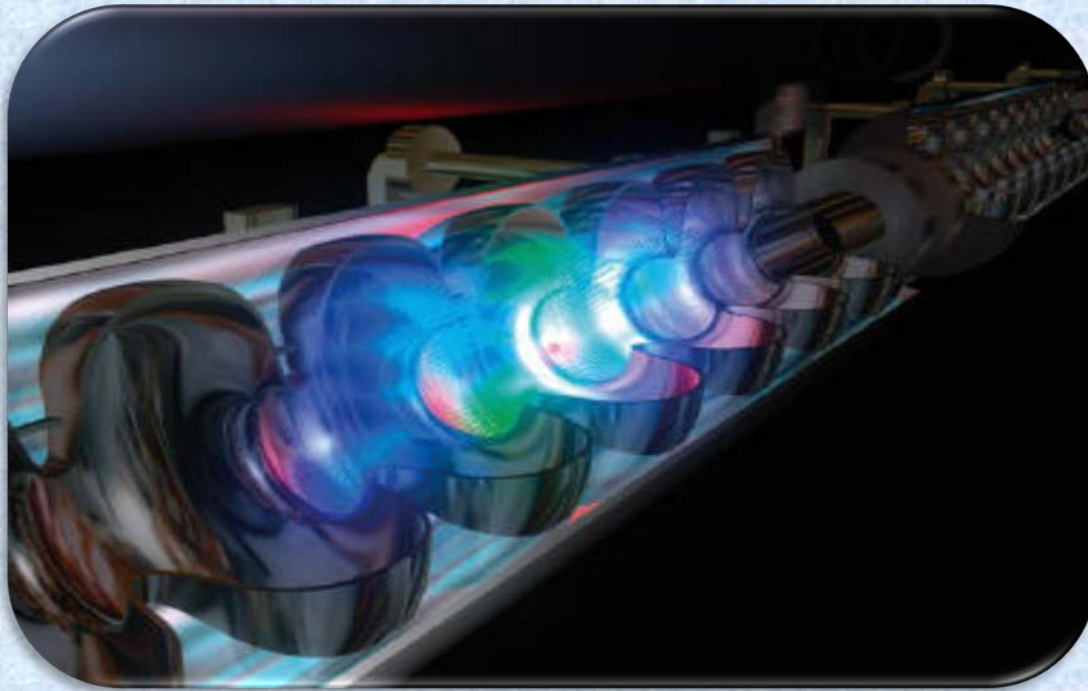


# Superconducting RF cavities Fabrication



**Avinash Puntambekar**

Head, SCRF Cavity Development Section  
Proton LINAC & SC Cavity Division  
RRCAT

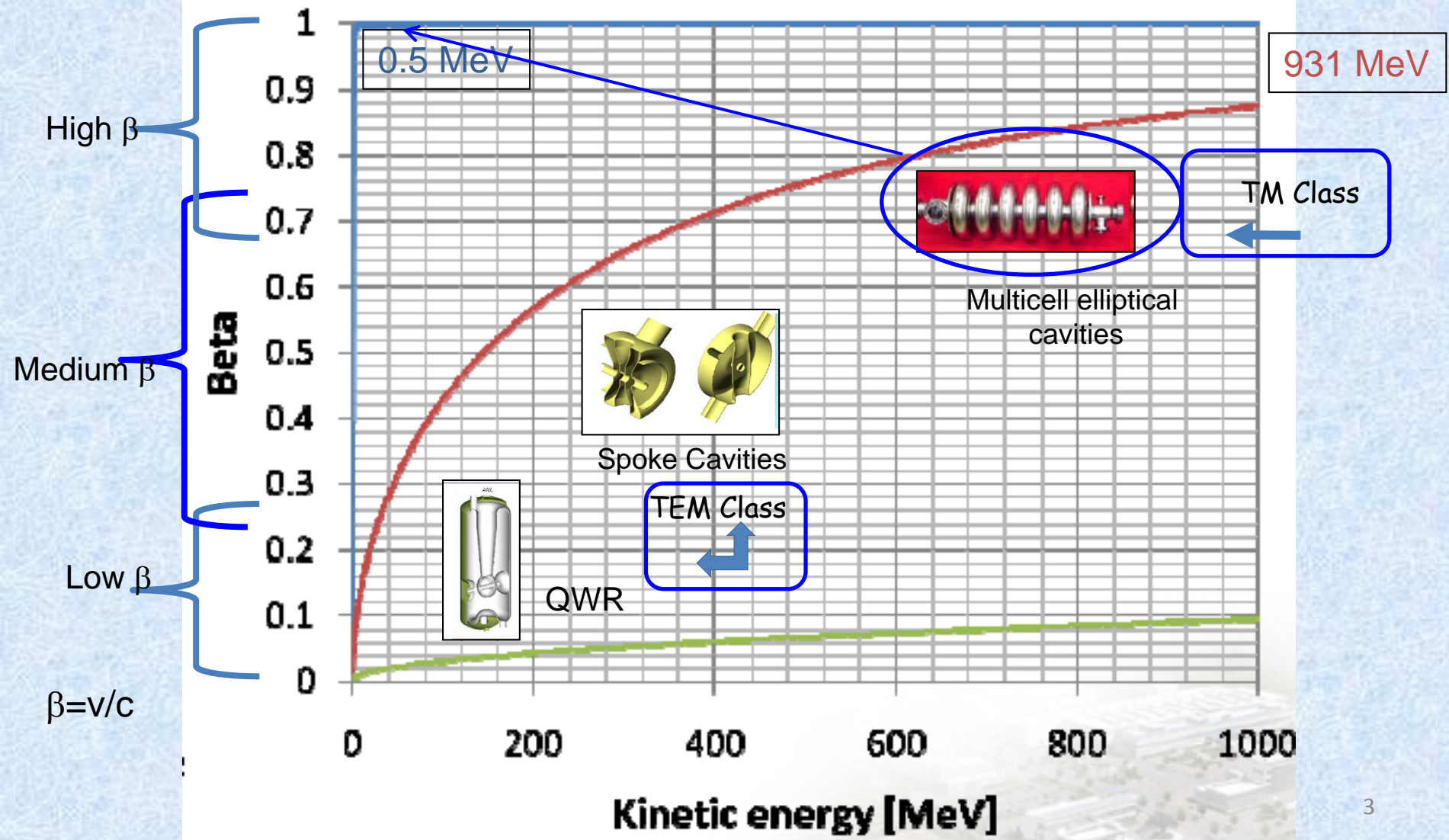
DAE-BRNS Workshop on “Technology Development of SCRF cavities”  
18-21 July, 2017 , RRCAT Indore

# Out line

- Introduction
- Types of SCRF cavities
  - Low, Medium and High Beta
- SCRF cavity manufacturing challenges
- High  $\beta$  Elliptical SCRF cavity fabrication techniques
- High  $\beta$  Elliptical SCRF Cavity fabrication
  - Single cell cavity
    - Fabrication, Inspection and Qualification
  - Multi-cell cavity
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- Summary

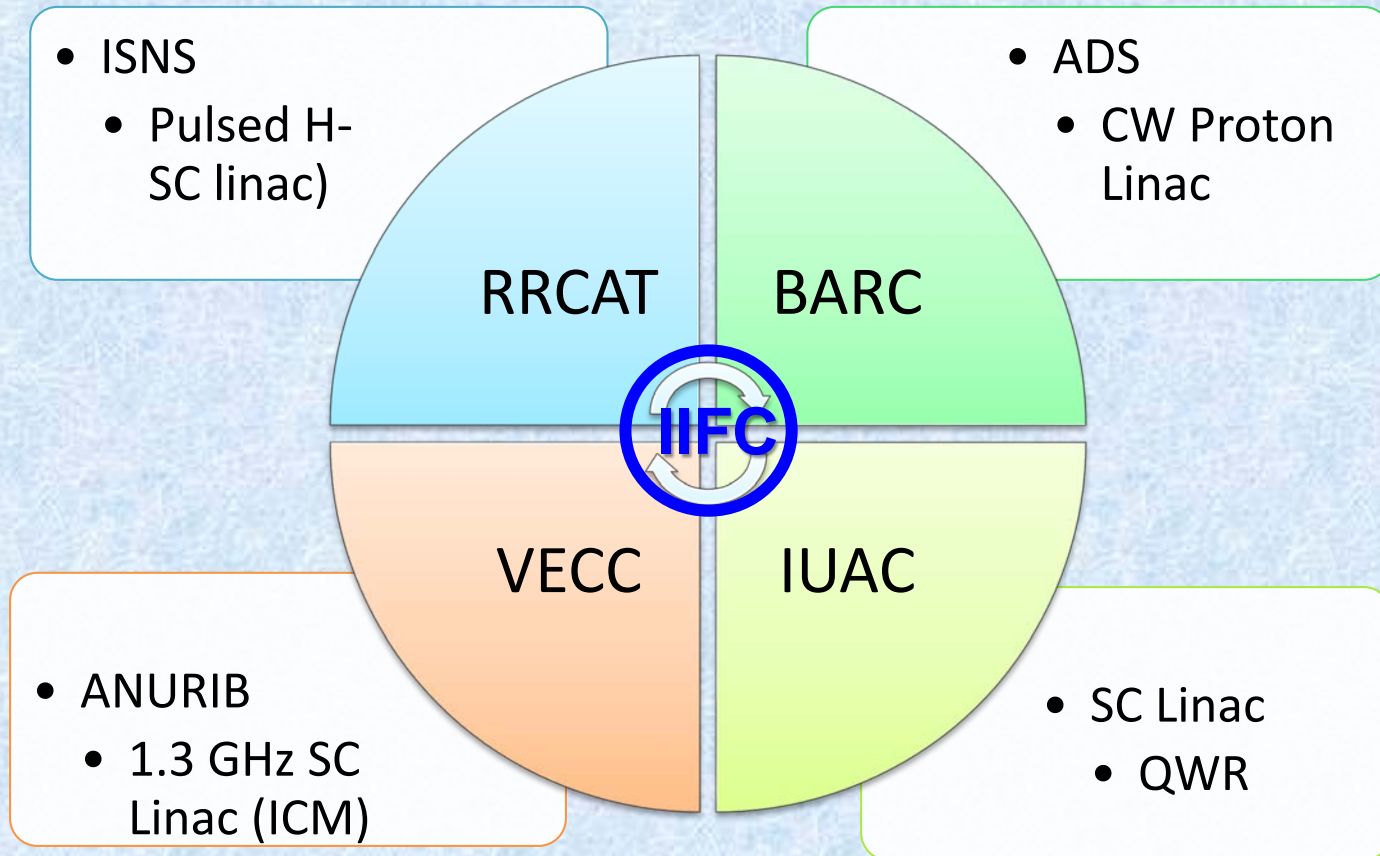
# Choice of accelerating cavity as a function of Accelerator Energy and Beta

— Electron — Proton — Uranium





# Commonality of interest in Superconducting RF Science and technology between four major institute working in SC accelerator activity



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# SCRF cavity manufacturing challenges

The challenge of SCRF cavity fabrication lies in the fact that one has to **mechanically** fabricate an **electrical** structure at 300 K with precise control of EM field having working temperature of 2K for **Physics** application.

