

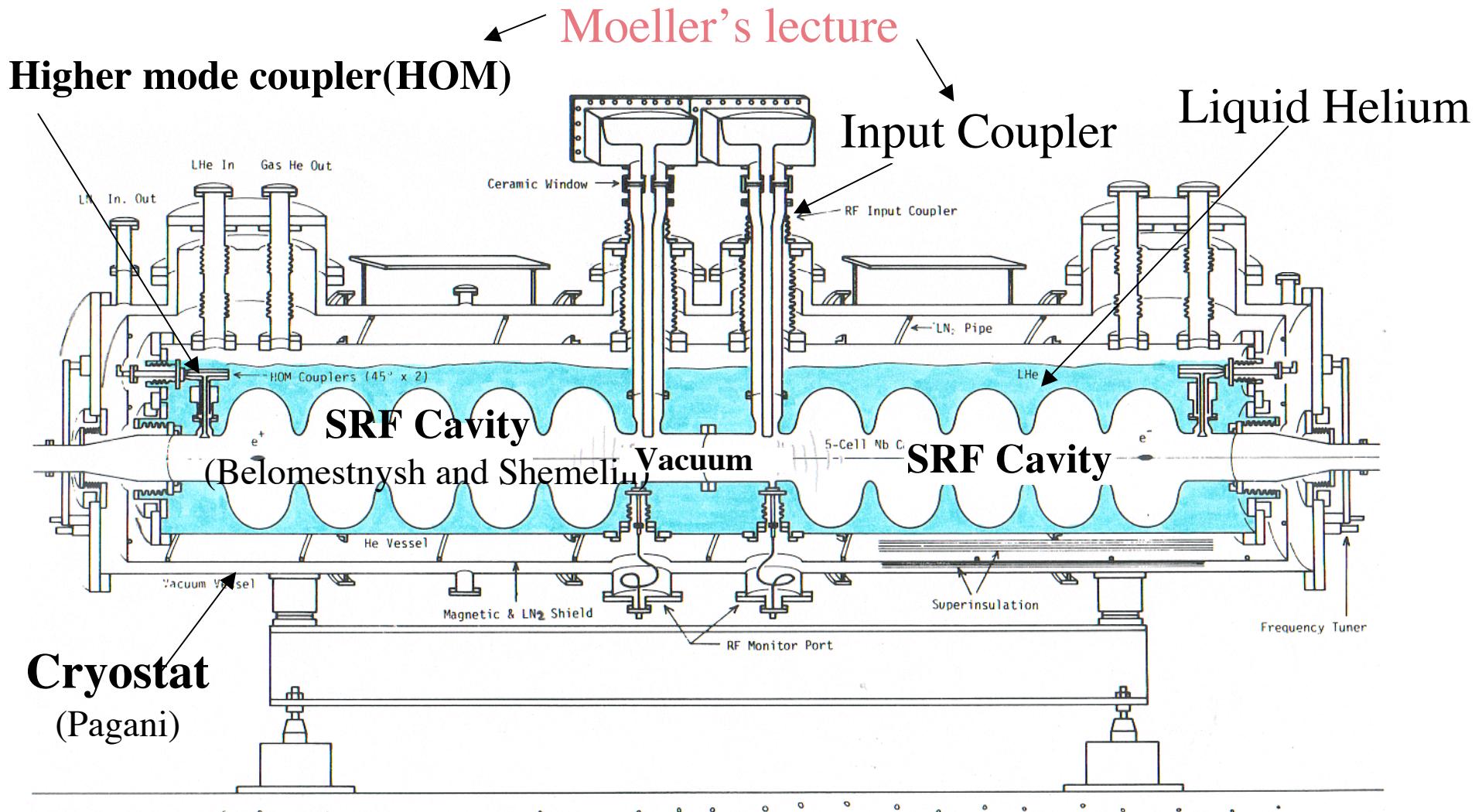
Basic Principles of SRF

**High Energy Accelerator Research Organization
KEK, Accelerator Lab**

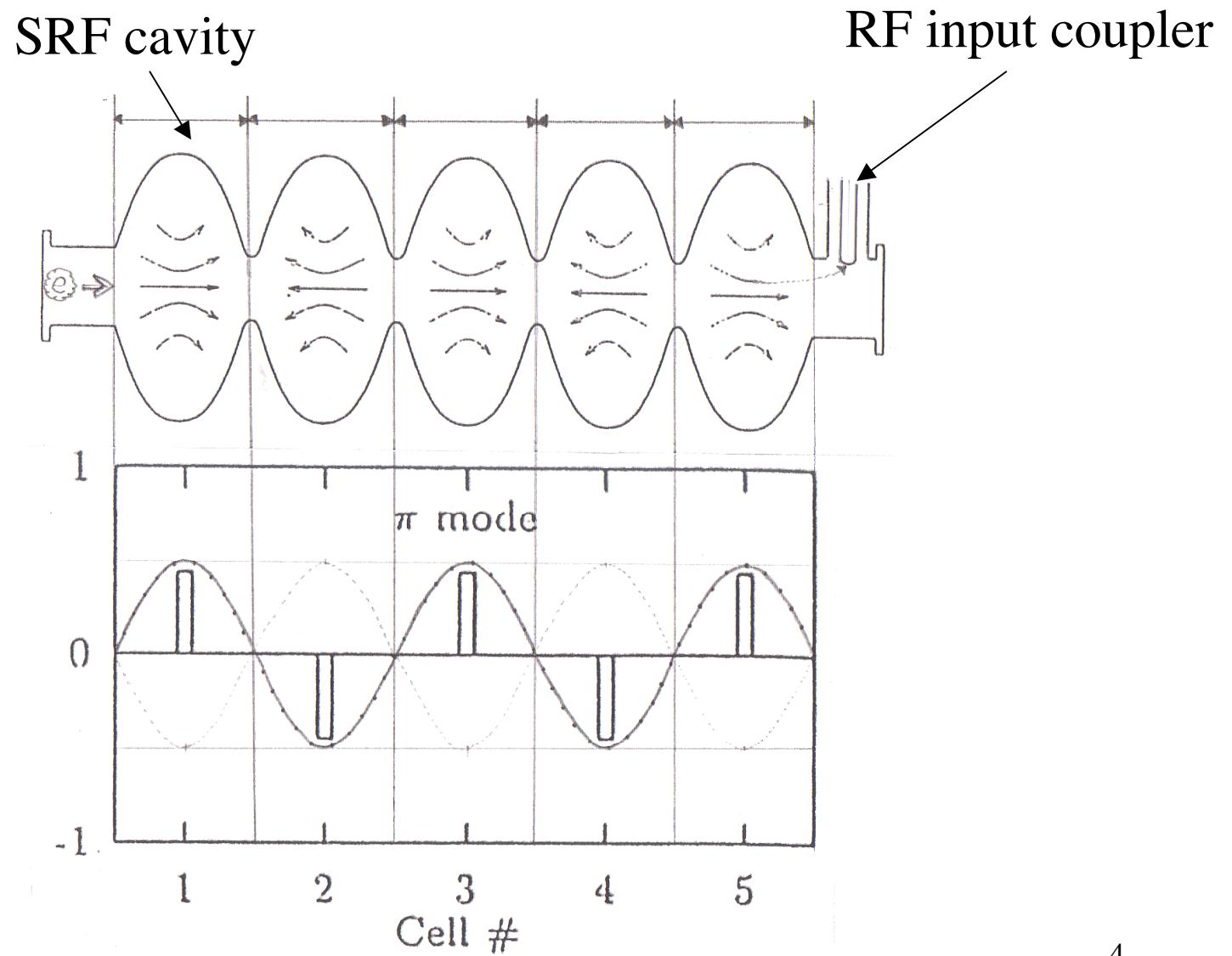
Kenji Saito

Introduction

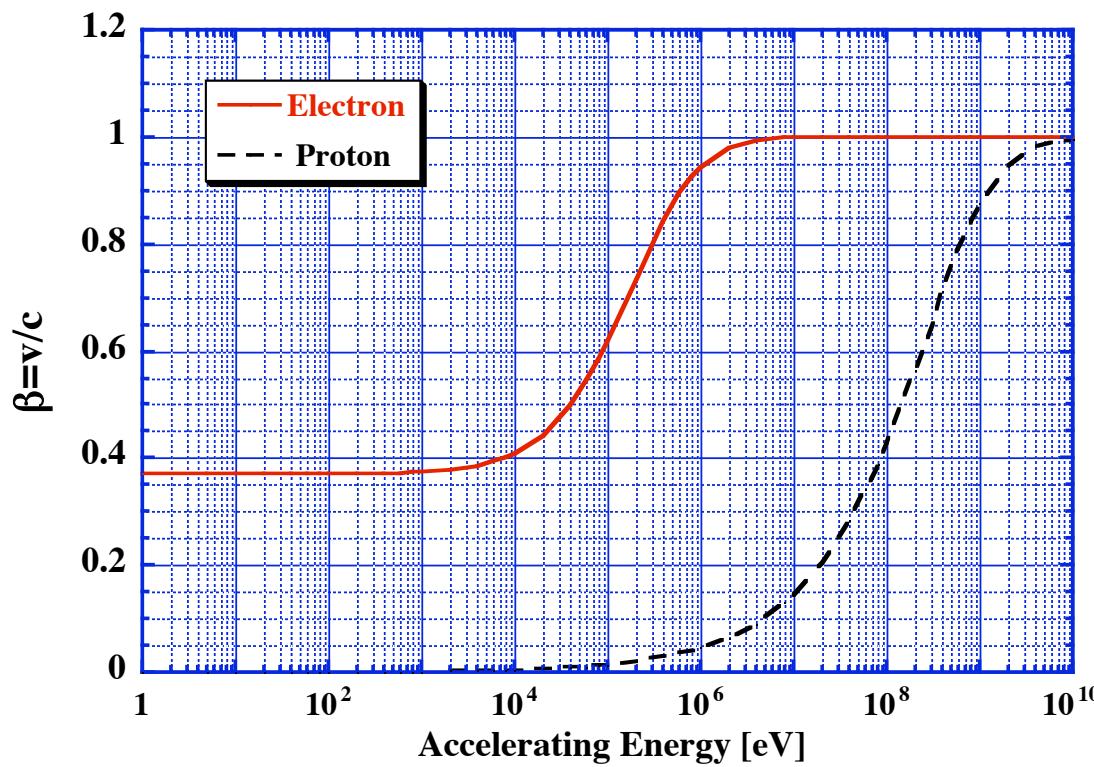
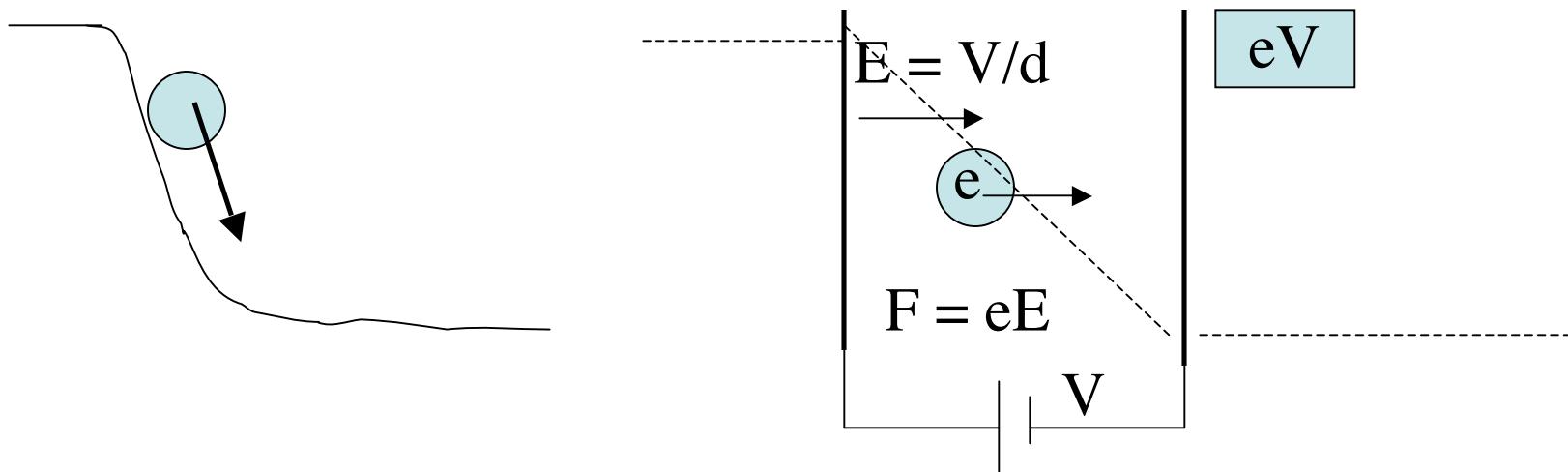
An example of real SRF Cryomodule (TRISTAN)



Principle of RF particle acceleration



Charged Particle Acceleration

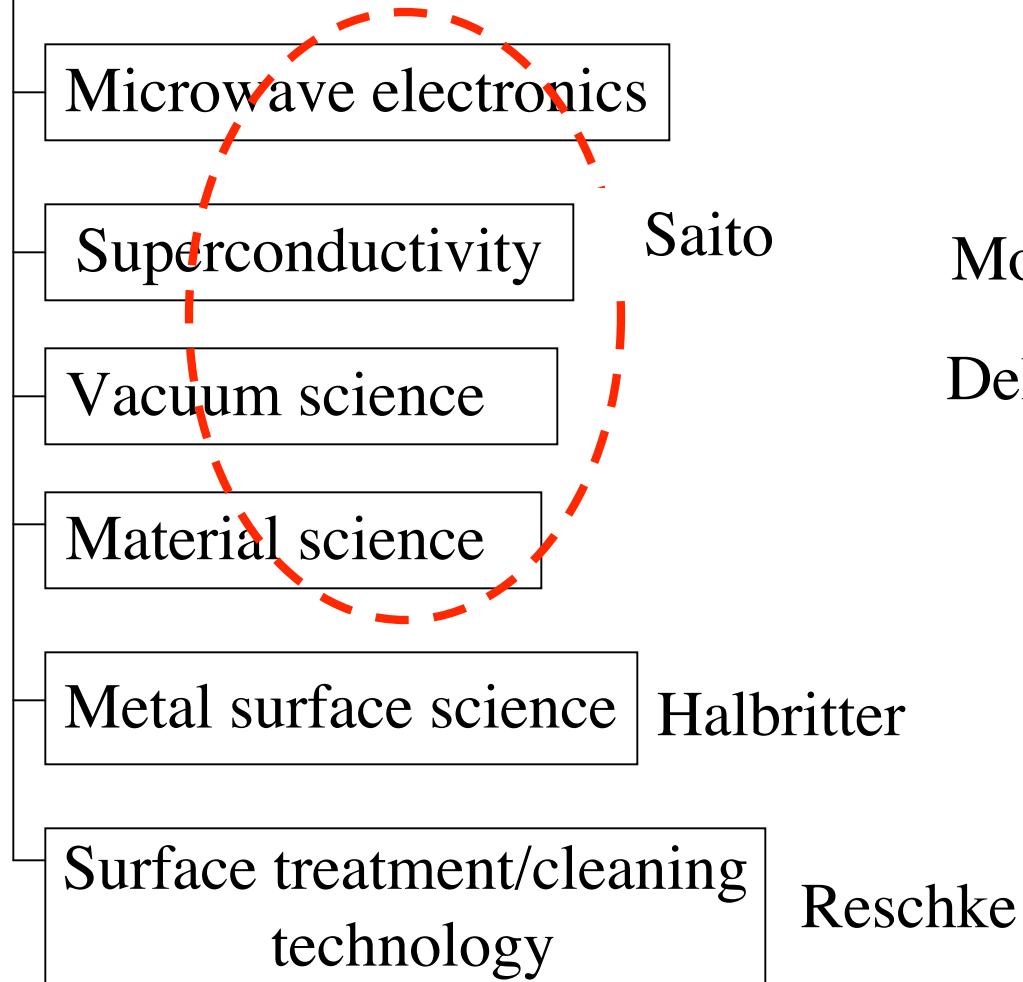


$$mc^2 = \frac{m_o c^2}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}} = \frac{m_o c^2}{\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}} = m_o c^2 + W,$$

$$\beta = \sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{m_o c^2}{m_o c^2 + W}\right)}, \quad m_e c^2 = 0.511 MeV,$$

$$m_p c^2 = 938.256 MeV$$

SRF technology for particle accelerators



Belomestnysh and Shemelin

Electron accelerator

Facco

Ion accelerator

Moeller → Accelerator devise
Delayen → Control

Pagani → Cryogenics

Power → Cavity test method

Q1: Why RF loss in SRF Cavities

Q2: What is the theoretical SRF field limitation

Q3: What kind of SC material is best for SRF application

Q4: Thermal Conductivity in Superconducting State and Residual Resistance Ratio (RRR)

Q5: Real SRF field limitation and Technologies to push gradient

Surface Impedance

For plane wave: $\overset{r}{E}_t = \overset{r}{E}_o \exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \overset{r}{x} - i\omega t)$, $\overset{r}{H}_t = \frac{1}{\mu\omega} \overset{r}{k} \times \overset{r}{E}_t$
here, \mathbf{k} is orthogonal to $\overset{r}{E}_t$.

