The MYRRHA project
Accelerator Driven Transmutation

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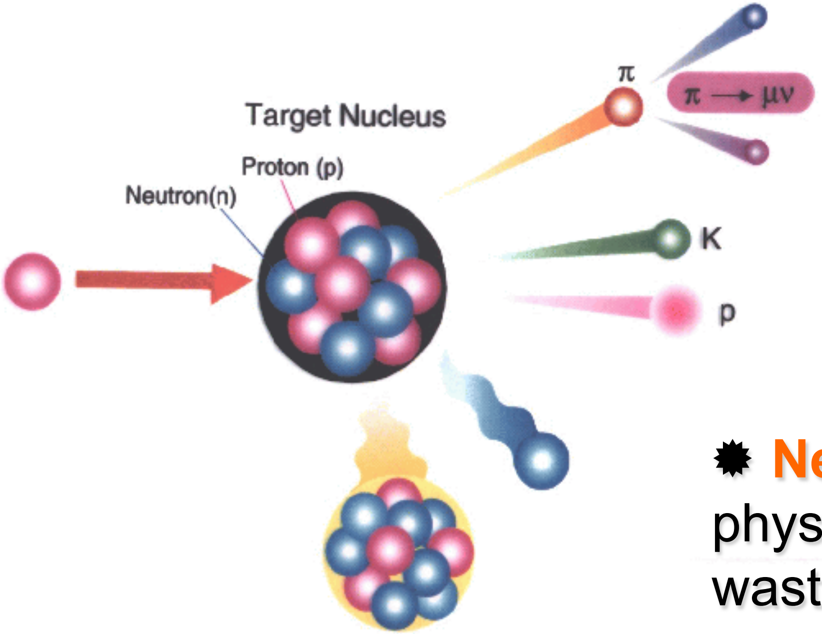
1.Introduction

2. The P&T strategy
3. The European ADS project: MYRRHA
4. ADS accelerator specificities
5. The MYRRHA accelerator R&D
6. Conclusion

High power proton accelerators

Production of **intense flux of secondary particles**
relevant for several domains of fundamental or applied science



- ✸ Muons, neutrinos...
for **Particle physics**

- ✸ **Neutrons** for condensed matter physics, material physics, irradiation, transmutation of long-lived nuclear wastes...

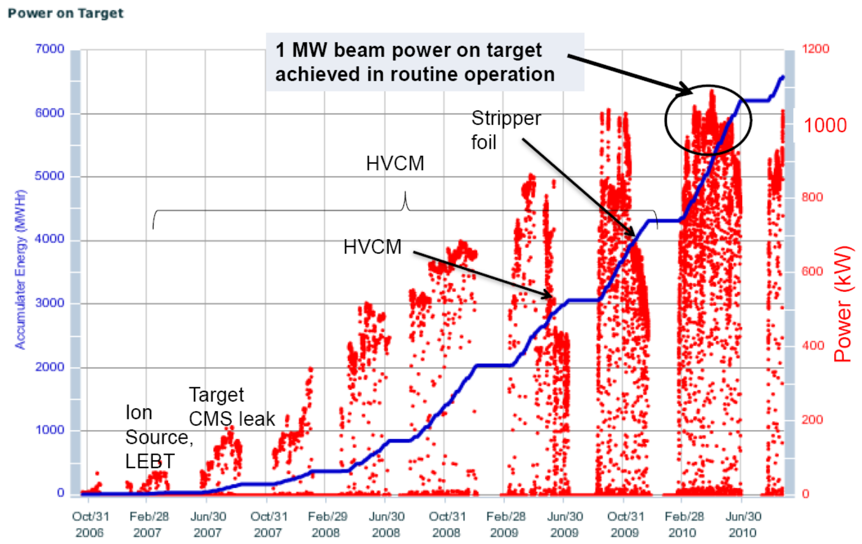
- ✸ Radioactive ions… for **Nuclear physics**

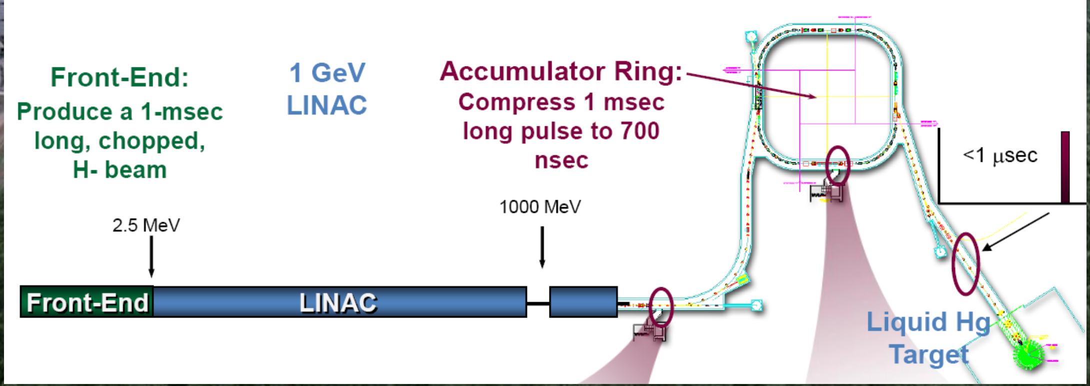
One example : SNS (Oak Ridge, USA)

SNS
SPALLATION NEUTRON SOURCE

Photo courtesy of Oak Ridge National Laboratory

History of Beam Power on Target





Front-End: Produce a 1-msec long, chopped, H- beam

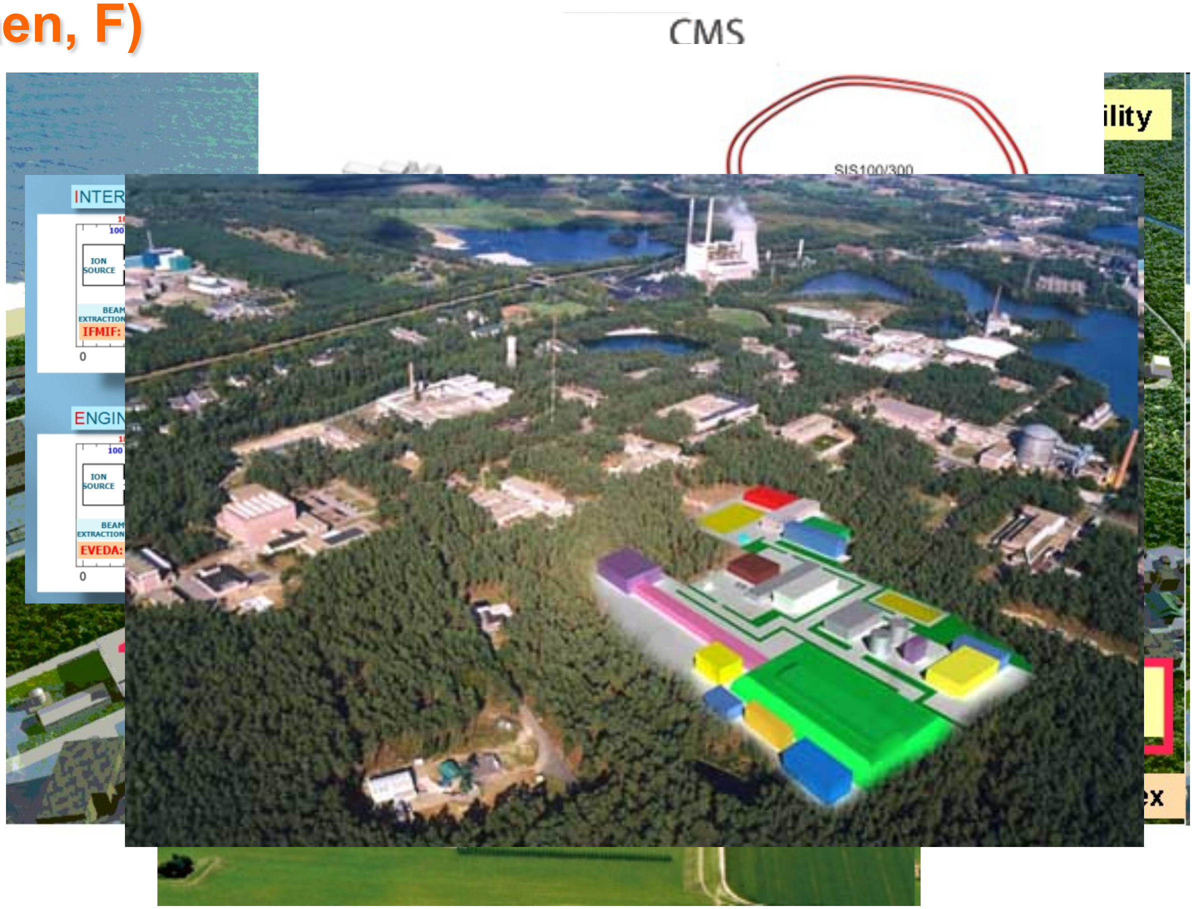
1 GeV LINAC

Accumulator Ring: Compress 1 msec long pulse to 700 nsec

SNS-03671-2005

Other machines & projects

- **SPIRAL-2 project @ GANIL (Caen, F)**
- **CERN – Linac 4 & SPL project**
- **J-PARC facility (Japon)**
- **IFMIF project**
- **FAIR project (Germany)**
- **PSI (Switz.)**
- **ESS project (Sweden)**
- **MYRRHA project (Belgium)**



Main associated challenges

These high power machines require an **excellent beam transmission** to be allowed to operate: beam loss level must be $< 10^{-6}$ per meter typically

✸ Physics of intense hadron beams

- Management of space charge effects
- Understanding of beam halo generation during transport

✸ R&D on new technologies

- Accelerating cavities (RFQ, superconducting cavities)
- Diagnostics for intense hadron beams
- New generation targets (MegaWatt)
- High power Radio-Frequency elements

✸ Increased demand for flexibility and reliability

- Higher & higher beam availability is required
- High diversity of primary beam in a single machine (nuclear physics application)
- Beam interruptions forbidden (ADS application)

1. Introduction
2. **The Partitioning & Transmutation strategy**
3. The European ADS project: MYRRHA
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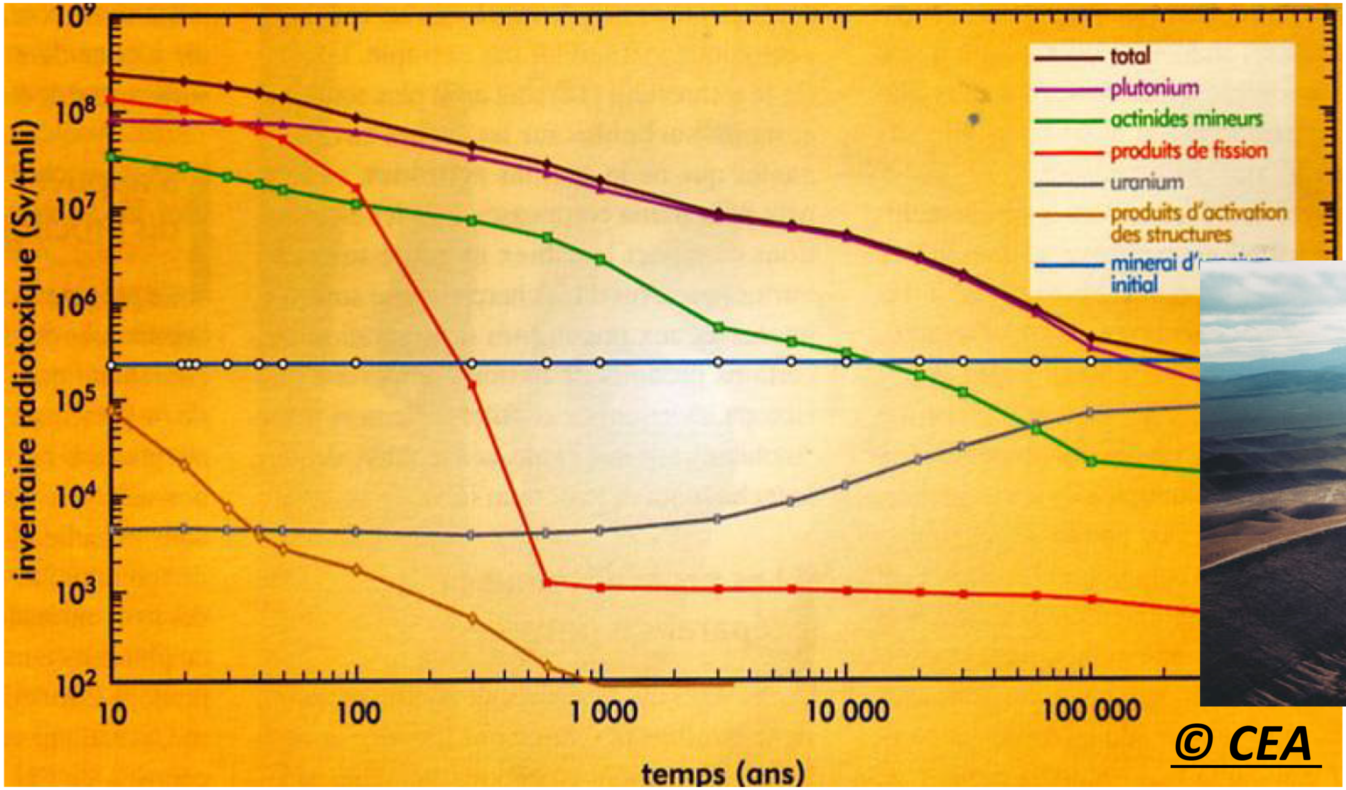
Nuclear wastes

- About 2500 tons of Spent Nuclear Fuel are produced every year by the 145 reactors of EU
- High Level Wastes represent 0.2% in volume & 95% in radiotoxicity and are long-term dominated by **Minor Actinides** (MA, especially ^{241}Am)



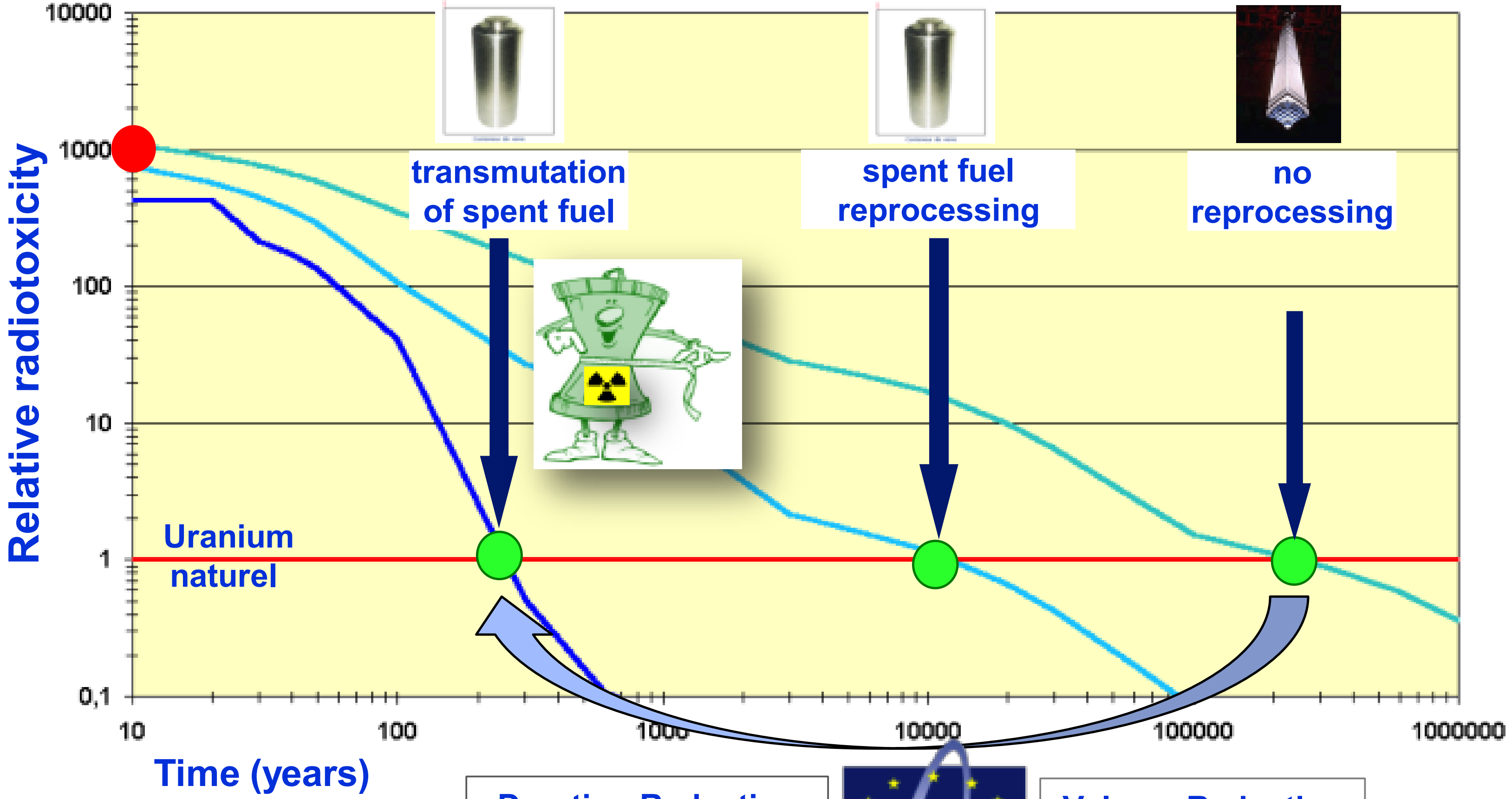
Radiotoxic inventory *in Sv/tIHM, of a spent fuel :* ***UOX @ 3.7% of*** ^{235}***U****, removed from the reactor at a* ***burnup of 45 GW·d/t****, and cooled for five years.*

- Reference solution for HLW management = long-term **geological disposals**

The Yucca Mountain Nuclear Waste Repository (USA)
project de-funded in 2011

Motivation for Partitioning & Transmutation

- **Partitioning & Transmutation (P&T) strategy:** reduce radiotoxicity, volume and heat loads of long-lived nuclear wastes (MA) before geological storage

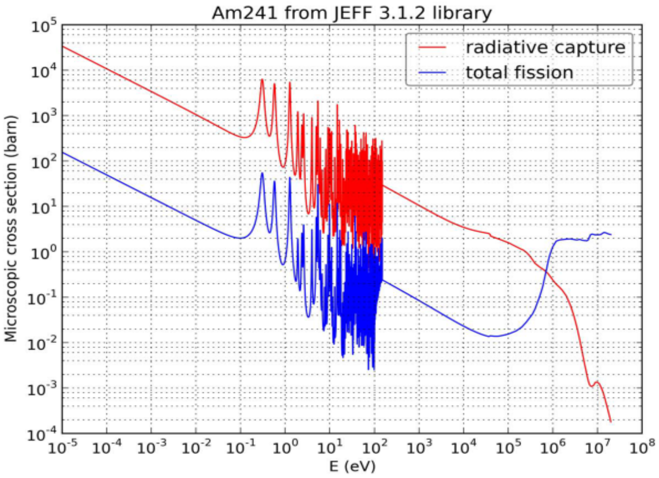


Duration Reduction 1.000x

Volume Reduction 100x

H. Aït Abderrahim (SCK•CEN)

Present options for MA transmutation



Transmutation of MA & Pu isotopes into fission products is efficient only if:

➢ Fission to capture cross section ratio is high enough

➢ Enough neutrons are available to feed the transmutation process

=> **Need for a fast neutron spectrum**

In which type of fast reactor could we transmute ?

