INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION OF TURN KEY SUPERCONDUCTING ACCELERATOR MODULES FOR HIGH CURRENT STORAGE RINGS

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Abstract

During the past decade Cornell has developed and built superconducting 500 MHz accelerator RF (SRF) modules for the upgrade of their e⁺e⁻storage ring CESR. ACCEL has agreed with Cornell on a transfer of the technology, with the goal to offer such modules for Light Sources or other high current e⁺e⁻storage rings. Currently 6 SRF modules are under production, 2 for the Taiwan Light Source, 2 for Cornell University and 2 for the Canadian Light Source. The SRF modules will be delivered ready for turn key operation, including state-of-the-art cavity preparation and performance guarantees. First cavity test results as well as the production status will be presented.

1 INTRODUCTION

In the late 80's, early 90's several designs of high luminosity e⁺e⁻B-Factories were under investigation at Cornell University [1], KEK [2] and SLAC [3]. In order to achieve the desired luminosity of 10³⁴cm⁻²s⁻¹, all three B-factory designs called for beam currents of more than 1 A. This requirement lead to the development of new RF systems. Whereas Cornell University proposed to use a complete superconducting RF system at 500 MHz, KEK proposed a mixture of normal conducting and superconducting RF at 508 MHz and SLAC proposed a pure normal conducting RF system at 476 MHz.

Two B-Factories (KEK and SLAC) were approved by the governments of Japan and the US and are now under operation. In parallel Cornell University also developed their B-factory RF system, built 5 superconducting accelerator modules and installed 4 of them in their storage ring CESR for luminosity upgrade.

In the early 90's a superconducting RF systems was considered to be still somewhat extraordinary. In the meantime, the big success of the superconducting modules under operation in CESR and in the KEK Bfactory together with the enormous progress made by the TESLA collaboration in reliably achieving extremely high accelerating gradients (> 25 MV/m) in superconducting cavities lead to a wide acceptance among the accelerator community, that the technology of superconducting RF can be used routinely now.

The advantage of a superconducting cavity system compared to a normal conducting one can be found in detail in [4] and is summarised as follows:

• A very effective damping of the higher-order modes, resulting in reduced requirements on the RF feedback system of the storage ring.

- The capability to operate at high accelerating voltage and transfer high power to the beam, thereby reducing the number of required cavities.
- Negligible power dissipation in the cavity wall, allowing the use of all installed RF power for particle acceleration, thus reducing the overall power consumption of the accelerator.

The 3rd generation Light Sources or other high current e⁺e⁻storage rings have similar requirements on the RF system like the B-factories.

Due to an agreement with Cornell on the transfer of the technology of their SRF module, ACCEL Instruments is able to world-wide offer such modules.

A first contract was concluded in 2000 with the Taiwan Light Source on the delivery of 2 SRF modules. Also in 2000 Cornell itself and the Canadian Light Source ordered 2 SRF modules.

2 MODULE LAYOUT

The general design of the Cornell SRF module is described in detail in [4,5]. An overview of the module is shown in figure 1 and the operating parameters are summarised in table 1.

frequency	500 MHz
operating temperature	4.5 K
U_{acc}, E_{acc}	2.4 MV, 8 MV/m
unloaded Q	$> 7.10^{8}$
losses at 4.5 K and 2.5 MV/m	< 120 W
including 30 W standby losses	
Q _{external} of input coupler	$2 \cdot 10^5$
maximum power transferable	250 kW
to the beam	

Table 1: Typical operating parameters of the SRF module

The key components of the SRF module are:

- Superconducting 500 MHz cavity with waveguide input coupler manufactured out of bulk RRR300 niobium.
- Cryostat consisting of: helium vessel out of 316L stainless steel, vacuum vessel, liquid nitrogen shield, double layer magnetic shielding,

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Figure 1.:Schematic view of the SRF module

cryogenic supply and return lines for liquid helium, gaseous helium and liquid nitrogen

Input coupler consisting of 6 parts:
1. niobium waveguide (part of the cavity),
2. HEX: A straight copper plated SS waveguide cooled by cold helium gas boiling off the helium vessel.

