1st Topical Workshop on Laser Based Particle Sources



PHOTOEMISSION STUDIES OF COPPER

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MOTIVATION: Breakdowns in high-gradient RF cavities are a major limit of their performance. For projects like CLIC it is therefore essential to get a good understanding of this phenomena. Breakdowns can be explained using the Fowler Nordheim law for electron emission (Field emission):

F-N Equation (RF field)
$$\bar{I} = \frac{5.79 \cdot 10^{-12} \exp(9.35 \,\phi_0^{0.5}) A_e(\beta E_0)^{2.5}}{\phi_0^{1.75}} \exp(\frac{-6.53 \cdot 10^9 \phi_0}{\beta E_0})^{2.5}}$$

The field emission is attributed to local field enhancement ($E_{local} = \beta E$, where E_0 : applied electric field, β : enhancement factor) due to geometrical perturbation whose emitting area is A_e . From this perspective the work function ϕ_0 is considered constant, β and A_e are extracted from measured field emitted current $I(E, A_e, \beta, \phi_0)$.

<u>Alternative analysis</u> (suggested by W. Wuensch and colleagues): local lowering of the work function ϕ_0 due to material perturbations (oxides, inclusions,..) instead of field enhancement may allow electron emission from the surface.

The aim of our studies is to investigate this process.

METHOD: Use the laser driven photoemission at different wavelengths (photon energies) as a probe of the work function profile. For photon energies below the work function one should measure an electron emission phenomena other than "<u>normal photoemission</u>".





"NORMAL PHOTOEMISSION": THREE STEPS MODEL

- **1.** Absorption of a photon of energy $\mathcal{E} = hv \Rightarrow$ electron excitation.
- 2. Motion of the electron to the vacuum interface
- \Rightarrow IN METALS: the electron mainly losses energy by scattering with others electrons.

3. Escape of the electron over the surface barrier

⇒ IN METALS: the surface barrier is determined by the work function ϕ_0 , i.e. the minimum energy needed to remove an electron from a solid to a point immediately outside the solid surface ⇒ Photoemission threshold: $h\nu > \phi_0$



The photocurrent j_p increases as the light intensity *I* increases (k_1 (*Quantum Efficiency*)): j_p

 $j_p = k_1 \cdot \mathbf{I}$





MULTIPHOTON EFFECT:

Two or more photons are capable of exciting the same electron: the electron is emitted even if the photon energy is below the photoemission threshold.



The photocurrent j_p is dependent upon the square of the incident radiation intensity *I*: $j_p = k_2 \cdot I^2$ \Rightarrow the photoemitted charge *Q* is proportional to the quadratic square of the photon energy \mathcal{E} : $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{k}_3 \cdot \mathcal{E}^2$





SCHOTTKY ENABLED PHOTOEMISSION

The same phenomena which causes **Field Emission** could lead to single-photon photoemission even if $h\nu < \phi_0$. The high electric field lowers the potential barrier outside a metal surface.



FIELD EMISSION (Fowler-Nordheim plot)



J. Power et al., Schottky Enabled Photoemission & Dark Current Measurements at the S-band RF Gun Facility at Tsinghua, MeVArc Workshop, Finland (2011)
 E.E. Wisniewski et al., TUPPD069, Proceedings of IPAC2012, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA





We tried to reproduce the Schottky Enabled photoemission measurement with this setup:





MEASUREMENT WITH 266 nm (4.7 eV)



QUANTUM EFFICIENCY : is the main feature of photoemissive material (it may be influenced by the surface condition). It is calculated from experimental data as:

$$QE = \frac{number \ of \ electrons}{number \ of \ photons} = \frac{Q \ (C)}{e} \cdot \frac{h \ (J \cdot s) \cdot v(Hz)}{\mathcal{E}(J)}$$
2nd plug: QE(266nm)= 5E-5 3rd plug: QE(266nm)= 2E-4 Copper QE(266nm)*=3E-5
*Provious measurement on conner with 266 nm (CEPN RSL 2007)

*Previous measurement on copper with 266 nm (CERN-PSI, 2007)

CERN

MEASUREMENT WITH 355 nm (3.5 eV)



Non linear trend: two-photon photoemission is predominant.

For pure two-photon photoemission a pure quadratic trend is predicted by the theory, but the equation with the linear term (blue line) fits better the data.



COMPARISON







COMPARISON



The difference between the Schottky enabled photoemission data taken at Tsinghua Facility and at CERN could be maybe explained by the different **laser fluence** involved in the two experiments.



Intense electron emission due to plasma formation:

For **ps** laser pulses and **high electric field gradient**: laser-induced plasma formation has been observed with subsequent emission of intense electrons (several orders of magnitude higher than normal photoelectrons)^[4]. The **thresholds** for this phenomena are: **10**⁹ **W/cm**² (for 70 MV/m peak electric field, rf gun) **10**¹¹ **W/cm**² (for 7 kV/m, dc gun).

[3] W. Zhang et al., "Modelling and Analysis of UV Laser Micromachining of Copper", Int J Adv Manuf Technol (2001) 18:323–331
[4] X.J. Wang et al., "Intense electron emission due to picosecond laser-produced plasmas in high gradient electric fields", J. Appl. Phys. 72 (3), 1 August 1992





1) For measurement driven by λ =266 we observed a single photon photoemission and a QE consistent with previous measurement on copper.

2) We observed non linear behaviour in photoemission measurement on copper for λ =355 nm and a very small charge (fC).

3) The Schottky Enabled Photoemission measurement done at Tsinghua Facility [1],[2] can maybe be explained by intense electron emission due to picoseconds laser-produced plasmas.

4) The photoemission data at λ =355 nm is very well fitted by a parabola with a **linear term**. This linear term may be connected to some experimental drift but may be also related to a single-photon photoemission phenomena. This contribution could be due to some local lowering of the workfunction (as suggested by W. Wuensch and colleagues).

We have pushed our experimental setup to its limits: using an electrical amplifier we could measure in the range of **femtoCoulomb** (10⁴ electrons!)

To further investigate the source of the linear term in the parabolic fit we need to scan over the wavelengths (266 nm \rightarrow 355 nm). The eventually presence of low workfunction spot would give a measurable contribution at intermediate photon energy (between two-photon photoemission and single-photon photoemission).

To do the scan an **OPO (Optical Parametric Oscillator)** is needed: this tunable laser system can provide a wide range of wavelengths with easy maintenance and reliability.





OPTICAL PARAMETRIC OSCILLATOR SETUP







BENEFITS OF THE OPO FOR PHOTOCATHODES R&D

1) Tunable laser system \Rightarrow SPECTRAL RESPONSE OF PHOTOCATHODES.



e.g: Cs₂Te photocathode

2) The OPO is a robust and with very easy maintenance system. It is the most suitable tunable system for our purpose (Photocathodes sensitive to visible laser beams).



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[1] J. Power et al., Schottky Enabled Photoemission & Dark Current Measurements at the S-band RF Gun Facility at Tsinghua

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[6] R. L. Smith, Phys. Rev. 128, 5 (1962)

[7] W. E. Spicer, Phys. Rev. B 112, 114 (1958)

[8] E. Chevalley et al., "Production and studies of photocathodes for high intensity electron beams" (2000)