➢ In the next generation **GEN-IV nuclear power plants** (critical Fast Reactors)

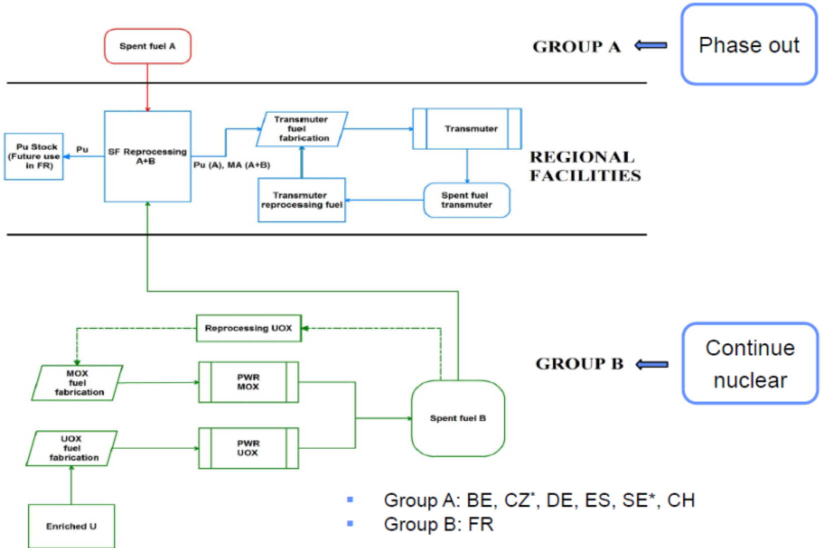
  ✓ homogeneous mode with low AM content in fuel (< 3%) for safety reasons

  ✓ heterogeneous mode (MA blankets)

➢ In a few **dedicated MA burners** (subcritical Accelerator Driven Systems), highly loaded with MA

=> sensitive compromise btwn **safety / economics / proliferation / politics...**

ADS (Accelerator Driven System)



- Group A: BE, CZ*, DE, ES, SE*, CH
- Group B: FR

G. Van den Eynde (SCK•CEN)

ADS sub-critical systems = present reference solution for <u>dedicated</u> "transmuter" facilities

- ➢ Suited for various strategies on nuclear energy
- ➢ One "small" 400 MW$_{th}$ industrial ADS could burn about 100kg of MA / year (→ 10 to 20 units for EU)

ADS reactor specificities

- ➢ Neutron multiplication factor k$_{eff}$<1 (typically between 0.93 & 0.97)
- ➢ Driven by external neutron source (proton beam + spallation target)

$$P_{fi} = \eta_{sp} \cdot \frac{\varphi^* \cdot k}{\nu(1-k)} \cdot \frac{i}{C} \cdot E_f$$

where, η_{sp} = spallation neutron yield (≈ *30* for Pb target)
k = neutron multiplication factor
φ^* = source importance (≈ *1.5*)
ν = neutrons emitted per fission (≈ *2.5*)
E_f = energy generated per fission (≈ $3.1x10^{-10}$ *W*)
i = accelerator current
C = charge of a proton (= $1.6x10^{-19}$ *C*)

- ➢ No control rods, no safety rods
- ➢ Some very fast neutrons (> 20 MeV) in the core

Background in France & Europe since 1990

- (FR) **Law « Bataille » n° 91-1381, 30 december 1991**

=> French roadmap for research on radioactive waste management

- (EU) ETWG report on ADS, 2001
- (EU-FP5) **PDS-XADS** project (2001-2004)
- (EU-FP6) **EUROTRANS** programme (2005-2010)
- (EU-FP7) On-going programmes (2011-2015)

- (FR) **Law n°2006-739, 28 june 2006**

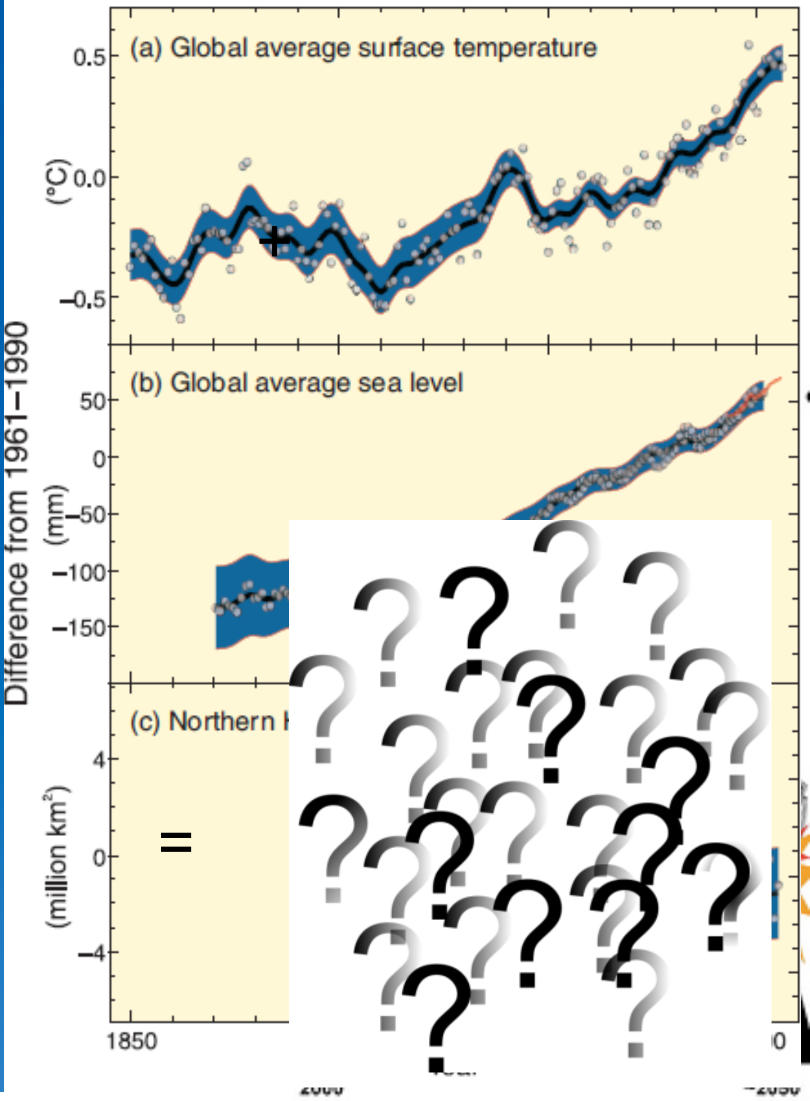
=> Following-up the law « Bataille », with focus on sustainability

Article 3 (...) 1. La séparation et la transmutation des éléments radioactifs à vie longue. **Les études et recherches correspondantes sont conduites en relation avec celles menées sur les nouvelles générations de réacteurs nucléaires** mentionnés à l'article 5 de la loi n° 2005-781 du 13 juillet 2005 de programme fixant les orientations de la politique énergétique ainsi que sur les réacteurs pilotés par accélérateur dédiés à la transmutation des déchets, **afin de disposer, en 2012, d'une évaluation** des perspectives industrielles de ces filières et de mettre en exploitation un **prototype d'installation avant le 31 décembre 2020** ; (...)

A complex issue in even more complex hazards…

Energy demand growth

Changes in temperature, sea level and Northern Hemisphere snow



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The MYRRHA project

MYRRHA Project

Multi-purpose hYbrid Research Reactor for High-tech Applications
At Mol (Belgium)

Development, construction & commissioning of
a new large fast neutron research infrastructure
to be operational in 2023

➊ ADS demonstrator

➋ Fast neutron irradiation facility

➌ Pilot plant for LFR technology

SCK•CEN
STUDIECENTRUM VOOR KERNENERGIE
CENTRE D'ETUDE DE L'ENERGIE NUCLEAIRE

MYRRHA as an ADS demonstrator

Demonstrate the physics and technology of an Accelerator Driven System (ADS) for transmuting long-lived radioactive waste

- Demonstrate the **ADS concept**
(coupling accelerator + spallation source + power reactor)

- Demonstrate the **transmutation**
(experimental assemblies)

Main features of the ADS demo

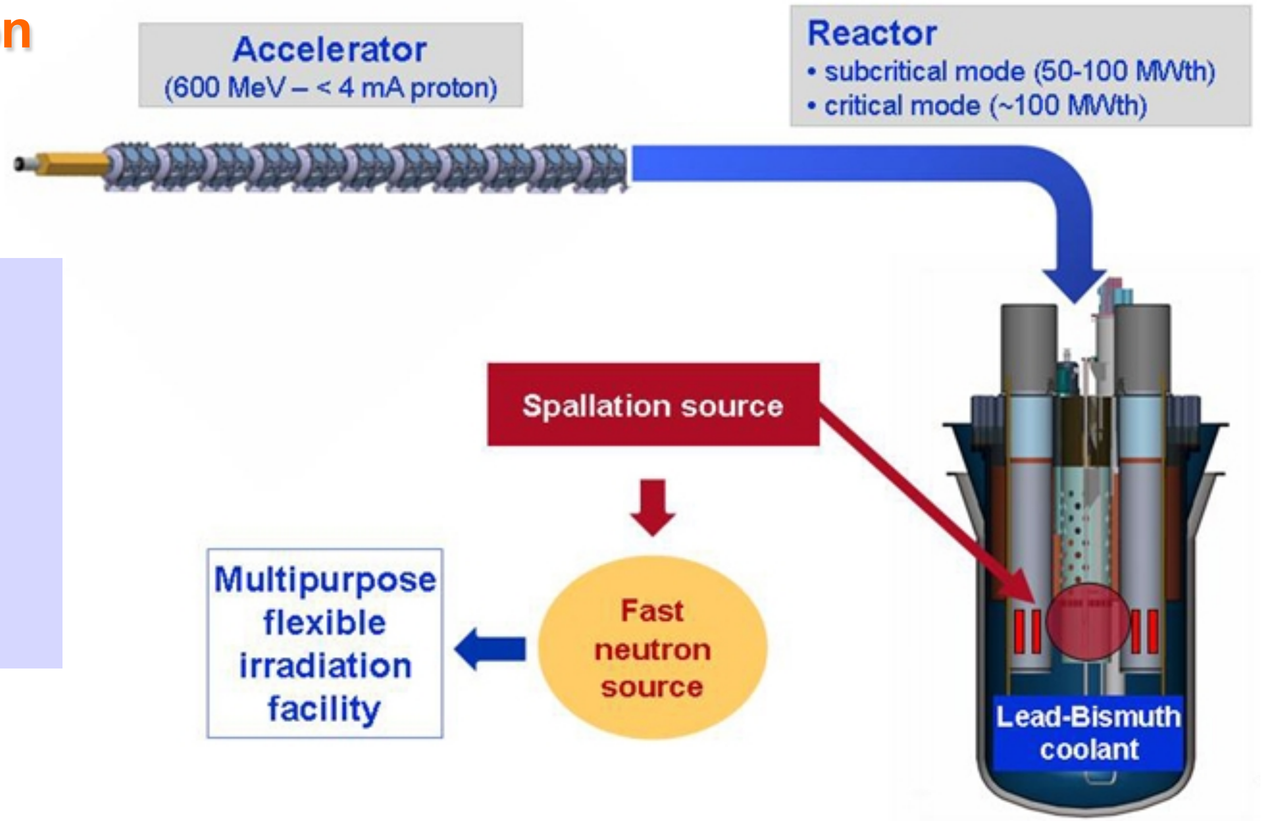
50-100 MWth power

Highly-enriched MOX fuel

Lead-Bi Eutectic coolant & target

k_{eff} around 0.95 in subcritical mode

600 MeV, 2.5 - 4 mA proton beam



Accelerator
(600 MeV – < 4 mA proton)

Reactor
- subcritical mode (50-100 MWth)
- critical mode (~100 MWth)

Spallation source

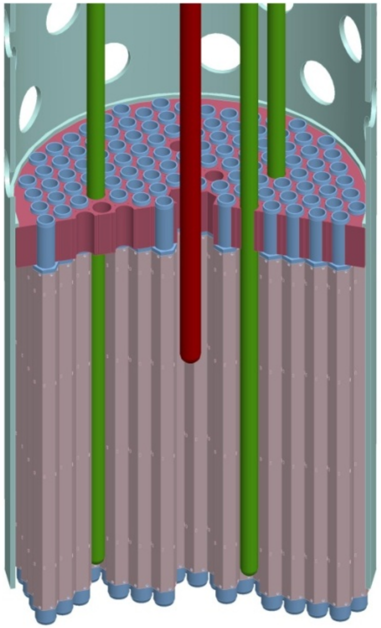
Fast neutron source

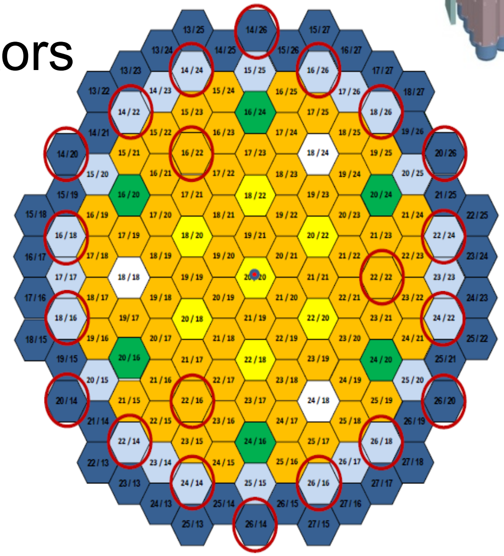
Multipurpose flexible irradiation facility

Lead-Bismuth coolant

MYRRHA reactor present layout

- Vessel
- Cover
- “Core barrel”
- Core support plate
- Core plug
- Above core structure
- Heat exchangers
- Pumps
- Diaphragm
- Core
- Fuel manipulators





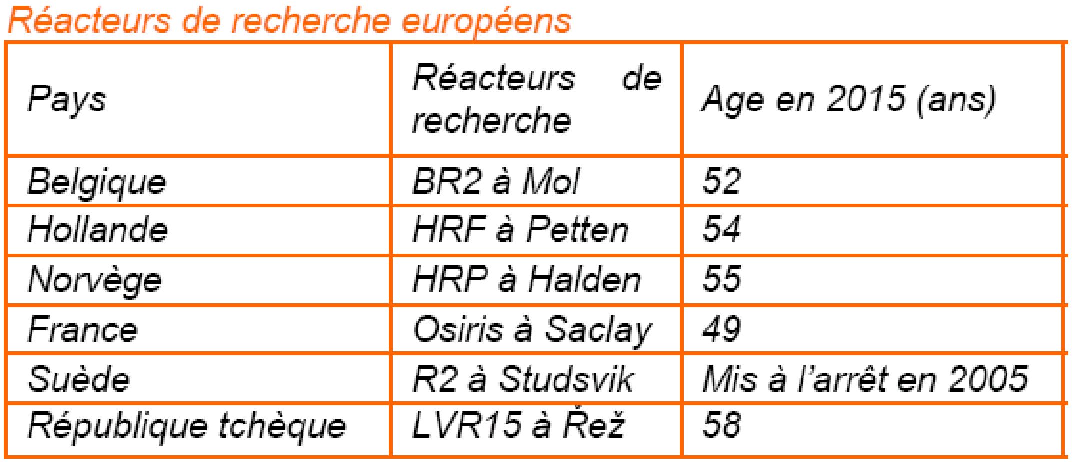
- 🟧 69 FAs
- 🟨 7 (central) IPS
- 🟩 6 CR (buoyancy)
- ⬡ 3 SR (gravity)
- ⬢ 24 “inner” Dummy (LBE)
- ⬢ 42 “outer” Dummy (YZrO)

151 S/As

○ Additional positions available for inserts from the top (21/37)

MYRRHA as a fast spectrum irradiation facility

- All **European irradiation research reactors** are about to close within 20 years
- The **RJH** (Réacteur Jules Horowitz) project, is presently the only planned MTR (Material Tests Reactor), and provides mainly a thermal spectrum
- MYRRHA is the **natural fast spectrum complementary facility**



Réacteurs de recherche européens

Pays	*Réacteurs de recherche*	*Age en 2015 (ans)*
Belgique	*BR2 à Mol*	*52*
Hollande	*HRF à Petten*	*54*
Norvège	*HRP à Halden*	*55*
France	*Osiris à Saclay*	*49*
Suède	*R2 à Studsvik*	*Mis à l'arrêt en 2005*
République tchèque	*LVR15 à Řež*	*58*

Main applications of the MYRRHA irradiation facility

Test & qualification of innovative fuels and materials for the future Gen. IV fast reactor concepts (and for fusion energy)

Production of radio-isotopes for nuclear medicine (^{99}Mo especially)

Production of neutron irradiated silicon to enable technologies for renewable energies (windmills, solar panels, electric cars)

