

# LASER TECHNOLOGY FOR ACCELERATOR

**Alexander S. Aryshev**, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

KEK: High Energy Accelerator Research Organization,  
1-1 Oho, Tsukuba 305-0801, Ibaraki-ken, Japan.

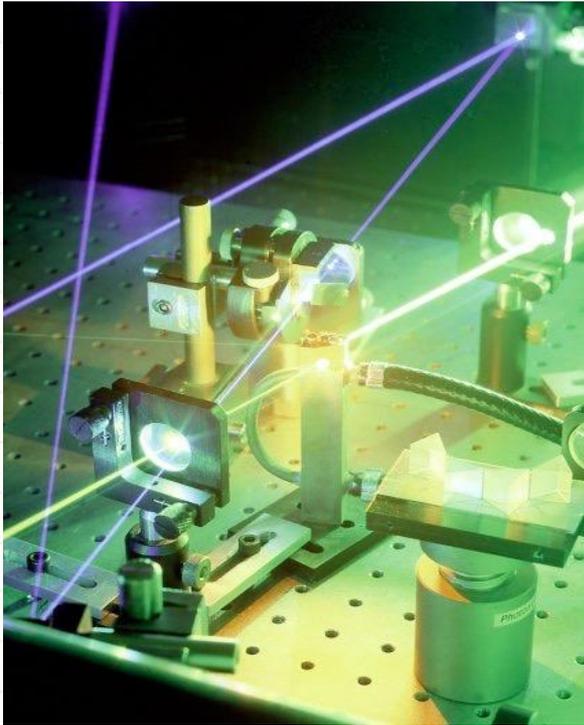
TEL: +81-298-64-5715.

e-mail: [alar@post.kek.jp](mailto:alar@post.kek.jp)

高エネルギー加速器セミナーOHO'20,  
8 – 11 September 2020

# LASER

Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation



courtesy Dr. L. Corner, University of Liverpool

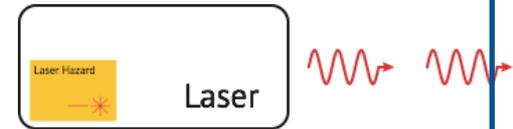
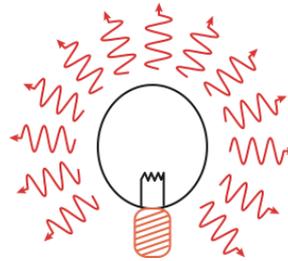
# Laser types

Lasers come in many different styles:

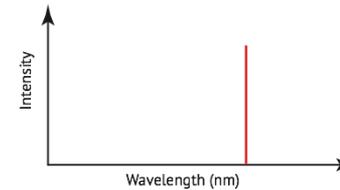
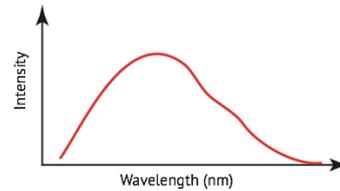
- **Temporal structure** - continuous wave (cw) or pulsed (down to femtoseconds).
- **Wavelength** - X-ray free electron lasers through visible to near infrared fibre and solid state systems, mid infrared quantum cascade lasers to 10.6 $\mu\text{m}$  CO<sub>2</sub> lasers.
- **Low power** (barcode scanners, laser pointers).
- **High peak power** (100s TW, PW systems available commercially).
- Need to consider what it is required for your application.
- Overspec – makes it very expensive!

# Laser properties

- They produce highly directional beams.



- They have a "narrow" spectrum (bandwidth).



- They are spatially and temporally coherent.

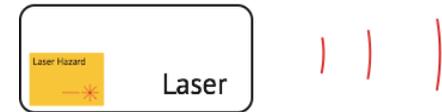
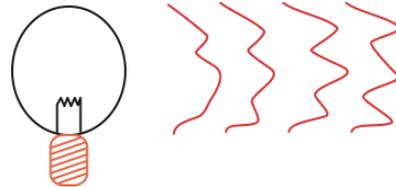


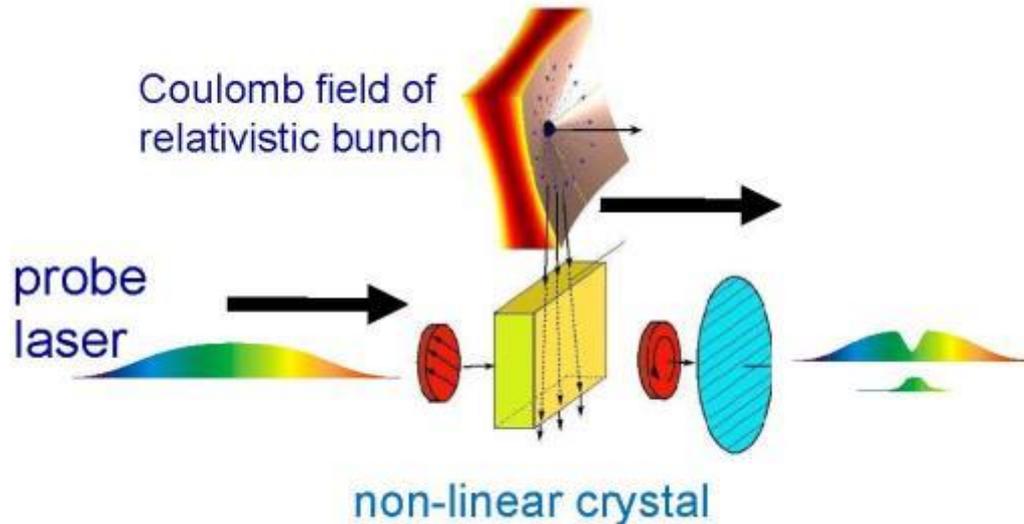
Diagram courtesy Prof. S. Hooker, Oxford

# Laser applications in accelerator physics

- **Many applications of laser technology.**
- **Broadly 2 categories:**
- **Improving standard accelerators – diagnostics, timing, photocathodes.**
- **Driving new accelerators – laser driven plasma accelerators, dielectric laser acceleration, direct laser acceleration in vacuum.**
- **Laser-based particle sources**
- **Laser-driven particle beam acceleration**
- **Lasers for beam diagnostics**
- **System integration**
- **Laser and photon detector technology**

# Lasers for particle beam diagnostics

- Electro-optic methods for bunch length measurement.



- Coulomb field of the particle bunch alters the optical properties of the nonlinear crystal.
- Changes polarisation state of laser propagating through crystal.
- Laser is chirped so spectral features directly relate to time.
- Particle bunch length measured single shot and non-destructively.

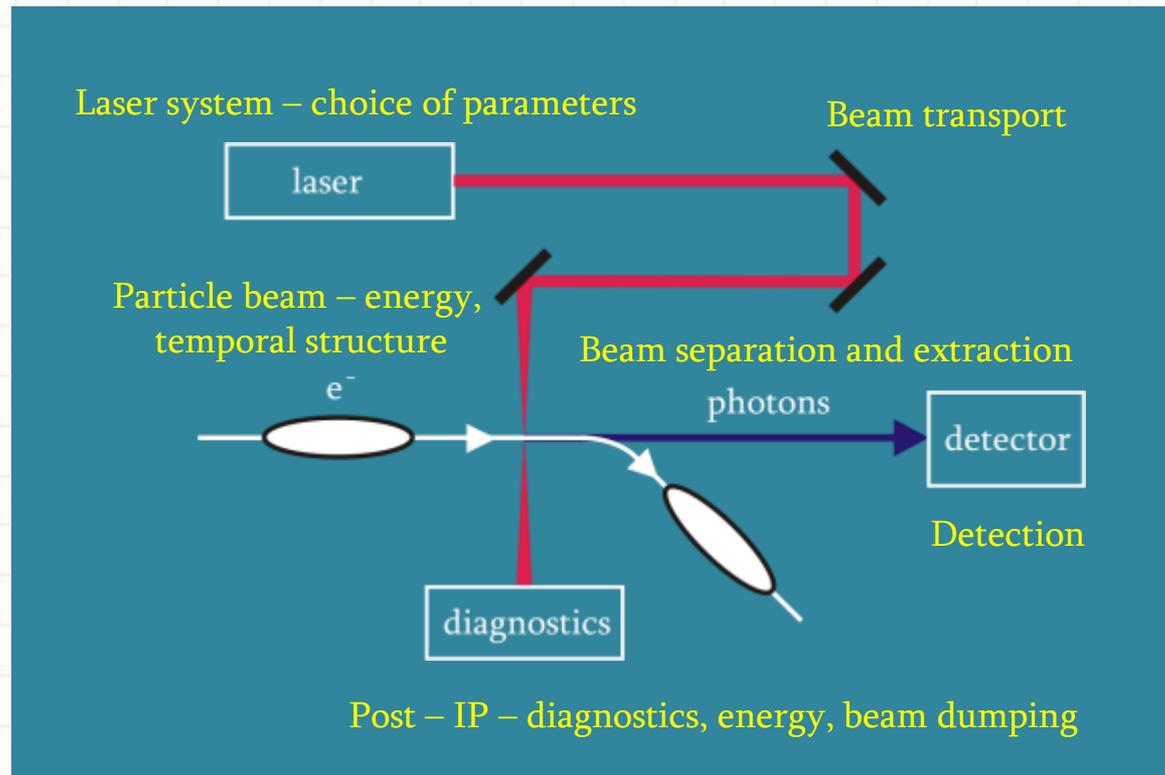
See for example:

- Pan et. al., MOPME077, IPAC 2013.

courtesy Dr. L. Corner, University of Liverpool

# Lasers for particle beam diagnostics

- Laser based beam size measurement.



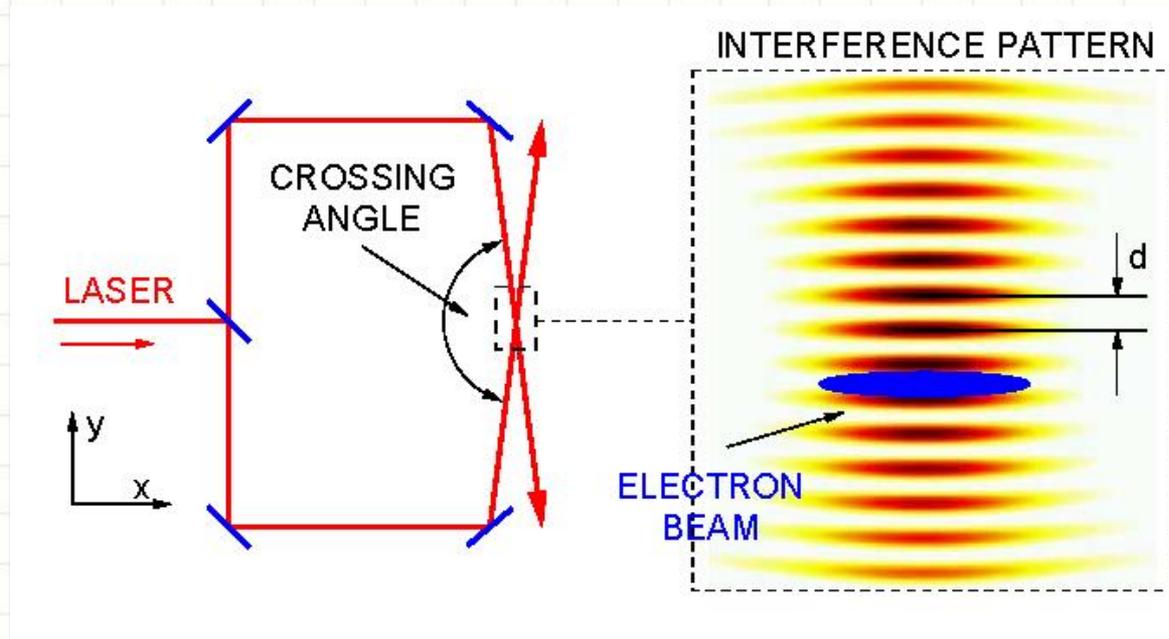
- Measure electron beams (Compton scattering) - SLC, ATF2.
- Also ion beams (photo-neutralisation) - H<sup>-</sup> laserwire at Linac 4, CERN.

See for example:

- Nevay et. al., Phys. Rev. ST Accel. Beams 17, 072802 (2014).
- Kruchinin et. al., MOPWI003, IPAC 2015.

# Lasers for particle beam diagnostics

- Measuring really small beam sizes

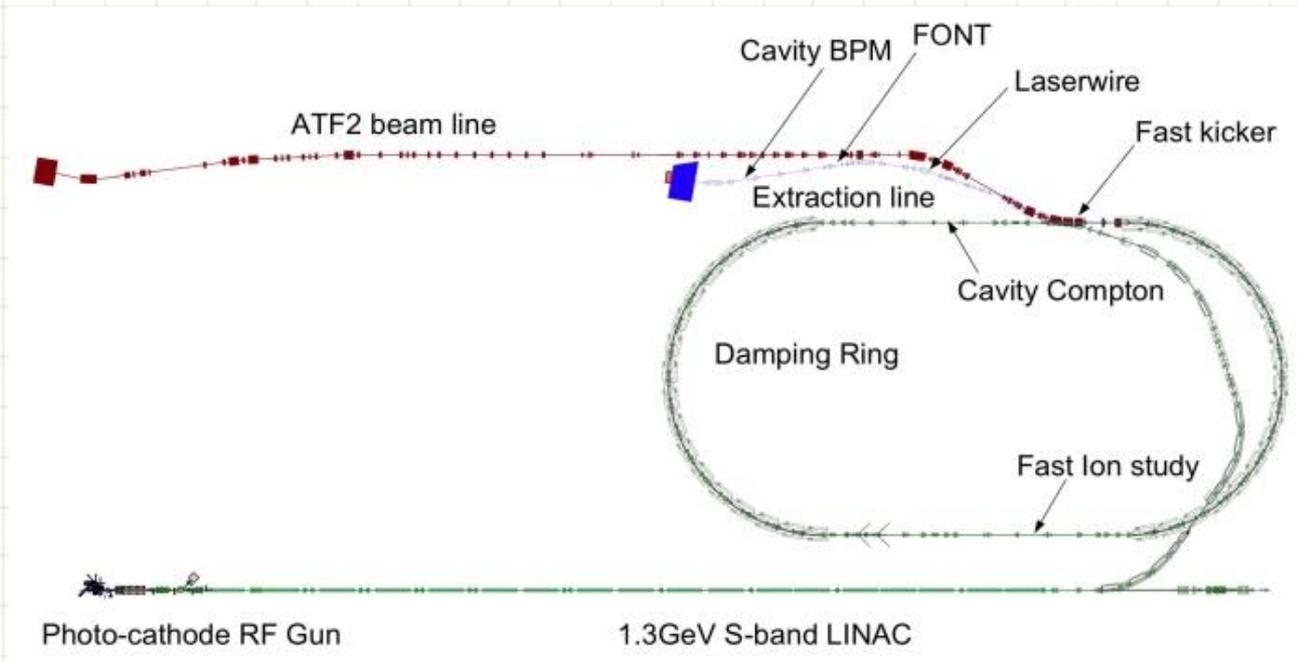


- For  $< 1\mu\text{m}$  beams need something different – can't focus laser spot to much less than this.
- Cross 2 laser beams at large angle to make very narrow interference fringe pattern.
- Scan interference fringes across beam and look for modulation in Compton signal.
- This monitor is \*really\* hard to align and make work well. Requires very stable laser source.

See for example:

- White et. al., Phys. Rev. Letts. 112, 034802 (2014).
- Yan et. al., 261, TIPP 2014.

# ATF2 laser-wire

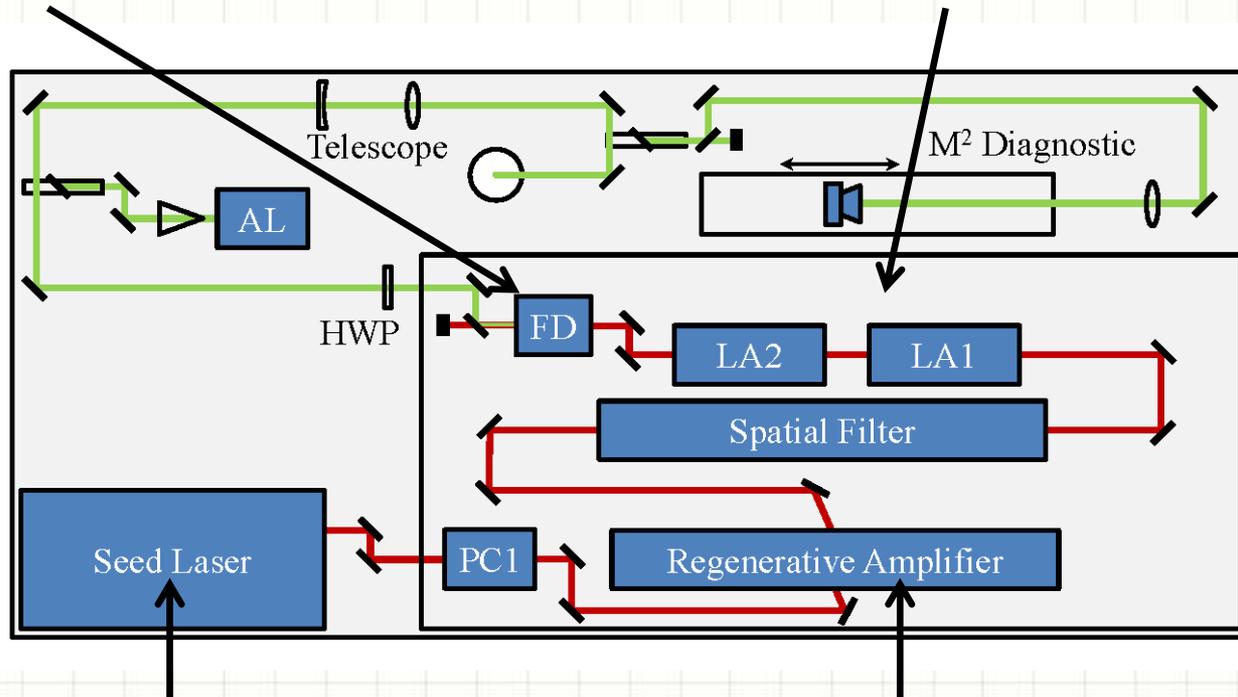


- ATF2 major international collaboration – scaled test of ILC optics.
- Aim – electron beam size  $< 40\text{nm}$ .
- Major test of new diagnostics – high resolution ( $< 5\text{nm}$ ) bpms, fast feedback etc.
- Laser-wire designed for highest resolution – measurement  $\sim 1\mu\text{m}$ .

# ATF2 laser system

SHG – 532nm, 100mJ

Linear amps up to 500mJ



Seed laser @ 357MHz locked to sub-multiple of accelerator frequency

Seed pulse injected into Nd:YAG flashlamp pumped regenerative amplifier – 1.56Hz, 200ps, 10mJ

Image courtesy Dr. L. Nevay, RHUL

# Detection

Photons extracted through 1mm Al window  
Detector placed next to window

Dipole magnet separates  
electrons and photons



Cherenkov detector –  $\gamma$  converted to  $e^-/e^+$  pairs in lead, generate Cherenkov radiation in aerogel, guided to PMT below beam line.

Photo courtesy Dr. L. Nevay, RHUL

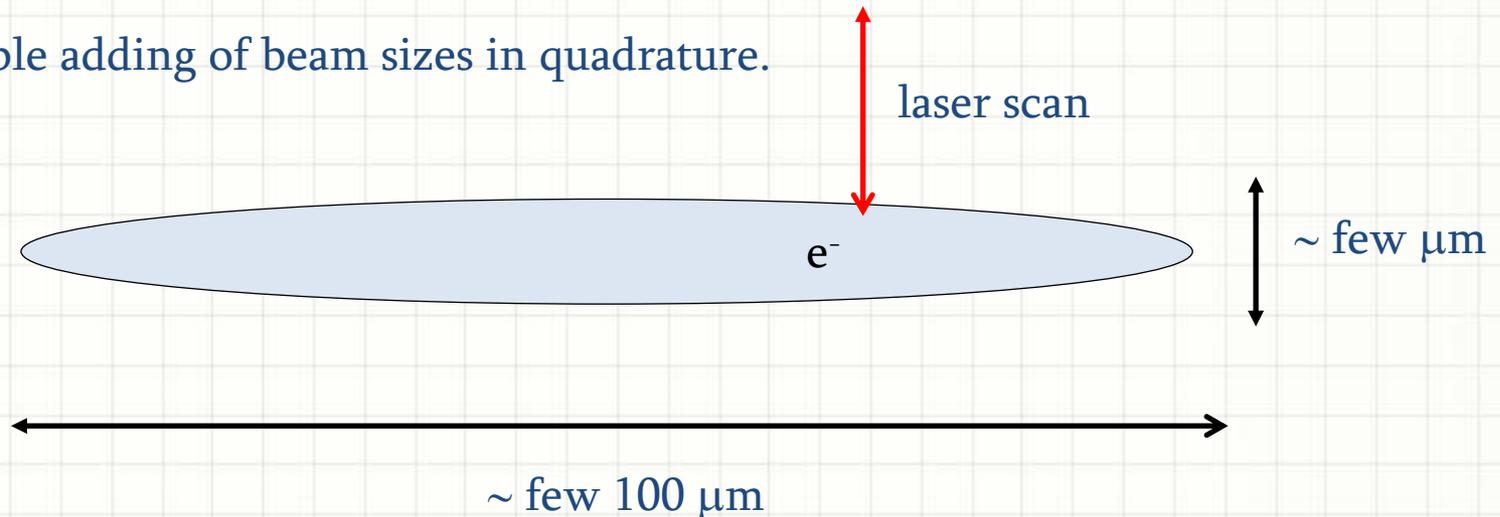
## Results and analysis

Electron beam aspect ratio very large – cannot assume laser same size across particle beam.

Try to model laser propagation and solve full overlap integral for particle and laser beam

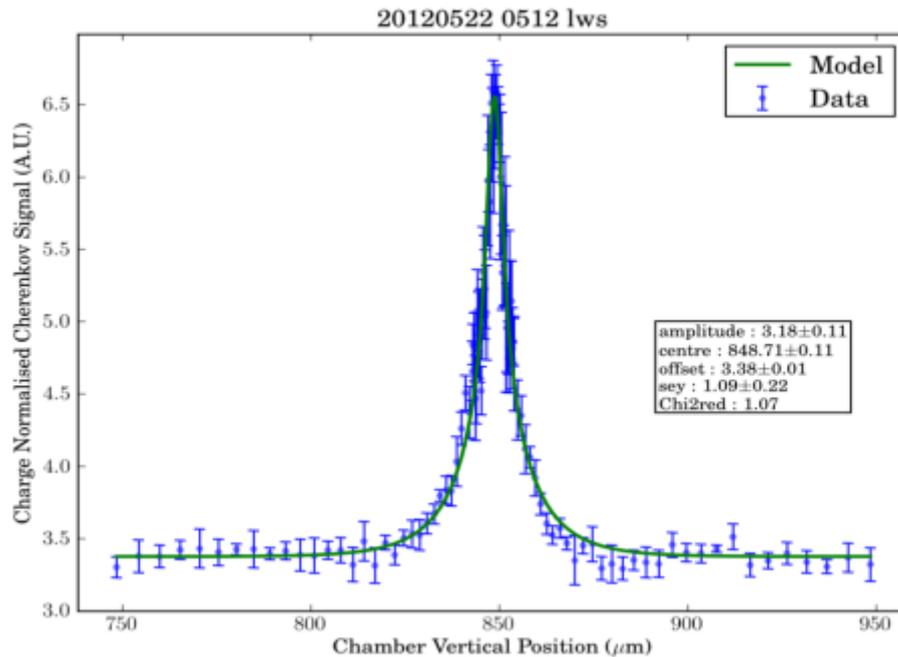
distributions – complex analysis because of electron beam size and laser properties – not

just simple adding of beam sizes in quadrature.



