



# Characteristics and Applications of High Intensity Coherent THz Pulses from Linear Accelerators

---

G. Lawrence Carr

*National Synchrotron Light Source  
Brookhaven National Laboratory*

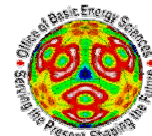
In collaboration with Henrik Loos, Brian Sheehy, Dario Arena, C.-C. Kao, Jim Murphy, and Xijie Wang

APS March 2005 Meeting, Los Angeles CA

Funded under contract: **DE-AC02-98CH10886**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF BASIC ENERGY SCIENCES**



**BROOKHAVEN**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

**BROOKHAVEN SCIENCE ASSOCIATES**

# Outline

---

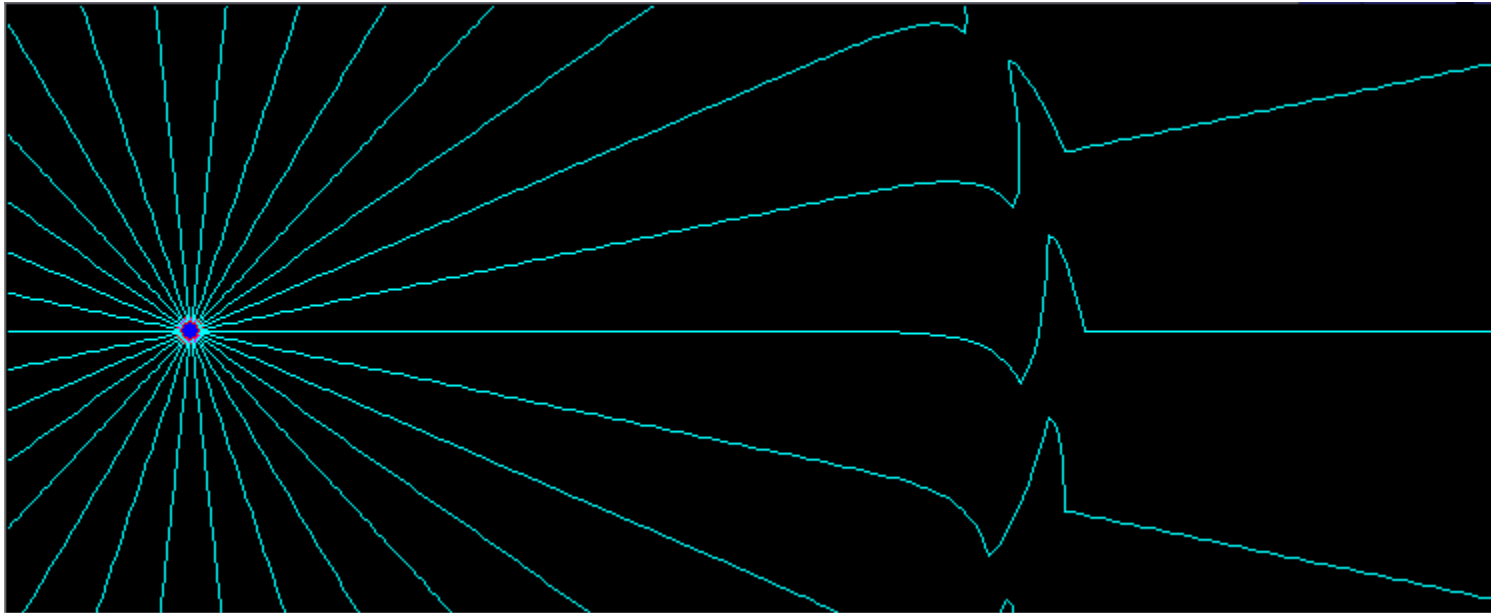
- Electromagnetic Radiation (in the far IR) from Relativistic Electrons
- Requirements for Coherent (THz) Radiation Emission: Short Electron Bunches
- High Energy Coherent THz Pulses from the NSLS / SDL Linac
- Electro-optic Detection: E-field Strengths Approaching 1 MV/cm
- Potential Application: Transient Supercurrents in Thin Film Superconductors
- Summary



# Radiation from a Non-relativistic Electron

---

Radiated field for a brief lateral displacement

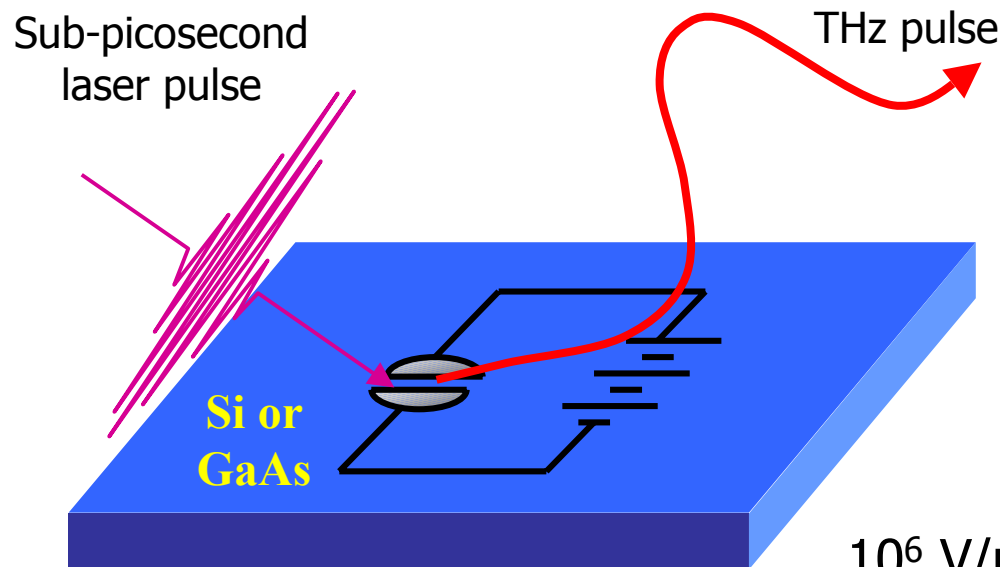


Modeled using Radiation2D code  
Tsumoru Shintake *RIKEN / Spring-8*



# Coherent THz Pulses: Photoconductive Switch Method

- Radiation from acceleration of photocarriers in a semiconductor.



$$P = \frac{2e^2 a^2}{3c^3} \gamma^4 \quad (1 e)$$

$$\gamma = 1 \text{ (non-relativistic)}$$

$$10^6 \text{ V/m} \Rightarrow a \sim 10^{19} \text{ cm/s}^2$$

$$\text{Energy} = 6 \times 10^{-32} \text{ J per electron in 1 ps}$$

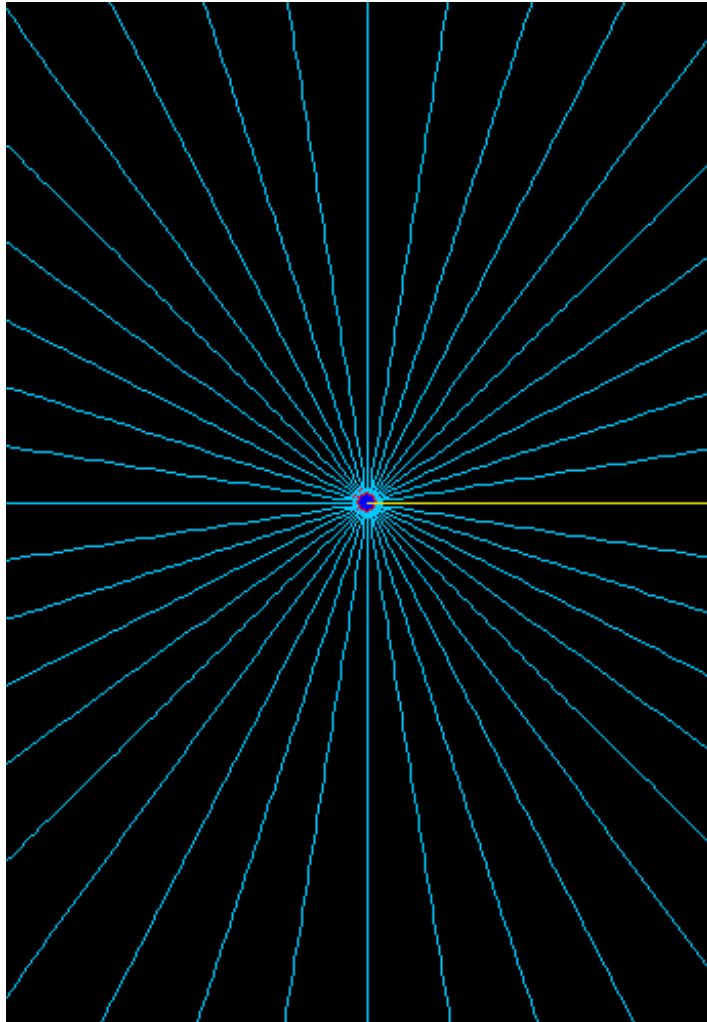
$$\text{or } dE/dv \sim 10^{-32} \text{ J/cm}^{-1}/\text{electron}$$