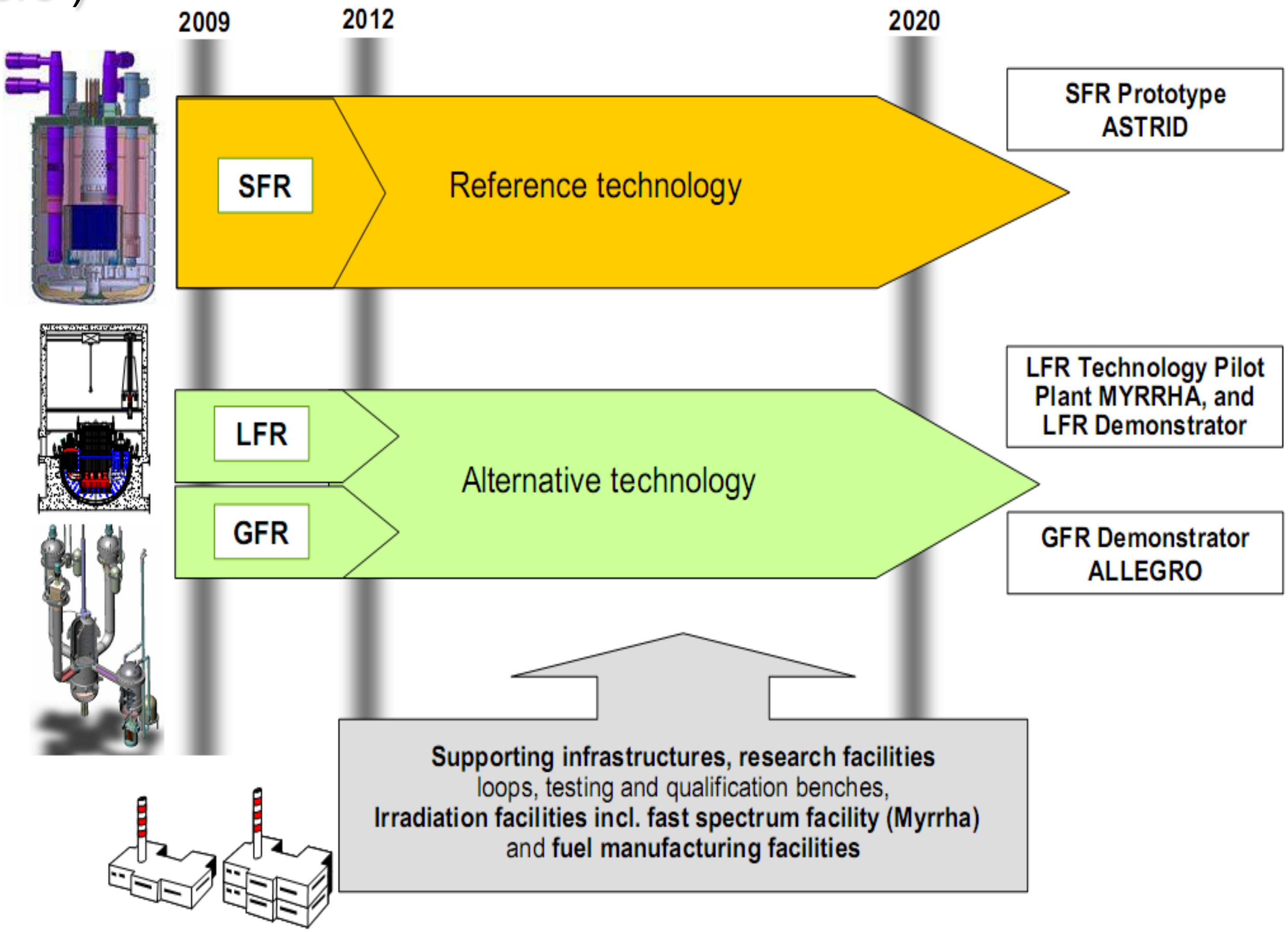
Fundamental science in general (also using the proton linac by itself)

MYRRHA as a Gen.IV demonstration reactor

Serve as a technology Pilot Plant for **liquid-metal based reactor concepts** (LFR "Lead Fast Reactors")

European commission scope for the development of Gen.IV advanced reactor systems demos

(ESNII roadmap)



2009

2012

2020

SFR

Reference technology

SFR Prototype ASTRID

LFR

GFR

Alternative technology

LFR Technology Pilot Plant MYRRHA, and LFR Demonstrator

GFR Demonstrator ALLEGRO

Supporting infrastructures, research facilities
loops, testing and qualification benches,
Irradiation facilities incl. fast spectrum facility (Myrrha)
and **fuel manufacturing facilities**

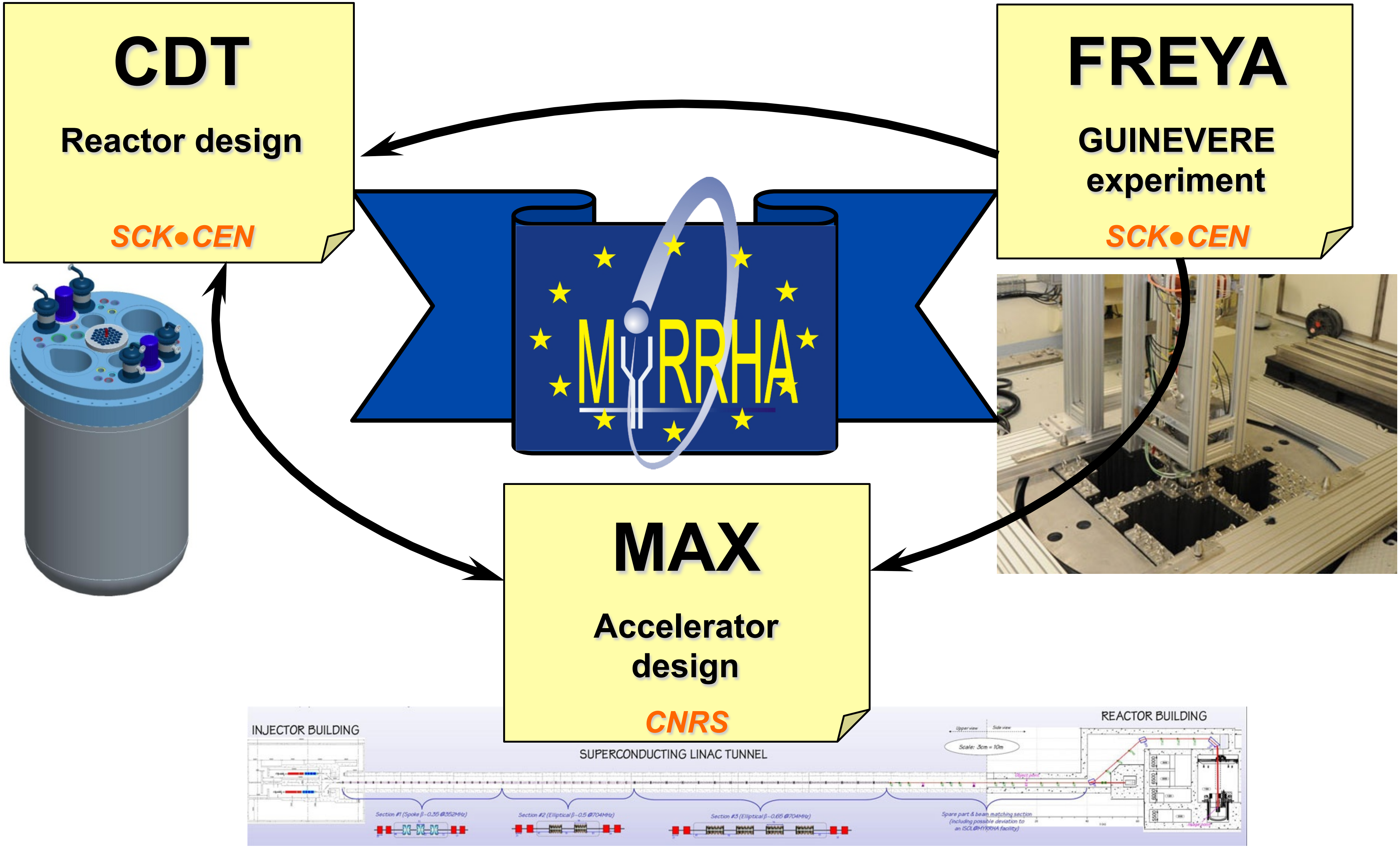
SNETP

Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform

MYRRHA official key dates

- **1998**: first studies
- **2002**: pre-design “**Myrrha Draft 1**” *(cyclotron 350 MeV)*
- **2002-2004:** studied as one of the 3 reactor designs within the **PDS-XADS FP5 project** *(cyclotron turns into linac, fault-tolerance concept is introduced)*
- **2005:** updated design “**Myrrha Draft 2**” *(350 MeV linac)*
- **2005-2010:** studied as the XT-ADS demo within the **IP-EUROTRANS FP6 project** *(600 MeV linac conceptual design, R&D activities w/ focus on reliability)*
- **2010:** MYRRHA is on **the ESFRI list**, and is **officially supported by the Belgium government** at a 40% level (384M€, w/ 60M€ already engaged)
- **2010-2015:** engineering design, licensing process, set-up of the international consortium, w/ support from the **CDT, FREYA & MAX FP7 projects**
- **2016-2019:** construction phase
- **2020-2023:** commissioning and progressive start-up
- **2024**: full exploitation

MYRRHA within EURATOM FP7: 2010-2014



CDT

Reactor design

SCK•CEN

FREYA

GUINEVERE experiment

SCK•CEN

MAX

Accelerator design

CNRS

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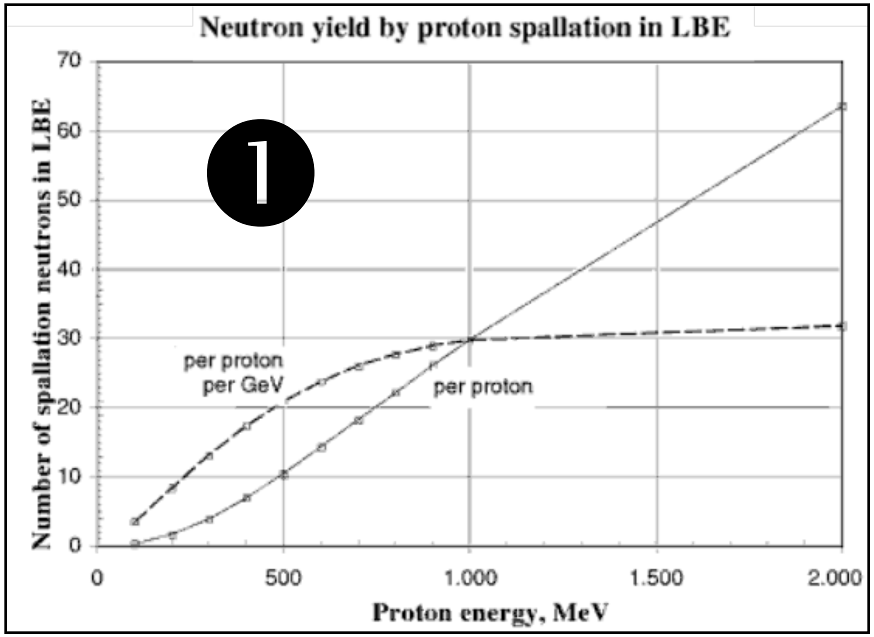
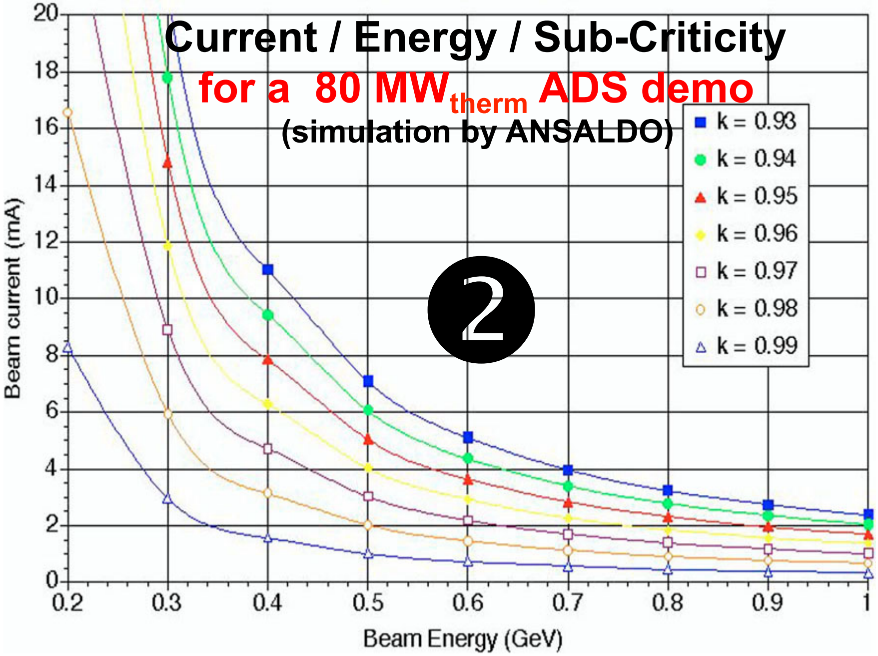
Proton beam requirements



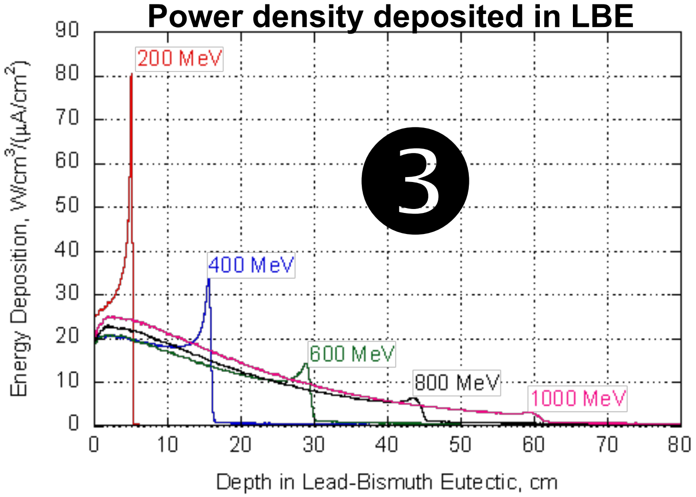
Neutron yield by proton spallation in LBE



Current / Energy / Sub-Criticity

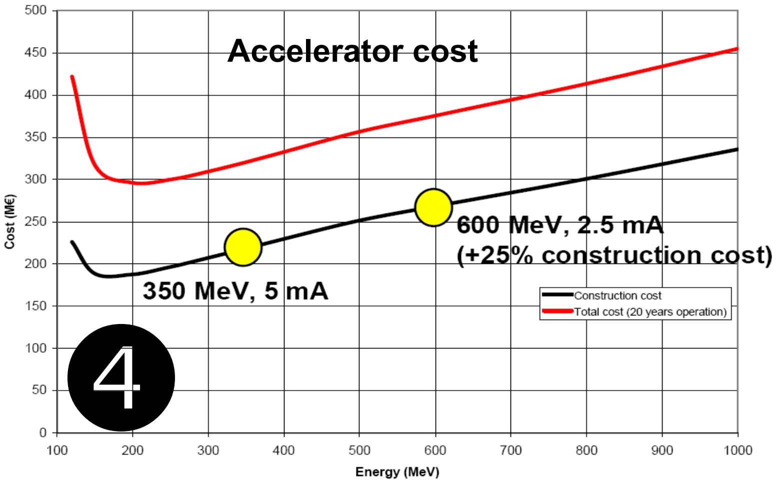
for a 80 MW_{therm} ADS demo

(simulation by ANSALDO)



Power density deposited in LBE

Linac cost at constant flux 1.6E17n/s (MYRRHA case)



Accelerator cost

ADS proton beam requirements

Proton beam general initial specifications within EUROTRANS

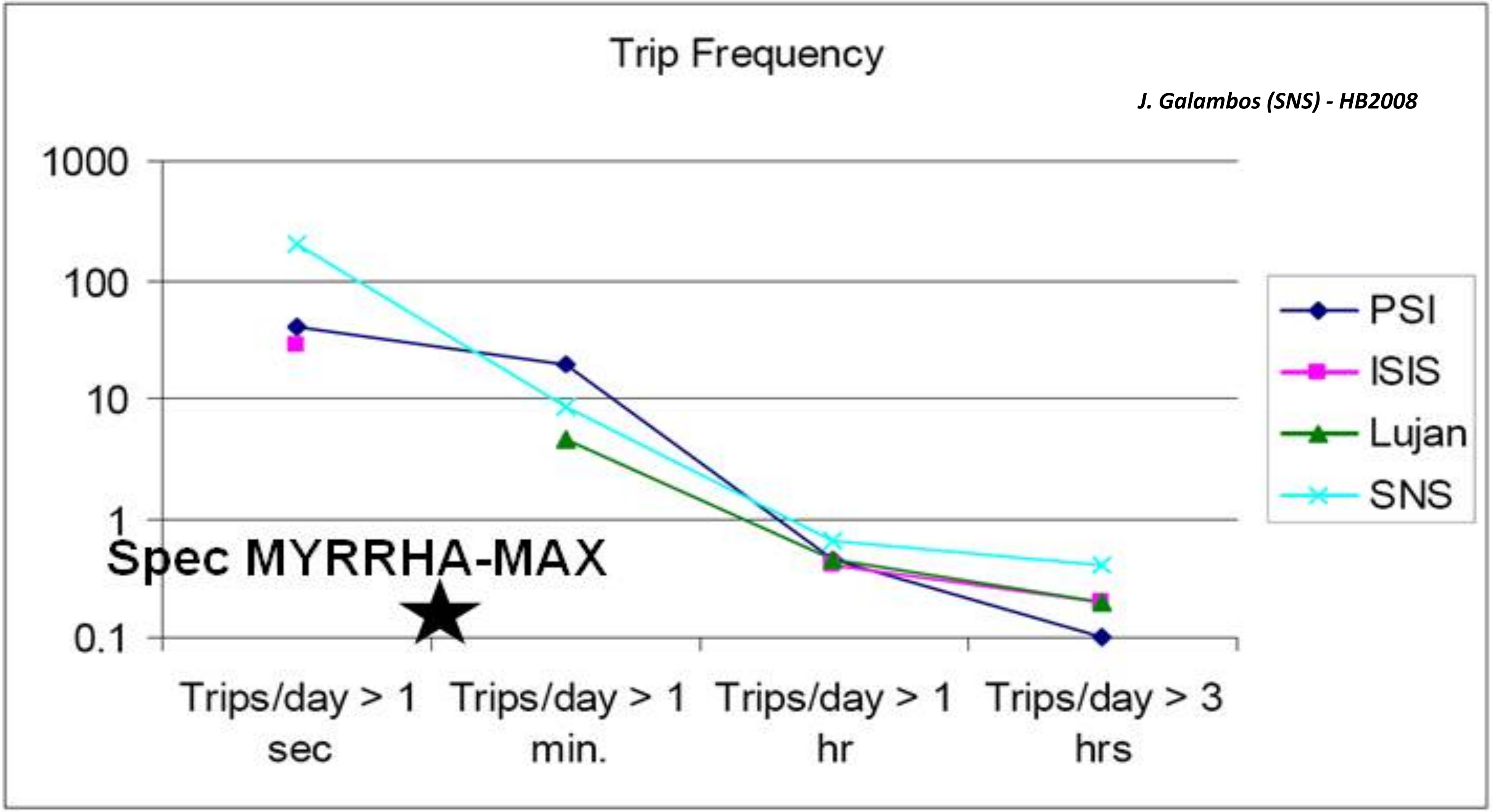
	Transmuter demonstrator (XT-ADS / MYRRHA project)	**Industrial transmuter (EFIT)**
Proton beam current	2.5 mA (& up to 4 mA for burn-up compensation)	~ 20 mA
Proton energy	600 MeV	800 MeV
Allowed beam trips nb (>3 s)	~ < 10 per 3-month operation cycle	~ < 3 per year
Beam entry into the reactor	Vertically from above	
Beam stability on target	Energy: ±1% - Current: ±2% - Position & size: ±10%	
Beam time structure	CW (w/ low frequency 200µs beam "holes" for sub-criticality monitoring)	

