



SOLEIL Timing and synchronization System

2025-12-17



SOLEIL

2025-11-07

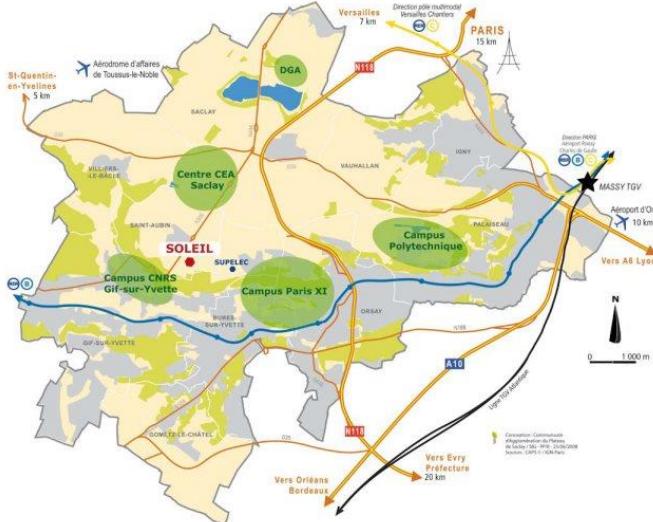


SOLEIL is a research center that produces and uses synchrotron light.

This ultra-bright radiation is 10,000 times brighter than that of the sun.

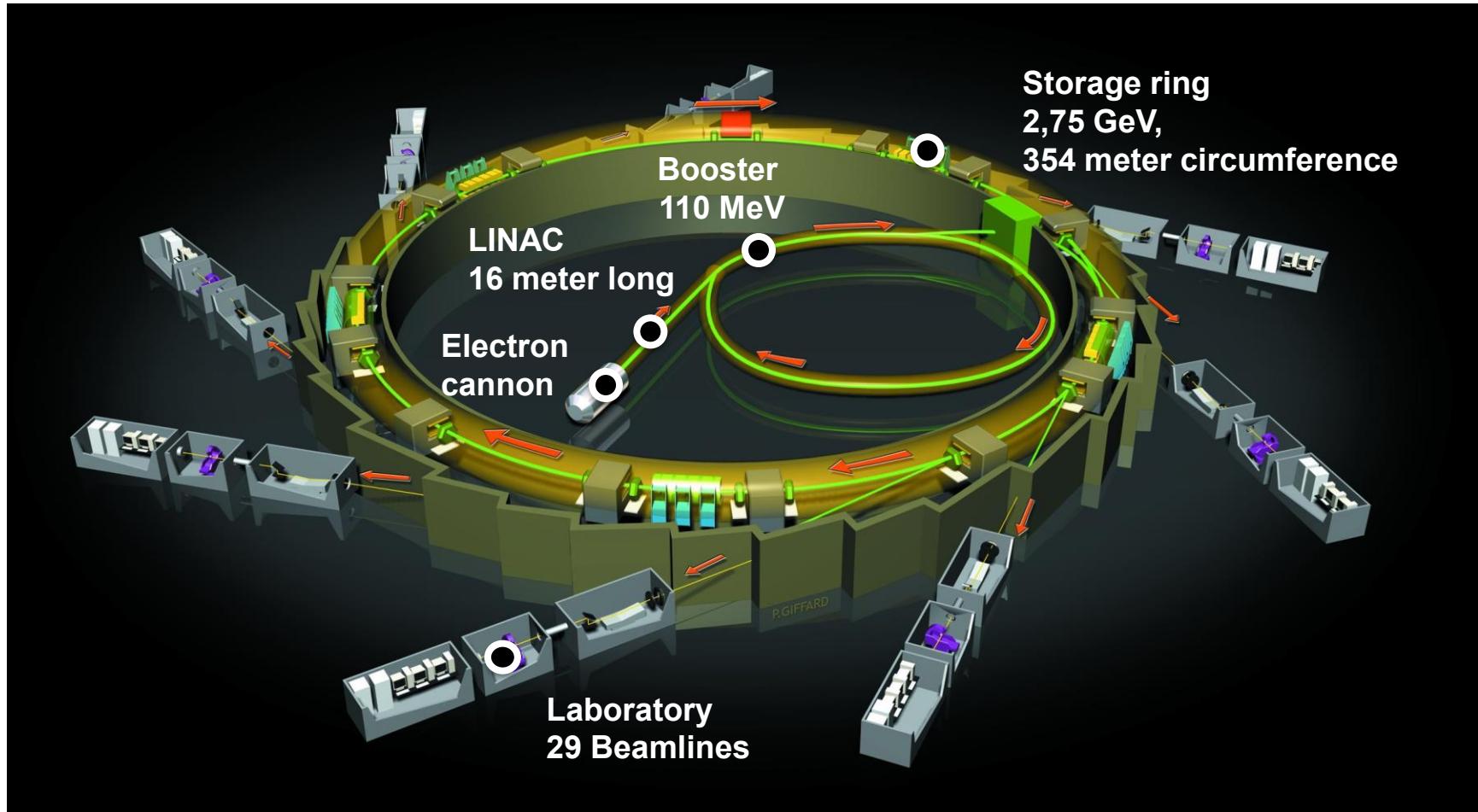
It is used to study samples and materials in order to find out more about their structure and properties. The extreme brightness of SOLEIL will make it possible to make observations on a submicronic scale on materials.

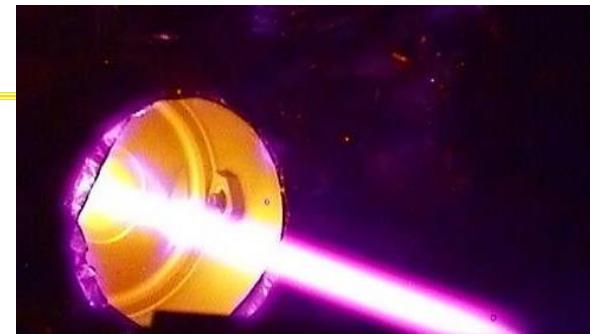
SOLEIL is among 40 major scientific establishments in France.



The staff is about 370 persons + 2500 researchers / year





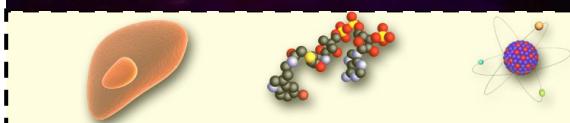


OBJETS DE MÊME
TAILLE QUE LA
LONGUEUR D'ONDE

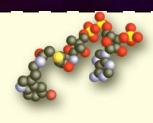
Maison



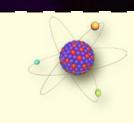
Balle de
tennis



Cellule



Protéine



Atome



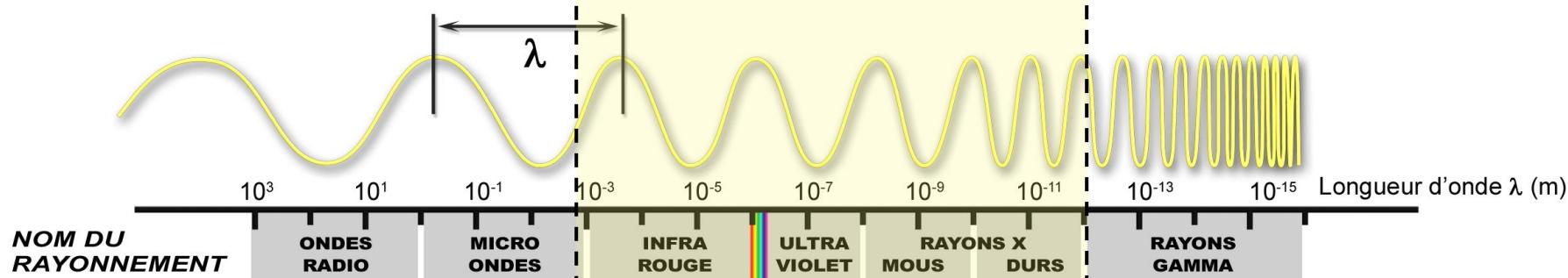
Noyau



Proton



Quark



NOM DU
RAYONNEMENT

ONDES
RADIO

MICRO
ONDES

INFRA
ROUGE

ULTRA
VIOLET

RAYONS X
MOUS

RAYONS X
DURS

RAYONS
GAMMA

DECOUVERT
PAR...
EN...



Hertz
1885



Ponte
1940



Herschel
1800



Newton
1666



Ritter
1801



Röntgen
1895



Villard et Rutherford
1900

- **Agribusiness**

- **Biology**

Origin of life - The natural asymmetry of biomolecule

- **Cosmetics**

- **Chemistry**

- **Electronic**

A major advance in microelectronics: The production of graphene semiconductor nano-ribbon

- **Buildings - Public works**

- **Transport**

- **Materials**

SOLEIL sheds light on the secret of the Stradivarius varnish

- **Medicine**

Liver transplants - SOLEIL synchrotron offers a safer method of deciding in a few minutes if a donor liver can be transplanted

Huntington's disease - The structure of inclusions in patients' brains revealed by IR microspectroscopy

