Low intensity beam diagnostics at INFN - LNS

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Accelerators at LNS



LNS layout : the Excyt facility



EXCYT diagnostics



Very low energy/low intensity beams

The ordinary electromagnetic techniques approach their **intrinsic limitations**, mainly due to:

- electronic noise
- triboelectric noise
- signal contamination due to secondary electron emission

Low S/N ratio

Available techniques

Possible solutions

- increase the sensitivity
 - reduce noise by better design and shielding (can be complex and expensive)
- increase the signal
 - a possibile way to increase the signal is to use particle detectors: they are sensitive to the energy released by each particle of the beam

in use at LNS

- Gas detectors
- Diamond
- Others: Cherenkov, etc.

Low energy beam Imaging with CsI

beam imaging: CsI(TI) scintillating plate with CCD video camera



NIM B 211 (2003) 443

Diagnostics for Low Energy RIBs

LEBI: Low Energy Beam Imager / Identifier



three different heights

- Imaging of Stable (pilot) beams
- Imaging of radioactive beams
- Beam rate measurement
- Decay curve reconstruction

LEBI	is	our	soluti	on	for
diagnostics		of	low en		ergy
radioactive beams.					

NIM A 479 (2002) 243 NIM A 622 (2010) 512

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Diagnostics for Low Energy RIBs



Three working positions

Position b



radioactive beam imaging

beam axis



beam counting/identification

LEBI

Low Energy Beam Imager/Identifier

⁷Li I = 10 pA E = 10 keV





energy range
10 keV ÷ 300 keVSensitivity for beam imaging• E
threshold = 5 keV• I
stable beam ~ 104 pps/mm2• I
radioactive beam ~ 103 pps/mm2• resolution < 1mm</td>

decay curve of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ particles



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10 LEBI working along the EXCYT beam line



First and Second stage of the isobaric mass separator



Elements of LEBI



The scintillator screen is placed at 45° respect to the beam axis.



CCD camera



ccd camera watec 902H

sensitivity 10⁻⁴ lux
spatial calibration
reference of the beam axis



EXCYT transmission factors





Diagnostics for accelerated (Tandem) RIBs

Low intensity diagnostics (sensitivity down the single particle, upgraded during 2010 for providing the long beam lines (Magnex and Chimera)







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Diagnostics for accelerated (Tandem) RIBs

Plastic scintillators for beam intensity measurements





Position sensitive silicon detectors

- 2D beam profile monitor
- beam energy spectra
- identification of the beam particles ($\Delta E E$)

Beam profile monitor (FIBBS) based on a pair of scintillating fibres scanning the beam



Beam counting



Intensity below 10⁶pps

Plastic scintillator (BC408) optically coupled to a small PMT, working in pulse counting mode



1D beam scanning

This technique consists of scanning a beam with scintillating fibres, in order to produce the 1D intensity distribution



Light collection efficiency at one end: ≈3.5%

 Light yield is of the order of 10000 photons/MeV. For charged particles is lower (quenching).

•Plastic scintillating fibre: fast (3ns), not rad-hard, $L_{at} \approx 3.5m$, $\lambda \approx 435nm$

•Tb-glass scintillating fibre: slow (4ms), rad-hard, $L_{at} \approx 10$ cm, $\lambda \approx 550$ nm

•Ce-glass scintillating fibre: fast (40ns), not rad-hard, L_{at} ≈2cm, λ ≈400nm



FIBBS (Fibre Based Beam Sensor)



Fibres diameter: 300 ÷ 500 μm Glass fibres for intensity over 10⁶ pps Plastic fibres for lower intensity protection

scintillating

fibres

ion beam

screen

Position sensitive silicon detector

position sensitive silicon telescope for RIB identification and profiling

- 2D beam profile monitor
- beam energy spectrum
- identification of the beam particles (ΔE E)
- read-out from the back and the 4 corners
- charge division algorithm for position evaluation

reconstruction of the hole mask put in front of the detector for calibration



5cm x 5cm Si detector



Position Sensitive Silicon Detector



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Silicon telescope

telescope for RIB identification



- signal due to energy loss: Bethe & Bloch...
- average energy to produce an e/h pair: 3.62 eV
- · radiation hardness /cost: low
- · ease-of-use & reliability: sufficient
- · suitable for specific applications

- thickness ≈ 50 + 500 µm
- unambiguous identification of isotopes by elastic scattering
- at low beam intensity can be used directly on the beam
- intensity measurement by means of counting rate
- cost: reasonable

Ions Tagging with Time Of Flight



1D Beam profile monitor based on MCP for SPES



System developed in Legnaro LNL, based on a MCP placed directly on the beam line, with a position sensitive anode. Less than 10^5 pps/cm² measured profile sensitivity.

Wire step = 0.75 mm



MCP for beam imaging

2D-imaging secondary emission detectors

built and tested at LNS





MCP for beam imaging

The technique is appealing but unfortunately the devices are quite delicate and expensive



MCP for beam imaging







LNS in the DITANET european network

New diagnostics challenge

DIagnostic **T**echniques for future particle **A**ccelerators **NET**work

antiproton beam diagnostics at FAIR?

high performance photocamera Chroma CX3 14-bit cooled CCD





screen = CsI (TI) beam = protons E = 200keV $I \approx 2.5 fA (10^4 pps)$ $t_{exposure} = 20s$

Rev Sci Instrum. 2010 Oct;81(10):103302

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Conclusions

- several different technologies tested/employed at LNS for L.E.L.I. ion beams
- in general each specific problem needs a specific solution
- scintillators are a tradeoff solution between robustness, ease-of-use, and cost
- Csl(Tl), doped glass, and plastics (in some cases) offer good performance
- R&D activity is going towards the development of diagnostic devices for the SPES facility.

How to improve the sensitivity: the MCP

What is a MicroChannel Plate?

it is a mesh of photocathodic microchannels each channel is a microscopic continuous electron multiplier operated at high voltage (up to 5000V), in high vacuum rather delicate and quite expensive sensitive to photons, electrons, ions best timing (even below 100ps)





profile measurement



Spiral 2 beam imaging

Emissive Foil Monitor

Principle : secondary emission on Al foil, amplification by microchannel plates, reading informations on X-Y matrix

Energy range : up to 10 KeV

Intensity range : from 10 pps to 109 pps

Location lines : from 1+ line to GANIL Experimental rooms



Gamma ray spectroscopy with two germanium detectors



Tagging and tracking



Scintillators

- signal due to energy loss with emission of scintillation photons
- average energy to produce a photon ≈ 10-100 eV (gamma and electrons)
- average energy to produce a photon ≈ 100-1000 eV (ions)
- radiation hardness /cost: sufficient for plastics, excellent for inorganic scintillators
- ease-of-use & reliability: excellent



- organic scintillators (plastics: NE110, NExxx, BC404, BC408, BCxxx, fibres, etc.)
- inorganic crystals (Csl, BaF, YAG,YAP, LSO, LYSO, LaBr, etc.)
- doped glasses (with Tb, Ce)

Relevant parameters

- Light decay time (pulse duration)
- Emitted light spectrum
- Attenuation length
- Light yield
- Radiation hardness
- Physical and chemical properties (heat and electric conductivity, thermal stability, melting point, heat dissipation)

FIBBS (Fibre Based Beam Sensor)

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Projectile Selection: Tagging Procedure

Tagging Procedure

In-flight production of radioactive beams (FRIBs)

CS energy (FRIBs beams)

Tandem energy

2.5

2

1.5

1

0

-0.5

-1

-1.5

-2

-2.5

-2

-1.5 -1 -0.5 cm

0.5

1

2

1.5

2.5

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