

Sources and Blankers for Ultrafast Electron Microscopy

Pieter Kruit

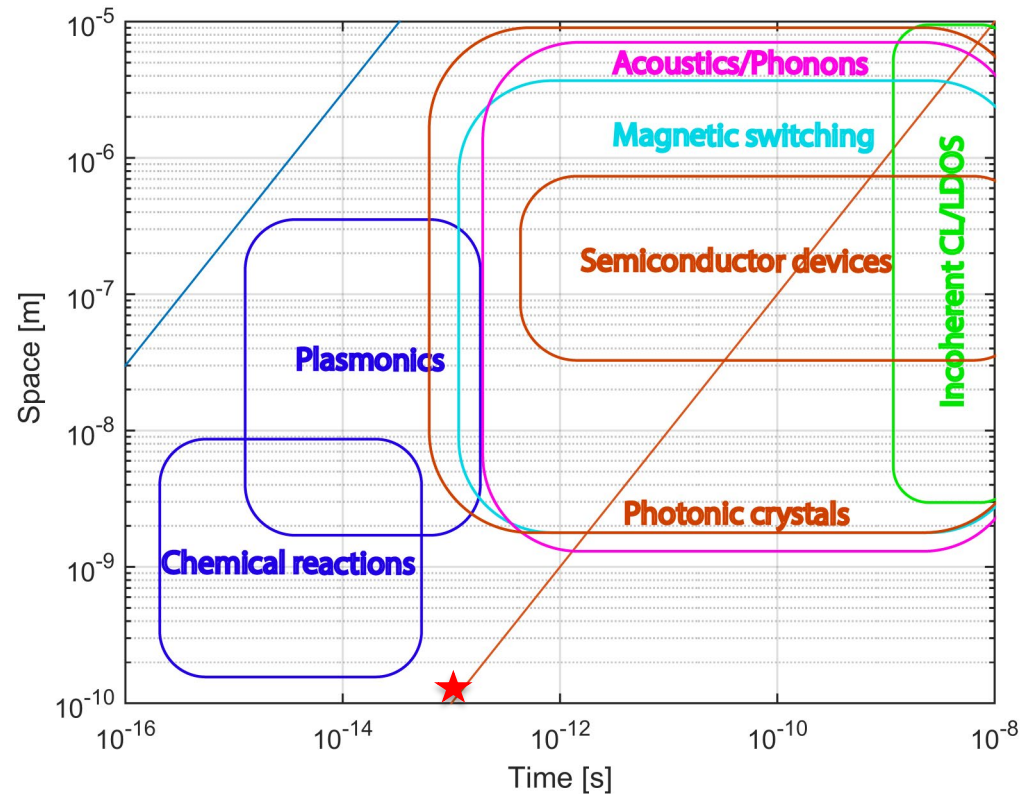
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UEM = Ultrafast
Electron Microscopy

TEM allows 0.1 nm
spatial resolution.
Photo emission
sources allow 100 fs
pulses.

What if these are
combined? ★



Reminder:
What is Brightness?

