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Vienna University of Technology

# TU Wien Contribution during FCC Study (2016-2021)

M. Eisterer – Atominstitut / TU Wien

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Low Temperature Physics  
and Superconductivity

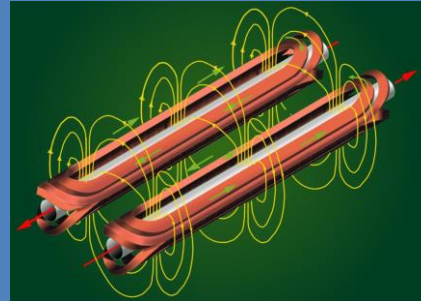
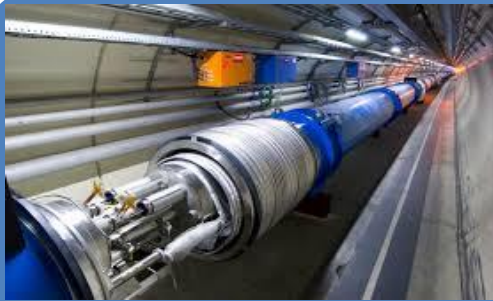
# Research Projects

Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Conductor R&D

Beam Screen Development (HTS)

Marie Skodowska-Curie  
ITN EASITrain





### Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Conductor R&D

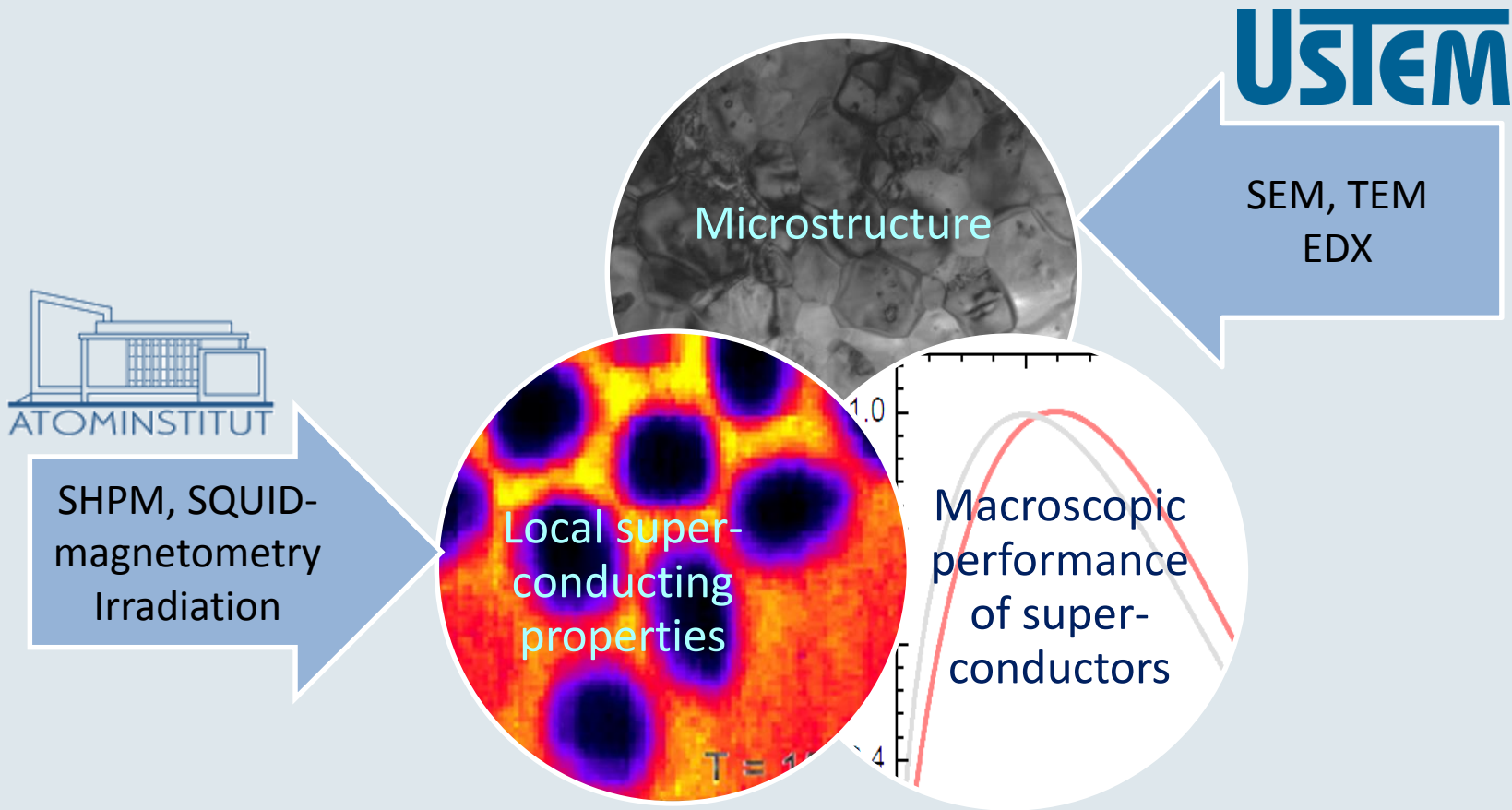
- 16 T dipole magnets
- 1500 A/mm<sup>2</sup>
- 4.2 K

### Beam Screen Development (HTS)

- Low impedance coating for reduction of beam-induced RF image currents
- Operation at 50 K for reduced cryogenic power consumption



# Goal of the investigation



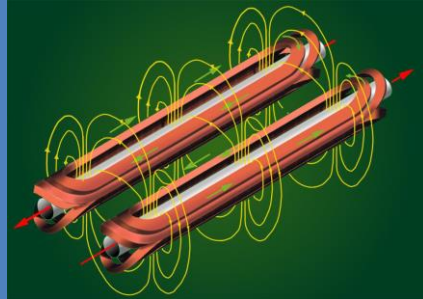
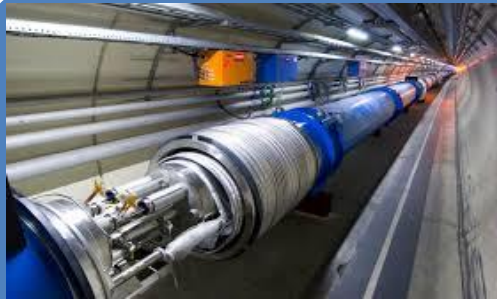
# Investigations at ATI



Low Temperature Physics  
and Superconductivity

- Measurements of the critical currents
- Irradiation experiments of superconducting materials
- Magnetic field mapping
- Search for material inhomogeneities
- Finding the relationship between microstructure and superconducting properties

# How to achieve $J_c=1500 \text{ A/mm}^2$ ?



## Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Conductor R&D

- 16 T dipole magnets
- 1500 A/mm<sup>2</sup>
- 4.2 K

Two main concepts:

- Artificial pinning
- Reduction of inhomogeneities

# Introduction

Superconducting properties (e.g.  $T_C$ ,  $B_{C2}$ ,  $J_C$ ) in  $Nb_3Sn$  wires are influenced by:

## Composition

- Sn:  $Nb_{1-\beta}Sn_\beta$
- Additives: Ti, Ta
- $\rightarrow T_C, B_{C2}$

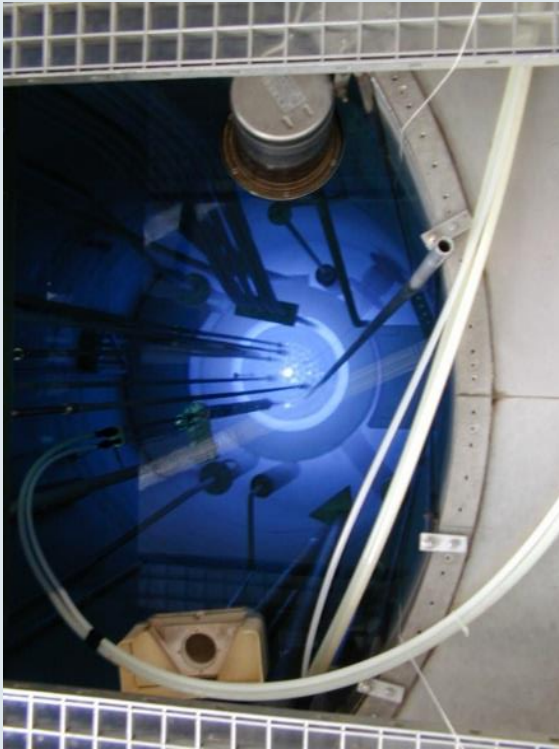
## Morphology

- grain size (grain boundaries)
- Defects (APC)
- $\rightarrow J_C$

## Composition gradients

- $\rightarrow$  spatial  $T_C$  distribution

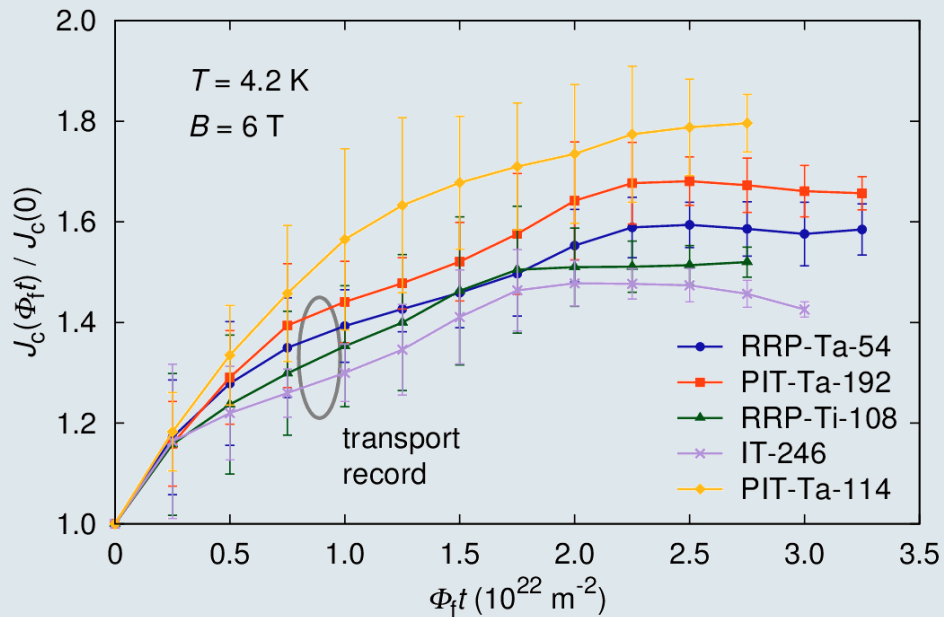
# Irradiation experiments



- Irradiation of short wire samples in the TRIGA Mark-II reactor at Atominstitut
- Sequential irradiation in relatively small steps in order to assess fluence dependence of superconducting properties
- Very important also for nuclear fusion

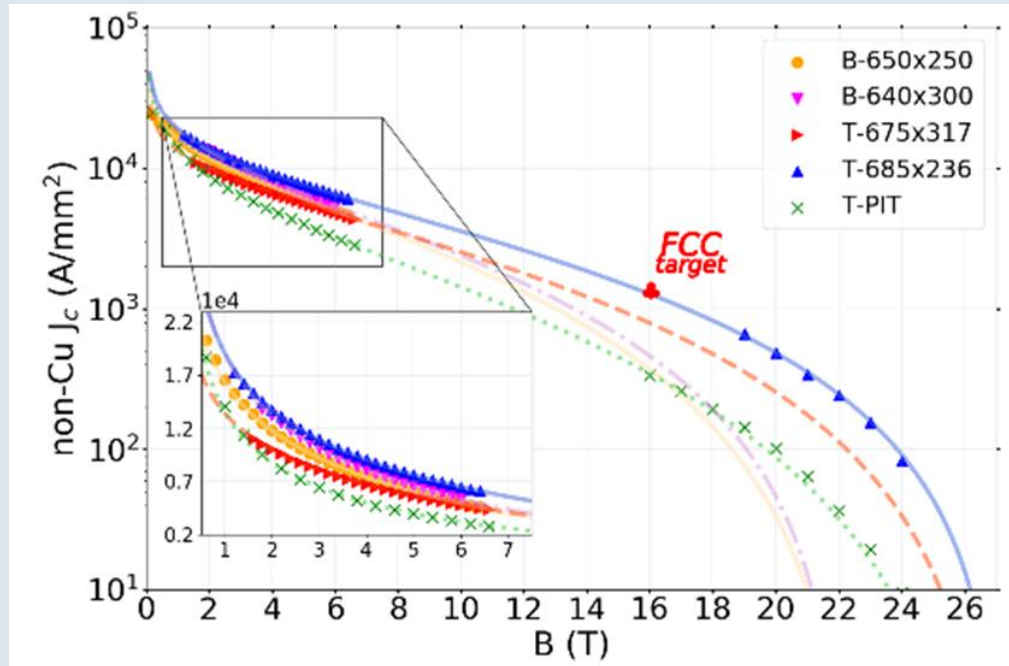


# Irradiation experiments



- Critical current density increases significantly in irradiated wires because of nano-sized defects.
- FCC target was obtained in industrial  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  wire!
- Only model system. Later realized by oxide nano-particles in prototype wires.

# Artificial pinning centers



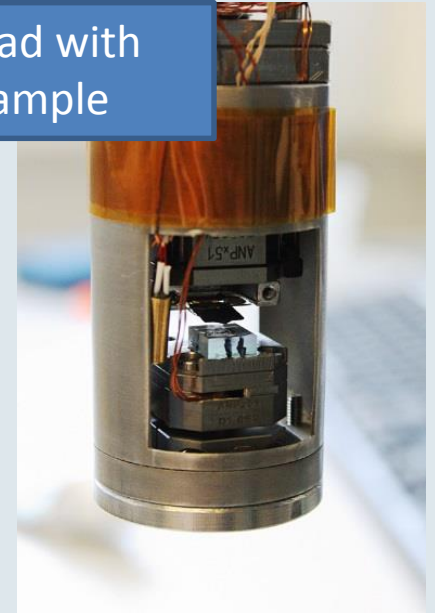
- “Addition” of Zr-O nanoparticles
- Collaboration with USA: Ohio State University, Hypertech, Fermilab

# Magnetometry - SHPM

## Micro Hall Scanner

- Principle:
  - Measurement of local magnetic field, either in applied magnetic field or with remnant magnetization