See Nevay et al., PR STAB 17, 072802 (2014)

# Preliminary scans and analysis

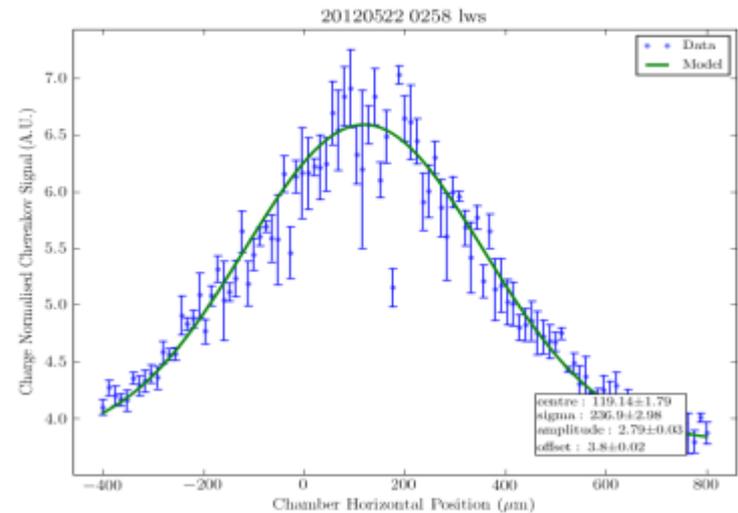


Vertical scan –  $\sigma_{ey} = 1.09 \pm 0.22 \mu\text{m}$

Demonstrated  $1\mu\text{m}$  beam size measurement – scan  $\sim 2$  min.

Data: L. Nevay, A. Aryshev, L. Corner  
Analysis: L. Nevay

Horizontal scan –  
 $\sigma_{ex} = 236.9 \pm 2.98 \mu\text{m}$



# Timing and synchronisation in particle accelerators

- Modern large accelerators and free electron laser complexes need timing synchronisation for components such as beam, diagnostics, data acquisition at the fs level or even  $< fs$ .
- Fibre based distribution of signals derived from mode-locked pulsed lasers are now in use or planned at several facilities worldwide.
- As well as distributing a signal 'clock' need to be able to measure jitter and correct for it.
- Measurements of jitter between mode locked lasers using optical techniques has shown  $< 100 fs$  as jitter measurement.

See for example:

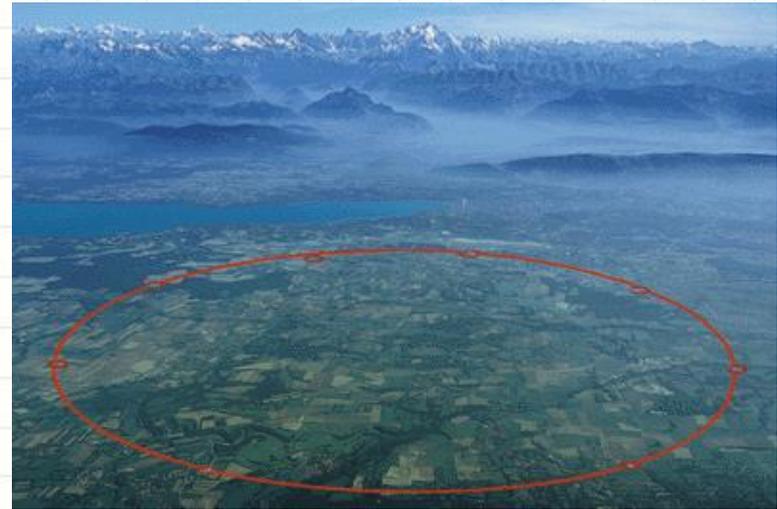
- Peng et. al., Optics Letters 21, 19982 (2013)
- [https://desy.cfel.de/ultrafast\\_optics\\_and\\_\\_x\\_rays\\_division/research/timing\\_distribution\\_and\\_synchronization/](https://desy.cfel.de/ultrafast_optics_and__x_rays_division/research/timing_distribution_and_synchronization/)

# Lasers driving accelerators – plasma wakefield accelerators

- Conventional accelerators are widely used in science and medicine.
  - Acceleration gradient limited by electrical breakdown to  $< 100$  MV/m.
  - This sets the size (& cost) of the machine.



Diamond, UK



LHC

# Plasma accelerators – how they work

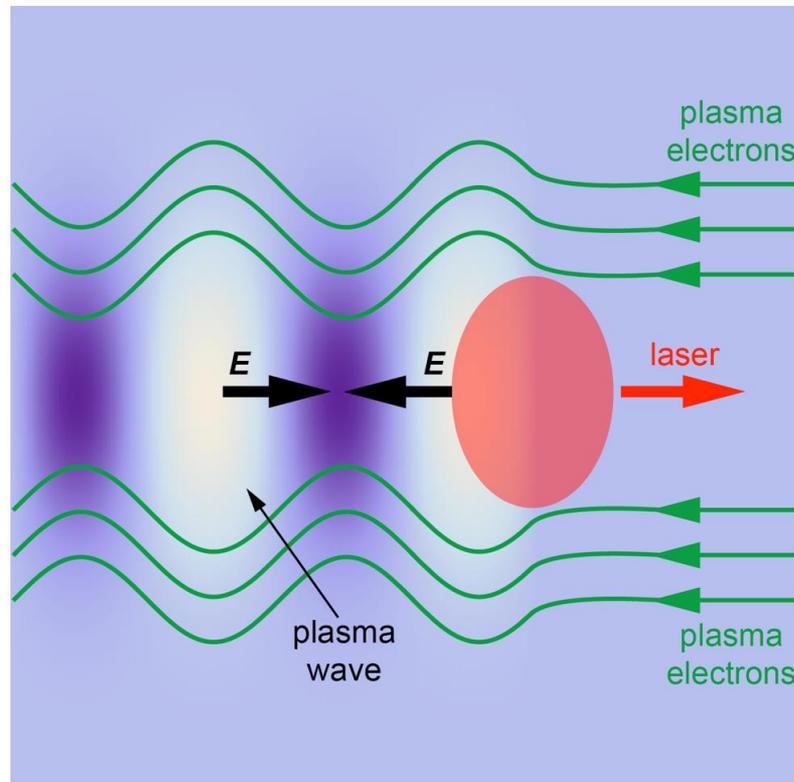


Diagram courtesy Prof. S. Hooker, Oxford

See for example:

- Esarey et. al., Rev. Mod. Phys 81 1229 (2009)
- Kim et. al., Phys. Rev. Letts. 111 165002 (2013)

- Ponderomotive force of an intense laser pulse expels electrons from the region of the pulse to form a trailing plasma wakefield.
- The wakefield moves at speed of laser pulse (i.e. close to speed of light).
- Electric fields within wakefield can accelerate charged particles.
- Huge accelerating gradients – 1000 x conventional accelerators.
- 4 GeV in 9cm.
- 3.25 GeV in 14mm.
- Massive potential for reducing size and cost of particle accelerators.

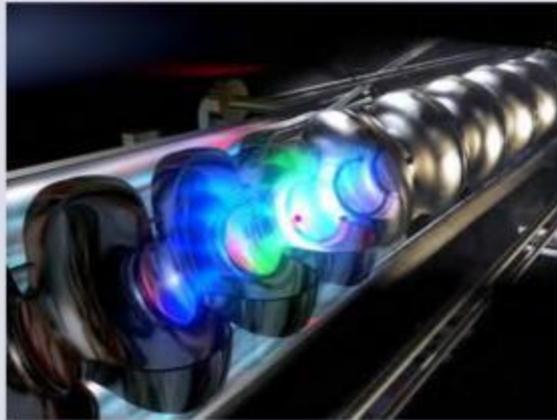
# Laser plasma accelerators - What's the catch?

- Sounds great – why aren't all accelerators plasma based?
- Mainly driver problems – lasers required are 100s TW or PW, inefficient so heat up, only fire once an hour/every 20 mins.
- Even fastest PW laser in the world only fires at 1Hz – too slow for real applications.
- Also length of accelerator – only over ~ 10cm so far, need to show that many stages can be put together to get to really high energy.
- Quality of electron bunches not as good as conventional accelerators yet.
- These are all active areas of research.
- Not forgetting laser driven proton and ion acceleration, and positron acceleration.

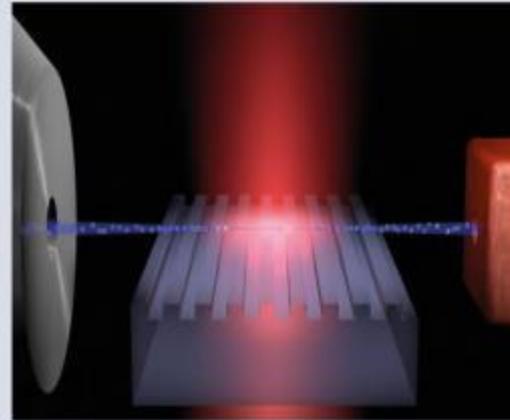
courtesy Dr. L. Corner, University of Liverpool

# Dielectric laser accelerators

Particle accelerators: from RF to optical/photonic drive?



RF cavity (TESLA, DESY)

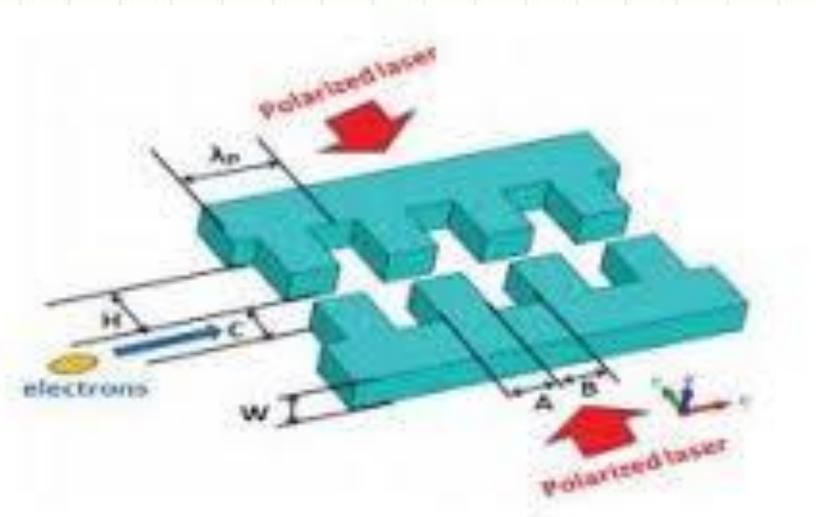


	Conventional linear accelerator (RF)	Laser-based dielectric accelerator (optical)
Based on	(Supercond.) RF cavities	Quartz grating structures
Peak field limited by	<b>Surface breakdown: 200 MV/m</b>	<b>Damage threshold: 30 GV/m</b>
Max. achievable gradients	<b>50 MeV/m</b>	<b>10 GeV/m</b>

Slide courtesy Dr. P. Hommelhoff, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Erlangen

# Dielectric laser accelerators

- New area of accelerator research.
- Have shown acceleration of relativistic and non-relativistic electrons using laser and dielectric structures.
- Also beam manipulation e.g. deflection for use as beam position monitor.

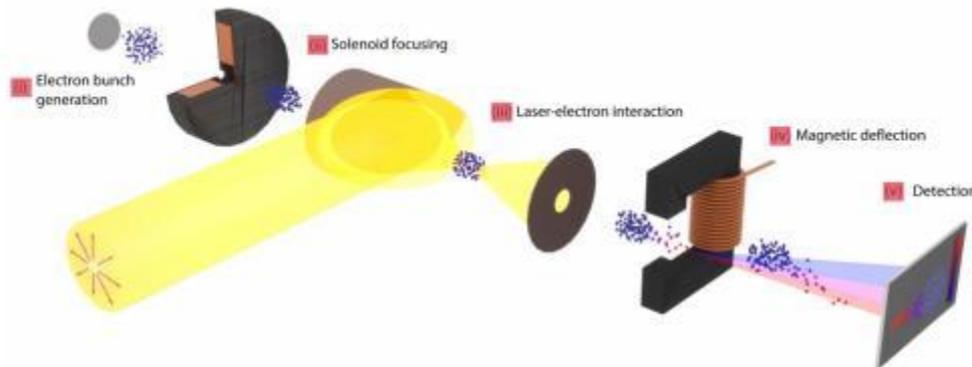


[https://www.liv.ac.uk/quasar/research/novel\\_accelerators/](https://www.liv.ac.uk/quasar/research/novel_accelerators/)

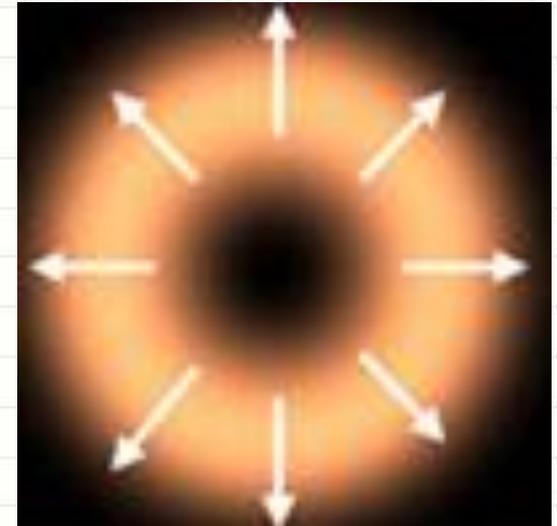
See for example:

- Breuer et. al., Phys. Rev. ST Accel. Beams 17 021301 (2014)
- Peralta et. al., Nature 503 91 (2014)

# Direct laser acceleration in vacuum



**Figure 1 | Conceptual schematic.** A non-relativistic monoenergetic electron bunch is generated via a 40 kV DC gun (i) triggered by a small fraction of the optical beam. The electron bunch is then focused (ii) at the laser-electron IP using a solenoid. A subsequent off-axis parabola with a thru-hole allows for tight focusing of the optical beam to overlap with the electron bunch (iii). After the interaction, the electrons enter a dipole magnet deflector (iv) and are then mapped onto a CCD camera from the emission of a fluorescent screen placed after a micro-channel plate detector (v).



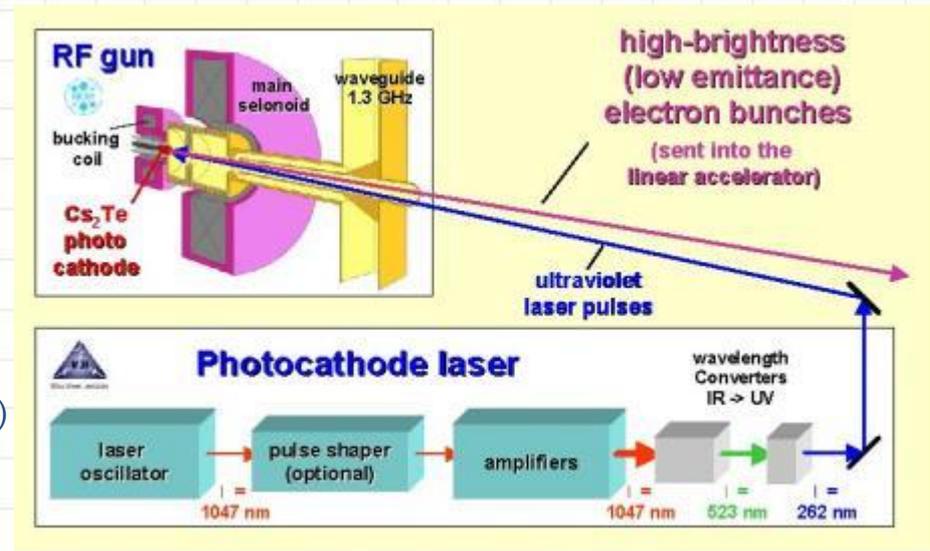
arXiv:1501.05101

- Light has a strong electric field – can we use this to accelerate electrons?
- How to get large on axis component? Focus radially polarised light beam.
- Vacuum acceleration – no medium to breakdown, not unstable.
- Carbajo et. al. Phys Rev. ST Accel. Beams 19, 021303 (2016) shown 3GeV/m – exciting result!

courtesy Dr. L. Corner, University of Liverpool

# Lasers as particle sources - Photocathodes

- Can use laser pulses to produce electron bunches from photocathodes.
- Give bunches as short as the laser pulse without additional manipulation.
- Properties of the bunch can be controlled by the laser pulse shape in time and space.
- Laser must be stable and locked to RF for further acceleration.
- Light needed at energies  $>$  photocathode workfunction, generally UV.
- Laser needs second or third harmonic frequency conversion due to PC Q.E.
- Large area of laser research – need:
  - High pulse energy
  - Reliable running
  - Excellent pointing stability



See for example:

- Penco et. al., Phys. Rev. Letts. 112 044801 (2014)
- Schreiber et. al., NIM A 445 (2000).

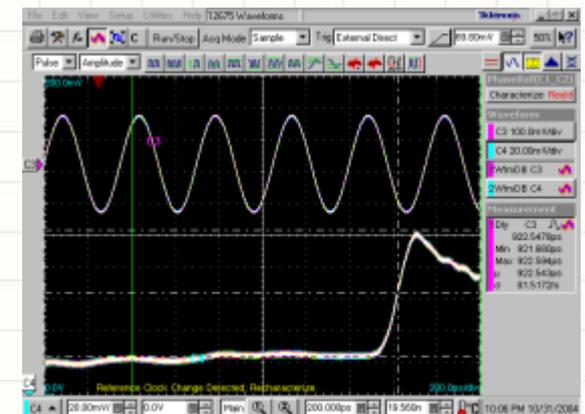
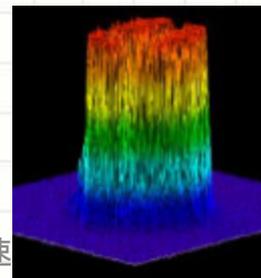
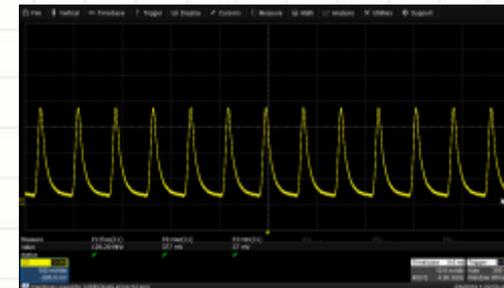
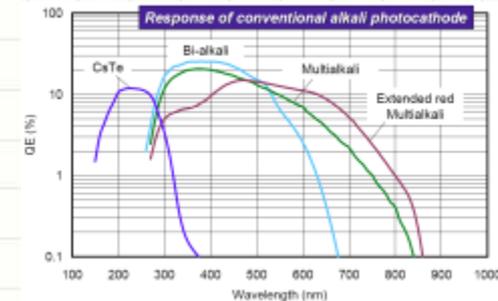
# Making a laser

- All laser oscillators (as opposed to amplifiers) have 3 parts:
- **Gain medium** – gas, solid state, liquid – what provides the lasing transition.
- **Pump** – source of energy to create population inversion – usually another light source e.g. flashlamp or another laser, can be electrical discharge or current.
- **Cavity** – need to recirculate photons to stimulate emission on lasing transition – often mirrors around gain medium, can be medium itself.
- Lasing threshold – when gain (no. photons emitted in round trip) exceeds loss (number lost to absorption, through mirrors etc.).
- And that's it!

courtesy Dr. L. Corner, University of Liverpool

# Typical laser pulse parameter requirements for RF gun photocathode

- Pulse energy, **> 10uJ** for Cs<sub>2</sub>Te
- Pulse duration, **~ 100fs – 10ps**
  - Space-charge limited
- Wavelength, **~ 250nm** for Cs<sub>2</sub>Te
  - Hence, High Harmonic Generation is needed
  - Conversion efficiency depends on pulse duration and harmonic
- Pulse repetition rate
  - Hz (machine), MHz (multi-bunch), GHz-THz (micro-bunch)
- Timing stability, **< 1ps** (~1 deg. RF phase (2.8GHz))
  - Stabilized and synchronized oscillator
  - Stabilized Laser Transport Line
- Pointing stability, smaller than rms spot size, typ **< 100um**.
  - Stabilized Laser Transport Line
  - Additional spatial filters
- Spatial and temporal pulse shaping
  - Pulse stacking
  - Micro-lens arrays
  - $\pi$ -shapers



# Typical technology (effectively dopants)

Ion	Common host crystals	Important emission wavelengths
<a href="#">neodymium</a> ( $\text{Nd}^{3+}$ )	$\text{Y}_3\text{Al}_5\text{O}_{12}$ ( <a href="#">YAG</a> ), $\text{YAlO}_3$ (YALO), $\text{YVO}_4$ (yttrium <a href="#">vanadate</a> ), $\text{YLiF}_4$ ( <a href="#">YLF</a> ), <a href="#">tungstates</a> ( $\text{KGd}(\text{WO}_4)_2$ , $\text{KY}(\text{WO}_4)_2$ )	1064, 1047, 1053, 1342, 946 nm
<a href="#">ytterbium</a> ( $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ )	<a href="#">YAG</a> , <a href="#">tungstates</a> (e.g. KGW, KYW, KLuW), <a href="#">YVO4</a> , borates (BOYS, GdCOB), apatites (SYS), sesquioxides ( $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ , $\text{Sc}_2\text{O}_3$ )	1030, 1020–1070 nm
<a href="#">erbium</a> ( $\text{Er}^{3+}$ )	YAG, YLF	2.9, 1.6 $\mu\text{m}$
<a href="#">thulium</a> ( $\text{Tm}^{3+}$ )	YAG	1.9–2.1 $\mu\text{m}$
<a href="#">holmium</a> ( $\text{Ho}^{3+}$ )	YAG	2.1, 2.94 $\mu\text{m}$
<a href="#">cerium</a> ( $\text{Ce}^{3+}$ )	YLF, LiCAF, LiLuF, LiSAF, and similar fluorides	0.28–0.33 $\mu\text{m}$
Ion	Common host crystals	Important emission wavelengths
titanium ( $\text{Ti}^{3+}$ )	<a href="#">sapphire</a>	650–1100 nm
<a href="#">chromium</a> (II) ( $\text{Cr}^{2+}$ )	zinc chalcogenides such as ZnS, ZnSe, and $\text{ZnS}_x\text{Se}_{1-x}$	2–3.4 $\mu\text{m}$
<a href="#">chromium</a> (III) ( $\text{Cr}^{3+}$ )	$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (ruby), $\text{LiSrAlF}_6$ (LiSAF), $\text{LiCaAlF}_6$ (LiCAF), $\text{LiSrGaF}_6$ (LiSGAF)	0.8–0.9 $\mu\text{m}$
<a href="#">chromium</a> (IV) ( $\text{Cr}^{4+}$ )	<a href="#">YAG</a> , $\text{MgSiO}_4$ (forsterite)	1.35–1.65 $\mu\text{m}$ (YAG), 1.1–1.37 $\mu\text{m}$ (forsterite)

