Ultrafast dynamics in solids, liquid, and gas



- Using pump-probe techniques
- (1) diffraction (x-ray, electron)
- (2) x-ray spectroscopies: XAS, XES, RIXS
- (3) electron spectroscopies: ARPES, XPS, AES, EELS
- (3) optical measurements: reflectivity, photoluminescence, MOKE

• To investigate

(1) Order-melting dynamics: lattice, charge, spin, orbital, ...

(2) Photo-induced phase transition

(3) Roles of intermediate states

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• Usual dynamics in solids

(1) fast order-melting/emerging by creation of e-h pairs

- (2) fast order-recovering by electronic recombination
- (3) slow order-melting by thermal processes

(4) slow order-recovering by cooling



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Ultrafast Electron Diffraction (UED)



• Space charge effects \rightarrow poor temporal resolution





Z. Tao et al., J. Appl. Phys. 111, 044316 (2012)

Why UED?

- 1. 10⁴ 10⁶ times larger scattering cross sections, good to study much smaller samples or gas & liquid.
- 2. Elastic mean-free-path is similar to optical pumping depth, good for pump-probe experiments.
- 3. 10³ times less radiation damage per elastic scattering event.
- 4. Easily manipulated by EM lenses.

MeV UED vs keV UED

- 1. Minimize emittance and bunch length growth.
- 2. Naturally solve the velocity mismatch issue ($v_e < v_{ph}$).

3. RF bunch compress

→ Much better temporal resolution down to 30 fs (500 fs with keV UED).



X. Sun et al., arXiv:2108.04860 (2021)

S. P. Weathersby et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 073702 (2015)

• Schematic of MeV UED beamline @ SLAC





• RF quality



• UV & e-beam quality



- Sample chamber
 - Sample manipulator for translation & rotation
 - Sample holder for TEM grids or SiN windows
- Electron detector



S. P. Weathersby et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 073702 (2015)

TABLE I. Typical machine and beam parameters of the MeV UED system.

Values
120 Hz
79.5 MV/m
10°
0.314 kG-m
40 µm
60 fs
2.5%
75 fC
0.5 mrad
500 µm
60 fC
$400 \mu \mathrm{m}$
18 nm-rad
102 fs
3.68 MeV
6.6×10^{-4}
1.5 mm
60 fs

1st Chamber: Cryo and Quantum Materials

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Techniques

- Time resolution diffraction
- Momentum resolved scattering

Cryogenic Environment (upgrade)

<20 K - 300 K *

*Temperature in the range 10 – 20 K may be achievable in certain circumstances, please discuss feasibility with UED staff

Sample Card

- <10 TEM style samples</p>
- 6 axis motion (X,Y,Z, pitch, yaw, roll)

Laser

800, 400, 266 nm, OPA (UV - 2 um), THz*



Best momentum resolution (< 0.17Å⁻¹)

S. P. Weathersby et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 073702 (2015)

• Reciprocal space resolution



$$\Delta q = 2\pi \frac{\Delta \theta}{\lambda} = 2\pi \frac{\Delta r/L}{\lambda} \approx 2\pi \frac{\sigma_{\theta}}{\lambda} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_{\rm C}} \frac{\epsilon_n}{\sigma_x} \quad (\epsilon_n = \gamma \beta \sigma_x \sigma_\theta)$$

- Δr : rms width of the diffraction spot
- L : distance between sample & detector
- σ_{θ} : beam divergence at the sample
- σ_x : beam size at the sample
- ε_n : normalized emittance
- $\lambda_{\rm C}$: Compton wavelength

q-resolution is determined by ε_n when σ_x is fixed.

Emittance ε = (area of particle distribution in x and α_x)



S. P. Weathersby et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 073702 (2015)

• Beam size & normalized emittance control varying collimator diameter



The solenoid is the only focusing element and is tuned to deliver the sharpest diffraction features to the detector.



※ Phosphor screen resolution

$$\Delta q = 2\pi \frac{\Delta r/L}{\lambda} = 2\pi \frac{10^{-4}/3}{0.33 \times 10^{-2}} \,\text{\AA}^{-1} \approx 0.06 \,\text{\AA}^{-1}$$

perovskite a = 4 Å \rightarrow k_{BZ} = π/a = 0.8 Å⁻¹

S. P. Weathersby et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 073702 (2015)

• Temporal resolution

 $\tau = \sqrt{\tau_e^2 + \tau_{ph}^2 + \tau_{\rm TOA}^2 + \tau_{\rm VM}^2}$

 τ_e : pulse duration of the probe pulse \rightarrow 10° launching phase for shortest bunch length at the sample τ_{ph} : pulse duration of the pump pulse

 τ_{TOA} : time-of-arrival jitter between the pump and probe pulses < 50 fs (slide 3, rf quality) τ_{VM} : velocity mismatch (due to intersection angle between pump and probe pulses)

From the intensity of the (410) ring of 25 nm thick Bi(111)



S. P. Weathersby et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 073702 (2015)

• UED Gallery





Nano materials



Materials for photovoltaic





Diffuse scattering











Light-induced charge density wave in LaTe₃

Gedik group, Nat. Phys. 16, 159 (2020)





Simultaneous observation of nuclear and electronic dynamics by UED Science 368, 885 (2020)



Simultaneous observation of nuclear and electronic dynamics by UED Science 368, 885 (2020)



Toward better temporal resolution

上海交通大學, Phys. Rev. Lett. **124**, 134803 (2020)



Toward better temporal resolution 한국원자력연구원, Nat. Photon. 14, 245 (2020); Struct. Dyn. 7, 034301 (2020)

