

# What are bulk superconducting magnets?

Dr. Kévin Berger

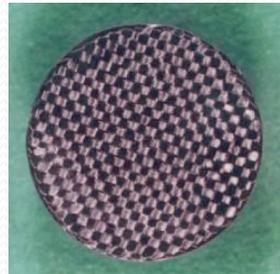
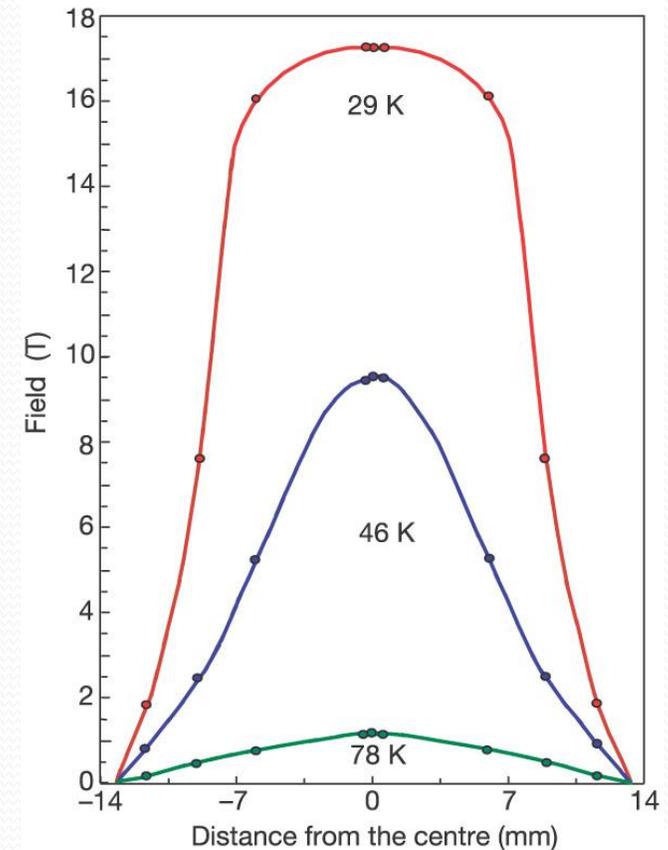
Group of Research in Electrical Engineering of Nancy – GREEN (France)  
[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kevin\\_Berger](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kevin_Berger)



# Why are bulk superconducting materials interesting?

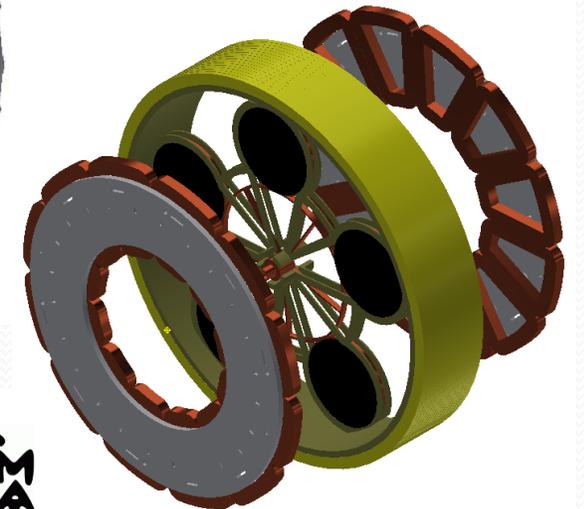
- They can 'trap' or 'screen' large magnetic fields  $> 17$  T (between a stack of 2 disks)
  - Allowing a considerable increase in the power density of electric motors
- We anticipate that they are the key to a major technological breakthrough
- Replacing the classic NdFeB permanent magnets...

[M. Tomita et M. Murakami., « High-temperature superconductor bulk magnets that can trap magnetic fields of over 17 tesla at 29 K », Nature 421, pp. 517-520, 2003.](#)



# Bulks HTS synchronous motors

50 kW, 5000 rpm @30 K (still under test @ GREEN)



# Presentation Outline

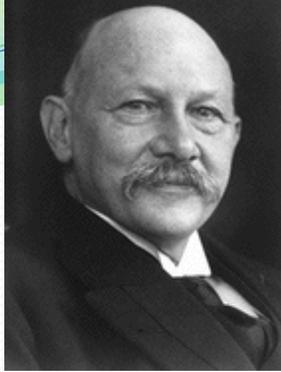
- Superconductivity basics
- Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)
  - Types of bulk materials, fabricating, characterizing, magnetization
- How does Pulsed Field Magnetization process work?
  - In real life cases

# Superconductivity basics

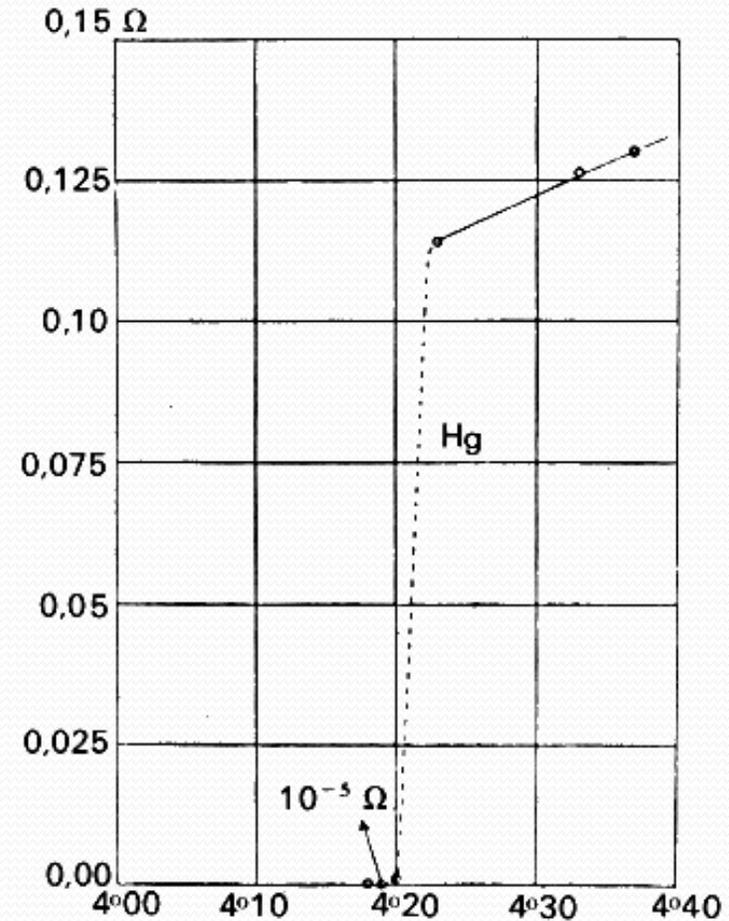
- Zero resistance

Discovered at the university of Leiden in 1911 by Kamerlingh Onnes who was working on the resistivity of Mercury.

- $T_c$ : Critical temperature concept



Heike Kamerlingh  
Onnes

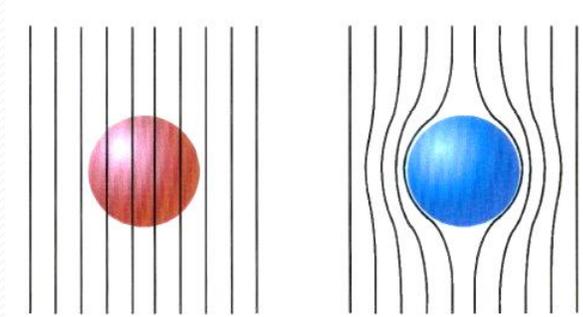




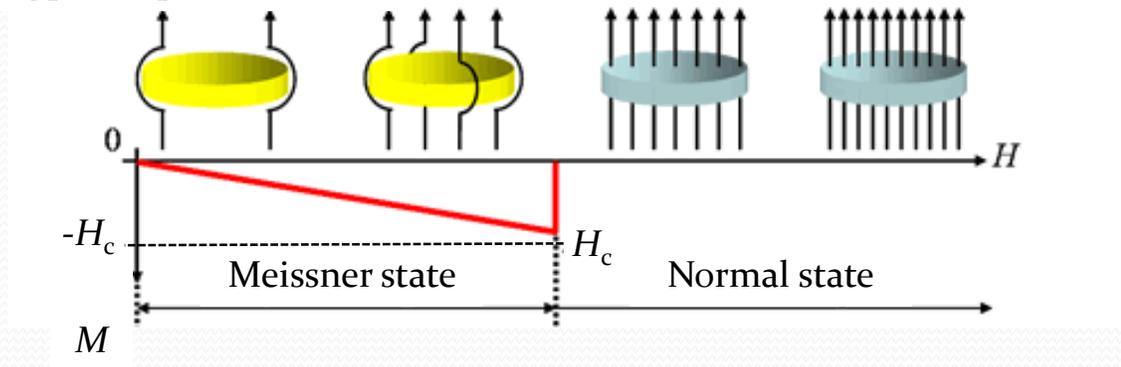
Walter Meißner

# Superconductivity basics

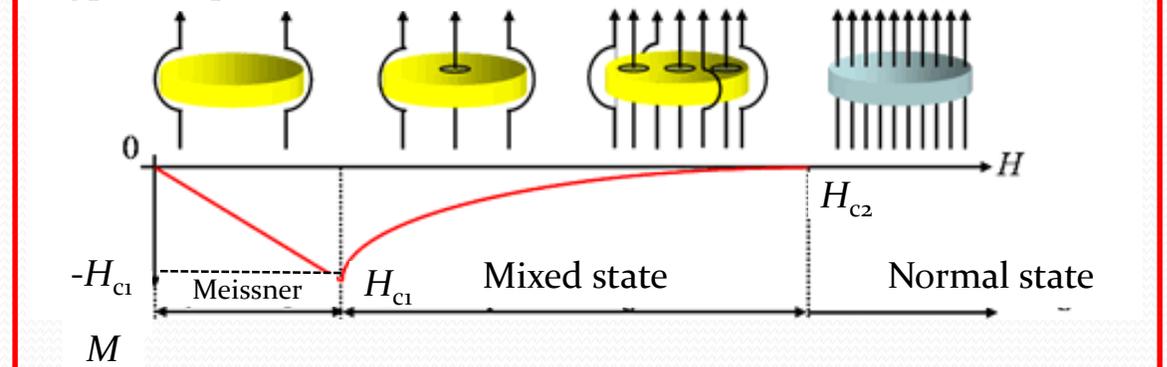
- Meissner effect (1933)
  - Characterized by a perfect diamagnetism ( $B = 0$ )
  - Below critical field  $H_c$  (or first critical field  $H_{c1}$ )



Type-I superconductor



Type-II superconductor

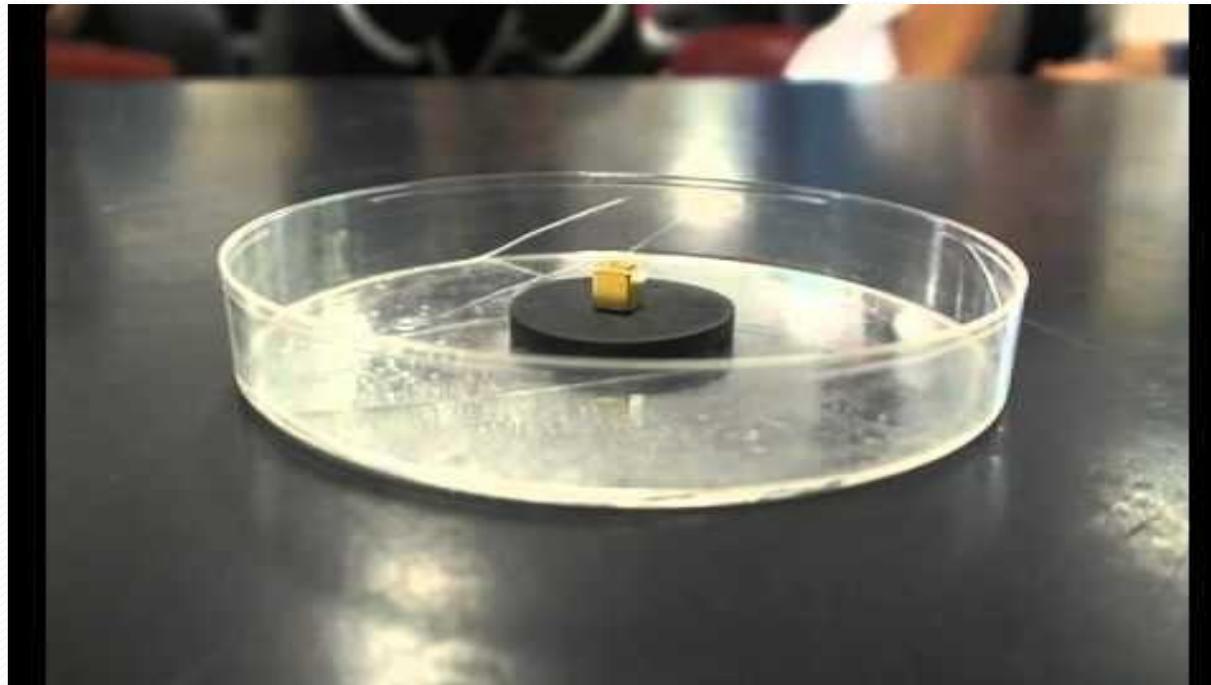


# Superconductivity basics



Walter Meißner

- Levitation by Meissner effect  $\neq$  Flux pinning effect
  - <https://youtu.be/JIjzJKnpahA>





Walter Meißner

# Superconductivity basics

- Meissner effect
  - Eddy currents flow on surface of superconductor to maintain internal  $B = 0$ 

{Ref.} Brandt, E. H., & Mikitik, G. P. (2000). Meissner-London currents in superconductors with rectangular cross section. *Physical review letters*, 85(19), 4164.
  - These currents are reversible (related to  $B$  or not  $dB/dt$ )
  - The typical size of these currents corresponds to the London's penetration depth  $\lambda$

Type	Material	$T_c$ [T]	$H_c(o)$ [T]	$H_{c1}(o)$ [T]	$H_{c2}(o)$ [T]	$\lambda(o)$ [nm]
I	Pb	7.2	0.080	-	-	48
II	Nb	9.2	0.200	0.170	0.4	40
II	Nb <sub>3</sub> Sn	18	0.540	0.050	30	85
II	NbN	16.2	0.230	0.020	15	200
II	MgB <sub>2</sub>	40	0.430	0.030	3.5	140
II	YBCO	93	1.400	0.010	100	150

# Superconductivity basics

- Mixed state
  - Only practical operating state possible for superconductors
  - Above first critical field  $H_{c1}$  (a few mT for HTS)
  - Below second critical field  $H_{c2}$  (from a few T to a hundred T)
  - The magnetic field penetrates the material in multiples of flux quantum  $\Phi_0 = 2,067\ 833\ 667 \times 10^{-15}$  Wb
- The fluxons (or vortices) are not independent, they form a triangular network, known as the Abrikosov network

$$a = \left( \frac{2\Phi_0}{\sqrt{3}B} \right)^{1/2}$$

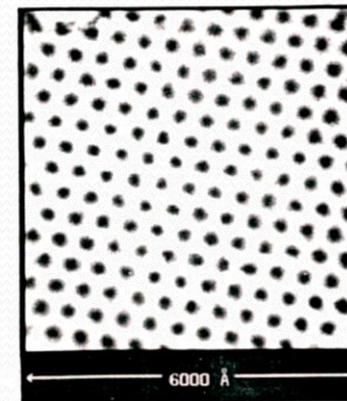
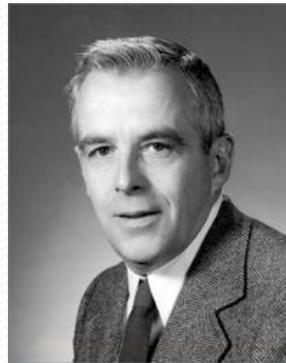


FIG. 2. Abrikosov flux lattice produced by a 1-T magnetic field in NbSe<sub>2</sub> at 1.8 K. The scan range is about 6000 Å. The

# Superconductivity basics

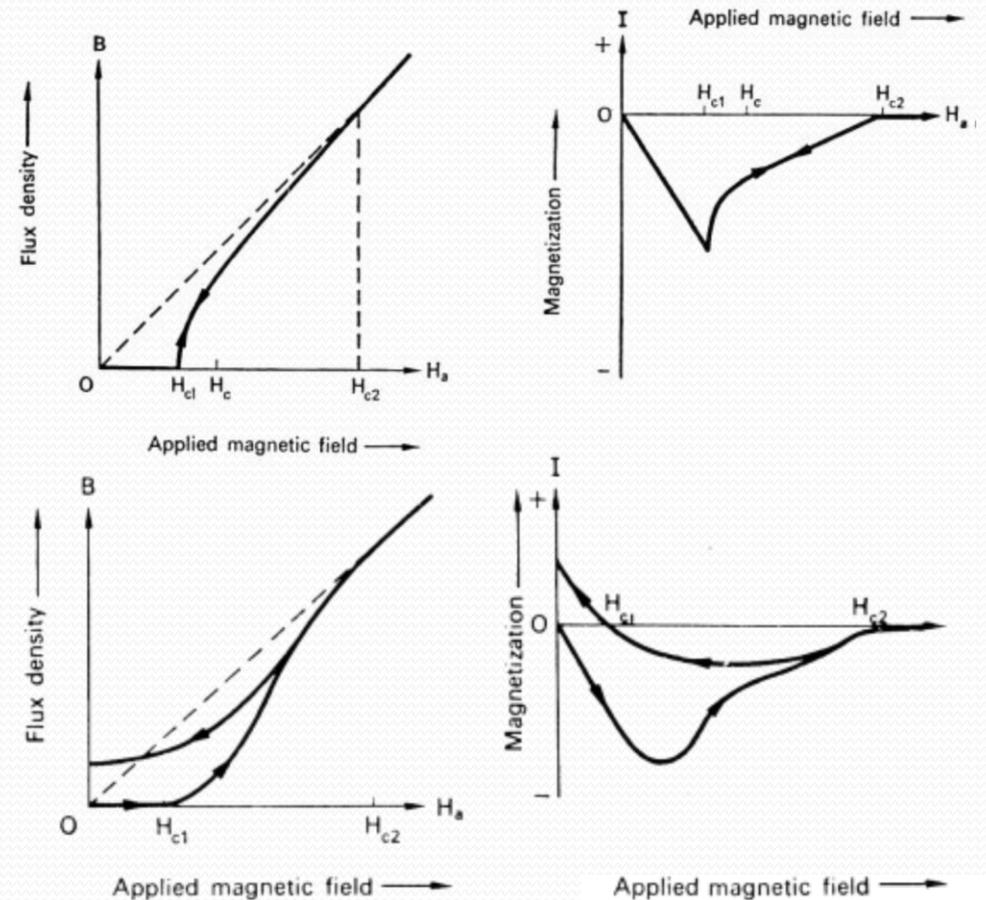
- Magnetization curves
  - Reversible effect
    - No pinning
  - Irreversible effect
    - Some vortices are pinned
    - Explained by Bean's critical state model which introduces a critical current density  $J_c$