Surface impedance : $Z = R_s + iX_s = \frac{E_t}{H_t} = \frac{\mu\omega}{k}$

For good conductor $\sigma \gg 1$, $k = (1 + i) \sqrt{\frac{\mu\sigma\omega}{2}}$

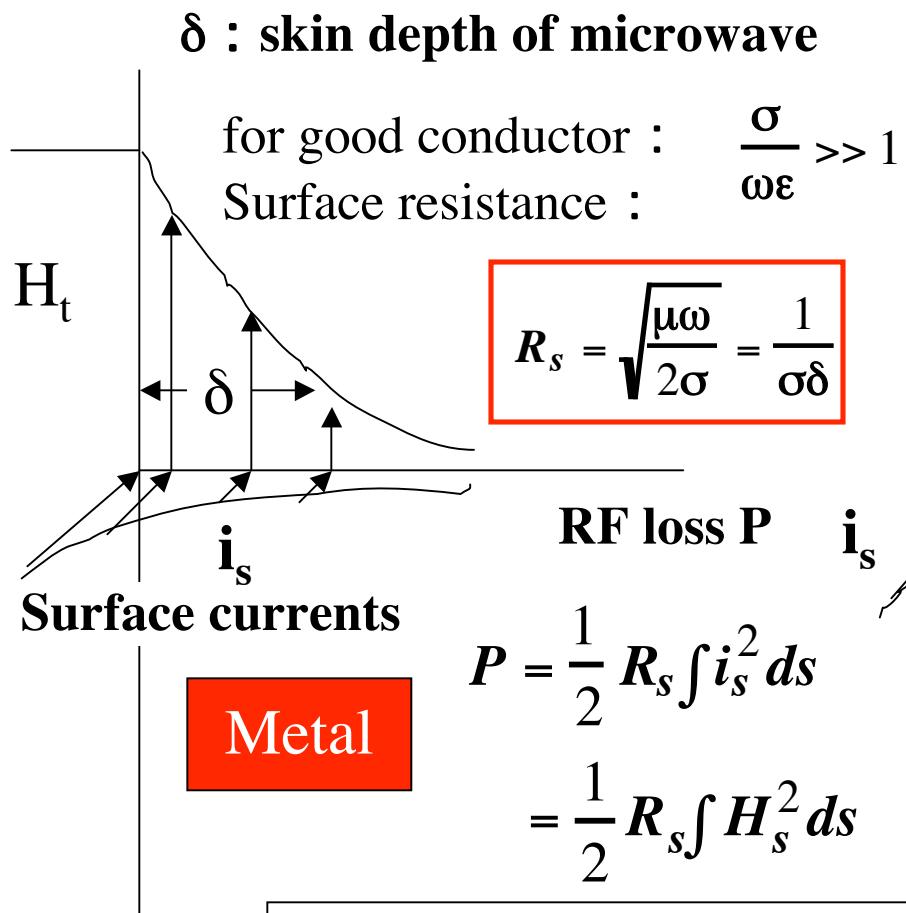
$$Z = \mu\omega \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu\sigma\omega}} \cdot \frac{1}{1+i} = \mu\omega \sqrt{\frac{2}{\mu\sigma\omega}} \cdot \frac{1-i}{2} = (1-i) \sqrt{\frac{\mu\omega}{2\sigma}}$$

$$R_s = \sqrt{\frac{\mu\omega}{2\sigma}} = \frac{1}{\sigma} \sqrt{\frac{\mu\sigma\omega}{2}} = \frac{1}{\sigma\delta}$$

σ : electric conductivity
 δ : skin depth

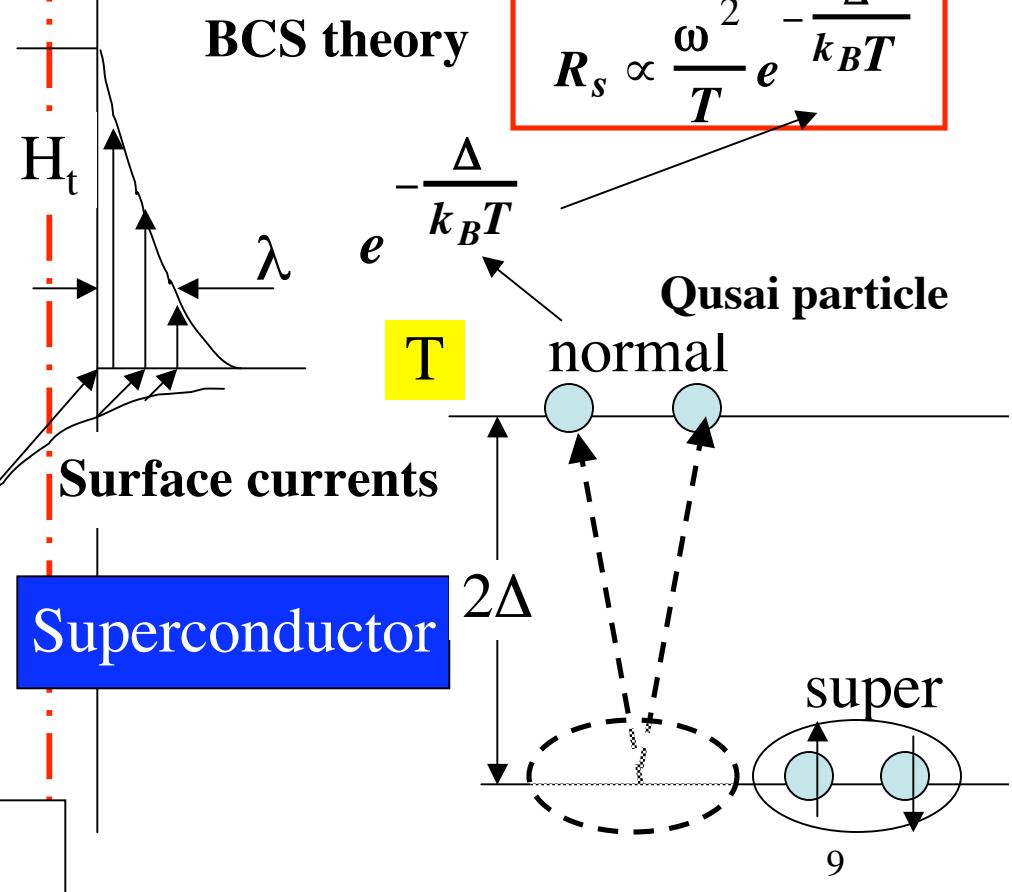
Why RF loss in SRF cavities

Normal conducting



Superconducting

λ : London penetration depth



RF surface resistance in superconductor-Two Fluid model-

General equation: $m \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} = q(\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) - m \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}$

Two-fluid model

$$\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{J}_s + \mathbf{J}_n, \quad \mathbf{J}_s = n_s q_s \mathbf{v}_s, \quad \mathbf{J}_n = n_n q_n \mathbf{v}_n$$

Maxwell equation: neglecting the Lorentz term, $\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} \ll 1$

$$m_s \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_s}{\partial t} = q_s \mathbf{E}, \quad m_s = 2m_e, \quad q_s = 2 \cdot (-e)$$

$$m_e \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_n}{\partial t} = q_n \mathbf{E} - m_e \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{v}_n, \quad q_n = -e$$

$$\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{E}_0 e^{i\omega t} \Rightarrow \mathbf{J}_s = \frac{n_s q_s^2}{i\omega m_s} \mathbf{E}, \quad \mathbf{J}_n = \frac{n_n e^2}{i(\omega - iv)} \mathbf{E}$$

$$\mathbf{J} = \left(\frac{n_s q_s^2}{i\omega m_s} + \frac{n_n e^2}{i(\omega - iv) m_e} \right) \mathbf{E}$$

$$v > \omega \Rightarrow \mathbf{J} = \left(\frac{n_n e^2}{vm_e} - i \frac{n_s q_s^2}{\omega m_s} \right) \mathbf{E} = (\sigma_n - i\sigma_s) \mathbf{E} = \sigma \mathbf{E}$$

$\sigma = \sigma_n - i\sigma_s$

$$\begin{aligned}
Z &= (1-i) \sqrt{\frac{\mu\omega}{2\sigma}} = (1-i) \sqrt{\frac{\mu\omega}{2(\sigma_n - i\sigma_s)}} \\
&= (1-i) \sqrt{\frac{\mu\omega}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{-i\sigma_s(1-\sigma_n/i\sigma_s)}} \\
&\approx (1-i) \sqrt{\frac{\mu\omega}{2}} \cdot \frac{(1 + \frac{\sigma_n}{i2\sigma_s})}{\sqrt{-i\sigma_s}} \\
&= \sqrt{\mu\omega} \left(\frac{\sigma_n}{2\sigma_s^{3/2}} + i \frac{1}{\sigma_s^{1/2}} \right) \quad Q \sqrt{-i} = \sqrt{e^{-\frac{\pi}{2}}} = \frac{(1-i)}{\sqrt{2}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$Z = \frac{\mu\omega\lambda^3}{\delta^2} + i\mu\omega\lambda = \frac{\mu^2\omega^2\lambda^3\sigma_n}{2} + i\omega\mu\lambda$$

Here, $\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{m_s}{n_s q_s^2 \mu}} = c \sqrt{\frac{2m}{4n_s \mu e^2}} = c \sqrt{\frac{m}{2n_s \mu e^2}}$ London penetration depth

Surface resistance in superconductor

$$\sigma_n = \frac{n_n \cdot e^2 \cdot l}{m \cdot v_F} = \frac{e^2 \cdot l}{m \cdot v_F} \cdot n_s(T=0) \cdot e^{-\frac{\Delta}{k_B T}}$$

$$R_S = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (2\pi)^2 \cdot \mu^2 \cdot f^2 \cdot \lambda_L^3 \cdot l \cdot \frac{n_s(0)}{mv_F} \cdot e^{-\frac{\Delta}{k_B T}}$$

$$= A \cdot f^2 \cdot e^{-\frac{\Delta}{k_B T}}$$

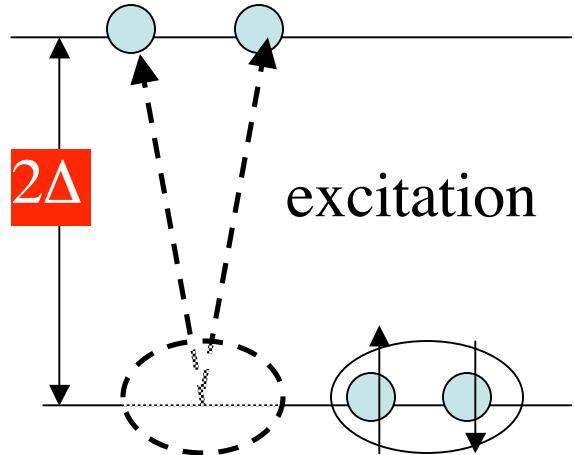
BCS theory

$$R_{BCS}(T, f) = A(\lambda, \xi, l, T_c) \cdot \frac{f^2}{T} \cdot e^{-\frac{\Delta}{k_B T}}$$

$\Delta/k_B = 1.76T_c$ by BCS theory
 Higher T_c material produces lower R_{BCS}

At a finite temperature T

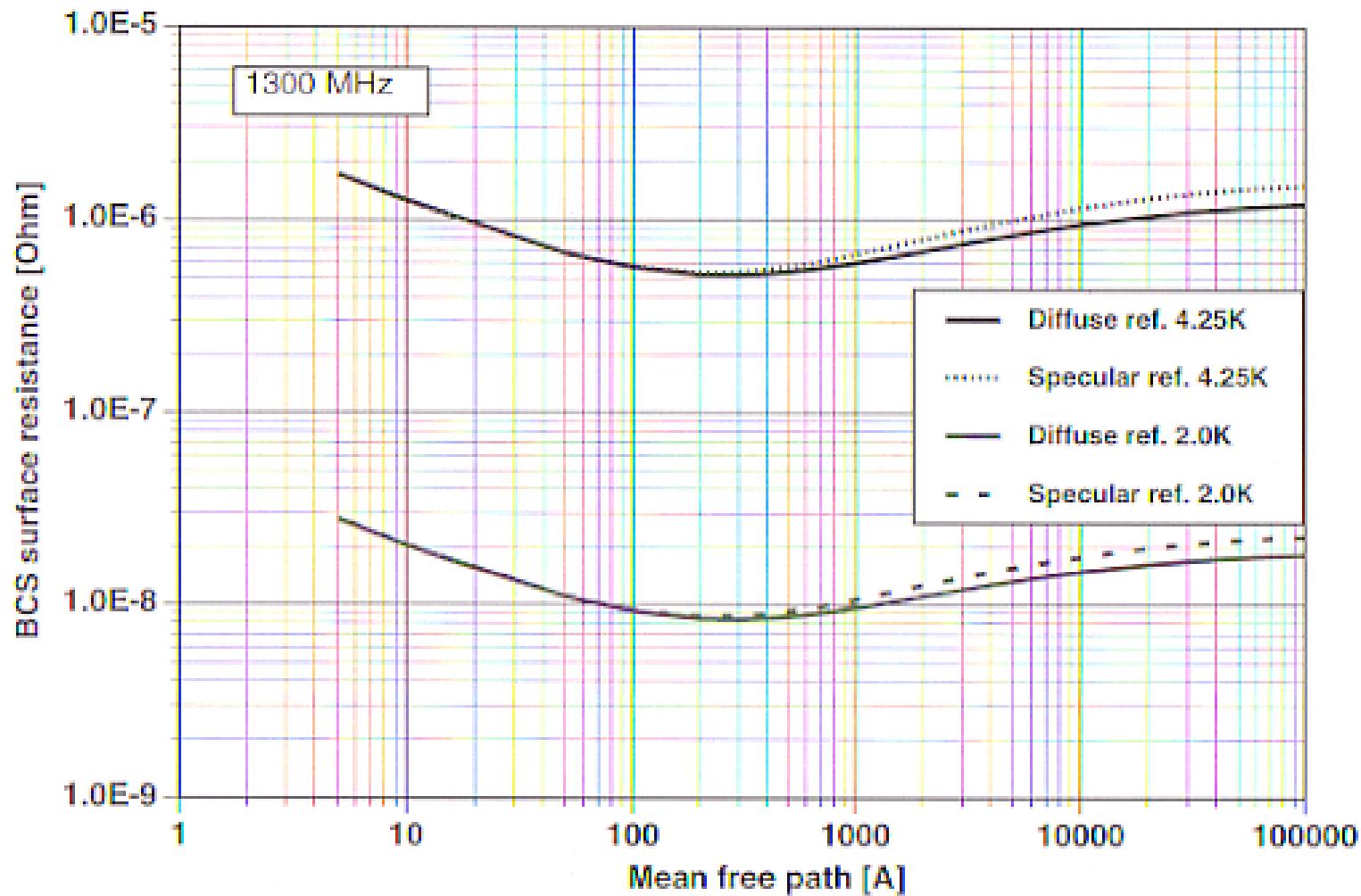
quasi particle (normal)



Superconducting state

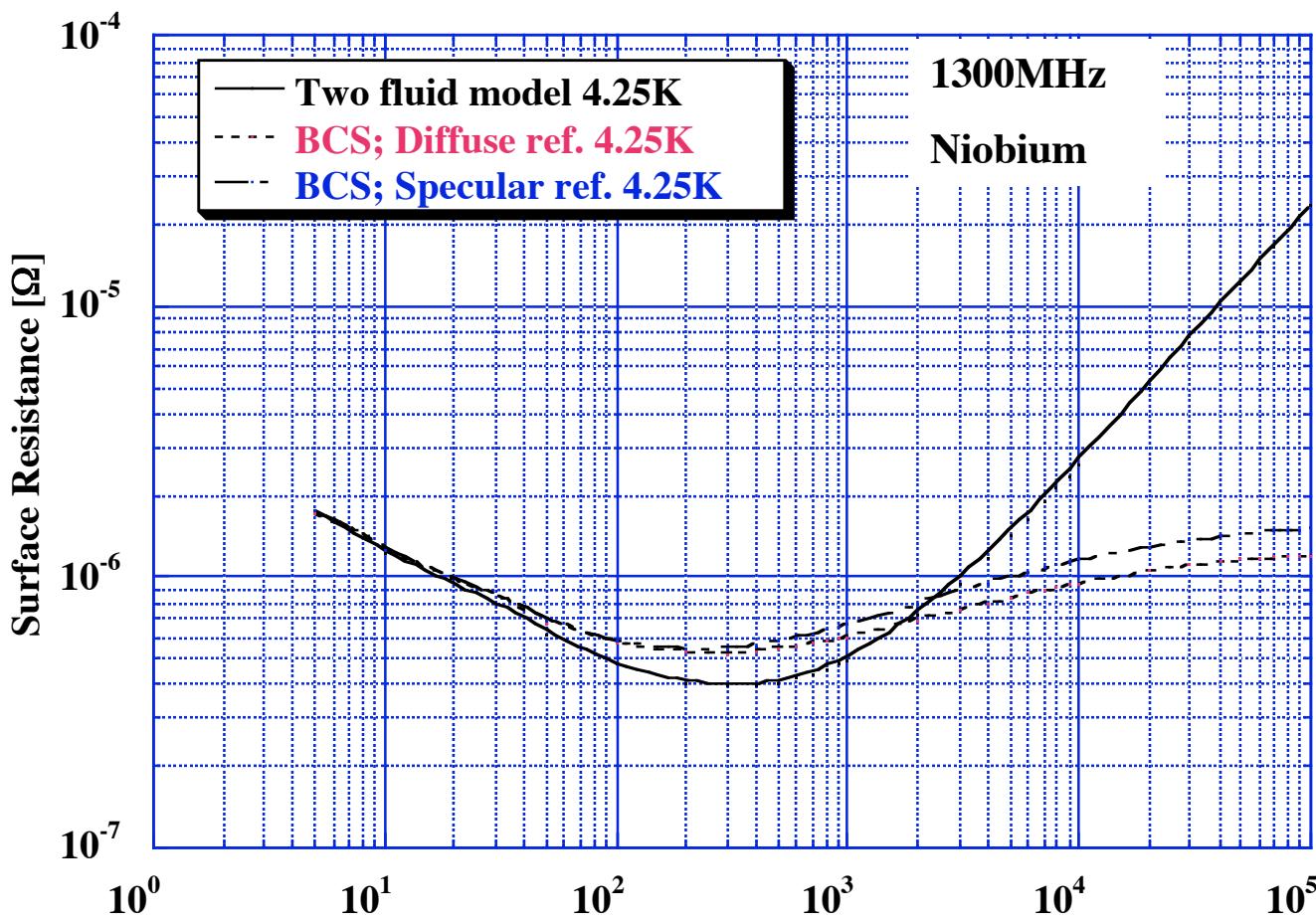
R_{BCS} at 2 and 4.25K

Used Harbitter's code



$$R_{BCS} \sim 8n\Omega @ 2K, 1300MHz$$

Minimum of R_{BCS}



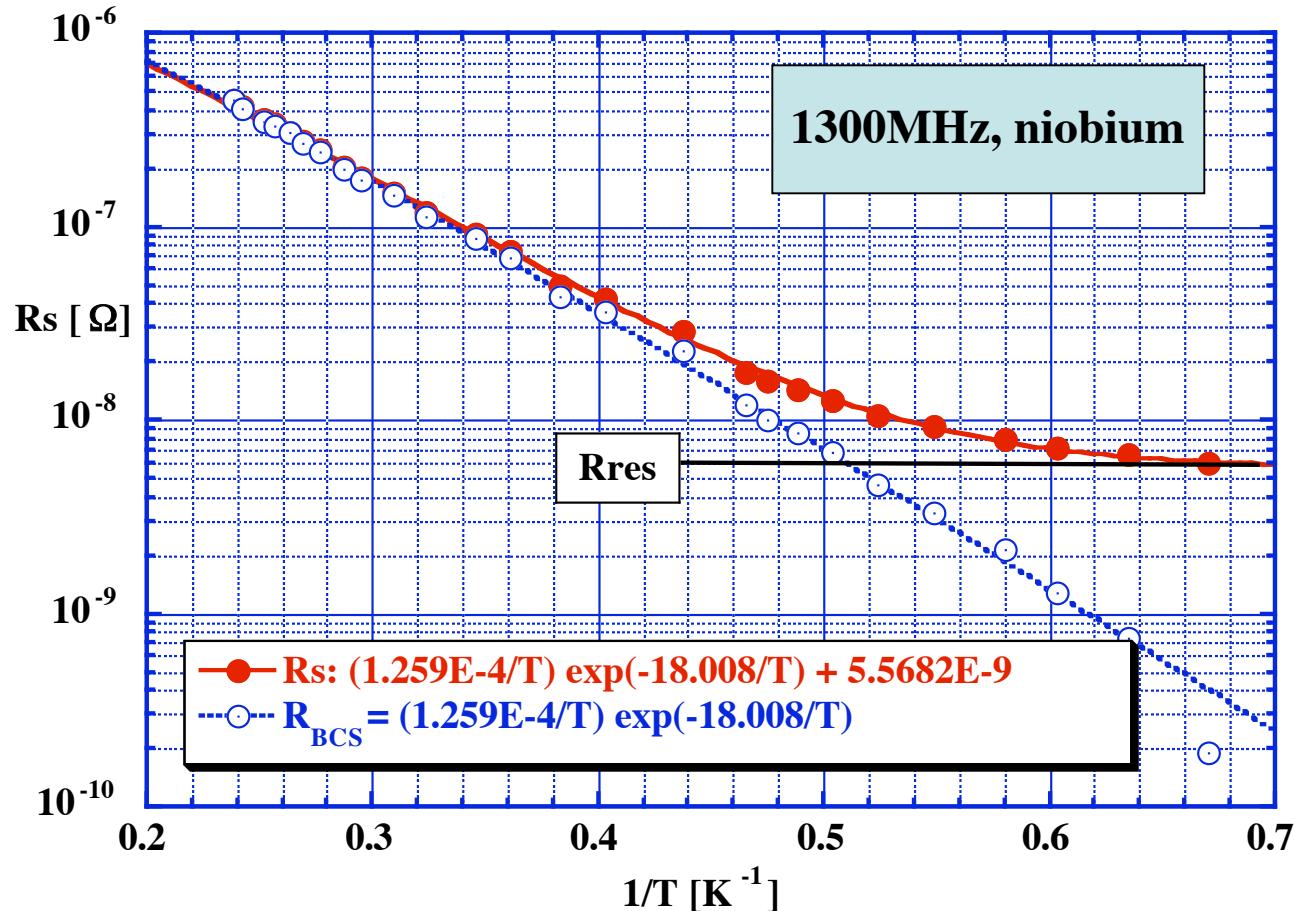
Strange behavior of R_{BCS} for mean free pass |

R_{BCS} minimum at
 $| \approx 200 \sim 300$

$$| [A] = 20 \cdot \text{RRR}$$

$$\lambda_L(l) = \lambda_L(l = \infty) \cdot \sqrt{1 + \frac{\xi_o}{l}}, R_S(\text{TF model}) \propto (1 + \frac{\xi_o}{l})^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot l, \quad l \ll 1, R_S \rightarrow \frac{\xi_o^3}{\sqrt{l}}, \quad l \gg 1, R_s \rightarrow l$$

Measurement of the Surface resistance



$$\frac{\Delta}{k_B} = 18.008 \Rightarrow \frac{2\Delta}{k_B T_c}$$
$$= \frac{2 \cdot 18.008}{9.25} = 3.89$$

$$\frac{2\Delta}{k_B T_c} = 3.52 \text{ (BCS theory)}$$

Due to surface contamination, residual magnetic field in the cryostat.

