Abstract Submitted for the DPP06 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Beam-Background Gas Total Cross-Section Measurements with a Retarding Field Analyzer<sup>1</sup> M. KIREEFF COVO, LLNL and UCB, A.W. MOLVIK, A. FRIEDMAN, R. COHEN, LLNL, J-L. VAY, F. BIENIOSEK, D. BACA, P.A. SEIDL, LBNL, J. VUJIC, UCB — The High-Current Experiment (HCX) at LBNL is a driver scale single beam injector that provides a 1 MeV K<sup>+</sup> ion beam current of 0.2 A during 5  $\mu$ s for high energy density physics and heavy ion fusion. We developed a new technique to measure the beam-background gas total cross-section in a high-current accelerator using a retarding field analyzer. The beam-background gas interaction will produce cold ions by ionization and charge exchange. The ions are radially expelled in few hundreds of microseconds by the space-charge beam potential of ~2000 V. Due to the lack of data in the literature at the energy range of interest (1 MeV K<sup>+</sup>), we intentionally leaked different gases and measured the total cross-sections. The experimental data will be compared with theoretical predictions.

<sup>1</sup>This work was performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by University of California, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under contract No. W-7405-Eng-48, and by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC02-05CH1123

> Michel Kireeff Covo LLNL and UCB

Date submitted: 16 Aug 2006

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