

MACHINE LEARNING-BASED DIAGNOSTICS AND CONTROL OF DIELECTRIC LASER ACCELERATION

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DIELECTRIC LASER ACCELERATION

Dielectrics – Why?

Frequencies

$f = 150 \text{ THz}$ ($\lambda = 2 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$)
 $\tau = 6.6 \text{ fs}$

Damage threshold

$>3 \text{ GV/m}$ fields

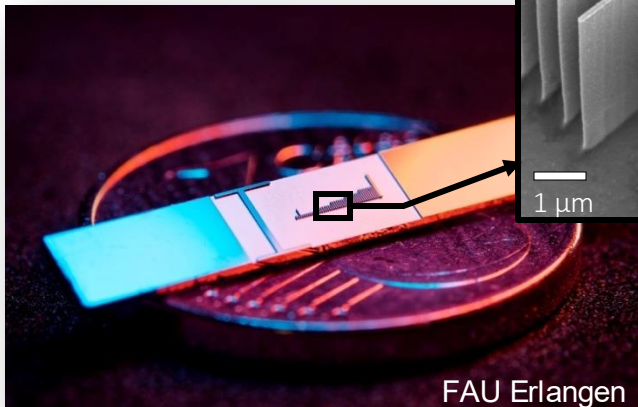
Acceleration gradient

$>1 \text{ GeV/m}$

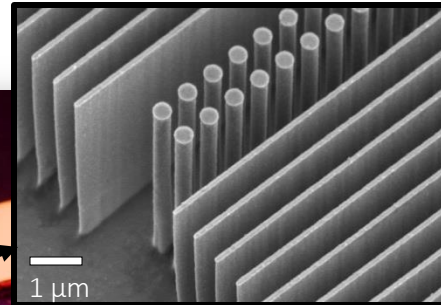
Beam quality

Emittance
 $<100 \text{ pm rad}$

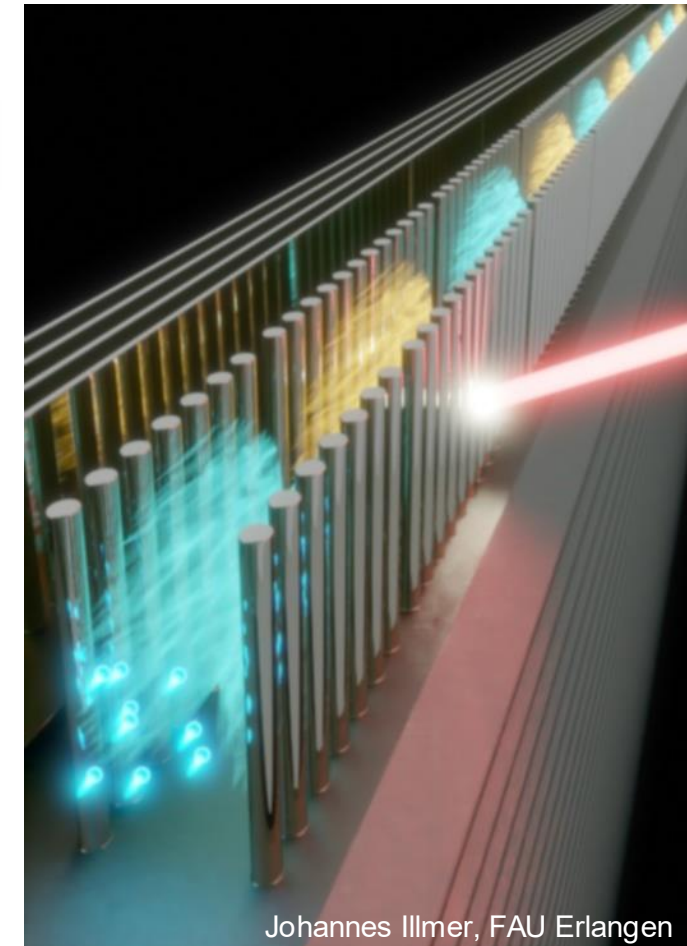
Repetition rate
 $\sim \text{kHz-MHz}$



FAU Erlangen



1 μm



Johannes Illmer, FAU Erlangen

DLA IN THEORY

- Proof of principle:

K. Shimoda, *Applied Optics* 1 (1), 33-35 (1962)

T. Plettner et al., *Phys. Rev. ST AB* 9, 111301 (2006)

- Structure design and optimization:

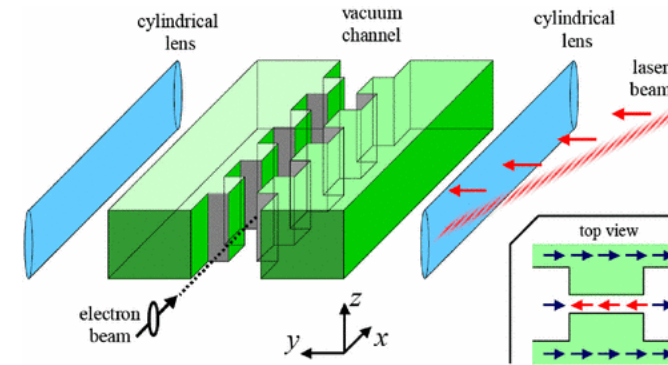
T. Hughes et al., *Optics Express* 25 (13), 15414-15427 (2017)

U. Niedermayer, T. Egenolf et al., *PRAB* 20, 111302 (2017)

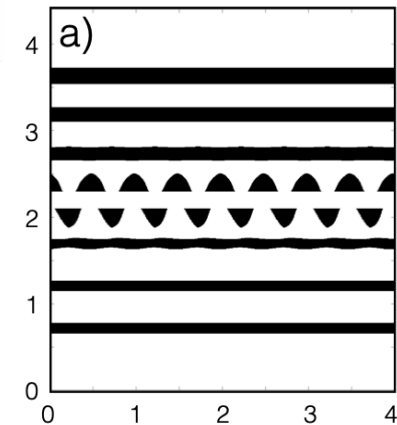
- Guiding by Alternating Phase Focusing:

U. Niedermayer, T. Egenolf et al., *PRL* 121, 214801 (2018)

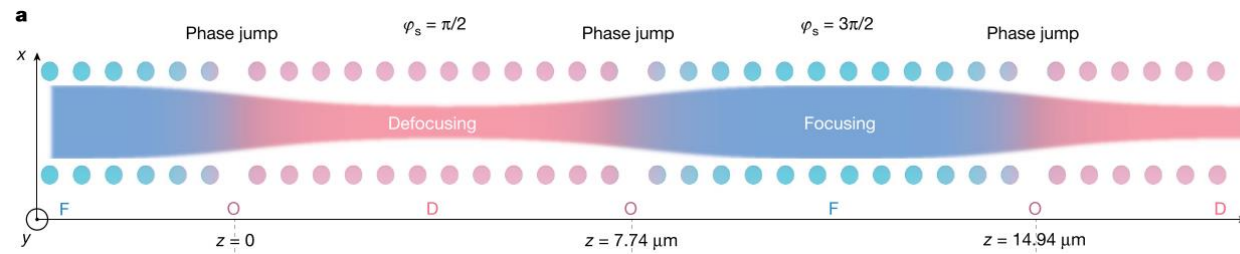
U. Niedermayer, T. Egenolf et al., *PRL* 125, 164801 (2020)



T. Plettner et al., *Phys. Rev. ST AB* 9, 111301 (2006)



T. Hughes et al., *Optical Express* 25 (13), 15414-15427 (2017)



R. Shiloh et al., *Nature* 597, 498 (2021)

IS IT A REAL ACCELERATOR?

