



# Comparative material study of breakdown threshold and robustness to low-energy proton irradiation

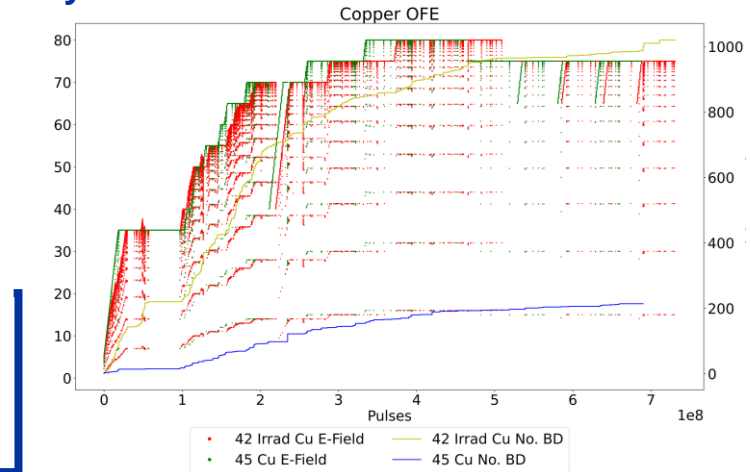
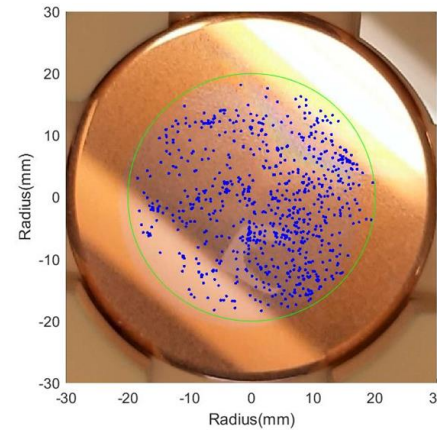
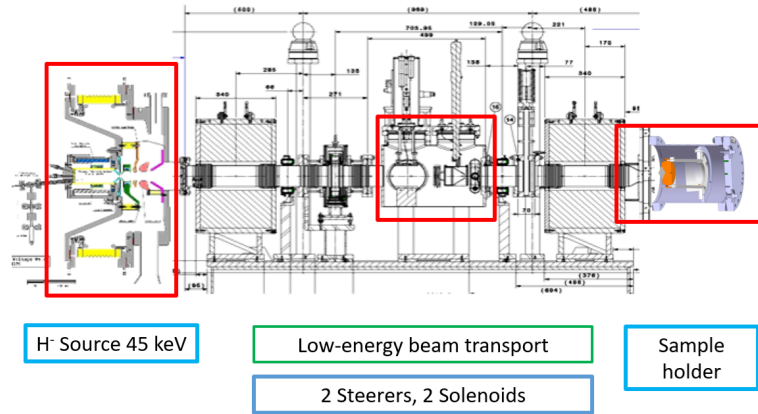
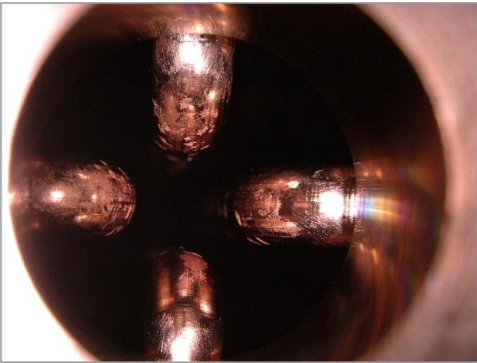
Catarina Serafim & Ruth Peacock

International Workshop on Breakdown Science and High Gradient Technology (HG2022) - 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022

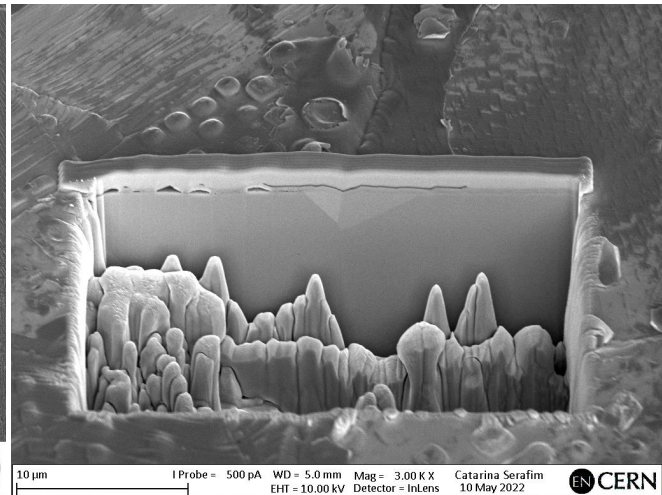
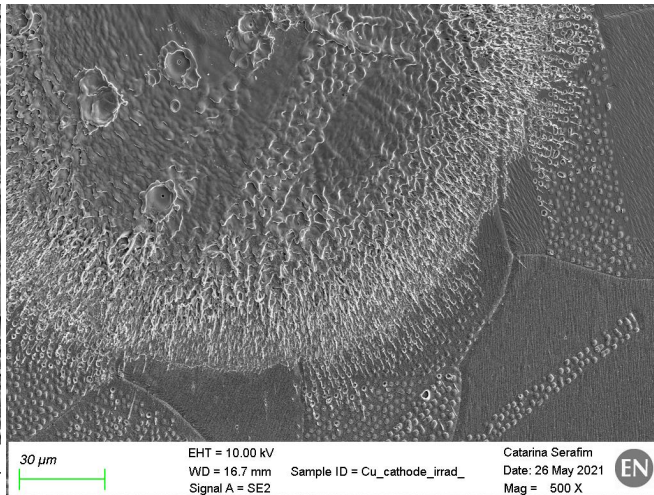
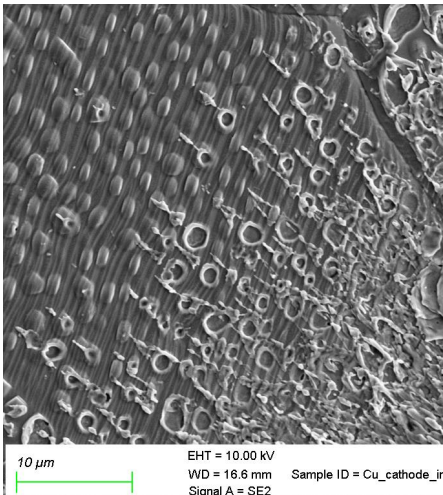
# COMPARATIVE MATERIAL STUDY OF BREAKDOWN THRESHOLD AND ROBUSTNESS TO LOW-ENERGY PROTON IRRADIATION

Authors: Catarina Filipa Da Palma Serafim, Ruth Peacock, Walter Wuensch, Sergio Calatroni, Ana Teresa Perez Fontenla, Alexej Grudiev, Alessandra Lombardi, Stefano Sgobba, Suitbert Ramberger, Giulia Bellodi, Edgar Sargsyan - CERN Organisation Européenne pour la Recherche Nucléaire, Geneva, Switzerland

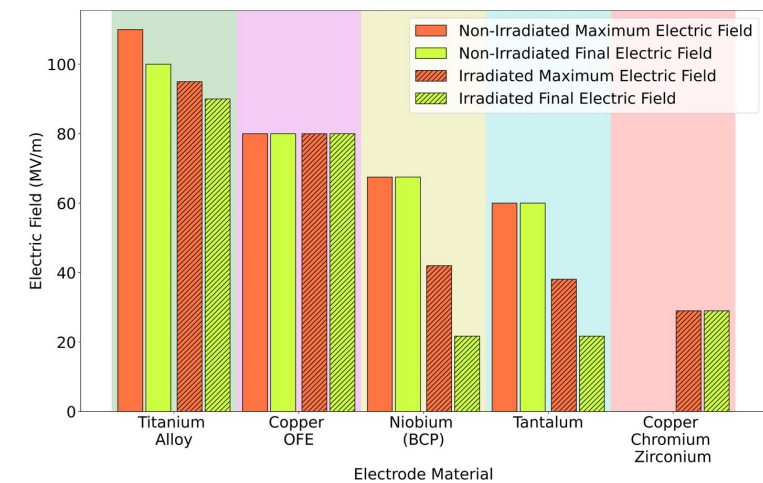
RFQ H- Beam Loss Damage → Irradiated Electrode → Condition in the Pulsed DC System



Microscopy Analysis ←

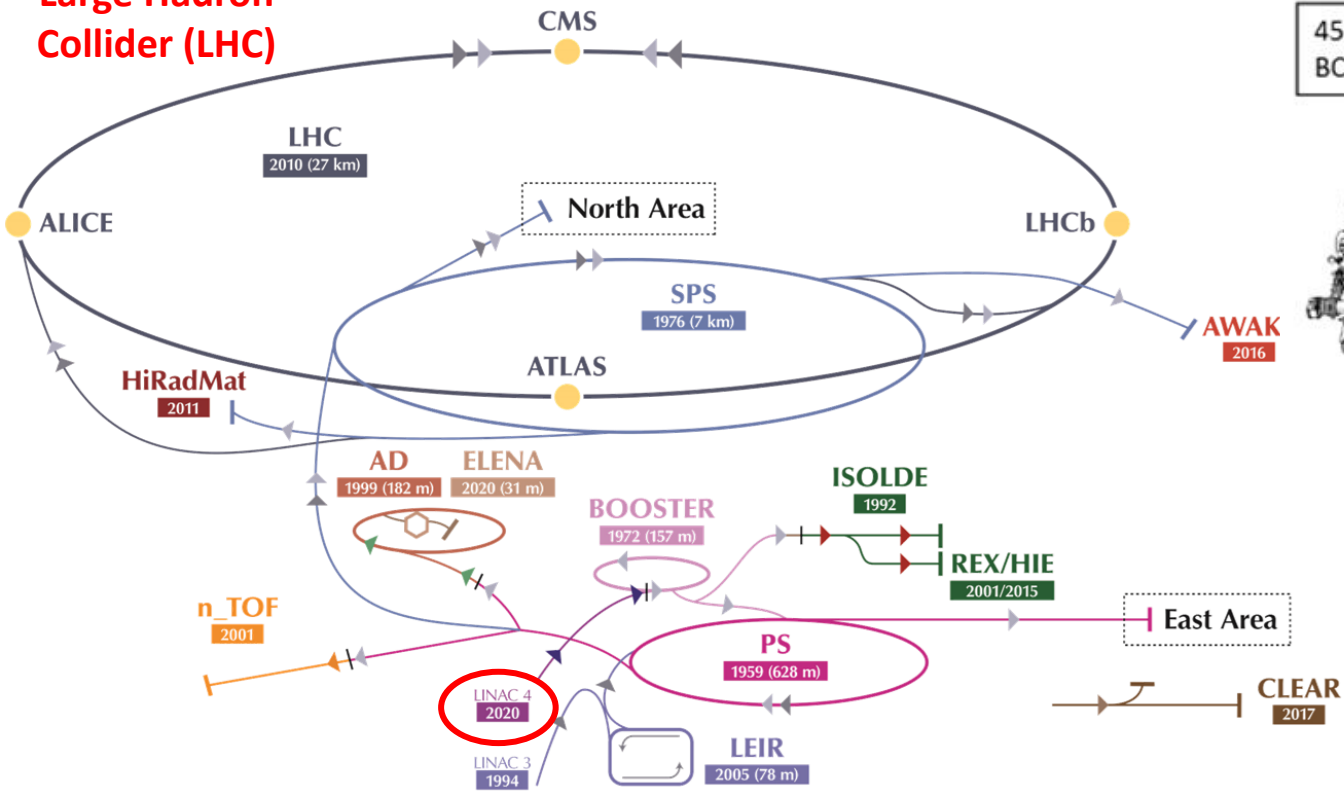


## Summary

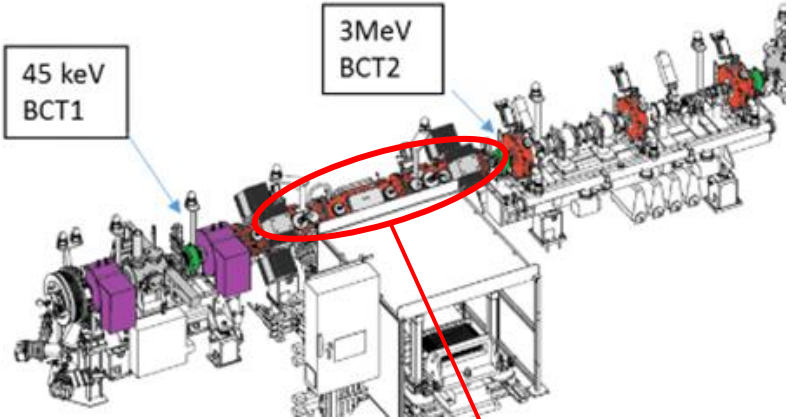


# RFQ vane damage due to H- Beam loss

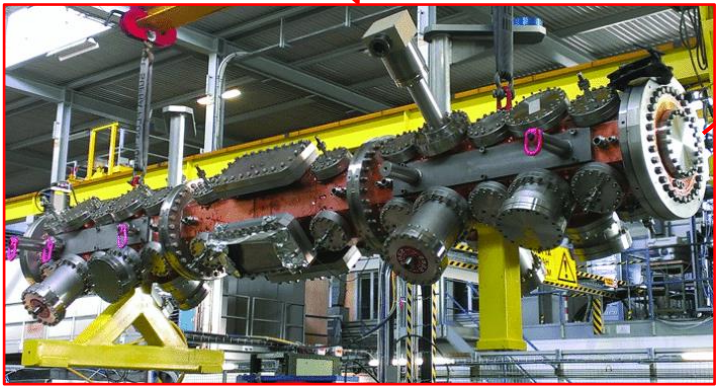
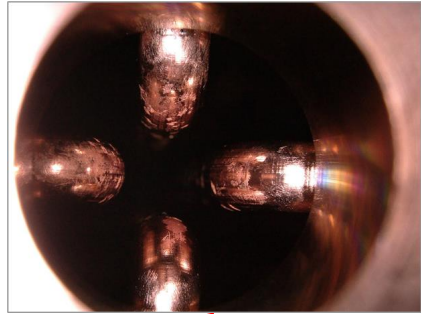
Large Hadron Collider (LHC)



Linear Accelerator (LINAC) 4

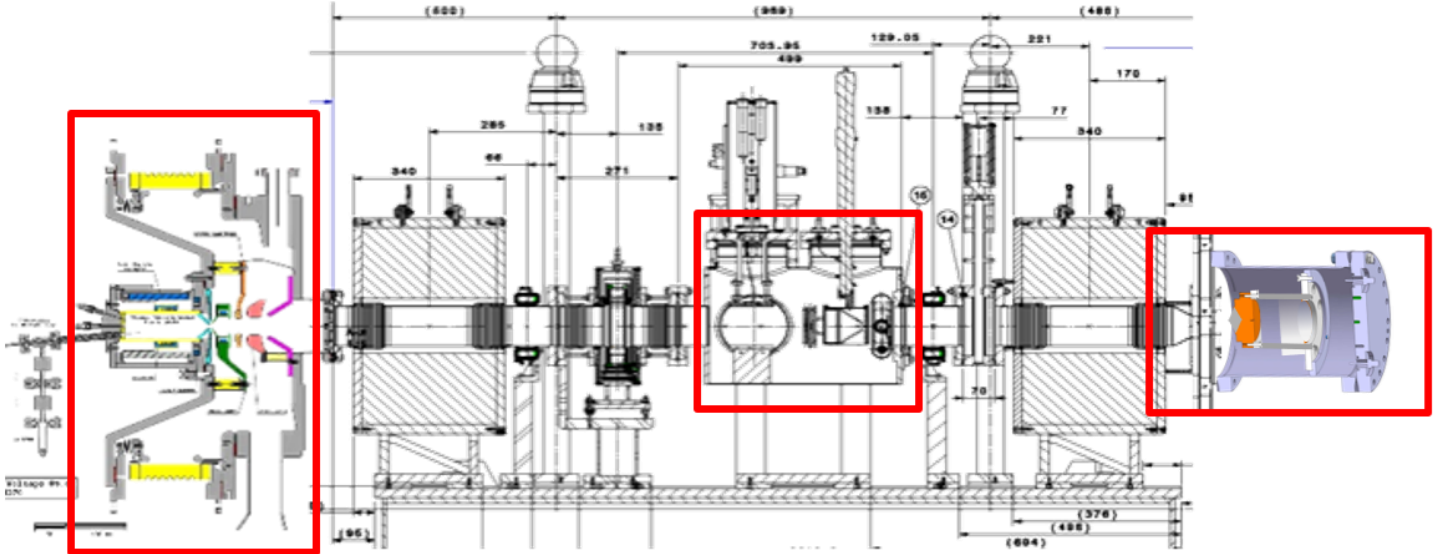


RFQ vane damage



Radio Frequency Quadrupole (RFQ)

