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RF power distribution System and experimental characterization of RF Gun and C-band accelerating structures for the ELI-NP Linac

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ELI-NP is a gamma-source based on electron-photon Compton back-scattering under construction in Romania by the European consortium Eurogammas. The collision of a train of 32 electron bunches accelerated up to ≈ 750 MeV by a linac with an intense 1000 nm laser pulse recirculated 32 times through the IP at a repetition rate of 100 Hz produces photons with tunable energy. The electron linac energy booster is based on two SLAC-type S-band ($f=2856$ MHz) and twelve C-band ($f=5712$ MHz) Travelling Wave (TW) accelerating structures. Because of the multi-bunch operation, the cells of all the C-band TW structures are equipped with high-order modes dampers to avoid beam break-up transverse instability. The high power RF for the RF Gun and for the S-band and C-band accelerating structures will be provided respectively by two Toshiba E37314 and ten Toshiba E37212 klystrons both driven by ScandiNova solid state modulators. A complete description of the RF power distribution system of the ELI-NP Linac will be reported. Moreover, results of the conditioning and tuning of the first C-band accelerating structure will be presented, together with Bead-drop measurements of the RF Gun.

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