

Progress of specimen cutout and damage inspection for used mercury target vessel at J-PARC

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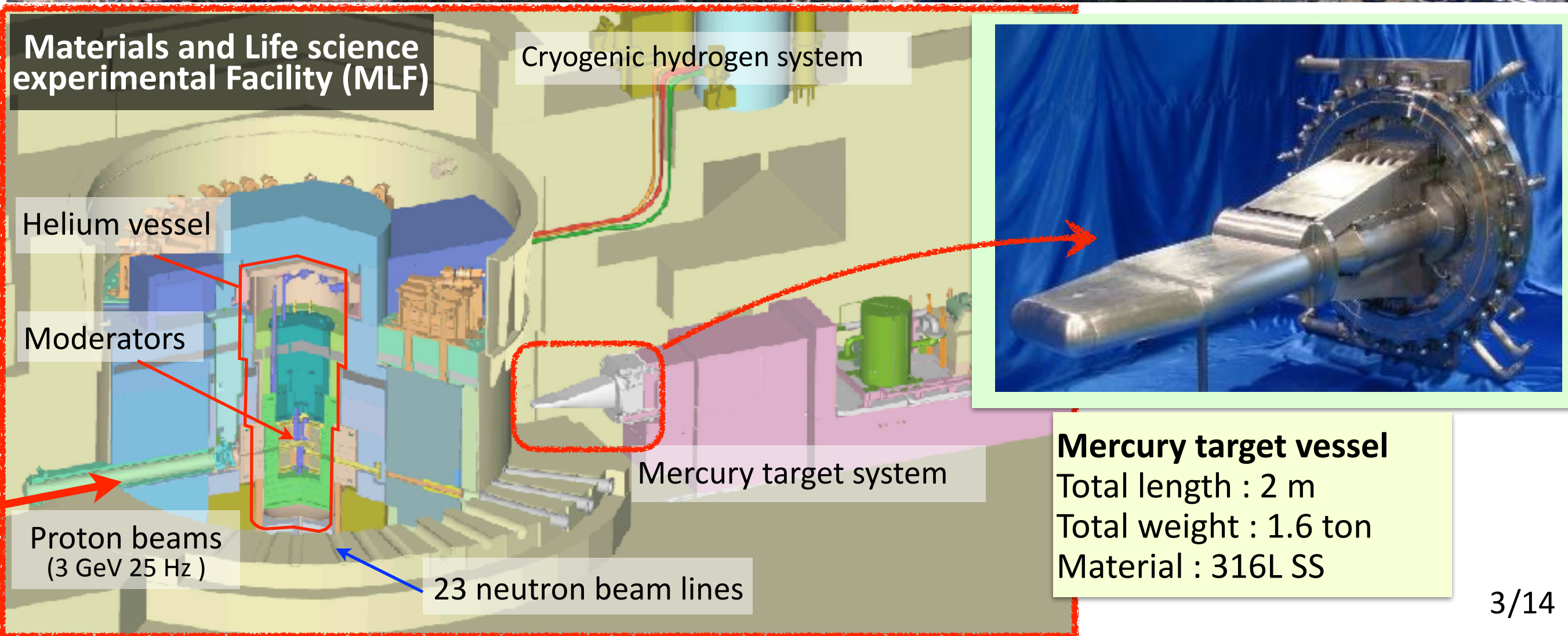
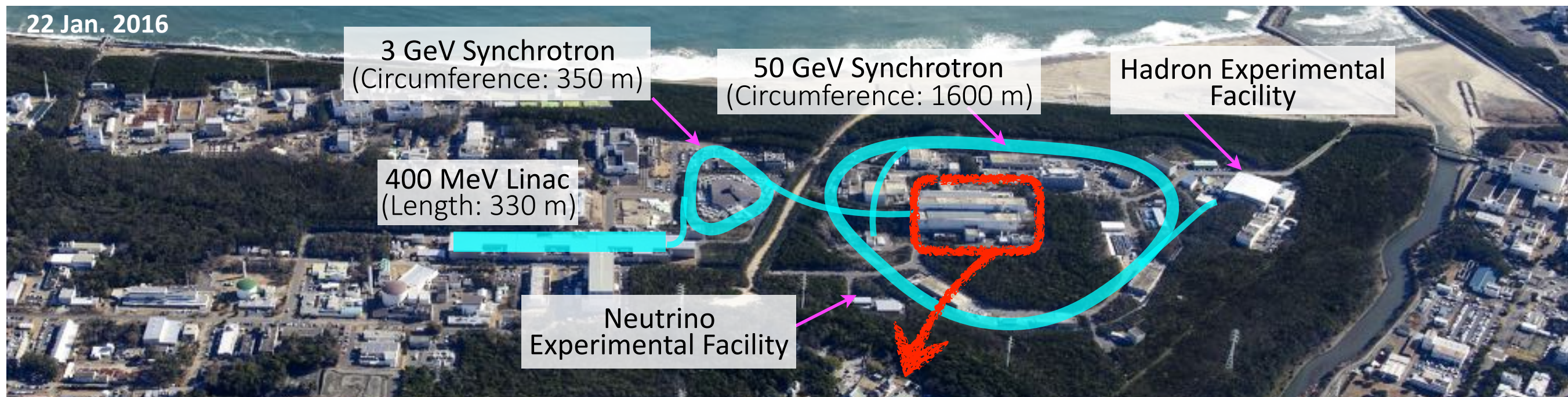
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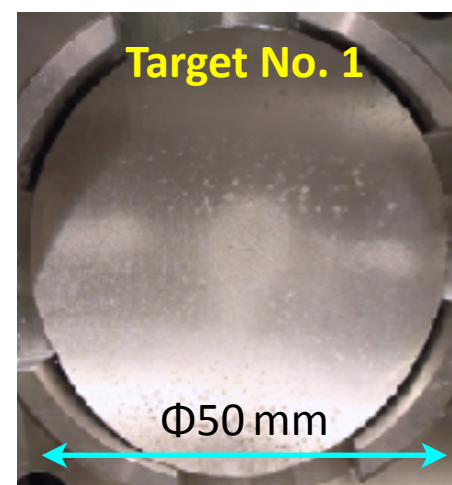
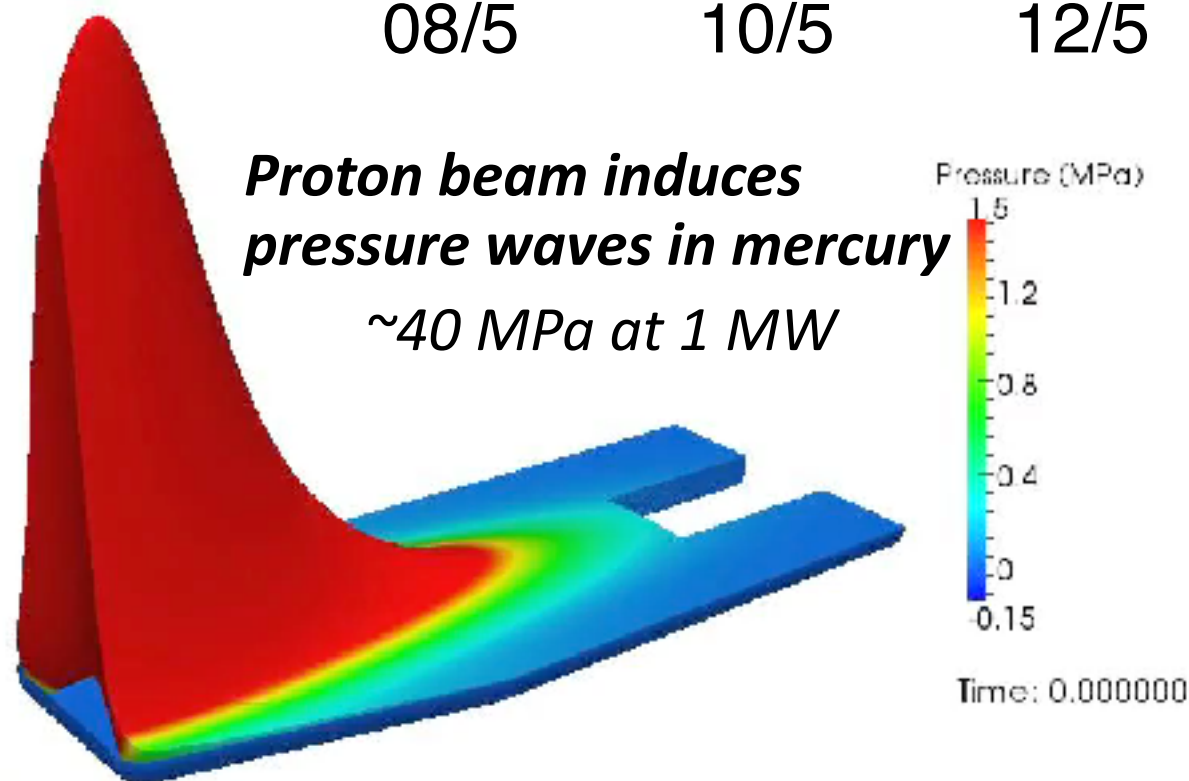
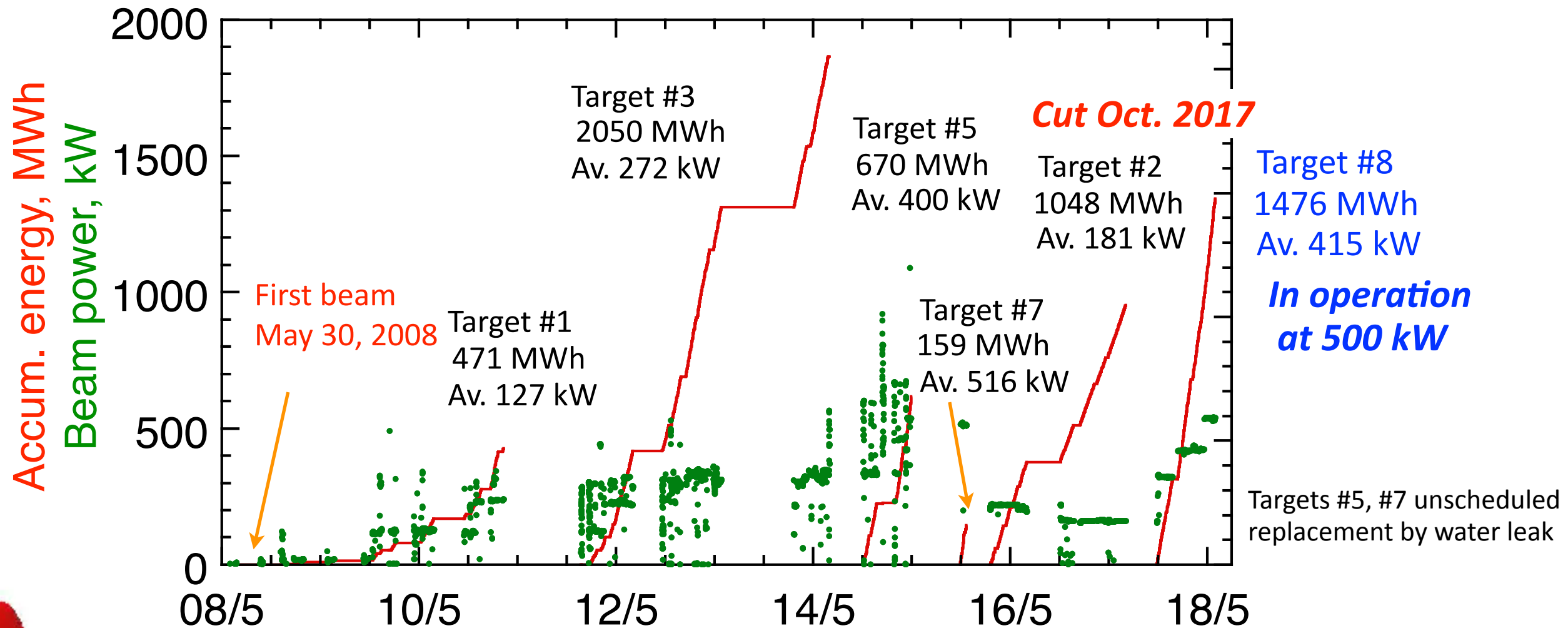
Spallation neutron source in J-PARC

Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex in JAEA Tokai-site

22 Jan. 2016



Operation histories for J-PARC mercury target



- Cavitation reduces structural integrity of target vessel
- Dominant factor for target lifetime rather than radiation damage

Cavitation damage mitigation

Target

No. 1

Surface hardening

Reduce cavitation damage
Nitriding & Carburizing, Kolsterising

No. 2

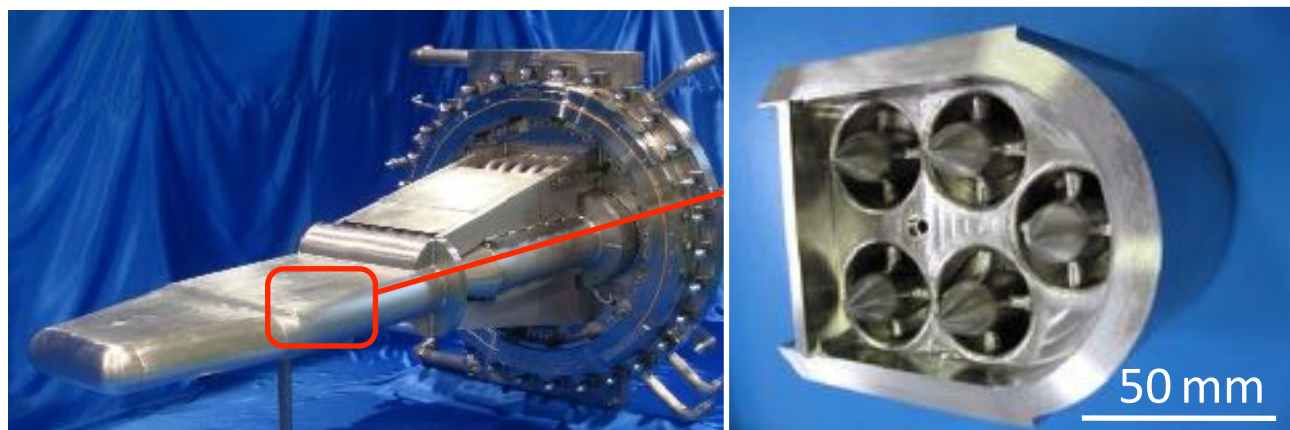
2nd target (Spare) No-bubbling techniques
to mitigate pressure waves and cavitation damage

No. 3

Microbubble injection

Reduce pressure wave and cavitation damage
Inject helium gas microbubbles ($R < 50 \mu\text{m}$)
into flowing mercury (VF: 10^{-2} in flow ratio)

No. 4



Target vessel No. 3 with bubble generator

No. 5

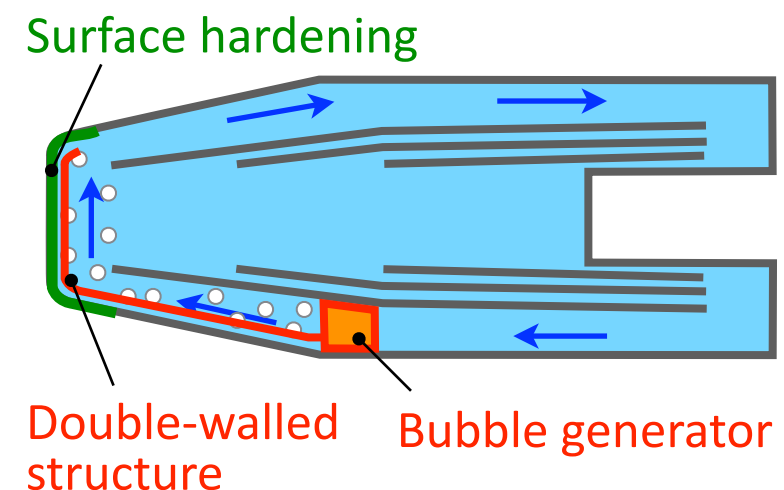
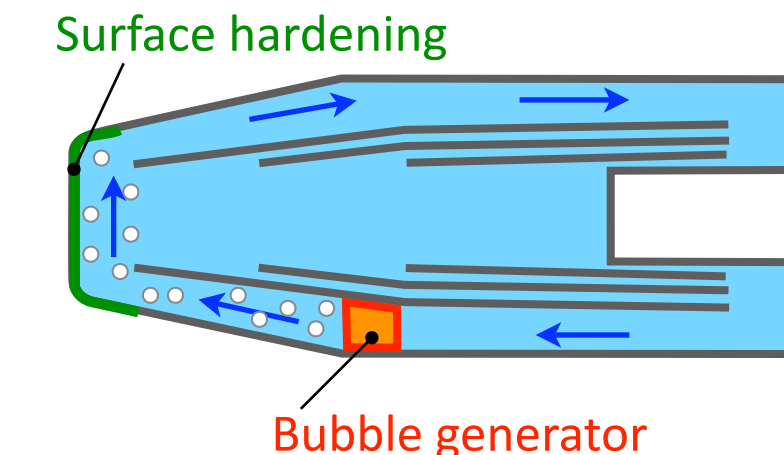
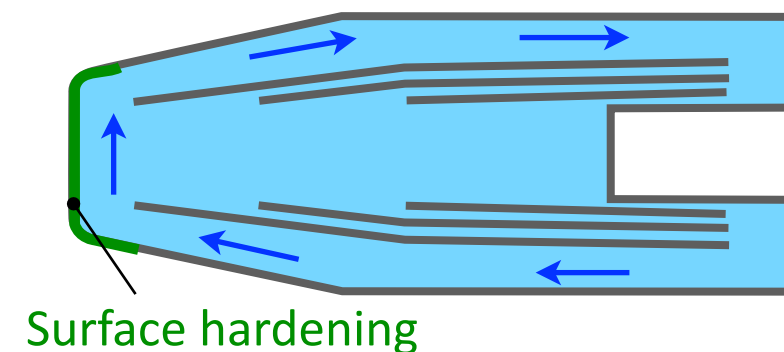
Double-walled structure

Reduce cavitation damage by high-speed
mercury flow and narrow gap

No. 9

*Cut used target beam window to investigate
the effect of damage mitigation technologies*

