



VIRGO
VIRGO

GravNet

Claudio Gatti



GravNet

A Global Network for the Search of High Frequency Gravitational Waves



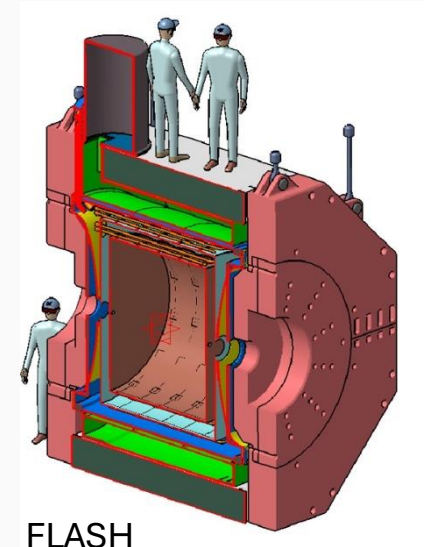
QUAX@LNF



Initial sites: Mainz, Bonn, Frascati



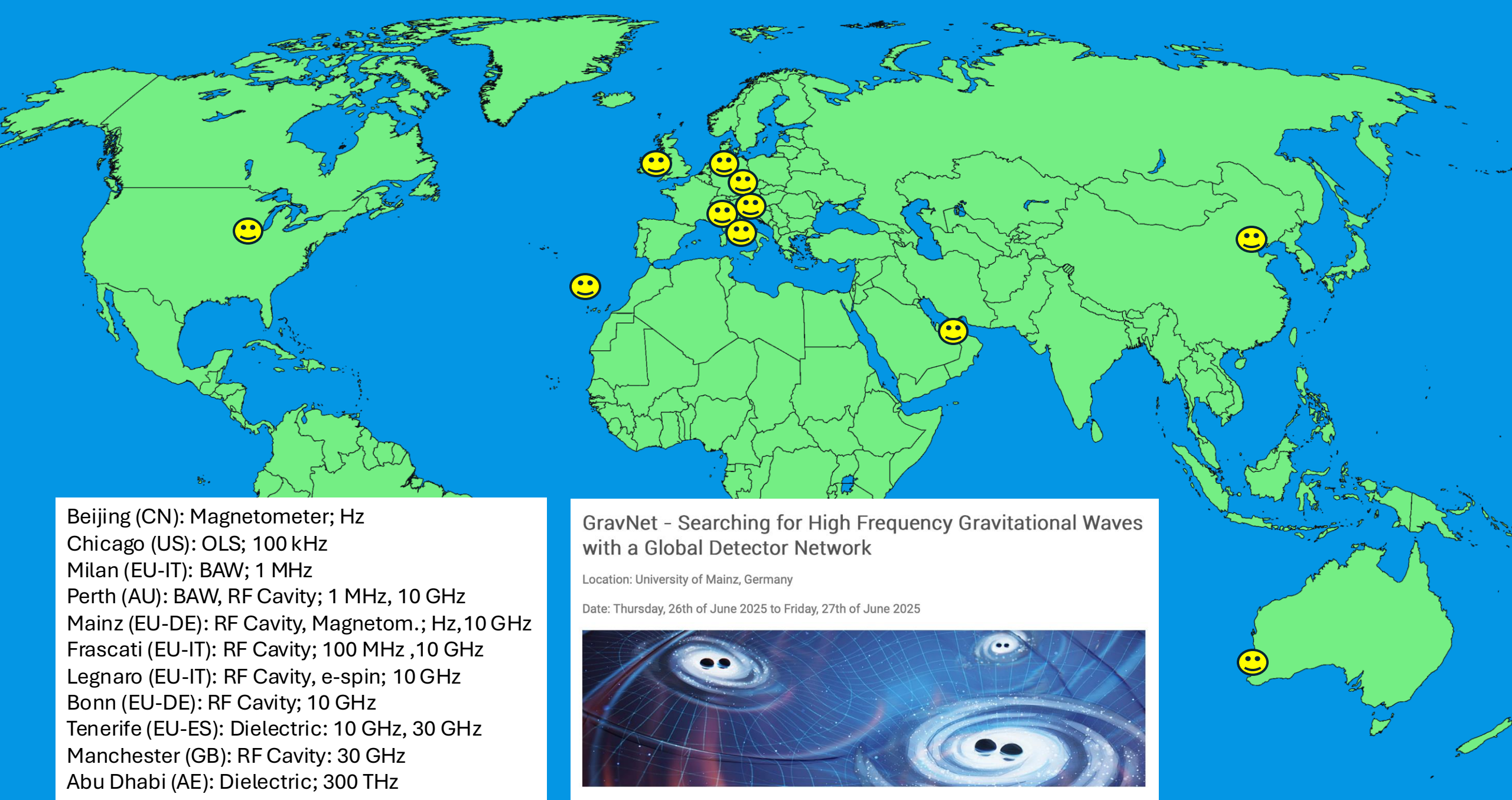
SUPAX



FLASH

- 3 high frequency RF cavities per site
- One RF cavity at 100 MHz
- Multi-mode readout

Goal: Extend the network to more sites and technologies (BAW, Levitated Sensors ...)



Beijing (CN): Magnetometer; Hz
Chicago (US): OLS; 100 kHz
Milan (EU-IT): BAW; 1 MHz
Perth (AU): BAW, RF Cavity; 1 MHz, 10 GHz
Mainz (EU-DE): RF Cavity, Magnetom.; Hz, 10 GHz
Frascati (EU-IT): RF Cavity; 100 MHz ,10 GHz
Legnaro (EU-IT): RF Cavity, e-spin; 10 GHz
Bonn (EU-DE): RF Cavity; 10 GHz
Tenerife (EU-ES): Dielectric: 10 GHz, 30 GHz
Manchester (GB): RF Cavity: 30 GHz
Abu Dhabi (AE): Dielectric; 300 THz

GravNet - Searching for High Frequency Gravitational Waves with a Global Detector Network

Location: University of Mainz, Germany

Date: Thursday, 26th of June 2025 to Friday, 27th of June 2025

An artistic rendering of gravitational waves, showing two black holes in the process of merging. The spacetime curvature is depicted as a grid that ripples and distorts as the black holes spiral together, creating concentric rings of light and shadow. The background is a deep blue with some distant stars.



FLASH

FLASH Collaboration

Bylaws of the FLASH Collaboration

September 2025

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Technical Board

F. Bossi (Chair), S. Gazzana
(Technical Manager), C. Ligi
(Cryogenics), G. Mazzitelli
(Computing), C. Gatti (PI)



Departamento de
Física Teórica
Universidad Zaragoza



JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

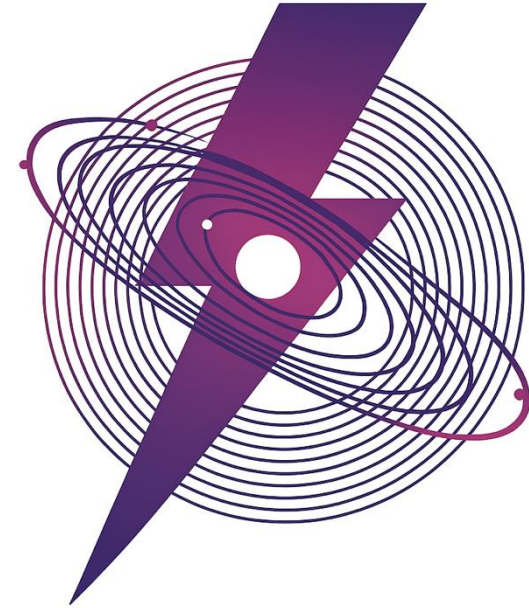


WP1 Physics Reach

(L. Visinelli and F. Mescia)

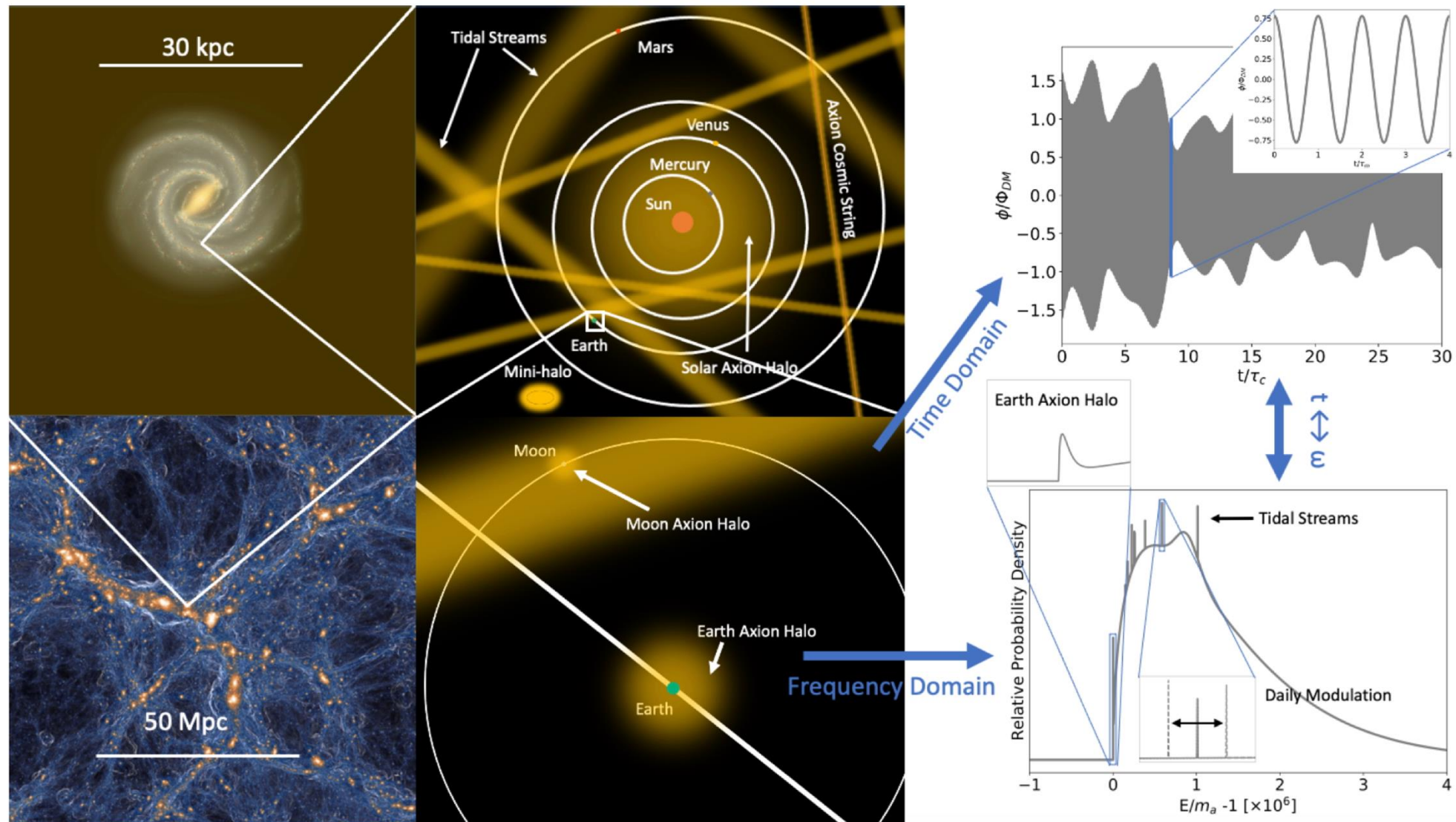
- The theoretical work currently focuses on:
 - Detecting axion mini-clusters with FLASH
 - Relativistic axions and DP
 - Coupling to HFGW (within GravNet)
- Concerning future applications and detector upgrades:
 - Investigating dilaton detection with Bulk Acoustic Wave (BAW) resonators
 - Searching for millicharged particles with FLASH

Frascati National
Laboratories



FLASH
THEORY WORKING
GROUP

Detecting axion miniclusters in FLASH?



WP2: Cryostat Mechanical Design and Cryogenics (C. Ligi)

- Signed by CERN and LNF a Collaboration Agreement for the cryogenic design of the FLASH experiment.
- A PhD student in engineering from La Sapienza University is now working with the Cryogenic Service at CERN.
- A report on FLASH cryogenics is expected in summer 2026 and the final report on its mechanical design before summer 2027.

