

From IFMIF to DONES: European SRF high intensity Linac for fusion material test

Andrea Pisent and Francesco Grespan
INFN

3-4 April 2025 Quarta Giornata Acceleratori-Legnaro (PD)



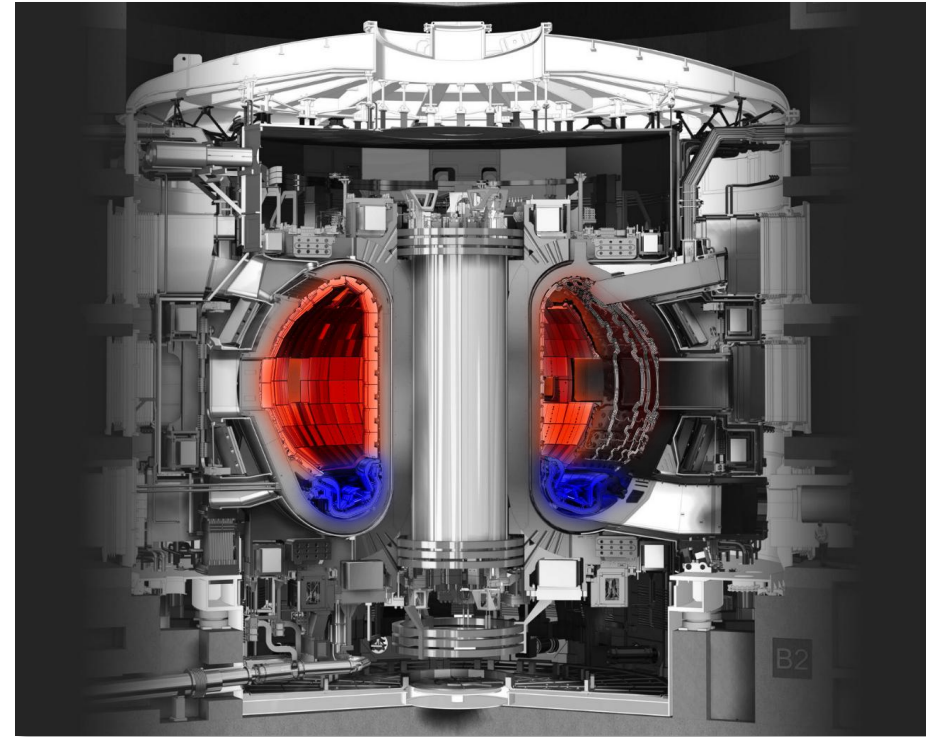
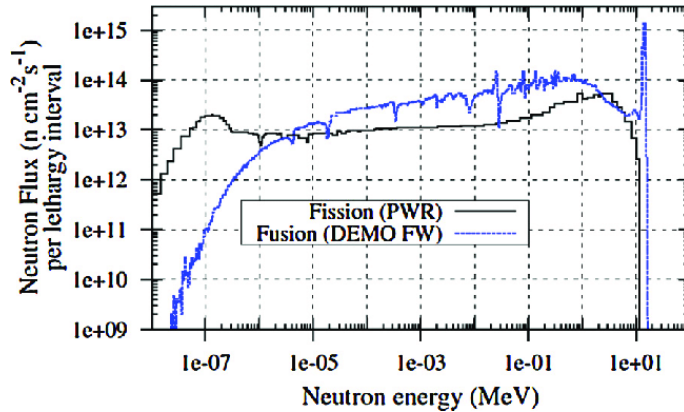
- Motivation
- R&D results (**Broader Approach program**), participation of **INFN** (ENEA and Italian industries, starting from the three sponsor of this ws [*]).
- Construction of a material test facility in Europe (**DONES**, close to Granada) and INFN in-kind contribution to the accelerator.



INFN 2014 departure of the RFQ to Japan



- In DEMO (and in a tokamak for energy production) internal structures (specially the “first wall”) withstand a high flux of high energy neutrons.

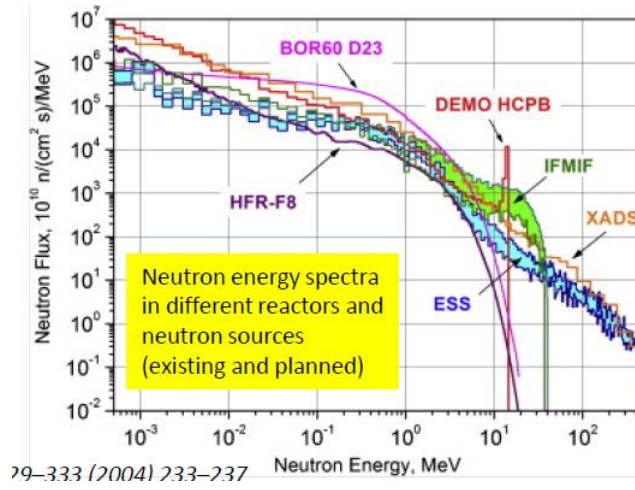


- Deep knowledge of materials in these conditions is needed for design and operation plans.
- For example the formation of H/He in bulk material with reactions like $^{56}\text{Fe}(n,\alpha)^{53}\text{Cr}$ with threshold 3.7 MeV**
- Mechanical proprieties like Embrittlement and increase of Ductile-brittle transition temperature, swelling, welding degradation, should be studied at high n flux and different temperatures



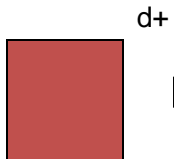
Macroscopic tests, not cross sections

- Fission reaction spectrum is unsuited, the best simulation of fusion spectrum is given by stripping reaction of deuterons (approx. 40 MeV) on lithium.



High intensity

Source of charged particles



Accelerator
40 MeV

beam

target

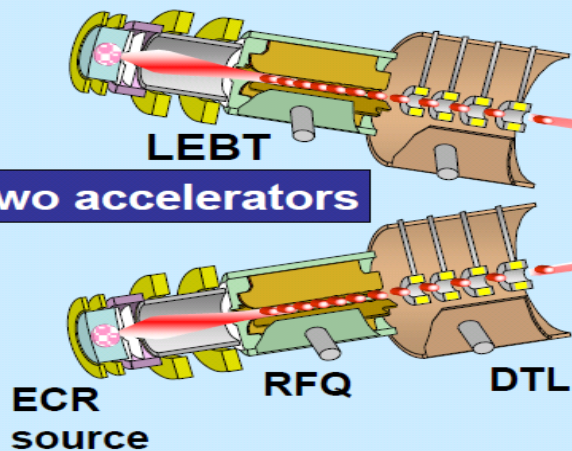
Test modules

- High power linac (MW)
- **High power target (liquid)**
- **Long exposition time (months)**

Accelerator

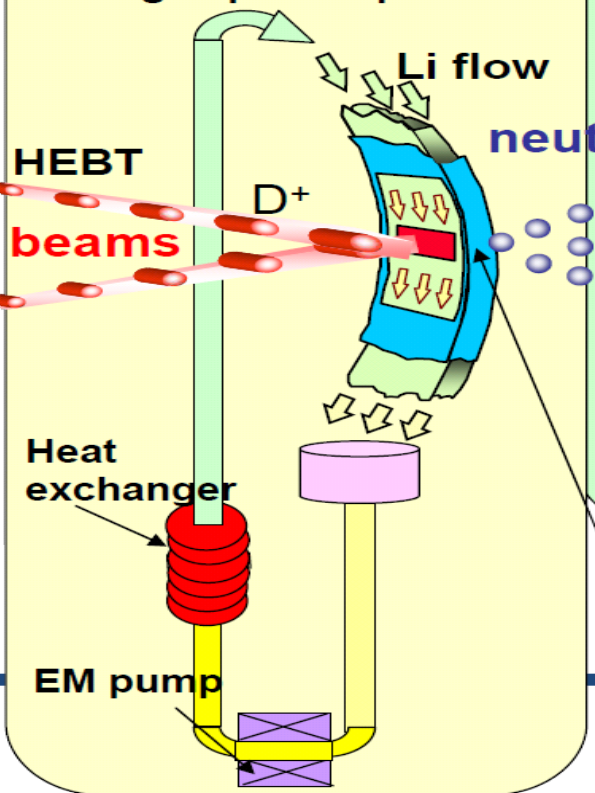
Deuteron accelerators:
40 MeV 250 mA (10 MW)

Two accelerators



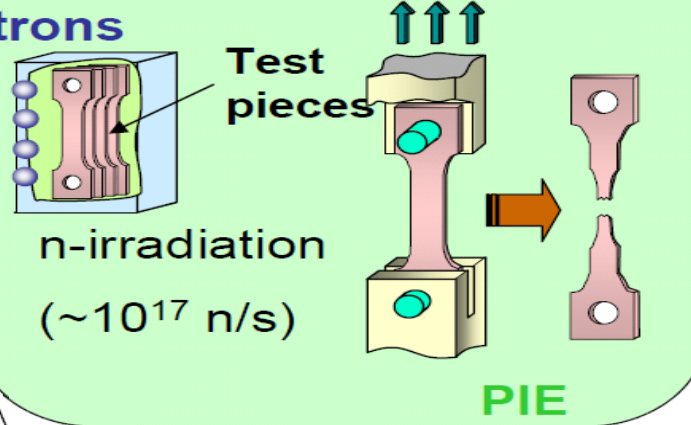
Target

10 MW beam heat removal
with high speed liquid Li flow



Test Cell

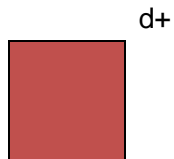
- Irrad. Volume > 0.5L for 10^{14} n/(s·cm²), (20 dpa/year)
- Temp.: $250 < T < 1000^\circ\text{C}$



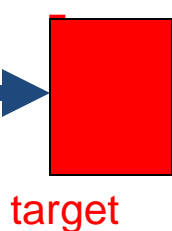
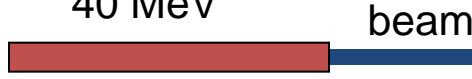
Typical reactions:
 ${}^7\text{Li}(d,2n){}^7\text{Be}$, ${}^6\text{Li}(d,n){}^7\text{Be}$, ${}^6\text{Li}(n,T){}^4\text{He}$
Beam footprint on Li target
20cm wide x 5cm high
(100 kW/cm²)

High intensity

Source of charged particles



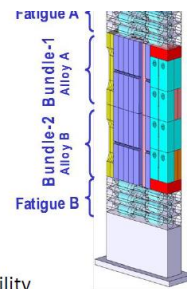
Accelerator
40 MeV



Test modules



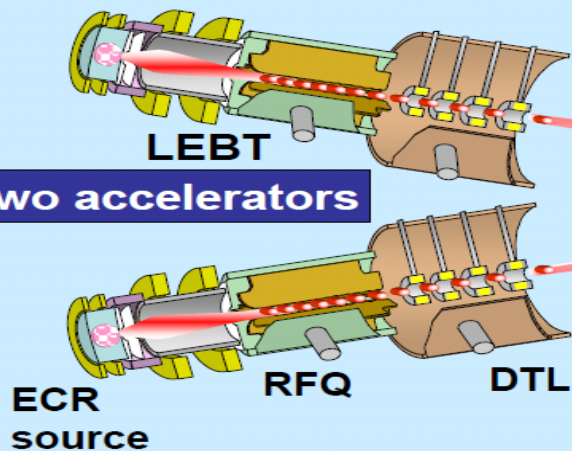
Samples and irradiation modules developed for the IFMIF facility



