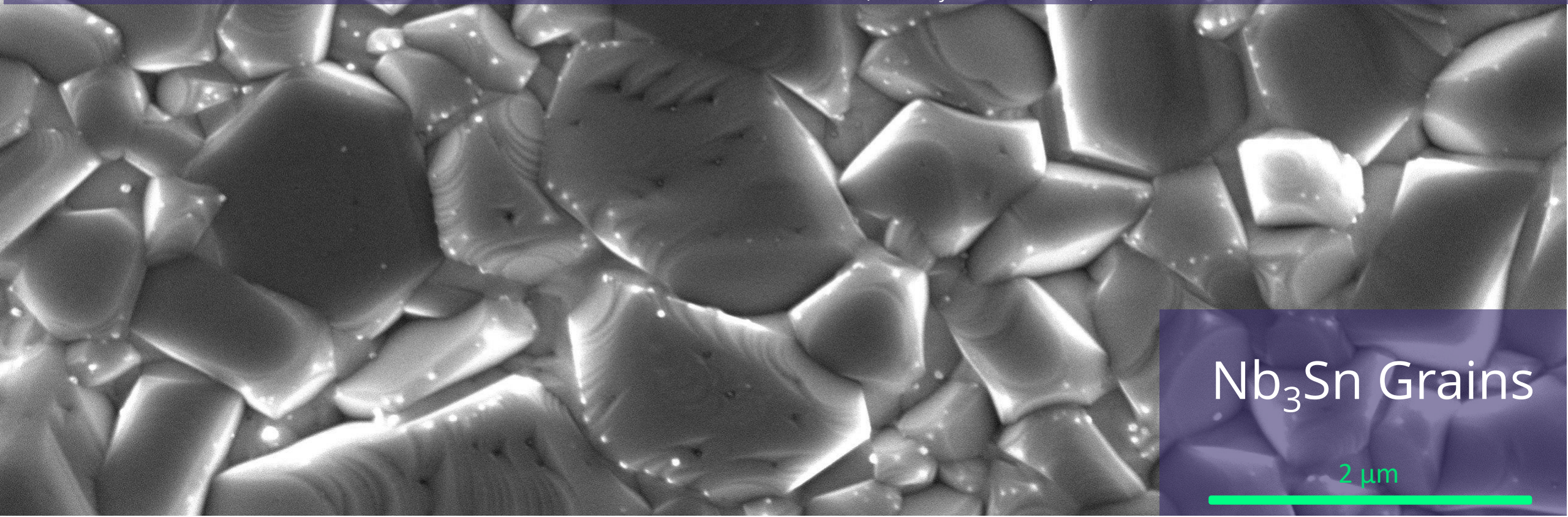


Superconductors for Dark Matter Detection

(and maybe Accelerators)



Nb₃Sn Grains

2 μm

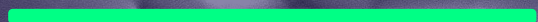
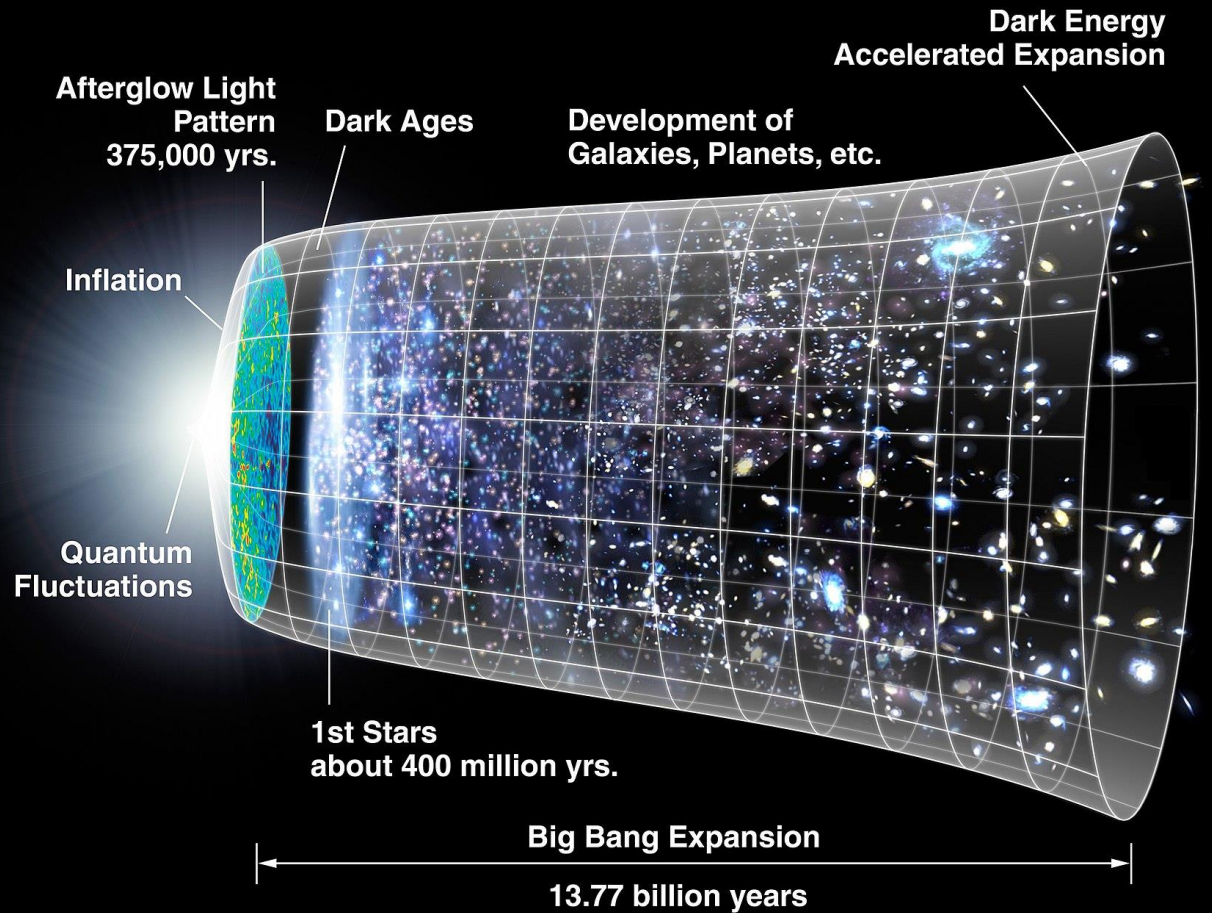


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- Axions
- Detecting the Axion
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- Healing Seams for Axion Detectors (and maybe SRF cavities)

Baryogenesis and Dark Matter

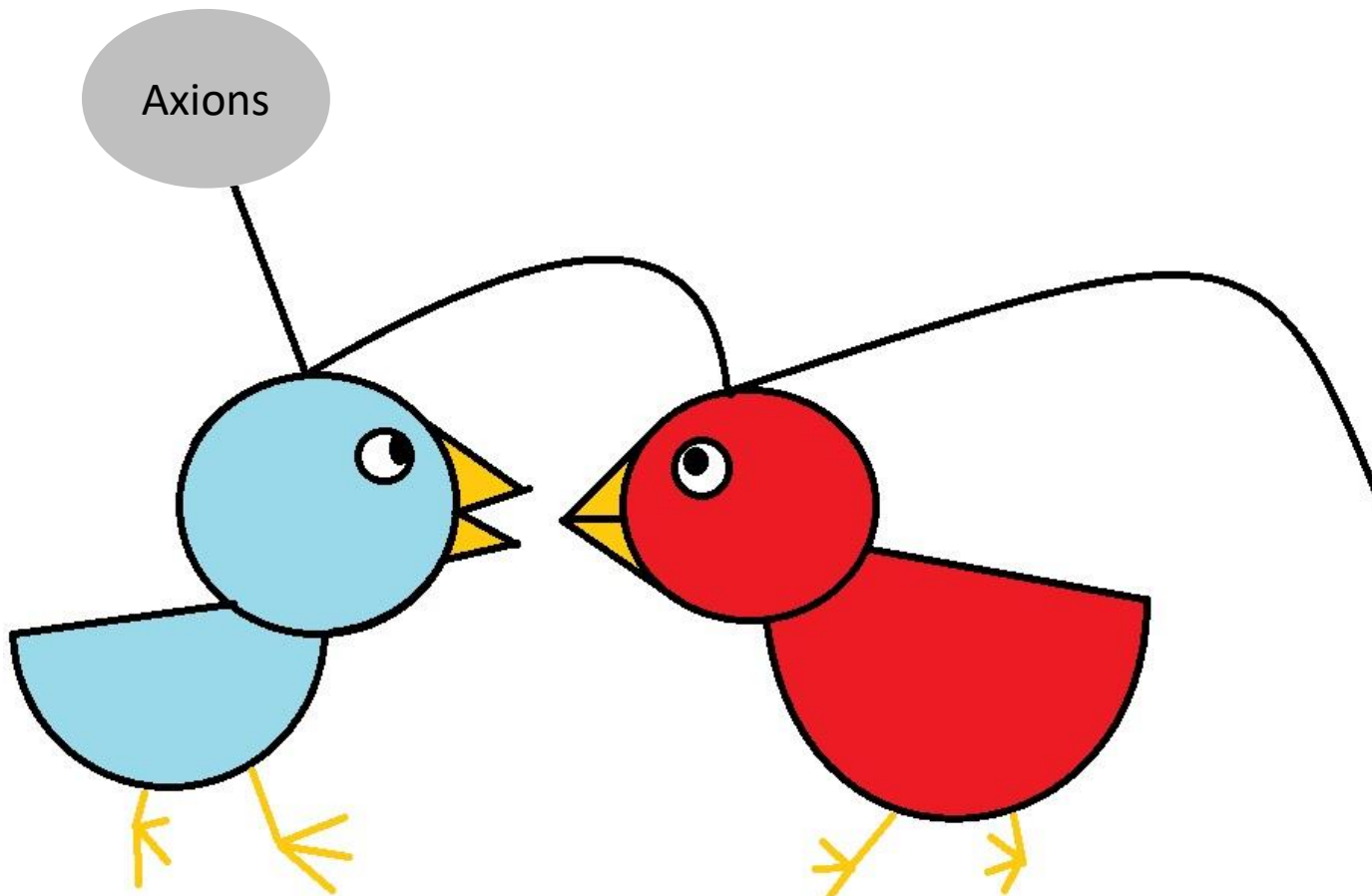


Milky Way halo structure



[CMB Timeline300 no WMAP - Cosmological constant - Wikipedia](#)

Axion comes to clean up!



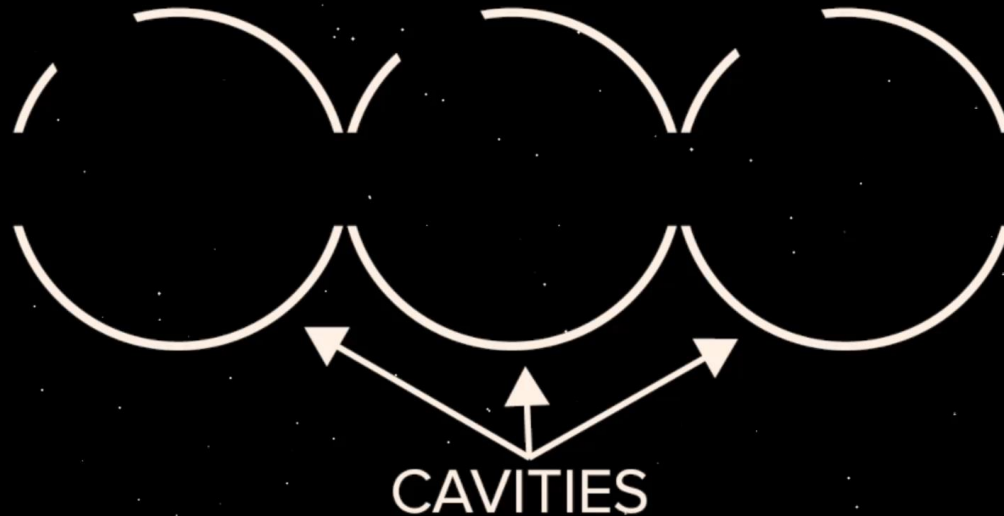
Dark Matter

Baryogenesis
Neutron Dipole Moment
Strong CP problem

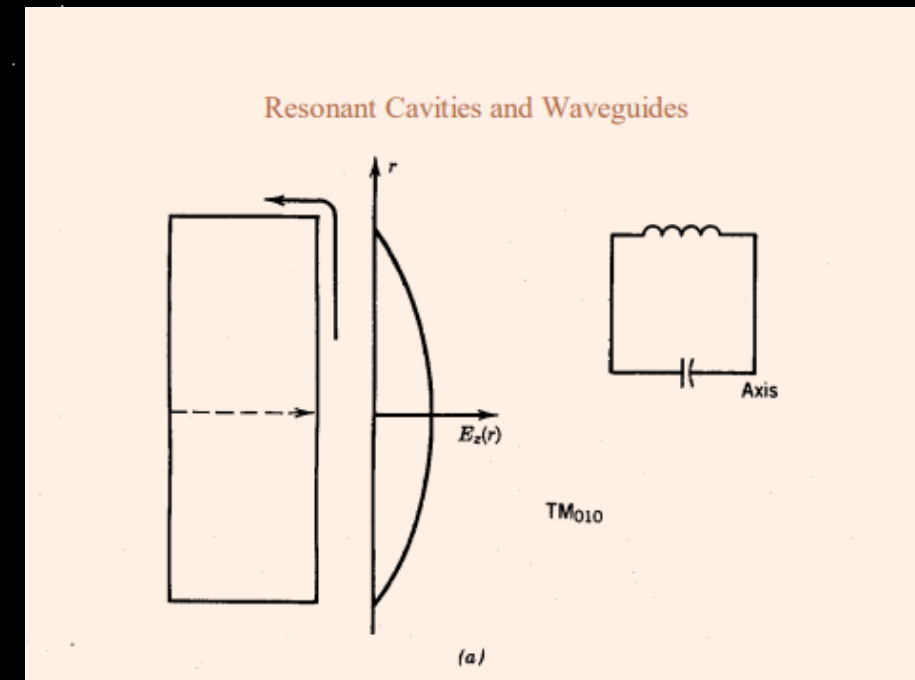
Table of Contents

- Axions
- Detecting the Axion
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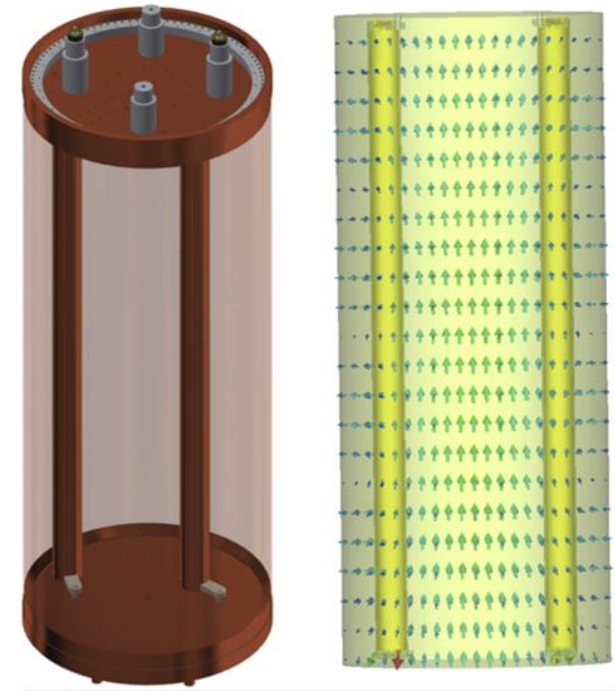
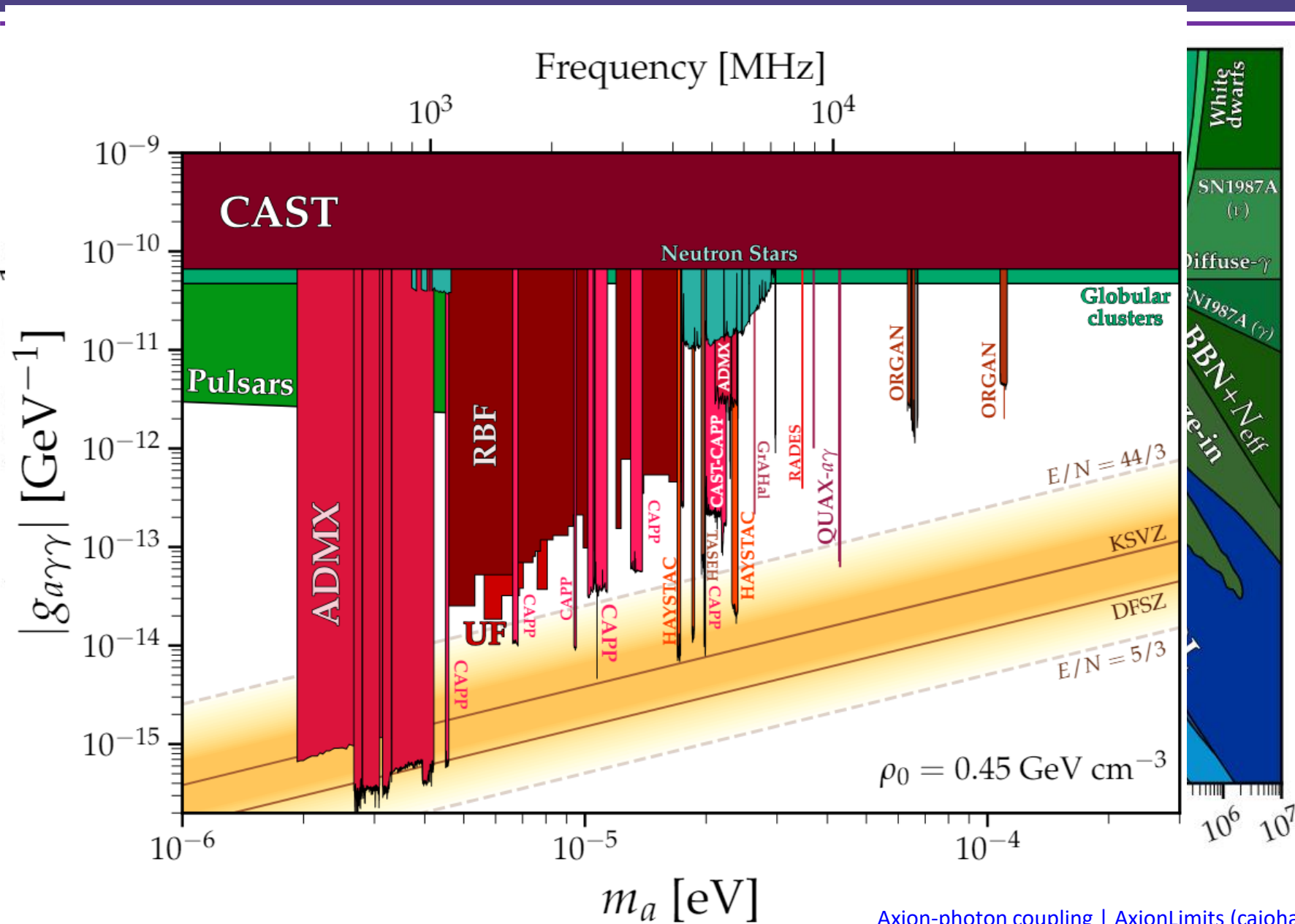
Resonance behavior of a cavity



