

X-ray pump-probe experiments with nuclei

Adriana Pálffy

Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics, Heidelberg, Germany

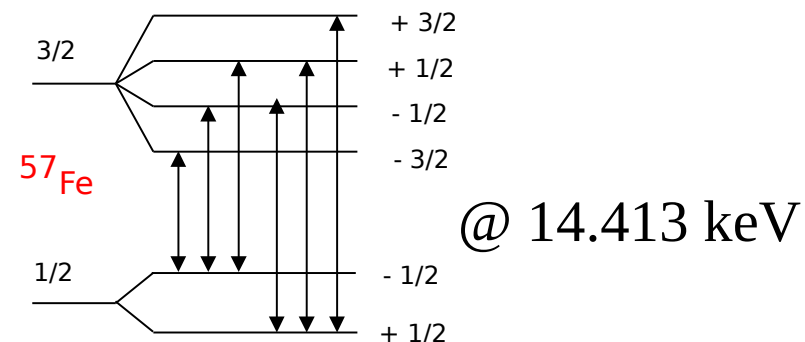
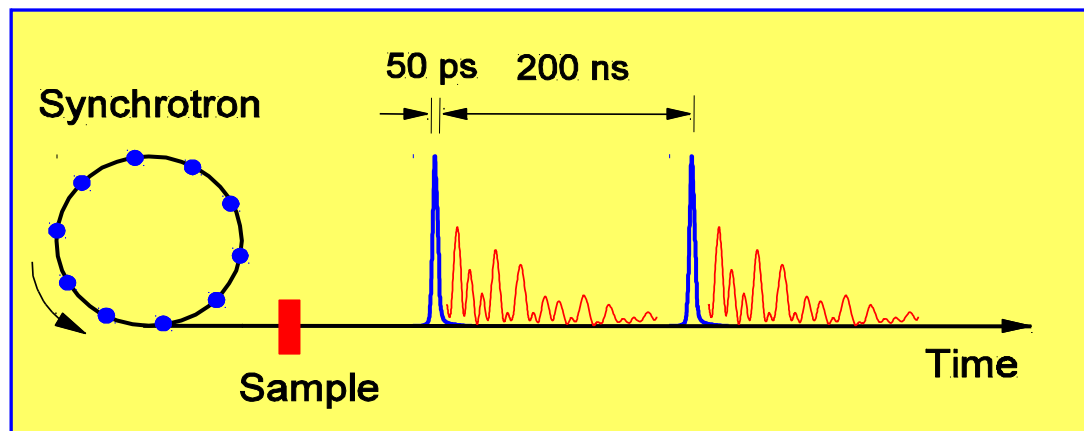


XFEL Science Workshop, 30 June 2016



Previous experiences ...

- scaling in brilliance from synchrotrons + nuclei



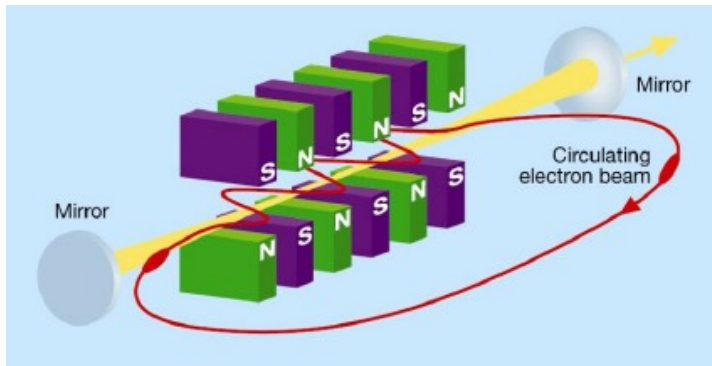
Nuclear Forward Scattering (NFS) of Synchrotron Radiation

*nuclear condensed matter physics based on the Mössbauer effect, control of nuclear decay for ensembles of nuclei**, storing single x-ray photons

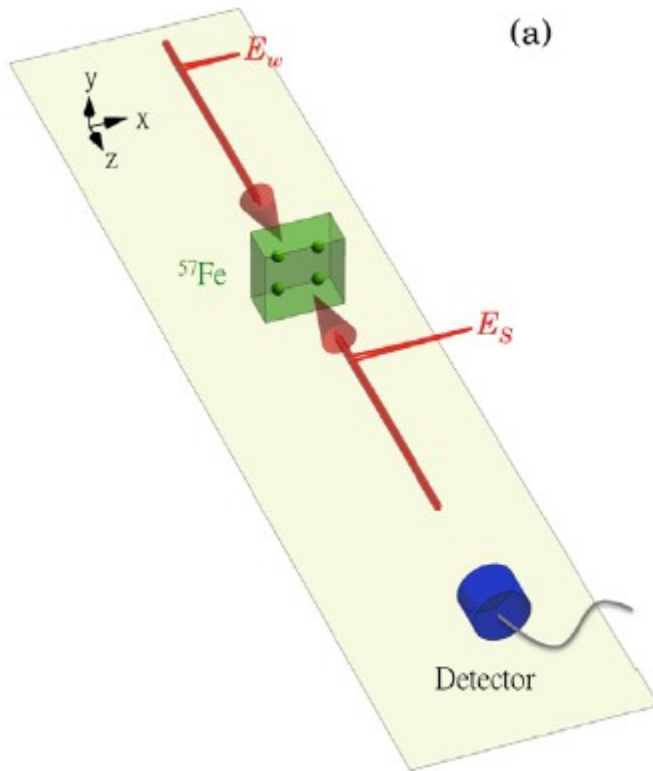
* relies on weak excitation, a single nucleus only!

