

Superconducting RF Accelerator Technology and the Applications

Akira Yamamoto
(KEK)

To be presented at Indian Smart Utility Conference, **ISUW-2025**
Session: Nuclear Renaissance and the role of SMR for the Net Zero
Day 3, March 20, 2025

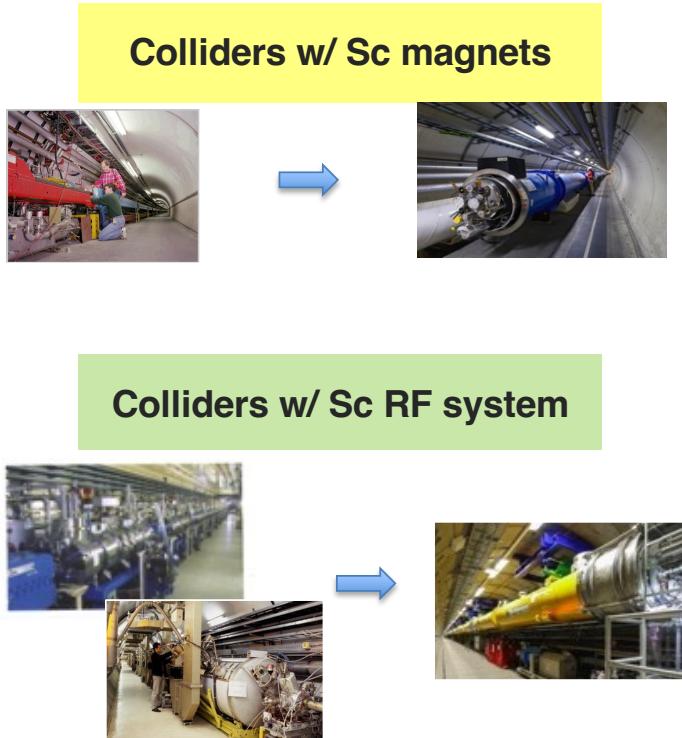
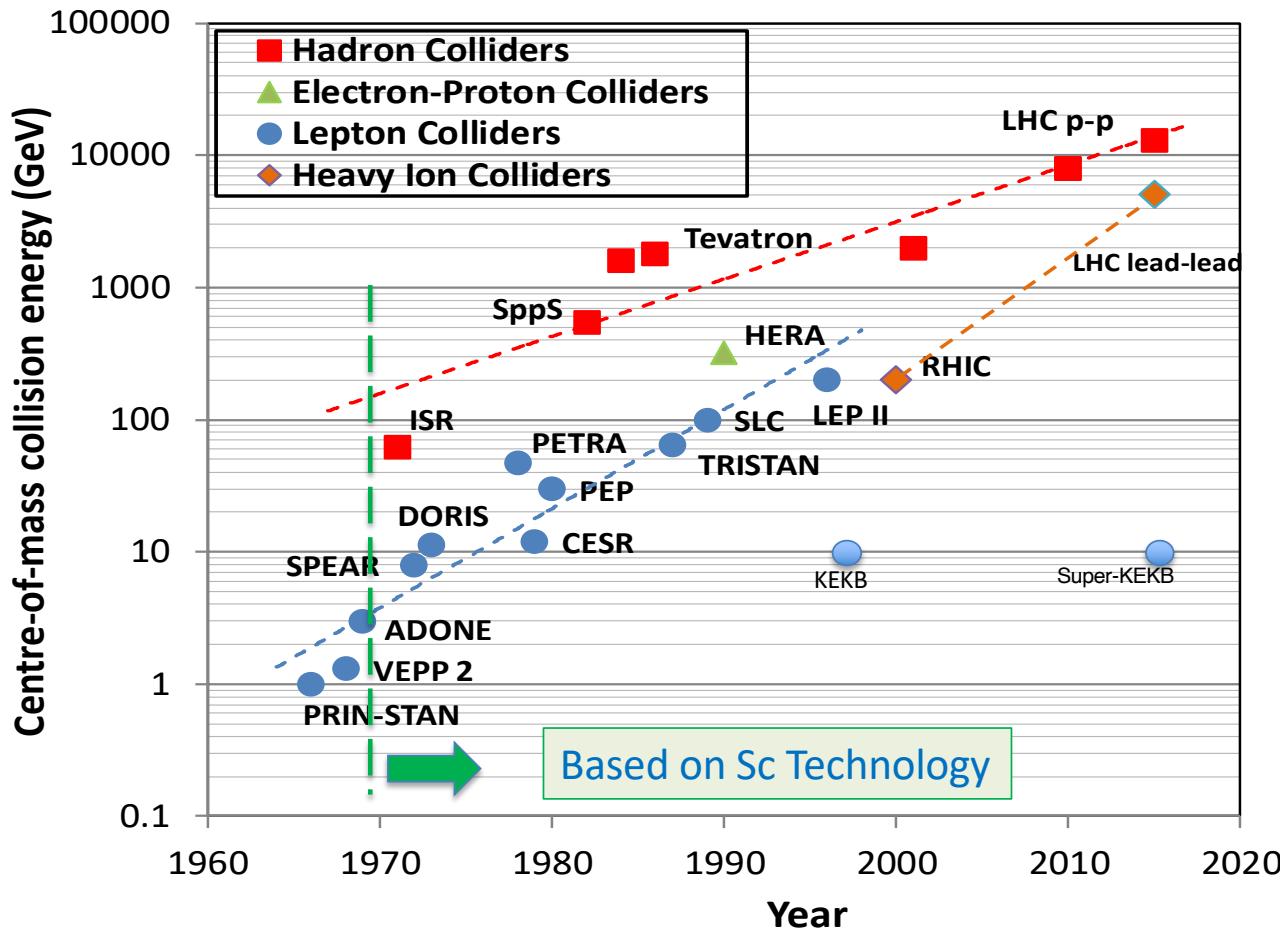
Outline



- **Introduction:**
- **Compact ERL accelerator**
- **SRF Linac applications**
- **Future of the SRF technology**
- **Summary**