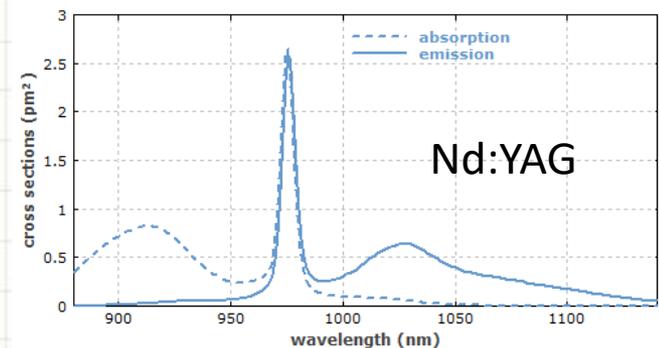
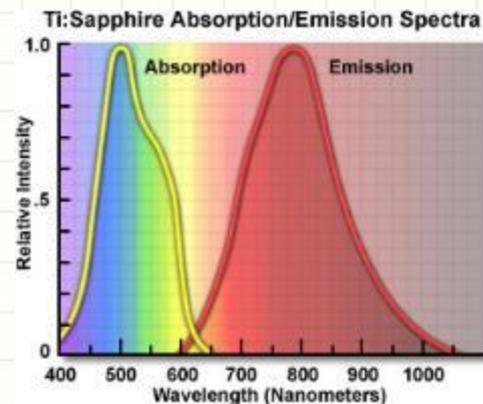
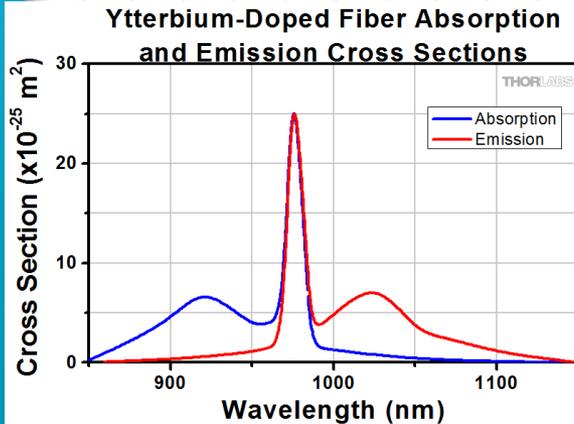


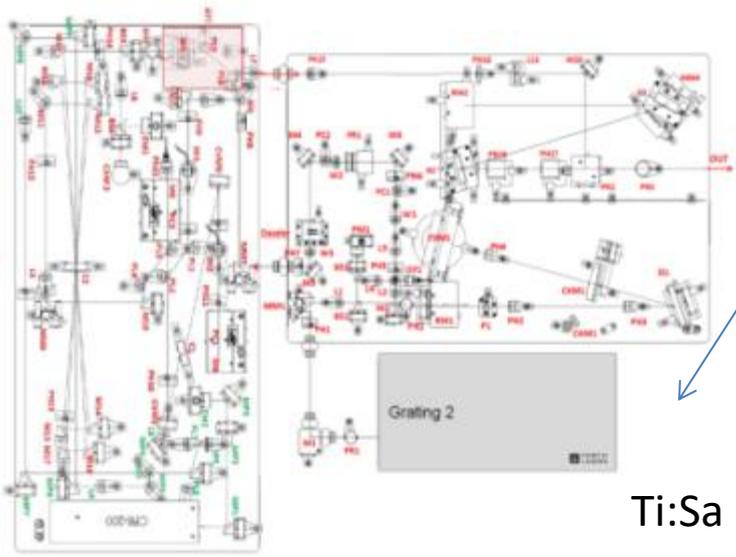
Figure 1

# RF Gun laser system technologies

## Solid-state-based technology

## Fiber-based technology

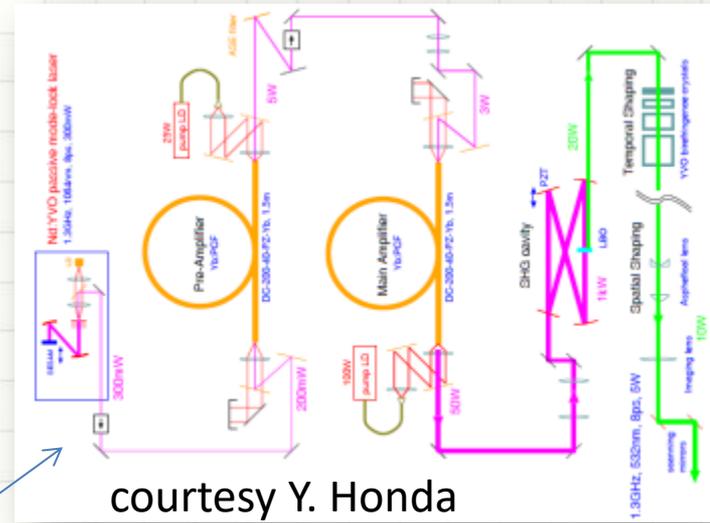
Yb-doped fiber for example



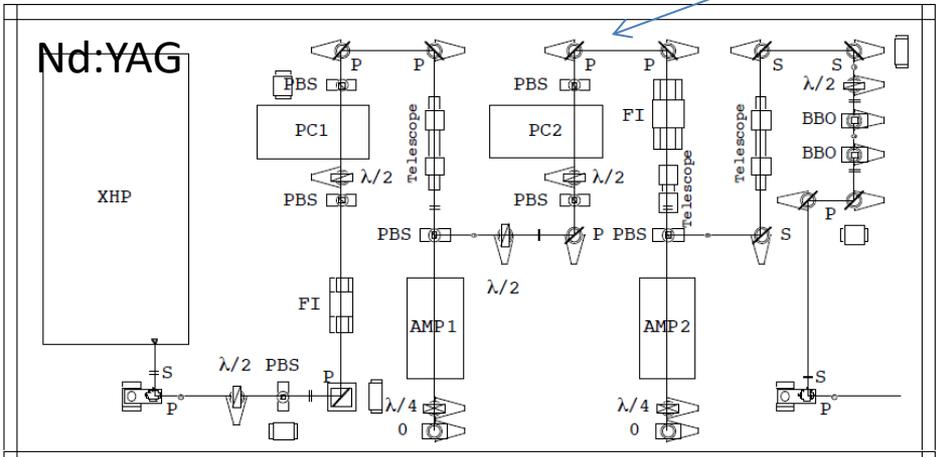
Hz rep.rate  
fs pulse  
High Energy  
Complexity

Hz rep.rate  
ps pulse  
High Energy  
Simplicity

Ti:Sa



courtesy Y. Honda



MHz rep.rate  
~100 fs pulse  
Low Energy  
Simplicity

A. Chong, W.H. Renninger, F. W. Wise, *Opt. Lett.* **33** (2008) 2638:

Numerical simulations of Yb-doped fiber lasers indicate that ~30 fs pulses are possible for a realistic design with off-the-shelf components. Experiments are constrained by the available pump power, but ~75 fs pulses are obtained. (just for oscillator !!!)

加速器 Er-doped fiber laser is also promising candidate

# What is so Special About ps-fs Lasers?

## Short optical pulse.

- Most of energy dissipation and transfer processes occur on the time scale larger than 100 fs.
- Femtosecond laser pulses enable one to generate electron bunches with similar durations (strongly related to generation of THz radiation).
- Specific laser system design approaches.
- Specific gain materials due to optical BW and efficiency with fs pulses.
- Specific pulse diagnostics.

## High peak power of the light

- $Peak\ Power = P.\ energy / P.\ duration$ 
  - 1 mJ pulse with 10 ns duration - **0.1 MW.**
  - 1 mJ pulse with 100 fs duration - **10 GW.**
- Non-linear response of the optical components(e.g., multi-photon absorption, optical harmonics generation, materials ablation, etc.)

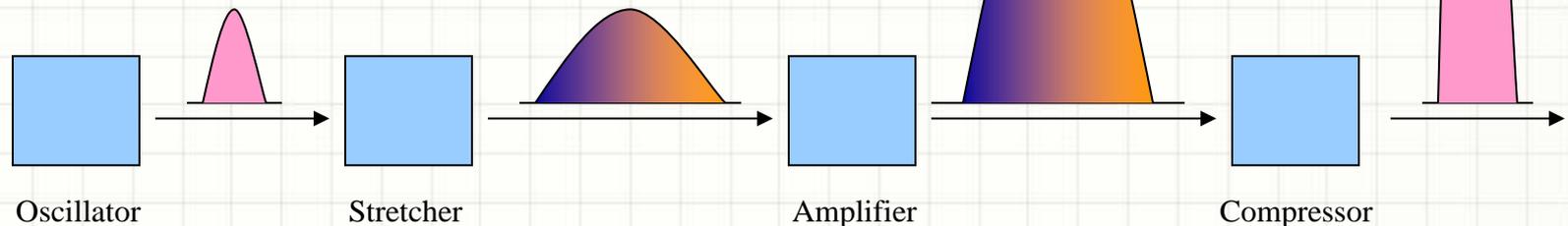
## Large bandwidth

- Broadband optical components (mirrors, etc)
- Achromatic lens, waveplates, etc.
- Higher demands for laser safety.

W. Kaiser, ed., “*Ultrashort Laser Pulses: Generation and Applications*”, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, **1993**

# Chirped pulse amplification concept

- Generate a stable (and locked to Acc. RF) sequence of fs pulses (Oscillator)
- Stretch femtosecond pulse to picoseconds level ( $> 100$  times)
- Pulse pickers, mode cleaners, etc
- Pre-amplify (typically RGA for Solid-state lasers)
- Amplify
- Recompress amplified pulse
- Generate Harmonics
- Deliver laser pulses to the photocathode
  - With additional spatial corrections and diagnostics

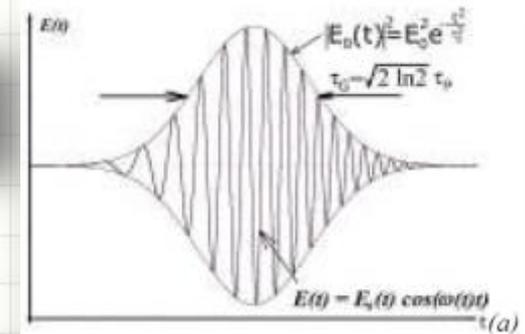


Same approach works for fiber lasers with the only difference in available components.

# Time-Frequency Relationship

- A pulse can be defined as a transient in a constant background. The shape of this pulse is the shape of this transient. Intuitively, the pulse shape can be represented by a Gaussian function. It is known that the Fourier transform of a Gaussian function is also a Gaussian function. The general time and frequency Fourier transforms of a pulse can be written as:

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E(\omega) e^{-i\omega t} d\omega \quad E(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} E(t) e^{i\omega t} dt$$



- The relationship between the duration and spectral bandwidth of the laser pulse can be written as:

$$\Delta\nu \Delta t \geq K$$

- where  $\Delta\nu$  is the frequency bandwidth measured at full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) with  $\omega = 2\pi\nu$  and  $\Delta t$  is the FWHM in time of the pulse and  $K$  is a number which depends only on the pulse shape.

Consider it as a homework ->

Function	$E(t)$	$K$
Gauss	$e^{-(t/t_0)^2/2}$	0.441
Hyperbolic secant	$1/\cosh(t/t_0)$	0.315
Lorentz	$1/[1 + (t/t_0)^2]^2$	0.142

- Thus in order to generate a laser pulse within femtosecond time domain one needs to use a broad spectral bandwidth. If the above equality is reached, one speaks about a **Fourier-transform-limited pulse** or simply a **transform-limited pulse**. One can also calculate the minimum time duration  $\Delta t$  of a pulse giving a spectrum with  $\Delta\lambda$  (nm) at FWHM, central wavelength  $\lambda_0$  (nm) and the speed of light (m/s)  $c$  as:

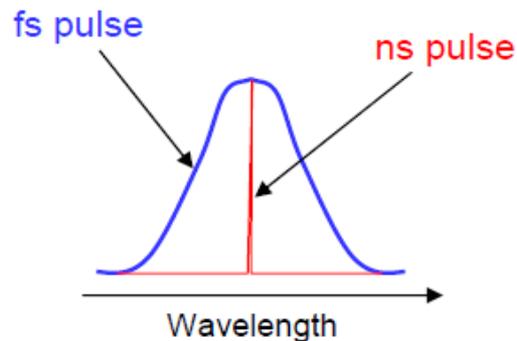
$$\Delta t \geq K \frac{\lambda_0^2}{\Delta\lambda \cdot c}$$

# Time-Frequency Relationship

Femtosecond laser pulses are usually Fourier transform-limited pulses

$\Delta\omega \cdot \Delta t \approx 2\pi$   $\longrightarrow$   $\Delta\omega \approx 2\pi/\Delta t$   $\longrightarrow$  Large spectral bandwidth for short pulses

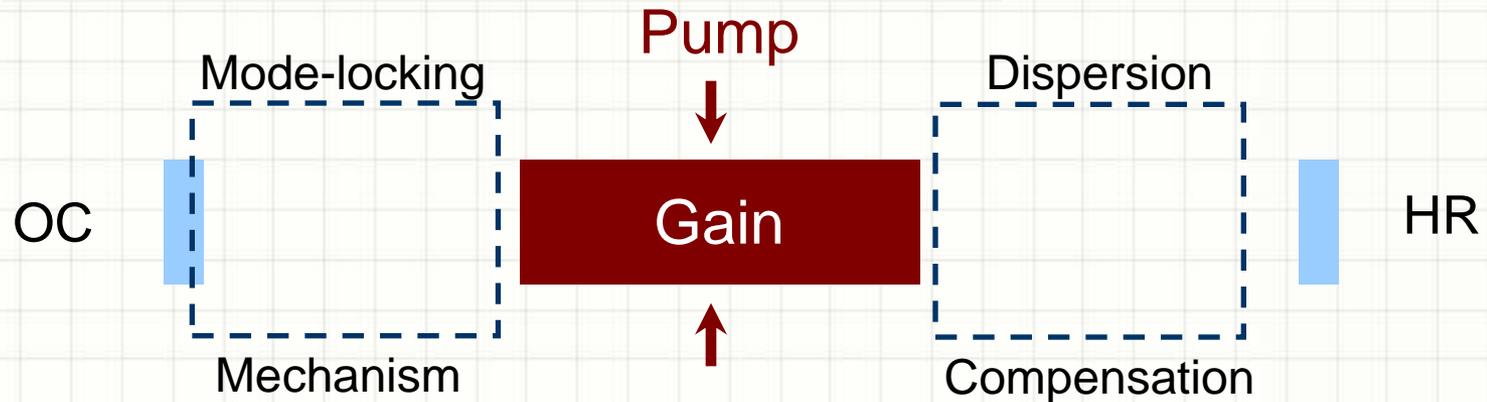
$$\Delta\lambda \approx \lambda^2 / (c\Delta t) \quad \Delta\lambda \approx 21 \text{ nm for } 100 \text{ fs pulses with } \lambda_0 = 800 \text{ nm}$$



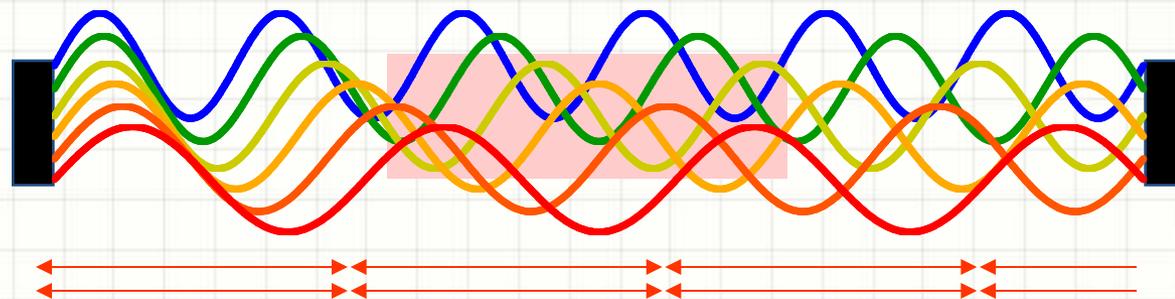
Large bandwidth limits the choice of the laser active medium (broad-band materials only, e.g., Ti:Sapphire, laser dyes) and laser cavity design (no bandwidth limiting elements, such as narrowband mirrors)

# Basic principles of ultrafast lasers

## Components of ultrafast laser system



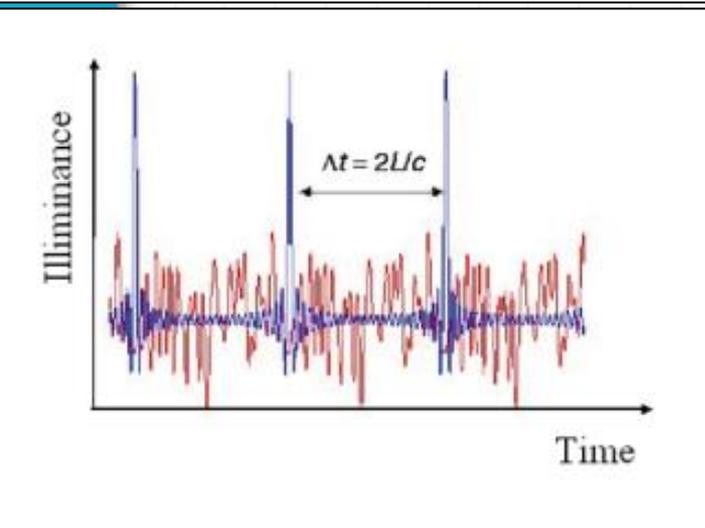
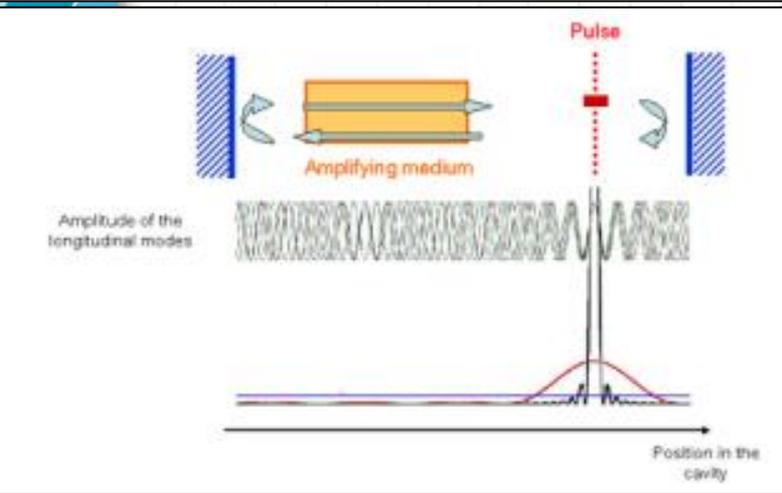
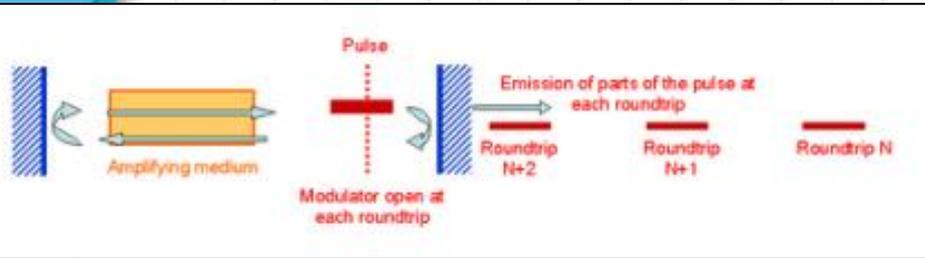
## Cavity modes



$$\lambda_n = 2L/n$$

$$\Delta f = c/2L$$

# Mode-locking

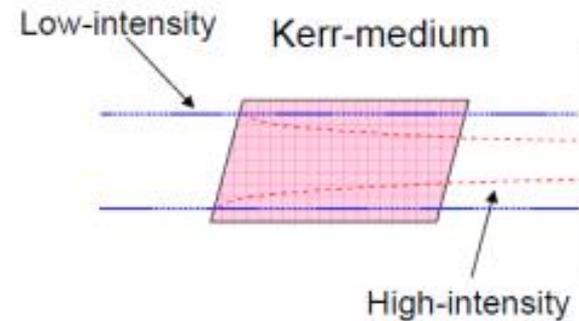


- Ignition
  - Dispersive pulse compression – external starting mechanism.
  - Instantaneous increase in net gain (Kerr lens) upon application of perturbation (mirror wobbling, truly self-starting).
- Passive mode-locking
  - Semiconductor Saturable Absorber Mirrors (SESAM), ps pulses
  - Kerr lens
  - Nonlinear polarization rotation(NLPR)
  - Q-switched Mode Locking, effectively instability.
- Active mode-locking
  - Periodic modulation of the resonator losses or of the round-trip phase change, achieved e.g. with an acousto-optic or electro-optic modulator, a Mach-Zehnder integrated-optic modulator, or a semiconductor electro-absorption modulator.

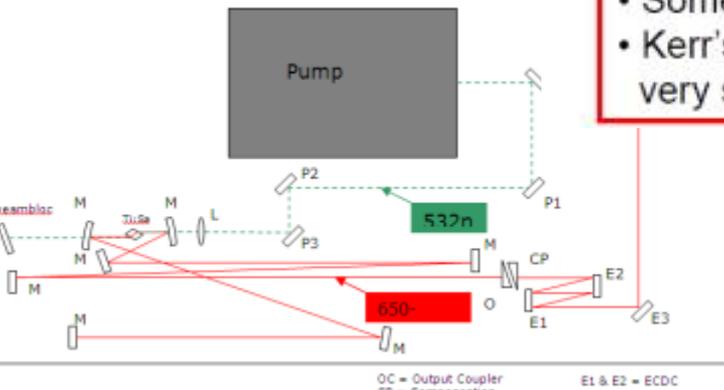
# Ti:Sa Oscillator

## Kerr-lens mode-locking

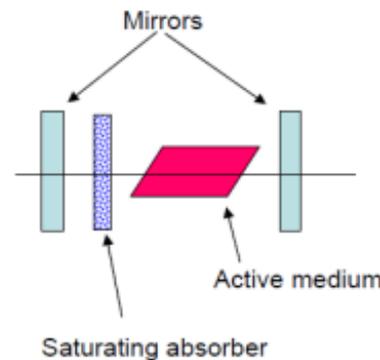
- Kerr's effect – intensity-dependent index of refraction:  $n = n_0 + n_2 I$
- The e/m field inside the laser cavity has Gaussian distribution of intensity which creates similar distribution of the refractive index.
- High-intensity beam is self-focused by the photoinduced lens.



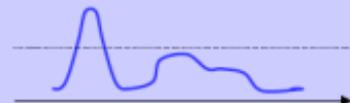
- High-intensity modes have smaller cross-section and are less lossy. Thus, Kerr-lens is similar to saturating absorber!
- Some lasing materials (e.g. Ti:Sapphire) can act as Kerr-media
- Kerr's effect is much faster than saturating absorber allowing one generate very short pulses (~5 fs).