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE XFEL COMES INTO PLAY?
...today in the Mössbauer session.

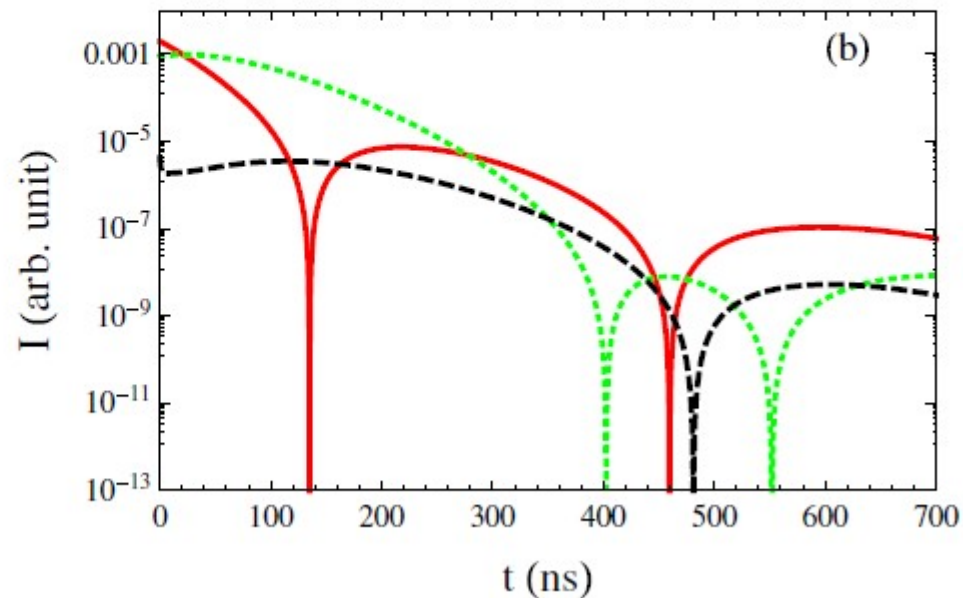
Pump-probe experiments



use XFEL photoexcitation as pump
“strong pulse”

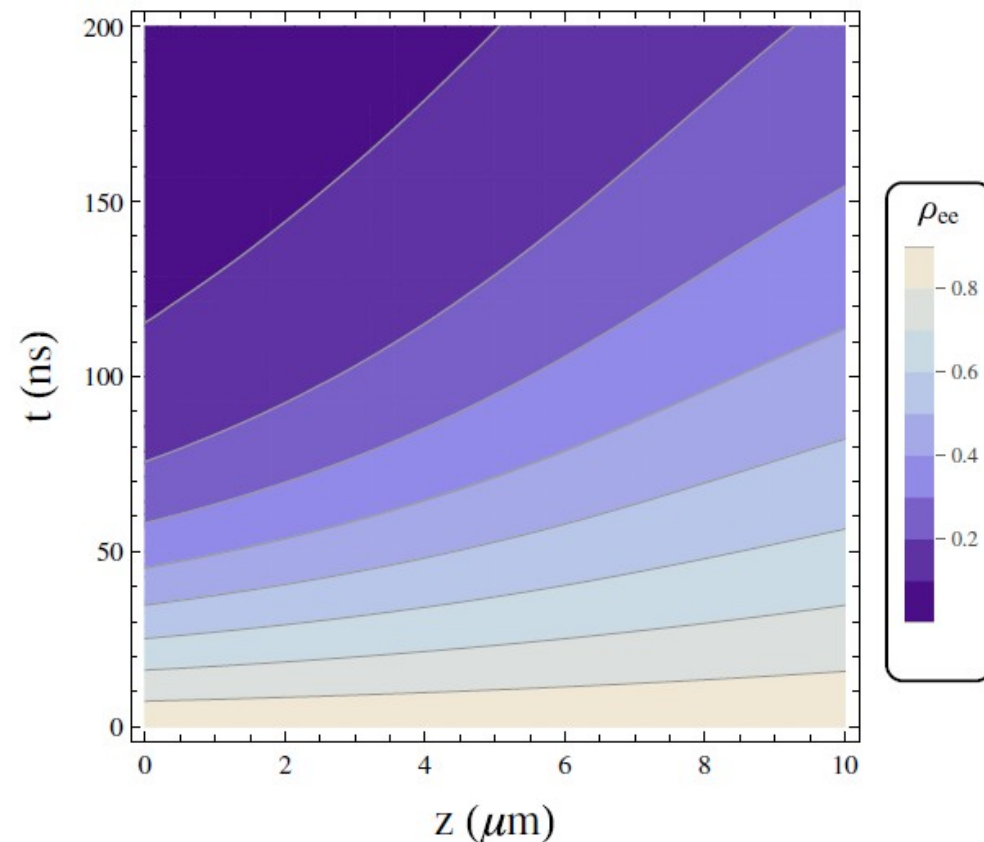
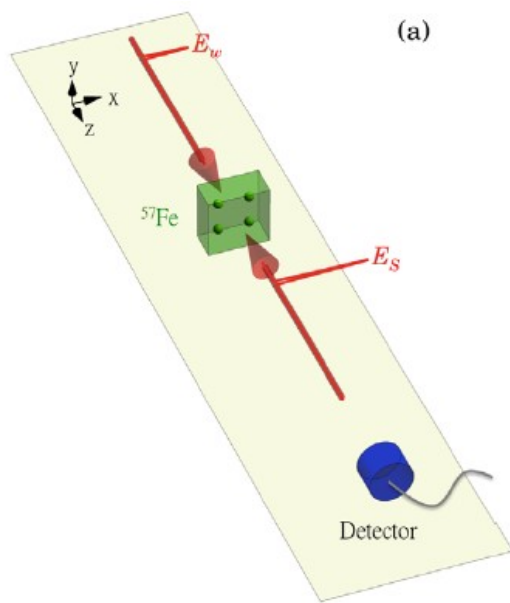


