

# Experimental Assessment of Radiation Damage in Targets Considered in Neutrino Superbeam and Neutrino Factory Initiatives

**N. Simos, BNL**

## Targets – How far can they go?

### 1 MW ?

Answer is **YES** for several materials

Irradiation damage is of primary concern

Material irradiation studies pushing ever closer to anticipated atomic displacements while considering new alloys are needed

### 4 MW ?

Answer dependant on 2 key parameters:

1 – rep rate

2 - beam size compliant with the physics sought

A1: for rep-rate  $> 50$  Hz + spot  $> 2$ mm RMS → 4 MW possible (see note below)

A2: for rep-rate  $< 50$  Hz + spot  $< 2$ mm RMS

→ Not feasible (ONLY moving targets)

**NOTE:** While thermo-mechanical shock may be manageable, removing heat from target at 4 MW might prove to be the challenge.

CAN only be validated with experiments

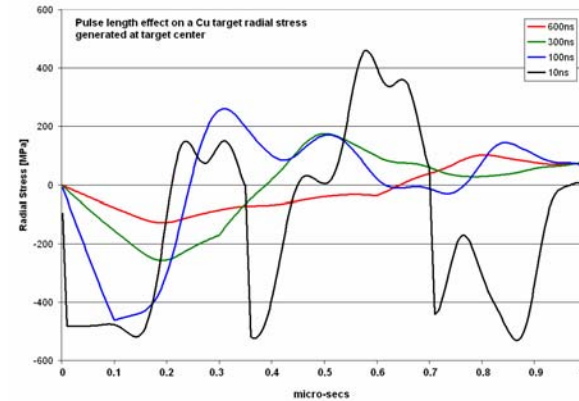
# 4 MW proton driver?

Protons per pulse required for 4 MW

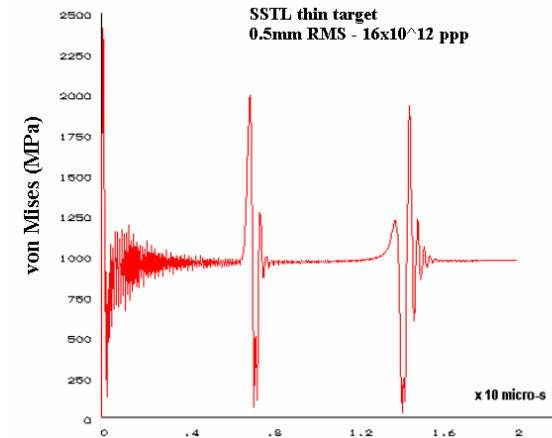
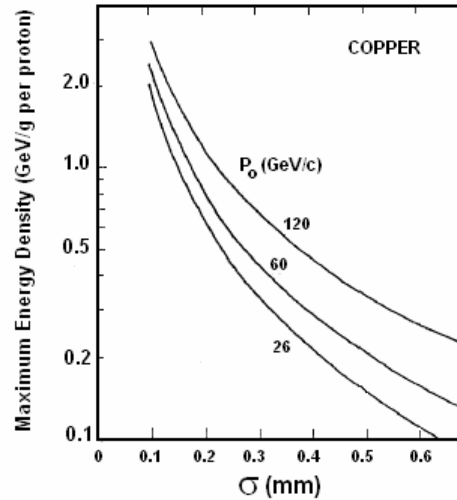
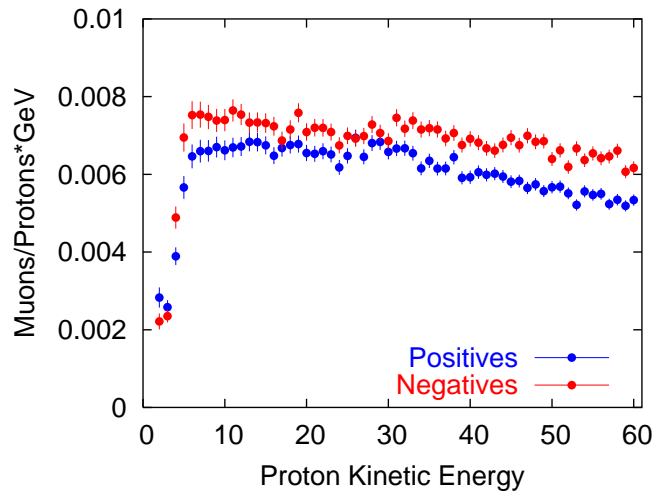
$$\bar{P}_{arc} (w) = E[eV] \times N \times e \times f_{rep} [Hz]$$

|        | 10 Hz                | 25 Hz                | 50 Hz               |
|--------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 10 GeV | $250 \times 10^{12}$ | $100 \times 10^{12}$ | $50 \times 10^{12}$ |
| 20 GeV | $125 \times 10^{12}$ | $50 \times 10^{12}$  | $25 \times 10^{12}$ |