Scanner head with mounted sample

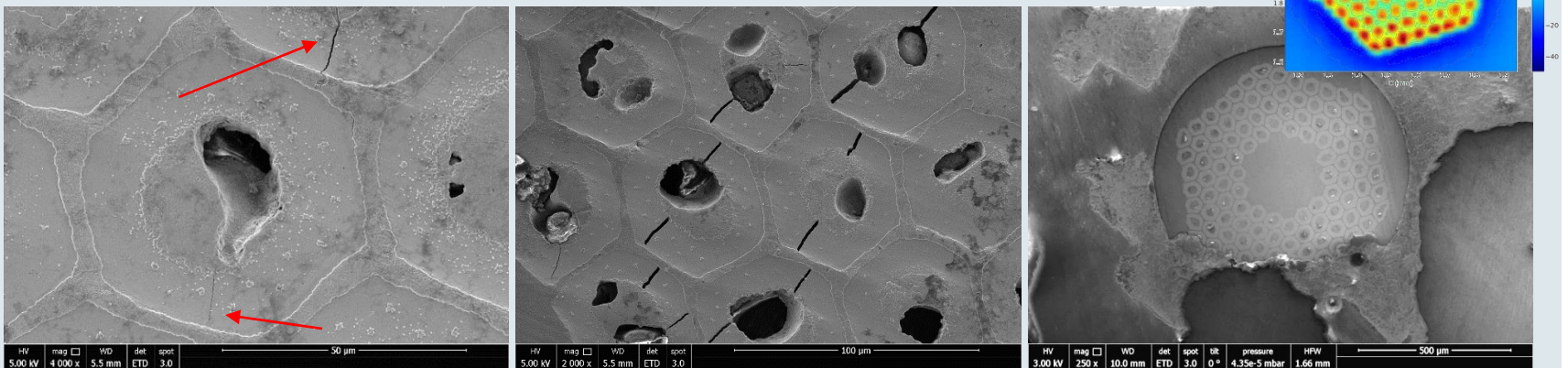


## Experiment

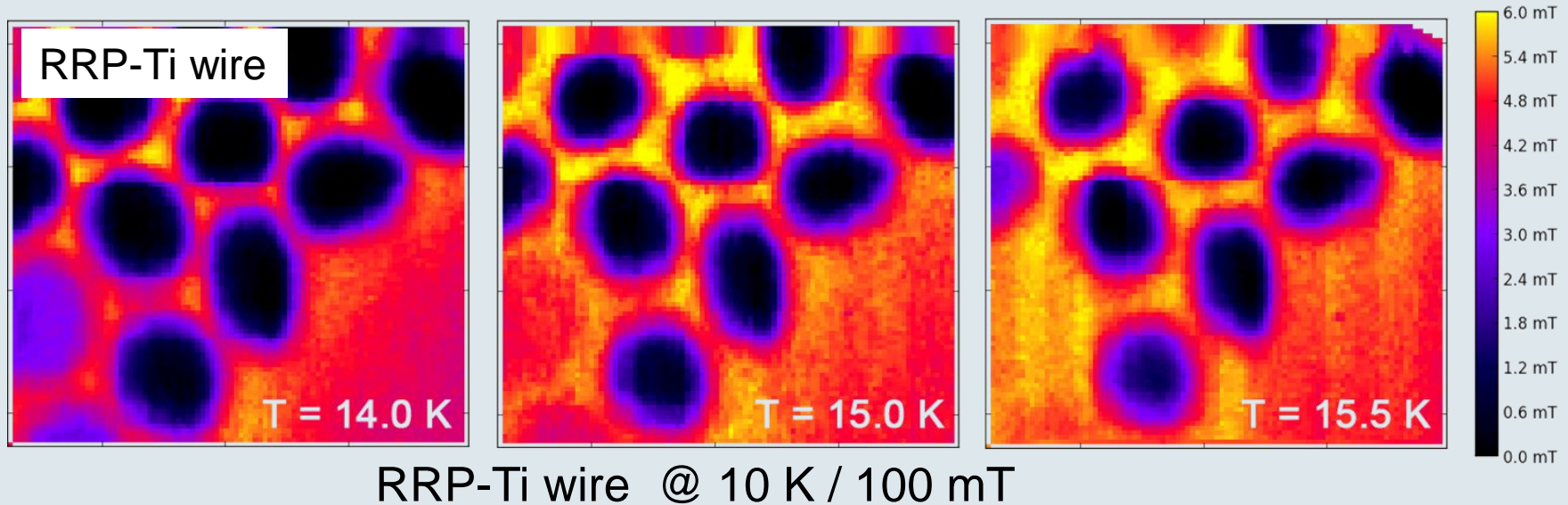
- Field up to 8 T, range: 3 x 3 mm<sup>2</sup> @ 1 μm
- Goal
  - Evaluating  $T_C$  gradients by scanning in the Meißner state at different temperatures
  - Assessing inhomogeneities in  $J_c$  by inversion of the Biot-Savart law

# Sample preparation for Micro Hall Scanner

- Thin slice of less than  $10\ \mu\text{m}$  prepared by mechanical polishing with diamond disks
- Parallel and even surfaces essential
- Polishing induces damage on the sample

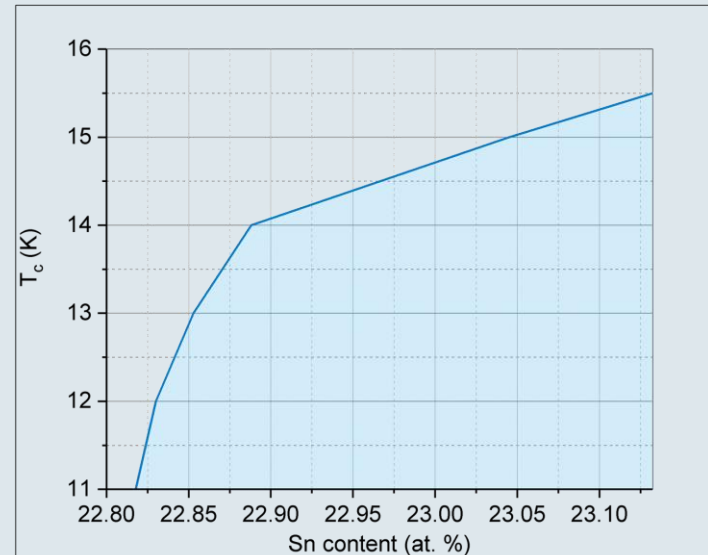
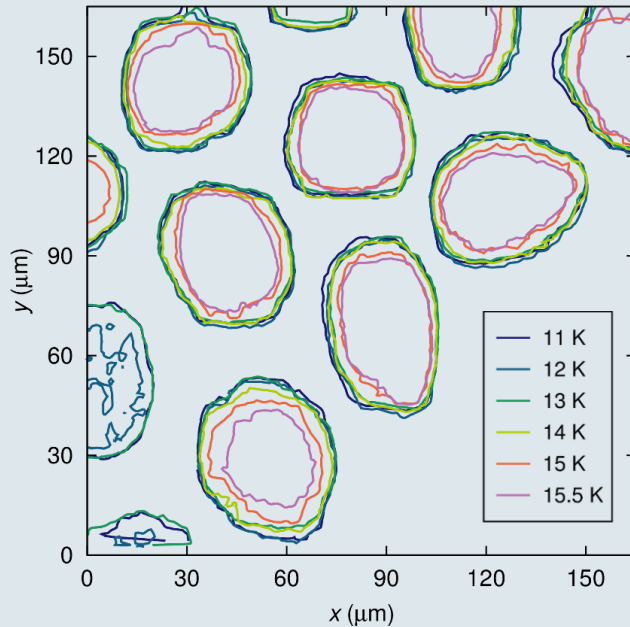


# Magnetic Inhomogeneities



- RRP-Ti wire, scanned in the Meißner state at different temperatures
- Change in screened area reveals  $T_C$  gradient in the sub-elements
- For finding inhomogeneities in  $J_C$ , scans at fields of several Tesla will be performed

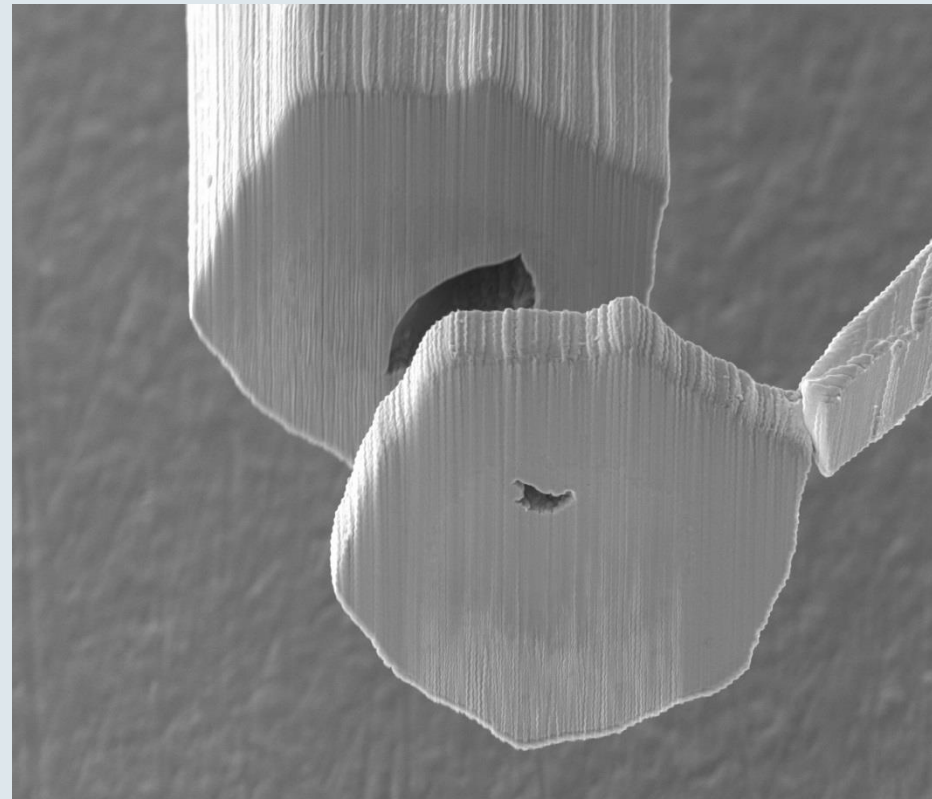
# Meißner scans of RRP-Ti wire



- Meißner Scans on 10  $\mu\text{m}$  thin slice of RRP-Ti wire
- Screening radius depends on temperature due to gradient in Sn content
- Dependency of  $T_c$  from the Sn content
- Small change in Sn content heavily impacts  $T_c$

# Sample Preparation of subelement

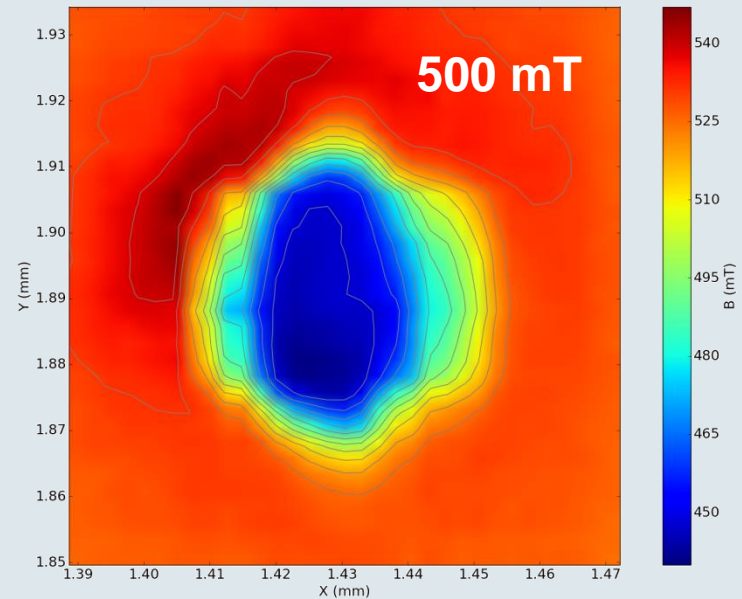
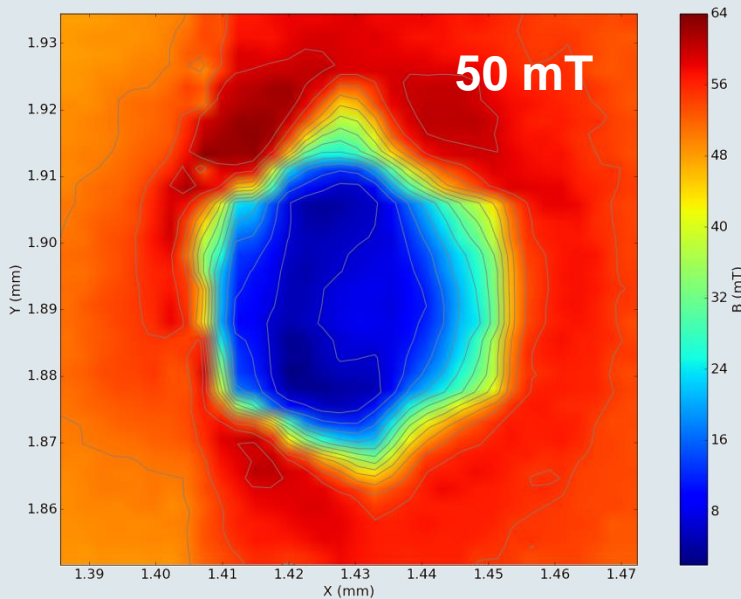
Preparing thin slices of etched subelements using FIB for SHPM measurements



