

Ultrafast X-ray Studies of Complex Materials: Science Challenges and Opportunities



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Ultrafast Dynamics in Complex Materials - Beyond Bloch

How do the properties of matter emerge from the: correlated motion of electrons, and coupled atomic and electronic structure?



Understand the Interplay between Atomic and Electronic Structure

- Valence electronic structure energy levels, charge distribution, bonding, spin
- Atomic structure coordination, atomic arrangements, bond distances



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Fundamental Time Scales in Condensed Matter



Ultrafast Measurements:

- separate correlated phenomena in the time domain
- direct observations of the underlying correlations as they develop





Gross Generalizations – Workshop Discussion





Outline

Ultrafast Dynamics in Colossal Magnetoresistive (CMR) Manganites

Ultrafast photo- and vibrationally-induced insulator-metal transition in Pr_{1-x}Ca_xMnO₃

Time-resolved X-ray Absorption, Scattering in CMR Manganites

- Electronic structure time-resolved XANES (O K-edge, Mn L-edge)
- Dynamics of charge, orbital, and spin ordering

Energy-Recovery Linac

- Ultrafast, high-rep-rate, diffraction-limited hard X-rays
- Science challenges and opportunities





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- Sub-10 fs probing resolves phase-transition dynamics
- The IM phase transition does not occur promptly: $\tau_1 = 50$ fs, $\tau_2 = 150$ fs
 - the photo-induced metallic state is not driven directly by carrier injection
 - requires rearrangement in slower degrees of freedom of the system.
- Reflectivity changes are modulated at characteristic frequencies of the system
 - coherently excited vibrational modes 14 THz (low T) and orbital waves 30 THz (room T)



Phase Control of Competing Ground States





Ground-state vibrational pumping Pr_{0.7}Ca_{0.3}MnO₃

- melting of charge ordering in electronic ground state – structural origin?

Tailored excitation is essential – access physics of interest, recovery dynamics



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Ultrafast X-rays - New Insight on Complex Materials



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Vibrationally Driven I-M Transition in a Manganite

- THz vibrational control of correlated-electron phases targeting specific vibrational modes - Mn-O stretch
- Ultrafast I-M phase transition electronic ground state x10⁴ resistivity change



Future Scientific Questions and Challenges:

Crystallographic distortion associated with electronic phase transitions? *ultrafast x-ray diffraction, EXAFS*

Magnetic nature of the metallic phase – ferromagnetic? *ultrafast x-ray dichroism*

Dynamics of electronic structure - charge/orbital ordering? *ultrafast resonant x-ray diffraction time-resolved soft x-ray microscopy, XPCS (phase separation)*

Dynamics of electronic structure – charge localization/delocalization? *ultrafast XAS* – 3d-2p hybridization *ARPES* – dynamic band structure, valence charge distribution

Ultrafast x-ray techniques relevant for a broad range of complex materials (organics, multiferroics, novel superconductors....)



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Static XAS - Insulator/Metal Transition in Manganites

• XAS evidence of I-M transition, DOS spectral weight transferred to absorption threshold

- Mn-3d/O-2p hybridization
- Modification of 10Dq crystal field splitting

LBNL Photo-induced XAS Changes - Evidence of IM Transition Photo-induced vs. Magnetically-induced Phase Transition:

The DOS change in the conduction band appears in the O 1*s* XAS spectrum and spectral weight is transferred to the absorption threshold.

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S. Zhou et al. Phys. Rev. Lett., (in press).

Nature of the ordering is very different!

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****** 100001-07 **Charge/Orbit/Spin Ordering Dynamics in Manganites** LBNL *Time-resolved Resonant X-ray Diffraction -* Pr_{0.7}Ca_{0.3}MnO₃ (1 - 10)800ps after pump 0.8 mJ/cm² Intensity (arb. unit) before pump Intensity 300ps (0 0 1) -1ms hvout hv. ٩ 10 149 147 148 150 640 650 660 146 630 hv (eV) Detector angle (~q) Differential Signal (%) 0 0 Long recovery time -10 -10 -20 -20 **Melting time** -30 shorter than 70ps -30 -40 -40

20

0

100

80

60

Pump probe delay (ns)

100

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-100

Pump probe delay (ps)

LBNL Dynamic Probe of Electronic Structure - Time-resolved ARPES

Electron energy analyzer

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- Photoemission occupied states, XAS unoccupied states
- Time evolution of single-particle spectral density function $A(k,\omega)$

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- Dynamic band structure response to tailored excitation
- Time-resolved separation of correlated phenomena in time

Controlled perturbation of superconducting state (near-equilibrium)

- Identify specific modes associated with superconducting state
- Observe re-establishment of SC from near-by states (e.g. transient pseudogap)
- Resolve this process with *time*, *energy*, *spin*, and *momentum* resolution

Time and spin-resolved ARPES is a powerful now tool to understand a wide class of complex materials: topological insulators, CMR compounds, multiferroics, etc.

LBNL Time-resolved ARPES at KeV Energies Electrons interact strongly

Electrons interact strongly Surface Sensitivity – 5-20A

X-ray Photoemission Electron Microscopy: XPEEM

psec current pulse

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Vortex dynamics micron-size Co patterns

S.B. Choe et al., Science 2004

Plasmonic Nanoscale Optical Manipulation

Why high-rep-rate ultrafast X-ray source?

Plasmonic systems:

- THz bandwidth and nm localization
 ⇒ nm spatial and fsec temporal resolution
- Current optical and EUV methods lack both spatial and temporal resolution

ERL:

Time-resolved photoemission electron microscopy (PEEM)

- Energy resolved visible pump x-ray probe PEEM
 - high x-ray photon energy 'freezes' the surface potential in the kinetic energy of the photo-electron
- Coulomb interaction dictates only a few electrons/shot high repetition rate is essential

Probing Electron Correlation in Solids Inelastic X-ray Scattering

Time-resolved RIXS: development of correlation $S(q, \omega)$ in response to tailored excitation

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Time-resolved ARPES

- Follow charge correlations (in real time, with k, ω resolution) as they develop
- Evolution of electronic structure in response to tailored excitations
- Probe $A(k,\omega)$ for states above EFERMI (nominally un-occupied)
- Separate correlated phenomena in the time domain

Hard X-ray Photoemission

- Bulk sensitive
- Map entire Brillioun zone
- Interface sensitivity
- Electron holography

Time-resolved Photoemission Electron Microscopy (XPEEM)

- Real-space imaging of electronic structure + time resolution + element specific
- Phase separation, magnetic domains, plasmonics

ERL Advantages:

- Short pulses (~100 fs)
- High rep-rate (space charge) > ~1 MHz (GHz?)
- Hard X-rays

ERL Challenges:

- Few femtosecond (sub-fs) pulses?

 - Soft X-rays (<1 keV)</p>

Resonant X-ray Scattering – Electronic Structure

Elastic:

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- Evolution of charge/orbital/spin ordering phenomena
- Long-range (Bragg)
- Short-range (X-ray photon correlation spectroscopy correlation time/length) (see: XDL 2011 Workshops 1, 5, 6)

Inelastic (X-ray Raman)

- Density-density correlation function $S(q, \omega)$
- Follow charge correlations (in real time, with k,ω resolution) as they develop

ERL Advantages Short pulses (~100 fs) High rep-rate Hard X-rays ERL Challenges Higher energy resolution (RIXS) (10 meV ⇔ 200 fs, transform limit) Rep rate: ~100 kHz to 1 MHz, (GHz?, average flux) Soft X-rays (<1 keV)

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