

Metal photocathode research for 4th generation light sources : The needs and the achievements



F. Le Pimpec

High Brightness Source for High Brilliance XFEL

- Brilliance / Brightness
- Which Electron sources

General Problematic for photocathodes

- Emittance and QE of metal photocathodes
- Lifetime of photocathodes

Summary & Conclusions

Future...

XFEL performances

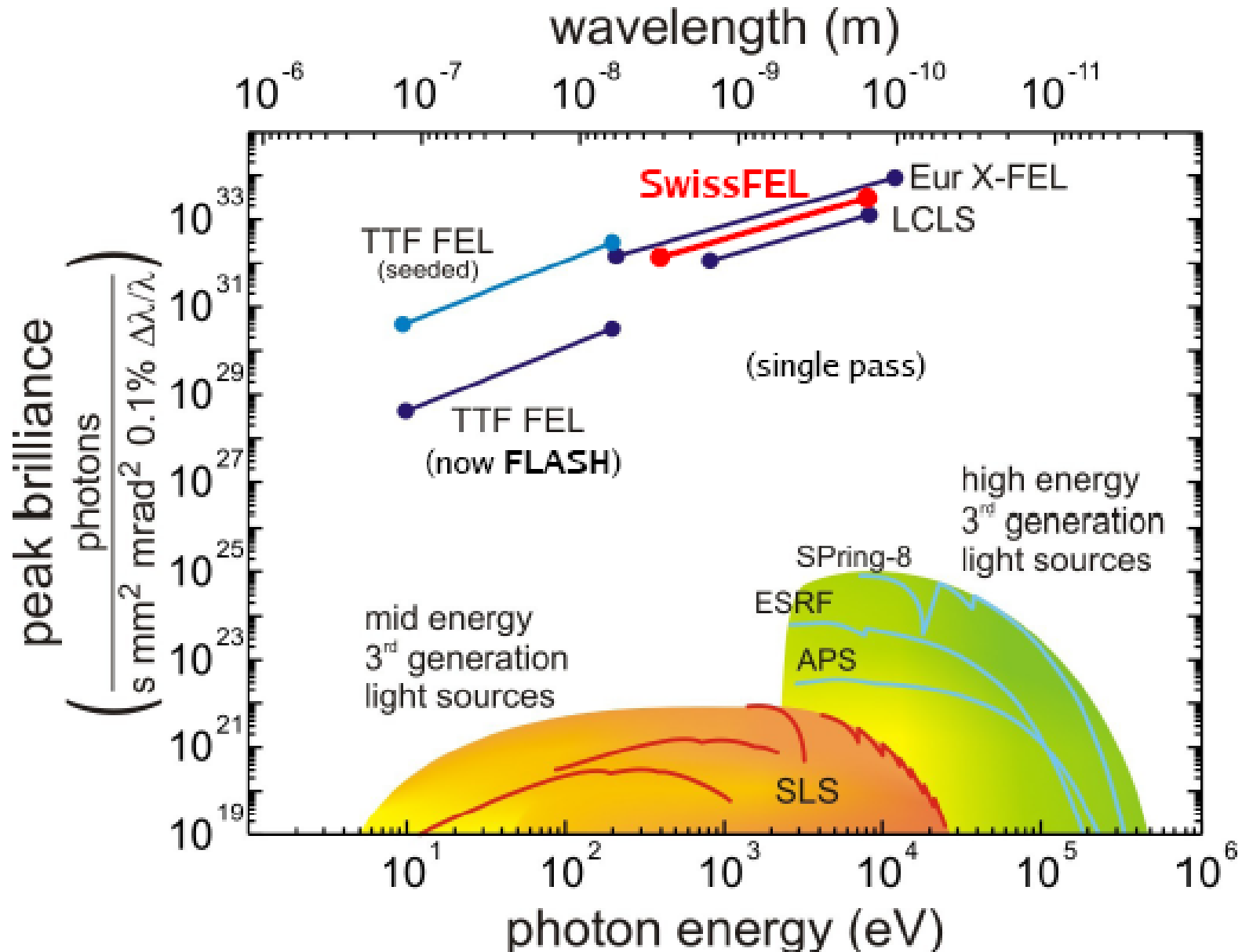
SASE FELs have a **peak brilliance** of a few order of magnitude above 3rd generation light sources (SLS - Soleil - ALS...)

Scientifically interesting

PSI-XFEL Workshop Crazy Ideas and Challenges ...

$$B = \frac{d^4 N}{dt d\Omega dS d\lambda / \lambda}$$

XFEL performances



Produce a beam of high Brilliance

$$B = \frac{dI}{dSd\Omega}$$

For particle distribution whose boundary in 4D trace space is defined by an hyperellipsoid

$$\bar{B} = \frac{2I}{\pi^2 \varepsilon_x \varepsilon_y} \quad [A/(m\text{-rad})^2]$$

$$\bar{B}_n = \frac{2I}{\pi^2 \varepsilon_{nx} \varepsilon_{ny}}$$

Normalized Brightness

A. Cianchi

- Increase beam peak current
More QE (laser damage, response time)
e- beam compression (magnetic bunch compressor)
- Decrease the Emittance ε
(mm.mrad)
Find an electron source of a low thermal emittance.

RMS emittance:

$$\varepsilon_{x,rms} = \sqrt{\langle u^2 \rangle \cdot \langle u'^2 \rangle - \langle uu' \rangle^2}$$

$$\varepsilon_{n,x,rms} = \beta\gamma \cdot \sqrt{\langle u^2 \rangle \cdot \langle u'^2 \rangle - \langle uu' \rangle^2}$$

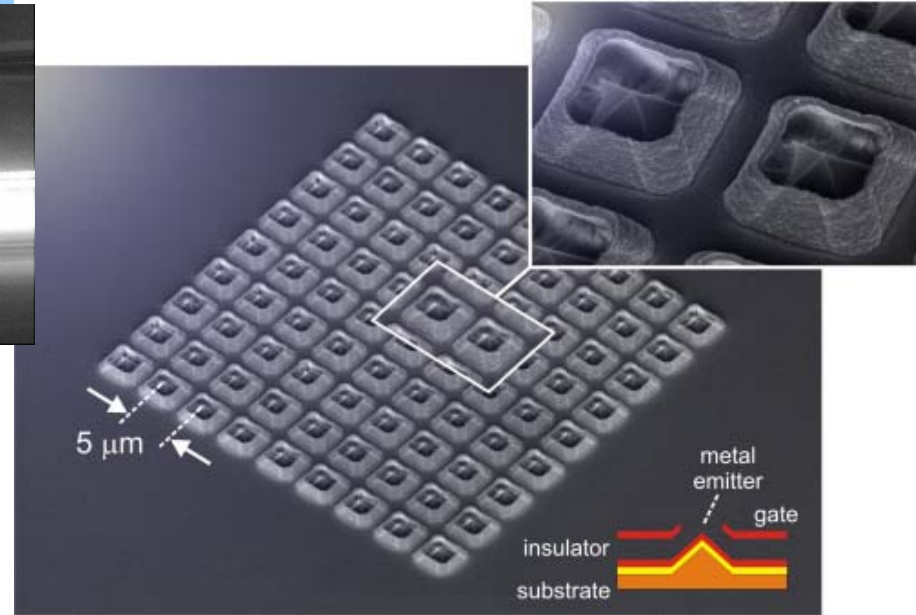
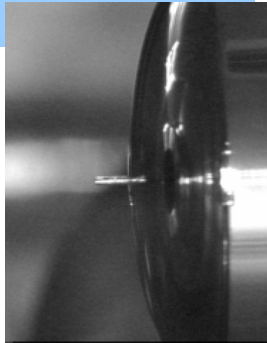
Electron Sources :

