



Updates on BLIP irradiation tests and RaDIATE activities

N. Solieri

Under the supervision of M. Calviani
On behalf of the RaDIATE collaboration



ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT

Outline

1. Radiation damage in Beam Impacted Devices (BIDs)

- Material R&D approaches for BIDs at different time-scales
- The RaDIATE collaboration

2. BLIP Irradiations

- BNL's BLIP facility
- Organization of an irradiation at BLIP and subsequent PIE
- An overview of the irradiations that we have launched
- The CERN2 capsule

3. An overview of some of the other RaDIATE activities

- BeGrid2 (HRMT₄₃) organization and subsequent PIE (K. Ammigan, FNAL)
- Fatigue testing of Ti alloys for FNAL beam windows (S. Bidhar, FNAL)
- Ti-base alloy tensile testing and microscopy (D. Senior, PNNL)
- Radiation damage effects in Be (S. Kuksenko, UKAEA)
- Development of ANSYS scripts for the implementation of radiation damage data (N. Solieri, CERN)

Material R&D studies for BIDs

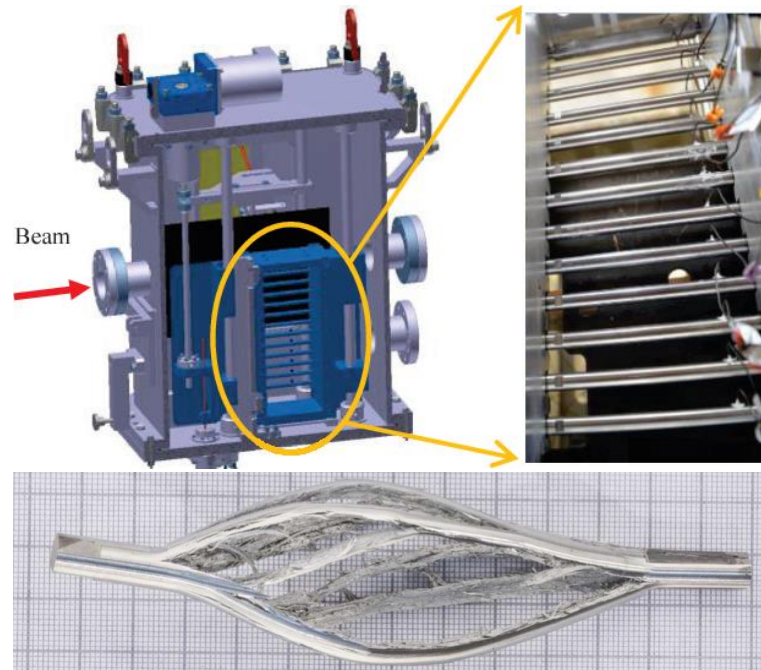
- ❑ Data from material studies for nuclear reactors poorly translate to BID scenarios → Need own material R&D

TIMESCALE



HiRadMat

Characterization of the dynamic response of the materials/prototypes under proton beam impact. No relevant radiation damage produced



Material R&D studies for BIDs

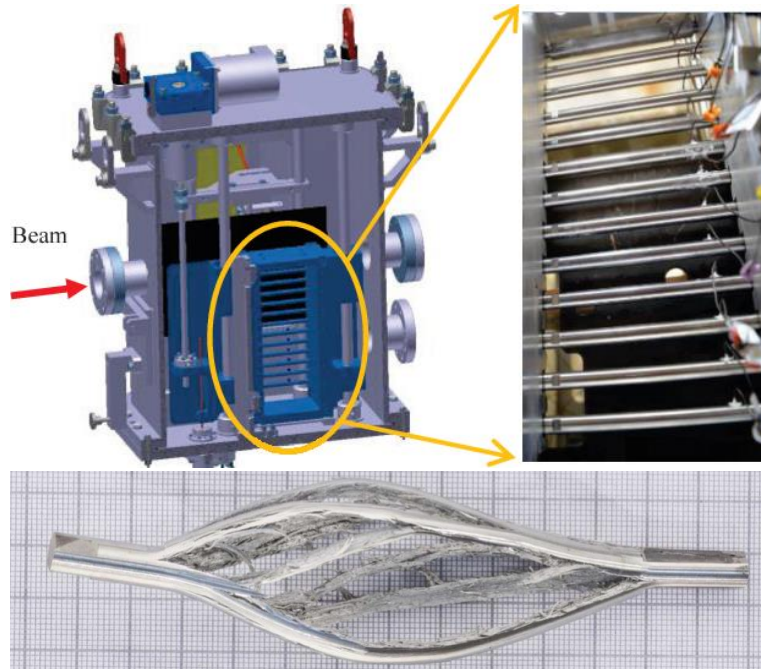
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TIMESCALE

← ns / μ s months / years →

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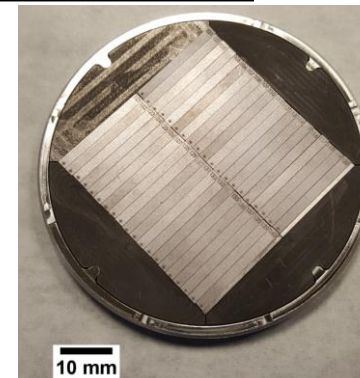


Post-mortem irradiation examination

Opening of a spent AD-Target after 7 years of irradiation



BLIP Irradiations



Several small samples for material testing enclosed in welded stainless steel capsules (\varnothing 70 mm, 5 mm thick)

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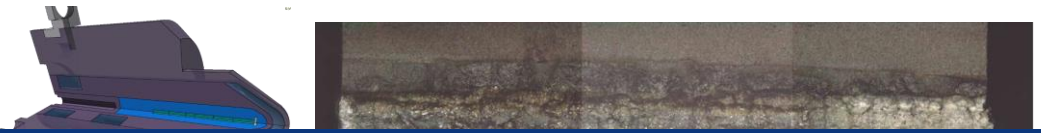
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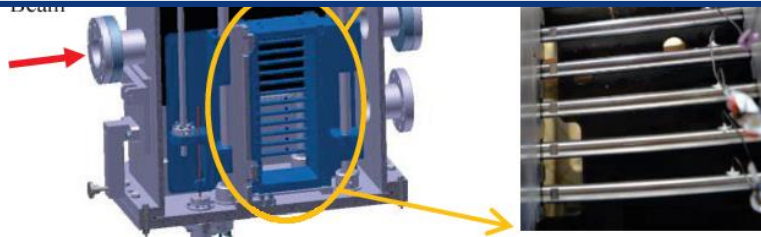


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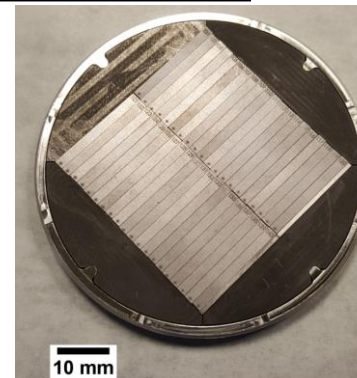


WE CAN ALSO COMBINE THE TWO APPROACHES (BeGrid2)



1

BLIP Irradiations



Several small samples for material testing enclosed in welded stainless steel capsules (Ø70 mm, 5 mm thick)

RaDIATE Collaboration

Radiation Damage In Accelerator Target Environments



Science & Technology
Facilities Council



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



Pacific Northwest

BROOKHAVEN
NATIONAL LABORATORY



Ciemat
Centro de Investigaciones
Energéticas, Medioambientales
y Tecnológicas



EUROPEAN
SPALLATION
SOURCE

Los Alamos
NATIONAL LABORATORY
EST. 1943

Argonne
NATIONAL
LABORATORY



Broad aims are threefold:

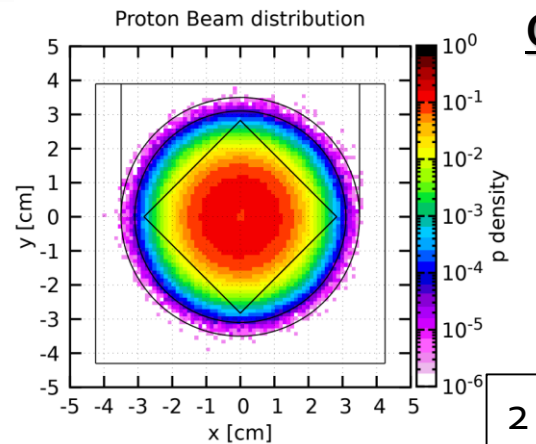
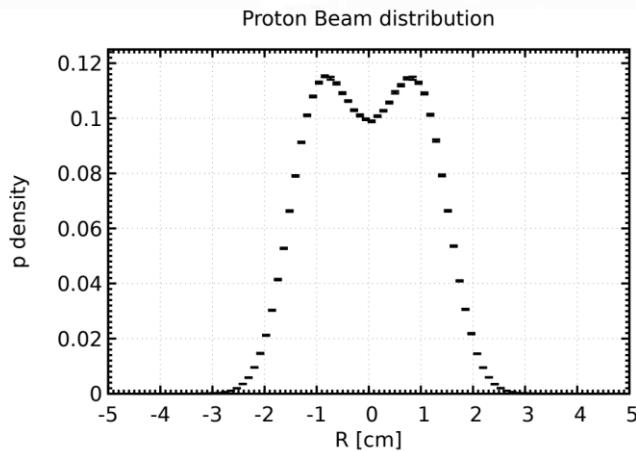
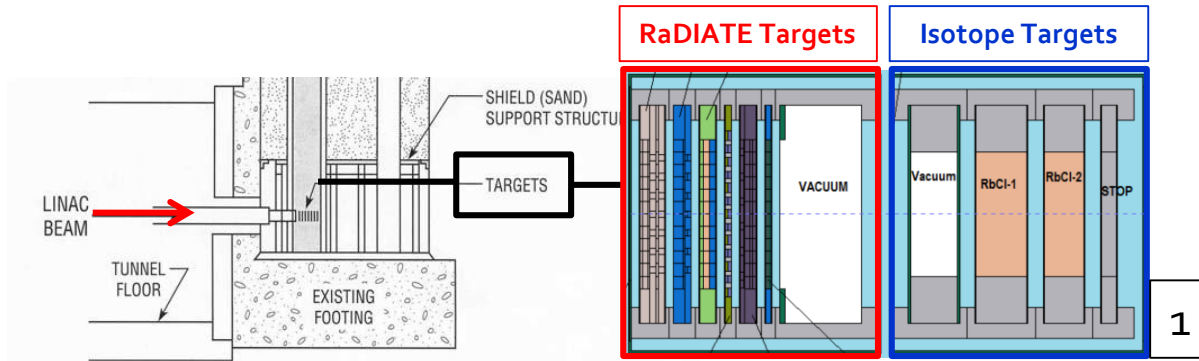
- to generate materials data for **accelerator** and **fission/fusion** communities
- Bring together HEP and nuclear fusion/fission materials research communities
- to initiate a **continuing synergy** between research in these communities, benefitting both **proton accelerator applications** in science and industry and **carbon-free energy technologies**