- Microwave at Resonant frequency depends on geometry of cavity
- Resonates at TM_{010} mode



Detecting the Axion



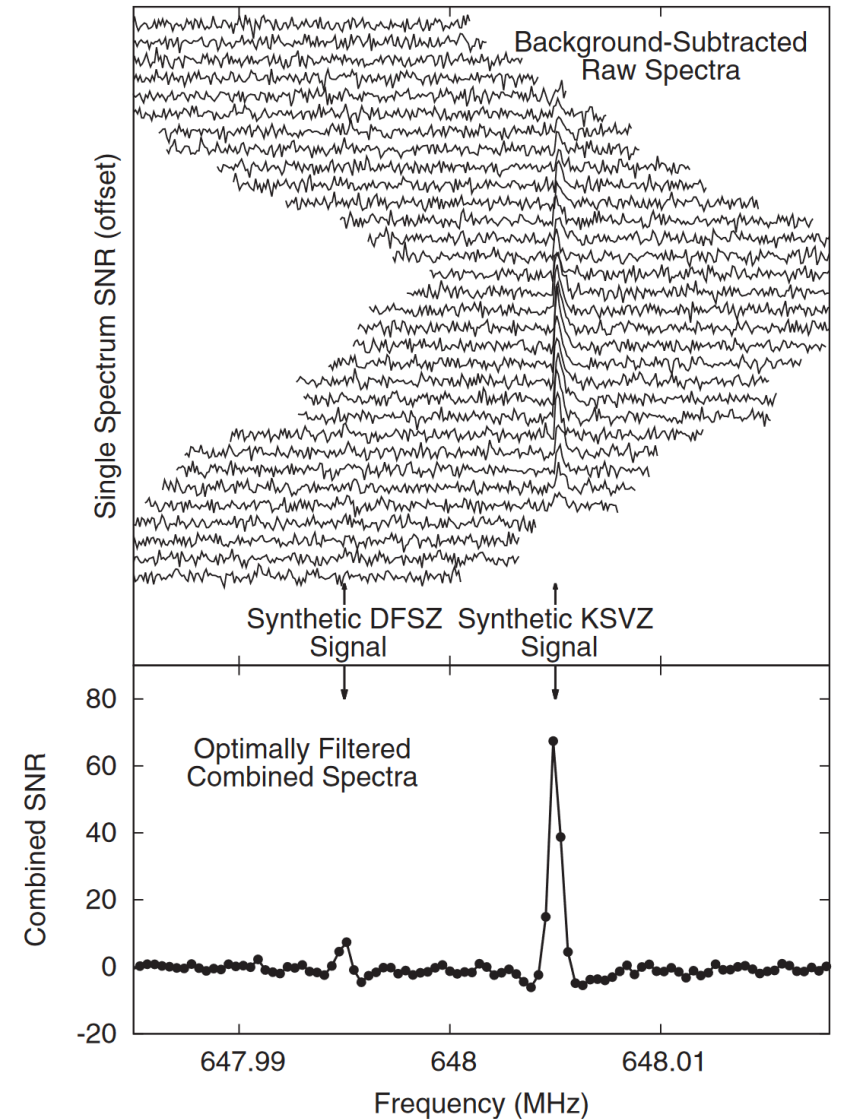
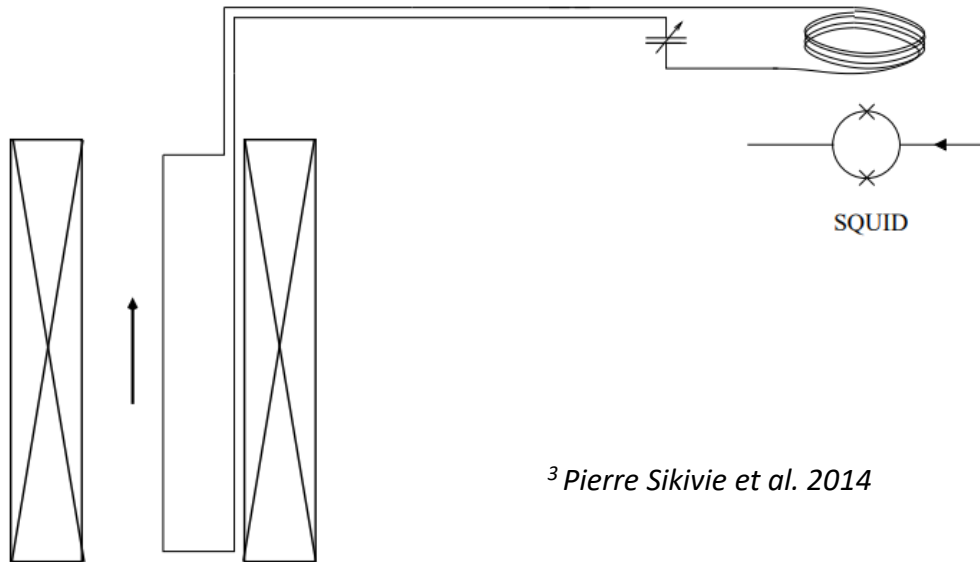
²C. Bartram, 2018

Measuring the Axion

Power input from Axion Decay

$$P_{axion} = 1.9 \times 10^{-22} \text{ W} \left(\frac{V}{136 \text{ l}} \right) \left(\frac{B}{6.8 \text{ T}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{C}{0.4} \right) \left(\frac{g_\gamma}{0.97} \right)^2 \\ \times \left(\frac{\rho_a}{0.45 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}} \right) \left(\frac{f}{650 \text{ MHz}} \right) \left(\frac{Q_\alpha}{50,000} \right).$$

Nick Du et al. 2018



⁴ Nick Du et al. 2018

Power from Axion Decay

$$P_{axion} = 1.9 \times 10^{-22} \text{ W} \left(\frac{V}{136 \text{ l}} \right) \left(\frac{B}{6.8 \text{ T}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{C}{0.4} \right) \left(\frac{g_\gamma}{0.97} \right)^2 \\ \times \left(\frac{\rho_a}{0.45 \text{ GeV cm}^{-3}} \right) \left(\frac{f}{650 \text{ MHz}} \right) \left(\frac{Q_\alpha}{50,000} \right).$$

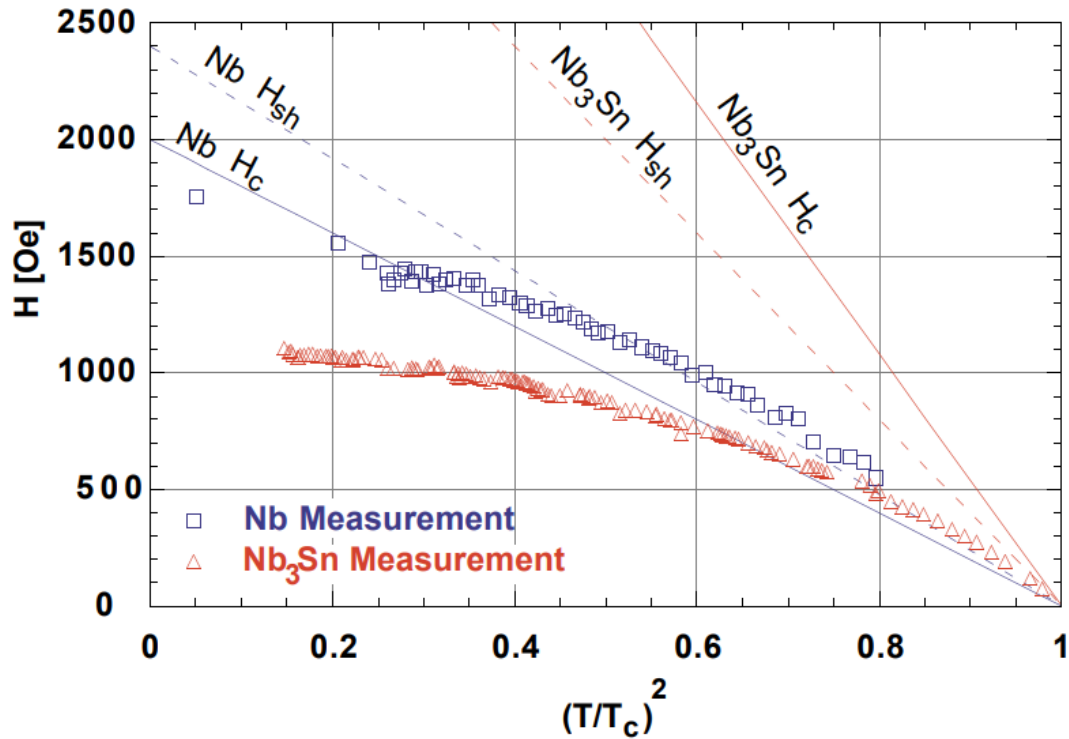
Cavity Geometry

Dependent on
Axion model

Maximize these!

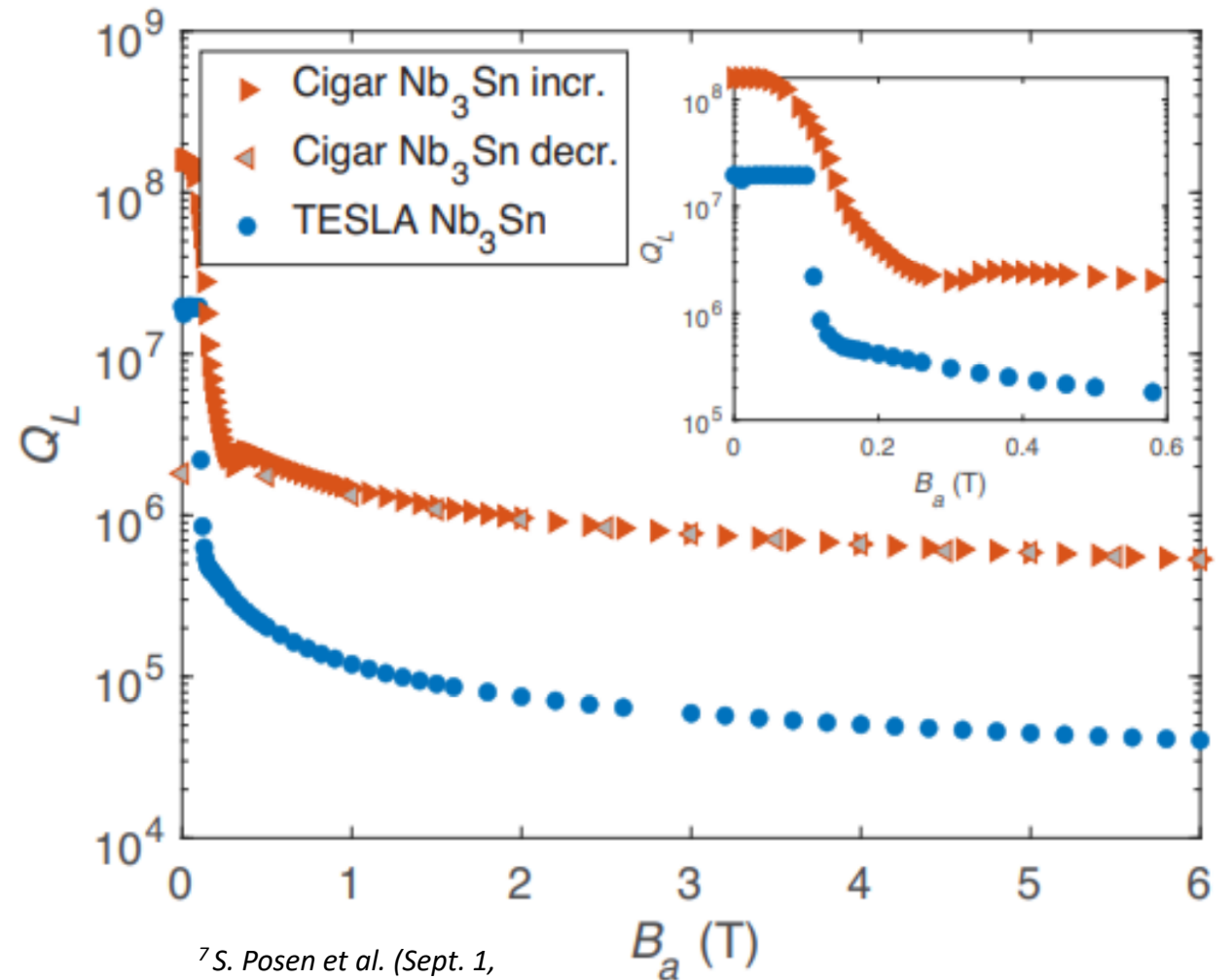
Quality factor and Superconductors

Low Field



⁵ Posen, S., and D. L. Hall., 2017

High Field



⁷ S. Posen et al. (Sept. 1, 2023)

Why Nb₃Sn on Cu?

- Copper has good thermal conductivity; this suppresses hot spot formation in the Nb₃Sn and allows for high Q factor at low E_{acc}
- Needed due to Nb₃Sn's low thermal conductivity

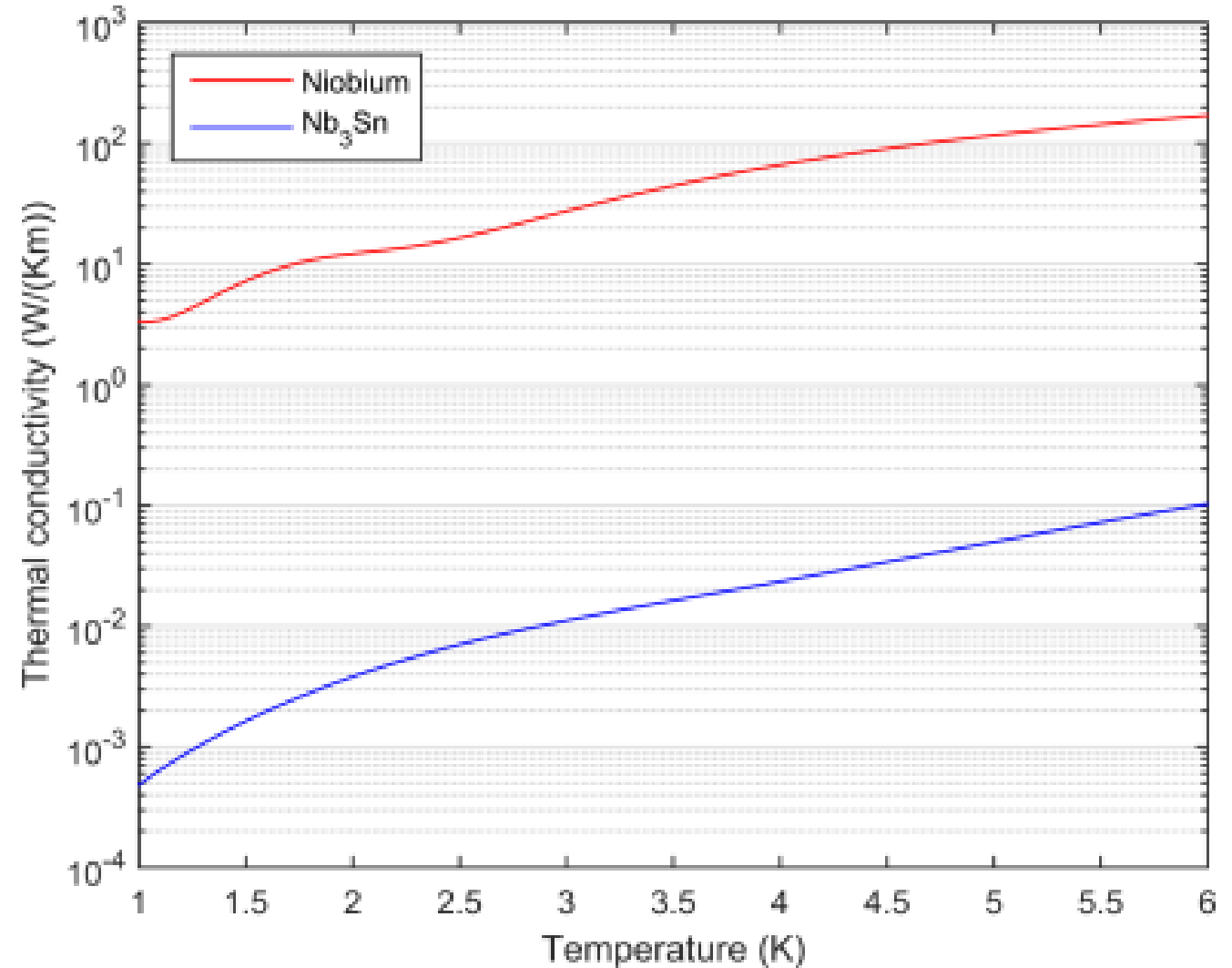
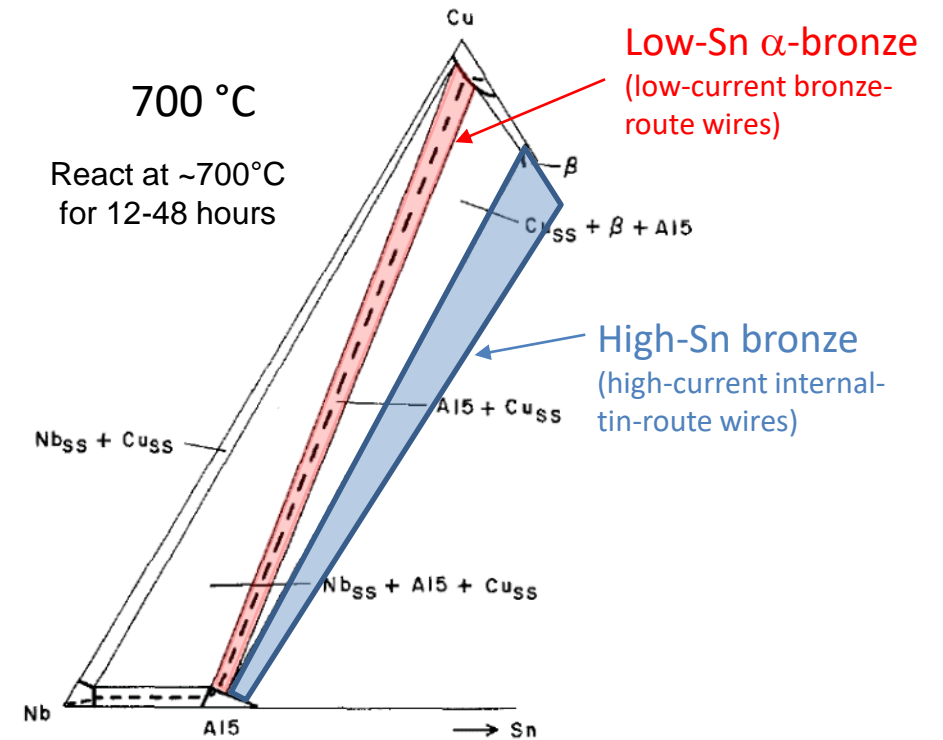


