

# Introduction to X-ray FELs and the European XFEL

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**eurizon**

European network  
for developing new horizons for RIs

**Eurizon 2020+ workshop on  
FEL linac driver and FEL physics applications**

Fabian Pannek

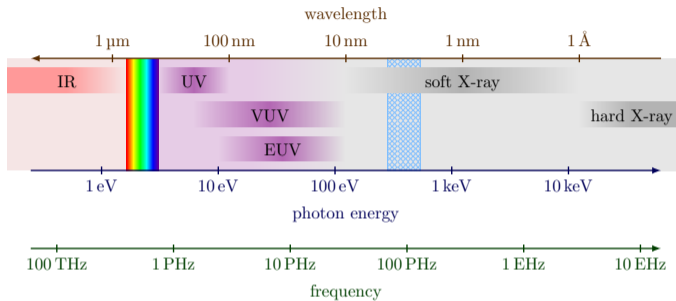
European XFEL

January 2024



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 871072

# Electromagnetic Spectrum

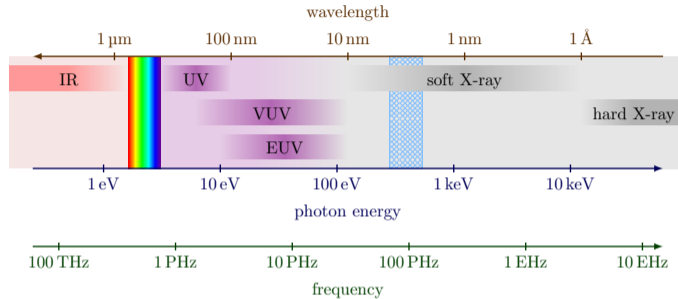


Motivation

Light Sources  
Synchrotron  
Radiation  
Undulator Radiation  
Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL  
Facility  
Beamlines

Summary



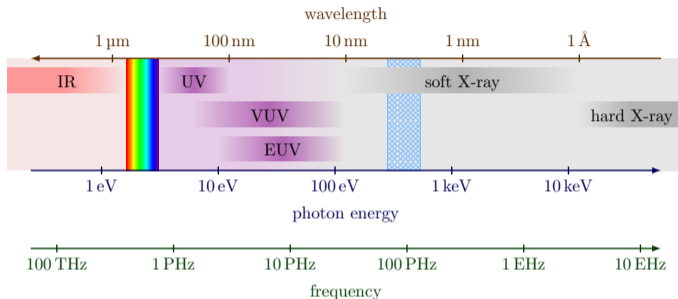
- Soft and hard X-ray spectral range
  - plenitude of atomic resonances and high absorption
  - applications in biology, chemistry, material-, nano-, energy science, ...

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- Soft and hard X-ray spectral range
  - plenitude of atomic resonances and high absorption
  - applications in biology, chemistry, material-, nano-, energy science, ...
- Free-Electron Lasers (FELs): femtosecond, laserlike, high-intense pulses

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- Undulator Radiation
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## 2 European XFEL

- Facility
- Beamlines

## 3 Summary

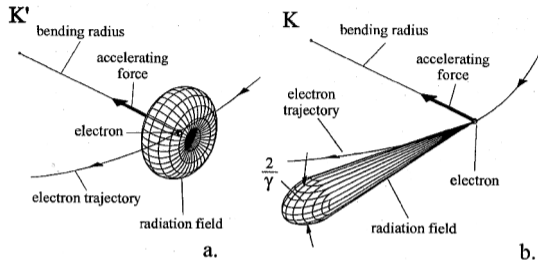
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# Synchrotron Radiation



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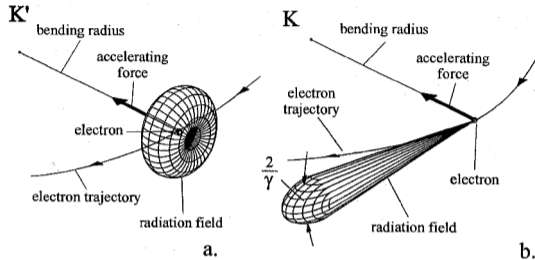
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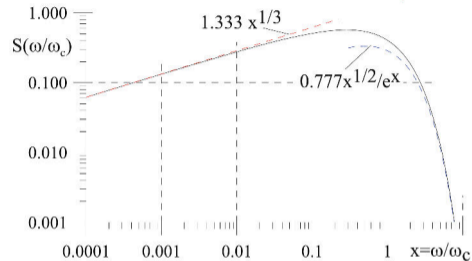
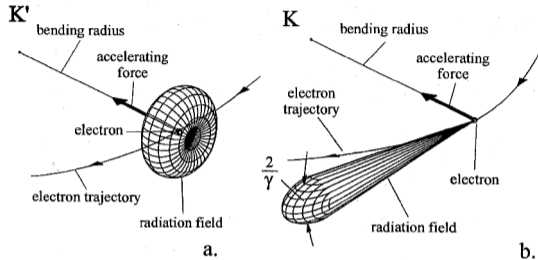
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- acceleration of relativistic electron bunch perpendicular to velocity
  - bending magnets
- opening angle  $\theta_c \approx \frac{1}{\gamma}$



- acceleration of relativistic electron bunch perpendicular to velocity
  - bending magnets
- opening angle  $\theta_c \approx \frac{1}{\gamma}$
- short pulse, broad spectrum with  $\omega_c \propto \frac{\gamma^3}{\rho_0}$



## Radiation from Electrons in a Synchrotron

F. R. ELDER, A. M. GUREWITSCH, R. V. LANGMUIR,  
AND H. C. POLLOCK  
*Research Laboratory, General Electric Company,  
Schenectady, New York  
May 7, 1947*

HIGH energy electrons which are subjected to large accelerations normal to their velocity should radiate electromagnetic energy.<sup>1-4</sup> The radiation from electrons in a betatron or synchrotron should be emitted in a narrow cone tangent to the electron orbit, and its spectrum should extend into the visible region. This radiation has now been observed visually in the General Electric 70-Mev synchrotron.<sup>5</sup> This machine has an electron orbit radius of 29.3 cm and a peak magnetic field of 8100 gauss. The radiation is seen as a small spot of brilliant white light by an observer looking into the vacuum tube tangent to the orbit and toward the approaching electrons. The light is quite bright when the x-ray output of the machine at 70 Mev is 50 roentgens per minute at one meter from the target and can still be observed in daylight at outputs as low as 0.1 roentgen.

