

ECHULA (ECH Upper Launcher) partners:  
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FOM Rijnhuizen, FZK Karlsruhe,  
IPP Garching / IPF Stuttgart



Design and testing of  
the ITER ECRH Upper Launcher

## PROTOTYPE TESTING OF THE BLANKET SHIELD MODULE AND TORUS WINDOW ASSEMBLY FOR THE ITER ECH UPPER LAUNCHER

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# Electron Cyclotron launcher at the ITER Upper Port

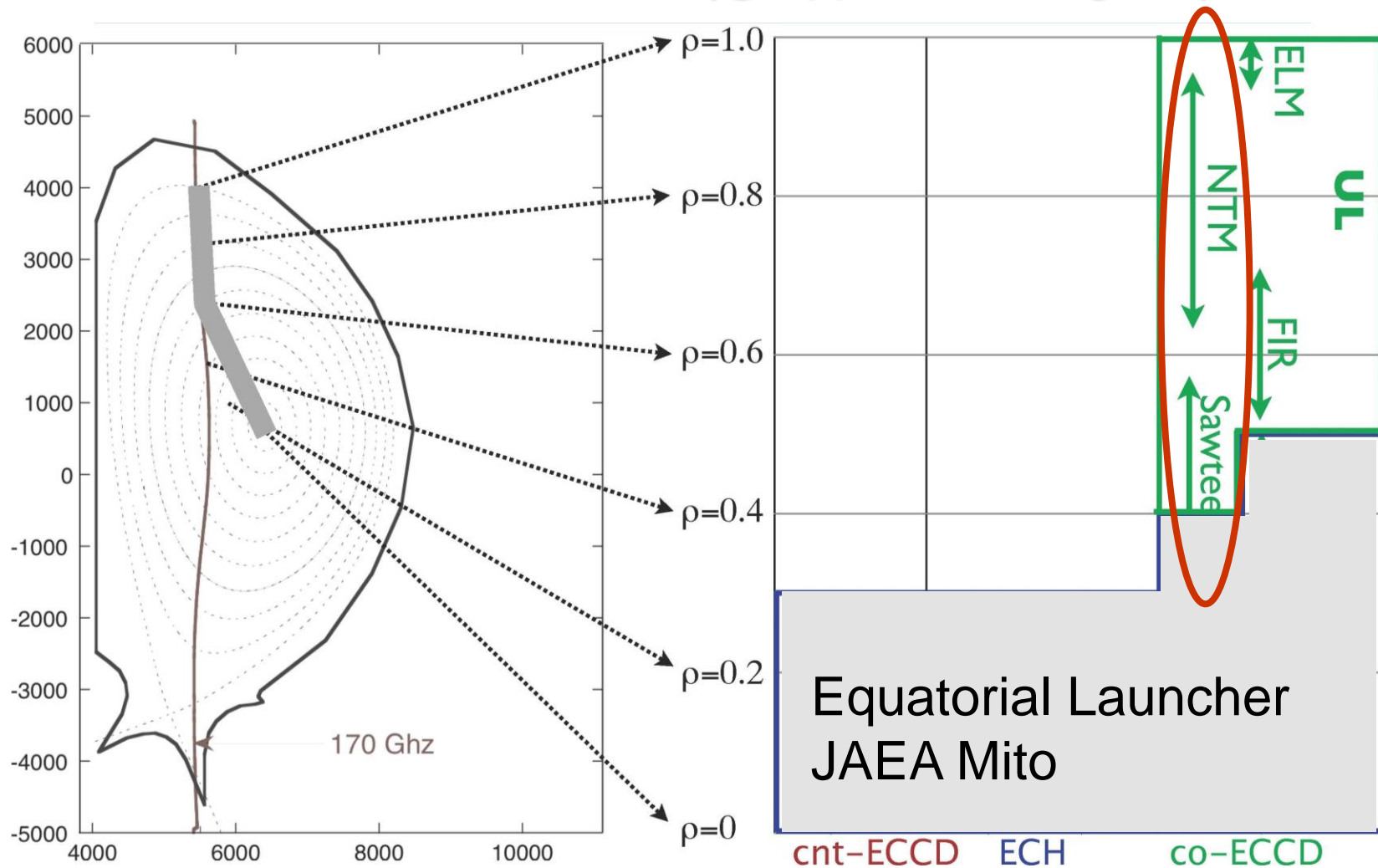
## Key requirement:

Counteract plasma instabilities at the outer plasma location  
("Neoclassical Tearing Modes - NTM")

## This requires:

- A mm-wave system, which extends from the interface to the transmission line up to the **target absorption zone** in the plasma performing as an **intelligent antenna**.
- A structural system, which integrates the mm-wave system, while ensuring sufficient thermal and nuclear shielding.
- Port plug remote handling and on-site testing capability, which ensure high port plug system availability.

# Physics Mission of the Extended Physics Launcher for MHD control (@ Upper Port Plug: UL)

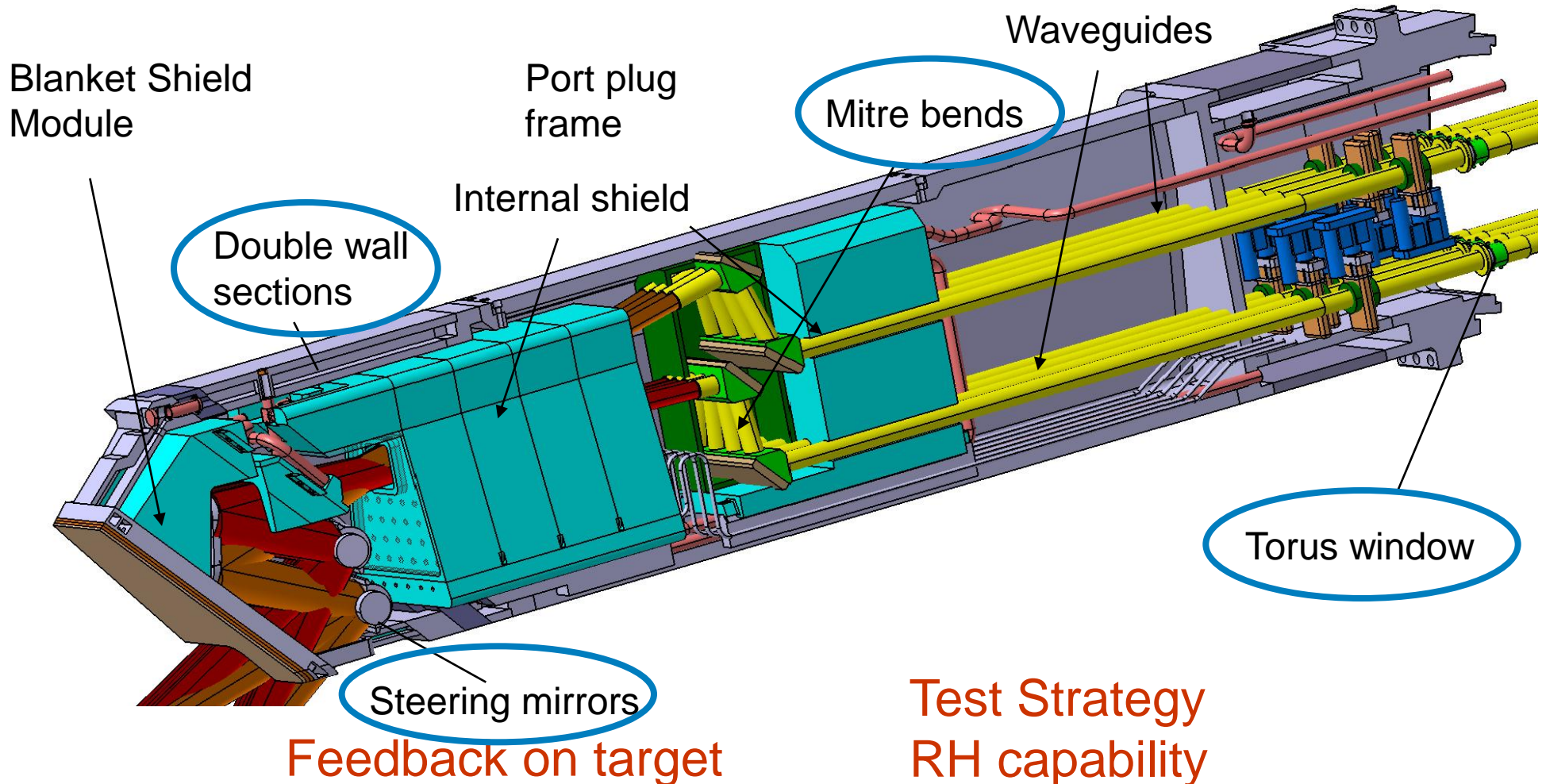


Study and Graphics by Mark Henderson ITER-IO

# System Mission for Extended Performance Launcher: Port plug with integrated mm-wave beam lines

Structural system

MM-Wave system

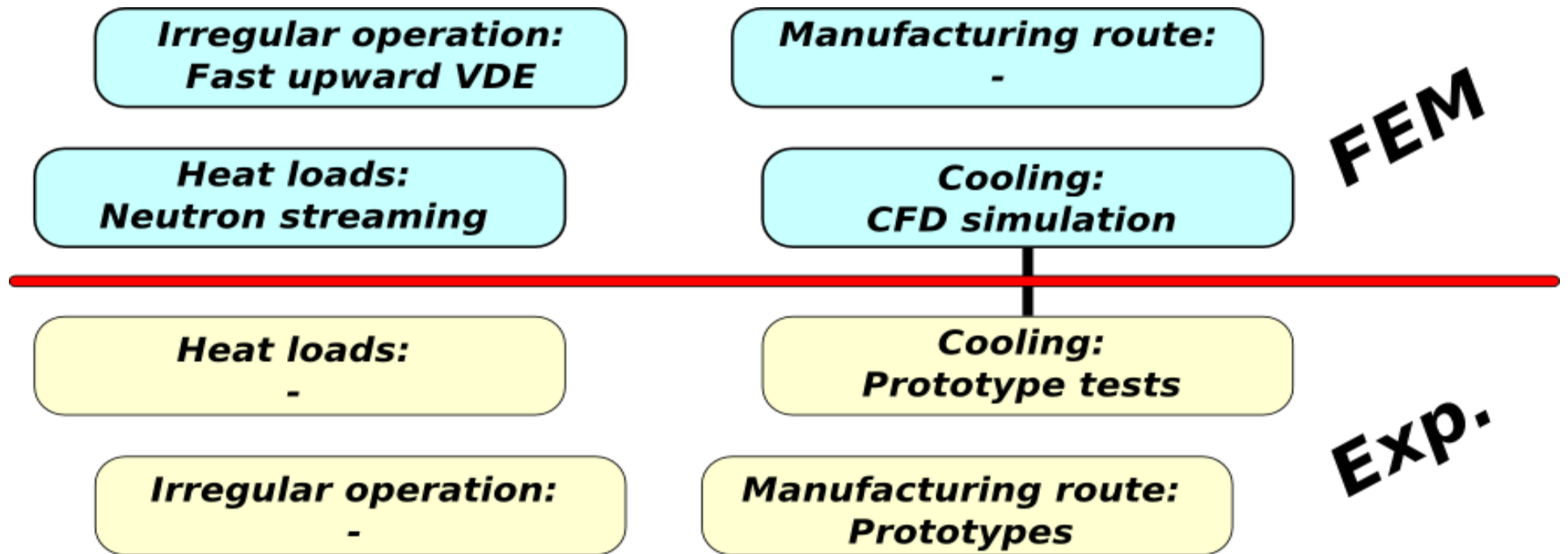


# Role of prototypes for design validation

Only very limited load scenarios can be tested experimentally.