## Saturating absorber technique



Initial noise "seed"



Time



Steady-state operation



Time

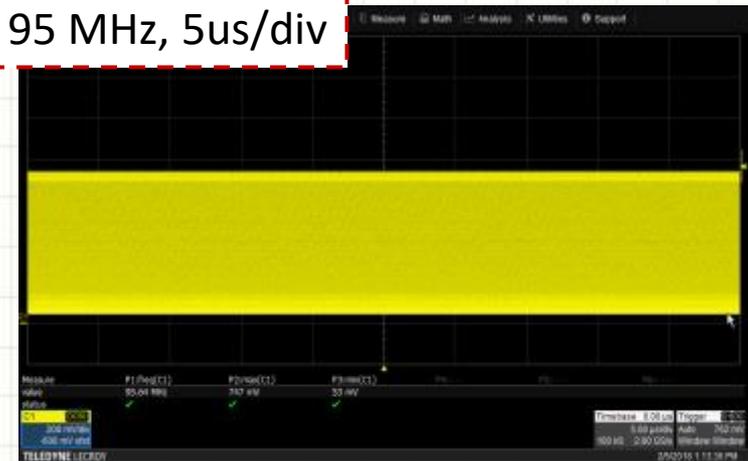


# Stability

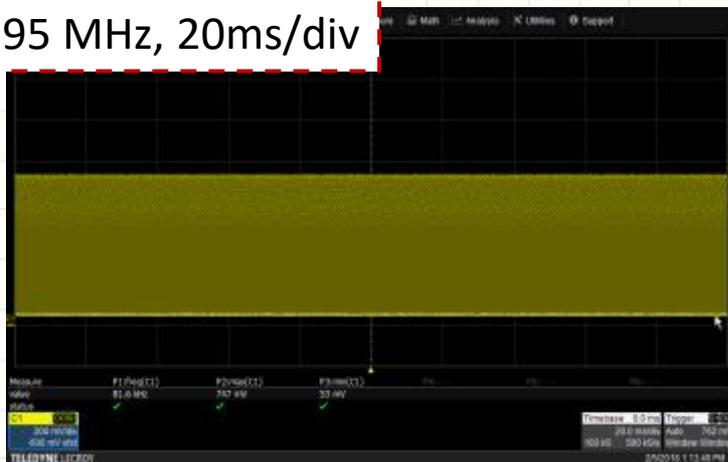
95 MHz, 20ns/div



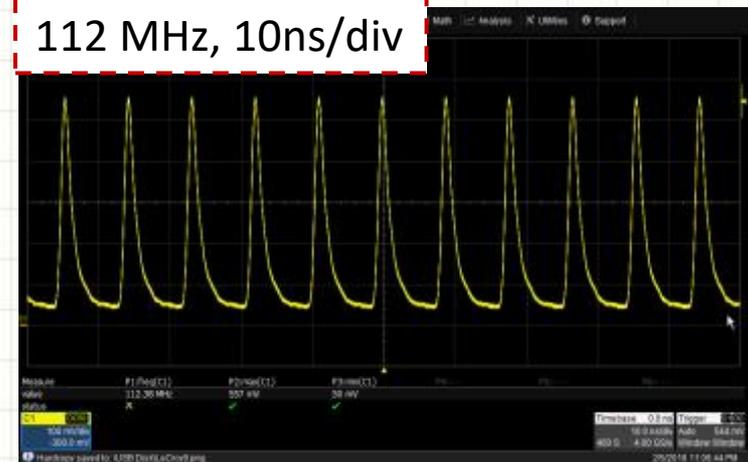
95 MHz, 5us/div



95 MHz, 20ms/div



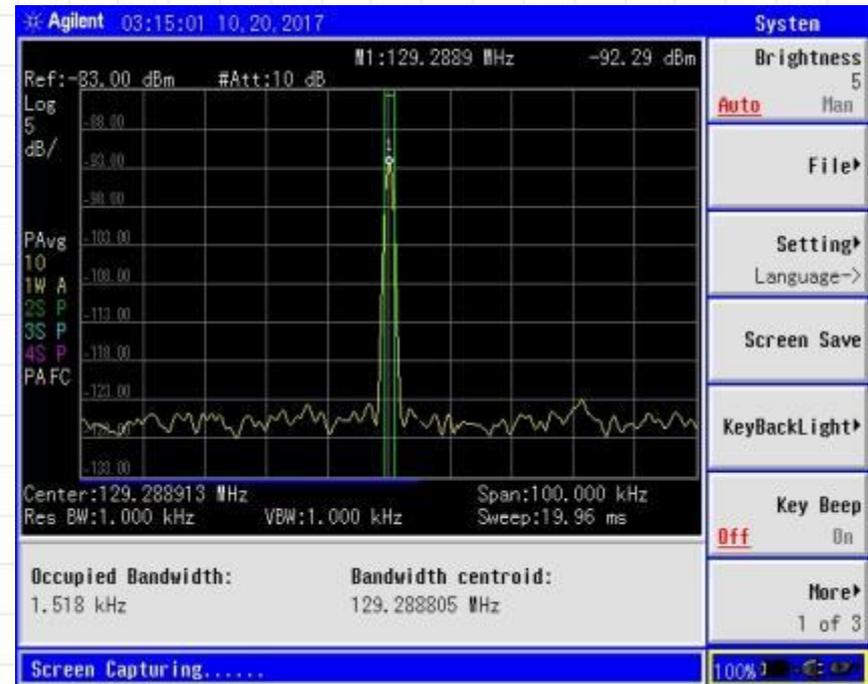
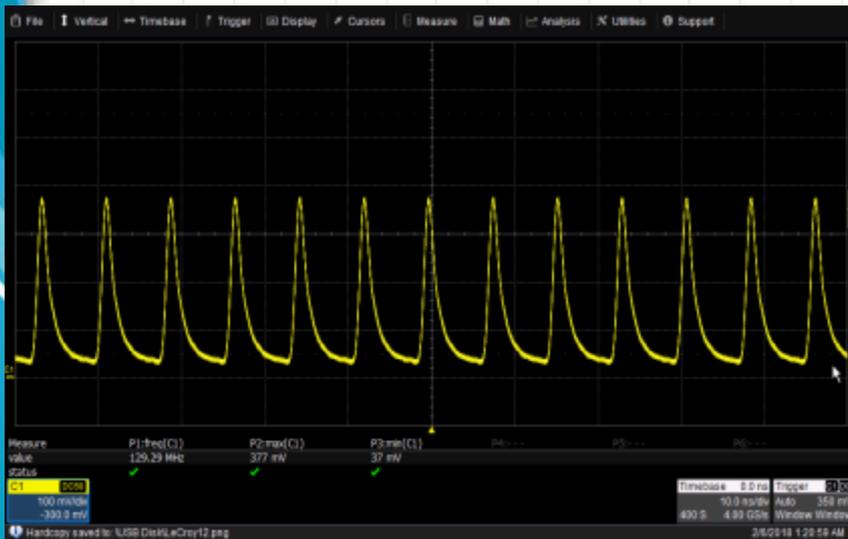
112 MHz, 10ns/div



# Rep.rate and BW

Output power was 110mW, rms stability 0.25%

129 MHz, 10ns/div

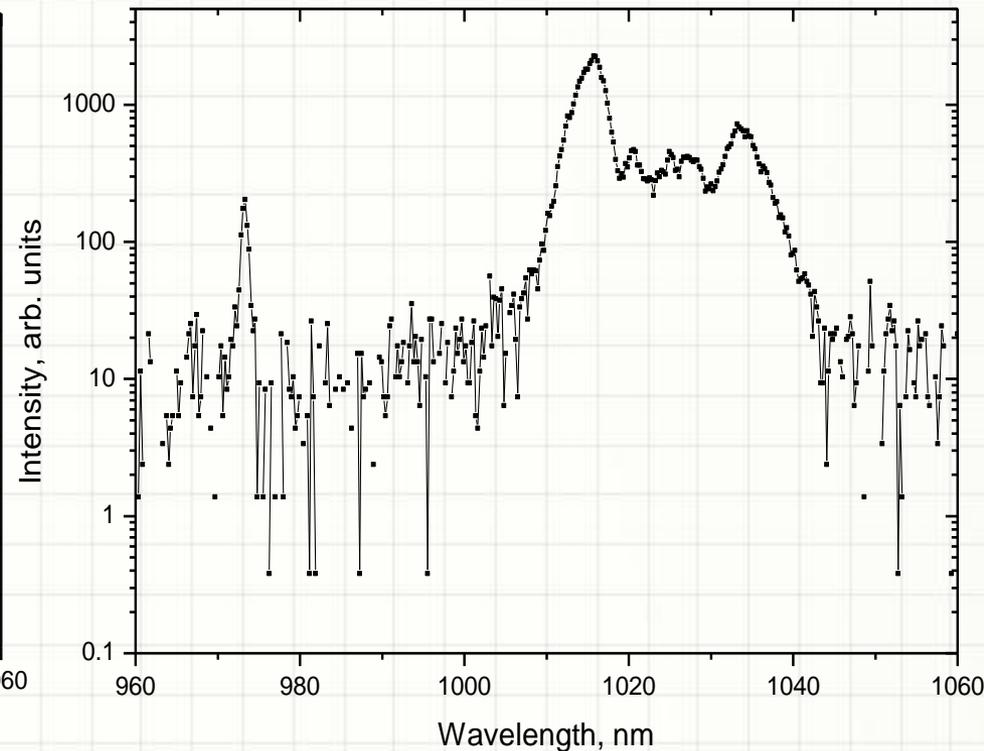
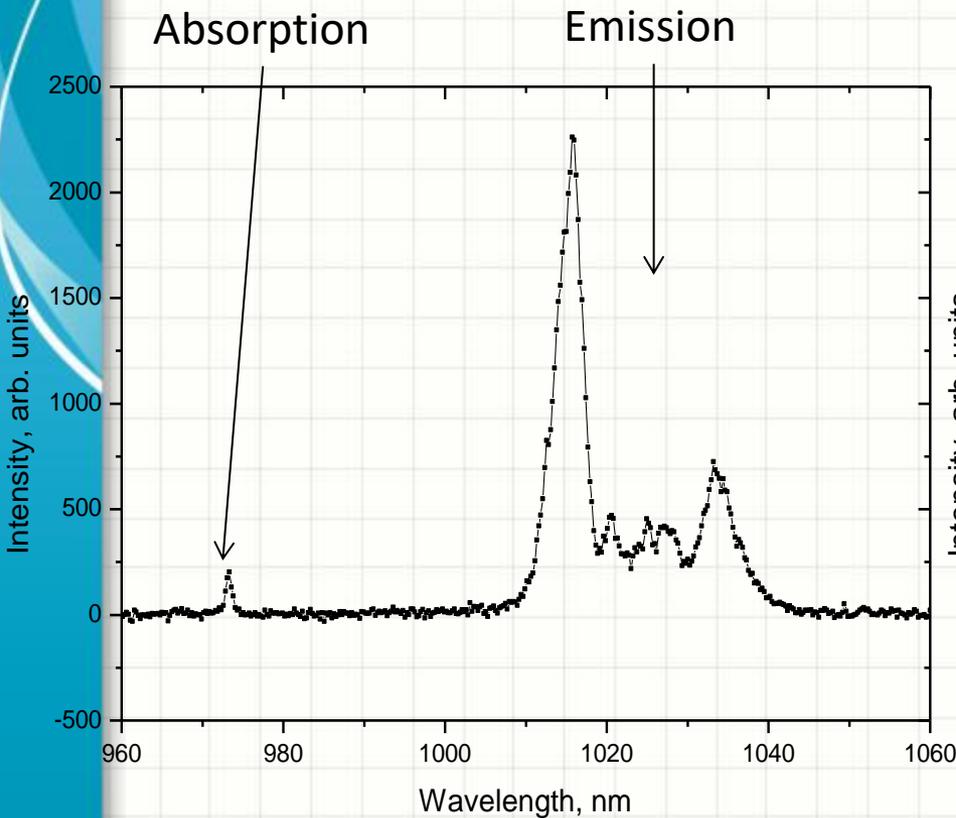


Contrast:  $37\text{mV}/377\text{mV} = 0.098$

# Spectral width

FWHM optical BW > 25nm

Further tuning should be applied to flatten peaks of emitted spectrum

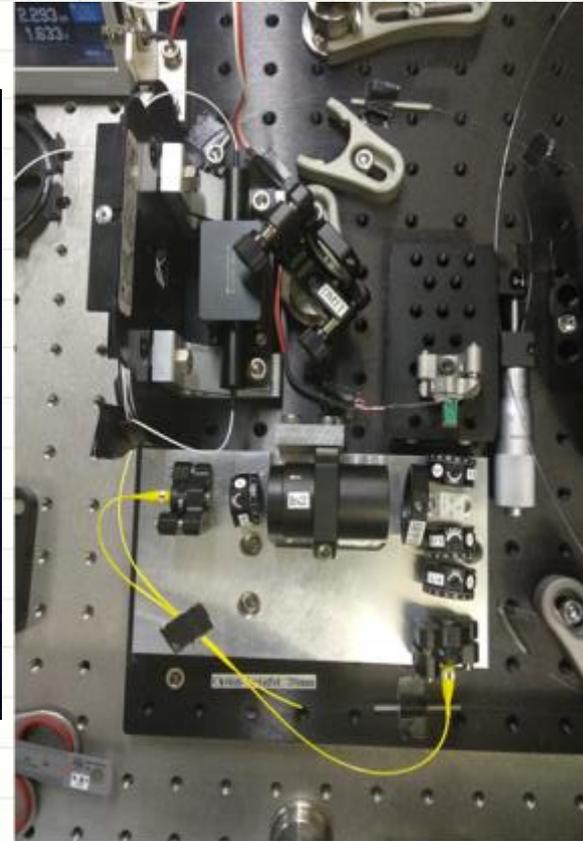
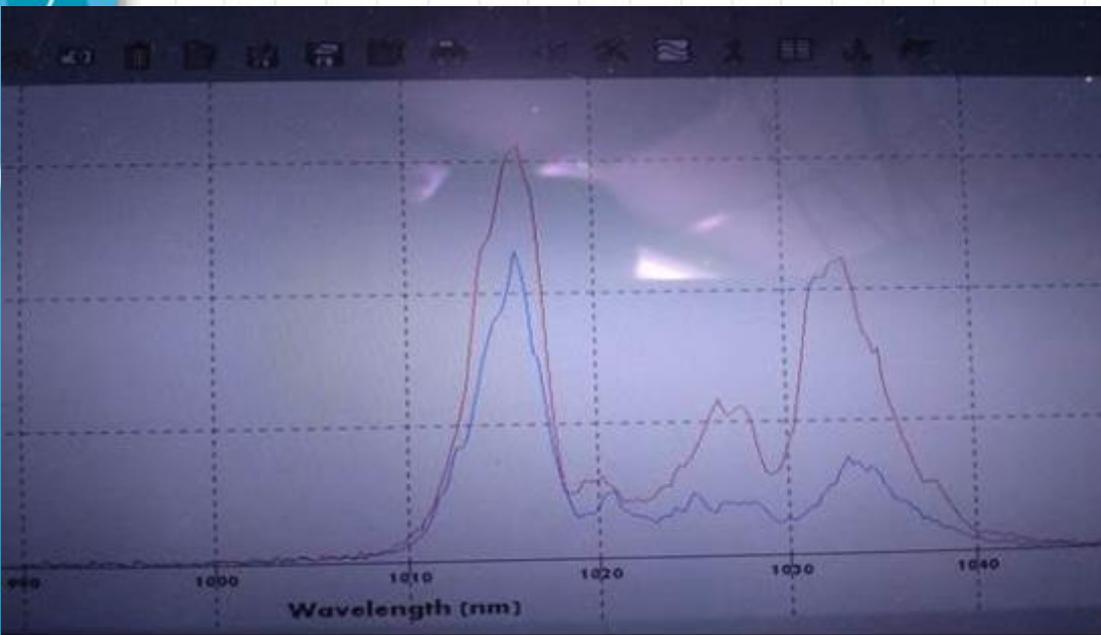


# Oscillator performance with small dielectric end-mirror

~ 135mW, 0.2% rms stability

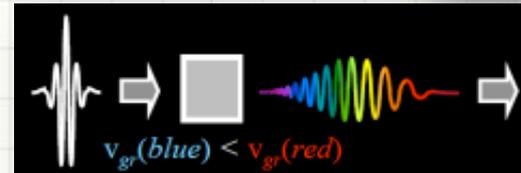
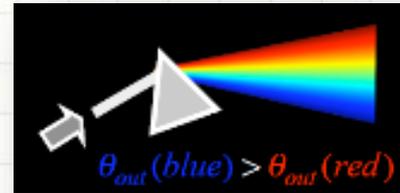


# Oscillator performance with small dielectric end-mirror



# Dispersion and Group velocity

- Dispersion in Optics: The dependence of the refractive index on wavelength has two effects on a pulse, one in space and the other in time.
- “Chirp”  $d^2n/d\lambda^2$  and “Angular dispersion”  $dn/d\lambda$
- Both of these effects play major roles in ultrafast optics.
- Dispersion disperses a pulse in space (angle):
- Dispersion also disperses a pulse in time:



## Group Velocity Dispersion (GVD)



- $v = c / n$  – speed of light in a medium
- $n$  – depends on wavelength,  $dn/d\lambda < 0$  – normal dispersion

$$v_g < v_{phase}$$

- Because of GVD, red components (longer wavelengths) of the pulse propagate faster than blue components (shorter wavelengths) leading to pulse stretching (aka “chirp”).
- GVD can be compensated by material with abnormal dispersion.

## Calculating group velocity vs. wavelength

We more often think of the refractive index in terms of wavelength, so let's write the group velocity in terms of the vacuum wavelength  $\lambda_0$ .

Use the chain rule:  $\frac{dn}{d\omega} = \frac{dn}{d\lambda_0} \frac{d\lambda_0}{d\omega}$

Now,  $\lambda_0 = 2\pi c_0 / \omega$ , so:  $\frac{d\lambda_0}{d\omega} = \frac{-2\pi c_0}{\omega^2} = \frac{-2\pi c_0}{(2\pi c_0 / \lambda_0)^2} = \frac{-\lambda_0^2}{2\pi c_0}$

Recalling that:  $v_g = \left(\frac{c_0}{n}\right) \left[1 + \frac{\omega}{n} \frac{dn}{d\omega}\right]$

we have:  $v_g = \left(\frac{c_0}{n}\right) \left[1 + \frac{2\pi c_0}{n\lambda_0} \left\{\frac{dn}{d\lambda_0} \left(\frac{-\lambda_0^2}{2\pi c_0}\right)\right\}\right]$

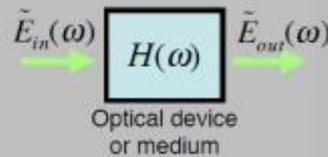
or:

$$v_g = \left(\frac{c_0}{n}\right) \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_0}{n} \frac{dn}{d\lambda_0}\right)$$

# Group-Velocity Dispersion

## Spectral Phase and Optical Devices

Recall that the effect of a linear passive optical device (i.e., lenses, prisms, etc.) on a pulse is to **multiply** the frequency-domain field by a transfer function:



$$\tilde{E}_{out}(\omega) = H(\omega) \tilde{E}_{in}(\omega)$$

where  $H(\omega)$  is the transfer function of the device/medium:

$$H(\omega) = B_H(\omega) \exp[-i\phi_H(\omega)]$$

$\exp[-\alpha(\omega)L/2]$  for a medium

Since we also write  $E(\omega) = \sqrt{S(\omega)} \exp[-i\phi(\omega)]$ , the spectral phase of the output light will be:

$$\phi_{out}(\omega) = \phi_H(\omega) + \phi_{in}(\omega)$$

We simply add spectral phases.

Note that we CANNOT add the temporal phases!

$$\phi_{out}(t) \neq \phi_H(t) + \phi_{in}(t)$$

## The Group-Velocity Dispersion (GVD)

The phase due to a medium is:  $\phi_H(\omega) = n(\omega) k L = k(\omega) L$

To account for dispersion, expand the phase (k-vector) in a Taylor series:

$$k(\omega)L = k(\omega_0)L + k'(\omega_0)[\omega - \omega_0]L + \frac{1}{2}k''(\omega_0)[\omega - \omega_0]^2 L + \dots$$

$$k(\omega_0) = \frac{\omega_0}{v_\phi(\omega_0)} \quad k'(\omega_0) = \frac{1}{v_g(\omega_0)} \quad k''(\omega) = \frac{d}{d\omega} \left[ \frac{1}{v_g} \right]$$

The first few terms are all related to important quantities.

The third one is new: the variation in group velocity with frequency:

$$k''(\omega) = \frac{d}{d\omega} \left[ \frac{1}{v_g} \right]$$

is the "group velocity dispersion."

## The effect of group velocity dispersion

- GVD means that the group velocity will be different for different wavelengths in the pulse.
- Because ultrashort pulses have such large bandwidths, GVD is a bigger issue than for cw light.

# GVD yields group delay dispersion (GDD). Manipulating the phase of light

We can define delays in terms of the velocities and the medium length  $L$ .

The phase delay:

$$k(\omega_0) = \frac{\omega_0}{v_\phi(\omega_0)} \quad \text{so:} \quad t_\phi = \frac{L}{v_\phi(\omega_0)} = \frac{k(\omega_0)L}{\omega_0}$$

The group delay:

$$k'(\omega_0) = \frac{1}{v_g(\omega_0)} \quad \text{so:} \quad t_g(\omega_0) = \frac{L}{v_g(\omega_0)} = k'(\omega_0)L$$

The group delay dispersion (GDD):

$$k''(\omega) = \frac{d}{d\omega} \left[ \frac{1}{v_g} \right] \quad \text{so:} \quad \boxed{GDD = \frac{d}{d\omega} \left[ \frac{1}{v_g} \right] L = k''(\omega)L}$$

$GDD = GVD L$

Units: fs<sup>2</sup> or fs/Hz

## Propagation of the pulse manipulates it.

Dispersive pulse broadening is unavoidable.



If  $\phi_2$  is the pulse 2<sup>nd</sup>-order spectral phase on entering a medium, and  $k''L$  is the 2<sup>nd</sup>-order spectral phase of the medium, then the resulting pulse 2<sup>nd</sup>-order phase will be the sum:  $\phi_2 + k''L$ .

A linearly chirped input pulse has 2<sup>nd</sup>-order phase:  $\phi_{2,in} = \frac{\beta/2}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}$  (This result pulls out the 1/2 in the Taylor Series.)

Emerging from a medium, its 2<sup>nd</sup>-order phase will be:

$$\phi_{2,out} = \frac{\beta/2}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2} + GDD = \frac{\beta/2}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2} + \frac{\lambda_0^3}{2\pi c_0^2} \frac{d^2 n}{d\lambda_0^2} L$$

← This result, with the spectrum, can be inverse Fourier-transformed to yield the pulse.

A positively chirped pulse will broaden further; a negatively chirped pulse will shorten.

Too bad material GDD is always positive in the visible and near-IR...