Table of Contents

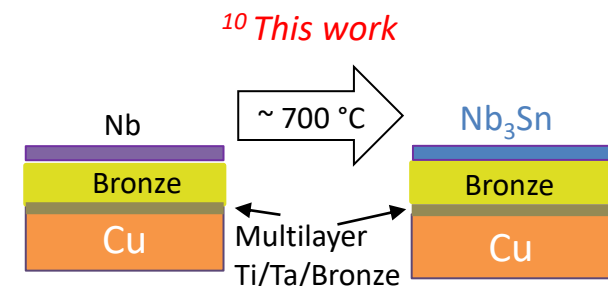
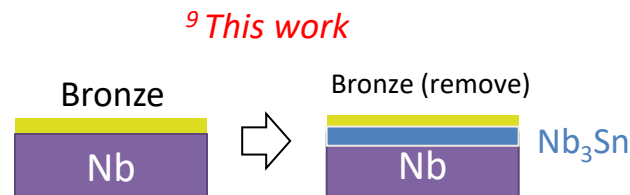
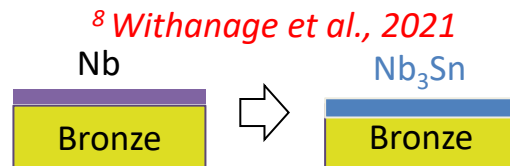
- Axions
- Detecting the Axion
- Nb_3Sn for Axion Detection
- Making a resonator
- Healing Seams for Axion Detectors (and maybe SRF cavities)

We've succeeded making Nb₃Sn films in multiple ways

- Bronze route reaction temperature of ~700°C is compatible with Cu cavities
 - Cu melts at 1085°C, below the ~1100°C tin vapor method
 - Cu cavities facilitate conduction cooling and goals of DOE Accelerator Stewardship.
- We recently used a high-Sn alloy instead of the usual α-bronze to increase tin activity.
 - Increased tin activity is the key to success of Nb₃Sn wires for high-field magnets
 - Increased tin activity is vital to avoid tin-poor A15 with degraded superconducting properties
- Experiments began with Nb substrates then moved on to Cu substrates

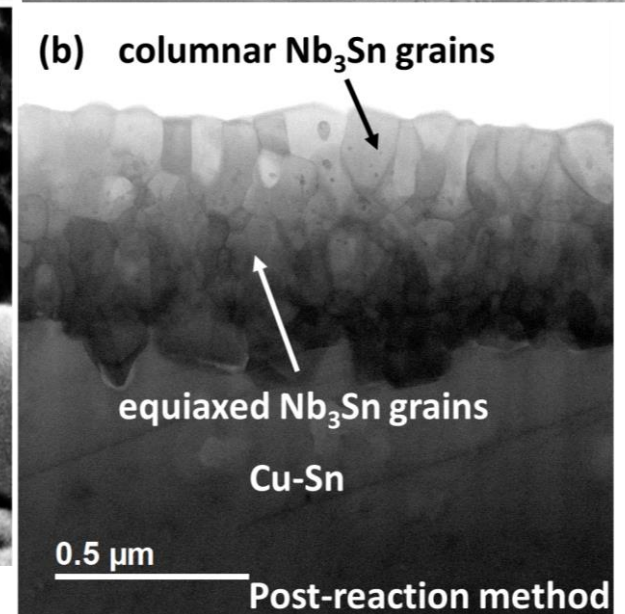
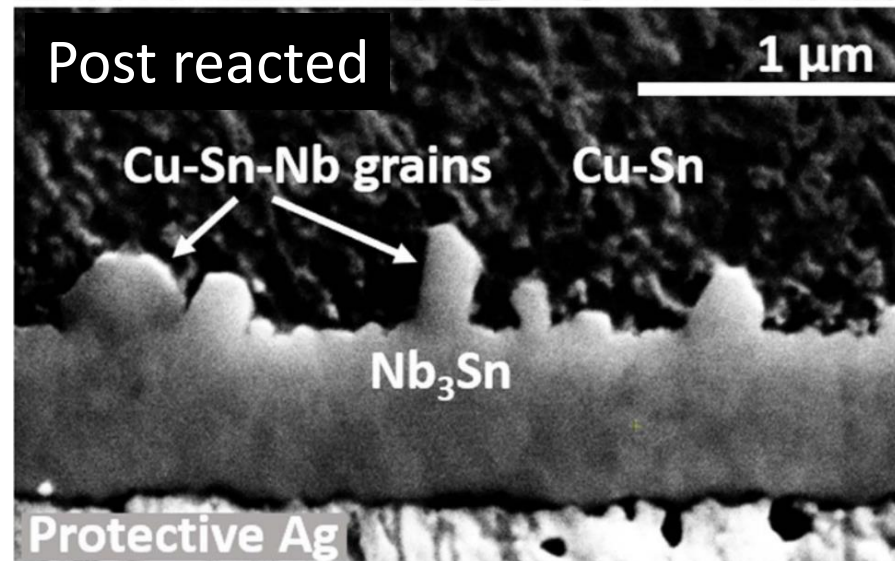
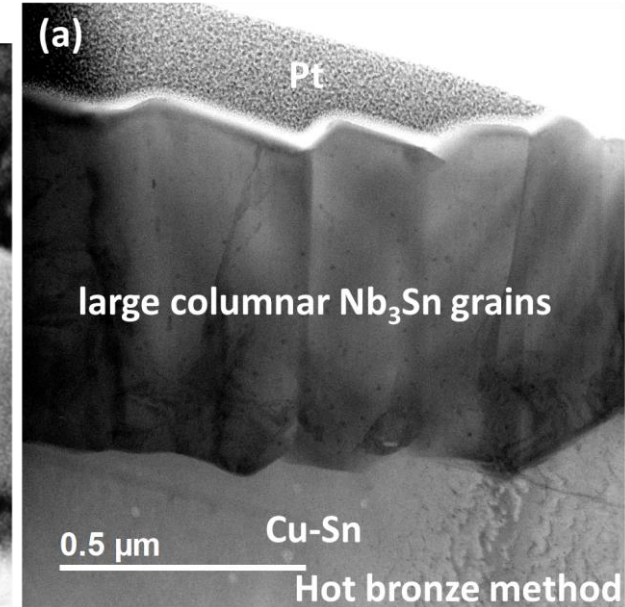
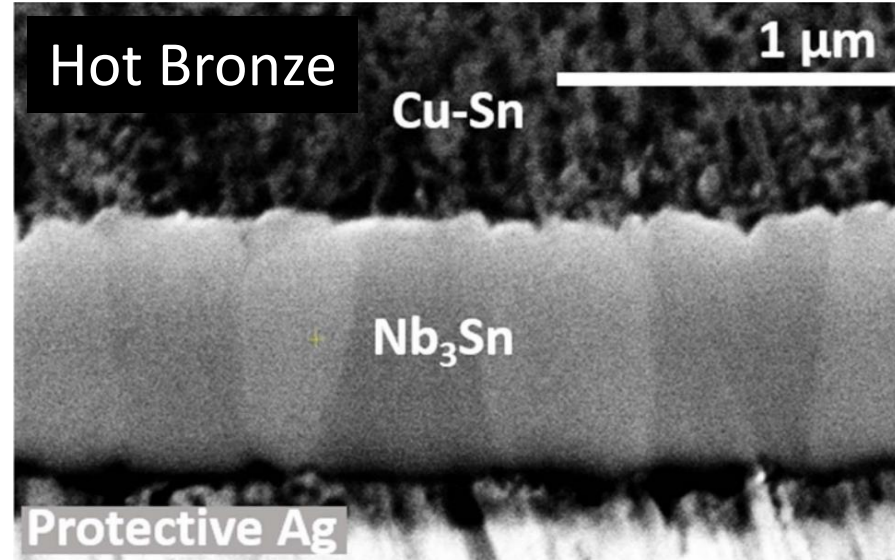
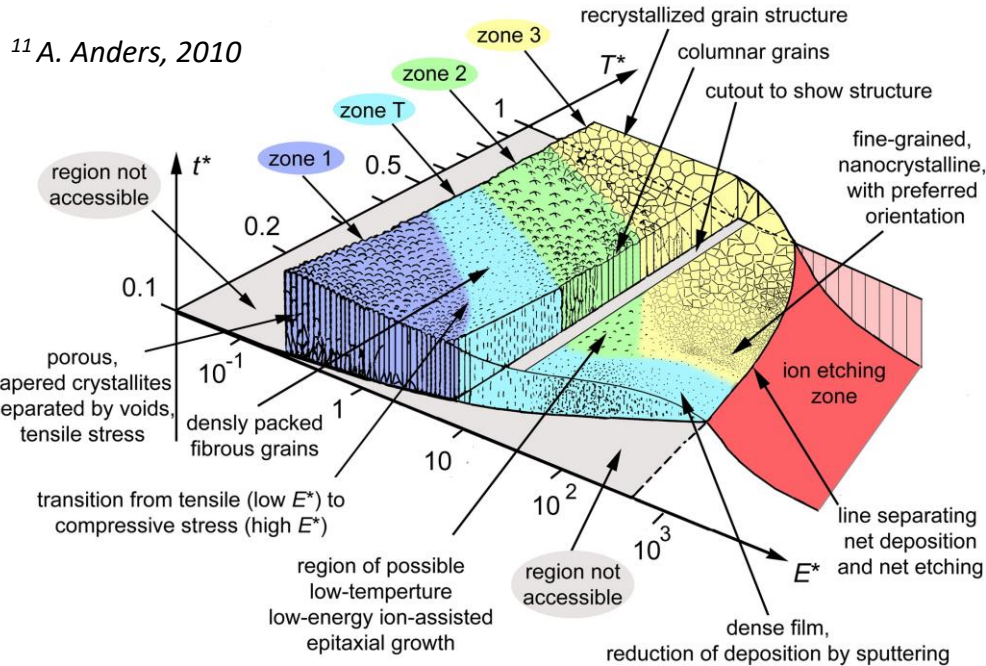


D. Dew-Hughes & T. S. Luhman Journal of Materials Science volume 13, pages1868–1876(1978)



Bronze substrate

Hot Bronze reminiscent of zone T sputtered microstructure

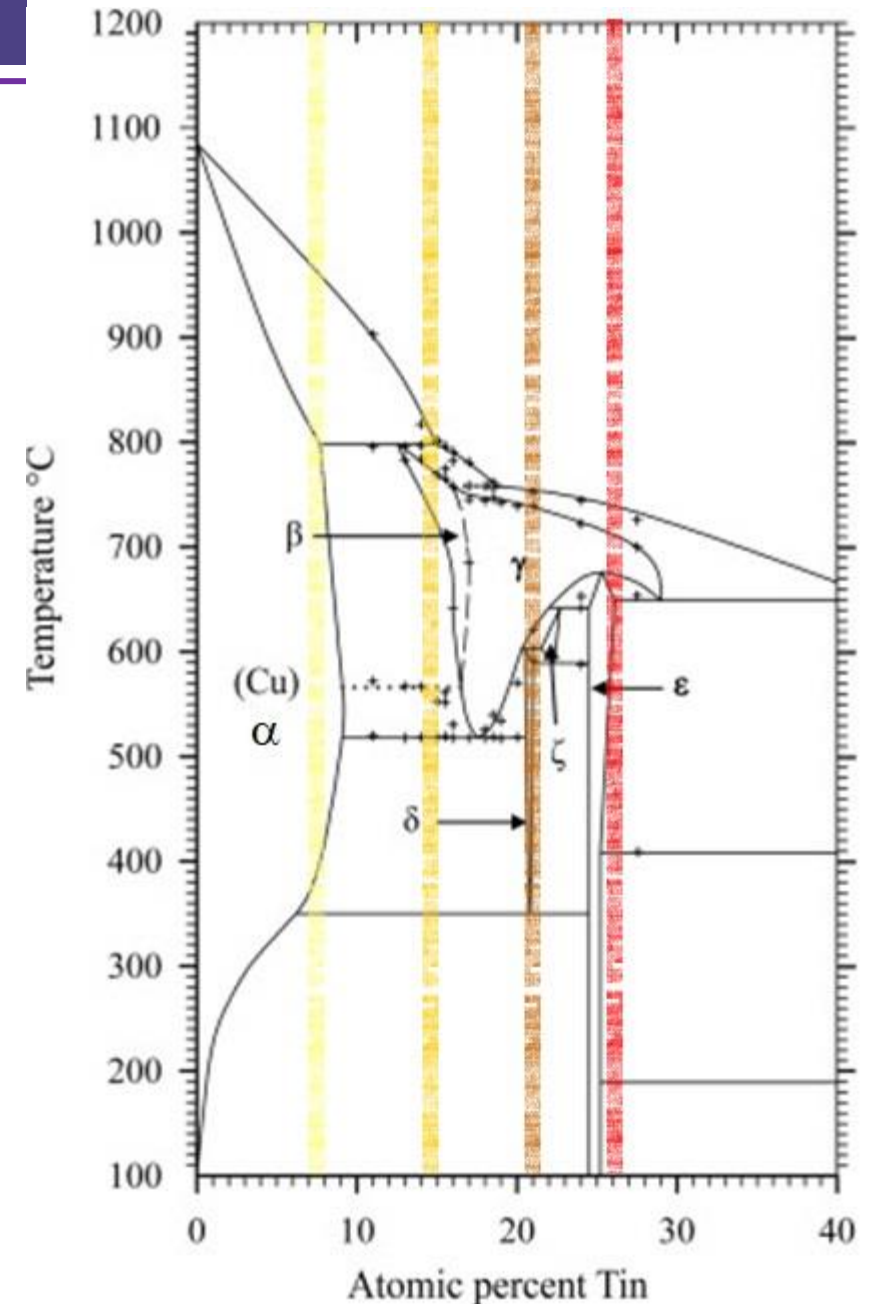


⁷ Withanage et al., 2021

High Sn “Bronze”

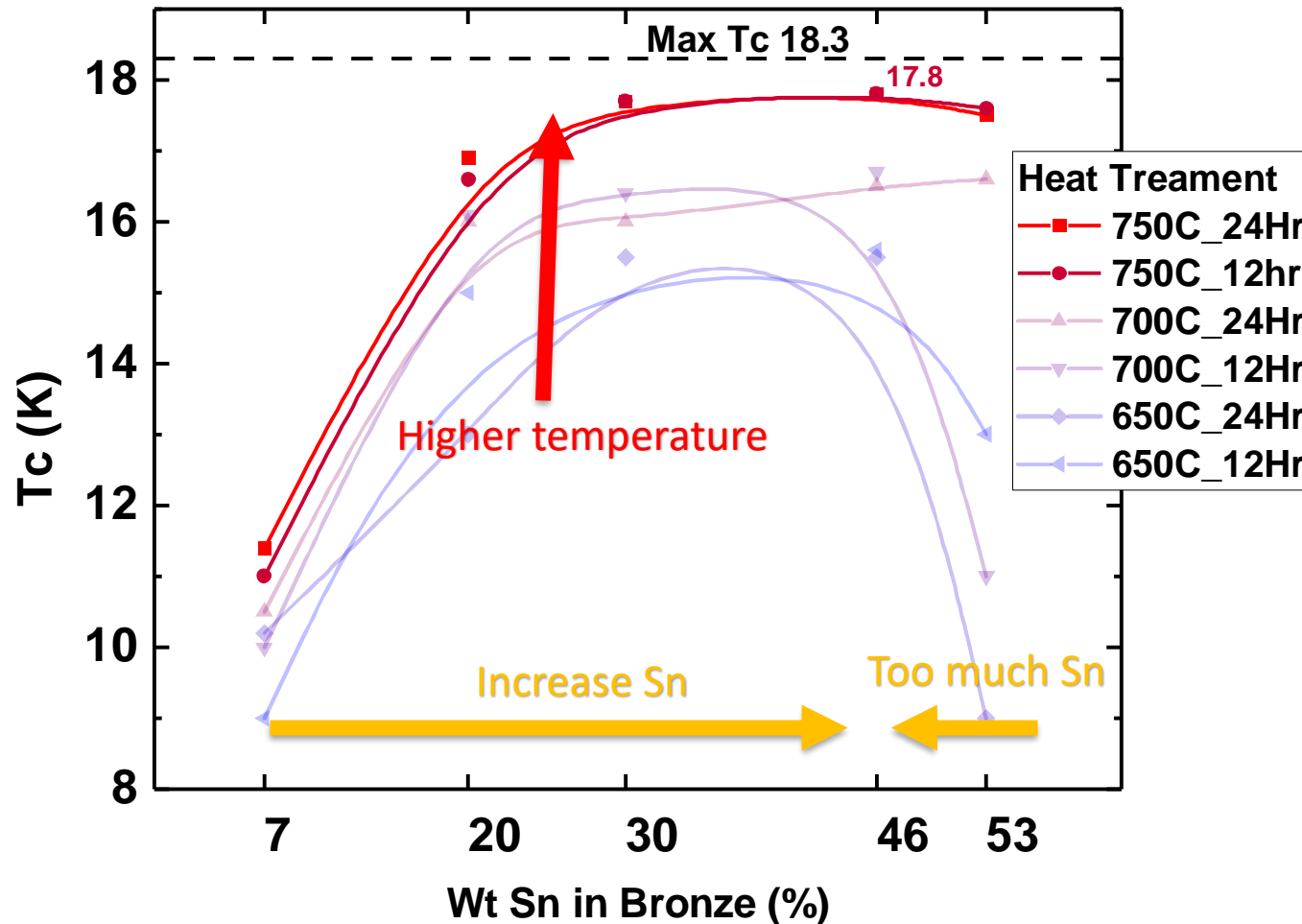
- Maybe we can increase Sn activity using High Sn “Bronze”
- We aim to make α , β , γ , and ε single phases in the Cu-Sn phase diagram