Diagram of the hepatitis c virus

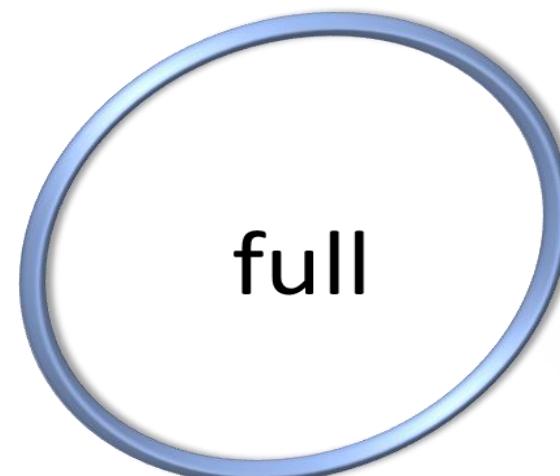
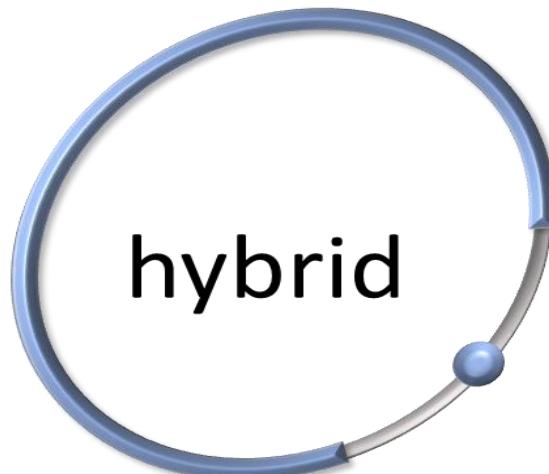
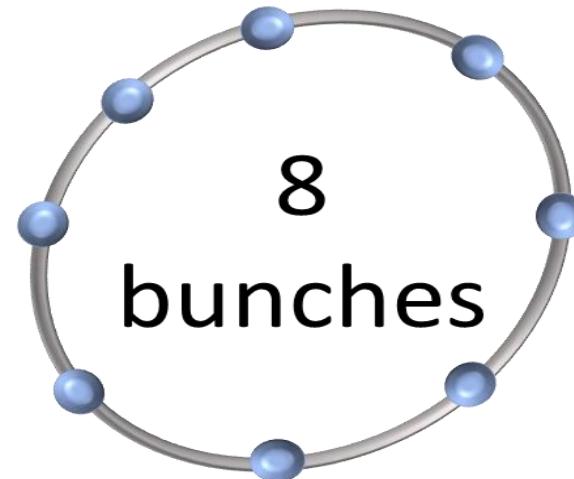
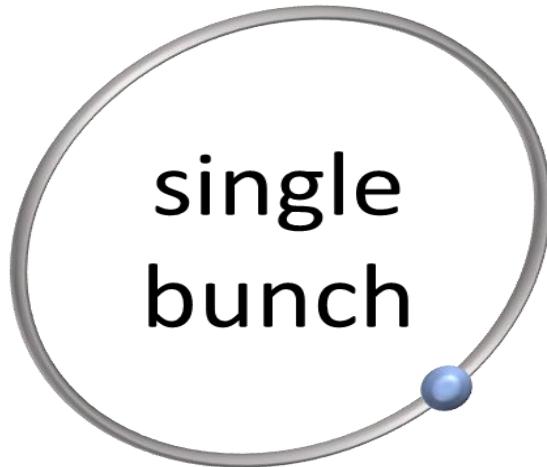
- **Energy**