$$B = \frac{dI}{dAd\Omega}$$

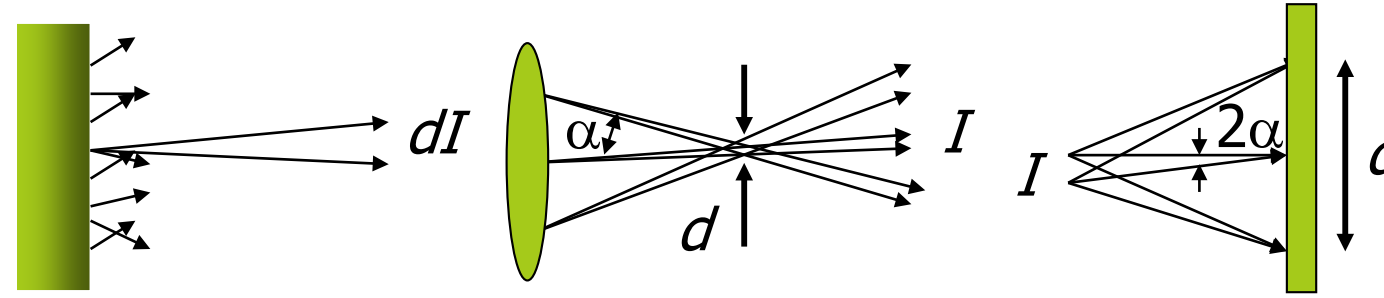
Differential
Brightness

$$B = \frac{I}{\frac{\pi}{4}d^2 \cdot \pi\alpha^2}$$

Practical
Brightness

$$B_r = \frac{I}{\frac{\pi}{4}d^2 \cdot \pi\alpha^2 \cdot V}$$

Reduced
Brightness



At the cathode

In a probe

on the TEM sample

$$B_r = \frac{eJ}{\pi E_t}$$

$$B_r = \frac{I}{\frac{\pi}{4}d^2 \cdot \pi\alpha^2 \cdot V}$$

Resolution in
Electron Microscopy
is always limited by
Diffraction.

Current in diffraction
limited operation is

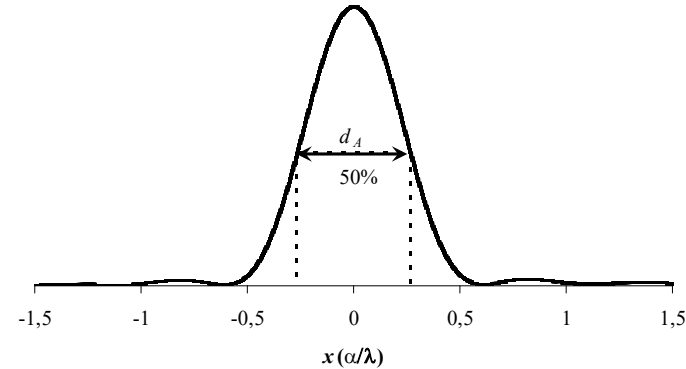
$$I_{\Lambda} \approx 10^{-18} B_r$$

Emittance of a coherent electron beam is order of

$$d_c \cdot \alpha \approx \lambda = \frac{1.226 \times 10^{-9}}{V^{1/2}}$$

Now add current with $d_g = d_c$
and we find

$$I_{\Lambda} = B_r \frac{\pi}{4} d_A^2 \cdot \pi \alpha^2 \cdot V \approx 10^{-18} B_r$$



Conclusion: Typical probe currents close to the limits of
resolution are always about $10^{-18} \times B_r$