- SR visually observed in 1947

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- nuisance in circular accelerators
- used parasitically at storage rings

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- used parasitically at storage rings
- 1968: first storage ring exclusively dedicated to SR

*Particle Accelerators*  
1973, Vol. 4, pp. 211-227

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## TANTALUS I: A DEDICATED STORAGE RING SYNCHROTRON RADIATION SOURCE†

E. M. ROWE  
*Physical Sciences Laboratory, University of Wisconsin, Stoughton, Wisconsin, USA*  
and  
F. E. MILLS  
*Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York, USA*

A small electron storage ring has been operated at the Physical Sciences Laboratory of the University of Wisconsin as a synchrotron radiation source for the investigation of the optical and electronic properties of solids, liquids and gases in the vacuum ultraviolet and soft X-ray region of the electromagnetic spectrum. The storage ring has proven to be a nearly ideal source for these investigations. The storage ring has also been shown to have fundamental advantages over electron synchrotrons more commonly used for this work. These advantages are stability of the electron beam as a source of photons in position, size and intensity, low levels of high energy particle radiation in the vicinity of the machine and operating vacua consistent with the requirements of the experimental program. A description of the constructional details of the storage ring, a report of its operating characteristics and a discussion of the research program that it serves is given. A summary of projects now being carried out to increase the utility of the storage ring is included.

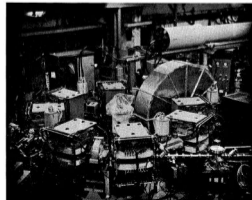


FIG. 1. Storage ring. Photon beam lines and separation chambers appear at lower right and left. Cylindrical object at top is the injector spark gap energy storage line enclosure.

# Second Generation Light Sources

- 1980s: second generation light sources
- 1980: SRS, first synchrotron light source of the second generation
- radiation produced mainly in bending magnets

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NUCLEAR INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS 152 (1978) 1-7, © NORTH-HOLLAND PUBLISHING CO

*Part I Machines, wigglers and facilities*

**PROGRESS REPORT ON THE 2 GeV SYNCHROTRON RADIATION SOURCE (SRS) AT DARFSBURY**

V. P. SULLER and D. J. THOMPSON

*Daresbury Laboratory, Science Research Council, Warrington WA4 4AD, U.K.*

In May 1975 the proposal by the Science Research Council to construct a 2 GeV electron storage ring at Daresbury Laboratory was approved. The storage ring is to be a dedicated Synchrotron Radiation Source (SRS) devoted to experiments in all fields of science using ultraviolet and X-radiation. Construction has now started and completion is planned for late 1979. The new source will be installed in existing buildings built to house the 5 GeV electron-synchrotron NINA, which ceased operation on 1st April 1977 and is now being removed.

The field in the normal bending magnets is 1.2 T, and the initial objective is a circulating beam current of 500 mA. It is planned to raise this later to 1 A. The storage ring will provide intense fluxes of photons up to about 20 keV from normal ports and up to 100 keV from 5 T superconducting transverse 3-pole wiggler magnets, of which two are planned.

Up to 12 beam ports are envisaged, of which six to eight should be in operation by 1983. Detailed plans for the first six ports are now being prepared. Beam lines up to 80 m long will be available for X-ray topography experiments. The VUV lines are being designed to give best possible access for experimenters, free from hazard from high energy bremsstrahlung.

Injection is from a 600 MeV synchrotron, itself fed by a 15 MeV linear accelerator. All major components of the injection system have been ordered and completion is planned for May 1978. Detail design of the storage ring is now in progress, prototypes are being tested of the 500 MHz rf cavity, a special multipole magnet, the dipole magnet vacuum chamber (with beam port and backward target recess) and other components. Development of the control system is well advanced and it will be used for commissioning the injection system.

The paper briefly describes the source and outlines the plans for the initial beam lines. It reports on the progress of construction and development work.

European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

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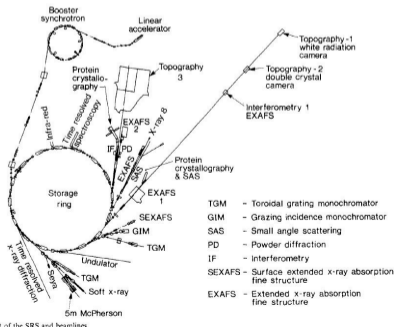
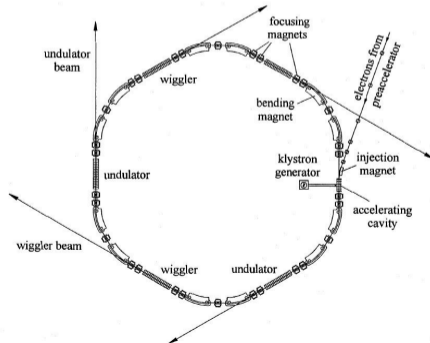


Fig. 1. Layout of the SRS and beamlines.

# Third Generation Light Sources

- straight sections for insertion devices
  - undulators, wigglers
- 1992: ESRF, first synchrotron of the third generation type



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## THE EUROPEAN SYNCHROTRON RADIATION FACILITY ESRF IN GRENOBLE

Ruprecht Haensel  
ESRF  
BP220  
F-38043 Grenoble Cedex  
France

### ABSTRACT

ESRF is the first member of a new generation of Synchrotron Radiation Sources, in which the brilliance of the beam and the utilisation of insertion devices are pushed to their present limits. This will add to the possibilities of present Synchrotron Radiation sources the capability to follow in real time structural changes in condensed matter while physical, chemical or macromolecular reactions take place. The technical challenges in the new machine are: mechanical stability in the micrometer range of a 6-GeV electron storage ring having a circumference of 850 meters, the performance of optical elements with atomic scale flatness of its surfaces under extreme radiation load, and last but not least the data handling of an enormous data flow coming from 0-, 1-, and 2-D X-ray detectors.

utilized the Synchrotron Radiation for studies of the geometrical and electronic structure of atoms, molecules, fluids and solids of any kind.

Because of the growing need for beam time, which could not be met by the existing machines and due to the advent of new types of radiation devices (Insertion devices ID such as wavelength shifters, wigglers or undulators) the Users' Community expressed more and more its desire to have its own fully dedicated Synchrotron Radiation sources optimised from the conception for its specific needs.

Insertion devices are arrays of magnets with periodically changing field strength or direction, which force the electron beam to make 'wiggles' with a planar or helical motion. Thus an outer observer sees the electron several times (number of poles per turn). The observable intensity of Synchrotron Radiation consequently is considerably enhanced over that from bending magnets. It

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Synchrotron  
Radiation

Undulator Radiation

Free-Electron Laser

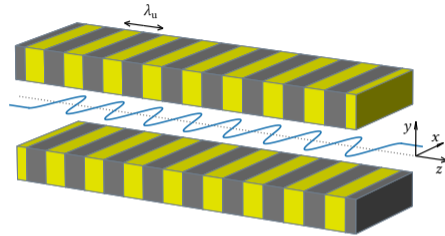
European XFEL

Facility  
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Summary

# Undulator Radiation - Wavelength

- relativistic electron bunch
- alternating magnetic field
- sinusoidal electron trajectory