Charles Bean

{Ref.} [Bean, C. P. \(1962\). Magnetization of hard superconductors. \*Physical review letters\*, 8\(6\), 250.](#)

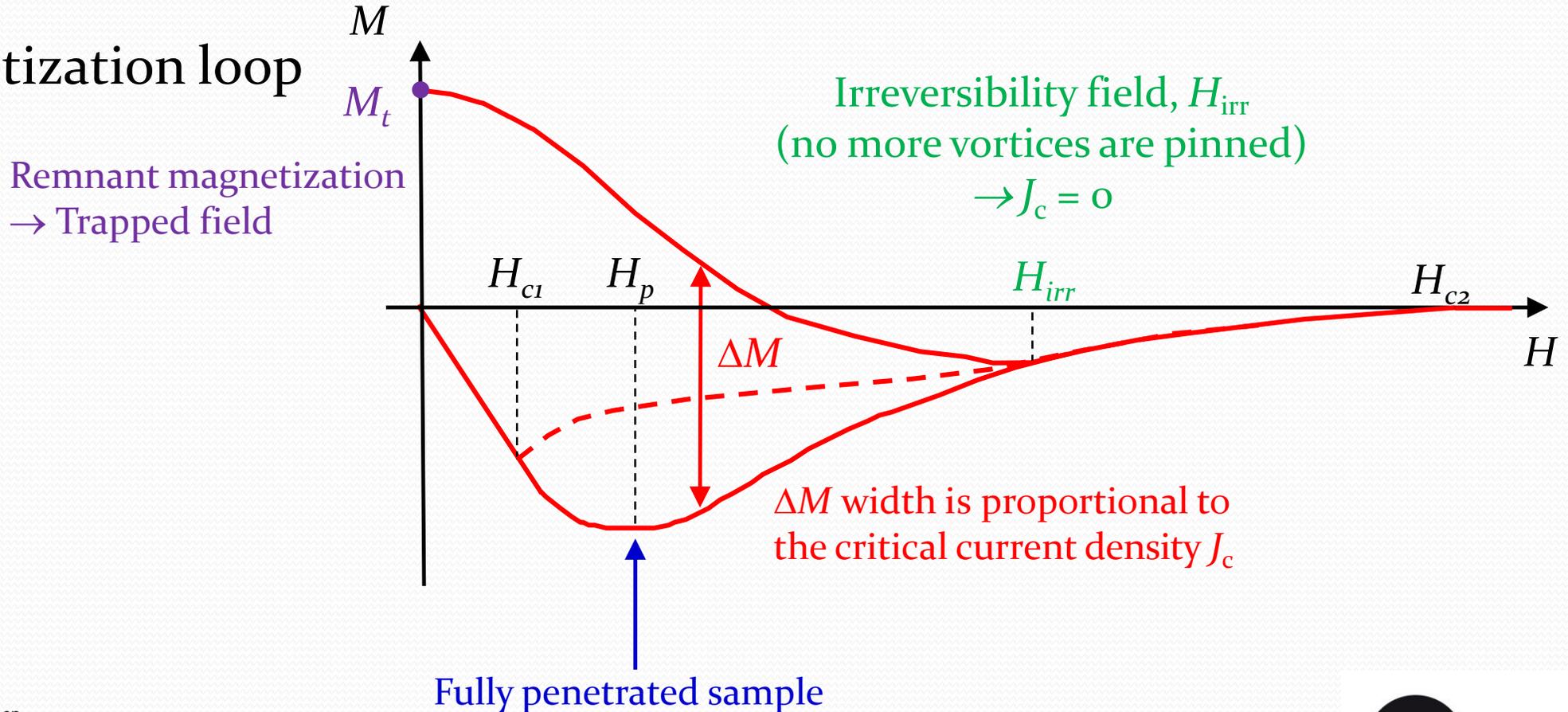
Magnetic flux density  $B = \mu_0 (H + M)$  Magnetization



Pictures from « Introduction Superconductivity », Rose-Innes, 1969

# Superconductivity basics

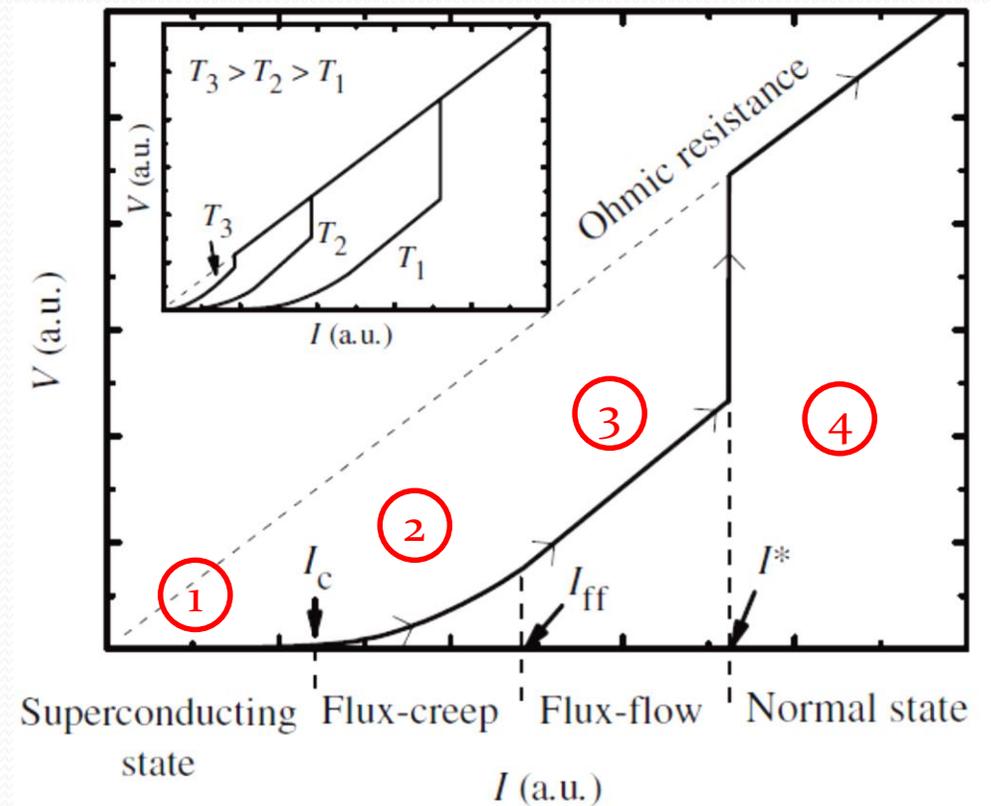
- Magnetization loop



# Superconductivity basics

[Ref.] Osorio, M. R., Morales, A. P., Rodrigo, J. G., Suderow, H., & Vieira, S. (2012). Demonstration experiments for solid-state physics using a table-top mechanical Stirling refrigerator. *European journal of physics*, 33(4), 757.

- Influence of vortex motion
  - (1) Zero resistance
  - (2)  $V \propto I^n$
  - (3)  $V \propto (I - I_{ff})$
  - (4)  $V \propto I$
- Only true for isothermal experiment



# Superconductivity basics

- $E(J)$  models vs Experiments
  - Percolation model

$$E(J) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } J \leq J_{c,\min} \\ E_c \left( \frac{J - J_{c,\min}}{J_c - J_{c,\min}} \right)^n, & \text{if } J > J_{c,\min} \end{cases}$$

- Power law

$$E(J) = E_c \left( \frac{J}{J_c} \right)^n \quad \text{with } E_c = 1 \mu\text{V/cm}$$

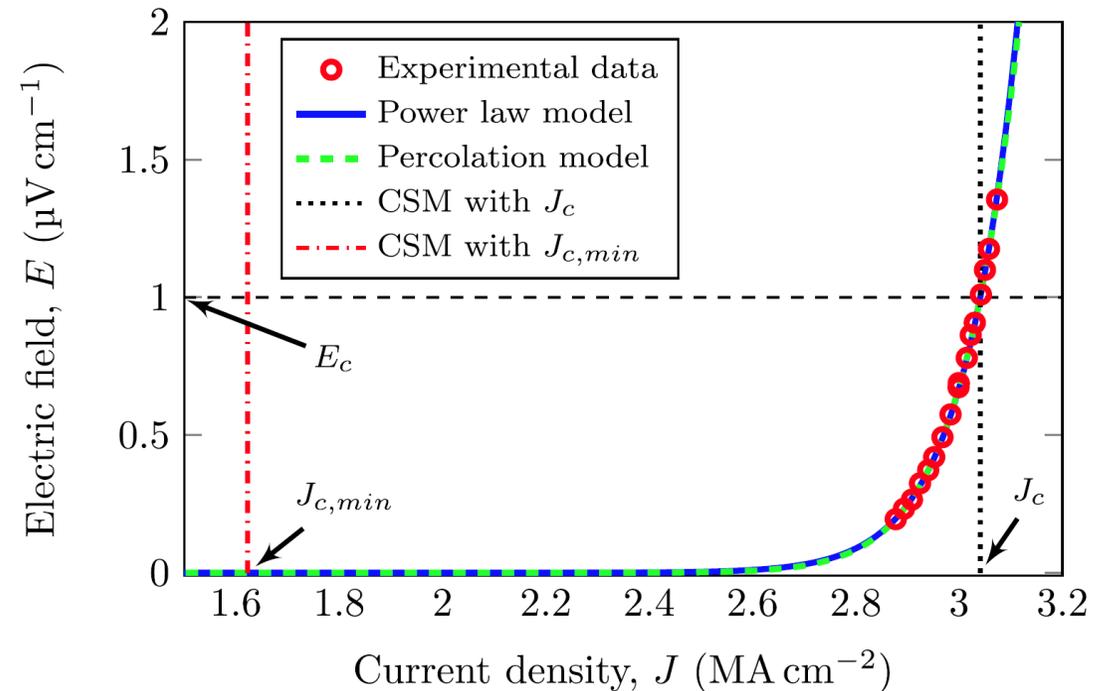
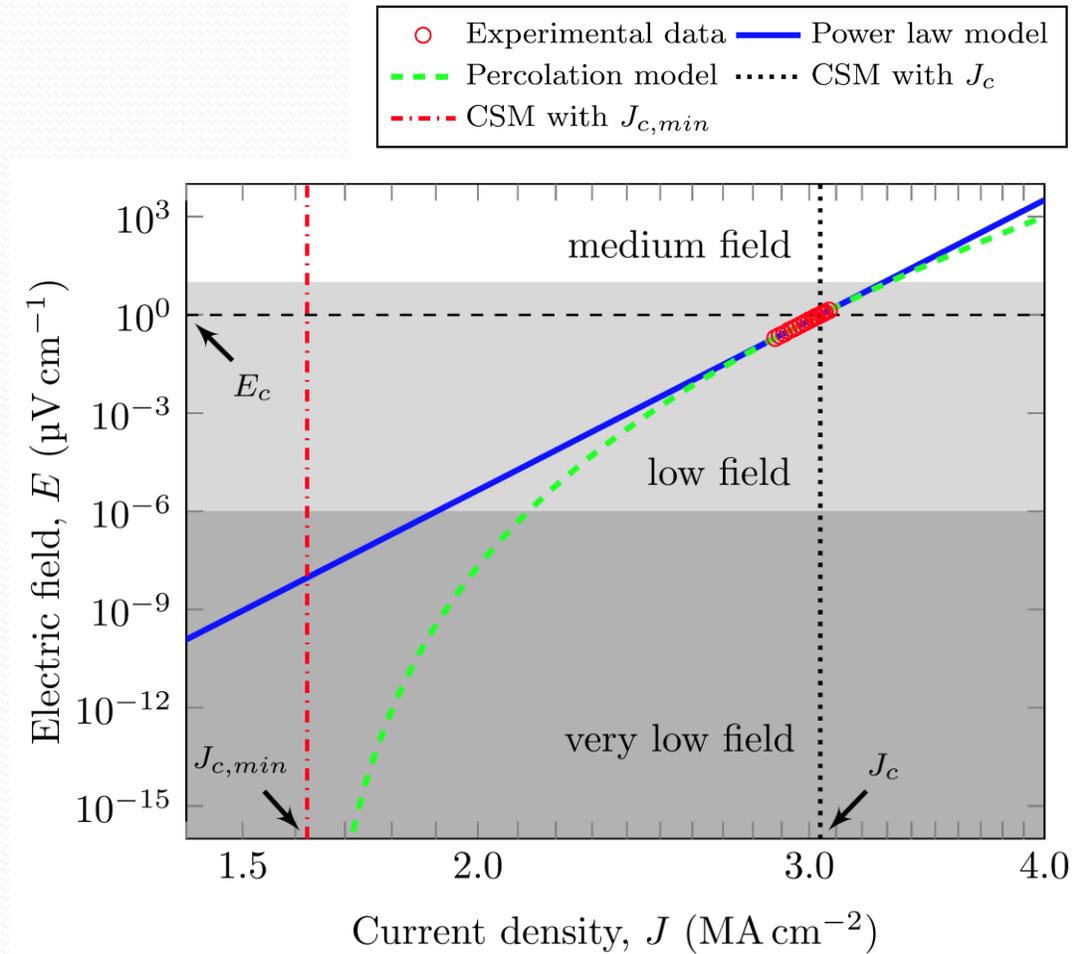


Fig. 1. Experimental data points measured on a 4 mm wide SuperPower tape, as well as  $E - J$  curves for the four different models defined in Section III-A. On this scale, the power law and the percolation models are undistinguishable.

# Superconductivity basics

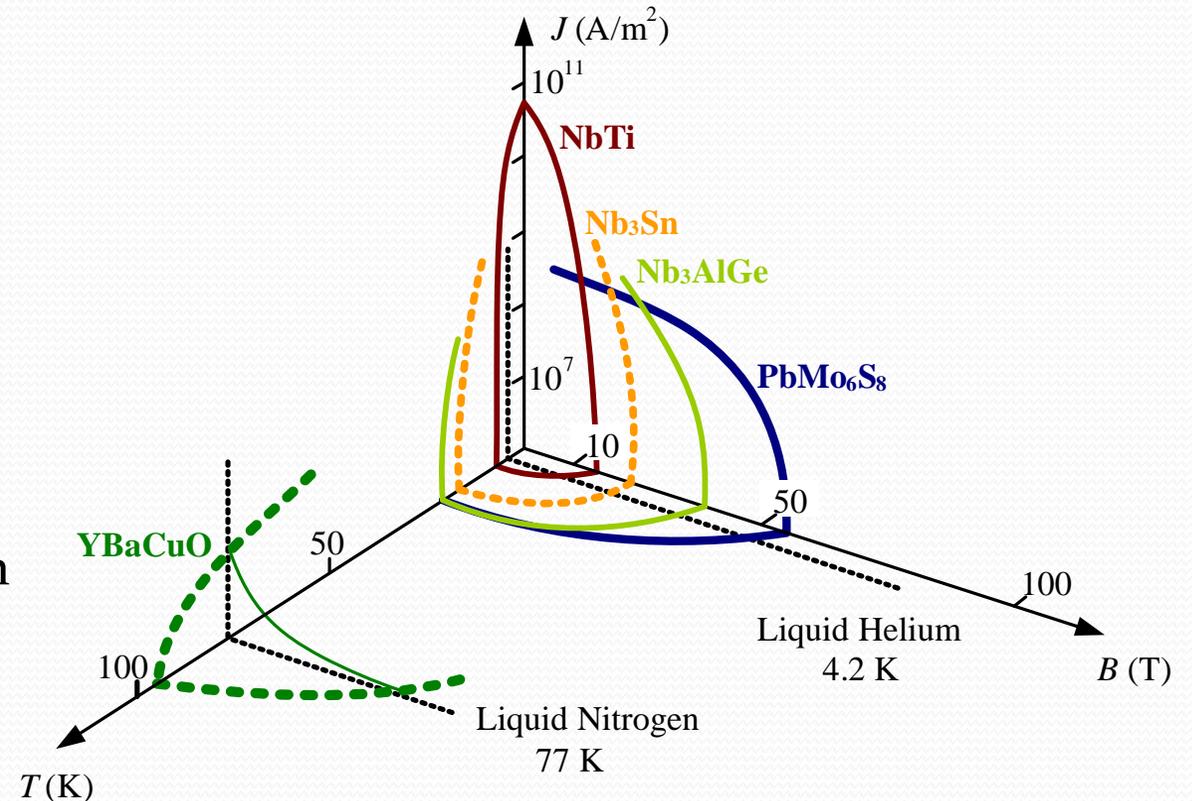
- Both models agree on a common area
- The differences are significant
  - in the low electric field zone
- What can change the current's relaxation

{Ref.} Sirois, F., Grilli, F., & Morandi, A. (2018). Comparison of constitutive laws for modeling high-temperature superconductors. *IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity*, 29(1), 1-10.