[5th in-person collaboration meeting](#) held at CERN in Dec. 2018



Irradiations at BLIP

BLIP – Brookhaven Linear Isotope Producer at BNL



Material irradiation in tandem and upstream of isotope targets:

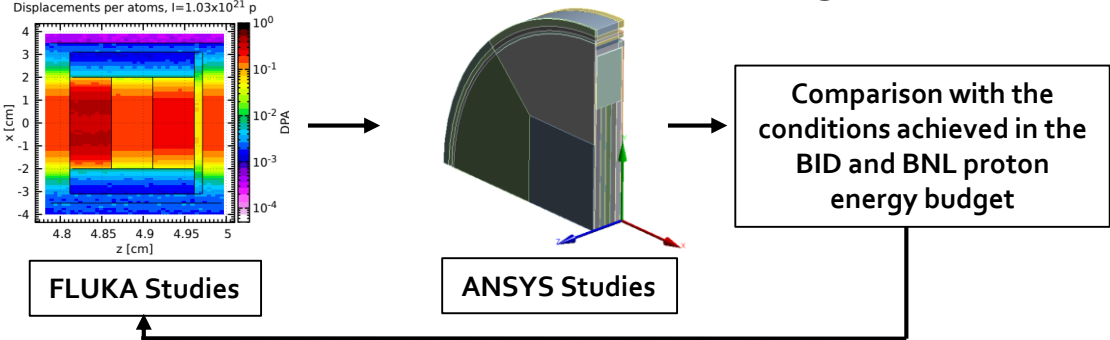
- Primary proton energy: up to 200 MeV
- RaDIATE Target array needs to be optimized for each run to deliver a beam that is appropriate for isotope production
- POT ~ $1E21$
- Peak DPA: 0.88 (Ta_{2.5}W, CERN₂ capsule), 1.2 (Ir, HighZ capsule)
- Rastered beam profile to achieve more constant irradiation profile
- Irradiation length O(months)

Objectives:

- Evaluate radiation damage effects from high-energy protons in various accelerator materials:
 - Beam windows, Secondary particle production targets, Beam dumps
- Perform PIE activities to characterize property changes due to proton irradiation damage
 - Strength (tensile, bend, fatigue)
 - Thermal (CTE, conductivity)
 - Annealing effects and microstructure (SEM, TEM, EBSD)

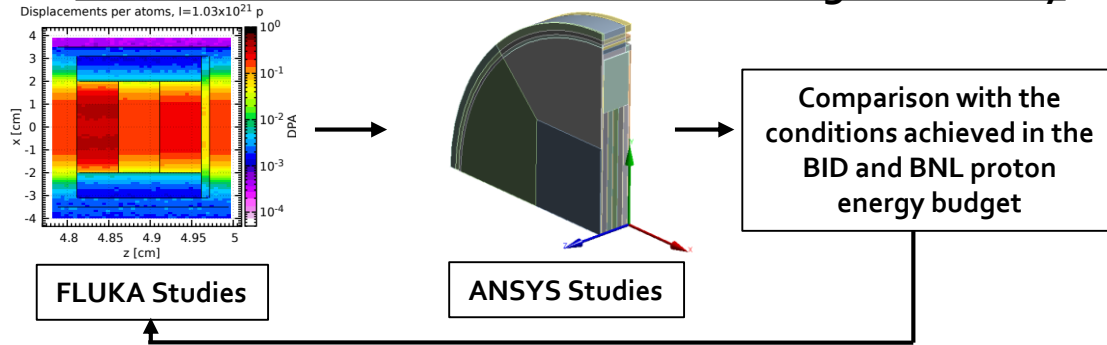
Organization of an irradiation at BLIP and subsequent PIE

1. Definition of irradiation run aims and target assembly

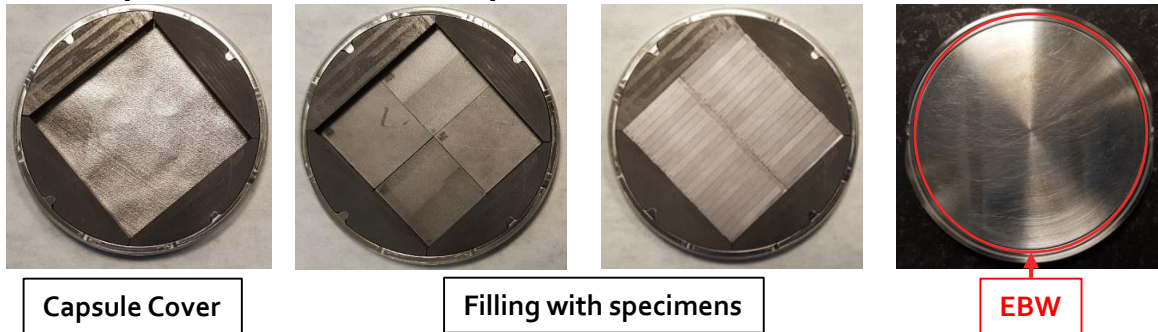


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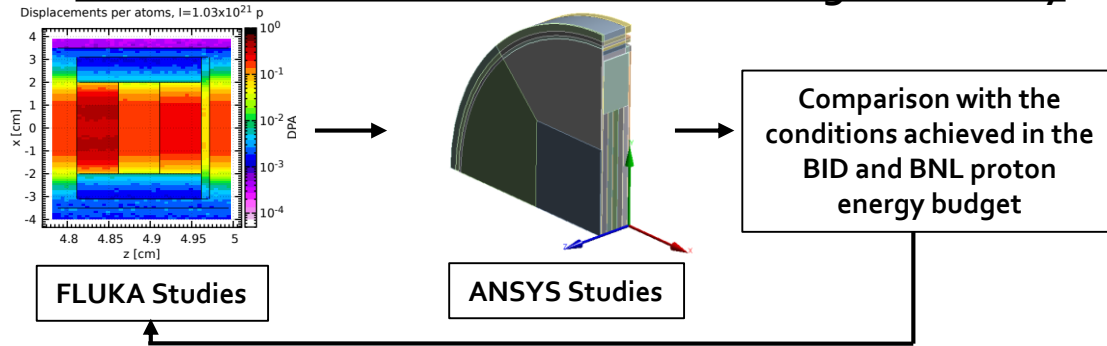


2. Capsule and material specimens fabrication

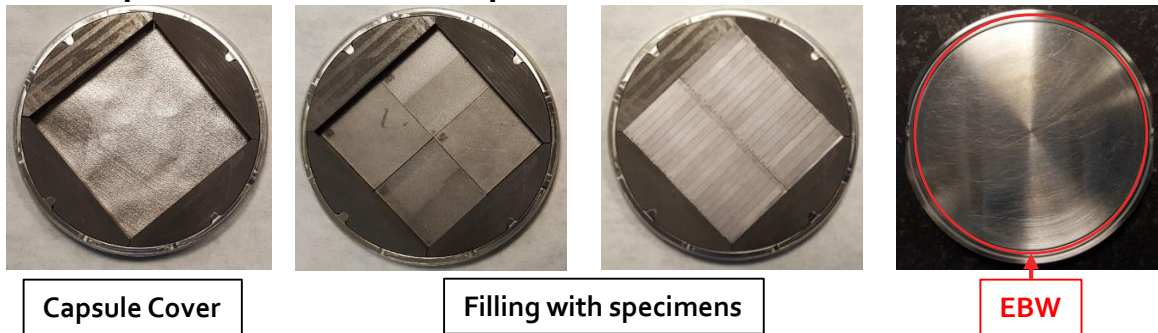


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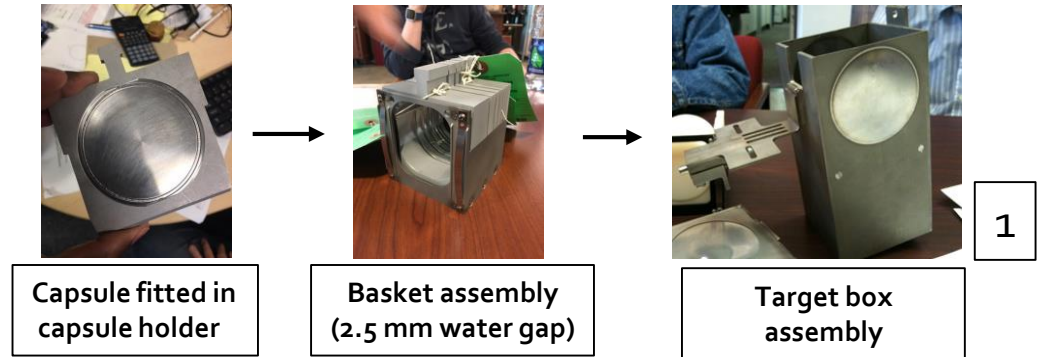
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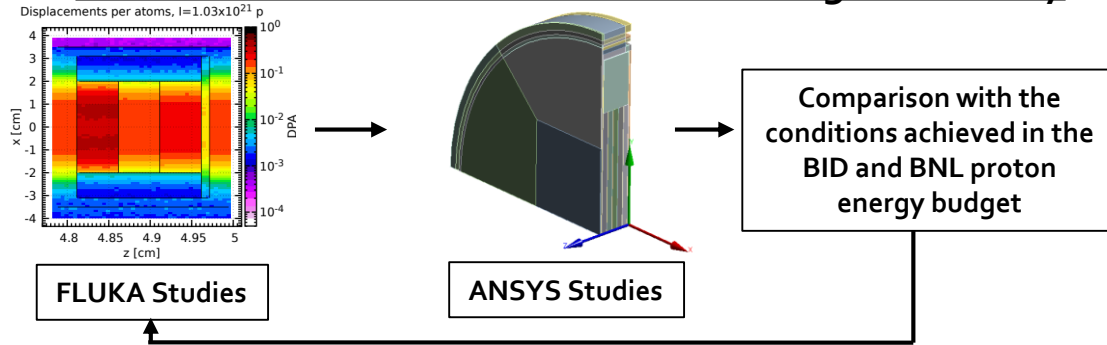


