

CAVITY FABRICATION

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Niobium

Niobium is the elemental superconductor with the highest critical temperature and the highest critical field

Formability like OFHC copper

Readily available in different grades of purity (RRR > 250)

Can be further purified by UHV heat treatment or solid state gettering

High affinity to interstitial impurities like H, C,N,O (in air $T < 150\text{ C}$)

Joining by electron beam welding

Metallurgy not so easy

Hydrogen can readily be absorbed and can lead to Q-degradation in cavities

Materials	Tc [K]	Hc, Hc1 [Gauss]	Type	Fabrication
Pb	7.2	803	I	Electroplating
Nb	9.25	1900, 1700	II	Deep drawing, film
Nb ₃ Sn	18.2	5350, 300	II	Film
MgB ₂	39	4290, 300	II	Film

Niobium

Quality/purity of niobium used for accelerator application is specified by the RRR ratio

$$\text{RRR} = R(300)/[R(10) + S \sum dR_i/dC_i]$$

dR_i/dC_i are the contributions by interstitial impurities such as H,C,N,O and Ta

H:	0.8×10^{-10} Wcm/at ppm
C:	4.3×10^{-10} Wcm/at ppm
N:	5.2×10^{-10} Wcm/at ppm
O:	4.5×10^{-10} Wcm/at ppm
Ta:	0.25×10^{-10} Wcm/at ppm

K.Schulze, Journal of Metals, 33 (1981), p. 33ff

Typical specifications for impurities (wt ppm)

H	< 2
C	< 10
N	< 10
O	< 10
Ta	< 500

RRR	> 250
Grain size	50 mm
Yield strength	> 50 Mpa
Tensile strength	> 100 Mpa
Elongation	> 30 %
VH	< 50
Thermal conductivity at 4.2K	$\lambda(4.2K) \sim \text{RRR}/4$

Niobium: Electron Beam Melting

- High Purity Niobium($RRR > 250$) is made by multiple electron beam melting steps under good vacuum, resulting in elimination of volatile impurities
- There are several companies, which can produce RRR niobium in larger quantities:

Wah Chang (USA), Cabot (USA), W.C.Heraeus (Germany), Tokyo Denkai(Japan), Ningxia (China), CBMM (Brasil)



CBMM deposit in Araxa, Brasil



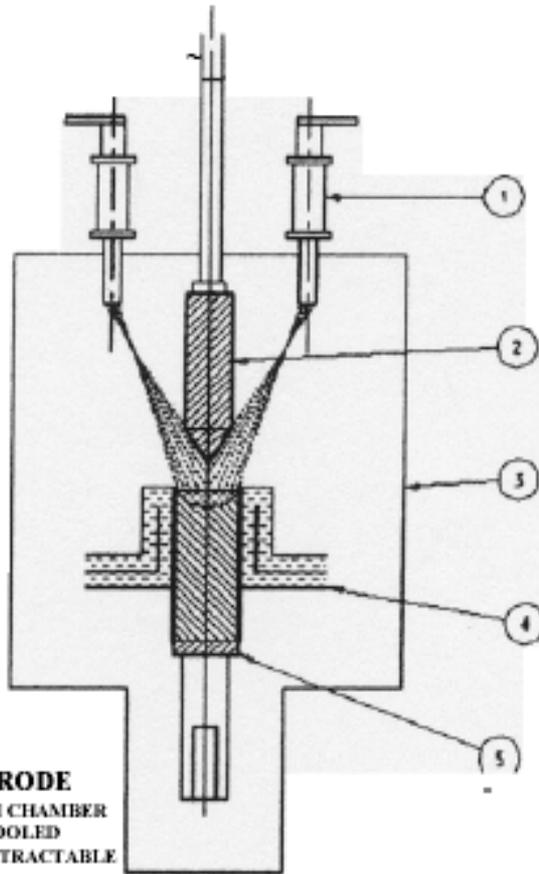
EBM Ingots at CBMM



Electron beam melting furnace in Tokyo Denkai

Electron Beam Melting

VERTICAL DRIP MELT



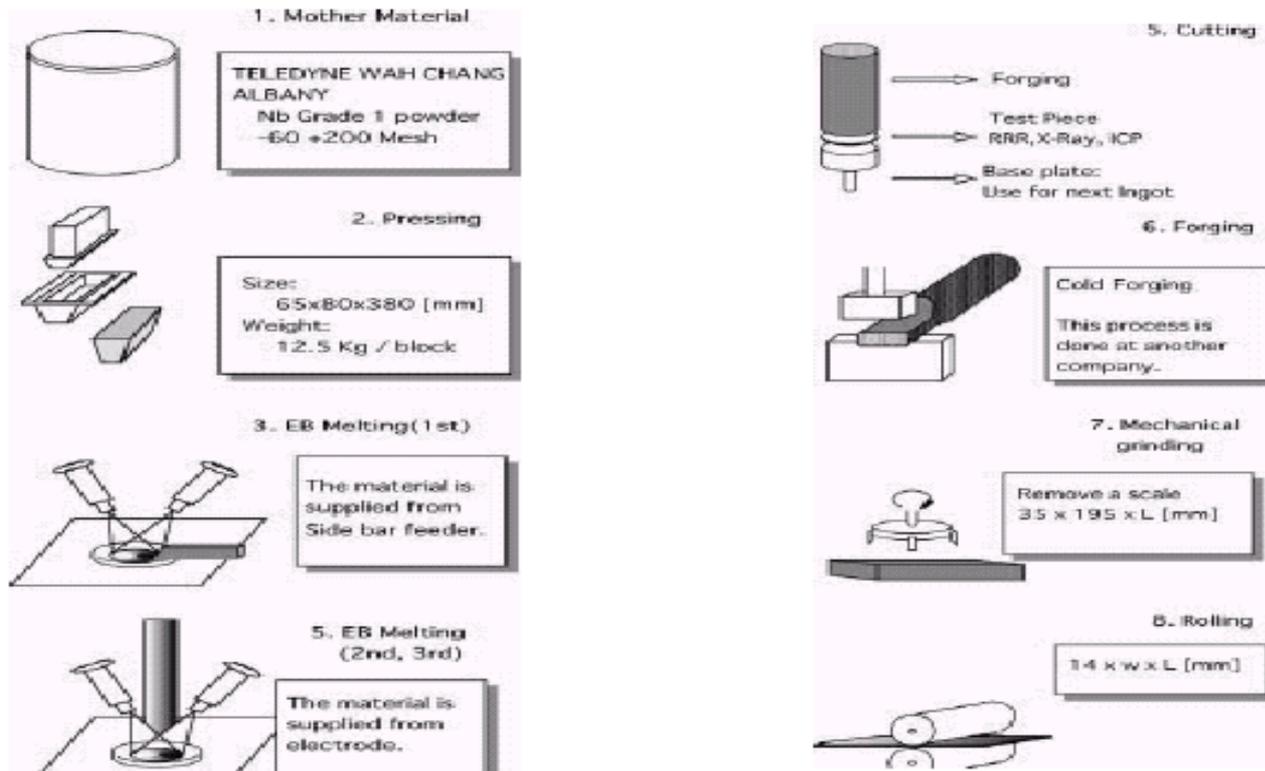
- 1 Gun
- 2 Electrode
- 3 Vacuum Chamber
- 4 Water Cooled Mold
- 5 Retractable Ingot

[from H.R.S. Moura, "Melting and Purification of Niobium" ,p. 147 in Proc. of Int. Symposium Niobium 2001]

Niobium

US-CERN-JAPAN-RUSSIA Accelerator School, Nov. 6-14 2002 Long Beach, California, USA

Industrial Niobium Production - Production Process (Tokyo Denkai Co. Ltd.) -

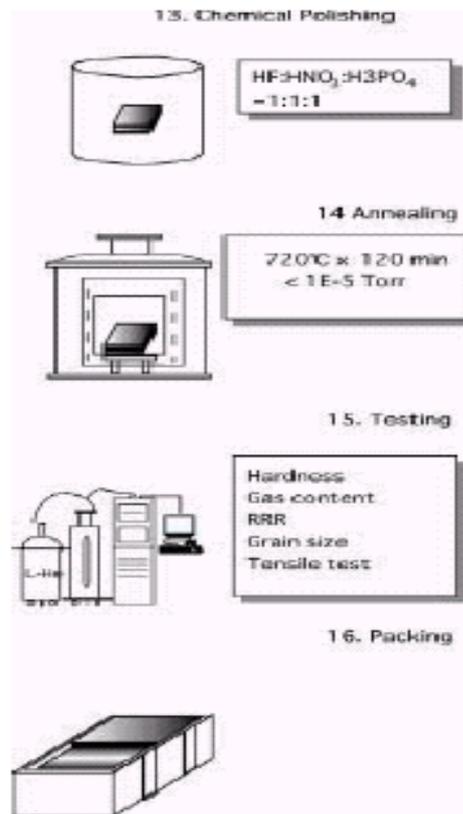
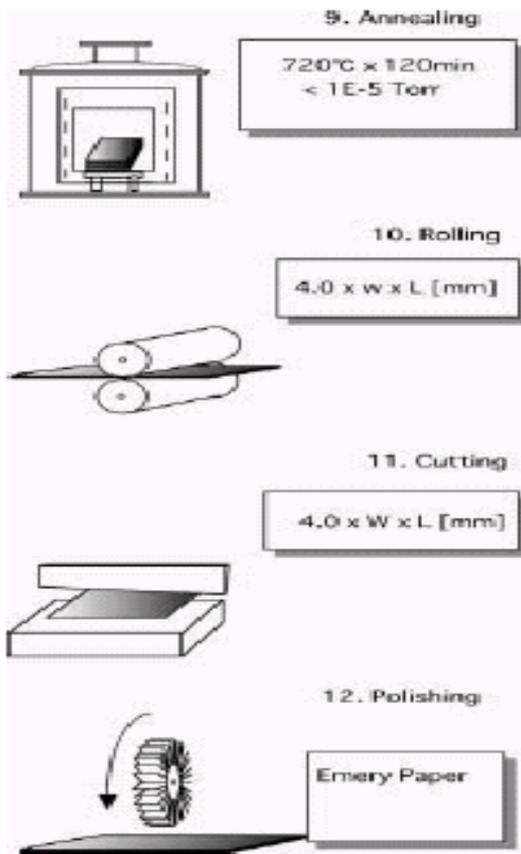


Niobium

US-CERN-JAPAN-RUSSIA Accelerator School, Nov. 6-14 2002 Long Beach, California, USA