Cu – Sn Alloy Name	Wt% Sn	At% Sn
α	13%	~7%
β	24%	~14%
γ	33%	~21%
ε	40%	~26%



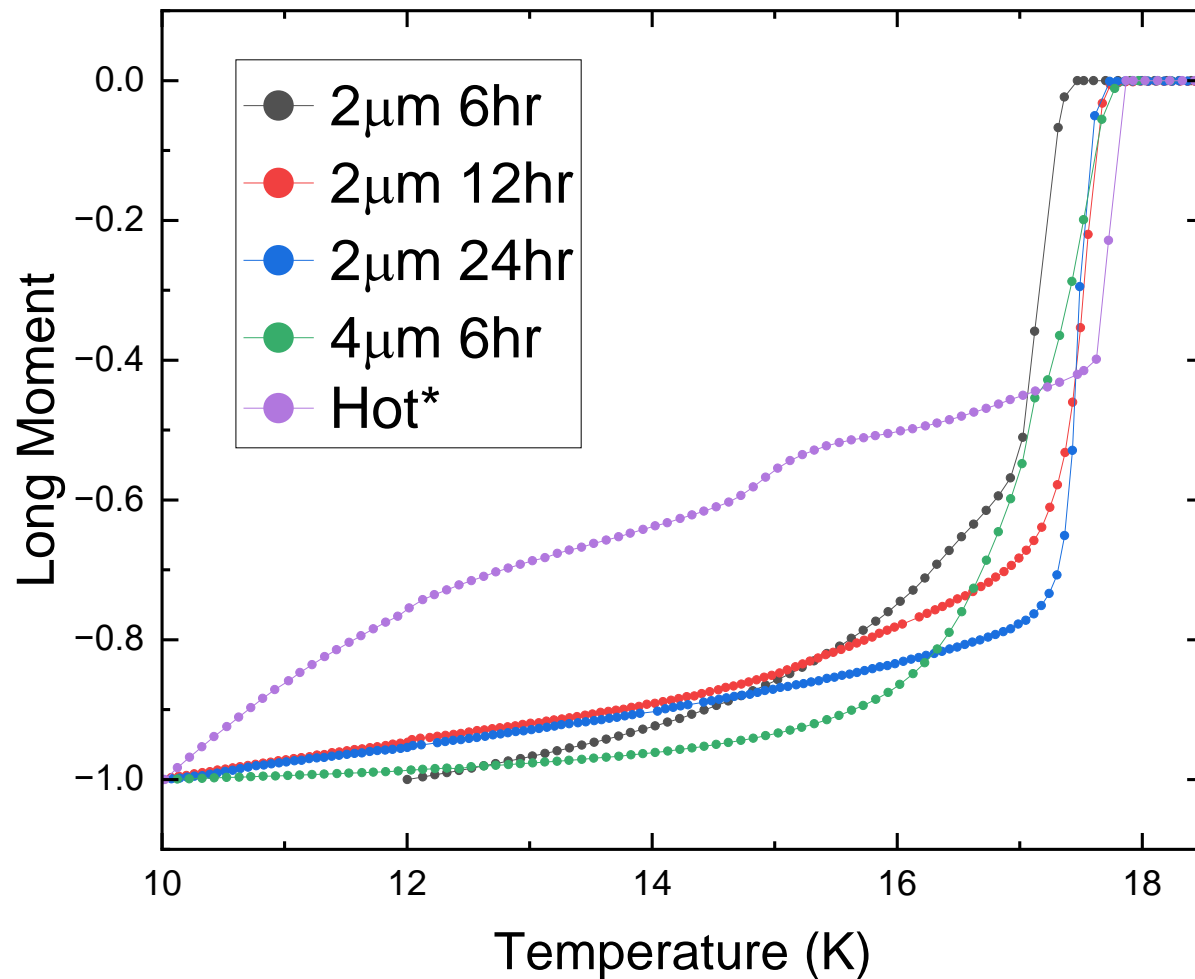
Results: Nb₃Sn via bronze on Nb

Nb₃Sn on Nb Substrate



Nb substrates: Sn Activity and Reaction Time

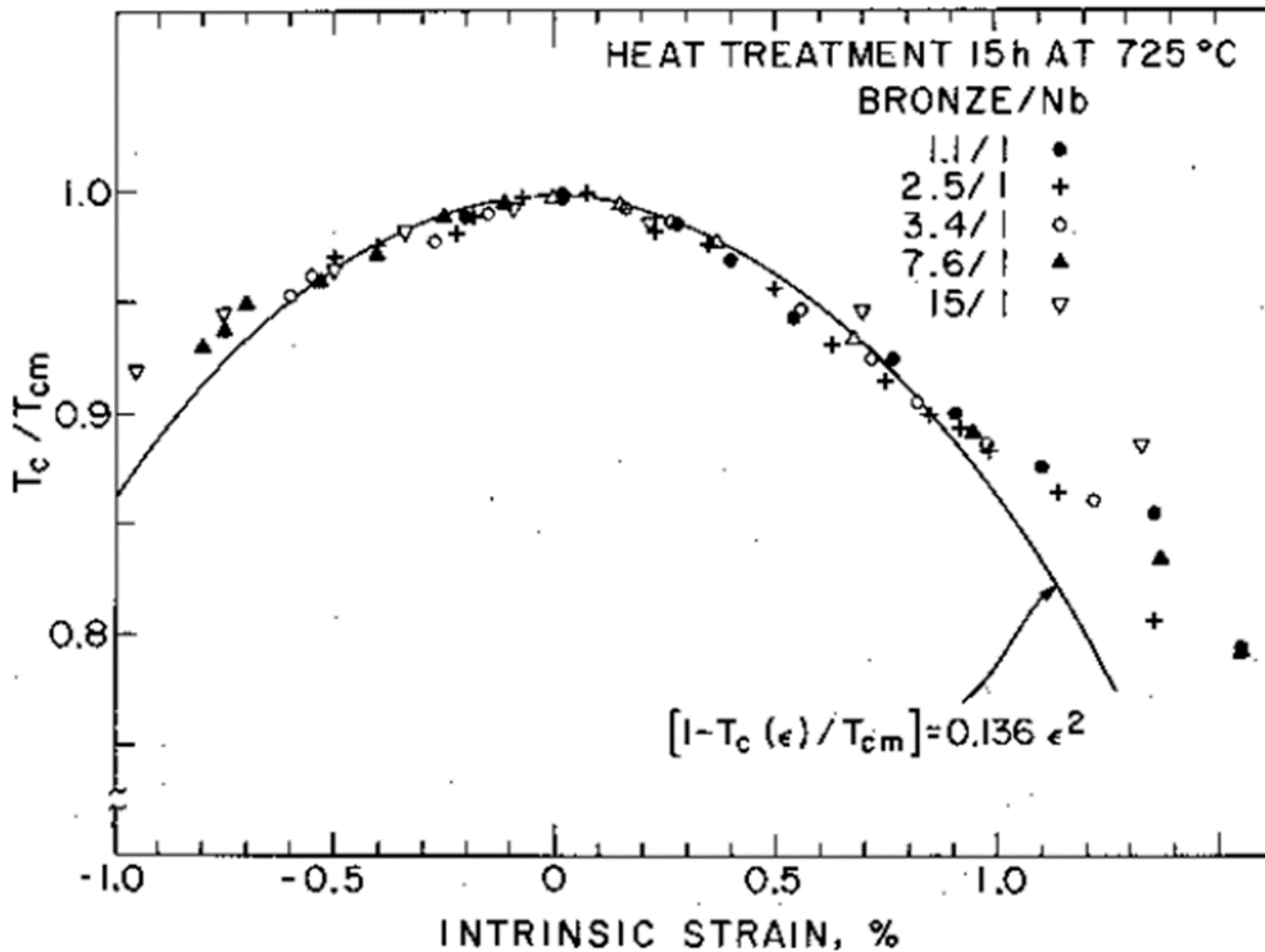
Cu-33%Sn on Nb reacted 750C



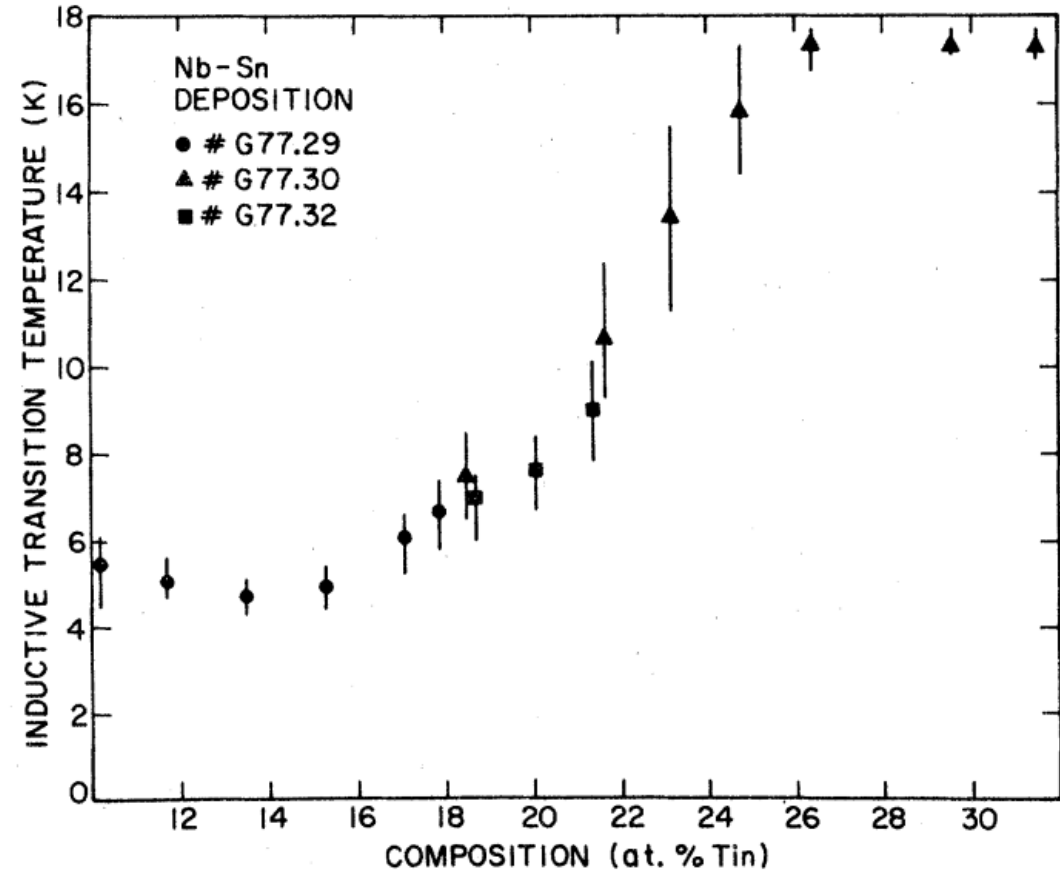
- Black has the lowest Tc
- Least Sn and Time
- Red, Blue, and Green \approx Tc onset
- Balance between reaction time and Sn volume.
- Purple has the highest Tc with the sharpest transition
- Hot deposition has best Tc and sharpest transition

What effects Tc for Nb₃Sn?

Strain

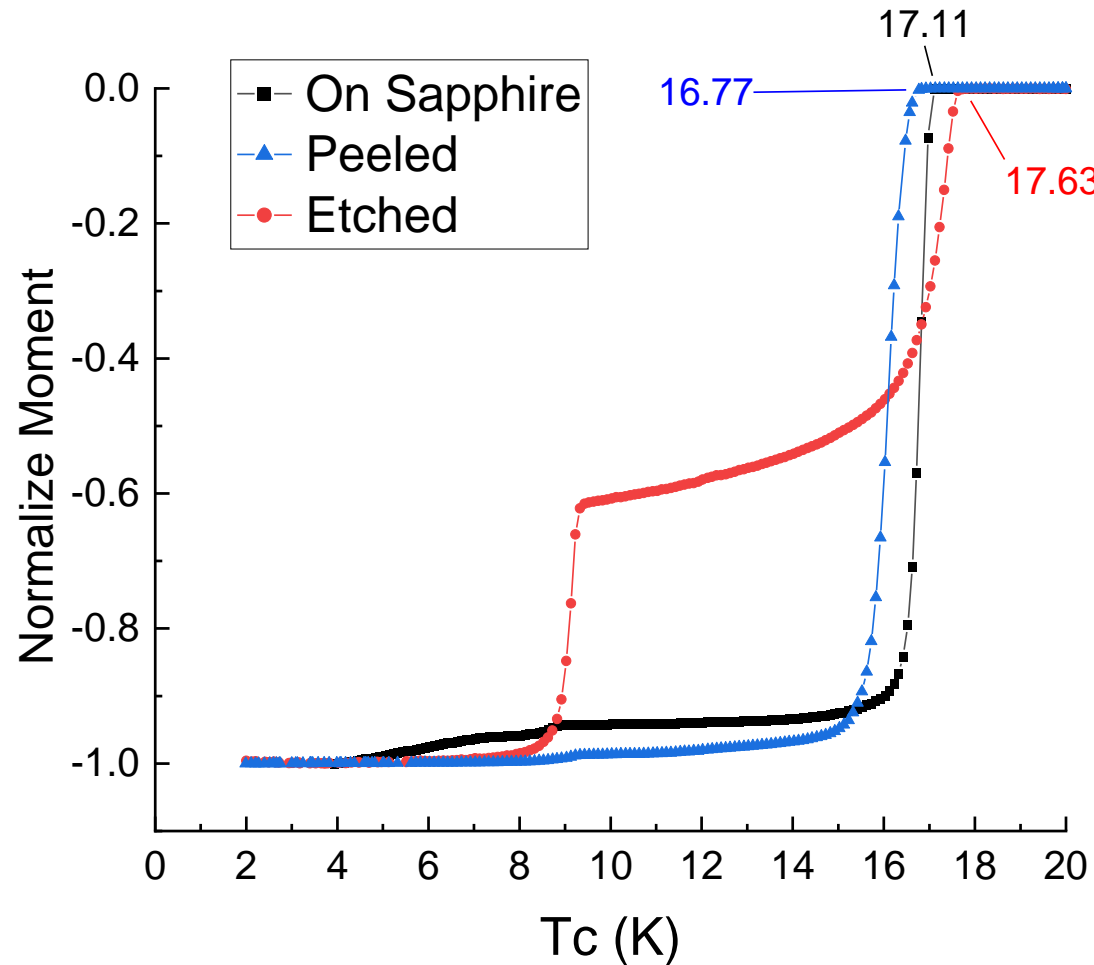


At % Sn



¹³ D. F. Moore et al. 1979

Strain Experiment Sapphire

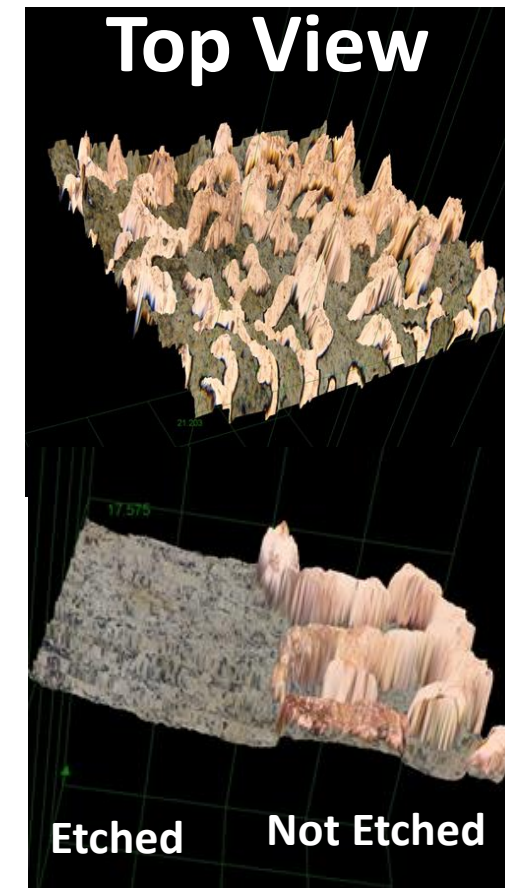
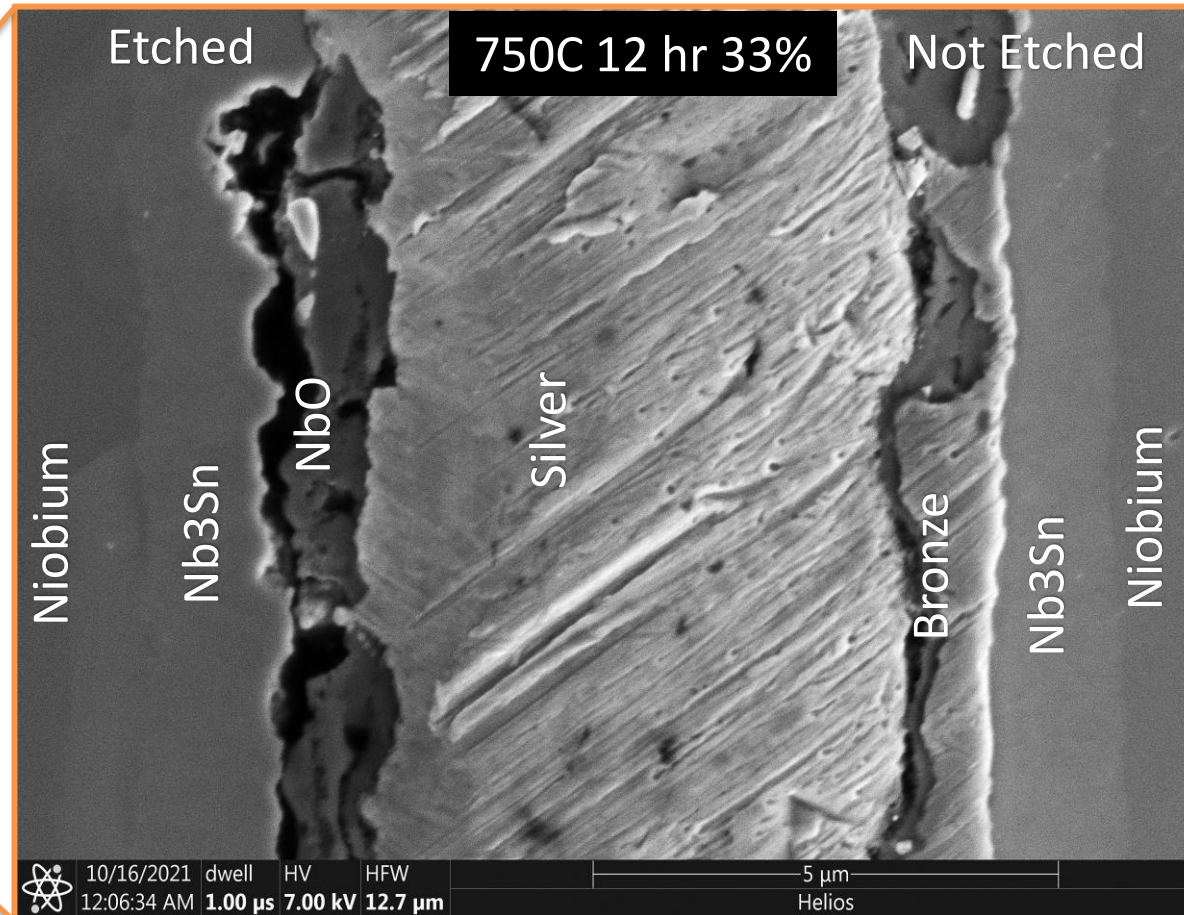
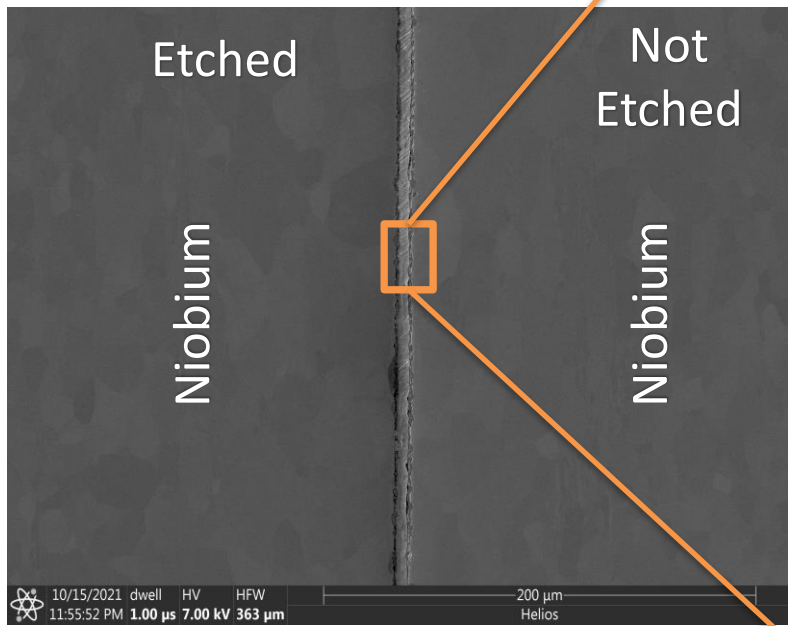