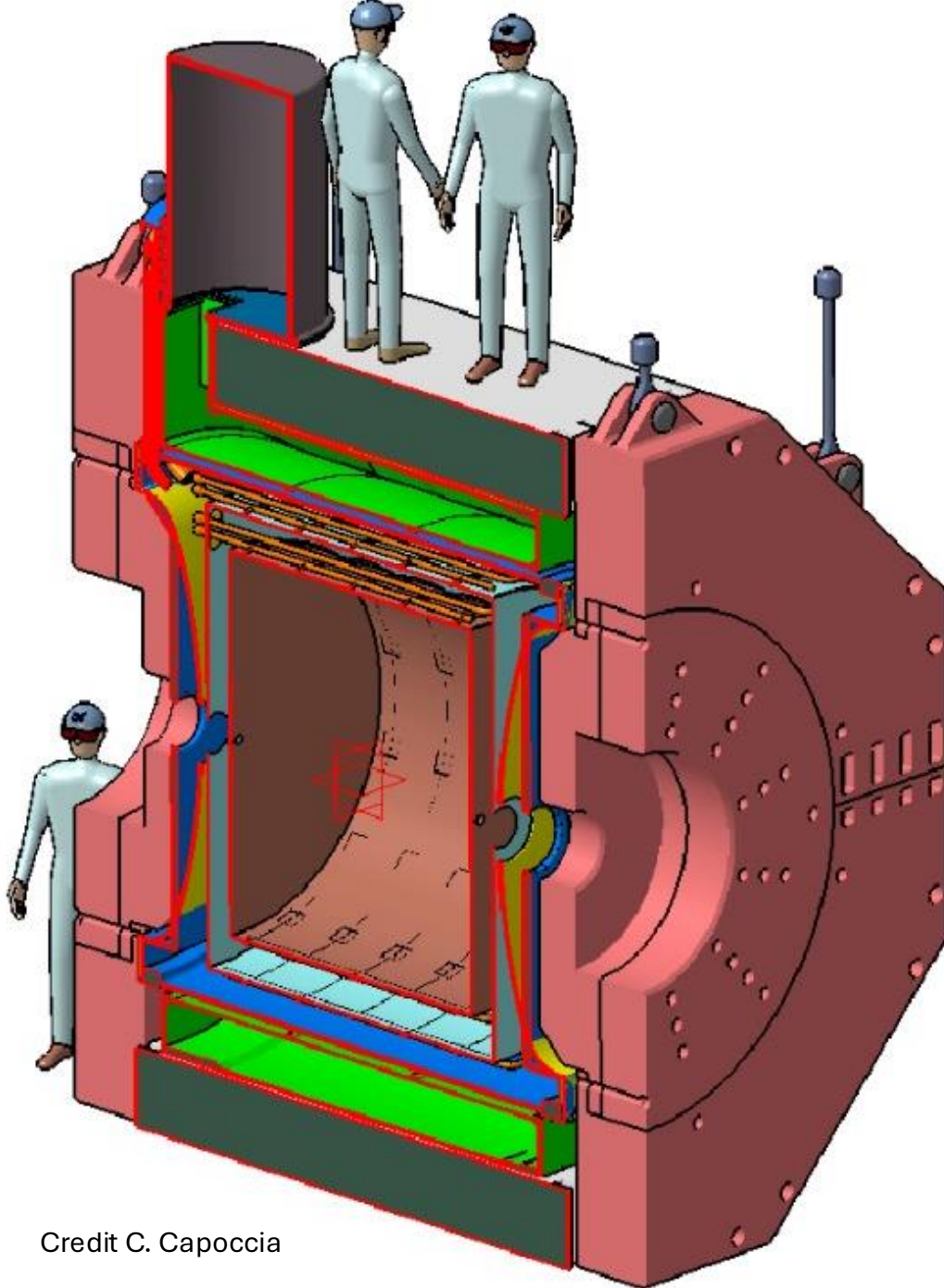
**ADDENDUM No. KN6519 /TE
to
FRAMEWORK COLLABORATION AGREEMENT KN3083
between
THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH (CERN)
and
THE ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI FISICA NUCLEARE (“INFN”)**

concerning

**Collaboration in cryogenic design for the FLASH
experiment at LNF**

BETWEEN: THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH (“CERN”), an Intergovernmental Organization having its seat in Geneva, Switzerland, duly represented by José Miguel Jiménez, Head of Technology Department,

AND: ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI FISICA NUCLEARE - LABORATORI NAZIONALI DI FRASCATI LNF (“INFN-LNF”) established at Frascati, Italy, duly represented by Paola Gianotti, Director of INFN-LNF



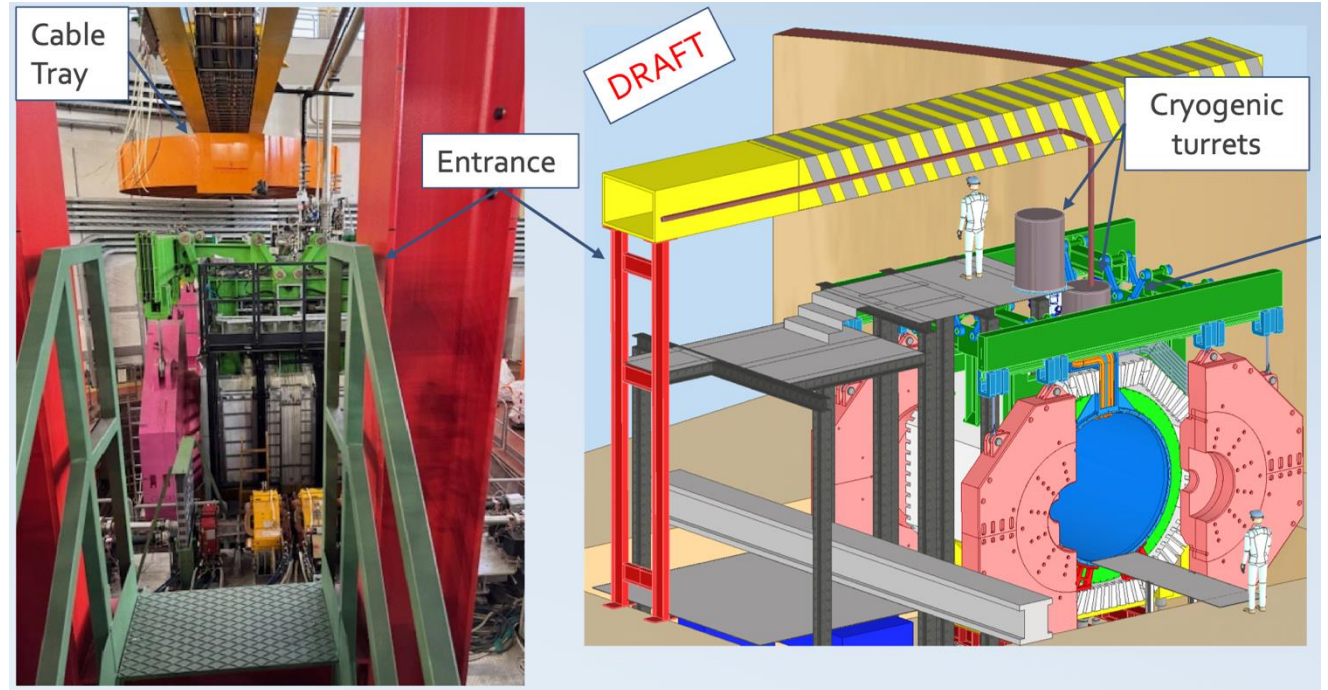
Credit C. Capoccia

Ongoing Work

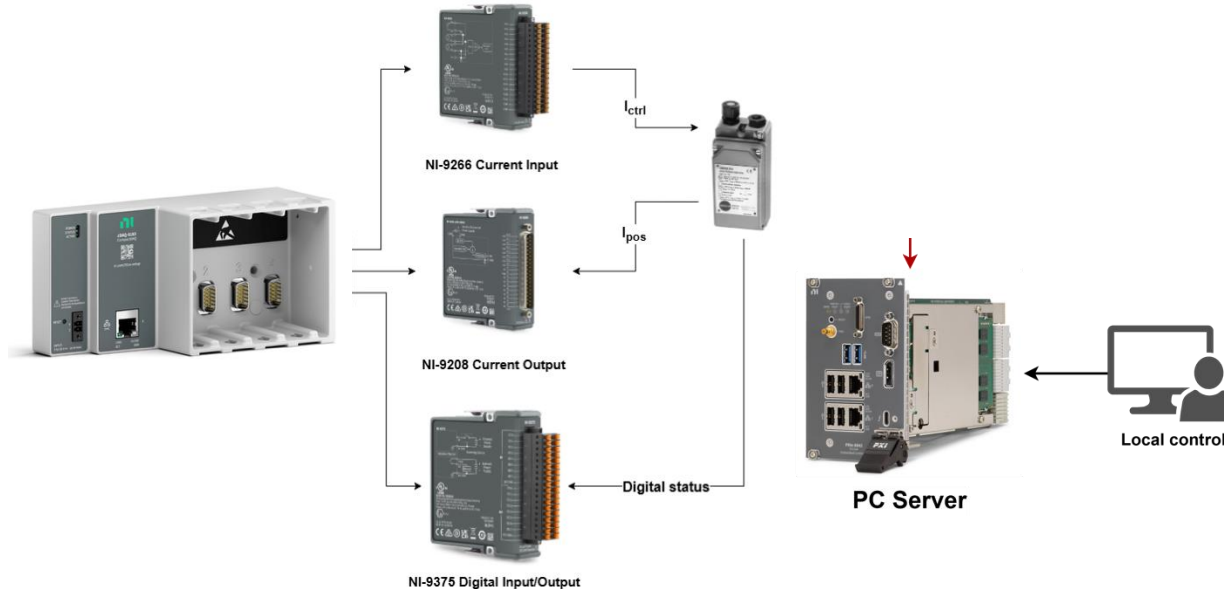
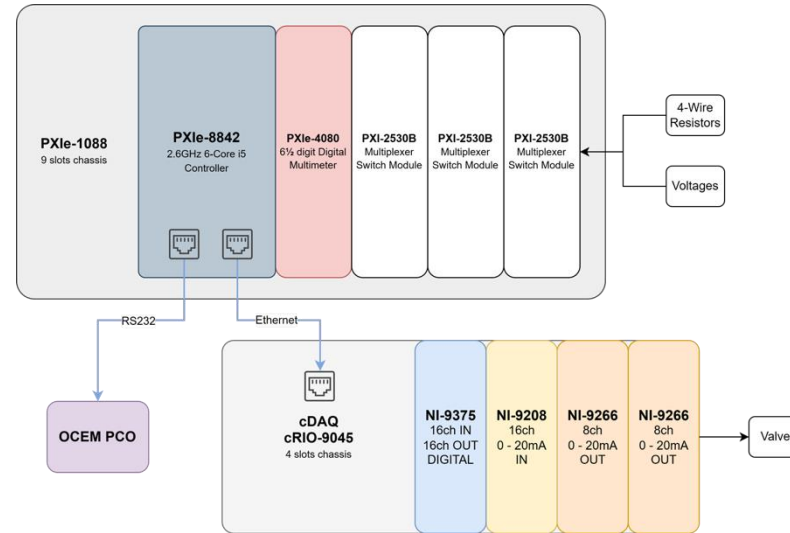
- Definition of the RF cavity cryostat general layout details
- Cryostat cryo/mechanical design of
 - RF cavity
 - vacuum shield
 - 70 K radiation shield
- Cryogenic turret cryo/mechanical design
- Cryogenic transfer lines design

Carpentry Structure

for the access to the
experimental and technical
area and for hosting the new
cryogenic turret



Credit F. Rosatelli



FINUDA Control System

- Reconstructed the operating diagram for the magnet control and cooling system and the various components involved.
- A new architecture was designed to replace the old control system, the instruments were identified, and the purchase process ongoing.



CIG
B8E7E93404

WP3: RF Cavity

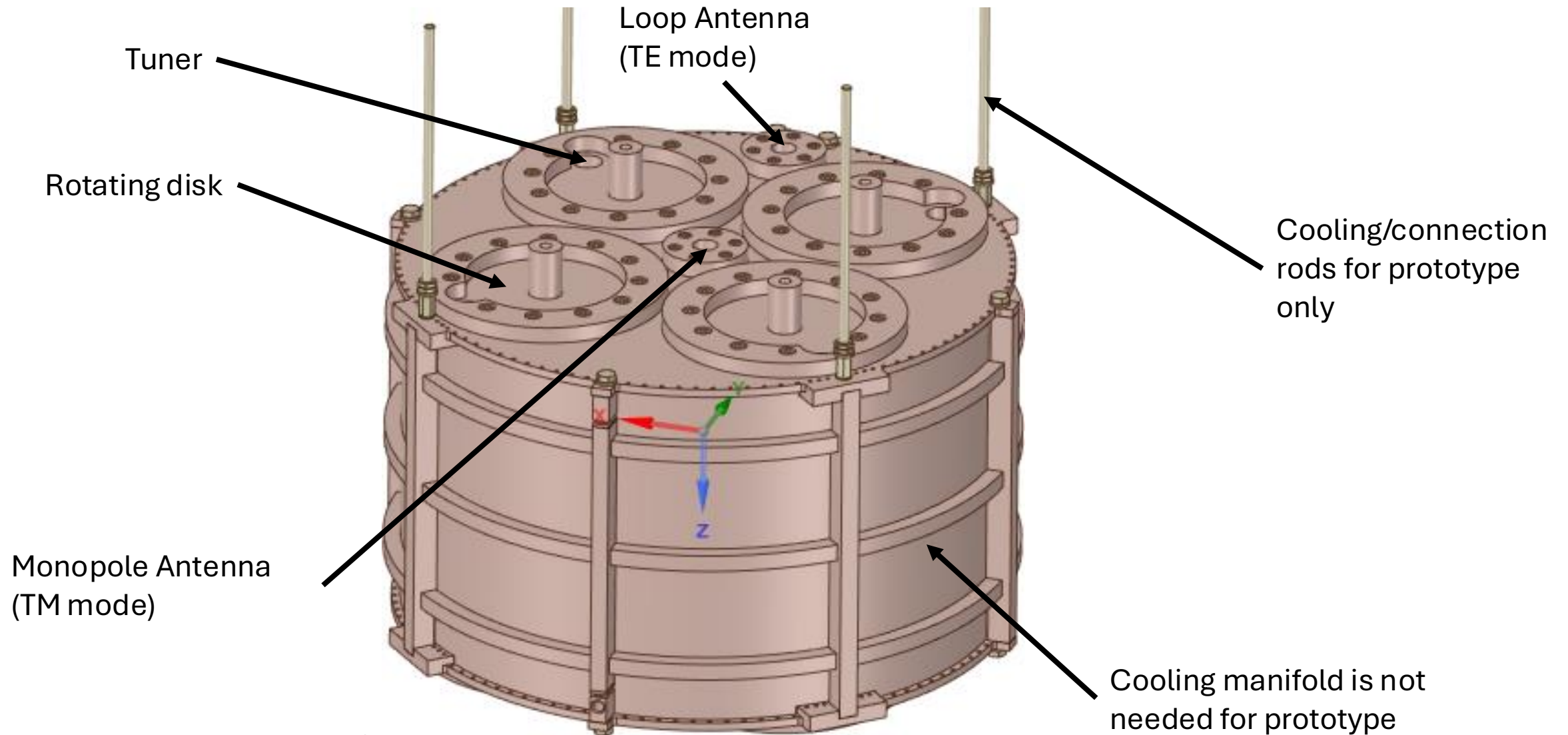
(S. Tocci and A. Diaz)

