

LABORATORI NAZIONALI DI LEGNARO



# FLUORINE FREE IONIC LIQUID

## ELECTROPOLISHING OF NIOBIUM

### CAVITIES

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V. Pastushenko LNL-INFN, 16th International Conference on RF

September 23-27, 2013

Cité Internationale Universitaire, PARIS

Superconductivity, SRF 2013



# Outline

- Standard surface polishing
- Mechanical polishing of 6 GHz cavity
- New system for tumbling built in LNL
- Electropolishing
- Ionic Liquids – Green Chemistry
- Study the parameters of Electropolishing in Ionic Liquids
- Recent results

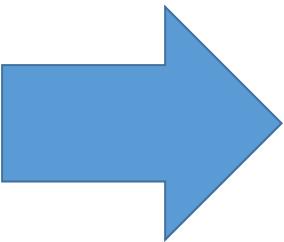
## Aim:

To find the optimum condition for electropolishing  
of niobium in fluorine-free electrolyte

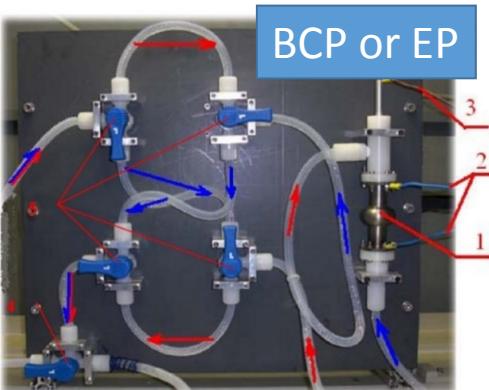
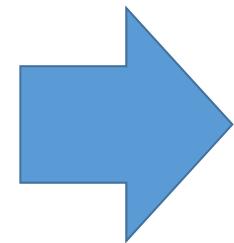
# Standard surface polishing techniques



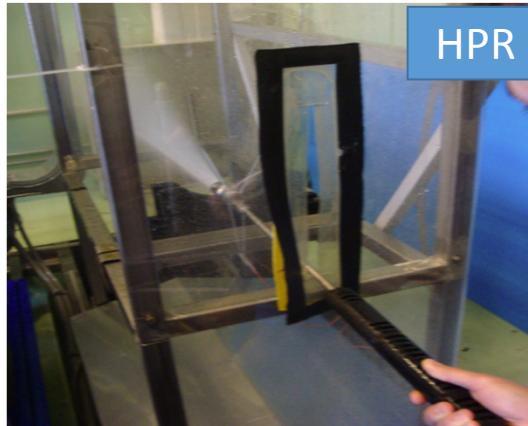
Tumbling



Lapping



BCP or EP



HPR

Blue indicator – direct flow, red – indirect.

1 – cavity kit; 2 – anode contacts; 3 – cathode contact; 4 – outgoing valve; 5 – flux regulating valve  
6 – stand.

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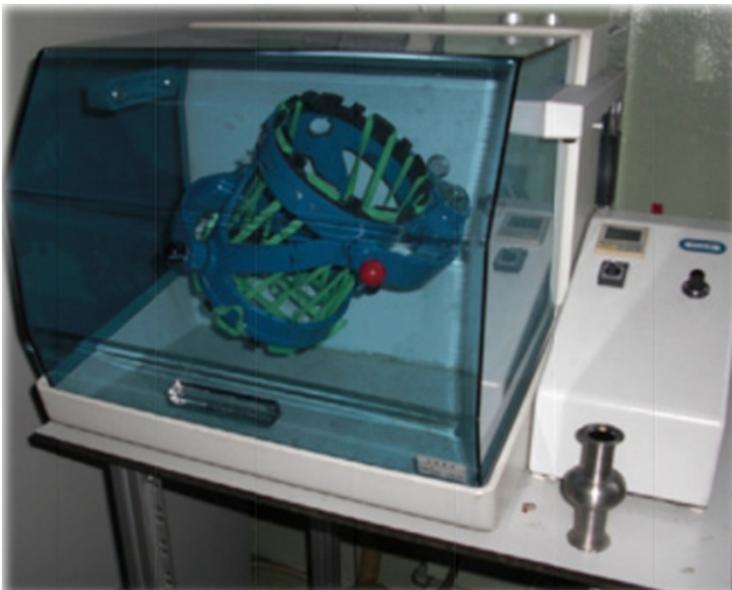
# **Mechanical surface treatment techniques**

for

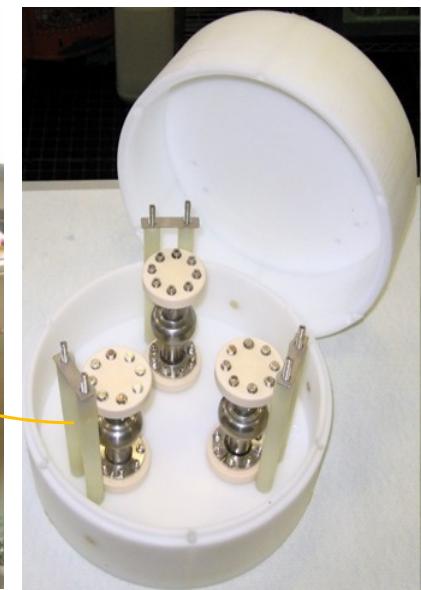
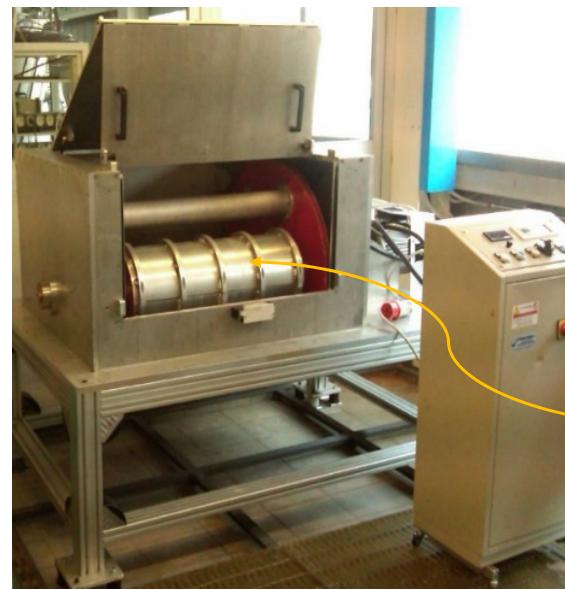
## **6 GHz cavity**

# Mechanical polishing approaches (LNL-INFN)

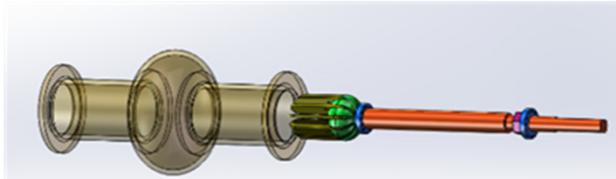
TURBULA® Shaker-Mixer



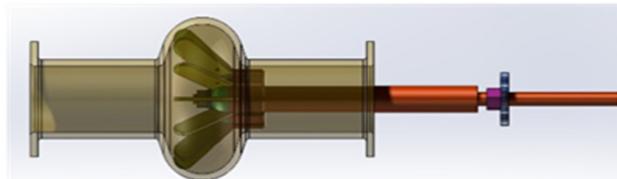
Centrifugal barrel polishing (CBP)