3. Shipment of capsule to BNL and installation in the beamline

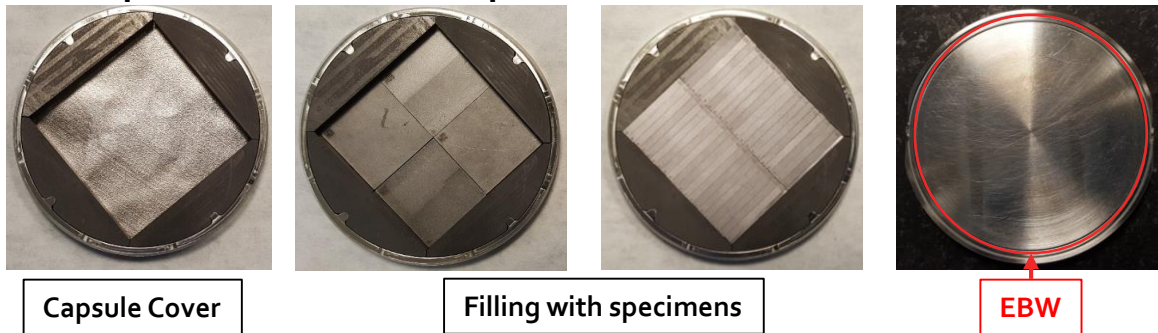


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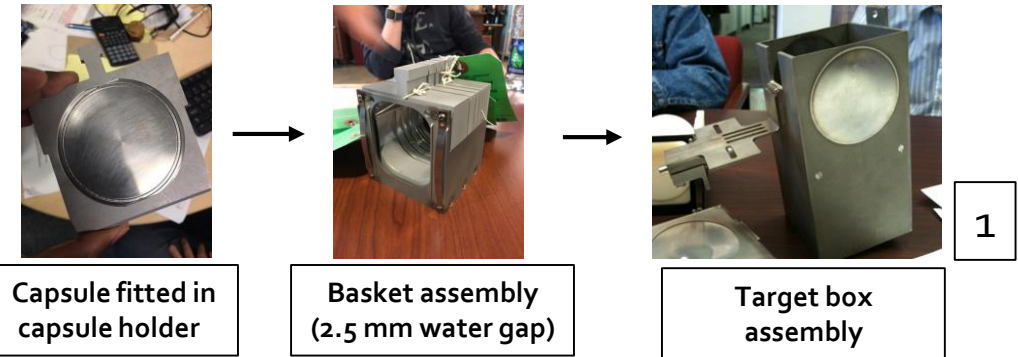
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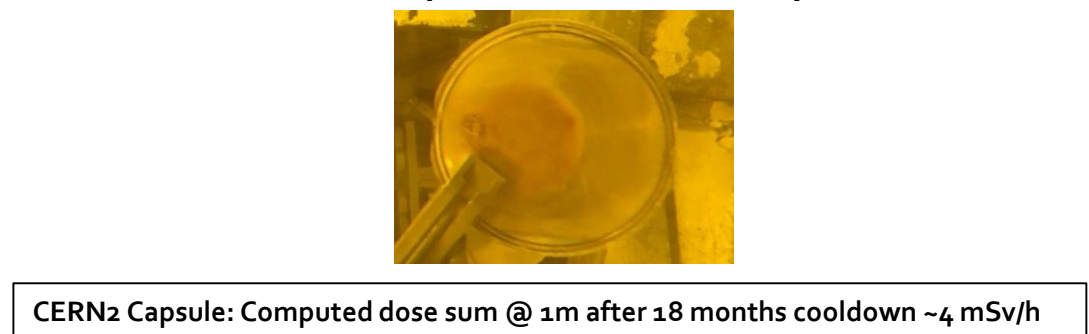
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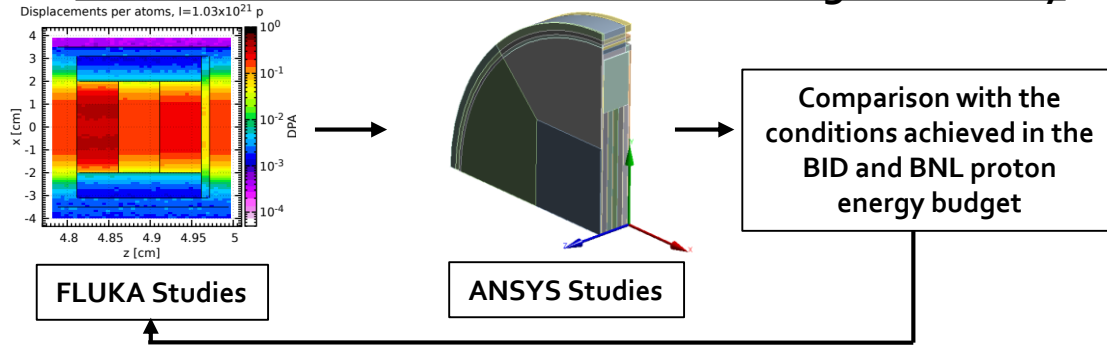


4. Irradiation and subsequent cooldown – O(year)

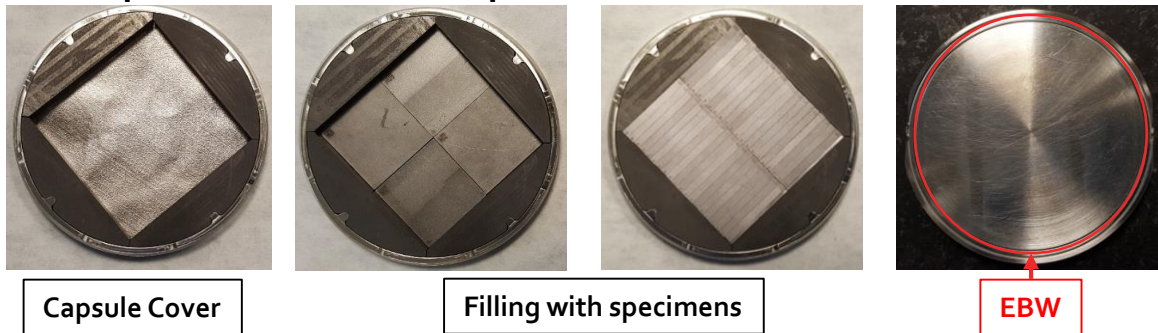


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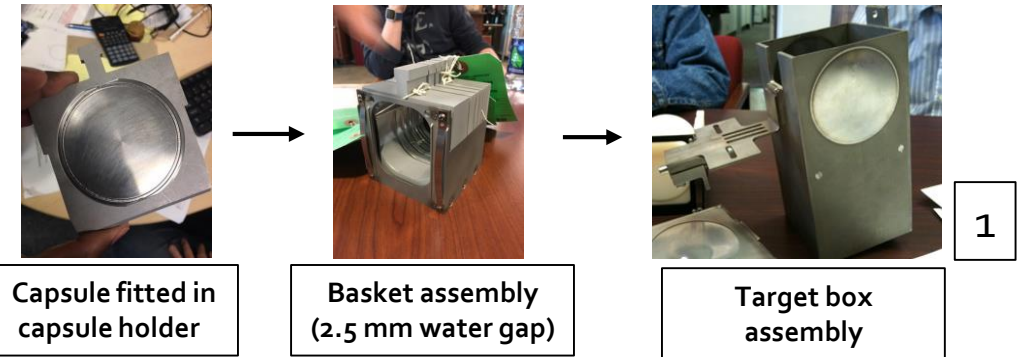
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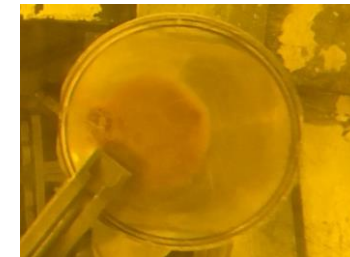
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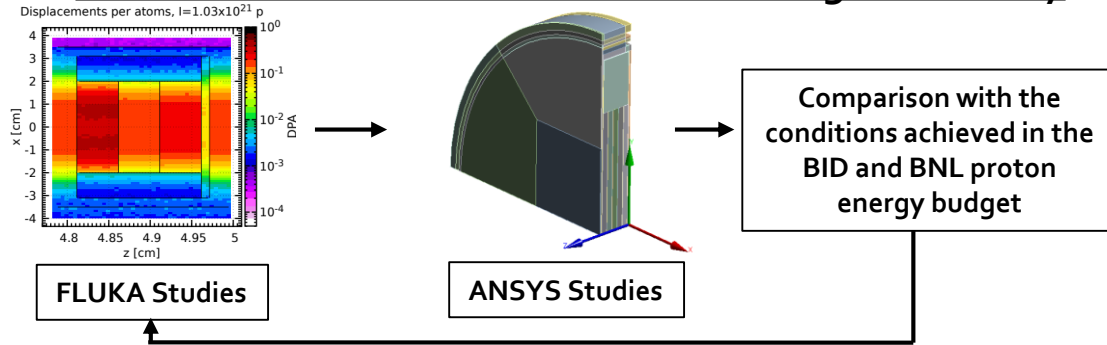


