



Introduction to the BDF target system 1st Beam Dump Facility (BDF) Targetry Systems Advisory Committee (TSAC) 4th – 6th March 2025

Rui F. Ximenes on behalf of WP3 & HI-ECN3 Project team 04/03/2025



https://hiecn3.web.cern.ch

Take-home objectives of this talk

□ Overview of HI-ECN3 project BID's, target complex and target system

- □ What are the main interfaces with the Target system
- □ What are the key Target requirements & challenges
- □ What Target design concepts were explored in the past, last year and now
- What material R&D and beam tests were done, and what were the main conclusions
- □ What is the **motivation** for the **TDR threads** and for a **new Target design**
- □ Introduction to the following talks





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Target system key interfaces

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From physics requirements to engineering challenges



BDF/SHiP Target

Beam Dump Target / SHiP Target

Fully absorbe all p+, maximize production of charm and beauty hadrons & reabsorption of pions, muons and kaons

High energy → production of charmed and beauty mesons
High ppp & POT → overcome small prod cross-section of extra rare events of hidden particles

High ρ **, Z & A** \rightarrow Maximize p+ interaction

Shortest $\lambda \rightarrow$ Force absorption of K & π to reduce muon & neutrino background





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BDF Target

Target requirements

- Physics:
 - high-Z material & with short interaction length
 - Fully absorb SPS p+ beam
- Engineering:
 - 305kW power \rightarrow cooling needs
 - 305kW power → temperature & thermal-induced stresses
 - High nr of spills & POT → mechanical fatigue & radiation damage
- Safety:
 - High activation → Remote handling, waste disposal considerations, spallation/contamination products...

Baseline beam parameters of the BDF Target operation. <u>https://doi.org/10.23731/CYRM-2020-002</u>

Proton momentum (GeV/c) Beam intensity (p ⁺ /cycle) ~ 4.0×10 ¹⁹ p ⁺ /y	$\begin{array}{c} 400 \\ 4 \times 10^{13} \end{array}$
Cycle length (s)	7.2
Spill duration (s)	1.0
Beam dilution pattern	Circular
Beam sweep frequency (turns/s)	4
Dilution circle radius (mm)	50
Beam sigma (H, V) (mm)	(8, 8)
Average beam power (kW)	356
Average beam power deposited in target (kW)	305
Average beam power during spill (MW)	2.3

~ 5 years of operation per target Total of ~15 years of operation for the target station

Very similar requirements to a neutron spallation target Synergies with other labs are being pursued



Overview of the Target concepts





CDS Design



Water-cooled, Ta-cladded TZM + W Core

- TZM: Absorbs most of the power. Higher strength, better creep resistance, higher recrystallisation temp wrt Mo.
- W: Good radiation damage resistance. Best for physics.
- Ta2.5W: To avoid corrosion-erosion of the core materials
- Manufacturing: Forged TZM, sintered W (single blocks). Cladding via HIP.
- Cooling: 22 bar, 5 m/s, ~660l/min,





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W Helium Cooled Target



19x W blocks (L1500 mm) (D250 mm)

He-cooled, Pure W Core, potentially cladded (tbd)

- W: All W to improve physics. Hot-rolled for higher strength.
- Cladding (tbd): Ta or Ta2.5W, potentially to reinforce core blocks and/or mitigate oxidation.
- Manufacturing: Multiple W plates per block & cladding bonded via HIP.
- Cooling: 16 bar He, 400g/s



Summary of past studies

Prototype & beam tests of the Baseline Target

CDS Design Water cooled, TZM + W cladded w/ Ta2.5W





Upstream beam window Tank (cut to see inside) Lower half-shell (upper is hidden) Plug-in table

TZM/Ta2.5W (instrumented) TZM/Ta2.5W TZM/Ta (instrumented) TZM/Ta W/Ta (instrumented) W/Ta

> Downstream flange

Instrumentation

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BDF Baseline Target Prototype + PIE

