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High Current Electron Beam Emission Driven by a Nonlinear Transmission Line DAVID FRENCH, BRAD HOFF, SUSAN HEIDGER, Air Force Research Laboratory — Simulations of an electron beam diode driven by a modulated voltage pulse provided by a nonlinear transmission line (NLTL) will be presented. Based on a previous low voltage experiment [1] the new design operates at 250 kV and provides a multi-kA modulated electron beam based on the modulated drive signal from a ferrite based NLTL. The NLTL driver has been demonstrated experimentally and is tunable from 900-1400 MHz with pulse durations from 4-17 ns. Particle-In-Cell simulations in ICEPIC show the modulated voltage signal results in a modulated electron beam current emitted directly from the cathode in a few cm annular beam. Expected results and the experimental design for the electron beam diode and diagnostics will also be presented.

 D. M. French, B. W. Hoff, W. Tang, S. Heidger, J. Allen-Flowers, D. Shiffler, "Nonlinear Transmission Line Based Electron Beam Driver," Rev. Sci. Instrum. 83, 123302 (2012).

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