



Cristian Pira

# RF Cavities

Workshop on FCC-ee and Lepton Colliders  
LNF, 22 January 2025

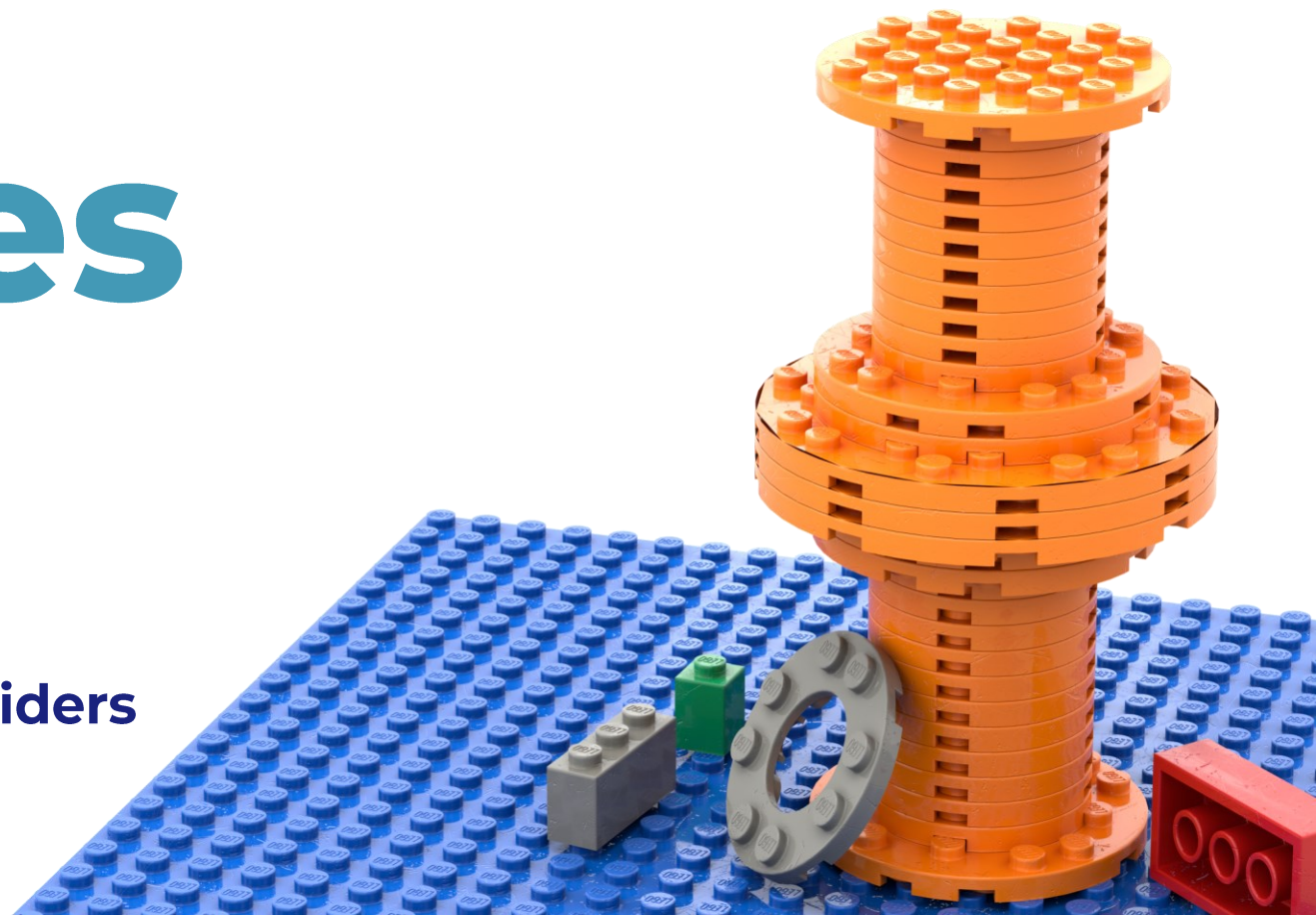


Work supported by INFN CSN5 experiment SAMARA and INFN CSN1 experiments SRF and RD\_FCC



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon-INFRA-2023-TECH-01 under GA No 101131435 – iSAS and from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under GA No 101004730 – iFAST

**Thanks to Walter Venturini and Vittorio Parma**  
for helping me to understand the new RF layout of FCC-ee.



# Outline

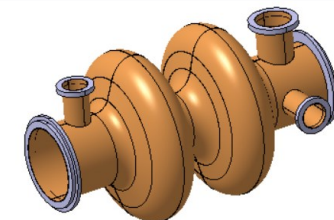
**FCC-ee  
SRF cavities  
layout**



**R&D  
Bulk Nb  
800 MHz**



**R&D  
Nb on Cu  
400 MHz**



# INFN LNL present SRF R&D projects focused on FCC-ee



*INFN R&D started to explore PEP and Nb3Sn coatings in a CSN5 experiment*



*INFN LNL has a **leadership role** in the two main European Projects on Thin Film SRF R&D*

**SRF cavities  
R&D for  
FCC-ee**

INFN Accelerators European Strategy Program

**RD\_FCC**

INFN CSN1 Experiment

*A **dedicated Project on R&D of interest of FCC** has been **financed by INFN board***