- Proof of principle:

J. Breuer, P. Hommelhoff, PRL 111, 134803 (2013)

E. A. Peralta et al., Nature 503(7474), 91-94 (2013)

- Acceleration at subrelativistic energies:

D. S. Black et al., PRL 123, 264802 (2019)

N. Schönenberger et al., PRL 123, 264803 (2019)

- Acceleration at relativistic energies:

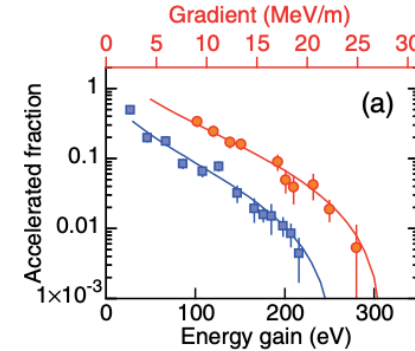
K. Wootton et al., Opt. Lett. 41 (12), 2696-2699 (2016)

D. Cesar et al., Communications Physics 1, 46 (2018)

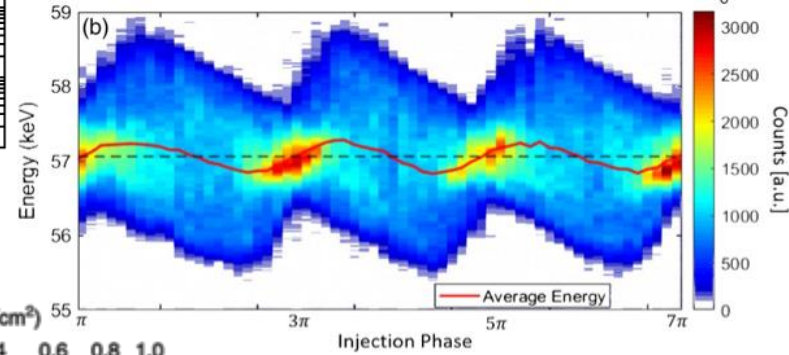
- Guiding:

R. Shiloh et al., Nature 597, 498 (2021)

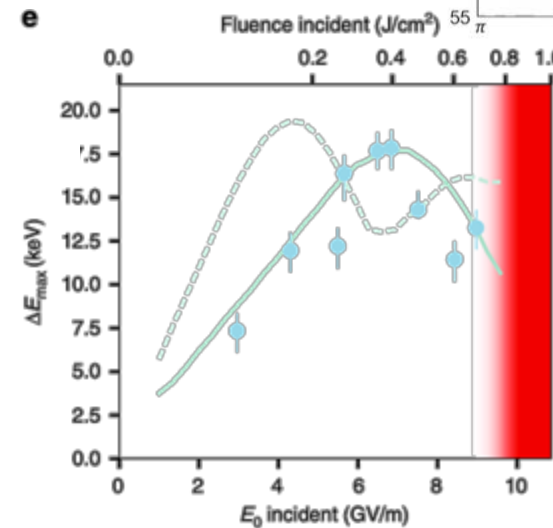
P. Broaddus, T. Egenolf et al., PRL 132, 085001 (2024)



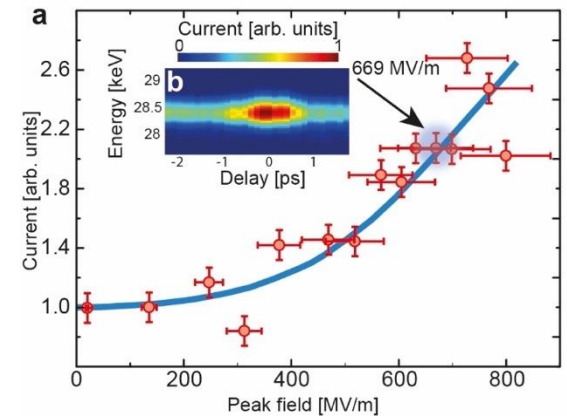
J. Breuer, P. Hommelhoff, PRL 111, 134803 (2013)



D.S. Black et al., PRL 123, 264802 (2019)