Extreme reliability level

Multi MW class CW beams

The reliability requirement

- **Beam trips longer than 3 sec** must be very rare:



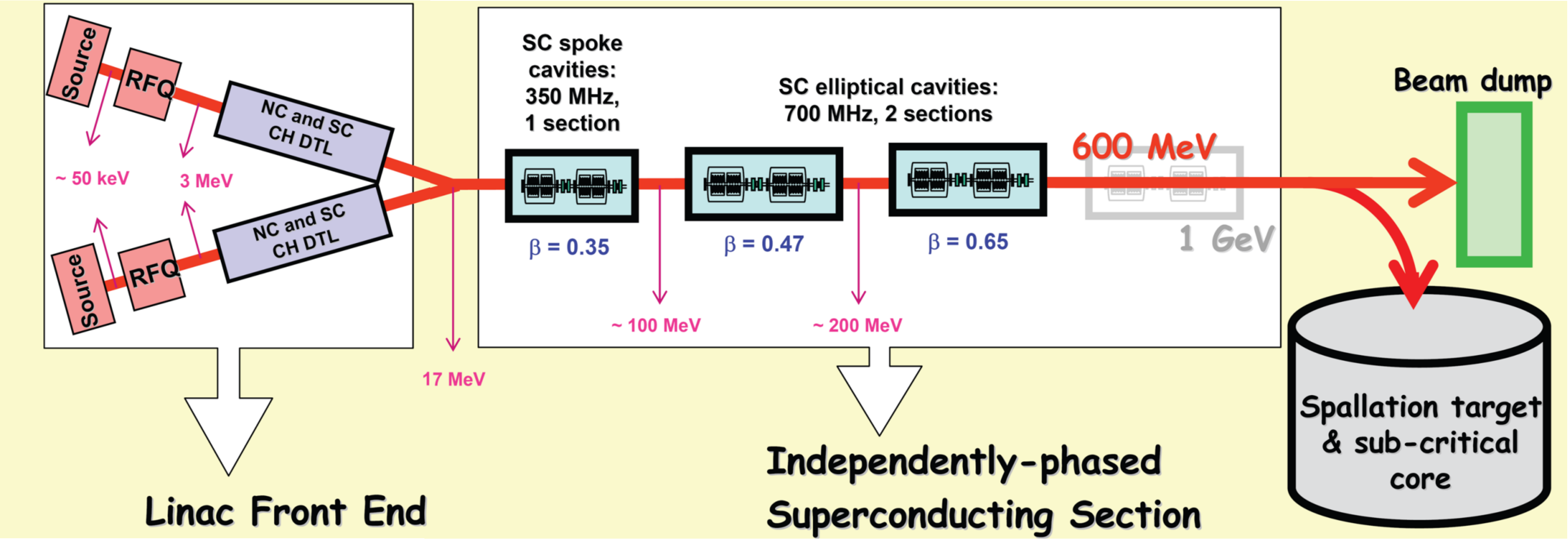
Trip Frequency

J. Galambos (SNS) - HB2008

Spec MYRRHA-MAX

Generic scheme of the European ADS accelerator

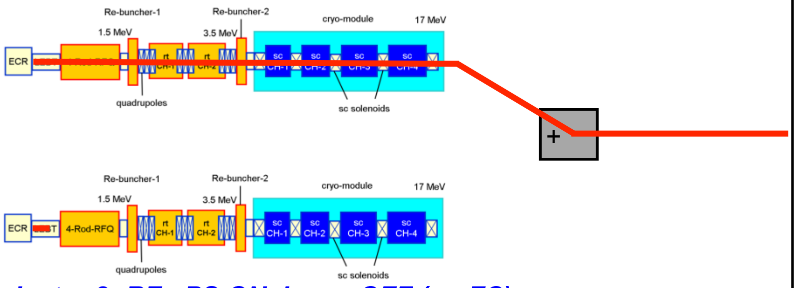
- **Redundant injector**
  - Fault-tolerance is non applicable ($\beta<0.15$)
  - Minimized number of elements
  - Spare stand-by injector with fast switching capabilities
- **Modular SC main linac**
  - Upgradeable concept (demo, transmuter)
  - Independently-controlled elements
  - The function of a missing element can be replaced by retuning adjacent elements ("FAULT-TOLERANCE")



Strategy for a fault case in the injector

❶ Initial configuration

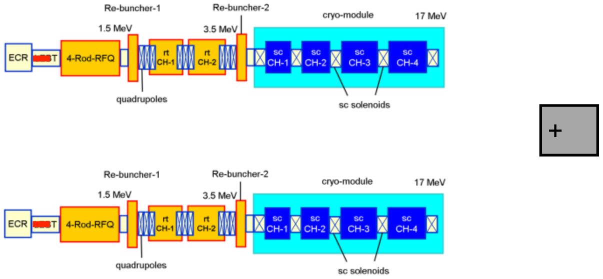
Operational injector 1: RF + PS + beam ON



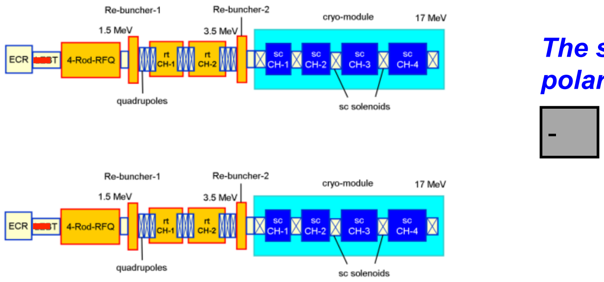
Warm stand-by injector 2: RF+ PS ON, beam OFF (on FC)

❷ A failure is detected anywhere

Beam is stopped in injector 1 by the Machine Protection System @t_0



❸ The failure is localized in injector

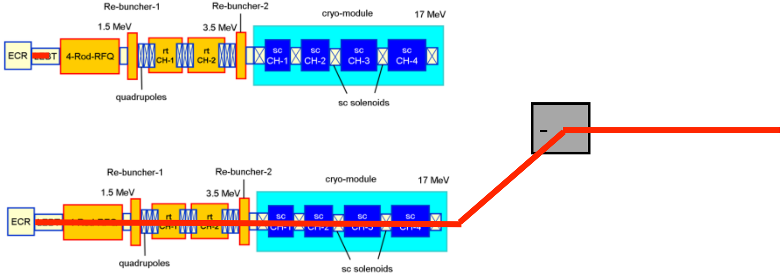


The switching magnet polarity is changed (~1s)

Need for an efficient fault diagnostic system !

❹ Beam is resumed

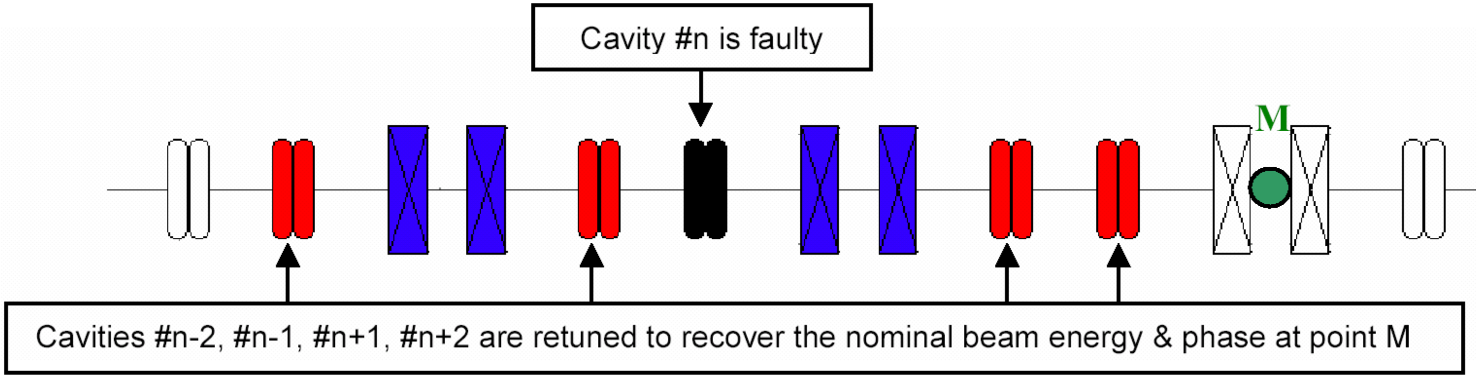
Failed injector 1, to be repaired on-line if possible



Injector 2 operational (@$t_1 < t_0$ +3sec)

Strategy for a fault case in the main linac

- Based on the **local compensation** concept
  - If a SRF cavity system fails & nothing is done → beam is lost ($\beta<1$)
  - If adjacent cavities operation points are properly retuned → nominal beam is recovered


Cavity #n is faulty

Cavities #n-2, #n-1, #n+1, #n+2 are retuned to recover the nominal beam energy & phase at point M

- Such a scheme has been demonstrated at the SNS, and requires in MYRRHA:
  - **Independently-powered** RF cavities
  - **Operation margins** on accelerating fields and RF power amplifiers (typically +30%)
  - Tolerant beam dynamics design, with especially large **acceptance**
  - **Fast fault-recovery procedures** to perform the retuning within 3 seconds

Fast fault-recovery procedure

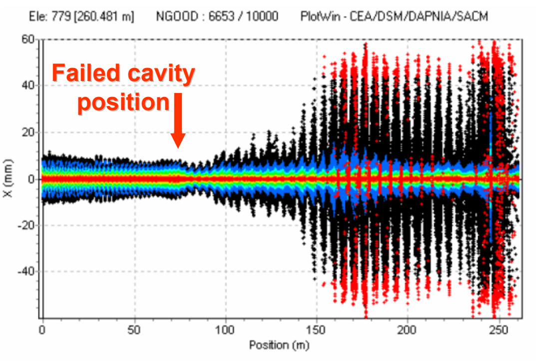


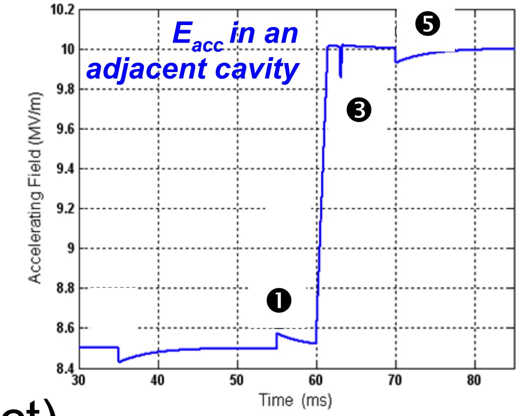
Figure 12 : Transverse beam distribution at 220 µs, in red are plotted the losses

❶ A failure is detected anywhere

→ Beam is stopped by the MPS in injector at t_0

❷ The fault is localized in a SC cavity RF loop

→ Need for an efficient fault diagnostic system

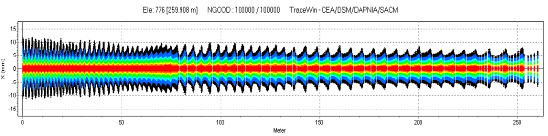


❸ New field & phase set-points are updated in cavities adjacent to the failed one

→ Set-points previously determined at the commissioning
& possibly stored in the LLRF systems FPGAs

❹ The failed cavity is detuned (to avoid the beam loading effect)

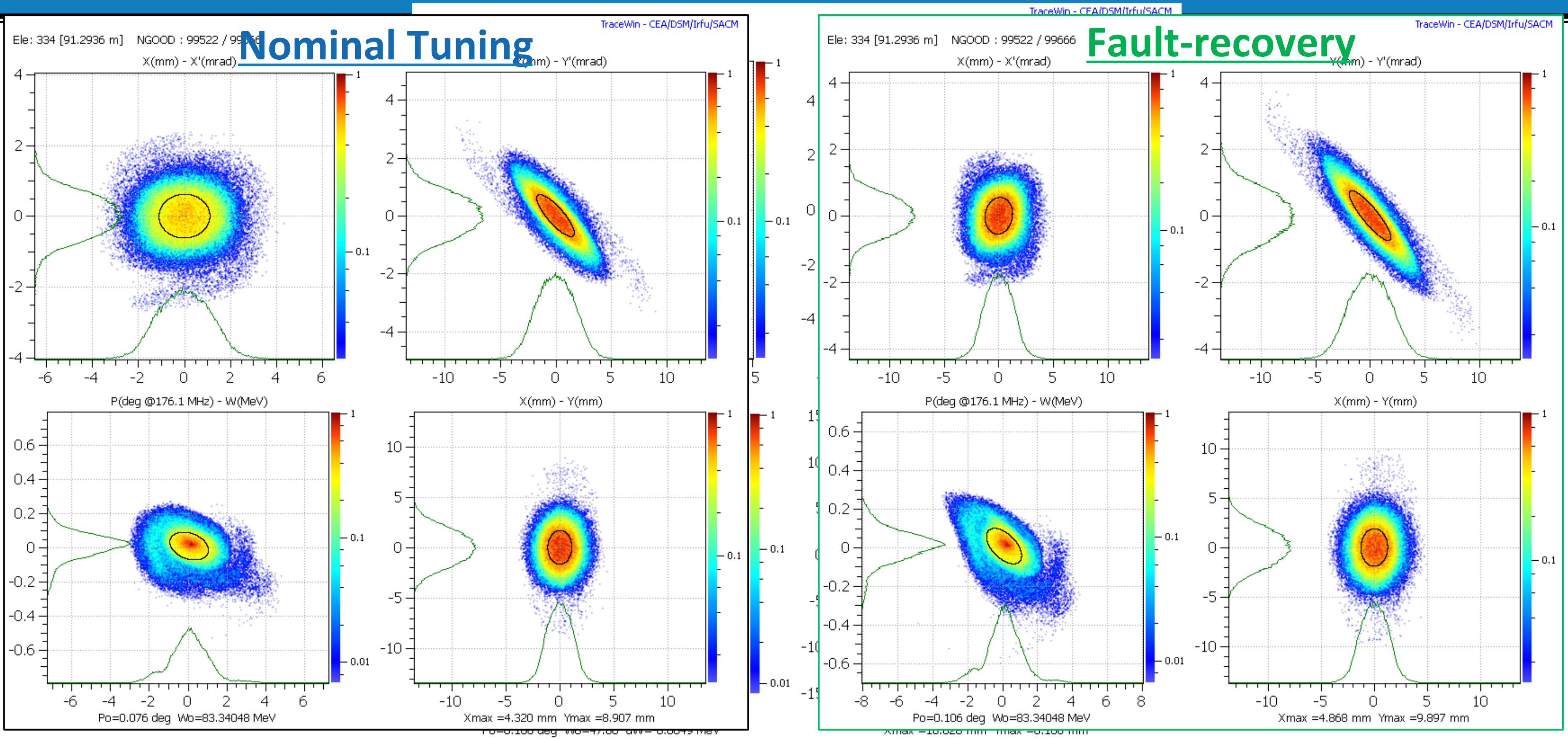
→ Using the Cold Tuning System



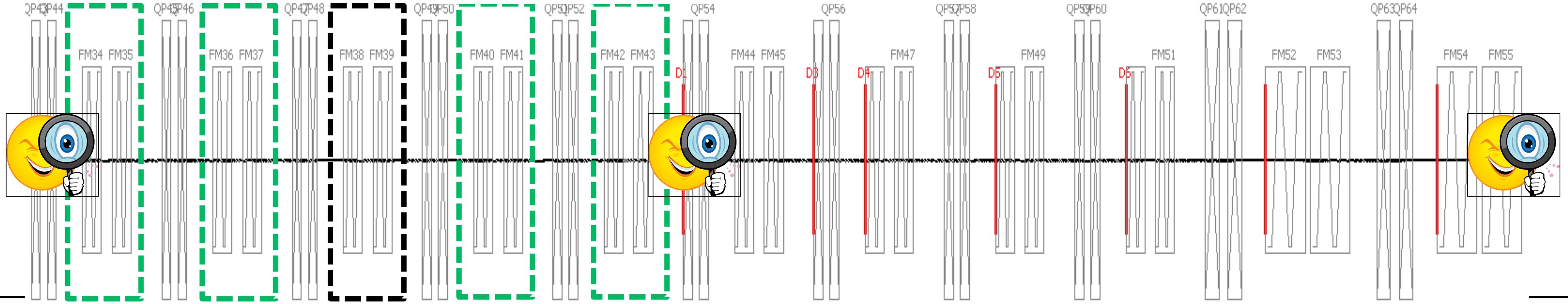
❺ Once steady state is reached,
beam is resumed at $t_1 < t_0 + 3\text{sec}$