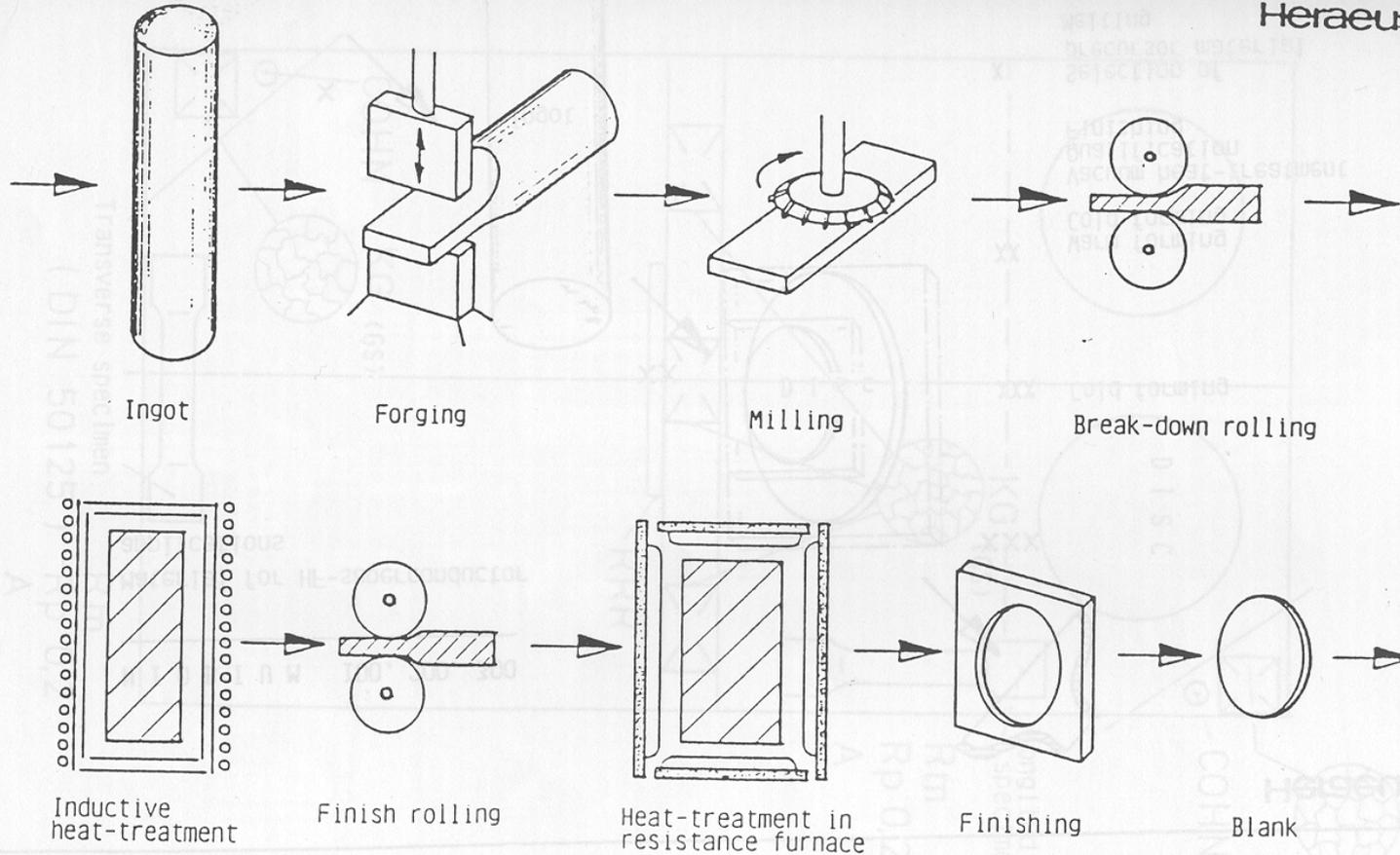
Industrial Niobium Production

- Production Process (Tokyo Denkai Co. Ltd.) -



Niobium

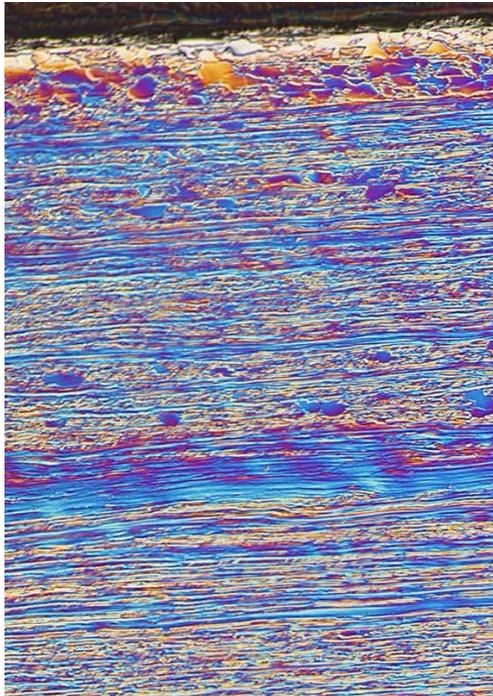
Heraeus



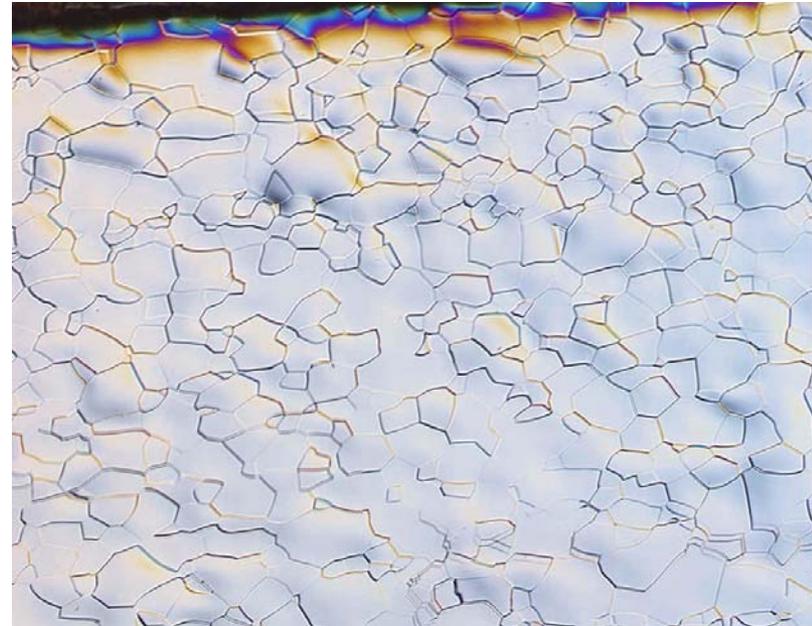
FLOW DIAGRAM SHOWING PROCESSING TO Nb SEMI-PRODUCTS

Niobium

Insufficient recrystallization,
formability and mechanical
properties are affected



Fully recrystallized material after
appropriate heat treatment (after
rolling operation)



Niobium

Post –Purification of niobium in presence of Ti as a solid state getter material

- During the purification process the interstitial impurities (O,N,C) diffuse to the surface and react with the evaporated Ti atoms; Ti has a higher affinity to these impurities than Nb

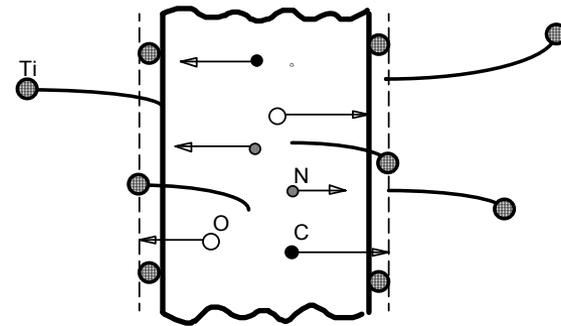
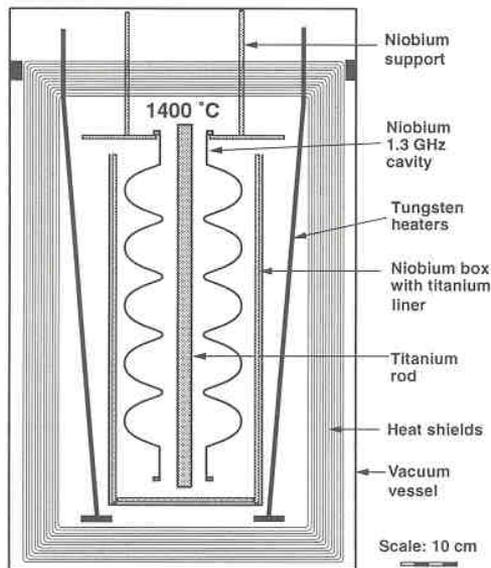
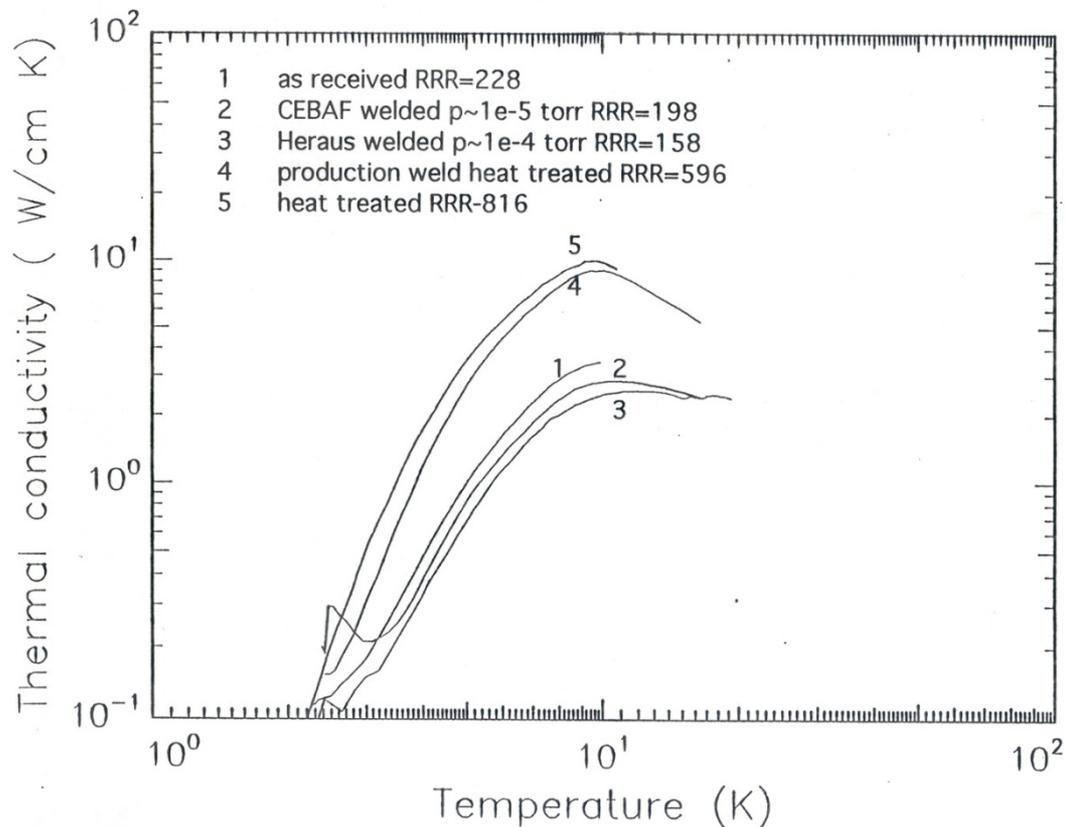


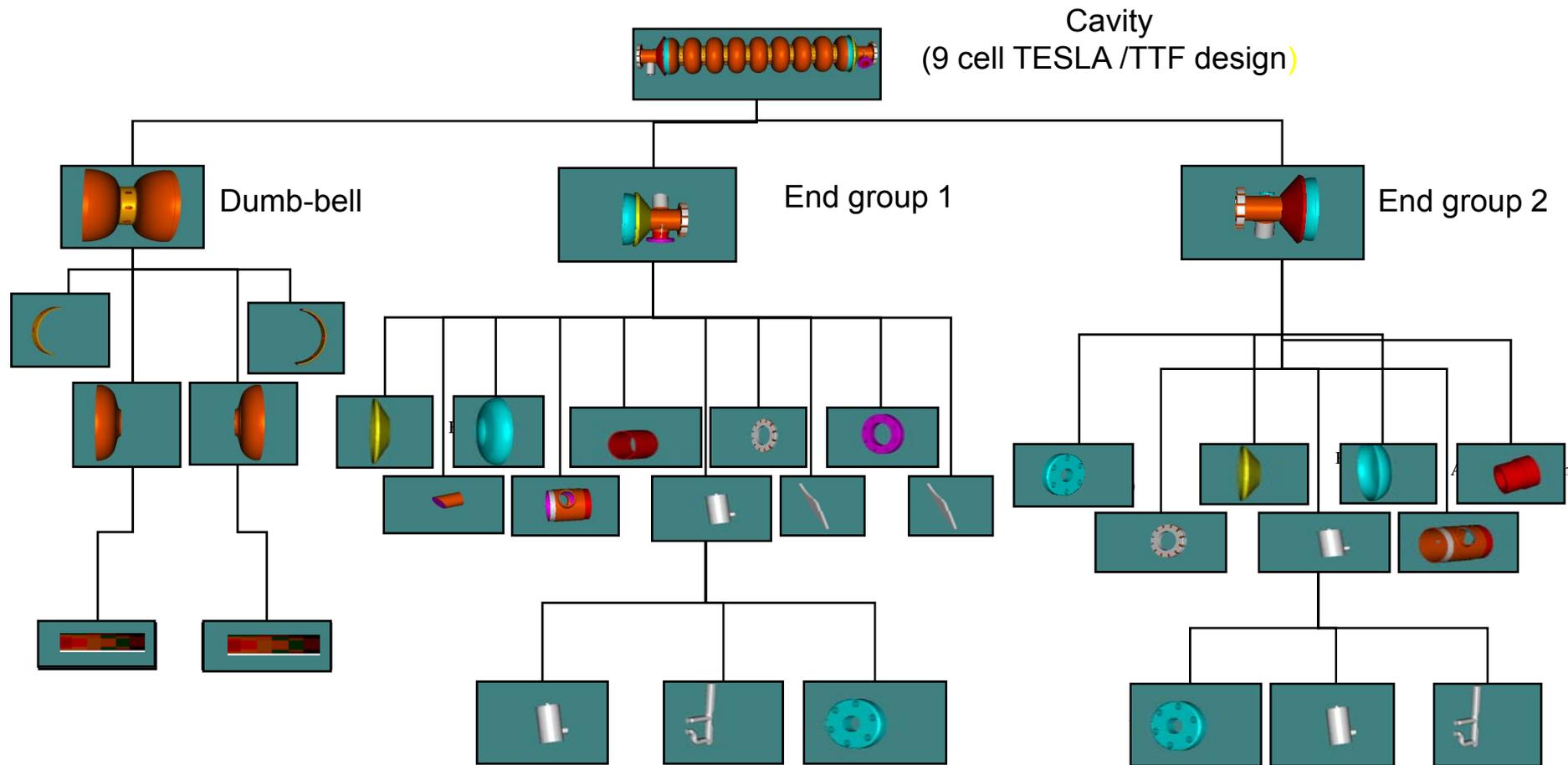
Fig. 1 Scheme of the Nb refining by high temperature gettering

Niobium

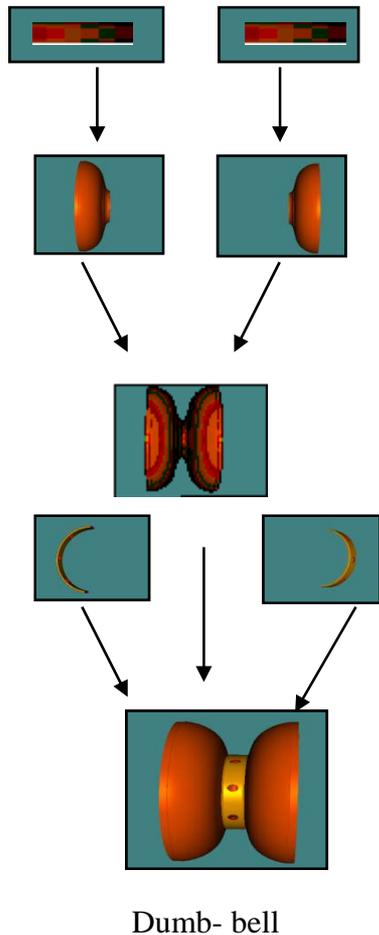
- Post-Purification Treatment (G.R.Myneni, Jlab)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (TESLA)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (TESLA)



1. Mechanical measurement
2. Cleaning (by ultra sonic [us] cleaning +rinsing)
3. Trimming of iris region and reshaping of cups if needed
4. Cleaning
5. Rf measurement of cups
6. Buffered chemical polishing + Rinsing (for welding of Iris)
7. Welding of Iris
8. Welding of stiffening rings
9. Mechanical measurement of dumb-bells
10. Reshaping of dumb bell if needed
11. Cleaning
12. Rf measurement of dumb-bell
13. Trimming of dumb-bells (Equator regions)
14. Cleaning
15. Intermediate chemical etching (BCP /20- 40 μm)+ Rinsing
16. Visual Inspection of the inner surface of the dumb-bell
local grinding if needed + (second chemical treatment + inspection)

Dumb-bell ready for cavity

Overview of Cavity Fabrication (TESLA)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (TESLA)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (TESLA)

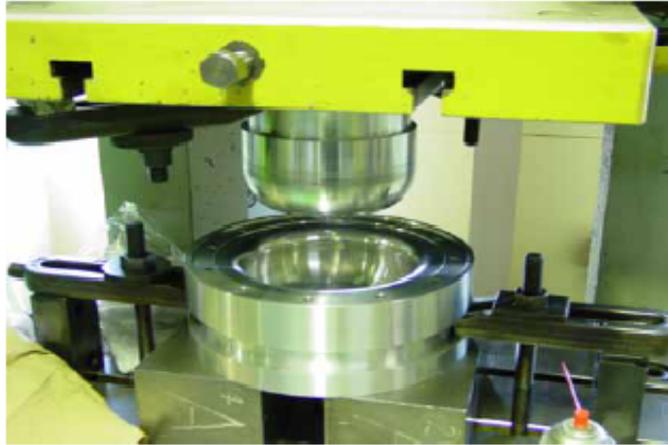


Overview of Cavity Fabrication (KEK)