# Irradiation of Cathodes for Pulsed DC Tests



H<sup>-</sup> Source 45 keV

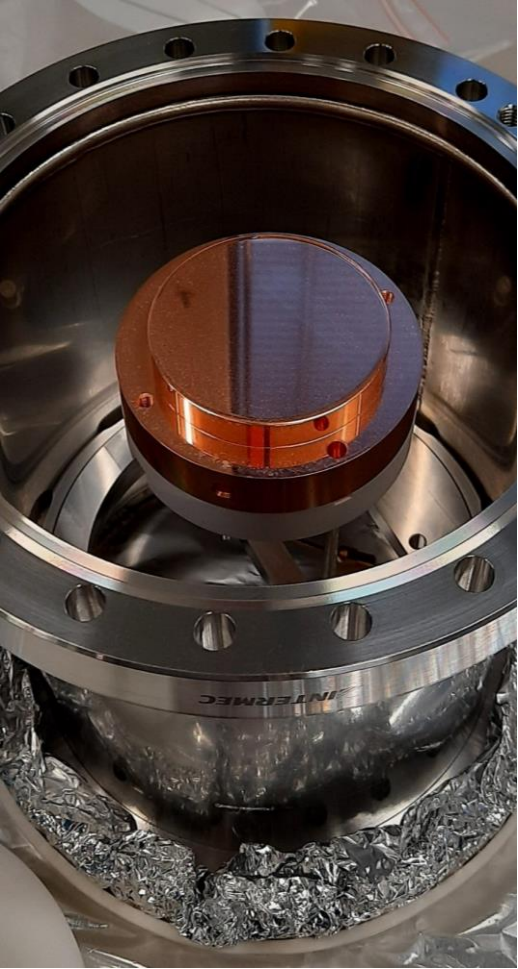
Low-energy beam transport

2 Steerers, 2 Solenoids

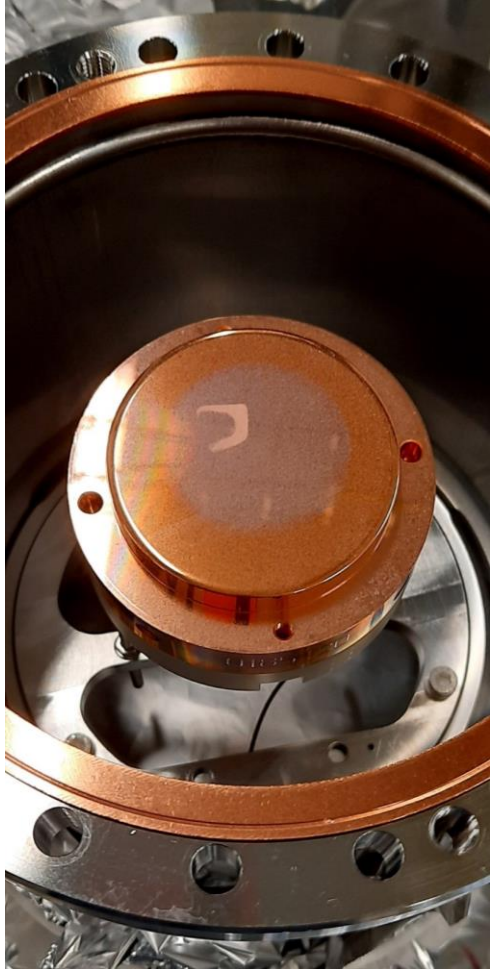
Sample holder

Irradiated with  $10^{19}$  H<sup>-</sup> on the target electrode

Before Irradiation



After Irradiation



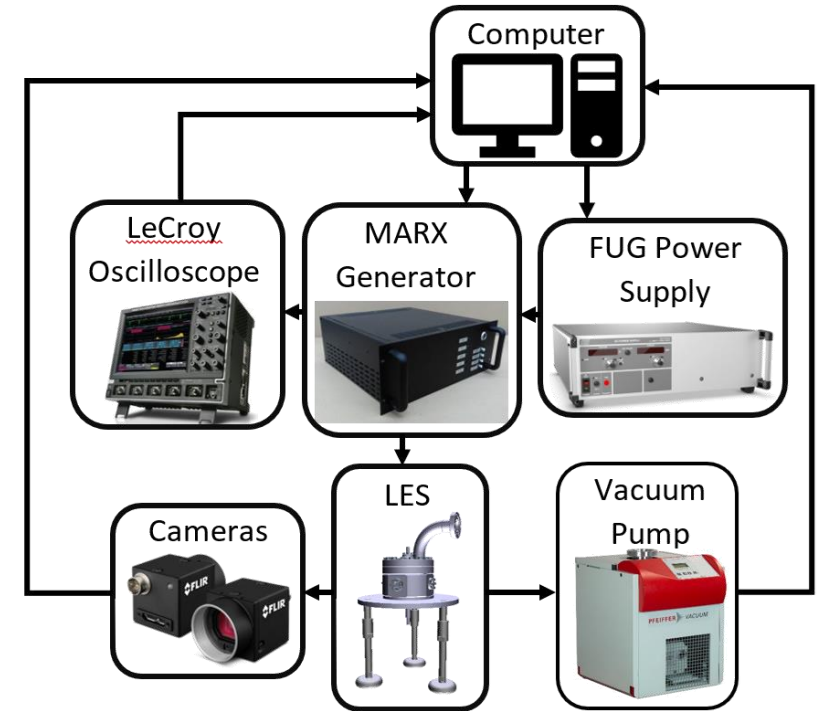
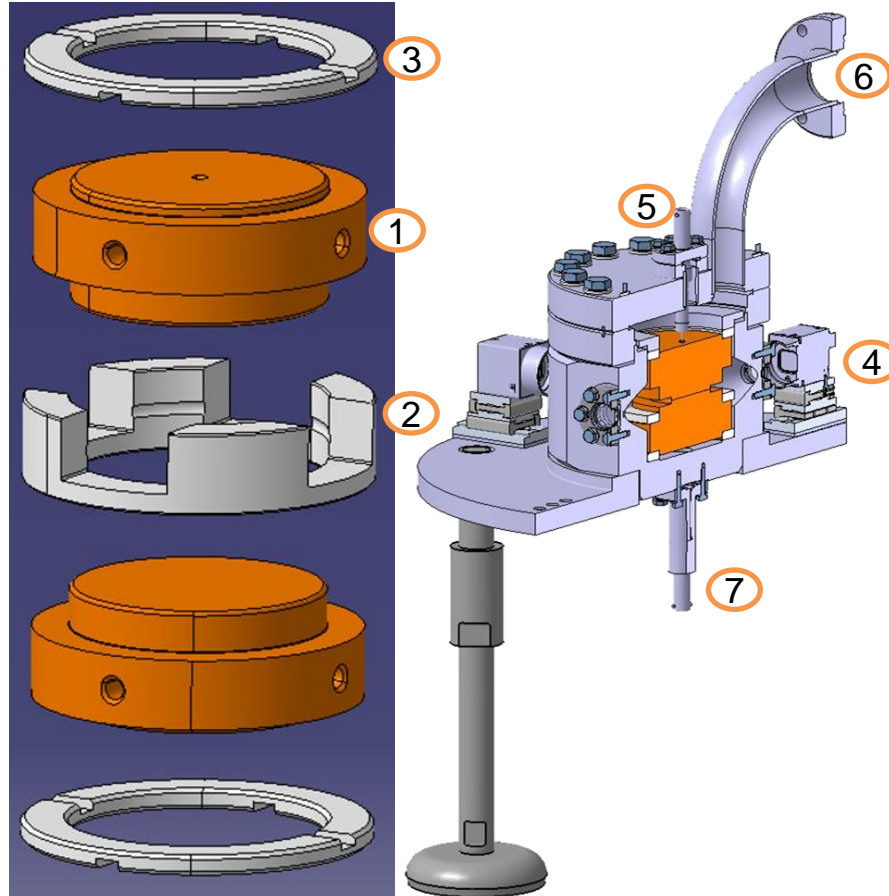
# Irradiation

	2020	2021							2022	
	Cu-OFE	Nb	CuCr1Zr	CuCr1Zr	Ti6Al4V	Ta	Nb	Cu-OFE	CuBe2	Cu-OFE
Pair of electrodes	#40_RFQ	#43_RFQ	#50_RFQ	#50_RFQ (V2)	#47_RFQ	#XX_RFQ	#44_RFQ	#42_RFQ	#_RFQ	#_RFQ
Start Date	14/10/2020	26/01/2021	01/02/2021	03/09/2021	27/10/2021	10/12/2021	13/12/2021	16/12/2021	25/03/2022	29/03/2022
Start Time	18h00m	13h00m	13h00m	17h00m	12h50m	17h40m	16h23m	16h29m	15h00m	15h00m
End Date	16/10/2020	01/02/2021	03/02/2021	06/09/2021	29/10/2021	12/12/2021	15/12/2021	18/12/2021	27/03/2022	31/03/2022
End Time	08h30m	09h00m	14h00m	09h00m	19h40m	23h40m	20h17m	22h32m	21h25m	23h43m
Time of irradiation	40h	140h	50h	64h	55h	54h	52h	54h	55h	56h
Total N of H-	1.20E+19	4.88E+18	9.80E+18	1.31E+19	1.20E+19	1.20E+19	1.20E+19	1.20E+19	0.92E+19	1.16E+19
Current	22 - 31 mA	16 mA	16 mA	20 mA	20 mA	17 mA	21 mA	20 mA	18.5 mA	19.3 mA
Pulse length	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us	600 us

# Pulsed DC Large Electrode System

## Configuration

1. 2 high precision machined electrodes ( $1\mu\text{m}$  tolerances)
2. High tolerance ceramic spacer between electrodes providing a gap of  $20\mu\text{m}$ ,  $40\mu\text{m}$ ,  $60\mu\text{m}$ , or  $100\mu\text{m}$
3. Ceramic spacers to isolate electrodes from the chamber
4. 4 Windows and 2 perpendicular cameras
5. High voltage feed through
6. Vacuum pump output ( $5 \times 10^{-9}$ )
7. Connection from the bottom electrode to ground (outside of system)



The MARX generator can pulse up to a rep rate of 6kHz and a minimum pulse length of  $1\mu\text{s}$ . Measurements of the voltage and current supplied during a breakdown are measured whenever a breakdown is detected.

# Normalised Field: Including effect of gap distance

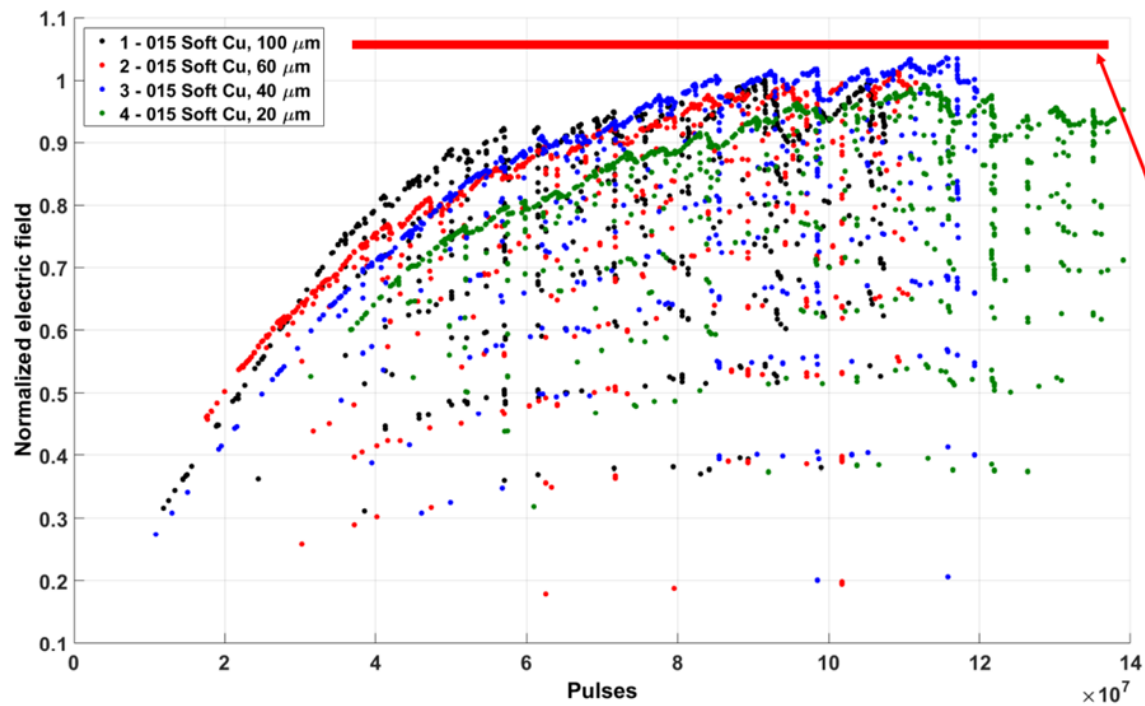
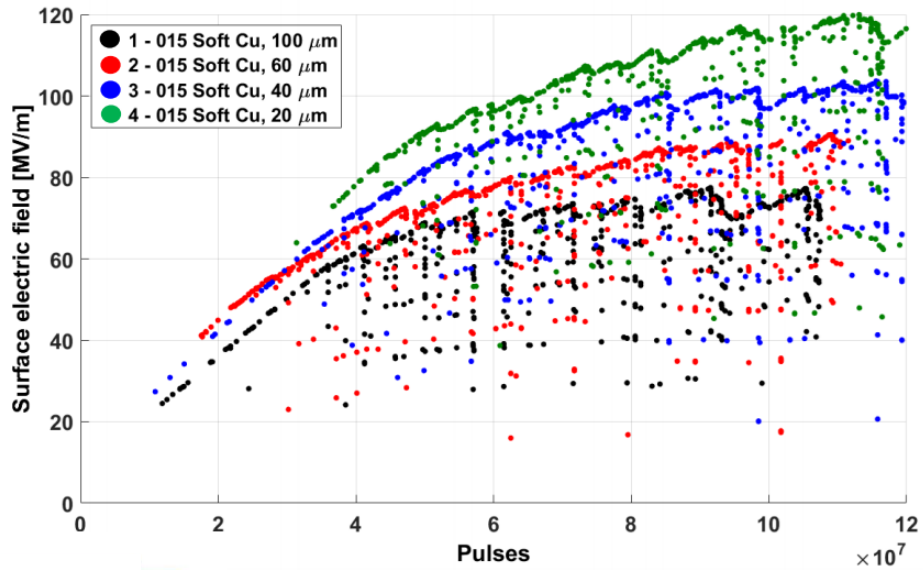
$$E = \frac{V}{d}$$

Making one step further gives the connection: L4-RFQ <-> DC setup

$$\text{Normalised Field Holding} = \left( \frac{V}{V_{max}} \right) \times \left( \frac{d_{max}}{d} \right)^{0.72}$$

$V_{max} = 7747 \text{ V}$   
 $d_{max} = 100 \mu\text{m}$

$V = 78.3 \text{ kV};$   
 $E_s = 34 \text{ MV/m}$   
 $d = V/E_s$   
 $\Rightarrow$   
 $\text{NFH} = 1.05$



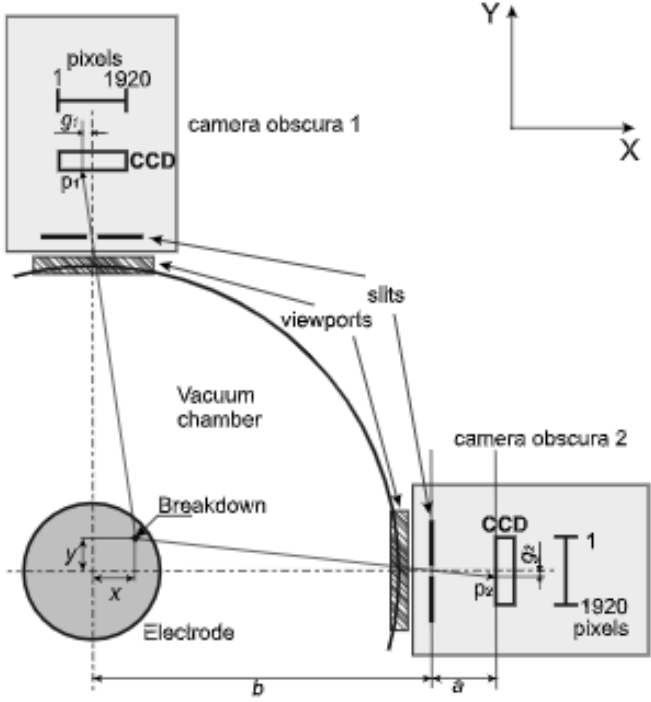
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 Alexej Grudiev - [https://indico.cern.ch/event/925403/contributions/3889048/attachments/2050505/3436872/20200604\\_WP\\_RFQ3\\_design\\_Introduction.pdf](https://indico.cern.ch/event/925403/contributions/3889048/attachments/2050505/3436872/20200604_WP_RFQ3_design_Introduction.pdf)

# Normalised Field Holding Calculations

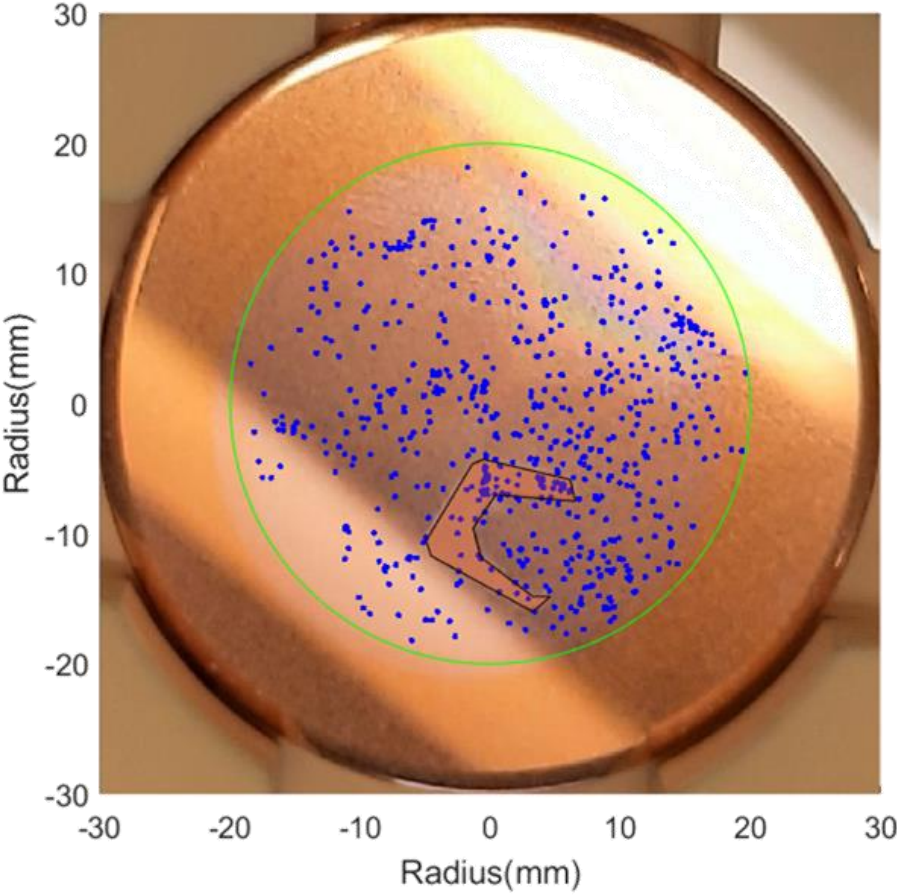
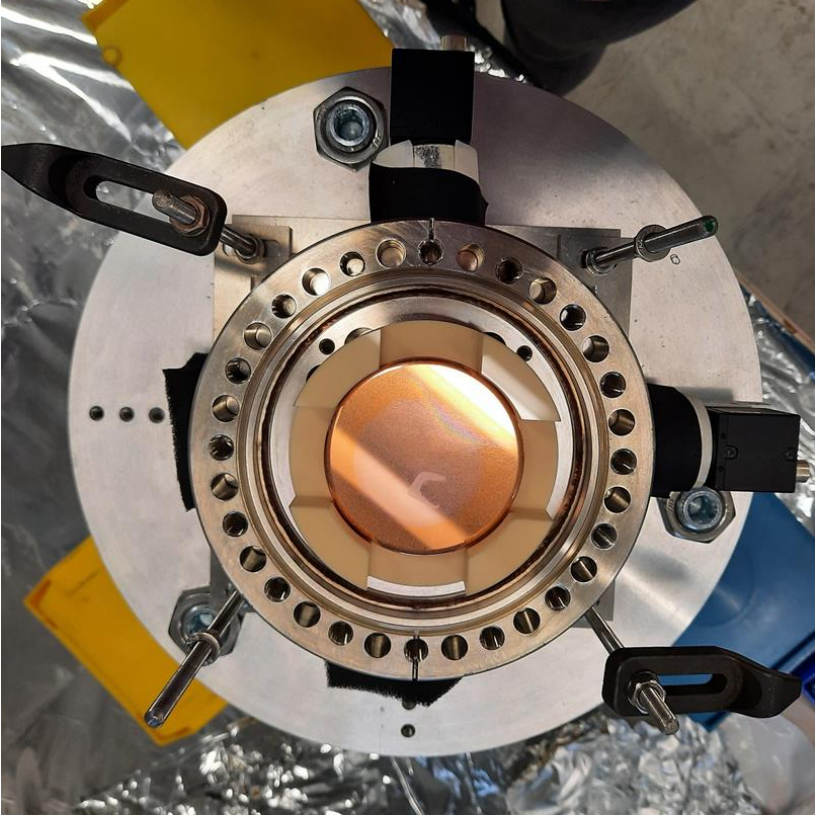
- The surface field in the RFQ is 34MV/m, the target surface electric field for this electrode test was 35 MV/m
- 35MV/m with a gap of 60 $\mu$ m gives a voltage of 2100V and a normalised field holding of 0.3915
- The normalised field holding of the RFQ is 1.0563 giving a voltage of 5664.9V and surface electric field for a 60 $\mu$ m gap of 94MV/m
- Assuming the gap size scaling holds we would need to reach a field of 94MV/m in the Pulsed DC System
- We first went to a field of 35MV/m then attempted to increase to 94MV/m



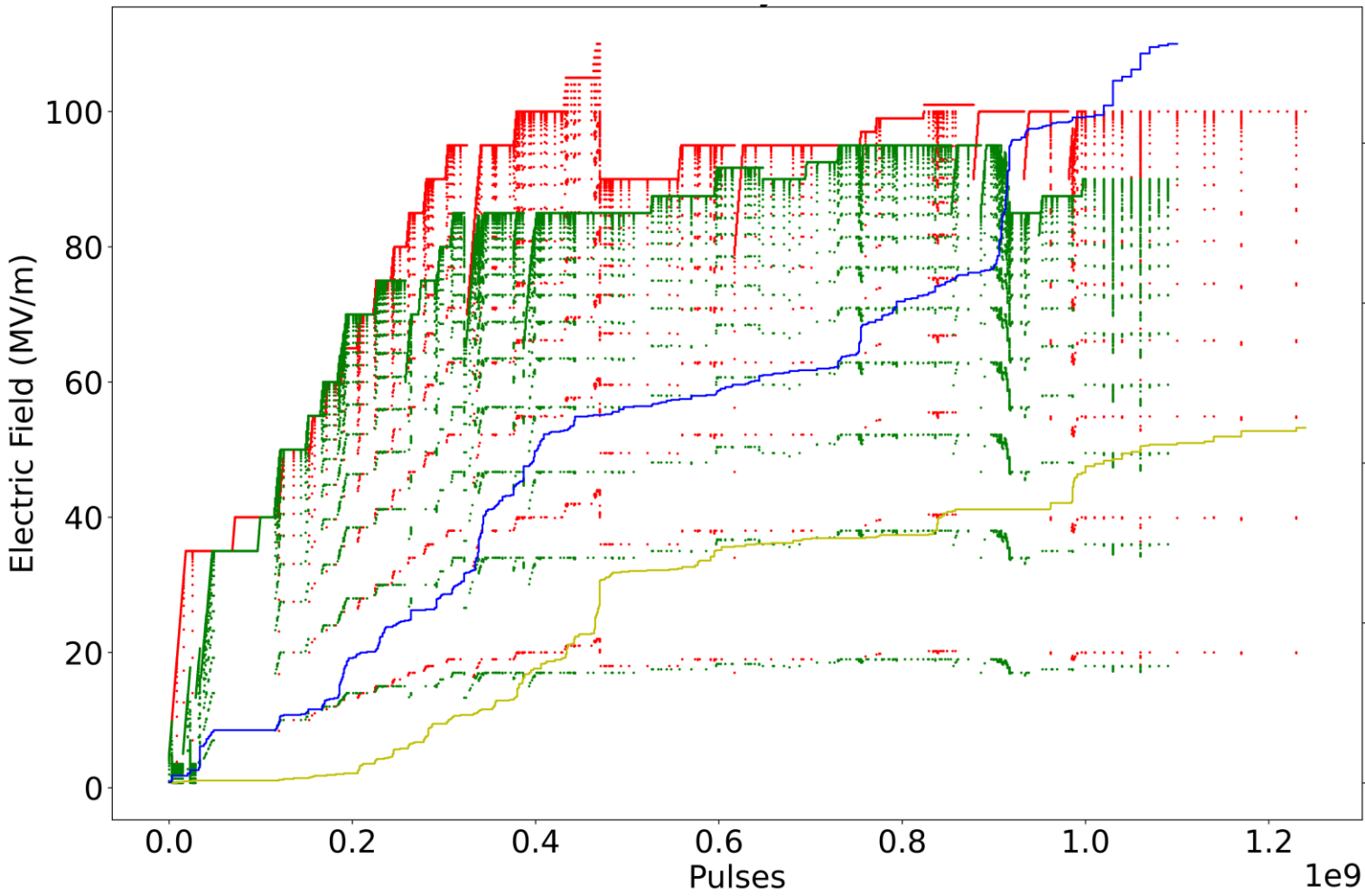
# Pulsed DC System Breakdown Localisation



