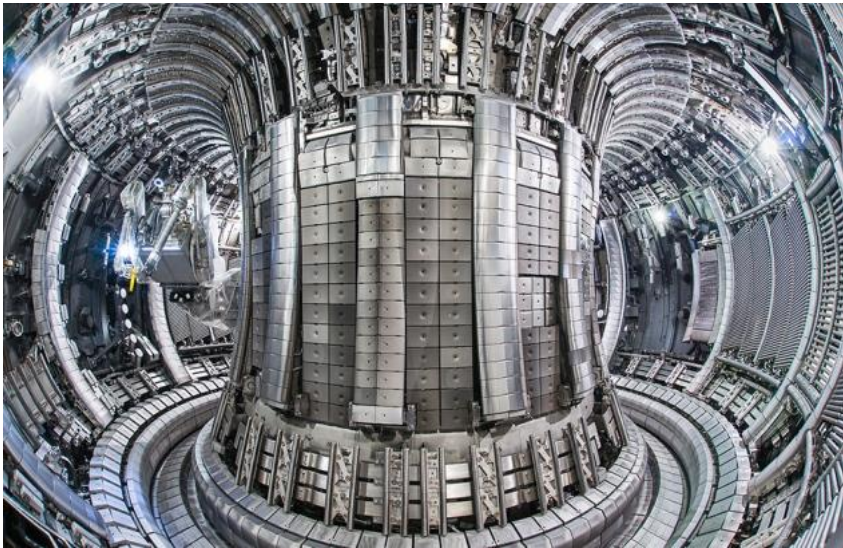


UKAEA - Materials Research Facility PIE plans for the BeGrid2 samples

Slava Kuksenko

UK atomic energy authority



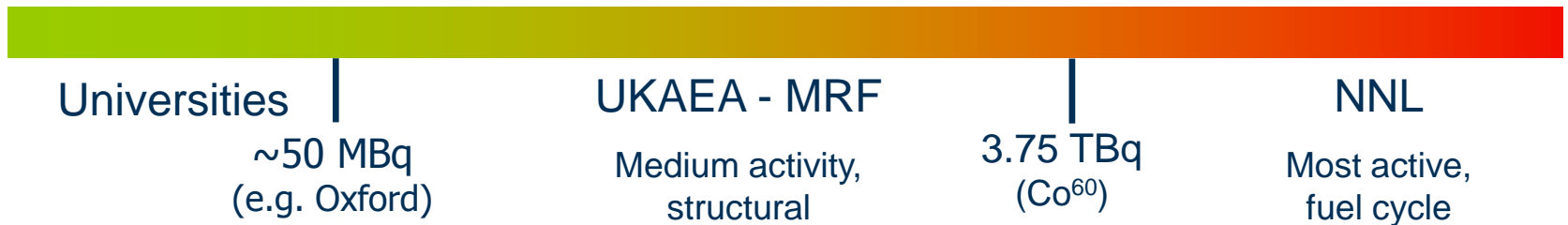
UKAEA - MRF

New facility for processing and analysis of neutron (and proton) irradiated materials