# Superconductivity basics

- 3 critical quantities
  - Critical temperature  $T_c$
  - Critical field  $H_c$  (or  $B_c$ )
  - Critical current density  $J_c$  (or  $I_c$ )
    - Related to pinning forces!
    - There are several definitions...
      - Electrical voltage criterion  $E_c = 1 \mu\text{V}/\text{cm}$
      - Magnetization loop width
- It defines a critical surface



# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)

- The most famous are probably the (RE)BaCuO
  - (RE) = Rear Earth elements  
Y, Gd, Nd, Eu, Dy...
- Trapped magnetic field is achieved by pinning penetrated magnetic field (quantized flux lines)
- By means of induced macroscopic electric currents



A large, single grain YBaCuO bulk superconductor from [ATZ GmbH](#) (top side machined)

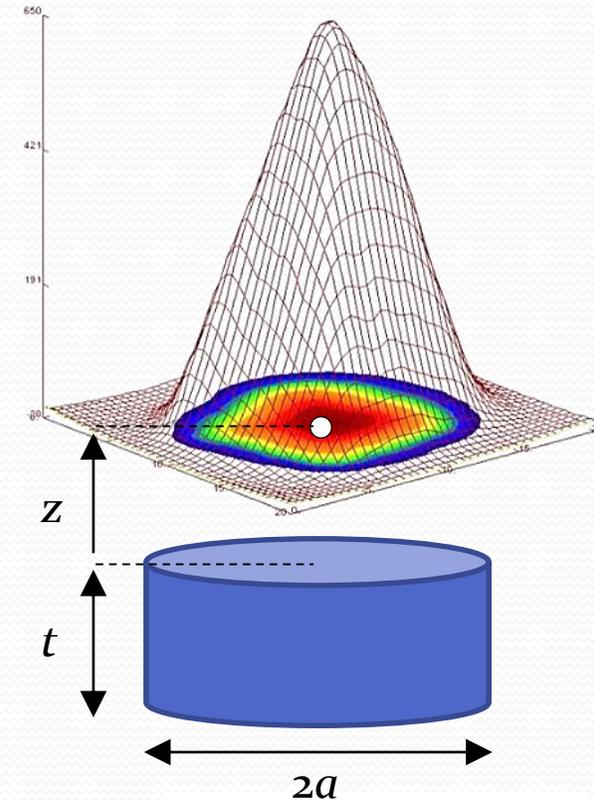
# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)

- Trapped field and magnetization increase with sample volume
  - $t$  = thickness,  $a$  = radius, and  $z$  is the height above the top surface

$$B_{\text{trap}} = \frac{\mu_0 K_s}{2} \left( \frac{z+t}{\sqrt{a^2 + (z+t)^2}} - \frac{z}{\sqrt{a^2 + z^2}} \right)$$

$K_s$  = surface current density (A/m)

$J_v$  = volume current density (A/m<sup>2</sup>)



Only valid for fully penetrated samples and constant  $J_v$

$$+ \frac{\mu_0 J_v}{2} \left( (z+t) \ln \left( \frac{a + \sqrt{a^2 + (z+t)^2}}{z+t} \right) - z \ln \left( \frac{a + \sqrt{a^2 + z^2}}{z} \right) \right)$$

{Ref.} [Chen, I. G., Liu, J., Weinstein, R., & Lau, K. \(1992\). Characterization of YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub>, including critical current density  \$J\_c\$ , by trapped magnetic field. Journal of applied physics, 72\(3\), 1013-1020.](#)

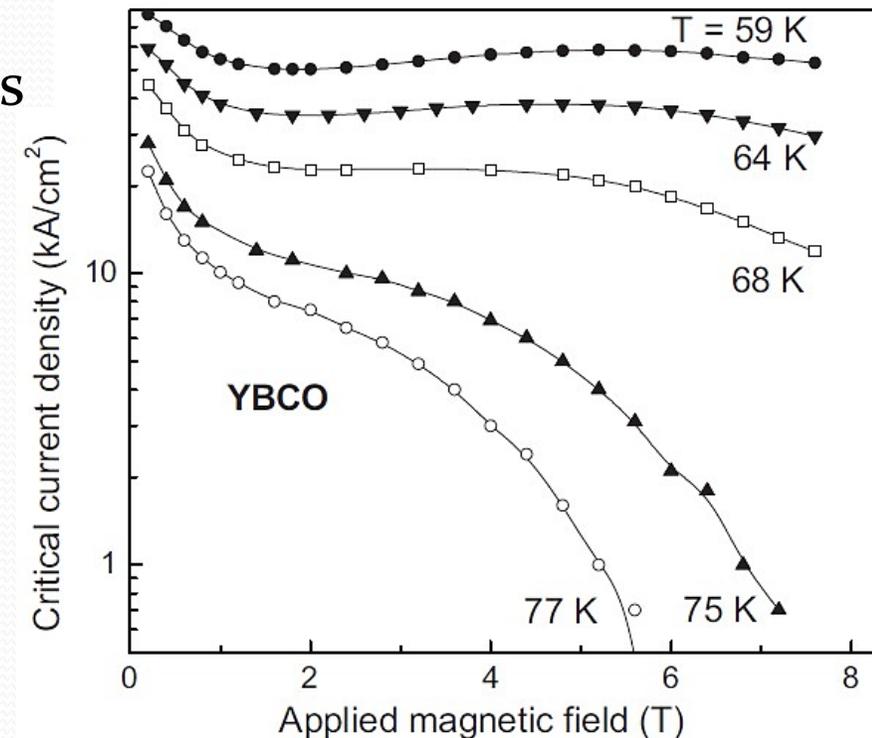
# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)

- Trapped field analytical models
  - Easier to deal with & faster
  - Based on Bean's model and Biot-Savart law
  - Simplified geometries
  - Constant and uniform  $J_v$  is assumed
  - Magnetostatic approximation
    - Current's paths are assumed to be known
- In other cases, numerical simulations are required!
  - This is still a quite complicated task to do
  - Very difficult to precisely predict the whole HTS behavior

# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)

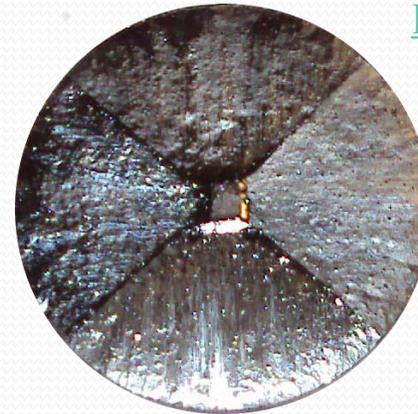
- Candidate materials of possible interest should
  - Carry large current density over large length scales
  - Be “insensitive” to application of large magnetic fields
    - Field dependence of critical current density  $J_c(B)$
  - Have high critical temperature
    - to reduce cooling system constraints

Example of magnetic field dependence of the critical current density of a YBCO



# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)

- Currently, there are 2 main candidates for bulk HTS magnets
  - (RE)BaCuO
    - $T_c \approx 90 - 96$  K
    - Manufacturing is complicated / slow
    - Homogeneity difficult to achieve
  - MgB<sub>2</sub>
    - Discovered in 2001,  $T_c = 39$  K
    - Easy to manufacture
    - Cheap and light-weight

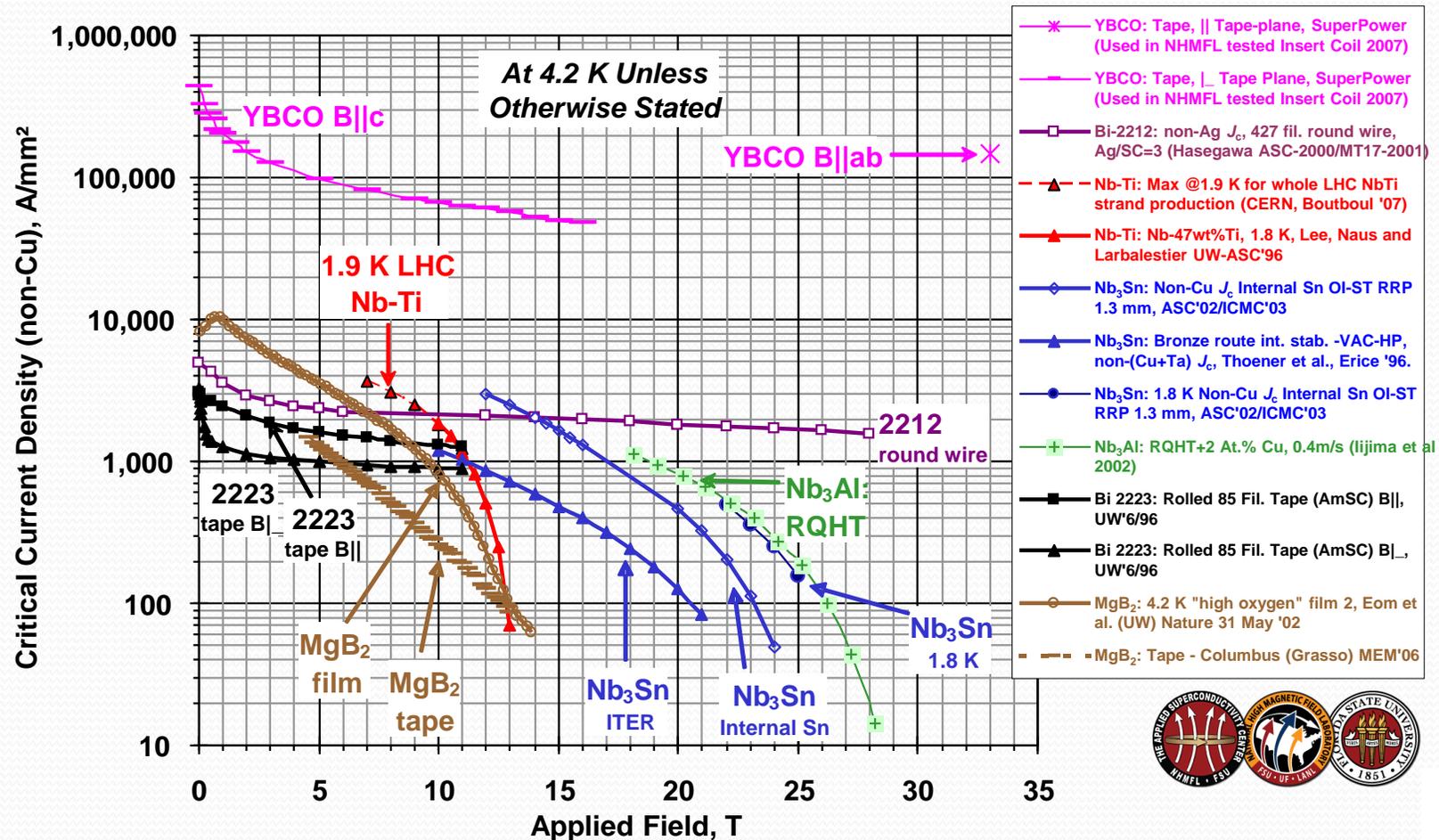


[Picture from BSG, Cambridge, UK](#)



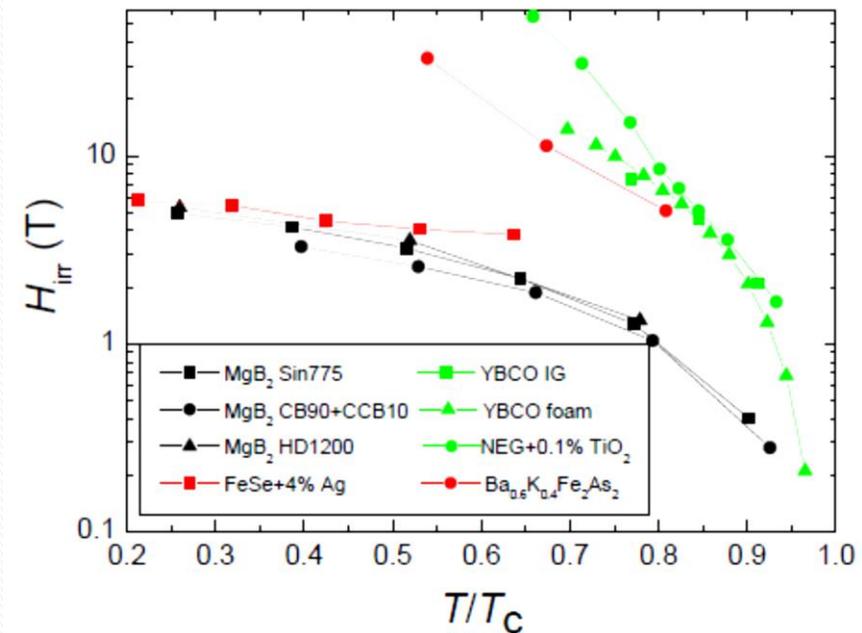
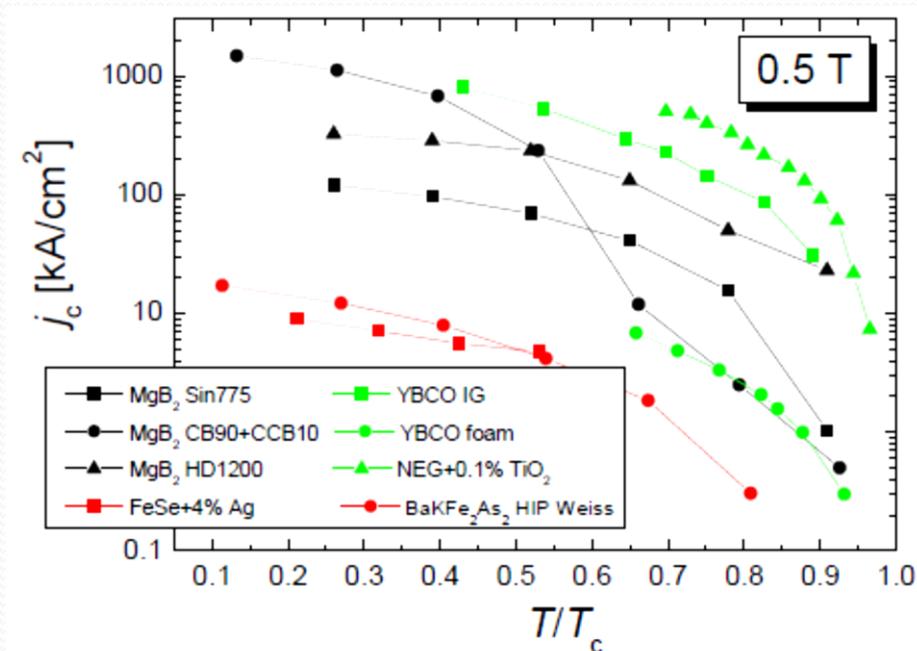
MgB<sub>2</sub> cylinders  
by Mg-RLI process  
[\(Edison SpA\)](#)

# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)



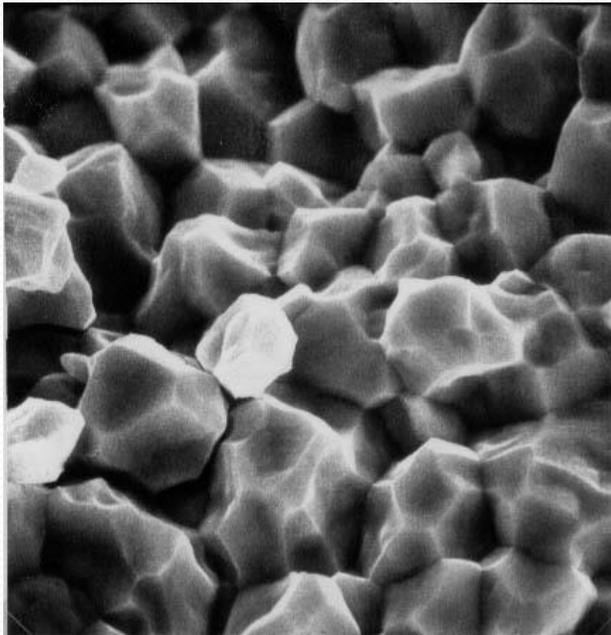
# Bulk High-Temperature Superconductors (HTS)

- Applications are determined by high  $J_c$  and  $H_{irr}$  rather than by high  $T_c$



{Ref.} Koblischka-Veneva, *et al.* (2019). Comparison of Temperature and Field Dependencies of the Critical Current Densities of Bulk YBCO, MgB<sub>2</sub>, and Iron-Based Superconductors. *IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity*, 29(5), 1-5.

