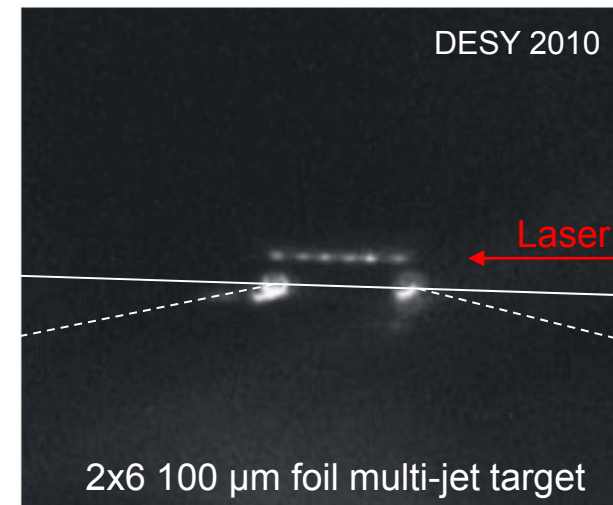
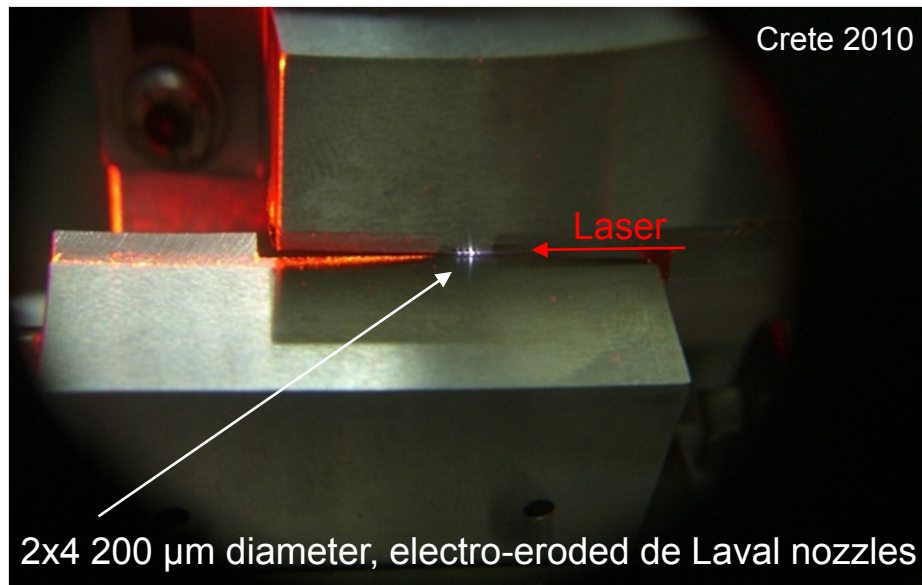
harmonic conversion efficiency:

- Quasi-phase-matched HHG with multi-jet arrays (neutral gas and ions) Only free standing jet geometry is possible due to the high average power
- Different driver laser wavelength (i.e. SH-400nm lower cut-off but higher yield)
- Mixing ω - 2ω fields (i.e. 400nm 800nm)
- Mixing of different gases

tunability:

- Flexible pulse duration of the driver laser
- shifting the central wavelength in the OPCPA (at longer wavelength)
- even and odd harmonics through mixing ω - 2ω fields
- harmonics generated with sub-10 fs pulses (seeding at shorter wavelength)

Collaboration: QUB Belfast (M. Zepf group) - TEI Crete (M. Tatarakis, N. Papadogiannis) – DESY/HI-Jena (F. Tavella)



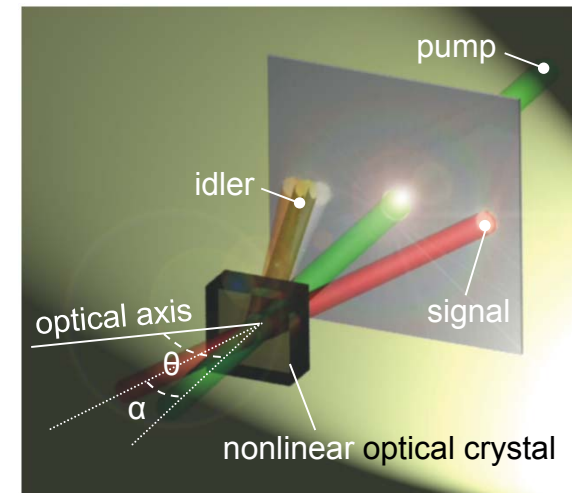
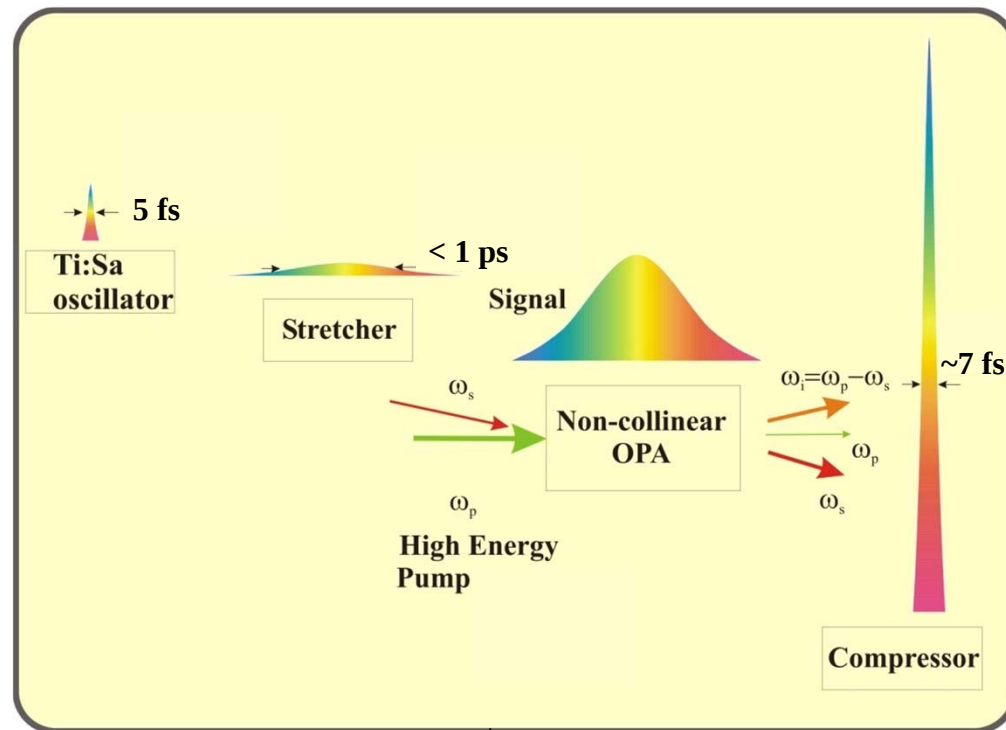
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OPCPA technique.

Dubietis et al., *Opt. Commun.*, **88**, 437 (1992).

I. N. Ross et al., *Opt. Commun.*, **144**, 125 (1997).



$$\Delta \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{k}_p - \mathbf{k}_s - \mathbf{k}_i$$

$$\omega_s = \omega_p - \omega_i$$

non-collinear type-1 phase-matching

Chirped Pulse Amplification (CPA) + Optical Parametric Amplification (OPA)

high single-pass gain, broad phase-matching bandwidth, negligible thermal load, high conversion efficiency, compact and scalable

Numerical simulation of two stage OPCPA.

OPCPA stages

- pump @515 nm
- seed-pump pulse sub-ps
- BBO crystal (>2mm)
- non-collinear type-1 phase-matching