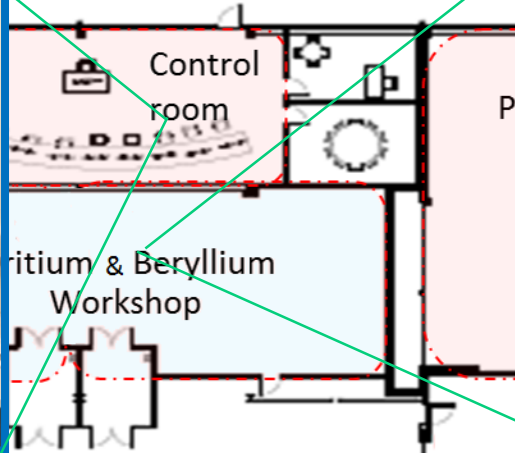
Open to Universities and Industry

Opened May 2016, currently in commissioning

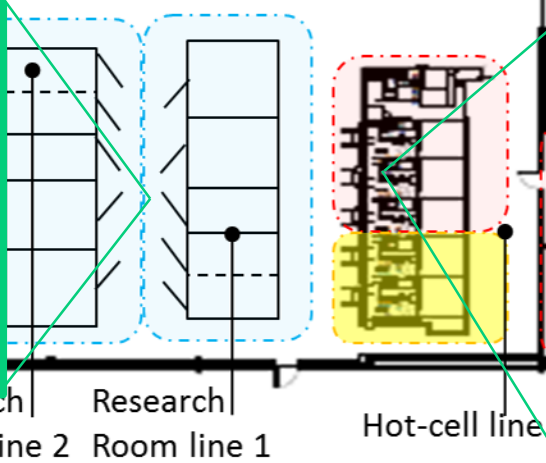
Nuclear experience (e.g. JET) on a non-licensed site: total inventory up to 3.75 TBq (Co^{60})



Building layout



2015-2016



MRF Hot-cell line



The hot-cell line

- Maximum activity up to 3.75 TBq (Co^{60})
- Sample reduction and fabrication
 - Slow cut saw
 - Shear cutter
 - Embedding
 - Grinding
 - Polishing
 - Cleaning
 - Gamma spectrometry
 - Optical microscopy
 - weighing

✓ Cutting

- Slow cut saw
- *EDM wire (straight cuts only)*
- *EDM die sink*

✓ Grinding & polishing

- Conventional
- *Electropolishing*

✓ Mounting

- Hot-resin mounting
- Cold resin mounting
- Crystal bond mounting

✓ Sample evaluation

- Weighting
- Optical microscopy 20-220x
- Optical microscopy 200-470x

✓ Sample storage

- In air
- *Inert / vacuum*

✓ Gamma spectrometry

- Incoming materials
- Waste finger printing

✓ Waste processing

- Sorting ILW/LLW
- Drying out water based waste
- *Solidifying liquid waste*
- Separating resin from samples

MRF Research Rooms



- 10 fully independent shielded rooms
- Maximum activity up to 3.75 GBq (Co^{60})
- Scientific analysis and testing
- Manned access (no access if sample is exposed)
- Remote control from research rooms (ops) and from MRF control room (scientific evaluation)
- Containment connected to nuclear ventilation around experiment if required



MRF Research Rooms

Working with active samples in RR

- Equipment is configured, calibrated, prepared for specific test
- Active sample is brought into RR with shielded trolley
- Active sample is remotely transferred into shielded castle
- Shielded trolley can be removed from RR
- Active sample is remotely mounted into equipment
- Control of equipment is handed over to control room
- Tests are conducted
- Handover back to MRF technician
- Sample is transferred back to shielded castle
- Shielded trolley brought back into RR
- Active sample is remotely transferred into shielded trolley
- Active sample is removed from RR



Scientific capability

To be commissioned
for use on active
materials:

Glovebox
Research room (3.75GBq)
Hot-cell (3.75TBq)