# Processing Bulk HTS (courtesy of BSG, Cambridge, UK)



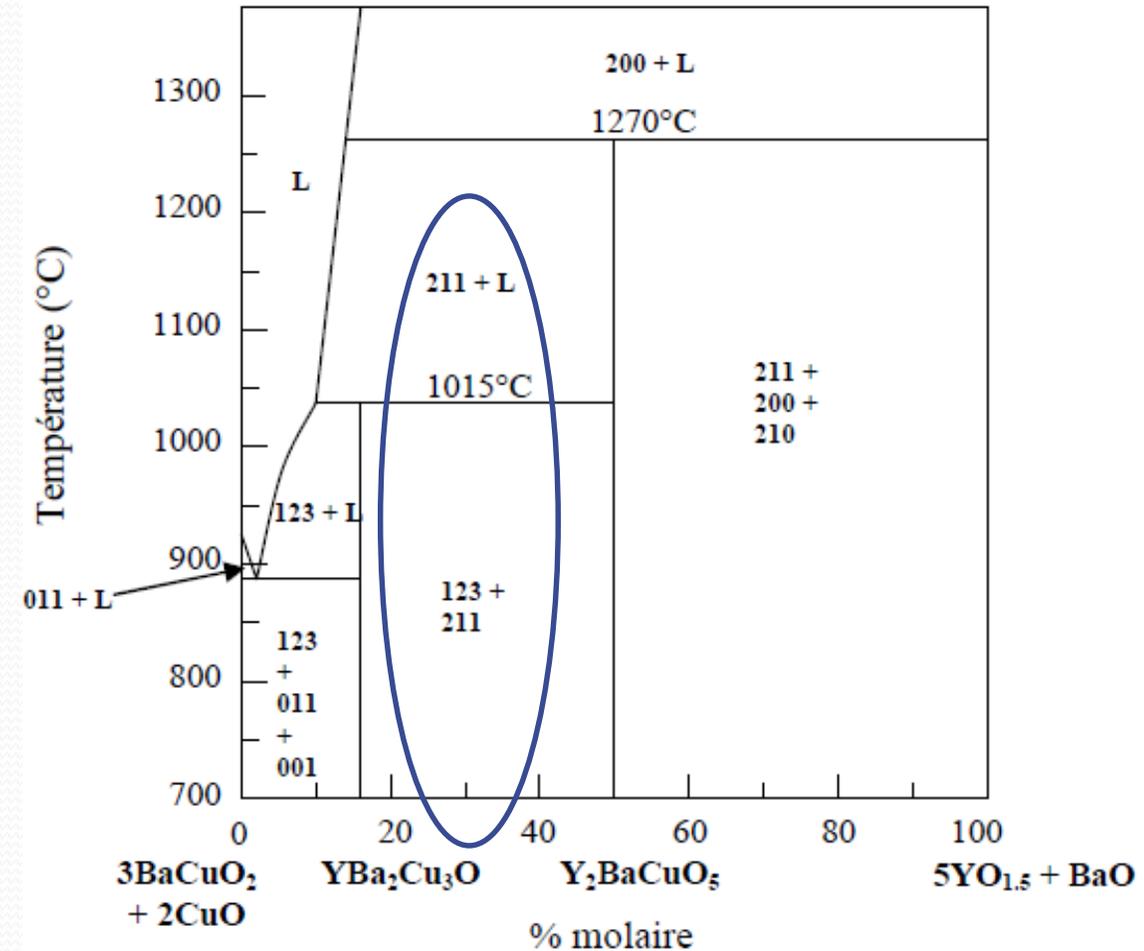
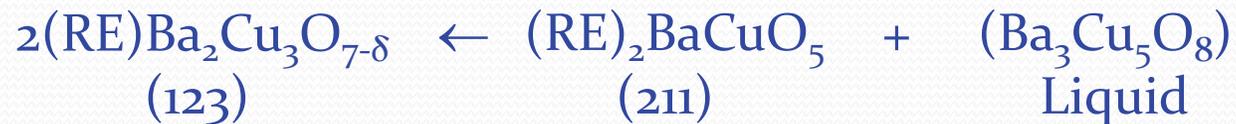
Sintered YBCO

↔  
2 μm

- Simple sintering of (RE)BCO powder in bulks does not result in the best possible material
- Early attempts at sintered bulk materials were disappointing
  - Low  $J_c$
  - Granularity is a problem & grain boundaries = ‘weak-links’
  - Microcracking

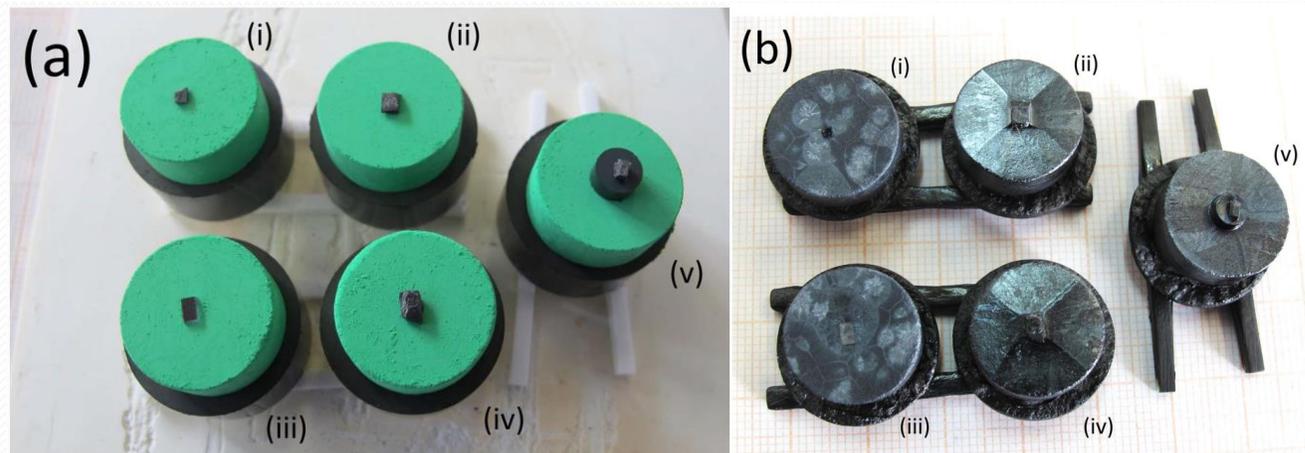
# Processing Bulk HTS

- Grain boundaries can be avoided using a seeded peritectic growth process
- All (RE)BCO melt processes are based on the following peritectic reaction that occurs around 1015°C:



# Processing Bulk HTS

- Top Seeded Melt Growth (TSMG):
  - Seed with the same lattice structure
  - Phase stability with the BaCuO melt
  - Higher melting temperature → initializes growth & controls orientation
  - $T_p(\text{Sm-123}) \sim 1054 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  or  $T_p(\text{Nd-123}) \sim 1068 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  >  $T_p(\text{Y-123}) \sim 1015 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$



[Namburi, D. K., et al. \(2018\). A robust seeding technique for the growth of single grain \(RE\)BCO and \(RE\)BCO–Ag bulk superconductors. \*Superconductor Science and Technology\*, 31\(4\), 044003.](#)

# Processing Bulk HTS – TSMG

## 1. Mixing

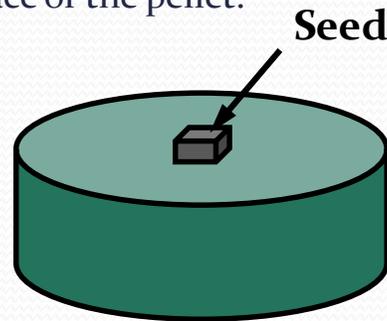
Precursor powders of desired composition are mixed together using a mortar and a pestle. 2 hours are used for a mix of 200g.



Typical composition:  
70wt% Y-123 + 30wt% Y-211  
+ 0.1wt %Pt (grain-refining agent)

## 2. Pressing + Seeding

The mixed precursor is weighed and poured into a die of desired dimensions. The powder inside the die is pressed using a press. A seed is then placed on top of the surface of the pellet.

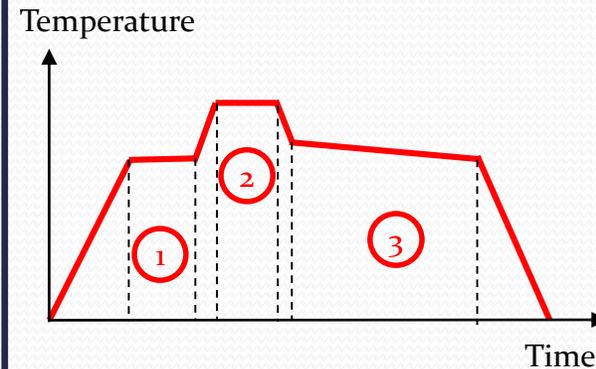


Pressed pellet

Pressure applied: 20 kN-50 kN  
for a pellet 20-40 mm in diameter

## 3. Melt-processing

The pressed pellet with seed is then put into a furnace. The heating profile is as follows:



(1) Sintering ~ 940°C 15 min - 24h  
(2) Decomposition ~1040°C 1h  
(3) Nucleation from 1000°C to 960°C  
~ 2h with respect to the crystal growth  
of that is about 0.1 mm/h (a slower  
rate of temperature decrease is better)

## 4. Oxygenation

Necessary in order to obtain the orthorhombic structure (superconducting phase)

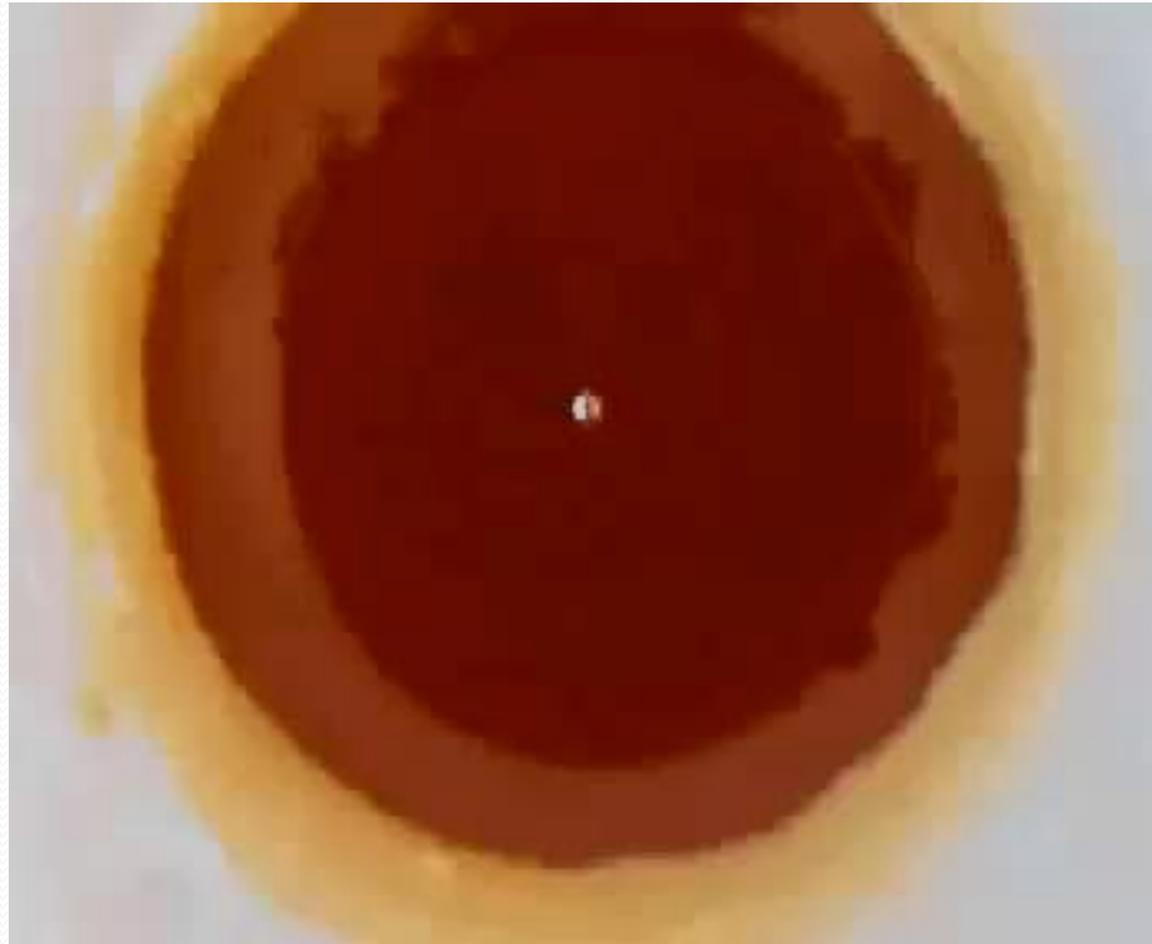
Heat treatment under oxygen  
for approx. 150h - 300h at 450°C



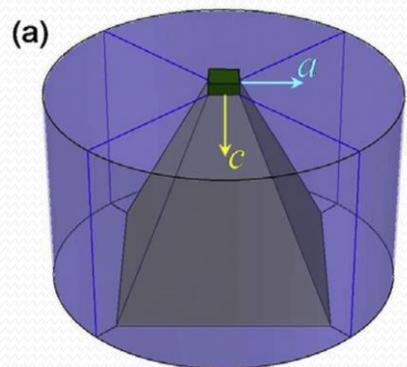
# Processing Bulk HTS (Infiltration Growth and Top Seed Textured)

{Ref.} Chaud, X., Bourgault, D., Chateigner, D., Diko, P., Porcar, L., Villaume, A., ... & Tournier, R. (2006). Fabrication and characterization of thin-wall YBCO single-domain samples. *Superconductor Science and Technology*, 19(7), S590.

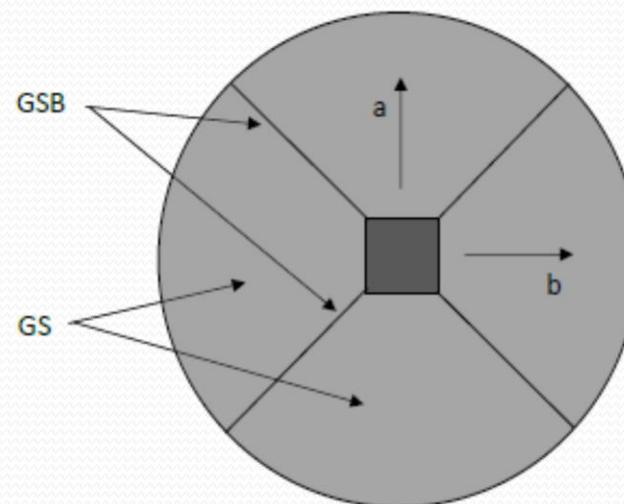
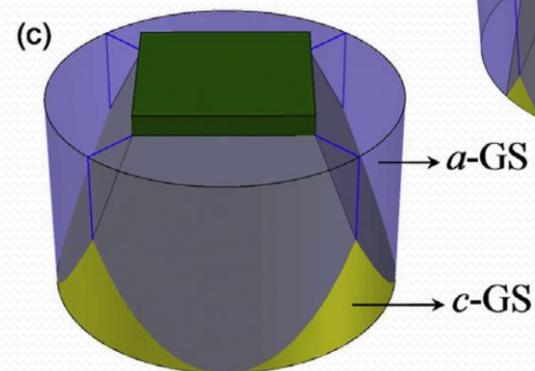
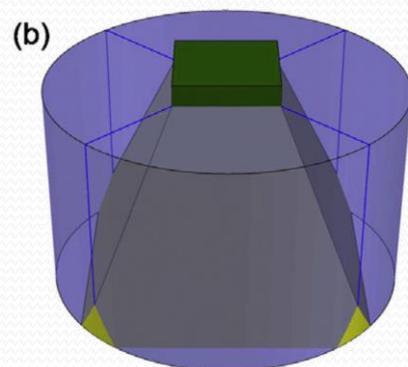
<https://iopscience.iop.org/0953-2048/19/7/S33/media/video1.mpg>



# Processing Bulk HTS – Growth Sector

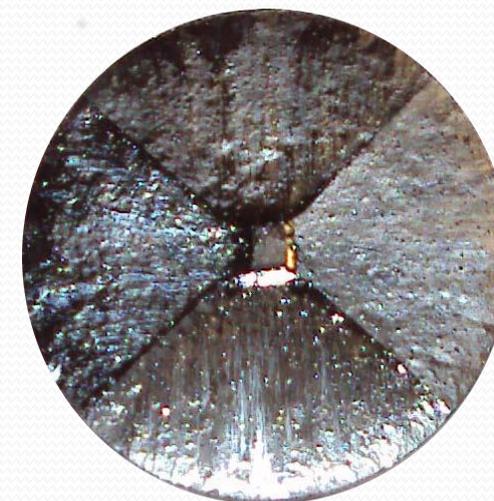


[Ref.] Xie, Y., Wei, L., Li, Q., Chen, Y., Yan, S., Jiao, J. ... & Mei, L. (2016). Epitaxial rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> film based on MgF<sub>2</sub> substrate for ultraviolet detector. *Journal of Alloys and Compounds*, 683, 439-443.



GSB: Growth Sector Boundary  
 GS: Growth Sector  
 a-GS: a-Growth Sector  
 c-GS: c-Growth Sector

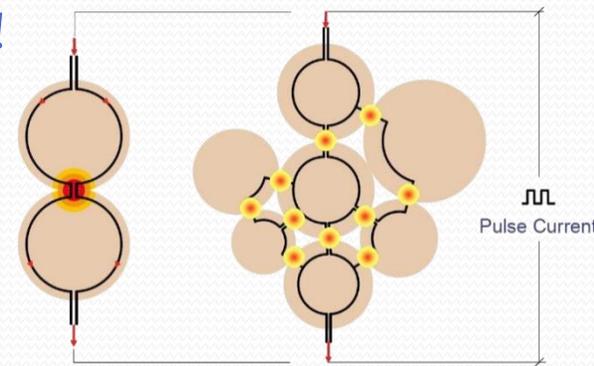
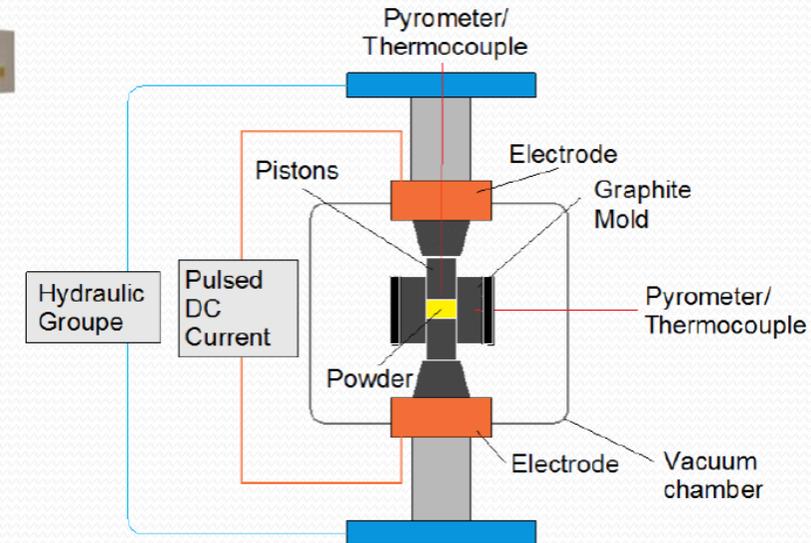
Picture from BSG,  
 Cambridge, UK



# Processing Bulk $\text{MgB}_2$

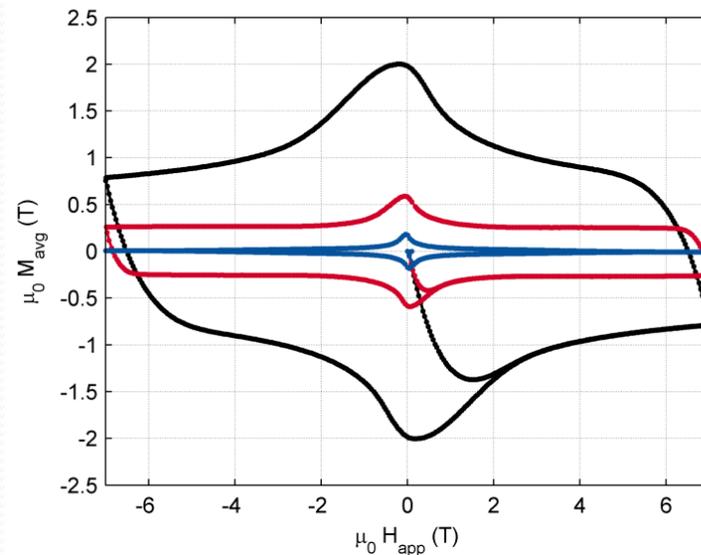
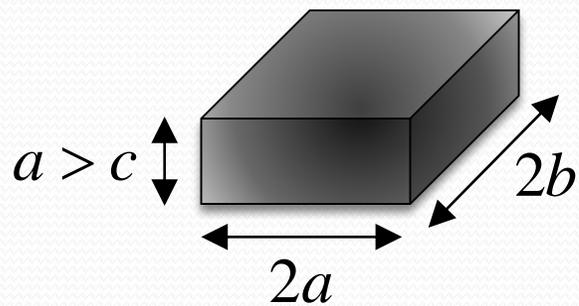
- Manufacturing process
  - Unconventional Sintering with SPS = Spark Plasma Sintering = Field Assisted Sintering Technology = Pulsed Electric Current Sintering
  - Temperature: RT-2200 °C
  - Speed: 0-700 °C/min
  - Force: 0.5-250 kN
  - Atmosphere: Air / N<sub>2</sub> / Ar
  - Size (mm): 8 / 15 / 20 / 30 / 36 / 40 / 50 / 80

only 2h of sintering!!!



