





PHY862 Introduction to Ion Sources

Guillaume Machicoane Facility for Rare Isotope Beams

Outline

- Overview of ion sources for accelerator and industrial applications
- Basic Physics Principles supporting ion creation
 - Design feature common to all ion sources
- Some examples of ion sources found in major US accelerator facilities
 - Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source
 - Electron Beam Ion Source
 - Negative ion sources

Suggested Literature - Books

Resources for ion source literature

- The Physics and Technology of Ion Sources, Ian Brown.
- Ion Sources, Huashun S. Zhang, Jianrong Zhang, Springer-Verlag, 2000
- Handbook of Ion Sources, Bernhard H. Wolf, CRC Press, 1995
- Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Sources, R. Geller, IOP Pub, 1996
- CERN Accelerator School CAS (2013), CERN-2013-007

Working on lon source is a mix of physics and engineering

FRIB Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source



Ion Sources come in all sizes



Ion Sources for Implantation



Basis of hadron use for Radiotherapy



Radioisotopes Production with Cyclotrons [2]

 Commercial cyclotrons are typically negative ion machines (H-) Stripping foil at extraction to remove 2 electrons (H+) Internal Penning Ion Gauge (PIG) ion source prefered cost effective solution (<200euA) Negative ions are produced on the cathoda 				
Energy	Current (euA)	Usage	Isotope	Production Location
<15 MeV	<200	Short-Lived PET Isotope	¹⁸ F, ¹¹ C, ¹³ N, ¹⁵ O	On-Site (Hospital)
15-30 MeV	>400	SPECT Isotope	^{99m} Tc, ¹²³⁻¹²⁴ I, ¹¹¹ In, ¹⁰³ Pd	Hospital-Local Distributor
>30 MeV	>1000	Therapy	⁷⁷ Br, ¹⁸⁶ Re, ²¹¹ At	Research lab/industry

Neutral Beam Injection for Fusion



Ion Sources used for US Accelerator (Driver)





Also ECRs used at:

- ATLAS ANL (Argonne Illinois),
- 88' Cyclotron at LBNL (Berkeley Ca),
- Texas AM (College Station, TX)



Ion Sources for Radioactive Isotopes (RIB)

There exists a few techniques and facilities to produce radioactive beams





Ion Sources for Radioactive Isotopes (RIB)

Mostly Found in CERN and TRIUMF (Canada)

ion sources are not a separate design but they are sources optimized for radioactive beam production

- The entire system from isotope production, to particle transfer to the ion source, to ionization, and ion extraction is all optimized for maximum efficiency
- That is because unlike stable isotopes that are abundant, radioactive isotopes are typically produced only in minute quantities and can decay with short half-lives

Surface Ionization

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FEBIAD ION SOURCE AT I KIUWF



Resonant ionization laser ion source (RILIS)



Ion Definition

- An ion (/'aɪən, -ɒn/) is an atom or molecule that has a non-zero net electrical charge due to the removal or addition of one or more bound electrons
- Mechanism for ionization:
 - electron impact ionization,
 - photo-induced ionization
 - surface ionization..
- Definition of electron impact ionization :
 - removal of electrons bound to an atom using free electrons as projectiles
- Definition of ionization energy (E_I)

Energy needed to free bound electron from atom potential with zero kinetic energy



Why electron are good projectiles for ionization?

$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ m_{\rm P,} \ {\rm E}_{\rm P} \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ m_{\rm T,} \ E_{\rm F} \end{array} = 0 \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ m_{\rm T,} \ {\rm E}_{\rm F} \end{array}$$

Maximum Energy Transferred to Target for elastic collision:

$$E_F = \frac{4m_T m_P}{(m_T + m_P)^2} E_P$$

Proton to electron

$$m_P \gg m_T$$
 ; $E_F pprox 2.\, 10^{-3} E_P$

Electron to electron

$$m_P = m_T$$
; $E_F = E_P$



Ionization cross sections for Ar as a function of energy for ionizing collisions with electrons, protons, and photons. (From H. Winter, in Experimental Methods in Heavy Ion Physics, Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1978). *Ian Brown Handbook*

Electron impact ionization cross section



Ionization energy increased quickly with charge State



Ionization Cross Section for higher Charge State



Ionization cross section decrease quickly with charge state

The projectile is getting smaller With higher charge state!

Generating and Accelerating Electrons Lead to Sustained Discharge

- Many sources work on the principle of a cathode anode gas discharge
 - Electrons from a hot cathode are accelerated into the gas by a cathode to anode voltage, and ionize the gas atoms / molecules with electron impact ionization.
 - The creation of significant numbers of ions and electrons from the initial gas will lead to the possibility of sustaining a discharge i.e., the current flowing between cathode and anode electrodes is no longer dominated by the thermionic electrons from the cathode, but by new ions and electrons created from the gas, as well as secondary electrons from ion impact on the cathode surface.



