

**sck cen**

Belgian Nuclear Research Centre

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[European Cryogenic Days](#)

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# **MINERVA Cryomodules and associated Cryogenic System (MYRRHA Phase 1)**

SCK CEN/ [54524099](#)

# Scope

1. MYRRHA Phase 1 (=MINERVA)
2. MINERVA's SRF LINAC and Cryogenic System
3. Spoke Cryomodules (prototype and series)
4. Summary

# MYRRHA

... and MINERVA (= MYRRHA Phase 1)

# Why MYRRHA?

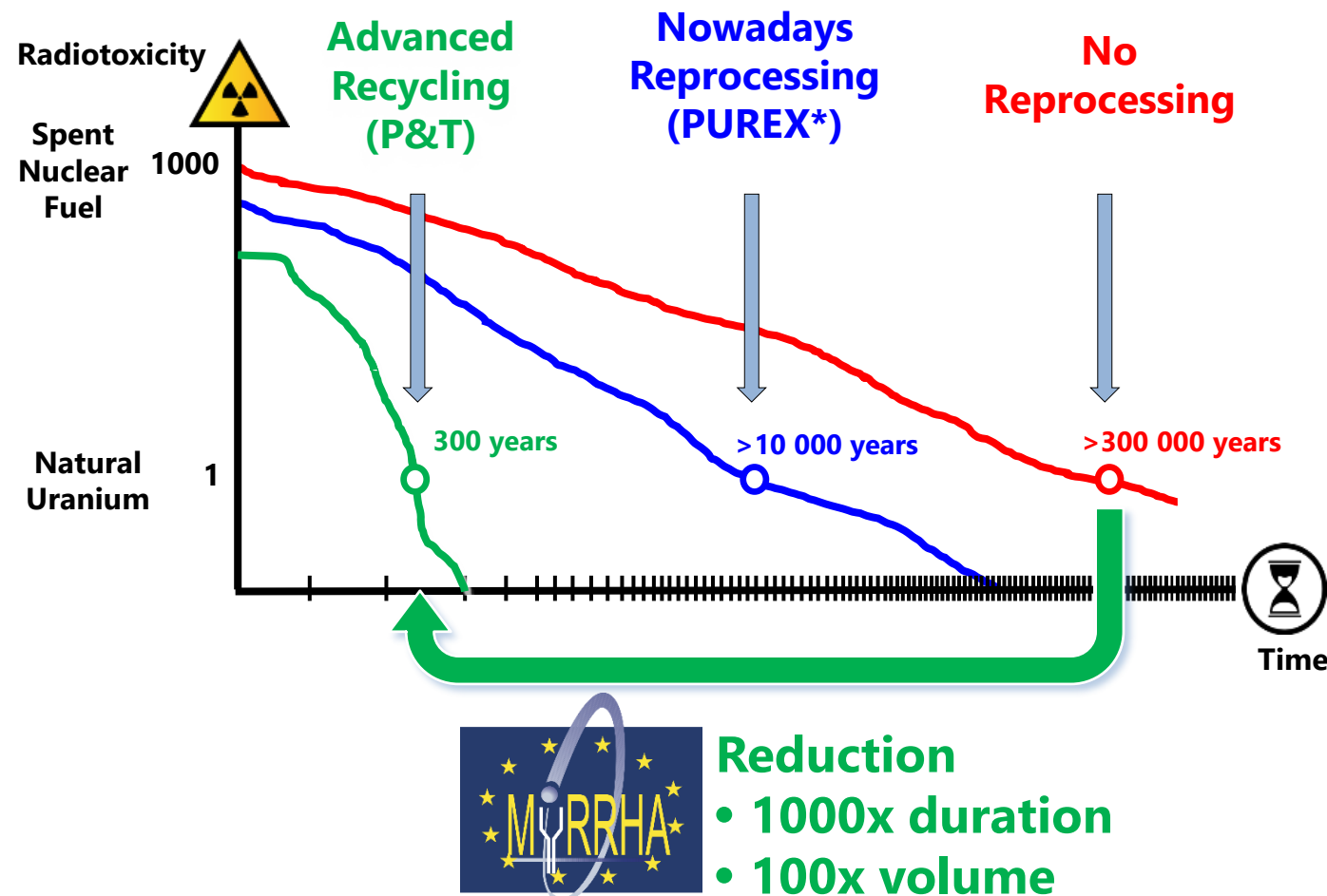
- **Nuclear waste treatment**

- Allow for **Partitioning & Transmutation** of nuclear waste in order to reduce its radio-toxicity.
- Reduction of 100x in volume and 1000x in duration.

- Other applications

- **Flexible irradiation** in replacement of the SCK CEN MTR BR2 (100 MW).
- **Fast spectrum testing**. An attractive facility in Europe, beyond 2010 complementary to RJH (FR).
- Production of medical radio-isotopes
- Education and training

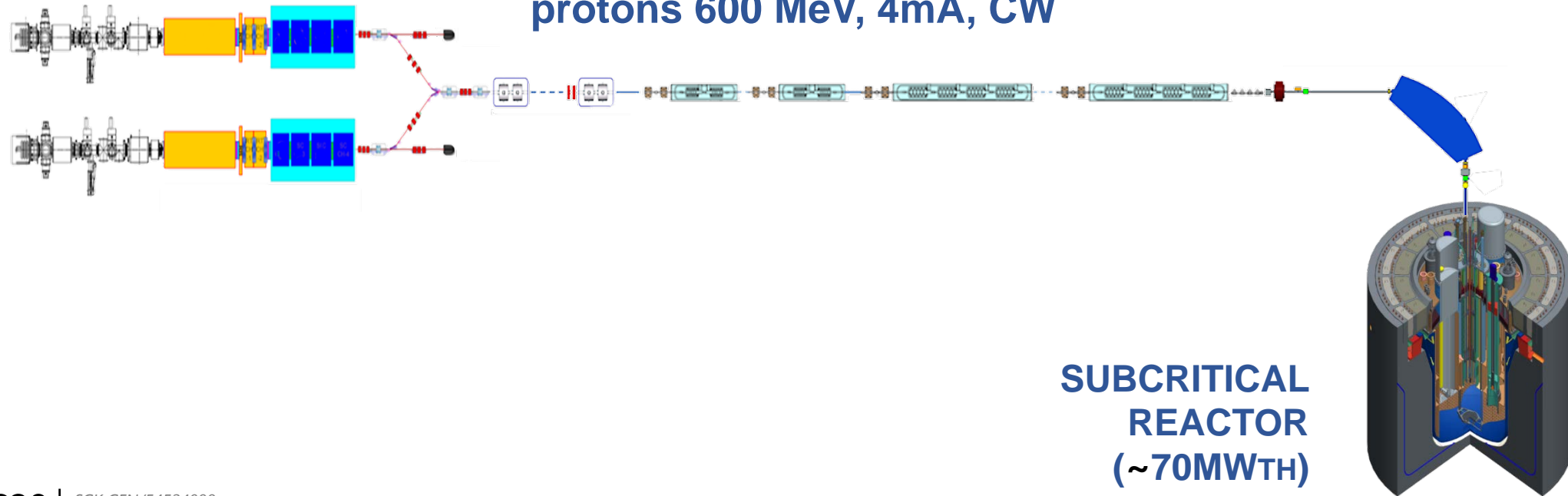
## Reduction of radio-toxicity of nuclear waste



# The MYRRHA Project

- **MYRRHA**, a **M**ultipurpose **hY**brid **R**esearch **R**eactor for **H**igh-tech **A**pplications
- MYRRHA is an **A**ccelerator **D**riven **S**ystem (ADS)
  - A full ADS demo facility at pre-industrial scale, where a "subcritical" reactor core is coupled to a proton accelerator.
  - The particle beam is needed to sustain the nuclear reaction.

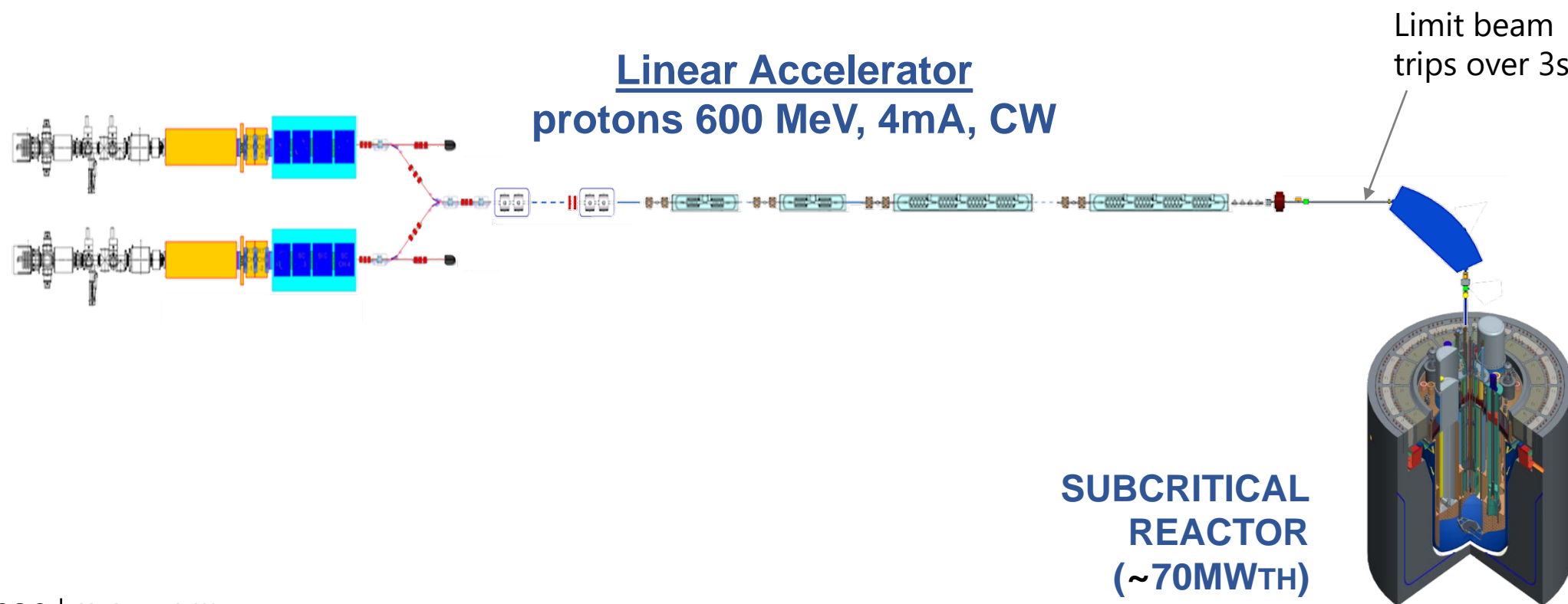
Linear Accelerator  
protons 600 MeV, 4mA, CW



If the linac stops,  
the reactor stops.

