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Femtosecond Time-Resolved Resonant Soft X-ray Diffraction Studies of Strongly Correlated Materials

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Resonant Soft X-Ray Diffraction at the LCLS free electron laser is used to probe stimulated dynamics in two canonical strongly correlated materials. In the first example, I'll discuss the reconstruction of the 3D scattering volume of the (.25 .25 .5) antiferromagnetic reflection in the layered compound La0.5Sr1.5MnO4 measured at the Mn L-edge. Upon stimulation at near infrared wavelengths, the full scattering volume helps us visualize a transient incommensurability in the scattering wave vector, which recovers on a timescale of under 3ps. In the second example, we study the stripe ordered cuprate La1.875Ba.125CuO4. We measure the structural, LTT-allowed, (0 0 1) reflection and the stripe ordered (.25 0 .5) reflection at the O K-edge and observe their dynamic decoupling when subjected to IR excitation resonant with an optical phonon.

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