1. Field Emitter

a) Array

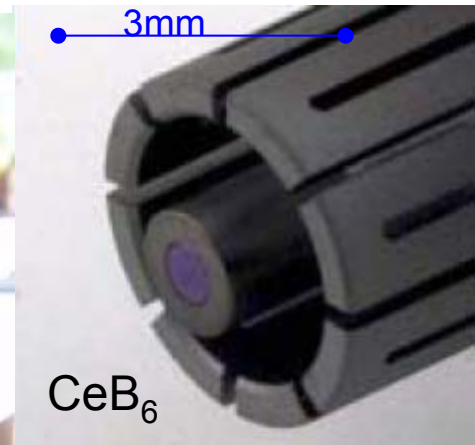
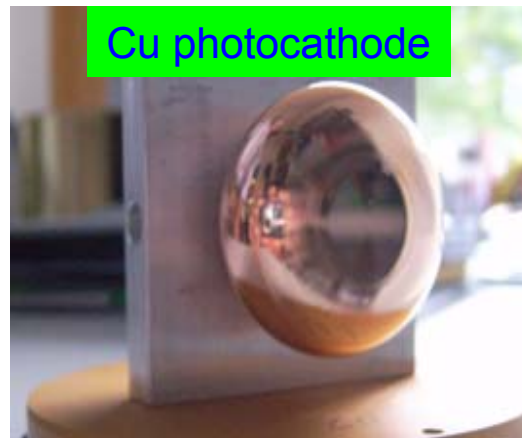
- Commercial (metal, CNT...)
- PSI made

b) Single tip FE



2. Photocathode

3. Thermionic



4. Hybridizing the sources is also possible

Which source and why ?

- FEL theory : high peak I, and low beam σ required for high gain FELs
- For a compact XFEL (\$\$) : compensate beam E with a lower initial ε

Ultimate limit in Accelerators: Thermal emittance of the Electron Source

$$\varepsilon_{n,rms} = \frac{\sigma}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2E_{kin}}{3mc^2}}$$

σ : Size of the produced Electron Beam

E_{kin} : Thermal Agitation of produced electrons

Thermionic Emission

$$E_{kin,r} \sim \frac{3}{2} kT_{Solid}$$

$$J < 10^6 \text{ A.m}^{-2}$$

$$T=1500\text{K}$$

Photoemission

$$E_{kin,r} \sim h\nu - \Phi + e \sqrt{\frac{eE}{4\pi\varepsilon_0}}$$

$$J < 10^9 \text{ A.m}^{-2}$$

$$T=300\text{K}$$

Field Emission

$$E_{kin,r} \sim \frac{3}{2} kT_{Solid}$$

$$J < 10^{12} \text{ A.m}^{-2}$$

$$T=300\text{K}$$

If $h\nu \approx \Phi$, $E \approx 0$ – very cold beam, but QE is bad !

The (obviously) most important Photocathode Properties

•Quantum efficiency

- High QE at the longest possible wavelength → Cheaper Laser system
- Fast response time: <100 ps → follow laser impulse
- Uniform emission
 - Non-uniform emission seeds emittance growth due to transverse, space charge expansion
- Easy to fabricate, reliable, reproducible
- Low dark current, field emission. → roughness, ion back bombardment roughening (CsI)

•Intrinsic emittance

- Low as possible
 - Atomically flat: ~few nm p-p, to minimize emittance growth due to surface roughness and space charge → might be true but not necessarily
- Tunable, controllable with photon wavelength
 - May need to “chase” the work function: $\varepsilon_{\text{intrinsic}} \propto \sqrt{\hbar\omega - \phi_{\text{eff}}}$
- Better at cryogenic temperatures?

•Lifetime, survivability, robustness, operational properties

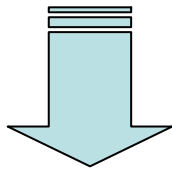
- Require >1 year of operating lifetime
 - reasonable vacuum level: 10^{-10} Torr range → Effect of gases on surfaces ?
- Easy, reliable cathode cleaning or rejuvenation or re-activation
- Low field emission at high electric fields
 - needs to be very flat: ~few nm p-p → crystallographic defects (Single crystals)
- Reliable installation and replacement system (load lock)

Vacuum : Desorption

What is a good vacuum Surface ?

An atomically clean surface !

What about a surface with an outgassing rate = 0 ?!



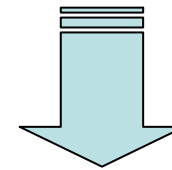
Development of barrier diffusion thin films and thin film NEG's

Photocathode : Emittance

What is a good Photocathode Surface ?

An atomically flat surface !

What about a surface which emits electron with $P_{\perp} = 0$?!



Need to seriously understand the emission mechanism of electrons from a material !!!

Cu cathode - The usual choice

Metal photocathode :

- Fast response time to laser impulse
- Rather resilient to adverse vacuum conditions
- In-situ cleaning is not too complicated
- Easy to get and manufacture
- QE is much lower than SC photocathode
- Require UV laser of high power (\$, UV cracking, ablation)

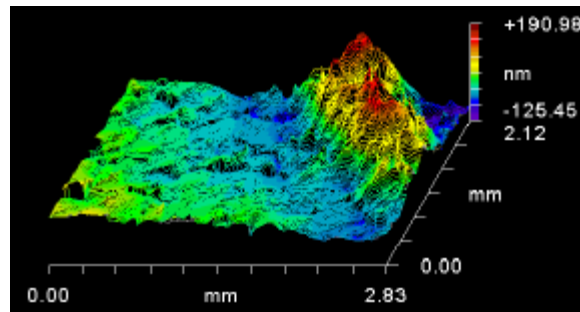
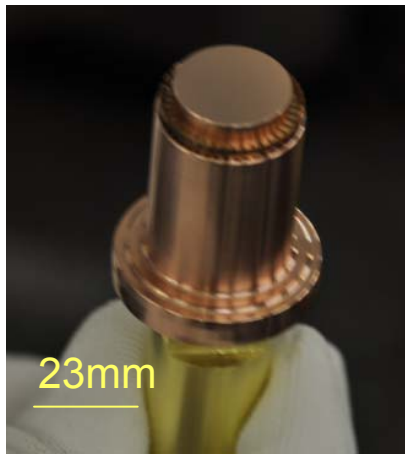
Copper cathode is a usual choice as a metal photocathode (tradition ?) Why not Mg or AlLi or Y or ... ?