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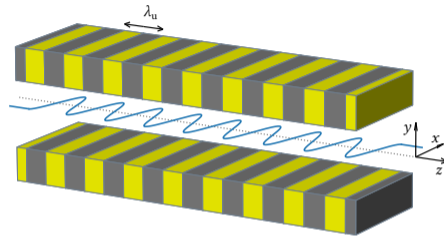
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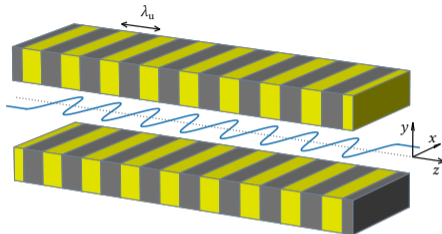
Summary

- relativistic electron bunch
- alternating magnetic field
- sinusoidal electron trajectory
- dipole radiation in electron rest frame
  - Lorentz contracted undulator period:  $\lambda_e \propto \frac{\lambda_u}{\gamma}$

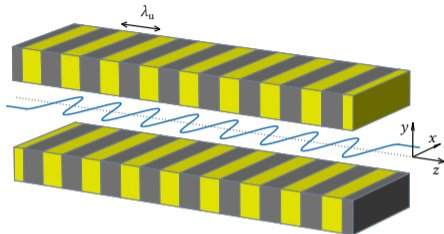




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- back to laboratory frame
  - relativistic Doppler effect:  $\lambda_l \propto \frac{\lambda_e}{\gamma} \propto \frac{\lambda_u}{\gamma^2}$



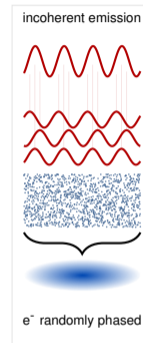
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- wavelength of undulator radiation:
  - undulator parameter  $K \propto \lambda_u B$
  - radiation angle  $\theta$ , on-axis:  $\theta = 0$



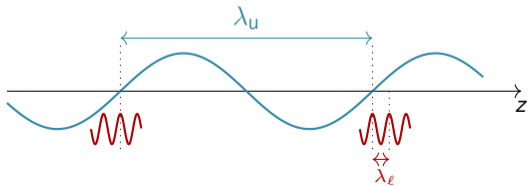
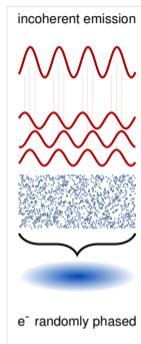
$$\lambda_l = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left( 1 + \frac{K^2}{2} + \gamma^2 \theta^2 \right)$$

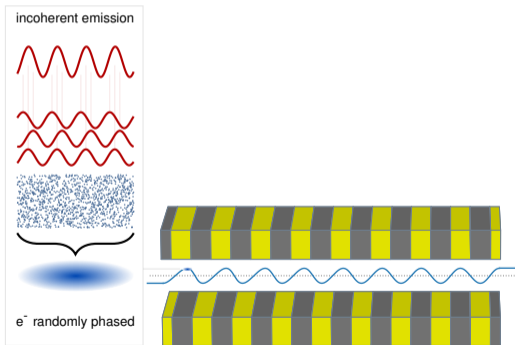
- tunable wavelength:  $\lambda_\ell = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left(1 + \frac{K^2}{2}\right)$
- small opening angle:  $\theta \approx \frac{1}{\gamma\sqrt{N_u}}$  for  $K \lesssim 1$
- narrow bandwidth:  $\Delta\omega/\omega_\ell \propto 1/N_u$

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- intensity  $I \propto N_e$
- electrons without any positional order
- radiation from a single electron is coherent:
  - light wave slips ahead w.r.t. emitting electron by  $\lambda_\ell$  per  $\lambda_u$





undulator tuned to

$$\lambda_\ell = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left( 1 + \frac{K^2}{2} \right)$$

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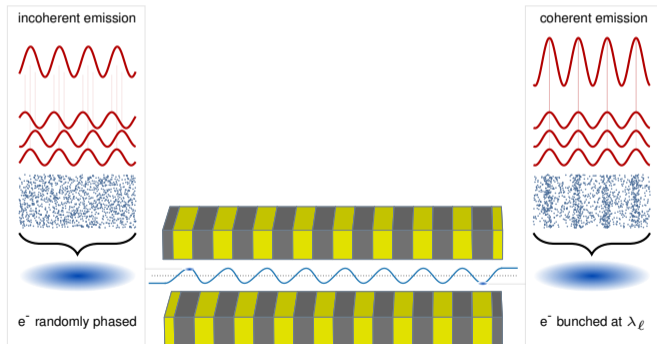
Free-Electron Laser

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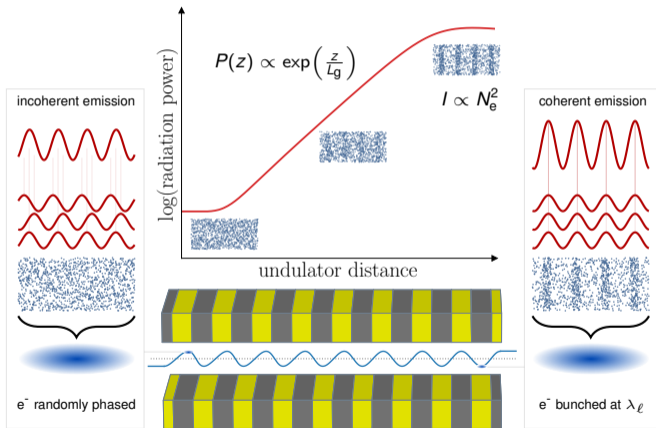
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acts as amplifier



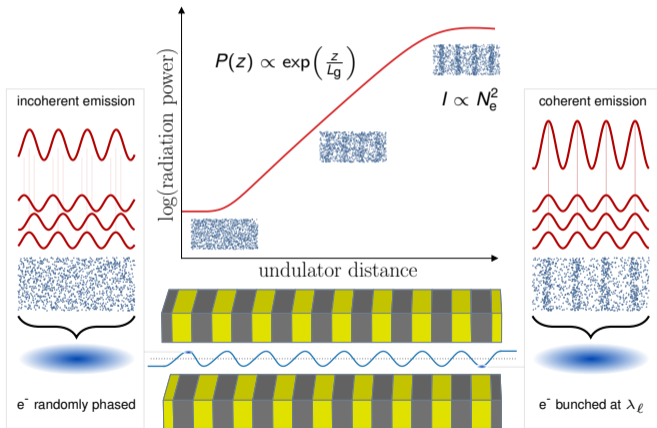
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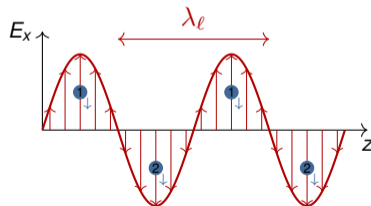
acts as amplifier