Fabrication
number

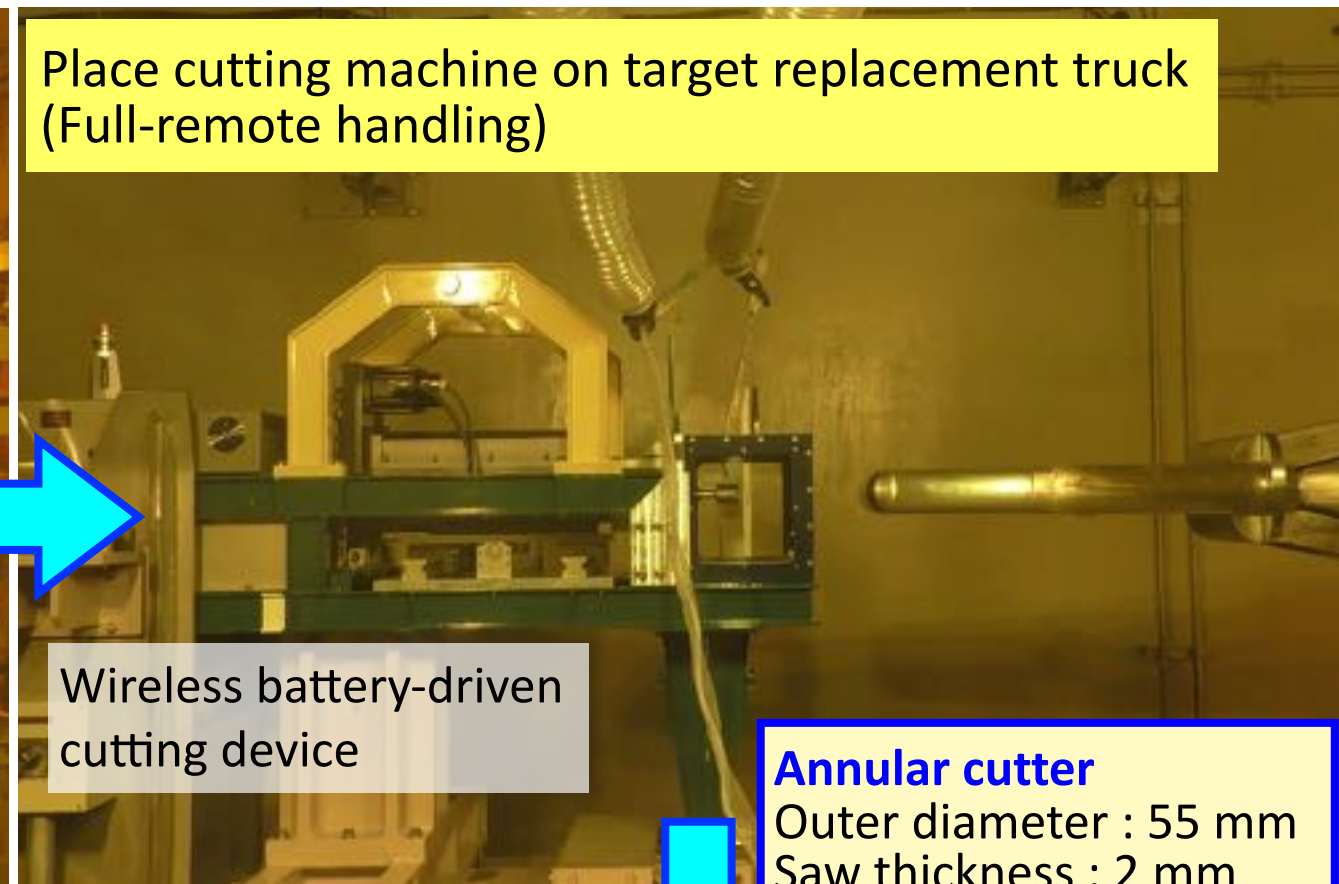


Beam window cutting by remote handling



Carry cutting machine and workbench into hot cell
(Rad work in hot cell for preparation)

Ultrasonic bath



Place cutting machine on target replacement truck
(Full-remote handling)

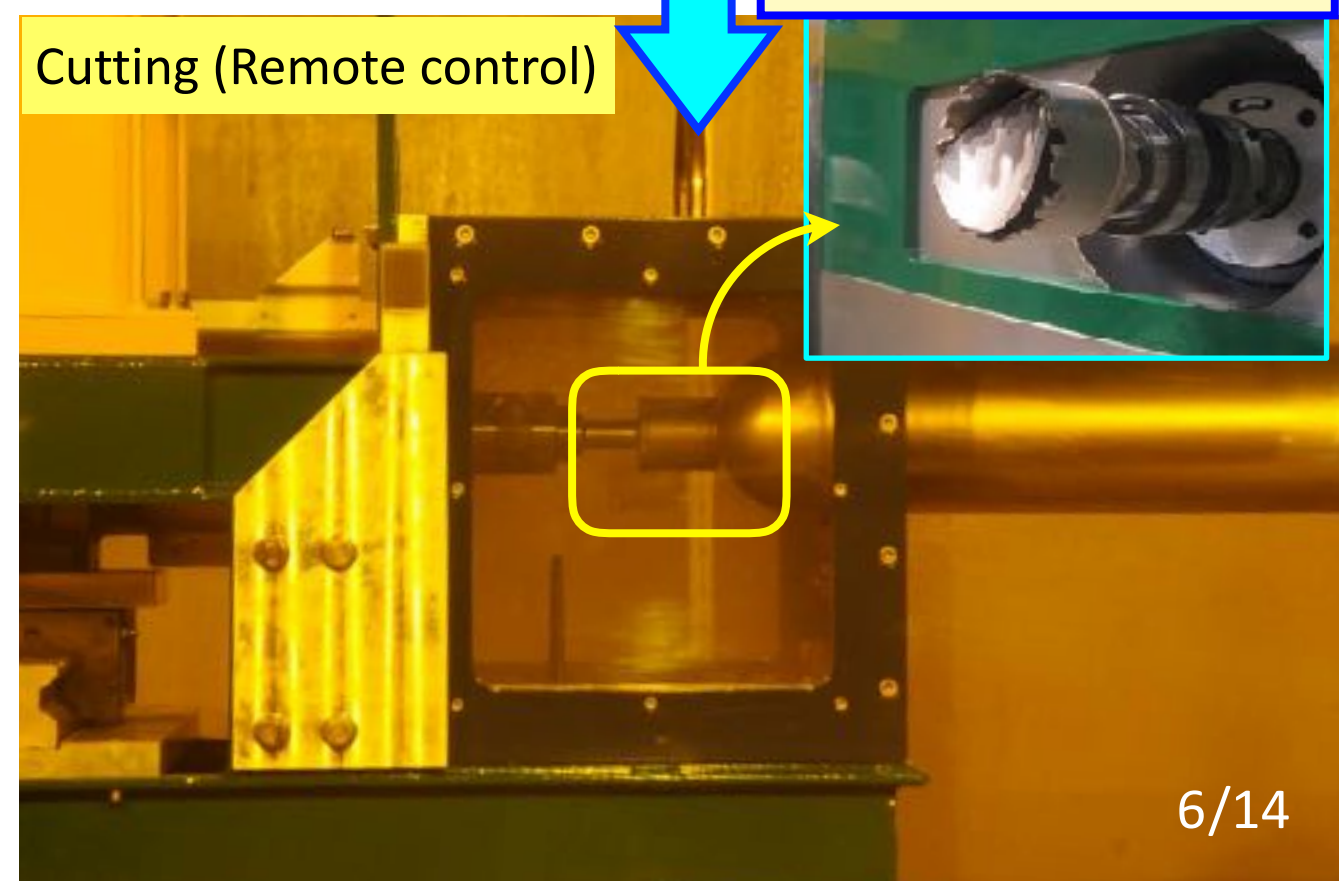
Wireless battery-driven cutting device

Annular cutter
Outer diameter : 55 mm
Saw thickness : 2 mm

Beam window cutting for cavitation damage inspection and future PIE

Dose rate of target vessel: ca. 350 Sv/h at contact
After 77 days operation

Cutting work by remote handling
5 working days including decontamination



Cutting (Remote control)

Difficulties of cutting

Precondition

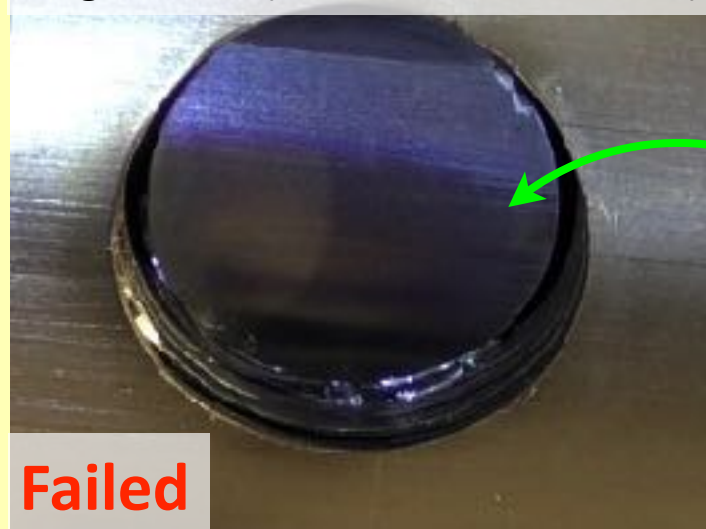
Liquid (water) free hot cell

→ **Dry cut**

Cut target under fixing on target trolley

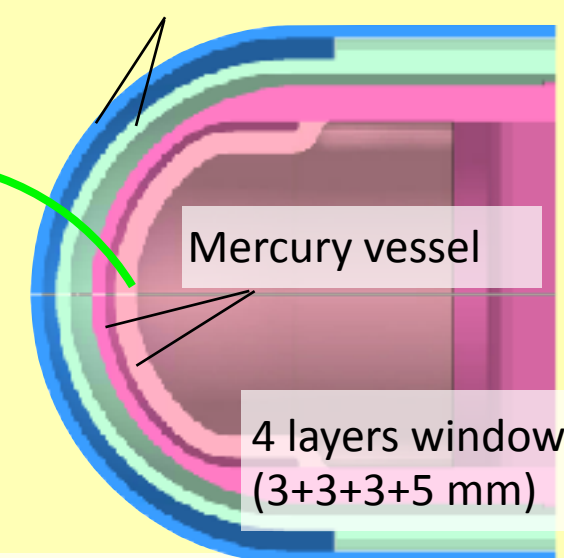
→ **Horizontal cut**

Target No. 5 (Double wall + bubble)



Failed

Water shroud



Mercury vessel

4 layers window
(3+3+3+5 mm)

Inner most wall of 5th target remained window

Target No. 3 (Gas microbubble injection)



