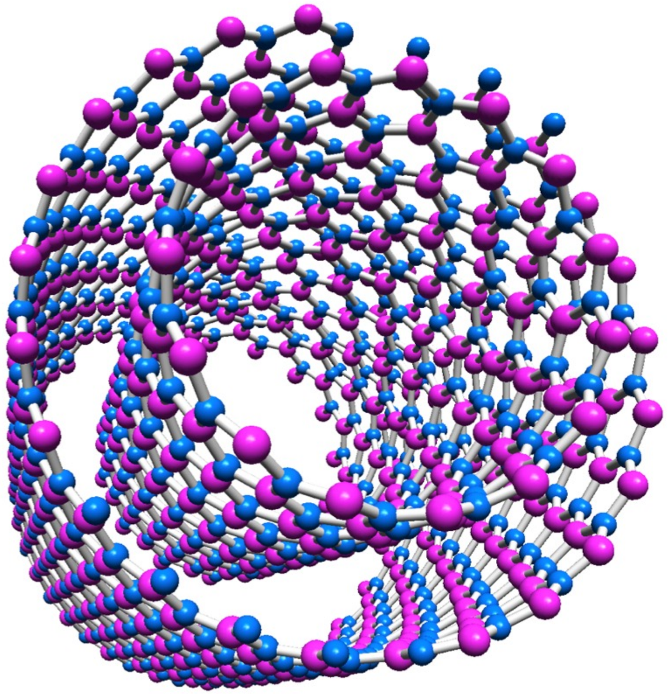
Boron Nitride Nanotube (BNNT) Vibration Damping for SRF Structures

BNNT LLC: Roy Whitney, PI
Jefferson Lab Co-PI: Tom Powers
George Biallas, Project Engineer, Hyperboloid LLC

14 August 2024



Viscoelastic behavior results from BNNT molecules rubbing against one another. Boron-nitrogen bonds contain a partial dipole believed to produce nanoscale friction that generates phonons in (and between) BNNT molecules that dissipate vibrational energy as heat. Conversely, carbon nanotubes (CNTs) do not exhibit viscoelasticity because the aromatic, nonpolar carbon-carbon bonds have lubricious behavior like graphite.

georgebiallas@gmail.com, powers@jlab.org, rrwhitney@bnnt.com

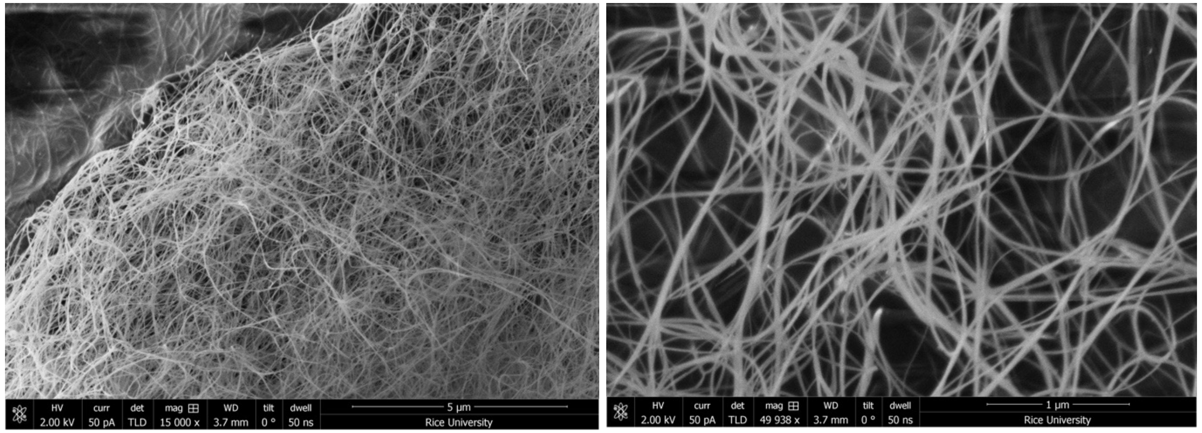
Commercializing Revolutionary New Material

- **Commercialized high-temperature/high-pressure (HTP) method for synthesizing BNNTs**
  - Results in more highly flexible, ultra-strong, lightweight, and highly crystalline BNNTs [independently validated vs. competitors]
  - New pilot plant enables kilogram quantities while exploring automation, maintenance projections, and other economies of scale for future scale-up

- **USG work:**
  - Cryogenic vibration damping (DOE) including FNAL
  - Radome materials (Navy - Carderock, Maryland)
  - Reusable hot structures (NASA)
  - Thermal management in high power electronics (Navy)
  - CRADA w/ Navy Air (China Lake, California)
    - Very broad, even PFAS water cleanup
  - Space Act Agreement (NASA-LaRC)

- **Commercial research center endeavors (partial sampling only):**
  - Electronics thermal management
  - High temperature ceramics
  - Power generation

NASA Invention of the Year

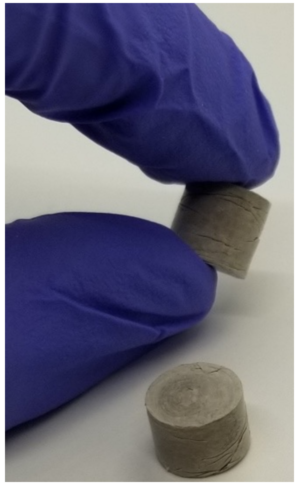


SEM micrograph of purified BNNT courtesy of M. Pasquali (Rice Univ.)

Pellets to Cartridges to Cavities

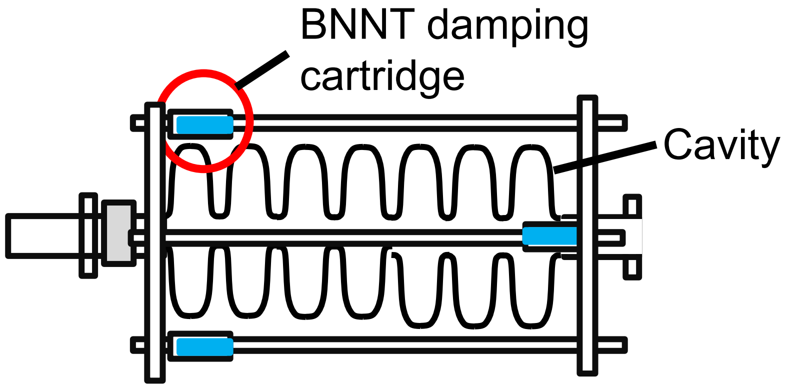
- SBIR Phase I: April 9, 2018 – April 8, 2019
  - Viscoelastic vibration damping at 2 K demonstrated in VTA
- SBIR Phase II: 28 May 2019 – 27 May 2021
  - Demonstrate vibration damping in C100 and LCLS-II SRF cavities
- SBIR Phase IIA: 18 June 2021– 31 December 2023
  - Demonstrate vibration damping in C100 and LCLS-II-HE SRF cavities and cryomodules
- CRADA: JSA-2018S005