→ Failed RF cavity system to be repaired on-line if possible

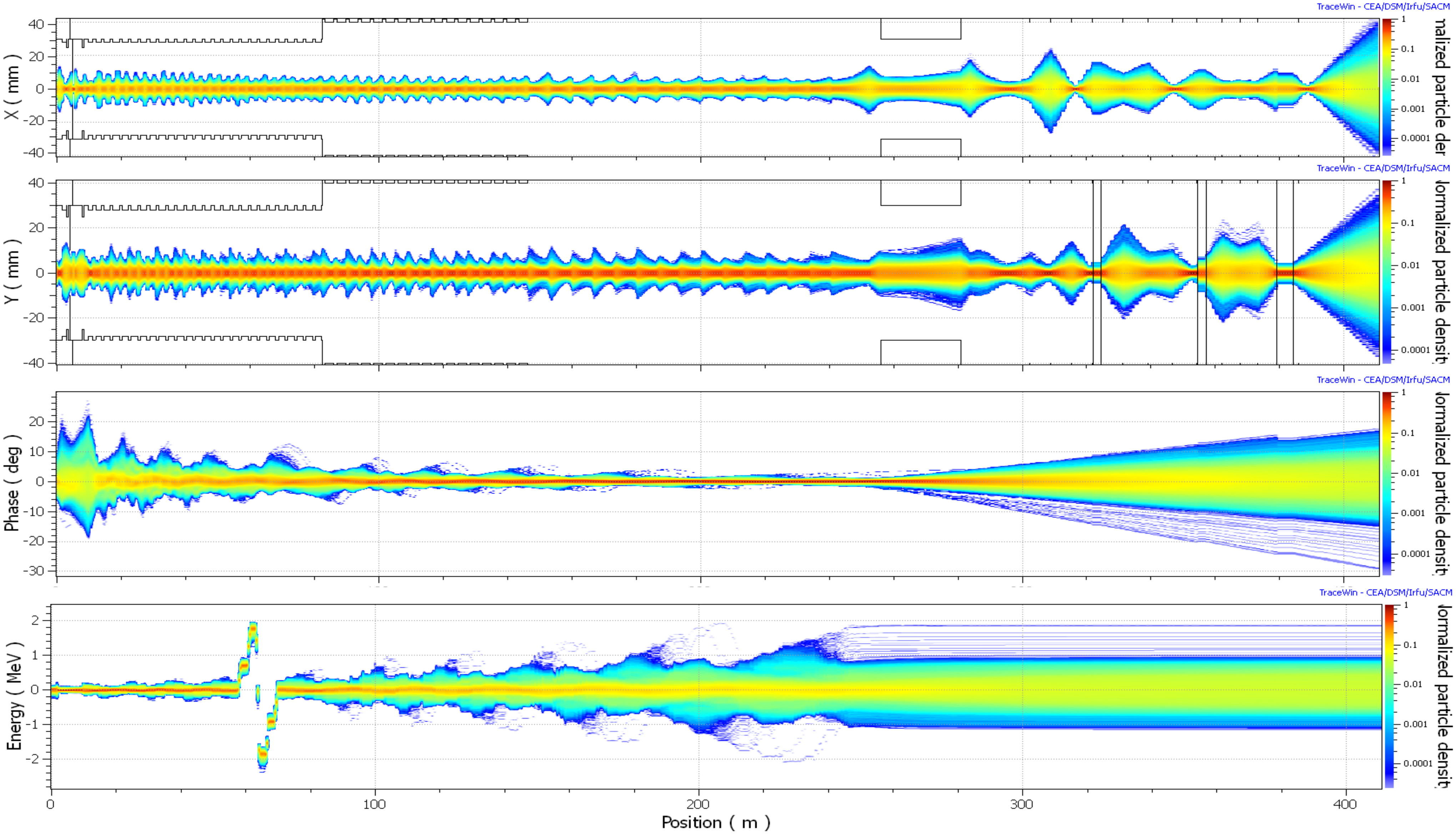
Fault-recovery Example : loss of 1 spoke module


Nominal Tuning

Fault-recovery



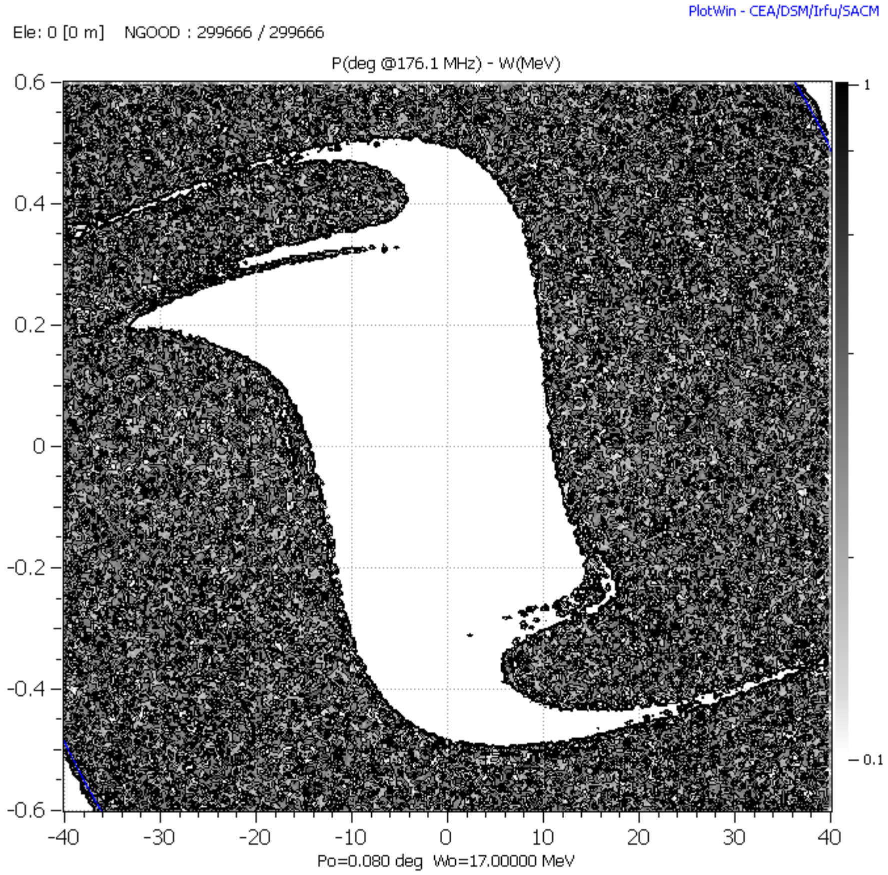
Fault-recovery Example : loss of a spoke module



Fault-recovery Example : loss of 1 spoke module

Longitudinal acceptance of the linac (SC linac + MEBT + HEBT)

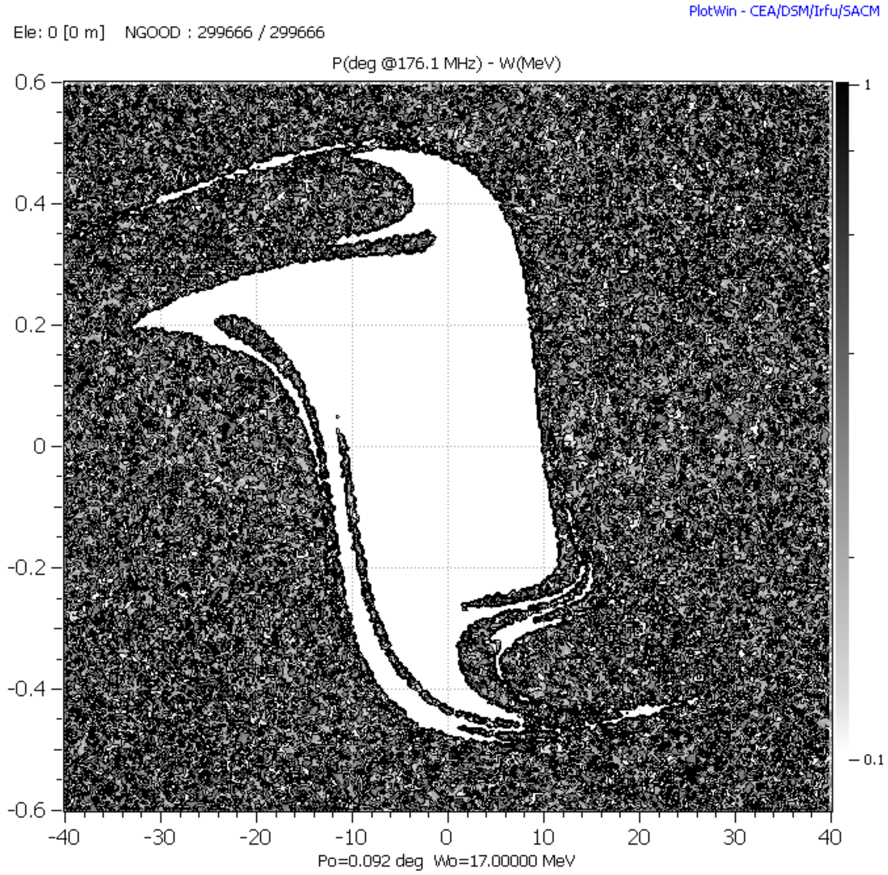
Nominal



$\varepsilon_{acc}/\ \varepsilon_{RMS} \approx 5.25/0.075 =$

70

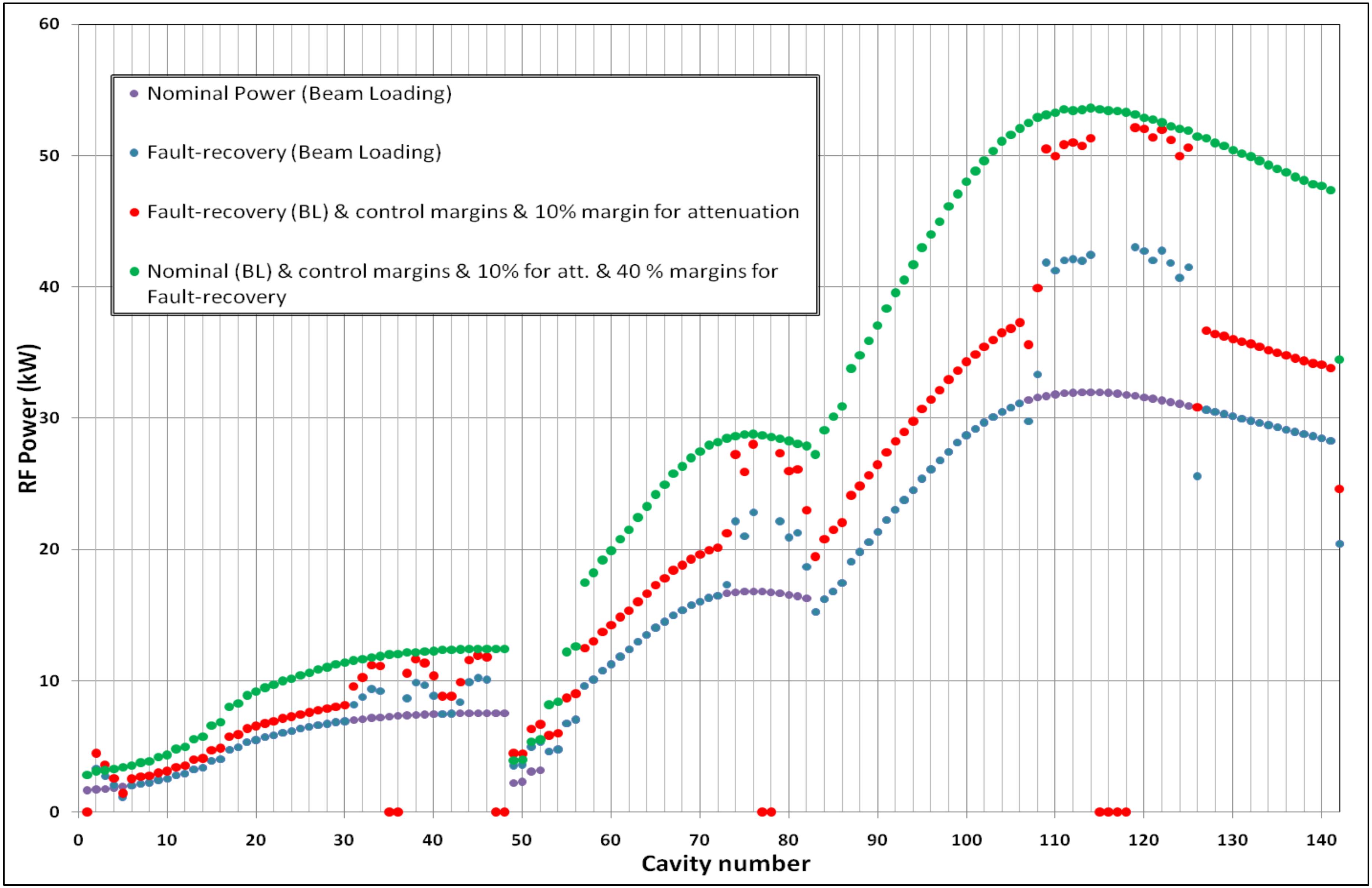
Fault-recovery



$\varepsilon_{acc}/\ \varepsilon_{RMS} \approx 4.5/0.075 =$

60

Fault-recovery & impact on RF power requirements



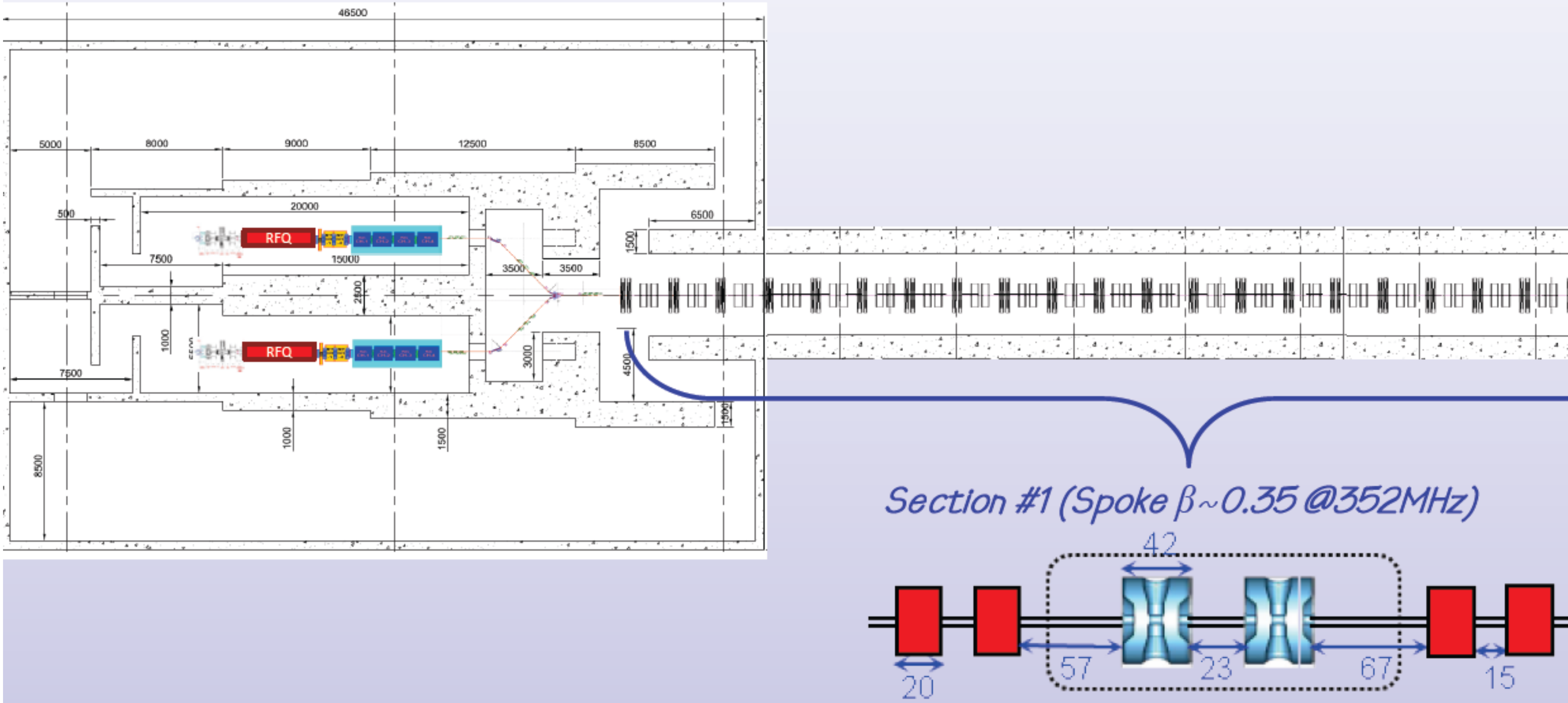
1. Introduction
2. The P&T strategy
3. The European ADS project: MYRRHA
4. ADS accelerator specificities

