

# Machine development R&D: ePix detector, AI/ML and gun designs

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**Fuhao Ji**

SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

*UED Advisory Board Meeting FY25 Q1  
Nov 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

# Outlines

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- UED R&D roadmaps and scientific needs
- ePix single electron detector developments
- High brightness electron source developments
- AI/ML for improving facility operations and assist in scientific discoveries
- Summary

# R&D roadmap and scientific needs in critical areas

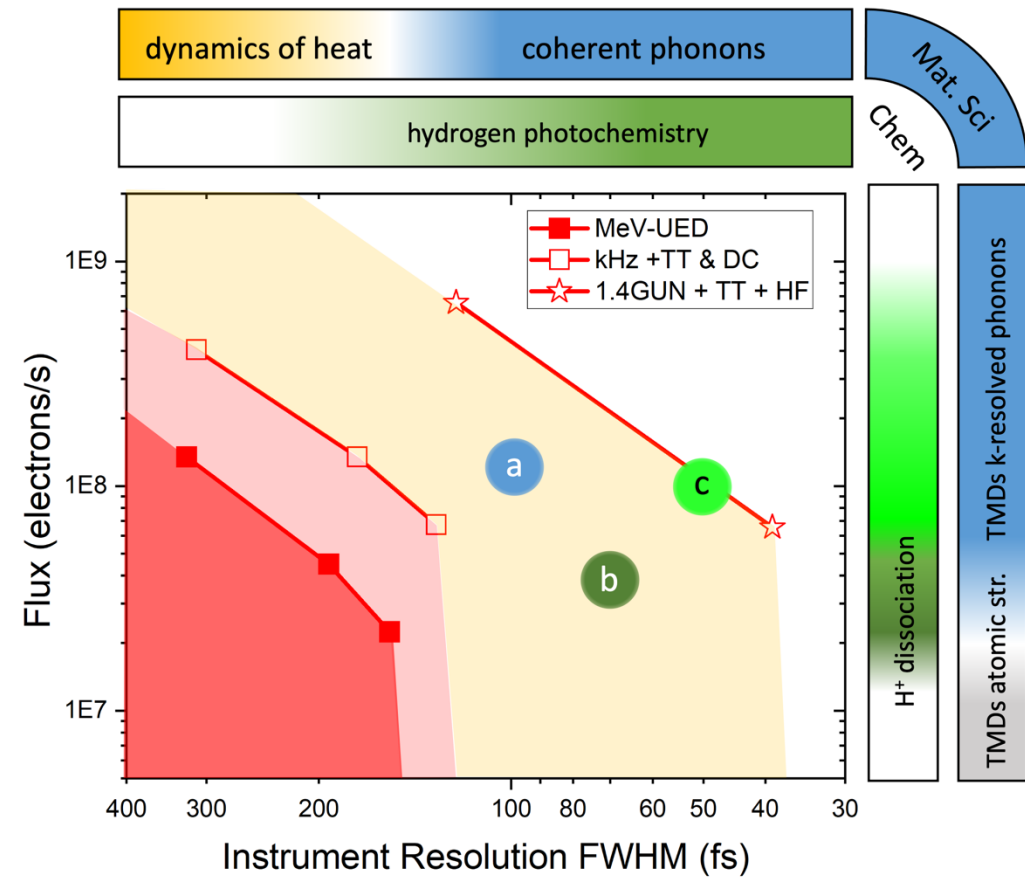
- KHz Repetition rate operation upgrade (Joel)
- THz Timing tool (TT) development (Joel)
- ePix single electron detector
- UED gun developments
- AI/ML

## MeV-UED instrument development

- **Today:** 360 Hz system, 150 fs resolution
- **Near (ongoing R&D):** 1080 Hz + 1<sup>st</sup> gen time tool
- ★ **Medium (proposed):** UED-optimized gun + shot-by-shot arrival monitor + hollow fiber pump compression

## Enabled Science Cases

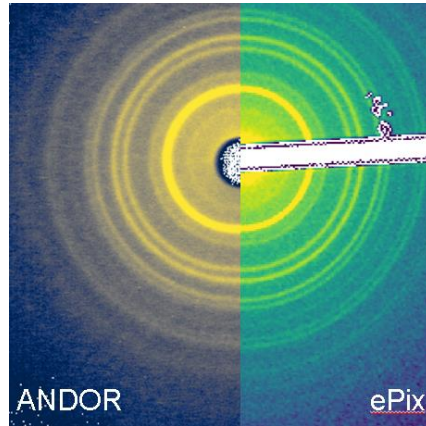
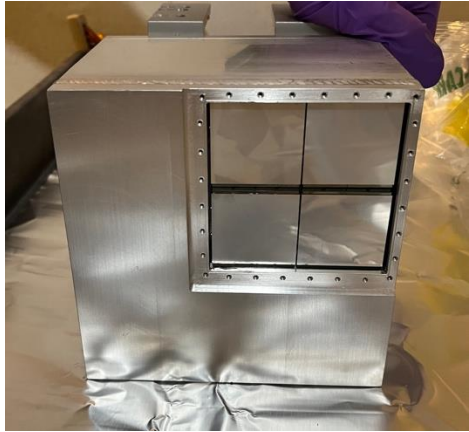
- a Momentum-resolved transient phonon populations in mono-layer WSe<sub>2</sub>
- b Resolve structural and electronic dynamics during photodissociation of ammonia
- c Measure intramolecular proton transfer in 2-nitrophenol



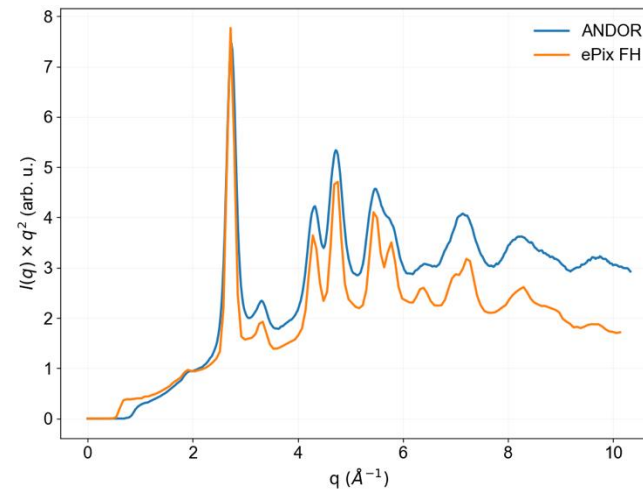
Y. Liu, X. Shen and A. Reid, UED Instrument Retreat Report, March 14, 2023

# Direct electron detector (2022)

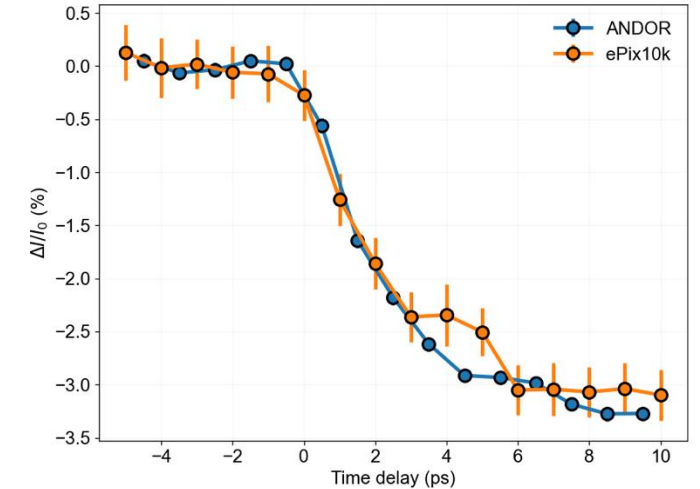
## Polycrystalline Bismuth thin film sample



Diffraction pattern



Radial profile



Pump-probe signal

### ePix10k detector

- Single electron detection
- 704 x 768 pixel sensor
- Flexible gain modes
- Pixel size: 100  $\mu\text{m}$
- Readout rate 360 frame/s