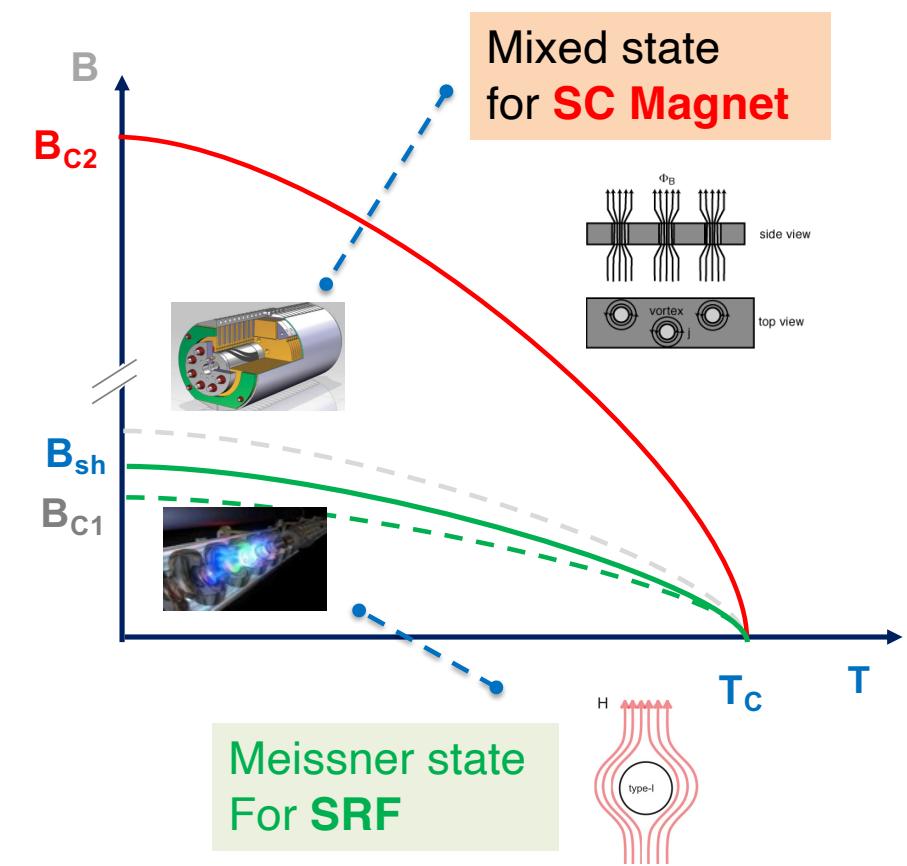
Frontier Accelerators based on SC Technology

Courtesy, A. Ballarino



Superconductor Applications for Accelerator Magnet and RF

Material	T_c [K]	$B_c(0)$ [T]	$B_{c1}(0)$ [T]	$B_{sh}(0)$ [T]	$B_{c2}(0)$ [T]
Nb	9.2	(0.25)	0.18	0.21	0.28
NbTi	~ 9.3	--	0.067	--	11.5 ~ 14
Nb_3Sn	~ 18.3	(0.54)	(0.05)	0.43	28 ~ 30
Application				RF	Magnet



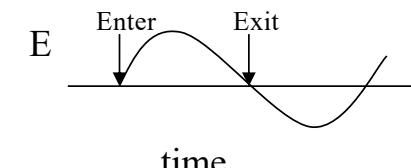
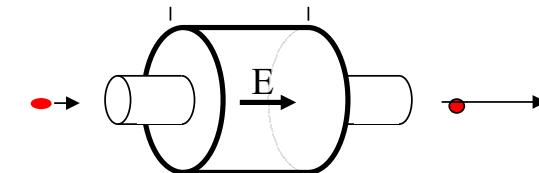
Features of Superconducting RF (SRF)

Features:

- **High Q_0 ($> 10^{10}$):**
 - Small surface resistance → nearly zero
 - Efficient acceleration & Low cryogenic load
- **Low Freq. (~ 1GHz) → Long beam pulses :**
 - intra-pulse feedback (in **1 ms** pulse)
- **Larger aperture(~ 70 mm ϕ) :**
 - better beam quality
 - lower wake-fields

Drawback:

- Cryogenics required → High Q_0 important



SRF: 1.3 GHz
~ 70 mm ϕ

NRF: 12 GHz
~ 10 mm ϕ

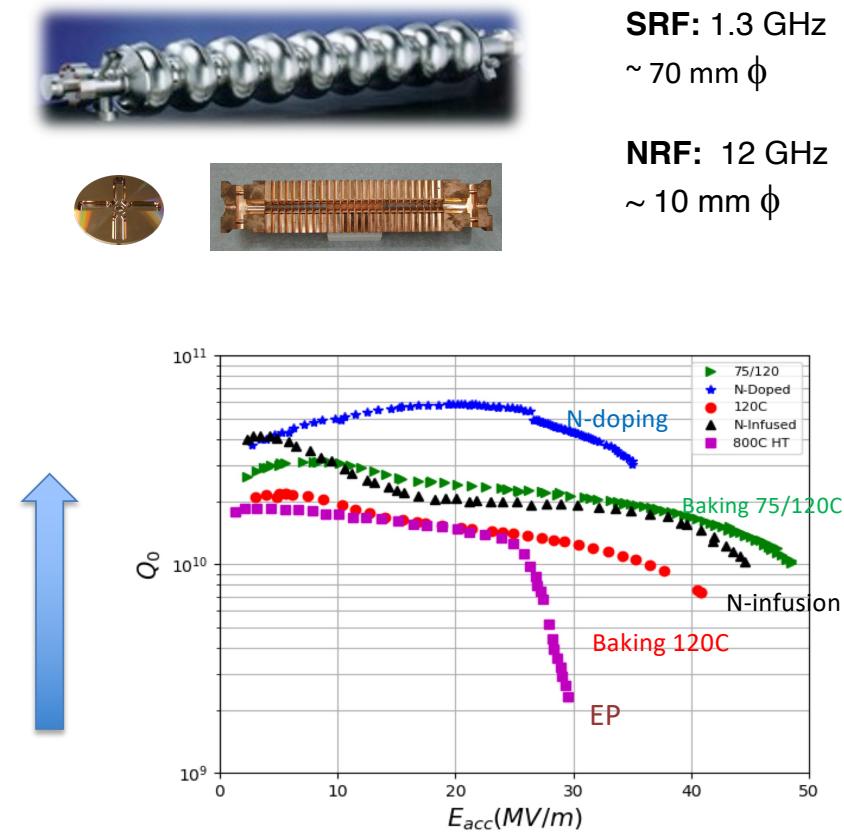
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~ 1.3 GHz SRF Accelerators, worldwide



European XFEL
(in operation, 2017~)

800 cavities
100 CMs
17.5 GeV (Pulsed)



ESS (0.8 GHz)
(under construction)



SHINE
(under construction)

~600 cavities
75 CMs
8 GeV (CW)



S1 Globa (\rightarrow STFI):
DESY, Fermilab, KEK
8-cavity, 2010 \rightarrow 14 cavities



cERL : KEK
2013~, 4 cavity



ILC (planned)

8,000 9-cell cavities, 900 CMs
2 x 125 GeV (Pulsed)



LCLS-II -HE
(under construction)

-280+200 cavities
-35+25 CMs
- 4 +4 GeV (CW)



JLab-CEBAF(1.5 GHz)
(in operation)

40 CMs
6~12 GeV(CW)



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Past & present SRF development in KEK