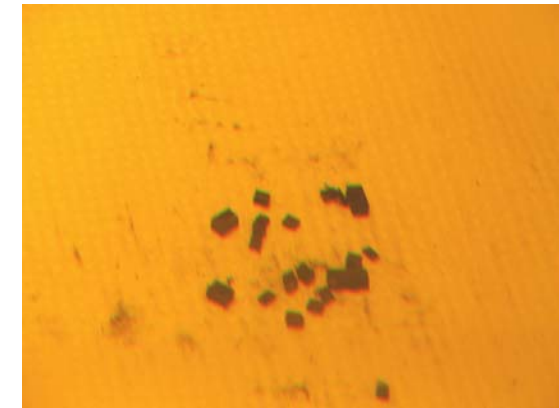
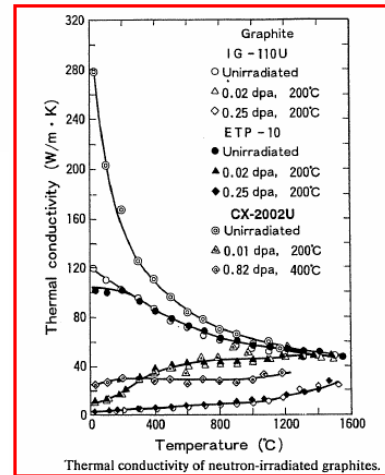
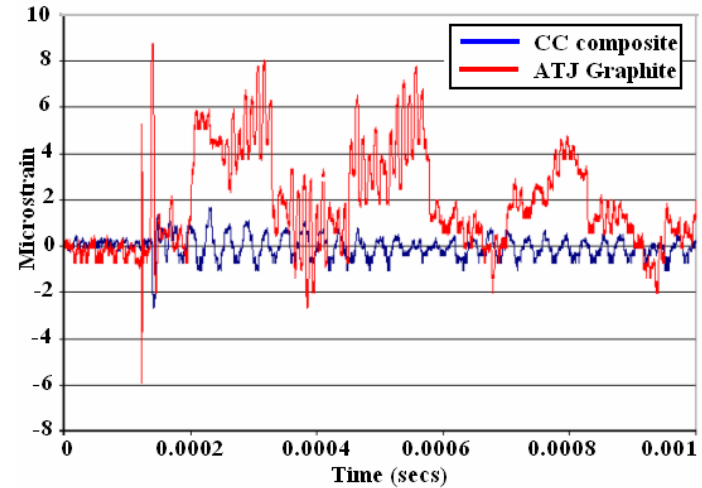
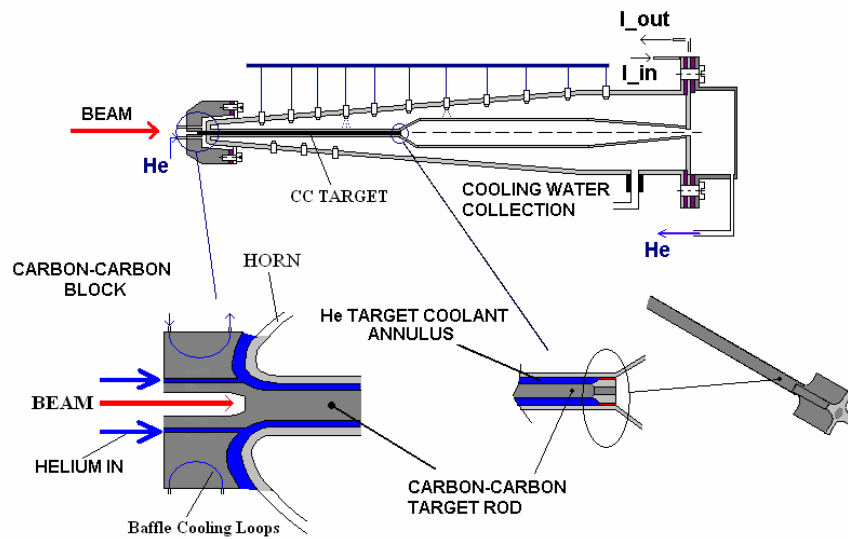
Some schemes desired bunch lengths < 3 ns !!!



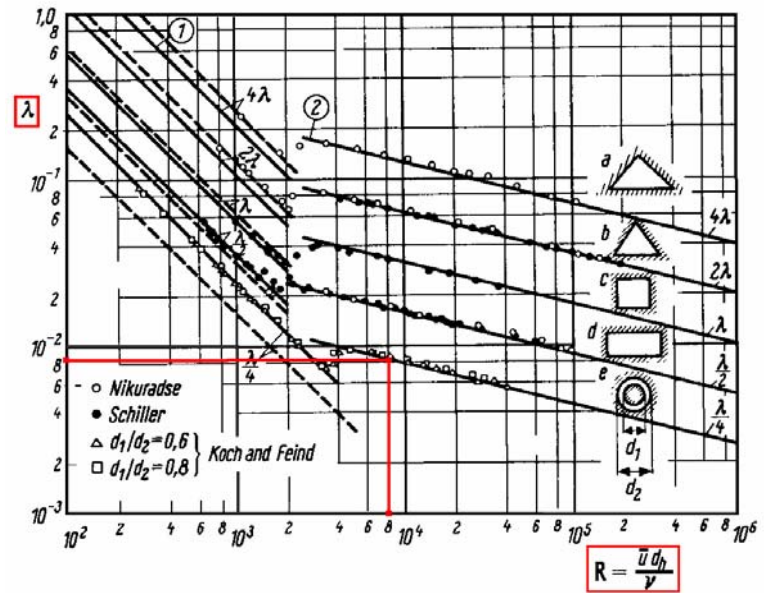
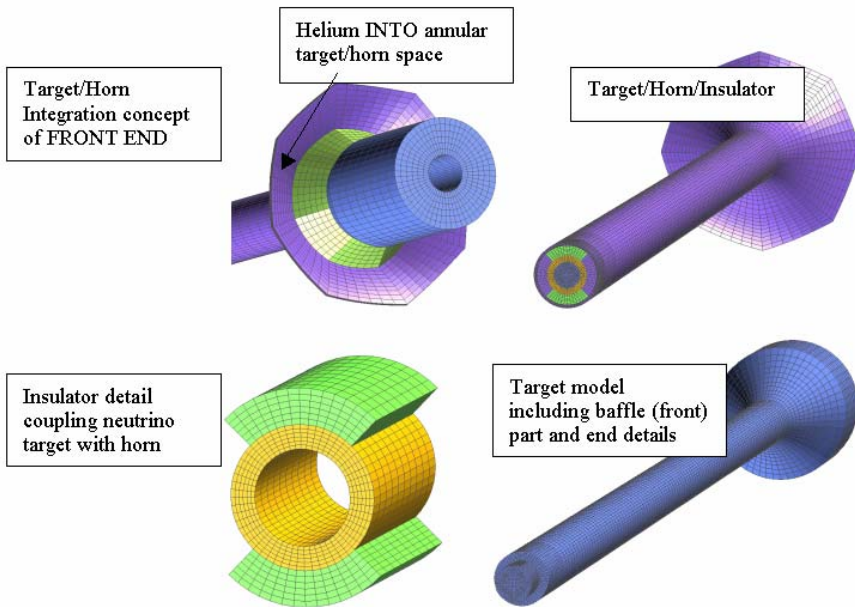
MARS14