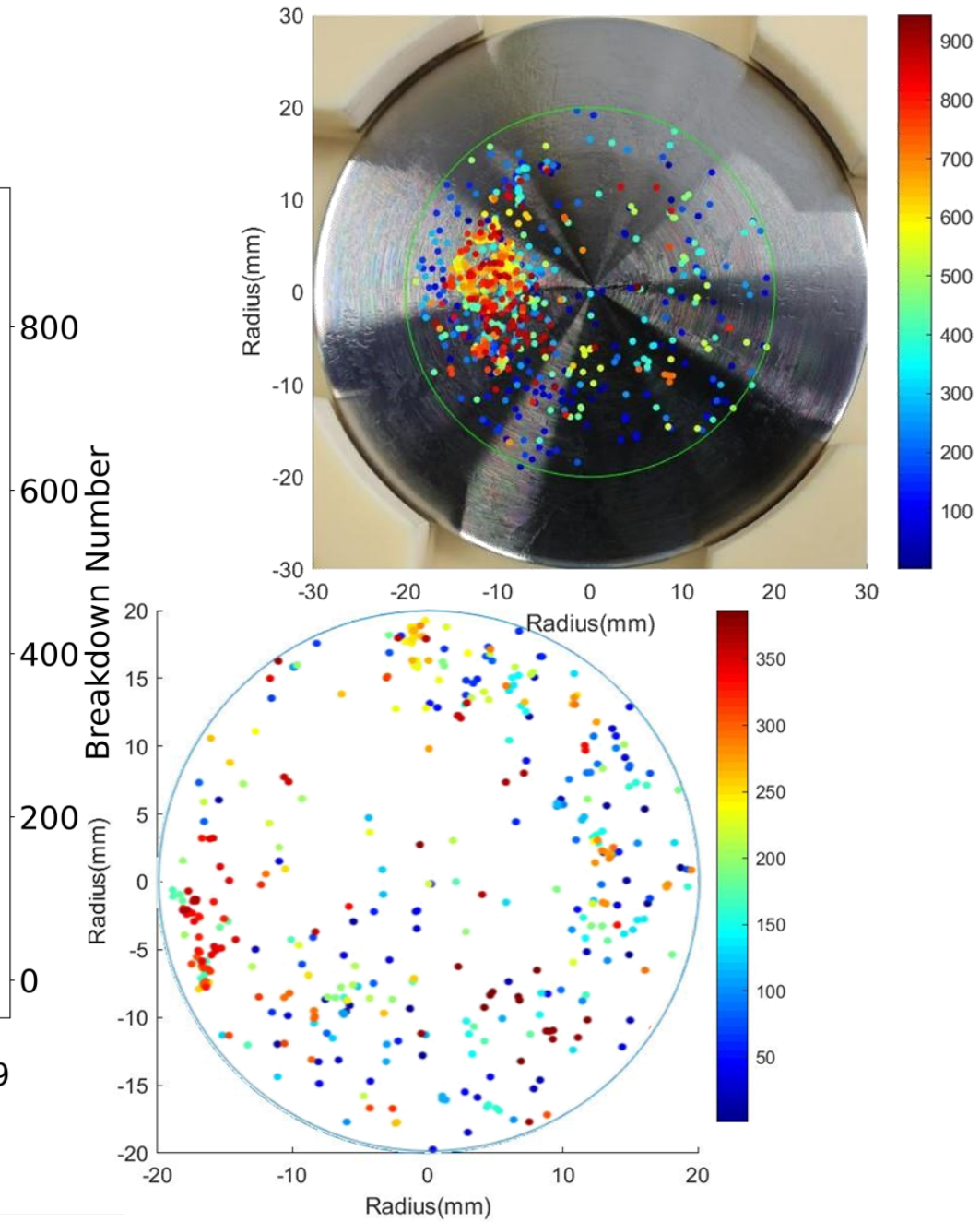
(2019). Breakdown localisation in a pulsed DC electrode system. Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment. 953. 10.1016/j.nima.2019.163079.



# Titanium Alloy (TiAl6V4)

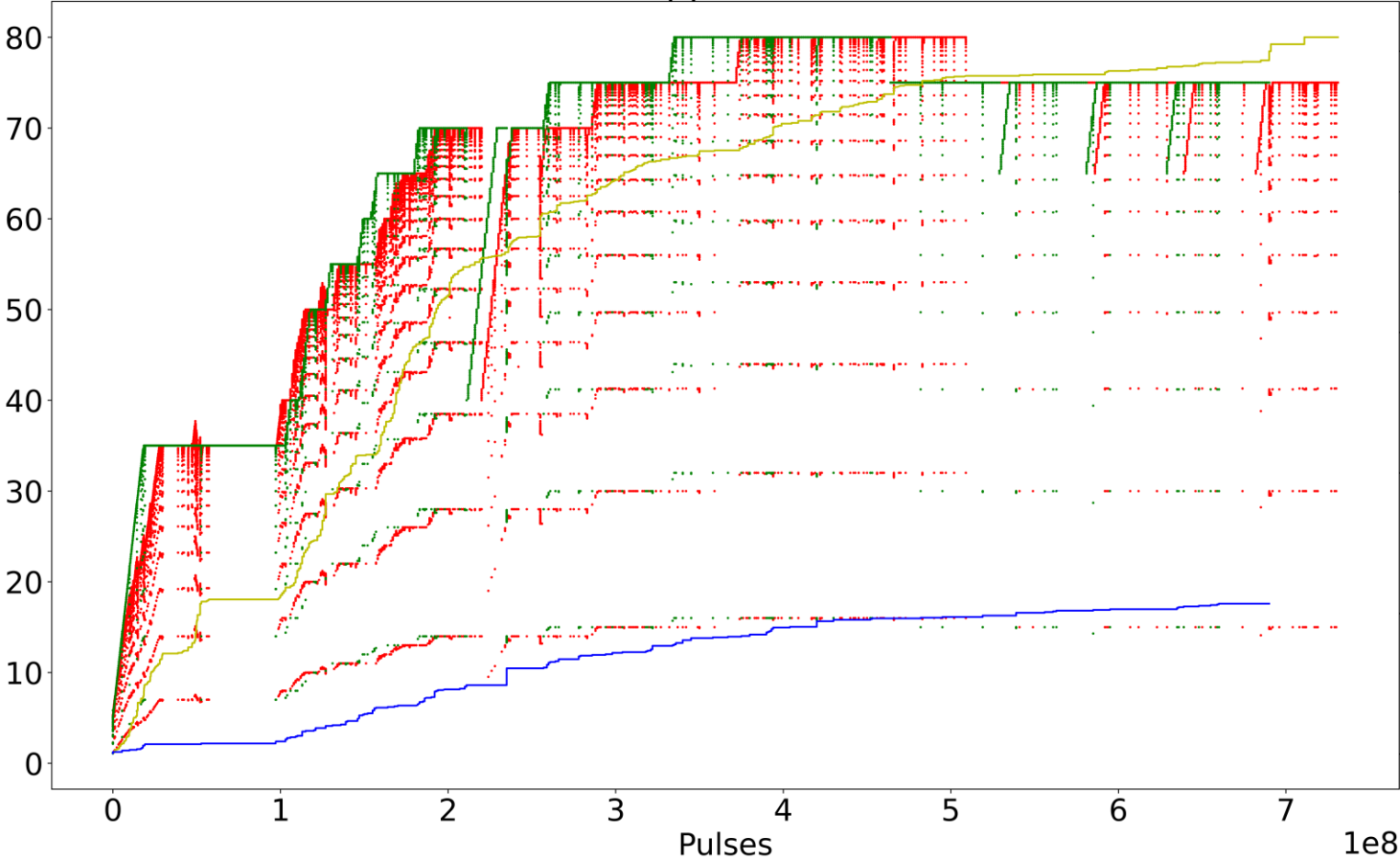


- 46 TiAl6V4 E-Field
- 47 Irrad TiAl6V4 E-Field
- 46 TiAl6V4 No. BD
- 47 Irrad TiAl6V4 No. BD

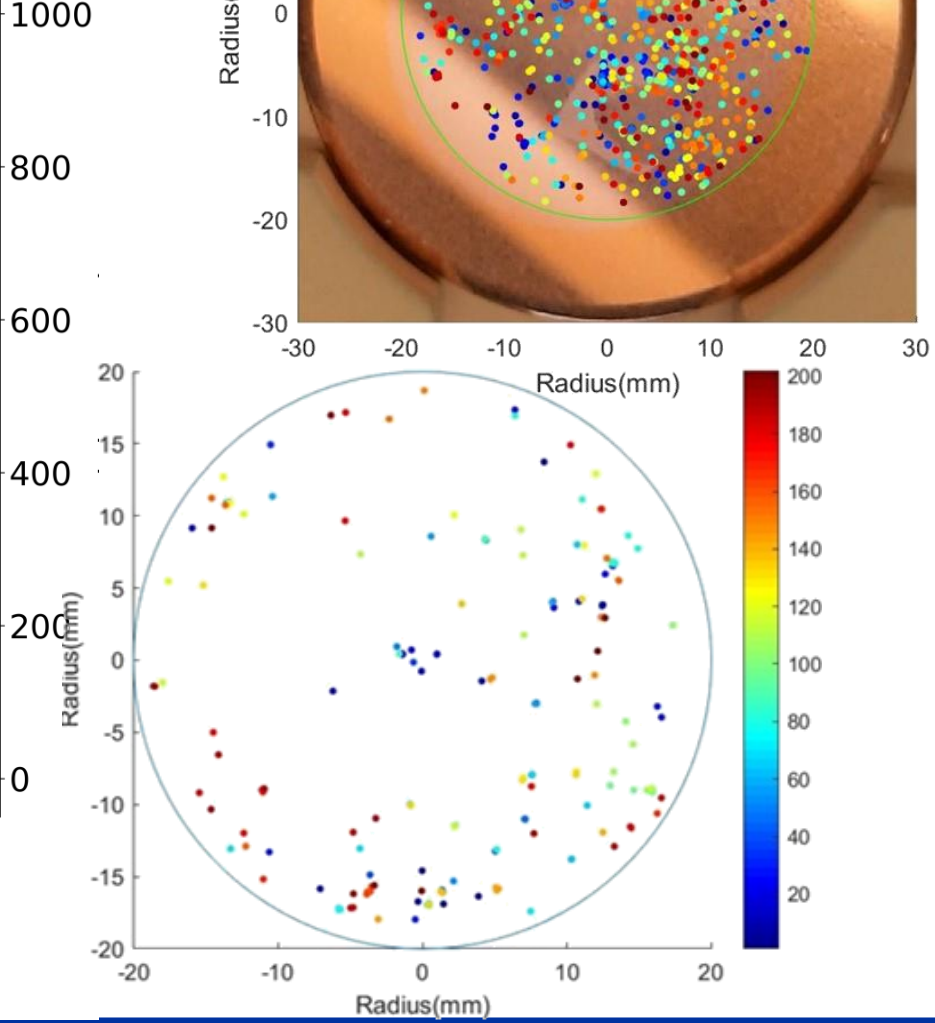
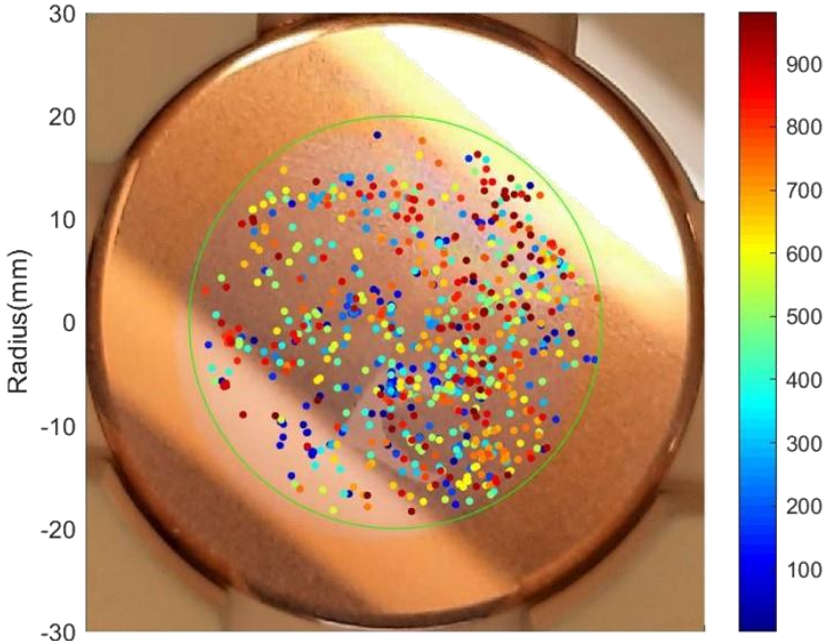


# Copper OFE

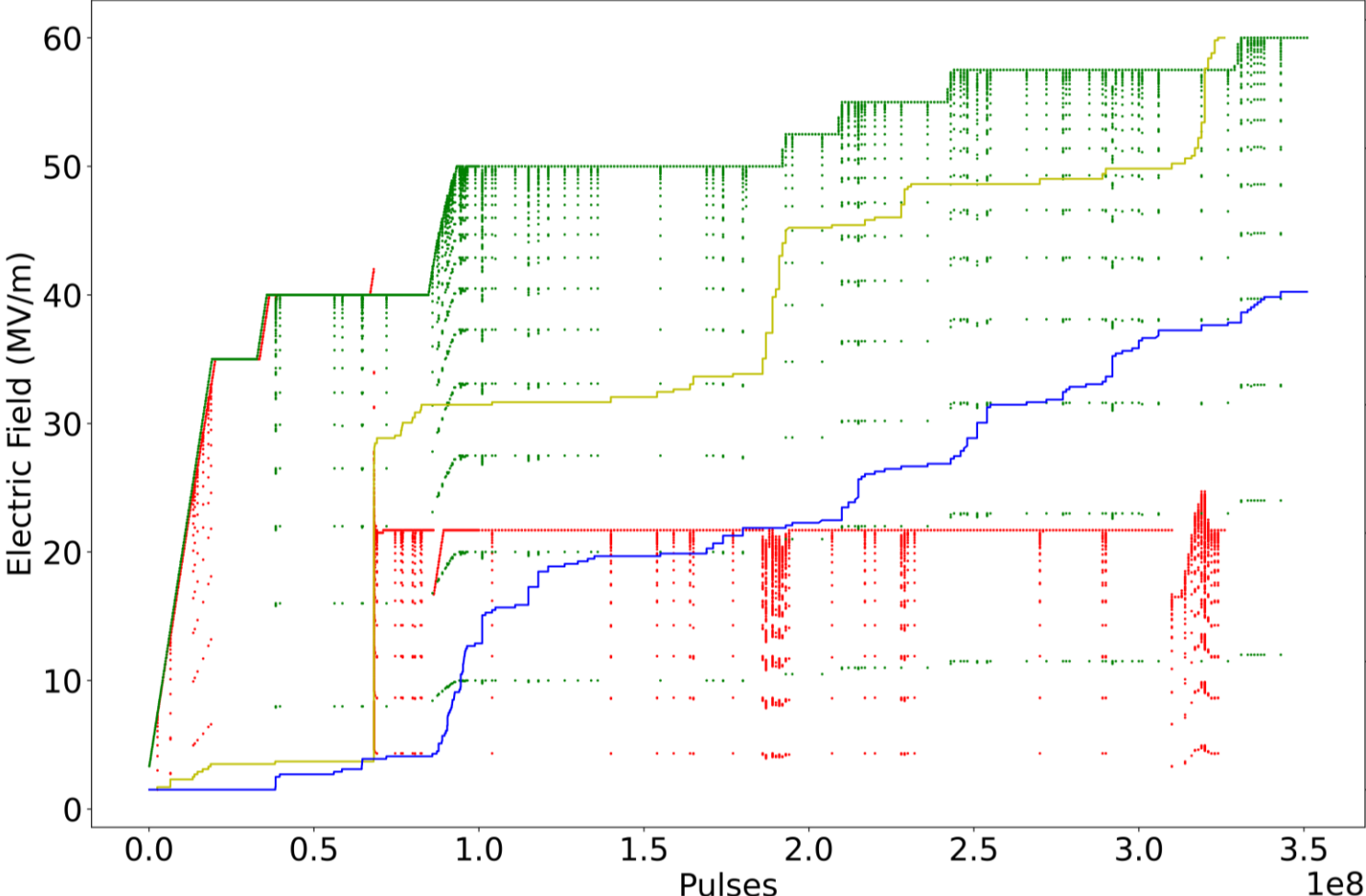
Copper OFE



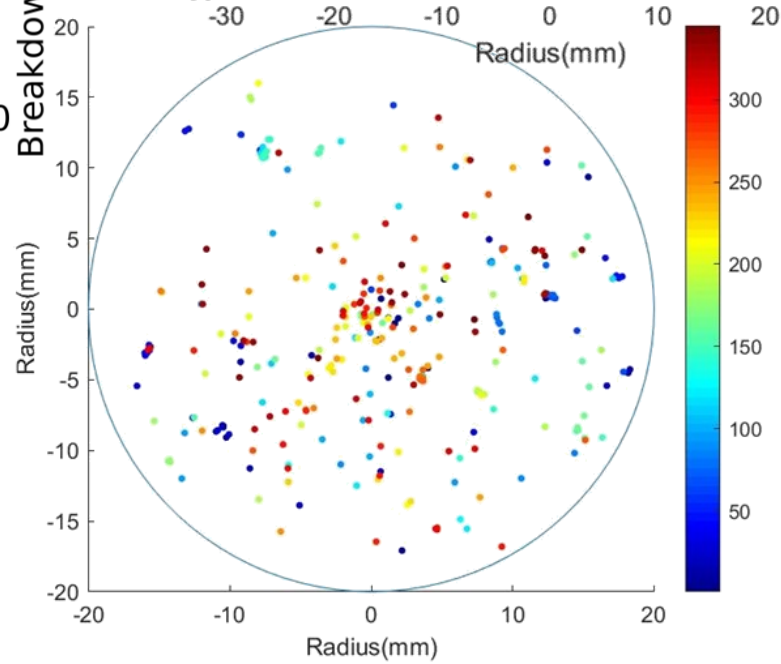
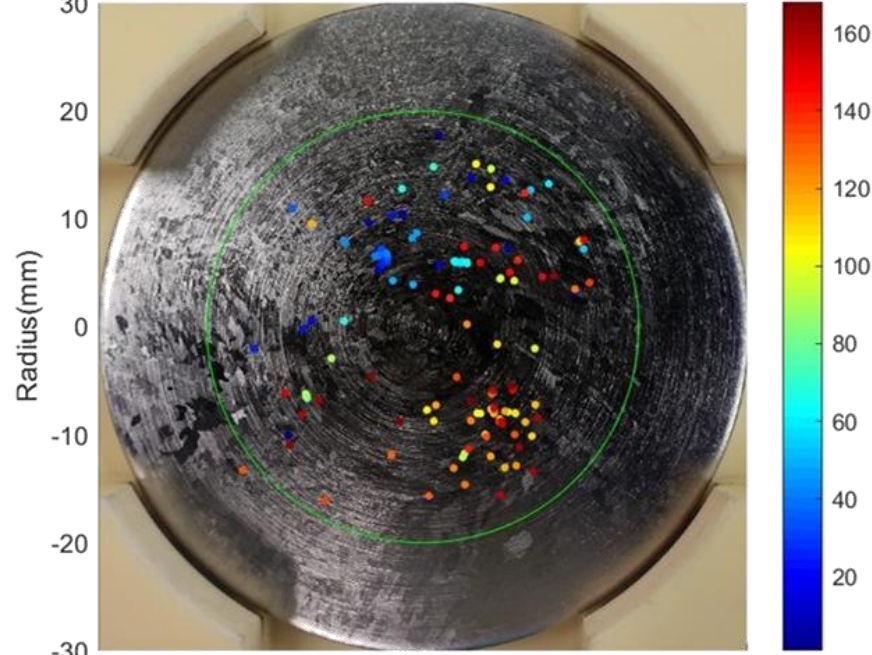
- 42 Irrad Cu E-Field
- 45 Cu E-Field
- 42 Irrad Cu No. BD
- 45 Cu No. BD