CERN2 Capsule: Computed dose sum @ 1m after 18 months cooldown ~4 mSv/h

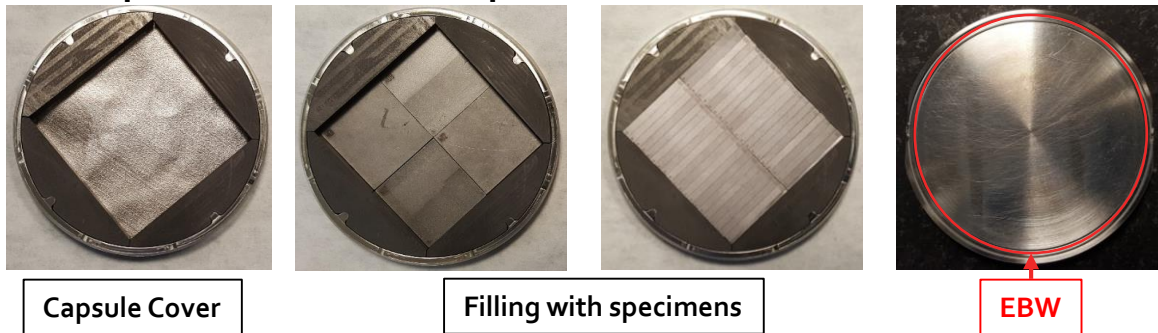
6. PIE ACTIVITIES

Organization of an irradiation at BLIP and subsequent PIE

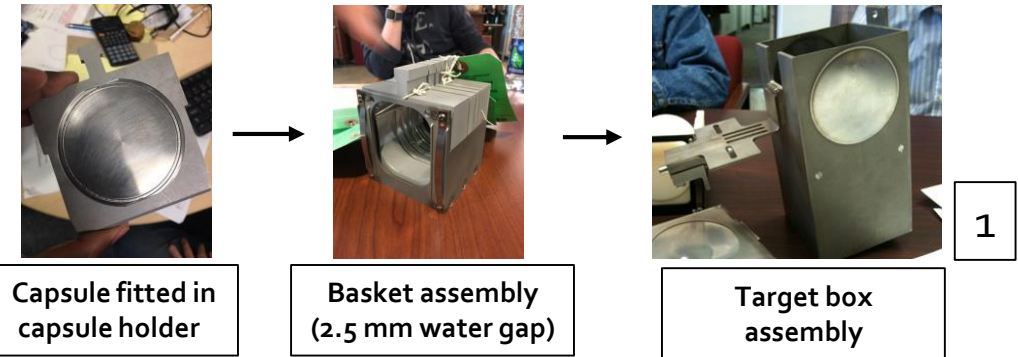
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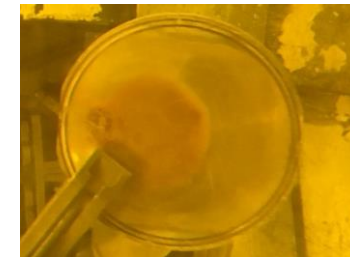
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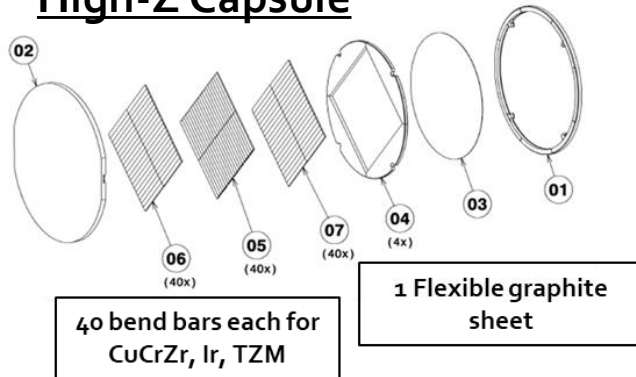
6. PIE ACTIVITIES

CERN2 Capsule → Design started in second half of 2017

PIE on some of the specimens will take place during 2020

An overview of the BLIP irradiation runs we launched

1. High-Z Capsule



- POT: $1.03E21$
- Peak DPA: 2.75 (Ir)
- Max T_{irr} : ~ 850 °C

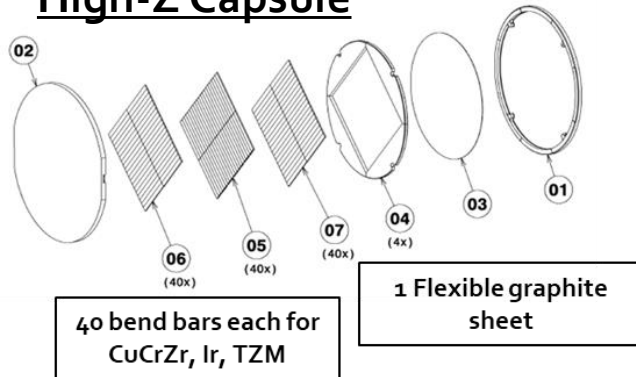
- CuCrZr, TZM → SPS Int. Dump
- Ir → AD-Target

- Capsule currently at PNNL
- Opening will take place in the coming weeks
- PIE → 4-point bending test

- A previous capsule suffered catastrophic damage and all the specimens were destroyed

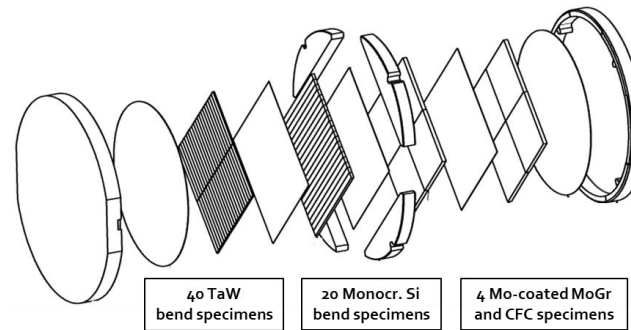
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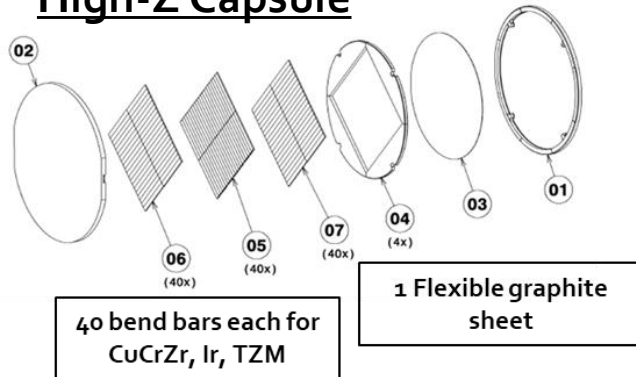
2. CERN2 Capsule



- POT: $2.8E21$
- Peak DPA: 4.77 (Ta)
- Max T_{irr} : ~ 230 °C
- Mo-Coated MoGr and CFC → HiLumi Collimators
- Monocr. Si → SPS Dump
- Capsule currently at BNL
- Opening was scheduled for end of Mar-Apr. 2020 @ Framatome
- Restart of activities being planned in collaboration with BNL
- PIE → Coating visual inspection, adhesion test, 4-point bend test

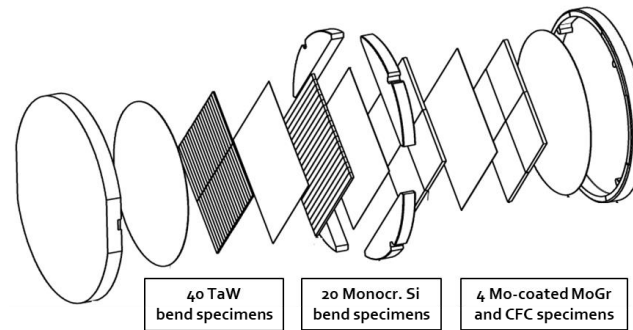
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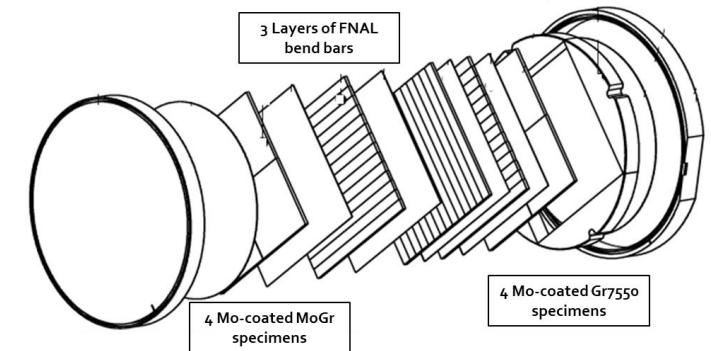
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3. CERN3 Capsule (CERN/FNAL)



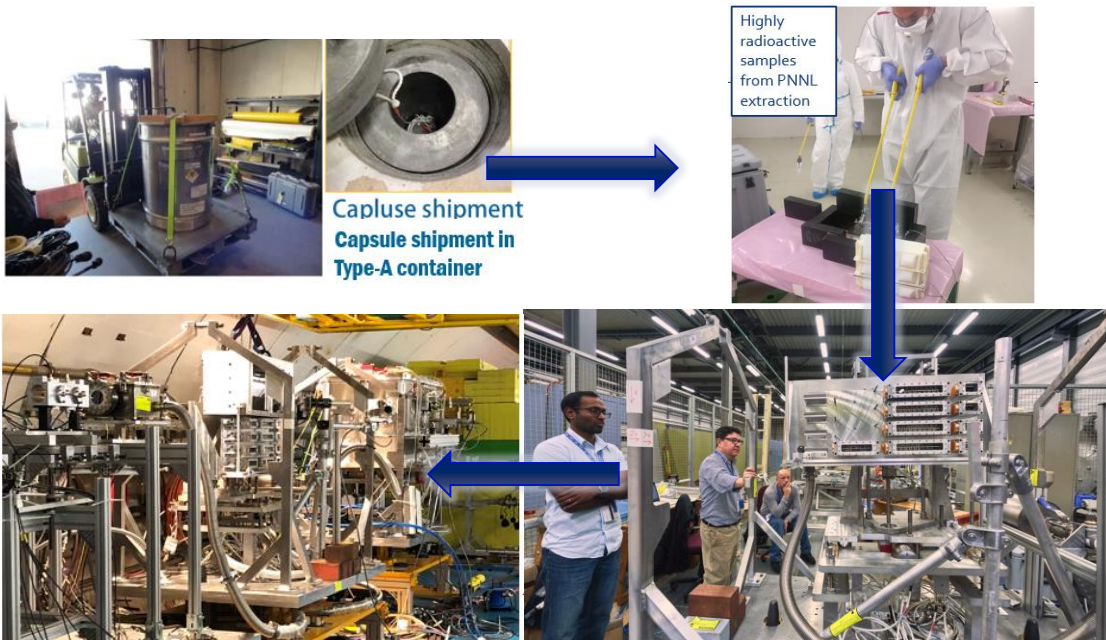
- POT: $7.5E21$ (expected)
- Max T_{irr} : ~ 170 °C (CERN specimens)
- Mo-coated MoGr and Gr7550 → HiLumi Collimators
- Capsule construction under way at CERN
- Irradiation was scheduled to take place in May 2020, now scheduled for second half of 2020