D. Auston *et al*

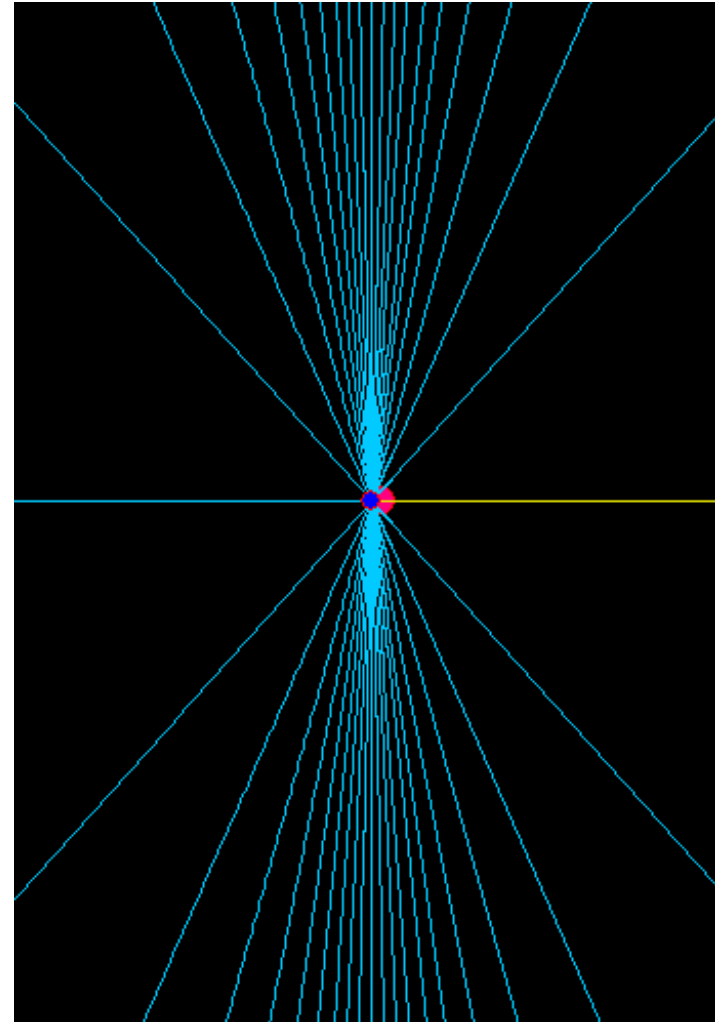
D. Grischowsky *et al*

# Radiation from a Relativistic Electron

Non-relativistic Coulomb Field

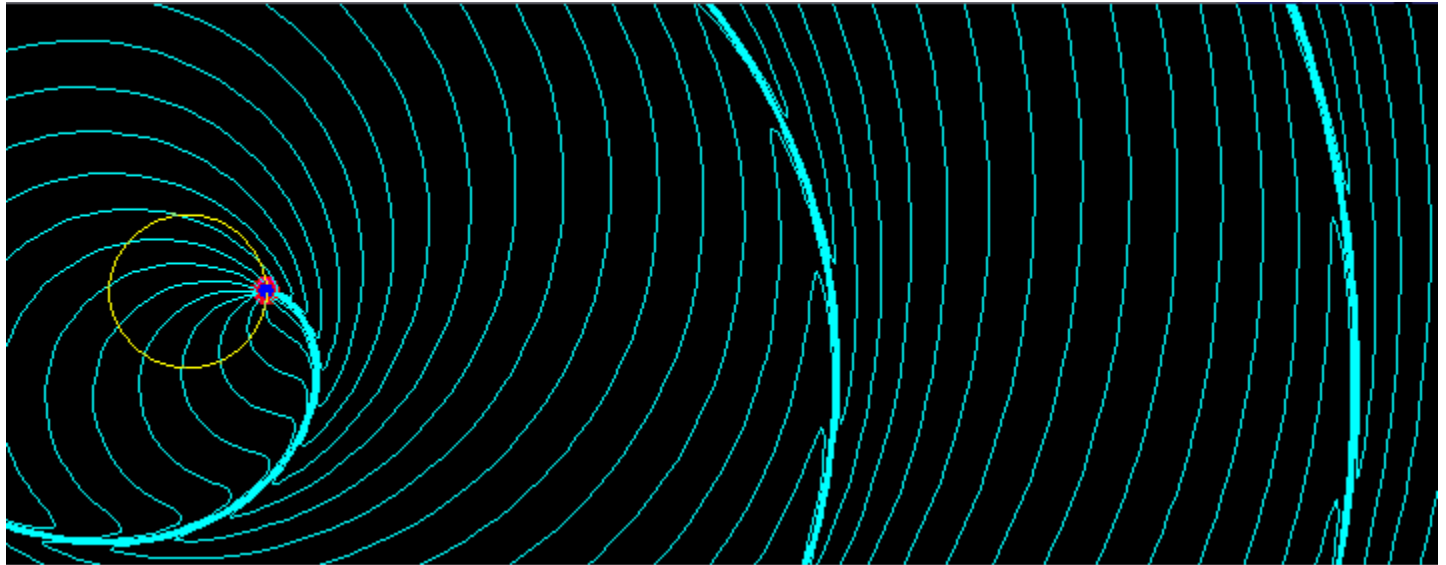


Relativistic (3 MeV) Coulomb Field

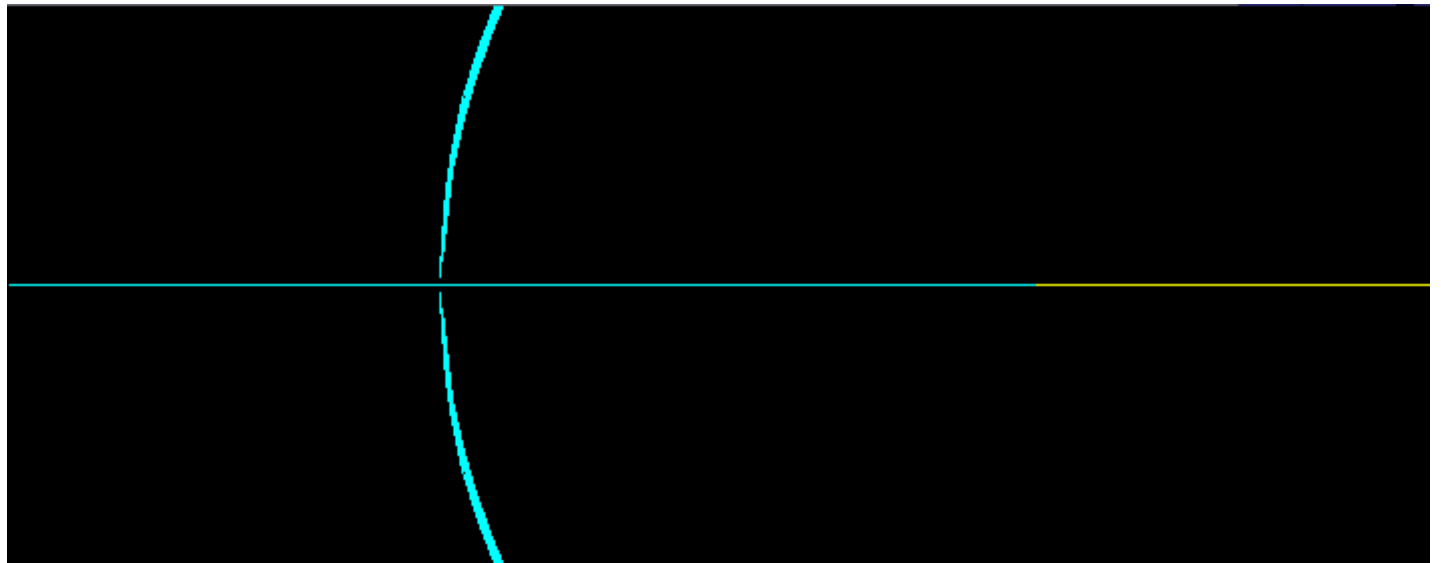


# Radiation from a Relativistic Electron

Dipole bend  
(linearly polarized)



Transition  
(radially polarized)

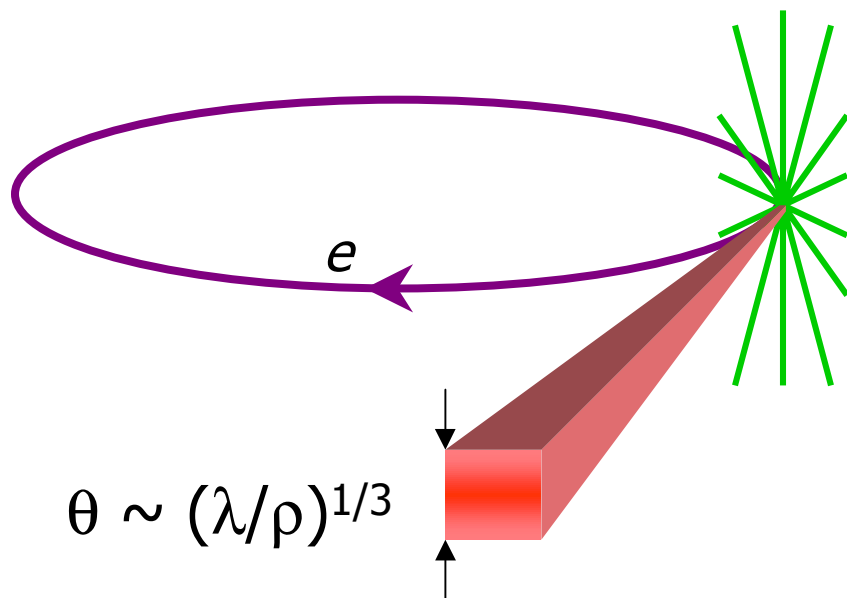


Calculated using  
Radiation2D code  
Tsumoru Shintake  
*RIKEN / Spring-8*



# Characteristics of (conventional) Synchrotron Radiation

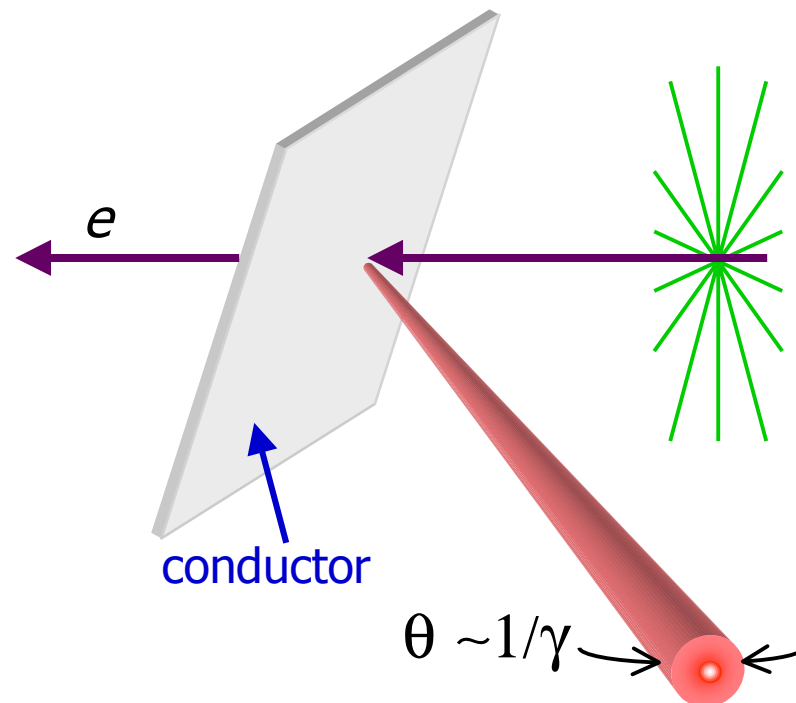
Bending magnet radiation



$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{e^2 \omega^2}{4\rho^2 c} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{n} \times (\vec{\beta} \times \hat{n}) e^{i\omega \left( t - \frac{\hat{n} \cdot \vec{r}(t)}{c} \right)} dt \right)^2$$

(Schwinger)

Transition radiation (edge)

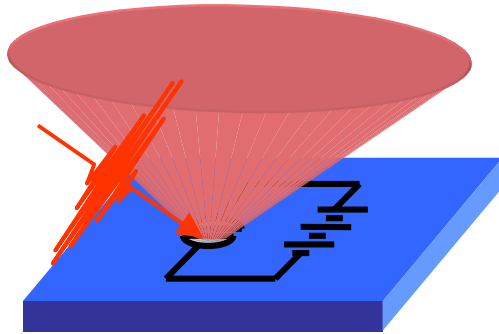


$$\frac{d^2 I}{d\omega d\Omega} = \frac{e^2}{\pi^2 c} \frac{\beta^2 \sin^2 \theta}{(1 - \beta^2 \cos^2 \theta)^2}$$

(Frank & Ginzberg)

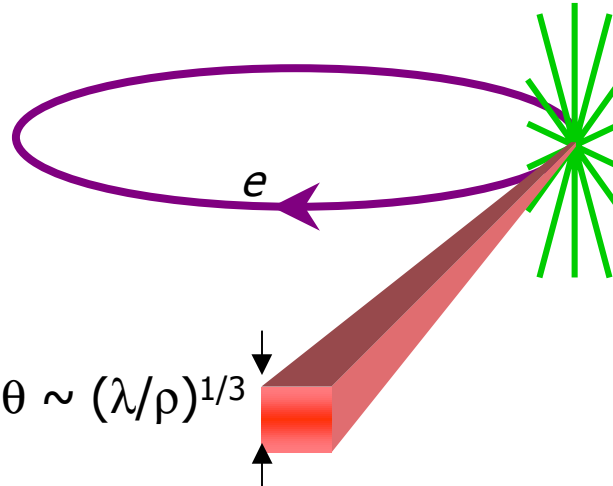
# Approximate Source Comparison - Radiated Energy per Electron

Photoconductive switch



$$\frac{dE}{d\bar{\nu}} \approx 10^{-32} \text{ J/cm}^{-1}/\text{electron}$$

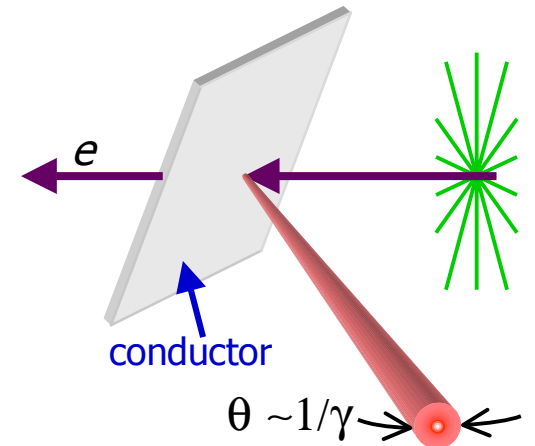
Bending magnet radiation



$$\theta \sim (\lambda/\rho)^{1/3}$$

$$\frac{dE}{d\bar{\nu}} \approx 2 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J/cm}^{-1}/\text{electron}$$

Transition radiation



$$\theta \sim 1/\gamma$$

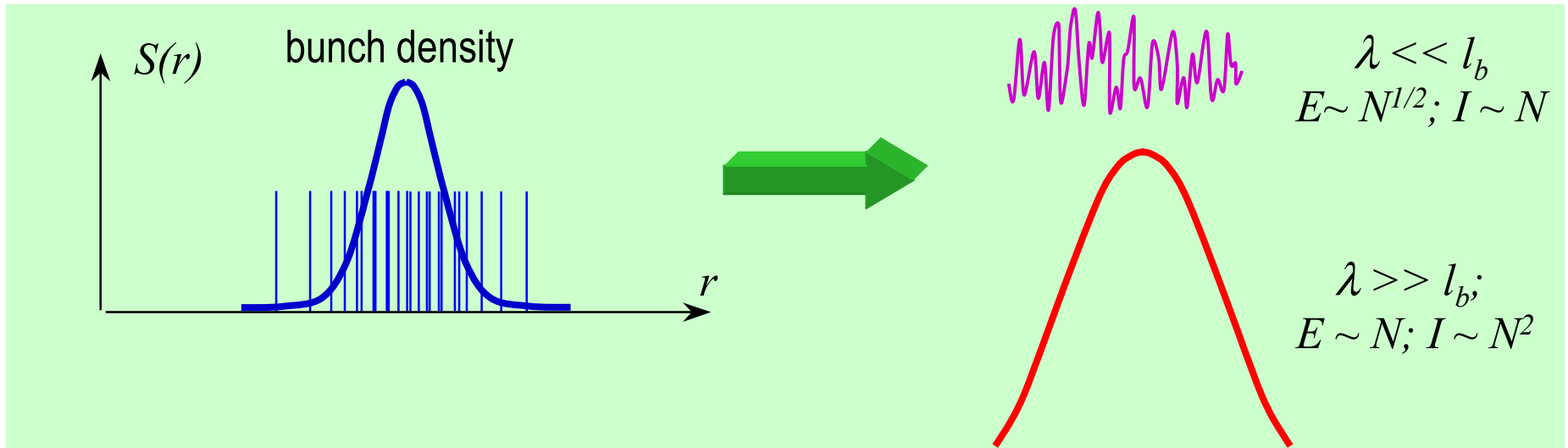
$$\frac{dE}{d\bar{\nu}} \approx 5 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J/cm}^{-1}/\text{electron}$$

NOTE: emitted energy, per electron, is 7 orders of magnitude greater than non-relativistic case.