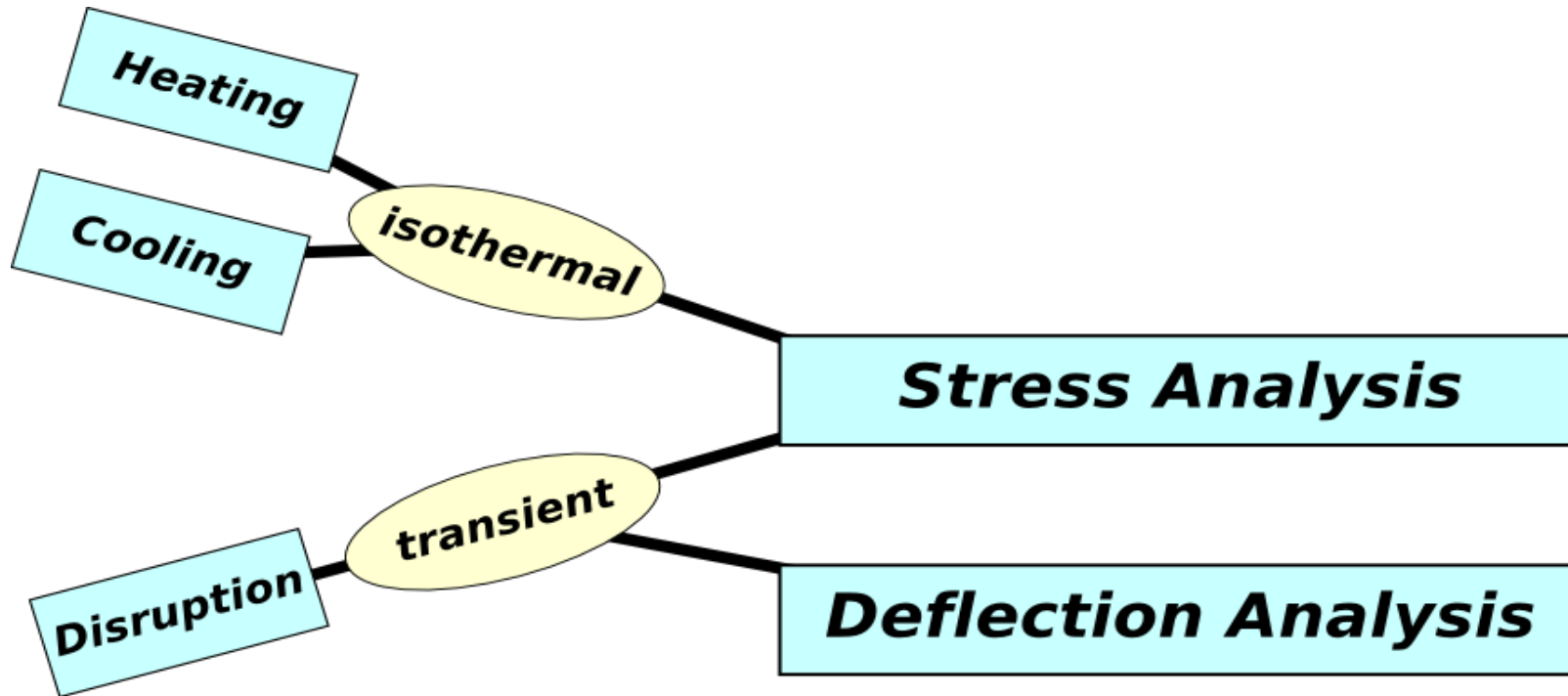
Manufacturing route can be proven by prototype tests.

Numerical analysis (FEM) must be in a position to satisfy QA requirements.





# Numerical analysis for design validation



## Combination of various simulations for proper design validation:

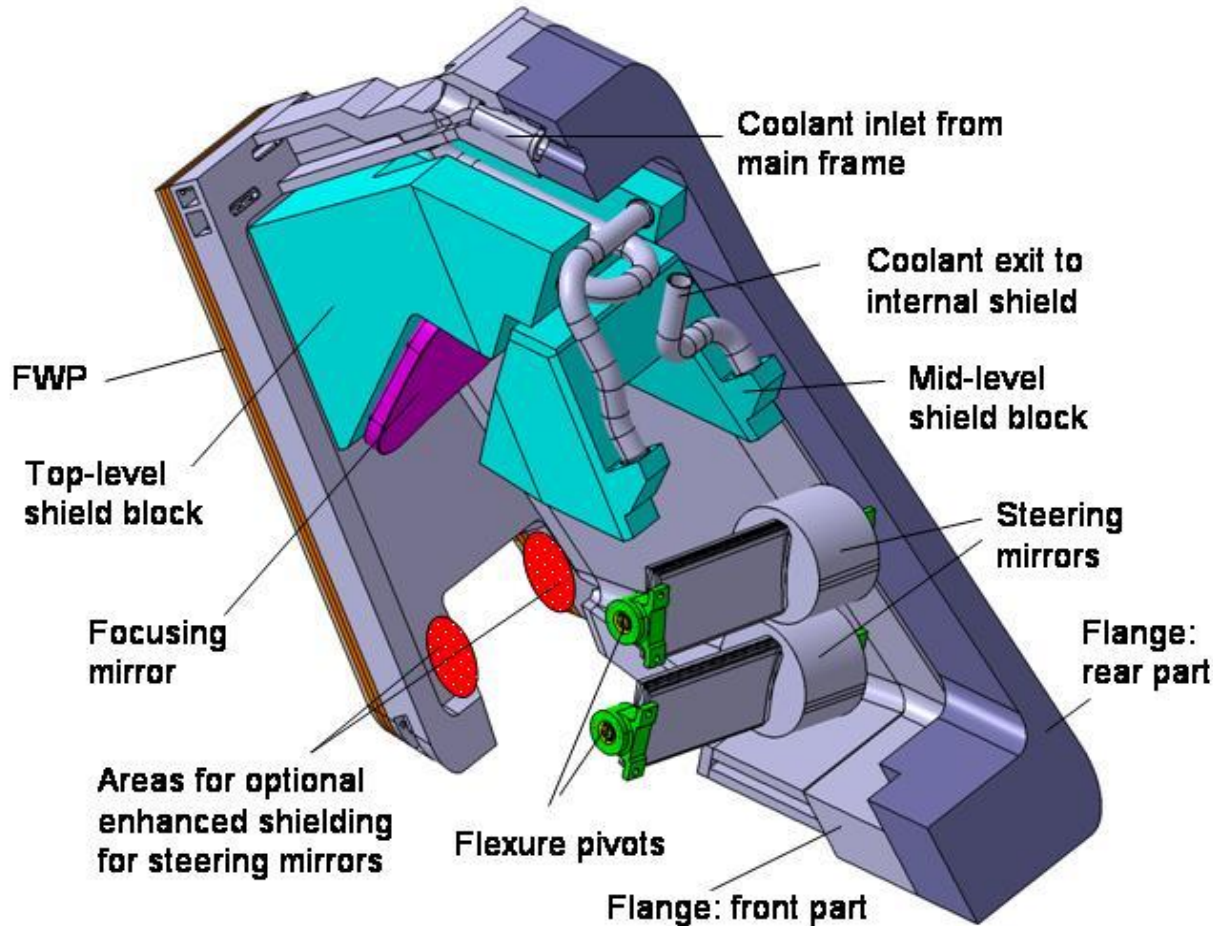
**Heating:** surface loads & volumetric heating (MC neutrons).

**Cooling:** CFD simulation.

**Disruptions:** the worst case scenario (“crash test”).

**Structural analysis:** FEM stress/deflections.

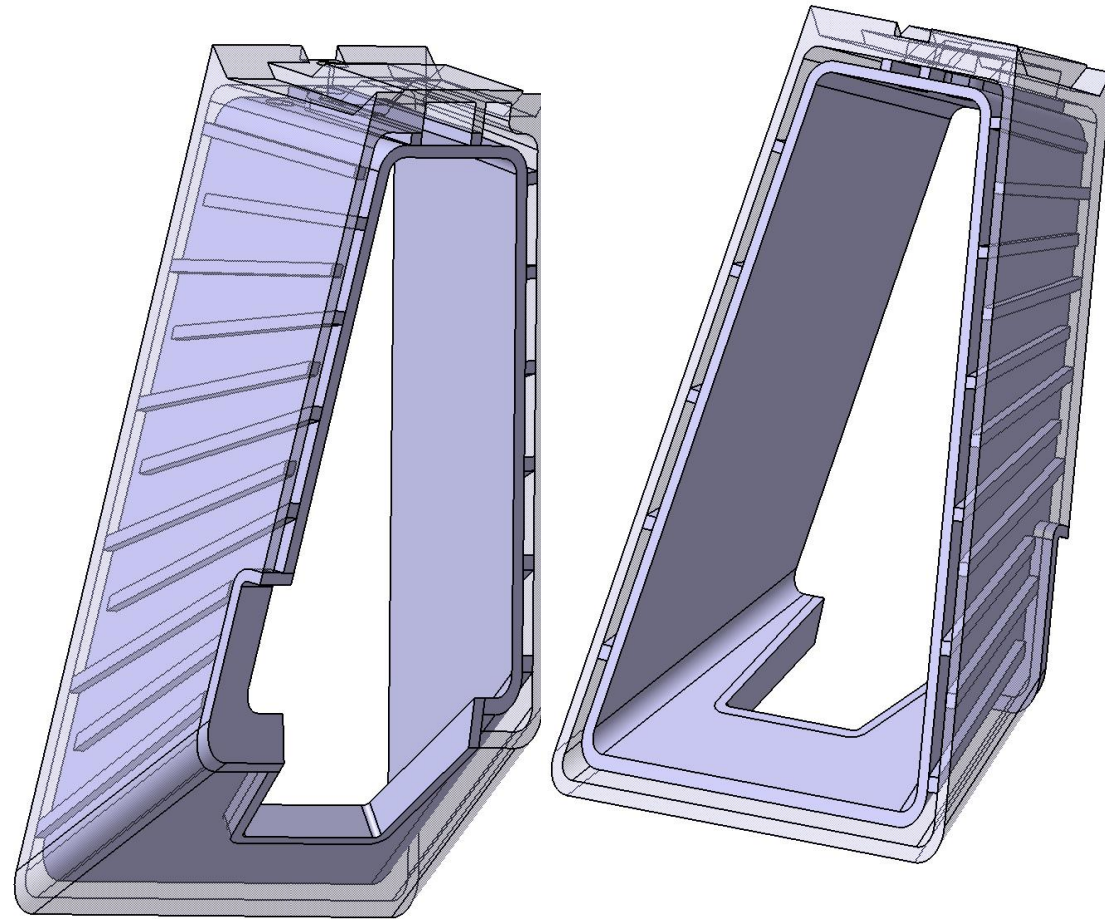
# Design features of the blanket shield module



The blanket shield module (BSM) closes the gap formed by the port in the regular blanket structure

Plasma-facing element is the first wall panel (FWP): configuration of a regular blanket module but welded attachment (open space for mm-waves)

# Manufacturing aspects of complex shaped double wall structures



## QA criteria:

Visual inspection: Surface roughness, welds, interfaces, cooling connections

## Dimension control:

Main dimensions by standard methods, skin scanning by 3-coordinate measuring position of flow ribs by US or x-ray

Pressure test: Water pressure of 6.3 MPa

Leak tightness: He leak test at RT

Ultrasonic tests of welds

Destructive metallurgical tests at sample welds

## Material certification:

Composition, raw material fabrication route, heat treatment during assembly steps (If any)