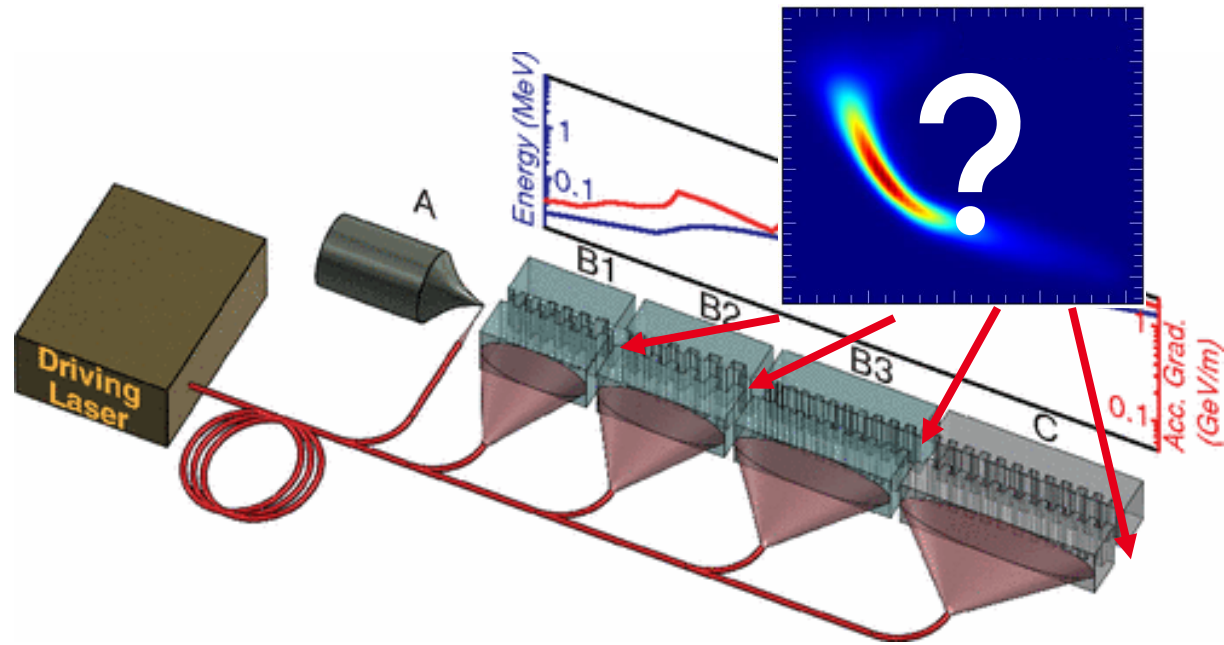


D. Cesar et al., Communications Physics 1, 46 (2018)



R. Shiloh et al., Nature 597, 498 (2021)

MISSING PIECE: DIAGNOSTICS



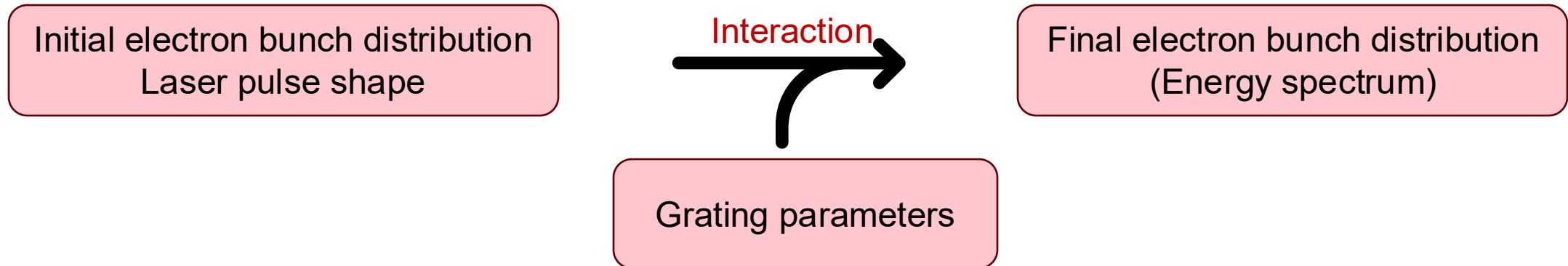
J. Breuer, P. Hommelhoff, PRL 111, 134803 (2013)

- Diagnostics integrated on a chip
- Temporal resolution: sub-fs
- Spatial resolution: sub-micron
- Best choice: dielectric materials

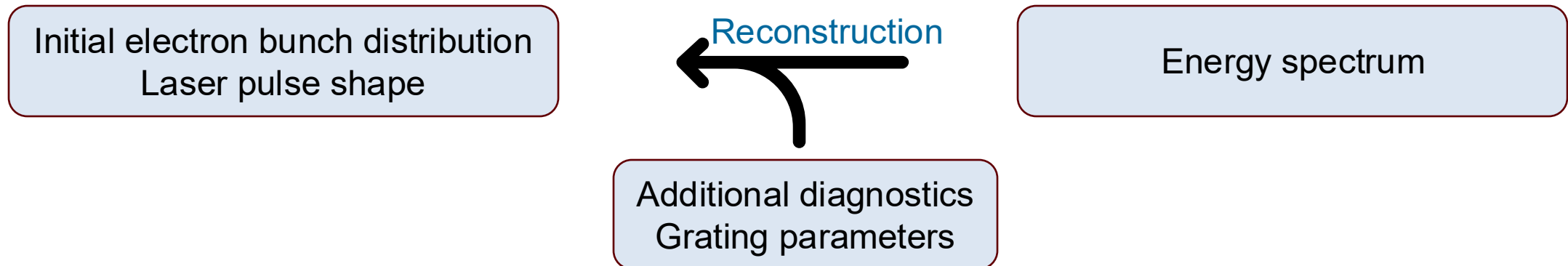
First idea: Use what is already there
→ Reconstruction

DLA EXPERIMENT

Measurement



Diagnostics



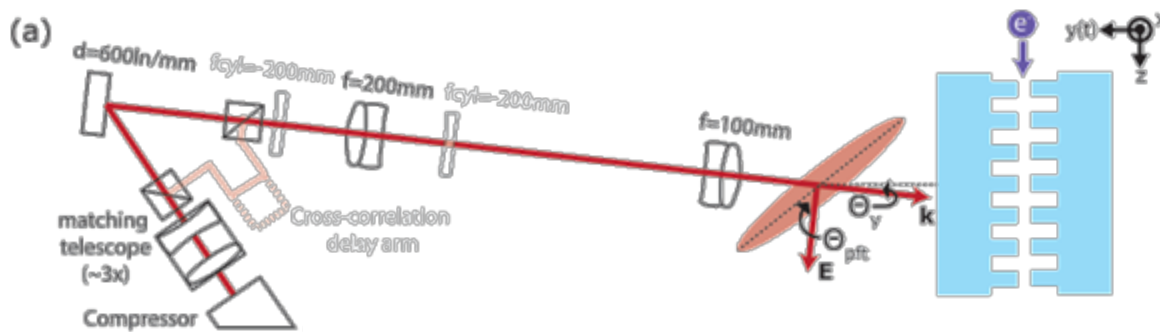
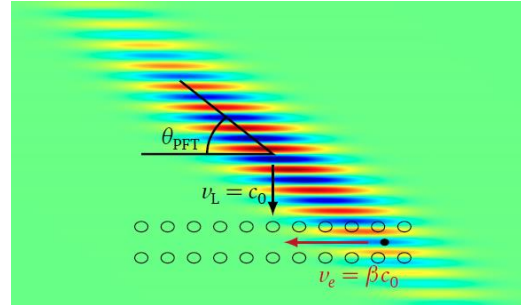
LASER PULSE SHAPING

