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Negative Ion Source Operation with Deuterium

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The difference in negative ion source performance between hydrogen and deuterium is investigated for three types of negative ion source design: charge exchange, surface and volume sources. The early results obtained at Ecole Polytechnique (France) with volume sources operated with and without Cs are reviewed to compare the characteristics of the source charged with deuterium to those of the source charged with hydrogen. Fundamental processes causing the observed difference in negative ion density and the beam current density are discussed.

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