

Nuclear Physics Institute (NPI) Center of Accelerators and Nuclear Analytical Methods (CANAM) Řež

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Projected fast neutron facilities on CANAM-NPI cyclotrons

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NPI neutron generators – status

NPI neutron generators

- Proton beam (≤ 36 MeV, 15 µA) from U-120M cyclotron on Be/Li targets of NG target stations provides white-spectrum and quasi-monoenergetic neutrons (≤ 34 MeV) with flux up to 1x10¹¹ and 2x10⁹ n/cm²/s at sample positions. They are utilized to
 □ neutron cross-section measurements by activation technique and
 □ neutron irradiation tests of microelectronic components
- Natural time structure of proton beam and collimated neutron beam from p+Be/Li(thin target) generator serves to nTOF-spectrometry measurements. Due to low bunch interval ~ 50 ns, energy selection 15 to 35 MeV only is at disposal.



The energy range and flux of NPI neutron generators are complementary to other European fast neutron facilities (TSL Uppsala and CRC Louvain-la-Neuve)

NPI neutron generators

New projects

1. To extend energy selection in TOF neutron spectrometry a novel multi-orbital beam bunching and extraction on U-120M cyclotron is under investigation aiming to enlarge beam-bunch interval up to 1000 ns range and to achieve the beam-time structure with $T/\Delta T \ge 100$ without loss of beam intensity.

2. For recently commissioned proton cyclotron TR-24 the neutron generator based on interaction of 24 MeV / 300 µA proton beam with Be target is developed. Static target with submerged-jet cooling technique is under investigation to handle 7kW power dissipation in the target and to achieve neutron flux density ≥ 10¹² n/cm²/s at sample position - order improvement comparing to U-120M The flux and energy range (≤ 22 MeV) are suitable to allow the measurements of small reaction CS and to carried out irradiation tests of ITER components.



TR 24 – Advanced Cyclotron System Inc. (Canada)

Bunching system on the U-120M cyclotron for TOF facility

Basic idea:

- "deflection-bunching" TOF method on the internal cyclotron beam (Karlsruhe cyclotron, 1980)
- unique adaptation and connection with the negative-ion cyclotron U-120M
- internal deflector deflects last orbits from 48 to 50 cm simultaneously bellow the cyclotron median plane
- negative ions hit the extraction carbon foil
- bunch of protons after stripping is directed to the external Be target



Main advantages:

- requested extension of repetition interval (≥1000 ns) between individual bunches (5ns FWHM)
- due to orbit cumulation on the final radii no lose of the mean extracted ion beam current (to reach the same parameters i.e. to get rid of selected bunches can result in decrease of extracted beam intensity by two orders)
- theoretically 100% of extraction efficiency, no reduction of extracted ion beam current

Results of simulations

Optimal setup:

- Range of extracted ions radius
- Radius of internal beam-stop at probe S3
- HV deflector pulse amplitude
- Vertical position of the stripping foil upper edge 0.0 mm
- Shift of the magnetic field medial plane
- Deflector gap
- Extracted beam pulse width FWHM
- Repetion period of accelerated beam bunches 38.95 ns
- Repetion period of extracted beam bunches 1012.80 ns
- Pulse duration to the repetition period relation





- 10.0 kV

4.99 ns

+4.5 mm

20 mm

External Be target

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Stripping foil and beamstop area

Main properties of optimally extracted beam





TOF target

Horizontal beam curen density distribution Vertical beam curent density distribution

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Bunching system on U-120M

High voltage pulsed power supply

Parameters





Bunching system on U-120M Results of simulations for various HV amplitude





Future steps:

test of deflection system with low level pulsed signal with required time parameters

completion of electronic design and implementation of the high voltage high power pulsed power supply

completion of simulations of negative ion extraction with stripping foil method –parameters of the stripper

■ construction, manufacture and implementation of the stripper

TR-24 cyclotron provides proton beam with variable energies up to 24 MeV and 0.3 mA beam current on external target.





- Source of white-spectrum neutrons with variable energies ≤ 22 MeV and flux up to 5 x 10¹² n/s/sr could be built on TR-24 utilizing p+Be(thick target) source reaction.
- Target station with open area at forward direction is assumed to provide the irradiation at unlimited arrangement of associated hardware. The station would include remotely controlled manipulation technique with- and parking for- the irradiated components.

Neutron flux, target mode and cooling

- Point-like mode of accelerator-based n-source causes strong $1/r^2$ dependence of the flux density on source-to-sample distance (r). Consequently, the **static type** of **Be target** and optimized arrangement of cooling are considered to reach minimum s-to-s distance E^{+13} E^{+12} Point-like mode of accelerator-based n-source causes
- the static type of Be target and optimized arrangement and maximum neutron flux $(10^{12} \text{ n/s/cm}^2 \text{ at } \text{r} \leq 2 \text{ cm})$



- Proton beam (24 MeV, 0.3 mA) will deliver up to 7.2 kW heat power to the target (beryllium disk, t 3 mm, d 40 mm active area). The beam spot (Gaussian FWHM \leq 12 mm) will cause the **heat density** ranging up to 4 kW/cm².
- The use of submerged impinging jets as a most effective enhanced heat transfer is proven widely in electronic devices and industrial processes.





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Using submerged impingement pipe-nozzle jet a cooling of target at 1-6 kW/cm² heat load was investigated at **MIT BNCT neutron facility** [Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2003]. However, long pipe-nozzle of cooling assembly derogates the advantage of high flux intesity at short s-to-s distances

Nozzle selection using simplified structure of the simulated target



 To utilize high-flux option at short s-to-s distances the orifice-nozzle jet was selected for target cooling. Using ANSYS simulation of flow parameters
 the fluid pressure (in stagnation zone)
 and the velocity (in jet stream and along shear layer)

various types of orifice nozzles were compared to pipe mode.



- Comparing to results for MIT pipe-jet variant, the open orifice have shown comparable and/or better results of simulated parameters under identical input data.
- The comparison of simulated kinematic parameters to experimental data of MIT indicates q_{max} ~ 5 kW/cm² as achievable thermal load of designed source target utilizing open orifice-jet for the cooling arrangement.

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orifice

Mock-up of the target





is manufactured

- to tune the construction and cooling system of designed target and
- to measure power dissipation in the target necessary to tune the ANSYS simulations and- in particular – to determine experimentally the CHF (critical heat flux) for designed cooling set up.

 Safety constrains has obliged more complex design including remotely controlled manipulators and parking stations for irradiated components.



Starting thermal-test experiments on cooling system (Al instead of Be target) at low power of proton beam (2 kW) are foreseen in the next months.

Support of the projets

CANAM, CZ.02.1.01/0.0/0.0/16_003/0001812, OP RDE, MEYS, Czech Republic CANAM infrastructure LM2015056. Czech Academy of Sciences (RVO61389005)

Projects realization – by the end of 2019

Thank you for your attention!

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