2 μm Cu-13%Sn 680C Nb 500nm deposition

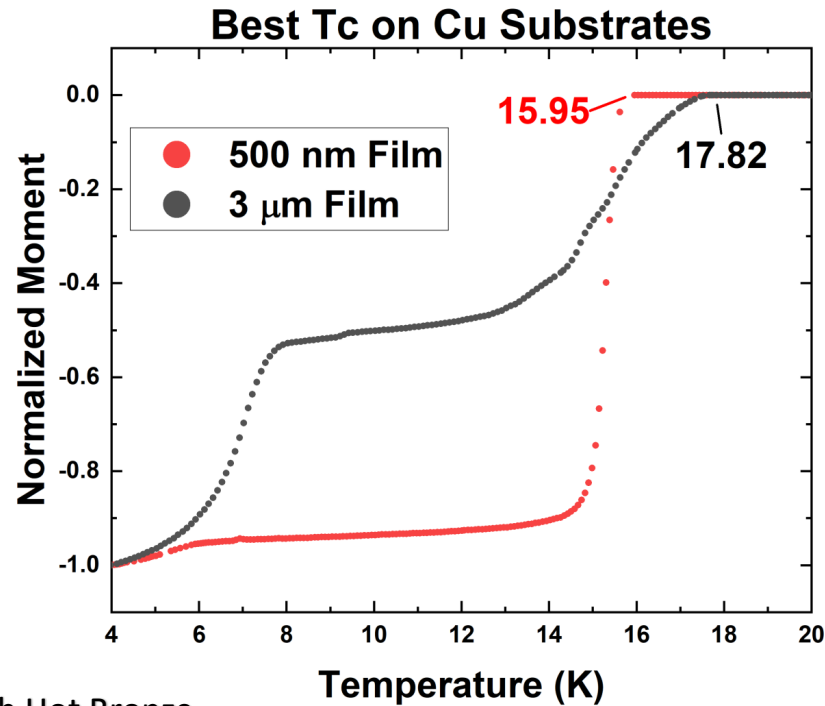
- **Film confined to sapphire has a sharp transition**
- **Film peeled off sapphire relieves the tensile strain but increases strain felt by the Nb_3Sn from the CuSn**
- **Compressive strain from Cu-Sn is relieved after etch and increases $T_c \sim 1\text{K}$ ($\epsilon \sim .5\%$)**

Nb substrate with Cu-Sn Etch

Sample cut in half, one side etched, and pasted together for polish

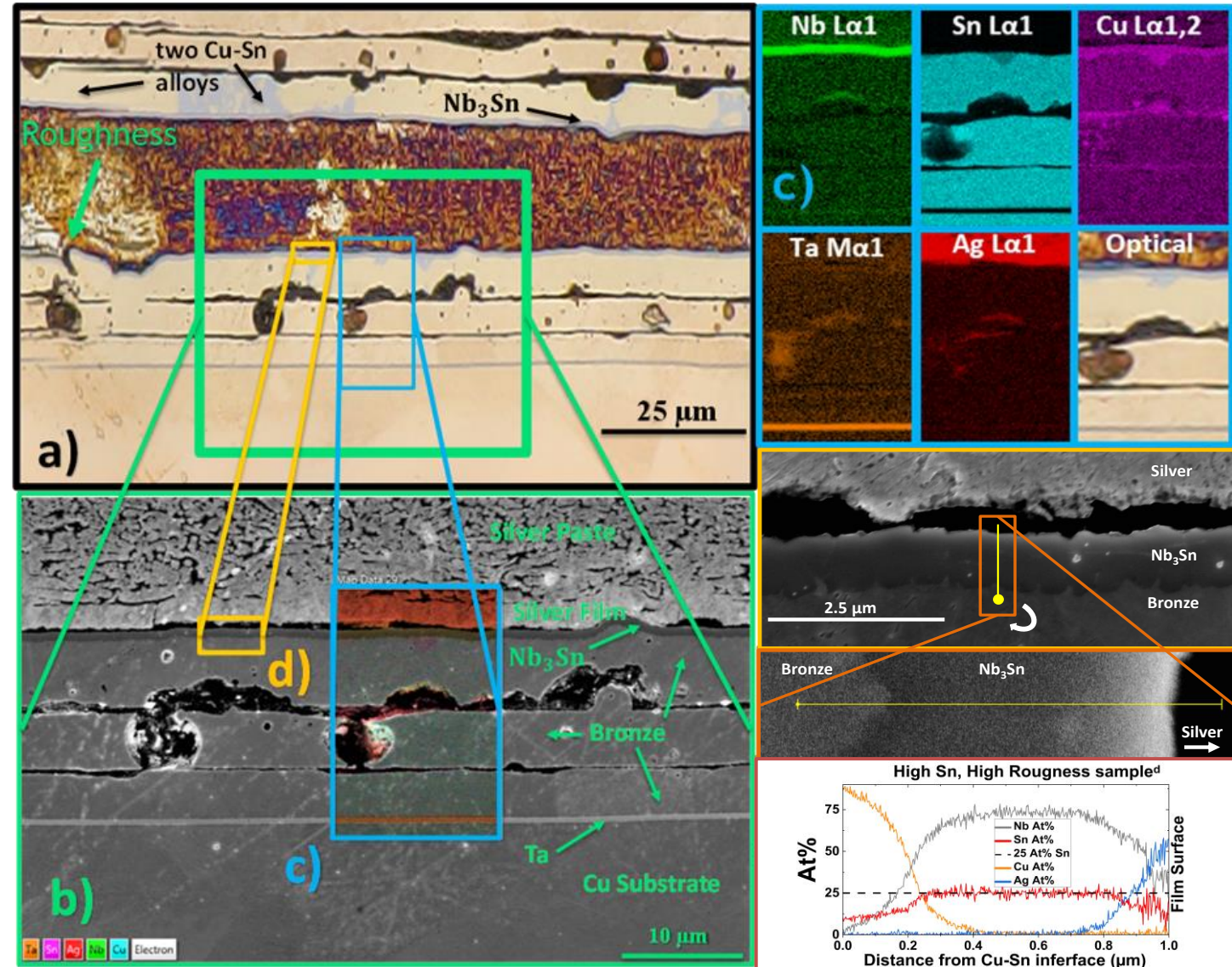


How can we analyze these films?



*Both Hot Bronze

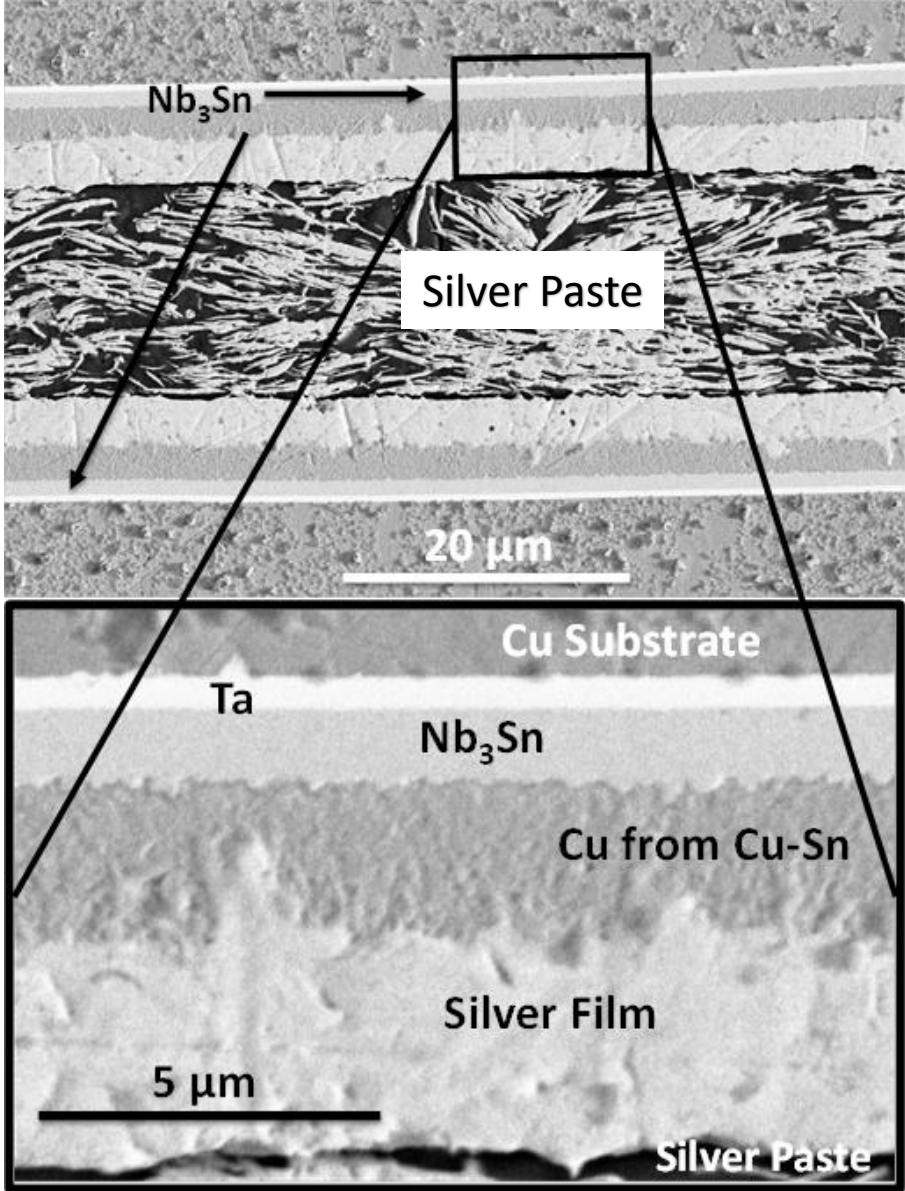
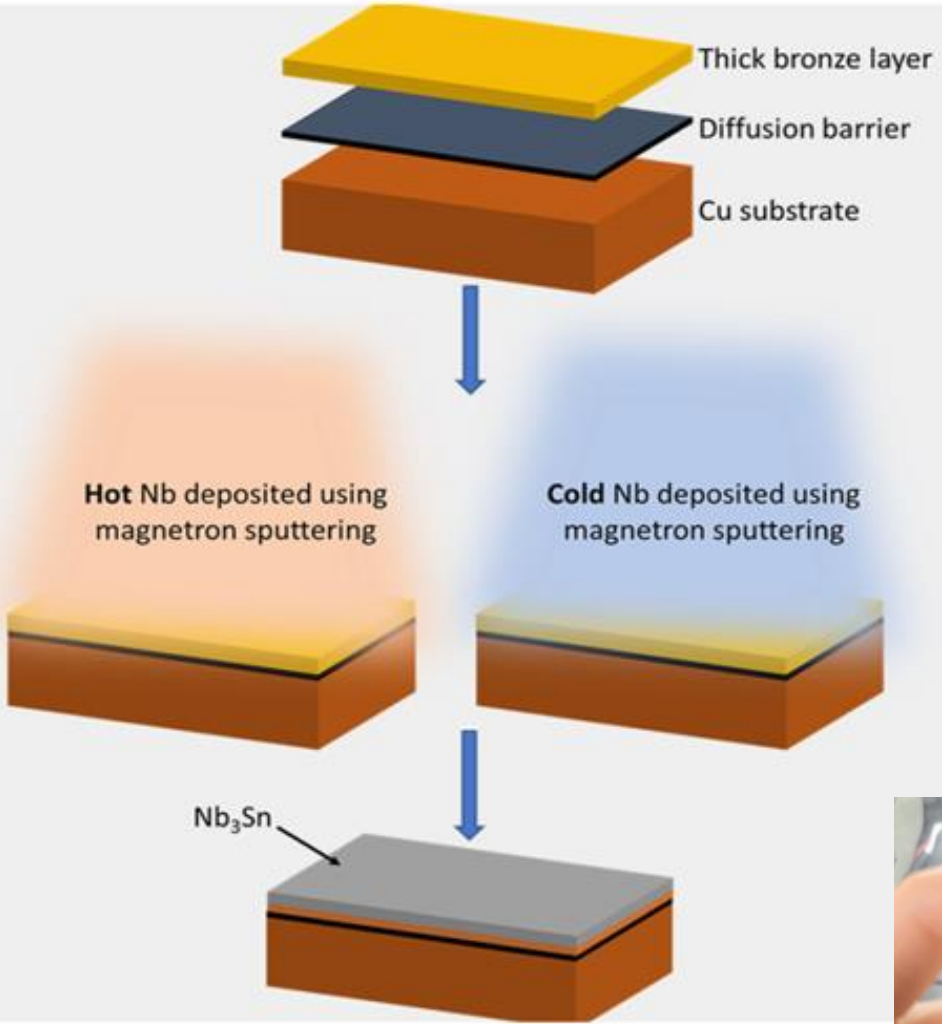
Critical Temperature Tc



Optical, SEM

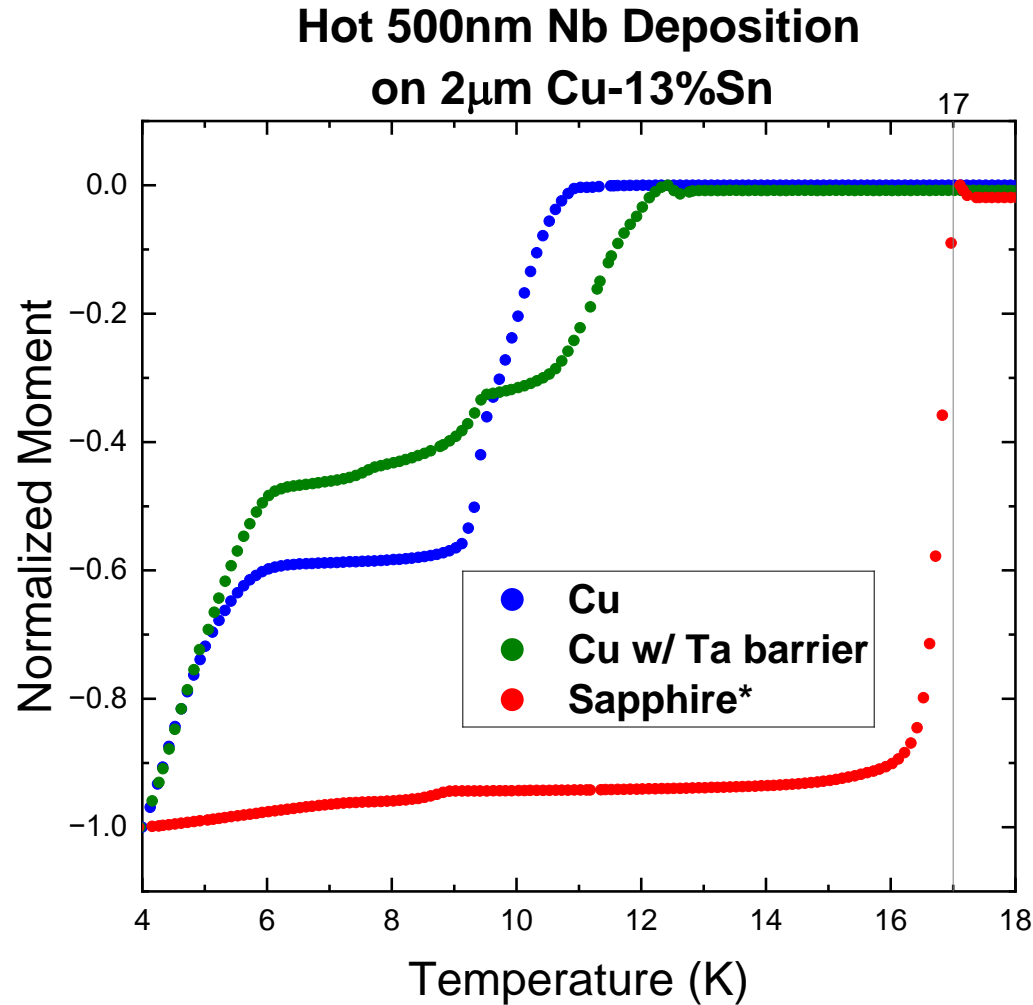
EDS

Cu substrates



Mechanically polish Cu

Substrate effects



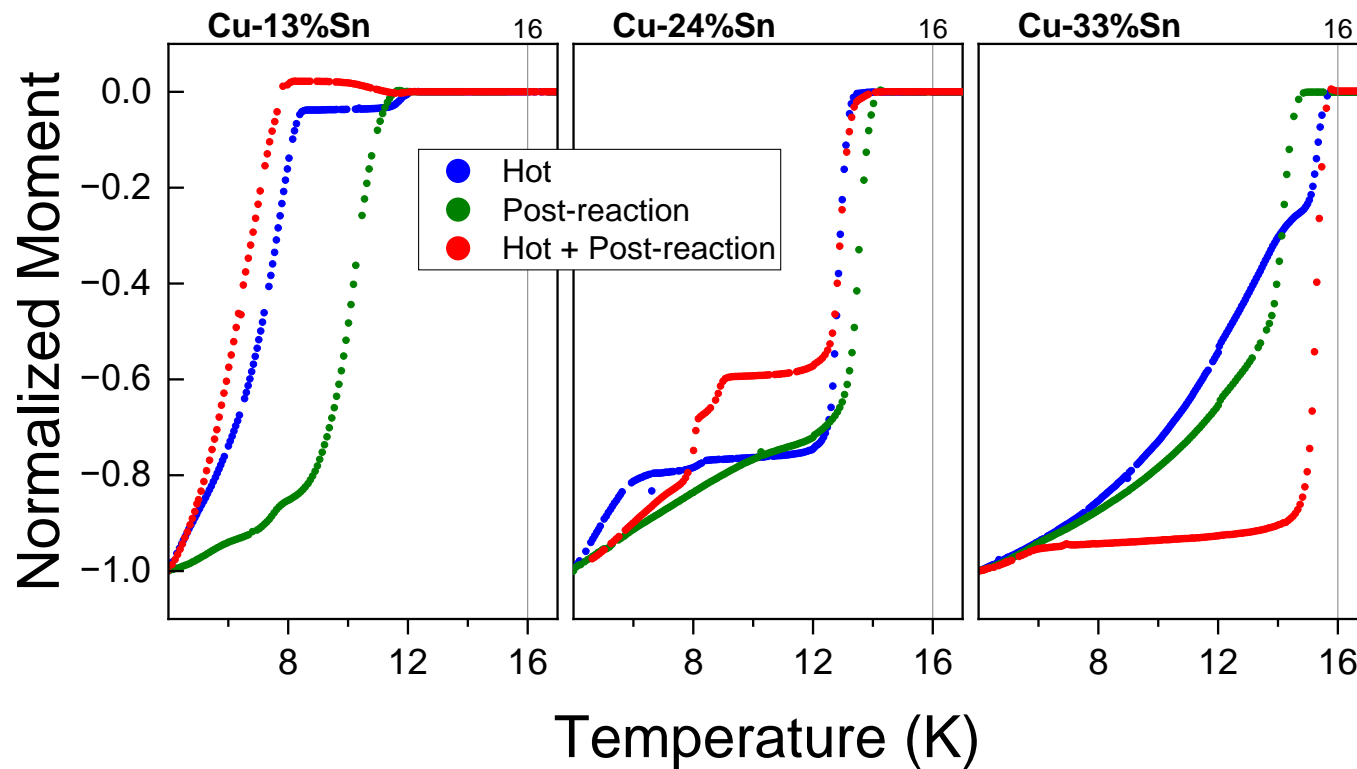
The sapphire film has low CTE mismatch and high Sn content.

