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High intensity RFQs:

Review on Recent Development, Common Problems, Solutions

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High Intensity RFQs, Yuan He





- Introduction of RFQ accelerator
- Recent progress of high intensity RFQs
- Common problems and solutions
- Summary



Introduction of RFQ accelerator





loaded cavity; mode TE₂₁₀

Four electrodes forms quadropole focusing electric field.



Modulation on the electrodes forms the acceleration electric field.



- The mostly first element for hadron accelerator
- To focus, bunch and accelerate beam in a several meters channel
- Beam energy ranges from several keV to MeV.
- 4-vane and 4-rod are most popular geometric structures.



Frankfurt, 4-rod, 202 MHz



1980, LANL, 4-vane, 425 MHz



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Application of High Intensity RFQ



- 1 Injector of Accelerator Driven System (Proton, 10s mA, MWs, CW) C-ADS, MYRRHA,
- 2 Injector of Material Irradiation Facility (Deuteron, 10s mA, MWs, CW) IFMIF, SARAF, CMIF,
- 3 Injector of High Flux Neutrino Production (Proton, mAs, MWs, CW/Pulse) PIP-II (PXIE), HP-SPL,
- 4 Injector of Radioactive Beam (heavy ions, ~1mA, hundreds kWs, CW) EURO-ISO, RIBF, FRIB, Spiral2, HIAF, ROAN, BISO,
- 5 Injector of High Flux Neutron Source (Proton, mAs, MWs, pulse) ISIS, SNS, J-PARC, CSNS, ESS,
- 6 Injector of High Energy facility (Proton, mAs, MWs, pulse) LHC, HPPC,
- 7 Stand alone for applications and so on ...



Progress in RFQ family (incomplete)



Project	Lab	Ion	Frequency (MHz)	Voltage (kV)	Vane length (m)	Current (emA)	Duty factor (%)	Inj. E (keV)	Exit E (MeV)	Туре	State
SNS	ORNL	H-	402.5	83	3.72	38	6.2	65	2.5	4-vane	Upgrade
J-PARC	JAEA/KEK	H-	324	82.9/82.9/81.0	3.11/3.17/3.62	50	3	50	3	4-vane	Upgrade
LINAC4	CERN	H-	352.2	78	3.06	80	7.5	45	3	4-vane	Operation
CPHS	THU	Р	325	60-132	3	50	2.5	50	3	4-vane	Operation
CSNS	IHEP	Р	324	80	3.62	40	1.24	50	3	4-vane	Operation
IPHI	CEA	Р	352.2	80-120	6	100	CW		3	4-vane	Commission
C-ADS inj-I	IHEP	Р	325	55	4.69	10	CW	35	3.2	4-vane	Upgrade
C-ADS inj-II	IMP	Р	162.5	65	4.21	10	CW	35	2.1	4-vane	Operation
PXIE(PIP II)	FNAL	Р	162.5	60	4.21	5	CW	35	2.1	4-vane	Commission
FRANZ	IAP	Р	175	75	1.75	200	CW	120	0.7	4-rod	Commission
SARAF	SNRC	D	176	65	3.8	5	CW	20	3	4-rod	Upgrade
IFMIF	INFN	D	175	79-132	9.8	130	CW	50	5	4-vane	Assembly
CIMF	IMP	D	162.5	65	5.27	10	CW	20	3	4-vane	Construction
SSC-Linac	IMP	A/q=7	53.667	70	2.51	0.5	CW	25	1	4-rod	Operation
Spiral2	GANIL	A/q=3	88	100-113	5	5	CW	60	2.25	4-vane	Commission
FRIB	MSU	<i>A/q</i> =7	80.5	60-112	5.04	0.45	CW	84	3.5	4-vane	Assembly
LEAF(HIAF)	IMP	<i>A/q</i> =7	81.25	70	5.98	2	CW	<u>98</u>	3.5	4-vane	Construction

• The high intensity RFQs include proton, deuteron and high ions machines.

• Most efforts and problems are on the CW high power RF and high power beam.







