

# NLS Timing and Synchronisation

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STFC Daresbury Laboratory



Science & Technology  
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# NLS Timing and Synchronisation

Graeme Hirst<sup>1</sup> and Steven Jamison<sup>2</sup>  
**with a lot of helpful advice**

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# Talk Outline

- NLS overview
- T&S principles
- An example subsystem
- Issues
- Tests on ALICE
- Conclusions



# NLS Overview

The New Light Source parameters were set by a consultation exercise which resulted in the published science case\*:

- Equispaced pulses at **1kHz** (day 1) rising to **100kHz/1MHz**
- **20fs FWHM** pulse duration ( $\sim 8.5$ fs)
- FEL1 **50-300eV** (direct seeding from **tunable** HHG source)  
FEL2 **250-850eV** (direct HHG seeding to, perhaps, 400eV)  
FEL3 **430-1000eV** (short-pulse SASE or one-stage HGHG  
or direct seeding if/when possible)

FEL harmonics **up to 5keV**

- **500-20mm** synchronous THz/IR from spent beam undulators
- **Variably-polarised** FEL output

\*<http://www.newlightsource.org/documents/NLS%20Science%20Case%203Oct08.pdf>



# NLS Status and Plans

- Science case published Oct 2008
- 1-year design effort approved Dec 2008
- Open design meeting Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009
- Open community meeting Apr 24<sup>th</sup> 2009
- Outline design ready Early Q3 2009
- Detailed design submitted Early/mid Q4 2009



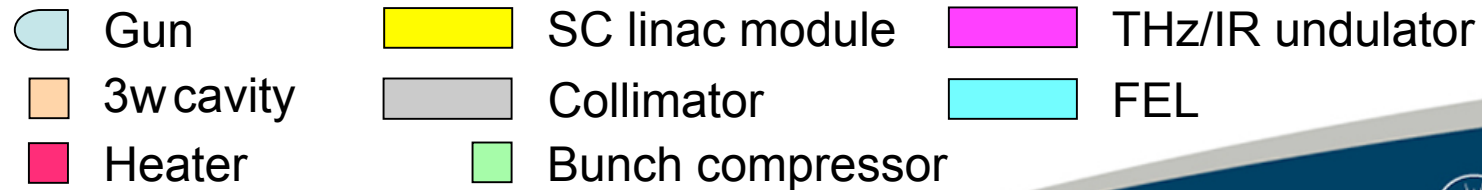
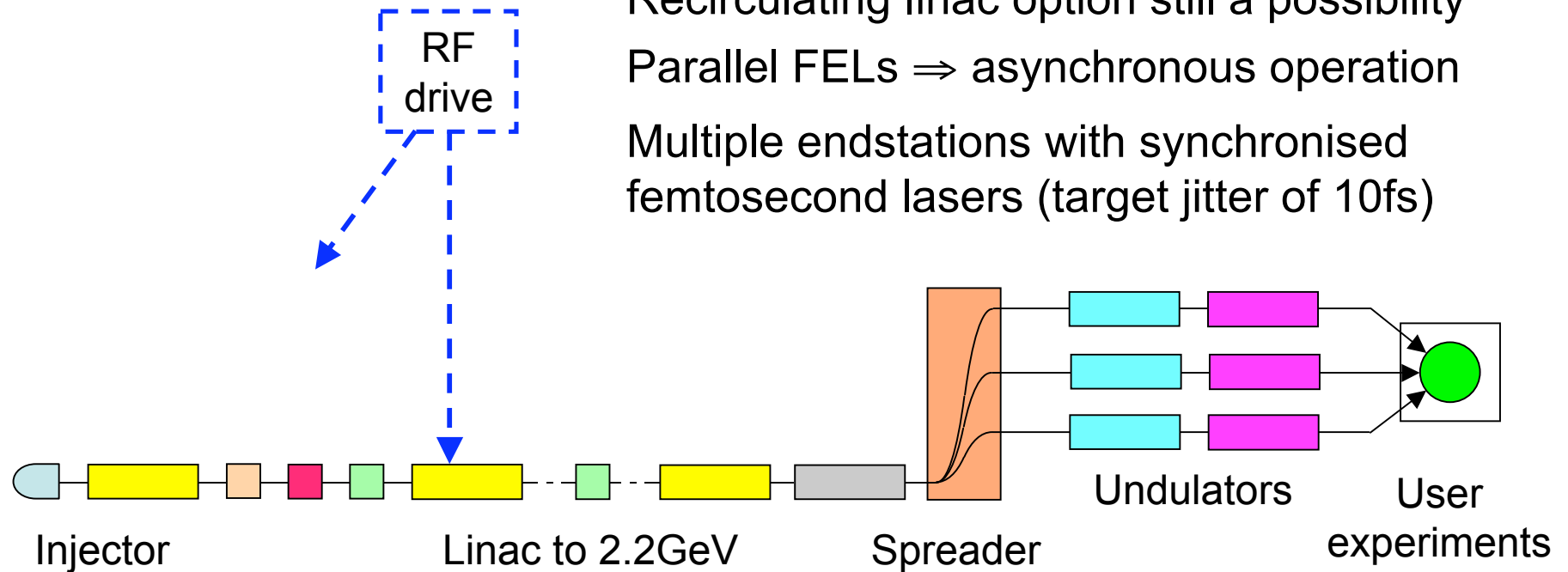
# NLS Schematic