R_{BCS} ~ 8nΩ,
Quit fit to BCS theory.

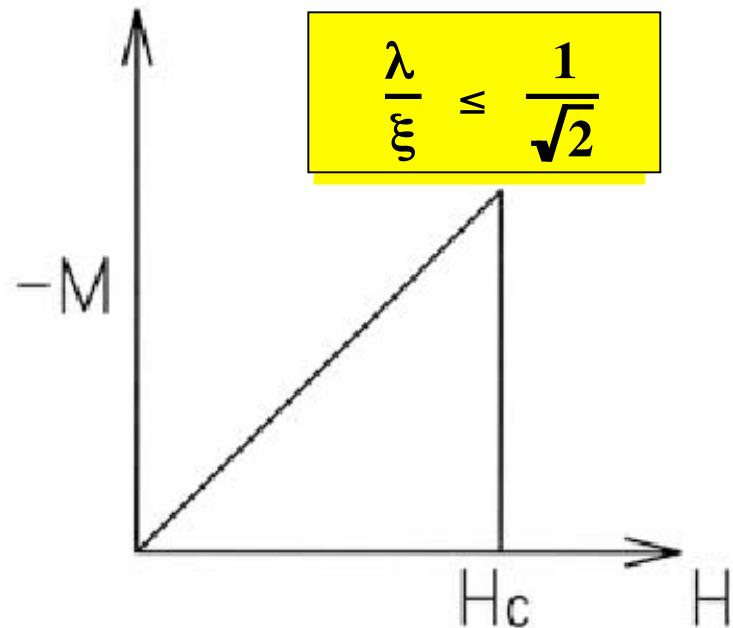
Real surface resistance : R_s = R_{BCS}(T) + R_{res}

Q2: Theoretical SRF field limitation

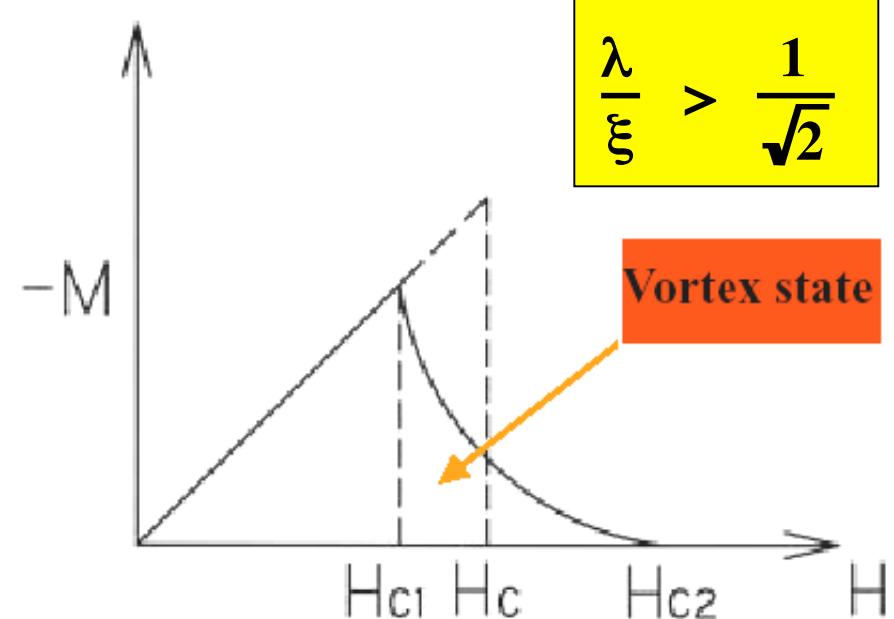
Q3: What kind of SC material is best for SRF application ?

Two types of superconductor

Type-I

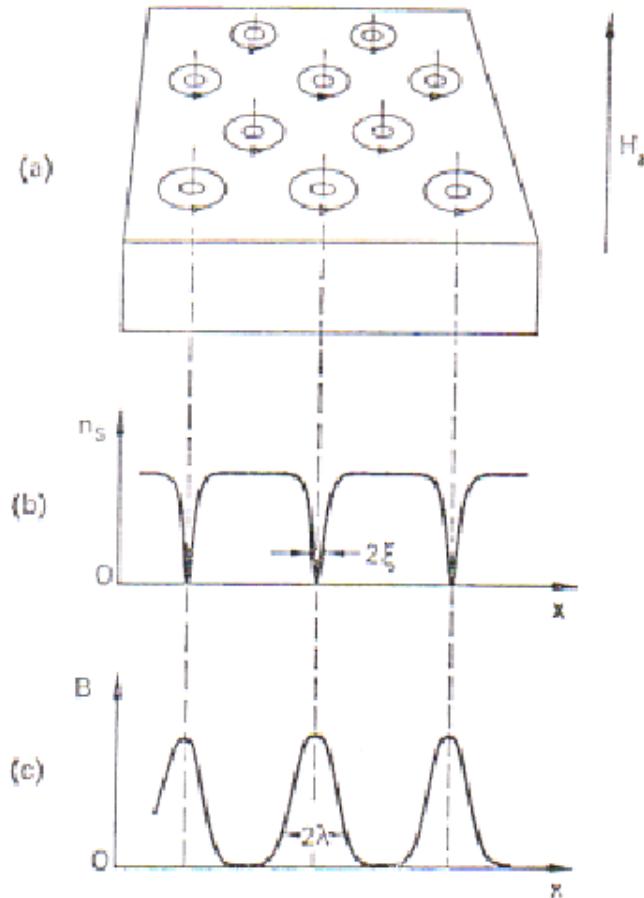


Type-II



$\frac{\lambda}{\xi} \equiv \kappa$: Ginzburg - Landau Parameter

Vortex state



Vortex state

ξ : Coherence length
size of Cooper pair

λ_L : London penetration depth

Depth of penetration of the magnetic field

Observed vortex

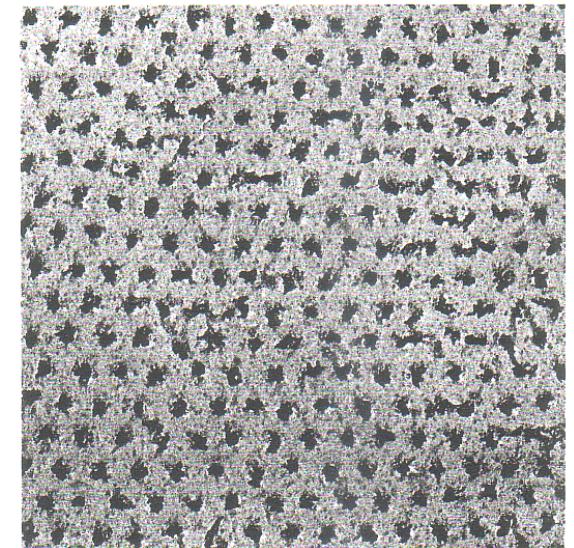
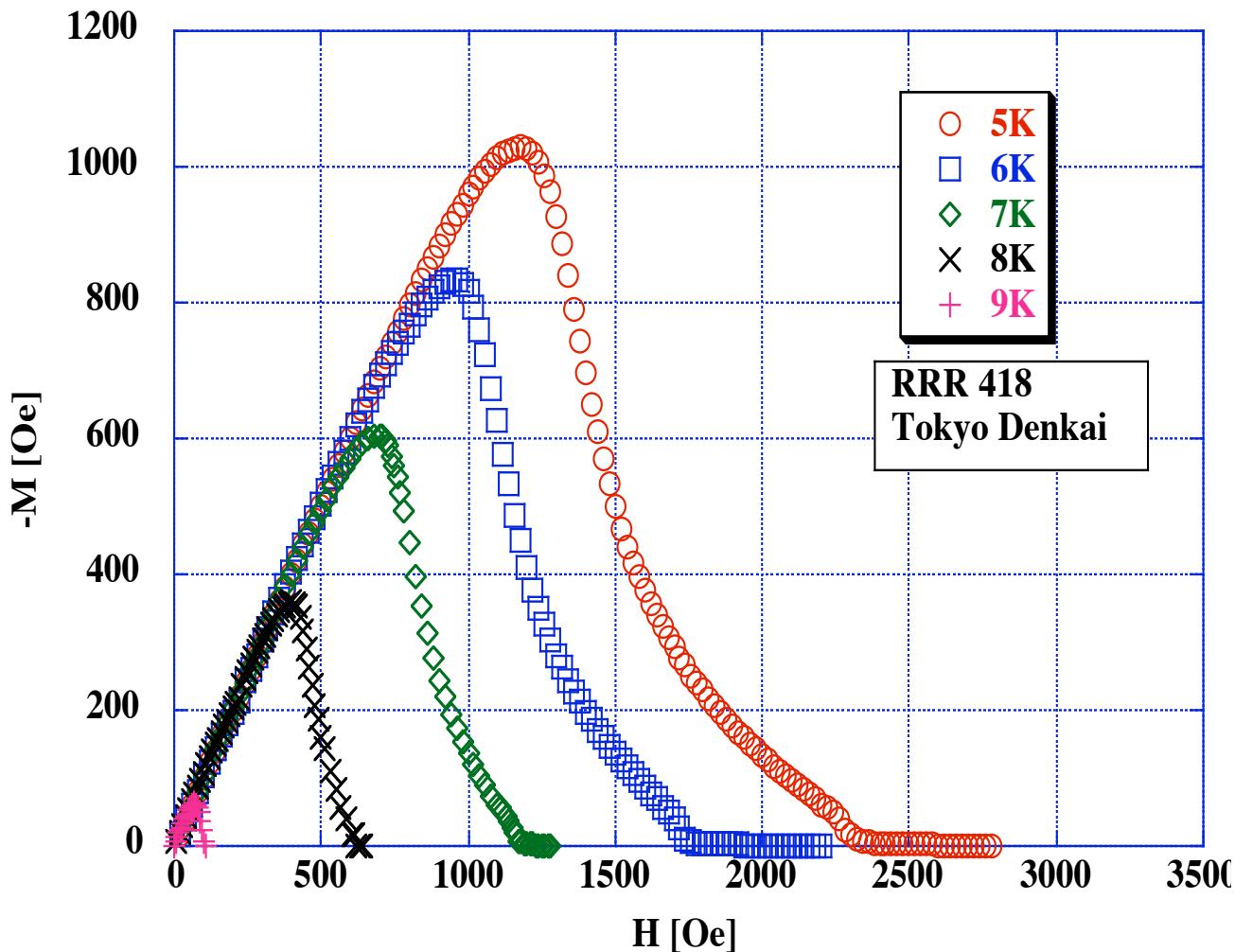


Figure 19 Triangular lattice of fluxoids through top surface of a superconducting cylinder. The points of exit of the flux lines are decorated with fine ferromagnetic particles. The electron microscope image is at a magnification of 8300, by U. Essmann and H. Träuble.

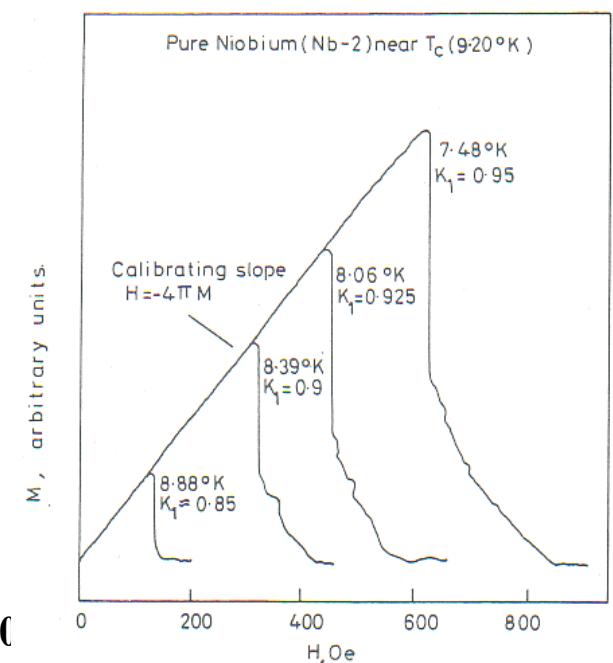
Hc measurement

Industrial material

Industrial Nb material is how different
With magnetic property from lab material.

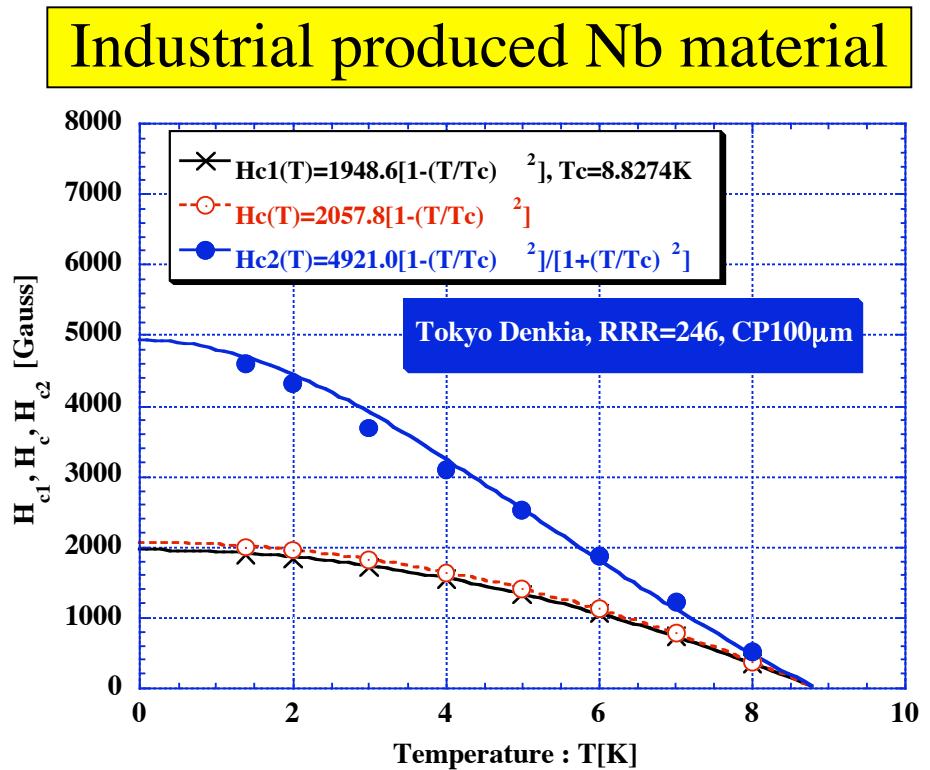
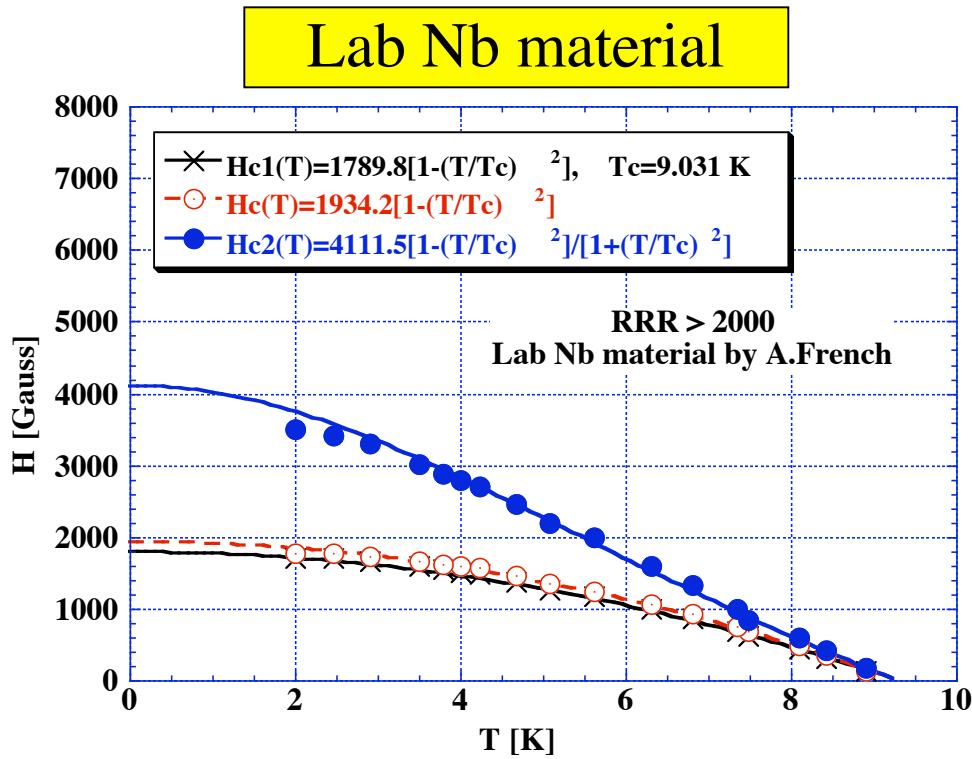


Lab material RRR~2000



$$F_n - F_s = - \int_0^{H_c} M dH = \frac{1}{2} \mu H_c^2$$

Measurement results with H_{C1} , H_C , H_{C2}



$$H_c(T) = H_c(0) \cdot \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c} \right)^2 \right], \quad F_n - F_s = - \int_0^{H_c} M dH = \frac{1}{2} \mu H_c^2$$

$$H_{c2}(T) = H_{c2}(0) \cdot \frac{[1 - (T / T_c)^2]}{[1 + (T / T_c)^2]}$$

Later you will derive this from Abrikosov theory.