Electromagnetic design ongoing and proceeding in synergy with mechanical design:

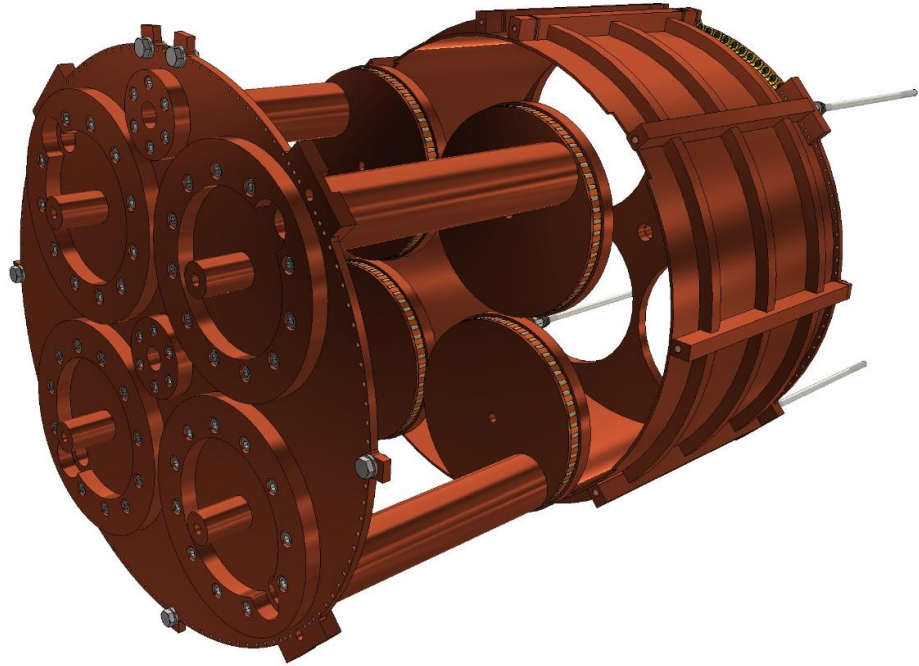
- **Electromagnetic design** is in its final phases. The main parts of the FLASH detector have been defined
- New **mechanical designs** for the cavity and tuners have been developed and electromagnetically simulated.
- The dimensions and mechanics of the **FLASH prototype** have been defined and electromagnetic simulations to extract the main parameters have begun

CURRENT STATUS SIMULATIONS ACTIVITY FOR FLASH	STATUS
Simulate the coupling effect between two orthogonal TE modes induced by the loop antenna	In progress
Study capacitive tuning	To be started
Study the effect of mechanical vibrations produced on the antennas (monopole and loop)	In progress
Perform an EM analysis to find the optimal monopole configuration for all TM modes of interest	In progress
Define the exactly position of the loop antenna on cavity end caps	In progress
Develop an algorithm for optimal monopole length	To be started
Calculate the maximum effective tuning sensitivity with optimal β (e.g., $\beta=2$)	In progress
Fine tuning with dielectric rod	In progress
Analyze the effect of losses from the mechanical moving parts of the tuners on the Q factor for all modes	To be started

Mechanical Design FLASH cavity and prototype

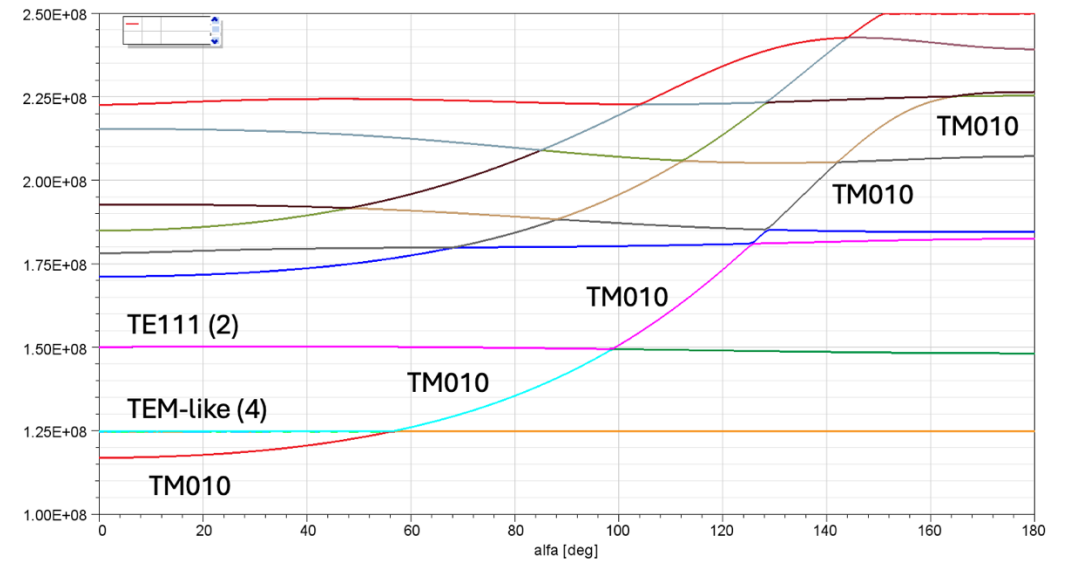


S. Tomassini LNF
S. Tocci LNF



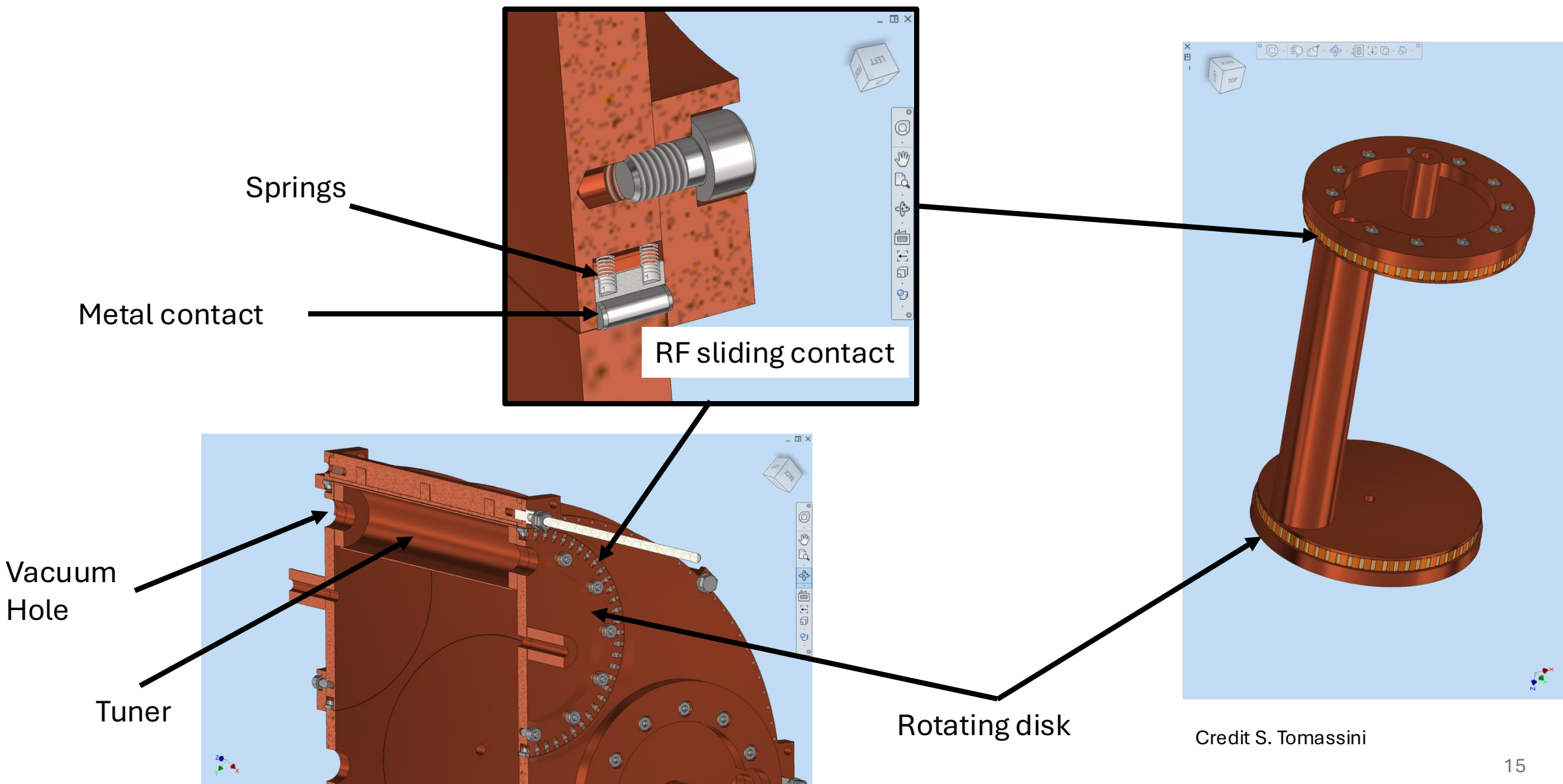
Credit S. Tomassini

Tuning System



Credit S.Tocci

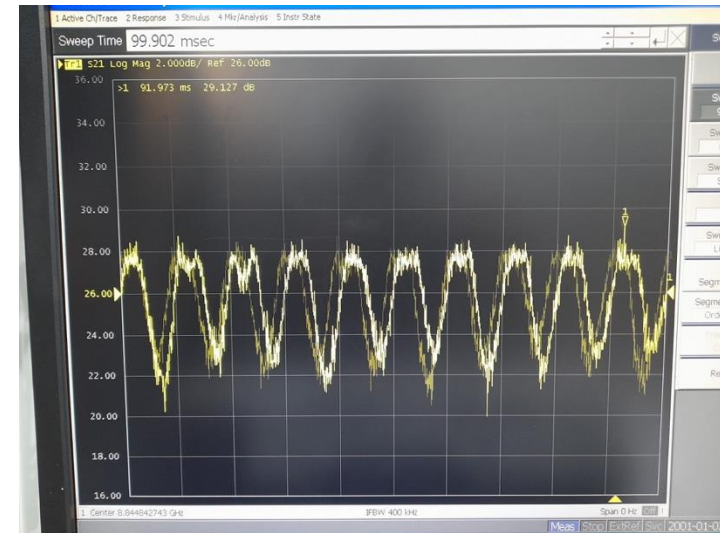
Mechanical Design: Tuners sliding contacts



Analysis of Mechanical Vibrations

Vibrations, especially from the tuners, degrade the stability of the resonant frequency

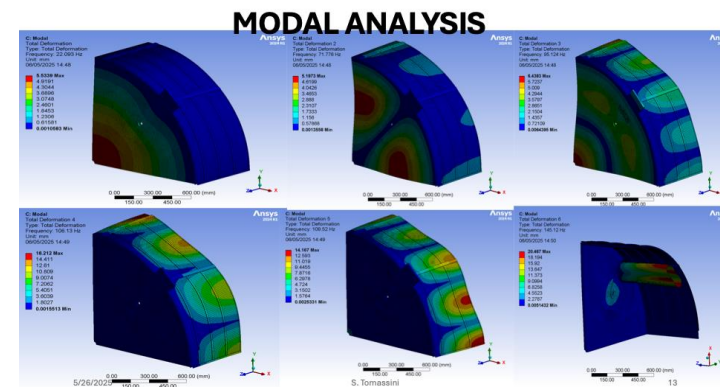
- Study the dynamic of the oscillating structures
- Determine the impact on the RF modes
- Determine the damping of oscillations due to the presence of 1.1 T magnetic field



PhD student in engineering in La Sapienza University

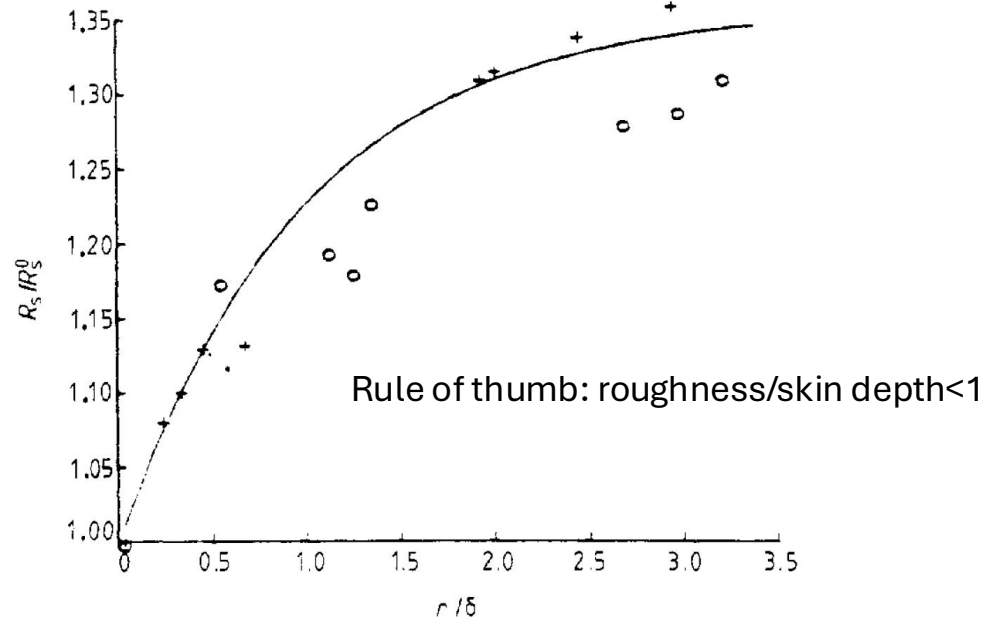
Ente finanziatore: ISTITUTO NAZIONALE DI FISICA NUCLEARE (INFN)

