

# Lecture B2: Superconductive RF Surface Preparation

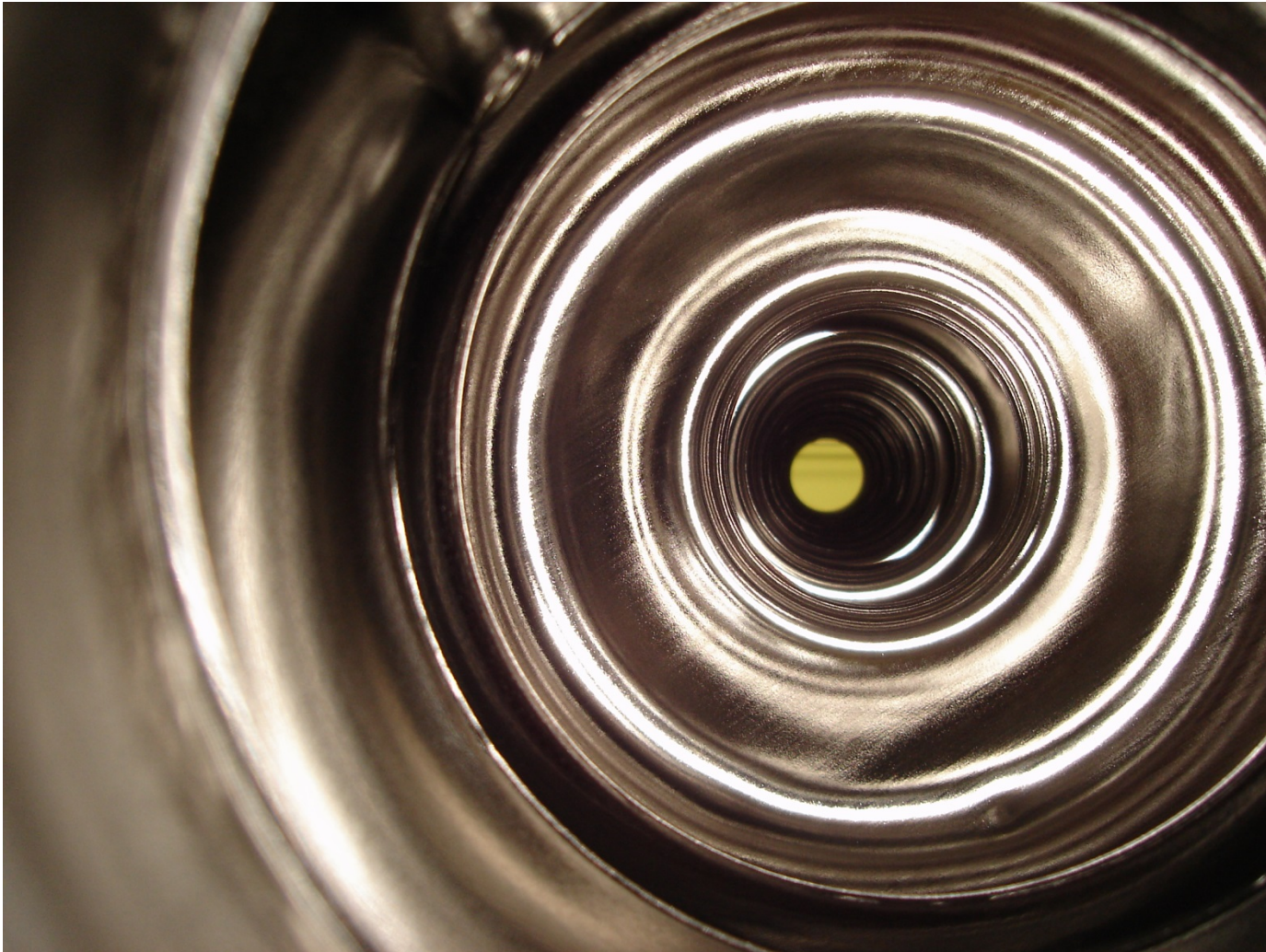
T. Saeki (KEK)

LC school 2015

27 Oct. - 6 Nov. 2015, Whistler, Canada



# Inner Surface Preparation of SC Cavity





# Overview of Inner Surface Preparation

- Thick/Rough Removal ( $>100\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ )

Three alternative methods:

Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)

Electro-Polishing (EP)

Centrifugal Barrel Polishing (CBP)

- Annealing / Degassing ( $750 - 800\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $\sim 3\text{ h}$ )
- Final Thin Removal ( $10 - 30\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ )

Two alternative methods:

Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)

Electro-Polishing (EP)

- High Pressure Rinse ( $>7\text{ h}$ )
- In-situ Baking ( $120 - 140\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $48\text{ h}$ )

# Overview of Inner Surface Preparation



Process Name	Process	Removal Thickness (um)	Purpose
Centrifugal Barrel Polishing (CBP)	Mechanical removal with water and media (stones / plastic ....)	>100	Removal of damaged layer of Nb, or removal of defects
Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)	Chemical Reaction / Etching	Rough: > 100 Final: 10 - 30	Rough: Removal of damaged layer of Nb. Final : Smooth surface
Electro-Polishing (EP)	Electro-Chemical Reaction	Rough: > 100 Final: 10 - 30	Rough: Removal of damaged layer of Nb. Final : Smooth surface
Annealing / Degassing	750 °C, 3 hours Vacuum Furnace	-	Release of stress in material / Degassing of H
High Pressure Rinse (HPR)	High Pressure Rinse with Ultra Pure Water (UPW)	-	Removal of contamination / Clean surface
In-situ Baking	120 °C, 48 hours baking with Vacuum pumping inside of cavity	-	Diffusion of Oxygen



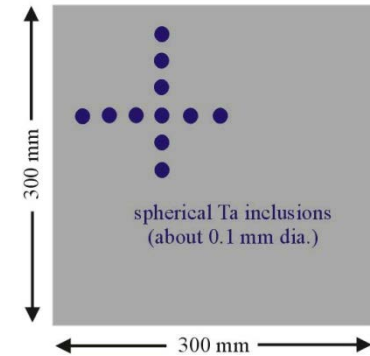
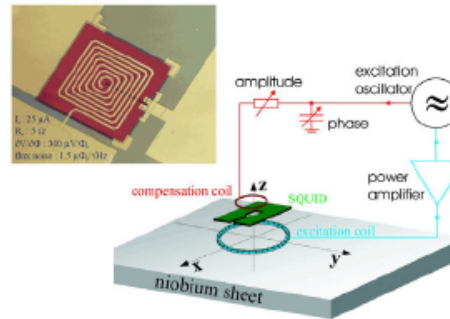
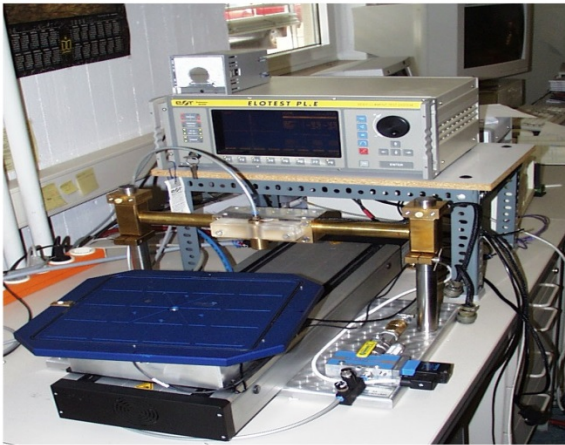
# Scanning of defects with eddy current



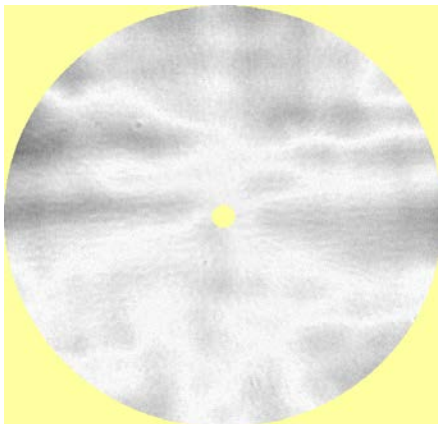
Successfully developed at DESY to pre-screen Nb

Sheets for defects: eddy current, resolution  $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$

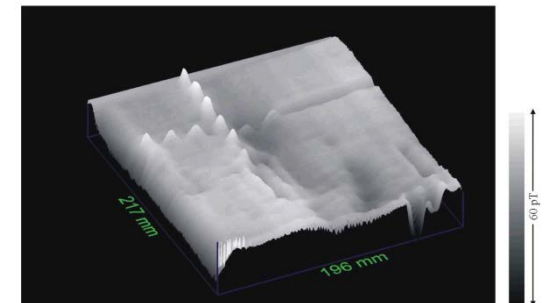
squid, resolution  $< 50 \mu\text{m}$



Low  $T_c$  superconducting SQUID system for eddy current testing of niobium sheets is in development



(W.Singer, X.Singer)

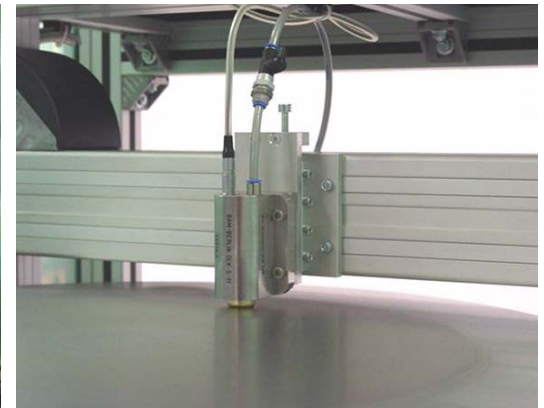


Two-dimensional distribution of eddy-current field above the niobium test sample, measured from the back side of the sample. The excitation coil had 30 turns and a diameter of 3 mm, the excitation frequency was 10 kHz. The reference phase of the lock-in amplifier was chosen such that the lift-off effect was minimized.

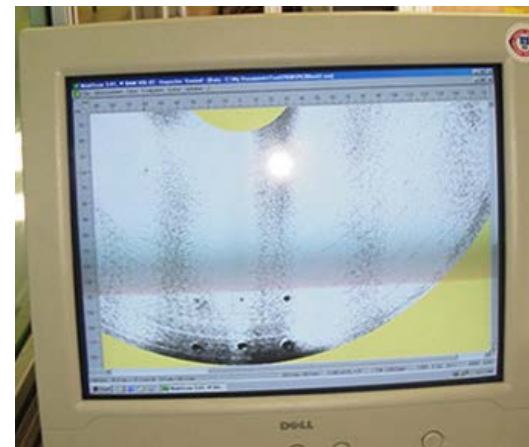
# Scanning of defects with eddy current



## Eddy Current Scanning system for SNS high purity niobium scanning

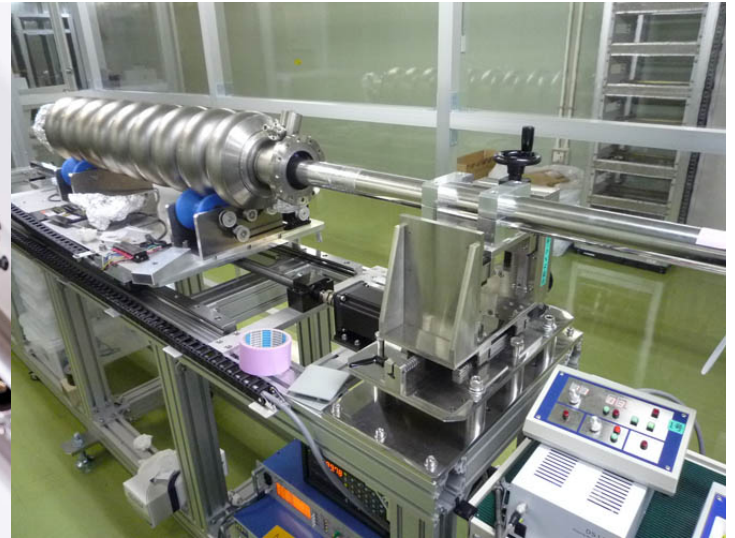
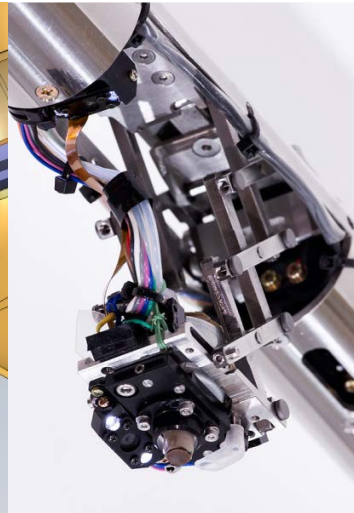
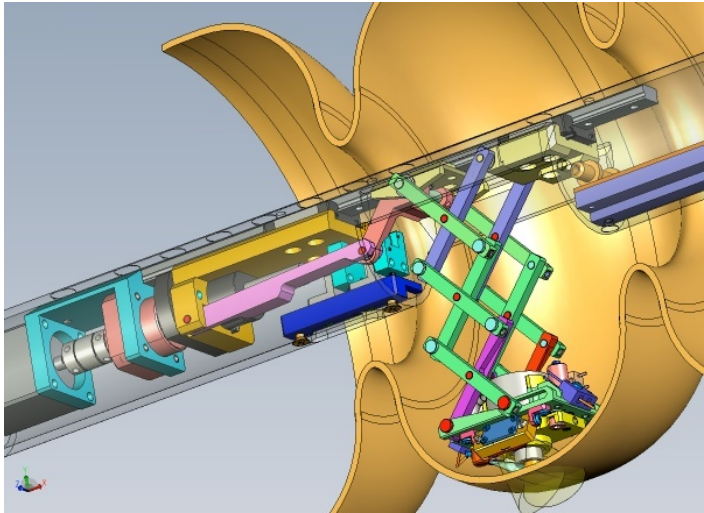


**Scanning of Nb plate/disc before fabrication.  
About 1 – 2 % of Nb plates/discs have defects.**





# Local grinding at KEK

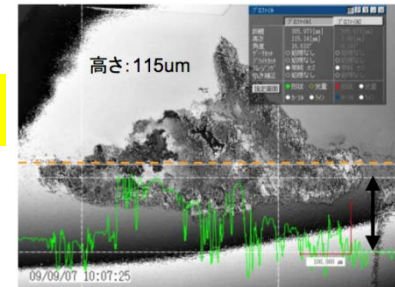
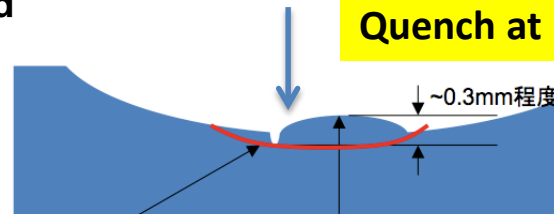


**Grinding only for pit, without touching other surface**

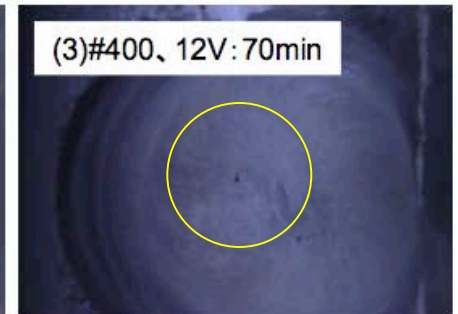
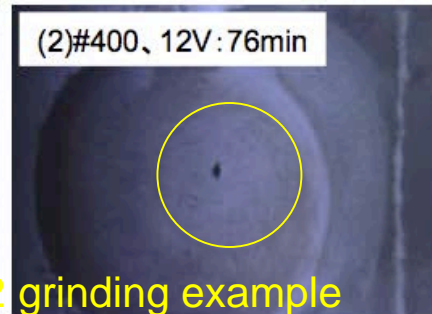
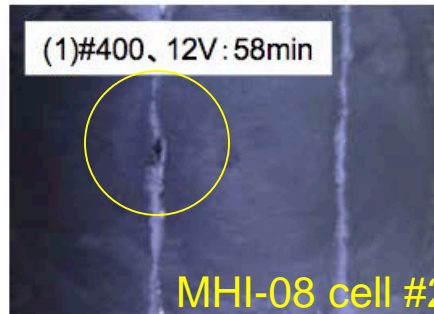
**diamond powder compound  
with water in between  
were used.**

~115 $\mu$ m depth pit in MHI-08 cavity

**Quench at 16 MV/m**



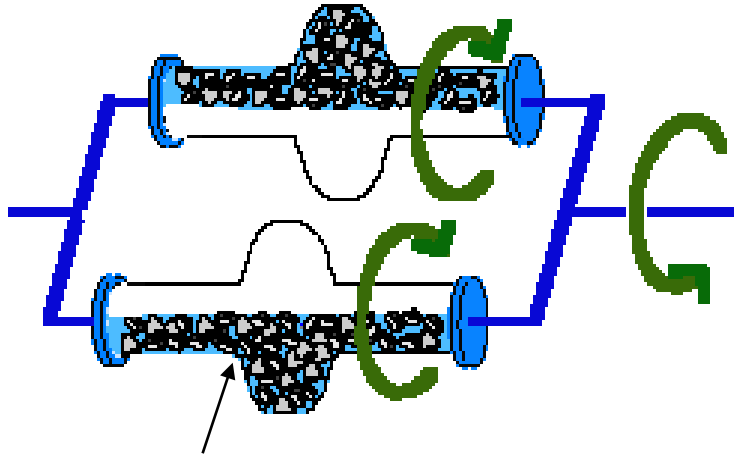
**This pit caused quench  
at 16 MV/m**



**MHI-08 cell #2 grinding example**

# Centrifugal Barrel Polishing (CBP)

## Mechanical grinding



Water and media (stone, plastic, etc.)



Media : stones  
(rough removal)



Media : plastic  
(final removal)

### Example (KEK recipe)

**Step 1) Rough removal with stones + water : 4 hours x 3 times**

Removal thickness =  $25 \text{ um} \times 3 = 75 \text{ um}$

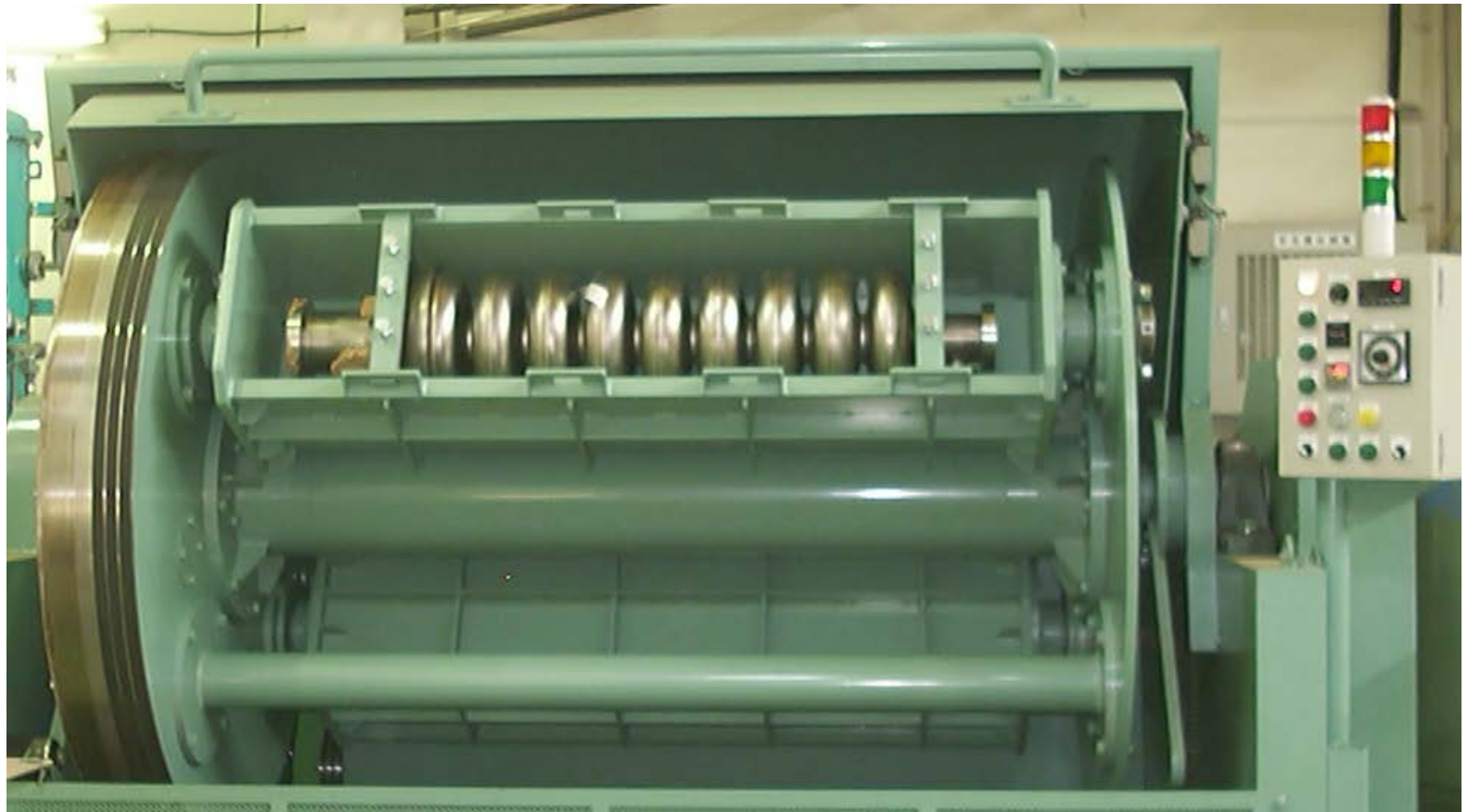
**Step 2) Final removal with plastic + water : 4 hours x 3 times**