Sn diffuses into Cu substrate, and a Low Sn% thin CuSn layer will give bad T_c.

300nm Ta diffusion layer is not enough for this case.

Optimize CuSn layer?

Nb₃Sn on (Cu/Ta/5μm Cu-Sn)



We are losing Sn, with 300nm Ta diffusion barrier.

Can mitigate the effects of Sn loss with a higher Sn% film, though a thicker film doesn't give the same effect.

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RF Test Resonators

South Korean HTS cavity



w/ Prof. Dojun Youm

O. Kwon SQMS 2024

FSU 3D printed Cu tape hexagonal cavity



3D printed w Cu tape

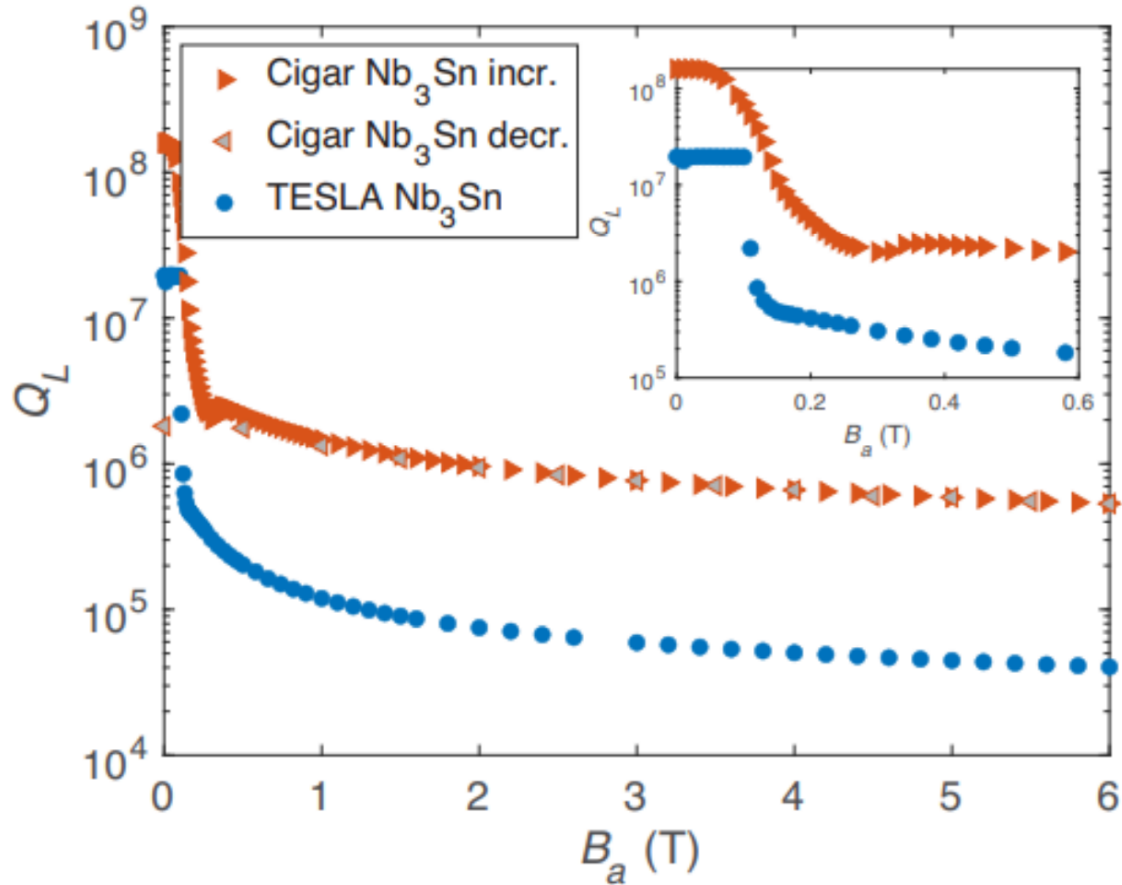
UW ADMX PPMS NbTi Cavity



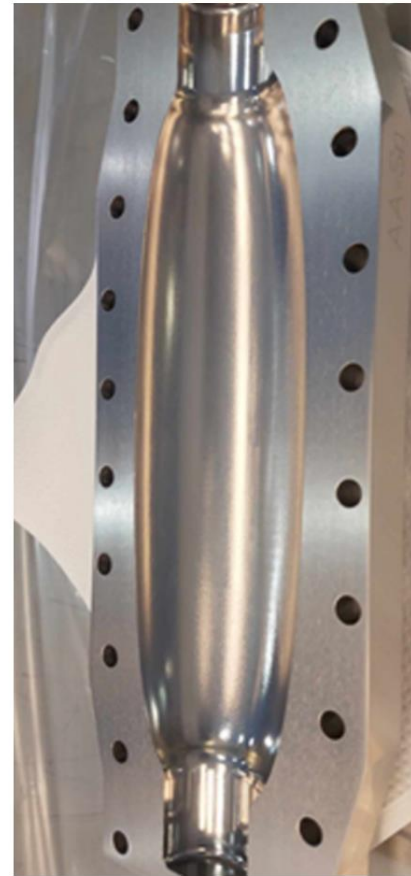
Yes Hexagon, Yes it has seams...

Geometry and Orientation matters

¹⁶Tao Jiang et al Nov. 12, 2013



Quality factor vs Magnetic field



(a)



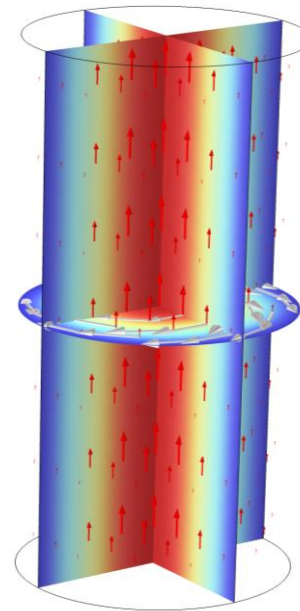
(b)

- a) cigar-shaped cavity optimized for high-field
- b) TESLA cavity for particle accelerators

Geometry Simulations

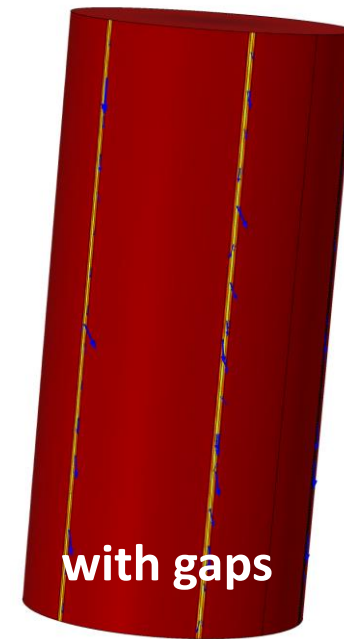
- Modeling TM₀₁₀ mode with COMSOL EM physics
- Using Conductivity of Cu at T ~ 4K
- Gaps between conducting walls reduces Q by ~ 30%
- Hexagon increases Frequency by ~2Ghz and reduces Q ~ 65%

Cylindrical

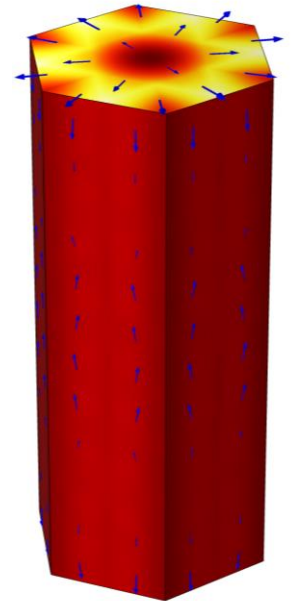


$f \sim 9.97$ GHz
 $Q \sim 1.779 \times 10^5$

Hexagonal



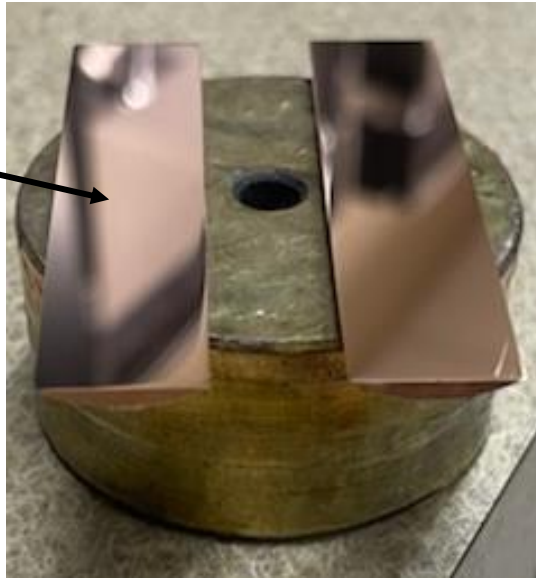
with gaps
 $f \sim 9.978$ GHz
 $Q \sim 1.28 \times 10^5$



$f \sim 11.12$ GHz
 $Q \sim 5.981 \times 10^4$

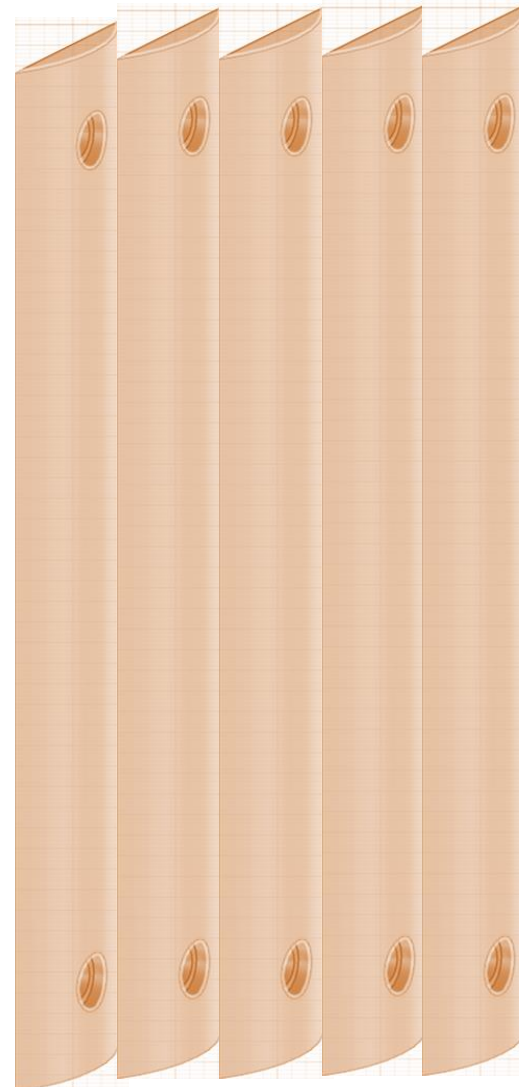
Start with 1 Nb₃Sn surface

Side walls



Nb₃Sn coating

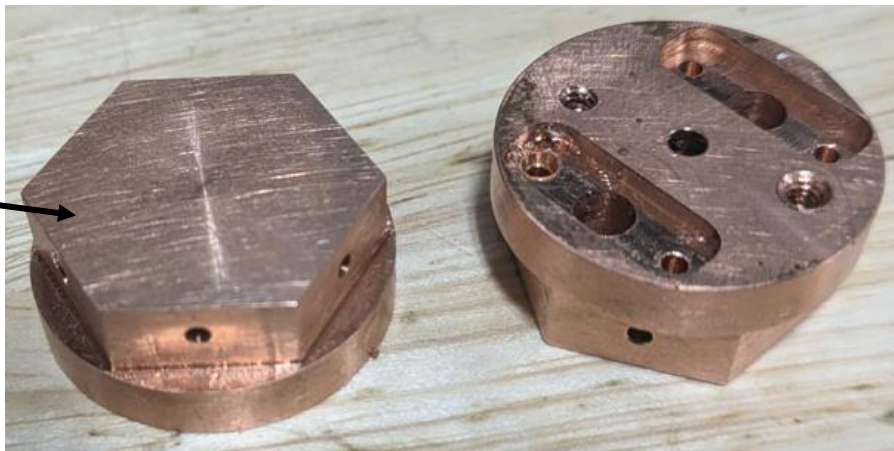
5 walls: Bulk Cu



Nb₃Sn coating
recipe on 1
Cu wall



Bulk Cu



Keep Top and Bottom caps Cu

Have not measured Q yet!!??!?



We will try to recreate mode decomposition measurement our collaborators did with NbTi.

Everything is set up, will measure soon!!!

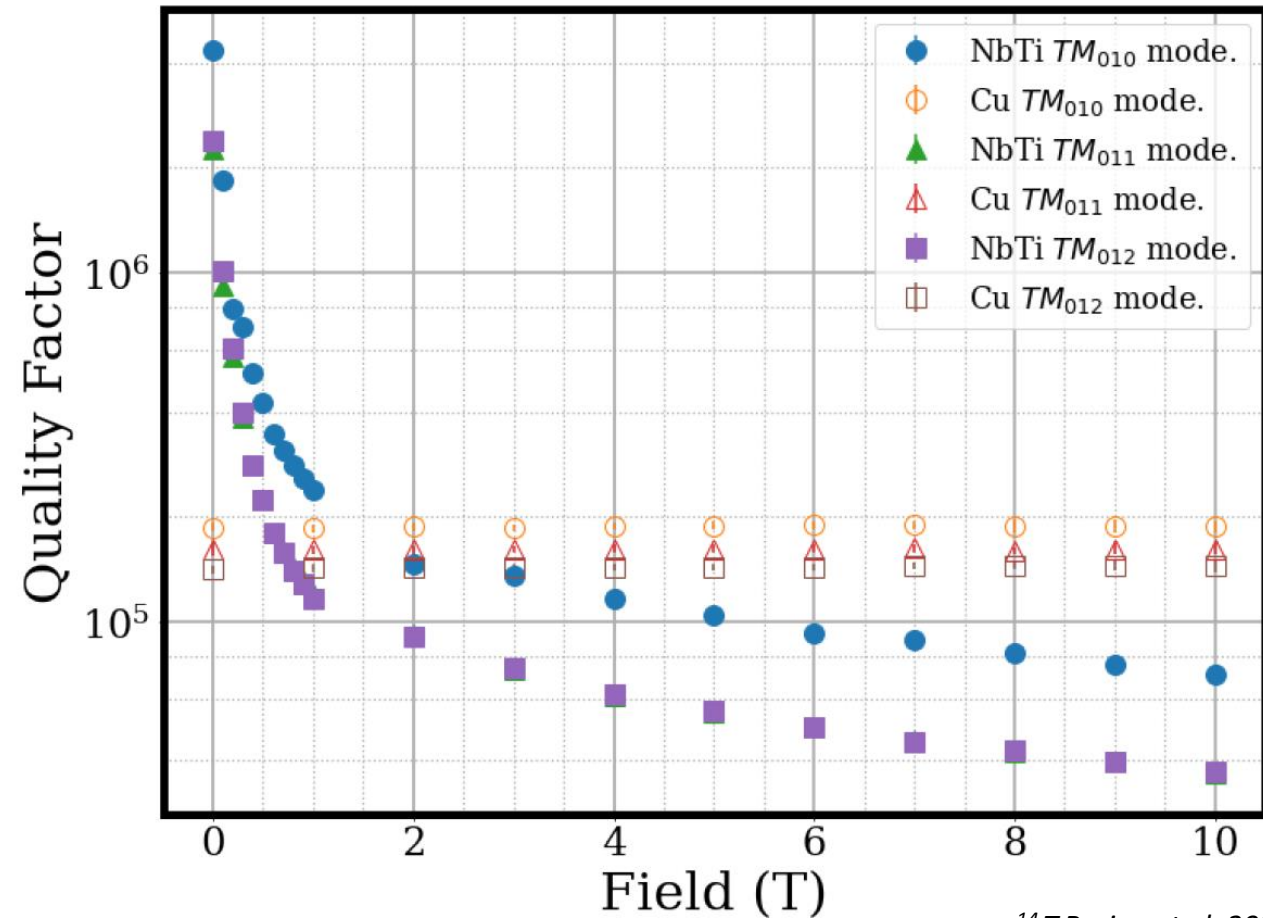


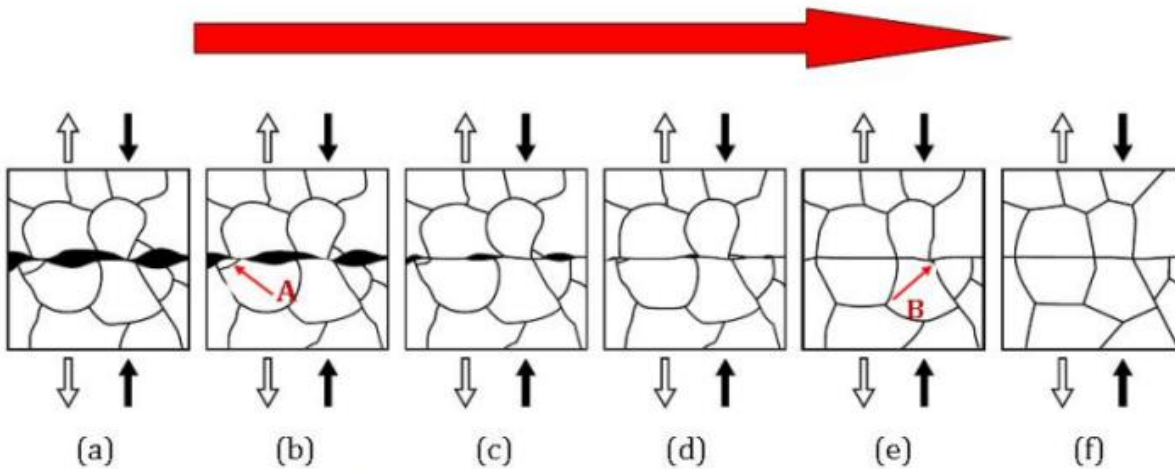
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Diffusion Bonding Seams

Formation mechanism of the diffusion bonding

Diffusion bonding : under compressive loading



Cavity growth : under tensile loading

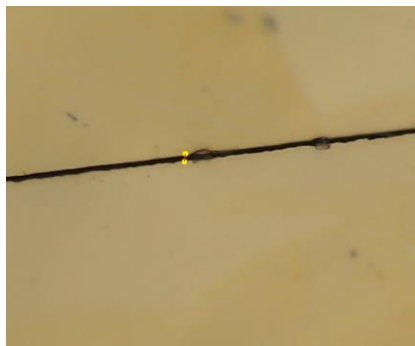
Successful diffusion bonding has:

1. Close contact between the surface planes of the two materials being combined.
2. Enough driving force being applied to the materials to supply enough diffusion coefficient.