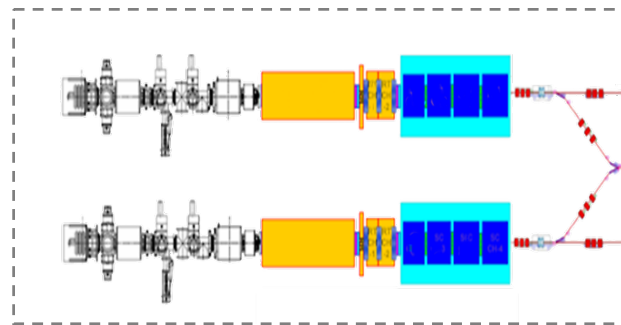
# Reliability is a core requirement

- **Beam trips...**
  - ... cause severe thermal stress on the reactor materials/components limiting its lifetime.
  - ... lead to a time-consuming restart of the reactor limiting its availability.
- Reliability requirement
  - Beam trips shall be resolved within 3 seconds to be transparent to the reactor
  - Max 10 beam trips > 3s within 90 day operational run (MTBF > 250 h)



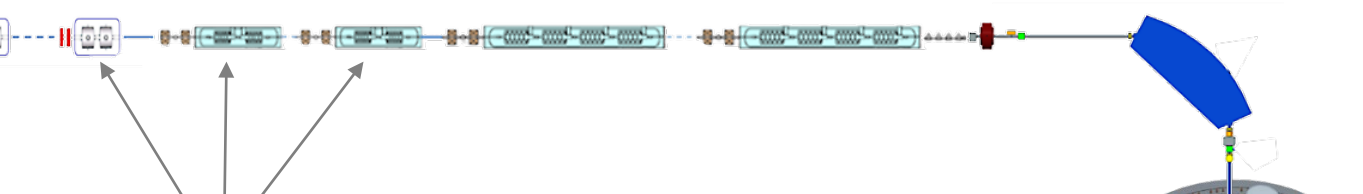
# Fault tolerance, key to achieve high reliability

- Fault tolerance in MYRRHA
  - Parallel redundancy of injector section
  - Serial redundancy in superconducting RF (SRF) linac (online systems take over workload of failed systems)
- Only 3 seconds for failure detection, reconfiguration, and full beam power ramp
- For trips on RF systems, local and global compensation schemes are under study



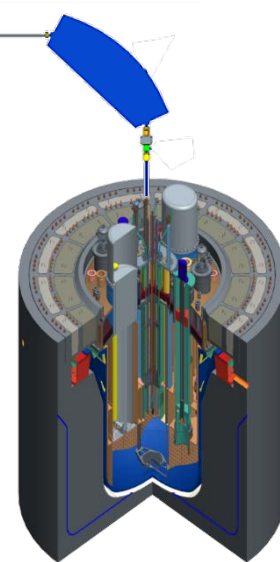
2 injectors in parallel for parallel redundancy

## Linear Accelerator protons 600 MeV, 4mA, CW

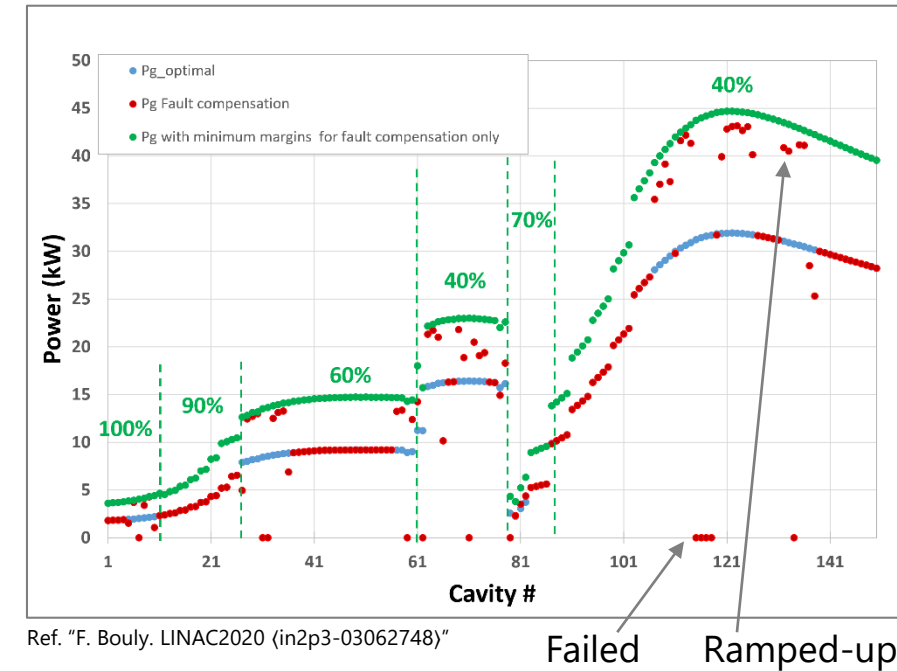


RF systems with sufficient operational margin for serial redundancy

**SUBCRITICAL  
REACTOR  
(~70MW<sub>th</sub>)**



## Fault compensation of RF systems



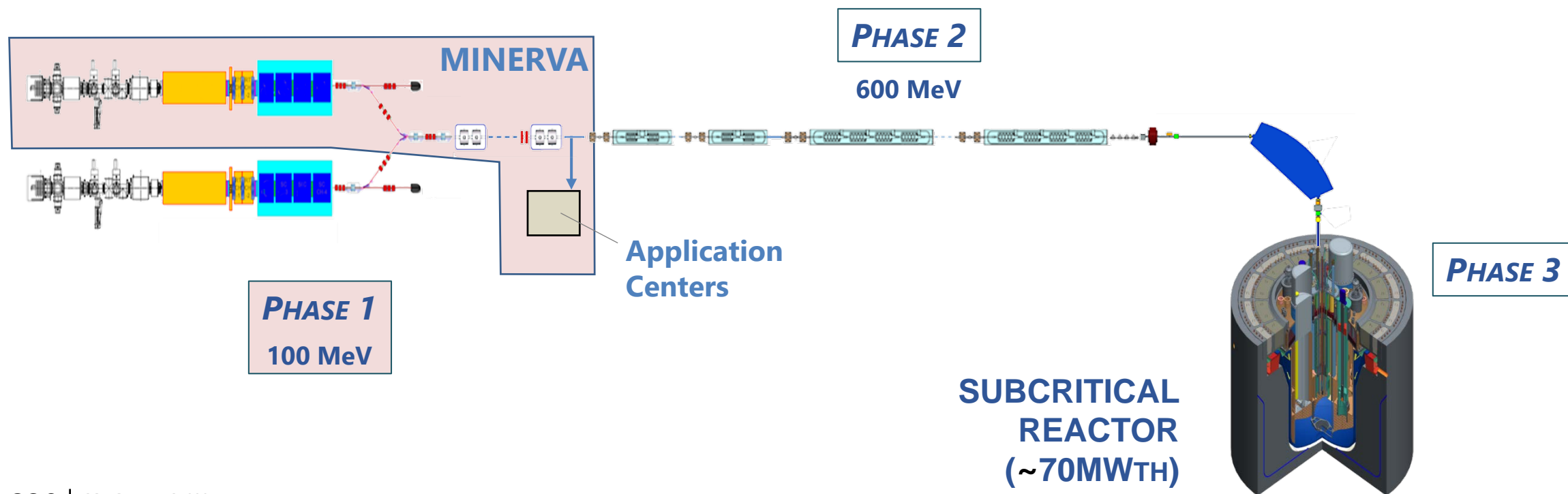
# The 3 Stages of MYRRHA (1/2)

Phase 1 = **MINERVA** (fully funded since 2018)

- **100 MeV**, 4mA CW, SRF proton linac available at SCK CEN by **2027**
- Key objective: To **demonstrate reliability** as required for an Accelerator Driven System (ADS)
- Application Centers: ISOL system (100 MeV, 0.2 to 0.5 mA of beam), Full Power Facility (fusion material research, 400 kW)