Accelerator

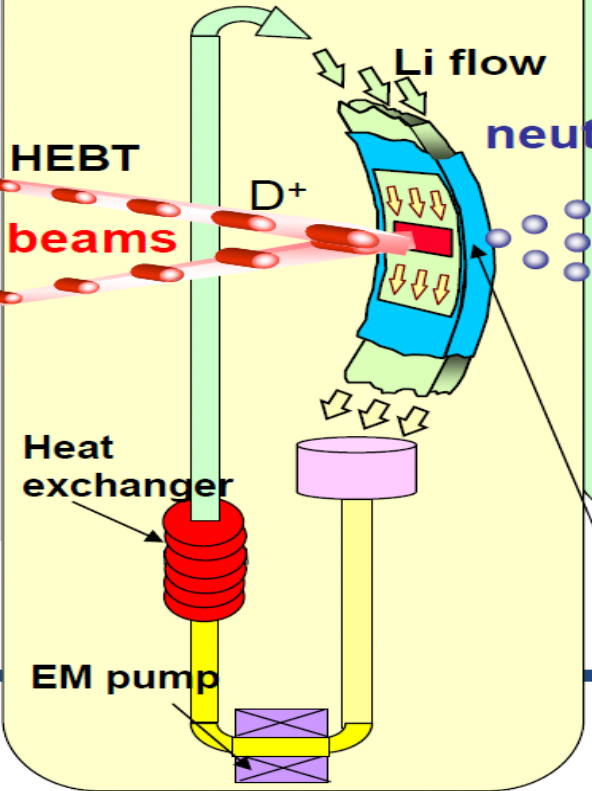
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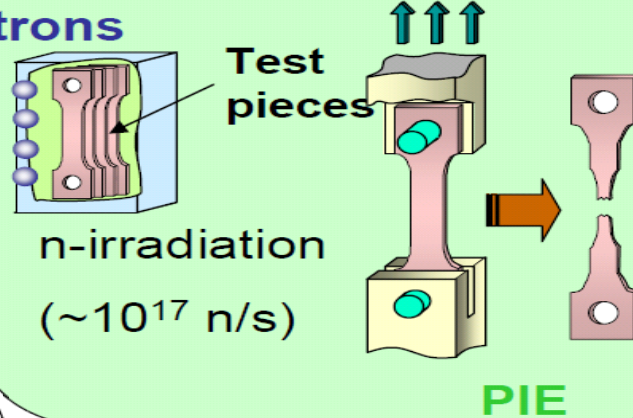
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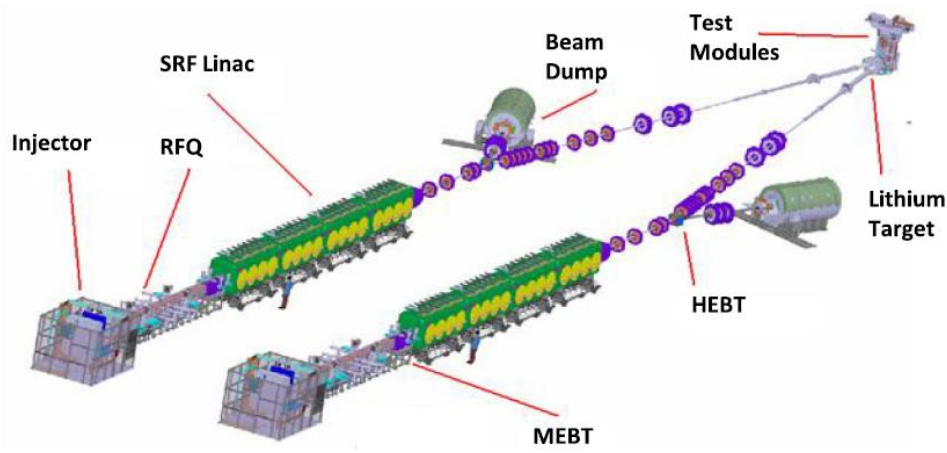
Accelerator
40 MeV

beam

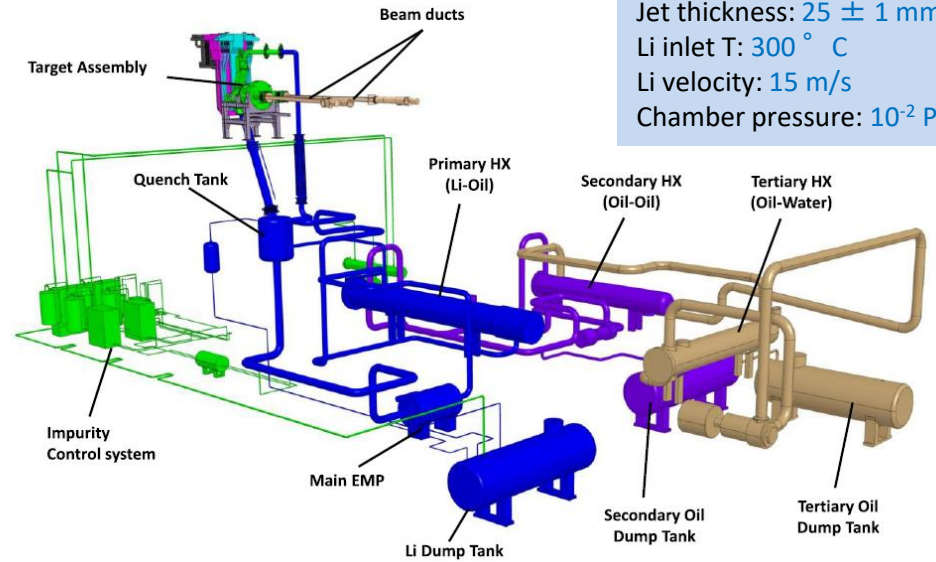
target

Test modules

Third DONES Users Workshop, 1-2. Oct. 2024 Zagreb
 Plans for H24 use of this half liter for
 20 yrs (after 10 yrs construction)



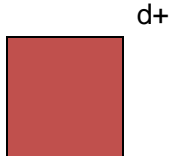
IFMIF concept



Heat flux: 500 MW/m²
 Jet thickness: 25 ± 1 mm
 Li inlet T: 300 ° C
 Li velocity: 15 m/s
 Chamber pressure: 10⁻² Pa

High intensity

Source of charged particles



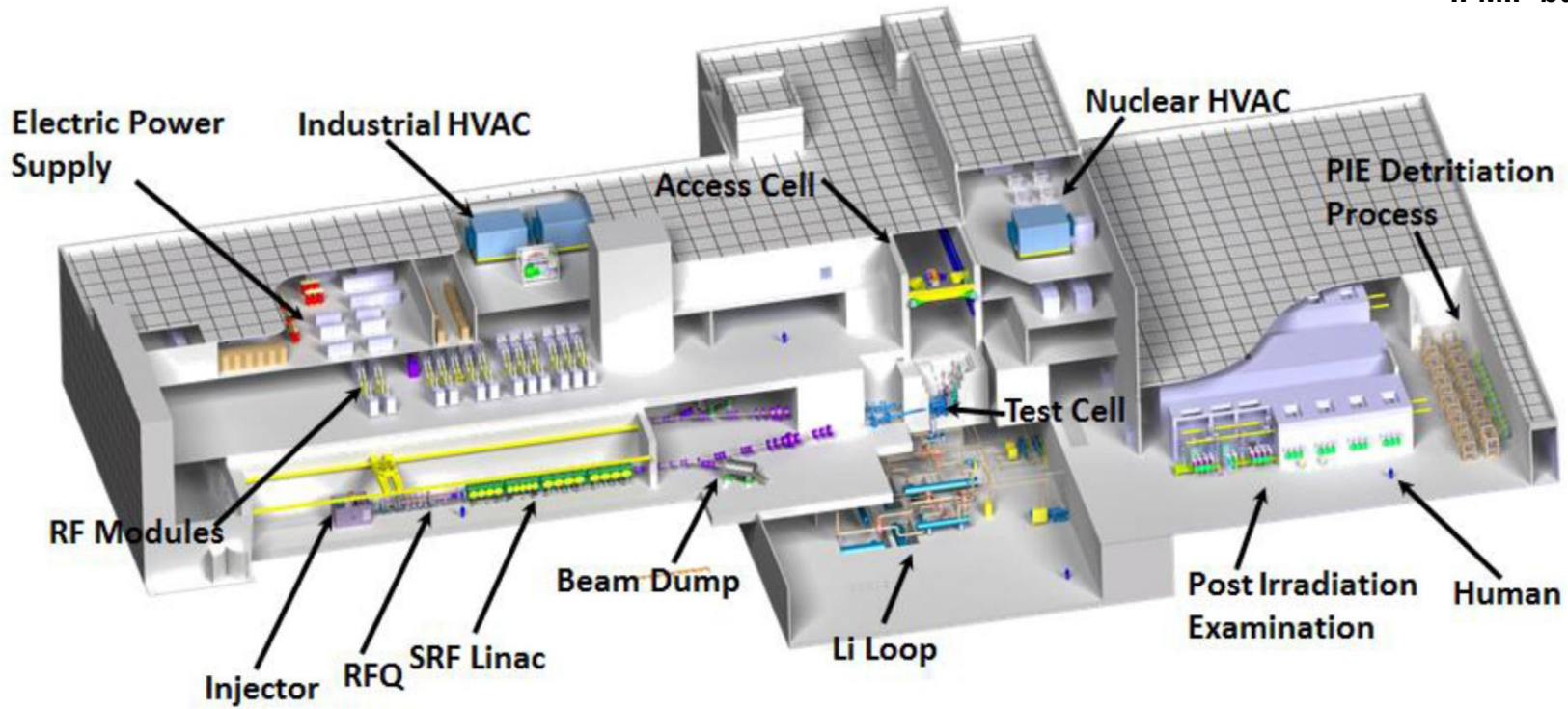
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40 MeV

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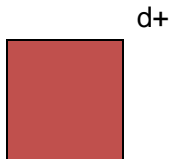
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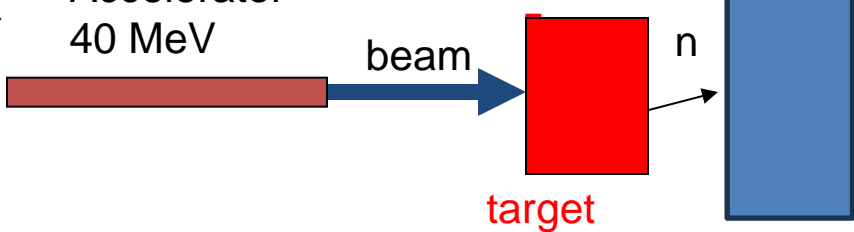


High intensity

Source of charged particles



Accelerator
40 MeV



Test modules

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(IFMIF Engineering Validation and Design Activities)

IFMIF-EVEDA project (approved in **2007**, Broader Approach) complementary to ITER includes prototypes of

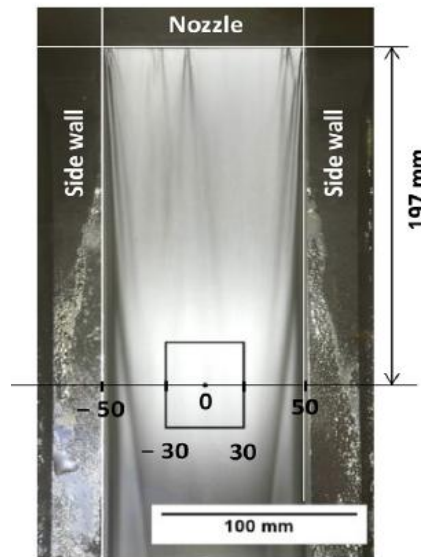
- **Lithium Loop** prototype
- **Test Facility**,
- **accelerator** (LIPAC) 1.2 MW beam power



And the detailed design of IFMIF. LIPAC is built in Rokkasho (Japan) with European accelerator component and fundamental INFN contribution.