An overview of some of the other RaDIATE activities

BeGrid2 (HRMt43) - Organization

- Objectives →
- Identify thermal shock response differences between non-irradiated and previously proton-irradiated specimens from BNL BLIP:
 - (Be, C, Ti-alloys, Si, SiC-coated C)
 - Explore novel materials such as:
 - Metal foams (C, SiC)
 - Electrospun fiber mats (Al_2O_3 , ZrO_2)

First and unique tests with pre-activated materials at HiRadMat



- Very complex coordination between BNL, FNAL, PNNL and CERN for handling of highly radioactive samples
- Real-time measurement of dynamic thermo-mechanical response of graphite specimens in an effort to benchmark numerical simulations
- Completed in Oct. 2018

BeGrid2 (HRMt43) - Organization

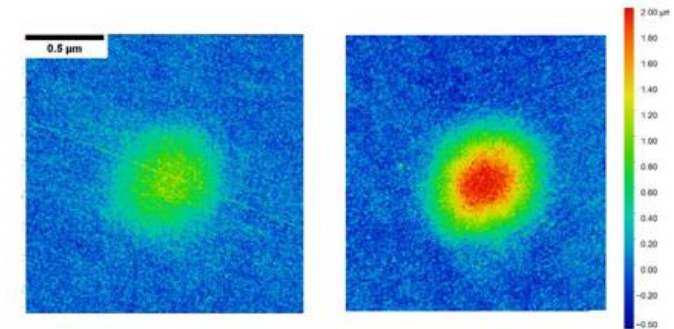
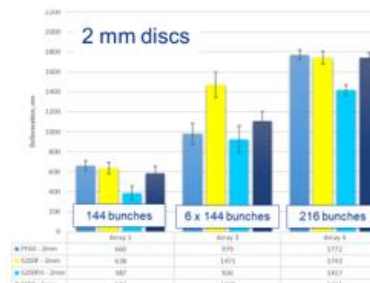
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First and unique tests with pre-activated materials at HiRadMat

BeGrid2 (HRMt43) – Upcoming PIE at UKAEA-MRF

PIE of the HRMT high-dose-irradiated specimens carried out at UKAEA-MRF

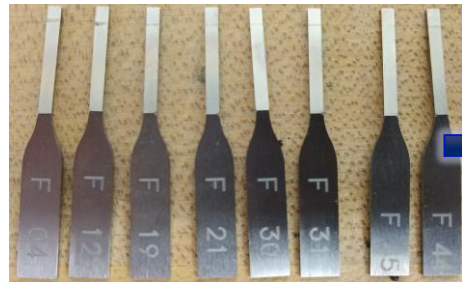
- Topographic Raman Imaging
- Confocal microscopy in reflected light
- Fluorescent and Raman spectroscopy
- 3D layer mapping
- Profilometry
- SEM



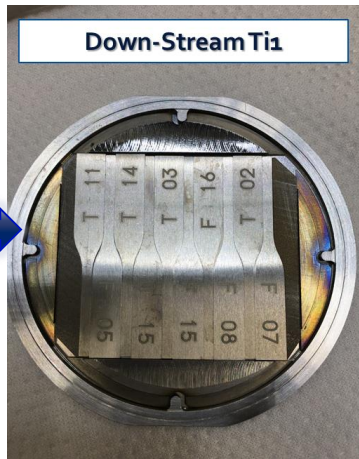
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Fatigue testing of Ti alloys for FNAL T2K beam window (1/2)

❑ T2K's Ti beam window subjected to thermal shock-induced load cycles **AND** long-term proton beam irradiation damage



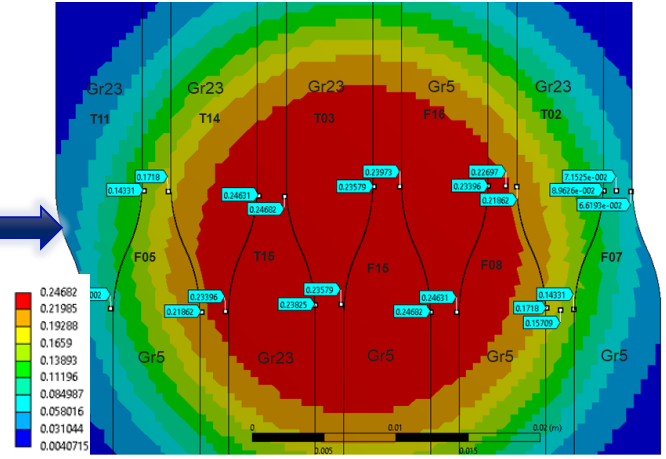
Ti bend specimens for fatigue testing



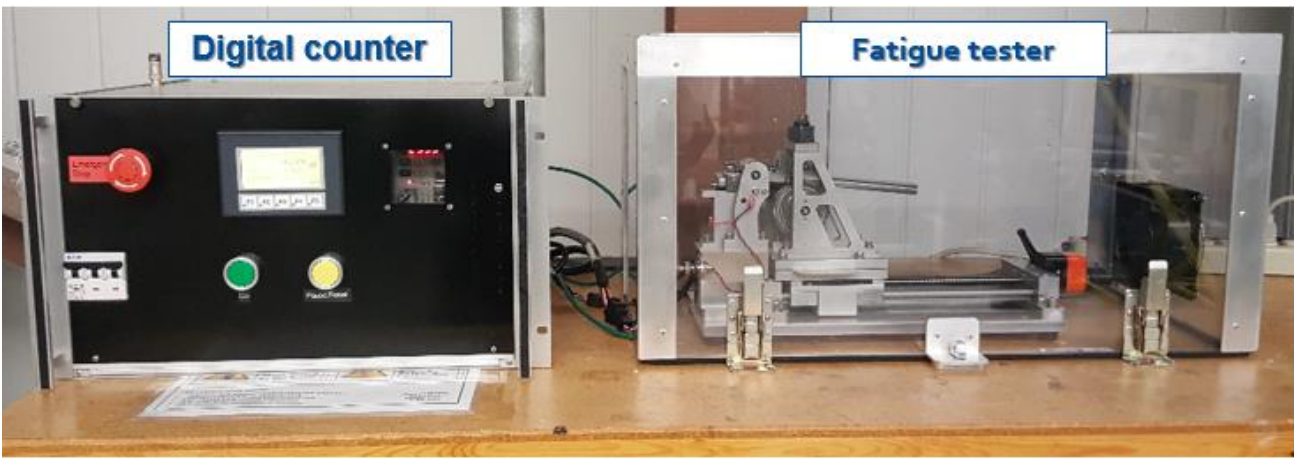
Ti specimens in BLIP capsule



BLIP capsule in capsule holder



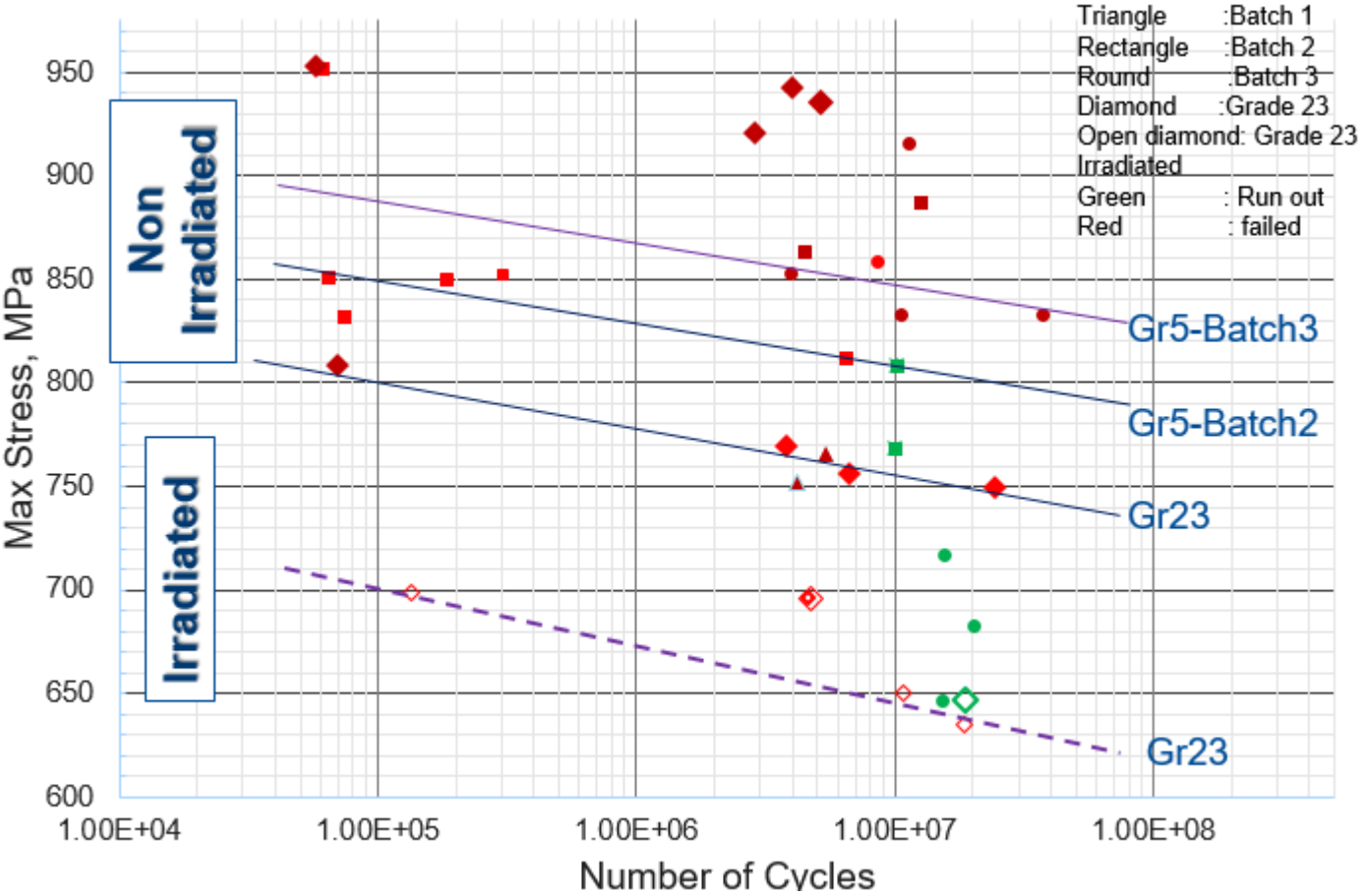
BLIP irradiation – dose map (DPA) on Ti specimens