Recall that we expand the spectral phase of the pulse in a Taylor Series:

$$\phi(\omega) = \phi_0 + \phi_1 [\omega - \omega_0] + \phi_2 [\omega - \omega_0]^2 / 2! + \dots$$

and we do the same for the spectral phase of the optical medium,  $H$ :

$$\phi_H(\omega) = \underbrace{\phi_{H0}}_{\text{phase}} + \underbrace{\phi_{H1}}_{\text{group delay}} [\omega - \omega_0] + \underbrace{\phi_{H2}}_{\text{group delay dispersion (GDD)}} [\omega - \omega_0]^2 / 2! + \dots$$

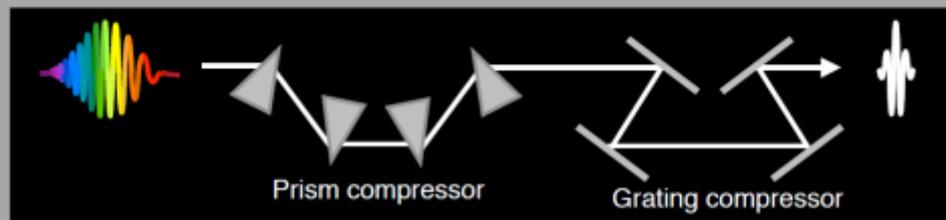
So, to manipulate light, we must add or subtract **spectral-phase terms**.

For example, to eliminate the linear chirp (second-order spectral phase), we must design an optical device whose second-order spectral phase cancels that of the pulse:

$$\phi_2 + \phi_{H2} = 0 \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \left. \frac{d^2 \phi}{d\omega^2} \right|_{\omega_0} + \left. \frac{d^2 \phi_H}{d\omega^2} \right|_{\omega_0} = 0$$

## Compensating 2nd and 3rd-order spectral phase

Use both a prism and a grating compressor. Since they have 3rd-order terms with opposite signs, they can be used to achieve almost arbitrary amounts of both second- and third-order phase.



Given the 2<sup>nd</sup>- and 3<sup>rd</sup>-order phases of the input pulse,  $\phi_{input2}$  and  $\phi_{input3}$ , solve simultaneous equations:

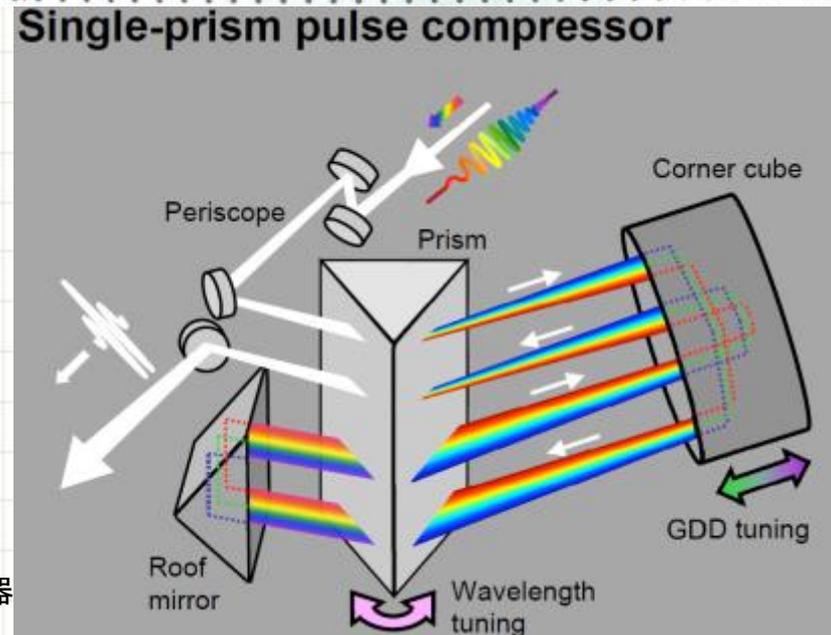
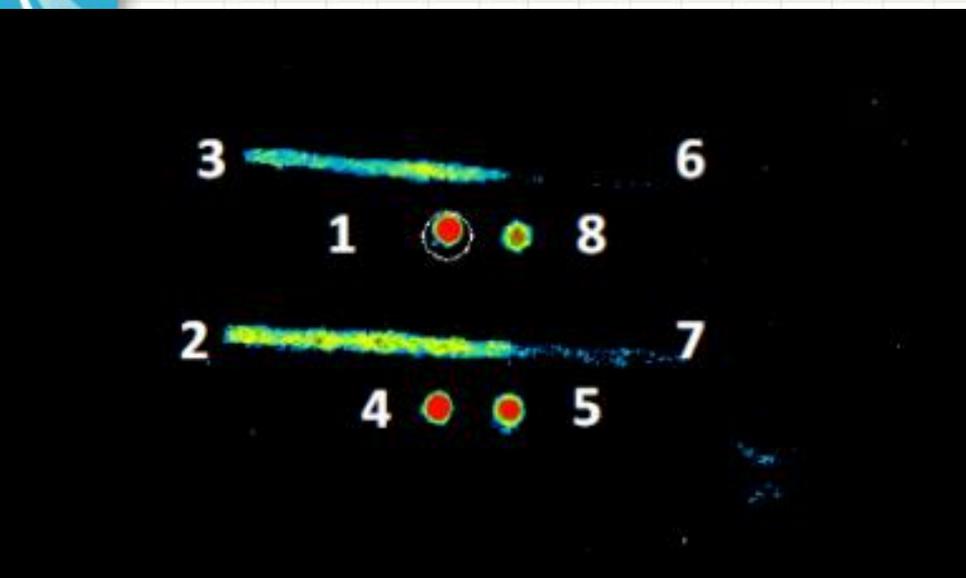
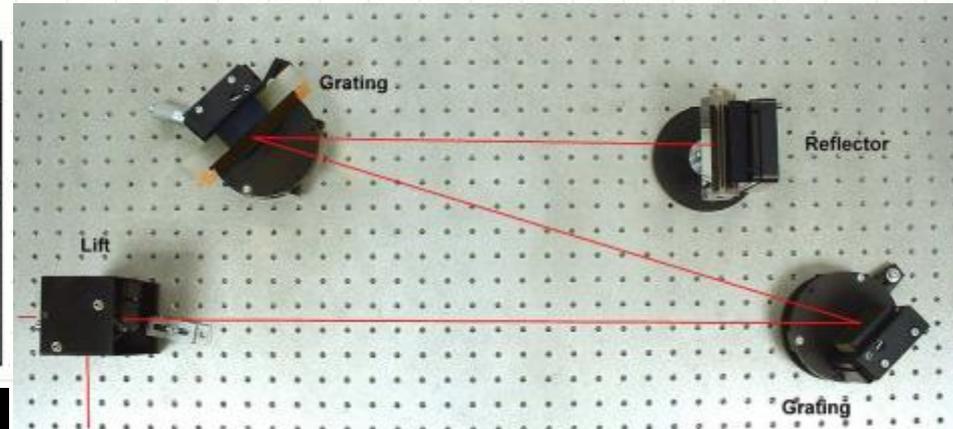
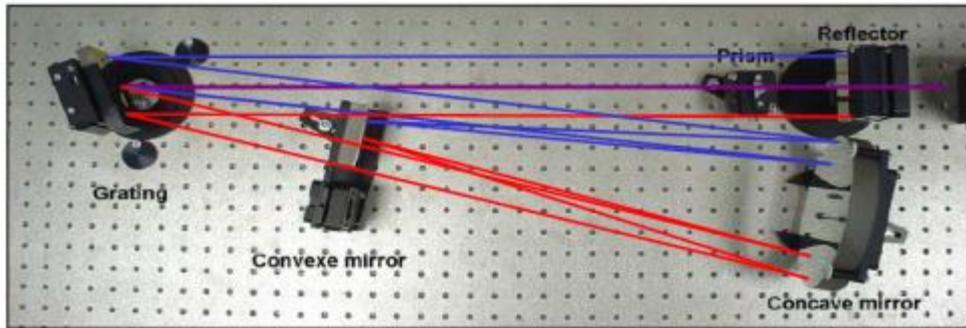
$$\phi_{input2} + \phi_{prism2} + \phi_{grating2} = 0$$

$$\phi_{input3} + \phi_{prism3} + \phi_{grating3} = 0$$

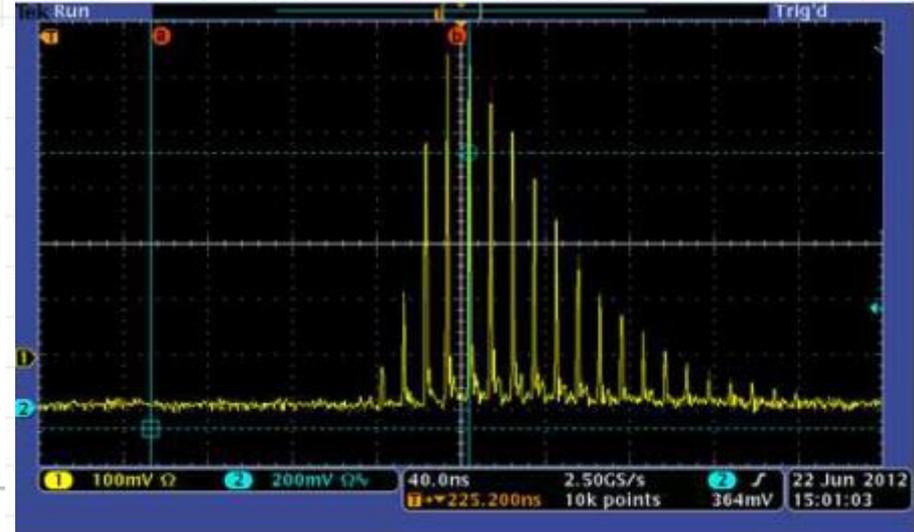
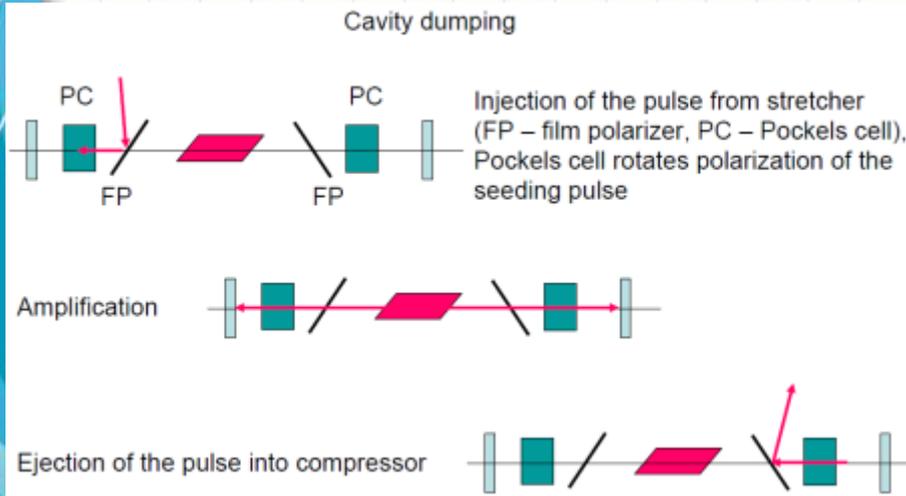
This design was used by Fork and Shank at Bell Labs in the mid 1980's to achieve a 6-fs pulse, a record that stood for over a decade.

# Stretcher and Compressor

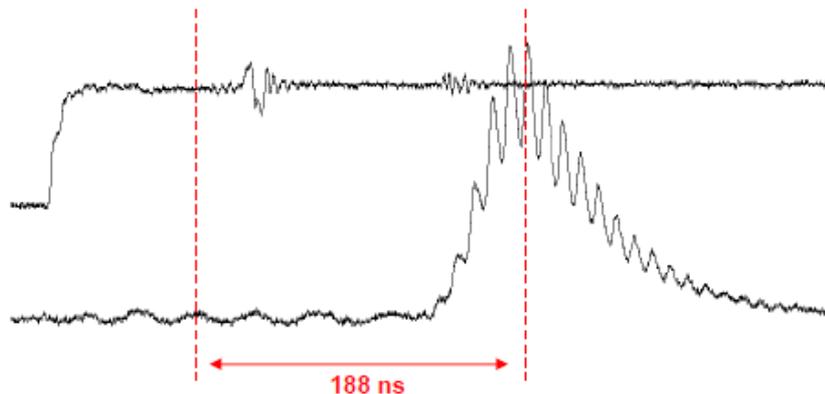
“Aberration-free stretcher design for ultra-short pulse amplification” G. Cheriaux, F. Salin and al. OPTICS LETTERS March 15 1996



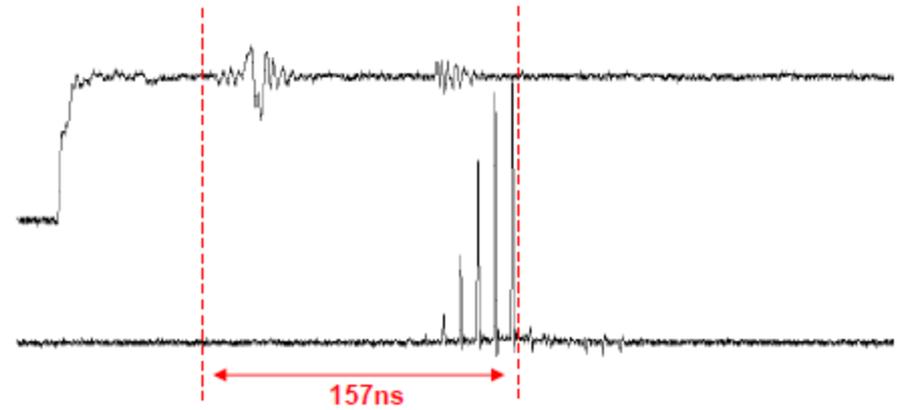
# Pre-amplifier. RGA



\*Build-up time is measured prior to the seeding Pockels cell activation

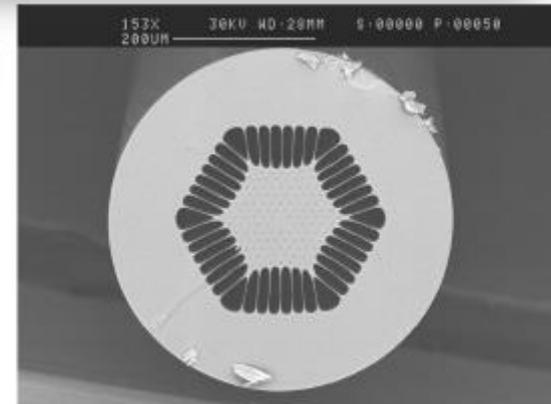
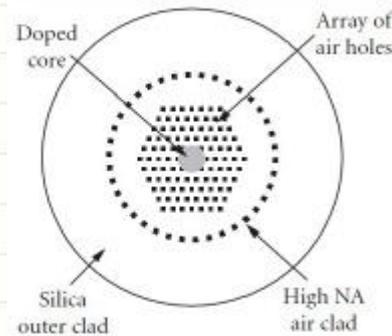
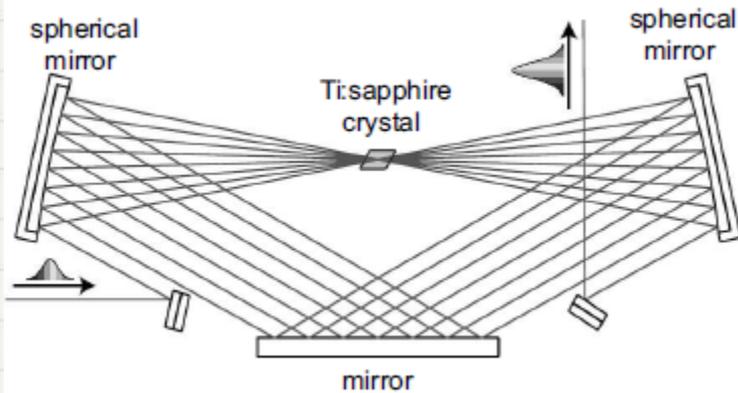
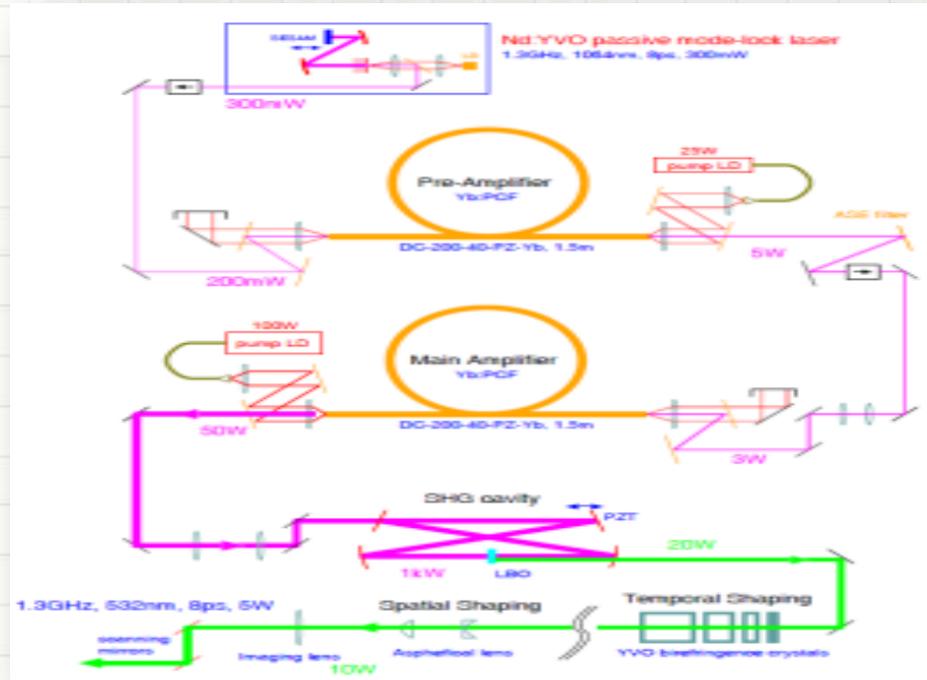
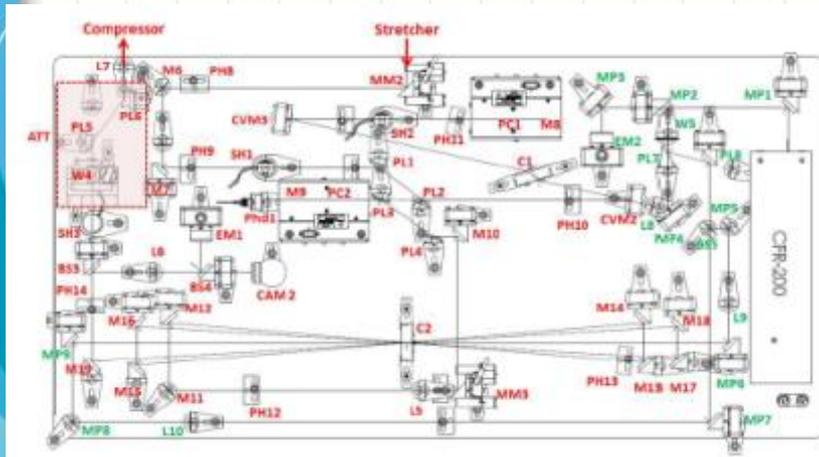


Free running time build-up time

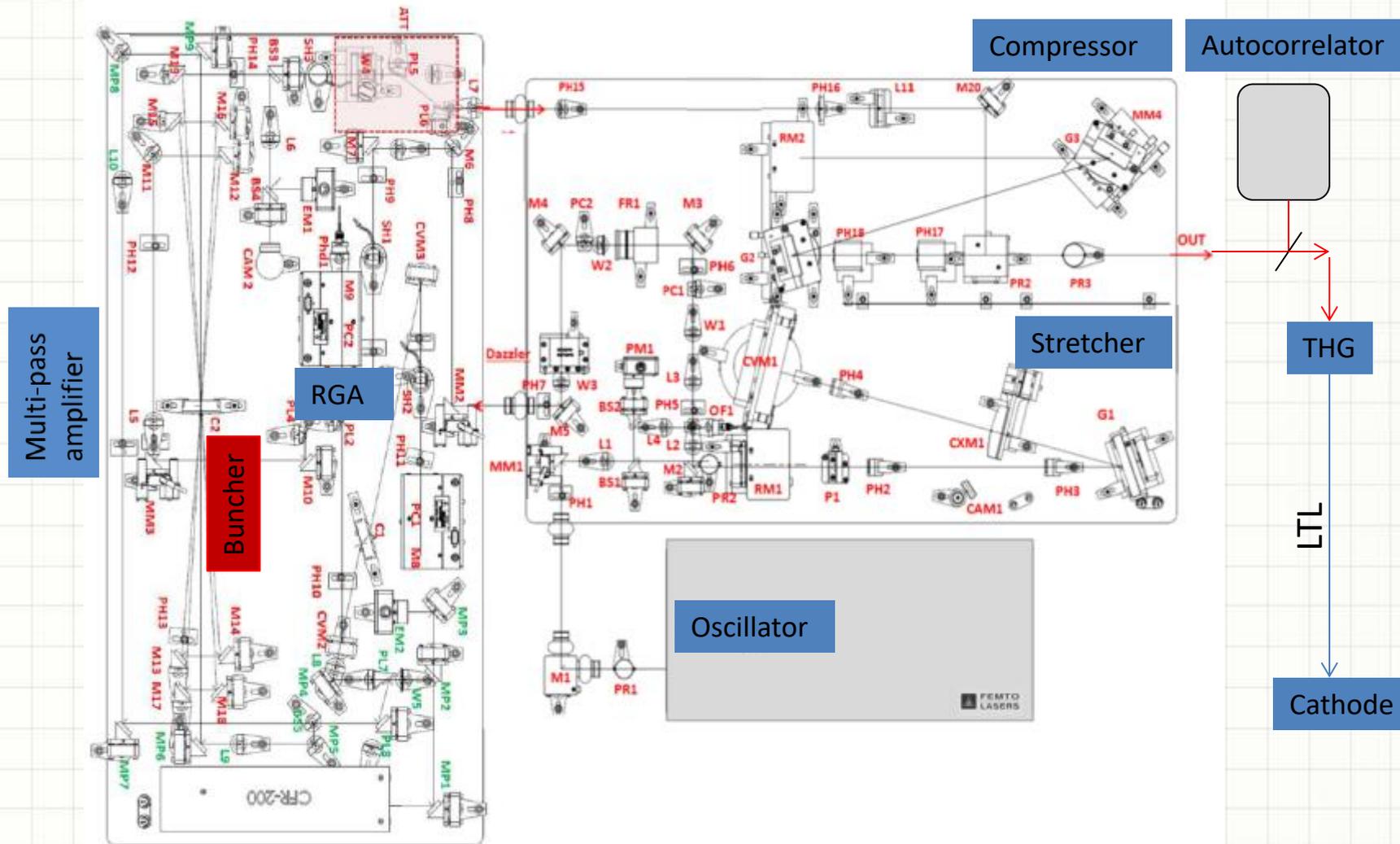


Seeded build-up time and extracted

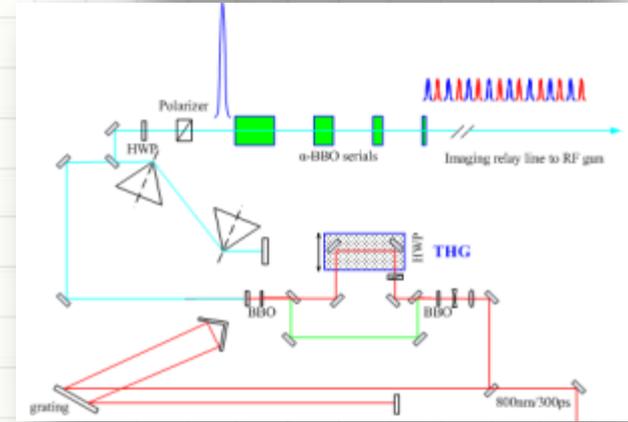
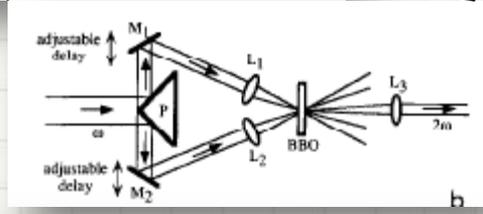
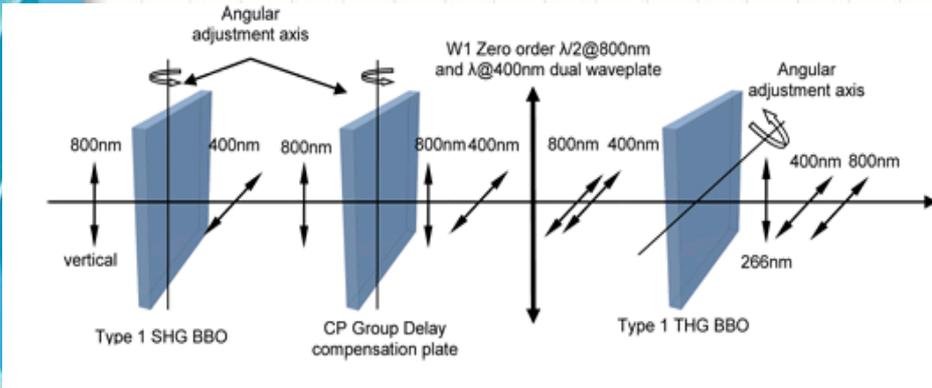
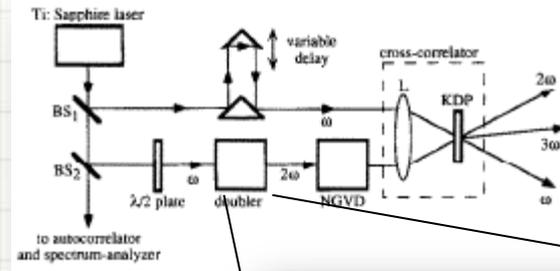
# Amplifier