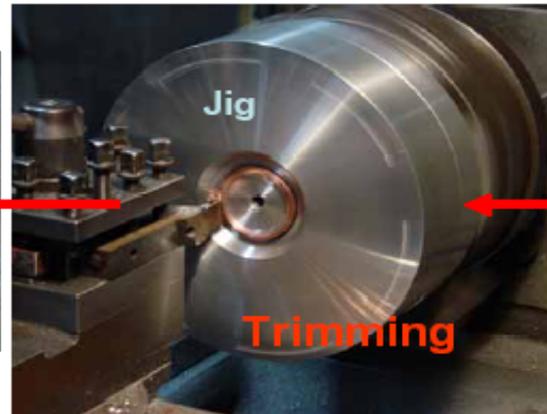
Fabrication of ICHIRO Cavity in KEK(1)

Pressing Nb plate

56 half-cells were pressed in a few hours



After trimming



After pressing

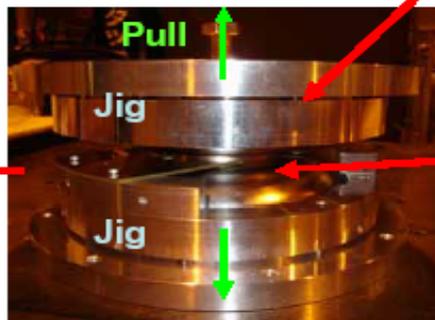
Overview of Cavity Fabrication (KEK)

Fabrication of ICHIRO Cavity in KEK(2)

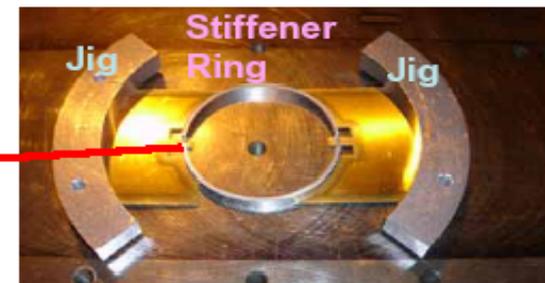
Electron Beam Welding (EBW)
In KUROKI corporation



Dumbbell with
stiffener-ring
after EBW.



Pull and extend dumbbells
to insert stiffener-ring.
=> EBW (dumbbell + ring)



Insert stiffener-ring
into the iris part of
dumbbell.

Overview of Cavity Fabrication (KEK)

Fabrication of ICHIRO Cavity in KEK(4)

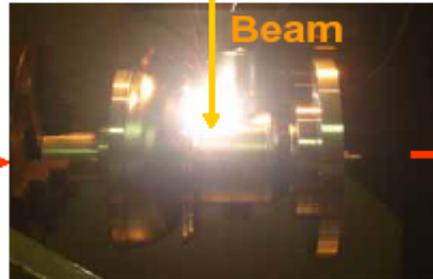
EBW of **dumbbells**

Beam



EBW of **end-beam-pipe**

Beam



End-beam-pipes with HOM and flanges



Four 9-cell ICHIRO high-gradient LL Cavities were successfully delivered to KEK ! (4 July 2005)

Beam



EBW of **end-beam-pipes** and **cell-part**

Overview of Cavity Fabrication (KEK)

Dimensional measurements

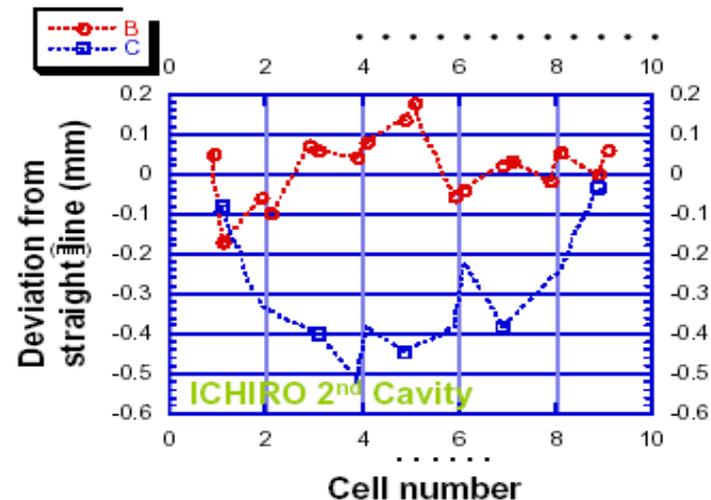
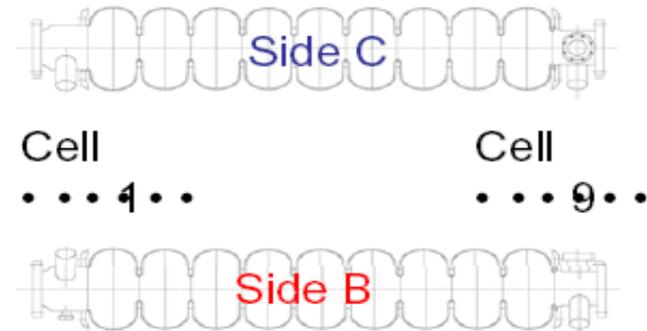
Length and straightness of the cavities were measured by 3D-measurement machine.



	EBW shrinkage
iris	0.148+0.044 mm
equator	0.424+0.125 mm

Dimensional deviation of length (only 9-cell part: 1038.5 mm)

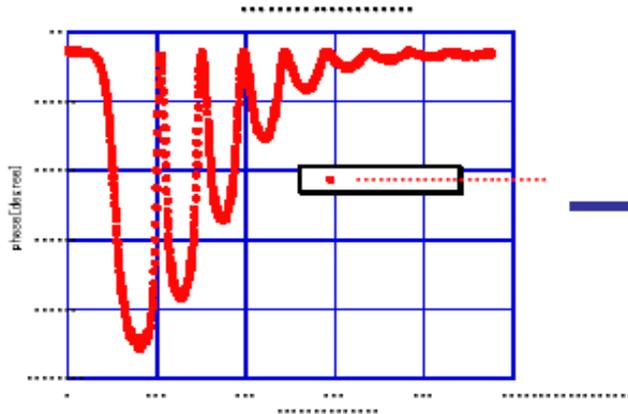
- 10 mm (1st 9-cell ICHIRO cavity)
- 0.7 mm (2nd 9-cell ICHIRO cavity)
- 0.1 mm (3rd 9-cell ICHIRO cavity)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (KEK)

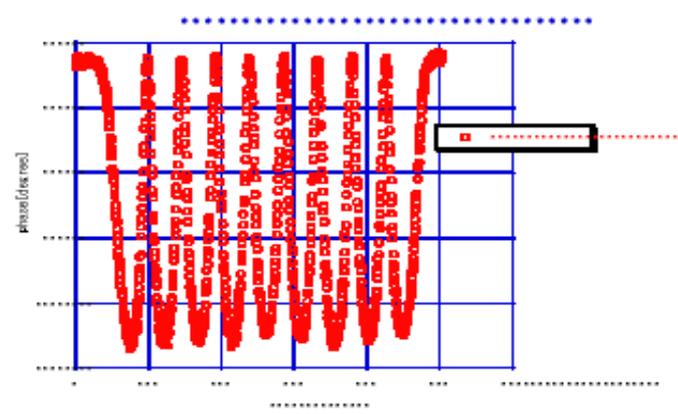
Field flatness after pre-tuning

• mode frequency 1298.774 MHz



Field flatness = 0.1 %
(as delivered to KEK)

• mode frequency 1298.547 MHz

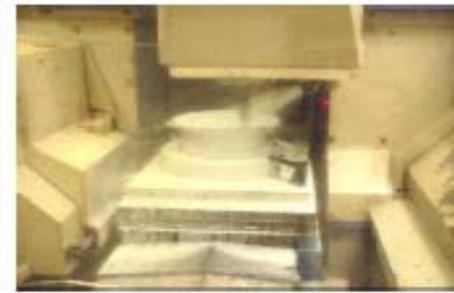


Field flatness = 98 %
(after pre-tuning)

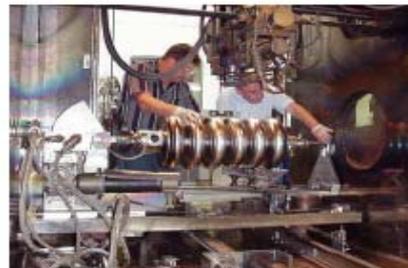
Cavity	Field flatness (min/max) as delivered / after pre-tuning		Freq. target 1298.141 (MHz) @R.T. as delivered / after pre-tuning	
	1 st	0.1%	/	98%
2 nd	57.6%	/	Not yet	1301.447 / Not yet
3 rd	31.5%	/	Not yet	1301.577 / Not yet
4 th	51.5%	/	Not yet	1301.696 / Not yet

Cell-to-cell coupling is as small as 1.6%, but no problem in pre-tuning.

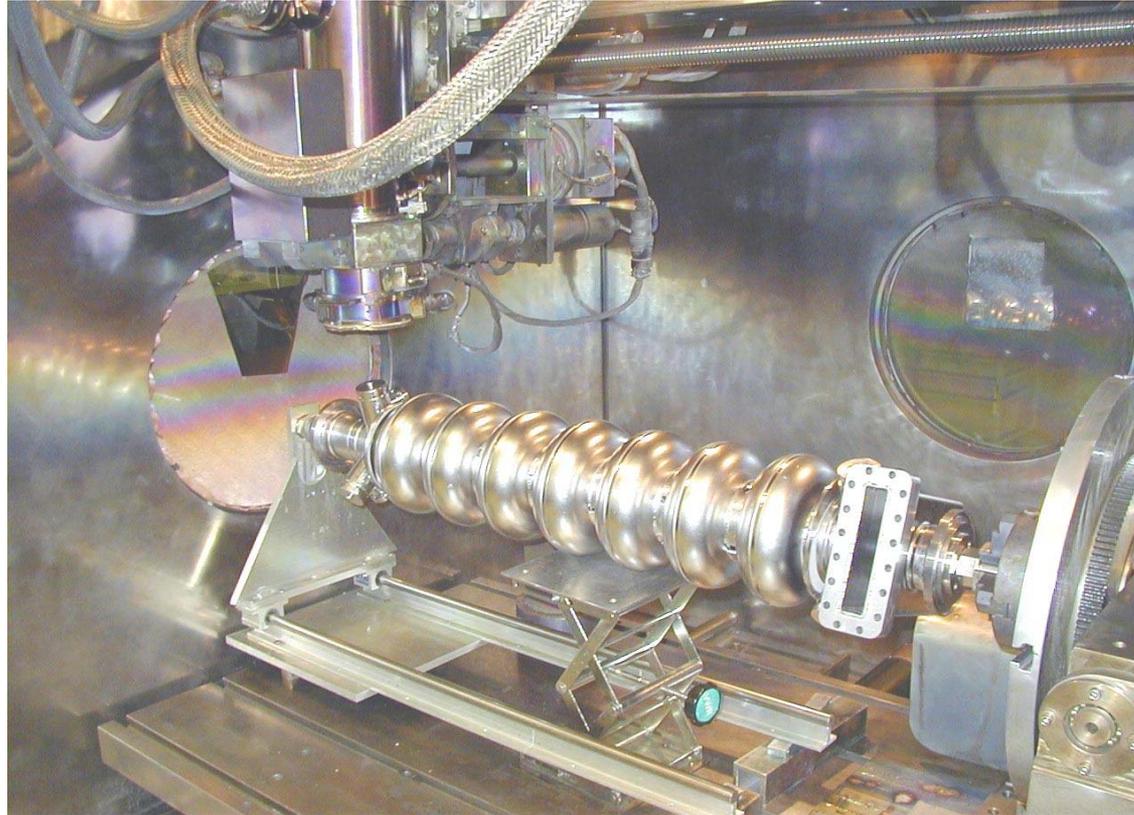
Overview of Cavity Fabrication (JLab)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (JLab)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (JLab)



Overview of Cavity Fabrication (JLab)



Tack- Welding: 4 tacks, focused beam
Voltage : 50 kV
Current: 15 mA
Rotational Speed : 20 inches/min
Distance of gun to work : 6 “
Final weld Current: 33 mA
Rotational speed: 18”/min
Focussing: elliptical pattern

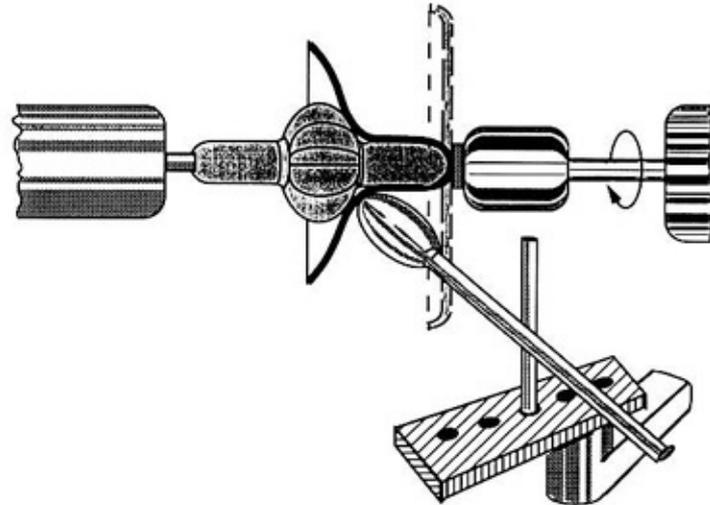
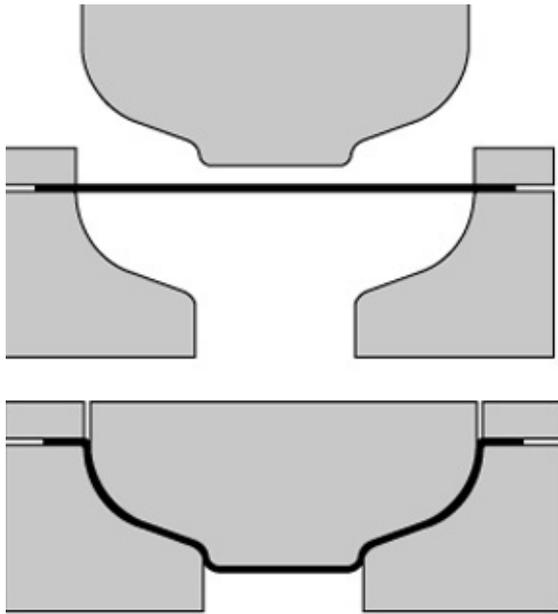