Confining charged particles

- In the direction of the fields there is no force, transverse the particles are bend into the circular motion
- Helical motion increases the time the electron send in the discharge chamberfield lines can only be crossed through collisions – wall losses are reduced
- Add strongly increasing magnetic field as the confinement mechanism: Particles get reflected by an increasing magnetic field



Solenoidal field



Dipole field



Ion Source Components



Duoplasmatron



CERN Accelerator



RF Driven Ion Sources

The 2nd Maxwell Equation describes a curling *E* field generated by a changing magnetic field in absence of any charges!

$$\Delta \times E = -\frac{\partial B}{\partial t}$$

- A changing magnetic field *B* can be produced with an alternating current $i = i_0 \cos(\omega t)$ in *N* windings with radius r_0 : $B = \frac{1}{2}\mu_0 \frac{N \cdot i}{r_0}$
- Now integrate Maxwell's equation to get Faraday's law and solve for E

$$\int E.\,ds = -\frac{d\phi_B}{dt} = -\frac{d}{dt}\int B.\,dS$$

$$E(r,t) = \frac{1}{4} \frac{r}{r_0} \cdot \mu_0 \omega N i_0 \cdot \sin(\omega t)$$

(Adapted from: M. Stöckli, US-CERN-Japan Accelerator School 2013)



Example LBNL RF driven Multicusp Ion Source

Adapted from: M. Stöckli, US-CERN-Japan Accelerator School 2013 In 1990 LBNL replaced the filament in their

- In 1990 LBNL replaced the filament in their multicusp ion source with a 3-turn antenna, driven by 2 MHz.
- In 1992-1994 this source was tested for SSC yielding up to 100 mA for 0.1 ms at 10 Hz.
- 1999-2001 LBNL developed this source for antenna SNS, hoping to eventually reach the 7% duty factor.



In 2001 the plasma was visualized by replacing the stainless steel source chamber with a glass dome surrounded by identical cusp magnets



Beam Extraction [1]

- The extraction of the ion source is here to produce a beam from the plasma generator.
 - Done by Applying a high voltage between plasma boundary and an extraction electrode





Child-Langmuir Law

- As the current density extracted from the ion source increase, the space charge of the beam in front of the meniscus slows the extraction of ions within the plasma to the point that it will eventually cancels out the extraction field.
 - This is given by the Child-Langmuir equation

$$J_{Lim} = \frac{4}{9} \varepsilon_0 \frac{\sqrt{\frac{2eq_i}{m_i}}V^{\frac{3}{2}}}{d^2}$$

• V is the acceleration voltage, d gap suppression electrode, m_i , q_i the matrix



Notion of emittance and Space Charge

- Space charge
 - Coulomb repulsion between positive particle of ion beam



- Defined as the product of beam size and divergence angle and is represented as plots of divergence angle versus transverse position
- Calculation usually made for area that enclosed 95% of particle or r.m.s $\langle x^2 \rangle = \frac{\int \int \int x^2 f(x, y, x', y') dx dy dx' dy'}{\int \int \int \int f(x, y, x', y') dx dy dx' dy'}$

$$\epsilon_{rms} = \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle \langle x'^2 \rangle - \langle xx' \rangle^2} \ [mm-mrad]$$

Ion temperature and Magnetic Field are main contribution to emittance

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Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source (ECRIS)

Projects worldwide that needs high intensity high charge state ion beams



MSU FRIB U33+ + U34+ 13 pµA/ CW



HIAF China, U³⁵⁺ 20pμA CW, 50 pμA Pulsed



RIKEN RIBF U35+ 15 pµA/ CW



1.0 emA q/A=1/3 and intense heavy ion beams of q/A=1/6~1/7 (optional)

! Very Challenging Projects

Advantages of high charge states for injector



Developing intense highly charged ion source is both performance-effective and cost-effective

ECR Principle of Operation



Magnetic Mirror effect

- When a charged particle propagates along the source axis toward a region with a higher magnetic field, it may be reflected back
 - $T_{kin}(z) = T_{\parallel} + T_{\perp} = \frac{1}{2}mv_{\parallel}^{2}(z) + \frac{1}{2}mv_{\perp}^{2}(z) = const$
 - Magnetic moment $\mu = \frac{mv_{\perp}^2}{2B} = \frac{T_{\perp}}{B} = const$

