

Challenges of Sample Delivery

for the European XFEL

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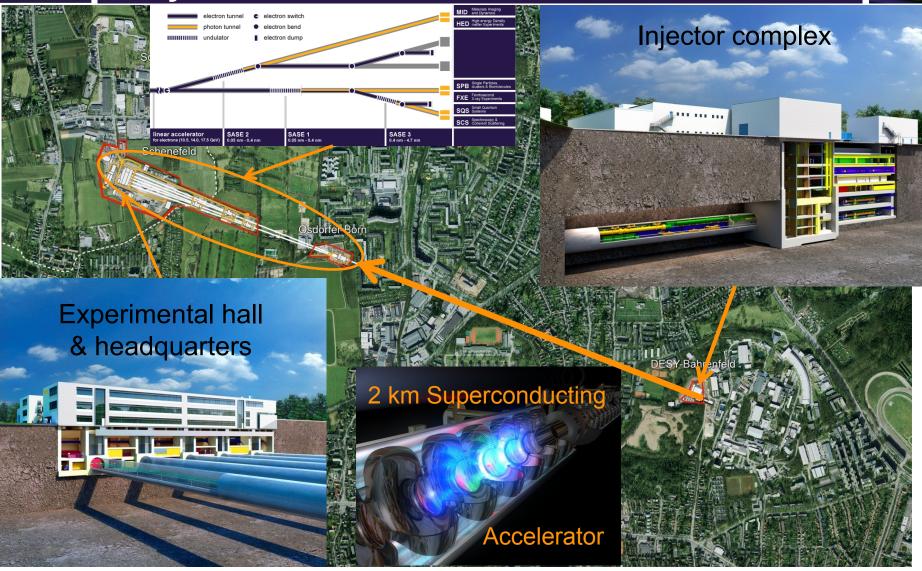
XFEL The DESY campus





X-ray Free-Electron Laser







XFEL Six scientific instruments



SQS Small Quantum Systems

SCS Spectroscopy & Coherent Scattering

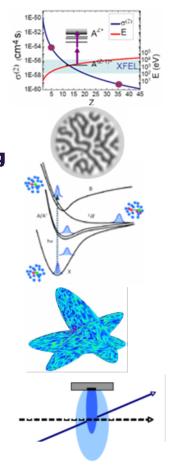
FXE Femtosecond X-ray Experiments

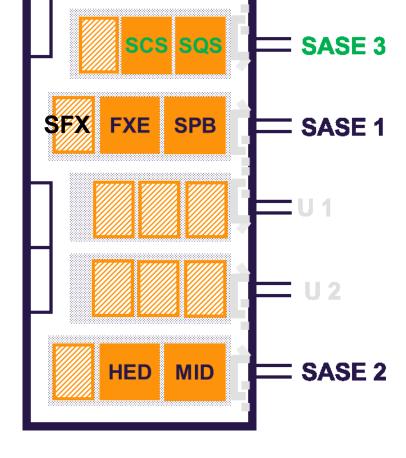
SPB Single Particle & Biomolecules

HED High Energy

Density Science

MID Materials Imaging & Dynamics







FEL Sample Environment Group



Sample environment for six instruments

- Setting standards for basic instrumentation
- Providing solutions for special sample handling (cold, hot, ambient)
- Clean preparation and transfer of surface samples
- Provide equipment for quality control

User support

- Provide lab space and equipment for sample preparation
- Support users in using XFEL equipment
- Help with integration of user equipment

In-house research

- Develop new methods for sample delivery
- Collaborate with European XFEL instrument groups
- Own research at synchrotrons and FELs



XFEL Overview over sample types



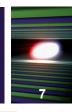
Surface Gas phase

Samples	Pressure	Temperature	Fields
Free Atoms	UHV	Heating?	-
Molecules	UHV	Heated nozzle	Electric
Clusters	UHV	Controlled	-
Aerosols	HV	-	-
Living cells	Wet HV	-	-
Surfaces	XHV	Controlled/cryogenics	Magnetic
Surface chemistry	Ambient cell	Controlled	-
Liquid jets	Air/He/HV	Controlled	-
Liquid drops	Air/He/HV	Controlled	-
Microscopic solid samples	UHV	Controlled/cryogenics	-
Bulk material	Air/He/HV	Controlled	Magnetic

