LOW POWER TEST OF A HYBRID SINGLE CAVITY LINAC*  
N. Hayashizaki, Y. He, H.W. Zhao, H. Toshiyuki,  
Institute of Modern Physics (IMP), Lanzhou, China  

Abstract  
A Hybrid single cavity (HSC) linac, which is formed by 
combining a radio frequency quadrupole (RFQ) structure 
and a drift tube (DT) structure into one interdigital-H (IH) 
cavity (see Fig.1), is fabricated and assembled as a new 
type injector for cancer therapy synchrotron according to 
the culmination of several years’ researches [1-4]. It also 

At cancer radiotherapy facilities by utilizing the direct 
plasma injection scheme (DPIS), which is considered as 
the only method for accelerating a high current heavy ion 
beam that is possibly produced by a laser ion source [5-8]. 
The most significant features of the proposed cavity are 
the combination of an RFQ section with a DT 
system would be also unnecessary. The core parts of HSC 
were shaped from a piece of block copper by using 5-axis 
numerical control (NC) machine tools. Now, the HSC 
linac had transported to Institute of Modern Physics 
(Imp), Chinese Academy of Sciences, where will 
provide a 250 kW power source and a high current LIS 
for further HSC research.

INTRODUCTION  
The purpose of this HSC linac research is to achieve 
the design of a new injector linac for use in a synchrotron 
end of the RFQ and DT sections. To achieve the design 
target of less than 2 m in length, a substandard RFQ 
transmission, which was calculated to be 65.4% of the 
input, was adopted. The DT transmission, which was 
calculated to be 58% of the RFQ output (DT input), was 
5.98 mA. The GBP structure consisted of horizontal 
and a drift tube (DT) structure into one interdigital-H (IH) 
cavity, which is fabricated and assembled as a new 
type injector for cancer therapy synchrotron according to 
the culmination of several years’ researches [1-4]. It also 
can be operated as a CW (continuous wave) test injector 
of neutron source for boron neutron capture therapy. The 

RFQ and DT sections. An alternative phase focusing 
(APF) structure was adopted for the beam focus in the 

DEFINITION AND MANUFACTURE  
In addition to the main part of the HSC linac, which 
cluded a 4-rod RFQ section and a 16-cell DT section, a 
ground base plate (GBP) was designed to combine the 
RFQ and DT sections. An alternative phase focusing 
(APF) structure was adopted for the beam focus in the 

L.T. Sun,  
Z.L. Zhang, A.M. Shi, L.T. Sun,  
N. Hayashizaki, Y. He, H.W. Zhao, H. Toshiyuki,  
Institute of Modern Physics (IMP), Lanzhou, China  

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focus and acceleration in the GBP gap, but a -60° phase designed by the APF method was adopted for 1st DT gap that followed. The sensitivity of the RFQ side EM field demanded a high accuracy in the fabrication and alignments. Any error or inaccuracy would have a severe influence on the acceleration in the HSC linac. For this reason, an existing L-tuner was inserted in the RFQ side to control the E field distribution of the HSC cavity. The detailed designed parameters are shown in Table 1.

The most distinctive feature of the HSC fabrication lies in the core accelerating parts, including all the DTs, DT-stems, both ridges of the RFQ side and the DT side, and all the rods and stems of the RFQ, were shaped by NC machines from a massive piece of copper. The accuracy of the core parts assembly was found to be less than 20 micrometers using alignment tools, which were also shaped by the NC machines. A sandwich type assembly method shown in the left part of the Fig. 1 was adopted, and the right part of Fig. 1 shows an image of the interior of the HSC linac after assembly was completed. The fabrication period was considerably reduced by using this shaping method. All the parts were shaped in three weeks and the assembly was easily finished in a few hours. With this fabrication method, it is also easy to create a better cooling effect. Another merit of this method is that parts fail could be replaced rapidly in case of factual operation.