Time structure  $\Rightarrow$  SC acceleration

Recirculating linac option still a possibility

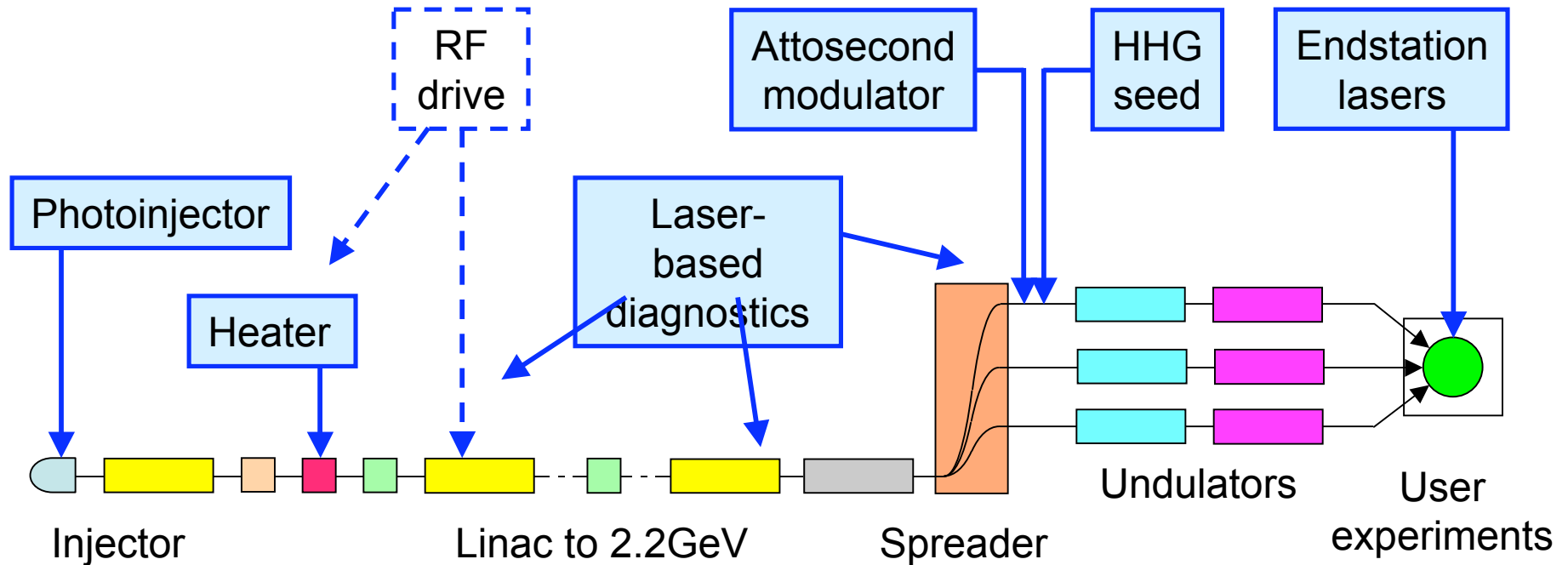
Parallel FELs  $\Rightarrow$  asynchronous operation