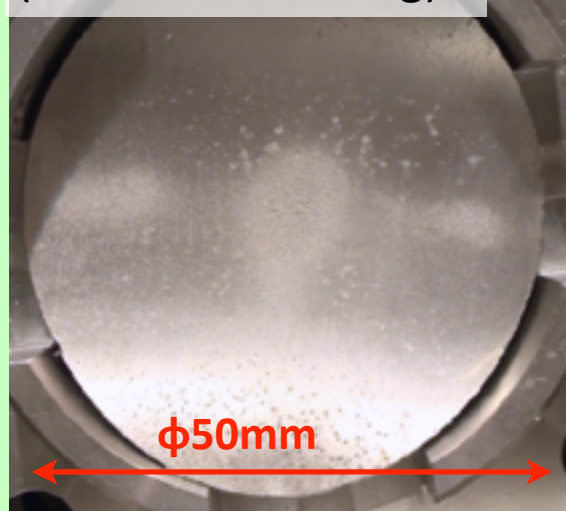
Failed

Inner most wall of target #3
fallen inside vessel

Succeeded

Initial cutting was successful

Target No. 1
(Surface hardening)

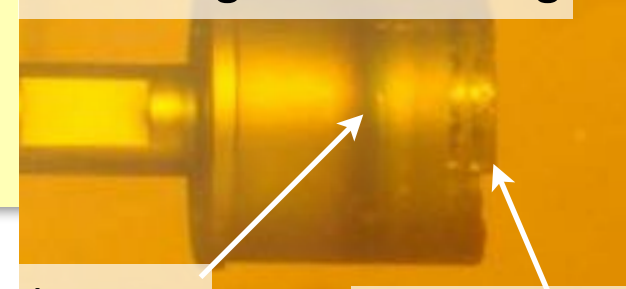


φ50mm

Before cutting



After Target No.5 cutting



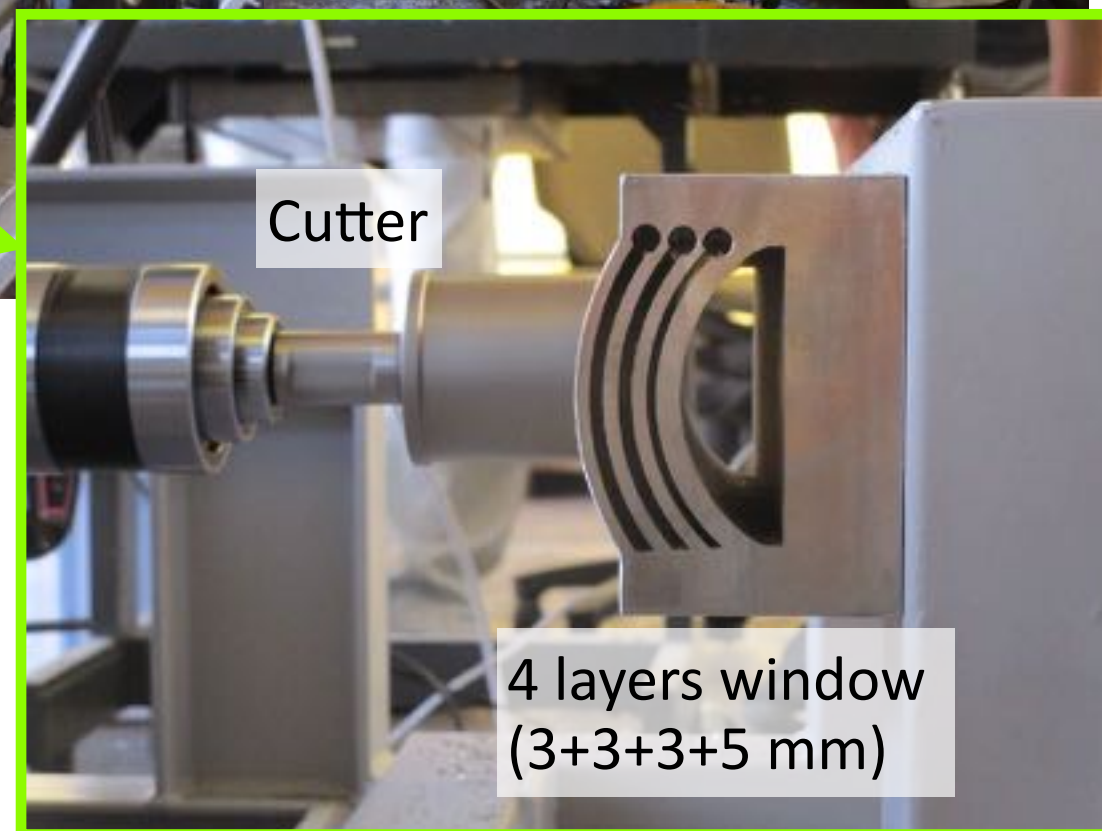
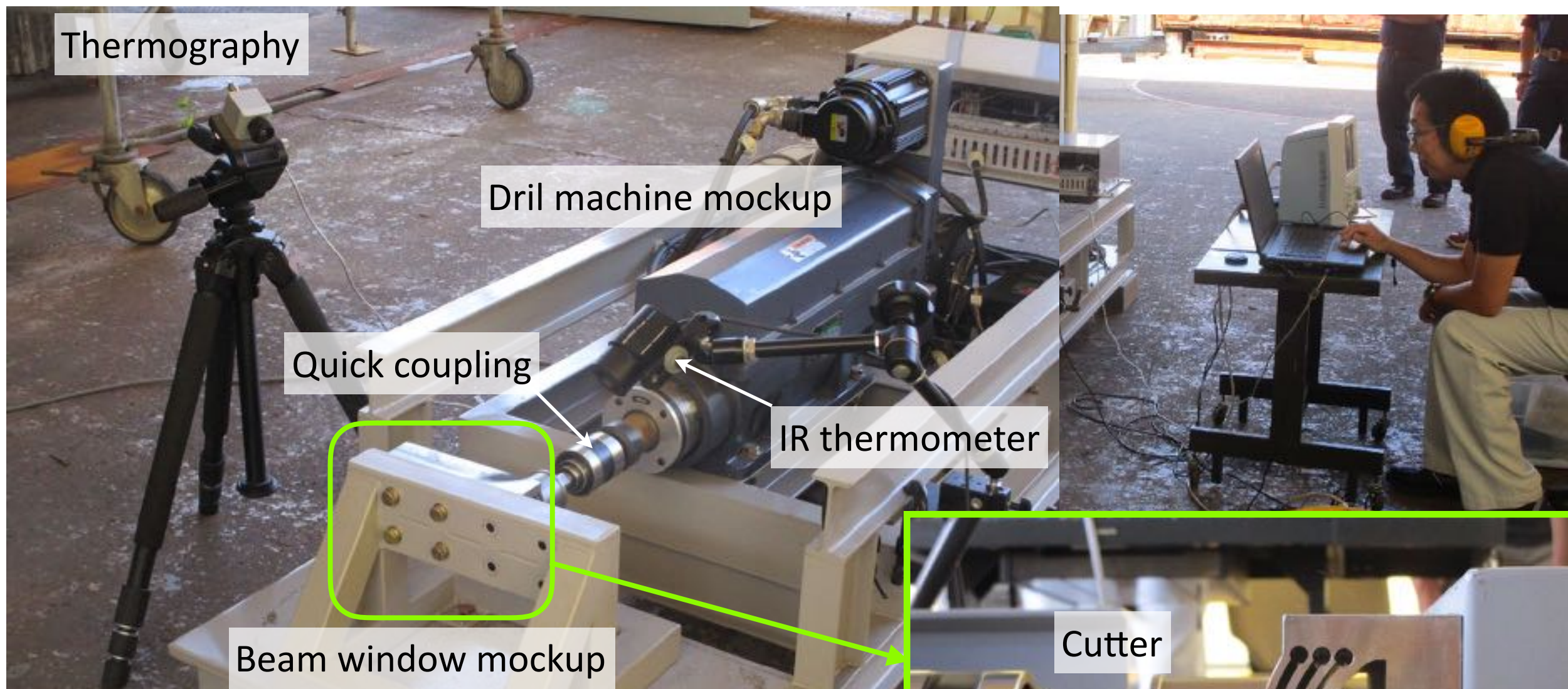
Discoloration

Saws broken

- Cutting performed under target fixing on trolley by full-remote handling
- Nos. 1,3,5 targets cut without any lubricant (Dry cut) → Failed #3 and #5 cutting

Improve saws damage by dry cut, surely pick up specimen

Cold cutting test for optimizing cutting conditions



Parameters for cold cutting test

Rotation speed: **250, 400 rpm**

Feed rate : **0.017, 0.025 mm/s**

Feed frequency:

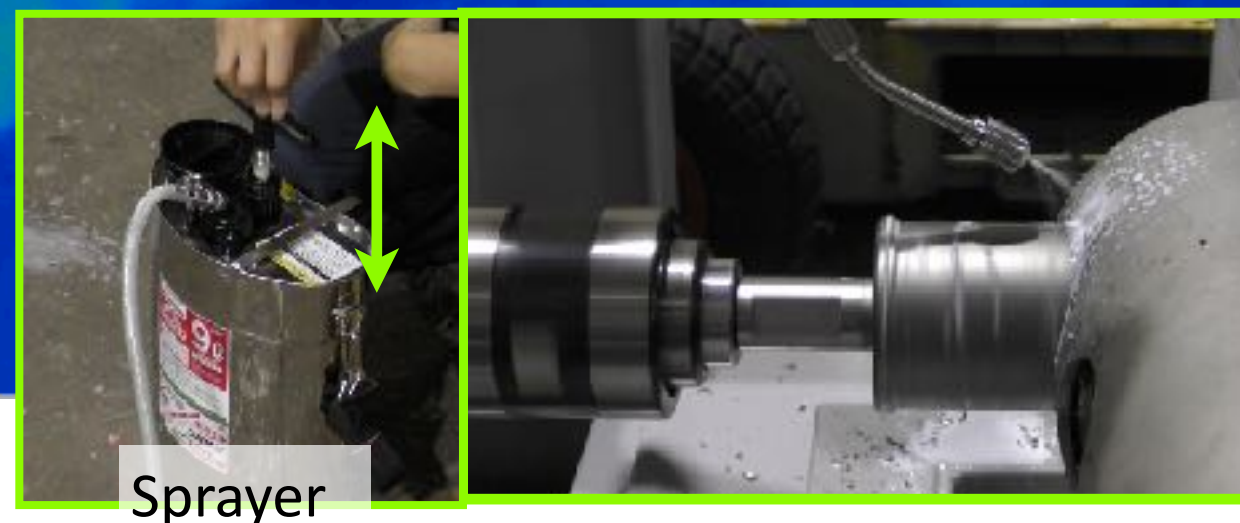
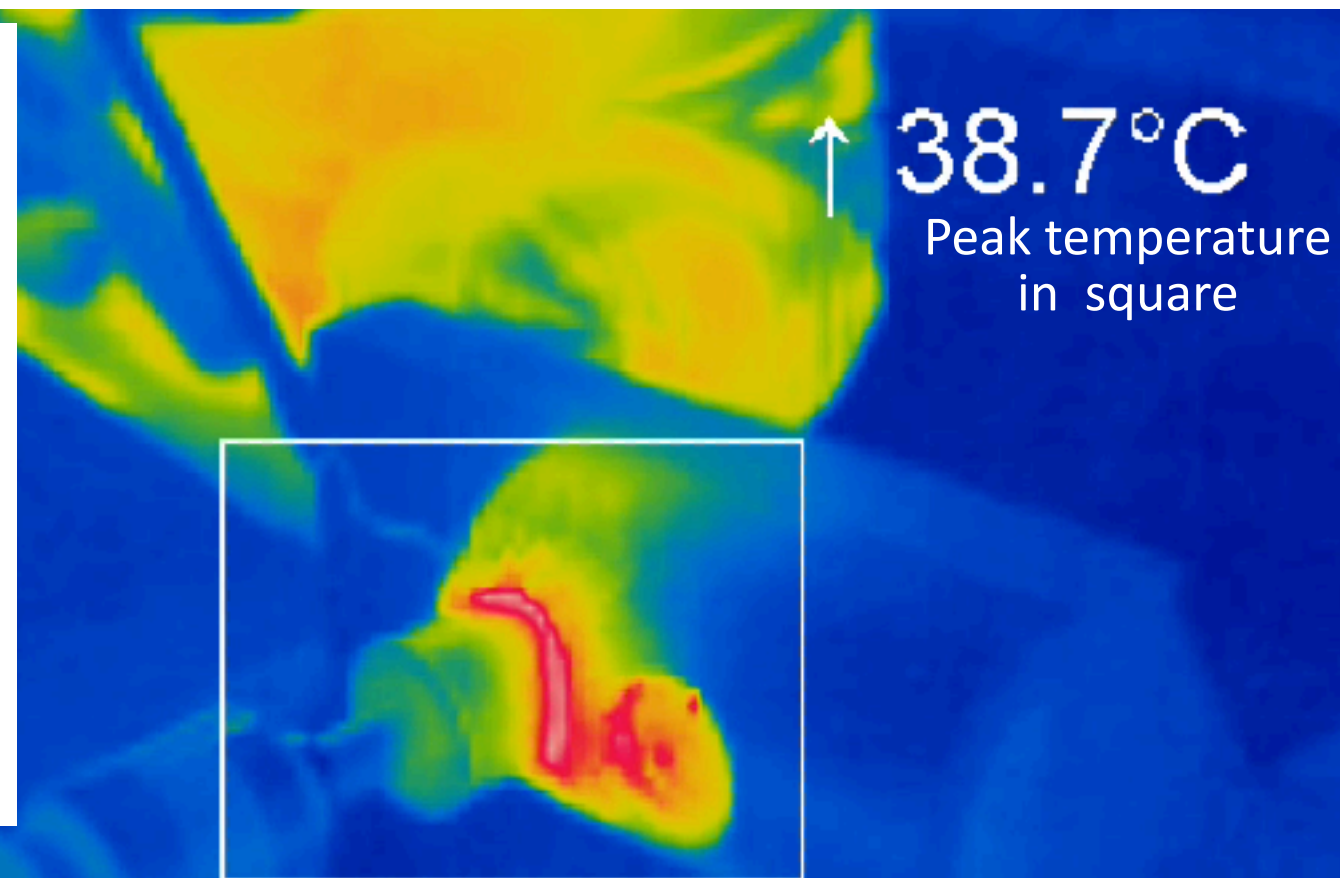
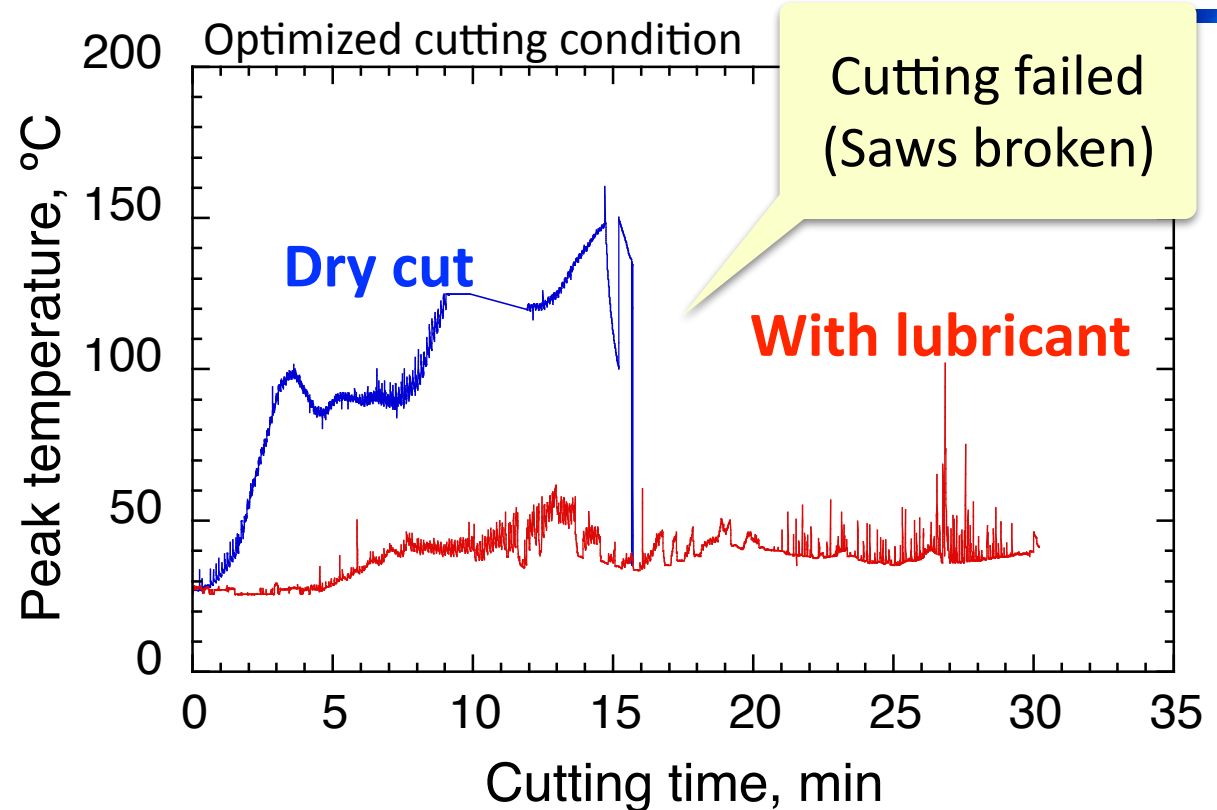
Forward 0.1 mm for 3 s + standby 3 s