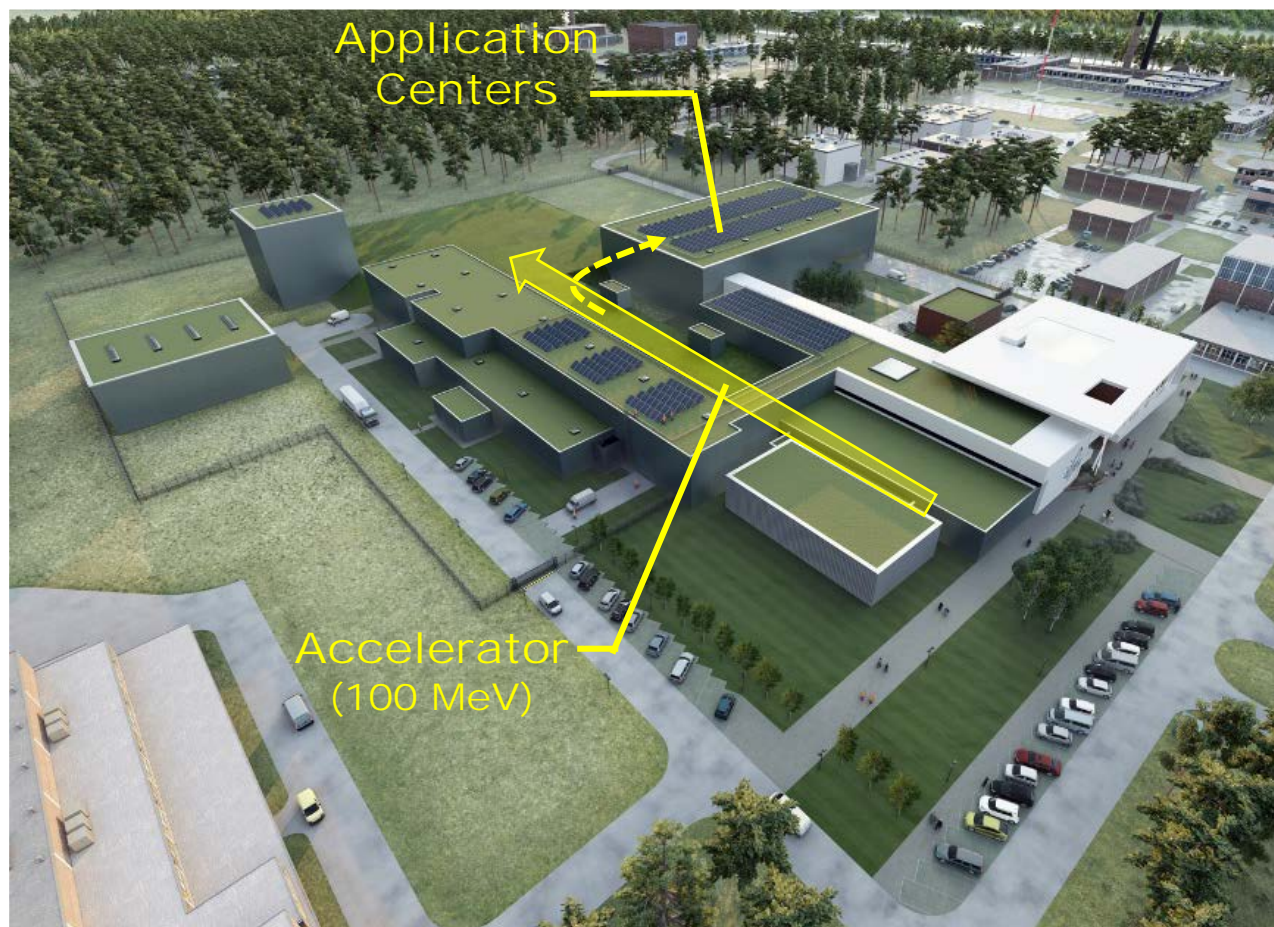
Phase 2 (expansion to 600 MeV) & Phase 3 (reactor)

