# **E-320 Progress in FY24 and Plans for FY25**

2024 FACET-II PAC & User Meeting



David Reis

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### **The E-320 collaboration**





### **Strong-Field QED**: from linear to nonperturbative Compton scattering



Electron-photon (Compton) scattering *Klein & Nishina (1929)*



**Smallness of α ≈ 1/137 can be compensated by the laser photon density ρ** ⇨ **nonperturbative interaction**



Nikishov & Ritus, JETP 19, 1191 (1964); Brown & Kibble, Phys. Rev. 133, A705 (1964); etc.



### **Strong-Field QED**: quantum radiation reaction

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## **Strong-Field QED**: observing tunneling electron-positron production



**Vacuum polarization**

photon transforms temporarily into an electron-positron pair

**Pair production**

virtual pair is "ionized" by laser at QED critical field



**Qualitative changes between E-144 and E-320:**

(analogous to strong-field ionization of atoms)

E-144 ( $a_0$  ≤ 1): multi-photon regime

E-320 ( $a_0 \ge 1$ ): tunneling regime







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Wikip edia

- **We observe physics of nonlinear electron-laser interactions in SFQED regime**
	- $\Rightarrow$  Shift/change of Compton edges observed (dressed electron mass)
	- $\Rightarrow$  Transition from perturbative to non-perturbative spectrum observed
- **Plan for FY25: transition from "qualitative" to fully quantitative measurements**
	- $\Rightarrow$  Need to spend time on measurements rather than commissioning (stable  $t_0$ , stable beam or working feedbacks for spatial & temporal drifts, ...)
	- $\Rightarrow$  Make sure that we preserve the focal-spot quality at the highest intensities
	- $\Rightarrow$  Proper calibration of all diagnostics (BPMs, BBA of spectrometer quads, ...)
- **Plan for FY25: start the positron program**
	- $\Rightarrow$  New tracking detector installed (WIS), LYSO imaging system upgraded
	- $\Rightarrow$  Need stable beam, remove upstream Be window, reduce losses in S20
	- $\Rightarrow$  Ideally we will be able to send more laser energy to the tunnel



### **International competition**: taking publishable data is timely

nature photonics

**Article** 

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41566-024-01550-8

#### All-optical nonlinear Compton scattering performed with a multi-petawatt laser



#### [Submitted on 16 Jul 2024]

#### Observation of quantum effects on radiation reaction in strong fields

E. E. Los. E. Gerstmayr, C. Arran, M. J. V. Streeter, C. Colgan, C. C. Cobo, B. Kettle, T. G. Blackburn, N. Bourgeois, L. Calvin, J. Carderelli, N. Cavanagh, S.J.D. Dann A. Di Piazza, R. Fitzgarrald, A. Ilderton, C. H. Keitel, M. Marklund, P. McKenna, C. D. Murphy, Z. Najmudin, P. Parsons, P. P. Rajeev, D. R. Symes, M. Tamburini, A. G. R. Thomas, J. C. Wood, M. Zepf. G. Sarri, C. P. Ridgers, S. P. D Mangles





### **Highlight FY24**: Electrons become more massive in strong laser fields



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> In the standard model, mass originates from interactions with the Higgs field

$$
q^2 = m_*^2
$$
,  $m^* = m\sqrt{1 + a_0^2/2}$ 

Inside a laser field the electron mass increases, which shifts the position of the Compton edges

where  $m_*$  acts as an "effective mass" of the electron in the field.

Nikishov & Ritus, JETP 19, 1191 (1964); Brown & Kibble, Phys. Rev. 133, A705 (1964); Landau & Lifshitz (vol. 4) Analysis: T. Smorodnikova



### **Change of 1st Compton edge**: reduced effect due to spatial averaging



Brown & Kibble, *Interaction of Intense Laser Beams with Electrons*, Phys. Rev. 133, A705 (1964) Nikishov & Ritus, *Quantum Processes in the Field of a Plane Electromagnetic Wave and in a Constant Field*, JETP 19, 1191 (1964)



# **Highlight FY24**: Transition from perturbative to non-perturbative regime



- Highest laser intensities: quasi-continuous spectrum with averaged (!)  $x \ge 0.1$
- We observe electrons down to at least 6 GeV (40% energy loss in single emission)
- Simulations suggest importance of multiple hard emissions (**quantum radiation reaction**)

Nikishov & Ritus, JETP 19, 1191 (1964); Brown & Kibble, Phys. Rev. 133, A705 (1964); Landau & Lifshitz (vol. 4) Analysis: T. Smorodnikova