Multiple endstations with synchronised femtosecond lasers (target jitter of 10fs)



# NLS Schematic

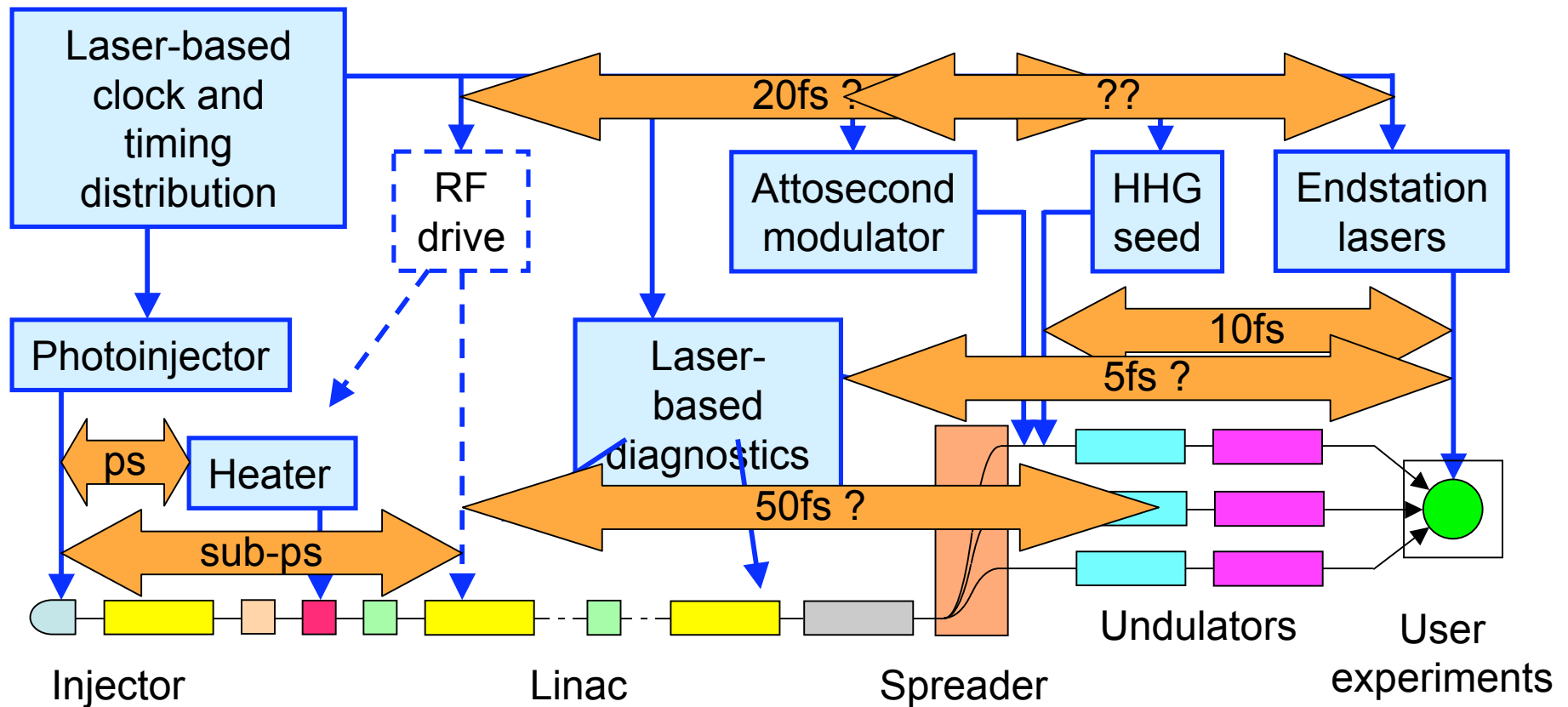
Conventional lasers











- |   |           |   |                  |   |                  |
|---|-----------|---|------------------|---|------------------|
|  | Gun       |  | SC linac module  |  | THz/IR undulator |
|  | 3w cavity |  | Collimator       |  | FEL              |
|  | Heater    |  | Bunch compressor |   |                  |