- Funds available for R&D
- Subject to international funding for implementation

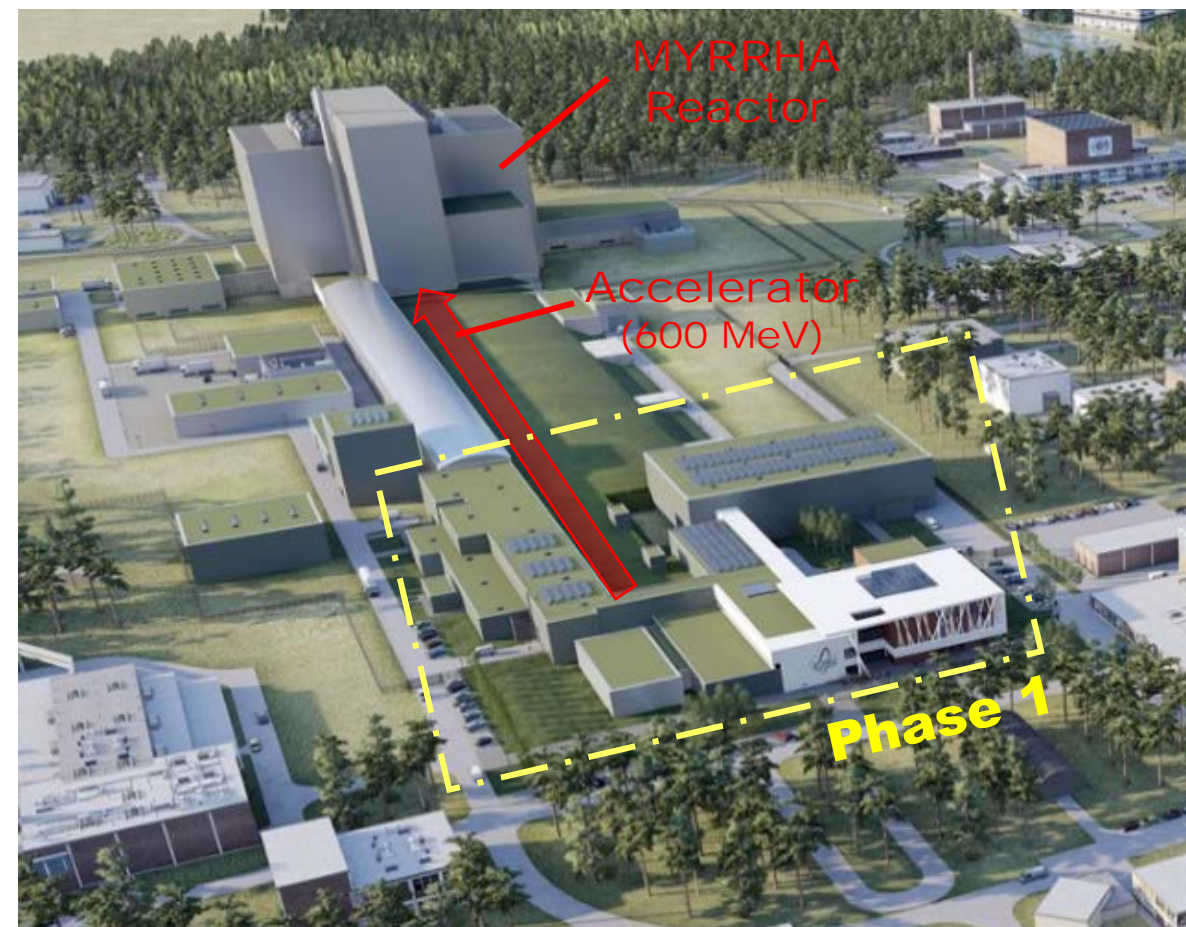




## MYRRHA Phase 1 (= MINERVA)

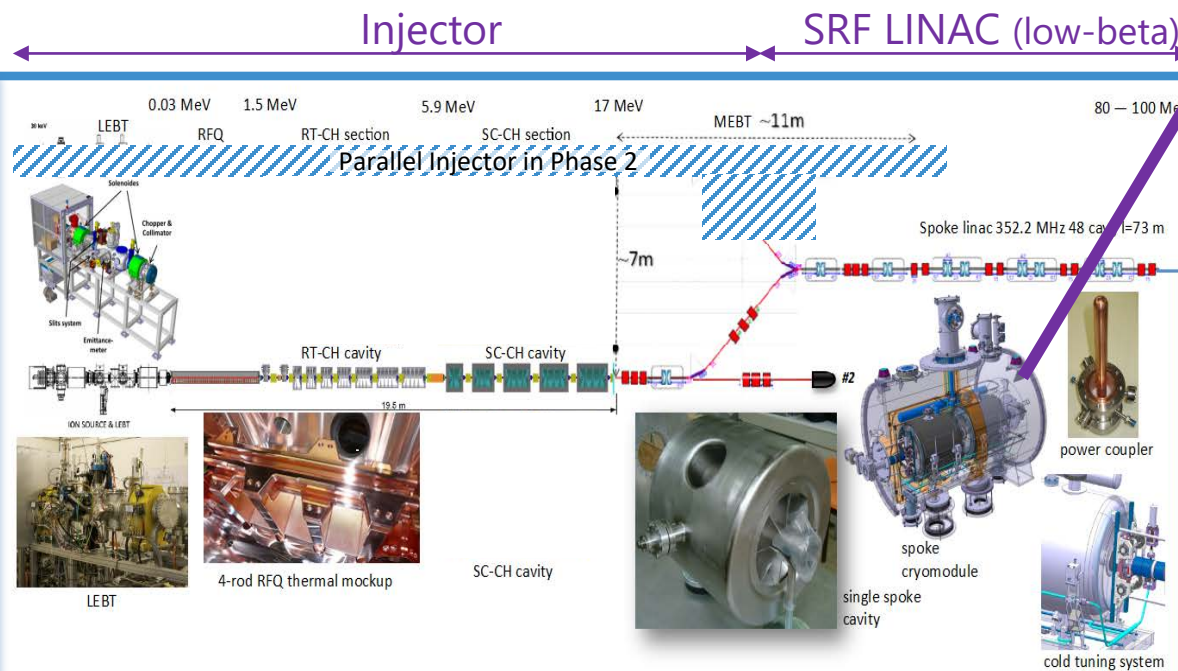


## MYRRHA (fully implemented)

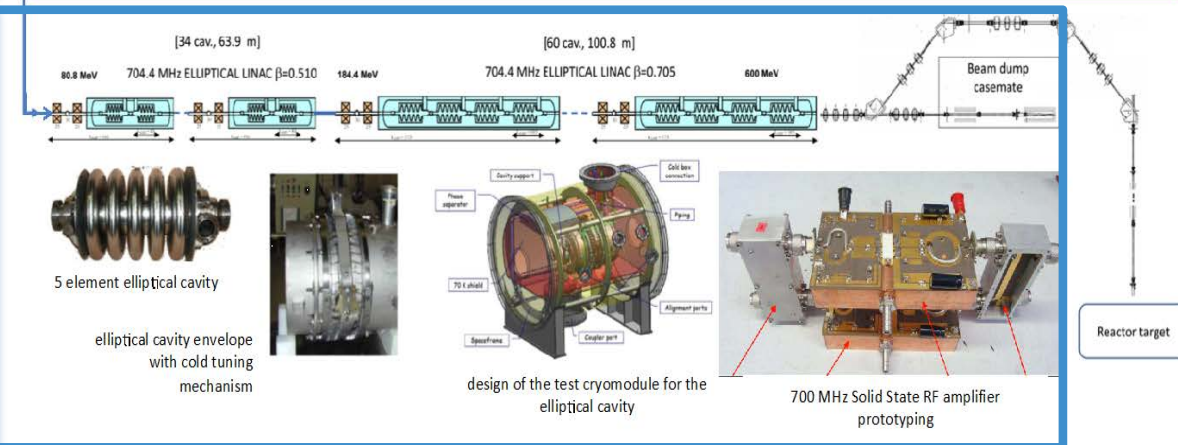




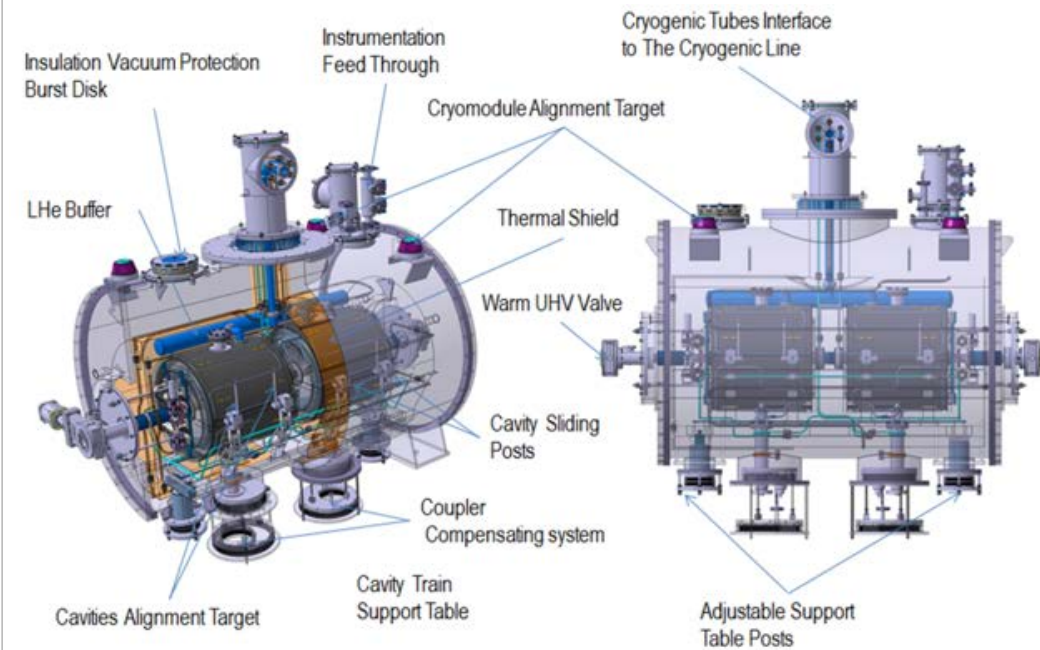
## Phase 1 – 100 MeV



## Phase 2 – 600 MeV

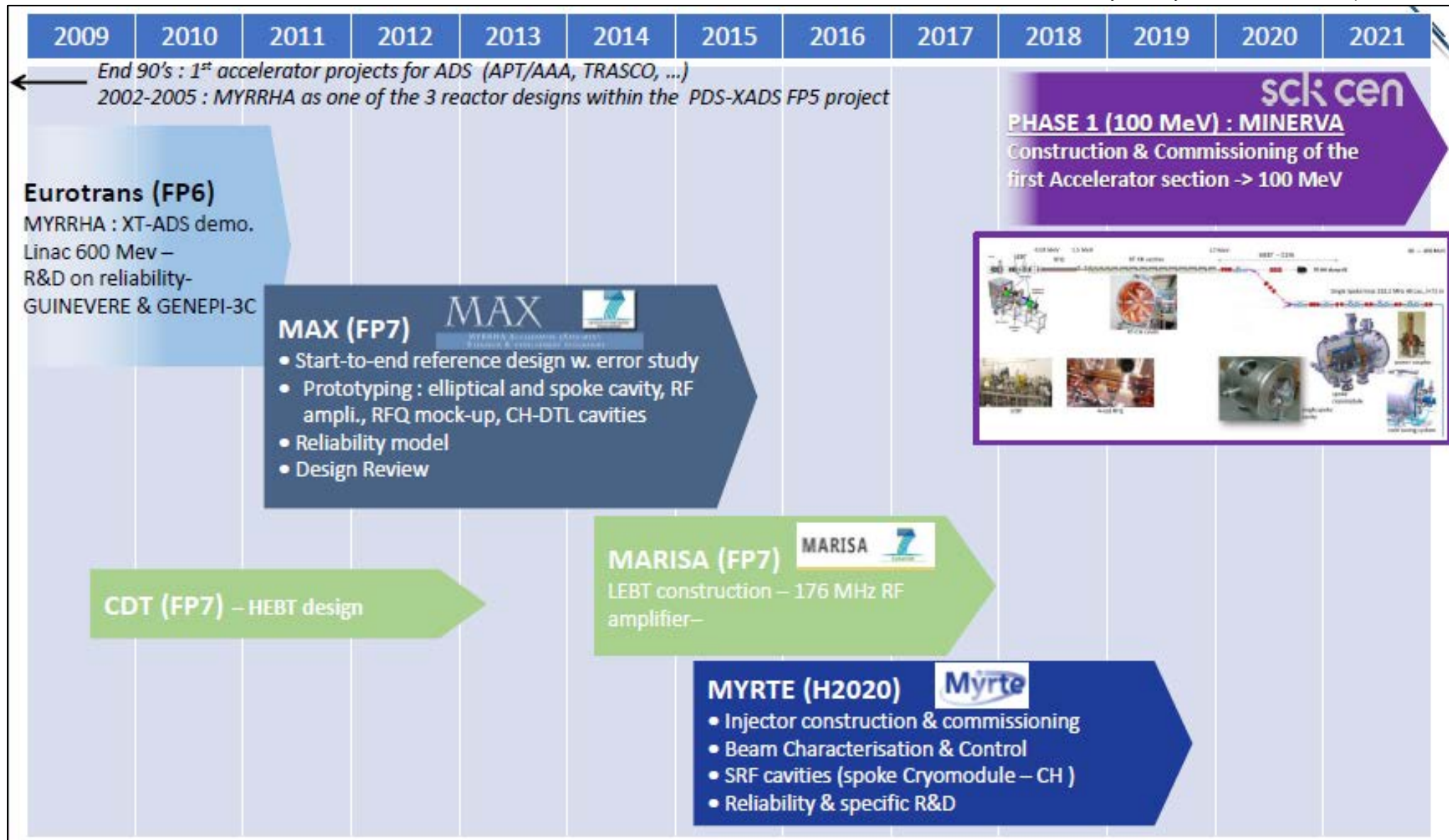


## Low-Beta Cryomodules



MINERVA comprises of 30x cryomodules.

- All **identical in design**
  - 2 Kelvin operation ( $\sim 20W$  @ 2K \*)
  - $\dot{Q}_{Total} = \sim 70W$  @ 4.5K \*
  - Vacuum Vessel: L1.9m x  $\varnothing$ 1.2m
- Each housing **2x single-spoke** SRF cavities
  - $E_{acc\_nom} = 7.0$  MV/m (\* = at  $E_{acc\_nom}$ )
  - $E_{acc\_max} = 9.1$  MV/m
  - $f_0 = 352.20$  MHz
  - $Q_0 > 5.2 \times 10^9$ \*



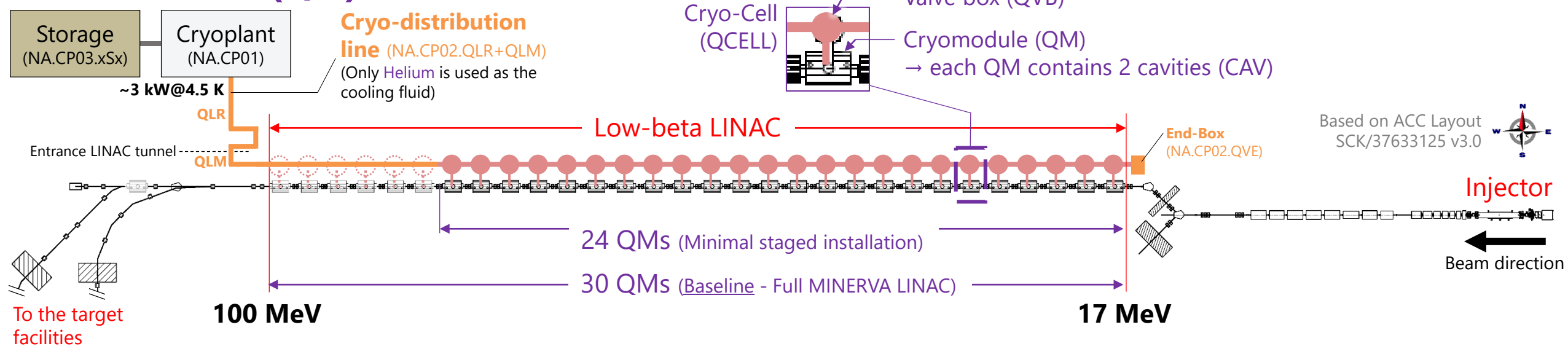
- Many background studies and designs performed during the last decades
- MINERVA is today in the implementation phase (incl. design consolidation)

# MINERVA's SC LINAC

*a 100 MeV, superconducting proton linac*



# The SC LINAC (1/2)



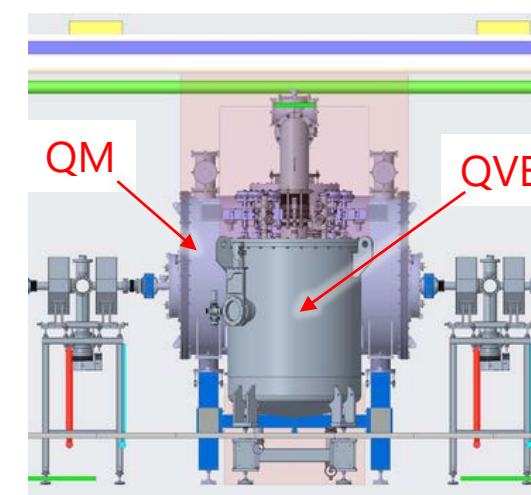
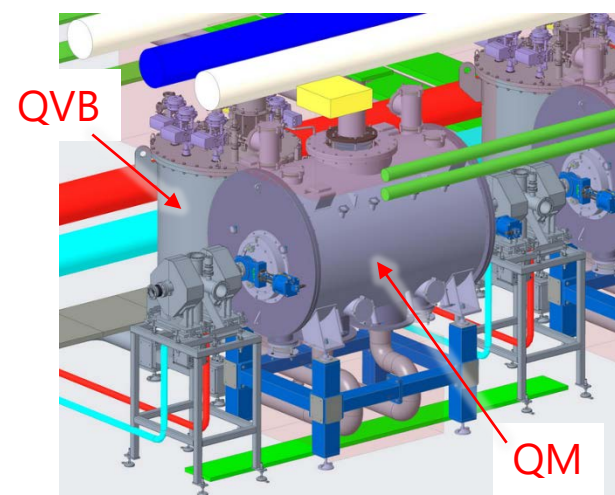
## MINERVA Operational Scenarios.

