

# High current electron sources for strong hadron cooling and polarized sources for EIC

# Ivan Bazarov (PI) Luca Cultrera Jai Kwan Bae (graduate student)



### Outline

- Motivation;
- State-of-the-art;
- Photocathode R&D at Cornell University;
- Cs-Sb-O activated GaAs and SL;
- HV Gun and beamline status;



### EIC report relevance and budget

# High current electron sources for strong hadron cooling and polarized sources for EIC

| Row | Proponent | Concept |  | Panel<br>priority | Panel sub-<br>priority |
|-----|-----------|---------|--|-------------------|------------------------|
| 2   | Panel     | ALL     | High current single-pass ERL for<br>hadron cooling         | High              | Α                      |
| 7   | Panel     | LR      | High current polarized and<br>unpolarized electron sources | High              | В                      |

|                         | FY12+F13 | FY14+F15 | FY16+F17 | FY18+F19 | Totals  |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
| a) Funds allocated      |          |          | 280,000  | 338,000  | 618,000 |
| b) Actual costs to date |          |          | 280,000  | 338,000  | 618,000 |



.

### Tasks and milestones

- **Task 1: Resurrect the beamline** dedicated to study the operation of the electron source up to 100 mA level by leveraging existing hardware, including a 75kW electron beam stop.
  - Milestone 1.1: Perform numerical simulations aimed at finding a beamline configuration that allows the transport of bunched beams with 1 nC charge per bunch from the gun to the beam dump.
  - **Milestone 1.2:** Assemble and recommission the beam line according to simulation to perform the experimental tasks here proposed.
- Task 2: Upgrade the DC gun with a clearing electrode near the anode to benefit the photocathode lifetime by repelling the ions coming from the downstream of the beamline.
  - Milestone 2.1: Design, build and install a special clearing electrode that can be installed without breaking the gun vacuum in a near proximity of the gun anode.
  - **Milestone 2.2:** High voltage processing of the gun.
- **Task3:** Integrate into the beamline the already available ion clearing electrode structures enable studies of secondary ions production and corresponding clearing techniques in the presence of high intensity electron beams in order to elucidate their role on the stability of the electron source and photocathode lifetime.
  - **Milestone 3.1:** Ion clearing electrodes will be installed along the beamline based on the results from numerical simulations;
  - Milestone 3.2: Study the effect of clearing the ions and along the beamline and near the gun on the electron source stability and cathode lifetime.
- **Task4:** Perform **high current tests** aimed at production of bunch charges and average currents relevant for strong hadron cooling application using tunable wavelength laser allowing us to explore photocathodes in new parameter space.
  - Milestone 4.1: Build an optical transport line for the laser that allows to operate in the visible range of the spectrum (down to ~400 nm) using achromatic lenses and broadband mirrors.
  - Milestone 4.2: Using already known photocathodes explore the possibility of extending the lifetime of the existing
    photocathodes by using non-conventional laser photon energies only in the visible range of the spectrum.
- Task 5: A fully equipped photocathode laboratory and other campus facilities will be used to grow and characterize new promising robust photocathode materials for the production of un-polarized and polarized electron beams.
  - **Milestone 5.1:** Procure and/or synthesize new promising candidate materials for the production of high average current and perform the characterization of their photoemission properties in the visible range of the spectrum.
  - Milestone 5.2: Procure and/or synthesize new promising candidate materials for the production of highly polarized electron beam and perform the characterization of their photoemission properties (in the visible range of the spectrum.



## Motivation

"All three concepts rely at some point upon the high-average-current energy-recovery linac technology, <u>which in turn requires a high-average-current beam source</u>. The default option for ERLs, for both historical and technical reasons, is a photocathode electron gun using a high QE photocathode. (The gun itself is typically direct current [DC], although both normal-conducting radiofrequency [NCRF] and superconducting radiofrequency [SRF] guns have been proposed and tested.) The lifetime issues associated with high-QE photocathodes are well known and <u>represent</u> <u>significant technical challenges</u> in terms of replacement intervals, both from a hardware-and-technology perspective, and from an operational perspective, e.g., the beam dump recovery time."





#### High current for electron cooling state-of-the-art

#### Low energy electron cooling @ BNL

#### Cathode lifetime in the gun: 2018



G. Mengjia, ERL'19

**Experimental setup:** 

**Operando chamber** 



#### High current for electron cooling state-of-the-art

#### Magnetized beam generated from DC gun for JLEIC Electron Cooler





#### High current and spin polarization



2 December 2020

DOE-NP - PI meeting



### State-of-the-art SL-DBR

#### **Benefits of DBR**

- DBR photocathode : absorpt. in GaAs/GaAsP SL >20%
   Less light needed ⇒ less heat deposited
  - F-P can be formed btw top layer & DBR



- QE is now a factor 6 larger
- Potential for higher currents
- Less laser power, less heat to dissipate
- Quite complex structure

#### THE LAST LAYER IS A HIGHLY P-DOPED BULK GaAs ACTIVATED WITH Cs-O

- Total laser absorption in the SL layer is usually <5%</li>
- A DBR can be used to reflect the transmitted laser beam back to the SL

#### **Experimental Results**

- non-DBR: QE ~ 0.89%, Pol ~ 92% @ 776 nm:
  - DBR: Pol. ~ 84%, QE ~ 6.4%, Enhancement: ~7.2



2 December 2020



# But QE alone is not sufficient

- NEA is achieved and can be maintained only in <u>extreme vacuum</u>
  - XHV require massive pumping to reach **10<sup>-12</sup> Torr**;
- Ions backstreaming is still limiting operating lifetime
  - Clearing electrodes and or biased anode;
  - Higher gun voltages;



A single HV breakdown event inside the gun Can get the vacuum high enough to instantly "kill" the cathode



#### GaAs and alkali antimonides both suffer from ion backstreaming



## **Cornell Photocathode Lab**

#### Vacuum level is below 10<sup>-10</sup> Torr





# ESP results disclaimer

- Following measurements are performed:
  - At Very low electric field (bias -36 V);
  - With small cw laser diodes (tens of uW);
  - At vacuum levels of ~5x10<sup>-11</sup> Torr;



- About 3 order of magnitude larger probability to ionize hydrogen than in a real gun
- Due to low energy electron the ion back bombardment damage is likely to affect the very surface of our samples.