- 1<sup>st</sup> round commissioning (2022) demonstrates frame-by-frame collection of single-pulse electron diffraction patterns at the MeV-UED instrument.
- Capable of performing single electron detection and eliminate cosmic-rays/stray light backgrounds and optical aberrations
- Generates 360 frame/s data flow, running single electron finding algorithms with > 300 CPUs on SLAC computation cluster S3DF

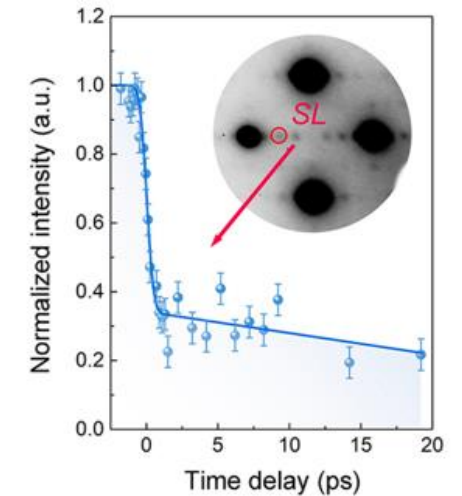
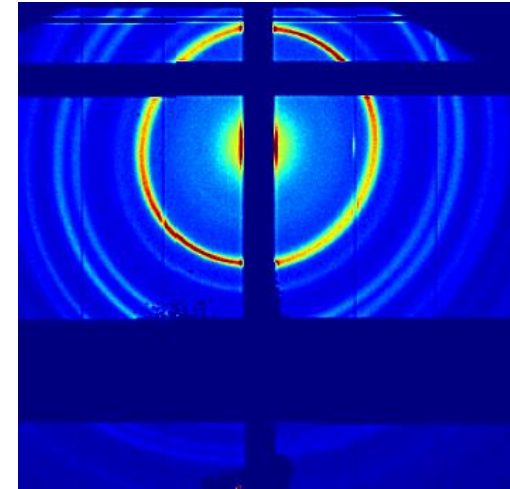
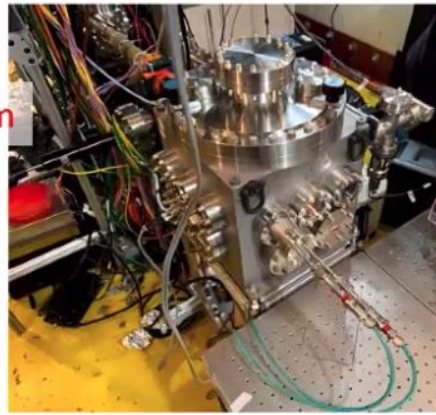
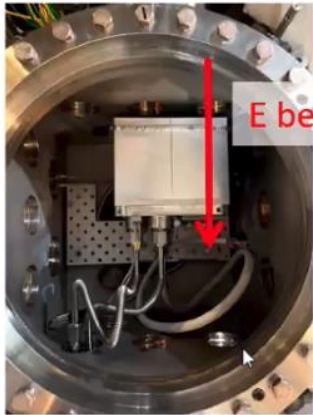
# Direct electron detector (current)



Temp sensor readouts

Data taken on Nov 12, 2024

CO quenching in Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

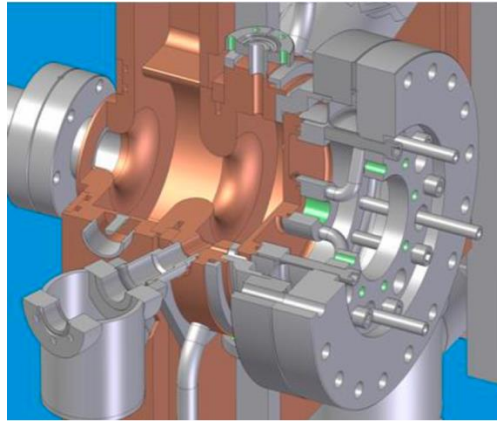
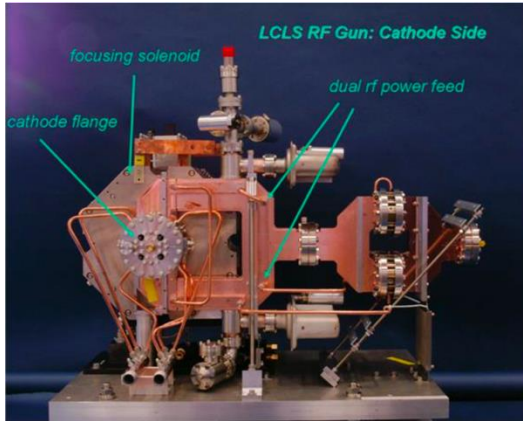


*Physical review B 106, 195131(2022)*

- Detector malfunctioning due to heating damage-> Adding temperature sensors to monitor detector status
- Repair and re-installation of ePix detector in Sept 2024
- **Demonstrated 360 Hz data taking over 12 hours operation**, commissioning experiment undergoing aims to run the ePix detector in a non-trivial solid-state experimental scenario over 24-hour shifts
- The result will allow user groups to make informed decisions about their run 5 experimental configurations and whether to use the ePix detector instead of the EMCCD platform

# Ultra-high brightness electron source R&D

The SLAC/UCLA/BNL type 1.6 cell S-band RF gun



$$\mathcal{B}_{4D} \propto \frac{E_z}{\text{MTE}} \quad A = \frac{\sigma_x m_e}{\sigma_t^2 E_z e}$$

for pancake ( $A \gg 1$ ) beam

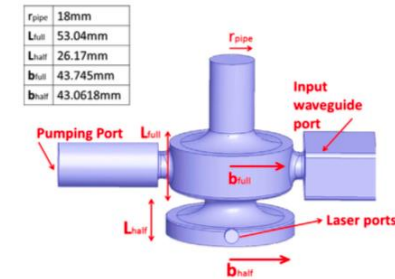
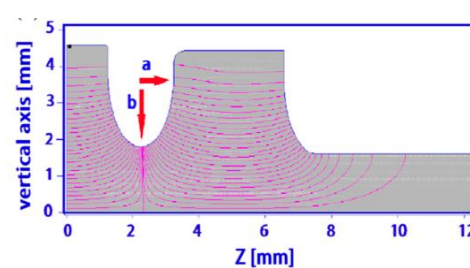
I. Bazarov, B. Dunham, and C. Sinclair, *PRL* 102, 104801(2009)

S-band 1.4 cell photoinjector design for high brightness beam generation

E. Pirez<sup>a</sup>, P. Musumeci<sup>a</sup>, J. Maxson<sup>a</sup>, D. Alesini<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