KEK Tsukuba campus

iCASA



COI building
(for new furnace)
& Nb₃Sn cavities
CFF

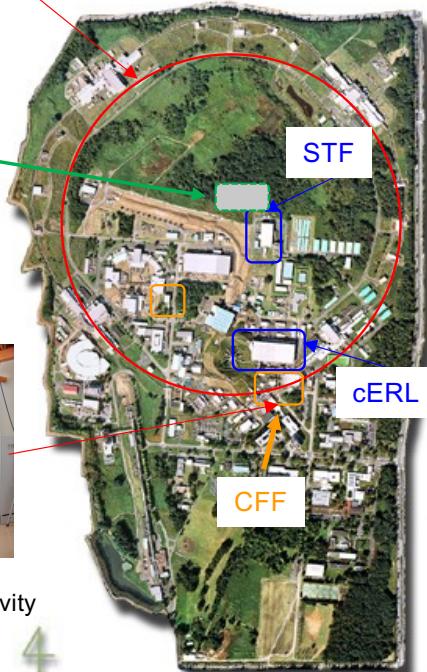


EBW & deep drawing of cavity
(Cavity fabrication)

4

New R&D of cavity fabrication was done in
CFF building and High-Q R&D & new
material like Nb₃Sn was proceeded on COI
building

SuperKEKB
(circumference 3km)



SRF cavity R&D since 1980s

Experiences at TRISTAN/KEKB/SuperKEKB



508MHz TRISTAN (1989)



508MHz KEKB (1998) iCASA



STF (2005-)
Cavity R&D, electro-polish,
vertical test and
cryomodule test

Long-pulse beam for ILC



Compact ERL (cERL)
(2013-)
Cryomodule test

For industrial application with CW beam

KEK has the long experience for the development of SRF accelerator since TRISTAN (1980s) to present (2024).



KEK & Tsukuba mountain

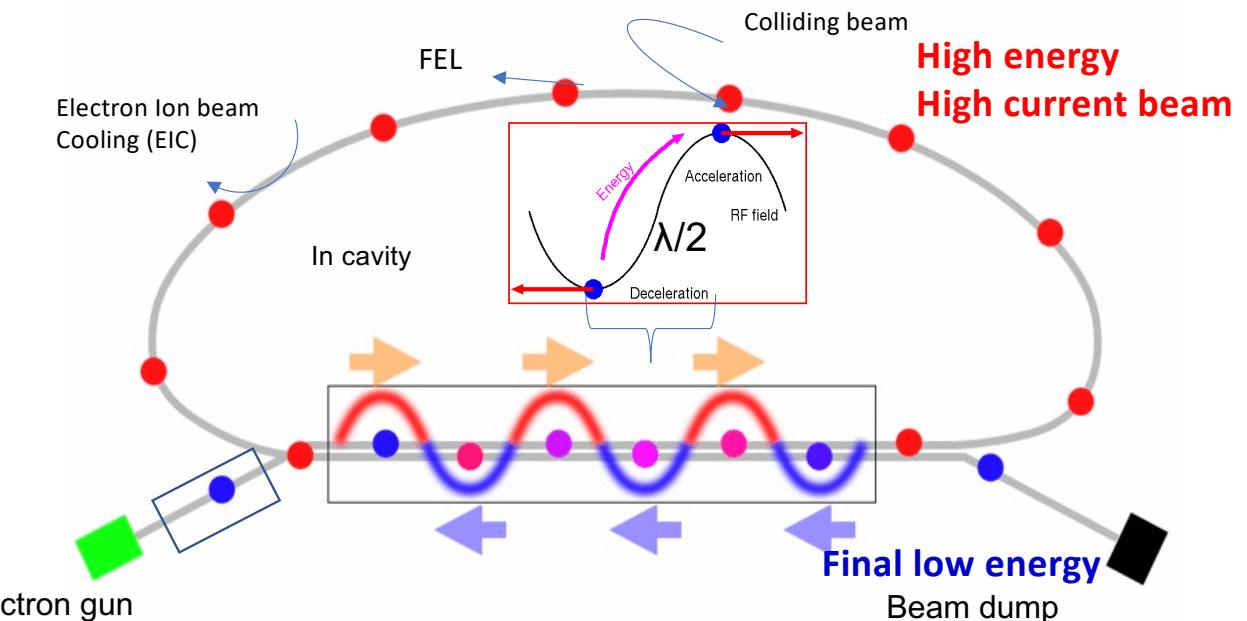
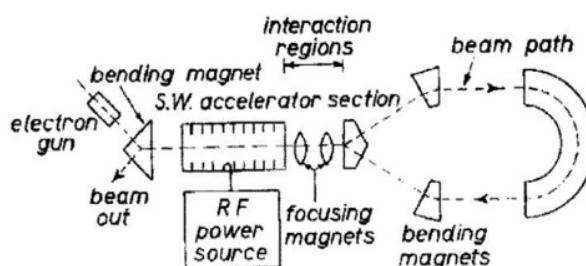


Compact ERL (cERL) in KEK



What is ERL (Energy Recovery Linac)

1965 M. Tigner
“A possible apparatus for electron clashing-beam experiments”



**High energy
High current beam**

Figure of Merit of ERL

- **Linac beam with high current beam**
 - Low emittance beam (High quality beam)
 - **Short bunch (< 100 fs) with high current beam (> 10 mA)**
- **It is difficult to fulfill these conditions by using storage ring**
→ high current FEL and future HEP and beam cooling .

Key technologies for ERL

- **High brightness electron gun**
- **Superconducting RF (SRF) cavity**
- **Beam handling of energy recovery beam with high current**



To be discussed these technologies and applications in ERL workshop

Beam power was saved by energy recovery
→ ERL is a sustainable technology to **reduce an operational power**

Compact ERL (cERL) in KEK

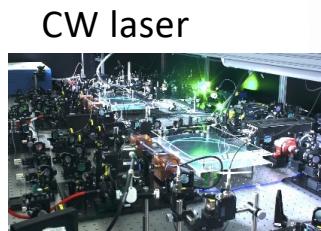


cERL developed the following key technologies and was **constructed in 2013**.

- **High current and high brightness** photo cathode DC gun.
- **CW superconducting cavity** for the high current beam operation.
- High current CW **energy recovery operation** achieved **1 mA ERL operation** in 2016.

Circumference ~ 90m

Now cERL was used for **industrial application** by using stable high current beam.