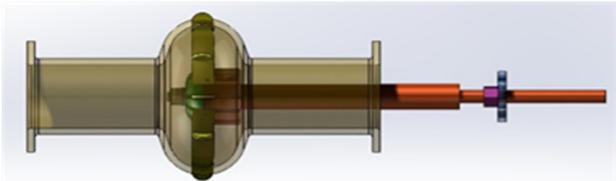
# “Flower brush”



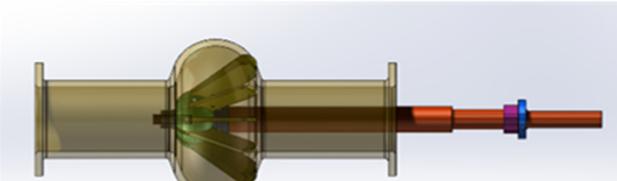
(a)



(b)



(c)

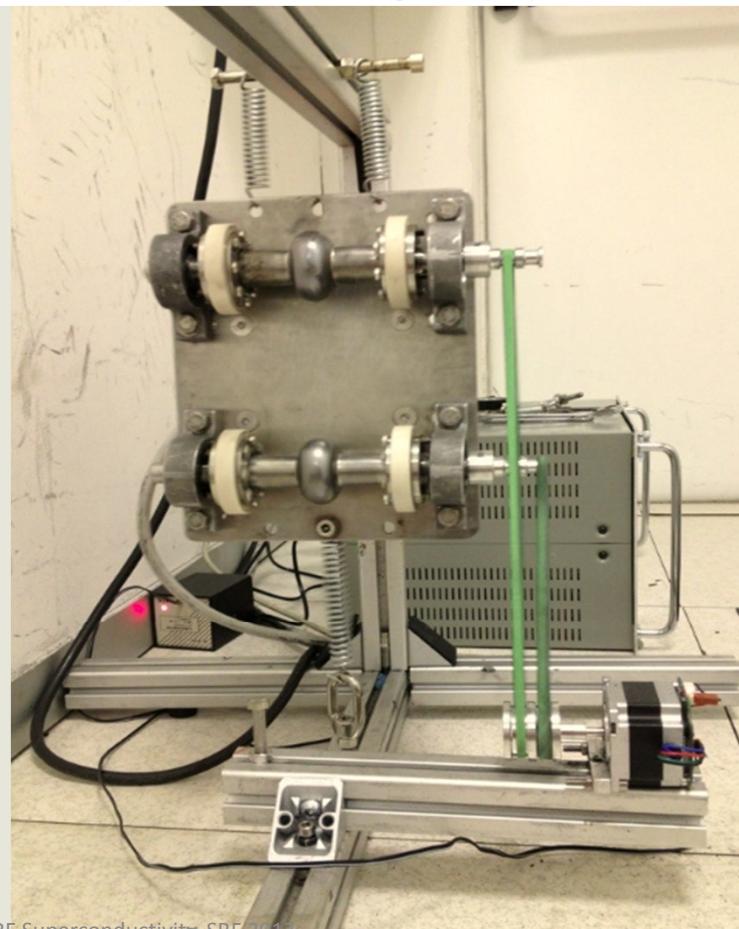
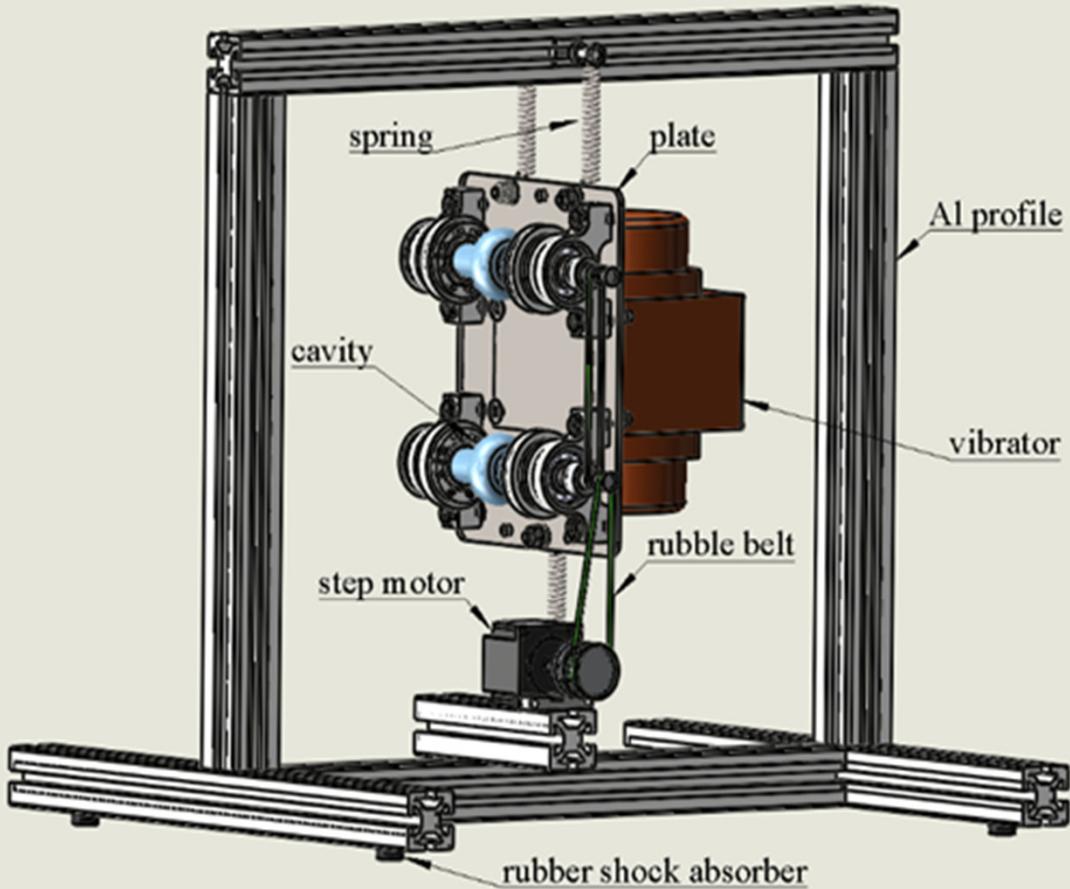


(d)



