WP5 : HIGH RADIATION TO MATERIALS – HIRADMAT@SPS

STATUS REPORT

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EUCARD Meeting - Paris , May 11, 2011

The HiRadMat Facility - Reminder

- HiRadMat is a facility designed, to study the impact of intense pulsed beams on materials
  - Thermal management (heating)
    - material damage even below the melting point
    - material vaporization (extreme conditions)
  - Radiation damage to materials
  - Thermal shock - beam induced pressure waves

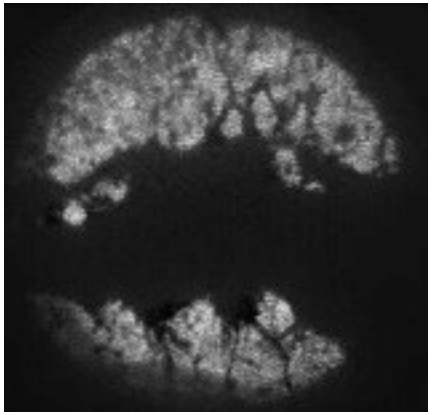
- Test bed, important for the design validation of LHC near beam components before installation in the ring
  - An alternative to ad-hoc pirate installations for such tests as done so far

- Targeted users: LHC collimators, R&D on materials, high-power targetry, test of vacuum components (beam windows, coating), others?

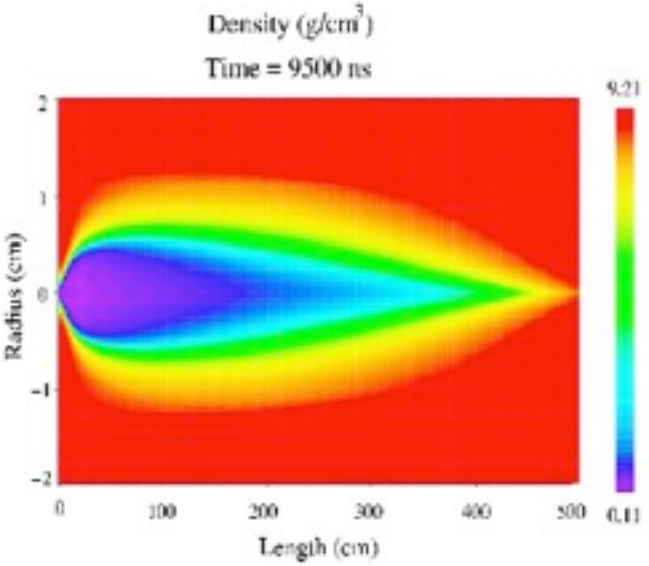
User Basis

Courtesy: J. Lettry, CERN

Targetry: High-intensity beam on a solid target (Ta)



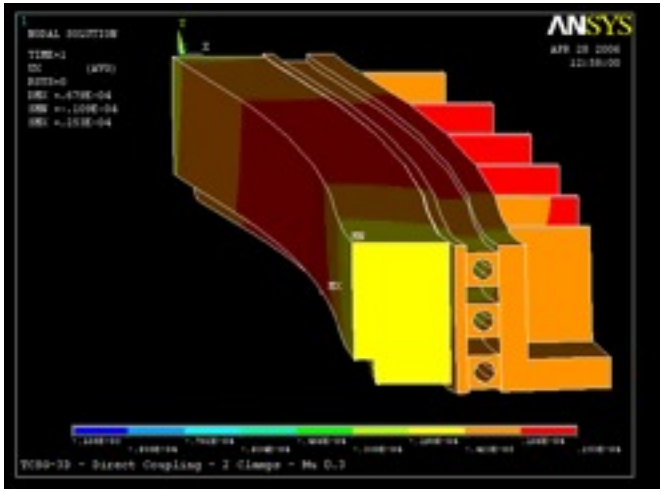
MERIT experiment: High-intensity beam on a liquid Hg-target



Courtesy: N.Tahir, GSI

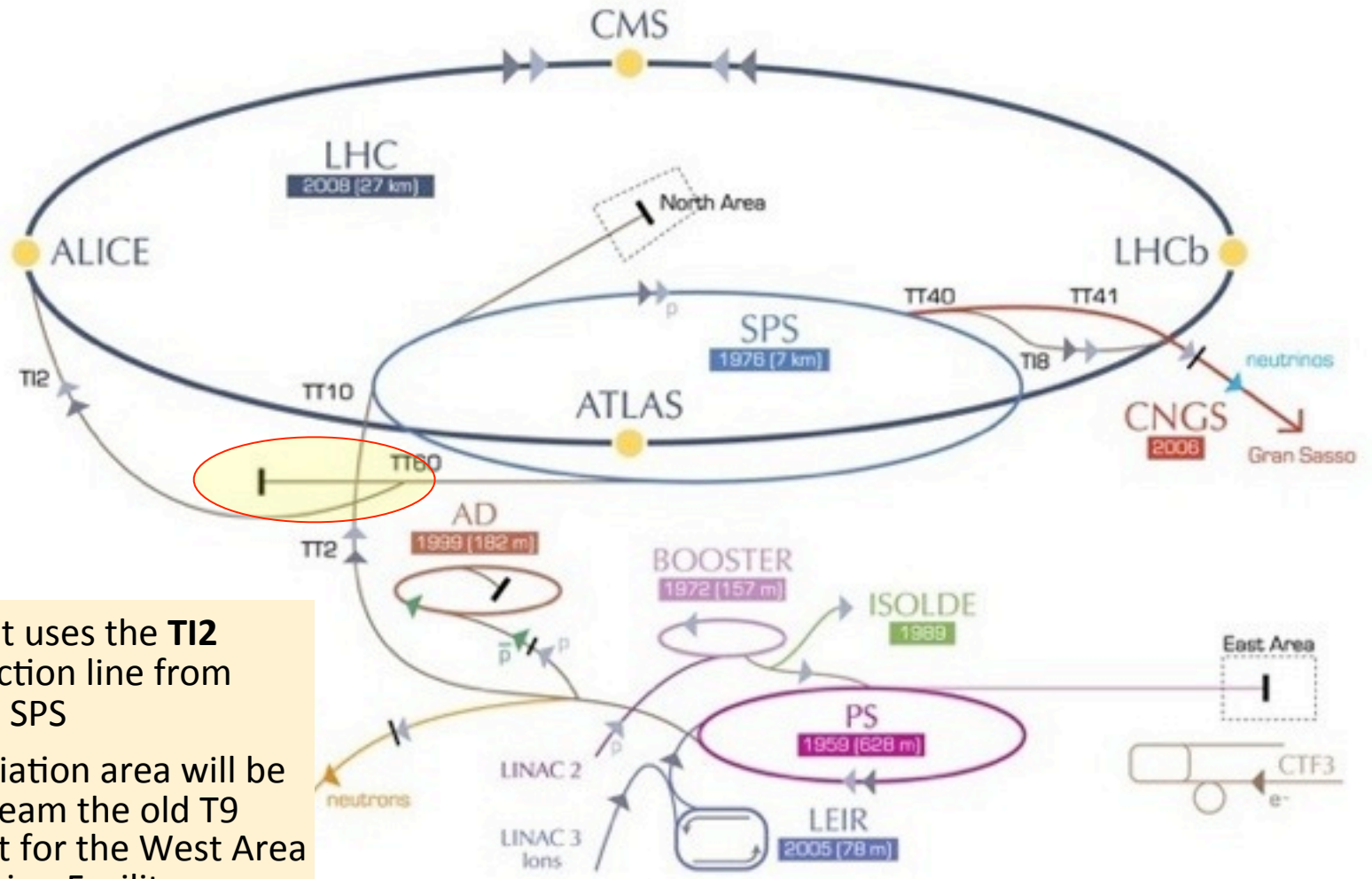
Material studies: High-intensity beam on a bulck material – plasma formation