Two undulator for IR-FEL (2020)
THz "test beam line" (2020)

Marger

Injector LINAC

Beam Dump
Main LINAC



9-cell SC cavity x 2



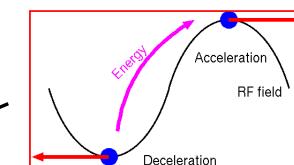
2-cell SC cavity x 3

Buncher

RF
1.3 GHz

500kV DC Gun (highest DC voltage in the world)

Irradiation beam line with CW beam (2019)
Max 26 MeV 10 μ A



17.7 MeV

Design parameters of the cERL

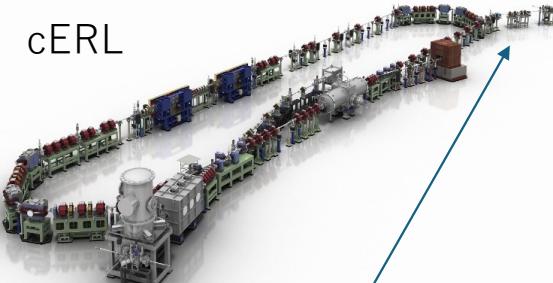
Nominal beam energy	35 MeV → 20MeV
Nominal Injector energy	5 MeV → 2.9MeV
Beam current	10 mA (initial goal) 100mA (final)
Normalized emittance	0.1 – 1 mm-mrad
Bunch length (bunch compressed)	1-3ps (usual) 100fs (short bunch)

Outline



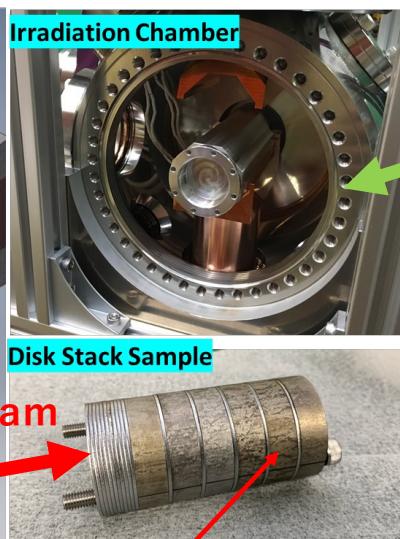
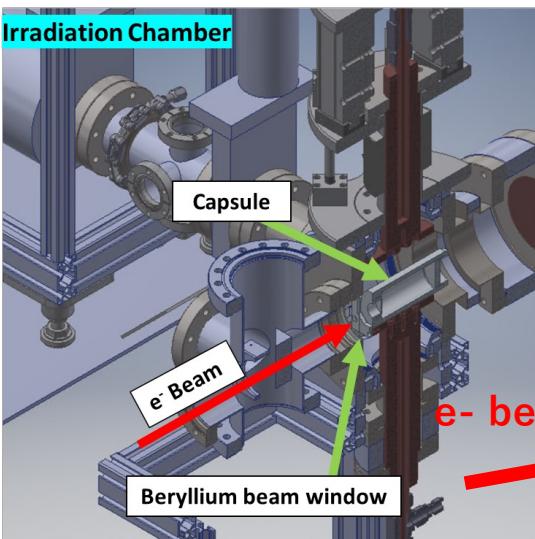
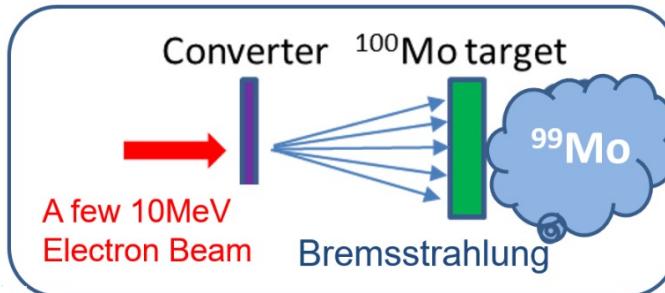
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cERL – irradiation beam line (RI production)



99Mo production already shown in ERL2019

Development of RI manufacturing (^{99}Mo / $^{99\text{m}}\text{Tc}$) by using accelerator for stable supply



Aluminum capsule target holder

For another RI production

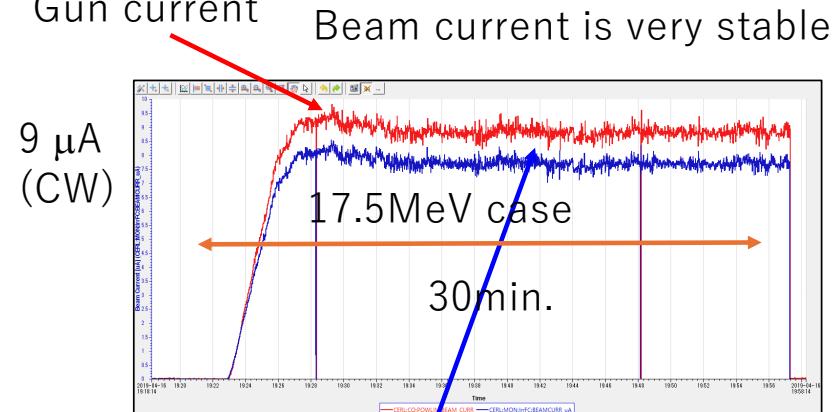
100Mo targets with 1mm disks and 9mm disks in target folder

Y. Morikawa, et al., "New Industrial Application Beamline for the cERL in KEK", Proc. of IPAC2019, (Melbourne, Australia) p3475-3477, (2019)

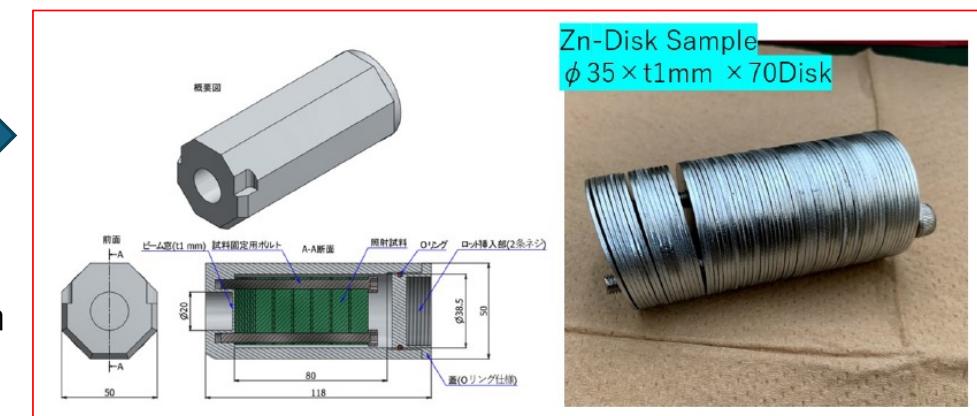
Ref SRF2021

Courtesy of Y.Morikawa, N.Higashi, K.Harada, M. Yamamoto, H.Matsumura and A. Toyoda