JAEA Oaray, Japan



KIT Karlsruhe, Germany

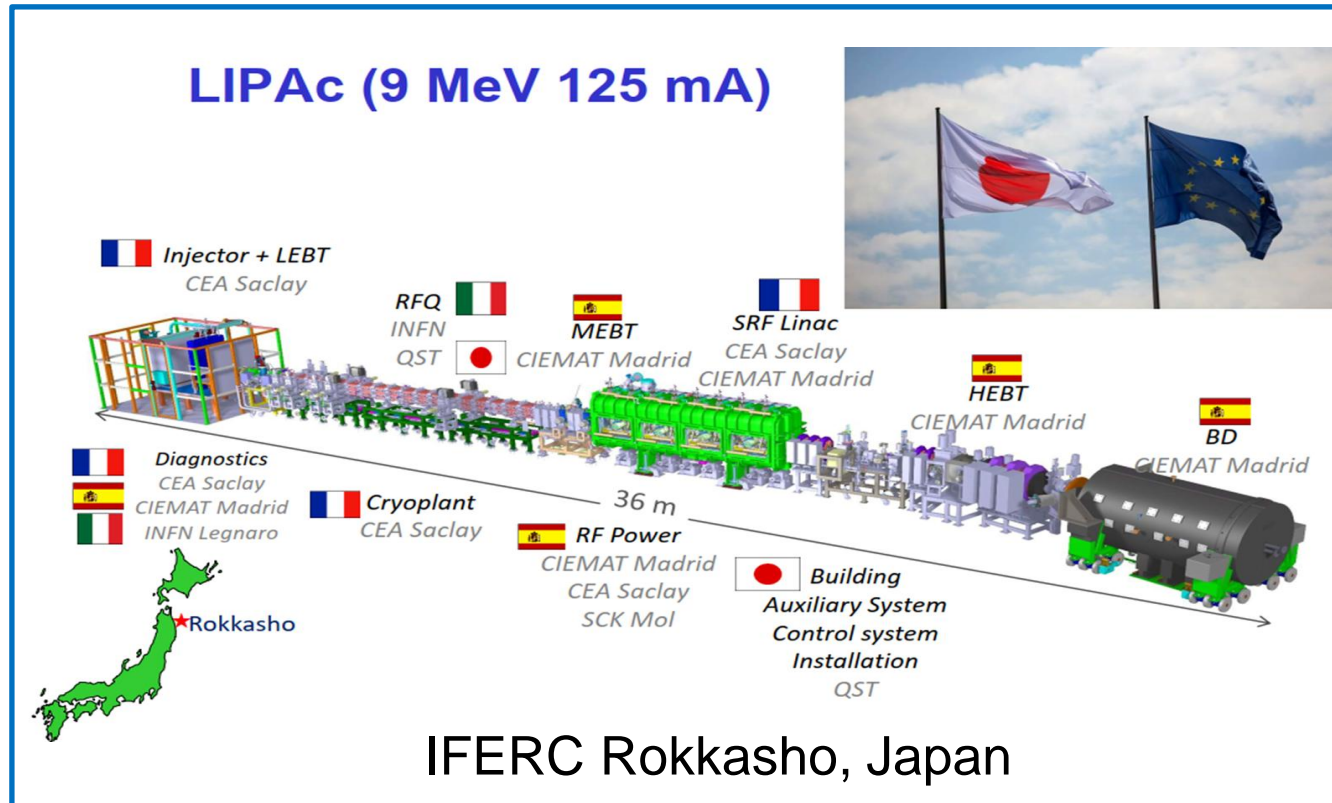
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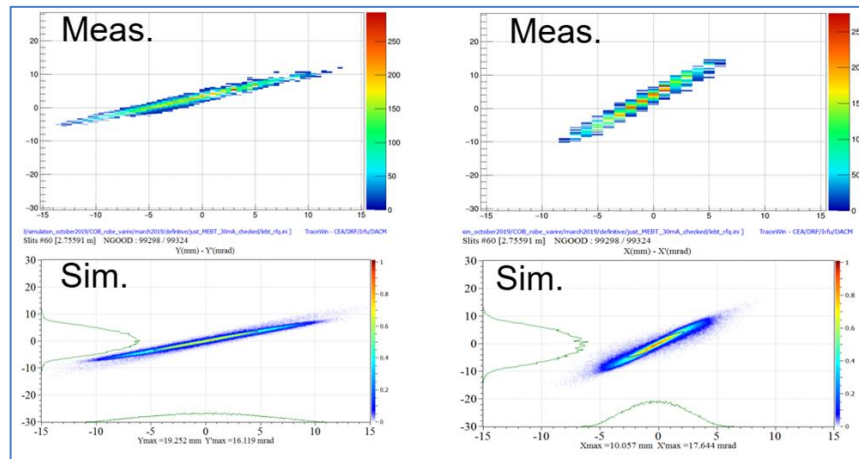
And the detailed design of IFMIF. LIPAC is built in Rokkasho (Japan) with European accelerator component and fundamental INFN contribution.

- The normal conducting part has been built and commissioned up to 5 MeV full current 9% duty cycle.
- The cryomodule is has been transported into the accelerator vault in March '25.

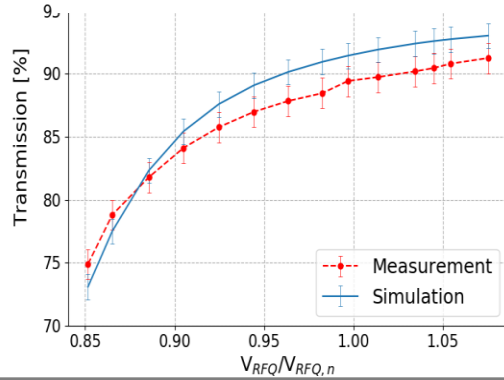


- INFN, with LNL, Bologna, Padova and Torino has realized the RFQ of LIPAc, (125 mA deuterons, 100% duty cycle), the most powerful ever.

For the nominal D⁺ beam currents, the un-chopped IS pulse length (1.3 ms/1 Hz) overcomes the power limitation of the D-Plate slits, used for the transverse emittance measurements after the RFQ (limit=100 μs/1 Hz at 125 mA)



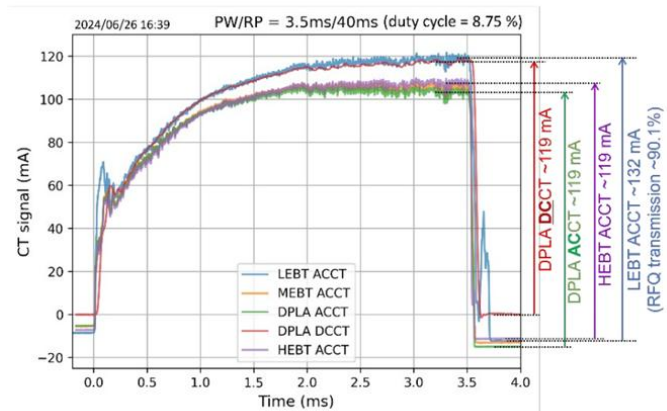
Transmission I_LPDB/I_LEBT vs Voltage curve at 125 mA current D⁺ beams



- Full current pulsed beam test

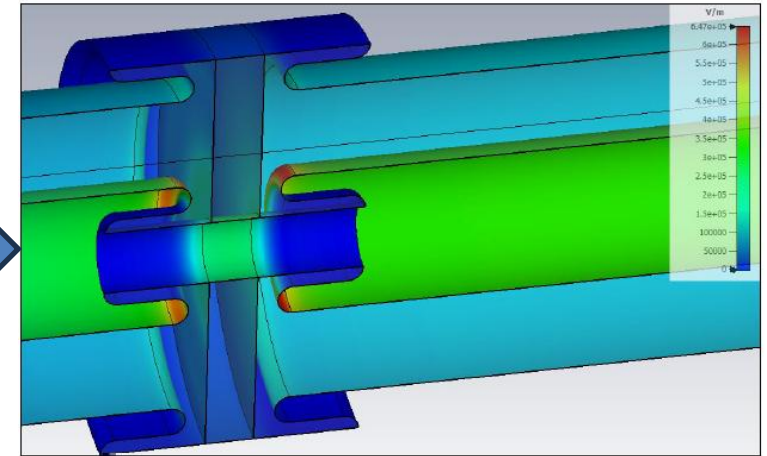
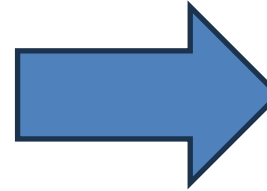
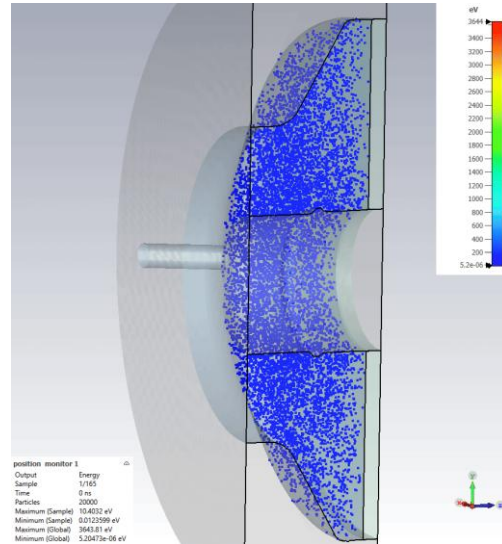


- INFN, with LNL, Bologna, Padova and Torino has realized the RFQ of LIPAc, (125 mA deuterons, 100% duty cycle), the most powerful ever.
- **Phase B+** (5 MeV Injector+RFQ+MEBT+HEBT+HPBD) was concluded in **June 2024**, with **8.75% beam duty** (pulse width 3.5 ms repetition period 40 ms)
- The limitation in power is related to the RF distribution (RF power and couplers) and is object of the consolidation programs by F4E (solid state amplifiers and new brazed couplers).

