# E-320 Progress in FY24 and Plans for FY25

2024 FACET-II PAC & User Meeting



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



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



Smallness of  $\alpha \approx 1/137$  can be compensated by the laser photon density  $\rho \Rightarrow$  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 ( $a_0 \leq 1$ ): multi-photon regime E-320 ( $a_0 \ge 1$ ): tunneling regime







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- 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<sub>0</sub>, 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
  - ⇒ 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



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



symmetrymagazine.org

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

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

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

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

#### Change of 1<sup>st</sup> 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 (!)  $\chi \ge 0.1$
- 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,  $\lambda/4$ 

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# ≲ 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/

#### 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); 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)





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 ~1ps (without stabilization); EOS range is only ~2 ps

🛓 Stanford.

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

### **Goose trigger**

🛓 Stanford.



- 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)
  - $\Rightarrow$  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)
   ⇒ beam orbit through the IP is often angled, leading to position-angle correlations in the data
   ⇒ 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

🛓 Stanford.

PULSE Institute

• 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)

🛓 Stanford.

PULSE Institute

## Instability of to: significant time spent on plasma afterglow procedure



relative timing

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

🛓 Stanford

PULSE Institute



500

- 200

100

0

0

100

200

300

400

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



• EOS signal becomes too weak during intensity scans

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• ToDo: increase probe intensity when main laser is attenuated



### 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





**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





(~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 µm resolution, High radiation resistance (Sapphire)

<u>INFN, U. Bologna, & U. Padova</u>: P. Grutta, M. Bruschi, M. Morandin, F. Lasagni, S. Vasiukov, U. Dossell <u>QUB</u>: 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: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:

intensity	pair production	Install pair spectrometer (gamma photons)
reach $a_0 \ge 5$ , (eventually $a_0 \ge 10$ )	requires: clean beam transmission; retracted Be window; more laser energy	carried out by UCLA Upgrade to 13 GeV?
Sometime 2025	Sometime 2025	2025-26?
	intensity reach $a_0 \ge 5$ , (eventually $a_0 \ge 10$ ) Sometime 2025	intensitypair productionreach $a_0 \ge 5$ , (eventually $a_0 \ge 10$ )requires: clean beam transmission; retracted Be window; more laser energySometime 2025Sometime 2025

#### 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



• ...

# 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 $\lambda/10$ 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)

09:00 pm: Starting alignment to E320 09:19 pm: Compressor window out now 09:45 pm: Focal scan before beam shap <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/</u> 22:00 pm: Beam shaping with deformable Dataset after beam shaping <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/</u> 11:00 pm: vertical beam edge at 48.317	<pre>setup ing facetelog/show.jsp?dir=/2024/18/29.04&amp;pos=2024-04-29T21:4: mirror facetelog/show.jsp?dir=/2024/18/29.04&amp;pos=2024-04-29T22:13 5 mm http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show</pre>		
11:25 pm: drilled a hole accidentally: 11:30 pm: darkened YAG on the edge: <u>ht</u>	http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show.jsp? tp://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show.jsp?div	2 <sup>nd</sup> day: 4 hours	
11:45 pm: found horizontal overlap: ht	(a) 04/30/2024 23:59 Team E320 E32	20 running log	
01:00 am: found EOS timing (EOS 2) at 18:00 pm Laser in tunnel. EOS2 signal found. Moved compressor grating separation back to 26 and EOS delay back to -21, matching previous conditions for optimal pulse duration: http://p			
01:10 am: beam was at 5 Hz for a while http://physics-elog.slac.sta	19:00 pm Focus recovered on MO_MAG, still looks nic	e: <a href="http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/fac">http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/fac</a>	
02:09 am: collisions! <u>http://physics-</u> t0: 1255.2675	20:20 pm beam intercepted with YAG in vertical dire	ction at position 48.55 mm	
EOS delay stage: -19	20:37 pm Laser vertically aligned		
1 <sup>st</sup> day: 5-6 hours	21:15 pm Laser spatially aligned, going for collisi	ons	
	22.00 pm recovered cottisions		

• Importance of multi-day shifts: 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> day was always much more productive

Stanford.

• Requires that t<sub>0</sub> 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 <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stan</u> motor position where the beam was intercepted: 47.985 <u>http://physics-elog.s</u> moved e-beam off the YAG in horizontal dim <u>http://physics-elog.s</u>

#### 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 1246.61

#### Elog Nov 3, 2024

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

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

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

20:53 <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show.jsp?dir=/202</u> 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 <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/show.</u> 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 to via plasma afterglow: 2-3 hours**

#### Elog Nov 2, 2024: ≥ 3 hours

22:50 can't recover timing on EOS
23:45 gas jet 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 t0 by hand
01:35 t0 found with axilens at ~ 1247.261 ns
02:05 found t0 with EOS! <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog</u>
t0: 1246.6450 ('OSC:LA20:10:FS TGT TIME)

#### Elog Nov 3, 2024: ≥ 2 hours

#### Finding t0 (yesterday t0: 1246.6450)

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

#### Gas jet / afterglow t0 finding

15:45 can't run gas jet due to pump issues: <u>http://physics-elog.slac.st</u> 16:00 Doug / Alex fixed the pump issues <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanfo</u> 16:40 found t0 via plasma afterglow: <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.</u> gamma1 and topview correlation with timing: <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/</u> 16:58 found t0 on EOS: <u>http://physics-elog.slac.stanford.edu/facetelog/</u>

Recovered timing on EOS: 1244.5350