← FNAL custom-made Bending Fatigue tester

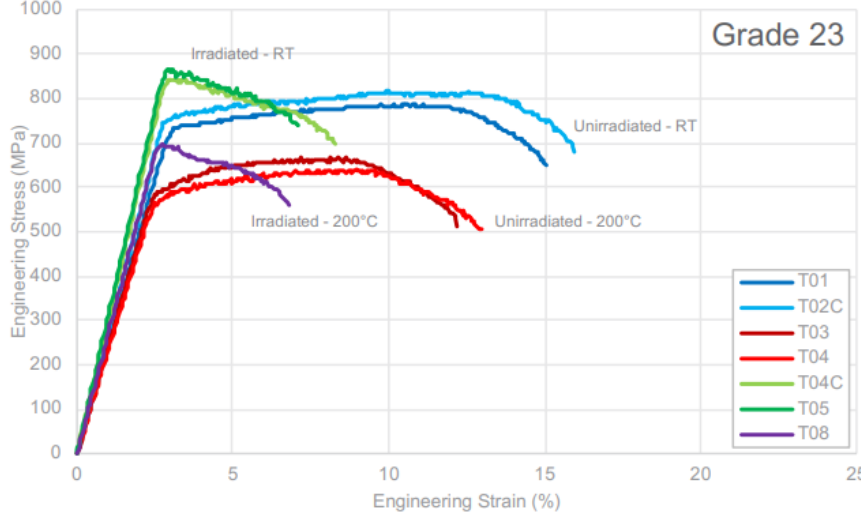
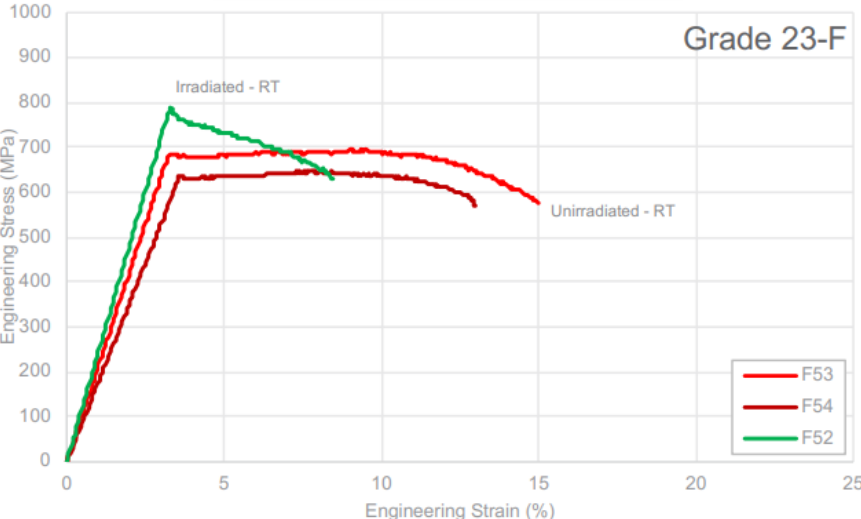
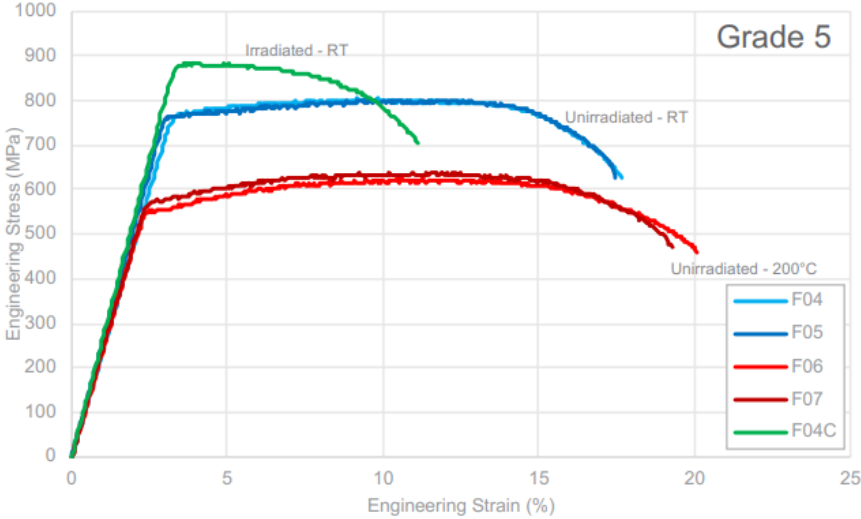
- Cyclic load frequency of 15 Hz
- Stress range of 375MPa - 1250 Mpa
- Automatically stops when sample cracks
- Ti Grade 5 and 23 tested
- Testing completed in Feb 2020

Fatigue testing of Ti alloys for FNAL T2K beam window (2/2)



Similar slope between irradiated and un-irradiated specimens but decrease in the fatigue life for a given stress amplitude

Ti-base alloys tensile testing and microscopy

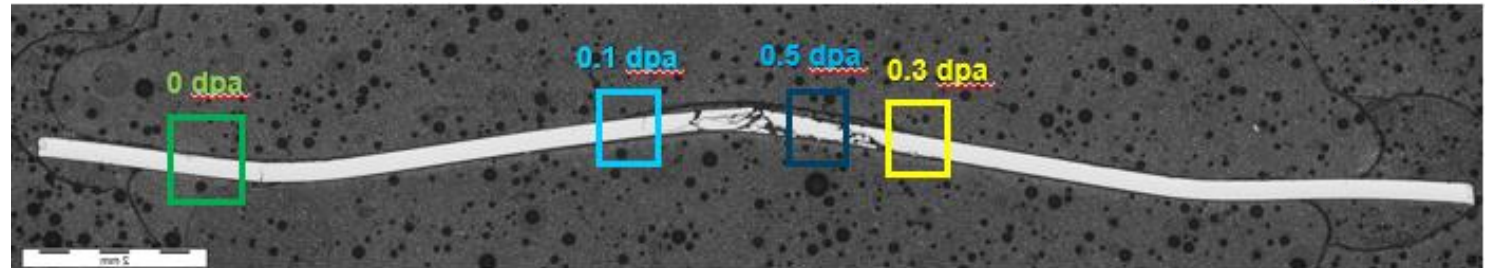
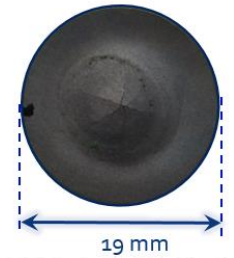
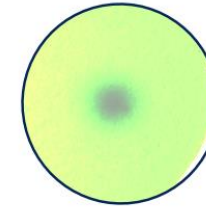


Distinct radiation hardening observed for each of the analyzed Ti grades

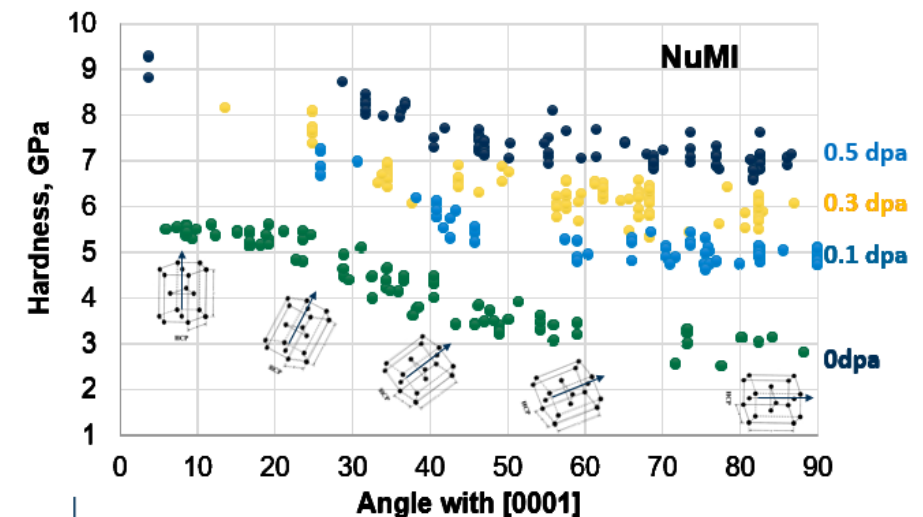
Radiation damage effects in Be

NuMI beam window:

- 120 GeV proton beam
- 1.57×10^{21} protons during its lifetime
- Up to 0.5 dpa
- $T \approx 50^\circ\text{C}$