electrons move in radiation field

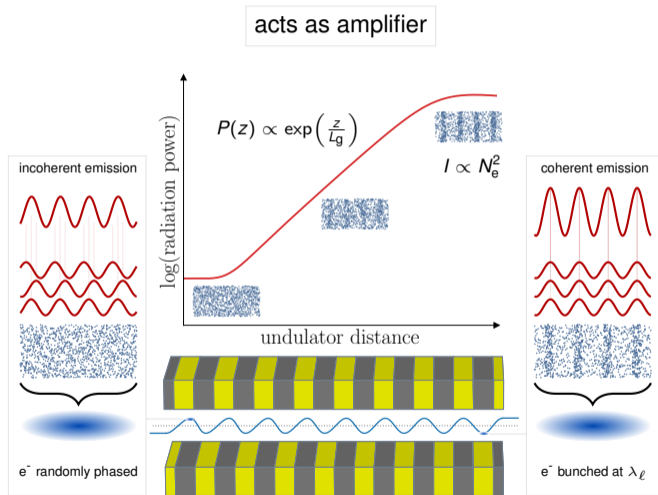


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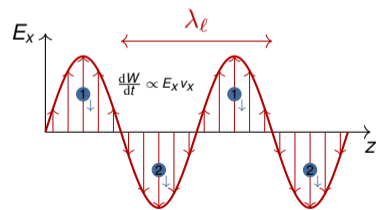
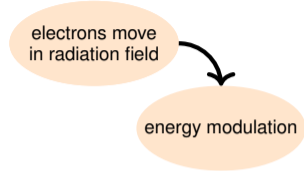


# Free-Electron Laser



undulator tuned to

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$e_1^-$ : gains energy  
 $e_2^-$ : loses energy

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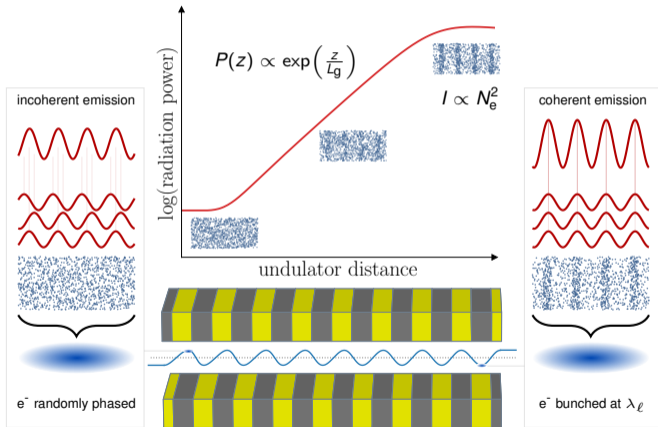
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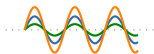
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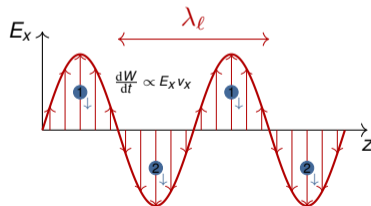
dispersion:



electrons move  
in radiation field

energy modulation

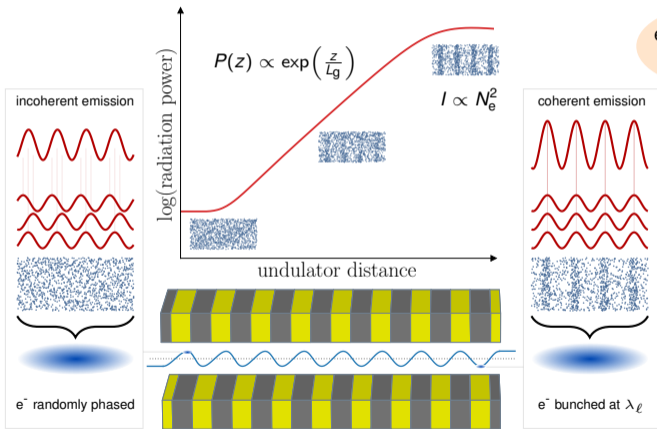
dispersion of  
undulator



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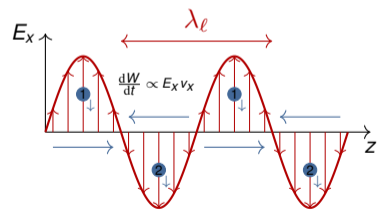
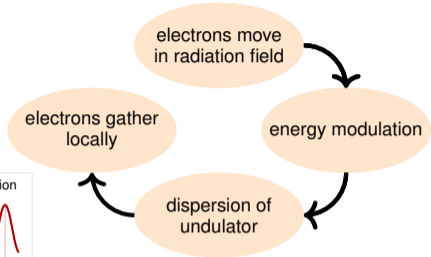
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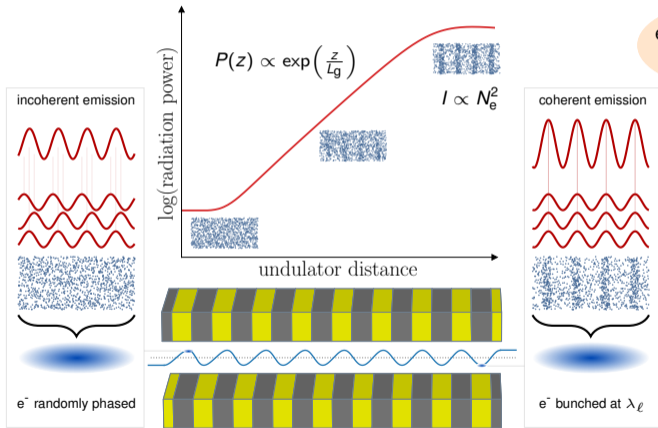
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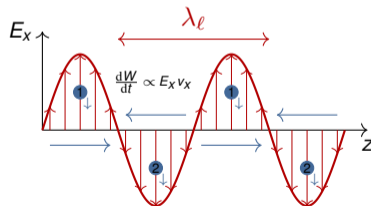
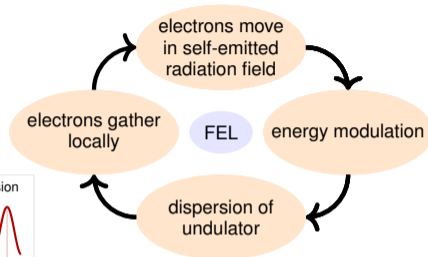
$e_1^-$ : gains energy, shorter path  
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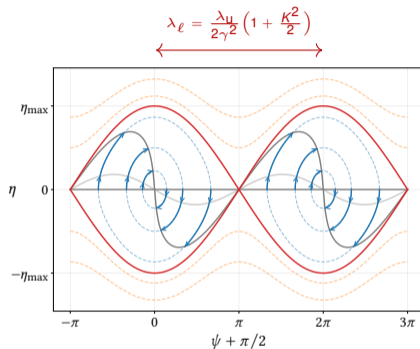
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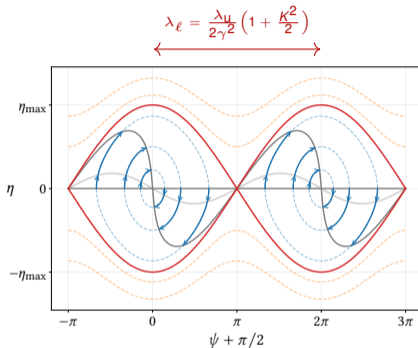
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- for now: neglect change of EM-field
- energy modulation + dispersion
- motion in longitudinal phase space:
  - pendulum equations
- FEL bucket/separatrix
  - electrons inside: bound
  - electrons outside: unbound