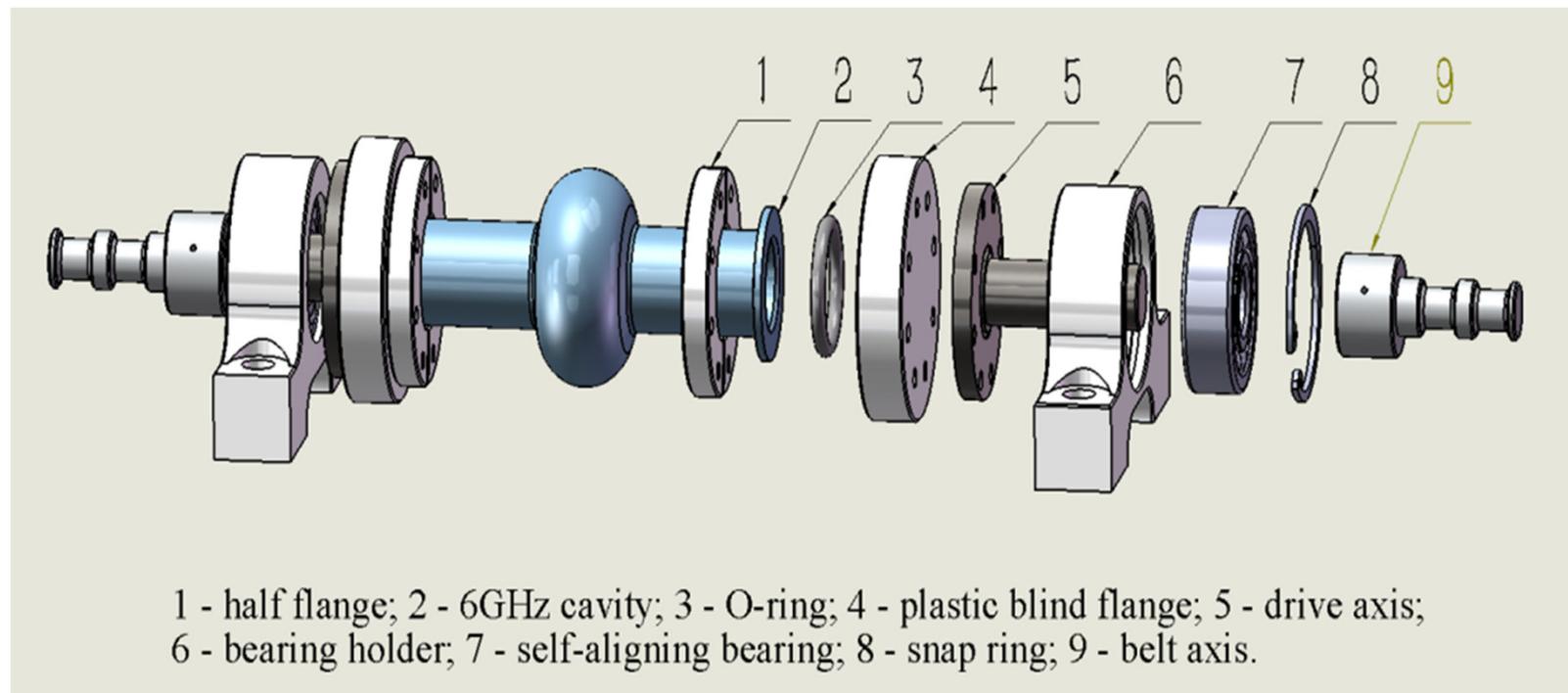
- The polishing brush on the market was usually used to polish the inner surface of tube, whose diameter equal everywhere.
- We design a customized brush that can go to the center of the cavity.
- The whole “flower” is made in stainless steel, the abrasive material is fixed to the leaves.

# Vibrating system - a new mechanical polishing approach

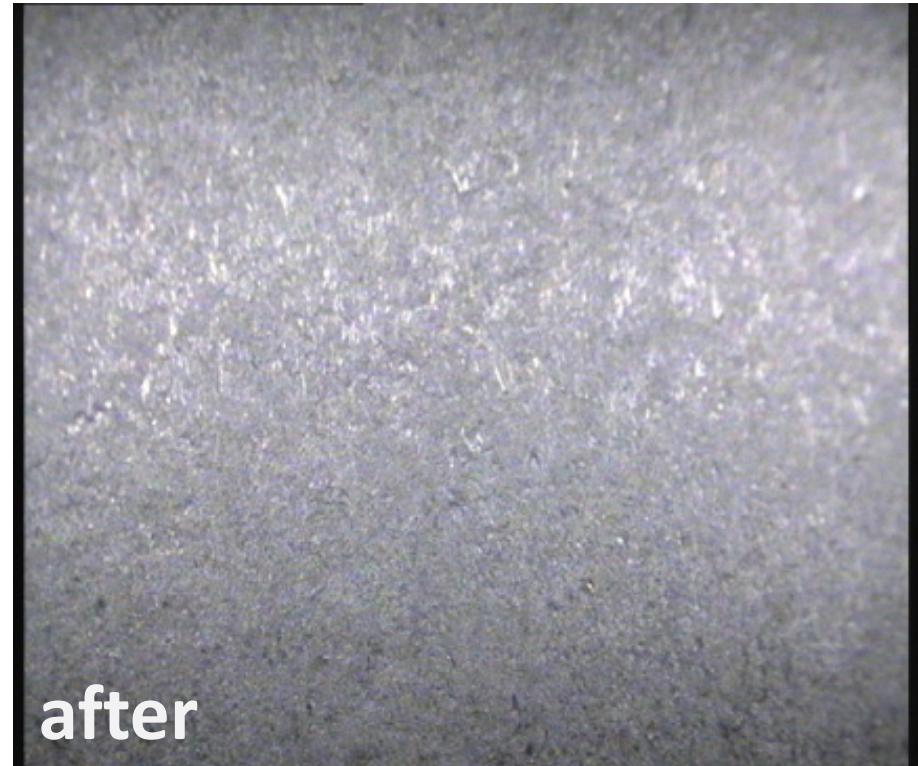
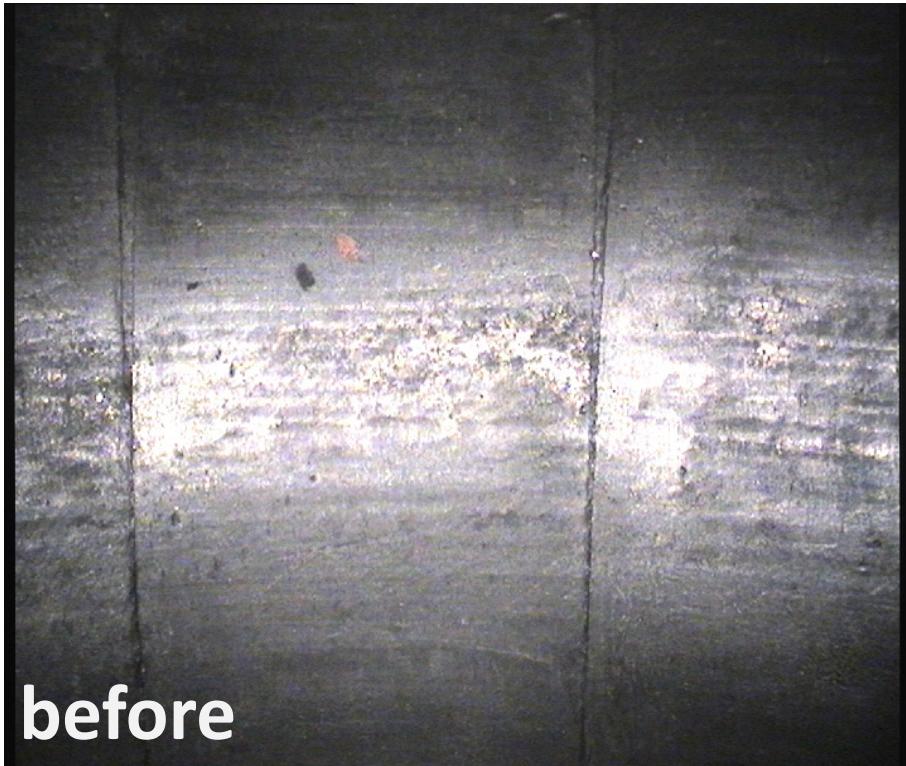


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# Vibrating system - a new mechanical polishing approach