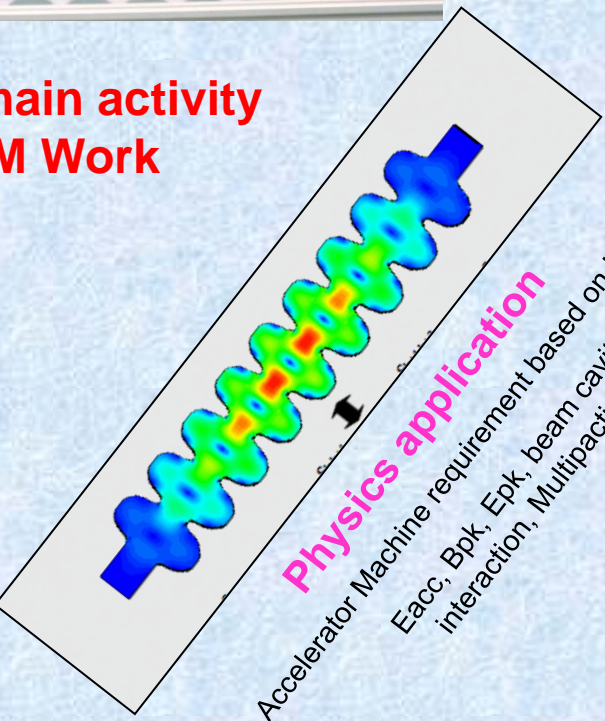
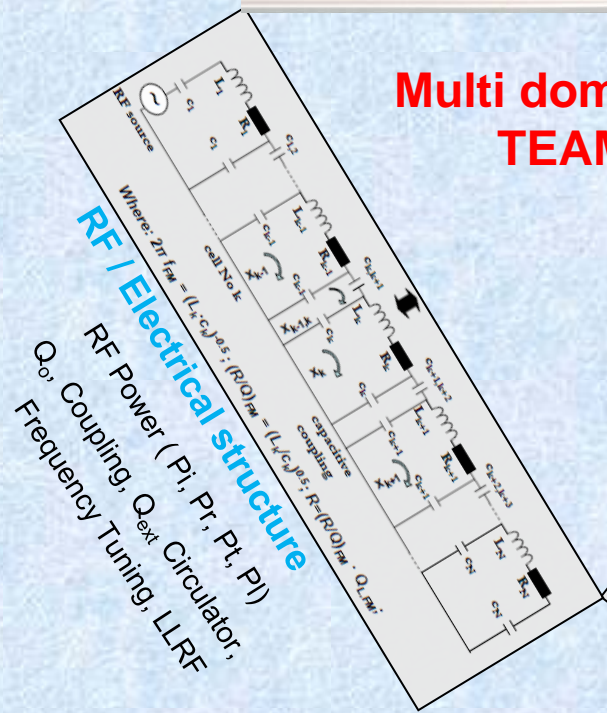
## Mechanical Fabrication

Engineering design,  
Fabrication (Forming,  
Machining, Welding)



Processing  
Cryogenics, 4.2 K, 2 K, LHe, LN<sub>2</sub>  
VTS, HTS

**Multi domain activity  
TEAM Work**



A proper exposure and understanding of all related science and technology is a must for good cavity Fabrication.



# SCRF cavity manufacturing challenges

The SCRF cavities are made of material which is costlier than Silver !  
 Working temp. 300 K , operating temperature 2K !!  
 whose performance is affected by micron size impurities !!!  
 High Q 😊 but operating bandwidth very very small 😞!!!!

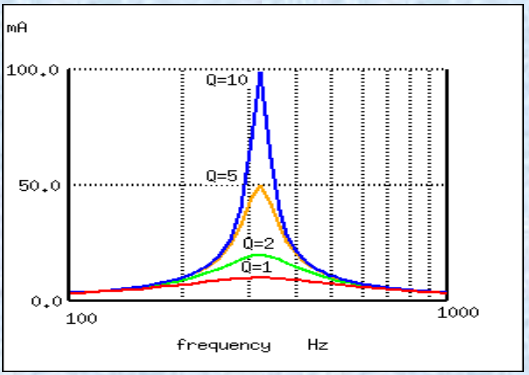


SCRF Cavity

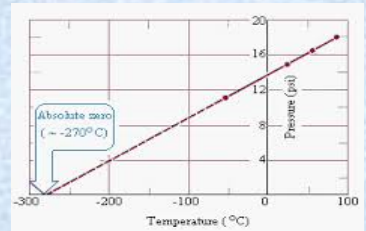


Nb Jewelry

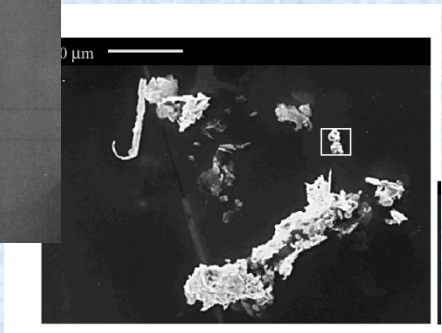
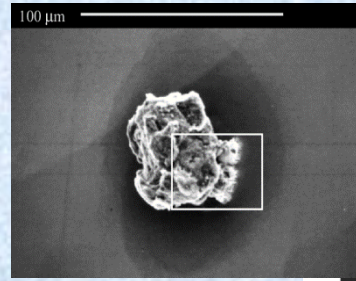
RRR Nb ~ Rs. 60000 per Kg  
 Silver ~ 40000 per Kg



Very low operating band width due to very very high Q



Change in dimensions and Frequency issues



Micron size defects Acting as poison for the cavity performance

CASE STUDY : 1.3 GHz SCRF cavity

$$\Delta f \text{ (bandwidth)} = 1.3 \times 10^9 / 3 \times 10^6 = 430 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\Delta f / \Delta l = 315 \text{ KHz/mm} \rightarrow 315 \text{ Hz/}\mu\text{m}$$

Mechanical bandwidth  
 1.36 μm !!!

CASE STUDY 650 MHz SCRF cavity

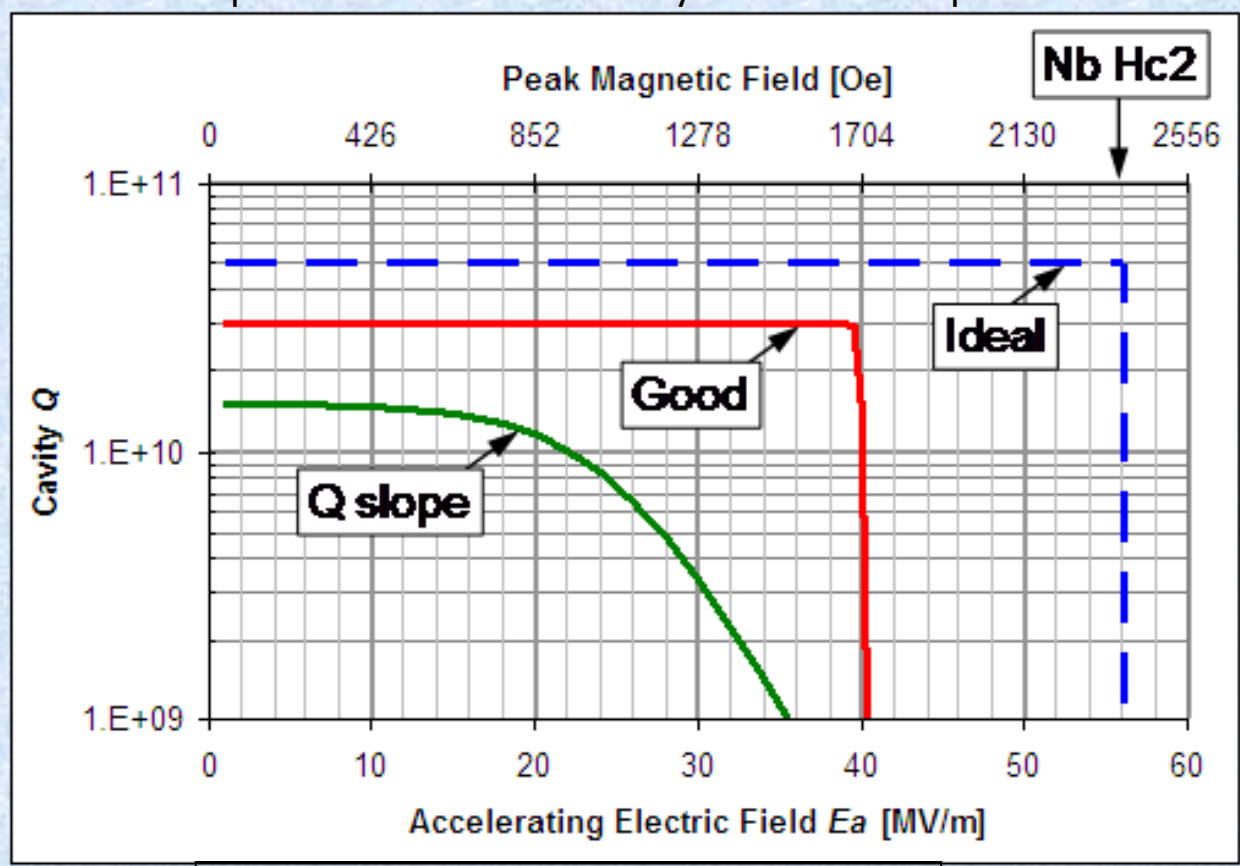
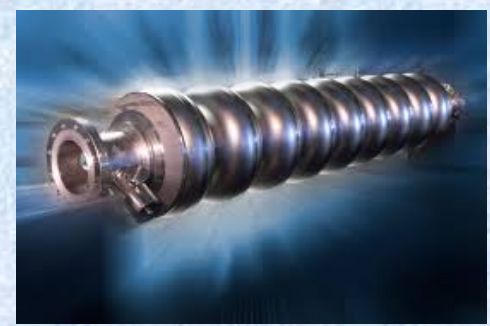
$$\Delta f \text{ (bandwidth)} = 650 \times 10^6 / 1.1 \times 10^7 = 60 \text{ Hz}$$

$$\Delta f / \Delta l = 150 \text{ KHz/mm} \rightarrow 150 \text{ Hz/}\mu\text{m}$$

Mechanical bandwidth  
 0.4 μm !!!

# SCRF cavity manufacturing challenges

The SCRF cavities are made of material which is costlier than Silver !  
 whose operating temperature is close to Absolute Zero !!  
 And operating frequency bandwidth few ppm !!!  
 whose performance is affected by micron size impurities !!!!