Material damage threshold depends on pulse length

→ Pulse length limited by damage threshold

→ Interaction length limited by pulse length

→ Solution: Pulse front tilt



D. Cesar et al, Optics Express 26, 29216 (2018)

Synchronicity condition: $\beta = \Lambda_p / (\lambda m)$

→ Phase errors due to

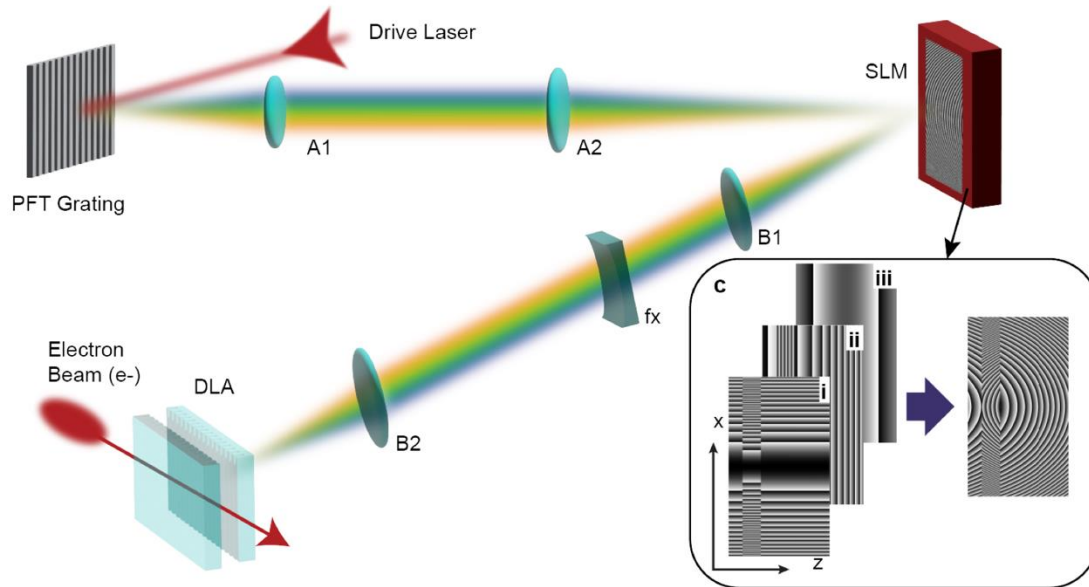
- misalignments
 - fabrication / design errors
 - higher order diffraction
 - non-linear effects in the dielectric
- need to be corrected

→ Accelerating non-relativistic electrons requires banana shaped pulse front

→ Solution: Non-linear phase shaping

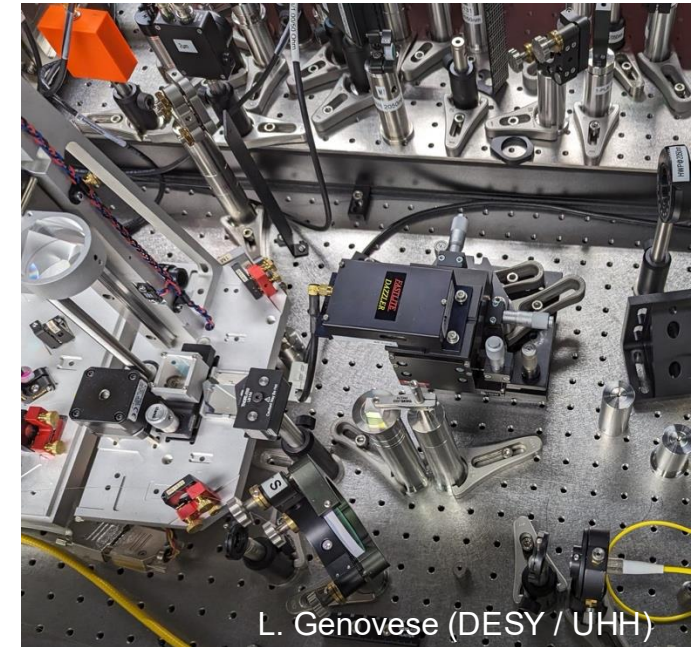
LASER PULSE SHAPING

Spatial light modulator (SLM)



S. Crisp et al., arXiv:2509.08170 (2025)

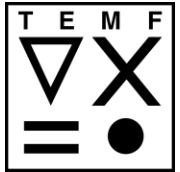
Acousto-optic programmable diffractive filter (AOPDF)



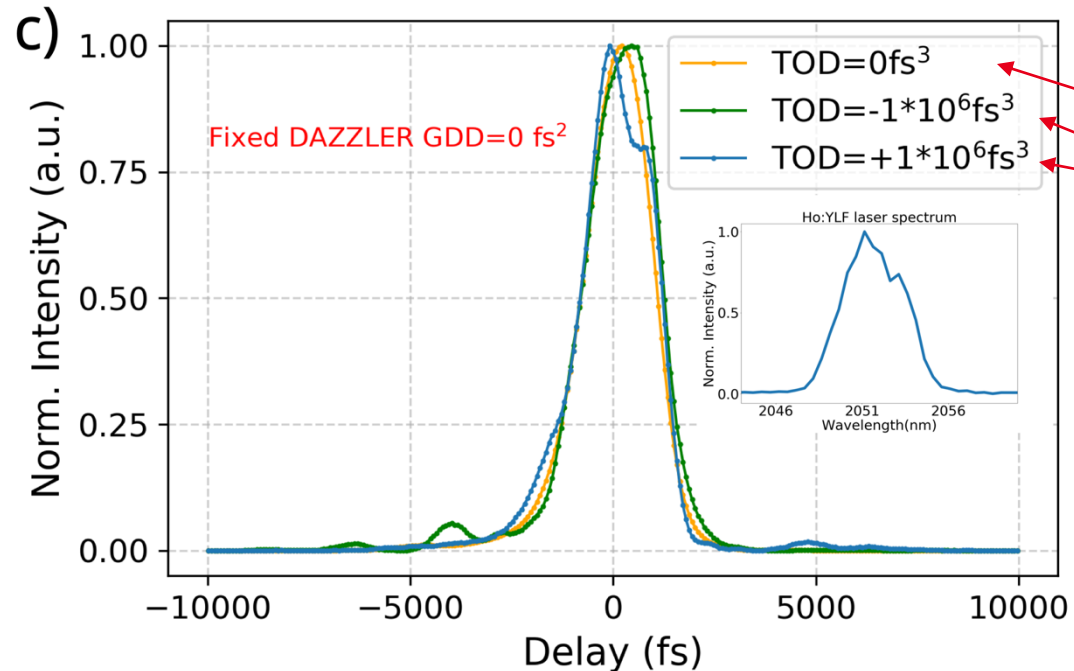
L. Genovese (DESY / UHH)