Gun current

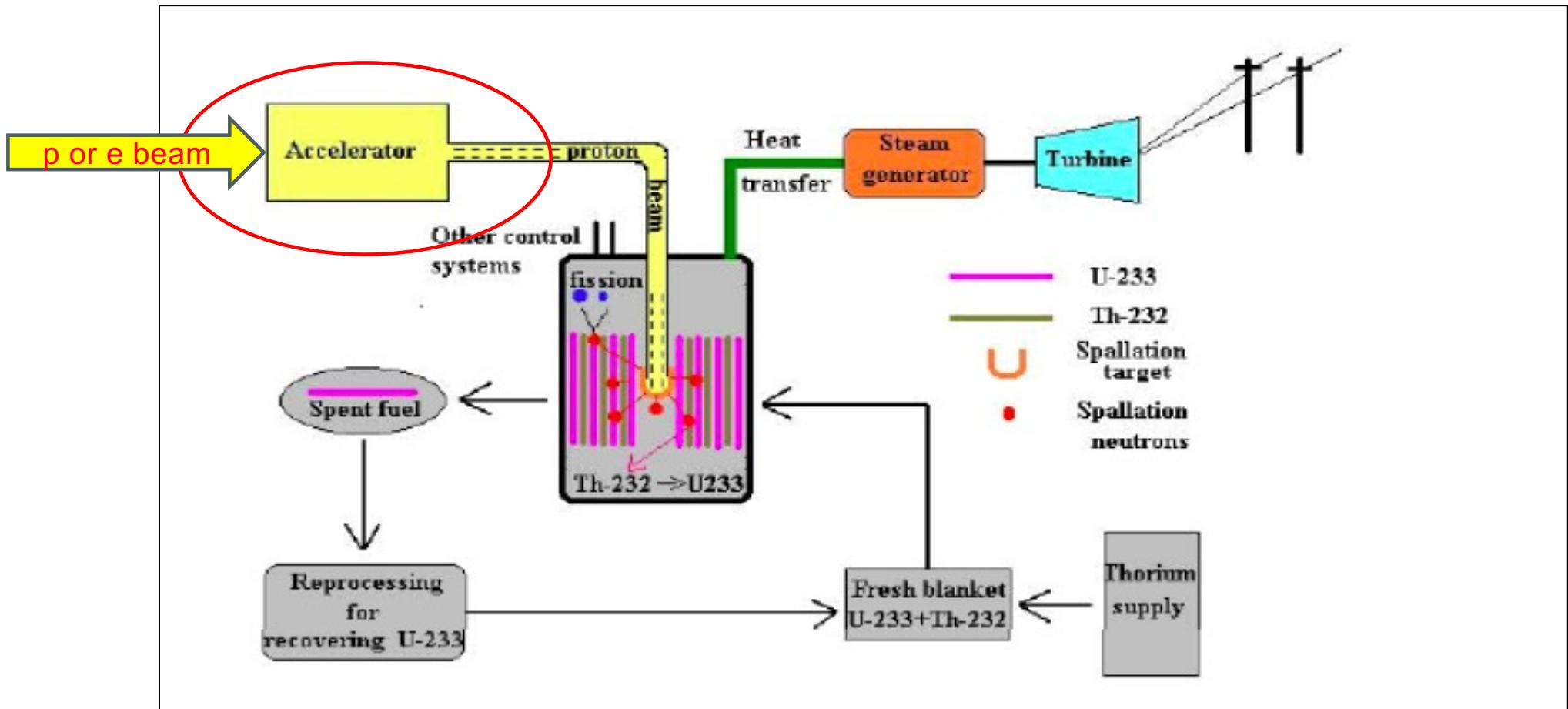


Typical trend of beam current (faraday cup set on the same position of target)



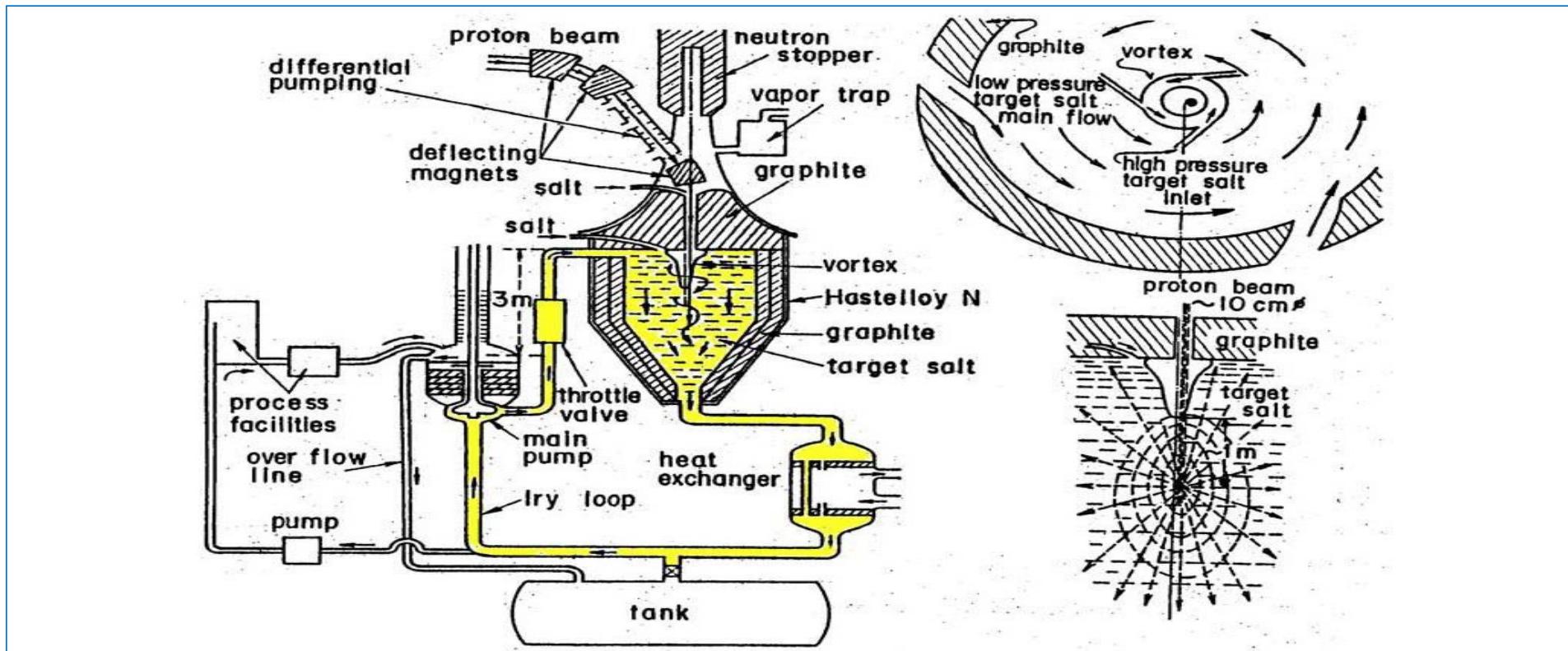
Higher energy was needed for ^{67}Cu production from ^{68}Zn . We operate the long pulsed operation to increase beam energy₁₄