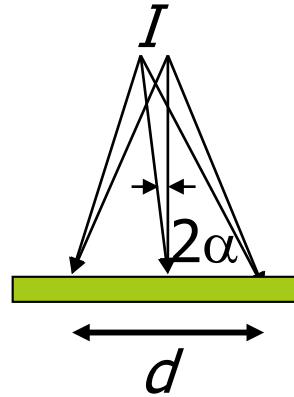
UEM source requirements

For TEM at

- 0.1 nm
- 100 fs

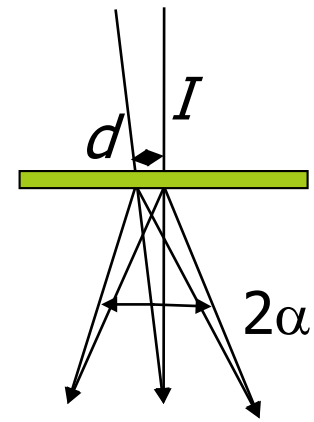
For diffraction at

- Coherence 5 nm
- Area $d = 200 \mu\text{m}$
- 100 fs



High resolution TEM:
 10^8 electrons per image

$$B_r T = \frac{q N_{im}}{\pi^2 \epsilon_{im}^2 V_r} \approx 5 \times 10^3$$



Large area Diffraction:
 10^6 electrons per pattern

$$B_r T = 6.7 \frac{N_{diff} q}{r_{ill}^2} = 10^{-4}$$

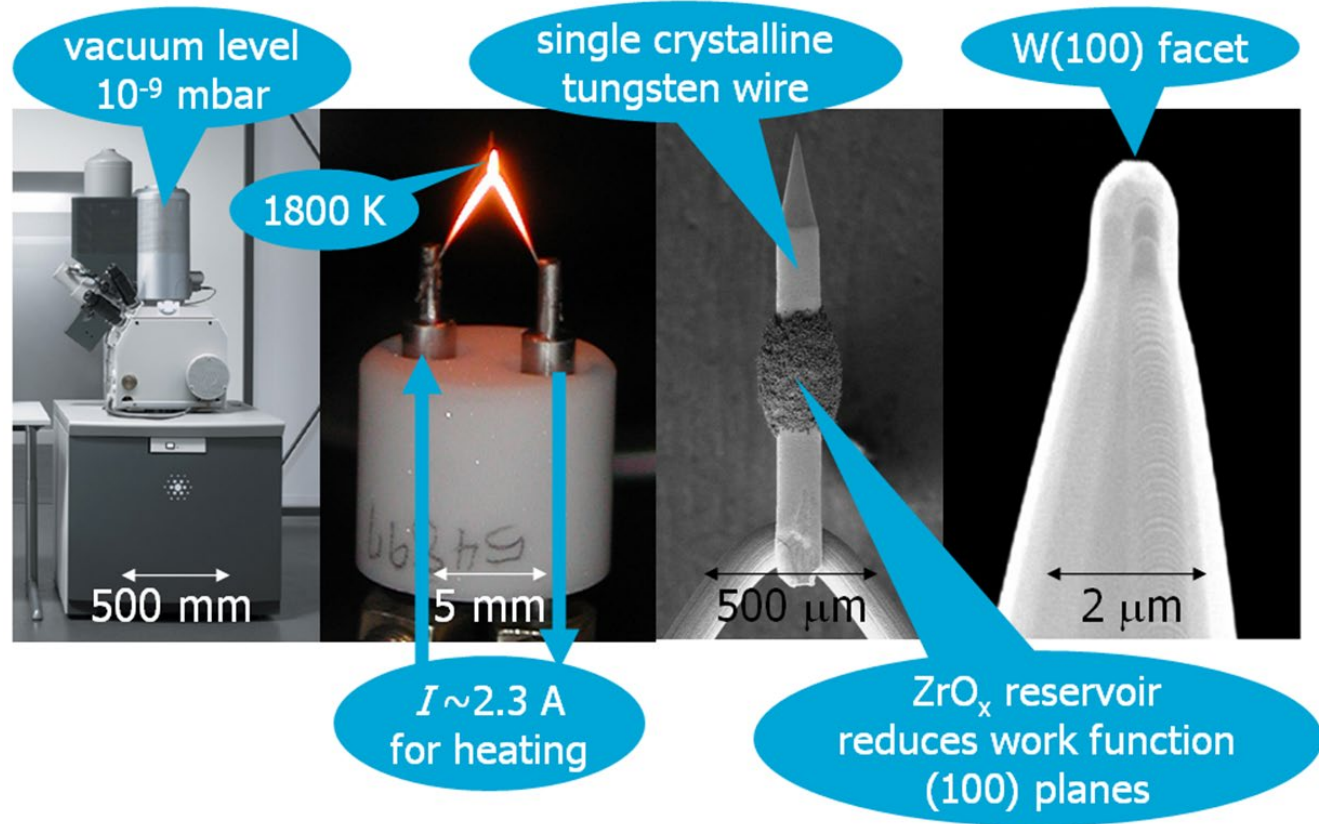
UEM source requirements for:

- 0.1 nm
- 100 fs

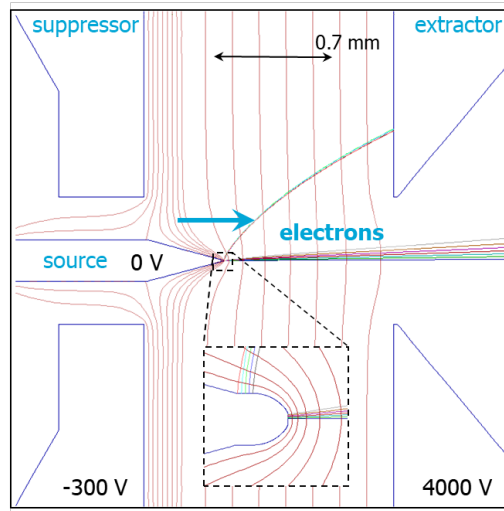
TABLE I. Approximate reduced brightness B_r required to operate in the various modes of imaging and diffraction with a time resolution of $\tau = 100$ fs. For imaging, the spatial resolution is $d_{\text{res}} = 0.1$ nm with 1 megapixels per image, $V_r = 100$ kV, $N_{\text{im}} = 10^8$. For diffraction, the illuminated area has a radius of $100 \mu\text{m}$ and $N_{\text{diff}} = 10^6$. For the repeated mode, we assume 10^4 electrons per pulse, and for the stroboscopic mode, we assume 1 electron per pulse. Note that the total illumination times for single-shot, repeated, and stroboscopic modes then become 100 fs, 1 ns, and $10 \mu\text{s}$, respectively, for imaging, and 100 fs, 10 ps, and 100 ns for diffraction. HREM: high resolution electron microscopy. LAD: large area diffraction.

★	Single shot	Repeated	Stroboscopic
$B_{r\text{HREM}} [\text{A}/(\text{m}^2\text{srV})]$	5×10^{16}	5×10^{12}	5×10^8
$I_{\text{HREM}} (\text{A})$	1.6×10^2	1.6×10^{-2}	1.6×10^{-6}
$B_{r\text{LAD}} [\text{A}/(\text{m}^2\text{srV})]$	1×10^9	1×10^7	1×10^3
$I_{\text{LAD}} (\text{A})$	1.6	1.6×10^{-2}	1.6×10^{-6}

Workhorse in Electron Microscopy: The Schottky emitter



Schottky emitter



$$I_{\text{total}} = 10^{-4} \text{ A}$$

$$I_{\text{facet}} = 10^{-5} \text{ A}$$

$$B_r = 1\text{-}5 \times 10^8 \text{ A/m}^2\text{srV}$$

$$I_{\text{coh}} = 1\text{-}5 \times 10^{-10} \text{ A}$$

	Single shot	Repeated	Stroboscopic
$B_{rHREM} [\text{A}/(\text{m}^2\text{srV})]$	5×10^{16}	5×10^{12}	5×10^8
$I_{HREM} (\text{A})$	1.6×10^2	1.6×10^{-2}	1.6×10^{-6}
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Workhorse in
Electron Microscopy:
The Schottky emitter

UEM
source requirements
for:

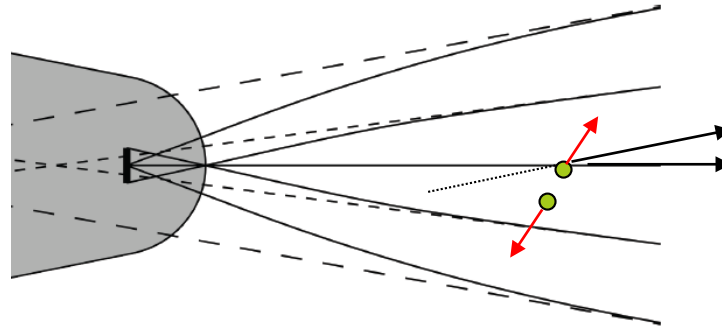
- 0.1 nm
- 100 fs

Longer τ relaxes
requirement B

Ultimate limit to
Brightness of
emitter:

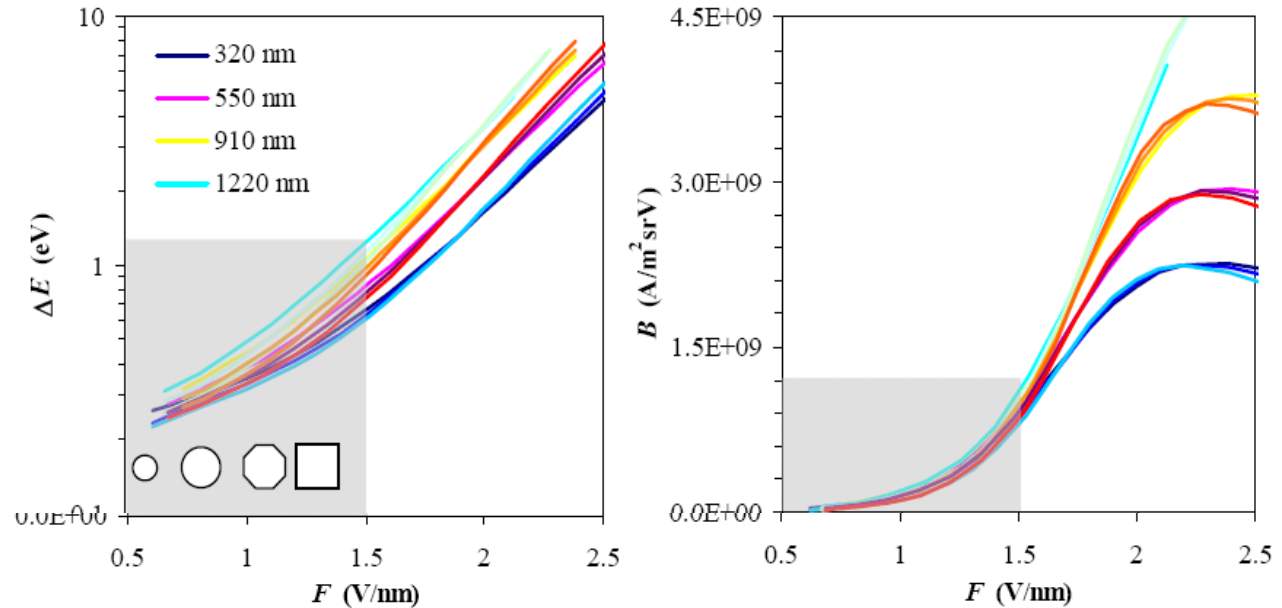
Stochastic Coulomb
Interactions

1. Trajectory displacement causes reduction of brightness
2. Boersch effect increases energy spread



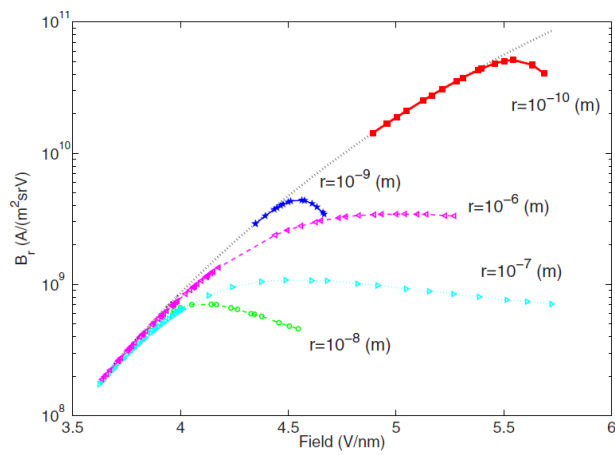
Coulomb interactions in Schottky sources: Just the emitter region (first few mm's)