Overview of Cavity Fabrication (JLab)

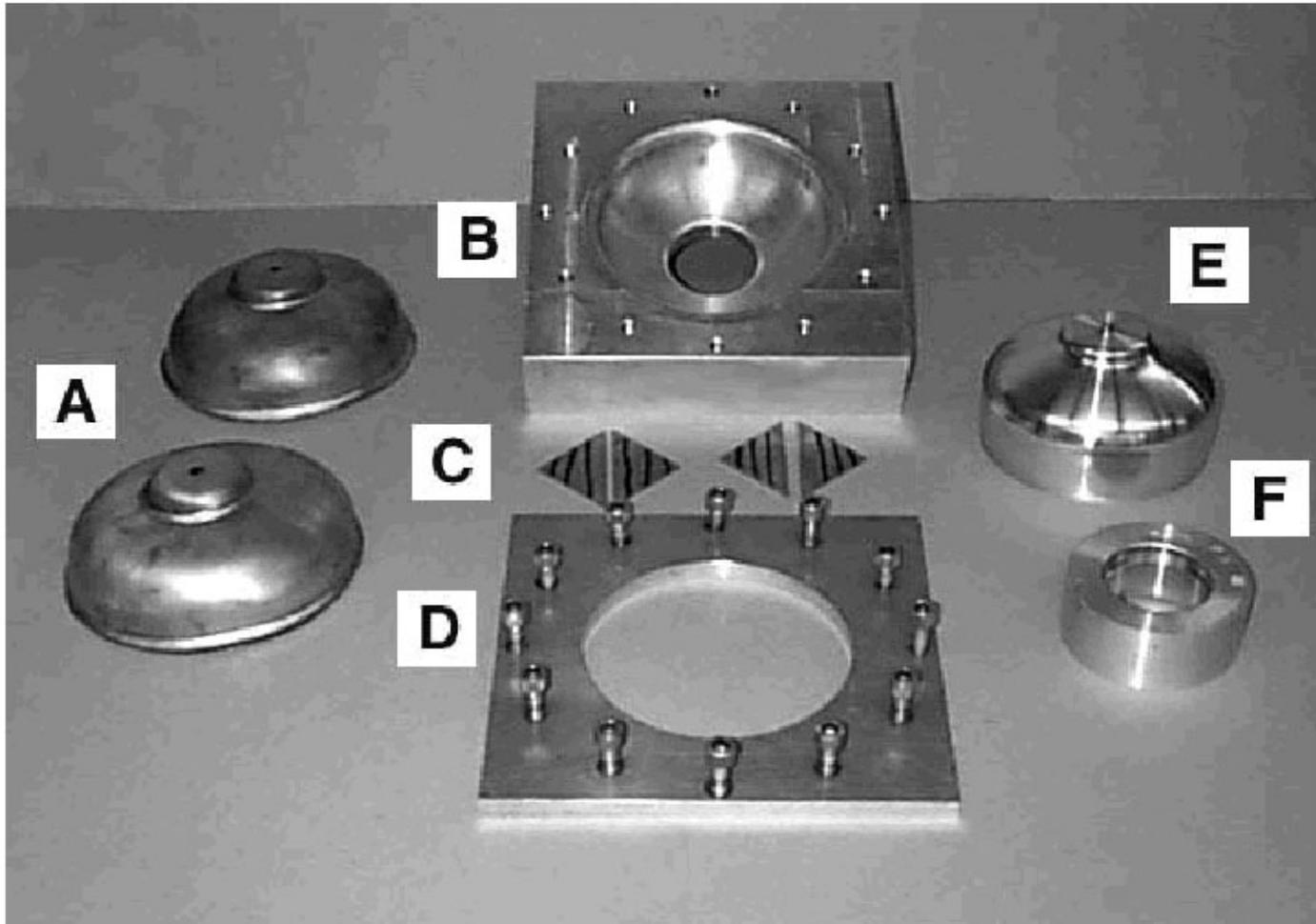


Fabrication of Cups

- Deep drawing or spinning
- Measurement of contour
- Better: measurement of frequency
- Trimming length at iris and equator plane
 - Consider welding shrinkage
- Slight chemical cleaning for welding

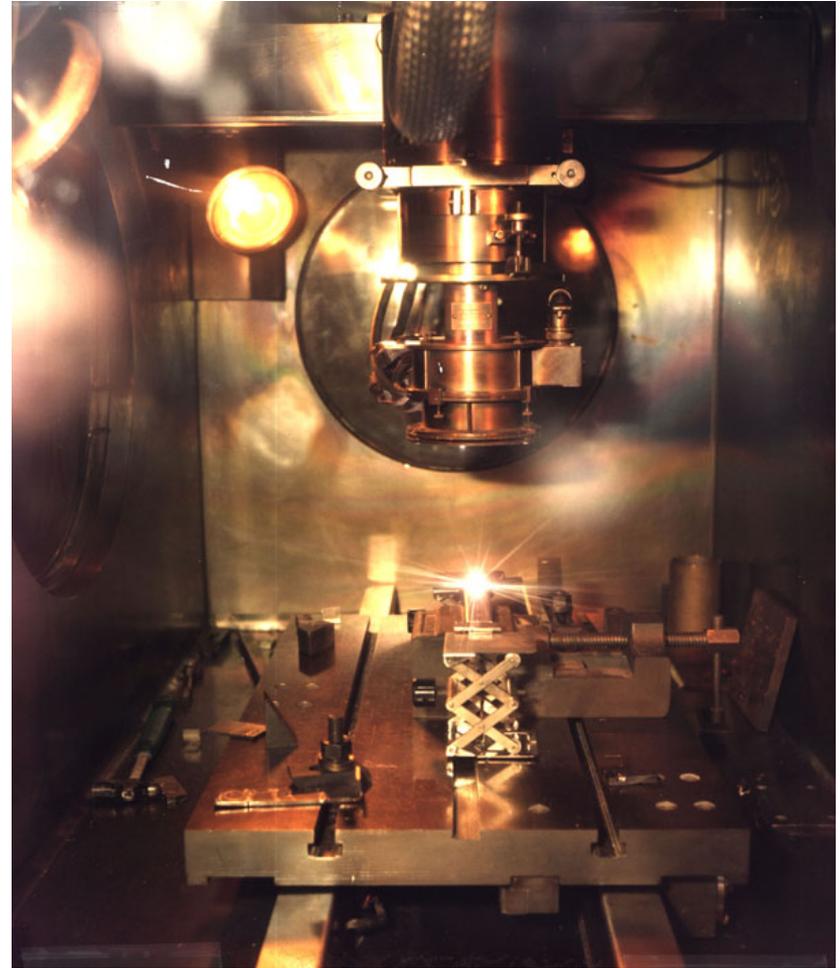


Fabrication of Cups



Electron Beam Welding

- Welding under good vacuum, 10^{-5} range
- Broad welding seam
 - Operate with defocussed beam
 - Smooth underbead
- Overlap at end of welding to avoid accumulation of impurities
- Wait to cool down before opening chamber



Tuning (Electrical)

Elongation ΔL_e in the magnetic field region

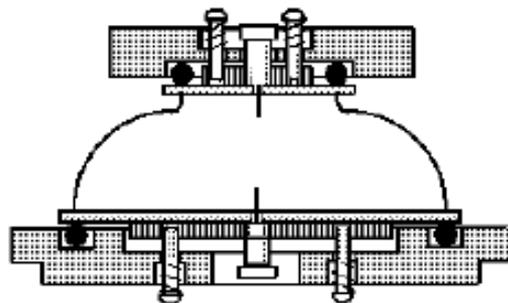
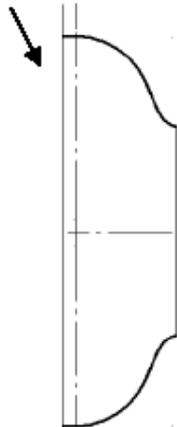


Figure 3: Trimming of the equator to adjust the elongation at the equator

Frequency measurement of half cell

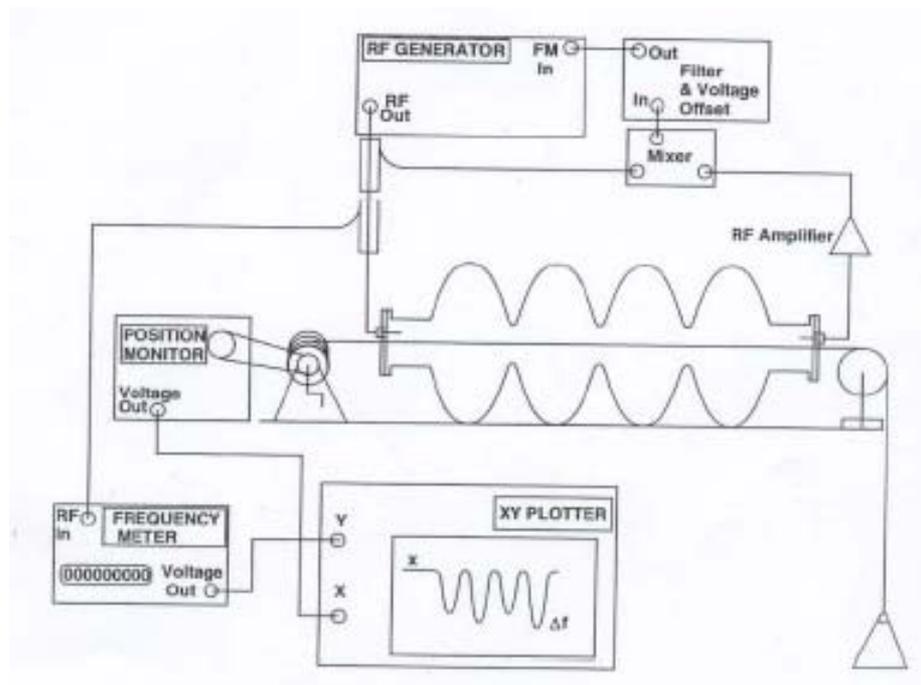
Frequency measurement of dumbbell



Field Flatness Tuning

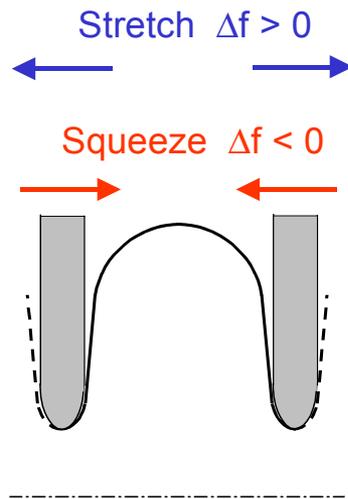
H.Padamsee et al; "RF Superconductivity for Accelerators"

Set-up for field profile measurements: a metallic needle is perturbing the rf fields while it is pulled through the cavity along its axis; the stored energy in each cell is recorded.



Tuning (Mechanical)

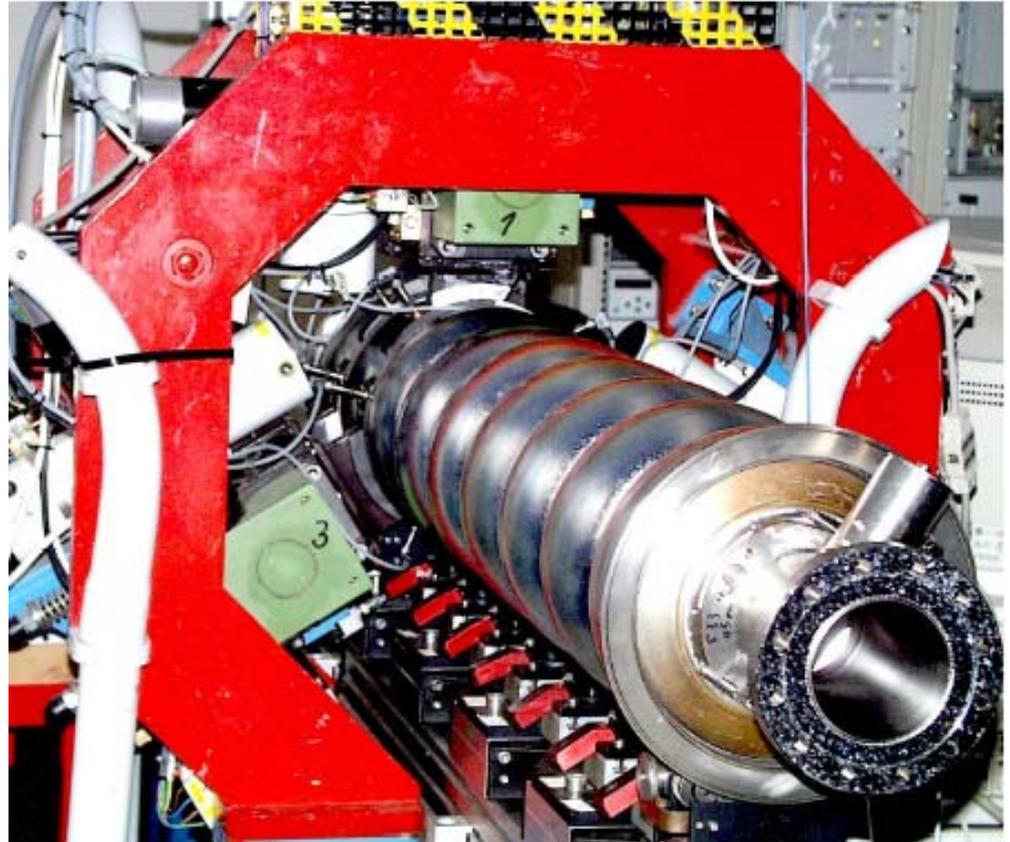
Tuning system



Tuning (Mechanical)

Computerized tuning machine at DESY

- Equalizing stored energy in each cell by squeezing or pulling
- Straightening of cavity