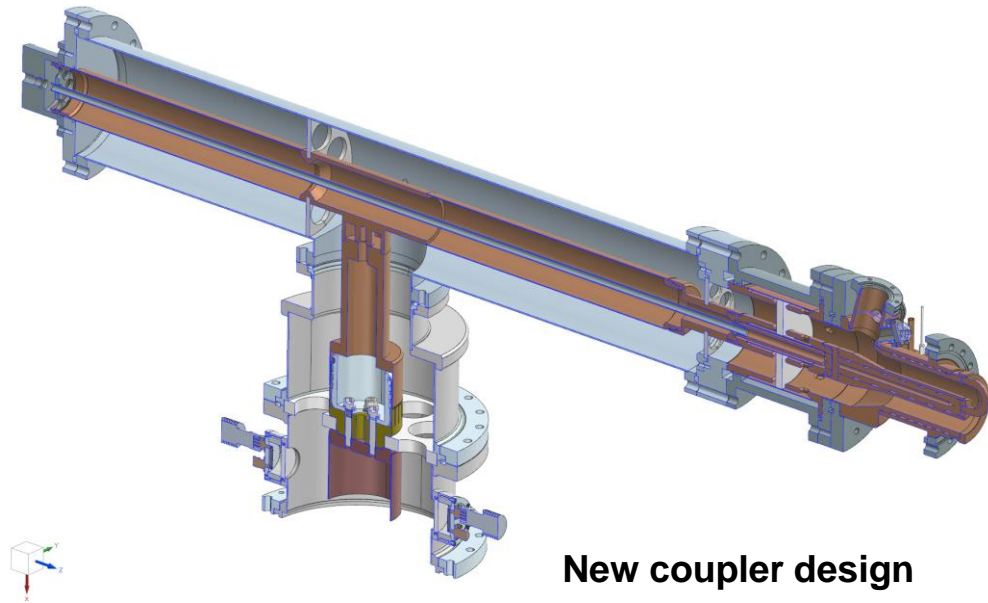


Beam current waveform at duty 8.75%





- New RFQ couplers for LIPAc and DONES (**175 MHz, 200 kW cw**)
- Bulk coupler structure water cooled (like present INFN couplers)
- Brazed alumina window (instead of o-ring), window water cooling.
- Smaller coaxial line in vacuum to avoid multipacting susceptibility in the operation power range.
- Kick off meeting **June 2024**, final delivery end **2027**



New coupler design

March 2025: The cryomodule was assembled and transported into the accelerator vault



Picture 2-3: Beam line fully assembled



Picture 2-26: Cold mass during lifting test in JR building



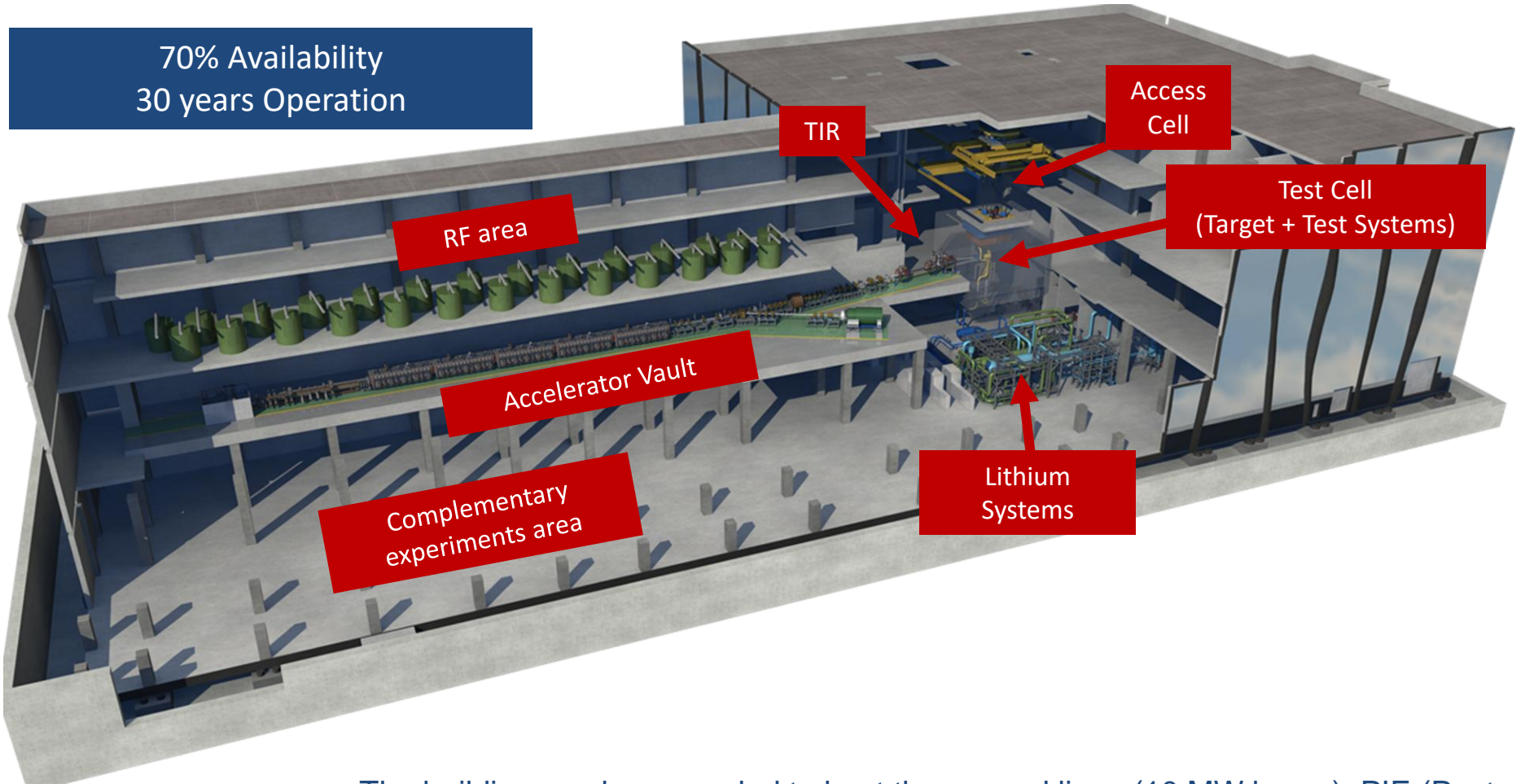
Picture 2-25: Beam line out of cleanroom in JR building

**9 MeV beam at LIPAc
in 2027**



The site is located at Escúzar -18 km southwest from Granada city- Spain

**Identificata come priorità nella EU Fusion Roadmap
Inclusa nella roadmap di ESFRI* come EU strategic facility**
*European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures



The building can be upgraded to host the second linac (10 MW beam), PIE (Post Irradiation Exams) will mainly take place in the collaborating institutes. Complementary experiments (for example nuclear physics, TOF) are possible in a dedicated vault

- Meander line choppers are used in other linacs but at such high energy 20 MeV/u (high chopping voltage, 40 kV, and particle speed $\beta=0.2$)

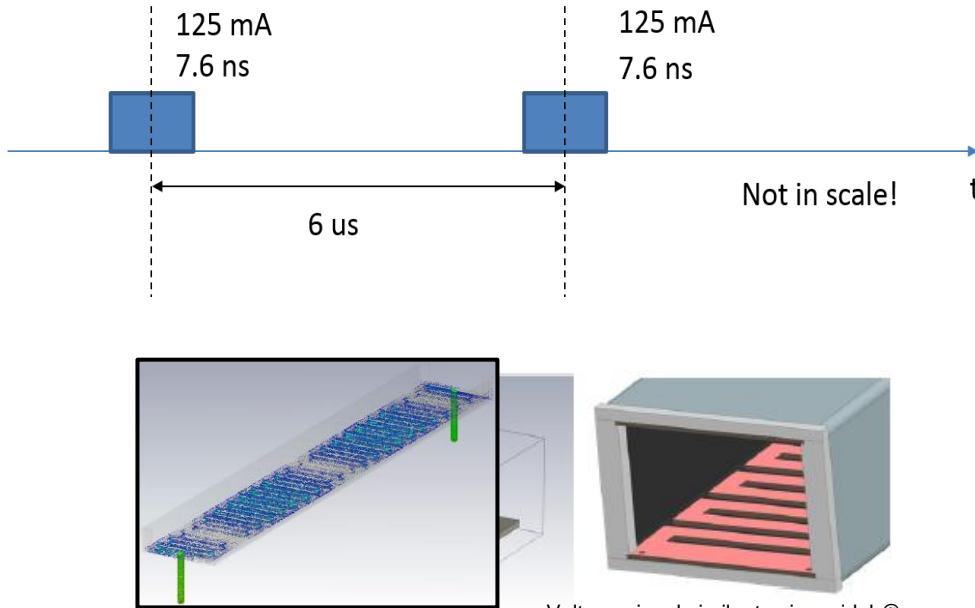
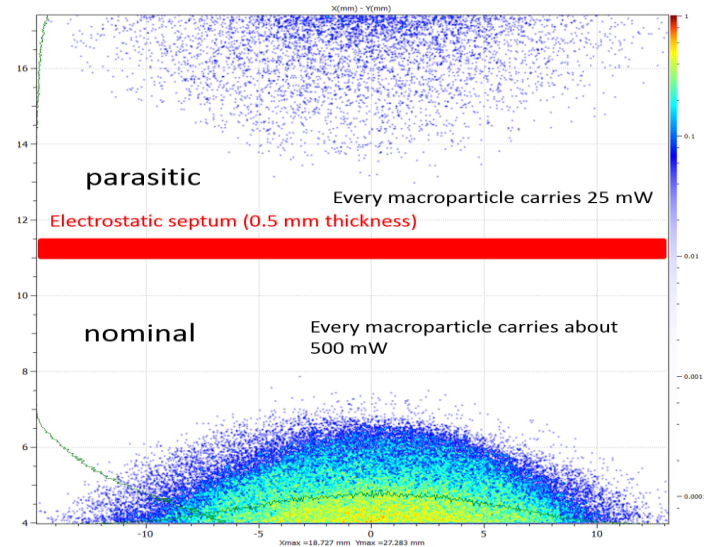
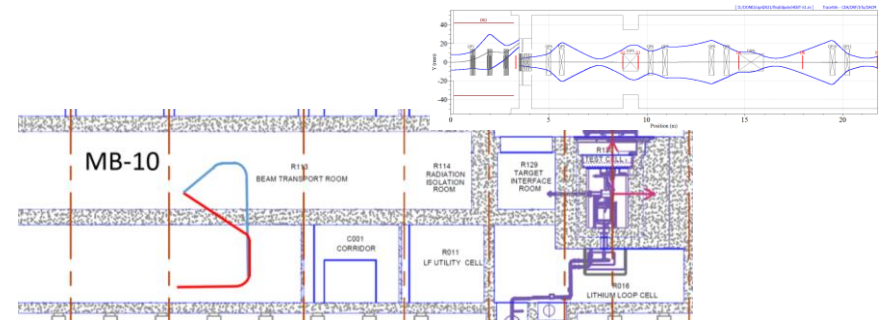


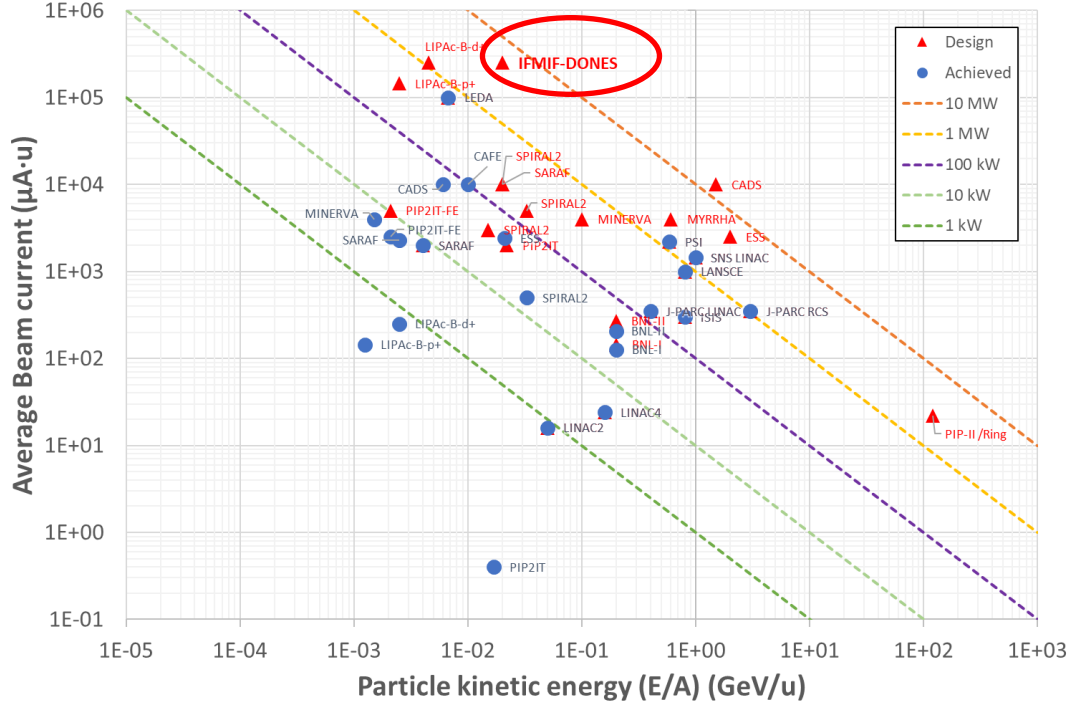
Figure 2: Left: Simplified 3D model of a meander line suspended in vacuum. The main geometrical dimensions are labelled. Right: Meander model inserted in its support.