Coulomb Interactions in continuous beams

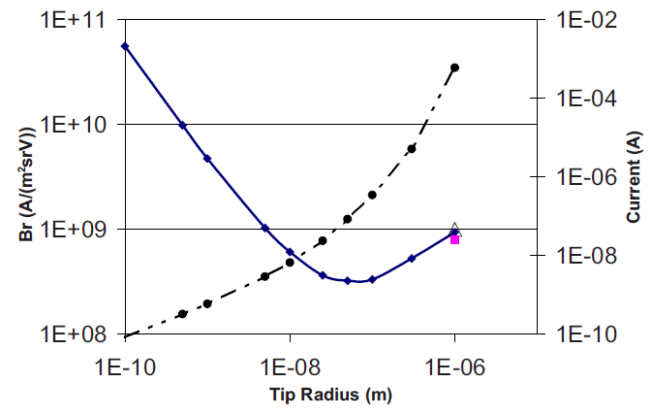


Coulomb Interactions in continuous beams

For tip diameters
 10^{-10} to 10^{-6} m



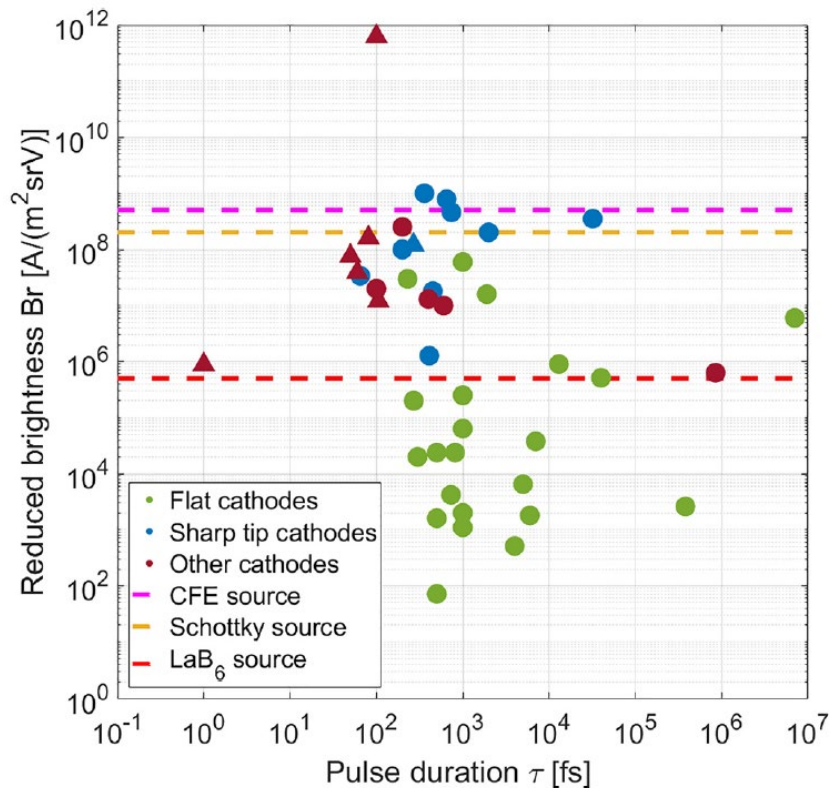
Brightness versus extraction field
for cold field emitters



Solid line is brightness at 10% reduction
by CI. Dashed line is current at 10%
reduction.

Beams from small tips are in Pencil beam regime.
Beams from larger tips are in Holtmark regime

Literature study shows that the best pulsed electron sources just reach the brightness of continuous sources.



Reduced brightness calculated for each photoemission source versus the reported pulse duration.

Circles indicate experimental results, and triangles represent theoretical or simulation work.

Single photo-electron pulses could have higher brightness without the Coulomb limitation

For pulse duration in which only a single electron is emitted:

$$\tau \leq \frac{e}{I_{em}}$$

there should be no Coulomb interaction.

Example:

for 50 nm tips, $I = 5 \cdot 10^{-8}$ A

is 1 electron every 3.2 ps

So 1 electron per 6 fs is 500 x

larger Br: $> 10^{11}$ A/m²srV

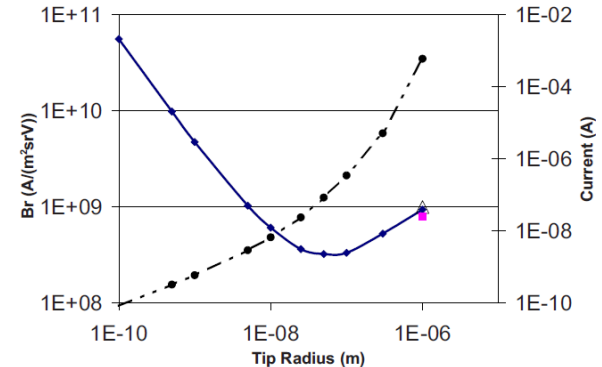
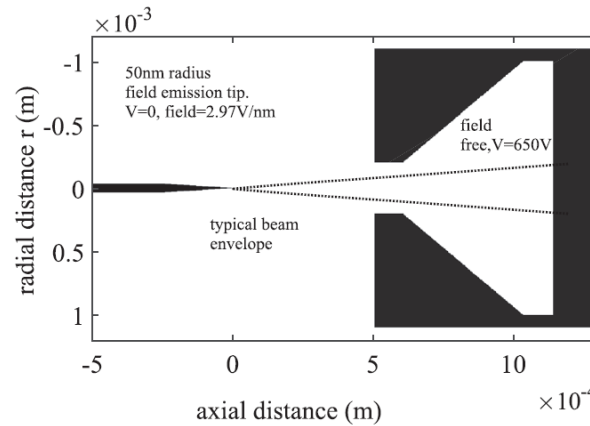
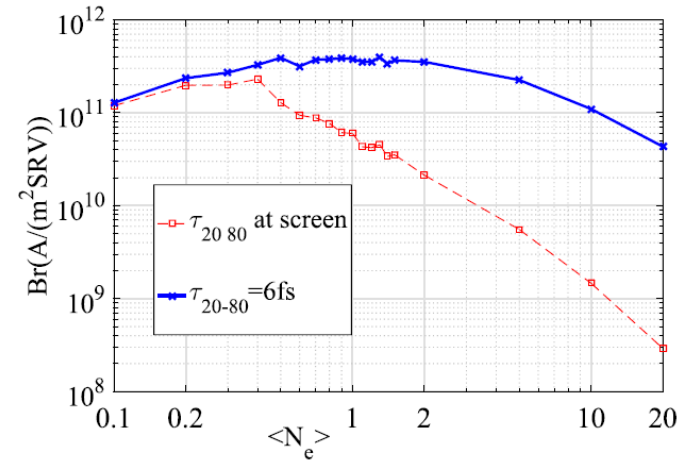


Photo-electron emission in 6 fs pulses gives highest brightness at an average of a single electron per pulse.

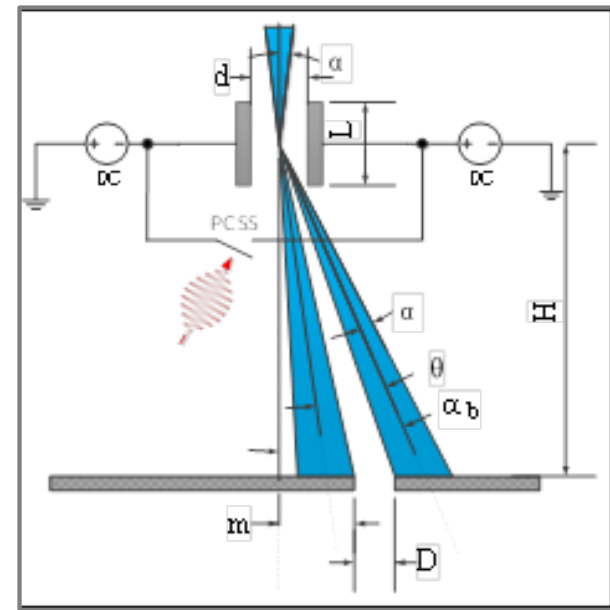
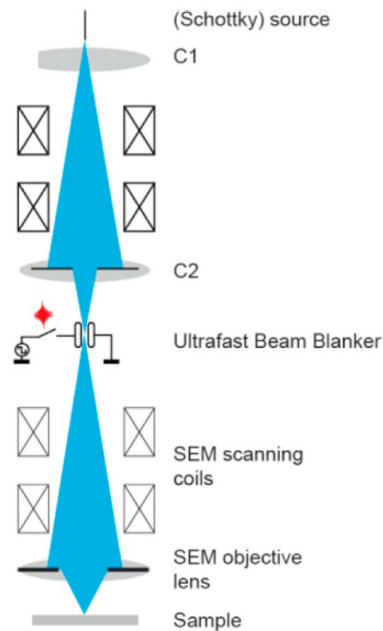