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Original RFQ (one segment shown): Designed and fabricated by LBL Made from GlidCop and Copper



New RFQ (one segment shown):III.Designed and fabricated by RIPlanMade from Copper (no GlidCop)PlanBetter vacuum pumping Better water cooling More robust

- Original RFQ has a troubled history
 - First beam at SNS in 2002
 - Since then, 3 distinct detuning events mostly corrected by re-tuning
 - Over 20% decrease in transmission
- New RFQ
 - Ordered in 2010, received in 2014
 - First beam on September 8, 2016 (on test stand)
 - Demonstrated correct energy and transmission and emittance
 - Demonstrated full duty factor (60 Hz, 1 ms, 38 mA) operation
 - Plan to install January 2018





3 meV, 80 mA





- The measured emittance in LEBT was bigger than the RFQ acceptance.
- The LEBT H₂ pressure was changed to study the effect of space charge at low energy matching. for each pressure a different setting of the LEBT solenoid had to be applied to rematch the beam and to recover the transmission.



3 MeV, 50 mA J-PARC RFQs at JAEA/KEK





RFQ I: Separated cavity and vacuum vessel, with PI-mode Satirizing Loops



RFQ III: Brazed monolithic structure, with Dipole Stabilizing Rods

- Original 30-mA RFQ (RFQ I)
 - Frequent sparking problem in 2008.
 - Overcame by improving vacuum in 2009.
 - After that, stably operated in ~3-year user run, and still used as a test accelerator.
- Newly designed 50-mA RFQ (RFQ III)
 - Learning from the RFQ I, the structure was improved. Installed in 2014
 - 50-mA transmission, emittance agree the design
 - No serious sparking. Only < 10 /day short (recover time < 1s) trips
 - No degradation of the performance, even after 3-year user operation.



3 MeV, 50 mA CPHS RFQ at Tsing Hua University











- Transmission degraded due to deformation of resonator.
 Field distribution deformed too.
- In order to deal with the transmission rate degradation, the field distribution was tuned and the relative error of quadrupole filed was reduced from 7.3% to 2.6%. The transmission rate raised to 91%
- CPHS operates for various applications in 2016 (Total operation time ~800 hrs)



3 MeV, 40 mA





CSNS RFQ at IHEP

RFQ (including the RF power source) installation started on Dec. 15, 2014 and finished on Feb. 5, 2015.



- Conditioning with duty of 700us at 25Hz
- RF power 450kW > 350kW (nominal)
- Reflection power is about 16kW
- 10 days, 24 hours per day, Spark 1~2 per day at last



- April 21, 2015, first beam with 700 us / 1 Hz
- Realize 500 us / 25 Hz with beam chopping
- Beam transmission ranges 75-88.5% due to a larger input beam emittance as to RFQ acceptance.



With the beam collimator installed at entrance of RFQ , RFQ beam trans : 93-96% at I =10-11mA



IMP

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3 MeV, 100 mA, CW









- 1. Conditioning started in April 2015 the duty factor was limited to 1% due to the cooling system.
- 2. RF seals had been burned for 2 RF inputs at 900kW peak. Detuning of 50 Hz due to abnormal heating of the 2 RF inputs. New seal and new design of the groove for the 4 RF inputs.
- 3. Conditioning restarted in Feb. 2016 until 1.2MW with 0.5% duty factor
- 4. March 2016, first beam, 68 mA proton, 400 us / 1Hz, pulsed RF @ 400 us / 1s. Transmission of RFQ is 93%, and LHE is 92%.
- 5. As of March 2017, IPHI has been commissioned up to beam power of 1.5 kW.
- 6. The commissioning to the design value (300 kW) is foreseen in 2017.

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3.2 MeV, 10 mA, CW C-ADS Injector I RFQ at IHEP





- May 15, '14, RF conditioning of first RFQ
- Jun. 20, '14, duty factor was 80% with RF power 257 kW. The vacuum leakage in the coupling plate due to welding problem. New cooling channel has been designed.
- Aug. 22, '14, CW 194 kW, 30 min, inlet cooling plate pipe of the 2nd coupler leaked.
- Nov. 26, '14, duty factor was 99.97% with 250 kW
- Mar.30 ~Apr.10, '15, CW, RF power is limited to 158 kW. Decided to fabricate the second RFQ.
- Oct. 19 Nov. 6, '16, the second RFQ conditioned to CW 250 kW (nominal power).
- Jan. 4, '17, the first CW proton beam of 2.1 mA at 10MeV was got in C-ADS injector I.



