

KAERI MeV-UED: Setup and Applications to Ultrafast Chemical Dynamics

Jun Heo

Senior researcher

junheo@kaeri.re.kr

Radiation Center for Ultrafast Science,

Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI), South Korea

2025-08-27

Contents

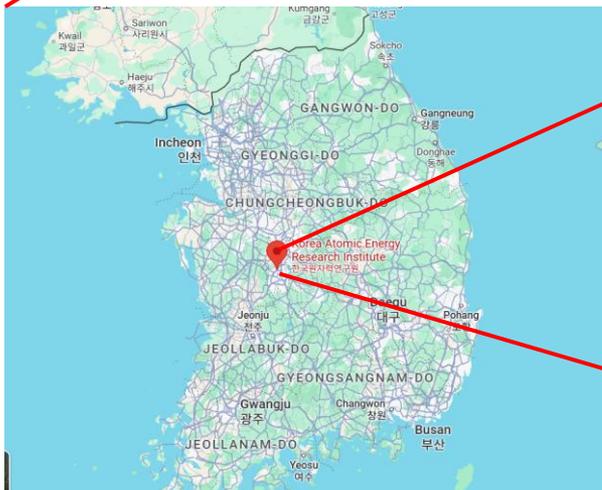
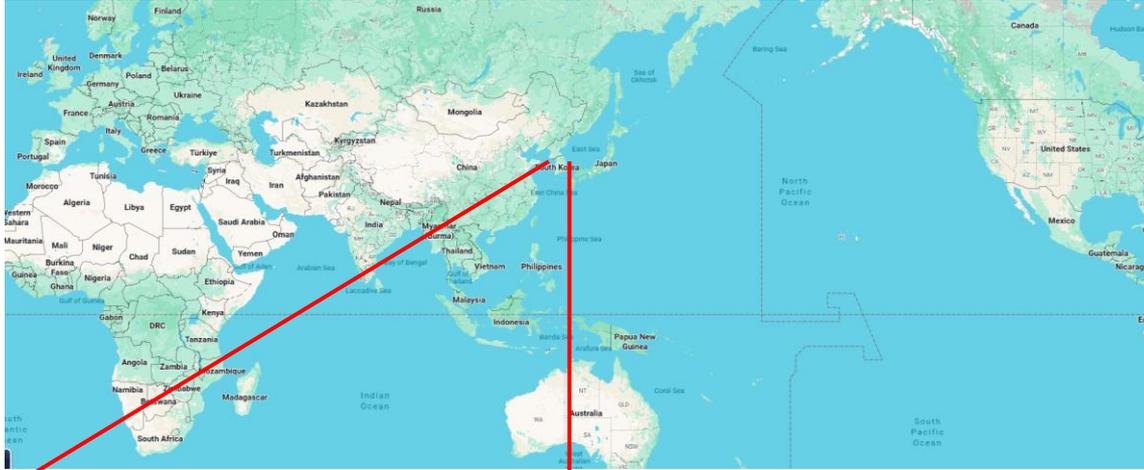
1. Introduction

- ❖ Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI)

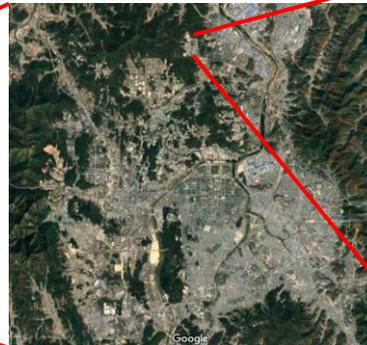
2. KAERI MeV-UED

- ❖ MeV-UED
 - Towards jitter-free UED
 - Electron–THz interaction
- ❖ Current research projects
 - Solid phase
 - Gas-phase UED

Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI)



South Korea



Daejeon

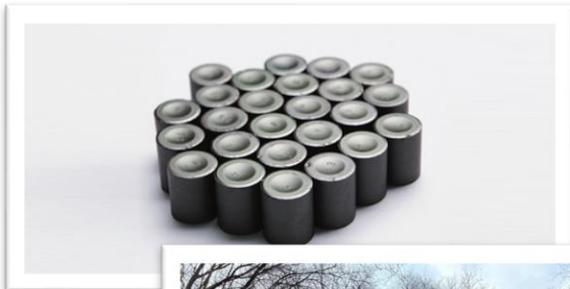


KAERI

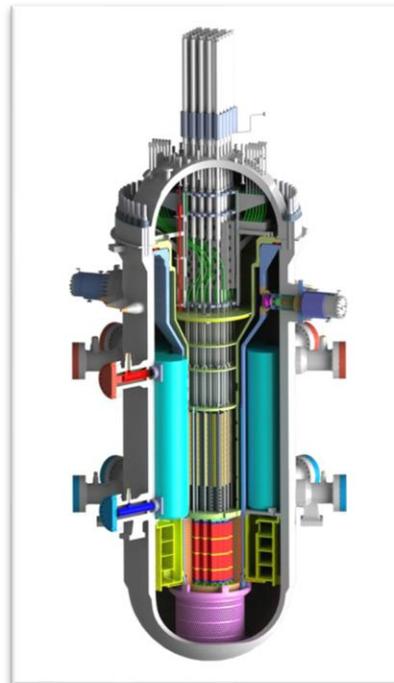
Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI)