L. Genovese et al., CLEO, Munich, Germany (2025)

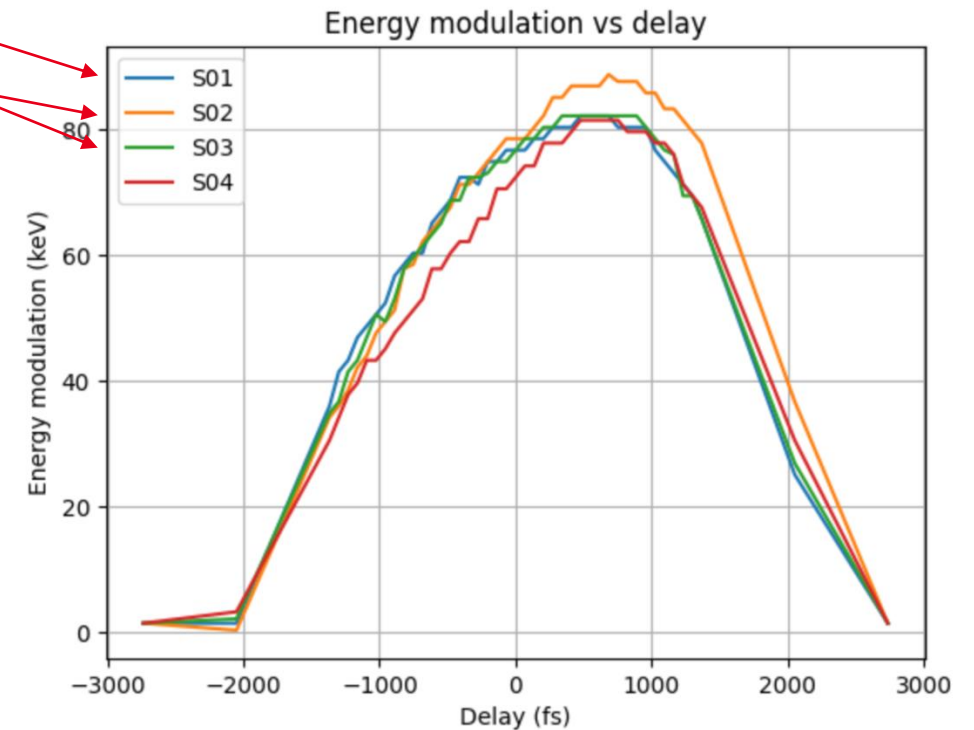
FIRST PULSE SHAPING MEASUREMENTS APPLYING AOPDF AT 2050NM



Electron beam dynamics simulations predict
~10% increase in energy gain



L. Genovese et al., CLEO, Munich, Germany (2025)

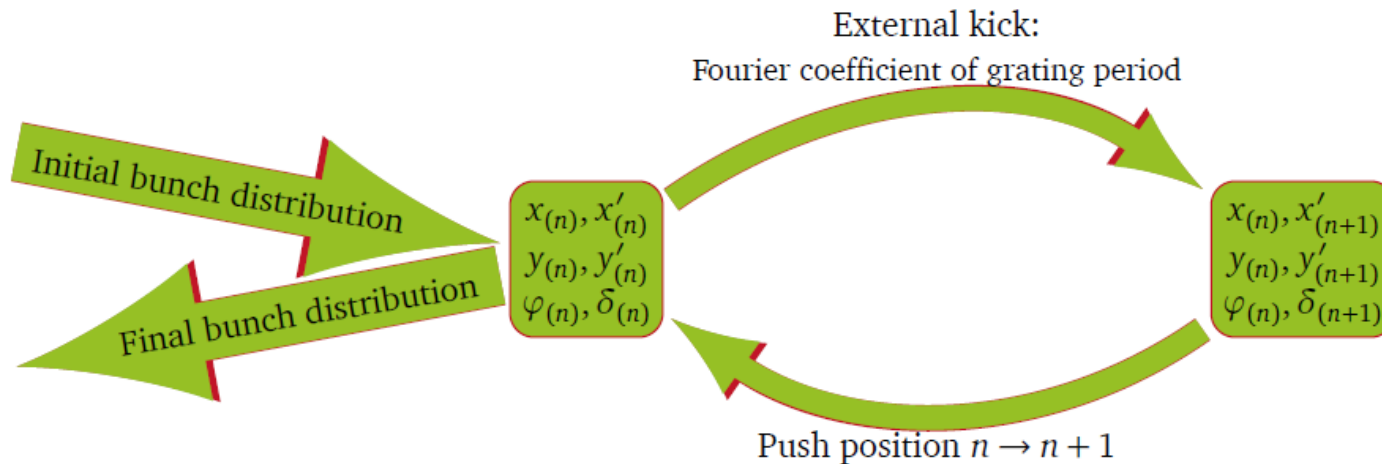
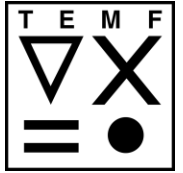


SIMULATION: DLATRACK6D

- Symplectic tracking code
- Kicks by $\underline{e}_1(x, y) = \underline{e}_1^0 \cosh\left(\frac{\omega y}{\beta \gamma c_0}\right)$
- Transverse kicks by Panofsky-Wenzel theorem

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ x' \\ y \\ y' \\ \varphi \\ \delta \end{pmatrix}^{(n+1)} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ Ax' + \Delta x'(x, y, \varphi) \\ y \\ Ay' + \Delta y'(x, y, \varphi) \\ \varphi \\ \delta + \Delta \delta(x, y, \varphi, \varphi_0) \end{pmatrix}^{(n)} + \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_z x'(x, y, \varphi) \\ 0 \\ \lambda_z y'(x, y, \varphi) \\ 0 \\ -\frac{2\pi}{\beta^2 \gamma^2} \delta(x, y, \varphi) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}^{(n+1)}$$

with $A^{(n)} = \frac{(\beta \gamma)^{(n+1)}}{(\beta \gamma)^{(n)}}$

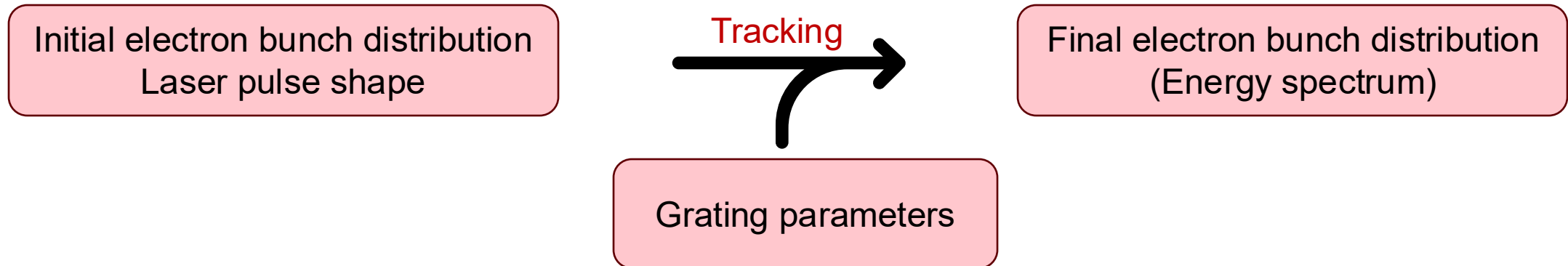


- Python based
- Tracking parallelized on CPU
- Arbitrary laser pulse shape (pulse front tilt)
- Laser wavelength change during tracking (chirp)