Grain Size ~ 0.3- 0.5 μ m

Roughness: Ra ~3 nm; PV= 15 nm (bfr)

Roughness: Ra ~ 8 nm; PV= 110 nm (aftr)

Diamond Tool Waviness: 0.1 μ m



Survey of cathode testing : QE

Simple metals & their alloys	True work function $e\phi \approx h\nu_0$, eV	Photoelectric threshold λ_0 , nm	Quantum yield (el./phot.)	Photon energy, eV	Metal Cathodes	Wavelength & Energy: λ_{opt} (nm), $h\omega$ (eV)	Quantum Efficiency (electrons per photon)	Vacuum for 1000 Hr Operation (Torr)	Work Function, ϕ^w (eV)	Thermal Emittance (microns/mm(rms))	
										Theory	Expt.
Mg	3.7	341	5.1×10^{-5}	4.7	Bare Metal						
			1×10^{-4}	4.7							
Mg-2.1% Ba	2.4	514	2.6×10^{-2}	4.9							
Mg-5% Ba	2.9	427	$6 \times 10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$	4.9							
Al	4.3	298	3.2×10^{-5}	4.7							
Al-2% Li	2.9	423	3.6×10^{-3}	4.9							
Al-3% Li	3.1	403	1.7×10^{-3}	4.9							
Cu	4.6 5.3	235	2.2×10^{-6}	4.7							
Cu-5% BaO	3.0	415	1.2×10^{-3}	4.7							
Cu-8% BaO	2.7	445	2.5×10^{-3}	4.7							
					Coated Metal						
					CsBr:Cu	250, 4.96	7×10^{-3}	10^{-9}	~2.5	?	?
					CsBr:Nb	250, 4.96	7×10^{-3}	10^{-9}	~2.5	?	?

D. H. Dowell, I. Bazarov, B. Dunham, K. Harkay, C. Hernandez-Garcia, R. Legg, H. Padmore, T. Rao, J. Smedley and W. Wan, NIM A622 (2010) 685-697.

The same article survey other cathodes including SC photocathodes.

QE are not comparable easily - Cathode preparation

RF gun, Diode gun (Field presence on the surface)

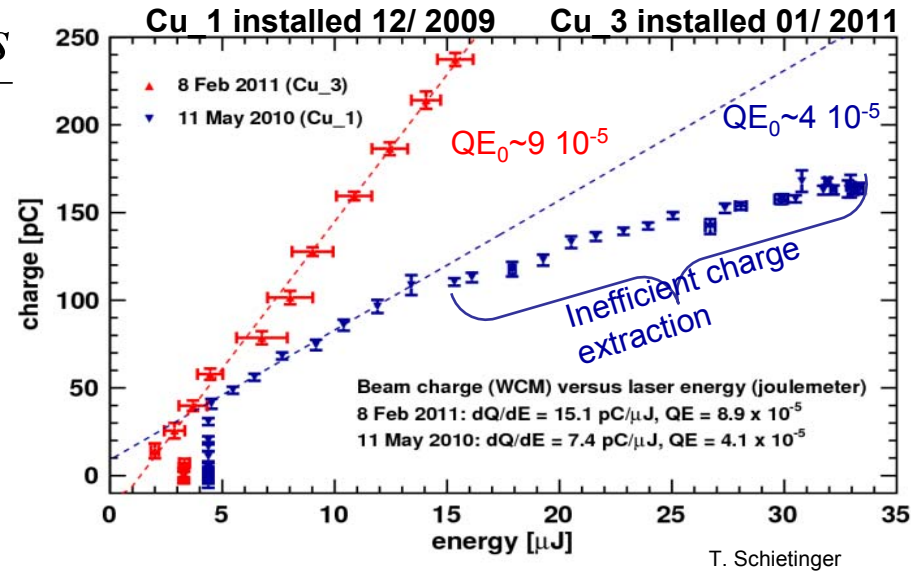
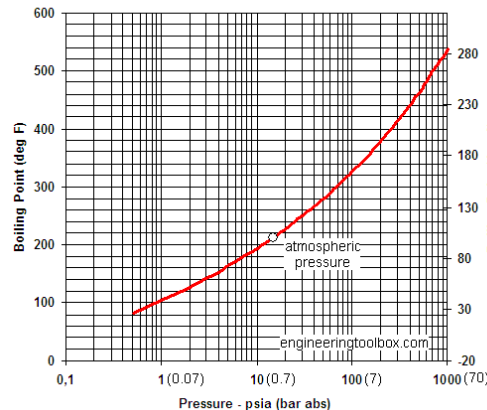
Simple laser experiment - UV lamp experiment

QE : to plot or not to plot ?

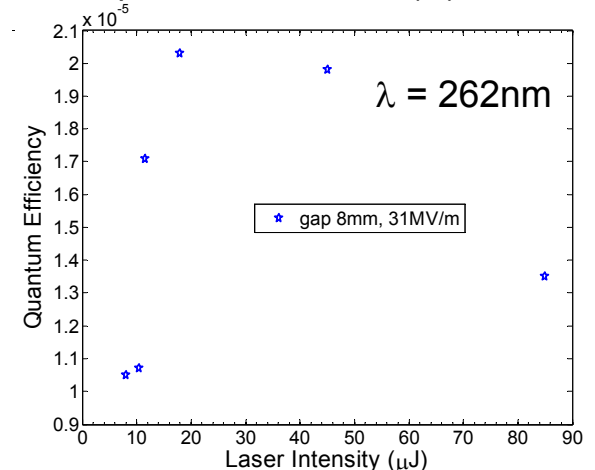
$$QE = \frac{\text{number of extracted electrons}}{\text{number of incident Photons}}$$

QE is intrinsic to the material, what we usually measure is not the QE, hence we should not plot it but show more the charge extracted over the laser intensity (W/cm²)

QE is as intrinsic as the boiling point ...