- **Environment and eco-industries**

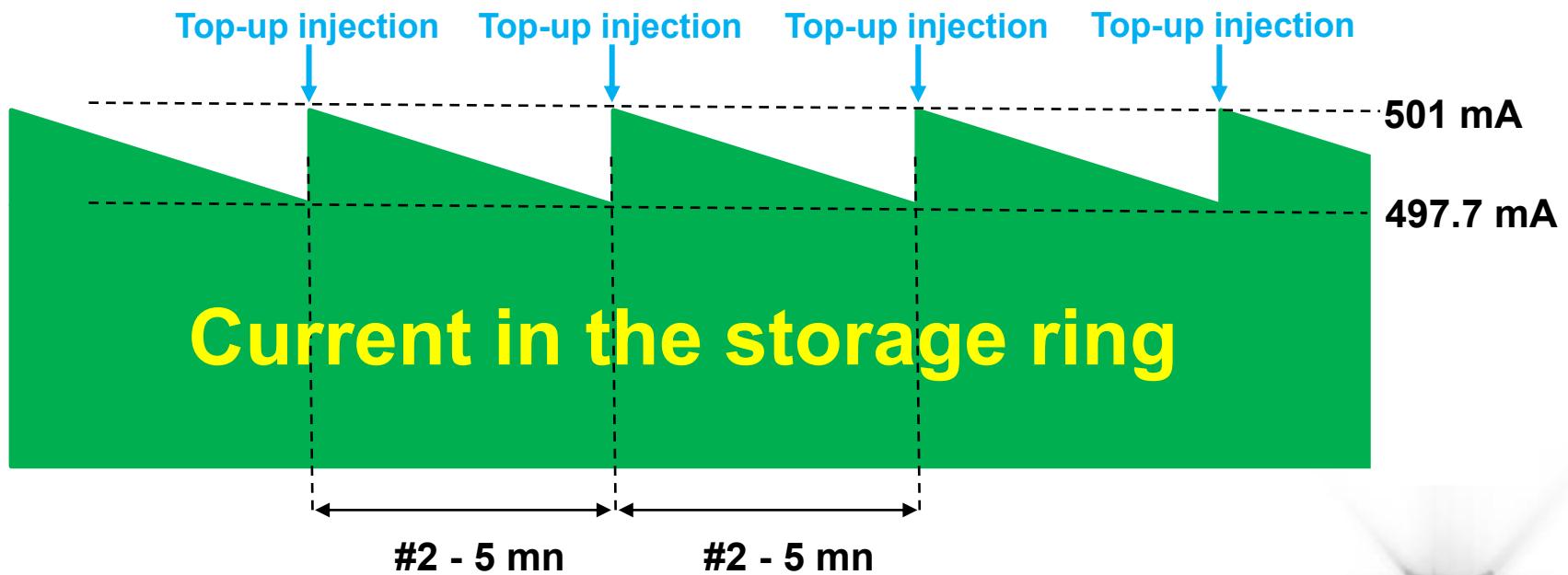
- **Etc.**



Filling modes

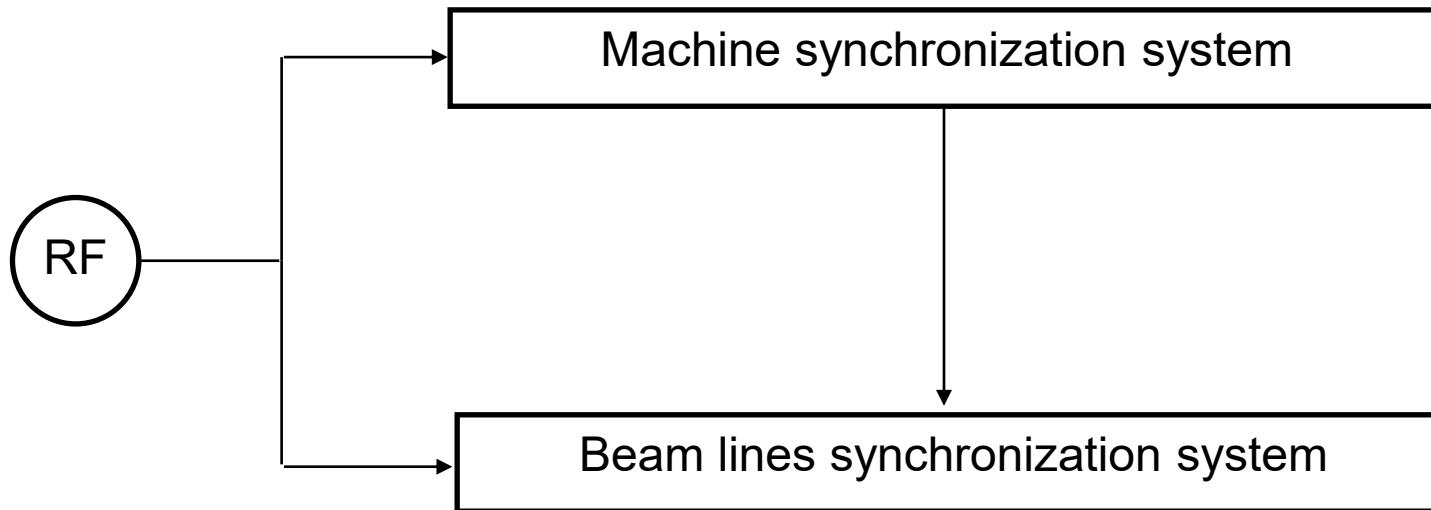


Top-up





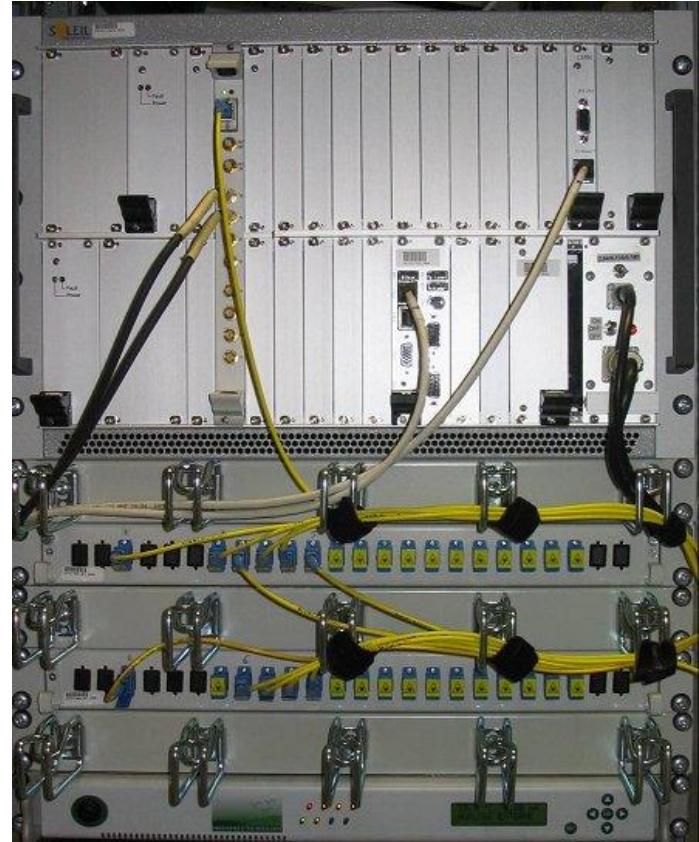
Machine timing system



- **Current system**

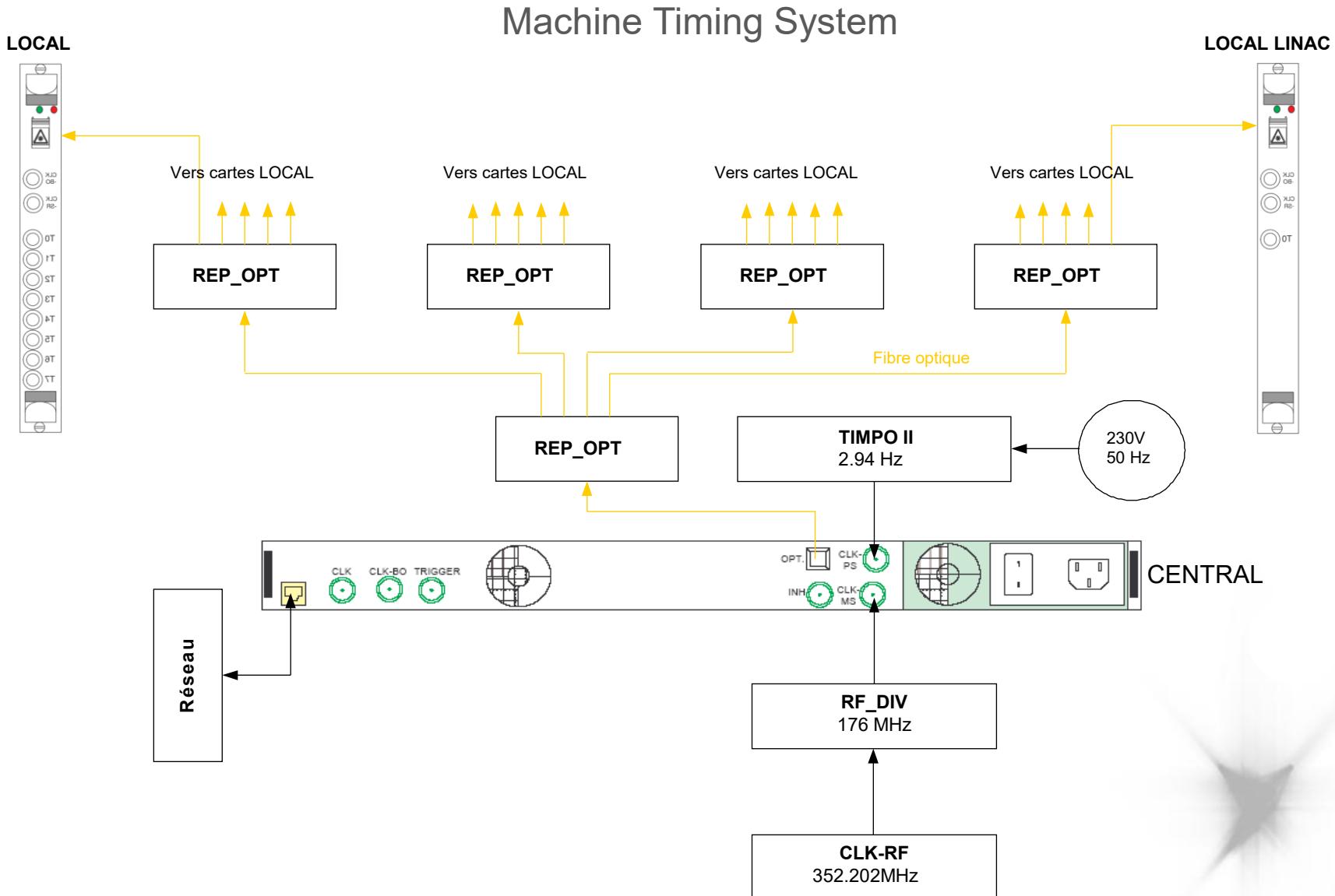
The current system is based on master/slaves event architecture developed by subcontractor for SOLEIL.

It has been very reliable since 2006.

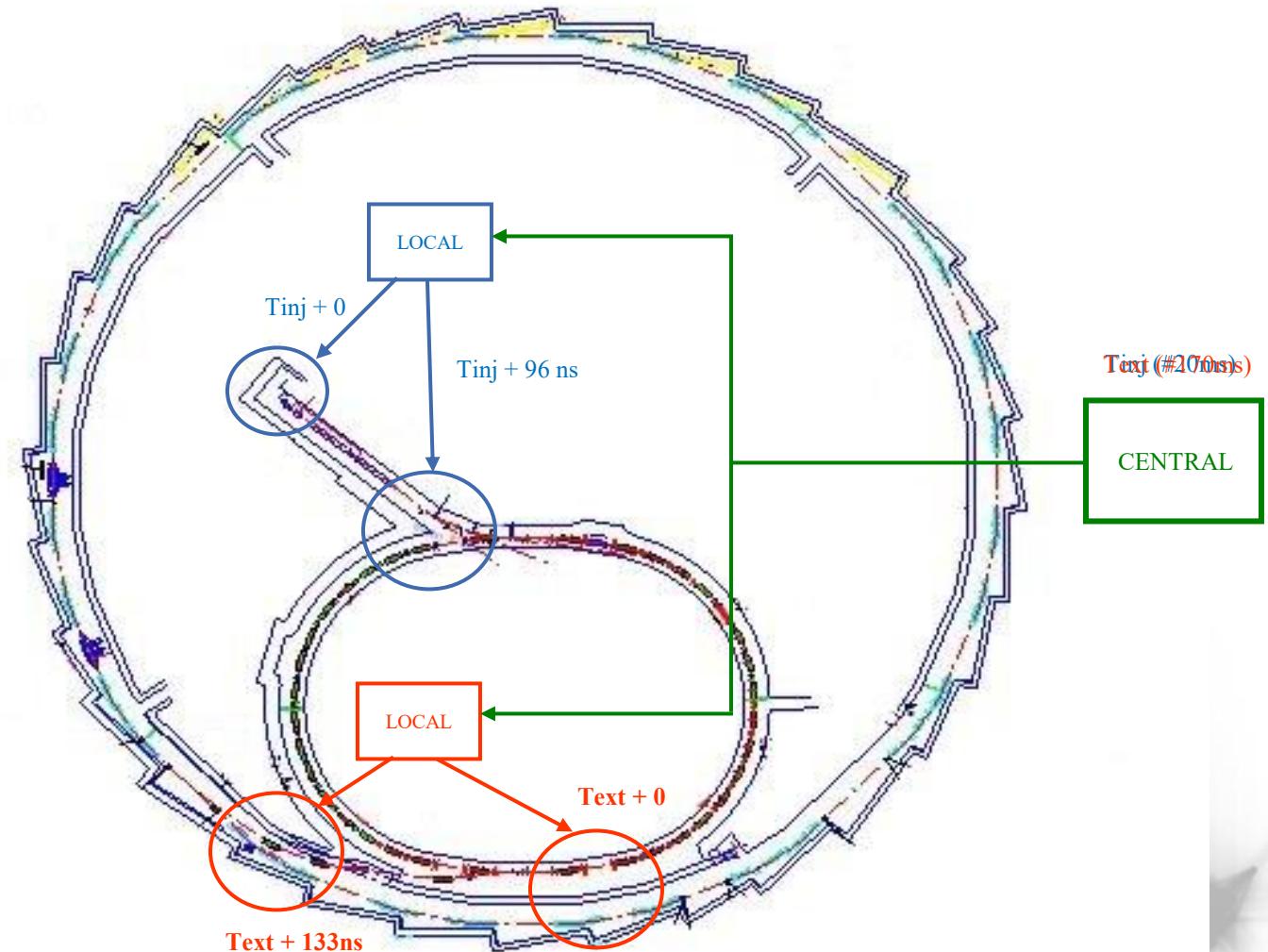


- **The aim of the machine's timing system of Soleil:**

- To trigger all devices (LINAC, Kicker, Septum, etc.) needed to bring electrons from the LINAC to the storage ring.
- To fill the storage ring with a specific pattern defined by users.
- To manage the top-up mode.



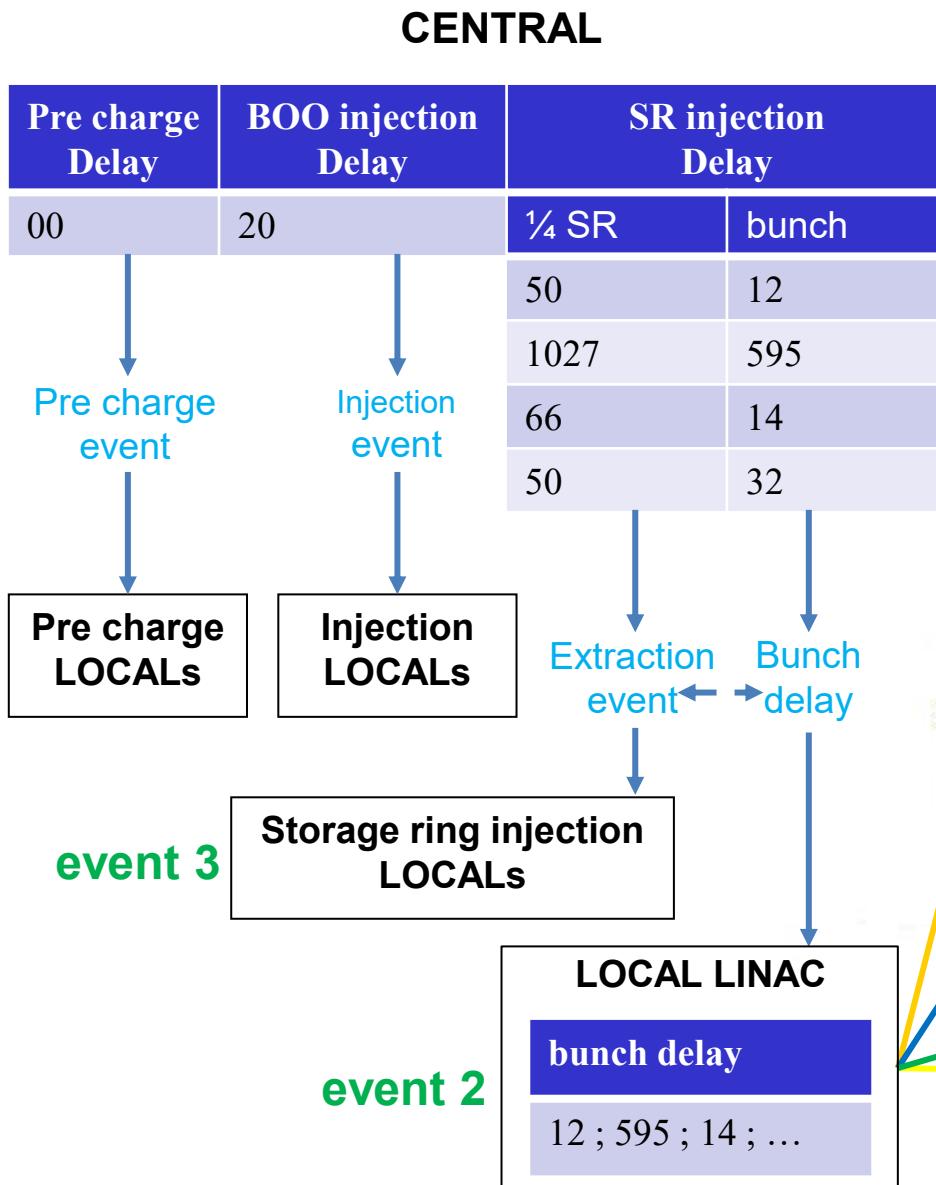
Dual delay system:



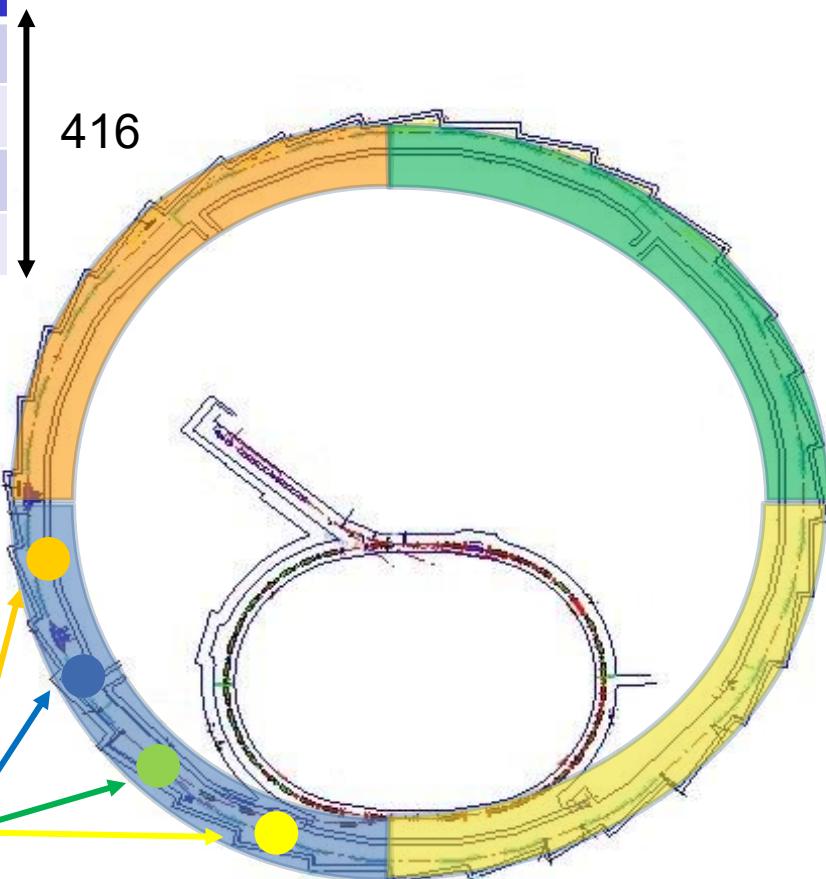
CENTRAL system

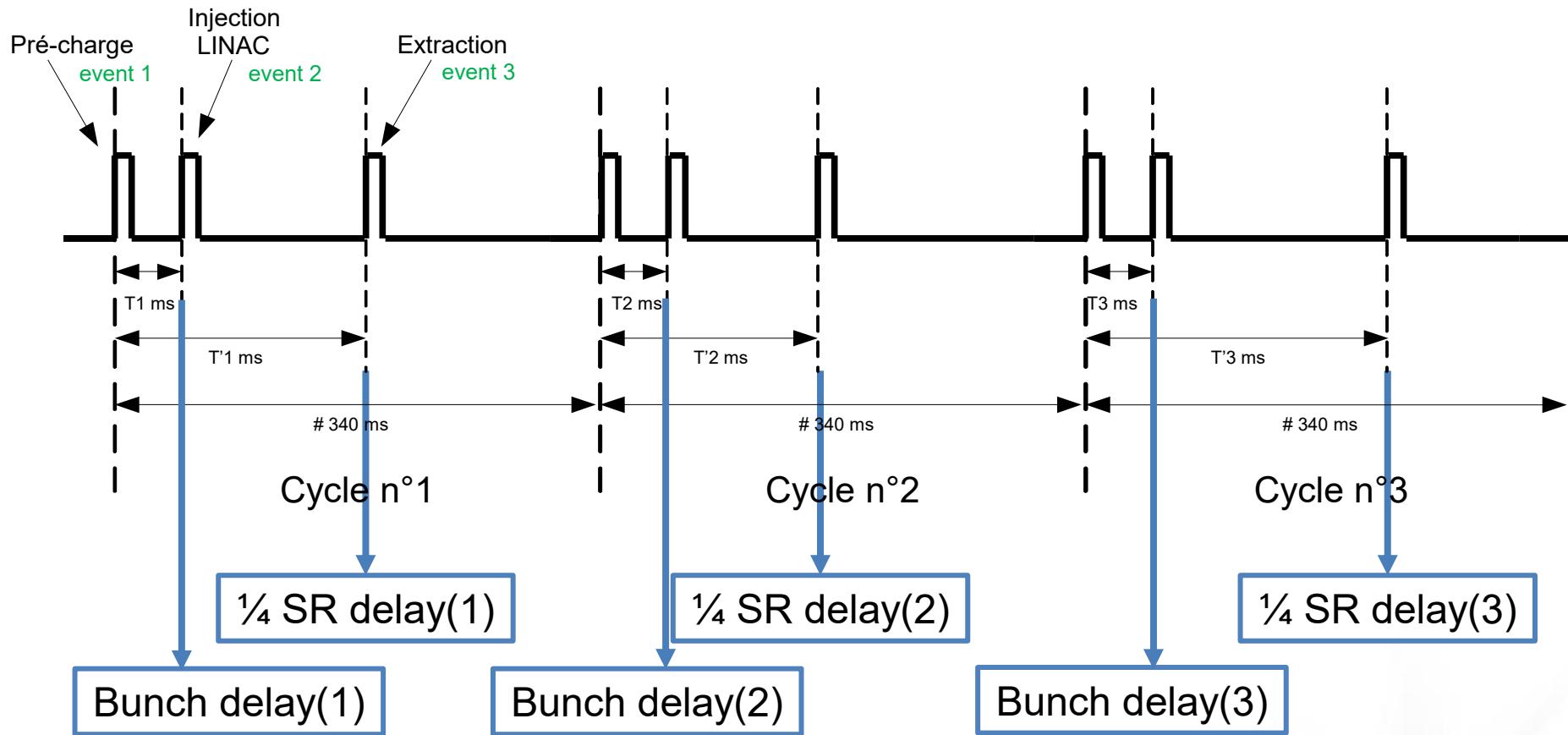
- Broadcast the events (pre-charge, injection, extraction, continuous trigger, software on demand).
- Broadcast the clocks (booster, storage ring).
- Manage the injection / extraction cycle.
- User configurable delay for events (steps of 1/CLK-BOO #522 ns)
- 256 events





Selection of the bunch inside $\frac{1}{4}$ of the storage ring with the fine delay inside CENTRAL (and the LOCAL LINAC)

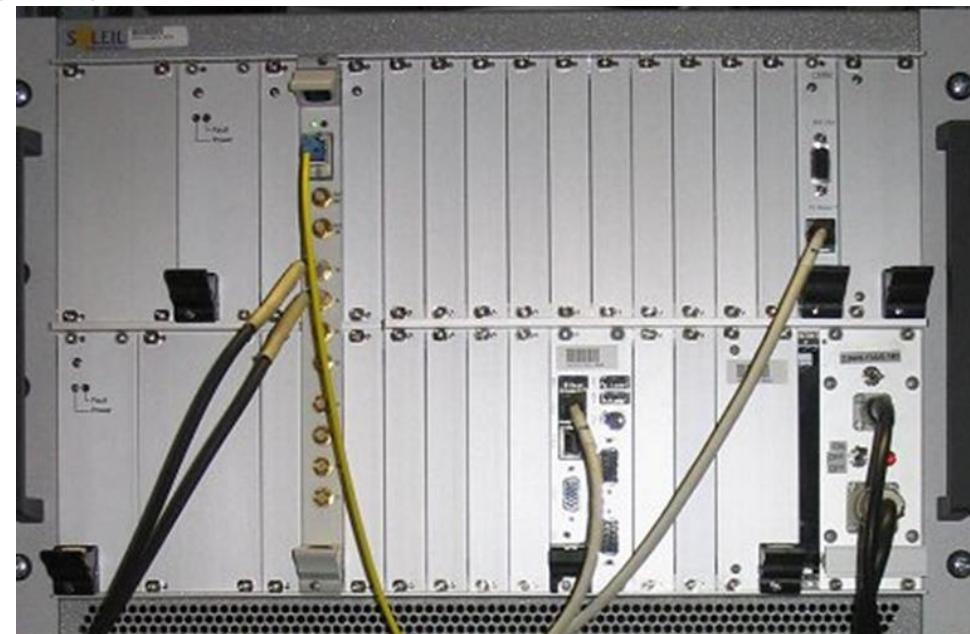




Coherency between $\frac{1}{4}$ SR delay and bunch delay is warranty by having both of them inside the CENTRAL system

LOCAL boards

- Booster and Storage ring clocks outputs.
- 8 TTL trigger outputs.
- 0 to 340 ms delay adjust by step of 5.64 ns.
- 10 μ s pulse width.
- Each output's event and delay can be configured.
- #15 – 25 ps RMS jitter.
- Skew < # ns between boards (fixe).