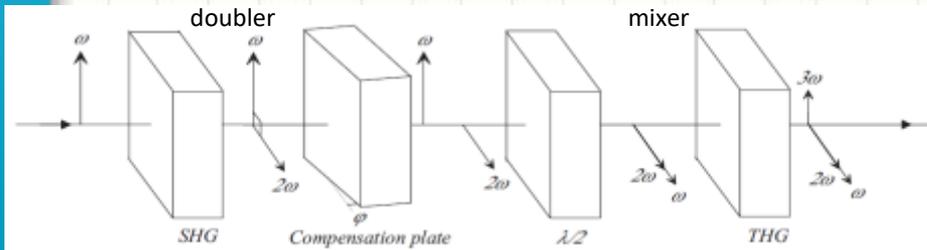
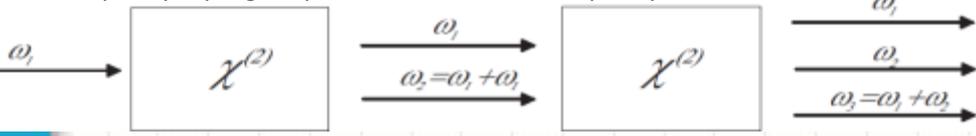
# Ti:Sa Laser system: general layout



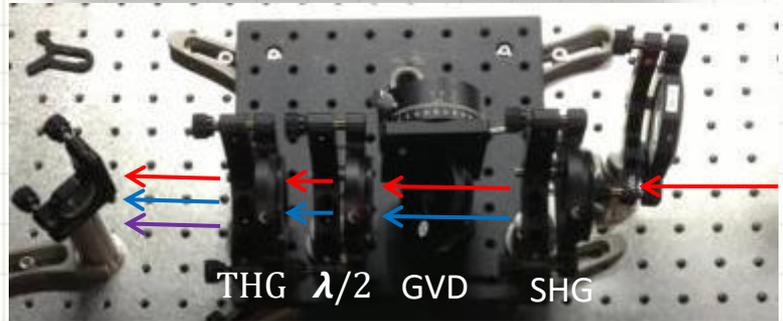
# Harmonics



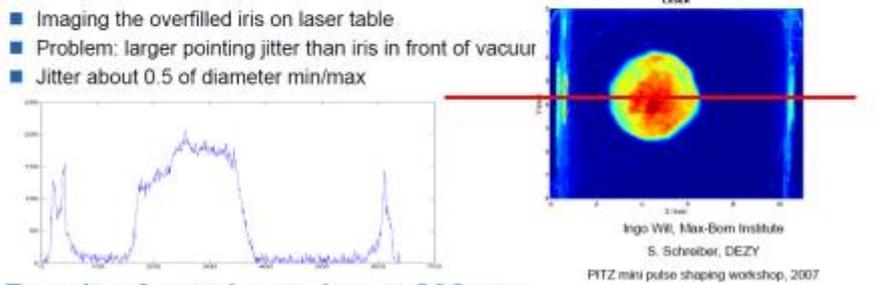
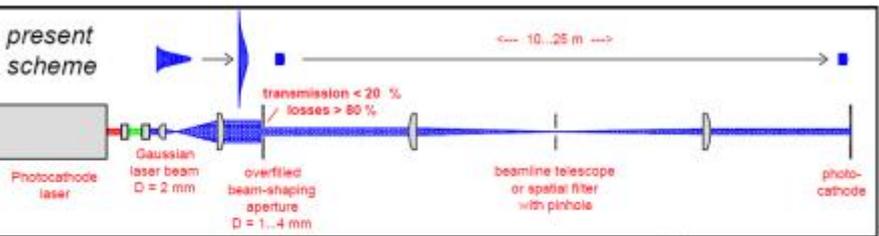
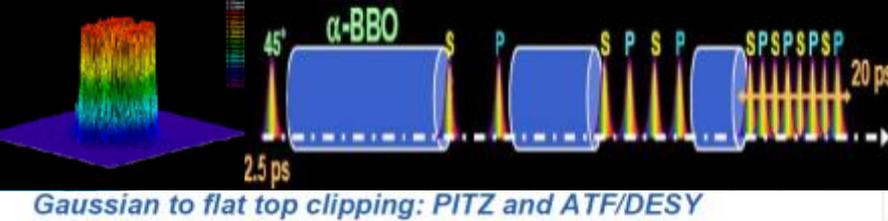
Frequency tripling is a process of a nonlinear frequency conversion.



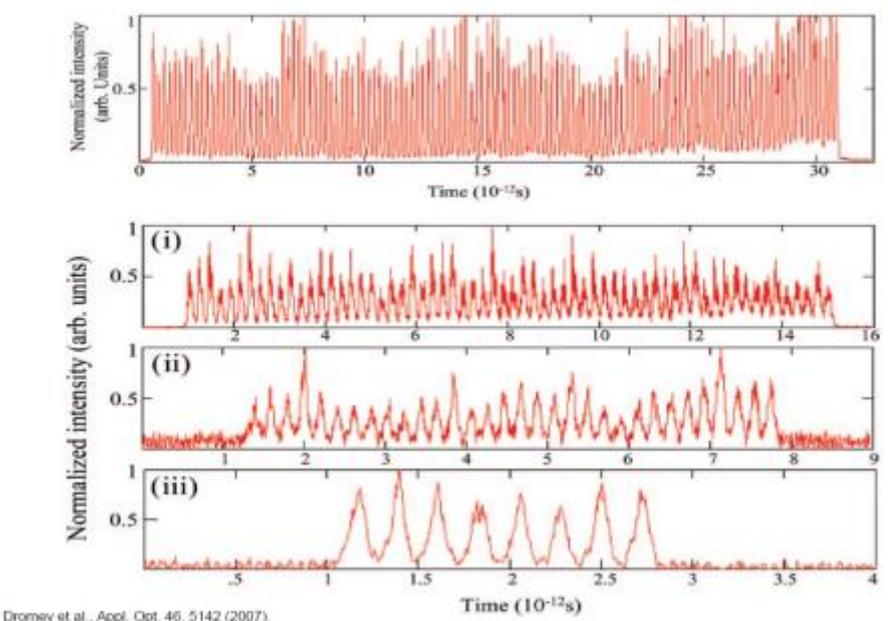
BBO, Type1 $\theta = 29.2\text{deg}$ $\psi \sim 90\text{deg}$ $L = 0.2\text{mm}$	Calcite $\psi = 45\text{deg}$ $L = 1.7\text{mm}$	Achromatic Half-wave plate $\psi \sim 90\text{deg}$ $L = 2\text{mm}$	BBO, Type1 $\theta = 44.3\text{deg}$ $\psi \sim 90\text{deg}$ $L = 0.05\text{mm}$
---	--	---	--



- C. Radzewicz, Optics communications 117 (1995) 295-302.
- Lixin YAN, Preliminary Experiments on Ultrashort Bunch Train Production by UV Pulse Stacking, Tsinghua University

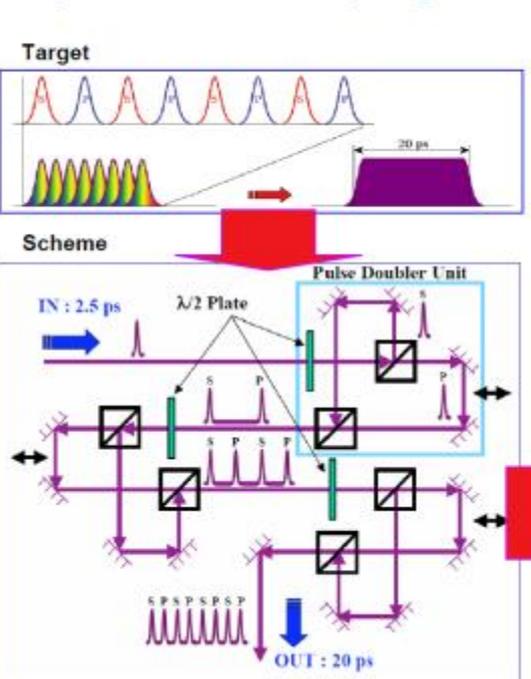


**Results, for pulse trains at 800 nm**



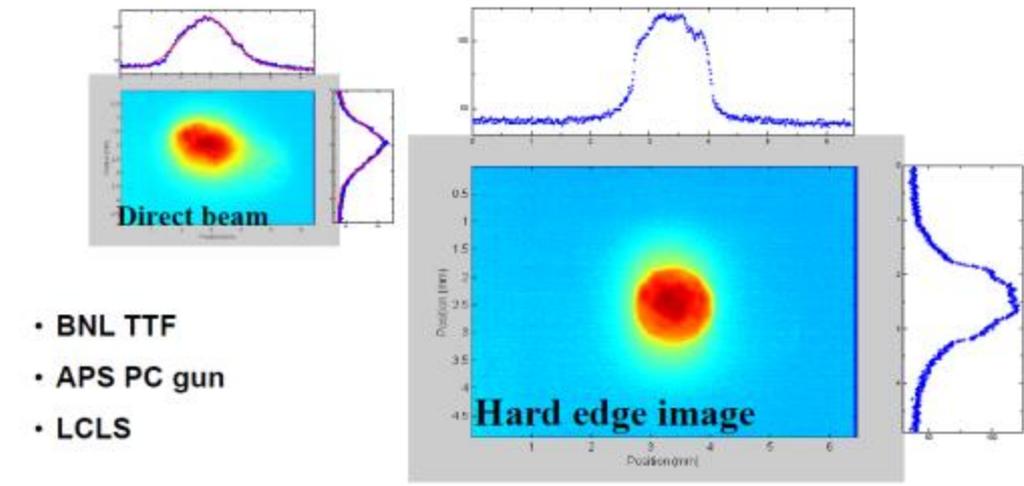
Dromey et al., Appl. Opt. 46, 5142 (2007)

**Implementation at Spring8**

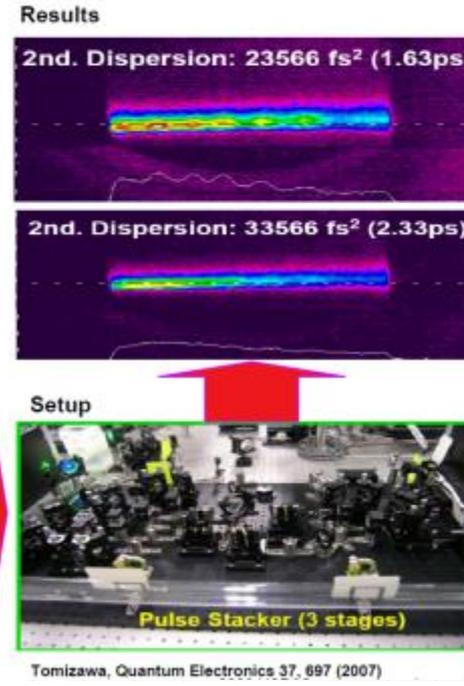


**Beam clipping**

- Slef-explaining but obvious far from perfect and low efficiency

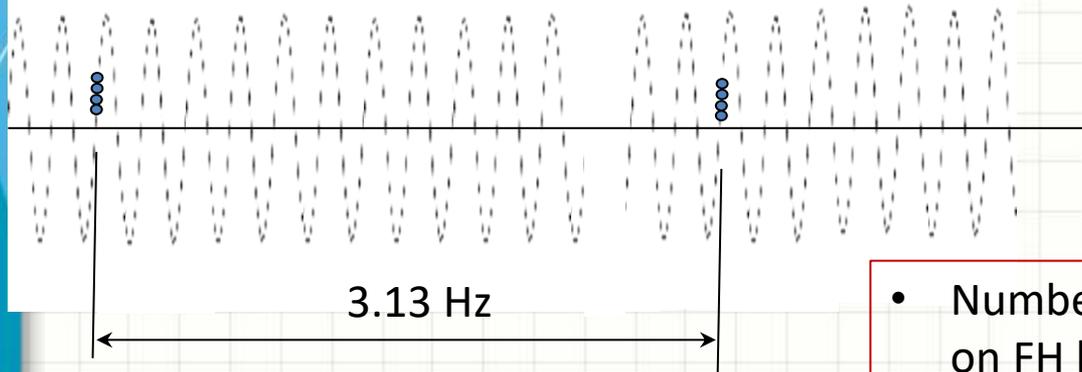


Y. LI, APS



# Multi-micro-bunch, concept

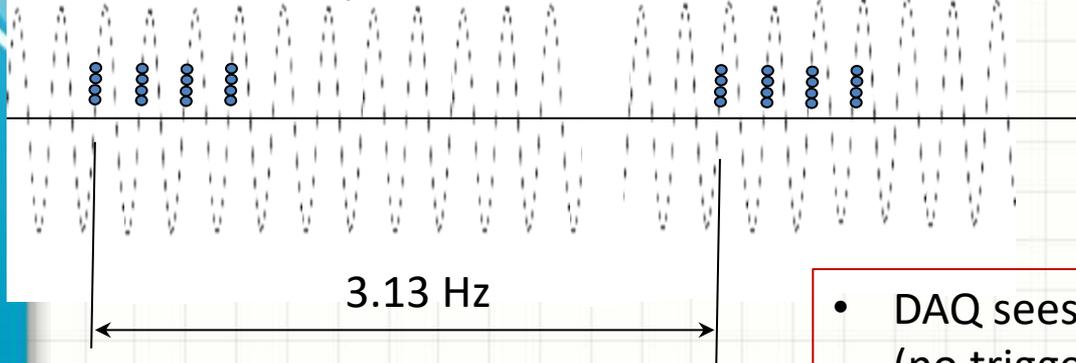
RF, 2856 MHz



4 micro-bunches  
1 multi-bunch (1 RF bucket)

- Number of filled RF buckets depends only on FH laser energy budget
- Non-sequential RF bucket filling is possible

RF, 2856 MHz



4 micro-bunches  
4 multi-bunch (4 RF buckets)

- DAQ sees this micro-train as a single event (no trigger modification is required)
- Micro-bunch spacing changing simultaneously in all buckets

RF bucket period  $\sim 350$ ps

# “Buncher”, second (current) prototype

General scheme of 16-buncher

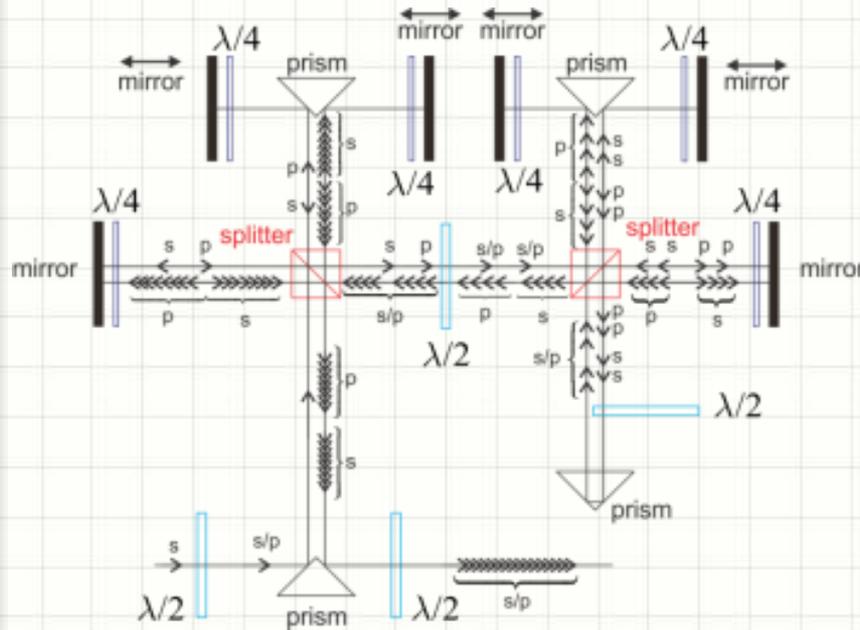
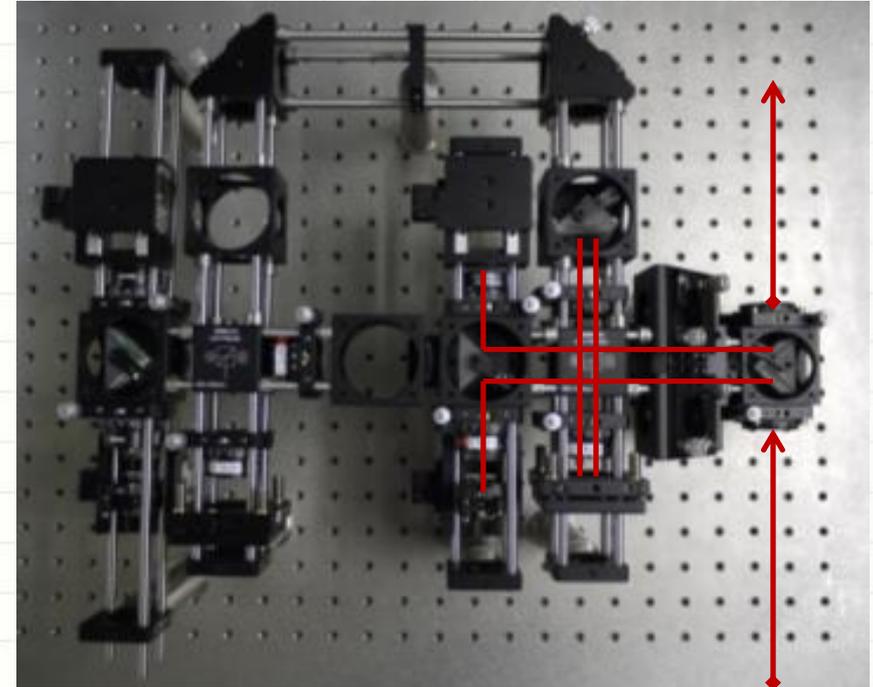
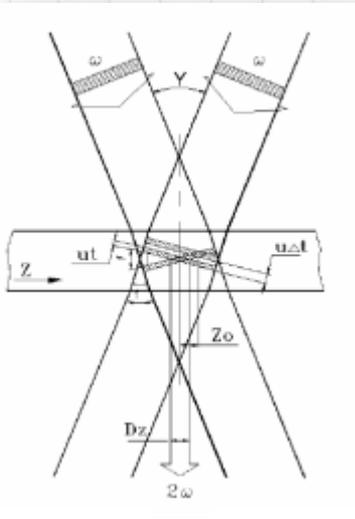


Photo of pre-assembled buncher

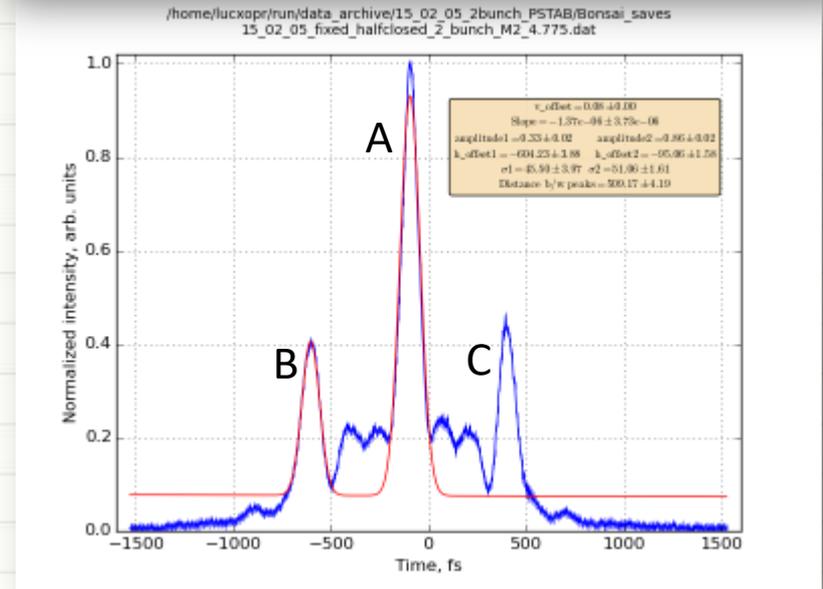
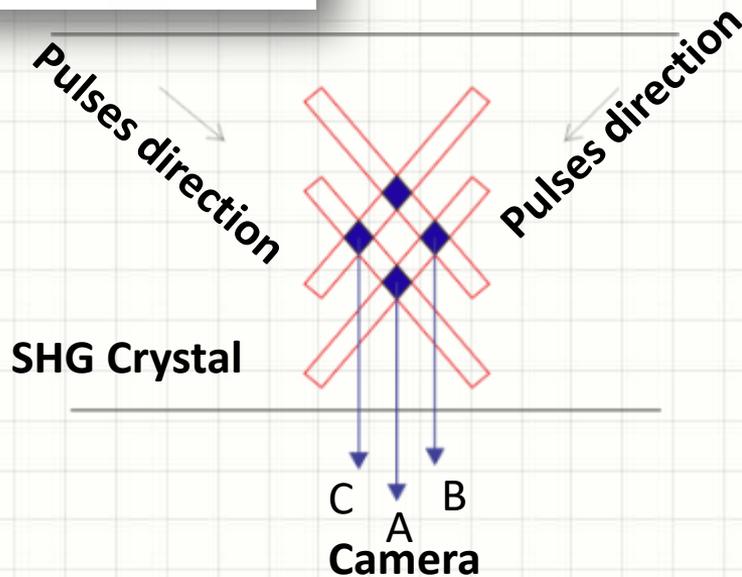
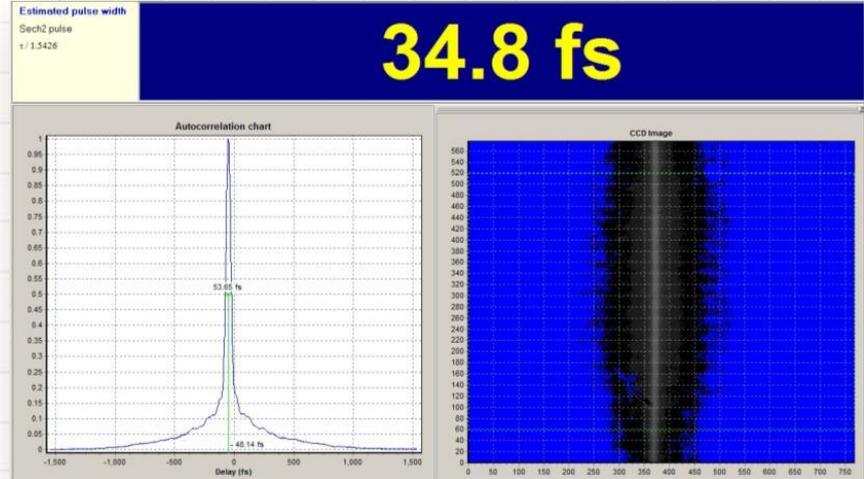


- All bits were delivered in September 2014.
- Assembled and tested (laser side only) in Nov.-Dec. 2014
- Tested (e-beam generation) in Jan. – Feb. 2015

# FSTB: fs Single Shot cross-correlator



The method based on the registration of cross distribution of Second Harmonic (SH) energy produced in nonlinear crystal under non-collinear interaction of two beams with determined aperture.