## International Partners:



Science and Technology Facilities Council

**HZB** Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin

**HZDR** HELMHOLTZ ZENTRUM DRESDEN ROSENDOERF

**UNIVERSITÄT SIEGEN**

**UC Lab** Irène Joliot-Curie Laboratoire de Physique des 2 Infinis



1862 **RĪGAS TEHNISKĀ UNIVERSITĀTE**

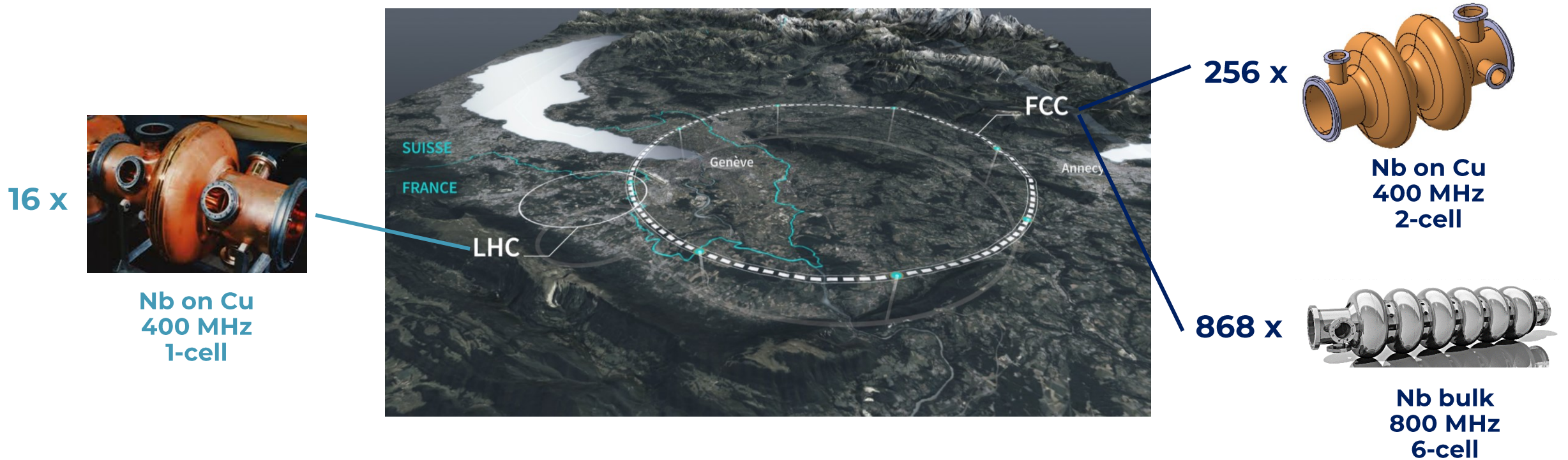
**Jefferson Lab**

**Fermilab**

**PICCOLO**

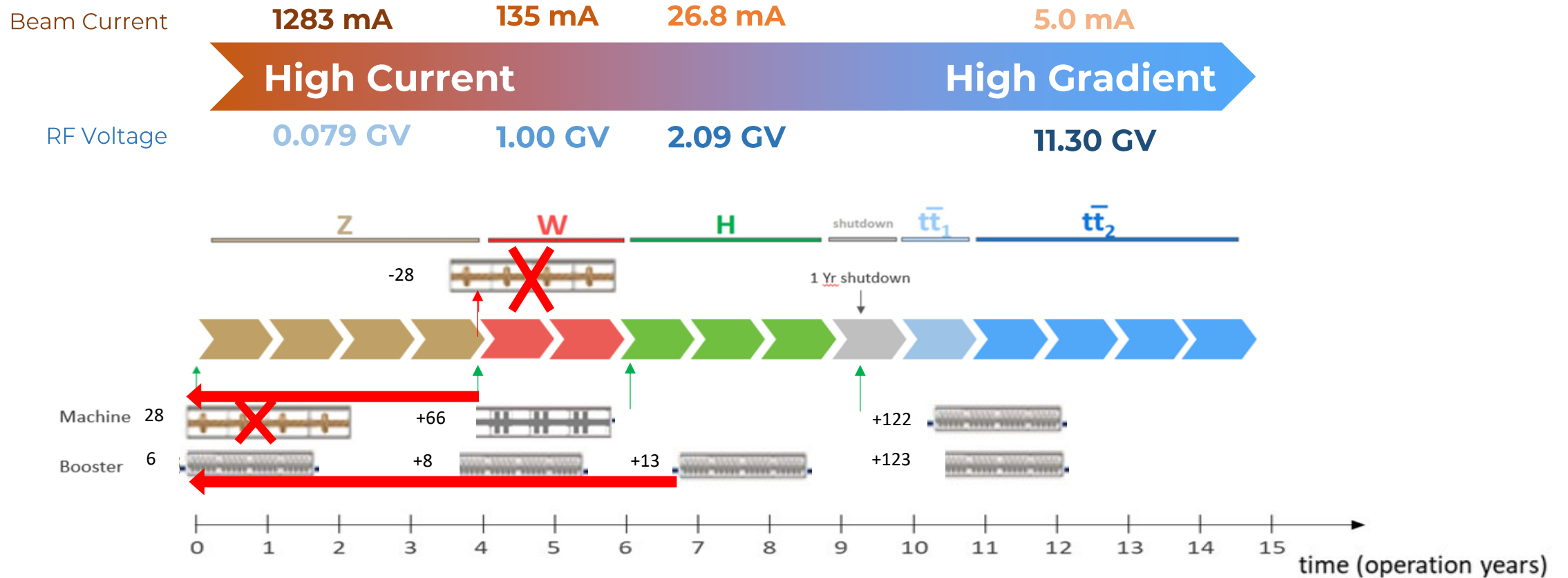


# SRF CAVITIES: LHC VS FCC-ee



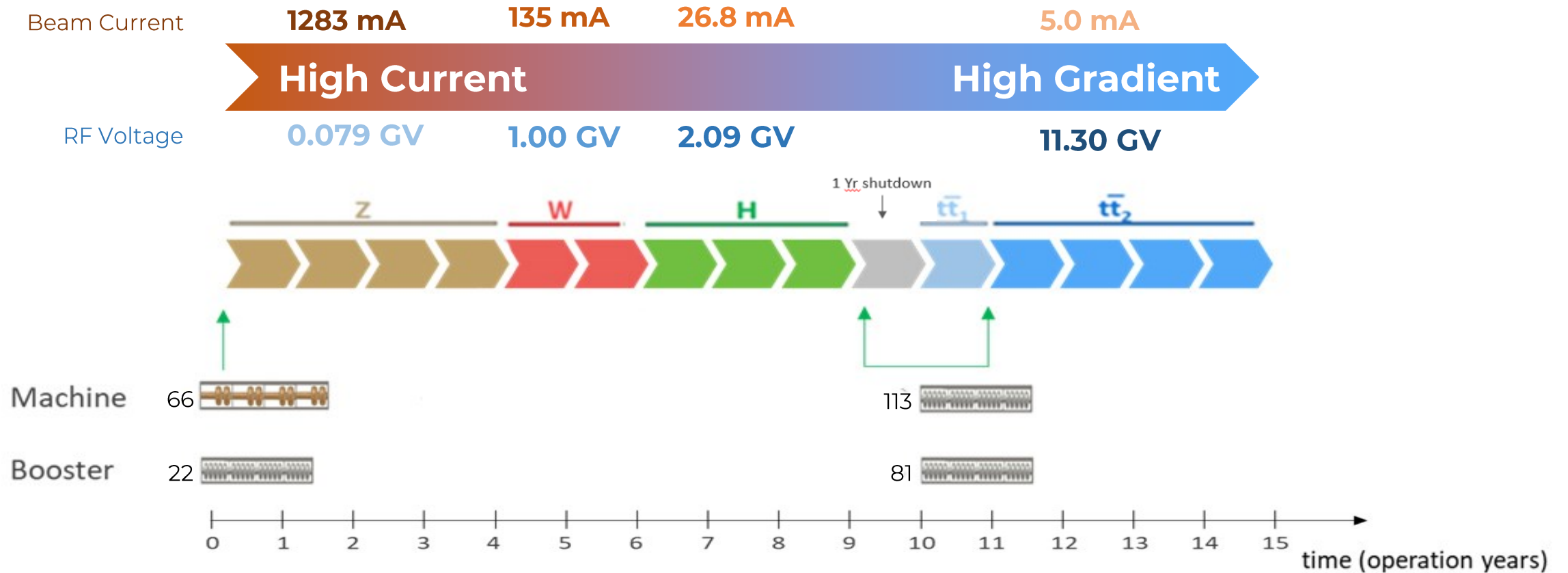
**SRF is critical for the success of the FCC-ee machine**

# Installation Sequence



**New simplified baseline adopted in late 2024**

# New Installation Sequence



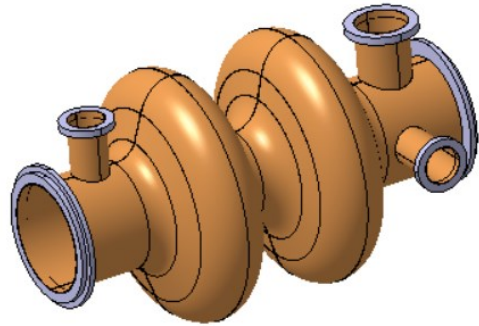
**New simplified baseline adopted in late 2024:**

- reducing the type of cavities from 3 to 2
- 20% reduction of total installed cryomodules: 351 → 283
- installation of all Z, W, H cavities at  $t=0$  → possibility of switching between set-ups without hardware changes

# 2 Different Type of Cavities

Z, W, H

400 MHz 2-cell cavity  
Niobium thin film on Copper



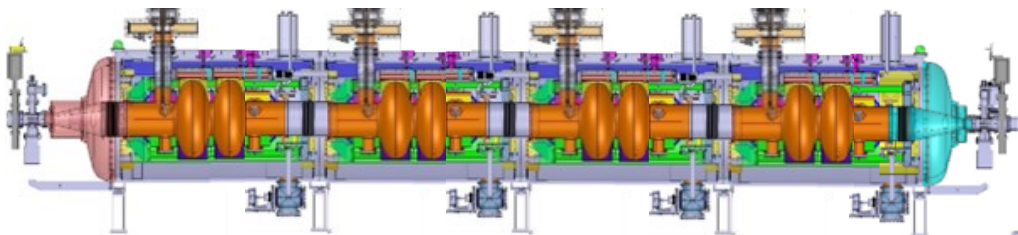
X 264

Operation at 4.5 Kelvin

Max. Accelerating gradient  $E_{acc} = 10.6$  MV/m

Quality factor  $Q_0 = 2.7 \times 10^9$

X 66



400 MHz cryomodule, ~12 m. long

tth, booster

800 MHz 6-cell cavity  
Bulk Niobium



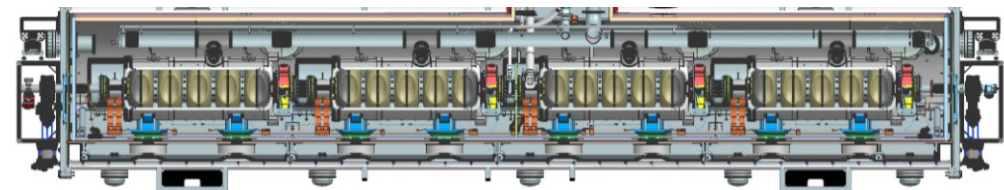
X 868

Operation at 2 Kelvin

Max. Accelerating gradient  $E_{acc} = 19.9$  MV/m

Quality factor  $Q_0 = 3.0 \times 10^{10}$

X 217 (114 collider + 103 booster)



800 MHz cryomodule, ~10 m. long

# FCC machine specs (surface resistance and peak fields)

Quantity	Booster (800 MHz)	Z (400 MHz, 4K)	W(400 MHz, 4K)	H( 400 MHz, 4K)	ttb (800 MHz, 2K)
$Q_o$	$3 \cdot 10^{10}$	$2.7 \cdot 10^9$	$2.7 \cdot 10^9$	$2.7 \cdot 10^9$	$3 \cdot 10^{10}$
$E_a$ (MV/m)	6.2 → 20.1	3.8	10.6	10.6	20.1
<b><math>R_s</math> (av nΩ)</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>9.1</b>
$B_{peak}$ (mT)	87.2	20.4	56.6	56.6	87.2
$E_{peak}$ (MV/m)	41.2	8.4	21.2	21.2	41.2

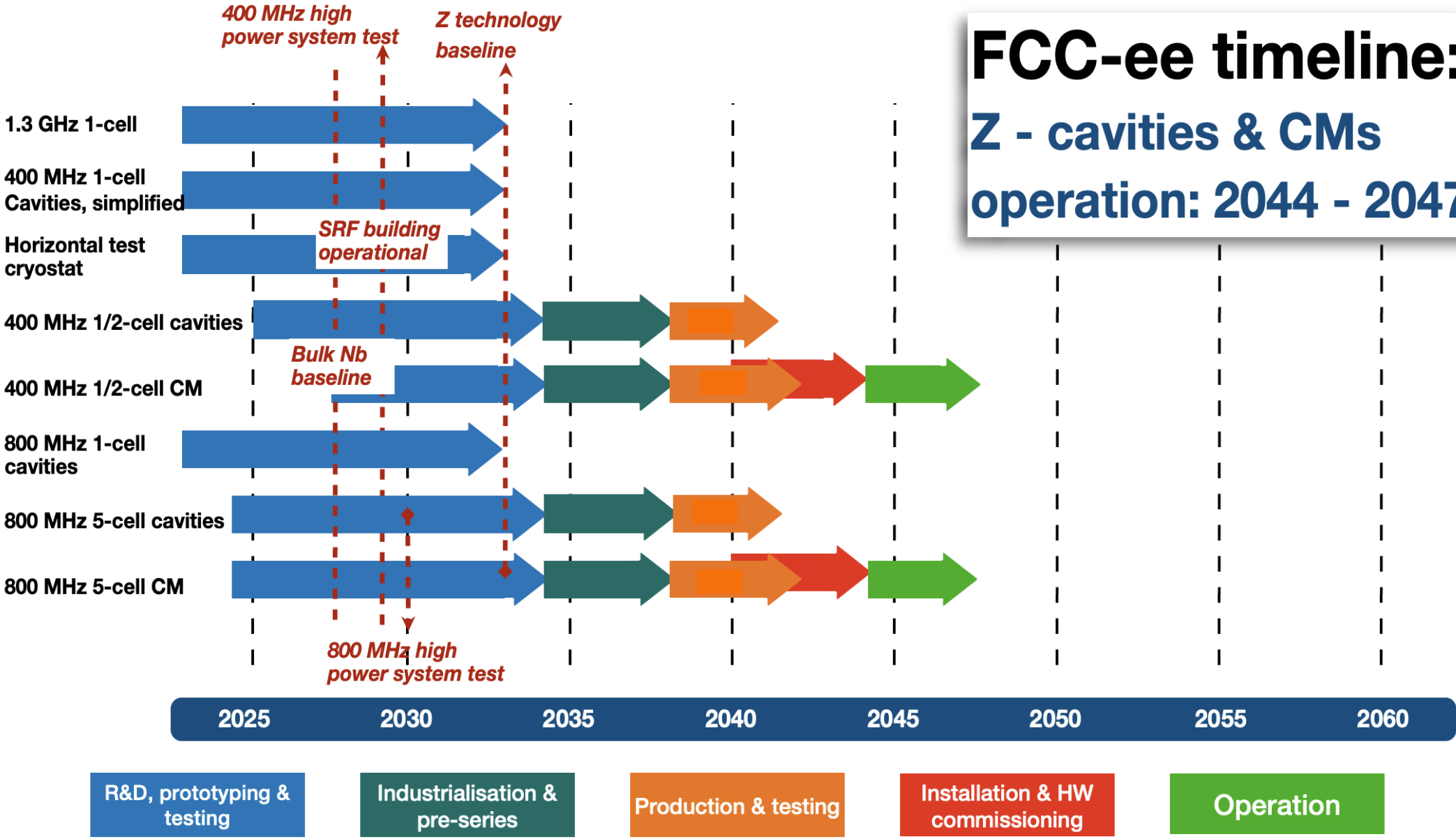
NB: 4K and 2K are indicative

- Compared with state of the art for bulk Nb and Nb/Cu:
  - $B_{peak} < 100$  mT (no High Field Q-Slope) in all cases (120 mT demonstrated in Nb/Cu)
  - $E_{peak}$  is quite relaxed
- Fields are limited by RF power: we don't need ultra high fields (x 2 margin to state of the art)
- **But  $R_s$  is challenging** (in particular for Nb on Cu)
- Is 800 MHz with Nb/Cu a possibility? Harder but not so crazy seen the longer time scale



# FCC-ee timeline:

**Z - cavities & CMs**  
**operation: 2044 - 2047**



Courtesy of Walter Venturini (CERN)

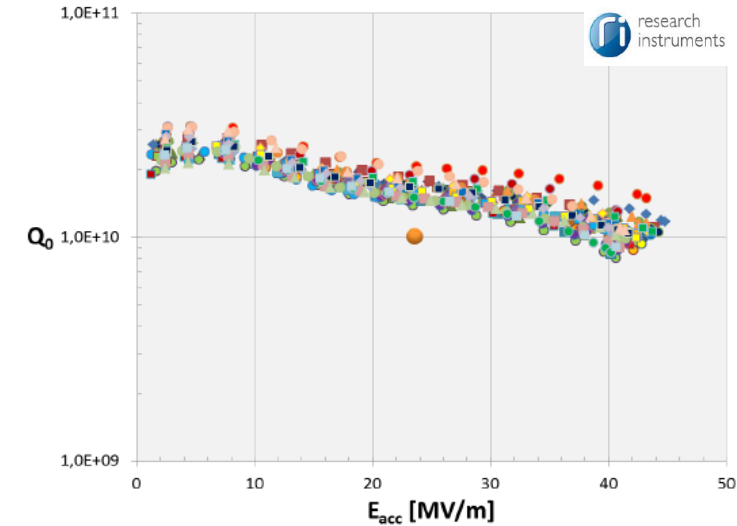
# 800 MHz 6-cell cavity Bulk Niobium



# Nb bulk state of the art



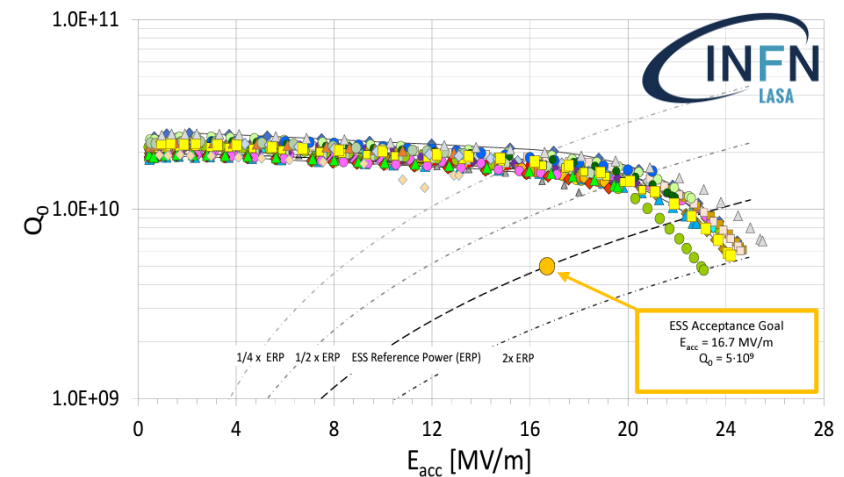
768 Nb bulk TESLA type elliptical 1.3 GHz cavity  
**Accelerating Gradient up to 40 MV/m**  
*(closer to Nb theoretical limits)*