# Target Concept – Neutrino Superbeam



# Challenges → R&D



## Liquid metal targets?

**No rad damage, no shock concerns → free of problems?**

- phase transitions during beam interaction
- vaporization
- effects on infrastructure
- delivery & quality of interaction zone

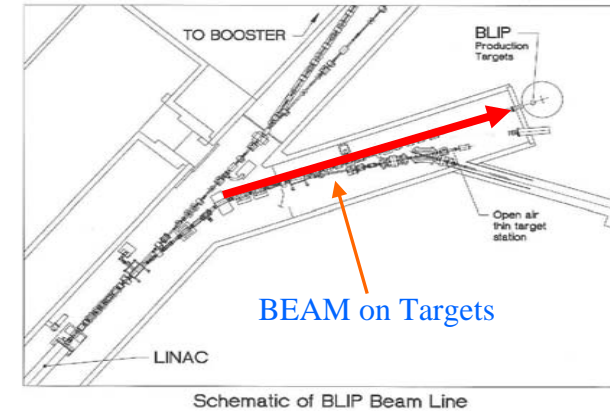
**However, even with liquid targets we are not home free from solid targets !!!**

**We have to deliver the same beam through windows**

**If not a liquid jet but a contained liquid → cavitation-induced erosion (pitting)**

# Experimental Process Utilizing BNL Accelerator Complex

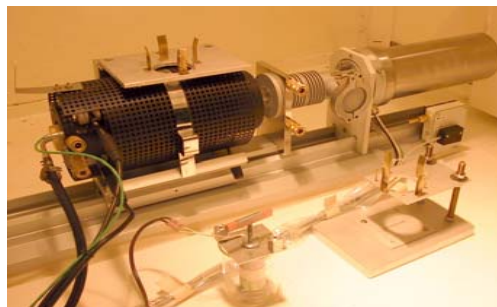
Irradiation at BNL  
Isotope Facility place  
200 or 117 MeV protons



Post irradiation analysis at  
BNL Hot Labs



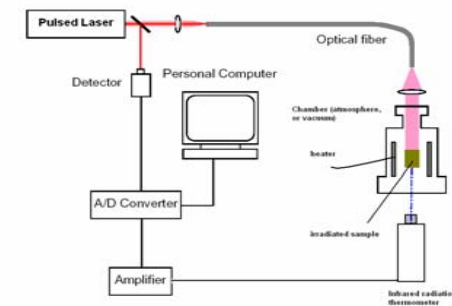
Thermal Expansion/Heat  
Capacity Measuring System



Remotely operated mechanical testing system



Laser Flash System (under construction)  
for thermal diffusivity measurements



# Phases of Irradiation Studies

## PHASE I:

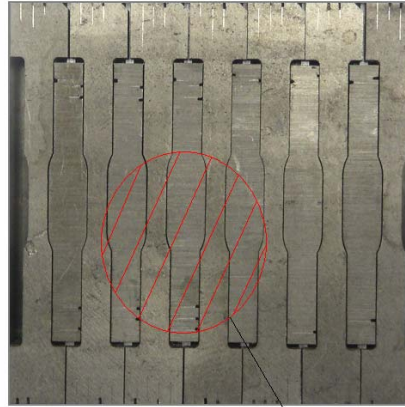
Super Invar and Inconel-718

## PHASE II:

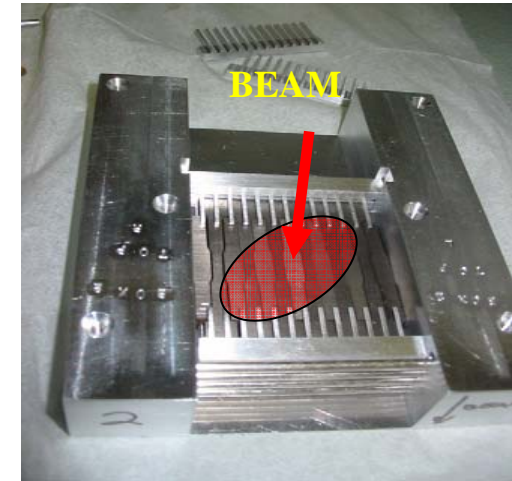
- 3D Carbon-Carbon Composite
- Toyota “Gum Metal”
- Graphite (IG-43)
- AlBeMet
- Beryllium
- Ti Alloy (6Al-4V)
- Vascomax
- Nickel-Plated Alum.

### PHASE II-a:

- 2D Carbon-Carbon

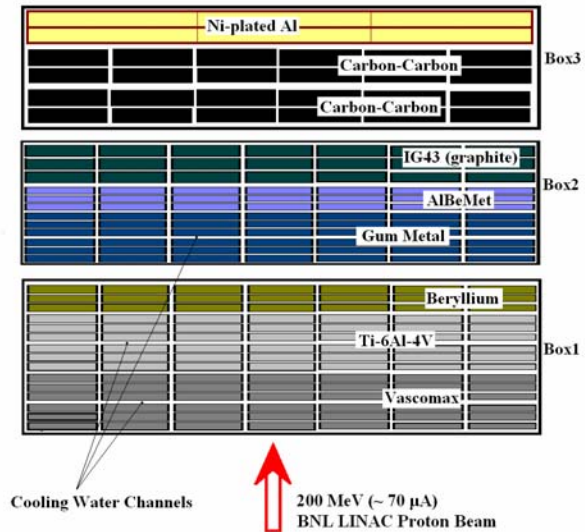


Proton Beam Footprint ( $1\sigma$ )