# Characterization of Bulk HTS

- Strong inhomogeneities for some materials
- Difficult to characterize the whole pellet
- Sample has to be cut in an orthorhombic shape
  - Typical size: 2 mm x 2 mm x 0.5 mm



{Ref.} Chen, D. X., & Goldfarb, R. B. (1989). Kim model for magnetization of type-II superconductors. *Journal of Applied Physics*, 66(6), 2489-2500.

{Ref.} Sanchez, A., & Navau, C. (2001). Critical-current density from magnetization loops of finite high-Tc superconductors. *Superconductor science and technology*, 14(7), 444.

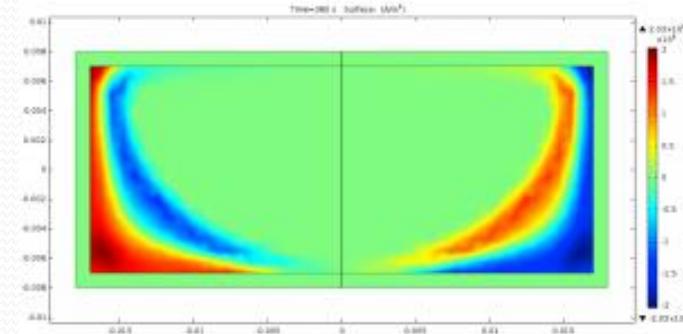
{Ref.} Philippe, M. M. (2015). *Magnetic properties of structures combining bulk high temperature superconductors and soft ferromagnetic alloys* (Doctoral dissertation, Université de Liège, Liège, Belgique).

$$J_c(H) [A/m^2] = \frac{\Delta M(H) [A/m]}{a[m] \left(1 - \frac{a}{3b}\right)}$$

for  $H_p < H < H_{\max} - H_p$

# Characterization of Bulk HTS

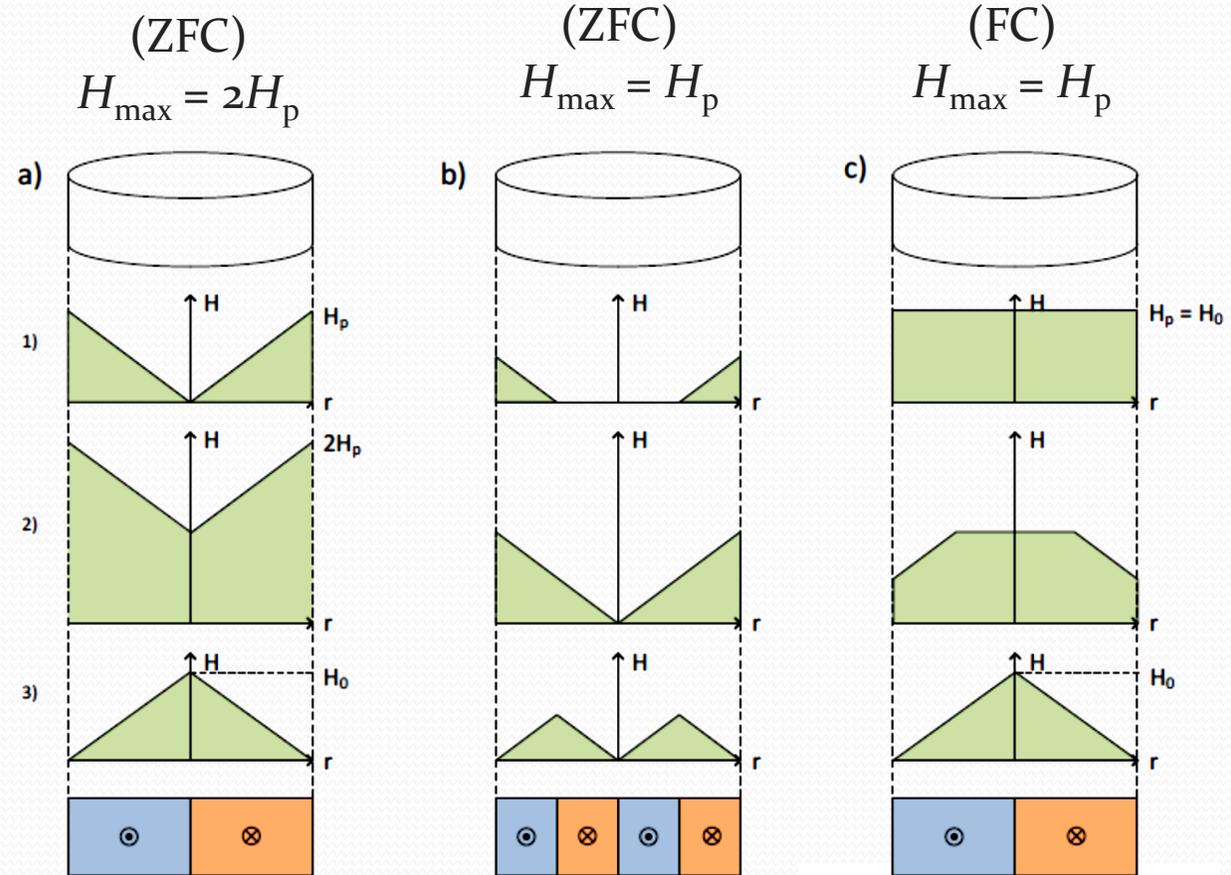
- Assessing the average performance of the entire sample
  - Force measurements with PM in front of a bulk
    - HTS is only magnetized on the surface
- Determination of the critical current density from magnetic field measurements at the center of the top surface
  - Practical way to measure without cutting
  - Need to reach the full penetration field
  - Influences of the Hall probe location and sweep rate are taken into account



{Ref.} Douine, B., Berger, K., *et al.* (2018). [Determination of the complete penetration magnetic field of a HTS pellet from the measurements of the magnetic field at its top-center surface. IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity, 28\(4\), 1-4.](#)

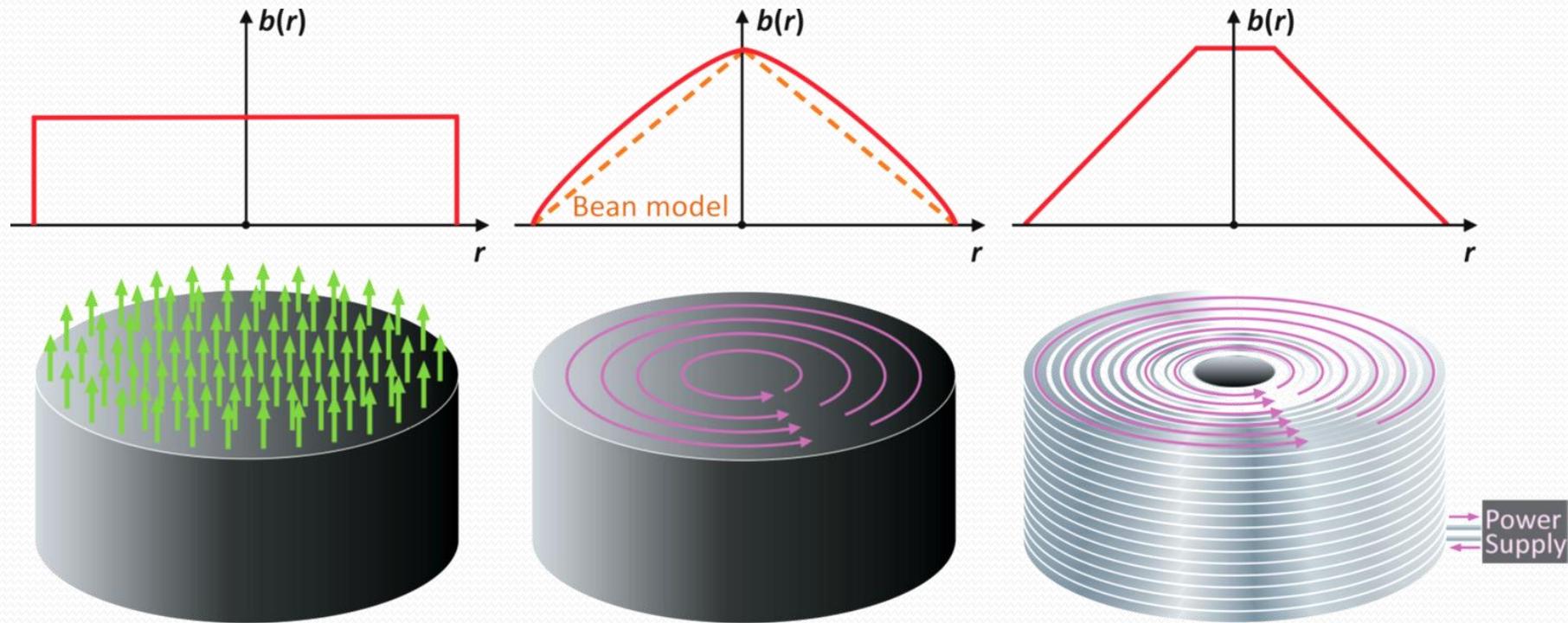
# Magnetization of Bulk HTS

- 3 magnetization processes
  - Zero Field Cooling (ZFC)
  - Field Cooling (FC)
  - Pulsed Field Magnetization (PFM)
- To trap 5 T, need at least 5 T or higher
  - FC and ZFC require large coils and long magnetizing times
  - PFM is the only practical process for applications / devices



# Magnetization of Bulk HTS

Courtesy of  
A. Yamamoto, Tokyo



**Permanent ferromagnet**

Spin  
Nd-Fe-B (~1.6 T)

**SC bulk magnet**

Induced loop SC current  
MgB<sub>2</sub> (3-5 T), YBCO (17 T)

**Electromagnet**

Supplied loop current  
Cu (~2 T), HTS (>30 T)

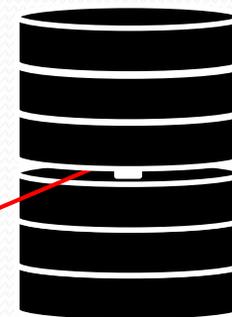
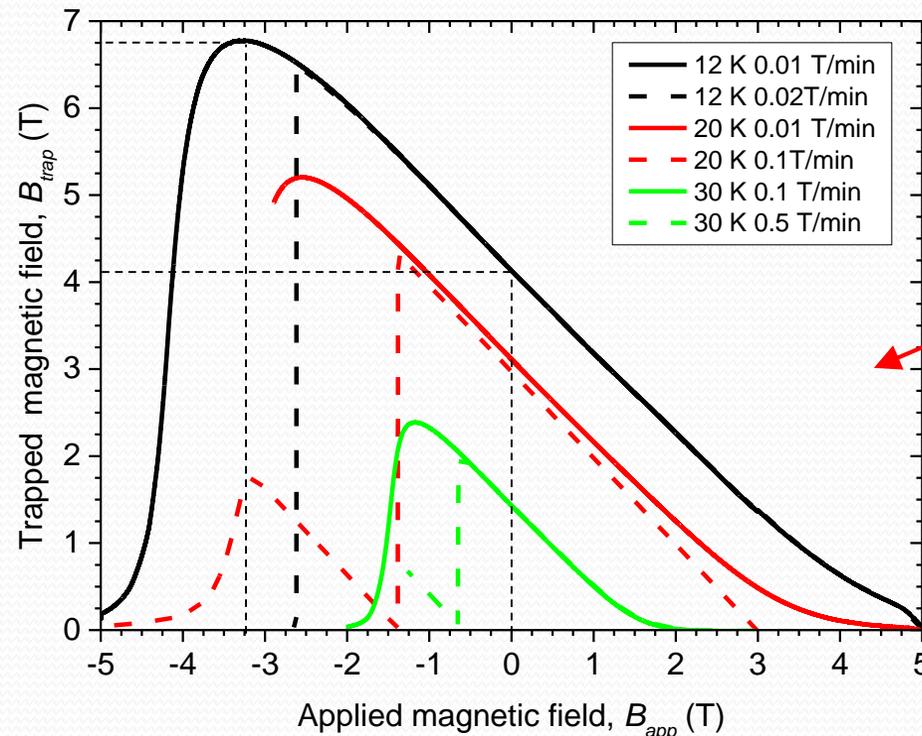
# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by FC

- Trapped field records with FC process (between a stack of 2 disks)
  - 17.2 T @ 29 K, YBaCuO, two 26.5 mm  $\Phi$  x 15 mm (M. Tomita *et al.*, 2003)
  - 17.6 T @ 26 K, GdBaCuO, two 25 mm  $\Phi$  x 15 mm (J. Durrell *et al.*, 2014)
  - 3.05 T @ 77 K, GdBaCuO, single 65 mm  $\Phi$  x 19 mm (S. Nariki *et al.*, 2005)
  - 5.4 T @ 12 K, MgB<sub>2</sub>, single 20 mm  $\Phi$  x 8 mm (G. Fuchs *et al.*, 2013)
  - 5.6 T @ 10 K, MgB<sub>2</sub>, two 28 mm  $\Phi$  x 10 mm (T. Naito *et al.*, 2020)
    - 6.6 T expected @ 4.2 K without flux jumps
  - 6.78 T @ 12 K (4.1 T rem.), MgB<sub>2</sub>, six 20 mm  $\Phi$  x 4 mm (B. Badica *et al.*, 2020)

# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by FC

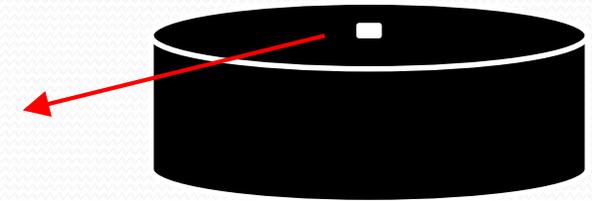
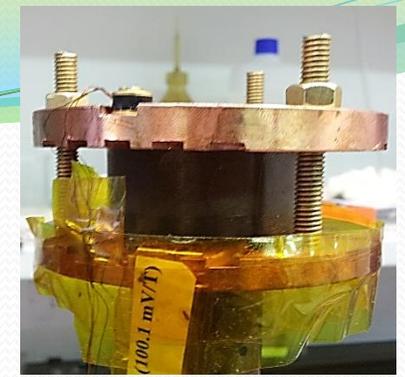
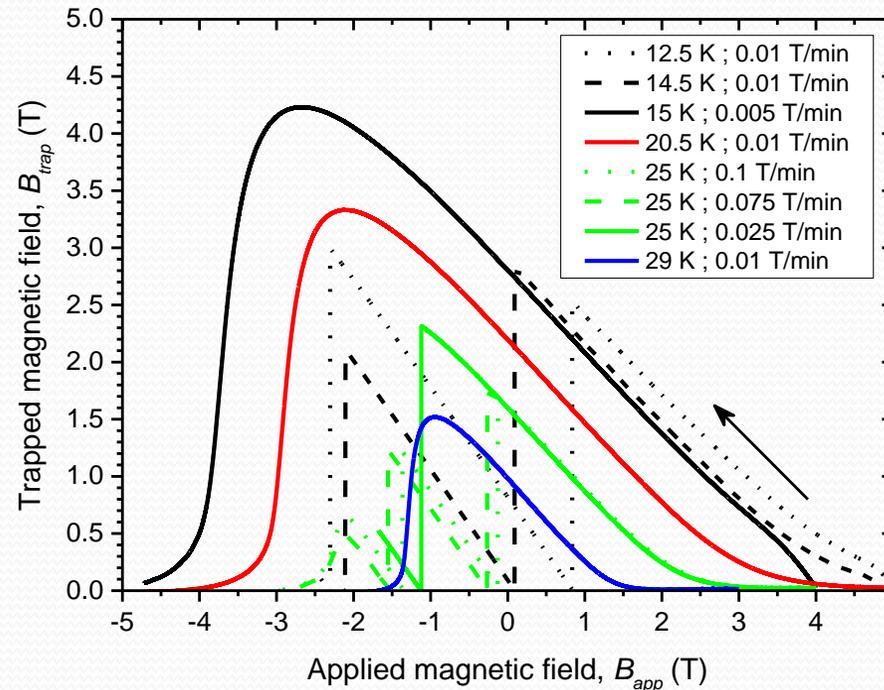
- $\text{MgB}_2$  samples with  $\text{Ge}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_7$  (Repagermanium)  
6x  $\text{MgB}_2$   $\varnothing$  20 mm, h = 6x4 mm

{Ref.} Badica, P., Aldica, G., Grigoroscuta, M. A., Burdusel, M., Pasuk, I., Batalu, D., ... & Koblischka, M. R. (2020). Reproducibility of small  $\text{Ge}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_7$ -added  $\text{MgB}_2$  bulks fabricated by ex situ Spark Plasma Sintering used in compound bulk magnets with a trapped magnetic field above 5 T. *Scientific Reports*, 10(1), 1-11.