LHC collimator: Displacement analysis – 500kW load case for 10s
Loss rate 4×10^{11} p/s (Beam Lifetime 12min)



Courtesy: R.Assmann, CERN

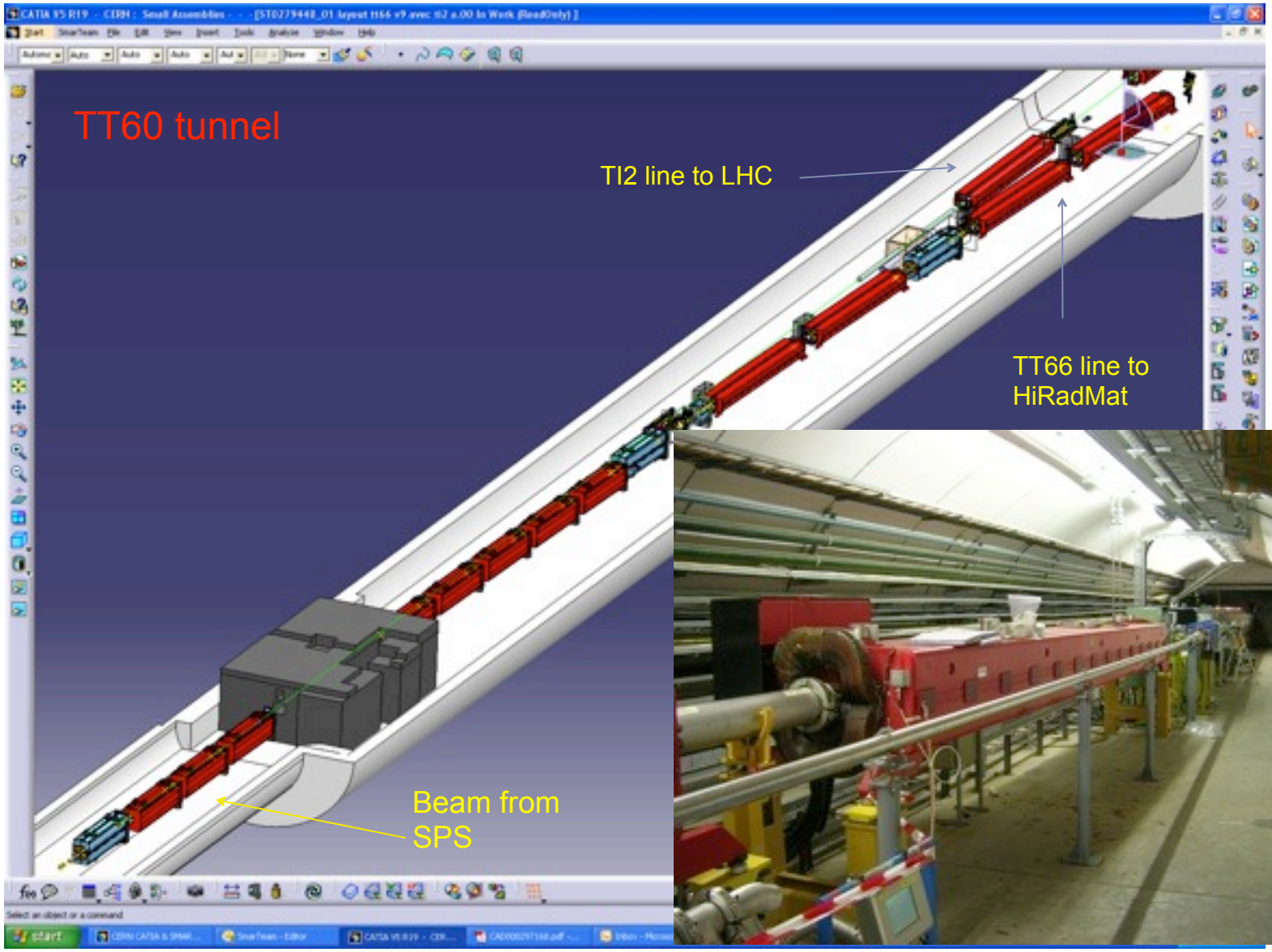
Facility Location



HiRadMat uses the **TI2** extraction line from CERN SPS

The irradiation area will be upstream the old T9 target for the West Area Neutrino Facility - **WANF**