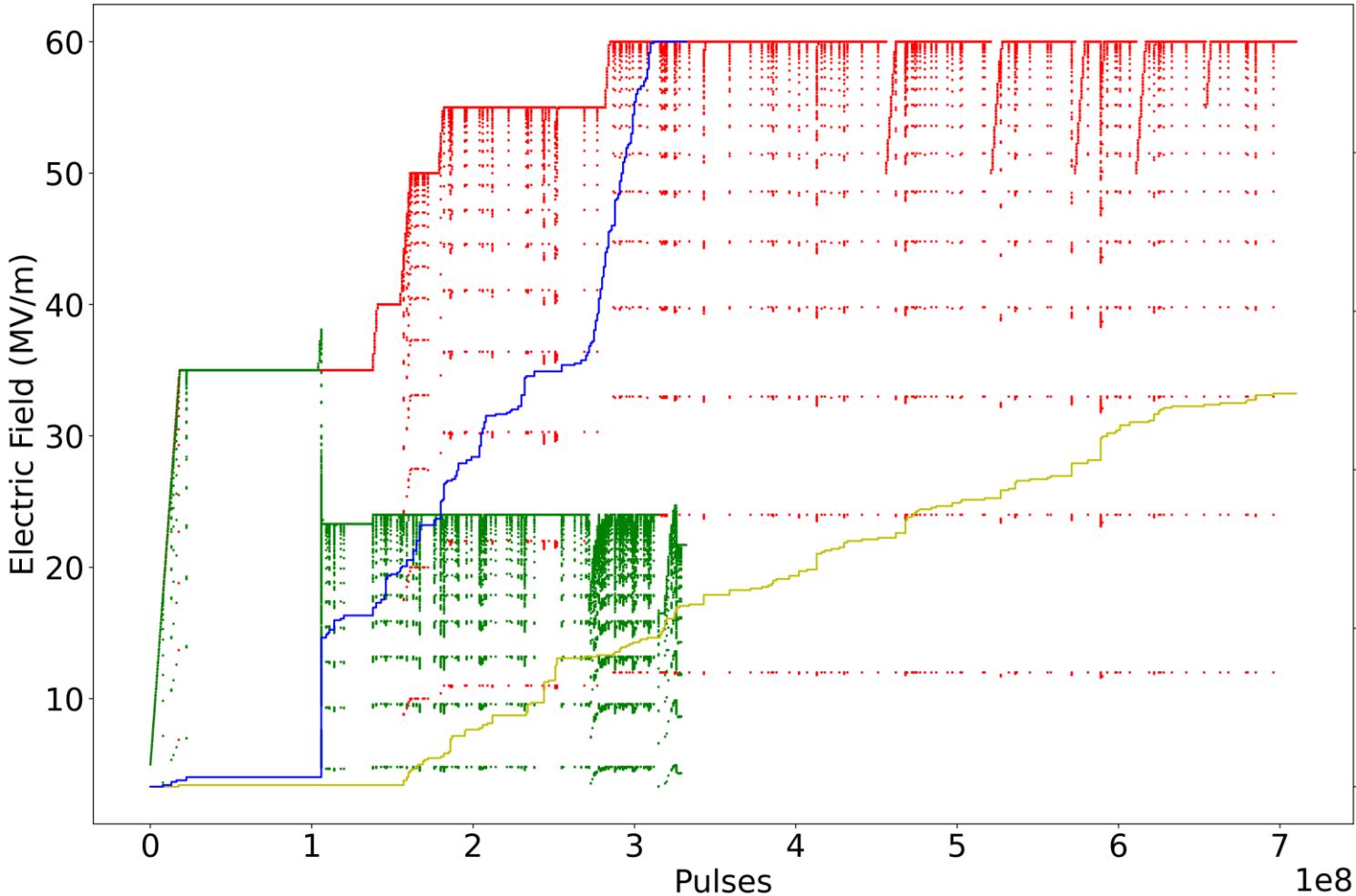
# Niobium (Nb BCP)



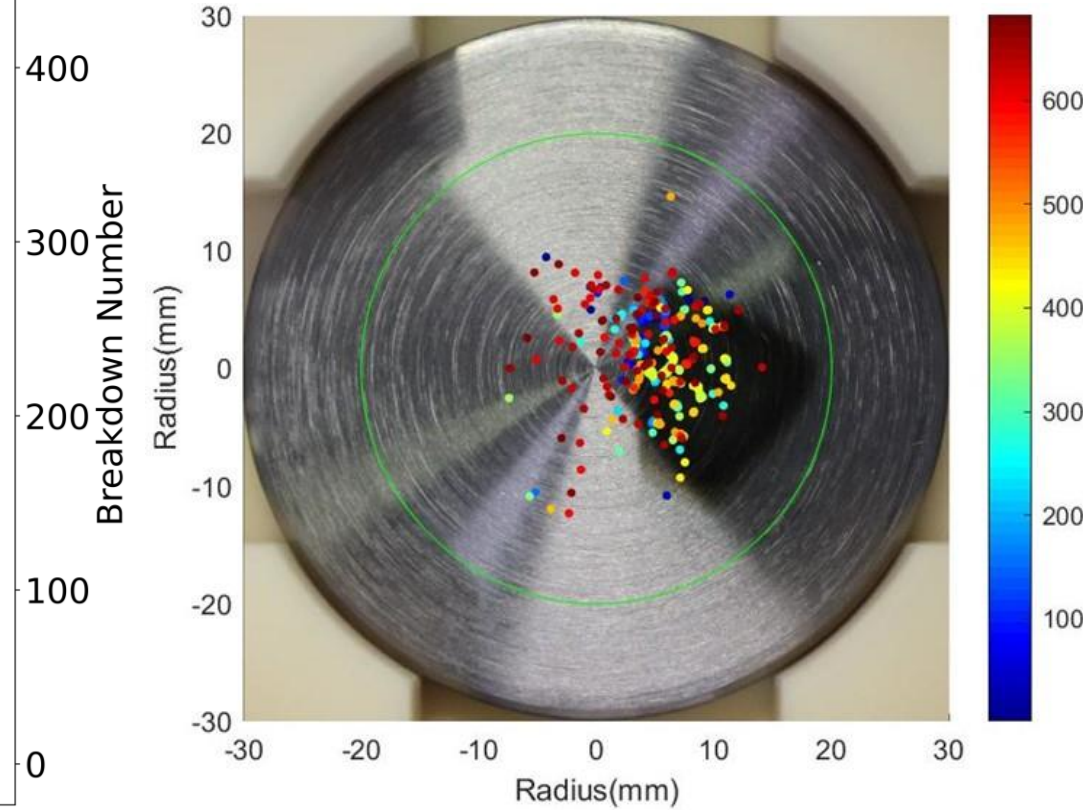
- 54 Irrad BCP Nb E-Field
- 56 BCP Nb E-Field
- 54 Irrad BCP Nb No. BD
- 56 BCP Nb No. BD



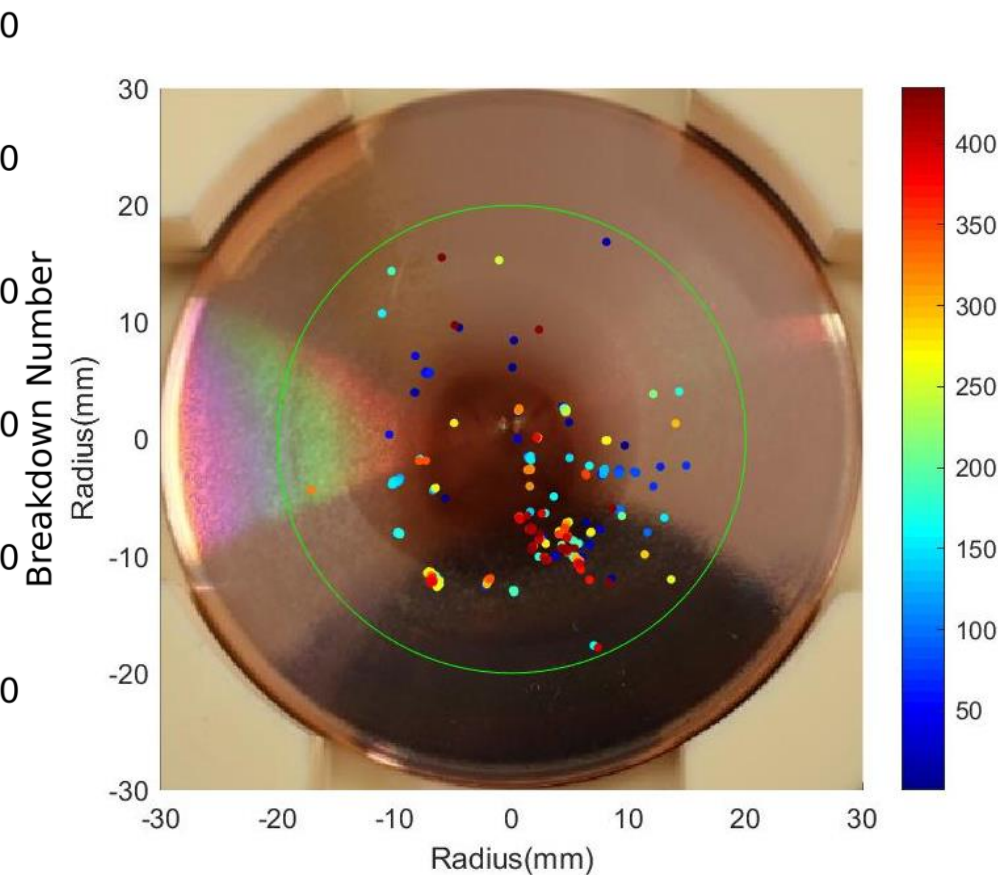
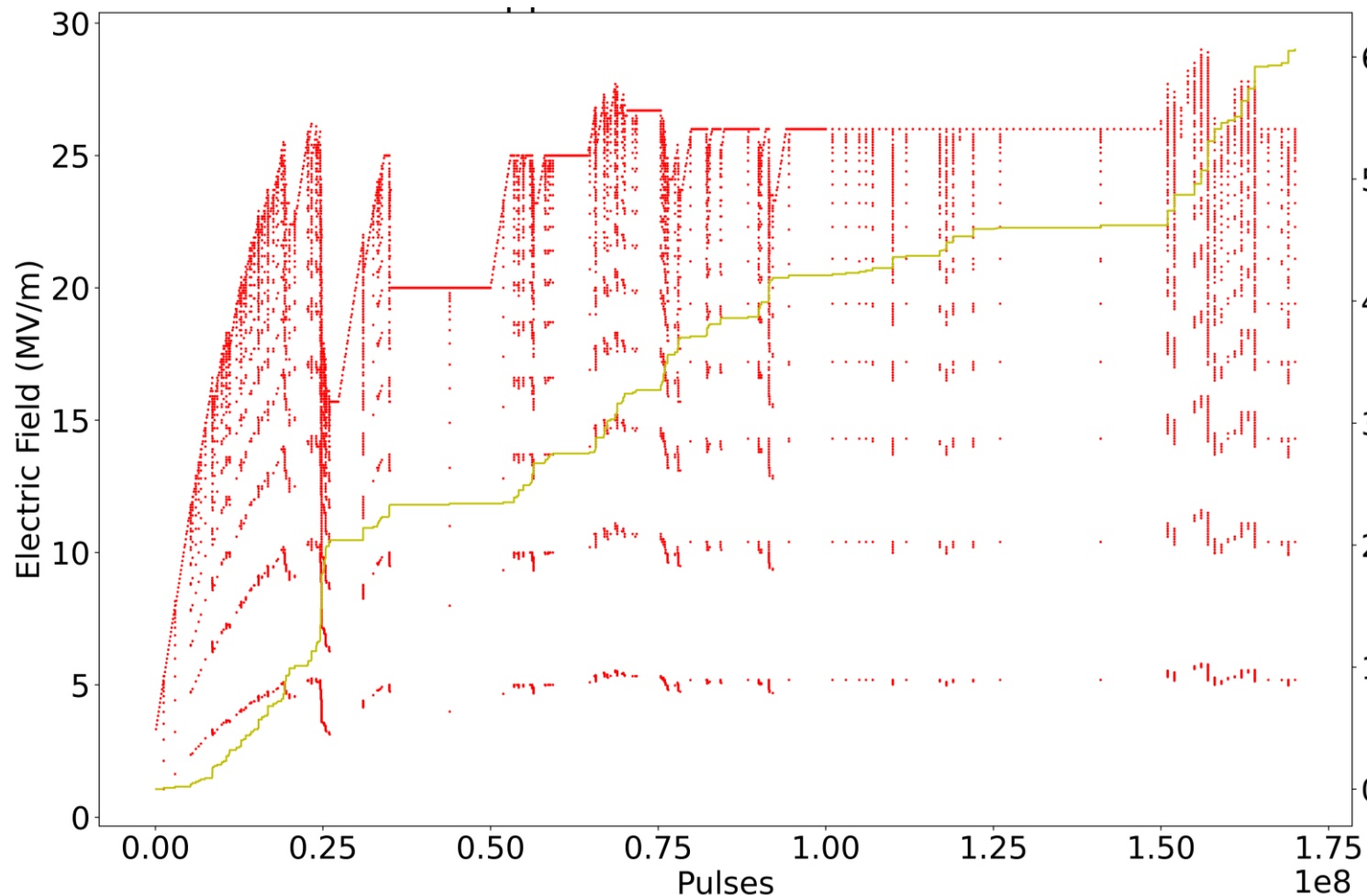
# Tantalum (Ta)



- 51 Ta E-Field
- 55 Irrad Ta E-Field
- 51 Ta No. BD
- 55 Irrad Ta No. BD

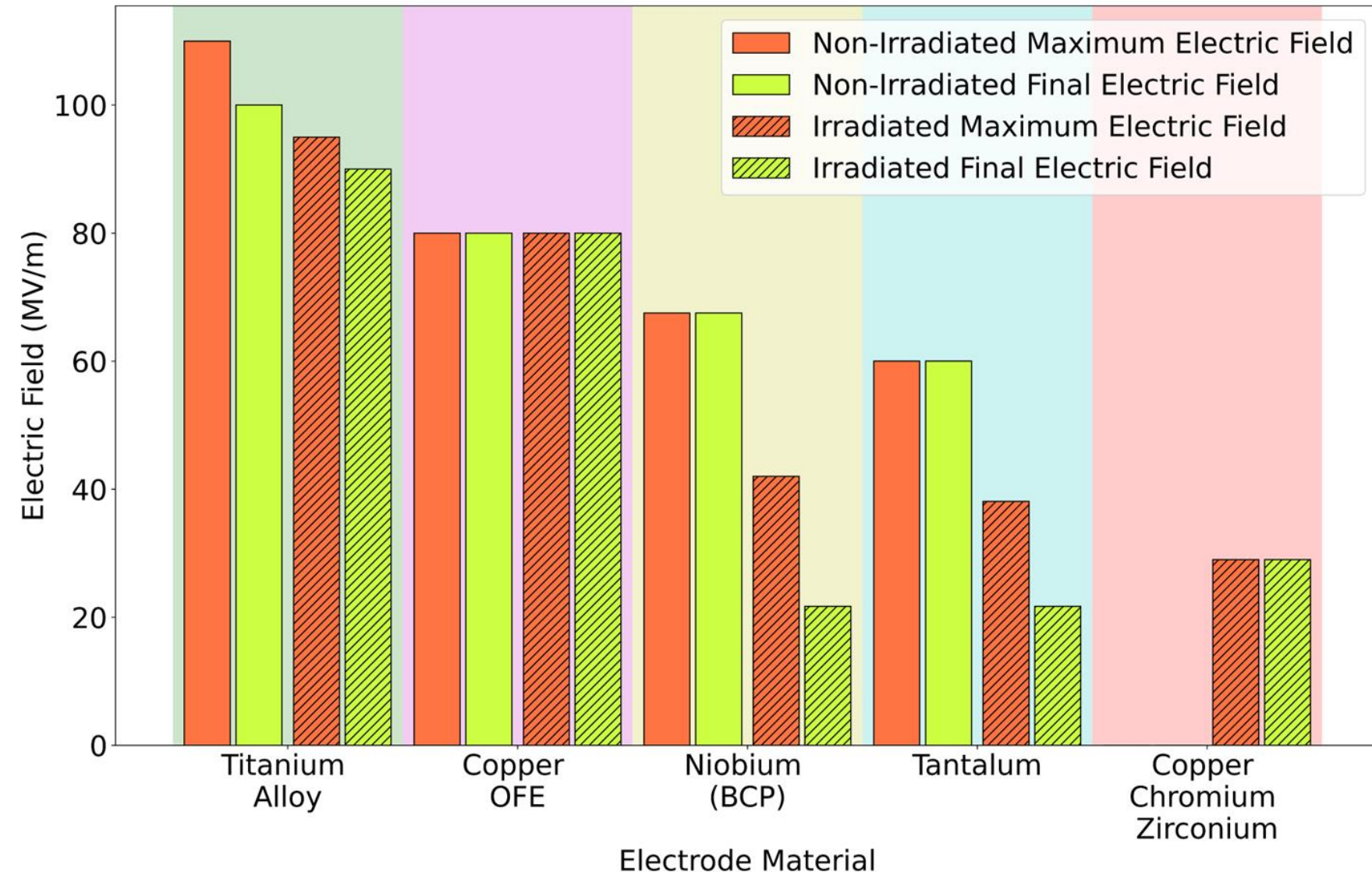


# Copper Chromium Zirconium (CuCrZr)



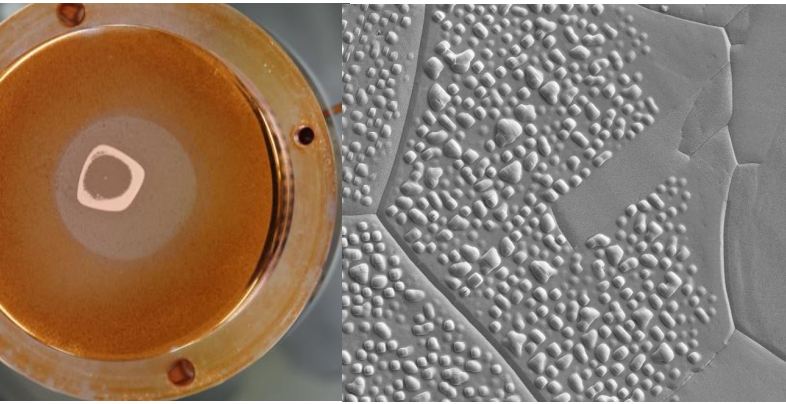
• 50 Irrad CuCrZr E-Field    — 50 Irrad CuCrZr No. BD

# Summary

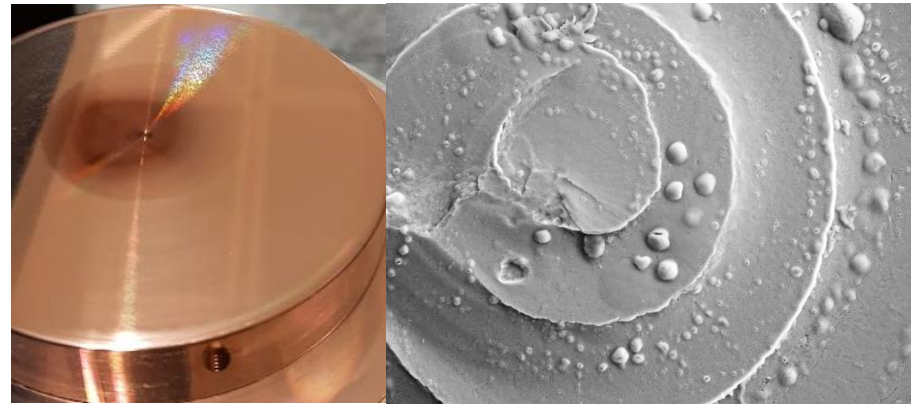


- Titanium performed the best both with and without irradiation, and after a cluster in breakdowns reducing the electric field.
- Copper appears to reach the same electric field with an initial increase in the number of breakdowns that conditions away irradiated defects.
- Niobium and Tantalum both had a significant reaction to the irradiation causing a large cluster in breakdowns that it was not possible to recover from.
- Copper Chromium Zirconium tested only with irradiation was not able to condition very high.