**Technology already transferred at lower frequency (704.4 MHz)**

**FCC-ee 800 MHz specs:  $Q=3 \cdot 10^{10}$  @ 20 MV/m**

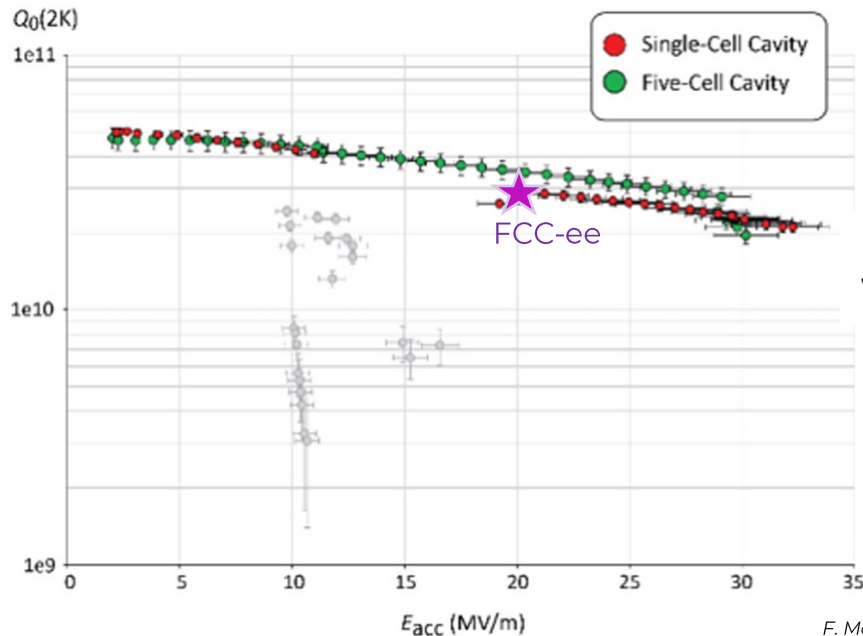
**Performances not far from FCC requirement**



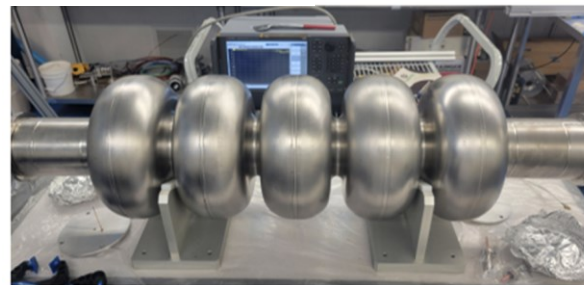
Courtesy of L. Monaco (INFN LASA)

