Ultrafast Electron Diffraction (UED) @Cornell





Outline:

- UED: conceptual introduction
- Experimental setup
 - Beamline
 - Direct electron detector
- First science results
 - 2D Moire material
 - Scanning UED technique
 - Thermal diffusion data
- Summary and Outlook

Forty years of UED



Mourou & Williamson, "Picosecond electron diffraction", *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **41**(1) 1982

Single shot, 100 ps resolution

Siwick et al., "An atomic view of melting...", *Science* **302**(5649) 2003

Single shot, 600 fs resolution

Zong et al., "Role of equilibrium fluctuations...", *P.R.L.* **127** 2021

Stroboscopic, 300 fs resolution

One trend is toward higher sensitivity in stroboscopic measurements, to study diffuse scattering and *superlattice* structure



Outline:

- UED: conceptual introduction
- Experimental setup
 - Beamline
 - Direct electron detector
- First science results
 - 2D Moire material
 - Scanning UED technique
 - Thermal diffusion data
 - Summary and Outlook

High brightness, semiconductor electron source (Na-K-Sb)

650 nm photo-emission wavelengths matches the source bandgap

50 W @ 250 kHz, 1030 nm Yb fiber laser (AS Tangerine) feeds optical parametric amplifier (AS Mango)

Source is extremely vacuum sensitive (XHV)



W. H. Li, et al., (2022) Structural Dynamics, 9(2)

200 kV DC gun typically operated at 140 kV (for vacuum safety)



Radio-frequency bunching cavity

Long pulse length at cathode: 10 ps

Bunching after acceleration mitigates space-charge

100 fs rms bunch-length at sample



Sample chamber

Pressure 10⁴ × higher than gun (UHV)

515 nm pump pulses, second-harmonic of Tangerine



Direct electron detector



What are the characteristics of the ideal UED detector?

- Single-particle sensitivity
- High dynamic range (linear response at all beam currents)
- One exposure per pulse at high rep-rate



Direct electron detector

Electron Microscope Pixel Array Detector (EMPAD)



0

-10

-20

- 10⁶ dynamic range
- 1 kHz frame-rate



Thank you to David Muller, Sol Gruner, Julia Thom-Levy and Mark Tate for helping to deploy the EMPAD for UED

Eliminating "flicker-noise" with lock-in detection



Eliminating "flicker-noise" with lock-in detection



"Lock-in": cycling between pumped and unpumped exposures

Eliminating "flicker-noise" with lock-in detection



"Lock-in": cycling between pumped and unpumped exposures

Eliminating "flicker-noise" with lock-in detection



"Lock-in": cycling between pumped and unpumped exposures



Variable camera length electron optics

We "zoom in" on diffraction features using quadrupole lenses



Normalized intensity

Variable camera length electron optics

Spot size on sample < 3 μ m Full width at half maximum < 100 µrad Transverse emittance ~ 100 pm Sample prepared at Berkeley by Ramesh group 10^{0} Lead titanate / strontium titanate 10^{0} Long Satellite heterostructure camera peaks length intensity caused by ferroelectric 10-1 vortices $10^{-4} \times$ Normalized 10-1 total beam 10-2 -Short camera length 10-2 10^{-10}

-200

200

Scatteringle angle (µrad)

400

-400

Thanks to Muller group for loaning sample



Outline:

- UED: conceptual introduction
- Experimental setup
 - Beamline
 - Direct electron detector
- First science results
 - 2D Moire material
 - Scanning UED technique
 - Thermal diffusion data
 - Summary and Outlook

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

MoSe, monolayer



simulation

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

WSe₂ rotated 2° / MoSe₂ monolayer



Real space simulation

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

WSe₂ rotated 2° / MoSe₂ monolayer



Real space simulation



Reciprocal space experiment

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

WSe₂ rotated 2° / MoSe₂ monolayer Moire "atoms", 10 nm spacing

Real space simulation



Reciprocal space experiment

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

WSe, rotated 2° / MoSe, monolayer

Moire "atoms", 10 nm spacing





Reciprocal space experiment

Real space simulation

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

WSe₂ rotated 2° / MoSe₂ monolayer





Reciprocal space experiment

Real space simulation

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions

Samples prepared at Stanford by Fang Liu and Helen Zeng

WSe₂ rotated 2° / MoSe₂ monolayer



2° angle

Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions



Probing long-wavelength periodic lattice distortions































Outline:

- UED: conceptual introduction
- Experimental setup
 - Beamline
 - Direct electron detector
- First science results
 - 2D Moire material
 - Scanning UED technique
 - Thermal diffusion data
 - Summary and Outlook

Scanning Multi-time-scale Electron Diffraction on WSe₂/MoSe₂ bilayer



Scanning Multi-time-scale Electron Diffraction on WSe, MoSe, bilayer



Scanning Multi-time-scale Electron Diffraction on WSe, MoSe, bilayer



Scanning Multi-time-scale Electron Diffraction on WSe,/MoSe, bilayer



Scanning Multi-time-scale Electron Diffraction on WSe, MoSe, bilayer



Scanning Multi-time-scale Electron Diffraction on WSe,/MoSe, bilayer





Outline:

- Overview of the apparatus
 - Beamline
 - Direct electron detector
- First science results
 - 2D Moire material
 - Scanning UED technique
 - Thermal diffusion data
 - Summary and Outlook





Summary

Ultrafast Electron Diffraction @Cornell

- Design incorporates a high brightness, pulsed electron source
- Direct electron detection enables:
 - fine momentum resolution
 - high sensitivity to diffuse and superlattice signals
- 1 kHz framerate enables:
 - Lock in detection
 - Pulse picking for delay scans
- Science results on Moire material
 - Superlattice structure
 - Thermal transport





Outlook

Ultrafast Electron Diffraction @Cornell

- Currently collecting time-resolved Moire data
- Follow-up measurements to study dependence of sample response on twist angle
- New pump wavelengths
 UV
 - Terahertz
- Other samples with nm scale superlattice structure
 - Polar skyrmions
 - Your favourite sample!