- **Significant hardening** is observed in the p-irradiated beryllium even at 0.1 dpa
- Hardening increases with irradiation to higher doses (at least up to 0.5 dpa)
- Hardness of the irradiated beryllium is less anisotropic



Development of ANSYS scripts for the implementation of radiation damage data

We need a way to easily implement the radiation damage to material properties data accumulated through the BLIP irradiations into ANSYS Workbench for the assessment of our devices

1. Importation of FLUKA-generated DPA map into ANSYS and its scaling to integrated intensity
2. Discretization into N DPA levels and generation of N corresponding materials
3. Implementation of law of degradation of material property with respect to DPA:
 - Thermal conductivity/expansion
 - Hardening
 - ...
4. Assignment of material to element depending on DPA value at element centroid coordinates
 - Only adds a couple of minutes of computation time for typical size-models
 - Already available for XYZ and RPZ binning

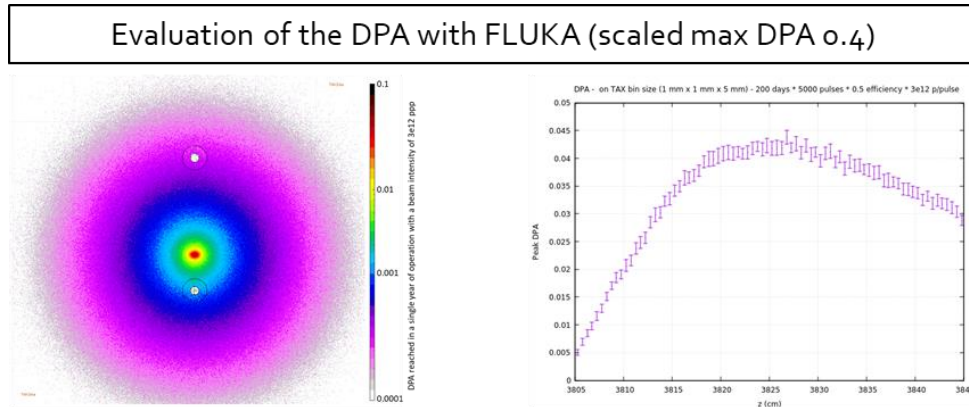
```

1  /PREP7
2
3  !*****
4  !----- INPUT PARAMETERS -----
5  !*****
6
7  FILENAME = 'E:\FLUKA\TAMBDDPA.dat'  !FLUKA DPA FILE DIRECTORY
8
9  COMPNAME='TAX1'      !NAMED SELECTION IN ANSYS TO WHICH THE COMMAND WILL BE APPLIED
10
11
12  INTEGR_INTENSITY=2.4e19  !Integrated intensity for DPA scaling
13  DPAMINCUTOFF=0.001  !Minimum DPA, below which the script will not be applied
14  DPAMAXCUTOFF=0.72  !MAXIMUM DPA, TO WHICH THE DPA VALUES WILL BE CAPPED
15  NDISCR=100  !NUMBER OF DISCRETIZATION POINTS FOR EVALUATION OF MATERIAL
    PROPERTIES
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23  !READ THE FLUKA OUTPUT COORDINATE SYSTEM -----
24  *SET,SCALE_LENGTH,1E-2  !Convert units of length from FLUKA to ANSYS (cm to m)
25  ALLSEL
26  *DIM,BINS,ARRAY,3,4
27
28
29
30  *SET,NSKIP,8
31  *SREAD,HEADER,FILENAME,,,,,NSKIP
32
33
34  BINS(1,1)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,3),25,12))
35  BINS(2,1)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,4),25,12))
36  BINS(3,1)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,5),25,12))
37  BINS(1,3)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,3),56,6))
38  BINS(2,3)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,4),56,6))
39  BINS(3,3)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,5),56,6))
40  BINS(1,4)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,3),69,11))
41  BINS(2,4)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,4),69,11))
42  BINS(3,4)=VALCHR(STRSUB(HEADER(1,5),69,11))
43
44
45
46  ! SET THE NUMBERS OF BINS IN EACH DIRECTION -----
47
48  *SET,NX,BINS(1,3)
49  *SET,NY,BINS(2,3)
50  *SET,NZ,BINS(3,3)
51
52  ! SET AND SCALE POSITION OF FIRST BIN IN EACH DIRECTION -----
53
54  *SET,X1,BINS(1,1)*SCALE_LENGTH
55  *SET,Y1,BINS(2,1)*SCALE_LENGTH

```


Example – Th. Conductivity Degradation in first block of K₁₂ TAX

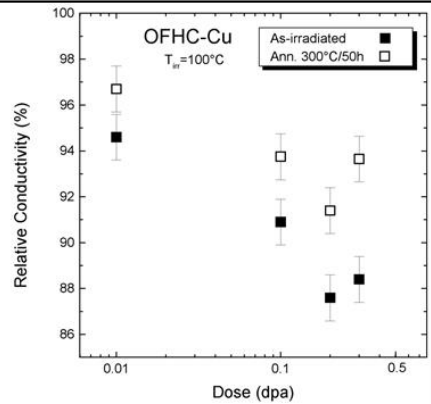
- ❑ What would happen to the thermal conductivity of the C₁₀₃₀₀ in the first TAX block after 4 years of 4x intensity BD mode (integrated intensity 2.4E19)?



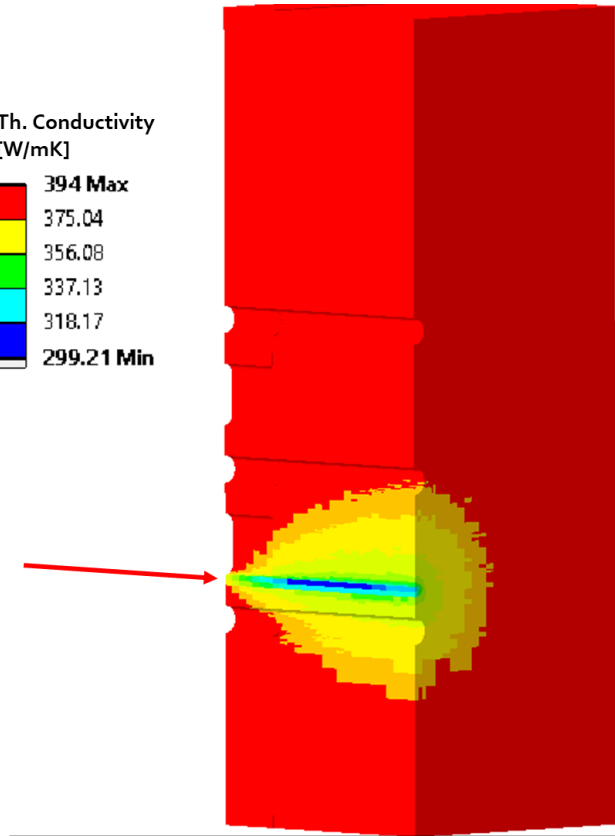
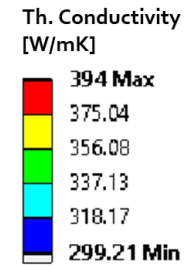
1

APDL Script

Derivation of law of variation of property with DPA from exp. data (neutrons)



2



24% peak reduction in Th. Cond!

Conclusions & future outlook

- ❑ Proton-beam-induced radiation damage to materials is one of the main challenges in the design, operation of current and future BIDs
- ❑ BLIP Irradiations: assessing long-term radiation damage on materials that we employ in BIDs
- ❑ Two capsules will be opened during 2020:
 - High-Z Capsule → CuCrZr, TZM (SPS Internal Dump), Ir (AD-Target)
 - CERN₂ Capsule → Mo-coated MoGr and CFC (HiLumi collimators)
- ❑ A new irradiation is scheduled for 2020:
 - CERN₃ Capsule → Mo-coated MoGr and Gr7550 (HiLumi collimators)
- ❑ Plenty of results coming from RaDIATE work packages in the coming months

BACKUP SLIDES

Microscopic radiation damage effects

Three main effects of irradiation on the microstructure of structural materials:

- 1) Structural changes from displacement and rearrangement of atoms
 - Creation of vacancies and self-interstitials (and their recombination or clustering)
 - Growth of cavities (swelling), climb of dislocations (creep), microvoids
 - ...
- 2) Kinetic effects → Radiation Enhanced Diffusion, Segregation and Precipitation (RED, RIS, REP)
- 3) Transmutation → Production of new atomic species. Production cross sections are highest for light transmutants (H, He)
 - ⚠ Displacement cross section σ_{dpa} → Above 20 MeV (for Fe) only very slightly increases with energy
 - H and Helium production cross section σ_{α} → **Continuously increasing with energy**

Irradiation Source	DPA rate (DPA/s)	He gas production (appm/DPA)	Irradiation Temp (°C)
Mixed spectrum fission reactor	3×10^{-7}	1×10^{-1}	200-600
Fusion reactor	1×10^{-6}	1×10^1	400-1000
High energy proton beam	6×10^{-3}	1×10^3	100-800

1

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Irradiation Source	DPA rate (DPA/s)	He gas production (appm/DPA)	Irradiation Temp (°C)
Mixed spectrum			
Effects from low energy neutron irradiations do not equal effects from high energy proton irradiations (transmutation)			
High energy proton beam	6×10^{-3}	1×10^3	100-800

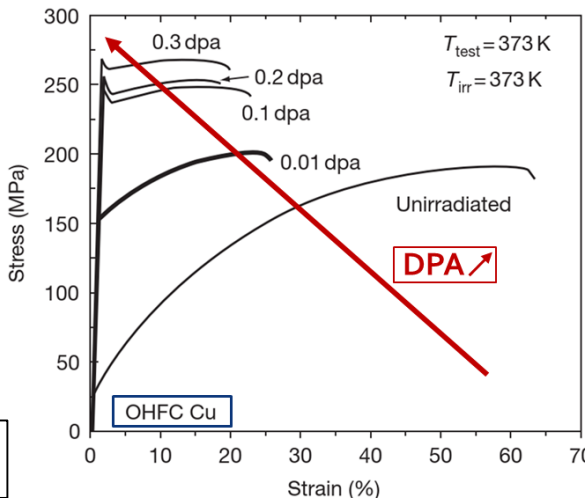
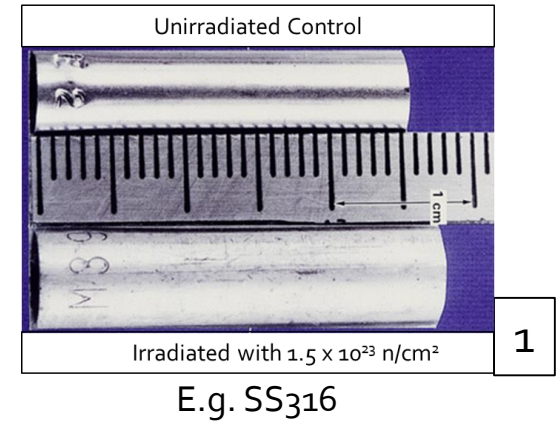
1