HV: ~10⁻⁵mbar, UHV: ~10⁻⁸mbar, XHV: ~10⁻¹¹mbar,



XFEL Sample environment group



Biology

- Aerodynamic lens (Uppsala IKC)
- Bio-labs (together with UseXBI UC)
- Droplets
- Advanced preparation

Fixed targets

- Hexapod
- Ultra-fast sample change
- Sandwiches
- Cryo samples
- · In gas cell

Gases

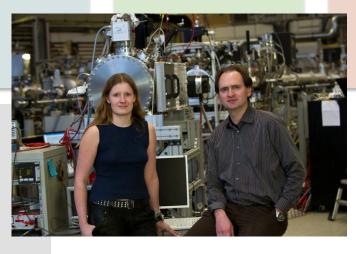
- COMO UC
- Ultrasonic beam
- Cluster beam
- Gas cell

Liquids

- Droplets in vacuum
- Nanodroplets
- Jets and sheets
 - In air
 - In vacuum

Scientists

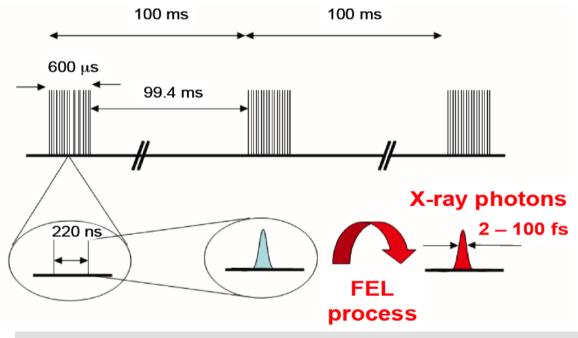
- Sadia Bari
- Charlotte Uetrecht
- Two more to be hired





Unique time structure





Looking at trains we reach 0.6% duty cycle

- 2700 pulses in each train
- ■220 ns between pulses
- 10 trains/sec
- ■Pulse length ~ 25 fs
- Flexibility in sending a given electron bunch down a given undulator

Pulsed liquid or aerosol sources

- 10 Hz with single shot trains
- 27 kHz with 4.5 MHz within the train (220ns separal
- 600 Hz with 100kHz within the train (10µs separation)