Abrikosov Theory: Theory for Type-II SC

$$H_c = \frac{\kappa}{\lambda^2} \frac{hc}{\sqrt{2e}} = \frac{\kappa}{\lambda^2} \frac{(hc / 2e)}{2\pi\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\phi_0}{2\pi\sqrt{2}\lambda\xi}$$

$$H_{c2} = \sqrt{2} \frac{\lambda}{\xi} \frac{\phi_0}{2\pi\sqrt{2}\lambda\xi} = \frac{\phi_0}{2\pi\xi^2}$$

$$H_{c1} = \frac{\phi_o}{4\pi\lambda^2} \ln\left(\frac{\lambda}{\xi} + 0.08\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_0 &= hc / 2e = 2.0678 \times 10^{-7} \text{Gauss} \cdot \text{cm}^2 \\ &= 2.0678 \times 10^{-15} \text{T} \cdot \text{m}^2\end{aligned}$$

T-dependence of λ , ξ , κ

Abrikosov theory

$$\xi = \sqrt{\frac{\phi_0}{2\pi \cdot H_{c2}}}, \quad \lambda = \sqrt{\frac{\phi_0 \cdot H_{c2}}{4\pi \cdot H_c^2}}$$

From both theory and experiment $\lambda(T), H_c(T)$ are:

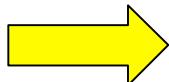
$$\lambda(T) = \frac{\lambda(0)}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c}\right)^4}}, \quad H_c(T) = H_c(0) \cdot \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c}\right)^2 \right]$$

$$H_{c2}(T) = \frac{4\pi\lambda(T)^2}{\phi_0} \cdot H_c(T)^2 = \frac{4\pi\lambda(0)^2 \cdot H_c(0)^2}{\phi_0} \cdot \frac{\left[1 - (T/T_c)^2\right]^2}{1 - (T/T_c)^4}$$

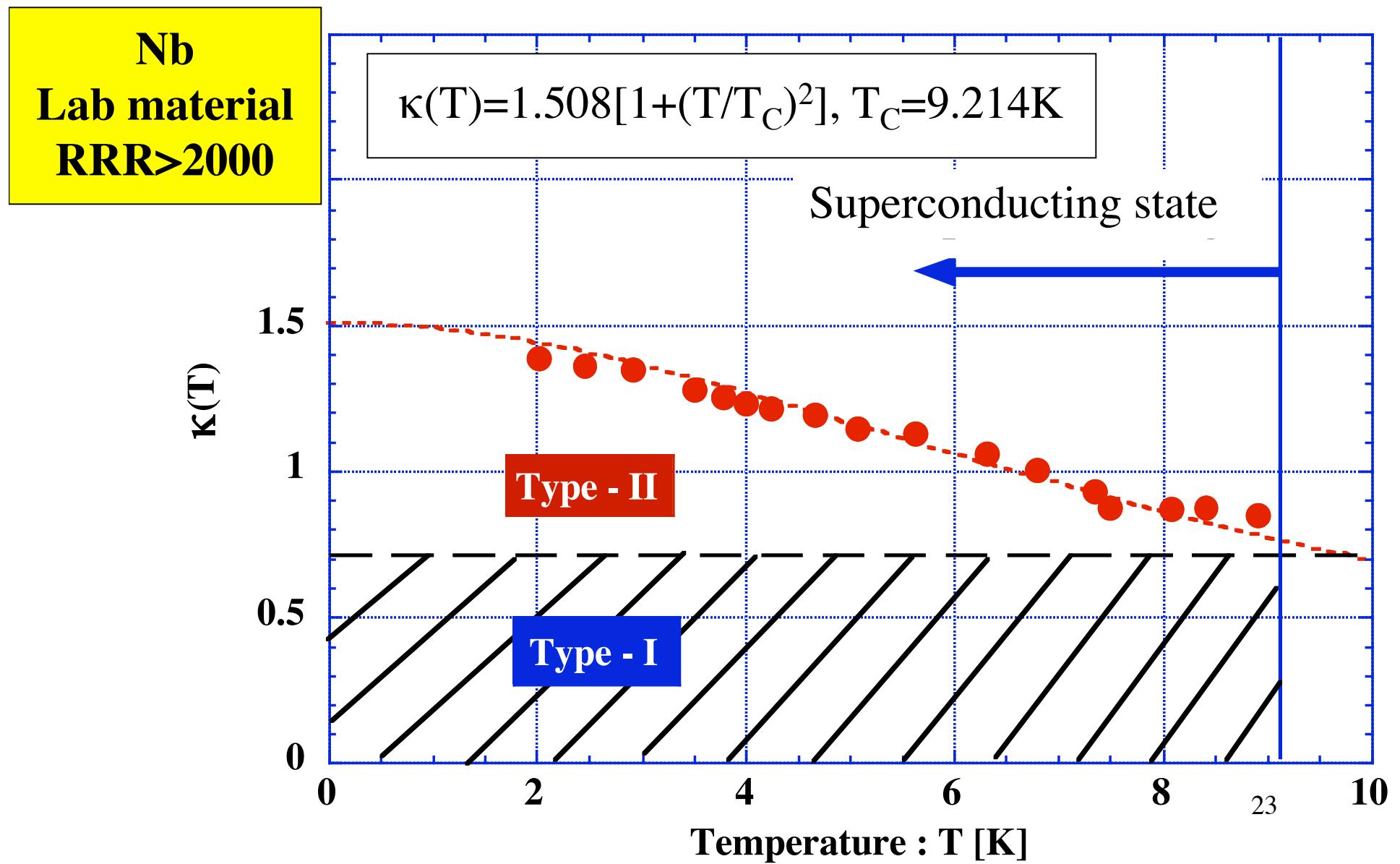
$$= H_{c2}(0) \cdot \frac{1 - (T/T_c)^2}{1 + (T/T_c)^2}$$

$$\xi(T) = \sqrt{\frac{\phi_0}{2\pi \cdot H_{c2}(0)}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1 + (T/T_c)^2}{1 - (T/T_c)^2}} = \xi(0) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1 + (T/T_c)^2}{1 - (T/T_c)^2}}$$

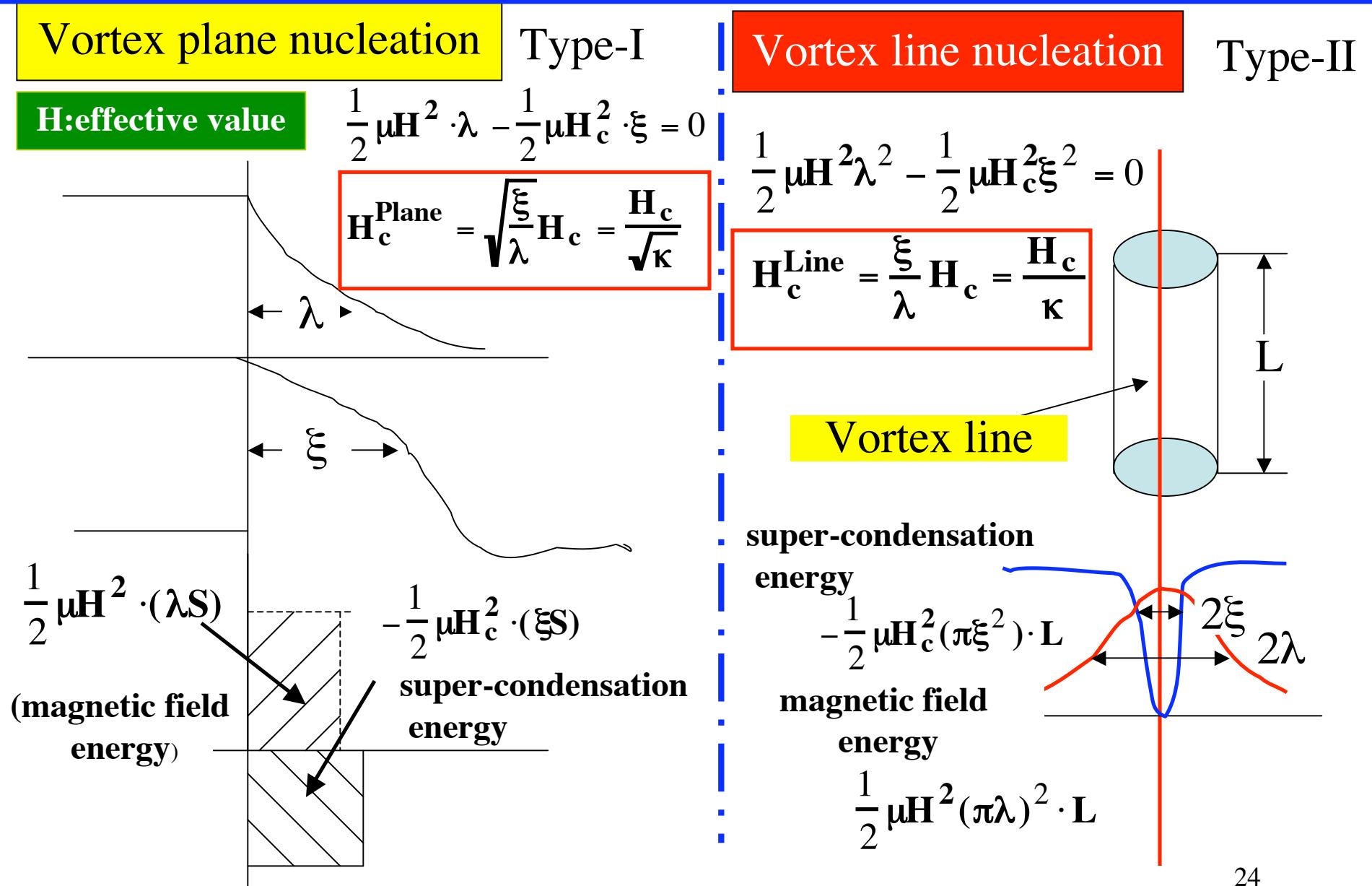
$$\frac{\lambda(T)}{\xi(T)} = \kappa(T) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{H_{c2}(T)}{H_c(T)} = \frac{H_{c2}(0)}{\sqrt{2} \cdot H_c(0)} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + (T/T_c)^2} = \frac{\kappa(0)}{1 + (T/T_c)^2}$$



T-dependence of κ with Lab material



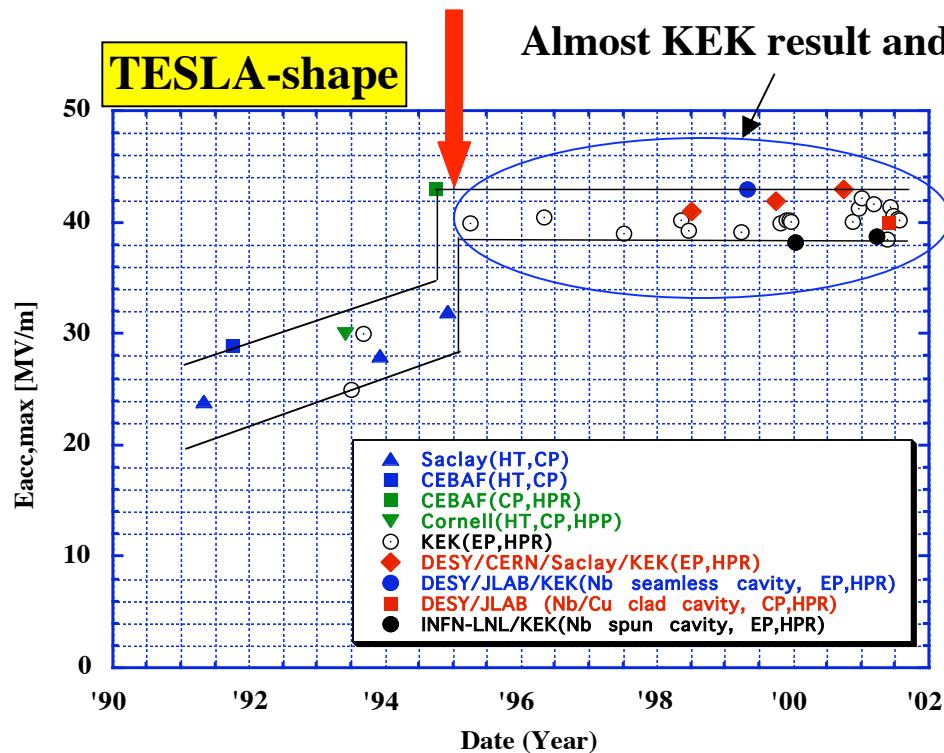
Critical field limitation in SRF application



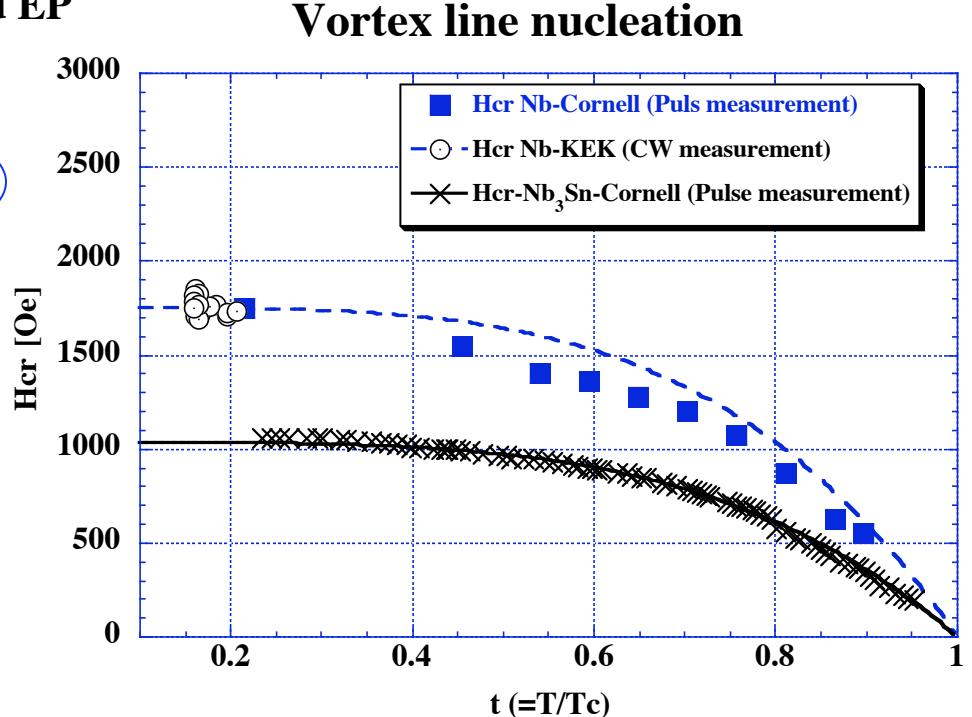
High Gradient Limitation of Type-II SRF cavities

HPR

Saito thesis : SRF Workshop 2001



Almost KEK result and EP



Vortex line nucleation

$$H_{cr}(T) = \frac{\xi(T)}{\lambda(T)} \cdot \sqrt{2} H_c(T) = \frac{\sqrt{2} H_c(T)}{\kappa(T)} = \sqrt{2} \frac{H_c(0)}{\kappa(0)} \cdot \left[1 - \left(\frac{T}{T_c} \right)^4 \right] \quad H_{cr}^{Nb}(t) = 1750 \cdot [1 - t^4]$$

Eacc \sim 50 MV/m is still reachable if one changes cavity shape with a smaller Hp/Eacc ($= 35$ Oe / [MV/m]) ratio.

Which material is best ?

Material point of view:

- Smaller heat loading for refrigerator \rightarrow Higher T_c
- High gradient

$H_{RF} > H_c^{RF}$, then normal conducting

$$H_c^{RF} = \sqrt{2} \cdot \frac{H_c}{\kappa}, \kappa : G - L \text{ parameter}$$

The material with higher H_c and smaller κ -value

If H_c is high enough, Type-I material is better because of the smaller κ -value.

- Good formability

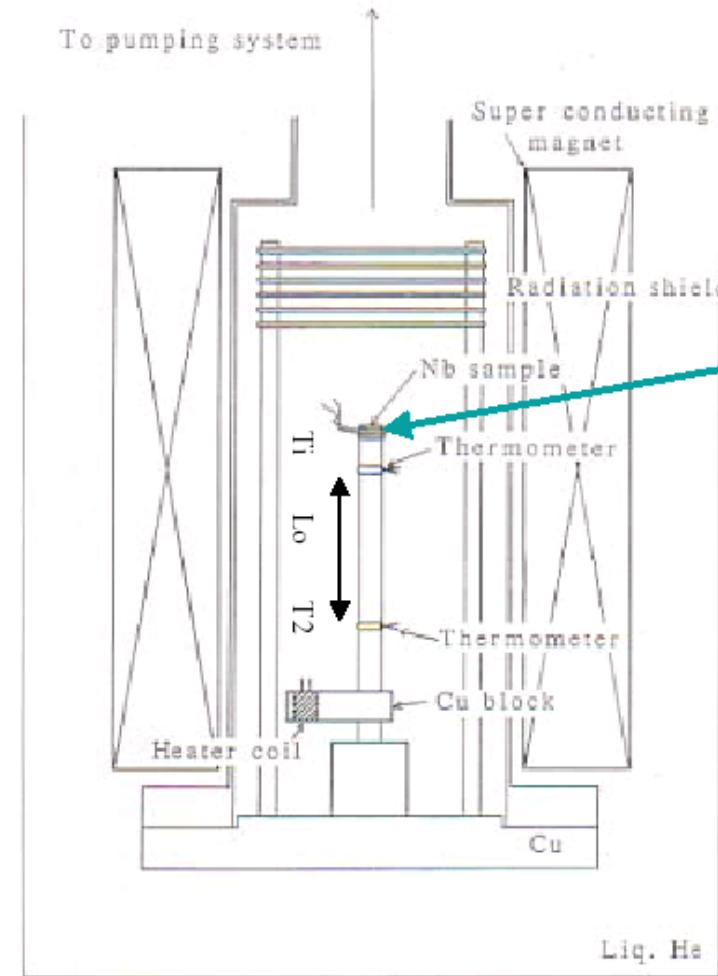
Materials	T_c [K]	H_c , H_{c1} [Gauss]	κ	Type	Fabrication
Pb	7.2	803, -	0.65	I	Electroplating
Nb	9.25	1900, 1700	1.5	II	Deep drawing, film
Nb ₃ Sn	18.2	5350, 300	7	II	Film
MgB ₂	39	4290, 300		II	Film

Niobium has higher T_c , H_c and enough formability.

Now, niobium is widely used for RF sc cavity production.

