



Linköping University

# ESS Detector Coatings Workshop in Linköping

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With a big thank you to all our collaborators, and in particular the ILL, with whom this collaboration started!



# Outline

- What were the conclusions and outlook in October 2013 (last CERN meeting) presented by Carina Höglund
- Today's status of ESS Detector Coatings Workshop in Linköping and  $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$  thin film production
- Depositions on different substrates
- Multigrid prototypes for ILL
- Many collaborations



# Conclusions and outlook

- **Alternatives to  $^3\text{He}$  detectors** are urgently needed
- The **next generation of neutron detectors** will contain  **$^{10}\text{B}$  thin films**
- $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$  thin films can be **PVD** deposited with  **$\sim 80$  at.%** of  $^{10}\text{B}$
- Elevated temperatures and high deposition rates yield **good adhesion**
- The  $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$  coatings are **not damaged** by **neutrons**
- The process can **easily** be **up-scaled** for large area neutron detectors
- Thermal **CVD** and **PACVD** for complex structures is under development
- **Technology demonstration**
  - 4 multi-grid prototypes, incl. IN6 segment → **50% detection efficiency!**
  - Grooved cathodes can raise the efficiency by 30%
  - Several collaborations show promising prototype results
- **Up-scale** the process
  - New deposition system (dedicated for  $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$ ) is available in  $\sim 6$  months!
  - 2019** → First 7 instruments at ESS need  **$>3000$  m<sup>2</sup> coatings**
  - 2025** → 15 more instruments at ESS need  **$>5000$  m<sup>2</sup> coatings**



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## ESS Detector Coatings Workshop in Linköping – Milestones

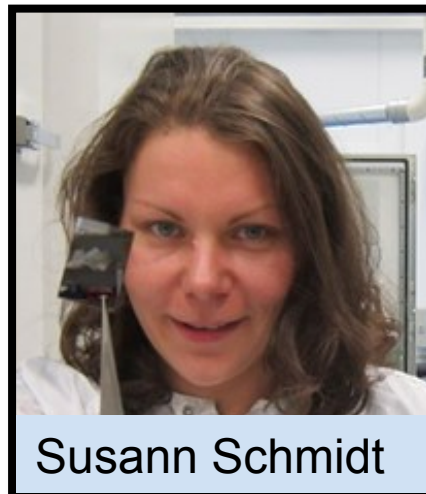
- Sep 2013 a CC800/9 Sputtering machine from CemeCon was ordered
- Feb 2014 a contract was signed for the ESS Detector Coatings Workshop, situated in Linköping 5 min by bike from the University and 2,5 h by train from Lund. The area of the workshop is 225 m<sup>2</sup> +140 m<sup>2</sup> office
- The sputter machine, “Chewbacca”, was installed and tested last summer
- Linda was hired and started working 1 of Sep as “Coatings Production Engineer”
- The Workshop, that was almost empty by Sep, was gradually filled up with office furniture and supplies but more importantly with lab equipment and furniture
- 7<sup>th</sup> of Nov we had our big inauguration event and the sputtering machine got his name – Chewbacca!





## ESS Detector Coatings Workshop in Linköping – Production

- Staff at ESS in Linköping:
  - Carina, Susann and Linda
  - add out right now for a production technician
  - temporary manpower as appropriate
- Linda role is to focus on Production and Carina/Susann on R&D
- Spring 2015, focus will be on R&D, small scale production and getting the WS up and running for full production
- Approximately 1000m<sup>2</sup> per year in full production
- Raw Production cost below 1000€ per m<sup>2</sup> at full machine capacity
- For example up to 500 IN5 blades per run and 3 runs per day