stage 1

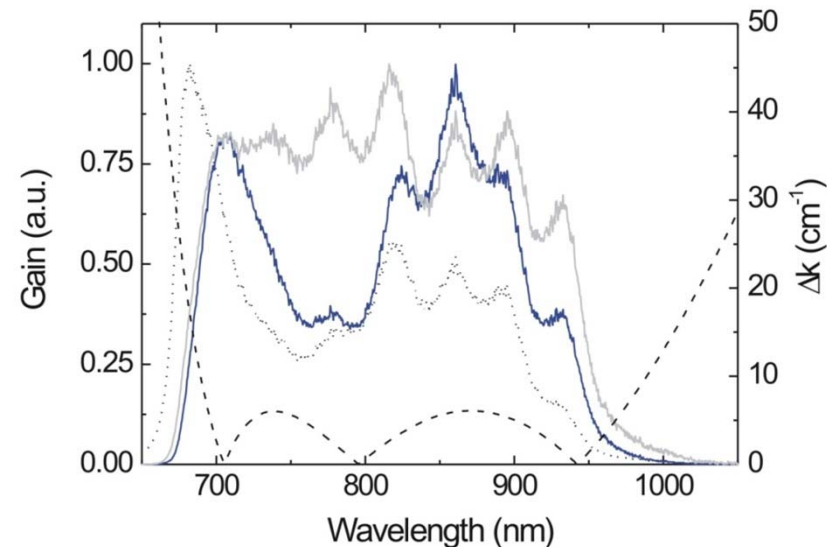
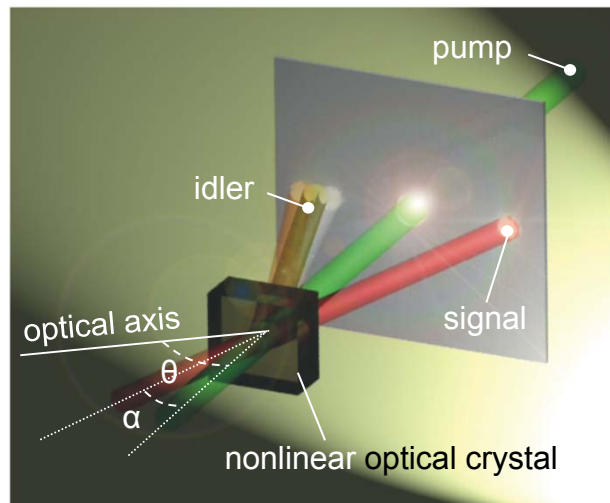
$I_p = 46 \text{ GW/cm}^2$
 1 mJ pump ($t=800\text{fs}, r=1.5\text{mm}$),
 1 nJ seed ($t=500\text{fs}, r=1.5\text{mm}$)

$G > 1000 \rightarrow \text{exp. output } \sim 5 \mu\text{J}$

stage 2

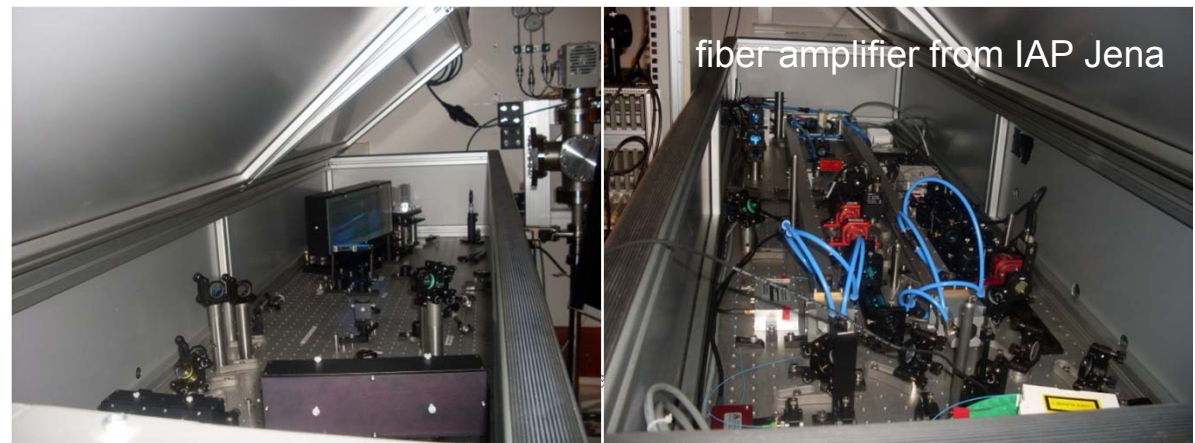
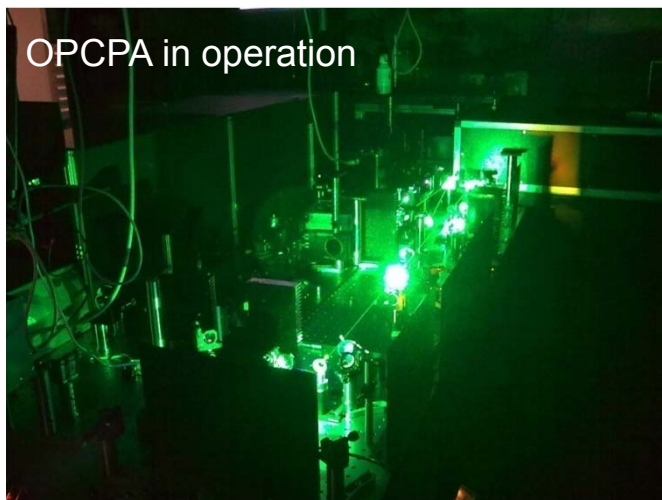
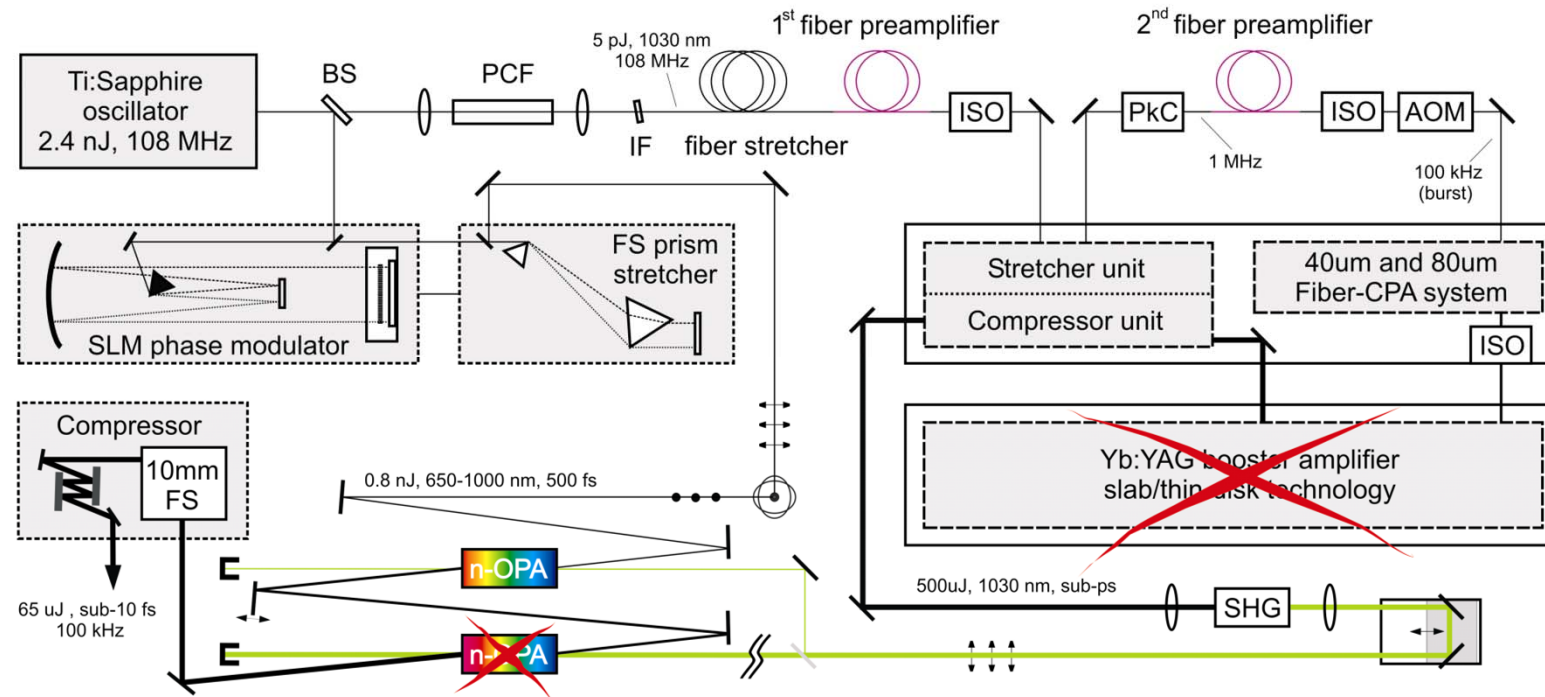
$I_p = 13 \text{ GW/cm}^2$
 10 mJ pump ($t=800\text{fs}, r=8.5\text{mm}$),
 5 μJ seed ($t=500\text{fs}, r=8.5\text{mm}$)

$G \sim 400 \rightarrow \text{exp. output } 1.2 \text{ mJ}$
 (double-pass OPA for $\sim 2\text{mJ}$)