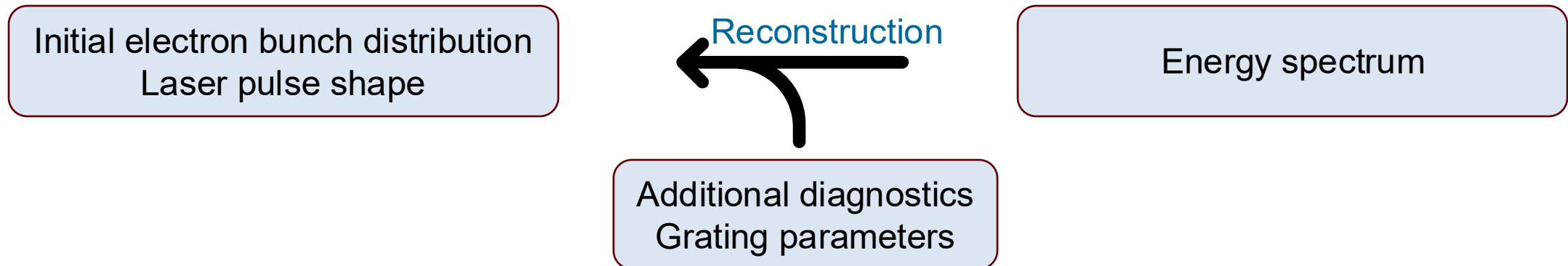
U. Niedermayer, T. Egenolf, O. Boine-Frankenheim, Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 20, 111302 (2017)

