



# Status of the ITER Neutral Beam Test Facility and the first beam operations with the full-size prototype ion source

G. Serianni on behalf of NBTF team and

contributing staff of IO, F4E, QST, IPR, NIFS, IPP and other European institutions

Consorzio RFX, Padova, Italy

# Reliability of electrodeposited components for fusion application: A process evaluation of the first kind

J. Joshi

Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), Gandhinagar, India

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ITER operational	Time line	Power requirement (MW)			
phase		NB	EC	IC	LH
First plasma	2025		6.7		
Pre fusion power op. 1	2028 – 2030 (mid)		20		
Pre fusion power op. 2	2032 (end) – 2034 (FQ)	33	20	20	
Fusion power op (DT)	2036 onwards	33	20	20	
Upgrade potential		50	40	40	40

EC system	IC system	n NBI system	
170 GHz	40-55 MHz	870 keV H <sup>0</sup> , 1 MeV D <sup>0</sup>	
NTM, ST control,	High fusion gain,	Bulk current drive,	
$j(\rho)$ control,	ST control,	plasma rotation,	
EC-assisted startup	wall cleaning	plasma heating	
24 gyrotrons	2 antennas	2 injectors	
(24 x 0.8 MW)	(2 x 10 MW)	(2 x 16.5 MW)	





### Neutral Beams at ITER: overview of requirements



HNB		Be	eams at IT	<b>TER</b>
DNB BOLINGET BLACK	eating bea	Im (HNB)	Diag	nostic beam (DNB)
Heat	ting Current drive	Plasma rotation	]	Diagnosing He ash content (CXRS)
Parameter		H	NB	DNB
Phase		HH/HHe	DD/DT	HH/HHe/DD/DT
Species		Н	D	Н
Injected neutral beam power [	MW]	16.5	16.5	2
Beam energy [keV]		870	1000	100
Accelerated current [A]		46	40	60
Beam uniformity [%]		>90	>90	>90
Acceptable beamlet divergence	e [mrad]	3 <del>:</del> 7	3÷7	3÷7
Pulse length [s]		1000	3600	5Hz; 3s ON /20s OFF

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### **Worldwide effort towards ITER NBI**





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**Contribution ID: 1099** 

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### **The Neutral Beam Test Facility**





NBTF hosts the two experiments: the negative ion source <u>SPIDER</u> and the 1:1 prototype of the ITER injector <u>MITICA</u> Each experiment is inside a concrete biological shield against radiation and neutrons produced by the injectors Thanks to these shielding the assembly/maintenance area will be fully accessible also during experiments



### **SPIDER** mechanical components



#### Vacuum-insulated beam source



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0.25 0.20 0.15 H alpha 0.10 0.05 0.00 0 2 3 5 1 4 IPG [kA]

• Quenching of plasma with increasing filter field



### Improved magnetic filter field









- SPIDER RF generators:
  - pair of power tetrodes in push-pull connection; variable capacitor C<sub>v</sub> to tune operating frequency
- RF power limit identified:
  - power transfer depending on equivalent load impedance
  - sudden frequency flips near impedance matching
    - RF power constrained, as observed in other facilities
- Short term strategy:
  - feedforward control of C<sub>v</sub> capacitor
  - development of model reproducing different behaviours of RF generator to:
    - support SPIDER operation and analyse its performances
    - help in achieving nominal performances
  - experimental investigation of different matching network parameters
- Longer term strategy: replacement of tetrode-based oscillators with solidstate amplifiers
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internal generator capacitance,  $C_{\!\scriptscriptstyle V}$ 



### **Source characterisation**







- Measurements inside driver and in extraction region
- Filter field scan in D<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>
  - Electron density increases with filter field in driver and decreases in extraction region
  - Electron temperature decreases with filter field in extraction region
  - Electron density higher in D<sub>2</sub> inside drivers





• Values and trends are similar despite different principles of operation



- Divergence increases with magnetic filter field
- Optimal voltage ratio ~10



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30kV 3 kA



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20kV 1.5 kA



Repairs/improvements to beam source

Replacement of GG3 & GG4 segments Reversal accelerator permanent magnets



### **MITICA in-vessel components**







### **MITICA Power Supplies**







### **AGPS-DCG** insulating tests







1st STEP 1200kV-1 HOUR





2<sup>nd</sup> STEP 1060kV-5 HOURS

- The insulation tests were performed in successive steps, each time adding a new part of the ٠ system provided by a different DA
- The process was long and lasted about 1.5 years. The overall insulating test was successfully • completed in Nov 2019

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### **AGPS integrated tests**





Converter output voltages





AGPS output voltage and current

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### **MITICA Beam Line Vessel**









Delivery on site and installation of the MITICA BLV

 Installation and SAT completed in Q1 2020 just before the Site closure for some weeks due to the Covid-19

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#### **MITICA**

- Construction nearing completion; commissioning of plants well advanced. All injector mechanical  $\geq$ components in procurement phase; to be delivered in 2022-2023
- 1MV power supply system successfully subjected to insulation tests up to 1.2MV for 1 hour
- Power integrated tests just started (delay by COVID-19) using modified organisational structure
- High voltage holding tests in vacuum planned using MITICA facility and electrostatic mock-up of **Beam Source**