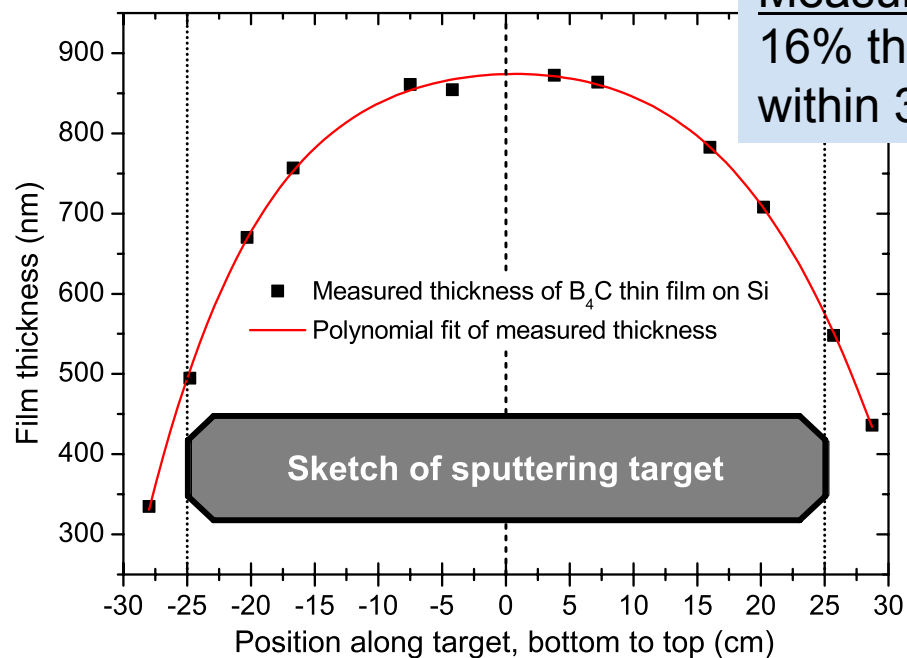




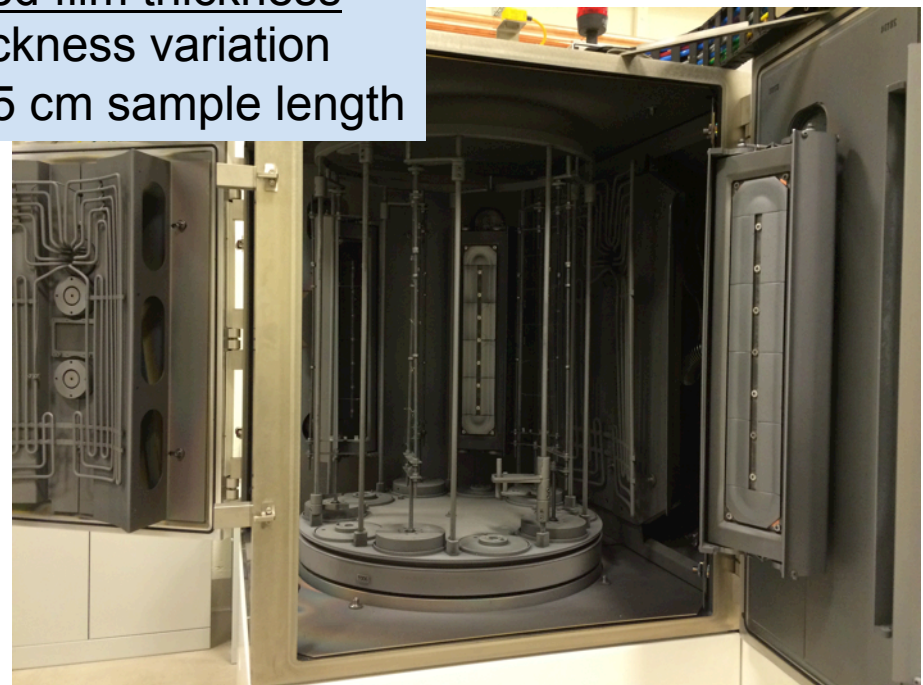
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SPALLATION  
SOURCE

## ESS Detector Coatings Workshop in Linköping – Chewbacca, CC800/9 Sputtering machine

- Batch loading system
- 4 magnetrons for 8x50 cm<sup>2</sup> sputter targets with shutters
- Targets with B<sub>4</sub>C, <sup>10</sup>B<sub>4</sub>C
- 40-50 cm sample height depending on uniformity, double coated maximum 13 cm wide, diameter of substrate table in chamber is 60 cm
- 3-fold substrate rotation



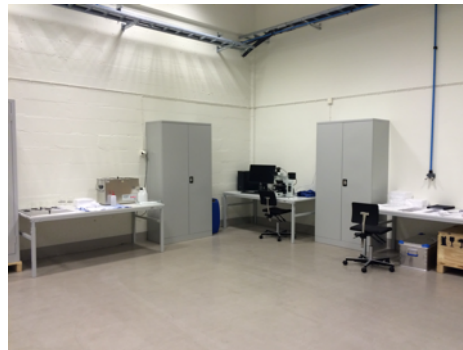
Measured film thickness  
16% thickness variation  
within 35 cm sample length





## ESS Detector Coatings Workshop in Linköping – at the moment

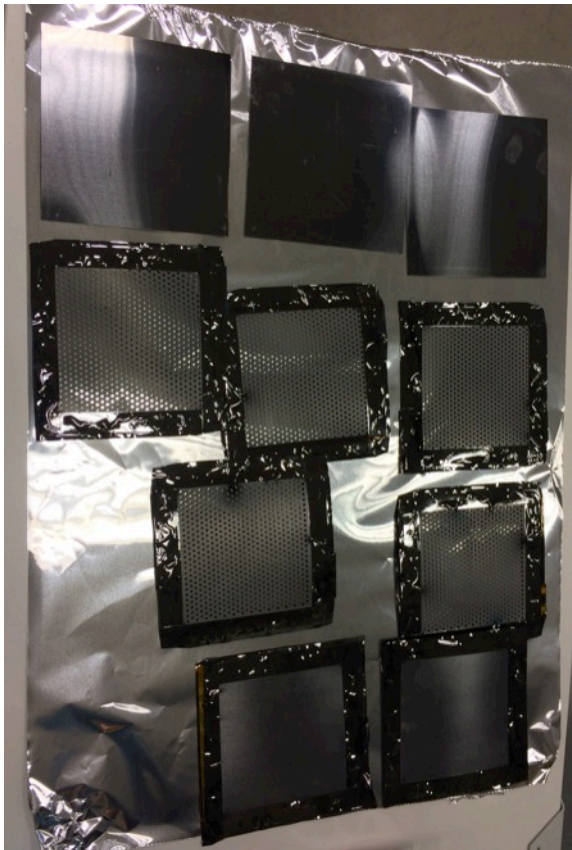
- Depositions - Chewbacca is up & running
- Cleaning - Ultrasonic bath (with dimensions 50cm x 30cm x 15cm) at the WS
- Characterization – we have an optical microscope (Olympus BX51) at the WS and easy access to characterization equipment available at the University such as SEM, TEM, SIMS, XPS, XRD, (ERDA and RBS at different location) etc.
- Template – if you want depositions to be done please fill in our template explaining what kind of deposition that you need and on what kind of substrate and send it to us.
- The depositions will be prioritized and ESS/ILL collaborative needs will be at the top of the list
- Lead time for a big order is about 4 months because of the targets, less for smaller orders