LOCAL LINAC board (SPM)

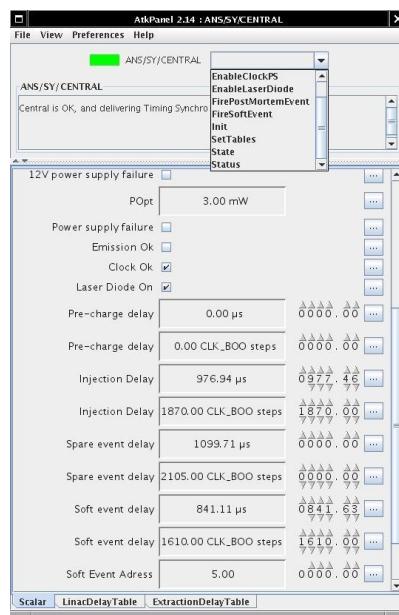
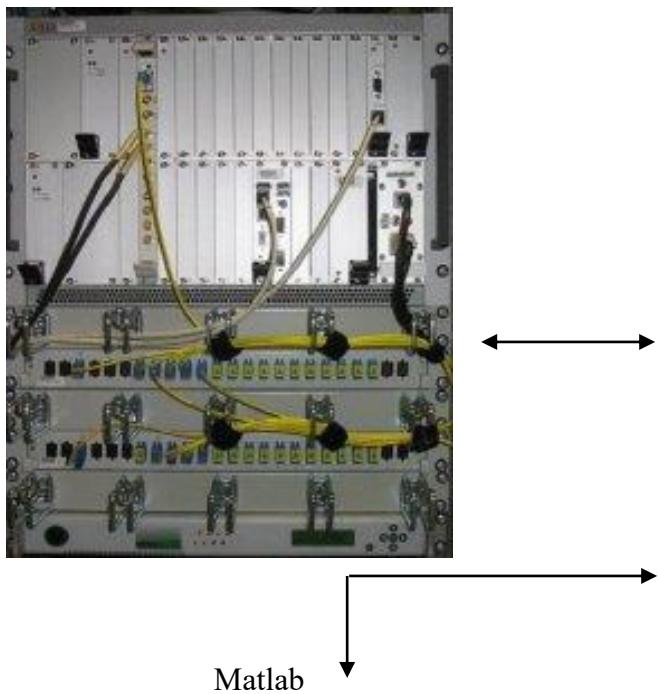
- Booster and Storage ring clocks outputs.
- 1 TTL trigger output.
- 0 to 340 ms delay adjust by step of 5.64 ns.
- 0 to 357 ns bunch delay adjust by step of # 80 ps.
- 10 ns pulse width.
- #15 – 25 ps RMS jitter.
- 4 modes.

LPM →

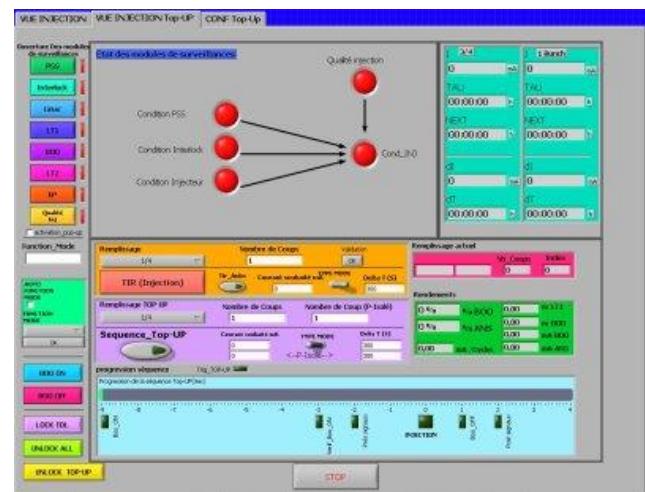
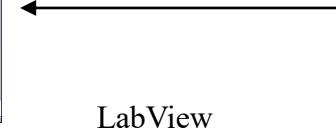
← SPM



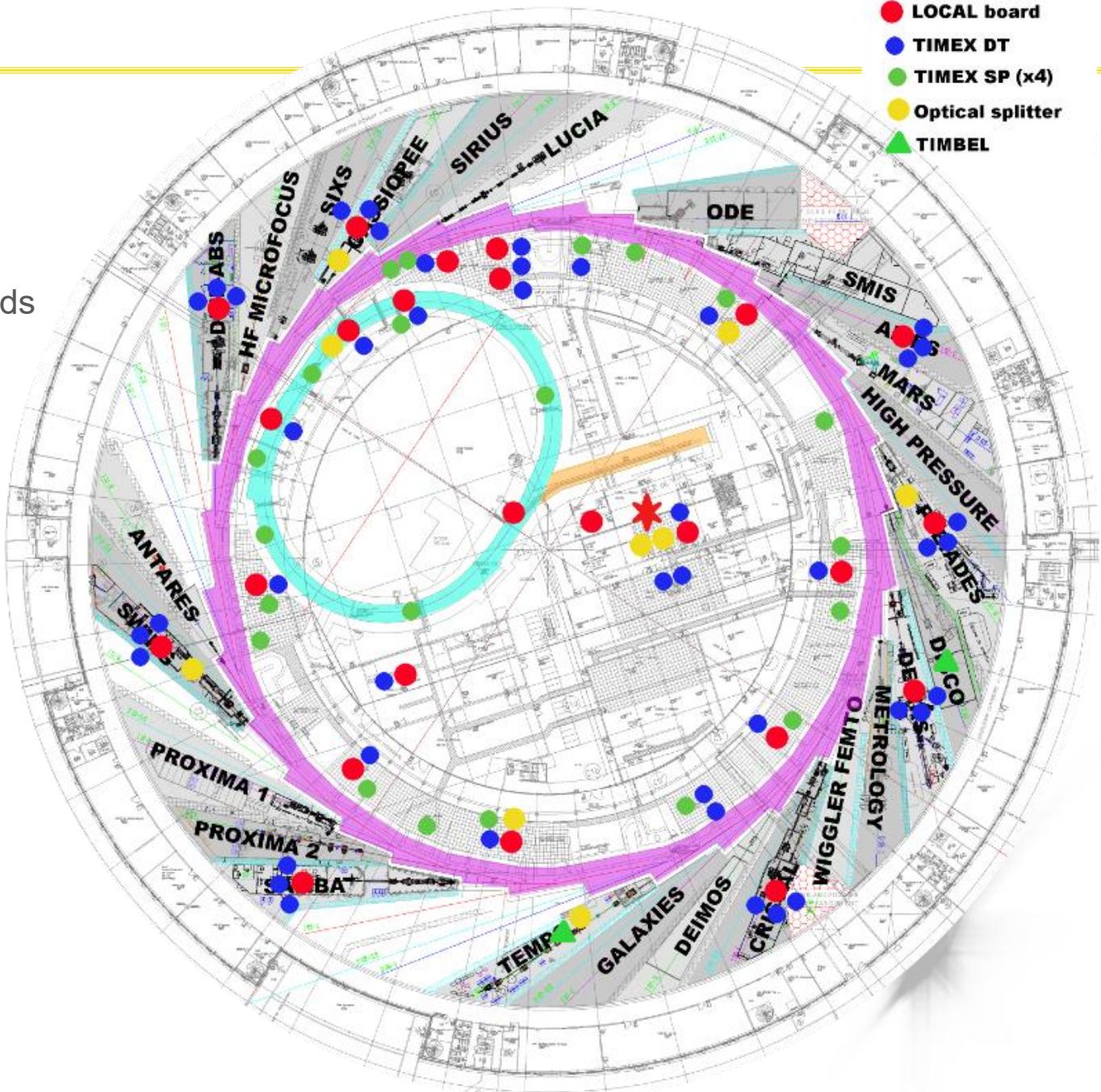
Machine timing system



Tango Devices



- 1 CENTRAL.
- 25 LOCALs.
- 1 LOCAL LINAC.
- 9 optical splitters
- > #150 duplication boards





Beamlines synchronization system

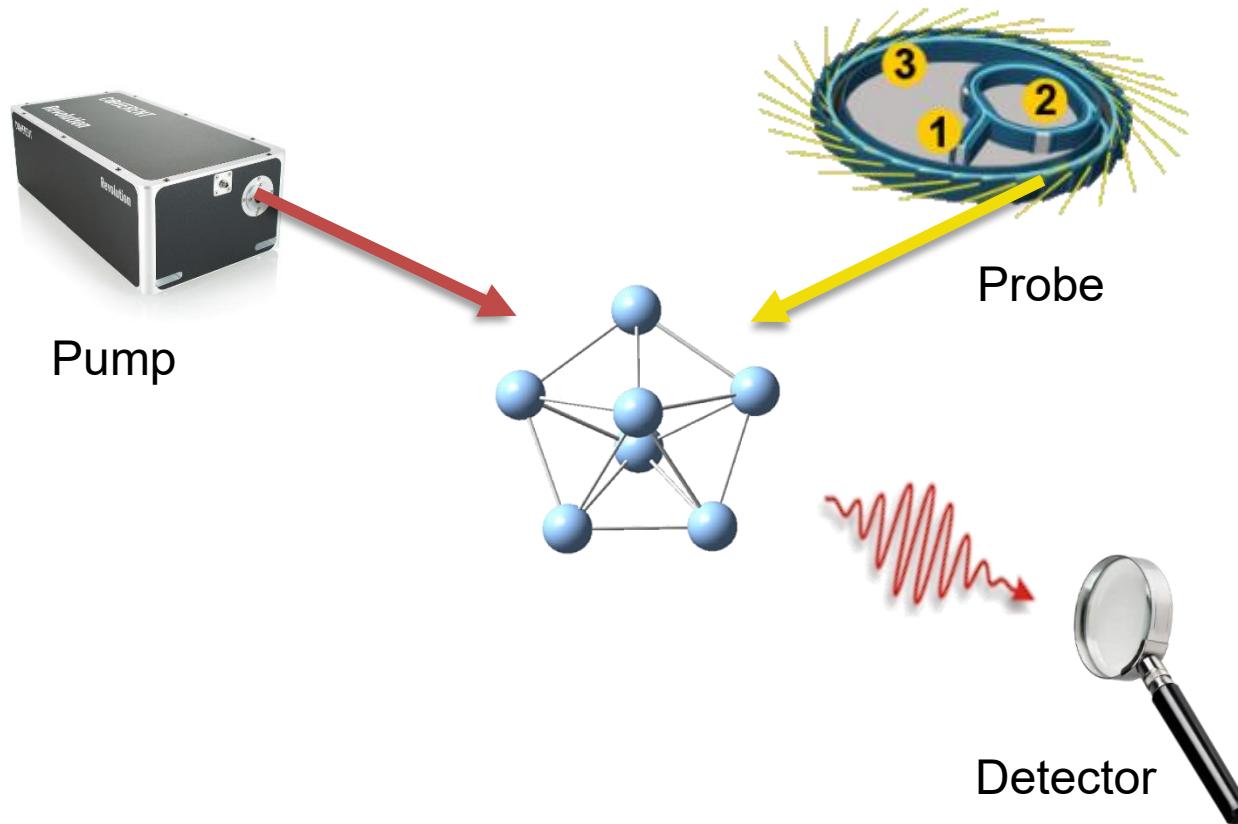
Beamlines needs:

- Trigger XP devices synchronously to the electron bunch.
- *Top-up gating.*
- Laser pump-probe synchronization.