# Multi-particle Coherent Synchrotron Radiation (CSR)

Accelerators typically have many electrons traveling in a “bunch”. Can emission be coherent?  
Yes -- if bunch (or some portion of it) has length that is short compared to wavelength.



$$\frac{dI(\omega)}{d\omega} \text{ multiparticle} = [N + N(N-1)f(\omega)] \frac{dI(\omega)}{d\omega}$$

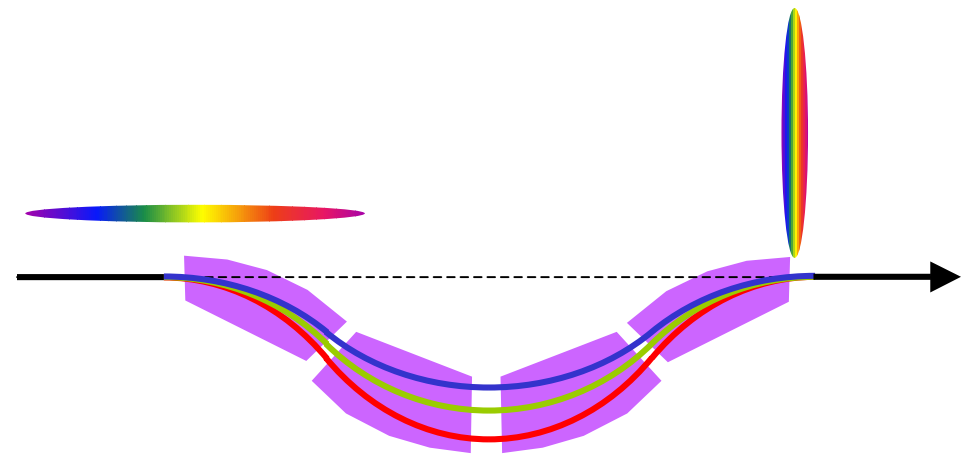
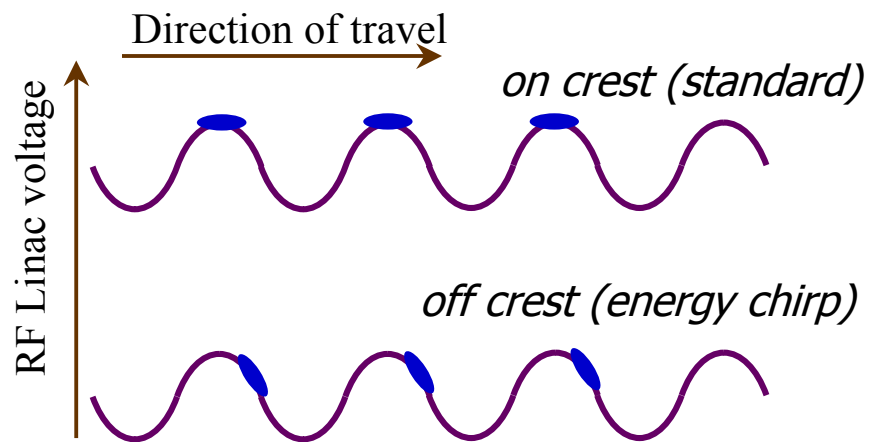
$$\text{where } f(\omega) = \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega \hat{n} \cdot \vec{r}/c} S(r) dr \right|^2 \quad (\text{Nodvick \& Saxon})$$

In some accelerators, bunch lengths are 100s of fs ( $\Rightarrow$  THz), and  $N$  can be large e.g.  $\sim 10^{10}$

# Making Short Bunches

- Electrons have charge(!) => Coulomb repulsion
    - Coulomb interaction causes spread in the energy distribution of a bunch.
    - For a non-relativistic electron, energy spread => velocity spread => distance spread.
    - BUT: For highly relativistic electrons, velocity spread remains small (*mass varies*).
- => Start with long bunch, accelerate to high energy, then compress.

Compression method analogous to light, magnets serve as dispersive electron optics.

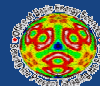


Dipole chicane to compress chirped bunch

# Aside: Other Coherent THz Sources

---

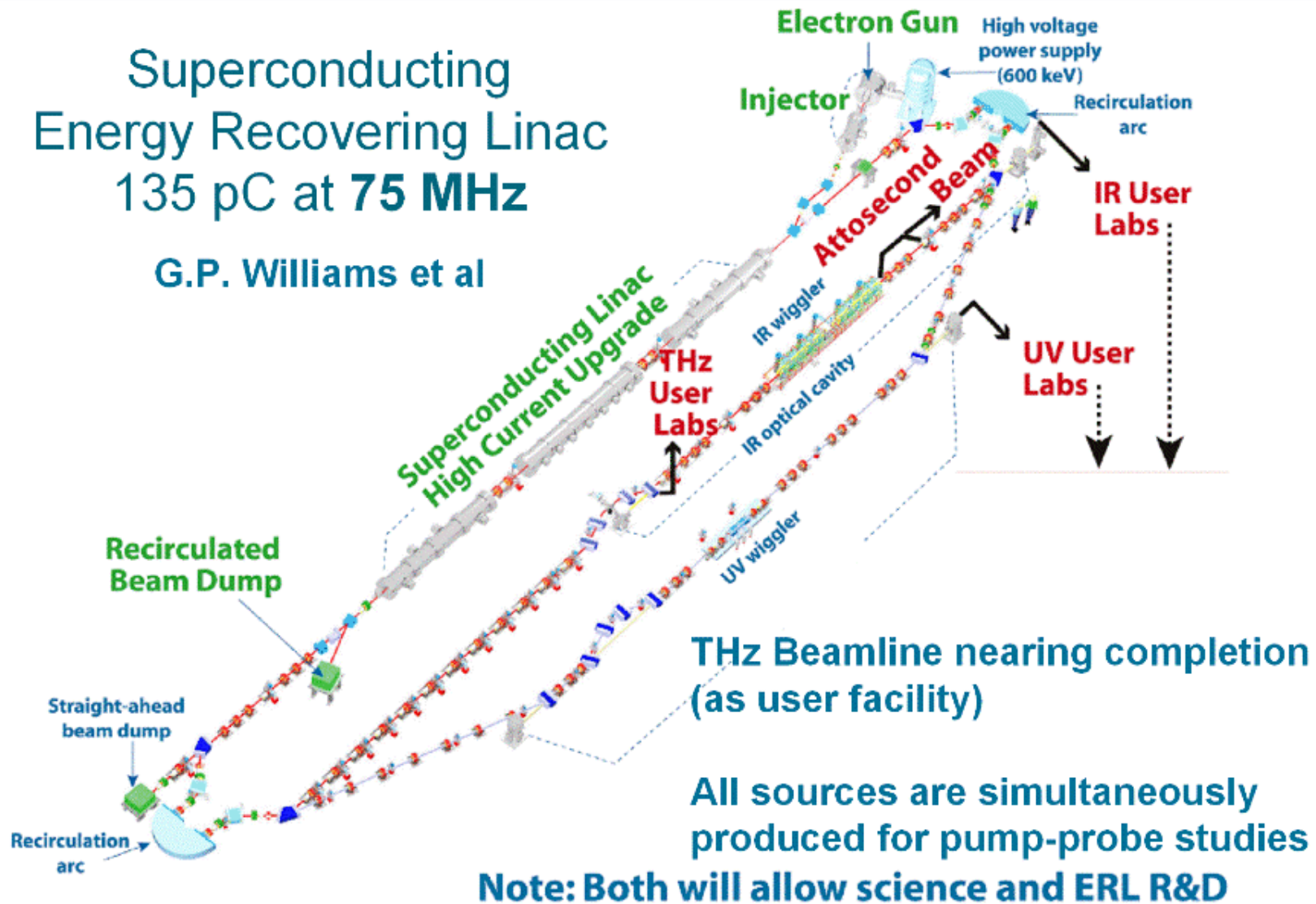
- Jefferson Lab Energy Recovery Linac (high repetition rate)
- Storage Ring Coherent Synchrotron Radiation