# Synchronisation Requirements



Jitters to be "as low as possible", ranging from <10fs to ps

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|  Gun       |  Linac module     |  THz/IR undulator |
|  3w cavity |  Collimator       |  FEL              |
|  Heater    |  Bunch compressor |  |



# T&S Design Principles

## IN GENERAL

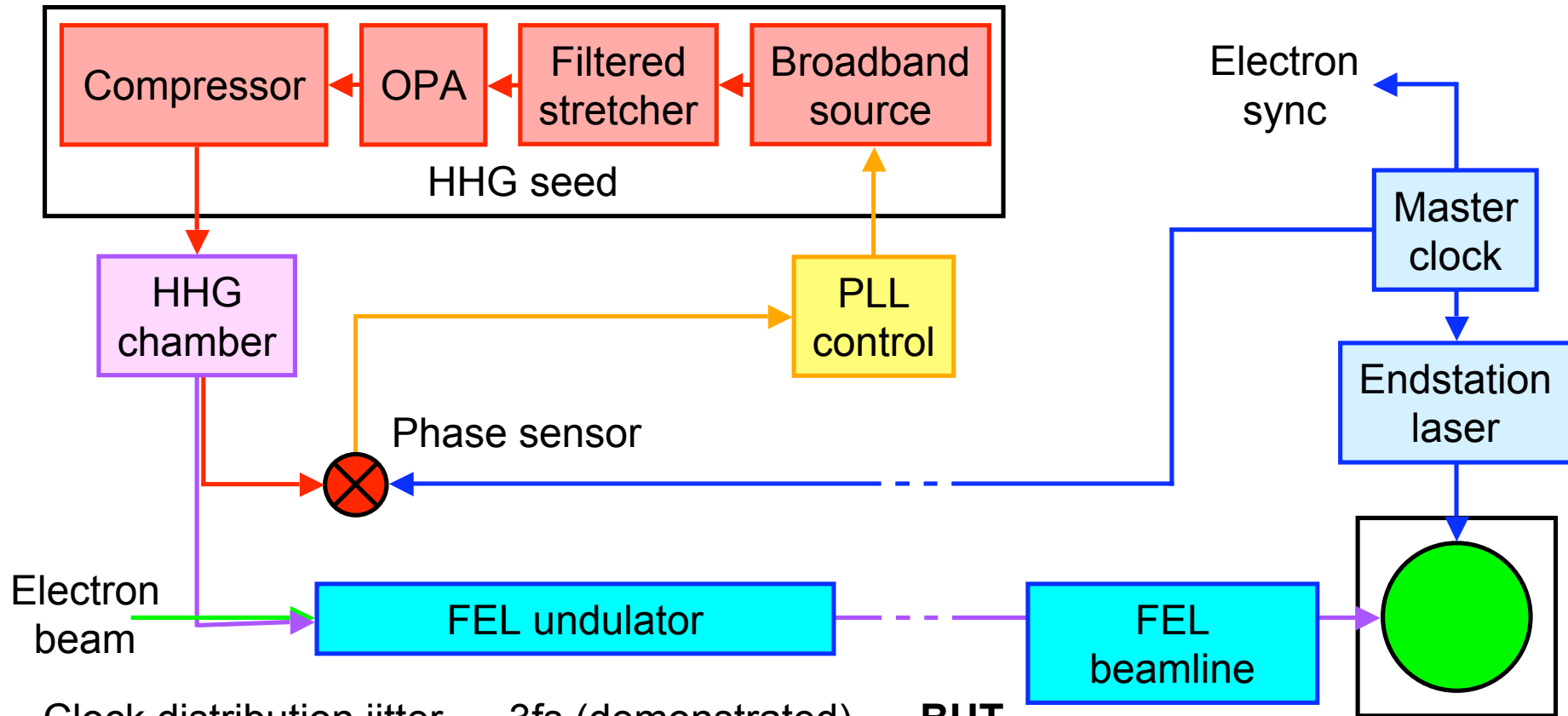
- Buy what we can, build what we must
  - Reliability and availability of support are vital for a user facility
- Spend up to the budget limit on minimising intrinsic noise
  - These decisions often need to be made at the design stage, before measurements or even reliable modelling can be carried out

