

# Overview of Sub-Kelvin Technologies

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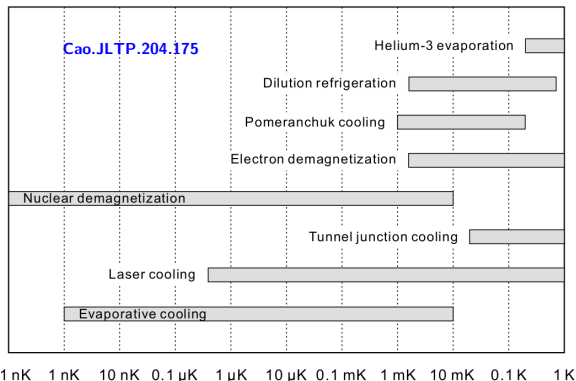
Grenoble, 2022-09-28

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Helium-3 Dilution Refrigeration
- 3 Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration
- 4 Conclusion: Technology Comparison

# Introduction



## Focus

- dilution refrigeration
- ADR (continuous)
- comparison

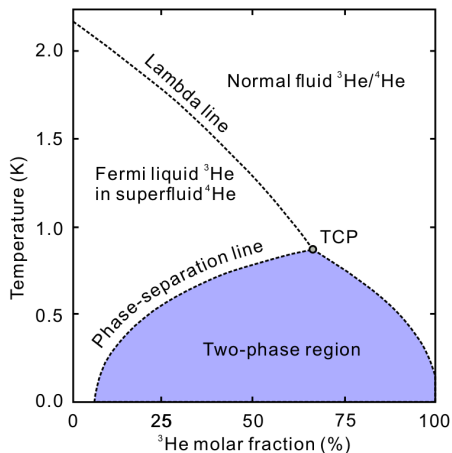
## My background

- current work:  $^3\text{He}$ - $^4\text{He}$  dilution refrigeration in micro-gravity
- 45 years ago: ADR

# Outline

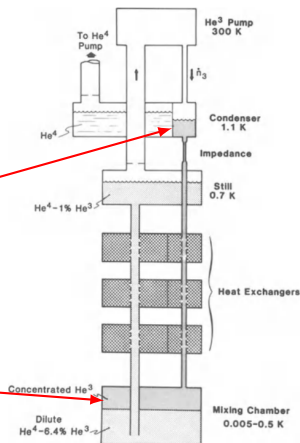
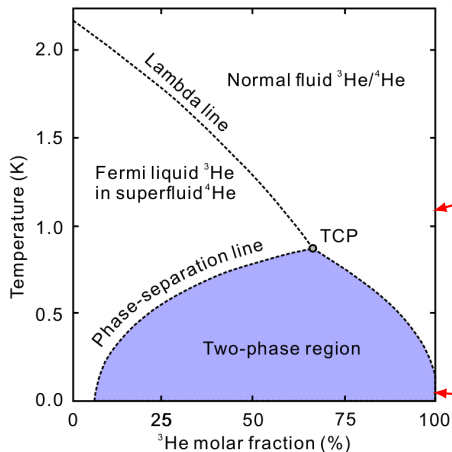
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# Helium-3 Dilution Refrigeration



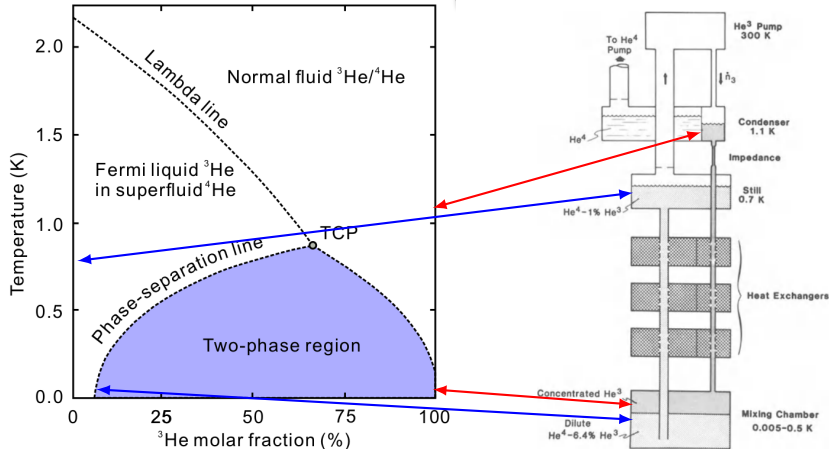
Pobell.Chapter.Springer.7.2007; Cao.JLTP.204.175; Walker.Book.2.Springer.1983