Time Conditioning record of new RFQ for injector I of C-ADS



CW be record of injector I for C-ADS with new RFQ



2.1 MeV, 10 mA, CW C-ADS Injector II RFQ at IMP



- '11-'13, Designed by LBNL and fabricated in IMP.
- Apr. 17 to Jun. 6 '14, conditioned to 90 kW
- Jun. 6th '14, the first pulse beam, 2.1 MeV, trans 97%
- Jun. 21 '14, the first CW beam, 2.2 mA
- Jun. 30th, 10 mA, CW, 21 kW beam power, 4.5 hours
- Aug. 7, Sept. 17 '15, coupler cracked twice
- Sept. to Dec. '15, due to high reflecting power, the tube AMP was broken many times on input/output cavity, socket.
- Apr. '16, two SSA were installed.
- Up to date, full power operation 5021 hours, beam time is around 2036 hours, CW beam 77 hours.
- Nov. 2016, 10 MeV, 1.1 ~2.7 mA, CW beam, injector II







Historical record of first 10 mA CW proton bem



2.1 MeV, 5 mA, CW PXIE (PIP II) RFQ at FNAL





- 4-vane RFQ developed and produced by LBNL
- Commissioned to nominal 60 kV inter-vane voltage in CW
 - ▲ > 300 hours of operation in CW (~95 kW)
- Two couplers failed in CW (vacuum leaks)
 - Switched to pulse mode only (5 ms x 10 Hz)
- Frequency tuning is by adjusting of cooling water temperature
 - ▲ Successfully tested in CW; works in pulse
 - ▲ Issue: the nominal frequency of 162.5 MHz is shifted by ~50 kHz from the middle of the regulation range. Result of unaccounted size change due to atmospheric pressure.



- Sep-Nov 2016: RFQ in CW, tuning, interlocks installation
- 18-Nov-2016 5 kW (= 5mA x 2.1 MeV x 60 Hz x 8 ms) - Poor vacuum
- 22-Nov-2016 run with 2.5 kW beam for 12 hours; melted scraper; hole in bellows
- I-Dec-2016 problems with the right RFQ coupler found
- 6-7-Dec-2016 run with 0.5 kW beam for 33 hrs
- It is now accelerating pulsed beam up to 5ms pulse width at 10Hz repetition rate. CW beam has not been tested.



SARAF RFQ at Sodeq NRC ^{3 MeV, 5 mA, CW}







- In the 2014 conditioning campaign, the RFQ reached 200-210 kW CW operation and 50% 250 kW.
- SARAF study revealed that the coupler is the bottle neck that limit the operation at a higher RFQ load.
- Through the updated RF system which coupling power through two new designed coupler, duty cycle 50%~80% at 250 kW have been achieved and 5.5 mA pulsed deuteron beam can be accelerated to 1.5 MeV.

The linac operated with CW/pulsed protons and pulsed deuterons beams. For CW proton beam :

- 1mA at \sim 3.7 MeV \sim 10 hours/trip
- 2 mA at ~ 2 MeV ~ 5 hours/trip
- 1.6 mA at 3.7 MeV \sim 1 hour/trip



A forward power log of one of the day of April 2017 campaign, RFQ was kept at 240 kW forward power for period more than two hours











- This is close to nominal power, but some overheat at the exit flange made currently a service necessary.
- Next, the RFQ will be beam tested with investigating the 700 keV beam.
- Afterwards, the rf coupling to the IH-DTL will be performed, followed by 2 MeV beam measurements.
- The schedule is to get these steps during this year



View on Coupling Flanges



Vane-Vane voltage and gap voltages compared to design values









- On 27 Feb. '15, the module of RFQ was powered and remained 5 hours at nominal field level.
- In May '16, all modules of RFQ has been assembled and measured by bead pulling.
- The RF system will be expected to be ready in June and conditioning by the end of 2017.



