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The Frontier of High Field Science

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To Fukushima: With sympathy and camaraderie

Excerpt from 'Greetings from Chair: Epochal Lasers, Epochal Year' in ICUIL Newsletter Toshiki Tajima, ICUIL Chair

'.....As Professor S. Gales has told us, the impact of progress of nuclear physics will be felt on the way to make progress in nuclear engineering such as the nuclear waste monitoring and management. Even though Fermi has made an impressive beginning of nuclear energy and engineering, few breakthroughs that rival his have happened. This is why I have been advocating the importance of what I called <u>'toilet science' as opposed to the predominant conventional efforts in 'kitchen science'</u>, where the latter focuses on the upstream side of energy and matter while the former on the downstream. In other words, the former tries to understand the science how best we can clean up what the nuclear energy production brings out.

In retrospect of the recent nuclear reactor catastrophe after the most powerful earthquake in the recorded history of Japan, I believe that it is even more urgent to make further progress in 'toilet science' of nuclear energy. We are fortunate and proud that the ELI research and the intense laser research around ICUIL (and SPIE*) as a whole can make such a contribution to the society in its urgent problems.'

[1] ELI Scientific Advisory Committee Report: <u>www.extreme-light-infrastructure.eu</u> (March 18, 2011)

* I acknowledge **Prof. Katarina Svanberg**, President of SPIE, for her message toward this crisis.





Gamma beam: directed, energy-specific, brilliant \leftarrow laser Compton (see Barty, Habs) <u>May be employed for Fukushima reactors upon cleanup</u>



-Photons with extremely high energy example already mentioned and later (see also Barty 8080B, Habs)

-Photons with extremely high fields (and coherence) main topic today here (see also 8075, 8079A, 8079B, 8080A, 8080B)



Extreme Light Infrastructure



Czech

Hungary

Romania

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Content



- 1. Ever higher intensity lasers
- 2. <u>Ultrafast optics</u> toward attosecond science
- 3. How can we reduce the pulse length?

Answer---- intensity!

- 4. 'Intensity Pulse Duration Conjecture'
- 5. Examples of attosecond pulses and beyond
- 6. Confluence of <u>ultrafast optics</u> and <u>high field science</u>
- 7. Atom streaking in as \rightarrow vacuum streaking in zs
- 8. Attosecond metrology of
 - $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ signals at the energy frontier

Energy frontier \leftarrow High field science, high intensity laser

relativistic optics: *relativistic coherence* cf. quantum optics: *quantum coherence*







2010 ICUIL World Map of Ultrahigh Intensity Laser Capabilities



(ICUIL, Barty)



$I=J/\tau$

- 2 paths:
 - #1 : increase the laser energy(or fluence J); the larger, the better
 - #2 : decrease the laser pulse length τ ; the shorter, the better



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To reduce \tau
From trivial statement of I = J / \tau
\downarrow
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The nontrivial assertion:

"In order to compress the pulse further, we need to increase the intensity of laser"

Is this true?





Keldysh field for laser atomic ionization Schwinger field for vacuum breakdown



Relativistic nonlinearity under intense laser

Plasma free of binding potential, but its electron responses:

a) Classical optics : v < < c, $a_0 << 1$: δx only b) Relativistic optics: $v \sim c$

 $a_0 >> 1: \delta z >> \delta x$



Rulse Progress from fs to as



Corkum and Krausz (2007)





Figure 1 Shorter and shorter. The minimum duration of laser pulses fell continually from the discovery of mode-locking in 1964 until 1986 when 6-fs pulses were generated. Each advance in technology opened new fields of science for measurement. Each advance in science strengthened the motivation for making even shorter laser pulses. However, at 6 fs (three periods of light), a radically different technology was needed. Its development took 15 years. Now attosecond technology is providing radically new tools for science and is yet again opening new fields for **Figure 2** Creating an attosecond pulse. **a**–**d**, An intense femiosecond near-infrared or visible (henceforth: oplical) pulse (shown in yellow) extracts an electron wavepacket from an atom or molecule. For ionization in such a strong field (a), Newton's equations of motion give a relatively good description of the response of the electron. Initially, the electron is pulsed away from the atom (a, b), but after the field reverses, the electron is driven back (c) where it can 'recollide' during a small fraction of the laser oscillation cycle (d). The parent ion sees an attosecond electron pulse. This

The Coherent Wake Emission



 $x_q \downarrow L$

 Δt_3

200

 Δt_1



(R. Hoerlein, 2010)



Glass Target (Density ⁽¹⁾2.6 g/cm³):

 n_e/n_c

M

0



U. Teubner, et al., PRL, 92, 185001 (2004)

Plexiglass Target (Density (1.3 g/cm^3):



F. Quéré, et al., PRL, 96, 125004 (2006)





attosecond pulse generation

- compress the reflected radiation into attosecond pulses and
- inherit a peaked density distribution.
- Complete modulation of e.m. field occurs. This is relativistic engineering

Efficiency of attosecond phenomena: ~15% converted to attosecond pulses, ~15% to electron bunches.