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Pobell.Chapter.Springer.7.2007; Cao.JLTP.204.175; Walker.Book.2.Springer.1983

# Helium-3 Dilution Refrigeration

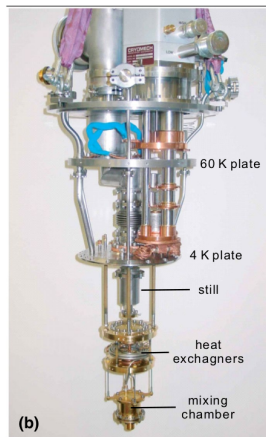
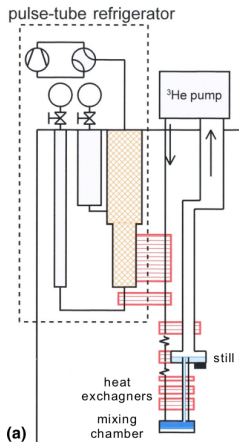


$$\dot{Q}_{\text{mc-thermo}} \approx \alpha \dot{n}_3 (T_{\text{dil}}^2 - T_{\text{con}}^2) \text{ with } \alpha \approx 82 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^2$$

in my opinion: 50% of  $\dot{Q}_{\text{mc-thermo}}$  means good work

Pobell.Chapter.Springer.7.2007; Cao.JLTP.204.175; Walker.Book.2.Springer.1983

# Dry Helium-3 Dilution Refrigeration



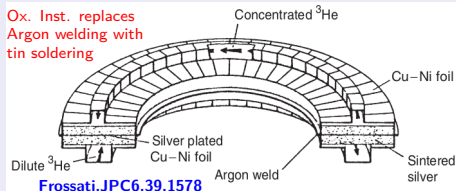
Cao.JLTP.204.175

more sample space  
no liquid  $^4\text{He}$  costs



# Dilution Refrigerator Heat Exchange

## 1978: best heat exchanger layout



## today

- 5 mK instead of 2 mK
- 10 times more  $^3\text{He}$  flow rate

## construction details

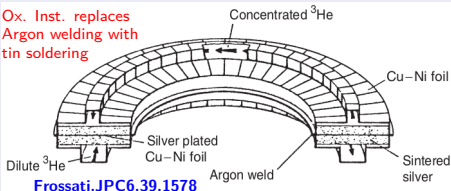
- electroplate Cu-Ni foil with Ag
- sinter Ag powder at  $\approx 200^\circ\text{C}$
- Ag messes up Argon welding

# Dilution Refrigerator Heat Exchange

1978: best heat exchanger layout

mixing chamber geometry

Ox. Inst. replaces Argon welding with tin soldering

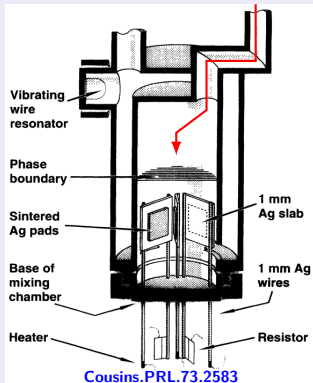


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poor liquid thermal conductivity

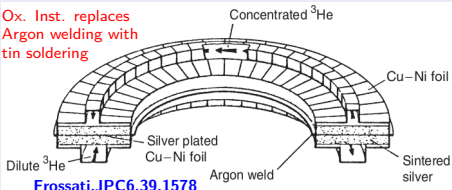
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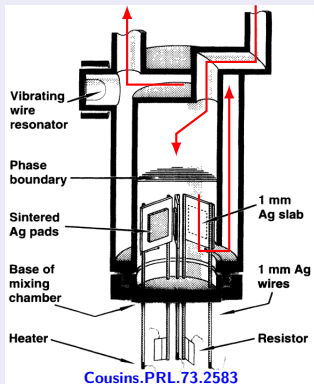