| Fault-tolerance (FT) Scheme | SC LINAC configuration |           |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------|
|                             | 24 QMs                 | 30 QMs    |
| Full FT                     | 70 MeV                 | 100 MeV   |
| Standard FT                 | 100 MeV                | (125 MeV) |

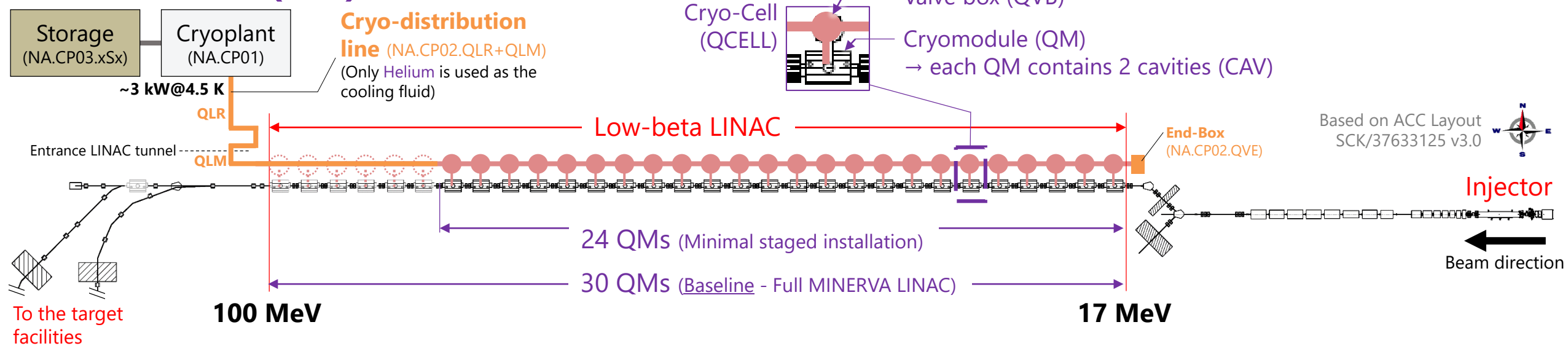
- Delivered proton-beam energy (MeV) depends on the actual machine configuration and fault-tolerance scheme.
- Design point for CRYO is "Full FT/30 QMs"

## The "Cryo-Cell" (QCELL = QM + QVB)

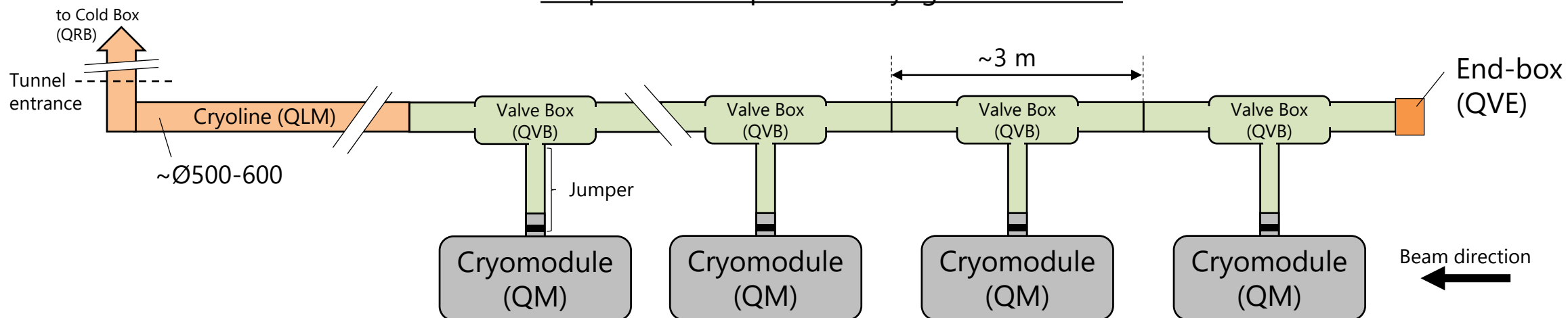
- All MINERVA QCELLs are **identical in design**, but have different operating points (→ **different dynamic heat-loads!**).
- The QCELLs are the **only** cryogenic "users".



# The SC LINAC (2/2)



## Simplified concept of the cryogenic backbone

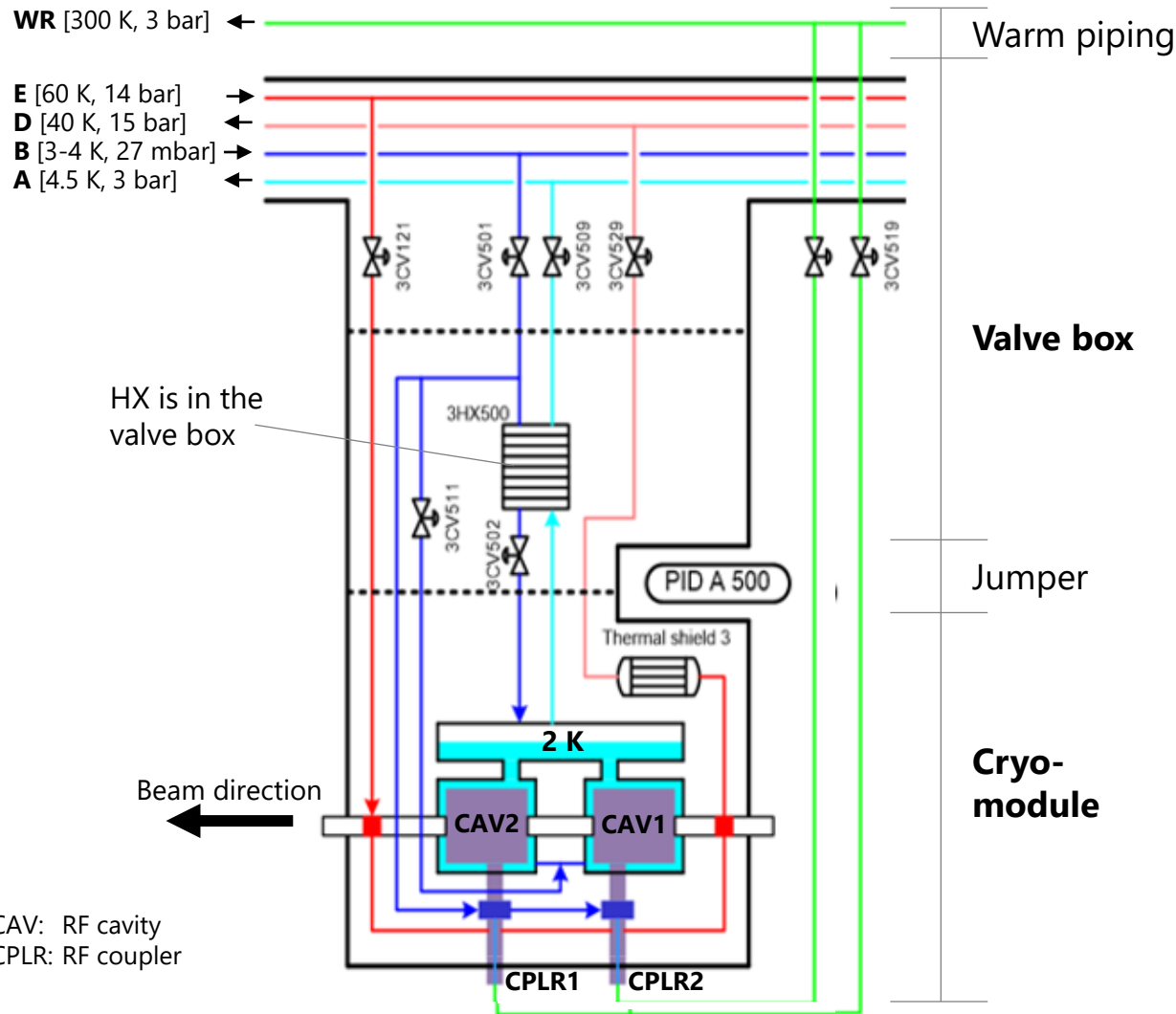


# The Cryo-Cell (QCELL)

= valve box (QVB) + cryomodule (QM)

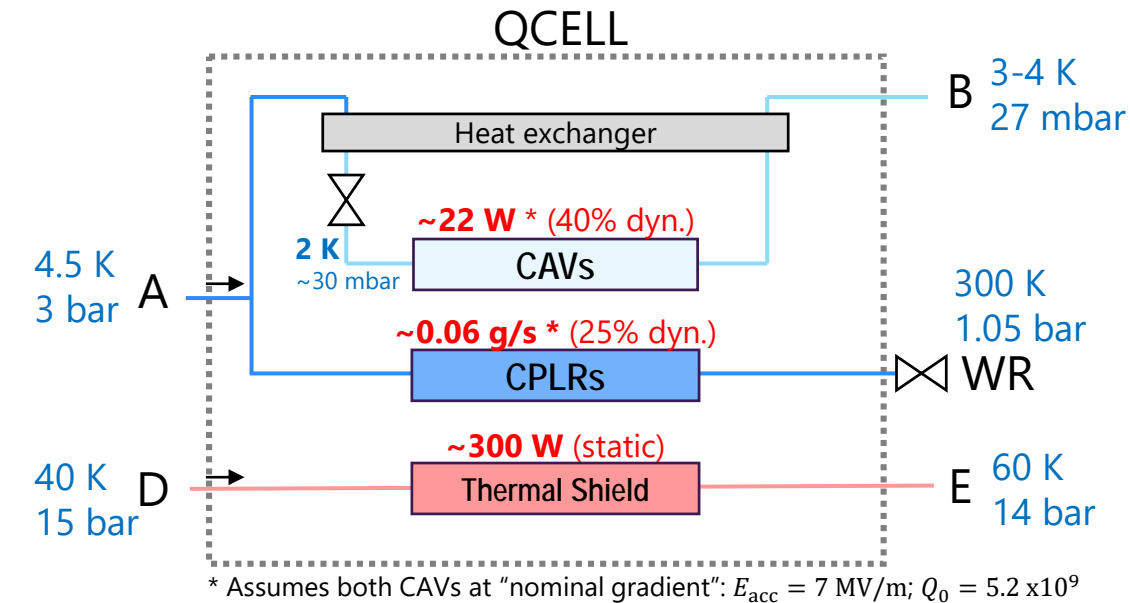
## Preliminary PFD

Courtesy of CEA/DSBT, modified



## Simplified cooling circuits of a QCELL as seen by the cryo-distribution

- Final interfaces and T, p values to result from cryoplant optimization.
- Heat load values [W] still preliminary and without margin. The dynamic contribution [%] is indicated.