# Prototyping and testing of the BSM



## Cooling Test facility:

Up to 240°C

Up to 45 bar

## Mechanical tests

Yield/ultimate tensile strength

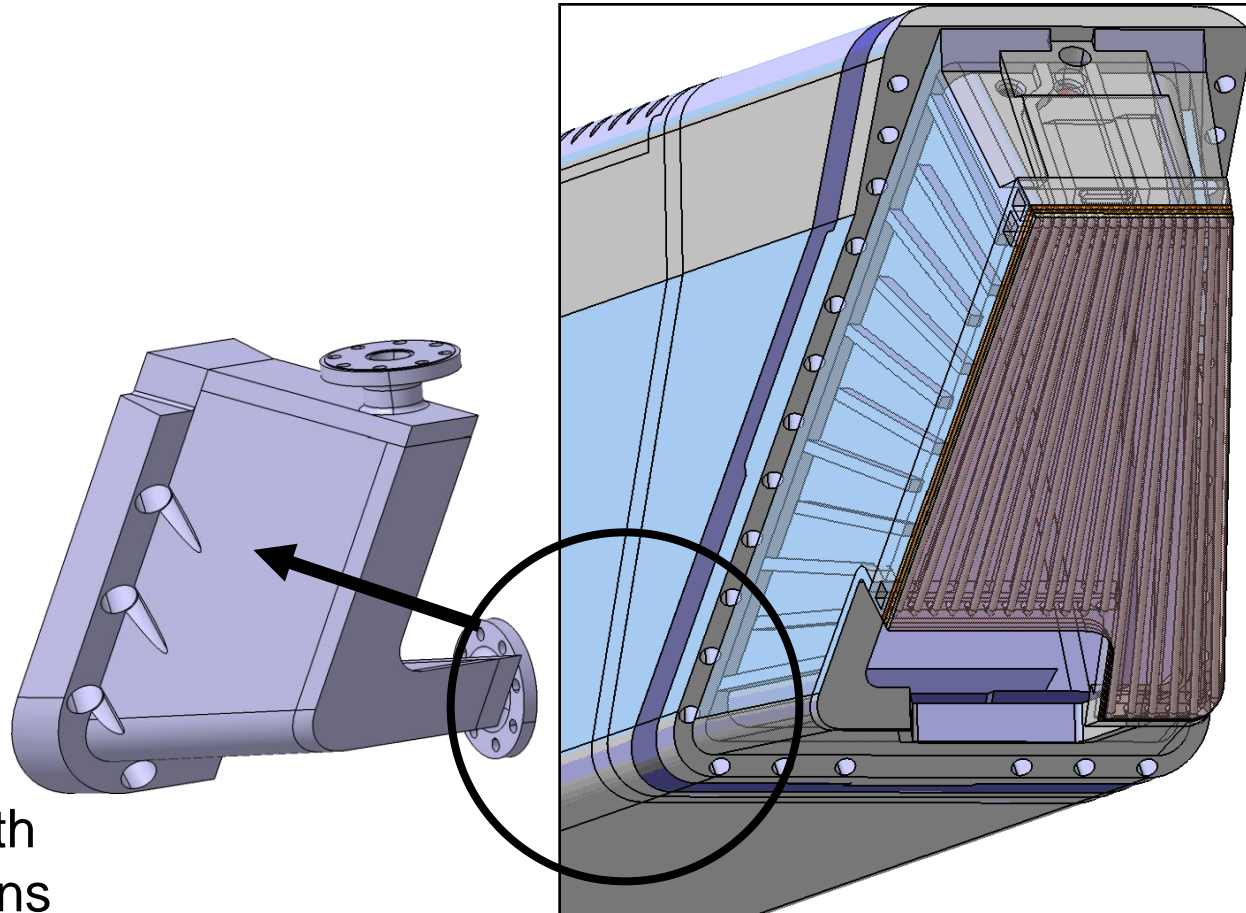
Microstructure of the junctions

## Prototypes:

Sintered (HIP)

Brazed

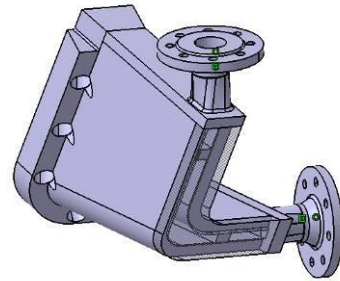
Machined compacts (deep drilling + e-welded)



# BSM Corner Prototype manufactured by “HIP route”

## Arguments for the HIP route

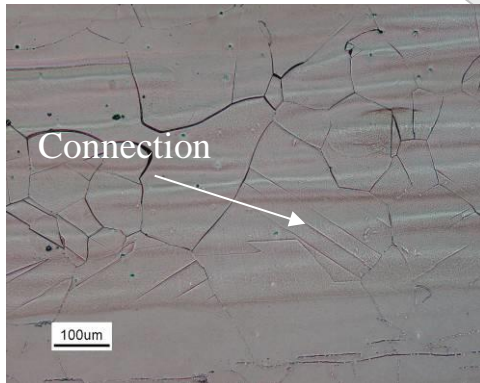
Mechanical strength	✓
Water pressure (6.3MPa / 30min)	✓
Complex geometry	✓
Calculated shrinking	✓



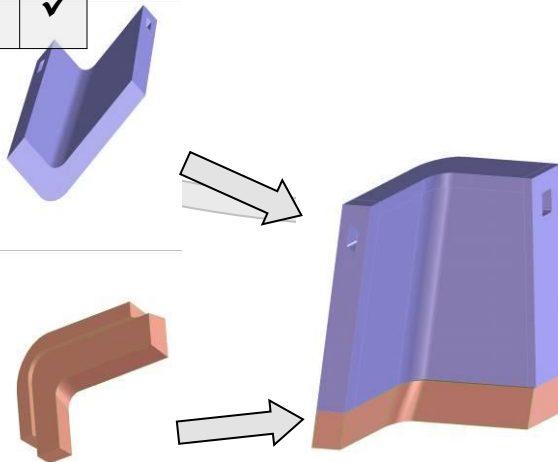
Step A: 3D-CAD Model



Step B: Capsule forming and filling



Microstructure of diffusion welded tensile specimen



Step D: Flange connection by diffusion welding



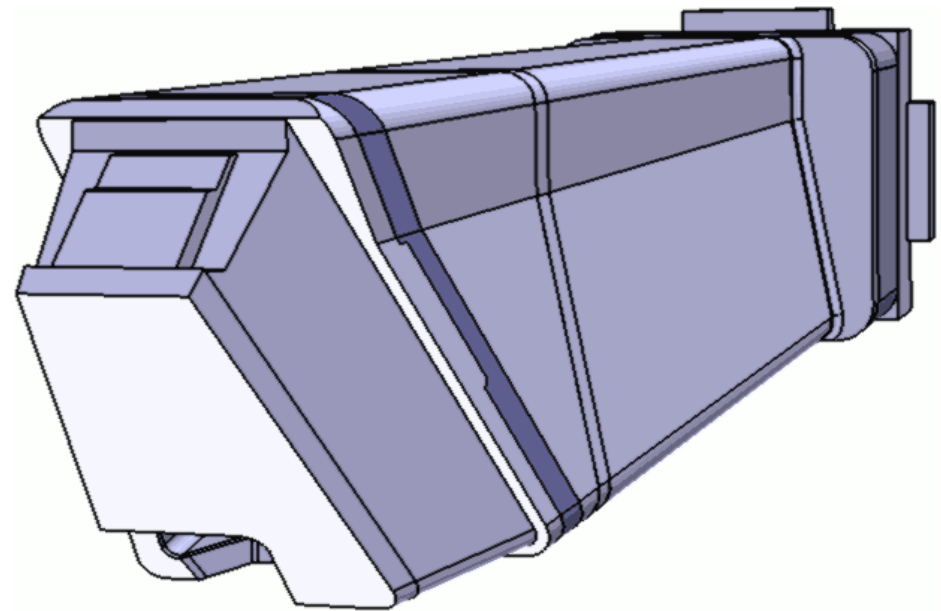
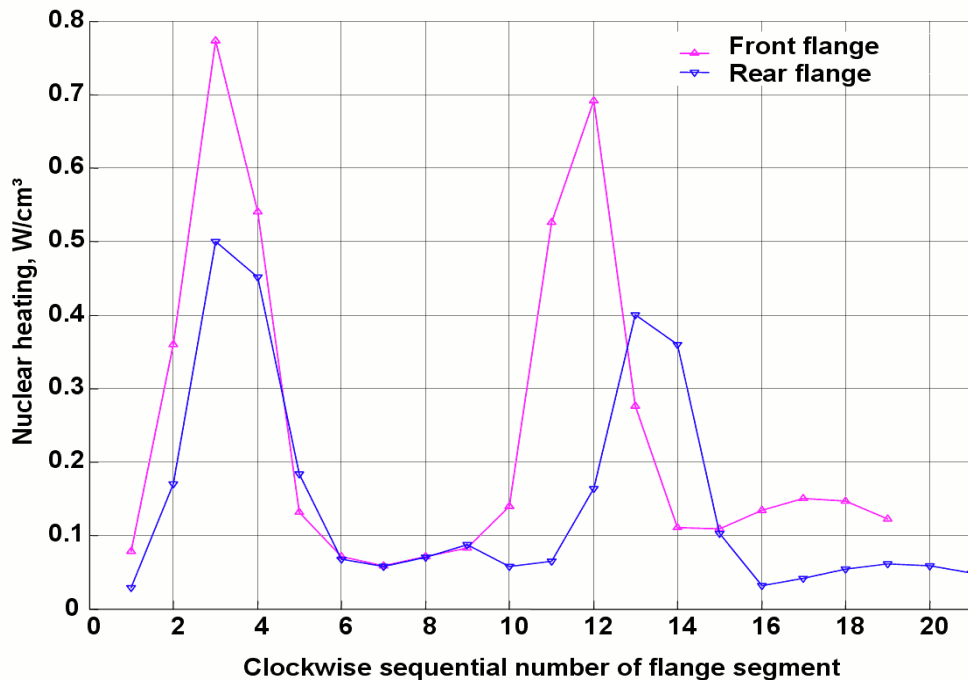
Step C: HIPped body of the double wall structure



View into the cooling channel

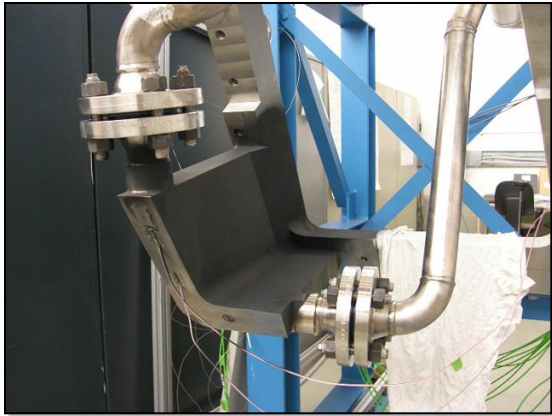
# Particular concern of thermal loads on structural components

- Surface loads on First Wall Panel (FWP).
- Volumetric heat load distribution by neutron heating.
- Cut out in FWP causes hot spots especially at the passively cooled flange between BSM and main structure.