Fast fixed target change



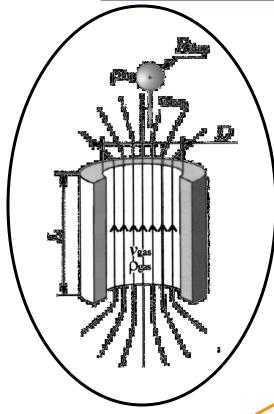


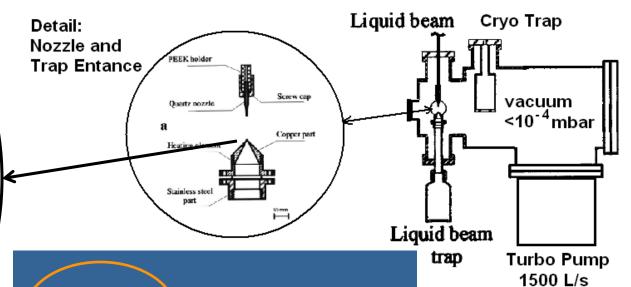
Liquids



XFEL Liquid jet concept

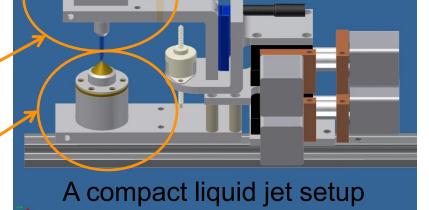






Modular setup

Nozzle and catcher independently exchangeable





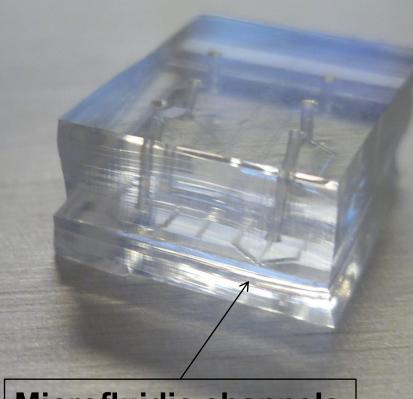
XFEL Microfluidic devices



Bayreuth University

Stephan Förster **Martin Trebbin** With CFEL





Microfluidic channels form a nozzle

XFEL Reasons for liquids



A few reasons to use liquid jets

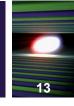
- Study biological samples in natural environment
- Study liquids
 - Reaction dynamics
 - Phase transitions
- Fast exchange of the target by flow rate

Some experiments require flat sheets rather than round jets

- X-ray absorption spectroscopy
 - Well defined sample thickness
- Resonant x-ray scattering
 - Well defined scattering angle



XFEL Flat sheet technology

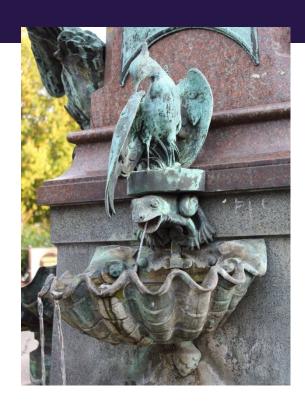


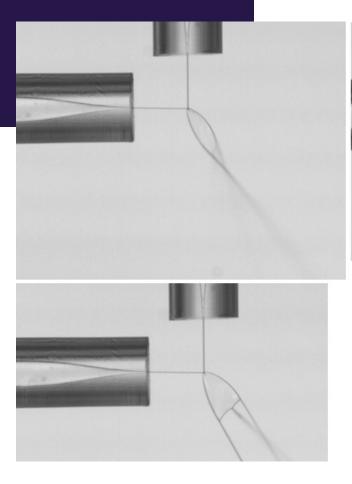
Ideas how to produce flat sheets

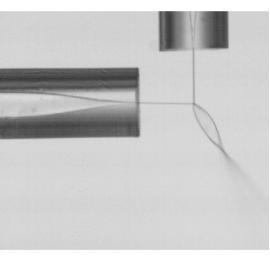
Flat nozzle

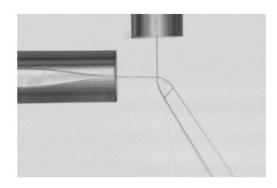
External shaper

Combine two round jets

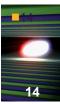












Solids



XFEL In-vacuum motorization (piezo motors)

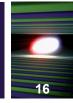




- Compact and fast
- Modularity
- Pressures <10-7 mbar</p>
- Established for
 - bio-imaging
 - gas phase spectroscopy
- Can be combined with cryogenics