Q4: Thermal Conductivity in Superconducting State and Residual Resistance Ratio (RRR)

Thermal conductivity measurement



Normal conductor : $\kappa_{en} = \frac{1}{W_{en}} = \left[\frac{\rho}{L_0 T} + aT^2 \right]^{-1}$

$$\rho = \frac{\rho_{300K}}{RRR} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{e-impurities scatt.} \\ \text{e-lattices scatt.} \end{matrix}$$

Wiedemann-Franz low:

$$\kappa_e = \frac{\pi^2 n k_B^2 \tau}{3m} \cdot T, \quad \frac{\kappa_e}{\sigma} = \frac{\pi^2}{3} \left(\frac{k_B}{e} \right)^2 \cdot T = L_0 T$$

$$P[w] = S(m^2) \cdot \kappa(T) \cdot \frac{T_1(K) - T_2(K)}{L_0(m)}$$

$$T \equiv \frac{T_1 + T_2}{2}, \quad S: \text{area of cross - section}$$

$$\kappa(T) = \frac{P}{S} \cdot \frac{L_0}{T_1 - T_2} \quad \left[\frac{w}{m \cdot K} \right]$$

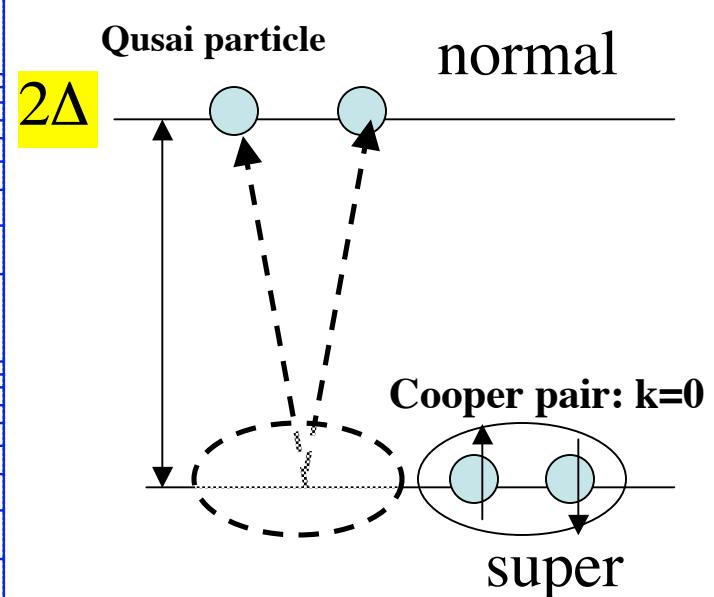
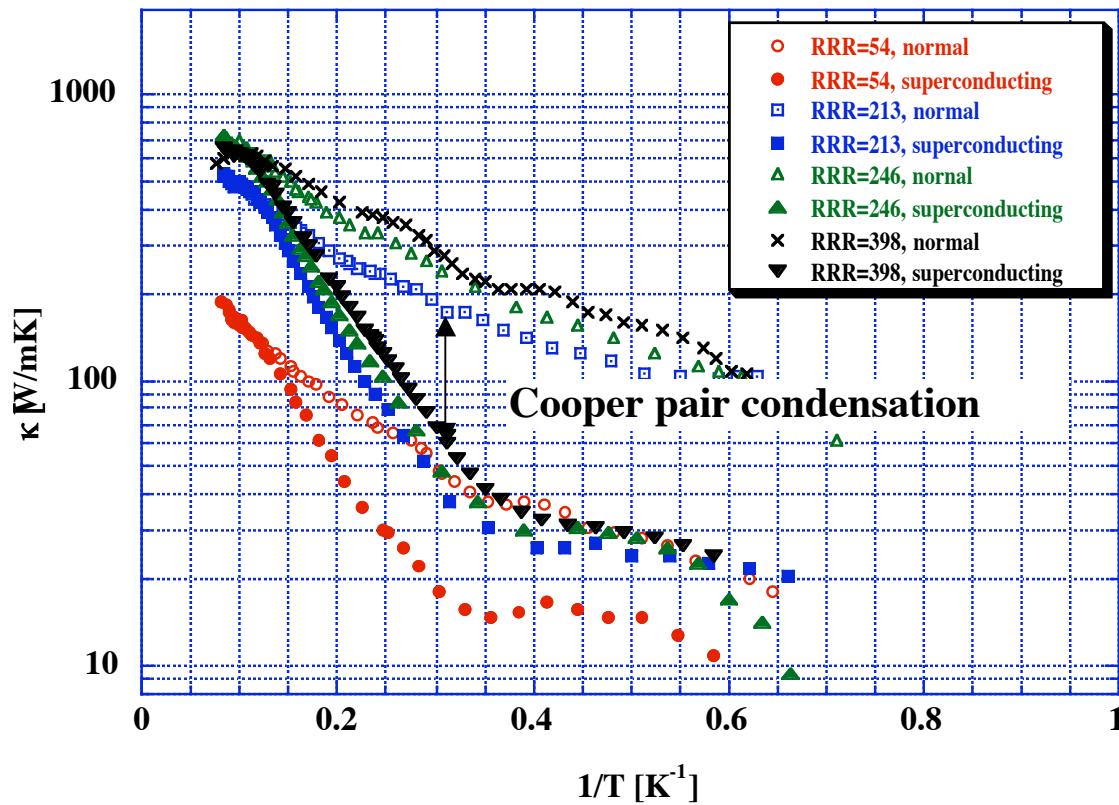
Cryostat

Thermal conductivity of Nb material at low temperature

Boltzmann statistics : energy Δ , Temp.

Excitation probability @T and energy Δ

$$\exp\left(-\frac{\Delta}{k_B \cdot T}\right)$$



Calculation of thermal conductivity based on Quantum mechanics

$$\kappa_s(T) = R(y) \cdot \left[\frac{\rho_{295K}}{L \cdot RRR \cdot T} + a \cdot T^2 \right]^{-1} + \left[\frac{1}{D \cdot \exp(y) \cdot T^2} + \frac{1}{BlT^3} \right]^{-1}$$

e - impurities scatt.
e - phonons scatt.
lattice - phonons scatt.
lattice - grain boundaries scatt.

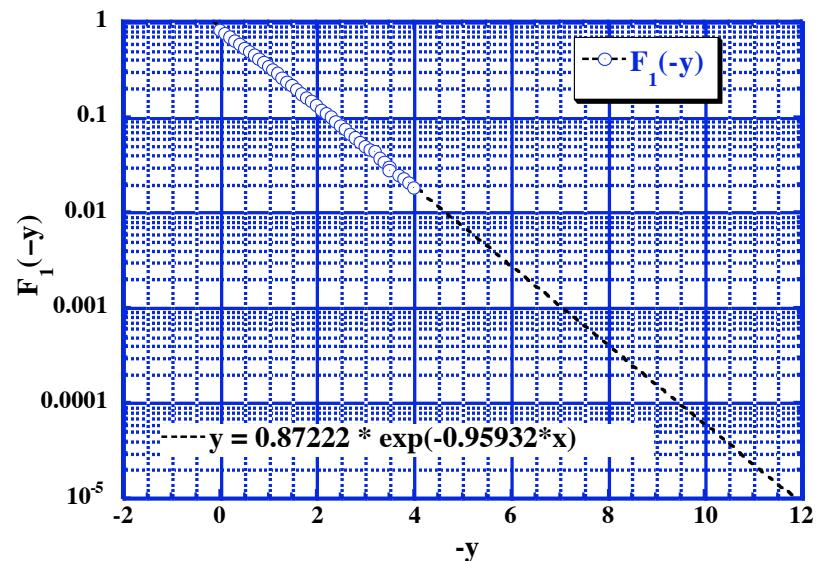
$$L = 2.05E - 8, RRR = 200, \rho_{295K} = 14.5E - 8 \Omega m, a = 7.52E - 7$$

$$-y = \alpha \cdot \frac{T_c}{T}, \alpha = 1.53, T_c = 9.25K, T \leq 0.6 \cdot T_c$$

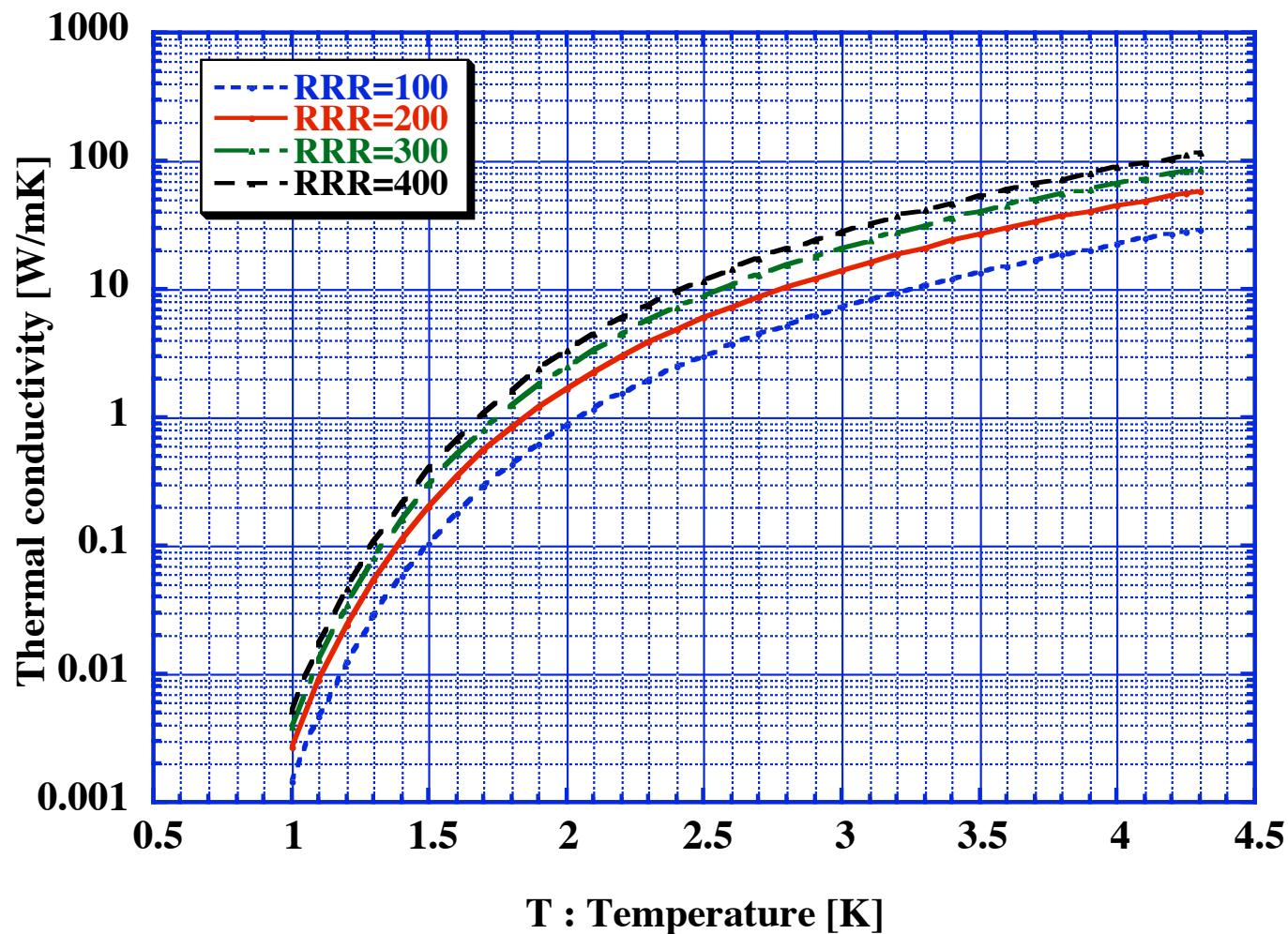
$$D = 4.27E - 3, B = 4.34E 3, l = 50\mu m$$

$$R(y) = \frac{\kappa_{es}}{\kappa_{en}} = \frac{2F_1(-y) + 2y \ln(1 + e^{-y}) + \frac{y^2}{(1 + e^y)}}{2F_1(0)},$$

$$F_n(-y) = \int_0^\infty \frac{z^n}{1 + e^{z+y}} dz$$



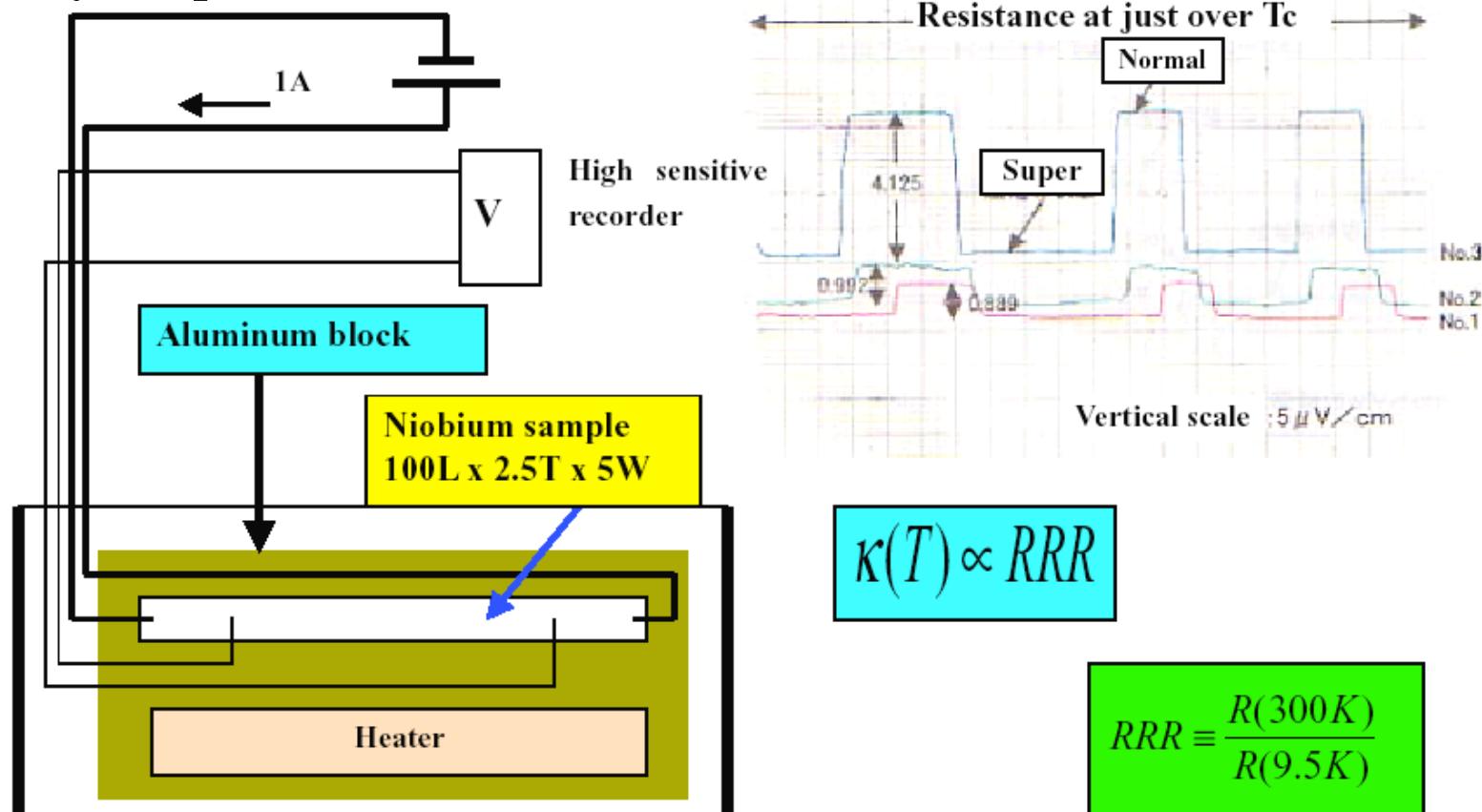
Calculated $\kappa_{sc}(T)$



Thermal conductivity at 2K with Nb is $\sim 1/15$ of that of stainless at room Temp.(15W/m*K)) or 1/6800 of that of copper at 4.2K (6800W/m*K).

RRR measurement

Very simple measurement !!



$$K(T) \propto RRR$$

$$RRR = \frac{R(300K)}{R(9.5K)}$$

$$\frac{1}{RRR} = \sum_{\text{elements in Nb}} \frac{C(i)}{\rho(i)} = \frac{C_H}{1500} + \frac{C_C}{4100} + \frac{C_N}{3900} + \frac{C_O}{5000} + L + \frac{C_{Ta}}{550000}$$

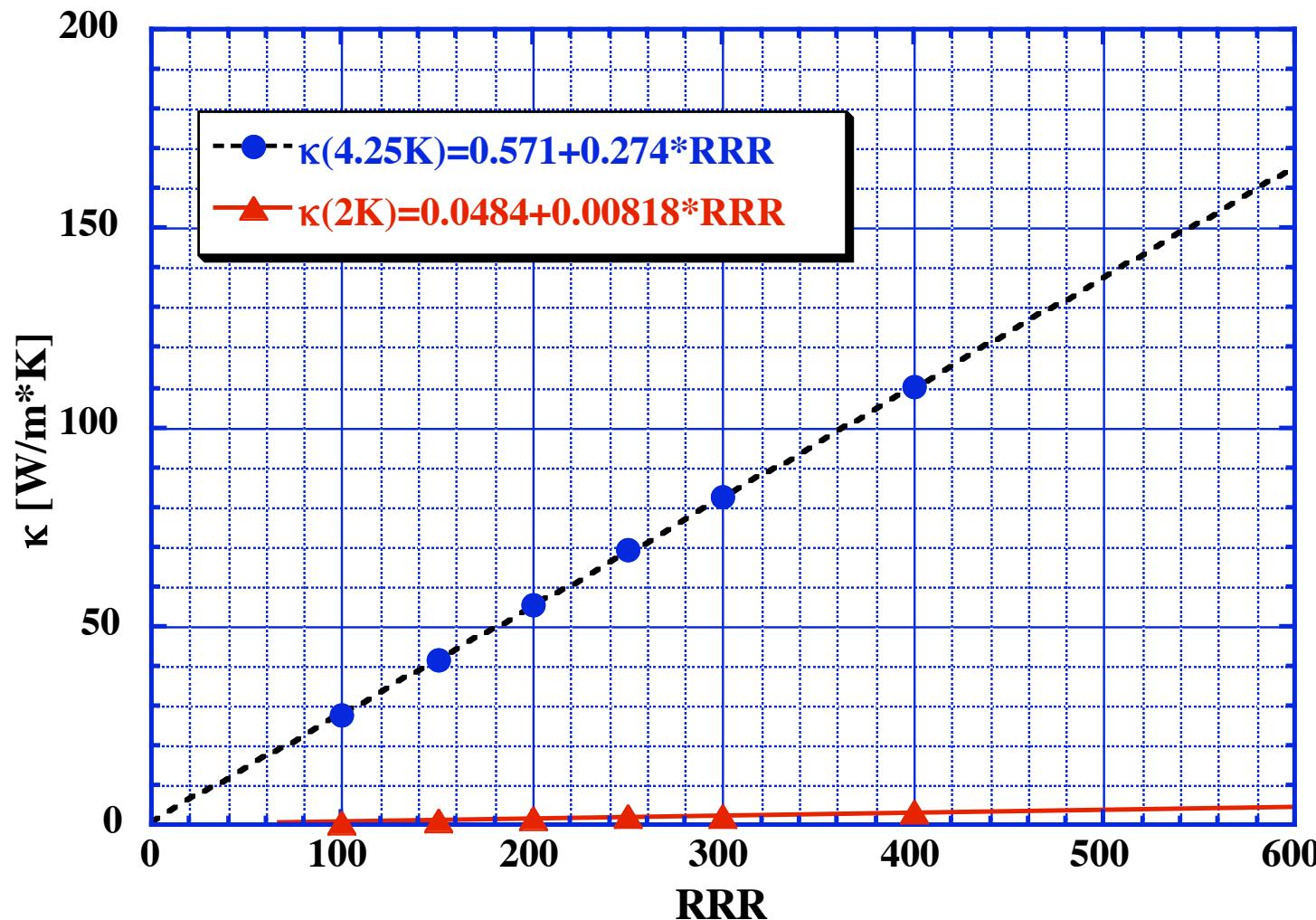
Example:

$$C_H = 1 ppm, C_C = 5 ppm, C_N = 5 ppm, C_O = 7 ppm, C_{Ta} = 400 ppm \quad (99.9582\%)$$