Layout TT66 line & TNC



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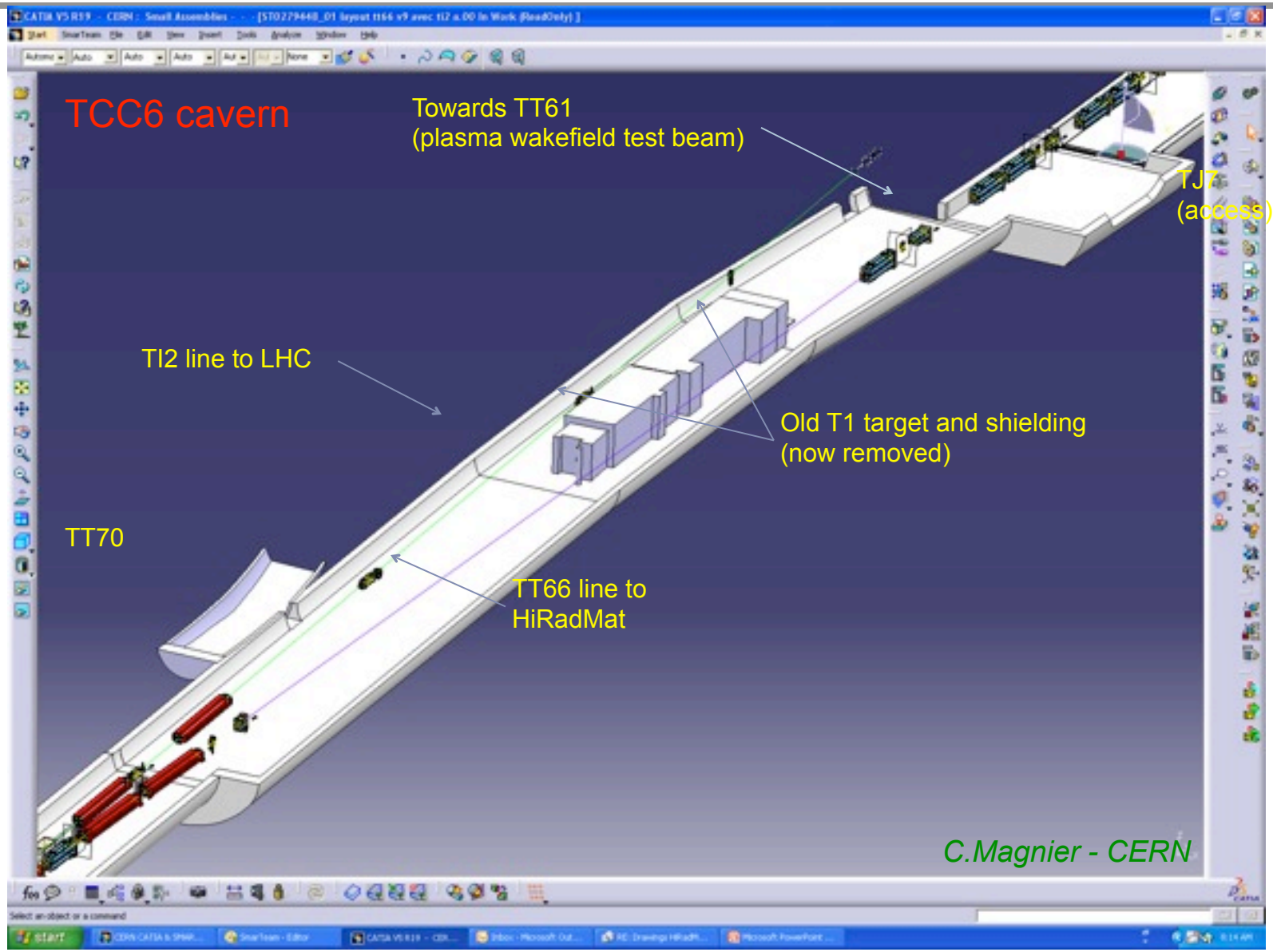
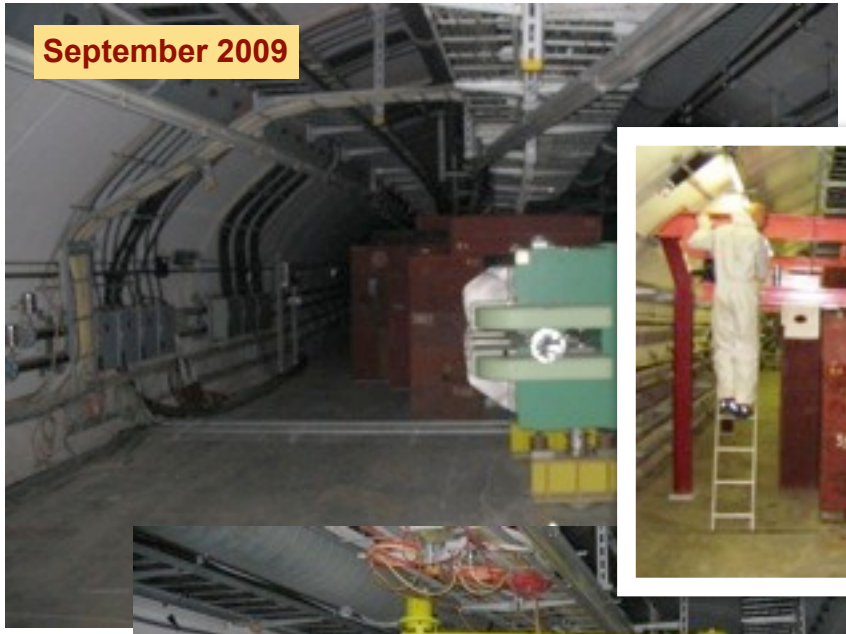


