

# REBCO coatings for high-energy physics applications under high magnetic fields

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# Outline

**1 – Superconductivity**

**2 – High-Temperature superconductors vs Cu:  $R_s(H)$  in the GHz range**

**3 – Coating surfaces with High-Temperature superconductors @ ICMAB**

**4 – Coated surfaces examples**

# Outline

## 1 – Superconductivity

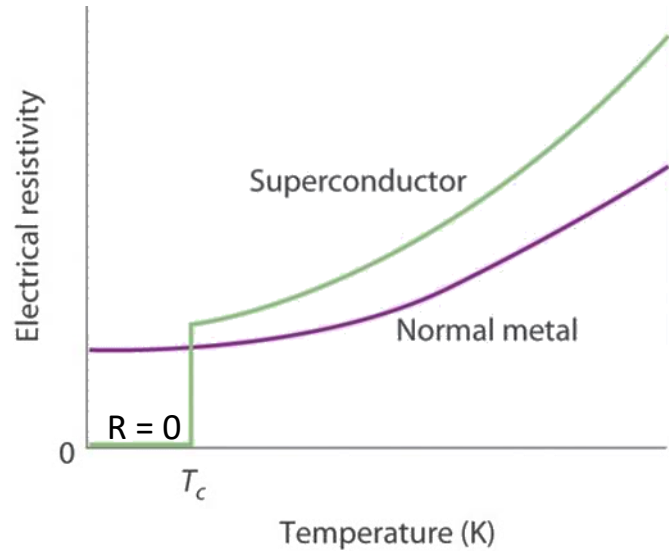
2 – High-Temperature superconductors vs Cu:  $R_s(H)$  in the GHz range

3 – Coating surfaces with High-Temperature superconductors @ICMAB

4 – Coated surfaces examples

# Superconductivity: Phenomenology

## Zero (DC) resistivity



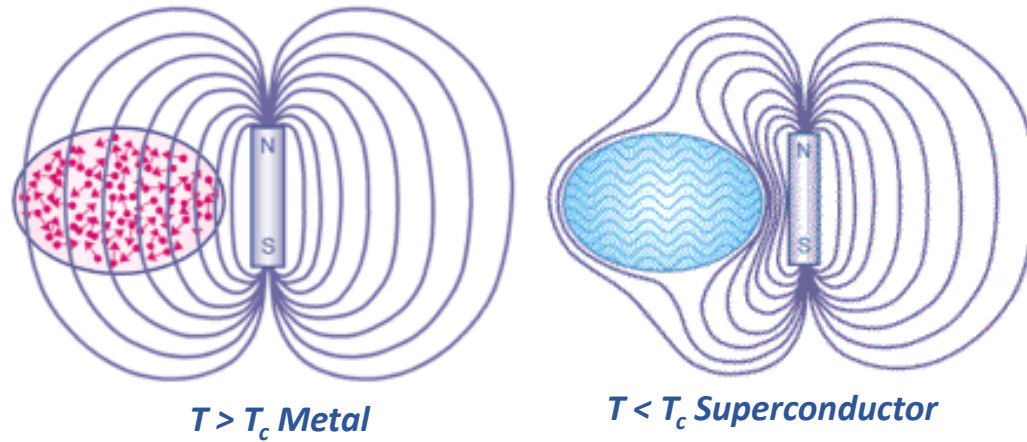
*Heike Kamerlingh Onnes*

*Leiden 1911*

## Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect

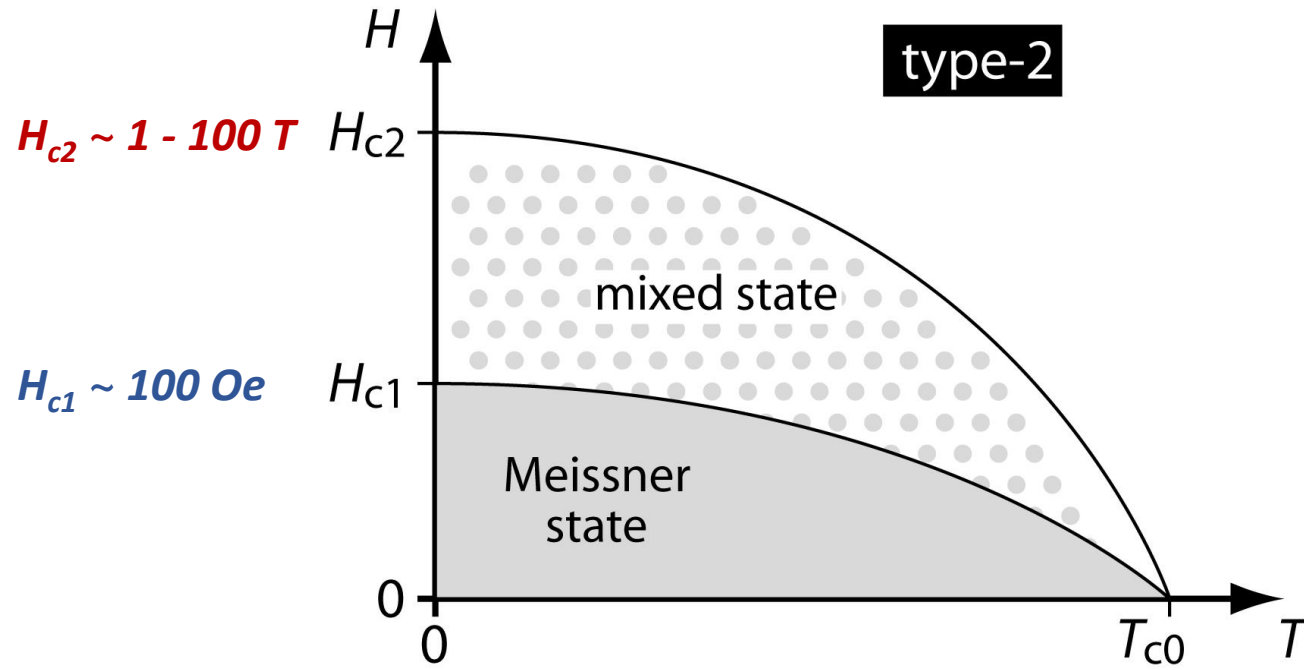
*(Perfect diamagnetis)*

*Walther Meissner and Robert Ochsenfeld in 1933*



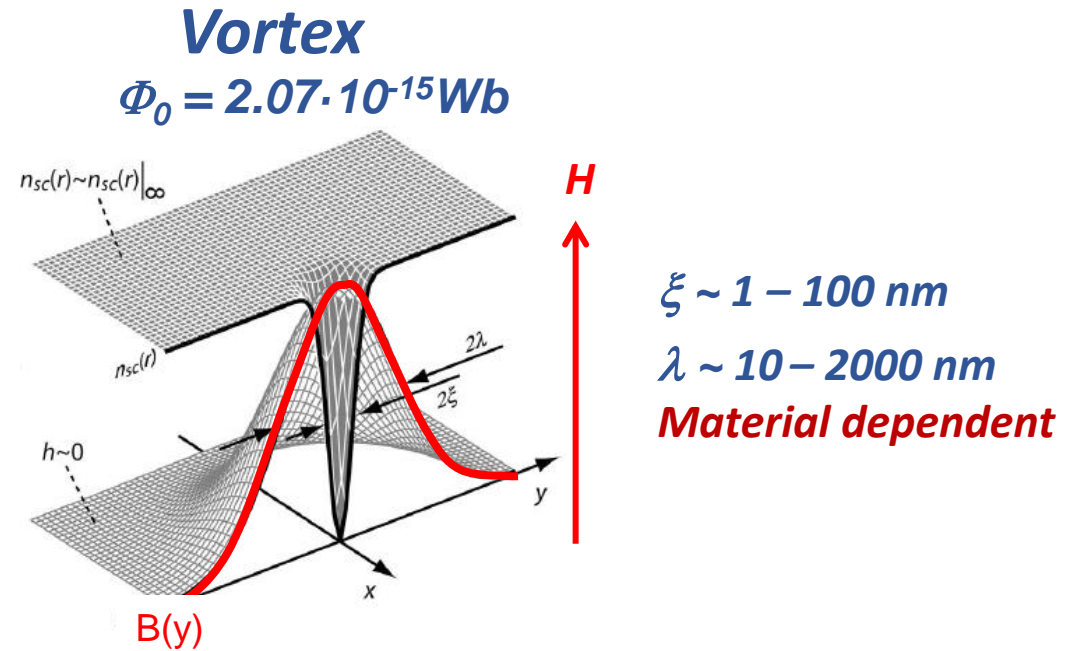
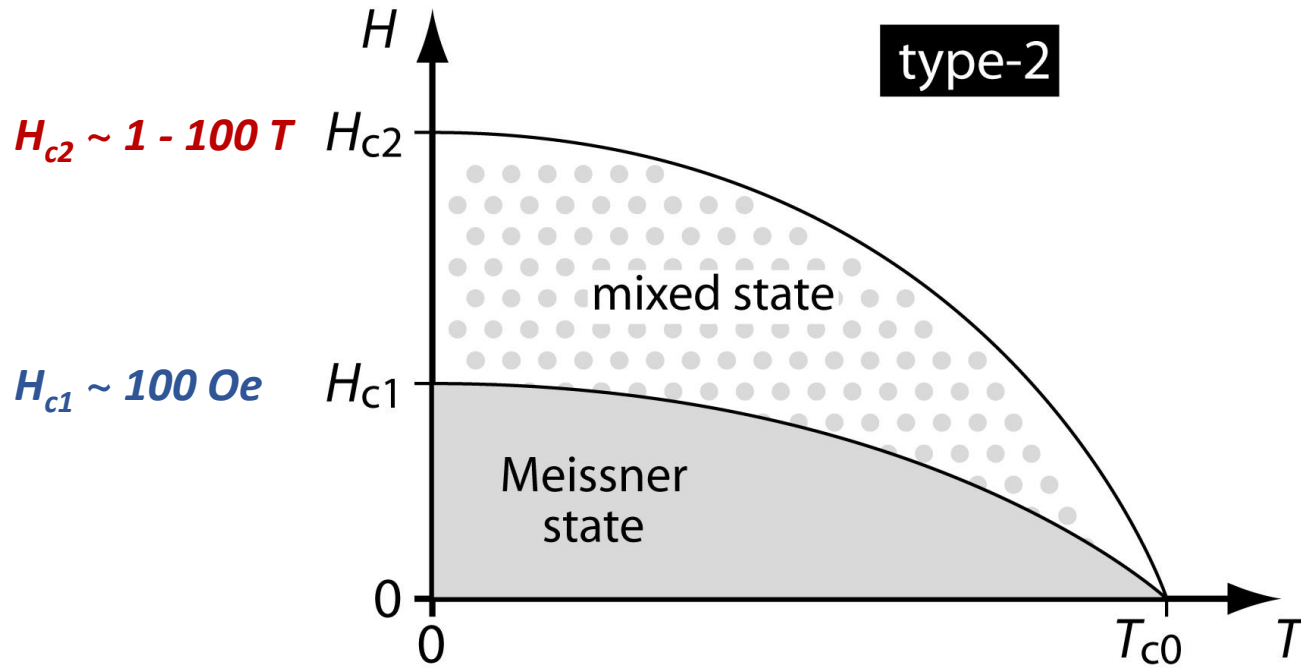
*Surface currents expel magnetic field*