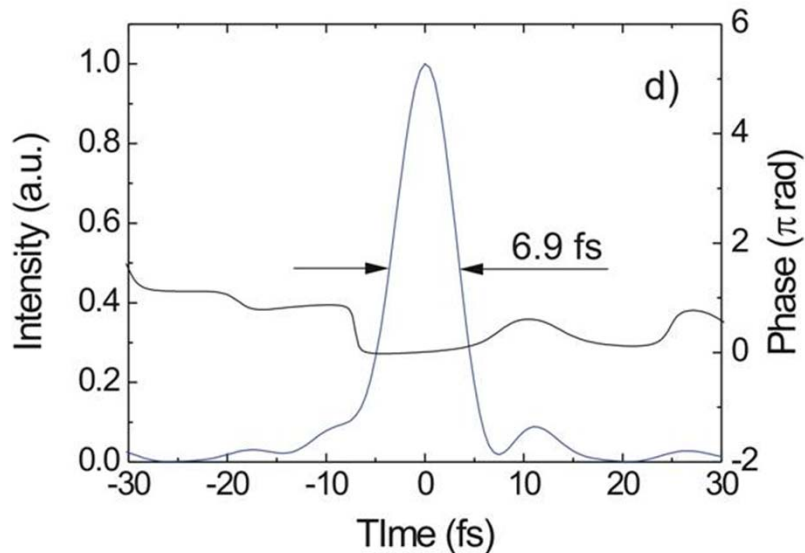
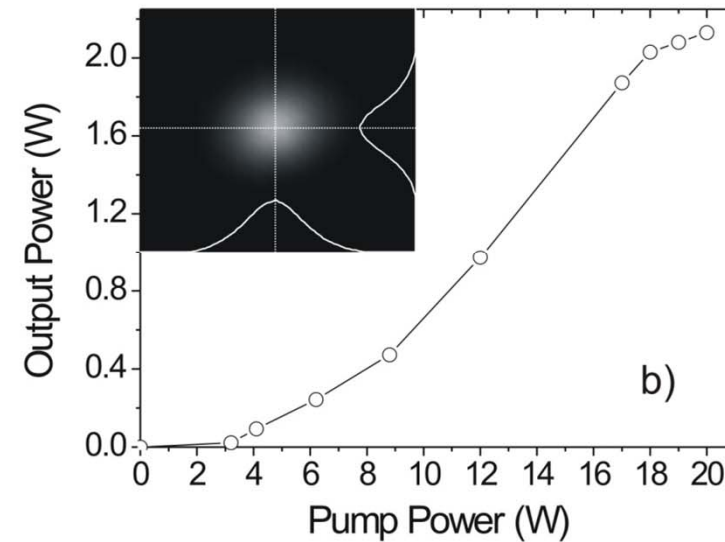
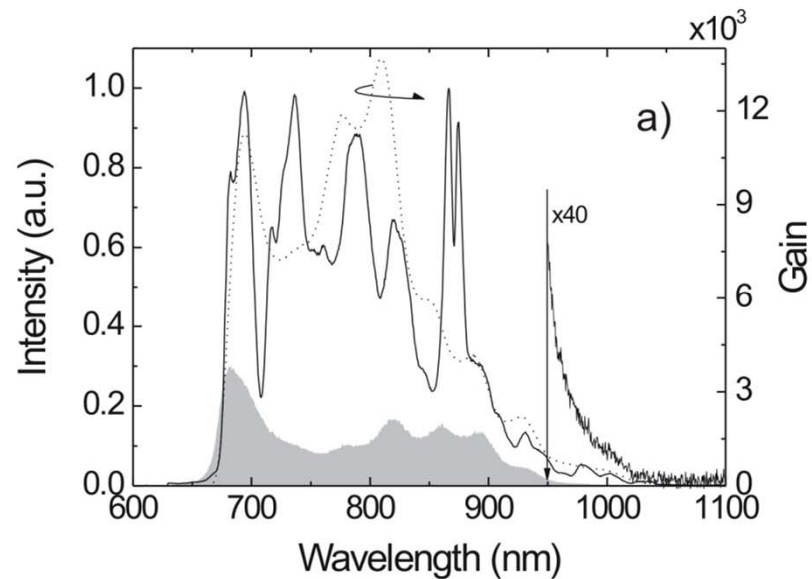


..... Ti:Sa oscillator - - - wavevector mismatch
 — 1st stage (simulation) — 2nd stage (simulation)

Laser amplifier system.



noncollinear-OPA: amplified pulse/beam properties.



RECORD – high average power sub-10 fs amplifier

broadband amplification [670-1000]nm

repetition rate: 100 kHz max.

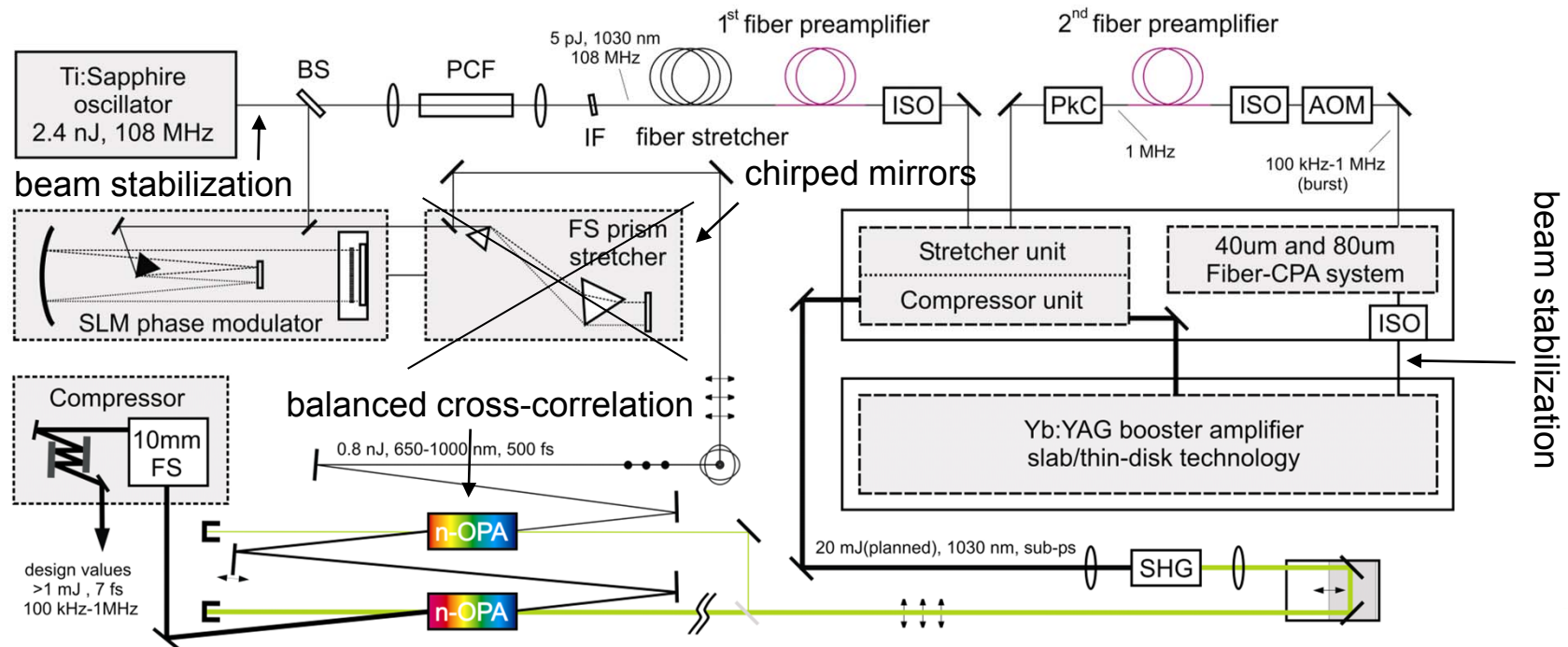
amplified pulse energy several tens of μJ

compressed pulse duration of sub-10 fs (shortest 6.9 fs)