Tematica: Dinamica di strutture oscillanti sotto l'azione di campi elettromagnetici e in stato di coazione termica nell'esperimento FLASH ai Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati

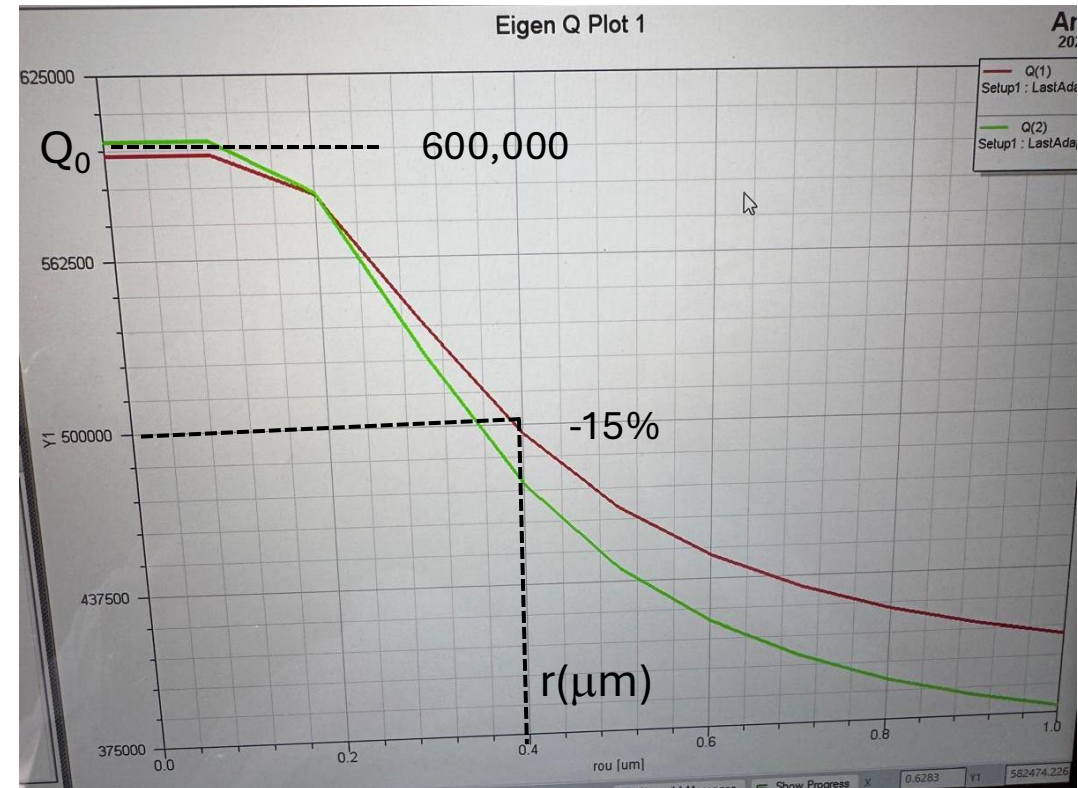


Surface Roughness

A Hernandez et al 1986 J. Phys. E: Sci. Instrum. 19 222



For cryogenic copper at 100 MHz we expect a skin depth $\delta = 1$ micron (RRR=50 in the CDR) and no less than 0.6 micron (in the anomalous limit for very high RRR).



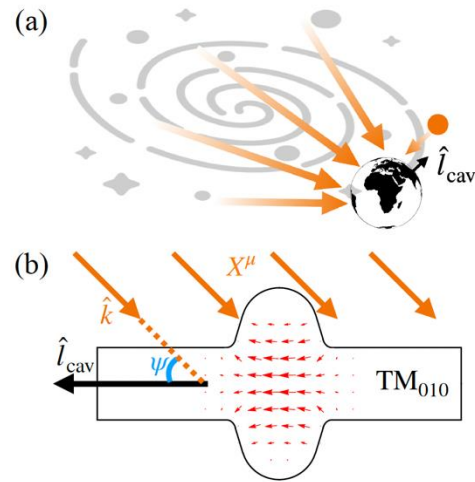
The target is roughness below 0.4 microns:

- 1) 1 micron mechanical
- 2) 0.5 micron chemical surface treatment

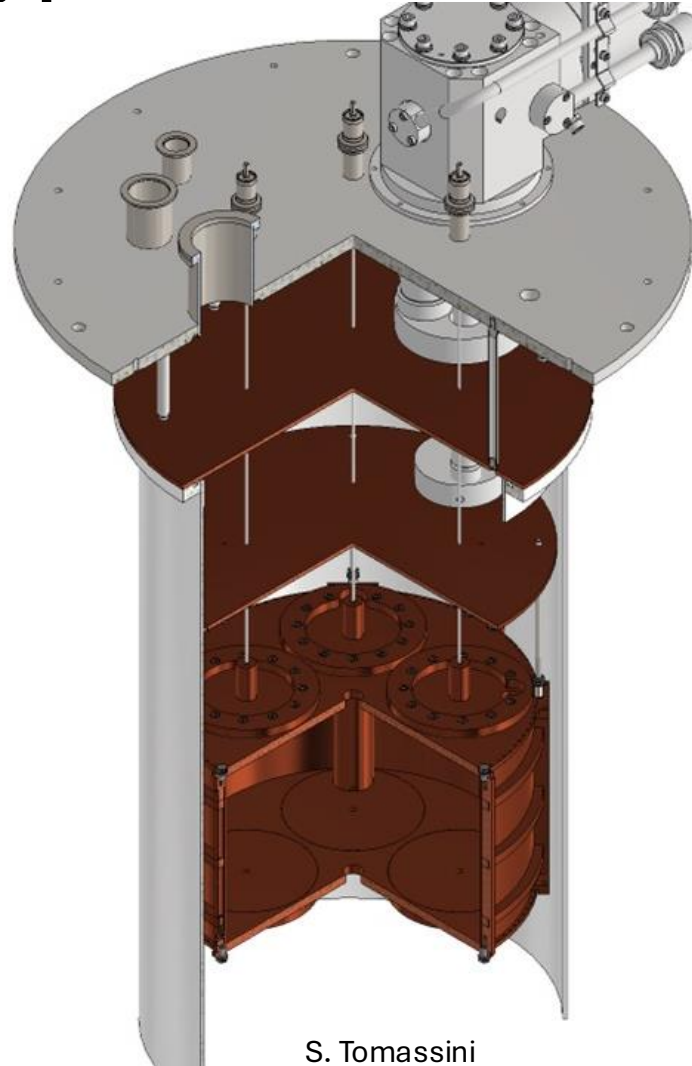
700MHz Prototype

- 4K cryostat (Ligi, Iungo, Beatrice, Tocci)
- Cavity mechanical design (Tomassini)
- Manufacturing (Uni Bonn)
- Surface treatment (LNL)

Galactic dark photons as decay products from scalar dark matter²



arXiv:2402.03432v2

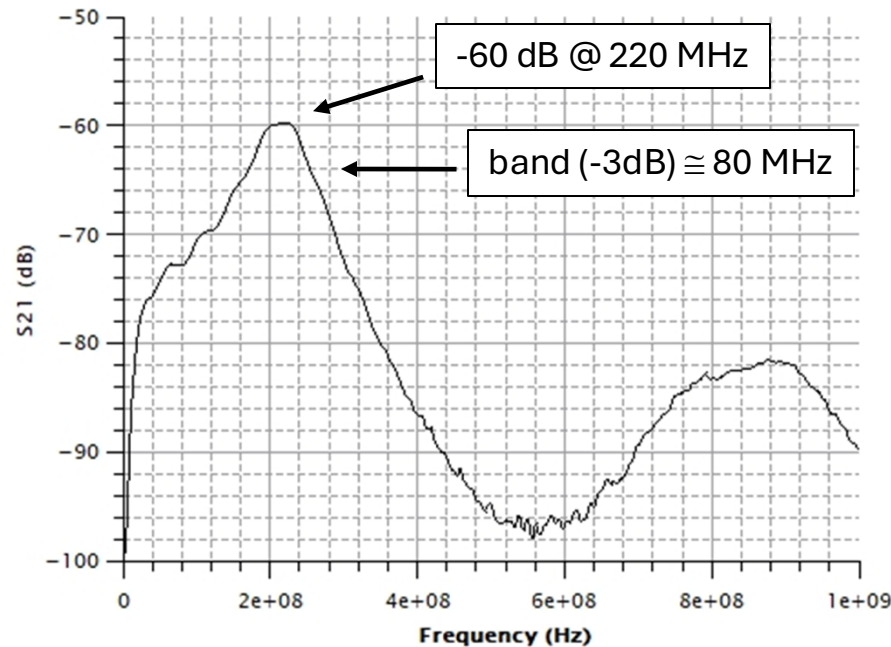


S. Tomassini
A. Iungo



WP4: Signal Amplification and Acquisition

(P. Falferi and G. Lamanna)



Credit P. Falferi

PostAmp Gain (200 MHz) $\cong$ 15 dB

MSA #425-1 Gain (200 MHz) $\cong$ 15 dB
MSA #425-1 Bandwidth $\cong$ 80 MHz

Further tests in preparation:

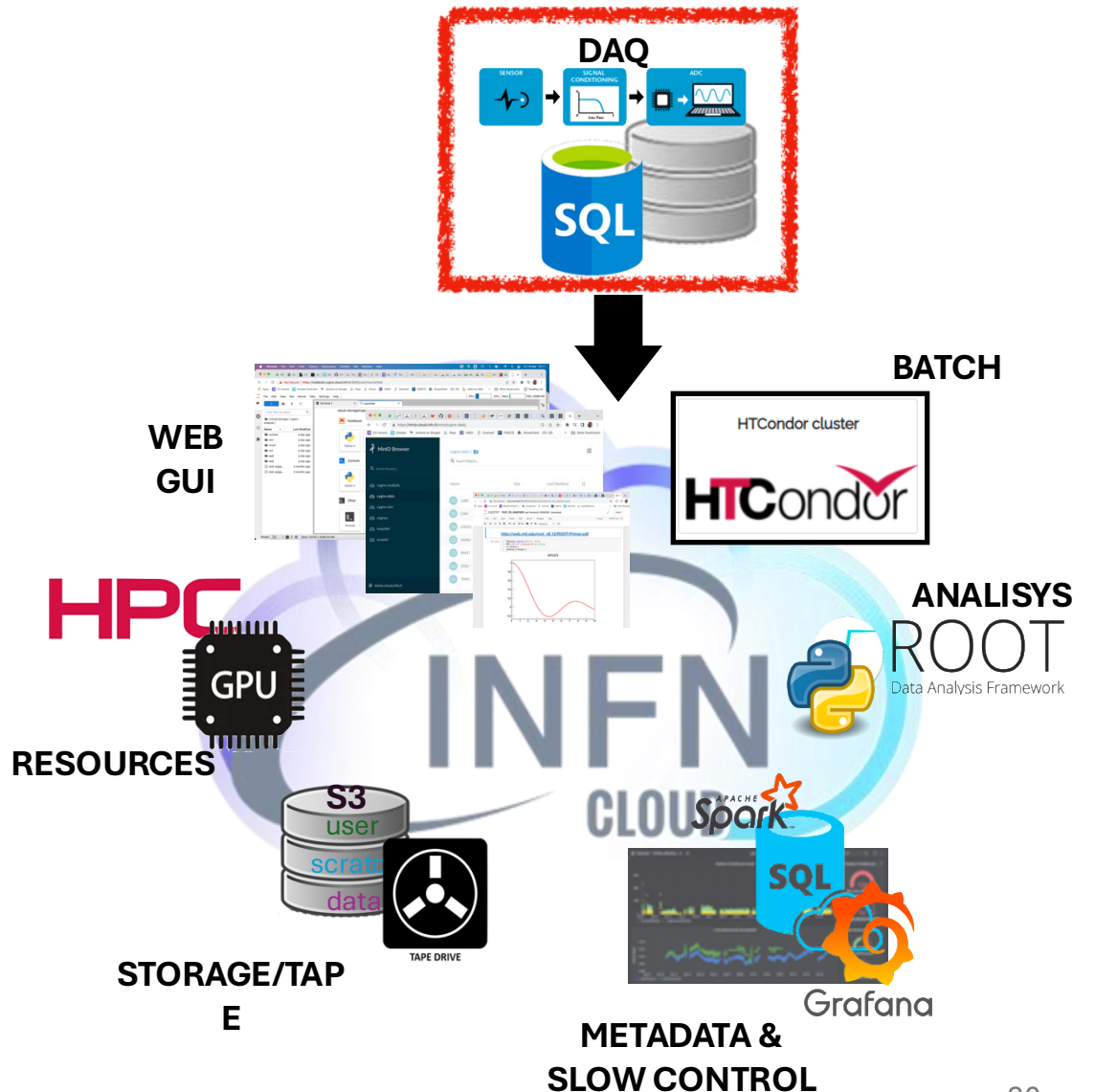
1. in B field at Camerino Uni.
Shielding under study in
Liverpool Uni.
2. Multiplexing to more SQUIDS
in Pisa Uni.