# Superconductors trap magnetic field



# Superconductors trap magnetic field

Inside the SC magnetic field is quantised



Vortex movement  $\rightarrow$  Energy dissipation

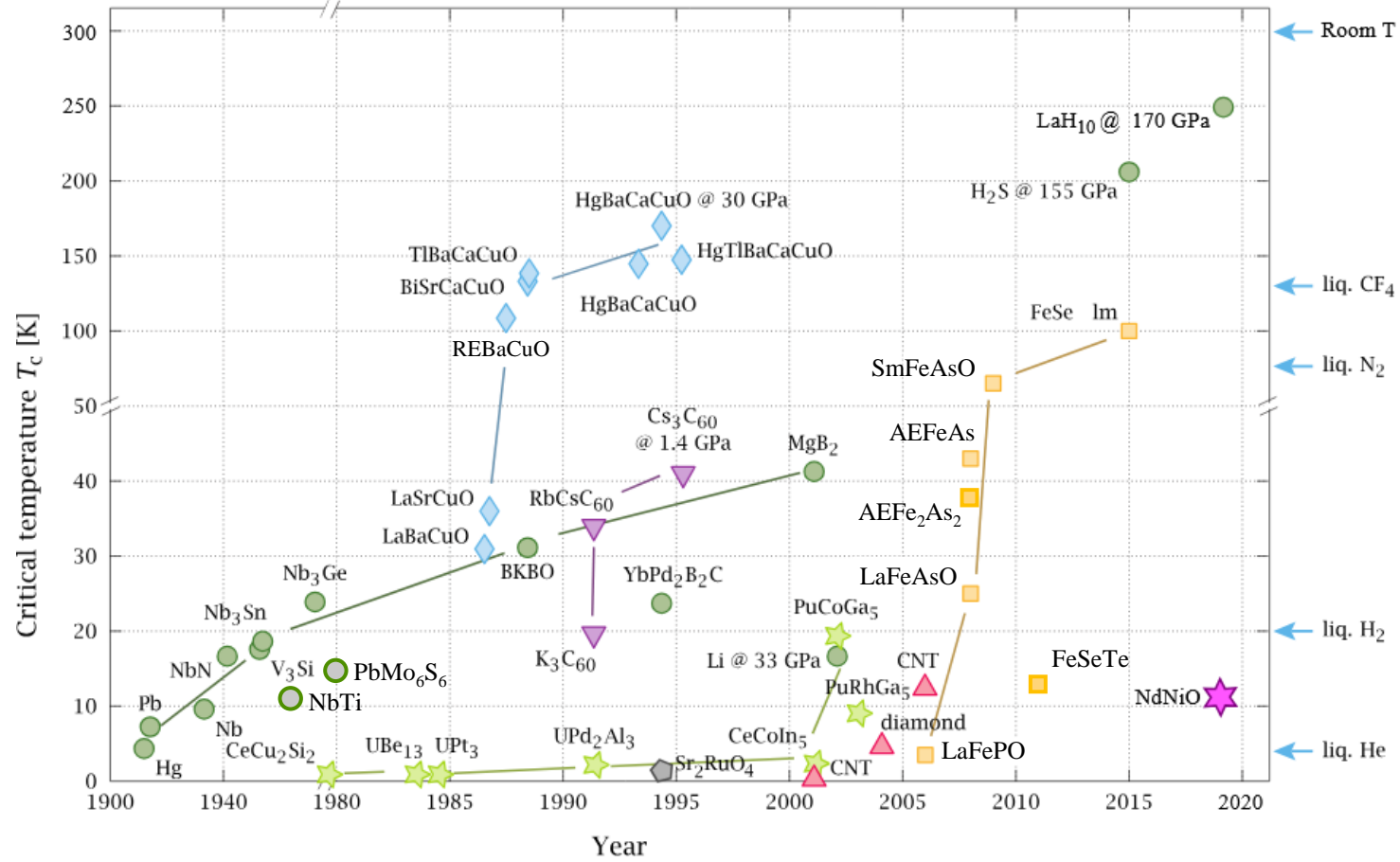
$$E_{\text{eff}} = \mathbf{v}_{\text{fl}} \wedge \mathbf{B}$$

$R \neq 0$

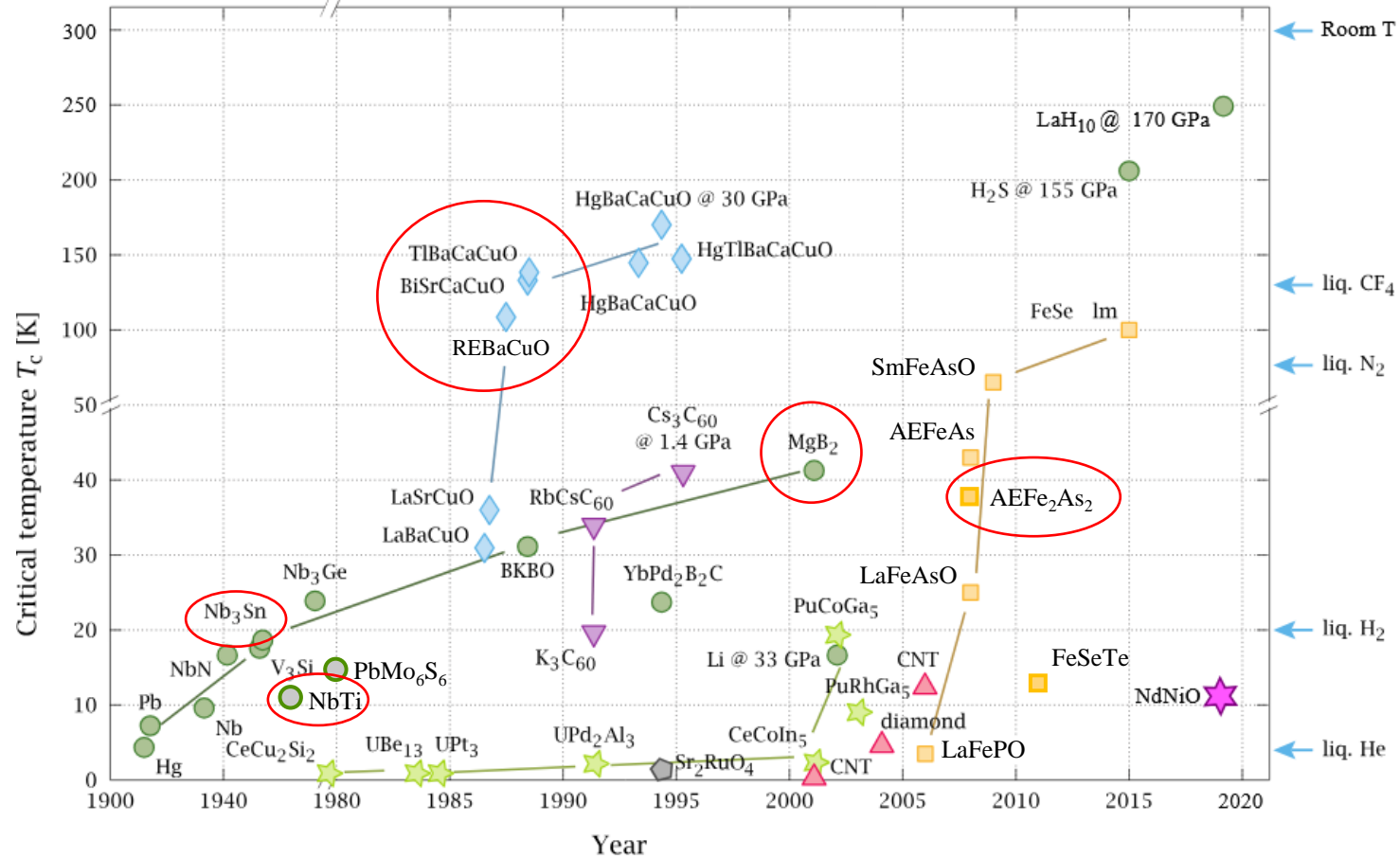
**Challenge: Pin vortices**

**Vortex physics & micro-structure.**

# Superconductors' time line



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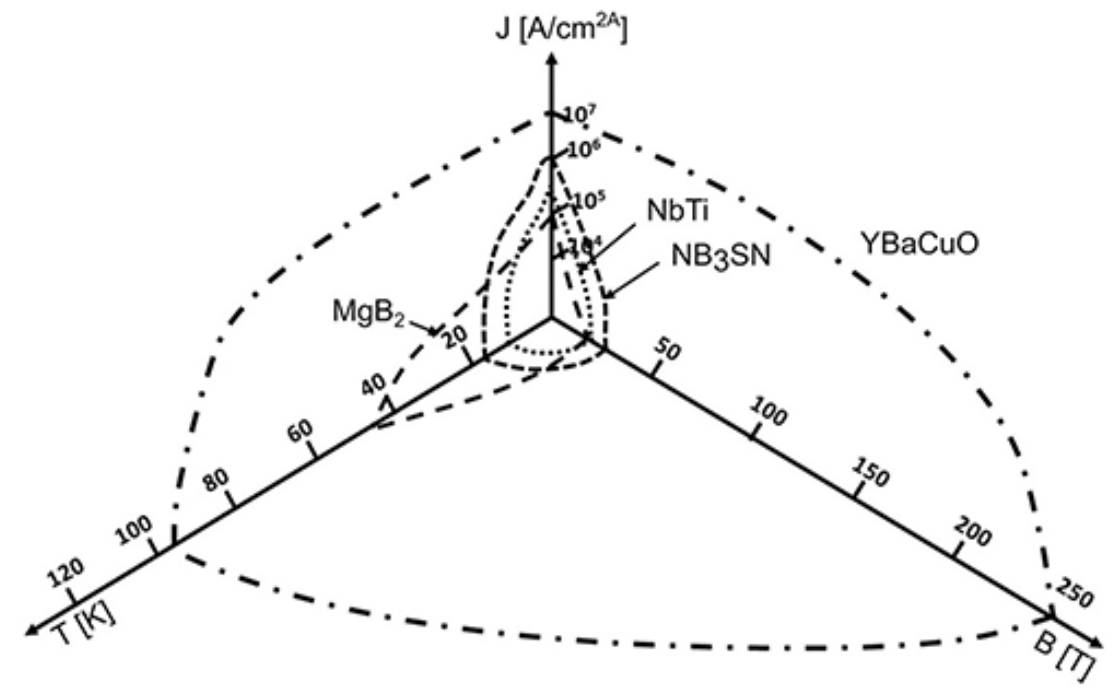
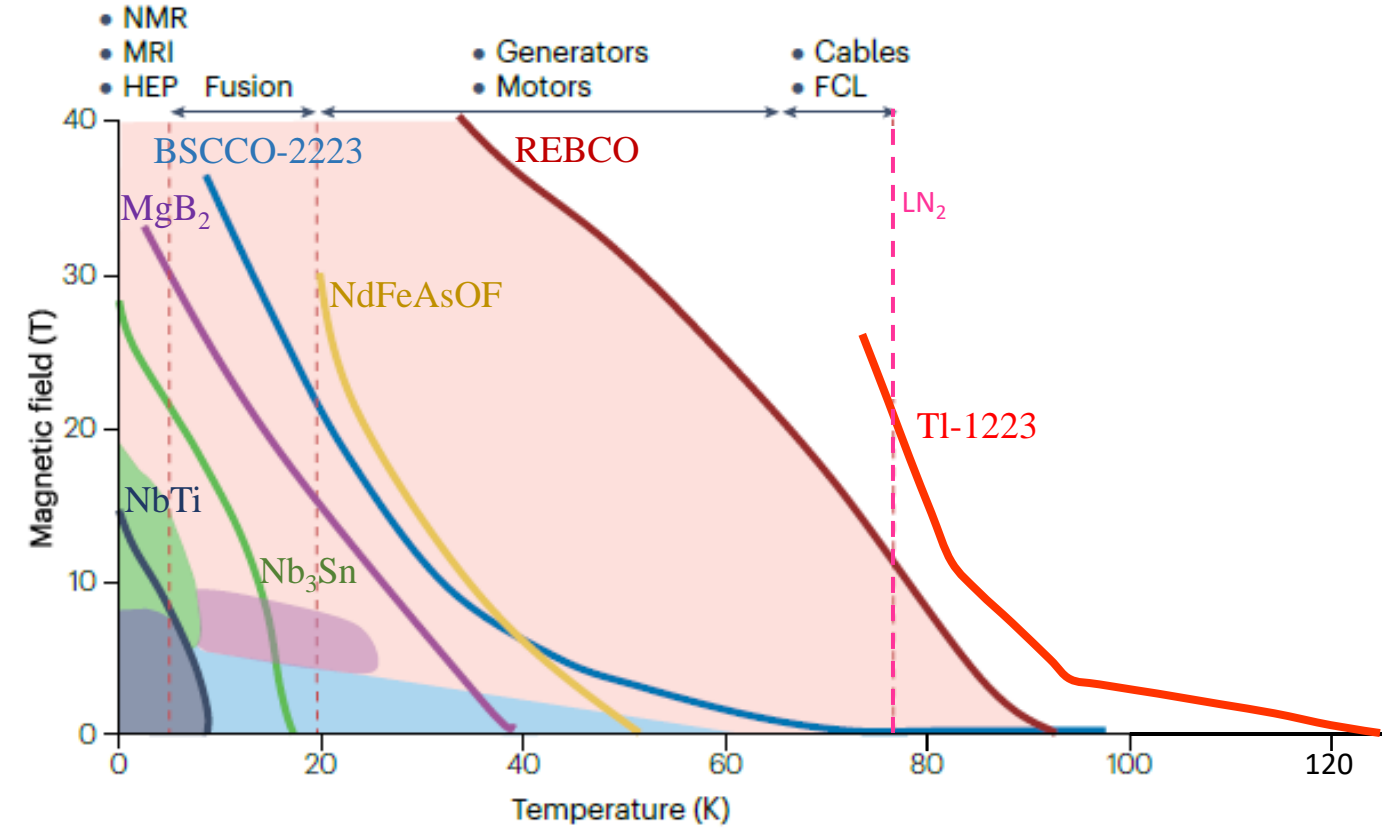


