# Thermionic Sources for Electron Cooling

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# Outline

- Goals for Strong and Weak sources
- Strong and Weak source requirements
- Strong Source Design
- Explorations for Weak Source Design
- Weak Source Design Options

# Goals

- Design two thermionic electron sources in the IOTA ring:
  - Strong Source: Explore dynamics due to space-charge with large transverse tune shifts. The space-charge forces create fast emittance growth and beam-loss within the first couple of hundred turns. Therefore we require a strong electron source to counter these effects.
  - Weak Source: At beam currents much smaller than the maximum, IBS is the main source of emittance growth and limits the beam lifetime in this regime, constraining other experiments at IOTA. A weak electron source will compensate for heating, which will be useful for all research with proton beams in the IOTA ring.

#### **General Source Features:**

- Both electron sources will operate in a highly magnetized environment, with a solenoidal magnetic field within 0.1 0.3 T.
- The sources will both operate at a kinetic energy of -1.36 keV.



# **Strong Source Requirements**

Strong Electron source:

Operating Voltage	1.36 kV
B field	0.1 T
Current	~80 mA
Radius of flat current density distribution	~12 mm
Current density	78.6 A/m^2

• The magnetic field strength at the source and cooling section is the same for the strong source.

# **Strong Source Design:**

Strong Source Design Geometry:



Strong Source Geometry

Z [mm]

#### **Strong Source emission and convergence:**

Final current:  $I = 0.0811 \pm 0.0003 A$ 



# **Strong Source Electric Field**:

Electric Field Profile:

- 99th percentile max. electric field: 99.096 kV/m
  - Order of magnitude smaller than the threshold for arcing



# Weak Source Requirements

Weak electron source:

Operating Voltage	1.36 kV
B field	0.3 T
Current	1-5 mA
Radius of flat current density distribution	10 - 20 mm
Current density	0.796 - 15.915A/m^2

• The electron beam in the source will start at a smaller radius and will expand to match these parameters by magnetic field expansion before co-propagating with the protons.

#### **Past Weak Source Design**

Past Weak Source Design Geometry:

- Anode at ground, focus electrode at -1.36keV



#### Simple Source Geometry

Z [mm]

#### **Past Weak Source Design**

Final total current emitted is I= 0.0039 ± 0.0001 A

The magnetic field of the solenoid to expand the beam will be 0.1T. This will expand the beam a radius of 15 mm. At this radius, the beam's current density will be approximately 2.31 A/m^2.



## **Past Weak Source Design**

Electric Field Profile:

- 99th percentile max. electric field: 133.27 kV/m
  - Order of magnitude smaller than the threshold for arcing



# Weak Source Design: Additional Parameters

- Encountered difficulties with getting the focus electrode closer to the cathode while keeping the emission flat and with the small current density
- Additional Parameters to change for this:
  - Change focus electrode potential make more negative than cathode: reduce emission
  - Change anode potential make more negative than ground: reduce emission
- Performed sweeps for each parameter to visualize how everything changes.

#### **Focus Electrode X position variation:**



# Focus Electrode potential variation:



#### Anode Y position variation:

Fe\_x = 4 mm Fe\_y = 27 mm Focus electrode potential = -2340 kV Anode\_x = 77 mm Anode potential = ground



# Fe y position variation:

 $Fe_x = 4 mm$ 

Focus electrode potential = -2340 kV

Anode\_x = 77 mm

Anode\_y = 30 mm

Anode potential = ground



#### **Anode Potential Variation:**

Fe\_x = 4 mm

 $Fe_y = 27 mm$ 

Focus electrode potential = -1740 kV

Anode x = 77 mm

Anode\_y = 30 mm



#### Anode X position variation:

 $Fe_x = 4 mm$ 

 $Fe_y = 27 mm$ 

Focus electrode potential = -1740 kV

Anode y = 30 mm

Anode potential = 0 kV











 $I = 0.0107 \pm 0.0001 A$ 





# Weak Source Total Emission Length/Particle Energies:

Particle energies at the end of this length are between 1.34keV and 1.36keV



# **Conclusions/Inquiries**:

- With changing the focus electrode and the anode potentials, can get the desired emission profile.

- Is changing the anode potential by this amount too much? Is there something I should be wary of?
- Could extend the simulation emission so that particle distribution reaches the full 1.36keV.