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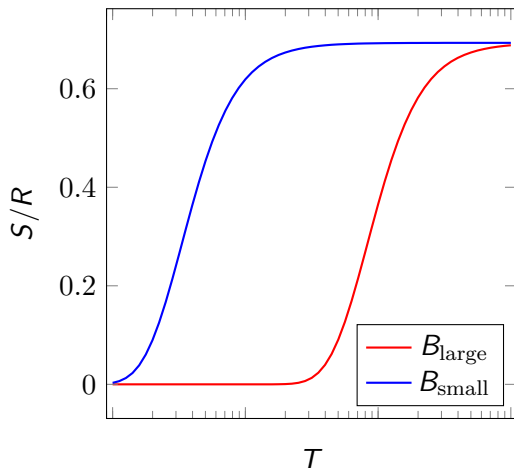
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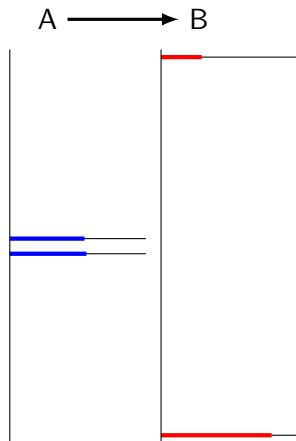
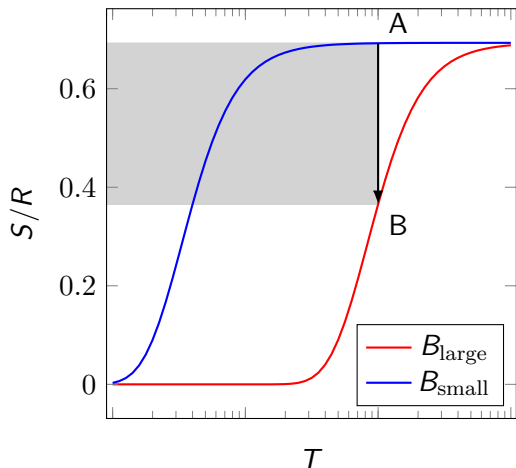
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# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



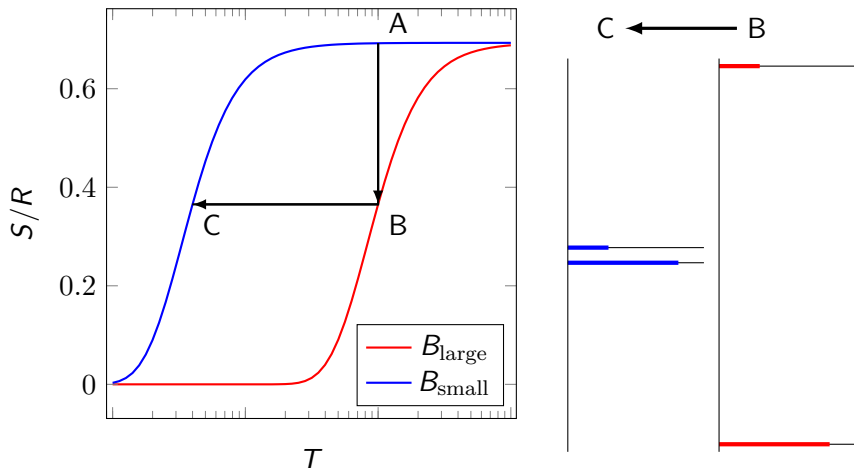
spin-1/2: textbook Carnot diagrams have  $S$ - and  $T$ -axes swapped

# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



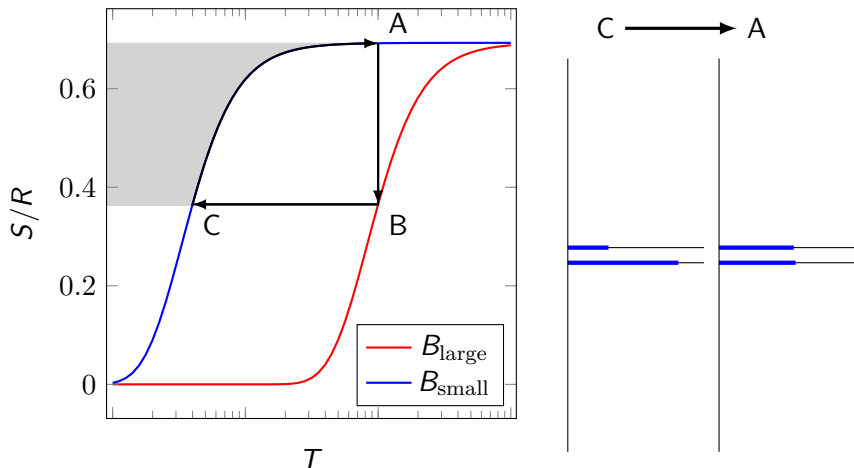
on earth: isothermal  $B \uparrow$  dumps heat (grey area) to temperature bath

# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



on earth: adiabatic  $B \downarrow$  implies spin system  $T \downarrow$

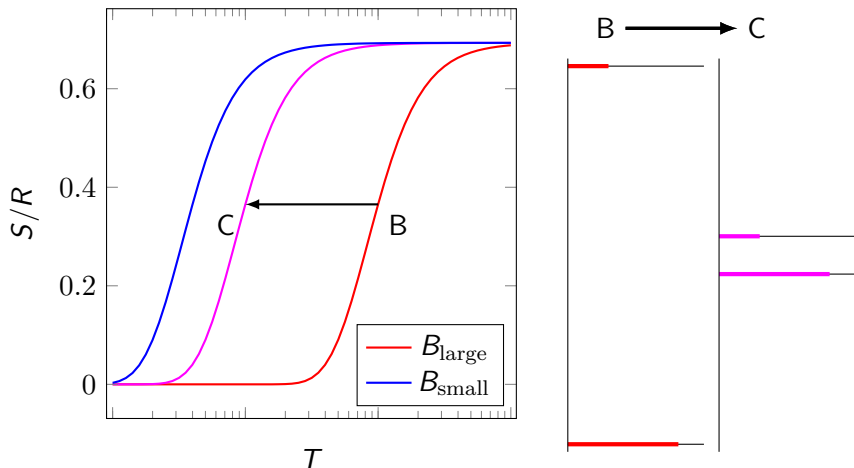
# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



on earth: the system lifts heat (grey area) while it warms up

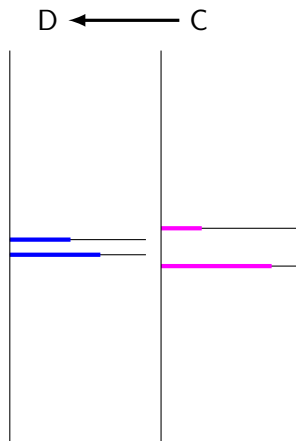
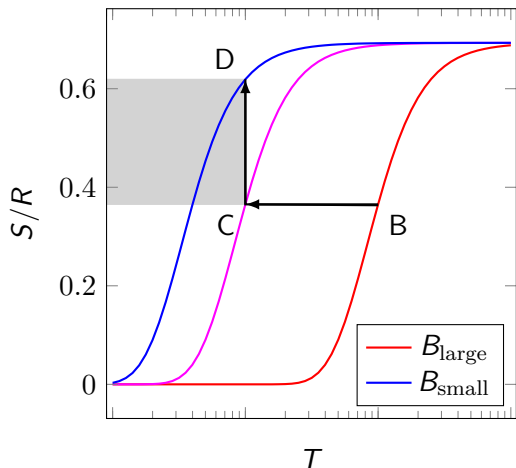


# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



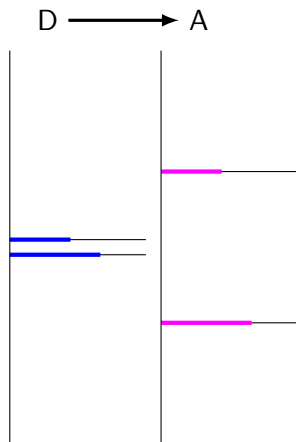
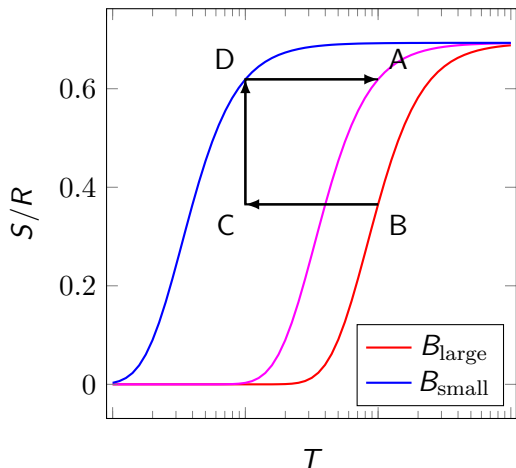
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# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



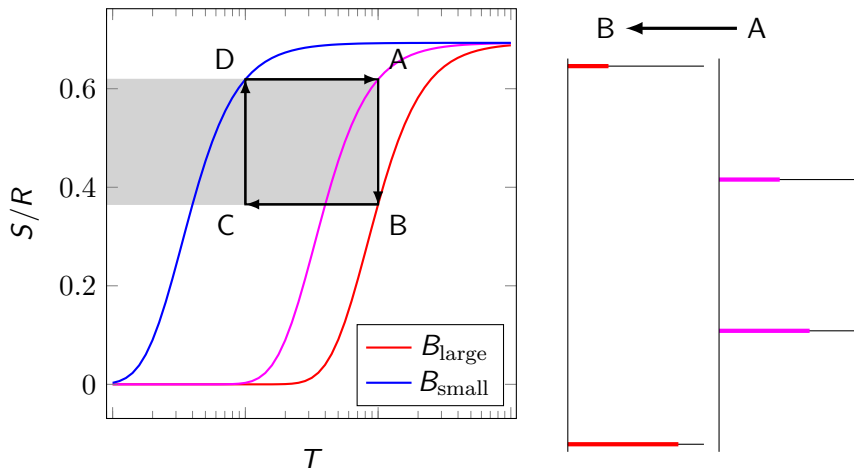
in space: isothermal  $B \downarrow$  lifts heat (grey area)

# Adiabatic Demagnetization Refrigeration Principles



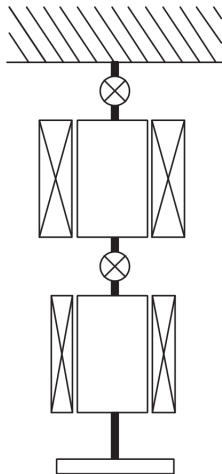
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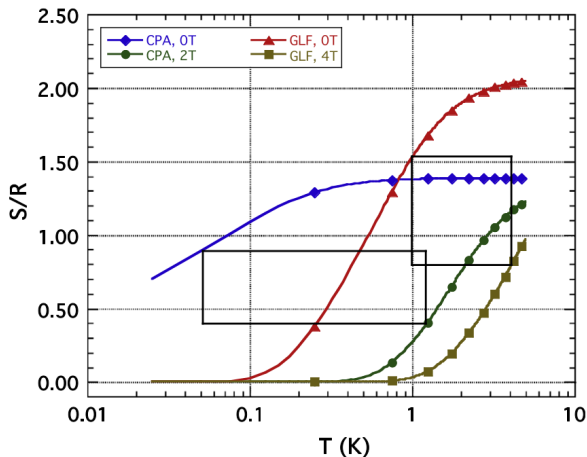


in space: isothermal  $B \uparrow$  dumps heat (grey area)