Cu OFE



CuCrZr

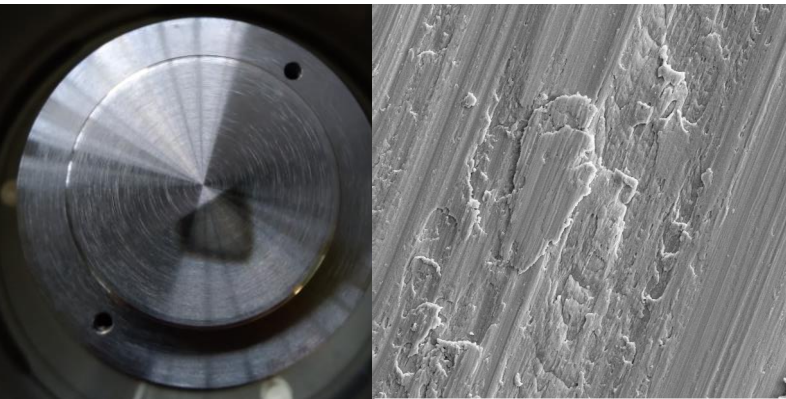


CuBe

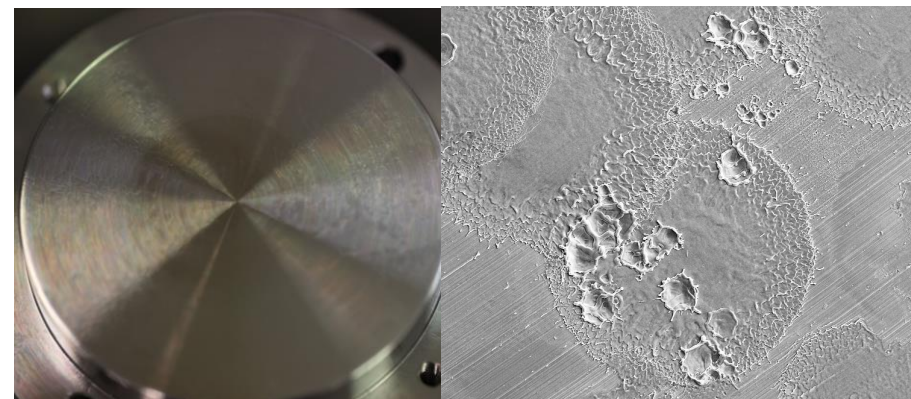


Blister formation is observed in the Cu based electrodes. The high density of blisters is coincidence with the irradiated zones. The blisters locations seems to have no influence on the formation of the breakdowns.

Ta



TiAl6V4



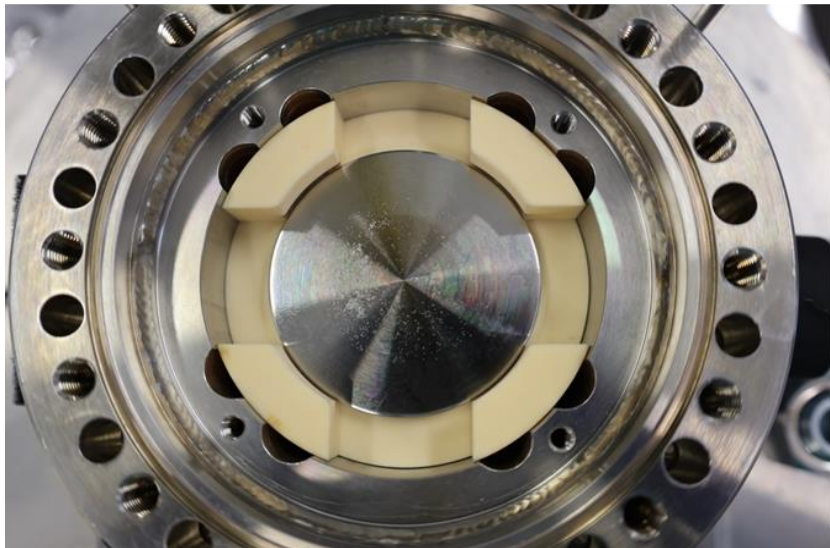
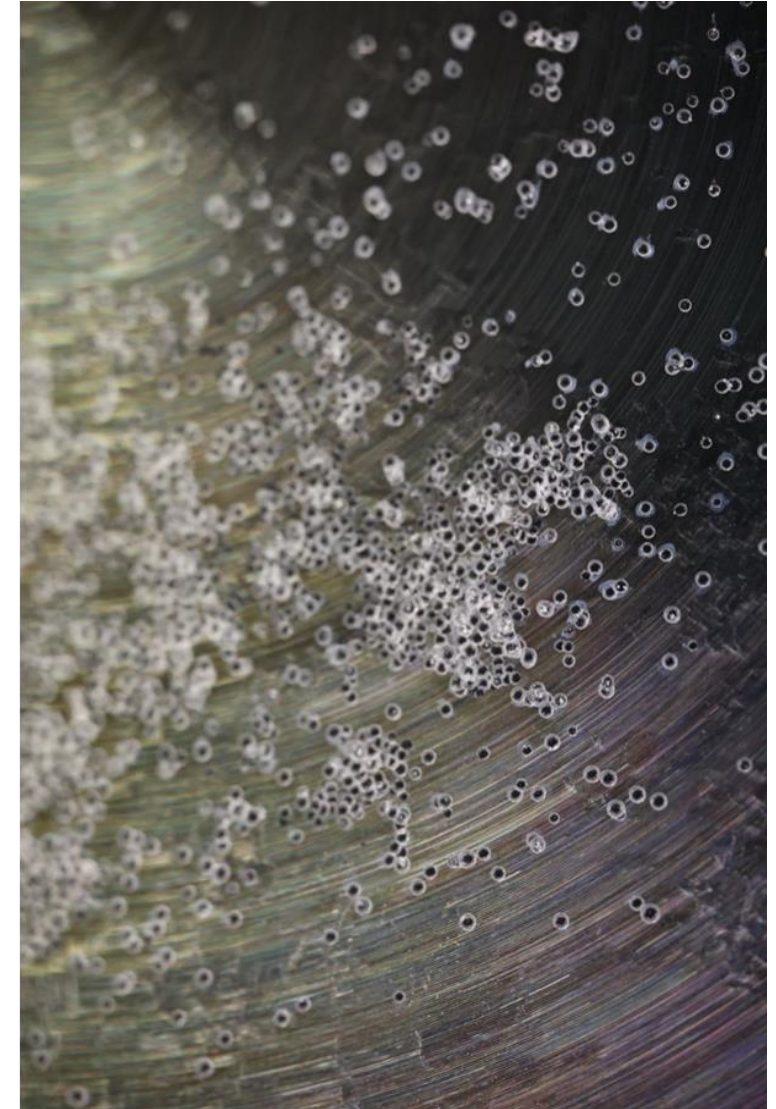
Nb



No blisters were observed on the Ta, TiAl6V4 and Nb electrodes.



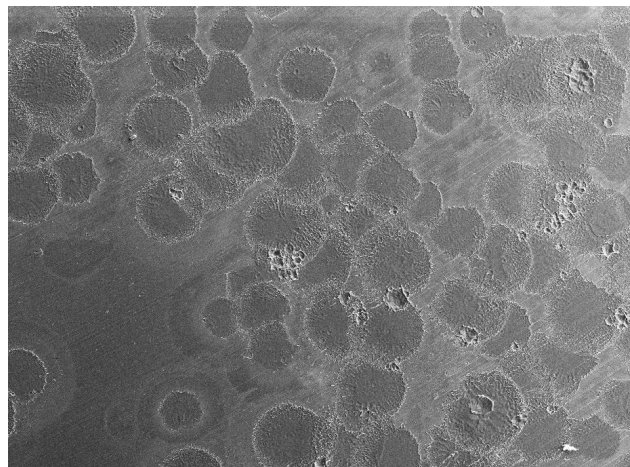
# Titanium Alloy (TiAl6V4)



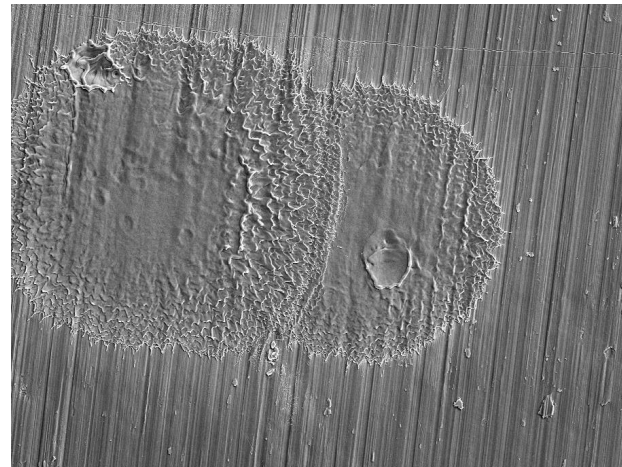
# Titanium Alloy (TiAl6V4)



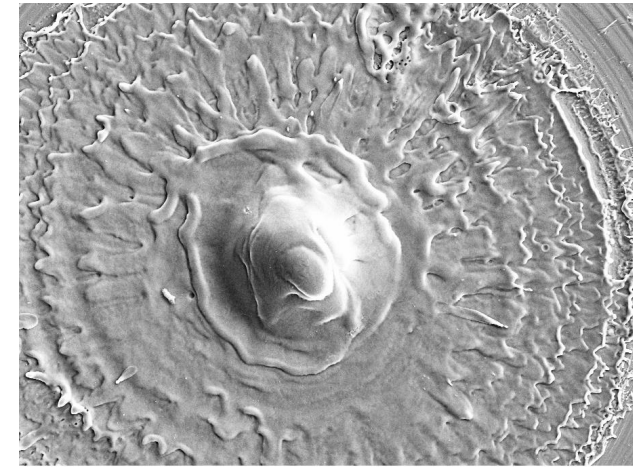
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Signal A = SE2  
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Catarina Serafim  
Date: 20 Apr 2022  
Mag = 50 X



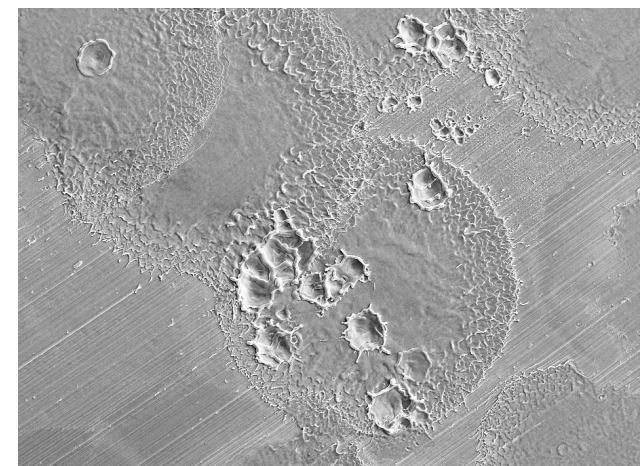
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Catarina Serafim  
Date: 20 Apr 2022  
Mag = 50 X



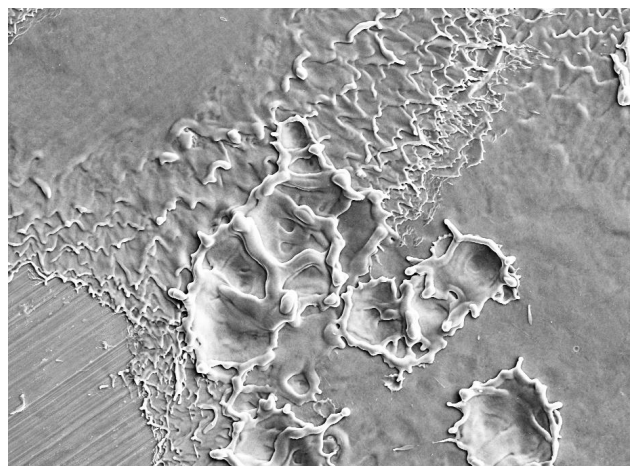
100 μm  
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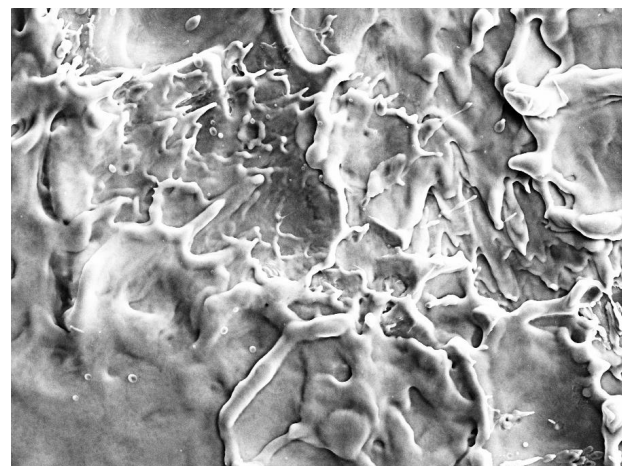
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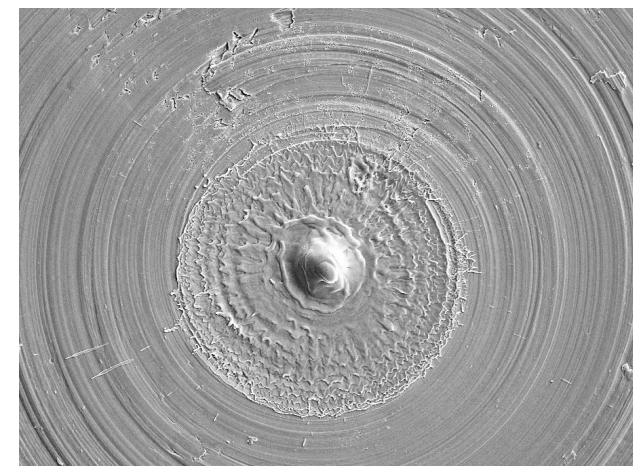
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μm  
EHT = 15.00 kV  
WD = 10.8 mm  
Signal A = SE2  
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Date: 20 Apr 2022  
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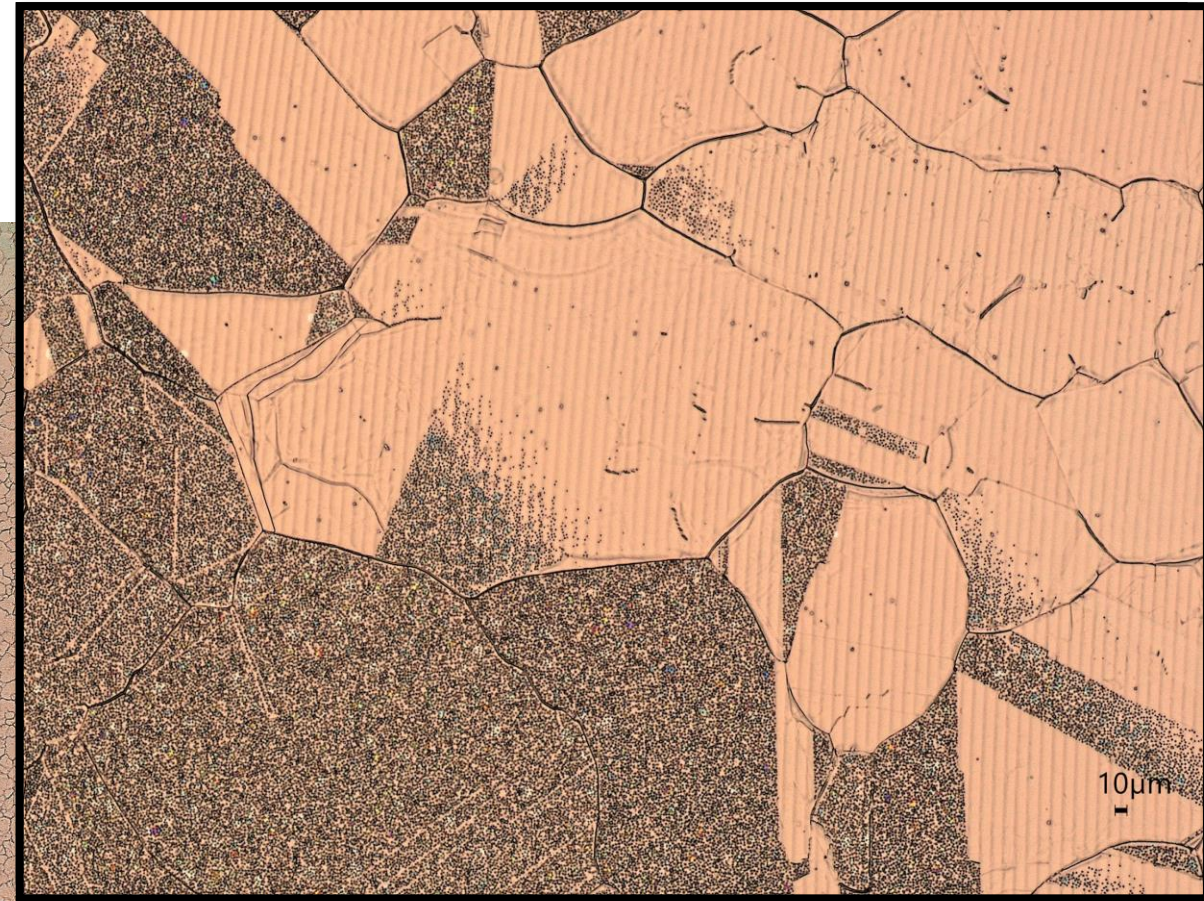
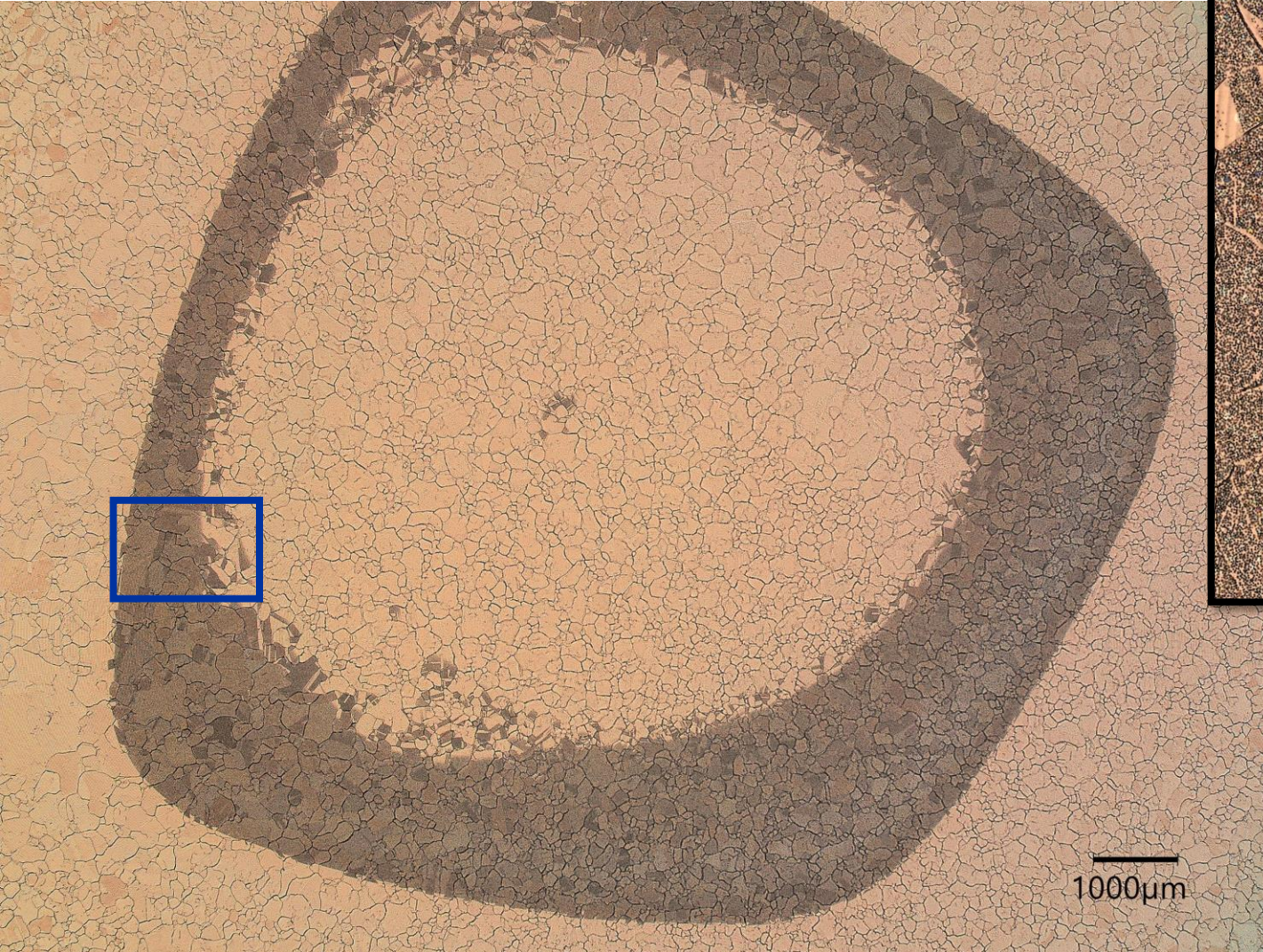


