Controlled Light EP The Icing on the Cake?

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Or just stimulating

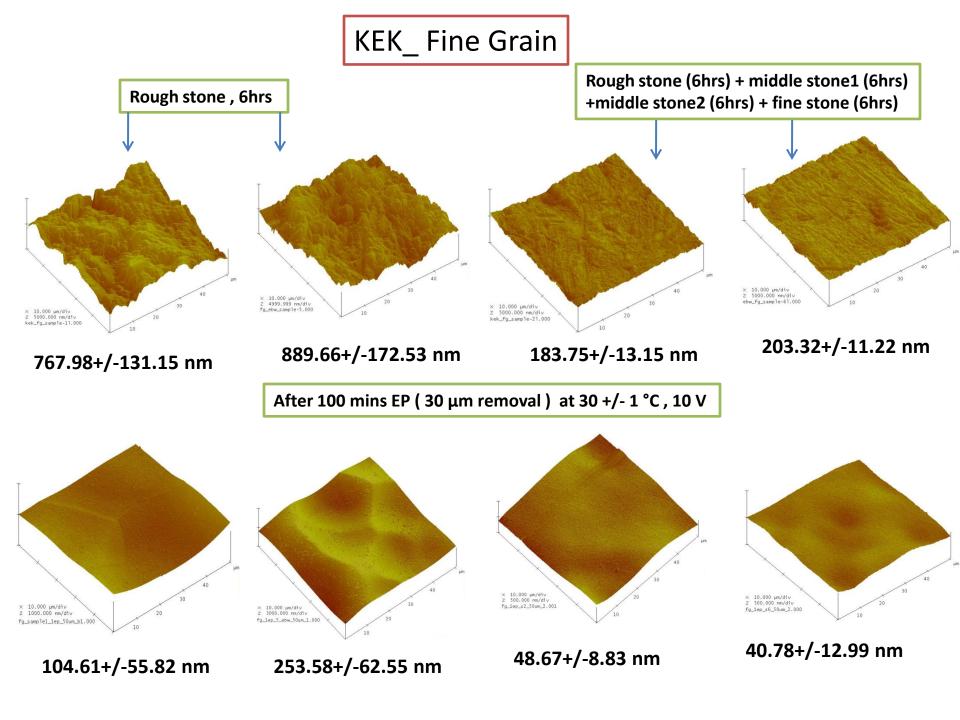
Informal association of ideas that may be helpful.

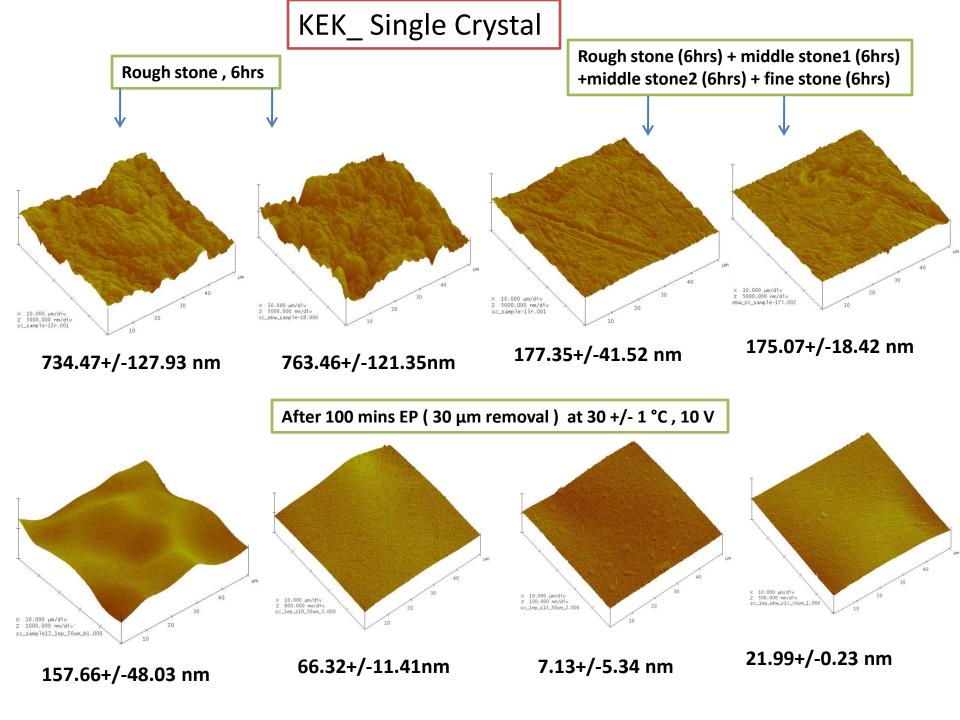
The goal in Nb cavity surface preparation is simple: Make attaining fundamental material limits routine at the lowest possible cost.