single transition (no hyperfine splitting)



no S
S 10 ns
S 50 ns

Pump-probe experiments

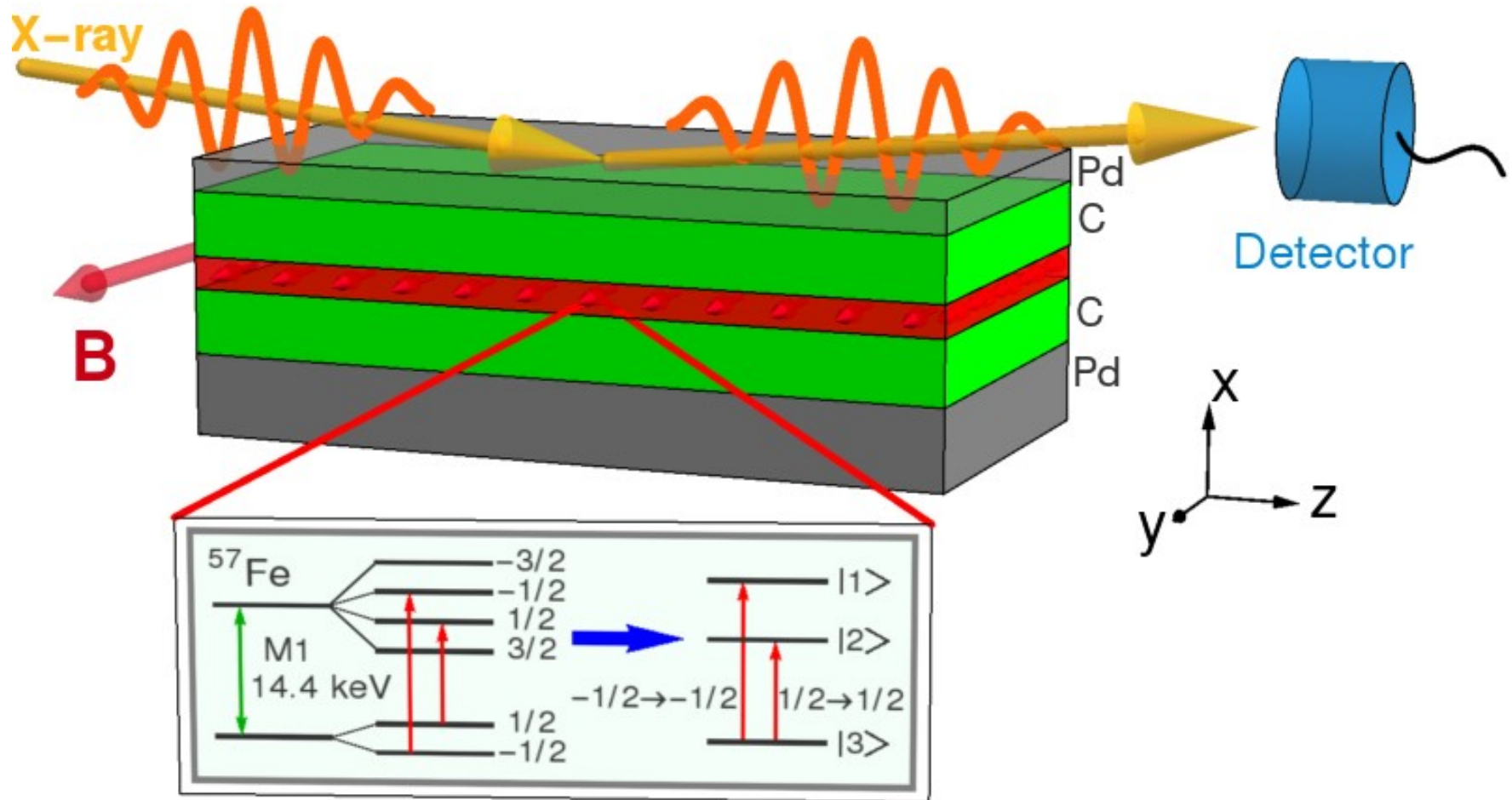


$$\vec{E}(z, t) = E_w(z, t)e^{-i(\omega t - k_0 z)}\vec{e}_x + E_s(z, t)e^{-i[\omega t - k_0(L-z)]}\vec{e}_x$$

$$\rho_{eg}(z, t) = \rho_{egw}(z, t)e^{-i(\omega t - k_0 z)} + \rho_{egs}(z, t)e^{-i[\omega t - k_0(L-z)]}$$

