



Challenges of Target and Irradiation Diagnostics of the IFMIF-DONES Facility

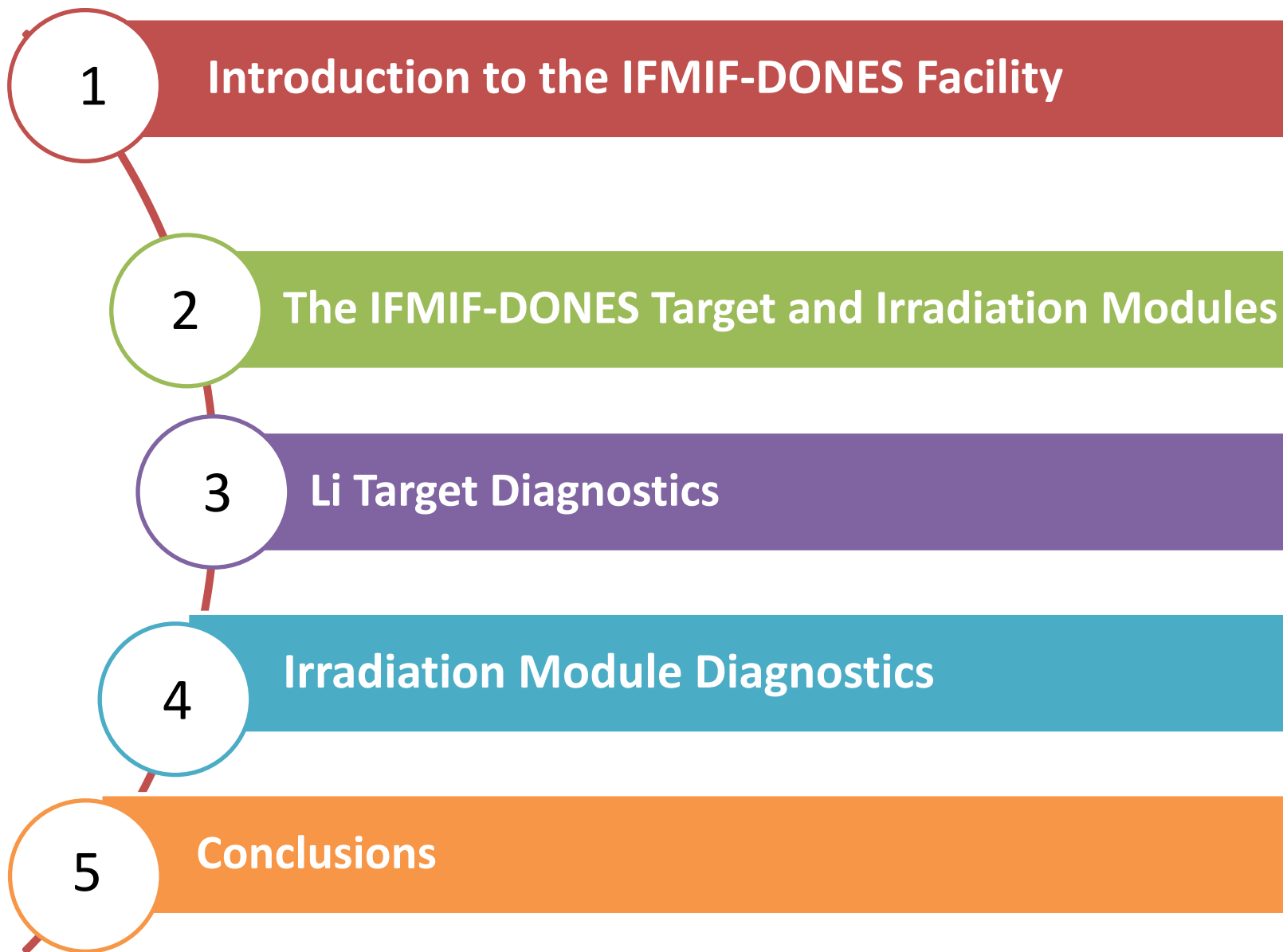
Claudio Torregrosa-Martín

On behalf of the IFMIF-DONES Team

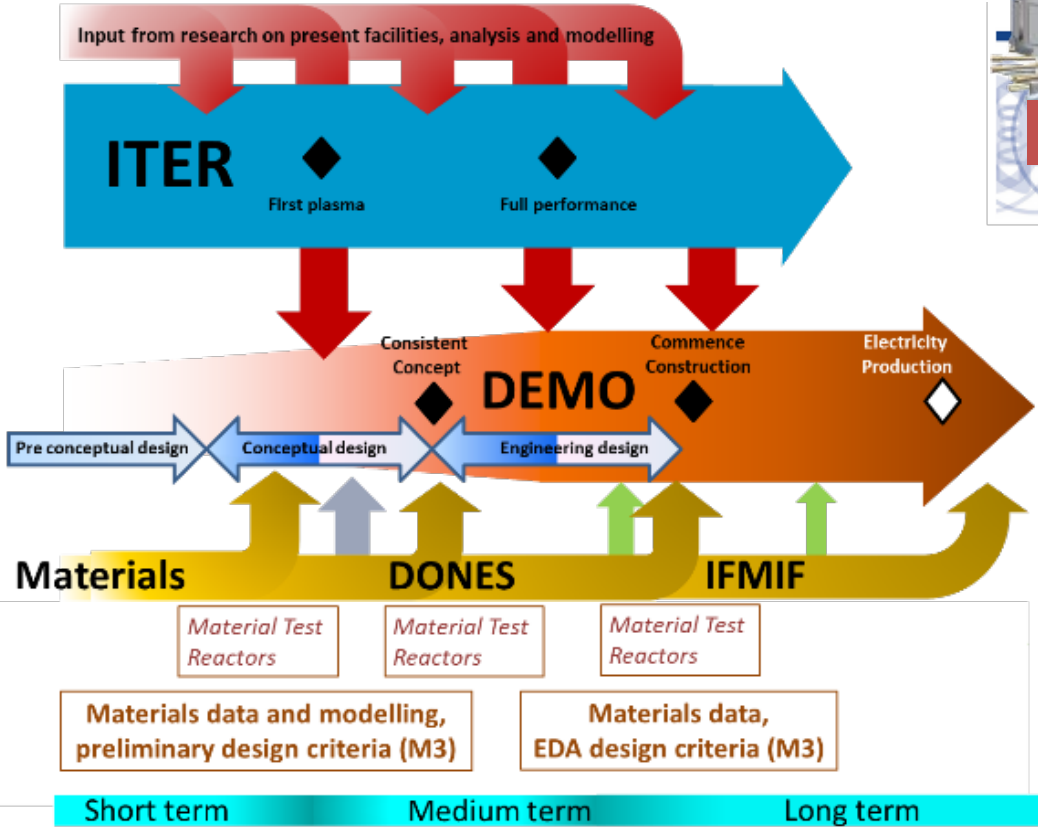
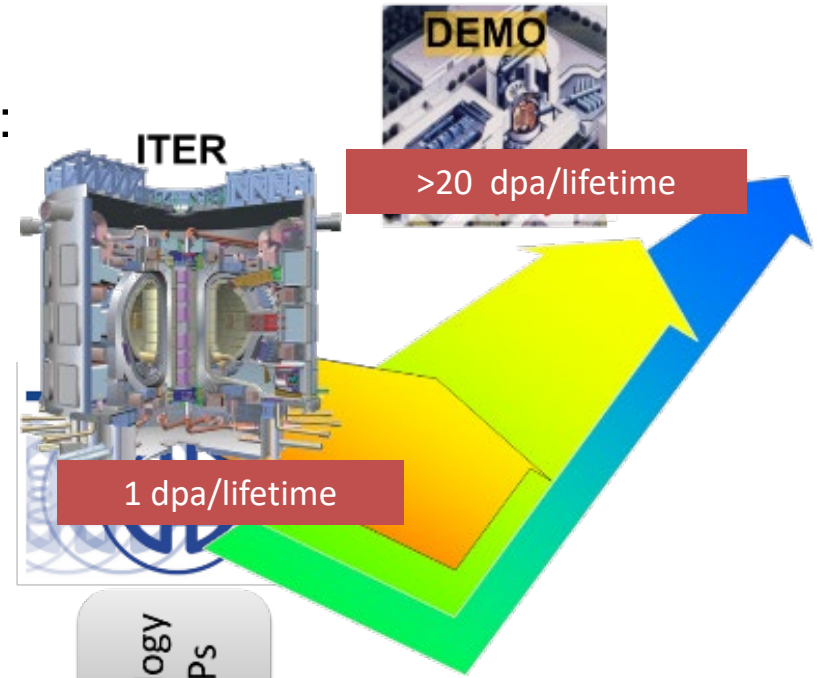
Hadron Beams 2023. CERN, Geneva, 11/10/2023



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One of the main differences between **ITER** and **DEMO** is the **radiation dose**: at DEMO more than **two orders of magnitude higher**



Science & Technology Basis for first FPPs

Material qualification in a field that **best mimics 14 MeV neutrons** is necessary to validate in-vessel materials

We need to produce **fusion-like neutrons** with:

- **Intensity** large enough for accelerated testing (as compared to DEMO)
- **Damage level** above the expected operational lifetime
- **Irradiation volume** large enough for the characterization of the macroscopic properties of the materials of interest required for the engineering design of DEMO (and the Power Plant)

The most feasible approach based on **Li(d,xn) sources**



The **IFMIF project** since 90's



Broader Approach **IFMIF/EVEDA** since 2007
(LIPAc & IFMIF IIEDR)