Forward 0.1 mm for 3 s + standby 3 s

Lubricant : dry cut, oil base, emersion type

Center drill : $\phi 5$ dril, w/o dril

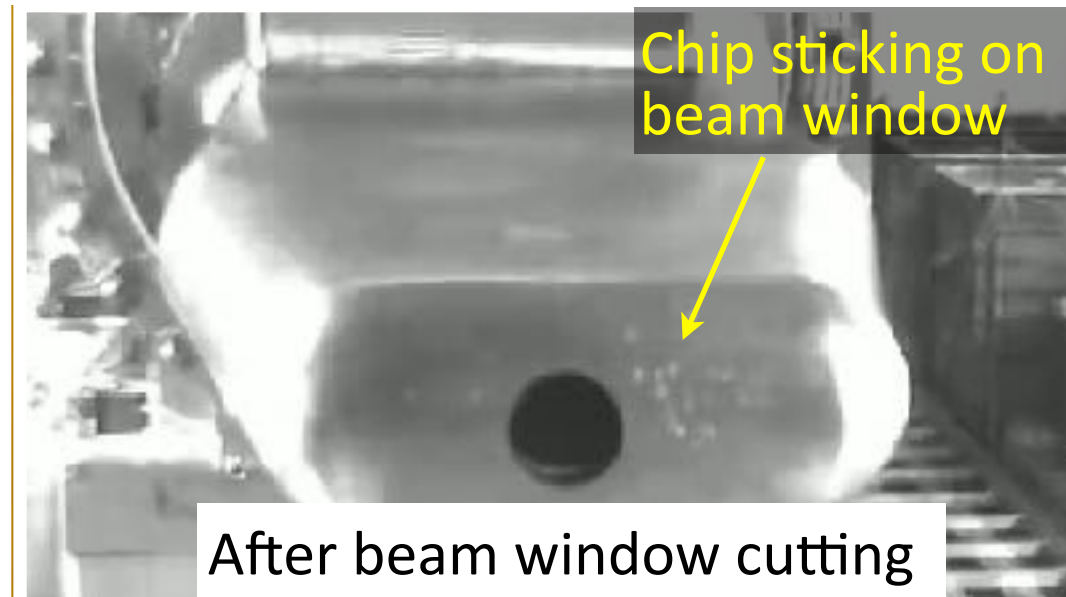
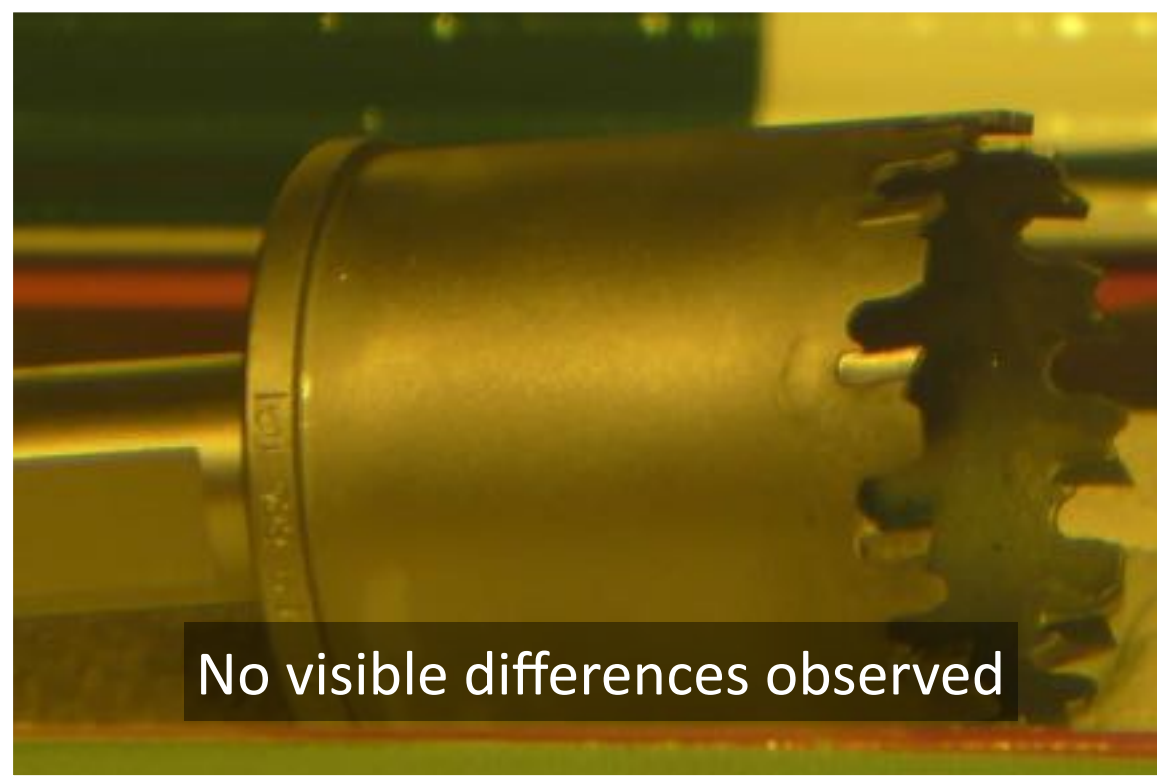
Effect of lubricant on temperature



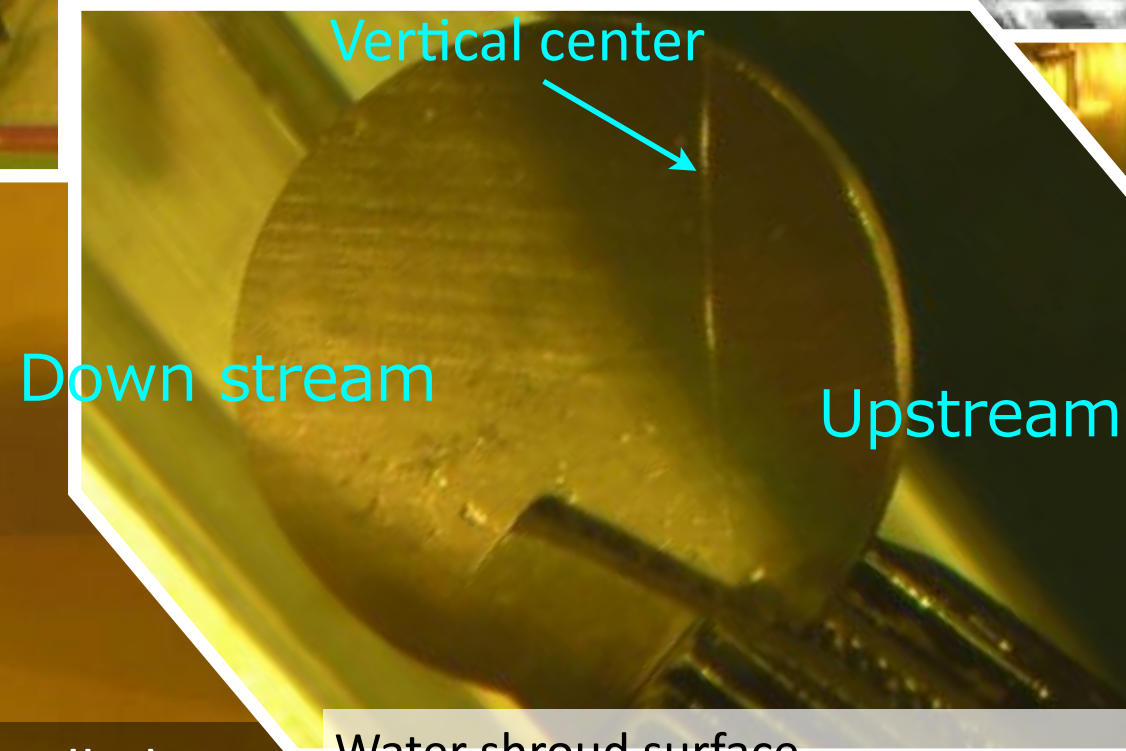
- Surface temperature of cutter and beam window were reduced by lubricant
- No visible damage on cutter after cutting with lubricant
- Lubricant is essential for surely cutting
- Center drill is difficult to adjust position for resume cutting

Beam window cutting for target No.2

25, Sep. 2017



Cutting device



Water shroud surface
Cutting position is 12.5 mm offset from center to downstream

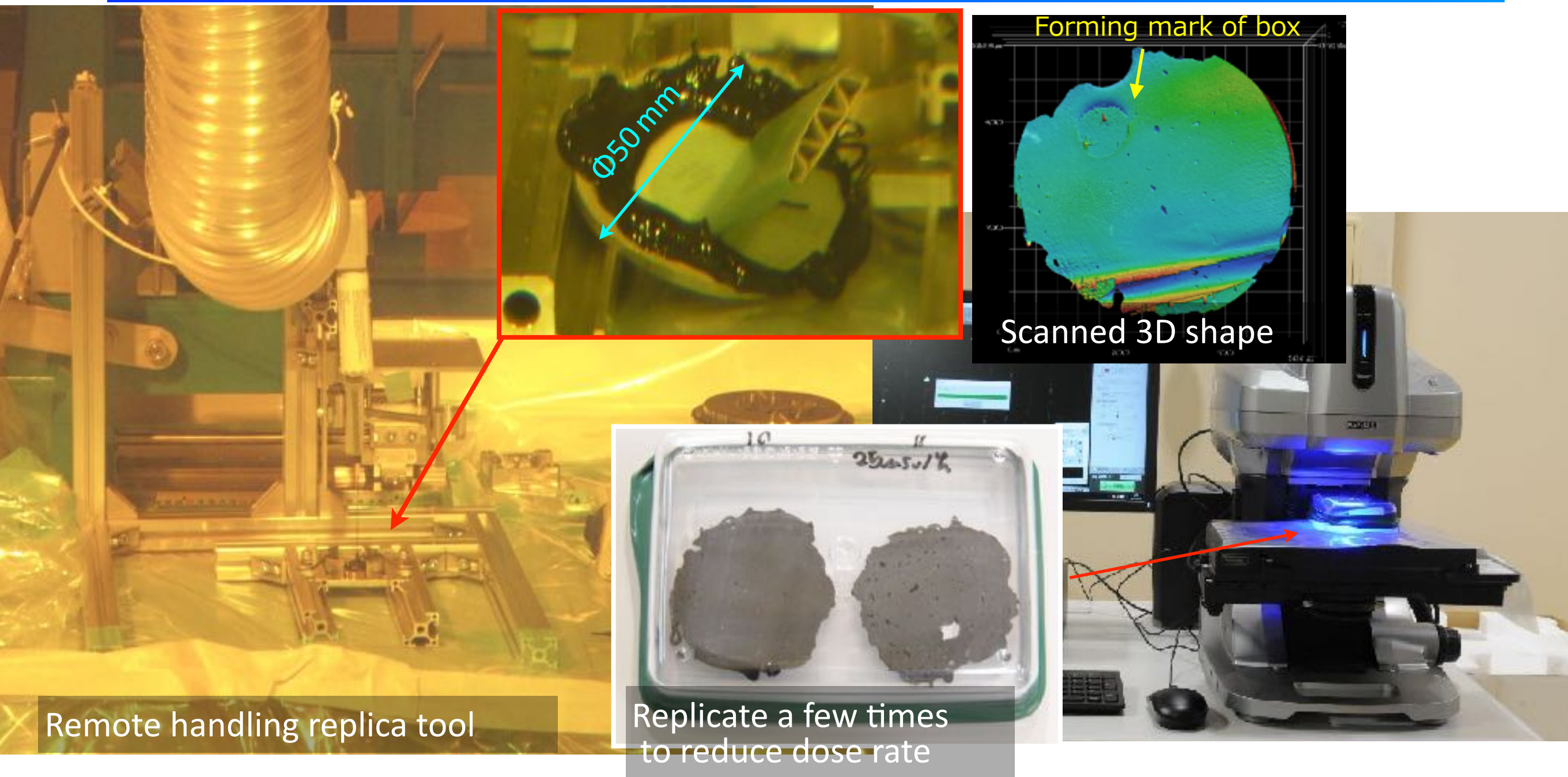


Hose inserted into hot cell by through wall plug
Cutting time: 32 min
Lubricant usage: 900 ml
Tritium release was reduced by reducing cutting temperature