WP5: Data Analysis and Computing

(K. Schmieden and G. Mazzitelli)

GravNet Computing Model

- MIDAS Triumf based **DAQ**; fast (test with QUAX ongoing with 70MB/s on disk) and slow control drivers under development
- **online data filtering** for axion/HFGW search under study
- local **data buffer** (3TB NVMe) and metadata (SQL)
- **streaming server** for online data monitoring, pre-analysis and alert on events
- remote **storage and tape** backend @CNAF with RUCIO data management
- **data access and analysis facility** (notebooks, batch system, experiment software/CVMFS) open to all the members of the collaboration



Credit G Mazzitelli

WP6: FINUDA Decommissioning and FLASH Commissioning (S. Gazzana)

We found the option of outsourcing the dismantling work to an external company too expensive.

A new disassembly procedure was agreed with the Safety and Protection Service (S. Vescovi).

Some delay in the operations inevitable.

- Refurbishing and certification of the original FINUDA assembly tools.
- Extraction of the FINUDA Clepsydra
- Dismounting of Scintillators and Phototubes

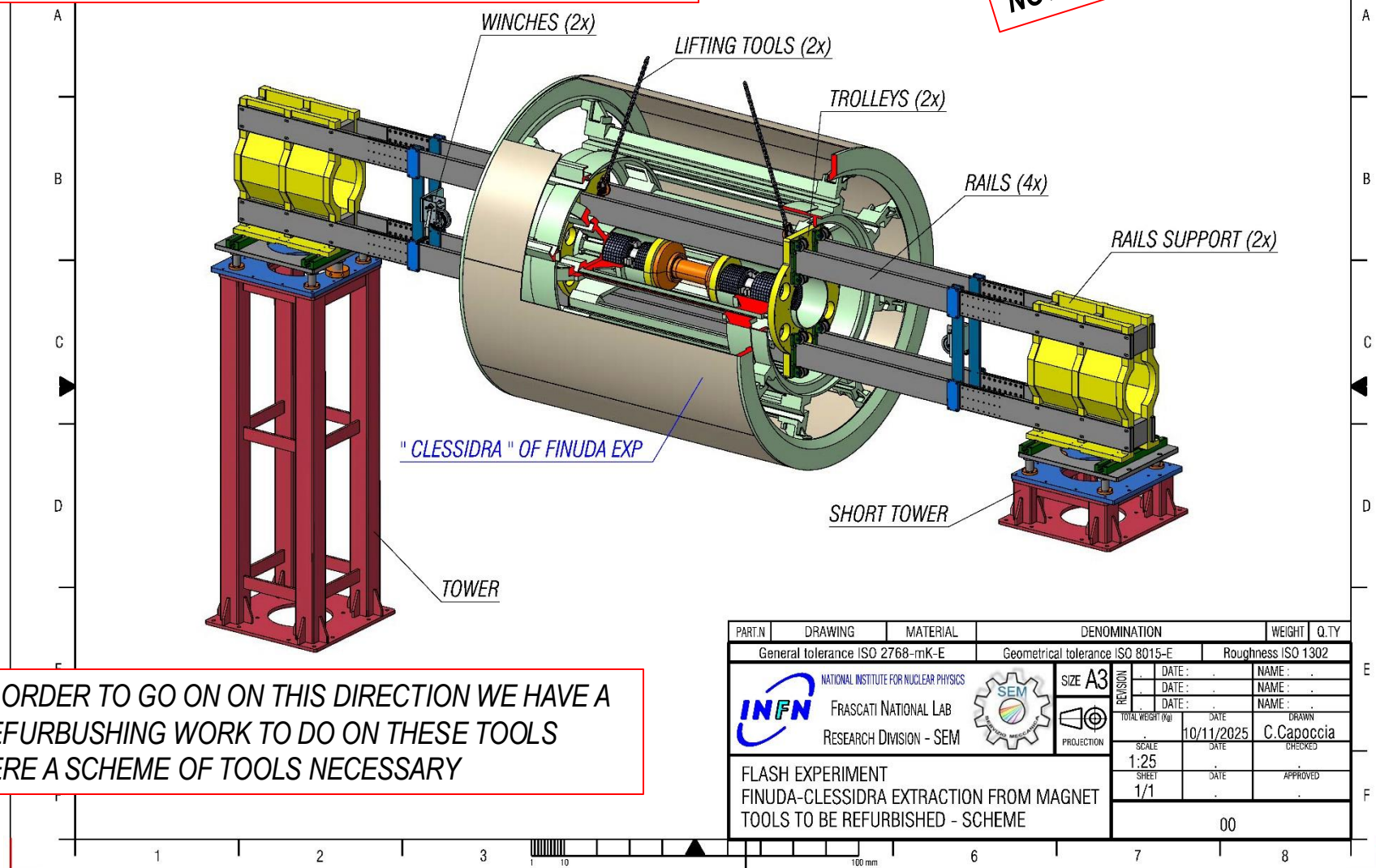
Ongoing activities:

- Maintenance and testing of hydraulic and endcap handling systems.
- Certification of the DAFNE cryogenic plant.

TOOLS & PROCEDURE TO REMOVE THE "CLESSIDRA" OF FINUDA EXPERIMENT FROM MAGNET

THE IDEA IS TO RE-USE THE SAME TOOLS USED DURING THE INSTALLATION TRYING TO SEMPLIFICATE THE OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO PROCEED MORE FAST AND EASLY

WORK IN PROGRESS
NOT FINAL

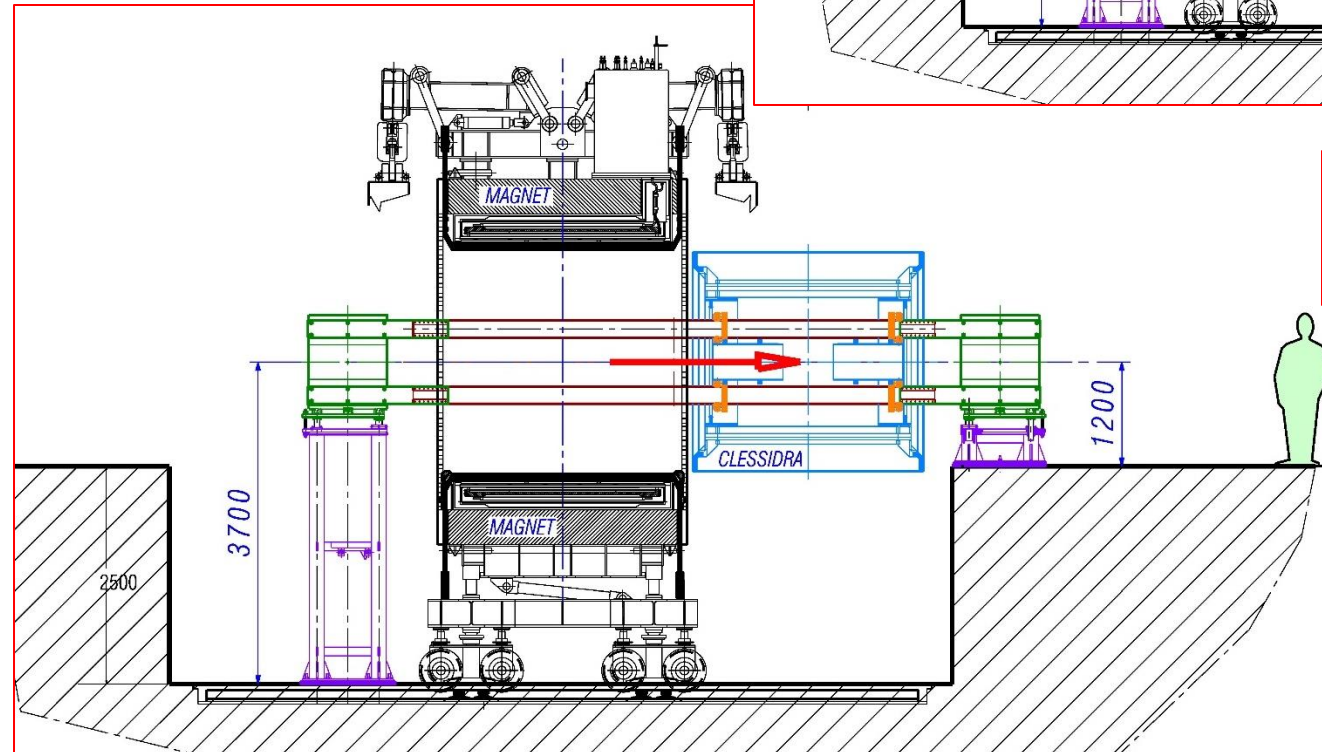
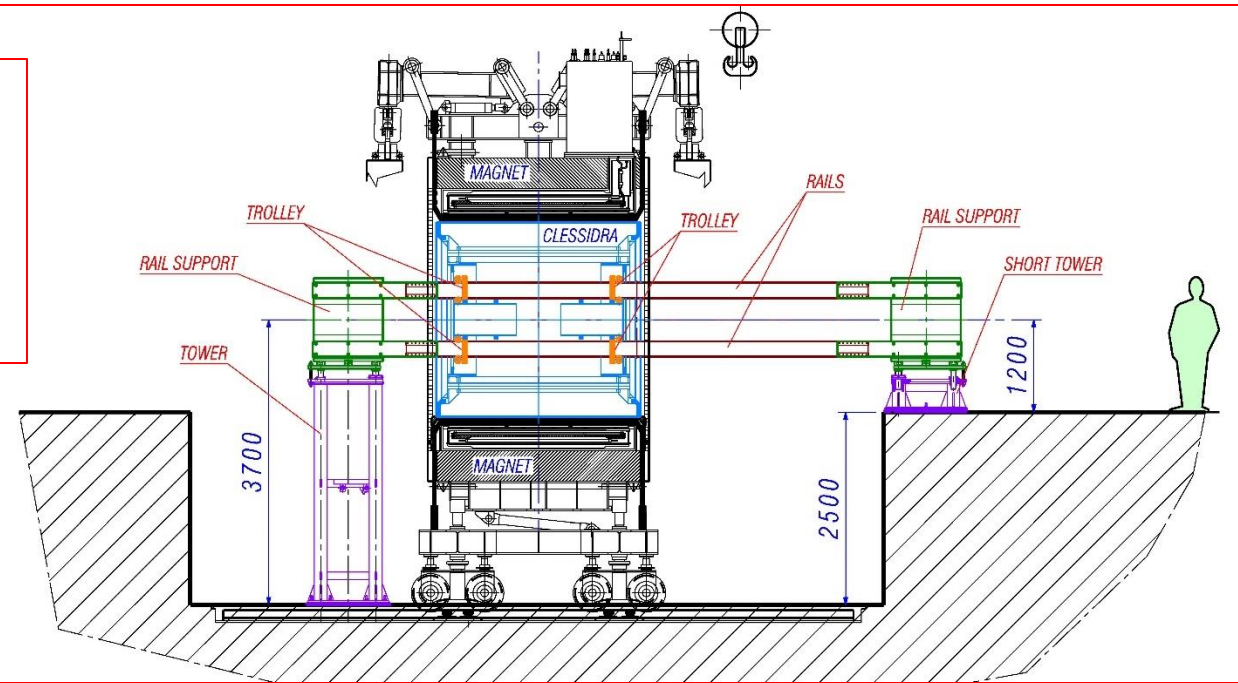


IN ORDER TO GO ON ON THIS DIRECTION WE HAVE A REFURBUSHING WORK TO DO ON THESE TOOLS
HERE A SCHEME OF TOOLS NECESSARY

STARTING POINT OF PROCEDURE:
HERE A SCHEME OF TOOLS INSTALLED:

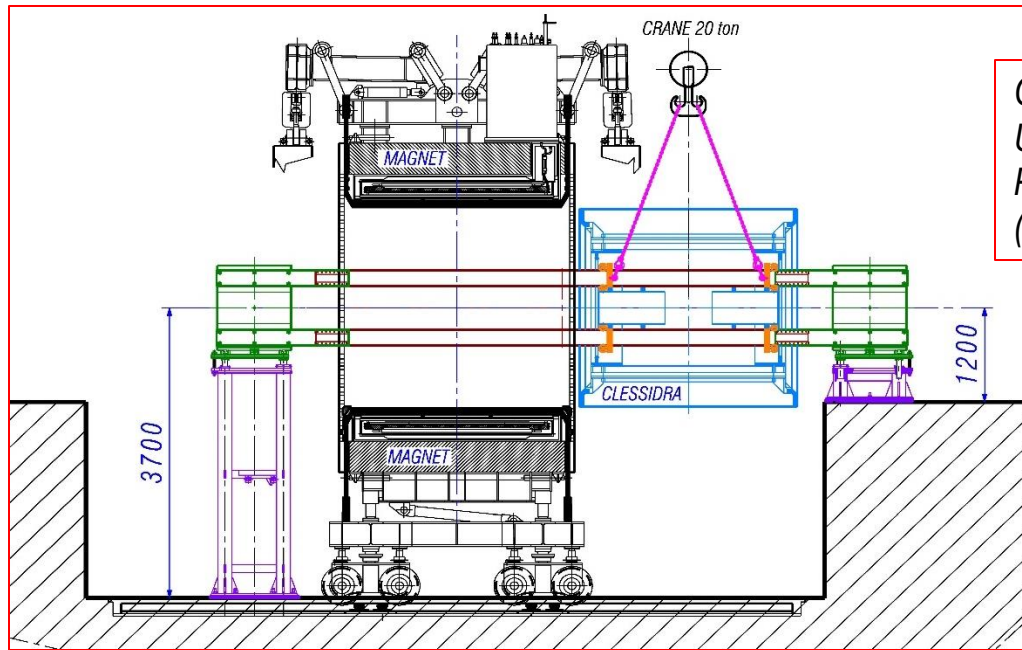
- TOWERS
- RAIL SUPPORT
- RAILS
- TROLLEY