## FOR ACTIVE CONTROL SYSTEMS

- Put sensors where they measure what we *care* about
- Put actuators where they control the *source* of the noise
- Transport fast (input) signals only over short distances, and slow (output, control) signals over longer distances



# Seed Laser Synchronisation

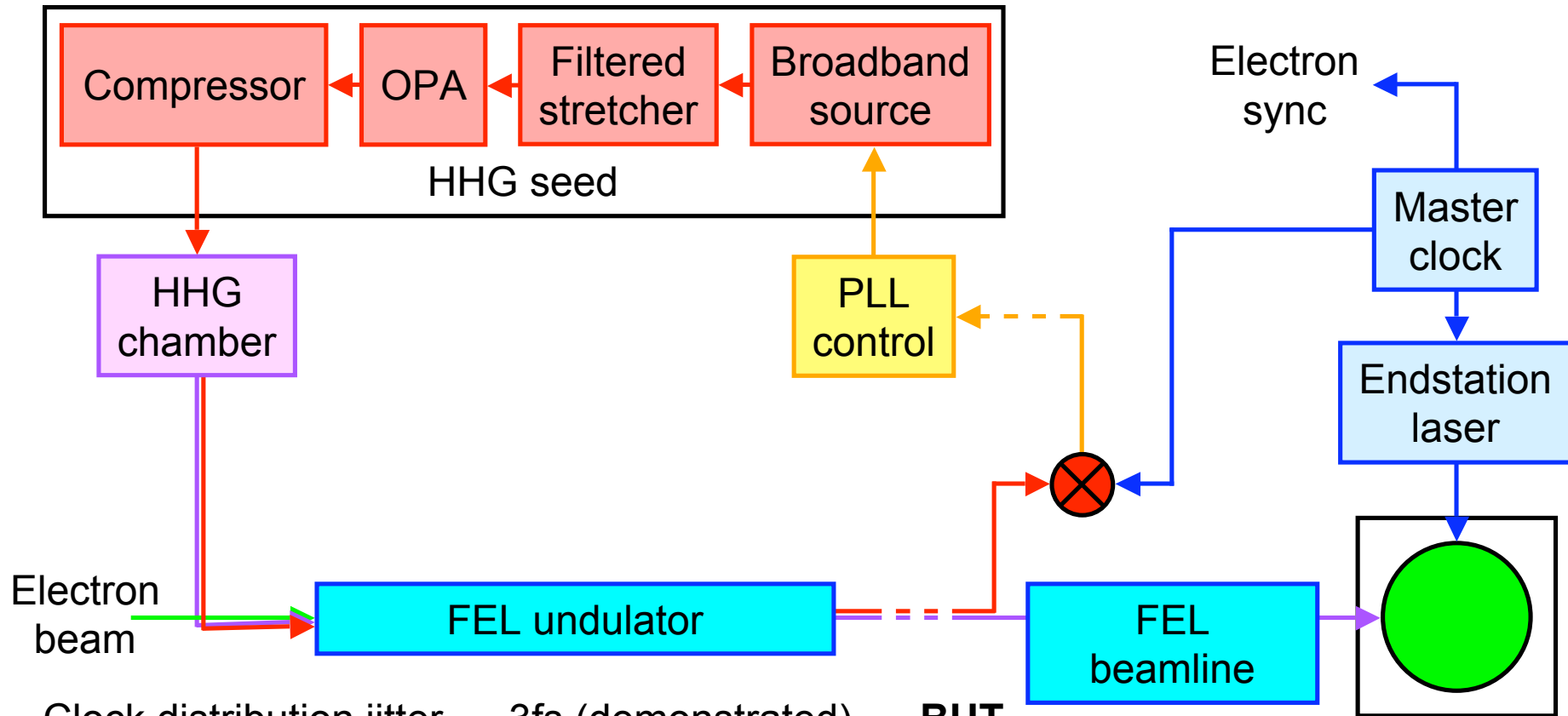


Clock distribution jitter 3fs (demonstrated)  
 Endstation laser locking 5fs (target)  
 HHG seed laser locking 5fs (target)  
 Harmonic to pump jitter < 1fs (demonstrated)