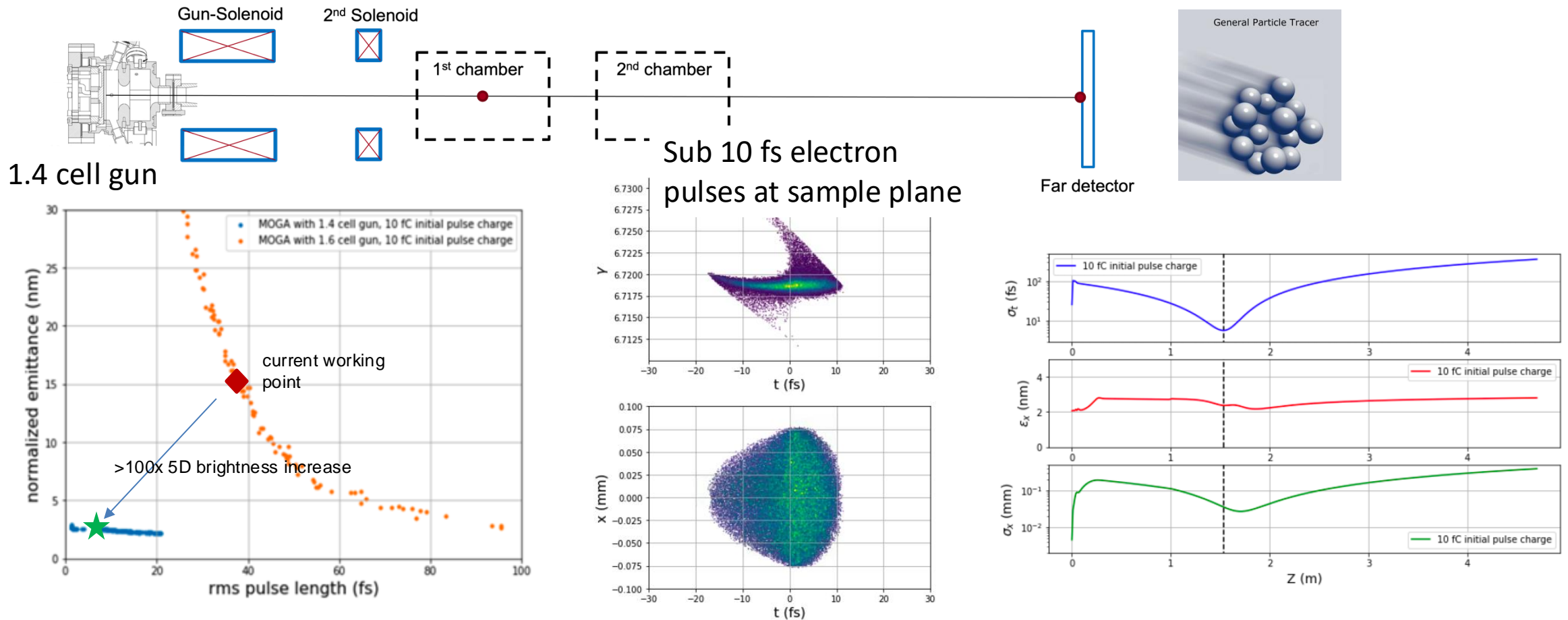
<sup>b</sup> INFN-Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Via Enrico Fermi 40, 00044 Frascati, Rome, Italy



- ✓ Electron source for SLAC MeV-UED and LCLS-I
- ✓ 1.6 cell design, mature 2.86 GHz normal conducting technology
- ✓ Demonstrated stable operation for > 10 years
- ✓ High gradient operation, 90-120 MV/m cathode gradient
- ✓ Direct output MeV energy beams (3 – 4.2 MeV)

- For 1.6 cell gun, launching phase is ~37 degree -> 54 MV/m launch gradient
- Shorter cathode cell -> larger acc field at cathode

# Ultra-high brightness electron source R&D



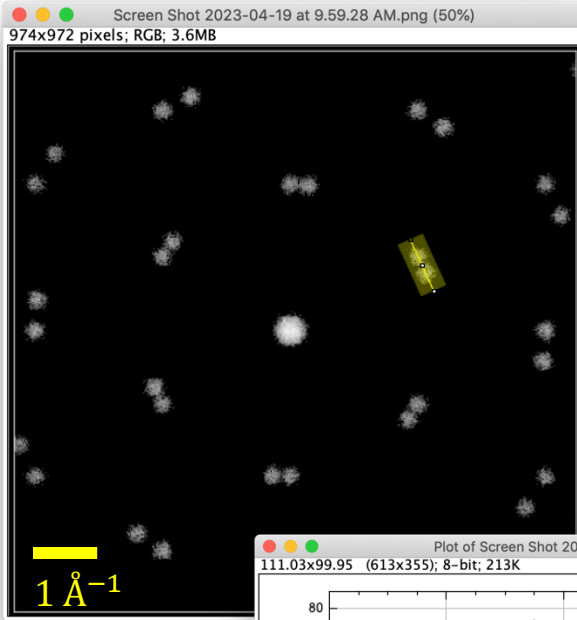
- Multi-objective genetic optimizations using the proposed 1.4 cell gun and the UED beamline configurations
- Simulations show that a by tuning the gun phase, a strong bunching configuration can be achieved
- Beam parameters at sample plane: rms pulse length = 5.02 fs, normalized emittance = 2.36 nm

# Ultra-high brightness electron source R&D

Current ASTA 1.6 cell gun

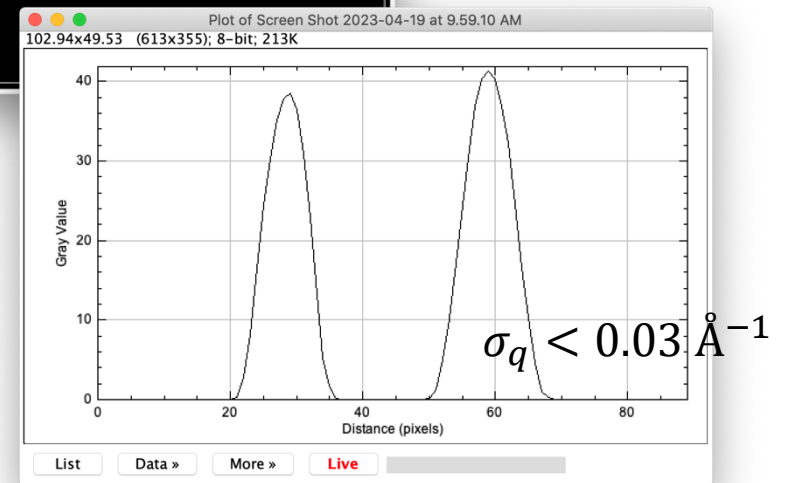
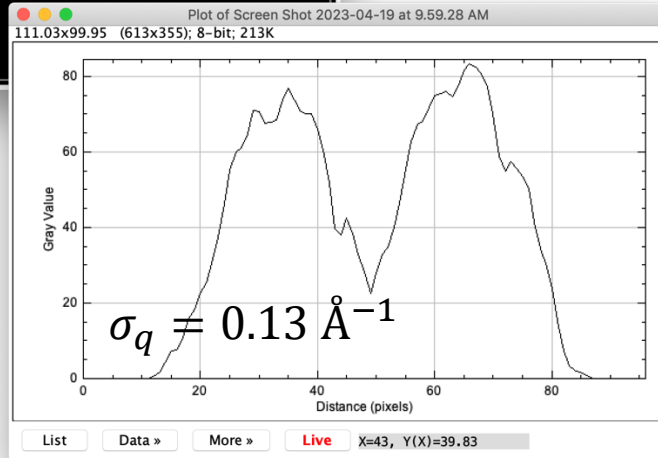
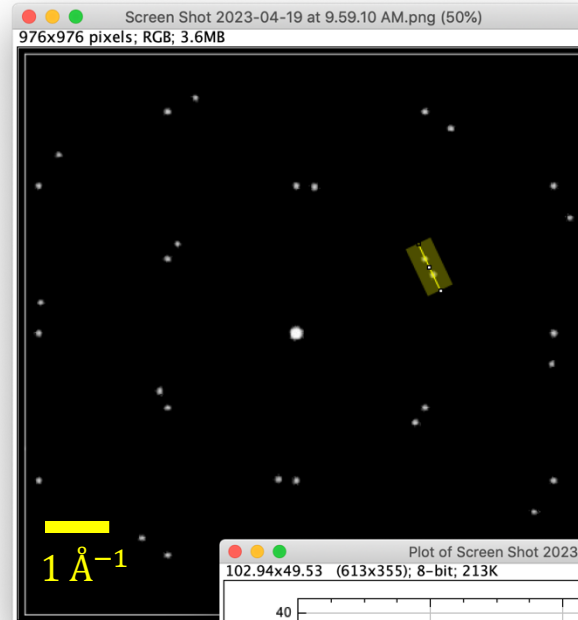