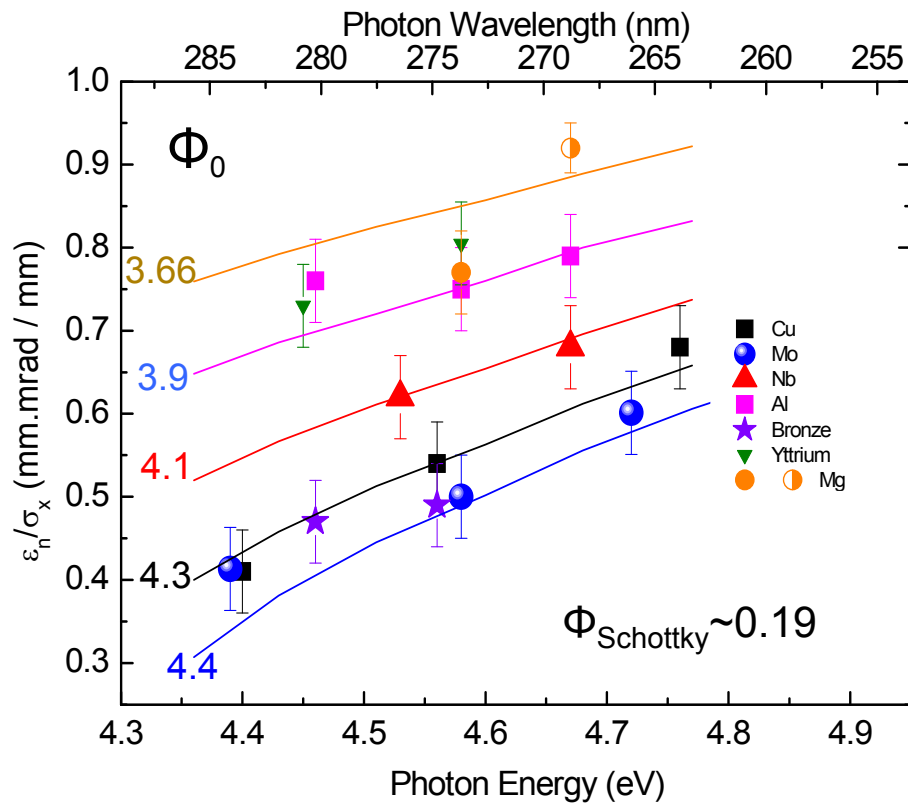
Le Pimpec et al, JVSTA, 28(5) 2010



One can use QE₀ and QE_{effective}

Thermal $\varepsilon(\lambda)$; $QE(\lambda)$; $QE(E)$

C.P. Hauri et al, PRL 104, 234802, 2010



PolyC metal	Φ_0 (eV) Literature	Φ_0 (eV) Expt	λ (nm) lit
Cu	4.65 4.53-5.1	4.3	267
Mo	4.6	4.4	270
Nb Nb(110)	4.3 4.77	4.1	260
Mg	3.66	3.7 - 3.9	339
Al	4.28	3.9	290

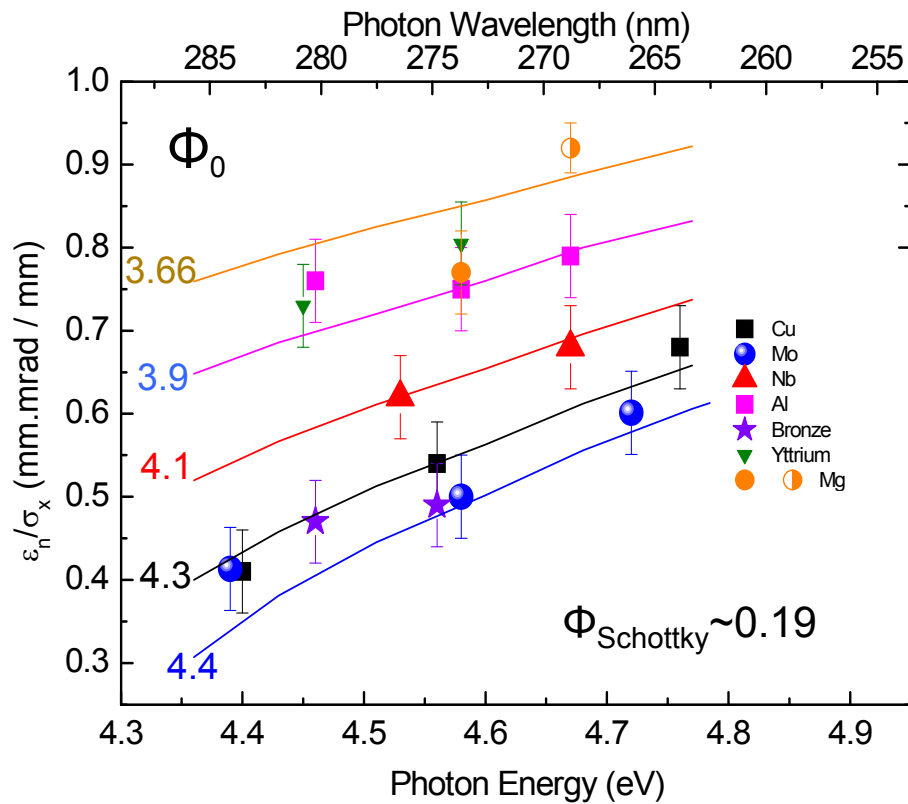
$$\varepsilon_{Intrinsic,Simple} = \sigma_{x,laser} \sqrt{\frac{h\nu - \Phi_0 + e^{3/2} \frac{F_{eff}^{1/2}}{(4\pi\varepsilon_0)^{1/2}}}{3mc^2}}$$

Difference in WF input is dominated by Chemistry (O_2) not by topology nor Stress

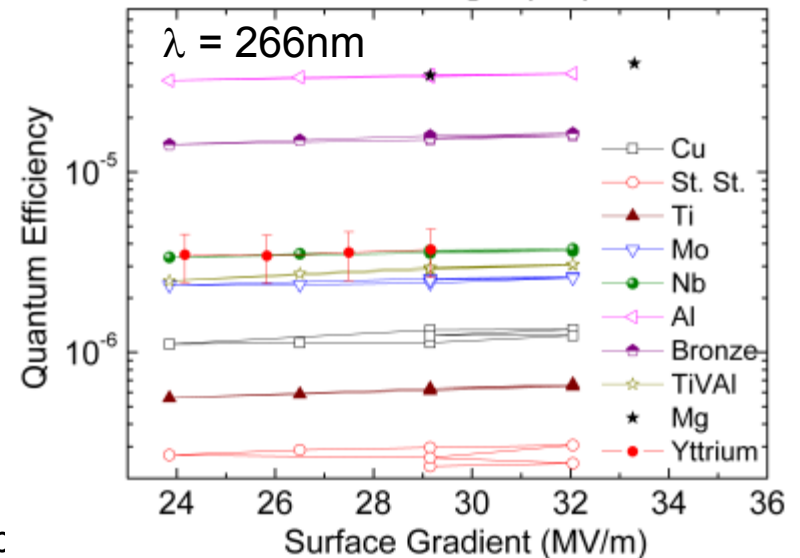
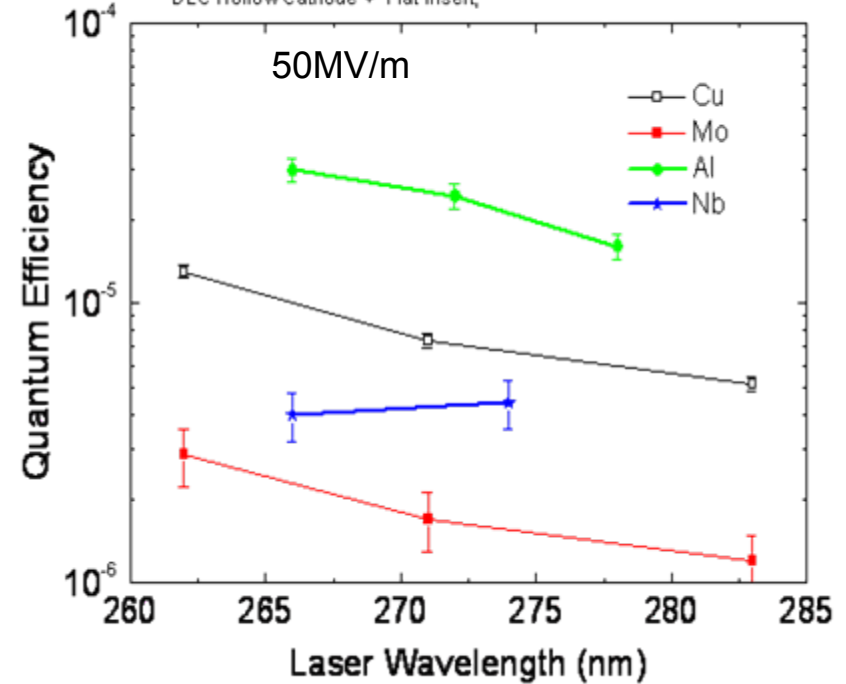
Thermal $\varepsilon(\lambda)$; QE(λ); QE(E)