EUROfusion **WPENS** since 2015



Requirements based on EU DEMO needs

> 10 dpa(Fe)/fpy

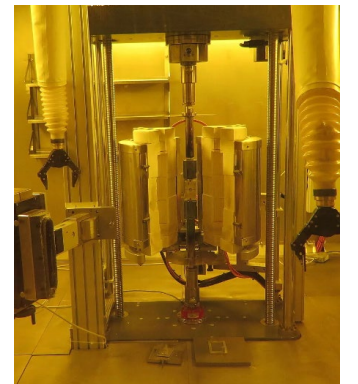
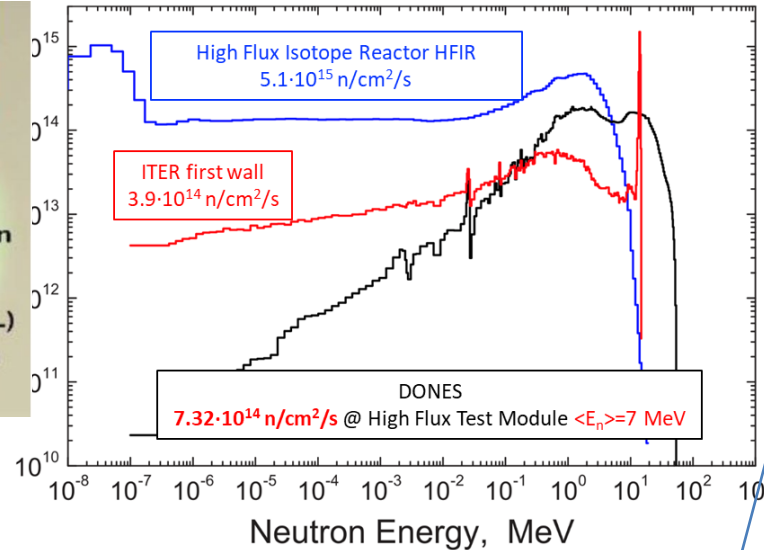
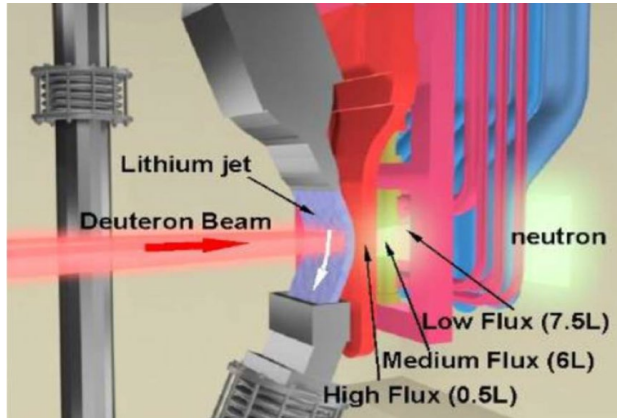
20 dpa(Fe) in 1.5 y
50 dpa(Fe) in 3.5 y

300 cm³



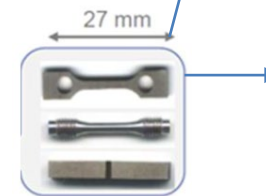
The IFMIF-DONES Project

IFMIF-DONES is an **accelerator-based fusion-like neutron source**



IFMIF-DONES is a combination of:

- 1) High Intensity **Deuteron Accelerator**
- 2) **Liquid Lithium Loop Facility**
- 3) **Irradiation Modules** to house material specimens in a controlled environment

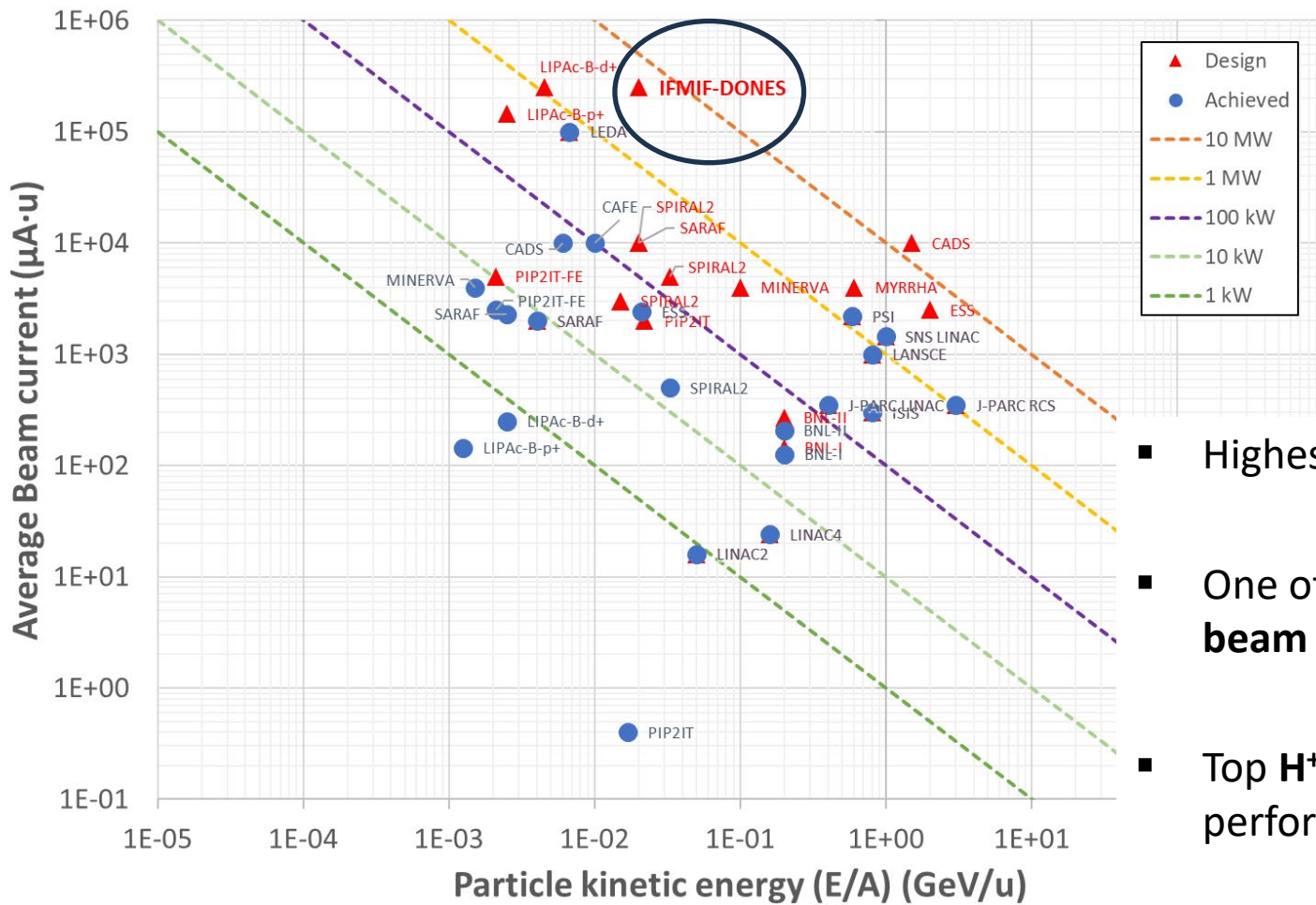




The site is located at Escúzar -18 km southwest from Granada city- Spain



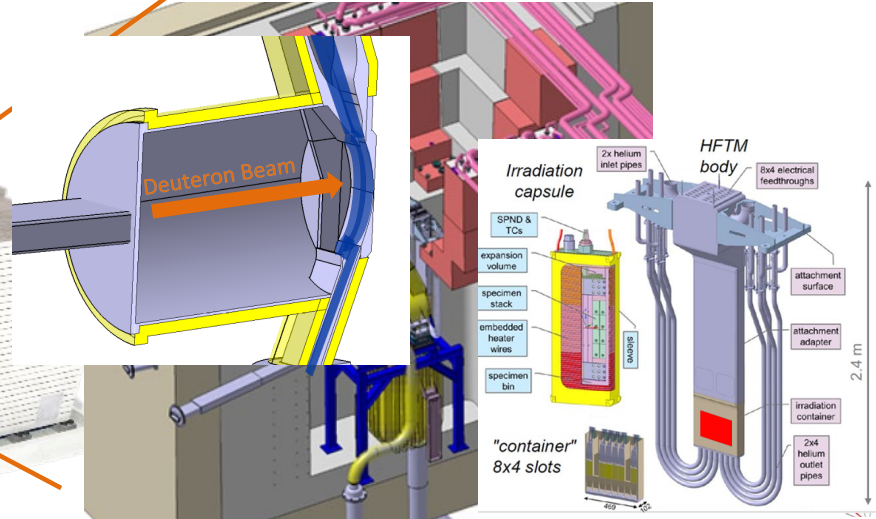
40 MeV / 125 mA CW / 5 MW Super-Conducting LINAC



- Highest D⁺ current LINAC
- One of the highest average beam power
- Top H⁺ & D⁺ Injector performance
- Longest RFQ

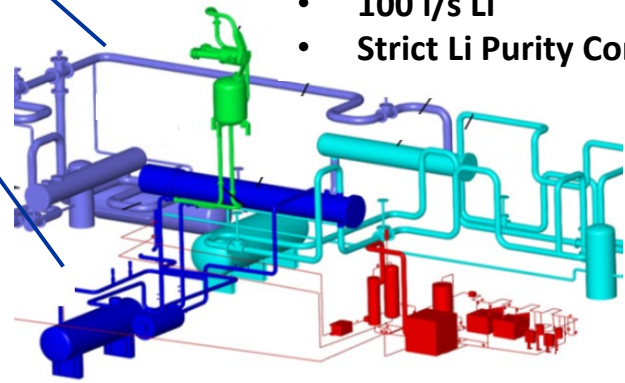
- Irradiation Facility delivering up to 10^{15} n/cm²s (10^{17} n/s) with a broad peak at 14 MeV.
- Operational at least 255 days/year (70% Operational Availability).