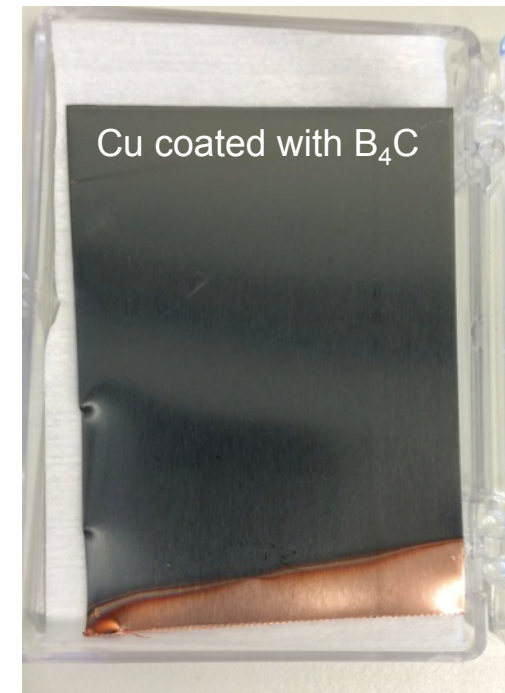
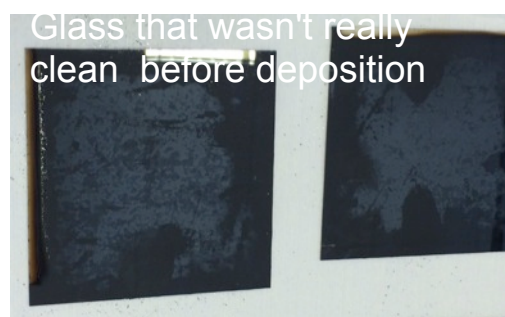
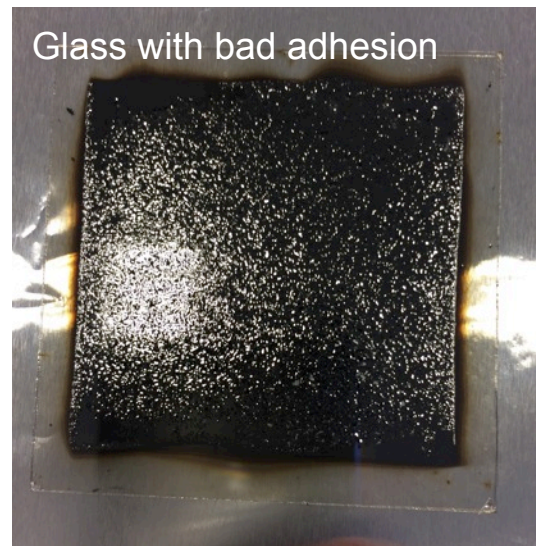
## Coating on different substrates -Al

