

Emittance measurement of high-intensity merged beam

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One of the most promising candidates for measurement of alpha particles produced by D-T reaction in ITER is the fast neutral beam probe method, where alpha particles are neutralized by double charge exchange reaction with a fast neutral helium beam in the 1-2 MeV energy range [1]. The possible method to produce such a high energy He⁰ beam is the production of neutrals from negative ions by auto-detachment. The He⁻ is produced from He⁺ via a two-step process in an alkali metal vapor cell whose conversion efficiency is less than several percent. At least 10 mA of He⁻ beam current is required to obtain enough S/N ratio for detection of confined alpha particles. The Fusion Plasma Diagnostic Laboratory in Tohoku University have designed and constructed a strongly focusing high-intensity He⁺ ion source, whose three grids are concaved to converge multi-beamlets at a point of 750 mm apart from the plasma grid. In the previous study, the He⁺ beam of 2.5 A and 27.6 keV was successfully produced and converged to 20 mm in diameter [2]. These values achieve requirements for production of enough He⁻ beam to measure alpha particles in ITER. As the next step, we have started an emittance measurement of the He⁺ beam extracted from the ion source to design the beam accelerator.

The emittance of the He⁺ beam was measured by means of a pepper-pot method. 9 (vertical) × 9 (horizontal) pinholes of 0.4 mm in diameter are arranged on a molybdenum (Mo) plate. Beamlets through pinholes are detected by a Kapton foil of 50 μm in thickness. A pattern on the Kapton foil printed by multi-beamlets from one of pinholes is shown in Fig. 1. A fine-structure is observed in the image. This structure corresponds to the arrangement of “all” apertures on the electrodes. A phase-space diagram of this beam pattern is shown in Fig. 2. Every emittance ellipse can be distinguished individually. The effective normalized emittance is estimated at 6.3 mm-mrad in Fig. 2.

[1] M. Sasao et al., Nucl. Fusion 35, 1619 (1995).

[2] M. Kasaki et al., Rev. Sci. Instrum 79, 02C113 (2008).

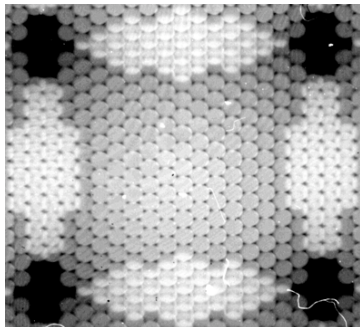


Fig. 1. Pattern on the Kapton foil printed by multi-beamlets from one of pinholes.

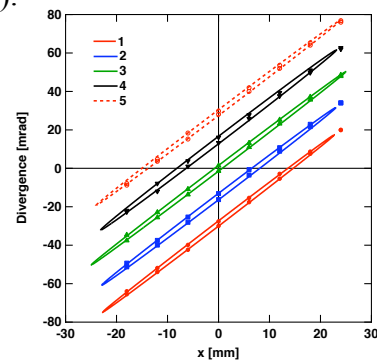


Fig. 2. Phase-space diagram.