# What are flux jumps?

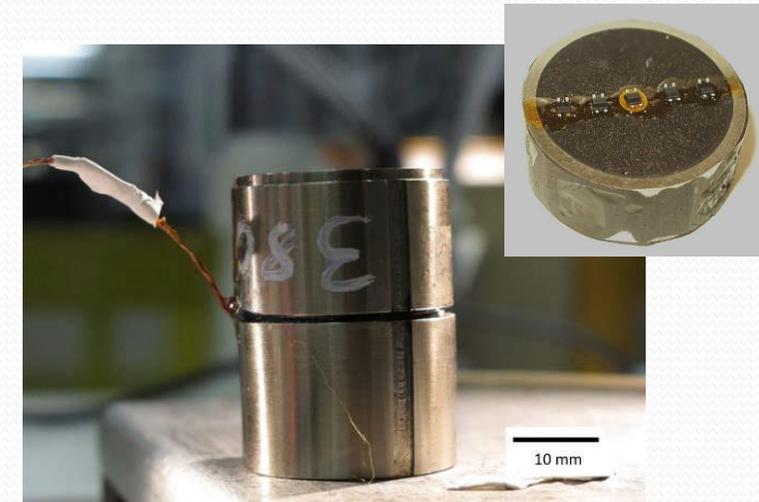
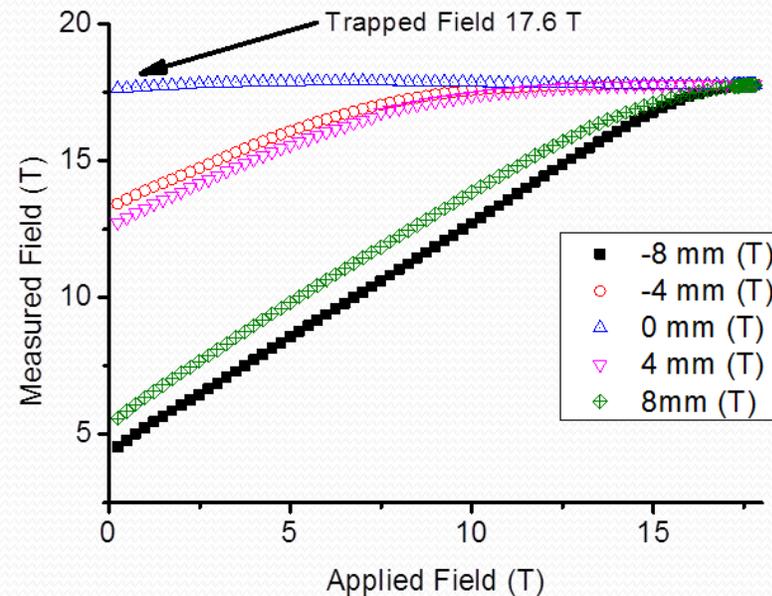
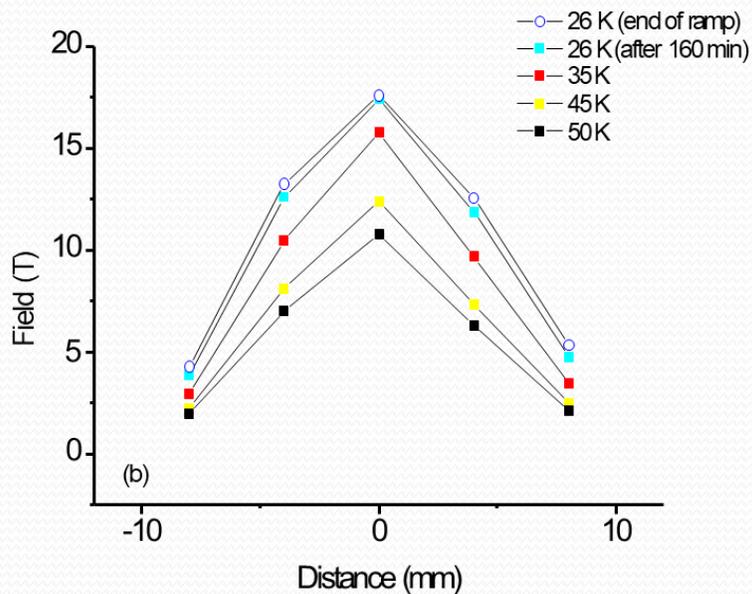
- Magneto-thermal instabilities
  - Due to the low thermal diffusivity and heat capacity of some superconductors...
    - MgB<sub>2</sub>
    - But not only...
  - It's worse with
    - low temperatures
    - using large samples
    - high sweep rates



MgB<sub>2</sub> pellet (Mg-RLI)  
of 50 mm  $\Phi$  x 20 mm

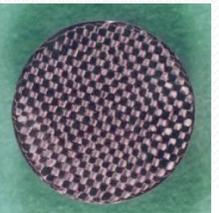
# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by FC

- Trapped field records with FC process (between a stack of 2 disks)
  - 17.6 T @ 26 K, GdBaCuO, two 25 mm  $\Phi$  x 15 mm (J. Durrell *et al.*, 2014)



# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by FC

- What limits performance?
  - At 17 T, internal stresses are  $\sim 90$  Mpa
    - Stress scales as  $\sim 0.282 B^2$
  - Leads to practical maximum trapped field of 7-9T in unreinforced samples as tensile strength can be  $< 10$  MPa
  - Common failure mode seems to be a simple crack across sample
- How to overcome this?
  - Add 15 wt% AgO – converted to Ag during processing, filling voids/cracks
    - Can improve fracture strength by an order of magnitude (a few MPa  $\rightarrow$  10 MPa)
  - Shrink-fit Stainless Steel onto sample, achieves  $\sim 250$  MPa interface pressure
  - Tomita *et al.* used Carbon Fiber/Epoxy – Nature 421, 517-520 (2003)



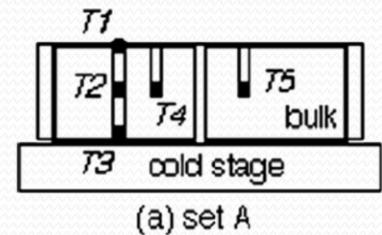
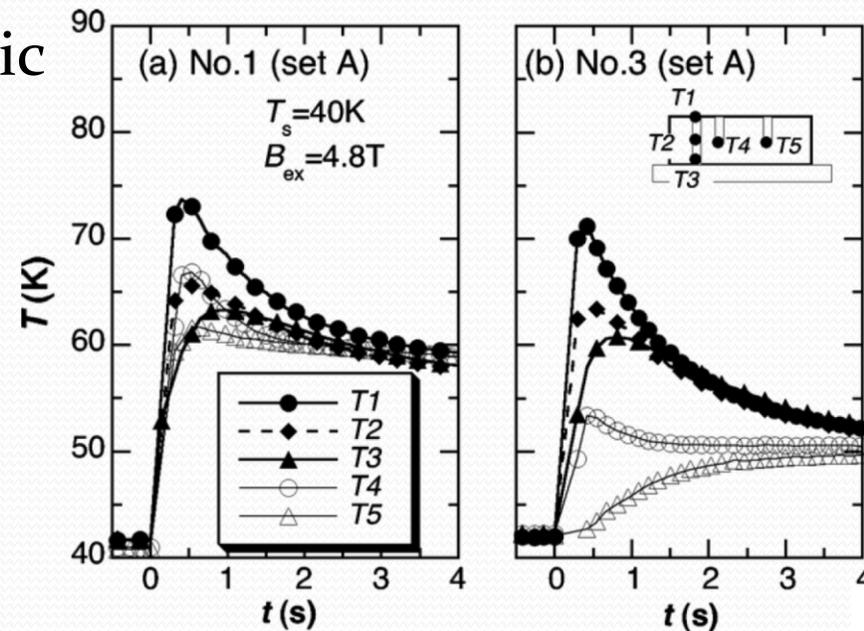
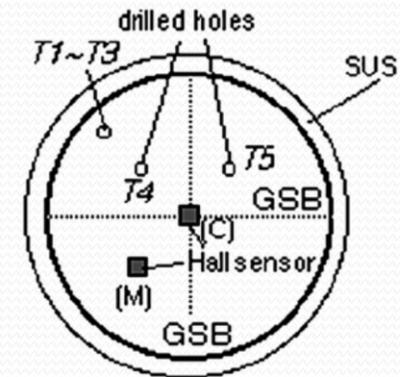
# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by PFM

- Trapped field records with PFM process (top surface)
  - 5.2 T @ 28-50 K, GBaCuO, single 45 mm  $\Phi$  x 15 mm (H. Fujishiro *et al.*, 2006)
  - 3.2 T @ 40-65 K, GBaCuO, single 30 mm  $\Phi$  x 15 mm (M. Ainslie *et al.*, 2016)
  - 1.1 T @ 20 K, MgB<sub>2</sub>, single 22 mm  $\Phi$  x 15 mm (H. Fujishiro *et al.*, 2016)
  - 1.61 T @ 20 K, MgB<sub>2</sub>, single 30 mm  $\Phi$  x 19 mm (T. Hirano *et al.*, 2020)

# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by PFM

- What limits performance vs FC?
  - Heat induced during PFM!
- Who to optimize dynamics of magnetic flux during PFM process
  - Pulse magnitude/ pulse duration,
  - Number of pulses,
  - Operating temperature(s),
  - Type of magnetizing coil(s),
  - Use of ferromagnetic materials...

{Ref.} Fujishiro, H., Naito, T., Furuta, D., & Kakehata, K. (2010). Temperature measurements in small holes drilled in superconducting bulk during pulsed field magnetization. *Physica C: Superconductivity and its applications*, 470(20), 1181-1184.



# Magnetization of Bulk HTS by PFM

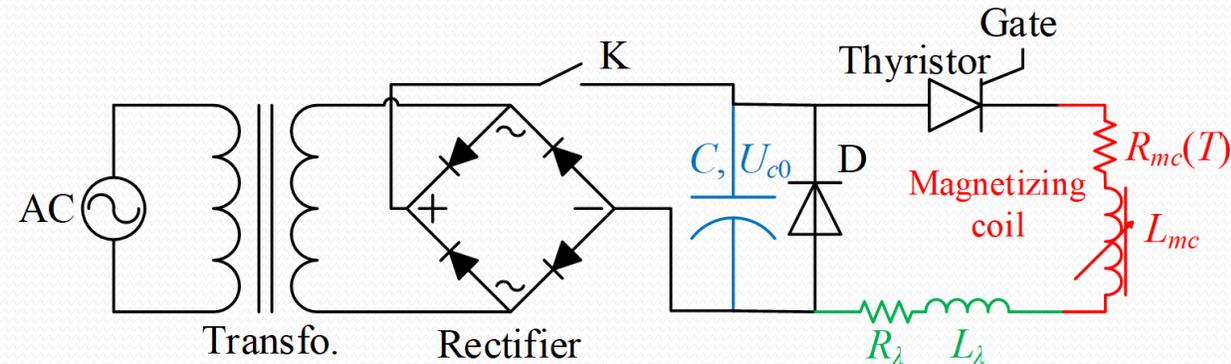
- PFM is the only practical process for applications using bulk magnets
  - We have to deal with strong magnetic field variations
  - And induced currents in all conducting parts
- A coupled electro-thermal modeling is mandatory
- But how does PFM process work?

# How does PFM process work?

- Pulsed Field Magnetization
  - What do we usually need
  - How it works
  - Equation of current/applied field
  - Main characteristics
  - Examples of operational setups
  - Summary
- In real applications?

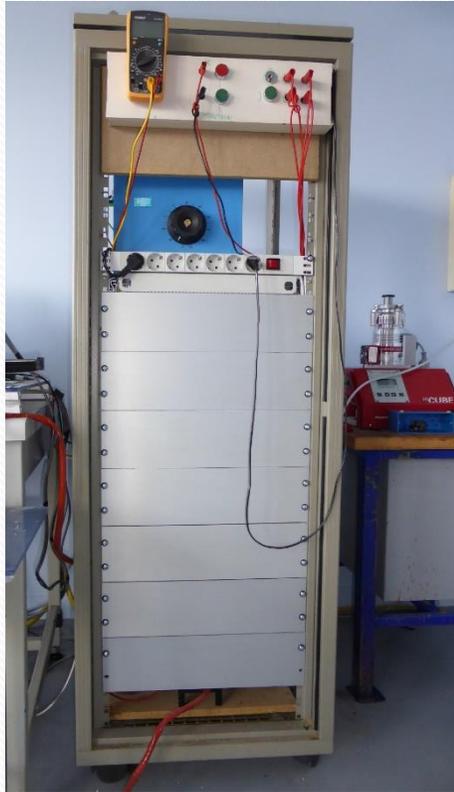
# Pulsed Field Magnetization?

- Usually, charge of capacitors and then short circuit



- It can also be a short-circuited coil made on a
  - Transformer
  - Electric machine

# Capacitors bank...



5.1 kJ – 15 kA  
115 mF, 300 V



10 kJ – 25 kA  
5 mF – 2000 V



60 kJ – 10 kA  
40 mF to 120 mF – 1000 V

# About the current waveform

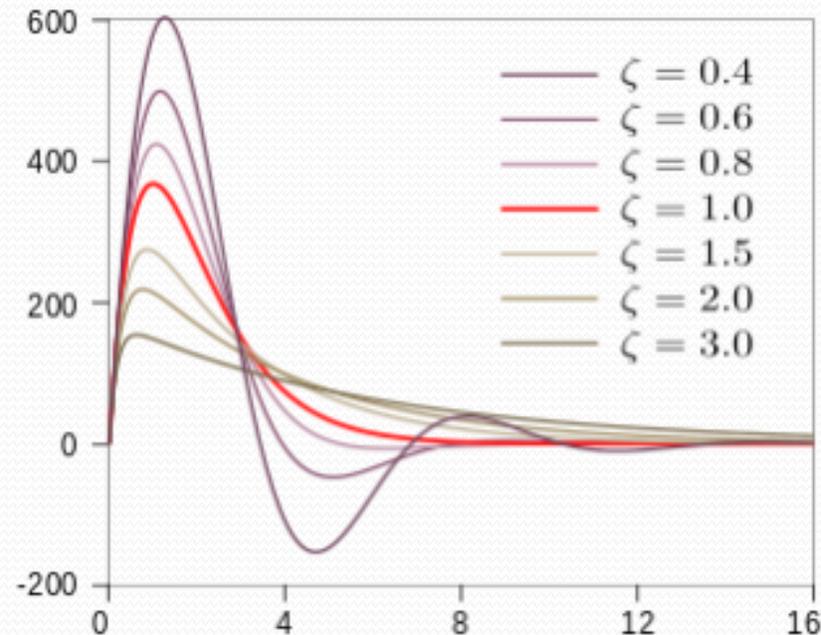
- General equation (same eq. with  $i$  or  $u$ )

$$U_c + Ri + \frac{d\phi}{dt} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + \frac{R}{L} \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{q}{LC} = 0 \text{ with } q_0 = CU_{c0}$$

- Damping factor

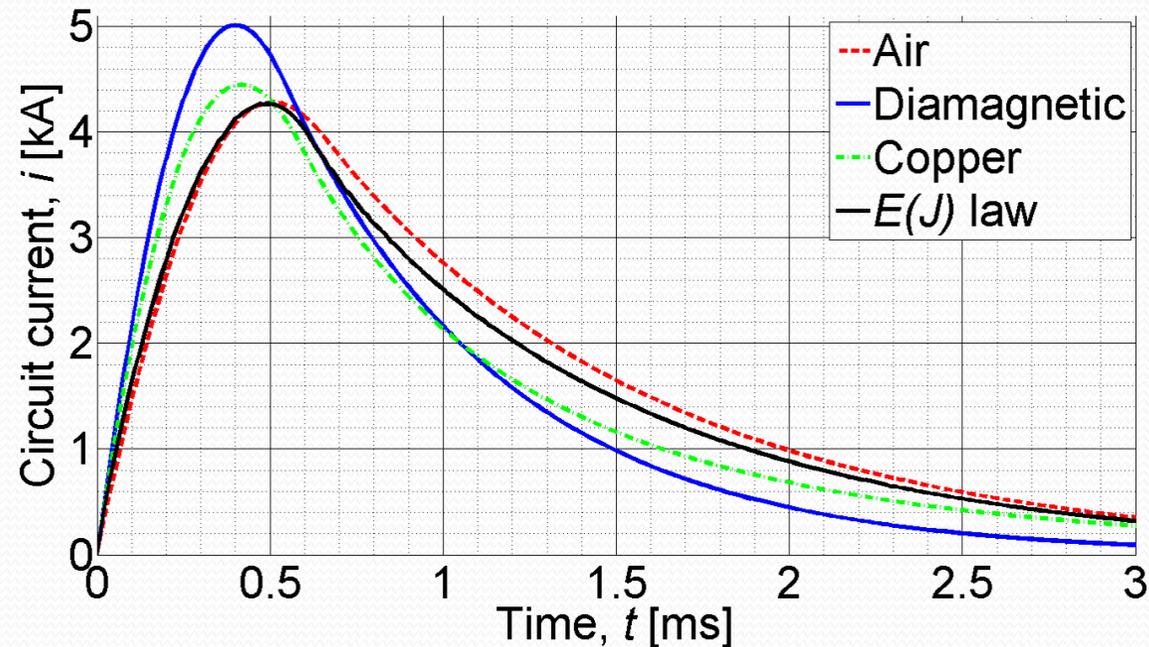
$$\zeta = \frac{\alpha}{\omega_0} = \frac{R}{2} \sqrt{\frac{C}{L}}$$

$$\text{with } \alpha = \frac{R}{2L} \text{ and } \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$



# Influence of bulk HTS on inductance

Bulk pellet surrounded by a circular coil (circuit coupled problem)



{Ref.} Kapek, J., Berger, K., Koblichka, M. R., Trillaud, F., & L ev eque, J. (2019). 2-D numerical modeling of a bulk HTS magnetization based on H formulation coupled with electrical circuit. *IEEE Transactions on Applied Superconductivity*, 29(5), 1-5.