•
$$T_{kin}(z) = \frac{1}{2}mv_{\parallel}^{2}(z) + \mu B(z) = const$$

- When B is increases the velocity is transferred from v_{\parallel} to v_{\perp}
- The particle is stopped at $z = z_1$ where $v_{\parallel} = 0$

An ECR has a high gradient of magnetic field in all directions resulting in a long confinement (ms) and high density of electrons



1+ ECR No radial Field



Charge Exchange and Radiative Recombination

 Charge Exchange reduce lons charge state through atom-ion collision

$$\mathbf{B}^0 + \mathbf{A}^{\mathbf{n}+} \longrightarrow \mathbf{A}^{(\mathbf{n}-1)+} + \mathbf{B}^+$$

 Cross section for single or multiple electron capture are large and increase with charge state (Q)

$$\sigma_{q \to q-1}^{CE} \sim 1.43.10^{-12} Q^{1.17} (E_i [eV])^{-2.76} cm_1^2$$

Müller Salzborn (1977)

Radiative Recombination

$$e^{-} + A^{n+} \longrightarrow A^{(n-1)+} + \hbar \omega$$

- Cross section high a low electron energies
- $\sigma_{q \to q-1}^{RR} \sim Q^2$



Balance of Atomic Processes for Krypton



Charge dynamics

- The competition between the charge generation processes and the charge destruction processes can be visualized as a staircase...
- Electron impact increases the charge state
- Charge exchange and radiative recombination decrease the charge state

$$\frac{\partial n_i}{\partial t} = \sum_{\substack{j=j_{\min}}}^{i-1} n_e n_j \left\langle \sigma_{j \to i}^{EI} v_e \right\rangle + n_0 n_{i+1} \left\langle \sigma_{i+1 \to i}^{CE} v_{i+1} \right\rangle$$
Creation
$$-n_0 n_i \left\langle \sigma_{i \to i-1}^{CE} v_i \right\rangle - \sum_{j=i+1}^{j_{\max}} n_e n_j \left\langle \sigma_{i \to j}^{EI} v_e \right\rangle - \frac{n_i}{\tau_i}$$
Destruction



Charge State Distribution from an ECR



ECR-Performance: Frequency Scaling

• $n_e \tau_i \ge \propto T_e^{3/2}$ gives a condition on what charge states can be reached.



$$I_Q \propto n_e \propto \omega_{rf}^2$$

Increasing excitation frequency principal way to improve performance of ECR

- Scaling with Magnetic field
 - Stability condition expressed as kinetic pressure<< Magnetic pressure

$$\beta = \frac{n_e k T_e}{\frac{B^2}{2\mu_0}} \ll 1 \qquad I_Q \propto n_e \propto B^2$$

Need to increase magnetic field to keep up with increased density

EBIS/EBIT

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EBIS/T overview

- Electron Beam Ion Sources like Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source ionize atoms to a high degree to extract high charge state ions
 - Injector for synchrotrons: RHIC EBIS
 - Charge breeder for post-accelerators: REX-ISOLDE (CERN), CARIBU (ANL), ReA (FRIB/NSCL), and others.



EBIS of RHIC: Relativistic Heavy Ion Accelerator (collider) at the Brookhaven National Laboratory



The EBIS is an injector of stable isotopes for:

- High-energy heavy ion collisions (e.g., Au-Au)
- NASA radiation facility
- 2 indep. intersecting storage rings
- Chain of accelerators
 - 3 injectors: EBIS source + linac, Tandem injector, proton linac
 - Booster Synchrotron
 - Alternating Gradient Synchrotron
 - 2.4 miles circumference storage ring
- EBIS is an ideal source for synchrotrons because of the sharp pulse structure of the beam: multi-turn injection for accumulation in intense peaks for high signal-to-noise ratio.

Basic working principle -1-

What is an Electron-Beam Ion Source/Trap and how does it work?

- Produces & traps highly charged ions with a high-current density electron beam
- ▶ 3 Parts: e-gun, trap + magnet , e-collector
- ► Strong magnetic field: Electron-beam compression & Ionization by electron impact
- ► Trap electrodes (**drift tubes**) → Axial ion confinement
- ▶ Electron beam \rightarrow Radial ion confinement



Axial potential well from the trap electrodes

Basic working principle -2-



Charge Breeding Times

From the ionization factor, we can estimate the breeding time of a charge state knowing the current density and cross sections \rightarrow

$$\tau_{Q+} \sim \frac{e}{j_e} \sum_{n=0}^{Q+} \frac{1}{\sigma_{EI}}$$

The breeding time is inversely proportional to the e-beam current density (j_e) , and <u>e-impact ionization cross sections</u> (σ_{EI}) (neglect all other processes)



High Charge State Record obtained in 1995 with an EBIT

U 92+ Produced within the Electron Beam Ion Trap at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory



Production of U⁹²⁺ with an EBIT

R. E. Marrs

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550

Abstract

A super electron beam ion trap has been used to produce bare U^{92^+} ions at an electron beam energy of 198 keV. Evaporative cooling with light ions was used to trap a population of 5×10^4 highly charged uranium ions for many seconds and reduce their temperature to less than 2q eV, suggesting that a very low emittance source of these ions is possible. Roughly 10 U^{92^+} and 500 U^{91^+} ions were present in the Super EBIT as determined from x-ray emission spectra of the trapped ions.