5. The MYRRHA accelerator R&D

6. Conclusion

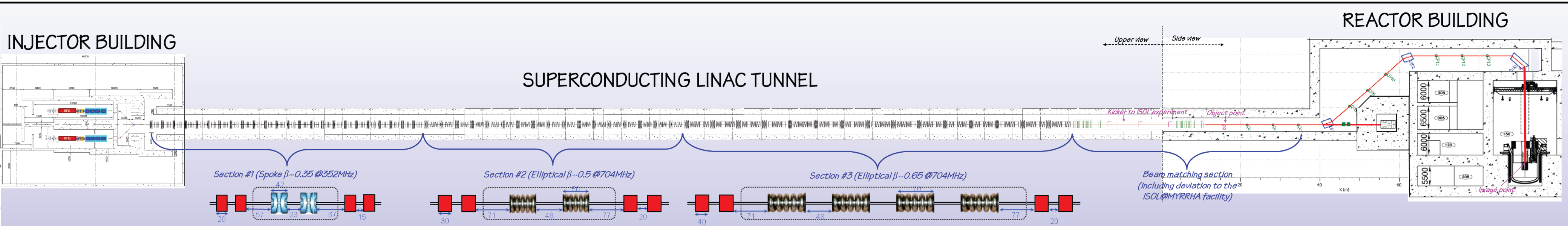
Layout of the MYRRHA linac

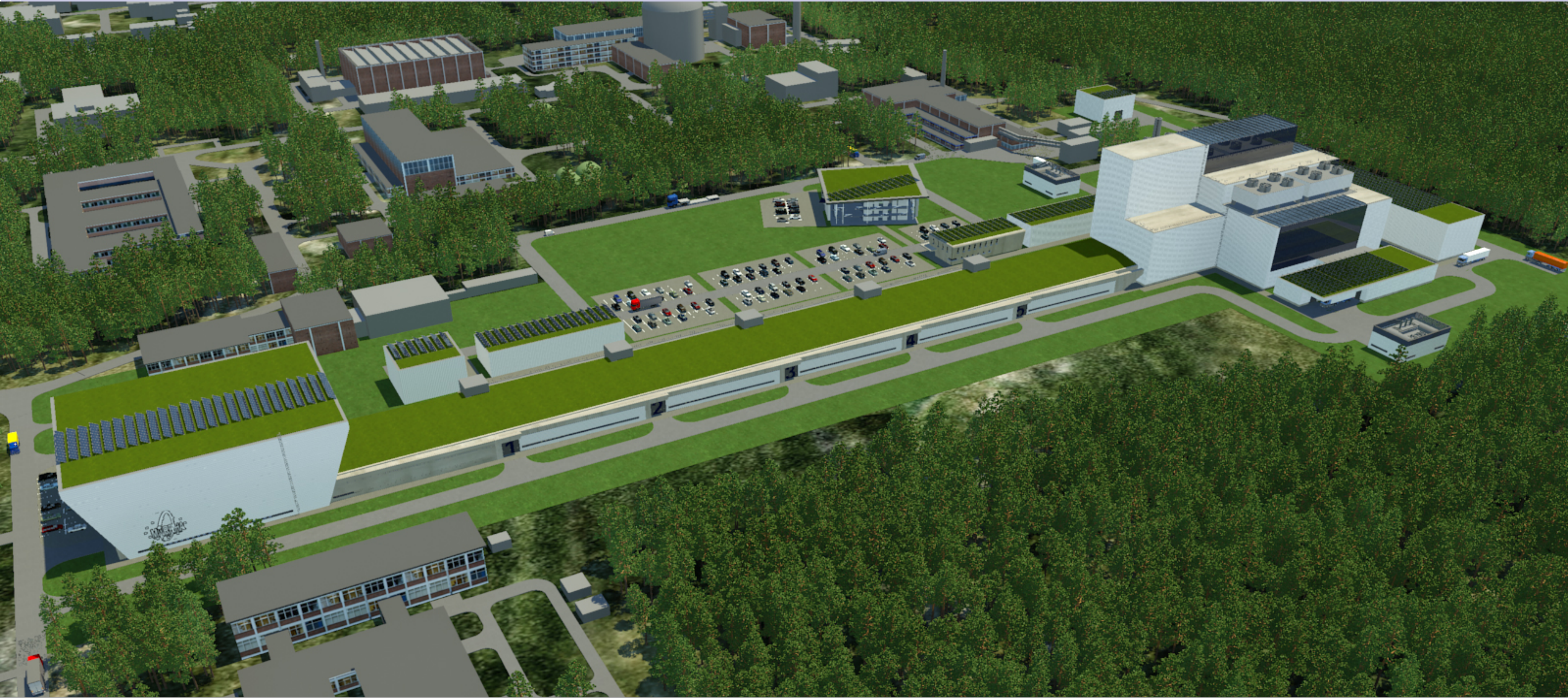
INJECTOR BUILDING



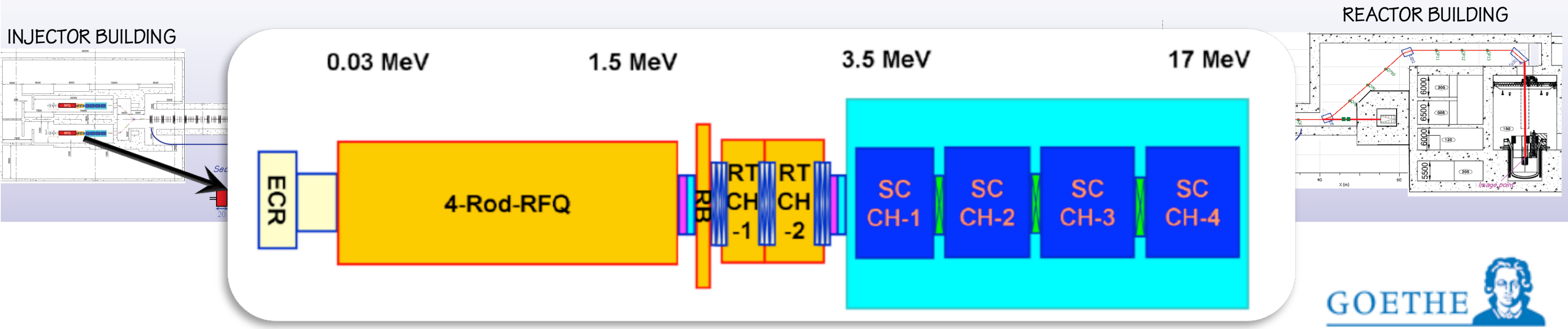
Section #1 (Spoke β~0.35 @352MHz)

Layout of the MYRRHA linac

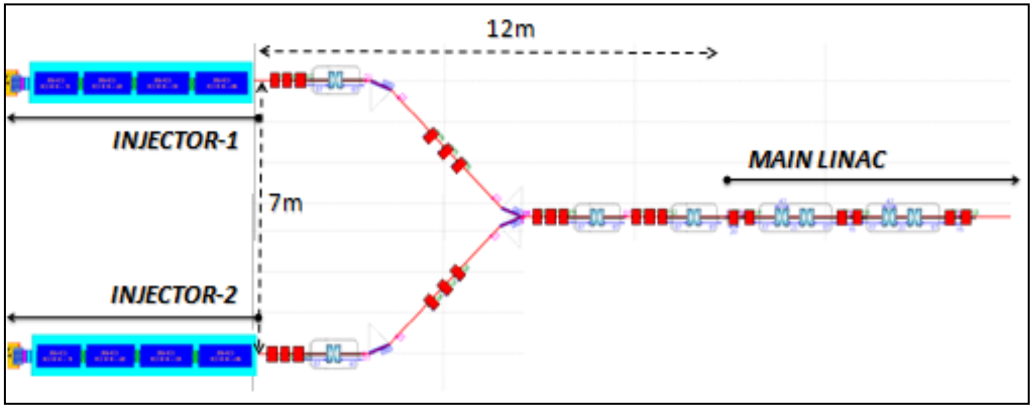




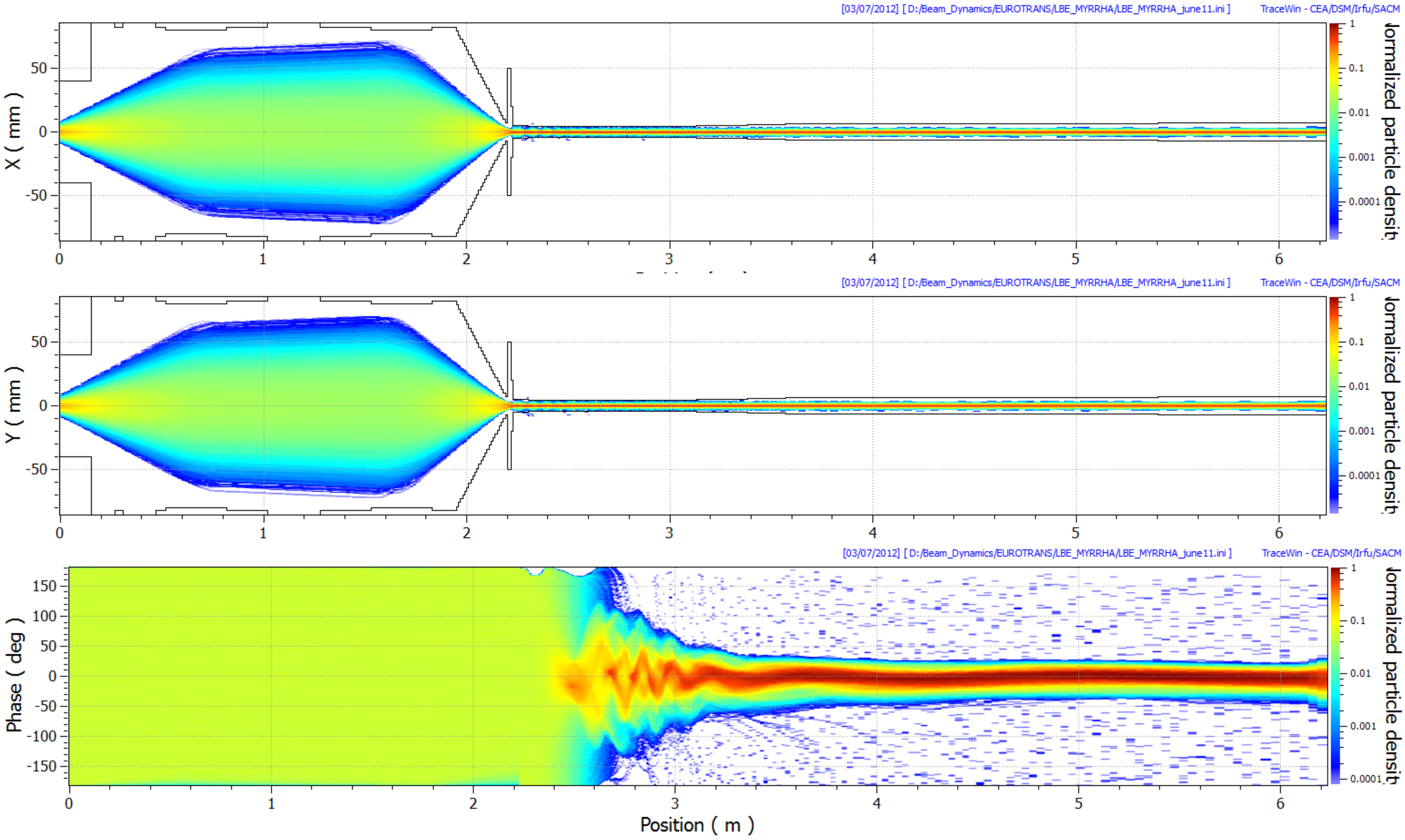
The 17 MeV MYRRHA injector



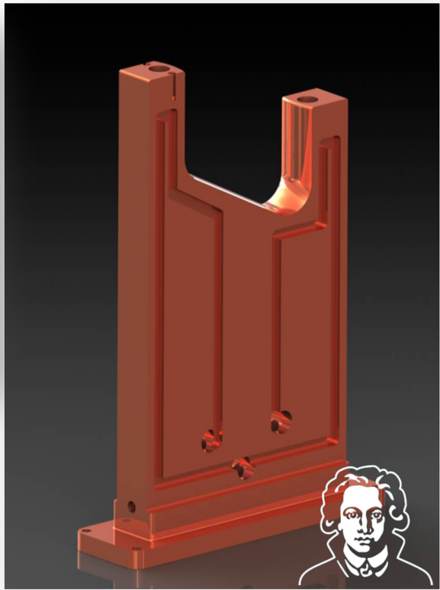
- ECR proton source (5 mA, 30 kV) + magnetic LEBT (L=2m)
- **4-rod RFQ 176 MHz** 1.5 MeV (Kilp = 1.0, V = 40kV, P < 25kW/m, L=4m)
- 176 MHz booster composed with **6 CH cavities** (2 Cu + 4 SC, L=7m)
- Unconventional but **very efficient solution** (low nb of elements, energy gain >1 MeV/m)
- **“Double-branch” MEBT** to connect the 2 injectors to the linac, including especially 2 achromatic deviations w/ a common switching magnet and 4 SC bunchers for long. matching



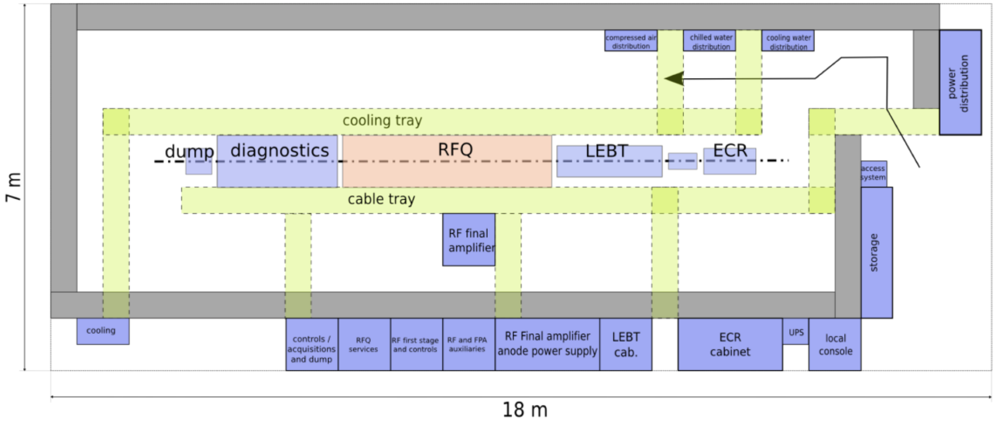
Beam dynamics in LEBT + RFQ

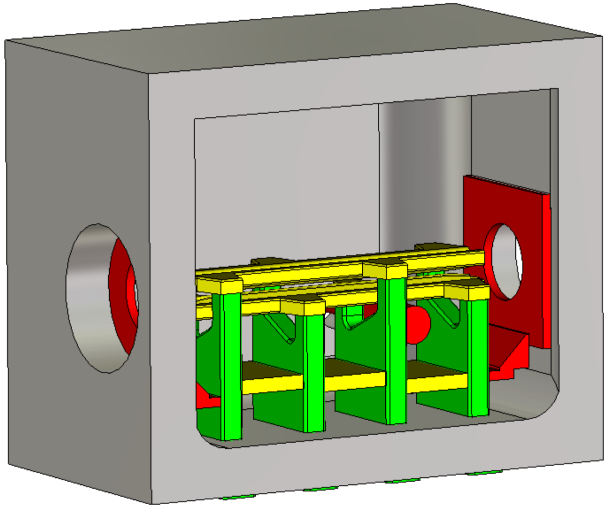


Related R&D → Source & RFQ



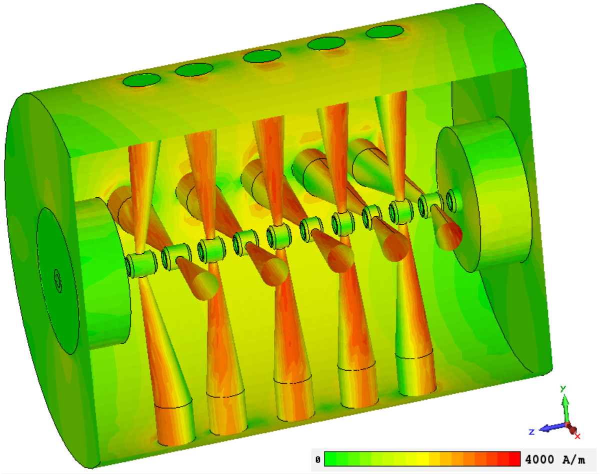
- **R&D on the MYRRHA 4-rod RFQ**
  - ✓ Inspired from the SARAF experience
  - ✓ **Enhanced reliability** by:
    - decreased voltages and power levels
    - improved silver-plated tuning plates
    - optimized cooling schemes for stems and rods
  - ✓ Construction of a **short test section** to be tested at nominal power end 2012
- **MYRRHA full injector test stand in construction at UCL**
  - ✓ Source in 2013, RFQ in 2014



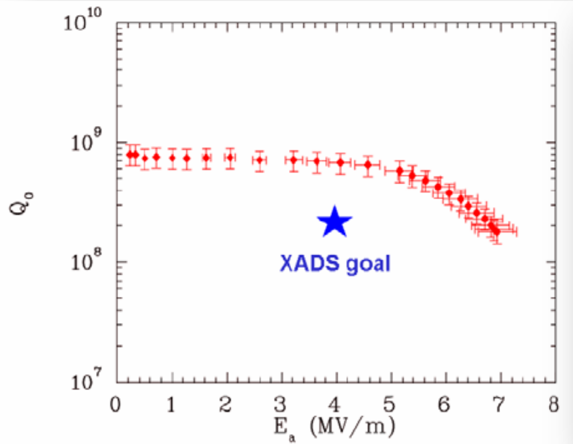


Related R&D → 176 MHz CH booster

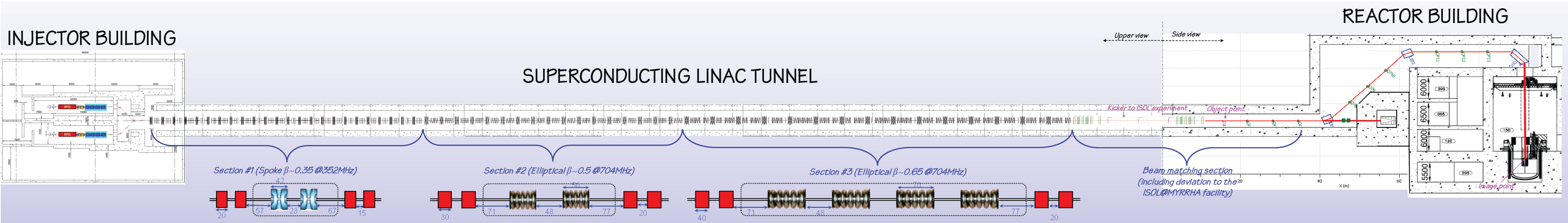
- **R&D on room-temperature CH cavities**
  - ✓ Detailed design of the 2 MYRRHA cavities
  - ✓ Construction of a **short test section** to be tested at nominal power in 2013



- **R&D on superconducting CH cavities**
  - ✓ Detailed design of the 4 MYRRHA cavities
  - ✓ Construction of a **new prototype cavity** to be RF tested end 2012, and with beam at GSI in 2013/14