- Coating  $B_4C$  on Al in different shapes is no problem



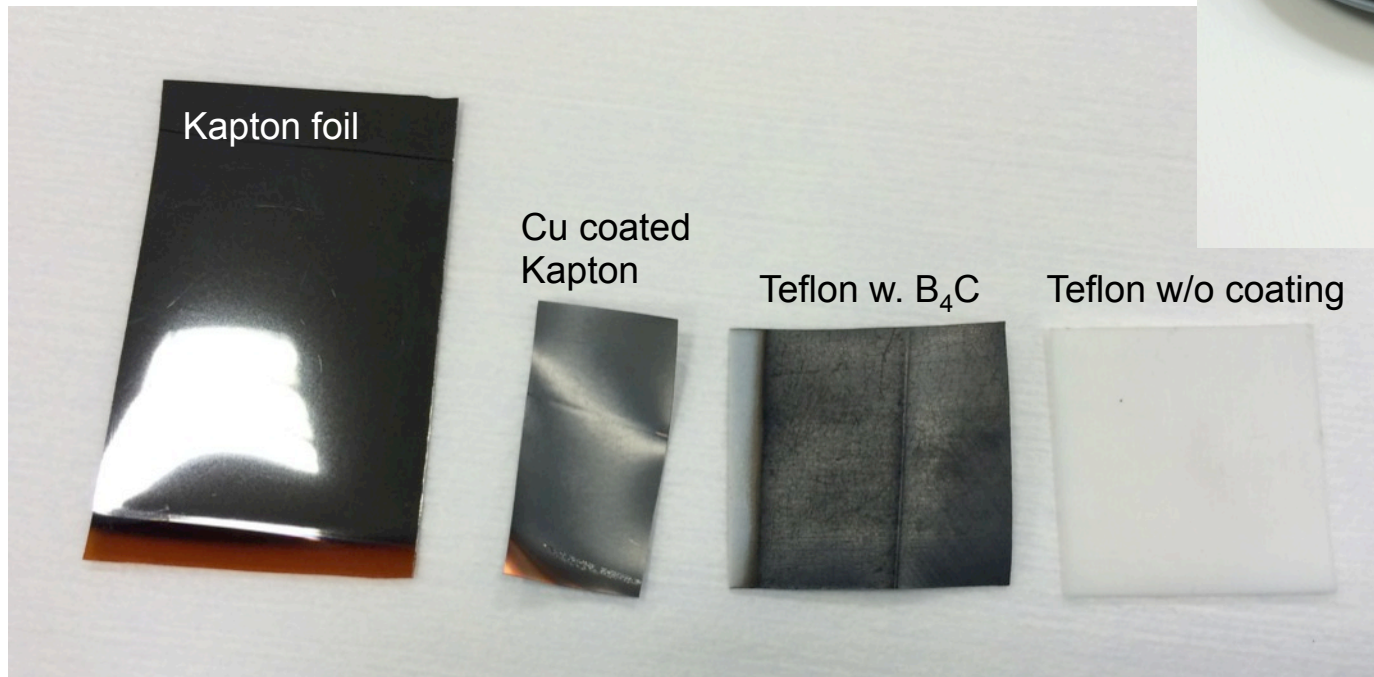
## Coating on different substrates – Glass, Kapton tape and Cu

For glass it is important with a clean surface. You see different results on glass, the middle picture has a coating that sticks well to the sliding glass. On top of the sliding glass is Kapton tape with  $B_4C$  coating and afterwards the tape was removed with the coating still attached.



## Coating on different substrates – Teflon, Kapton foil, Cu coated Kapton foil

- First attempt with  $B_4C$  coating seems to stick well to Kapton foil and Cu coated Kapton foil. But the Cu coated foil got a bit bend.
- The first attempted of coating on Teflon also seems to stick, but is cracked.



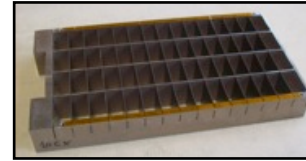
## Summary - Substrates used for $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}/\text{natB}_4\text{C}$

Easy	Ongoing	Not tried
Al	Glass - ok solution on clean samples	Which substrates do you think you will need?
Al-foil	Ni - ok solution	
Stainless steel	Some LT materials	
$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$	MgO	
Si	Teflon	
G10	Cu coat. Kapton	
Kapton tape	Kapton foil	
Cu		

- Testing various substrates = Ongoing work
- Higher temperatures always give better films!

# Multi-grid prototypes at ILL

Prototype 1 (2010) – **Proof of principle**



Collaboration ESS – LiU – ILL  
Based upon ILL Multigrid design

Prototype 2 (2011) – **Long detector segment**

- 96 frames, 2 m long
- 1200 blades coated with  $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$



IN6 segment (2012) – **Side-by-side comparison with  $^3\text{He}$**

- Replace 25 st  $^3\text{He}$ -tubes
- 2 weeks “normal” beam time

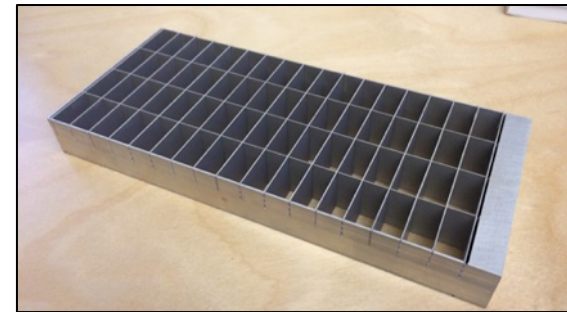
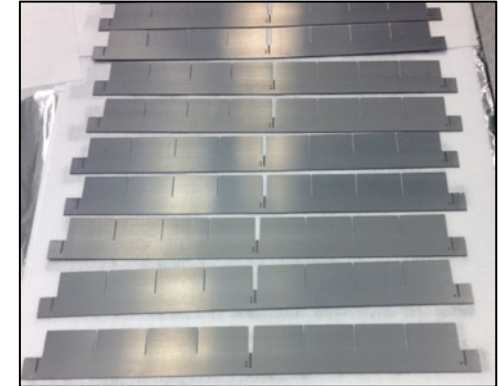
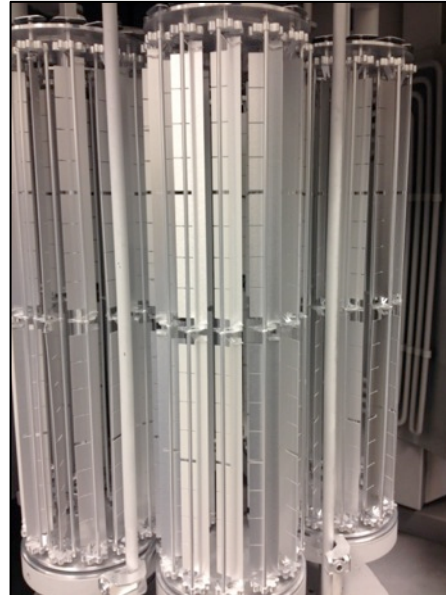