# BSM corner prototype: Results + Outlook



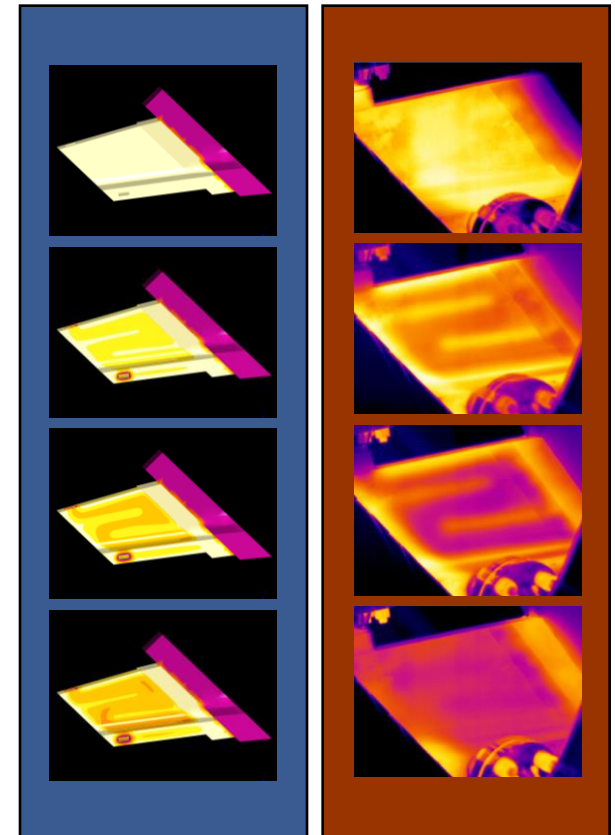
Double wall HIPped corner prototype.  
Shock cooling from 100°C to 20°C.

**Temperature profile by  
infrared camera.**

**CFD analysis verified.**

Extended validation + testing:  
Model extension to full BSM +  
flange + main double wall.

QA impact: Numerical analysis of  
➤ Temperature profile at flange.  
➤ Bolt pretensions.

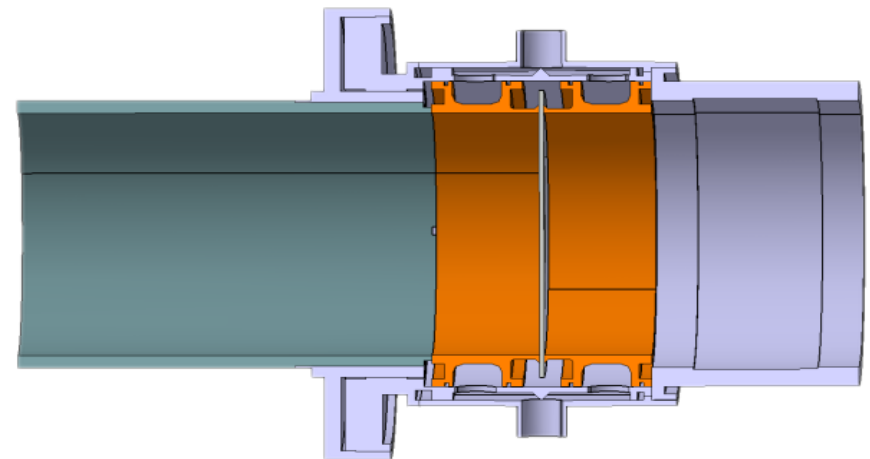
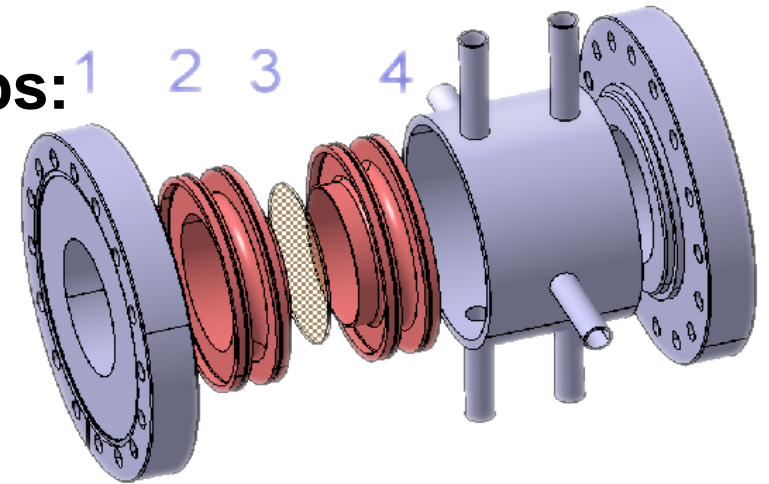




# Diamond Window Prototypes for the ITER Front Steering (FS) Upper Launcher

## Targets for initial (pre-)prototyping steps:

- Validation w.r.t. input parameters for numerical design development and performance analysis based on FEM
- Decision on cooling principles: direct vs. indirect cooling.
- Demonstrate in-situ maintenance
- Quantify parameters and capabilities for semi-automated (dis-)assembly



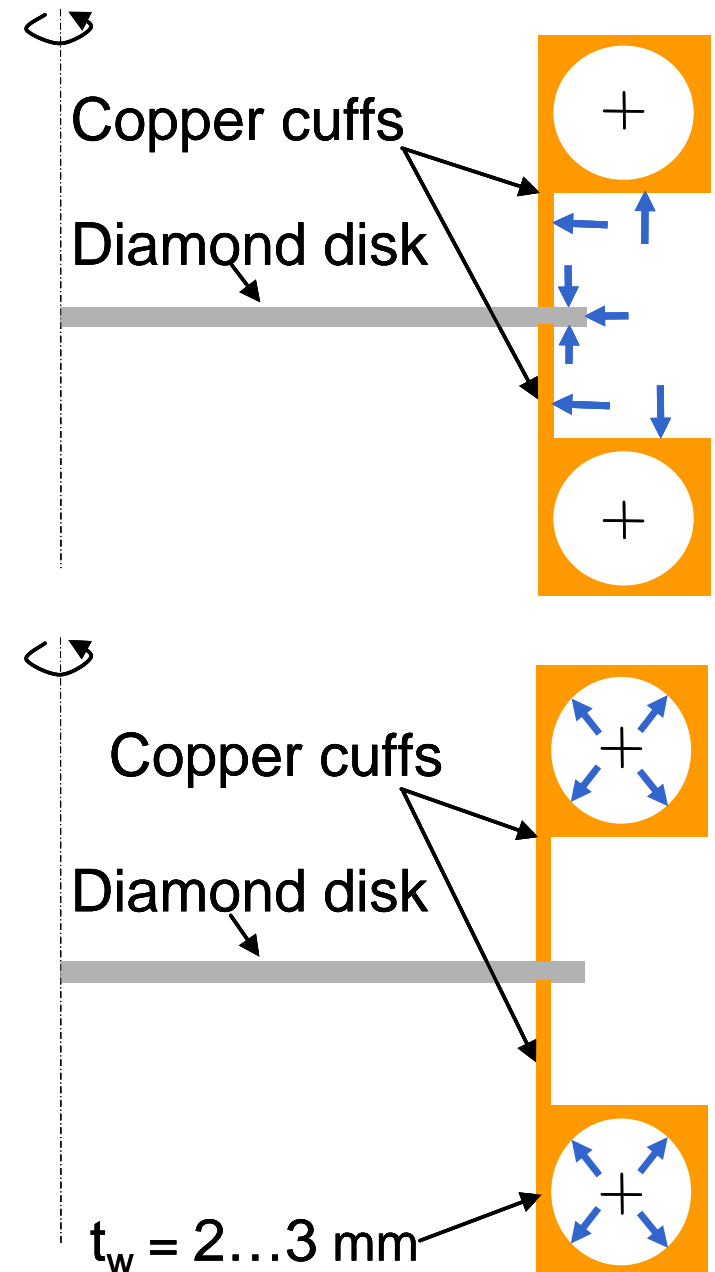
# Cooling principles

## Direct Cooling:

- Lower peak and average temperatures
- Risk of cooling water intrusion at failure
- Enhanced failure safety by electroplating Cu at the diamond edge and at the brazing

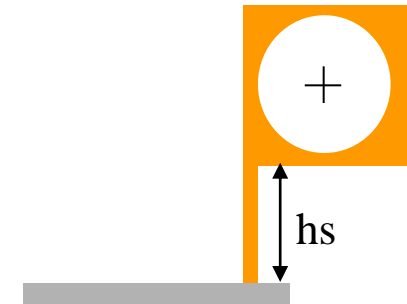
## Indirect Cooling:

- Optimized safety: cooling water separated by strong Cu structure.
- Higher cooling water pressure possible.
- Lower cooling efficiency due to the longer heat flow path.



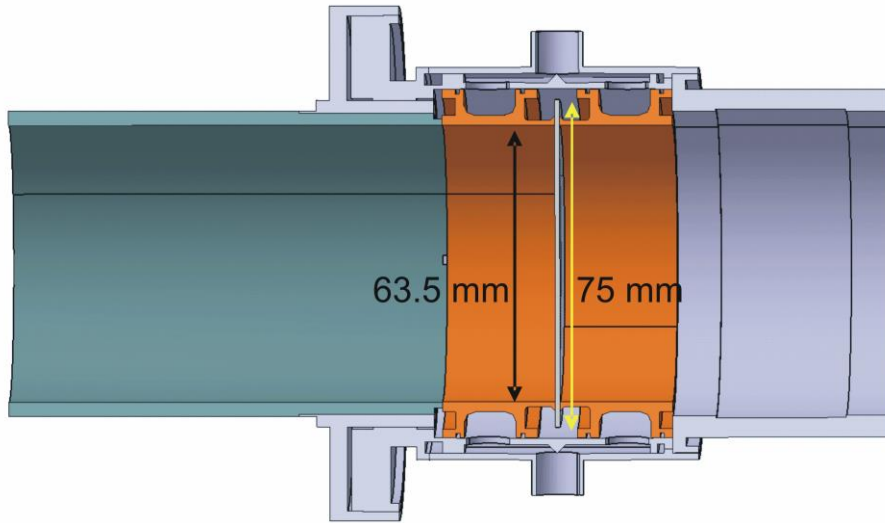
# Thermal analysis: Impact of mm-wave loss for 2 MW

- window aperture:  $2a$  [mm] = 60
- water temperature:  $T$  [°C] = 40
- water consumption:  $w$  [l / min] = 20
- ⇒ film coefficient:  $\alpha_T$  [W/(m<sup>2</sup>K)] = 19700
- separation:  $hs$  [mm] = 5/10



$P_{abs}$	Cooling	$T_{center}$ , [°C]	$T_{edge}$ , [°C]	$\Delta T$ , [°C]	
530 W $\tan\delta=2 \cdot 10^{-5}$	Direct (edge)	97	50	47	
	Indirect	$hs = 5$	114	66	48
		$hs = 10$	133	83	50
1060 W $\tan\delta=4 \cdot 10^{-5}$	Direct (edge)	162	60	102	
	Indirect	$hs = 5$	202	92	110
		$hs = 10$	248	127	121
265 W $\tan\delta=10^{-5}$	Direct (edge)			<25	
	Indirect $hs = 10$			<25	