Alternative 1.4 cell gun



## Simulated q-resolution enhancement with new high brightness gun design

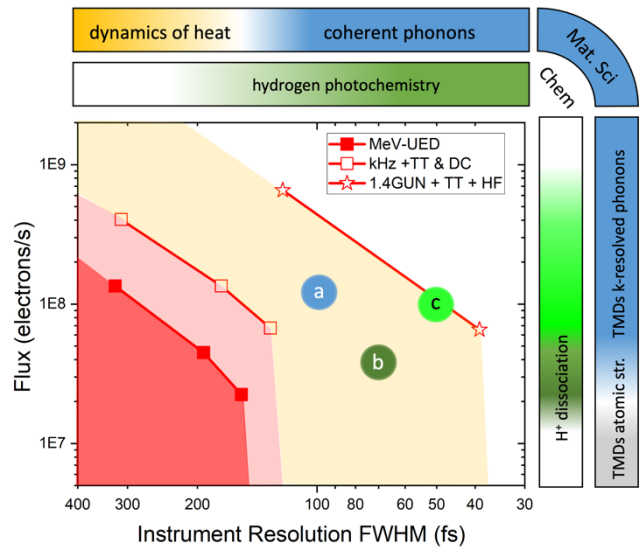
- 10 fC pulse charge (nominal condition for MeV-UED operation)
- GPT simulation of 7 deg rotated WS<sub>2</sub> bilayer
- Results can be further improved with collimation





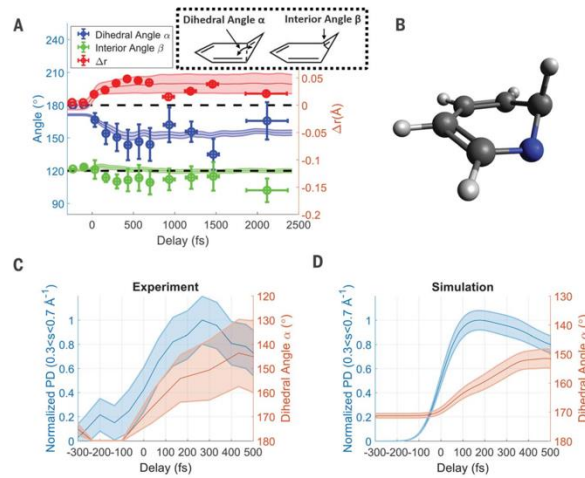
# AI/ML for improving MeV-UED operations

- How to optimize the facilities and instruments for achieving physics limited performance to enable the discovery of new sciences? -> AI/ML based methods
- The requirements for electron beam properties are multi-dimensional
  - Gas/liquid phase: temporal length, pulse charge
  - Solid state: temporal length, probe size, momentum space resolution
- Electron beam property optimization often relies on time-taking hand tuning by human operators. Algorithm based tuning strategies are highly desired



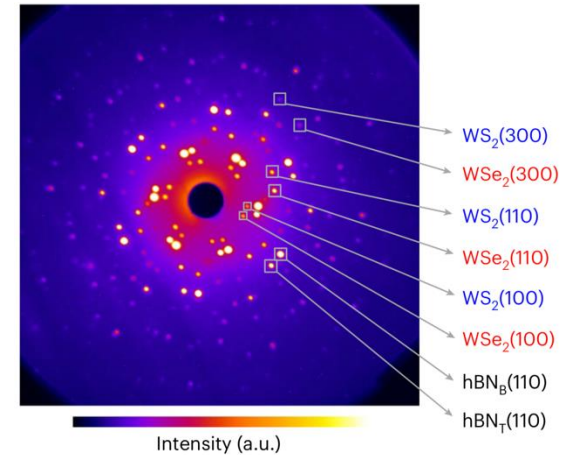
SLAC

## Fast process



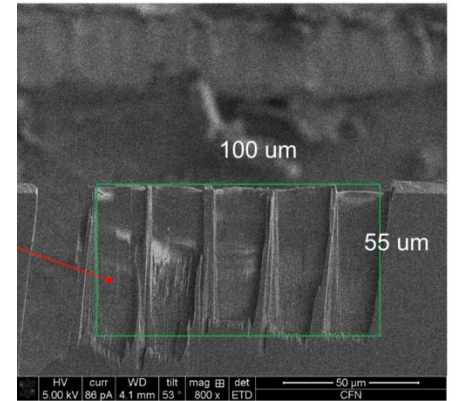
Science 368, 885-889 (2020)

## Complex features in momentum space



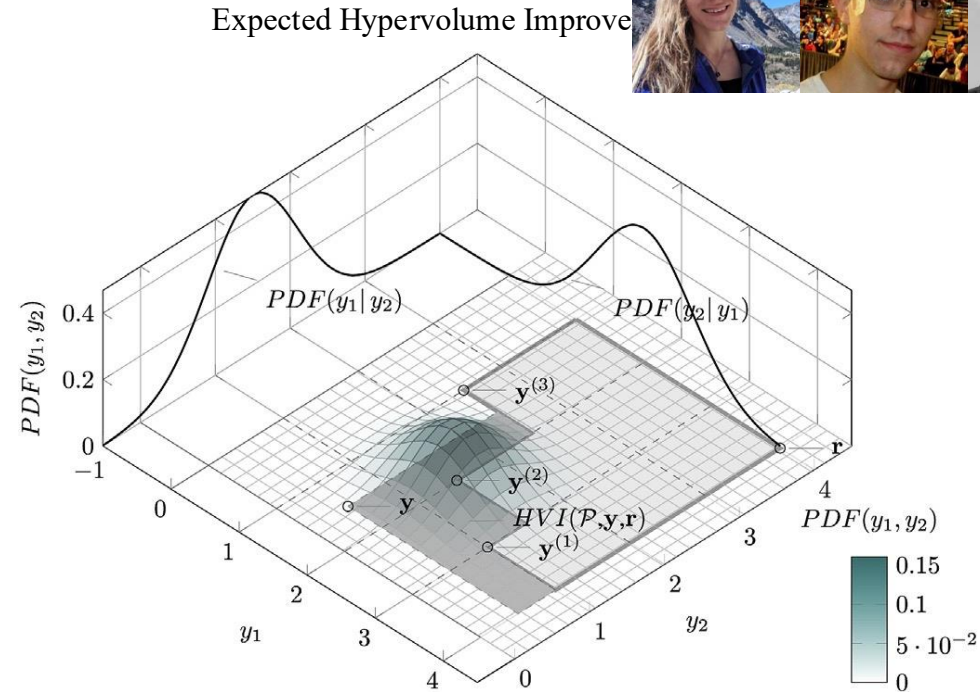
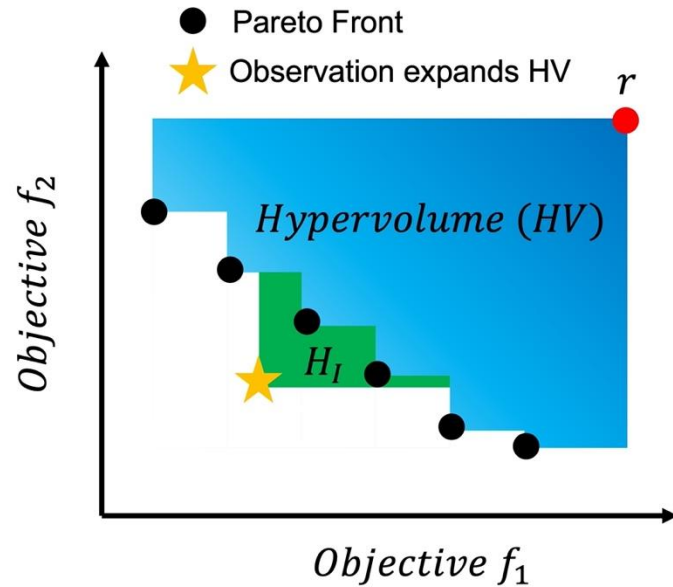
Nature Nanotechnology 18, 29-35 (2023)