# Inner surface of 6 GHz cavity before and after tumbling

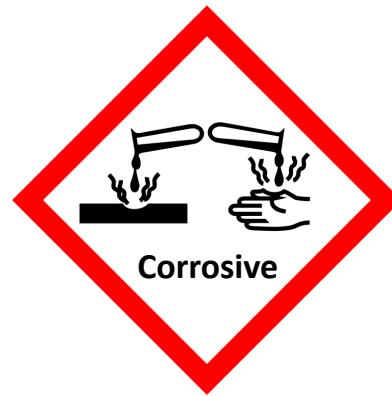


# **Electropolishing**

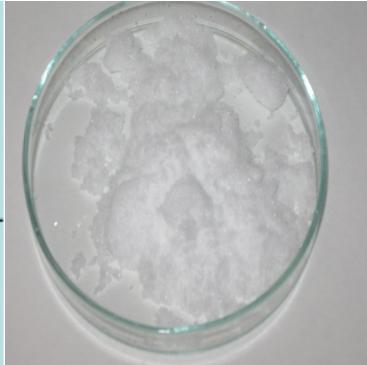
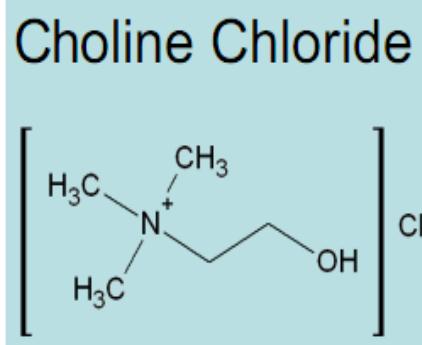
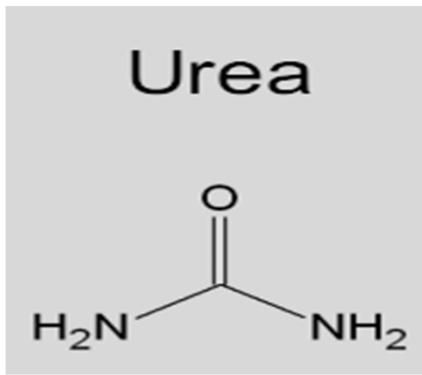
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# Standard electropolishing of niobium cavities

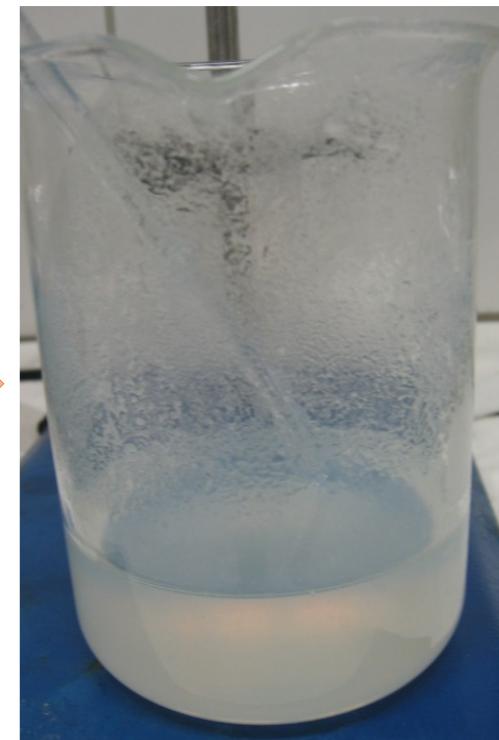
**HF : H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (ratio 1 : 9)**



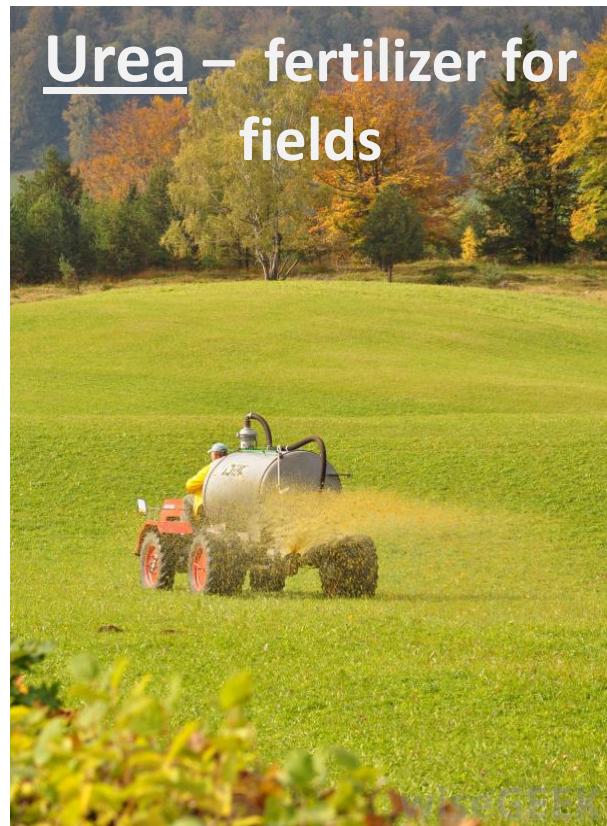
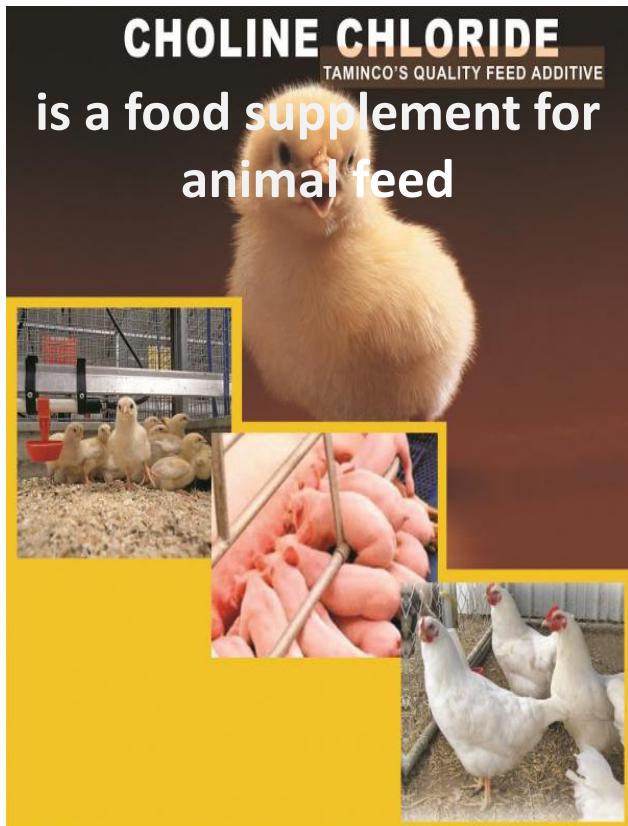
# IONIC LIQUID as an Alternative



T - 120°C



# Green Chemistry

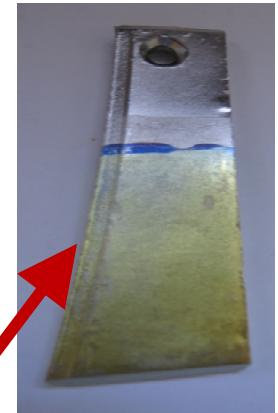


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# **Study the parameter for Electropolishing in Ionic liquids**