# JLab FEL & THz facility (Newport News, VA)

Superconducting  
Energy Recovering Linac  
135 pC at 75 MHz

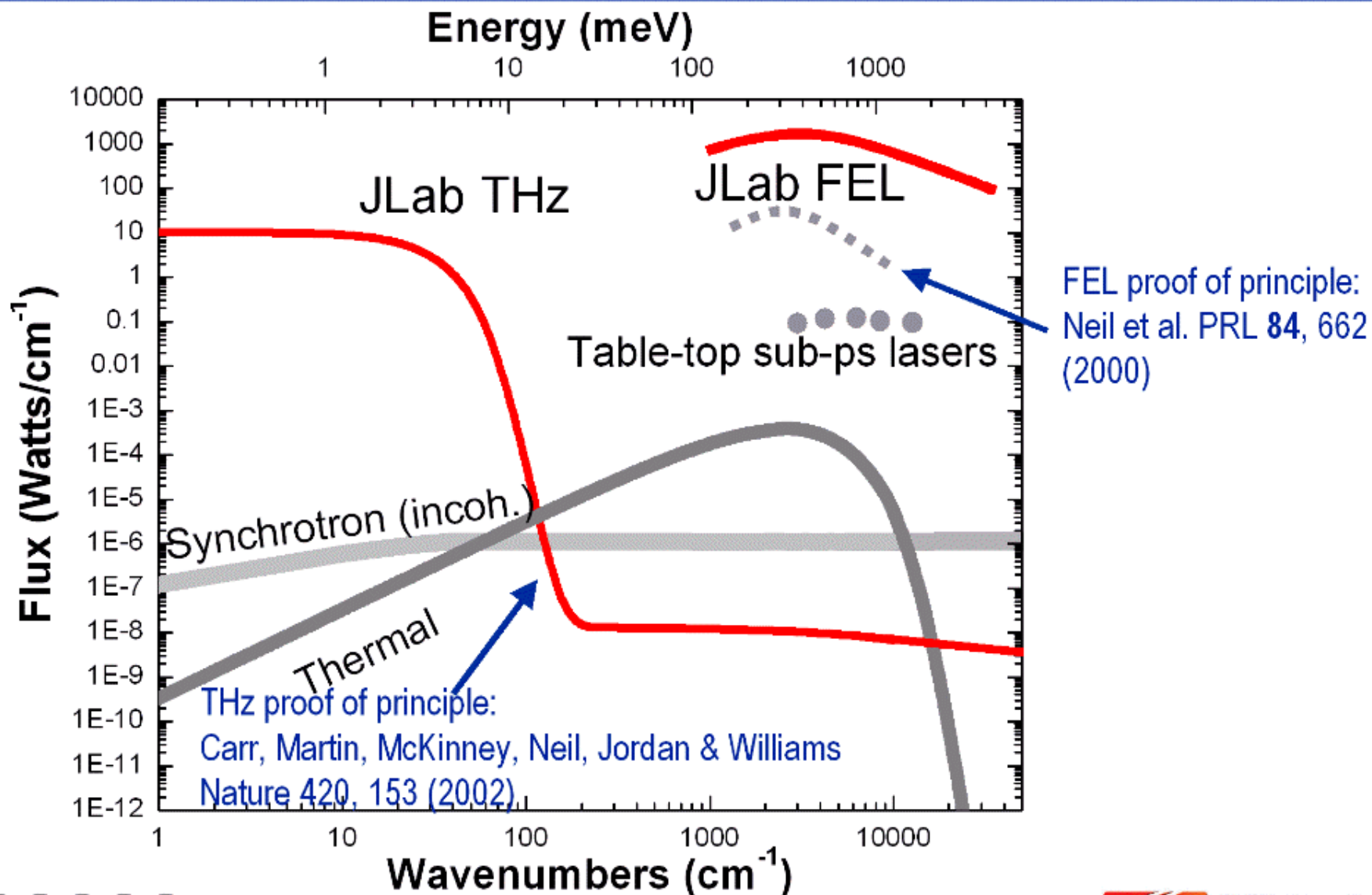
G.P. Williams et al



Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility



# Jefferson Lab facility actual spectroscopic range



Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility

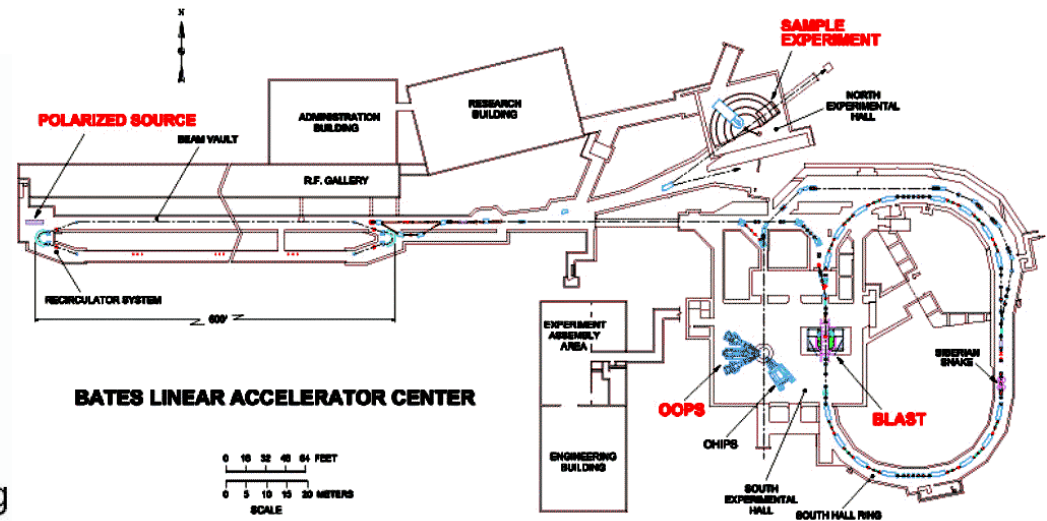
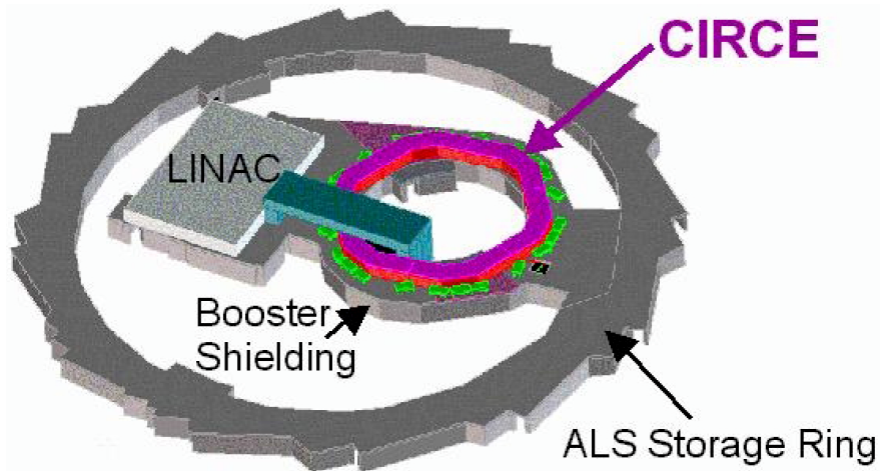


# “Self” Compression in a Synchrotron Storage Ring

- An initially short electron bunch emitting Synchrotron Radiation develops a small energy chirp (electrons at front re-absorb SR emitted from the electrons behind).
- Adjust storage ring dispersion so that bunch slowly compresses over many orbits.
- New equilibrium bunch shape with “sharp” structure => Coherent THz Radiation

Requires ring with high RF frequency to develop stable output

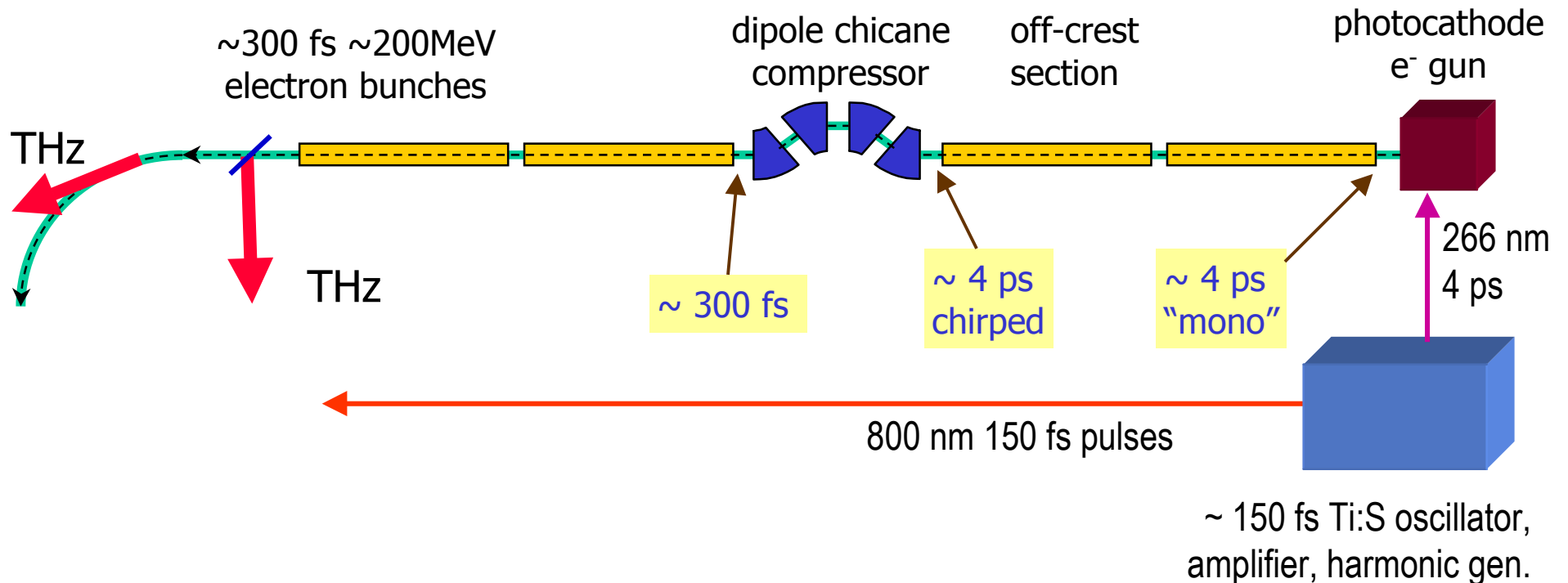
- Unstable/bursting: NSLS VUV (53 MHz), NIST, MAX, ....
- Stable: BESSY II (500 MHz), ANKA (500 MHz) (detailed analysis: Byrd, Sannibale et al - Berkeley)
- CIRCE (proposed at Berkeley) (500 MHz to 1.5 GHz)
- MIT Bates (3 GHz, not yet tested)



# The NSLS Source Development Lab Linac

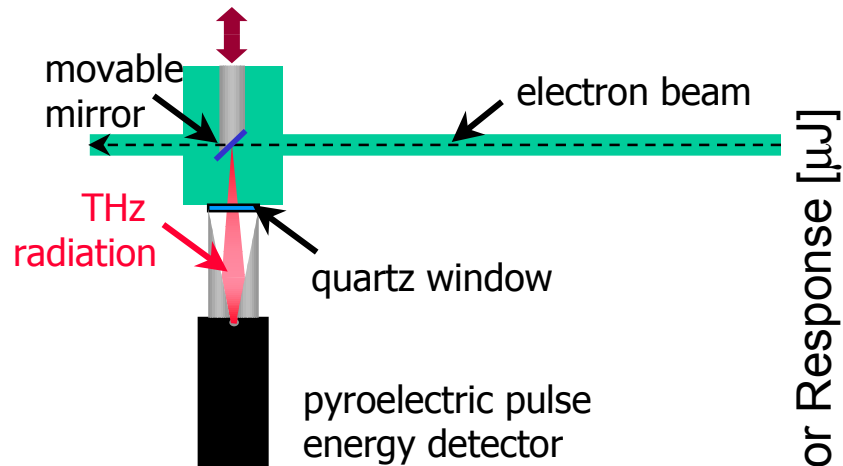
*X.-J. Wang et al*

- ◆ Photocathode gun produces  $\sim 0.7\text{nC}$  ( $4.4 \times 10^9$  electrons) per “shot”

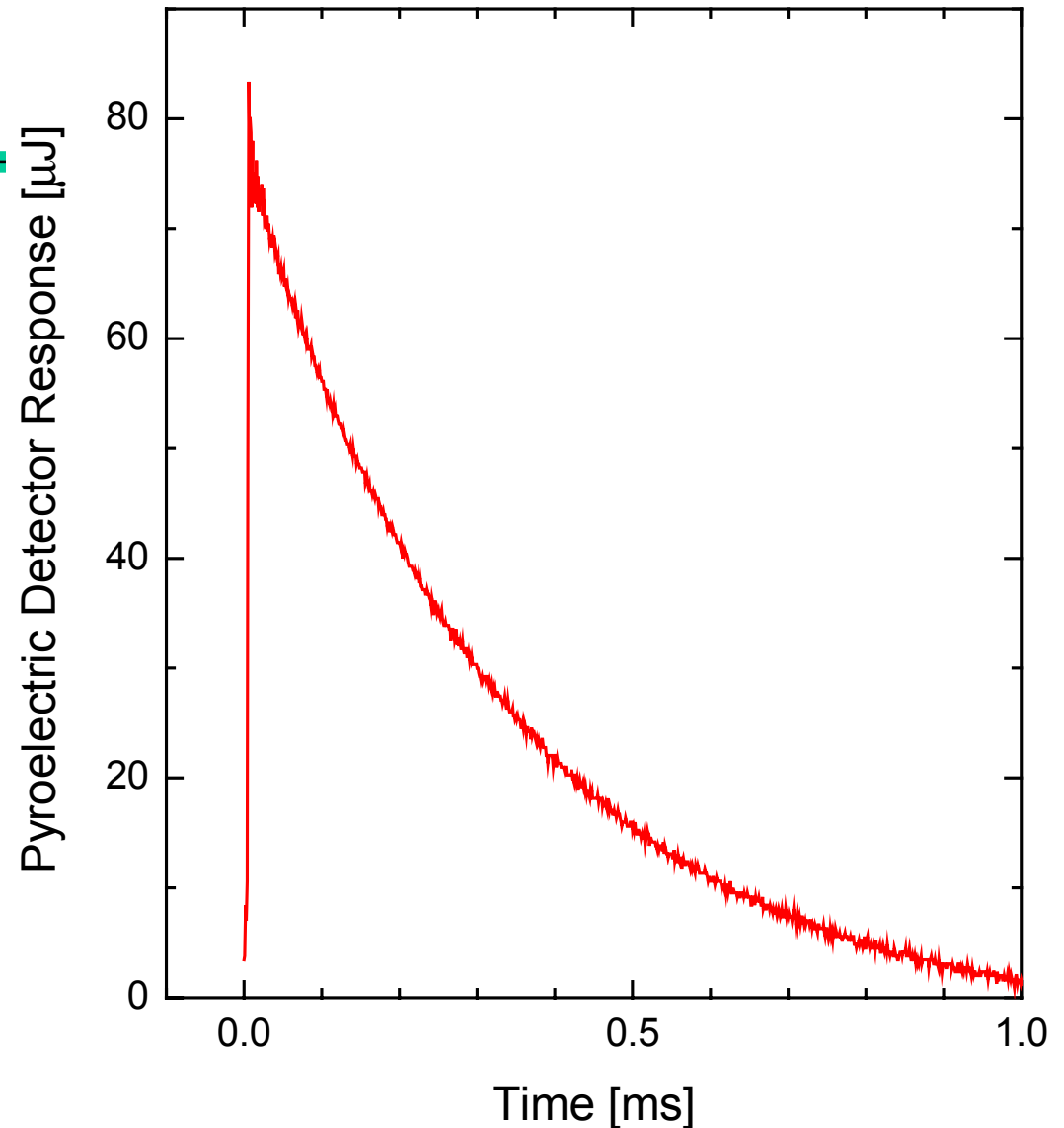


- ◆ Coherent output to over 1 THz. Potential for shorter bunches with less charge.
- ◆ Low rep. rate (1 to 10 Hz)