Design and simulation of parasitic line for interdisciplinary users (INFN)

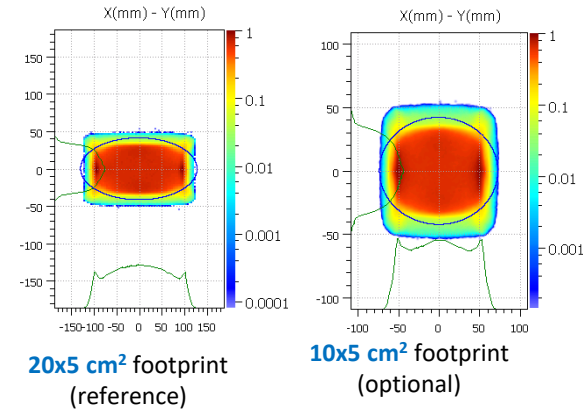
- 1/1000 bunch extracted with a fast meander line chopper for TOF experiments.



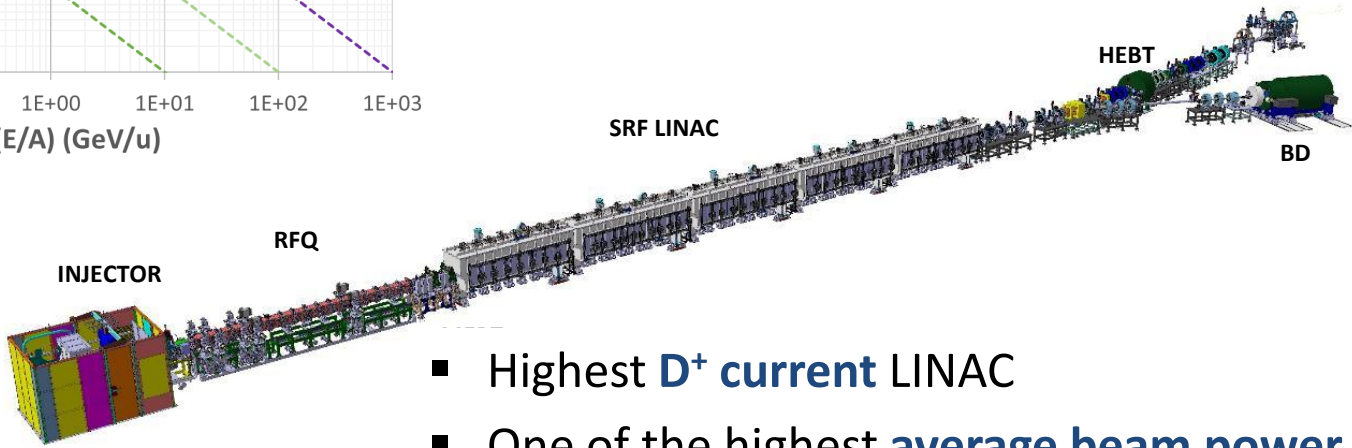
Simulazione della potenza di fascio (principale e parassita) al setto elettrostatico



Beam footprint @ target

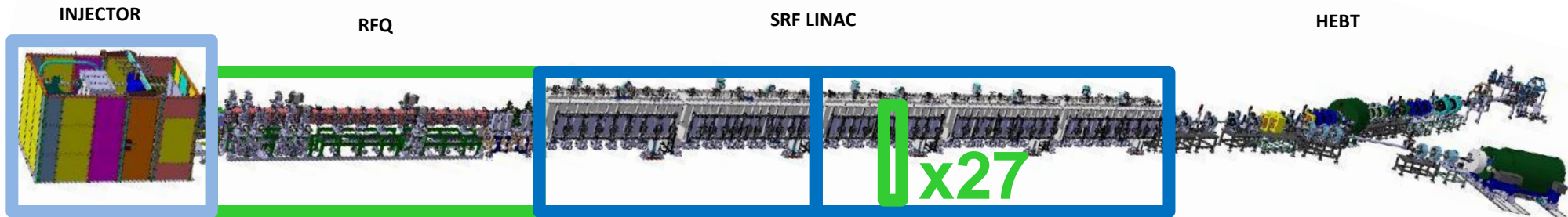


D+ CW 175 MHz SC LINAC
 125 mA / 40 MeV → **5 MW**
 Total length of ~100 m
 Windowless liquid Li target
 20 y, 87% availability
 Hands-on maintenance (<1 W/m)



- Highest **D+ current** LINAC
- One of the highest **average beam power**
- Longest **RFQ**
- Record of light hadrons current through **SC cavities**

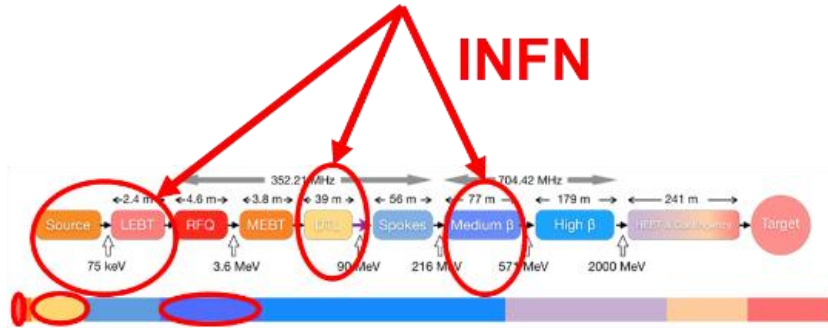
The Italian contribution to DONES should be about 8% of DONES cost, approx. 812 M€, i.e. an in-kind contribution of 65M€, 40 M€ ENEA on the target and 25 M€ INFN on the accelerator (this sharing was discussed immediately before Covid, in 2019).



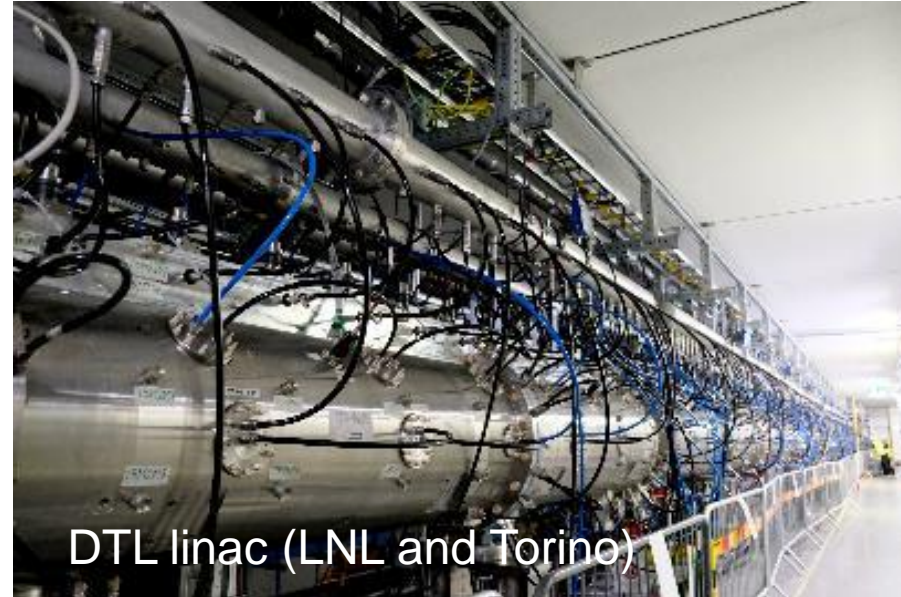
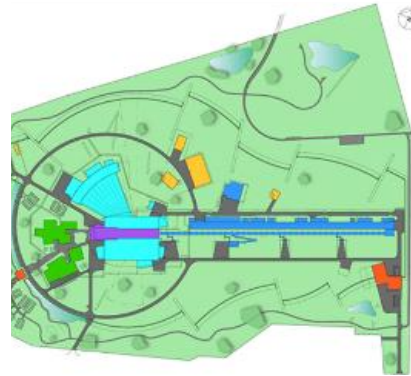
INFN contribution:

- The RFQ
- The 27 HWR superconducting cavities
- A general contribution to computer control, installation, commissioning and management of the accelerator

In blu F4E and CEA contributions



- **INFN contribution to ESS is now successfully completed.**
- **INFN source and DTL have demonstrated beam performances**
- **All INFN cavities (nc and sc) are RF conditioned and the beam BOT is before summer**



- The INFN IKC for ESS, beside a an excellent accelerator, knowledge and skilled young accelerator scientists for the future, created a non negligible budget margin, mainly thanks of the INFN work (LNL and TO for the DTL realization).
- The idea is to invest in a Platform for Accelerator development (LATA or ATIP). The «progettazione definitiva» of LATA was concluded during DB direction and could be now revised and realized