F. Tavella et al., Opt. Express **5**, 4689-4694, (2010)

F. Röser et al. Opt. Lett. **32**, 3495-3497, (2010)

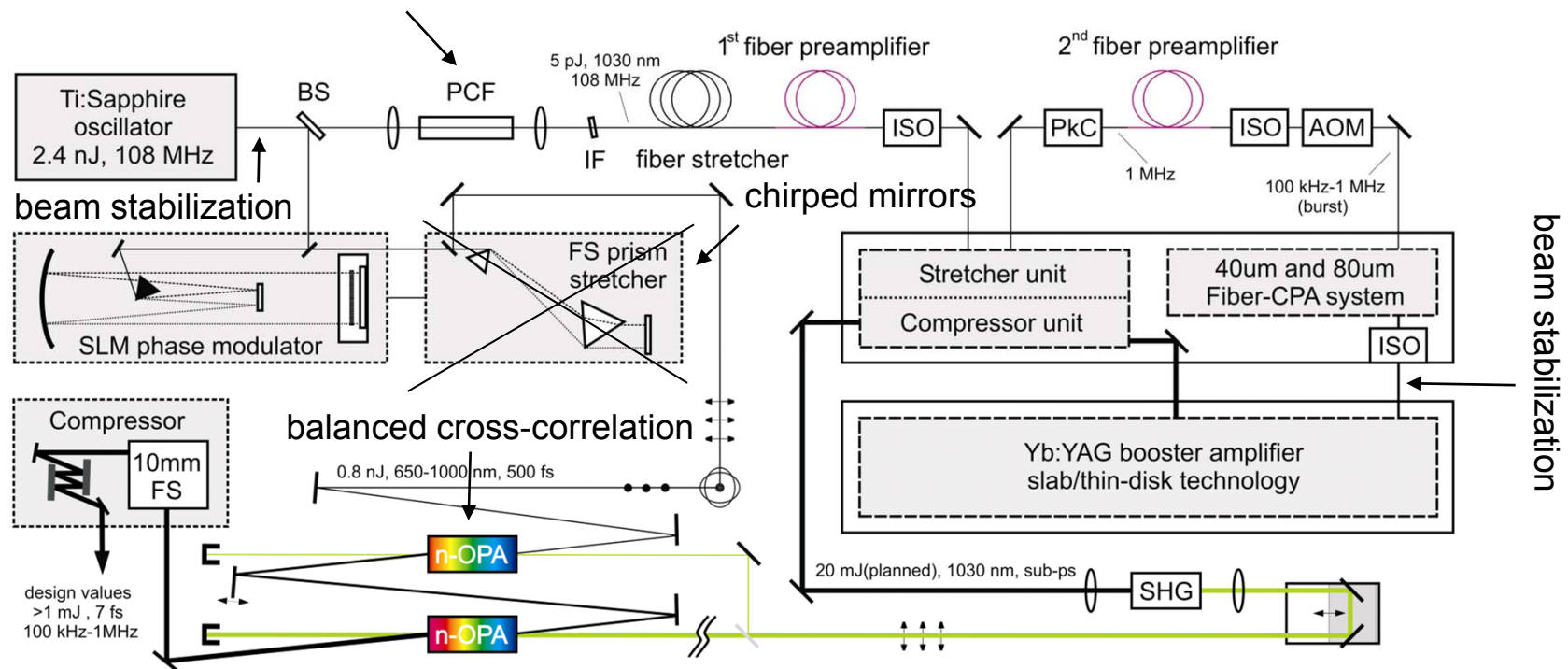
Improvement on the system for stable operation.



Improvement on the system for stable operation.

front-end options

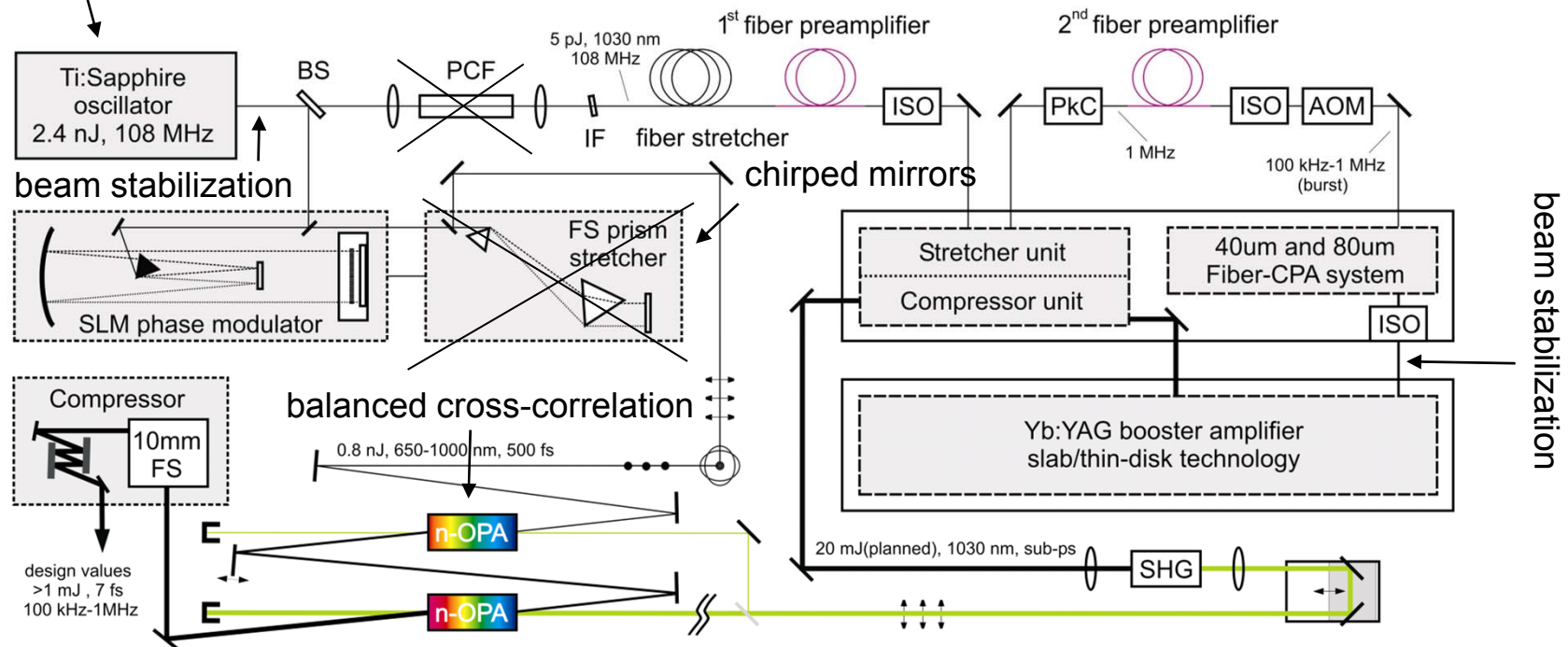
- solitonic self-frequency shifting in PCF with improved PCF incoupling



Improvement on the system for stable operation.

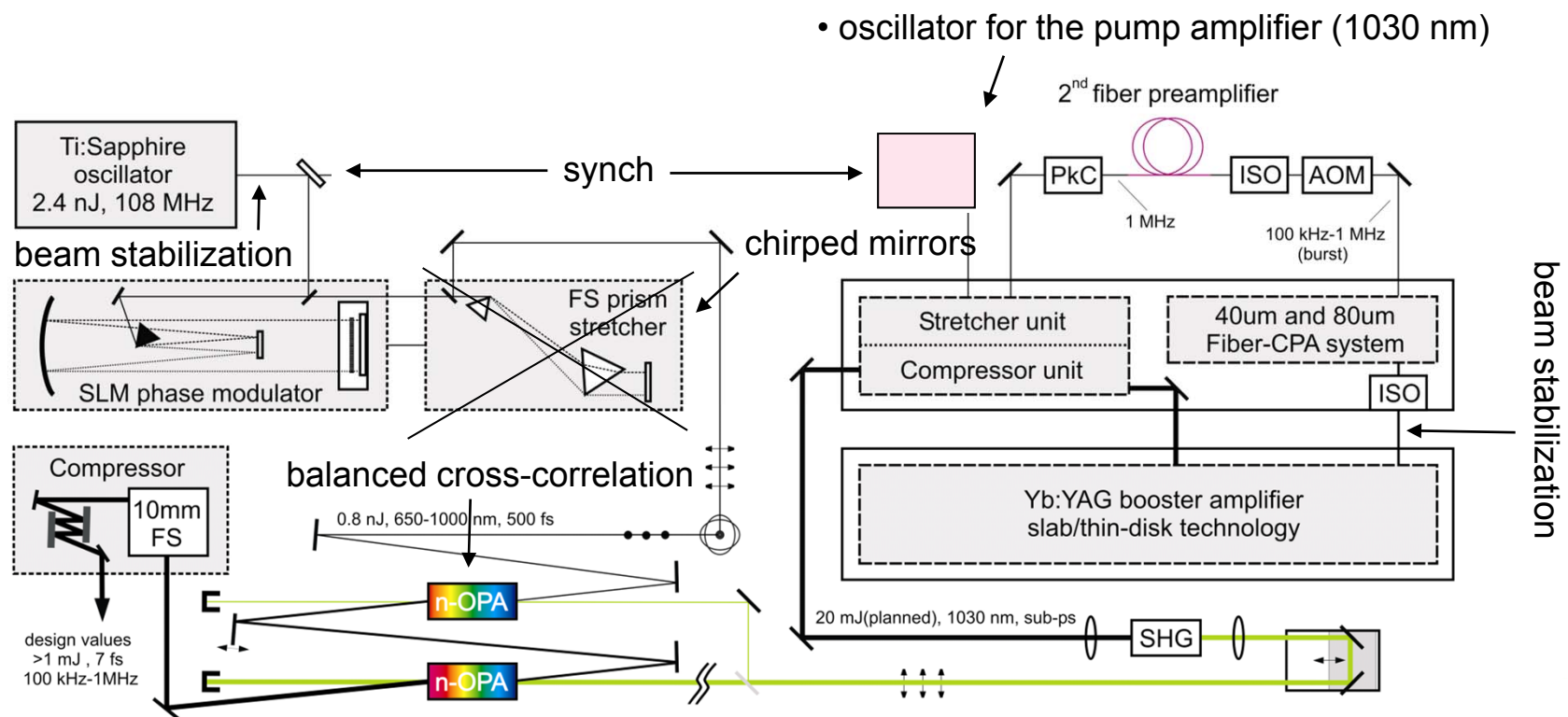
front-end options

- direct pump amplifier seeding (new oscillator)

