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Office of Science

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# BUNCH LENGTH DETECTOR BASED ON X-RAY PRODUCED PHOTOELECTRONS



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#### Content

#### Motivation

- Properties of X-rays produced due to the interaction of proton/ion beams with material
- Bunch length detector based on X-ray produced photoelectrons
  - Principle of operation
  - Photocathode
  - Registration of photoelectrons
- Experimental results, bunch shape of ion beams
- Possible modifications of the detector for application in high-power accelerators



### **Motivation**

Stripping of heavy-ion beams in high-power driver accelerators

- time focus of the bunched beam on the stripper results in the lowest longitudinal emittance growth
- Application:
  Appl

#### **FRIB – Facility for Rare Isotope Beams**



experiments (solids)

X-BLD for application in high-power proton, H-minus accelerators

- Does not require wire or target permanently inserted into the beam. A gas flow can be used
- Bunch longitudinal profile can be monitored on-line which is not possible using conventional methods



#### **Properties of X-rays from the target**

# K-SHELL IONIZATION IN HEAVY-ION COLLISIONS

W. E. Meyerhof<sup>1</sup>

 $10^{-19}$  sec. On the other hand, typical decay times for K-shell vacancies are of the order of  $10^{-10}/Z^4$  sec (27), which for Br is  $\sim 10^{-16}$  sec. Since the outer electrons

- Potentially can provide resolution .
  of several picoseconds
  Intensity of K-shell X-rays is 2 order of magnitude higher
- For test purpose at low-intensity ion linac we use copper target
   For high-intensity beams: use, for example, xenon gas flow

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#### X-ray based bunch length detector: principle of operation



#### **Photocathode**

Back-surface secondary electron quantum yield for a 1020-Angstrem CsI transmission photocathode 10 The best response of the photocathode is with 1 kV X-Ray 1.0 b Q.I. 100 1000 10:000 PHOTON ENERGY (eV



#### **Photocathode – Properties of photoelectrons**

#### **Energy distribution of the photoelectrons:**





Photoelectron energy distribution for CsI photocathode excited by X radiation with an energy of 277 eV. Photoelectron energy distribution for CsI photocathode excited by X radiation with an energy of 8080 eV.

- the both distributions are almost the same with a peak at 0.5 eV
- nearly the same width at half maximum.
- 80% of the photoelectrons are below 2 eV.

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#### **Trajectory of photoelectrons**





#### X-ray based BLD (Argonne National Laboratory)

General view of the X-BLD installed at the ATLAS facility. 1 – target translator, 2 – target, 3 – photocathode assembly, 4 – RF deflector, 5 – detection unit, 6 – CCD-camera.





#### **Commissioning of the detector**

- The slit downstream of the photocathode was too wide (1 mm)
  - Reduced to 0.15 mm
- Stray magnetic field steers 10 kV electrons
  - Shielding against magnetic field
- RF frequency of the deflector is 97 MHz and is driven by the Accelerator master oscillator
- Improve the optics of the BLD to obtain better focusing on the phosphor screen, additional electrostatic steering and focusing was added
  - With 0.15 mm slit additional focusing and steering is not required
- Primary ion beam must be tuned to avoid losses on the walls
  - Can produce X-rays on the walls which increases the background
- Chevron MCP
  - Very good amplification, up to 10<sup>8</sup>
  - Problem: Narrow dynamic range, Dynamic range depends from amplification
- Most problems due to very low intensity of primary beam in our facility
  - Beam current is below 0.5  $\mu$ A

#### Electron beam image on the phosphor with no RF applied

We installed a slit (0.15 mm) downstream of the photocathode

Focused electron beam profile: Resolution is ~5 pixels = 0.4 mm





## Oxygen beam (~1.6 MeV/u, 9 MeV/u, 0.2 to 0.5 $\mu$ A)

Longitudinal profile, Oxygen, I=25 pnA sinusoidal fit measured Intensity (rel. unit) Δ -100 -50 Degree (97 MHz) Resonator phase (deg) P **Detector** location PII ECR Booster



#### **Bunch Length Detector based on secondary electrons**

- Very well established technology for proton, H-minus, ion linacs
- Requires a wire biased to -10 kV to produce and accelerate secondary electrons
- Limited beam pulse length (~50 to 150 µsec) and beam repetition rate to avoid destruction of the wire
- Proton beam space charge and magnetic field can impact on electron trajectory – requires more studies for high current beams

#### **Bunch Length Detector based on photoelectrons**

Can be used for on-line longitudinal profile measurements in very high-power accelerators



# Use spectrometer to select X-rays produced by filling of K-shell vacancies (8-10 keV)





#### High-power proton accelerators





#### **Summary**

- We have developed and tested an X-ray based Bunch Length Detector (X-BLD) for application in ion accelerators
- The sensitivity of X-BLD is high enough to measure bunch length even for ion beams with quite low intensities such as 0.2 µA
- Temporal resolution of an X-BLD can be improved for high intensity ion beams by incorporation of an X-ray spectrometer into the device.
- An electron beam detection based on MCP-phosphor system has low dynamic range and requires improvement. Secondary Electron Multipliers are proven to be better option.
- High power proton and ion accelerators:
  - X-BLD can be applied for on-line monitoring of the bunch length. Requires either pulsed gas flow or dropping of micro-particles across the beam
  - No thermal issues with the target