Figure 5: Bead pull measurement of the IFMIF RFQ field. VQ0 is the nominal field, Vq is the measured field (left scale); the dipole components and the relative error on the right.











- It is four-vane structure built with solid copper without brazing.
- 4 x 60 kW rf amplifiers (tubes / 3 kW solid state preamplifier)
- Relative errors are less than ±0.8% as the vane voltage is varied from 10 kV to 95 kV, rise to 3.4% at 113.6kV (might be related to a bad cable).
- Commissioned up to 121kV, above the nominal voltage (113.6kV)
 - @nominal : Spark every 45min (mean), record 1.5h.
 - 121kV (one spark every 2min, record 8min)
- RF shows instabilities at high voltage.
 - Investigation of cooling circuits/LLRF/RF amplifiers.

- 5th December '15, first proton beam, 5 mA, 200us/1Hz
- 18th Dec '15, first CW proton beam 2.3 mA
- June '16, He^{2+} , CW beam, voltage = 80 kV, power = 89 kW









- Collaboration with PKU
- 6th Jan '14, ¹⁶0⁵⁺, 170 euA, CW, 10 kW
- 4^{th} Apr '14, ${}^{40}Ar^{8+}$, 198 euA, CW, 23 kW
- 8th Sept '15, ${}^{208}Bi^{30+}$, 12 euA, CW, 35 kW







RFQ tranmission 94%@ 17.85 kW











- FRIB RFQ is 80.5 MHz, 5m long, 4-vane fully brazed structure. Consists of five segments.
- The RFQ has been assembled and tuned. Voltage error between segments less than 0.5%.
- The RFQ vacuum pressure is 2e-8Torr.
- RF conditioning expected to start in May 2017.

Parameter	Measured value
Q0	14700
Faccel (MHz)	80.503
Fdipole(MHz)	77.797 / 82.888
Vacuum Pressure (Torr)	2e-8







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Hermal problems of SARAF





- Broken and deformed RF fingers of the plunger sliding contacts.
- More rigid fingers shafts plated by rhodium to avoid cold welding rigid alignment of the plunger providing uniform contact pressure







(a) surface currents- CST





(b) temperatures- ANSYS



- (c) adding cooling plate (d) modified temperatures Figure 14: Coupler port thermal analysis at 190 kW.
 - Heating of RFQ end flanges (not water cooled). Coloration of flanges was observed.
 - efficient water cooling and improved RF contact between the flanges and the base plate



Hermal problem of C-ADS inj. I







- 71% duty (0.71 ms/1 ms), 250 kW power were achieved, but stopped due to vacuum leakage.
- Reason: very high temperature (> 400°C)



- 80% duty (0.8 ms/1 ms), 257 kW power were obtained, but followed by the vacuum leakage in the coupling plate.
- Reason: welding problem due to the complicated structure of cooling channel and the dipole stabilization rod.
- The new cooling channel has been designed to solve this problem.

Solution: optimize E_{peak} and B_{peak}







Ω

MP problem of C-ADS inj. I



Inner conductor of the coupler





- On Aug. 21, pulse mode, 99.97% duty (12.5 ms/79.975 Hz), 250 kW, but the conditioning couldn't keep very long.
- On Aug. 22, CW mode, 194 kW, keep 30 min, but the inlet cooling pipe of the 2nd coupler leaked for possible strong MP.

- Coupling loop:
 - Structure improvement: larger size, more smooth;
 - TiN coating;
- The RF contact ring between the coupler and the cavity was canceled:
 - RF contacted by the copper gasket;
 - Avoided the ring burning successfully.



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MP problem of C-ADS inj. I IMP





Vane surface nearby coupler Electrodes surface opposite to coupler



- A 0.6 m long RFQ model is used in the MP analysis, with surface conductivity artificially reduced to achieve beta ~ 1.5 and power reflection 4%.
- Very strong MP pattern is found in the coaxial waveguide (mainly the narrow part) below 60 kW; and strong MP on the RFQ flat wall from ~ 130 kW to 170 kW.