**QUADRATURE SUM < 8fs**

**BUT**  
 Neglects FEL/beamline transport  
 May need >1kHz laser

# Seed Laser Synchronisation

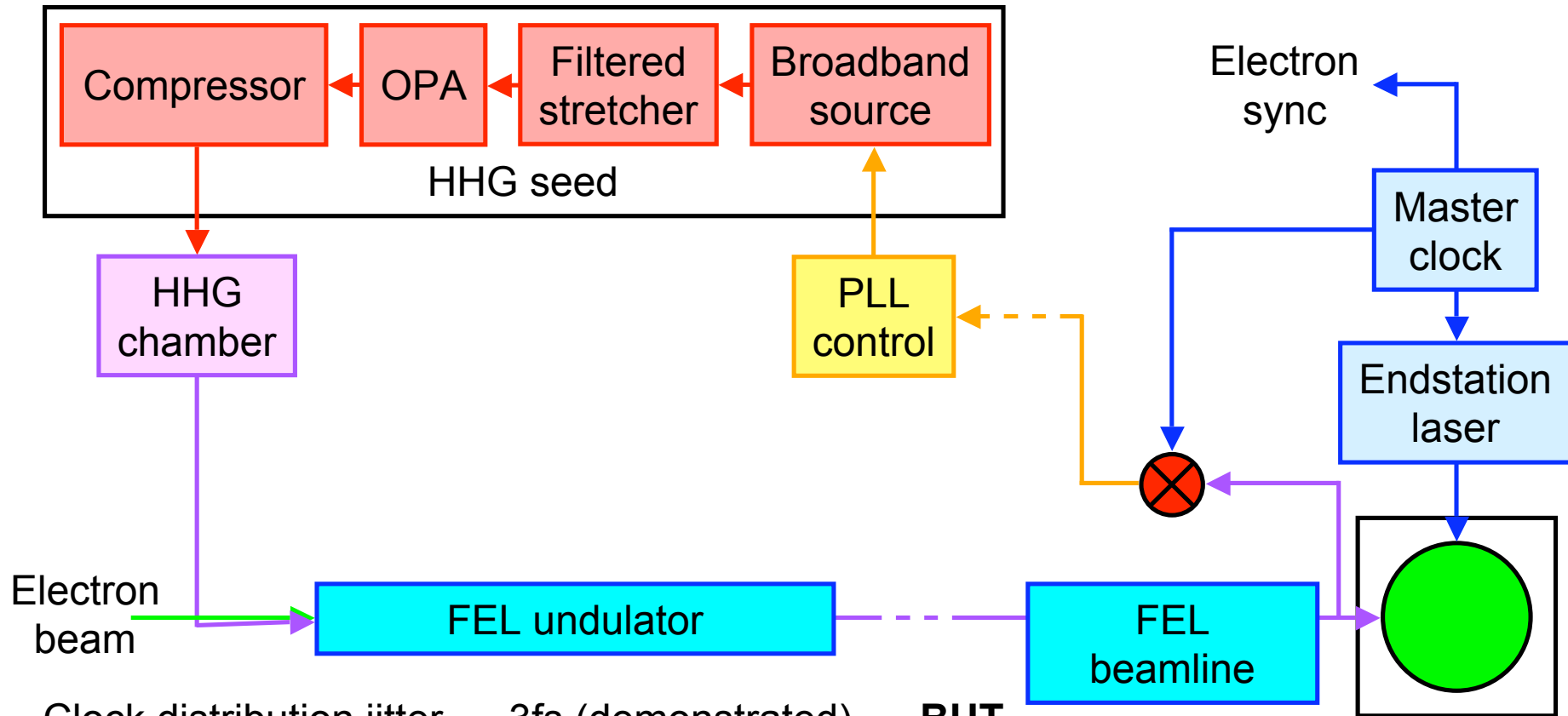


Clock distribution jitter 3fs (demonstrated)  
 Endstation laser locking 5fs (target)  
 HHG seed laser locking 5fs (target)  
 Harmonic to pump jitter < 1fs (demonstrated)  
 Transport through FEL 5fs (target)