Li Target, Irradiation Modules and Test Cell



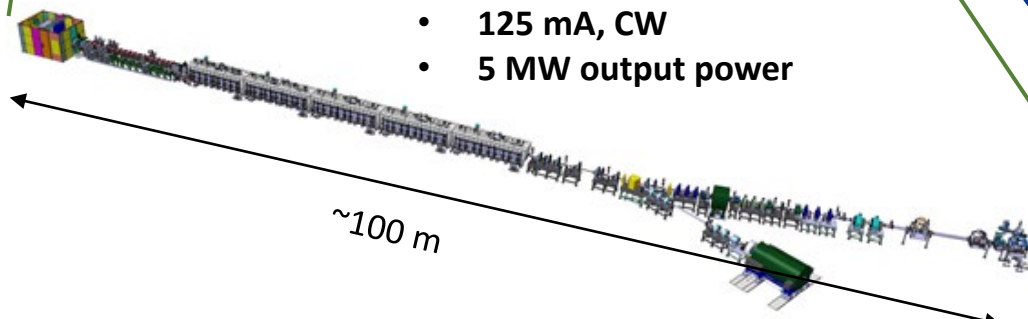
Li Loop and Oil Cooling Loops

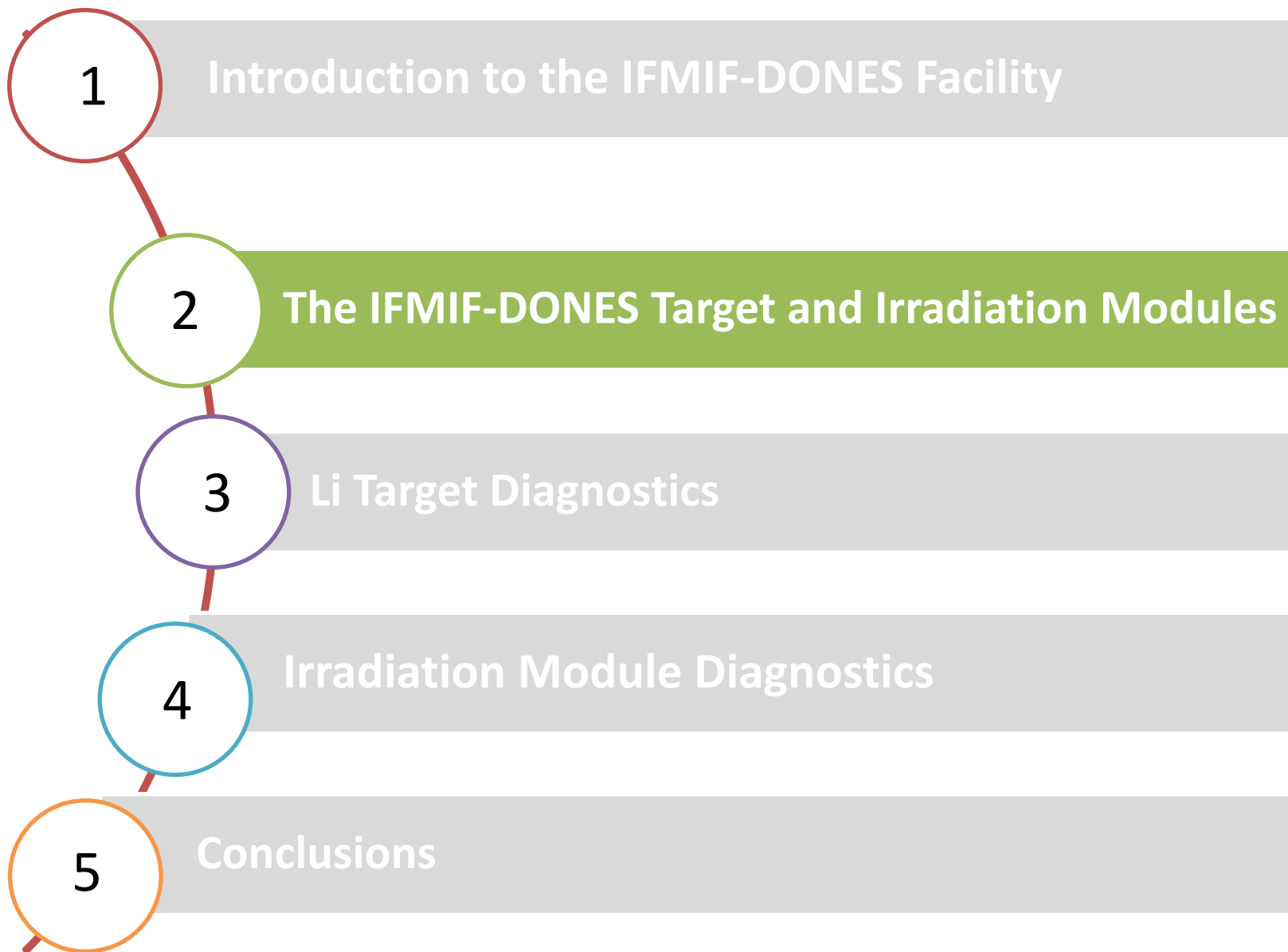
- 100 l/s Li
- Strict Li Purity Control

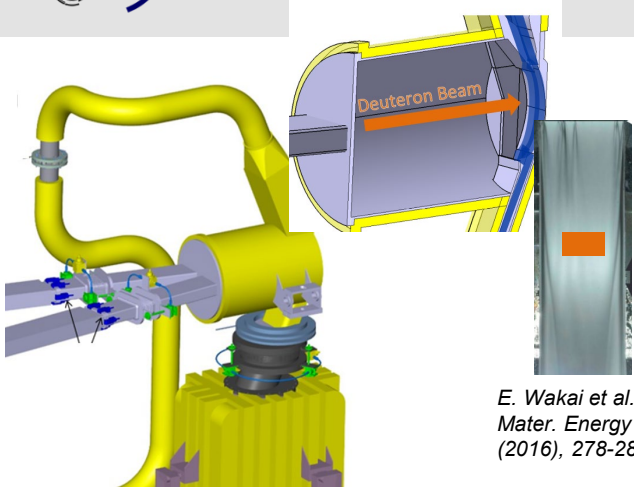


LINAC Accelerator of Deuterons

- 40 MeV
- 125 mA, CW
- 5 MW output power







E. Wakai et al., Nucl. Mater. Energy 9 (2016), 278-285

Li Target: Jet flowing at 15 m/s, thickness = 25+/- 1 mm.
Jet stability & Target position is critical to avoid Back-Plate rupture.
 Target Vacuum Chamber shall be within 10^{-4} - 10^{-5} mbar.
Full RH replacement/maintenance.

Primary (Li), Secondary (oil) and Tertiary (oil) Loops:

100 l/s of Li at 300 °C.

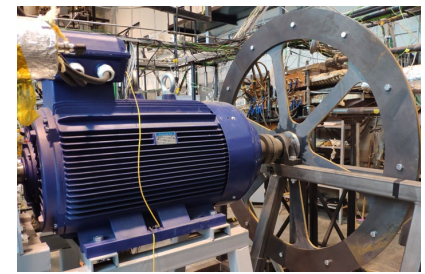
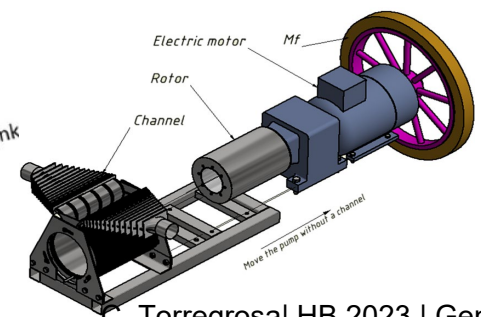
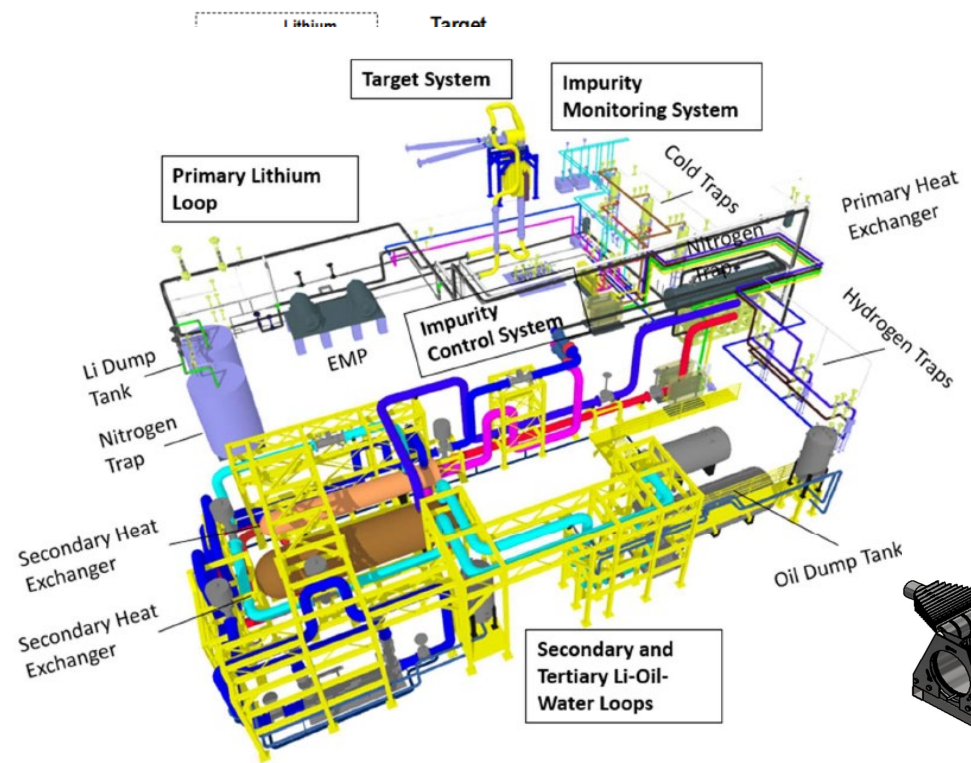
EMP Pump, heaters, Heat-Exchangers and Dump tank. **Li Loop room in Inert atmosphere.**