Present practices don't fit this bill

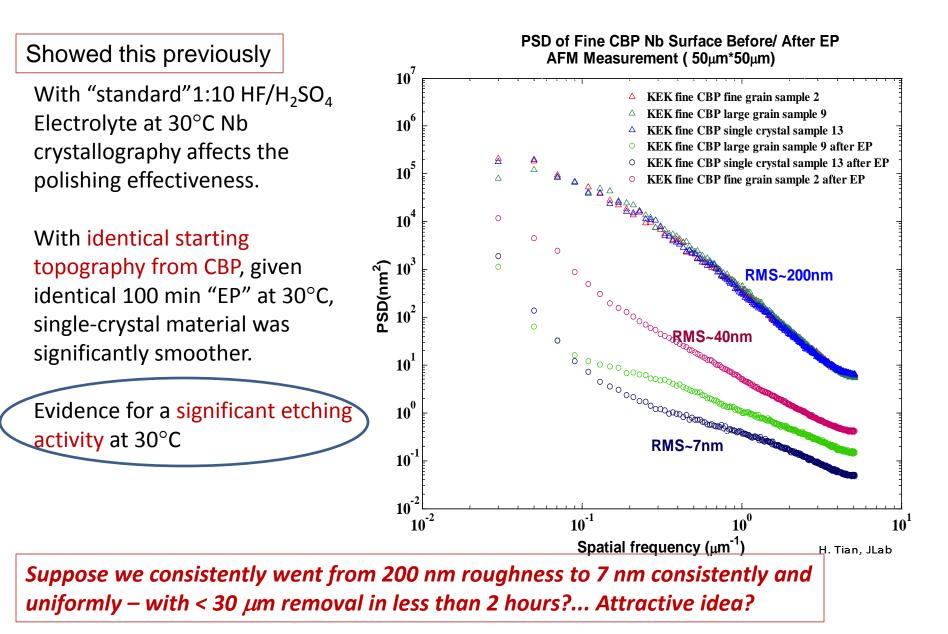
Wouldn't it be nice if all that is needed is a single light chemical polish after mechanical polish ? *Not yet proven, but suggestive hints exist...*

Consider some *samples* and some *cavities* each given light, controlled EP, and then tested:





Not all Nb "EPs" the same

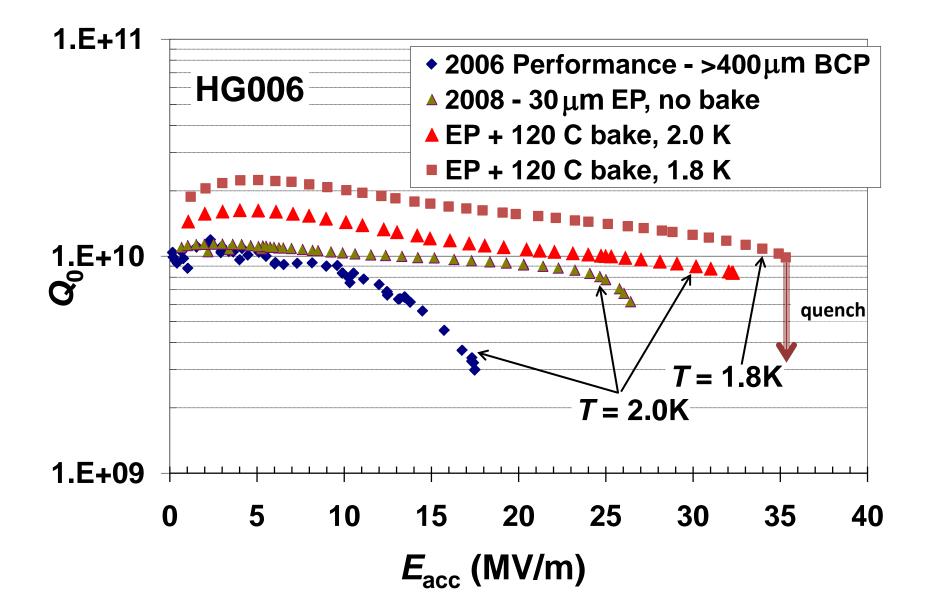


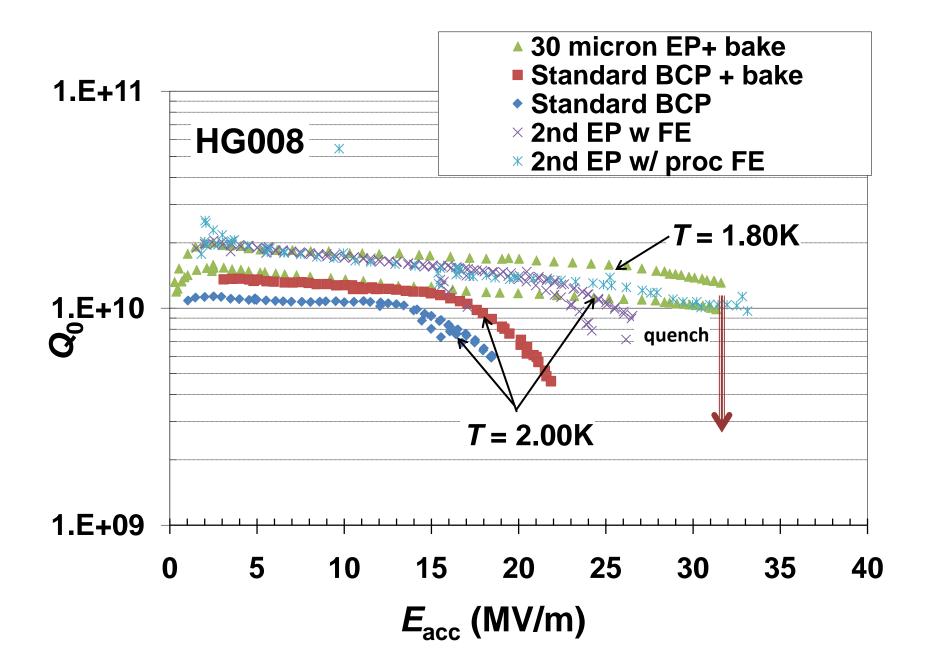
Clearly, there is room yet to optimize the EP process, but we may already see avenues to reduce cost and improve consistency.