Target No.2 cutting was successful by adopting lubricant spray

Damage inspection by replica method

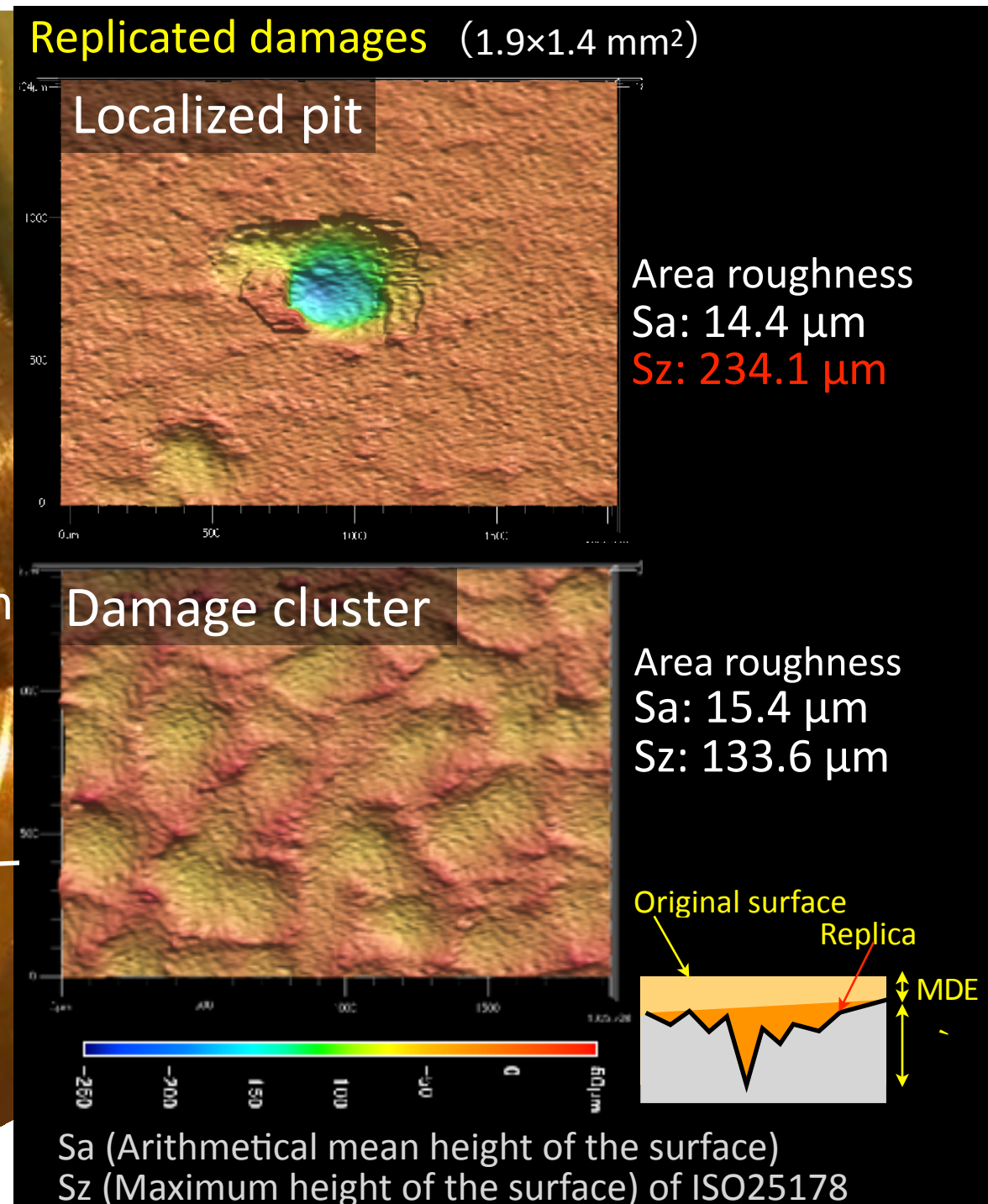
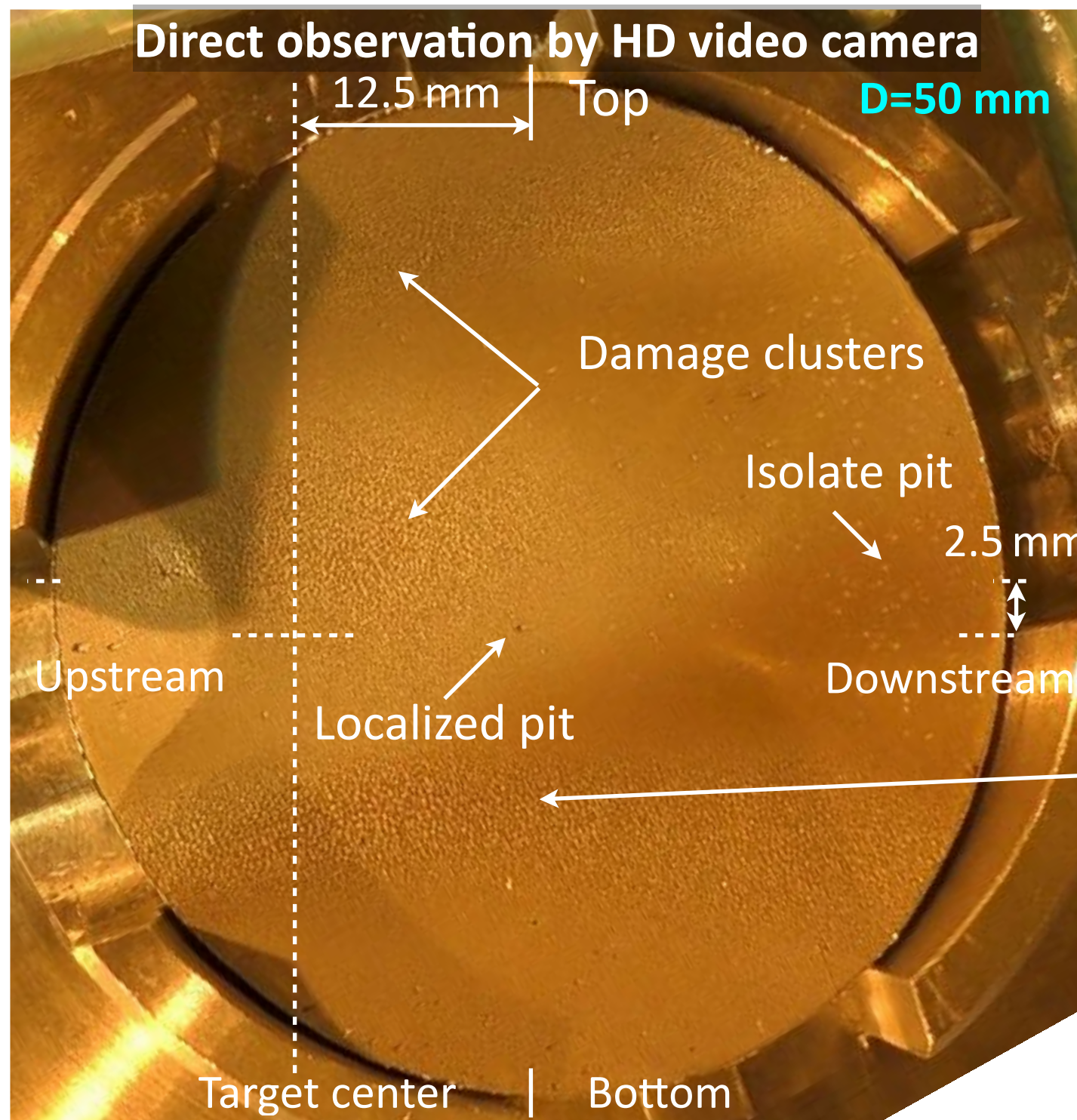


Remote handling replica tool

Replicate a few times to reduce dose rate

- Cut disk has high dose rate (82 Sv/h) difficult for direct observation → Replica <math>< 25 \mu\text{Sv/h}</math>
- Replicated damage covered with airtight box and observed outside hot cell using 3D scanner
- Height resolution 0.1 μm for replica and 1 μm for 3D scanner

Cavitation damage inside target vessel



- Cavitation damage distributed center and top and bottom side
- Maximum damage depth is estimated to be 268 μm