Li Impurity Control Purification Loop:

2 l/s, monitoring impurities (offline methods) and purification traps:

- H traps, Cold Traps, N Traps. (placed in hot cells)

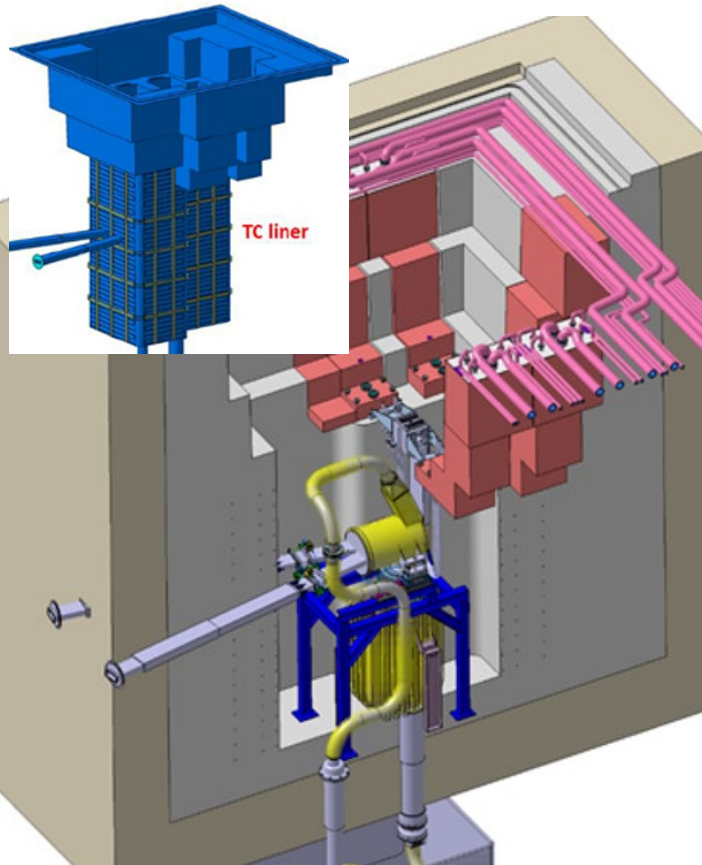
Permanent Magnets EMP



Irradiation Modules

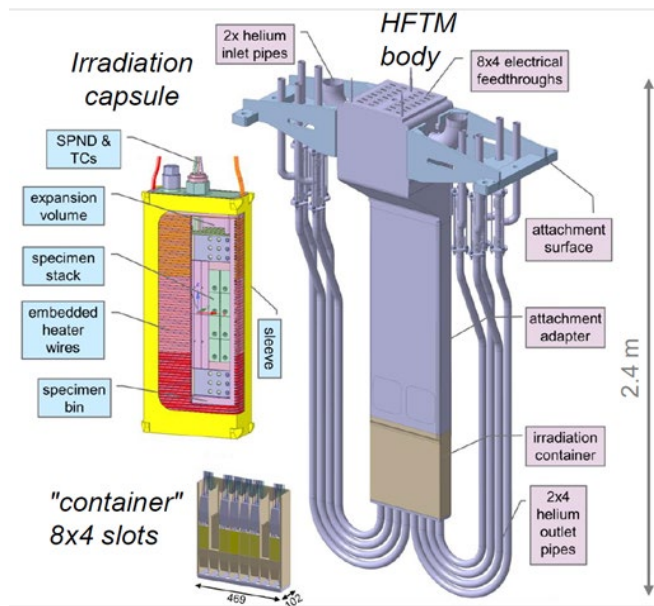
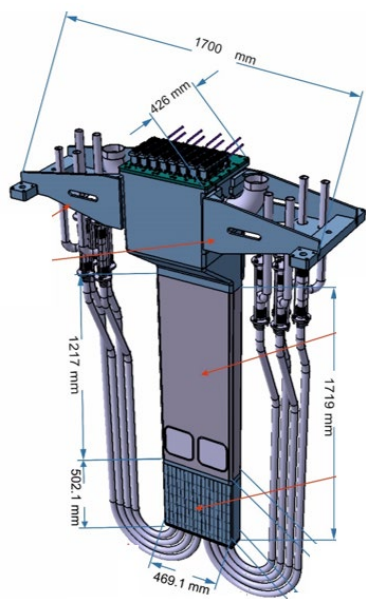


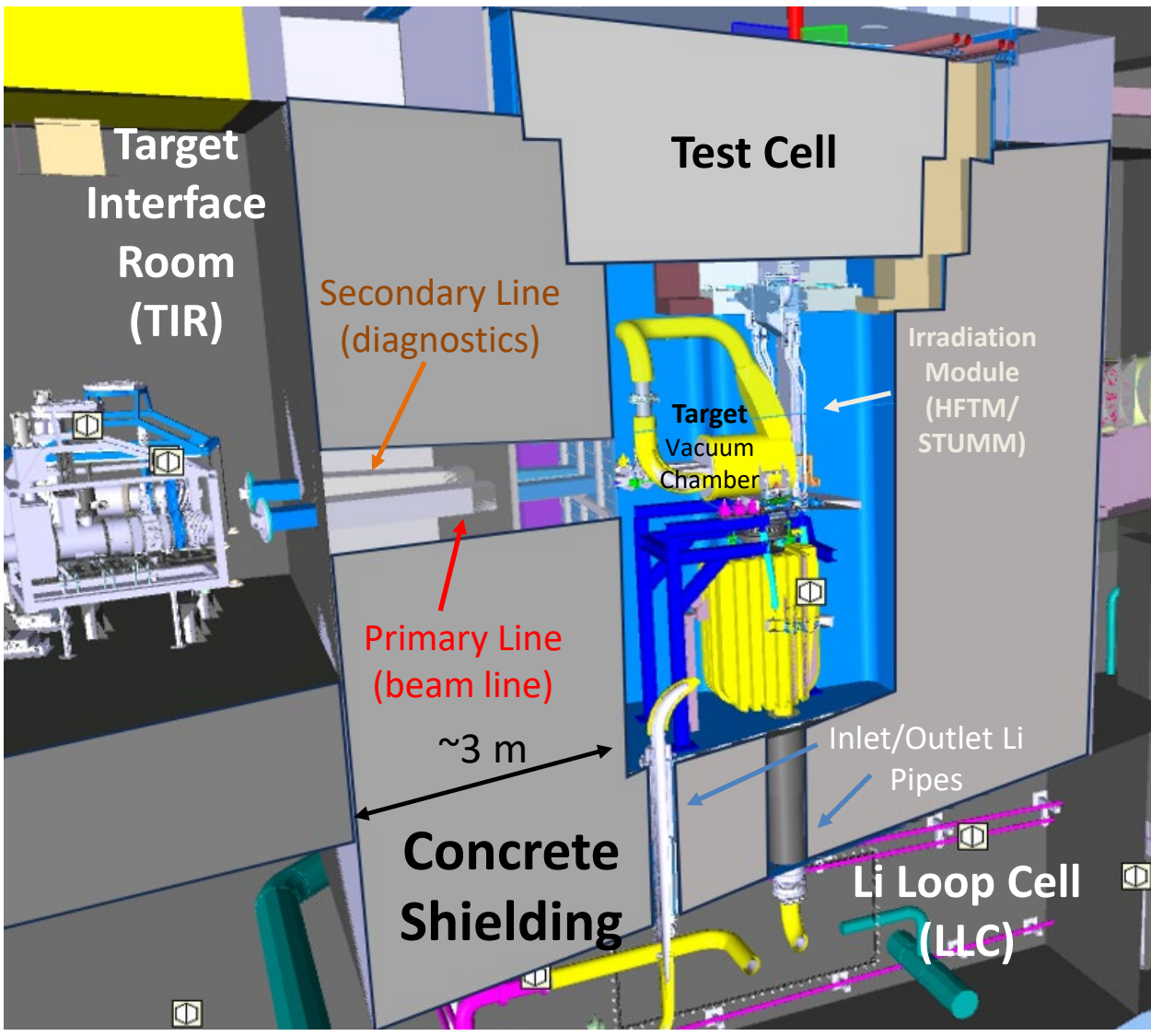
Test Cell: **Inert atmosphere** (He/Ar) at 20-90 mbar and **confinement barrier** (Liner + Plug and Gaskets), biological shielding, cooling...



