





# The VUVS-FEL is a unique light source

Pulse length 30-100 fs
Wavelength shorter than 100 nm
Gigawatt peak power
Fully coherent beam
Powerdensity > 10<sup>14</sup>Watt/cm<sup>2</sup>

Multi-photon processes Optical non-linear processes Pump probe experiments

> 1000 times higher peak brilliance than any other source at this wavelength

## **Interaction of Intense Soft X-rays with Matter**

laser-atom process at I ~  $10^{14}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>, ponderomotive energy 10-100 eV



#### P. Bucksbaum et al

- Field modulates the atomic potential at visible laser frequency
- Outer e<sup>-</sup> has time to tunnel or overcome the barrier: 2U<sub>p</sub> > I<sub>p</sub> where U<sub>p</sub> ~ Iw-<sup>2</sup>

**VUV FEL laser-atom process at I ~ 10<sup>14</sup> W/cm<sup>2</sup>**, ponderomotive energy 10-100 meV





- Field modulates the atomic potential at soft x-ray laser frequency
- e<sup>-</sup> do not have time to tunnel free
- multi photon process and innershell electrons are important

#### **Investigation of the damage threshold of optical components at the VUV TESLA FEL Phase I**

J.Krzywinski <sup>1,2</sup>, A.Andrejczuk <sup>1,3</sup>, U.Hahn <sup>2</sup>, M.Jurek <sup>1,2</sup>,J.Pelka <sup>1,2</sup>, W.Sobala <sup>4</sup>, M.Sikora<sup>5</sup>, <u>R.Sobierajski</u> <sup>2,6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Polish Academy of Sciences, <sup>2</sup>HASYLAB at DESY, Germany, <sup>3</sup>University of Bialystok, Poland,<sup>4</sup>Institute of Nuclear Physics, Cracow,Poland <sup>5</sup>University of Mining and Metallurgy, Cracow, Poland <sup>6</sup>Warsaw University of Technology, Poland







## Idea of the experiment interaction of intense soft x-rays with matter



- which multi-photon processes are observed
- cross sections (surface, bulk)
- which ions are prepared (charge state, electronically excited states)
- life time of intermediate states
- high-order harmonic generation

### **FEL Cluster-Experiment**











## Three Questions

- Which process allows the absorption of up to 20 photons/per atom?
- What is the ionisation mechanism?
- How can we explain the high charge states?



#### Coulomb explosion of clusters induced by multiphoton absorption





## Time-of-flight photoelectron spectra

multi-photon and field ionization in clusters  $E_{kin}$ = 0-50 eV

single-photon ionization in atoms ( $E_{kin} \sim 0.8 \text{ eV}$ )

## Present understanding

• Nanoplasma formation: inner ionisation of all atoms



- production of high charge states by field ionisation at the cluster surface
  - multi-photon absorption of up to 20 photons per atom in the cluster
- outer ionisation by combined multi-photon absorption and field ionisation

Coulomb explosion, hot ions cold electrons





Hubertus Wabnitz Joachim Schulz Peter Gürtler Wiebke Laasch Cluster experiment Tim Laarmann Anja Swiderski Klaus von Haeften

L. Bittner, R. de Castro, R. Döhrmann, B. Faatz,

J. Feldhaus, Ch. Gerth, U. Hahn, E. Saldin,

E. Schneidmiller, K. Tiedtke, R. Treusch, M. Yurkov

```
and the TTF-team
```

## Summary and Outlook

- VUV-FEL provides light for first experiment high power and short pulses (<100 fs)
- new physics
- experiments in Phase II 2004 Workshop in November 2001 on first experiments innershell electrons time resolved studies Workshop warm dense matter June 8,9, 2002