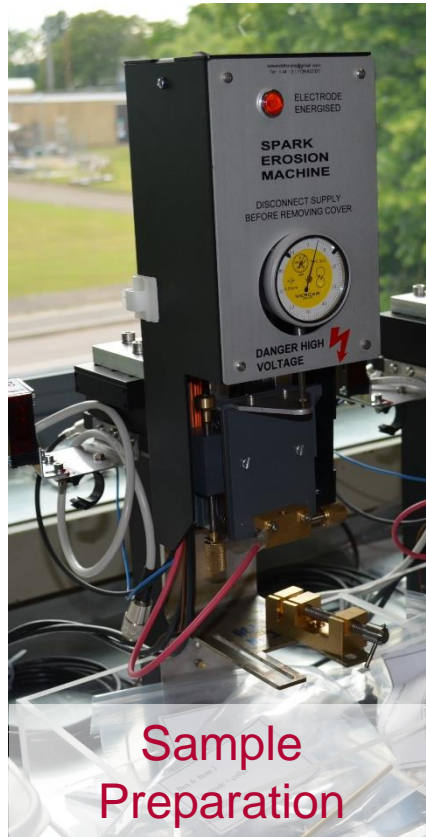
- Overview scientific equipment

	2013/14	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Microstructural analysis	FEGSEM, FIB	AFM, PMI XRF		CSLM Raman, WDS	XRD
Mechanical testing	Nanoindenter	Static load frame	Dynamic load frame	In-situ SEM frame, instr. indenter, DIC, EPD, IET	Small punch die, ultrasonic fatigue, high T testing for load frames
Thermo-physical characterisation	TDS	Gas Impregnation Setup	Dilatometer, LFA, TGA/DSC	Eddy current probe	Gas pycnometry
Advanced sample preparation		Electro-polishing, glovebox	Lab scale EDM, PIPS II, twinjet polisher, tube furnace	Sputter coater, dimple grinder, low activity prep	Diamond wire cutting, Lab scale EDM (hot-cell), electro-polishing, add. furnaces