HFTM: High Flux Test Module

STUMM: Start-Up Monitoring Module





Radiation in the exposed zone of Irradiation Modules:

10⁴ MGy/fpy

30 MGy/fpy (at the connectors bridge)

Radiation in around the Target Vacuum Chamber:

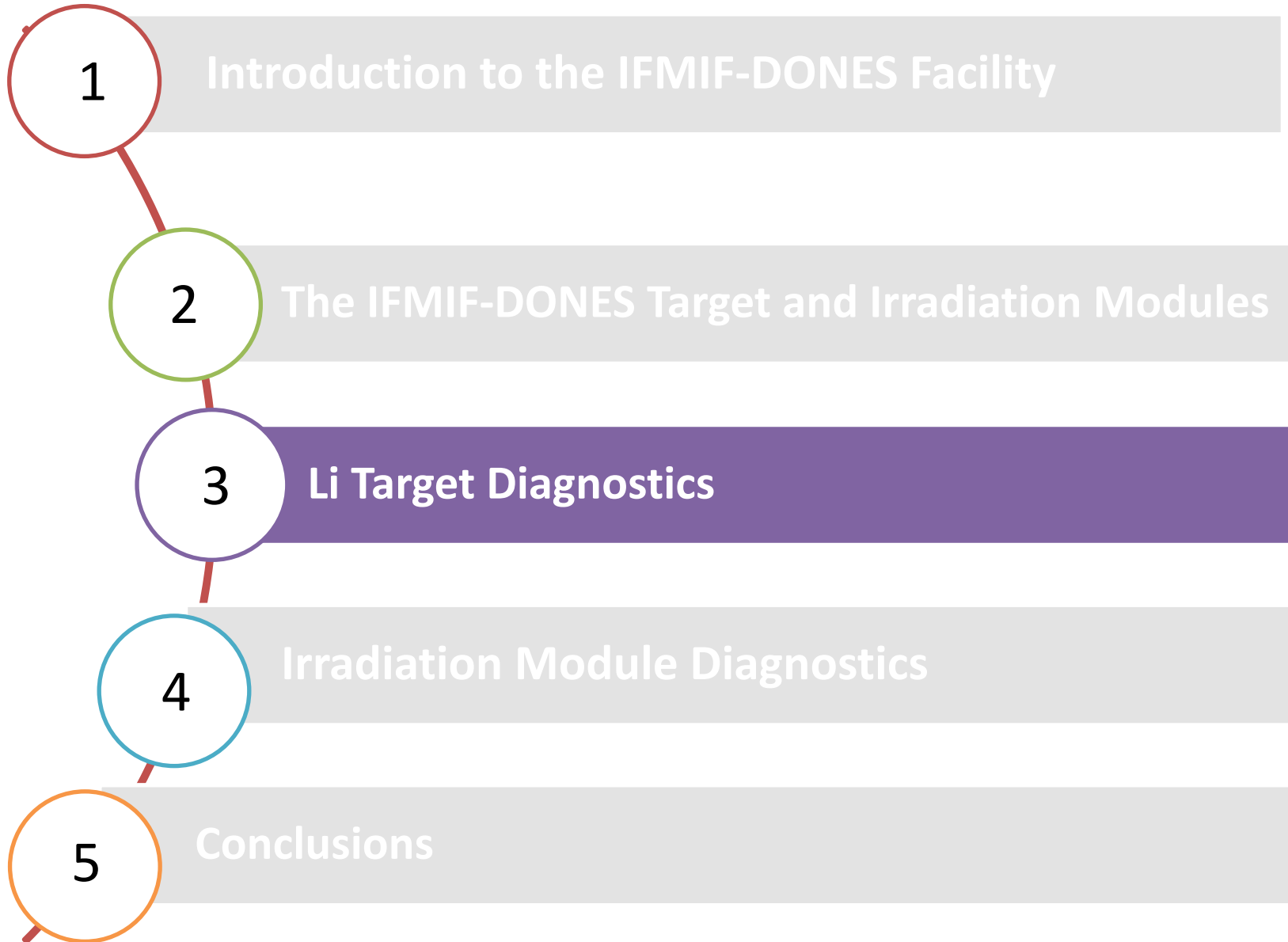
100 MGy/fpy

Radiation in the Target Interface Room (TIR):

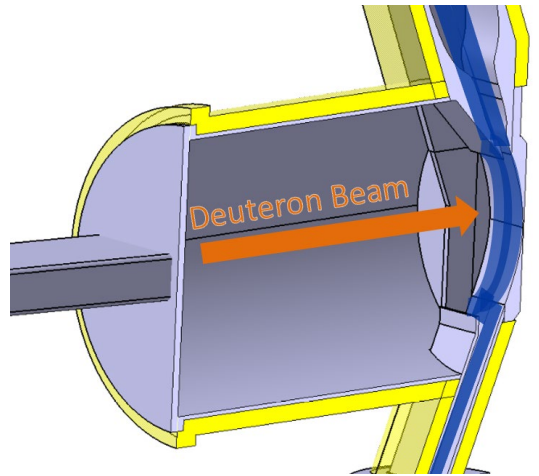
1-2 MGy/fpy

Radiation in Li Loop Cell (LLC):

~ kGy

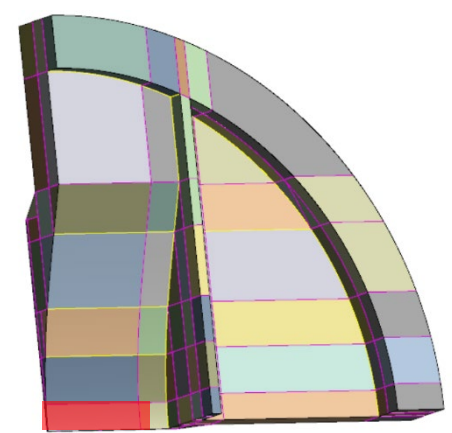


1) Monitoring the Li Target curtain thickness



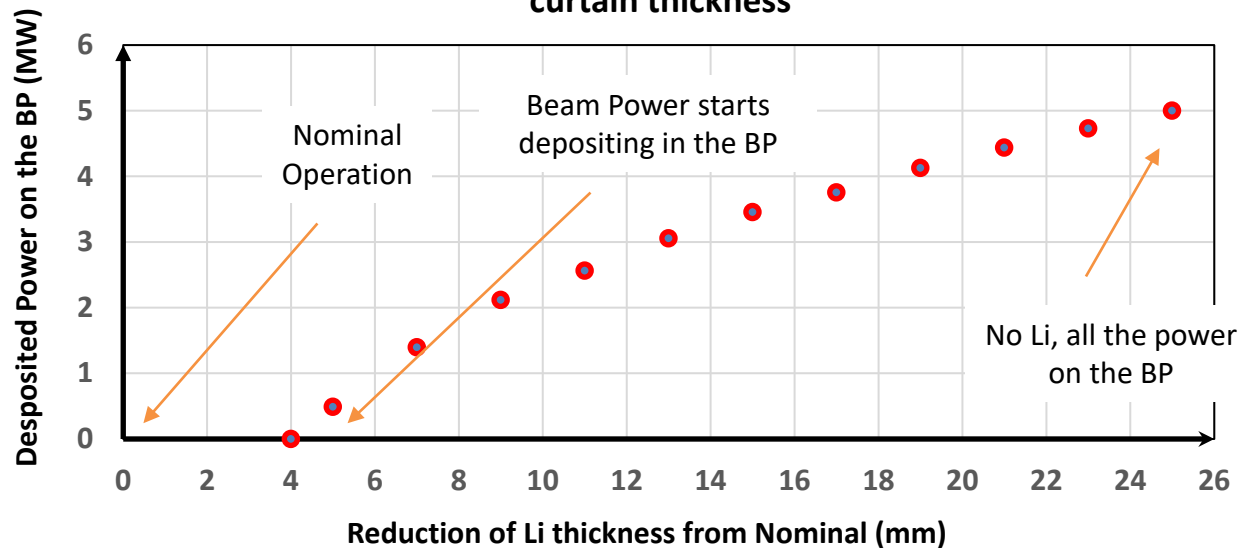
Nominal Li curtain Thickness:
25 mm

Back-Plate Thickness:
1.8-3 mm



Beam Foot-print Area
(20 x 5 cm)

Power deposited in the BP as function of the Reduction in Li curtain thickness

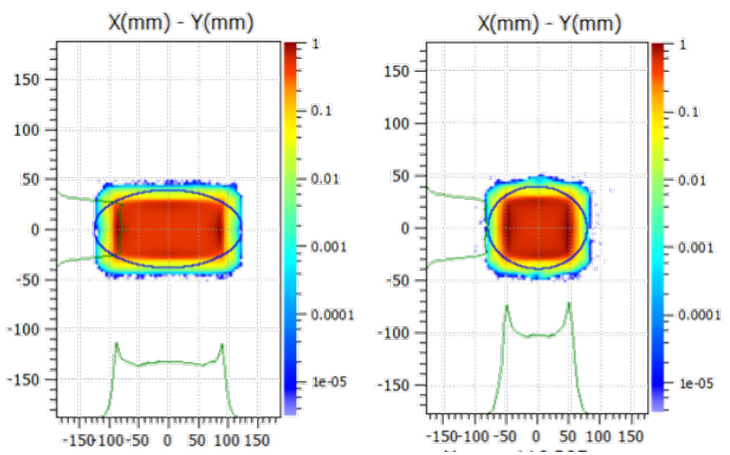


A Li thickness reduction > 3 mm would lead to power deposition in the Back-Plate

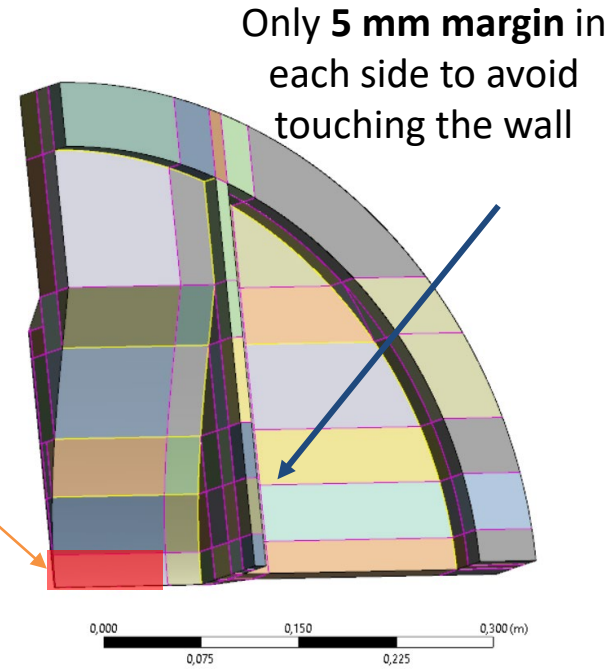
Failure/melting could take place in tens of milliseconds