HiRadMat
High-Radiation to Materials

T1 target dismantling - TCC6



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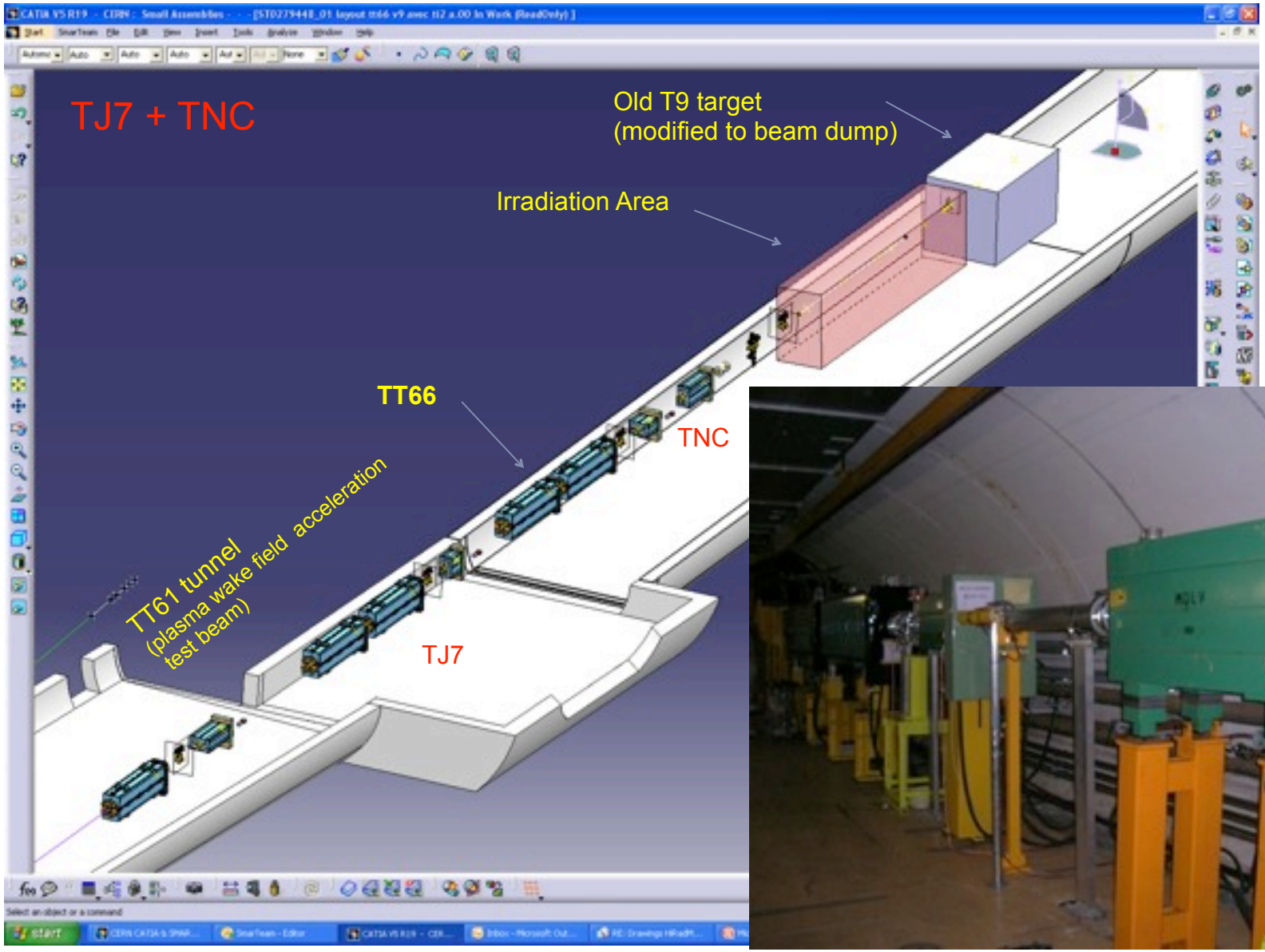
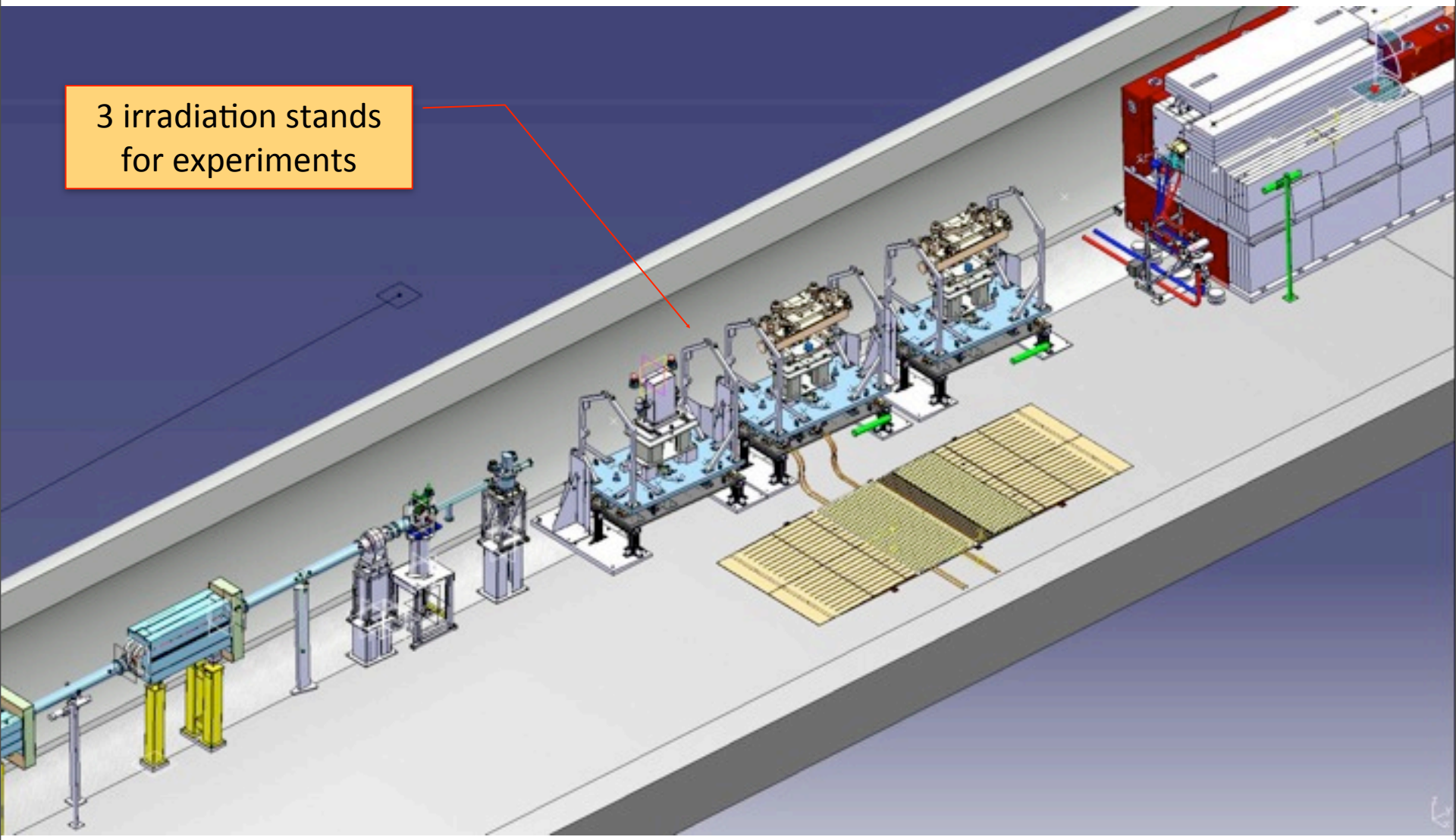


Irradiation Area Layout



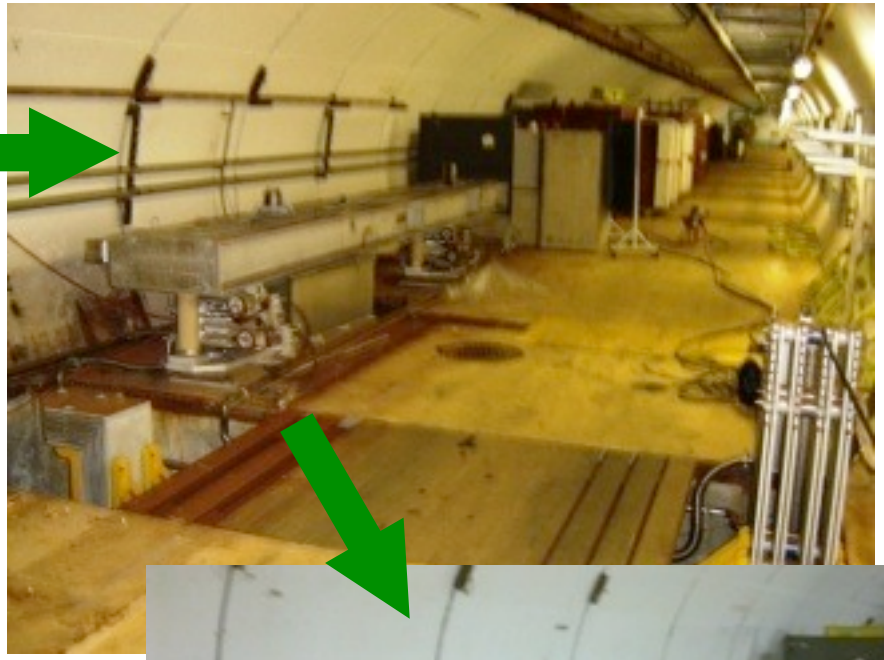
WANF dismantling

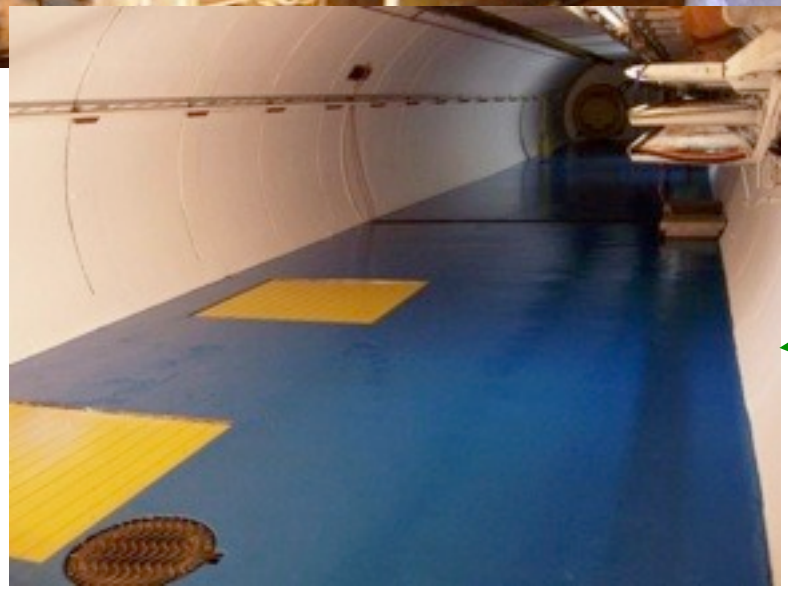
Challenges:

- Work in radioactive environment
  - careful dose planning, protection measures
- Contamination risk (dust, radioactive water, rust)
  - help of specialized external company

- The WANF beam was stopped in **1998**
- Then the tunnel was closed and the ventilation stopped

WANF dismantling

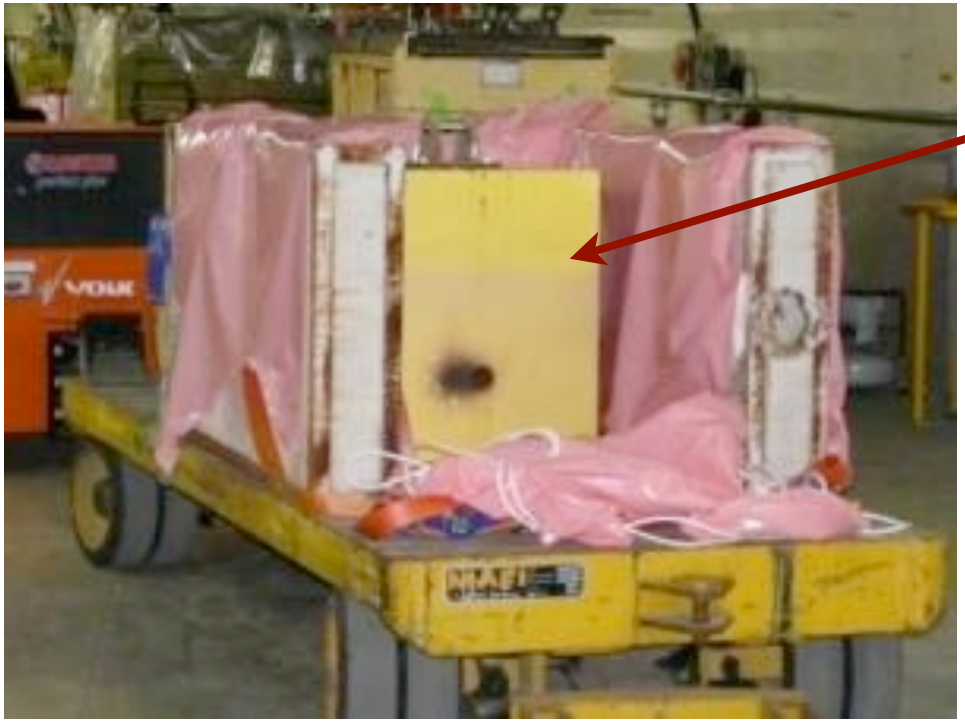




WANF dismantling

- Remote manipulation with the overhead crane

WANF dismantling



Upstream and downstream collimators

- The removal of the downstream collimator was the most challenging part of the whole project
  - Very radioactive element (**~1Sv/h !!!**)
  - 4 Cu blocks, no remote handling

Beam Parameters

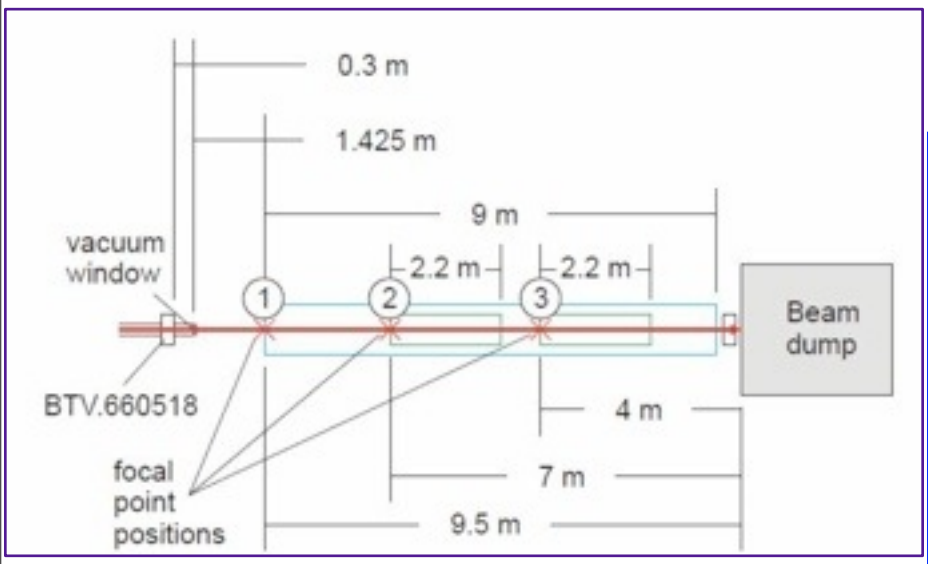
- LHC type beam extracted from SPS, protons or ions

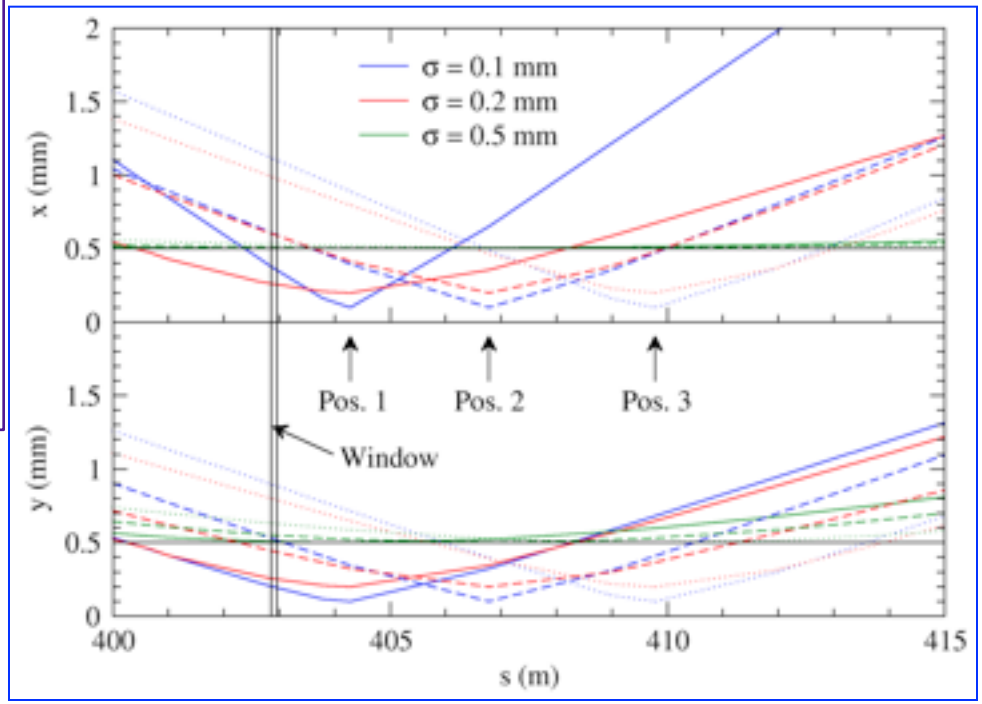
	Protons	Heavy ions ($Pb82^{+}$)
Beam Energy	440 [GeV]	173 [GeV/u], 36.1 [TeV/ions]
Pulse energy	up to 3.4 [MJ]	up to 21 kJ
Bunch intensity	3×10^{9} to 1.7×10^{11} ions	3×10^{7} to 7×10^{7} [ions]
Number of bunches	1 to 288	52
Bunch length	11.24 [cm]	11.24 [cm]
Bunch spacing	25, 50, 75 or 150 [ns]	100 [ns]
Pulse length	7.2 [μs]	5.2 [μs]
Beam spot at the experiment	variable around 1 [mm^2]	variable around 1 [mm^2]