Radiation damage effects on macroscopic material properties

□ Dimensional Change and associated reduction of density

□ Reduction of thermal/electrical conductivity and thermal expansion

□ Hardening and embrittlement



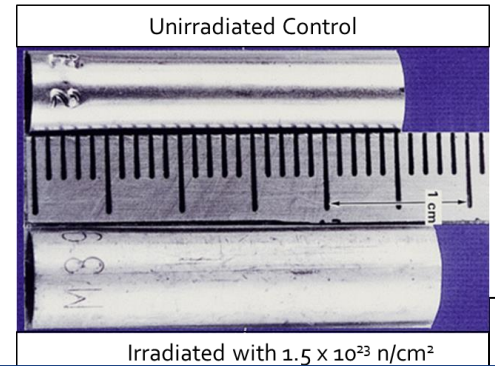
2

- Loss of ductility
- Hardening
- Reduction of fracture toughness, change of fracture mode from ductile to brittle
- Irradiation embrittlement → Mostly due to pinning of dislocations by irradiation induced dislocation loops, precipitates, cavities or bubbles
- H and He embrittlement
- Accelerated corrosion

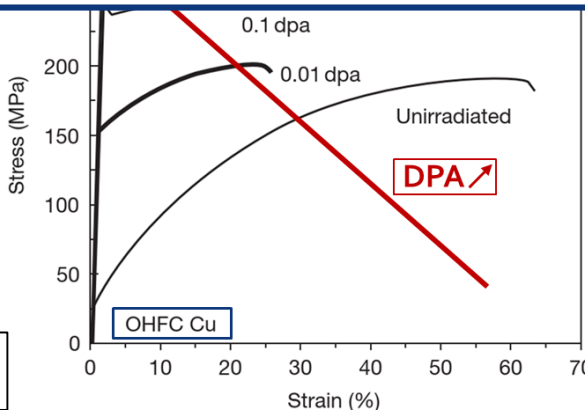
Radiation damage effects on macroscopic material properties

❑ Dimensional Change and associated reduction of density

❑ Reduction of thermal/electrical conductivity and thermal expansion



Thermo-mechanical response of BIDs heavily depend on material properties, but material properties heavily dependent upon Radiation Damage



❑ Hardening

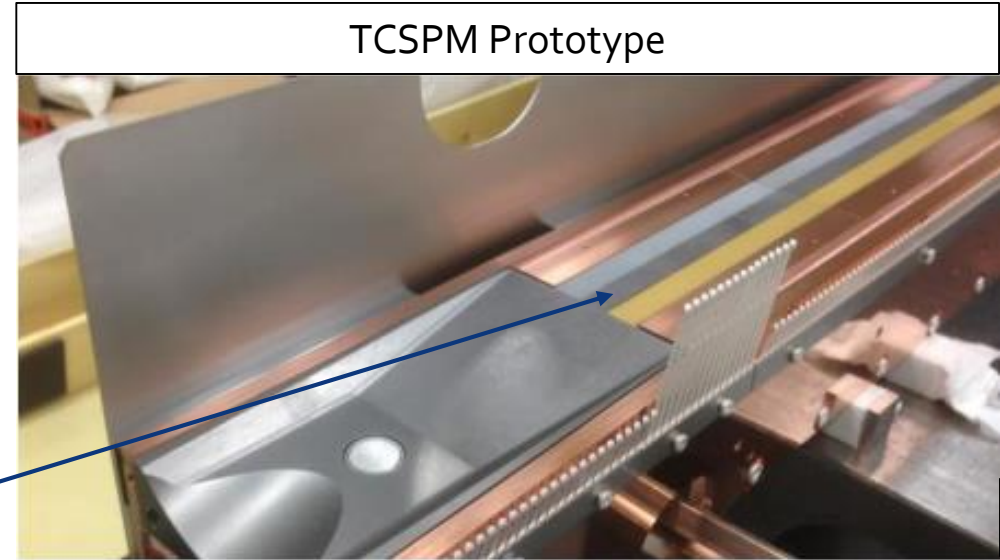
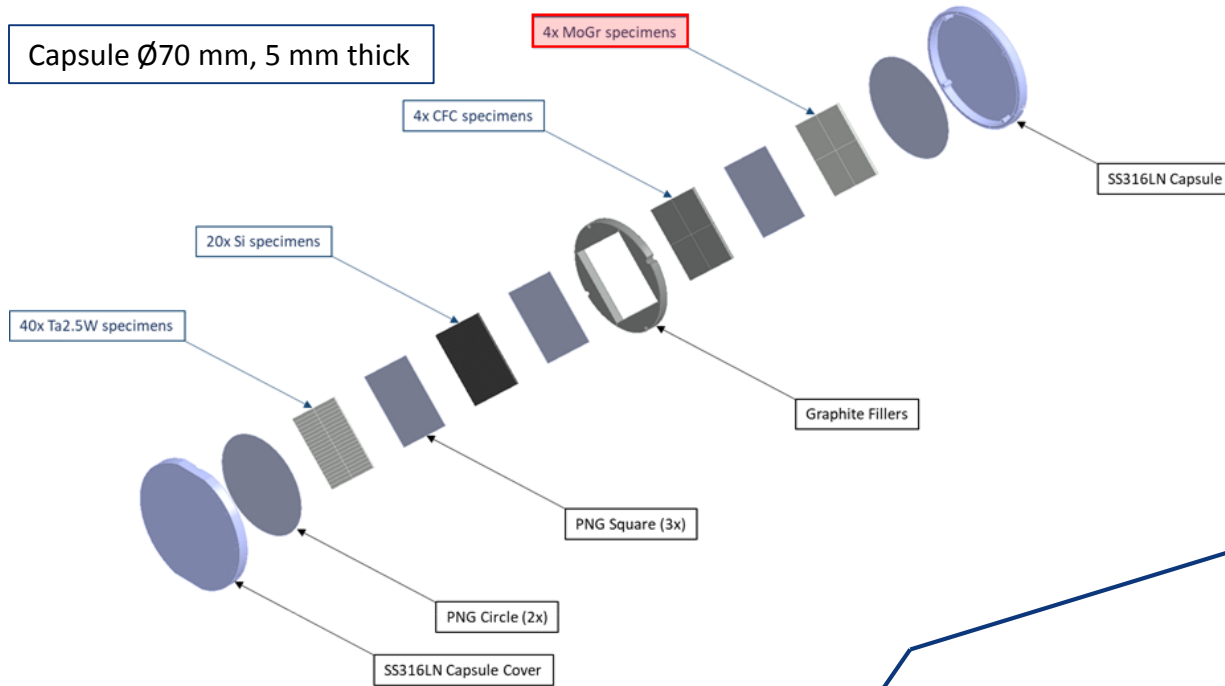
❑ Reduction of fracture toughness, change of fracture mode from ductile to brittle

❑ Irradiation embrittlement → Mostly due to pinning of dislocations by irradiation induced dislocation loops, precipitates, cavities or bubbles

❑ H and He embrittlement

❑ Accelerated corrosion

The CERN2 capsule



1

- Stainless steel welded capsule containing:
 - 40x Ta2.5W specimens (BDF Target)
 - 20x Monocrystalline Si specimens (SPS Int. Dump)
 - 4x Mo-coated CFC specimens (HiLumi Collimators)
 - 4x Mo-coated MoGr specimens**
 - Panasonic graphite foils
 - Graphite fillers

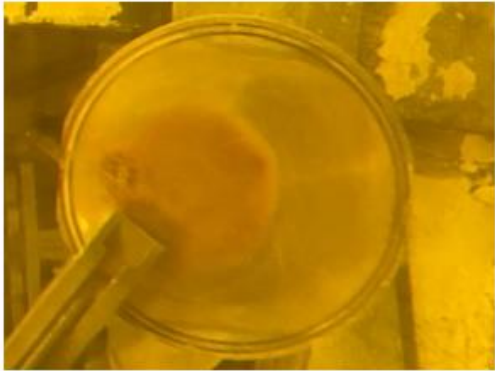
	Primary MoGr collimators		CERN2 MoGr
	Left	Right	
POT	~ 1E17		2.8E21
DPA (peak)	0.15	0.18	0.154
He appm	110	130	101
He appm/DPA	600-1000	600-1000	1759

2

Scope of the Contract – Baseline activities

CERN rules →

- Technical specification for the activities
 - Tendering procedure for companies who have experience in the field
 - Awarding of contract: **Framatome GmbH (DE)**



Current status of the capsule at BNL

1. Shipment of the capsule to the contractor's facility (Capsule currently at BNL, USA)
2. Opening of the capsule:
 - a) Preparation of opening procedure. Evaluation of applicability of opening procedure when the CERN2 irradiated capsule is unloaded in the hot cell
 - b) Validation of opening procedure on spare CERN2 capsule supplied by CERN
 - c) Extraction of the specimens by means of vacuum tweezers
 - d) Sorting and storage of the specimens
3. PIE activities:
 - a) Visual inspection on **4 Mo-coated MoGr and 4 Mo-coated CFC specimens**
 - b) Test adhesion of the coating on **2 Mo-coated MoGr specimens**
4. Transport of all the specimens from contractor's facilities to CERN

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Project delayed due to COVID but now on track to completion during 2020

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Current status of the capsule at BNL