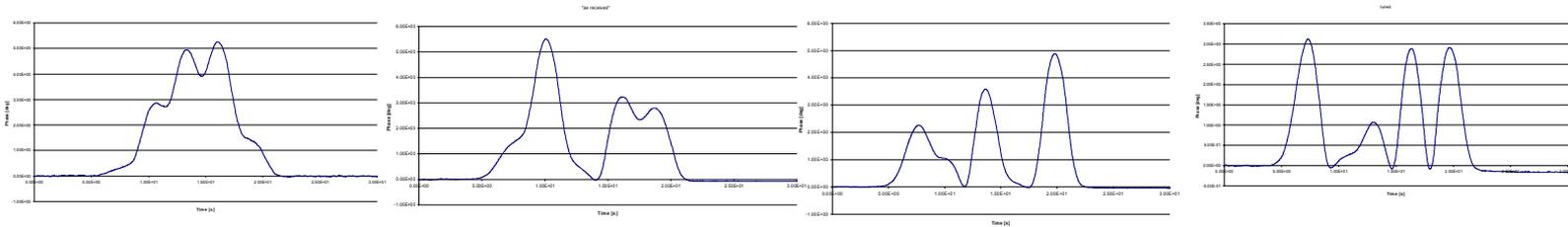
Tuning code

(Chen Yinghua, J. Sekutowicz, Wei Yixiang, DESY M-89-11)

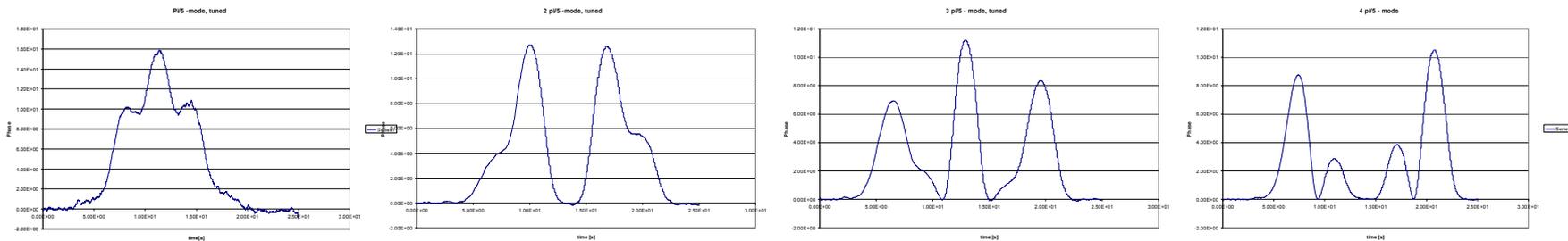
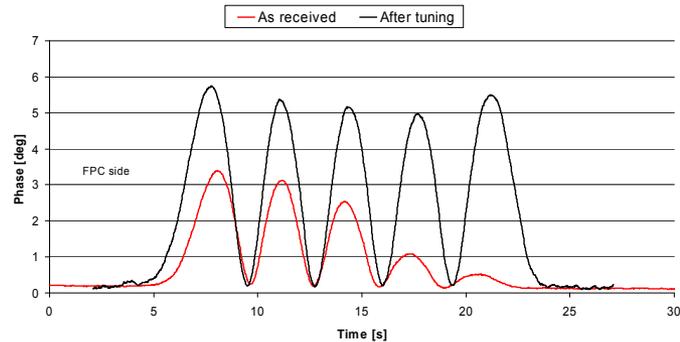
- Frequency and field profile measurement of all the 6 modes of the TM_{010} pass-band
- Preparing an input file with frequency and field amplitudes at the center of the cells for each mode
- Running the tuning code developed by J. Sekutowicz based on a lumped-circuit model where only the coupling between neighboring cells is considered
- Obtaining the Δf to be applied to each cell to tune the cavity at the frequency requested

Tuning: Example 5-cell TRASCO Cavity

As manufactured



Tuned



Cavity Inspection



Cavity Inspection



External Chemistry



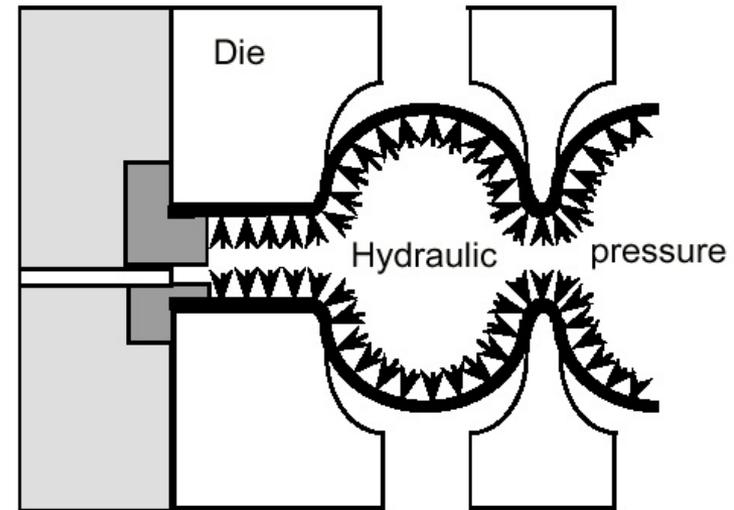
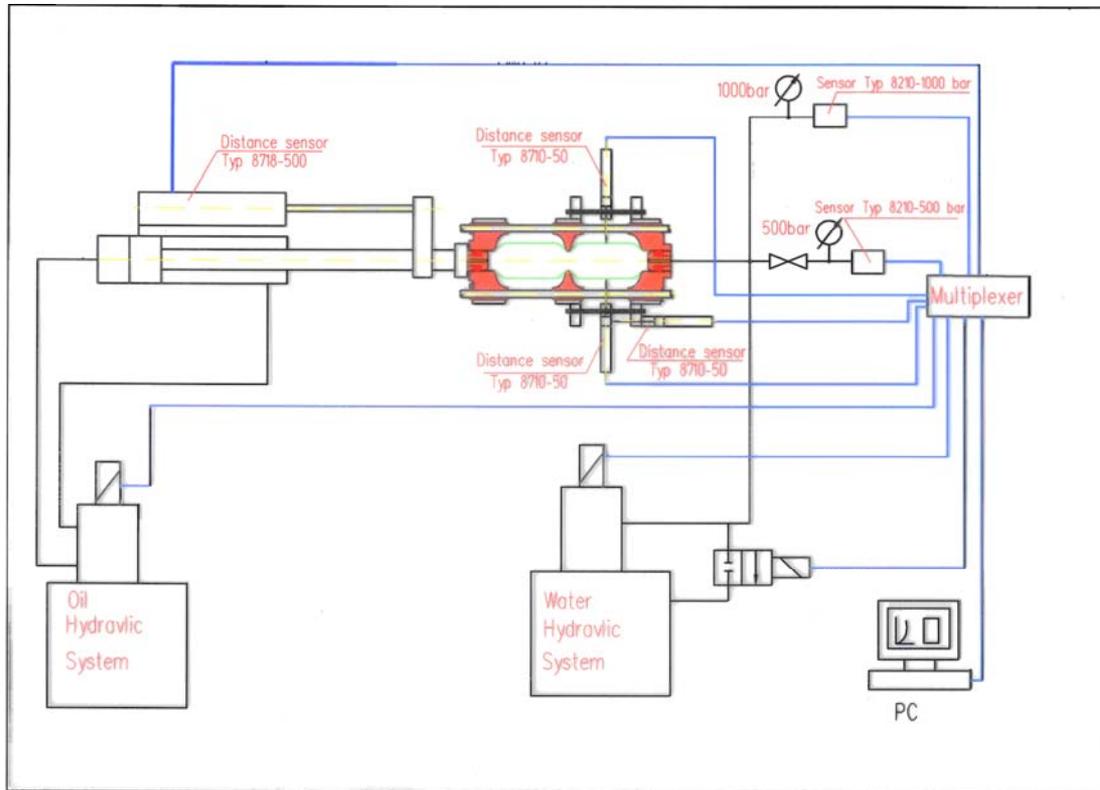
Alternative Fabrication Techniques

Besides the “standard” cavity fabrication of producing niobium half cells and electron beam weld them into multi-cell cavities there exist alternative method:

- Spinning of multi-cells
- Hydroforming of multi-cells
- Use of composite material NbCu
- Thin film coating of Cu cavities

Hydroforming

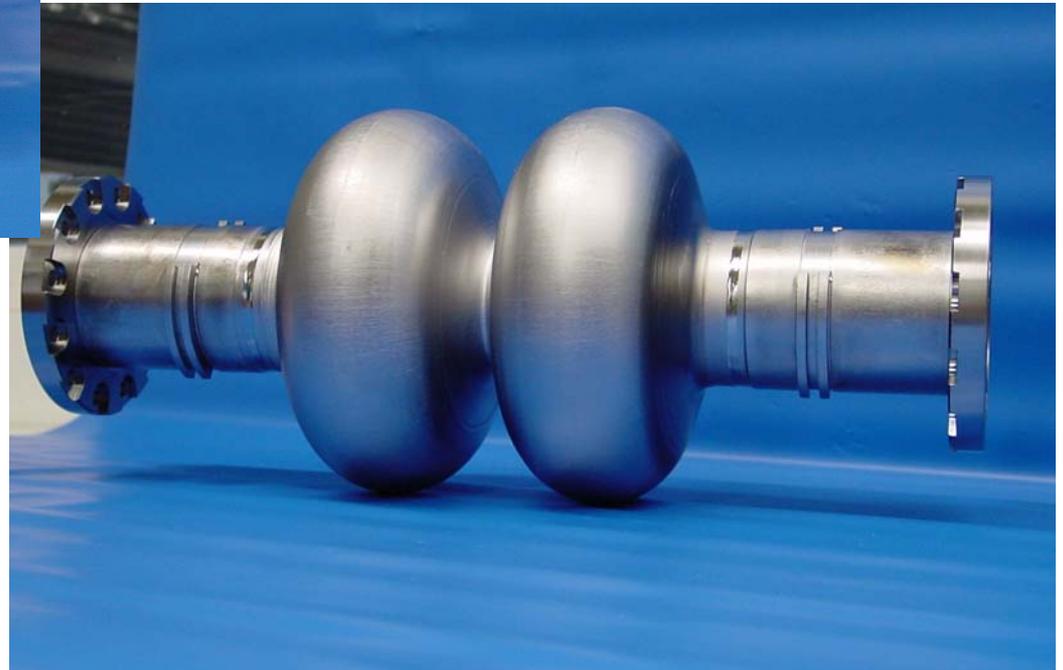
Hydro forming (W.Singer, DESY)



Hydroforming

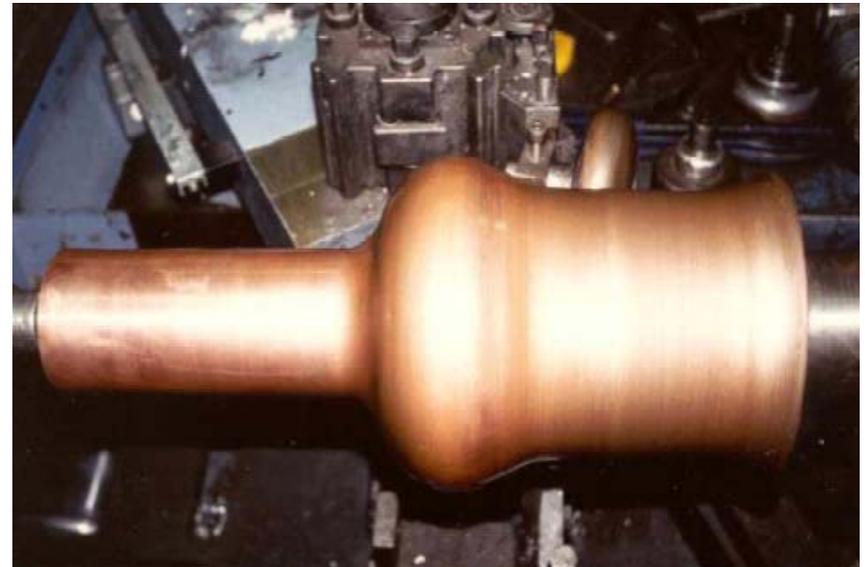
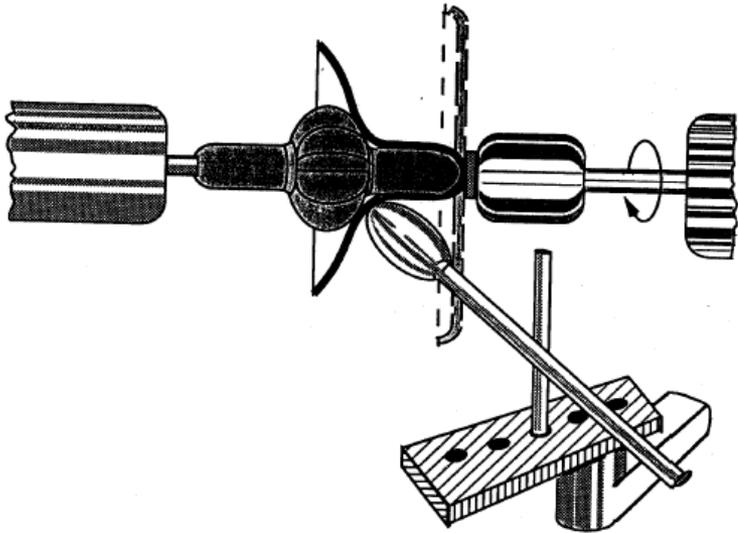