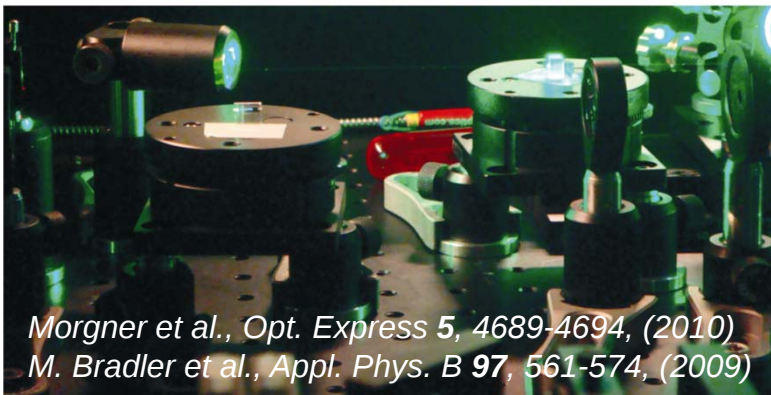
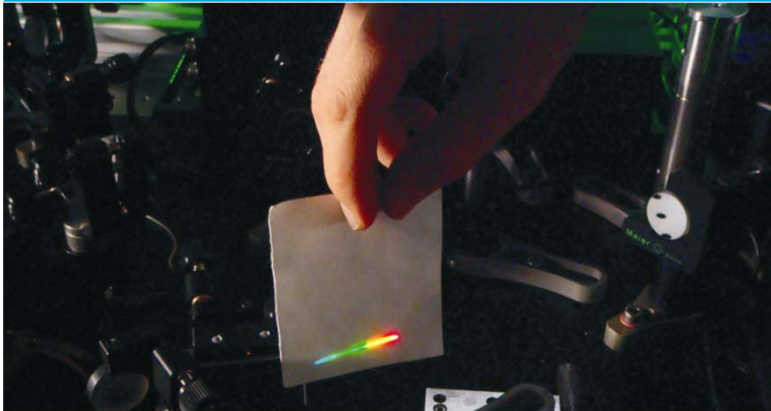


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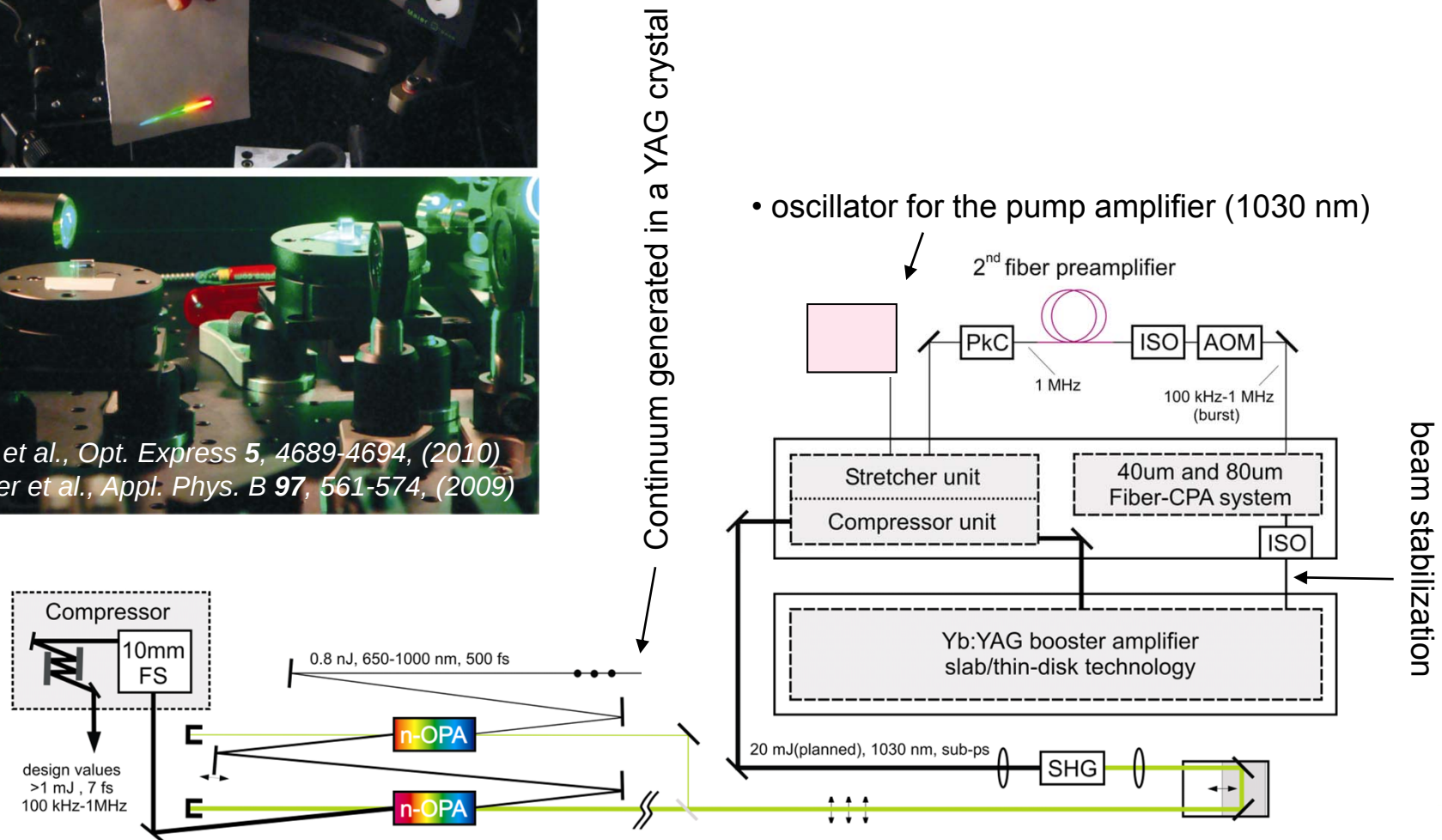
front-end options



Improvement on the system for stable operation.

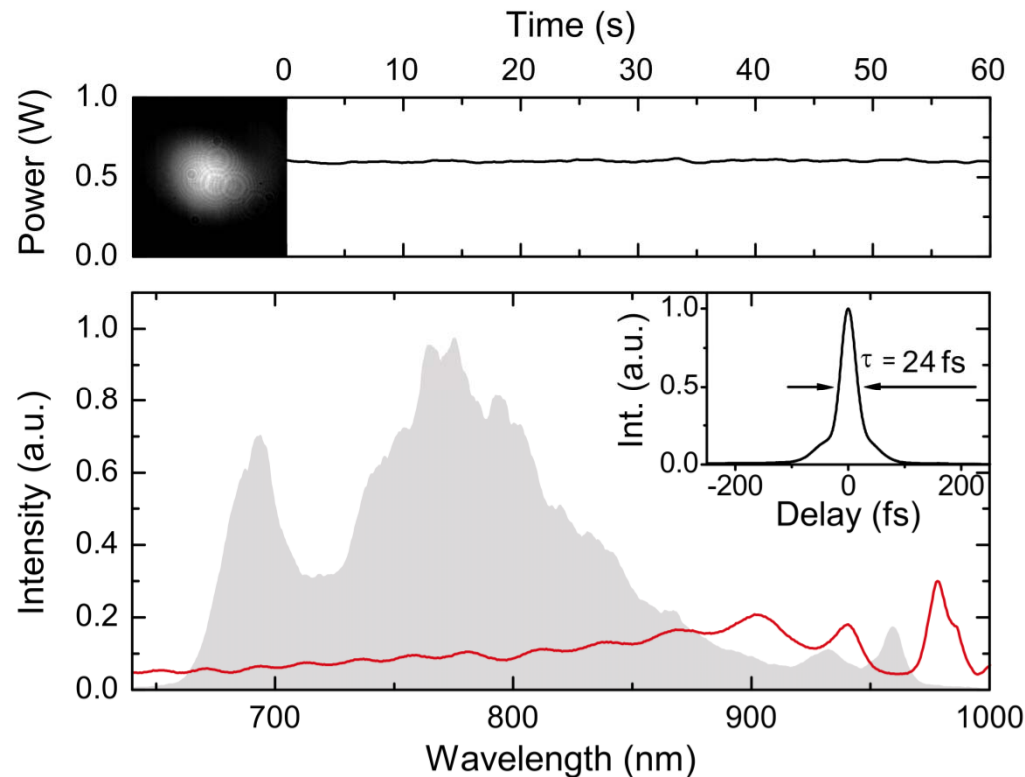


- test of white light seeded OPA, (850 fs, 10 μ J to generate filament,...24 fs, 20 μ J) (in collaboration with IAP Jena)