Typical Performance curve of SCRF cavity



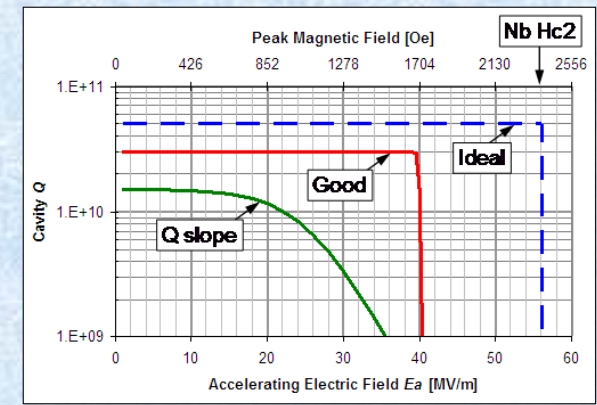
# SCRF cavity manufacturing challenges

The SCRF cavities are made of material which is costlier than Silver !  
 whose operating temperature is close to Absolute Zero !!  
 And operating frequency bandwidth few ppm !!!  
 whose performance is affected by micron size impurities !!!!

To make the SCRF cavity perform close to ideal performance, its manufacturing and processing requires a highly specialized technology.

- Highly controlled quality of material
- Mechanical & Electrical –RRR (Chemical)
- Ultra clean handling of parts during all manufacturing stages
- Special forming, welding techniques, machining difficulties (soft)
- Stringent control on mech. dimension to control Frequency
- Special processing

EP, BCP, CBP, HT, HPR, Clean room (Class 100 & 10)



Any type of non conformity in the manufacturing and/or processing can be found only after final testing at 2 K. By this time there is substantial value addition to the cavity and hence too late to know that.

There are very few (< 10) SCRF cavity manufacturing companies all around the world. Till today the cavities are made “ **Built to print** ” not “ **Built to performance** ”.

# Out line

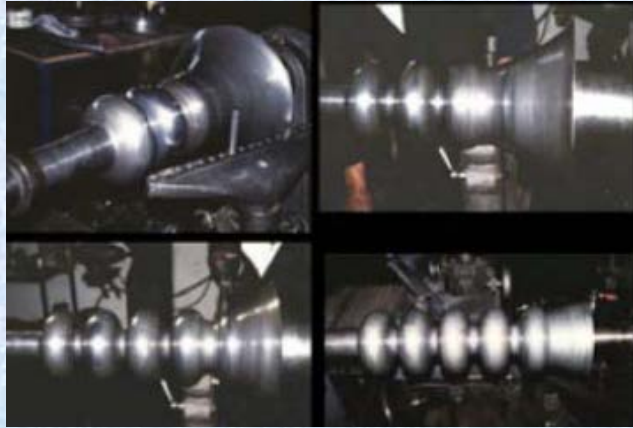
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# High $\beta$ Elliptical Cavity manufacturing technique

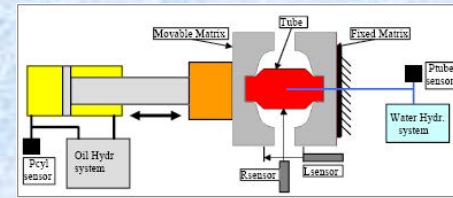
- Bulk Niobium
  - Seamless
    - Spinning
    - Hydroforming
  - Seam welded
    - E B Welding
    - Laser Welding
- Thin Film
  - Deposition of Nb film on the copper surface
- Additive manufacturing



# High $\beta$ Elliptical Cavity manufacturing technique



Spinning

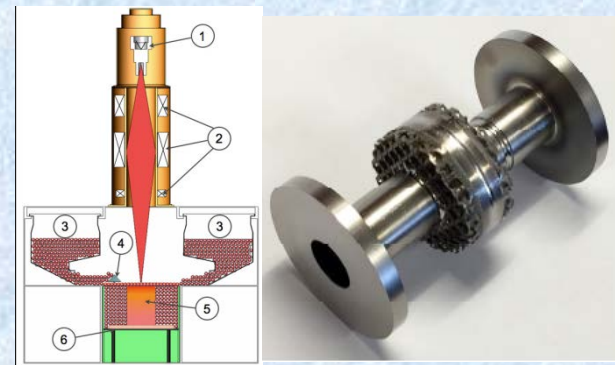


DESY hydroforming machine  
HYDROFORMA

1.3 GHz Single-cell and Multi-cell cavities have been produced and have been tested to rated performance.



LEP NB coated Cu cavities  
15 MV/m @400 MHz



EB Additive manufacturing

# Technical requirements for welding of SCRF cavity

- SCRF cavities are made of high RRR Niobium made with impurities controlled to ppm level.
- Niobium has high reactivity with atmospheric agents above 200 °C.
- The melting point of Niobium is also high (> 2400 °C)
- Joints must also be vacuum leak tight at cryogenic working conditions.
- For the optimum RF performance the smoothness of joints is very critical.

Joining of high RRR Nb cavity using EB Welding in high vacuum ( <  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  mbar) is a qualified and approved method to meet these technical requirements.

- Close machining tolerance ( 50  $\mu$ m) required.
- Weld parameter development with minimum weld trials simulating thermal mass.
- Controlled and repeatable weld shrinkages.
- Weld joint should not be mechanically strong but also RF quality.
- Full penetration joints are the real nerve tester.



Major specification of machine

Beam power	15 kW ( 150 kV x 100 mA)
Inner size of chamber	3650 x 1500 x 1950 LxBxH mm <sup>3</sup>
Vacuum ready pressure	< 4x10 <sup>-4</sup> mbar in 15 minutes
Ready for welding pressure	< 2x10 <sup>-6</sup> mbar in 30 minutes
Online optics	With CCD camera and suitable illumination system
Rotary Manipulator	Dual spindle Rotary and Tilt rotary
CNC Control axis	7 axis ( 4 Mechanical + 3 electrical)