## Extra requirements for a practical superconductor:

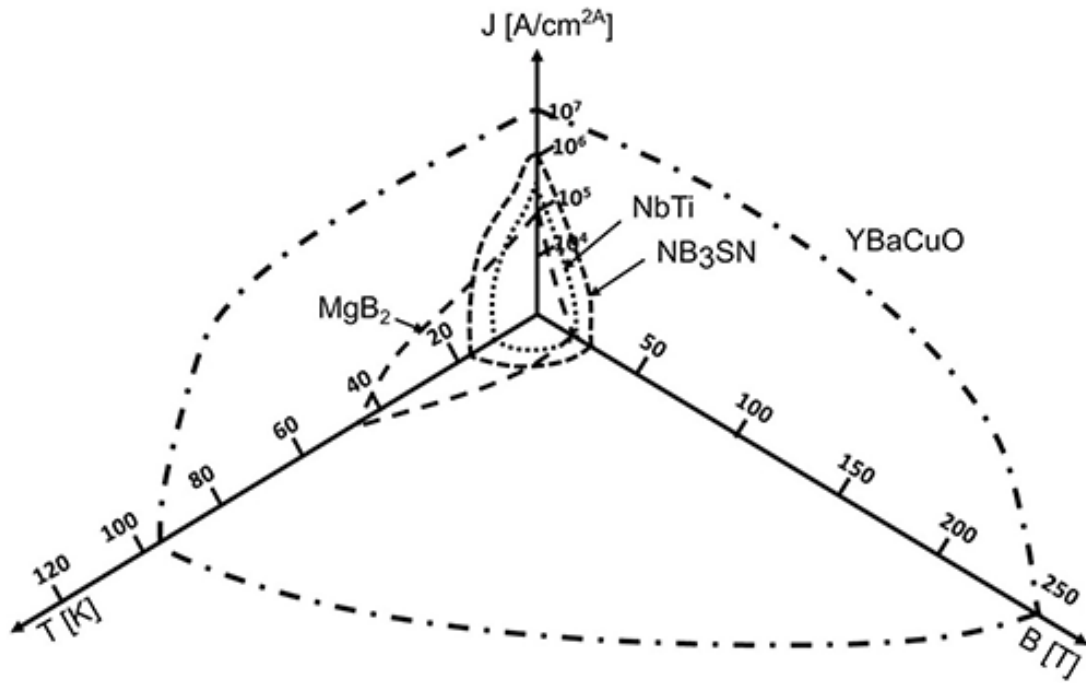
- Scalability of growing process
- (Wires) Co-processing with metallic materials
- (Wires) High currents at long lengths > 100 m



# Why REBCO?



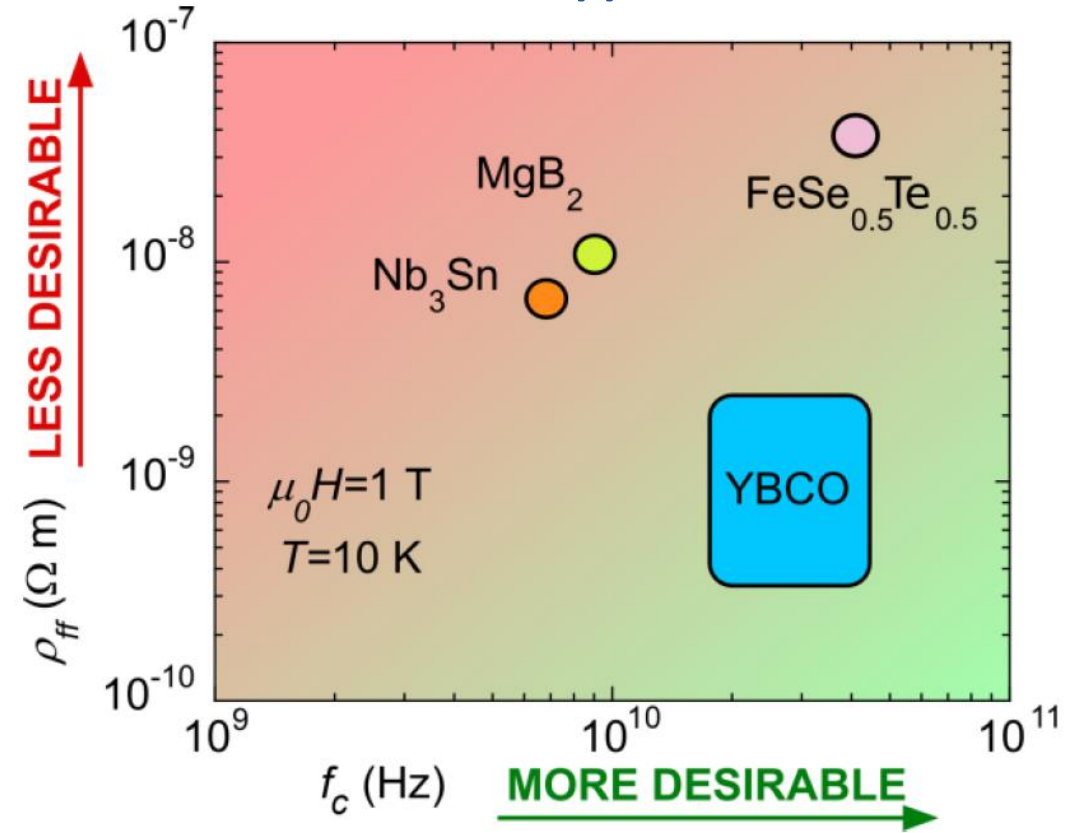
# Why REBCO?



**REBCO:** Excellent superconducting properties in a wide  $H$ ,  $T$ ,  $f$  range

But....

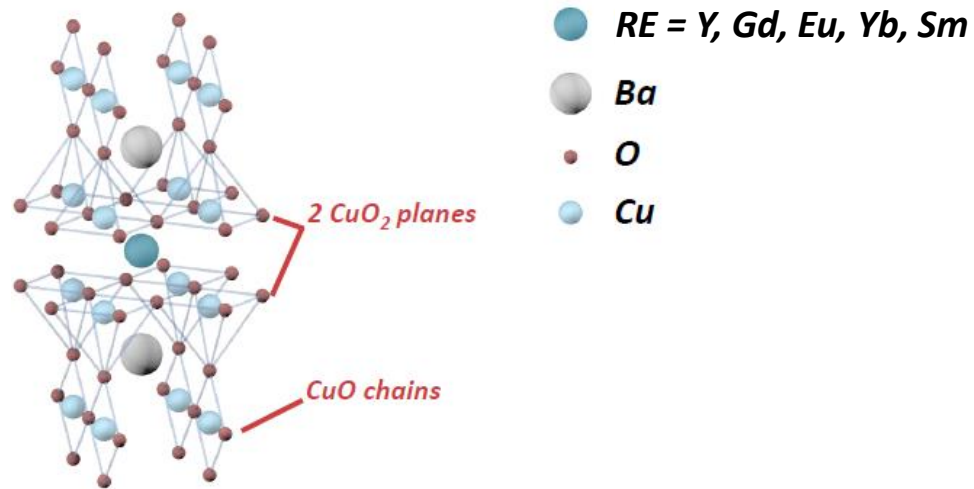
For RF applications



A. Alimenti et al. IEEE Instr. & Meas. Mag. **24** (2021)

# Cuprates are ceramic d-wave superconductors

In cuprates superconductivity occurs at the  $\text{CuO}_2$  planes

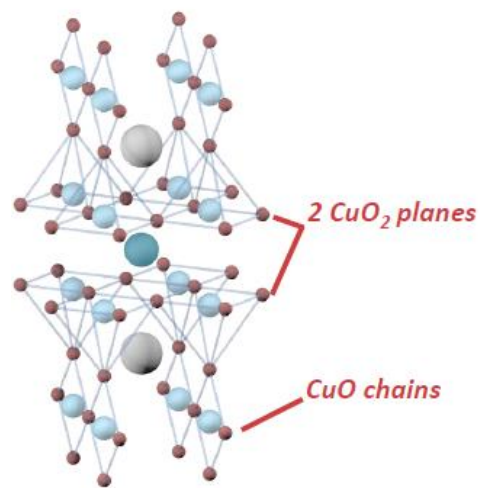


**RE123**

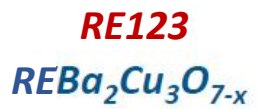


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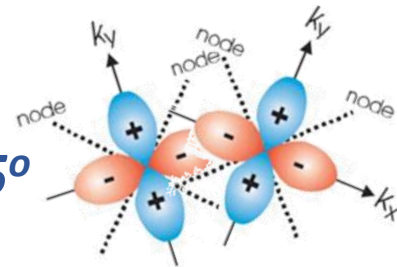
- RE = Y, Gd, Eu, Yb, Sm
- Ba
- O
- Cu