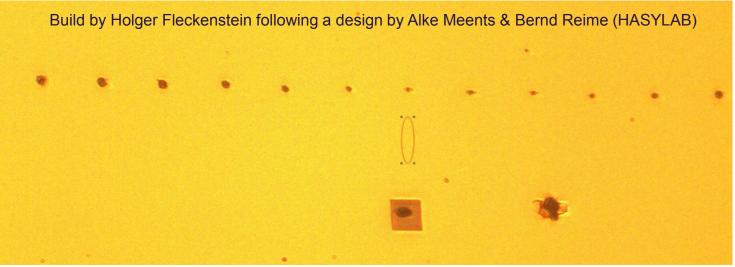
In-vacuum microscope for sample control





Specs

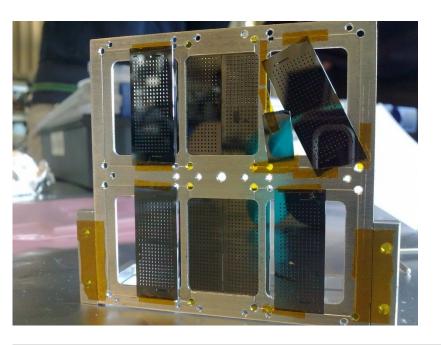
- 10x Mitutoyo Objective
- Black anodized tubus
- 3 mm holes in optics
- 1x imaging on ½" CCD
- 3 Megapixel detector
- Resolution <2 µm
- Field of view 480x640 µm





Demands on 10Hz sample change





Typical setup at FLASH

- 5x5 to 200x200µm² Si₃N₄ windows
- Window distance 750 to 1000µm

Samples for XFEL

- small Si₃N₄ windows
- Other materials considered
- Small windows closer together

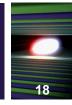
Possible solutions

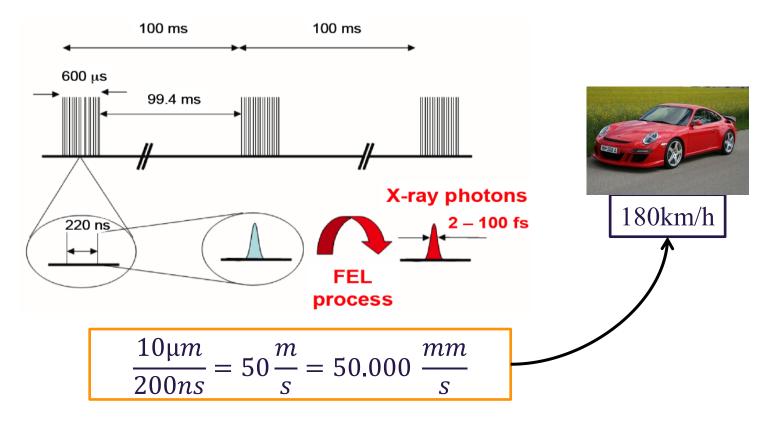
- Synchronized sweep with constant speed >10mm/s
- Pre-programmed positioning with move-on trigger after shot
- Faster move-commanding with Beckhoff etherCAT

Software rather than hardware challenge



Really fast positioning (up to 4.5MHz)



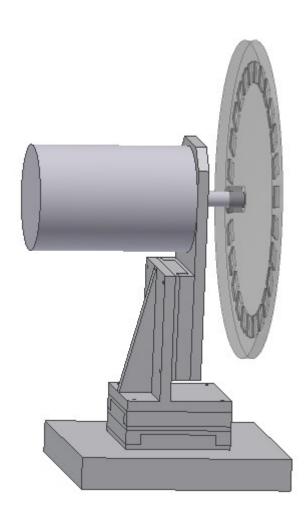


Cannot be reached with conventional linear stages



FEL Idea: A fast spinning rotating wheel





Assuming

- Outer diameter 300mm
- Samples on 100 to 140mm radius
- Linear speed 50m/s
- 3400 to 4777 rpm

$$a_z = \frac{v^2}{r} = 17.900 - 25.000 \ \frac{m}{s^2}$$

To be considered

- What samples endure theses forces?
- Can structured windows hold droplets with biological samples?
- Tilted mounting of samples possible?



FEL Conclusions



Sample Environment Group

Responsible for all sample env.
Gas / liquid / solid
Four scientists
Engineer
Technicians

Challenges and Chances

- High repetition rate
 - Chance for effective use of time and sample
 - Needs fast sample delivery
- High peak power
 - Space charge effects

Liquid samples

- Compact setup for jets in vacuum
- Modular setup
 - Replaceable nozzle
 - Recover liquids
- Liquid flat sheets desired
 - Concept ideas

Fast solid sample exchange

10 Hz sample exchangeHardware availableSoftware to be developed

4.5 MHz sample exchange
High accelerations
Difficult to synchronize