Removal thickness =  $20 \text{ um} \times 3 = 60 \text{ um}$

**Total removal thickness = 135 um**

# Centrifugal Barrel Polishing (CBP) Mechanical grinding

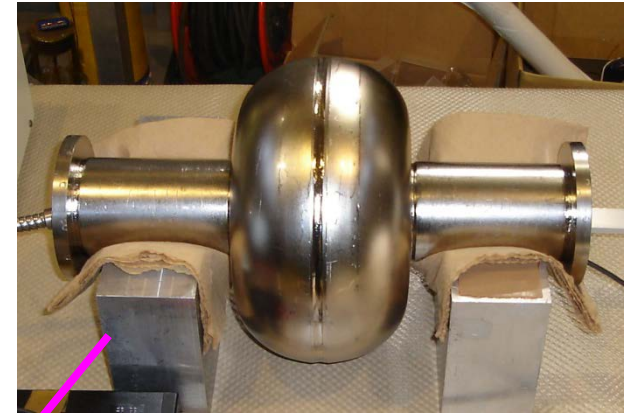
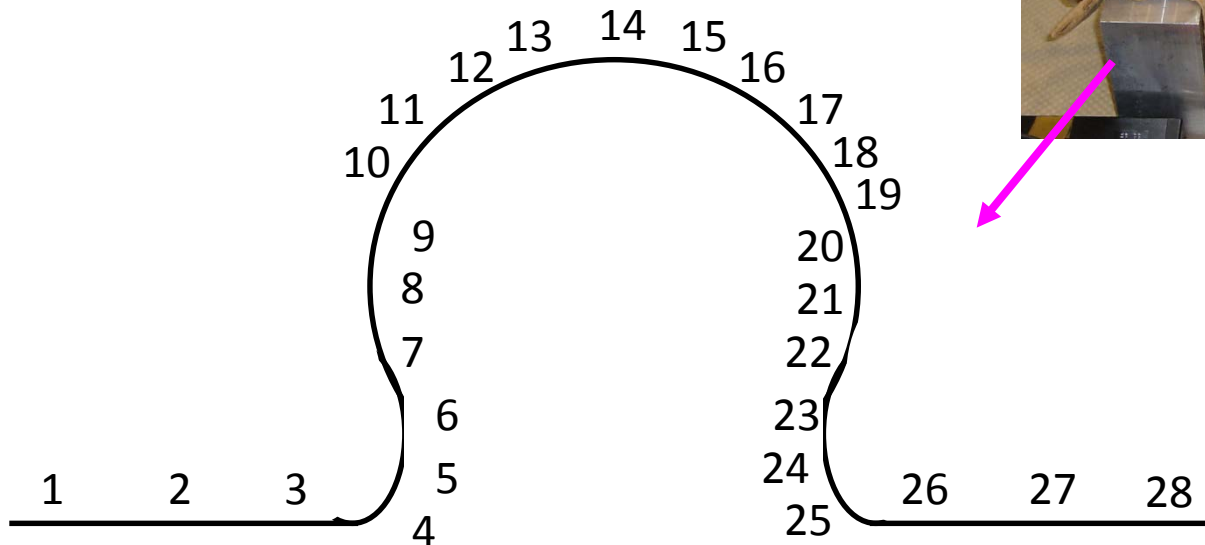
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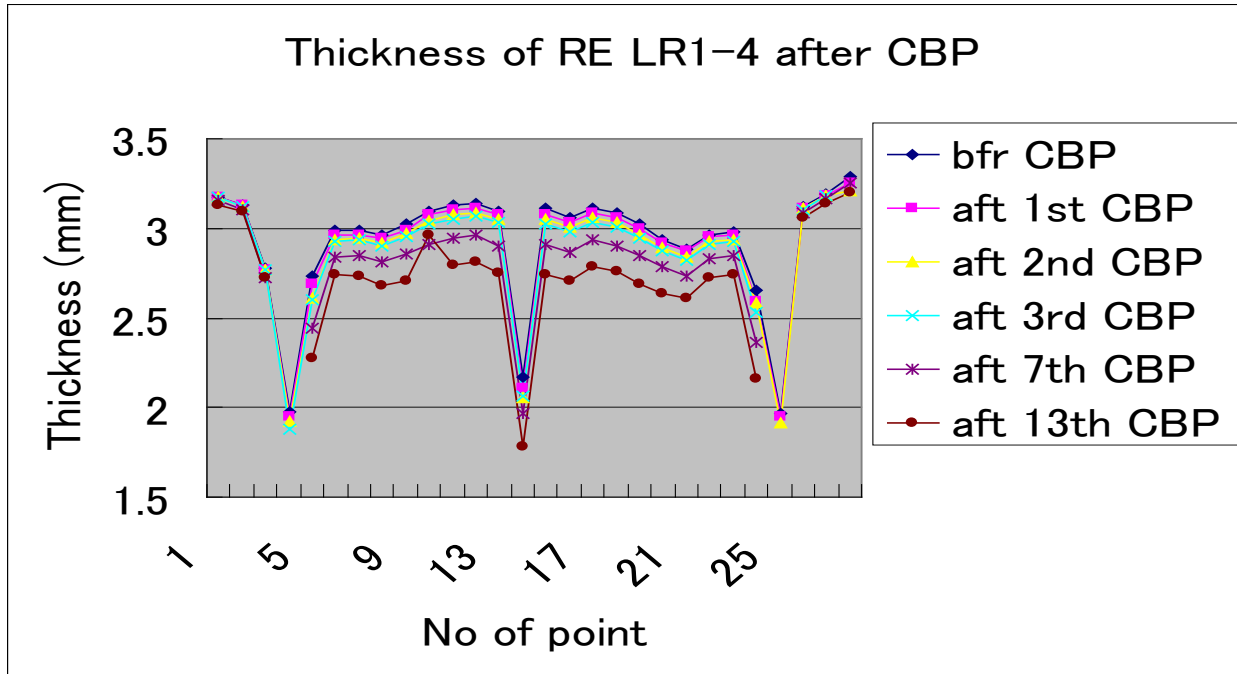
# Measurement of Removal Thickness (CBP)

Measurement of thickness by ultrasonic thickness gauge

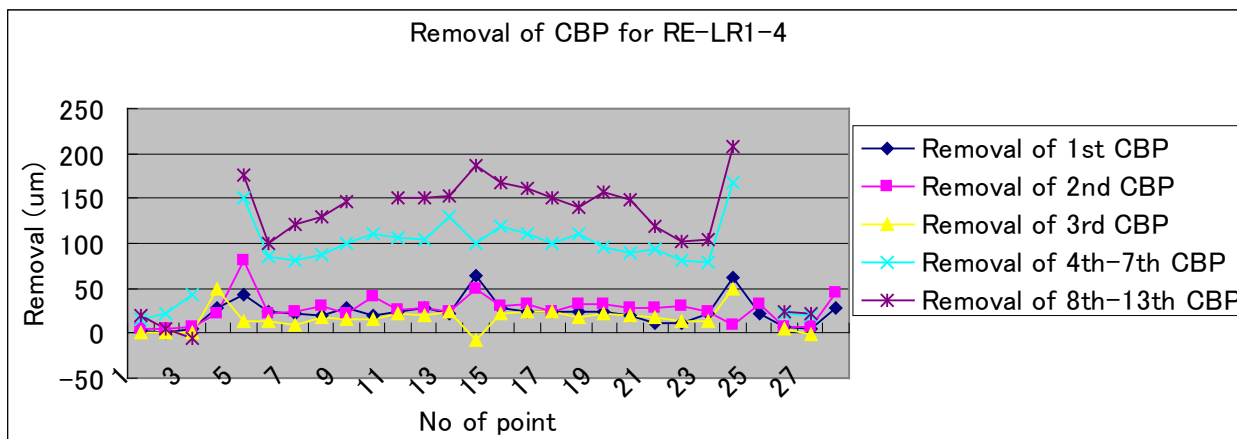


Positions of measurement

# Measurement of Removal Thickness (CBP)



**Thickness measurements by ultrasonic thickness gauge**



**Removed weight**

**1<sup>st</sup> CBP: 21.0 g**

**2<sup>nd</sup> CBP: 21.0 g**

**3<sup>rd</sup> CBP: 16.5 g**

**4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> CBP: 78.0 g**

**8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> CBP: 94.3 g**

**Total of removed weight = 230.8 g**

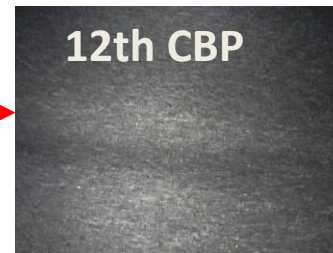
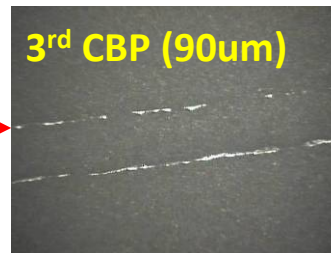
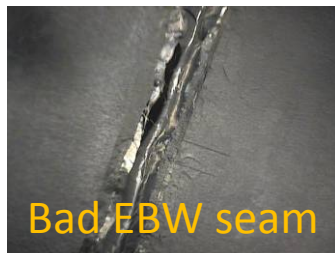
# Centrifugal Barrel Polishing (CBP) Mechanical grinding



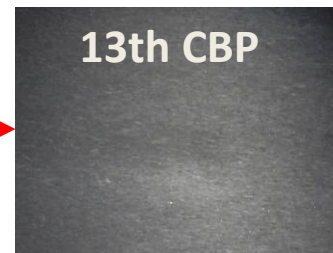
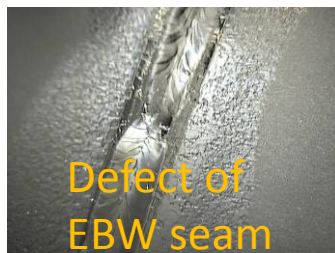
EBW seam before CBP



Removal  
thickness  
= 60 um.

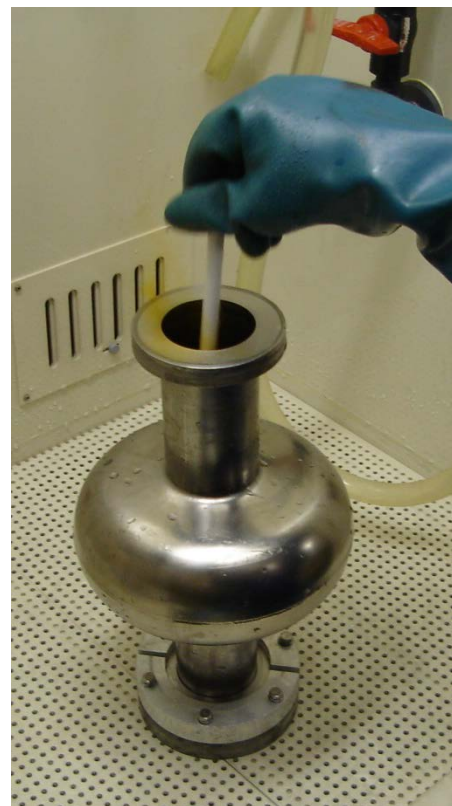


Removal  
thickness  
> 200 um.



Removal  
thickness  
> 200 um.

# Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)



**Components of BCP acid (KEK recipe)**

**HF (HF 46%) :  $\text{HNO}_3$  ( $\text{HNO}_3$  60%) :  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  ( $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  80%) = 1 : 1 : 1 (Volume Ratio)**

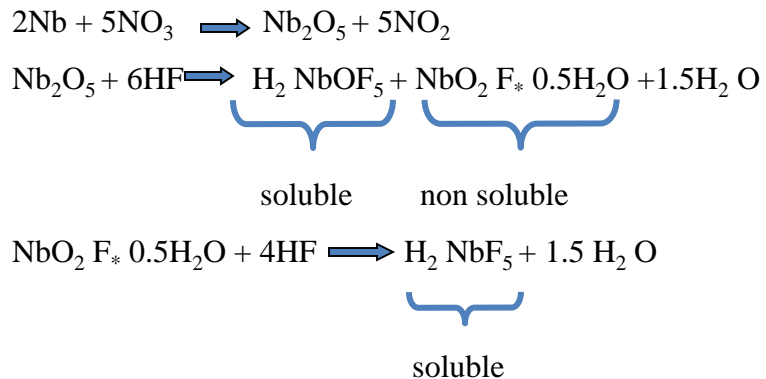
**$\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  can be increased if you like slow etching (1:1:2, 1:1:3, etc...)**

# Various BCP systems in the world



BCP:

Mixture of HF/HNO<sub>3</sub>/H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in  
ratios 1:1:1 or 1:1:2 @ 10-15C



Exothermic reaction

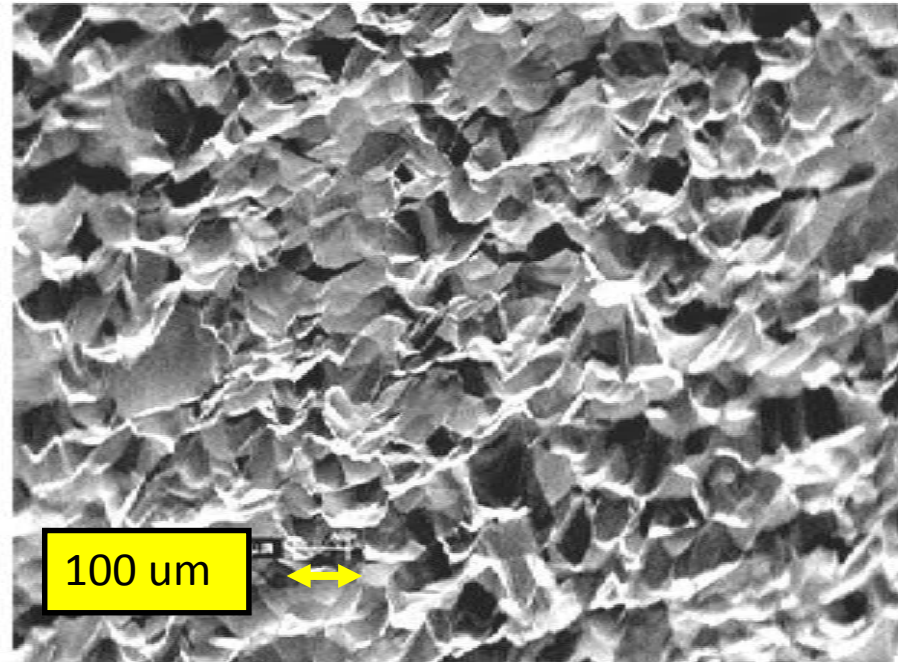
Removal rate ~ 2 μm/min @ 10C



# Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)

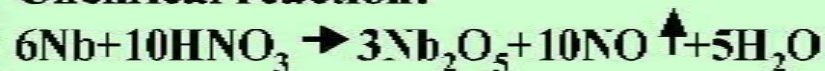


Nb Surface after BCP

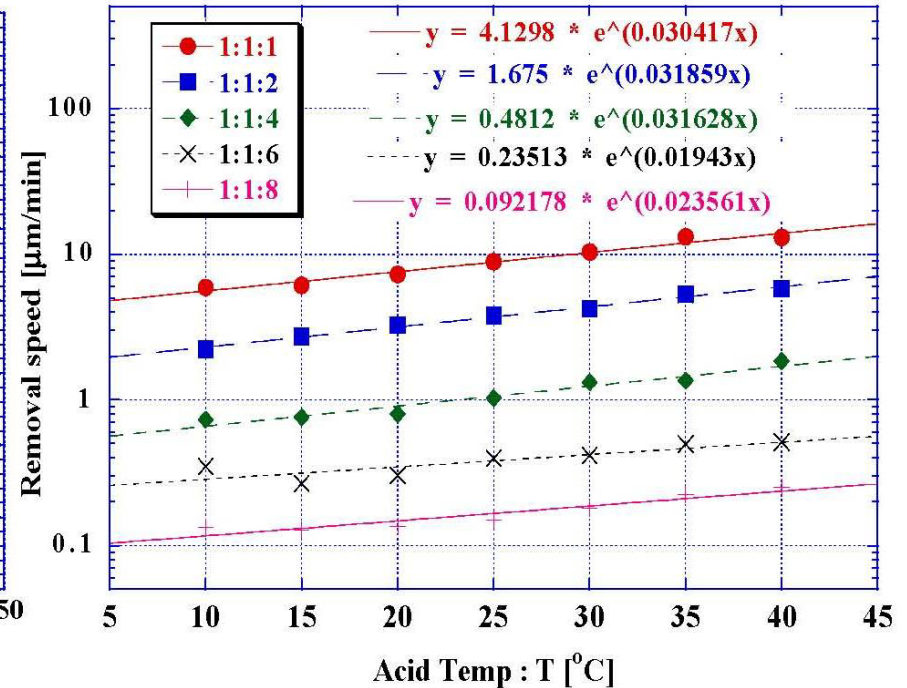
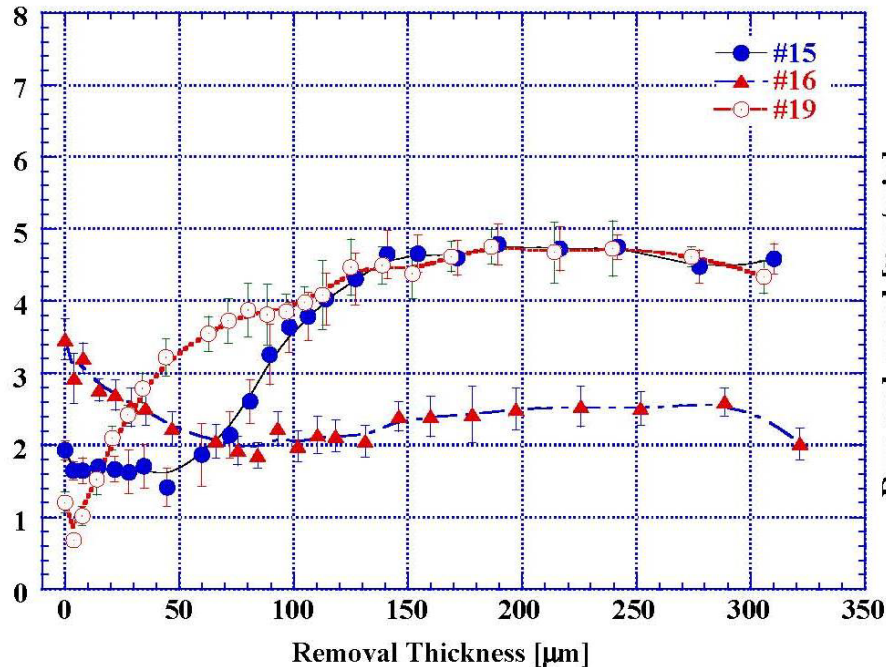


Simpler than EP, but the surface is rougher than EP.  
The roughness is coming from the difference of etching among the grain. Steps are made along the grain-boundary.

**Chemical reaction:**



# Buffered Chemical Polishing (BCP)



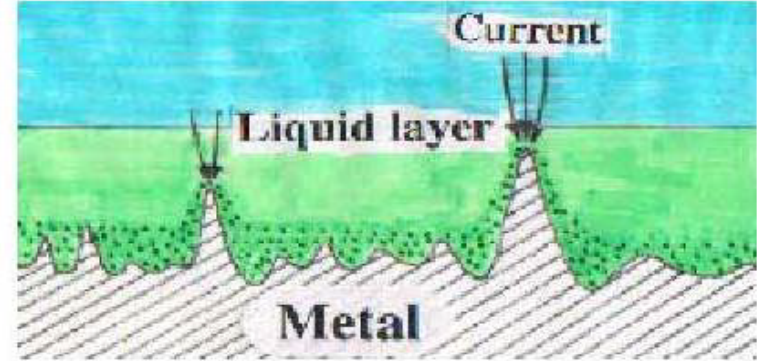
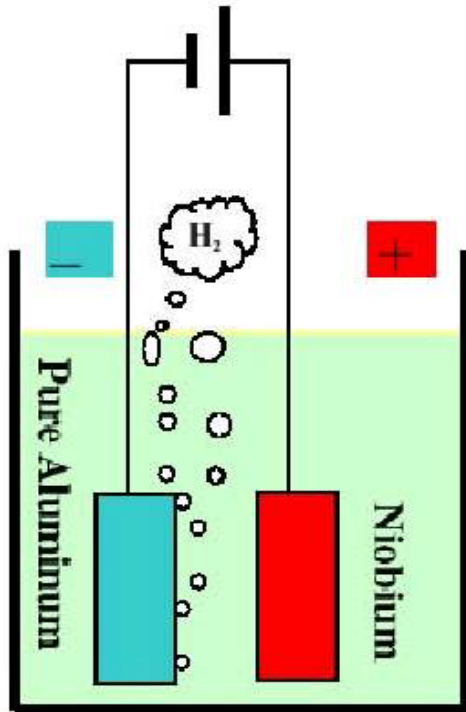
Typical surface roughness = 2 ~ 5  $\mu\text{m}$  after 100 $\mu\text{m}$  CP,

Material removal speed ~ 10 $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$  at the room temperature with CP acid 1:1:1

CP is faster in material removing than EP.