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WD = 10.8 mm  
Signal A = SE2  
Sample ID = irradi\_les\_cathode32\_  
Catarina Serafim  
Date: 20 Apr 2022  
Mag = 1.00 K X

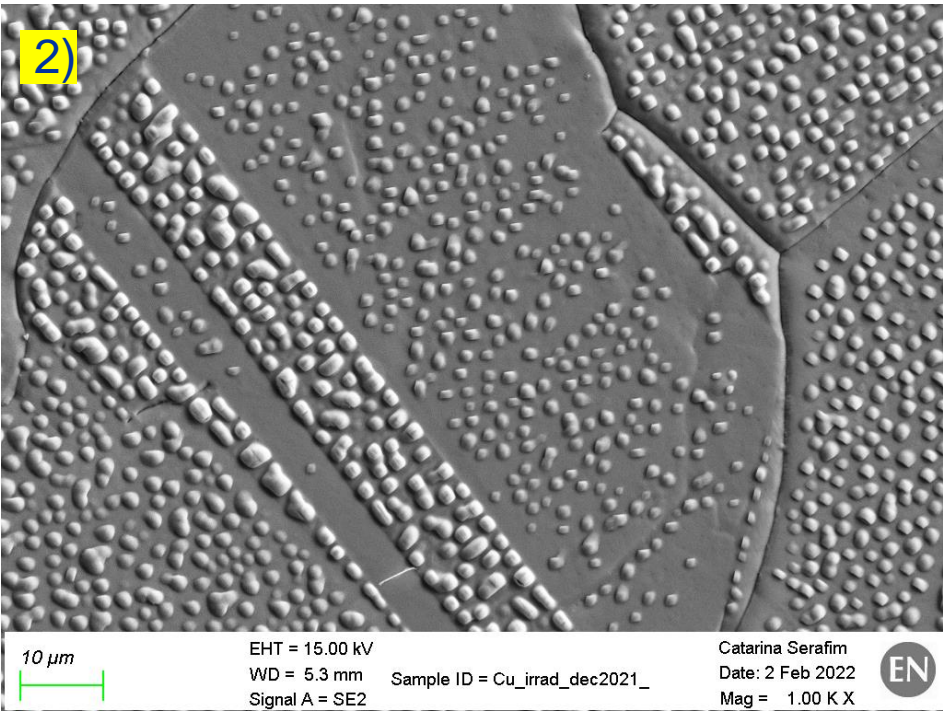
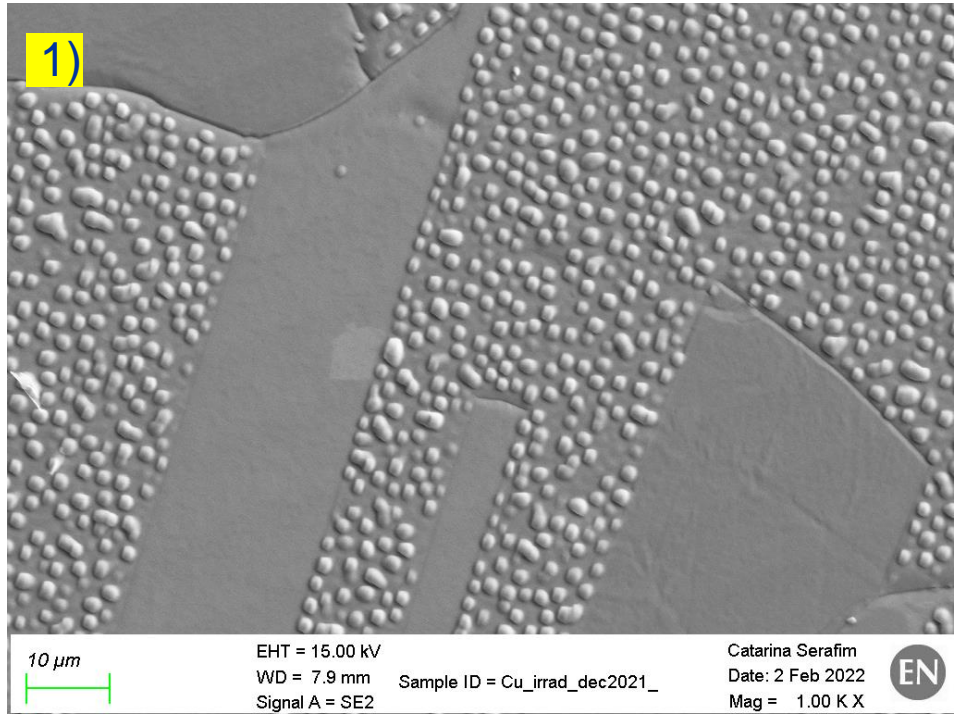
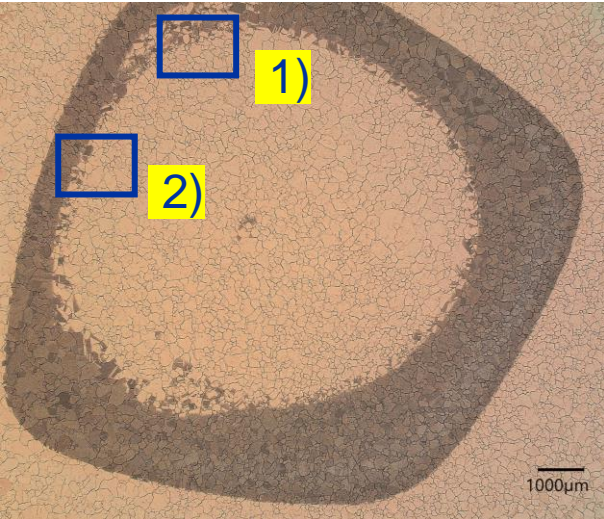


μm  
EHT = 15.00 kV  
WD = 10.8 mm  
Signal A = SE2  
Sample ID = irradi\_les\_cathode32\_  
Catarina Serafim  
Date: 20 Apr 2022  
Mag = 200 X

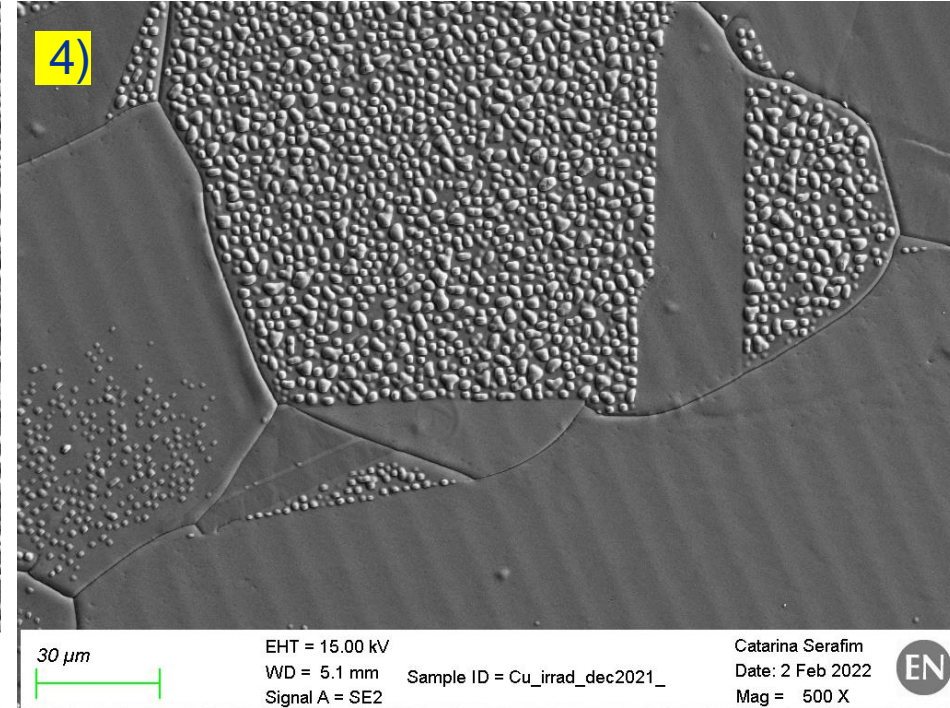
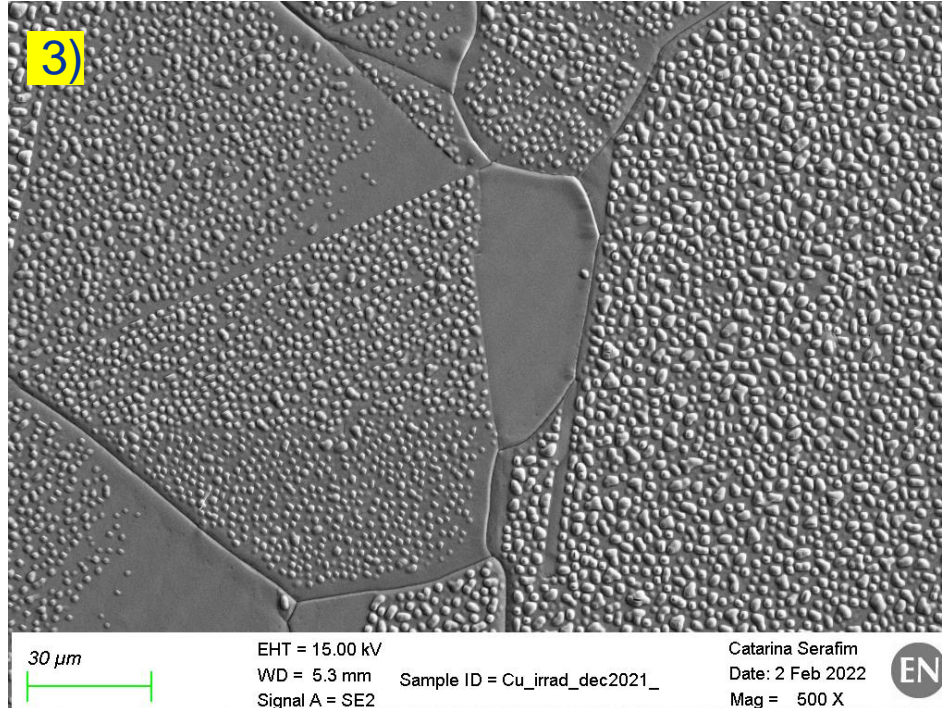
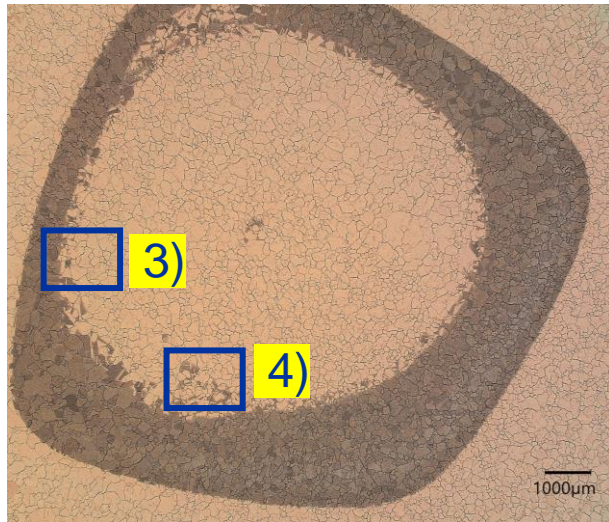
# Copper OFE



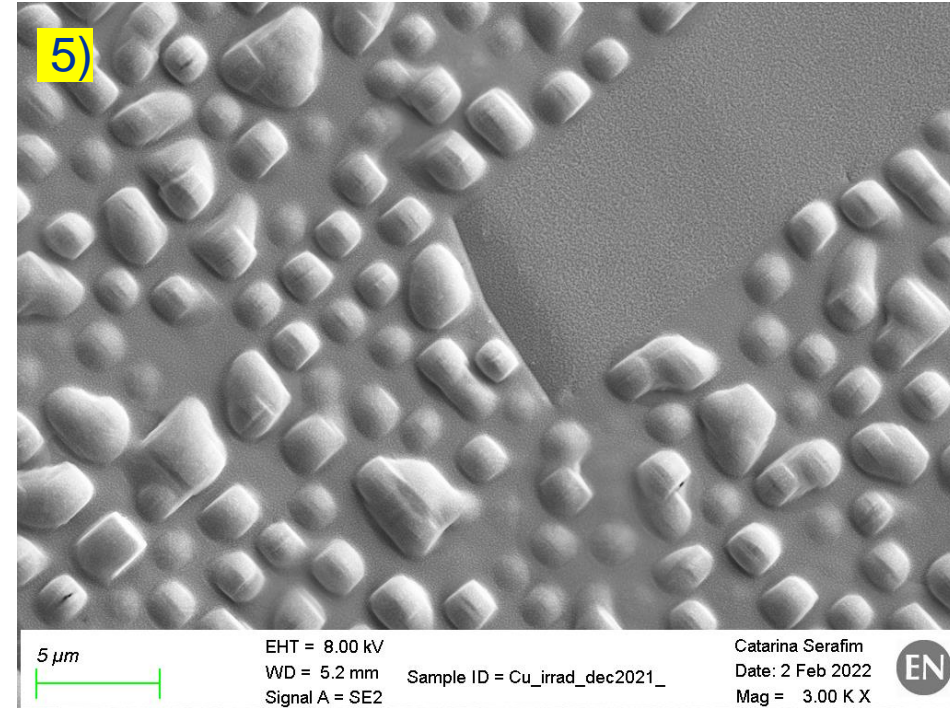
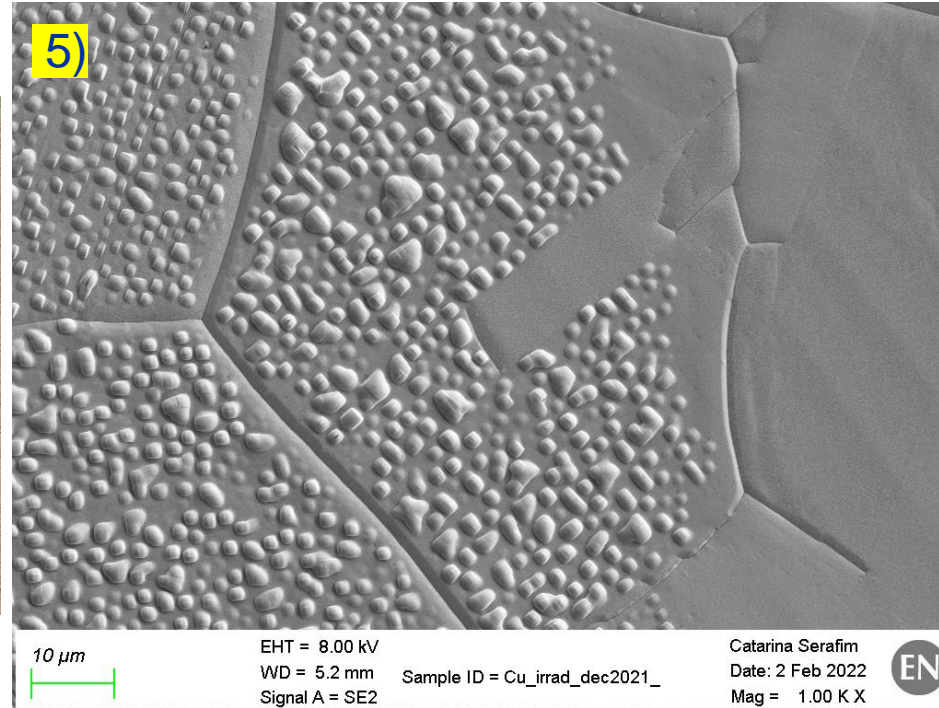
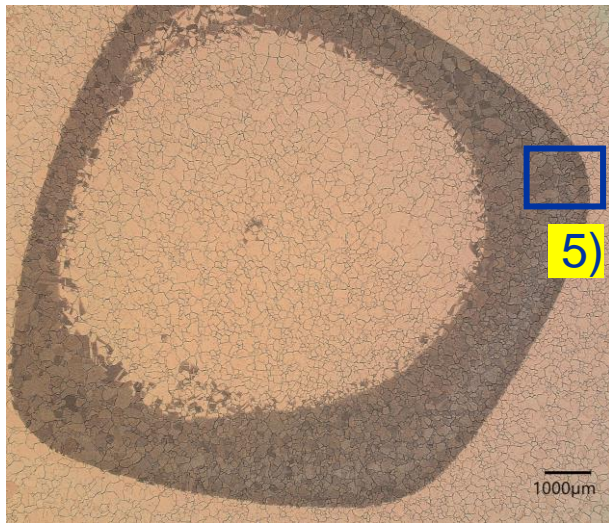
# Copper OFE