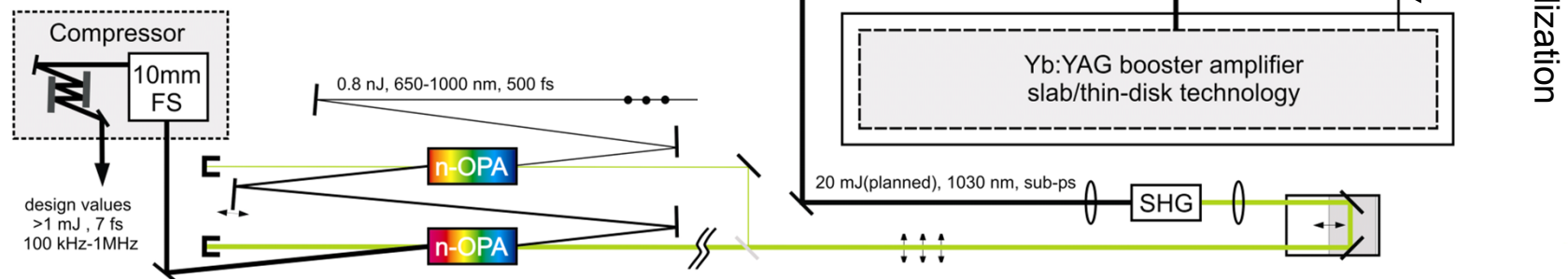


Improvement on the system for stable operation.

front-end options



- test of white light seeded OPA, (850 fs, 10 μ J to generate filament,...24 fs, 20 μ J) (in collaboration with IAP Jena)



Requirements for laser amplifier systems.

Laser amplifier for FEL seeding

10Hz Bursts of 800 μ s length

100 kHz (1 MHz) intra-burst rep-rate

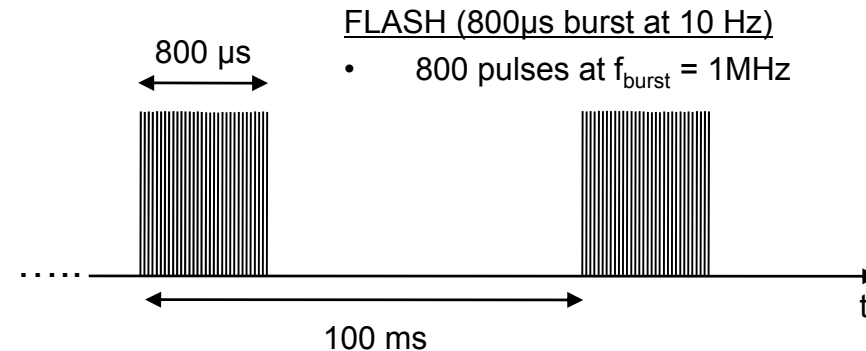
>1 mJ energy per intra-burst pulse

~ 7 fs pulsewidth, $\lambda_c \approx 750$ nm

synchronization to the machine <10 fs

100 kHz prototype: continuous or burst @ 100 kHz

1 MHz final version: only burst-mode operation



...ist pump amplifier

10Hz Bursts of 800 μ s length

100 kHz (1 MHz) intra-burst rep-rate

~ 20 mJ energy per intra-burst pulse

<1 ps pulsewidth, $\lambda_c = 1030$ nm

Average burst power 20 kW

PUMP

(OPCPA pumped at 515 nm...
SH of an Yb:YAG Laser amplifier)

HIGH AVERAGE POWER:

up to 20 kW intra-burst average
power for the 1MHz amplifier

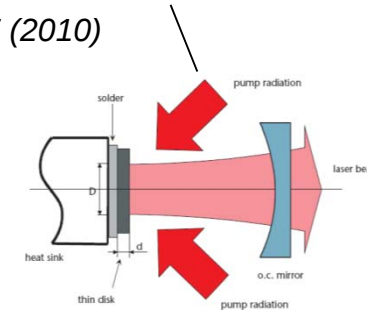
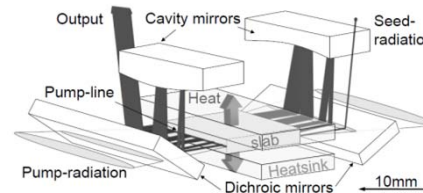
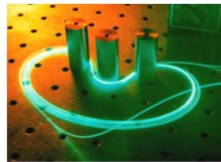
Scalability of the pump amplifier design (DESY-XFEL).

High average power amplification schemes for 1030nm, (sub-)ps pulses:

A. Giesen, et al, *IEEE J.Sel.Top Quantum Elect.* **13**, 598, (2007).

P. Rußbüldt et al., *Opt. Letters*, Accepted, Doc. ID: 131645 (2010)

T. Eidam, et al, *Opt. Lett.* **35**, 94-96, (2010).



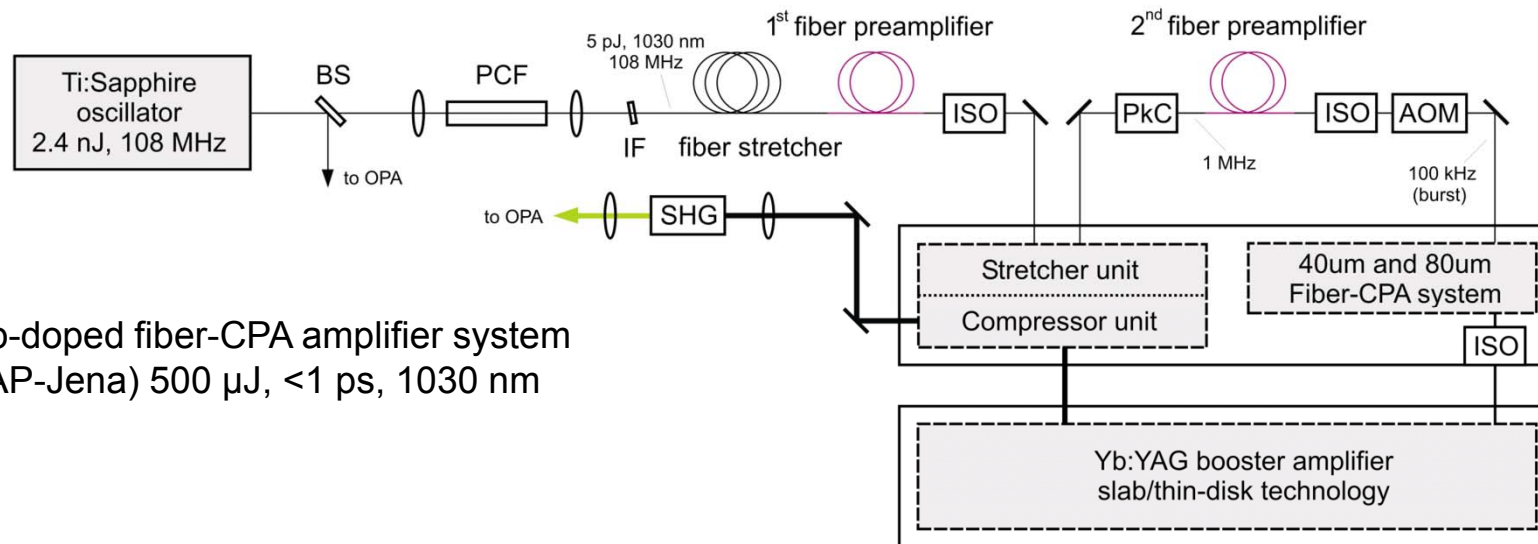
	Fiber 1W-2kW	Innoslab <2kW	Thindisk	
			regenerative <100W	multipass >>100W
Average power	++	++	++	++
Amplification factor	++	+	+	--
Average power scaling	++	+	-	++
Pulse energy	--	+	+	++
Nonlinearity	--	+	+	++
Dispersion	--	+	-	++
Complexity	0	0	-	-
Robustness	+	++	-	+

