First OMEGA Laser Facility User's Group Workshop 29 April to 1 May 2009 Rochester, New York

**A High Resolution Transmission Crystal Spectrometer for Analyzing the Properties** of EP-Generated MeV **Electrons** 



## NIST

U. Feldman<sup>a</sup>, J.F. Seely<sup>b</sup>, L.T. Hudson<sup>c</sup> and C.I. Szabo<sup>a</sup>

a) Artep Inc., 2922 Excelsior Spring Circle, Ellicott City, MD 21042
b) Space Science Division, Naval Research laboratory Washington DC 20375-5352
c) National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899 USA

### Abstract

- A High Resolution Transmission Crystal Spectrometer has been designed to analyze the generation of electrons and other particles with MeV energies.
- While slowing down in target materials, the energetic electrons generate x-ray line emission by inner-shell ionization and a hard Bremsstrahlung continuum that can potentially be used for Compton scatter radiography of dense and compressed objects in energies of tens to hundreds of keV.
- The MeV electron circulation outside the small (≥10 µm) laser focal spot, with ranges up to 1 mm, can result in unacceptably large source size that can spoil the radiogram's spatial resolution.
- The spectrometer designed for the EP laser (ECS) will utilize a novel method to measure the hard x-ray source size, the source broadening of K-shell x-ray lines with energies up to 115 keV, and will characterize and understand the circulation of energetic electrons outside the focal spot.
- This will be accomplished by using targets configured with a small central heavy metal component for hard x-ray generation while efficiently utilizing the energetic electrons circulating from the surrounding lower atomic number material into the heavy metal component.
- The hard x-ray sensitivity of the spectrometer and the image plate and electronic detectors will be absolutely calibrated.

### **Transmission Crystal Spectrometers**

Hard x-ray spectrometers have been designed and built by the NRL-NIST group:

•HXS High-Energy X-Ray Spectrometer

Developed in 1999; fielded at the OMEGA laser in 2000 and 2001. One transmission crystal covers 12-60 keV with moderate resolution.

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•K-shell spectra (95-115 keV), heavy elements up to U fluoresced by a 2 MeV linear accelerator.

Motivation:

•High-energy plasma diagnostics: temperature, density, ionization balance, opacity.

•Hot electron energy distribution, hard x-ray brightness optimization.

•Conversion efficiency to hard x-rays: radiography of dense objects.

### **Spectrometer and Spectra**

Schematic of the Cauchois type transmission crystal spectrometer

Image spectra with DCS at LLNL Titan ps laser



insertion module appropriate; pinhole image

### The EP Crystal Spectrometer (ECS)



#### Plate Function of ECS at the three detector positions



### **ECS** mechanical design



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#### Measure x-ray source size

•Measure hard x-ray source size around OMEGA-EP focal point from broadening of K shell x-ray lines down to 50 µm

Three detector positions:
1) on the Rowland circle (RC),
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#### Imaging System Block Diagram



### The Targets OMEGA-EP experiments



### The Experiment at OMEGA-EP



Electrons propagating to large distances due to the presence of return current in conductor

The spread of the high energy electrons can be determined from the x-ray spectrum detected by ECS



Electrons are recirculated to the irradiated wire if embedded in insulator

### **Calibration Facility at NRL**



With a variety of x-ray sources and detectors, the end-to-end calibration of x-ray spectrometers and detectors can be performed at the NRL high energy x-ray calibration facility



Absolutely calibrated xray photo diode



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Radio active sources: Am-242, Cd-109, Co-57

# Selected Publications about high energy x-ray spectrometers for use with laser produced plasmas

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