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$$RRR = 188.8$$

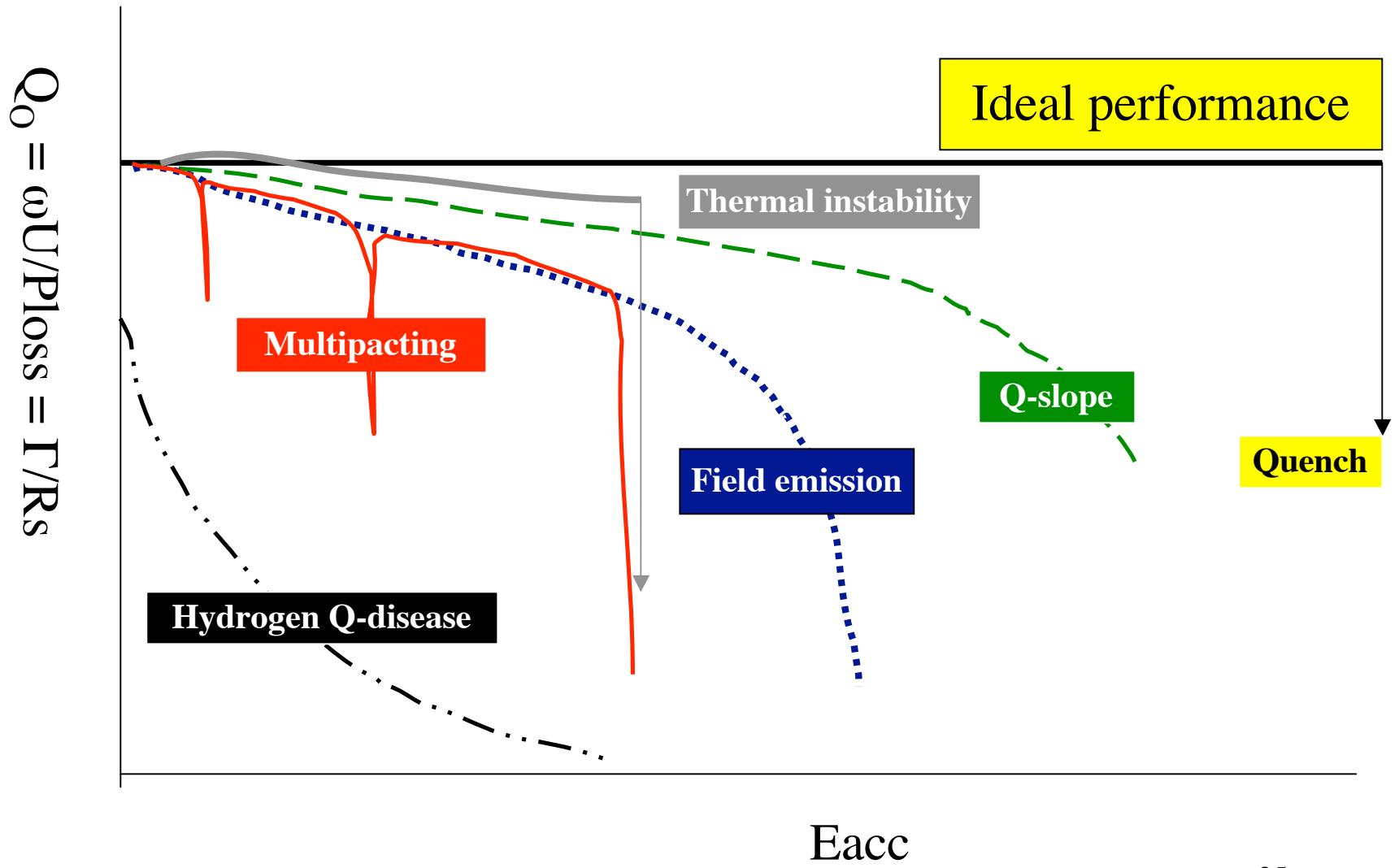
Linear relationship between κ_{SC} (2K, 4.25K) and RRR



RRR is a good parameter to evaluate thermal conductivity of superconductor.

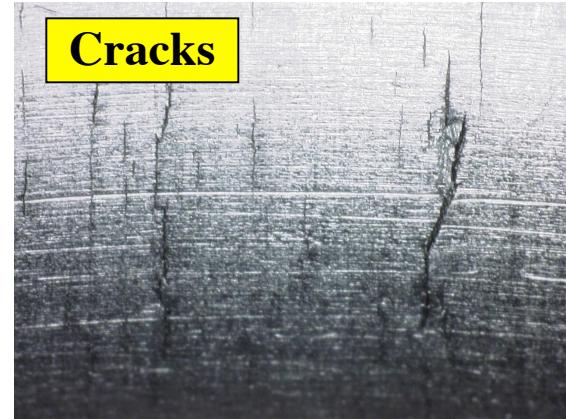
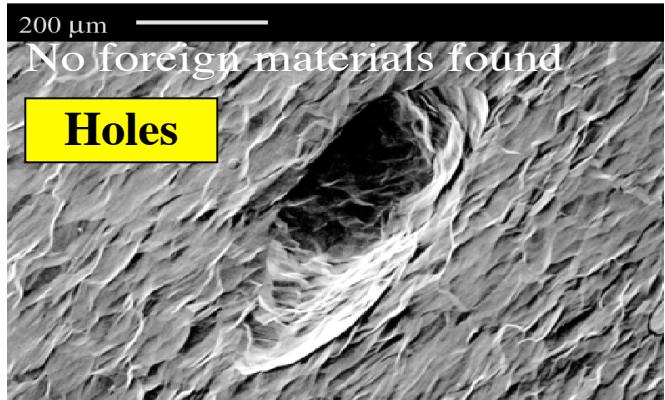
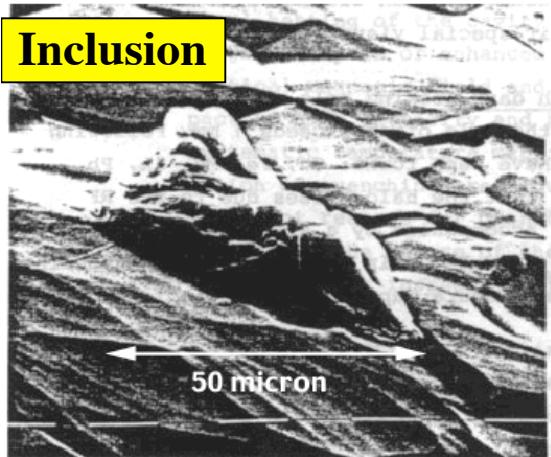
Q5: Real SRF field limitation and Technologies to push gradient

Real SRF Cavity Performance

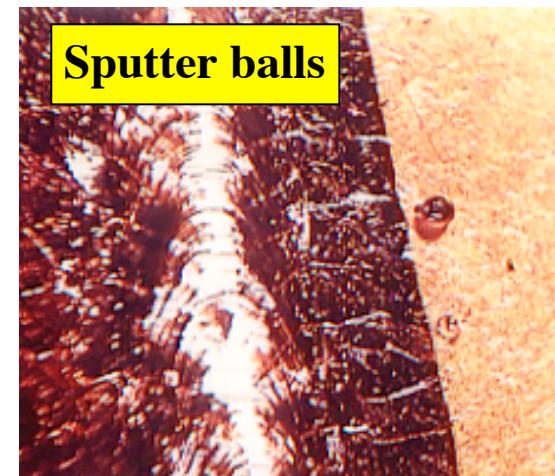
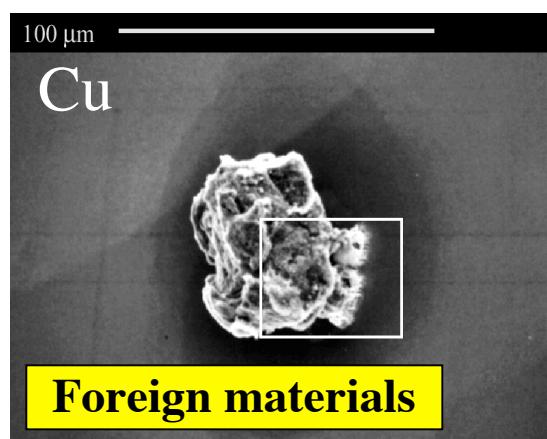
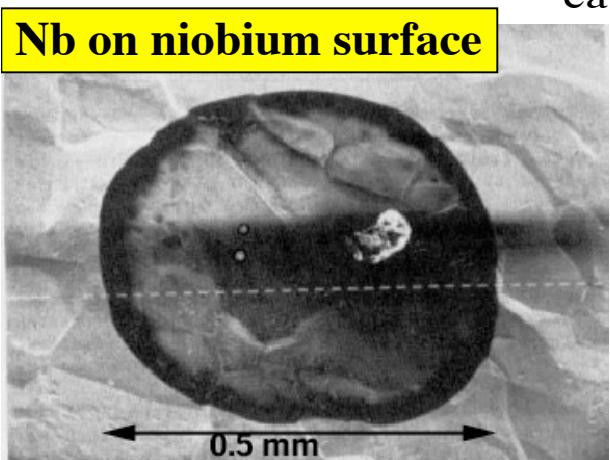


Eacc

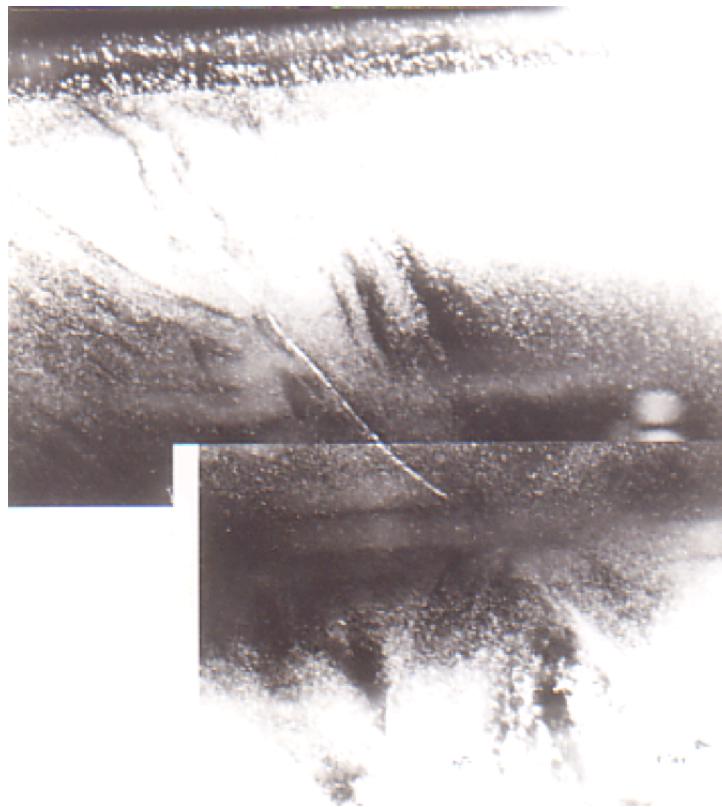
Various Surface Defects



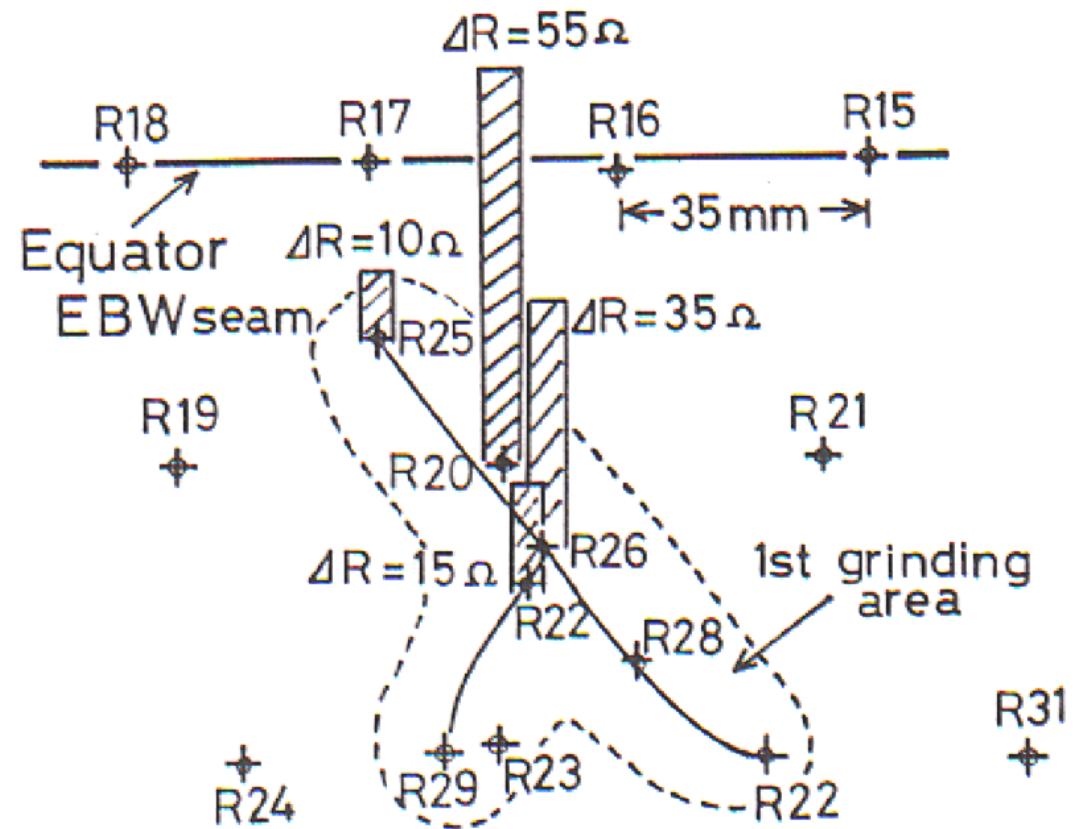
Surface defects, holes can also cause TB



Surface Defect

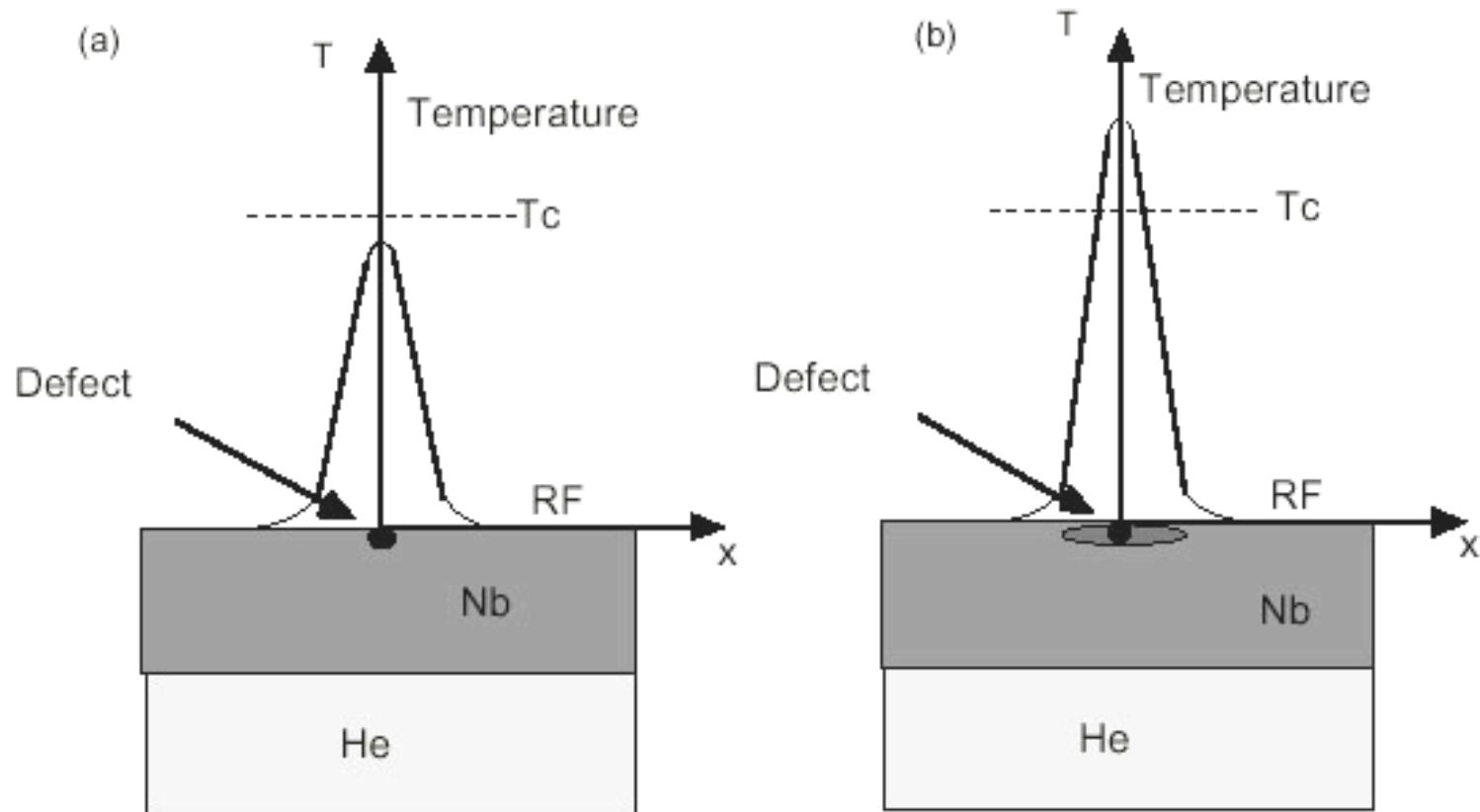


Picture of the defect area



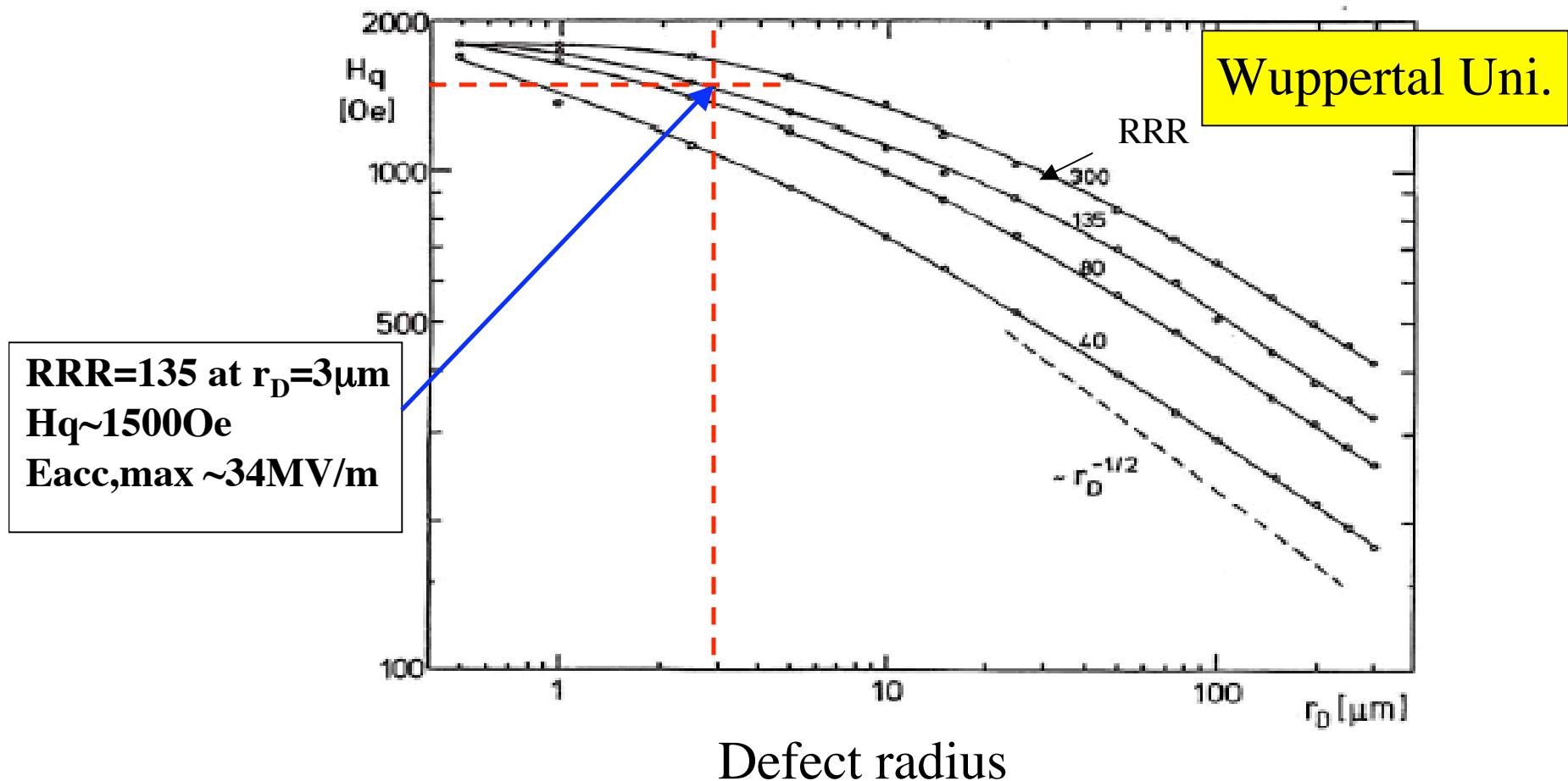
T-mapping on the defect

Mechanism of Thermal Instability



RRR Dependence of Quench Field

Quench Field : $H_q = \sqrt{\frac{4\kappa(T_c - T_b)}{r_D \cdot R_s(T_b)}} \propto RRR^{\frac{3}{4}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{(T_c - T_b)}{r_D \cdot R_s(300K)}}$