## small sample



# Multi-objective Bayesian optimization (MOBO)

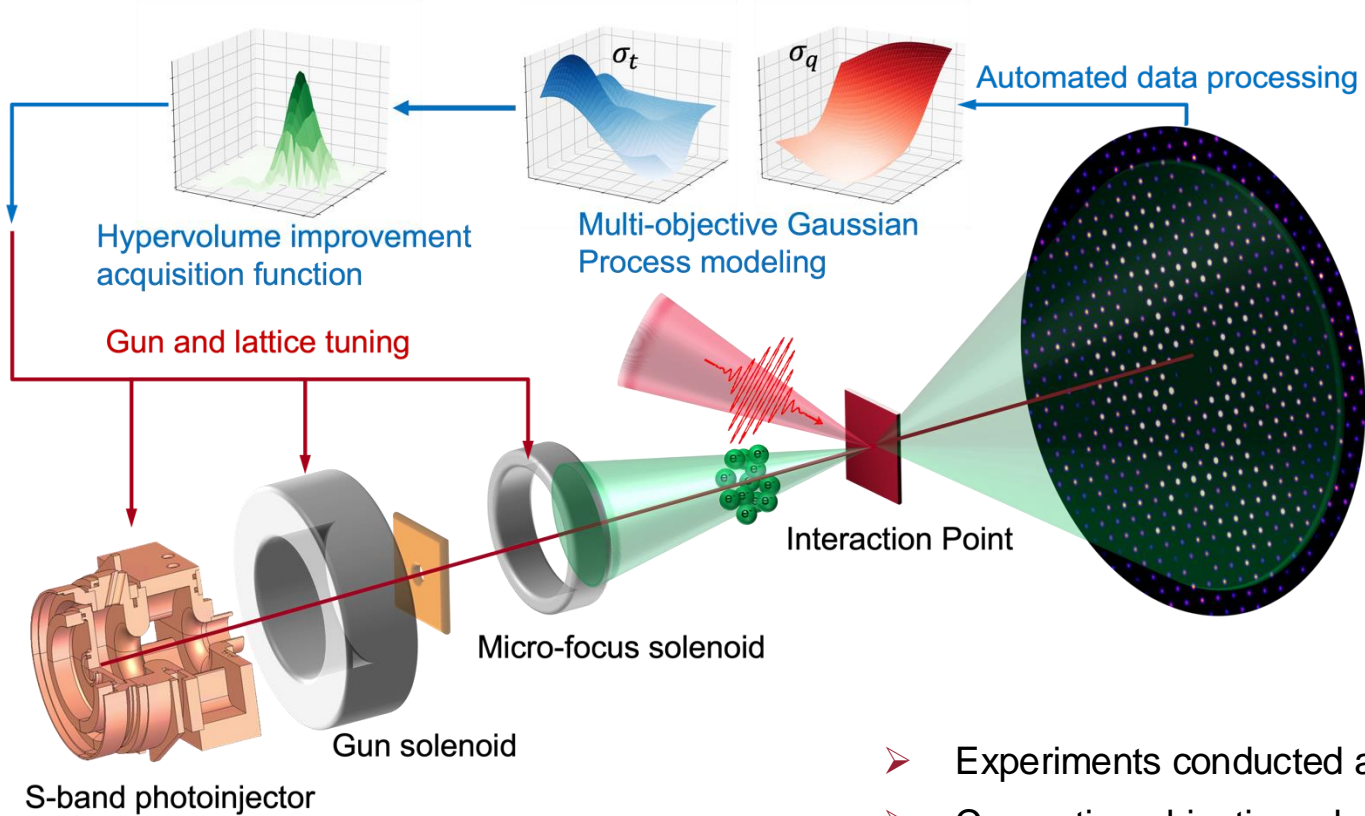
SLAC AD Machine Learning group



*Swarm and Evolutionary Computation 44 (2019) 945–956*

- The goal is to determine the Pareto Front giving the best achievable trade-offs between objectives
- Deployed cutting-edge AI algorithm(MOBO) at MeV-UED
- 10 times more efficient than evolutionary algorithms
- A critical step toward online multi-objective optimization on real accelerator systems

# Multi-objective Bayesian active learning for MeV-UED



F. Ji, et al., Nat. Commun. 15, 4726 (2024)

**Input:** Given a set of observations  $\mathcal{D}_N = \{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_N, y_N)\}$

**for** i in range(number of measurements):

1. Each objective modeled as an independent GP model:

$$y_m \sim GP_m[\mu_m(x), k_m(x, x')]$$

2. Calculate the EHVI acquisition function

$$\alpha_{EHVI}(\mu, \sigma, \mathcal{P}, \mathbf{r}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^M} H_I(\mathcal{P}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{r}) \cdot \mathcal{N}_{\mu, \sigma}(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

3. Determining next observation point

$$\mathbf{x}_{next} = \text{argmax}(\alpha_{EHVI})$$

4. Do observation

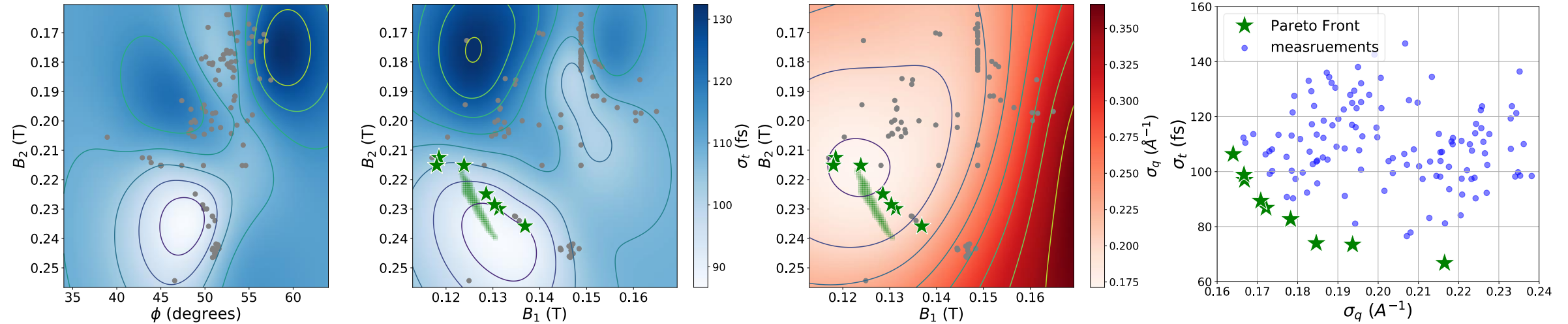
$$\mathbf{y}_{next} = f(\mathbf{x}_{next})$$

5. Update  $\mathcal{D}_N$

**end for**

- Experiments conducted at SLAC-MeV UED facility
- Competing objectives due to space charge forces: electron pulse length ( $\sigma_t$ ), spot size at sample ( $\sigma_x$ ) and momentum space resolution ( $\sigma_q$ )
- Explore the responses of  $[\sigma_t, \sigma_x, \sigma_q]$  to gun phase ( $\phi$ ), gun solenoid strength ( $B_1$ ) and micro-focus solenoid strength ( $B_2$ ) and obtain Pareto Fronts giving trade-offs between them

