



MICE cavity test progress at the MTA, Fermilab

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Background

MICE

- The first production MICE RF cavity is currently undergoing tests within the Muon Test Area (MTA) at Fermilab U.S.A.
- Cavity tests currently have no magnetic field and are without Beryllium windows. Drive frequency is following cavity prior to commissioning of tuner-actuator system
- Getter pump is currently being assisted by turbo molecular pumps to aid in evacuation of the cavity and vessel (will need removal prior to tests with external magnetic field).
- > Plan to replace turbos with larger getter pump.
- Vacuum pressures typically 7×10^{-8} mBar in the cavity and 9×10^{-8} mBar in the vacuum vessel.
- During recent visit and associated shifts, a peak operating gradient of ~12MV/m was typically measured with very few cavity spark events.
- Some modulator maintenance issues led to periodic shut downs, but these have now been rectified.



Shifts on the MTA



Date

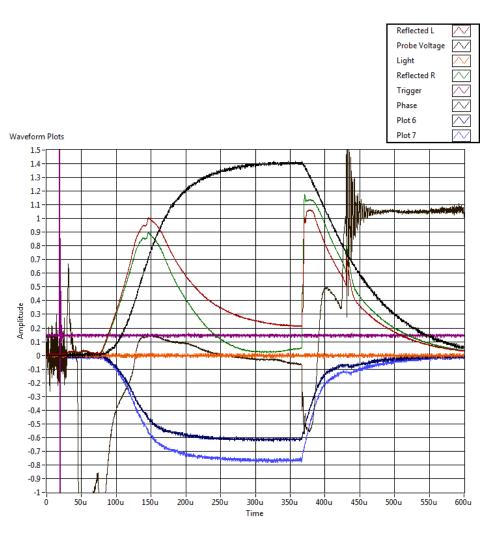
- Since early September, the overall up-time has been 53% – this comes in spite of many outages (electricity, water, network) during the accelerator / linac shutdown period.
- Shift coverage while the cavity has been powered is 83% – this has been possible due to high level of commitment from MTA staff supported by UK colleagues (plus Tianhuan from LBNL).

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00:00-04:00 04:00-08:00 08:00-12:00 12:00-16:00 16:00-20:00 20:00-24:00

Date

- As of 27/10/14, over 2 Million pulses have been obtained at >12MV/m for 5Hz rep rate.
- Pulse duration is about 250μs
- 7 cavity breakdown events have been observed at this power level (although none have been observed for over a million pulses).
- Rep rate dropped to 2.5Hz and drive raised to 13MV/m. The modulator requiring adjustment and repair, but is now recommissioned.





MICE

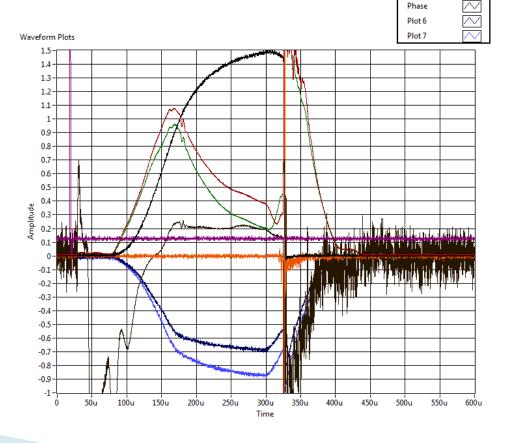
Reflected L

Reflected R Trigger

Light

Probe Voltage

- Sparks in cavity identified by coincident breakdown in cavity voltage and observed light signal from the cavity.
- Initially, sparks were observed when the vacuum pressure in the cavity rose above operational specification.
- Subsequently, breakdown events were identified for elevated drive voltage / gradients of >12MV/m.



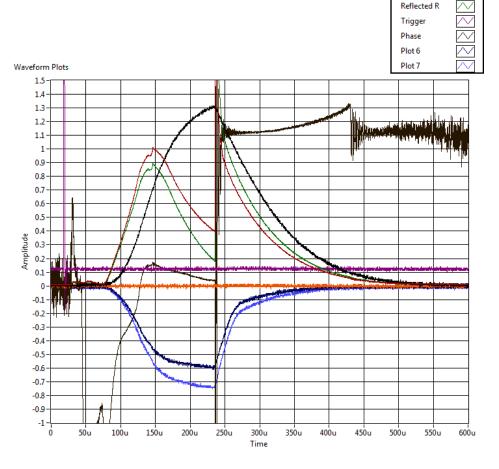


Reflected L

Light

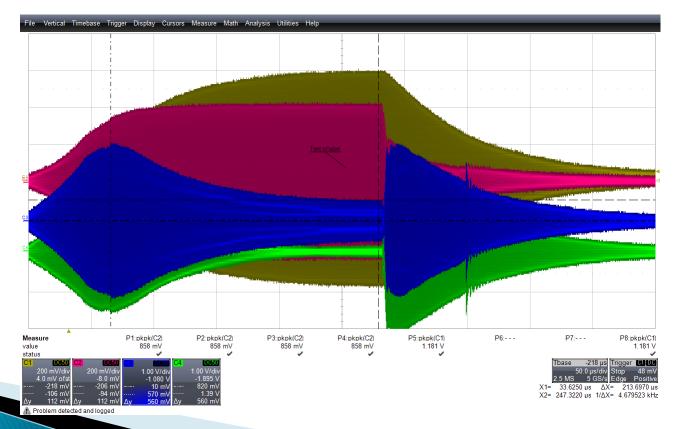
Probe Voltage

- Modulator breakdown events were logged, but easy to differentiate from cavity breakdown events.
- Adjustments made to the modulator have now resulted in greater stability at elevated drive powers.
- Gradients greater than 13MV/m are now attainable.

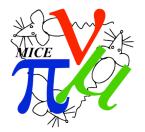




- Unrectified RF signal data has now been transferred to Strathclyde for the drive, probe and reflected components.
- This should be very useful in development of the undersampling based phase-timing diagnostic- realistic data with the same spectral content as the MICE cavity signals, with digitiser resolution and stability.



Moving forward



- The team at Fermilab are now preparing for the next phase of testing, with cavity downtime scheduled and breaking of vacuum in mid-November.
- A thorough cavity inspection will be conducted with installation of the Beryllium windows.
- Modification will be made to the vacuum system (removal of turbo pumps) and the cavity vessel will be moved against the solenoid for B-field running similar to Step 3Pi/2 (or whatever we decide to call the terminal experimental configuration).