IN5 segment (2014) – **Full scale segment,**

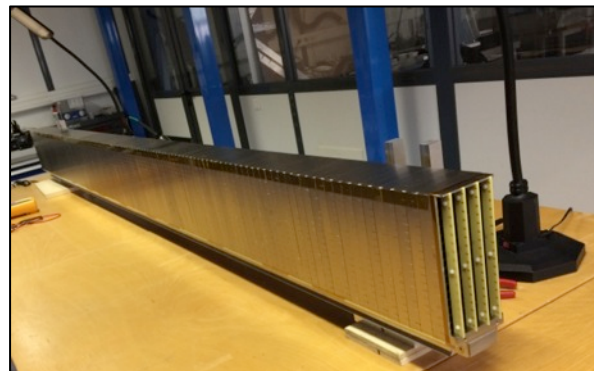
- Mass production test



# IN5 segment



- Collaboration ESS – LiU – ILL
  - 0.8 x 3 m<sup>2</sup> detector area
  - 27 000 blades with <sup>10</sup>B<sub>4</sub>C (>100 m<sup>2</sup>) in 45 days
  - factor 10 higher volume than produced before
- ➔ Mass production test!

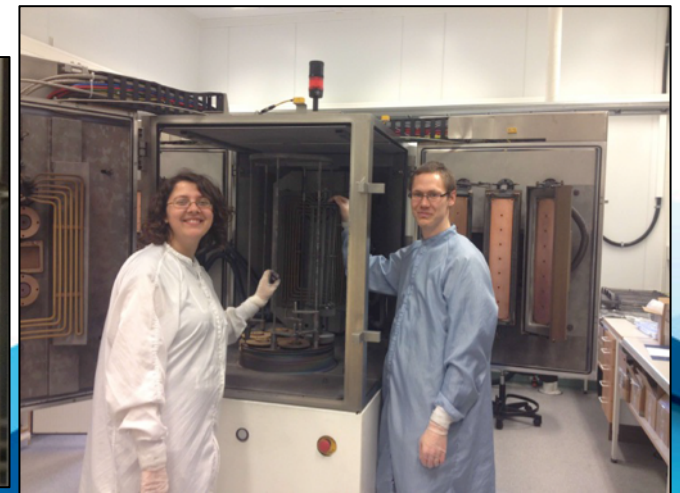


# The deposition system – Samson at LiU

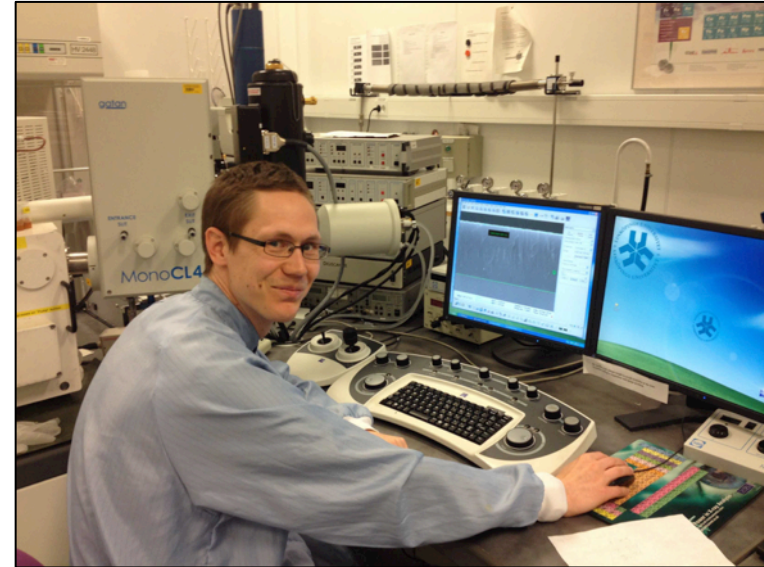
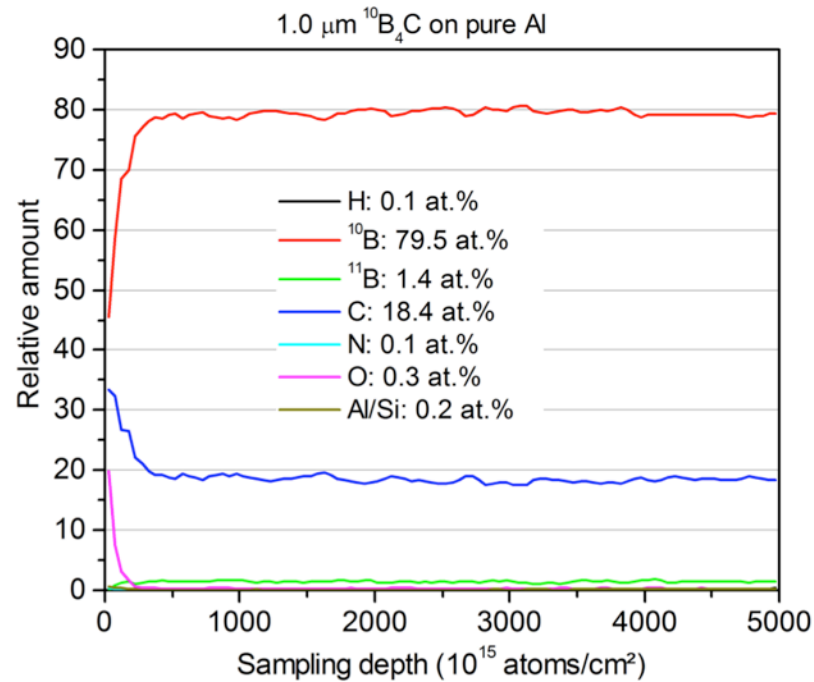