**Ceramic: brittle & not flexible**

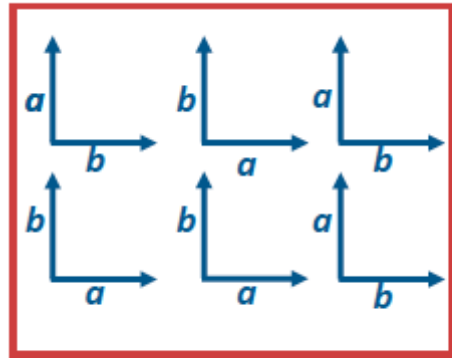
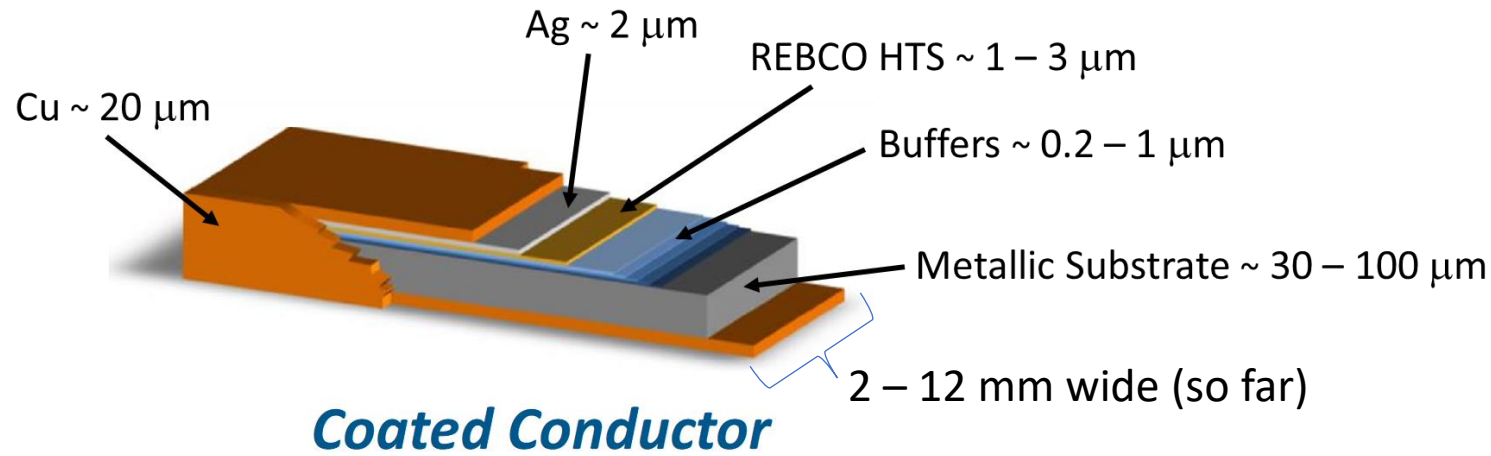
**d-wave (grain boundary problem): Superconducting properties greatly degrade with crystal misalignment  $>5^\circ$**

**$\text{CuO}_2$  planes: out of plane anisotropy**



**How do we turn this into a viable technology?**

# REBCO coated conductors are the solution

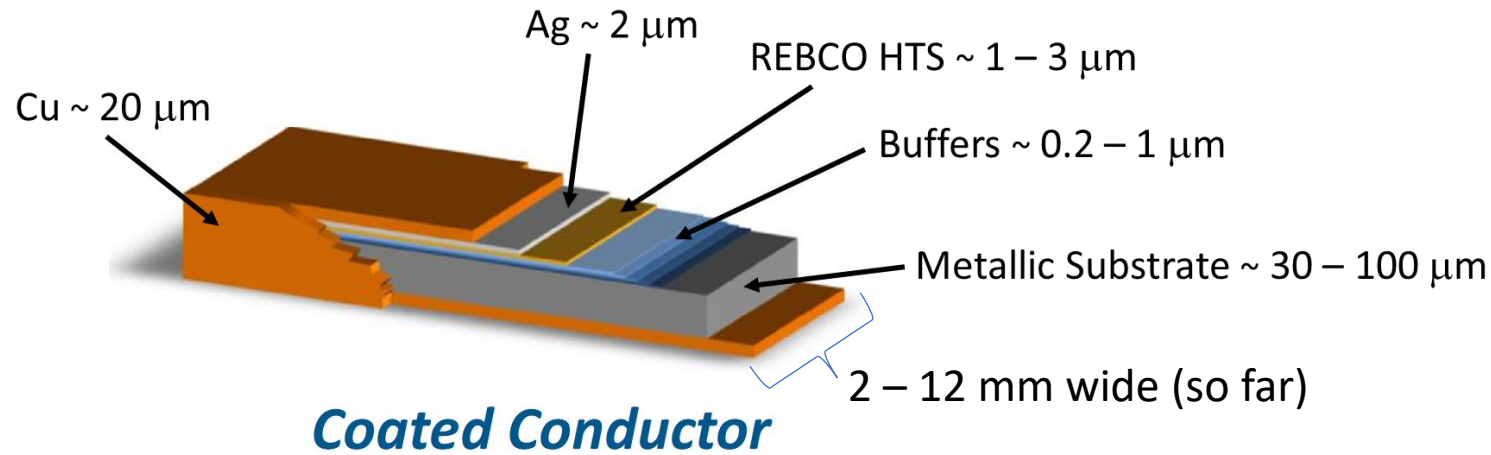


**Textured**

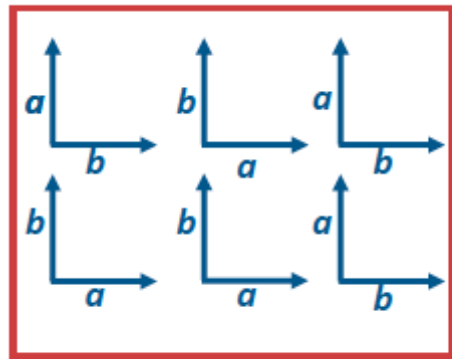
*The template is a metallic substrate coated with a multifunctional oxide barrier*

*Biaxial texturing – within  $< 3^\circ$  – is needed to overcome the grain boundary problem*

# REBCO coated conductors are the solution



*30+ years of scientific and technological development*



**Textured**

*The template is a metallic substrate coated with a multifunctional oxide barrier*

*Biaxial texturing – within <math>3^\circ</math> – is needed to overcome the grain boundary problem*



**CCs are**

**Flexible**



**Excellent SC properties @Km length**

*Produced world wide by 6+ companies*

*5.000Km production in 2024 (USA, Japan, China & Germany)*

*50.000Km projected for 2028*

# Outline

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**2 – High-Temperature superconductors vs Cu:  $R_s(H)$  in the GHz range**

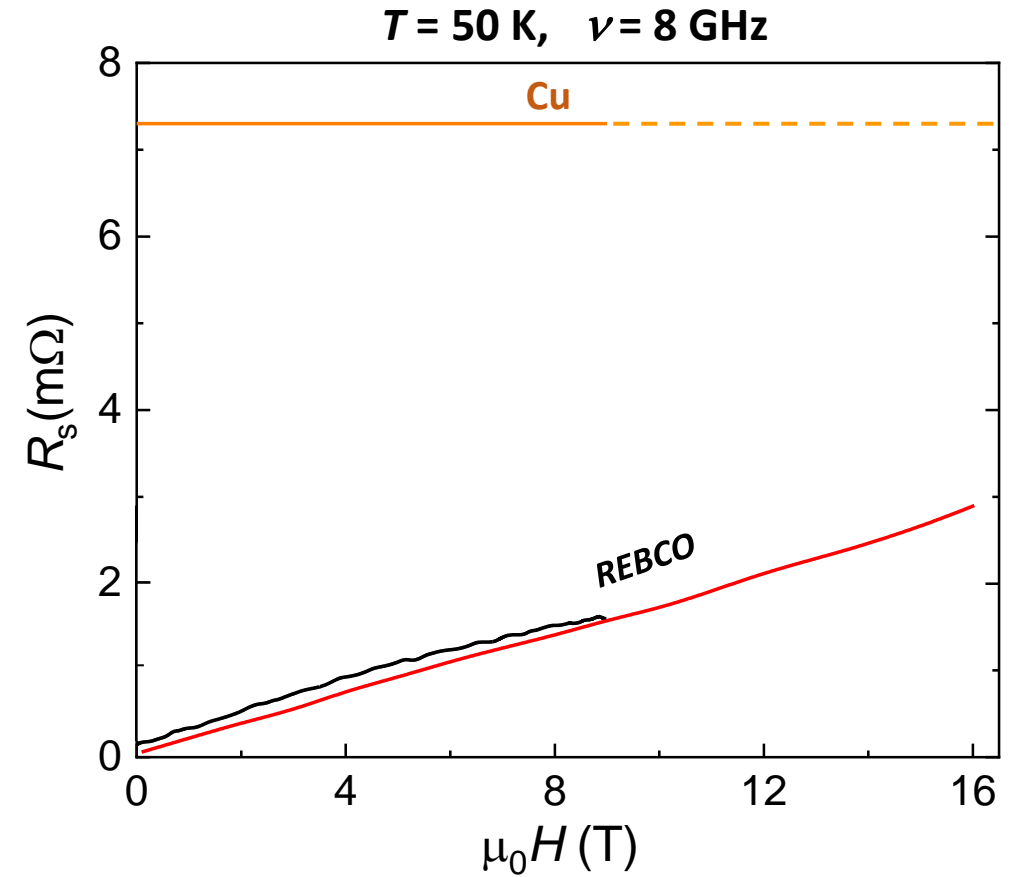
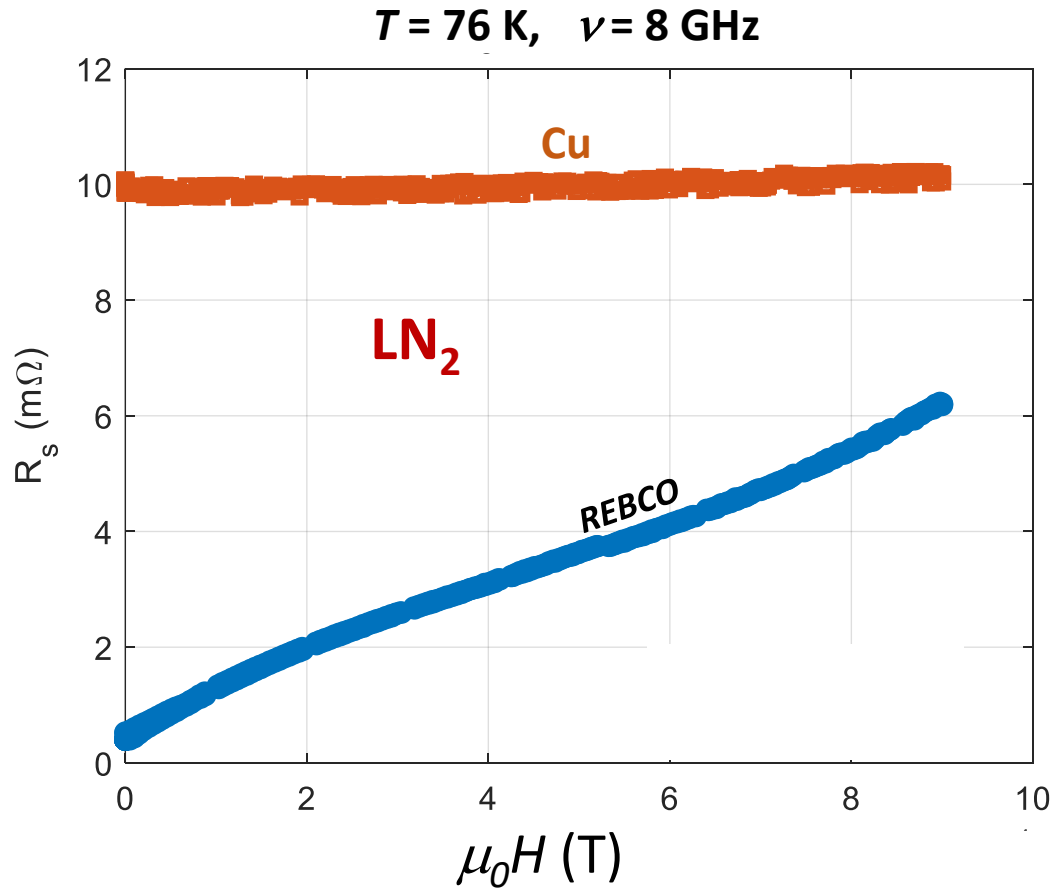
3 – Coating surfaces with High-Temperature superconductors @ICMAB