Scientific Equipment



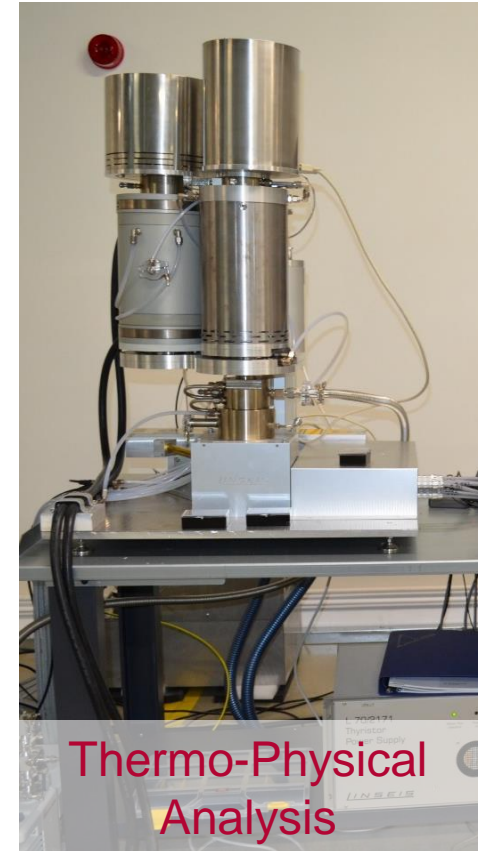
Microstructural
Characterisation



Sample
Preparation



Mechanical
Testing



Thermo-Physical
Analysis

Microstructural Characterisation

Currently available



Delivered in 2017/18

To be delivered 2018/19

FEGSEM

Tescan Mira XH

EDX, EBSD, TKD, **WDS**

Dual beam FIB

FEI Helios

GIS: Pt, W, C

Nano-manipulator for lift outs

AFM

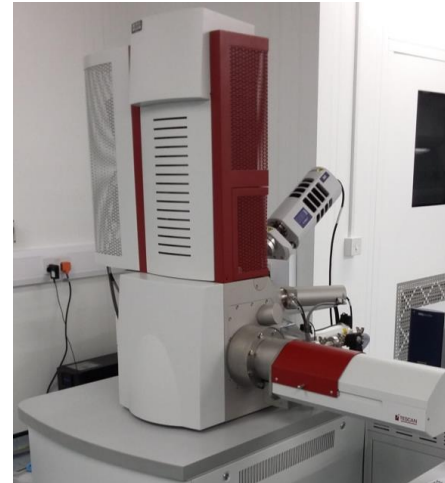
Veeco D3100

PMI XRF

Olympus delta premium

**Laser Confocal Scanning
Microscope – RAMAN spectrometry**

XRD goniometer



Thermo-physical Analysis

Currently available



Delivered in 2017/18

To be delivered 2018/19

Thermal Desorption Spectroscopy

Hiden TPD workstation

Up to 1000°C

Gas Impregnation Technique

Ar, N₂, Air, He, D₂, Tritium

Ion energy < 500 eV, RT – 500°C

Dilatometer

Linseis L75V, dual pushrod

-150°C – 600°C and RT – 2000°C

Laser Flash Analyser

Linseis LFA 1000

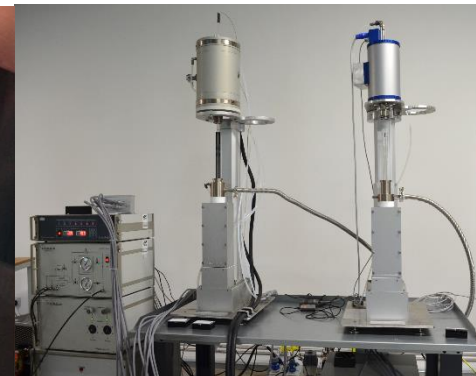
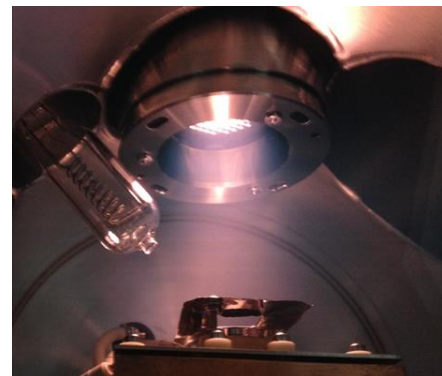
-100°C – 500°C and RT – 2000°C

TGA/DSC

Linseis STA PT1600

-150°C – 500°C and RT – 1600°C

Gas pycnometry



Mechanical Testing

Currently available

To be delivered 2018/19

Proposed for 2019/20

Nanoindenter

Agilent G200

Static load frame 10 kN

Shimadzu AGS-x

Environmental chamber for up to 800°C

Dynamic load frame 15 kN

TA Electroforce 3500

Environmental chamber for up to 800°C

Vacuum chamber with induction heating

In-situ SEM load frame 5 kN

DEBEN MTEST

Clamp heating up to 600°C

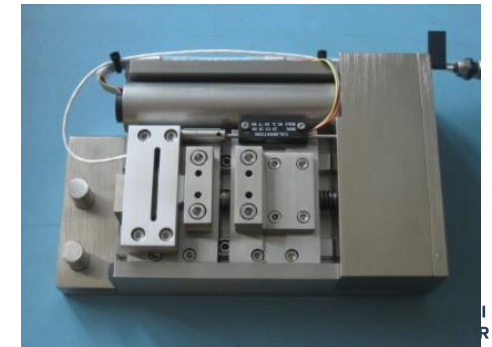
Instrumented indenter

High Cycle Fatigue Setup

DIC strain measuring system

Small-punch testing

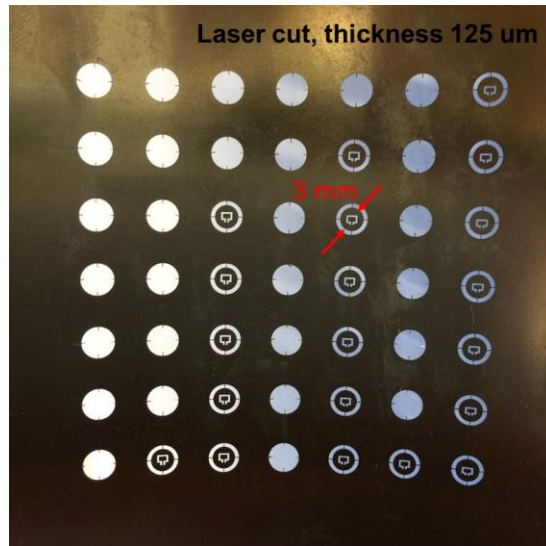
Impulse excitation testing



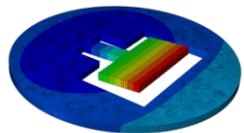
Ultrasonic Fatigue Rig

The meso-fatigue rig installation in the MRF (2018).