# EU CVD diamond torus window concept



Diamond disk Diameter: 75 mm  
Thickness: 1.11 mm



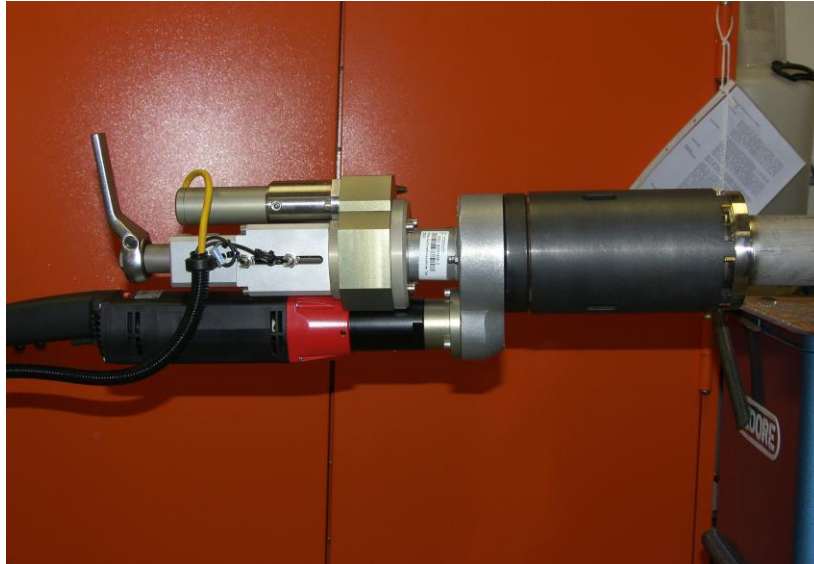
Demonstrator disk by ElementSix:  
Loss measurements at 170 GHz:  
 $\tan\delta_{\text{eff}} = 0.9 \times 10^{-5}$   
(central area)

Smaller disk for torus window  
Much lower  $\tan\delta$  than guaranteed  
loss for gyrotron windows



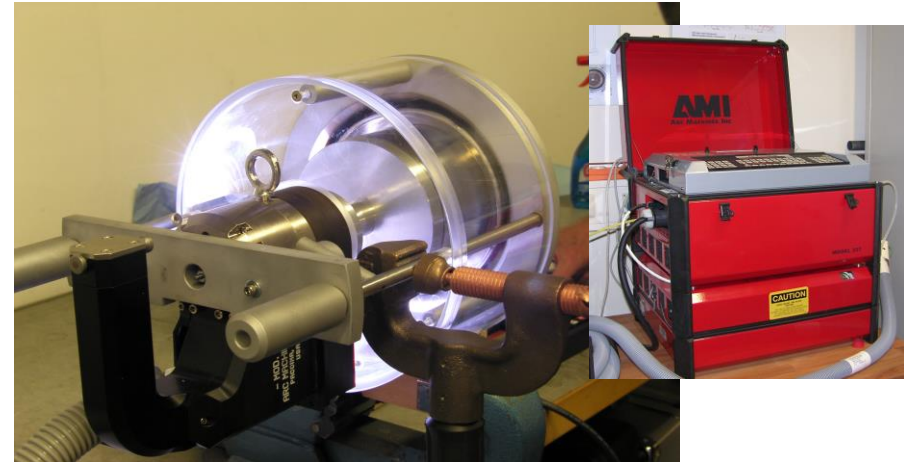
# Semi-automated handling processes and tools

## Cutting



- Cut Diameter: 110 .. 118 mm
- Outer Diameter: 123 mm
- Protom / France

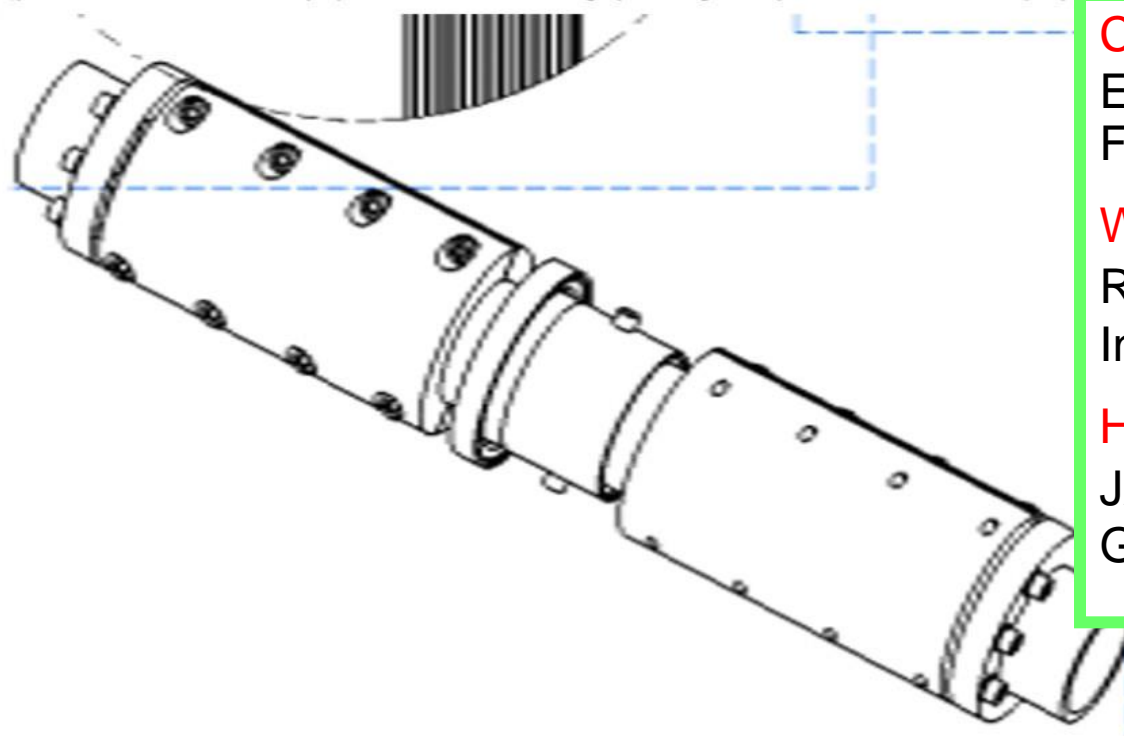
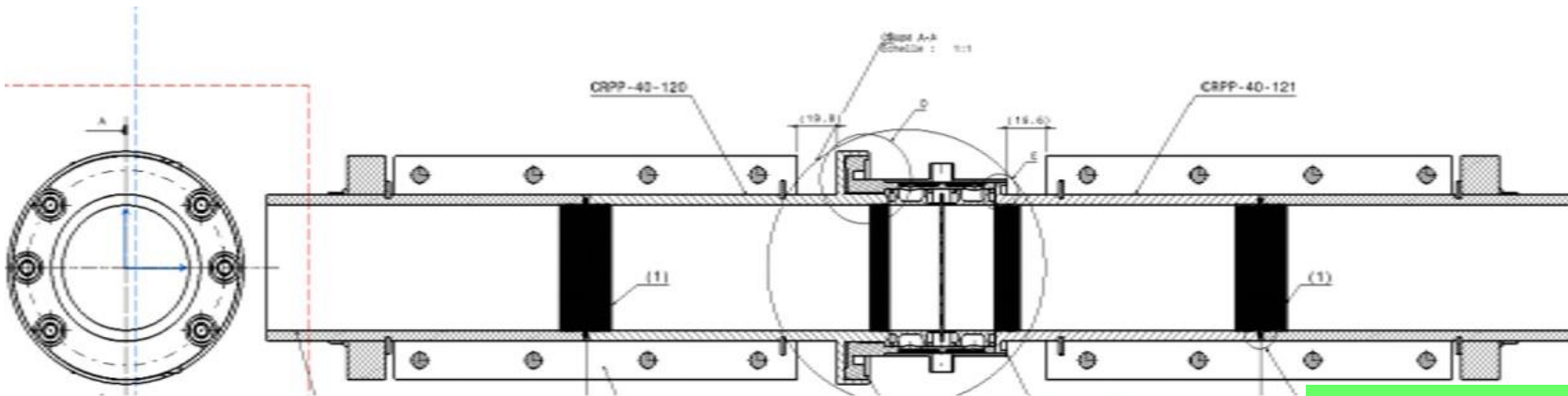
## Welding



Weld head for  
RS window

Power supply

- RS - weld Head adaptation:  
Outer Diameter: 230 mm → 130 mm  
Weld Diameter: 144 mm → 114 mm  
AMI / USA

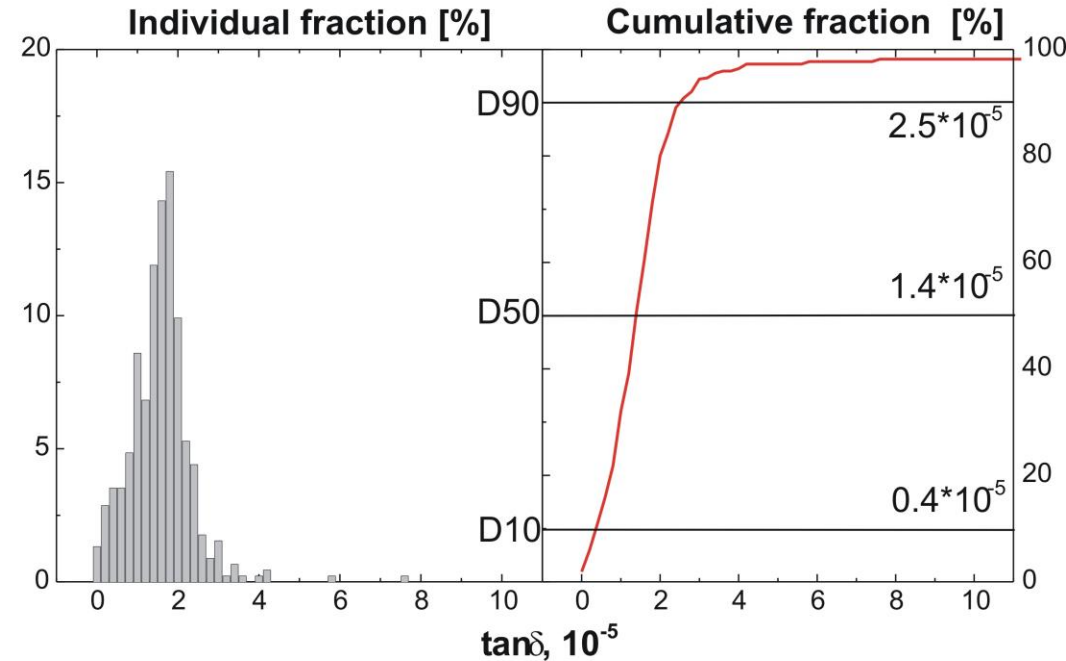
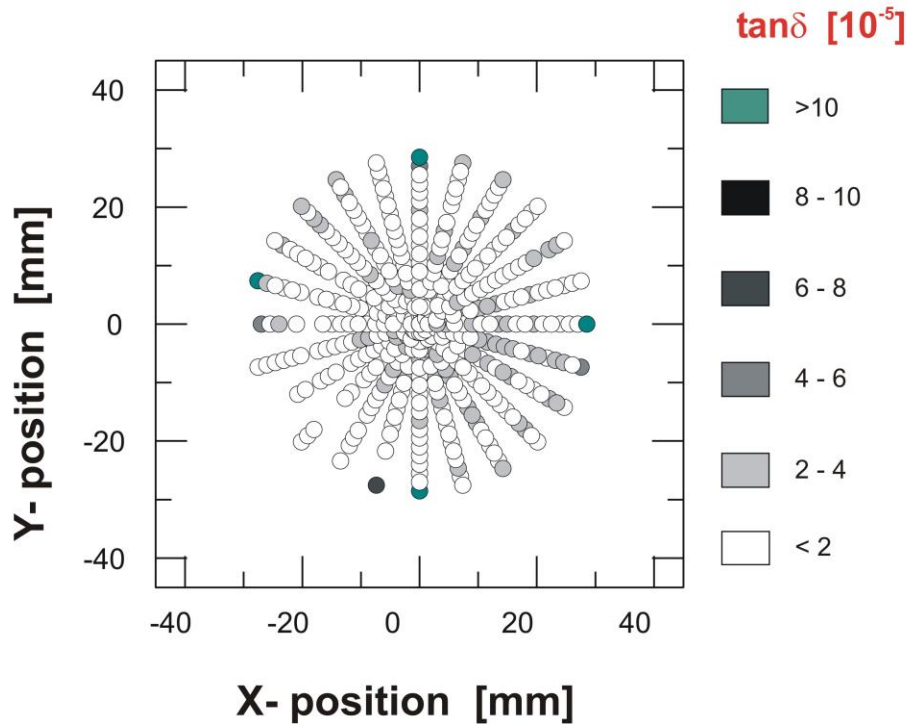