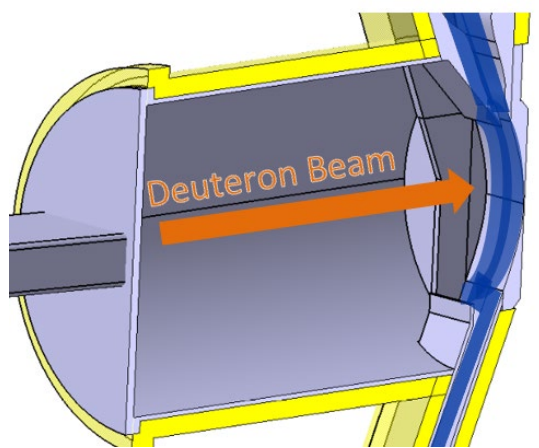
2) Monitoring the Beam Footprint on Target



Beam foot-print Area
(20 x 5 cm)
(Up to 25 cm wide
counting with the tales)



3) Monitoring the vacuum pressure in the TVC



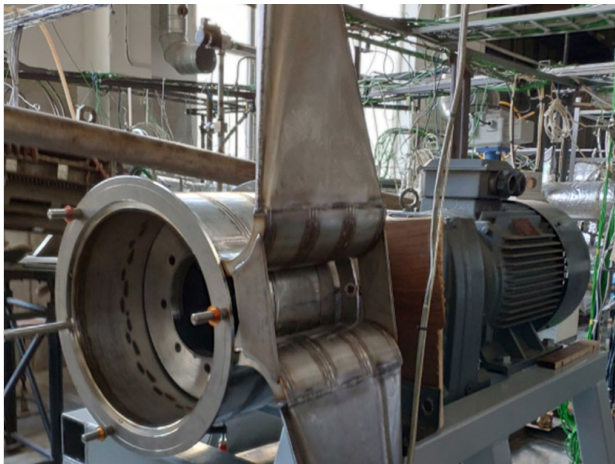
- Pressure at the TVC shall be kept **within $10^{-4} - 10^{-5}$ mbar** (avoid Li boiling..)
- Managed by **Ar injection** system to achieve a differential vacuum pressure
- **Very high radiation** (100 MGy/fpy) disables the installation of vacuum gauges in the TVC..



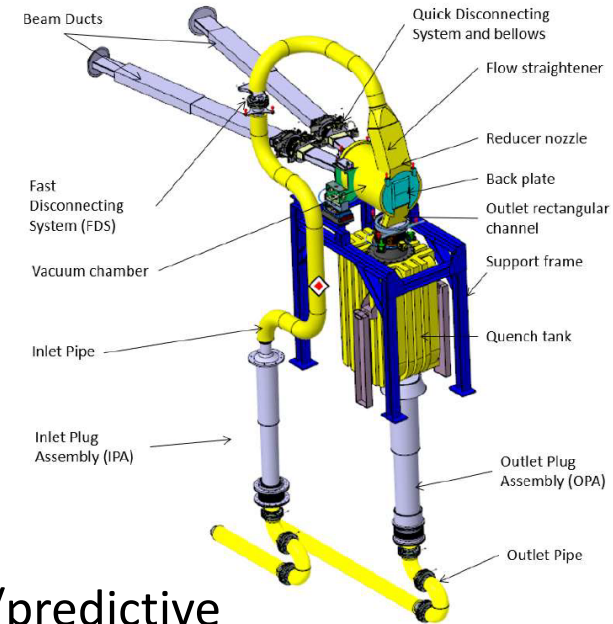
4) Monitoring the Li mass flow to the Target

- High frequency acquisition flowmeters are necessary to detect eventual Li instabilities and shutdown the beam before BP damage.
- Aiming at **Safety-credited** instruments

5) EMP and Li Leaks Diagnostics



- Detect flow instabilities/cavitation/predictive failure..
- Detect Li leaks..



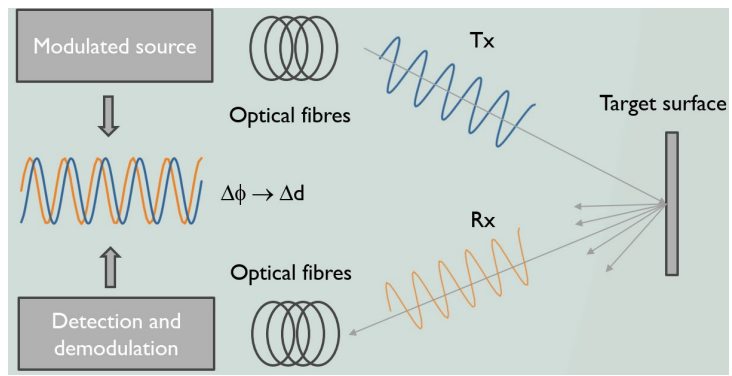
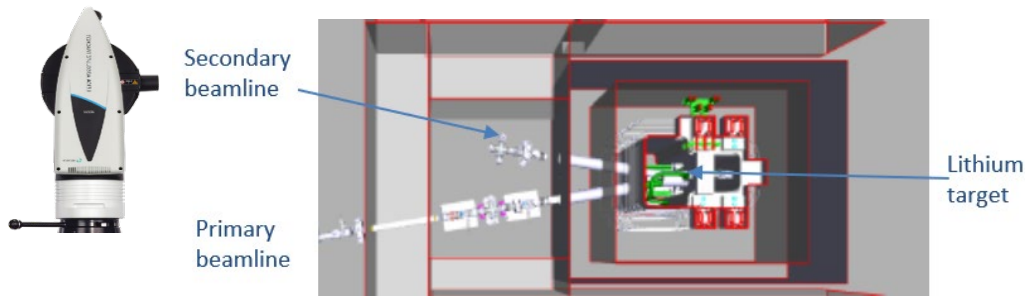
6) Monitoring Li Impurities

Requirements:

- H and O < 10 wppm
- N < 30 wppm

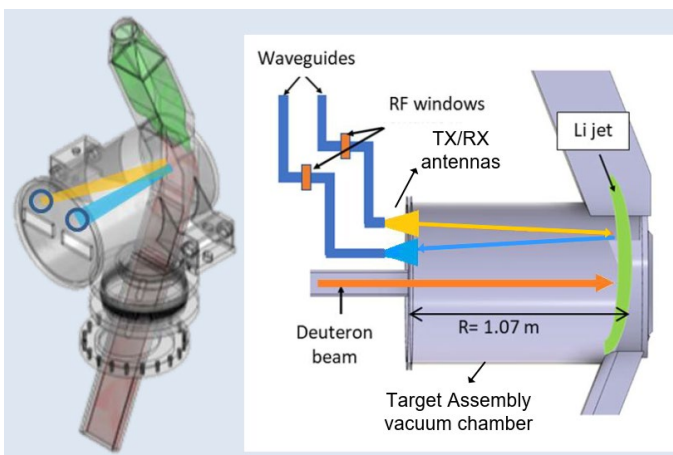
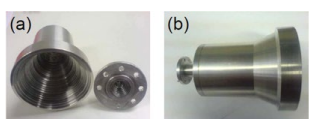
1) Li curtain Thickness Diagnostics

Optical metrology measurement: Amplitude-modulated Continuous-wave Light Detection and Ranging (**AMCW LiDAR**)

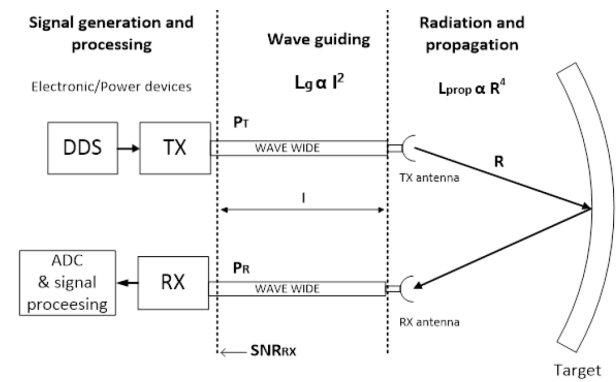


- High-frequency modulation at 550 MHz
- 100 microns accuracy
- Acquisition times within 1 ms per point and <100 ms per line.
- Compatible with the 1-2 MGy/fpy in the TIR

Radiofrequency (mmWave radar techniques)



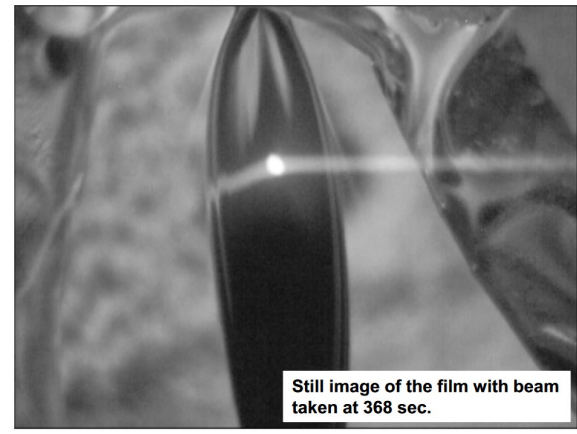
Linear Frequency Modulated Continuous Wave (LFM-CW) Radar



2) Monitoring Beam Footprint

- Camera pointing to the jet through an optical path from the TIR diagnostic port.
- Recording interaction between the beam and the **lithium surface** (OTR) and **residual gas fluoresce**

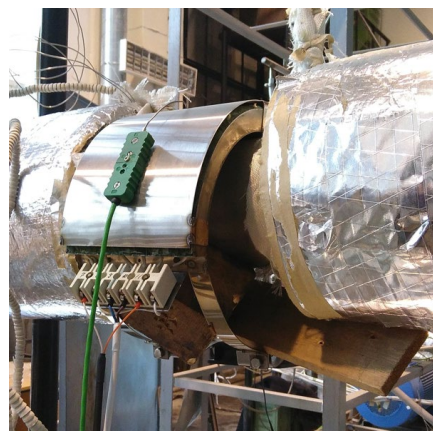
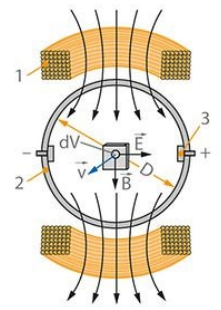
[Y. Momozaki et al. Journal of Radioanalytical and Nuclear Chemistry volume 305, pages 843–849 \(2015\)](#)