The roughness is related to the steps along the grain-boundary.  
And so the toughness changes if the grain-size of Nb material changes.

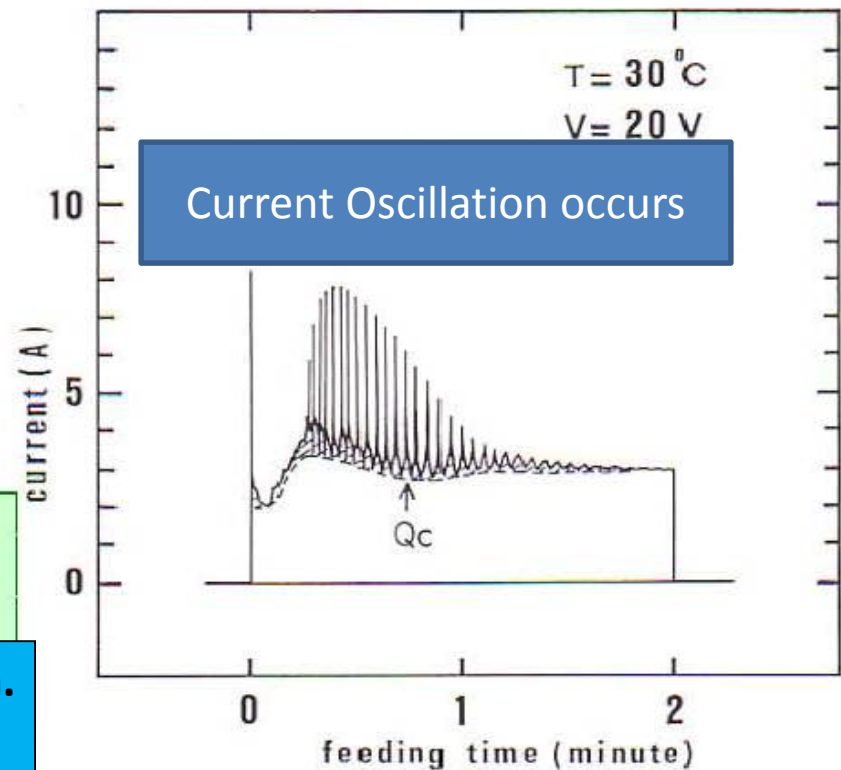
# Electro-Polishing (EP)



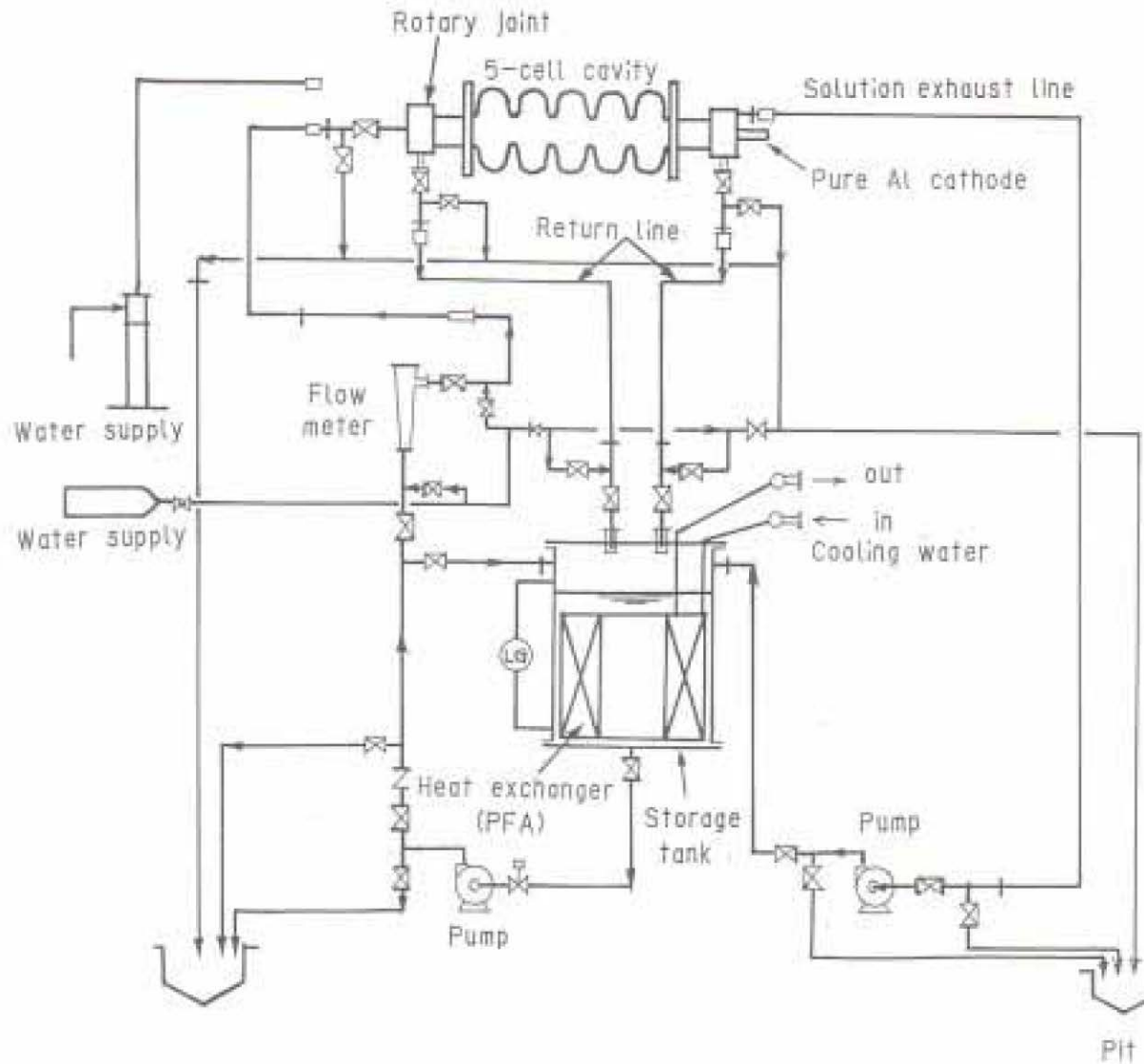
**Acid:**  
 $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 (>93\%): \text{HF}(46\%) = 10:1 \text{ V/V}$

**Chemical reaction:**  
$$2\text{Nb} + 10\text{HF} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{NbOF}_5 + 5\text{H}_2 \uparrow$$

Sulfuric acid is not included in the reaction.  
It gives the viscosity to the electrolyte.



# EP System Flow

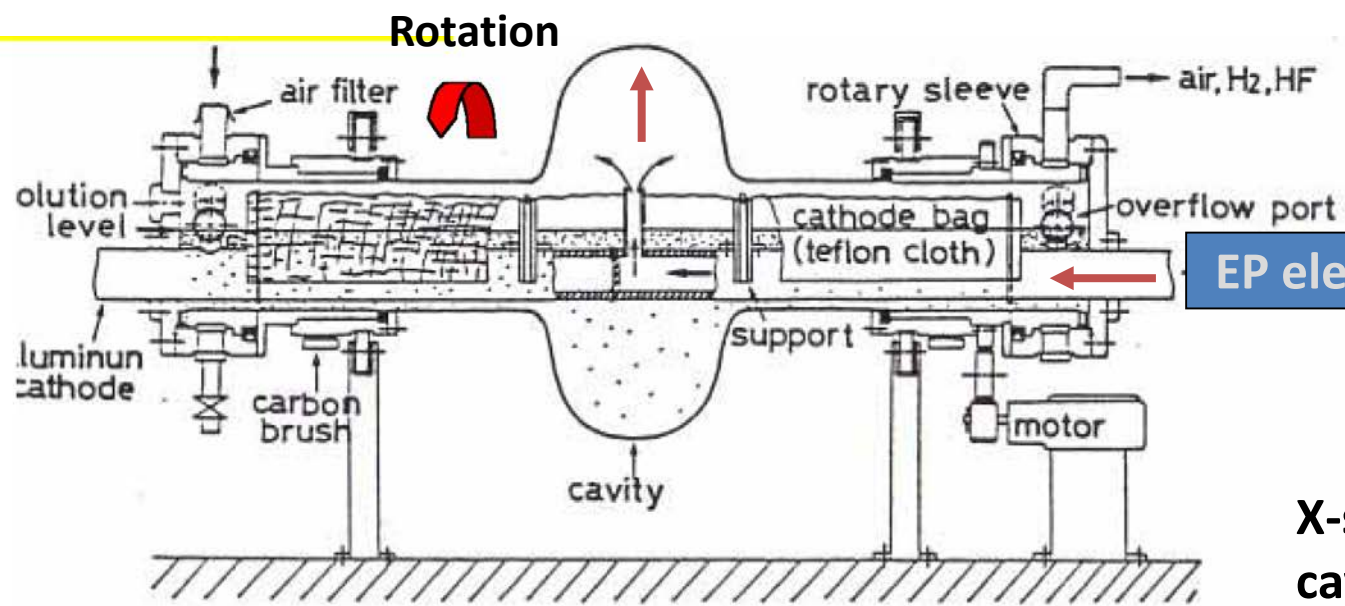




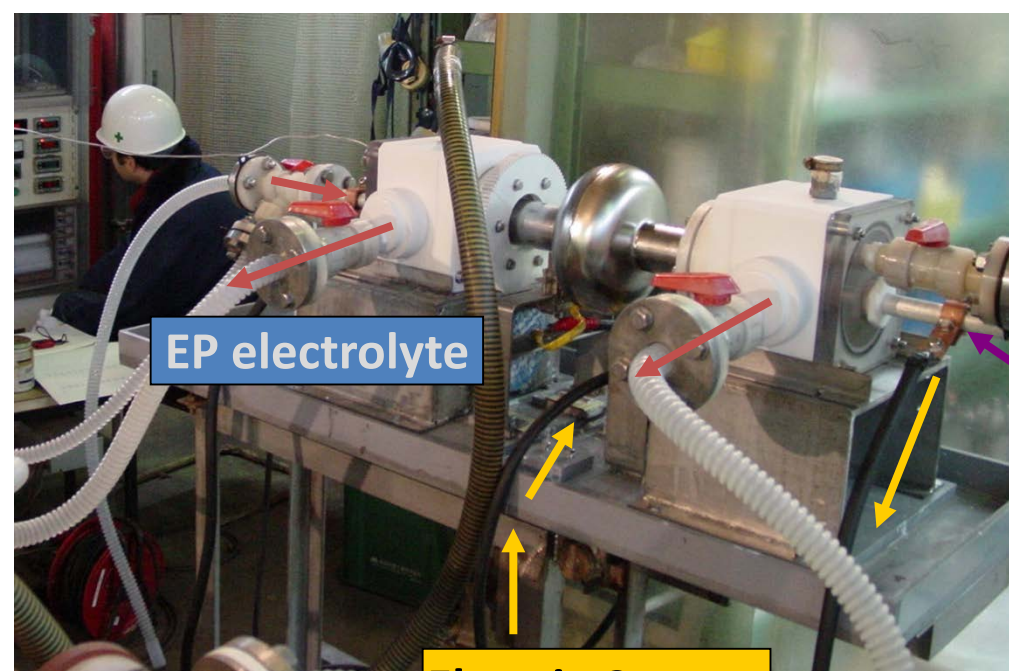
# Horizontal EP system for single-cell cavity



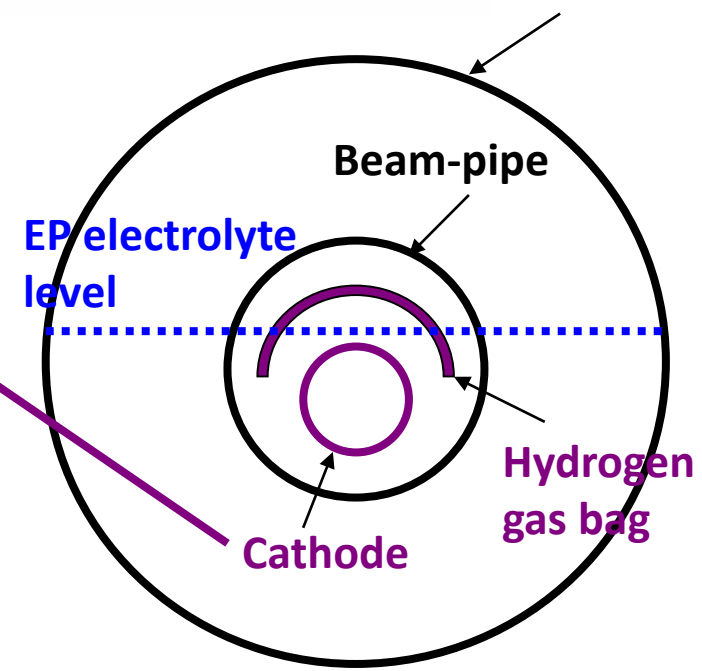




**X-section of cavity at cell**

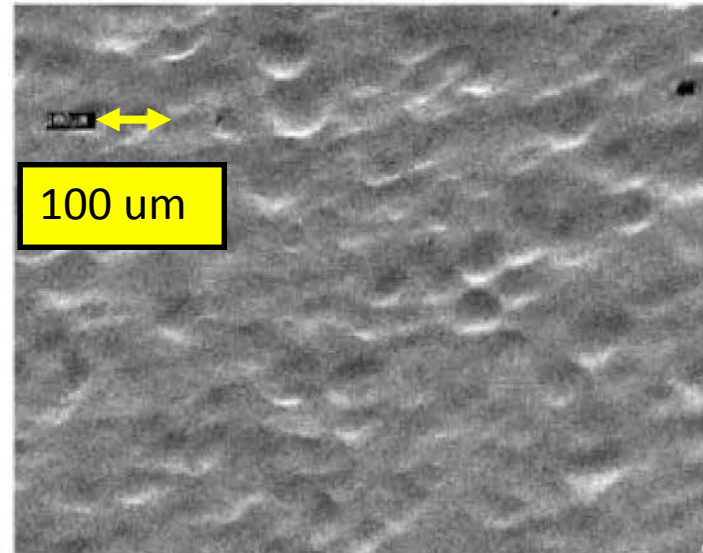
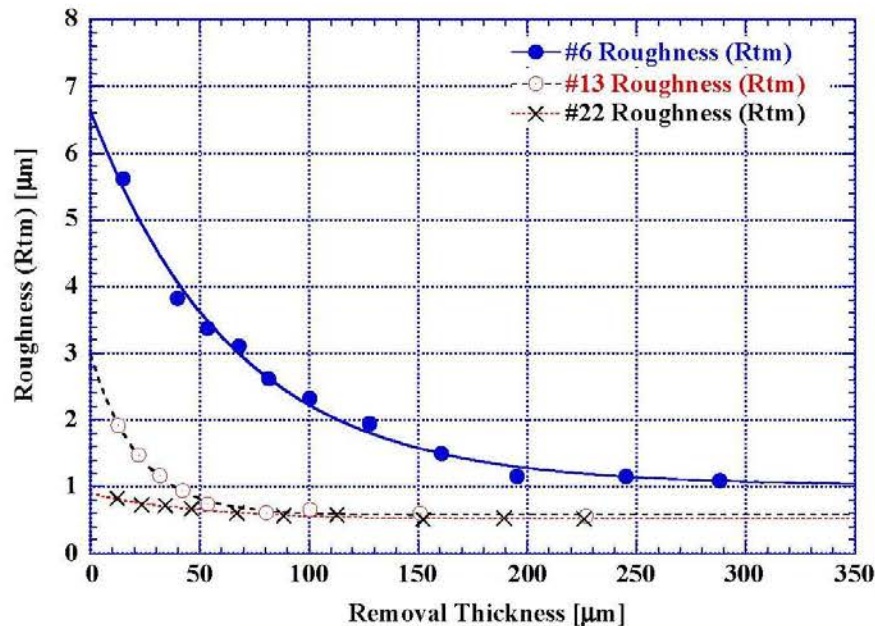


**Electric Current**



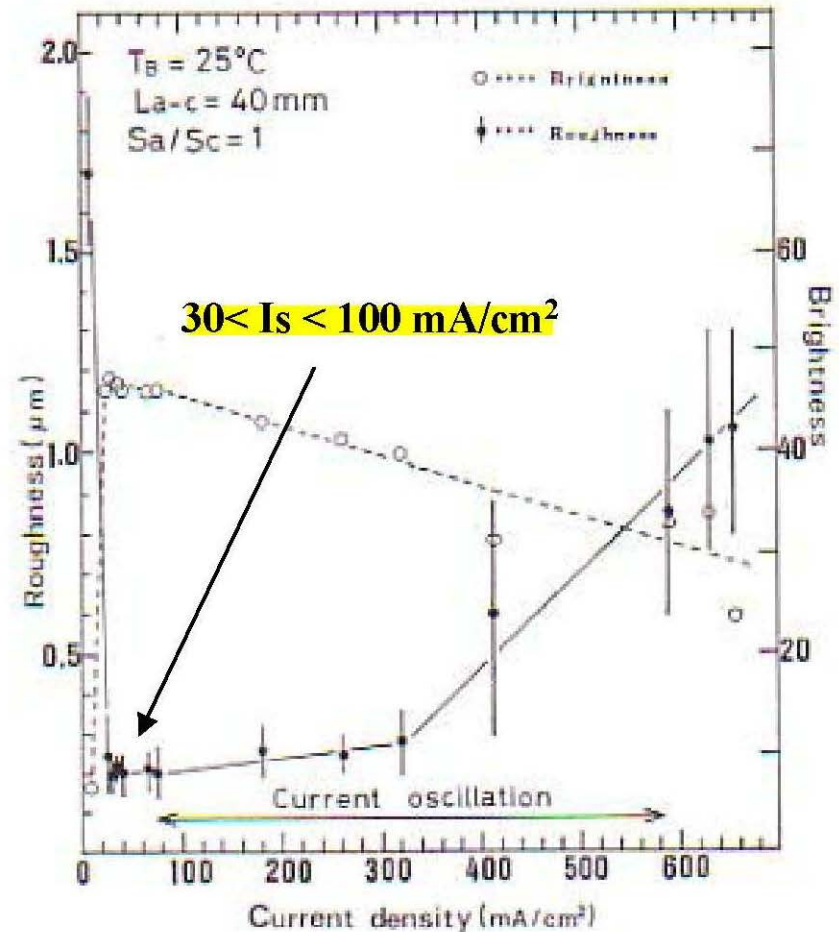
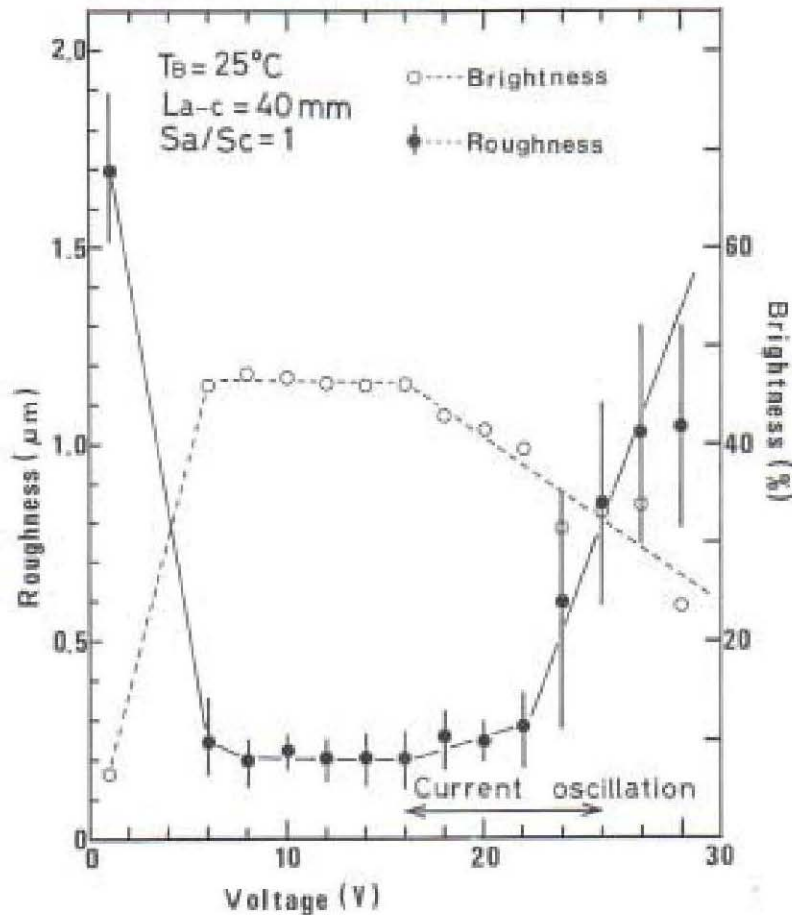


# EP Finishing



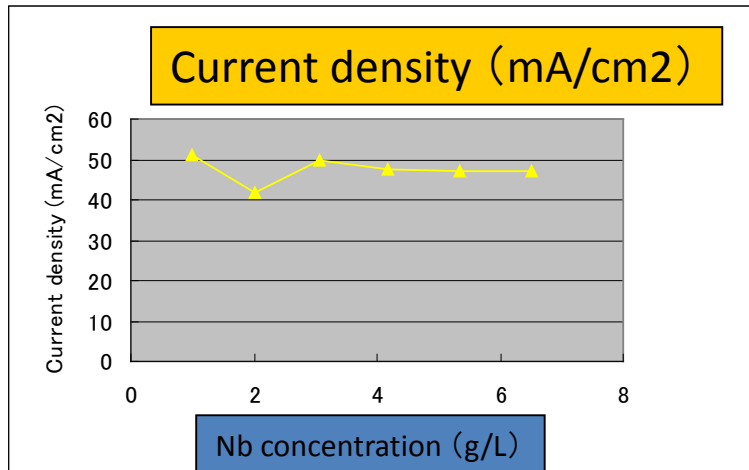
- 1) The final roughness depends on the initial roughness.
- 2) The roughness goes down as the exponential function to the removal.
- 3) Steps are not created along the grain-boundary. This causes smooth surface.
- 4) If voltage is switched off, the process stops. The control of process is easier than BCP.