BNNT pellets fabricated from compressed BNNTs:



Multiple BNNT pellets combined in each **cartridge** for required spring constant and compressive damping:

Four cartridges of BNNTs (three illustrated in blue) provide passive vibration damping of length oscillations of C100 SRF cavity:

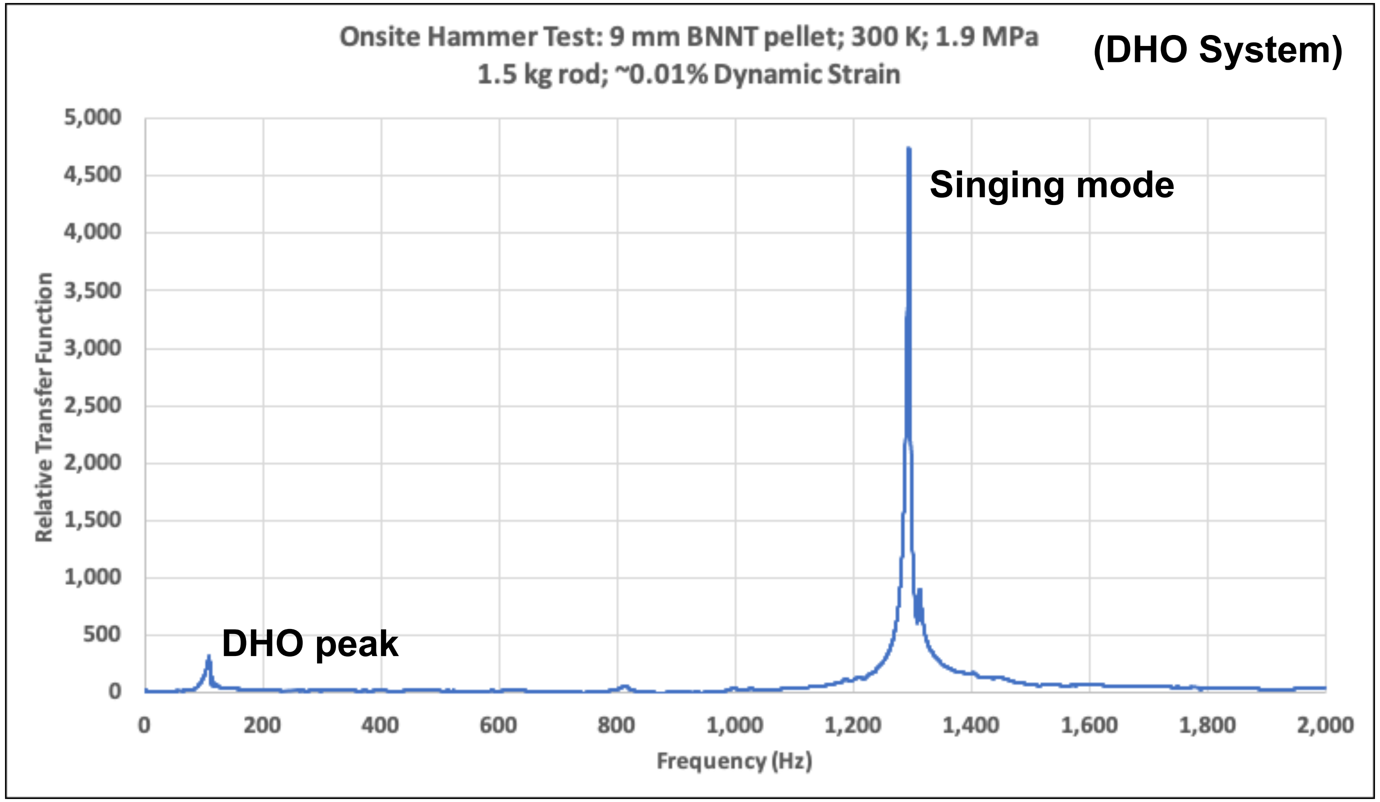


BNNT Pellets – Characterization

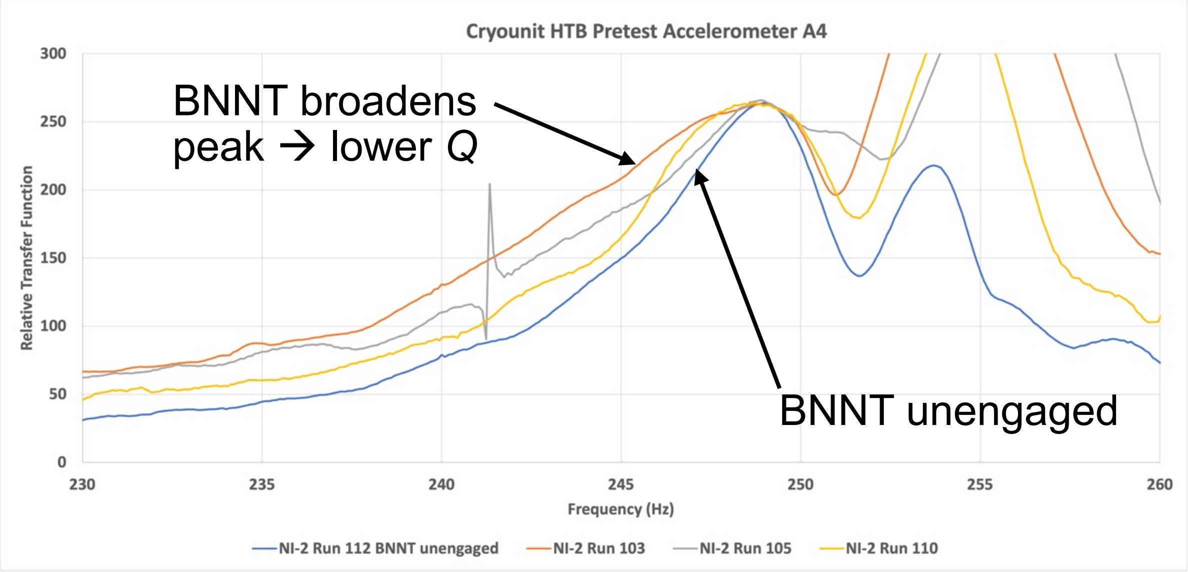
Two methods to characterize BNNT pellets for **elastic moduli** and **loss coefficients (tan deltas)**:

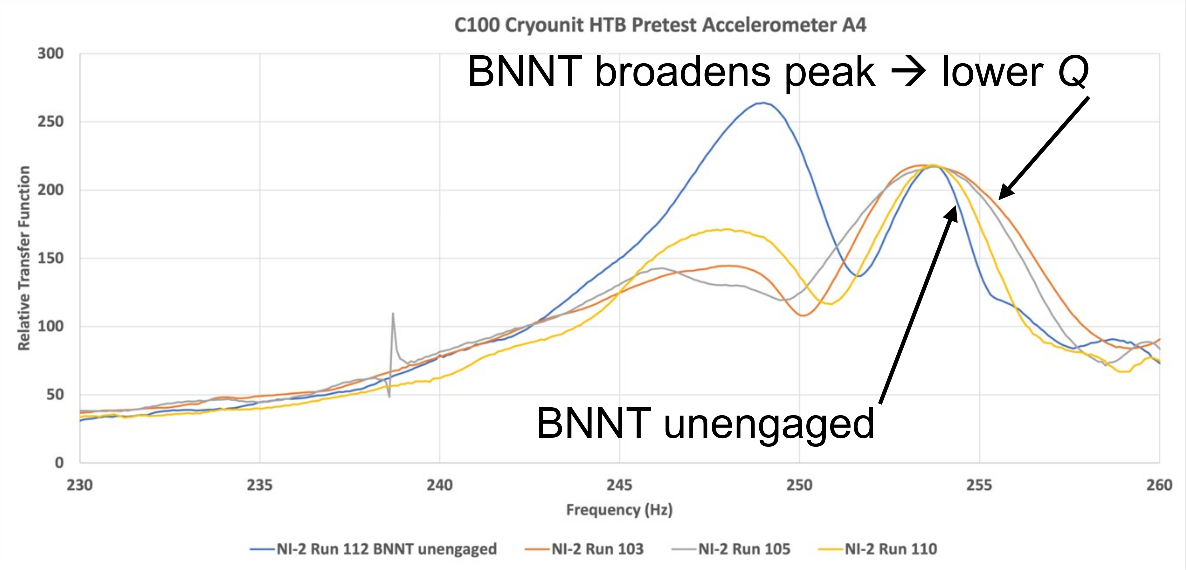
1. Damped Harmonic Oscillator (DHO)

   Hammer testing onsite at BNNT LLC. The motions of the hit rod result in a relative transfer function that exhibits DHO and a “singing” mode axially vibrating. **The elastic modulus and tan delta of the pellet are extracted from the position and width of the DHO peak.**
2. Commercial dynamic mechanical analysis (DMA) at both 300 K and 77 K.



C100 Cavity Pair Peak Comparisons





Cavities' RF frequencies are adjusted to switch from BNNT engaged/unengaged.
The broader response functions with BNNT engaged demonstrate BNNT damping of cavity modes.
This detuning, lower *Q*, lowers requirements for RF power.

Representative C100 cavity pair longitudinal vibration mode Qs with BNNT unengaged/engaged at 300 K

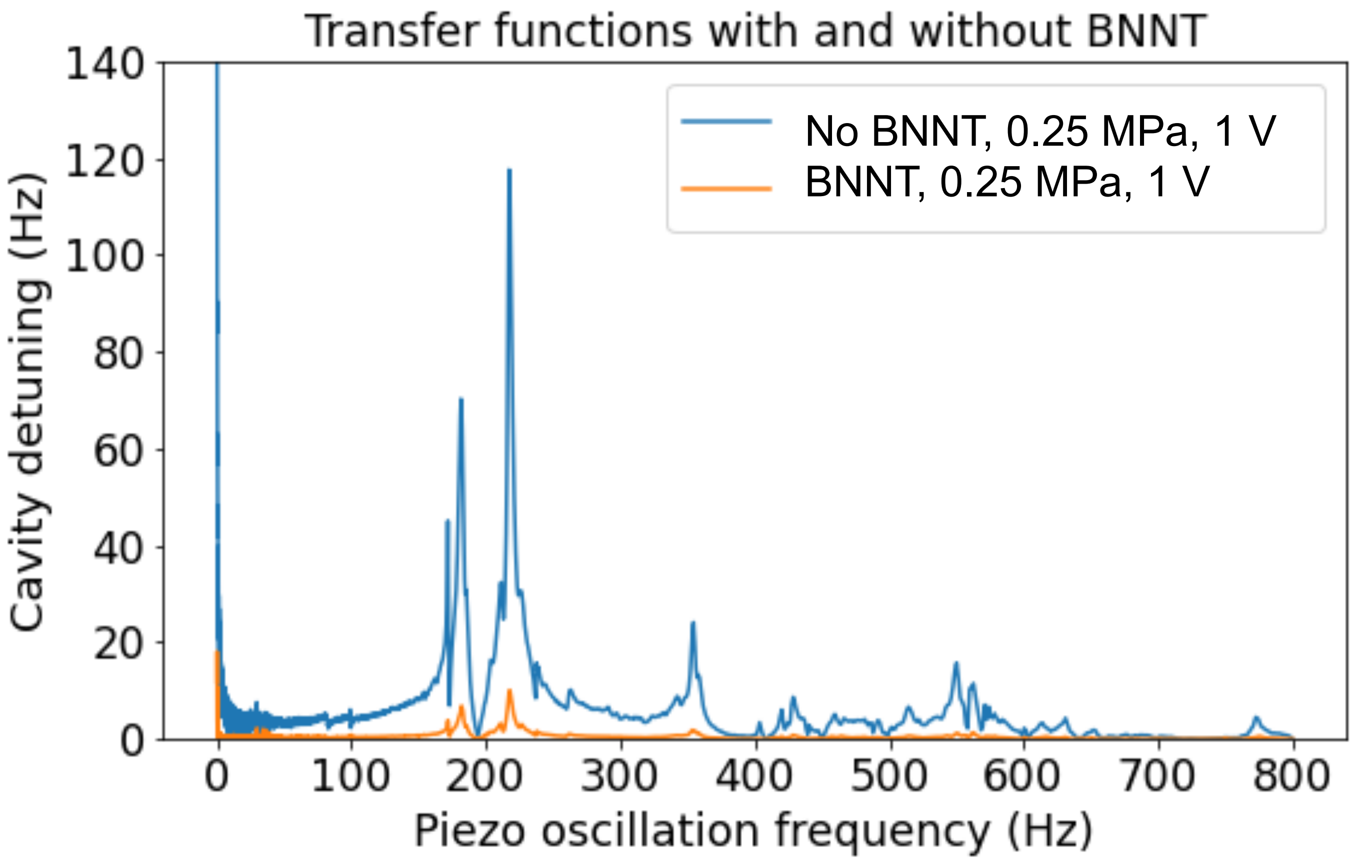
Vibration frequency (Hz)	*Q* – unengaged BNNT	*Q* – engaged BNNT	Decrease in *Q* (%)
65.7	61	29	52
78.7	54	32	41
162.6	68	44	35
248.1	59	52	12
254.8	141	72	49

BNNT pellets provide significant longitudinal-mode vibration damping in the C100 cryounit cavities

Int'l Tech Transition: Vibration Attenuation

Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin (HZB) made measurements* using a TESLA type cavity equipped with a Saclay-I type tuner featuring twin parallel piezo drivers, with one piezo in series with BNNT pellet.

