IPAC'23 - 14th International Particle Accelerator Conference



Contribution ID: 2522 Contribution code: MOPL147

Type: Poster Presentation

Ultra-thin film yttria enhanced gold photocathodes

Monday, 8 May 2023 16:30 (2 hours)

The performance requirements for next generation electron accelerators put ever increasing demand on the photocathode performance, where it fundamentally limits the achievable beam quality. Metal photocathodes are limited by their high work function and relatively low quantum efficiency, necessitating the use of high powered deep UV lasers. Metal oxide thin film interfaces have been shown to reduce the work function of the underlying metal photocathode, whilst maintaining the ease of use, high durability and fast response time. This leads to an improvement in quantum efficiency and spectral response to desirable incident laser sources. We present the characterisation of a thin film yttria (Y2O3) enhanced Au photocathode at various film thicknesses. Quantum efficiencies were measured at 265 nm along with surface compositions via X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy.

Funding Agency

Footnotes

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Session Classification: Monday Poster Session

Track Classification: MC1: Colliders and other Particle Physics Accelerators: MC1.A08: Linear Accelerators