# ISOLDE's RFQCB: Improvements and Upgrades

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Carla Babcock CATHI Final Review Meeting Sept. 22 – 25 2014

#### What is the RFQCB?















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## How does it work?

#### 3 Components:

- Quadrupole electric field oscillating +V to -V to confine the ions
- Longitudinal electric field to pull the ions through the trap and bunch them at the end
- Helium gas for collisional cooling to reduce transverse motions and energy spread

Plus the injection and extraction electrodes



#### Where is the RFQCB?



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#### **ISCOOL vs New RFQCB**



ISCOOL has been modified



The new RFQCB is being built for the test stand







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#### 1. Alignment

 Misalignment of internal and external electrodes reduces acceptance and necessitates beam steering





 Solution: adjustable supports which allow movement in horizontal by 0.1mm and in vertical by 0.2mm

Horizontal adjustments using support piece and screws

Vertical adjustments through positions of two nuts

RFQCB cylinder



# **Alignment: Final Results**

#### Final alignment centers apertures to within our measurement error of 0.1mm



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# **Alignment: The Beamline**

 After internal alignment, there is the need for external alignment

0.4mm



- This was done using a laser which passes down the beamline, aligning ISCOOL with the quadrupoles on either side Accuracy approx.

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# **Alignment: Improvements**

#### As a result of this alignment

- ISCOOL will require less steering and will have better transmission further down
- The acceptance of ISCOOL will improve
  - Experiments which involve getting laser light to interact with the ions inside the RFQCB will be possible, i.e. for pumping of ions to metastable energy states, 2+ ionization, etc.

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# **Alignment: Future Options**

**1.** A mechanical design that allows all electrodes to be fixed to one piece, thus reducing the possibility of misalignment

2. A calibrated alignment system that is built into the cover, so can be adjusted from outside (already implemented in Orsay)

# Internal Pressure

- Helium flows into the internal cylinder and is pumped away by three turbo pumps
- Internal pressure is an important factor in the quality of the beam

2. Internal Pressure



### **Internal Pressure**

 He pressure inside cylinder is unknown, as is the flow rate of He into the cylinder and the rate at which it escapes



## **Internal Pressure: Simulations**

#### Ion trajectories in the length of the RFQCB for different pressures



## Internal Pressure:New RFQCB



# Internal Pressure:New RFOCB

- Since pressure inside the cylinder is unknown, the new RFQCB will have:
  - Holes for pressure gauges
  - Regulated He flow
  - Extra conductances to minimize pressure outside the cylinder



Pressure measurement modifications

## Internal Pressure: New RFQCB



P1= 0.01mbar

P2= 0.1mbar

P3= 0.01mbar

Simulation with barriers included at 100mm and 700mm

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# **Mechanical Design**

#### 3. Mechanical Design

Improvements to the mechanical design suggested by construction of new machine and experience with ISCOOL



# **Mechanical Design**

 Shorts are often possible, due to broken insulators, high voltages or the movement of the axial electrodes



Several aspects of mechanical stability depend on the straightness of the RF rods, which can be manufactured warped

# **Mechanical Design: Solutions**

- Possible solutions:
  - Replace ceramic insulators with something more robust (i.e. PEEK)
  - Build structure in a support to ensure it is straight, will reduce chance of insulators falling out and axial electrodes turning

# **Laser Pumping**

Introduction of lasers into the RFQCB cylinder through injection or extraction apertures, to interact with beam in the bunching region

4. Laser Pumping

#### **Laser Pumping**



accessible from the ground state, due for instance to low efficiency or laser limitations

# Laser Pumping: ISCOOL



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# Laser Pumping:New RFQCB

 To facilitate experiments involving incooler laser pumping of ions or 2+ ionization, the new cooler has laser entry ports



Concept

Test on mock RFQ

Implementation on new RFQCB

# Conclusions

- Alignment has been improved and the same system is applied to the new RFQCB
- While the internal pressure cannot be monitored in ISCOOL, the new RFQCB will have several related modifications
- Some improvements to the mechanical design are possible in future designs
- Laser pumping will be attempted again with ISCOOL and will be possible with the new RFQCB

# Thank you for your attention



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## Laser pumping with Mn ions



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Microwave Studio was used to simulate the beam passing through the injection electrodes, to demonstrate the advantages of a realignment



#### **Pressure: ISCOOL**



#### Several systems were tried – final design to be installed



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#### **Laser Entry Ports**



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