# What is the curtail EP parameter?



Voltage or Current density ? This is a coupled problem.

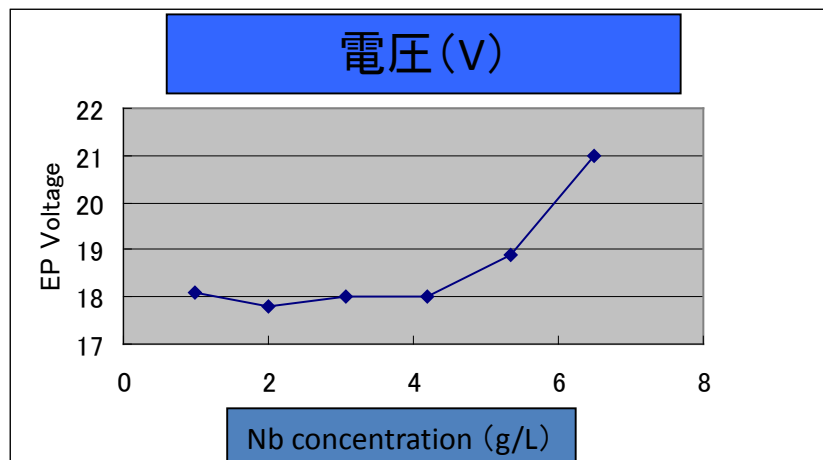
# Nb concentration in EP electrolyte



Repeating EP processes under the constant current density( = 50mA/cm<sup>2</sup>).

If Nb concentration increased beyond 9 g/L, the surface finish is going to be rough. And sulfur contamination increase also.

= > If this difficulty is overcome, the cost of mass-production can be lowered.

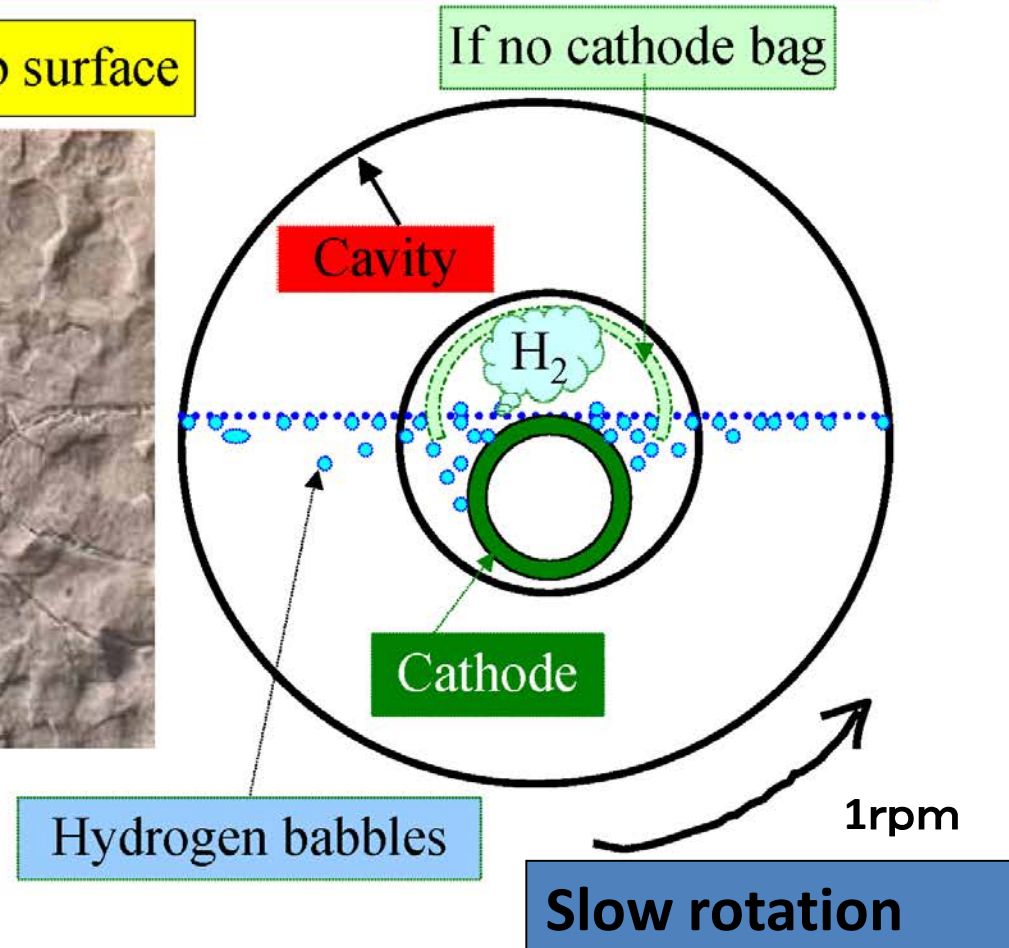
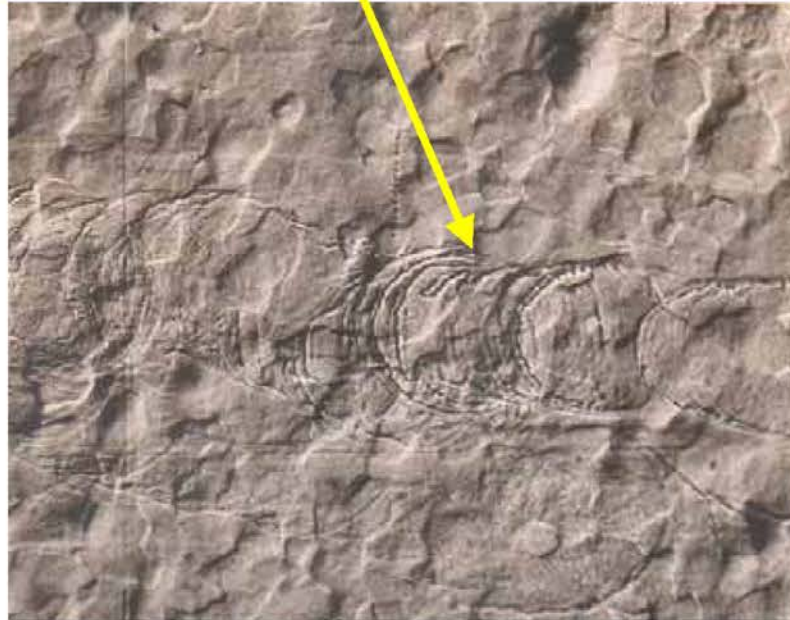


In this experiment, the voltage increased with the increase of Nb concentration.



# Cathode Bag

Hydrogen babble trace on Nb surface

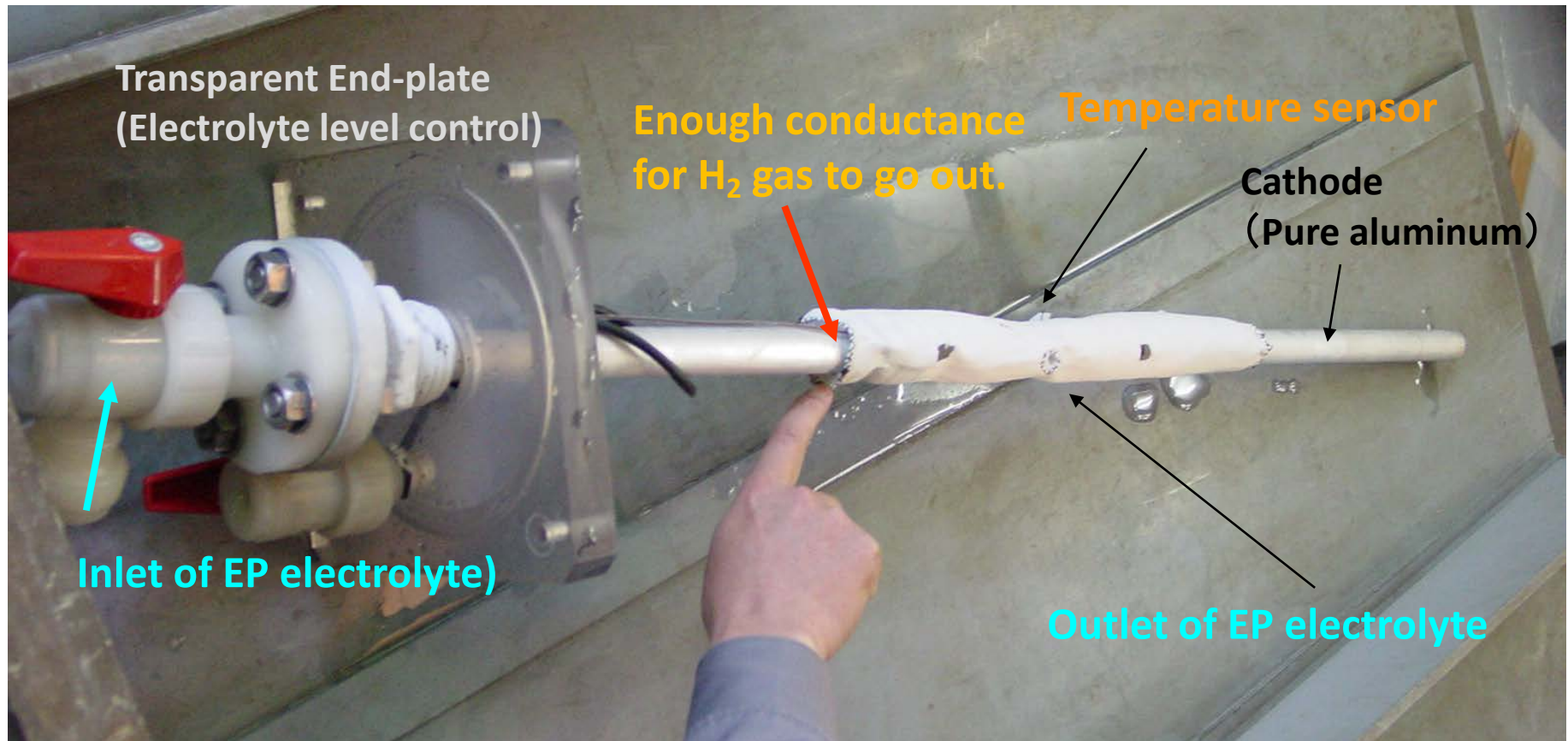


Hydrogen-gas bag should be set on the cathode appropriately. Otherwise, hydrogen-gas goes into the inner wall of cavity and causes Q-disease (low Q from low gradient).



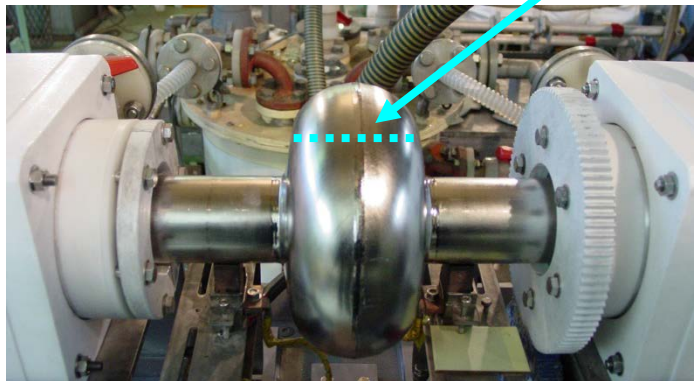
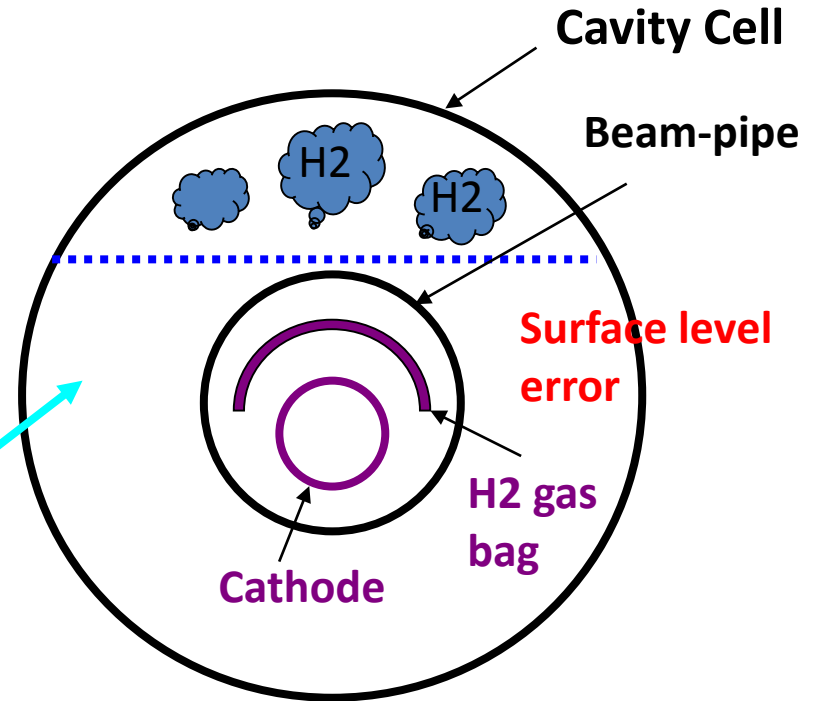
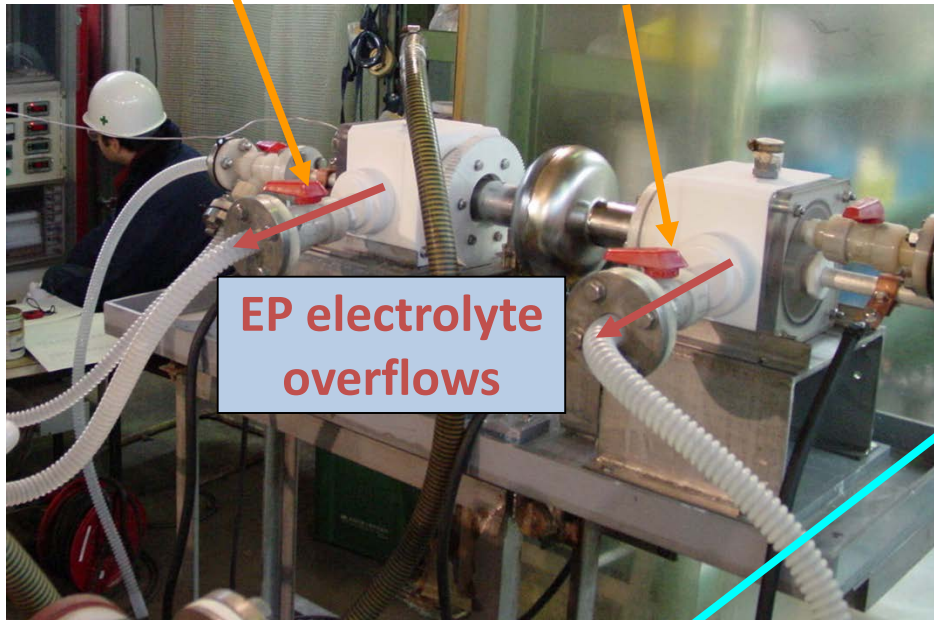
# Cathode and H<sub>2</sub> Gas Bag

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# Level control of EP electrolyte

EP acid output valves for level control

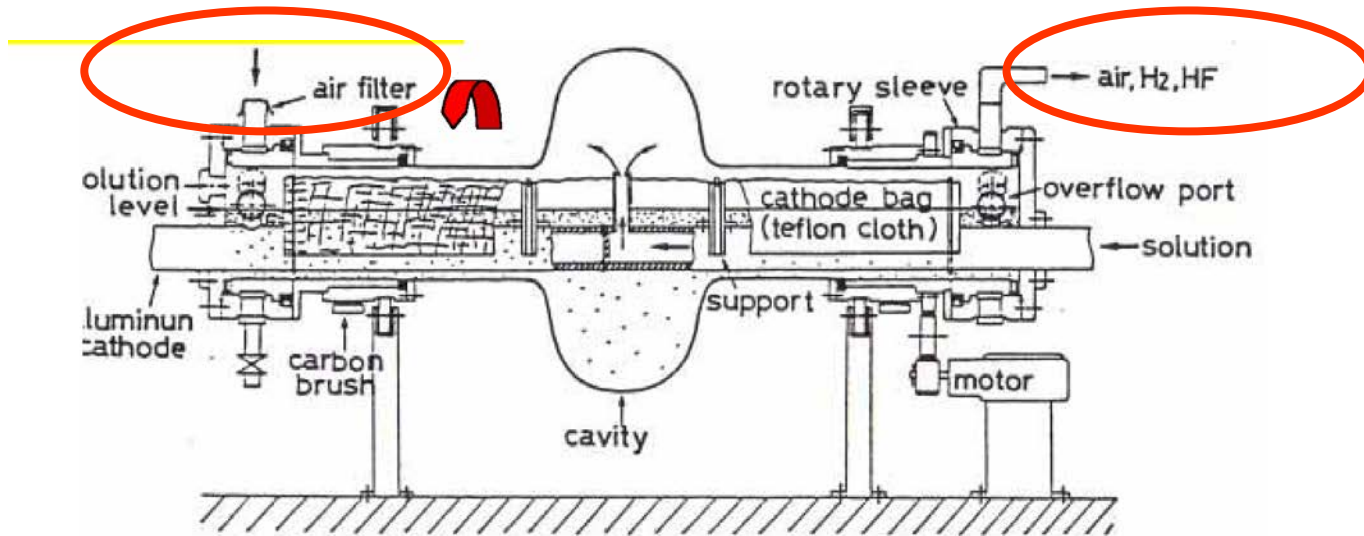


Surface level error

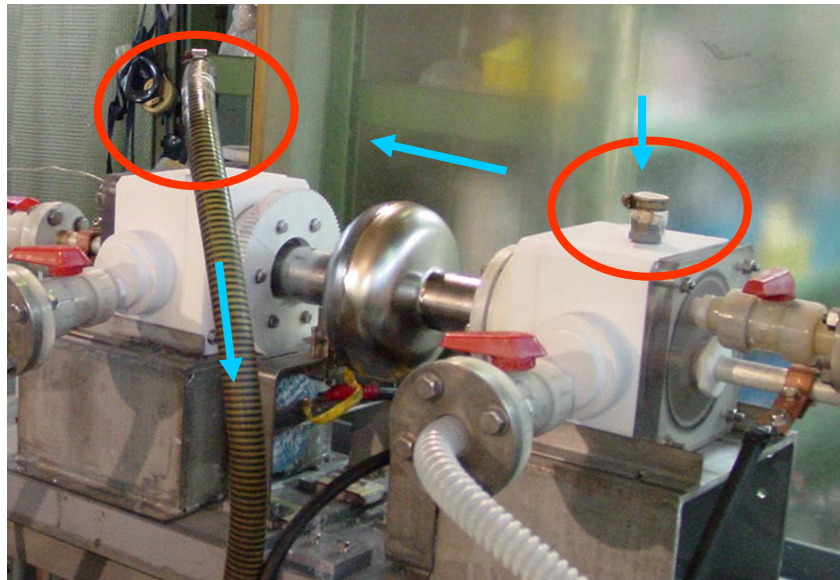
Failure of surface level of EP acid causes accumulation of  $H_2$  gas in the cell.

