



First Results of SRF Cavity Fabrication by Electro-Hydraulic Forming at CERN

S. Atieh

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- CERN is widening its competence towards the state-of- the-art SRF Nb technology to be prepared for next generation accelerator projects,
- CERN is upgrading its facilities to be able to perform relevant R&D and help prepare future SRF technology,
- Thin-film technologies are again in focus "but not limited to",
- Developments of new or spare superconducting RF cavities, LHC consolidation, Superconducting Proton Linac (SPL), LHC High Luminosity upgrade (HL-LHC), and the Future Circular Collider (FCC) studies.









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GLIDCOP[®] LHC collimators

Tensile tests at different strain rate (room temperature)



500

Quasi-static tensile tests at different temperatures



Tensile tests at high strain rate and different temperatures



500

Same approach for Nb is a viable approach













- Increase in metal formability,
- Reduced wrinkling,
- High pressure impact for imposing surface details, or conserve it,
- Reduced springback,
- Reduced manufacturing cost.

A collaboration between CERN and Bmax







Behaviour at high strain rates

- Proper description of material behaviour at high strain rate requires suitable constitutive material models;
- One of the most used is the Johnson-Cook which includes thermal softening.

$$\sigma = \left[A + B \cdot \overline{\varepsilon_{pl}}^n\right] \cdot \left[1 + C \cdot \ln\left(\frac{\dot{\varepsilon}}{\dot{\varepsilon}_0}\right)\right] \cdot \left[1 - \left(\frac{T - T_0}{T_m - T_0}\right)^m\right]$$

Initial yielding strength and strain hardening

Strain-rate hardening

Thermal softening

Behaviour under Quasistatic loading





True stress vs true strain in log – log scale for Nb and Cu plates: Nb n = 0.40 in Rd and n = 0.35 in T OFE Cu

n = 0.35 in Rd and n = 0.40 in T

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Initial yielding strength and strain hardening



For copper only, to be done for niobium.

- Measured ring expansion velocities (dots) and identified curves (lines).
- Stress-strain relation comparison for OFE copper between static and dynamic conditions.

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Strain-rate
hardening
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Geometry and simulation of the EH Forming

Blank holder Electrodes system



Water chamber Blank Die

Simulations is used to define the number and position of discharges and to select the energy level.

It allows the optimization of the chamber (mold) geometry, which has a large influence on process efficiency, as typically two thirds of the forming effect comes from reflected waves. **courtesy Bmax**



- 3 OFE half-cells formed
- Good fit in between the experimental results and the simulation
- Achieved shape accuracy: ± 200 μm
- Good reproducibility



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Y1 mm

10:1

Sheet average hardness 64 HV10

- Behaviour at high strain rate to be performed at CERN and Bmax;
- Parameters to be re-defined;
- New power generator by end of year.

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1 mm

10:1



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| Id | Ra sheet (µm) | Rt sheet (µm) | Ra HEF (µm) | Rt HEF (µm) |
|------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| OF | 0.2 | 3.5-5.8 | 0.2 | 2-12 |
| E | | | | |
| Nb | 0.8-0.9 | 7-11 | 0.9-1 | 8-11 |
| Cons | ervation of surfa | ice roughness | | |







- Good agreement in between simulation and achieved shape accuracy,
- Reduced springback,
- The conservation of surface roughness and low wall thickness variation, could lead to an important reduction of post forming related surface treatment, as buffered chemical polishing (BCP) and electropolishing (EP).



Future plans

- High-velocity forming is potentially an alternative process.
- Geometrical precision, reproducibility, suitability for economic, small & large series production.
- Characterisation to be performed:
 - Typical raw materials: orthotropic and non-linear behaviour at quasi-static and high-strain rate regimes.
 - The development of material microstructure and of physical (e.g. RRR) and mechanical properties induced.
 - The influence of the main process parameters will be evaluated in terms of cavity performance (2 LHC 400 MHz) and one SPL 704 MHz).
- At a later stage, the technology could be applied to cavities with much more complex shapes, such as the crab cavities for the future upgrade of the LHC.





Thank you for your attention