**QUADRATURE SUM ~9fs**

**BUT**  
 Neglects beamline transport  
 Needs probe through FEL

# Seed Laser Synchronisation



- Clock distribution jitter 3fs (demonstrated)
- Endstation laser locking 5fs (target)
- HHG seed laser locking 5fs (target)
- Harmonic to pump jitter < 1fs (demonstrated)
- FEL/beamline transport 5fs (target)

**QUADRATURE SUM ~9fs**

**BUT**  
Needs fast VUV/XUV sensor  
(Won't work for FEL  
set-up)

# T&S Component Requirements

- Master clock
  - fibres laser locked to stable RF (Rb ? GPS ?) at low  $f_{\text{offset}}$
  - pulse rate = 216.67MHz or 162.5MHz ?
- Clock distribution
  - few-fs per link jitter, stable (connectorised vs spliced), durable (rad hard ?, temperature & vibration insensitive ?)
- RF recovery
  - 10-20fs jitter OK for direct seeding, <10fs for short-pulse SASE, compatible with beam-based feedback to LLRF ?
- Ultrafast laser locking
  - 5fs jitter target for ultrafast source (Ti:S ? broadband source for OPCPA ?)
- Electron BAM system
  - including LLRF feedback



# Timing and Synchronisation Issues

- The exact subsystem pulse rates (and time structures ?)
- The balance between passive stabilisation of the design (expensive) and feedback control (technically limited)
- Specification of common components for manufacture
- Day 1 operation at a pulse rate near 10kHz
- S2E modelling of electron bunch arrival time sensitivities
- Beam-based feedback to LLRF (?) to control electron bunch arrival time
- Development of a fast VUV/XUV sensor (cross-correlator ?)
- THz/IR synchronisation to FELs



# Optical Timing Tests at Daresbury

## STATUS

### ALICE is operational

*Energy recovery Dec 2008, THz from compressed bunches Jan 2009*

*Compton scattering experiments begin Apr 2009 (sub-ps synchronisation required)*

## TIMING/SYNCHRONISATION TESTBED

### Fibre laser oscillators are ready

*Commercial – Toptica*

*Home-built Er system (through  
DESY collaboration)*

### Distribution hardware in hand

*Installation on ALICE mid-late 2009*

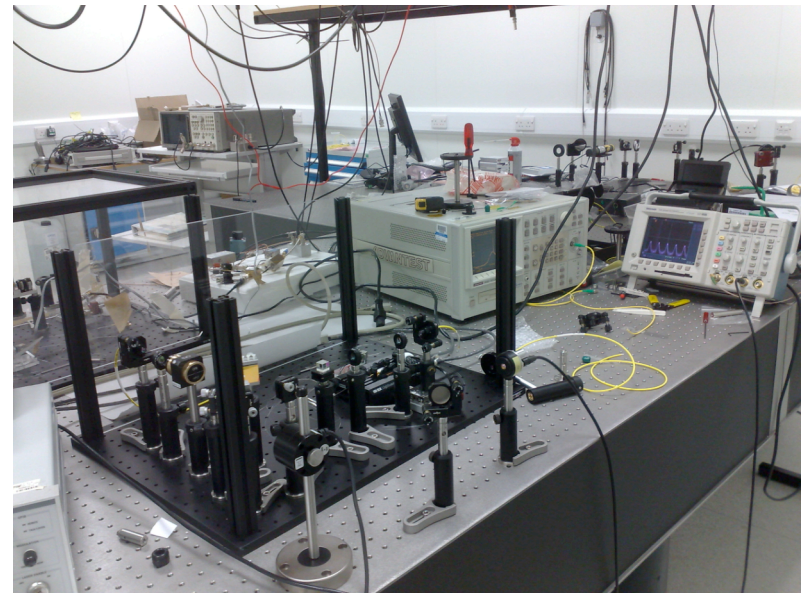
*Initial implementation with phase mixers  
only (no optical cross-correlator)*