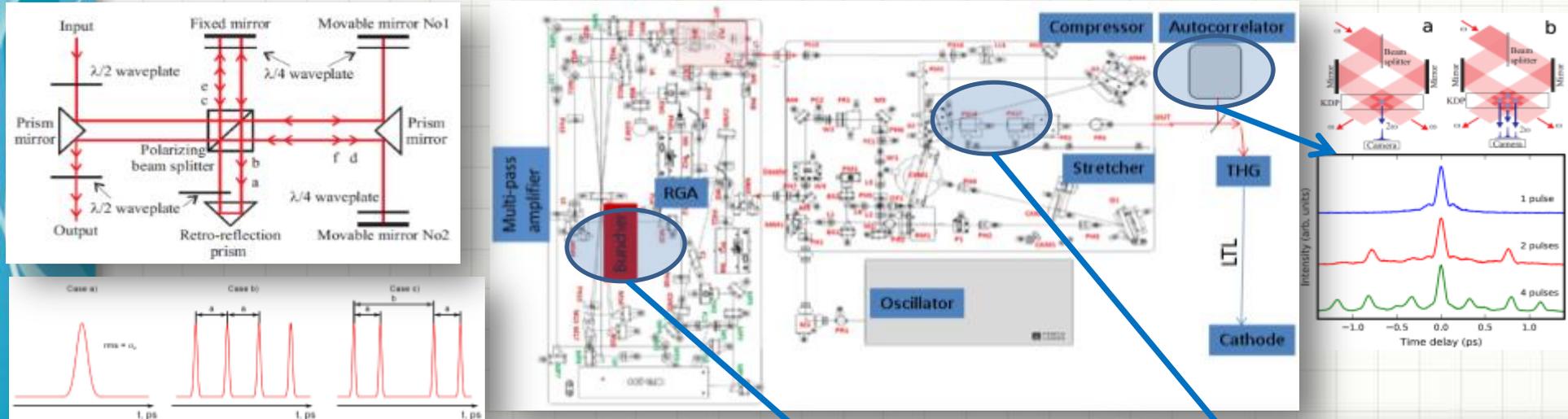
# Ti:Sa laser system (FSTB)

Operational parameters	Original	4 years later
Repetition rate, max	10Hz	3.13Hz
Central wavelength	795nm	795nm
Pulse energy before compression	22mJ	5mJ
Pulse energy after compression	14mJ	3mJ
Pulse duration w/w-o correction	30/37.7fs	50fs
Energy stability 22mJ@800nm	1.6%	3%

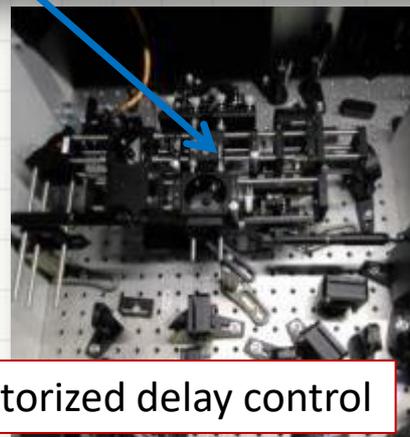
- Entire infrastructure was built
- Control soft 80% re-written
- Additional pulse diagnostics introduced
- THG simulated, ordered, built
- 2 buncher systems were implemented

# Multi-micro-bunch, implementation

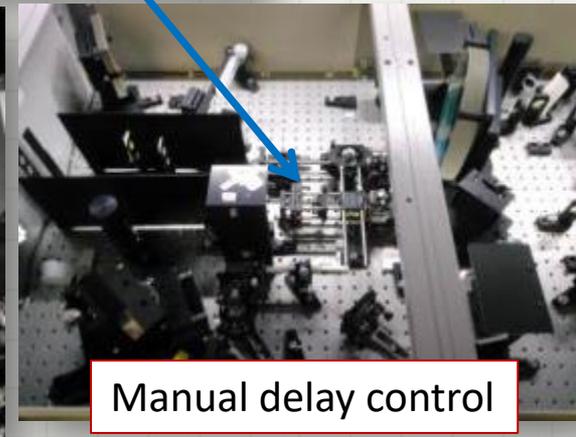
Present condition: 4x4 pulses, ~50 fs each, converted to 266nm, 10uJ



- **Total splitting efficiency ~20%**
- New design with total 10-20% losses is possible.
- Beam expander was removed.
- Multi-pass Amp, Compressor, THG, LTL re-tuned.
- **Micro-bunch**
  - Separation: +/- 5 ps
  - Stability: < 20 fs (lower than meas. resolution)
- **Multi-bunch**
  - Separation: 350ps +/- 30 ps

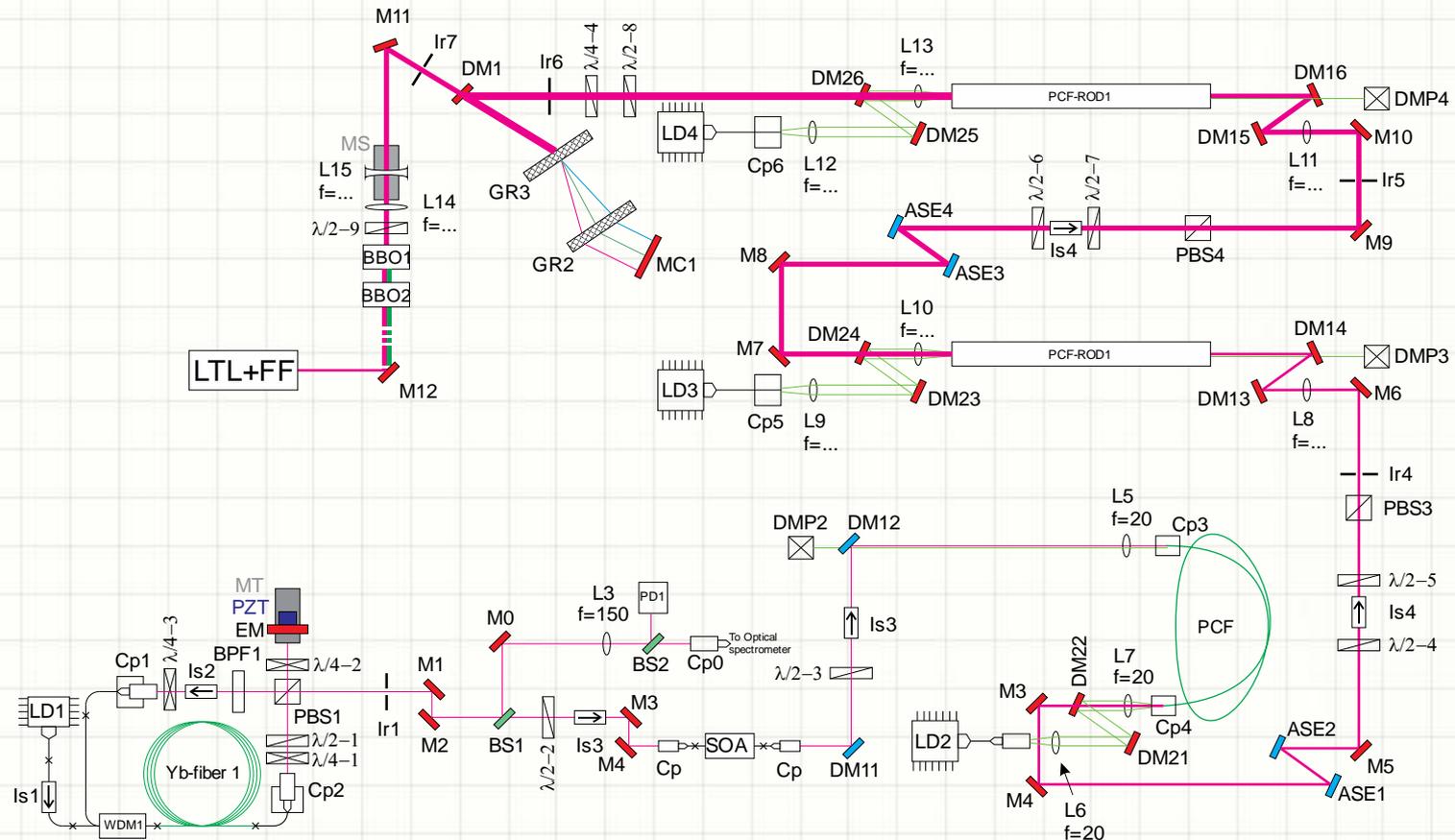


Motorized delay control

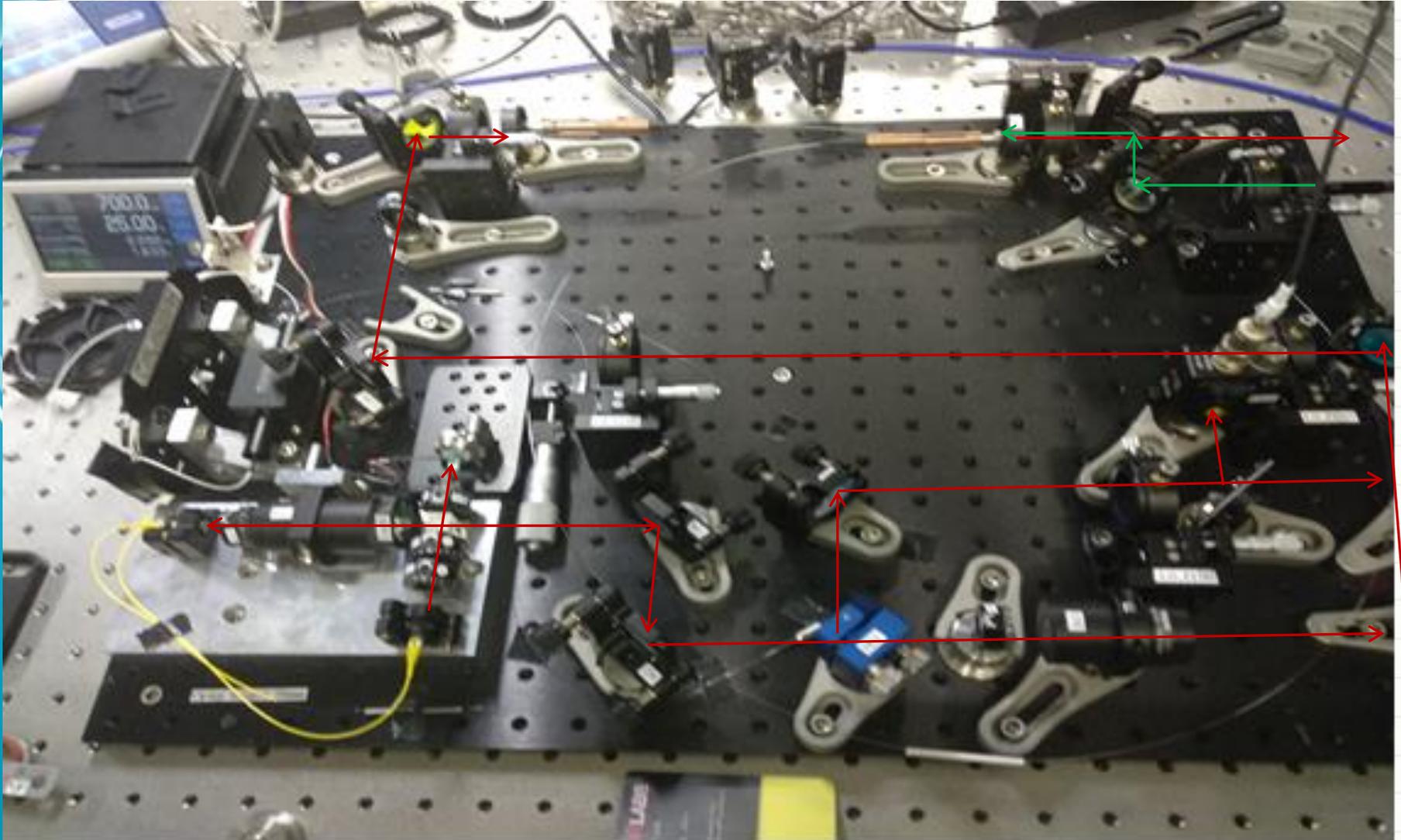


Manual delay control

# Pre-amplifier, PCF and modified laser system diagram



# Whole system (Osc. + Pre.amp)



# Pre. Amp tests

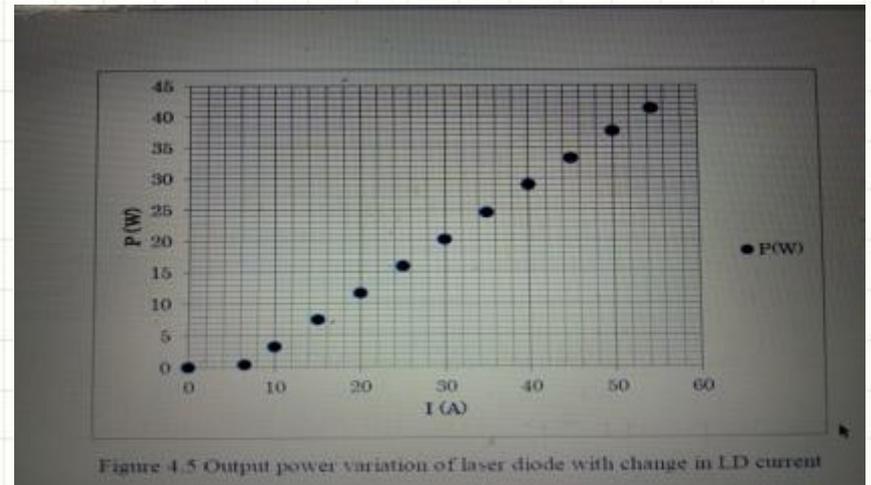
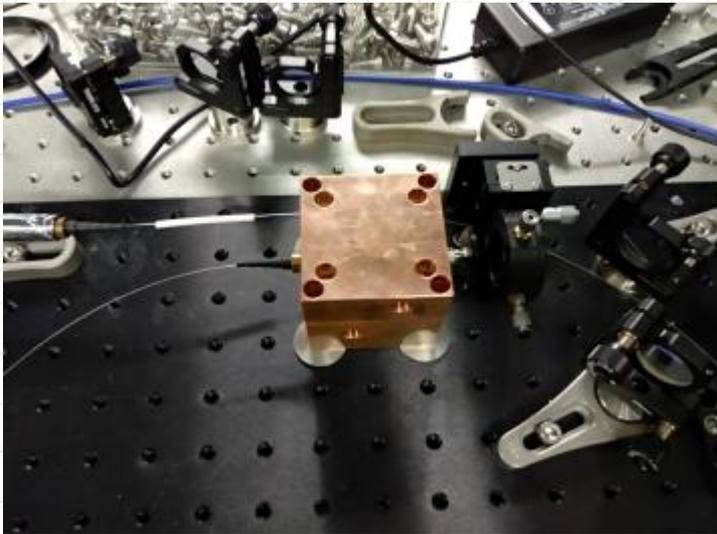
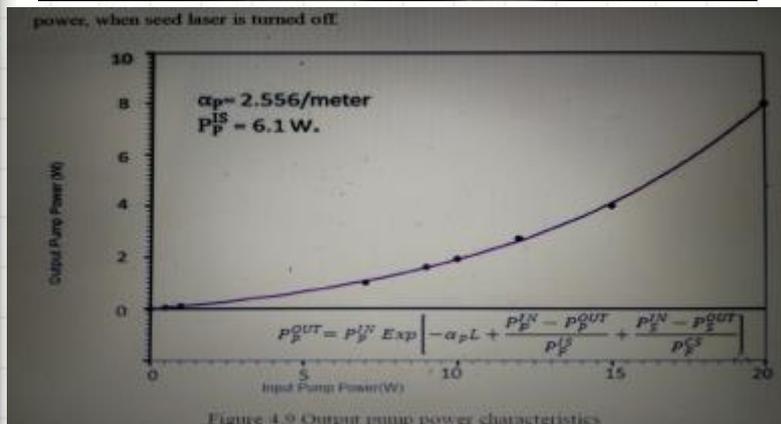


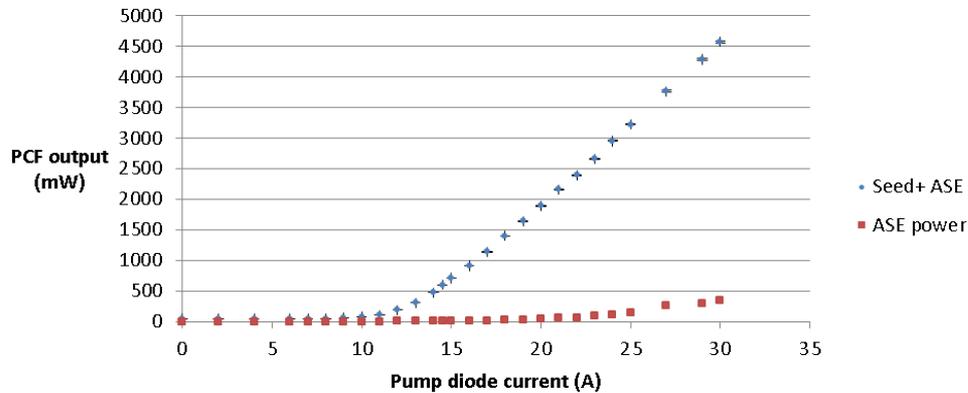
Figure 4.5 Output power variation of laser diode with change in LD current



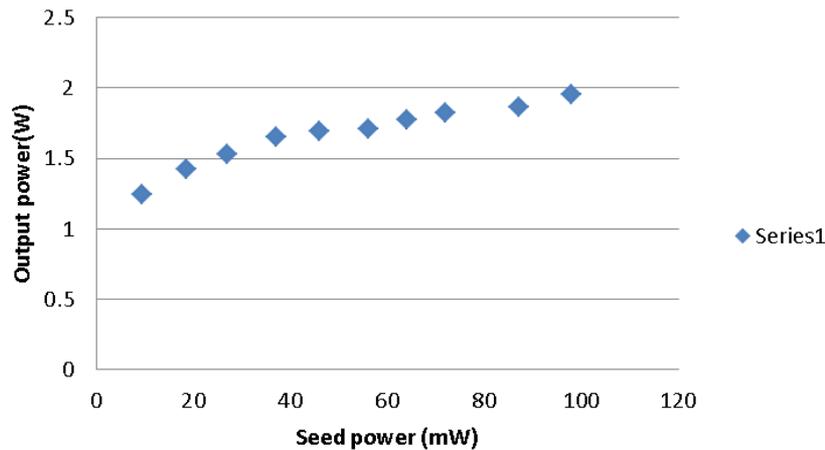
Current(A)	Out Put pump power (mW)
6.3	24
9	135
12.2	300
15	521
17	752
19.1	1050
20.2	1230

# Pre. Amp. tests

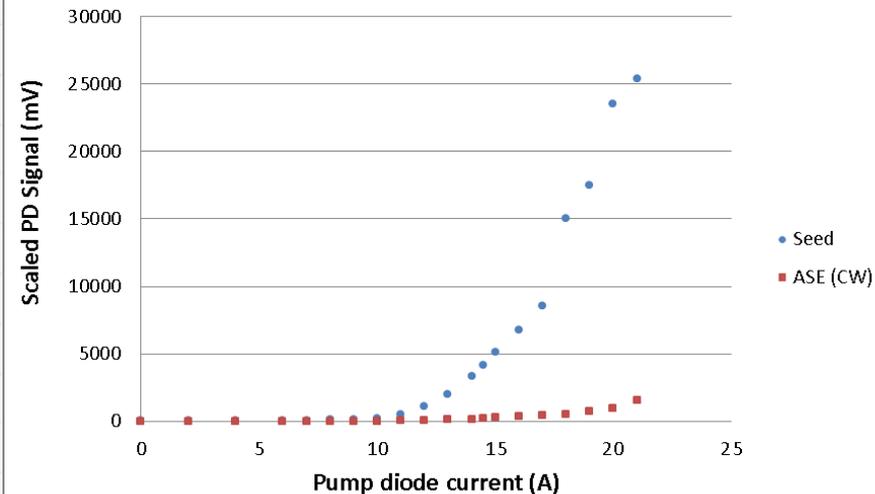
Output Characteristic of the PCF fiber pre amplifier with RMS spread