Results: 10x attenuation of external mechanical excitation, which makes BNNT a most promising candidate for attenuation of mechanical vibrations at cryogenic temperatures. For RF applications, the amount of attenuation can be adjusted to optimize RF control.



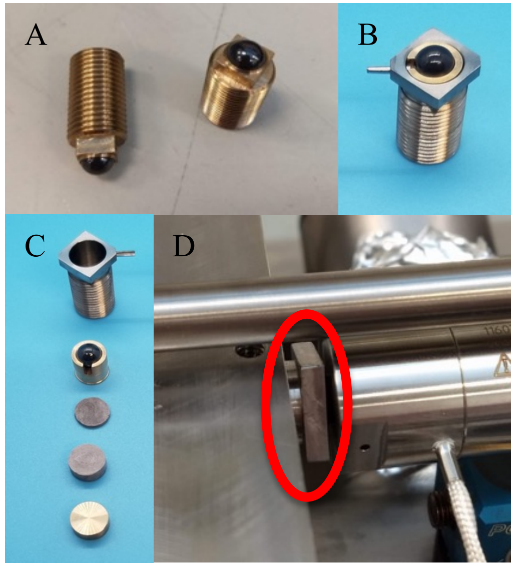
* Measurement of the Mechanical Dampening [attenuation] Properties of Few-walled Boron Nitride Nanotube Material at Cryogenic Temperatures; Oliver Kugeler, Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin, Tom Powers, Jefferson Lab, R. Roy Whitney, BNNT LLC, George Herman Biallas, Hyperboloid LLC; presented as a poster at: 2021 International Conference on RF Superconductivity (SRF '21).

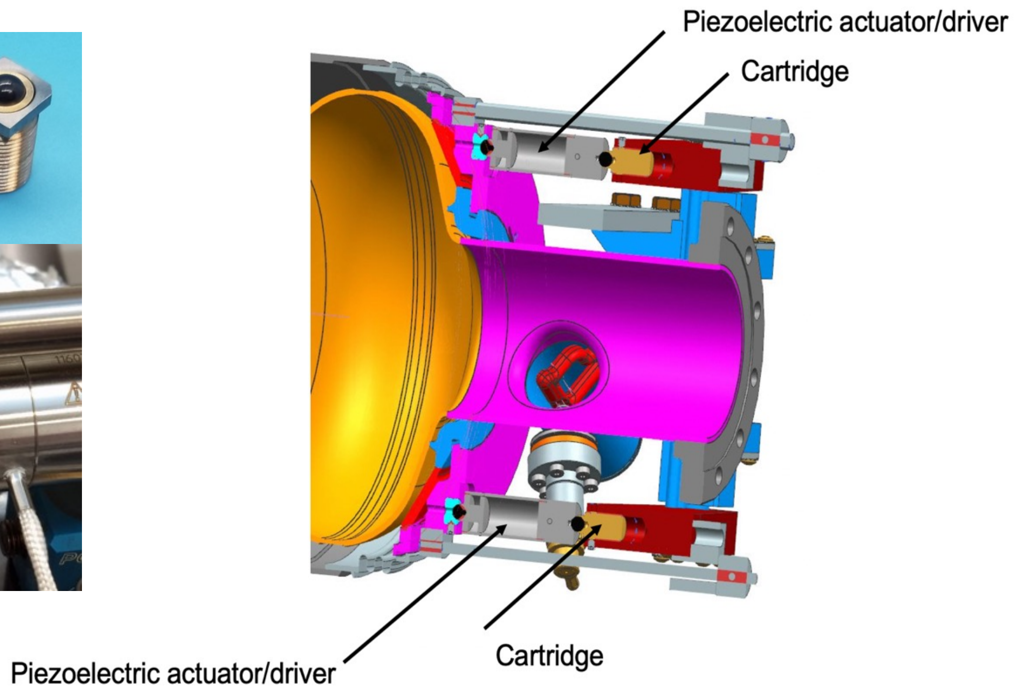
LCLS-II Opportunity

Two of eight cavities in an LCLS-II cryomodule in Jefferson Lab's LERF had BNNT vibration damping installed and tested at 2 K.

These are now in LCLS-II for operations

LCLS-II CM-20 testing in LERF at 2 K – Peter Owen
(Photo courtesy of Jefferson Lab)





BNNT pellet installed on LCLS-II cavity:

Standard parts (A) are readily exchanged for BNNT cartridge holders (B).

BNNT cartridge holder components (C) prior to assembly.

BNNT cartridge (D) circled in red installed on LCLS-II cavity between tuner plate and piezoelectric actuator.