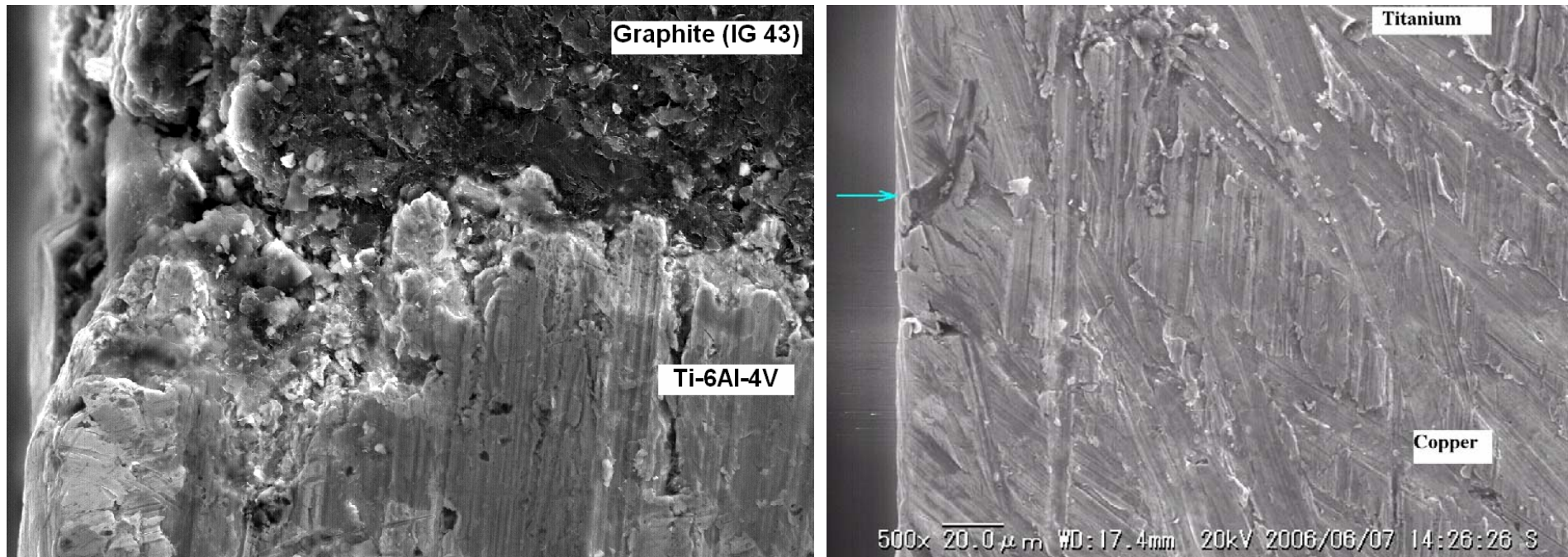
## PHASE III:

- 3D & 2D Carbon-Carbon
- 90% cold-worked “Gum Metal”
- Graphite (IG-43 & IG-430)
- AlBeMet
- Ti Alloy (6Al-4V)
- Copper & Glidcop
- W and Ta
- Vascomax
- Nickel-Plated Aluminum
- Super-Invar → **following annealing**
- Graphite/titanium bonded target





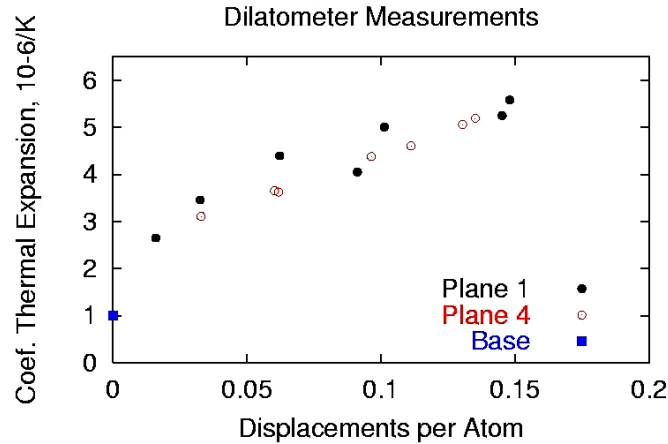
## Specially bonded graphite/titanium specimens exposed to proton irradiation – Post-irrad analysis pending



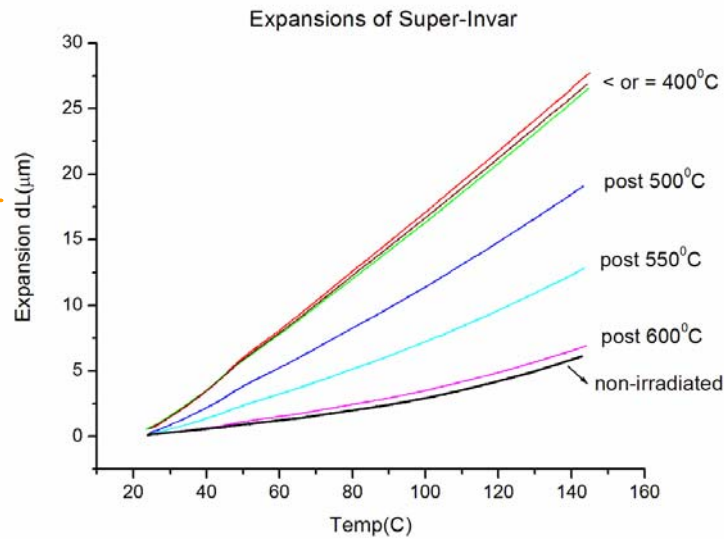
# What was observed during post-irradiation analysis was intriguing

