

# A High Charge State Heavy Ion Beam Source for HIF

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## Abstract

A high current low emittance high charge state heavy ion beam source is being developed. This is designed to deliver HIF (heavy ion Fusion) driver accelerator scale beam. Using high-charge-state beam in a driver accelerator for HIF may increase the acceleration efficiency, leading to a reduction in the driver accelerator size and cost. The proposed source system which consists of the gas beam electron stripper followed by a high charge state beam separator, can be added to existing single charge state, low emittance, high brightness ion sources and injectors. We shall report on the source physics design using 2D beam envelope simulations and experimental feasibility studies' results using a neutral gas stripper and a beam separator at the exit of the LBL 2 MV injector.

## 1. Introduction

The Heavy Ion Fusion Accelerator Research (HIFAR) program is looking into the possibility of using induction linacs as drivers in an inertial confinement fusion (ICF) power plant scenario [1]. An induction linac driver is envisioned now as a multiple beam accelerator [2] which after combining, acceleration, compression and final focusing hits the target in the energy plant reactor. Each accelerator's ion beam can be produced in a source injector system. A driver scale source system will deliver a 1 Amp beam with a line charge density of 0.25 micro C/m. The beam transverse emittance should be kept small (about 1 mm-mrad) to allow efficient final focusing and some growth when the beam pass through combining system. Heavy ion driver accelerator studies (1, 2) anticipate that the use of ion beams with a charge state  $q$  higher than 1 is desirable for lowering the accelerator length and cost. We propose a source system which consists of a neutral gas beam electron stripper followed by a high charge state beam separator. The system can be added to existing single charge state, low emittance, high brightness ion sources and injectors.

## 2. Source concept description

A schematic of the proposed source system is presented in Fig. 1. The source is placed at the exit of the matching section of the LBL 2 MV 0.8A K<sup>+</sup> ion beam

injector. The injector output beam envelope is formed in Q1, an electrostatic quadrupole, to match geometrical requirements by the beam stripper design. The beam is emerging from Q1 having a sheet (rectangular) cross sections along a 60 to 70 cm path. The long path allows placing of the neutral gas beam stripping system and the electrostatic beam separator between Q1 and Q2.

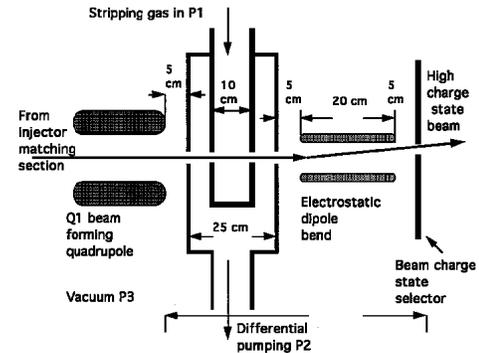


Fig. 1 High charge state source schematics

Preliminary 2D (MATCH code) beam envelope simulations to explore the physics design feasibility of the source system were performed. The simulations' results are shown in Fig. 2. One can see that the injector matching section output beam having a radius of 1.5 cm and 22 mr divergence, at the beam focus (waist), is formed into a beam having a 1.5 x 4 cm cross section at Q1 exit and about 1.5 x 6 cm at Q2 input. The beam propagates along a path of 70 cm allowing enough space for the beam stripping and separation systems while maintaining a narrow 1.5 cm beam between Q1 and Q2.

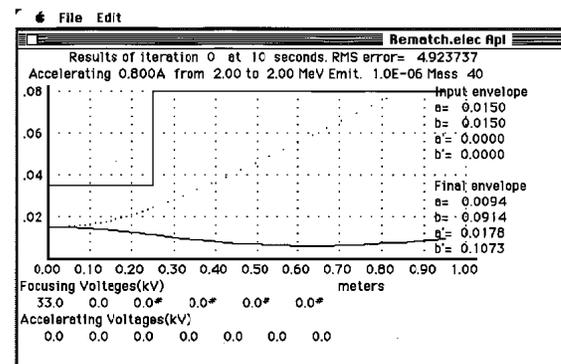


Fig. 2 Source beam envelope simulations using the 2D MATCH code.