## CC 800/9 deposition system, “Samson”

- 6 magnetrons with 8 x 50 cm<sup>2</sup> sputtering targets
- 4 x <sup>10</sup>B<sub>4</sub>C and 1 x Al targets
- Specially designed sample holders for IN5-segment
- 3-fold substrate rotation
- 288 two-side coated blades per run → >1 m<sup>2</sup> per run
- ~8 runs per segment
- 1 run of 1 μm <sup>10</sup>B<sub>4</sub>C took 9 hours in total (~3h coating)



# Quality control



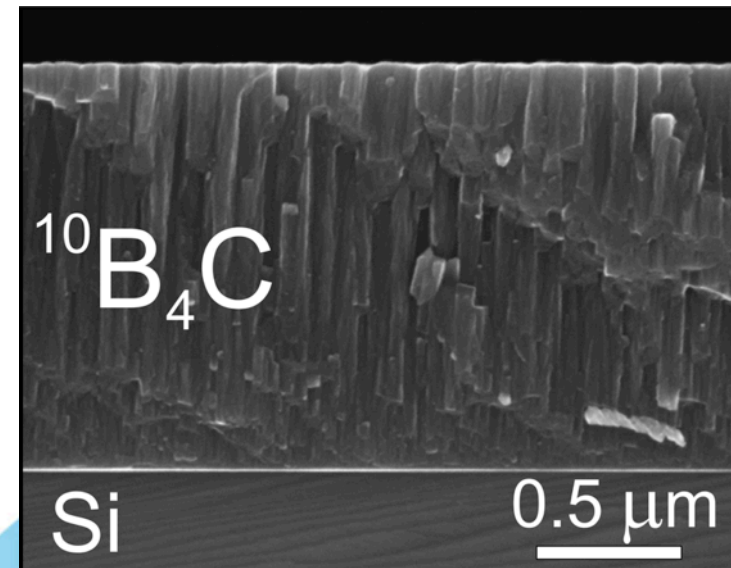
Si and pure Al blade from each run kept as reference

## ERDA

- 79.5 at. %  $^{10}\text{B}$
- H + N + O = 0.5 at. %

## SEM

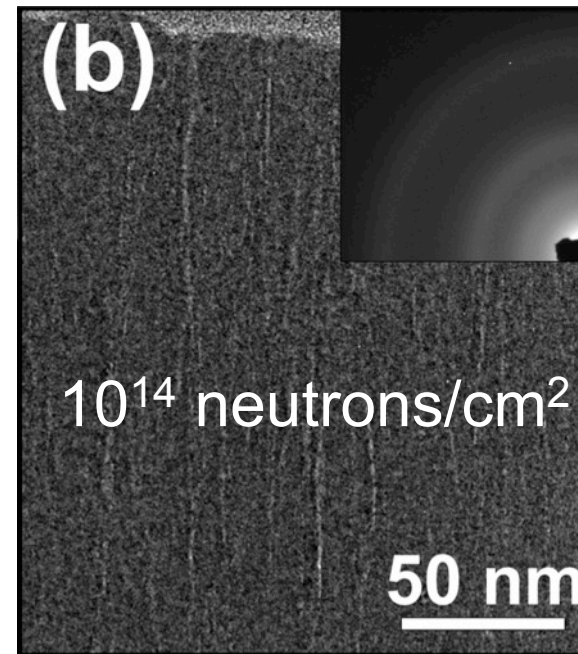
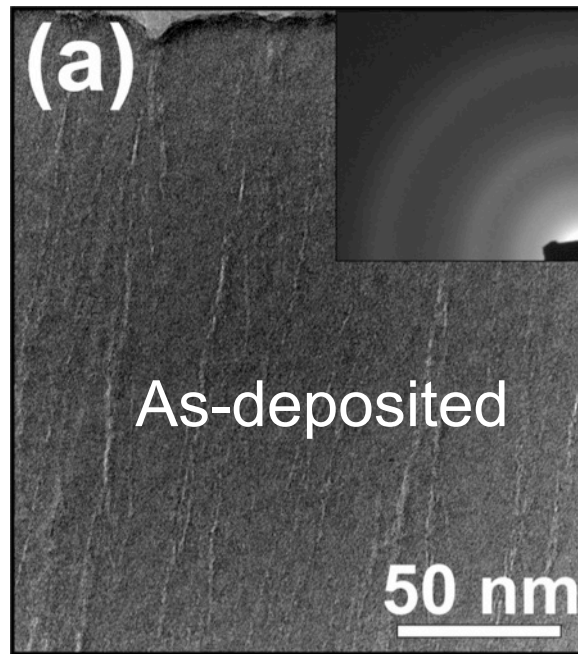
- Dense and columnar films
- Smooth surface
- Thickness variation  $\pm 7\%$  (center to outer blade)