## Super INVAR (low CTE)

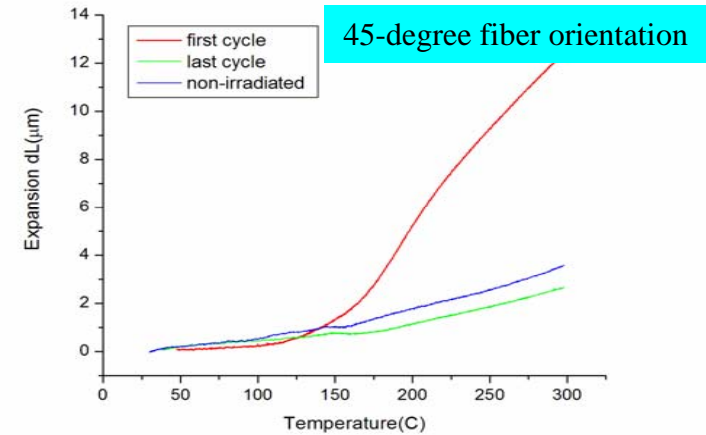
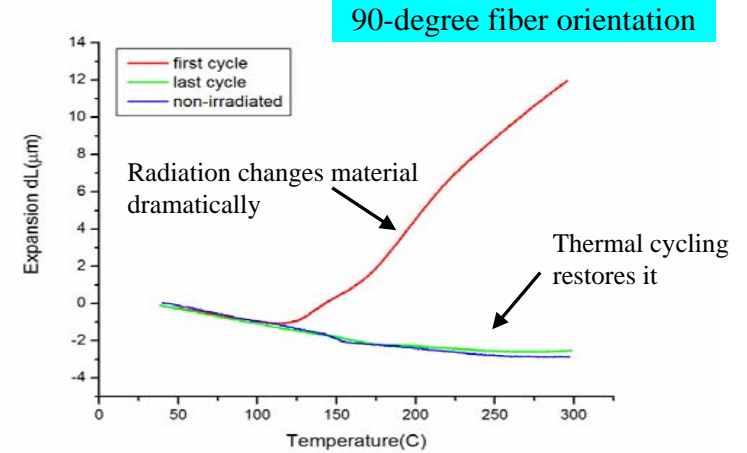
Modest level of irradiation takes away the low thermal expansion exhibited by the un-irradiated super Invar



Thermal cycling with temp. threshold identified experimentally as  $T_{threshold} > 600\text{ C}$  restores material !!

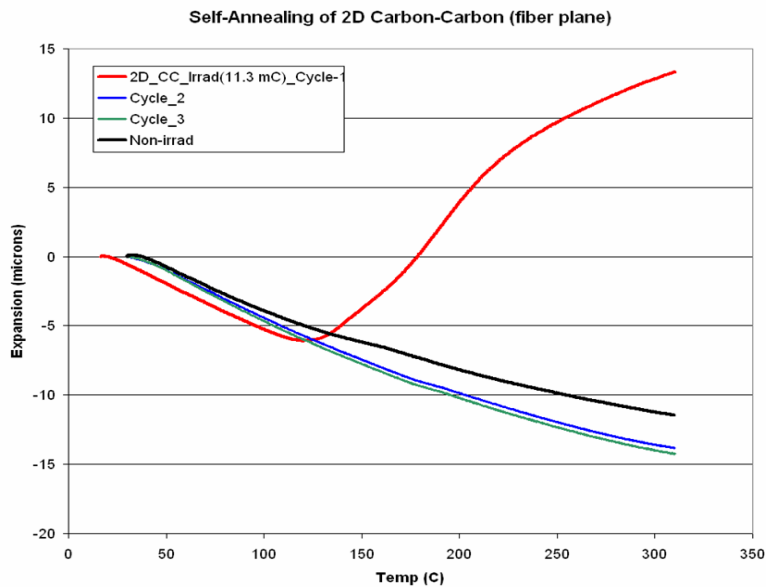


## 3-D Carbon Composite also exhibits low CTE (even negative for Temp < 800 C !!)

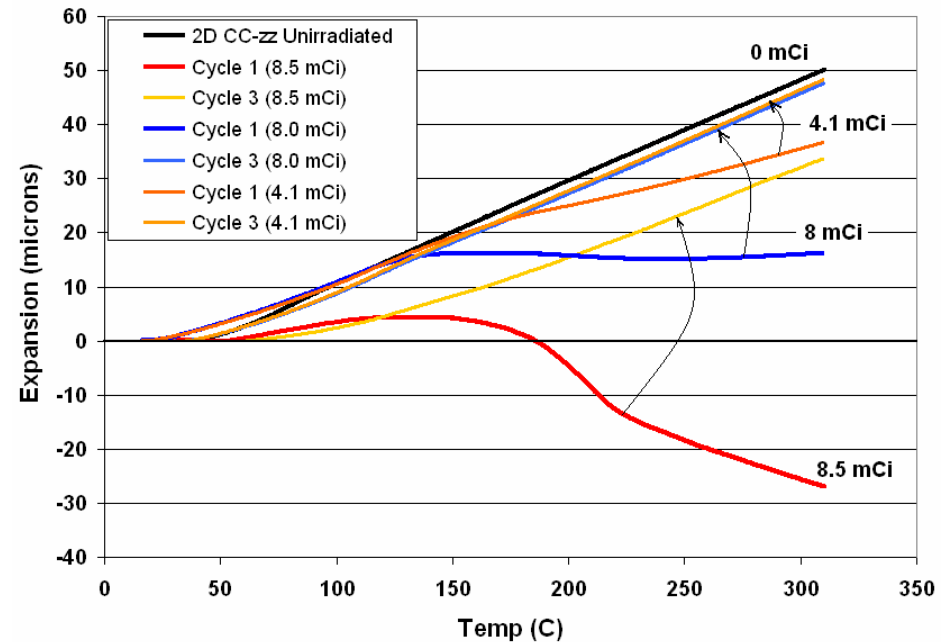


# Annealing behavior also exhibited by 2D Carbon

## Fiber (strong) direction



## Weak direction (orientation normal to fibers)

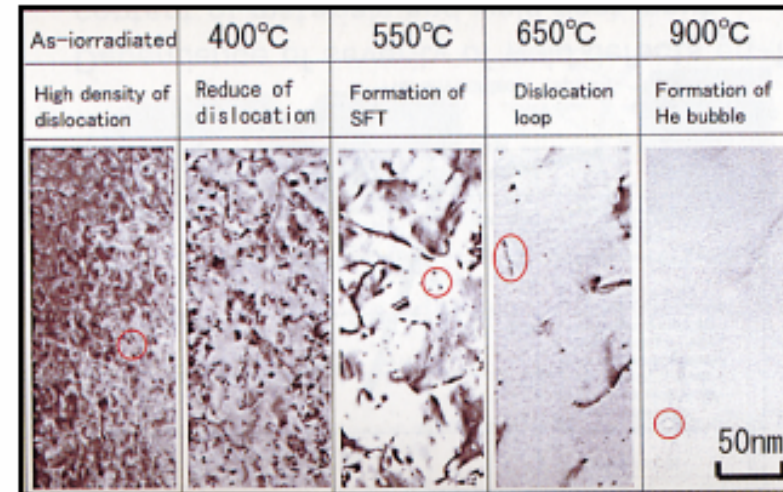


- Non-irradiated shown in **BLACK**
- Effects of irradiation (captured in 1<sup>st</sup> post-irradiation thermal cycle) shown in **RED**
- Rest are additional thermal cycles that restore material through annealing
- Also shown are specimen activations in mCi
- Worth noting is the similar annealing behavior of specimens with same activation