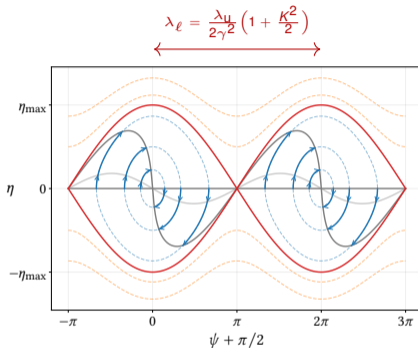
$$\frac{d\eta}{dt} = -\frac{e\hat{K}E_0}{2\gamma_r^2 m_e c} \cos(\psi)$$
$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = 2k_u c \eta$$

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  - small gain per undulator passage
  - on resonance beam: no net energy transfer



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- we want high gain in a single pass!



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# High-Gain Free-Electron Laser: 1D model



- change of EM-field during passage through (long) undulator
- energy modulation + dispersion
- space charge fields due to the periodic modulations

Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron  
Radiation

Undulator Radiation

Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

Summary

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- energy modulation + dispersion
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- Slowly Varying Envelope Approximation
- $2N + 2$  coupled first order differential equations
- describe microbunching, gain and saturation

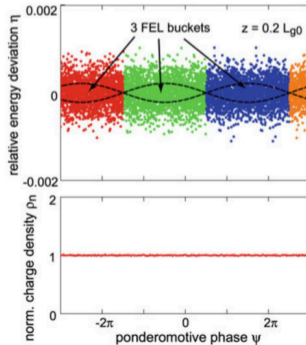
$$\frac{d\tilde{E}_x}{dz} = -\frac{\mu_0 c \tilde{K}}{4\gamma_r} \tilde{j}_1$$

$$\tilde{j}_1 = j_0 \frac{2}{N} \sum_{k=1}^N \exp(-i\psi_k)$$

$$\frac{d\eta_k}{dz} = -\frac{e}{m_e c^2 \gamma_r} \operatorname{Re} \left( \left[ \frac{\tilde{K}}{2\gamma_r} \tilde{E}_x - \frac{i\mu_0 c^2}{\omega_\ell} \tilde{j}_1 \right] \exp(i\psi_k) \right)$$

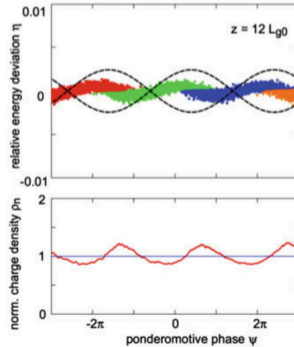
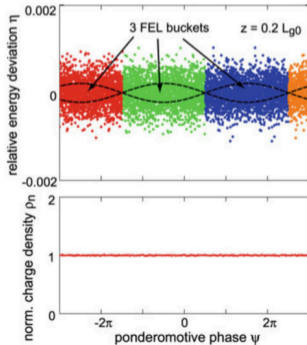
$$\frac{d\psi_k}{dz} = 2k_u \eta_k$$

- electrons captured in FEL buckets



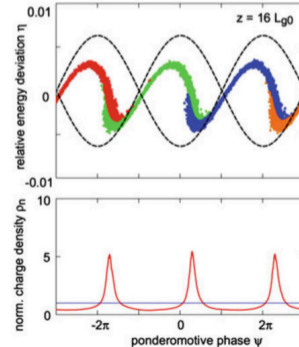
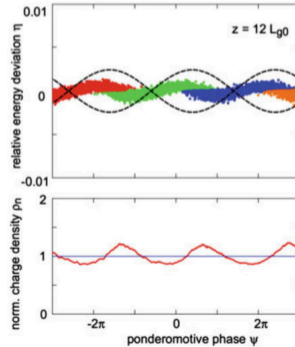
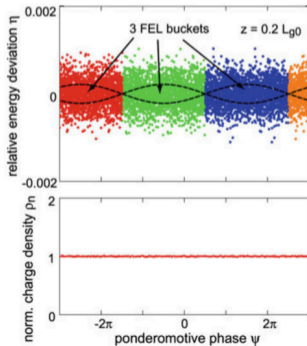
# High-Gain Free-Electron Laser: Exponential Growth

- electrons captured in FEL buckets
- FEL buckets not fixed!
  - height of separatrix changes
  - FEL buckets change phase



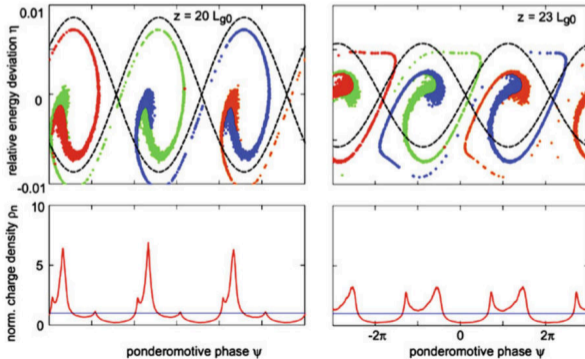
# High-Gain Free-Electron Laser: Exponential Growth

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  - FEL buckets change phase
- net energy transfer from electrons to light wave



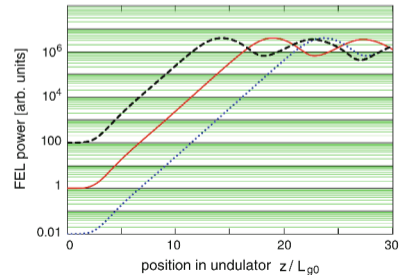
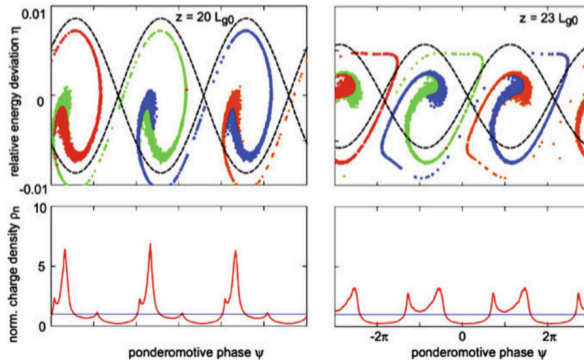
# High-Gain Free-Electron Laser: Saturation

- energy spread increases
- energy is transferred back and forth between electron beam and light wave



# High-Gain Free-Electron Laser: Saturation

- energy spread increases
- energy is transferred back and forth between electron beam and light wave
- same saturation level for different input