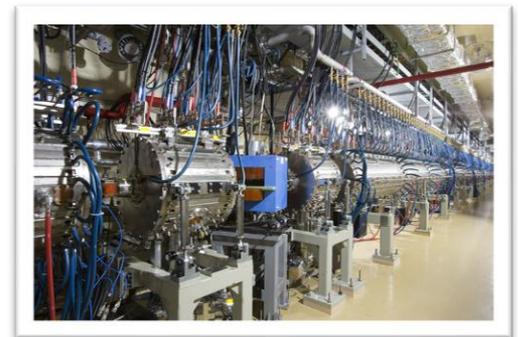
Research reactor



Nuclear fuel design & disposal



Designing nuclear reactor



Proton accelerator



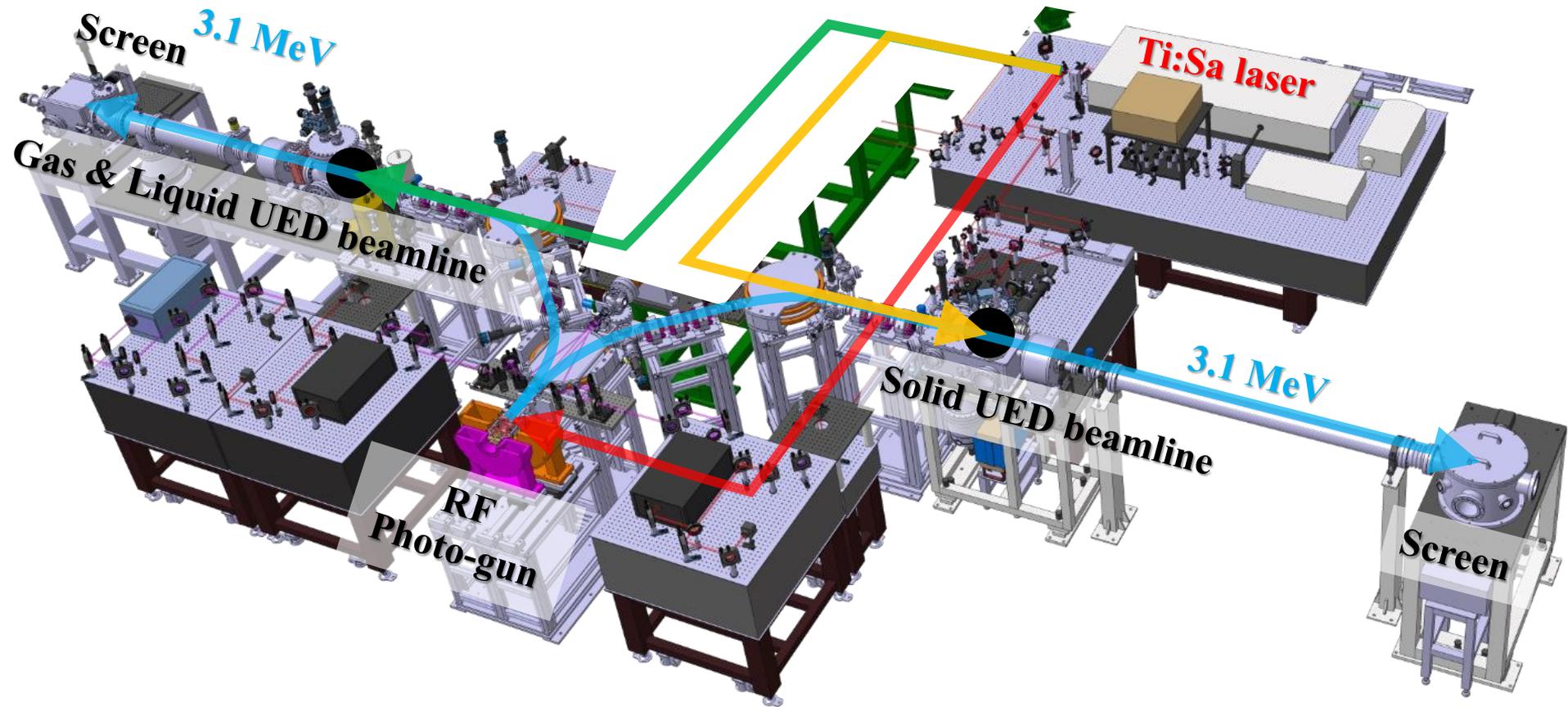
Mev-UED

2. KAERI MeV-UED

❖ MeV-UED

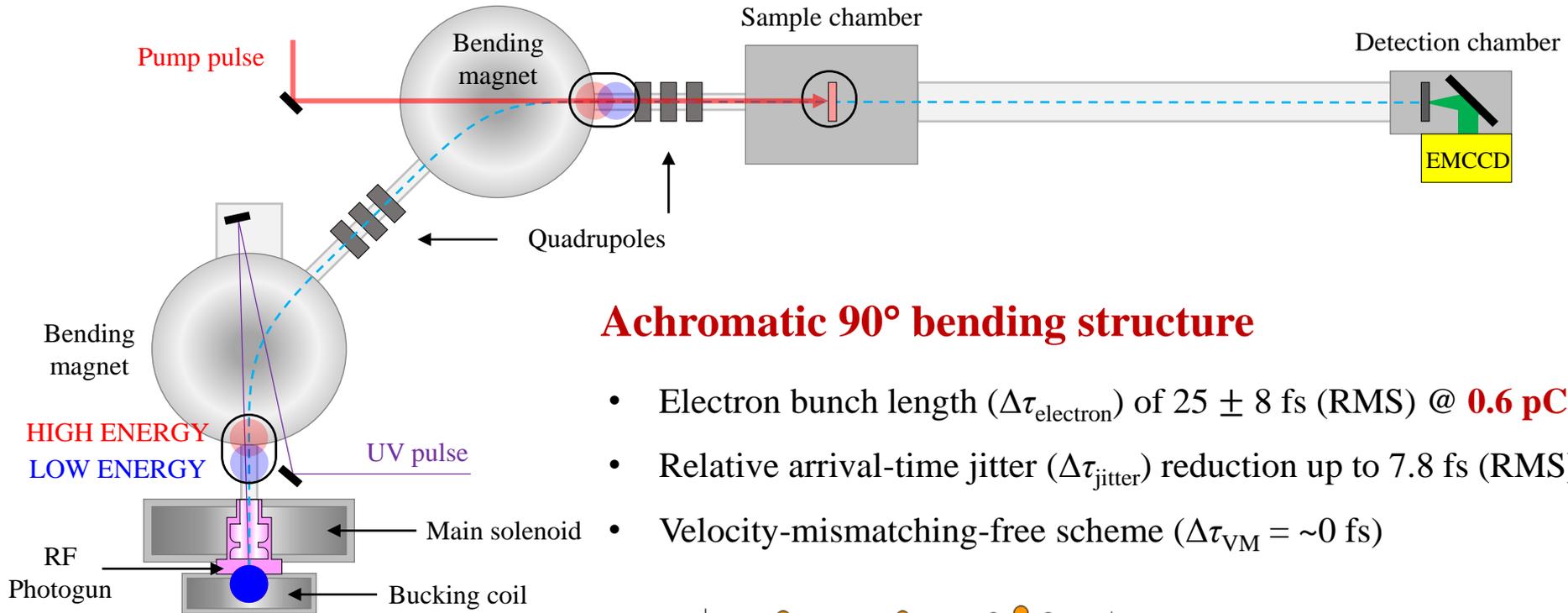
- **Towards jitter-free UED**
- Electron–THz interaction

Overview of KAERI MeV-UED



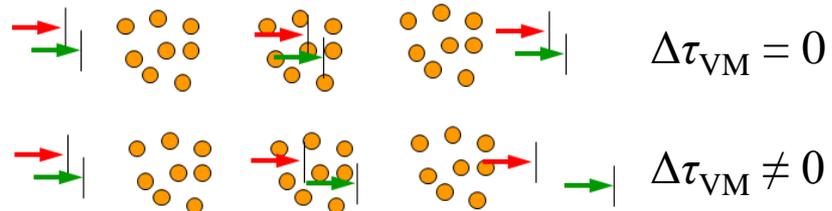
Towards jitter-free UED

$$\Delta\tau_{\text{overall}} = \sqrt{\Delta\tau_{\text{laser pump}}^2 + \Delta\tau_{\text{electron probe}}^2 + \Delta\tau_{\text{jitter}}^2 + \Delta\tau_{\text{VM}}^2}$$