# Ionic liquids based on Choline Chloride

Ratio	Components	Note
1 : 1	Ch Chl : Sulfamic Acid	Not create IL
1 : 1	Ch Chl : Ammonium persulfate	Not create IL
1 : 1	Ch Chl : Malic Acid	no polishing
1 : 2	Ch Chl : Ethylene glycol	pitting



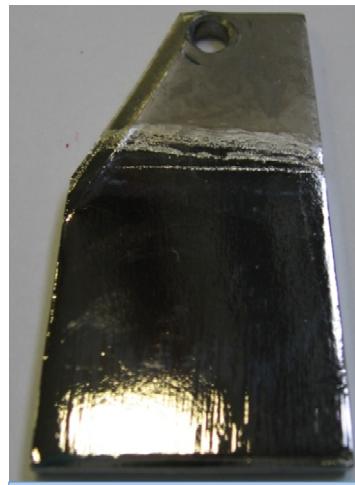
# Influence of the additives on the surface state



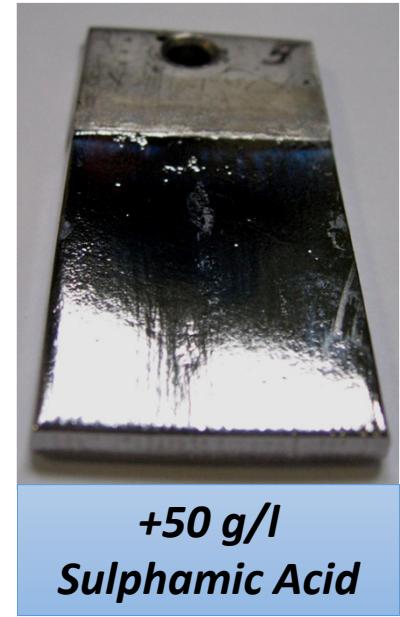
+30 g/l EDTA



+10 g/l  
Polyethylene  
glycol



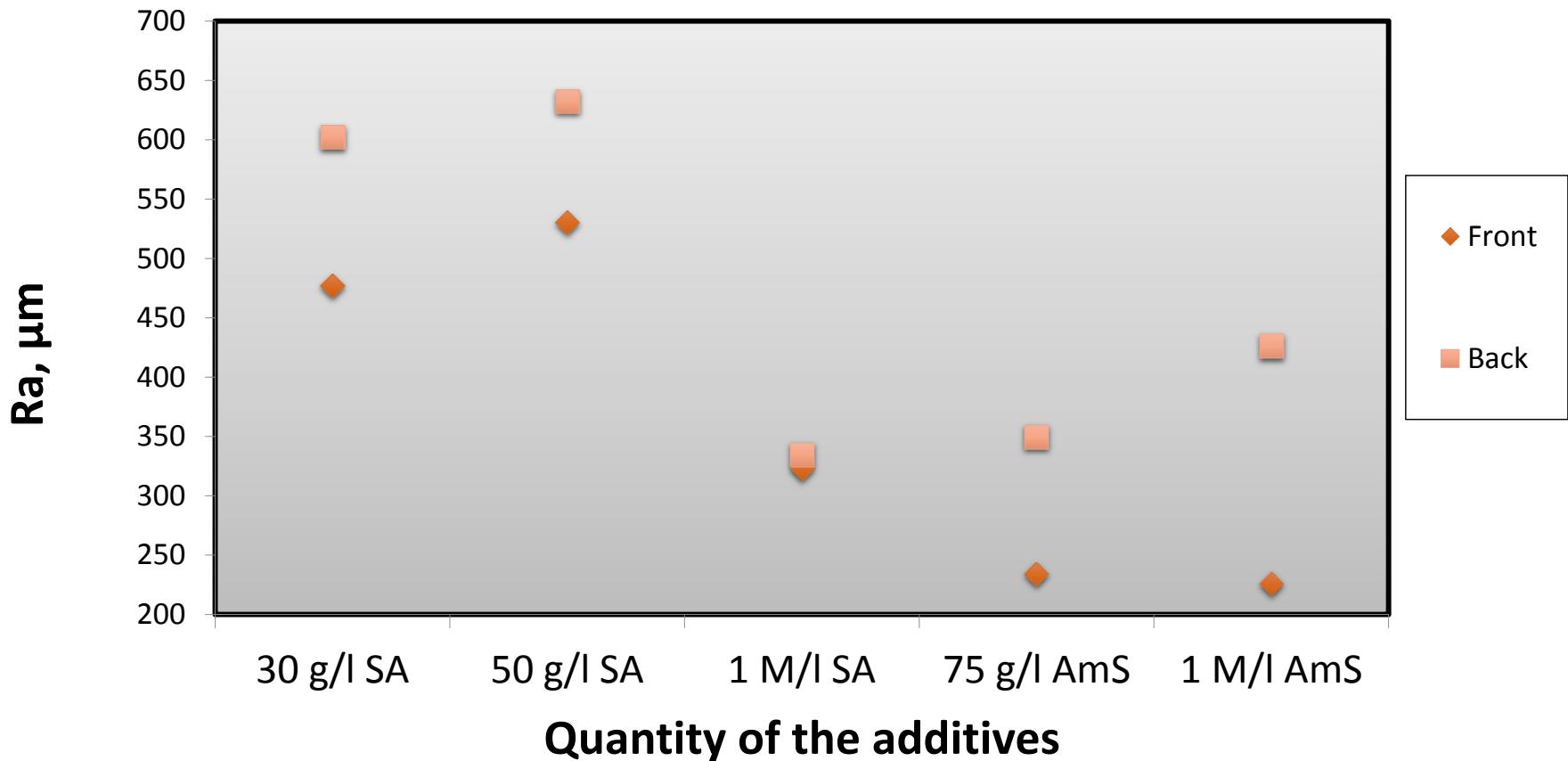
+114 g/L  
Ammonium  
Sulfamate



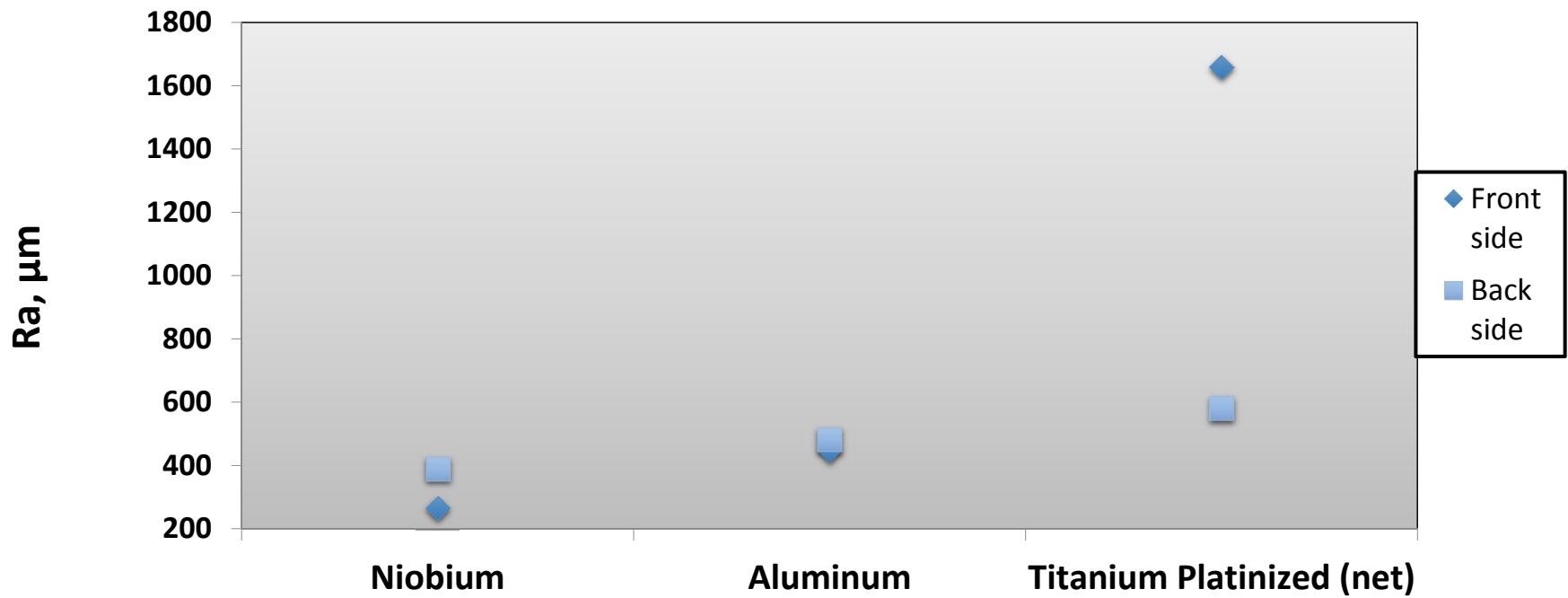
+50 g/l  
Sulphamic Acid

- ❖ Solutions are based on electrolyte: Choline Chloride and Urea (1:4) + additive

# Dependence of roughness from quantity of additives



# Dependence of roughness from material of the cathode



# The Best parameters for EP Nb samples

Choline Chloride : Urea	1 : 4