## Questions to be answered regarding annealing

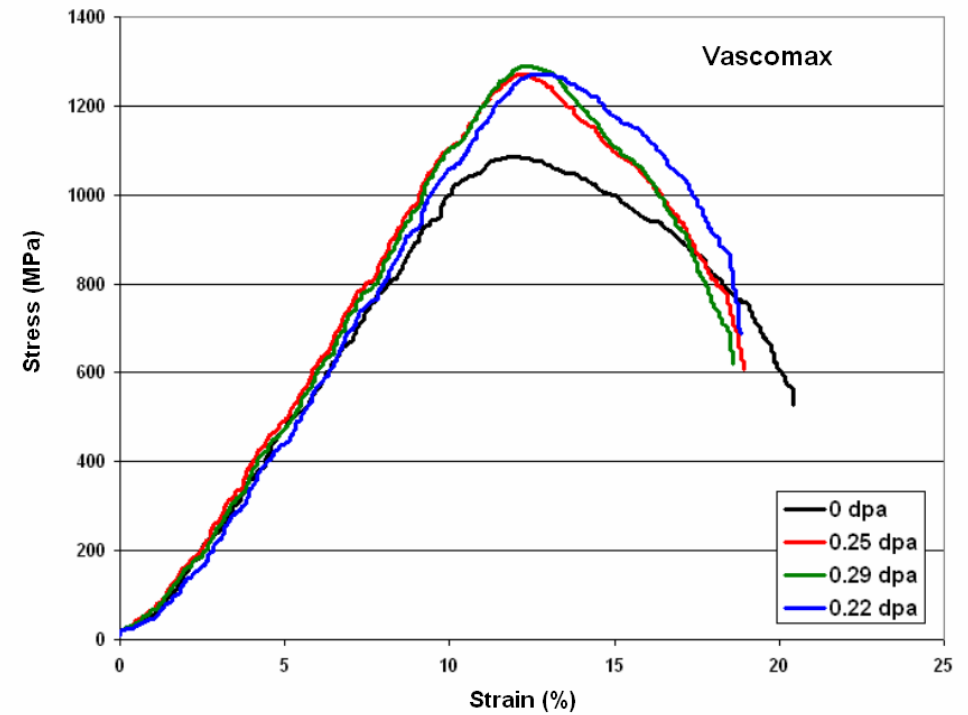
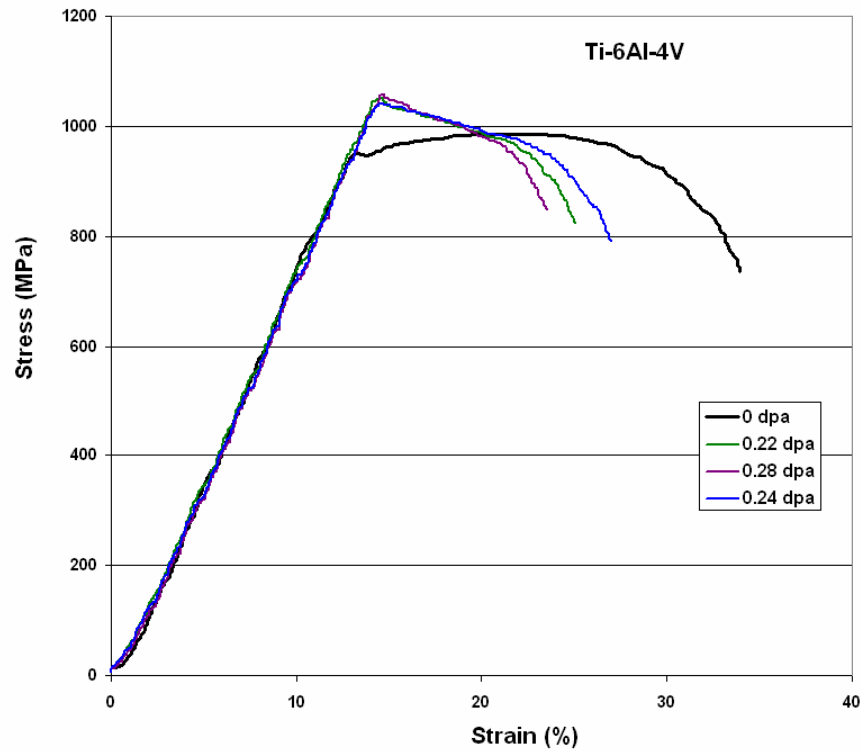
- How is irradiation damage influenced by high temperatures during irradiation and if yes where is the threshold
  - Identifying the temperature threshold will allow for life extension of the material in the irradiation environment
- Do materials exhibit similar damage following annealing and re-irradiation ?
  - Studies from neutron exposure indicate that the number of voids, while decrease in size, increase in number during re-irradiation
  - To address that, irradiated and then annealed super-Invar has been exposed to irradiation

Recovery of damaged microstructure in 404 Steel through annealing  
(neutron fluence of  $1.4 \text{ E}+24 \text{ n/m}^2$ )