### **Nonlinear laser wire**: measuring compressed electron beams



- Proof-of-principle demonstration during last spring shift (May 21, 20024)
- Repetition during Nov. shift was difficult: DAQ problems & poor beam stability
- Requires new timing stabilization based on EOS delay stage for long-range scans

### **ToDo: repeat with higher spatial resolution and active timing stabilization**

the idea was first used by E-144; see, for example, Bamber et al., PRD 60, 092004, 1999



# **Improvements in FY24**

(which made new results possible)

## **Installation of dielectric λ/10 OAP** (Alex & Junzhi, April 24, 2024)



old, gold OAP, λ/4

new, dielectric OAP, λ/10

- There is risk of damage by other experiments (solid-target collisions, Li oven, …)
- We purchased backup optics (AlSi substrate, quality seems even better; still requires coating)

f#  $\leq$  2: ~2 µm spot (FWHM) collision angle: 25°-30°

### **Improvement of the focal-spot quality**





# **Low-Background LFOV** (Alex)

#### **Current setup**



**FY25 upgrade**





- Main diagnostic for the scattered electron spectrum
- Much more sensitive than LFOV, further improvements ongoing



## **Low-Background LFOV** (Alex)



#### **ToDo FY25: better image quality, better background management**

- have entire screen in focus using Scheimpflug optics (suggestion: D. Storey)
- Improve flatness of screen, possibility to add filters (reduce backgrounds)
- Add more sensitive scintillator (CsI, LYSO; single-electron sensitivity?)
- **Highly desirable**: test direct detection using ePix detector



**ePix module** provided by the SLAC detector group



### **LUXE Electron Detection System** (T-618, DESY)



DESY team: A. Athanassiadis, L. Hendriks, L. Helary, R. M. Jacobs, J. List, E. Ranken, I. Schulthess, M. Wing

LUXE TDR: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2308.00515.pdf> EPS talk: [https://indico.desy.de/event/34916/](https://indico.desy.de/event/34916/contributions/147283/attachments/83963/111794/High-rate_electron_detectors_Athanassiadis.pdf)

### **Commissioning has been successful; detailed data analysis is ongoing**



### **Positron tracker prototype** (T-619, Weizmann Institute)



Noam Tal Hod's group, WIS: Sasha Borysov, Alon Levi, Nathaly Nofech-Mozes, Arka Santra (now in SINP, Kolkata), Roman Urmanov

### **Hardware survives and is producing data**

- Thin monolithic active pixel sensors "ALPIDEs" (ALice PIxel Detector)
- Radiation hardness: technology is used in the ALICE experiment at the LHC

Details: LUXE TDR ([arXiv 2308.00515](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2308.00515.pdf)); Alpides (26.9 μm x 29.2 μm): NIM A 824 (2016) 434-438 and NIM A 845 (2017) 583–587



## **Positron tracker prototype** (T-619, Weizmann Institute)





**Positron tracking**

**Upstream Be window must be retractable**

**We are ready to measure Breit-Wheeler positrons**

- For the first time we can measure single positrons
- Upstream Be window: major source for positrons via emission of gamma rays that hit pipes etc.
- Current installation: 4 layers, 1 chip each (one additional layer in hand, up to 9 feasible)



**Full-scale Geant4 simulations**

### **New spatial-alignment procedure**: can handle compressed electron beam



2023 YAG crystal



YAG is retracted when gamma emission is detected

- **Main challenge in 2023**: compressed electron beam destroys YAG crystal
- **Mitigated by peripheral knife-edge scan**: move YAG towards beam and monitor diagnostics
	- Scintillation light (E320 TARGET camera) is early indicator that e-beam is near (beam halo)
	- Beam is detected by enhanced production of gamma photons / positrons



### **Drift compensation for laser-electron timing** (Alex)



Time drifts  $\sim$ 1ps (without stabilization); EOS range is only  $\sim$ 2 ps

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● **ToDo (high priority): use EOS delay-stage to track laser delay for long-range scans**

### **Goose trigger**



- Currently: every 10<sup>th</sup> shot is goosed (prone to systematic errors; need more background data)
	- ⇨ **ToDo: programmable pseudo-random goose trigger + ~50/50 on/off (high priority)**
	- ⇨ **ToDo: record event code and which shots are goosed as PV**



# **Challenges**

## **Scattering on upstream Be window**: renders experiment impossible



- Major challenge: low-energy electrons from Be window are undistinguishable from our signal
- Significant effort for OPs to thread e-beam through the hole in the Be window (takes away time)  $\Rightarrow$  beam orbit through the IP is often angled, leading to position-angle correlations in the data  $\Rightarrow$  it is difficult to fully compensate the dispersion in the chicane, resulting in large beam drifts