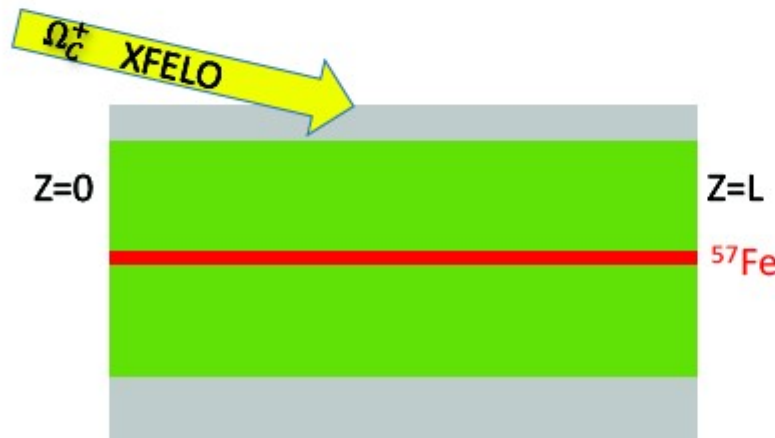
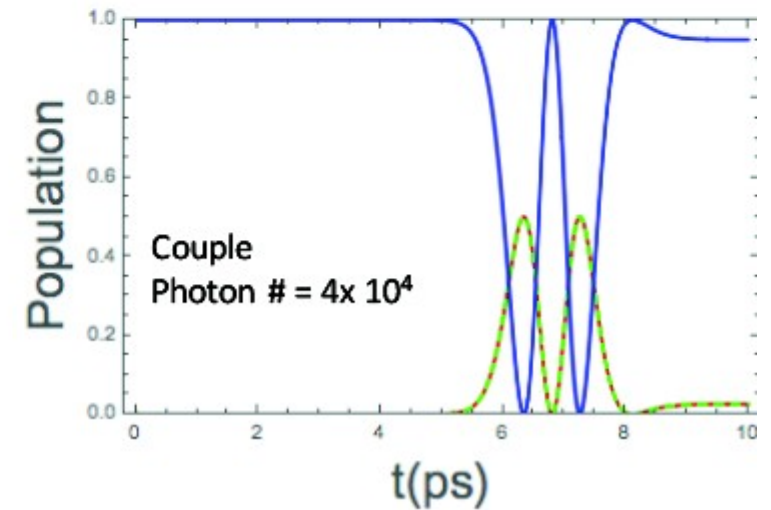
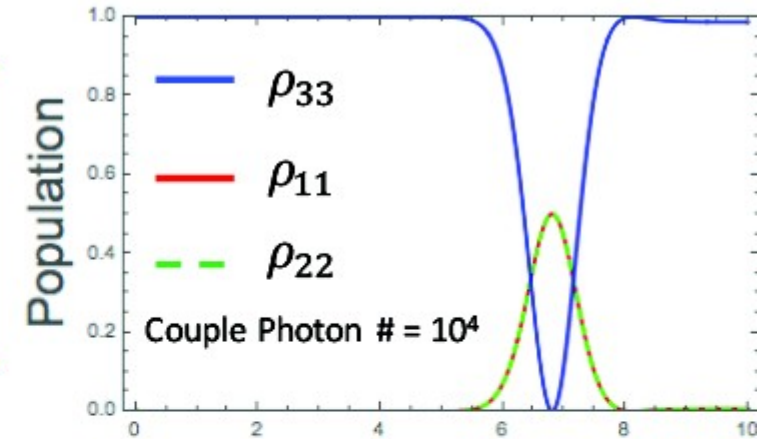
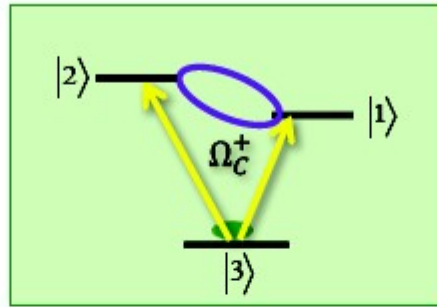
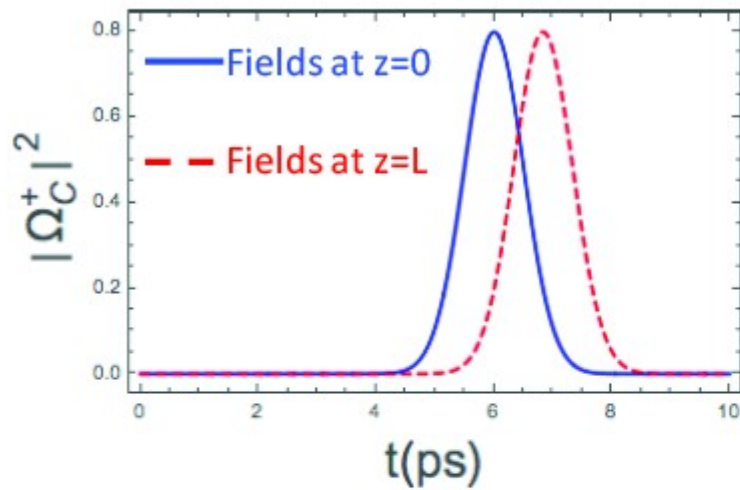
$$\partial_t \rho_{egw} = - \left(i\Delta + \frac{\Gamma}{2} \right) \rho_{egw} - \frac{i}{2} \Omega_w (\rho_{ee} - \rho_{gg})$$