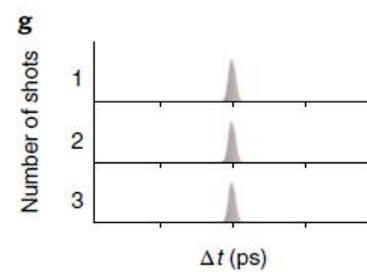
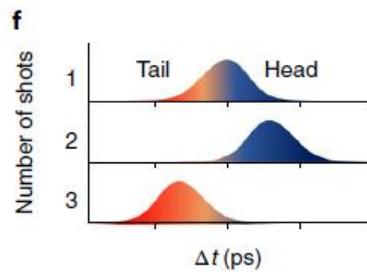
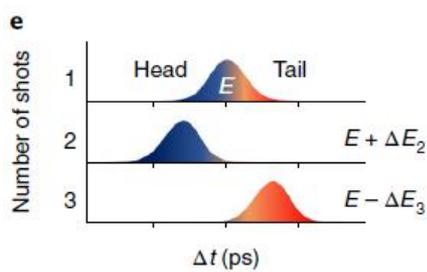
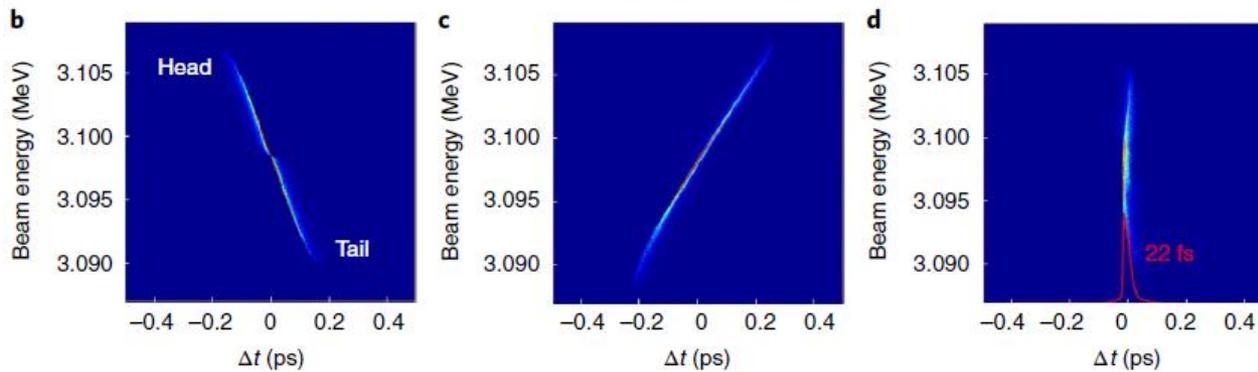
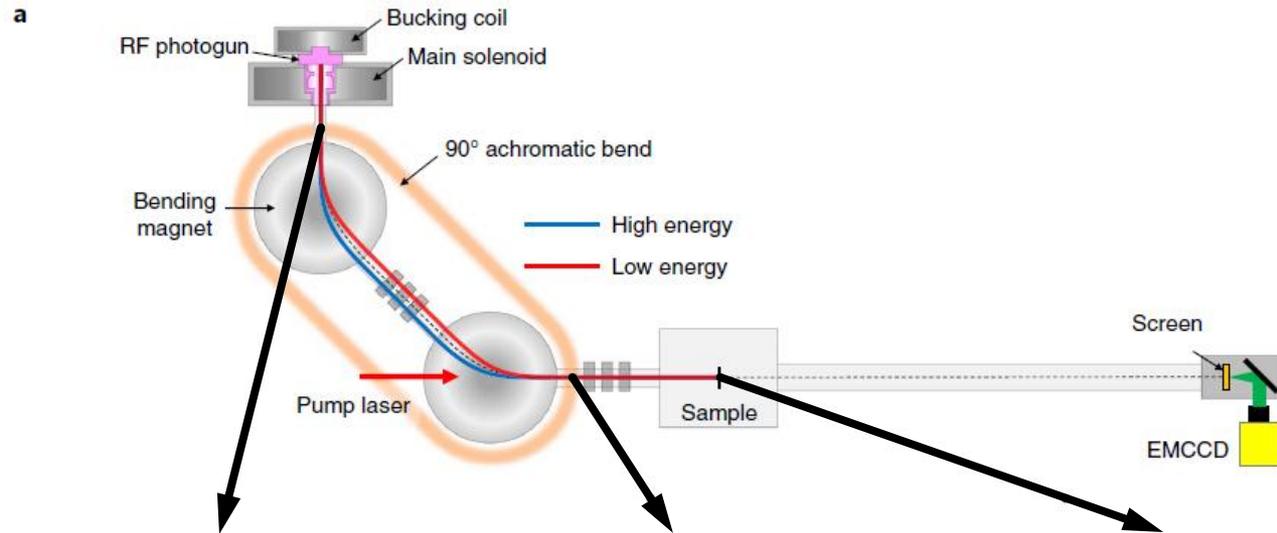


Achromatic 90° bending structure

- Electron bunch length ($\Delta\tau_{\text{electron}}$) of 25 ± 8 fs (RMS) @ **0.6 pC**
- Relative arrival-time jitter ($\Delta\tau_{\text{jitter}}$) reduction up to 7.8 fs (RMS)
- Velocity-mismatching-free scheme ($\Delta\tau_{\text{VM}} = \sim 0$ fs)



Towards jitter-free UED

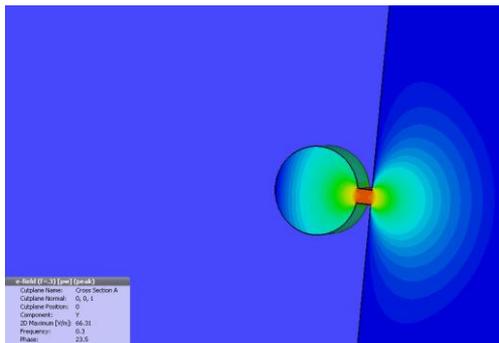
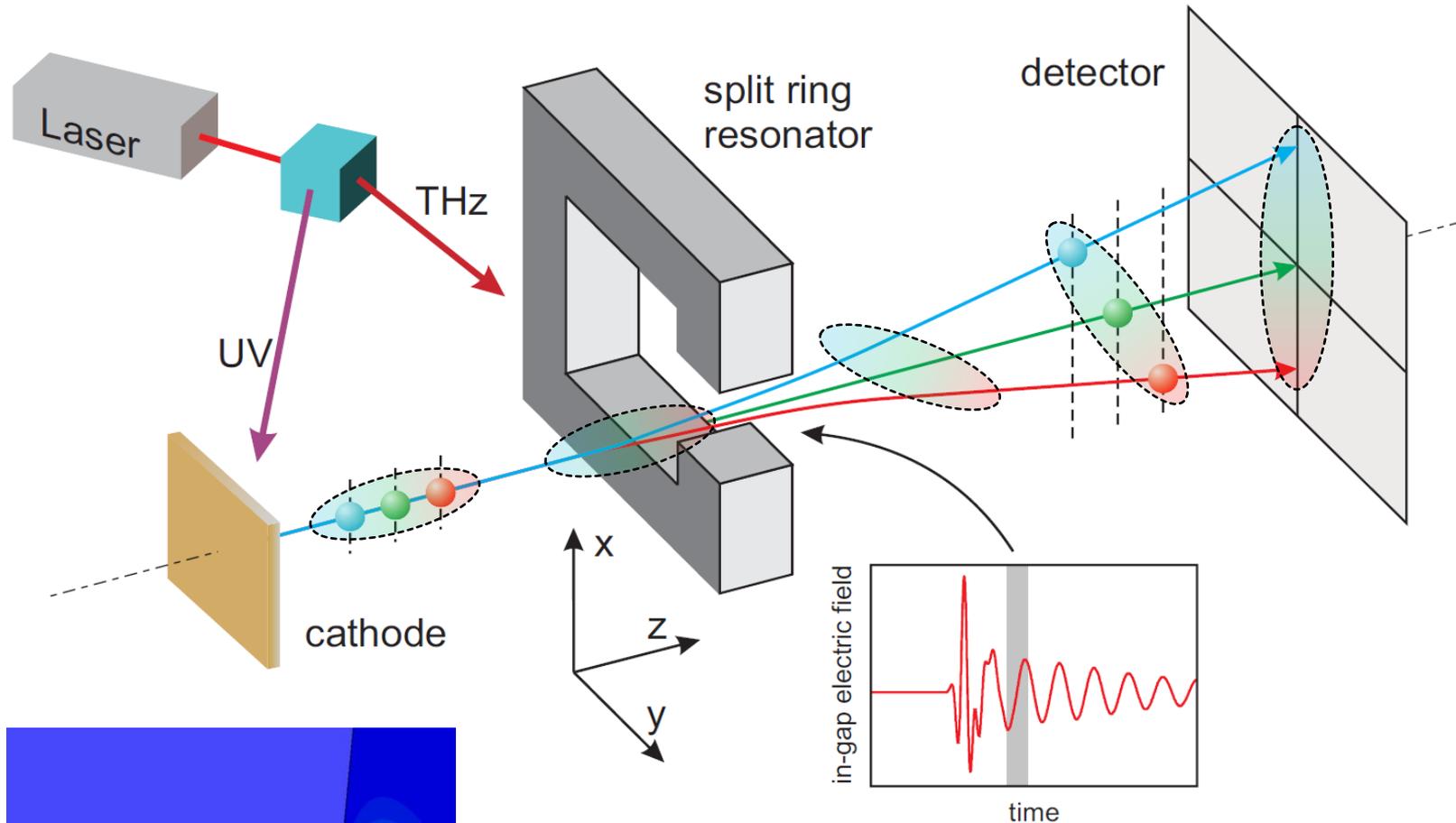