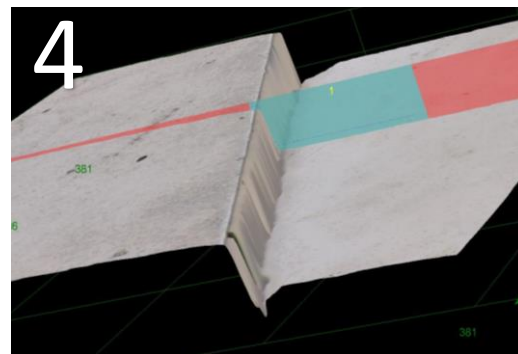
Healing Recipes

#	Recipe	Substrate	Pre-heat Bolted	Bolted Deposition	Deposition Temp (C°)	Post-Heat	Comments	Continuous Film
1	Hot	CuSn	✓	✓	715	✓	High Surface Mobility	✓
2	Hot Ti	CuSnTi	✓	✓	715	✓	Ti Precipitates	-
3	Cold Pre	CuSn	✓	✓	200	✓	Low Surface Mobility	-
4	Cold	CuSn	-	✓	200	✓	Interface Stress	-
5	Separate	CuSn	-	-	200	✓	Nb in Interface	-

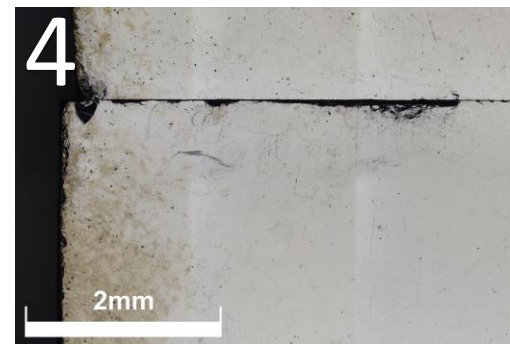
Challenges



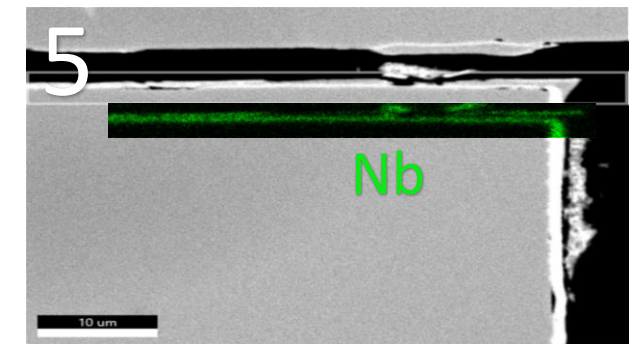
1 μm gap



24 μm offset above



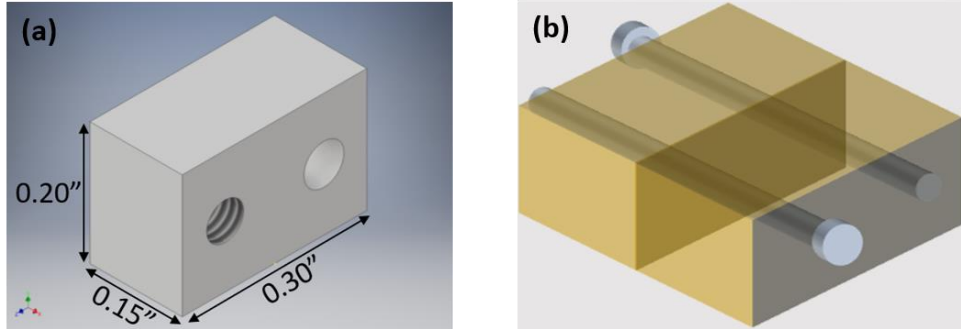
Stress at interface



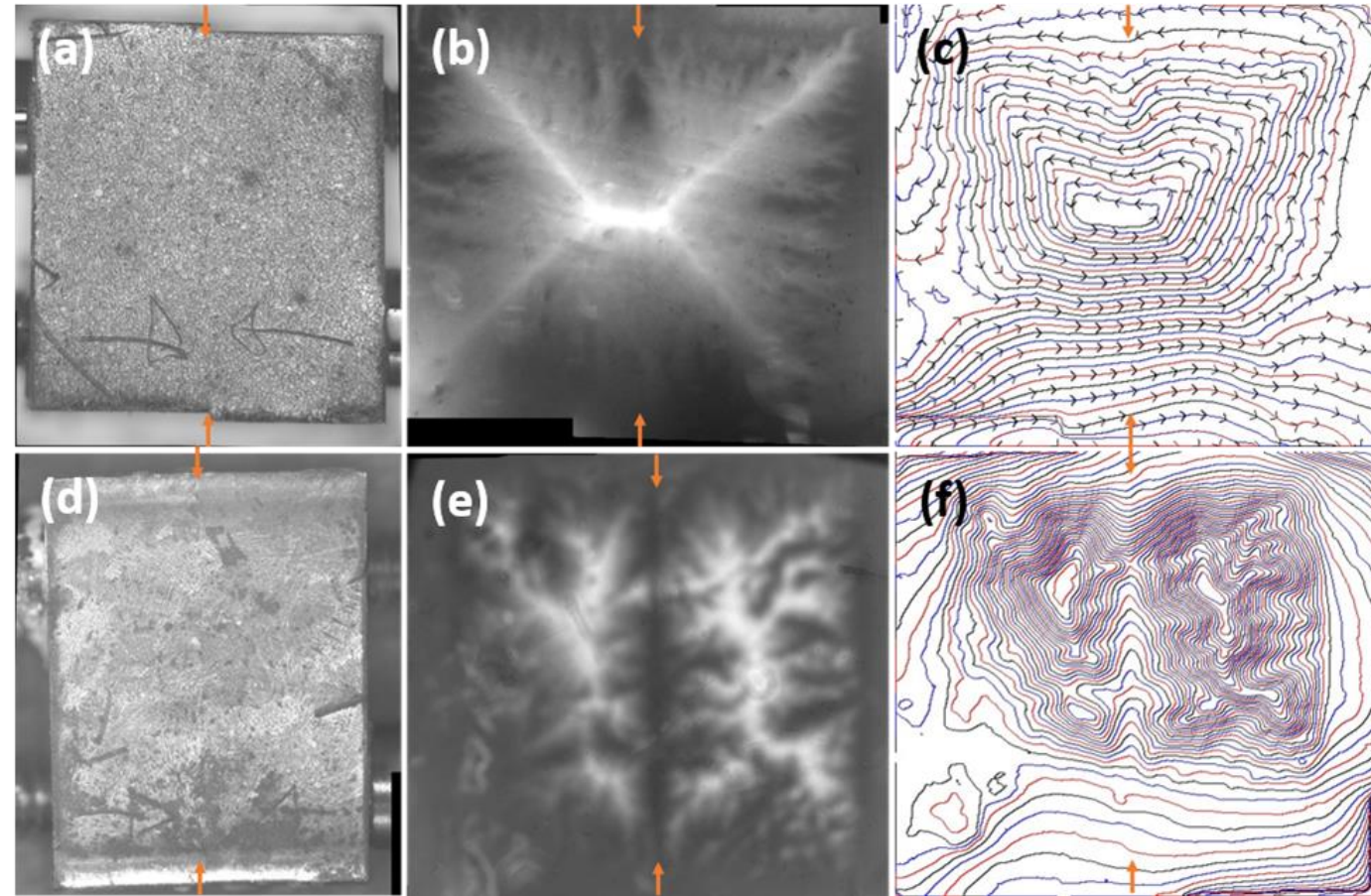
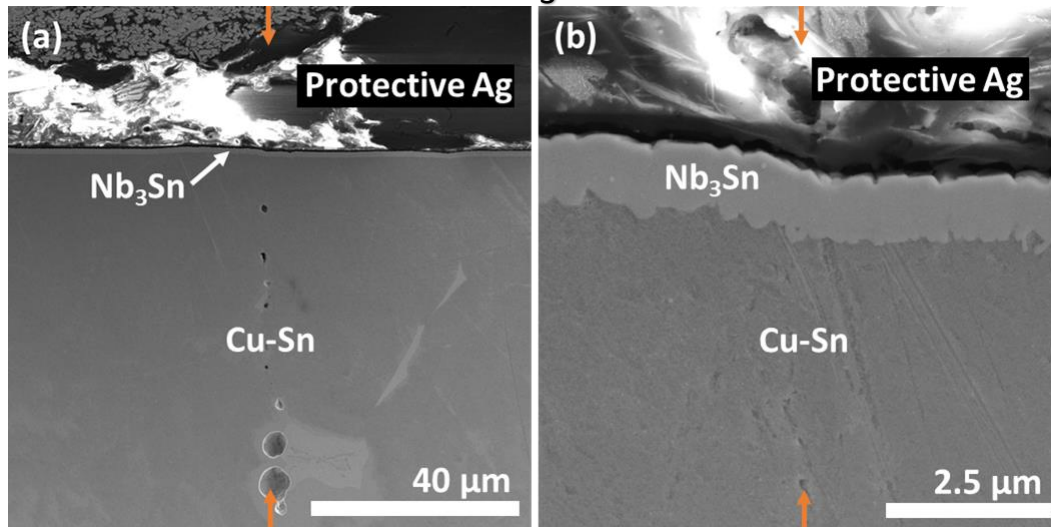
Nb coating interface

Continuous Seam Across Joint

Two bronze blocks

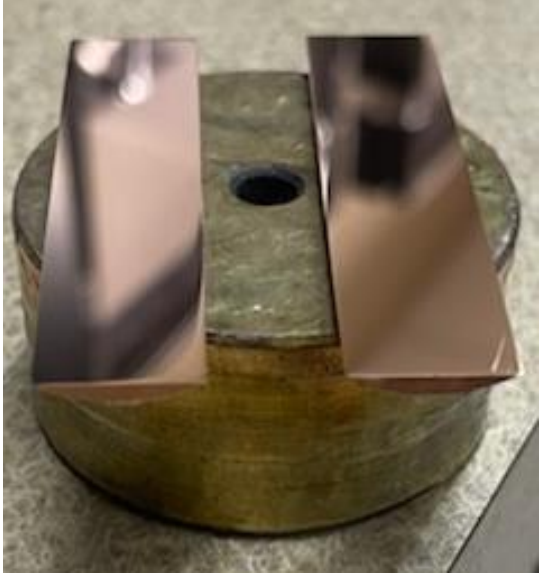


Continuous Nb_3Sn across seam



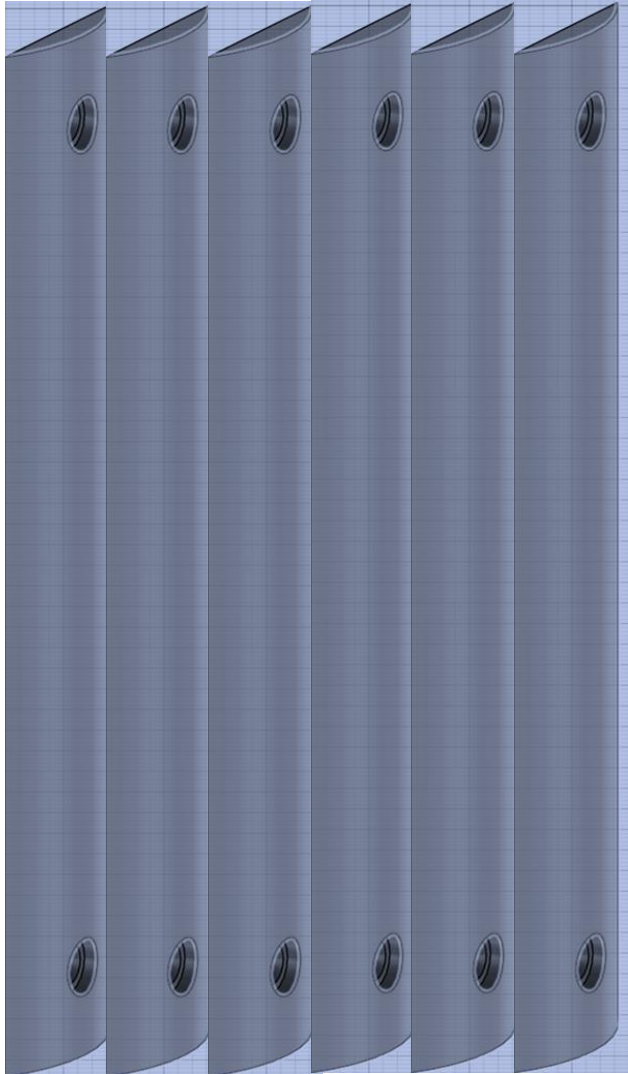
Magneto Optical Imaging (MOI)
Continuous superconductivity in a, b, c
discontinuous superconductivity in d, e, f

To End with...

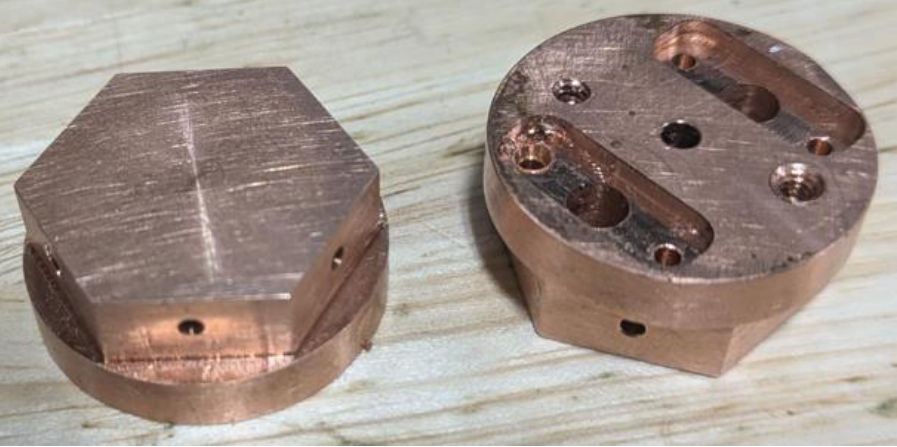
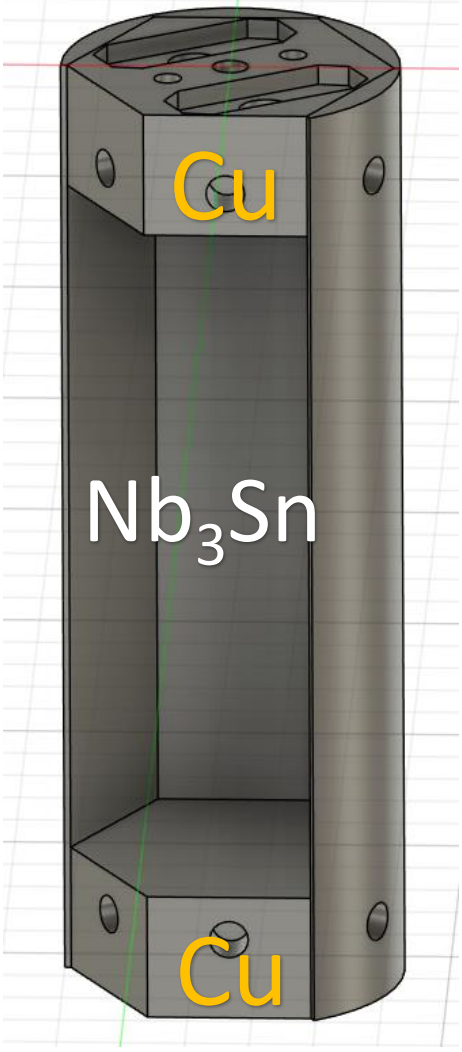