Hydroforming

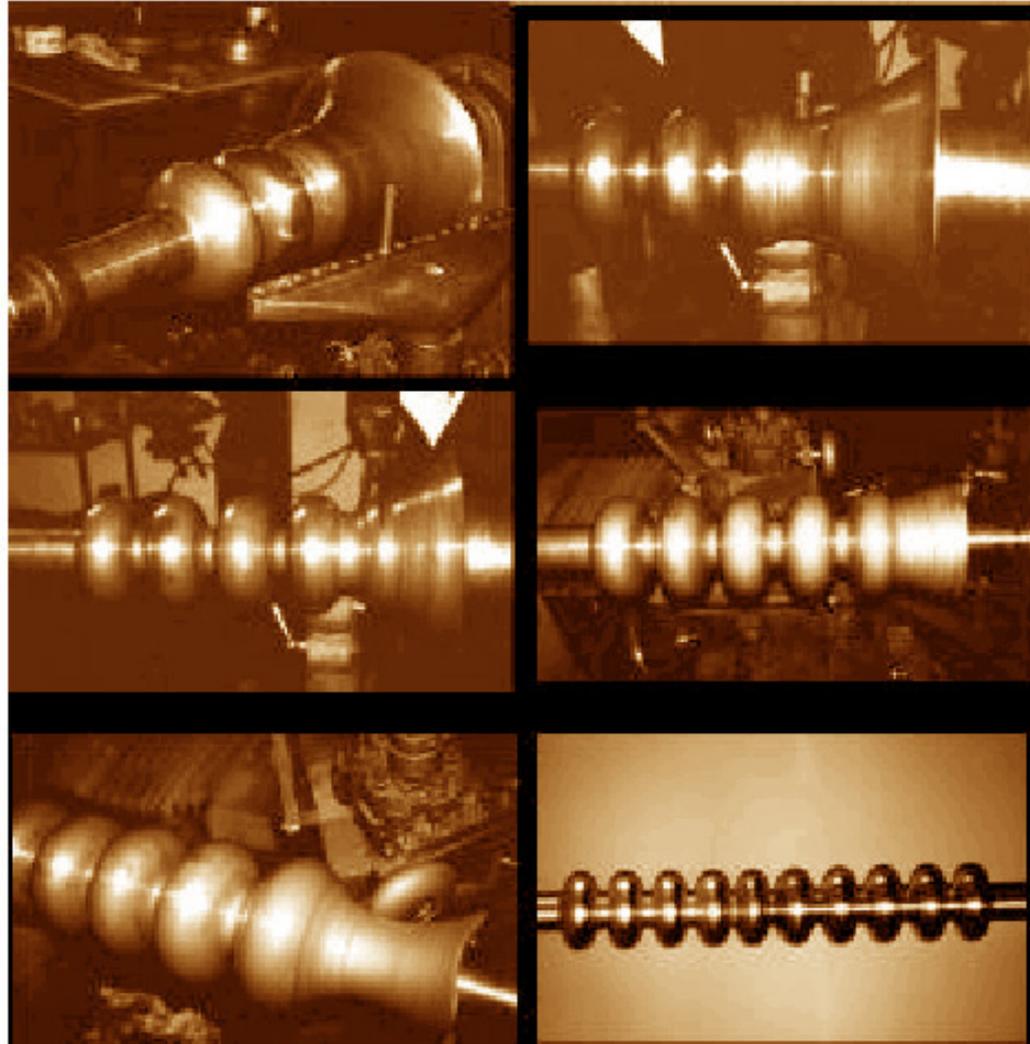


Spinning

Spinning (V.Palmieri, INFN Legnaro)



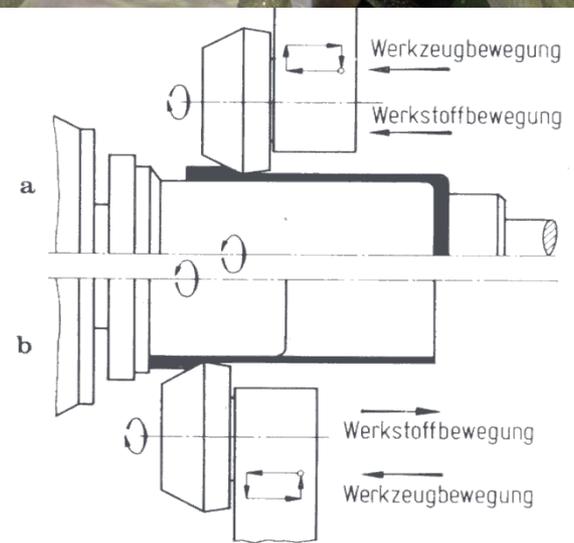
Spinning



Tube Forming



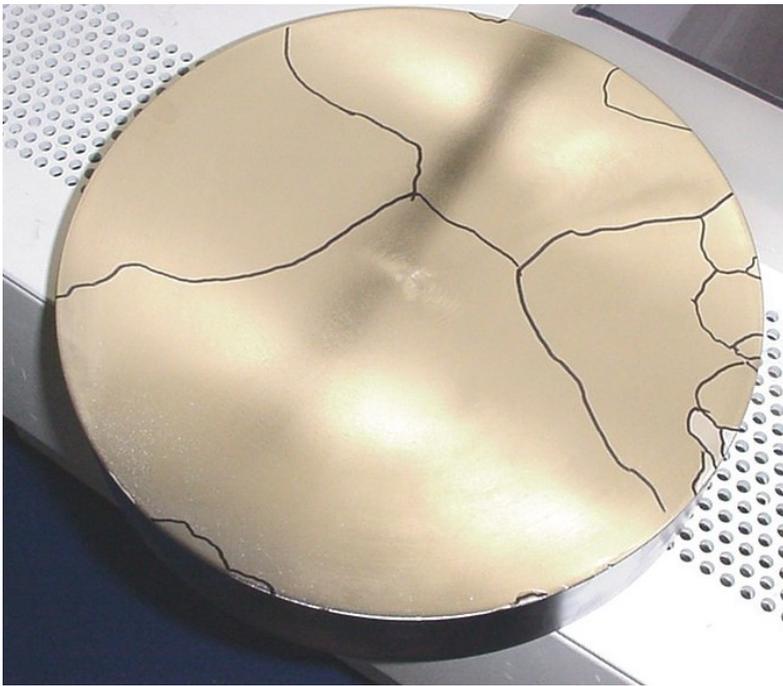
Flow forming over a cylindrical mandrel with three work rollers allows to produce long and very precise tubes from thick walled cylindrical part. After optimization of several parameters shiny Nb surface and small wall thickness variations (less than $\pm 0,1$ mm) have been achieved.



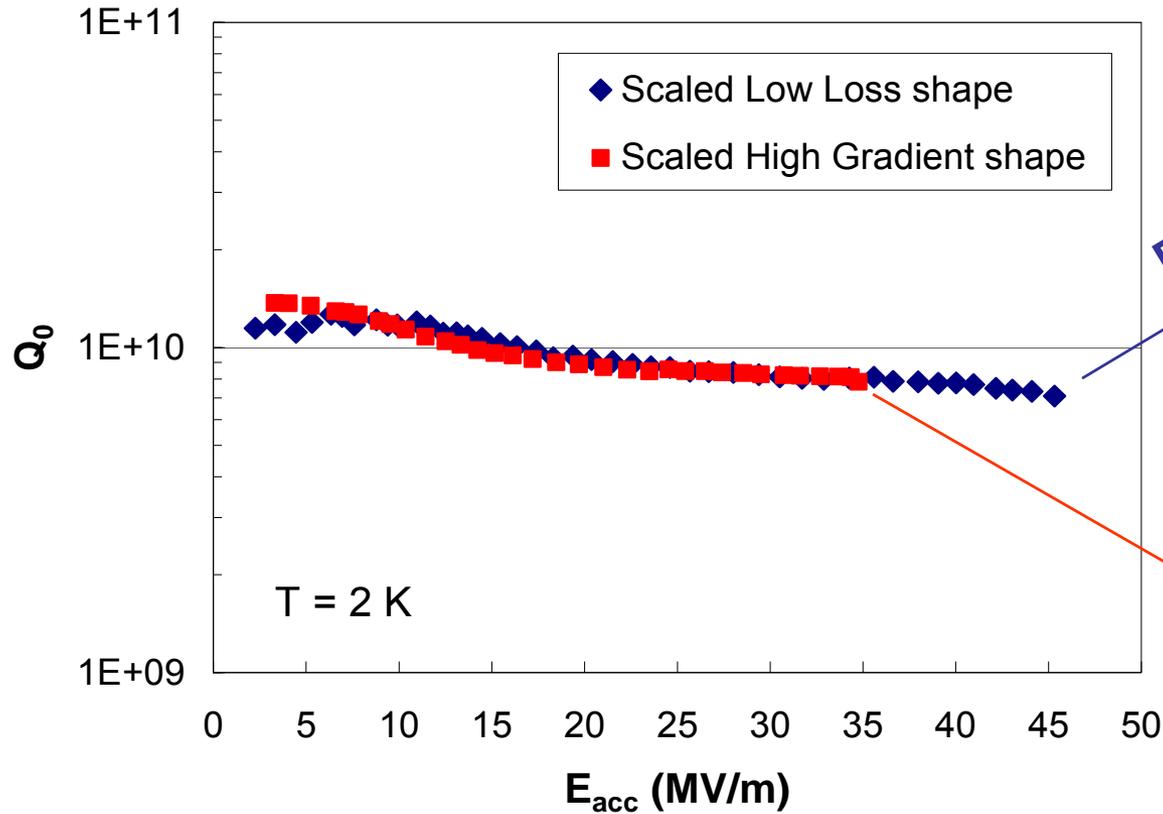
CBMM Niobium: large grain and single crystal

RRR value: ~300

Ta content: ~500 ppm



Single crystal cavities



$B_{p,max} = 160\text{ mT}$

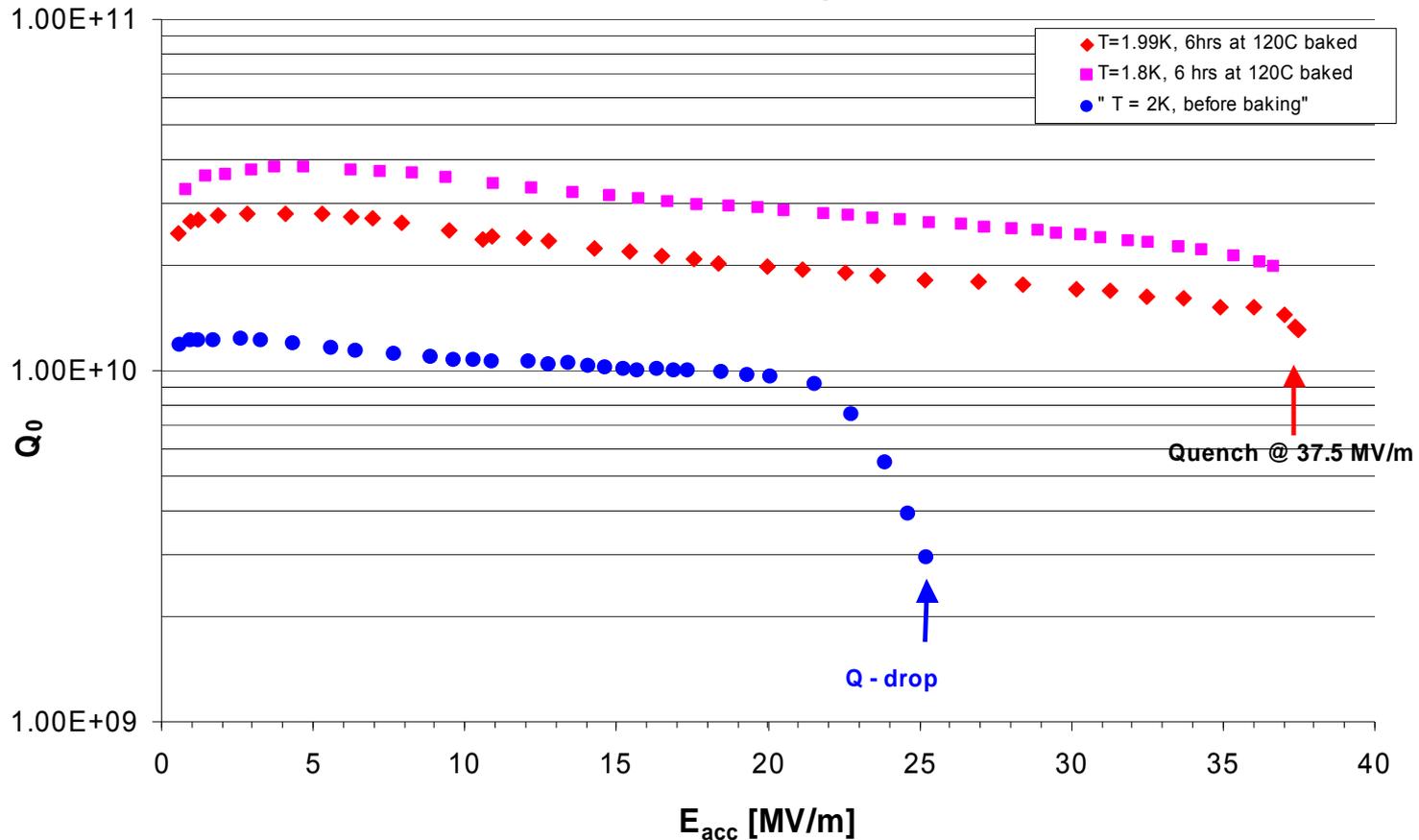


$B_{p,max} = 150\text{ mT}$



Single crystal cavity

Single Crystal DESY Cavity, Heraeus Niobium 112 micron bcp 1:1:2



Potential Benefits of Single Crystal Nb

- Reduced cost
- Comparable performance of fine grain niobium
- Very smooth surfaces with BCP, no EP necessary
- Better cleaning (FE reduction?)
- Elimination of Q-drop with short baking times
- Less material QA (eddy current/squid scanning)
- Possibly very low residual resistance
 - Lower losses
 - Lower operating temperature
- Higher thermal stability (phonon peak)
- Good or better mechanical performance

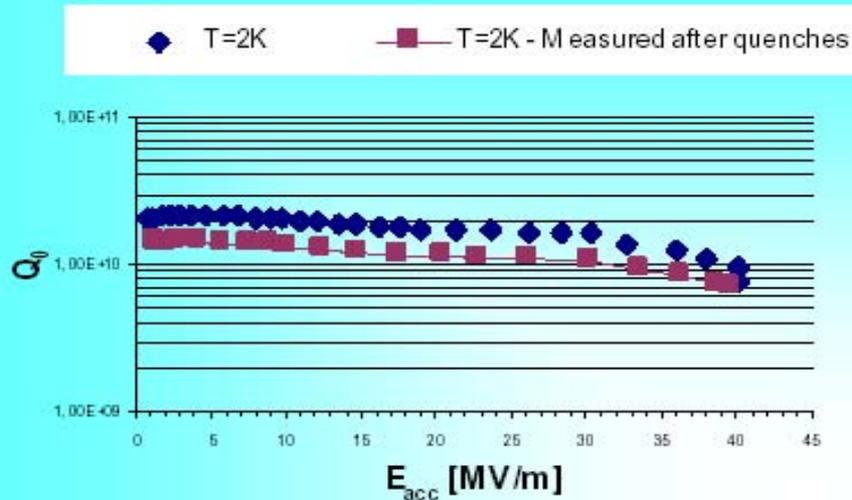
Nb/Cu clad Material

Advantages

- cost effective: allows saving a lot of Nb (ca. 4 mm cavity wall has only ca. 1 mm of Nb and 3 mm Cu). Especially significant for large projects like ILC
- bulk Nb microstructure and properties (the competing sputtering technique does not have such advantages)
- the treatment of the bulk Nb BCP, EP, annealing at 800°C, bake out at 150°C, HPR, HPP can be applied (excluding only post purification at 1400°C).
- high thermal conductivity of Cu helps for thermal stabilization
- stiffening against Lorentz - force detuning and microphonics can be easily done by increasing of the thickness of Cu layer.
- fabrication by seamless technique allows elimination of the critical for the performance welds especially on equator

W. Singer SRF 2005

Nb/Cu clad Material



NbCu cavities hydroformed from explosively bonded tubes at DESY.