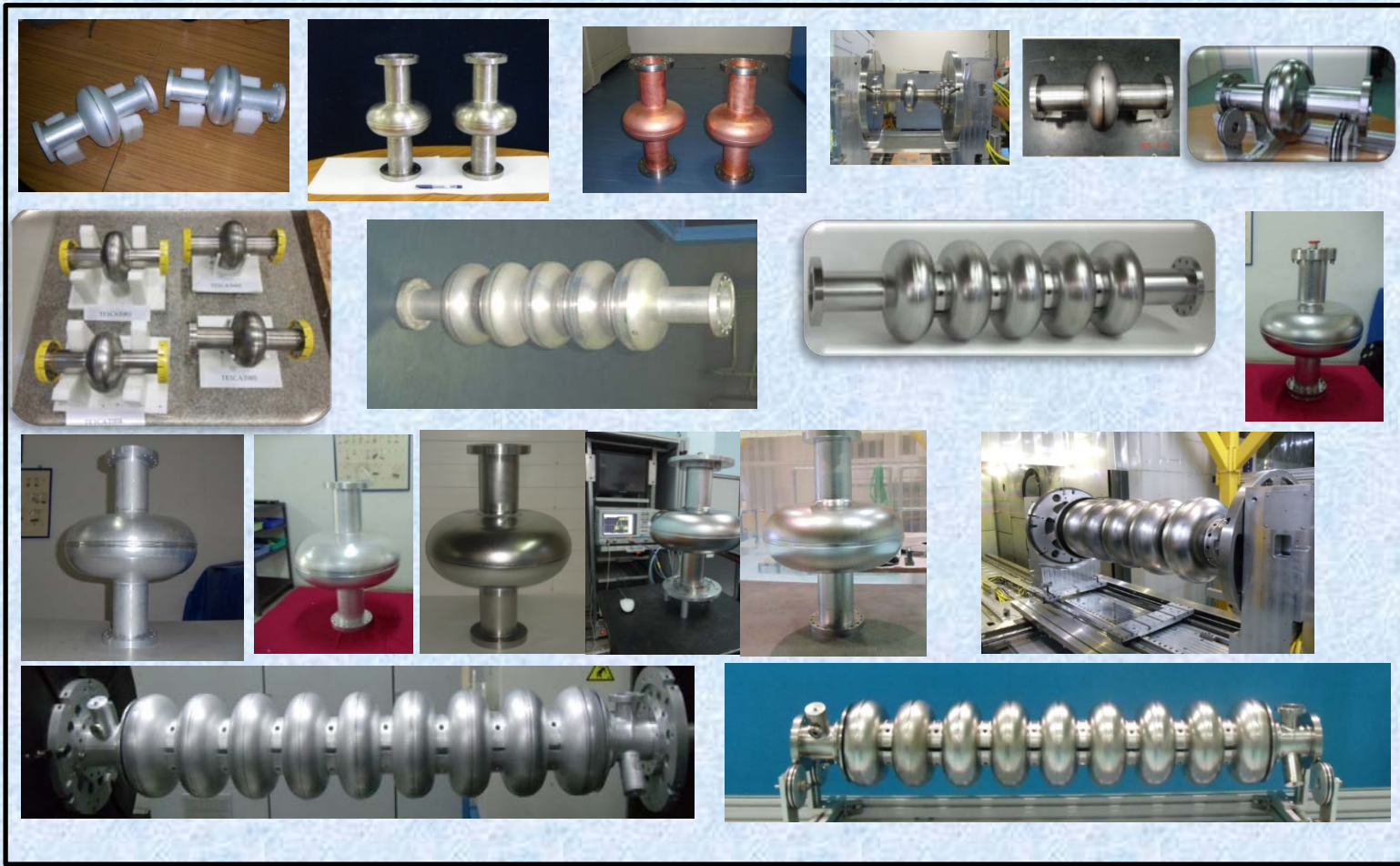


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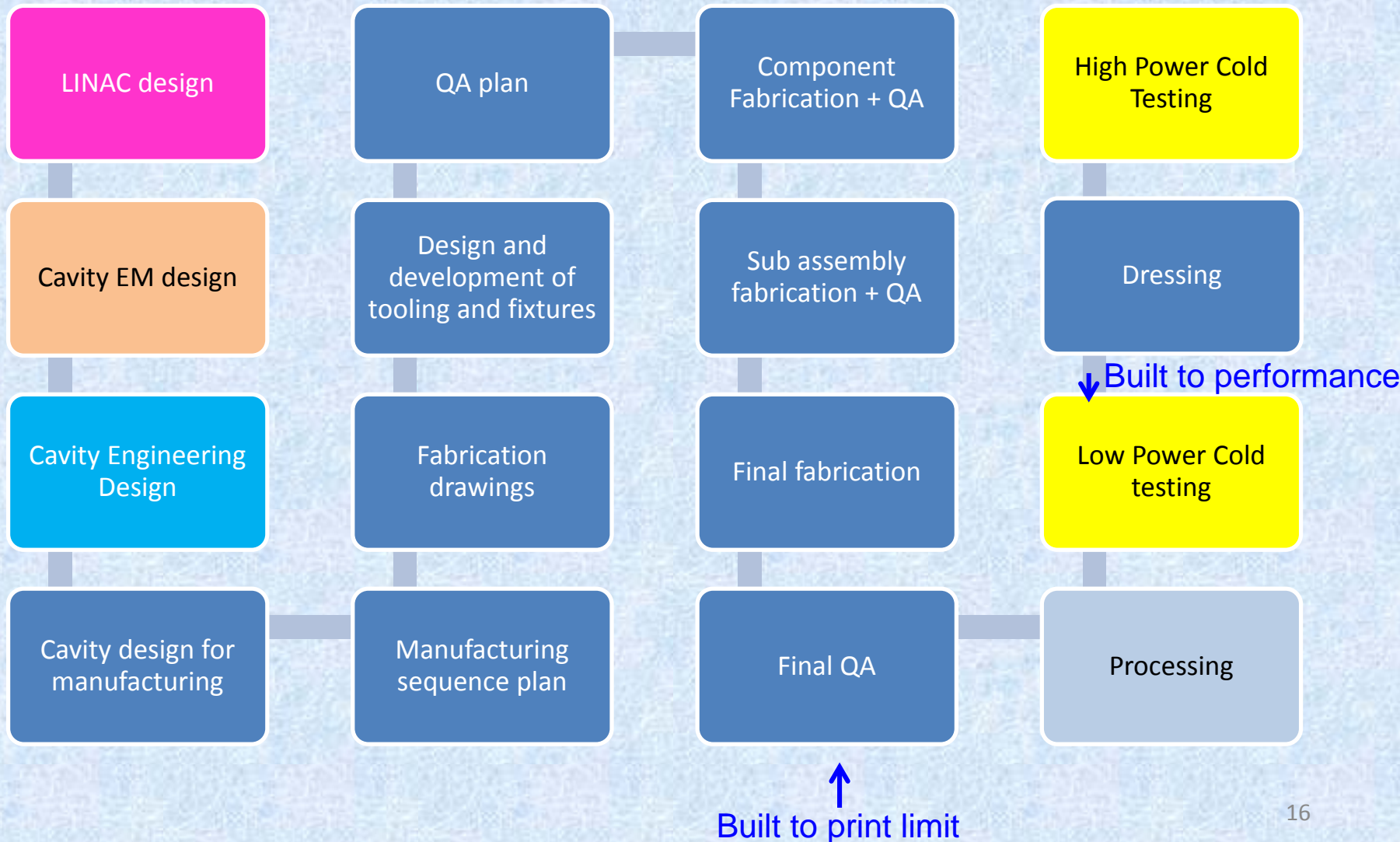


# SCRF cavities manufacturing activity at RRCAT



Galaxy of various 1.3 GHz and 650 MHz RF cavities made at RRCAT

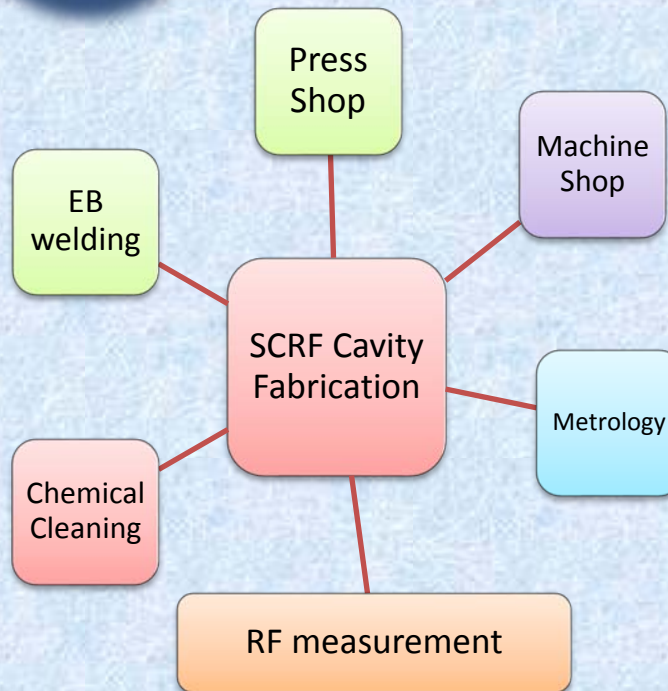
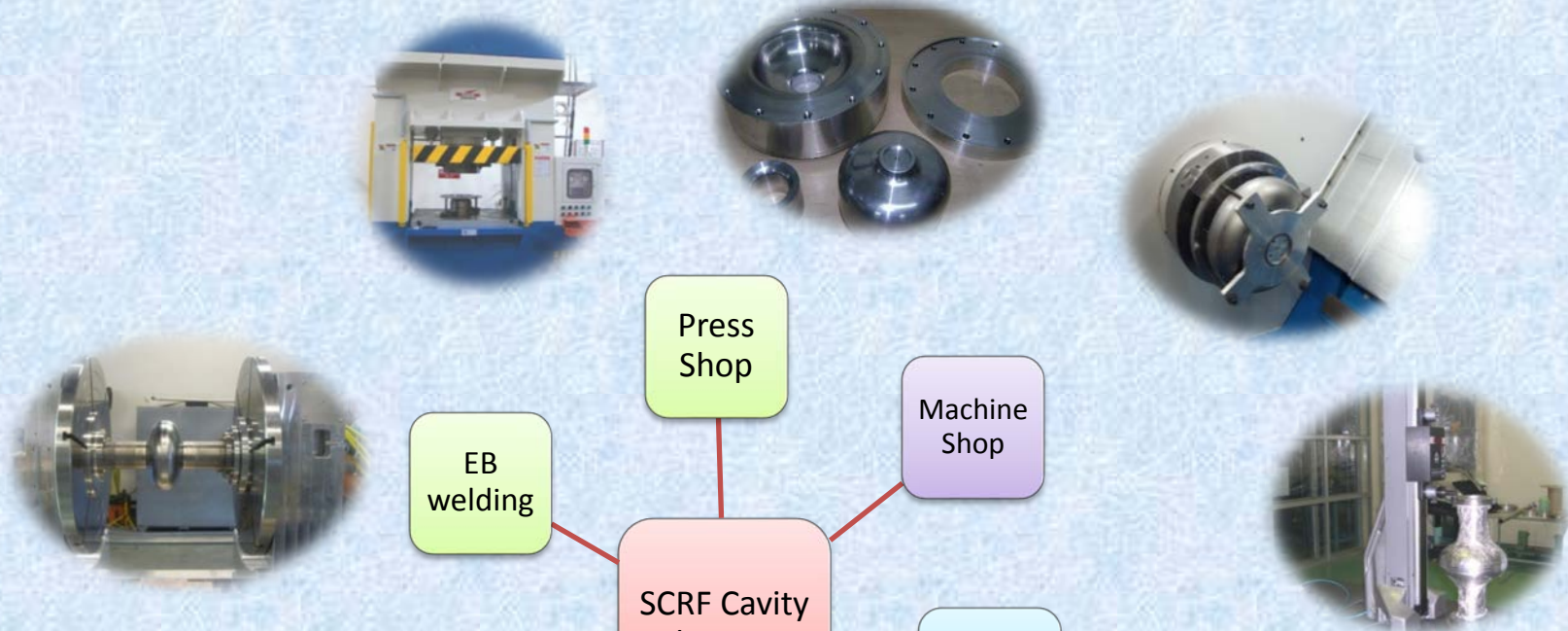
# Activity Flow Chart





# Stages of cavity manufacturing

Manufacturing of SC cavities is an iterative process among various activities



## Functional Requirements

Rated performance  $Q$  vs  $E_{acc}$   
Control on Frequency, Field Flatness at 2K  
RF quality weld joint

**Engineering Requirements:**  
Fabricability and Geometrical tolerances  
Control on Frequency, Field Flatness at 300K  
Mechanically rigid to sustain different loads  
Weld joint to be mechanically strong and vacuum leak tight joints at 2 K



## Single-cell Cavity / Multi-cell Cavity Manufacturing Recipe

In the following overview the sequence of cavity fabrication is summarized.

**Aim : Target frequency at Operating temperature keeping every thing clean**

1. Optical, mechanical inspection of Nb sheets
2. Cutting Nb sheets to disc
3. Deep drawing of half cells ("inner side" of half cells!)
4. Cutting half cells to length  $L = L_{\text{nom}} + \delta L_{\text{equ}} + \delta L_{\text{iris}} + 1 \text{ mm}$  ( $L_{\text{nom}}$  = nominal length,  $\delta L_{\text{equ}}$  = welding shrinkage at equator,  $\delta L_{\text{iris}}$  = welding shrinkage at iris + **stiffening ring**)
5. Prepare welding steps at iris and **stiffening ring**
6. Degreasing, ultrasonic cleaning, rinsing
7. Frequency measurement, selection of half cells for **dumb-bells**
8. 20  $\mu\text{m}$  chemical cleaning of half cells (inner and outer surface), rinsing, storage
9. 3  $\mu\text{m}$  chemical cleaning at iris area, rinsing
10. Welding of iris within 8 hours after step 9
11. **Welding of stiffening ring**
12. Frequency measurement of half-cell assembly / **dumb-bells**.



## Single-cell Cavity / Multi-cell Cavity Manufacturing Recipe



13. Cutting equators of half-cell assembly/**dumb-bells** to right length according to frequency measurement ("12"), machining welding area.
14. Degreasing
15. Frequency measurement of half-cell assembly/**dumb-bells**, **selection of dumb-bells for welding sequence of cavity**
16. Degreasing of half-cell assembly/**dumb-bells**
17. 20  $\mu\text{m}$  chemical cleaning of half-cell assembly/**dumb-bells**
18. Inspection of "inner" surface for defects, if OK, continue at step 23
19. In case of defects, Grinding of defects
20. 20  $\mu\text{m}$  chemical cleaning of dumb- bells for cleaning of surface from grinding dirt
21. Go back to step 18
22. Storage of half-cell assembly/**dumb-bells**
23. 3  $\mu\text{m}$  chemical cleaning at equator region of the dumb-bell to be welded
24. Welding of two half-cell assembly/**dumb-bells** at equator within 8 hours after step 23
25. Repeat step 23 with longer cavity section

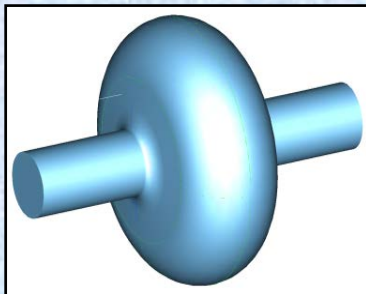
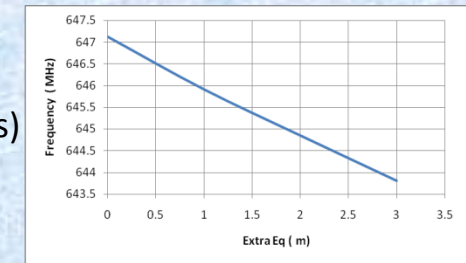
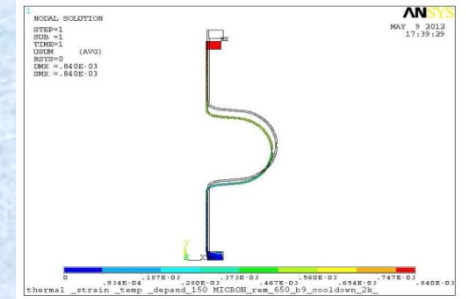
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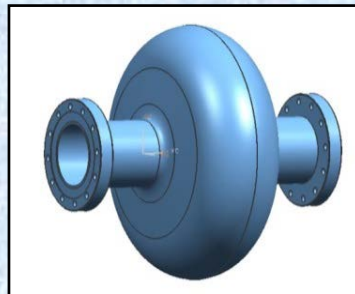


