Proton-boron fusion in a compact scheme of plasma oscillatory confinement

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We present the results of first experiments on the aneutronic fusion of proton-boron (pB) in a single miniature device with electrodynamic (oscillatory) plasma confinement $(p+^{11}B \rightarrow \alpha+^{8}Be^* \rightarrow$ $3\alpha+8.7 \text{ MeV } [1,2]$). Device is based on a low energy (1-2 J) nanosecond vacuum discharge with a virtual cathode [3], the field of which accelerates protons and boron ions to the energies required for pB synthesis (100–300 keV) under oscillating ions head-on collisions. The yield of α -particles registered are presented and discussed in detail. The experiment was preceded by PiC modeling of main processes accompanying pB reaction within the framework of the full electromagnetic code KARAT [4]. Further studies are to show the prospects for the creation of a practical compact reactor on aneutronic pB synthesis with non-Maxwellian plasma [5] based on the oscillatory confinement.

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