✳	curr	det	HV	mag	WD	tilt	HFW	dwell	30 μm
	0.14 nA	ETD	15.00 kV	2600 x	14.9 mm	52 °	115 μm	30 μs	

# Magnetic Inhomogeneities

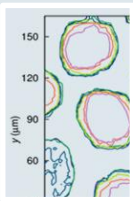
Hall scans of subelement at 5 K



- FIB preparation of individual single subelements is feasible
- For detection of inhomogeneities of  $J_C$  Hall scans at higher applied fields will be performed



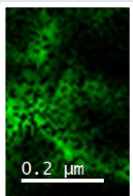
# Investigations at USTEM



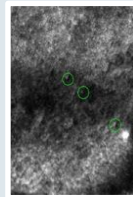
Composition gradients in Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn wires



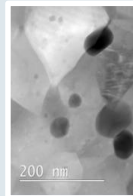
Tl1223 for beam screens



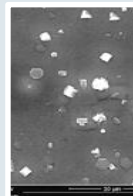
Carbon-Cluster in MgB<sub>2</sub>



Irradiation Effects



Artificial pinning centers (APC)



Coated conductors YBCO

FEGTEM



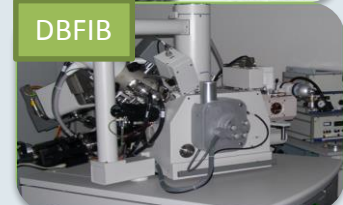
TEM



FEGSEM



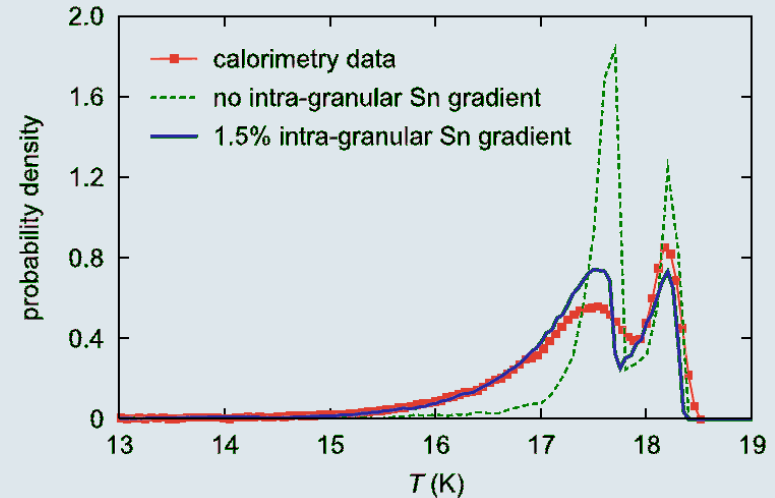
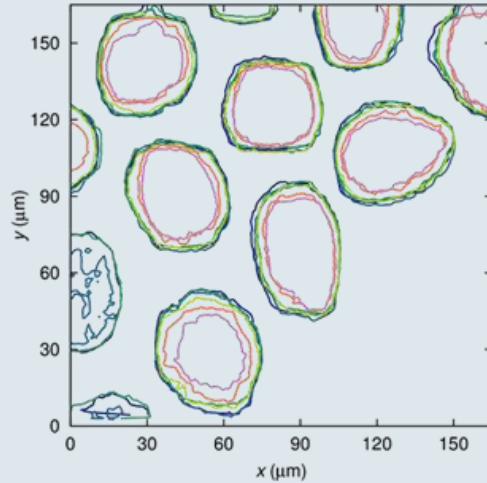
DBFIB



DBFIB



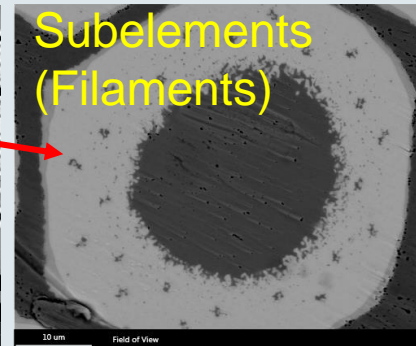
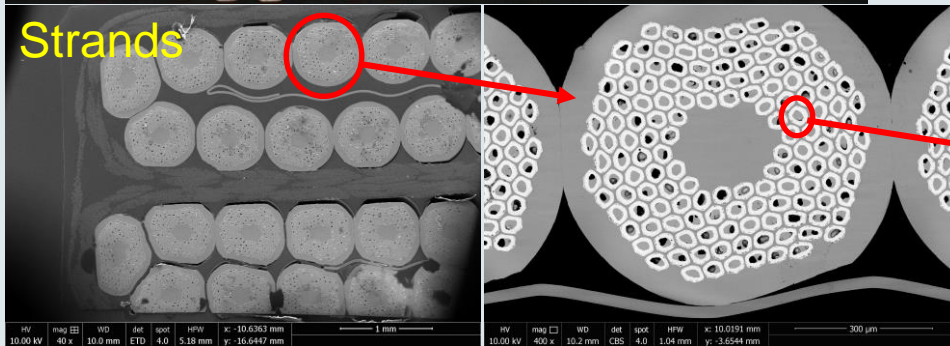
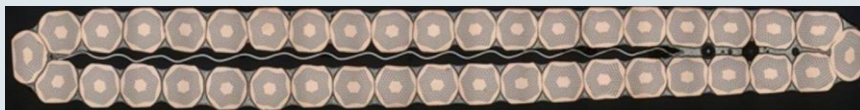
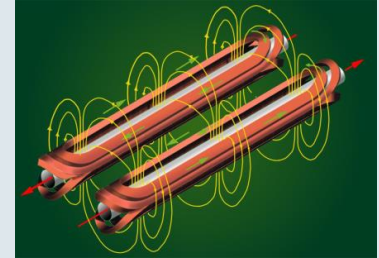
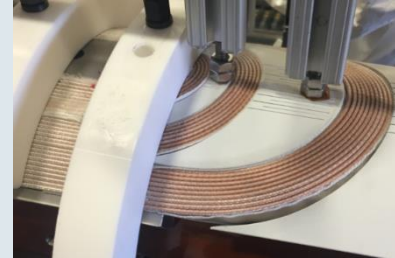
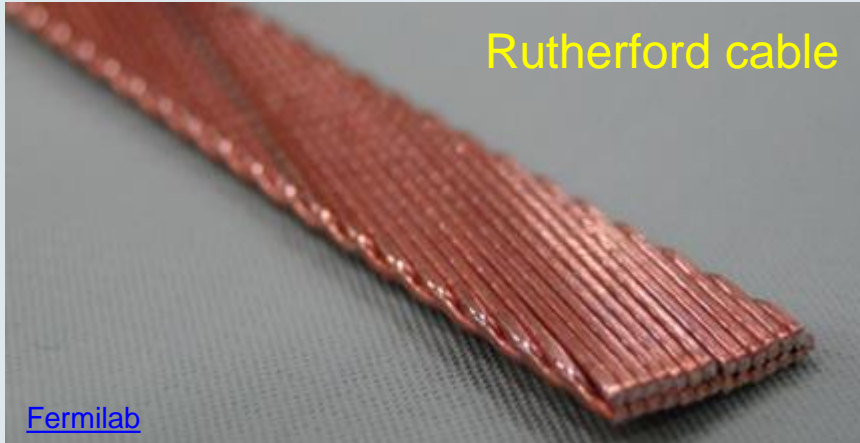
# Composition Gradients