**CVD Diamond disk:**  
 E6 (1st window)  
 FHG (2nd window)

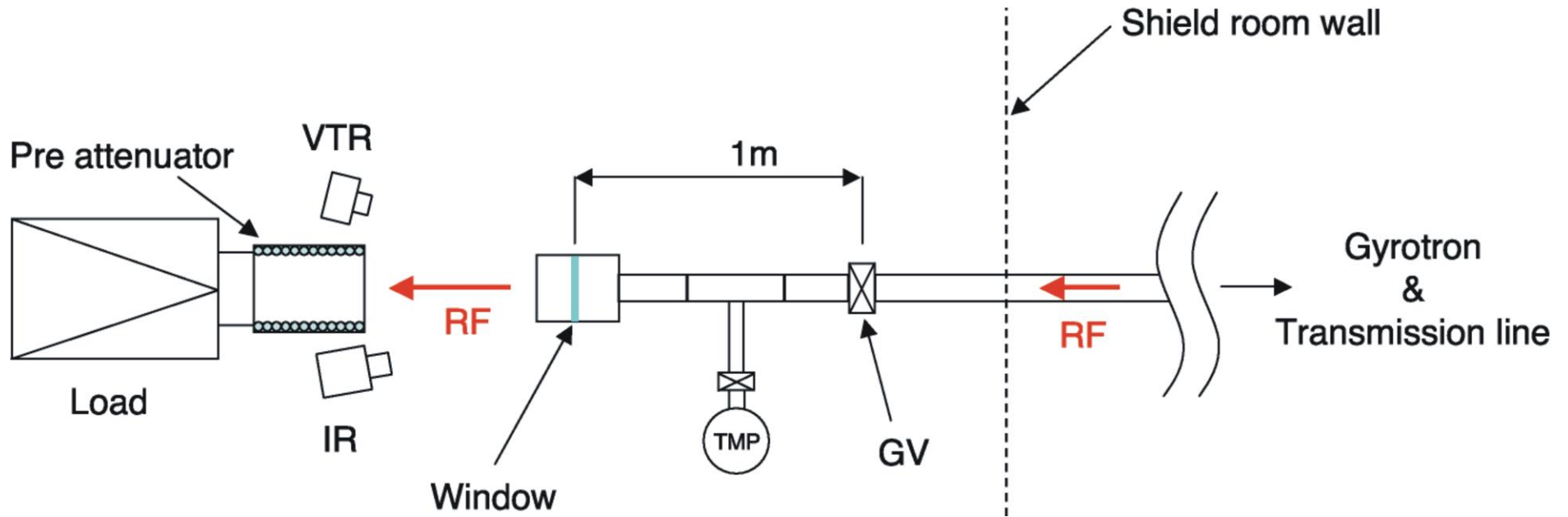
**Window assembly:**  
 Ready (1st window)  
 In progress (2nd window)

**High power tests**  
 JAEA (1 MW/170 GHz – Gyrotron)

# Diel. loss mapping of E6 diamond demonstrator disk (@ 100 GHz)

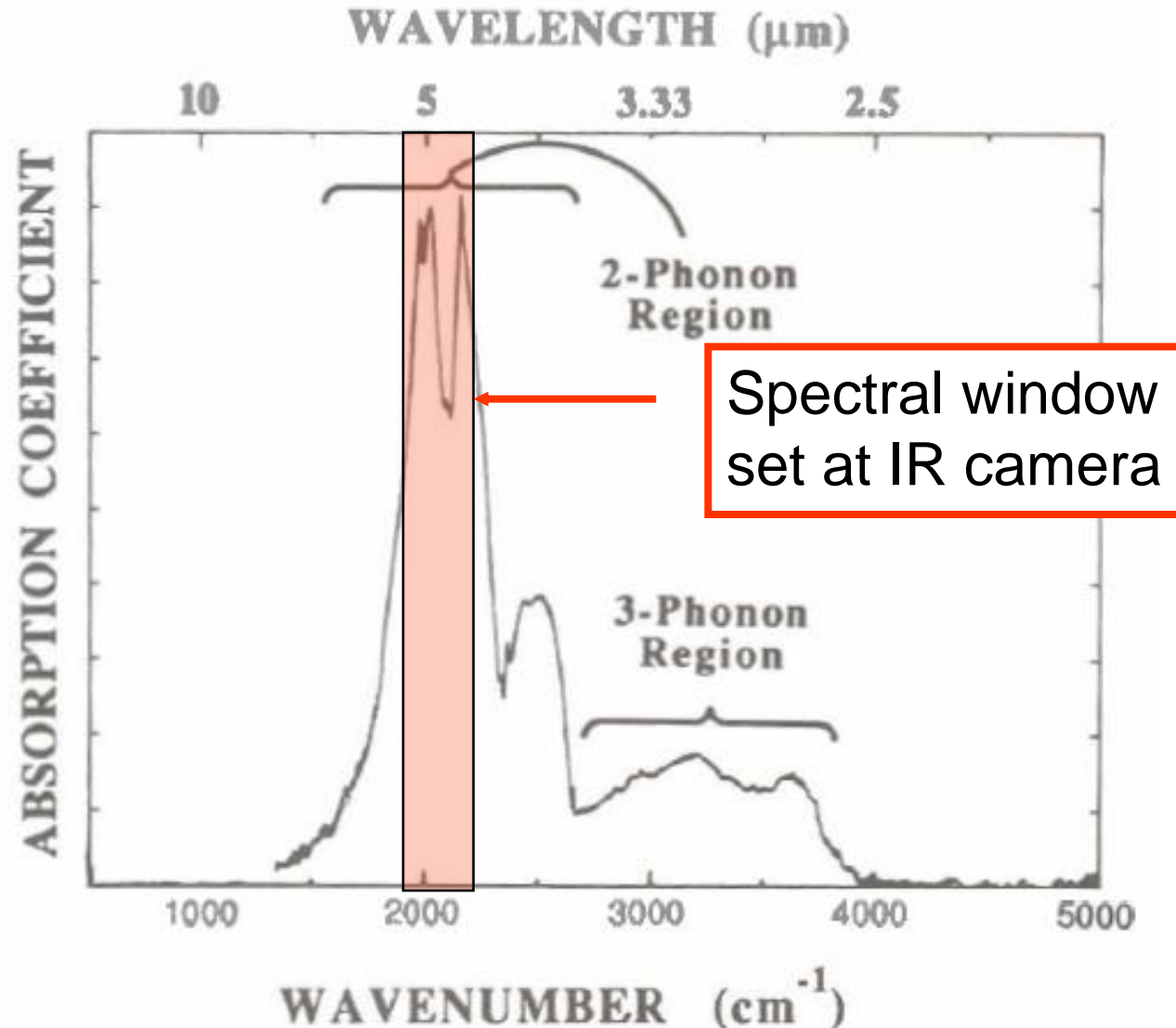


# Setup for short-pulse CVD diamond window testing at 170 GHz/1MW gyrotron



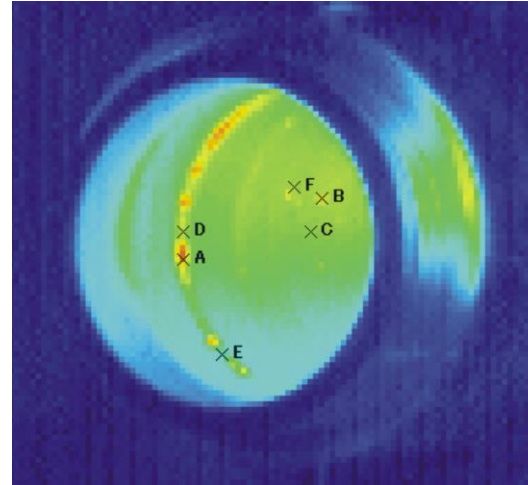
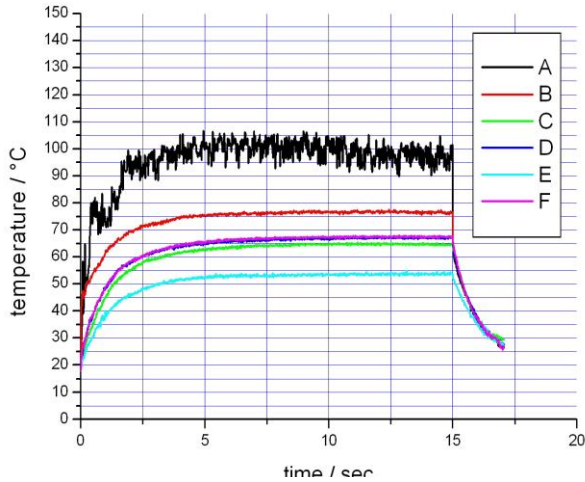


# Wavelength aspects for IR window diagnostics

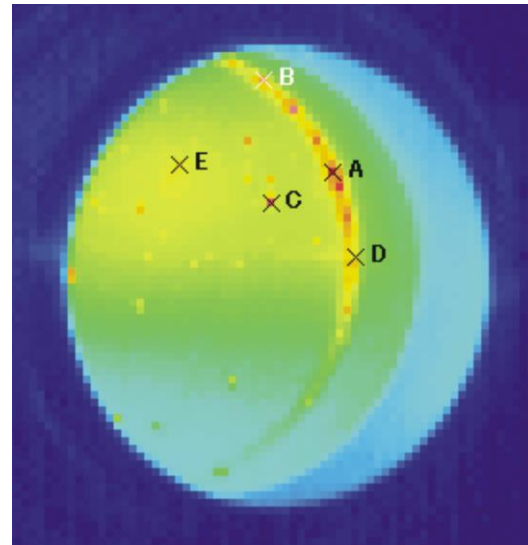
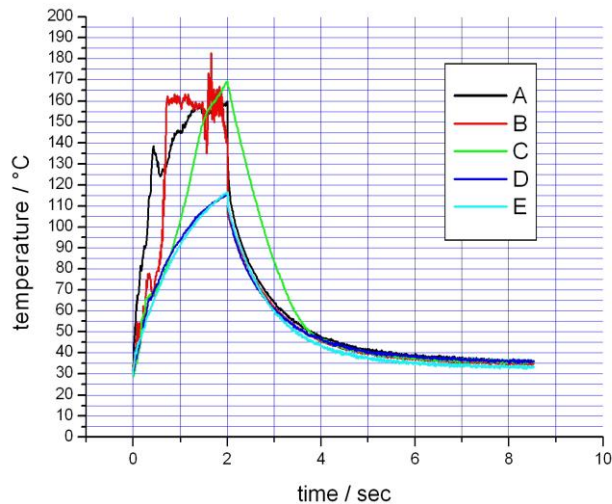