# Nb bulk current R&D for FCC

Thermal Treatments studies ongoing @Fermilab on PIP-2 650 MHz cavities

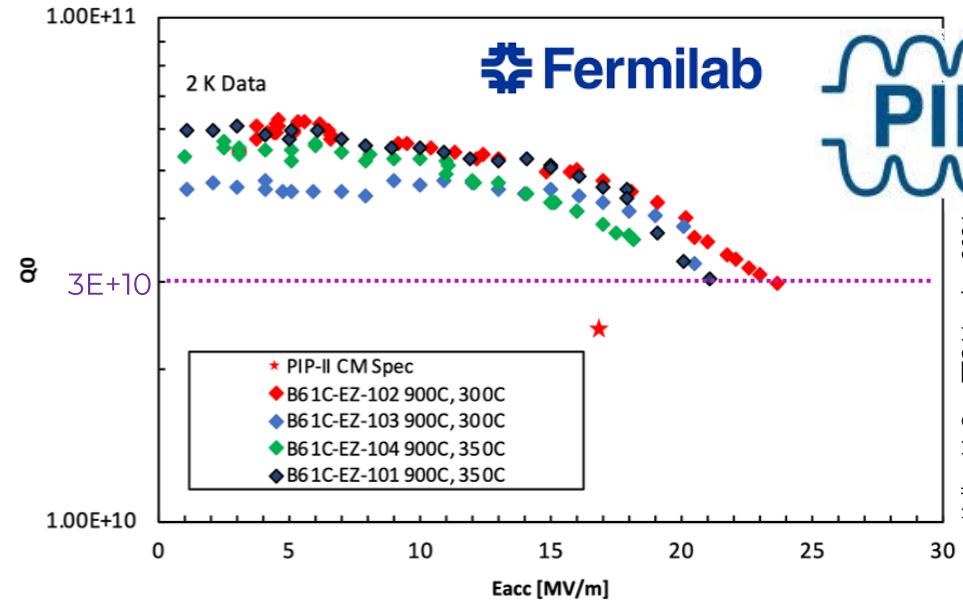


Jefferson Lab



F. Marhauser, IPAC 2018

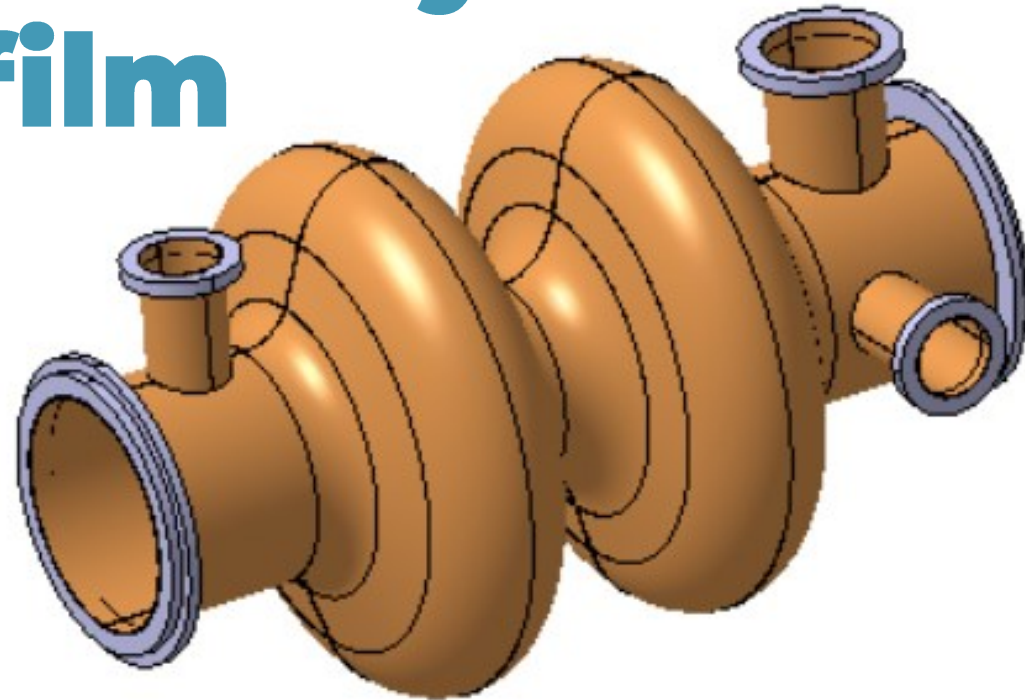
PLB650 Bare Cavity mid-T furnace Bake



Kellen McCee, TTC Meeting 2024

First 5-cell 800 MHz Prototype produced @Jlab already meets FCC specifications

# 400 MHz 2-cell cavity Niobium thin film on Copper

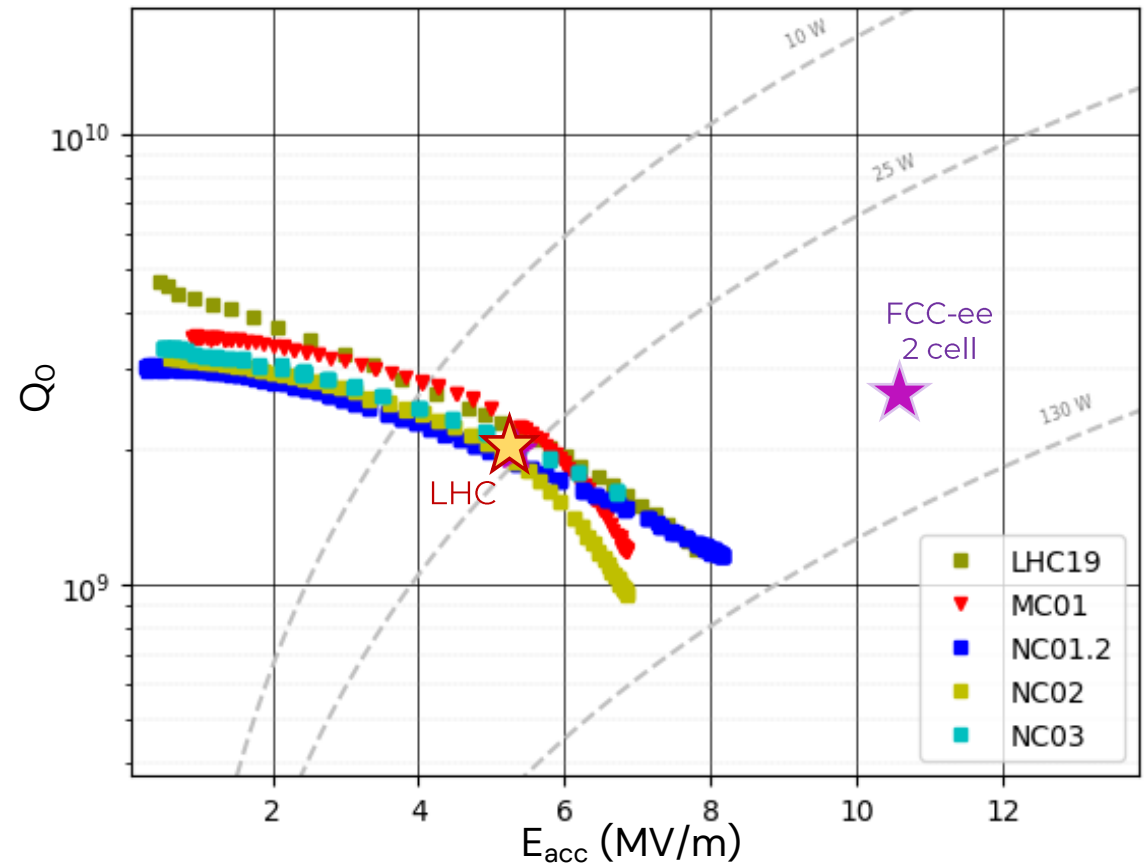


# 400 MHz state of the art



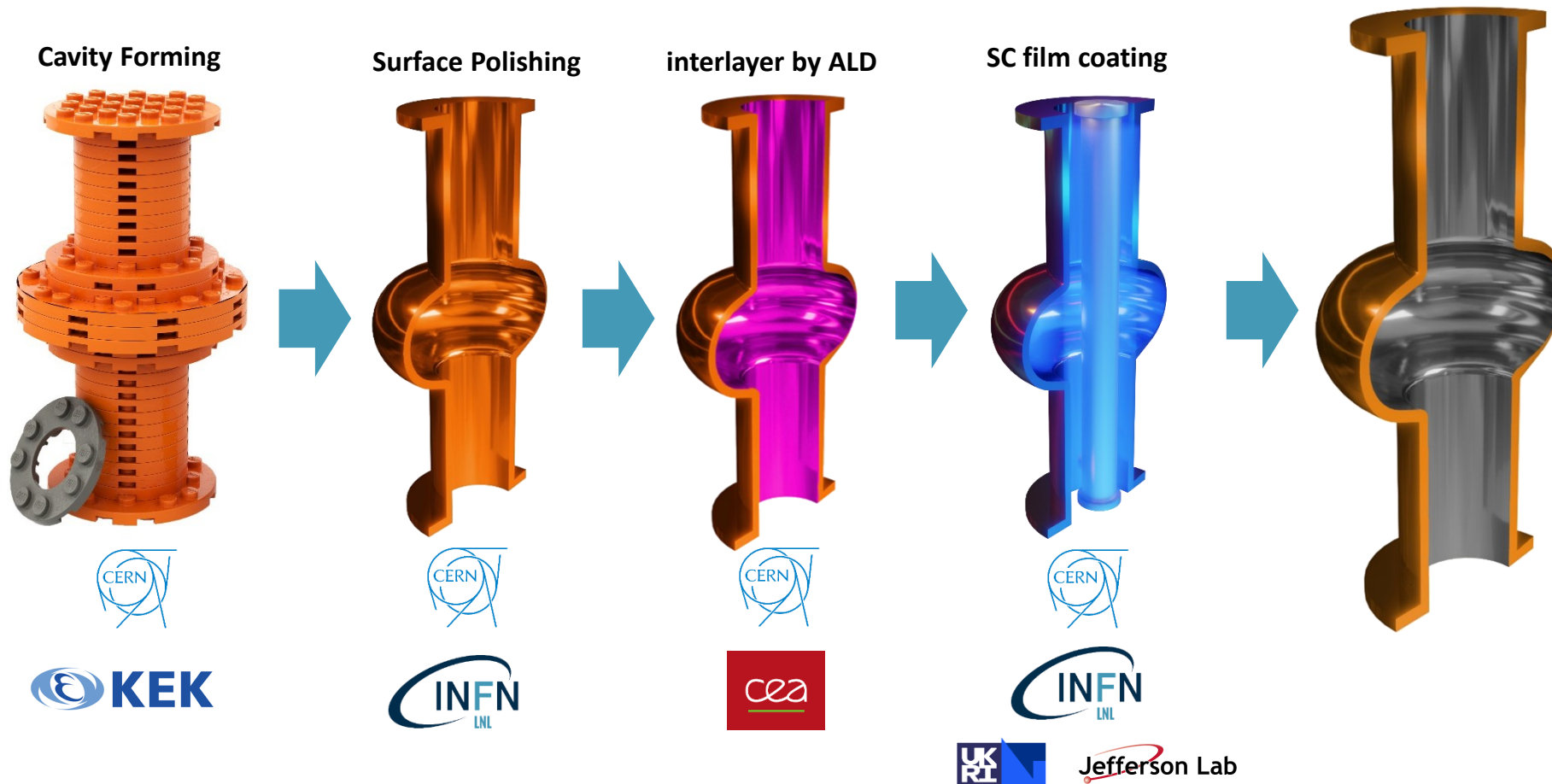
**FCC-ee** requires higher cavities performances than LHC

LHC cavities Q vs  $E_{\text{acc}}$  @4.5 K

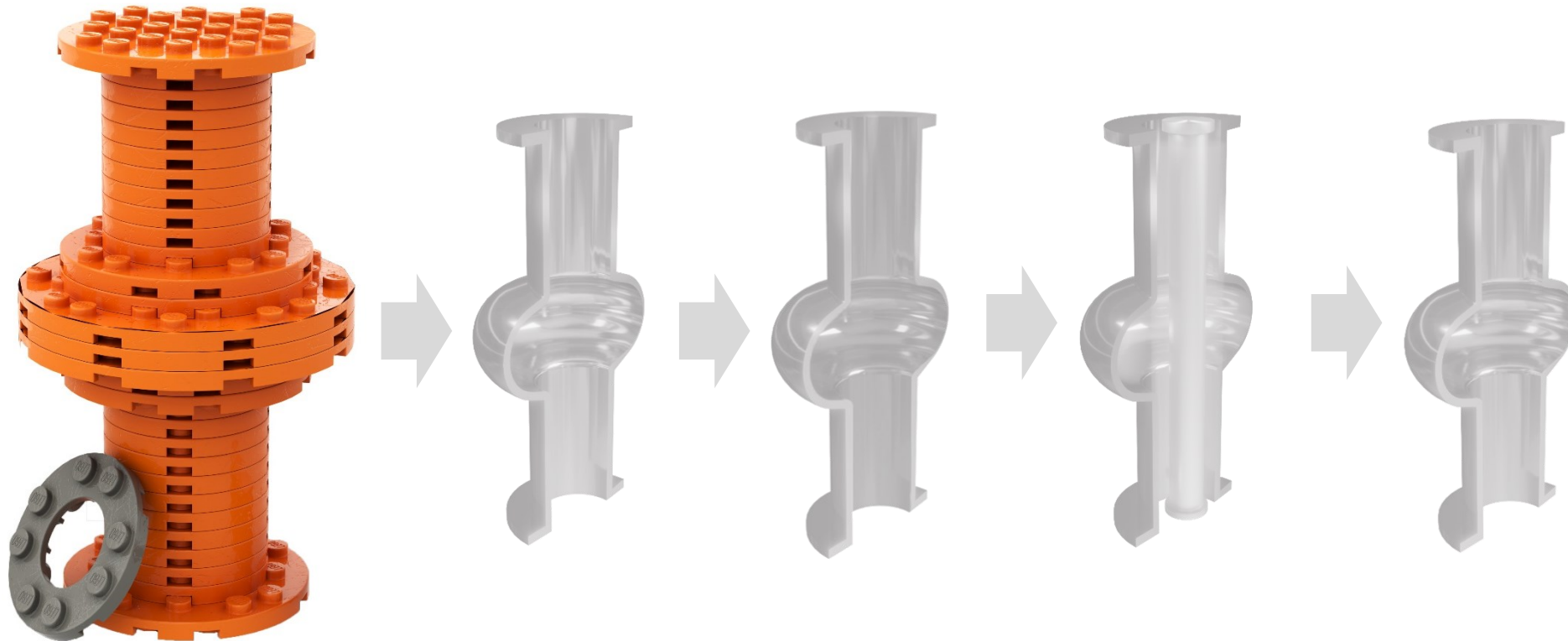


Graph from Carlota Pereira Carlos, FCC week 2023

# R&D activity covers all cavity production chain



# Cavity Forming



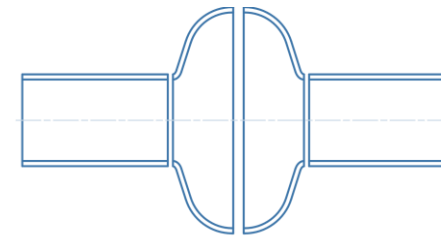


# Seamless is better

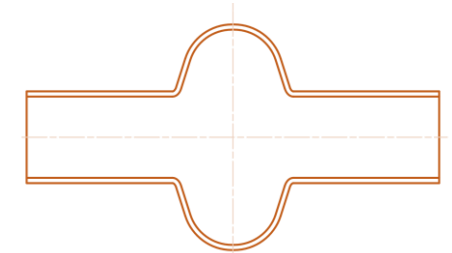
Different forming techniques available:

Welding/seamless

Spinning, hydroforming, electroforming, bulk machining...



Conventional (4 pieces)

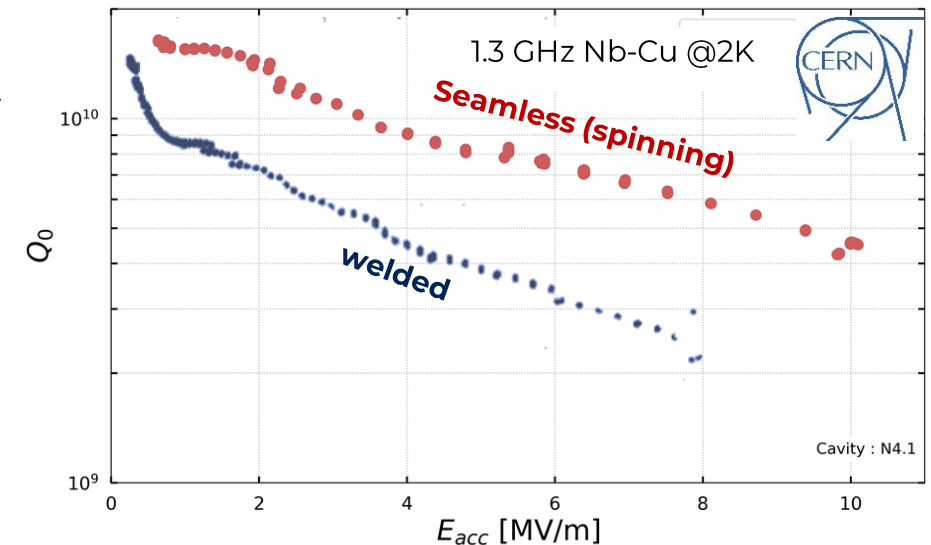


Seamless (1 piece)

Different proofs of  
**seamless** RF performances  
**superiority**

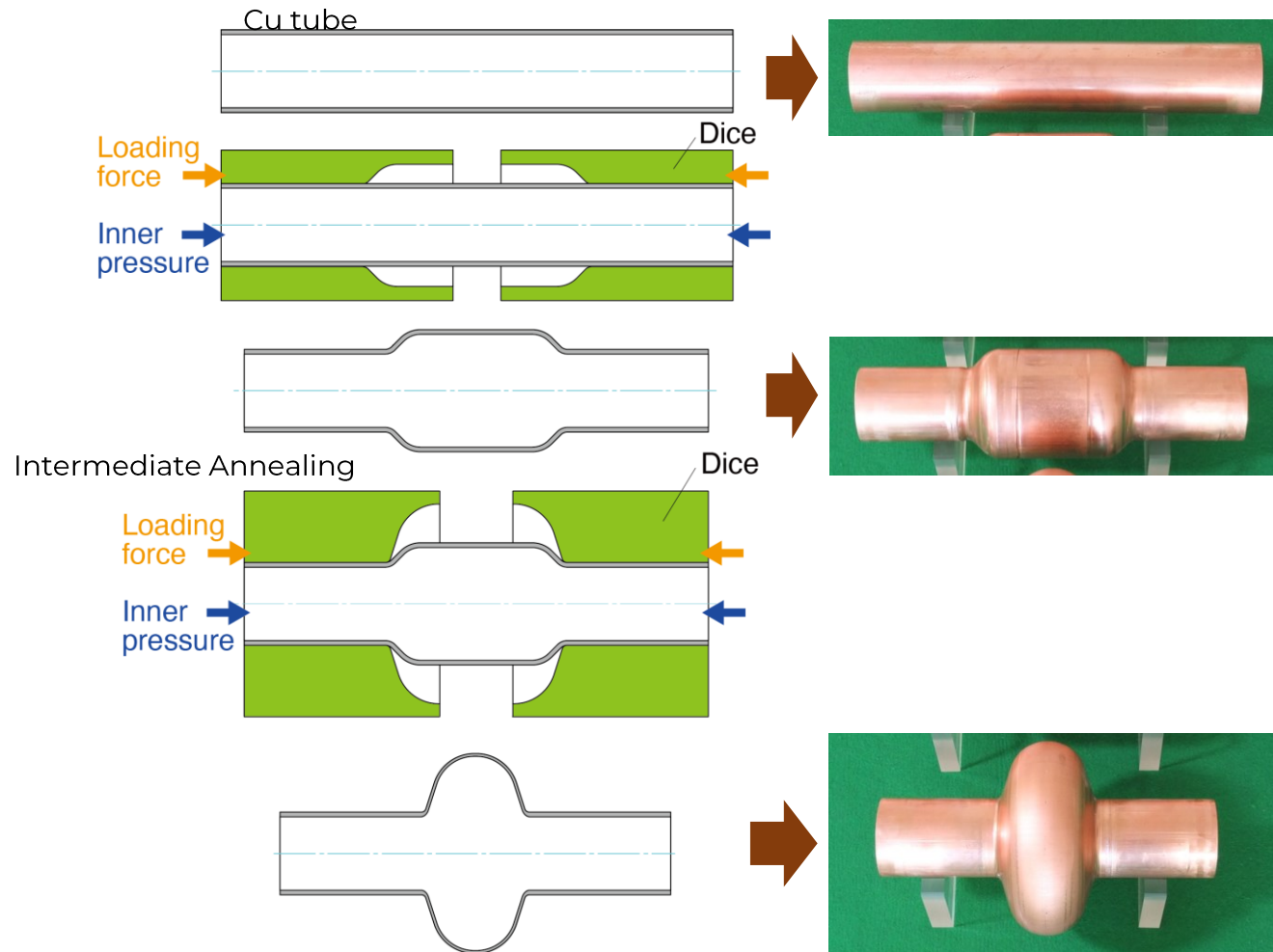
(Hie-ISOLDE, ALPI-INFN, CERN studies, ...)