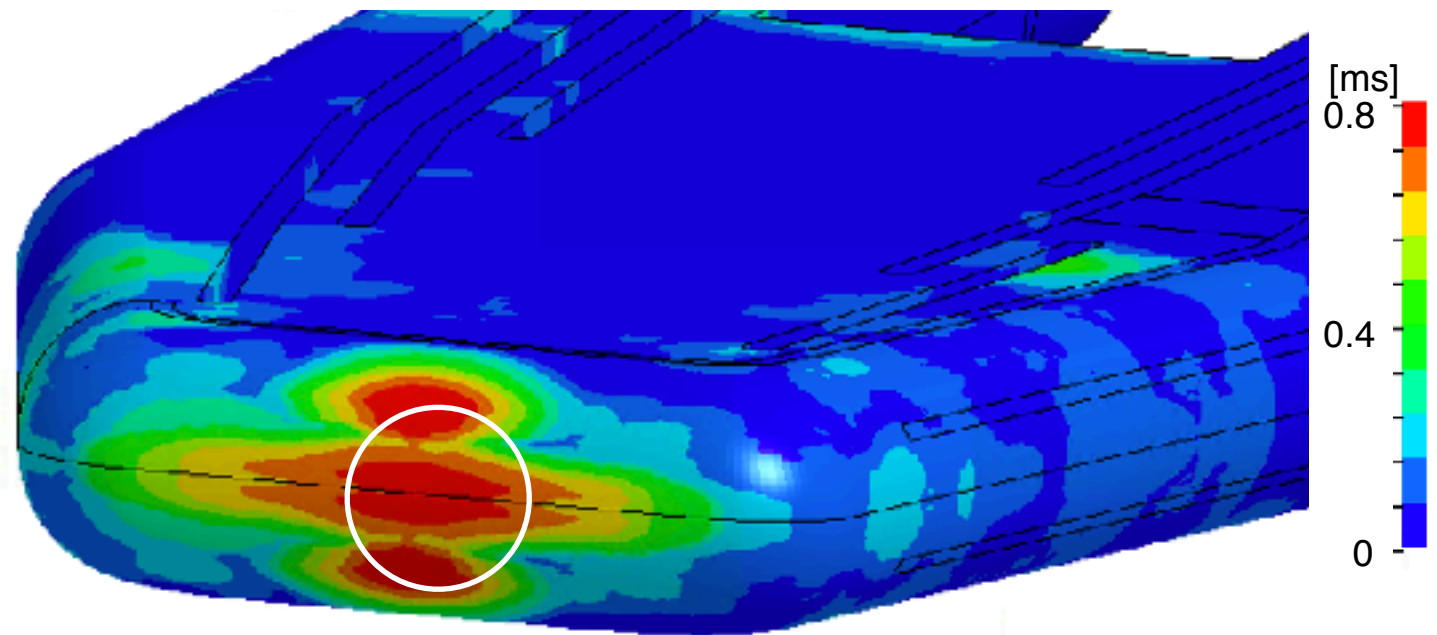
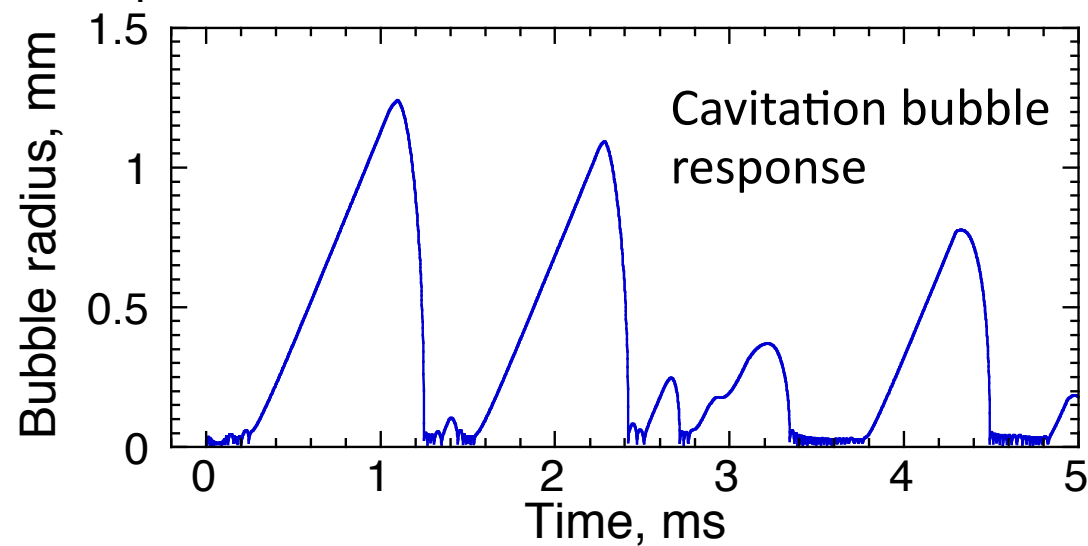
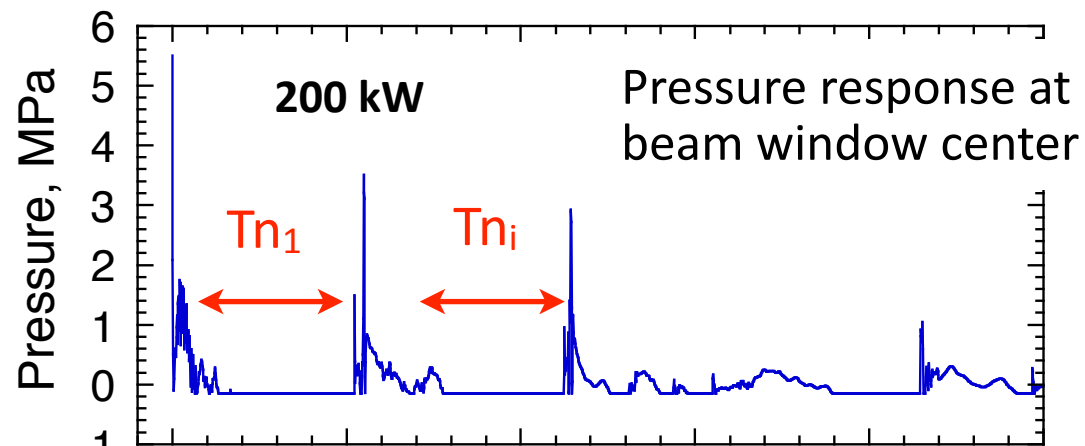
Empirical equation

$$D_{\max} = MED + Sz$$

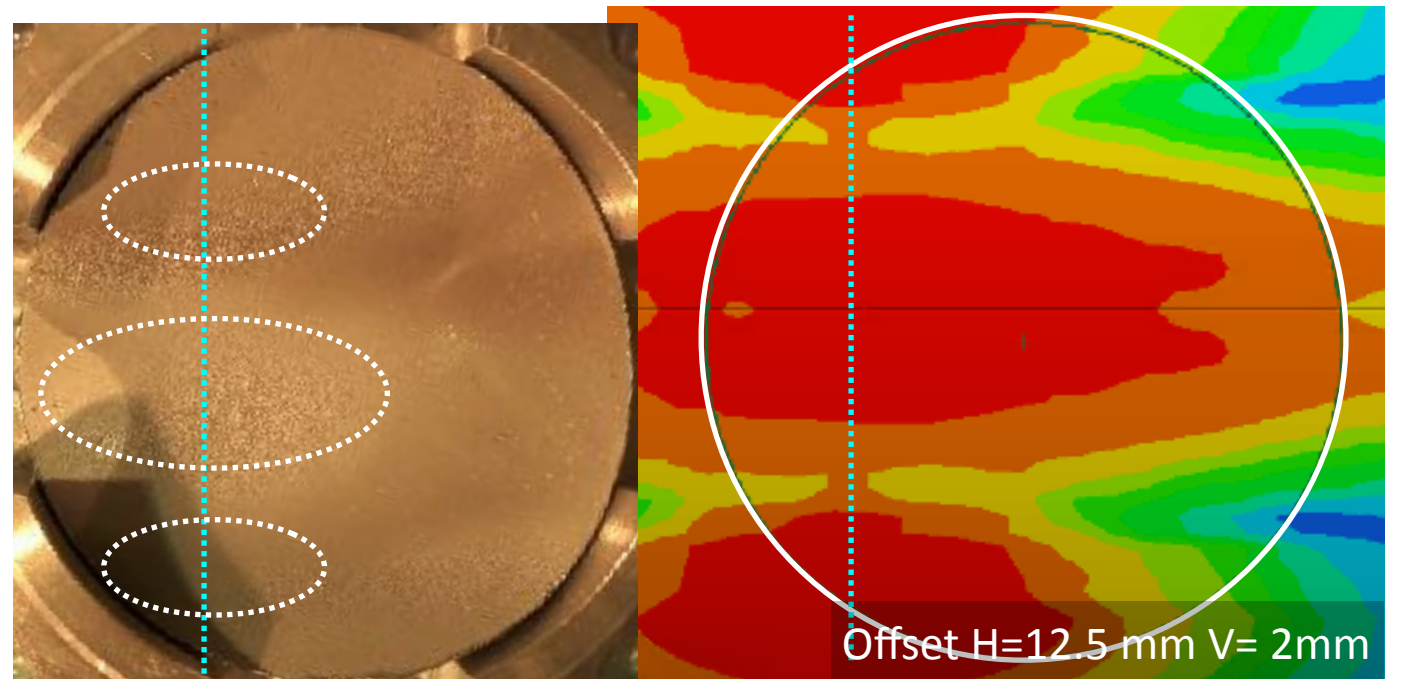
$$D_{\max} = 8MED$$

$$\rightarrow D_{\max} = 268 \mu\text{m}$$

Negative pressure distribution



Longest negative pressure period $\text{Max}(T_{ni})$



- Cavitation bubble radius is proportional to negative pressure period T_n
- Distribution of damage cluster is correlated with the negative pressure period ($\text{Max}(T_{ni})$)

Summary

- Cutting and cavitation damage inspection for J-PARC mercury target vessel No. 2 by remote handling has been successfully completed

We would like to thank SNS target team for helpful discussion and advice

- Lubricant is a key to reduce cut temperature and protect saws against friction heating
- Cavitation damage distribution and depth of damage without gas microbubble injection were evaluated
- Cavitation damage distribution is correlated with the distribution of negative pressure period (similar trend with the SNS target vessel)
- Cavitation damage under injecting gas microbubbles (target No. 8) will be observed in this summer shutdown period