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Iniettori di fasci atomici di alta intensità per il riscaldamento di plasma per fusione - sorgenti e fasci di ioni negativi

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1) Introduction: fusion and (high current) accelerators; overview of the neutral beam injection (NBI): intense and negative ion beam and sources (NIBS)

2) Status of NIO1 construction

3) Simulations and analytical models

4) Conclusion

Abstract

High intensity ion beams are required to supplement other plasma heating methods in most tokamak reactors, including the ITER project, where three neutral beams (10²⁰ atoms/s each, 1 MeV energy, obtained by conversion of negative ion beams of 40 A, 1 MeV) are required. Relation to projects DEMO (a tokamak reactor) and IFMIF (two 130 mA 40 MeV D+ beams) is briefly discussed.

The production of negative ion beams is in itself a task of impressive difficulty, which requests a detailed understanding of the ion source and of the beam transport, dominated by the nonlinear effects of the beam space charge. After a general overview of the accelerator system, we discuss a test source NIO1 developed in collaboration between INFN-LNL (Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare-Laboratori Nazionali di Legnaro) and RFX, and its ancillary equipment developed under INFN gr5 projects Nio2beam and Beam4fusion and INFN-E. The status of NIO1 installation is detailed.

Recent progress in modeling of a generic extraction system is also described.



1MV negative ion beam are easy to convert into neutrals and/or positive ions: this is used to concentrate beam power in regions with high magnetic fields: A) tokamaks; B) circular accelerators

Many displacement per atom (dpa) expected in DEMO Advanced Materials are at a critical path



1-3 dpa/lifetime



20-40 dpa/year



< 150 dpa

According to energies of products of $D^+ + T^+ \rightarrow {}^4\text{He}^{2+} (3.5 \text{ MeV}) + n (14 \text{ MeV})$ Material issues are divided into : plasma facing power load (from α) neutron irradiation of structures (from primary n and from blanket reaction)

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[*INFN strongly

partecipates to

IFMIF, see

Pisent, 2010]



For fusion reactors like ITER or DEMO, many (3) neutral beam injectors are needed for: 1) heating; 2) current drive. A test facility is being built in Padua at RFX





Design of buiding PRIMA-MITICA (from P. Sonato, RFX, 2009)

Covered surface7050 m²Heigth26 m

MITICA = 1 MV/40 A beamSPIDER = 100 kV/55 A system



A versatile test ion source (NIO1, 130 mA, 60 kV, 9 beamlets) is under construction, together with a beam emittance meter for simulation validation (INFN+RFX)

2.1) NIO1 and related activities

NIO1 source (0.5 m diameter, 60 kV, nominal beam power 8 kW) delivered to RFX in May 2013

Vacuum tightness improved (with ceramic cleaning) in November 2013

Source support ('culla') completed in December 2013. Alignment in progress

Calorimeter/beam dump delivered to RFX in January 2014; under tests







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diagnostic

background

NIO1 after ceramic cleaning and realignment, as mounted on the assembly tool







Inside NIO1: mastering the electrodeposition cooling channel construction



The rf coil assembly, featuring the ferrite confinement magnet

18/02/2013





Beam dump/calarimeter

The NIO1 optical diagnostic and calorimetry scheme





The beam diagnostic chamber



Examples of radiofrequency plasma (gas: air) for tests of amplifier and matching box: Transition between plasma regimes finally happens (p order of 5 Pa, power from 200 to 350 W). A true-2-Megapixel webcam was used; autofocus still on. Next step is comparison without Faraday cage. Transition seems related to an impedance jump





3)Recent theoretical studies

Motivation: megawatt beam need precise* aiming

3.1) Optimization of Extraction Grid deflecting magnetic fields (completed July 2013, mostly to be published)

3.2) Pic code for NIO1 accelerator geometry (reported 2013 ICIS)

3.3) Laminar and Vlasov studies of realistic ion extractors (that is, with anode lens effect treated in non-linear and selfconsistent way); reported ICIS (Tokyo, September 2013), SIF (Trieste, September 2013) and Vlasovia (Nancy, November 2013); partly published

3.4) Space charge compensation

3.5) Multi-grid optics (that is. SPIDER, MITICA, NIO1)

Some detail of item 3.3 only follows:

3.3) Beyond 'the moderately converging ion flow'.

A standard design of ion (and electron Pierce 1954) source extractor envisions a conically converging ion flow; convergence is stopped by the anode lens effect: th design assumes that space is exactly balanced by electrode shaping

A new model (Cavenago, Rev. Sci. Instrum, 83, 113301, 2012) was proposed which allows some tapering of beam, due to space charge effect even before anode, where the usual anode lens effect is added. Predictions for perveance/beam divergence were fully worked out (with help of symbolic computation)



FIG. 1. (a) Scheme of strongly convergent flow (solid line); flow perturbed by anode lens effect also shown (dotted line) and (b) scheme of a moderately convergent flow. **reprinted from shown Ref. c. AIP**





reprinted from shown Ref, cAIP

Rev. Sci. Instrum. 83, 113301 (2012)

Electrode shape is now adjustable by so called compression parameter α_0 , and is here compared to fixed Pierce design

3.3.2) Real extraction systems:

The previous theoretical models solve singularity at cathode ($\tilde{v} = 0$) and predict anode (2nd electrode) shape.

But in real extraction system we find more than two electrodes; moreover beam is perturbed when passing through the anode aperture [Davisson, 1931; Birdsall, 1957]

Laminar coupled flow equation can be still efficiently solved with moving mesh method

0.7

0.6

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

M.

Figure: Mesh wireframe rendering; beam edge and other borders are evident from color change



 z/R_1



Figure: Tracing of flow lines, which coincide with coordinate X contour lines. Potential at boundary also shown; in this tetrode $V_2 = 0.4 * V_1$

2.5.2) Plasma-beam interface can be also taken into account, as discussed elsewhere [Taccogna, 2013; Benilov, 2009; Forrester, 2000; Lieberman, 1994]; corrections to ion energy are typically in the T_e+T_i order (few eV)

3.3.3) Ion temperature effects (in the infinite number of rays limits):

T_i is ratio between ion temperature T and extraction energy Ke; for example: Ke=20 keV **T** ranges from **T=0.1 eV** T_i= 5e-6 to **T= 0.5 eV**



Fig 5 in z,x plane: thick dashed lines: laminar flow pattern (determining Z,X); thin solid lines, trajectories for Ti =5*10⁻⁶

Ion temperature effects (follow):



Fig 7 a) Preliminary calculation of diffused profile j_r with Z near simulation end, about 2.5 that is z=1.11 R₁, and T_i =5*10⁻⁶ (solid line with markers; halo guess dot-dashed) and comparison with emitted profile j_e (dashed line); they practically differ only at border. Inset b) Zoom shows the small effect of T_i on beam center

4) Conclusions

Versatile ion sources (kW beams) are necessary for detailed physical understanding of negative ion sources (MW beams), even if some optimization depends on source scale

A survey of NIO1 design, of related code development and of experimental R&D was given.

Start of NIO1 mounting and commissioning; vacuum problem solved

Diagnostic for NIO1 is developed in synergy with other source diagnostic

Rf matching box, Cs oven and rf coupling were partly validated on separated test stand with O/N plasmas

Thank you for attention

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