**Cu substrate plays a  
fundamental role in SRF  
performances**

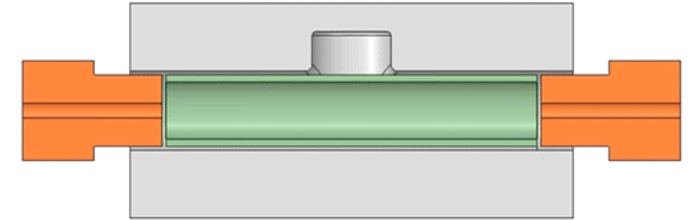


L. Vega Cid, TTC meeting 2022 (elaborated)

# Hydroforming



Principle of hydroforming



<https://www.tube-forming.co.jp/bulge.html>



Hydroforming machine

# Hydroforming Results



**2 hydroformed 1.3 GHz Cu cavities has been coated at CERN with Nb film**

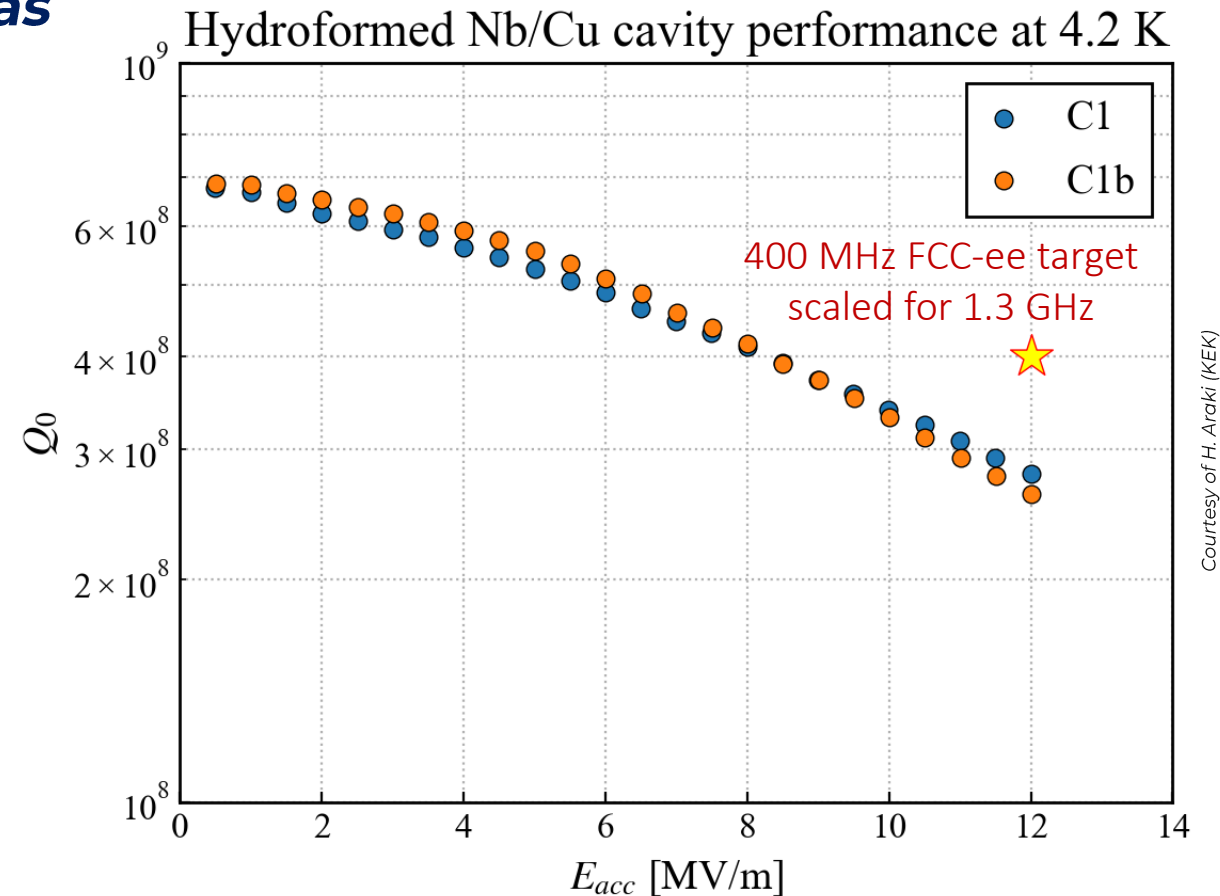
## Target:

**$Q > 4 \times 10^8$  at 12 MV/m on 1.3 GHz**

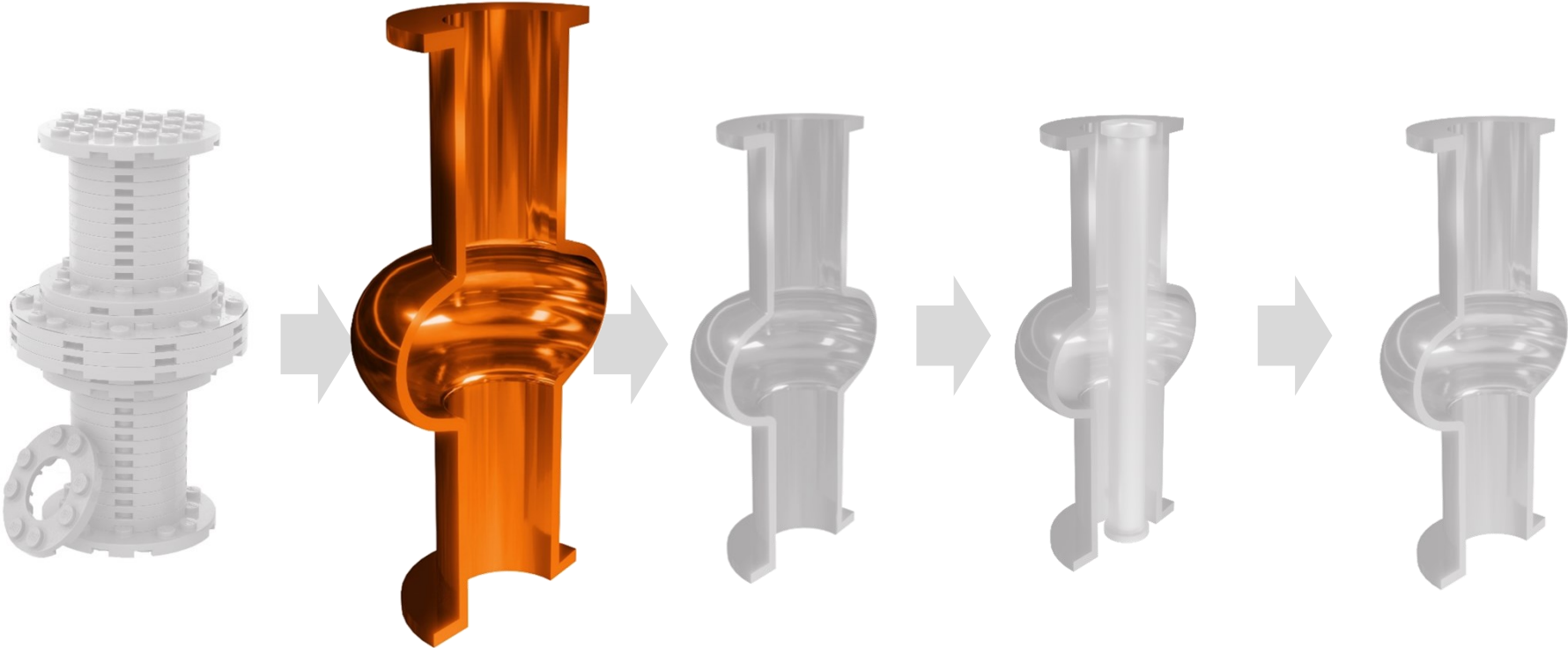
Equivalent with  $Q > 3 \times 10^9$  at 4.5 K, 400 MHz (FCC)

## Results:

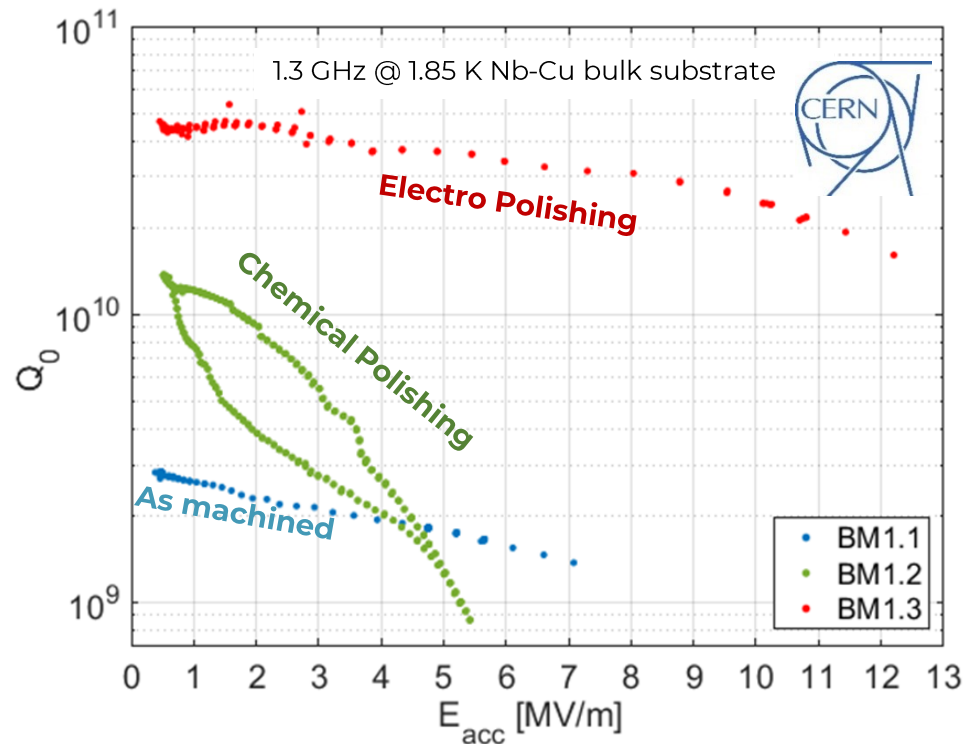
- Good reproducibility
- Not far from Q requirement
- **Very rough surface**  
→ **polishing is critical**