4 – Coated surfaces examples

# REBCO CCs have lower $R_s$ than Cu $\rightarrow$ Better RF performance

SCs always dissipate under an AC electromagnetic field

in a wide range of  $T, H$

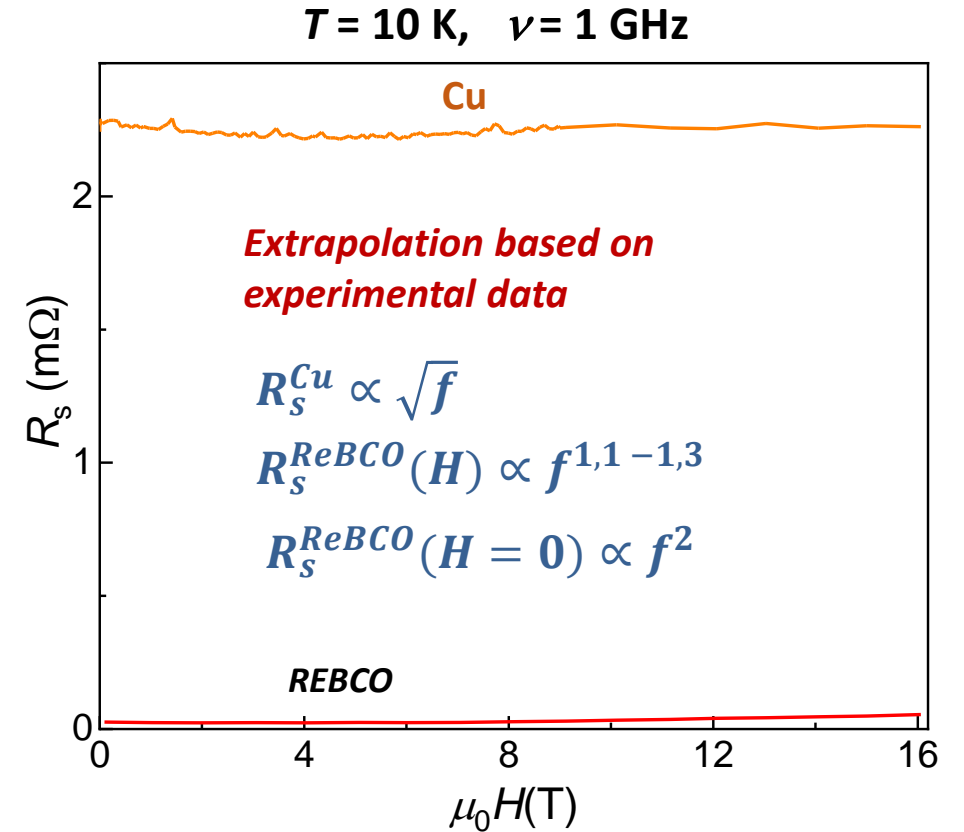
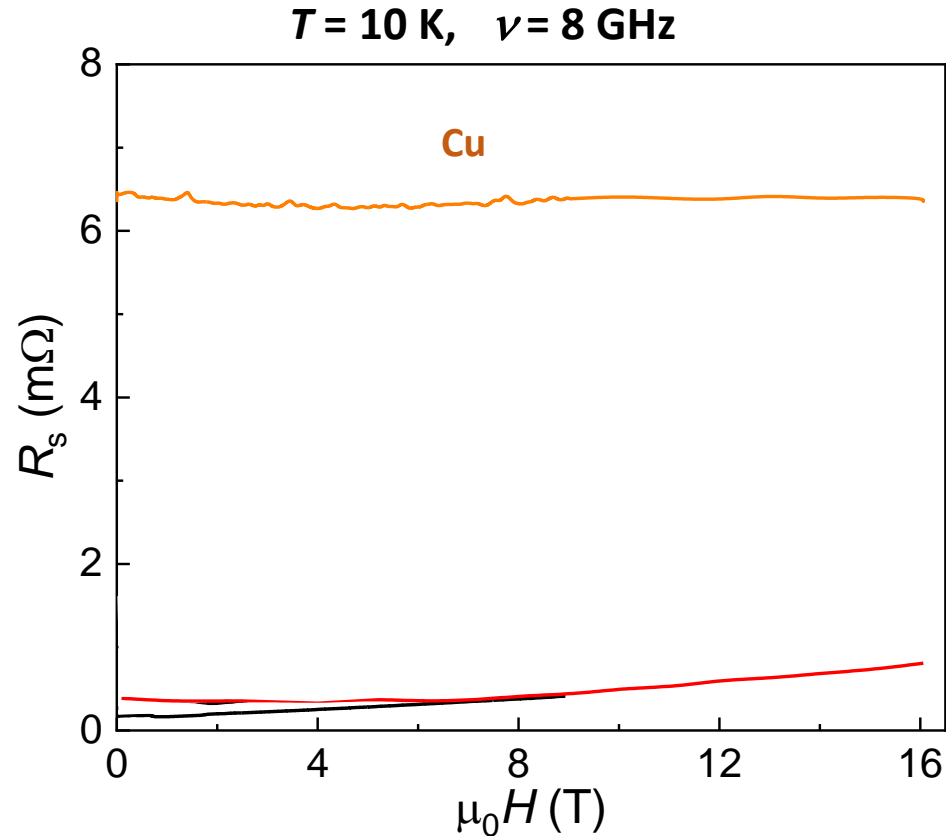




# REBCO CCs have lower $R_s$ than Cu $\rightarrow$ Better RF performance

SCs always dissipate under an AC electromagnetic field

in a wide range of  $T$ ,  $H$  &  $f$



$$Q \propto \frac{1}{R_s}$$

The lower the operating temperature and frequency the larger the benefit from using REBCO

# Outline

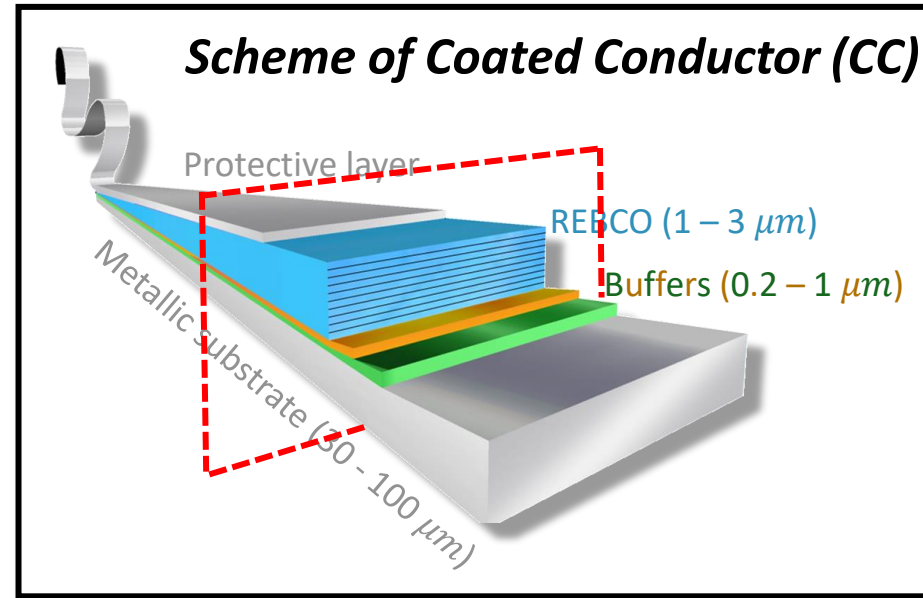
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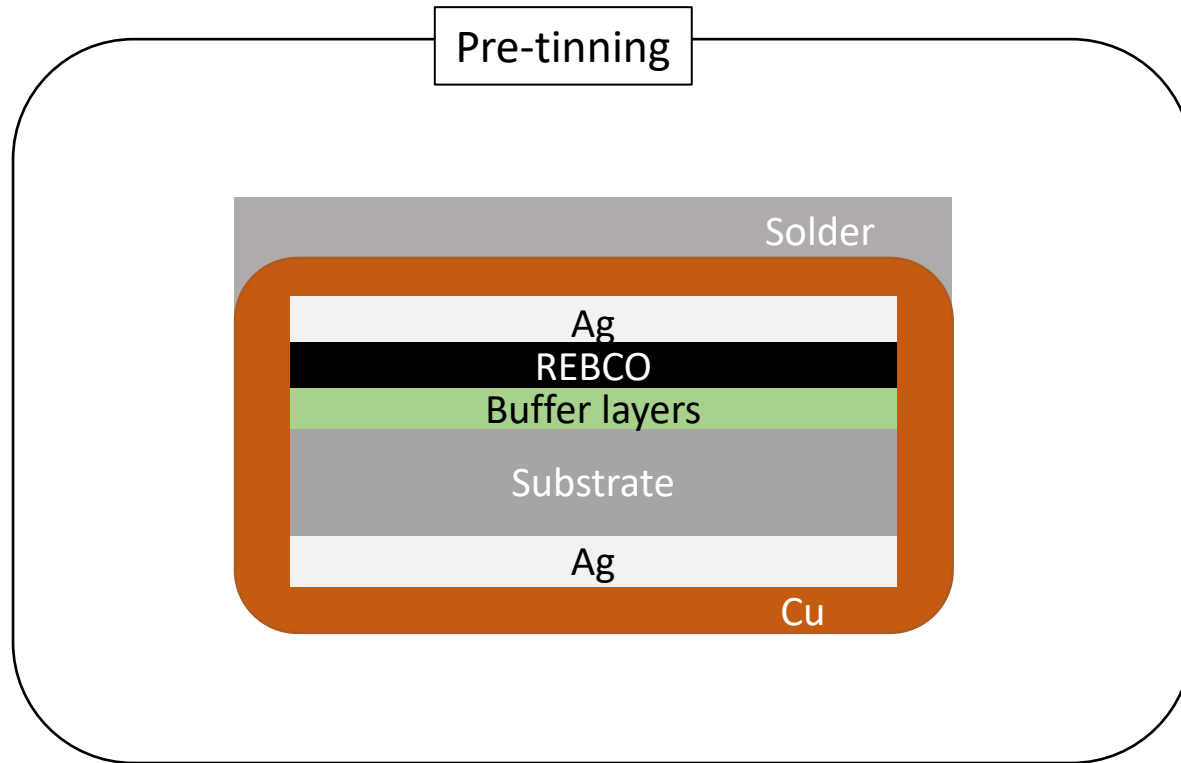
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# Coating process in a nutshell:



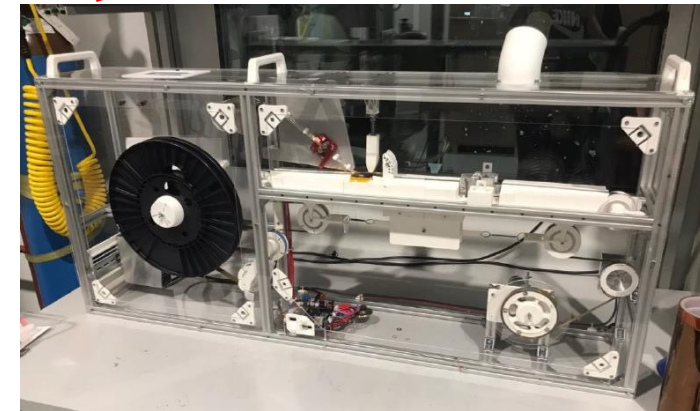
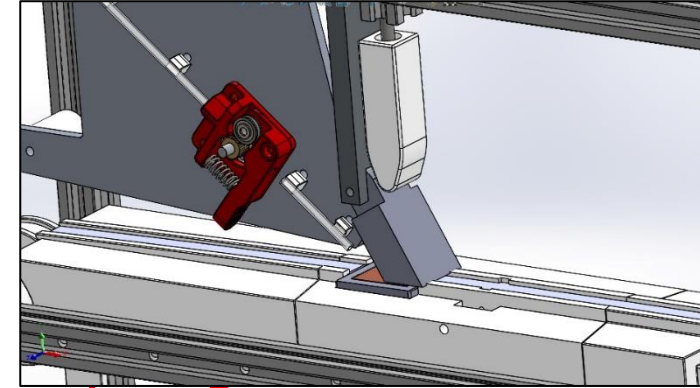
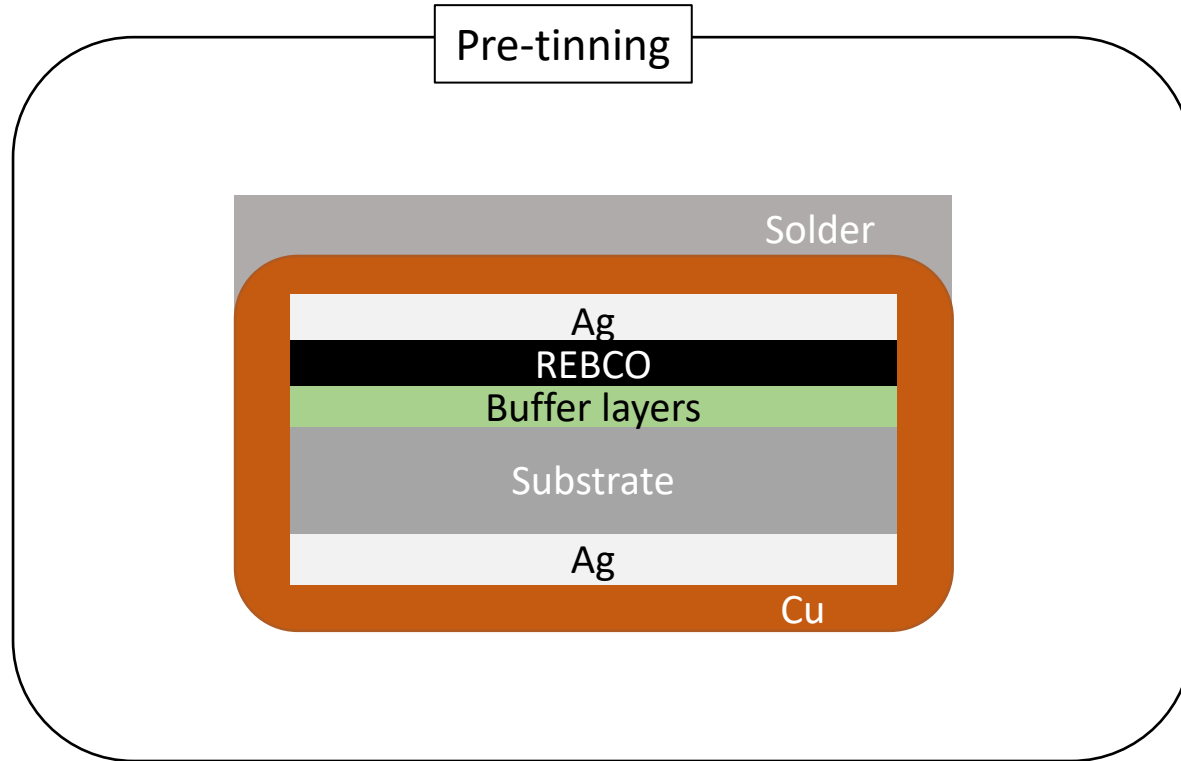
## Coating process in a nutshell:

Thickness & homogeneity of the solder is critical



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Thickness & homogeneity of the solder is critical

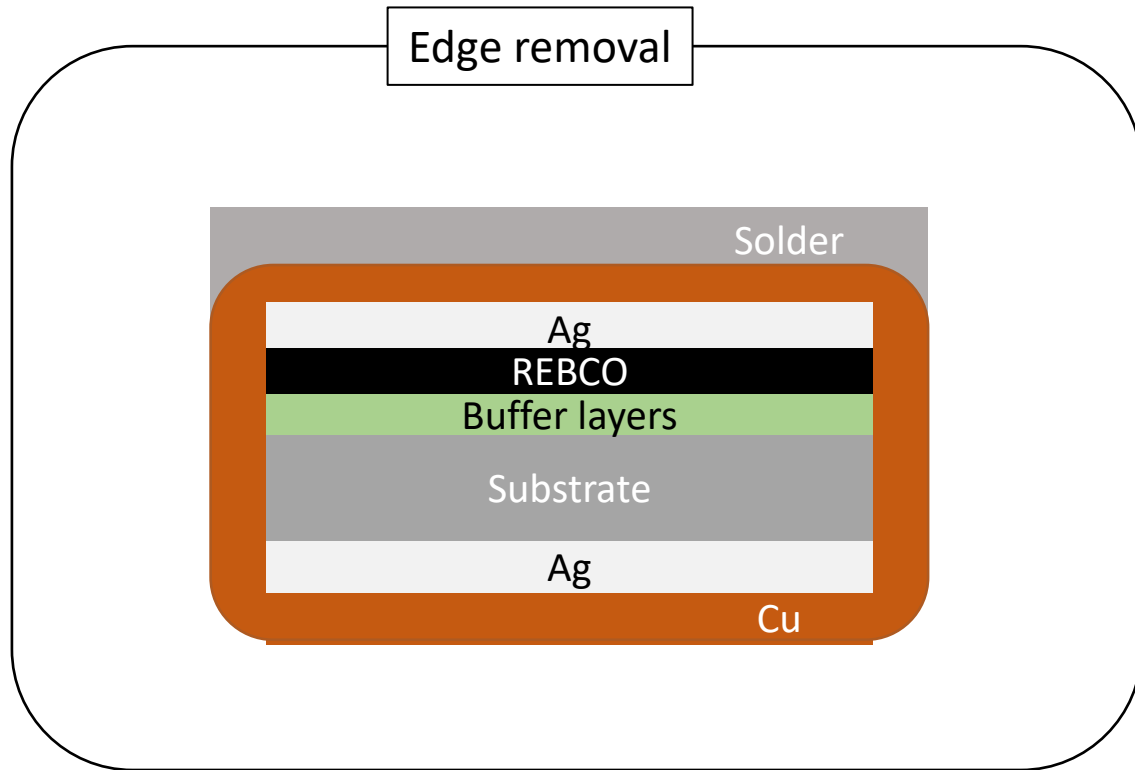


*Reel-to-reel pre-tinning machine*

*Allows for solder thickness control*

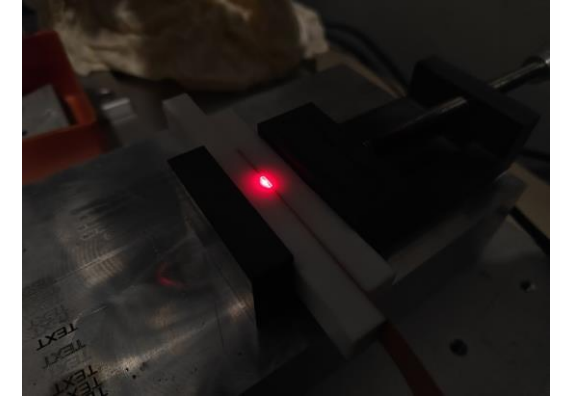
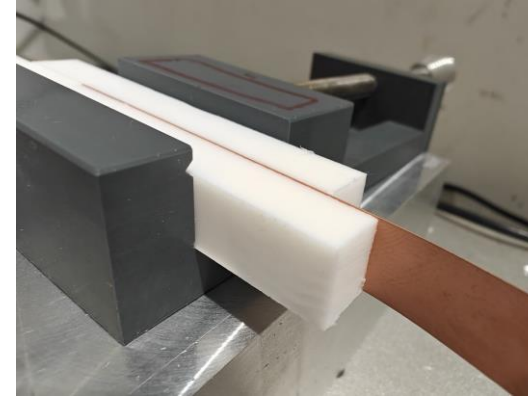
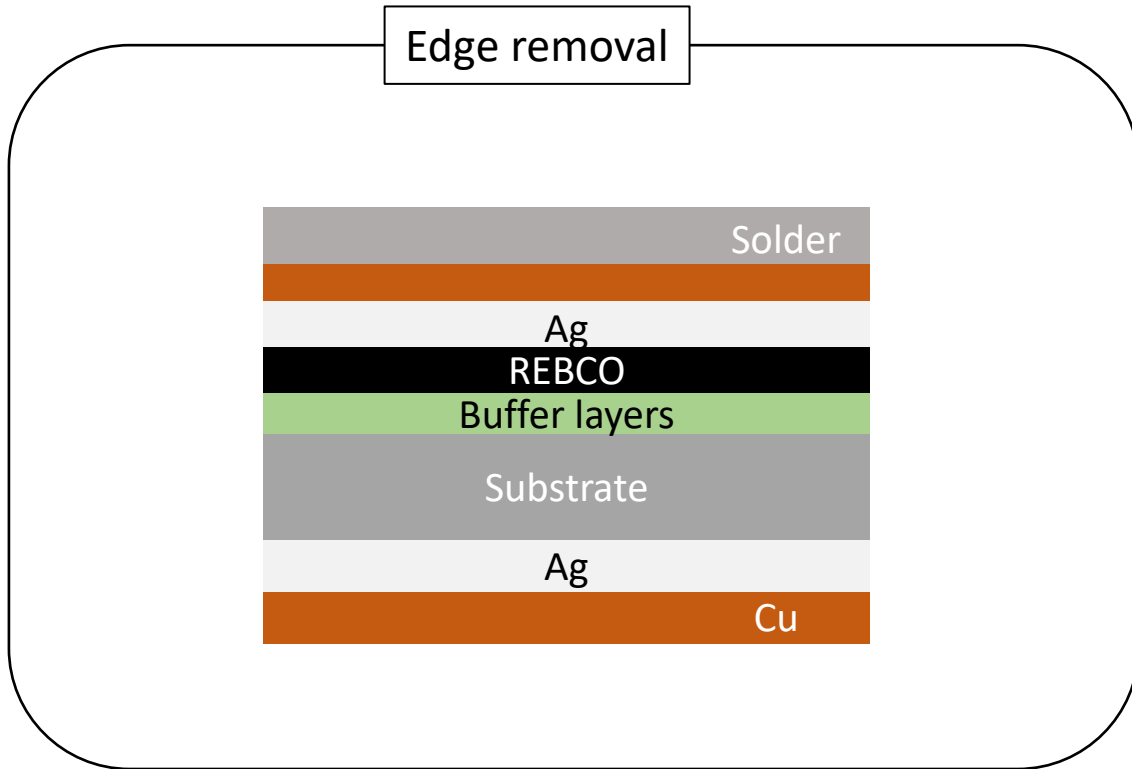
# Coating process in a nutshell