# Single cell cavity fabrication development stages

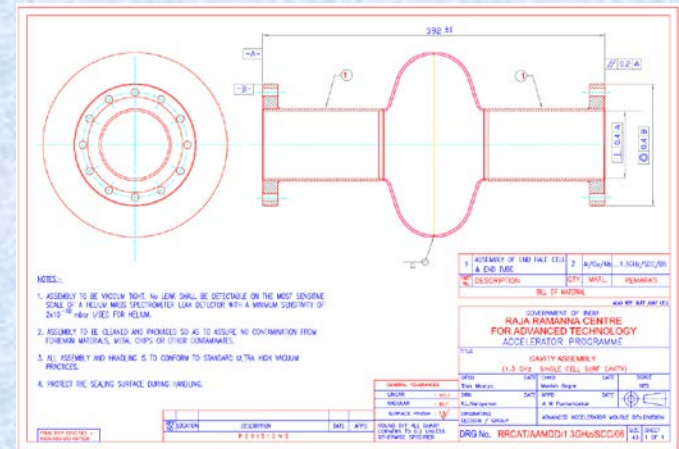
- RF Model → Mechanical design model.
- Design for manufacturing
  - 3-D Modeling in UGNX
  - Detail dimensions with tolerances to suit manufacturability
  - Weld joint design
- Frequency estimation
  - For change in frequency with temperature
  - With extra length of equator to estimate  $K_{eq}$  (verified by actual measurements)
- Development of manufacturing process and QA plan
- Qualification
  - Geometrical inspection,
  - RF measurements
  - Leak testing at 300 K & 77K.



3-D design model  
single cell Cavity



Mechanical model  
Single-cell Cavity



Fabrication drawing single cell Cavity

# Single cell Cavity manufacturing stages



Forming tool



Forming of cells



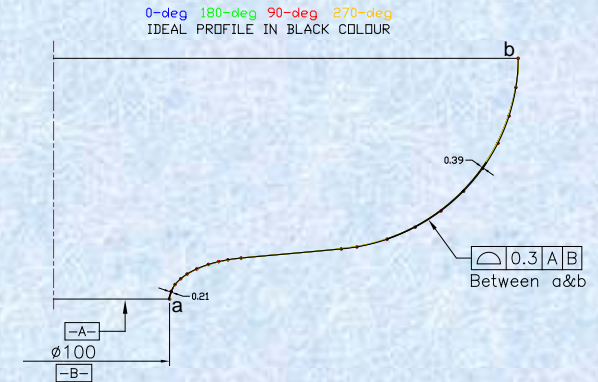
Mechanical inspection



Machined parts ready for welding



EB welding



EB welding



Welded Half cell assembly

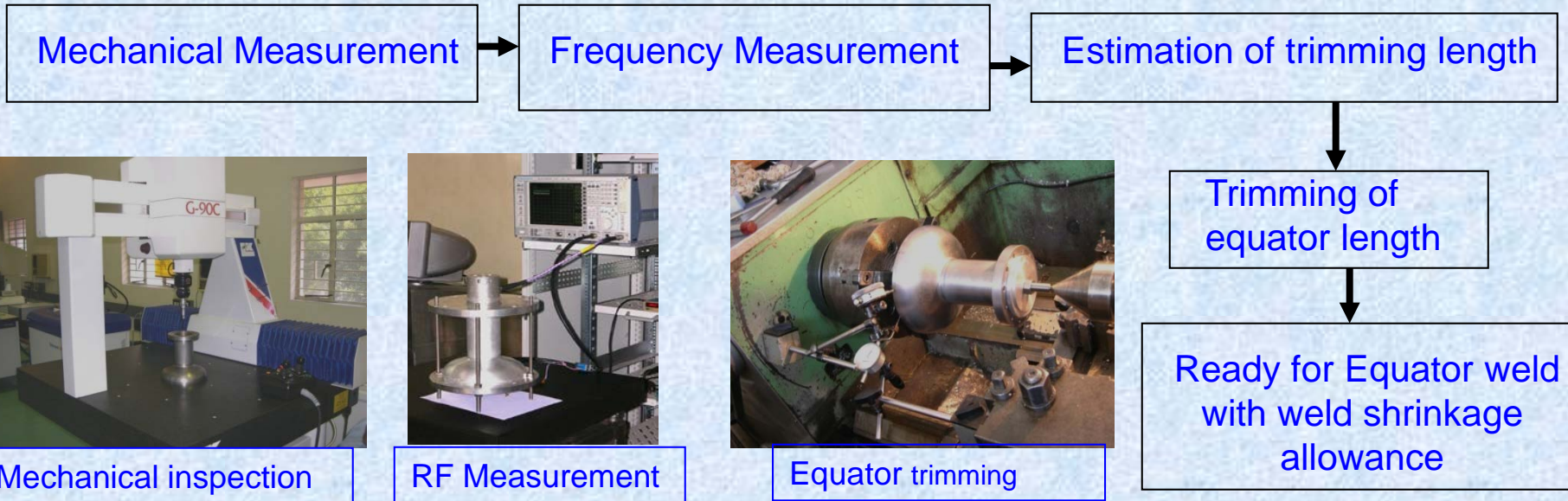


Handling of parts



# Single cell Cavity manufacturing stages

## Steps before equator welding



Mechanical inspection



RF Measurement

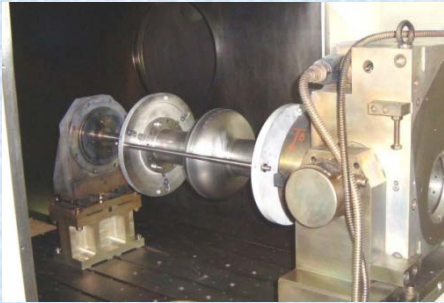


Equator trimming

Half cell assembly	Length before (mm)	Frequency before (MHz)	Length after (mm)	Frequency after (MHz)	F- Sensitivity coeff ' $K_{eq}$ ' MHz/mm
Nb-125	197.84	1289.536	196.82	1292.531	3
Nb-127	198.42	1291.315	197.29	1294.197	2.6



# Single cell Cavity manufacturing stages



Final Equator welding



Dimensional measurement



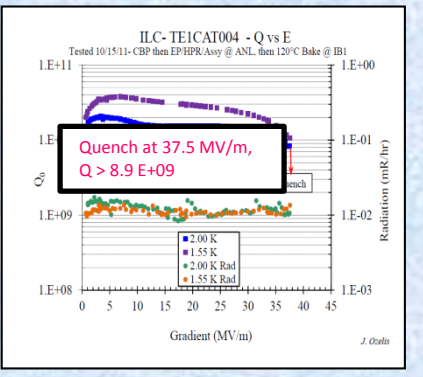
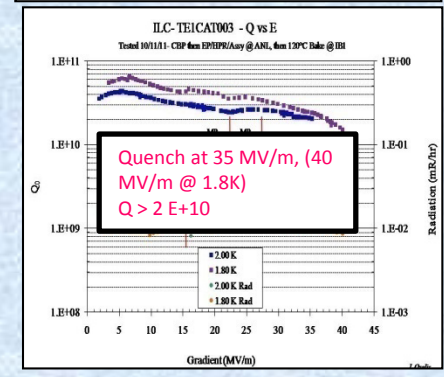
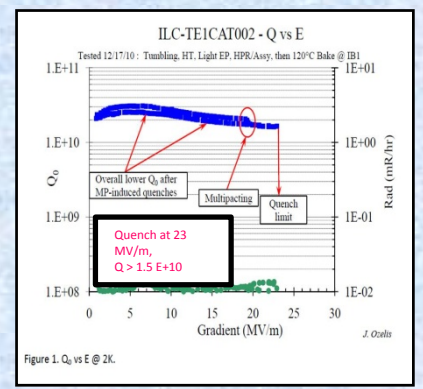
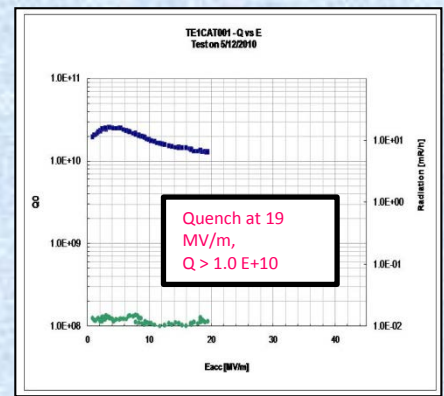
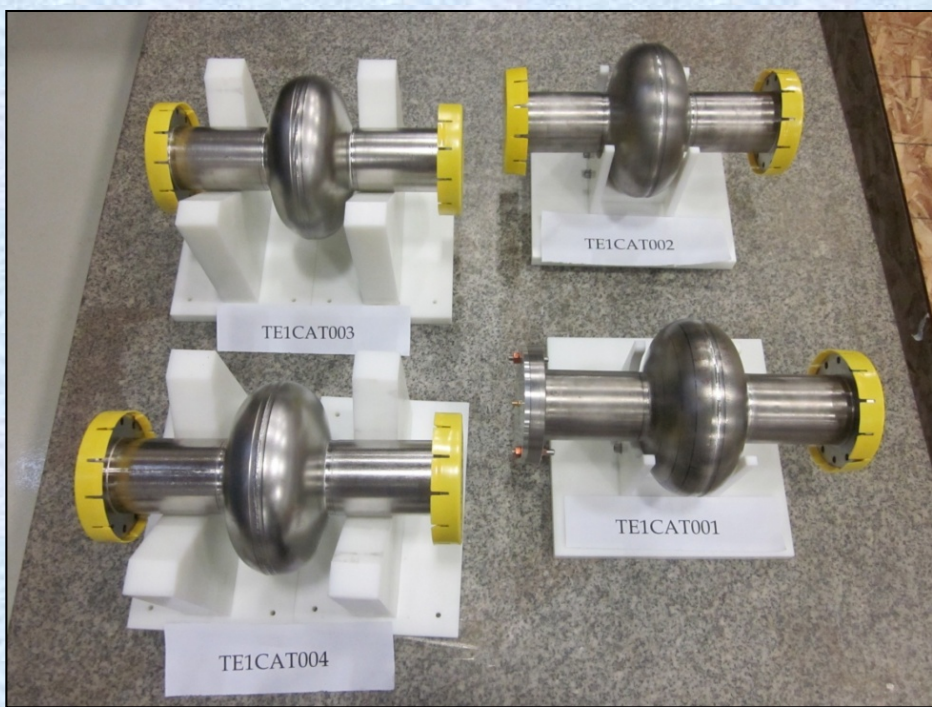
Frequency measurement