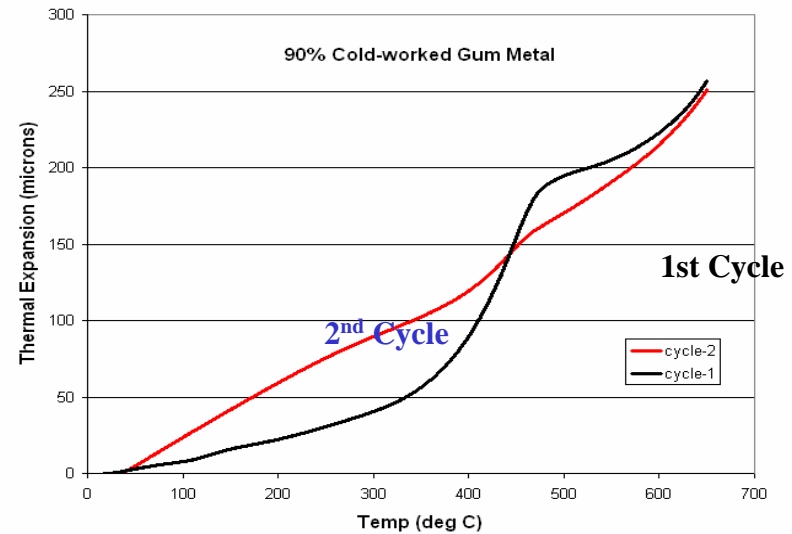
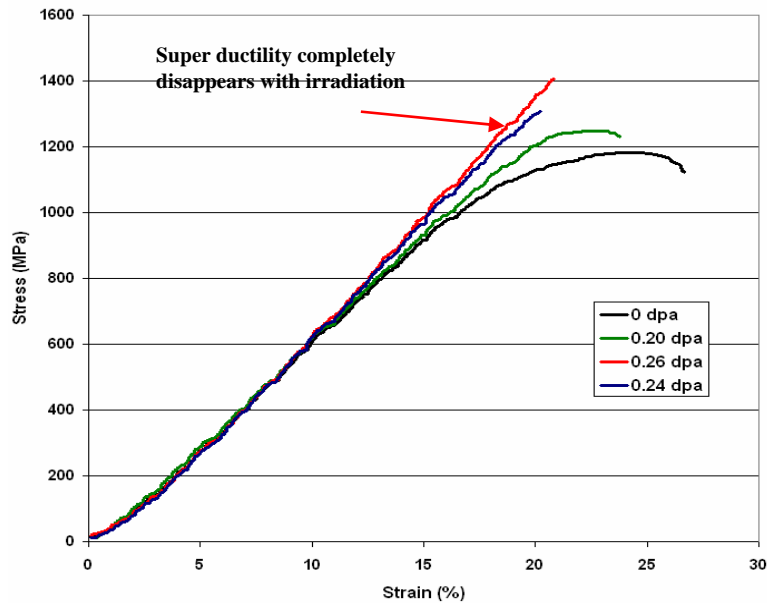
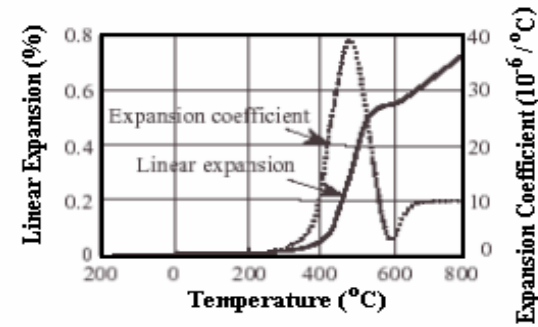
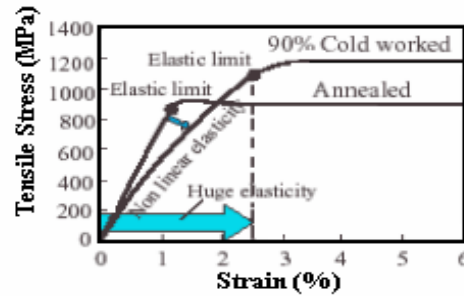
from Y. Ishiyama et al, J. Nucl. Mtrls 239 90-94 (1996)

## Radiation effect on ductility & strength – How important is ductility?

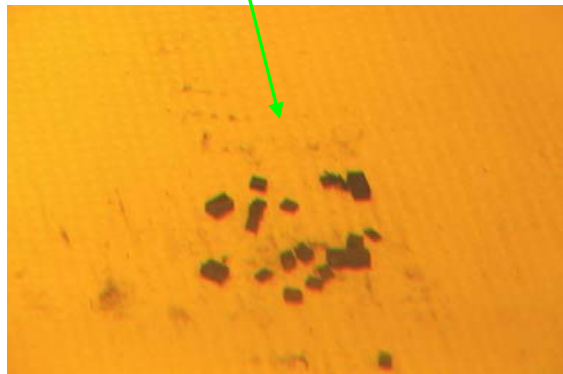
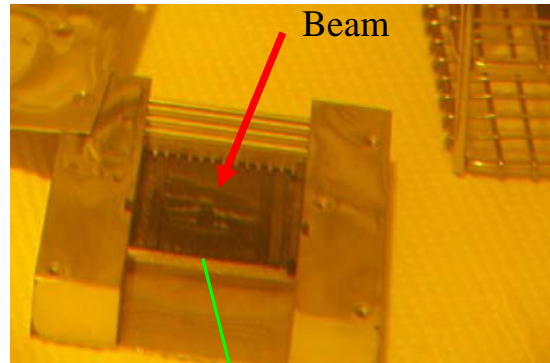


# The high expectations of gum metal

Enhancement of properties are attributed to the “dislocation-free” plastic deformation mechanism