Nb₃Sn coating
recipe
→

6 wall: Nb₃Sn



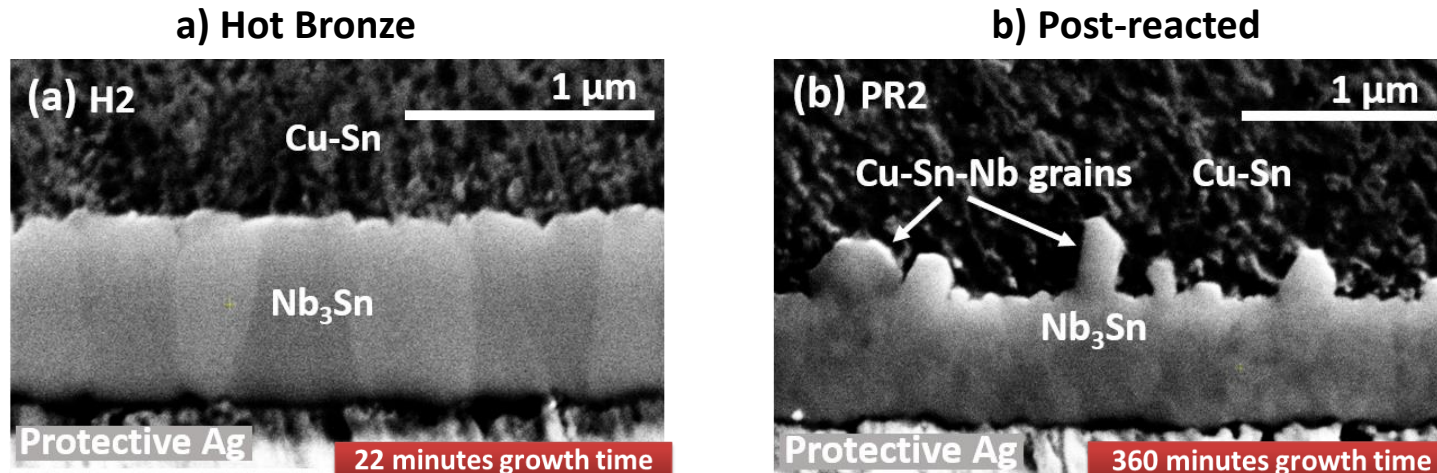
Heat Treat to
heal
→



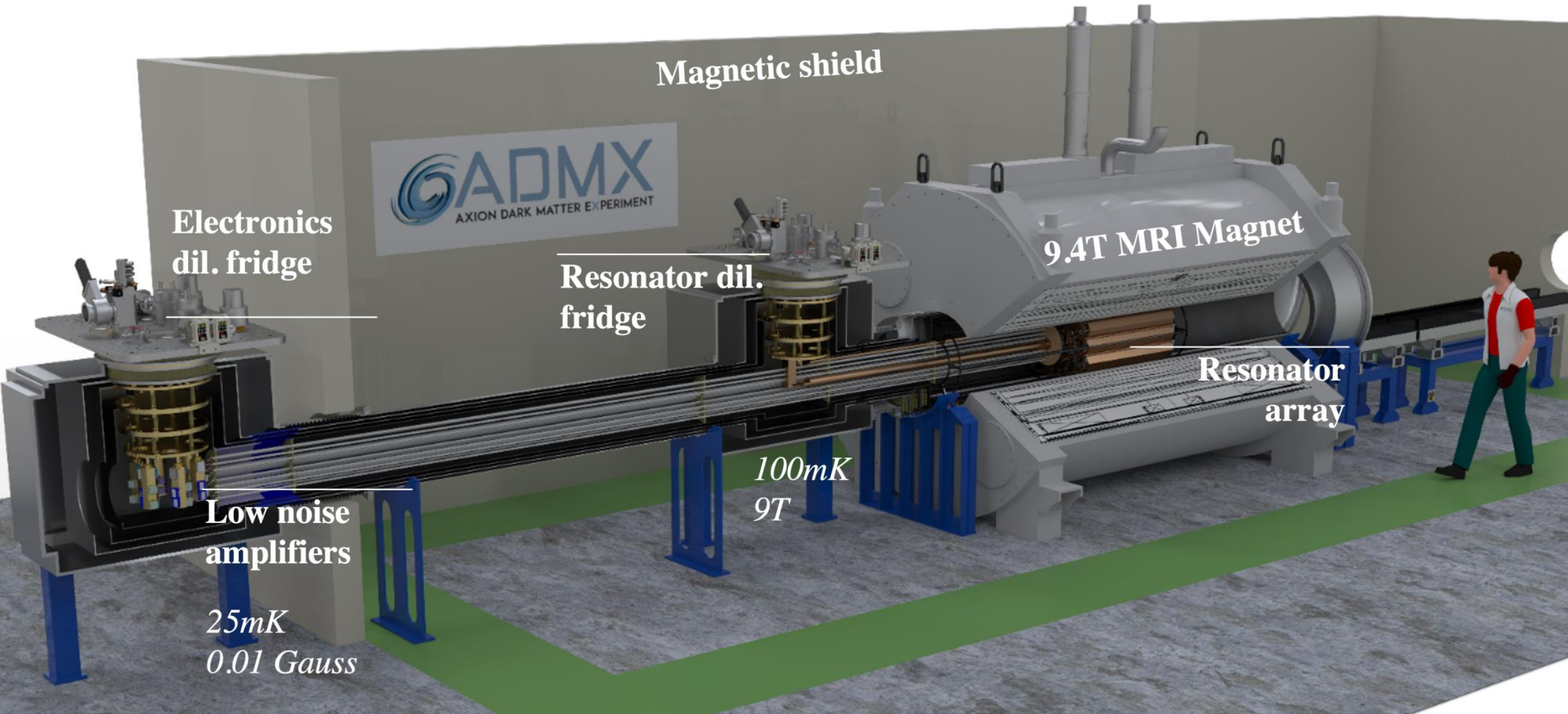
Keep Cu Bulk

Conclusion

- Optimizing recipes for Nb_3Sn on Cu.
- Analyzed strain effects from Cu-Sn layer on Nb_3Sn .
- By exchanging one wall of a hexagonal cavity, we will have fast throughput relative measurements for our recipes. (can compare with 2-inch disk samples SLAC/Barcelona)
- Looking forward to Q testing in B and T for our Cu-Sn method (Cu in GB's) and our unique microstructure.



Future Experiments



Acknowledgements

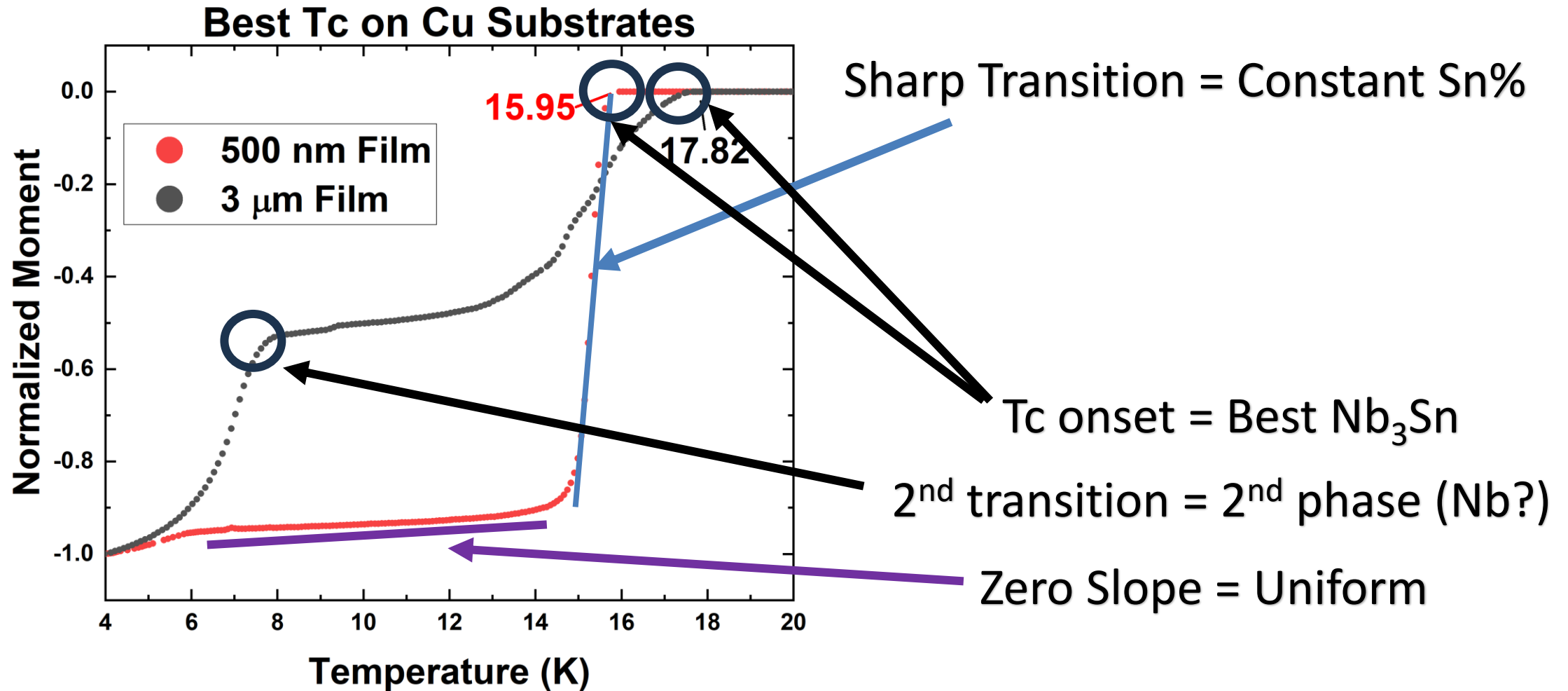
- The Applied Superconductivity Center
- ADMX Collaborators at Fermilab, Lawrence Livermore National Lab, University of Washington, University of Florida
- High Energy Physics – Department of Energy: High-field Cavities for Axion Dark Matter

References

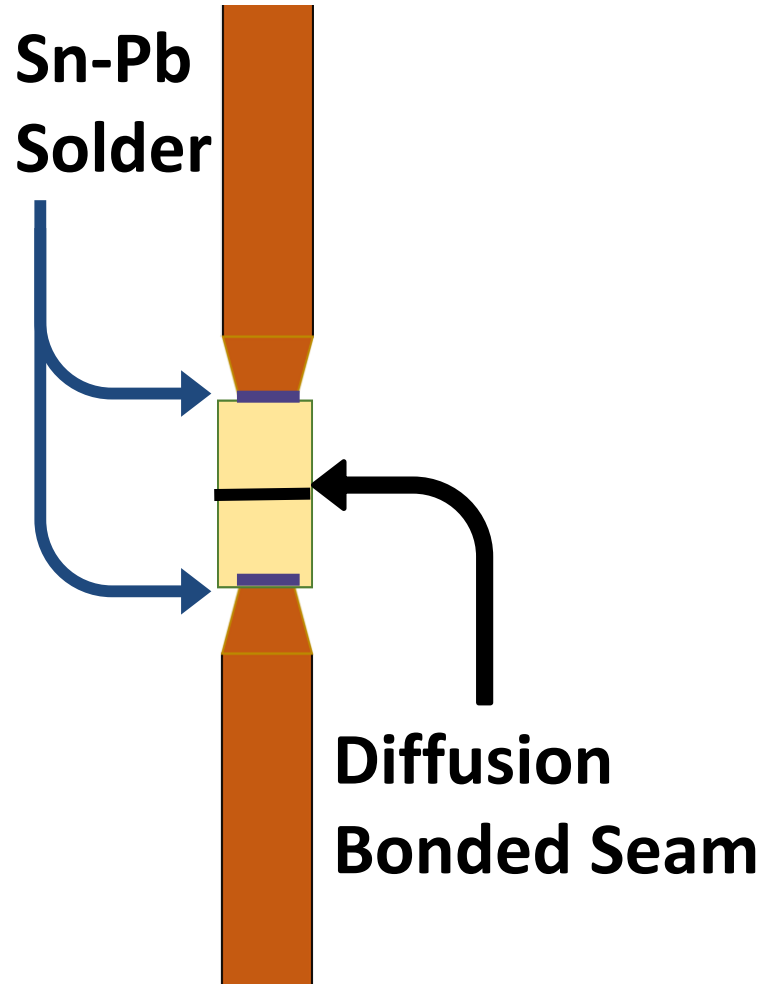
1. Sikivie, Pierre. "Invisible Axion Search Methods." *Reviews of Modern Physics* 93, no. 1 (February 18, 2021): 015004. <https://doi.org/10.1103/RevModPhys.93.015004>.
2. Boutan, Christian. "A Piezoelectrically Tuned RF-Cavity Search for Dark Matter Axions." *Ph.D. Thesis*, 2017. <https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2017PhDT.....24B>.
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Thank you for your time!

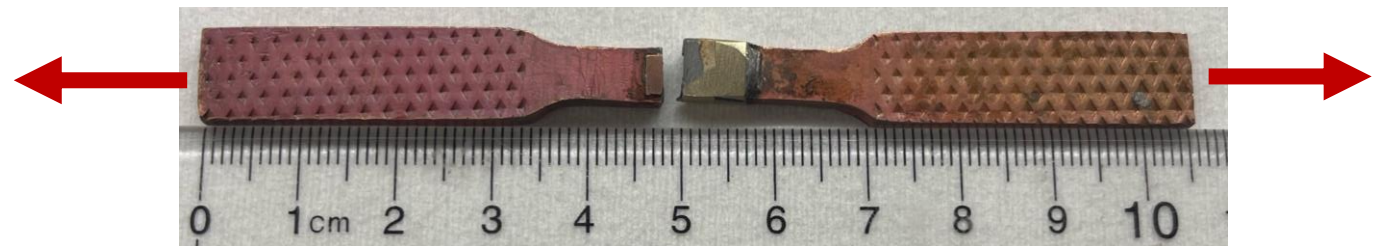
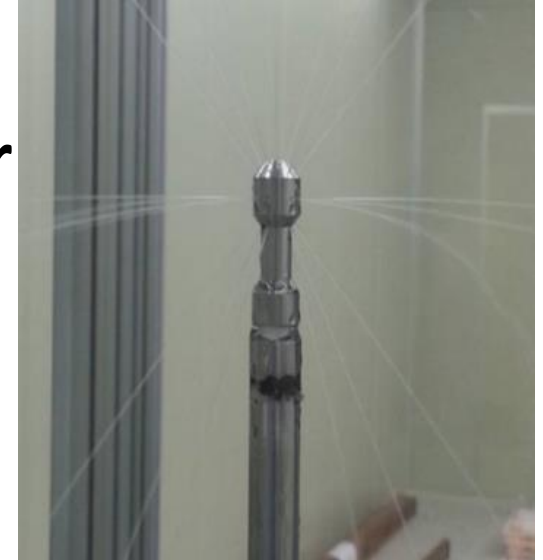
What do these Tc curves mean?



Tensile Testing the Seam



Tensile test simulates the need for cavity seams to withstand a high pressure rinse (HPR) at 140 bar.



Axion field and Maxwell's Laws

Maxwell's Laws \longrightarrow Modified Maxwell's Laws

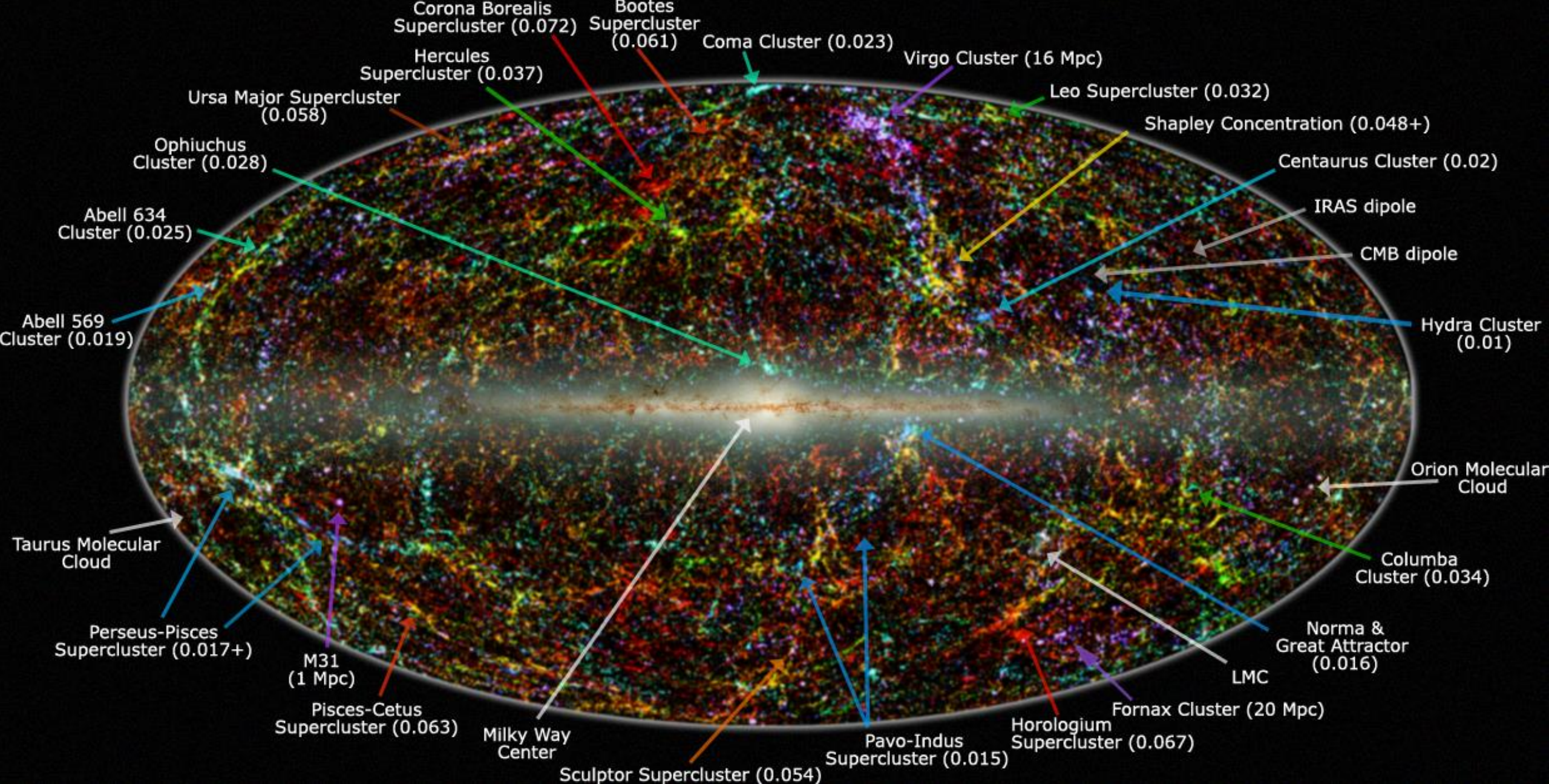
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \rho_{\text{el}} & \longrightarrow & \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{E} = \underline{g\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla} a} + \rho_{\text{el}} \\ \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} - \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \vec{j}_{\text{el}} & \longrightarrow & \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} - \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} = \underline{g(\vec{E} \times \vec{\nabla} a - \vec{B} \frac{\partial a}{\partial t})} + \vec{j}_{\text{el}} \end{array}$$

Axions cause an oscillating current.

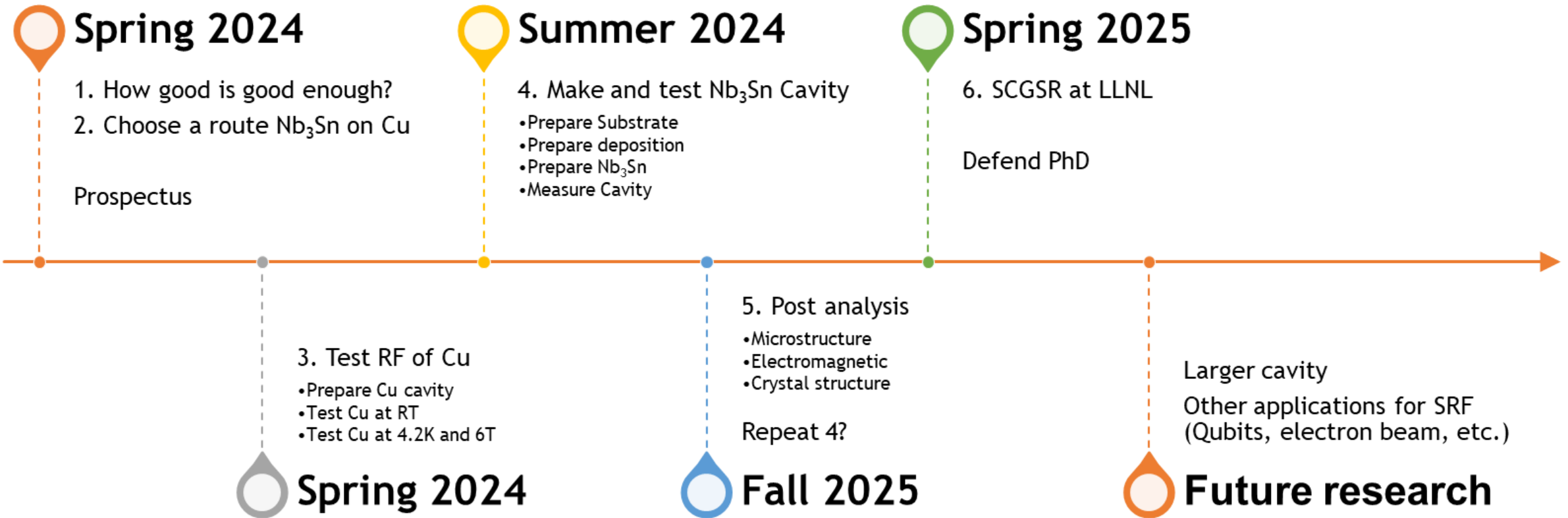
$$\vec{j}_a = -g\vec{B}_0 \dot{a} \quad \text{where} \quad \dot{a} \equiv \frac{\partial a}{\partial t}$$

This current creates a magnetic field, which can be measured.

$$\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B}_a = \vec{j}_a$$



PhD Timeline



Replacing One Wall

- We replace one of the 6 sides with a superconducting film, and we simulate this by increasing the conductivity of the wall by 10x.
- We change the conductivity in various steps to see the impact of this conductivity change.