Using thin-film cavities



Strong driving of few nuclei (Wen-Te Liao)

Nuclear Rabi Oscillation



$$g\sqrt{N} = \sqrt{6.3 \times 10^6}$$

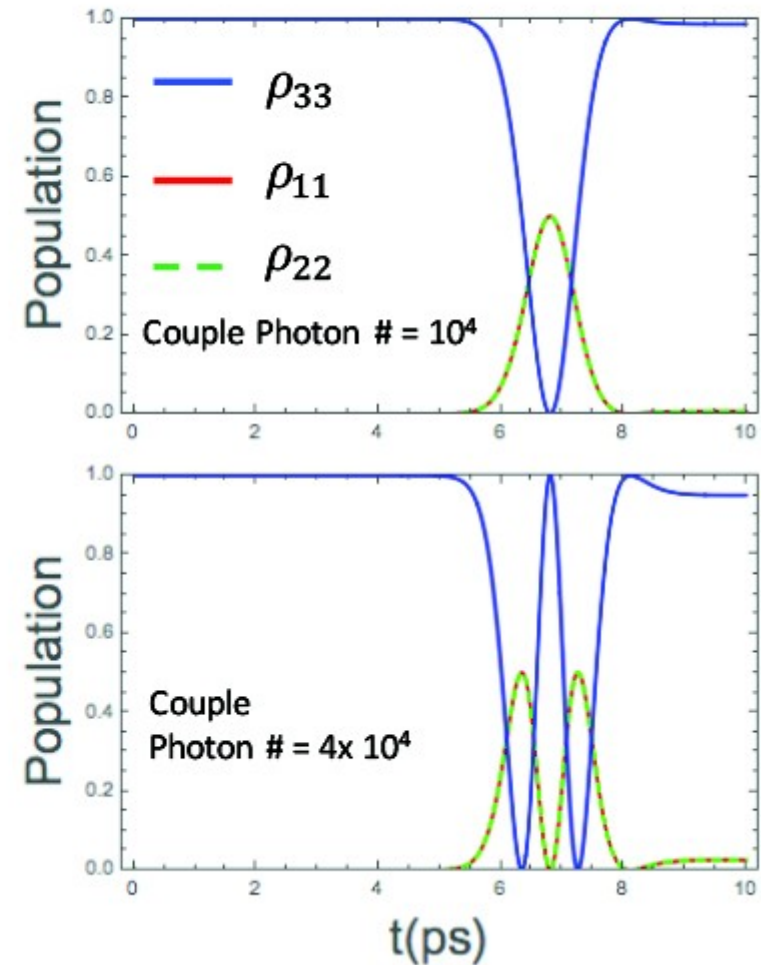
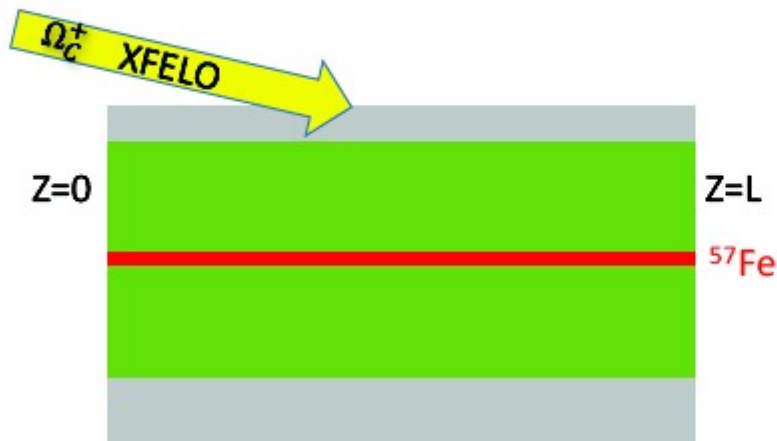
$$\gamma' = 19.4 \gamma$$