## Radiation hardness

Radiation hardness (FRM II):  $10^{14}$  neutrons/cm<sup>2</sup> on 1  $\mu\text{m}$   $^{10}\text{B}_4\text{C}$  films  
(800 years in a detector irradiated 24/7 with a flux of  $10^8$  n/cm<sup>2</sup>/s)

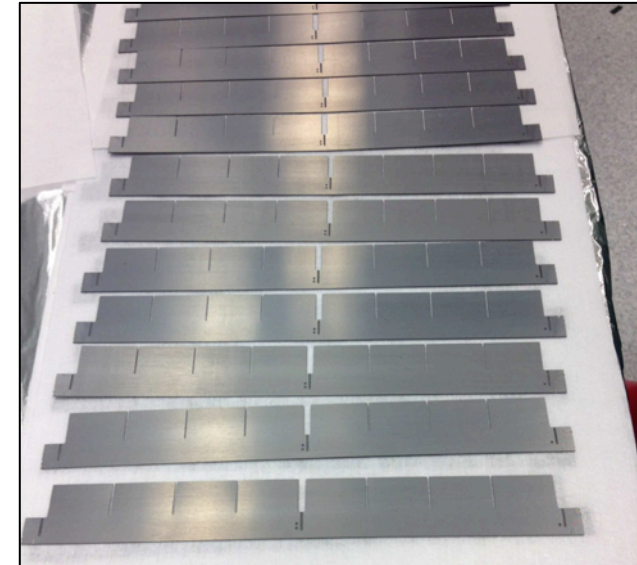


- **No influence** on adhesion, composition, morphology, structure, etc
- 0.000156 % of the  $^{10}\text{B}$  atoms were consumed  
(Lifetime of  $^{10}\text{B}$  atoms with  $10^8$  n/cm<sup>2</sup>/s is >20 000 years ☺)
- First coatings made in 2010 show no sign of ageing after >4 years

→ Neutrons will not shorten the lifetime of the coatings!

## Blades that were coated

- Coatings for 6 out of 8 segments:
  - 6 x 128 x 16 two-side coated blades
  - 6 x 128 x 2 one-side coated blades
- 2 different substrate types to lower  $\alpha$ -background:
  - Al with 25  $\mu\text{m}$  Ni-plating, "Ni-plated Al"
  - Al with ppb level of U and Th, "pure Al"
- Blades were numbered 1 - 4 to identify chamber position
- Coated blades are enough for in total 9 segments



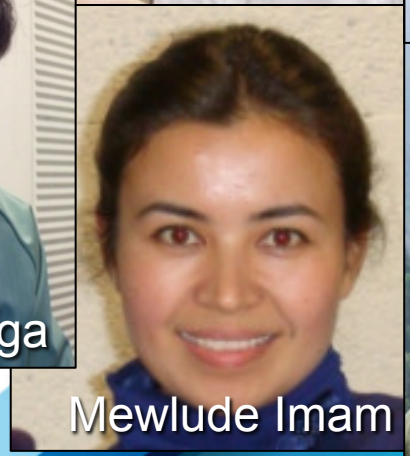
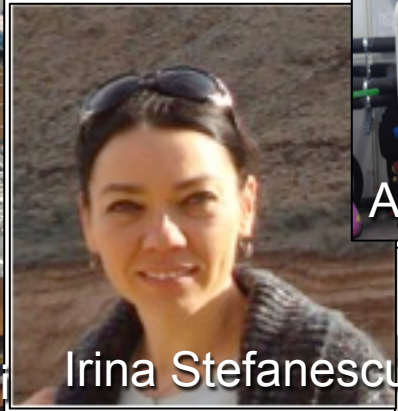
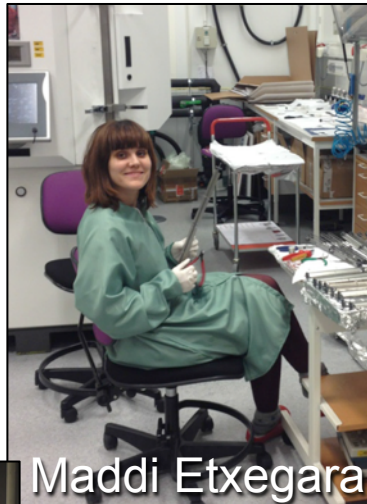
Blade material	Coating thickness	Good blades
Al + Ni	0.75 $\mu\text{m}$	2356
Al + Ni	1.0 $\mu\text{m}$	2758
Al + Ni	1.5 $\mu\text{m}$	2508
Pure Al	0.75 $\mu\text{m}$	4690
Pure Al	1.0 $\mu\text{m}$	4752
Pure Al	1.5 $\mu\text{m}$	5030