# Surface Polishing



# Surface Polishing



L. Vega Cid, TTC meeting 2022 (elaborated)

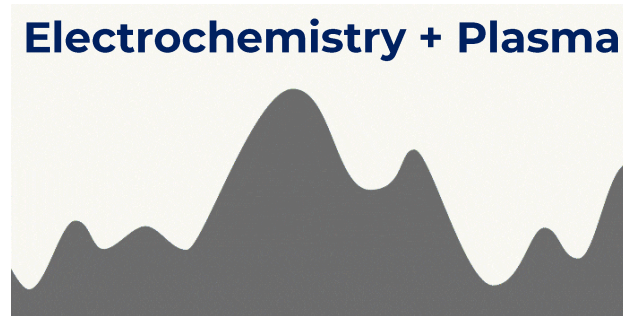
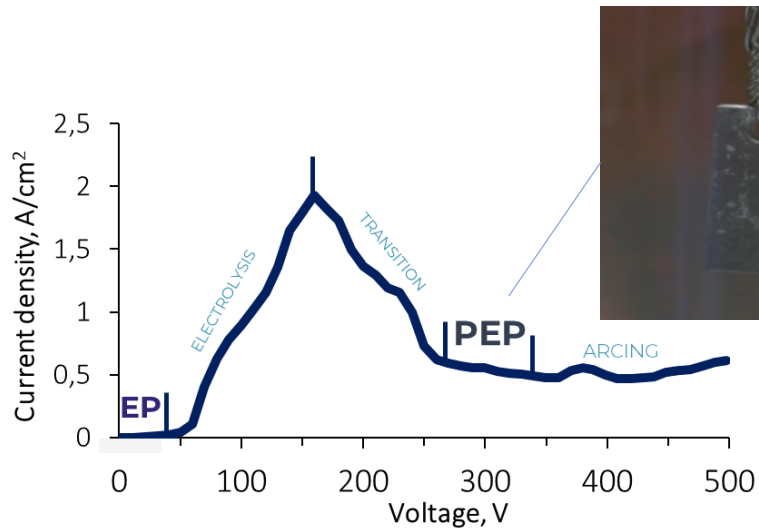
## Cu substrate plays a fundamental role in SRF performances

Roughness and defects reduction by **surface treatments are mandatory** for a good and uniform SRF coating

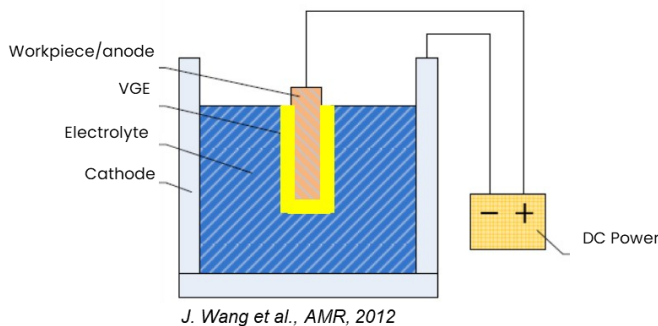
Cavity polishing requires **large amount of acids**. In particular **Nb** requires **HF** (extremely dangerous and poisoning process)



# Plasma Electrolytic Polishing Mechanism



Same EP set-up  
Different regime



## Advantages



**Green**  
Diluted water solutions,  
environmentally friendly



**Fast**  
The fastest  
non-destructive  
polishing

Equal thickness removal yield  
lowest roughness among  
competitors



**Efficiency**

**Plasma  
Electrolytic  
Polishing**

Less sensitive to the  
cathode shape!  
AM compatible

**Versatility**

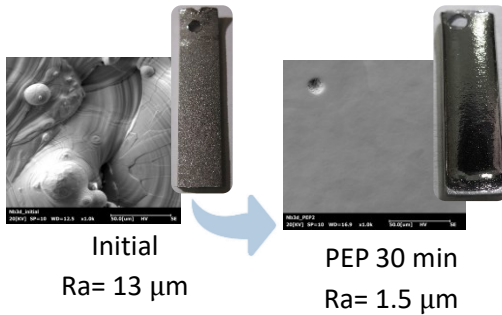


# Plasma Electrolytic Polishing Results



1x Nb 3x Cu  
Solution Patents by INFN

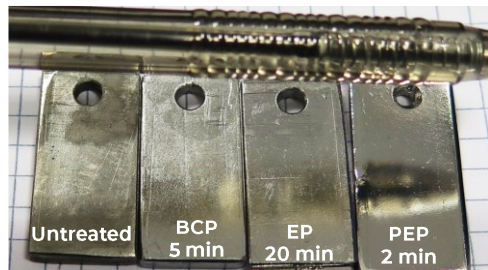
## Additive Manufacturing



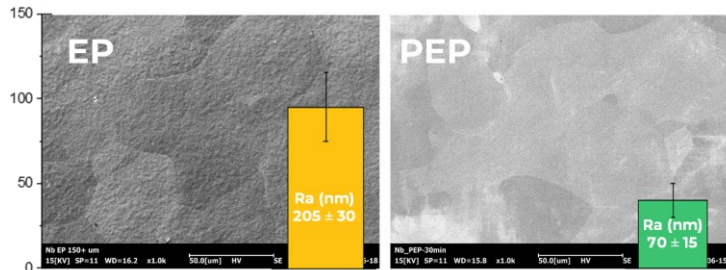
## QPR Samples



## Planar samples



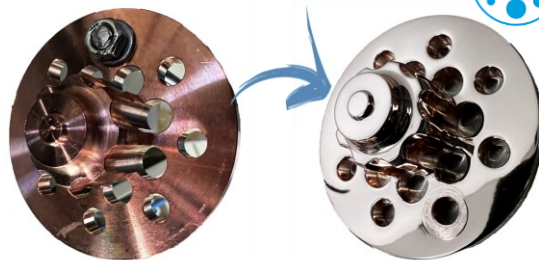
6.5  $\mu\text{m}$  removed



150  $\mu\text{m}$  removed in  $\sim$  5 h

150  $\mu\text{m}$  removed in  $\sim$  40 min

## Cu Photocathodes



Ra  $\sim$  8 nm!!!

## 6 GHz Cu cavity



**No internal cathode!**

70  $\mu\text{m}$  removed in 10 minutes  
30 A (100 cm<sup>2</sup>  $\rightarrow$  1.3 GHz  $\sim$  300 A)

Courtesy of E. Chyhyrnets

# PEP scale up to 1.3 GHz successfully done! (Aug 2024)



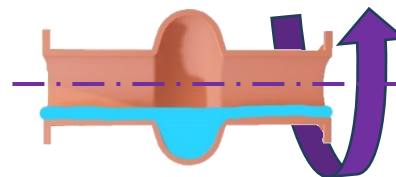
## Process Parameters

>150  $\mu\text{m}$  removed  
30 minutes! (EP  $\rightarrow$  >12 hours)  
Voltage 300 V  
Current 90-190 A (0,06 – 0,13 A/cm<sup>2</sup>)  
Surface area 1400 cm<sup>2</sup>



## Explore alternative set-up to reduce Process Power

- Reduce Treated Area (rotating cavity)
- Optimizing Process Parameters (Temperature, Voltage, ...)





# Next Steps: RF test validation on 1.3 GHz

## Possible Timeline:

- Hydroformed cavity production  **KEK**  
(November 2024)
- PEP treatment  **INFN**  
(March-April 2025)
- Coating Nb  **CERN**  
(May-June 2025)
- RF Test  **KEK**  
(July-August 2025)