#### SPIDER

- Operating since ~3 years, producing interesting results
- In 2020, experimental plan delayed due to Covid-19. First Cs operations postponed to 2021
- RF-induced discharges on rear side of source
  - Cause: residual vessel pressure  $\geq$
  - Temporary solution: partial masking of grid apertures is operation possible.
  - $\blacktriangleright$  Final solution: increase pumping speed & capacity  $\Rightarrow$  long shutdown required
- Difficult RF control; limited RF power per generator
  - Solution: replacement of RF oscillators with solid-state amplifiers  $\Rightarrow$  long shutdown required
- Mid-2021, long shut down to improve source and plants to increase SPIDER performances







#### **Contribution ID: 1319**

### Reliability Of Electrodeposited Components For Fusion Application: A Process Evaluation Of The First Kind

Jaydeep Joshi ITER-India, Institute for Plasma Research Gandhinagar, India jaydeep.joshi@iter-india.org

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- Background
- Need, methods adopted and goal
- Implementation
  - Adhesion test
  - Hardness test
  - Optical microscopy
  - 'All deposited' tensile test
  - Immersion ultrasonic testing
- Summary

# TER-India

### **Background-need for the ED process evaluation**





#### One segment out of four (tested in parallel) has failed and that was ED in different bath...



'As manufactured 'angled' PG segment of DNB- Failure during the Hot Helium Leak Test (150 C and >25bars)

(Area of failure is highlighted by yellow)





Example of 'a good ED bond

**FEC 2020** 





#### Need for the ED process evaluation:

- No recommended procedure / historical database for carrying out an assessment of the bond integrity for electrodeposited surfaces
- No codes are presently available to qualify the process compatibility for the operational requirements including application at around 150 C.

#### Methods adopted:

- Adhesion Strength
- Hardness measurement
- Optical Microscopy
- Immersion Ultrasonic Testing
- All deposited sample tensile testing

#### Goal:

- To assess the compatibility with respect to the functional environment
- To arrive at the recommended procedure for process evaluation

Samples were drawn from three different bath (including the one in which the failed segment was deposited)



#### Implementation (1/2): Adhesion Strength



#### Adhesion Strength: Push Test

#### Adhesion Strength: Modified Ollard Test

Testing in-progress in the Universal Testing Machine













### Implementation (2/2): Adhesion Strength (Push Test)





#### **Observations:**

Adhesion Strength @ % Change 150 C for 150 C (MPa) 30 82 % 66 % 41 34 75 %

#### Note:

Based on the location of the failure for Modified Ollard test, it was inferred that:

- load of the plunger was actually resisted by the base material rather than the intended CuED layer

0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7

Compressive strain (Extension) [mm/mm]

- the failure is mainly due to the stress concentration rather than the plunger loading.
- $\rightarrow$  The test configuration of the Modified Ollard test is not suitable and reliable for the present application.



0.5

0.6

0.4

0.3

Compressive strain (Extension) [mm/mm]

150 C

0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0

Compressive strain (Extension) [mm/mm]





 Vickers microhardness measurements was carried out at (1) transverse cross section and (2) on the deposited surface.



#### Hardness Measurement @ Deposited Surface



- Results concur with adhesion strength test (Reduction in the hardness (HV) of the ED layer with the increase in the temp.
- Different bath has different resistance to the indentation against the externally applied load





 Microstructural assessment was carried out at (1) transverse cross section and (2) on the deposited surface.

#### **Optical microstructure @ Transverse cross section**



#### **Optical microstructure @ Deposited Surface**





- Base material- equiaxed grains, a typical microstructure of copper material.
- No effect on the base material microstructure upto 150 C.
- Grain size are in ranging from 70 80 microns.
- ED, being an atomic layer by layer deposition technique, a combination of fine fibrous and lamellar structure has been observed
- No pin hole defects observed on the ED surface (normally they are the major cause of concern in the ED), associated with the required deposition time for the activation and deposition to happen.





- Reduction in the adhesion strength and hardness values at the increased temperature (150 C) makes it important to study the all deposited samples mechanical properties at 150 C for high temperature application requirement.
- Tensile testing of the deposited samples was carried out at 25 C and 150 C, for samples from different bath .

Condition / bath	25 C (MPa)	150 C (Avg. of four tests) (MPa)	% Reduction
ED 1	235	181	23%
ED 2	304	217	28%
ED 3	304	220	27%
Raw Material	290	241	16%

- Results confirm the reduction in the strength with the increase in temperature.
- There is reduction of ~ 22 28 % in the tensile strength value at 150 C for all the ED specimens, while the raw material has the reduction of ~ 15%.
- → Guideline to the designer to incorporate the suitable safety margin while designing the electrodeposited components.





 In order to check the interlayer between the electrodeposition and base material, immersion ultrasonic examination with C-Scan technique has been performed.



Area of interest between the yellow boundary (white shade circle is punctured area due to previously conducted adhesion test and this area to be ignored).



Facility for performing Immersion UT examination at IPR

- C scan results confirm that there is no de-bonding presents in the samples, for both temperatures.
- The result also confirms that the reduction in the adhesion strength at high temperature is not associated with the debonding at the interlayer.





- A process has been established in form of experiments where ~20 samples, from different baths, have been subjected to tests to evaluate and obtain a statistical variation in the quality of the bond at room as well as at elevated temperature of 150 C.
- Test results shows the variation in the bond strengths is highly dependent on the bath quality
- The results also establish that (1) it is mandatory to qualify the ED process according to the functional parameters and (2) it is equally important to qualify EACH bath, to ensure a reliable application of ED process for the actual components.
- Recommendation of the qualification process is as follows; (1) carrying out and interpreting the specially designed push test for samples (2) Co-relating the strength with the hardness parameters (3) study of microstructural characteristics and (4) application of process on production pieces.





### **Thank You**

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