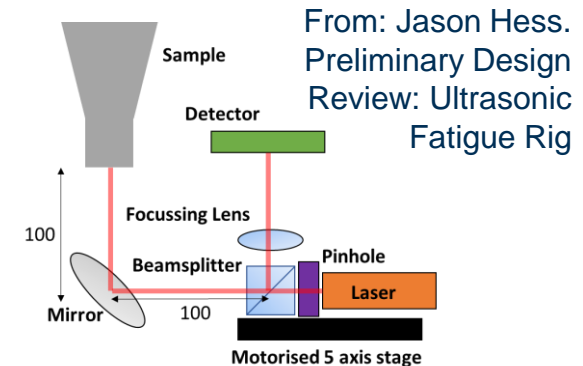
Ultrasonic resonant VHCF tests in the University of Oxford



FE Modelling



- Existing setup at Oxford (Wilkinson, Gong)
- Laser cut 3mm discs, with 200 μm cantilevers
- To be integrated in active environment (Research Room)
- Current setup for RT is being replicated at MRF
- 20 kHz = 10^8 cycles in 1.5 h



Sample Prep

Currently available

Delivered in 2017/18

To be delivered

Non active Sample prep lab

Cutting, grinding, polishing

Electro-polishing

Optical microscopy

Non active sputter coater

PIPS-II ion polisher

Lab scale EDM

3mm disc punch

3 zone tube furnace 1200°C

Dimple grinder

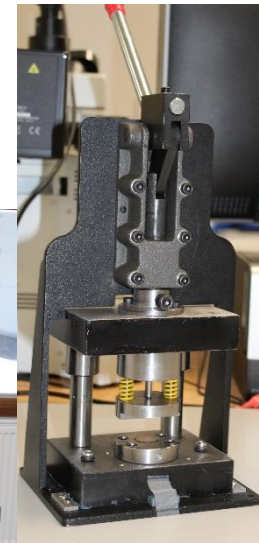
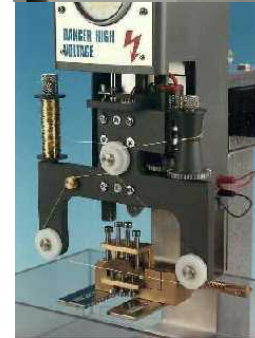
Glovebox sputter coater

Glovebox cutting, grinding, polishing

Hot-cell lab scale EDM

Hot-cell electro-polishing

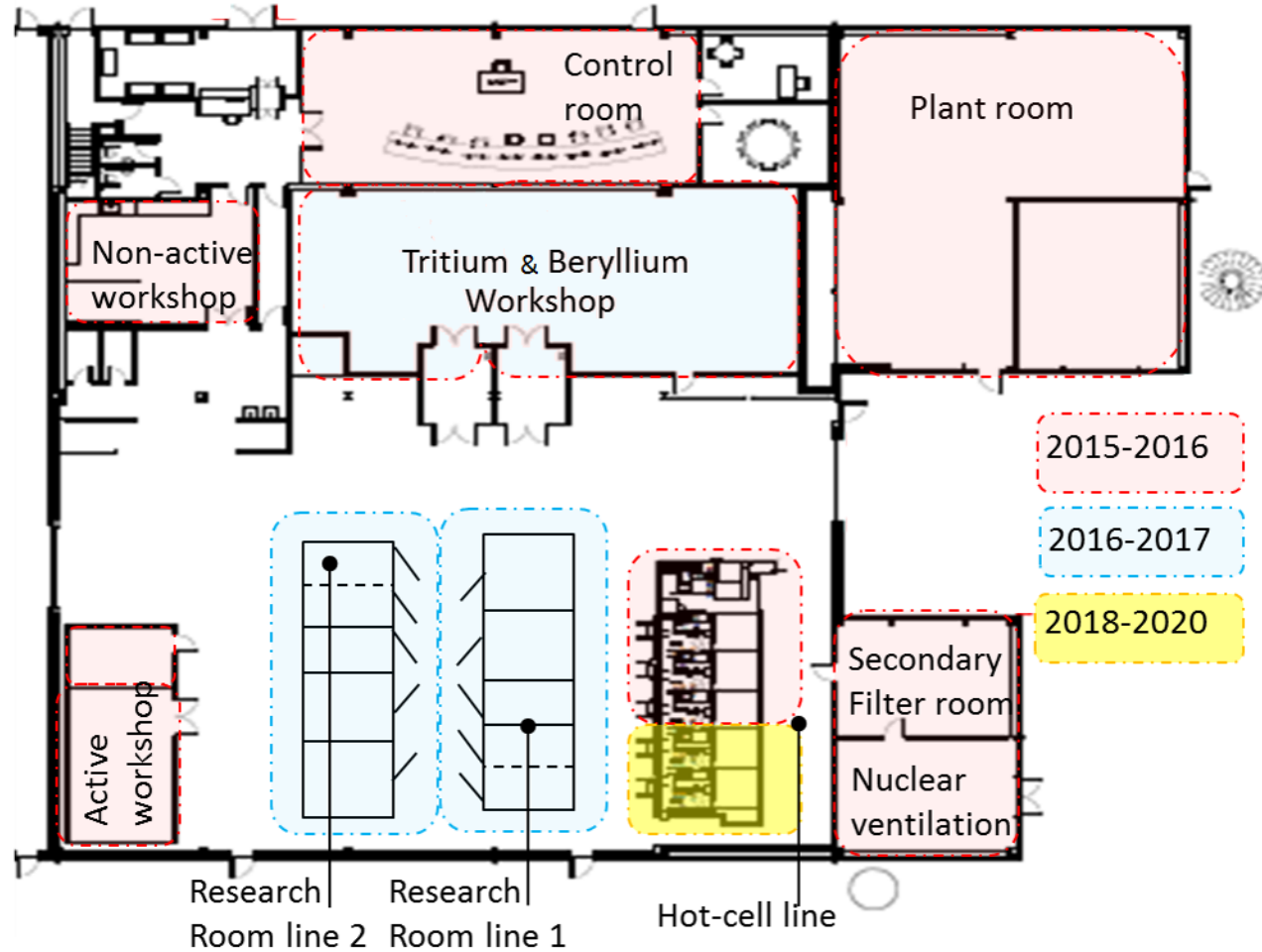
Additional furnaces (vacuum)