↓  
**Q-disease**  
**(Low Q from low gradient)**

## Exhaust/Suction of Hydrogen Gas



## Exhaust/Suction of H<sub>2</sub> gas





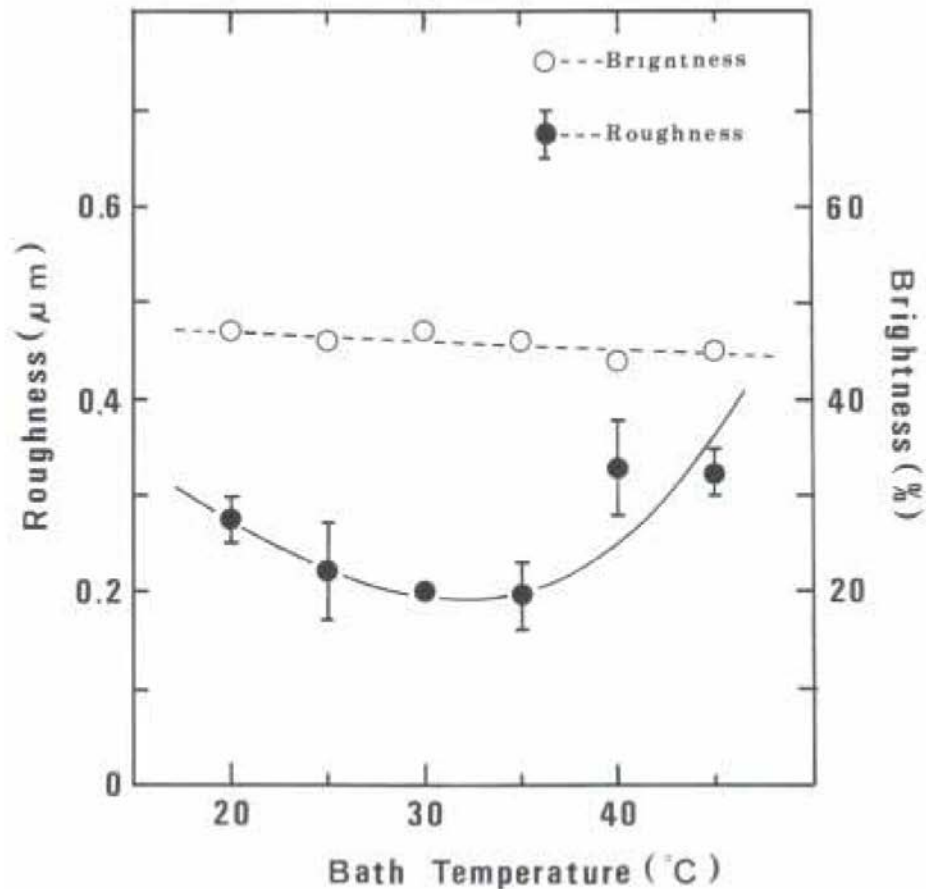
# Evaporation of HF from EP electrolyte

This valve is open during the EP process in order to exhaust hydrogen gas. But after EP process finished, this valve should be closed. If you keep this valve open, the HF evaporates and you lose HF concentration in EP electrolyte.





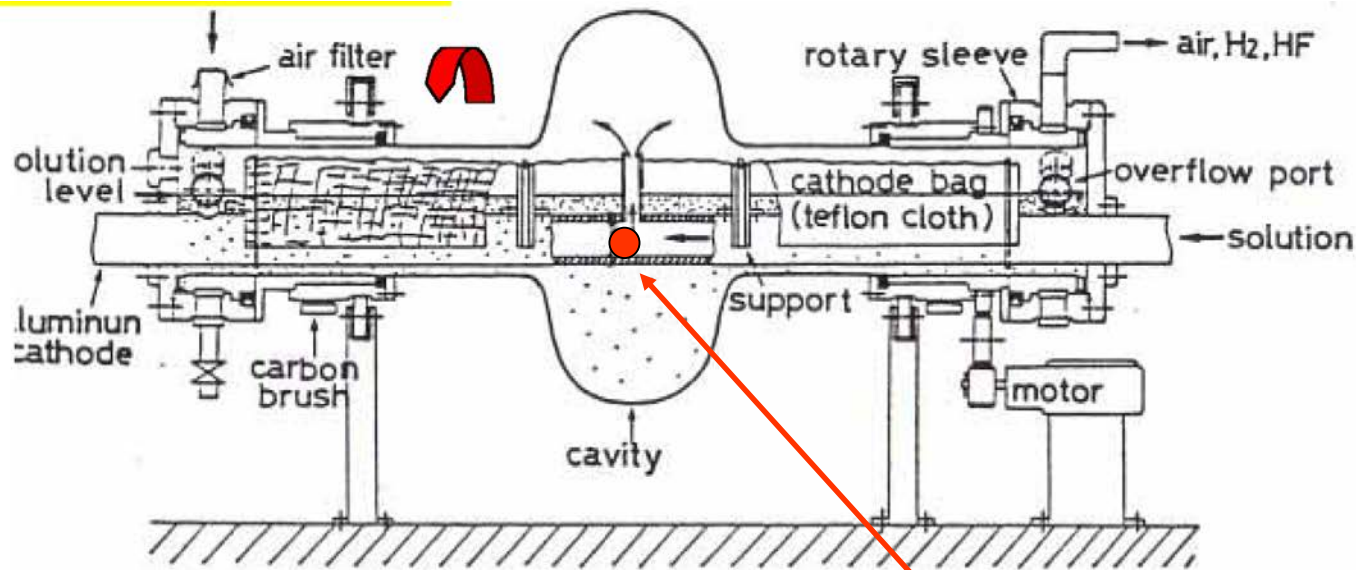
# Temperature Effect on EP Finishing



$25 < T < 35^{\circ}\text{C}$

$T > 35^{\circ}\text{C}$

$\Rightarrow$  Higher risk for Q-disease



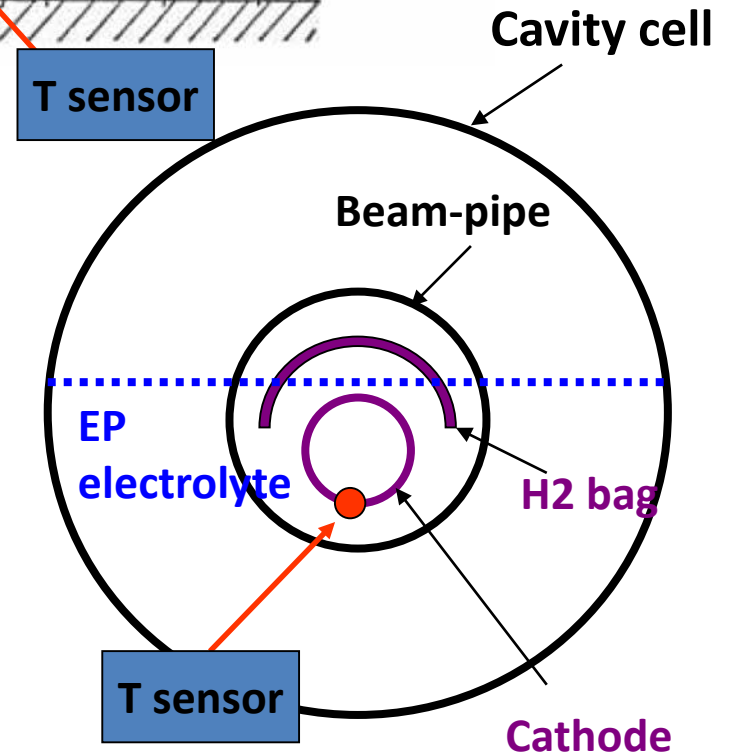
Control of EP electrolyte temperature  $T$  inside cavity is important.

Related parameters to  $T$  (inside cavity):

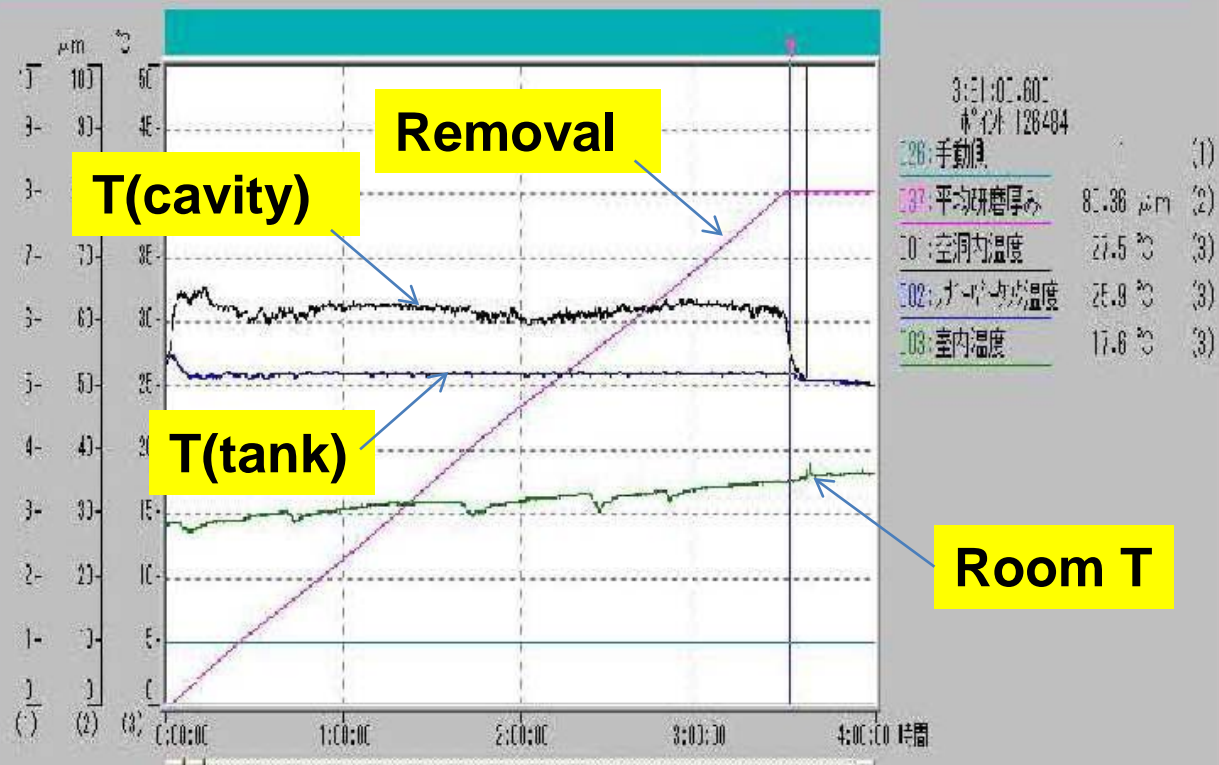
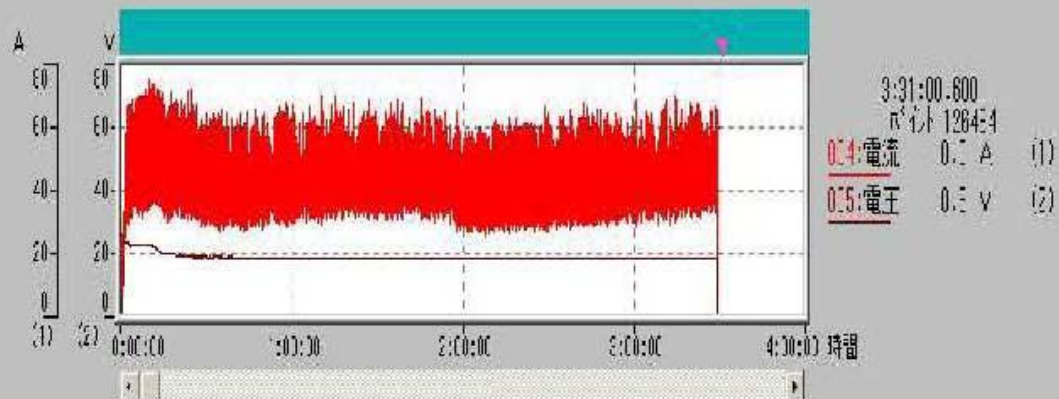
$V, I$  increase, then  $T(\text{cav.})$  increases.

Flow rate of EP electrolyte increases, then  $T(\text{cav.})$  decreases.

$T$  of EP electrolyte in EP tank increases, then  $T(\text{cav.})$  increases.

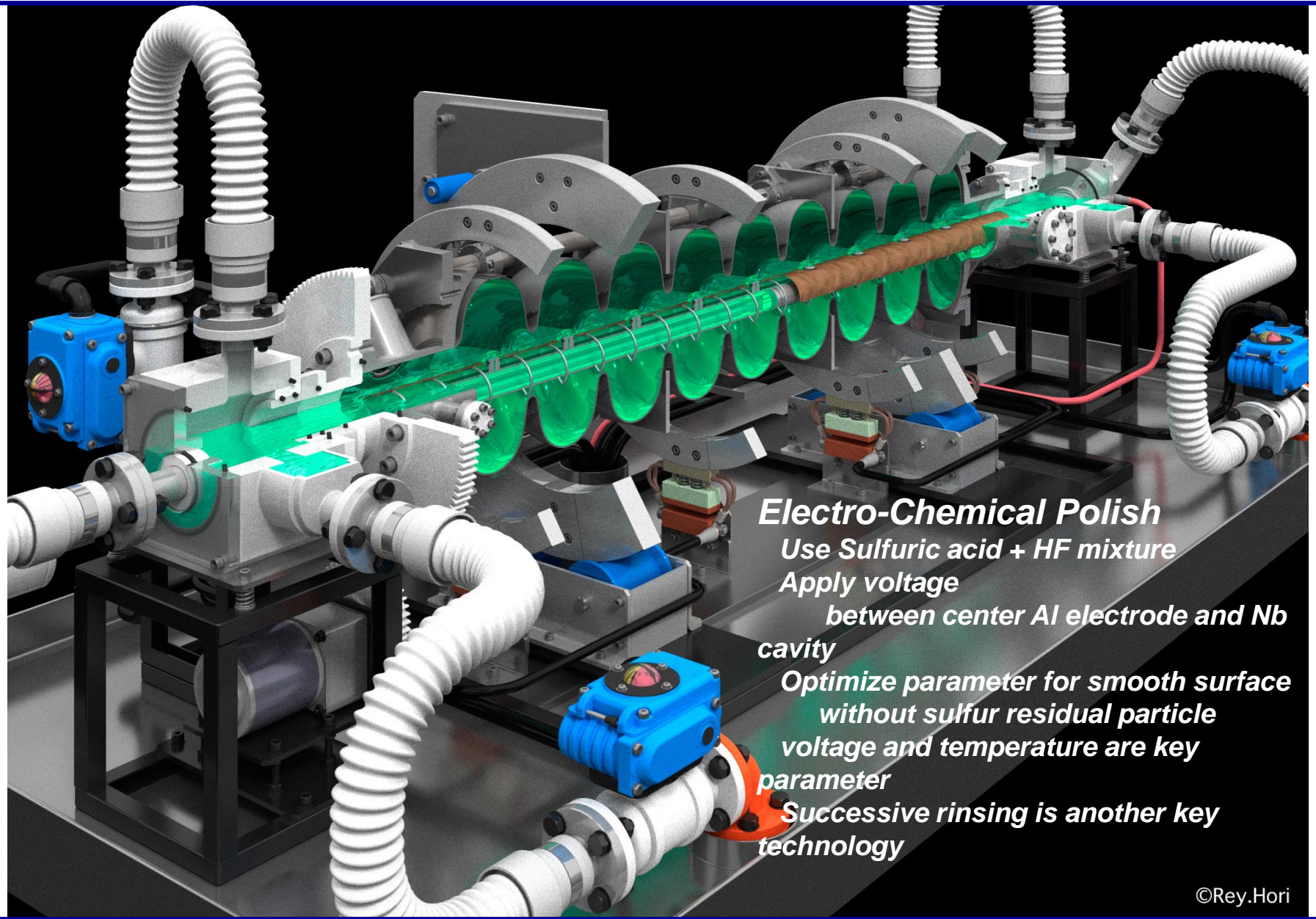


# Parameters (EP)





# Electro-Chemical polishing inside 9-cell cavity



## **Electro-Chemical Polish**

*Use Sulfuric acid + HF mixture*

*Apply voltage*

*between center Al electrode and Nb cavity*

*Optimize parameter for smooth surface  
without sulfur residual particle  
voltage and temperature are key  
parameter*

*Successive rinsing is another key  
technology*



# Electro-polishing facility at STF/KEK

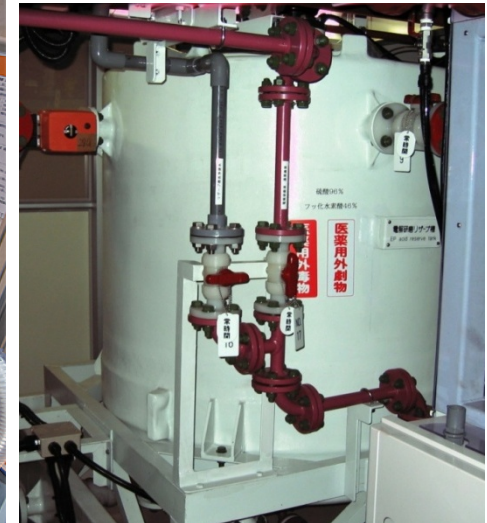
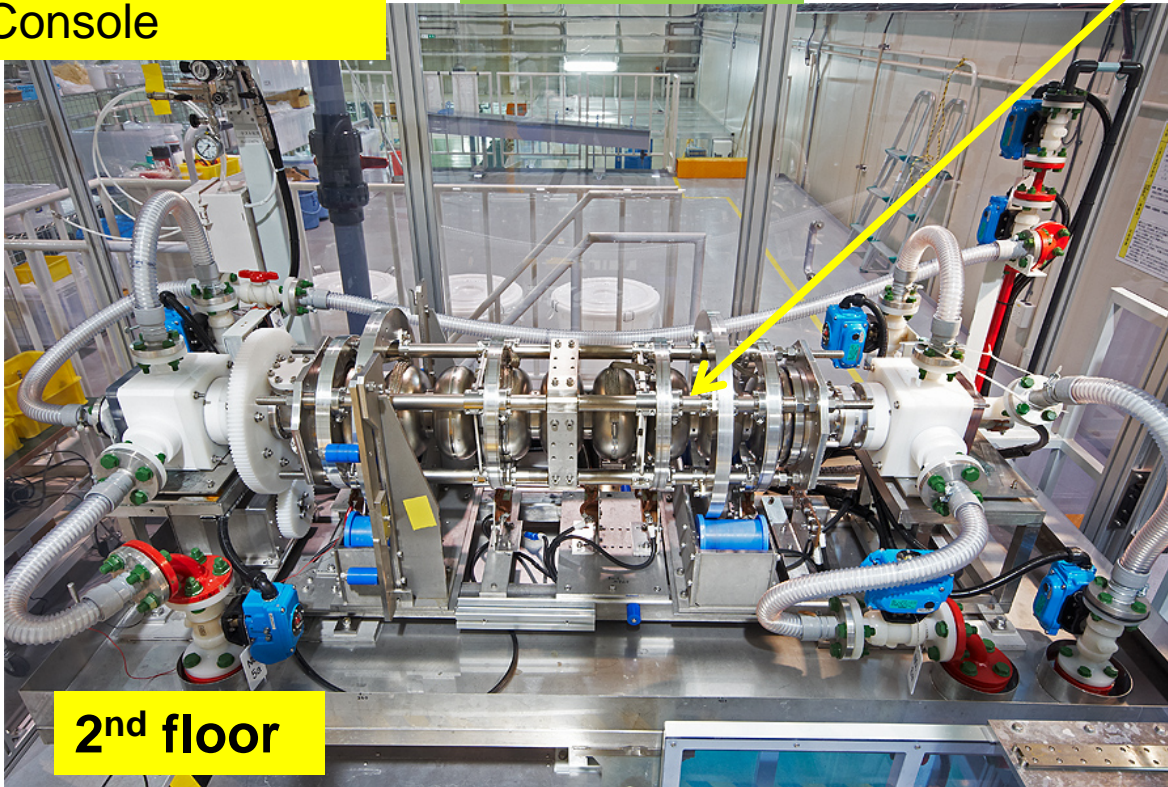


Automatic  
Operation  
Console

EP bed

9-cell cavity

1<sup>st</sup> floor



EP solution  
reservoir tank

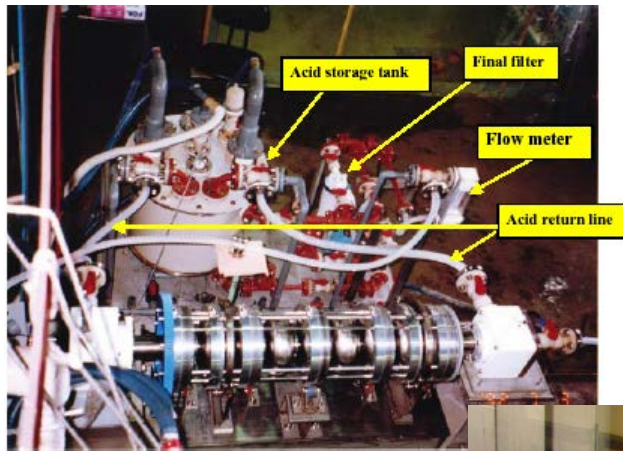
## EP facility at KEK

EP acid:  $\text{HF} + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ , Aluminum anode,  
surface removal speed:  $20\mu\text{m}/\text{hour}$ ,  $V \sim 18\text{V}$ ,  $I \sim 270\text{A}$ ,  $T \sim 30\text{degC}$  (for 9-cell),  
cavity rotation: 1 rpm.