**WORK IN PROGRESS
NOT FINAL**



EXTRACTION: THE "CLESSIDRA", PULLED BY WINCHES, TRANSLATE FOLLOWING RAILS LEAVING THE MAGNET

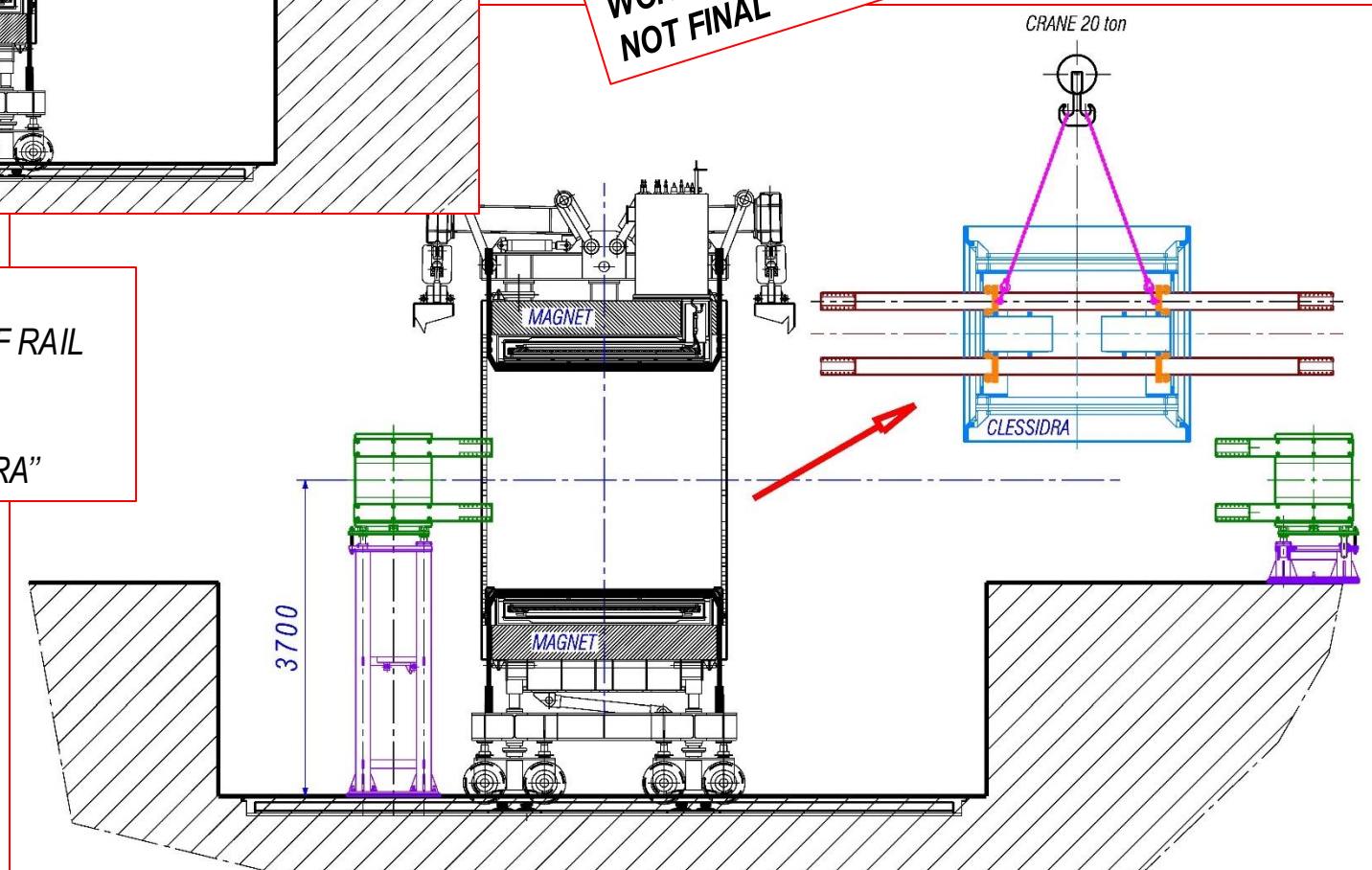




CONNECTION TO CRANE: REMOVING THE UPPER COVER OF "CLESSIDRA" IS POSSIBLE TO CONNECT THE TROLLEYS (BOTH) BY CHAIN TO THE CRANE

WORK IN PROGRESS
NOT FINAL

TAKE-AWAY THE "CLESSIDRA":
DISMOUNT THE CONNECTIONS OF RAIL
WITH SUPPORT AND FIXED THEM
TOGETHER WITH TROLLEY
THAN MOVE AWAY THE "CLESSIDRA"



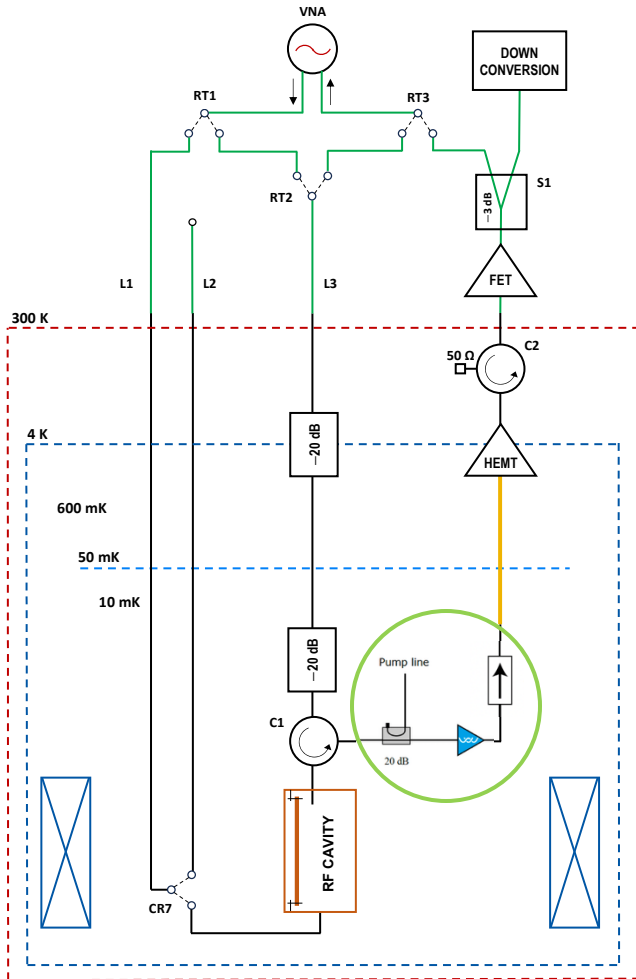


(INFN) INFN
QUAX

QUAX@LNF



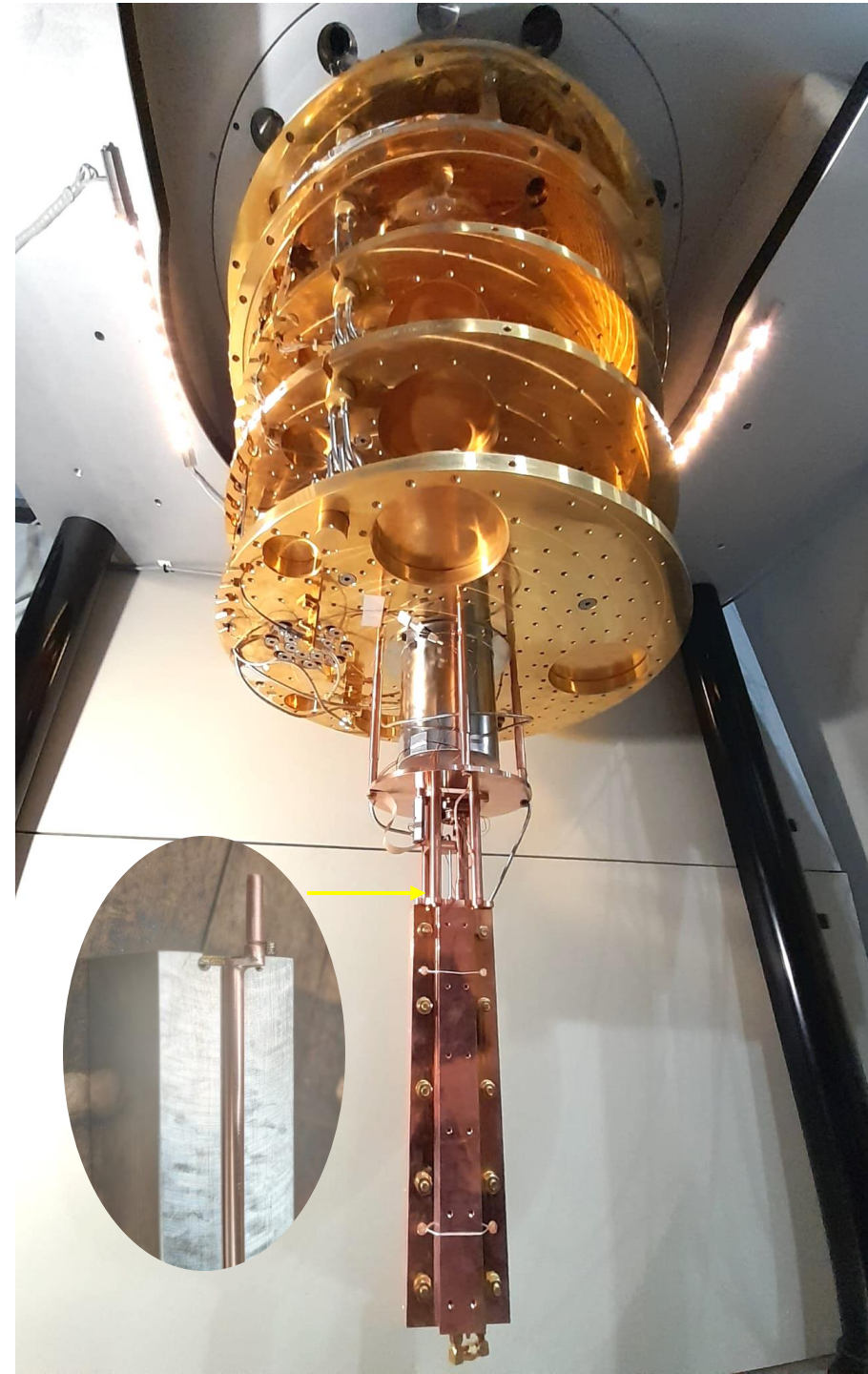
New QUAX@LNL results in PRL
<https://doi.org/10.1103/4dv9-72t5>



Improvements in LNF haloscope:

- Quantum limited TWPA amplifier
- Improved cavity tuner
- Calibration Noise source
- Multi-mode acquisition for HFGW
- GPS time acquisition
- New digitizer
- MIDAS DAQ

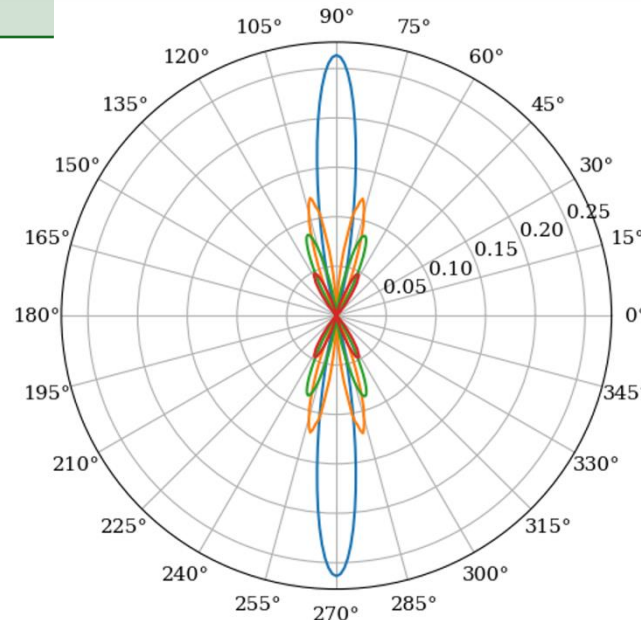
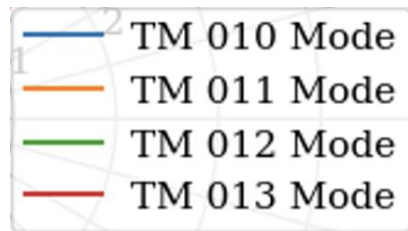
Technical stop of two months for a leak in the **new** thermal switch. Sending it back for repairs.



