

XFEL Accelerator R&D Status

Virtual Diagnostics

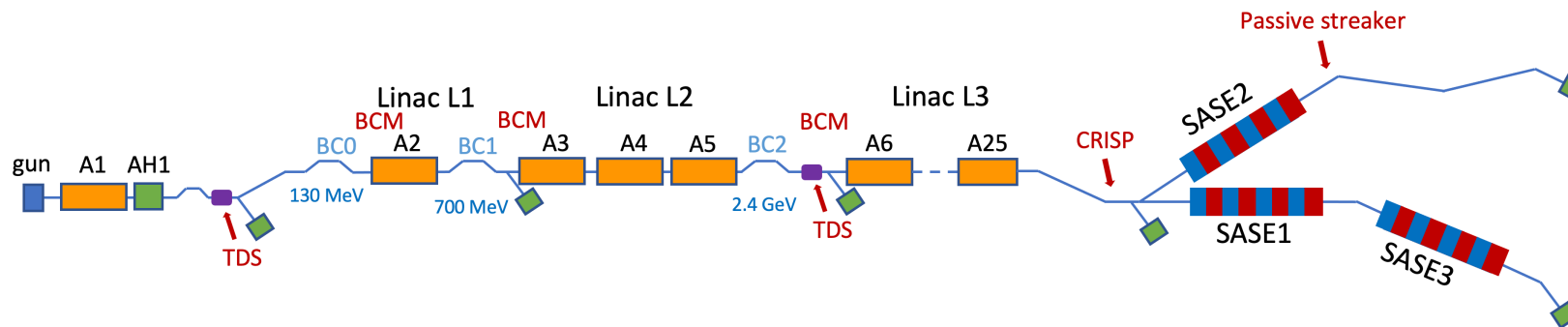
Bianca Veglia and Sergey Tomin
12.09.2025



HELMHOLTZ

Scope of the R&D activity

- Longitudinal Phase Space (LPS) diagnostics are vital for operations and fundamental for advanced XFEL modes.
- Currently, 2 transverse deflecting structures (TDS) (destructive, low resolution). CRISP non-destructive but requires reconstruction, lacks phase information. Passive streaker also requires reconstruction and is destructive.
- Information about the properties of the beam can be obtained by combining non-invasive diagnostics with a theoretical accelerator model. Machine learning (ML) is a good technique for this.
- Virtual diagnostics tool in the control room is the final goal of this project, providing non-destructive predictions of the LPS.
- The development of surrogate ML models for the EuXFEL accelerator is a key component of virtual diagnostics.
 - Improvement of theoretical model through systematic beam dynamics studies.
 - Large scale start-to-end simulations (Ocelot).



Scope of the R&D activity

■ Promised deliverables 2025:

- Generation of Start-to-End Data on DESY Cluster for Surrogate Model Training (Q2 2025).
- Development of the first prototype of the surrogate model for accelerator modelling (Q4 2025).

■ Interfacing with “Mixed Longitudinal Diagnostic for EuXFEL” (Marc & Simon), collaboration with MSK, assistance from MCS high level controls will be required to implement the diagnostic tool for operations.

Achievements in the past year

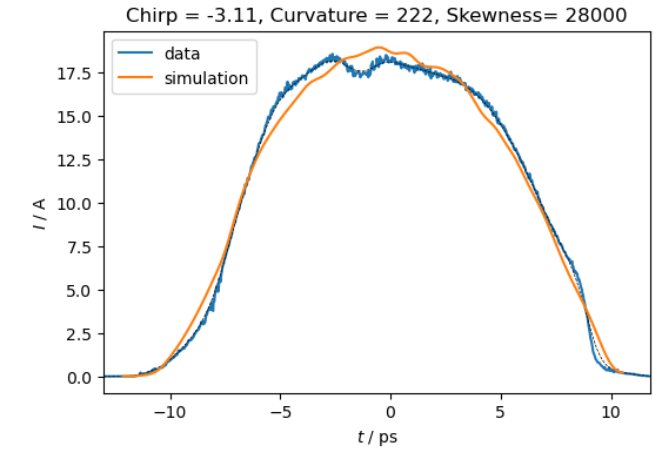
■ Infrastructure for Start-to-End Simulations: EuXFEL lattice repository <https://github.com/ocelot-collab/EuXFEL-Lattice>

- *Single source of truth* for EuXFEL lattice. Tested against MAD8, includes different optics variants.
- Validation of s2e simulations with collective effects against reference simulations from 2019.

