

PROTON BEAM VERIFICATION USING RF POWER MEASUREMENT DATA FOR A CW RADIO FREQUENCY QUADRUPOLE LINAC*

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Abstract

A cw radio frequency quadrupole (RFQ) LINAC section and klystrode based rf system was obtained from the Chalk River Laboratories and was recommissioned at LANL to conduct demonstration proton beam experiments in support of a spallation neutron source driver for tritium production. A variation of the Low Energy Demonstration Accelerator (LEDA) proton injector, modified to operate at 50 keV, was mated to the RFQ and was operated to support the high current (up to 100 mA), proton beam advance studies for the Accelerator Production of Tritium (APT) program. Detailed measurements and calibrations of the RFQ at both low and high power provided the corroborating data to other available beam measurements for verification of the accelerator design.

section to the CRITS RFQ made the LEDA injector/CRITS RFQ configuration a realistic testbed for this injector development. Furthermore, this configuration also supported RFQ experiments to evaluate the system modeling codes and to learn the details of cw RFQ operations. Figure 1 shows the full beamline used in this project.

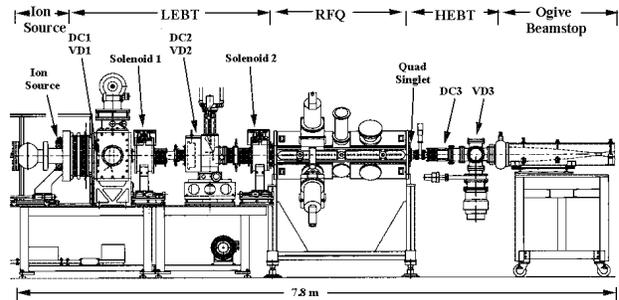


Figure 1: The LEDA Injector/CRITS RFQ beamline.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Chalk River Injector Test Stand (CRITS) was the LANL designation given to a proton accelerator designed, built, and originally commissioned at the Chalk River Laboratories (CRL) in Canada [1]. The CRITS accelerator apparatus includes a 1.25 MeV RFQ accelerator structure and a prototype klystrode-based rf system for powering the RFQ. An earlier independent study at LANL, utilizing the RFQ, focussed on the high-power operation of the rf structure [2].

The LEDA program has the objective of developing a high-current, cw injector and the initial rf accelerating structures for APT. The LEDA injector is comprised of the proton ion source and a Low Energy Beam Transport (LEBT) section to the RFQ. A 75 kV cw proton ion source was developed for LEDA and has produced a proton beam with measured current and emittance meeting program requirements. A state-of-the-art LEBT was designed and built to match the ion source beam to the LEDA RFQ [3].

The functionality of an injector is best confirmed by injecting its beam into an RFQ. The availability of the CRITS RFQ provided the opportunity for an initial shakedown of the LEDA injector prior to installing the injector as a LEDA subsystem. The modification of the ion source to 50 kV and adaptation of the LEBT exit

In order to meet the project objectives, the RFQ specific studies focussed on verifying the RFQ field configuration, successfully operating the RFQ at high power, verifying the accelerating fields in the RFQ, and accelerating the proton beam from the modified LEDA injector.

2 RFQ FIELD DISTRIBUTIONS

Although the Q and resonant frequency of the RFQ were close to the expected values following shipment of the RFQ from CRL, the verification of the modeling codes mandated that the field distribution in the structure be confirmed. A perturbation measurement of the cavity fields was made by inserting a probe through the various vacuum pumping holes in each of the quadrants, and the dipole field contributions to the quadrupole fields were calculated from these measurements. The uncorrected dipole fields across quadrants 1 and 3 (dipole 1) were measured to be up to 14% of the quadrupole field and up to 8% across quadrants 2 and 4 (dipole 2). The dipole field distribution along the RFQ length indicated that the vane coupling rings near the ends held the distribution close to the desired quadrupole configuration, thus, dipole field reduction at the center should achieve an acceptable field pattern in the RFQ. Adjustment of movable tuners in quadrants 2 and 4 and modification of the fixed tuner in quadrant 3 corrected the field distribution to less than 4%

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dipole contribution. This was considered acceptable for the beam studies. Figures 2 and 3 display the corrected and uncorrected dipole contributions for dipoles 1 and 2 respectively.

