Locked in a Dark and Dusty Basement:

Field Emission and Particulate Contamination in the TRIUMF e-Linac

Aveen Mahon (she/her) Department of Physics and Astronomy, UVic Accelerator Division, TRIUMF

February 14th, 2025 WNPPC 2025, Banff



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TRIUMF is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people. https://native-land.ca/

Outline:

- Electron Linear Accelerator
- DarkLight
- Field Emission
- Particulate Collection and Analysis

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TRIUMF: Canada's particle accelerator center



Accelerator Complex

Cyclotron

ISAC

e-Linac

Discovery, accelerated

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Accelerator Complex

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ISAC

e-Linac!!

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Electron linear accelerator (e-Linac)



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Radio frequency acceleration (RF)

- Time varying electromagnetic (EM) fields
- · Cavity design resonates at frequency in sync with passage of particles





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DarkLight Experiment

What is DarkLight?

- Scattering of e⁻ beam on tantalum target.
- Pair production of e⁻/e⁺ to search for mass resonance of new interaction boson.





Projected exclusion plot for 2-phases of DarkLight by L. Miller.

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DarkLight Beamline



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 $\textbf{FE} \rightarrow$ emission of e^- from regions of high surface E field. Prevalent in SRF cavities due to high gradient.



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FE seen on e-Linac view screen.

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Emitters are μm to sub μm sized contaminants \Rightarrow **dust!**

Migrate back into SRF cavities during operation...





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Particulate Collection



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Analysis tools:

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)

Energydispersive X-ray Spectroscoy (EDX)



Composition Analysis

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Stainless steel

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Discovery



Composition Analysis



Stainless steel



Copper-silver alloy



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Composition Summary



Grain statistics: 87 beamline grains & 5 control grains analyzed.

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Composition Summary

Where do these come from??

Potential origins of elements:

Element	Source
Al/Pd/Au	Test stand or electrical connectors
К	Human contamination
Ті	Cathode electrodes
Stainless Steel (Fe+Ni+Cr)	Most beamline elements
Cu/Ag	Braising, anode electrodes
In/Ba	Cathode material

Experimental Studies

Conceived an **off-line test setup** to reproduce the accelerator environment, with control on key parameters.

Goal: study each step in dust migration process:

- Charging $\Rightarrow {\rm e^-} ~ \& ~ \gamma$
- **Detachment** \Rightarrow baking
- Migration ⇒ mechanism unknown...



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Thank you Merci









Root causes of field emitters in SRF cavities placed in CEBAF tunnel.

Technical report, Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (TJNAF), Newport News, VA ..., 2016.

Appendix: DarkLight Beam Optics

Beam optics for DarkLight present challenges:

- · Highly scattered electron beam transport.
- · Space constraint from experiment detectors.

Combination of electromagnets and permanent magnets:

- · Pros: space efficient
- · Cons: cannot vary field strength

Optics designed for a specific beam energy \Rightarrow rely on stable RF performance.



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Appendix: DarkLight Beam Optics



Optics design optimized in envelope code TRANSOPTR

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SRF performance

Quality factor (Q) vs Acceleration Gradient (Ea) of e-Linac cavity over time. (Power Stored/Dissipated)



If we cannot deliver required energy for DarkLight, there is no experiment!

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