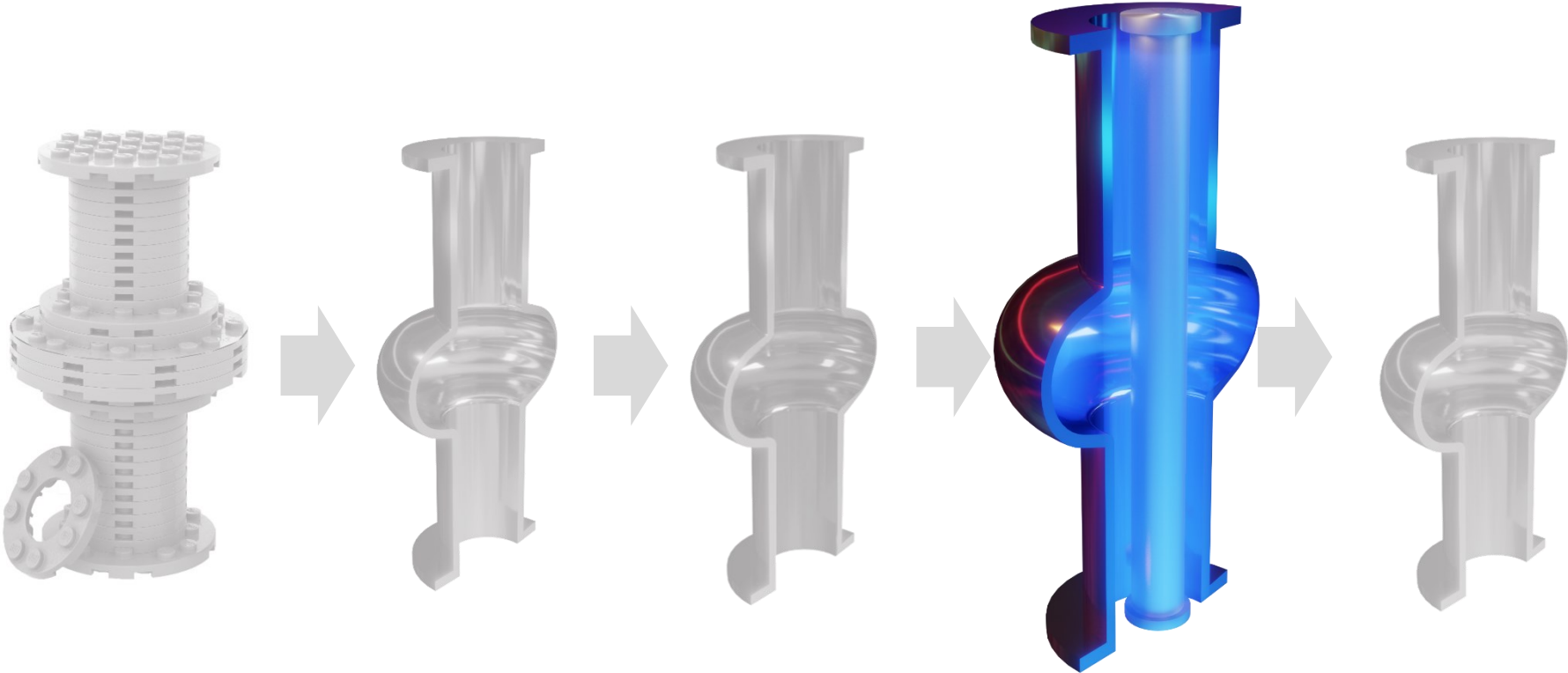
*If we succeed...*



## Scaling to 400 MHz Cavities



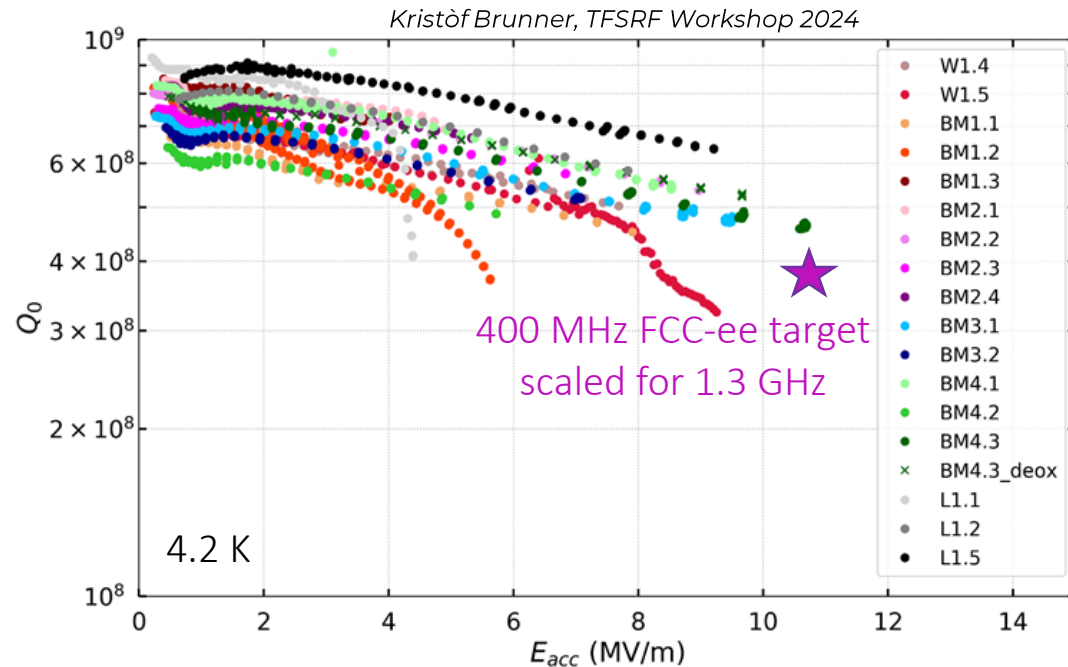
# SC film coating



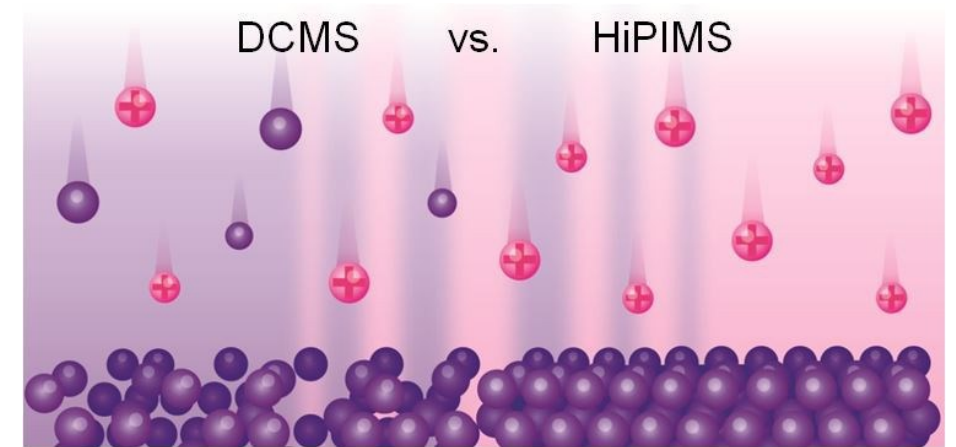
# Nb coating densification by HiPIMS



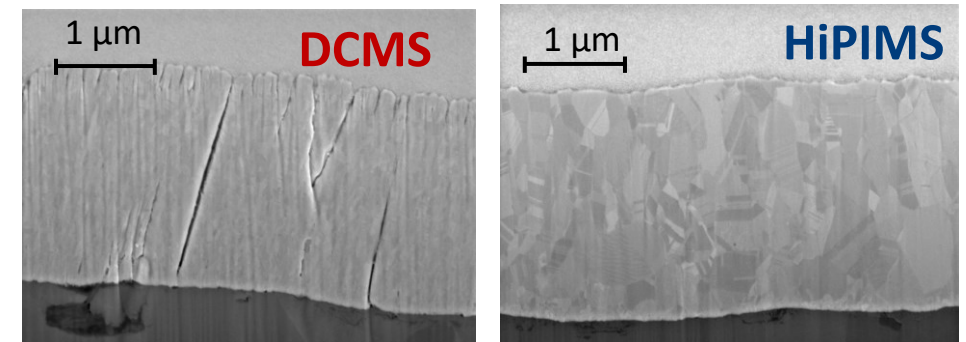
HiPIMS technology densifies the Nb coating and increases RF performances compared to DCMS



On 1.3 GHz FCC-ee requirements were achieved



Kristof Brunner, TFSRF Workshop 2024

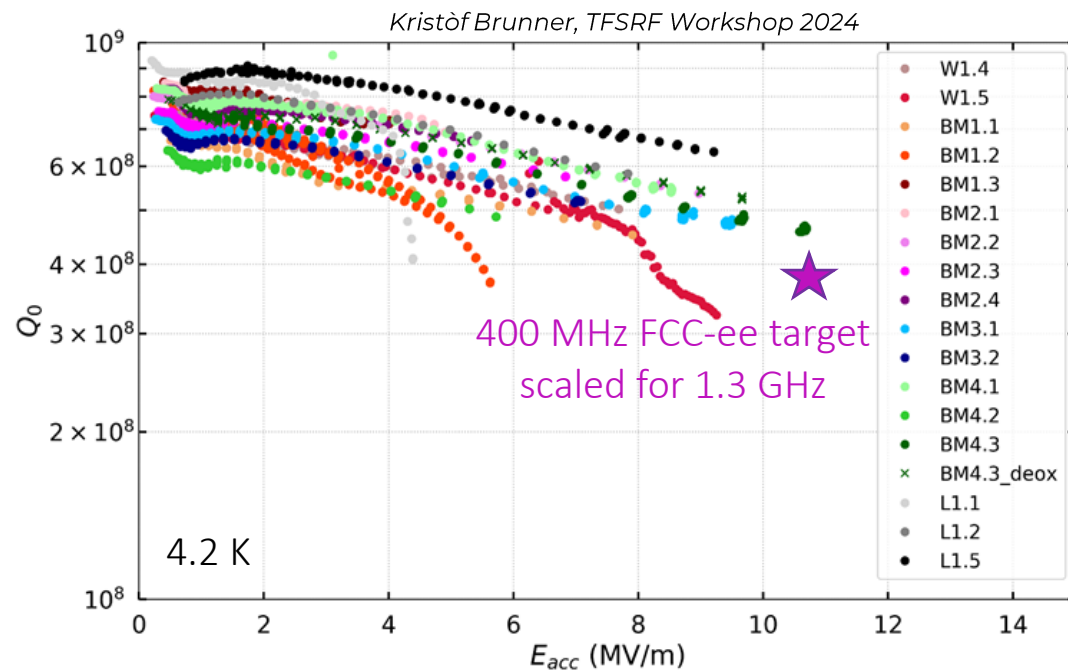


Nb on Cu coatings at CERN by DCMS and HPIMS

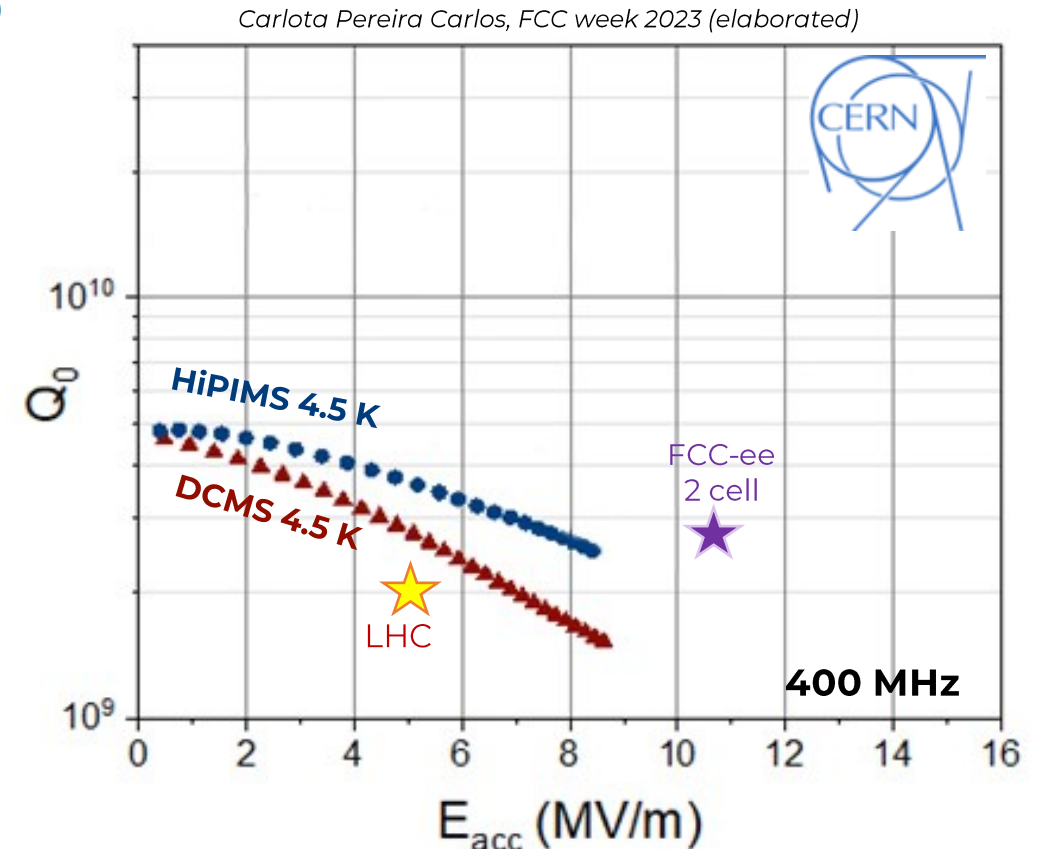
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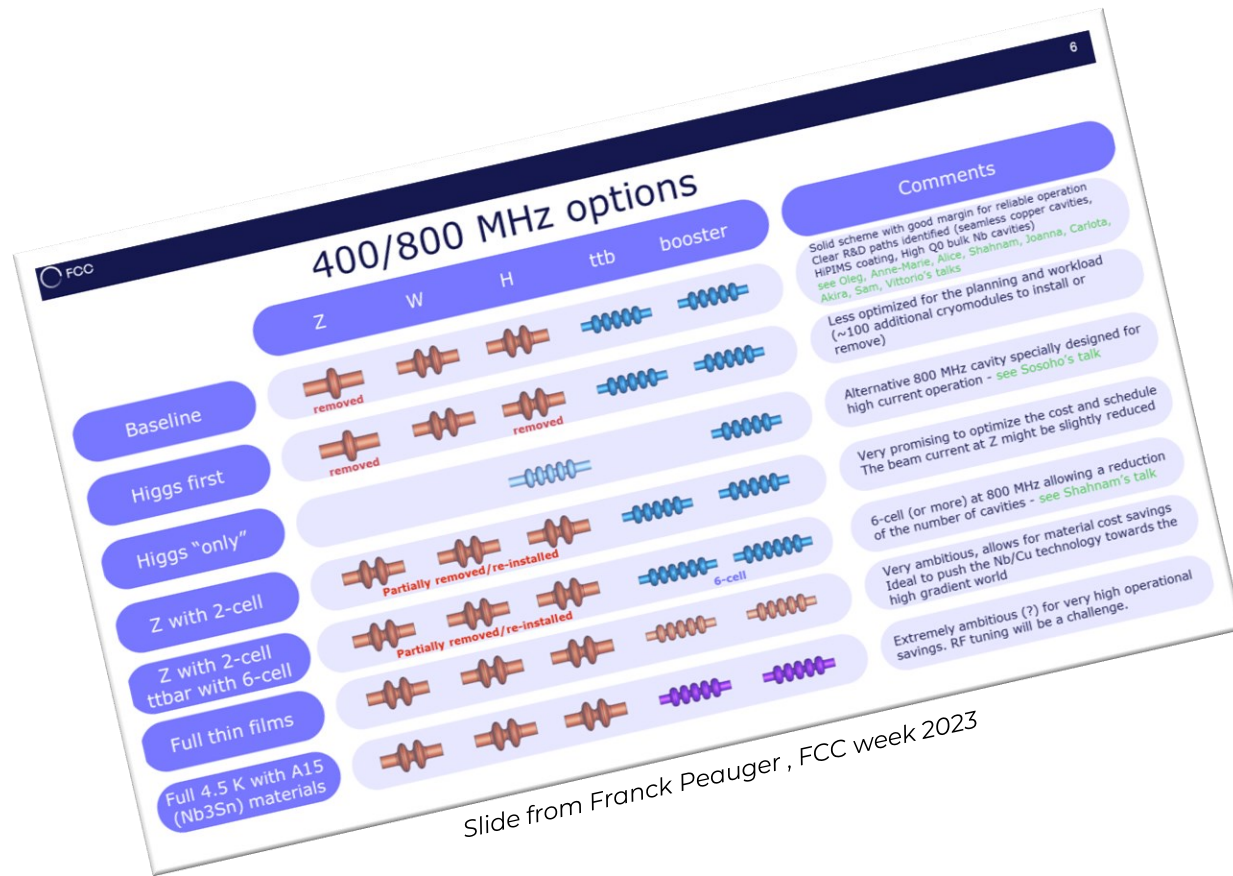


