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New field emission dynamics in a 2D space charge dominated regime beyond Fowler Nordheim for high gradient injectors

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The work presented here shows evidence of the diversions from classical Fowler Nordheim in the RF regime. At high gradients in excess of 100 MV/m, it was shown that the field emitter cathode (FECs) made from ultrananocrystalline diamond (UNCD) follows a two-dimensional space charge dominated regime. Field emission dynamics now must be considered in a 2D regime, combining the 1D longitudinal classical Fowler Nordheim and 1D transverse Child Langmuir limit. These cathodes were able to produce remarkably high charge of $300 \text{ nC}/6 \,\mu\text{s}$ pulse giving a beam current of $0.12 \,\text{A}$. This cathode produced uniform emission with effective emission area of tens of microns which is three orders of magnitude higher than predicted by classical Fowler Nordheim. To explore this new n-dimensional space charge dominated field emission physics, we present the design of a new X-band field emission rf gun.

Topic

Field Emission

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