$$\gamma = 7.1 \text{ MHz}$$

Strong driving of few nuclei (Wen-Te Liao)

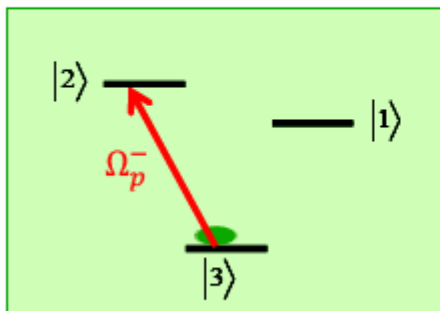
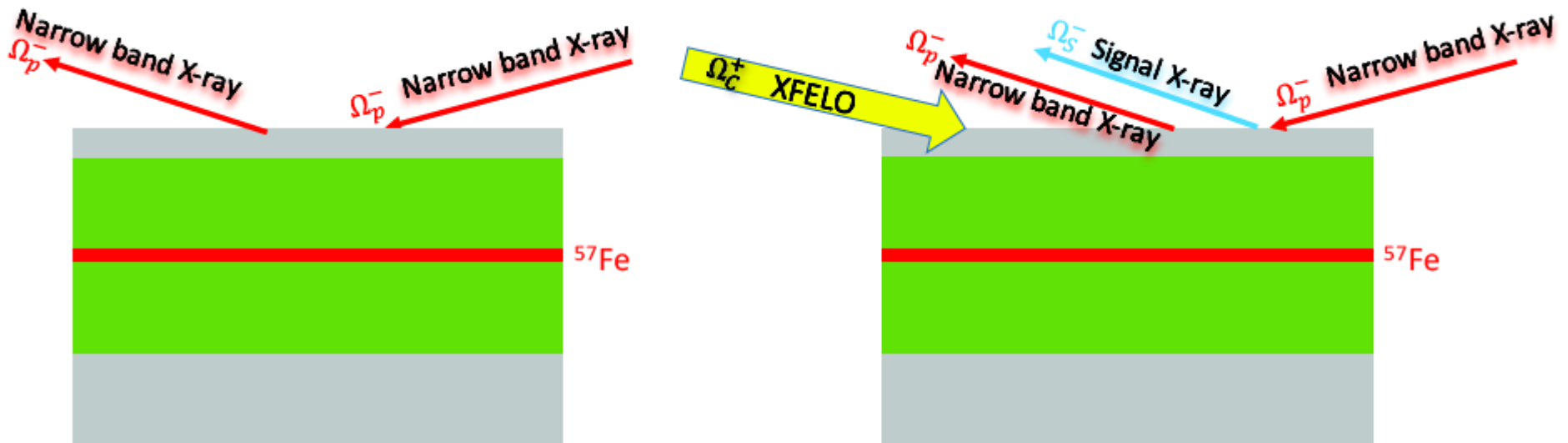
Nuclear Rabi Oscillation

How to probe collective nuclear dynamics?
Pump & probe?

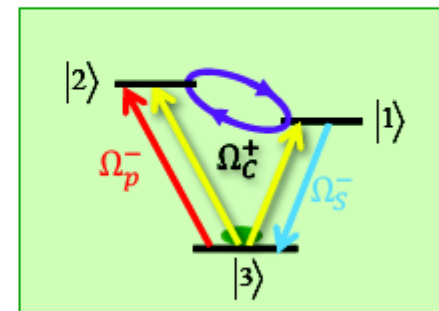


Counter-propagating pulses in cavities (Wen-Te Liao)