NbCu single cell cavity INC2 produced at DESY by hydroforming from explosively bonded tube. Preparation and HF tests at Jeff. Lab: 180 μm BCP, annealing at 800°C, baking at 140°C for 30 hours, HPR (P. Kneisel).

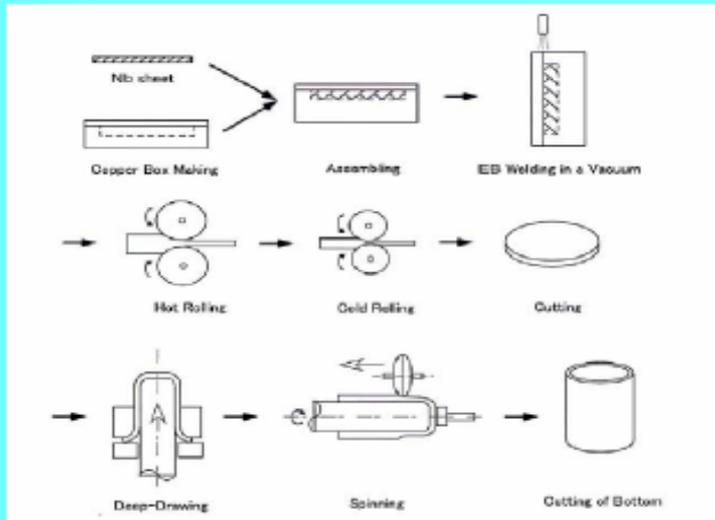
Difficult to get reproducibly high bonding quality. Hot bonding fabrication procedure of NbCu tubes seems to be more promising

40 MV/m without EP

W. Singer SRF 2005

Nb/Cu clad Material

- Hot bonded NbCu tubes

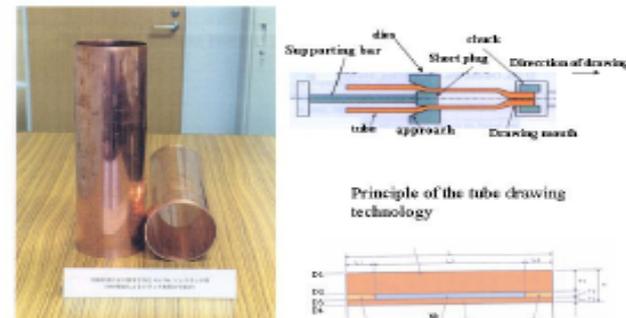


Fabrication principle of sandwiched hot rolled Cu-Nb-Cu tube (KEK and Nippon Steel Co.)

Fabrication principle of sandwiched coextruded Cu-Nb-Cu tube (KEK)



Hot roll bonded Cu-Nb-Cu tube produced at Nippon Steel Co.



Cu-Nb-Cu Sandwiched Tubes (KEK)

W. Singer SRF 2005

Nb/Cu clad Material

Nb/Cu Clad Seamless Tubes and Cutting



Nb/Cu clad Material

Problems

- Possibility of leaky welds because of Cu contamination
- Nb/Cu cavities still quench, resulting in Q-degradations
- Cooldown needs to be very uniform because of thermo – currents
- Cooldown of cryomodules would need modification
- Cracks sometimes appear in iris region during fabrication
- No industrialization efforts yet

Thin Niobium Films

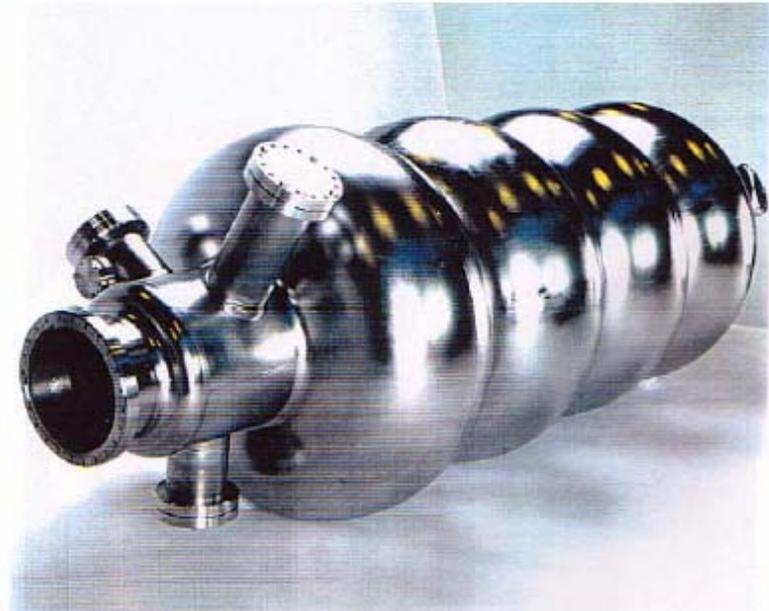
... .. US-CERN-JAPAN-RUSSIA Accelerator School, Nov. 6-14, 2002, Long Beach, California, USA
Niobium Film Coated Cavities

Developed in CERN for LEP II Superconducting RF cavities

$f=350$ MHz \longrightarrow big cavity (diameter :780mm) \longrightarrow Reduce Nb material for cost down



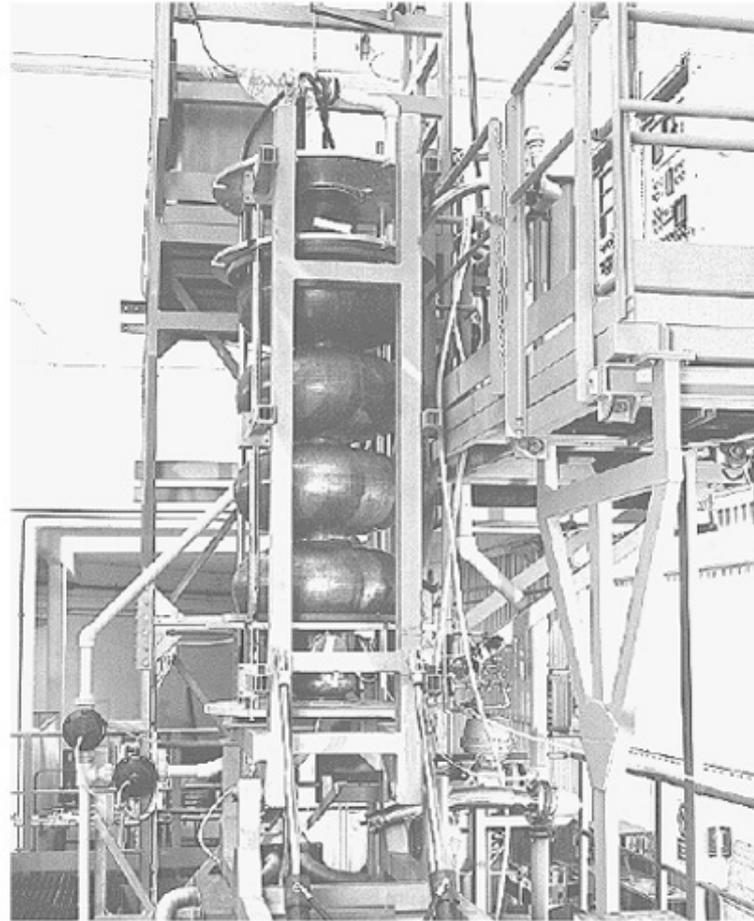
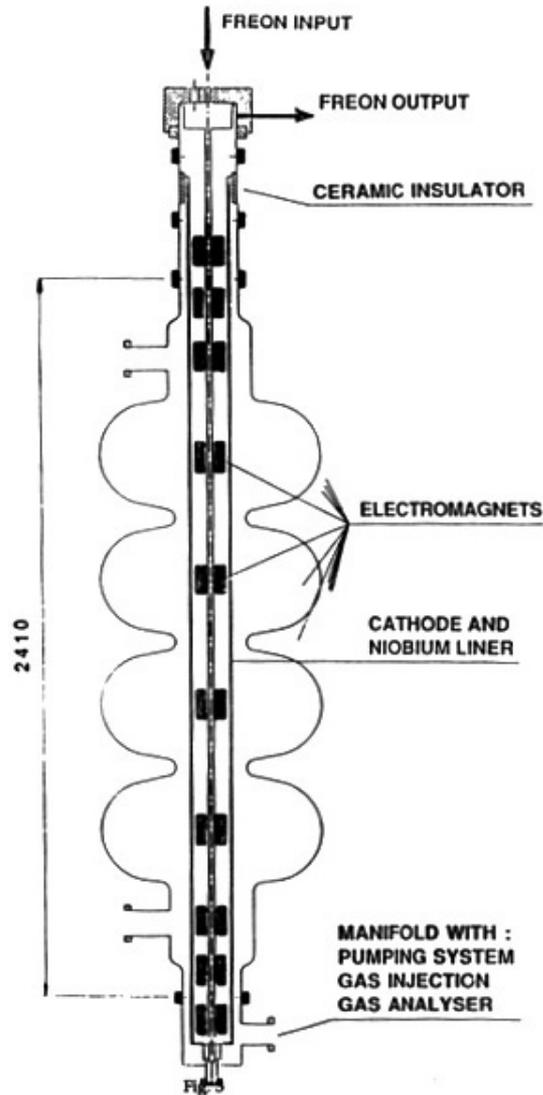
Copper half cell for LEP-II SC cavity



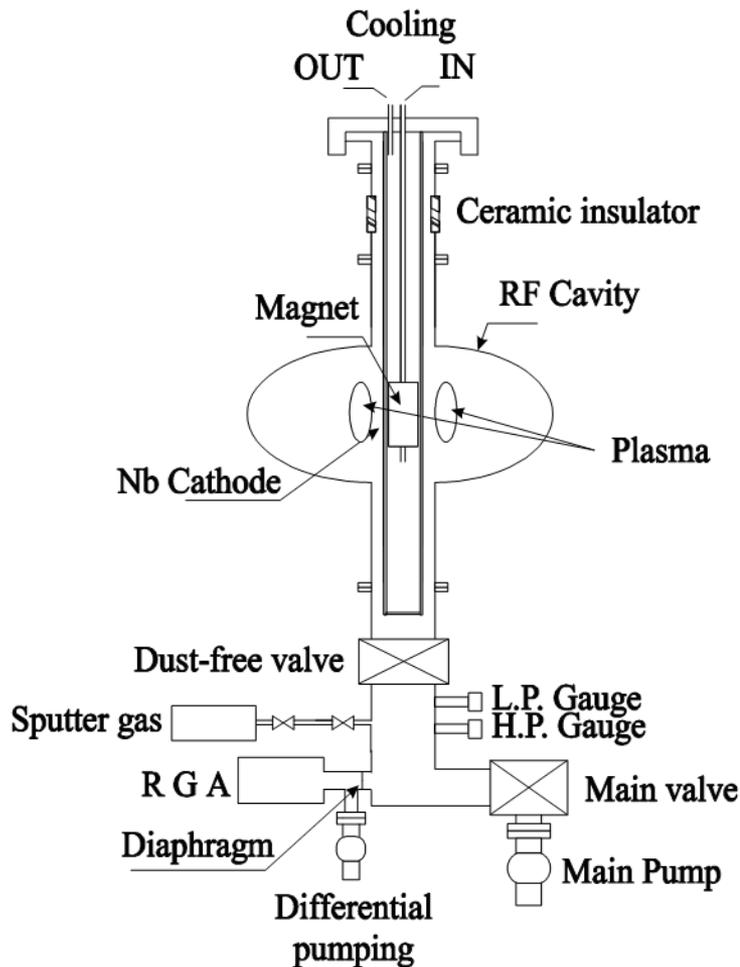
350MHz 4-cell Nb bulk cavity (CERN)

Niobium on Copper Cavities

Fabrication



Nb Sputtering



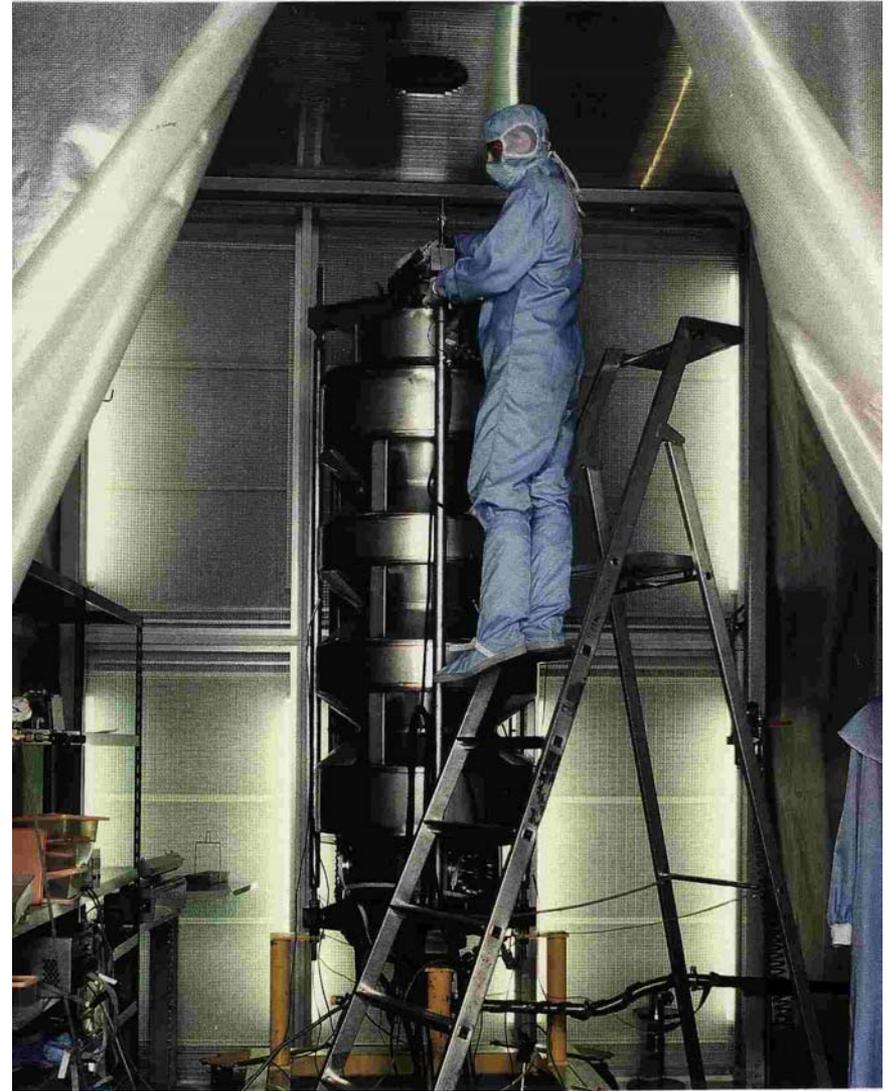
Sputtering parameters for 1.5 GHz cavities