# Various EP systems in the world

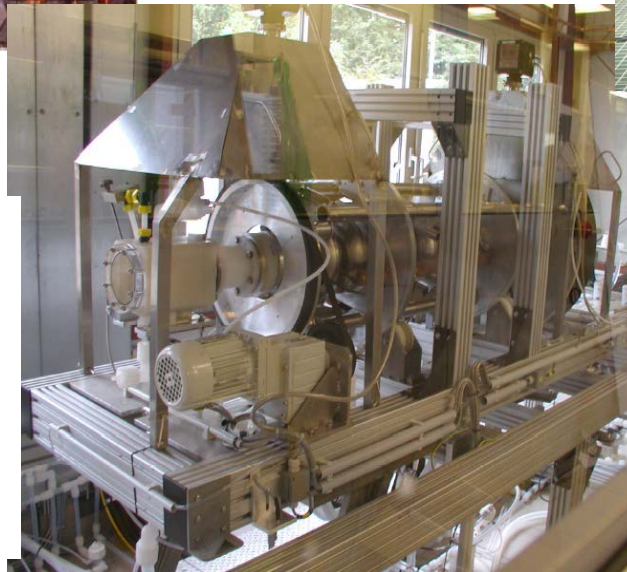
KEK/Nomura Plating



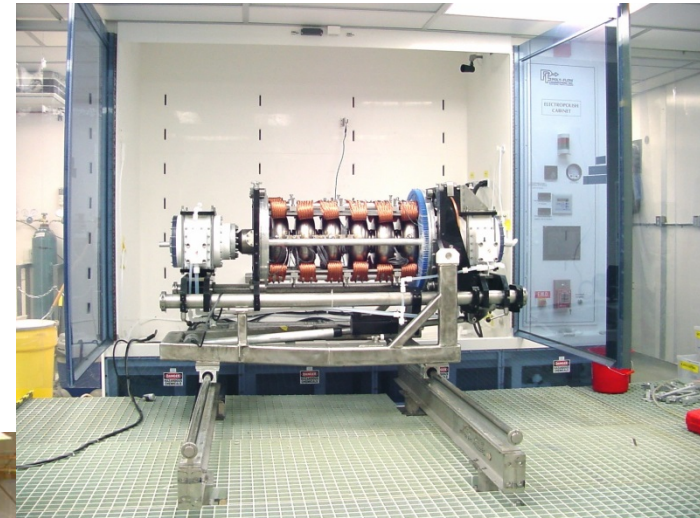
DESY



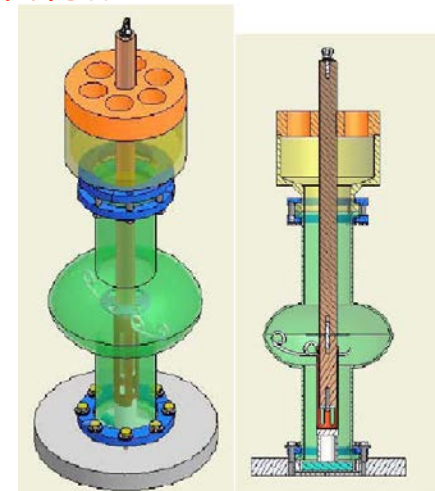
INFN



JLab



Cornell





# Annealing / Degassing

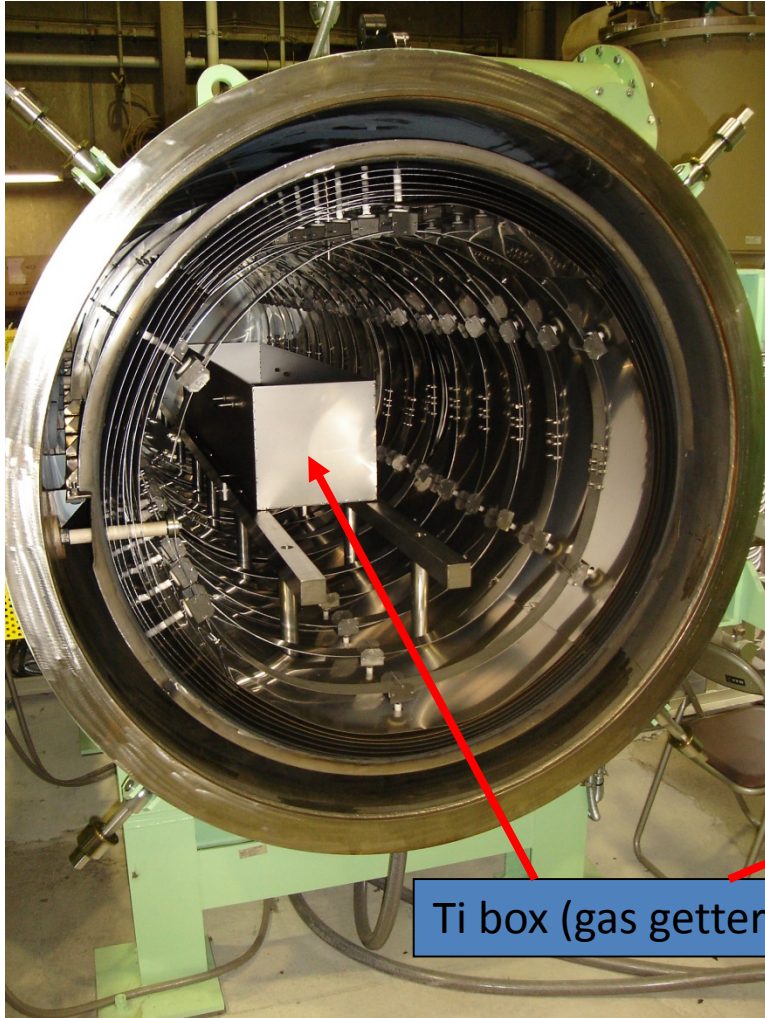


**Annealing / degassing furnace at KEK : Two 9-cell cavity can be processed at once. Designed to consider about the super-structure (Super-structure is consisting of two connected 9-cell cavities with one input-coupler).**

# Annealing / Degassing

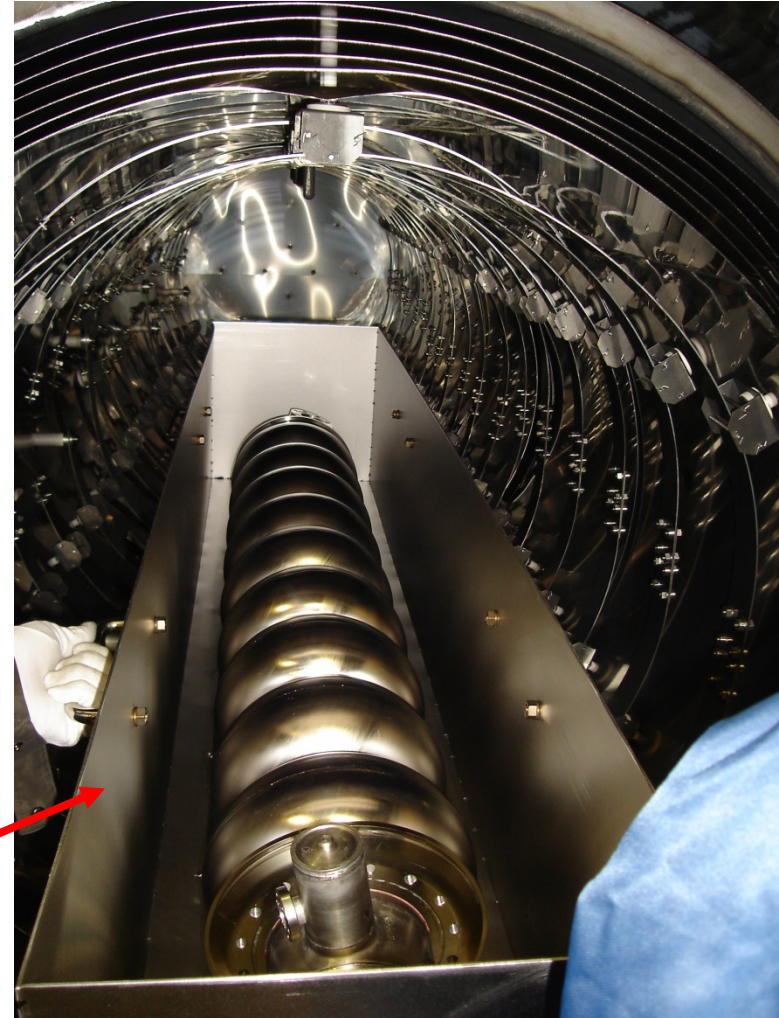


Vacuum Furnce



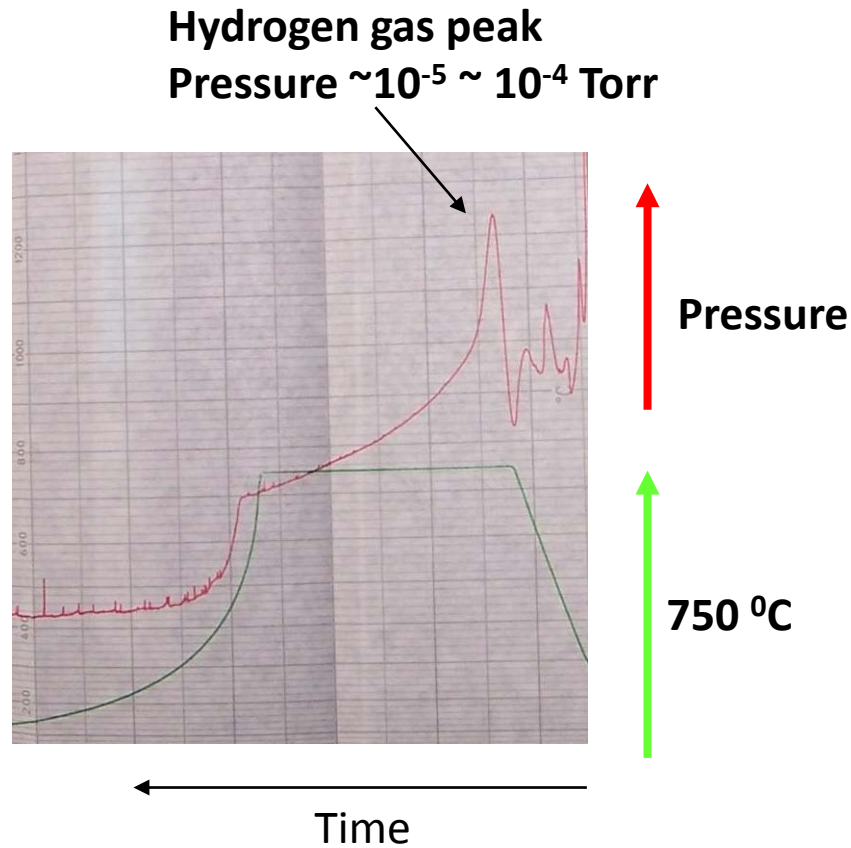
Ti box (gas getter)

Cavity is set in a Ti box (gas getter)





# Annealing / Degassing

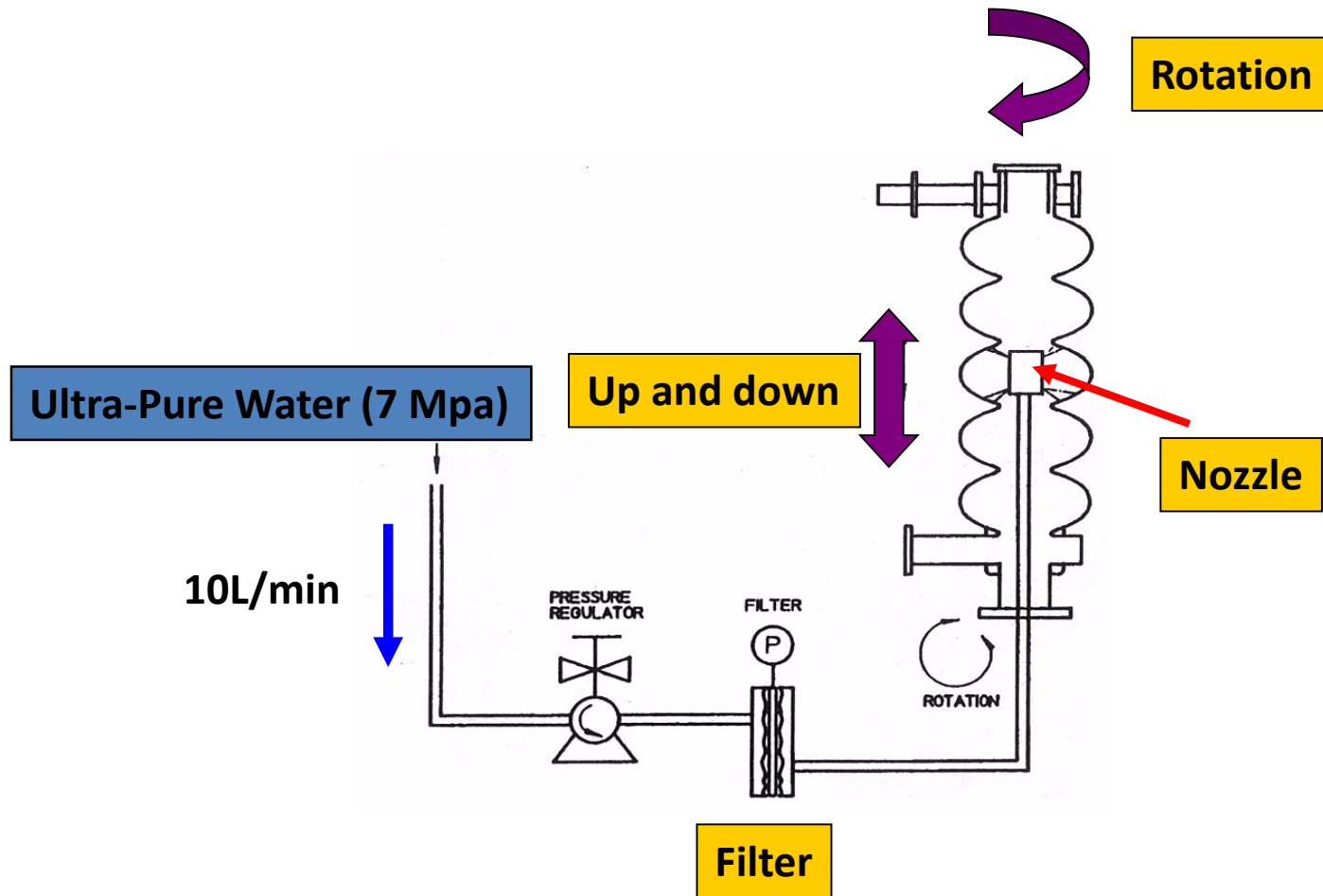


**KEK recipe : 750 °C, 3 hours.**

**Hydrogen gas can be degassed.**

**Hydrogen in the Nb material causes Q-disease that degrades the Q value.**

# High Pressure Rinse (HPR)





# High Pressure Rinse (HPR)

Cavity



Pressure = 7 MPa

Flow rate = 10 L/min.

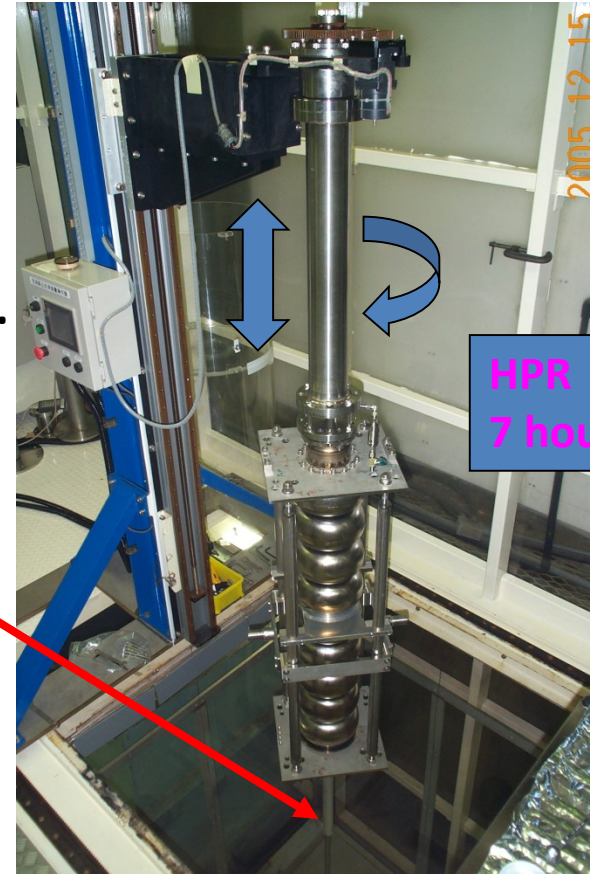
Nozzle

Ultra Pure Water

Specific resistance = 18 M Ohm cm

TOC = 10 – 20 ppb

Bacteria = 0 – 3 count / mL



HPR is a strong tool to clean up the inside of cavity.



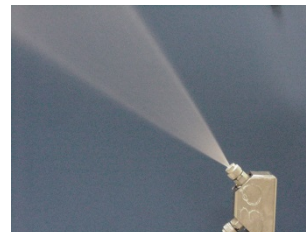
# Various High Pressure Rinse (HPR) machines



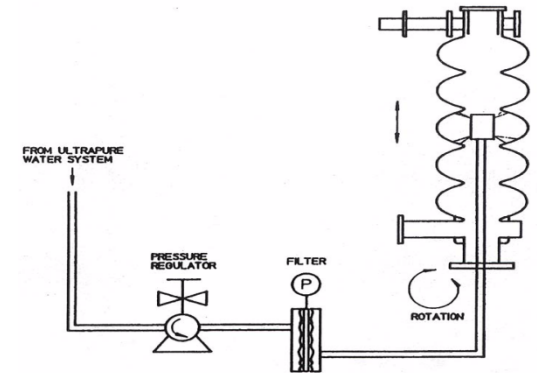
DESY-System



Jlab HPR Cabinet

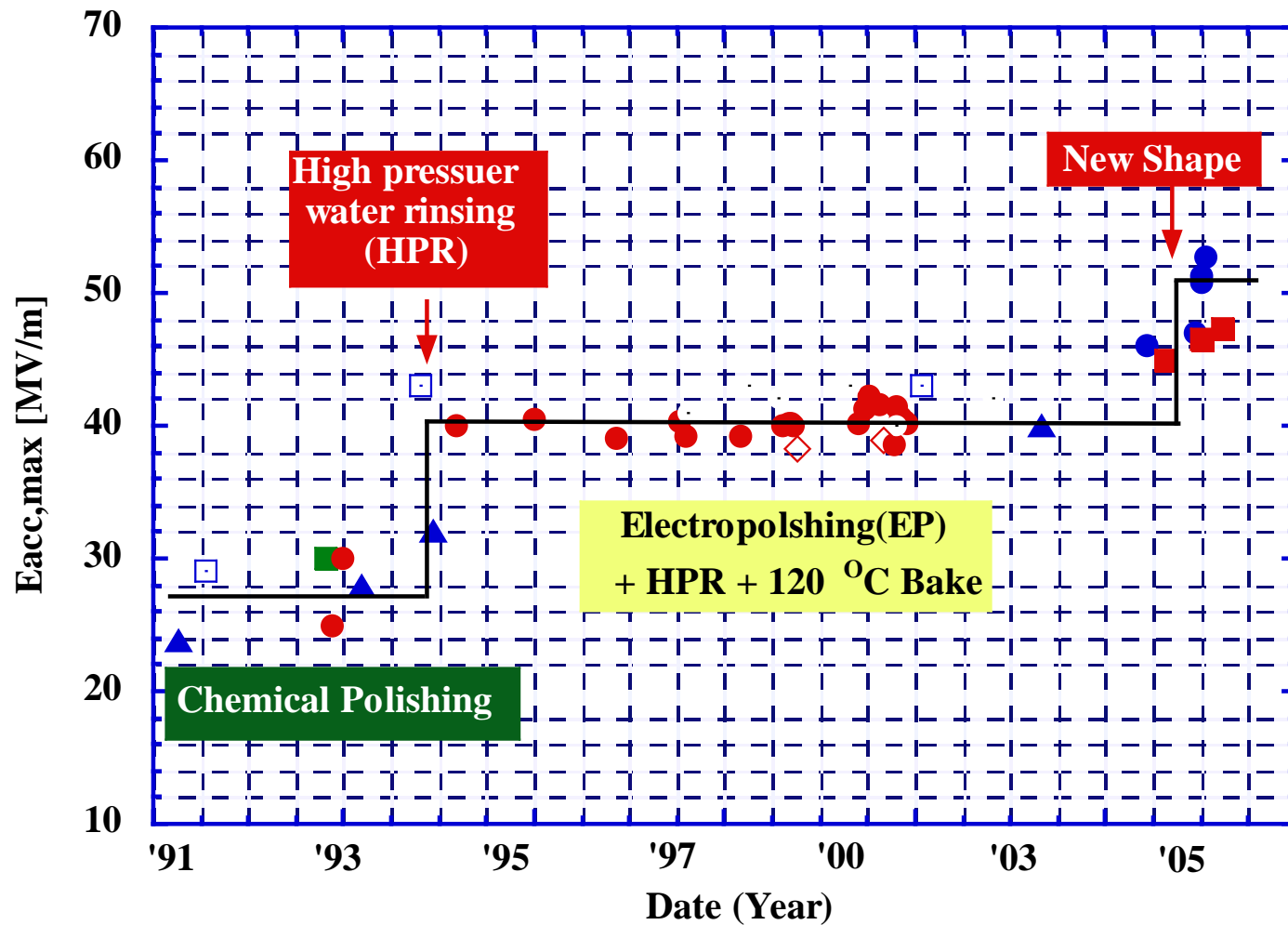


KEK-System





# Breakthrough by HPR





# Assembly in Clean Room

HEPA filter (class 100)