Vacuum leak testing

Niobium cell	Total length (mm) (392 ±1)	Parallelism (mm)	Shrinkage equator (mm)	Frequency (MHz) 300K	Quality factor 300 K
1.3 GHz 1-cell cavity	393.52	0.10	0.47	1296.926	9076
650 MHz 1-cell cavity	567.617	0.42	1.1	648.58474	12094

# 1.3 GHz single cell SCRF cold testing results



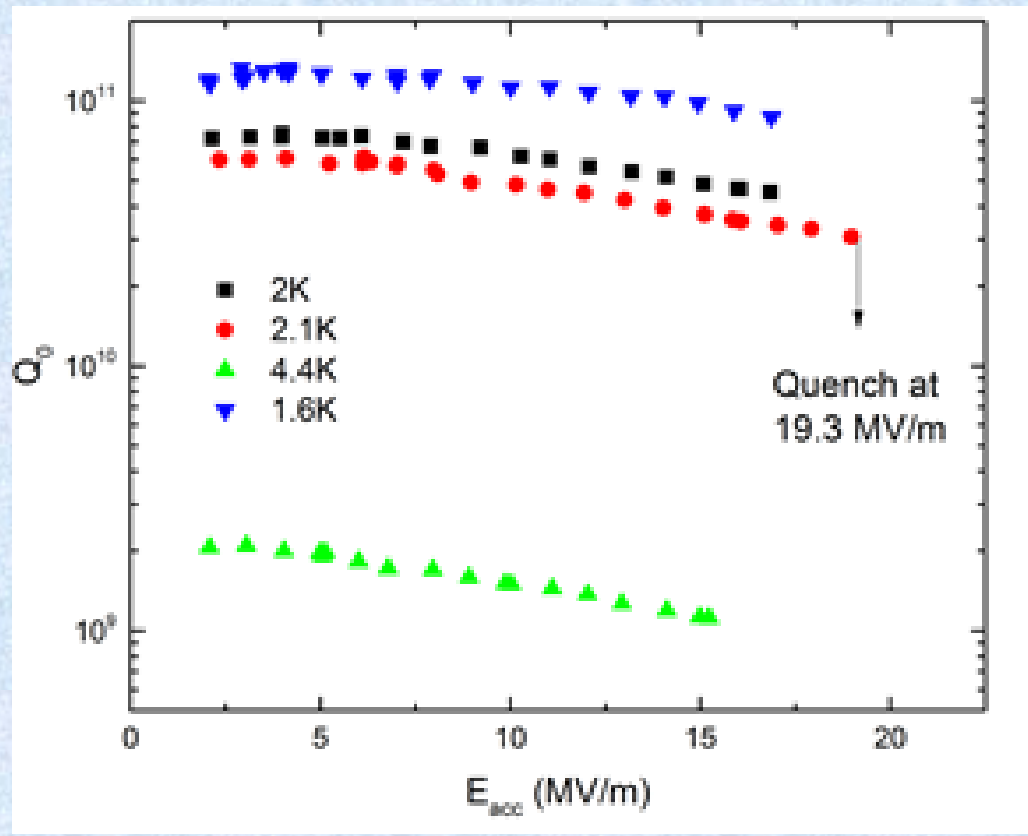
1.3 GHz Single cell SCRF cavities

2 K Test results of the 1.3 GHz Single cell SCRF cavities

# Test results 650 MHz SCRF cavity



650 MHz Five cell cavity ready for cold test



Q vs E plot

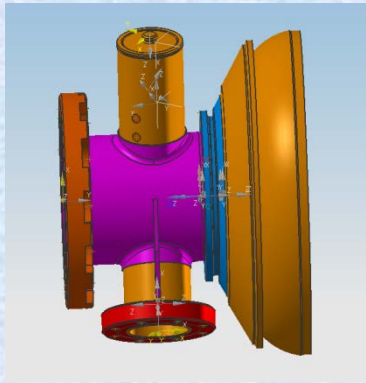
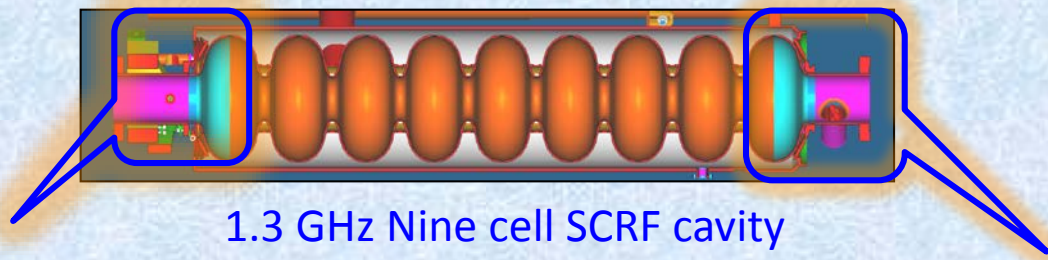
Test Result :  $E_{acc}$  19.3 MV/m with  $Q > 4 \times 10^{10}$  at 2K,  
Design parameters 17 MV/m with  $Q = 2 \times 10^{10}$  at 2 K.



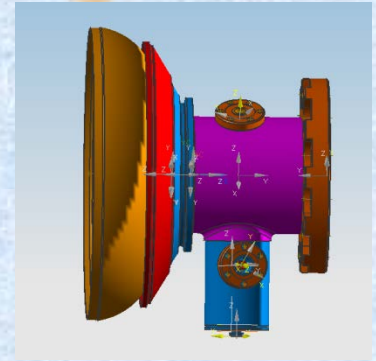
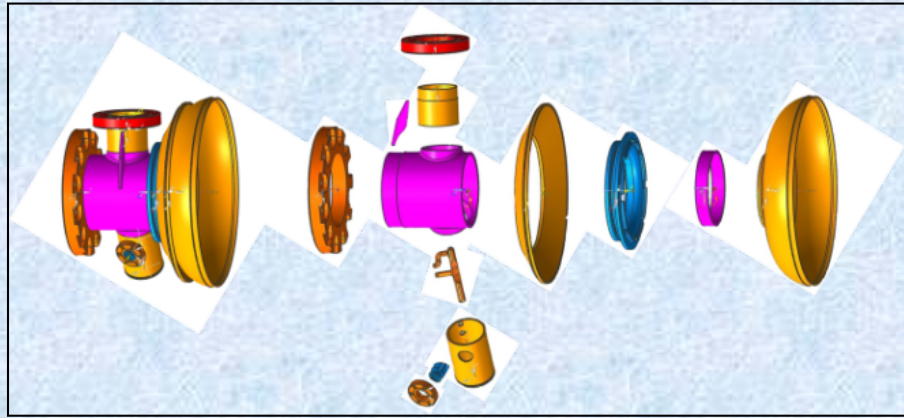
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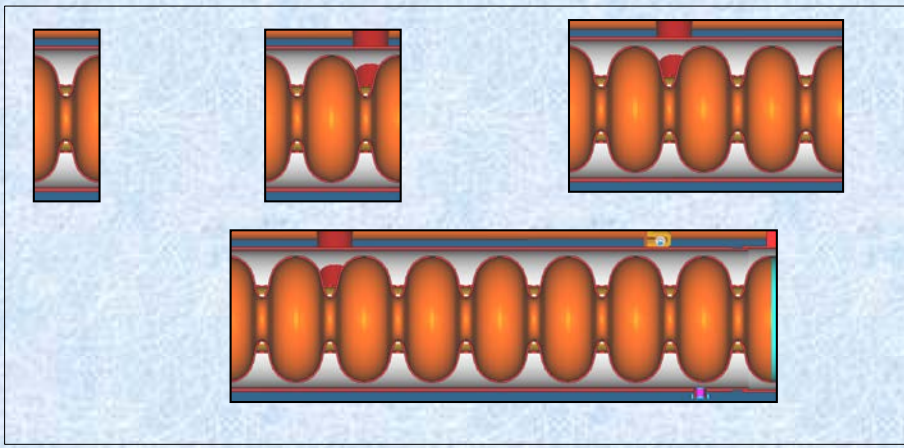
# Elliptical cavity manufacturing stages