DLA EXPERIMENT – INVERSE PROBLEM

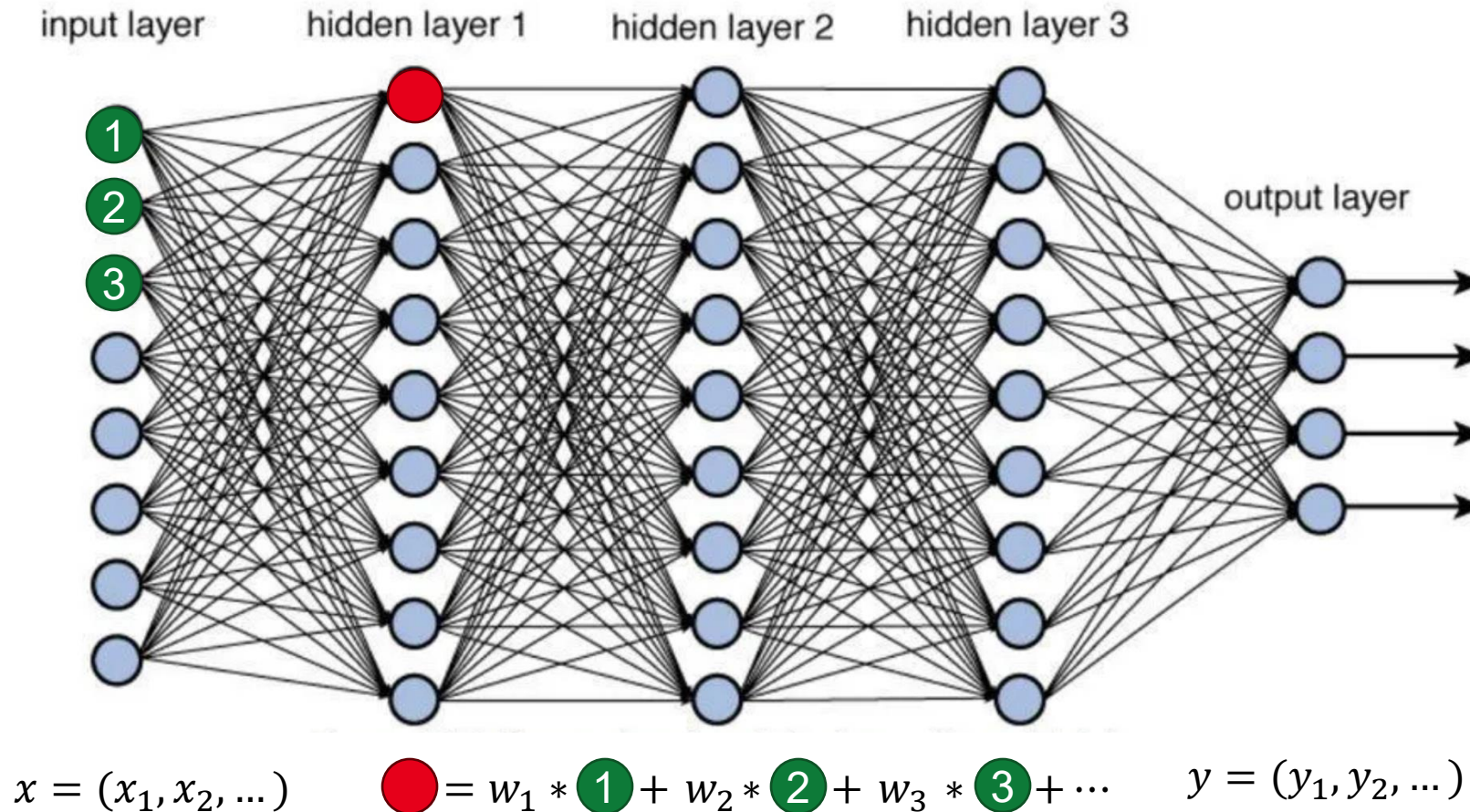
Simulations



Experiments

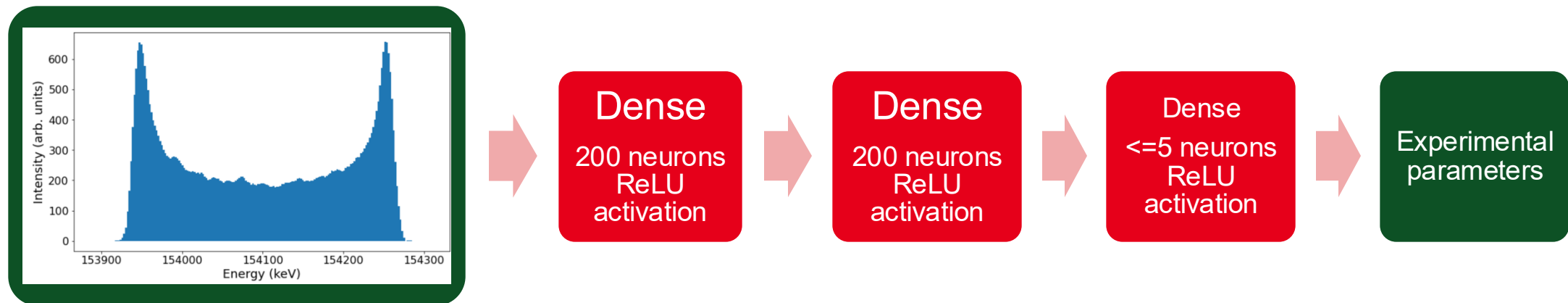


RECONSTRUCTION BY DEEP NEURAL NETS



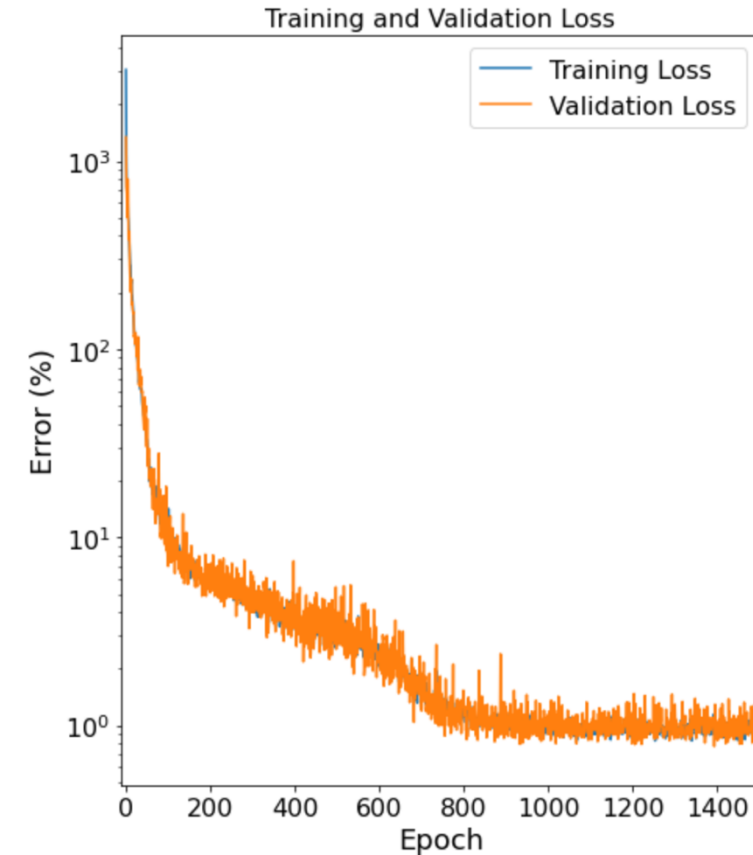
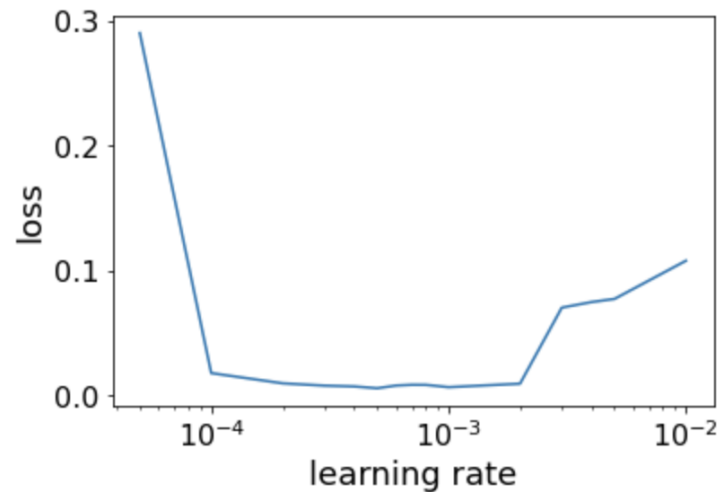
DESIGN OF THE NEURAL NETWORK

- Input: Binned energy spectrum of electrons after DLA interaction (~200 bins)
- Architecture
 - 3 layers fully connected (200 neurons $\rightarrow$ 200 neurons $\rightarrow$ ≤ 5 neurons (till now))
 - ReLU activation function
 - Loss function: mean absolute error (parameters normalized $\rightarrow$ percentage error)
- Output: Experimental parameters (input of tracking simulations)



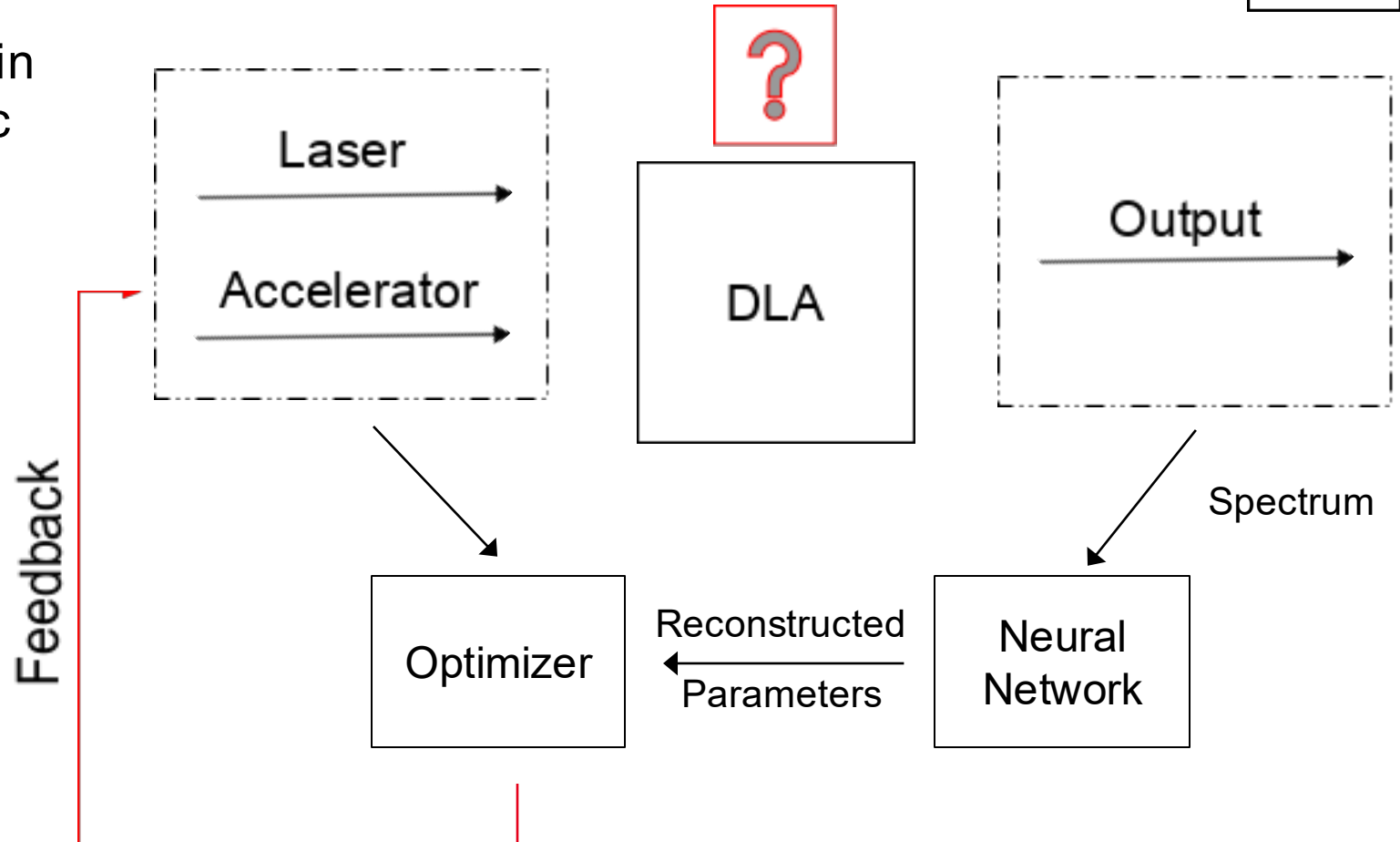
TRAINED NEURAL NET

- Implemented using pyTorch
- Trained with simulation data created by DLAttrack6D (~5000 simulations)
- Below 1% error in training and validation datasets



