CONTINUOUS AND PULSED OPERATION OF A HIGHLY EFFICIENT 18 GHZ PLATEAU-ECRIS

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Inst. für Kernphysik, Univ. Münster, Wilhelm-Klemm-Str. 9, D-48149 Münster, Germany This a historical talk since our experiments ended in 2003 !

The first results had been presented at the ECRIS02 Workshop in Jyväskylä in 2002

But the work until the end has never been published

Therefore I begin with a reminder of the essentials of that presentation

Some important corrections are added to what had been said before

Then we show how to operate a plateau ECRIS (PECRIS) and why

The improvement of PECRIS V by surface treatments is shown and explained

Some further results conclude the continuous operations

For feeding accelerators the PUlsed MAgnetic EXtraction is introduced

49 µA of Ar16+ observed in pulses of 150 µs length !



- (2) 5 independent power supplies for the 5 coils
- (3) Hexapole from American Magnetics with asymmetry of 5 % !!!
- (5) Puller electrode with concave curvature to focus secondary electrons into plasma
- (4) Concave end plates to approach confocal microwave cavity
- (6) Special microwave window from CPI had to be cooled !! Loss of 50-100 W !!



Red configuration with 10mm shift for Ar8+

Max. confinement with right mirror lowered to 1.4 T for Ar16+

Max. confinement used for PUMAEX

Min. B-field never used



Absolute value of the magnetic field in PECRIS V The black area in the centre indicates the large resonance volume



outer pumping holes also serve to damp the outer cavity modes





Microwave amplitude on the axis versus microwave frequency A plasma chamber with <u>concave</u> end caps is compared to a chamber with <u>planar</u> end caps

The concave end caps do have a significant effect on the central modes

The effect of the pumping holes on outer modes has not been measured



Favored by concave end caps

Damped by Concave end caps and by pumping holes







White areas indicate the plasma chamber. Red dashed lines : resonance fields of microwave frequencies. The two frequencies of the Ar16+ are very close together.

Comment on old results :

The magnetic field measurements were not precise With better magnetometer it was clearly established that lowest frequencies were below f_{res}(Bmin on axis) New measurements with known frequency positions





New settings for Ar16+





Why these frequencies below f_{res}(Bmin on axis) ??

The answer was given at the

ECRIS99 Workshop at CERN in Geneva





In order to keep electrons of all energies in the initial resonance volume one should use a series of frequencies below f_{res}. Unfortunately we have only one frequency below f_{res} We can only keep electrons up to 7.5 keV in the resonance volume



Simulation for Ar8+ : Low power : Low <E> = 6.2 keV : Density in centre !

Simulation for Ar8+ : High power : High <E> = 101 keV : Extended density



In particular true for energy density on the right

How to operate a PECRIS ?

1. Start the plasma spontaneously

with a frequency well above the plateau just like any SECRIS : the

ion currents are low.



2. Add the second frequency below the B-mininmum and search for

a µW-cavity resonance. This was initially the longest part of the optimization of PECRIS V. Once known it was often the same cavity mode at 16.925 GHz which was strong enough to heat and keep relativistic electrons in the centre and to so produce the highest ion currents observed. Extremely sensitive to frequency !

Since we need a stainless steel chamber

for pulsed magnetic extraction

we had to use SiO_2 coating to achieve the good results

Since SiO₂ coating does not last

we replaced it by stripes of Al_2O_3

soldered with pure AI on the inner extraction end cap in next figure



With these three stripes of Al₂O₃

we obtained the same results as with SiO_2 coating





The philosophy:

Floating biased disks are known to charge up negatively,

in our case to about -120 V

Insulators like Al₂O₃ can be considered to charge up to the same voltage

They do thus reflect electrons

with "perpendicular" kinetic energy below this value

Which effect on the plasma ?

To this end we have incorporated this reflection in the simulations:



Result at 40 V/cm:	τ/µs	<e>/keV</e>
Without reflection:	22.6	73.4
With reflection:	81.4	101.0

Particularly efficient with shift of e-cloud towards extraction

for Ar⁸⁺ optimization

Insulating coverages can thus

improve electron densities by considerable factors

Is this the reason why

oxygen is such a good mixing gas

in contrast to nitrogen?

