

Croatian Contribution to the Development of Fusion Materials Technology

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Historical overview

- Since 1951 Intensive nuclear technology R&D at newly established RBI and its departments
 - Experimental Physics, Nucl. Chemistry, Nucl. Techn. & Protection
- Since 1973 construction of NPP Krško as HR-SI joint venture; NPP Krško started in 1983
 - Privlaka NPP (in HR) was not constructed stopped in 1986
- Since 1970s New departments and intensive nuclear technology R&D at University of Zagreb
 - Dept. on Nuclear Materials @ Faculty of Mech. Engin. & Naval Architecture
 - Dept. on Nucl. Energy @ Faculty of Elect. Engineering & Computing
- Creation of HR business sector oriented to nuclear technology



RBI's fusion neutron generator (1956), made by Croatian companies





Croatia in EUROfusion



- 2013 Croatian accession to EU & Euratom
 - Establishment of Croatian fusion Research Unit (CRU)



- Strategic orientation of CRU toward:
 - Fusion Materials
 - Radiation-Hard Sensors
 - Mathematical Modelling of Fusion Processes
- Plasma Facing Components
- **IFMIF-DONES** Preparation

EUROfusion-related Facilites @ RBI Accelerator Centre





Croatian EUROfusion research highlights



Development of high-temperature radiation detectors for ITER & DEMO







HIGHEST REPORTED TEMPERATURE FOR DIAMOND BASED SOLID-STATE RADIATION DETECTOR 725 K 450 °C

He3 ion microbeam analyses of JET dust from ILW 2011/12 & 2013/14



Tungsten X-ray M Lines were used for definition ion microbeam scanning area with resulting NRA spectra of Be and D

Croatian research highlights - EUROfusion WPMAT-IREMEV



DiFU – Dual-beam facility for Ion irradiation of Fusion materials

1 MV Tandetron



Large and versatile DiFU chamber $(48 \times 48 \times 48 \text{ cm}3)$ with free ports for installation of users' equipment



6 MV Tandem VDG

3D sample manipulator, with Small Samples' Adapter



High sensitive IR camera $\Delta T = 1 \text{ K}$ Position resolution $\Delta x = 0.4$ mm

DiFU Facility was commissioned in 2019, with improvements introduced every year since by joint support of EUROfusion WPMAT & IAEA & Croatian Ministry of Science & Education DiFU is designed according to the ASTM E521 – 16: "Standard Practice for Investigating the Effects of Neutron Radiation Damage Using Charged-Particle Irradiation"



by one or by two ion beams simultaneously

Estimation of ion flux & ion flux monitoring

For each beamline two pair of slits in front of large Faraday cup define irradiation area A, enabling precise estimation of ion flux





Adjustable slits at both beamlines (Max ±15 mm vertical & horizontal) enables constant monitoring of ion flux (by multiplexer and pA-meter)





Each FC is 35 mm in diameter, w. Electron Suppressor & Thermal Shield "Ion Beam Wobbling" is applied for ion irradiation

of fusion materials, i.e. Ion beam prior to 10 kHz scanning is spreaded to cover 70% of irradiated area, and scanning is applied for homogenization of irradiation dose



Dose-gradient irradiation is under Development; preliminary tests have been performed by darkening of Kapton foils by 10 MeV Cu ions





Mitigation of Carbon contamination of sample during ion irradiation:

- Vacuum in chamber: 3·10⁻⁸ mbar
- Plasma Cleaning of sample & chamber by Oxygen plasma
- LN2 Cold traps in chamber and at both beamlines
- Residual Gass Analysis to check presence of CO2, CO, CH4,...



Radiation monitoring and personnel dosimetry at IFMIF-DONES



IFMIF-DONES

decommissioning strategy





Development of Micro-Loss Monitors – neutron detectors for DONES accelerator





Assessment of neutron induced damage in electronics at DONES





Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy laser systems for lithium evaporation monitoring by IF



Assessment of error propagation in tuning of DONES accelerator by FESB





Design of Heavy Rope Crane – HROC – for removal of concrete lids at Test Cell at IFMIF-DONES



Design of Access Cell Mast Crane – ACMC – for maintenance of Test Cell and TIR at IFMIF-DONES







Remote Handling integration RBI & FSB in partnership with INETEC



Seismic assessment for cranes By FSB





IFMIF-DONES Facility





HR-ES MoU on DONES (2018) -- From competitors for hosting of IFMIF-DONES to partners in its development



Croatian Consortium for IFMIF-DONES, est. in 2022

Spanish - Croatian site at Escúzar, 18 km southwest from Granada, selected by EU





Signing of HR-ES MoU on starting of DONES in Zagreb, Nov. 2022, in presence of two heads of states





Key Cranes – HROC & ACMC, with Aux. Equipment **DONES.HR**







Access Cell Mast Crane (ACMC) for maintenance of Test Cell and TIR room





Parallel Kinetic manipulator

Heavy Rope Crane (HROC) for precise positioning of 100+ tons concrete lids at **Test Cell of DONES**

Croatian Contribution

Target Interface Room

The key TIR section of the IFMIF-DONES accelerator consists of four modules, with all sorts of sensor systems to diagnose the incredibly powerful ion beam of 5 MW and laser systems for characterization of "waterfall" of molten lithium.





CRDS Laser system for lithium evaporation monitoring **Designed by**



Heat Exchangers HEX-2 and HEX-3 for Lithium Loop







Setup for DONES Accelerator System Ion Beam Diagnostics Testing

Setup for DONES Accelerator System Radiation Detectors Testing

DiFU dual-beam facility for ion beam irradiation and pre-selection of fusion materials

New RBI accelerator center: DONES Support Facilities – in use for DONES Program beyond 2030



IFMIF-DONES ENABLES FUSION POWER

For the first fusion power plant to work, a series of complex research and testing of technologies and materials will be conducted.

Here, a collaboration between academia and industry will be crucial.