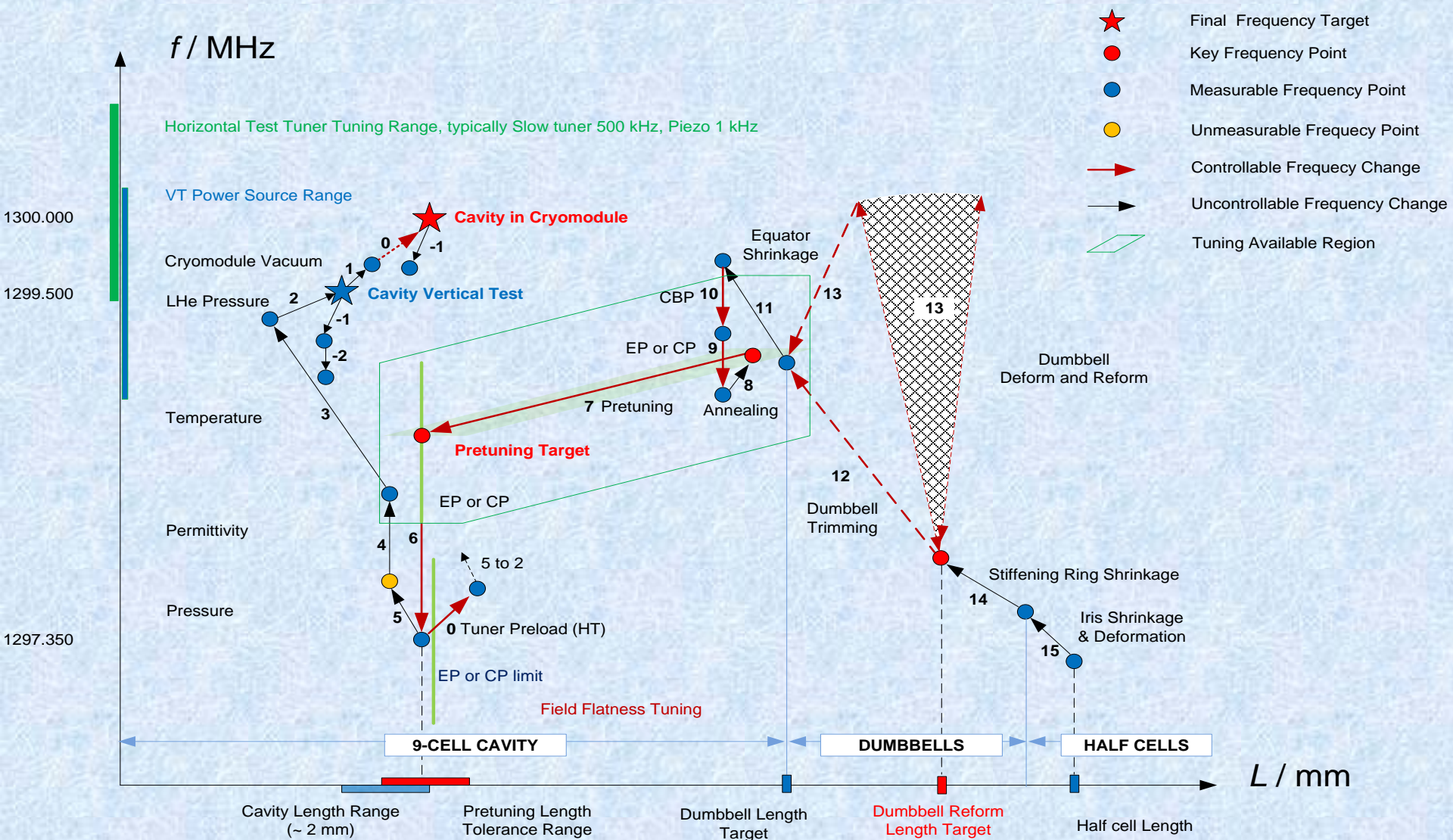
Short End EG



Long End EG

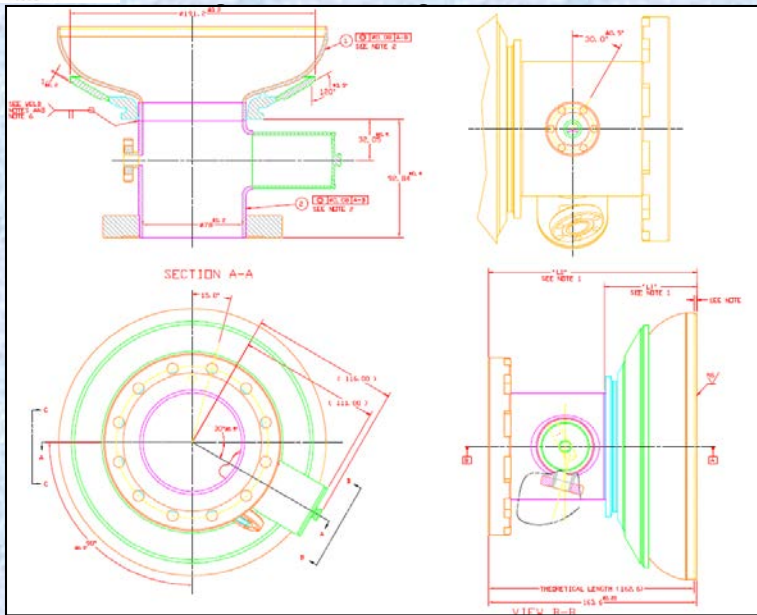


# Cavity Frequency Change and control

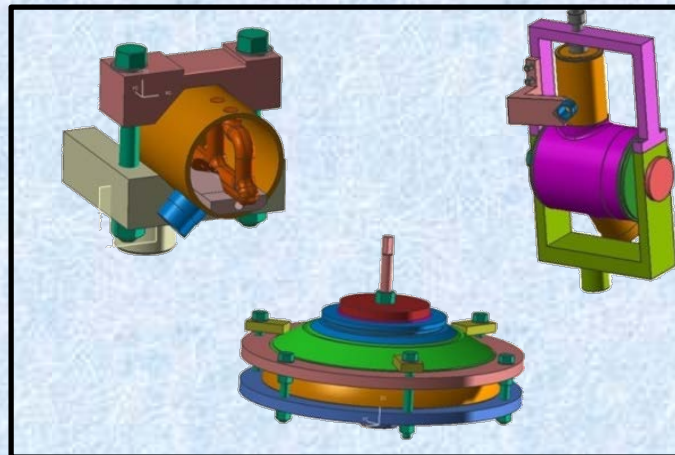




# SCRF cavity fabrication process planning



Fabrication drawings



Various Welding Fixtures

2) Sub Assemblies:

2.8) Assembly Name: Short End Half Cell Assembly  
Drawing #: RRCAT/LVCD5/CJQL/1.3GHz/NCC/29  
FNAL Ref #: 4904.010-MD-400003

Measured Values:

Component	Dimension	Tolerance	Actual Value	Acceptable/ Not Acceptable	Remarks
Total Length	162.6*	±0.2			
Length NW 78 to End Disk Flange	93.5	±0.4			
Short End Tube	Ø78	±0.2			
	32.9	±0.5			
Short HOM Assembly	35°	±0.5°			
	15°	±0.5°			
NW40 Flange	88	±0.2			
	1	±0.2			
Short End Cap Disk	120°	±0.2°			
	Ø 200	±0.2			
	90°	±1°			

Frequency at 20°C measured in welded condition	Value (MHz)	Length		Remarks
		Total	Equator 1.00	
Theoretical				

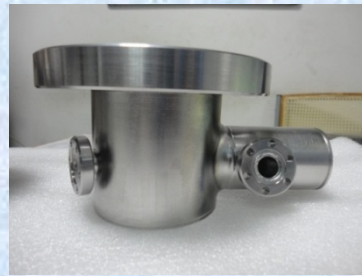
	End tube Weldment		Half cell end Disk Weldment	Total
	71.5	+	94.1	= 165.6
<b>After Welding</b>	shrinkage length (End tube weld)		Extra length beyond flange	Total
	0.5	+	2.0	= 3
	Total Length after welding		165.6 - 3.0	= 162.6*

Quality control documents

# End Group Fabrication stages



Machined parts



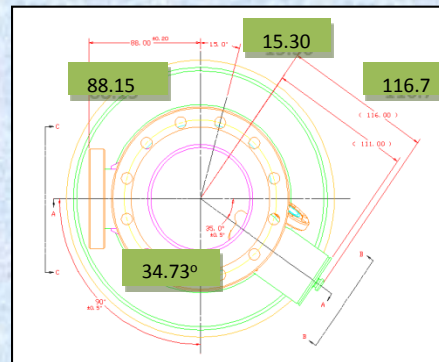
Welding sub assembly stages



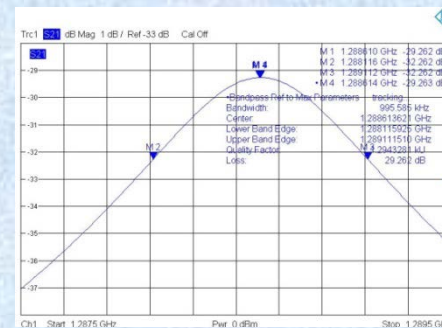
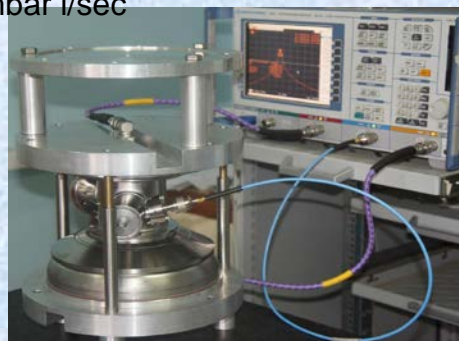
Completed End Group



Leak rate of  $< 1 \times 10^{-10}$  mbar l/sec



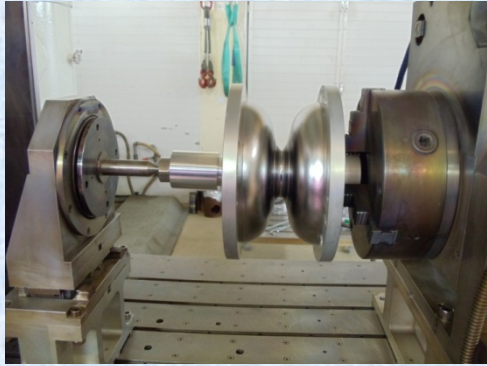
Cell ID	Length (mm)	$\Pi$ -mode frequency (MHz)	Quality Factor
144 Long End Cell	163.98	1296.5850	1880
164 Short End Cell	163.30	1294.4005	1922



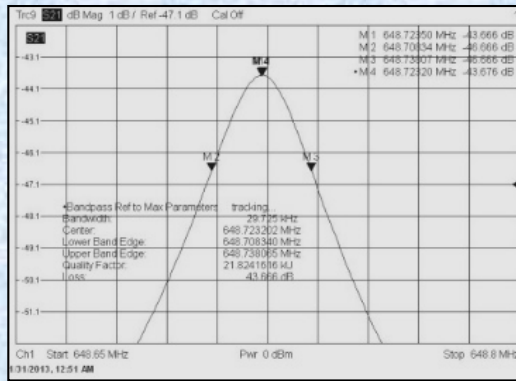
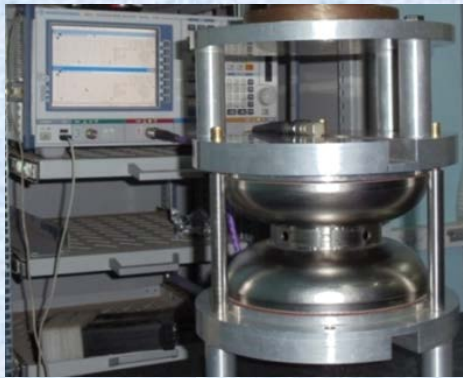
RF Measurement and qualification