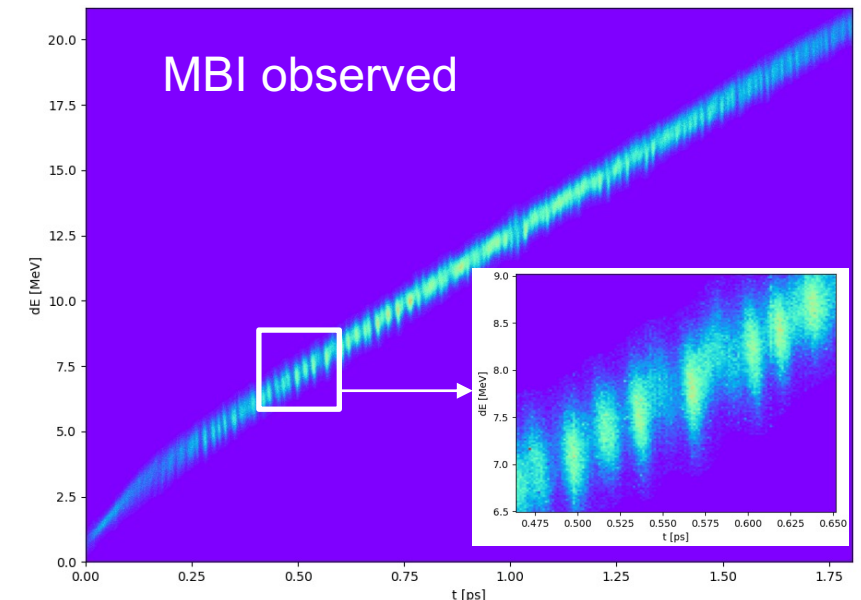
■ Validation of the Accelerator Model with Measurements:

- First measurement campaign in March before shutdown.
- Benchmarked injector measurements with simulations.
- Laser Heater off, scan of L1 chirp, collected BC2 data with CRISP and TDS.
- Observed strong microbunching instability (MBI)—requires update of the Ocelot model to include this effect.
- We measured LPS at 9 different compression points for analysis.