## **Beam position drift/jitter at the E-320 IP** (spring vs. fall)



- BPM before picnic basket (3156) was defect during all our shifts in 2024 ⇨ **Todo: make sure that all BPMs (in Sector 20) are working and calibrated**
- Not all BPMs in Sector 20 are in EPICS (valuable data are not being recorded) ⇨ **Todo: include existing BPMs (in Sector 20) into EPICS**

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● **Goal: remove upstream Be window, optimize for zero dispersion (active stabilization?)**



# **Beam stability fall 2024**: significant fluctuations/changes in background



- We saw strong fluctuations in the beam-induced background (beam-position drifts/jitter?)
- **ToDo: pseudo-random goose trigger + ~50/50 on/off** (more background data)

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## **Instability of t<sub>0</sub>**: significant time spent on plasma afterglow procedure



- $\cdot$  Stable t<sub>0</sub> reduces setup time by several hours
- Bucket jumps and unstable FS-script sabotaged our fall beamtime
- **Highly desirable**: robust diode/pickup for sub-ns timing diagnostic



### **Anomaly at highest laser intensity**



- Theory: we are heating the gratings and/or OAP, this leads to phase-front deformations
- **ToDo: more laser diagnostics in tunnel** (phase-front sensor, focal-spot diagnostics)



# **Goal: shot-to-shot high-intensity diagnostic**



**High-intensity diagnostics**: 2<sup>nd</sup> OAP re-images the focal spot

**Interferometric alignment of both OAPs**



### **Timing drift stabilization**: currently incompatible with long scans



- Time drifts  $\sim$ 1ps (without stabilization); EOS range is only  $\sim$ 2 ps
- **ToDo: use EOS delay-stage movement for long-range scans** (similar fix should also be used for the grating scans)



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500

 $-200$ 

100

 $\Omega$ 

 $\Omega$ 

100

200

300

400

### **Challenge: EOS becomes invisible at low intensities**



- EOS signal becomes too weak during intensity scans
- **ToDo: increase probe intensity when main laser is attenuated**



500

400

100

 $\Omega$ 

 $\overline{0}$ 

100

200

300

 $-100$ 

 $\cdot$  0



### **We didn't collide at optimal timing**: effective laser intensity is reduced



- If we properly collided with the laser, we would observe an optimal collision time
- For non-optimal alignment it is very difficult to determine (effective) laser intensity
- **ToDo: run this analysis in real time and correct relative timing** (possible in the future)



# **Future plans**

### **Mid-term goal: upgrade gamma diagnostics**

### **Measure photon formation length ICLA UCLA** group



Compton (MeV) + gamma pair spectrometer (GeV) *B. Naranjo et al., IPAC2021 THPAB269, THPAB270 (2021)*



B. Naranjo: Gamma Detection: Compton and Pair Spectrometers

D. Storey: Experimental area (e- and gamma diagnostics, DPS, Li oven)



### **Mid-term goal: ≳ 100 TW laser**: FES expressed interest

Laser Transport to Tunnel



**Current laser system: 10 TW**  (~60 fs, 0.6 J in laser room)

#### **Thales 100 TW proposal**





# **Mid-term goal: install gamma-ray profiler with high resolution**

### **Sapphire-strip detector**



2x2cm<sup>2</sup> field of view, 5-10 um resolution, High radiation resistance (Sapphire)

INFN, U. Bologna, & U. Padova: P. Grutta, M. Bruschi, M. Morandin, F. Lasagni, S. Vasiukov, U. Dossell QUB: K. Fleck, N. Cavanagh, E. Gerstmayr, M. Streeter



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#### The gamma-profile ellipticity is related to  $a_0$  in the interaction region

High-order multiphoton Thomson scattering Yan et al., Nature Photon. 11, 514 (2017)

Har-Shemesh & Di Piazza Opt. Lett. 37, 1352–1354 (2012)



### **Long-term goal: 2nd IP to realize gamma-laser collisions**

#### **Measuring vacuum birefringence beyond Euler-Heisenberg**



**New chicane between quads and dipole** D. Storey



### **Summary and timeline**

#### **Short & mid-term goals:**



#### **Long-term goals:**

- 100-500 TW laser upgrade for FACET-II
- 2nd IP: light-by-light scattering experiments, (pair production & vacuum birefringence)
- Polarization-sensitive detectors: vacuum birefringence, radiative spin polarization
- Observe signatures of high-energy electron-positron coherent recollisions, waveform synthesis



 $\bullet$  ...