Ti sa; 4 ps rms; 5 MeV; On Crest -10 deg; 300kV; 6 mm
DLC Hollow Cathode + Flat Insert;

C.P. Hauri et al, PRL 104, 234802, 2010

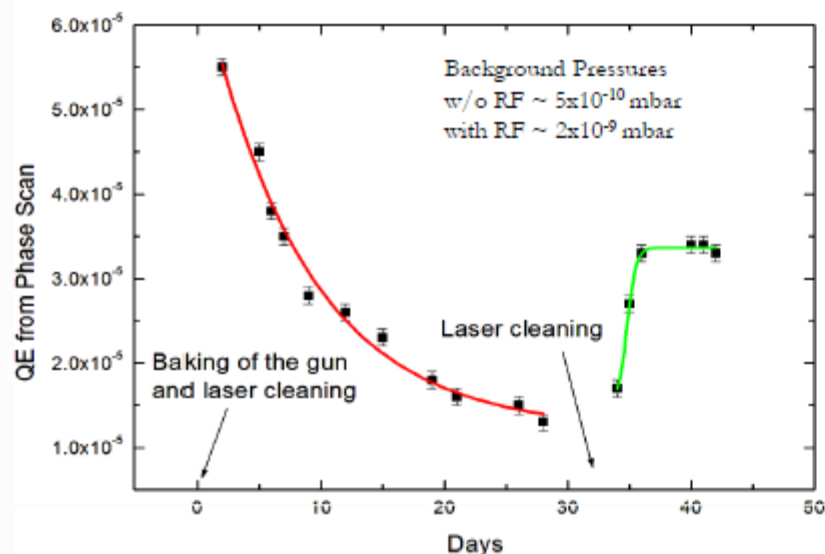


$$\varepsilon_{Intrinsic, Simple} = \sigma_{x, laser} \sqrt{\frac{h\nu - \Phi_0 + e^{3/2} \frac{F_{eff}^{1/2}}{(4\pi\varepsilon_0)^{1/2}}}{3mc^2}}$$



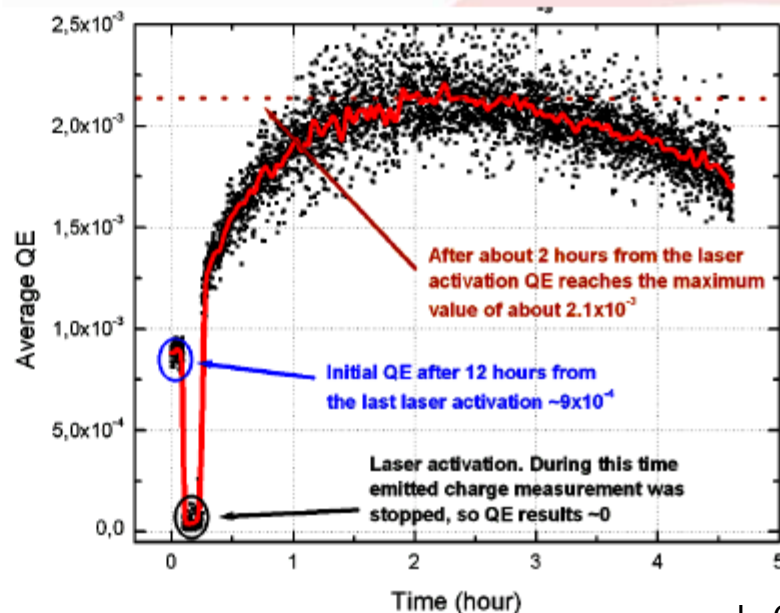
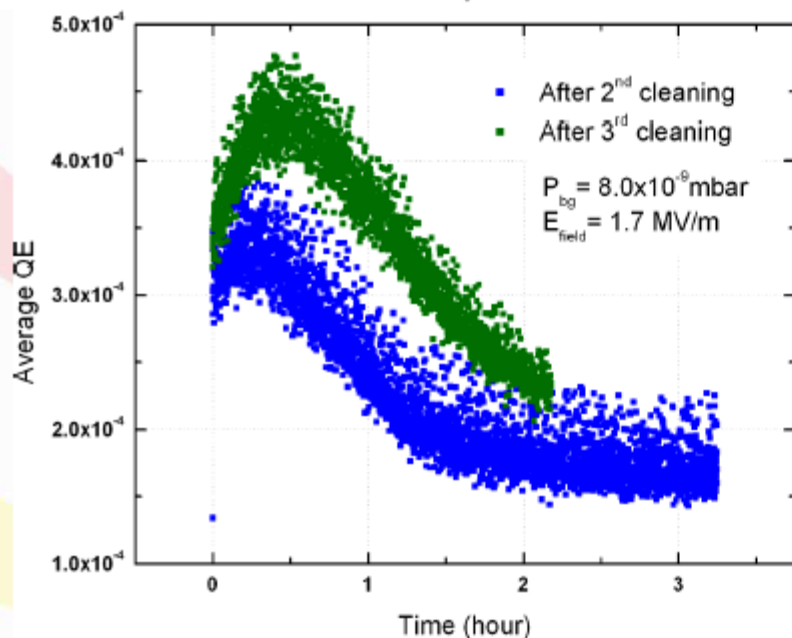
Metallic photocathode: lifetime

Cu



Despite their lower claimed contamination sensitivity even in UHV (10^{-9} mbar range) low work function metals as Mg, Y but also the most inert Cu may suffer from the contamination due to chemical species present in residual gases (H_2 , CO , CO_2 , H_2O).