Nuclear Four-Wave Mixing using XFEL



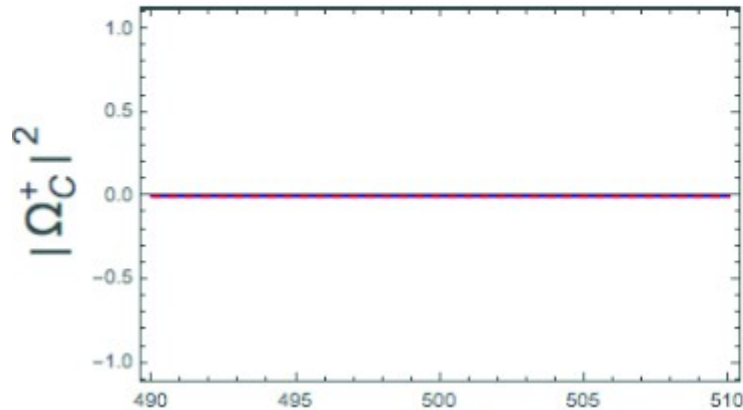
Case 1 without XFEL



Case 2 with counter-propagating XFEL

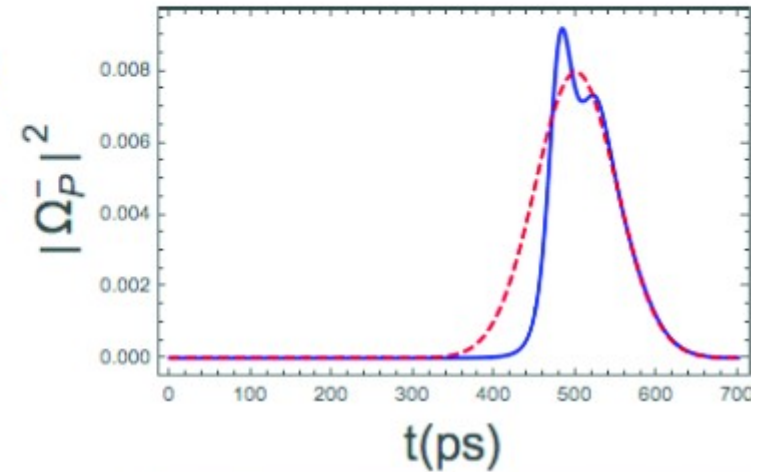
Counter-propagating pulses in cavities (Wen-Te Liao)

Nuclear Four-Wave Mixing using XFELO



— Fields at $z=0$

- - - Fields at $z=L$



t (ps)