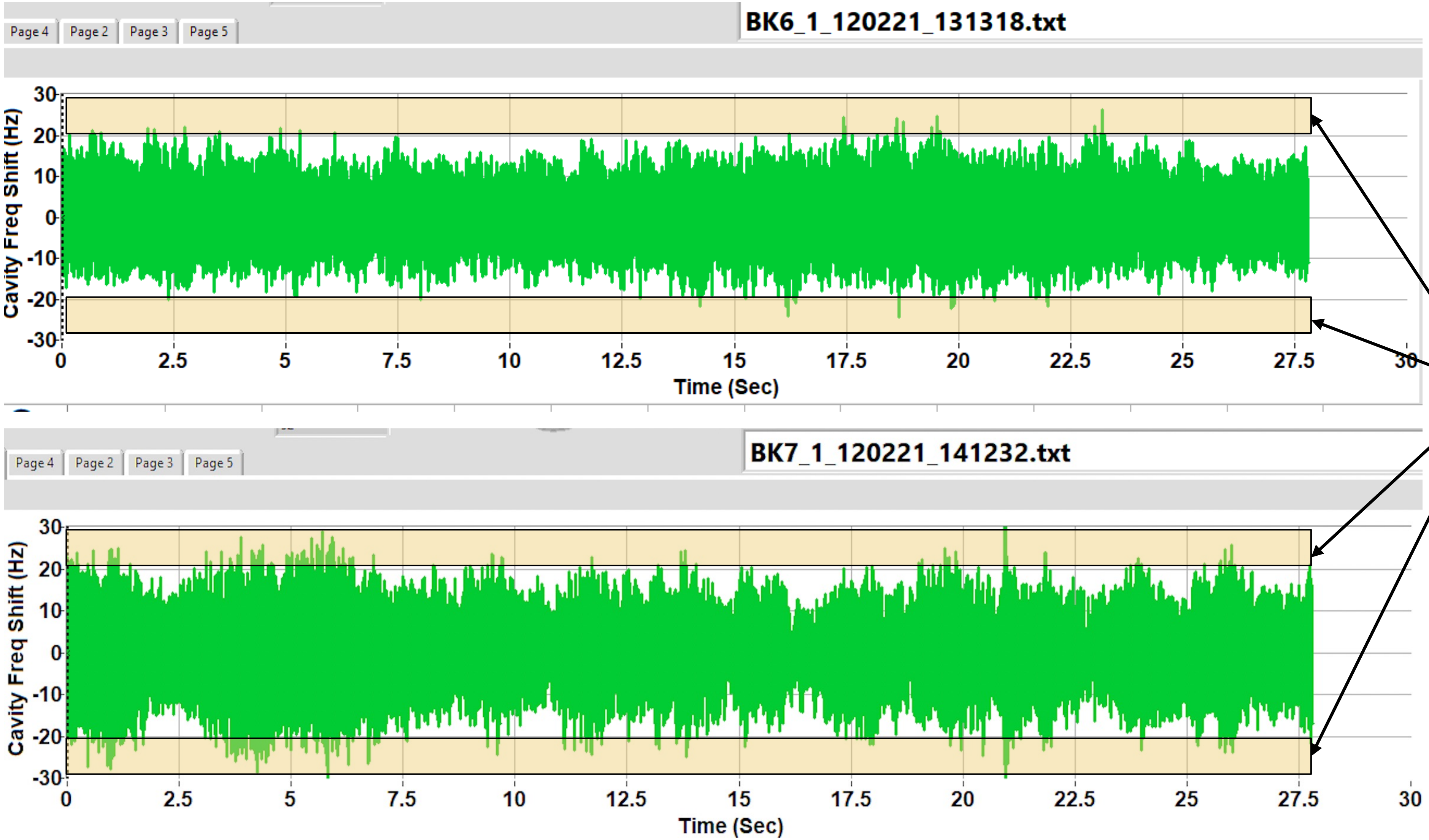
LCLS-II CM 20 Results

LCLS-II CM20 Data from 8 September 2020 Hammer Test (DHO System)								
	Peaks in cavities above Qmin=200							
Frequency range (Hz)	Cav1*	Cav2	Cav3	Cav4*	Cav5	Cav6	Cav7	Cav8
Sum 0-150=	4	7	7	5	8	13	13	5
Sum 150-250=	1	2	0	0	2	3	5	1
Sum 250-320=	3	3	4	0	4	3	5	7
Tot Sum 0-320=	8	12	11	5	14	19	23	13
RF control > Cut	4	7	7	5	11	15	17	7
* Cavities with BNNT								

LCLS-II CM20 Data from September 2020 PZT Chirp Test								
	Peaks in cavities above Qmin=200							
F(Hz)	Cav1*	Cav2	Cav3	Cav4*	Cav5	Cav6	Cav7	Cav8
Sum 10-80=	3	2	5	1	3	3	2	2
Tot Sum 60-160=	2	3	1	2	3	0	3	2
Tot Sum 120-320=	11	13	15	15	10	11	19	8
RF control > Cut								
Sum 10-80=	3	2	5	1	3	3	2	2
Sum 60-160=	2	3	1	1	2	0	2	1
Sum 120-320=	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
* Cavities with BNNT								

- **From DHO System (Hammer) test:** Energy is put into many components of the cryomodule including all of the cavities. 3 dB Q values of hammer test peaks show that **cavities 1 and 4, with BNNT vibration damping, show less microphonics than the other six cavities, without BNNT vibration damping**, for a range of parameters for the selection of peaks.
- **From PZT Chirp test:** Energy is put into a single cavity from a pulse (chirp) induced on an individual PZT actuator.
  The BNNT is between the actuator and the cavity. Measurements do not show cavities with BNNT vibration damping (cavities 1 and 4) to have significantly better/worse performance compared to the other cavities. PZT single cavity chirp test pulses were not expected to be damped by the BNNT, rather the chirp pulses were expected to be attenuated (see slide 14 results). Additionally, putting chirp pulses into one cavity does not show vibrations in the other cavities.