The ReA post-accelerator of rare isotopes at the NSCL/FRIB



Negative Ion Sources

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Need for negative ion beams has grown significantly over the last decades

- → Atomic Mass Spectrometry (AMS); <u>key</u> to carbon dating (¹⁴C); ¹⁴N does not form a stable negative ion
- → Production of radioactive ion beams with a intense, highenergy proton beam (TRIUMF)



Production mechanisms of negative ions

- A negative ion is formed when an atom or molecule captures an electron into a bound state: "electron affinity level"
 - Electron affinity energy: minimum energy needed to remove the electron of a negative ion to form a neutral atom
 - Similar to the ionization potential: minimum energy to remove an electron from a neutral atom (or a position ion)
 - EA are smaller than ionization energies: 3.6 eV for CI-; 0.75 eV for H-
 - Neutralizing a negative ion is called "electron detachment"
- The production mechanisms can be classified in terms of where the electrons come from...(the electron source)
 - Electrons in the conduction band of a metal \rightarrow Surface Effect
 - Plasma electrons → Volume production of H-

Surface effect

- An atom emitted from a surface of a metal of a low work function has a high probability to leave the surface as a negative ion
- What happens here is: electron capture occurs due to quantum tunneling of an electron from the Fermi level to electron affinity level



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Many processes that can destroy H– ions

 $H^- + e \rightarrow H^0 + 2e$

 $H^- + H^0 \rightarrow H_2 * + e$

- After leaving the surface, negative ions can be destroyed to neutral atoms or positive ions due $H^- + H^+ \rightarrow H^0 + H^0$
 - Mutual neutralization
 - Electron Detachment (ED)
 - Associative detachment
- The destruction probability depends on...
 - The gas pressure in the source
 - The transport length (L) to the extraction
 - The detachment cross sections by collisions.
- As well as being fragile and easily destroyed it is much more likely to be hit.
 - » The H⁻ ion collision cross section with electrons is 30 times larger than neutral H0 atom
 - » The H⁻ ion collision cross section with ions is 100 times larger than neutral H0 atoms





Volume Production of H- By Dissociative Electron Attachment

- Volume production of H- (more in the next slide...)
 - Hydrogen molecules (H₂) are excited to high rotational and vibrational levels (H₂*) by high-energy electrons (>15 eV)
 H₂ + e(fast) = H₂* + e

The excited molecules capture low-energy electrons (<1eV) to form an unstable molecules that breaks apart to form a negative hydrogen (H-) through "dissociative electron attachment" → H₂* + e → H₂*⁻ → H + H⁻



Volume production of H-: Tandem H- Source

- In the source (S), electrons emitted by a filament are accelerated to ~100 eV to form a plasma with a non-Maxwellian electron energy distribution
- The extraction (E) is characterized by the absence of energetic electrons and a lowelectron temperature (~1 eV)
- The two regions are separated by a magnetic filter to allow transfer to the extraction region of slow electrons, but not energetic electrons
- The first electrode of the extractor (plasma electrode) (PE) can be biased to help equalize the potentials of the two plasma regions.
- Cold electrons captured by excited molecules near the outlet produce the extractable H- ions

 $H_2^* + e(<1eV) = H + H^-$



Most recent (volume + surface) negative ion source for H-

Another H- source is the SNS (Spallation Neutron Source) source that uses volume and surface production



- Developed by LBNL based on the RF Hconcept (see previous slide)
- Typically 300 W...
- ~50 mA being injected into the RFQ under nominal conditions.
- ~230 C of H- ions per day !
- Recent paper: Martin P. Stockli, Robert F. Welton, and Baoxi Han, REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS 89, 052202 (2018) (Winner of the ICIS 2017 **Brightness Award**)

CERN new H⁻ Ion source for Linac 4

- CERN Linac 4 is now using an H⁻ source for injection into Proton booster ring
 - X2 intensity (50emA from ion source)





 Design similar to SNS H⁻ sources that uses volume and surface production



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