- From the point of view of the coil
  - A bulk HTS during PFM is almost equivalent to air

# Different regimes

$$\zeta = \frac{R}{2} \sqrt{\frac{C}{L}}, \quad \alpha = \frac{R}{2L}, \quad \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

- Overdamped response  $\zeta > 1$

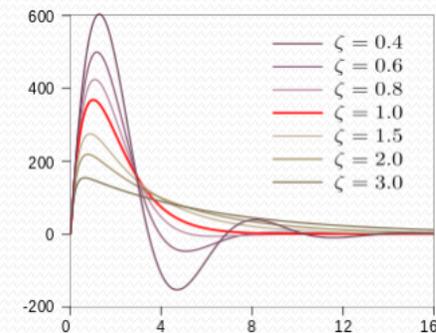
$$i(t) = A_1 \exp\left(-\omega_0 \left(\zeta + \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}\right)t\right) + A_2 \exp\left(-\omega_0 \left(\zeta - \sqrt{\zeta^2 - 1}\right)t\right)$$

- Underdamped response  $\zeta < 1$

$$i(t) = \frac{U_{c0}}{L\omega} \exp(-\alpha t) \sin(\omega t) \text{ with } \omega = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2}$$

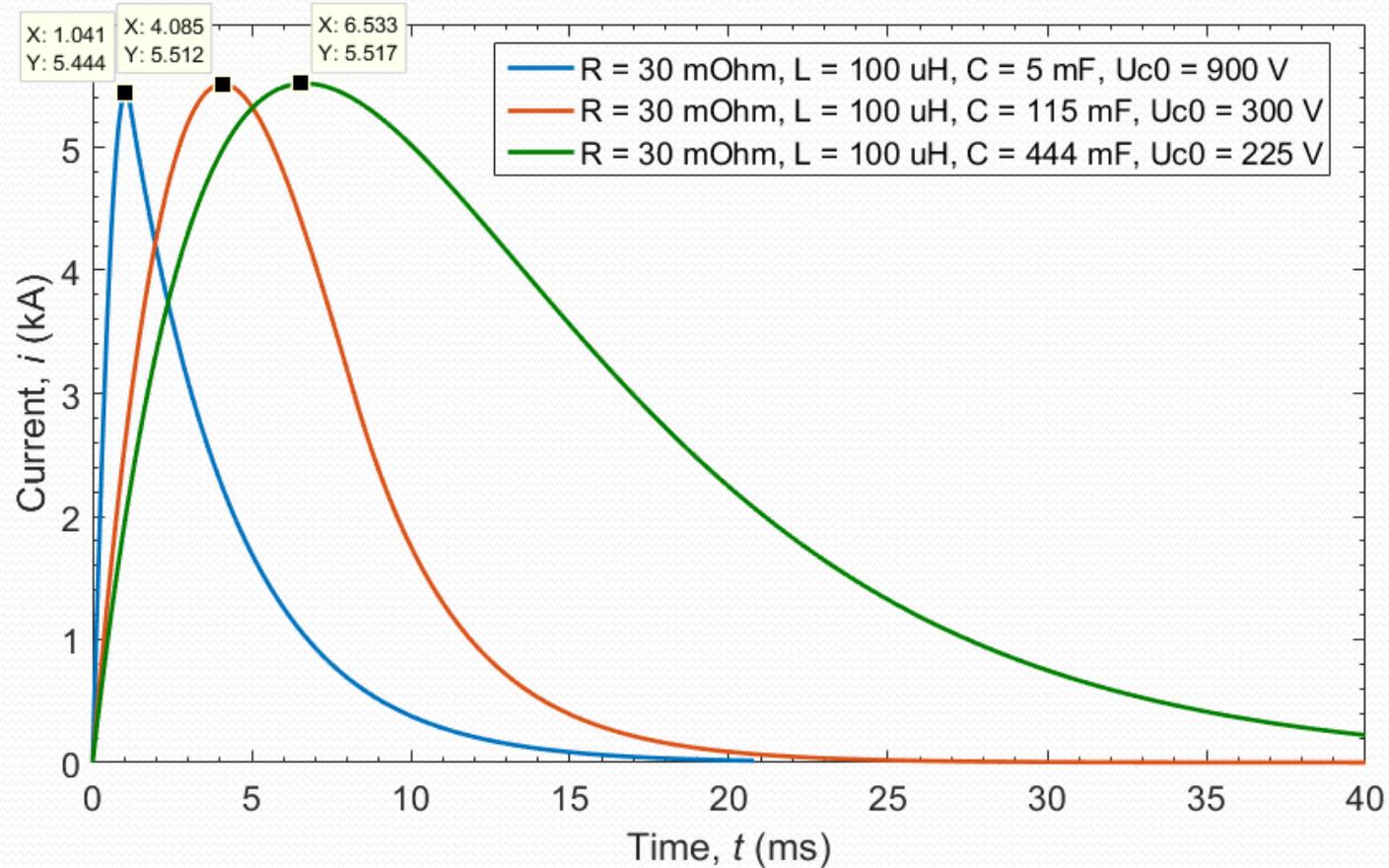
- Critical  $\zeta = 1$

$$i(t) = \frac{U_{c0}}{L} t \exp(-\alpha t) = i_{\max} \frac{t}{\tau} \exp\left(1 - \frac{t}{\tau}\right)$$



# Examples

## Capacitors bank influence



# Underdamped regime

- Maximal current at  $t_{\max} = \omega^{-1} (\arctan(\omega / \alpha))$
- $U_c = 0$  at  $t_0 = \omega^{-1} \pi - t_{\max}$

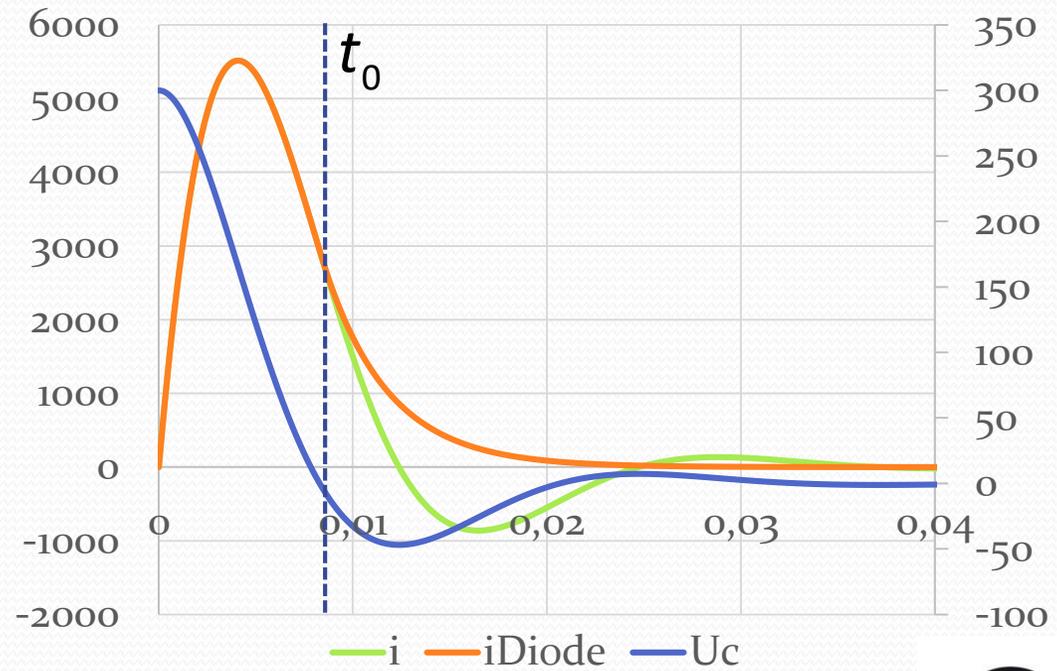
- Before  $t_0$

$$i(t) = \frac{U_{c0}}{L\omega} \exp(-\alpha t) \sin(\omega t)$$

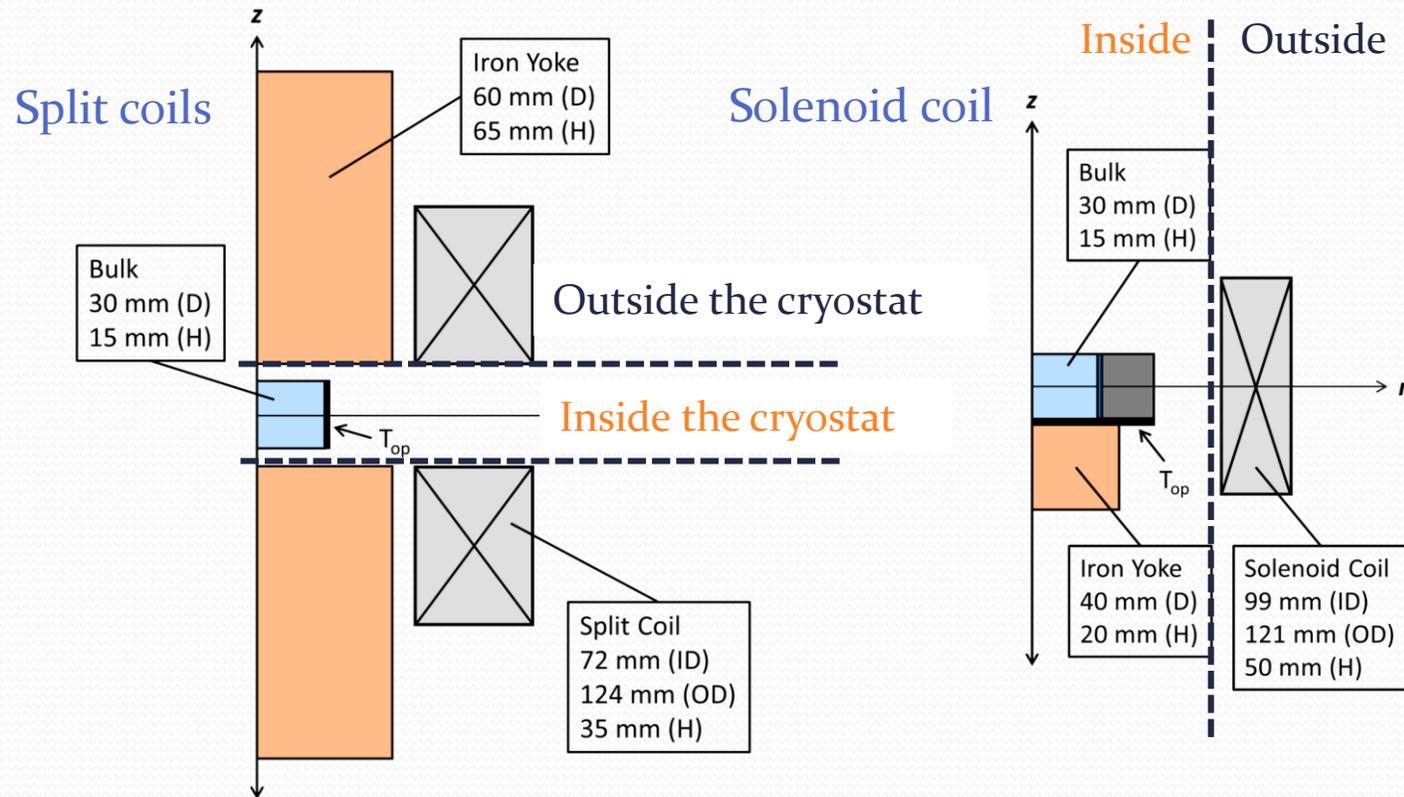
$$\text{with } \omega = \sqrt{\omega_0^2 - \alpha^2}$$

- After  $t_0$

$$i(t) = i(t_0) \exp(-(t - t_0) / \tau)$$

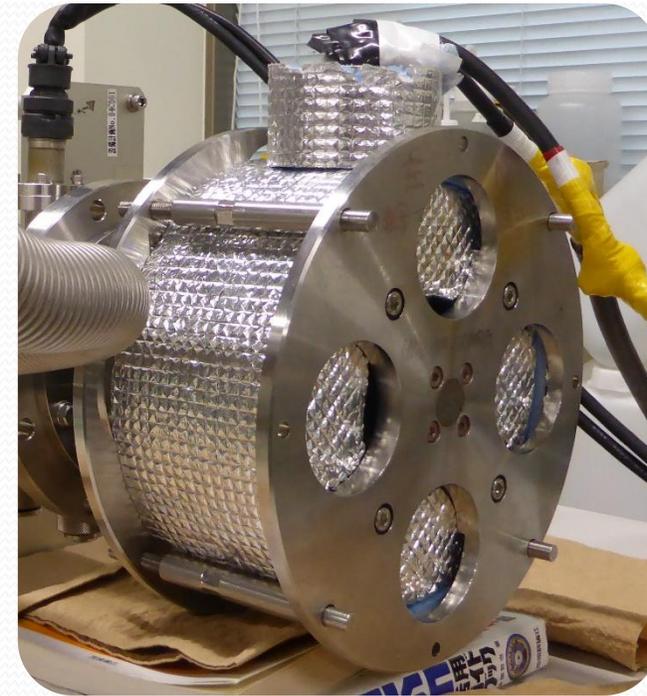
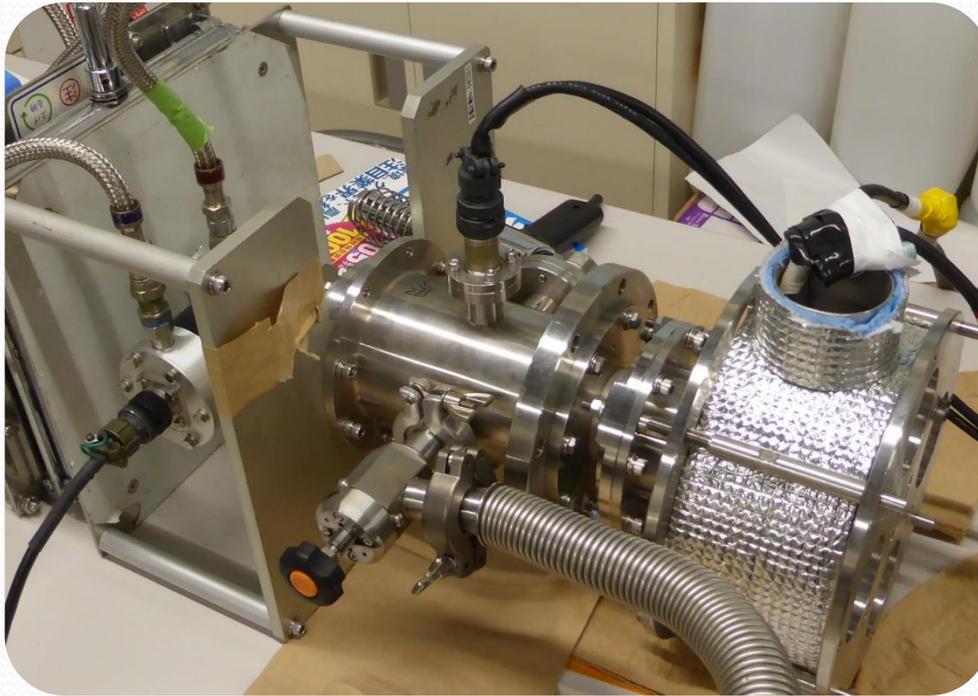


# Examples of operational setups

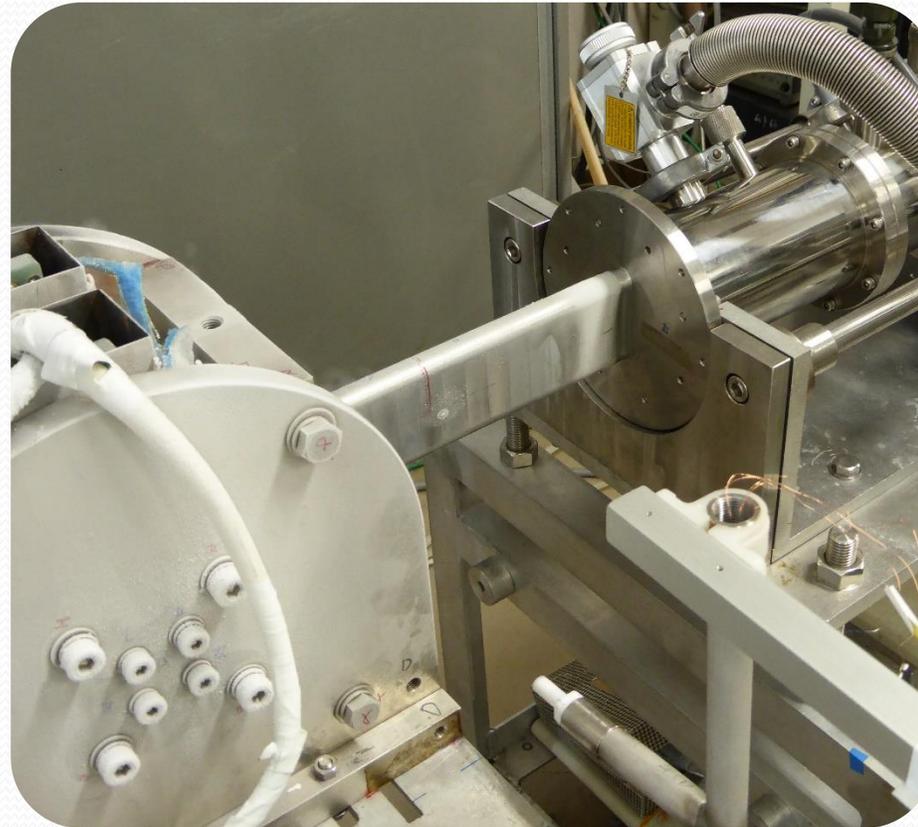
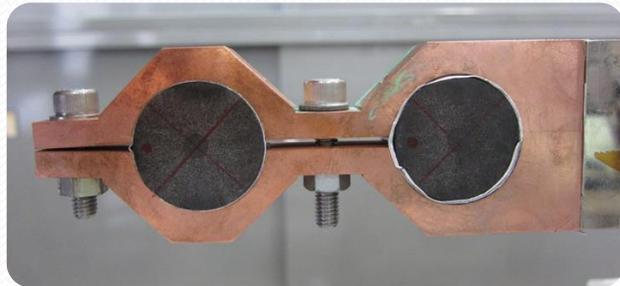


{Ref.} Ainslie, M. D., Fujishiro, H., Mochizuki, H., Takahashi, K., Shi, Y. H., Namburi, D. K., ... & Cardwell, D. A. (2016). Enhanced trapped field performance of bulk high-temperature superconductors using split coil, pulsed field magnetization with an iron yoke. *Superconductor science and technology*, 29(7), 074003.