 Double elbow: A U-type copper plated SS waveguide cooled by liquid nitrogen,
 WG thermal transition: A short thin walled

4. WG thermal transition: A short thin walled copper plated SS waveguide,

5. Pump out box: A straight copper plated SS waveguide with ports for connecting Ion pumps and pressure gauges,

6. A 500 MHz RF window, designed for a maximum of 500 kW travelling wave power.

- thermal transitions on the round and "fluted" beam pipe out of thin walled SS, with heat intercept to 70 K.
- Two water cooled higher order mode loads, each capable to absorb up to 10 kW of HOM RF power. The HOM loads are located outside on both sides of the cryostat. They are realised by means of ferrite tiles which are placed inside a short piece of beam tube.

- Taper from cavity beam tube to storage ring beam tube. Synchrotron light masks and pumping ports are integrated into the tapers.
- RF shielded gate valves

In order to reduce risks, the most important components are tested before the module assembly using the infrastructure at Cornell, namely:

- cryogenic low power RF test of the cavity in a vertical bath cryostat.
- High power RF test of the waveguide windows on a separate test stand.
- Test of HOM loads on a separate test stand.

The assembled module will also be tested on a dedicated test stand and the guaranteed module performance will be demonstrated.

In order to deliver the modules turn key, ACCEL's scope of supply also contains:

- Distribution valve box for LHe and LN₂ supply of the modules and cryogenic transfer lines between valve box and SRF module. The valve box is the interface to the refrigeration system.
- Complete cryostat instrumentation and Control Electronics.
- Mechanical Tuner driven by a stepping motor.

The power dissipation P_{module} of the SRF module at the operating temperature of 4.5 K is the sum of the static or standby losses of the module (30 W) and the dynamic losses $P_{dynamic}$ of the cavity during operation. The dynamic losses can be approximated according to the formula:

 $P_{dynamic} = (E_{acc}[MV/m])^2 / Q_0[10^9].$

As an example, at an accelerating voltage of 2.4 MV corresponding to an accelerating gradient of 8 MV/m and a Q-value of $7 \cdot 10^8$, the dynamic losses of the module are about 90 W and the total losses of the module are 120 W.

3 PRODUCTION STATUS

All components of the modules are under production now. From the key component, the 500 MHz niobium cavity, the cavities for Cornell University and the Taiwan Light Source are completed. Three of this four cavities are shown in figure 2. At the time of the picture the fourth cavity was at Cornell University for the cold vertical RF test. The cavities for the Canadian Light Source will be completed in October 2001.



Figure 2: Three 500 MHz single cell niobium cavities ready for preparation for vertical test.

In order to perform state of the art cavity preparation, the chemical plant at ACCEL was upgraded to allow closed loop chemistry (BCP 1:1:2). In addition a high pressure rinsing plant was built at ACCEL for rinsing this kind of cavity with ultra-pure demineralized water at 100 bar. The first preparation of a cavity is shown in figure 3. The cavity mounted in the closed loop chemical plant and during the high pressure rinsing is shown there. The following assembly is done in a class 100 clean room.



Figure 2: Preparation of the first cavity for a vertical test. Left: closed loop BCP, right: high pressure rinsing.

The measurement result of the first cavity is shown in figure 4. The cavity reached up to $E_{acc} = 9 \text{ MV/m}$ at a Q value of $5 \cdot 10^8$. The dissipated power at this field and Q is 160 W. An accelerating gradient of 9 MV/m corresponds to an accelerating voltage of 3 MV. The cavity was limited by field emission and available RF power. A second test after slow cooldown to 4.5 K was performed to check the cavity against the so called "Q-disease". No Q-degradation was observed demonstrating the correct work of the chemical plant. The cavity was then also heated at 150 C for 48 hours under vacuum. The successive measurement showed an improvement in low filed Q by a factor of 1.5.

Figure 4: Vertical RF test of the first cavity at 4.5 K.



All other components of the SRF module are under construction at ACCEL or qualified subcontractors. We expect to start the assembly of the first module within the next 2 month.

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