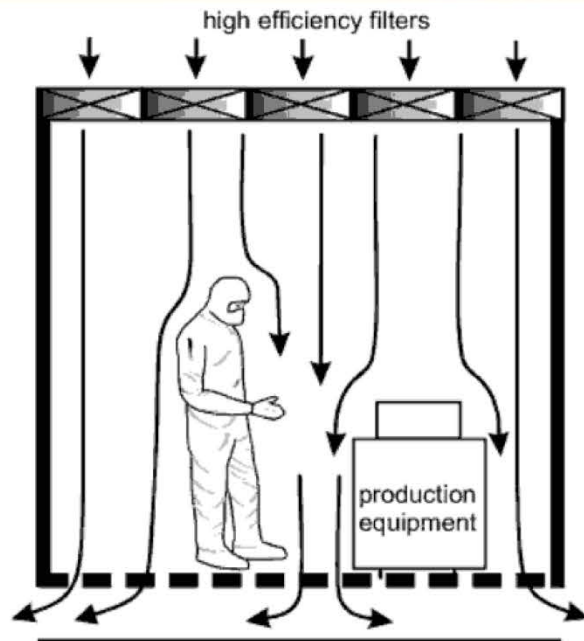
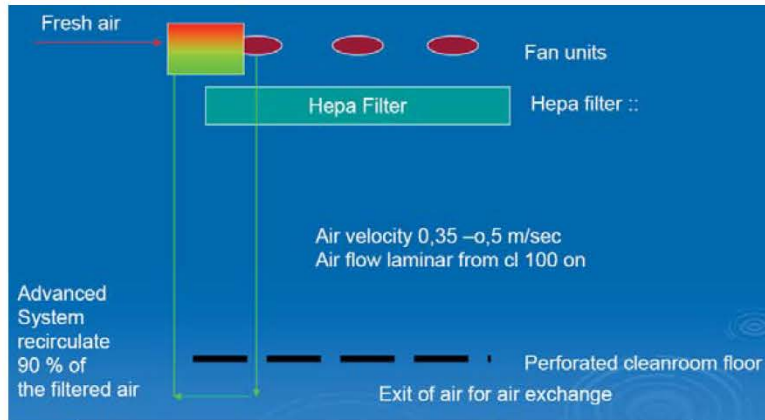
ULPA filter (class 10)



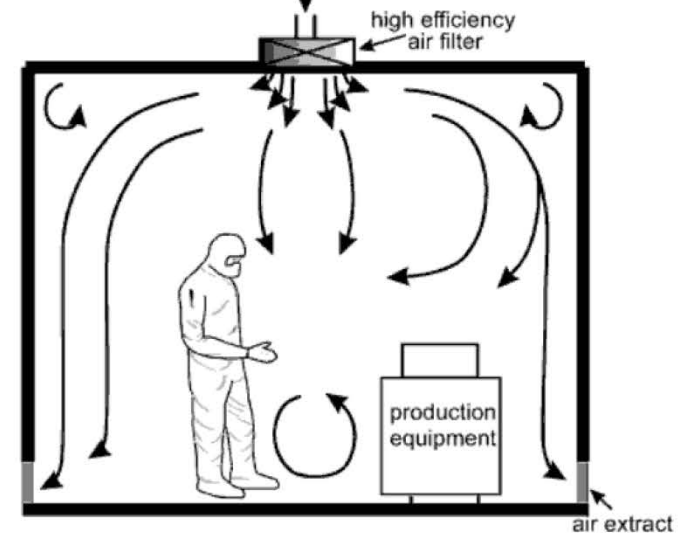
Clean-room



# Type of Cleanrooms



## Non-Unidirectional airflow type (JLab)



## Unidirectional airflow type (DESY)



# Cleanroom Classification

ISO  
Classification  
number

Maximum concentration limits (particles/m<sup>3</sup> of air) for particles equal to and larger than the considered sizes shown below

$\geq 0.1\mu\text{m}$   $\geq 0.2\mu\text{m}$   $\geq 0.3\mu\text{m}$   $\geq 0.5\mu\text{m}$   $\geq 1\mu\text{m}$   $\geq 5.0\mu\text{m}$

ISO Class 1	10	2				
ISO Class 2	100	24	10	4		
ISO Class 3	1 000	237	102	35	8	
ISO Class 4	10 000	2 370	1 020	352	83	
ISO Class 5	100 000	23 700	10 200	3 520	832	29
ISO Class 6	1 000 000	237 000	102 000	35 200	8 320	293
ISO Class 7				352 000	83 200	2 930
ISO Class 8				3 520 000	832 000	29 300
ISO Class 9				35 200 000	8 320 000	293 000

ISO 14644-1 Classes  
FS 209 Classes

Class 3  
Class 1

Class 4  
Class 10

Class 5  
Class 100

Class 6  
Class 1000

Class 7  
Class 10,000

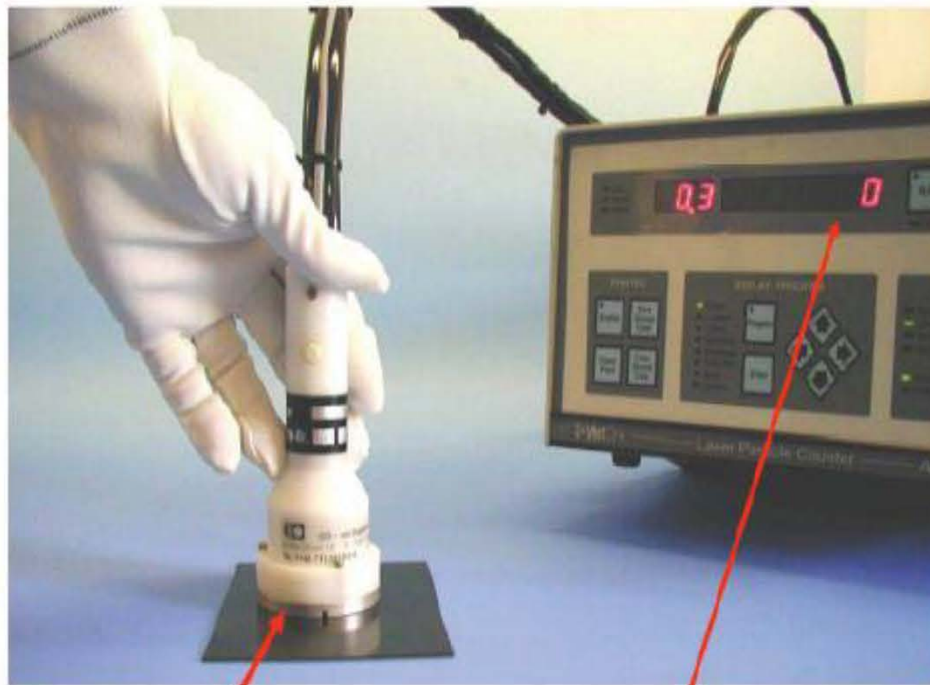
Class 8  
Class 100,000

↑  
**Cavity  
assembly**

↑  
**Cleanroom  
for SRF**



# Particle Counters

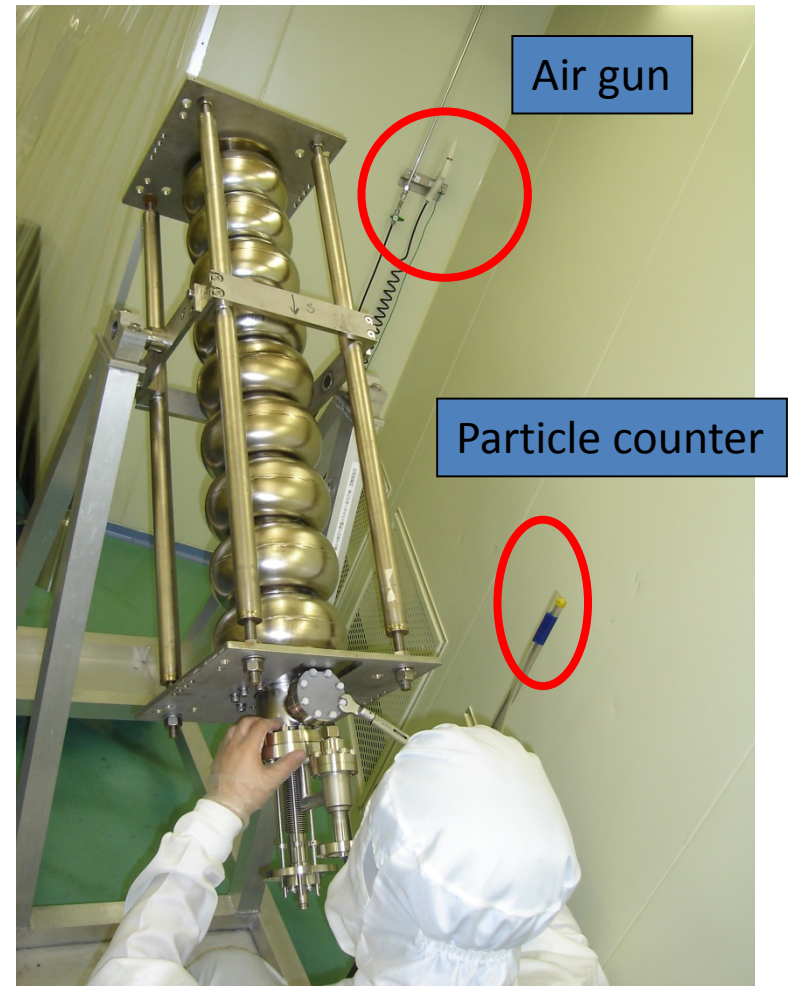
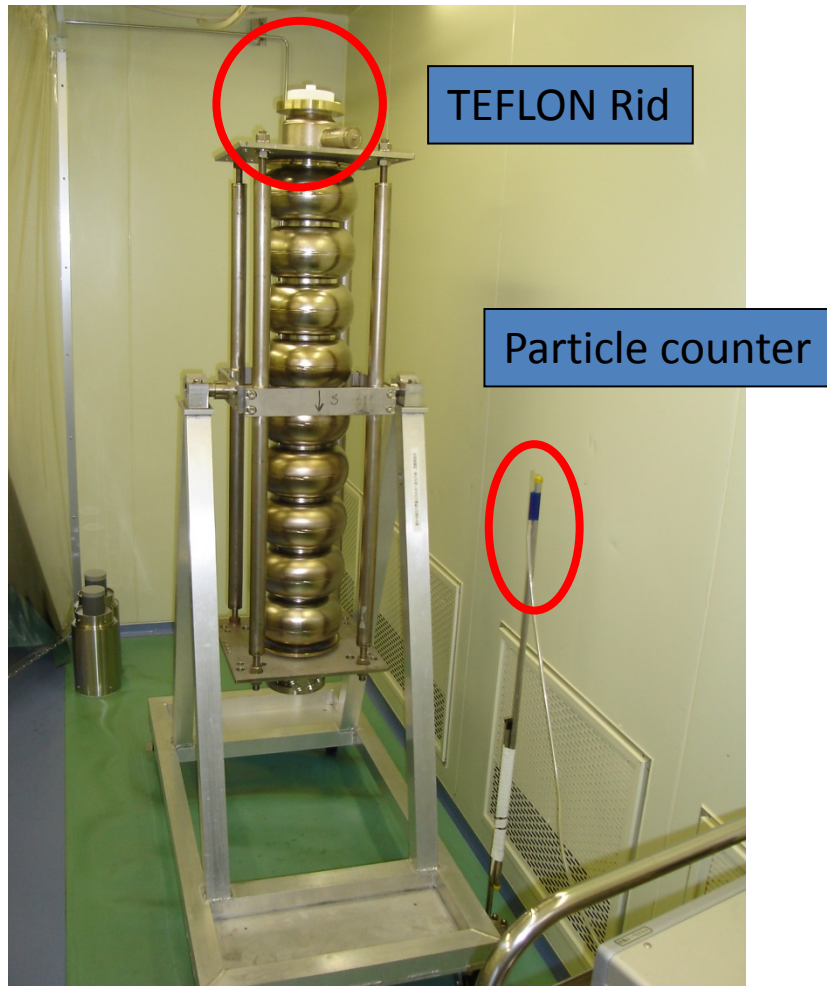