Y

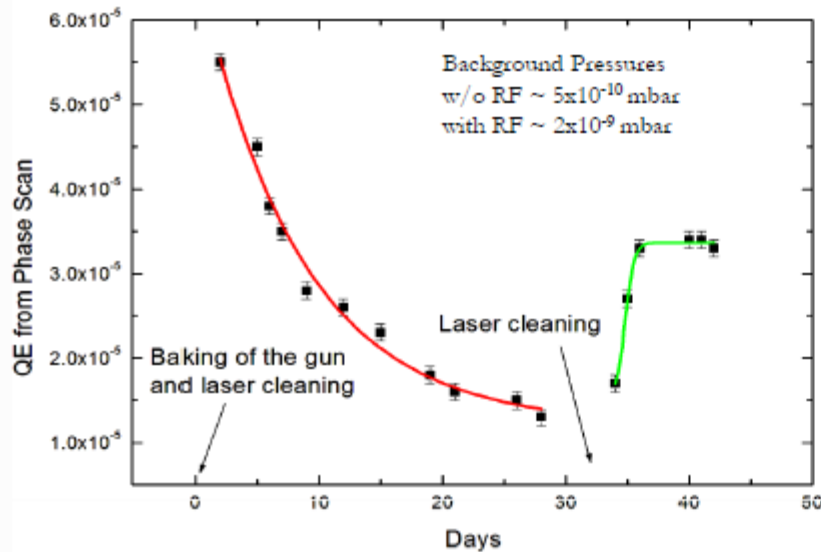


Mg

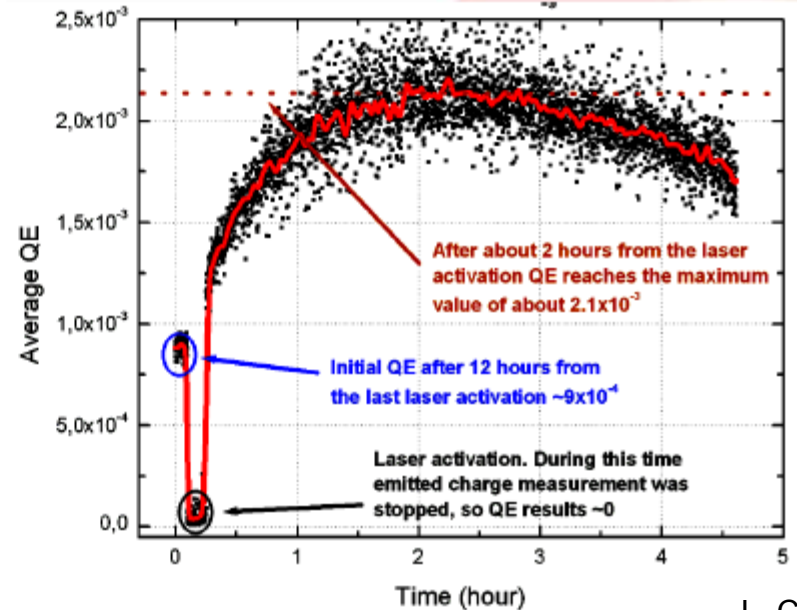
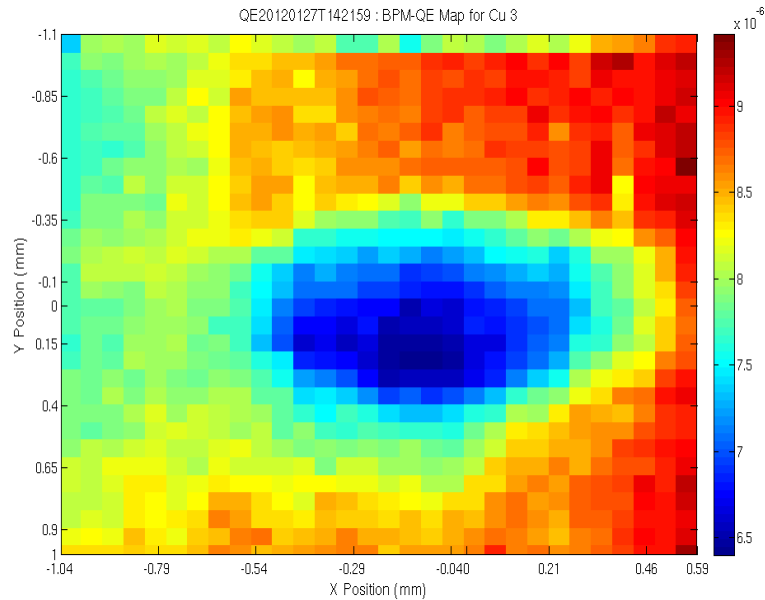
L. Cultrera

Metallic photocathode: lifetime

Cu



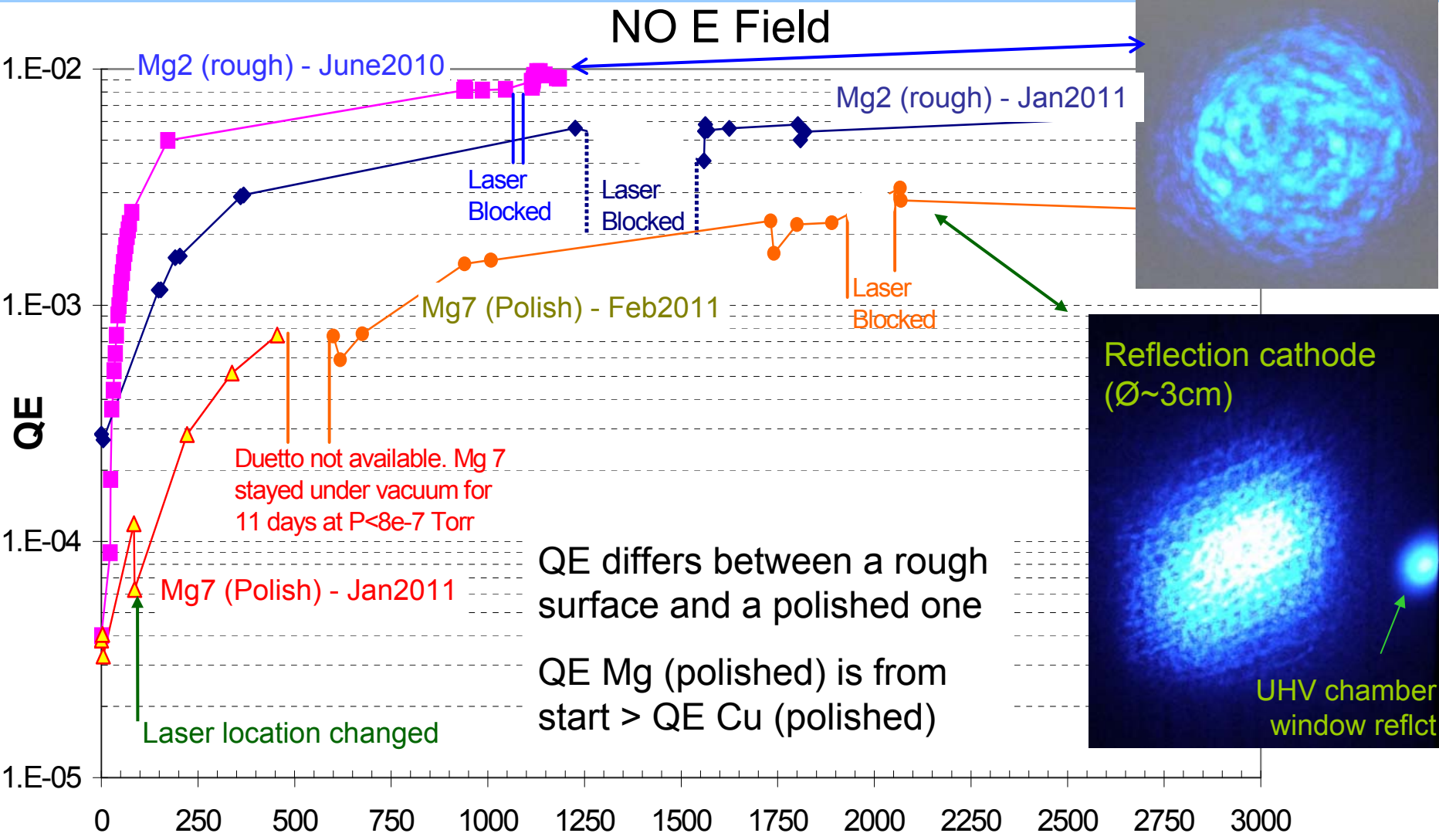
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Mg