Separating the various high-charge-state particles from the full (780 mA) beam could cause emittance growth in the separated beam components. This increase in emittance could originate from non linearities due to the space-charge fields from each component as well as the fringe fields from the separator. To quantify the emittance growth after separation, we have run computer calculation using the Particle-in-Cell codes WARP3D and ARGUS. Fig. 3 shows the  $K^{++}$  beam vertical and horizontal phase space profile at the exit of the separator. The calculation results show that the emittance of the  $K^{++}$  sources can be maintained to about 1 mm-mr.

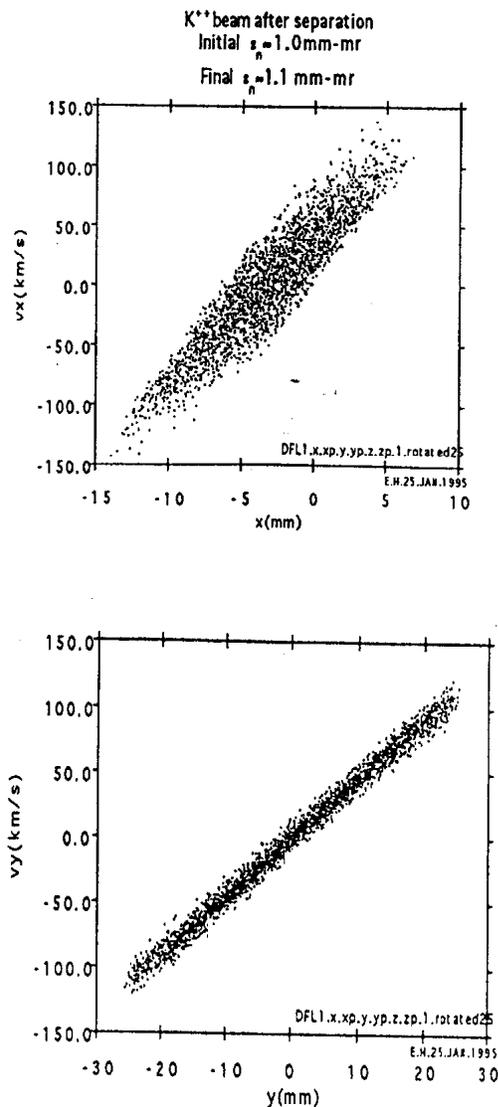


Fig. 3 Calculated  $K^{++}$  beam vertical (lower) and horizontal (upper) phase at separator output. Initial normalized emittance is 1 mm-mr and final 1.1 mm-mr.

### 3. Source feasibility experiment

The stripping gas system was placed and tested at the exit of the LBL 2 MV  $K^+$  ion beam injector with in the injector existing "diagnostics box" tank. A 2 mm width beam aperture is used to limit the beam current, i.e., divergence, at the injector exit. The beam drifts along a distance of 12" within the diagnostics box into the beam stripping system. The stripping system consists of the stripping gas container (SGC) placed within the differential pumping compartment. The beam is apertured in the stripping system using four 0.5 by 20 mm slits at the inputs and exits of the SGC and differential pumping compartment. Using the apertures reduces the pumping system requirements and eliminates the need for high current beam containing (focusing) lenses (quadrupoles) by reducing the beam current. The beam stripping gas pressure can be controlled by a point sephire valve anywhere between a few mTorr up to above 1 Torr. The tilt of the SGC is fine aligned to coincide with the beam line using an adjusting system at the stripping gas inlet port. The beam out of the stripping system drifts toward the diagnostics tank exit where the following diagnostics options could be placed: A Faraday cup to measure the beam time resolved current, a slit-cup to measure the beam current density profile, i.e., beam width (angular distribution), or an energy analyzer which consists of a coaxial electro static beam 90 degrees bend. The measured beam width can lead to the evaluation of the beam transverse emittance assuming the slited beam (low current) is emittance dominated. The analyzer is used for separating the stripped beam into the various charge states and for each charge state it measures the time resolved beam longitudinal energy and current.