Investment Roadmap - 2016/17 to 2020/21

	2016/17 (£2M)	2017/18 (£2M)	2018/19 (£5M)	2019/20 (£5M)	2020/21 (£3M)
HOT CELLS (£3M)			NNUF	NNUF	NNUF
MICROSTRUCTURAL CHARACTERISATION (£3M)		Royce	Royce	NNUF	
SECOND FIB (£2M)			NNUF		
SHIELDING & OTHER ADAPTATIONS (£2.5M)	UKAEA/Royce	Royce	<i>3rd shielded rooms</i>		
MECHANICAL TESTING (£2M)	Royce	Royce	Royce	NNUF	
THERMO-PHYSICAL TESTING (£0.5M)	Royce	Royce		NNUF	
SAMPLE PREPARATION (£1M)	Royce	Royce	Royce	NNUF	
ADAPT & EXTEND BUILDING (£5M)				BEIS	
ONGOING SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES	<i>Recruitment, business development, safety, sample archive, health physics, waste management, etc.</i>				

Investment: building extensions



Conclusion

Overall status on MRF facility

Hot-cell line close of going active

Research Rooms nearing completion

Sample handling systems for RR are currently being developed

Sample prep in glovebox planned for this year

Overall status on MRF scientific equipment

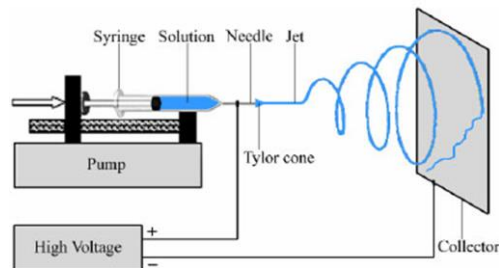
The past 1.5 year MRF expanded from 4 instruments to > 15 instruments, additional techniques will follow in coming years

Large majority of equipment is currently available for non-active and low active work

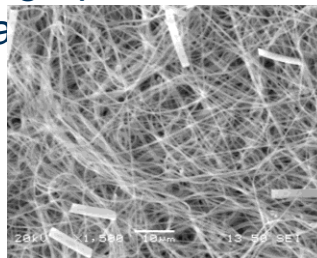
Implementation for higher activity work will be a staged process