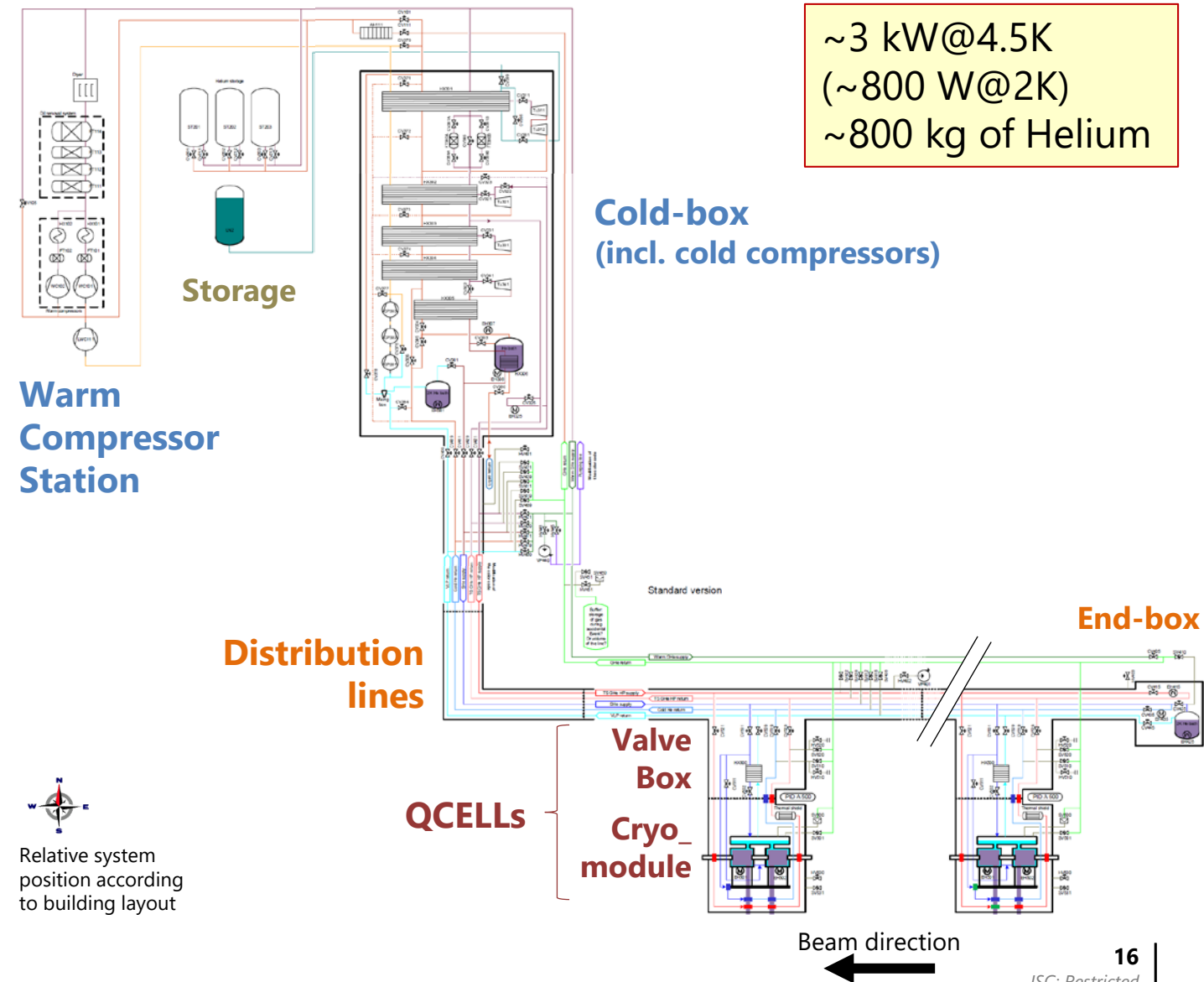
Total per QCELL (without margin):  
➤ ~80 W @4.5 K equivalent

# The overall Cryogenic System (preliminary design)

- A preliminary design of the MINERVA Cryoplant developed by CEA/DSBT. The conceptual design phase is now ongoing.
- Some changes already planned for the new iteration (i.e. modification of coupler cooling circuits)
- For the cryoplant, 2 industrial pre-studies were finalized in Q1-2023 by Linde (LKT) & Air Liquide (AL-aT). The studies addressed the refrigeration process, equipment, and dimensions.