### Recruitment planned

*For additional person to work on timing/synchronisation testbed*

### EO longitudinal profile testbed to be commissioned Apr 2009

*This is to include simultaneous and direct monitoring  
of timing distribution laser pulses*



# Timing System Tests on ALICE

## TIMING DISTRIBUTION

### Vibration stability

*Elements of the helium refrigeration plant are in the accelerator area*

### Temperature stability

*Local temperature is not tightly controlled*

### Possible radiation effects

*There is significant field emission from the SC cavities as well as beam loss and dump radiation*

## BEAM ARRIVAL MONITORING

### Wakefield effects on BAM pickup

*81 MHz microbunch rate (12 ns spacing)*

*81/N MHz pulse-picking under consideration*

### Centroid vs $I_{\text{peak}}$ arrival time comparison

*In conjunction with an EO longitudinal profile monitor*

### Performance at low charge (<80pC)



Mode-locked laser oscillator, fibre timing distribution and BAMs will be installed on ALICE in 2009...





# Conclusions

- The NLS project is now in a one-year design phase in advance of design submission in Q4 2009
- The machine will be a 2.2GeV cw SC linac driving, on Day 1, 3 FELs spanning 50eV to 1keV in the fundamental
- The photon pulse length will be 20fs FWHM with HHG seeding to ~400eV
- The FEL pulses will be synchronised with ~10fs jitter to conventional lasers and to THz/IR from undulators
- The timing and synchronisation system will be fibre-based and will use common components where possible
- Tests on ALICE will begin soon



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !



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# Timing Optimisation

Subsystem pulse rates should be **integer-related** to 1.3GHz (if recirculation is used the integer choice may be constrained)

A **1.3GHz clock rate** could, with a count-and-pick architecture, allow **any** such subsystem rate (e.g.  $4.333\text{MHz} = 1.3\text{GHz}/300$ )

A clock rate **below 1.3GHz** will involve an integer choice which may constrain other subsystems.



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This example shows possible pulse rates which are **subharmonics of one another** and are compatible with **216.67MHz** and **162.5MHz** clocks.

Nominal	Actual	Integer
1kHz	1.102kHz	$2^{17} \times 3^2$
10kHz	8.816kHz	$2^{14} \times 3^2$
100kHz	105.794kHz	$2^{12} \times 3$
1MHz	0.8464MHz	$2^9 \times 3$



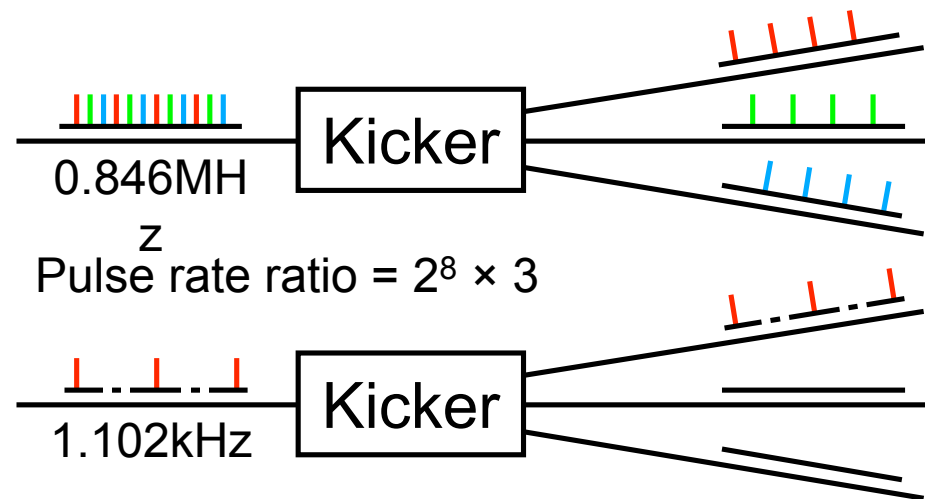
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