# Basic Pulse Characteristics

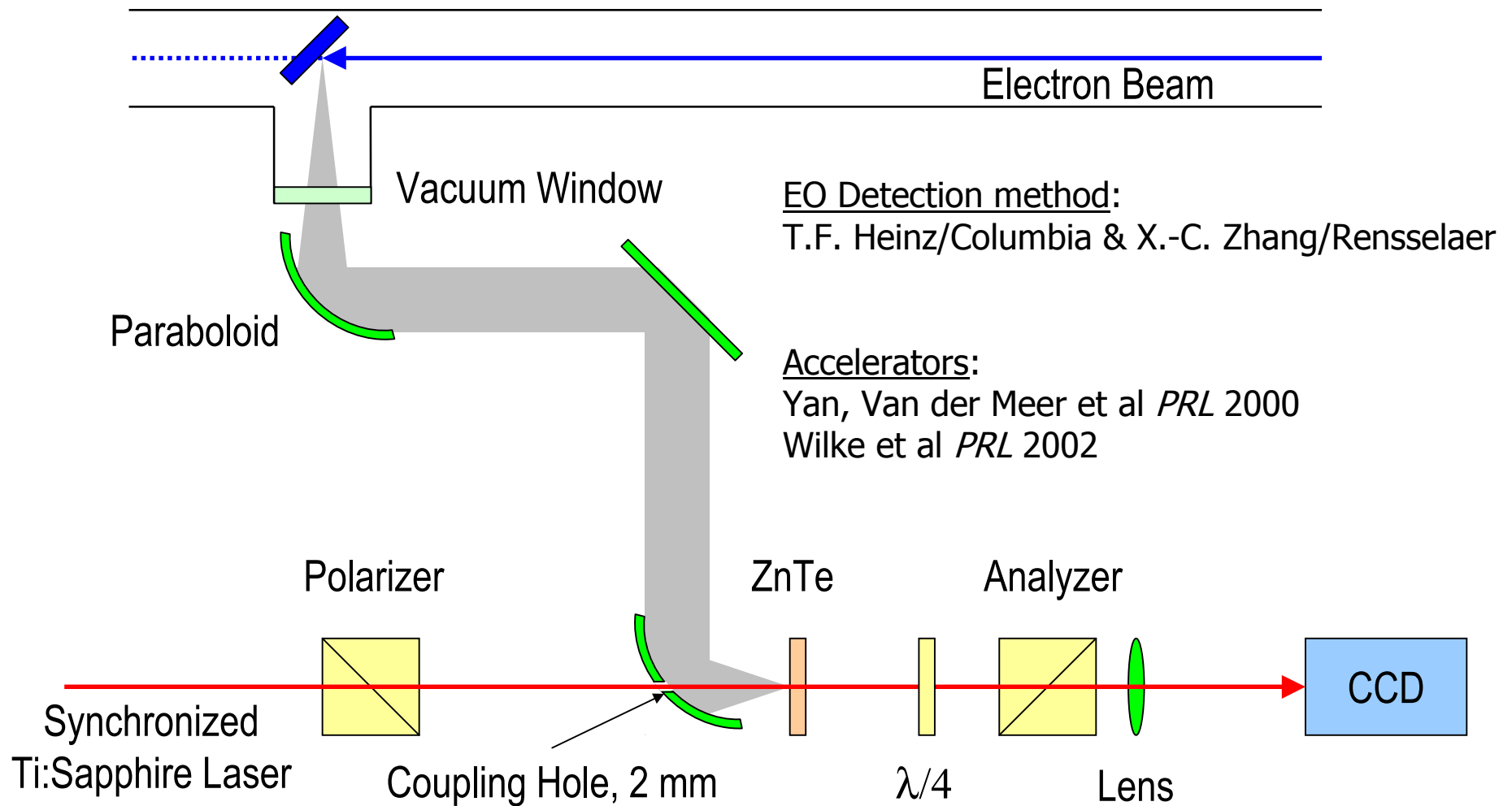


- ◆ 80  $\mu\text{J}$  in a single pulse
- ◆ Consistent with prediction based on coherent transition radiation

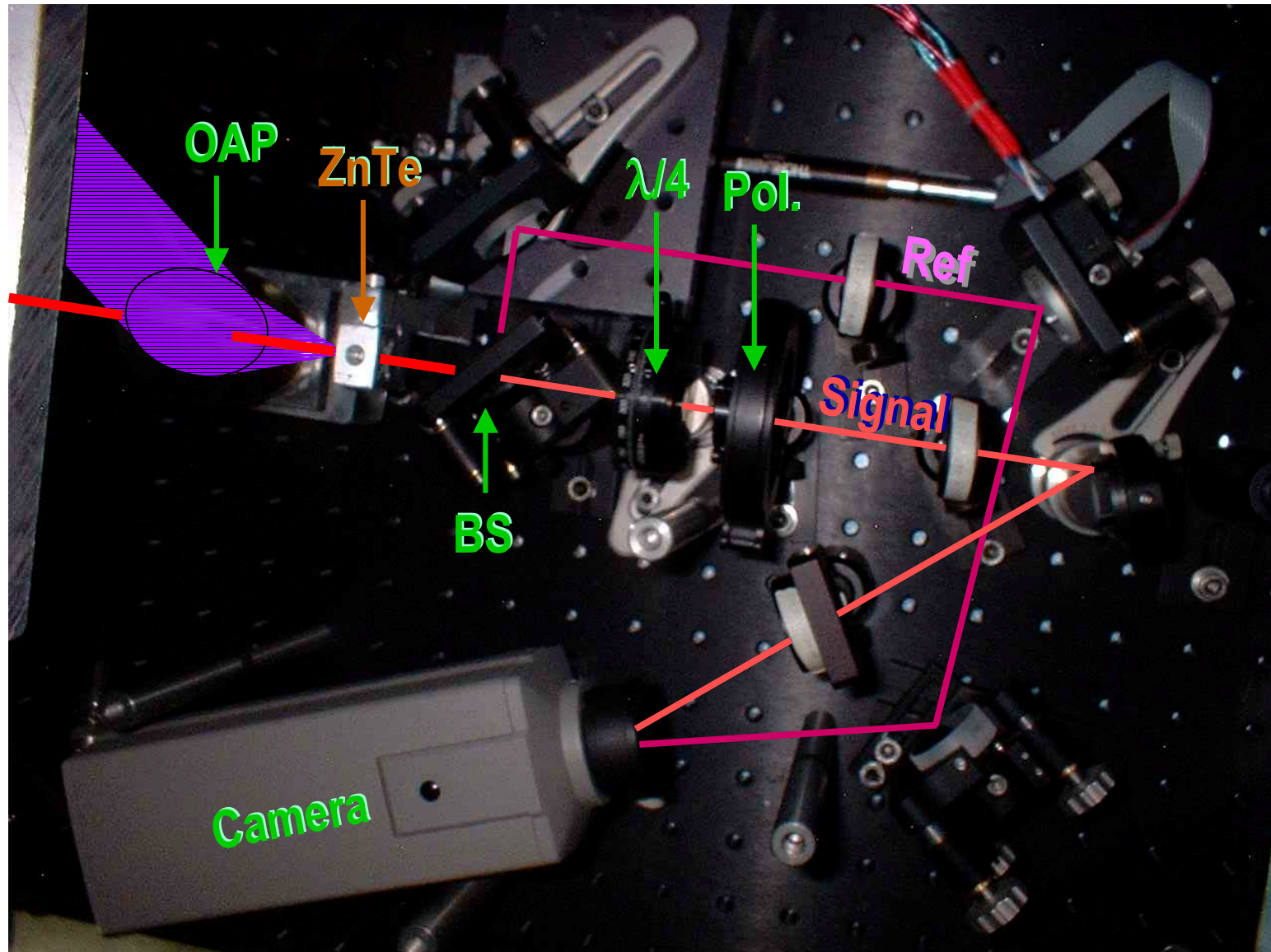




# Electro-Optic THz Radiation Setup

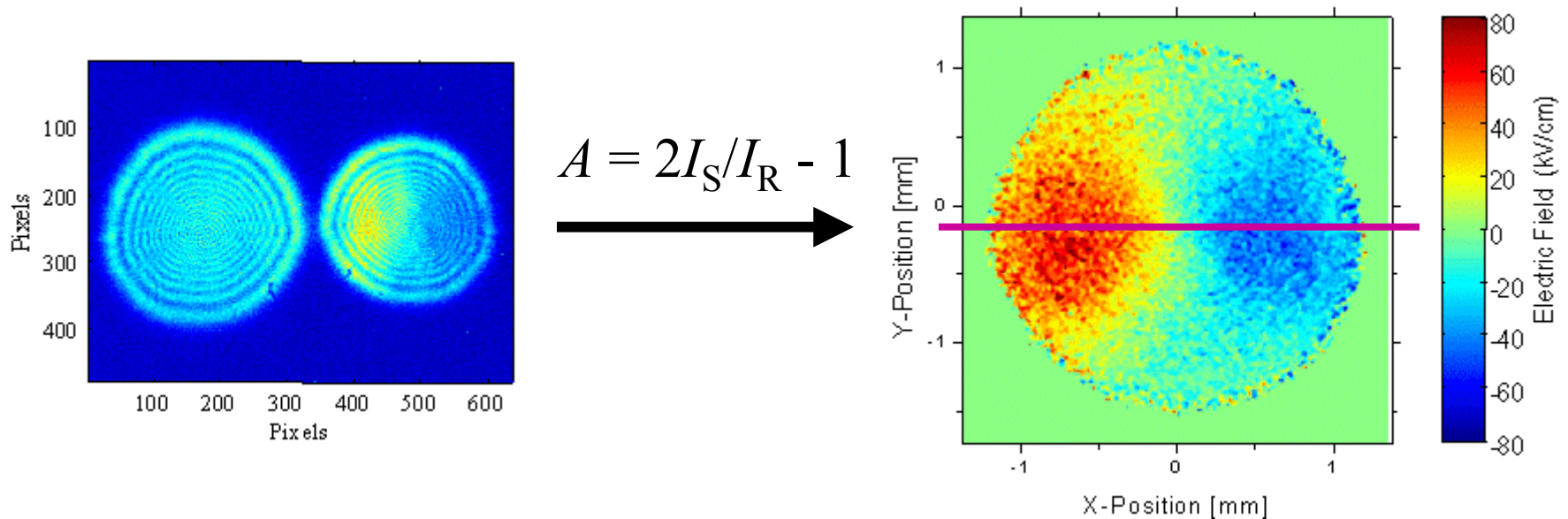


# Signal and Reference

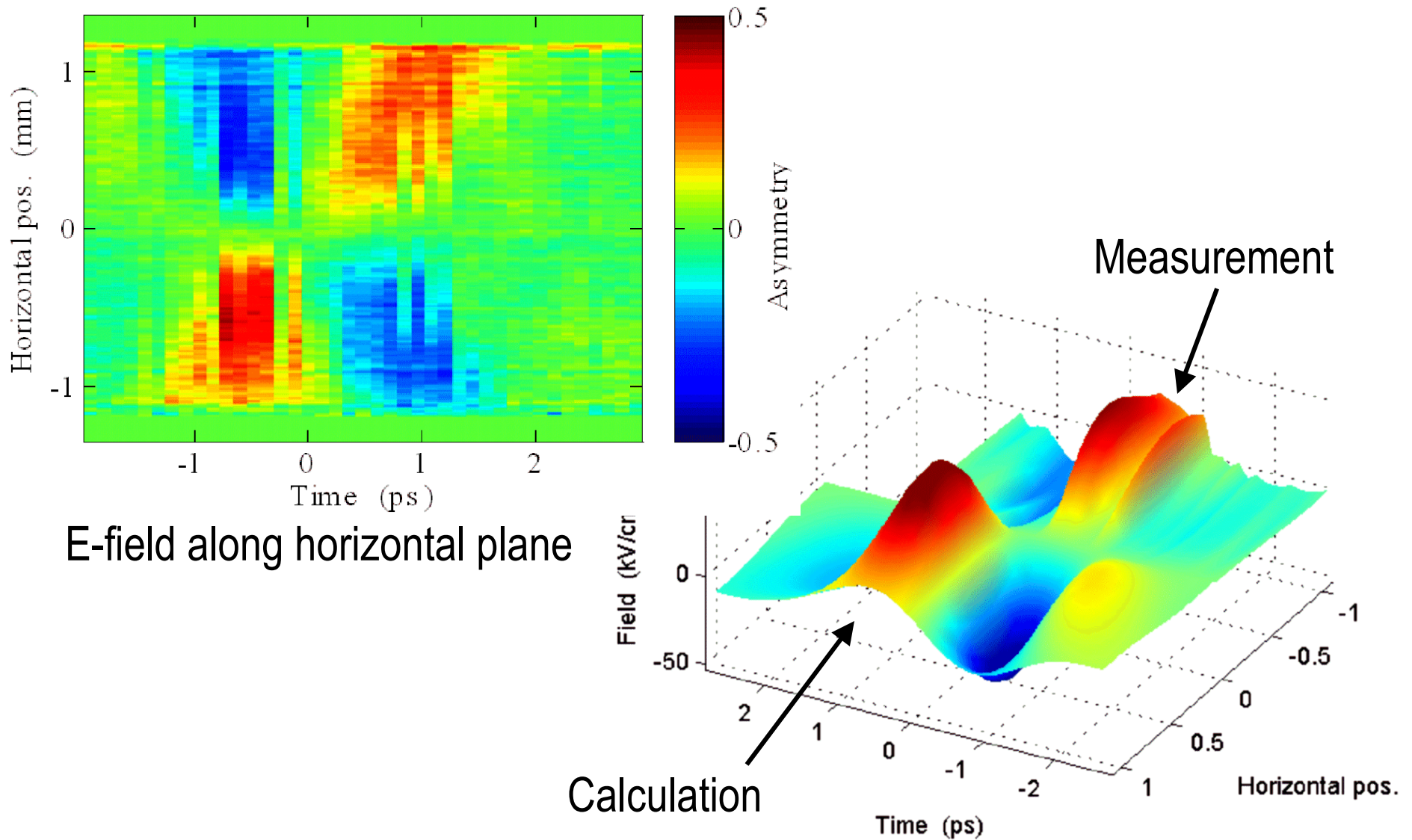


# Image Processing for Field Measurement

- First, turn down intensity to get “on-scale” for 500  $\mu\text{m}$  thick ZnTe (reduce charge, less compression)
- Reference  $I_R$  (left image) and Signal  $I_S$  (right image) obtained simultaneously (for each linac pulse).
- Images scaled to match and normalize both.
- Calculate asymmetry  $A$  of Signal, subtract pattern w/o THz.