## 2-Stage Single-Shot ADR



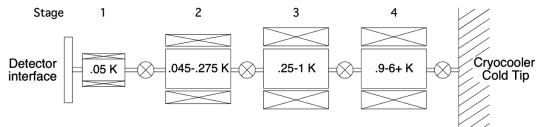
Shirron.Cryogenics.62.130



Shirron.Cryogenics.62.130

GLF demagnetization at  $T = 1.0$  K lifts heat from CPA magnetization at  $T = 1.1$  K

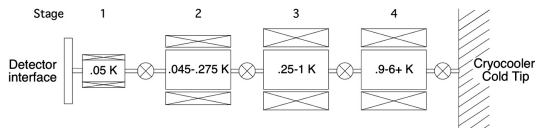
# Multi-Stage Continuous ADR



## heat switches

- 1 superconductor
- 1 active gas gap
- 2 passive gas gap

# Multi-Stage Continuous ADR



Stage	Refrigerant	$B$ (T)	$T_{\text{high}}$ (K)	$T_{\text{low}}$ (K)	Mass (kg)
1	60 g CPA	0.1		0.05	0.5
2	100 g CPA	0.5	0.3	0.045	1.7
3	100 g CPA	1.5	1.3	0.25	2.4
4	65 g GLF	4.0	5	1.15	3.1

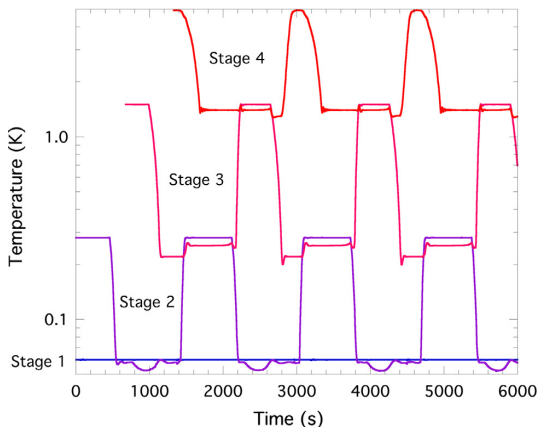
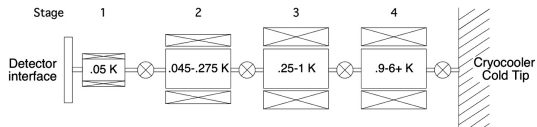
## heat switches

- 1 superconductor
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## ramp $B$ and switch $\dot{Q}$

- as fast as possible
- switch time is limit

# Multi-Stage Continuous ADR



[Shirron.Cryogenics.62.130](#)

## heat switches

- 1 superconductor
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## ramp $B$ and switch $\dot{Q}$

- as fast as possible
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## magnetic shielding

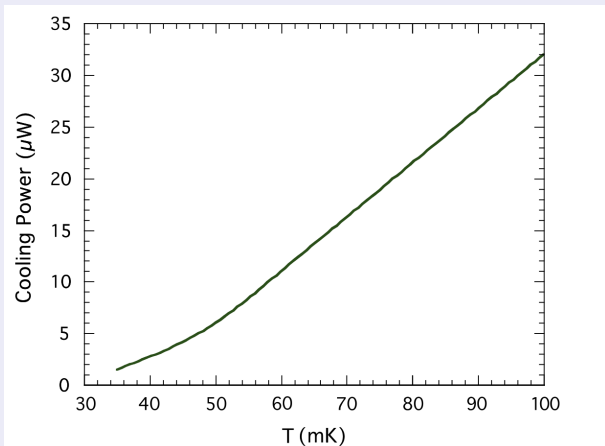
- active superconducting
- passive ferromagnetic and superconducting

[Prouve.Cryogenics.64.201](#)