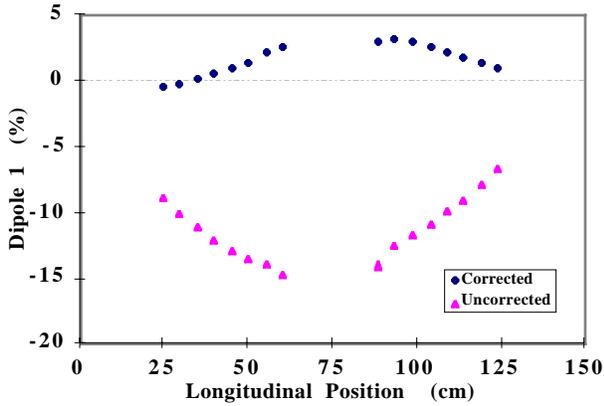


Figure 2: Dipole 1 Contribution to the quadrupole field distribution.

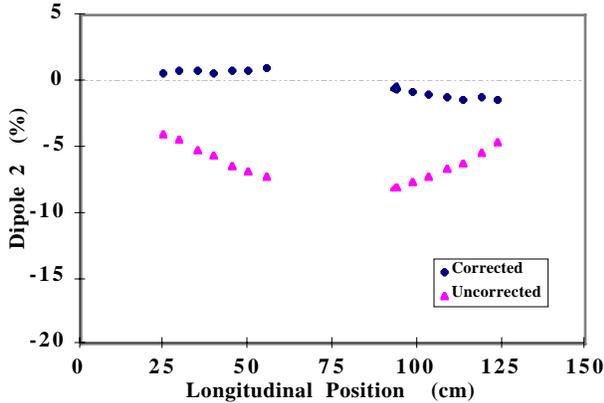


Figure 3: Dipole 2 Contribution to the quadrupole field distribution.

3 CALIBRATIONS

Accurate predictions of the acceleration and focusing fields require consistent measurements of the RFQ response to rf power. The RFQ driveline coupling and Q were measured using a Hewlett Packard 8753 Network Analyzer. The driveline coupling was verified from subsequent high power measurements. The Q was measured using reflected power, transmitted bandwidth, and transmitted delta phase techniques as shown in Figures 4, 5, and 6. The close agreement in Q measurements is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Measured RFQ Q values

Measurement	Loaded Q	Unloaded Q
Reflected Power		6780
Transmitted Bandwidth	2650	6760
Transmitted Delta Phase	2640	6720

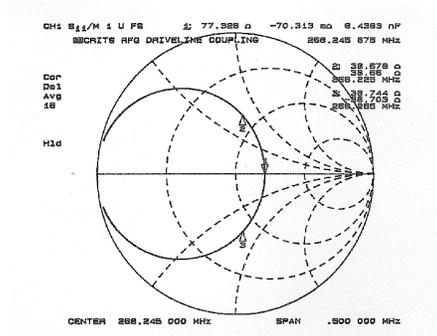


Figure 4: Reflected power Q measurement.

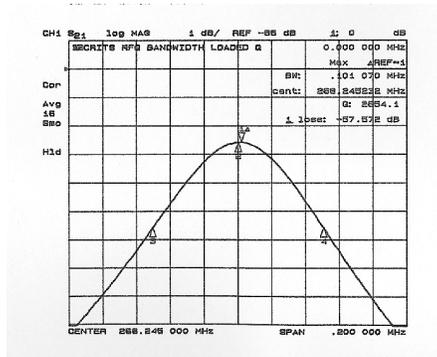


Figure 5: Transmitted bandwidth Q measurement.

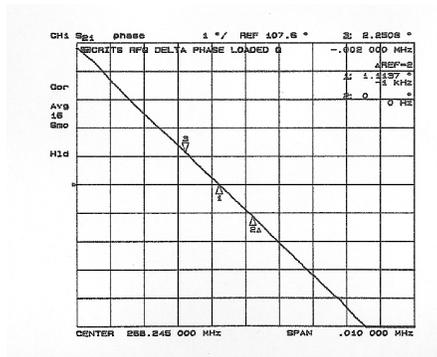


Figure 6: Transmitted delta phase Q measurement.

The calibrations of the field sampling loops were also completed using a Hewlett Packard 8753 Network Analyzer, and the rf signals from these loops at high power were monitored using power meters and oscilloscope measurements of the unrectified rf signals. Again, the measurement of forward, reflected, and RFQ cavity powers by Hewlett Packard 438A power meters and a Tektronix 2465A oscilloscope provided redundancy in the high-power measurements.