- Intensity:
  - **10^{15}** protons/experiment (max 100 high-intensity pulses)
  - 10 experiments/year - **10^{16}** protons in total/year

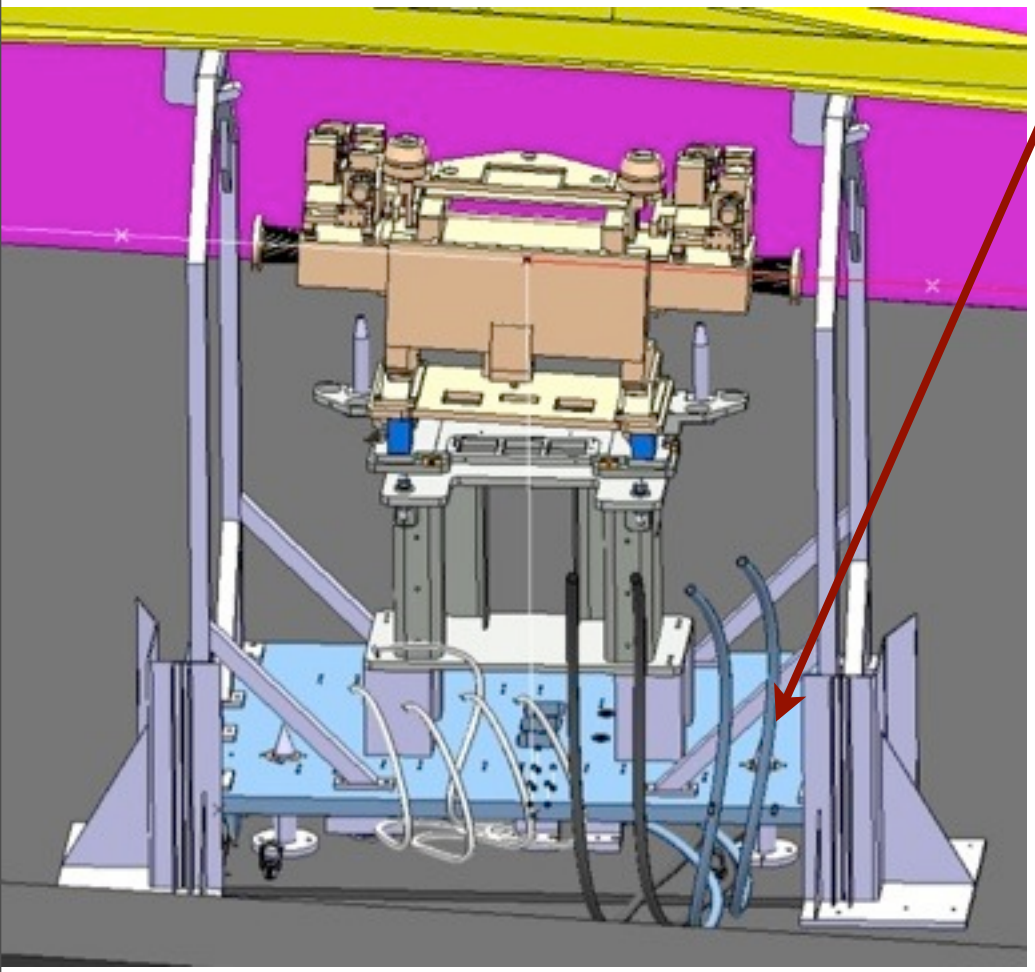
Beam Parameters

- **Constraint**: the beam must be >0.5mm in [x, y] at the last beam window of the line and at the dump
- Larger beam sizes can be achieved, **<2mm**





Experiments in HiRadMat



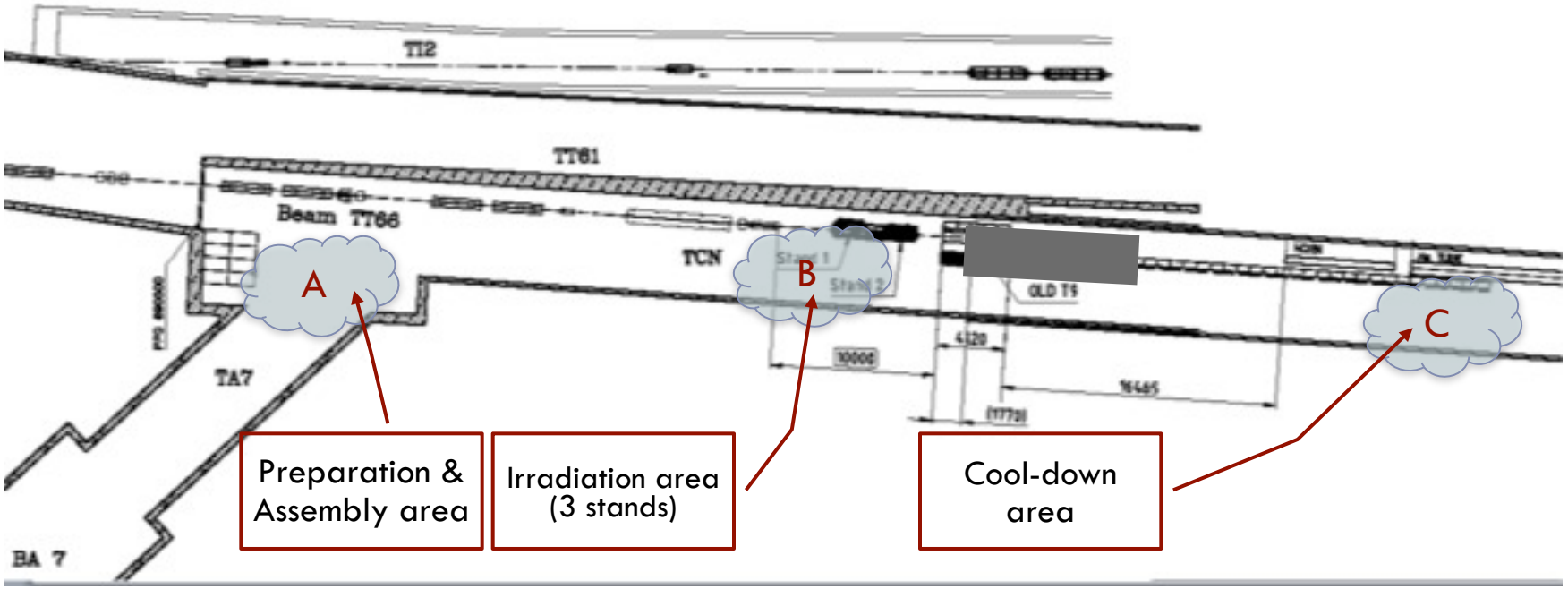
- Interface platform allows experiment assembly outside the irradiation area
  - Access (time) limitations due to LHC operation
  - Access limitations due to radiation