On 1.3 GHz FCC-ee requirements were achieved



On 400 MHz great improvement, but still some work to do

# Other Option for FCC SRF System



**Full 4.5 K with A15 Materials → Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn**

*Extremely ambitious for very high operational savings*

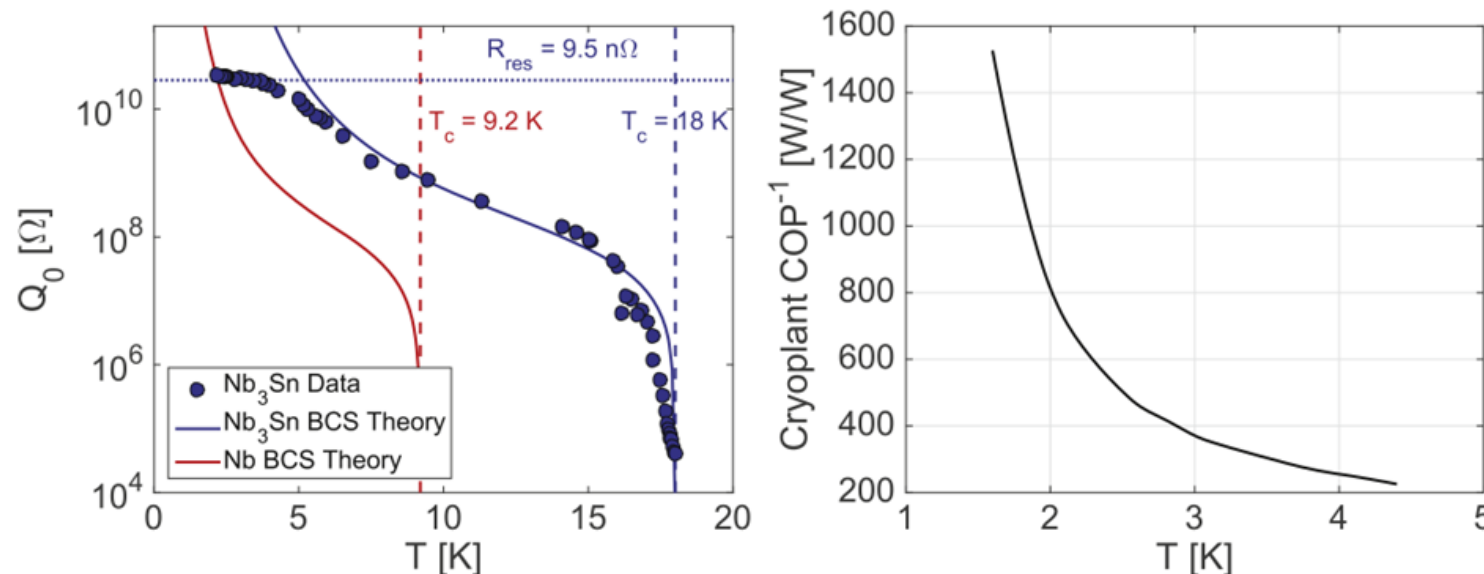
# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn motivation (1)

**Energy saving** is mandatory for **FCC-ee** and the **next generation accelerators**..

...**cryogenics** is one of the **larger energy cost** in modern SRF accelerators



Move from **bulk Nb @2K** to **Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn @4.5 K**  
reduces cryogenic power by a factor of 3



Supercond. Sci. Technol. 30 (2017) 033004

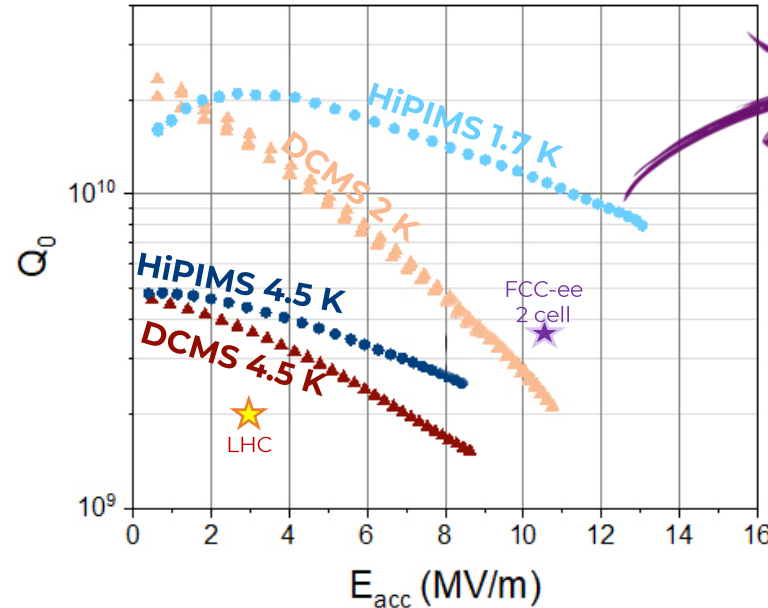
# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn motivation (2)

**Energy saving** is mandatory for **FCC-ee** and the **next generation accelerators**..

...**cryogenics** is one of the **larger energy cost** in modern SRF accelerators

Move from **thin film Nb @4.5 K** to **Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn @4.5 K**

Reduce  $T_{op}/T_c \rightarrow$  Suppress  $R_{BCS} \rightarrow$  Increase  $Q$



Expected Performances for Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn

Carlota Pereira Carlos, FCC week 2023 (elaborated)

# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn on Cu: Multiple challenges

- ▶ A15 are Brittle materials
- ▶ Complicated Phase Diagram
- ▶ Low melting point substrate
- ▶ Interface diffusion
- ▶ Coating Parameters
- ▶ Substrate preparation
- ▶ Target Production/Magnetron Design
- ▶ Trapped Flux
- ▶ Tuning





# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn results

## Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn optimized coating recipe

### Best RF performance on a QPR @4.2 K

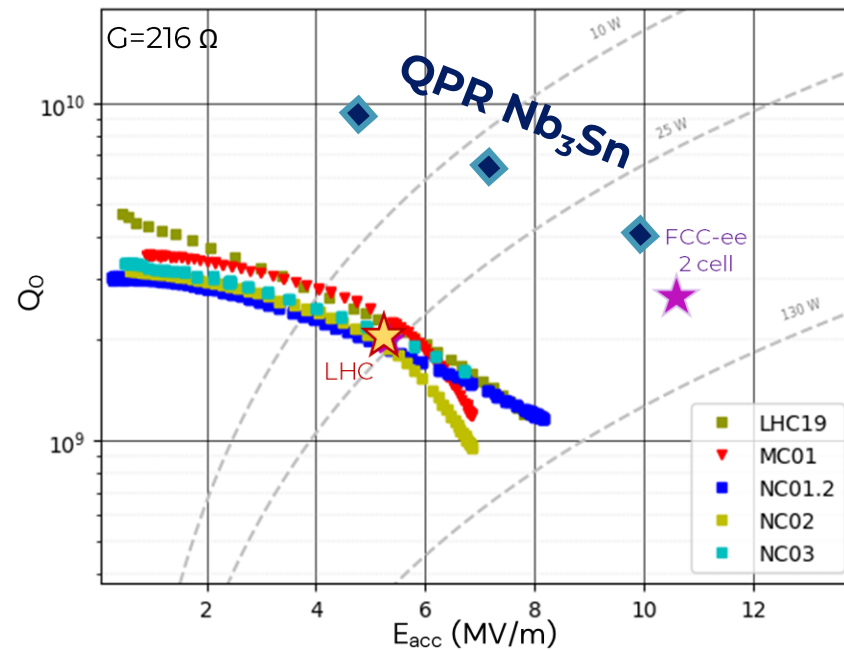


T<sub>c</sub> = 17.2 K

R<sub>s</sub> of 23 nΩ @ 4.5 K, 20 mT

Quench >70 mT @ 4.5 K

LHC cavities Q vs E<sub>acc</sub> @4.5 K



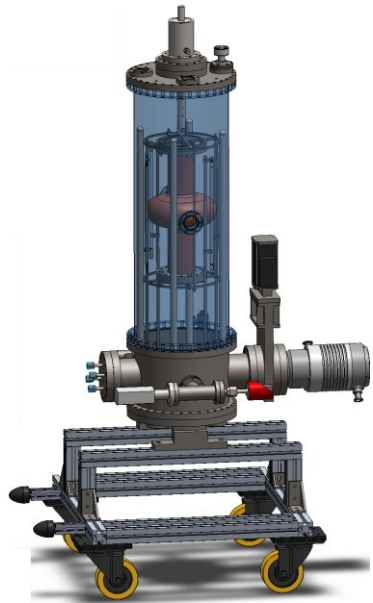
Equivalent to a Q of 9·10<sup>9</sup> @5 MV/m @4.5 K

5 times better than LHC

Already meets FCC-ee specifications

Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn QPR RF measurement done at HZB Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin

# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Path to Final Prototype



**Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn on bulk Nb to validate coating performances (2025)  
on 1.3 GHz Elliptical Cavities (2025)**



**Develop Nb thick barrier/accommodation layer on 1.3 GHz Elliptical Cavities (2025)  
(proof of concept on 6 GHz cavities already done)**



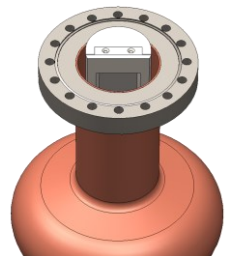
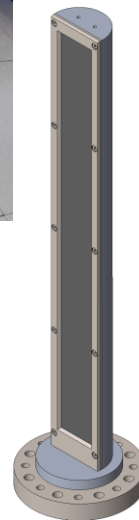
**Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn on Cu with thick Nb coating on 1.3 GHz Elliptical Cavities (2026-2028)**

*In parallel:*

- ▶ Study on alternative buffer layer
- ▶ Study on flux trapping



- ▶ **1.3 GHz Vacuum system ready**
- ▶ **Magnetron source commissioned**



# Conclusion

- ▶ **New SRF baseline** for a smoother installation procedure
- ▶ Nb on Cu 400 MHz and Nb bulk 800 MHz **R&D on track**
- ▶ **PEP and Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn films** are possible **game changer technologies** for SRF accelerating cavities
- ▶ **Big steps forward** in the last two years with transition from planar to 3D samples
- ▶ **Very promising results from first RF test**
- ▶ **Validation with 1.3 GHz cavities is necessary** prior to evaluating the feasibility of implementing these technologies in real accelerators
- ▶ **End of 2025** we expect to have the **first tests of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn** available on **1.3 GHz cavities**
- ▶ **In 2028 Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn optimized prototypes** are expected

Fabrizio  
Stivanello

Oscar  
Azzolini

Thomas  
Bortolami

Cristian  
Pira

Matteo  
Lazzari

Eduard  
Chyhyrynets

Giacomo  
Mastroto

Mourad  
El Idrissi

Alessandro  
Salmasso

Dorothea  
Fonnesu

Anita  
Fetaj

Davide  
Fiori

# Thank you!

Work supported by INFN CSN5 experiment SAMARA and INFN CSN1 experiments SRF and RD\_FCC

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon-INFRA-2023-TECH-01 under GA No 101131435 - ISAS and from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under GA No 101004730 - FAST

