

# Science Case Update for a UK X-ray Free Electron Laser (UK XFEL)

- Commissioned by STFC on behalf of UKRI to be completed by May 2020 to support in consideration of “Mission Need” (CD0)
- We are seeking to identify scientific opportunities for an X-ray FEL with capabilities at, and beyond, the current state-of-the-art
- We need to consider the current science landscape, and the future opportunities that may emerge over the coming decades
- We are seeking engagement with Academia, UK Government (AWE, Facilities, Research Councils, DSTL), Industry, Learned Societies & Research Charities etc.

You can find more project information at:

<https://www.clf.stfc.ac.uk/Pages/UK-XFEL-Scientific-Case-Consultations.aspx>

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# Science Team

- **Matter in extreme conditions:** Andy Higginbotham (York), Andy Comley (AWE), Sam Vinko (Ox), Marco Borghesi (QUB), Malcolm McMahon (Edinburgh), Justin Wark (Ox)
- **Nano/Quantum materials:** Ian Robinson (UCL/Brookhaven), Anna Regoutz (IC), Marcus Newton (Soton), Simon Wall (ICFO)
- **Materials/Applications :** David Rugg (RR), Sven Schroeder (Leeds), David Dye (IC)
- **Life sciences:** Allen Orville (DLS), Jasper van Thor (IC), Xiaodong Zhang (IC)
- **Chemical sciences:** Julia Weinstein (Sheffield), Russell Minns (Soton), Sofia Diaz-Moreno (DLS), Tom Penfold (Newcastle)
- **Physical sciences:** Adam Kirrander (Edinburgh), Amelle Zair (KCL), Jason Greenwood (QUB), Jon Marangos (IC)



# Science Opportunities with XFELS

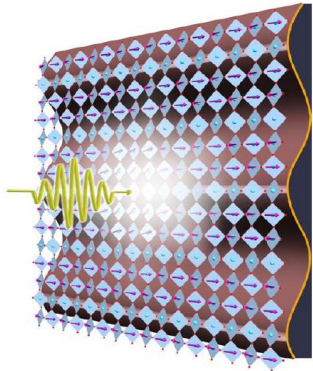
X-ray FELs give bright ultrafast pulses of X-rays that provide the capability for *snap-shot* imaging and *time-resolved* determination of atomic scale structure and electronic states in matter using *X-ray scattering* and *X-ray spectroscopy*

This is a unique, incisive, capability that opens a window into *structure* and *dynamics* with impact across a wide landscape of science and technology

This is being used alongside other powerful modalities (*optical (UV-THz), neutron, cryo EM, UED, synchrotron X-ray, NMR etc.*) to give us the best tools to probe and control matter