2. KAERI MeV-UED

❖ MeV-UED

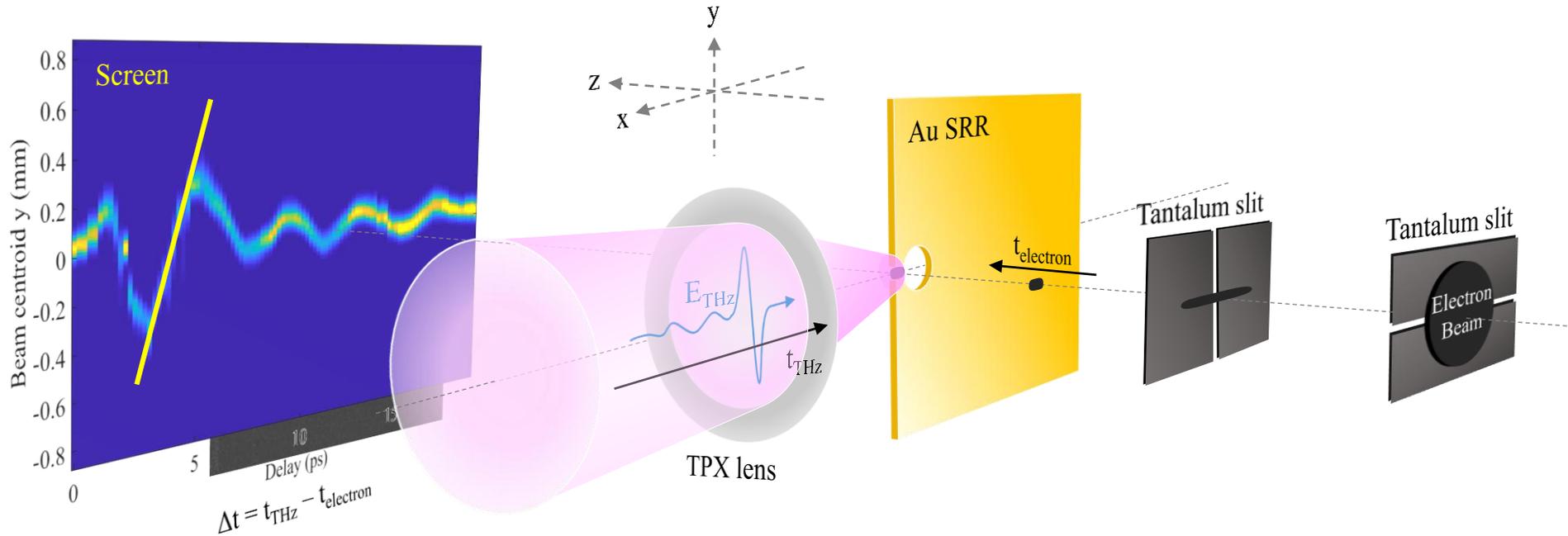
- Towards jitter-free UED
- **Electron-THz interaction**

THz streak camera using split-ring resonator (SRR)



- Streaking velocity (V_{ST}) of $10 \mu\text{rad/fs}$ @ 0.3 THz (Sim.)
- Sub-10 fs accuracy is possible.

THz streaking experiments with SRR

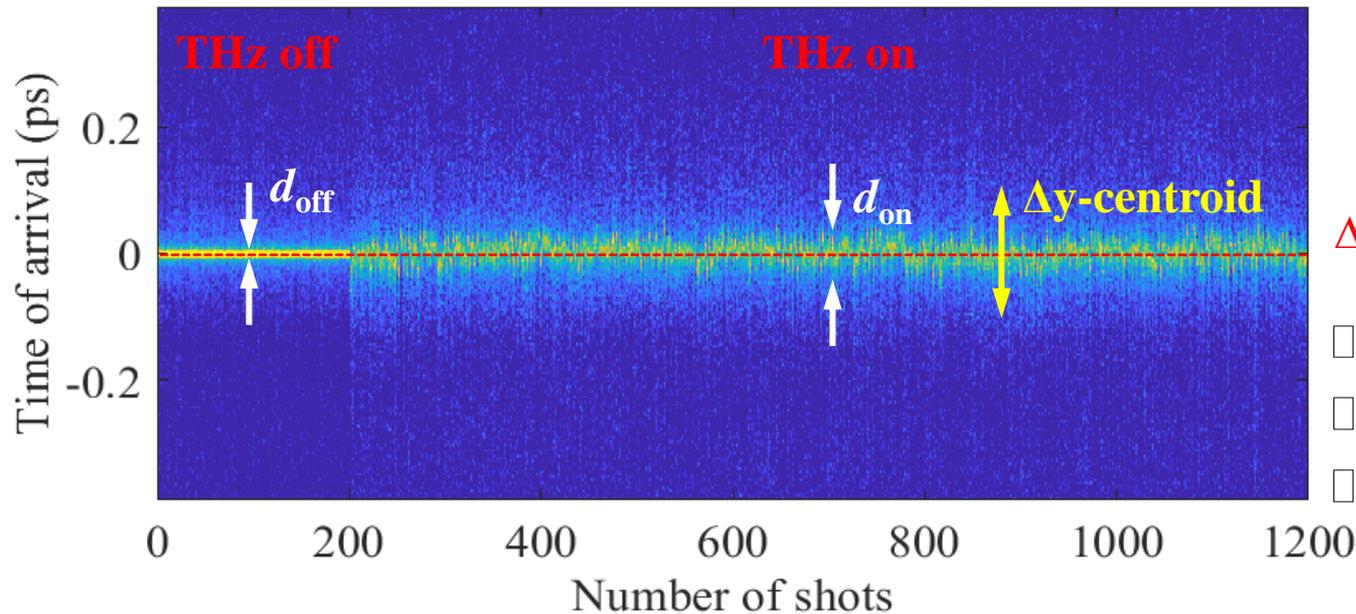


Streaking velocity (V_{ST})

10 $\mu\text{rad/fs}$ @ 0.3 THz (Sim.)

6.74 $\mu\text{rad/fs}$ @ 0.3 THz (Exp.)

Electron bunch length ($\Delta\tau_{\text{electron}}$) and relative arrival-time jitter ($\Delta\tau_{\text{jitter}}$)



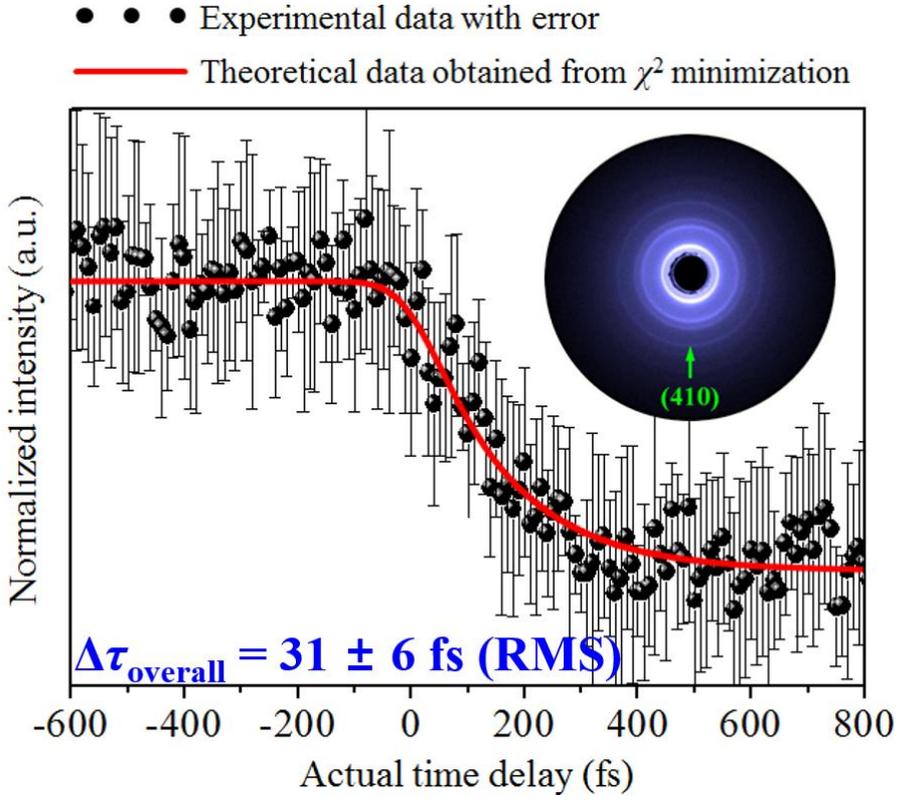
Electron bunch length
($\Delta\tau_{\text{electron}}$)

$$\Delta\tau_{\text{electron}} = \frac{v_e \times \sqrt{d_{\text{on}}^2 - d_{\text{off}}^2}}{V_{ST} \times D}$$