# Packing and shipping

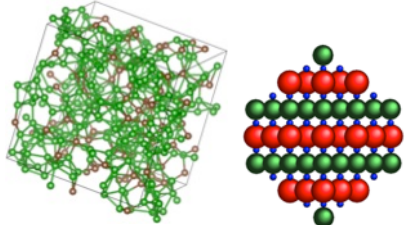
- Specially designed boxes
- In total 50 boxes!
- Shipped to Lund



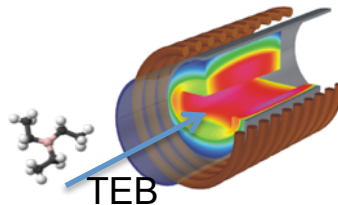
# People who helped out with the Multi-grid prototypes in Linköping



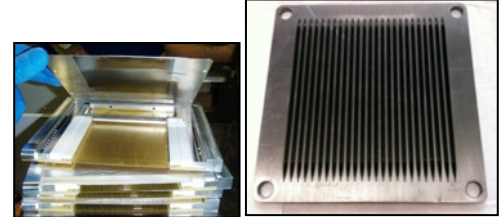
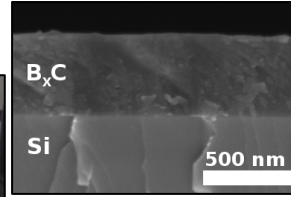
# Many collaborations



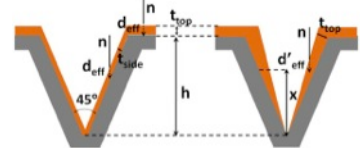
**DFT-calculations**



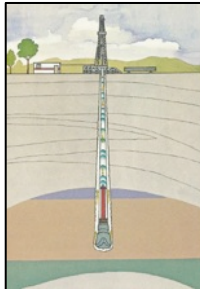
**CVD**



**Increased efficiency**

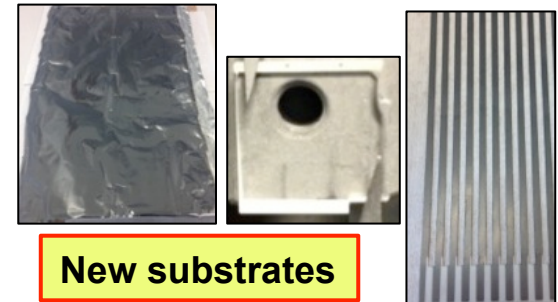


**Other applications**

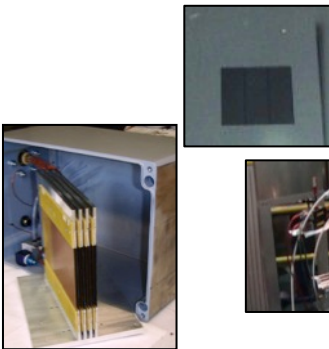


B. Alling et al., APL 98, 241911 (2011)  
 H. Pedersen et al., CVD 18, 221 (2012)  
 B. Guerard et al., Neutron News 23:4, 20 (2012)  
 A. Khaplanov et al., Proc. of ICANS XX (2012)  
 J. Correa et al., IEEE TNS, 60, 871 (2013)  
 B. Guerard et al., NIM A 720, 116 (2013)  
 I. Stefanescu et al., NIM A 727, 109 (2013)  
 A. Khaplanov et al., JINST 8, P10025 (2013)  
 I. Stefanescu et al., JINST 8, 12003 (2013)  
 F. Piscitelli et al., JINST 9, P03007 (2014)  
 A. Khaplanov et al., JPCS, accept. (2014)  
 F. Krejci et al., 14th ICAPTT proc, subm.

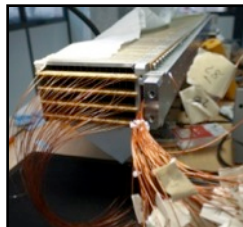
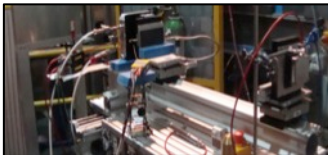
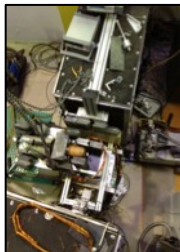
Etc.



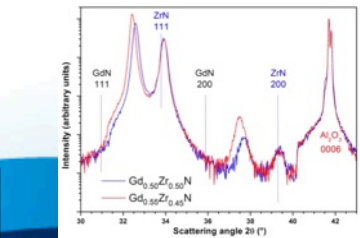
**New substrates**



**New detector types**



**Prototypes**



**New materials**



**Thank you  
for your attention!**



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**Linköping University**

And remember that fingerprints in a vacuum system  
always shows up as bad adhesion.... ;-)