Avenue for multi-kW burst-mode amplifier systems

P. Russbueltdt et al., *Opt. Express* 15, 12234, (2009)

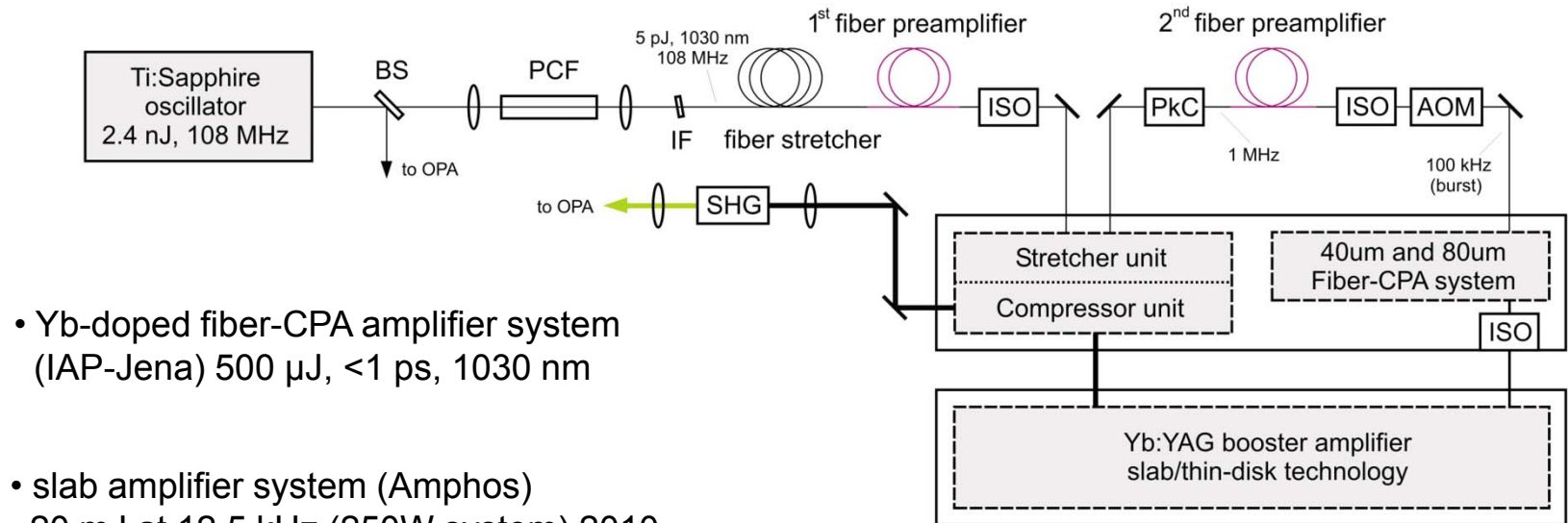
...no thermal limitation due to the low duty cycle of the burst (~1%)

Pump amplifier development - fiber front-end.

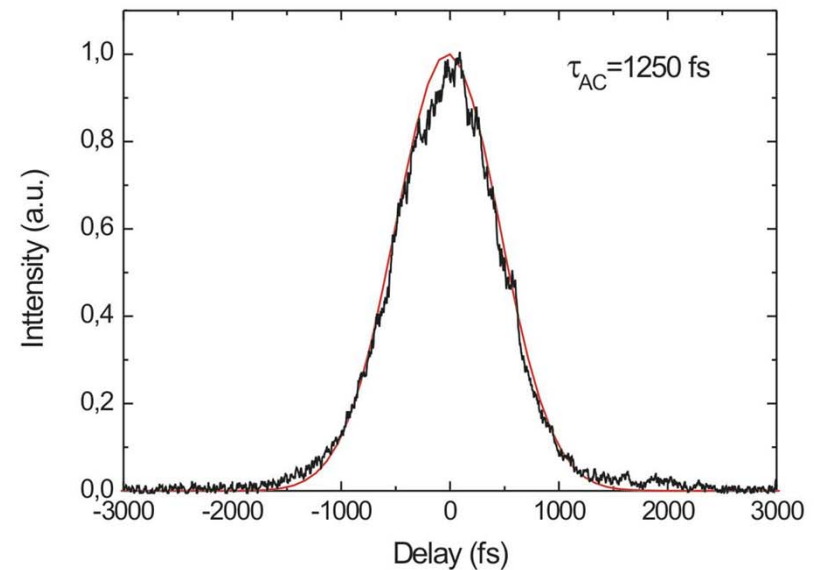
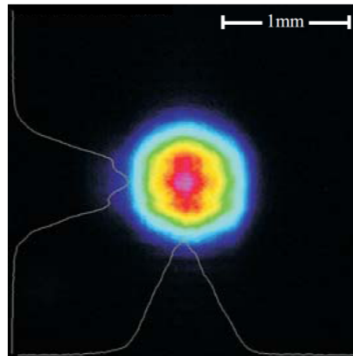


- Yb-doped fiber-CPA amplifier system (IAP-Jena) 500 μ J, <1 ps, 1030 nm

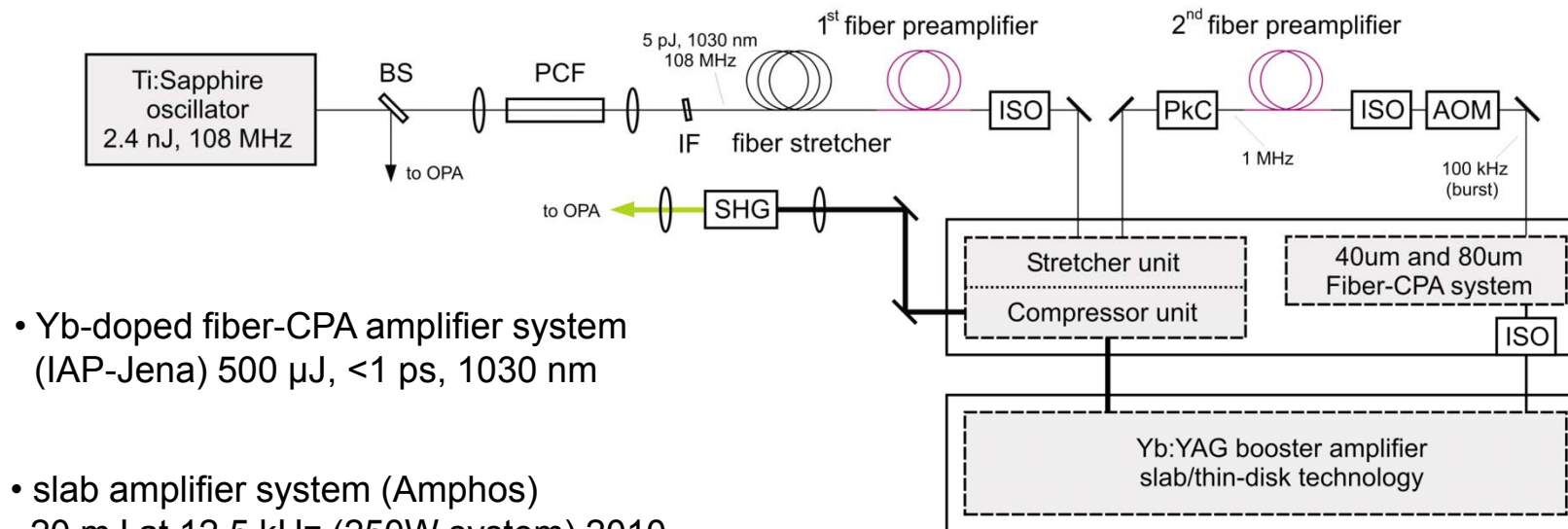
Pump amplifier development - slab amplifier test.



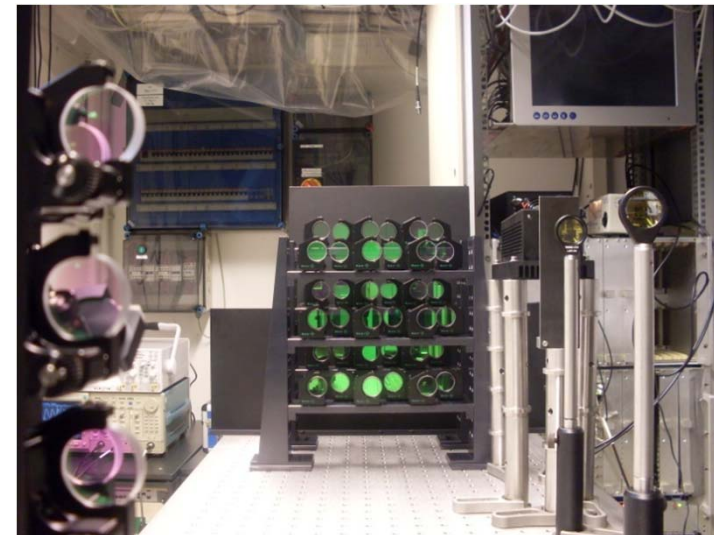
- Yb-doped fiber-CPA amplifier system (IAP-Jena) 500 μ J, <1 ps, 1030 nm
- slab amplifier system (Amphos)
20 mJ at 12.5 kHz (250W system) 2010
2.5 mJ at 100 kHz, $M^2 < 1.5$,
 $\Delta\lambda=2.7$ nm at FWHM
compression to ~900 fs at 100 kHz
planned: >1.5(2) kW system