- Discharge current stabilized at 3 A.
- Sputter gas pressure of 1.5×10^{-3} mbar, corresponding to ~ 360 V.
- Coating temperature is 150 °C.
- Thickness: 1.5 μm

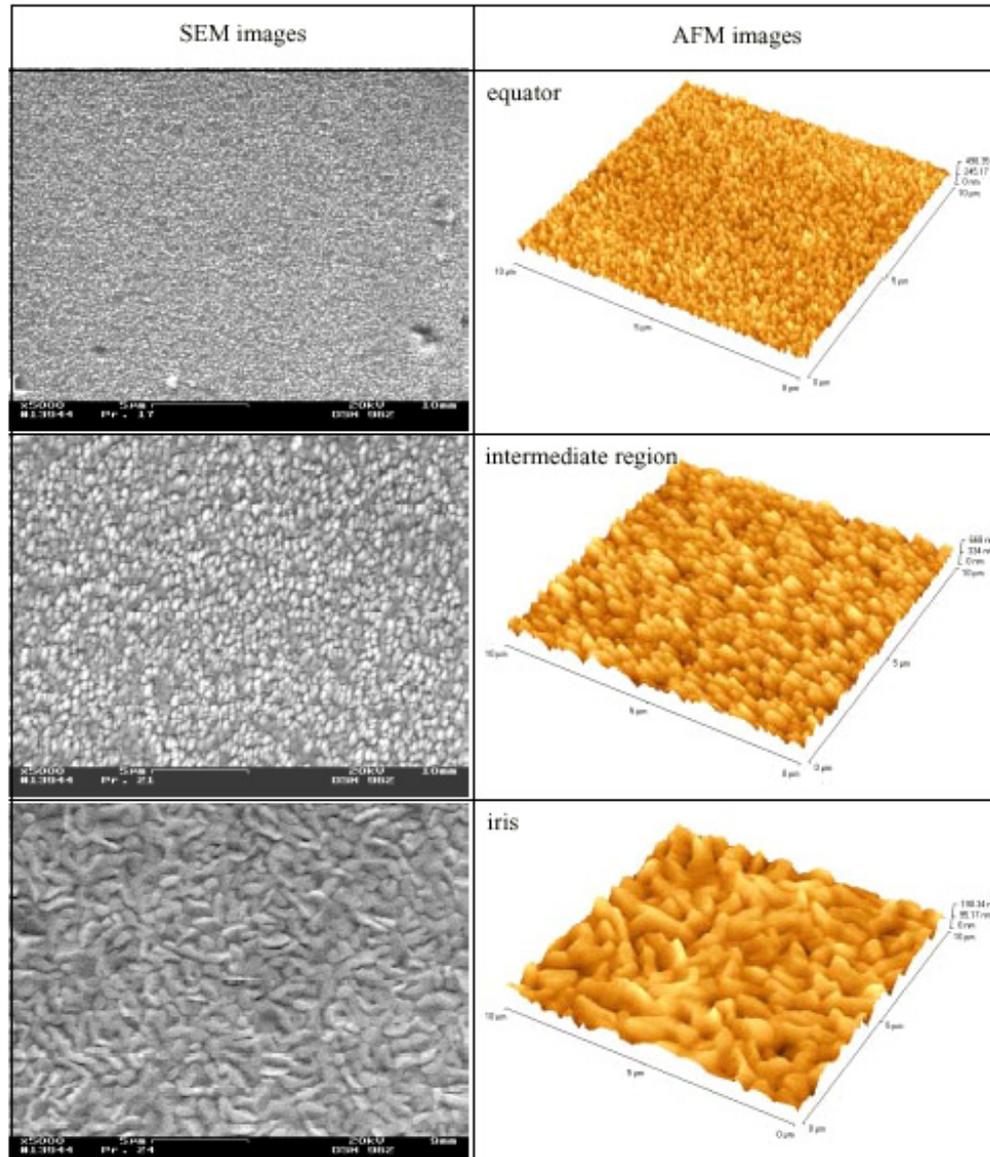
Film characteristics (same as for LEP):

- RRR: 11.5 ± 0.1
- Argon content: 435 ± 70 ppm
- Grain size: 110 ± 20 nm
- T_c : 9.51 ± 0.01 K

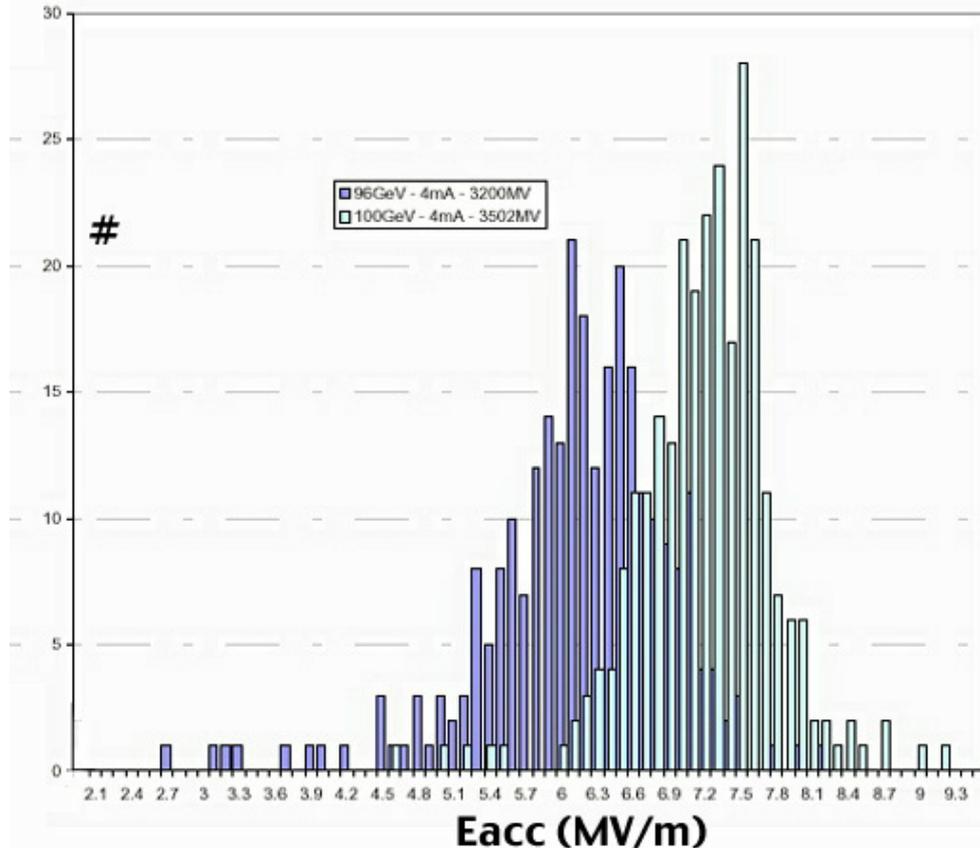
Nb Sputtering



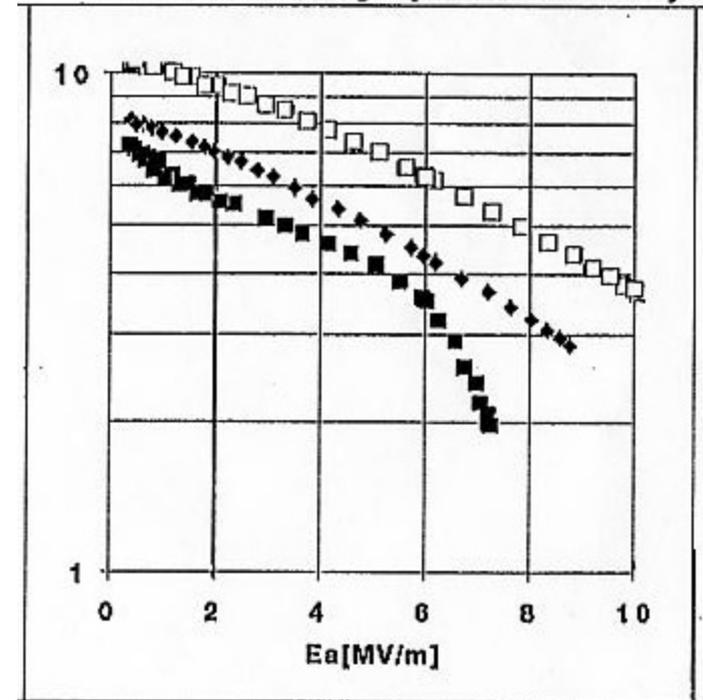
Surface Structure of Nb/Cu



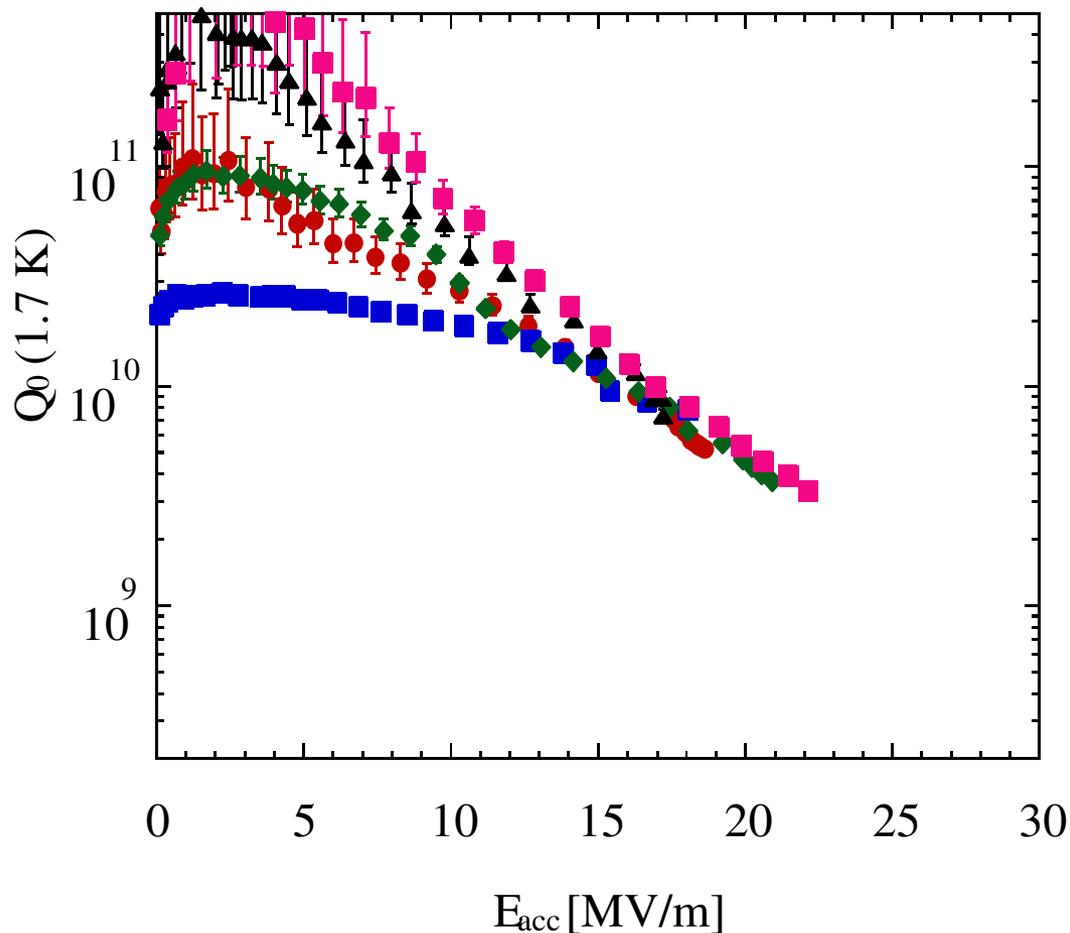
Performance of LEP Cavities



Q [1E9] vs Ea [MV/m]
of accepted Nb/Cu cavities
from Industry (vertical test)



Some results at high field (1.5 GHz cavities)



Electropolished
cavities

Coatings performed
using krypton

Rinsed with
upgraded HPWR
installation

Max RF power:
100W

Small cryostat:
60l of liquid He

Cu Plasma-Sprayed on Nb



Experiences on cavity fabrication

Deep drawing:

1. Reproducibility depends on tool design and tool material
→ specification – investigation in tooling
2. Dependency on Nb supplier found
3. Different shape from ingot to ingot found (Hardness / grain size)
→ Better quality control + specification → reproducibility

Measurements:

1. Rf measurement of cups / dumb bells → Time consuming
2. Mechanical measurements of sub units → Time consuming
(F part HOM tube / flanges /dumb-bell 3 D measurement complex
→ combination of mechanical and rf measurement possible ?
(3 D imaging of units)

Fabrication:

1. Sequences need to be adopted to the company hardware
2. Companies need to be trained an stay trained
→ learning curve to stable production
3. Control on subcontractors
4. Dependency on major products of company → training of personal