Table 1: Main Parameters of HSC Linac

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RFQ section</th>
<th>DT section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charge to mass ratio</td>
<td>6/12 (C⁹⁹⁹)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency (MHz)</td>
<td>100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total length (mm)</td>
<td>1800</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power (kW)</td>
<td>93.98 (MWS)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q value (MWS)</td>
<td>14577</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undercut length (mm)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum field (mm)</td>
<td>1.8 (Kipat.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of cells</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>1+16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synchrotron phase</td>
<td>-90→-30</td>
<td>0,-60,-30,30,30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input energy (keV/u)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output energy (keV/u)</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transmission</td>
<td>65.4%</td>
<td>45.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input current (mA)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output current (mA)</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>5.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavity diameter (mm)</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavity length (mm)</td>
<td>679.58</td>
<td>1120.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LOW POWER RF TEST

The main purpose of the low power RF test was to measure the RF properties and the E field distribution of the HSC cavity. Especially the matched E field of RFQ section and DT section which was designed as a 0 value has to be checked. During the test, the HSC cavity exhibited a resonance under the condition of microwave frequency is approximately 100.49 MHz which was within 0.5% of the designed value of 100 MHz; the measured Q value was 95% of the simulated value, which was considered as a new world record.

The E field strength of the HSC cavity was measured by means of the bead perturbation method. In this research, the E fields in the DT and RFQ sections were measured respectively, because the beam bore in the DT section is larger than the average aperture radius of the RFQ. In order to measure precisely E field distribution, several perturbation balls, i.e., 3.17 mm, 4.5 mm, and 8 mm diameter balls, were used to measure the E field strength as shown in Fig. 2. All values shown in Fig. 2 have been normalized to the largest value measured in the experiment, which indicates that the measured E field strengths show good agreement with the simulated values. The simulated results were obtained using Microwave Studio (MWS).

Figure 2: Simulated and measured E field strengths along the beam axis in the DT section. Each measurement was normalized to the largest value recorded during the test.

In this research, the center position of two RFQ rods could not be measured directly. A new position which was 5 mm from the beam axis was adopted to measure the E field in the RFQ section using the 3.17 mm perturbation. Both the average value of the measured and simulated E field in the RFQ shown in Fig. 3 were normalized to 1. In Fig. 3, the triangular and rhombic symbols represent the measured and simulated peak value of E field in the DT gaps, respectively. It is clear that there is no peak in the first gap between the RFQ rods and the GBP, as was expected (see the phase design of the 1st gap in Table 1); it is also clear that most of the measured and simulated peak strengths of the E field in the DT gaps are similar except the value of the fifth gap where an error of approximately 5% is observed. This error could be due to the fact that the distance of the phase change in the fifth gap is only 120 degree (-30 degree to 30 degree), which resulted in the lengths of the fourth DT and the fifth gap being the...
shortest in the design, and therefore the measurements were more sensitive.

The E field strength in the RFQ section was purposely designed to be higher than the desired ideal distribution, which is lower 3% than the designed value. This is because the location of the L-tuner was designed in the RFQ section. Figure 4 shows two measurements of E field strength between two rods using the 3.17 mm perturbation; the green line shows the E field strength before inserting the L-tuner and the blue line shows the E field strength after inserting an L-tuner with a maximum length of 12.9 mm. The blue line is approximately 4% lower than the green line, which implies that the ideal E field strength between the two rods could be adjusted by controlling the length of the L-tuner inserted. Both of these two measurements express the four rod-structures (the radial matcher (RM) structure, the gentle buncher (GB) structure, the accelerator structure, and the additional EXITFF structure) clearly. In Fig. 4, the value of the average E field strength before tuning was normalized to 1. After L-tuner tuning, the change of the E field strength in the DT section shows the changed E field strengths in the DT section were also 3% higher than the simulated values, which fits the simulated results closely, and the cavity frequency only increased 0.01 MHz when the maximum length L-tuner was inserted.

FUTURE PLAN

A high power test system was already built in IMP, and the ageing of HSC was also finished in a few weeks ago. The DPIS test and the high power accelerating test will be operated in next few months.

REFERENCES