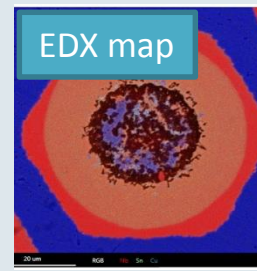
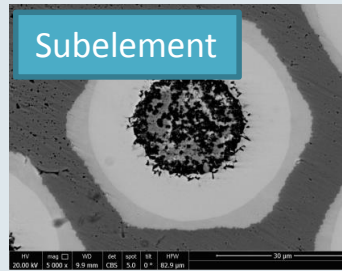
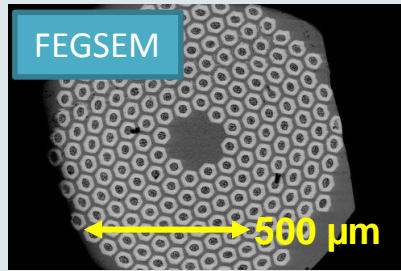
Thomas Baumgartner et al, SUST 30, (2017)

- Magnetometry and calorimetry lead to different distribution functions
- Caused by Sn distribution within individual grains

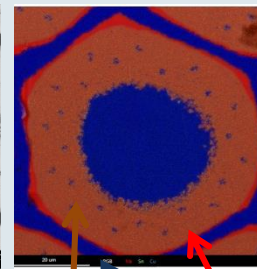
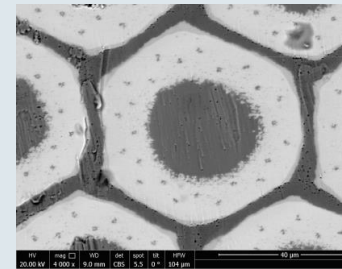
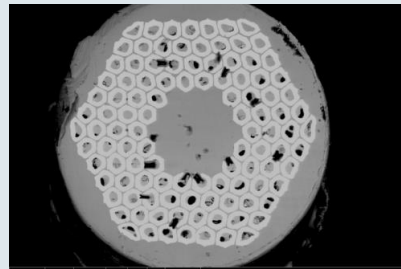
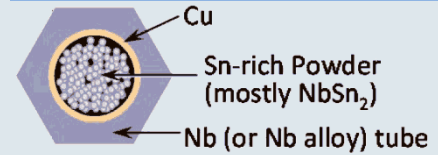
# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Conductor R&D



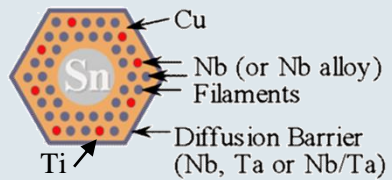
# Investigated Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn wires



## PIT-Ta



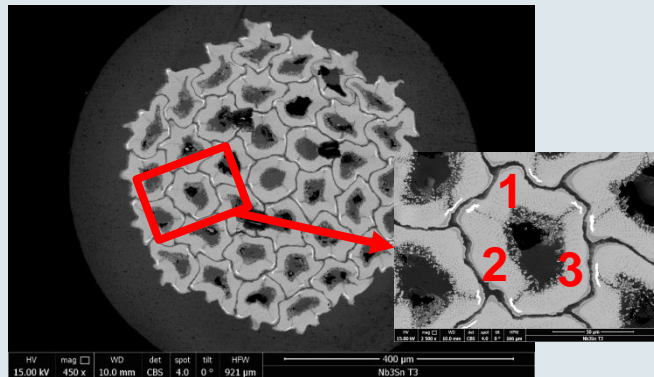
## Internal Sn-Ti RRP



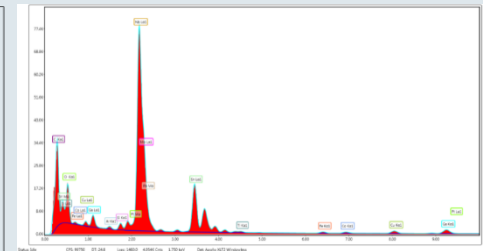
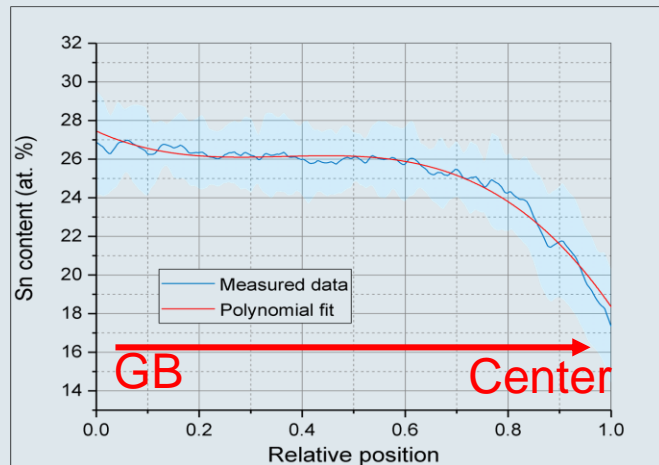
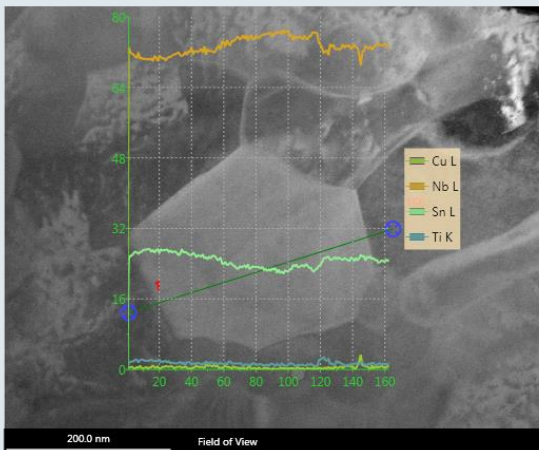
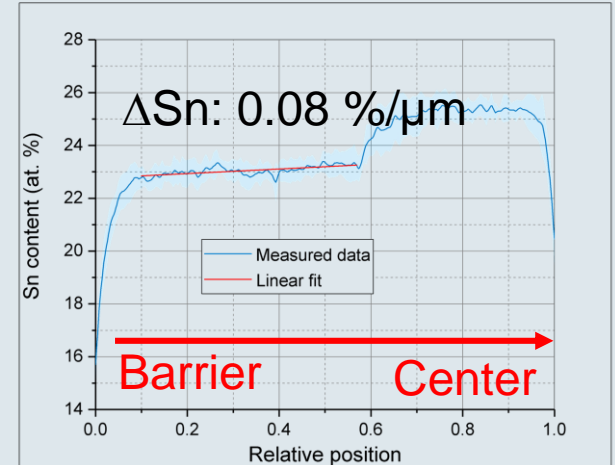
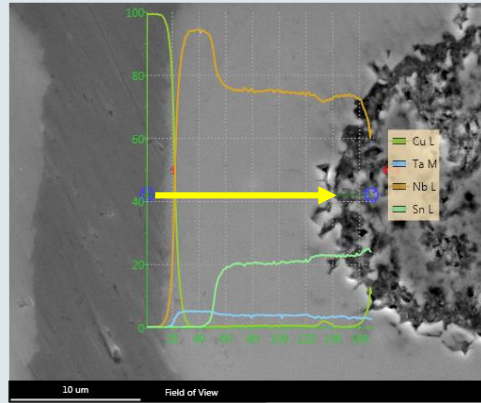
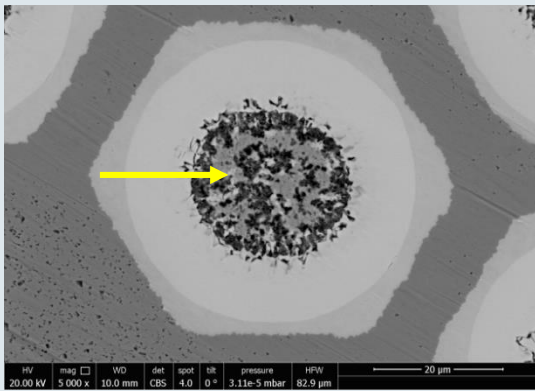
Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Cu Nb