# Dumb-bell fabrication, testing and qualification



**Dumbbell fabrication**



**RF Measurement**

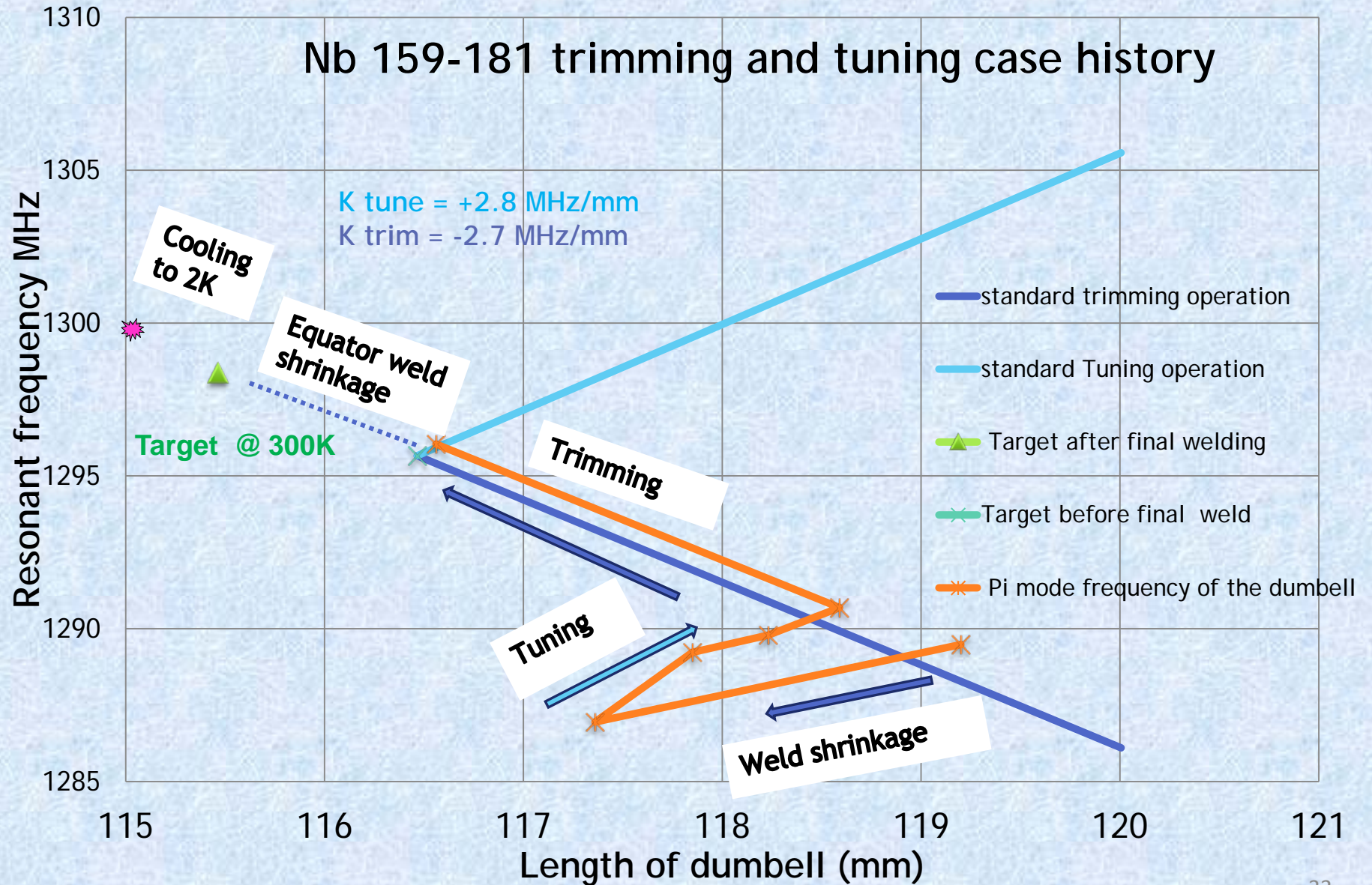


**Mech. Inspection**

## Dumbbell qualification



# Dumbbell RF tuning



# Multi-cell SCRF cavity



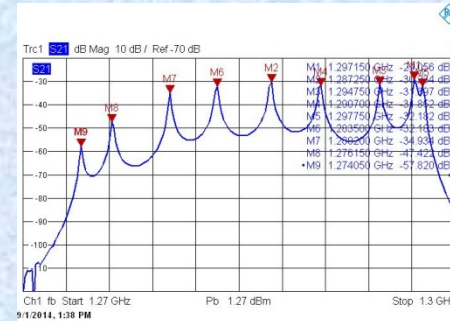
End Group and Dumb-bells



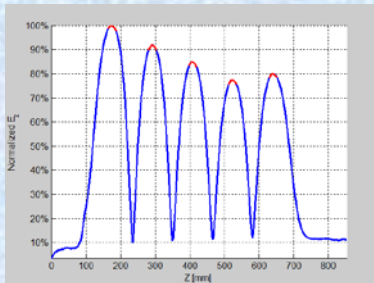
E B Welding stages



1.3 GHz nine cell SCRF cavity

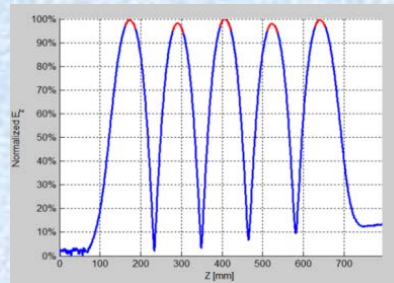


RT  $\pi$  - Mode frequency (GHz) 1.297150



Field Flatness as fabricated 77 %

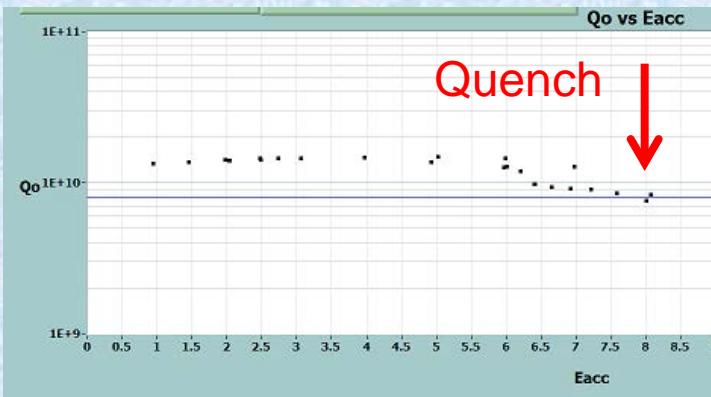
1.3 GHz Five-cell SCRF cavity



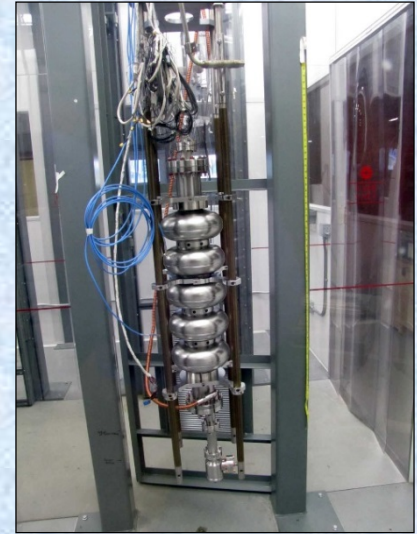
Field Flatness after tuning = 98%

Dimension	Basic Size / Tolerance	Measured Value
Length	1247.4 $\pm$ 3	1246.98
Perpendicularity (Front flange)	0.8	0.49
Perpendicularity (Back flange)	0.8	0.25
Concentricity Equator #1 to 9	0.8	0.52 to 0.94 (min to max)

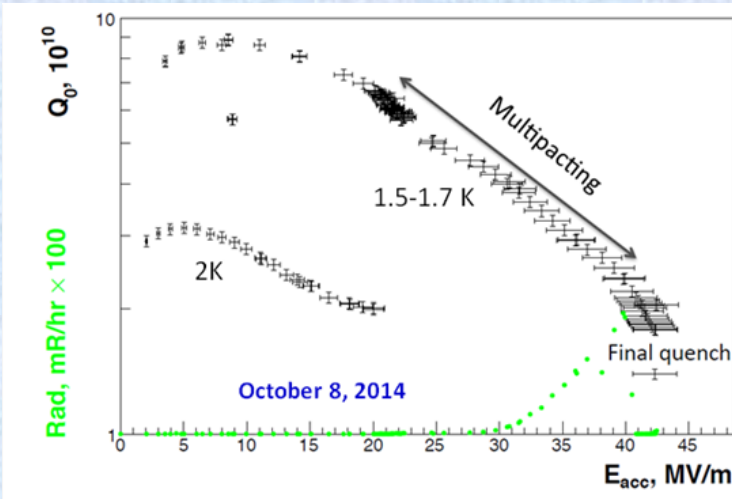
# 1.3 GHz Five-cell cavity Cold test results



During first cold test run the cavity was quench limited to (E<sub>acc</sub>) of 8.1 MV/m with Q<sub>0</sub> of 8x10<sup>9</sup> at 2K during



1.3 GHz Five cell cavity ready for cold test



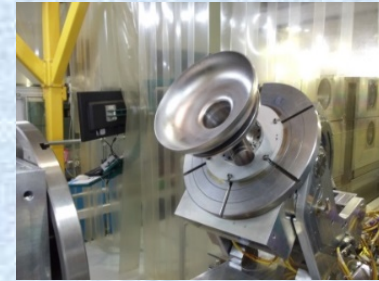
Achieved accelerating gradient (E<sub>acc</sub>) of 20.3 MV/m at 2 K and 42 MV/m at 1.5-1.7 K with Q<sub>0</sub> of 2 x 10<sup>10</sup>



Defect observed during optical inspection



# HB650 MHz bare five-cell SCRF cavity



## Cavity fabrication stages



“1<sup>st</sup> Five-cell SCRF cavity  
RRCAT-HB92-5001”.  
Total length 1403 mm



“RF qualification  
Frequency at 300 K: 649.5922 MHz  
Field Flatness ( as fabricated) = 68%.

## SCRF cavity qualification



“Vacuum leak testing  
Leak rate <  $10^{-10}$  mbar-litres/s

# Summary

- Manufacturing of SC cavities is an iterative process among Press shop, Machine shop, Metrology, RF measurement, Chemical cleaning, EB welding and Final leak testing.
- The challenge of SCRF cavity fabrication lies in the fact that one has to mechanically fabricate an electrical structure at 300 K for precise control on EM field having working temperature of 2K.
- To make the SC cavity perform close to ideal performance, its manufacturing, processing, assembly and testing requires a highly specialized technology.
- Standard protocols are established for SCRF cavities fabrication for their successful operation is accelerators, which needs to be strictly adhered too.
- Vigil on cavity frequency and surface cleanliness are of utmost importance at each stage.



# Acknowledgement

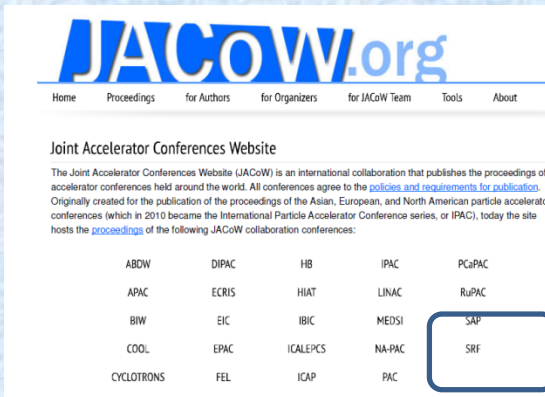
Team members from :

Industrial Accelerator Division, Pulsed High Power Microwave Division

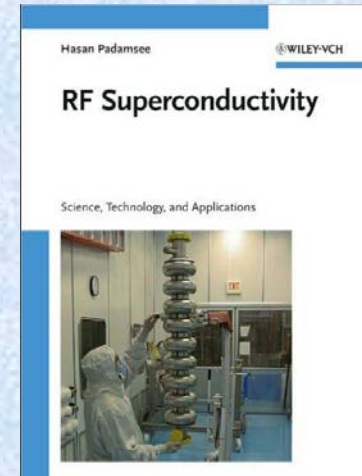
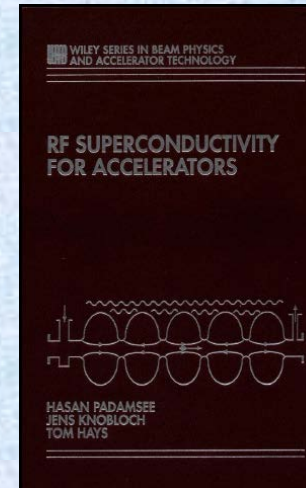
Design and Manufacturing Technology Division along with members of our Proton Linac and SC Cavities Division.

IUAC, New Delhi and Fermilab as collaborators

## Reference



SRF





**Thank You for your  
kind attention**