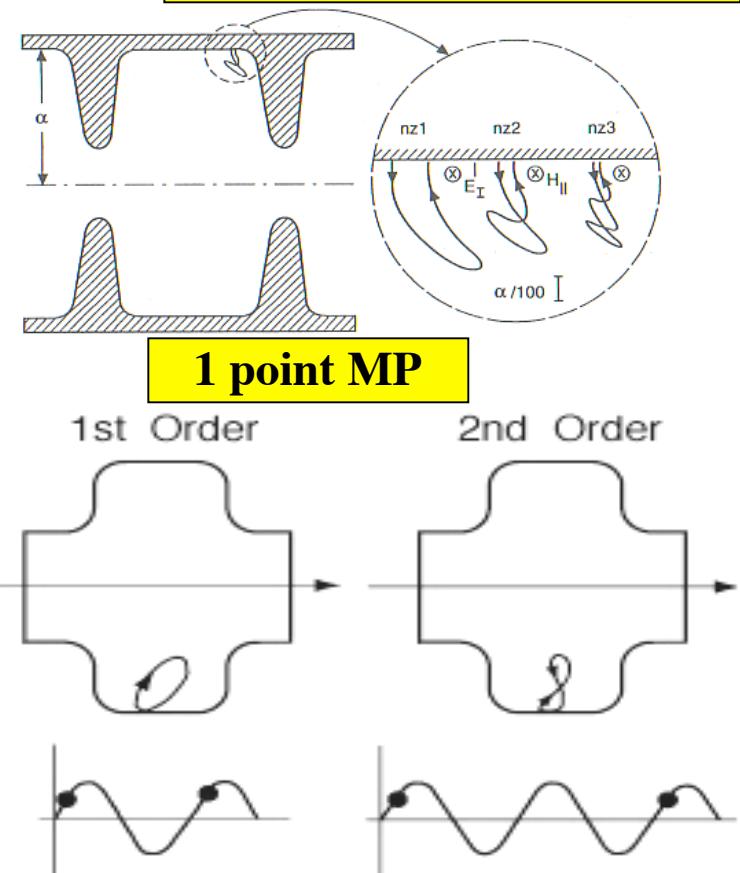
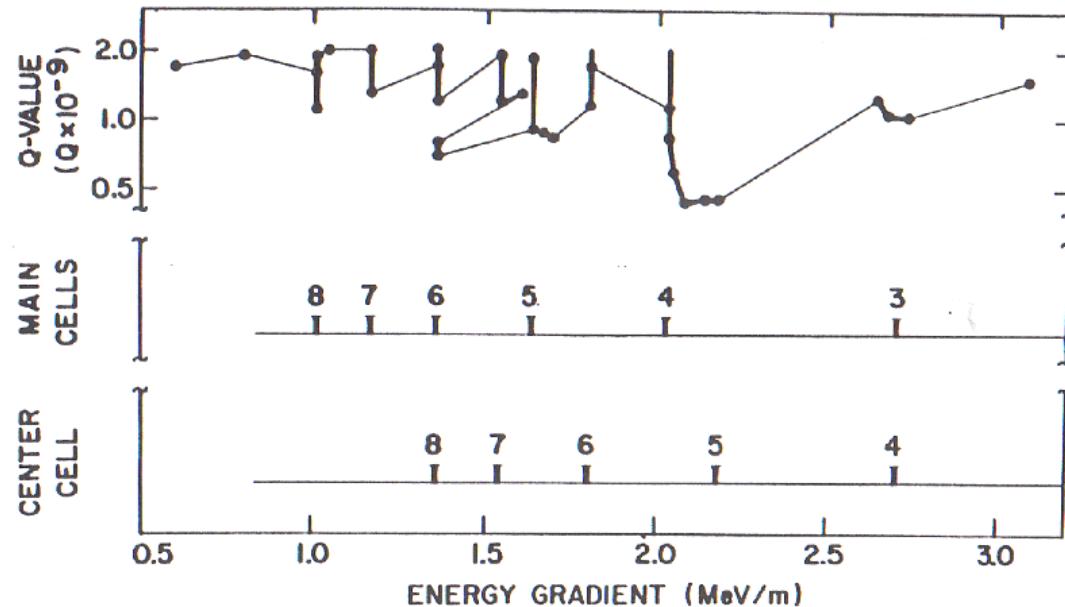
Needs control the defects with 1mm size, Use high pure niobium material with $\text{RRR} > 200$

Multipacting

Multipacting : Resonant electron loading due to secondary electrons
(synchronized electron motion with RF)

Limited the performance by
1PM or 2PM.

One point multipacting

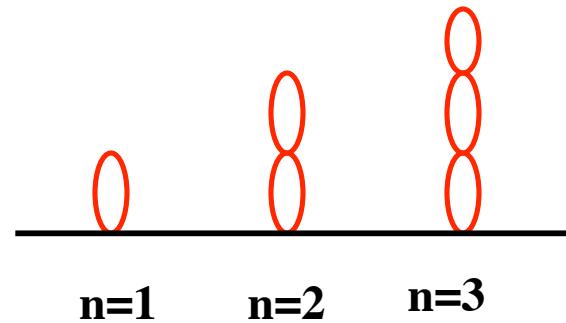


Characteristic: Q-drop at some discrete field levels, X-ray at the levels,
Diagnostics: Temperature mapping & X-ray mapping

Onset Field of One-point MP

Scale law on RF frequency with the multipacting levels

$$\text{Cyclotron frequency : } \omega = \frac{e \cdot H}{c \cdot m}$$



$$2\pi \cdot f(1P - nth) = \frac{e \cdot H(1P - nth)}{c \cdot m},$$

$$T(1P - nth) = \frac{1}{f(1P - nth)} = \frac{2\pi \cdot c \cdot m}{e \cdot H(1P - nth)} = n \cdot T_{RF} = \frac{n}{f_{RF}}$$

$$\frac{H(1P - nth)}{f_{RF}} = \frac{\text{constant}}{n}, \quad n=1, 2, 3 \dots \quad [\text{Oe/Hz}]$$

Experiment : Onset field $\frac{H(1P - nth, [\text{Oe}])}{f_{RF} [\text{MHz}]} = \frac{0.3}{n} \quad [\text{Oe/MHz}]$

Spherical shape suppresses the one point multipacting.

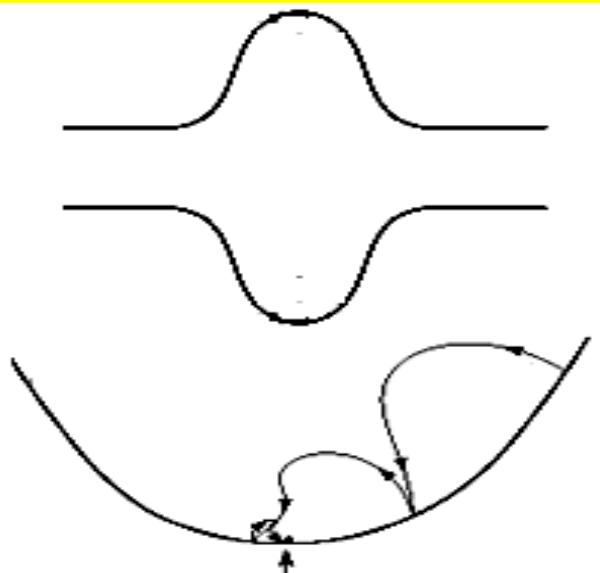
Example ;

1300MHz, Hp/Eacc = 43.8 [Oe/(MV/m)]

1P-1st order • • • $H_{RF}(1P-1^{st}) = 0.3 \times 1300 = 390 \text{ Oe}$

$Eacc(1P-1^{st}) = 390/43.8 = 8.9 \text{ MV/m}$

1P-2nd order • • • $Eacc(1P-2^{nd}) = 4.5 \text{ MV/m}$



Two-point MP

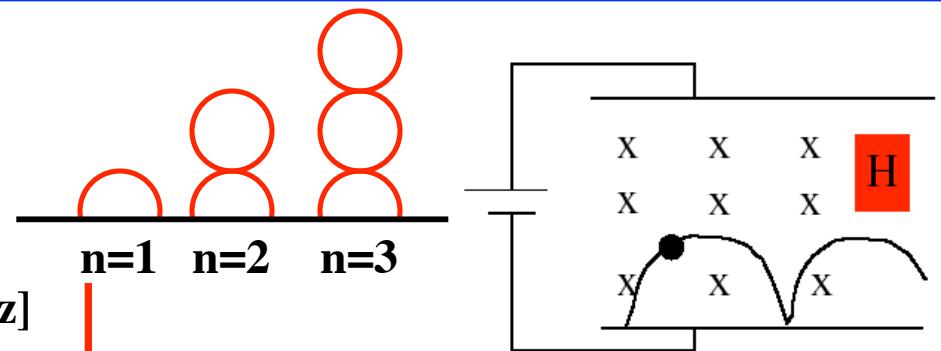
Two-point multipacting

$$T(2P - nth) = (2n - 1)T_{RF}$$

$$\frac{H(2P - nth)}{f_{RF}} = \frac{\text{constant}}{2n - 1}, n=1, 2, 3 \dots [Oe/Hz]$$

Experiment : Onset field

$$\frac{H(2P - nth, [Oe])}{f_{RF} [\text{MHz}]} = \frac{0.6}{2n - 1}$$

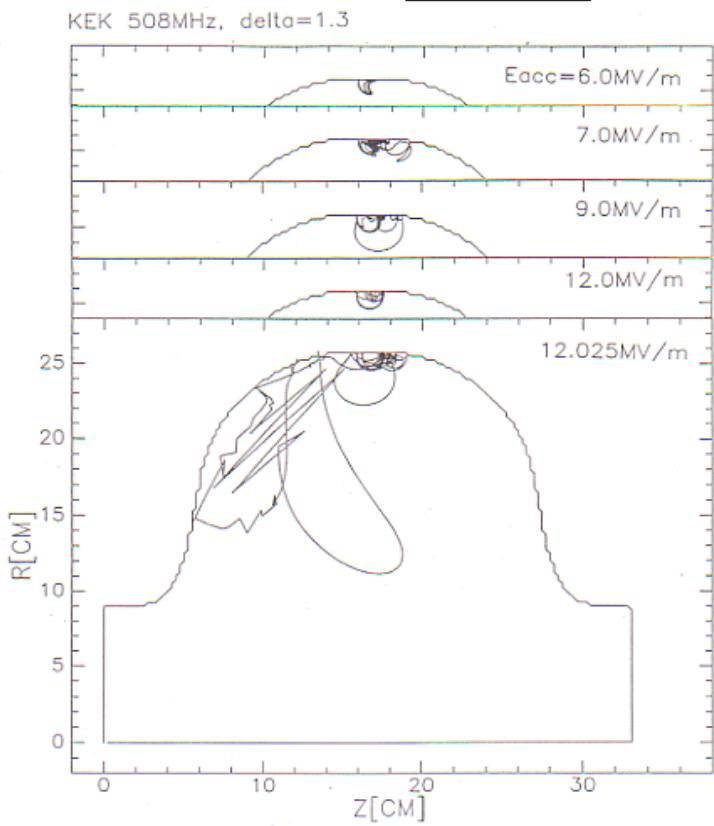


Examples ;

508MHz , Hp/Eacc=40.6 [Oe/(MV/m)]

2P-1st order Hp(2p-1st) = 0.6 x 508 = 304.8 Oe

Eacc(2P-1st) = 304.8/40.6 = 7.5 MV/m



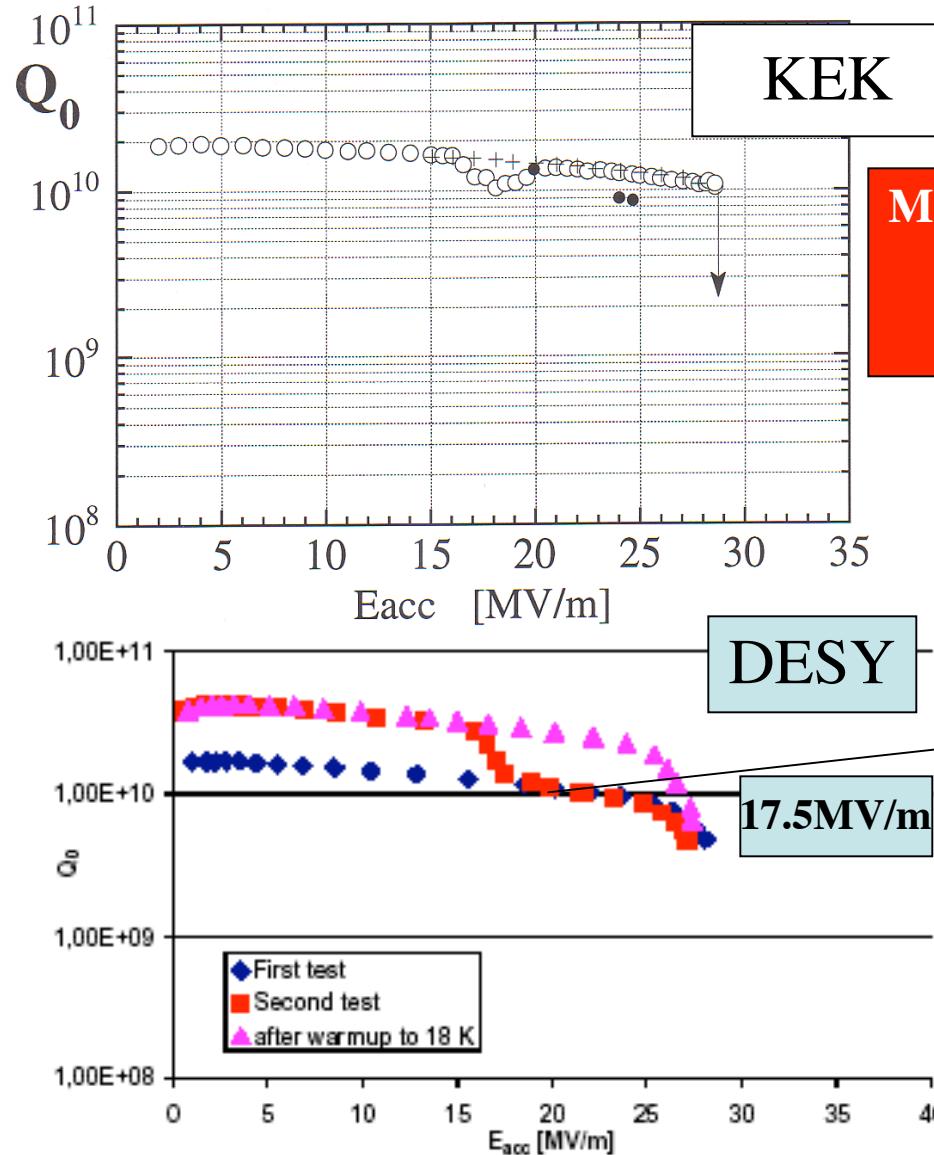
1300MHz, Hp/Eacc=43.8 [Oe/(MV/m)]

2P-1st order Hp(2p-1st) = 0.6 x 1300 = 780 Oe

Eacc(2P-1st) = 780/43.8 = 17.8 MV/m

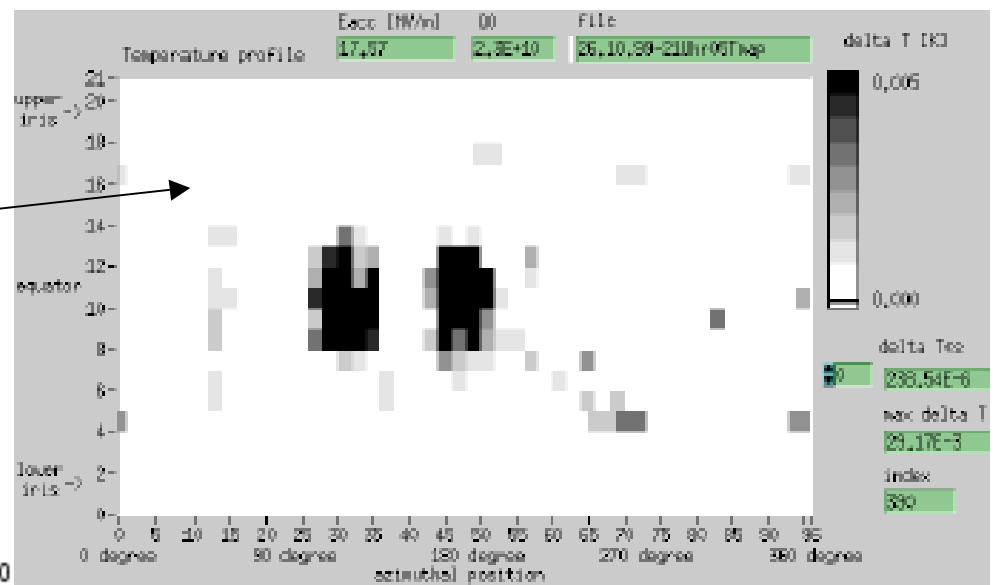
2P-2nd order Eacc(2P-2nd) = 17.8/3 = 5.9 MV/m