## Removing Cu envelope without damaging the REBCO layer



# Coating process in a nutshell

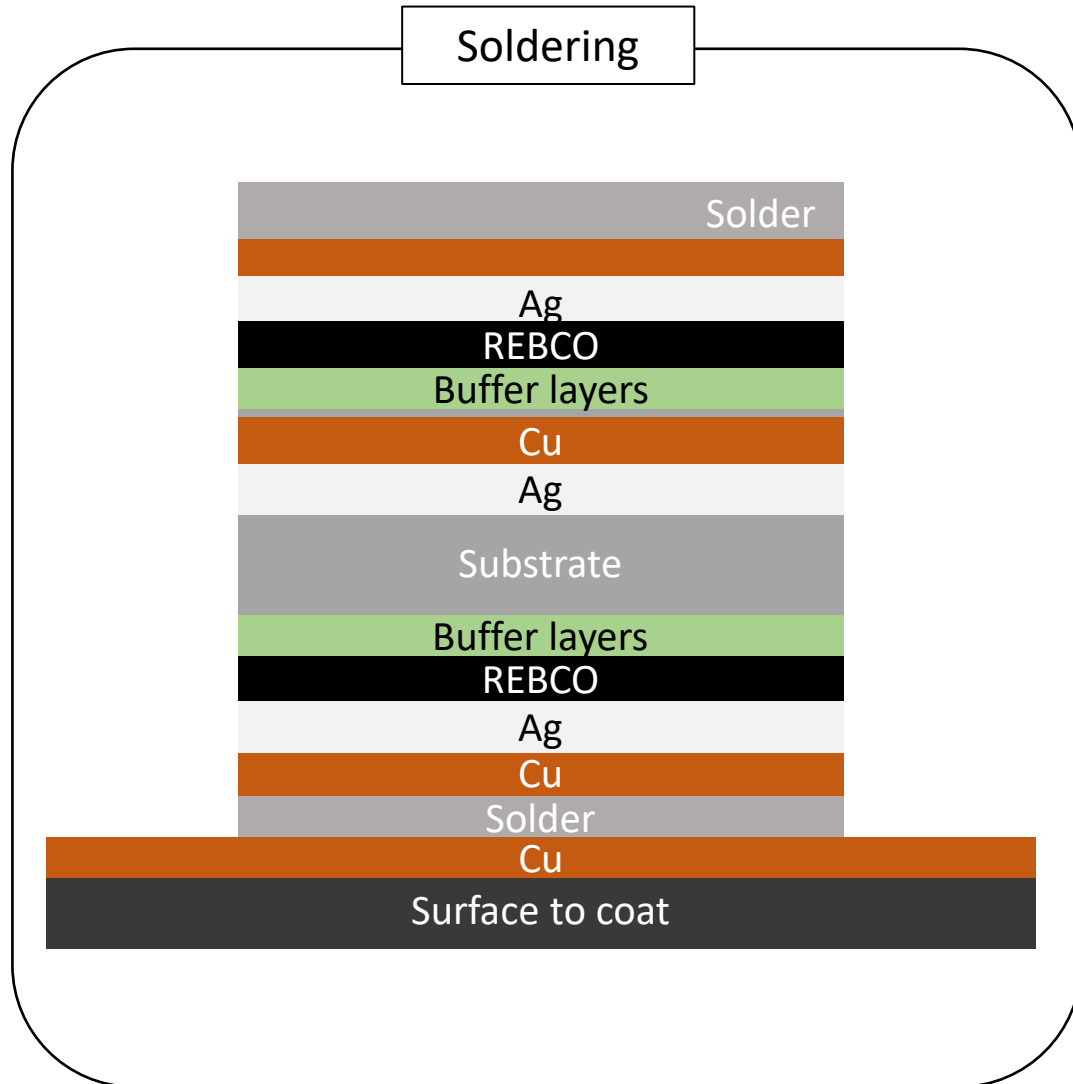
## Removing Cu envelope without damaging the REBCO layer



*Prototype of a  
Reel-to-reel edge-removal machine  
Laser allows for fast and clean removal of Cu*

# Coating process in a nutshell

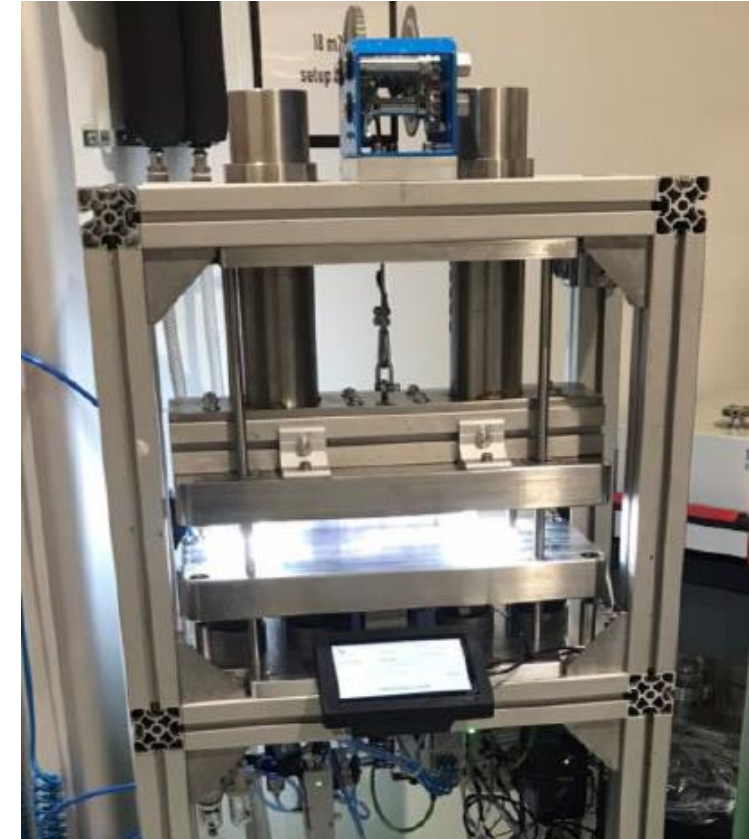
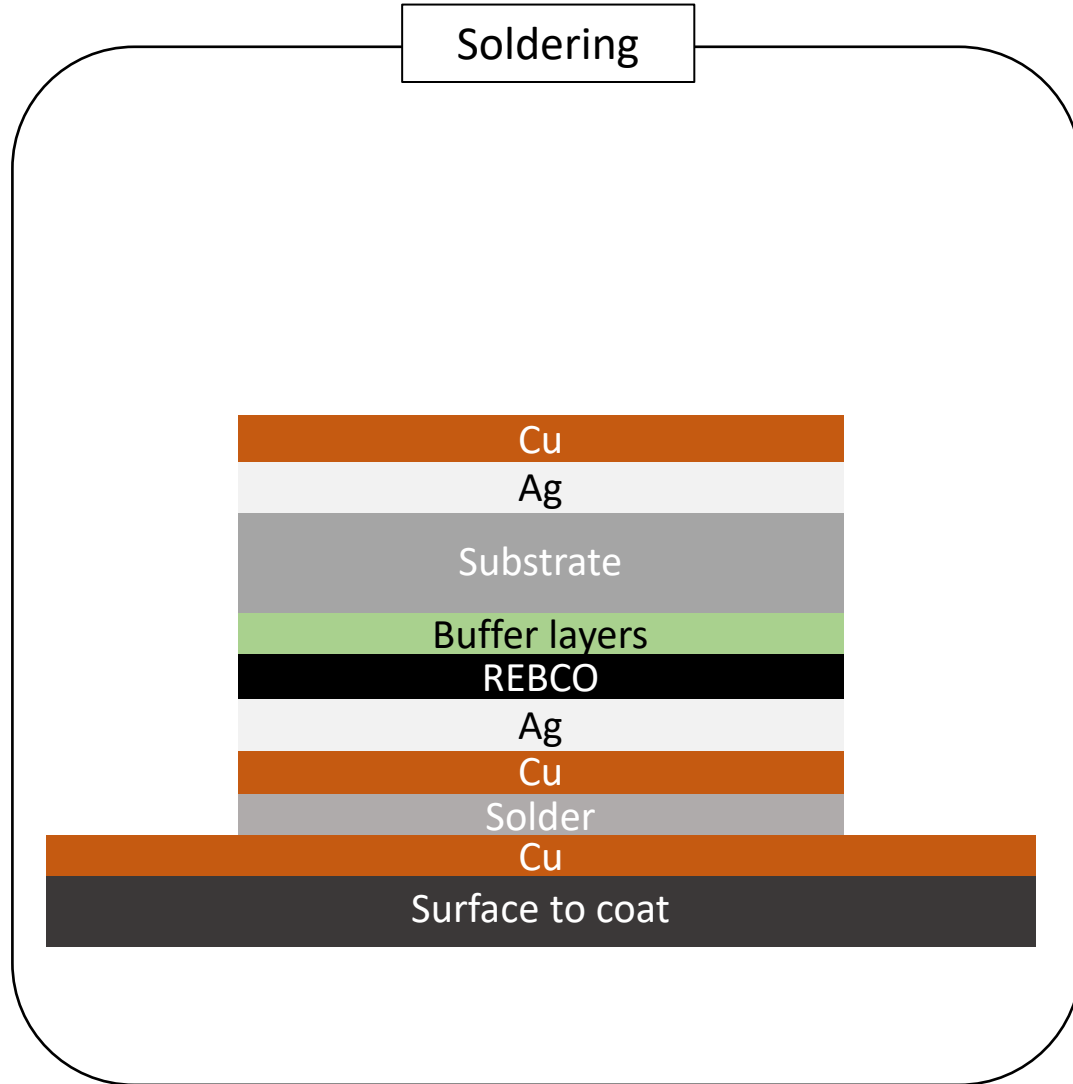
Homogeneous pressure and temperature are crucial





# Coating process in a nutshell

Homogeneous pressure and temperature are crucial



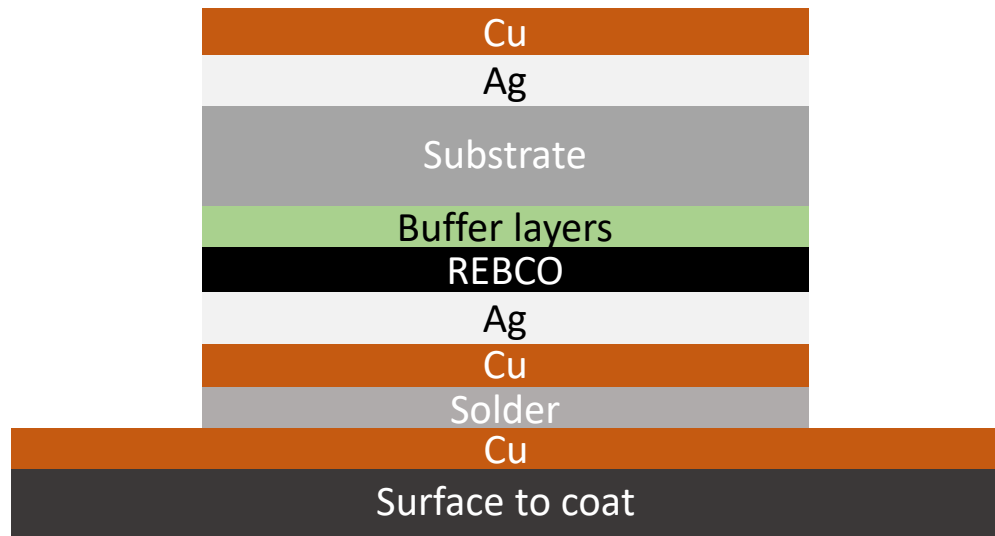
**Press machine**

*Allows for pressure and temperature control during the soldering process*

# Coating process in a nutshell

Angle and speed of substrate extraction are crucial

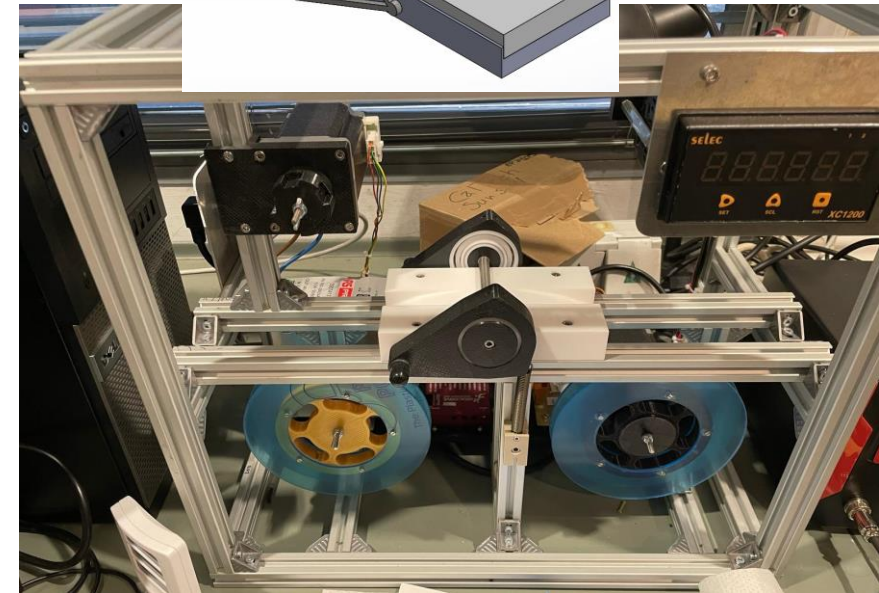
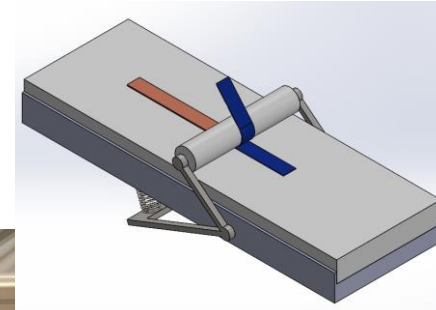
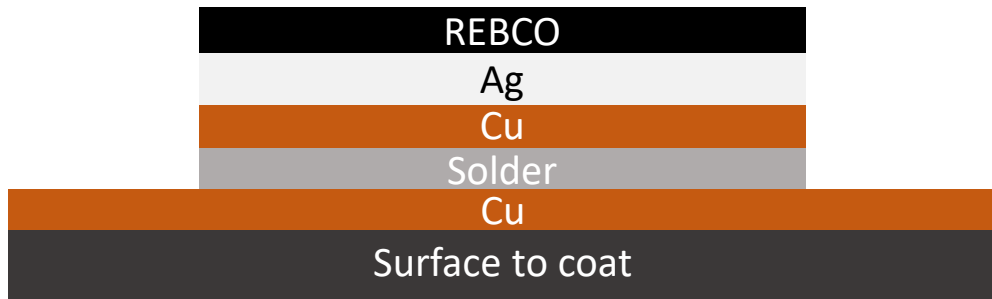
Substrate extraction



