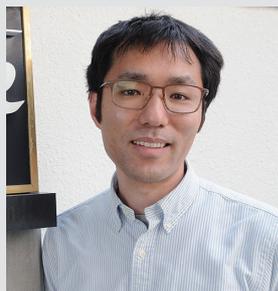


Development and Utilization of Novel Quantum Beam Sources Using a High Energy Electron Beam

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Awards

2010 Student Presentation Award, The 23rd Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Synchrotron Radiation Research
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Our group develop new electromagnetic wave sources using a high energy electron beam. In the UVSOR-III electron storage ring at the Institute for Molecular Science, a 750-MeV electron beam can be generated. Electromagnetic waves in a wide frequency range from ultraviolet waves to gamma-rays are emitted by interacting the electron beam with magnetic fields and lasers.

Laser Thomson (Compton) scattering is a method to generate a high energy gamma-ray by the interaction between a high energy electron and a laser. We have developed ultra-short pulsed gamma-rays with the pulse width of sub-ps to ps range by using 90-degree laser Thomson scattering (Figure 1). We applied this ultra-short pulsed gamma-rays to gamma induced positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy (GiPALS).

A positron is an excellent probe of lattice defects in solids and of free volumes in polymers at the sub-nm to nm scale. GiPALS enables defect analysis of a thick material in a few cm because positrons are generated throughout a bulk material via pair production. Our group is conducting research on improving the properties of the material by using GiPALS.



Figure 1. Schematic illustration of 90-degree laser Thomson scattering.

Selected Publications

- Y. Taira, M. Adachi, H. Zen, T. Tanikawa, N. Yamamoto, M. Hosaka, Y. Takashima, K. Soda and M. Katoh, "Generation of Energy-Tunable and Ultra-Short-Pulse Gamma Ray via Inverse Compton Scattering in an Electron Storage Ring," *Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res., Sect. A* **652**, 696 (2011).
- Y. Taira, H. Toyokawa, R. Kuroda, N. Yamamoto, M. Adachi, S. Tanaka and M. Katoh, "Photon-Induced Positron Annihilation Lifetime Spectroscopy Using Ultrashort Laser-Compton-Scattered Gamma-Ray Pulses," *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **84**, 053305 (2013).
- Y. Taira, T. Hayakawa and M. Katoh, "Gamma-Ray Vortices from Nonlinear Inverse Thomson Scattering of Circularly Polarized Light," *Sci. Rep.* **7**, 5018 (2017).
- Y. Taira and M. Katoh, "Gamma-Ray Vortices Emitted from Nonlinear Inverse Thomson Scattering of a Two-Wavelength Laser Beam," *Phys. Rev. A* **98**, 052130 (2018).
- Y. Taira and M. Katoh, "Generation of Optical Vortices by Nonlinear Inverse Thomson Scattering at Arbitrary Angle Interactions," *Astrophys. J.* **860**, 45 (2018).

1. Gamma-Induced Positron Annihilation Lifetime Spectroscopy (GiPALS)

Positron lifetime spectrum is calculated by measuring the time difference between a reference signal and a detector output for the annihilation gamma-rays, which is emitted when a positron annihilates with an electron inside material. A reference signal is the output of a photodiode located near the injection position of a laser. A BaF₂ scintillator and a photomultiplier tube is utilized to detect the annihilation gamma-rays. Two detectors are arranged at 180 degrees because two annihilation gamma-rays are generated at 180-degree direction. The annihilation gamma-rays are generated to whole solid angle. Therefore array detectors are effective to increase the count rate of the annihilation gamma-rays and to reduce the measurement time. We have developed the array detector using 10 detectors with a help of Equipment Development Center (Figure 2).

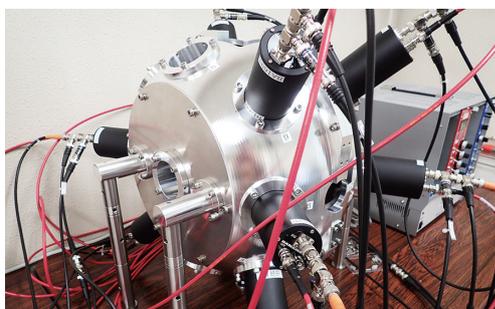


Figure 2. Positron lifetime measurement system using 10 detectors.

Users can currently utilize GiPALS at BL1U in UVSOR-III. A result of defect analysis for a GAGG scintillator was published in 2020.¹⁾

We plan to change the laser injection position to increase the ultra-short pulsed gamma-ray intensity in the next fiscal year. In the current laser injection position, the opposite side of the laser injection window is the vacuum duct. Thus, the laser hits the vacuum duct and generates gas. This gas induces the background gamma-rays, which is generated by the interaction with an electron beam. As a result, the laser cannot be tightly focused and therefore the intensity of the gamma-ray is weak. The laser can be focused down to few tens of micrometers at the new laser injection position. We estimate that the intensity of the gamma-rays will be increased more than 20 times.

On the other hand, we are planning to develop other measurement technique for the annihilation gamma-rays, such as a three-dimensional distribution imaging technique for defects, spin polarized positrons generated from circularly polarized gamma-rays, and age-momentum correlation (AMOC).

2. Short Wavelength Optical Vortices

An optical vortex is an electromagnetic wave with a

helical phase structure. When an optical vortex beam is viewed in a plane transverse to the direction of propagation, an annular intensity profile is observed due to the phase singularity at the center axis. An important consequence of the optical vortex is that it carries orbital angular momentum (OAM) due to the helical phase structure.

While fundamental and applied research on optical vortices using visible wavelength lasers is widely studied, much less has been done in ultraviolet, X-rays, and gamma-rays energy ranges. We have proposed for the first time a method to generate a gamma-ray vortex using nonlinear inverse Thomson scattering of a high energy electron and an intense circularly polarized laser.²⁾ In our method, the circularly polarized laser is important because the helical phase structure arises from the transverse helical motion of the electron inside the circularly polarized laser field. When peak power of a laser achieves terawatt class, high harmonic gamma-rays are generated. Only gamma-rays more than the first harmonic carry OAM. High harmonic gamma-rays show the annular intensity distribution due to this characteristic.

There are few facilities in the world, where can carry out the experiment for the nonlinear inverse Thomson scattering using an intense circularly polarized laser in terawatt class. We carried out the experiment at Kansai Photon Science Institute in Japan, where a 150 MeV microtron and a petawatt laser are available. Although we were not able to achieve the measurement of an annular intensity distribution of high harmonic gamma-rays, we plan to continue the experiment this year.

On the other hand, optical vortices in the ultraviolet wavelength range can be generated using a helical undulator. Similar with a nonlinear inverse Thomson scattering, an electron obeys a helical trajectory inside an undulator. Therefore, high harmonic radiation emitted from a helical undulator forms the helical phase structure.

Generation of an optical vortex from a helical undulator has been demonstrated at UVSOR-III. Recently, we newly revealed that undulator radiation with the phase structure can be generated from an elliptically polarized undulator. We derived the analytic expressions for the emitted electric fields were fully derived and the radiation's phase structure was found to change according to polarization. Average phase gradients of the undulator's radiation were measured using a double slit interferometer. The measured phase gradients of the first through third harmonics were compared with the calculated results. The results were submitted to the journal.

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