D. C. Harris, „Infrared Window and Dome Materials“, Vol. TT10, 1994

# First window high power measurements at the 1 MW gyrotron facility in Japan (JAEA)



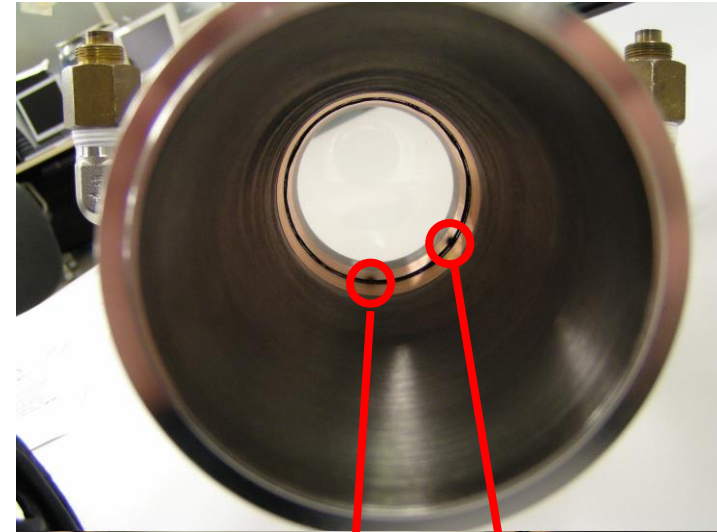
**15.0 s**  
**320 kW**



**2.0 s**  
**600 kW**

Tests stopped  
to re-work braze  
to mitigate risks for  
higher power failure

# Brazing problem in the first window prototype

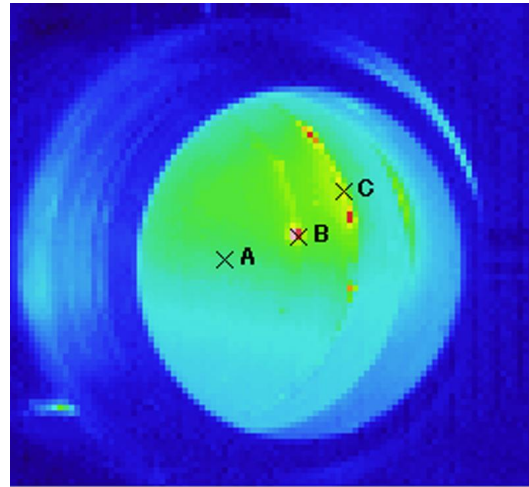
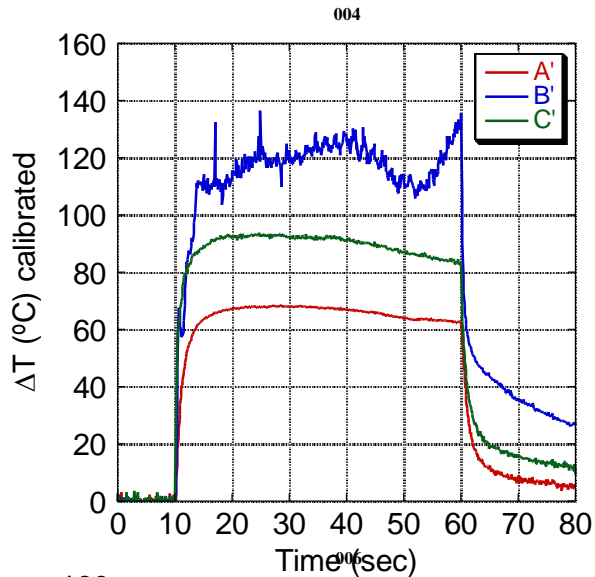


Reflection from the other side

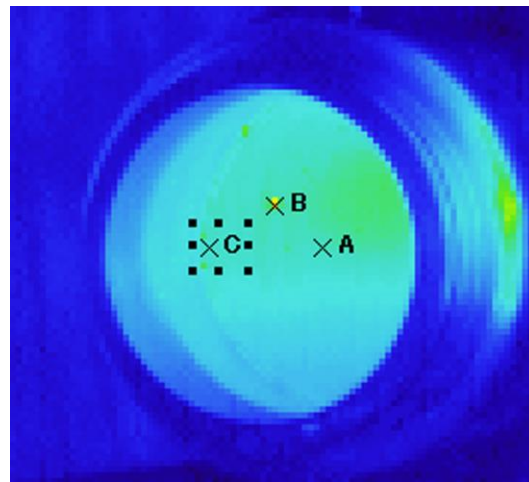
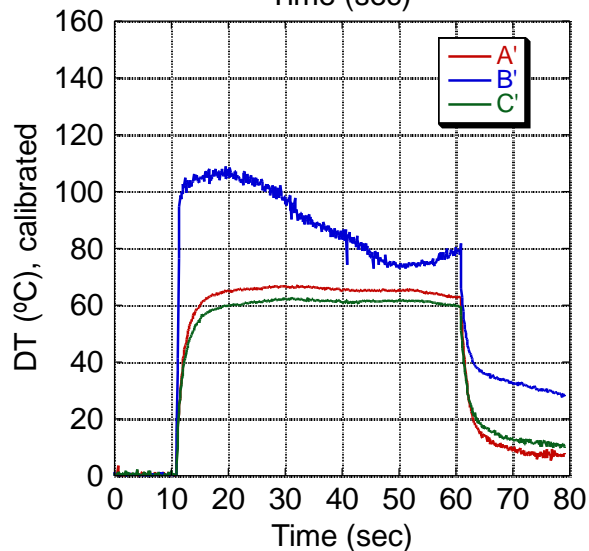
1.5 s  
2.0 s



# 2nd sequence of high power measurements at the 1 MW gyrotron facility at JAEA



**320 kW**  
**50 s**



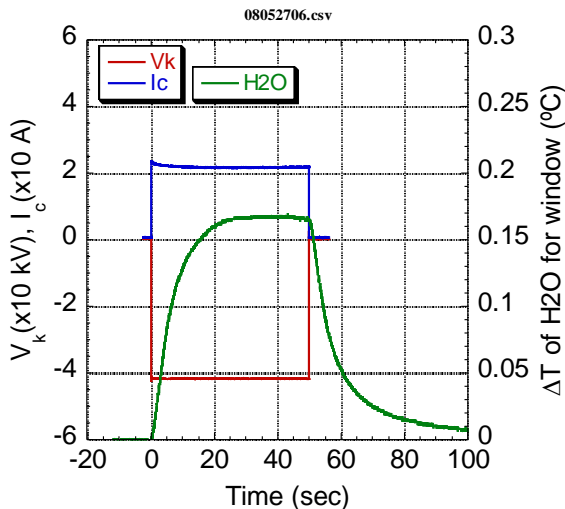
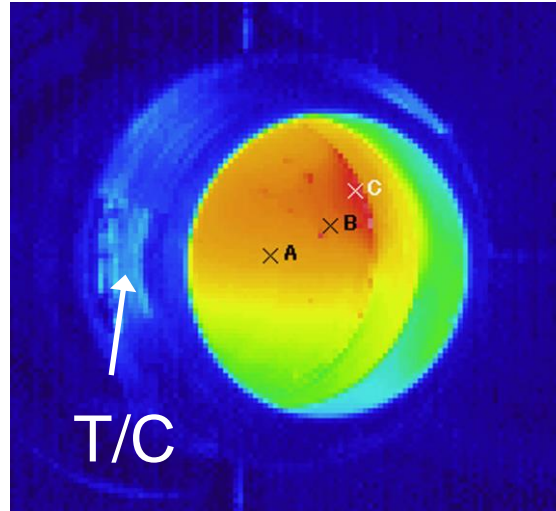
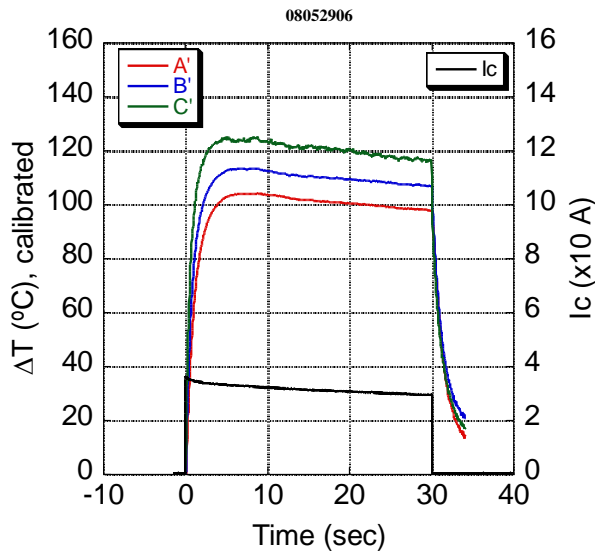
**Steady state**  
**regime attained**



# High power measurements at the 1 MW gyrotron facility in Japan (JAEA)

**520 kW**  
**30 s**  
**T-Saturation**

**T/C measurement:  
housing**

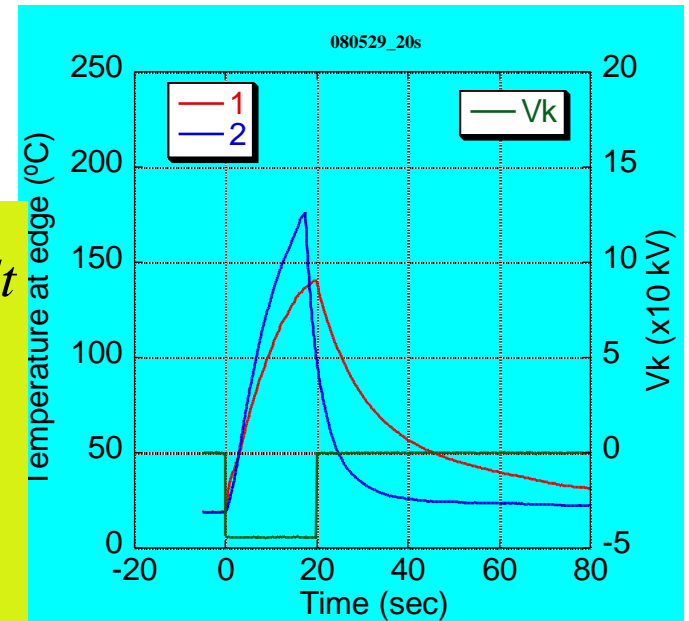


$$P_{diss} = 4.18 \cdot Q_{aq} \cdot \frac{dT}{dV \cdot \tau} \cdot \int_0^\tau \Delta V \cdot dt$$

$$= \dot{m} \cdot c_{aq} \cdot \Delta T$$

$P_{diss} \approx 100 \text{ W}$  ;