Distributed Nb + Ta

Clustered layout

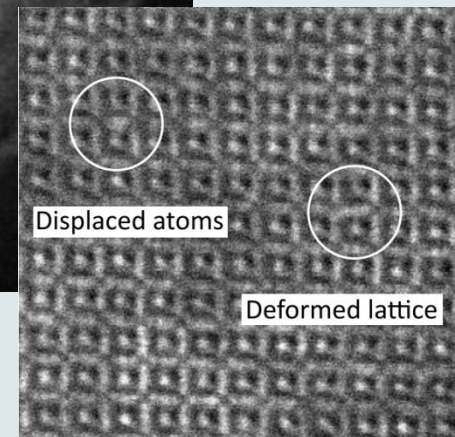
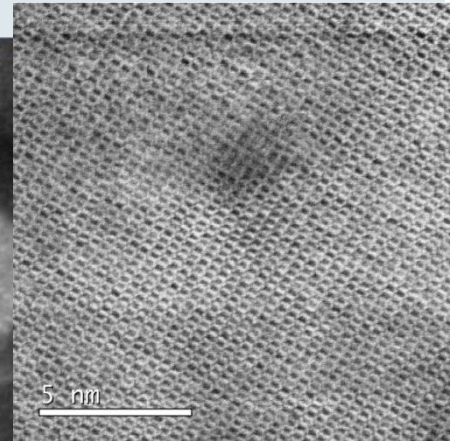
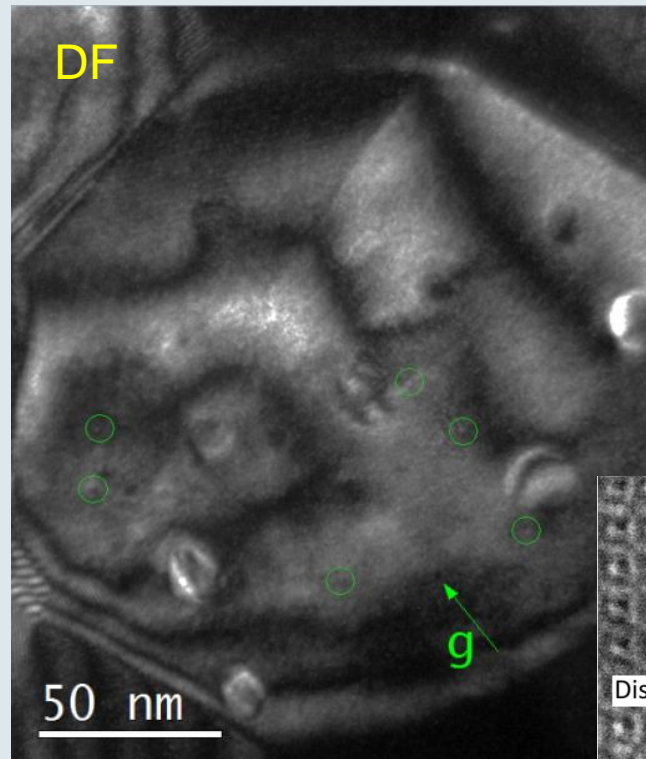
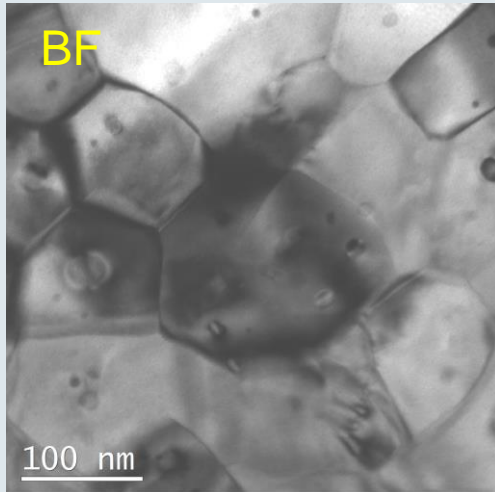
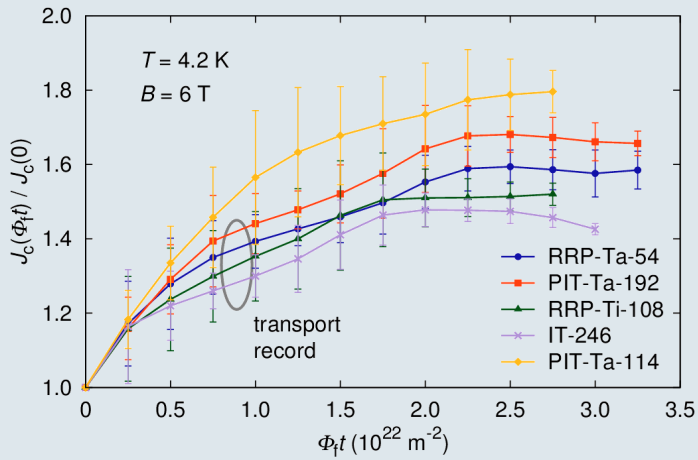


# Sn distribution within PIT-Ta



# Irradiated RRP-Ti wire

# Irradiation experiments



Formation of nanosized defects

# TI1223 for Beam Screens

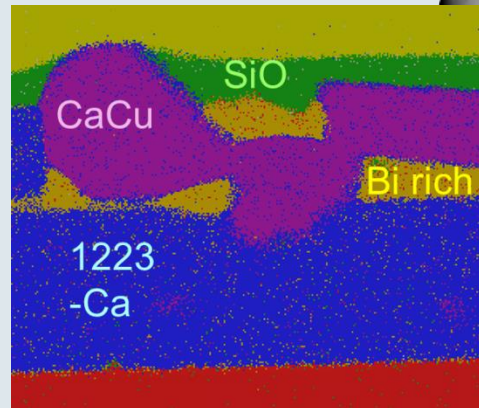
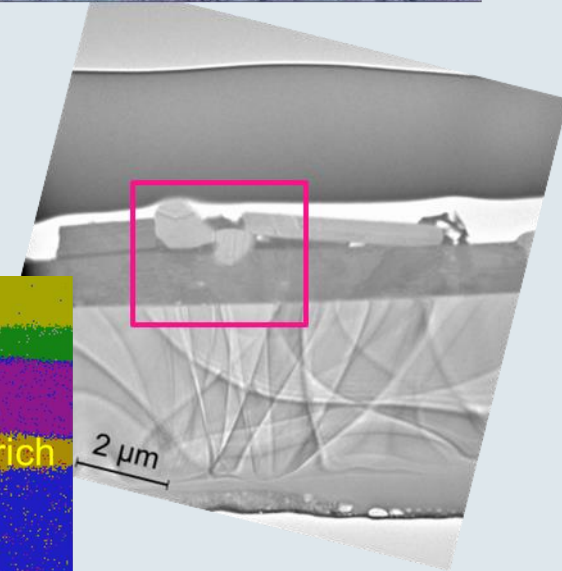
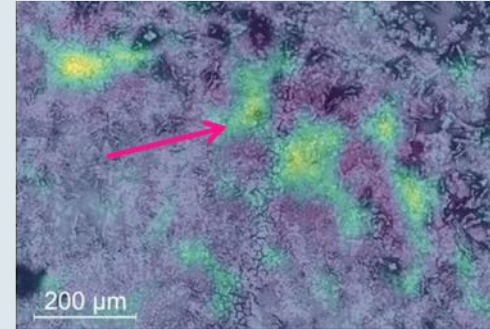
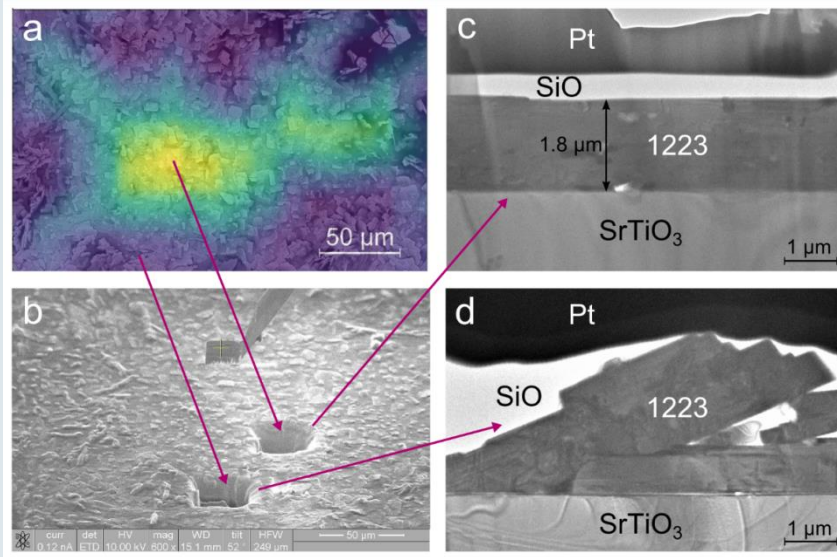
Synchrotron radiation must be absorbed at 50 K

- Vacuum requirements
- Cryogenic efficiency
- Power consumption
- Cu is not sufficient
- YBCo or TI based HTS are an option
- **TI-HTS produced at CNR Spin / Genova**