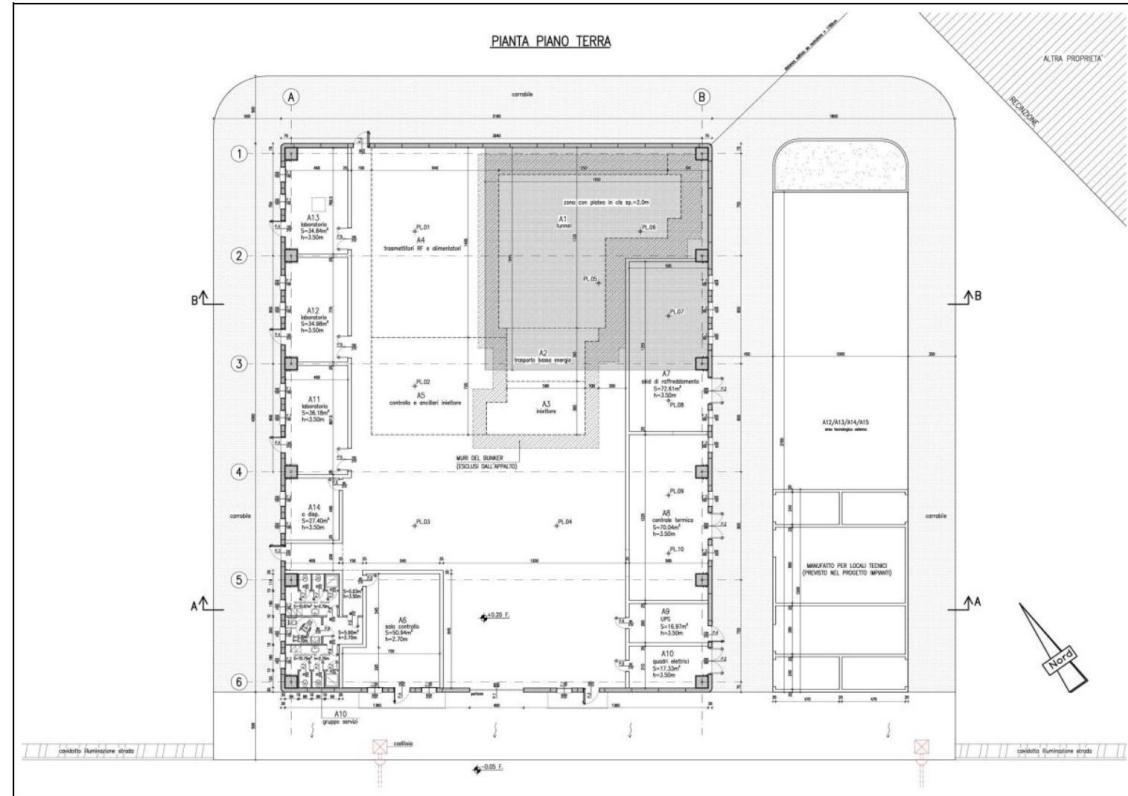
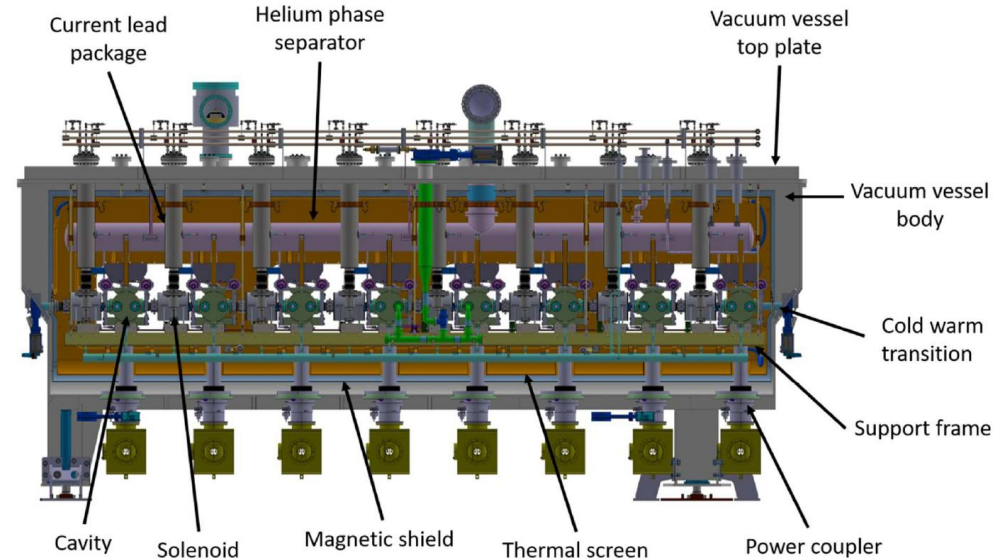
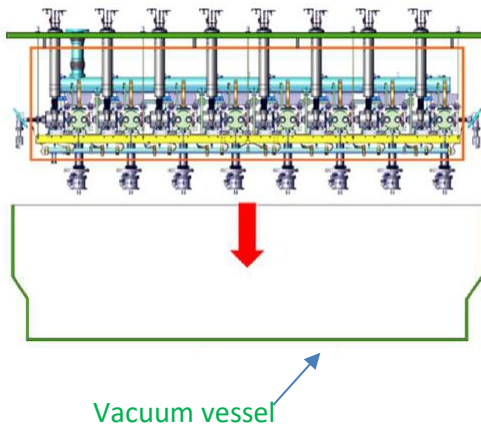
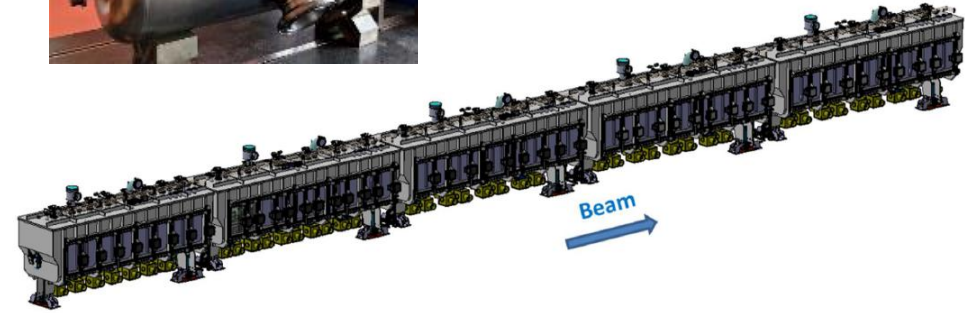


Figura 1 - Pianta piano terra

Development of INFN IKC to the accelerator

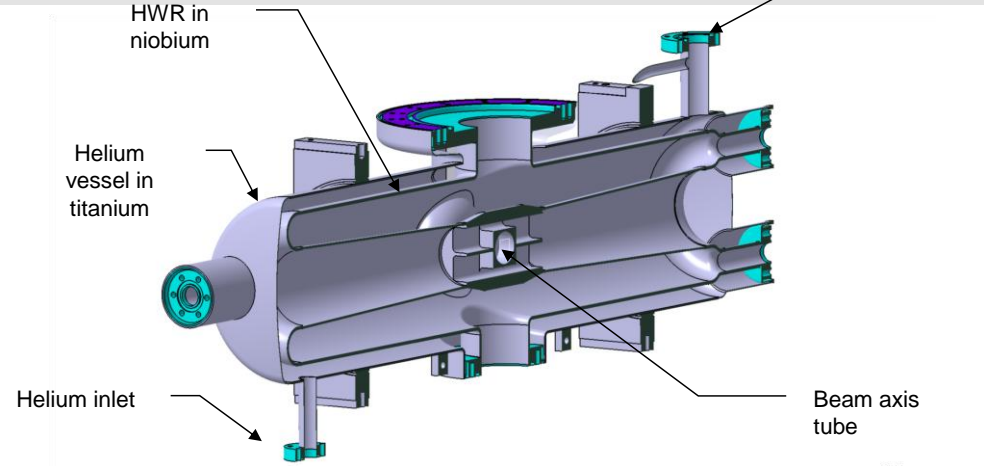


- **Five Cryomodules** top-loaded → integration in the vault
- Two types of HWR's cavities: 19 x low- β and 27 x high- β
- <200 kW RF couplers. Biased T-box design
- **29 x solenoids packages** (with steerers, BPM's & BLM's)
- **4 x Short Warm Sections**
- **Valve boxes** in a parallel room to ease maintenance
- Complete study of **cryogenic hazards**



Developed by CEA France, prototype cavity construction by Zanon Italy

- The superconducting linac (cryomodules based on HWR and superconducting solenoids) is developed by CEA
- HWR linac concept is historically an evolution of HI superconducting linacs like ALPI
- Cavities for IFMIF EVEDA were fabricated in Italy (Zanon)

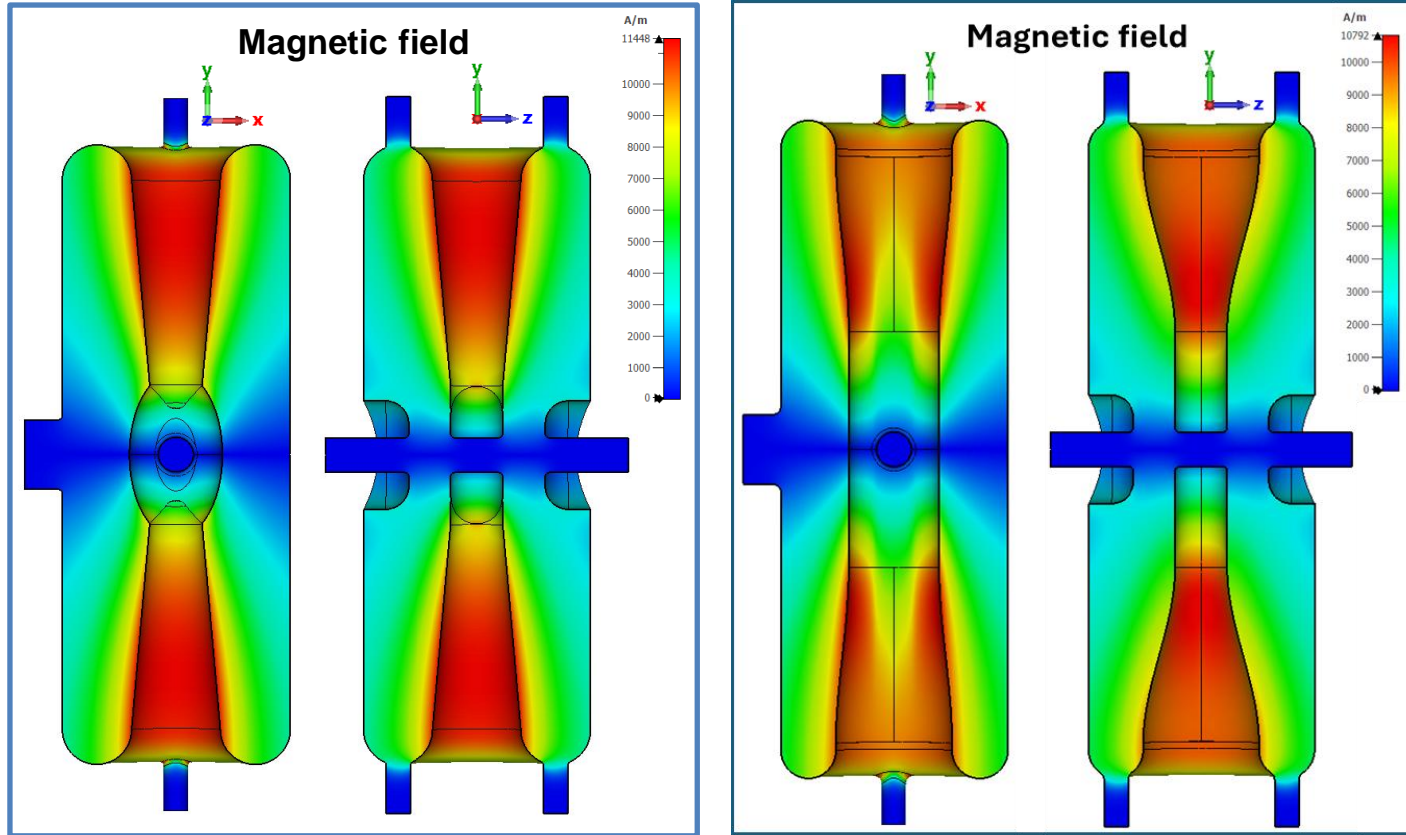


LNL low beta (A. Facco et al)