In-beam thermal shock test completed in Oct. 2018

- Experiment carried out at CERN's HiRadMat facility
- Comparison of thermal shock response between non-irradiated and previously irradiated materials from BNL BLIP (Be, C, Ti, Si, SiC-coated C)
 - **First/unique test with activated materials at HiRadMat**
- Explore novel materials such as metal foams (C, SiC) and electrospun fiber mats (Al_2O_3 , ZrO_2)
- Real-time measurements of graphite thermal



Electrospinning concept



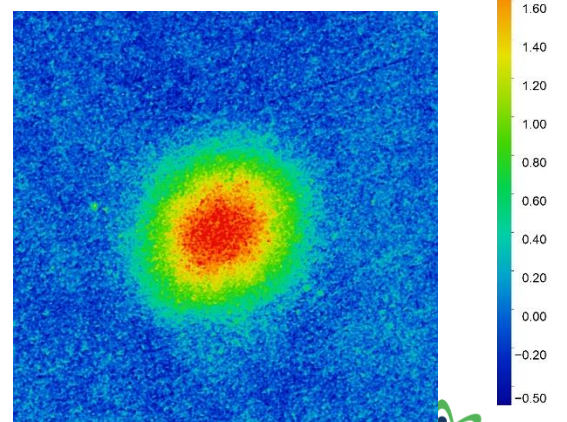
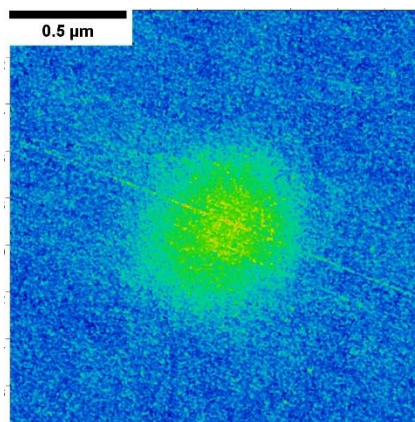
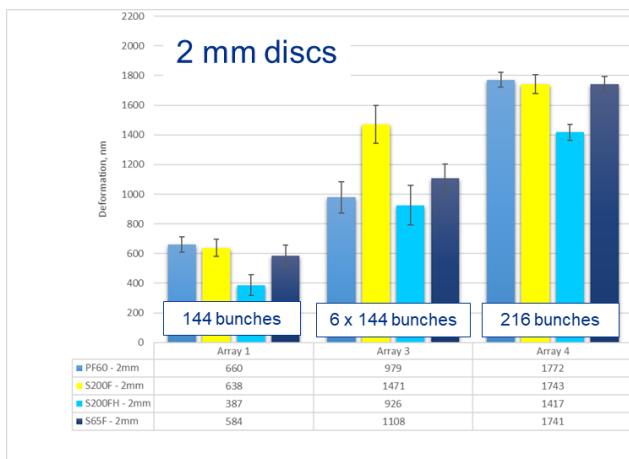
SEM as-spun Al_2O_3



Upcoming PIE work

alpha300 R – Confocal Raman Imaging

- Topographic Raman Imaging (“TrueSurface Microscopy”)
- Confocal microscopy in reflected light
- Fluorescent and Raman spectroscopy
- Large area mapping: up to $25 \times 25 \text{ mm}^2$
- 3D layer mapping
- Automated sample positioning: by X, Y and Z axes



BeGrid1, beryllium

Profilometry

- The out-of-plane deformation of the samples will be measured using Confocal Laser Raman Microscopy
- Topography of areas of the HiRadMat facility beam exposure will be collected.
- Profilometry will be performed on the samples as exposed at CERN, without removing them from the frames



SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY

- Exposed samples will be investigated to detect consequences of the HiRadMat facility beam exposure.
- Selected samples will be removed from the frames and put on the SEM pin-stubs. Carbon tape or silver DAG will be used for samples fixture.
- Microscopy images of the exposed areas will be collected. Localised deformation and surface fracture images (if exists and detectable) will be collected.



THANK YOU