- v_e : electron velocity
- V_{ST} : streaking velocity
- D : distance to the screen

- Electron bunch length ($\Delta\tau_{\text{electron}}$) of **25 ± 8 fs (RMS) @ 0.6 pC, 3.1 MeV**
- Relative arrival-time jitter ($\Delta\tau_{\text{jitter}}$) between THz & electron pulses of **8 fs (RMS)**

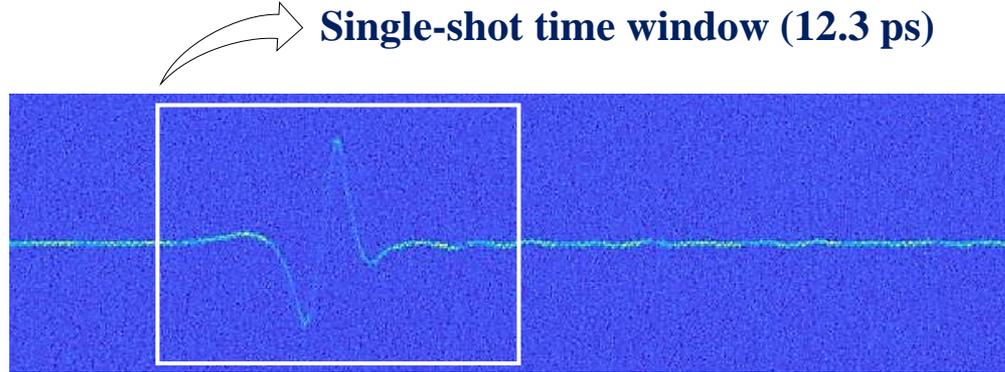
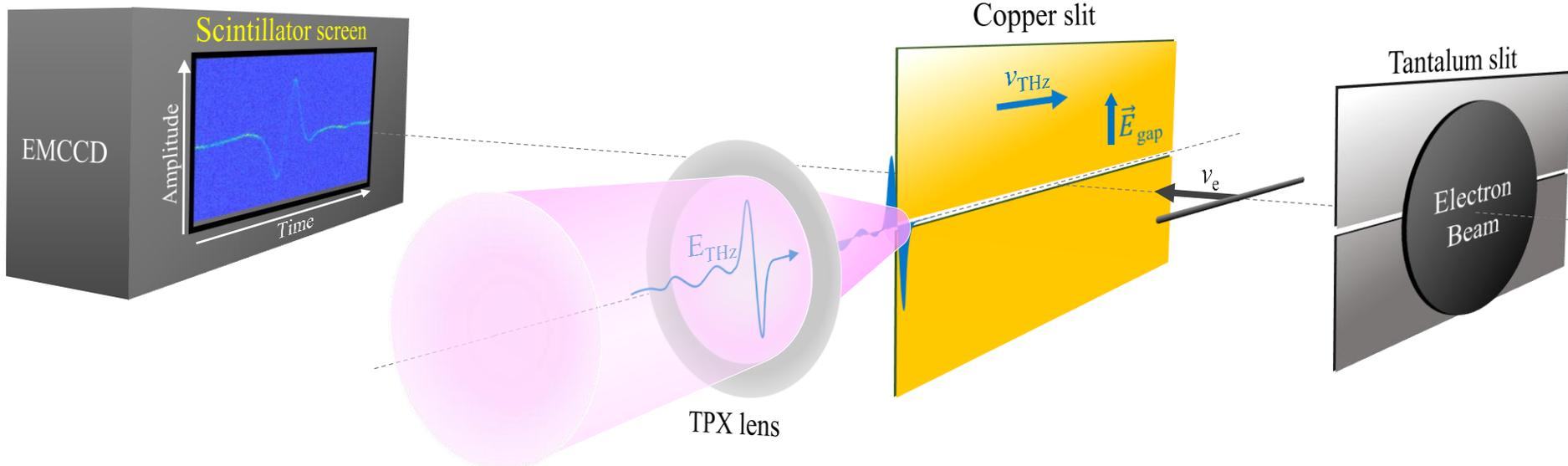
Electron bunch length ($\Delta\tau_{\text{electron}}$) and relative arrival-time jitter ($\Delta\tau_{\text{jitter}}$)



$$\Delta\tau_{\text{overall}} = \sqrt{\Delta\tau_{\text{laser pump}}^2 + \Delta\tau_{\text{electron probe}}^2 + \Delta\tau_{\text{jitter}}^2 + \Delta\tau_{\text{VM}}^2}$$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
32 fs 19 fs **25 fs** **8 fs** 0 fs

Real-time optical waveform visualization by using electron oscilloscope



- Fine temporal resolution (**< 100 fs**)
- Enough single-shot time window (**> 10 ps**)
- **Full-field** (amplitude & phase) measurements
- **Real-time & single-shot** operation
- Signal integrity (= **No distortion**)

2. KAERI MeV-UED

❖ Current research projects

- Solid phase
- Gas phase

Solid phase: Perovskite thin films (ABX_3)

Perovskite thin films (ABX_3)

- ❖ **Next-generation** high-efficiency solar cells
- ❖ **Super star** in the solar cell community since 2010

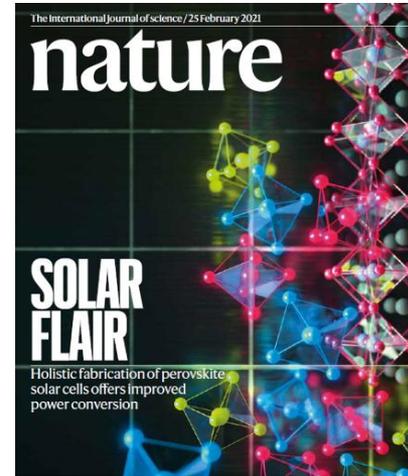
Most of the photophysical studies until now

- ❖ Optical measurements probing the electronic transitions with high time resolution but **only indirectly probe the nuclear response**
- ❖ **Motion of organic cations** in screening and protecting carriers from recombination

“Although perovskite solar cell efficiencies have climbed above 20% mark, **the fundamental working mechanism responsible for these efficiencies and the associated long carrier lifetimes is not understood.**”



