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High Current Proton and Deuteron Beams for Accelerators and Neutron Generators

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Outline

- SMIS 37 ion source
- H+ & D+ beams production at SMIS 37
- Neutron generators
- Neutron production at SMIS 37
- Perspectives and plans



Gyrotron 37 GHz, 10-80 kW, 1ms/1Hz. Gasdynamic plasma confinement

- ✓ High plasma density >2*10¹³ cm⁻³
- \checkmark High collision rate -> Low plasma lifetime ~ tens of μ s
- ✓ Plasma flux at the mirror point >10 A/cm²
- \checkmark T_e ~ 20-300 eV -> close to 100% ionization
- \checkmark T_i ~ 1-5 eV + extraction in the area of low magnetic field -> excellent emittance

Beam extraction





Plasma electrode aperture diameter from 5 to 10 mm

Beam current measurements



Beam current measurements



Ion spectrum (Hydrogen, Deuterium)



Beam extraction summary

| Extraction system | Faraday cup current, mA | Normalized rms emittance, $\pi \cdot mm \cdot mrad$ | Extraction voltage, kV |
|----------------------|---|--|---------------------------|
| d = 5 mm | 80-140 | 0.06 | 45 |
| d = 7 mm | 300 | 0.18 | 45 |
| d = 10 mm | 500 | 0.07 | 45 |
| | H ⁺ , D ⁺ > 94 % | | |
| | H ₂ ⁺ , D ₂ ⁺ < 6 % | | |

Medicine











- Neutron radiography
- Neutron spectroscopy
- Neutron brachytherapy
- Boron-neutron capture therapy (BNCT)

α-particle free pass is close to the cell dimensions: ⁴He²⁺ (9 μm) ⁷Li³⁺ (6 μm)

 Ionization led to doublestrand break of DNA prevented further cell division

BNCT principle



 $^{10}B + n_{th} \rightarrow ^{11}B^* \rightarrow ^{7}Li (0.84 \text{ MeV}) + \alpha (1.47 \text{MeV}) + \gamma (0.48 \text{ MeV}) (94 \%)$

 $^{10}B + n_{th} \rightarrow ^{11}B^* \rightarrow ^{7}Li (1.01 \text{ MeV}) + \alpha (1.78 \text{ MeV}) (6 \%)$

Neutron sources for BNCT

- Nuclear reactors
 - High neutron flux
 - High running cost and complexity
- Accelerators
 - Satisfactory neutron flux
 - Lower cost
 - Safety
- Neutron generators
 - Low neutron flux
 - Small size, low cost
 - Easy to use

D-D and D-T neutron generators



Ice target (D₂ O)









TiD₂ target

Secondary-Ion Mass Spectrometry (SIMS) of the target





Neutron flux measurements



Results (45 keV beam energy)

| Target | Neutron flux per 1 mA of D+ beam at 45 keV | Total neutron flux (300 mA of D+) |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| TiD ₂ | 2·10 ⁶ | 6·10 ⁸ |
| D ₂ O | 3 ⋅10 ⁶ | 10 ⁹ |

Estimations



Expected neutron flux density: > 10¹⁰ s⁻¹·cm⁻²

Future plans

- H⁺ & D⁺ beam at 100 keV
- High quality target
- Bigger target
- CW D+ beam production (24 GHz, 10 kW)
- Design of target cooling

Many thanks for your attention!