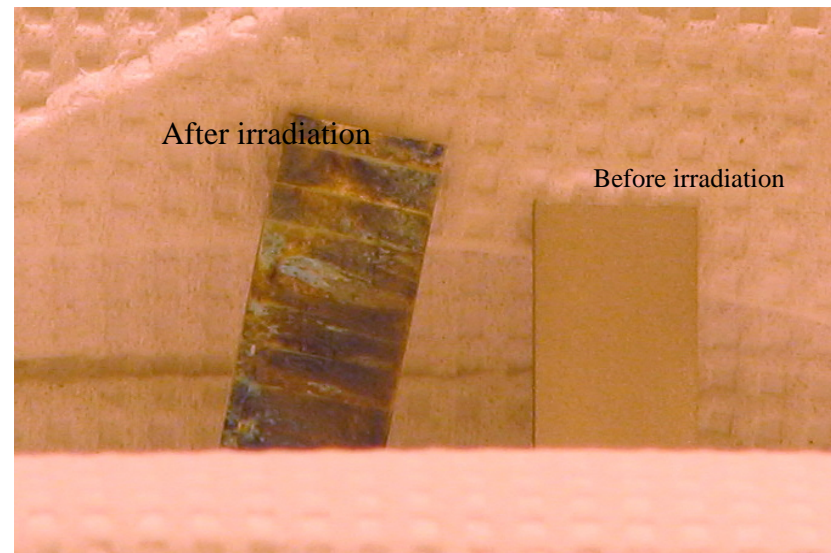
... irradiation damage on 2D composite and nickel-plated aluminum



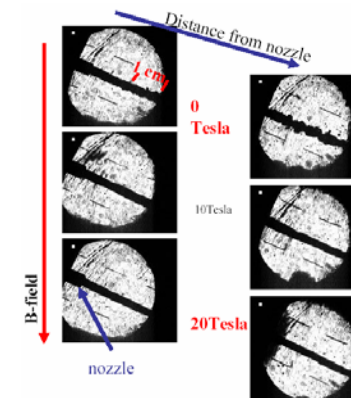
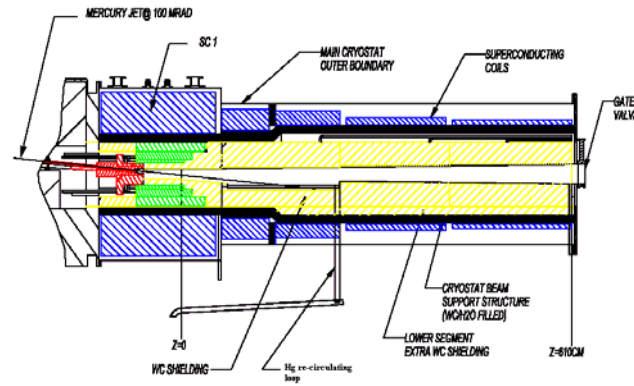
Structural damage of **2-D CC** composite at the center of the beam

Fluence where damage occurred  
 $\sim 7 \times 10^{21}$  protons/cm<sup>2</sup>

Serious degradation of magnetic horn material (nickel-plated aluminum) used in the NuMI experiment at FNAL! Retested during Phase III with double the exposure and waiting examination



# LIQUID JET TARGETS



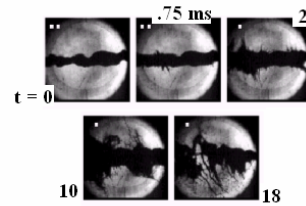
Jet traverses  
 $B_{max}$

This qualitative behaviour can be observed in all events.

(courtesy A. Fabisch)

## E951 Experiment

(focus on Hg jet delivery and interaction with 24 GeV protons, hg/nozzle interaction)

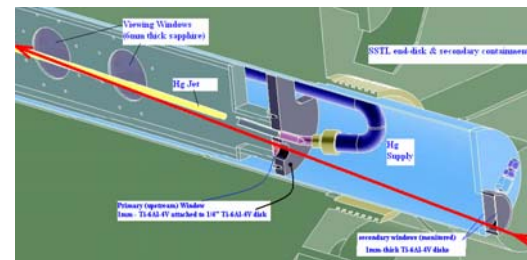


Mercury jet interaction with 24 GeV 3.8 TP beam of the E951 experiment



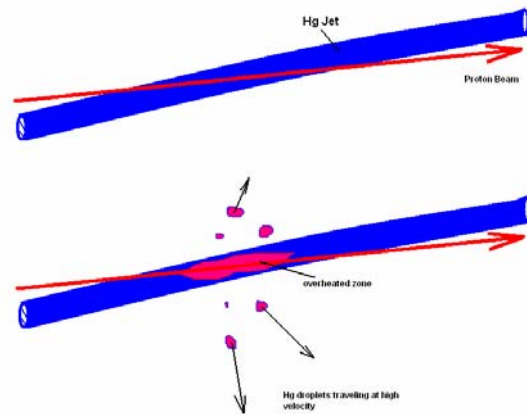
## MERIT Experiment

proton beam/high velocity Hg jet interaction in a 15 Tesla magnetic field





# Hg Jet Destruction & Viewing Window Safety Analysis



$$K.E. = \frac{1}{2} \rho dV U_r^2 = \Delta P \delta(dV)$$

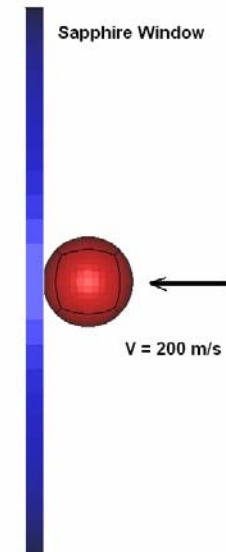
$$\Delta P \approx \alpha_v \Delta T / k$$

$$\alpha_v = (\partial V / \partial T)_P$$

$$\delta(dV) = \alpha_v dV \Delta T$$

$$U_r^2 / c^2 = 2 \alpha_v^2 \Delta T^2$$

$$U_r = \sqrt{2 [\alpha_v \Delta T]} c$$



## Beam-induced Hg jet destruction

# SUMMARY

- **Solid targets**, regardless of the physics they will support, are inherently coupled with material R&D (shock and irradiation damage)
- Information to-date available from low power accelerators and mostly reactor (neutron irradiation) experience. **Extrapolation is risky!**
- **Advancements in material technology** (alloys, smart materials, composites) provide hope BUT must be accompanied by **R&D for irradiation damage**
- **Liquid targets (Hg jets)** may present a valid option initiative BUT the necessary experiments of the integrated system must be performed