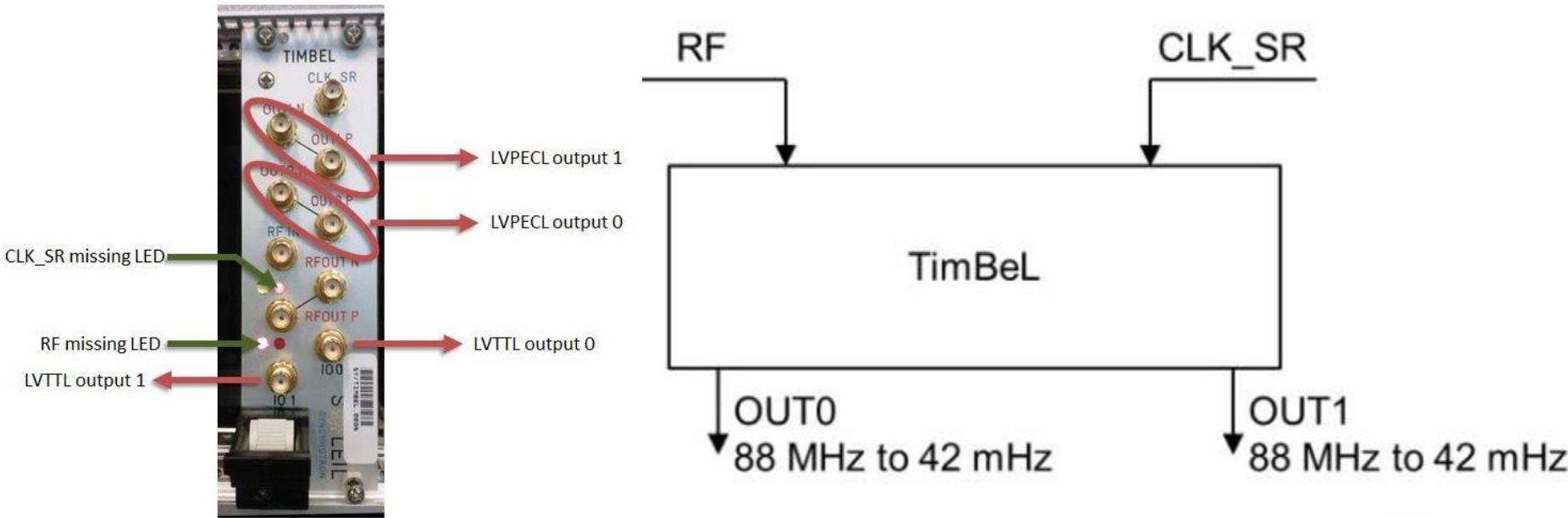
Machine provides to Beamlines:

- RF signal.
- CLK-SR (Machine clock).
- Pre top-up and beam lost trigger

Pump-probe XP



TimBeL board



Frequency : $f \in [88.05 \text{ MHz} ; 42 \text{ mHz}]$; $f = \text{RF} / (2 * n)$; n integer ; $n \in [2 ; 2^{32} - 1]$; user configurable

Duty cycle : $r \in [5.68 \text{ ns} ; \text{clock period} - 5.68\text{ns}]$ by steps of 5.68 ns ; user configurable

Delay : $p \in [5.68 \text{ ns} ; 11.9 \text{ ms}]$ by steps of 5.68 ns ; user configurable

Fine delay **only on LVPECL outputs** : $fp \in [2.4 \text{ ns} ; 12.4 \text{ ns}]$ by steps of #10 ps ; user configurable

Beamlines synchronization system

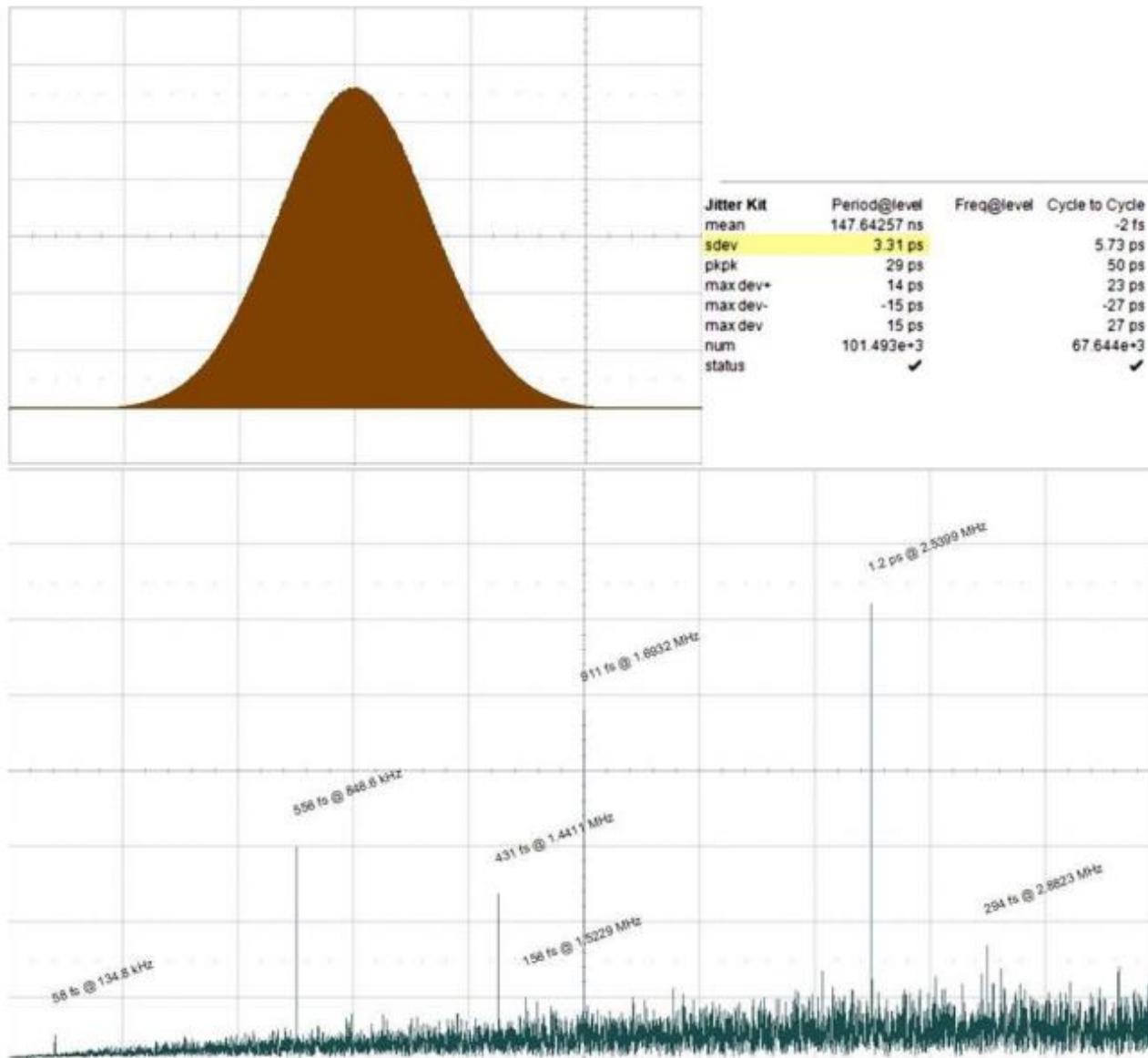
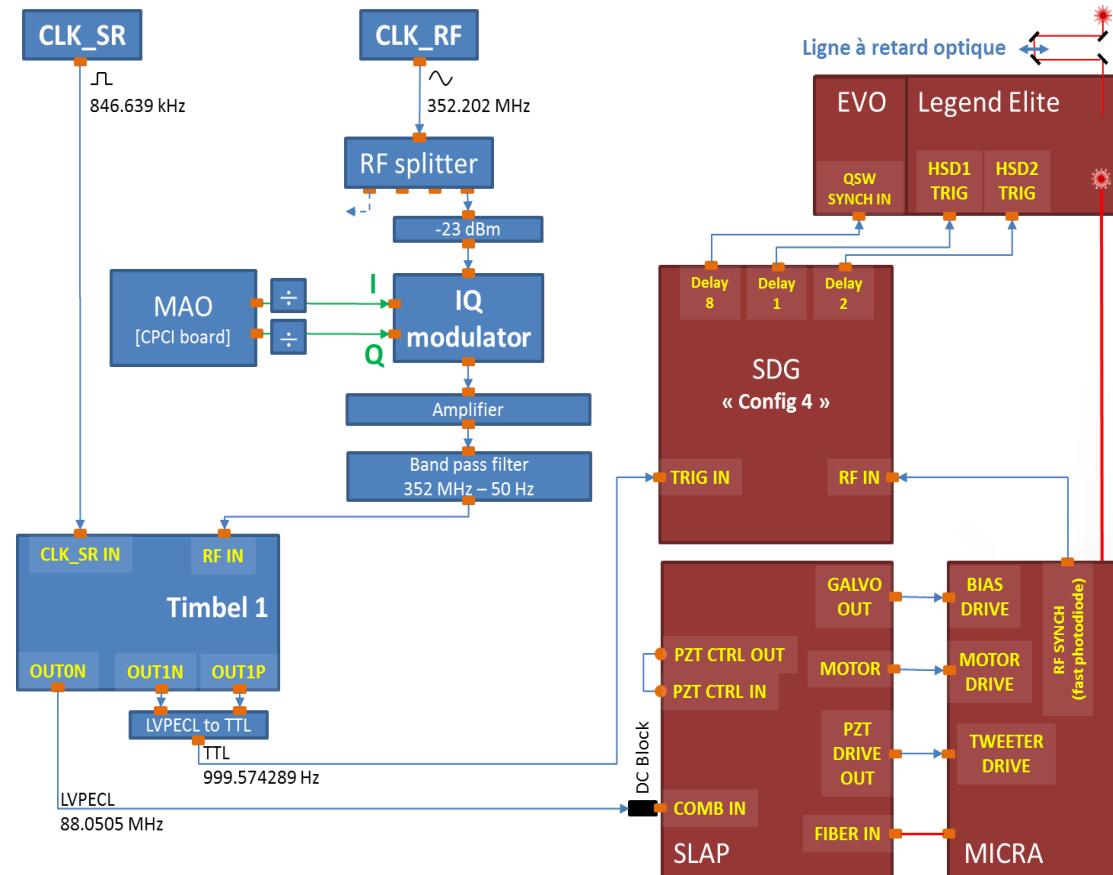


Figure 8. LVPECL outputs jitter.