2 K HTB C100 Style Cavity Background-Generated Frequency Shifts



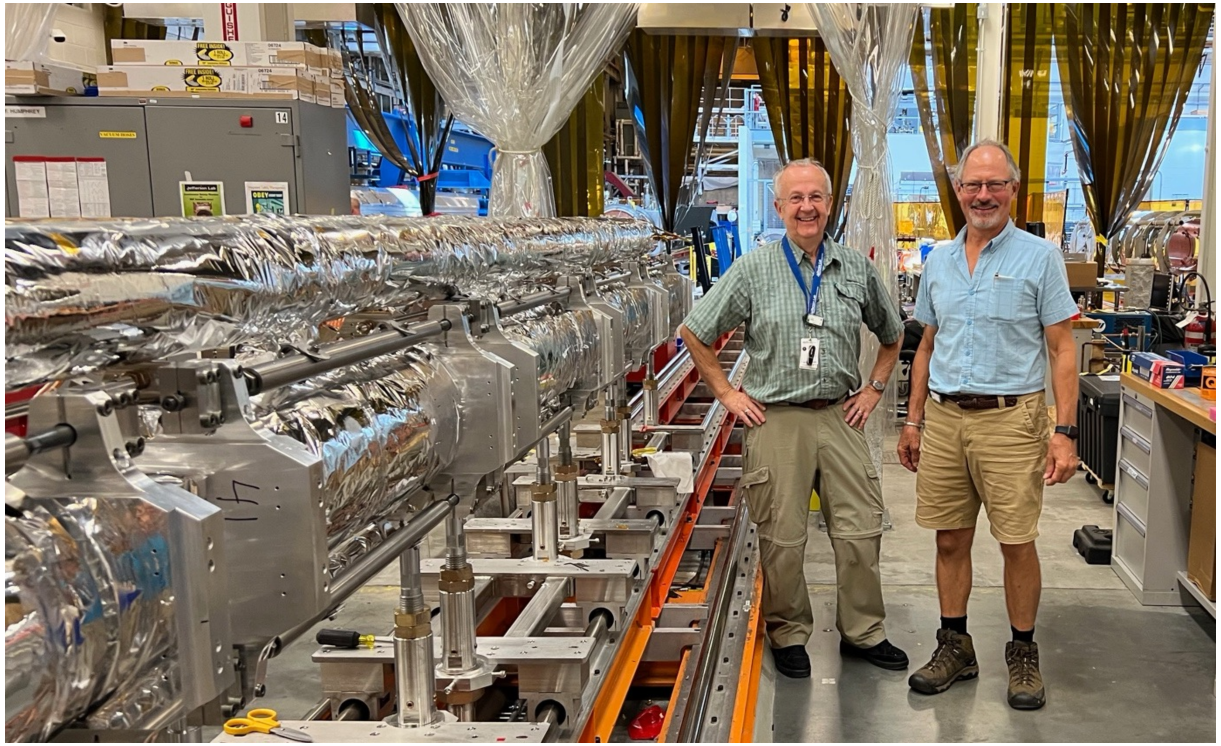
120 Hz driven mode removed

Cartridges Engaged
RMS = 6.1 Hz

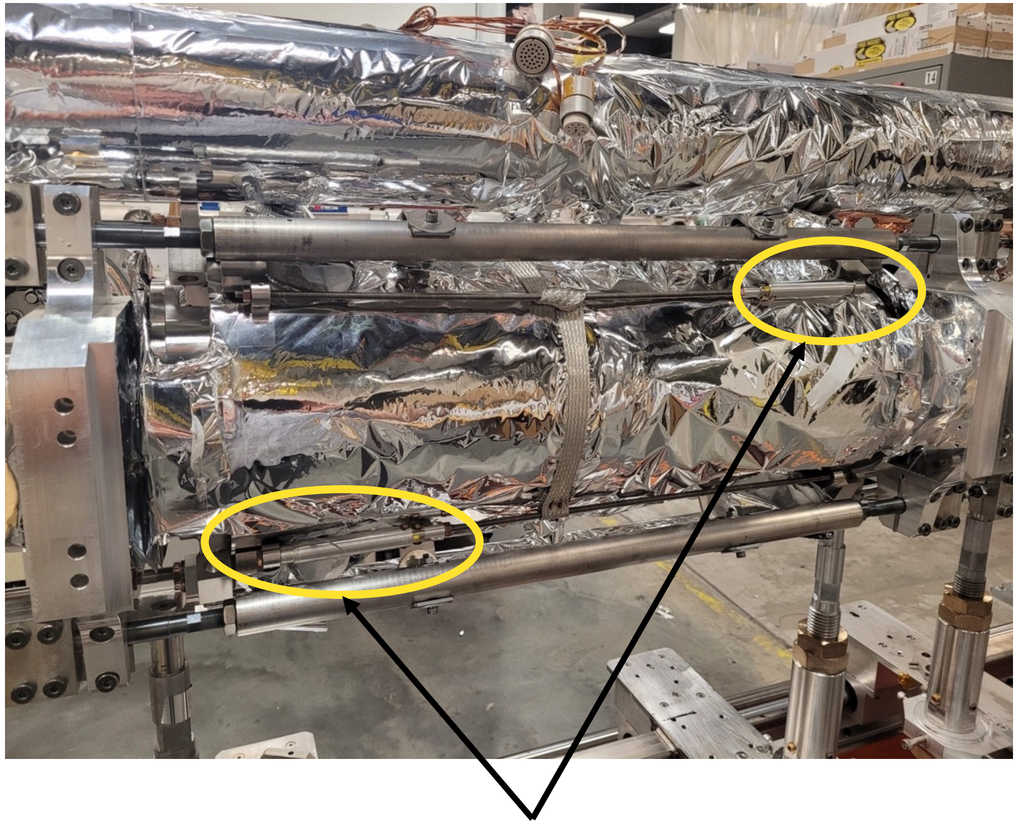
Transient peaks reduced

Cartridges Unengaged
RMS = 8.6 Hz

C100 Full Cryomodule BNNT Cartridge Installation



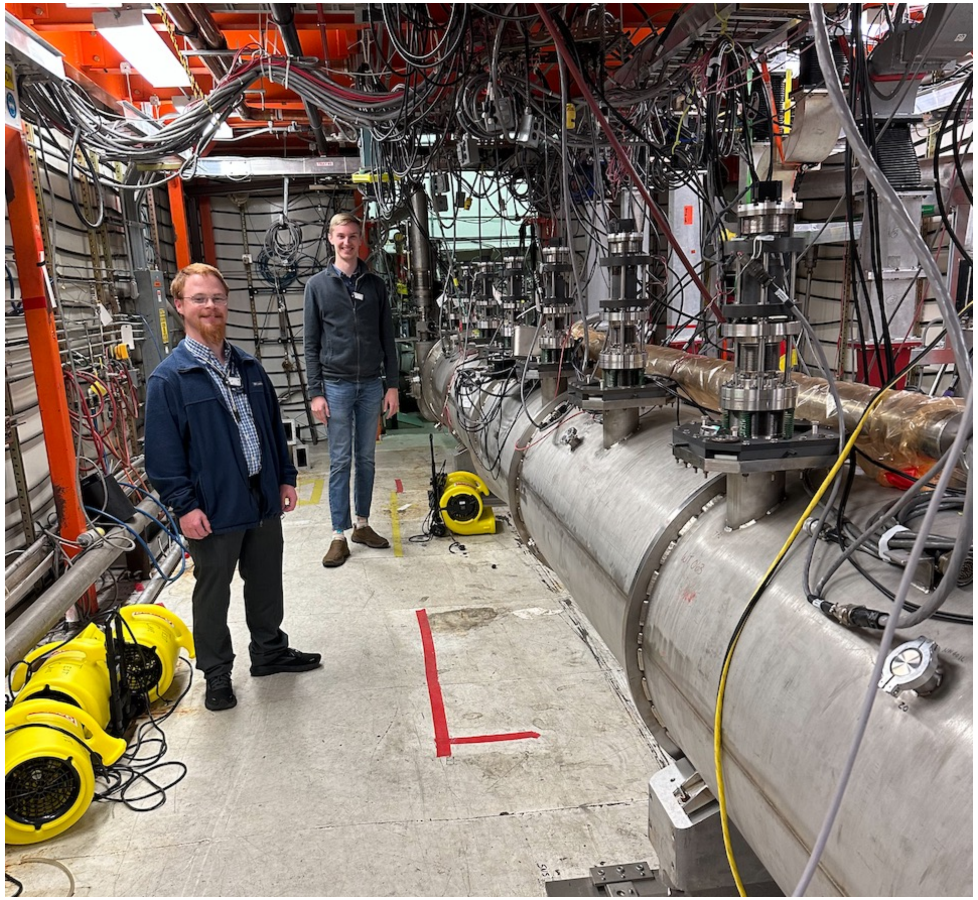
George Biallas and Kevin Jordan setting up for installation in full C100 cryomodule