4 HIGH-POWER FIELD LEVEL VERIFICATION

The RFQ was conditioned to high power based on the SUPERFISH prediction of the design power level. High-power measurements of the actual field level were made using the x-ray endpoint method [4], a technique pioneered

by accelerator scientists at CRL. Measurements made throughout the duration of the proton beam studies verified that the peak intervane gap voltage tracked the measured power levels according to the expected square root dependency, and comparisons of the power meter to the oscilloscope measurements confirm an estimated $\pm 5\%$ accuracy to the power measurements. Furthermore, the field levels were measured to be the same when the proton beam was being accelerated by the RFQ. Figure 7 displays the gap voltage data and the curve used to project the peak intervane gap voltage as a function of the measured power.

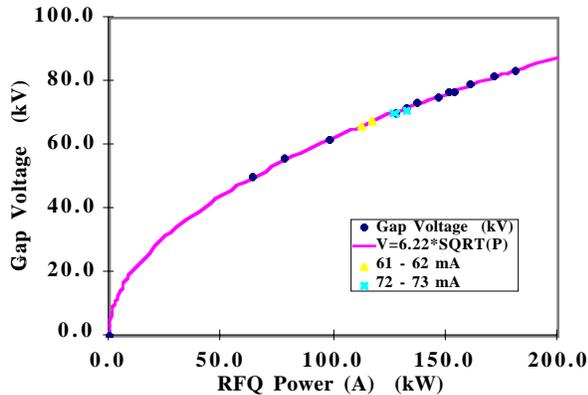


Figure 7: Peak intervane gap voltage as a function of RFQ cavity power.

5 PROTON BEAM MEASUREMENTS

The proton beam studies with the RFQ proceeded cautiously by increasing current only as the injector match to the RFQ could be confirmed by the beam transmission. The desired field level for the RFQ was set from the x-ray endpoint measurement, but a measurement of beam transmission as a function of the RFQ cavity power was also used to confirm the expected behavior. As expected, a knee in the transmission curve was observed below the design field level.

As a separate check for accelerated beam, the incident power difference and beam stop calorimetry were compared to the expected beam power under the assumption that the entire proton beam was accelerated. Although this assumption is known to be false, this calculation does allow us to compare the beam transmission data with the two beam power measurements using the same units. These data are shown in Figure 8. The rf incident power difference and calorimetry measurements of the beam as a function of RFQ cavity power show a discrepancy in absolute calibrations, but the knee in the curve for both measurements agree. The disagreement in predicted beam powers by the two diagnostic methods is probably due to the identified errors in the rf power measurements and errors in beam stop calorimetry. The lower RFQ cavity power correlated with the knee for beam transmission

compared with the other power measurements indicates that beam is transmitted even though it is not accelerated.

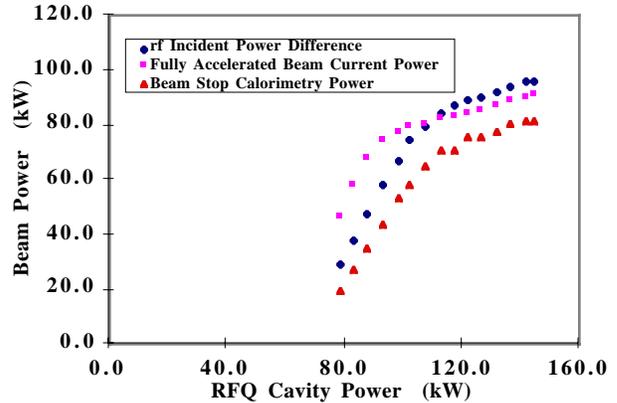


Figure 8: Peak intervane gap voltage as a function of RFQ cavity power.

6 SUMMARY

The CRITS RFQ proved to be an excellent test device for checking out all components of the injector. By optimizing the current through the RFQ, all injector systems demonstrated that they could operate across the required parameter space. The procedures developed during the CRITS RFQ beam operations have expedited the commissioning of LEDA. The successful transmission of beam currents with good agreement to the simulations [5] also provides confidence in the codes as we proceed into future projects.

7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

With the conclusion of the RFQ studies using the CRITS RFQ, we would like to thank and express our gratitude to the personnel at Chalk River Laboratories who designed, fabricated, assembled, and commissioned this accelerator section under the RFQ1 program. The technical progress made in our programs is a result of their groundbreaking efforts and the follow-on studies done with the equipment developed at their laboratory.

8 REFERENCES

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