India's possible Thorium utilization scheme



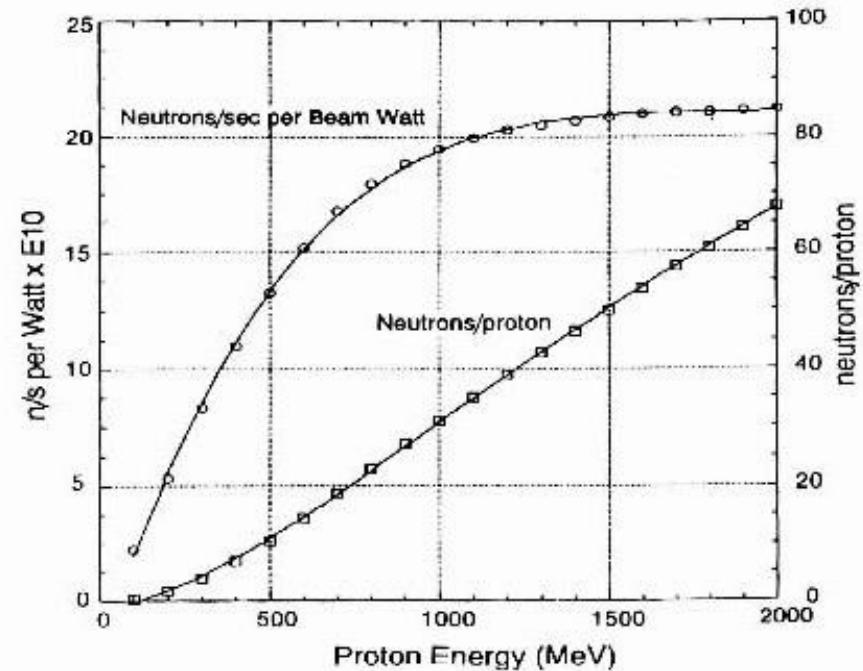
Dr. S. Banerjee, University of Virginia Presentation, May 2010

A Proposal by K. Furukawa et al



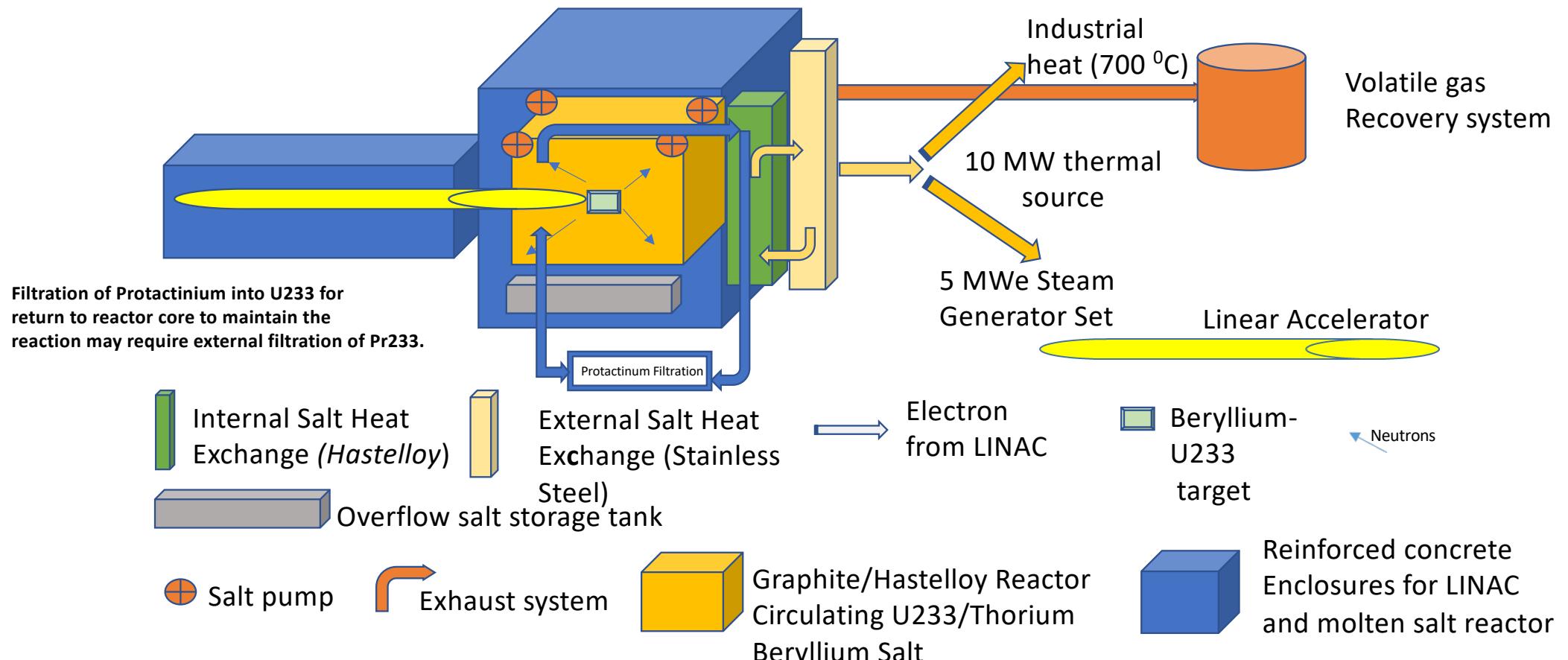
Accelerators & fissile materials

- **1950** – U. E. O. Lawrence, high power accelerators for producing fissile materials
 - Accelerator Molten-Salt Breeders, **Kazuo Furukawa et al**, Energy Conversion and Management 49 (2008) 1832-1848
- **1952** – W. B. Lewis, proposed use of thorium with intense neutron generators
 - India's ADS Program with proton linac (**on hold**)
 - BSCE Systems, Inc. ADS sub-critical micro-reactors with high power electron linacs (**waiting for funding**)



Protons Vs Electrons as ADS drivers

Subcritical Nuclear Reactor – 10 MWt/5 Mwe Low Cost, Incremental Power Route to a Zero Carbon Future