Narrow band X-ray
 Ω_p^-

Narrow band X-ray
 Ω_p^-

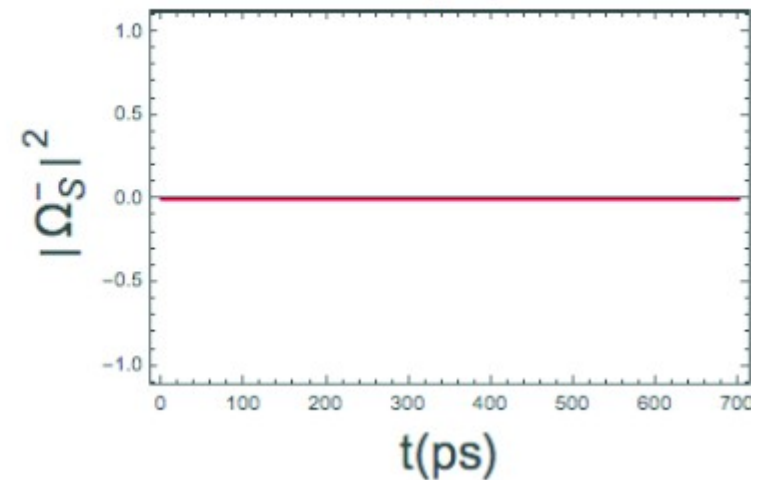
Photon # of couple = 0

Photon # of probe = 2.5

$$g\sqrt{N} = \sqrt{6.3 \times 10^9}$$

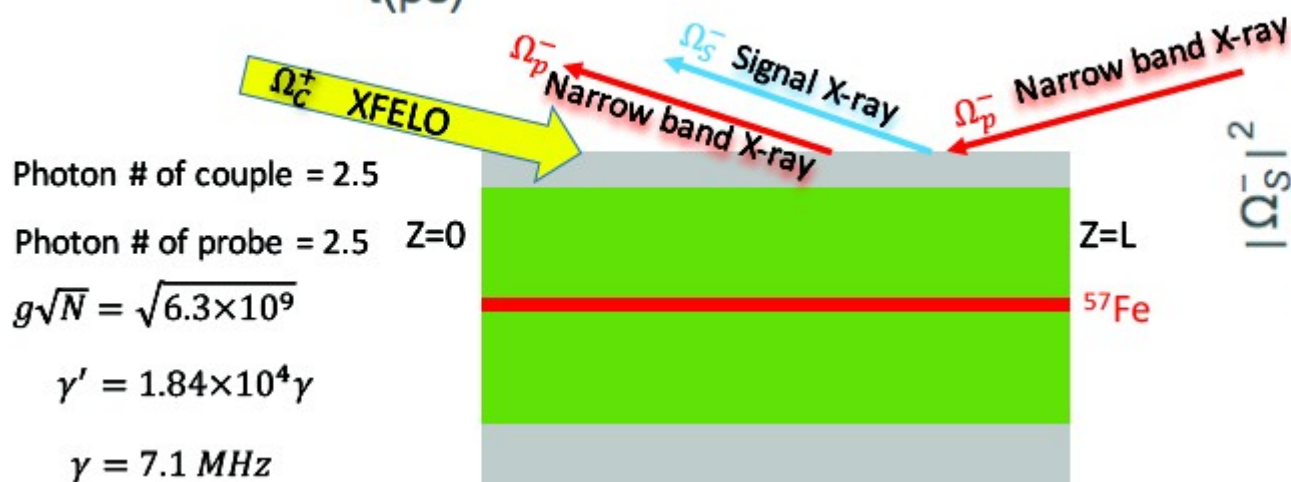
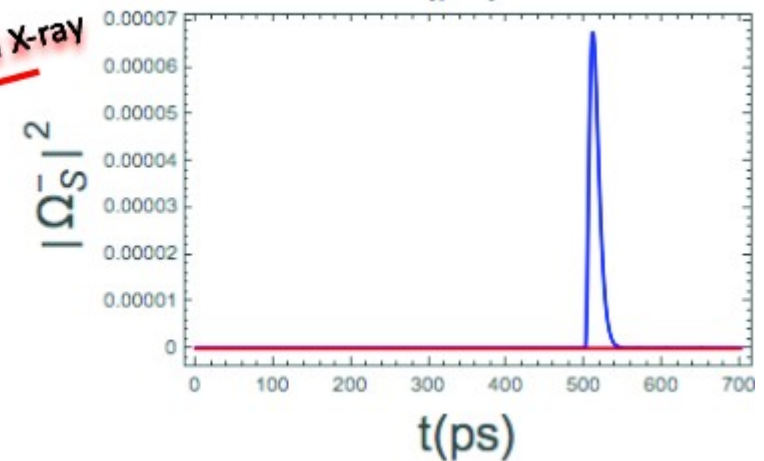
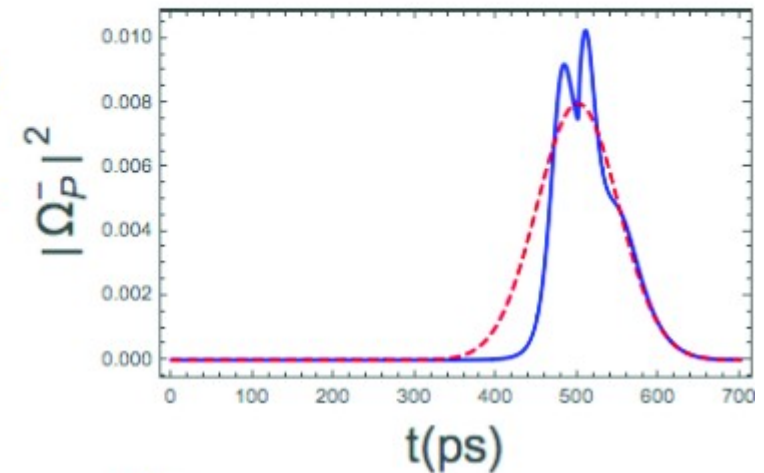
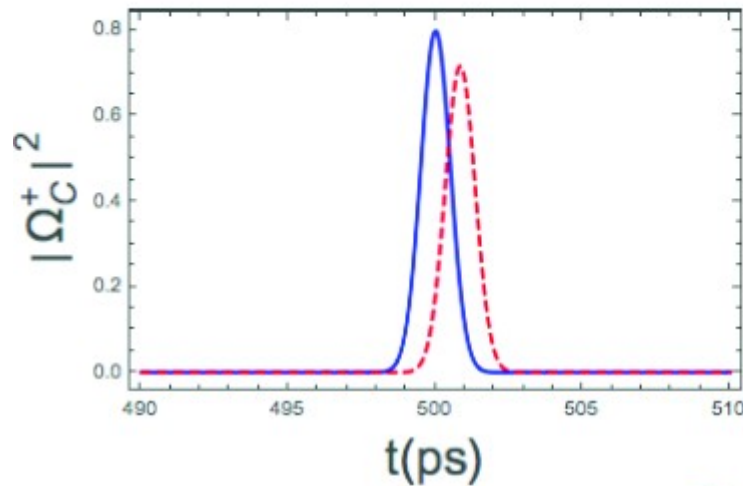
$$\gamma' = 1.84 \times 10^4 \gamma$$

$$\gamma = 7.1 \text{ MHz}$$



Counter-propagating pulses in cavities (Wen-Te Liao)

Nuclear Four-Wave Mixing using XFELO



Summary & Requirements

Driving nuclear transitions...

can be done much more efficiently with XFEL

Possible applications borrowed from atomic systems...

pump-probe experiments, Rabi oscillations, 4-wave mixing

Closer to nuclear physics...

exploit efficiency of XFEL to probe for the first time nuclear reactions starting from excited nuclear states

Needed:

most importantly, **tunability** for addressing nuclear resonances!

Intensity, repetition rate, BW depending on the envisaged application

Average vs. peak brilliance an issue depending on whether excitation after one pulse or excitation after 1 s is of interest.

Thank you for your attention!