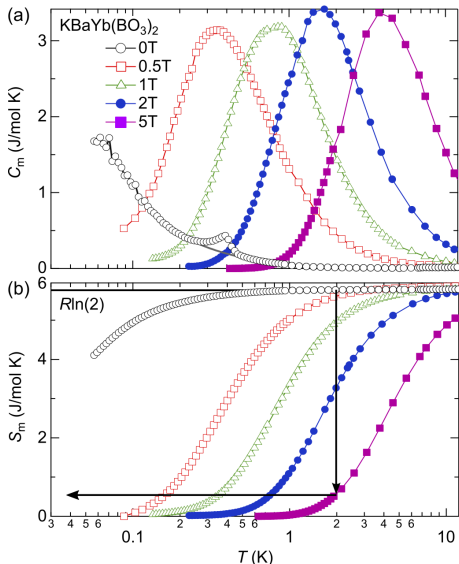
# Multi-Stage Continuous ADR

experimental cooling power versus temperature



Shirron.Cryogenics.62.130

# New Materials for Continuous ADR

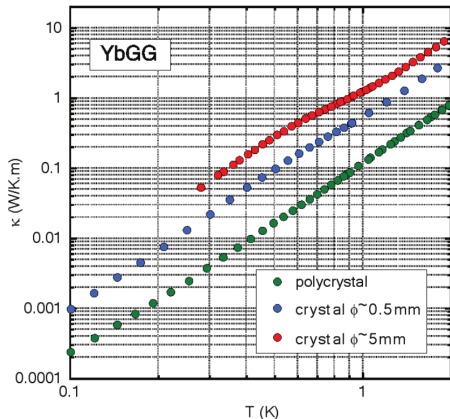


Tokiwa.CommunicationsMaterials.2.42

## frustrated antiferromagnetism

- antiferromagnetic order is incompatible with triangular lattice
- replace paramagnetic salts
  - higher entropy density
  - insensitive to vacuum
  - insensitive to high  $T$
  - not corrosive

# New Materials for Continuous ADR



Brasiliano.Cryogenics.105.103002

$\kappa_{5 \text{ mm diameter}} \approx \kappa_{\text{Brass UNS C26000}}$

## frustrated antiferromagnetism

- antiferromagnetic order is incompatible with triangular lattice
- replace paramagnetic salts
  - higher entropy density
  - insensitive to vacuum
  - insensitive to high  $T$
  - not corrosive
  - better thermal contact
- more material research
- experts:
  - France: CEA-DSBT
  - USA: NASA

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## Conclusion: Technology Comparison

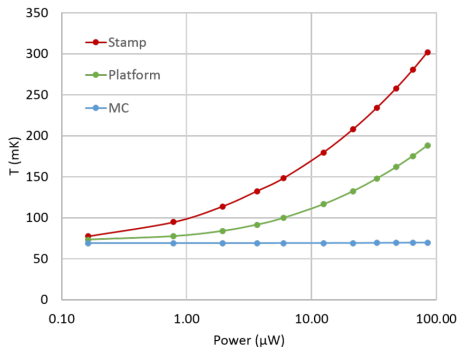
model	$T_{\min}$ mK	$\dot{Q}$ @ $T$ $\mu\text{W}$ @ mK	$^4\text{He}$
Oxford Kelvinox 400	$< 7$	400 @ 100	wet
Oxford Proteox 5mK900	$< 5$	25–850 @ 20–100	dry
Leiden CF-CS110-1500	7	1500 @ 100	dry
BlueFors XLD1000	8–10	450–500 @ 100	dry
NASA CADR	35–100	1.5–32 @ 35–100	both

## Conclusion: Technology Comparison

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	dry DR	wet DR	DIY
outside space	large	small	any
configuration	fixed	fixed	any
vibrations	PTC+pumps	pumps	any
know-how	company	company	you

# Conclusion: Technology Comparison



Liberadzka.Thesis.2019

NASA ADR has  $\dot{Q} = 16 \mu\text{W}$  @  $T = 70 \text{ mK}$ : 6 times less than used

## Conclusion: Technology Comparison

model	$T_{\min}$ mK	$\dot{Q}$ @ $T$ $\mu\text{W}$ @ mK	$^4\text{He}$
Oxford Kelvinox 400	$< 7$	400 @ 100	wet
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CADR is sensitive to magnetic field

CADR may require control of stray fields

I extrapolate  $\dot{Q}_{\text{load}} @ 4\text{K} \approx (3-10) \text{ mW}$

lots of room for improvement



# References I

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