Naumova et al.(2004)



Relativistic oscillating mirror of solid surface

Bulanov (1994) Nees (2005)

$$a_0=3$$
, $\tau=5$ fs, f/1, n=1.5n_{cr}



(see also Tajima, Wednesday)



Keldysh field and beyond



E. Goulielmakis et al (2008)



Self-focusing in air / vacuum



<u>Critical power for self-focusing</u> in matter /plasma / vacuum: χ_3 (air) nonlinearity

 $P_{cr} = \lambda^2 / (2\pi n_0 n_2) \sim \text{GW}$

relativistic plasma nonlinearity

$$P_{cr} = mc^5/e^2(\omega/\omega_p)^2 \sim 17 \ (\omega/\omega_p)^2 \ \text{GW}$$

vacuum nonlinearity

 $P_{cr} = (90/28) c E_S^2 \lambda^2 / \alpha \sim 10^{15} (\lambda / \lambda_{1\mu})^2 \text{ GW}$

e.g. X-ray of 10keV, $P_{cr} \sim 10$ PW





Studying the **Atomic** Structure to the Vacuum Structure





Momentum Signatures for Schwinger Pair Production in Short Laser Pulses with a Subcycle Structure

F. Hebenstreit,¹ R. Alkofer,¹ G. V. Dunne,² and H. Gies³



Streaking resolving power (Itatani2002; Kienberger 2004): $\Delta t = \sqrt{(\hbar \omega m/eA_0 p_0)} \sim \sqrt{[(\hbar \omega/\varepsilon_0)/a_0]/\omega} \sim zs$

> <u>real spacetime</u> mapping (instead of spectroscopy) of structure/dynamics of vacuum (QED and perhaps QCD)

Gluon Plasma, Nuclear Wake, String Theory

J. Ulery (2007)

- <u>Monojet</u> (or jet suppression) in BNL and CERN heavy ion collision.
- Superstring theory (Maldacena Conjecture) on heavy ion collisions

Quantum Gluon Plasma (QGP)



Maldacena method: QCD wake (Chesler/Yaffe 2008)



 Monojet could be caused by: <u>Collective deceleration of quark</u> in the nuclear wakefield

²⁶ (Homma, BNL collab2010)



No wave breaks and wake peaks at v≈c



(The density cusps. Cusp singularity) (see 8079A) Wave **breaks** at v<c









Challenge Posed by DG Suzuki

Frontier science driven by advanced accelerator

1000 times .

resolution



1 ps = 10⁻¹² s 13/39 atto-, zeptosecond (I have tried to show this)

Photosynthetic

reaction in leafs

Femto-sec Beam

Technology

~ 100 fs

compact, ultrastrong a

Can we meet the challenge?

A. Suzuki @KEK(2008)

Rhodopsin

of metal-to-insulator

Photo-switching



γ-ray signal from primordial GRB

LETTERS

NATURE





Energy-dependent photon speed ? Observation of primordial Gamma Ray Bursts (GRB) (limit is pushed up close to Planck mass)

Lab PeV γ (from e-) can explore this with control

Figure 1 | Light curves of GRB 090510 at different energies. a, Energy

lowest to highest energies. f also overlays energy versus arrival time for each

Feel vacuum texture: PeV energy y



Laser acceleration \rightarrow <u>controlled laboratory</u> test to see quantum gravity texture on photon propagation (Special Theory of Relativity: c_0)





Goulielmakis(2008)

8 Delay (fs

Conclusions



- 1. Extreme Light: γ -beams; high field lasers
- 2. Quantum Optics \leftrightarrow Relativistic Optics (rel. coherence)
- 2. To reduce the pulse length,

need to increase the intensity

- 3. Ultrafast Optics ↔ High Field Science
- 4. <u>Highest energy laser</u> \rightarrow <u>Shortest</u> pulses
- 5. Attosecond \rightarrow Zeptosecond
- 6. Vacuum physics can learn from Atomic physics e.g. laser streaking of atom
- 7. <u>Vacuum physics</u> ↔ <u>Atomic physics</u>
- 8. High energy LWFA toward PeV with highest energy laser \rightarrow examine Einstein's relativity, Quantum gravity w/ γ -assisted attosecond Schwinger process



(Mourou, 2010)