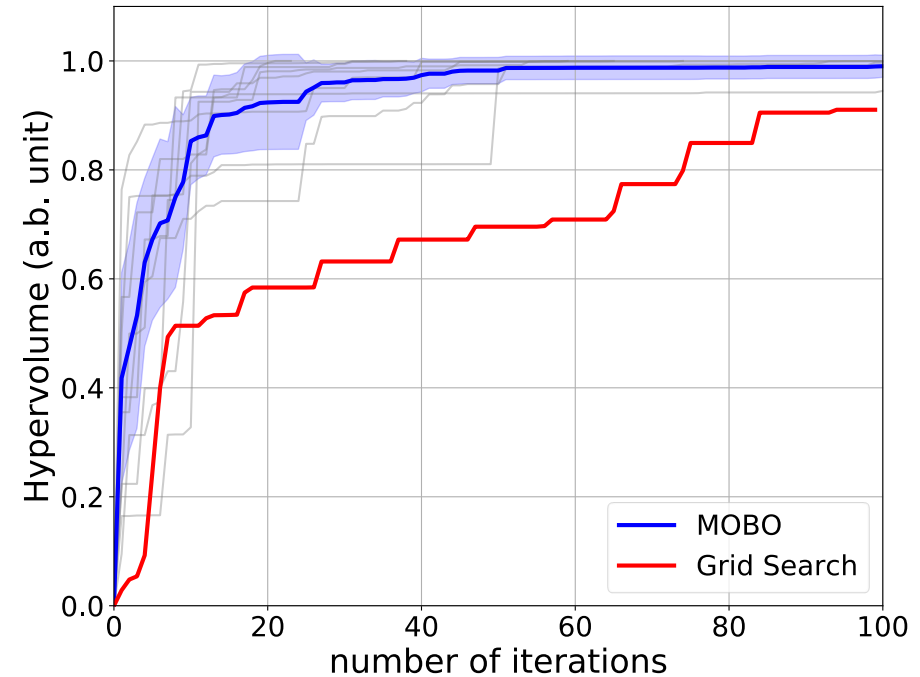
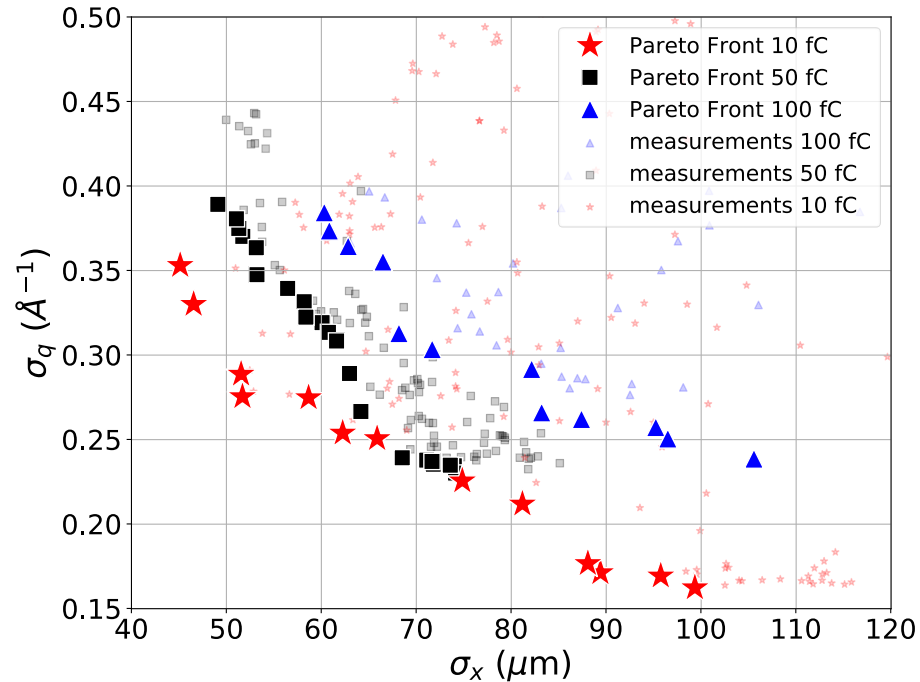
# Multi-objective Bayesian active learning for MeV-UED



F. Ji, et al., *Nat. Commun.* 15, 4726 (2024)

- Measurements of  $\sigma_t$ ,  $\sigma_q$  projected to the  $\phi - B_1$  and  $B_1 - B_2$  subspace, along with posterior mean predicted by the GP
- MOBO strategically proposes the next observation point, and is more data efficient than a broad, undirected search for the PF
- The Learned PF provide an unprecedented overview of system behavior and can assist human scientist in rapid decision making during very limited beamtime
- Marks the first instance where MOBO has been applied to actively learn and navigate through the trade-offs of key beam properties that have a direct and substantial impact on the outcome of scientific user experiments

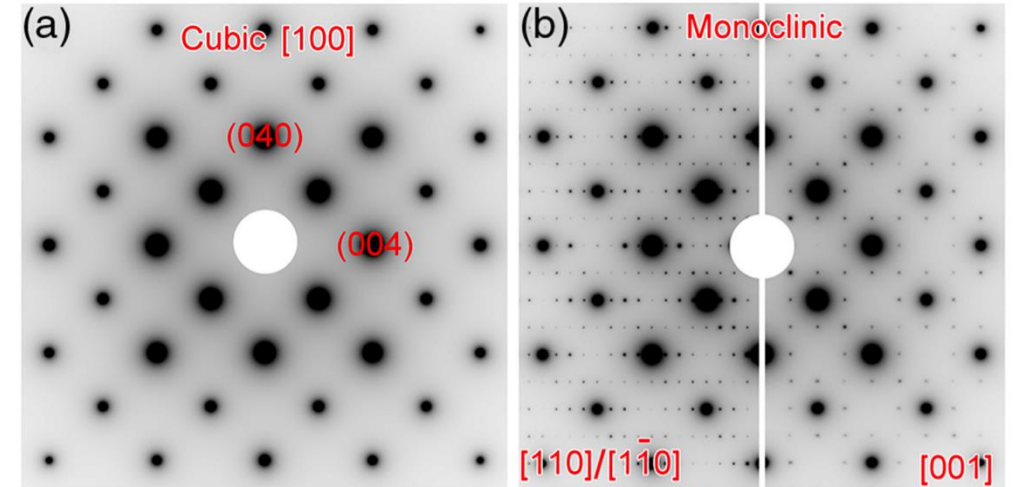
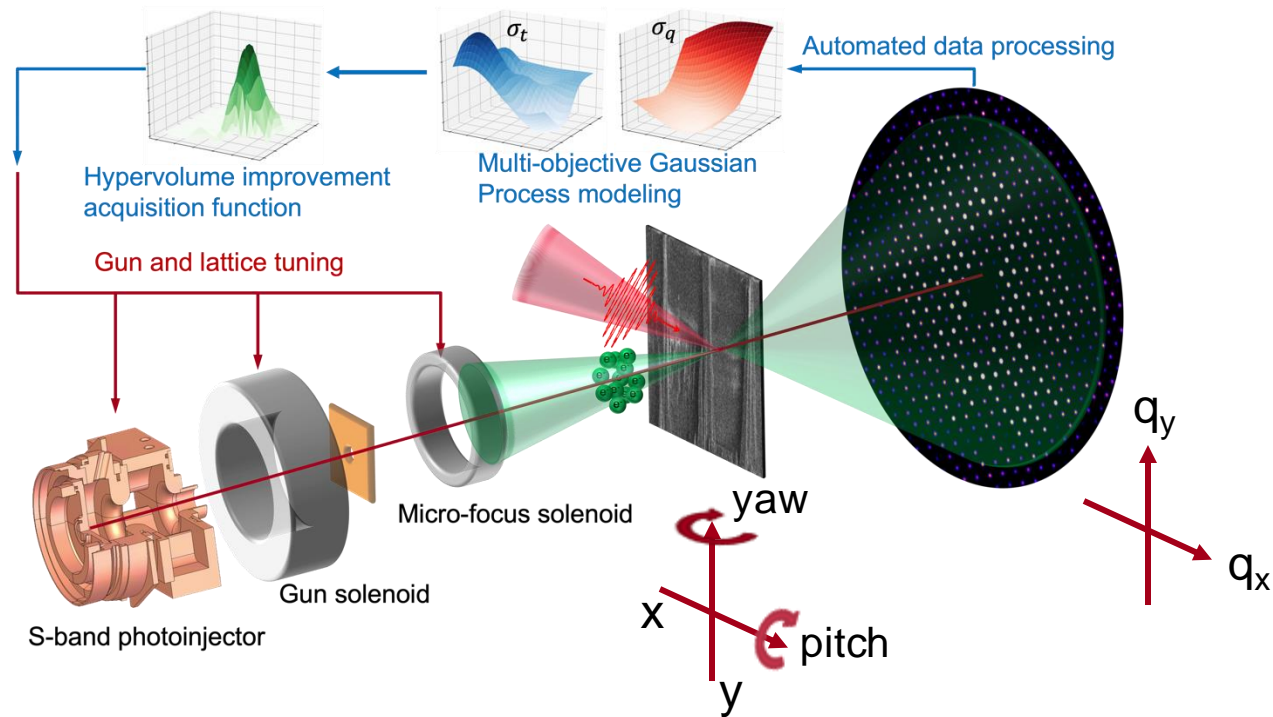
# Multi-objective Bayesian active learning for MeV-UED