Injector TDS measurements vs simulations

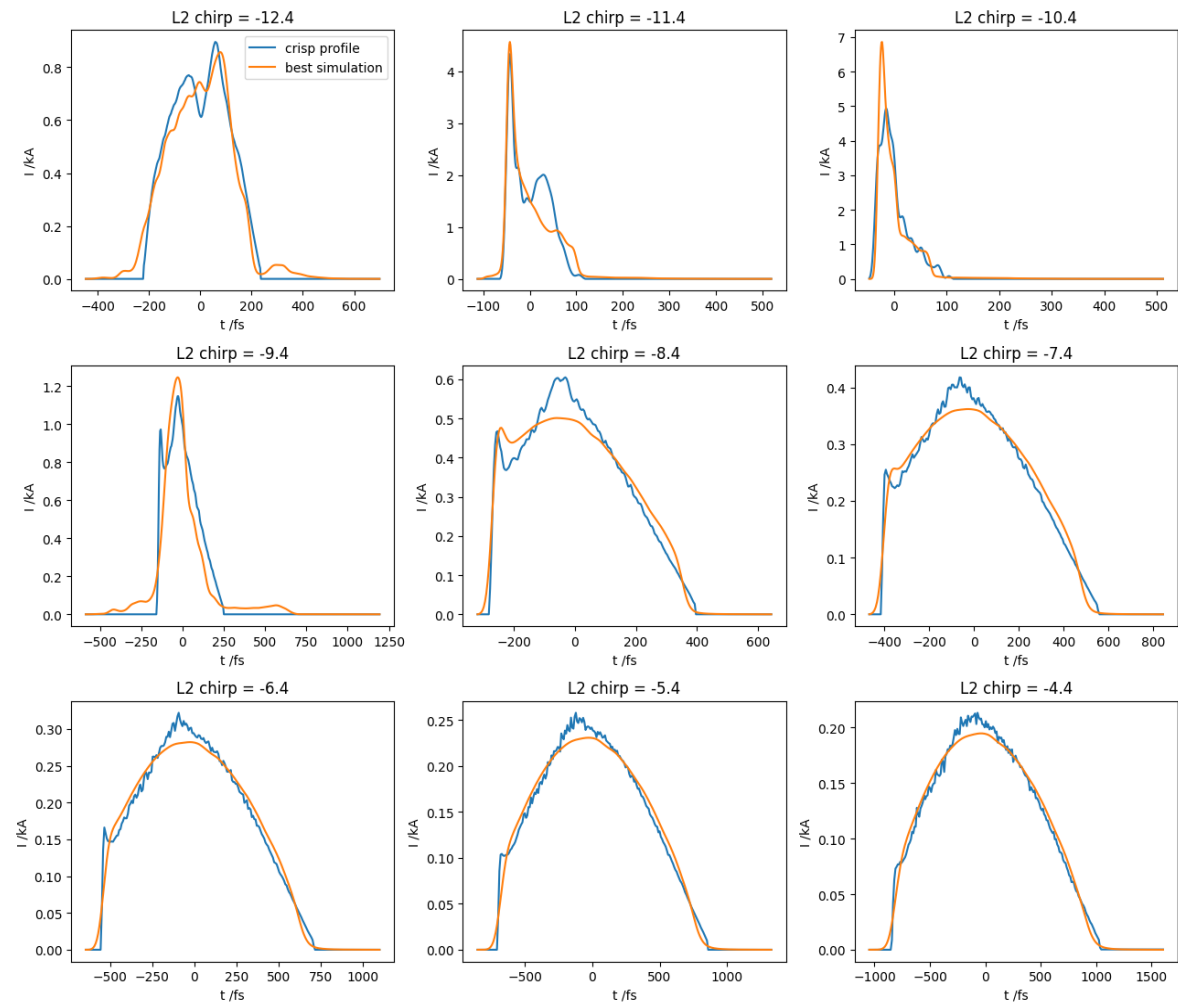


B2 TDS, L1 chirp = -3.4



Achievements in the past year

- Matching simulation with measurements.
 - Adjusting RF parameters to match measured current profiles.
 - MBI effect was strong in these measurements (and Ocelot simulation model currently does not include it).
- Set-up in place for cross-checking and matching of simulations with measurements.
 - Systematic validation of the model is planned for next year.
 - Bayesian Optimization leverages parallelisation and can be used efficiently on the cluster.
- Ongoing effort on improving the agreement between simulations and measurements (e.g., selecting the optimal parameters to reproduce the measured beam characteristics, identify a common RF-offset).



Maximal parameter variation in BO optimizations

| | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|
| voltage of the first harmonic cavity (inj.) | ±2.5 MeV | phase of the first harmonic cavity (inj.) | ±0.3 deg |
| voltage of the high harmonic cavity (inj.) | ±2 MeV | phase of the high harmonic cavity (inj.) | ±0.3 deg |
| voltage in L1 | ±5 MeV | phase in L1 | ±0.3 deg |
| voltage in L2 | ±15 MeV | phase in L2 | ±0.5 deg |

Achievements in the past year

■ Data generation for surrogate model training.

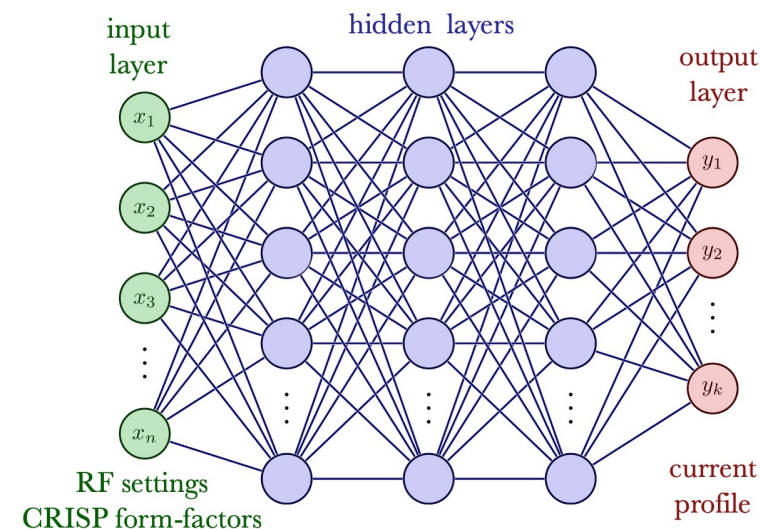
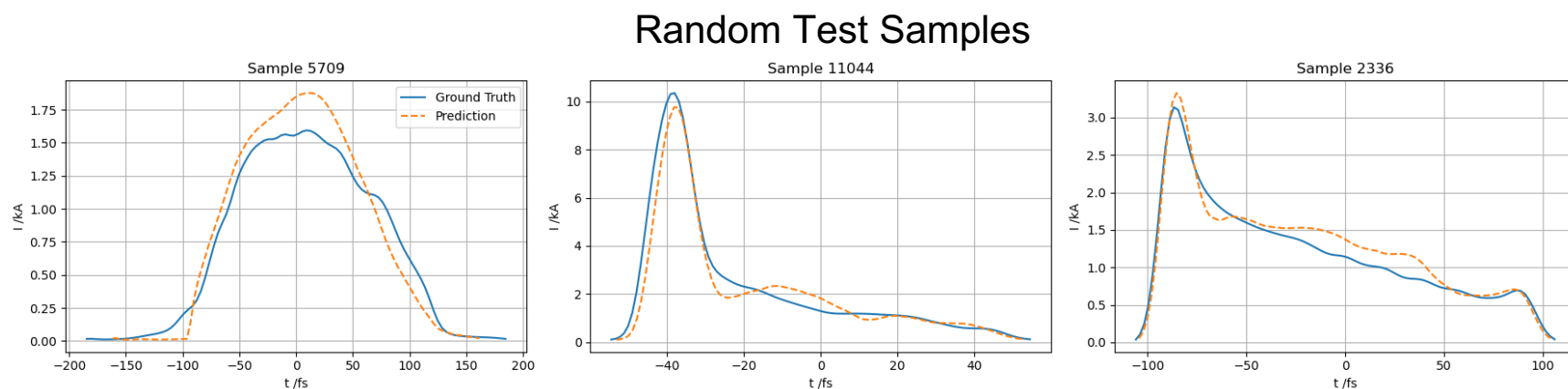
- s2e simulations from the gun to the end of collimation section.
- RF parameters around operational working point, current profile and CRISP spectrum recorded for each.