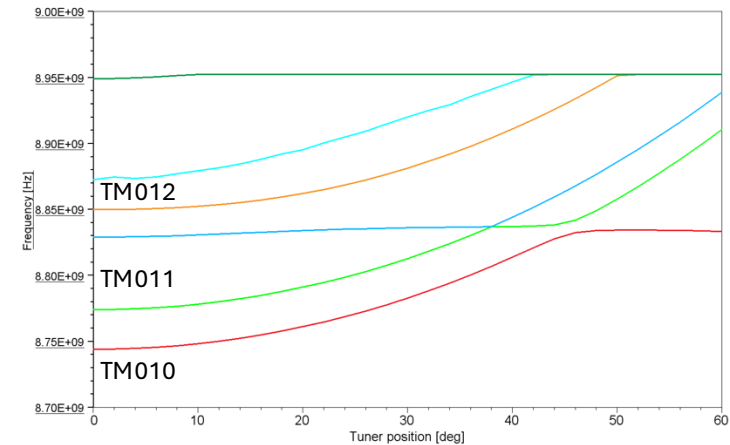
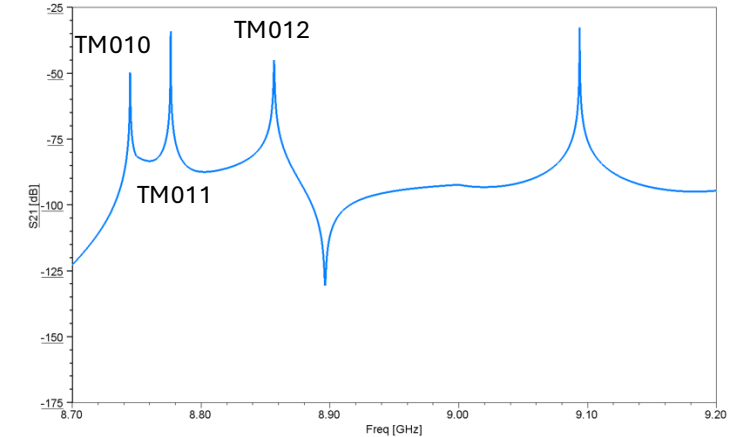
Multi-Mode Detection for HFGW

Acquisition setup for the next QUAX@LNF data take

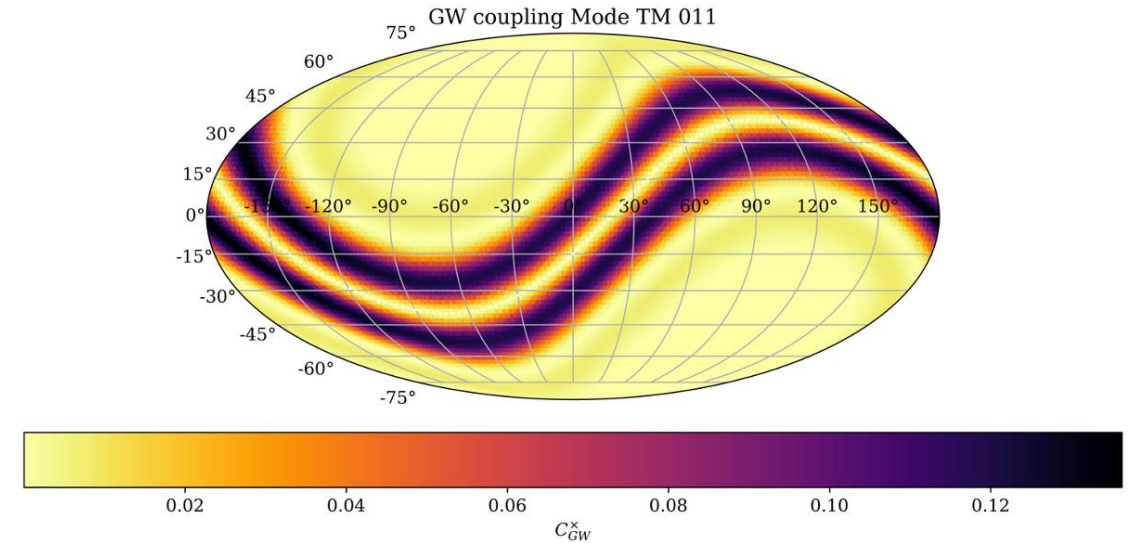
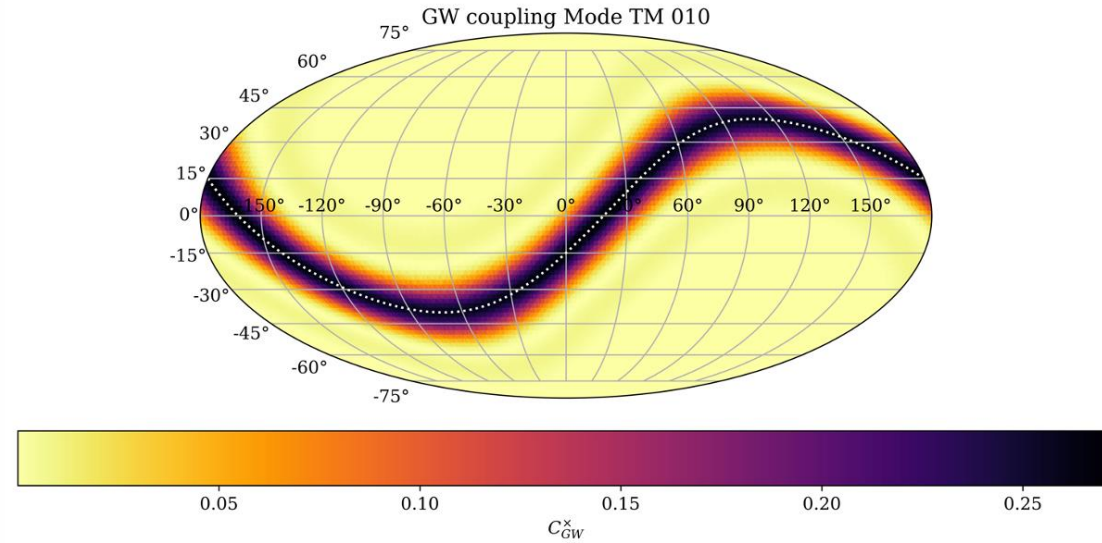
Mode QUAX@LNF	Resonant Frequency [GHz]	Q factor (@4°K)
TM010	8.67	1e5
TM011	8.69	1e5
TM012	8.75	1e5



Credit Y. Kim



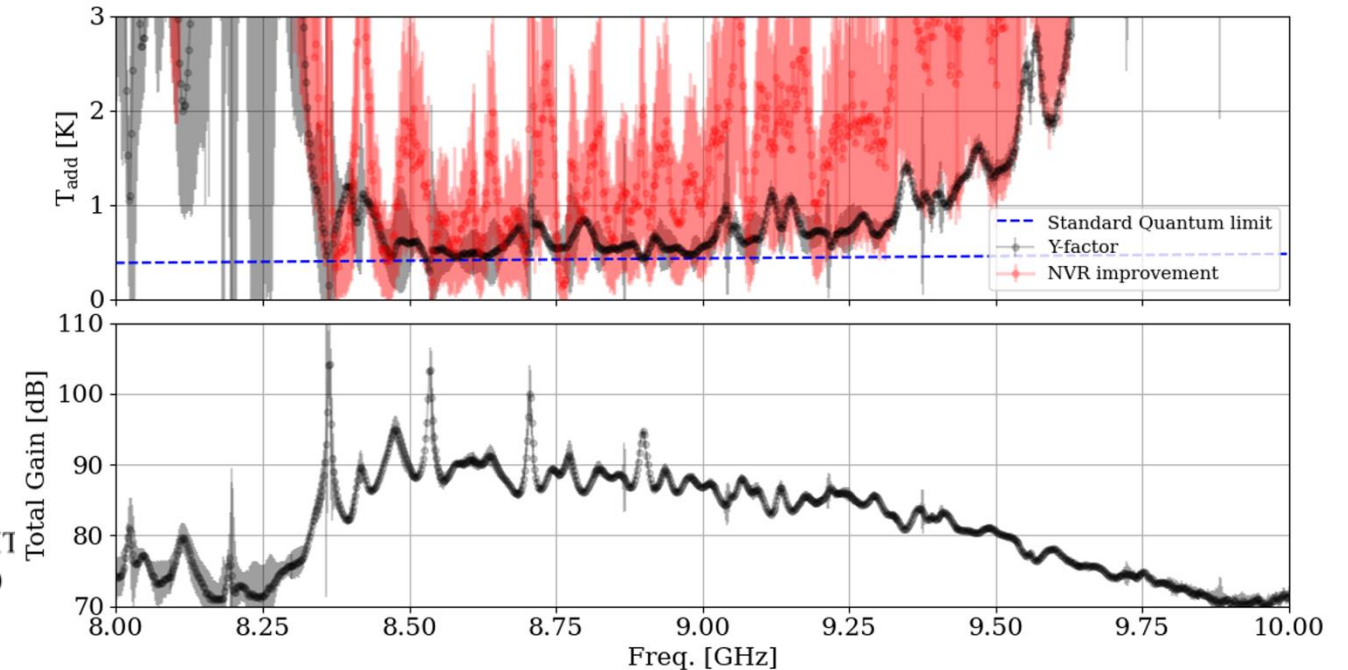
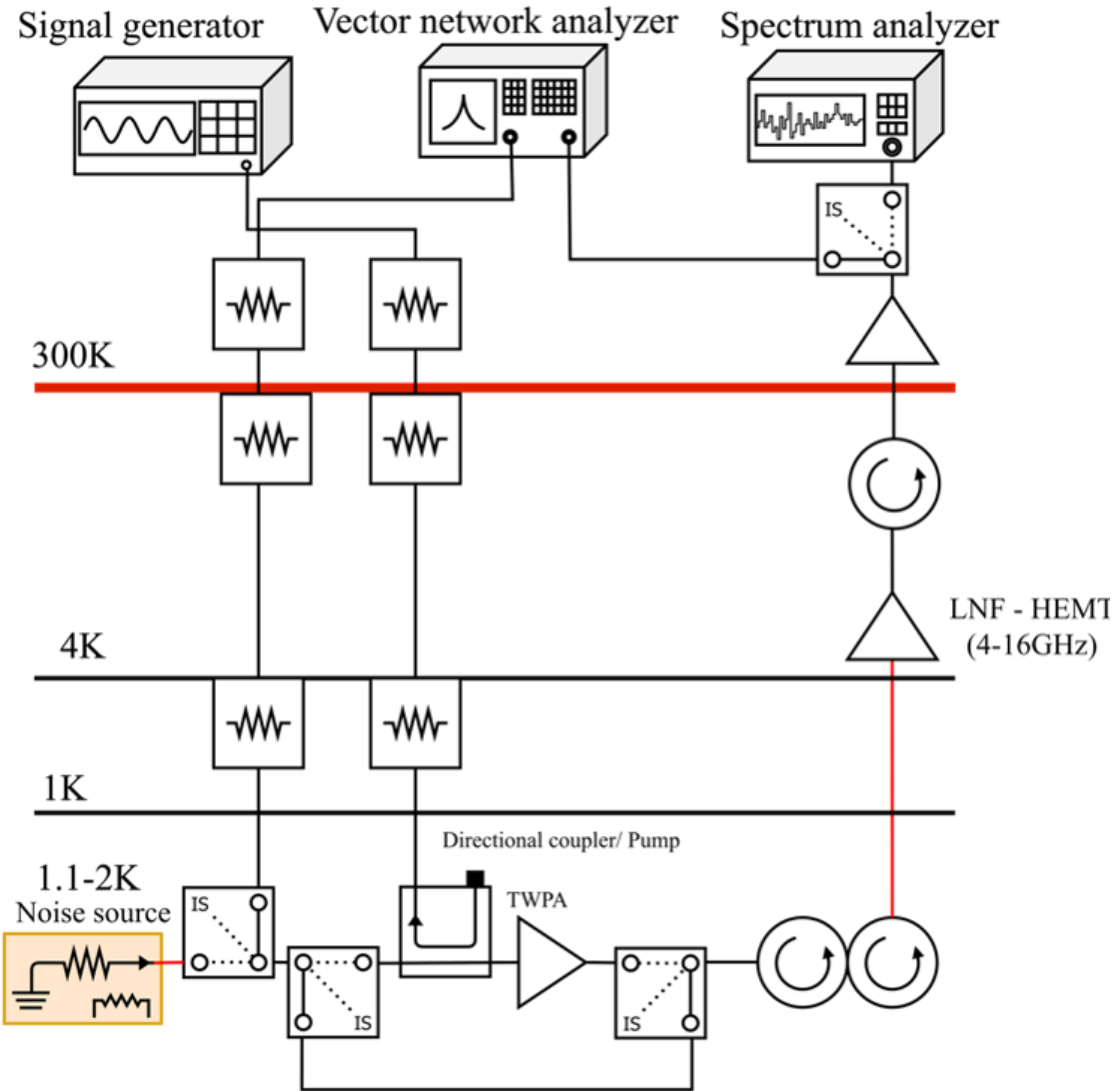
Daily Modulation