# Cs<sub>2</sub>Te on GaAs

#### Conduction Band Minimum





# Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb on GaAs

#### Doping control in alkali based photocathodes materials is difficult



#### **Doping character is controlled by the stoichiometry**



### Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb on GaAs - Methods





### Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb on GaAs – Thickness studies



**DOE-NP - PI meeting** 



### Spin polarization



# Ø780 nm Spin polarization is essentially preserved (up to ~1 nm thickness)

L. Cultrera et al., Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 23 (2020) 023401

**DOE-NP - PI meeting** 



# Can all of this be applied from bulk GaAs to high polarization photocathodes?



# YES!!



SL GaAs/GaAsP non DBR with P>80% @780nm From Jlab injector group







# Designed a new SL-DBR

- Operating with a protective coating that improves lifetime will reduce QE and ESP;
- It is mandatory then using a photocathode that can provide the highest QE and ESP;
  - Strain compensated Superlattices can provide the largest QE and ESP;
  - Diffuse Bragg Reflector and Fabry-Perot design can be used to further enhance the QE;

# Every % in QE and ESP are critical because we are going to trade some for lifetime



#### A new SL-DBR photocathode

- Photocathodes based on SL-DBR are difficult to obtain:
  - They cannot simply be purchased as "off the shelf" and they have to be grown as per customer design;



We plan to grow, test and activate it with robust coating for high current applications

N. Yamamoto et al, International Workshop on Future Linear Colliders (LCWS14)

0 400 500 600 700 80 Thickness [nm]



#### Cornell Laboratory for Accelerator-based Sciences and High beam power cathode test beamline Education (CLASSE)







Completing the installation of a dedicated beamline:

- Old CU-ERL gun 400kV @ 100 mA;
- Ion clearing electrodes;
- High power lasers;
- 75 kW beam dump;

#### This task has seen some delay in FY19-20 due to the simultaneous CHESS-U and CBETA installation @ Cornell and COVID-19



### Gun beamline status





- Gun+Beamline+loadlock are installed and in UHV;
- Clearing electrodes are installed;
- Load-lock includes a "cathodein-canister" delivery system (SBIR-Phase II);





#### Last year...





- Completing lead shielding installation;
- PPS Checkout;
- SF6 emergency venting line;

#### • Turn on HV!!



## Lead shielding completed



2 December 2020

DOE-NP - PI meeting



# PLC based PPS completed





A new PPS had to be deployed to fulfill safety requirements in the new spaces



8 gamma probes 2 December 2020



**PLC PPS rack** DOE-NP - PI meeting



SF6 forced air venting line





## **HVPS** setup

- Upon initial test we found few HVPS issues:
  - Chilled water pressure was not sufficient to generate the flow required for the cooling of the electronics;
  - Power supply was idling with "zero" command to 55 kV;
  - The floating ammeter in the power supply was missed;

# Pump skid used to increase water pressure





Load resistor: it drains a small current allowing the PS to self regulate. Idling now at ~30 kV

#### The floating ammeter hardware and software had to be rebuilt from scratch





#### Laser setup



The Ar ion laser has been refurbished and now can operated with tunable wavelength in the visible and UV.

>25 W in the visible (ML)

>7 W in the UV (ML)





First tests performed with low power laser diode



## First beam!

- Gun went up to 200 kV with not a single event and we deemed it sufficient for now to begin the commissioning;
- A cathode from the SBIR phase-II "cathode-in-canister" was loaded into the gun;



A low-current beam was used to perform beam based alignment of gun solenoid and to commission the beamline. Successfully transported to the end of beamline.





### Delayed the planned beam tests

- Test the robustness of the GaAs activated with Cs<sub>2</sub>Te and Cs<sub>3</sub>Sb in the gun at high current;
- Operate alkali antimonides and III-N in the near UV:
  - 343 nm from THG of our pulsed laser system;
  - 351 nm from cw Ar ion laser;
- We aim at improving the efficiency of the photo-extraction process and decrease the heat load on the cathode:



#### IR to e- => ~8% IR to e- => ~4%

- For the <u>same avg. current</u> we need <u>half of the UV</u> <u>laser power w.r.t. VIS</u>;
- Power heat losses on the cathode are reduced by 65%;



# Spin-off

- The results obtained with our robust methods of GaAs activations have attracted the interest of the community.
  - **"Demonstrating improved lifetime in superlattice photocathodes with robust activating coatings for high current, highly spin-polarized beam production"**

Funded through Accelerator Stewardship DOE program



#### Demonstrating high current and spin polarization from CU methods at UITF at Jlab



# Thank you for the attention!!

Acknowledgements to:

*NP-DOE DE-SC0019122* 

And the photocathode development group at CLASSE