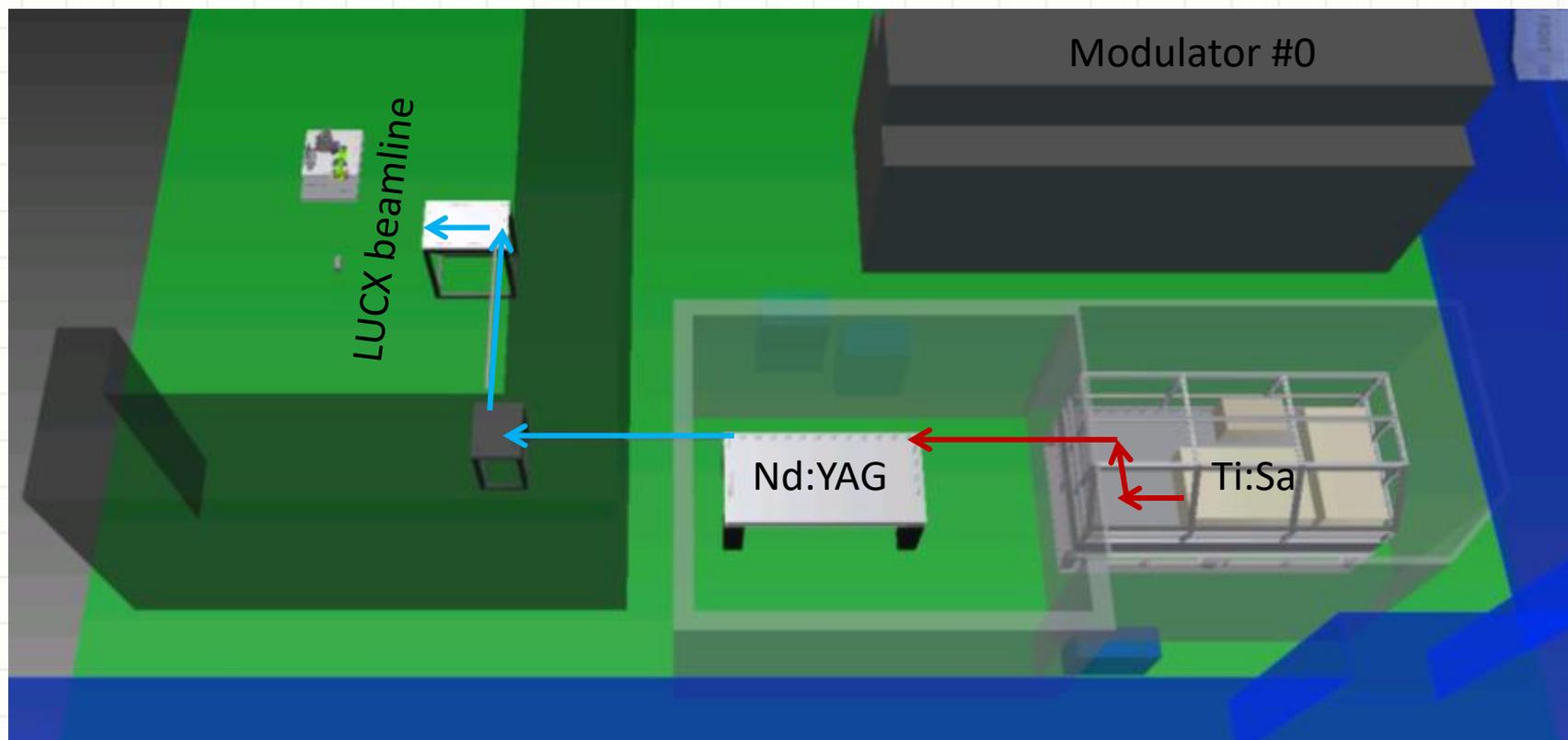
Pre amplifier characteristic @ 20A pump current



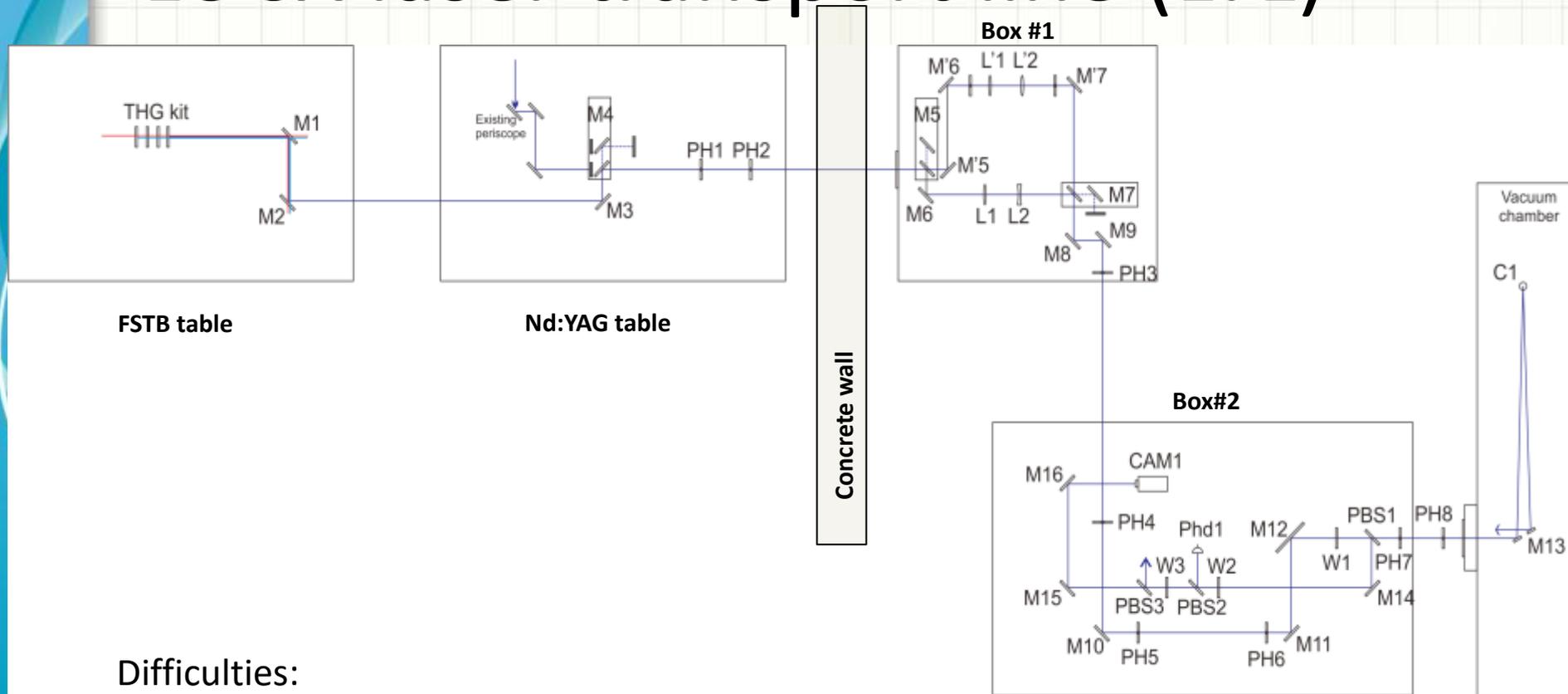
Pre amp Output (PD signal)



# LUCX-FSTB-THz, 3D model

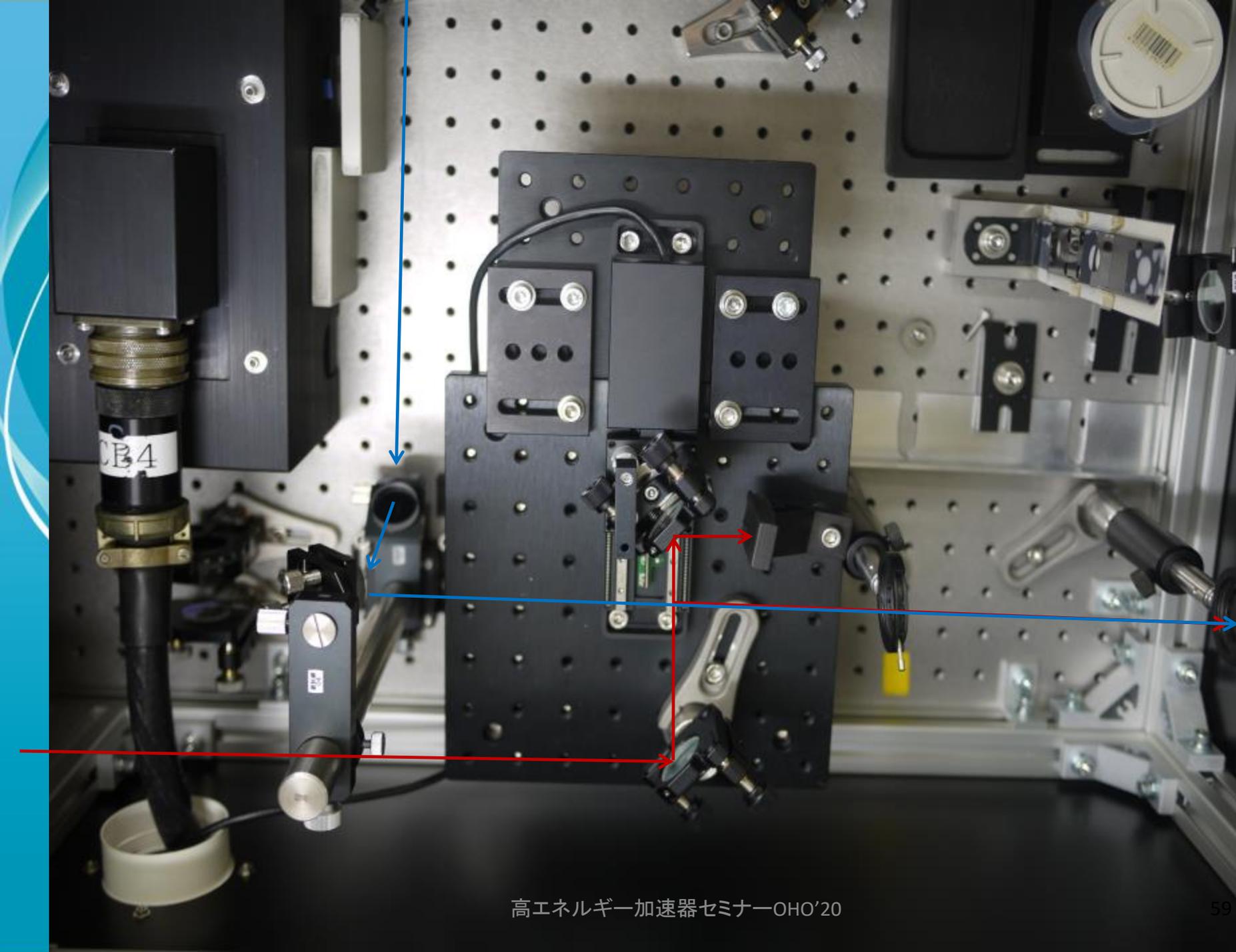


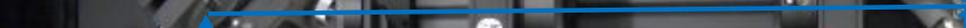
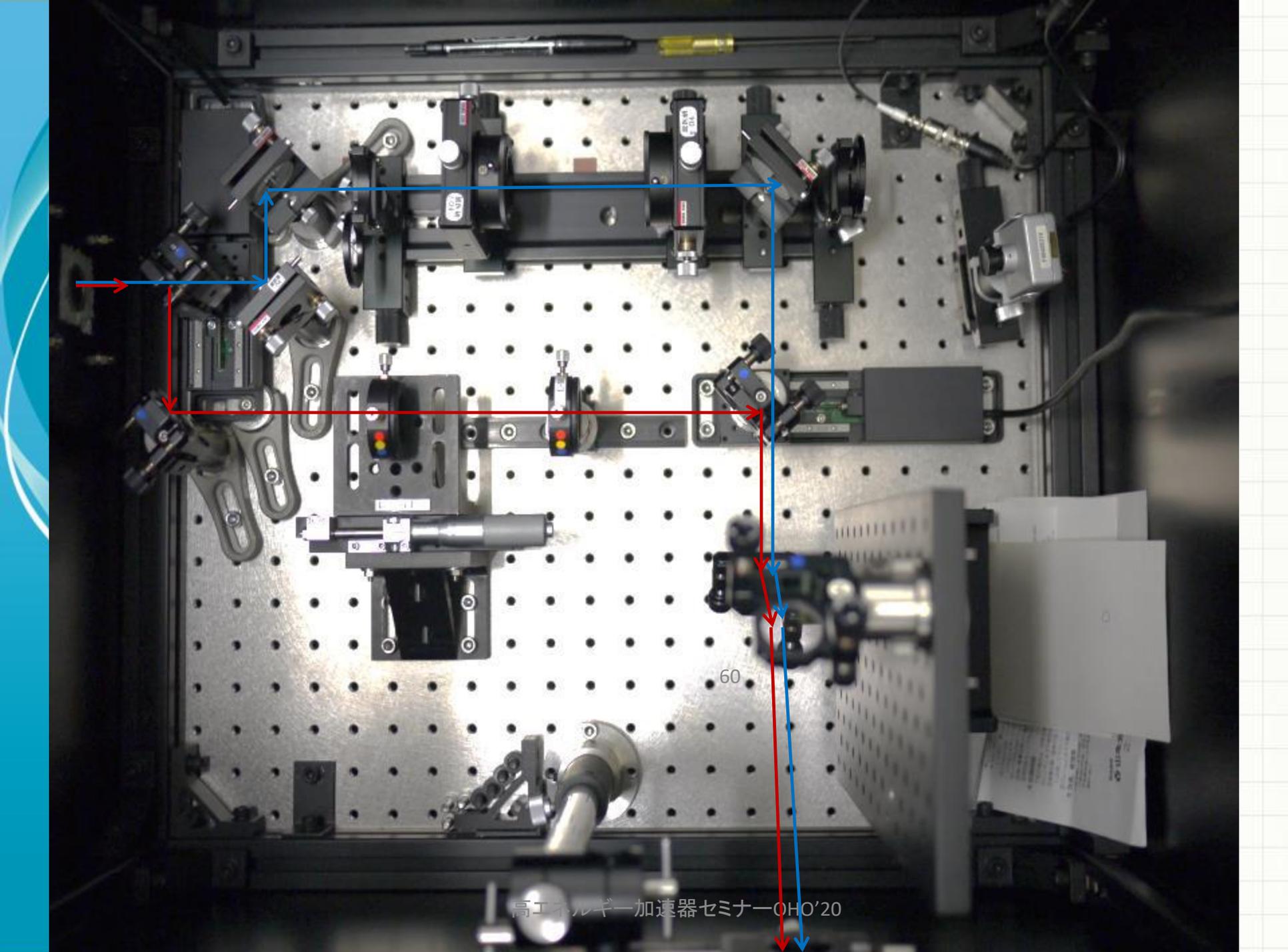
# LUCX laser transport line (LTL)



## Difficulties:

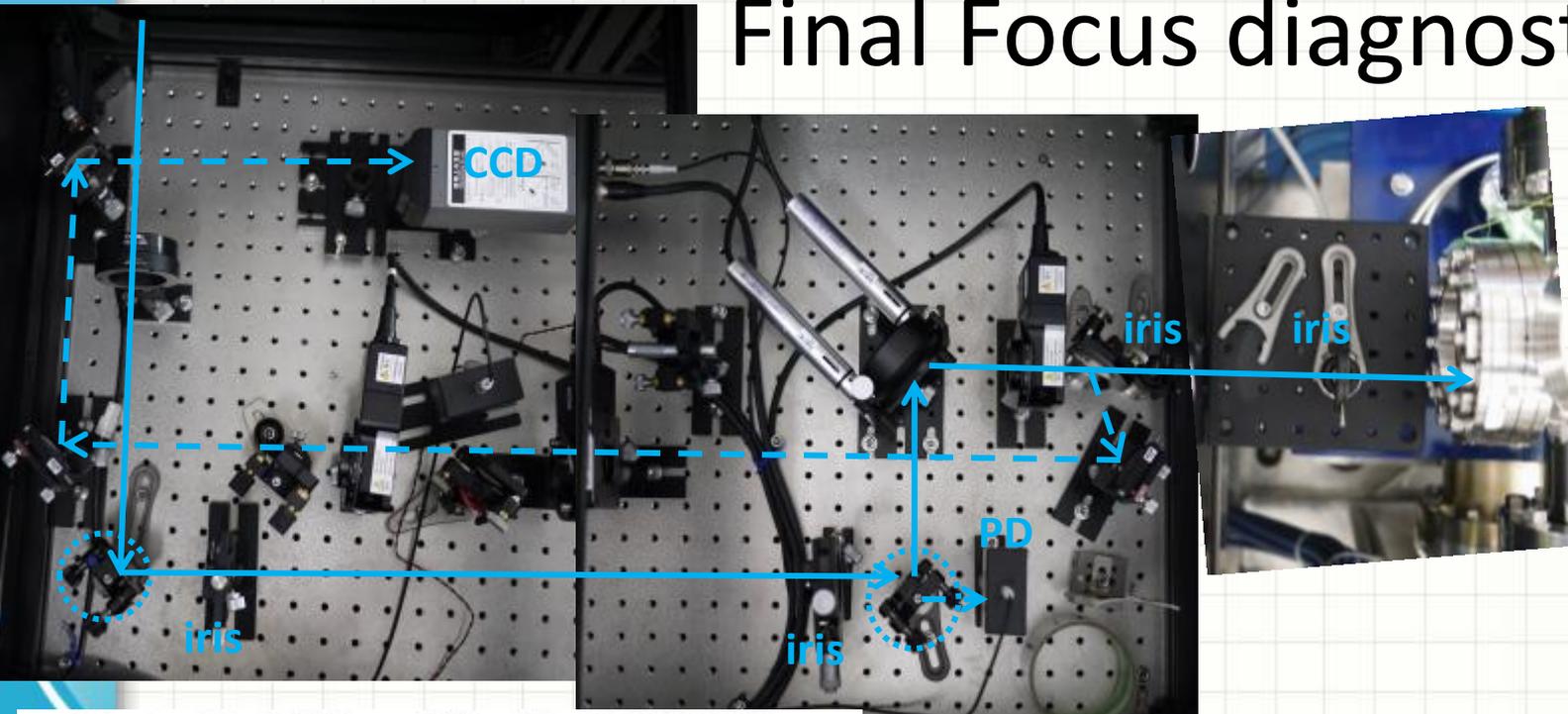
1. Selecting either of two laser beams: Nd:YAG or Ti:Sa
2. Separate focusing systems.
3. Same FF and “virtual cathode”
4. Relatively long optical path



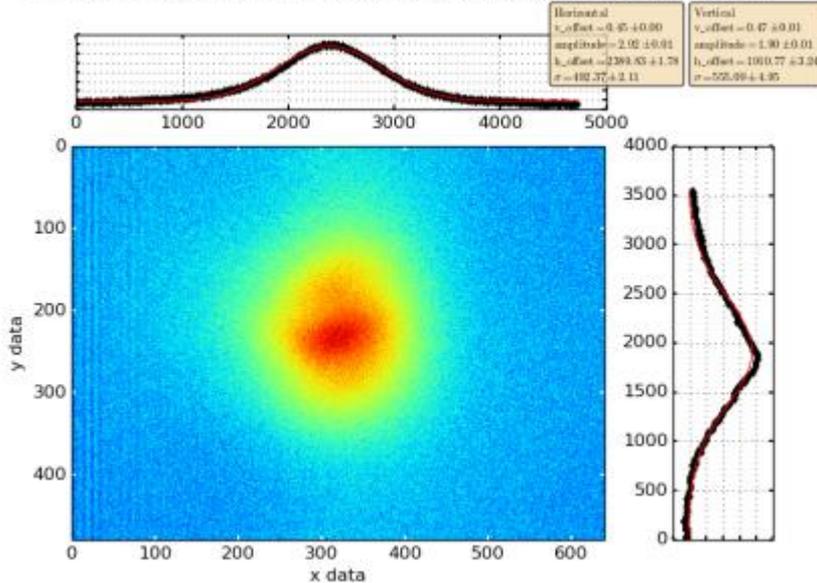


60

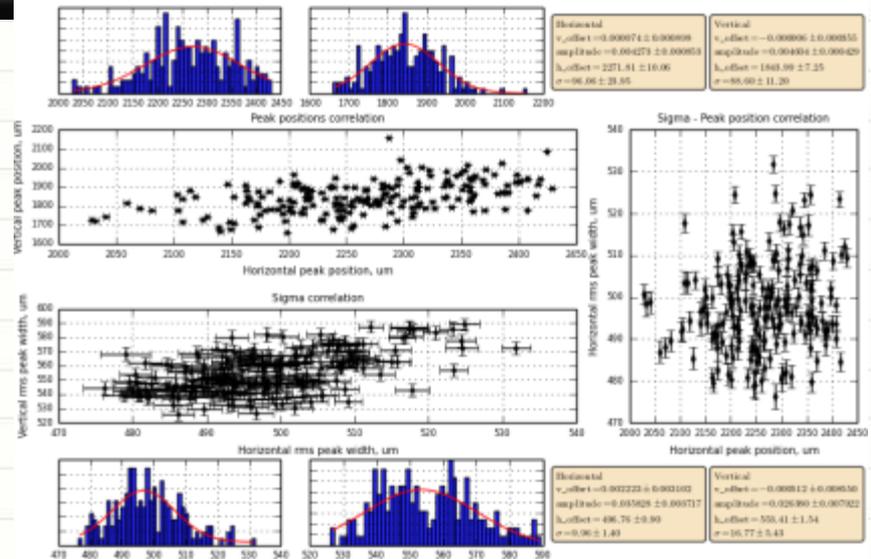
# Final Focus diagnostics



Data:/home/fucocpr/run/data\_archive/14\_07\_11\_zero\_cross\_200fs/01\_uv\_stability/uv\_stability\_20140711\_152859\_0194.ppm



Data:/home/fucocpr/run/data\_archive/14\_07\_11\_zero\_cross\_200fs/01\_uv\_stability\_14\_07\_14\_16\_34\_14.txt



# Conclusion

- Lasers are a vital part of modern particle accelerators.
- It is used as diagnostics, timing systems, sources of particles, drivers of new accelerators.
- Research and development of new laser sources will drive improvements in:
  - Particle accelerators – smaller, cheaper, more efficient.
  - Particle temporal distribution (important for light sources
    - THz FELs, Compton, etc)
  - Particle beam diagnostics

# Materials

- **Jean-Claude Diels, Wolfgang Rudolph:** “Ultrashort laser pulse phenomena”, Second edition, 2006
- **Tone Rotar,** “Ultrashort laser pulses”, Ms Thesis.
- **Carlo Antoncini,** “Ultrashort Laser Pulses”, Lecture notes.
- **Yuelin Li,** ANL, 2008 USPAS, summer session lecture notes.
- **Valerii Ter-Mikirtychev,** “Fundamentals of Fiber Lasers and Fiber Amplifiers”, Springer, 2014
- **Yan YOU,** “Yb-doped Mode-locked fiber laser based on NLPR”, 2012
- **Alexander Mikhailovsky,** “Basics of femtosecond laser spectroscopy”
- **Jeremy R. Gulley,** “Simulation of Ultrashort Laser Pulse Propagation and Plasma Generation in Nonlinear Media”.
- **S. LI et al.** PHYS. REV. ACCEL. BEAMS 20, 080704 (2017)
- **H. Tomizawa,** “Adaptiveaptive3D-Laser pulse shaping System to Minimize Emittance for Photocathode RF gun”, WEBAU01, FEL 2007
- **L. Corner,** Lasers in Particle Accelerators, CERN Accelerator Course, Budapest 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2016

# Thank you very much!

