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The Radiation Damage In Accelerator Target Environments (RaDIATE) Collaboration R&D Program – Status and Future Activities

Patrick Hurh (Fermilab) on behalf of the RaDIATE Collaboration IPAC'17 – 17 May 2017





- Recently major accelerator facilities have been limited in beam power not by their accelerators, but by their target facilities (SNS, NuMI/MINOS)
- Plans for future high power, high intensity target facilities will present even greater challenges
- To maximize the benefit of high power accelerators (physics/\$), these challenges must be addressed in time to provide critical input to multi-MW target facility design

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#### **High Power Targetry Scope**



#### **R&D Needed to Support:**

- Target
  - Solid, Liquid, Rotating, Rastered
- Other production devices:
  - Collection optics (horns, solenoids)
  - Monitors & Instrumentation
  - Beam windows
  - Absorbers

- Collimators (e.g. 100 TeV pp collimators)
- Facility Requirements:
  - Remote Handling
  - Shielding & Radiation Transport
  - Air Handling
  - Cooling System

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### **High Power/Intensity Targetry Challenges**

- Material Behavior
  - Thermal "shock" response
  - Radiation damage
  - Highly non-linear thermo-mechanical simulation
- Targetry Technologies (System Behavior)
  - Target system simulation (optimize for physics & longevity)
  - Rapid heat removal
  - Radiation protection
  - Remote handling
  - Radiation accelerated corrosion
  - Manufacturing technologies



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Subjects of the RaDIATE Collaboration



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Subjects of the RaDIATE Collaboration

In 2012, at a Proton Accelerators for Science and Innovation Workshop (PASI), workshop participants from a range of high power accelerator facilities identified radiation damage to materials as the most crosscutting challenge facing high power target facilities [1].



#### **Thermal Shock (stress waves)**



Ta-rod after irradiation with 6E18 protons in 2.4  $\mu$ s pulses of 3E13 at ISOLDE (photo courtesy of J. Lettry)

Simulation of stress wave propagation in Li lens (pbar source, Fermilab)

- Fast expansion of material surrounded by cooler material creates a sudden local area of compressive stress
- Stress waves (not shock waves) move through the target
- Plastic deformation, cracking, and fatigue can occur

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#### Stress wave example: T2K window





- Material response dependent upon:
  - Specific heat (temperature jump)
  - Coefficient of thermal expansion (induced strain)
  - Modulus of elasticity (associated stress)
  - Flow stress behavior (plastic deformation)
  - Strength limits (yield, fatigue, fracture toughness)



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#### Heavy dependence upon material properties, but: Material properties dependent upon Radiation Damage...



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#### **Radiation Damage Disorders Microstructure**



#### **Microstructural response:**

- creation of transmutation products;
- atomic displacements (cascades)
  - average number of stable interstitial/vacancy pairs created = DPA (Displacements Per Atom)





## **Radiation Damage Effects**

- Displacements in crystal lattice (expressed as Displacements Per Atom, DPA)
  - Embrittlement
  - Creep
  - Swelling
  - Fracture toughness reduction
  - Thermal/electrical conductivity reduction
  - Coefficient of thermal expansion
  - Modulus of Elasticity
  - Fatigue response
  - Accelerated corrosion
  - Transmutation products
    - H, He gas production can cause void formation and embrittlement (expressed as atomic parts per million per DPA, appm/DPA)
- Very dependent upon material condition and irradiation conditions (e.g. temp, dose rate)





S. A. Malloy, et al., Journal of Nuclear Material, 2005. (LANSCE irradiations)



#### Radiation damage effects can be significant





D.L. Porter and F. A. Garner, J. Nuclear Materials, **159**, p. 114 (1988)

Void swelling in 316 Stainless steel tube (on right) exposed to reactor dose of 1.5E23 n/cm<sup>2</sup>

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**Radiation Damage In Accelerator Target Environments** 

Broad aims are threefold:

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- to generate new and useful materials data for application within the accelerator and fission/fusion communities
- to recruit and develop new scientific and engineering experts who can cross the boundaries between these communities
- to initiate and coordinate a continuing synergy between research in these communities, benefitting both proton accelerator applications in science and industry and carbon-free energy technologies







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## High Energy Proton Irradiations underway to explore candidate target/window materials

- 181 MeV p irradiation @ BNL's BLIP facility [2, 3]
  - 4 graphites & h-BN exposed to 6.7E20 p/cm<sup>2</sup>
  - Changes in material properties (30-50%)
  - Annealing (>150 °C) achieves partial recovery
  - Confirmed choice of POCO-ZXF-5Q (least change in critical properties)
  - Irradiating at higher temp may be beneficial, however:
    - Diffusion assisted effects are increased (e.g. swelling from He bubble formation, creep)
    - Oxidation must be avoided
    - Elev. temp properties affecting thermal shock resistance are generally degraded
- Future work includes 2017 BLIP irradiation [4]
  - Includes graphite at various temp (up to ~1,000 °C)
  - Also Beryllium, Ti alloys, Si, TZM, Al, & Ir
  - Post-Irradiation Examination (2018) includes mechanical, thermal, micro-structural, and fatigue evaluation
  - Participants: BNL, PNNL, FRIB, ESS, CERN, J-PARC, STFC, Oxford, LANL

See Poster: K. Ammigan/P. Hurh WEPVA138



## Examination of irradiated Beryllium beam window indicates fracture toughness changes under irradiation

- NuMI Be window [5] (Kuksenko, Oxford)
  - Be window to 1.57E21 POT analyzed
  - Advanced microscopy techniques ongoing
  - Li matches MARS [6] predictions and remains homogeneously distributed at ~50 °C
  - Crack morphology changes at higher doses (transgranular to grain boundary fracture)
- Future Work with Be window (2017)
  - Micro-mechanics testing
    - Preliminary results indicate significant hardening and increase in effective elastic modulus
  - Annealing
    - He bubble coalescence and growth?
    - Recovery of properties?











