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# Considerations toward a Compact Coherent Light Source based on a Two-Beam Acceleration Technique

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The demonstration of the reliable operation of an X-band radio-frequency (RF) photoinjector with fields  $\sim 0.4\text{-GV/m}$  [1] on a photocathode provides a pathway to bright electron bunches. This success was enabled by powering the RF gun with short RF pulses thereby mitigating breakdowns and dark-current generation. The  $\sim 300\text{-MW}$  RF pulses were generated by decelerating a high-charge relativistic bunch train. This contribution summarizes ongoing activities focused on further deploying this two-Beam acceleration technique concept toward a free-electron laser demonstration at the Argonne Wakefield Accelerator with a focus on the beam dynamics and photon-generation aspects.

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