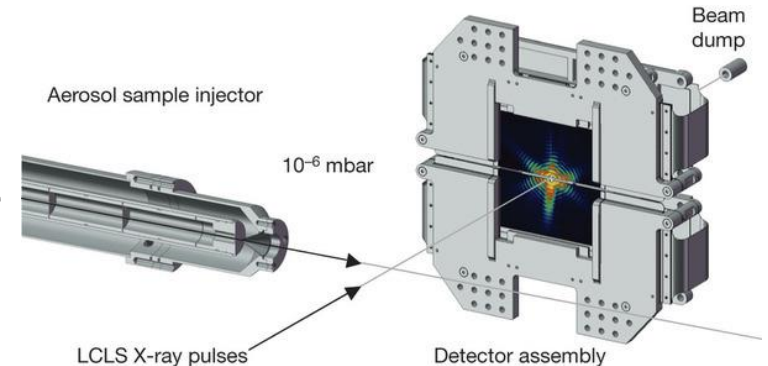
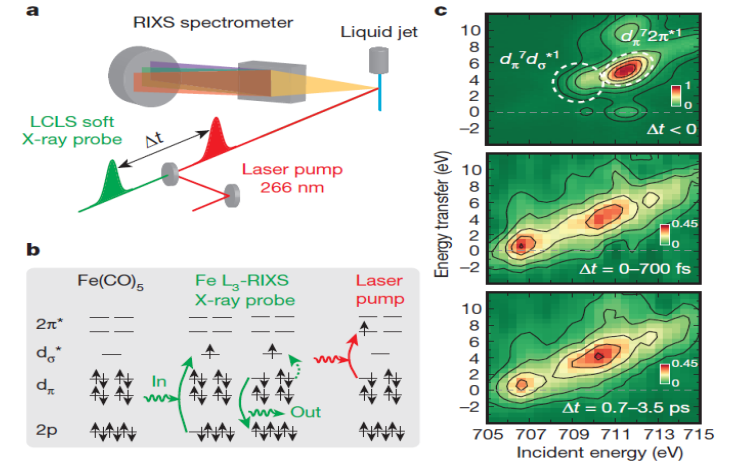
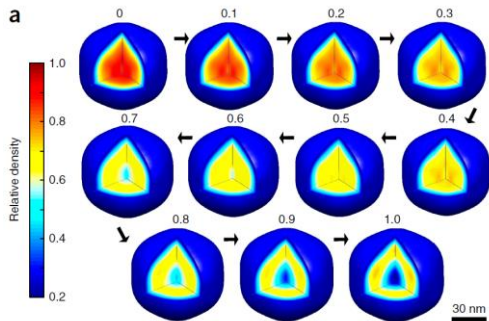
# Science Opportunities with XFELs

**Access to structural dynamics:** Dynamical phenomena can be probed after laser excitation on a time scale down to femtoseconds thus covering electronic dynamics, lattice dynamics and chemical bonds breaking/forming.



**Access to transient states:** Matter can be probed under only transiently attainable conditions of extreme pressure, high E & B fields, laser dressing and high energy density.

**New modes of crystallography & nanoscopic imaging:** For seeing the nanoscopic arrangements relevant to nanotechnology and life-sciences free from radiation damage and adverse effects of sample preparation.



**Capturing rare events:** In physical, chemical and biological systems critical processes can proceed through brief rare events (e.g. barrier crossings) arising from intrinsic fluctuations.

# Primary science driver is access to timescales not accessible to other x-ray photon sources

Timescales uniquely accessible to XFELs

Timescales accessible to XFELs and other sources

Electron-ion coupling timescales in metals/ dense plasma

Primary photoexcitation event

Lattice dynamics, exciton dynamics, magnon dynamics etc.

Nuclear processes

Vibron (cl)

How best to measure these processes with high fidelity *in-situ* is very much an area of active research and a frontier in physics

Secondary structure dynamics in molecules timescales

Valence electron dynamics

Thermal equilibrium (T = 300 K)

Inner shell electron dynamics

Timescales for modes excited at thermal equilibrium (T = 6000 K)

$10^{-17}$   $10^{-16}$   $10^{-15}$   $10^{-14}$   $10^{-13}$   $10^{-12}$   $10^{-11}$   $10^{-10}$   $10^{-9}$   $10^{-8}$   $10^{-7}$  Time s

Laser plasma

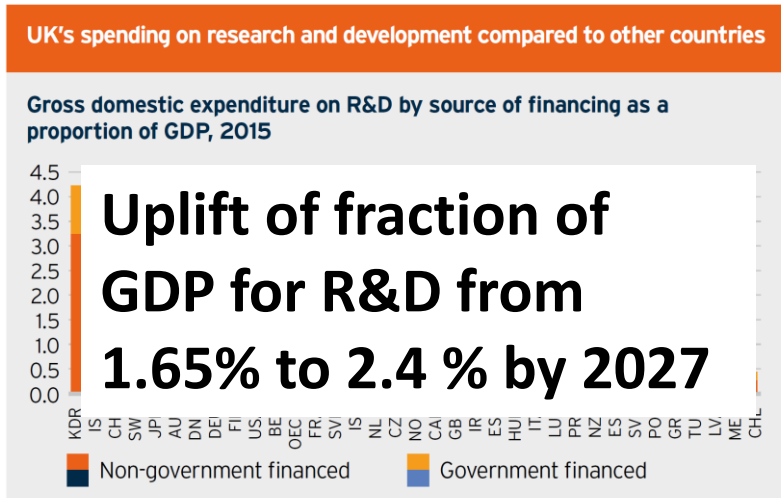
Synchrotron

XFEL

(future)