L. Cultrera

Mg Laser Cleaning and lifetime



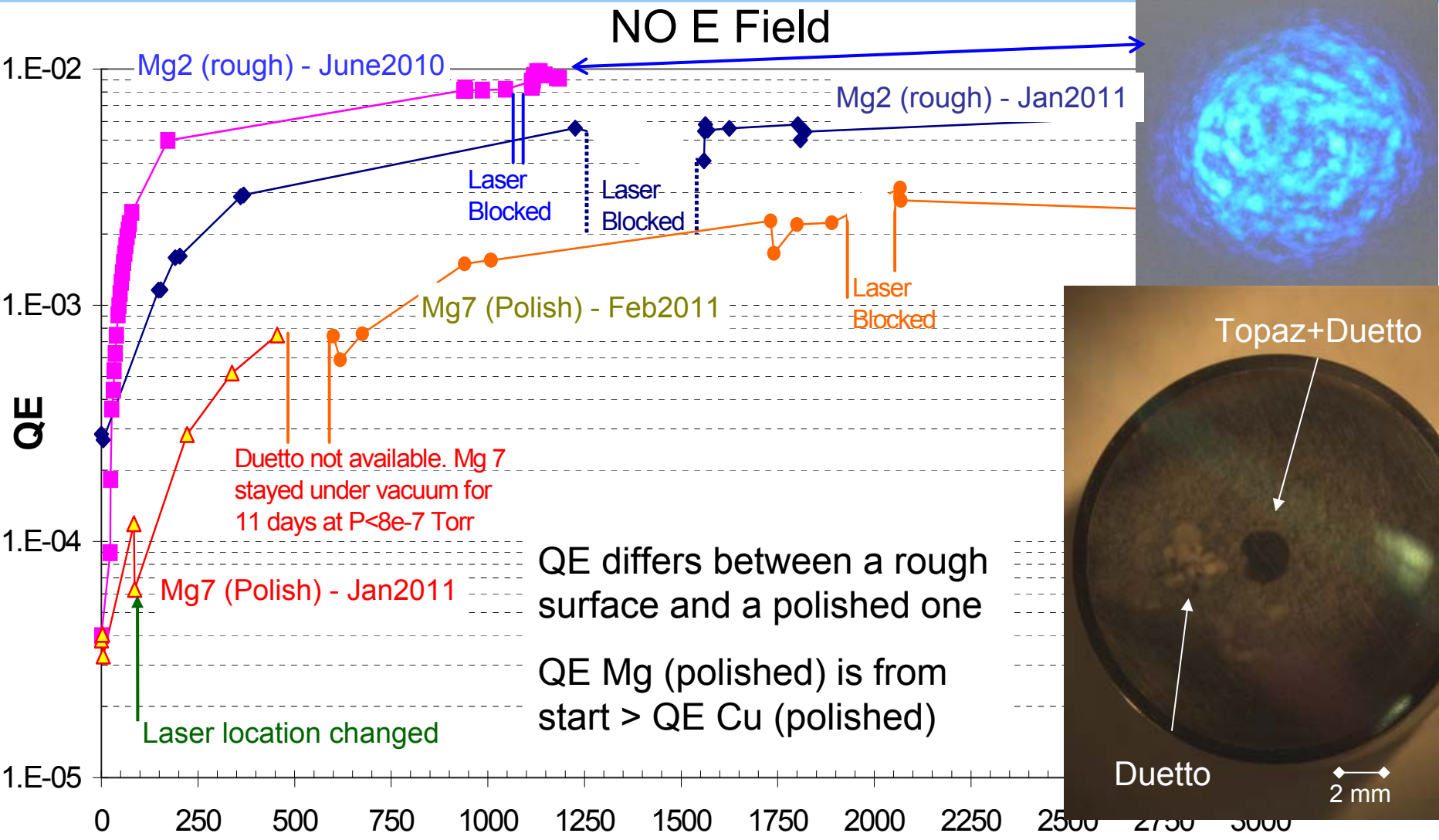
Laser size on sample : $\text{Ø} = 8 \text{ mm}$
 Fluence $\sim 1.2 \mu\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$

Time (min)