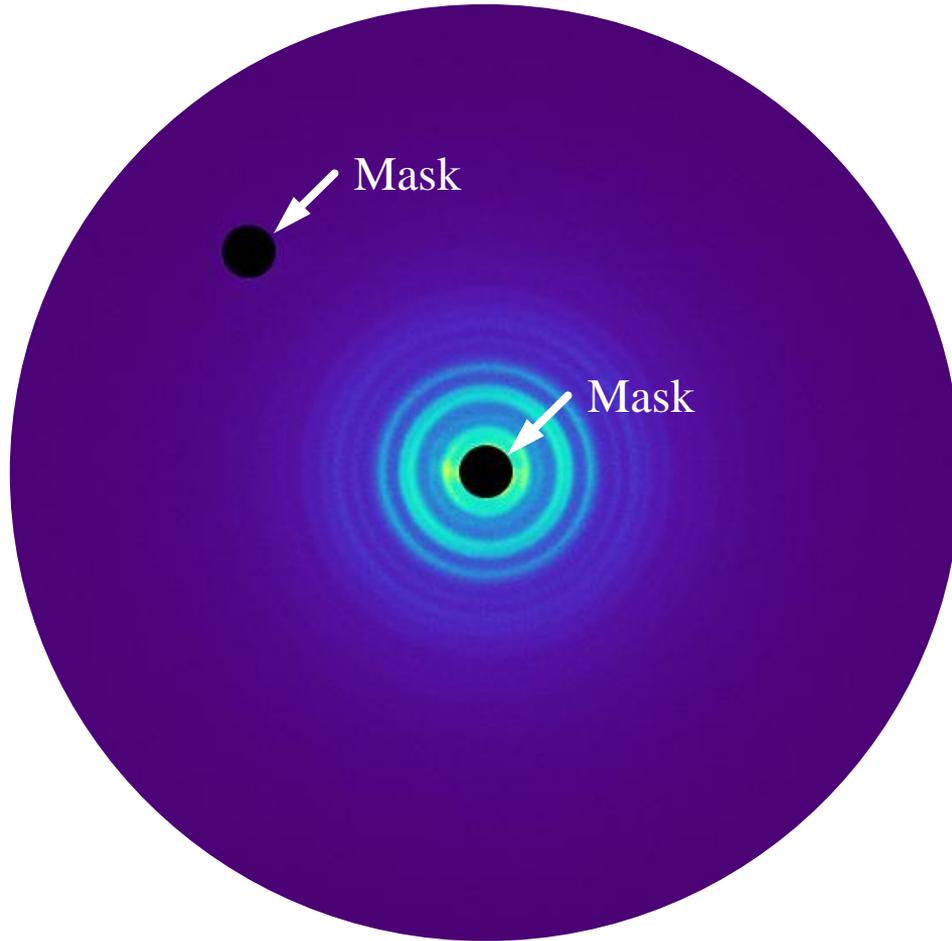
Dr. Nam Joong Jeon



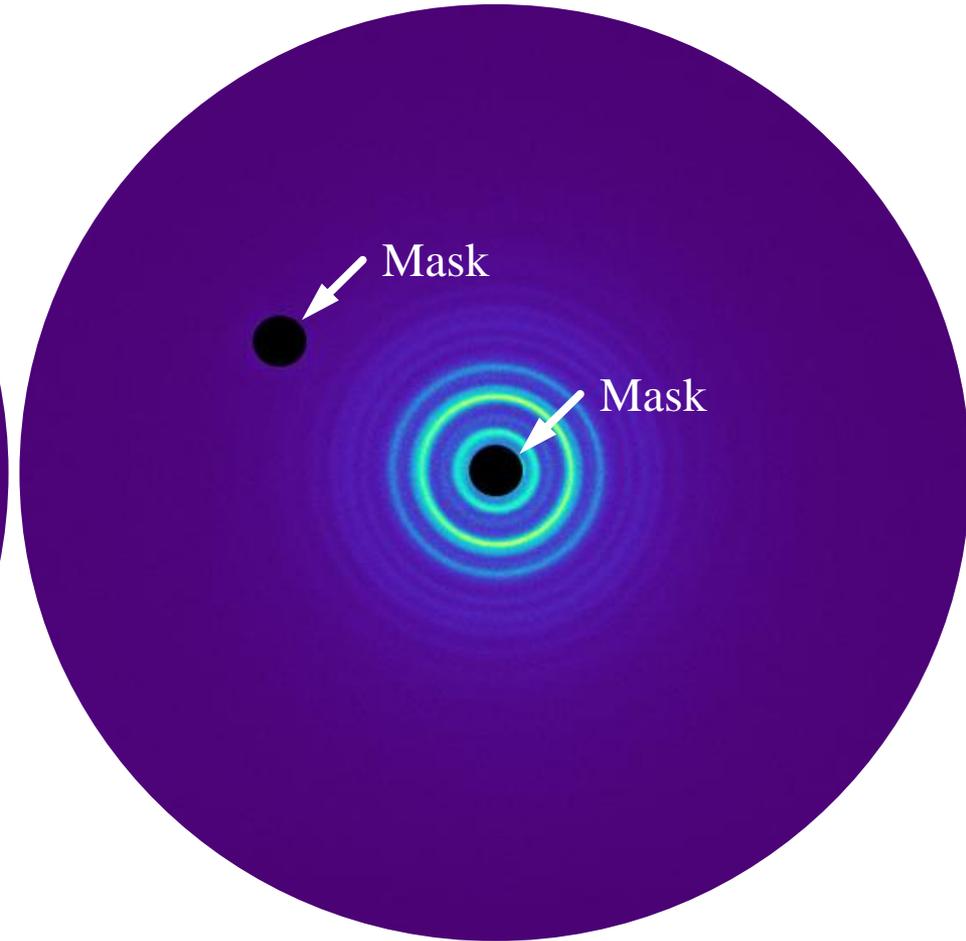
Dr. Bong Joo Kang

Exemplary 2D raw data of $(\text{FAPbI}_3)_{1-x}(\text{MAPbBr}_3)_x$

Br 0 mol% ($x = 0$)



Br 0.8 mol% ($x = 0.008$)

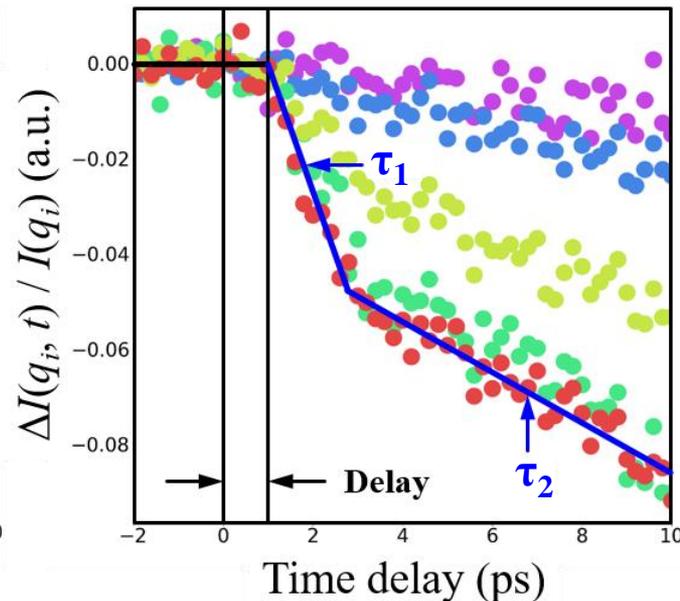
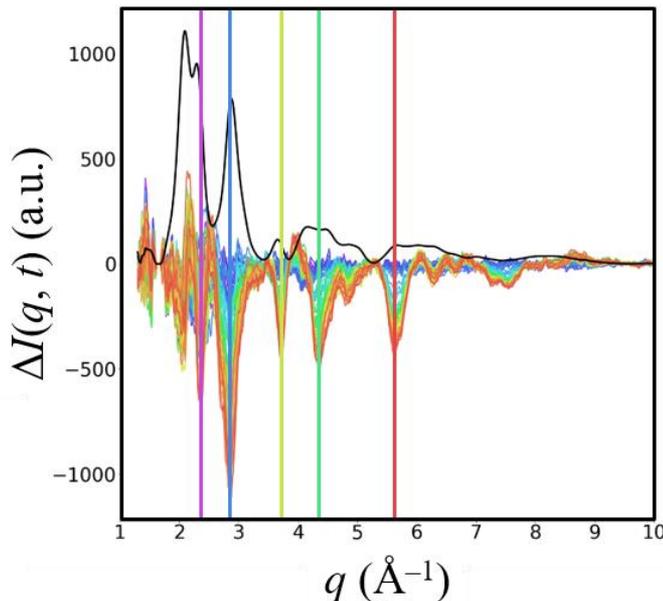
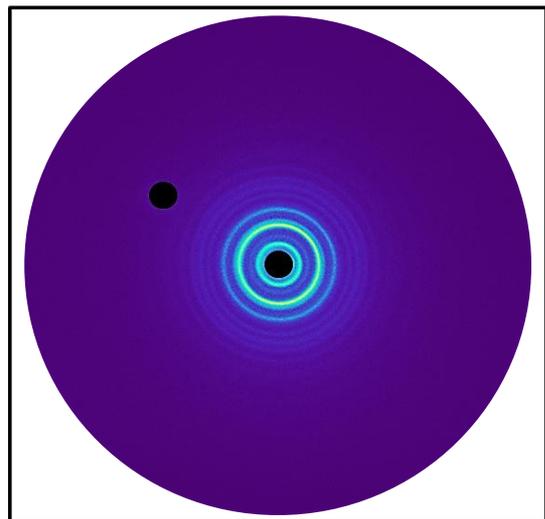