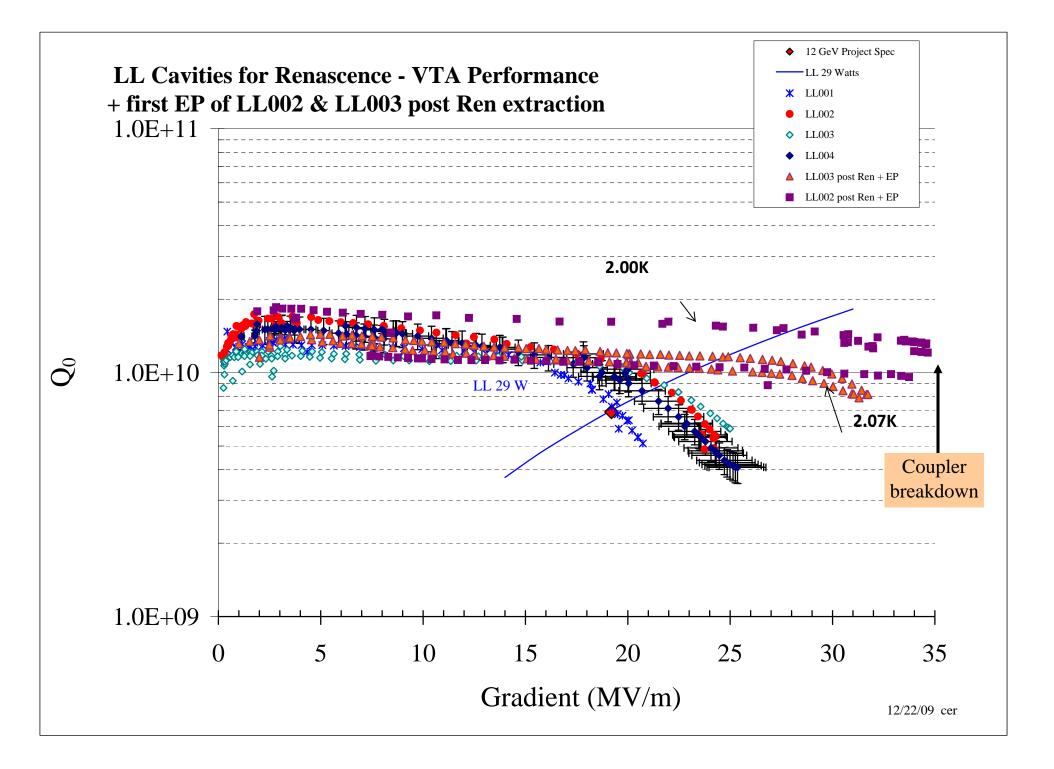
While ILC may be locked into a given procedure to minimize near-term yield risks, JLab presently has some freedom to explore how little EP will still fill the need.

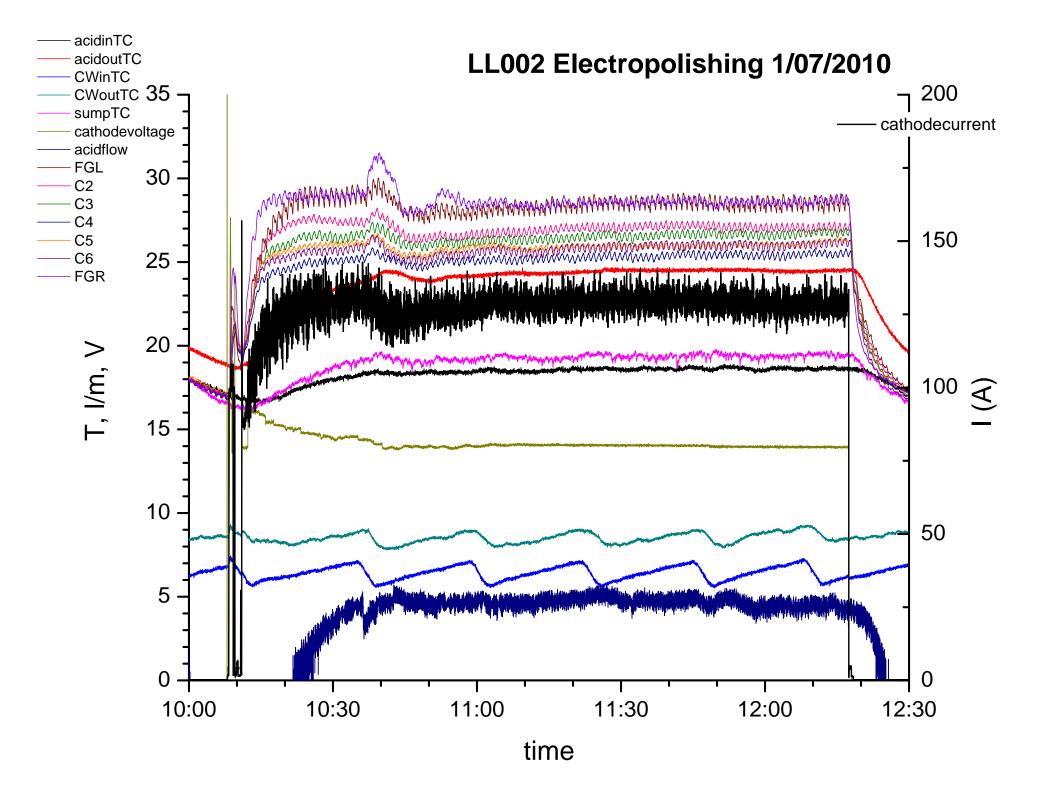
Results to date are very encouraging.

