Recent developments with the GTS-LHC ECR ion source at CERN

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- 3. Double frequency heating with afterglow
- 4. Miniature oven studies
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GTS-LHC ECRIS





GTS-LHC ECRIS

- 14.5 GHz room temperature ECR ion source based on Grenoble Test Source (GTS) by CEA, Grenoble
- Operated exclusively in afterglow (10 Hz, 50% duty cycle)
- Predominantly Pb²⁹⁺ beams (Ar in 2015, Xe planned for 2017)





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Example: Ar beam extraction




































Motivation: extraction region issues





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- Significant beam losses in the extraction region (simulations and observations)
- Limited beam tuning capabilities, ion source tuning coupled to initial beam divergence

Example: Ar beam extraction









The original system



















































Results after upgrade



Results after upgrade

- Performance has improved steadily as experience is gained on how to optimize the source matching to the new transport conditions
- Comparison of beam performance before and after the upgrade:

- Also other benefits from improved flexibility in ion source tuning
 - Improved beam stability
 - New beam conditions easier to reach and maintain



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- Comparison of beam performance before and after the upgrade:

Ion species and location	Original (2015 run)	Upgraded	Improvement
Pb ²⁹⁺ out of ion source	170 µA	210 µA	24 %
Pb54+ out of Linac3	25 µA	35 µA	40 %

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- Like afterglow, multiple frequency heating is a well known method to improve HCI performance
- Further improvement by combining both?
- Experiments performed with GTS-LHC and Pb beams



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	Primary (f ₁)
Microwave source	Klystron
Frequency	14.5 GHz
Maximum power	2 kW
Operating mode	Pulsed (10 Hz, 50%)



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- In pulsed operation, improved HCI performance in afterglow
- Improvement observed when $f_2 < f_1$, not when $f_2 > f_1$
- Effect not caused by increase in total microwave power
- Delay between klystron-TWTA switch-off leads to two-step structure in afterglow – delayed release of part of the ion population
- Operating TWTA in CW mode while pulsing klystron results in decreased afterglow currents – part of ion population is kept continuously trapped





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 - Suggested mechanism: suppression of plasma instabilities through interaction of secondary microwaves with hot electron population
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*V. Skalyga et al., Phys. Plasmas 22 (2015) 083509



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GTS-LHC miniature oven





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- Resistively heated miniature
 oven for Pb evaporation
- Points of interest/motivation:
 - Increased time between refills (presently 2 weeks)
 - Failure mechanisms (blockage)
 - Basic characterization of oven







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- Resistively heated miniature
 oven for Pb evaporation
- Points of interest/motivation:
 - Increased time between refills (presently 2 weeks)
 - Failure mechanisms (blockage)
 - Basic characterization of oven
 - Linking oven behaviour to ion source behaviour
- Dedicated test stand built for oven studies
- Thermal model to complement measurements











































- Suitable temperature range for Pb, radiative losses dominate oven behaviour (T∝P^{1/4})
- Evaporation rate trend agrees
 with theoretical predictions
- Long term output at constant power exhibits regions of steady operation as well as instabilities
- Thermal model provides insight into temperature distributions inside the oven
- Colder oven tip may contribute to oven blockage issues





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Summary



Summary

- The GTS-LHC extraction region upgrade was a great success
 - Improved performance in terms of output current, beam stability and operation flexibility
 - Linac3 output improvement fulfils the goal set in LIU
- Combining afterglow with double frequency heating is a viable way to improve pulsed HCI performance
 - Future studies in preparation to assess if this would be suitable option for routine Linac3 operation
- Basic oven characterization done
 - Future studies will focus on failure mechanisms and different factors impacting the oven performance

