Digital Twinning: Activities on the European XFEL Accelerator Side

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Virtual XFEL

A copy of the accelerator control system

... to test software, procedures, algorithms... before the real machine is available... while the real machine is in operation... when it is too hard to test on the real machine







Orbit

RF / LLRF

niector

ß



SINBAD-ARES Linear Accelerator

FLASH **Free-Electron Laser**

Controls

European XFEL Free-Electron Laser

Virtual XFEL "Digital Twin" of European XFEL







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Control System Addresses



XFEL.MAGNETS/MAGNET.ML/BB.100.I1/STRENGTH.SP



XFEL_SIM.MAGNETS/MAGNET.ML/BB.100.I1/STRENGTH.SP



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XFEL Control System





Virtual XFEL Control System

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XFEL Control System



• Physics simulation



VXFEL Physics Simulation

Single-particle tracking through multiple branches of the accelerator

Outputs:

- Beam position
- Charge (full transmission up to $|x|^2 + |y|^2 > r_{max}^2$)
- Screens with Gaussian beam spots

- Tracking in "real time" (at 10 Hz)
- Custom C++ tracking library
 - Mostly linear optics (few nonlinear elements)
 - Ready for multi-particle tracking
 - Limited physics: No collective effects etc.





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Start-to-End (S2E) Beam Dynamics Simulations

Tracking simulated particle bunches from the gun to a point of interest (e.g. an undulator)

- ... to understand how to improve beam quality
- ... to optimize machine parameters
- ... to explain observed beam behavior or predict it



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Start-to-End Simulations

- Simulate many (macro-)particles
 In extreme cases 1:1 with real bunch (6×10⁹ for 1 nC)
- Take all electromagnetic fields into account
 - External: Magnets, cavities
 - Internal: Space charge, coherent synchrotron radiation (CSR), intra-beam scattering
 - Wake fields, CSR shielding
- Tradeoff between accuracy and calculation speed
 Use adaptive 2D and 3D grids (particle-in-cell approach) instead of particle-to-particle interaction





More Particles Reveal More Physics

Particles	1	~10 ³	~10 ⁶	~10 ⁹
Effects	Orbit tracking	6D (non-)linear optics: Bunch envelope, emittance growth, dynamic aperture	Collective effects of 'continuous' distributions: Space charge, CSR, wake fields	Noise-driven effects: µ-bunching instability, intra-beam scattering, ISR
Code examples	MAD, PETROS	MAD, RACETRACK, elegant,	ASTRA, CsrTrack, Xtrack, Ocelot,	Impact-Z,





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Select code, method, grid by region (injector with v≠c) and beam parameters (longitudinal spike after compression) Expand and shrink particle numbers along the way without changing noise characteristics



Summary & Outlook

The Virtual XFEL allows us to …

- test control system aspects: data throughput, timing, bunch pattern handling, naming conventions.
- develop and test GUI and display concepts.
- test high level & middle layer software before deploying it to the accelerator.
- simulate limited physics: single-particle trajectory & basic envelope
- Ideas for upgrades:
 - Multi-particle tracking
 - Simulate (fake) FEL output to test FEL optimizer tools
 - Use fast (ML?) models for collective effects etc.

Our start-to-end simulations...

- allow in-depth study of collective effects on the electron bunch.
- provide critical input for accelerator design and optimization.
- require time and, often, manual fine-tuning of parameters.

Outlook:

- More work on photon transport to experiments
- Integrate and benchmark against measurement results



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