Light Source Developments by Using Relativistic Electron Beams

UVSOR Synchrotron Facility
Division of Advanced Accelerator Research

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UVSOR is a synchrotron light source providing low energy synchrotron light ranging from terahertz wave to soft X-rays. Although it was constructed about 30 years ago, its performance is still in the world top level among low energy synchrotron light sources. This is the result of the continuous effort on improving the machine. Our research group has been developing and introducing new accelerator technologies toward producing bright and stable synchrotron light, such as low emittance electron beam optics, novel insertion devices or state-of-the-art beam injection technique. We have been developing novel light sources, such as free electron laser, coherent synchrotron radiation, optical vortices and laser Compton gamma-rays. We have been investigating beam physics which would be the basis of the future developments of the facility.

Figure 1. UVSOR-III Electron Storage Ring and Synchrotron Radiation Beamlines.

Selected Publications

1. Light Source Technology Developments Based on Laser and Synchrotron

We have been developing light source technologies at the UVSOR-III electron storage ring using a dedicated experimental station BL1U, which was constructed under the support of Quantum Beam Technology Program of JST/MEXT aiming to develop novel light sources and exploring their applications. The BL1U is equipped with two undulators which constitute an optical klystron, a laser system which is synchronized with the accelerator beam and a dedicated beamline consisting of mirrors and a monochromator whose arrangement can be flexibly changed according to the types of the experiments.

In these years, we are focusing on generation of spatially structured light, such as optical vortex beams and optical vector beams from undulators, in collaboration with Hiroshima Univ. and Nagoya Univ. We have succeeded in producing such novel photon beams and are exploring their applications. More recently, we have started exploring the possibility utilizing the temporal structure of undulator radiation, in collaboration with Saga Light Source and Toyama Univ. So far, we have demonstrated the coherent controls of atoms by using radiation from two undulators arranged in tandem. It has been widely believed that such experiments were possible only with precisely controlled laser beam. Our results may open a new research field on the application of synchrotron radiation.

We have been developing a laser Compton scattering gamma-ray source at BL1U, which is capable of producing monochromatic and energy-tunable gamma-rays. Now we are exploring their applications such as isotope imaging based on nuclear fluorescence resonance in collaboration with Kyoto Univ., AIST and QST, photon-induced positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy in collaboration with Yamagata Univ. and AIST and an experimental verification on Delbruck scattering in collaboration with QST, AIST and Kyoto Univ. Theoretically we have proven that vortex photons carrying orbital angular momentum can be produced by non-linear Compton scattering of circularly polarized photons. We are planning its experimental demonstration at BL1U in collaboration with AIST.

2. Accelerator Technology Developments for Electron Synchrotrons

We carried out several upgrade plans on UVSOR electron synchrotron since 2000. We designed a special beam optics intended to higher brightness. We designed necessary accelerator components, reconstructed the accelerator and commissioned it. We have designed six undulators and have successfully commissioned them. Moreover, we have been continuously introducing new technologies such as the top-up operation in which the electron beam intensity is kept quasi-constant at a high beam current, 300 mA, and the novel beam injection scheme with a pulsed sextupole magnet. As the result of all these efforts, now, the machine is one the brightest synchrotron light sources among the low energy machines below 1GeV in the world.

Currently, the storage ring is stably operated for many of the users, however, the requirements from the users for the stability is getting higher and higher. We are improving cooling water system and developing various feedback systems. As a near-term upgrade plan, we are considering replacing some of the undulators to fit the changes of the users’ requirements on the wavelength. For a long-term plan, we continue the design studies on the new low emittance optics of the present synchrotron and on new accelerator systems such as a linear accelerator based free electron laser or a diffraction limited storage ring light source.

We are collaborating with Nagoya University Synchrotron Radiation Research Center (NUSR) for the accelerator technology developments. Accelerator magnets based on permanent magnets are being developed, which would contribute to the power consumption saving in the future plan. Various high brightness electron sources are being developed and tested. New beam diagnostic technologies toward beam stabilization are being developed. Several PhD students from the University are involved in these studies.

We are also collaborating with Accelerator Research Laboratory at KEK for the compact Energy Recovery Linac (cERL) project, which is a novel electron accelerator toward a diffraction-limited synchrotron light source and a free electron laser.

* carrying out graduate research on Cooperative Education Program of IMS with Nagoya University