❖ $(\text{FAPbI}_3)_{1-x}(\text{MAPbBr}_3)_x$; Best power conversion efficiency of **25.4%** at $x = 0.8$ mol%

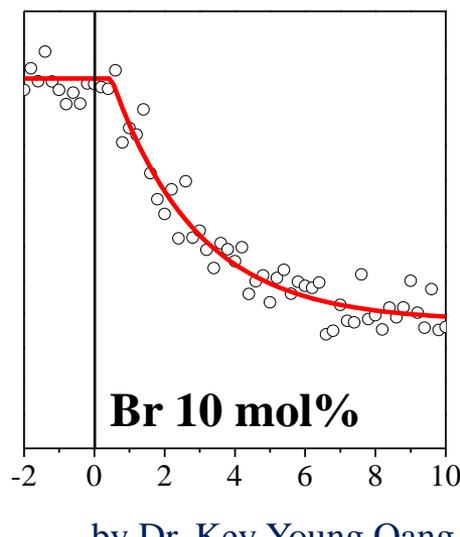
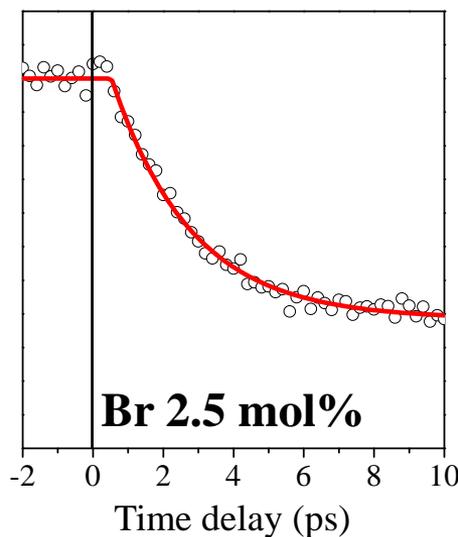
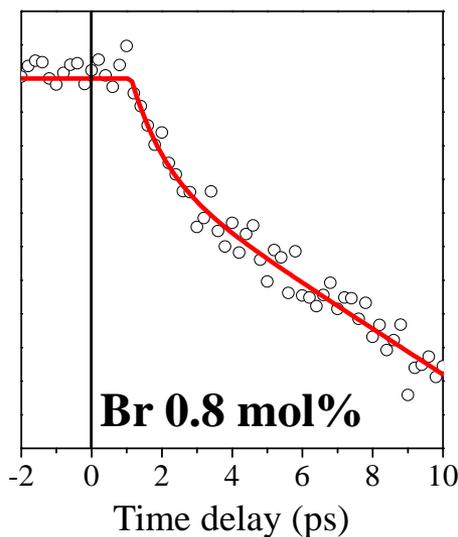
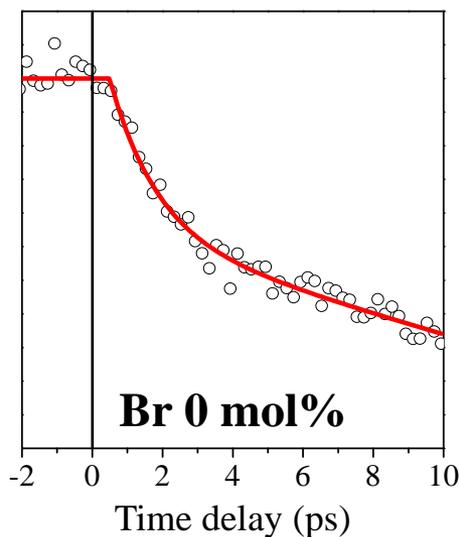
by Dr. Key Young Oang

Solid phase: Perovskite thin films (ABX_3)

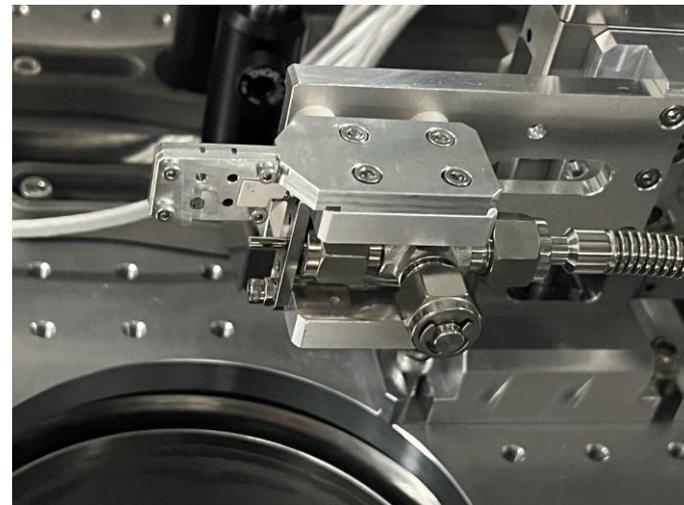
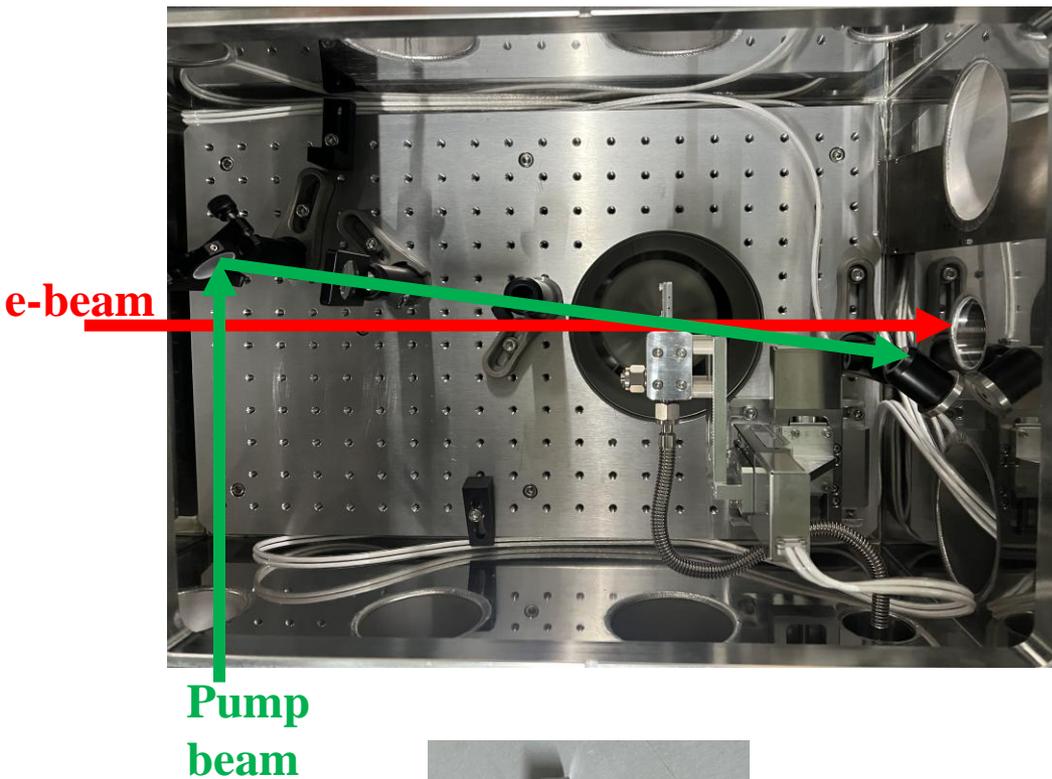
Br 0.8 mol%; $90 \mu\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$ @ 400 nm; $-2 \text{ ps} \sim +10 \text{ ps}$ (200-fs step)