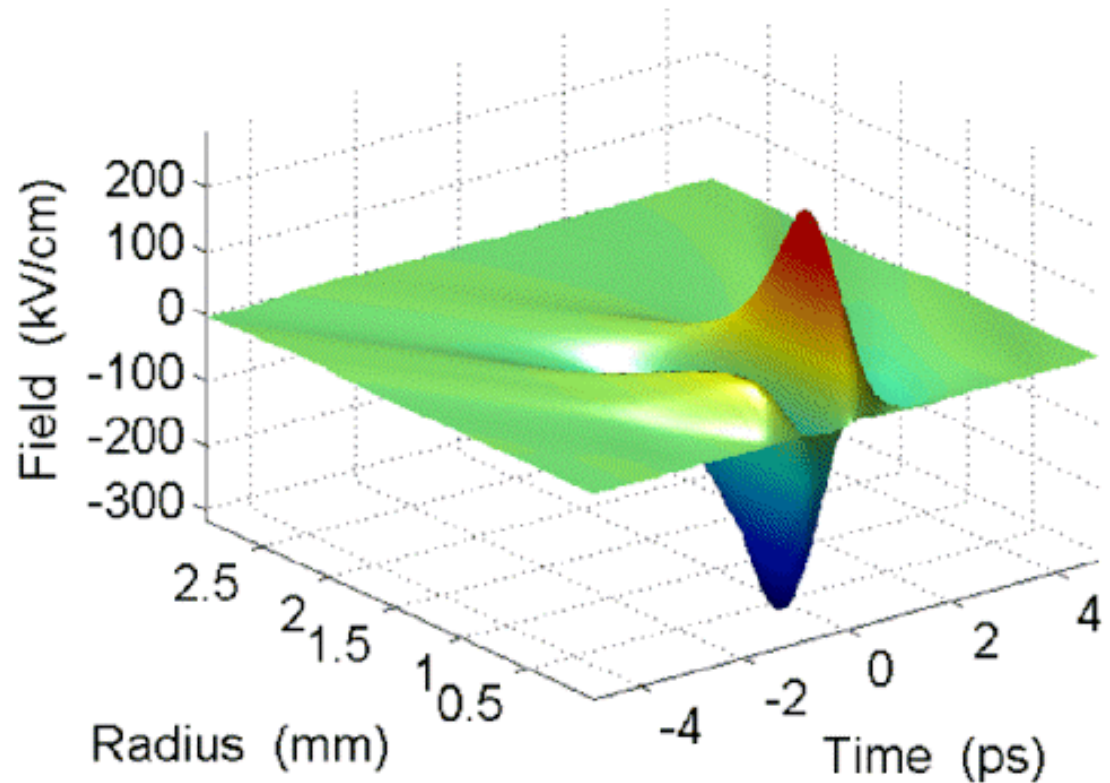


# Temporal E-Field Cross Section at Focus



# Calculated Focus Distribution of THz

- Expand in Gauss-Laguerre modes and propagate to focus.
- Focus spot size 3 mm diameter.
- Single period oscillation.
- 300 fs rms length
- Electric field strength  $\sim 300$  kV/cm at 300 pC charge.



# Studies using High-Field, Half-Cycle THz Pulses

A 100  $\mu\text{J}$ , half-cycle THz pulse, focused into a volume of 1  $\text{mm}^3$ .

- **E-field** =  $[2D_E/\epsilon_0]^{1/2} \sim 10^8 \text{ V/m}$  ( $\sim 1 \text{ MV/cm}$ ).
- $\Rightarrow$  Use large electric field to displace atoms in polar solids (structural phase transitions, soft modes, ferroelectricity, ...), induce large transient currents.
- **H-field** =  $E/c \sim 0.3 \text{ T}$
- $\Rightarrow$  Use transient magnetic field to create magnetic/spin excitations and follow dynamics on ps time scale (e.g., time-resolved MOKE).

Or some other shape pulse? (R&D activity to control density modulation)

$$\frac{dI(\omega)}{d\omega} \underset{\text{multiparti cle}}{=} [N + N(N-1)f(\omega)] \frac{dI(\omega)}{d\omega}$$

$$f(\omega) = \left| \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\omega \hat{n} \cdot \vec{r}/c} S(r) dr \right|^2$$

How would a superconductor respond to one of these intense pulses?



# THz Transmission through a Superconducting Film

Transmission through thin conducting film (thickness  $d$  on substrate with refractive index  $n$ )

$$T = \frac{4n}{(n+1+377\sigma_1 d)^2 + (377\sigma_2 d)^2}$$

where  $\sigma(\omega) = \sigma_1 + i\sigma_2$

Drude model for optical response

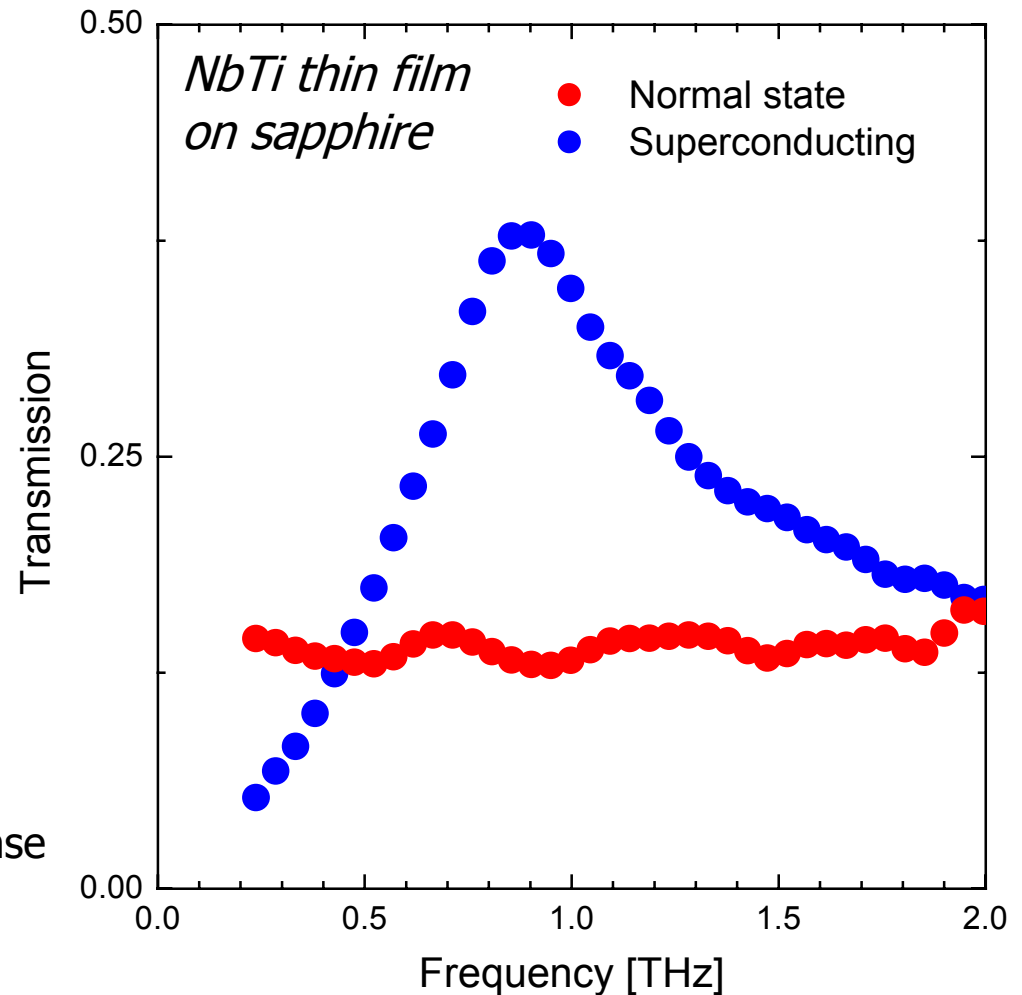
$$\sigma(\omega) = \frac{\omega_p^2 \tau \epsilon_0}{(1 - i\omega\tau)}$$

... assume in dirty limit for Normal state

$$\sigma(\omega \ll 1/\tau) = \omega_p^2 \tau \epsilon_0 \sim \text{const.}$$

Superconductor has energy gap, but below gap frequency, have only superfluid response

$$\sigma(\omega \gg 1/\tau) = i \frac{\omega_p^2 \epsilon_0}{\omega} \sim \frac{i}{\omega}$$



# “Low” Energy Electrodynamics in a Superconductor

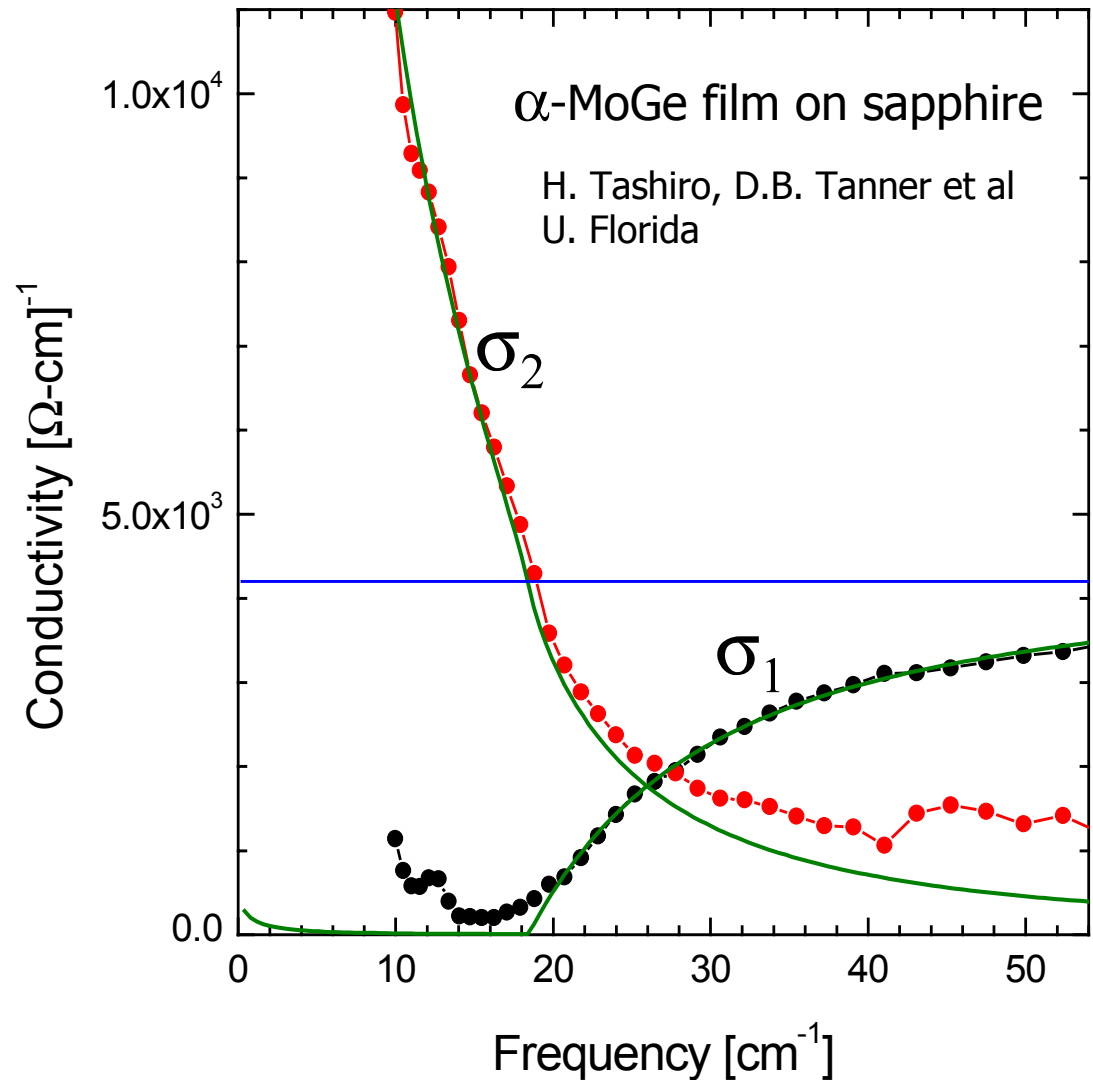
What is supercurrent response to  
 $\sim 1$ ps intense E-field transient?