F. Ji, et al., *Nat. Commun.* 15, 4726 (2024)

- Spot size vs q-resolution optimizations under different initial pulse charges
- Convergence plot shows hypervolume achieves 95% of its maximum within 30 measurements in average
- The hypervolume obtained using a grid search (GS) was 62% of that obtained using MOBO after 30 measurements.
- The comparison between MOBO and GS shows clear advantage of MOBO to improve both optimization efficiency and maximum achievable hypervolume

# AI/ML to assist in accelerating scientific discoveries

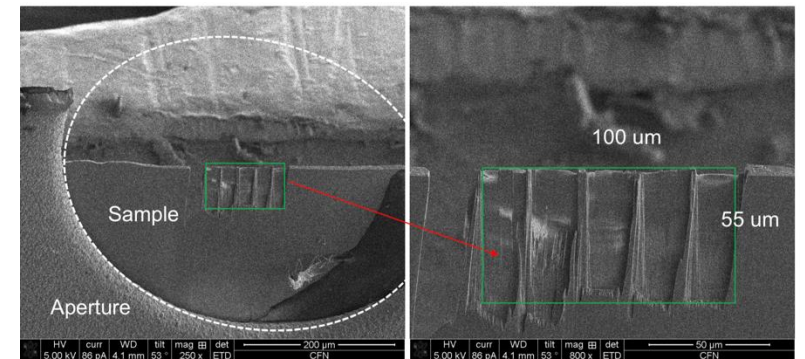


Phys. Rev. B.106.195131 (2022)

## ➤ Solid state UED

- Sample tuning: 4 degrees of freedom: x, y, pitch and yaw
- 2D slices of the reciprocal space on detector
- Other variables: temperature, pump wavelength/energy, pump-probe delays

## ➤ Bayesian algorithms to assist in the search of charge orders in strongly correlated materials



Courtesy of BNL TEM group

# Summary

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- Critical needs have been identified from UED strategic planning efforts and user feedback
- Intense R&D efforts undergoing aiming at improving flux and resolutions of the MeV-UED instrument
  - ePix detector capable of performing shot-by-shot single electron detection and achieving ultrahigh SNR, ready for production for UED run5
  - 1.4 cell gun optimization studies showing that ultrahigh brightness beams with  $< 10$  fs pulse length,  $< 2$  nm normalized emittance could be achieved
- Cutting edge AI algorithm applied for online optimizations of key beam properties
- AI/ML techniques holds the potential of improving facility operations and accelerating scientific discovery

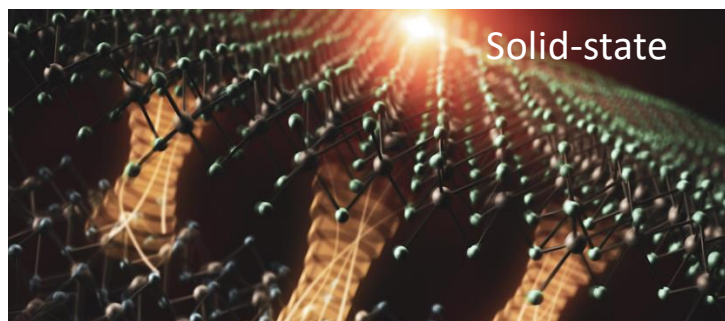
# Acknowledgements

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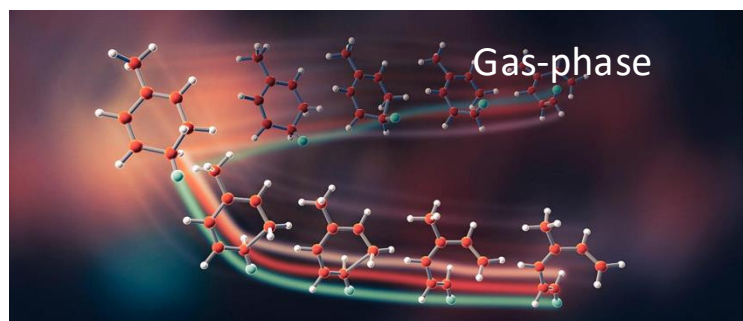
Thank you!



# MeV-UED: Capabilities and Science enabled



Rapid energy transfer between two-dimensional hetero-structures (**Nature Nanotechnology** 18, 29-35 (2023))



Conformer-specific photochemistry imaged in real space and time (**Science** 374, 178-182 (2021))



Ultrafast hydrogen bond strengthening in liquid water (**Nature** 596, 531-535 (2021))



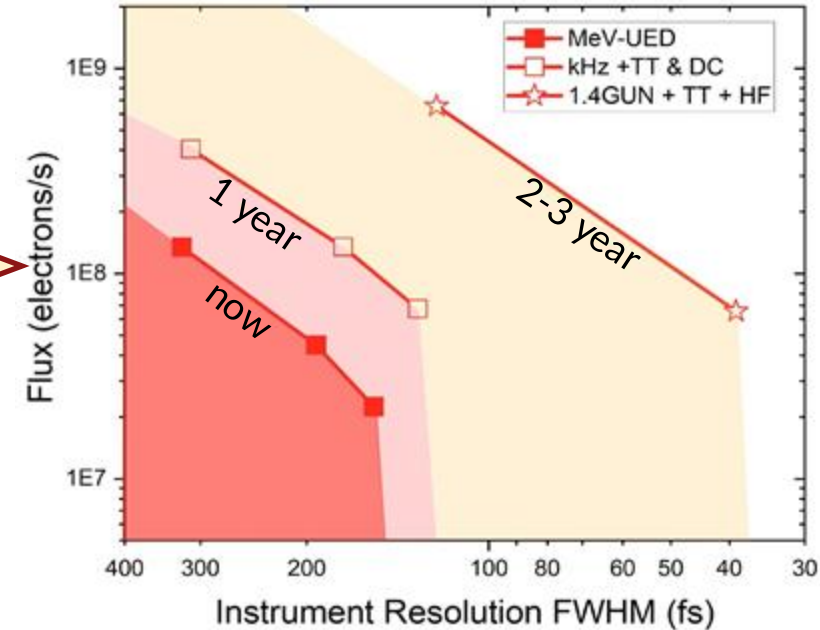
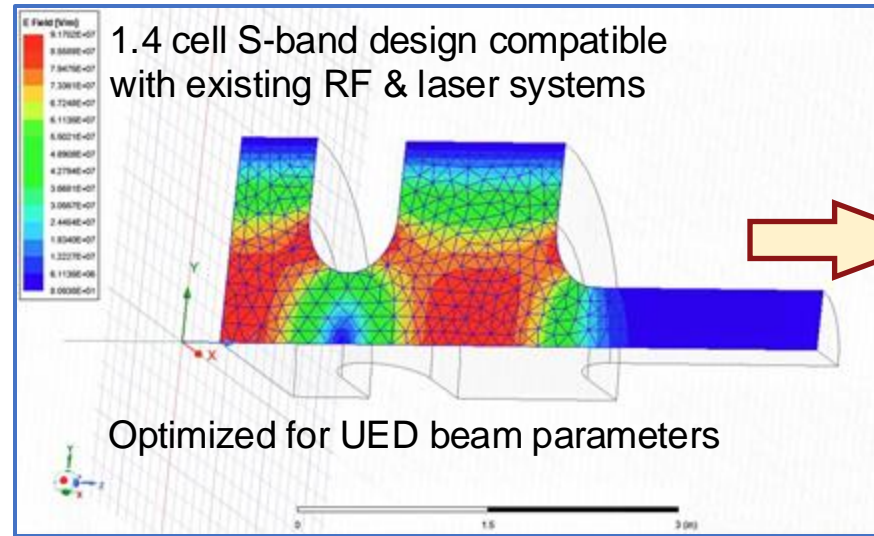
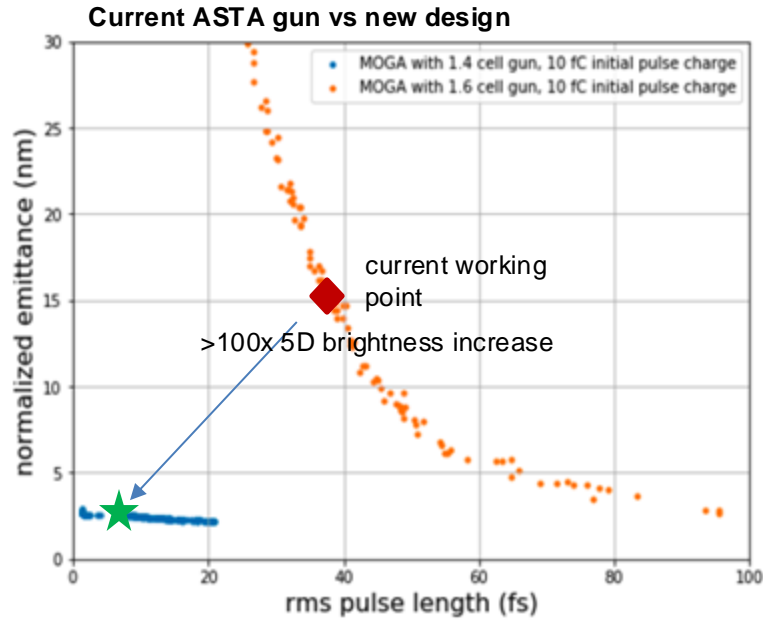
Ultrafast phase dynamics switches in a quantum electronic device (**Science** 373, 352-355 (2021))