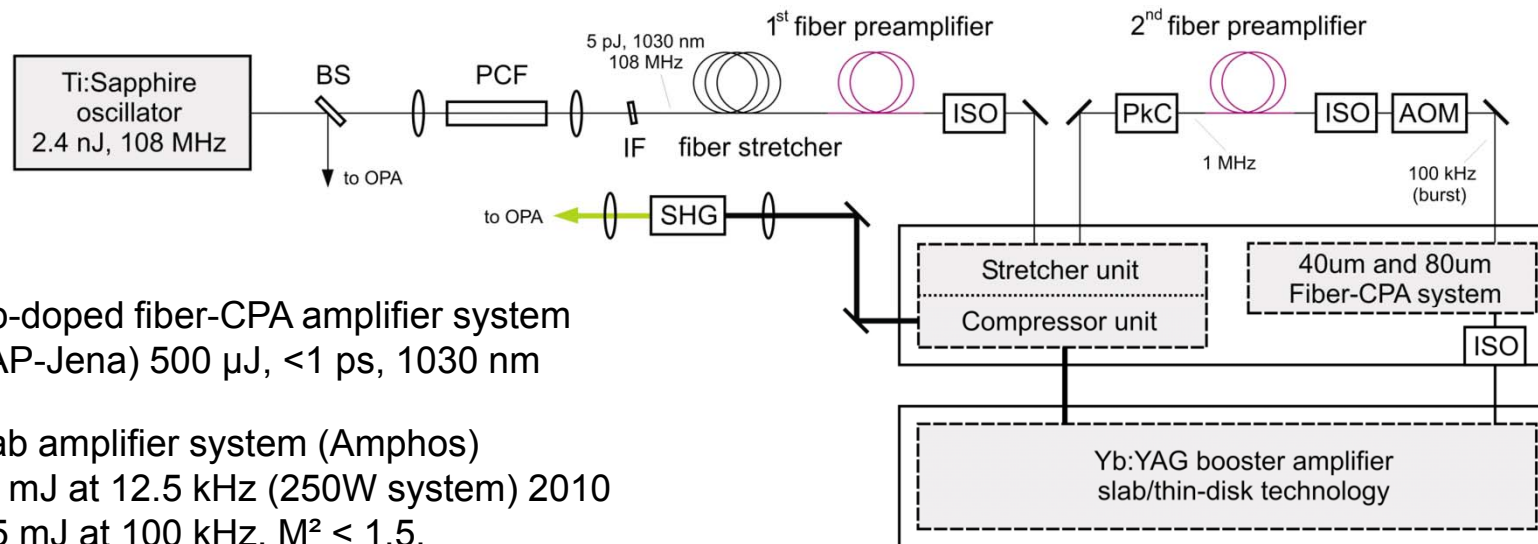
Pump amplifier development - booster amplifier.



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 - compression to ~900 fs at 100 kHz
 - planned: >1.5(2) kW system
- 10 kW (diode pump power) thin-disk amplifier head multipass geometry to be tested (gain?)



Pump amplifier development - booster amplifier.



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2.5 mJ at 100 kHz, $M^2 < 1.5$, $\Delta\lambda=2.7$ nm at FWHM
compression to ~ 900 fs at 100 kHz

available: >1.5(2) kW system

- 10 kW (diode pump power) thin-disk amplifier head multipass geometry to be tested (gain?)

Key technology for OPA pump source
20 mJ per single pulse @1 MHz in FEL burst-mode

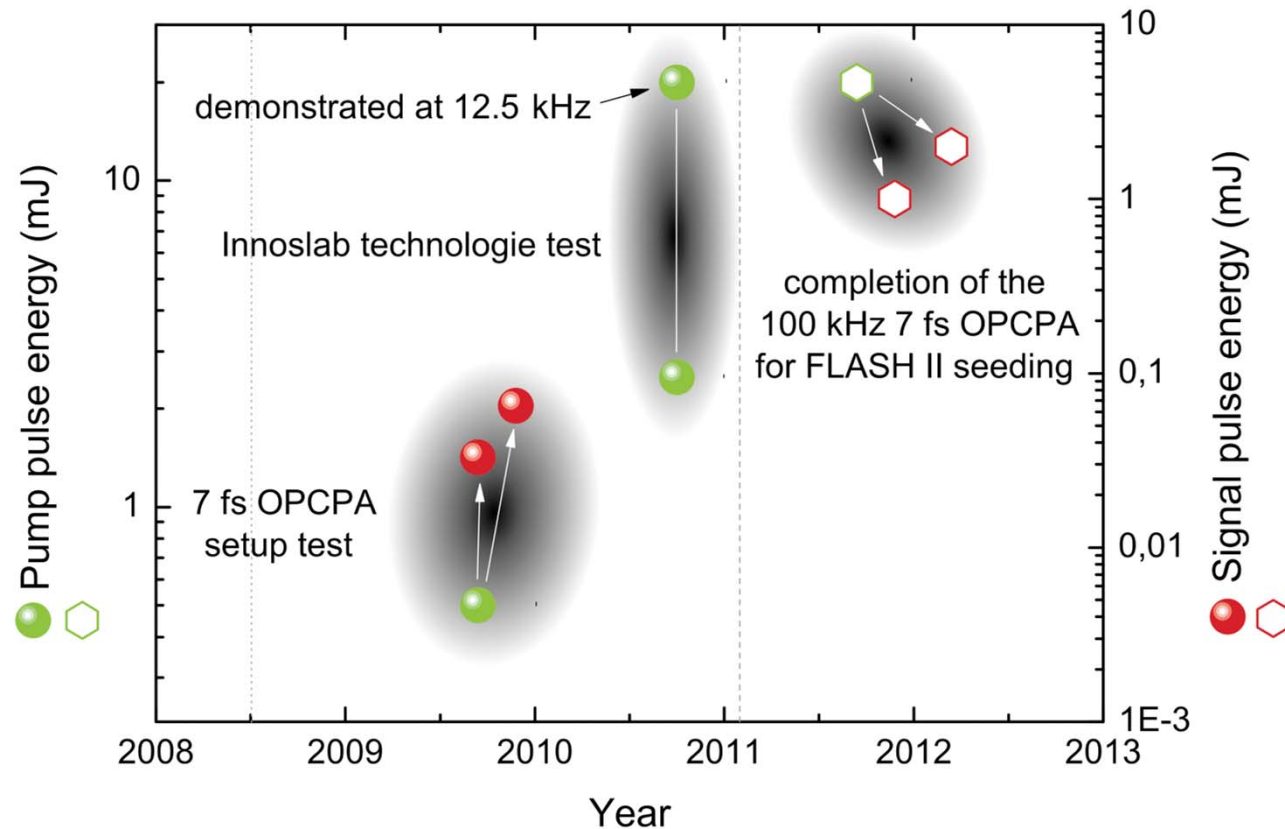
thin-disk pump amplifier head development

development in progress

slab amplifier system (>1.5kW)... Amphos Aachen

possibility to reach higher intra-burst average power (no thermal limitations)
study for a **20 kW** burst-mode amplifier (DESY-XFEL-Amphos)

mJ-level few-cycle pulse OPCPA development for FEL seeding at DESY.



- kW-level pump amplifier
- mJ-level few-cycle pulse OPCPA
- burst-mode: 20kW intra-burst average power

- development and characterization of a highly efficient QPM-HHG source
- commissioning of the amplifier for FLASH-II seeding in 2014

Seeding FLASH II.

**development of high repetition rate,
mJ-level, sub-10 fs laser amplifiers**
-enabling technologies-

Collaboration partners:

- Helmholtz Institut Jena
- Institut of Applied Physics Jena (IAP)
group of A. Tünnermann
- Institut of Lasertechnik Aachen (ILT)
H. Hoffmann group
ILT-spinoff Amphos
T. Mans, C. Schnitzler
- European XFEL
M. Lederer

**development of a laser-driven XUV
source with high conversion efficiency**
(QPM-schemes)

Collaboration partners:

- Queens University of Belfast (QUB)
M. Zepf group
- Technical University of Crete (TEI)
group of M. Tatarakis and
N. Papadogiannis

Laser Development... F. Tavella, A. Willner, M. Schulz, R. Riedel (HI-Jena/DESY/Hamburg University)
DESY-Hamburg University... S. Düsterer, J. Rossbach, M. Drescher, H. Schlarb, J. Feldhaus

FLASH-II team (DESY-Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin)... B. Faatz, A. Meseck, R. Mitzner, F. Tavella, A. Willner, M. Schulz, R. Riedel, M. Abo-Bakr, N. Baboi, J. Bahrdt, V. Balandin, W. Decking, S. Düsterer, R. Follath, A. Gamp, K. Holldack, K. Honkavaara, T. Limberg, K. Tiedtke, R. Treusch, K. Wittenburg, S. Schreiber, M.V. Yurkov, E. Schneidmiller