



Contribution ID: 224 Contribution code: WEP18

Type: Contributed Poster

Considerations on Wakefield Effects in a VUV FEL Driven by a Superconducting TESLA-Type Linac

Wednesday, 24 August 2022 17:10 (20 minutes)

The electron-beam properties needed for successful implementation of a free-electron-laser oscillator (FEL) on a superconducting TESLA-type linac at the Fermilab Accelerator Science and Technology (FAST) facility include the intrinsic normalized emittance and the submacropulse centroid stability. We have demonstrated that short-range wakefields (SRWs) and long-range wakefields including higher-order modes (HOMs) are generated for off-axis beams in the two, 9-cell capture cavities and eight, 9-cell cavities of a cryomodule in the FAST linac. The resulting degradation of the emittance and centroid stability would impact the FEL performance. At 300 MeV and with the 4.5-m long, 5-cm period undulator, the saturation of a vacuum ultraviolet (VUV) FEL operating at 120 nm has previously been simulated with GINGER and MEDUSA-OPC using the non-degraded beam parameters. The measured electron-beam dynamics due to the SRWs (submicropulse, 100-micron head-tail kicks) and HOMs (submacropulse centroid slew of up to 100s of microns) will be presented. These are mitigated by steering on axis as guided by the minimization of the HOM signals. Simulations using MINERVA:OPC of the effects of submacropulse centroid slew on FEL performance will also be reported.

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Primary authors: Dr LUMPKIN, Alex (Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory); FREUND, Henry (University of New Mexico); VAN DER SLOT, Peter (University of Twente)

Presenters: Dr LUMPKIN, Alex (Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory); FREUND, Henry (University of New Mexico); VAN DER SLOT, Peter (University of Twente)

Session Classification: Wednesday posters

Track Classification: Electron diagnostics, timing, synchronization & controls