- Probe structural and electronic dynamics in solid, gas and liquid systems under optical pumps and operando excitations
- Science opportunities in the key areas:
  - Resolve structural and electronic dynamics during photodissociation events
  - intramolecular Proton transfer & migration dynamics
  - Momentum-resolved transient phonon populations in thin monolayer materials
  - Exploring energy pathways and structure-function relationships in hetero-structure based low dimensional systems

# Ultra-high brightness electron source R&D

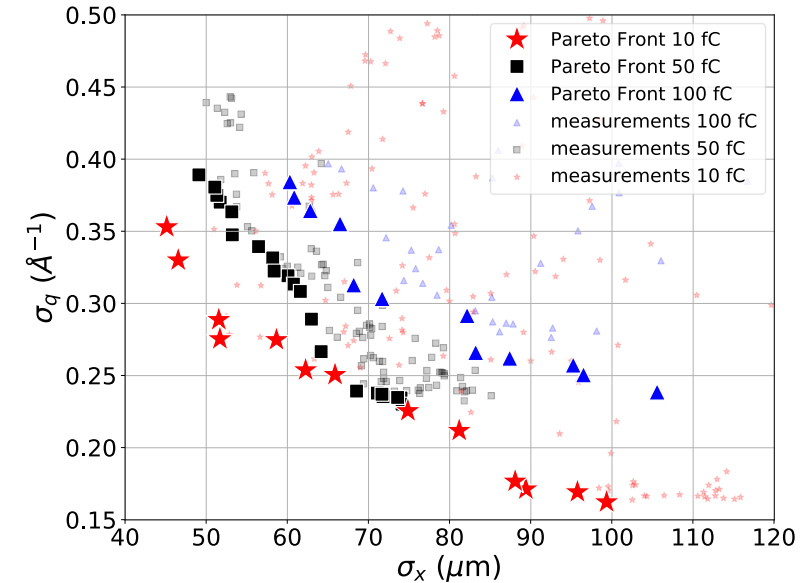
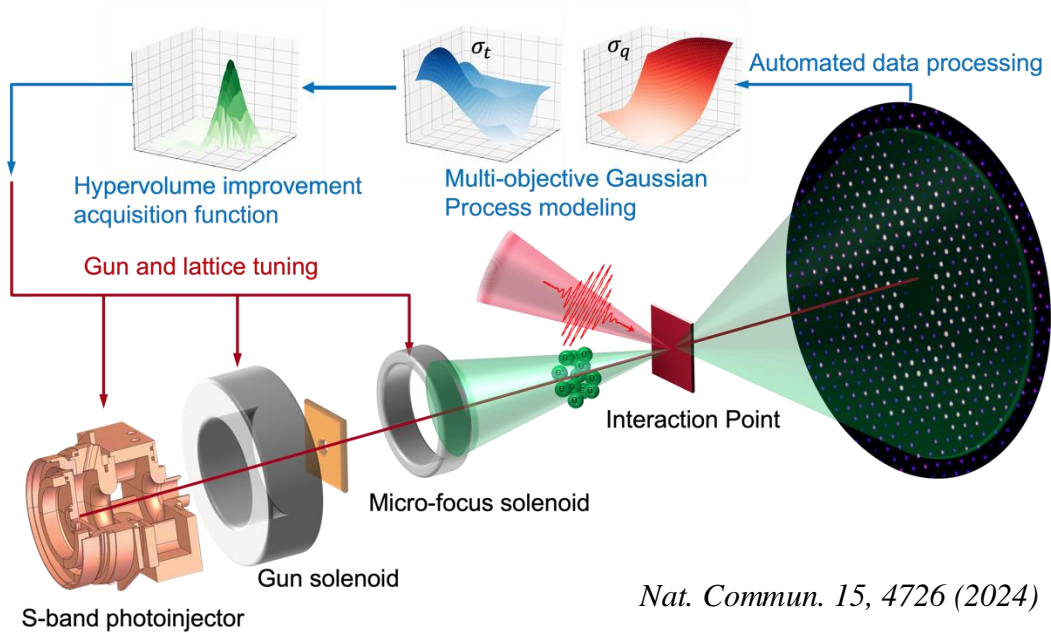
- Improve instrument time resolution towards 50 fs
- Increase electron flux to  $> 1e8$  electrons/sec
- Improve transverse emittance to reach  $\Delta q = 0.01 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$

To meet future user requirements on electron flux, spot size, and time resolution, a new higher brightness, lower emittance electron source is needed



Mid-Term (1-2 Year) Goals / Milestones	Key Personnel/Responsibilities
Prototype of 1.4-cell S-band gun design	UED AD with Test Fac and TID RFAR support
Dedicated online (shot-to-shot) THz time-tool	UED AD & LCLS team with Laser & Nanni Groups
Upgrade of the ePix detector to kHz rep rate	UED AD & LCLS team with TID Sensor Group
Laser DFG + HCF wavelength extension for UV pump	UED LCLS with Laser group support

# Multi-objective Bayesian active learning for MeV-UED



- The MOBO algorithm was used for sampling the parameter space efficiently with little prior knowledge
- The achieved performance was comparable with that obtained by experienced human operators and takes significantly fewer measurements
- Marks the first instance where MOBO has been applied to actively learn and navigate through the trade-offs of key beam properties that have a direct and substantial impact on the outcome of scientific user experiments
- This method is flexible, efficient and can be used in other experimental scenarios

# Acknowledgements

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## SLAC MeV-UED team



Alex Reid



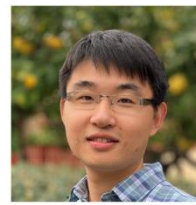
Mike Minitti



Joel England



Xiaozhe Shen



Fuhao Ji



Stephen Weathersby



Cameron Duncan



Patrick Kramer



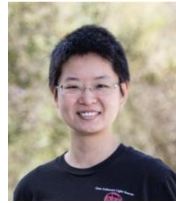
Randy Lemons



Thomas Wolf



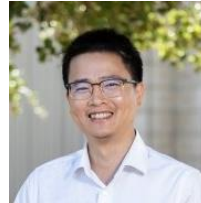
Ming-Fu Lin



Xinxin Chen



Yusong Liu



Mianzhen Mo



Tianzhe Xu



Sharon Philip



Matthias Hoffmann



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**ENERGY**