Sulfamic acid, g/l	97
Material cathode	Nb
Temperature, °C	Higher then 120
Current density, A/cm <sup>2</sup>	0,3



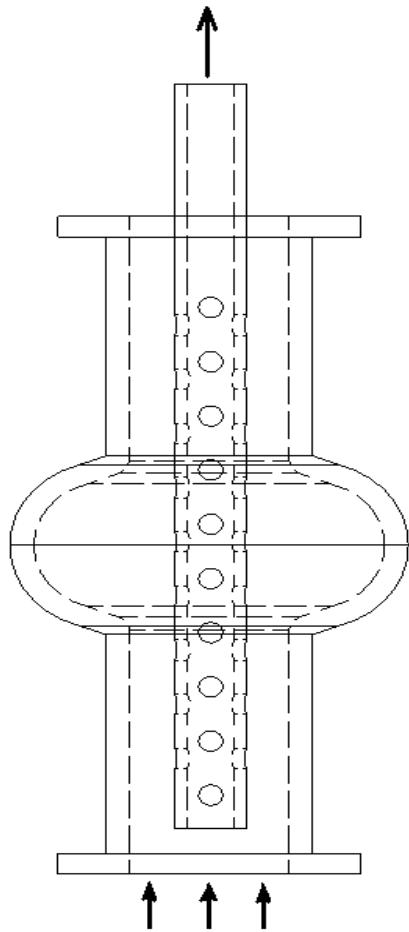
# **Development of system for Electropolishing in Ionic Liquids**

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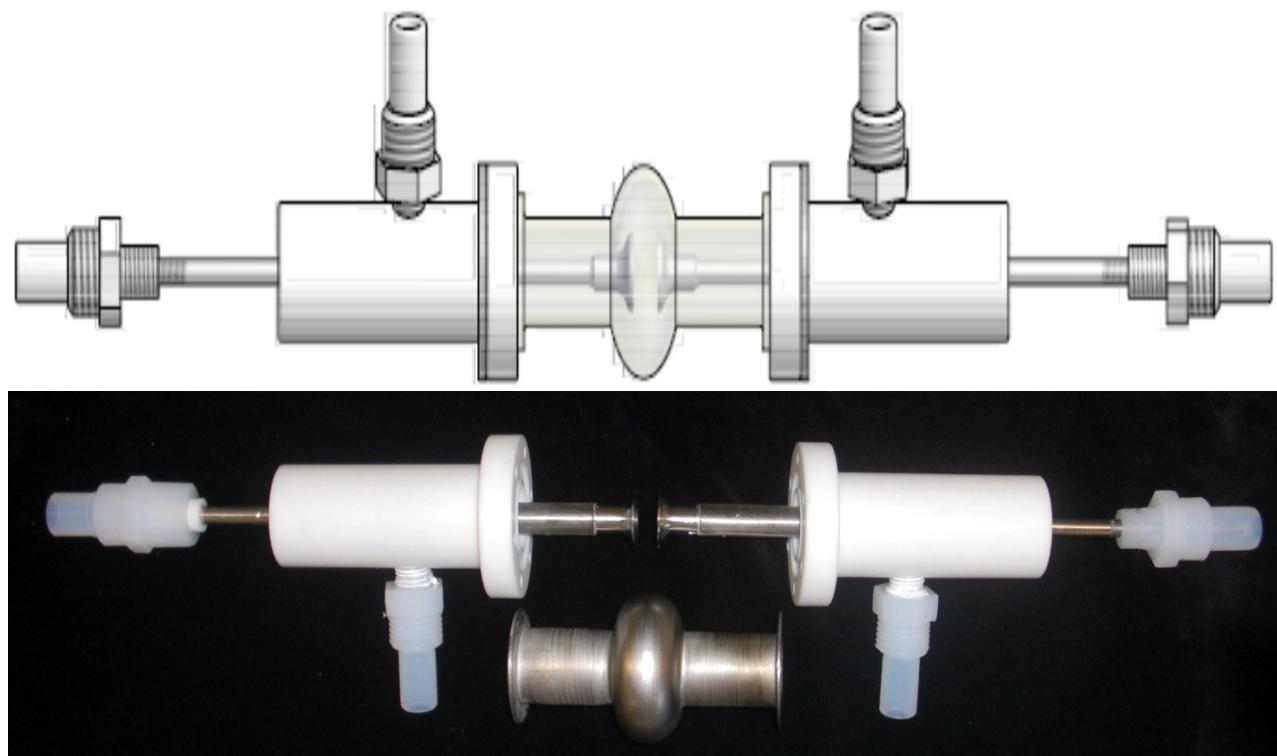
**Vertical**      **vs.**      **Horizontal**

**Electropolishing**      **Electropolishing**

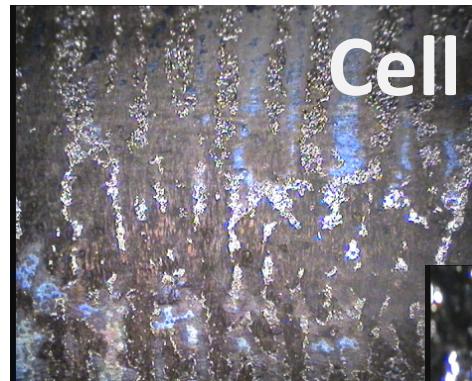
**Vertical EP: holed cathode**



**Vertical EP: Two part cathode**



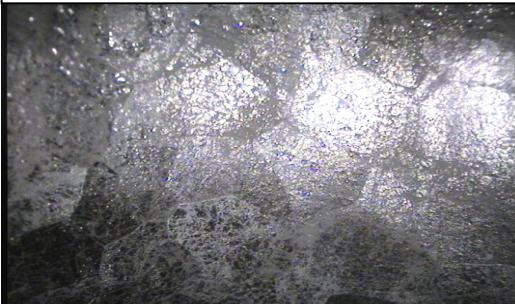
# Vertical Electropolishing



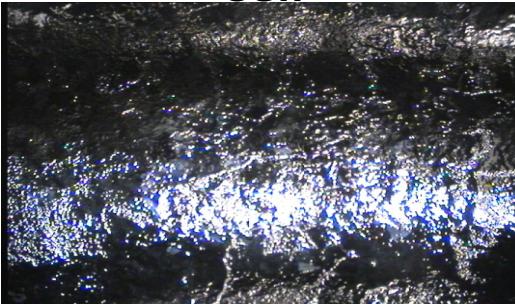
- ❖ Creating a lot of bubbles during the electropolishing has damaged the surface!