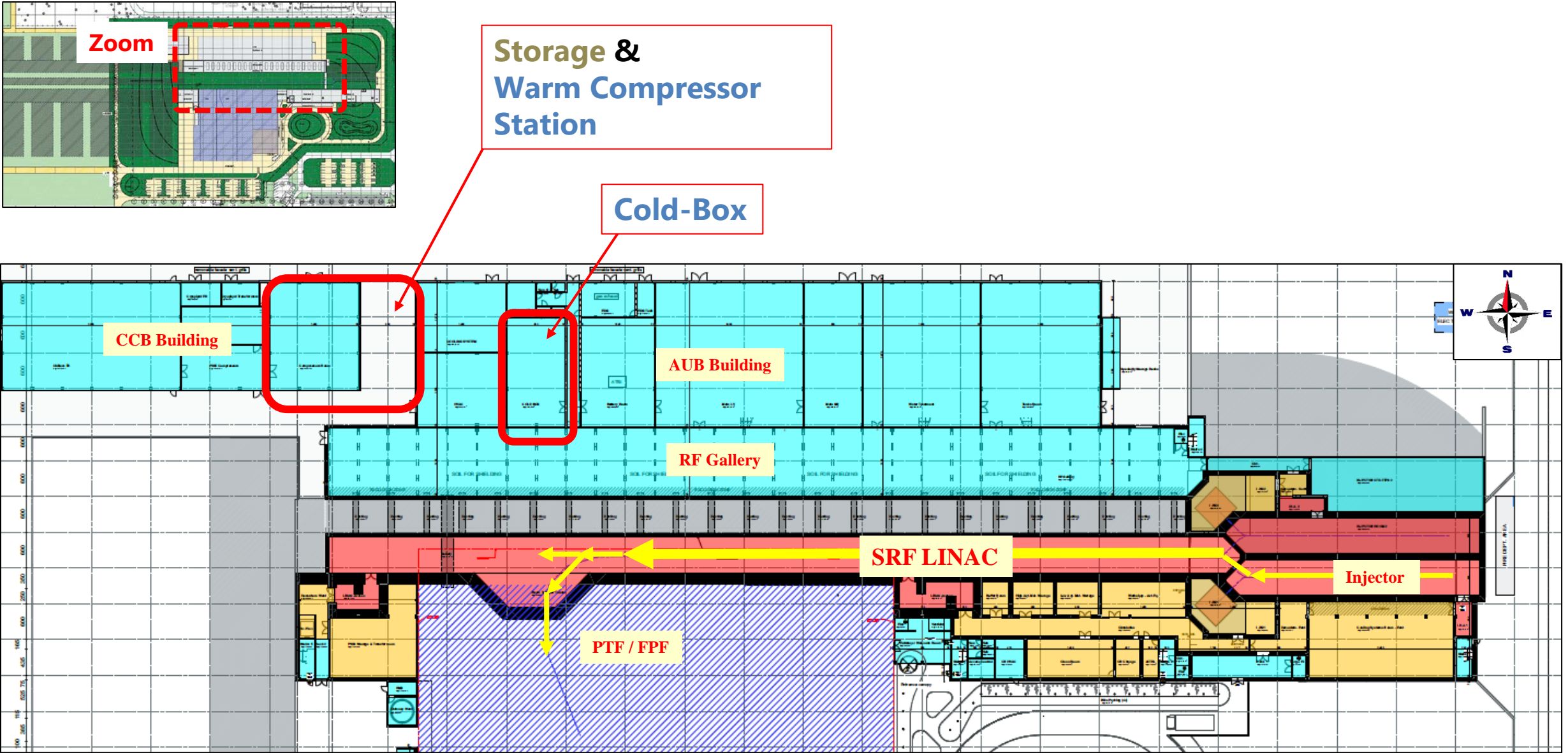
## PFD of the overall Cryogenic System

Courtesy of DSBT, simplified. Coupler cooling circuits not yet modified



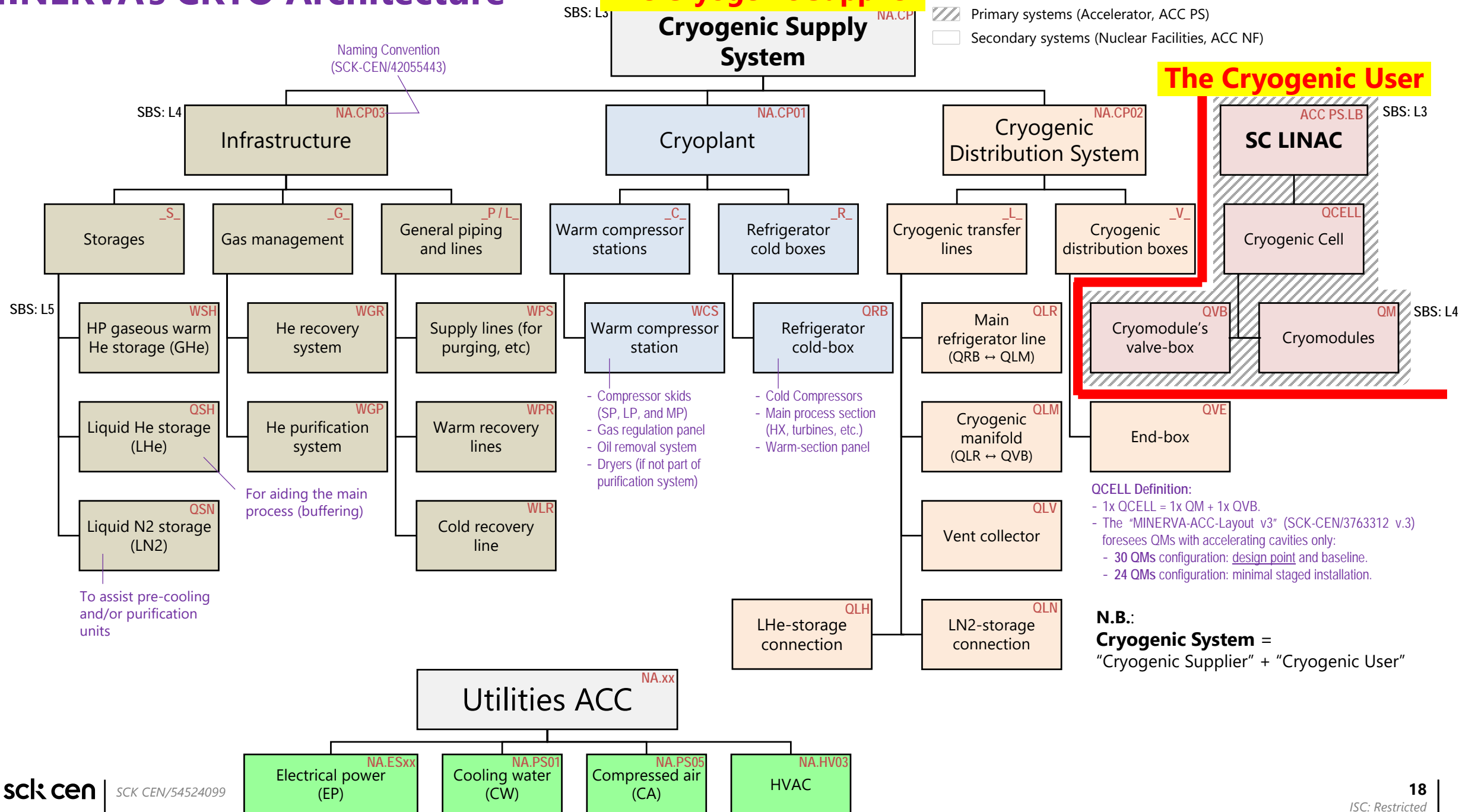


# Building Architecture



## The Cryogenic Supplier

## The Cryogenic User



# SCK CEN-Teams for MINERVA Cryogenic System (ATS, ICS, and NFS)

## Cryogenic Supply System ("Cryogenic Supplier")

Branches:

1. Cryoplant (compressor station + cold box)
  2. Cryo Distribution System (excl. QVB)
  3. Infrastructure (gas storage, gas management etc.)
- [+ Ancillary systems (utilities)]

**NFS**  
Nuclear  
Facilities

## Controls

**NFS  
Group**

UMBS  
(Utility Building  
Management  
System)

**Cryogenic  
Supply System**

**CRYO  
for  
MINERVA**

## Cryo-Cells ("Cryogenic User")

SC LINAC with 30x Cryo-Cells  
(QCELL = QM + QVB)

**ATS**  
Accelerator  
Technologies and  
Systems

**CIS  
Group**

ICS  
(Integrated  
Control System)

**QM Design &  
Prototyping Tests**

- Prototype design
- Prototype manufacturing
- Laboratory testing

**QCELL Design &  
Implementation**

- Series design consolidation
- Industrialization (tendering, etc)
- Installation & Commissioning

# SCK CEN-Teams for MINERVA Cryogenic System (ATS, ICS, and NFS)

**+ Collaborations  
+ Suppliers**

## Cryogenic Supply System ("Cryogenic Supplier")

Branches:

1. Cryoplant (compressor station + cold box)
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**Cryogenic  
Supply System**



**NFS**  
Nuclear  
Facilities



**Controls**

**NFS  
Group**

UMBS  
(Utility Building  
Management  
System)

**CRYO  
for  
MINERVA**

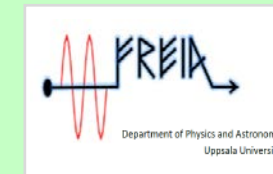
## Cryo-Cells ("Cryogenic User")

SC LINAC with 30x Cryo-Cells  
(QCELL = QM + QVB)

**QM Design &  
Prototyping Tests**



**QCELL Design &  
Implementation**



**ATS**  
Accelerator  
Technologies and  
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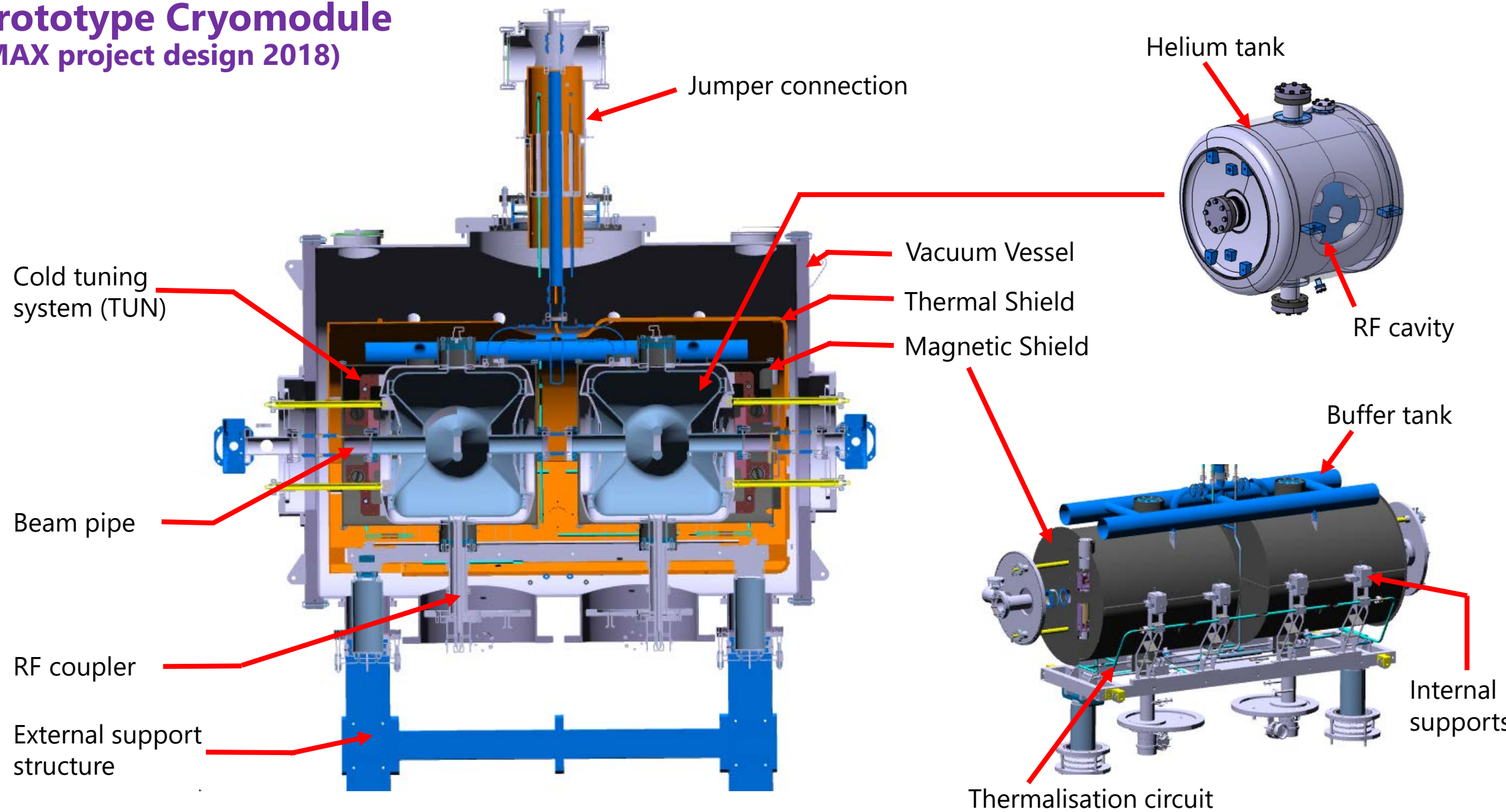


# Low-beta Cryomodules

*Prototype and series*



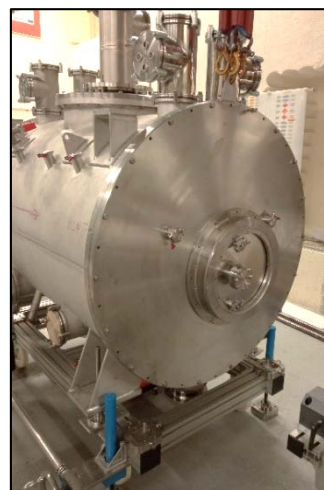
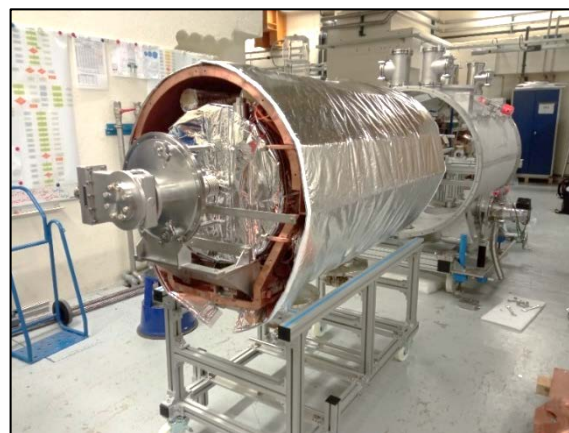
# Prototype Cryomodule (MAX project design 2018)