Prototype Beam tests

- Validate manufacturing and test operation at identical temperatures & mechanical stresses.
- Reduced diameter (80 mm) prototype.
- Tested in 2018 on a dedicated slow extraction (SX) testbench in the T6 primary beam line in TCC2 at CERN. Total of 2.4 × 10¹⁶ p⁺



https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevAccelBeams.22.123001

Beam parameters Final Prototype **Baseline characteristics** BDF target BDF target 400 400 Proton momentum (GeV/c) 4×10^{13} $3-4 \times 10^{12}$ Beam intensity $(p^+/cycle)$ Beam dilution Yes No Horiz./vert. beam spot size (mm) 8/8 3/2.5Cycle length (s) 7.27.2Spill duration (s) 1.0 1.0 Average beam power (kW) 356 35Average power on target (kW) 30523Average beam power during 2.560.26spill (MW) Power density per spill (MW/m^3) 3838

Operational conditions

	Maximum expected			Maximum expected		
	temperature (°C)			stress (MPa)		
	Final	Prototype target	Fi	nal	Prototype target	
Material	target	$3-4 \times 10^{12} \text{ ppp}$	tar	get	$3-4 \times 10^{12} \text{ ppp}$	
TZM	180	240-300	1	30	145 - 195	
W	150	135 - 165	9)5	85 - 110	
Ta2.5W	160	230 - 285	9	5	85-120	







PIE – Nondestructive testing

I. Film Dosimetry

II. Metrology and Microscopy

III. Ultrasonic Tests

I. Film Dosimetry

 \rightarrow BTV and gafchromic imaging consistent (< 1mm) \rightarrow Blow up of the beam downstream.



II. Metrology and Microscopy

 \rightarrow No relevant geometrical changes nor swelling and no corrosion, cracks, or melting visible

Better ٠ cleaning of lubricant necessary Strong turning ٠

> grooves in the centre





III. Ultrasonic Tests

→ No signs of damages in the bonding interface!



Block A



Block 4 (US side)

Reference Block

Block 14 (US side)



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PIE – Microstructure analysis

V. Microstructural Characterization

Cracks in irradiated W Block



EBSD and SEM images show cracks inside W \rightarrow No delamination of the interface





Dye penetrant testing (PT) show superficial cracks (1&3) and Crack 2 was not detected

Testing of unirradiated W Block





PT Testing indicated cracks in unirradiated W



SEM shows similar cracks as in irradiated sample

- **<u>TZM</u>**: \rightarrow Tantalum & TZM \rightarrow No damages)
- $\underline{\mathbf{W}}: \rightarrow Cracks \rightarrow Beam-induced?$

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50 µm

- Cracks did not exist before EDM cutting (UT Testing)
- No differences between unirradiated and irradiated microstructure
- Reason: Cracks superficial, release of high residual stresses during EDM cutting, brittle W (porosity & fully recrystallized). Attributed to quality of sintered W

PIE - Shear testing

Shear testing

Irradiated TZM-Ta2.5W

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- Ta clad: Higher shear breaking strength than bulk Ta (150 MPa) (un-irradiated block)
- Ta2.5W clad: Close to shear breaking strength of bulk Ta2.5W (215 MPa) (irradiated, w/ and wo Ta foil)



Shear at interfaceShear in Ta alloy198 MPa198 MPa

Un-irradiated TZM-Ta

- Fracture in shear neck region
 - 1 at the interface, 3 in the Tantalum
 - 80-750um extension (slightly higher in unirradiated)

AS1



AS2

Shear in Ta alloyShear in Ta alloy172 MPa173 MPa

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W

Irradiated W-Ta

- Fracture outside necking indicating very brittle W (both irradiated and un-irradiated) weaker than
 interface itself
- Small extension before fracture

PIE - Shear testing

• 14S2 fracture before test

14S1

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14S2 (Ta foil)









Shear at interface 30 MPa Tensile in W 12 MPa

BS1

Un-irradiated W-Ta

VI. Mechanical

Characterization

PIE - Shear testing

VI. Mechanical Characterization

Shear testing

TZM block

 Uniform fracture, always on Ta and Ta2.5W (with and without Ta foil)





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W block

• Both Intragranular fracture & no distinct fracture on both irradiated and un-irradiated





PIE: Mechanical testing



- **TZM :** Lower mechanical properties of irradiated samples
- \rightarrow low PoT \rightarrow no irradiation damage
- \rightarrow No differences in microstructure detected
- \rightarrow No faults in testing set up found