The 600 MeV MYRRHA main linac

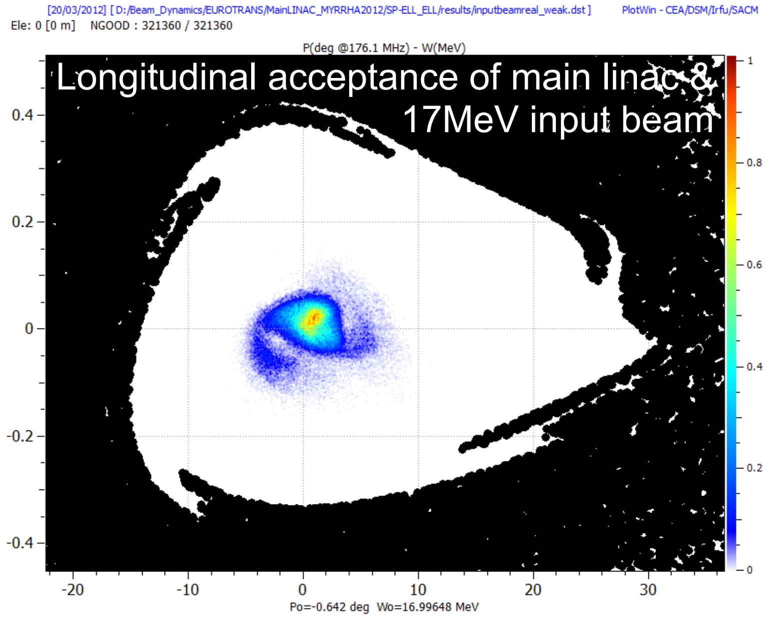


- **Spoke** 352 MHz SC cavities × 48 (1 family)
- **Elliptical** 704 MHz SC cavities ×94 (2 families)

L=233 metres

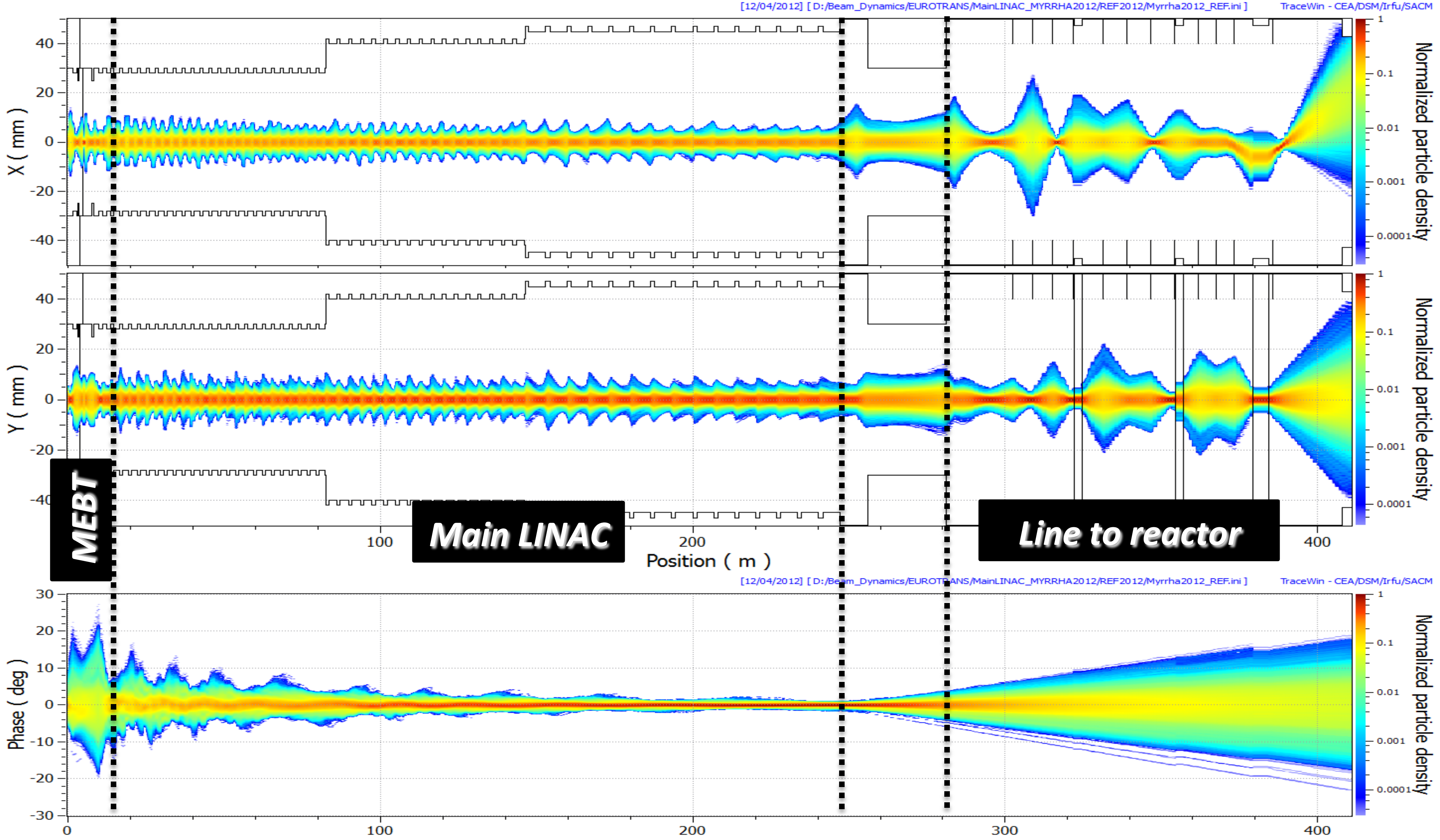
- Modularity, conservative operation points & high acceptance to **ensure fault-tolerance**

Section #	**#1**	**#2**	**#3**
E_{input} (MeV)	17.0	80.8	183.9
E_{output} (MeV)	80.9	183.9	600.0
Cav. technology	Spoke	Elliptical	
Cav. freq. (MHz)	352.2	704.4	
Cavity geom. β	0.35	0.47	0.65
Nb of cells / cav.	2	5	5
Focusing type	NC quadrupole doublets		
Nb cav / cryom.	2	2	4
Total nb of cav.	48	34	60
Nominal E_{acc} (MV/m)	6.2	8.2	11.0
Synch. phase (deg)	-40 to -19	-38 to -15	
Beam load / cav (kW)	1.5 to 7.5	2.5 to 17	14 to 32
Section length (m)	68.6	63.9	100.8



Longitudinal acceptance of main linac & 17MeV input beam

Beam dynamics in MEBT + MAIN LINAC + HEBT



MEBT

Main LINAC

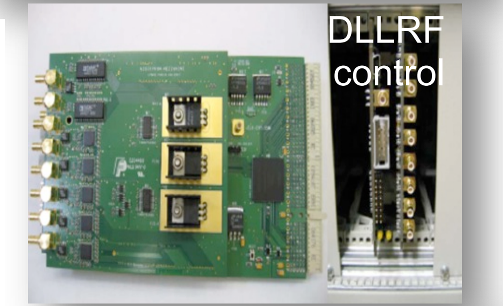
Line to reactor

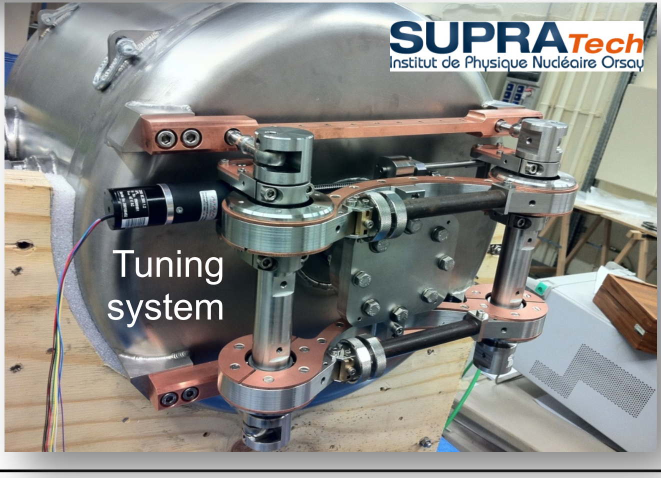
Related R&D → 352 MHz spoke cavities

- **Prototyping** of spoke cavities and ancillaries
- **Detailed design** for MYRRHA:
  - ✓ Cavity (prototype test in 2013)
  - ✓ Cryomodule (prototype test in 2015)

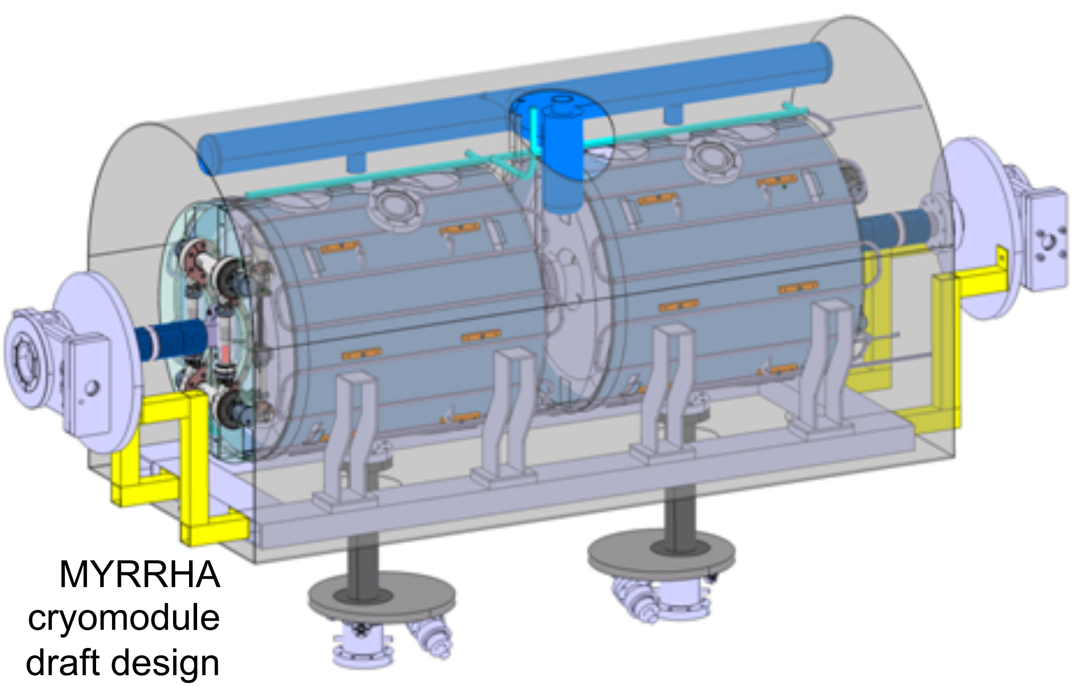

Cavity prototype


20kW coupler


DLLRF control

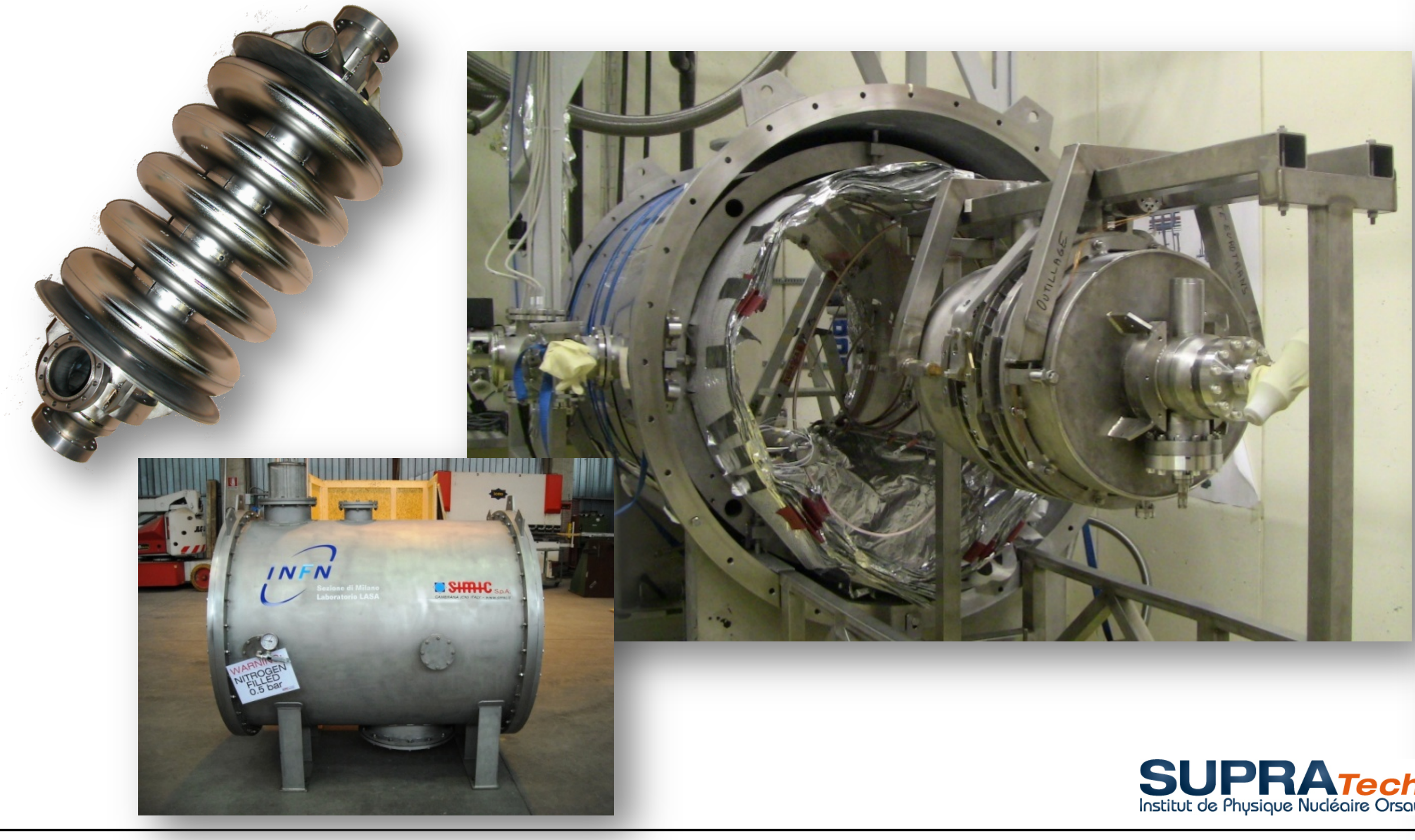


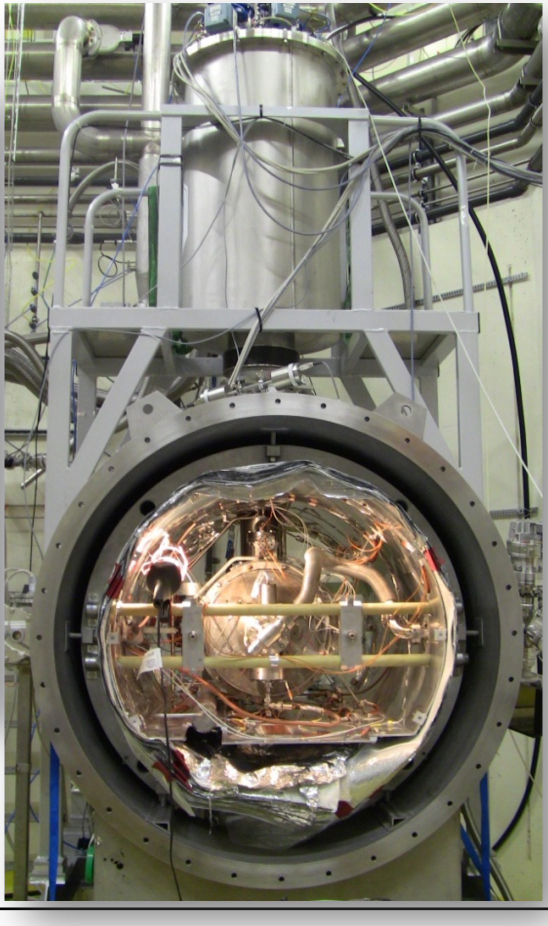
Tuning system


MYRRHA cryomodule draft design

Related R&D → 704 MHz elliptical SC cavities

- **Construction** of a β=0.5 prototype cryomodule
- **Commissioning** at low RF power in 2011, and at 80 kW before end 2012
- Will be used (2012-2014) as a **test bench for reliability-oriented experiments** (fault-recovery procedures, smart regulation systems, reliability enhancement…)