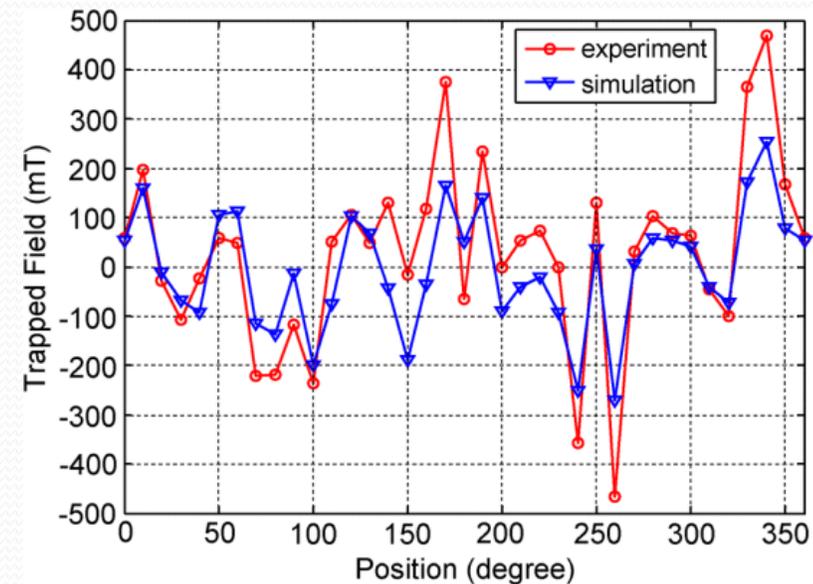
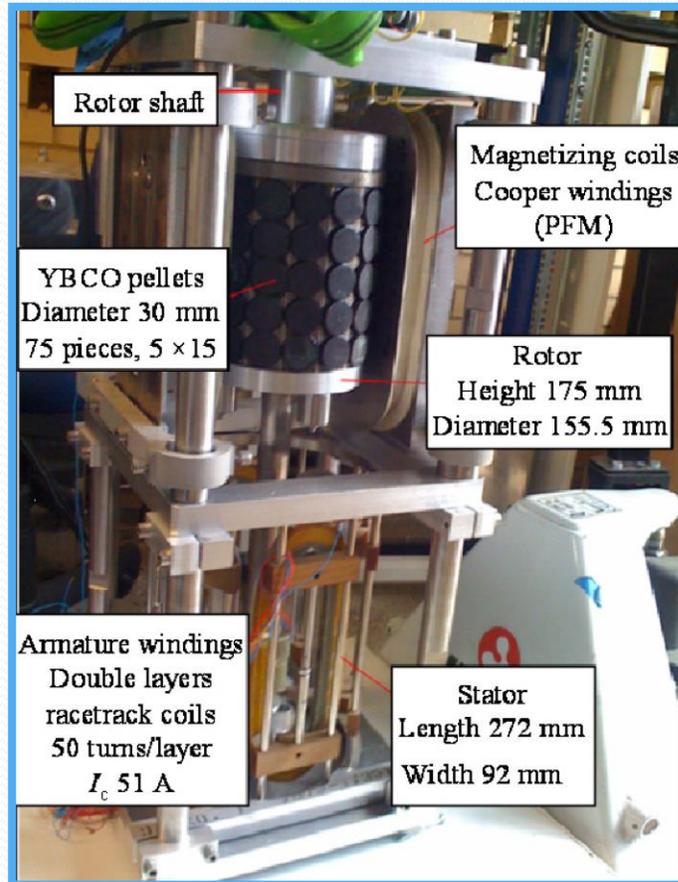
# Niigata University (T. Oka and J. Ogawa)



# Morioka University (H. Fujishiro)



# Magnetization by stator windings (4 poles)

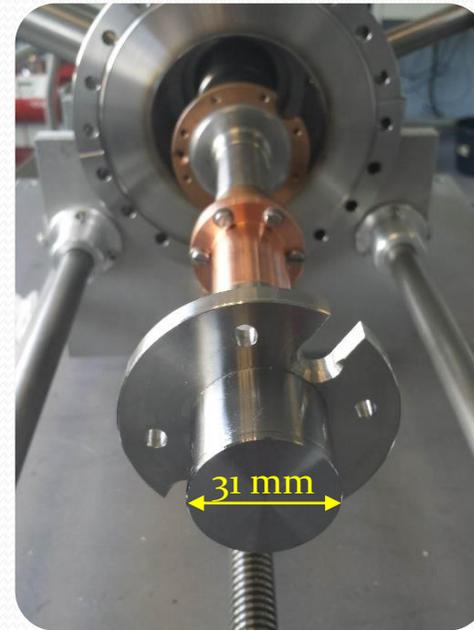


[Xian, W., Yan, Y., Yuan, W., Pei, R., & Coombs, T. A. \(2010\). Pulsed field magnetization of a high temperature superconducting motor. \*IEEE transactions on applied superconductivity\*, 21\(3\), 1171-1174.](#)

# Operational test rig @ GREEN

*in situ* magnetization

VACODUR<sup>®</sup> 50  
49% Co, 1.9% V, rest Fe  
from VACUUMSCHMELZE GmbH

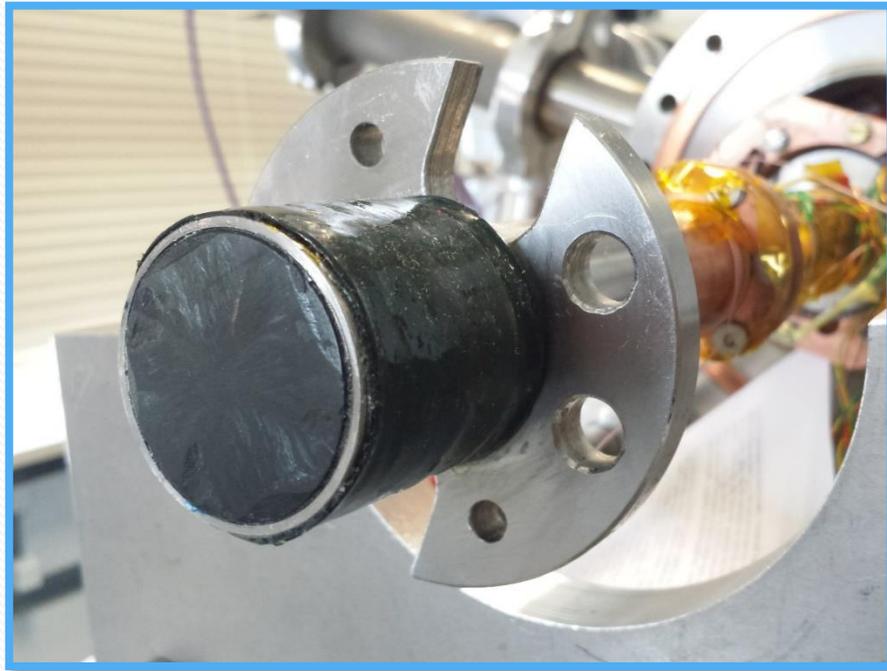


$B_{sat} > 2.3 \text{ T}$   
 $H_c < 200 \text{ A/m}$   
 $\rho = 4 \cdot 10^{-7} \Omega \cdot \text{m}$   
density  $8120 \text{ kg/m}^3$   
 $\alpha = 10 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$

# YBaCuO samples with SS Ring

- Sample and SS ring are glued together with Stycast 2850 FT

35 mm diameter - 12 mm high  
from CAN SUPERCONDUCTORS s.r.o.

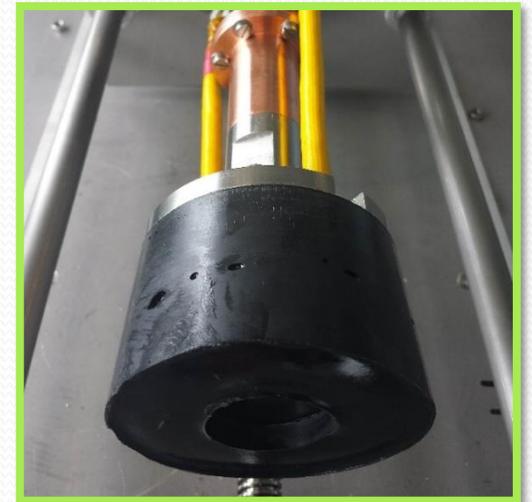
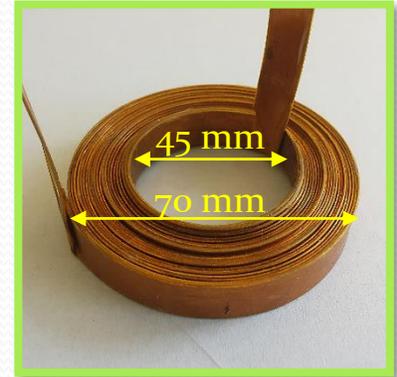


31 mm diam. - 17 mm high  
from ATZ GmbH

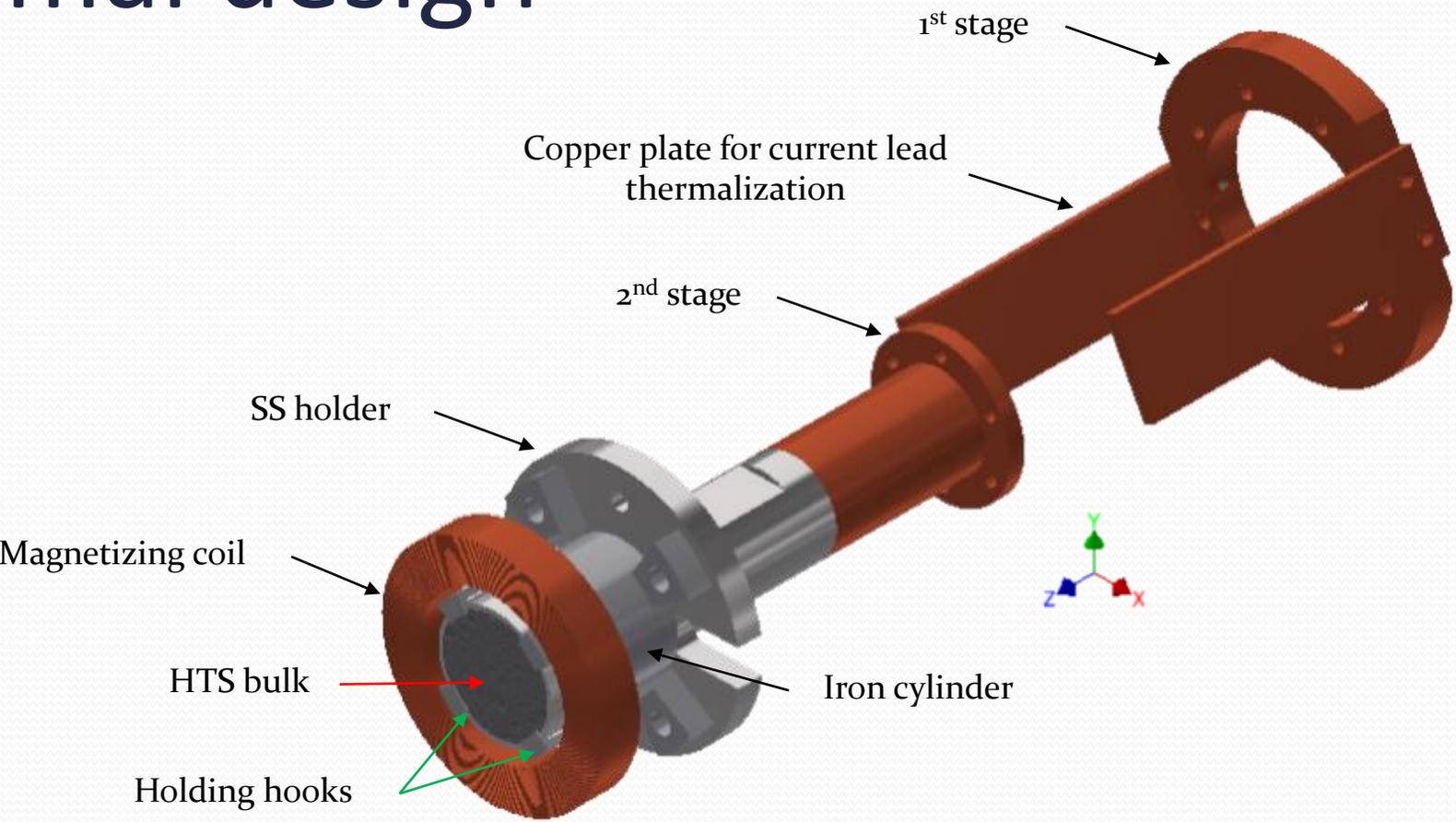


# Coil design and realization

- Coil should be as close as possible to the sample
  - Better magnetic coupling and optimized size
  - Copper foils of 0.2 mm thick
  - Kapton tape for turn-to-turn insulation
- Our first aim was to thermalize the coil with the 2nd stage of the cryocooler using Stycast molding
  - Easy to manufacture and mount

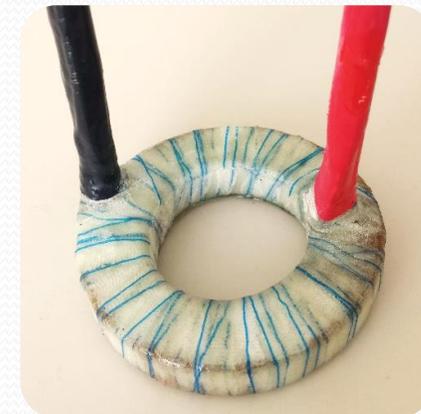


# Thermal design



# Coil design and realization

- Some problems occurred during the experiences
  - Stycast can not handle the Lorentz force during the pulsed magnetization ( $\sim 2.5$  GPa @ 10 kA)
  - Heat is not well extracted (it's still epoxy resin...)
- Fiber Glass + Araldite impregnation
- Cooling using the 1st stage of the cryocooler



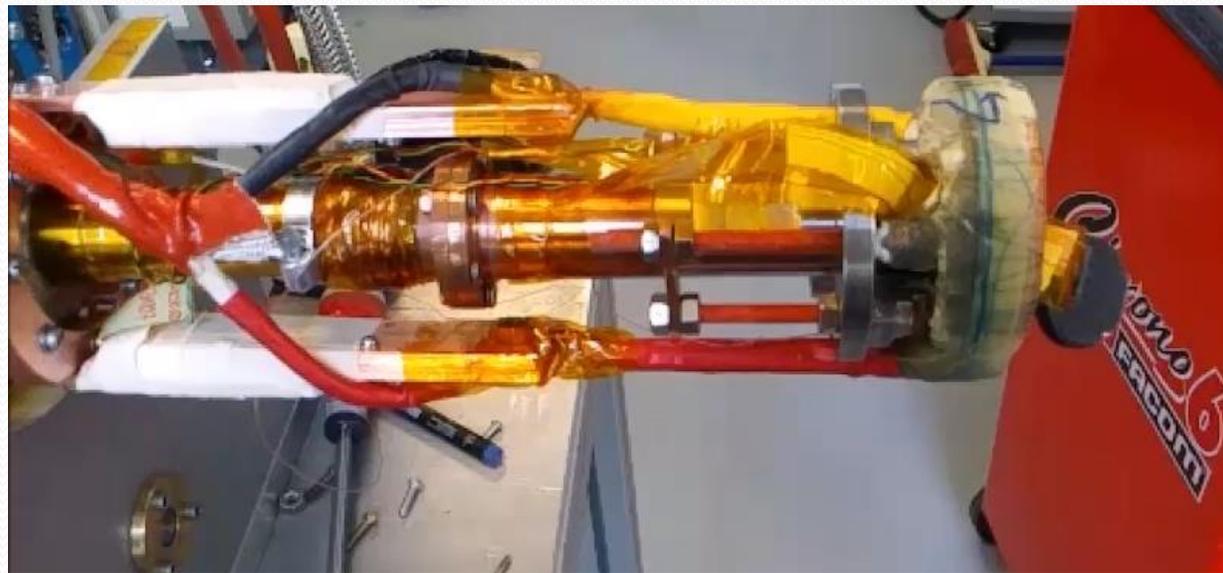
# Other issues

- High voltage up to 2 kV and high current densities  $> 1 \text{ kA/mm}^2$ 
  - Working with HV in small environment that requires good thermal connections and compactness is not easy...
- Thermalization of the coil leads through the 1st stage of the cryocooler was made with Aluminium Nitride
  - (Cu / AlN / Cu) sandwich with copper plates of 20 mm x 80 mm
  - AlN properties:  $k > 150 \text{ W/(m.K)}$ ,  $\rho > 1010 \text{ } \Omega.\text{m}$ ,  $E_d = 15 \text{ kV/mm}$ , density of  $3300 \text{ kg/m}^3$ ,  $\alpha = 4.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$



# Other issues

- During PFM, the coil attempts to place at the center of the iron cylinder
  - The resulting force on the coil holder @ 10 kA reaches 13 kN
    - ~ the weight of my Peugeot 5008



# Other homemade coils



# Short summary

- PFM usually needs capacitors
- Current waveform/magnetization strongly depends on
  - The inductance and so of the environment
- HTS bulk needs to be tightly coupled with the coil
- About the use of iron
  - Increases the applied field for a given current
  - Increases the homogeneity of the applied field
  - Increases  $L$ , so  $t_{\max} \uparrow$  and  $i_{\max} \downarrow$
- Design of the coil is essential in HTS bulks applications

# Thank you for your attention!

Dr. Kévin Berger

Group of Research in Electrical Engineering of Nancy – GREEN (France)  
[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kevin\\_Berger](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kevin_Berger)