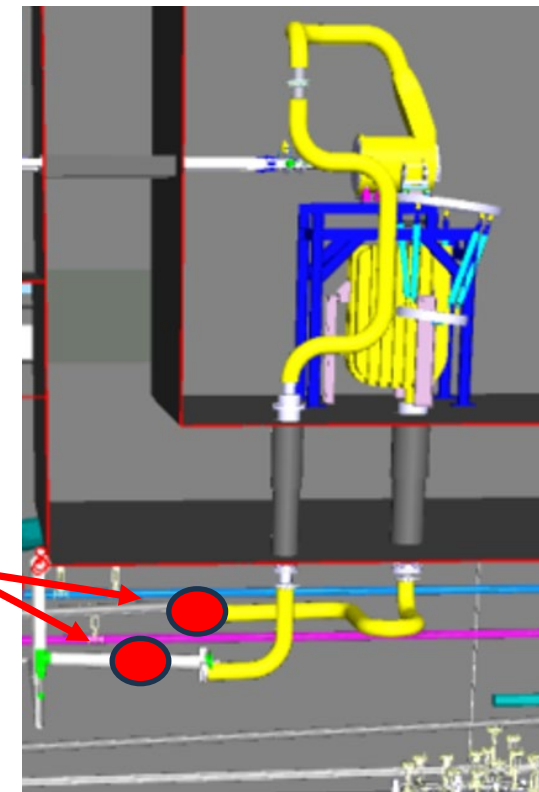
3) Monitoring the Li mass flow to the Target

- Use electromagnetic flowmeters with high acquisitions response times (1 ms)

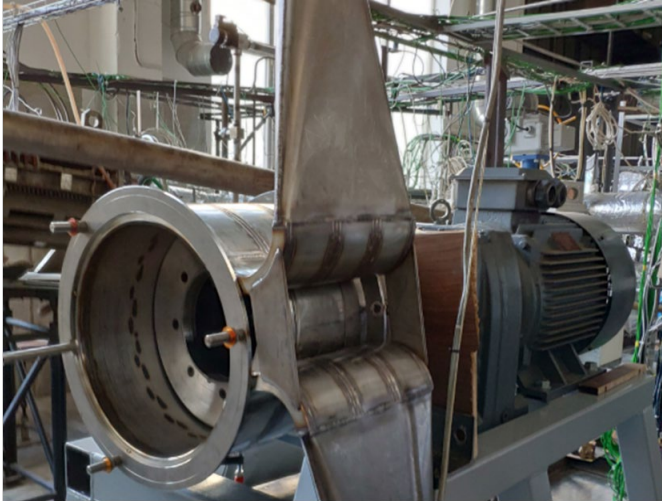
- 1 Magnetic field coils
- 2 Pipe wall
- 3 Measuring electrodes
- B Magnetic induction
- D Pipe ID
- dV Volume element
- E Resultant field strength
- v Flow velocity



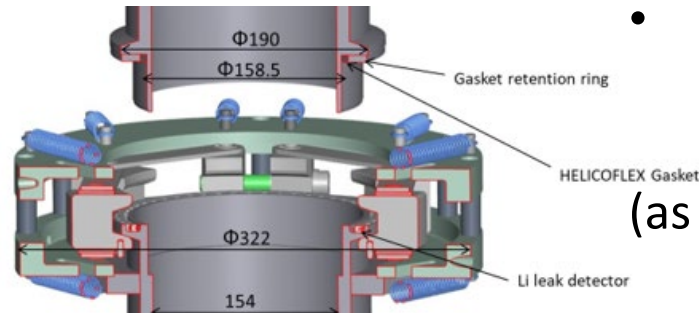
Shielded in the LLC.
Inlet/outlet Li pipes



4) EMP and Li Leaks Diagnostics



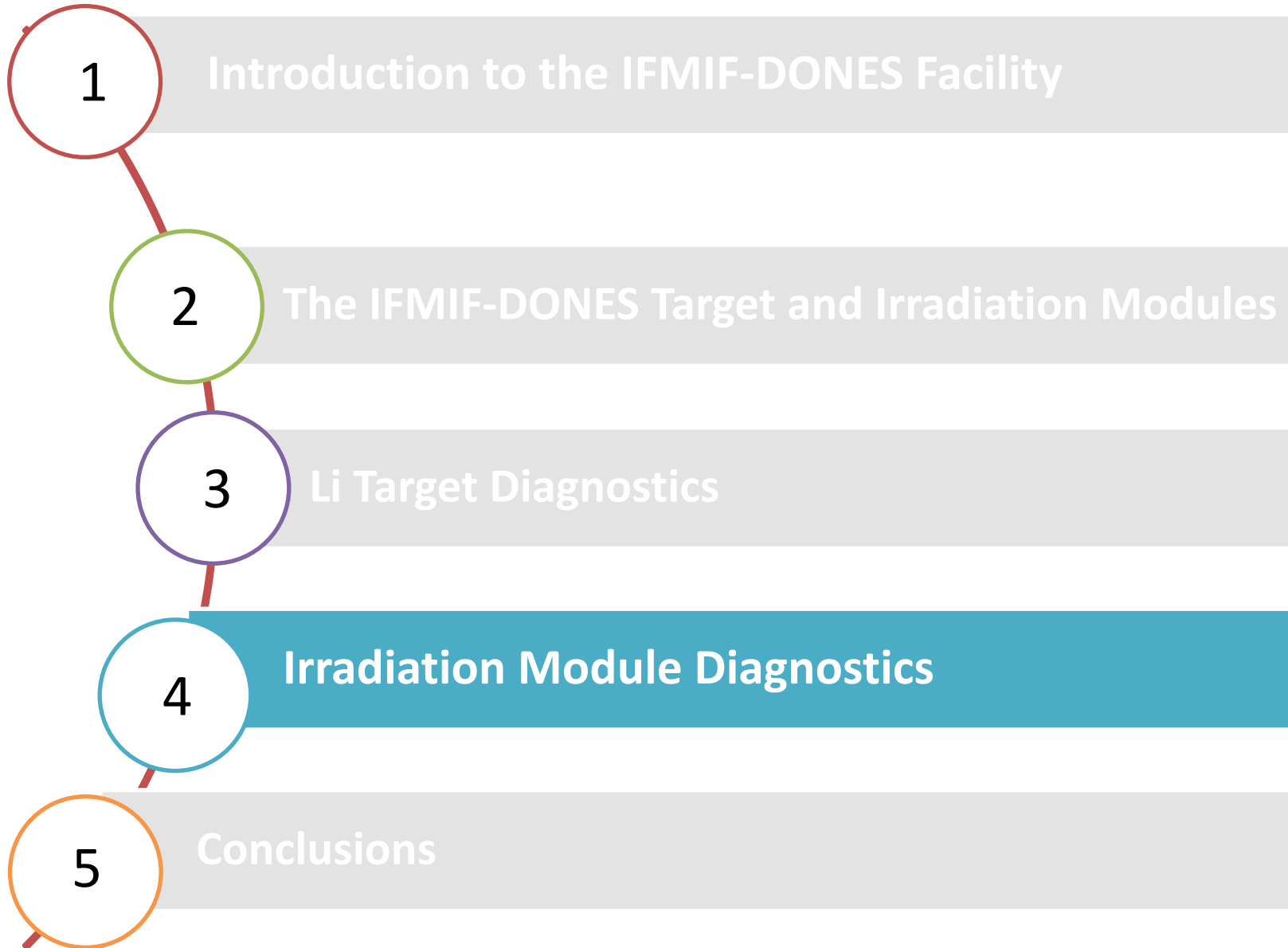
- Power control, optical encoders, accelerometers



- Lithium Leak detectors based on electric contact (as in SNS)

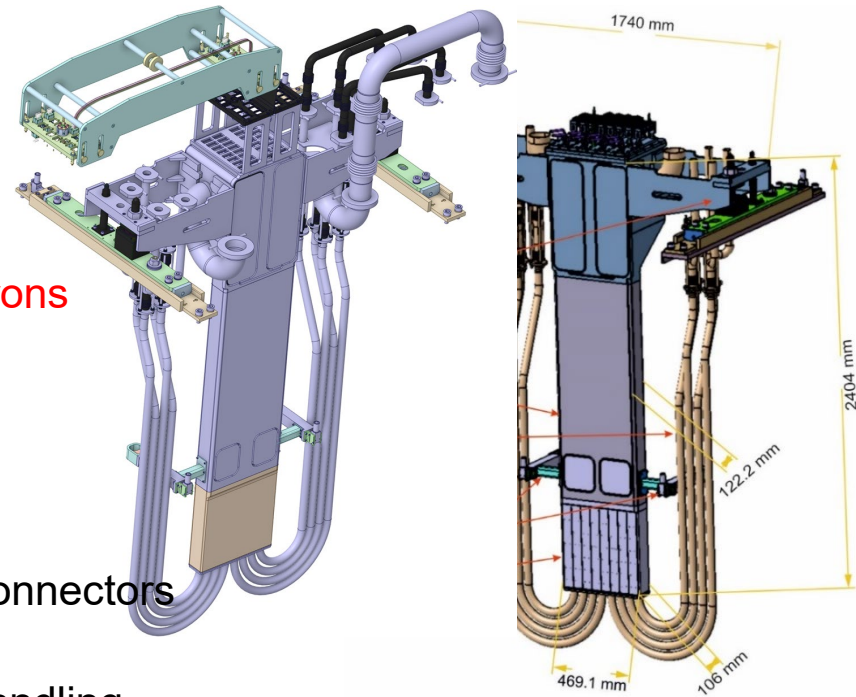
5) Li Impurity Diagnostics

- Mostly relying on **offline analysis** by periodical extraction of Li samples from the Impurity control loop (due to low concentrations involved).
- Other proposed online methods under consideration include a Resistivity Meter for online N monitoring and Electro-chemically based H sensor