SUPRATech
Institut de Physique Nucléaire Orsay

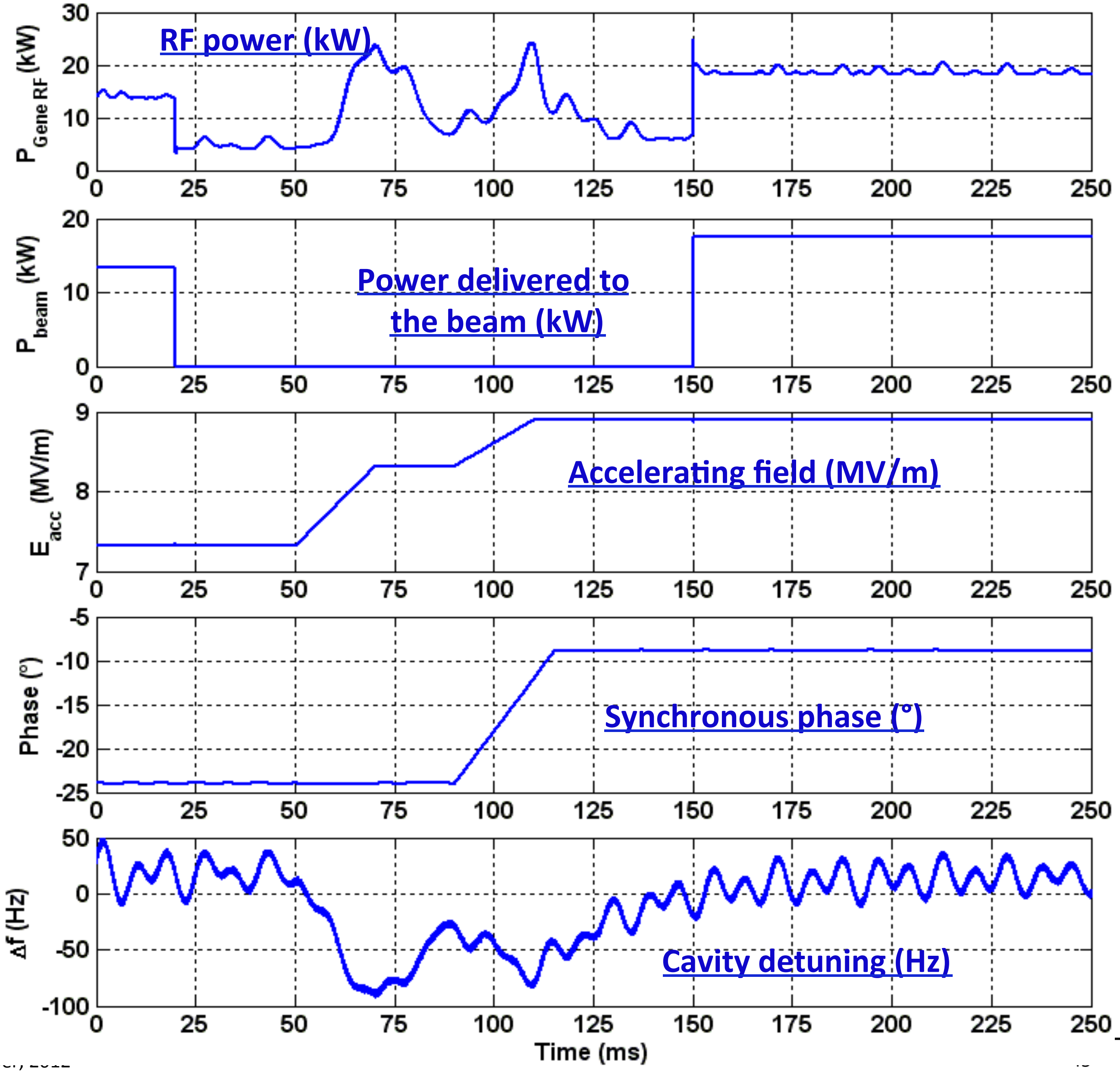
Reliability oriented experiement

Preliminary studies

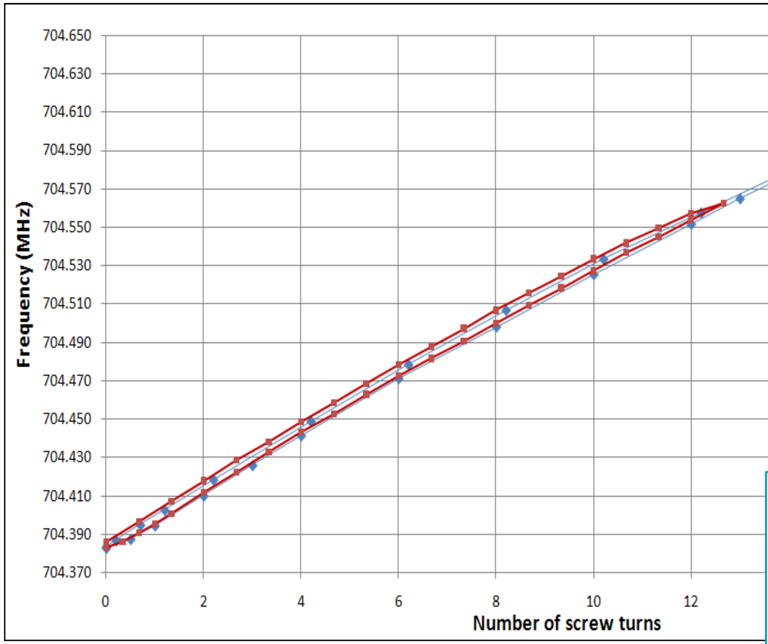
Model & simulations

- ◆ The cavity can be retuned in 200 ms (i.e. one order of magnitude lower than 3 s)
- ◆ When E_{acc} ramped-up an overconsumption of RF power is observed ⇨ This is compensated by the piezos feedback loop in less than ~100 ms.
- ◆ An ADEX controller is used for the tuning system loop.
- ◆ 3 strong microphonics perturbations are assumed :

→ @ 1Hz with $\Delta f_{perturbation}$ = +/- 10 Hz
→ @ 71 Hz with $\Delta f_{perturbation}$ = +/- 10 Hz
→ @ 120 Hz with $\Delta f_{perturbation}$ = +/- 20 Hz



Experimental results 704 MHz test bench



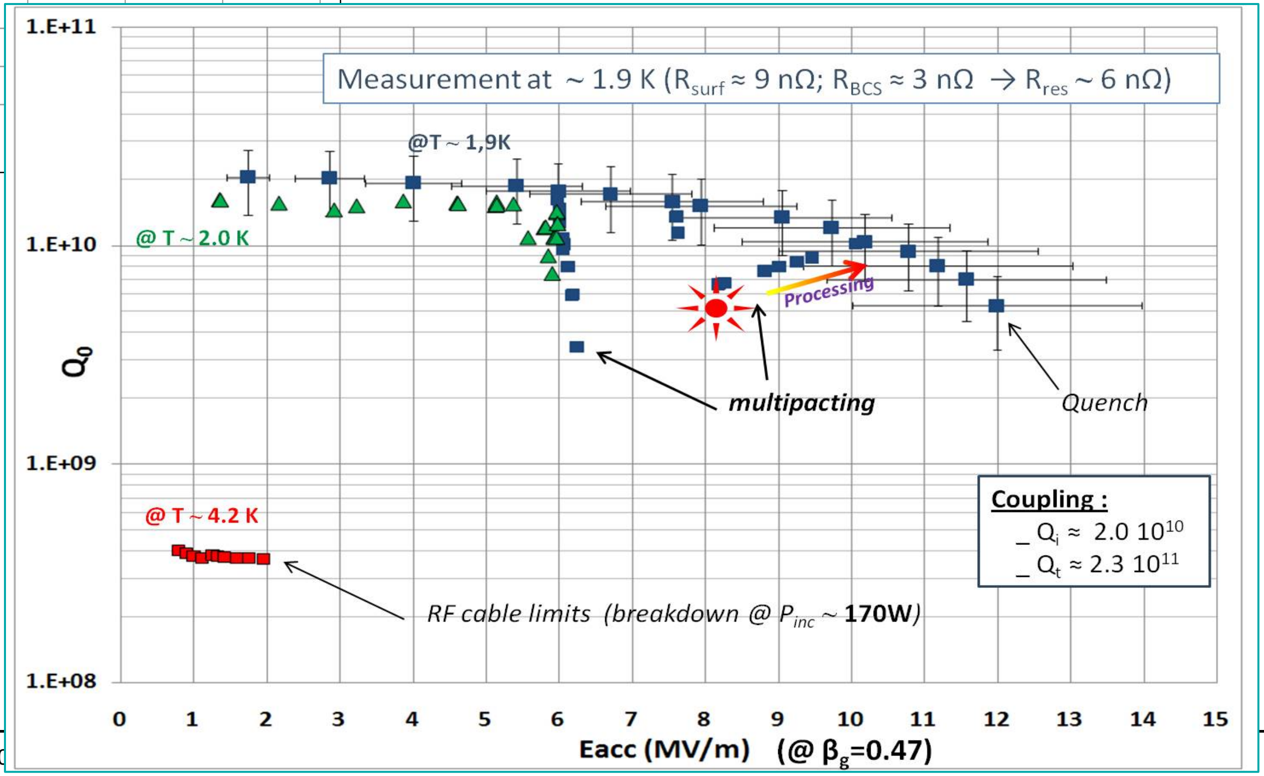
◆ Stepper motor capabilities

- ➤ Max detuning range (@ 4K): ~270 kHz
- ➤ Observed hysteresis 2 kHz

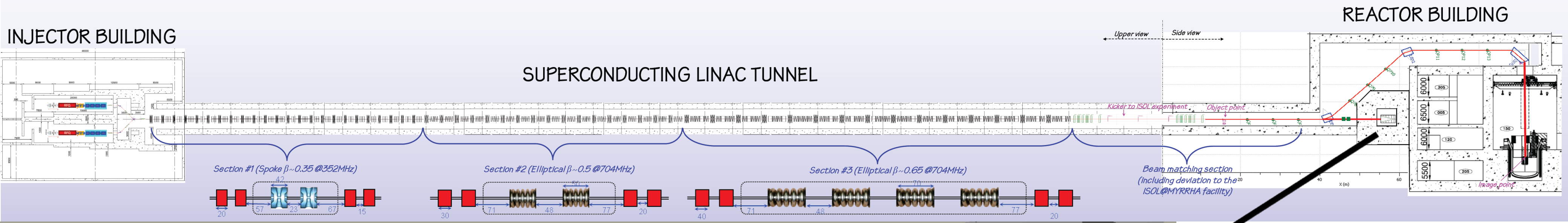
◆ Several tries needed to measure the Q_0 curves at 2K because of cryogenic leaks.

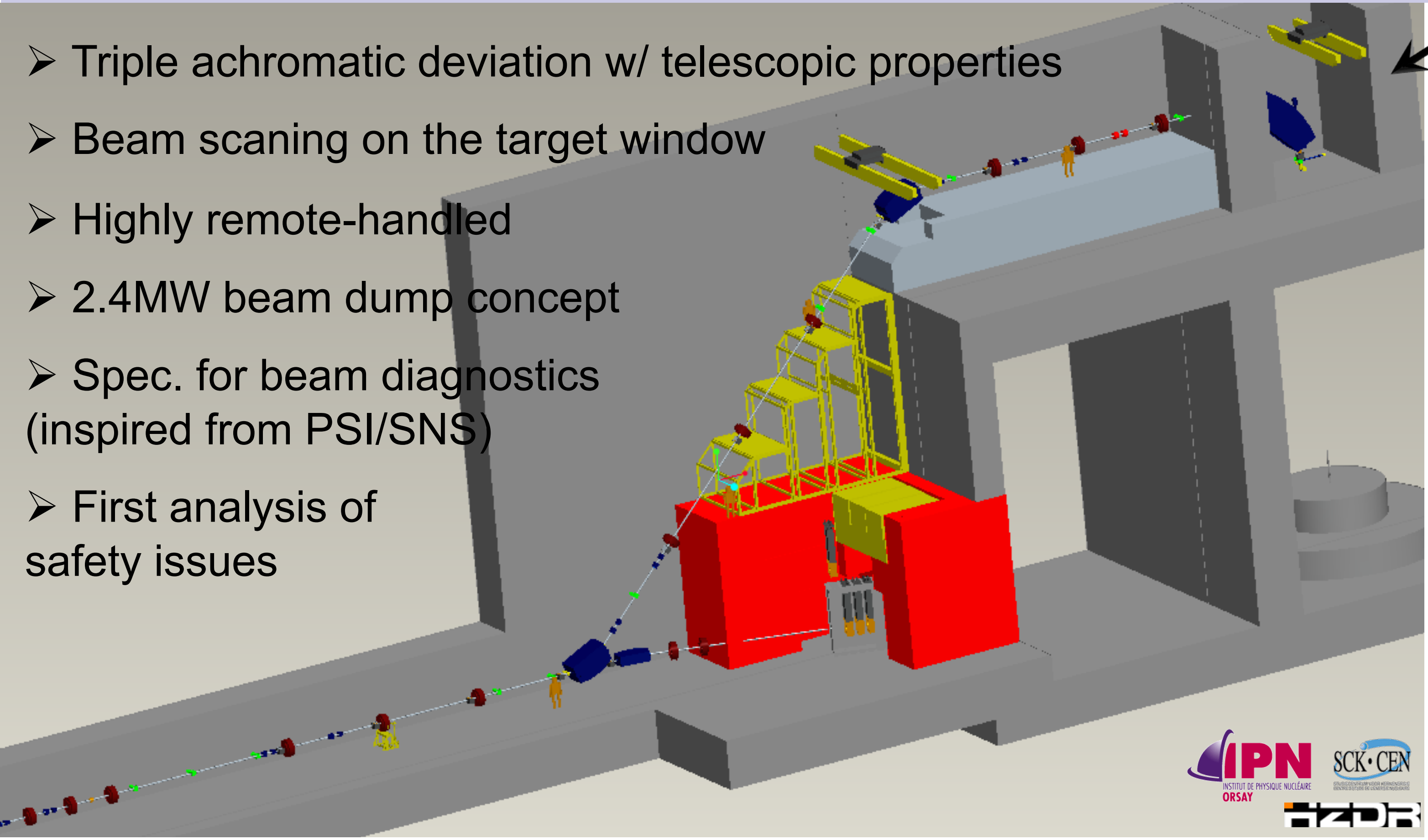
◆ Q_0 obtained in critical coupling

- ➤ Multipacting easily processed
- ➤ Quench value a bit lower than expected (field unflatness)
- ➤ Still above MYRRHA requirements

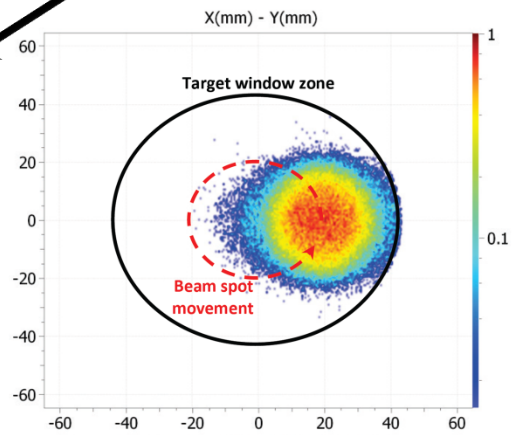


The MYRRHA final beam line

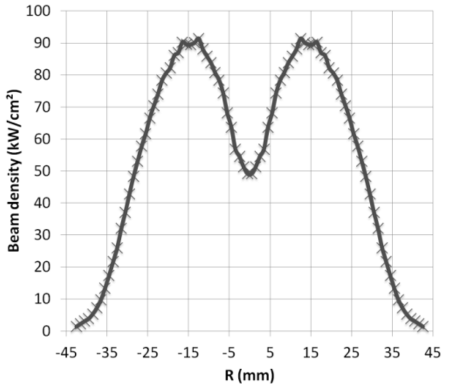




- ➢ Triple achromatic deviation w/ telescopic properties
- ➢ Beam scaning on the target window
- ➢ Highly remote-handled
- ➢ 2.4MW beam dump concept
- ➢ Spec. for beam diagnostics (inspired from PSI/SNS)
- ➢ First analysis of safety issues

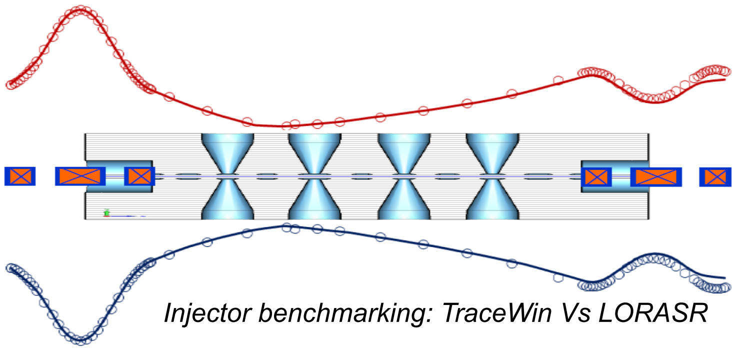


Beam distribution at the target window

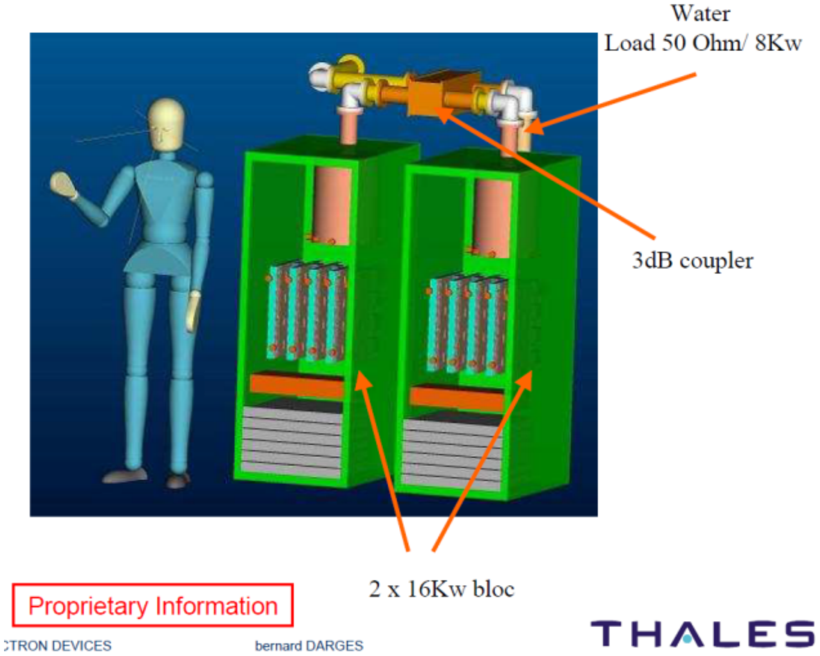


Other R&D activities

- Development of a full **reliability model**
  - ✓ Preliminary results show that the goal of MTBF=250h should be reachable
  - ✓ 3 years of commissioning is foreseen at least to learn & improve machine operation
- **Beam dynamics** simulations
  - ✓ Benchmarking (e.g. TraceWin/Lorasr)
  - ✓ Optimisation of beam behaviour in main linac under nominal & fault operation
  - ✓ Start-to-end & Monte-Carlo error studies
- Design of the **2K cryogenic system**
- 700MHz **solid-state** amp. development
- Spec. for Instrumentation & Control
- Buildings design, cost analysis…



Injector benchmarking: TraceWin Vs LORASR



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Summary

- **Nuclear waste management** is a complex (& long-term) issue in a much more complex (& shorter-term) hazard: sustainable energy & global warming.

- **MYRRHA** = unique opportunity to demonstrate the ADS technology in a high-power scale.

- At the end of the EURATOM FP7 projects (CDT, FREYA, **MAX**), the goal is to reach a sufficient level of design to be able to launch a construction phase for MYRRHA in 2015.

- The **ADS accelerator reference scheme** is based on a 600 MeV, 4 mA cw superconducting proton LINAC (R&D on SRF and solid state amplifier).

- R&D is focused on the **reliability issue**. This may bring substancial impact for availability optimisation in future accelerator projects featuring high power proton beams.

Thank you for your attention !

COORDINATOR

http://ipnweb.in2p3.fr/MAX/

http://myrrha.sckcen.be/

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