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron

Radiation

Undulator Radiation

Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

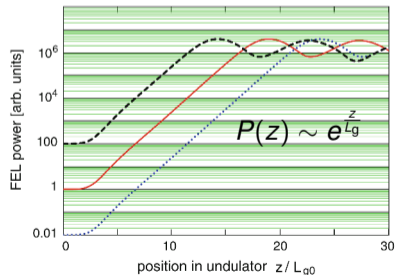
Summary



- gain length describes FEL power growth
- analytical 1D solution in linear/exponential growth regime
  - mono-energetic beam
  - no space charge forces
  - 1D gain length  $L_{g0} = \frac{\lambda_u}{4\pi\sqrt{3}\rho_{FEL}}$

- fundamental FEL / Pierce parameter

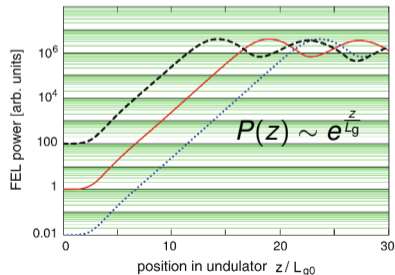
$$\rho_{FEL} = \left( \frac{\mu_0 \hat{K}^2 e^2 n_e}{32 \gamma_r^3 k_u^2 m_e} \right)^{1/3}$$



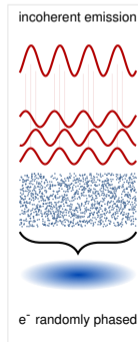
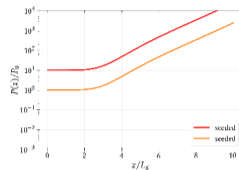
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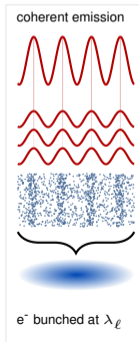
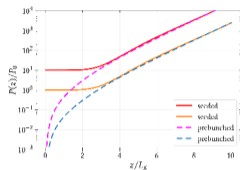
- $\rho_{FEL} = \left( \frac{\mu_0 \hat{K}^2 e^2 n_e}{32 \gamma_r^3 k_u^2 m_e} \right)^{1/3}$
- determines FEL performance
- gain length
- saturation power  $P_s \approx \rho_{FEL} P_{beam}$
- FEL bandwidth  $\sigma_\omega / \omega_\ell \approx \rho_{FEL}$  at saturation



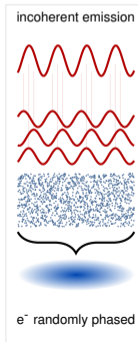
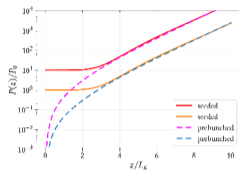
- Seeded FEL
  - initiate FEL process with already existing laser light
  - requires suitable laser source in desired wavelength regime



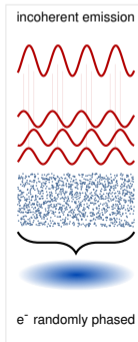
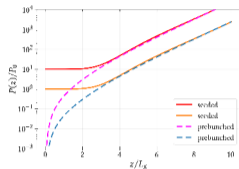
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- Pre-Bunched Beam via External Seeding
  - imprint periodic density modulation on electron bunch before FEL
  - requires seeding section for harmonic up-conversion schemes
  - limited to certain harmonic of seed wavelength



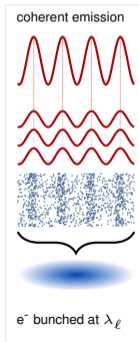
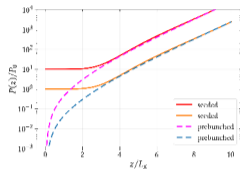
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  - start-up from random electron distribution delivered by accelerator



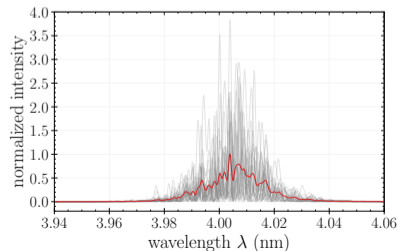
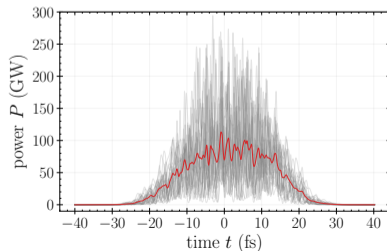
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    - non-vanishing spectral components around resonant wavelength
  - saturation within 18-20 gain lengths
  - limited longitudinal coherence

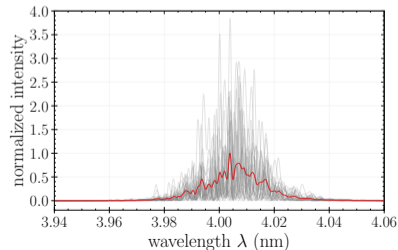
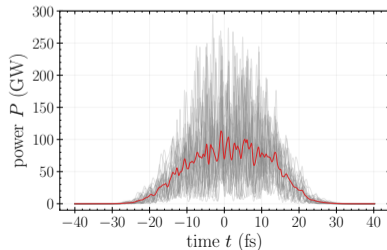


- statistical fluctuations of the spontaneous emission
- shot-to-shot fluctuations, temporal and spectral





- statistical fluctuations of the spontaneous emission
- shot-to-shot fluctuations, temporal and spectral
- sufficiently large statistics is essential for experiments



- need for high quality electron beam → energy spread, emittance, current
  - provided by linear accelerator

Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron  
Radiation

Undulator Radiation

**Free-Electron Laser**

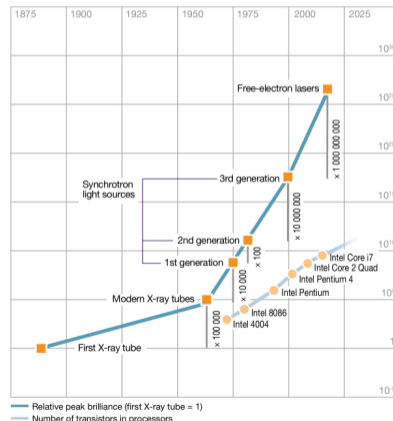
European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

Summary

- need for high quality electron beam → energy spread, emittance, current
  - provided by linear accelerator
  
- spectral brightness
  - $\frac{\text{photons per second}}{\text{angle (mrad}^2) \cdot \text{area (mm}^2) \cdot \text{relative bandwidth (0.1 \% )}}$
  
- up to  $\sim 10^{34}$  in hard x-ray regime
  - atomic positions, chemical selectivity
  
- short pulses (order of fs)
  - atomic motion, diffraction before destruction



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron  
Radiation  
Undulator Radiation  
Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL  
Facility  
Beamlines

Summary

- proposal of a Free-Electron Laser (FEL) by Madey (1971)
- 1976/77: proof-of-principle in infrared oscillator setup

Motivation

Light Sources

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European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

Summary

## First Operation of a Free-Electron Laser\*

D. A. G. Deacon,† L. R. Elias, J. M. J. Madey, G. J. Ramian, H. A. Schwetman, and T. I. Smith  
*High Energy Physics Laboratory, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305*  
(Received 17 February 1977)

A free-electron laser oscillator has been operated above threshold at a wavelength of  $3.4 \mu\text{m}$ .