W

Tensile specimens very error prone for brittle material such as W

\rightarrow 4-pending test better

	TZM (AT)		TZM (4T)		W $(14T)$		
	YS	UTS	 YS	UTS		YS	UTS
$22^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$	552	569	511	535		_	84
$200^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$	376	448	343	409		288	334



Thermal Testing

- Two-layered specimens of core and cladding material from irradiated Block #4 and #14
- Negligible thermal contact resistance of all interfaces
- No dependencies of proximity to beam impact axis or usage of Ta interlayer detected
- No irradiation effects detected (compared to prior studies)

VI. Mechanical Characterization Hardness testing

Vickers Hardness [HV 0.5]

- TZM, Ta, Ta2.5W: as annealed materials
- W as fully recrystallized
- No differences unirradiated and irradiated



	Literature	Prototype	Unirrad.	Irrad.
		capsules		
TZM	$235 - 250^{a}$	$240^{\rm e}, 215^{\rm f}$	260 ± 10	257 ± 13
W	350^{b}	$435^{\rm e}, 355^{\rm f}$	346 ± 10	356 ± 10
Ta	$75-105^{\circ}$	$80^{\mathrm{e}}, 70^{\mathrm{f}}$	88 ± 6	96 ± 5
Ta2.5W	$160–240^{\rm d}$	$140^{\rm e},120^{\rm f}$	_	161 ± 7



Summary of past studies Niobium Cladding R&D

CDS-based concepts <u>Nb-cladded</u>, thin Ta cladding...



Nb-cladded baseline target

Decay heat power 0.1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 10³ seconds minutes hours days weeks months years (a) Cladding (b) Cladding (c) Clad

Temperature after LOCA Assuming htc=1W/m2.K



Selection of Nb-alloys:

- Promising LOCA improvement
- Compliant with Thermo-mechanical conditions



- Likely HIP "bondable"
 - **Phase diagrams:** Good solubility no critical intermetallic phases
 - **Diffusivity**: as much diffusivity into W and Mo as Ta.
 - Ductility: Nb identical to Ta



Nb alloy cladding R&D - Prototype capsules





Why and what during the TDR?

Highlighting key issues with Baseline Design

CDS Design Water cooled, TZM + W cladded w/ Ta2.5W





In search of an alternative design Main motivations

- Most of the shower develops on TZM and not on W → core could be further optimized for physics
- Water in-beam promotes formation of radicals
 > safety concerns to be addressed or water removed
- Decay heat on baseline target is considerable & driven by cladding. Possibility of LOCA (Loss Of Coolant Accident) poses a critical safety risk -> Reduce Ta cladding
- ➢ PIE revealed W quality to be poor → Look into more robust W supply





BDF Target TDR – main threads

 We start with a solid background from PBC studies with the CDS Design. Yet, many things still to be addressed:

- □ Address safety aspects such as LOCA, radiolysis & retrofit it into the target design → need for alternative design studies & their validation with a prototype w/beam → <u>Only opportunity will be 2025 & 2026</u>
- □ Need to detail the mechanical design of the Target, instrumentation & integration
- □ In depth Target physics optimization & review beam delivery/sweep optimization on target
- Define the manufacturing technology specification & material QA (taking the PIE lessons learnt) necessary to go ahead with procurement in a Production phase
- □ Identify the other required BIDs. Design and engineer them.
- $\Box \rightarrow$ Overall, getting ready for a project/production phase



What lies ahead today?



(short) Specific questions on the Target system

...and where to look for answers

•	Any showstopper in FEA ? Under-evaluated aspects?	Mike (1) &		
•	Are the target blocs design(s) reliable ? Consider alternative options?	Giuseppe &		
•	Are operational and accident scenarios addressed? Others to consider?	Francesco V		
•	Does R&D support the design efforts? Any missing threads?	Stefano & Rui (1)		
٠	Are the design(s) feasible for production and assembly?	Luca		
•	Is the prototype beam testing useful ? Explore other tests?	Rui (2) & Mike (1)		
٠	What risks exist in the proposed designs? areas for optimisation?	(AII)		
•	Is the instrumentation package suitable for diagnosing operational/accident scenarios? Additional target instrumentation needed?	Mike (2)		
•	Is the cooling system adequate? Are safety concerns addressed and mitigated?	Francesco D		
•	Are radiation protection aspects (operation & waste) properly considered?	Claudia & Gerald		



Thank you



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Reviewers questions (detailed)

Do you see any feasibility issues in the proposed designs (target core, pressure vessel, vacuum vessel, shielding system etc.) in view of their future production and assembly?