# **Thank you for your attention**

### **Shift of 2<sup>nd</sup> Compton edge** (electron mass dressing)



Brown & Kibble, *Interaction of Intense Laser Beams with Electrons*, Phys. Rev. 133, A705 (1964) Nikishov & Ritus, *Quantum Processes in the Field of a Plane Electromagnetic Wave and in a Constant Field*, JETP 19, 1191 (1964)



### **Dielectric λ/10 OAP: improved focal quality**



### **Better spot quality, higher Strehl, much improved focal scans**



### **Low-Background LFOV** (Alex)





- ORCA FLASH  $4.0 +$  Nikkor 50mm  $f/1.2 +$  DRZ fine
- Sees up to 24.4 cm over the table surface
- Detection of low-energy scattered electrons
- Much more sensitive than LFOV



## **Low-Background LFOV: energy calibration**





## **Beam stability spring 2024**: much better beam-induced backgrounds



- Even though we put the main beam fully on LBG LFOV, the background is much more stable
- Enhanced beam-tuning time in spring significantly improved the beam quality

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### **Beam position drift/jitter at the E-320 IP** (spring vs. fall)



- BPM before picnic basket (3156) was defect during all our shifts in 2024
	- $\Rightarrow$  negative impact on the precision that we can achieve
	- ⇨ **Todo: make sure that all BPMs (in Sector 20) are working and calibrated**
- Not all BPMs in Sector 20 are in EPICS (valuable data are not being recorded) ⇨ **Todo: include existing BPMs (in Sector 20) into EPICS**



### **We can recover collisions in ≲ 4 hours** (Spring 2024)



- **Importance of multi-day shifts**: 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> day was always much more productive
- Requires that  $t_0$  doesn't change and that the e-beam doesn't scrape the Be window



# **Spatial alignment requires now ≤ 2 hours**

### **Elog Nov 4, 2024**

#### found e-beam in vertical dimension

20:40 vertical peripheral knife-edge scan http://physics-elog.slac.star motor position where the beam was intercepted: 47.985 http://phys moved e-beam off the YAG in horizontal dim http://physics-elog.s

#### found e-beam in horizontal position

done at 47.0000 YAG height motor at 65.6 rev (pico horizontal YAG)

22:00 found collisions. Laser timing jumped again by 2.1 ns to 1246.618

#### **Elog Nov 3, 2024**

#### Found e-beam at 47.8480 mm YAG height

19:45 vertical knife-edge finding http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu 20:25 moved laser to e-beam (vertical)

#### Found e-beam at 74.2 (horizontal)

20:53 http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show.isp?dir=/202 21:15 lost auto aligner, trying to fix laser transport 22:10 moved laser to e-beam (horizontal); doing wavefront optimization 22:24 focal scans http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show. 22:28 MO tower retracted; going to full laser energy 22:30 Laser 642.5 mJ +- 12.65 mJ



time stamp: 1731846158.76 delay: 0.30 DAQ: 0 process: 0.06/0/0 render: 0.17/0/0 std: 133.02

#### **PyQt5 GUI for spatial alignment** (10 Hz camera readout)



### **Recovering t0 via plasma afterglow: 2-3 hours**

#### Elog Nov 2, 2024:  $\geq$  3 hours

22:50 can't recover timing on EOS 23:45 gas iet is being prepared for timing via afterglow 00:15 Ar bottle connected to gas jet and at 100 psi packing pressure 01:15 Plasma after glow is finally working: searching for to by hand  $01:35$  t0 found with axilens at ~ 1247.261 ns 02:05 found t0 with EOS! http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog t0: 1246.6450 ('OSC:LA20:10:FS TGT TIME)

#### Elog Nov 3, 2024:  $\geq$  2 hours

#### Finding t0 (vesterday t0: 1246.6450)

15:30 - still trving to recover t0 on EOS DAQ failed http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show 15:40 scanned target time 1255.0 - 1255.5 ns

#### Gas iet / afterglow t0 finding

15:45 can't run gas jet due to pump issues: http://physics-elog.slac.st 16:00 Doug / Alex fixed the pump issues http://physics-elog.slac.stanfo 16:40 found t0 via plasma afterglow: http://physics-elog.slac.stanford. gammal and topview correlation with timing: http://physics-elog.s 16:58 found t0 on E0S: http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/

Recovered timing on EOS: 1244.5350