(current)

# We are developing project alignment to: Industrial Strategy & Grand Challenges



Source: OECD (2017) "OECD Economic Surveys: United Kingdom 2017"; \*2014 data for France, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and OECD aggregate. 2013 data for Belgium, Israel, Luxembourg and Sweden. Non-government financed includes finance from higher education, which may be partly government-financed; and from the rest of the world, which may include foreign and supranational government finance

**Ancipate a national XFEL providing substantial direct investment into UK economy via construction, procurement and jobs**

**Anticipate an XFEL boosting science, technology and know-how:**

**Advanced Materials**

**Energy and Sustainable Chemistry**

**New Therapies & Drugs**

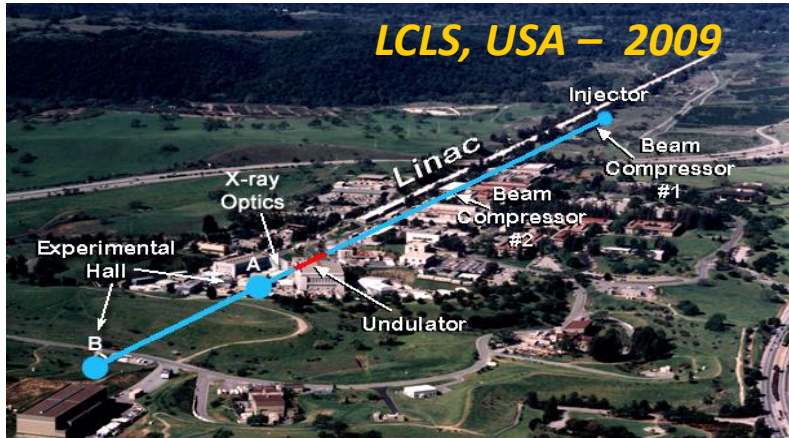
**Training at all levels:**

**Research, Technology, IT & Apprenticeships**

and services move

or an ageing society

# Existing X-ray FELs: Anticipate that these will satisfy scientific need for next 5 to 10 years



## Facility Summary

- LCLS (USA)
- LCLS II & LCLS II HE (USA)
- SACLA (Japan)
- European XFEL (Germany)
- Flash I & II (Germany)
- Fermi@Elettra (Italy)
- Swiss FEL (Switzerland)
- PAL XFEL (Korea)
- Dalian Light Source (China)
- Shanghai Light Source (China)

Large investments are being made, e.g. in USA via Basic Energy Sciences of DOE



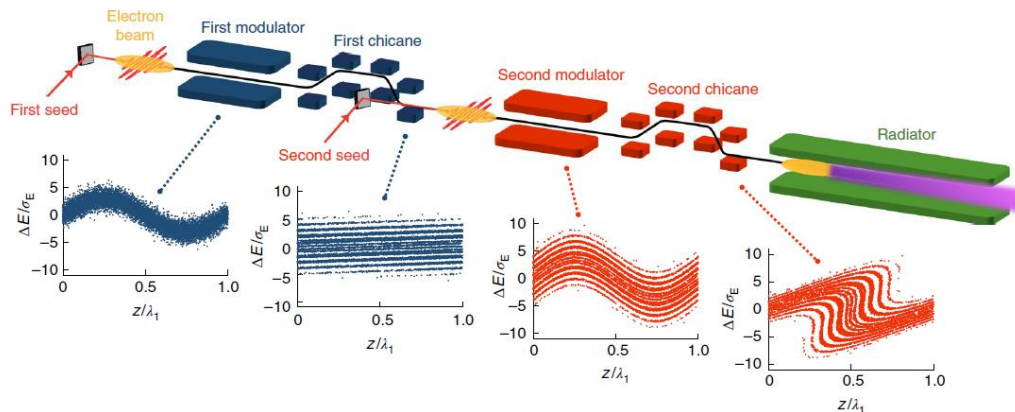
# UK XFEL is a long range science planning exercise