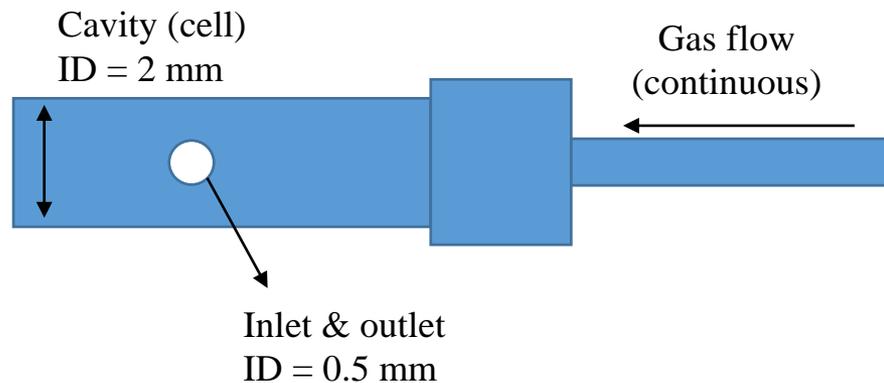
Results of the fit with the sum of two exponentials



Gas phase: Sample feeding system



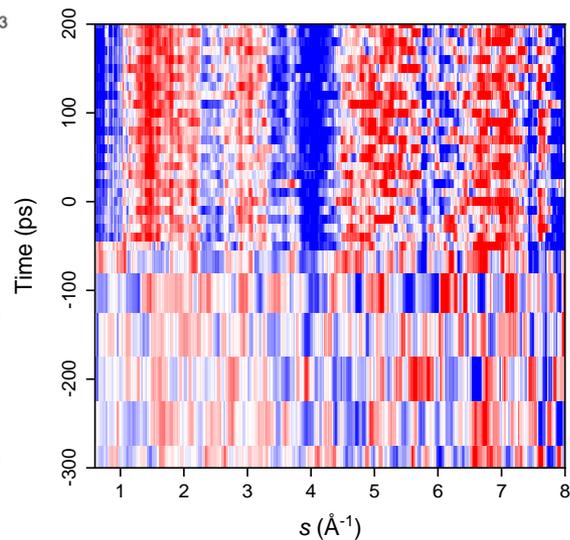
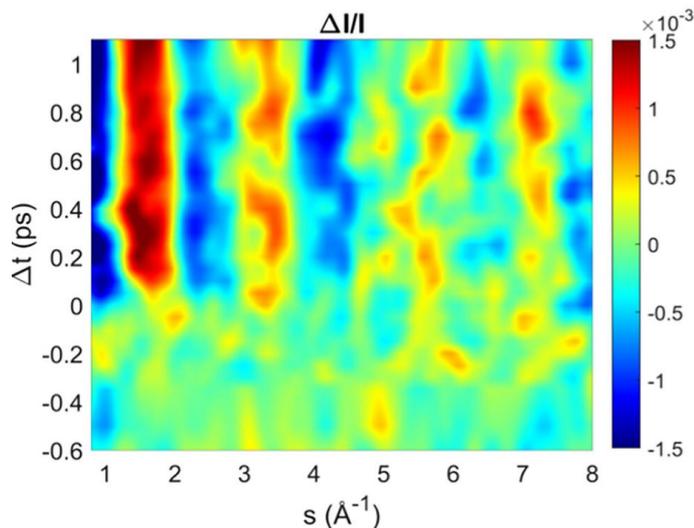
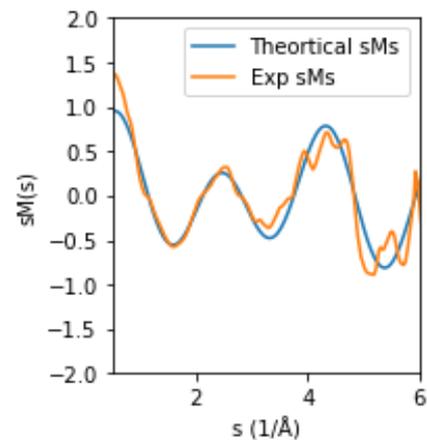
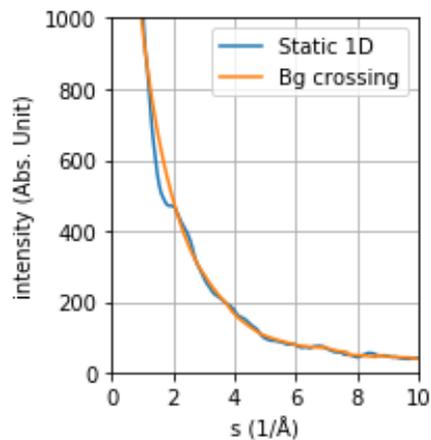
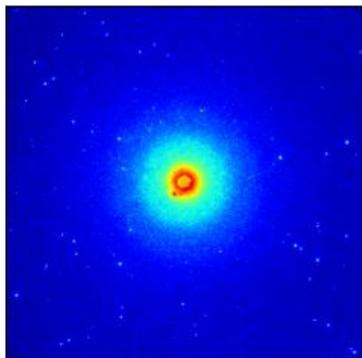
Gas flow-cell (ϕ 0.5 mm)



Gas flow cell design kindly provided by **Dr. Ming-Fu Lin.**

Gas phase: reference sample measurement

Reference sample: CHBr_3



MeV-UED Specifications

Source Parameters

Parameter	Value
Electron beam energy	3.1 MeV
Repetition rate	100 Hz 200 Hz 250 Hz
Charge per pulse	100 fC (10^6 electrons)
Beam emittance	0.25 mm-mrad
Bunch length	< 80 fs FWHM
s range	> 0.5 Å ⁻¹
Beam spot size (sample position)	200-300 um

Laser Properties

Parameter	Value
Wavelength range (pulse energy)	267 nm (< 300 uJ), 400 nm (< 1.2 mJ), 800nm (< 3 mJ), 0.1 ~ 3 THz (~ 100 kV/cm) 200 nm (under development)
Repetition rate	100 Hz 200 Hz 250 Hz
Nominal pulse duration	50 fs (FWHM, optical)
Optical delay	0~1.33 ns (physical delay stage)
Beam spot size (sample position)	> 130 um

Welcoming new research proposals!

Acknowledgements



Korea Atomic Energy
Research Institute

Dr. Kyu-Ha Jang
Dr. Young Uk Jeong
Dr. Key Young Oang
Mr. Ki-han lee
Mr. Myungjin Bae
Ms. Malaika Sada

Dr. Kitae Lee
Dr. In Hyung Baek
Dr. Hyun Woo Kim
Mr. Pathania Varun
Mr. Tariq Adnan
Ms. Hyun Sook Cho



Collaborators

Prof. Hyotcherl Ihee



Collaborators

Prof. Oh-Hoon Kwon Prof. Changhee Sohn
Prof. Hyeong-Ryeol Park



Collaborators

Dr. Nam Joong Jeon Dr. Bong Joo Kang



Collaborators

Prof. Loh Zhi Heng



Special thanks

Dr. Ming-Fu Lin

Thank you for your attention.