( $T \ll T_C$ ,  $\omega < \omega_g$ )

- Low frequency response is dominated by imaginary part of conductivity  $\sigma_2 \cong A/\omega$ ;  $A \cong \sigma_n \omega_g$  (purely inductive).

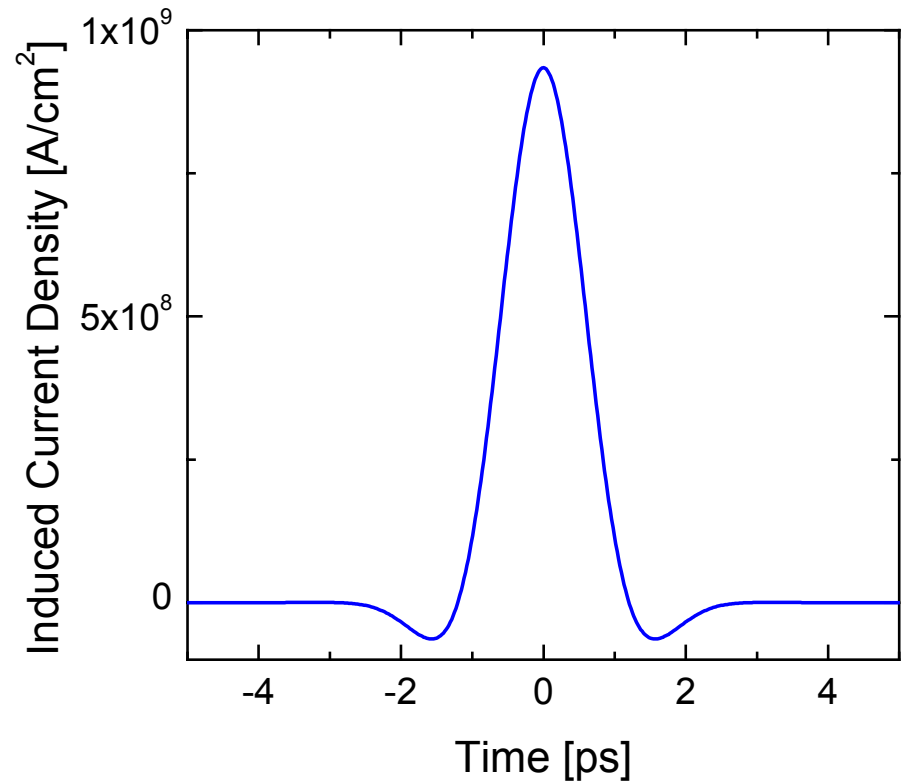
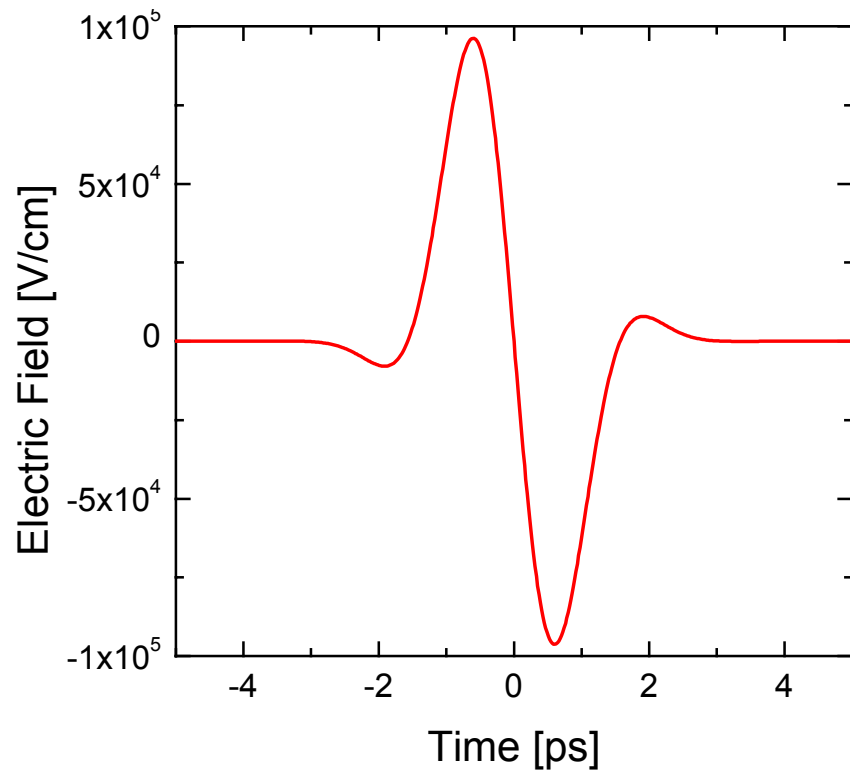
$$L \frac{dI}{dt} = V \quad I(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-\infty}^t V(t') dt'$$

- $J \cong \sigma_n \omega_g \int_{-\infty}^t E(t') dt'$





# Proposed Experiment: Time-dependent Supercurrent



Typical superconductor has  $J_C \sim 10^8$  A/cm<sup>2</sup>. What happens if  $J_C$  is exceeded?  
=> "over twist" the local superconducting phase, spin off vortices?  
How quickly can a vortex be created? How does dissipation initially appear?

Need an analytical method for time-dependent propagation through film.

# Model Calculation: FDTD Technique

- FDTD starts with discrete formulation of Maxwell's equations. (K. Yee - '66)

$$\nabla \times \vec{H} = \frac{\partial \vec{D}}{\partial t} \quad \nabla \times \vec{E} = \frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}$$

- Dielectric response included through displacement in normal fashion

$$\vec{D}(t) = \epsilon_{\infty} \epsilon_0 \vec{E}(t) + \epsilon_0 \int_0^t \vec{E}(t - \tau) \chi(\tau) d\tau$$

- Solve numerically
  - Provides accurate description of THz propagation across dielectric boundaries.
  - Recursive convolution method for materials where loss is described by exponential damping (e.g., Lorentzian) (Luebbers, Hunsberger and Kunz - '91).

$$\sigma(\omega) = \frac{\omega_p^2 \tau \epsilon_0}{(1 - i\omega\tau)} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \chi(t) = \omega_p^2 \tau [1 - e^{-t/\tau}] \theta(\tau)$$

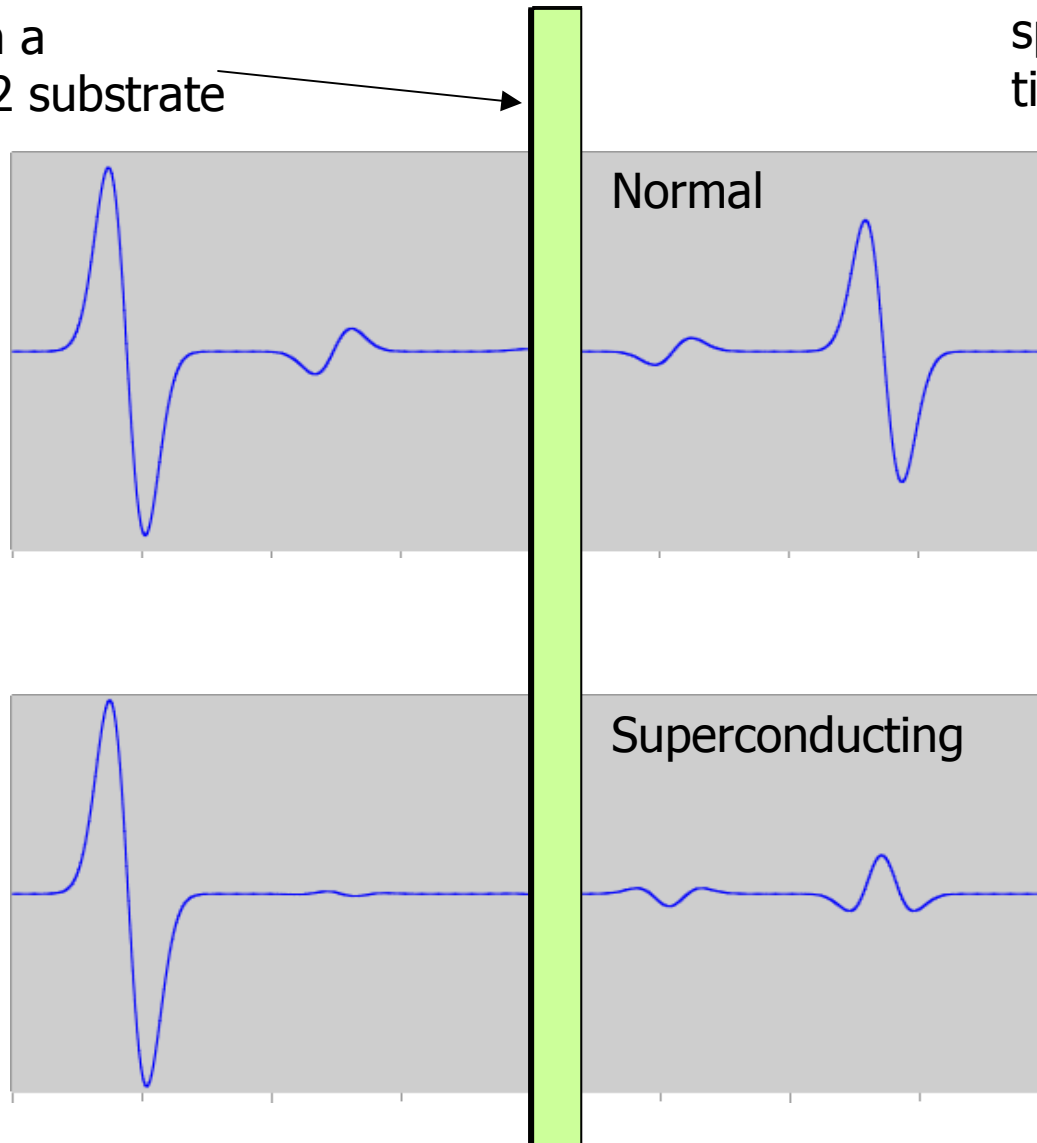
- Successfully used for time-resolved spectroscopy (where  $\omega_p$  and/or  $\tau$  are themselves time-dependent). (Beard and Schmuttenmaer - '01)