IFMIF EVEDA HWR designed by CEA



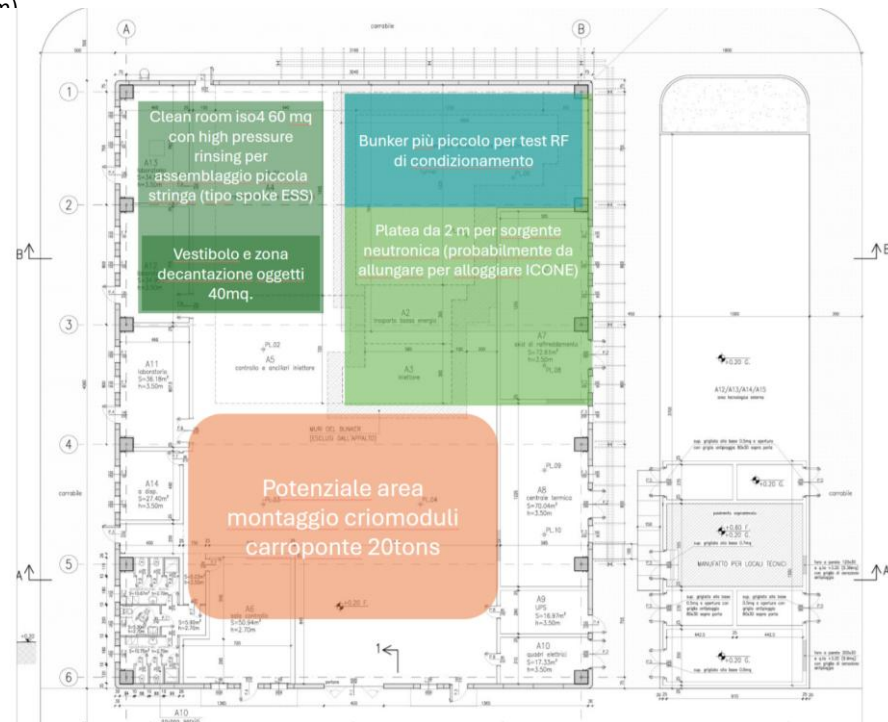
- Specifications: 175 MHz, $\beta=0.18$, $\Phi_{\text{beam}}=50$ mm, $E_{\text{acc}}=4.2$ MV/m
 - At LNL we started the cavity design: $\frac{E_{\text{max}}}{E_{\text{acc}}} = 5$, $B_{\text{max}}/E_{\text{acc}}$ [mT/(MV/m)]=8-8.5
- two different geometries, inspired by CEA LIPAc and FRIB cavities



[1] J. Plouin et al., *Design, Fabrication, and Test of a 175 MHz, $\beta = 0.18$, Half Wave Resonator for the IFMIF-DONES SRF-Linac*, Proceedings of SRF 2023, [link](#)

[2] J. P. Holzbauer, *Superconducting Half Wave Resonators For Heavy Ion Linear Accelerators*, PhD Thesis, Michigan State University, 2011, [link](#)

- Participation of LNL, Torino and Milano (open to other contributions)
- All the interfaces need to be compatible with CEA design.
- The prototype can be built with ZANON and characterized in critical coupling with the existing test cryostats.
- The construction of the series need a new cryostat and improved infrastructures, like LATA/ATIP (Accelerator Technology Integrated Platform)



- Delivered in 2014, INFN contribution LNL, Padova, Torino Bologna
- Beam dynamics=>high transmission, high efficiency
- RF design=> high shunt impedance

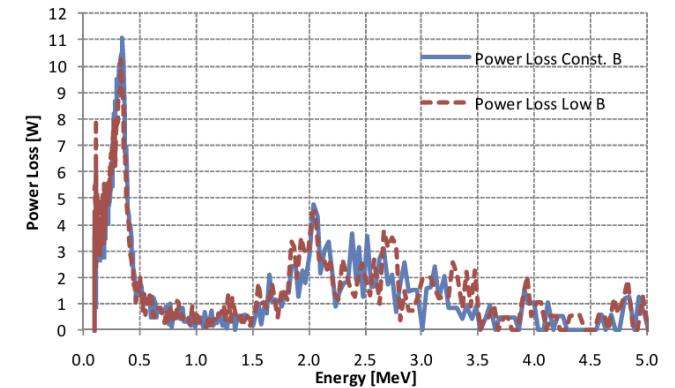
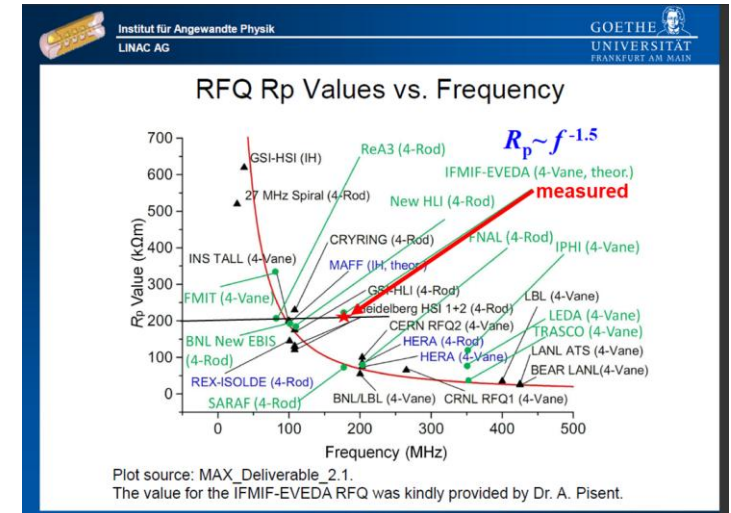
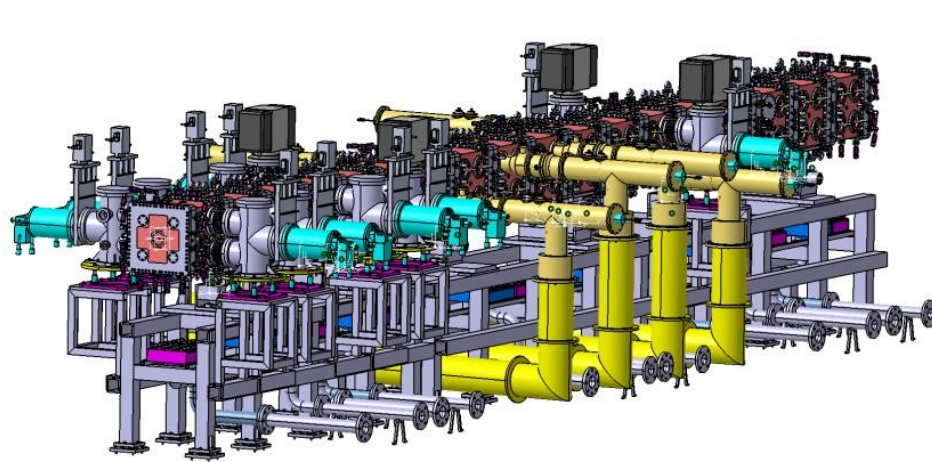
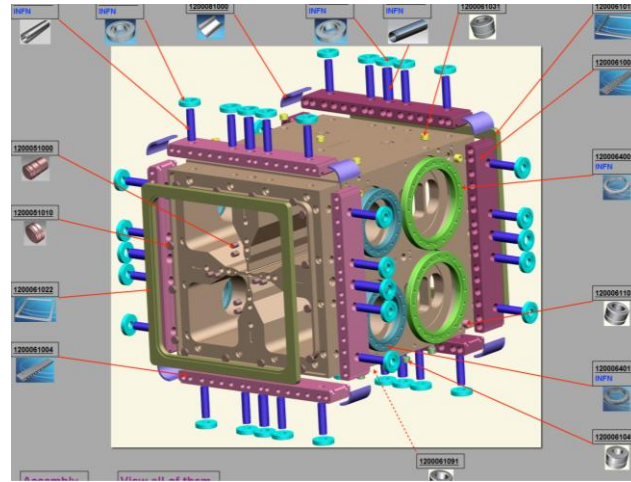
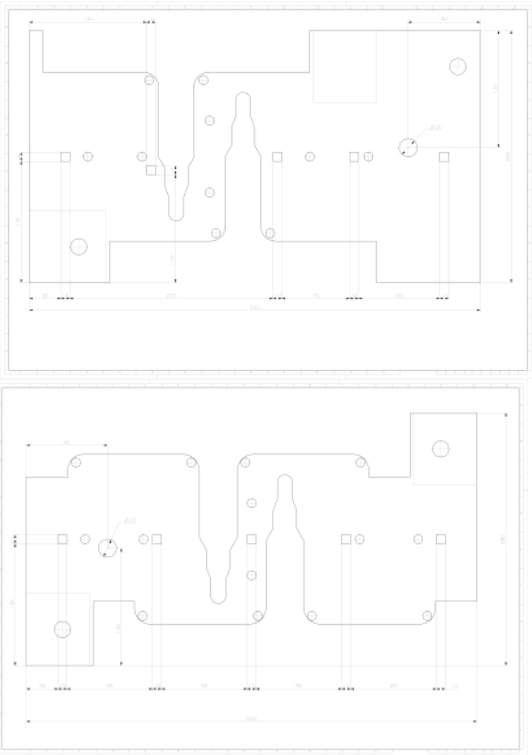
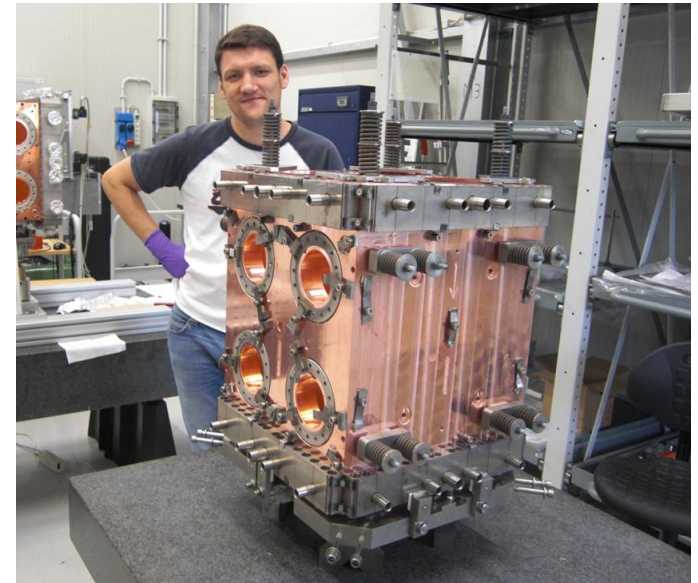


Figure 4: Power Loss as function of the energy.

- Mechanics @ INFN Padova.
4 sectors, de-couple the mechanical connection towards the leakage tightness.



From forged blocks to modules

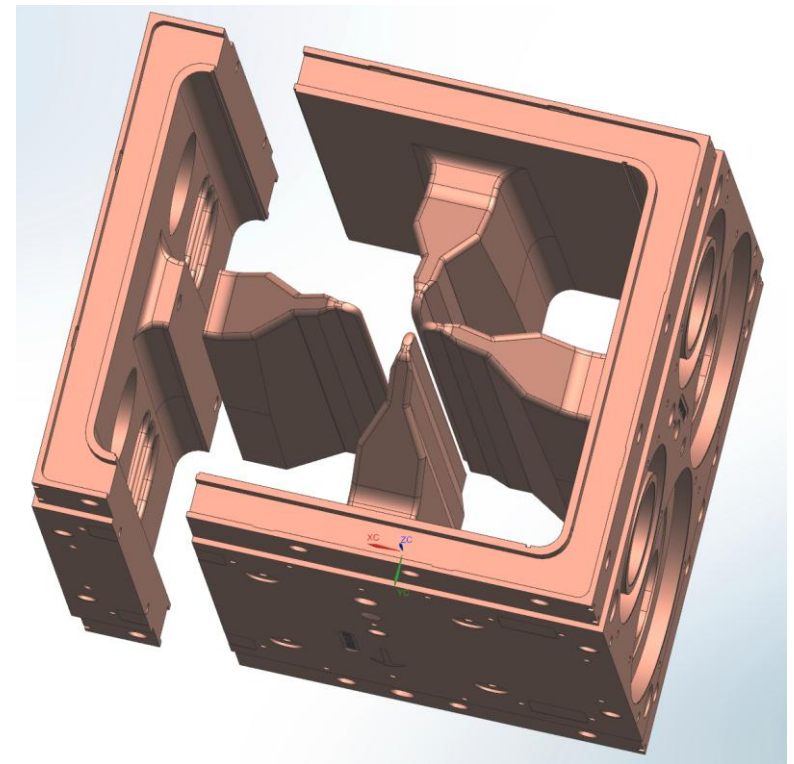


• Mechanics in 8 brazed sectors

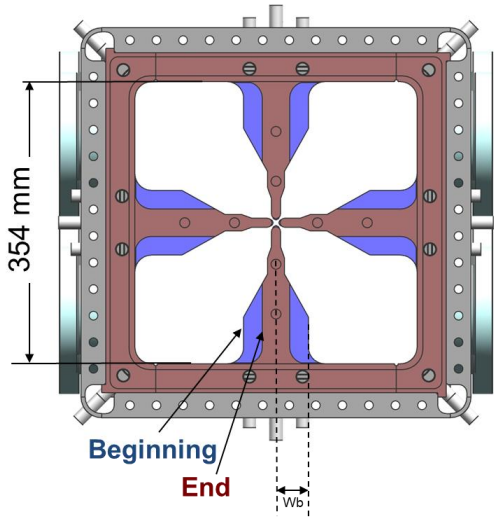
Single step brazing phase already tested of an entire module with the vane brazed to the vessel (M#9 of RFQ IFMIF)