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## Ion implantation of Beryllium indicates significant hardening at low DPA

- He implantation study at Surrey/Oxford [7]
  - lons: He+
  - Maximum beam energy: 2 MeV => 7.5µm implantation depth (SRIM)
  - Dose: up to 0.1 dpa currently
  - Temperature: 50°C and 200°C
  - Nano-indentation indicates significant hardening dominated by 2000 appm He production (DPA is lower order effect)
  - Work of V. Kuksenko (Oxford)
- Future Work with He in Be (2017)
  - Micro-cantilever testing
  - Higher dose and temperature irradiations







## Dynamic thermo-mechanical simulations of Beryllium validated by in-beam thermal shock experiments

- In-beam thermal shock test of Be at CERN's HiRadMat [8, 9] (FNAL, RAL, Oxford, CERN)
  - All 4 Be grades showed less plastic deformation than predicted by generic strength models
  - S200FH showed least plastic deformation
  - Glassy Carbon windows survived without signs of degradation
  - Multiple pulses showed diminishing ratcheting in plastic deformation
  - Work continues on advanced strength model and data analysis
    - Johnson-Cook strength model developed at SwRI through SHB high strain-rate testing (elevated temp)
- Future work (2018) at HiRadMat includes:
  - Testing of irradiated materials (BLIP)
    - Beryllium grades
    - Graphite grades
    - Glassy Carbon
  - Testing of novel materials (nano-fiber mats)
  - Higher p beam intensities
  - Development of J-C damage model for Be



Compression 2000 1800 Quasi-static 1600 25C Engineering Stress (MPa 1400 1200 300C 1000 500C 800 600C 600 BC-02 -BC-01 BC-03 400 BC-04 BC-06 BC-07 BC-09 BC-10 BC-11 200 BC-15 BC-12 BC-14 BC-20 0 10 20 30 40 50 **Engineering Strain (%)** 57 rermilab

## Radiation-induced swelling as possible cause of failure of NuMI NT-02 graphite target

- NuMI target (NT-02) autopsy and graphite PIE [10] (FNAL, PNNL)
  - Graphite fins saw 8E21 p/cm<sup>2</sup> fluence
- Evidence of Bulk Swelling
  - The micrometer measurements indicate swelling did occur
    - More swelling in US fin locations
    - More swelling is associated with the fractured fins
- Evidence of fracture during operation
  - Symmetric fracture structure
  - Limited impurity transport into whole fins relative to fractured fins
- Evidence of limited radiation damage and material evolution
  - Surface discoloration appears to be mostly solder and flux material
  - Crystal structure & porosity consistent with non-irradiated state, perhaps explained by:
    - nano-crystalline features pinning defects
    - Extreme dose rate from pulsed beam





- Taken from fracture surface at the center where the beam was targeted
- Lamella has mixed regions of what appear to be amorphous (yellow insert diffraction pattern) and nanocrystalline microstructure (red square)
- Mrozowski cracks at the interfaces between these two regions



#### Exploration of Radiation Damage Effects to High Doses Likely Requires High and Low Energy Irradiation Studies

- **High energy**, high fluence, large volume **proton irradiations** are expensive and time consuming
  - Long irradiation beam times (months)
  - Difficulties of Post-Irradiation Examination (PIE) of highly activated samples
- Low energy, small volume ion irradiations are inexpensive and can achieve several DPA in an hour
  - Low to zero activation (PIE in "normal" lab areas)
  - Greatly accelerated damage rates (several DPA in hours)
- However Low energy ion irradiations have drawbacks:
  - Very shallow penetration (0.5-100 microns)
  - Little gas production (transmutation) in samples
- **Promising Solutions:** 
  - Micro-mechanics (coupled with advanced microscopy techniques) may enable evaluation of critical properties
  - Simultaneous implantation of He and H ions (triple-beam irradiation)
- But still need HE proton irradiations to correlate and validate techniques





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#### **Summary**

- High power accelerators require beam interaction components (targets, beam-windows, collimators, absorber/dumps) that are capable of stable operation under challenging conditions.
  - Currently operating accelerator facilities have been limited in beam power due to target survivability issues
  - Planned multi-MW accelerator upgrades and new facilities will present even greater challenges
- Targets, beam windows, and other beam intercepting devices will experience extreme conditions
  - Lattice displacements & transmutation
  - Dynamic thermal stresses produced by pulsed beam
- R&D by the global accelerator targets community under the aegis of RaDIATE is underway to help meet these future challenges
  - High-energy proton irradiations and low-energy ion irradiations to study radiation-damage effects
  - In-beam thermal shock tests of irradiated material specimens brings together both major challenges of thermal shock and radiation damage into single experiments



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## **Questions?**

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10 keV protons into Beryllium (simulated with SRIM 2008 and artistically rendered with Graphic Converter by P. Hurh)

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