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Characterization of a Broad Beam Ion Source Converted into a High Intensity Deuterium Beam

Avalanche Energy is developing deuterium ion beams for the Orbitron fusion concept. For these and similar projects, modification of off-the-shelf high current ion sources enables affordable and rapidly accessible alternatives to custom-built systems. We have successfully operated the Veeco Mark 1 broad beam source on deuterium to create multi-keV energy ions. By applying custom optics and steering downstream of the source, we focused and collimated the beam into the Orbitron through a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch downstream orifice.

To characterize the beam's spread and losses, we implemented a series of faraday cup, wire probe and Bergoz induction coil diagnostics throughout the beam path. These measurements provided feedback to our optics design choices and allowed for a rapid design and iteration loop to maximize current delivered to the Orbitron. Moreover, the species and energy content of the ion beam was characterized using a Thomson Parabola developed in house. These tools showed a predominantly D₂⁺ beam with over 1 mA of beam current delivered to the system.

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Yes

Presenter if not the submitter of this abstract

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