■ Neural network architecture trained and tested

reconstructing current profiles from RF settings and THz spectrum formfactors.

- Starting with a simplified problem (only current profile prediction).

| Parameter | Base value | Range |
|--|------------|------------|
| Injector chirp (1/m) | -9.11 | ± 0.5 |
| Injector curvature (1/m ²) | 222 | ± 100 |
| Injector cubic coefficient (1/m ³) | 28000 | ± 2000 |
| L1 chirp (1/m) | 10.4 | ± 1 |
| L1 sum voltage (GeV) | 0.57 | ± 0.01 |
| L2 chirp (1/m) | -5.4 | ± 1 |
| L2 sum voltage (GeV) | 1.7 | ± 0.01 |



Deviations from plan

Currently none

Timeline of this R&D activity

| Date / Period | Milestone Description | New Date/ Period |
|---------------|--|------------------|
| Q4/2023 | PostDoc hired | 1.12.2024 |
| Q2/2025 | Generation of Start-to-End Data on DESY Cluster for Surrogate Model Training. This data will include various parameters and features related to the electron beam dynamics and will serve as a basis for developing and refining the ML surrogate model for the EuXFEL accelerator. The PostDoc should have familiarity with the beam dynamics simulation software used in the MXL group. | Q2/2025 |
| Q4/2025 | Development of the first prototype of the surrogate model for accelerator modeling The postdoc will develop a first prototype of the surrogate model for the accelerator, using the improved theoretical models and generated start-to-end (s2e) data. This initial prototype will serve as a foundation for further development, testing, and refinement of the ML surrogate model for the EuXFEL accelerator. | Q4/2025 |
| Q2/2026 | Cross-Checking the ML Surrogate Model (Theoretical Model) with Electron Beam Property Measurements The postdoc will carry out beam studies on the accelerator to cross-check the developed ML surrogate model (theoretical model) against the measurements of the electron beam properties. | Q2/2026 |
| Q4/2026 | Integration of Surrogate Models with Non-Invasive Diagnostics The postdoc will integrate the developed ML surrogate models with non-invasive diagnostics, such as BCM, CRISP, and RF parameters. This integration will enable real-time monitoring of electron beam properties, which is essential for tuning the accelerator to non-standard operation modes. | Q4/2026 |
| Q2/2027 | Publish the results. | Q2/2027 |

Risks to R&D Project

- The EuXFEL accelerator compression scheme is rather complicated, with 3 bunch compressors and only two TDS with limited resolution (B2 TDS after final compressor). The lack of LPS diagnostics may limit our knowledge of the machine, resulting in a less accurate model.
- B2 TDS hardware has had reliability issues.

Outlook / Summary

- Machine learning pipeline framework in place, needs to be up-scaled, extended to full LPS images.
 - More simulations to cover wider range of RF parameters.
- More measurements for validation of Ocelot model (suppress MBI).
- Test surrogate model against measurements.
- Introduce virtual diagnostics tool into the control room.

Thank you