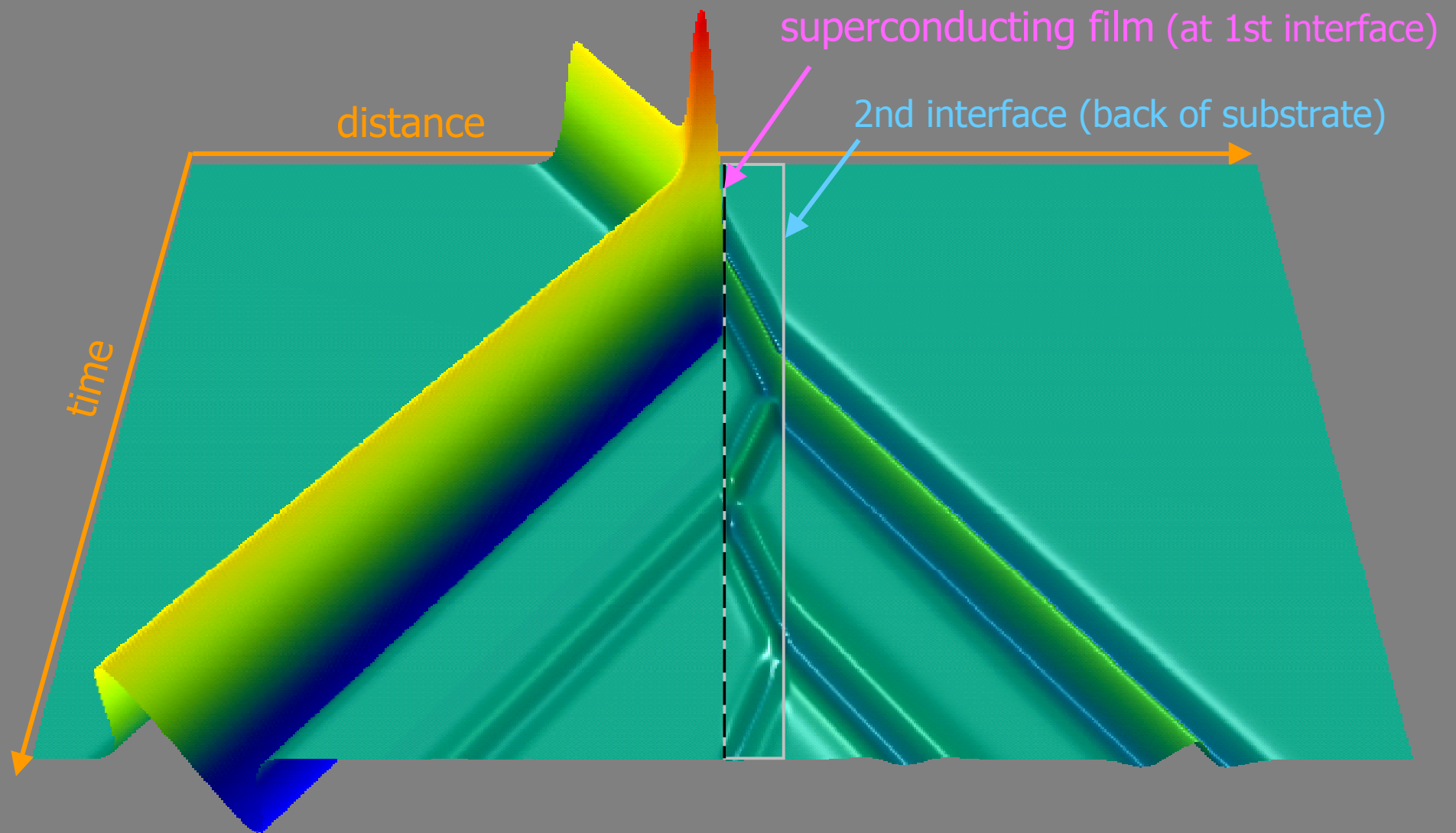
# FDTD Test / Demonstration

Thin metal film on a  
100  $\mu\text{m}$  thick,  $n=2$  substrate

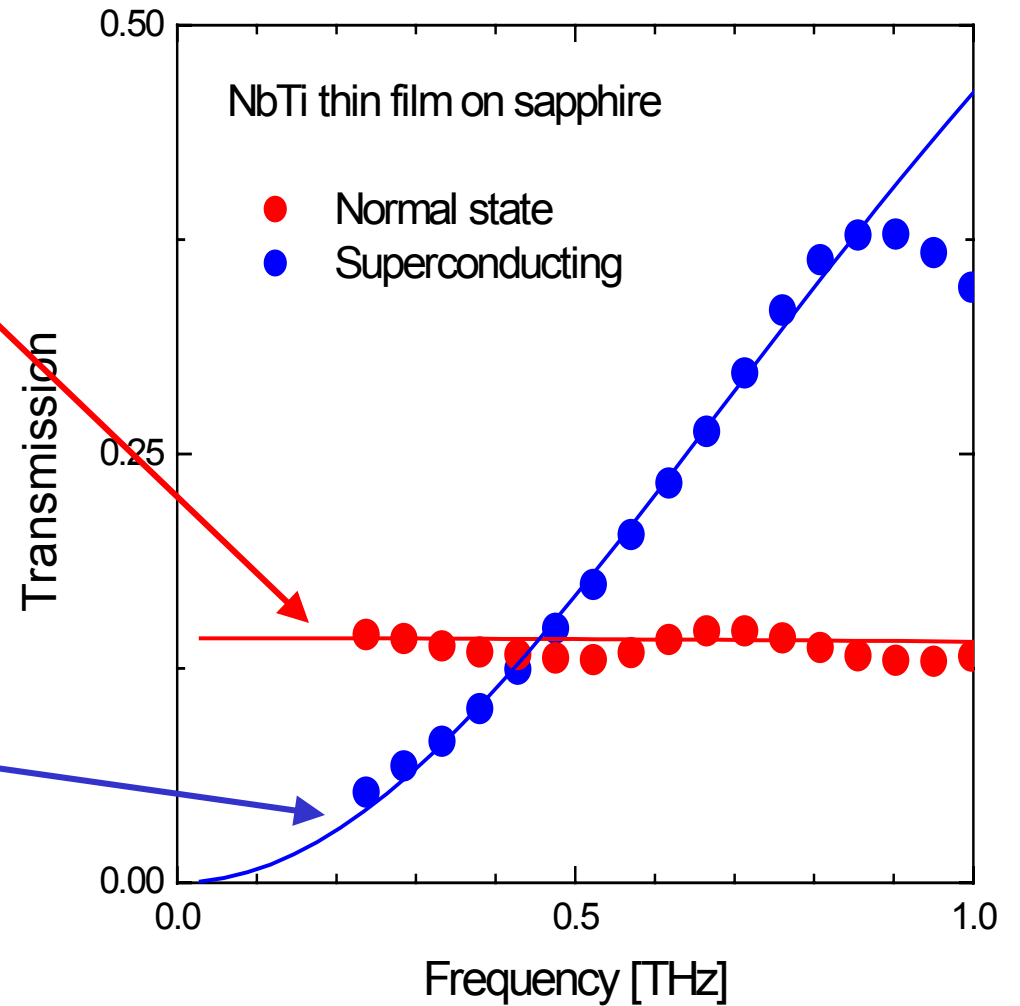
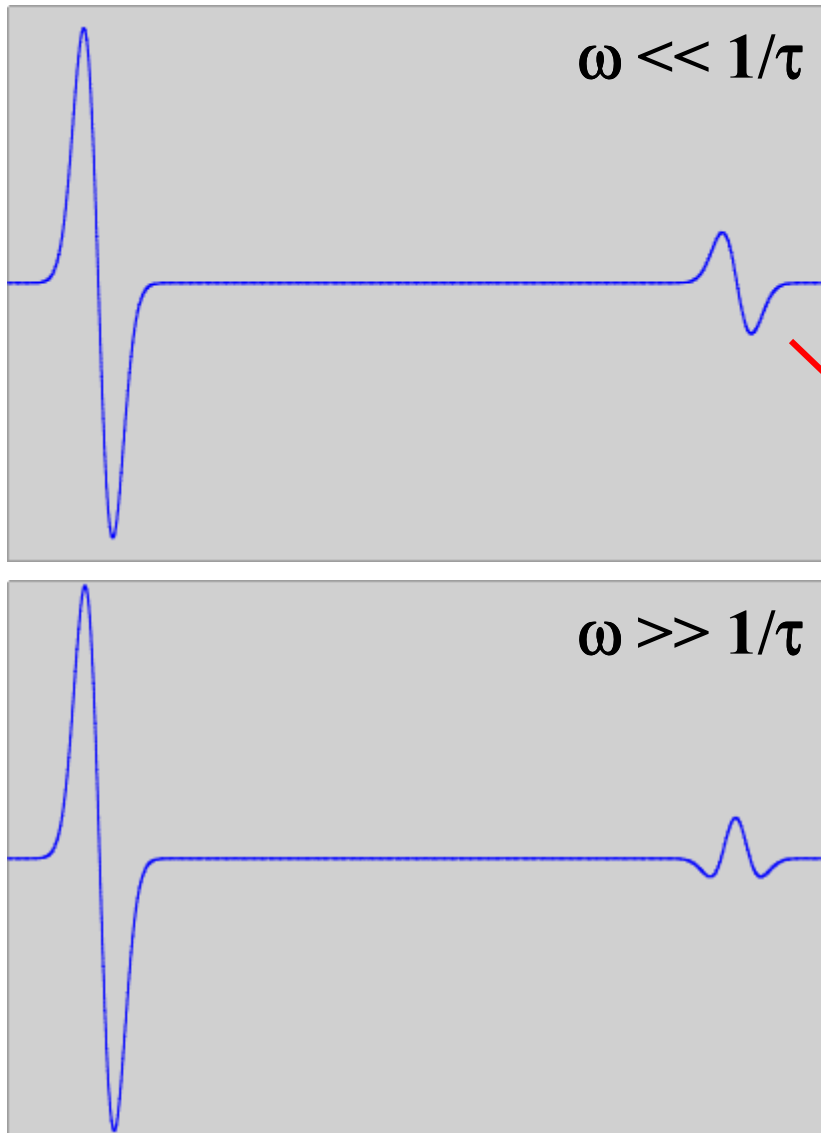
space inc. = 10  $\mu\text{m}$   
time inc. = 16.8 fs



# FDTD demonstration



# FDTD Calculation for Transmission



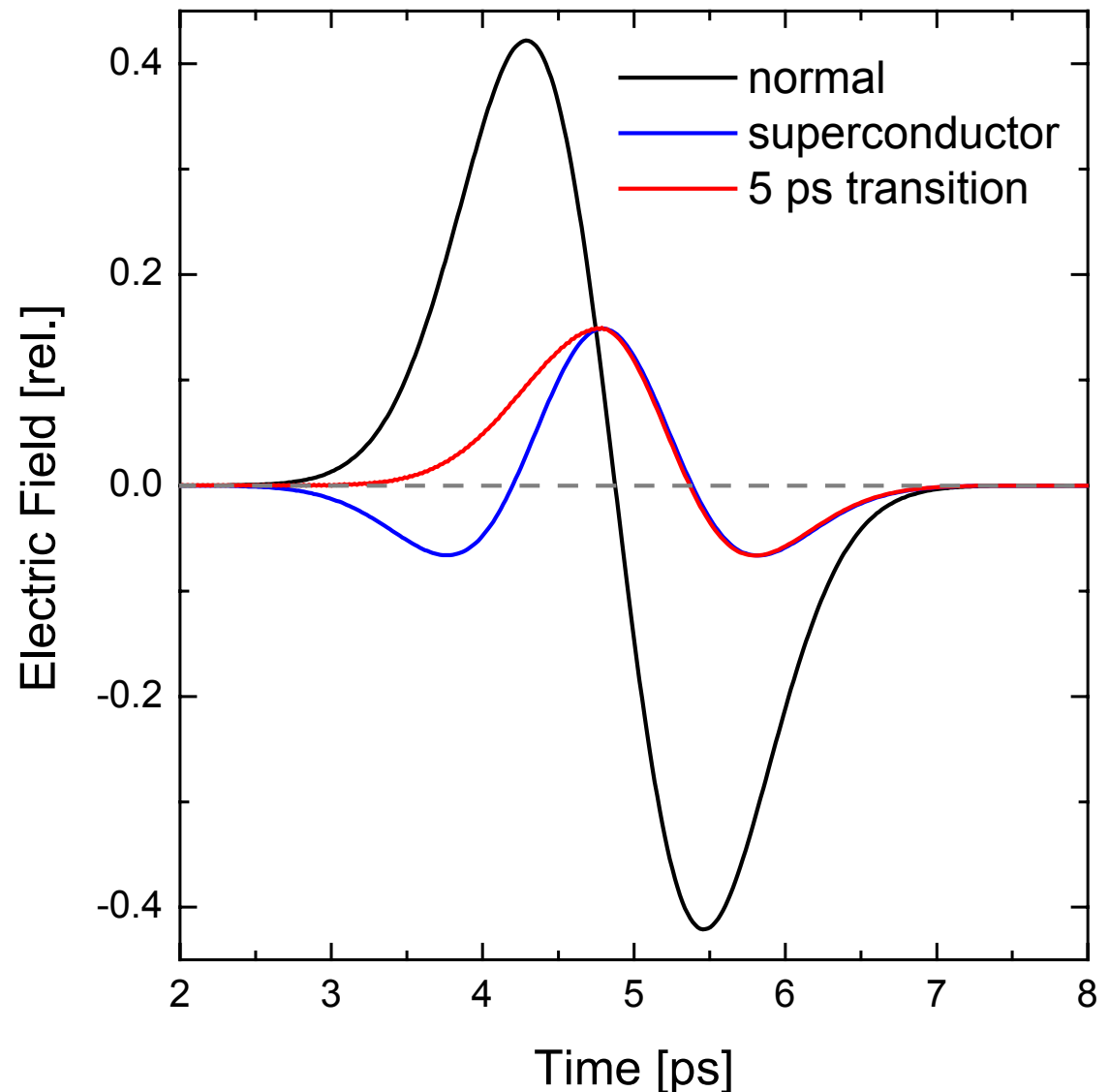
# Model for Exceeding Critical Current

If induced  $J$  exceeds  $J_{cr}$   
changeover to state with  
dissipation. How quickly?

Model as linear change  
(with time) of  $1/\tau$ , increasing  
from  $1/\tau = 0$  THz and increasing  
to a final value of 2 THz.

Assume process takes 5 ps to  
complete

=> Expect non-linear effects.



# Summary

---

## Accelerator-based THz Sources produce Coherent Pulses:

- > *High pulse energy*
- > *1/2 or single cycle pulses,  $\sim 1$  ps or less*
- > *E-field  $\sim 1$  MV/cm, H-field  $\sim 3$ kG*
  - *should be sufficient to drive supercurrents in excess of critical value.*
- > *high repetition rate from SC linac (JLab energy recovery linac) or storage ring (less charge per bunch and control of shape, but more stable?)*

## NSLS Source Development Lab (SDL):

- *80  $\mu$ J pulse energy demonstrated*
- *spectral content to 2 THz (anticipate even higher)*
- *demonstrated coherent EO detection*
- *transition radiation: radial polarization (suitable for coupling to wires or other cylindrical modes)*
- *Potential for 2nd color (pump or probe)*
- *Not presently a "User Facility", but potential exists with sufficient interest.*