Solutions:

- In the commissioning of the LEDA RFQ, the pulse method with pulses up to 10ms at 100 Hz was always used. RF pulse was always used even when it was nearly CW.....
- Improve OFC to reduce electron emission. The second RFQ's OFC was from Luvata.









Aug 12, 2014, after conditioning and cw beam commissioning. The blue marks can be seen at the vane tips and end plate. It was assumed as MP. Arc detectors can keep seeing the light. The surface nearby coupler is clean.



Discharge between back of the rods and stems



Back side of RFQ rods machined to avoid field emission to opposite voltage stem. Field in machined area is 65 kV per 5 mm. Red arrow marks the machined area.



Problem of coupler of PXIE





Overheating of ceramics because of multipactor (not enough level of bias)?

Surface of ceramics changed the color – grey areas appeared. It indicates that some processes occurred at the surface. The grey areas can be pure Ti as results of decomposition of TiN under electron bombardment.

Another indication - the ceramic surface became conductive. There was several mA DC current under 1 kV voltage bias. Conductivity disappeared at the air. Probably Ti film was partly oxidized in air.



FPC problems of C-ADS RFQs



Injector II



After one year operation, the ceramic window cracked three times in several months.

- Mechanical error of cooling channel, the flow in one coupler is much smaller than the other;
- The unbalance power on two couplers is from tuning incorrectly of the phase shifter;
- The RF seal was burned and dropped on the ceramic surface.



Injector I

- On July 22nd, 2014, total four coupler ceramic windows were cracked. long pulse, 24 ms/25 ms, 96% duty factor, 229 kW.
- On Aug 22nd, <u>*CW mode*</u>, <u>194 kW</u>, <u>keep 30 min</u>, However 2nd coupler vacuum leakage happened during the CW conditioning.
- On Sep. 4th, RF contact spring discharging were found on #4 coupler.
- On Sep 14th, the 3rd coupler ceramic window cracked due to the inner and outer conductor shorten by the condensate water.
- Four couplers, unbalanced coupling is the mean reason.



High power AMP problems at C-ADS



- One 200 kW CW Tetrode AMP with TH571A, and two FPCs. The maximum forward power is 140 kW, max 6% reflection.
- After 15 months operation, AMP started problems: input cavity, socket, and output cavity were burned in series.
- A 200 kW, CW circulator of AFT was destroyed by arc between cooper pipe and cover plate, conditioned up to 50 kW only.
- Jun. 5, '14 Apr. 13 '16, Tube AMP operated 100 -120 kW 3265 hours, 362 trips.
- Two SSAMP of 80 kW with full power reflection instead.
- Apr. 29, '16 May 14, '17, SSAMP operated 50*2 kW 1757 hours, 107 trips.







80 kW CW Solid State AMP





-6000

121 sec. total 17 sec. most recent within 3 kHz spec. in ~60 sec

0

2

6

8

4

10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26

Time [minutes]





0

Solution of Detuning





Forward

Amp



- PXIE Characterized frequency shift due to perturbation sin the water system and RF system
- Simulation of PI control on the vanes using data gathered during thermal testing
- The results demonstrated a good comparison with simulation
- A water mix system was develop to reduce the response time
- More work on LLRF will be done

RFQ Cavity





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- The high intensity RFQs worldwide (incomplete), especially CW RFQs, have a great progress in the past 10 years.
- The progress especially conditioning efforts of each RFQ are introduced.
- The common problems are shown and analyzed. Some of them have solutions.
- It can be concluded that the common problems for a CW RFQs:
 - > Sparking at nominal voltage due to high E_{peak} on the surface.
 - Thermal spots at tuner, coupler, dipole mode finger, contact finger, and so on, B_{peak} on the surface is not be optimized.
 - Multipactor at coupler ports, end plate, coupler itself, caused serious problem. It should be simulated in design.
 - Detuning due to beam loading, RF heating, lost beam heating, will lead the instability of system.
- The problems due to high beam power are not included in the presentation.







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