Oxygen does permanently reproduce insulating oxide layers which are of course permanently sputtered off This phenomenon works better in Al-chambers than in stainless steel chambers This could also explain the isotope effect: ¹⁸O is sputtered off less rapidly than ¹⁶O and thus forms more stable oxide layers







This was a typical X-ray measurement with the former settings With extreme μ W power one could push electrons into the corner with the highest field in PECRIS V of 2.03 T : Result would be X-rays up to 1.1 MeV



short attempt with natural isotope mixture of Xe : good result in 2002

Also as preparation for PUMAEX with Pb a lead oven was developed.

Atomic beam with only 9° half width. It perfectly worked externally for days.



Once built in, the thermocouples saw too much µW and produced wrong temperature readings: The lead was overheated and obscured the exit. When heating it off with the aperture coil, this coil was overheated and broke.



A repair of the oven was impossible for reasons of time. Disappointing results with lead vapor only stemming from the obscuring lead heated by the main heating coil – very far away 15 14 Pb 27+ Pb 25+ 13 12 Pb 28+ Pb 24+ 11 10 Pb 29+ Pb 23+ Pb 22+ ion current / µA 9 8 Pb 30+ 7 Pb 31+ 6 Pb 21+ 5 Pb 32+ 4 Pb 33+ Pb 34+ 3 Pb 38+ Pb 37+ Pb 36+ 2 1 0 6 7 8 9 10 5

m/q



Back to Ar¹⁶⁺ measurements:

Since the total gas pressure at the gauge was 2.6-10⁻⁶ Pa a particle density of $n_{gas} = 8.4 \cdot 10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ in the plasma chamber is calculated with molecular conductance from the chamber to the gauge: a factor of 430 below the electron cut-off density of 3.6-10¹² cm⁻³ at 17.04 GHz !! Assumption: ion density equal to the gas density in the plasma core To store this ion density with an averaged charge state $q_a = 8.3$ an electron density of $n_e = n_{qas} \cdot q_a = 7 \cdot 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ is required still a factor of 50 below the cut off density (another estimate gave a factor of 10)

In PECRIS V: n_e >> n_{gas} ≈ n_{ion}

The stiff electron cloud of high energy near axis

serves as ion cage

for long lifetimes of the ions since

ions are detained by force $\sim q^2$

due to image charge

How to extract these ions ?

In particular in short pulses of 100 µs length as for the LHC

Answer: By PUIsed MAgnetic EXtraction PUMAEX

First tried by C. Möhle at GSI (1995) by brute force--but given up

Reduced version realized on PECRIS III with great success

presented on Berkeley meeting and published in

Rev. Sci.Instr. 73, 1140 (2002)

Idea: Lower the magnetic mirror field at extraction

by a short current pulse in a coil wound around extraction hole

PUMAEX works when Afterglow fails





I(t) = I₀ sin[t/ $\sqrt{(LC)}$] for 0 < t < t_{max} = $\pi/2 \sqrt{(LC)}$ and with I₀ = U₀ $\sqrt{(L/C)}$

 $I(t) = I_0 \exp[-R/L(t-tmax)]$ for t > tmax



Theoretical result for a current pulse with the circuit installed

time / µs



Eddy currents in metal reduce the useful current

Therefore bad conductor as wall material : here stainless steel



Central position of mirror field with respect to plasma chamber



Mirror field shifted by 10 mm with respect to plasms chamber



PUMAEX pulse of Ar¹²⁺



Ar¹²⁺ current and extraction voltage as function of time





The field at extraction was 1.5 T without PUMAEX

The observed ion is Ar12+



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In order to compare the PUMAEX pulses with the continuous currents PECRIS V was optimized for Ar 11+, an integration over 50 µs was applied around the peak height,

and the ratio of peak content to continuous current was plotted:



The Pumaex-technique allows to look into the source The charge state distribution obtained with PUMAEX is very different from the one continuously extracted It is considerably shifted to higher charge states which evidently exist in PECRIS V They cannot be continuously extracted due to the

magnetic mirror and the electrostatic retrieving force $\sim q^2$

which are necessary for their production with long confinement

The best stable 50 µs pulses were obtained with

240 µA of Ar¹⁴⁺

and

49 µA of Ar¹⁶⁺

with peak heights up to 60 μ A of Ar¹⁶⁺

Unfortunately we could not pursue these promising results, in particular not for Xe and Pb, our main goal, since the hexapole lost more and more strength on one pole and the CPI-TWT-tube broke down during the ICRH-runs which we report on tomorrow









With the good confinement for these measurements the reflection of the electrons does improve their lifetime by only 25 % Is this a lack of statistics or does the seconary electron production also contribute to improve the electron density which shows