

## LCLS UEC Meeting Minutes: 2022-06-24

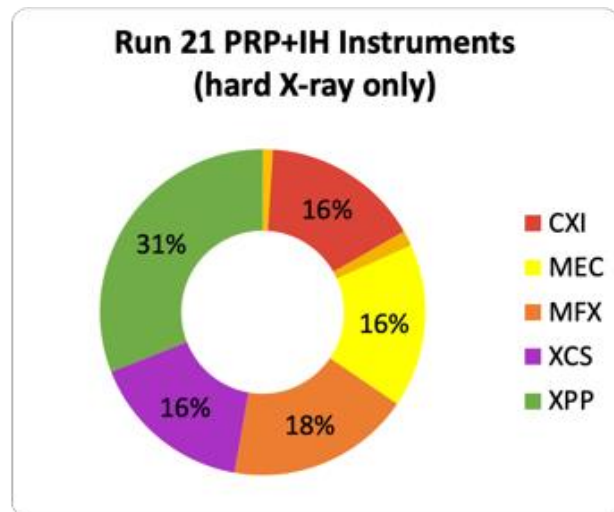
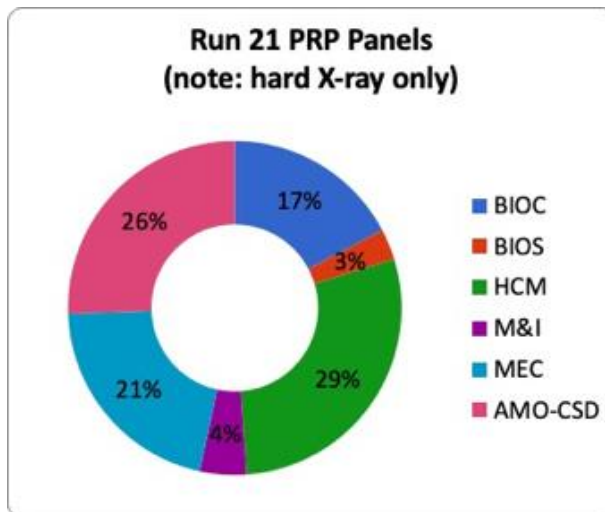
Present: E. Biasin, G. George, C. Knotts, D. Oberthuer, J. Kern, M. Dunne, N. Hartley, P. Jones, P. Sun, R. Sension, Y. Cao, G. Doumy, L. Conradson, A. Marinelli, E. McBride, M. Mitrano, M. Trigo, B. Ofori-Okai, J. Williams, D. Rolles

Absent: T. Gorkhover, M. Khalil, C. Rajendran

Guest: Sebastien Boutet

### Update from Mike:

- Stats from run 21. ~ 133 proposals submitted (distribution shown below). Schedule is not finalized but we are probably close to ~25% acceptance rate. Questionnaire will be sent out next week.
- UED closed for a while because of a safety configuration problem. Will likely restart in late July ~ 1-2 month delay to Run 4 (users are being contacted with details).
- LCLS-II is making outstanding progress. A key risk was possible contamination of the cavities during transit and installation, but the measured Q of the cavities is outstanding and as good as first measured (at JLAB and Fermilab). Next steps are the injector cavity and initial performance of the gun – will be tested after July 4th and accelerate up to 100 MeV initially.
- Suspended operations 6/24 due to potential fire hazard with the local power utility (PG&E).
- First high repetition rate light is now planned for Jan 2023 (range Nov – Feb). Working out the run 21 schedule (probably from October to May). May need to push the early science to the end (e.g. qRIXS) and field the remaining time with experiments that were proposed for Run 20 and postponed.



### Follow-up after discussion with PRP members:

- From the User Survey results, around 25% of respondents didn't find the comments from the PRP useful for a resubmission. Even though we should try to improve this, the stats are much better than 5 years ago, when ~ 55% of users didn't find it useful.
- Good points from last discussion were to broaden the demographics of the PRP and add the possibility of additional external reviewers where a specialist review is needed.

- How do we come up with names for PRP membership?
  - a. The UEC could propose/solicit names
- Perhaps a more prescriptive guide for the PRP feedback could help. But there is heterogeneity in the needs, with prior discussions with the PRP emphasizing the need to spend time on proposals that are close to the cut off; provide feedback that balances the views of the whole panel; and does not impose an inappropriate burden on an already overworked PRP.
- UEC members noted that LCLS is doing much better than other facilities, where feedback is sometimes just a couple of lines or a simple numerical score.
- Expanding the demographics is important and can lead to not miss important science cases (eg. synchrotron reviewers missing the importance a novel non-equilibrium experiment)
- The presence of beamline scientists as PRP panel secretaries are a good resource to provide feedback for feasibility. They can provide feedback for reasons for rejection as well. Suggestion to “talk to beamline scientist for feedback” could be added.
- Talking to the beamline scientists before submitting a proposal should be a requirement (such as at XFEL). This can help address a common problem that a proposal has posed scientifically a good question but not crafted properly for LCLS.

#### **Data analysis workshop at the User Meeting:**

- Peihao is organizing a data analysis workshop for the Users meeting 2022. Main goal is to lower the barrier for new users. Practical sessions.
- Would be nice to have small demo of AMI particularly with new users. Could get feedback on how to improve the software.
- An important aspect of treating LCLS data is the timing and the shot-to-shot analysis (filtering, etc.)
- Decisions must be made quickly; users cannot handle the data volume. Part of this task must be taken by LCLS.
- Chris O’Grady has been organizing PSANA sessions in prior meetings. This was not sufficient since some users still don’t know what psana is.
- Session at the workshop will be recorded and made available online.
- The key is to have on-the-job-training (OJT) with the experiment Point of Contact (POC) before the beamtime. This is critical to successful experiments

#### **Update on Congress’ budget:**

- 6.5 % increase for 2023, instead of -4 % from the prior budget request. Optimistic.
- For 2024 there are discussions of a new baselining for facility operations, to establish a reasonable operation budget for ~FY24-28. There is good alignment from Congress, this has a chance of passing.
- G. George experienced good response from users to push Congress to act on the budget. Still working on getting the white paper finished with the other light sources.

#### **Other updates:**

- UEC members interested in having an update about the MEC Upgrade may have the possibility to join the next meeting of the MEC-U Users Advisory Panel (UAP).
- Remember to send in nominations for LCLS Young Investigator Awards, LCLS Staff User Recognition Award, and UEC members. Deadline: July 24<sup>th</sup>.