- **First step: surface lab**
  - Experiment assembly on the interface platform
  - Alignment using reference installation
    - copy of the installation in the tunnel → 0.1mm precision
  - Readout / movement tests

Experiments in HiRadMat

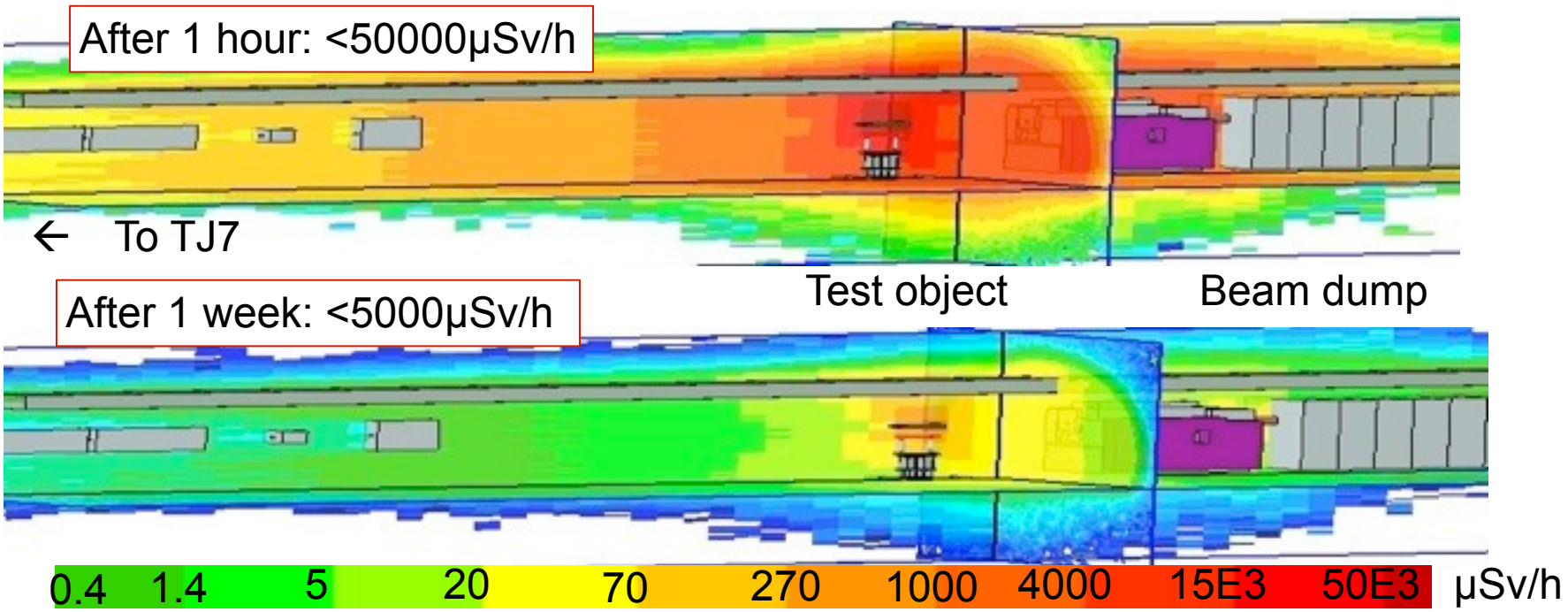
Life cycle of an experiment:

1. Prepare 1(2) test setups each on is platform in the lab or assembly area
2. Move them to the irradiation area – do the irradiations ; swap between the two remotely (either base platform movement or object)
3. Move them to the cool-down area
4. Recuperate them later for post-irradiation inspection/analysis in the lab



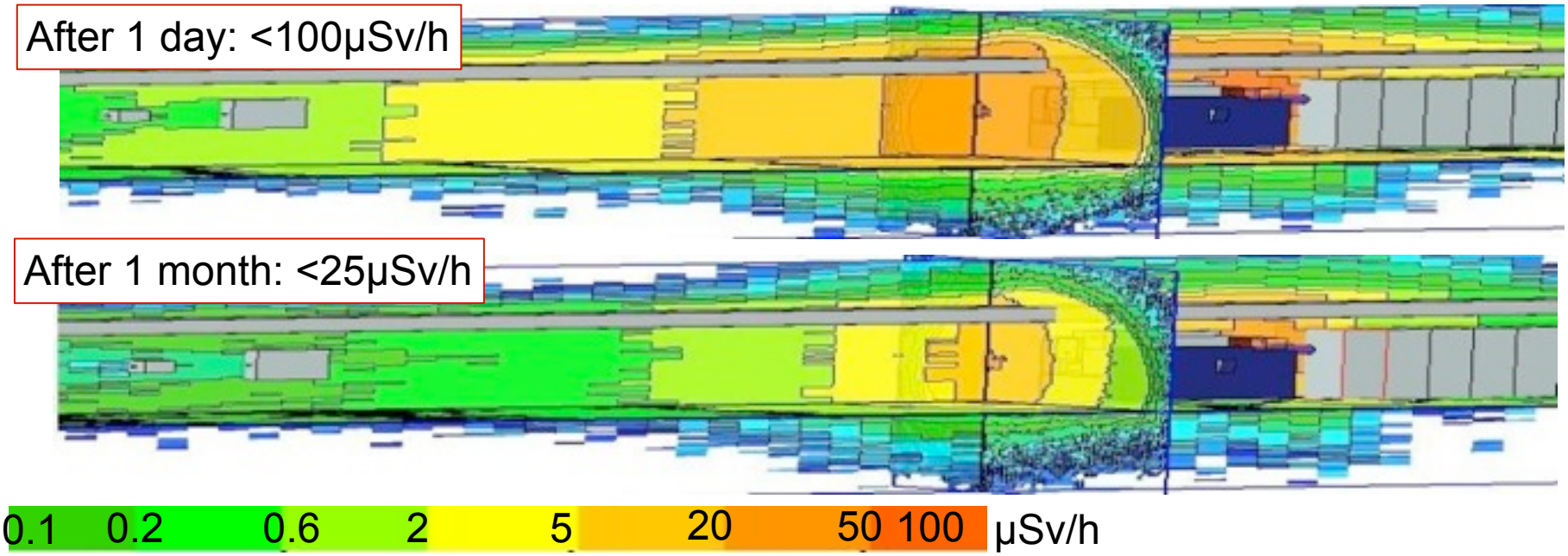
Experiments in HiRadMat

- Activation dose near (average at 40cm) test object after 1 hour/1 week cool-down
  - Short SPS cycle, 1.98E12 p/s for 504 s (1e15 protons)
  - The beam hits the carbon jaw of a typical collimator



Experiments in HiRadMat

- Remnant radiation
  - Assumption: 10^{16} protons over 1 year on a 15cm long copper test sample
  - The sample is removed after irradiation
  - Background dose rate in TNC after 1 day / 1 month