Do you see any potential showstopper in the FEA / thermo-mechanical calculations, for both nominal and for degraded scenarios? Are there specific topics which have been under evaluated?

Are the most important operational considerations and accident scenarios being fully addressed? Shall other situations be considered?

Do the target block R&D plans adequately support the design efforts? Do you see any potential missing aspects that would need to be considered at this stage?

Are the present target block design options appropriate for long-term reliability – should options be included or eliminated?

Are the plans for target prototype proton beam testing appropriate and useful to support the target development plans? Shall other complementary tests be explored?

Do you identify any specific risks in the proposed target designs? Do you see areas for optimisation?

Is the proposed target instrumentation package suitable for diagnosing operational and potential accident scenarios? Is there any other instrumentation you would suggest?

Is the current target station design in line with best operational and maintenance practices from the international community? Are there any specific improvements or design options that should be considered at this stage?

Is the design of the cooling and ventilation systems adequate for the needs of the target systems? Are the safety concerns associated with such a cooling system being addressed and mitigated in the current design? Including maintenance scenarios of the cooling system

Are radiation protection aspects adequately considered in the design of the complex, both in terms of operation as well as waste management?

Is the concept for the service cell in the target service building appropriate to tackle the challenges of maintenance and waste packaging of the target systems?

Did we have to consider additional failure scenarios?



TCC8 & ECN3

The CERN accelerator complex



ECN3

DDC to work overlaps

Overview of BDF Target design options

CDS Design – Water cooled, W + TZM cladded w/ Ta2.5W

- Pursued during the conceptual design phase <u>https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevAccelBeams.22.113001</u>
- Prototype + test with beam + Post irradiation examination
- Still some safety aspects to be addressed
- Could be further optimized for physics



13 x TZM blocks (580 mm) 5x W blocks (780 mm)

Alternative designs currently being studied in the TDR

CDS-based concepts: with W rolled material, Nb-cladded Target, thin Ta cladding...

W Helium cooled Target

- Removes water from beam
- Better physics performance
- Reduces decay heat & residual stresses
- Conceptually different system!



Enclosed compact Cu + W Target

- Removes water from beam
- Keeps physics performance
- Reduces decay heat
- Increases T and stress





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BDF Target CDS design

Core geometry & materials

- 250 mm Diameter Target
- 580 mm of TZM (13 blocks)
 - Reasonable high density & Z (Z=42, ρ=10.2g/cm³)
 - Higher strength, better creep resistance, higher recrystallisation temp wrt Mo.
 - Absorbs most of the beam power.
- 780 mm of W (5 blocks)
 - High Z and density (Z=74, ρ =19.3g/cm³)
 - Good radiation damage resistance
- 95 mm of water (5 mm * 19 channels)
 - Required to cool the blocks
- 54 mm of Ta2.5W cladding (1.5 mm * 2 * 18 blocks)





Target Core with reasonable physics performance & that allows diluting (longitudinally) the energy deposition

BDF Target CDS design

Manufacturing technology

- Water-cooling circuit → Corrosion-erosion → Core cladded with Ta2.5W (1-1.5 mm thickness) by means of Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIP)
- HIP (Hot Isostatic Pressing)
- Diffusion bonded at High pressure and high temperature
- Key manufacturing feature. Essential for good heat transfer to the water circuit (cooling)











BDF Target CDS design

Cooling

- 95 mm of water (5 mm * 19 channels)
 - Water \rightarrow better cooling for identical flow rate wrt He, Air.
 - 22 bar \rightarrow higher boiling threshold
 - 5 m/s → high heat convection coefficient and limited erosion
 - ~660I/min \rightarrow To extract ~305kW of heat.
 - Circuit Serpentine configuration with 2 parallel channels
 - Serpentine \rightarrow high speed at moderate flow rate
 - 2 parallel channels → pressure drop reduction & reduce failure in case 1 channel is blocked.





https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevAccelBeams.22.113001

CDS Design

Water-cooled, Ta-cladded TZM + W Core

- TZM: Absorbs most of the power. Higher strength, better creep resistance, higher recrystallisation temp wrt Mo.
- W: Good radiation damage resistance. Best for physics.
- Ta2.5W: To avoid corrosion-erosion of the core materials
- Cooling: 22 bar, 5 m/s, ~660l/min, ~305kW of heat.