Set-up for calculations



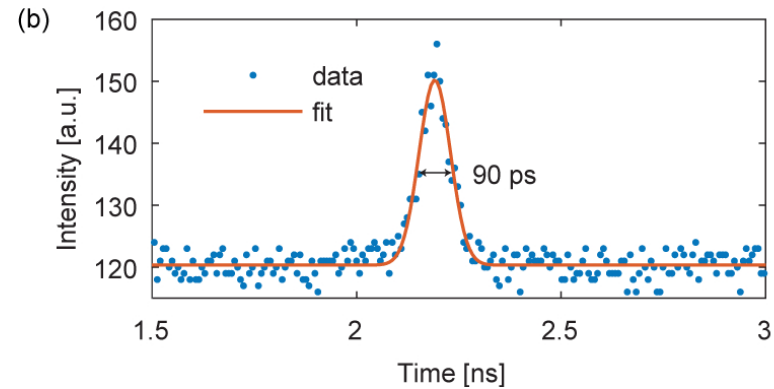
Brightness versus number of randomly emitted electrons in a 6 fs pulse. The red line takes into account that the pulse increases in duration by energy spread.

If the highest brightness in a photo-emission pulse is equal to the brightness of a continuous beam, a laser-triggered blanker should give the same quality pulse.



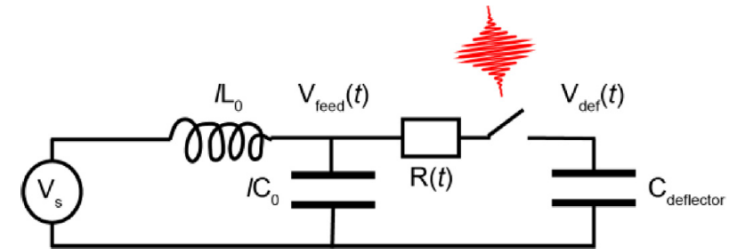
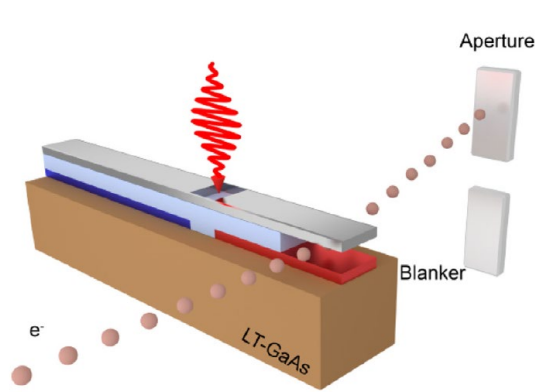
Blanker on a
standard aperture
stick

First result: 90 ps
Goal: 1 ps



Directly laser triggered blanker

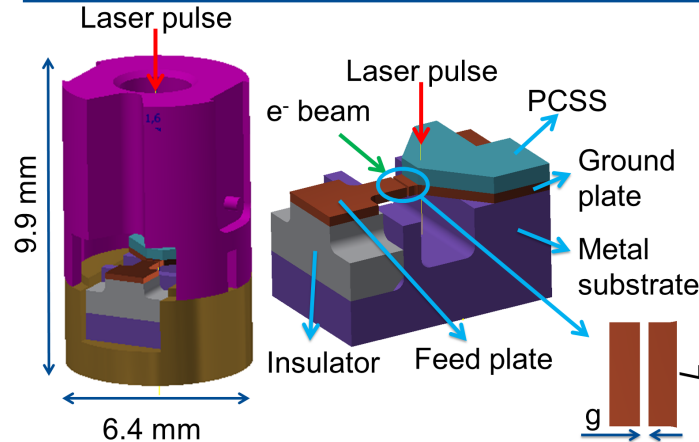
Goal: 1 ps



The switch is photo-conductive material

Weppelman, I. G. C., Moerland, R. J., Hoogenboom, J. P. & Kruit, P. Ultramicroscopy 184, (2018).

Design of the micro-fabricated fast beam blanker



In the design of this fast beam blanker, the capacitance and bright resistance are the important factors. We design a pair of deflector plates with a total capacitance of $C=229 \text{ fF}$.

Length of deflector plates:
 $L=600 \mu\text{m}$;
Gap between deflector plates:
 $g=50 \mu\text{m}$

Conclusions

Sources and Blankers for Ultrafast Electron Microscopy

- Source brightness is the key to UEM
- Coulomb Interactions limit the brightness
- Single electron emitters have no Coulomb Interaction
- One direction: very short single electron pulses
- ps pulses: blasters as good as photo-emitters

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