# Copper OFE

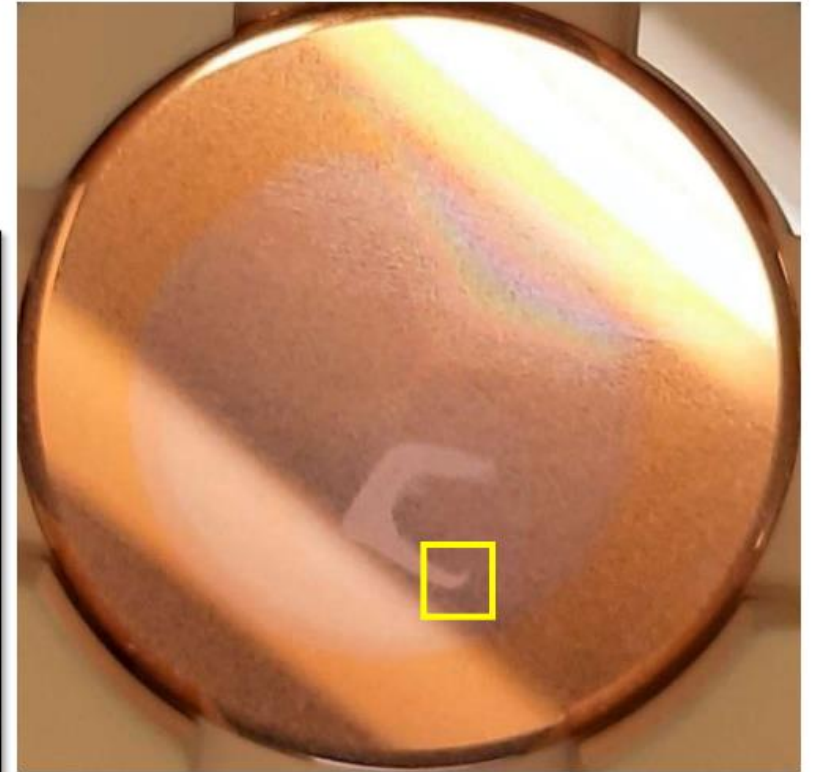
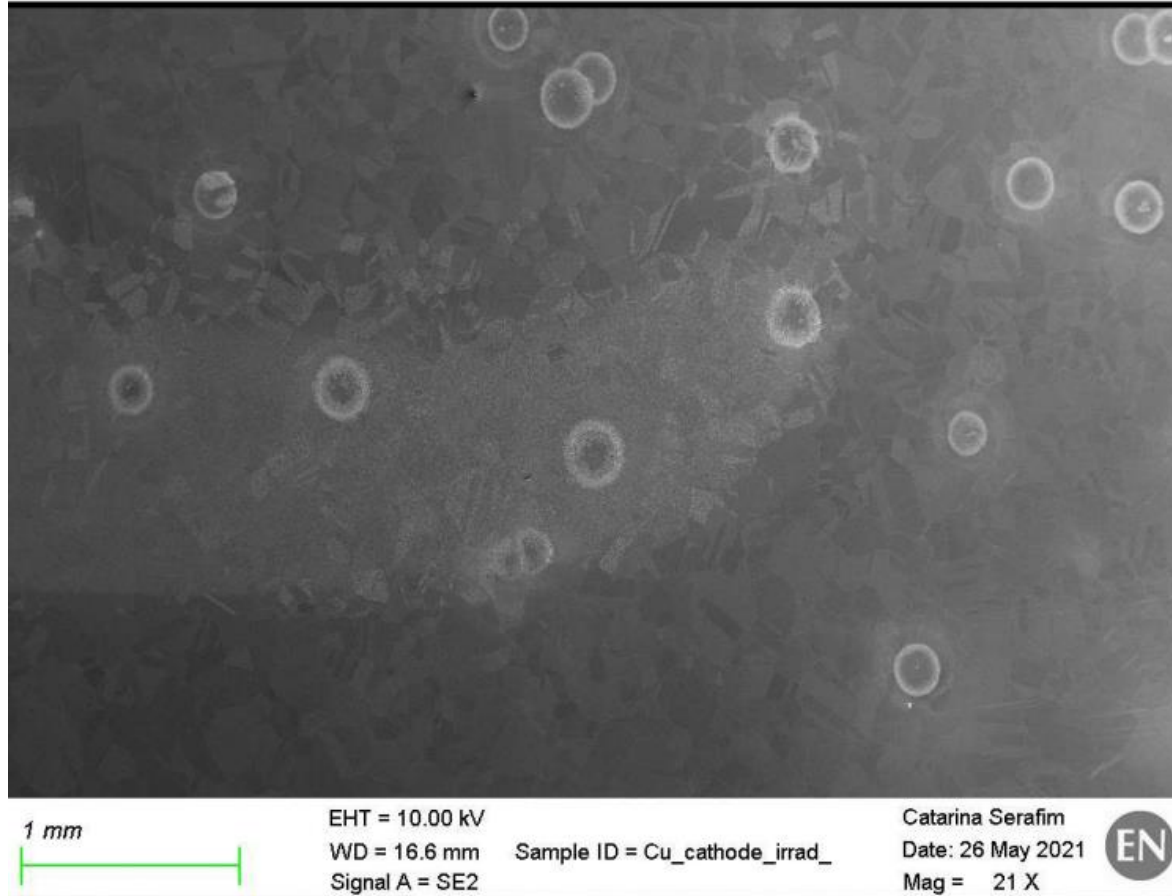


# Copper OFE



# Copper OFE

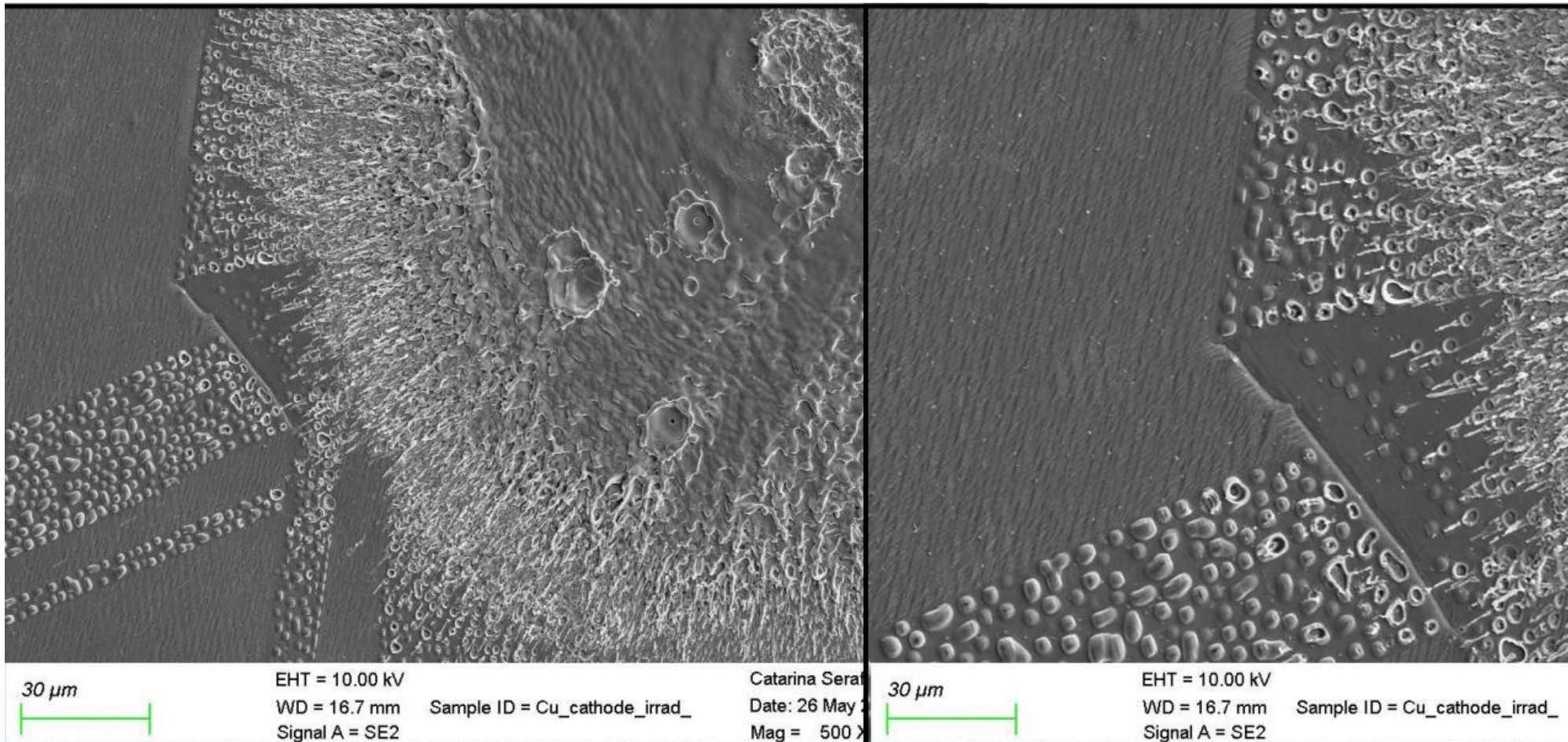
## LES and Irradiation Cu (1<sup>st</sup> pair)



Transition between  
irradiation and not  
irradiation zone.

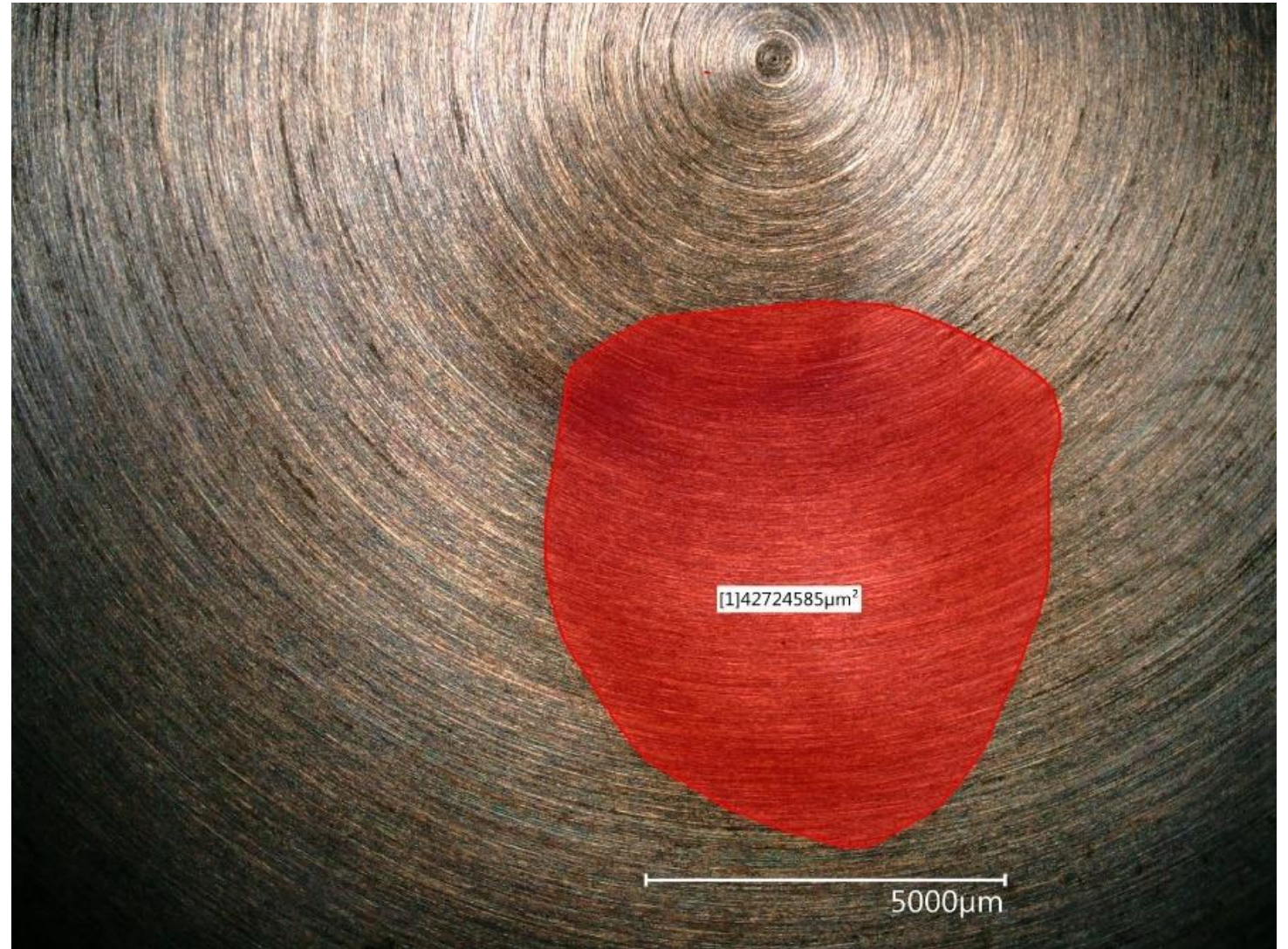
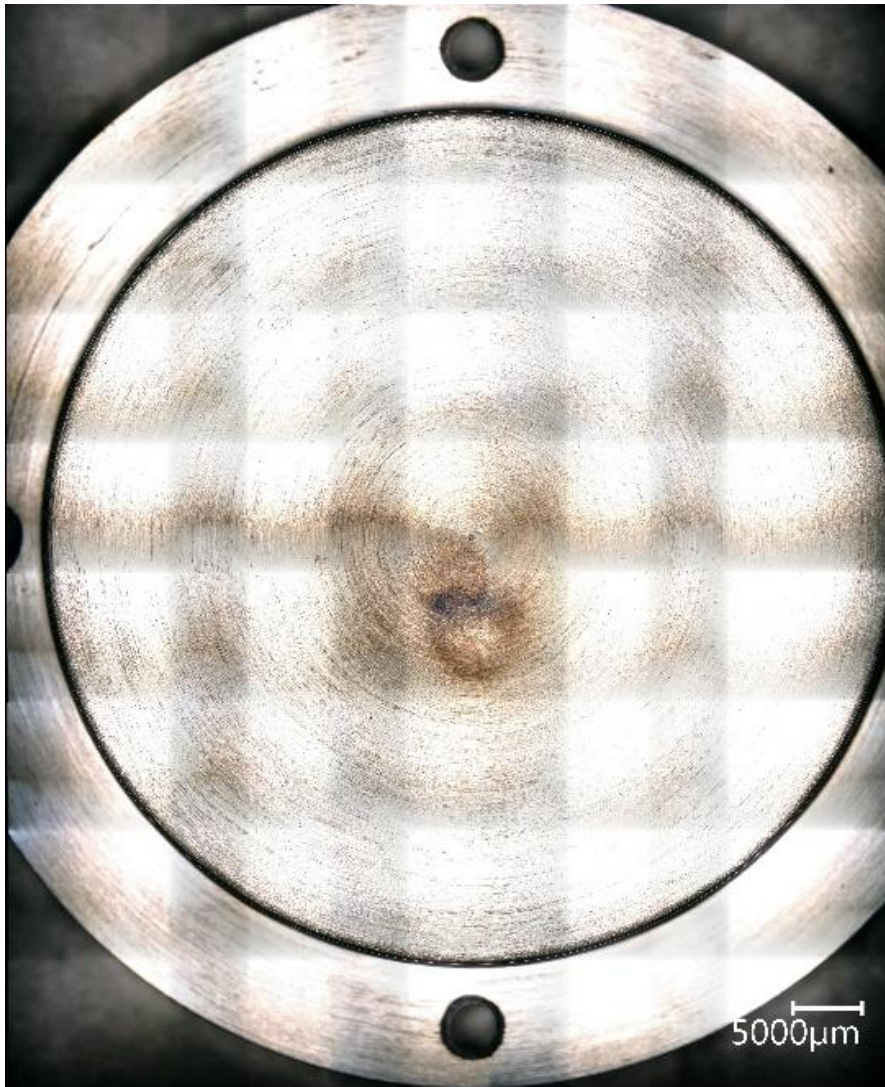
# Copper OFE

## LES and Irradiation Cu (1<sup>st</sup> pair)

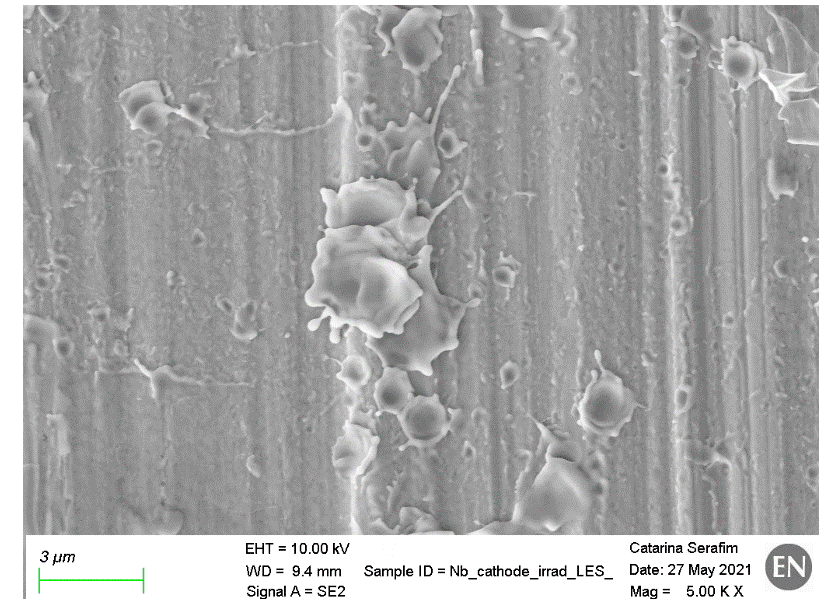
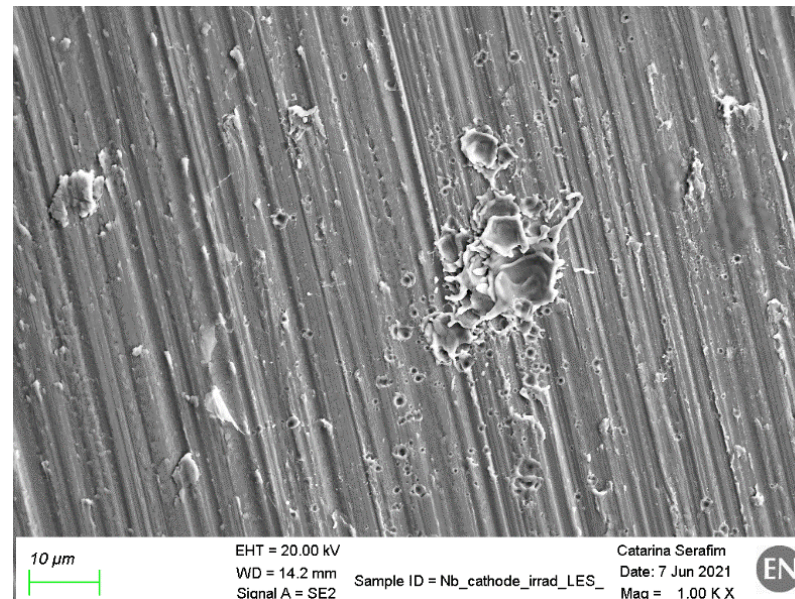
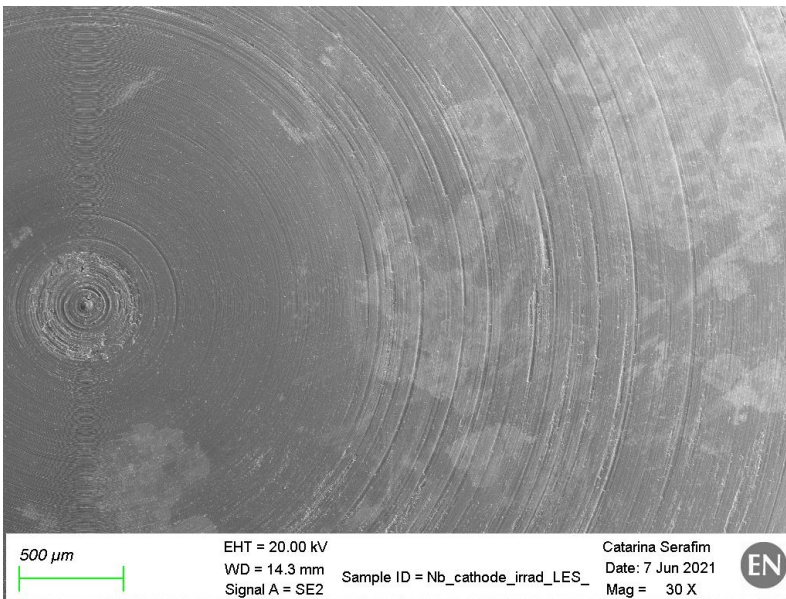




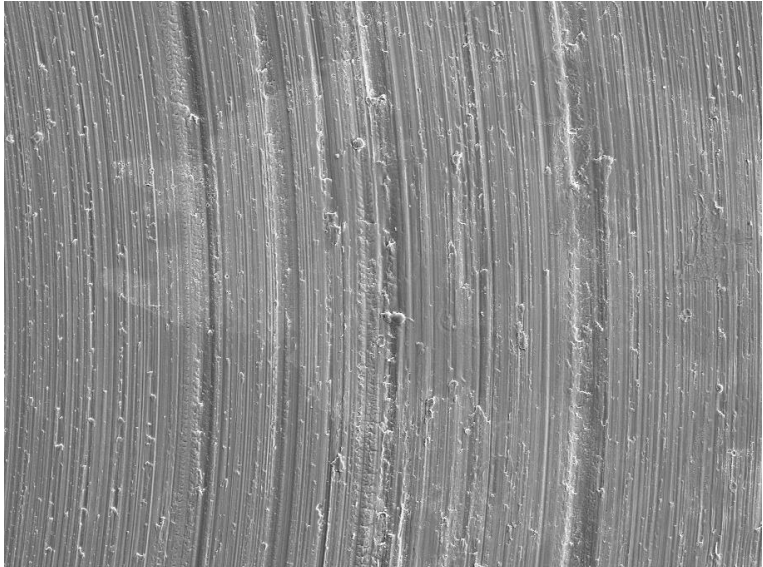
# Niobium (Nb)



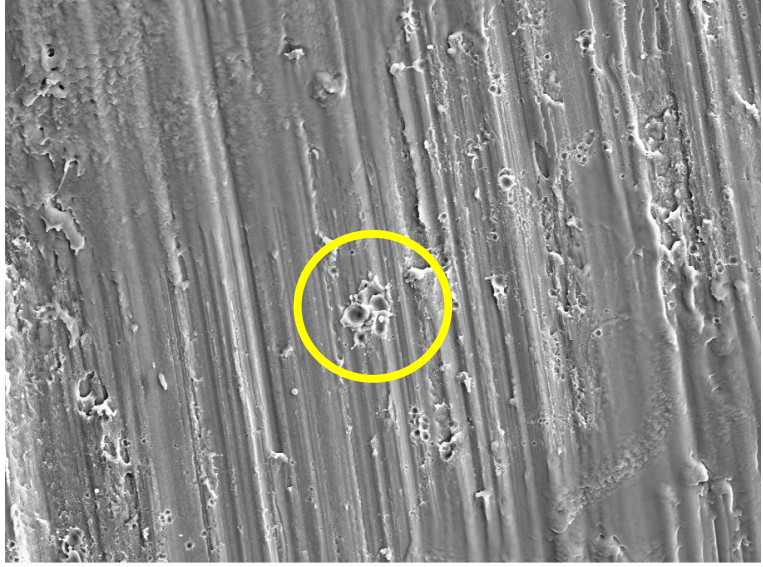
# Niobium (Nb)