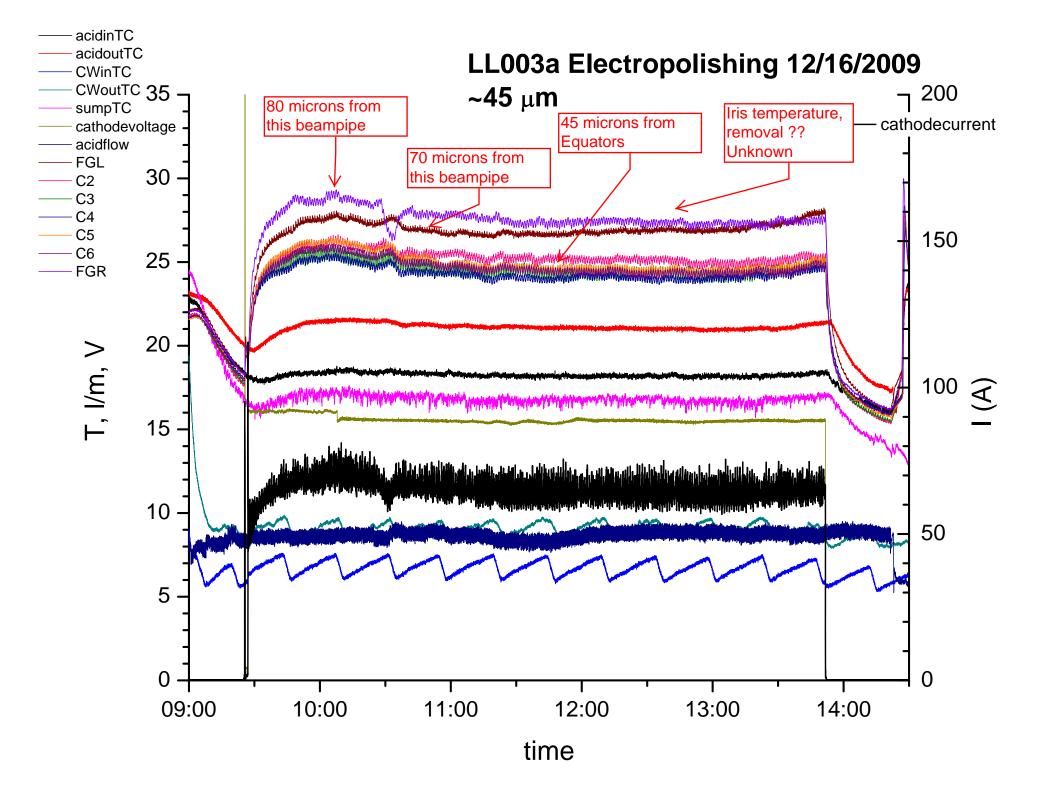
"Light" EP being applied to JLab 7-cell cavities.











Implications:

- We should expect the best micropolishing for topographic features smaller than ~ 15 μm, so start with surfaces that are consistently smooth to this scale: CBP.
- "EP" has a temperature-dependent etching process present >> minimize the temperature.
- So far, 5 JLab 7-cell cavities previously heavily BCPd, and in three two cases used for beam ops, exceeded 30 MV/m after ~40 μm EP. (More in the pipeline.)
 - The 12 GeV Project has all-but-officially accepted a change to a final light EP for the 80 cavities for the CEBAF upgrade as cost and technical contingency boost.
 - Stay tuned

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