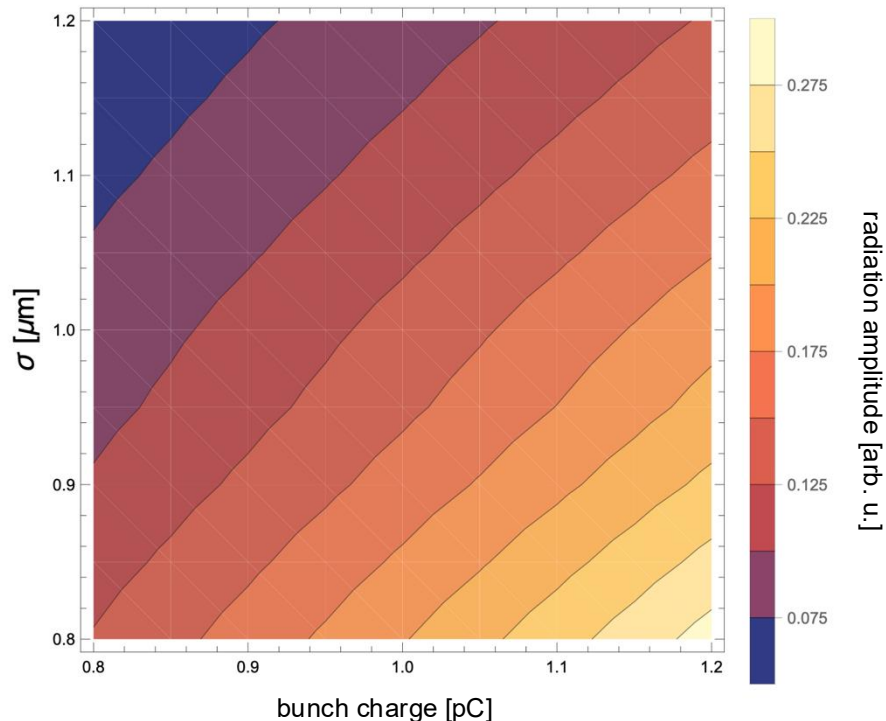
OUTLOOK: CONTROL AND OPTIMIZATION

- Integration of surrogate model in control system of the R&D linac ARES at DESY

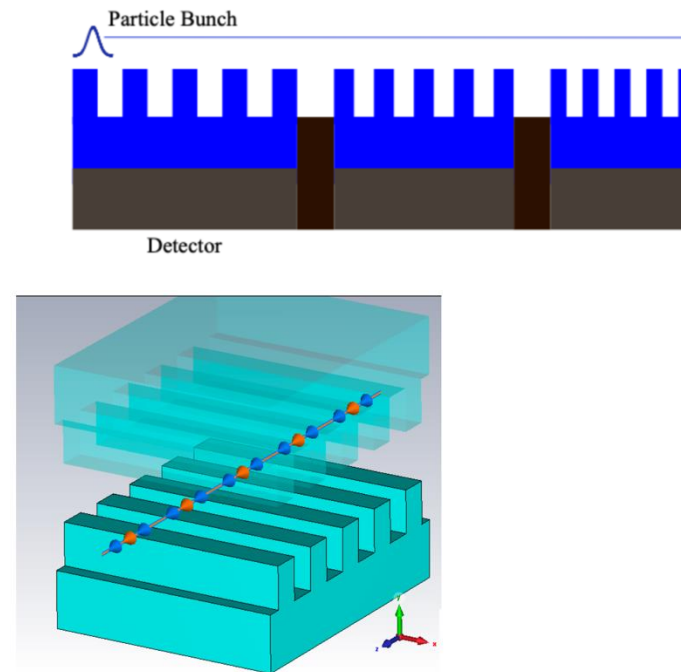


OUTLOOK: SMITH-PURCELL RADIATION DIAGNOSTICS

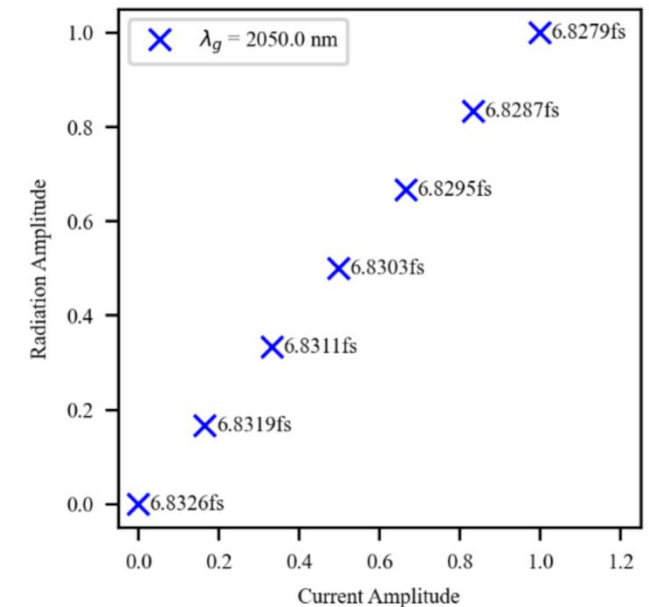
- Spectrum and radiation amplitude of cSPR depend on electron bunch properties
- Gratings for radiation generation could be integrated in a DLA design easily

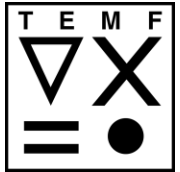


R. Buhrmester (TU Darmstadt)



B. Stacey et al., J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 2687, 072008 (2024)





CONCLUSIONS

- Guiding and acceleration in DLA shown in theory and experiments
 - Electron accelerator
- Missing piece: diagnostics
 - At first required for laser pulse shape, but also for electrons
- Reconstruction with neural networks
 - Trained by simulation data (DLAtrack6D)
- Outlook: integration in control system and expansion to Smith-Purcell radiation

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