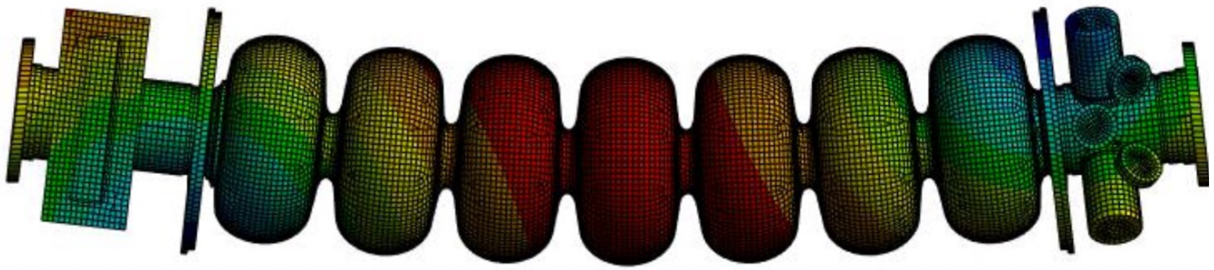
BNNT cartridges

(Photos courtesy of Jefferson Lab)

BNNT Full Cryomodule Vibration Testing in CMTF



Caleb Hull (ODU) and Peter Owen (JLab) in SRF Cryomodule Test Facility (CMTF) for BNNT vibration damping testing
(Photo courtesy of Jefferson Lab)



Caleb Hull's modeling cavity vibration modes showing a typical single cavity mode.
(Images used courtesy of ANSYS, Inc.)

BNNT C100 CMTF Test Results

Hammer test results for BNNT in all eight cavities of C100 CEBAF cryomodule in CMTF.

- All cavities performed as well or better in all frequency ranges
- Cavities with microphonics exceeding the RF control minimum criteria were reduced.

Cryomodule moved into CEBAF for:

- regular operation
- extended run testing
- further controlled testing in the operational environment

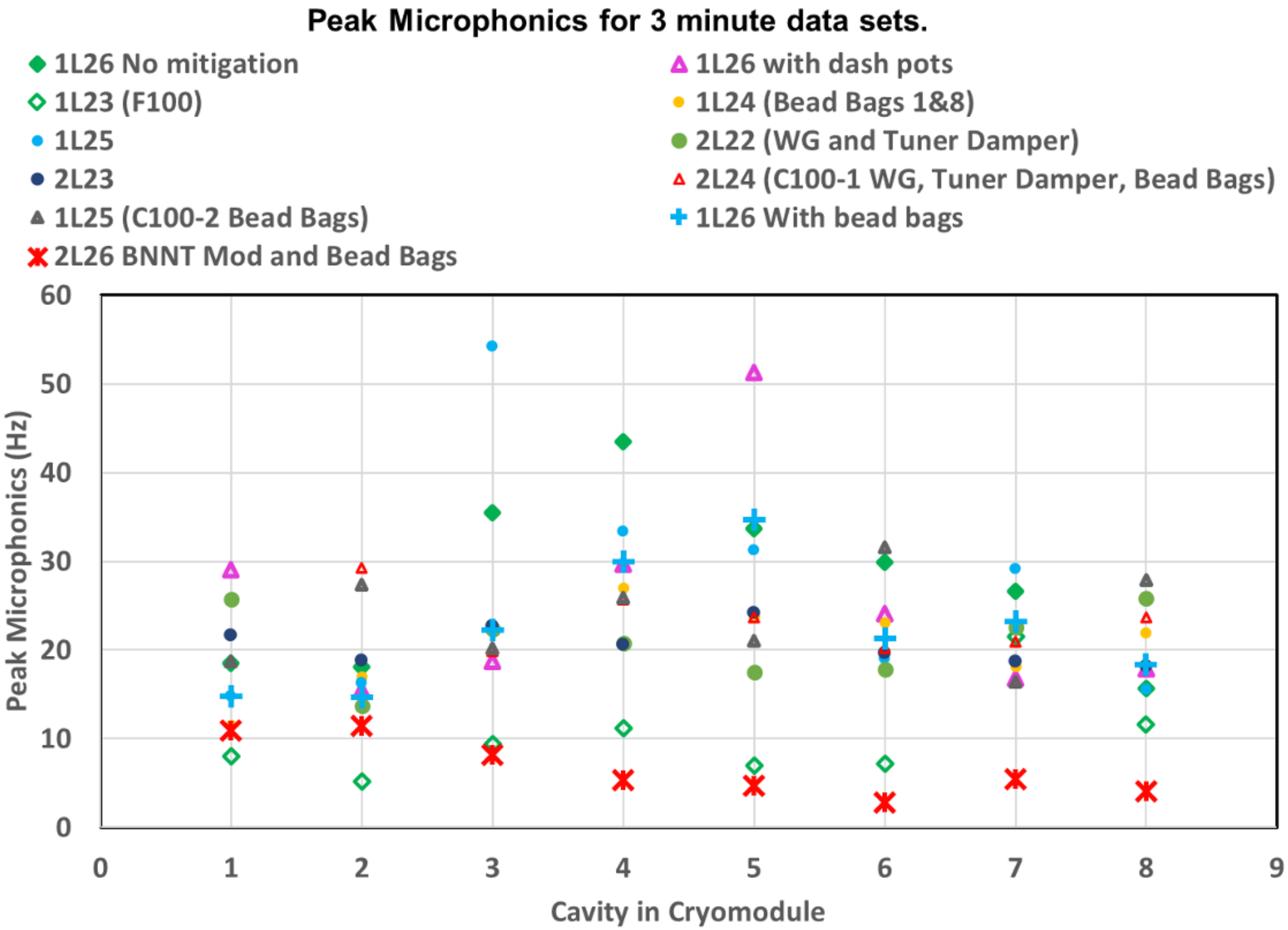
RF at 1497 MHz; BNNT engaged; *Q* > 150 Hz									
F(Hz)	Cav1	Cav2	Cav3	Cav4	Cav5	Cav6	Cav7	Cav8	All
Sum 0-150=	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	**3**
Sum 150-250=	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	**7**
Sum 250-320=	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	**2**
Tot Sum 0-320=	2	2	3	1	1	2	1	0	**12**
RF control > Min = *	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	**1**
RF at 1496.7 MHz; BNNT disengaged; *Q* > 150 Hz									
F(Hz)	Cav1	Cav2	Cav3	Cav4	Cav5	Cav6	Cav7	Cav8	All
Sum 0-150=	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	**5**
Sum 150-250=	2	8	3	0	2	3	2	2	**22**
Sum 250-320=	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	**5**
Tot Sum 0-320=	4	11	3	1	3	4	3	3	**32**
RF control > Min = *	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	**4**

* Exceeding a minimum value of Q/f^2 for RF control requirements

Installed in CEBAF Accelerator Background Peak deltaF (minus 120 Hz)

Peak microphonics on eleven different configurations on **seven** C100 cryomodules.

