

Nuclear Engineering Research Laboratory Graduate School of Engineering University of Tokyo

Mono-energetic Electron Generation and Plasma Diagnosis Experiments in a Laser Plasma Cathode

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University of TOKYO Nuclear Professional School Laser Acceleration Group



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17TW-37fs Ti:Sappire Laser facility

(Collaborators)

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High quality femtosecond electron beam

- 10 fs pulse duration
- 1 nC charge
- ΔE/E ~ 1 %
- Jitter free



Femtosecond pump-probe analysis

Fast processes in radiation chemistry

Electronic behavior in THz devices

Femtosecond X-ray generation through laser Compton scattering

 $E \sim 1 - 10$ keV, (~ 10^9 photon/s, within 1 deg)

2-staged Acceleration







(Tajima and Dawson Phys. Rev. Lett. 43, 267, (1979))



Femtosecond Electron Injector by Plasma Wave Breaking





Wave-breaking field
E_B~[2(ω/ω_{pl}-1)]^{1/2} mcω_{pl}/e
Density gradient
λ_{pl} N/(dN/dx)~1

ω:Laser frequency $ω_{pl}$: plasma frequency $λ_{pl}=2πc/ω_{pl}$ $λ_{pl}$: plasma wavelength



Reference : S.V.Bulanov, et al, Phys.Rev.E. 58, R5257

Experimental Setup at Univ. of Tokyo









Laser Parameters (Ti:Sapphire 17TW, 37fs)



Experimental Setup (Gas, Focusing, Beam Generation)







Summary of Prepulse effects -1



Reference: T.Hosokai, et al., Phys Rev.E 67,036407 (2003)

Summary of Prepulse effects -2









Channel Formation Inside Pre-plasma Cavity



Shadowgraph Images



* Polarization: parallel to the axis of probe pulse.



A Narrow Channel Formation Inside Pre-plasma Cavity

Interferogram



* Polarization: parallel to the axis of probe pulse.

Shadowgraph Images overlapped with Thomson Scattering.





* Polarization: perpendicular to the axis of probe pulse.

Optical guiding channel formation process





Density structure inside cavity





PIC Simulation





Over focus in a density channel & Rapid injection by wave breaking





Energy Spectra, (Experiment and PIC Simulation)



Further acceleration by capillary discharges, Optical guiding by Fast Z-pinch discharges







Gate CCD Images of Ti:sapphire Lase pulse



2-staged acceleration using a gas-jet injector with capillary discharges is one of the most promising approach to produce high quality electron bunch with tens MeV, tens fs, and quasi-mono energetic distribution.

Injector -- Laser plasma cathode

- Cavity formaton & Density steepening
 - Expanding shock by ns pre-pulse
- Narrow channel Formation inside the cavity
 - Focusing of ps-pulse due to density effects inside the wall ?
- Optical guiding through pre-channel inside the cavity

Quasi-mono energetic electrons by LWFA

Next Step

Further acceleration using capillary discharges.

Approach to quasi mono-energitic femtosecond electron bunch



Staged Acceleration

• A plasma channel can serve as a media for perfect wake-field for further acceleration generated via wave-breaking



Selfinjection



<u>A. Zhidkov, et.al</u> Phys. Rev. E **69**, 035401(R) (2004)