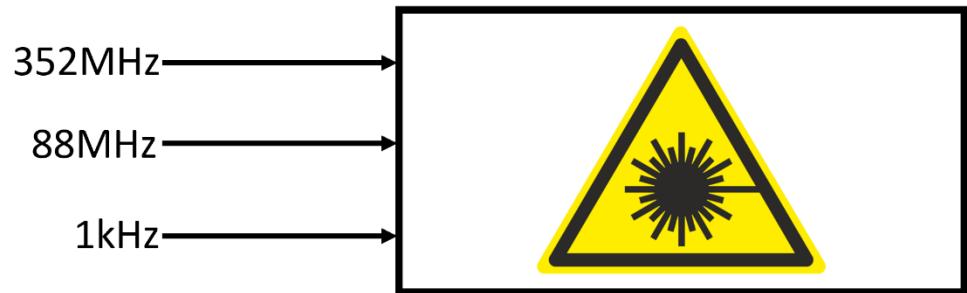
Beamlines synchronization system

Beamlines lasers



Beamlines lasers requirements:

- CLK-RF (CLK-RF harmonic) with phase shift capacity: oscillator.
- CLK-RF / n (88 MHz or 44 MHz) with phase shift capacity: oscillator reference.
- Laser trigger (CLK-RF / 846 = 1 kHz) with configurable delay.



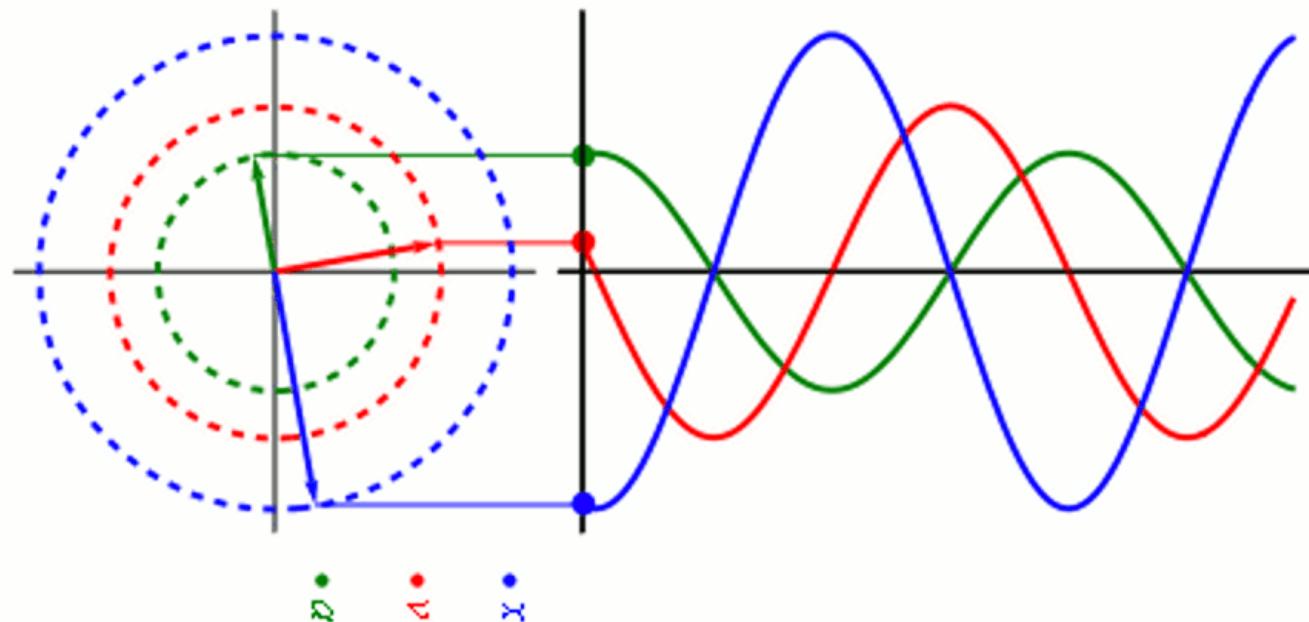
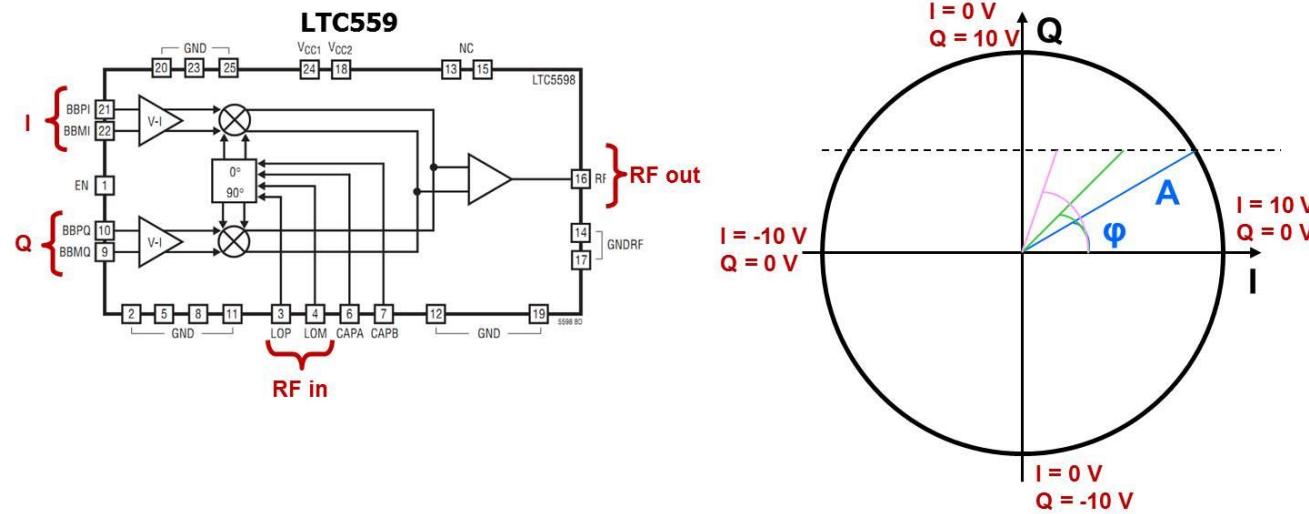
Additional requirements:

- Oscillator and oscillator reference: continuous shift without jump.
- Laser trigger: no hole in the clock.
- Excellent oscillator clocks phase noise of $\#10$ fs.
- Sub picosecond resolution.

→ Machine signals and TimBeL are not enough and not good enough

Beamlines synchronization system

IQ modulator



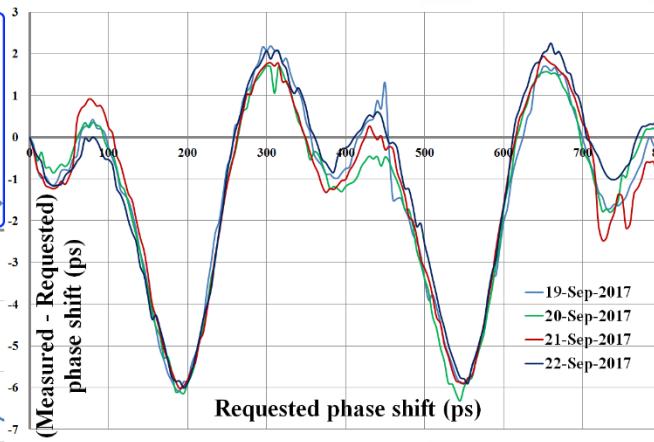
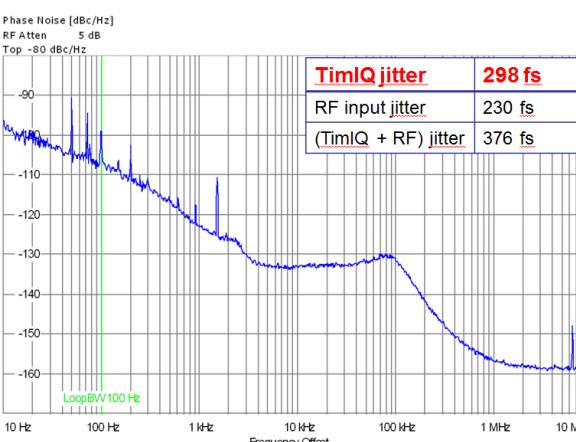
Beamlines synchronization system

IQ modulator: TimIQ (<https://gitlab.com/ohwr/project/timiq>)

The TimIQ system is an IQ modulator allowing to phase shift a radio frequency clock with a resolution of 40 fs and an accuracy of 8 ps. It allows to drive with a high precision lasers oscillators.

