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High Intensity High Reliability Laser Ion Source Development at IMP

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The capability of the high intensity high charge state ion pulse production from light to medium-mass elements had been demonstrated by the laser ion source developed at IMP. Especially in terms of C6+ yield, the laser ion source can meet the requirements of cancer therapy facilities for filling the synchrotrons in a single turn injection mode. But for practical applications, the capability of long-term, continuous operation, repeatability and stability of the ion source is also what one must concern with. With the help of a new-developed control system and customized targets, the continuous operation of the laser ion source with the repetition rate below 1 Hz for tens of hours has been realized. The shot-to-shot fluctuations of the main ion pulse parameters, total charge quantity, pulse duration (FWHM) and peak current, were 5%, 8% and 11.5%, respectively, which are comparable with those obtained in single-shot operation mode and acceptable for the applications of laser ion sources.

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