HiRadMat @ SPS - Transnational Access

- HiRadMat is registered as TA within EUCARD

- Funds available to support EU users for the exploitation of the facility
  - Details and application form in : http://eucard.web.cern.ch/EuCARD/activities/access/
    - 12 applications received so far!!!
    - aim for 2-3 experiments in 2011

- **User Selection Panel**
  - Mandate:
    - Evaluate the scientific merit of the proposed experiments
    - Discuss safety or other operational issues
    - Distribute the yearly beam time and EU funds

HiRadMat @ SPS - Infrastructure

- We aim at providing to the users:
  - the interface table
  - "standard" cabling from the test area to the surface control room
    - each test stand will be equipped with 5 plug-in connectors
    - signal, power (DC and 220V), HV, cables available
      - others could be added if needed
  - technical support for their installation and operation at CERN

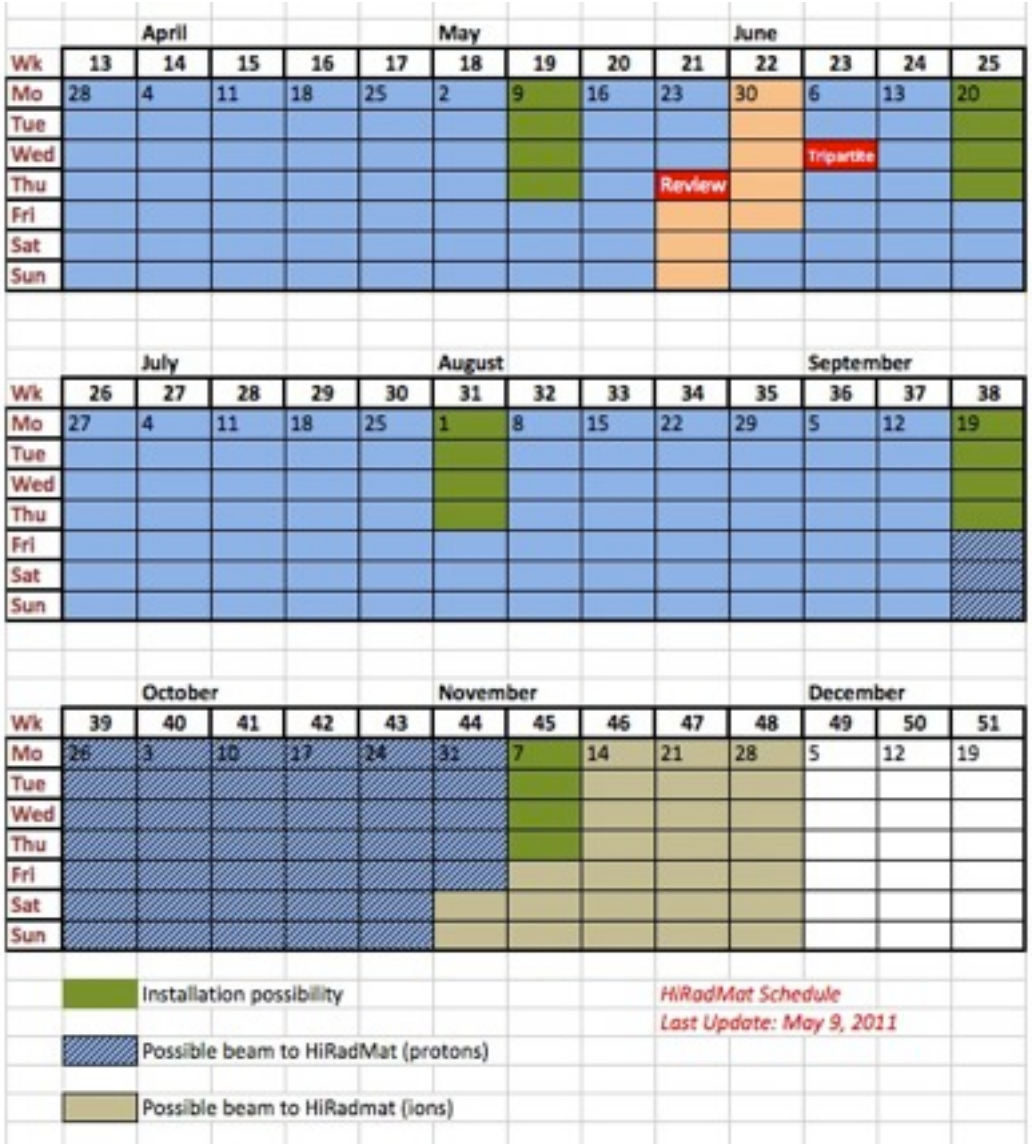
- HiRadMat should be completed with a permanent installation of test instrumentation - **EUCARD2**
  - Buy instruments: fast cameras, LDV, acoustic installation, temp monitoring, vision cameras, gas instrumentation, vacuum/pressure
  - Sample holders for "standard" applications
  - Control and preparation/assembly lab at the surface

Status

- Thanks to the efforts of several teams from all CERN departments we succeeded in maintaining our initial planning
  - more than 800t of radioactive material moved in 2011, some very radioactive !
  - very often ~60 people were working in the tight space of TJ7/TNC/TCC6 tunnels !
  - record time for the power supplies and magnet preparation/installation !
- The proton beam line is completed and tested without beam
- Next key dates:
  - Project review on May 26th, 2011
    - external reviewers: Nick Simos (BNL, BLIP), Friedrich Groeschel (IFMIF, KIT, ex-PSI)
  - Presentation to tripartite committee (CERN + authorities) on June 8th, 2011
  - **Get final approval for the operation of the facility**
- **Safety will be a major issue in HiRadMat operation - procedures for the users to be defined**

Schedule

- Further tests with low intensity pulses foreseen for w21, 22 (next week!)
- We are now focusing on the experimental area and discussions with the first users
  - Ready for scheduled users from week 26 onwards
- Possible windows for installation on w25, w31, w38, with beam in w32-36, w38-44



Varia

- Other news since last report
  - Injectors & Experimental Facilities Workshop @ CERN on March
    - well received, triggered lot of interest and discussions
    - issue raised: how to handle access to the users in the underground areas
  - HiRadMat included in the CERN annual report (+ photos hopefully!)
  - 4th High-Power Targetry Workshop, Malmoe, ESS
    - triggered lot of interest, potential users from ESS, LBNE/US, GANIL
  - **HiRadMat logo !**

- To come:
  - article in CERN Bulletin for the facility
  - HiRadMat, IFMIF, BLIP interview and article in EUCARD Newsletter

WP5 Status

- Ph.D student N.Charitonidis working for the design of the facility
  - RP studies and documentation for the users/experiments
- TA budget not used yet - hopefully to start this year with the RAL colleagues (tbc)

Summary

- HiRadMat is a new facility to allow testing of materials on beam impact in a scientific manner, going away from ad-hoc installations
- The facility offers a very powerful beam from SPS with sufficient flexibility to adjust it for several applications
- The project is well on track, we maintain our initial schedule for the first users in autumn 2011, with the first TA access
- Doing experiments in HiRadMat would be very interesting, lots of physics questions to answer, but also very challenging
- Stay tuned in : **http://cern.ch/hiradmat**