# Coating process in a nutshell

Angle and speed of substrate extraction are crucial

Substrate extraction

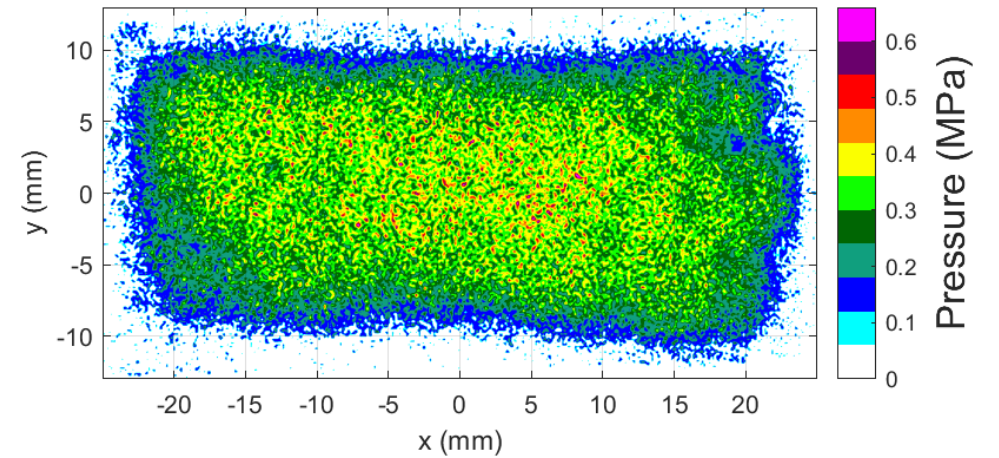
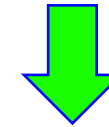
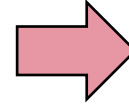


**Reel-to-reel delamination machine**

*Allows for a controlled substrate extraction*

# Characterization before coating

Pressure must be homogeneous and within 0.2 – 0.3 MPa



1. Pressure is measured locally with a pressure sensitive film;
2. Film is scanned with dedicated scanner device
3. Color density is converted into pressure distribution

# Fast characterization of the coatings' SC properties

Optical microscope picture of a delaminated tape



REBCO side



Substrate Side

**HSV Colours** observed on the substrate **correspond** to different coating surface **compositions** determined by EDX.

# Fast characterization of the coating's SC properties

Optical microscope picture of a delaminated tape



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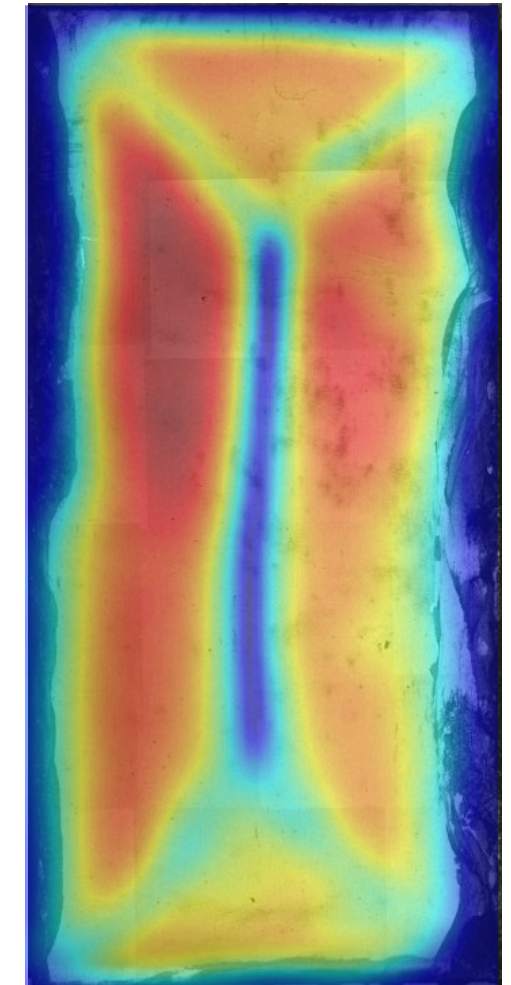
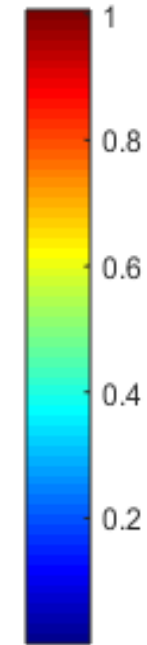


Substrate Side

HSV Colours observed on the substrate correspond to different coating surface compositions determined by EDX.

Correlation between EDX and SHPM

$$J_c \left[ \frac{MA}{cm^2} \right]$$



Complete assessment of the sample quality from optical microscopy only

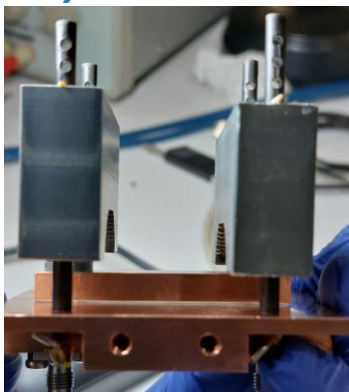
# Surface impedance characterization in a wide $H$ , $T$ , $f$ range



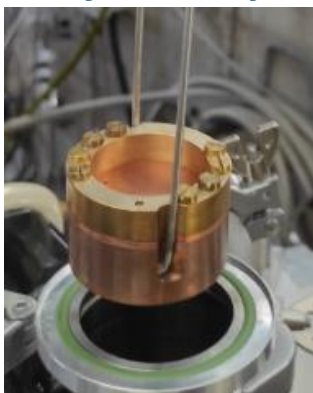
Frequency (GHz)



*Parallel plate resonators*  
 Under synchrotron radiation

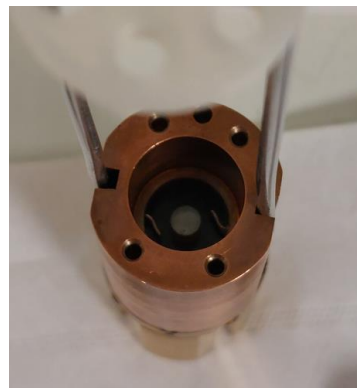


*Under B for 16 T system*



*Dielectric resonators*

*Under B for both 9 T and 16 T system*



*Multi-mode (6.5, 8, 10 GHz)*



*16T, 50 mm bore magnet for microwave characterization at cryogenic temperatures*



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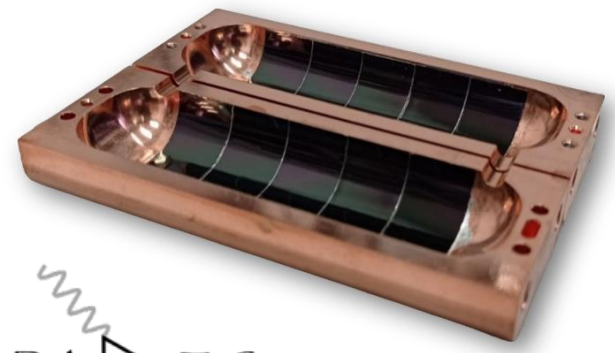
**4 – Coated surfaces examples**



# High versatility in coating surface geometries



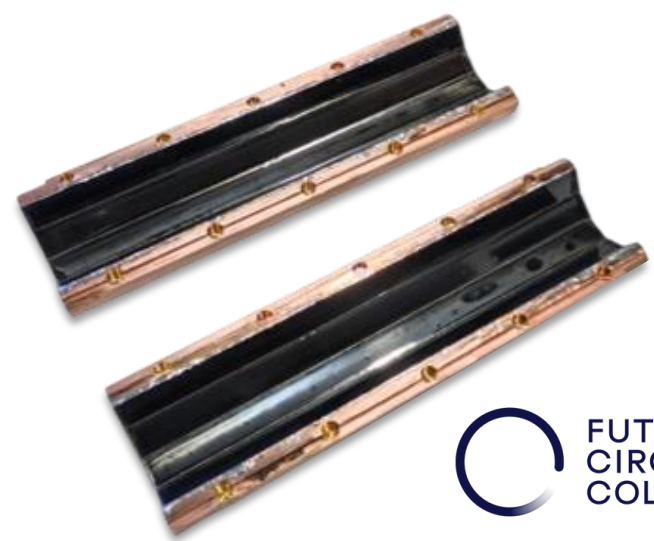
*HTS-Coated RADES Haloscope*



- 9 cm long
- Half-pipe shaped
- 9 mm bending radius
- High magnetic fields

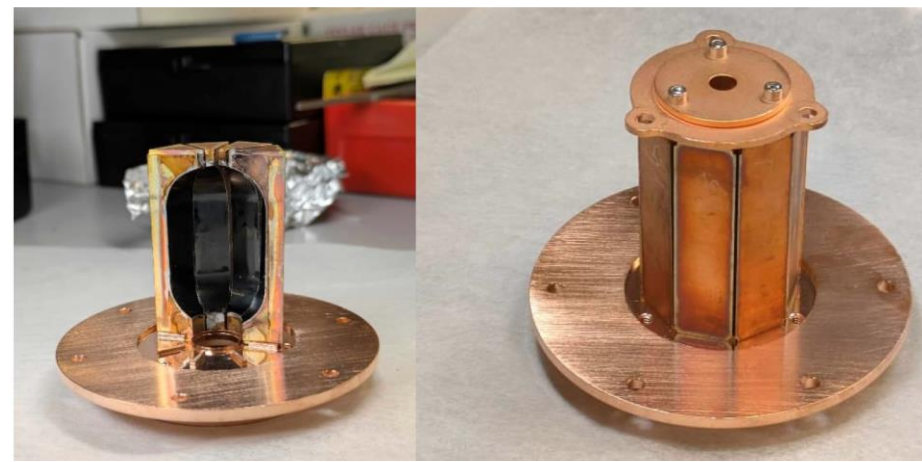
**@5K and 11T**  
**Q-factor = 130.000**  
 (Q-factor Cu = 40.000)

*HTS-Coated FCC Beam-screen PSD prototype*



- 20 cm long
- Decagon shaped
- Flat angled faces
- High vacuum

*HTS-Coated pulse compressor*



- 4 cm long
- Polyhedral shaped
- Individual facets
- High vacuum

# *Conclusions*

CCs are very appealing materials for High-energy physics due to their low  $R_s$  under high-magnetic fields.

We can coat a wide variety of surface geometries.

We have demonstrated that REBCO coated haloscopes have higher Q-value in the GHz range than Cu haloscopes.

We are in the final steps of automatizing the coating process, which will increase the quality and the yield.