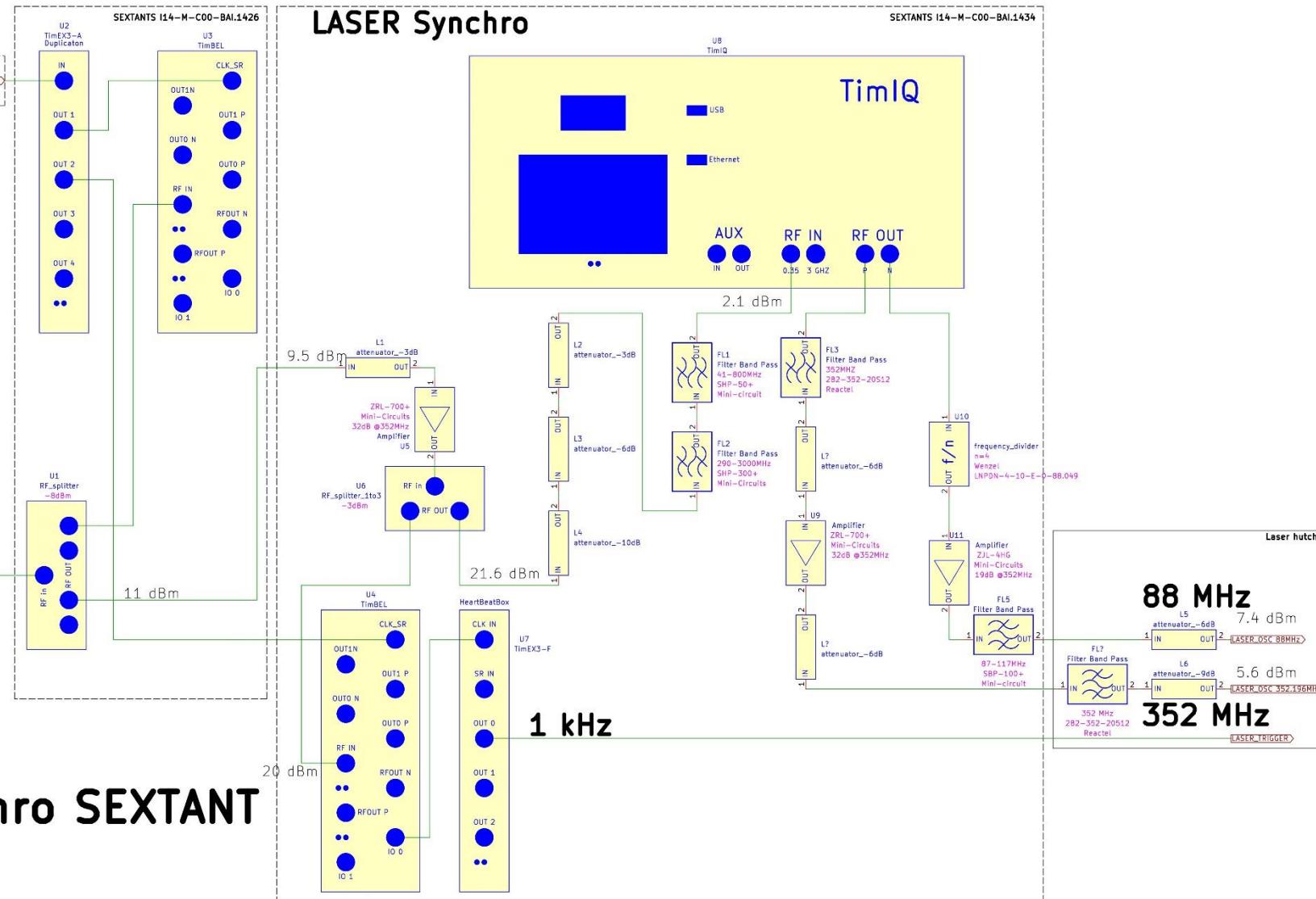


- 352 MHz or 3GHz input
- 40 fs resolution
- 8.2 ps peak to peak precision and periodic error with a good repeatability
- Less than 300 fs phase noise jitter [10 Hz ; 10MHz] @ 88 MHz
- +/- 0.1°C temperature stabilized
- Readback of the offset
- Real open hardware (KiCAD, FreeCAD, LibreCAD) and open software



Beamlines synchronization system

Sextant





Failures

Hardware is reliable!



Software system is not!!!



Software

Human
errors

Hardware



SOLEIL II

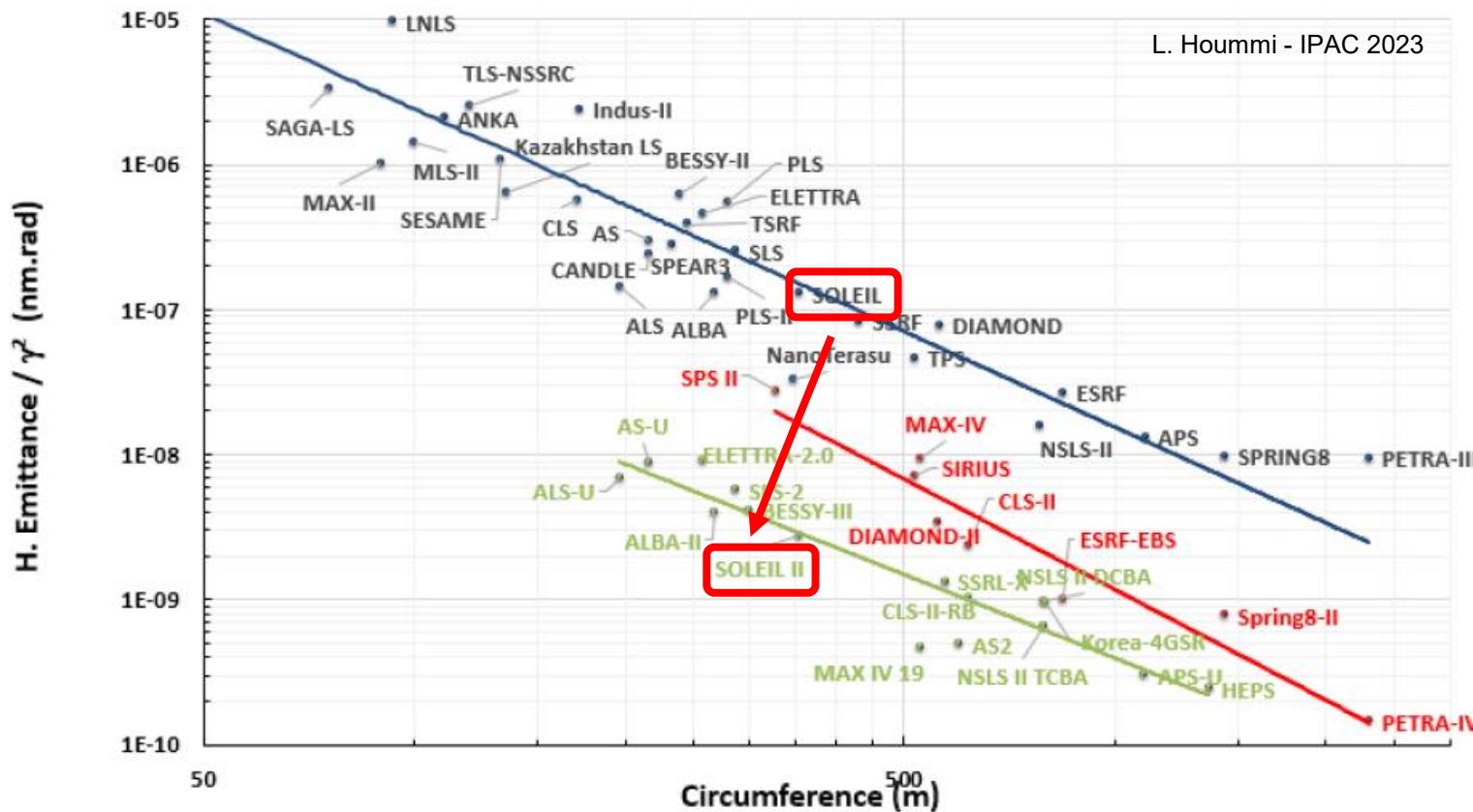
SOLEIL II:

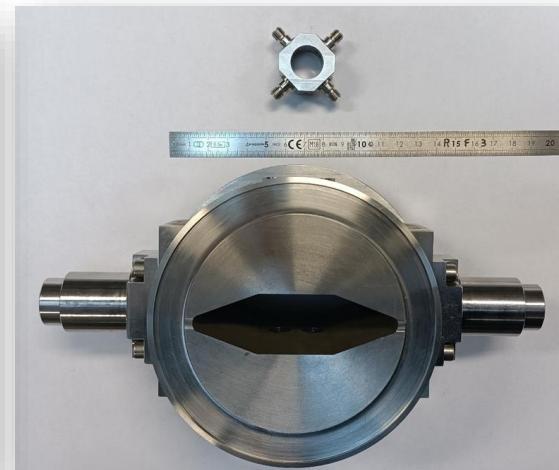
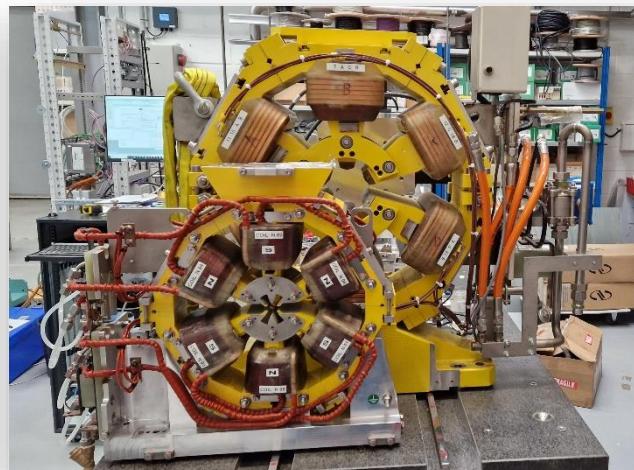
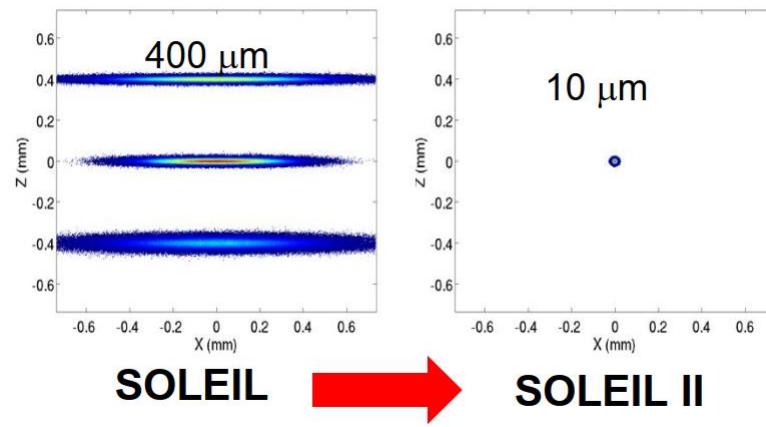
- 40 times smaller, circular electron beam
- Better coherency
- Increase of the flux

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- ✓ Fully designed for SOLEIL's needs
- ✓ Reliable
- ✓ Integrated with the control room software

- ✗ Fully dependent upon Greenfield Technology
- ✗ Any modification or update must be submitted to Greenfield Technology
- ✗ Expensive
- ✗ Paid support

Timing system upgrade



- ✓ Based on WR and adapted by ESRF to be used in synchrotrons
- ✓ Under continues upgrade and development (WHIST, CITY, next CITY)
- ✓ Does not depend on any specific manufacturer
- ✓ Open hardware

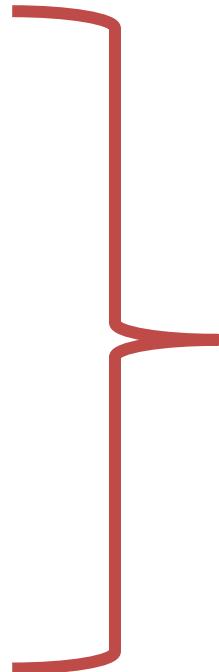
- ✗ Need some additional development to be used at SOLEIL (CITY)
- ✗ Control software need to be rewrite

Beamlines timing system upgrade

Beamlines timing system : MACBETH

(<https://gitlab.com/ohwr/project/macbeth>)

- Good jitter
- Good resolution
- Multiple outputs
- Flexibility
- Etc.





Thank you