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Introduction

Seeding is the interaction of electrons with an external radiation pulse to produce a particular radiation output. **Free-electron laser** (FEL): radiation with improved longitudinal coherence [1] laser modulator **Storage ring**: short pulses of synchrotron radiation [2]

Aspects of FEL seeding can be investigated at storage rings

- advantages: very stable beam, high repetition rate, additional beam time



- drawbacks: no FEL gain, no study of space charge, no electron chirp

Example: CHG (coherent harmonic generation) \leftrightarrow **HGHG** (high-gain harmonic generation) laser-induced energy modulation, microbunching, coherent emission of harmonics [3,4]

The Short-Pulse Facility at DELTA

DELTA: 1.5 GeV synchrotron light source at TU Dortmund **Short-pulse facility:** constructed in 2011 [5,6]

- Ti:sapphire laser pulses guided through beamline BL 3
- undulator U250: modulator + chicane + radiator
- diagnostics beamline BL 4: streak camera, iCCD [7] ...
- soft-X-ray beamline BL 5: photoelectron spectrometer
- THz beamline BL 5a: FTIR spectrometers ... [8,9]

Table 1: Parameters of the DELTA short-pulse facility	
electron storage ring	
beam energy	1.5 GeV
circumference	115.2 m
beam current (single-/multibunch)	20/130 mA
horizontal emittance	15 nm rad
relative energy spread	0.0007
typ. bunch length (FWHM)	100 ps
titanium:sapphire laser system	
wavelength	800 nm
pulse energy at 800/400 nm	8.0/2.8 mJ
repetition rate	1 kHz
min. pulse duration (FWHM)	40 fs
undulators and chicane	
modulator/radiator period length	250 mm
number of modulator/radiator periods	7
undulator periods used as chicane	3
max. modulator/radiator K parameter	10.5
max. chicane r_{56} value	130 µm







CHG Spectra

Example: seeding with 800 nm, study 2nd, 3rd, 4th harmonic, variation of

- chicane strength r_{56}
- laser compressor setting (chirp)

Results at large r56 values: overbunching, double-peak structure [10]

- negative-chirp pulse (-55 fs in laser lab) has little chirp at modulator (compensated by lenses and vacuum window)
- interference fringes for unchirped pulse
- interference vanishes for large chirp
- linear + nonlinear chirp \rightarrow asymmetric spectra

Seeding with Double Pulses





see also FERMI [11]





Results for (a): [14] interference between

- two laser pulses (measures delay)
- two CHG pulses (for small delay)

- two THz pulses (for large delay) **Results for (b):** [15] temporal overlap - center of THz interferogram

- sensitivity to small delay ($\Delta t_2 = r_{56}/2$)
- drop of beam lifetime (reduced RF power)



800 nm density modulation (blue) + 400 nm energy modulation (red, green)



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