- It would deliver science for the late 2020's, 2030's, 40's & 50's
- It should be a cutting edge machine at first light or it could soon be obsolete
- We need to take a wide view of where there will be science impact
- We need to consider the full range of industrial impact in the UK
- Need to see it as an important part of the international network of Light Source provision (not necessarily doing everything – but certainly doing some things better than anywhere else)

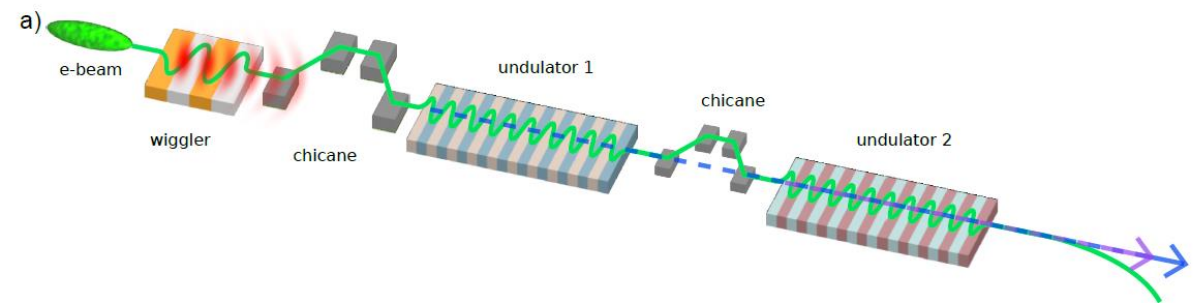


# Anticipating further advances and future opportunities

- The technology is not static – already in 10 years there have been remarkable improvements of performance and instrumentation
- Now non-linear/multidimensional X-ray spectroscopy is in reach and first pioneering work on X-ray holography, quantum imaging, attosecond science etc. are underway
- Methods beyond SASE are likely to become widely available (seeding - e.g. at FERMI, enhanced SASE - e.g. XLEAP, superradiance schemes, chirped schemes, XFEL0 and RAFEL under development etc..)



Echo enhanced seeding @ FERMI (2019)



XLEAP two-colour attosecond pulses @ LCLS (2019)

## **Options might include:**

- **Build a unique UK XFEL optimised for new capability**
- **Build a UK XFEL providing capacity well beyond 10 years**
- **Invest more in dedicated UK facilities at existing XFELs**
- **Increase investment to support users in exploiting existing opportunities (e.g. long term grant funding schemes, CDT's, "UK XFEL Institute")**
- **Extend activities of existing Life and Physical Sciences Hubs**
- **A combination of the above.....**

## Next Steps

- We start this exercise with an open mind as to the most exciting science that might be prioritised and the accompanying machine specification
- We have opened a free format consultation with the UK science and technology community to gather information and ideas
- <https://www.clf.stfc.ac.uk/Pages/UK-XFEL-science-case.aspx>
- A science case will be drafted through early 2020 with possibilities for continued input from the UK community

**Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>** *Matter at Extreme Conditions (Edinburgh)*

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** *Life Sciences (Crick)*

**Nov 13<sup>th</sup>** ***Frontiers in Physical Sciences (Imperial)***

**Nov 27<sup>th</sup>** *Quantum Materials & Nanotechnology (Southampton)*

**Dec 4<sup>th</sup>** *X-ray FEL Applications (Warwick)*

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup>** *Chemical Dynamics & Energy (Newcastle)*