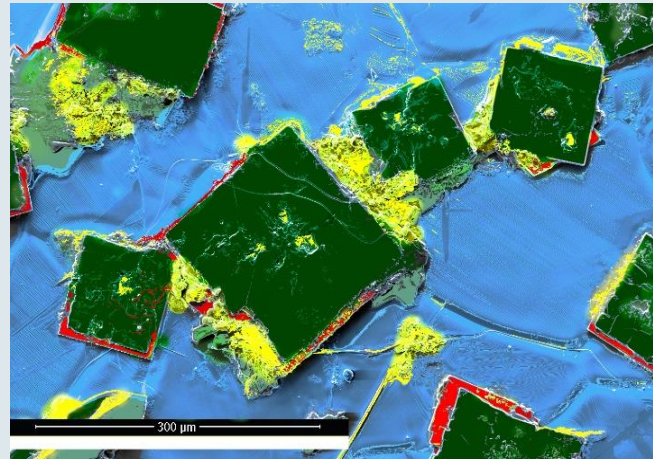
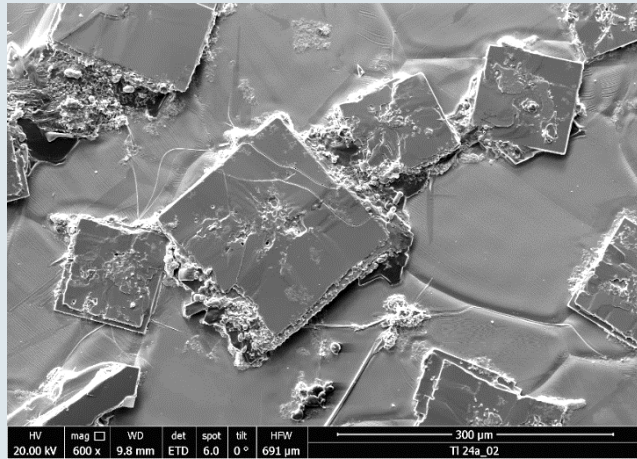


# What influences sc properties

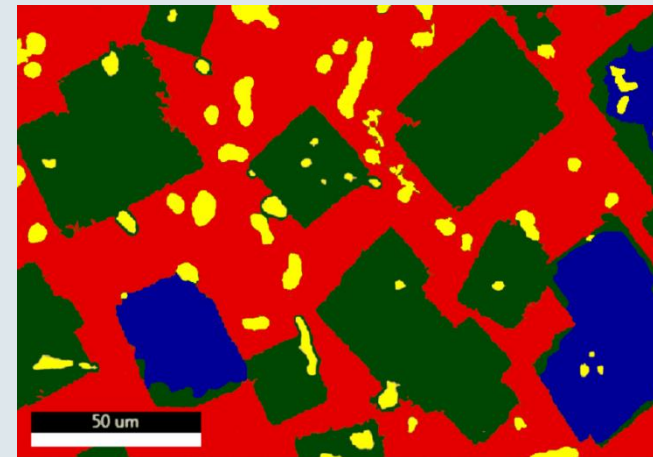
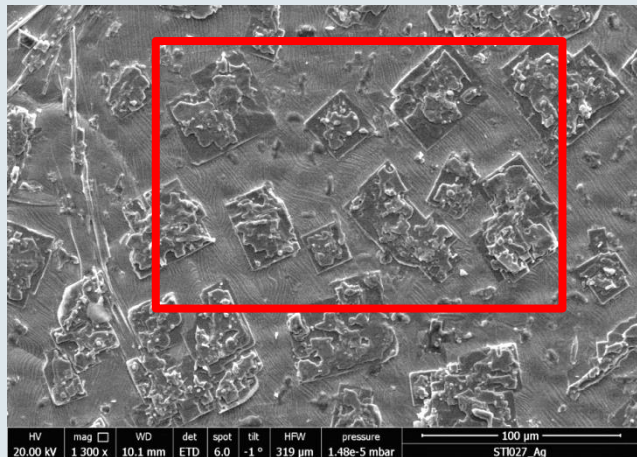


- Misaligned 1223 grains
- Impurities

# Beam Screen Development (HTS)



Ag
TI-1223
TI-1212
O, Ca rich
O, Ca, Sr rich

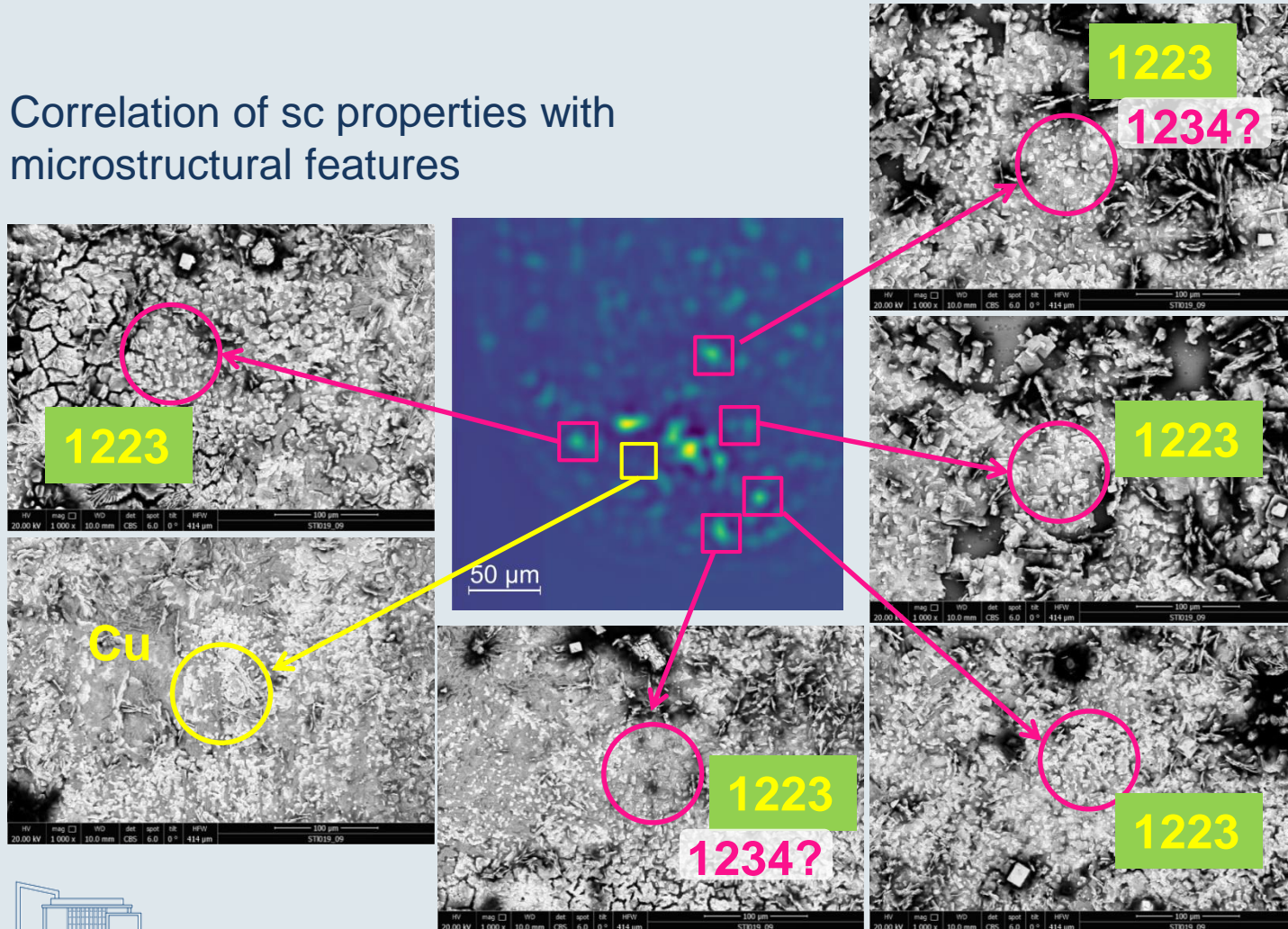


Ag
TI-1223
O, Ca, Pb rich
TI-1212



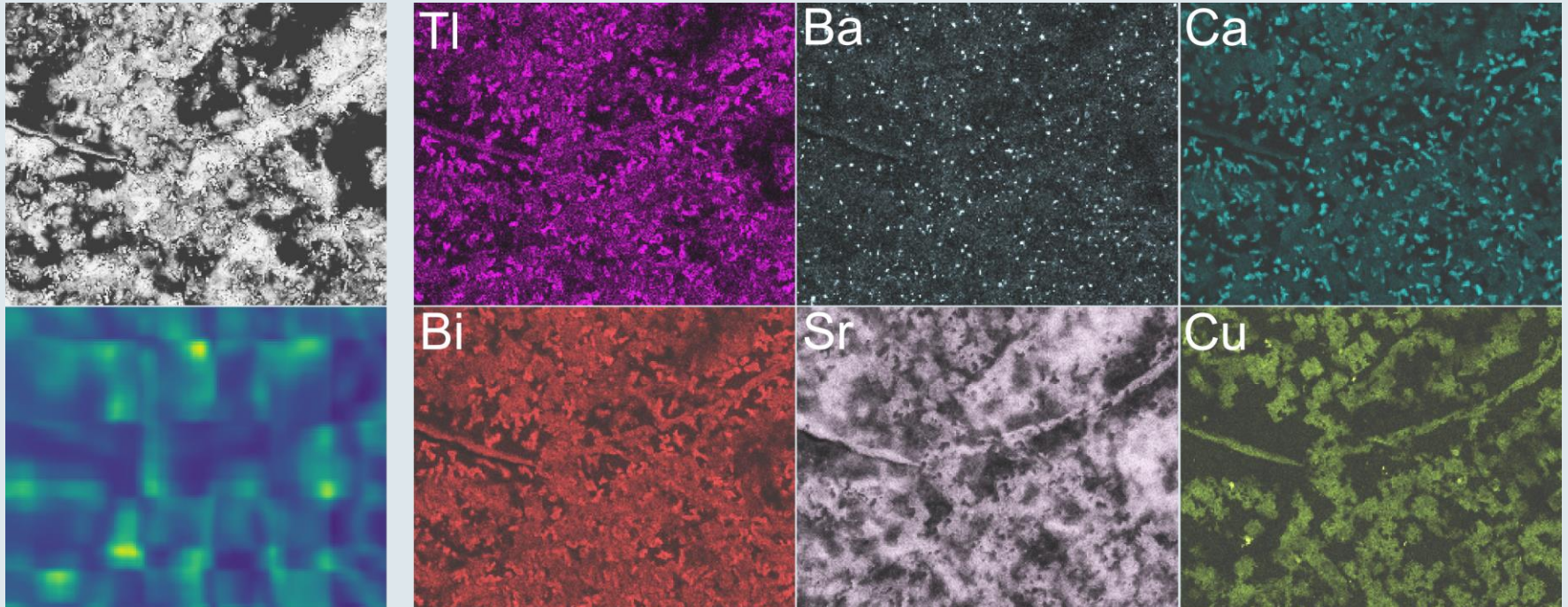
# Beam Screen Development (HTS)

