Abstract Submitted
for the DPP15 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Laser-plasma acceleration with multi-color pulse stacks: Designer electron beams for advanced radiation sources[1] SERGE KALMYKOV, BRADLEY SHADWICK, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, ISAAC GHEBREGZIABHER, The Pennsylvania State University, XAVIER DAVOINE, CEA, DAM, DIF, France — Photon engineering [S. Y. Kalmykov et al., New J. Phys. 14, 033025 (2012); Phys. Plasmas 22, 056701 (2015)] offers new avenues to coherently control electron beam phase space on a femtosecond time scale. It enables generation of high-quality beams at a kHz-scale repetition rate. Reducing the peak pulse power (and thus the average laser power) is the key to effectively exercise such control. A stepwise negative chirp, synthesized by incoherently stacking collinear sub-Joule pulses from conventional CPA, affords a micron-scale bandwidth. It is sufficient to prevent rapid compression of the pulse into an optical shock, while delaying electron dephasing. This extends electron energy far beyond the limits suggested by accepted scalings (beyond 1 GeV in a 3 mm plasma), without compromising beam quality. In addition, acceleration with a stacked pulse in a channel favorably modifies electron beam on a femtosecond time scale, controllably producing synchronized sequences of 100 kA-scale, quasi-monoenergetic bunches. These comb-like, designer GeV electron beams are ideal drivers of polychromatic, tunable inverse Thomson γ-ray sources.

[1]The work of SYK and BAS is supported by the US DOE Grant DE-SC0008382 and NSF Grant PHY-1104683. Inverse Thomson scattering simulations were completed utilizing the Holland Computing Center of the University of Nebraska.

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Date submitted: 23 Jul 2015 Electronic form version 1.4