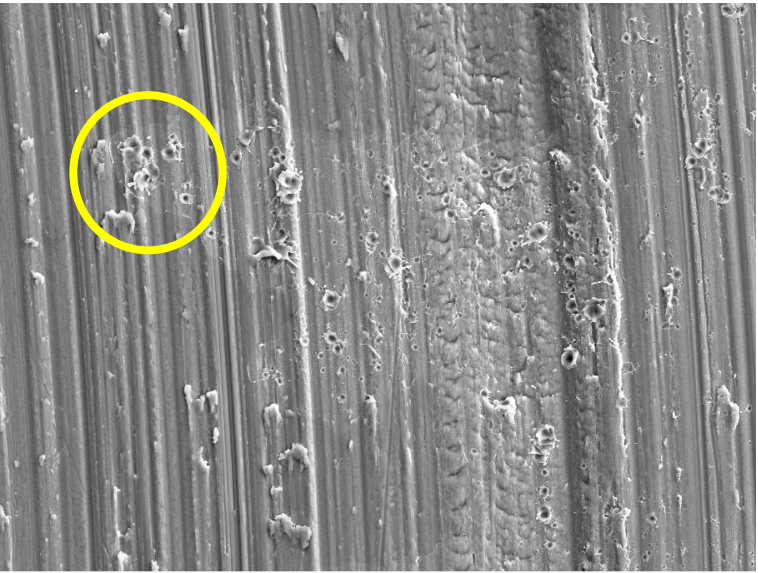
# Niobium (Nb)



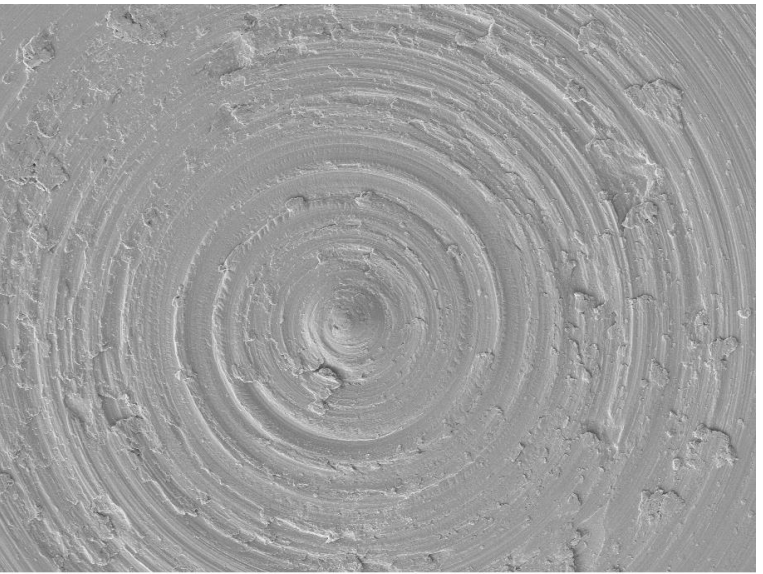
100  $\mu$ m EHT = 20.00 kV  
 WD = 14.3 mm Signal A = SE2  
 Sample ID = Nb\_cathode\_irrad\_LES\_ Date: 7 Jun 2021  
 Mag = 200 X



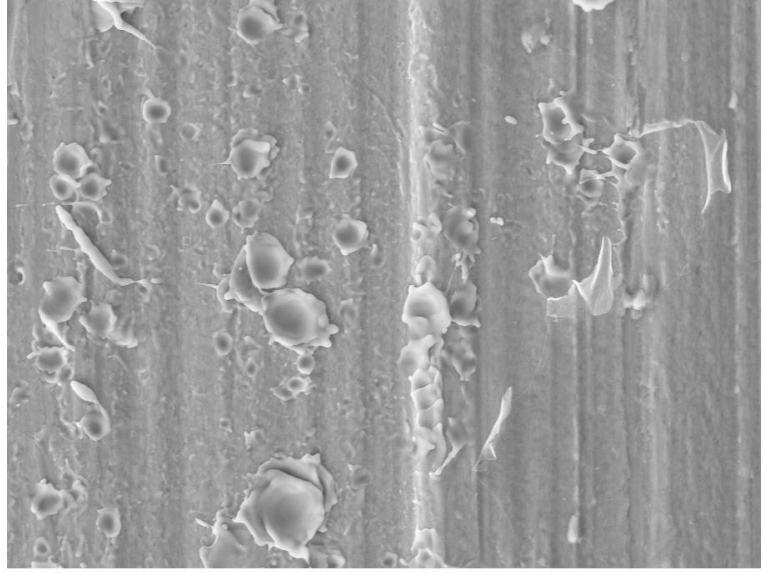
EHT = 20.00 kV  
 WD = 14.2 mm Signal A = SE2  
 Sample ID = Nb\_cathode\_irrad\_LES\_ Date: 7 Jun 2021  
 Mag = 1.00 K X



EHT = 20.00 kV  
 WD = 14.2 mm Signal A = SE2  
 Sample ID = Nb\_cathode\_irrad\_LES\_ Date: 7 Jun 2021  
 Mag = 1.00 K X

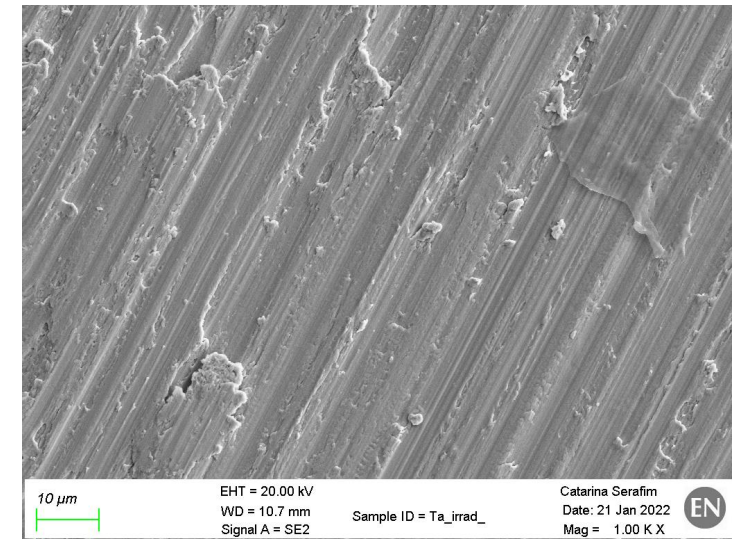
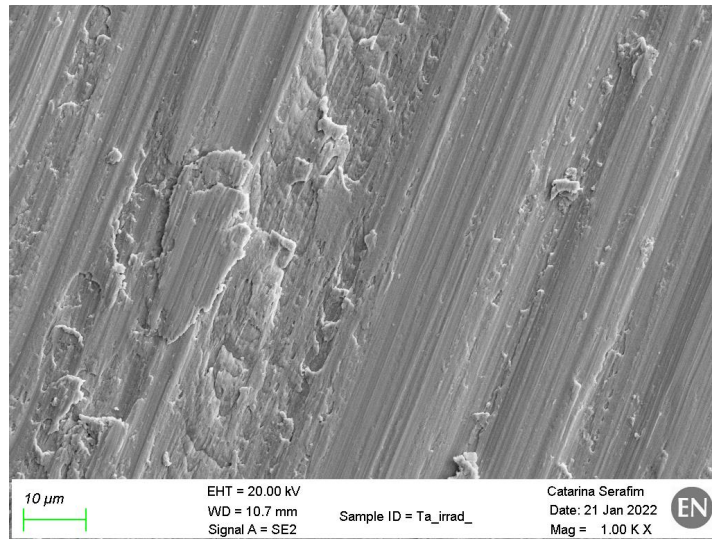
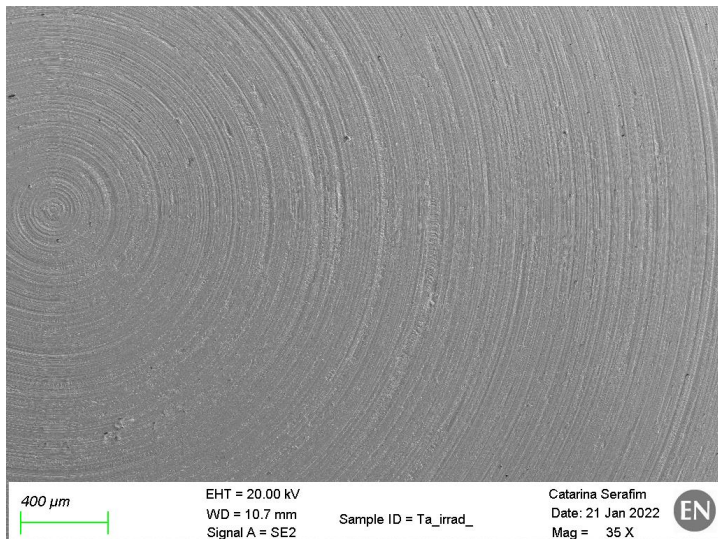
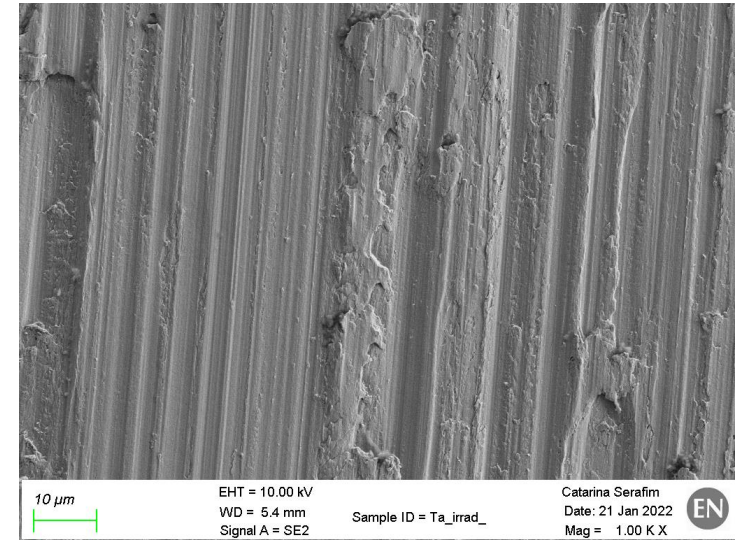
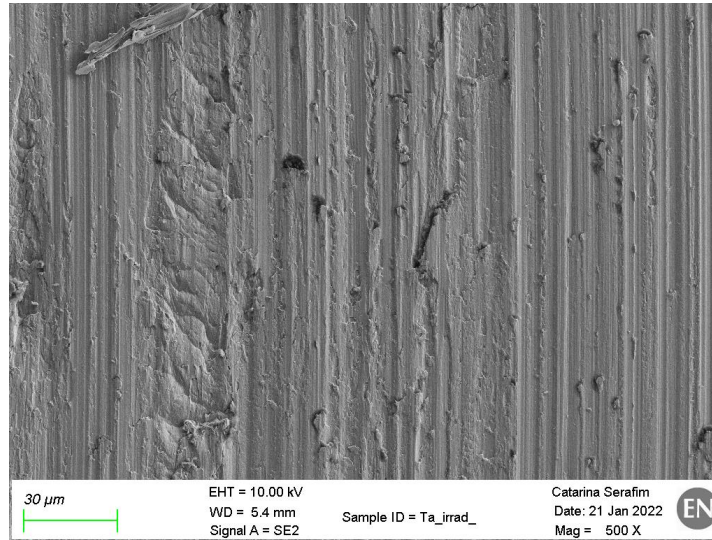
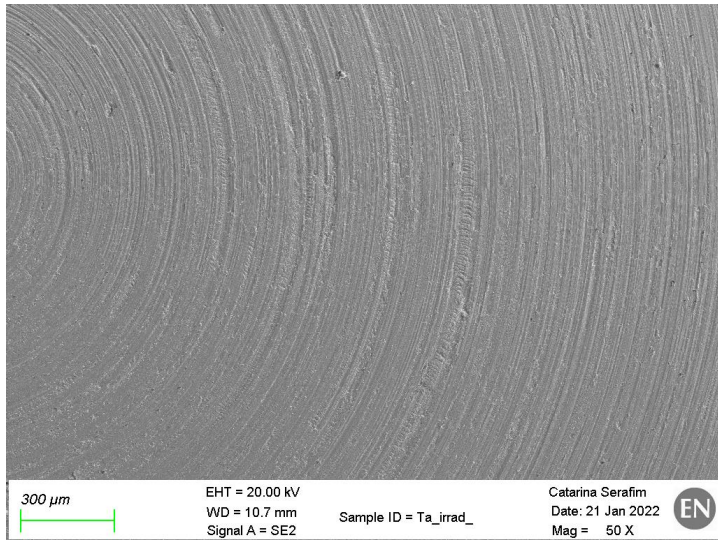


EHT = 10.00 kV  
 WD = 9.4 mm Signal A = SE2  
 Sample ID = Nb\_cathode\_irrad\_LES\_ Date: 27 May 2021  
 Mag = 200 X

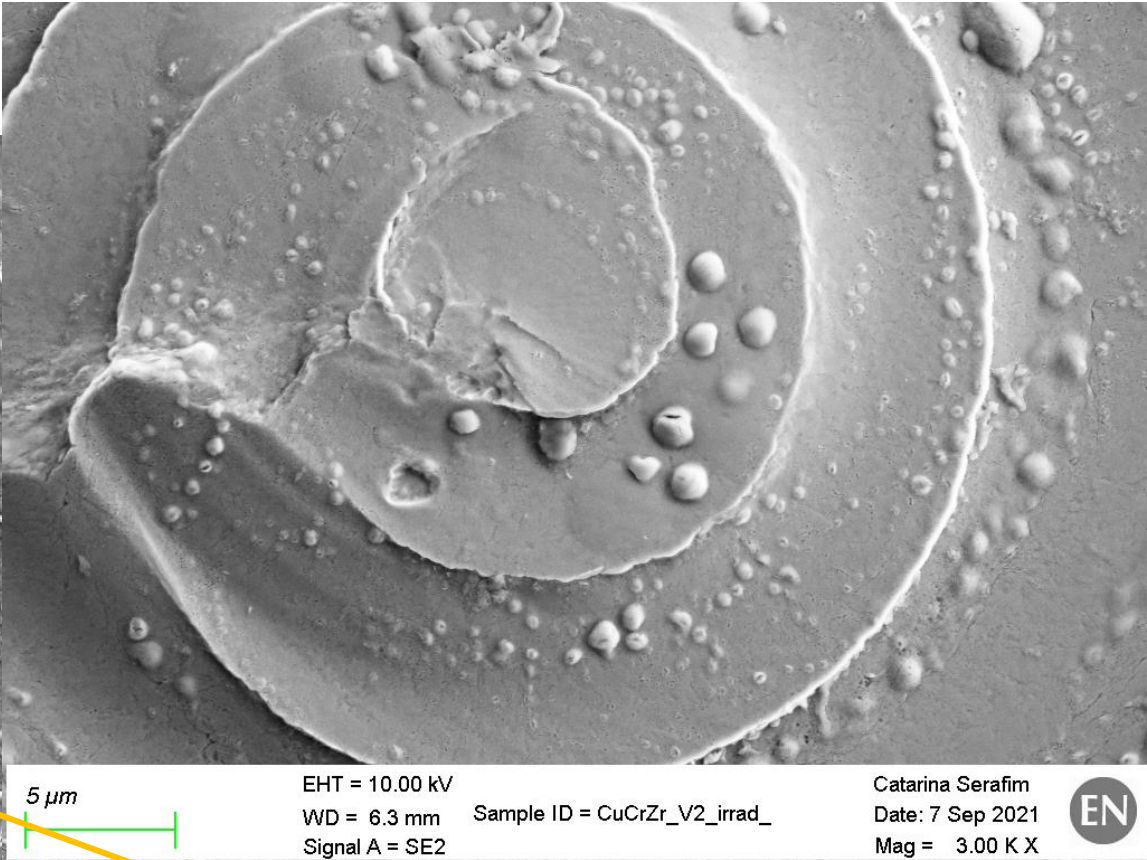
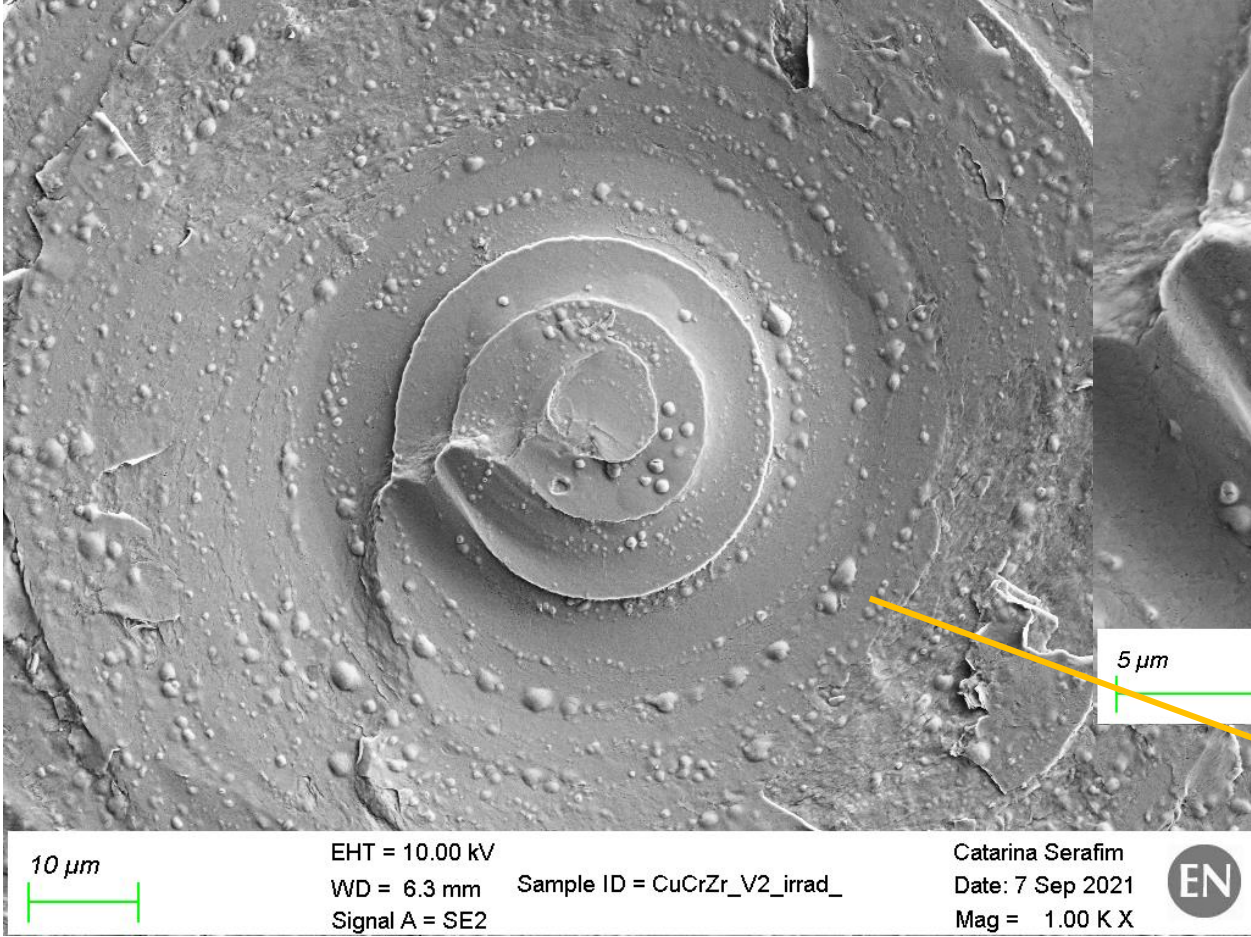


EHT = 10.00 kV  
 WD = 9.4 mm Signal A = SE2  
 Sample ID = Nb\_cathode\_irrad\_LES\_ Date: 27 May 2021  
 Mag = 5.00 K X

# Tantalum (Ta)



# Copper Chromium Zirconium (CuCrZr)



It is visible that some blisters appeared following the pattern of the machining marks.



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