Credit Y. Kim

Coupling to GW from different directions

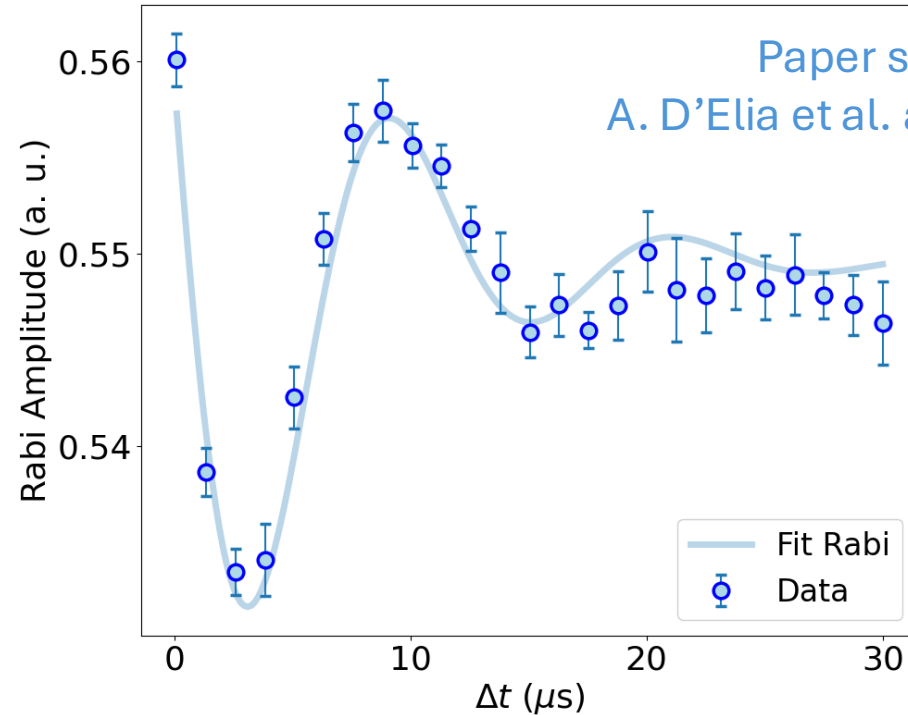
Characterization of TWPA Amplifier



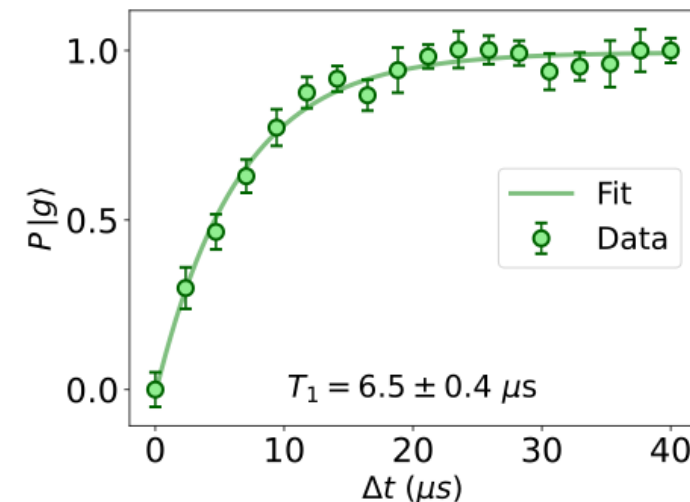
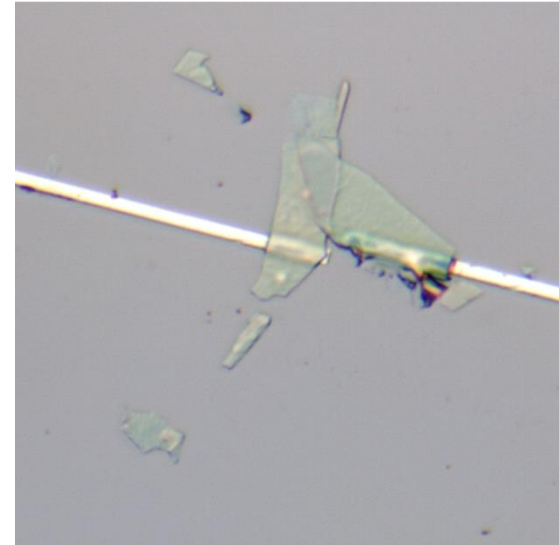
In collaboration with Y. Kim (Mainz) and S. Horodenski (Bonn) that joined at LNF the COLD team (led by A. Rettaroli) in October for the TWPA characterization.



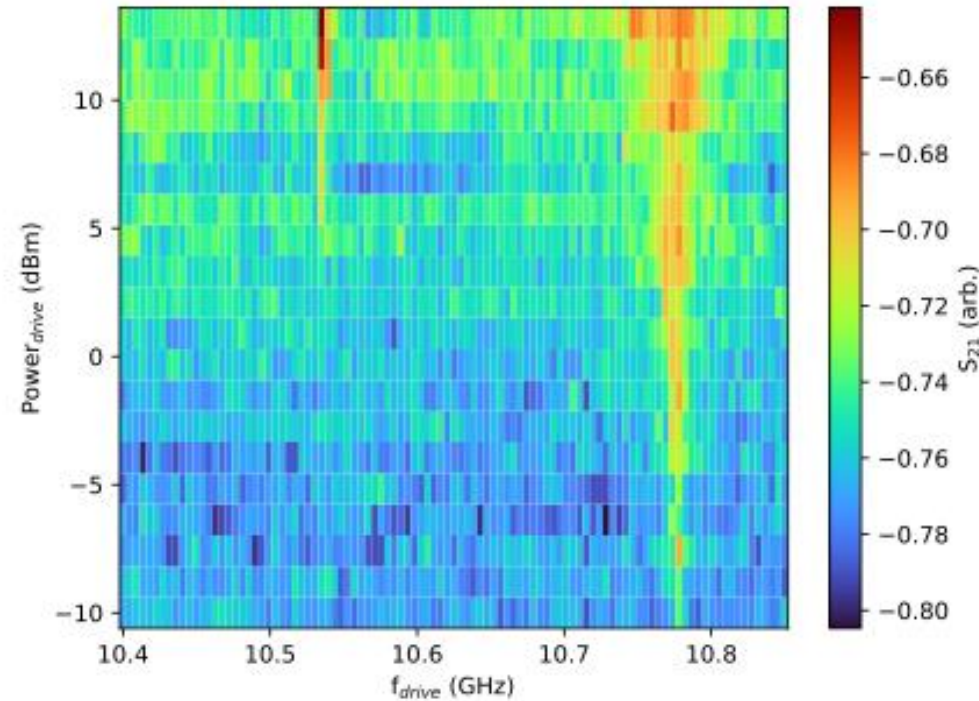
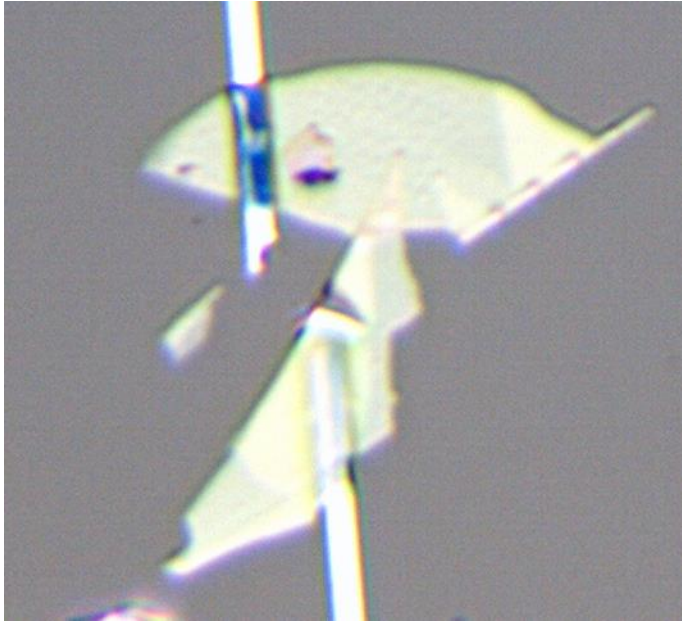
Coherent Oscillations in Weakly Anharmonic NbSe₂ Qubit



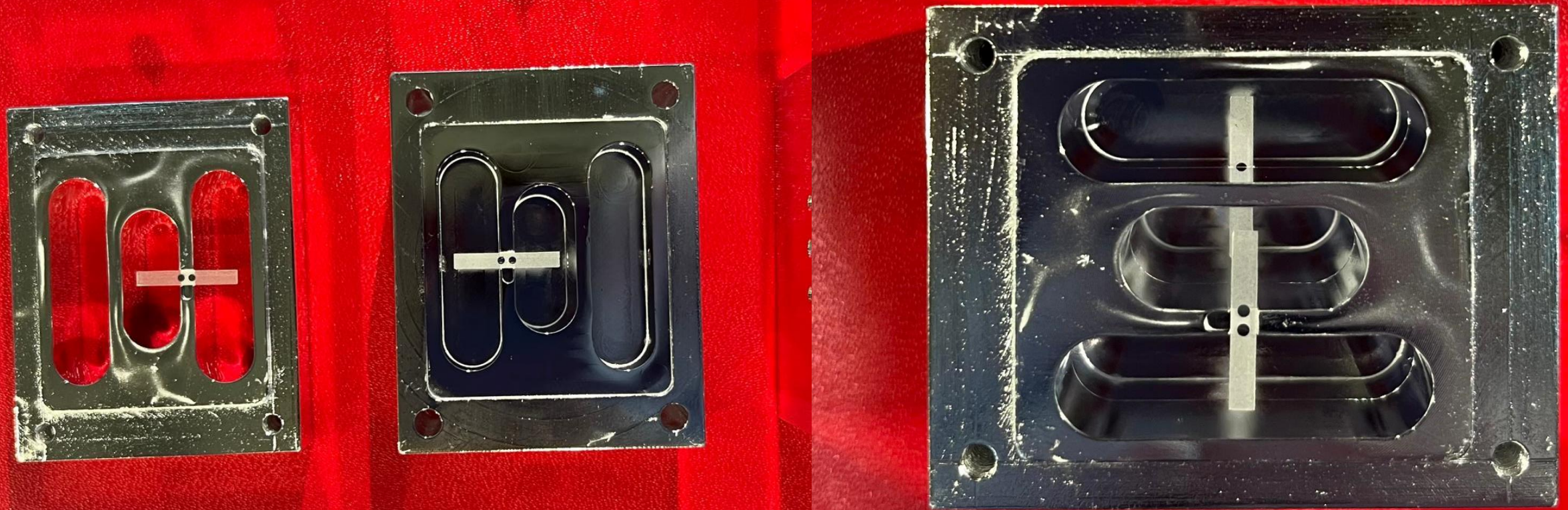
$$\nu_{\text{qubit}} = 12.6 \text{ GHz}$$
$$T_1 \sim 6.5 \mu\text{s}$$



New NbSe₂ Qubit with large anharmonicity



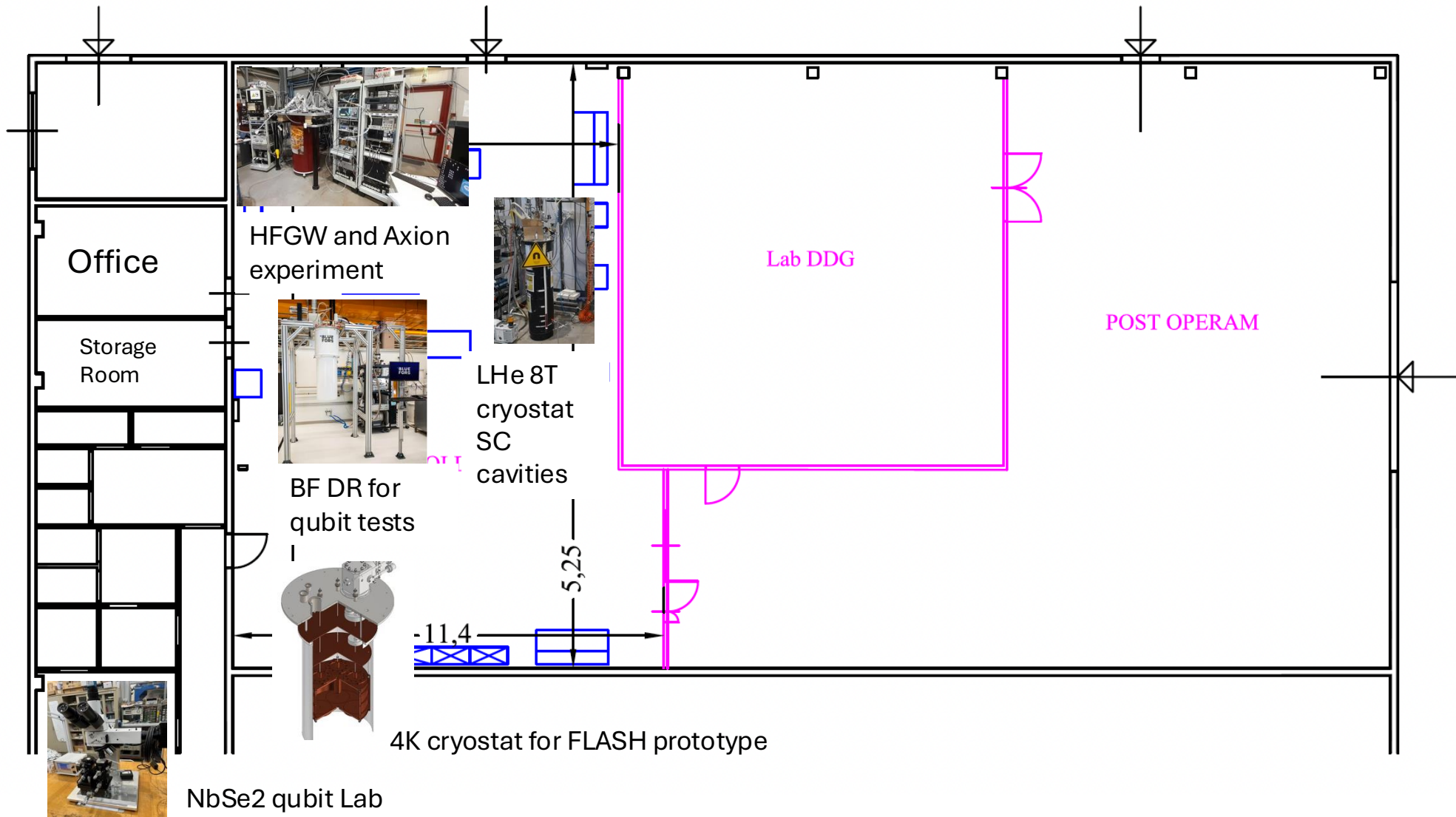
- Frequency ~10.8 GHz
- Anharmonicity ~400 MHz
- Full Rabi, Ramsey and Echo characterization
- New paper in preparation!



2 Qubits Photon-Counter

The resonant cavity was fabricated at INFN-LNL and the qubits at CNR-IFN (not the final qubit design).

COLD Lab expansion works



In summary

- GravNet Collaboration expanding.
- FLASH Collaboration is taking shape; Collaboration with CERN started; Periodic FLASH meetings; Engineering PhD students from La Sapienza etc.
- WP teams formed and work is progressing.
- Test of FLASH prototype foreseen in summer 2026: investigating the possibility of doing relativistic-DP searches.
- Preparing QUAX@LNF/GravNet multimode run; TWPA amplifier characterized; 2 months technical stop for a leak in the thermal switch
- Submitted paper on first NbSe₂ qubit! New paper in preparation with results on new more anharmonic samples.
- LNL sent the triple cavity for the 2-qubits photon counter. We are now commissioning a foundry to produce the qubits.