# Horizontal Electropolishing

*top part*

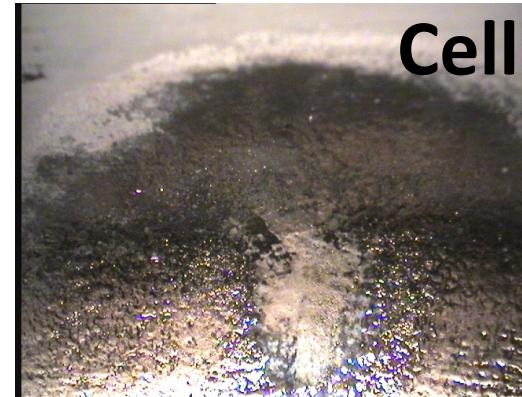


Cell



*down part*

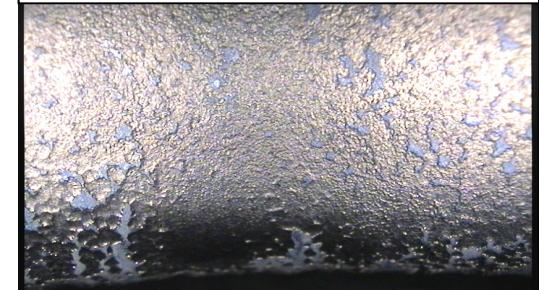
Cavity, half immersed  
in the solution



Cell

Cavity with pumping the  
solution inside

*top part*



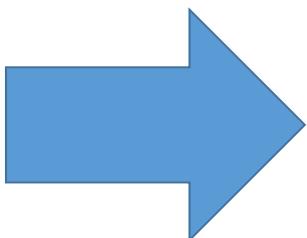
Cell



*down part*

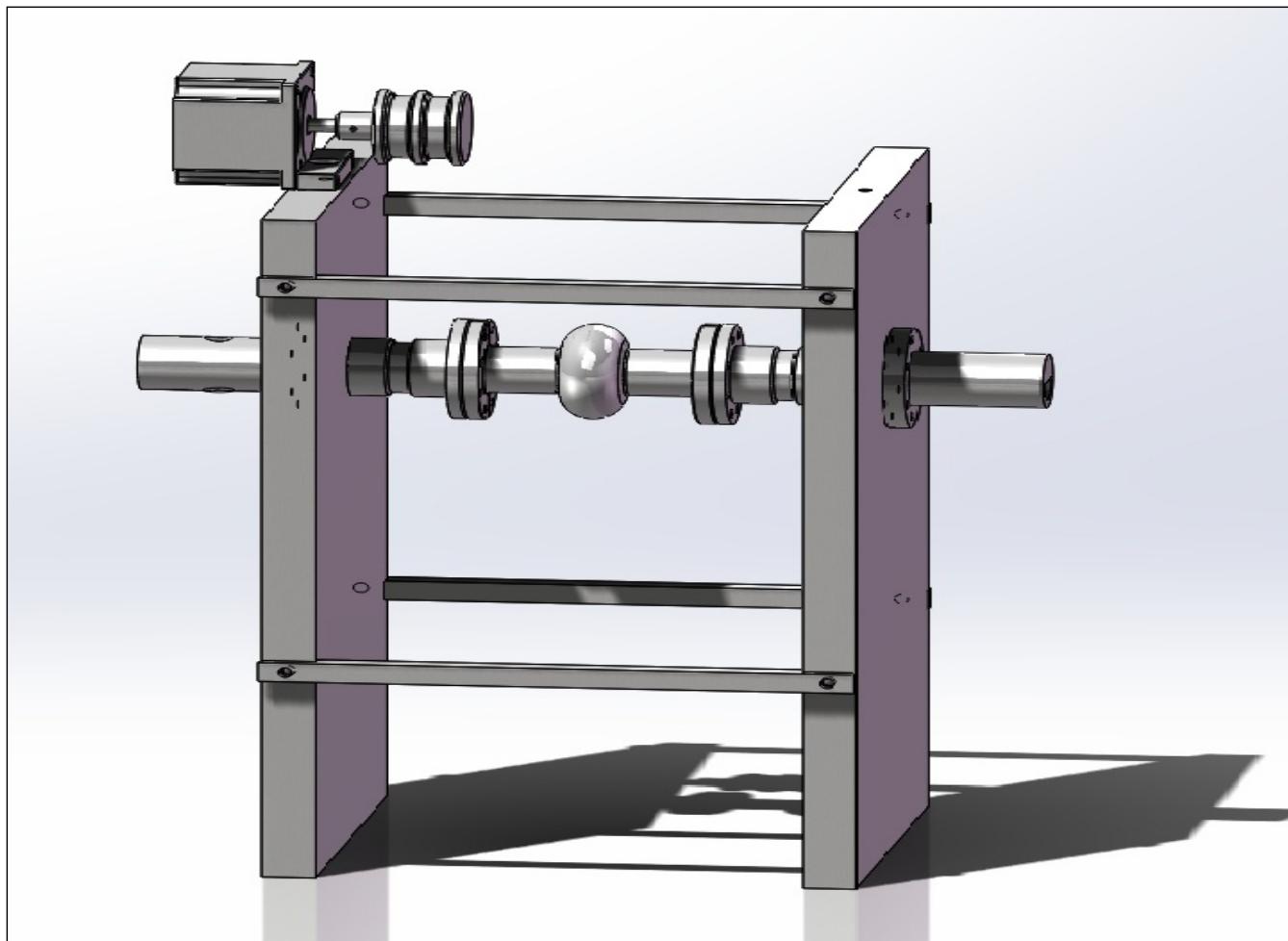
Cavity half immersed  
in the solution and rotating