2L26 cryomodule with BNNT vibration damping showed the lowest peaks except for two of the 88 values on an F100 style cryomodule.

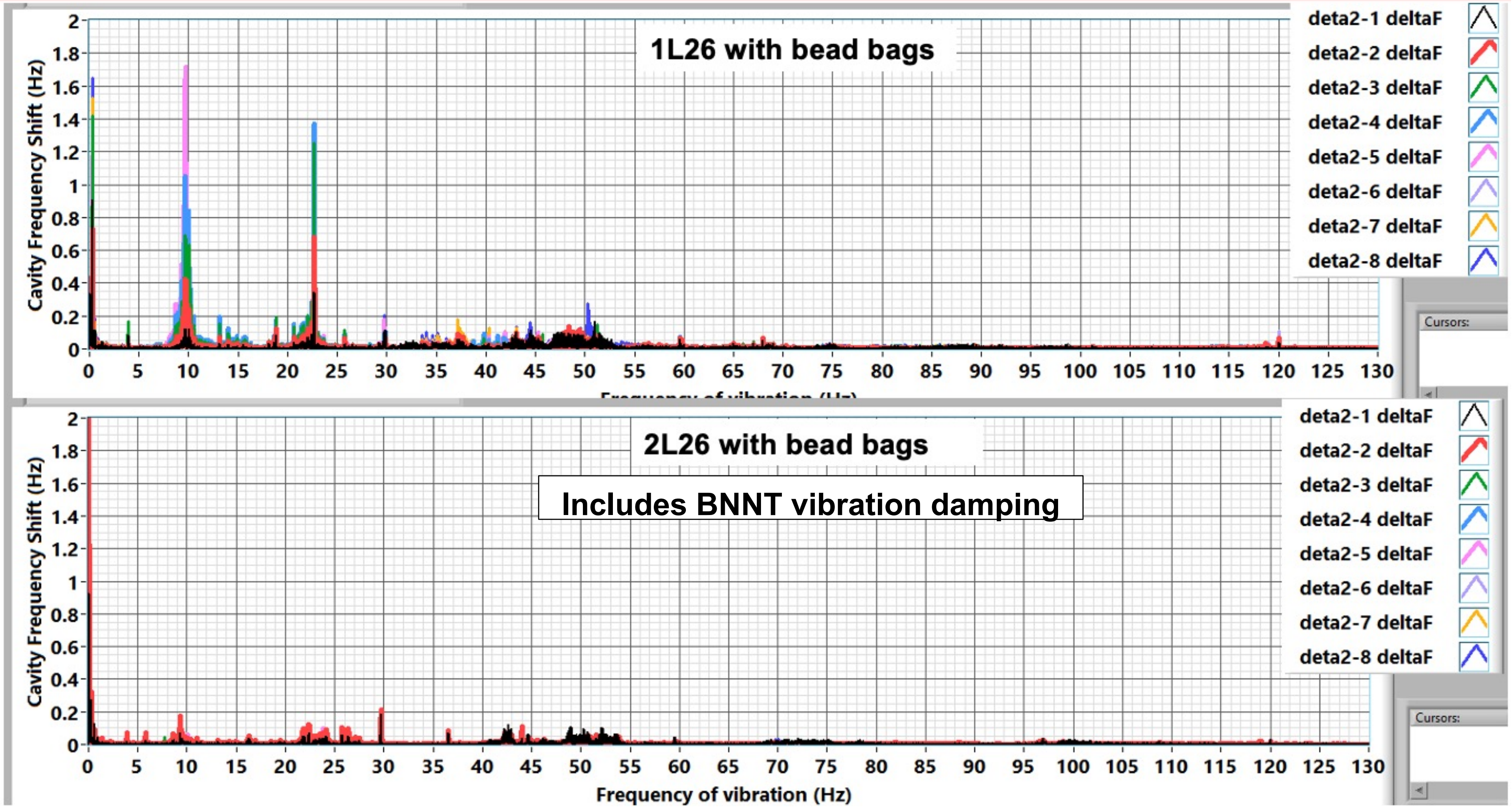


Installed in CEBAF
Background Peak deltaF (minus 120 Hz)

Background microphonics for C100 1L26 and 2L26 cryomodules (respectively without and with BNNT vibration damping)

Time domain (top) and FFT analysis (bottom) for all eight cavities.

FFT of the same data sets using the same vertical scale



CEBAF Operational Results

CEBAF accelerator microphonic generated trips in seven similar C100 cryomodules.

Cryomodule 2L26 has the BNNT vibration damping cartridges.

Microphonic Trips in C100 Cavities		
Start	End	
9/10/23	10/17/23	
Zone	Trips	Trips/day
0L04	6	0.16
1L24	120	3.24
1L25	70	1.89
1L26	43	1.16
2L22	71	1.92
2L23	84	2.27
2L26	1	0.03

Jefferson Lab C100 Cryomodules with BNNT Vibration Damping

Locations/status of BNNT equipped C100 cryomodules:

- C100-10R
  - Installed in 2L26 (DOE SC/NP SBIR funding)
  - Install date: Apr 2023
  - Commissioning date: Aug 2023
- C100-08R (Jefferson Lab procurement)
  - Slated for installation in 1L22
  - Planned install date: Oct 2024
- Next module (Jefferson Lab procurement)
  - C100-03 will be coming out around ~"late September 2024" for rebuild
  - Planned installation in TBD zone during 2025 CEBAF accelerator down

BNNT Vibration Damping Works! Thank You for the Support!

- **BNNT vibration damping demonstrated at 2 Kelvin:**
  - in cavity pair of a C100 cryomodule
  - in two cavities in LCLS-II cryomodule
  - in full C100 cryomodule
- **BNNT vibration damping is in operational CEBAF C100 and LCLS-II cryomodules – C100 results are spectacular and LCLS-II results coming soon.**
- Transition/commercialization beyond SBIR
  - Operation success of the SBIR funded Jefferson Lab CEBAF C100 cryomodule generated subsequent Jefferson Lab procurements for BNNT in additional cryomodules.
  - Jefferson Lab and SLAC LCLS-II results will be utilized generate further accelerator interest.
  - Germany's Helmholtz Zentrum Berlin vibration attenuation results are part of BNNT's potential for quantum computers and other ultra low temperature systems.

Thank you to Michelle Shinn,

DOE – Office of Science – Nuclear Physics, and

Jefferson Lab for support!