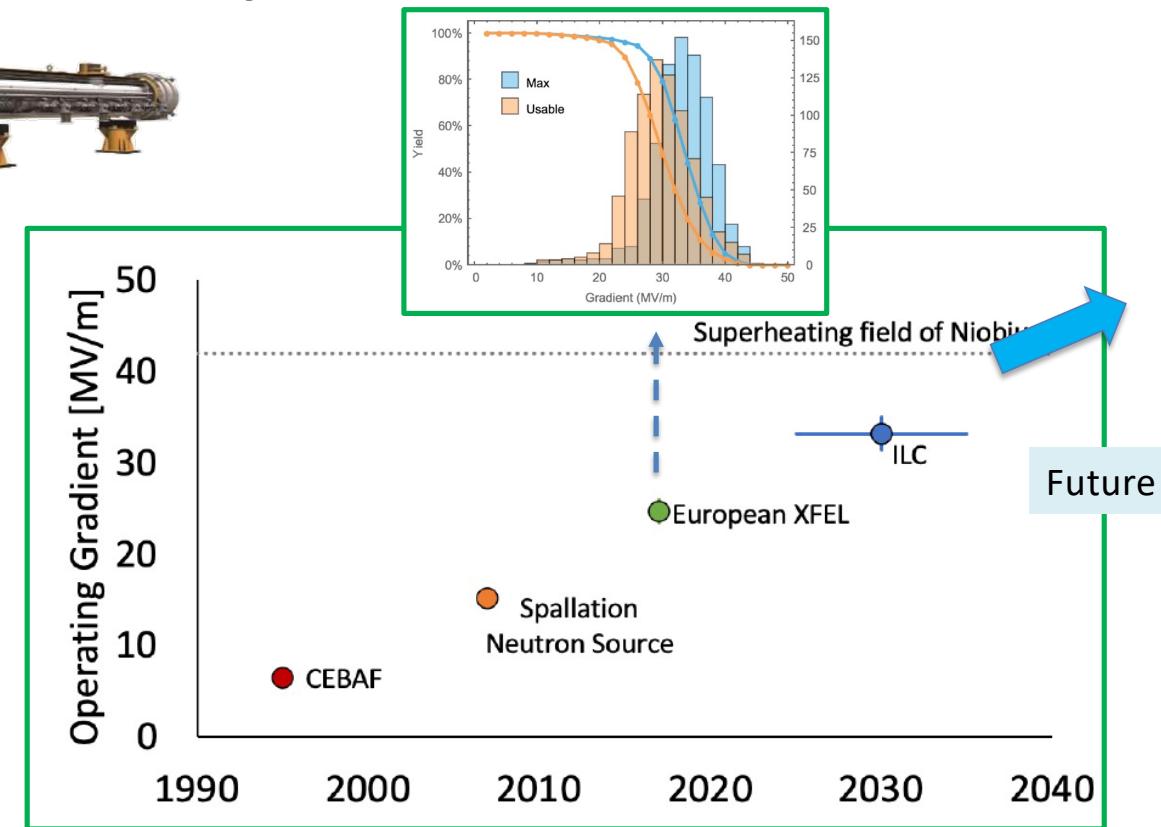
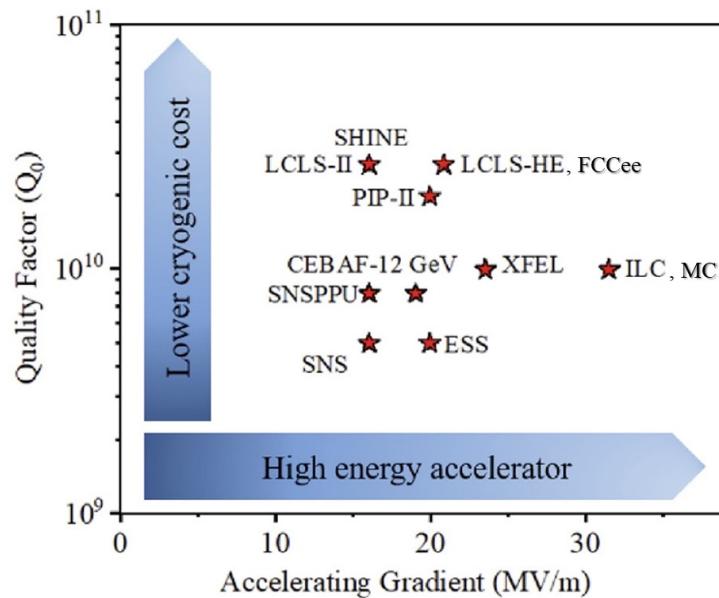
Myneni Ganapati, KEK, February 21 2025

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Advances in ~ 1 GHz, SRF Accelerators



S. Belomestynkh and S. Posen, arXiv:2204.01178v2

Prospects for High-Performance & Cost Reduction

High Performance: High -Gradient (-G) and -Q:

Nb-Cavity:

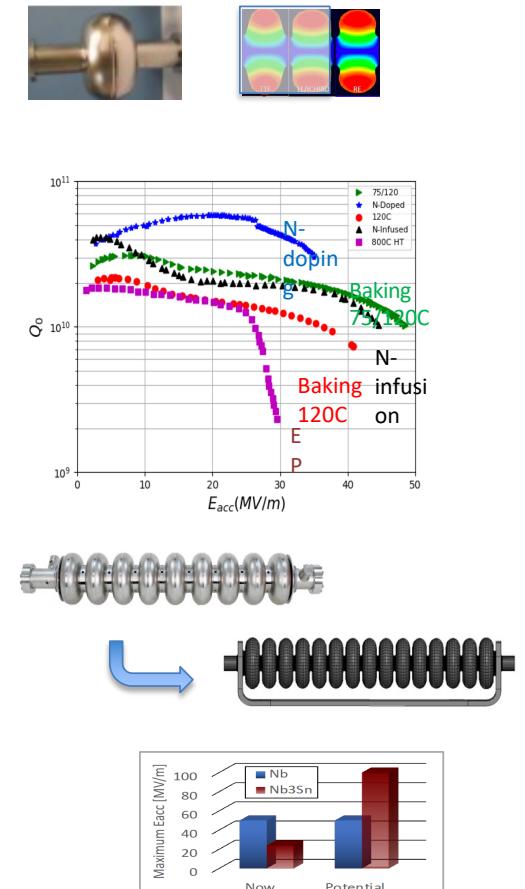
- Shape cavities will be limited by $\sim 60 \text{ MV/m}$, as $B_{\text{sh}} \sim 200 \text{ mT}$
- Tesla Type, Surface Process to reach G $\sim 50 \text{ MV/m}$, Q = $\sim 3E10$:**
 - Surface treatment, Heat treatment, Thin film coating etc...
- Traveling Wave (TW), Acc. structures**
 - Expecting Effective Gradient to be $\sim 70 \text{ MV/m}$ or higher

Nb₃Sn-Cavity:

- Gradient limit expected to be $\sim 80 \text{ MV/m}$, at $B_{\text{sh}} \sim 430 \text{ mT}$**

Cost Effective Production (for Nb Cavity):

- Larger/Medium Grain Nb material: clean and cost-reduced
- Cu-hydroforming followed by thin-layer SC coating**



"ILC: The International Linear Collider -- Report to Snowmass 2021",
Aryshev *et al.*, arXiv:2203.07622 (15 March, 2022)

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Summary and Prospects

- **SRF Technology** is a key technology for particle accelerators and various applications.
- **KEK cERL facility** is contributing to investigate the SRF accelerator technology application in particular:
 - **Medical isotope production** such as Mo99, critically important,
- **SRF electron accelerators** may be a cleaner and economical approach for:
 - **Thorium-based Energy creation**, taking great advantage of the natural availability, specially, in India.
- **Global R&D cooperation** effort in this field will be very important,
 - a possible int'l cooperation of KEK and Indian Institutions anticipated.