Ever since the first maser experiment in 1954, physicists have sought to develop a broadly tunable source of coherent radiation. Several ingenious techniques have been developed, of which the best example is the dye laser. Most of these devices have relied upon an atomic or a molecular active medium, and the wavelength and tuning range has therefore been limited by the details of atomic structure.

Several authors have realized that the constraints associated with atomic structure would not apply to a laser based on stimulated radiation by free

electrons.<sup>1,2</sup> Our research has focused on the interaction between radiation and an electron beam in a spatially periodic transverse magnetic field. Of the schemes which have been proposed, this approach appears the best suited to the generation of coherent radiation in the infrared, the visible, and the ultraviolet, and also has the potential for yielding very high average power. We have previously described the results of a measurement of the gain at  $10.6 \mu\text{m}$ .<sup>3</sup> In this Letter we report the first operation of a free-electron laser oscillator.

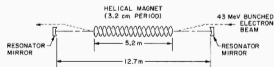


FIG. 1. Schematic diagram of the free-electron laser oscillator. (For more details see Ref. 6.)

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- 1976/77: proof-of-principle in infrared oscillator setup
- 1980s: theoretical and numerical work about single-pass FELs

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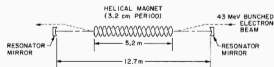


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*Particle Accelerators*  
1980 Vol. 10 pp.207-216  
0031-2460/80/1003-0207\$06.50/0

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## GENERATION OF COHERENT RADIATION BY A RELATIVISTIC ELECTRON BEAM IN AN ONDULATOR\*

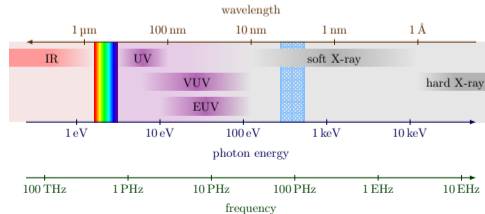
A. M. KONDRATENKO and E. L. SALDIN

*Institute of Nuclear Physics, 630090, Novosibirsk, USSR*

(Received January 28, 1980)

A detailed study of the self-modulation of a relativistic electron beam in an undulator in the single-pass regime is carried out. Beam-parameter conditions are obtained under which the radiative instability in question occurs. The possibility of constructing a source of coherent radiation based on this principle is discussed. The radiation specifications of such a source are analyzed. Control the mass of longitudinal motion with the help of an additional longitudinal magnetic field introduced in the undulator is discussed. Numerical examples are given for sources of submillimeter and infrared-range radiation.

- demonstration of high-gain SASE FELs:
  - millimeter wavelength range (1984, Gold et al.)
  - infrared (1998, Hogan et al.)
  - visible and ultraviolet (2001, Milton et al.)
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spectral ranges according to ISO-21348:2007

Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron

Radiation

Undulator Radiation

Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

Facility

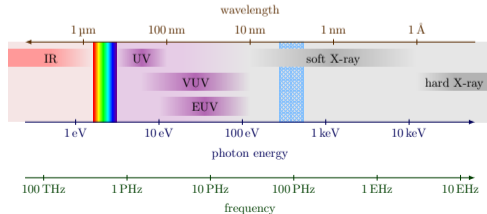
Beamlines

Summary

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- short wavelengths require high energy:  $\lambda_r = \frac{\lambda_u}{2\gamma^2} \left(1 + \frac{K^2}{2}\right)$

- high energy requires long accelerator



spectral ranges according to ISO-21348:2007

# FEL Light Sources



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron

Radiation

Undulator Radiation

Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

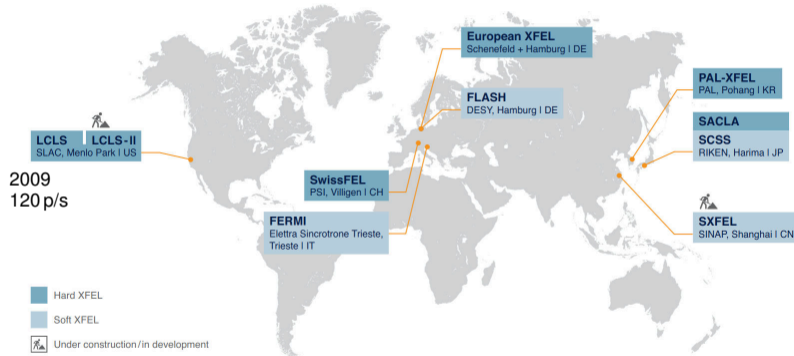
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Summary



# FEL Light Sources



Motivation

Light Sources

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Summary

# FEL Light Sources



Motivation

Light Sources

- Synchrotron Radiation
- Undulator Radiation
- Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

- Facility
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Summary

# FEL Light Sources



Motivation

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Summary

# FEL Light Sources



Motivation

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Beamlines

Summary

# FEL Light Sources



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron

Radiation

Undulator Radiation

Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

Summary

- Construction start early 2009, user operation start September 2017
- total length of 3.4 km (10  $\mu$ s for an electron!)
- twelve European countries contribute to the European XFEL
  - Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom



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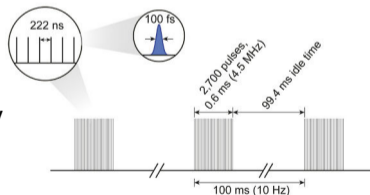


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- wavelength range from 0.05 nm to 4.7 nm
- accelerator based on superconducting technology
  - up to 4.5 MHz intra-train repetition rate
- 27000 bunches/second
- 3 SASE undulator beamlines running in parallel



