



Contribution ID: 19 Contribution code: TUP019-WEA

Type: **Poster Presentation**

## Performance of the high-brightness SRF CW photo-electron gun

*Tuesday 20 August 2024 20:40 (20 minutes)*

Next generation X-ray FELs (XFELs) are rapidly moving towards CW operation, which brings the new requirements on high quality of the CW electron sources. such as a superconducting RF (SRF) electron gun. While operation in SRF environment can be quite challenging, the quality of the generated beams is rather rewarding [1-4].

We report on our unique experience with the record performing SRF electron gun equipped with warm CsK<sub>2</sub>Sb photocathode. The gun is generating high charge electron bunches (up to 20 nC/bunch) and extremely low transverse emittances suitable for X-ray FELs. We present study of the transverse beam emittance from the gun, including our experimental results and numerical simulations. We also present initial results of operating the gun with GaAs photocathode. In addition, we discuss accelerating scheme based on our photoinjector, which can satisfy the high requirements for the new generation FELs.

We report on our unique experiences with the only operational low emittance photo-electron SRF CW gun: we report the challenges, problems but also our breakthroughs in this challenging technology

### Footnotes

[1] Physical Review Accelerators and Beams 21, 082001, 2018

[2] Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 244801 (2020) -

[3] Scientific Reports 11, 4477 (2021)

[4] Phys. Rev. Accel. Beams 25, 092001 (2022)

### Funding Agency

This work is supported by the DoE Office of Nuclear Physics award DESC0021426

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**Session Classification:** Poster session

**Track Classification:** Electron sources