for :  $Q_{aq} = 7.7 \text{ l/min}$

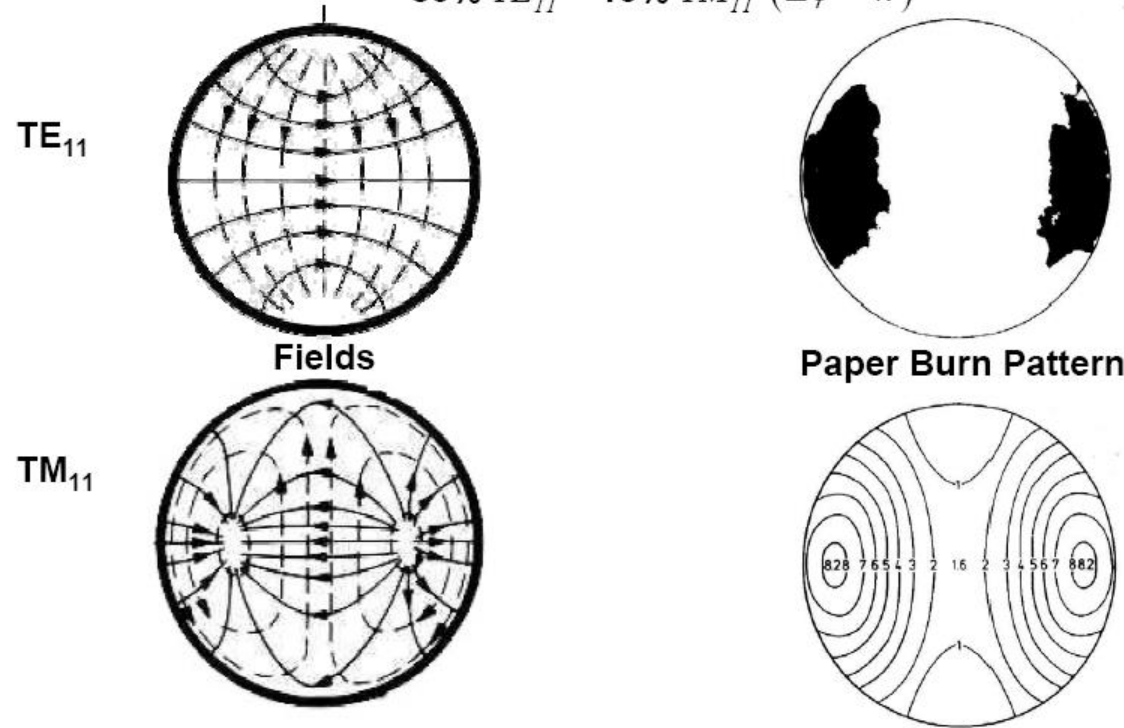




# Extrapolation limits for ITER window operation

Example for Asymmetry caused by higher mode contents

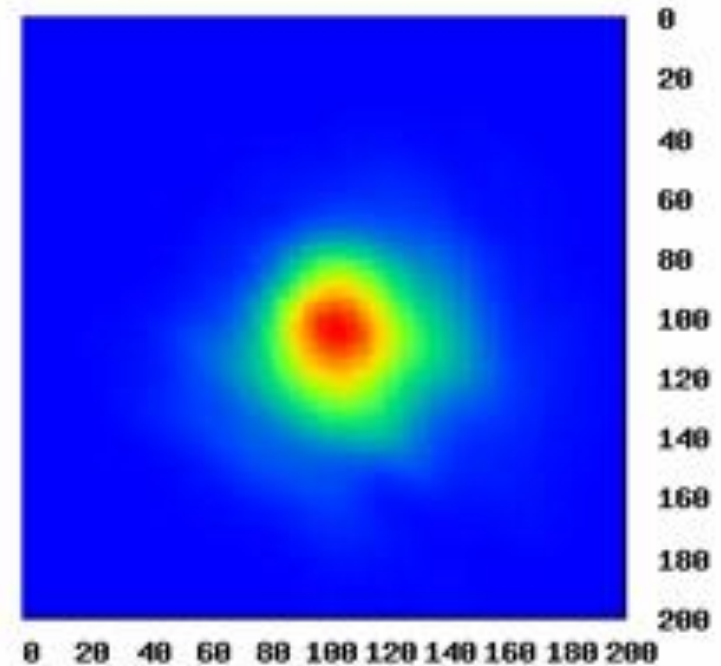
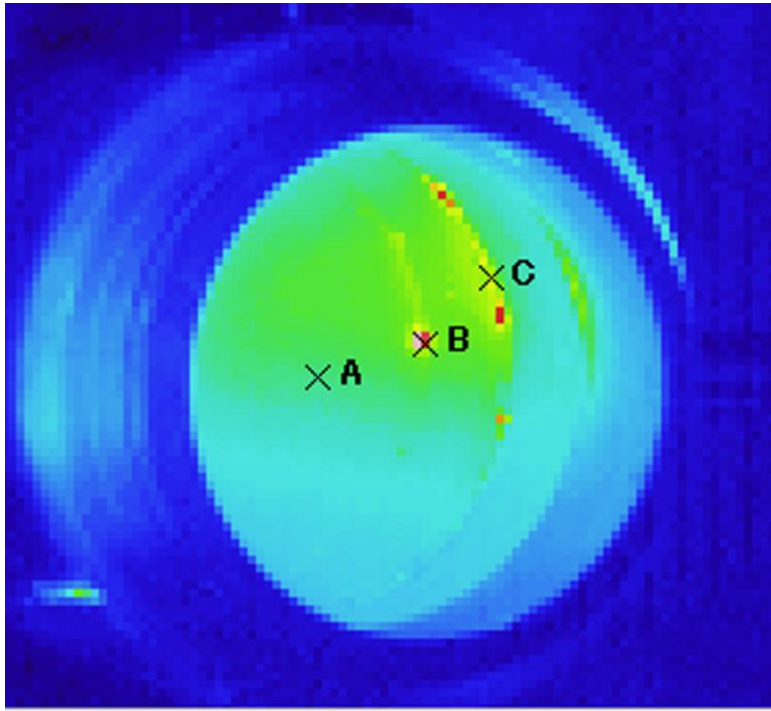
$$85\% TE_{11} + 15\% TM_{11} (\Delta\phi = \pi)$$



By courtesy of Prof. Thumm (IHM-FZK)

- Beam profile not purely Gaussian (several miter bends in TL)
- Non radial symmetric temperature distribution
- Non radial symmetric distribution of the electrical field

# Impacts



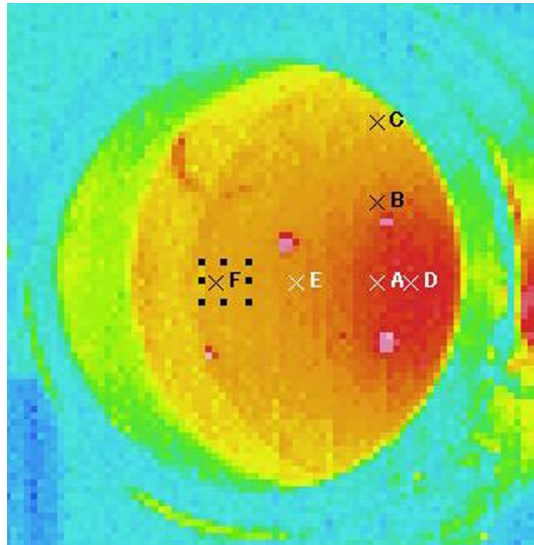
Observation of  
„Parasitic cavities“

Beam correction (MOU)

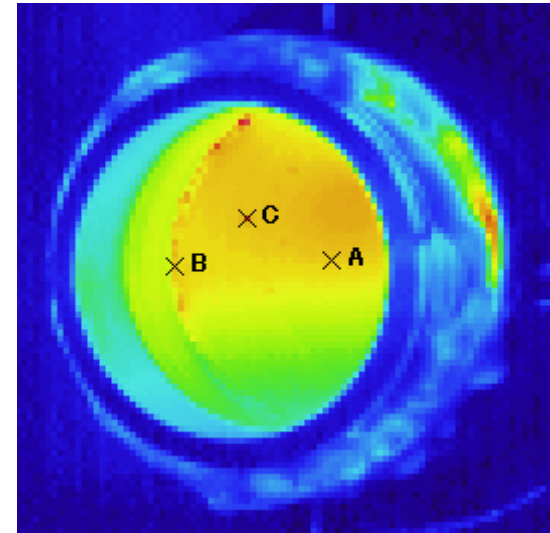
# Impacts

## Temperature distribution :

The region of high temperature increase shifted toward the center compared to the previous experiment!

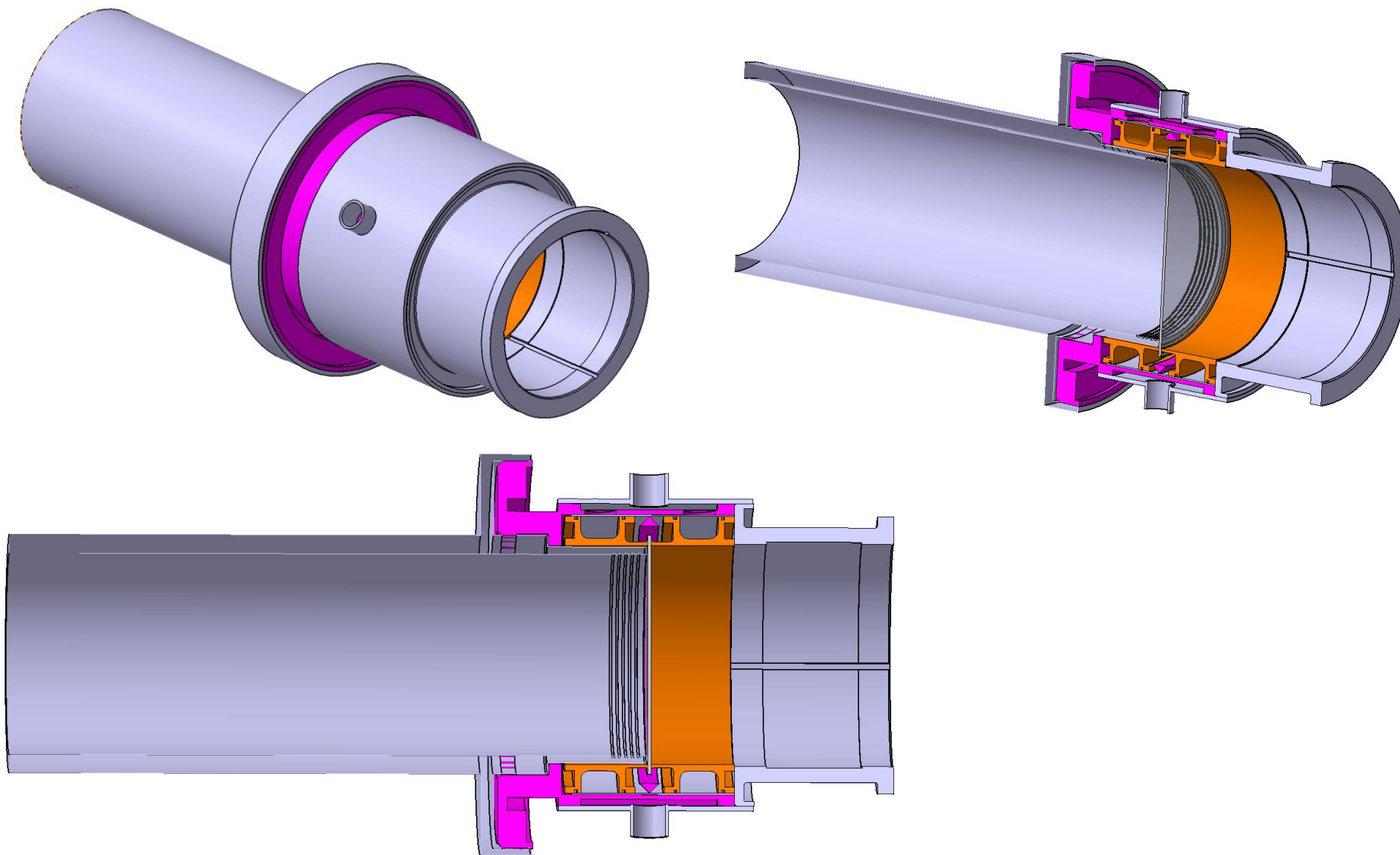


**245 kW at 15 sec**



**320 kW at 20 sec**

# Window with WG insert



# Window prototyping outlook and summary

- Aim: Common window assembly for EL and UL (EU / JA)
- Short and long pulse measurements up to 520 kW / 170GHz
- Optimization of brazing
- Temperature saturation on diamond disk
- No arcing observed
- Heating of housing by mixed modes (gaps and parasitic cavities)
- Optimization of beam profile (JAEA)

- Investigation of the influence of non-Gaussian field distributions on the window (How many “wrong” modes are allowed? )
- Impact on window design? 2nd prototype / waveguide insert