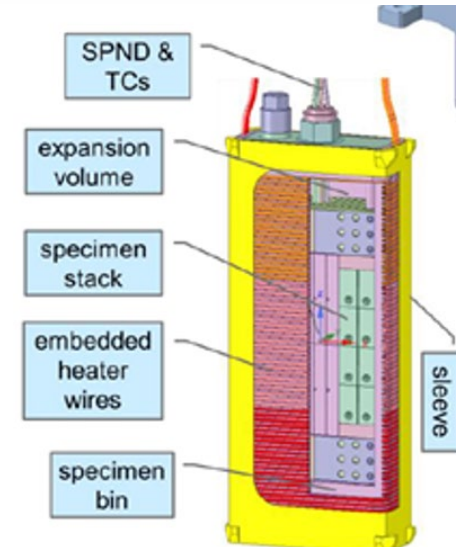
1) Monitoring and characterizing the radiation field with high spatial and time resolution

- $5 \cdot 10^{14}/10^{15} \text{ n/cm}^2\text{s}$
- Up to 14 MeV (80% above 1 MeV). **Fast neutrons** dominating
- Spatial resolution: 10 mm
- Time resolution: 10 μs .
- Maintain n-field calibration during 1 year
- **10^4 MGy/fpy exposed zone, 30 MGy/fpy at connectors plate**
- Surface of **$50 \times 40 \text{ cm}$** for integrating remote handling connectors for **more than 330 different signals**.
- Very low current signals, long cables, EMC sensibility..

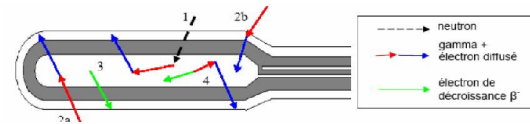


2) Monitoring the irradiation capsule conditions

- Irradiation **temperatures** shall be controlled within 250 – 550 C.
- Necessary to know **the integral radiation** to which the specimens have been exposed



Online Radiation Monitors

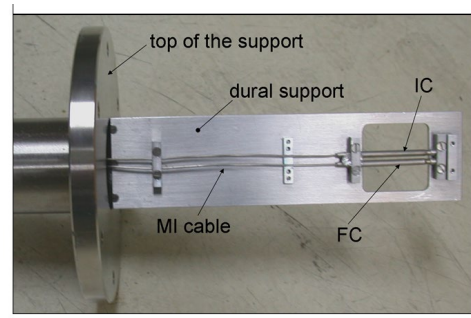


- **SPNDs** (Self-powered Neutron Detectors).
(compatible with high temperatures)

Irradiation at NEAR station at CERN's nTOF ongoing!

- **μFission (U238/U235) & Ionization chambers**

Irradiation campaigns performed in the BR2 reactor, Belgium



- **Y-thermometers**

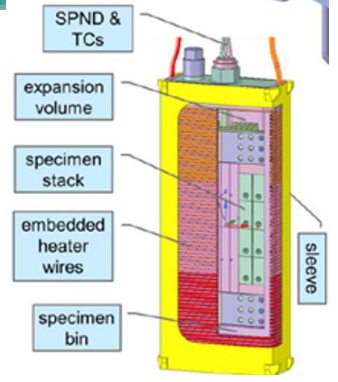
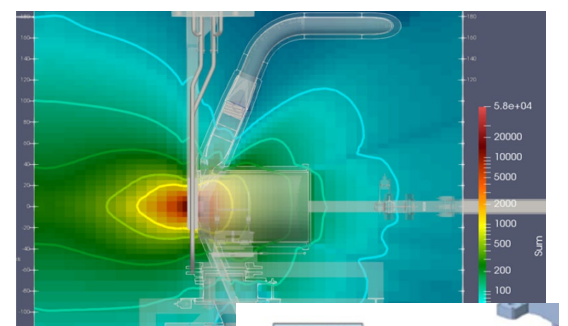
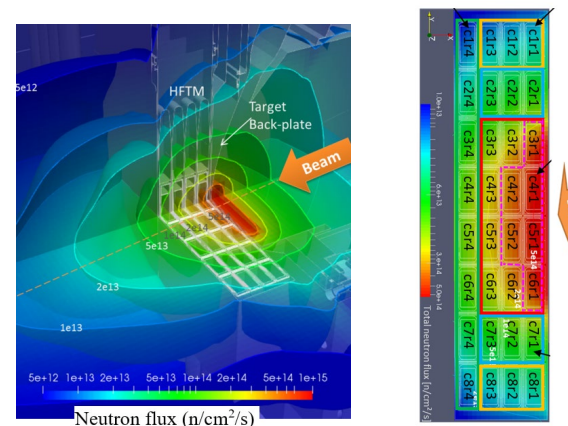
Offline Methods

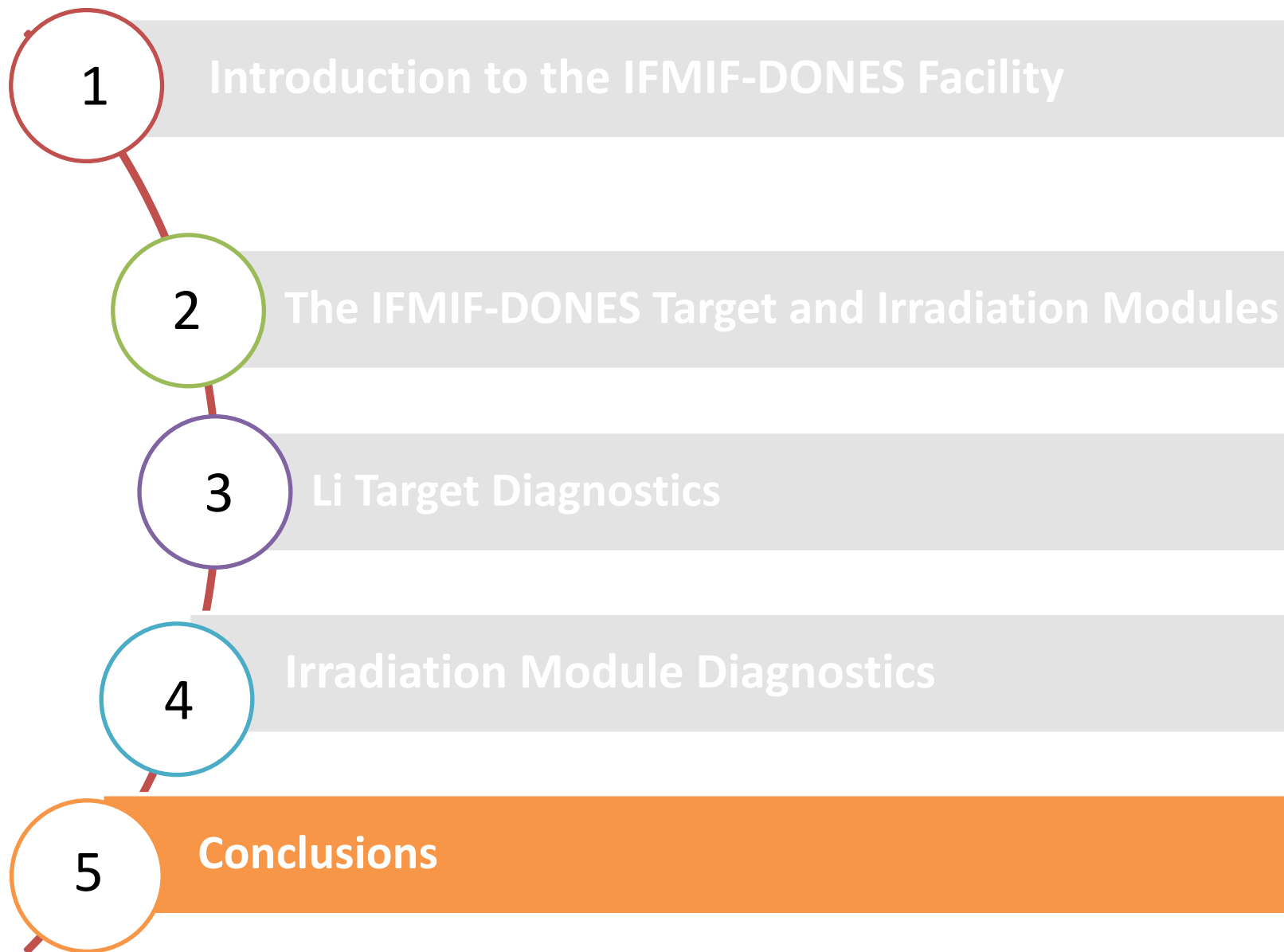
- **Activation foils** inside the irradiation capsules.

(iron, cobalt, nickel, yttrium, and gold under investigation)

Irradiations were performed at the cyclotron of NPI Řež (Czech Republic)

- Pneumatic Rabbit transporting **activation balls** (for the STUMM)





- 1) IFMIF-DONES is **1st kind and 1st Class Facility**.
- 2) Its **technological challenges** are **pushing the state-of-the-art** on Diagnostics Techniques (among others).
- 3) Abundant **Diagnostics synergies** with Accelerator technologies, Fusion Reactors, and Fission reactors.
- 4) **R&D programs** are **ongoing** to develop the technical solutions required (and many more will follow..)
- 5) Execution of **validation campaigns** in close collaboration with other **institutions and facilities** will be **essential**.

Thanks very much!!

Questions?