# Half cavity before and after treatment

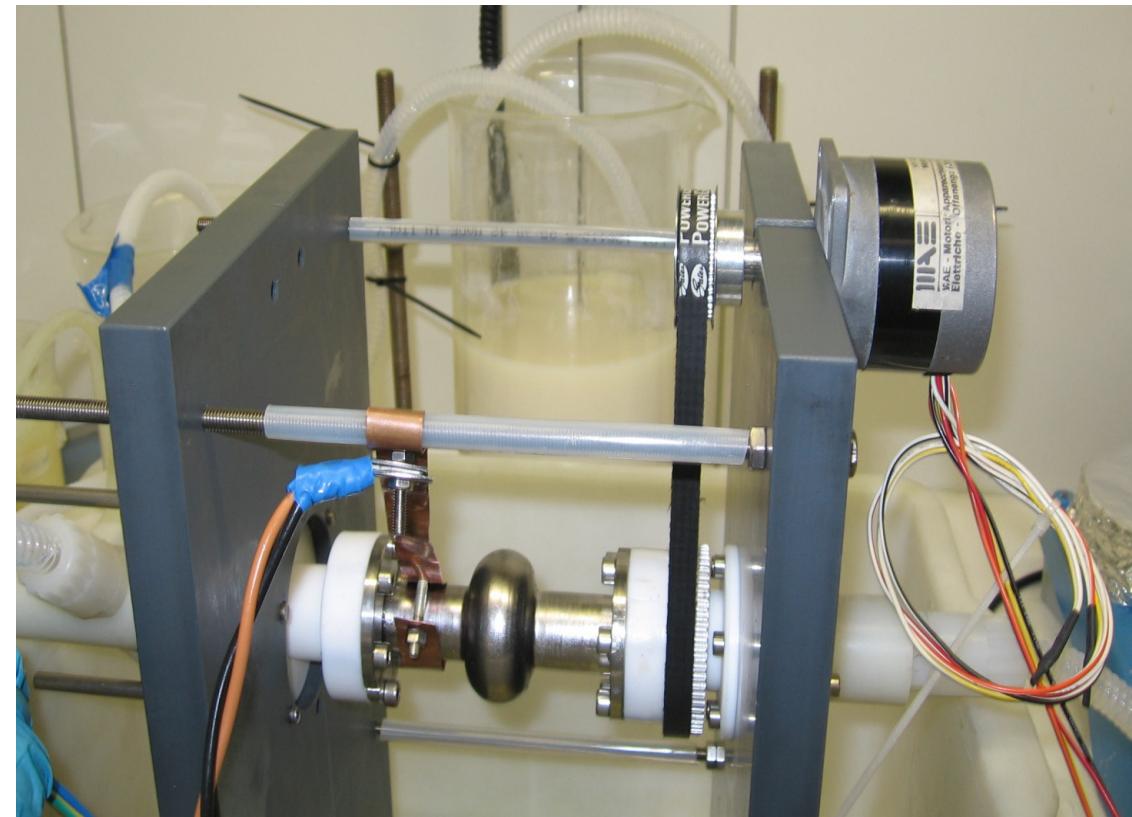


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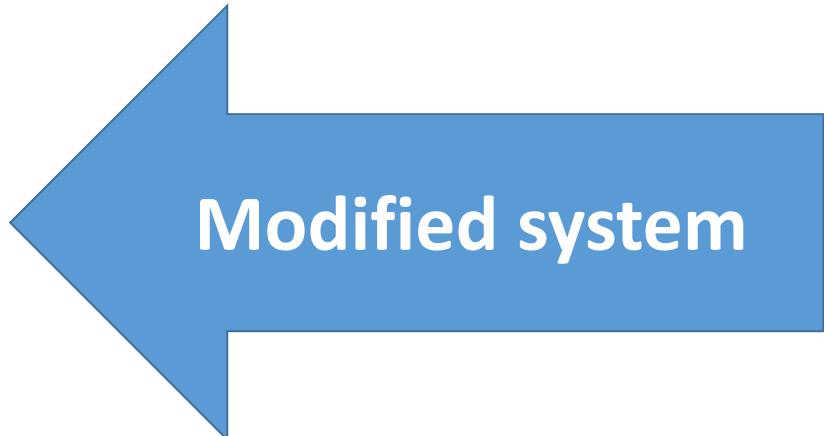
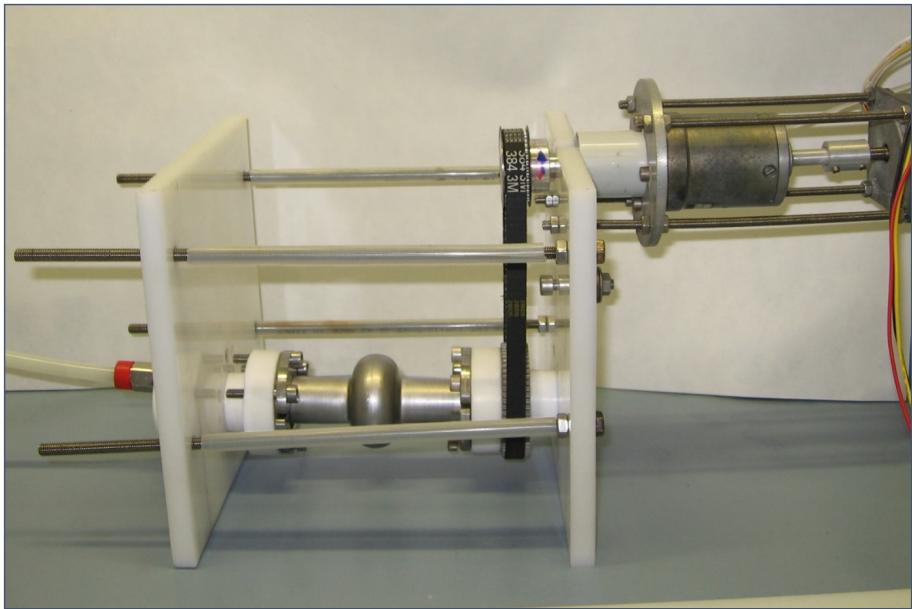
# New system for electropolishing 6GHz cavity



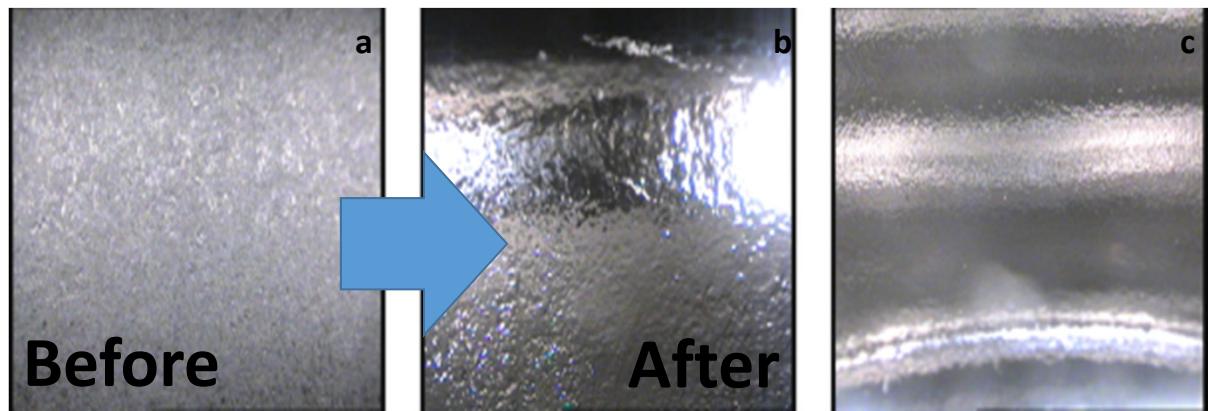
# Testing the new system



Cathodes



**Result**



# Conclusions

- ✓ We found the competitive solution for the EP, based on compounds commonly used in agriculture
- ✓ We have polished three cavities and measured one
- ✓ We don't have enough statistic for now, so we continue to work...



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**Thank you for  
attention!**

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