Duetto laser, 355 nm; 10 ps, 115 mW to 150 mW , 200 kHz rep rate

F. Le Pimpec et al, arXiv:1202.0152, (2012)

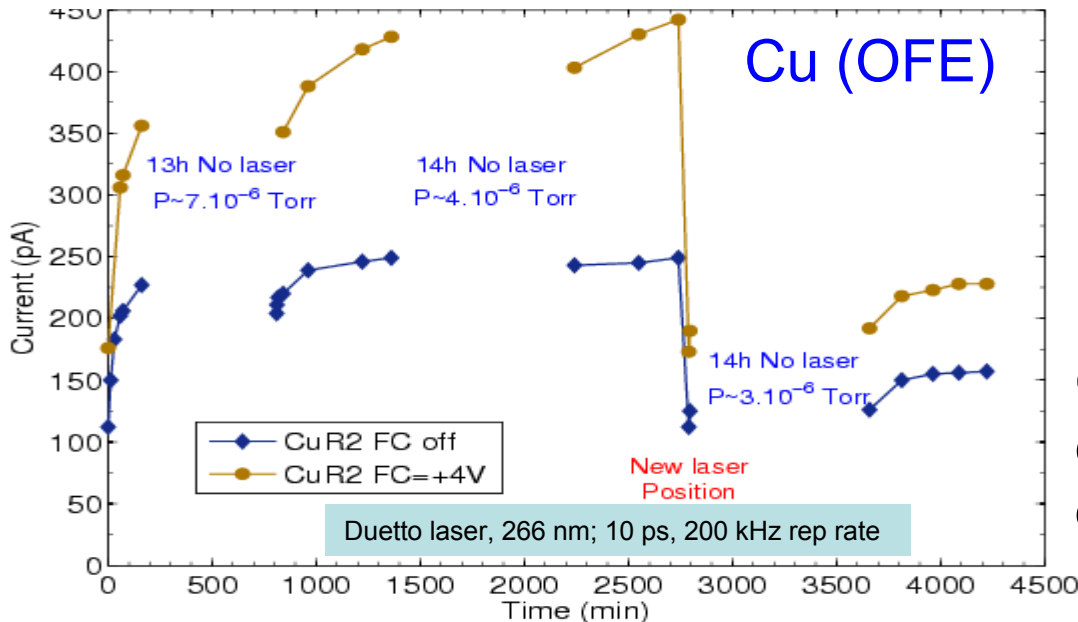
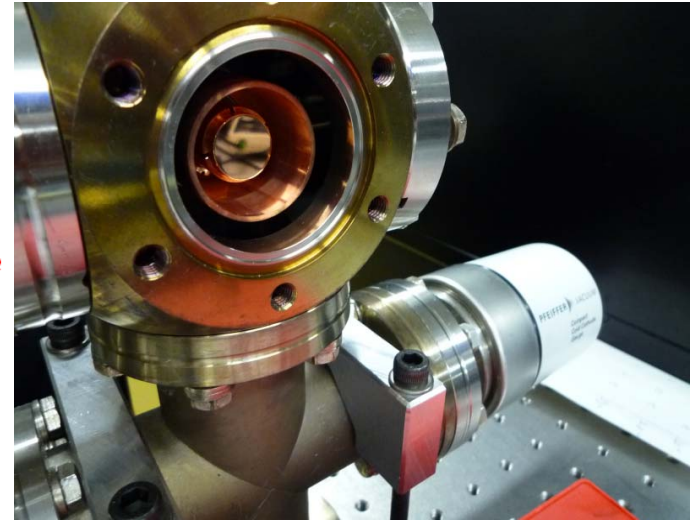
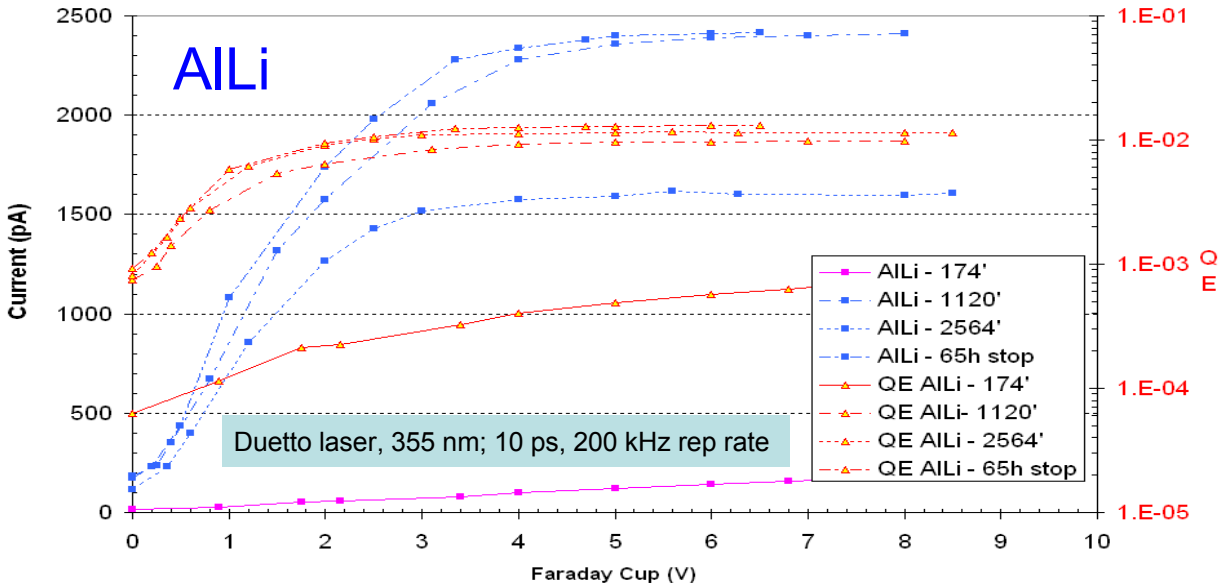
Mg Laser Cleaning and lifetime



Laser size on sample : $\varnothing=8$ mm
 Fluence $\sim 1.2 \mu\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$

Duetto laser, 355 nm; 10 ps, 115 mW to 150 mW , 200 kHz rep rate

Lifetime in absence of RF field



Unbaked Vacuum : $P \sim 10^{-6}$ Torr
Main peak: H_2O at first, then H_2

NO QE degradation on Al, AILi, Cu or Mg cathodes. On the contrary increase of the extracted current with time.

Summary & Conclusions

- Compact (\$\$) High Brilliance XFEL requires a high Brightness electron beam → Need for low thermal emittance electron source.
- RF Photogun technology has matured. Not quite off the shelves yet.
- Cathodes are easily available (SC too) - They provide the charge, lifetime is sufficiently long. This is what is often requested.
- Metal photocathodes in XFEL RF guns do suffer from QE degradation over the months. *Not acceptable !*
- Laser (Ozone) Cleaning on Mg is very efficient: low rep rate high laser E density and high rep rate low laser E are both very efficient in improving QE. *For how long ?*
- In the community this degradation is attributed to vacuum effect (photocracking on the surface ?). *We showed that this is not the case. Is the native oxide presence beneficial ? The presence of the RF field is important !!!*

Future...

- The XFEL community wants an *Emittonium* cathode :
QE ~ %, $P_{\perp} \sim 0$, fast response time, long life time,
resilient to adverse vacuum conditions.
- Constructing such lattice will require a much better
theoretical understanding of the electron transport-
emission, more R&D in material science... TIME !!!!

- US national labs are trying to seriously tie up on this topic.
- Europe : Some talks about collaboration (UK, PSI, DESY, Milan...)



Aimed at bringing the photocathode community together to discuss and explore the current state of the art in accelerator photocathodes, from both a theoretical and a materials science perspective.

All types of photocathode materials were discussed, including metals, NEA and PEA semiconductors, and 'designer' photocathodes with bespoke properties.

Share documentation

Learn from our predecessors

<http://www.bnl.gov/pppworkshop/>

Fay Hannon



<http://photocathodes2011.eurofel.eu/talks/>