Advantages of using 8-parts modules:

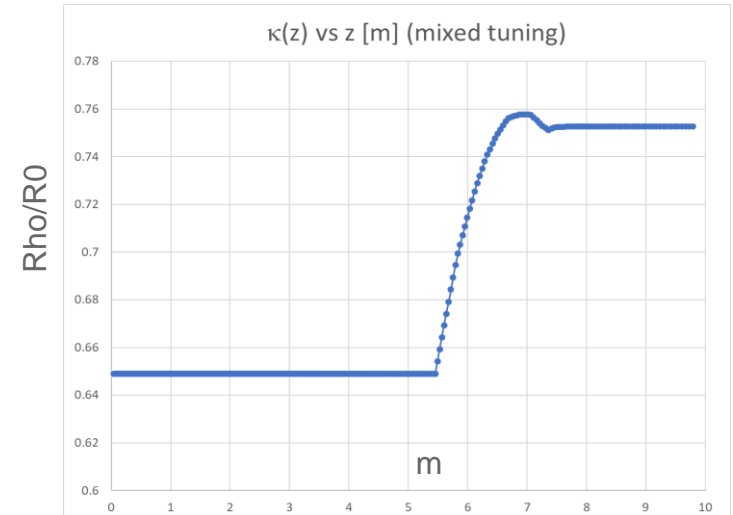
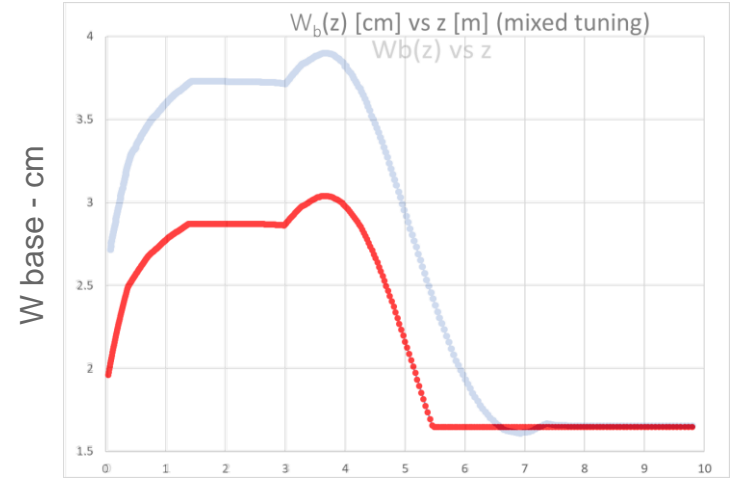
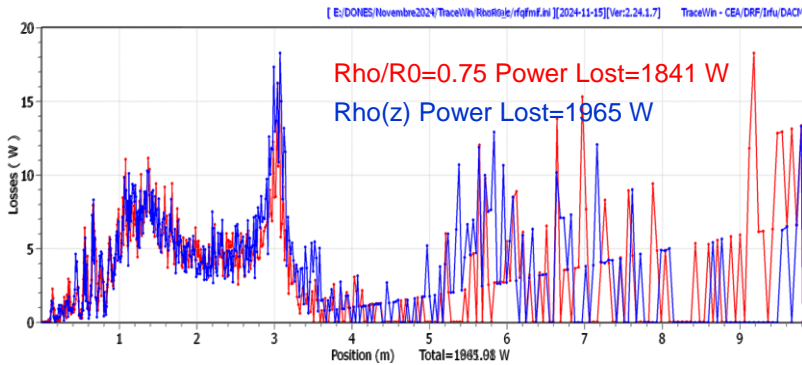
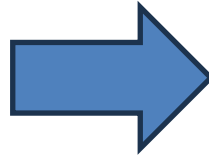
1. EDM machining on big copper Block (difficult to buy and expensive)
 - increasing of the length of the module
 - reduce the number of module assembly interface
 - Reduce the number of module alignment and so increase its positioning reliability
2. Standardize the geometry for vessel and vane components
 - reduce machining/control error due to the standardization of the production phases/quality controls
3. Redistribute tolerances on components that are easier to machine
 - less errors
 - more possibilities to correct machining errors before brazing
4. Raw geometry near to the machined one
 - minor waste of material
 - better quality of the forged material for the tip modulation



- RF design: mixed tuning on rho/R0 and Wb



- Larger tuners
- Better coupler pumping
- Less weight in the furnace (more furnaces available)



Single 3-points final support

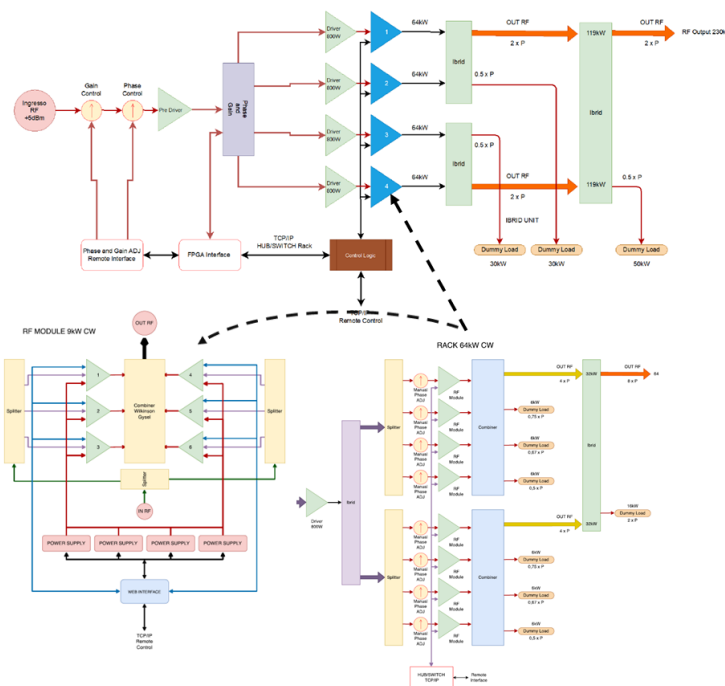


SPES RFQ installed at LNL (CW, 100kW, 80 MHz)



Anthem RFQ to be transported on the support assembled to Caserta after tuning and vacuum leak checks. (CW, 600kW, 352MHz)

Support design and integration by INFN-TO.



RF system should provide 5MW to the beam + 700 kW to the RFQ copper power dissipation. It is one of the main contributor to the operating cost of the plant. → Efficiency is fundamental

The INFN prototype is fully tested and presently ready for power coupler test at LNL.

200kW, 175 MHz , 62% power efficiency.

A fundamental technology where Italian industry is ready to compete for general contracts

- The IKC model was successful for INFN contribution and IFMIF EVEDA and ESS. This second being a user facility is more relevant for DONES.
- The participation of multiple INFN structures is fundamental. For DONES we have the historical core (LNL, Torino and Milano) and additional contributions are welcome.
- The contribution for DONES is centered on **RFQ** and **high beta cavities** (and will include accelerator physics, engineering and management, computer control....)
- For both developments is very important the upgrade of the available technological platform, and in particular the construction of LATA.

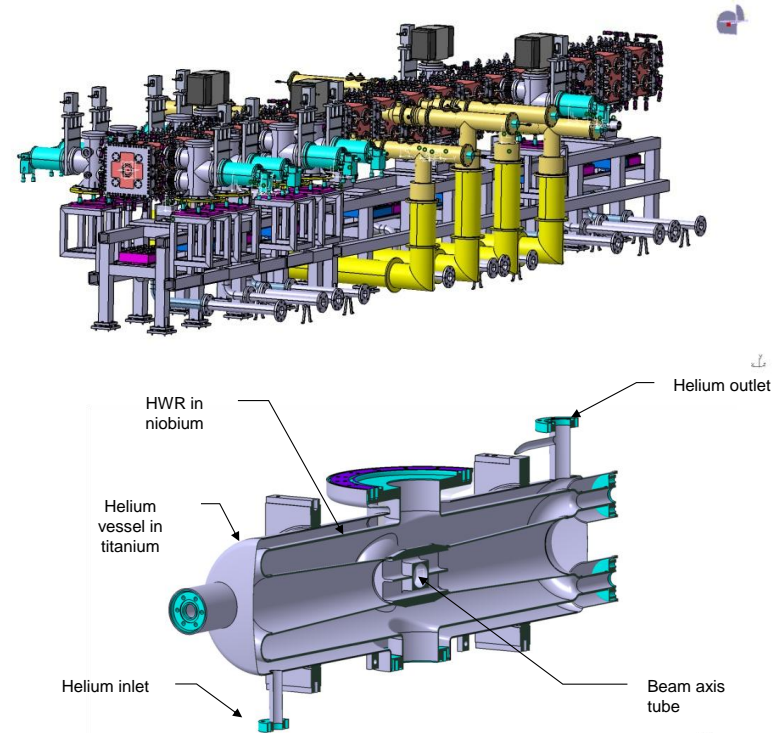
Main INFN DONES contributors

LNL A. Pisent, F. Grespan, M. Comunian, A. Palmieri, E. Fagotti, L. Bellan, C. Roncolato, M. D'Andrea, C. Baltador, L. Ferrari, M. Giacchini, M. Montis, L. Antoniazzi, D. Bortolato, P. Bottin, A. Baldo, A. Battistello, A. Colombo (PD), A. Facco, C. Pira

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- The Italian contribution to DONES we are speaking about is 8% of DONES cost, approx. 812 M€, i.e. an in-kind contribution of 65M€, 40 M€ ENEA on the target and 25 M€ INFN on the accelerator (this sharing was discussed immediately before Covid, in 2019).
- Main items:
 - RFQ 8-10 M€
 - 27 High beta superconducting cavities 10 M€
 - Installation and commissioning 8 M€
- the construction time is approx 5 years for the RFQ and 6 years for SRF cavities after kick off meeting.
- INFN collaboration with a core LNL, Torino, LASA.
- The new accelerator platform (LATA) at LNL is needed for series construction (approx. 2 years from now).



**1st DONES Steering Committee held
the 16th March 2023
Official start of the
DONES Construction Phase**



Granada 16 Mar. 2023

4th DONES steering committee 16 Oct. 2024

- Spagna e Croazia, membri del consorzio DONES, gli altri sono observers.
- Italia ha un MOU fra ministeri della ricerca scientifica e la trattativa per l'ingresso è in corso (con un contributo ENEA al target e INFN all'acceleratore)



Granada 16 Oct. 2024