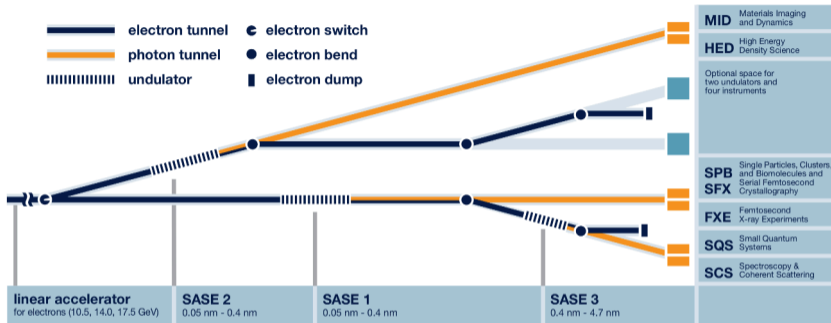
# European XFEL Beamlines



**eurizon**  
European network  
for developing new horizons for RIs

Eurizon 2020+ workshop

Fabian Pannek



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron Radiation

Undulator Radiation  
Free-Electron Laser

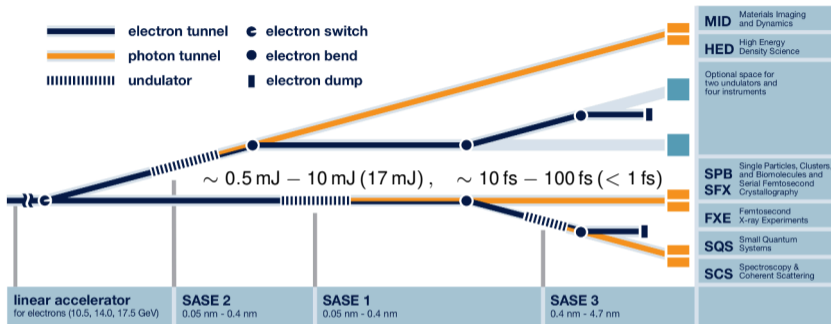
European XFEL

Facility

Beamlines

Summary

# European XFEL Beamlines



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron Radiation

Undulator Radiation  
Free-Electron Laser

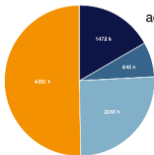
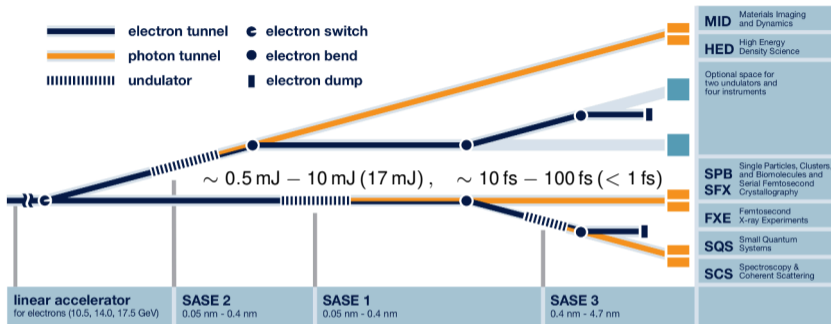
European XFEL

Facility

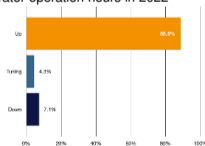
Beamlines

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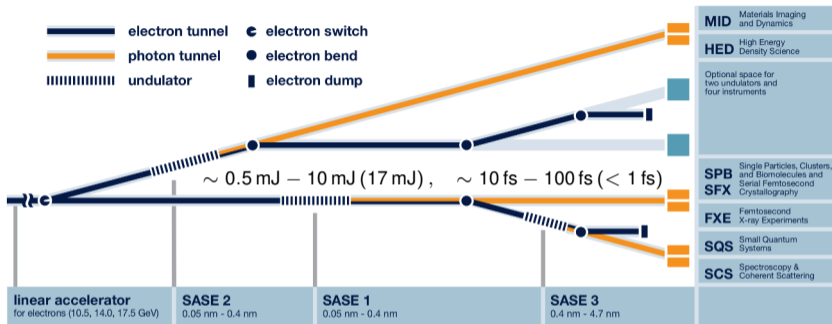
# European XFEL Beamlines



accelerator operation hours in 2022



# European XFEL Beamlines



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron Radiation

Undulator Radiation

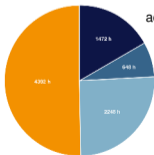
Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

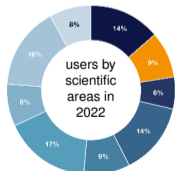
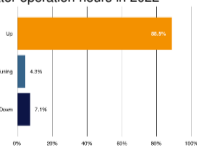
Facility

Beamlines

Summary

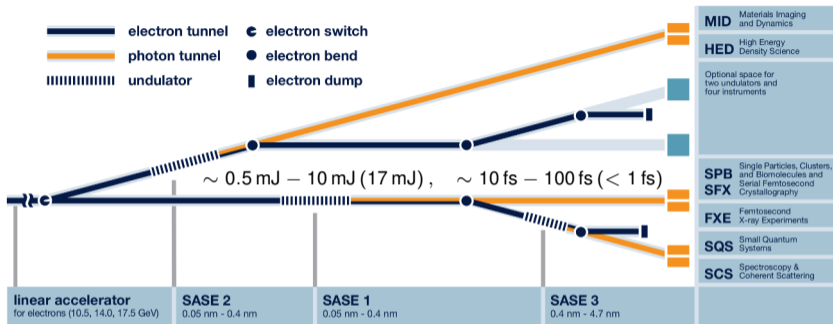


accelerator operation hours in 2022



- Atoms, molecules, clusters, and gas-phase chemistry
- Ferrocatalysis and solid- and liquid-state chemistry
- Hard condensed matter and electronic properties
- Hard condensed matter, structure, and dynamics
- High-field science and non-linear X-ray optics
- Matter under extreme conditions, warm dense matter, and plasmas
- Soft condensed matter
- Structural biology and biocrystallography
- X-ray scattering, X-ray optics, and instrumentation techniques

# European XFEL Beamlines



Motivation

Light Sources

Synchrotron

Radiation

Undulator Radiation

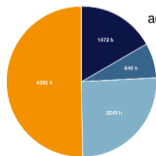
Free-Electron Laser

European XFEL

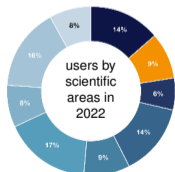
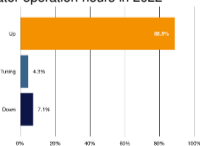
Facility

Beamlines

Summary



accelerator operation hours in 2022



8080 h of X-ray delivery beamtime in 2022

- Atoms, molecules, clusters, and gas-phase chemistry
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European XFEL Annual Report (2022)



- FELs deliver extremely bright, short and spatial coherent radiation
- unique light source in the soft and hard X-ray regime
- high demand from users

Session 2	Results from the Eurizon 2020+ investigations		
11:15-12:00	6 GeV Linac as FEL driver and storage ring injector	Anna Giribono	INFN-LNF
12:00-12:30	X-ray FEL pulse characteristics from the 6 GeV driver	Fabian Pannek	European XFEL
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>		
Session 3	Applications of X-Ray FELs – The European XFEL instruments		
13:30-14:10	Science at the SPB/SFX instrument	Chan Kim	European XFEL
14:10-14:50	Science at the FXE instrument	Mykola Biednov	European XFEL
14:50-15:30	Science at the MID instrument	Ulrike Boesenberg	European XFEL
15:30-16:10	Science at the HED instrument	Ulf Zastrau	European XFEL
16:10-16:40	<i>Coffee Break</i>		
16:40-17:20	Science at the SQS instrument	Tommaso Mazza	European XFEL
17:20-18:00	Science at the SCS instrument	Andreas Scherz	European XFEL
18:00-18:40	Science at the SXP instrument	Manuel Izquierdo	European XFEL
18:40:18:50	<b>Wrap-up</b>		