Reserved

Advances in SRF Technology for Accelerators



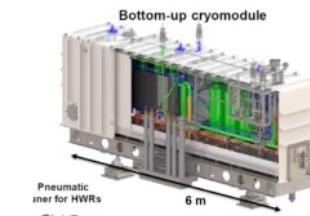
1980



2000

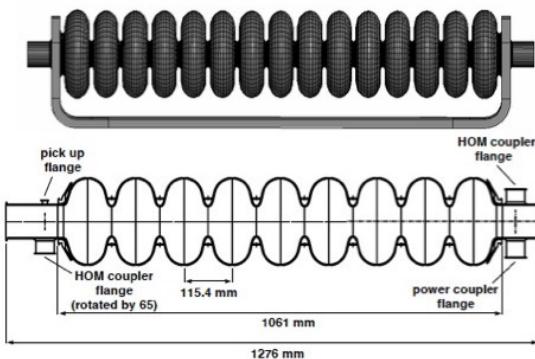
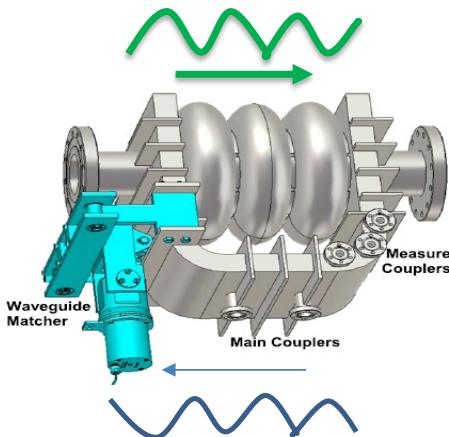


2020



For High Performance:

A new concept for SRF Acc. : Standing → Travelling Wave



- **Red:** standing wave → High Peak Fields
- **Green** (acceleration) and **Blue** (return): travelling Waves → Lower peak fields
- Note: Guide blue wave in a return wave-guide to avoid SW peak fields – attached to both ends

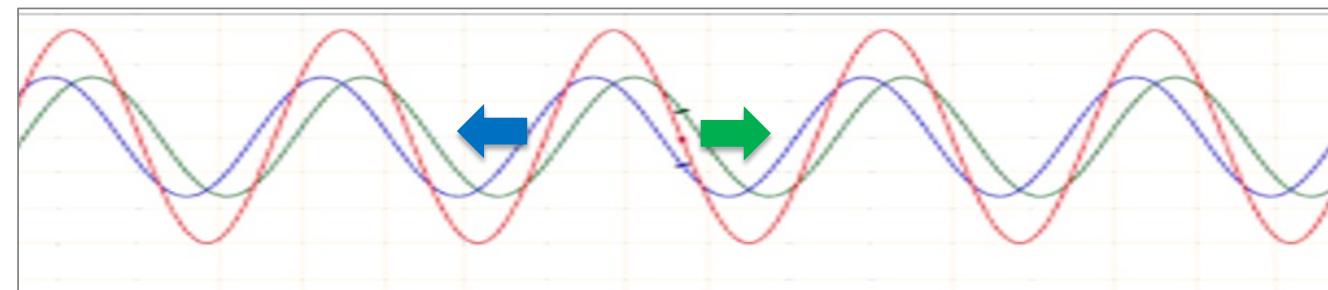


Figure 3: Options for HELEN collider at Fermilab.

For High Performance: Nb₃Sn coating on Nb

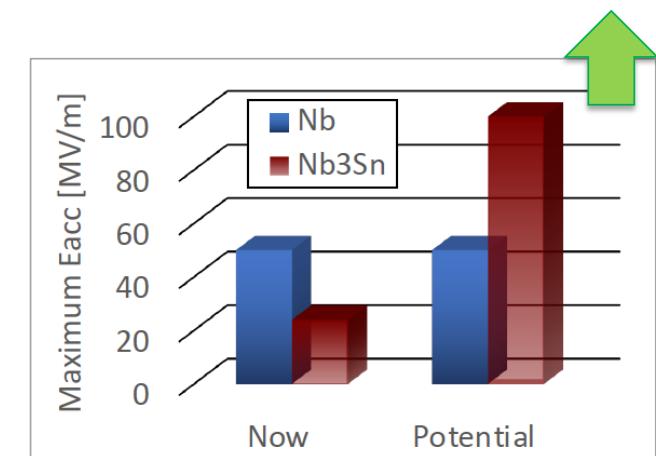
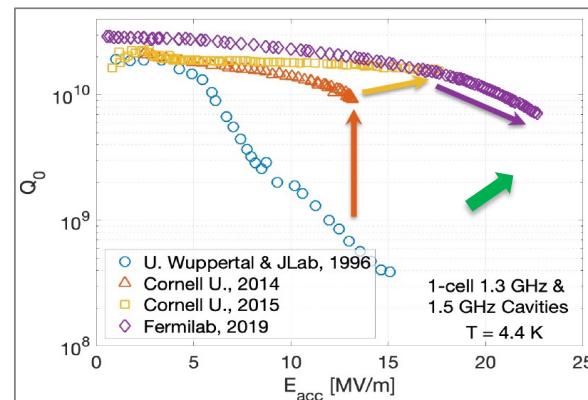
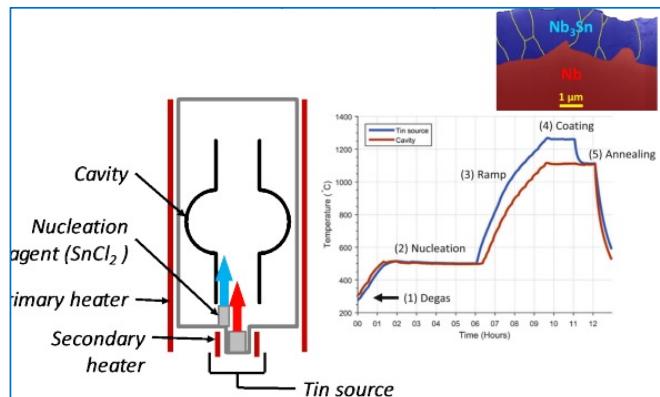


SRF cavity

- B_{sh} = strict limit for SRF
 - B_{sh-Nb} : 210 mT
 - B_{sh-Nb_3Sn} : 430mT

x2

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Nb	9.2	0.18	0.21
Nb ₃ Sn	18.3	(0.05)	0.43
MgB ₂	39	(0.03)	0.31



Nb₃Sn progress at Fermilab.
S. Posen et al., SUST, 34, 02507 (2021)

Nb₃Sn Potential in high-G future