A simple and quick way for measuring the charge state integrated stripping efficiency is by measuring the total stripped beam current using the Faraday cup at the stripping system exit. The ratio of the stripped beam current (enhanced by the higher charge)  $I_p$  taken at a stripping gas pressure  $p$  to the vacuum current  $I_v$ , can be a measure of the charge state integrated stripping efficiency  $I_p/I_v$  or the mean charge state  $qm$ . Fig 4 presents a He stripped 1.1 MV beams pressure dependence of  $I_p/I_v$  and  $W_p/W_v$  were  $W_p$  is the beam width measured at a He pressure  $p$   $W_v$  in vacuum. These results show that using the He gas beam stripping technique in the pressure range 50 to 100 mTorr can result a high charge state beam without degrading the beam emittance.

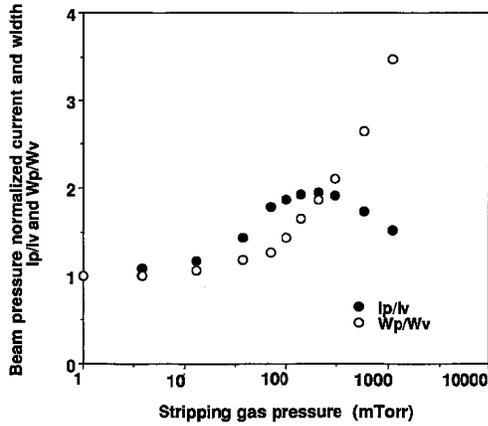


Fig. 4 Pressure normalized He stripped beam width  $W_p/W_v$  and current  $I_p/I_v$  vs. He pressure.

Fig 5 presents the measured  $q_m$  max vs beam energy  $U_b$  (up to 1.8 MV) in good agreement with calculations using Betz formula [3]. The measurements were repeated using heavier neutral stripping gas like  $N_2$  and Ar showing a beginning of a growth in  $W_n$ , i.e., in the emittance in a lower stripping gas pressure.

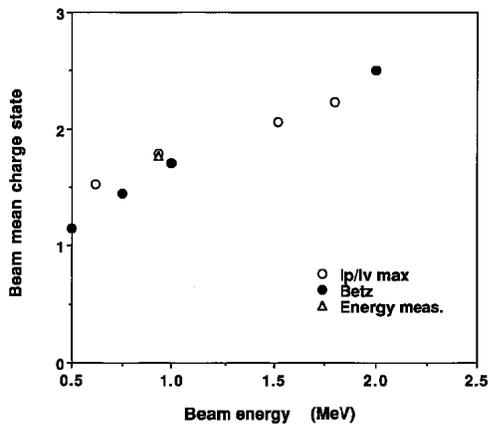


Fig. 5 Measured (Faraday cup, Energy analyzer) and calculated (Betz formula) mean charge state  $Q_m$  beam energy  $U_b$ .

Beam energy and current measurements for each beam charge state were taken on a 0.9 MV beam passing through 200m Torr of He gas using the beam energy analyzer. The measured beam time resolved longitudinal mean energy profiles in the separated beams indicated (within 0.1% analyzer resolution) small or no energy losses. Integrated beam current measurements in each charge state beam led to a beam particle distribution of 47%, 33%, 15%, 5% and current distribution

of 30%, 42%, 19%, 9% in charge states 1, 2, 3, 4 respectively.

#### 4. Discussion

The above measurements in the He stripped beams were limited to beam energies of 1.8 MV. In anticipation of using the injector full energy beam (2 MV) we extrapolated the above measurements results to a 2 MV beam using Betz formula which was shown to be in agreement with our experimental results. Thus  $q_m$  of 2.3 measured in a 1.8 MV beam can be extrapolated to  $q_m$  of 2.5 in a 2 MV beam. The stripped beam charge states distribution width  $H$  is calculated using Betz [3] formula:

$$H = 0.271 (Z)^{1/2} = 1.18$$

Where  $Z=19$  for a K ion. The increase in  $q_m$  to 2.5 with an  $H$  of 1.18 can lead to an increase, in the charge state two beam particles content, from 33% in a  $U_b = 0.9$  MV beam to 42% in 2 MV. Further emittance reduction is anticipated in a stripped 2 MV beam when using emittance growth calculations (4) which accounts for beam scattering in the gas, and are consistent with our experiment for beam energies up to 1.5 MV. The above results demonstrate the feasibility of the natural gas stripping technique for achieving a source of high charge state, high current low emittance, heavy ion beam.

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#### References

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