Manufacturing

- Forged TZM and sintered W (single blocks)
- Diffusion bonding with cladding via Hot Isostatic Pressing





Target Core with reasonable physics performance & that allows diluting (longitudinally) the energy deposition





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Enclosed compact Cu + W Target



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Manufacturing know-how



Tantalum

- Refractory with high melting point, conductivity, strength and ductility
- ✓ High density
- ✓ Low CTE
- ✓ Full solubility with Molybdenum and Tungsten
- ✓ Very good corrosion-erosion resistance in water medium
- ✓ Sound experience in other Targetry applications (ISIS, LANSCE, KENS...)

Ta-2.5W: Solution strengthened Ta alloy with W

- Higher strength yet still ductile
- Enhanced hydrogen embrittlement resistance

- Preliminary HIP and SPS Cladding trials w/ Ta2.5W & core materials
- Prototype manufacturing
- Extensive material & HIPed cladding characterization
- Prototype beam tests
- Post Irradiation Examination





Preliminary HIP and SPS Cladding trials w/ Ta2.5W

 Assembly with EBW & joining via hot isostatic pressing (HIP)

<u>Scope</u>

- Comparing two Heating cycles (1200°C/150MPa 1400°C/200MPa)
- TZM//TZM & W//W via HIP w/wo interface Ta Foil
- Ta2.5W vs Ta cladded on W and TZM, w/wo interface foil

Methodology

- Microstructure w/ optical and electron microscopy
- k (RT-300°C) and ρ measurements
- Mechanical characterization of interfaces









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-

W

-

Ta2.5W

х

(D)

(H)

W

TZM

-

Та

Ta2.5W

Х

100 µm

100 µm

Ta2.5W

Ta2.5W

■ HIP cycle L □ HIP cycle H

W

Ta2.5W cladding – LOCA

 (Loss-of-Coolant Accident scenario) LOCA hypothetical scenario used as a criterion for assessing the safety of a nuclear installation during its design phase.

\rightarrow Strong implications on the classification of the facility.

- Thermo-mechanical simulations to determine the temperature evolution of the target in a 2 years scenario after the accident.
- Depending on the assumptions, <u>T > 300 C may</u> be reached for prolonged periods ((O)weeks)

Mena R., Ximenes R.F. and Calviani M. (2022), Loss-of-Coolant-Accident study for the Beam Dump Facility at CERN, NURETH-19 Conference



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Ta2.5W cladding – LOCA

- Potentially degradation of the material through oxidation with LOCA.
- \rightarrow Campaign to assess the onset for extensive oxidation and formation of volatile oxides
- Thermogravimetric analyses (TGA) performed for Ta2.5W, TZM and W in the range of 400-800 C under active and inert atmospheres.



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Nb-alloys cladding R&D

Presence of residual stresses (RS) during

the manufacturing of the target blocks via

Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIPing).

RS defines the onset for plastic

deformation and eventually material

Purpose: quantify the RS in the BDF

Contour method* employed to measure

* Prime, M. B., 2001, Cross-sectional Mapping of Residual Stresses by Measuring the

Surface Contour After a Cut, Journal of Engineering Materials and Technology

(a) (b) (d)(e)Measure surface Structure with Cut body into 2 parts Data Finite element Map of residual stress initial residual stress across plane of interest profiles calculation across cut surface processing

Residual stress

The contour method and its different steps to obtain the residual stresses. Adapted from [StressMap 2018]



Resulting left and right parts after EDM cutting (Top) Block 3 and (Bottom) Block 4



(Top) Block 3 and (Bottom) Block 4



123(2):162-168

•

lacksquare

•

failure

target blocks

FE model calibration.

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