# Prototype Cryomodule (MAX project design 2018)

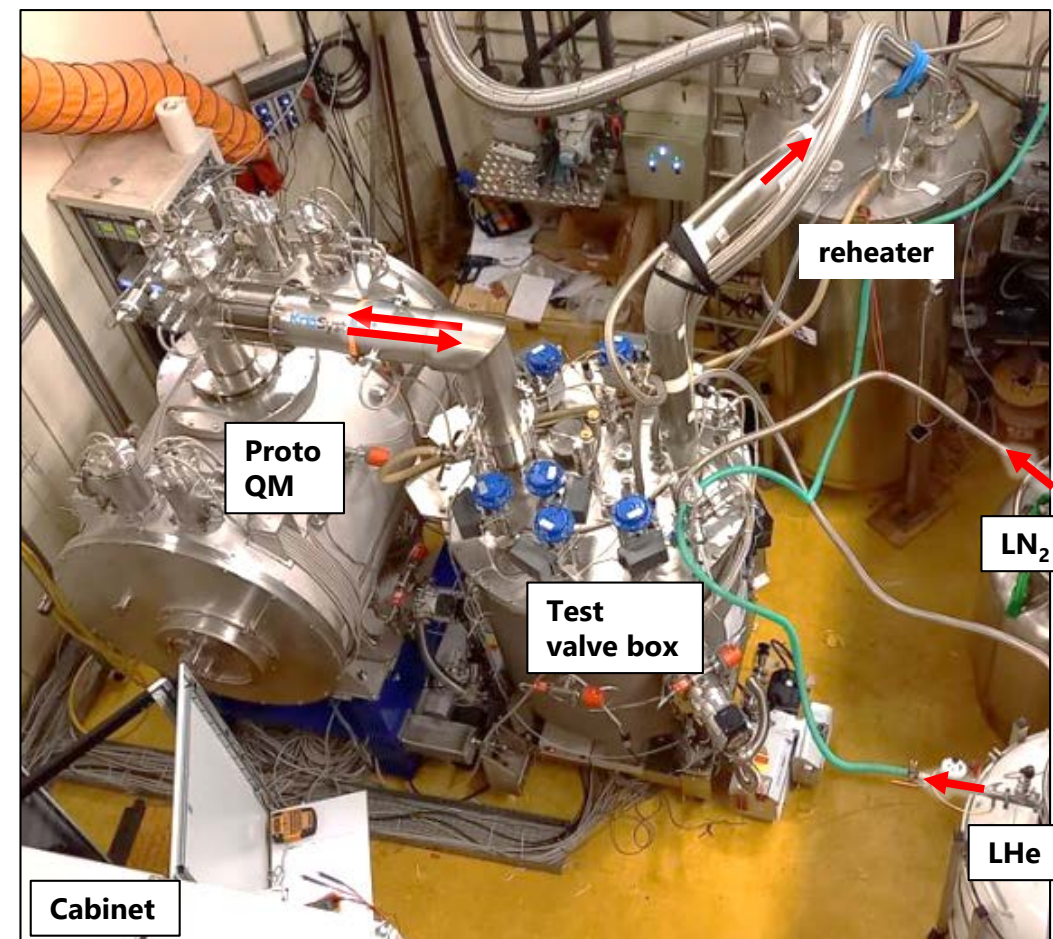
## Prototype cryomodule for MINERVA



## Cryomodule fully assembled in 2022

- Valuable return of experience (assembly sequence, etc...)

## Test campaign at IJCLab



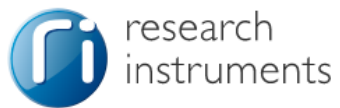
## Test campaign 2023

- Without RF: done, currently under analysis
- With RF: Starting this week

# Series Cryomodule Production

## Spoke cavities

- SC spoke cavities adjudicated to Research Instruments (GER)
- **First pre-series cavity** (CAV-LB-03) in surface post-processing flow
- Main post-processing steps achieved successfully
  - BCP (rotary plant)
  - High-pressure rinsing
  - High-temperature heat treatment



First pre-series cavity



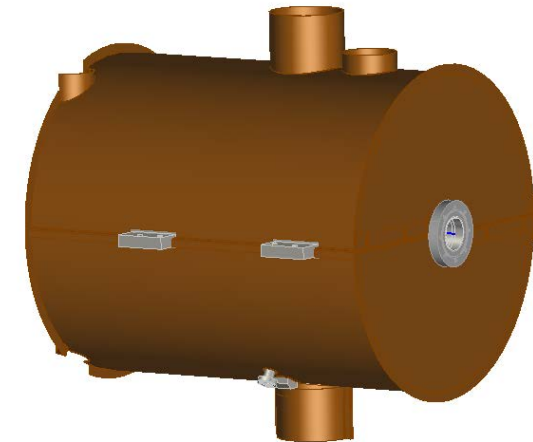
*Internal spoke contour*



*Cavity inside helium tank*

## Magnetic shield

- Magnetic shields adjudicated to MECA Magnetic (FR)
- Series production started (kick-off Jan-2023)

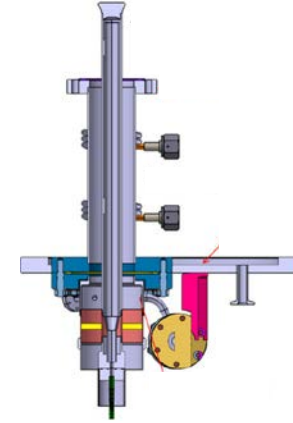




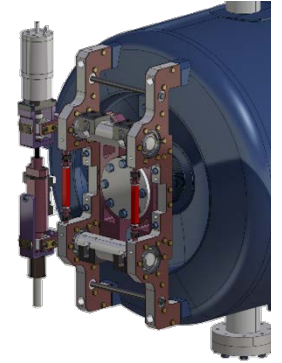
# Series Cryomodule Production

- Design consolidation is ongoing for the remaining cryomodule components
  - RF power coupler
  - Cold tuning system
  - Cryostat
- The mechanical design of the valve box is ongoing
- Example of current activities
  - Implementation of latest return of experience
  - Cross-checking design and performance requirements
  - Update of 3D models and integration check
  - Preparation of tender documentation
- All components will be tendered based on detailed 3D models. The manufacturing drawings are to be prepared by the supplier.

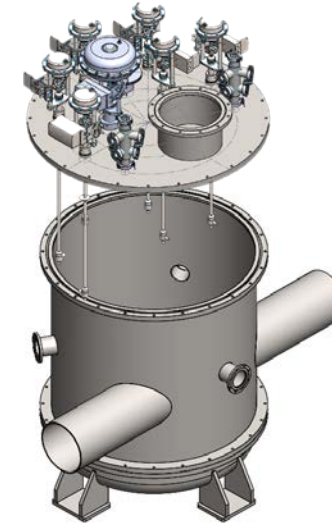
Components under design consolidation  
in view of call for tender



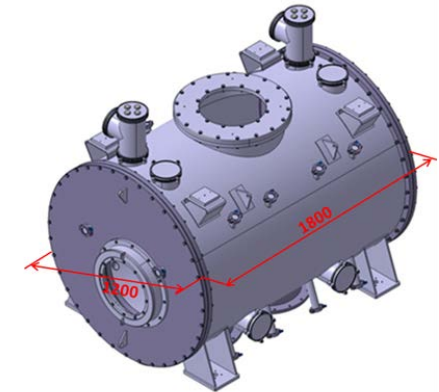
RF power coupler



Cold tuning system



Valve box



Cryostat

# Summary

*of MINERVA cryomodules and associated cryogenic system*

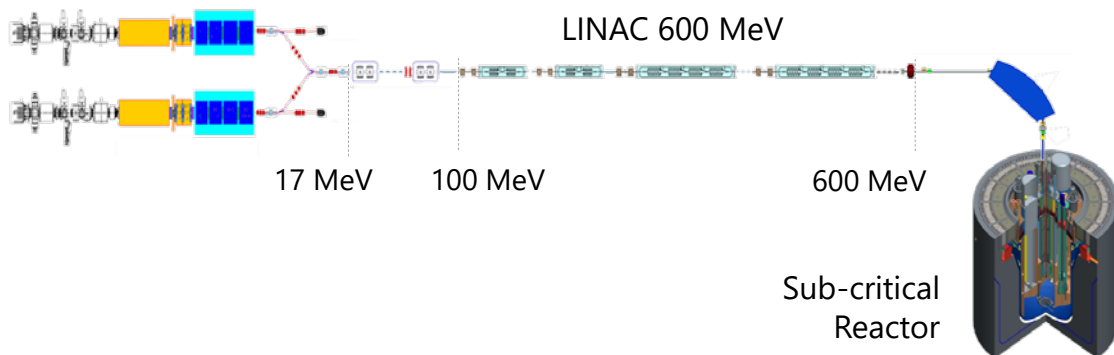
# Summary

## MYRRHA

- Accelerator Driven System (ADS) comprised of **600 MeV linac** and **subcritical reactor**
- Key use case is **Partitioning & Transmutation** of nuclear waste
- Reliability: MTBF > 250h for beam trips over 3s

## MINERVA = MYRRHA Phase 1

- Proton linac, **100 MeV**, 4mA, CW
- 30x identical **cryomodules**, with 2x **spoke cavities** each. Nominal operation at **2 K**
- Beam on **2027**



## Low-beta Cryo-Cell (=Cryomodule + Valve Box)

- $\dot{Q}_{2K} = \sim 20W$  (40% dyn)
- $\dot{Q}_{Total} = \sim 80W$  @ 4.5K equivalent (without margin)

## Main cryo activities for 2023

- **Prototype tests** for cryogenics and RF systems
- **Series production** of cavities and magnetic shields
- **Design consolidation** in view of **call for tender** for the remaining components
- **Conceptual design** of Cryoplant + Distribution

Prototype Cryomodule



Series Spoke Cavity



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Centre d'Etude de l'Energie Nucléaire

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Stichting van Openbaar Nut  
Fondation d'Utilité Publique

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