Correlation of sc properties with microstructural features



# $\mu$ Hall: Magnetic field mapping

Comparison between remnant magnetic field and local composition of the superconductor

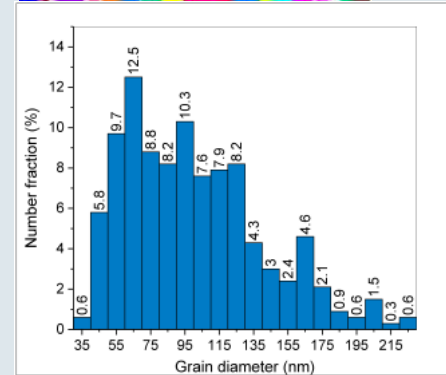
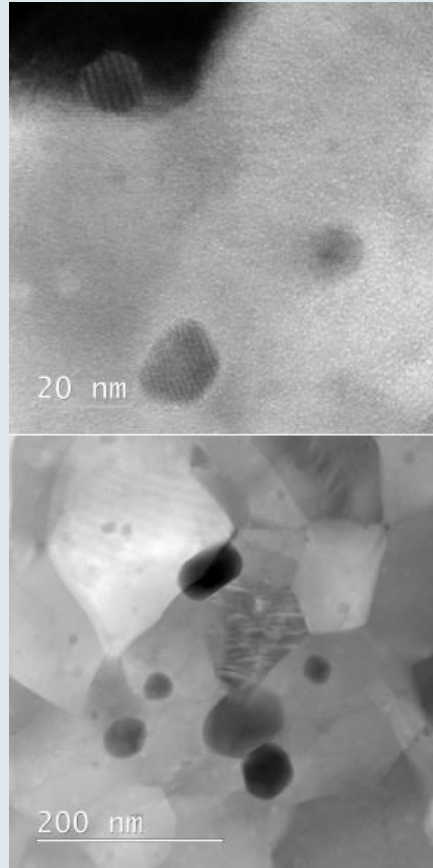
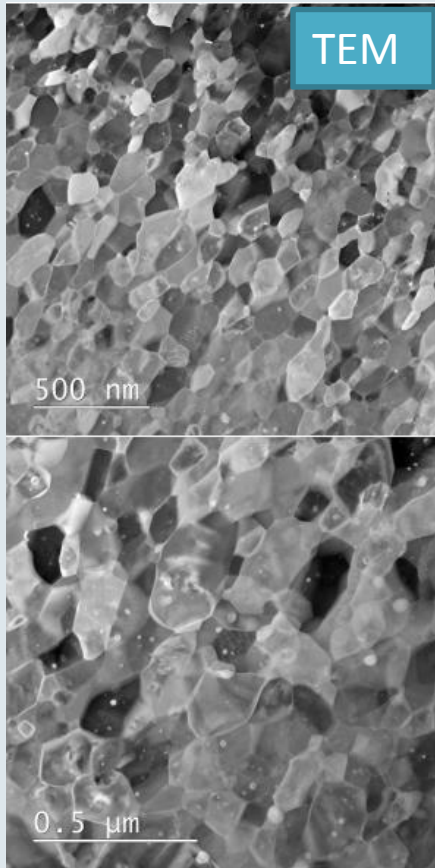


# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn with artificial pinning

Formation of ZrO<sub>2</sub> or HfO<sub>2</sub> precipitates

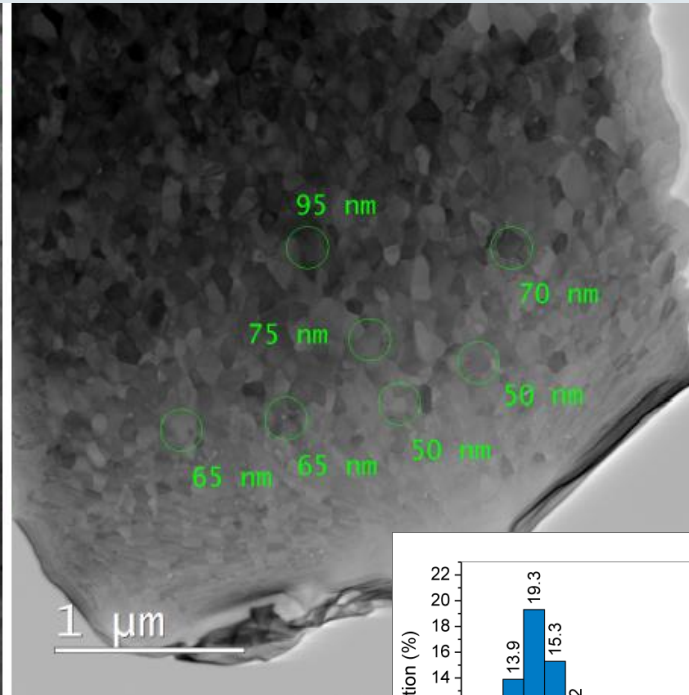
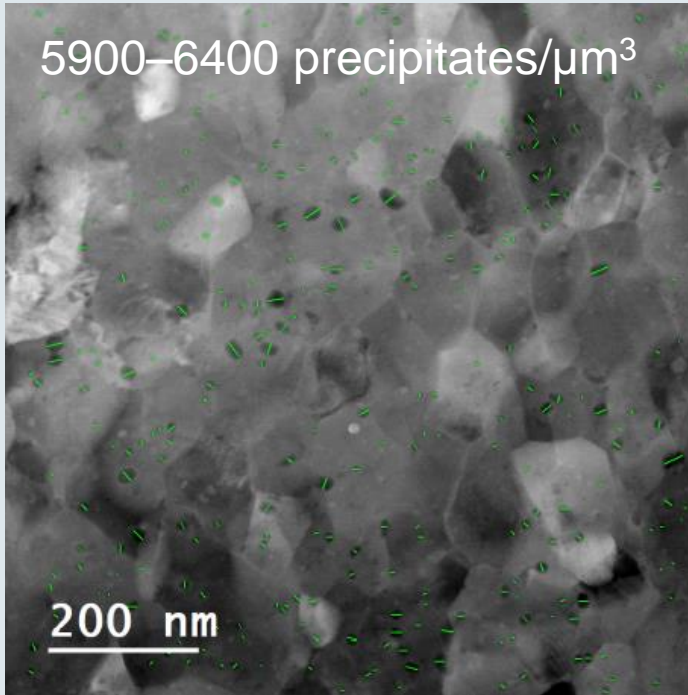
- Grain size refinement (more grain boundaries)
- Additional pinning centers

# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn with APC

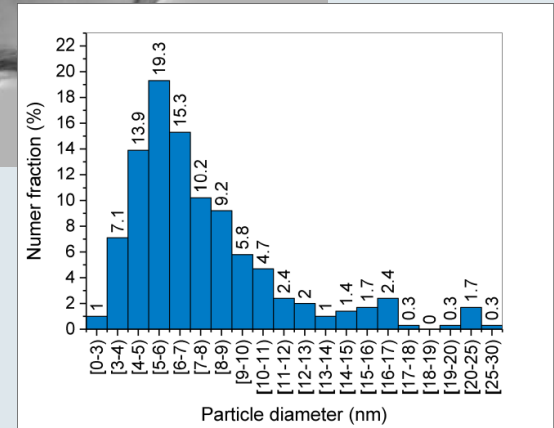


Grain refinement determined by TKD

# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn with APC



Sample thickness determined by EELS  
 Estimation of APC density



# Scientific Output FCC related

2016 – 2021

- 14 Publications in Journals
- 11 Poster Presentations
- 20 Talks
- 3 PhD and 2 PhD 