Pulse Resolved Beam Characterization and Feedback for FLASH-RT Using Radioluminescent Dosimeters

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Electron Energy Gun Switch Vacuum System Vacuum System Air Valves Accelerating Waveguide

Rahman M*, Ashraf MR*, Zhang R, Bruza P, Dexter CA, Thompson L, Cao X, Williams BB, Hoopes PJ, Pogue BW, Gladstone DJ. Electron FLASH Delivery at Treatment Room Isocenter for Efficient Reversible Conversion of a Clinical LINAC. Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys. 2021 Jan 11:S0360-3016(21)00024-9. doi: 10.1016/j.ijrobp.2021.01.011. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 33444695. (* Equal Contribution)

FLASH Beamline @ Dartmouth

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At iso-center (100 cm SSD)

Beam characteristics relevant to FLASH (Total Pulses: 35)

	Total Dose (Gy)	Mean DoseRate (Gy/s)	Dose Per Pulse (Gy)
Jaws Open	28.2 ± 0.5	290 ± 5	0.87±0.01
1.5 cm Circular	25.5±0.5	262 ±5	0.72±0.01
1 cm Circular	23.2 ± 0.5	238 ± 5	0.66±0.01

1) 10 MV at treatment console

- 2) Target Retracted (~ 10 MeV FLASH Beam)
- 3) Feedback Mechanisms turned off!



Dose Monitoring for FLASH-RT is Non-Trivial



Radioluminescent Detection Techniques for FLASH-RT



Ashraf, M. R.*, Rahman, M*., Zhang, R., Williams, B. B., Gladstone, D. J., Pogue, B. W., & Bruza, P. (2020). Dosimetry for FLASH Radiotherapy: A Review of Tools and the Role of Radioluminescence and Cherenkov Emission. Front. Phys. doi:10.3389/fphy.2020.00328. (* Equal Contribution)

Two Distinct Approaches Presented here:

- 1) Camera Based Single Pulse Central Axis Beam Profiling
- 2) Fiber Optic Based Detectors and Fast Electronics for Pulse Resolved Dosimetry and Feedback



Camera Based Approach: Imaging in a Water Tank DARTMOUTH



$$f(r) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{r}^{R} \frac{dP(y)}{dy} \frac{1}{\sqrt{y^{2} - r^{2}}} dy \quad (2)$$

Ashraf, M.R., Rahman, M., Zhang, R., Cao, X., Williams, B.B., Hoopes, P.J., Gladstone, D.J., Pogue, B.W. and Bruza, P. (2021), **Technical Note: Single-pulse beam characterization for FLASH-RT using optical imaging in a water tank**. Med. Phys., 48: 2673-2681. <u>https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.14843</u>

Radially Symmetric Beam allows recovery of <u>central axis data</u> from single projection image using Abel Inversion



Central Axis Comparison vs GafChromic Film-XD



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- Discrete data points using Film!
- However, optical imaging provides complete picture!



Single Pulse Central Axis Characterization for FLASH





Beam energy was stable from one pulse to the next. However, a ramp-up in intensity was observed for the first few pulses!

Pulse Counting and Cherenkov Based PMT Detector For Temporal Analysis



Ashraf, M.R., Bruza, P., Krishnaswamy, V., Gladstone, D.J. and Pogue, B.W. (2019), Technical Note: Time-gating to medical linear accelerator pulses: Stray radiation detector. Med. Phys., 46: 1044-1048. https://doi.org/10.1002/mp.13311



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PMT Output:



Although data is collected at 2 ns resolution, it is processed after dose delivery.. we need dose accumulation in real-time.



Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) Based Hardware: Use Dose as a Feedback

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- 1) Dose per pulse information
- 2) Number of pulses
- 3) Pulse Repetition Rate
- 4) Pulse Width

Exradin W1 Characterization and In-Vivo Dosimetry

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- Single Pulse Central Axis Beam Profiling Using a time-gated Camera.
- Temporal Analysis of the beam using a PMT-Based Cherenkov detector revealed a ramp-up period.
- Ramp-up necessitates that feedback be in terms of dose accumulation for each pulse. A FPGA based monitoring system was developed.
 - The monitoring system can be coupled to other potentially attractive dosimeters for FLASH (i.e., microdiamond detector)
 - The code for the FPGA can be requested and easily implemented at other institutions performing FLASH experiments.
- Arduino controller has been replaced with new hardware (for pulse counting feedback) and dose-based feedback is currently being worked on.

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Thank you!

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