Samplehead

Particlecounter

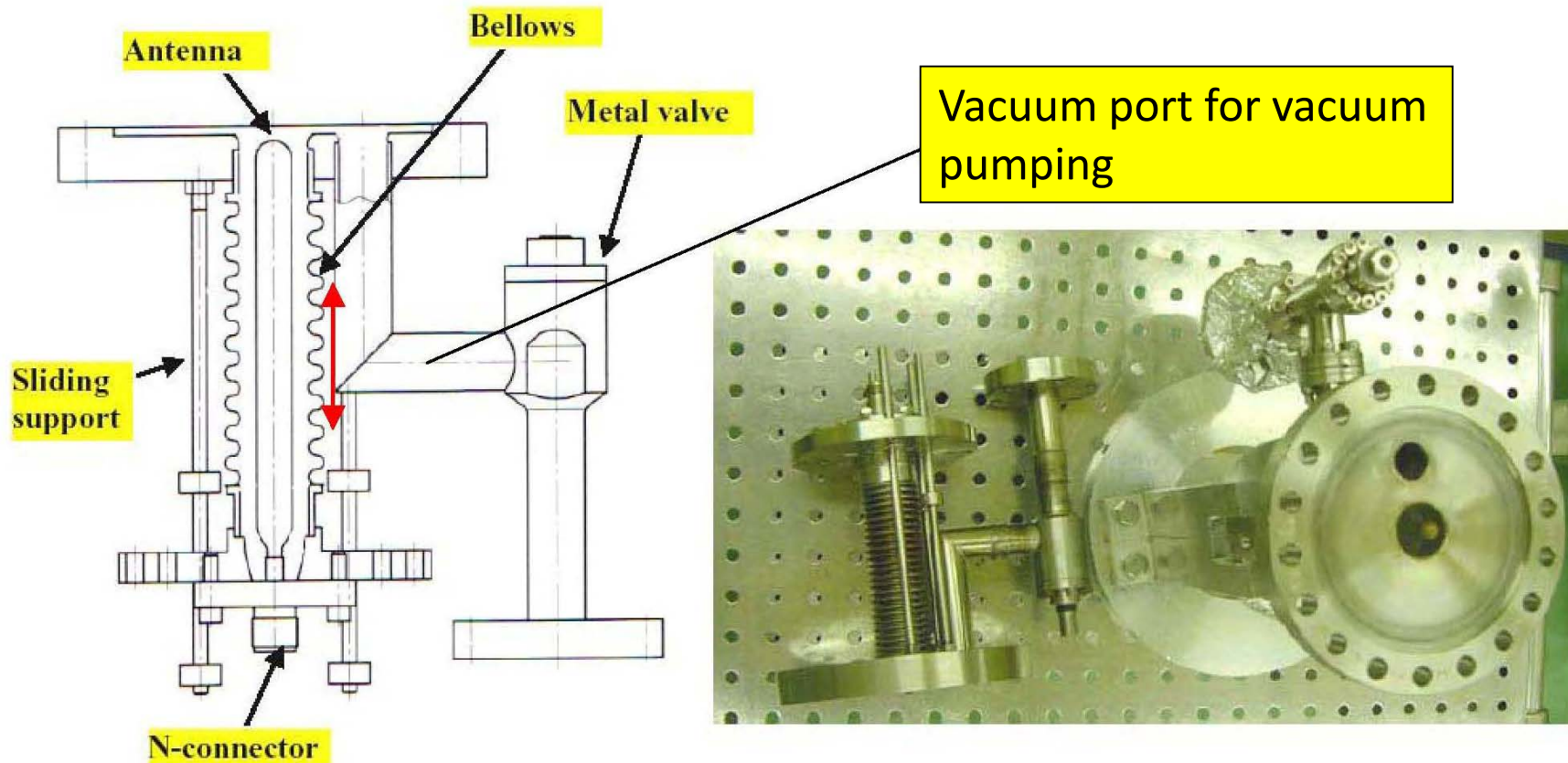


# Assembly in Clean Room





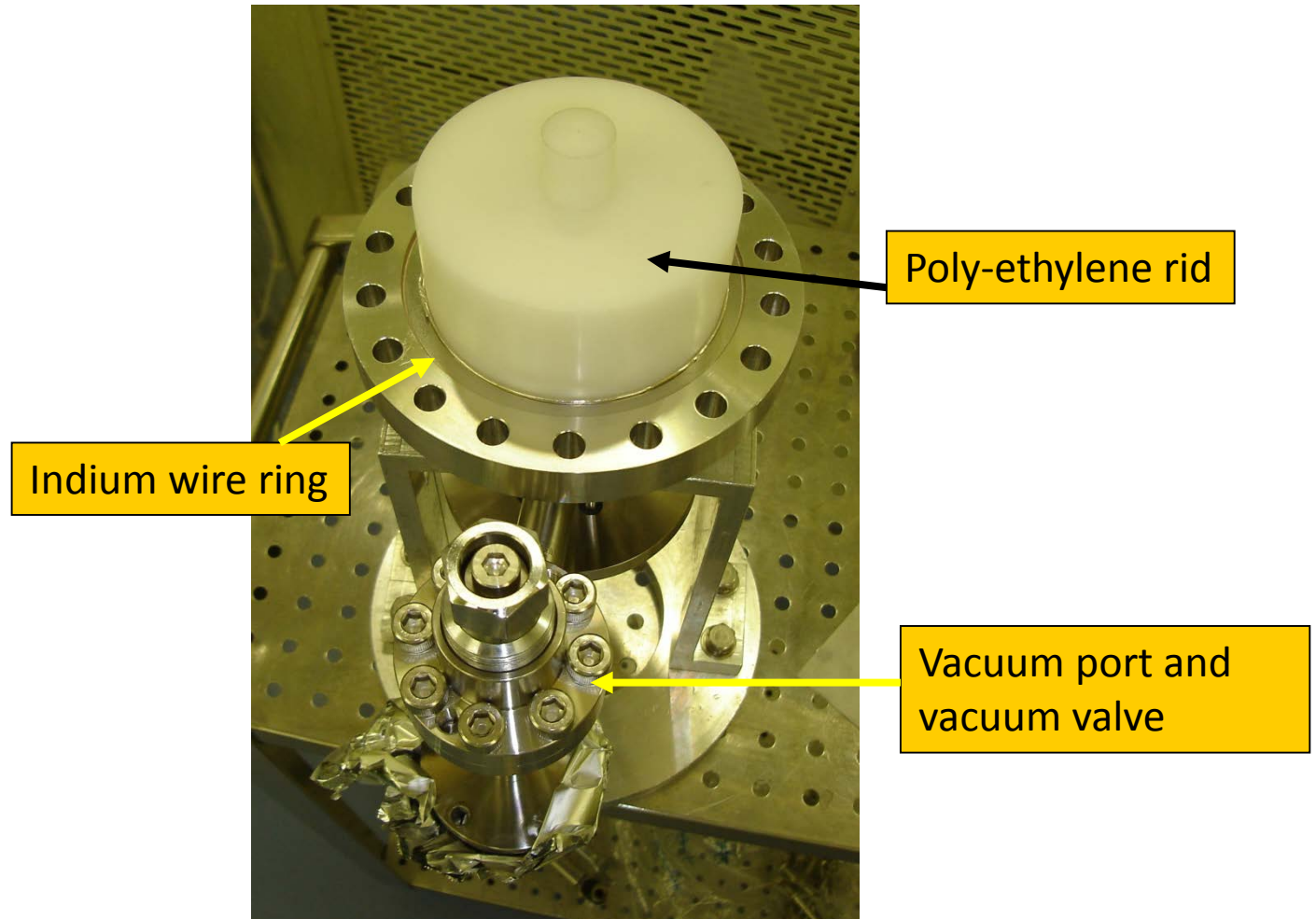
# Input-coupler for RF vertical test



Variable input coupler for the vertical test in KEK



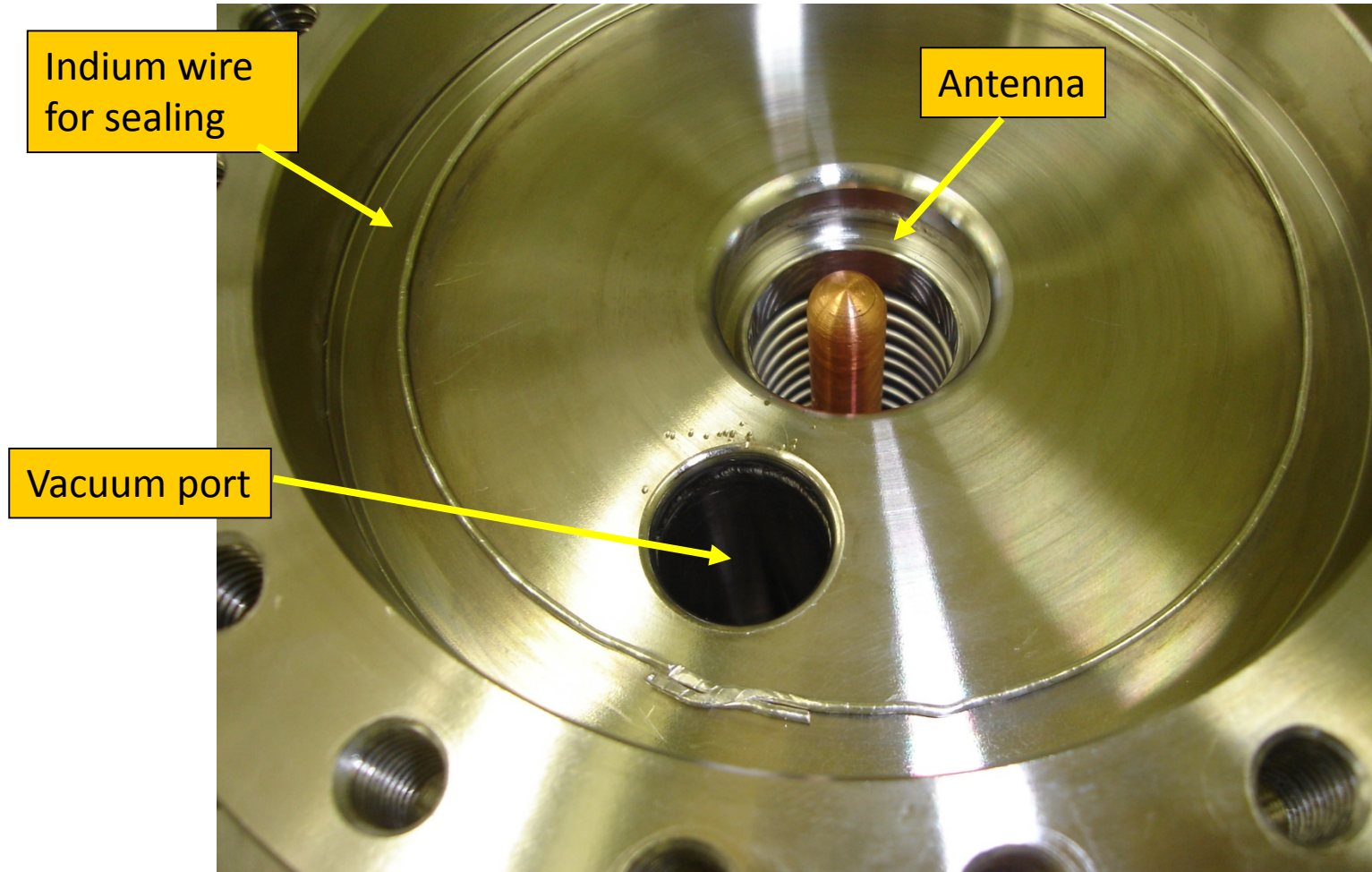
# Indium Sealing





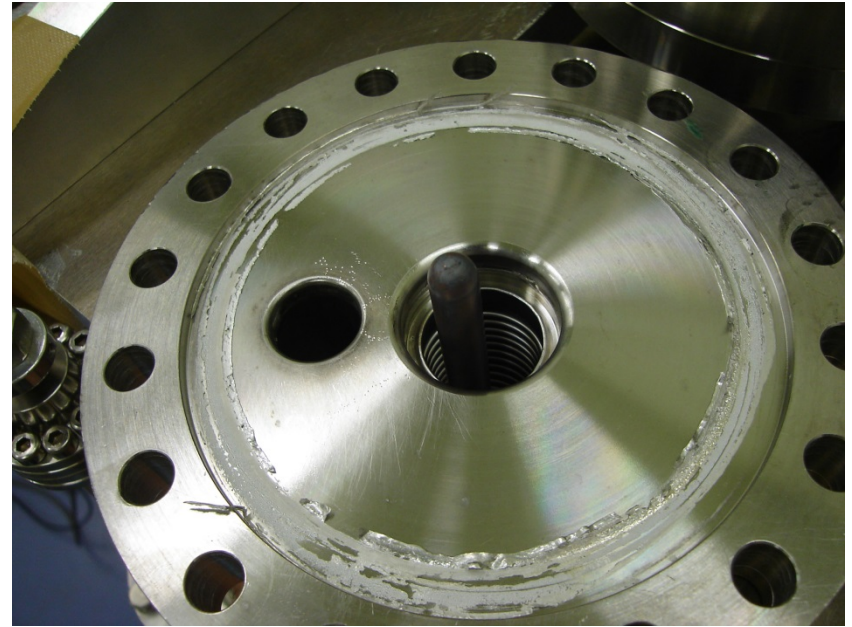
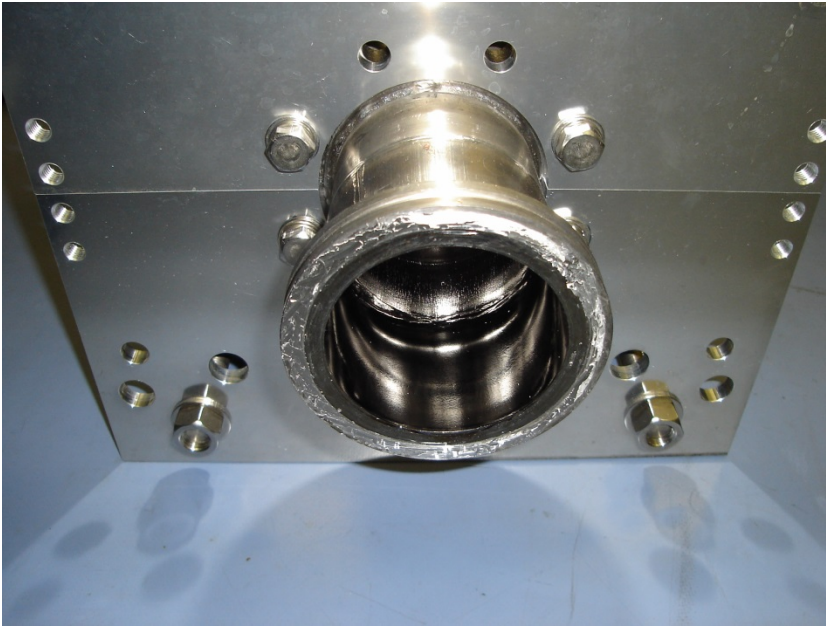
# Indium Sealing

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# Indium Sealing

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**Indium is soft material. So the operation is complicated.  
Even when disassembly of cavity, the removal of indium is not easy work.  
And because the melting point of indium is low :  $T = 156\text{ C}$ , you should pay attention to the temperature control of In-situ baking ( $T=120 - 140$ ).**



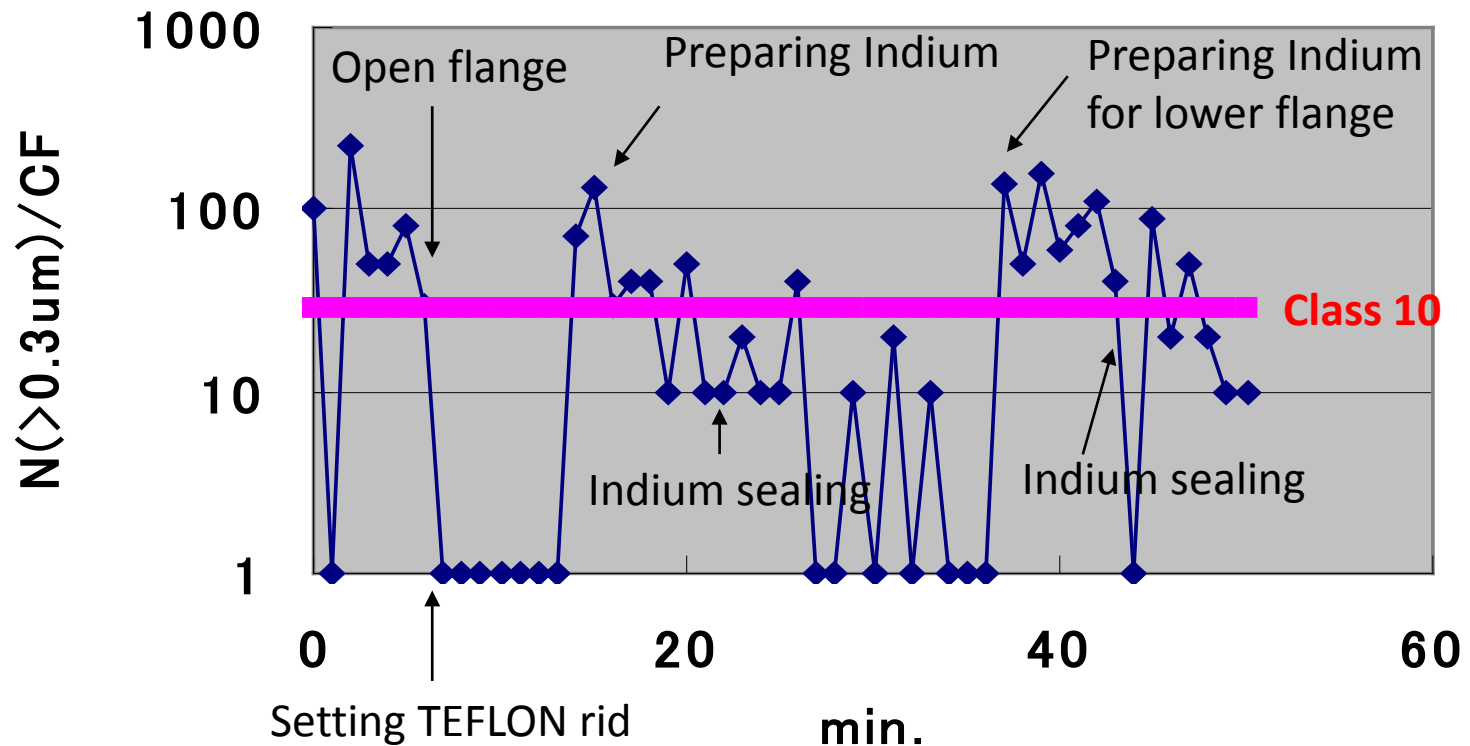
# Assembly in Clean Room



# Assembly in Clean Room



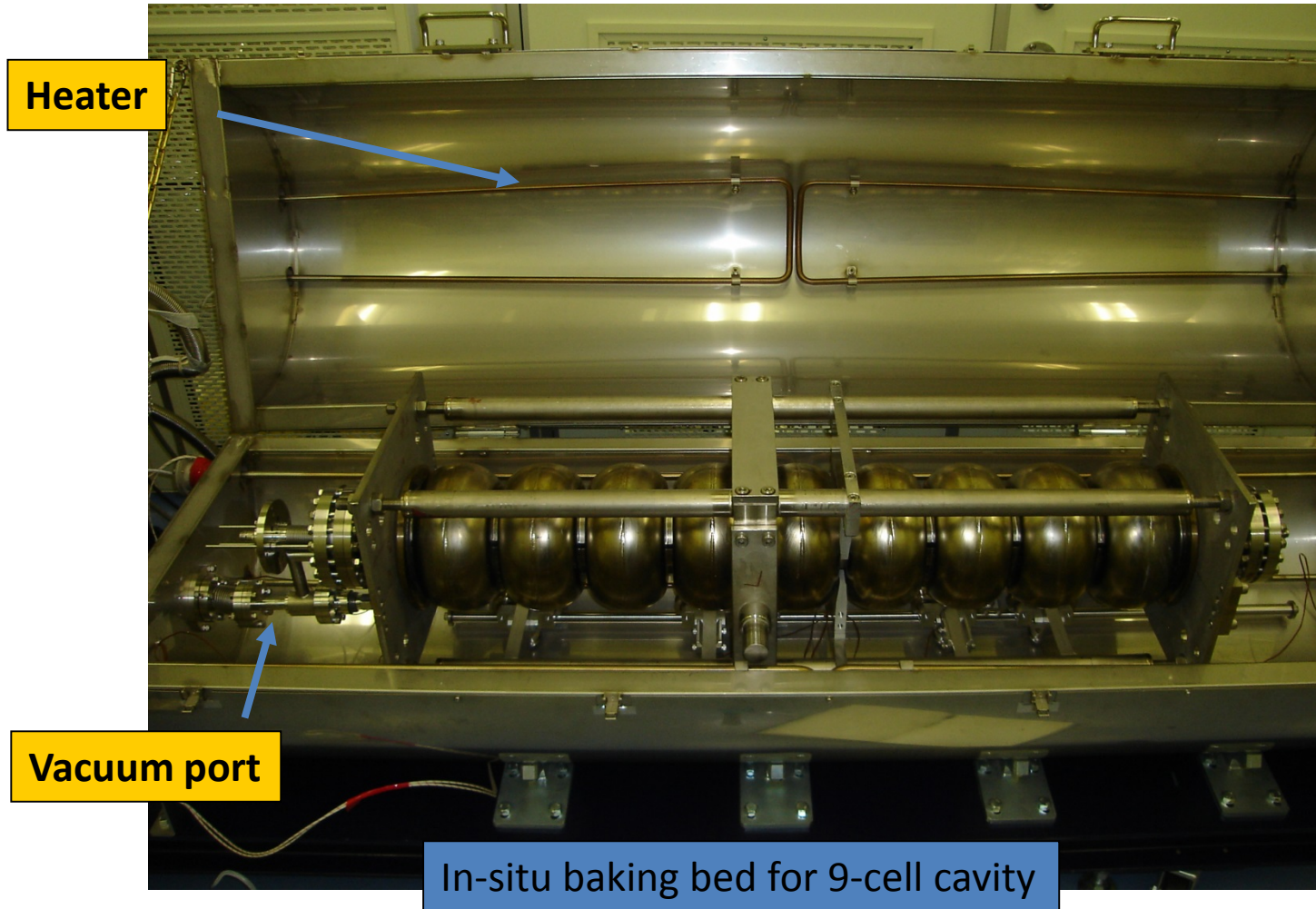
## 2005Sep14 RE cavity assemble



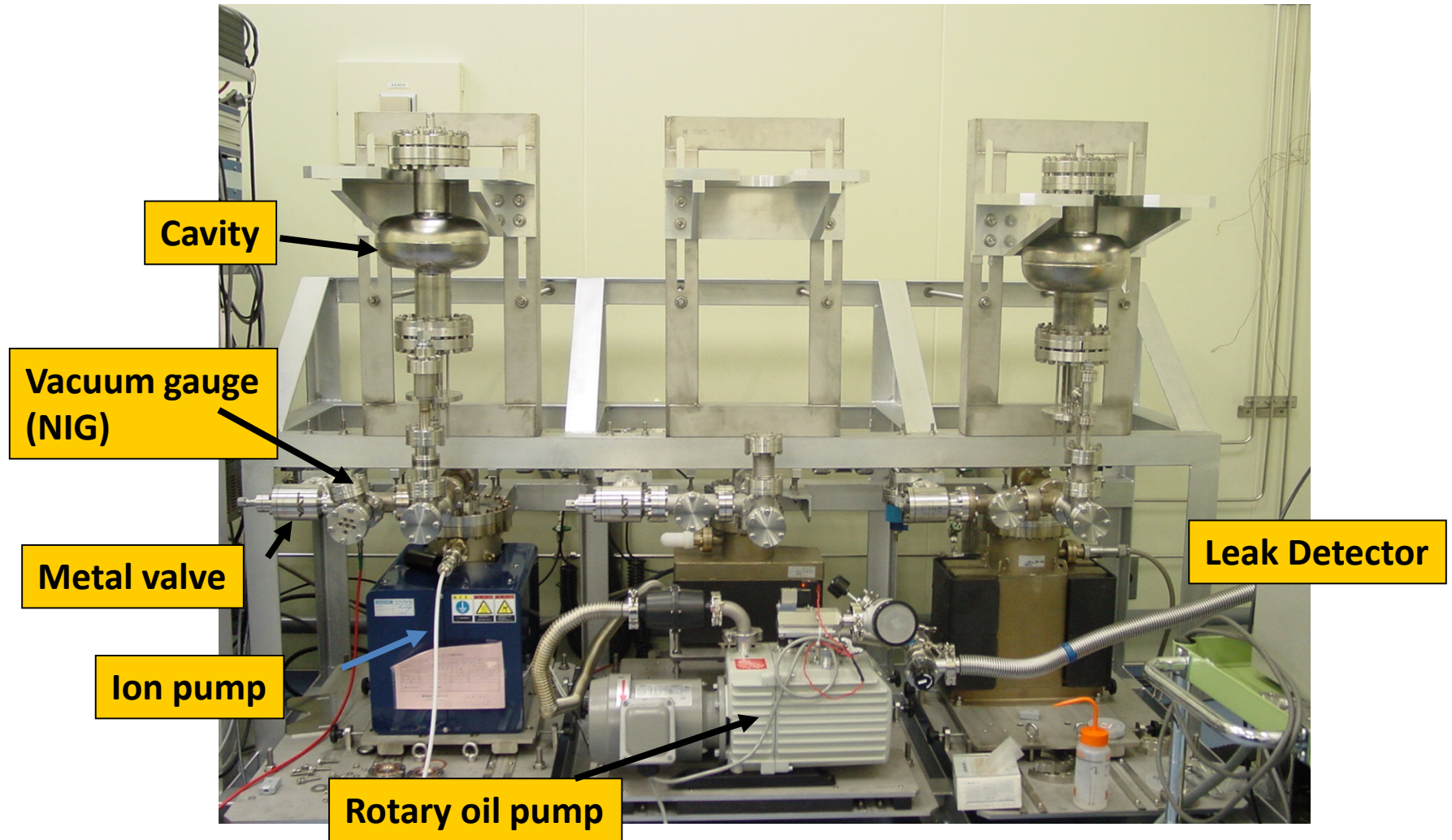
28 particles ( $>0.3\mu\text{m}$ ) / CF = class 10



# In-situ Baking System for 9-cell Cavity



# Vacuum System for In-situ Baking

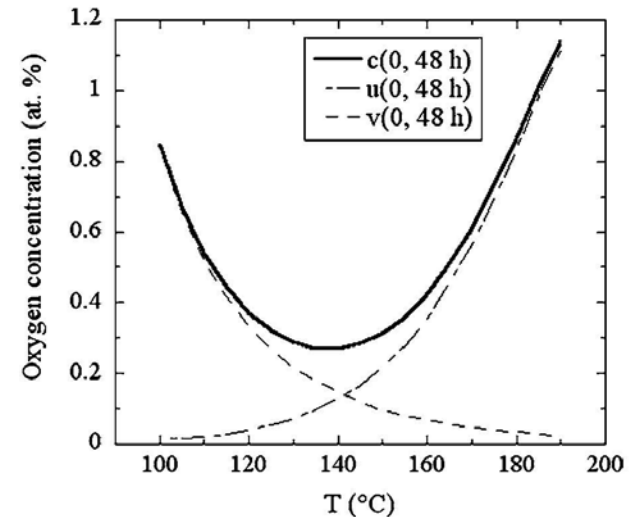
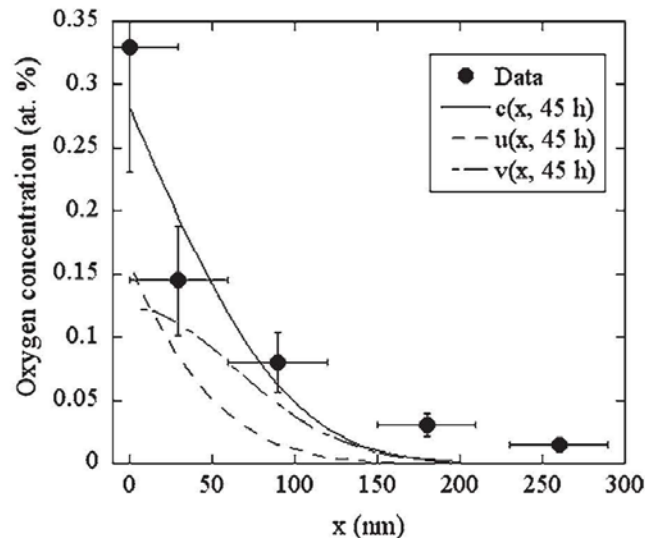


# Diffusion of Oxygen by In-situ Baking

The SC current inside the cavity has the depth of  $\sim 40$  nm (London Penetration Depth)

Appl. Phys. Lett. **89**, 022507 (2006)

022507-3 Gianluigi Ciovati



$x(\text{nm})$ : Depth from the surface

Oxygen diffuses into bulk area.

**$c$  = total O concentration ( $\sim u + v$ )**  
 **$u$  : O concentration from  $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5$  decomposition**  
**( $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_5 \Rightarrow \text{NbO}_2 \Rightarrow \text{NbO}$ )**  
 **$v$  : Initial O concentration after diffusion by baking**

A hypothesis is that oxygen causes Q-drop only at high gradient.