T-mapping of Two-point MP



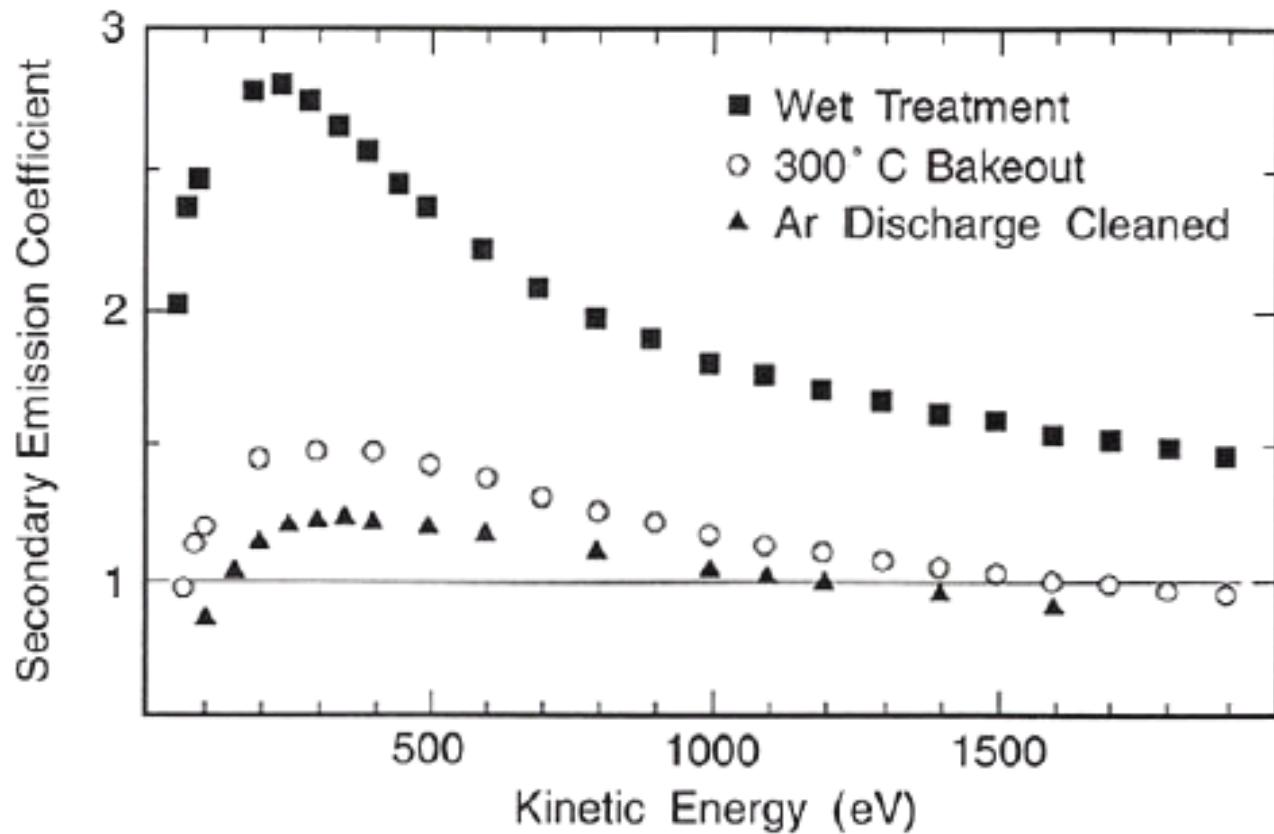
MP → Frozen flux trapping → Warm-up T > T_c
 ↓
 Disappear of the heating spots

T-mapping at 17.5MV/m



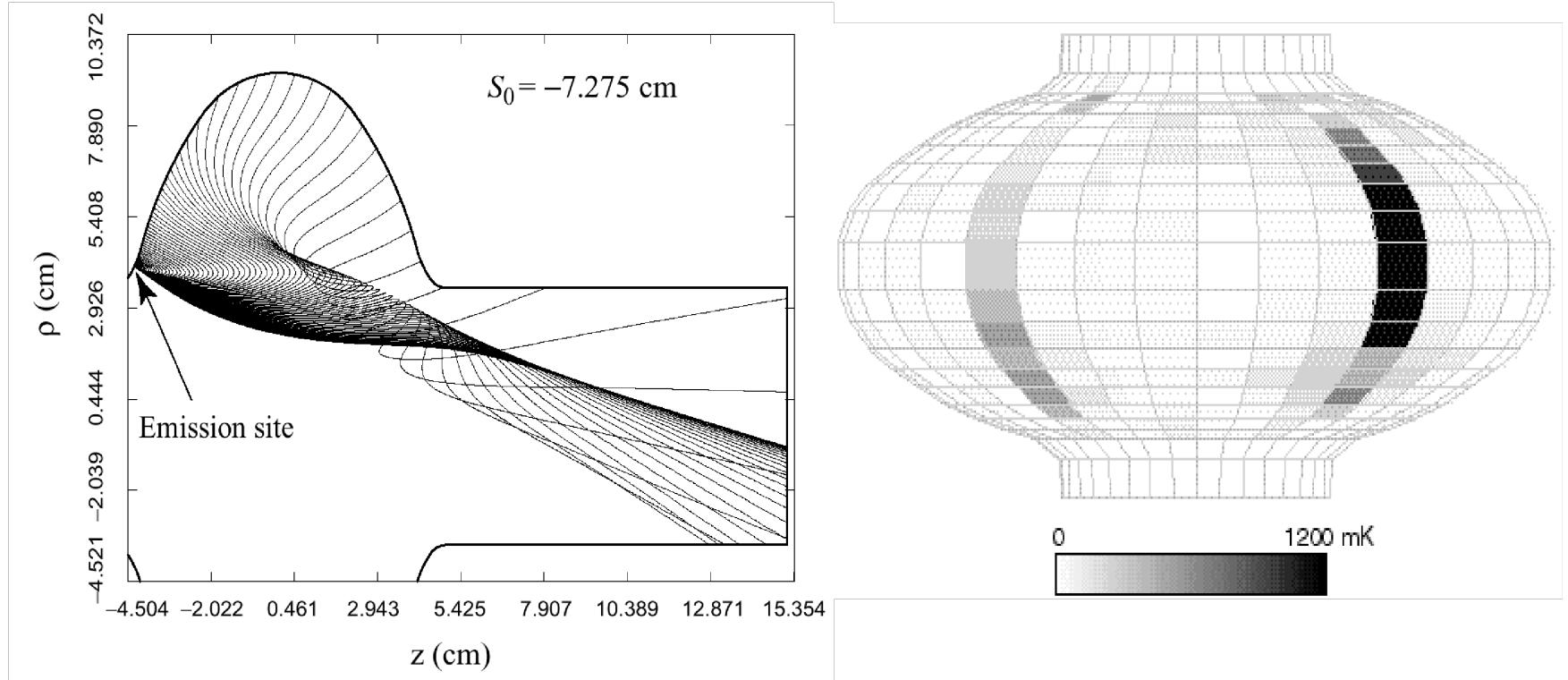
Cures against MP

- 1) Cavity shape \longrightarrow Spherical or Elliptical shape
(effective for one point multipacting)
- 2) $\delta < 1$: Clean surface \rightarrow Surface preparation
High pressure water rinsing
Argon gas or Helium gas discharge cleaning



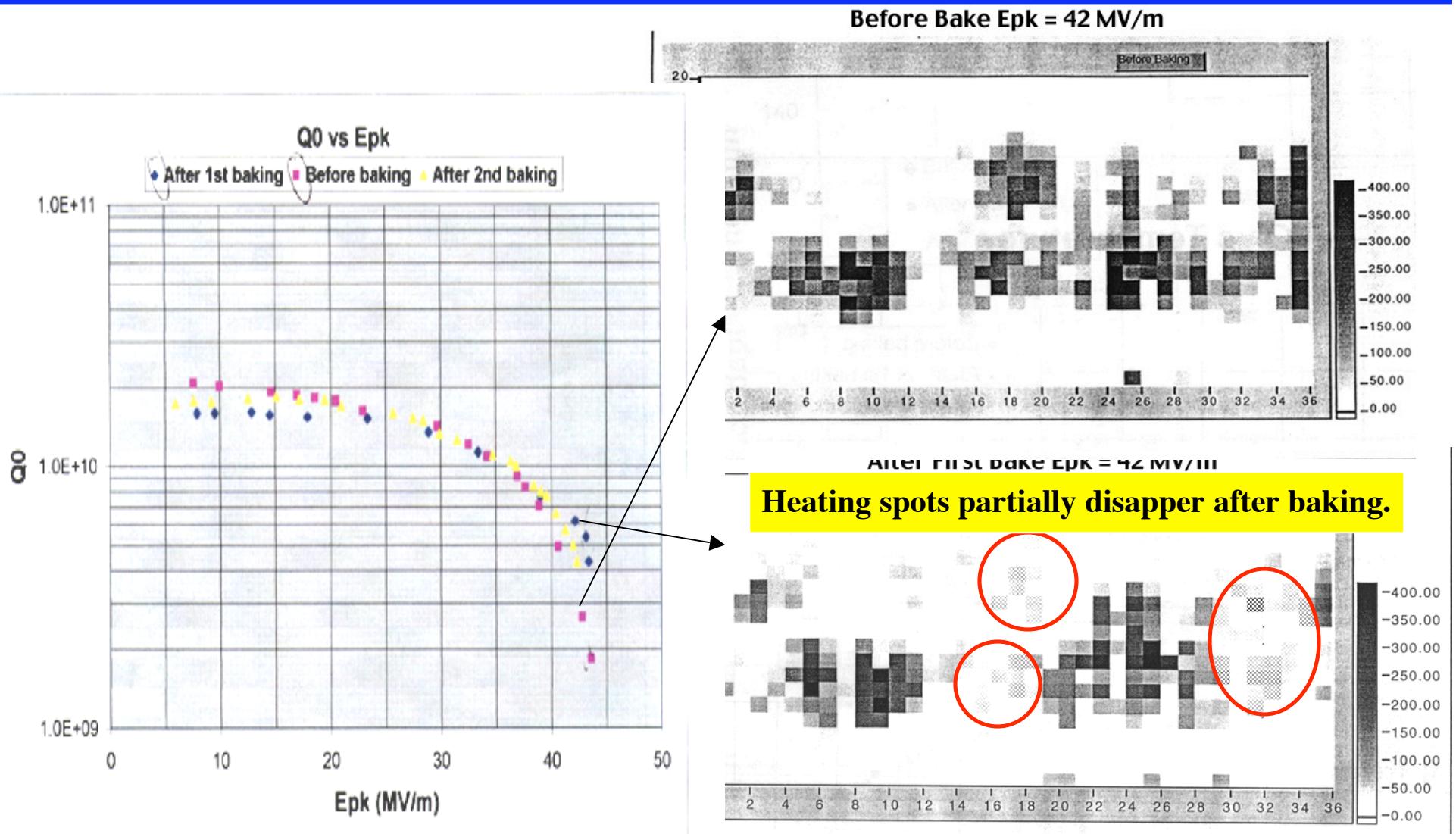
Field Emission

Non-resonant electron loading due to field emitted electrons by tunneling effect

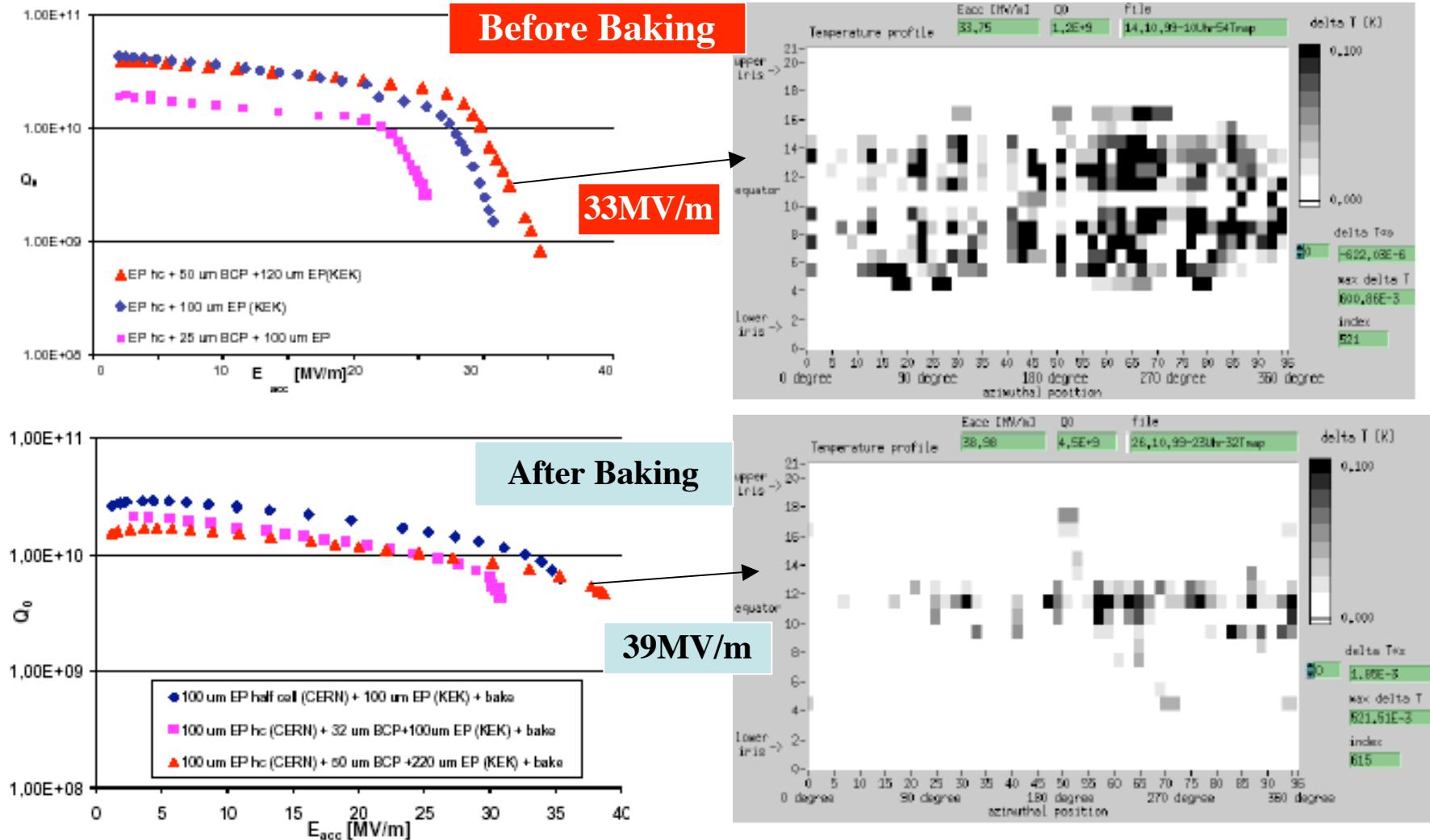


Heating on meridian

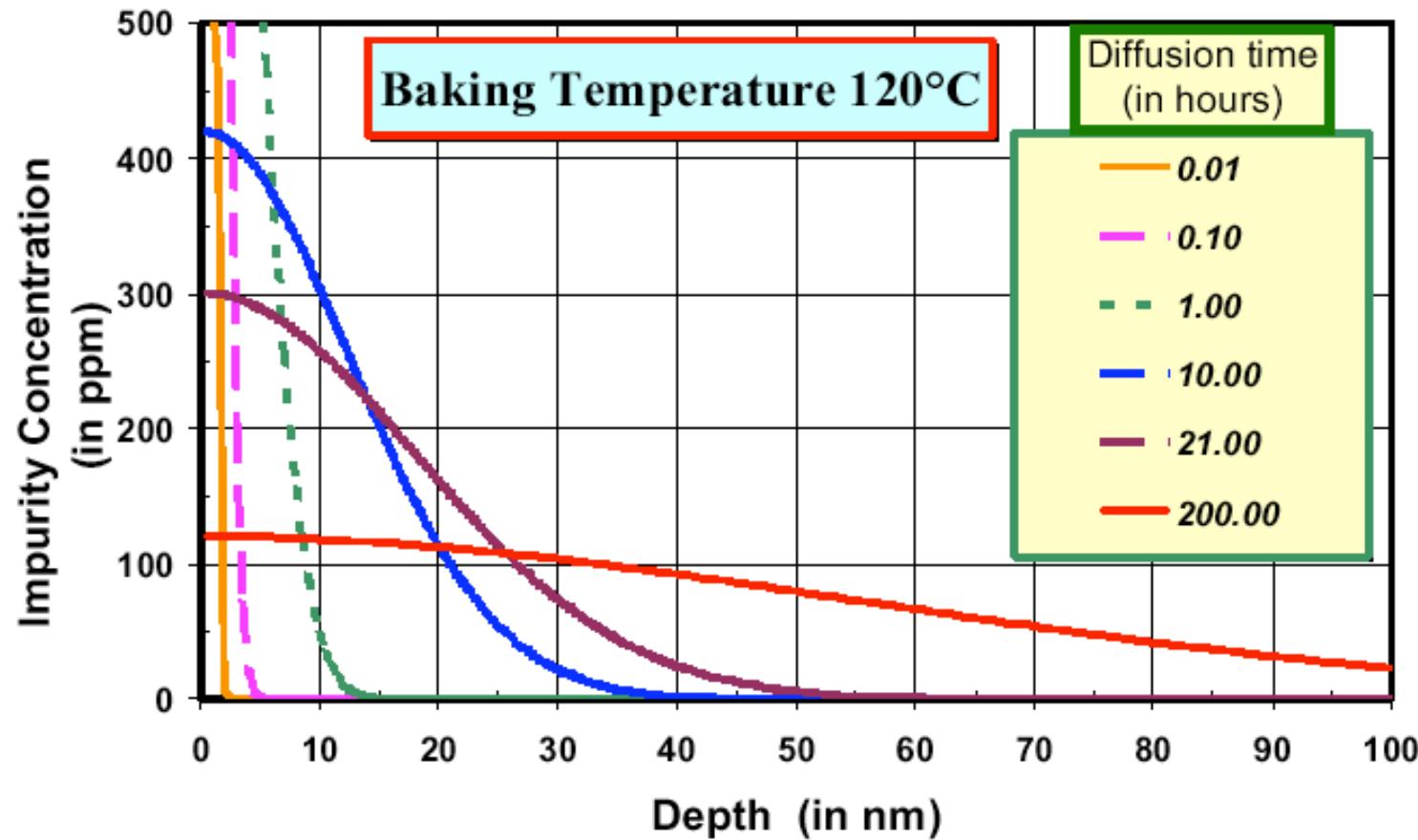
Q-slope: Partially Disappeared Heating Spots by Baking on CP Cavity



Q-slope: Disappeared Heating Spots by Baking on EP Cavity



Oxygen Diffusion



Oxygen on top diffuse into bulk by baking (120°C for 48 hr).

Loss Mechanism

Interface Tunnel Exchange(ITE Model)
By J.Halbritter

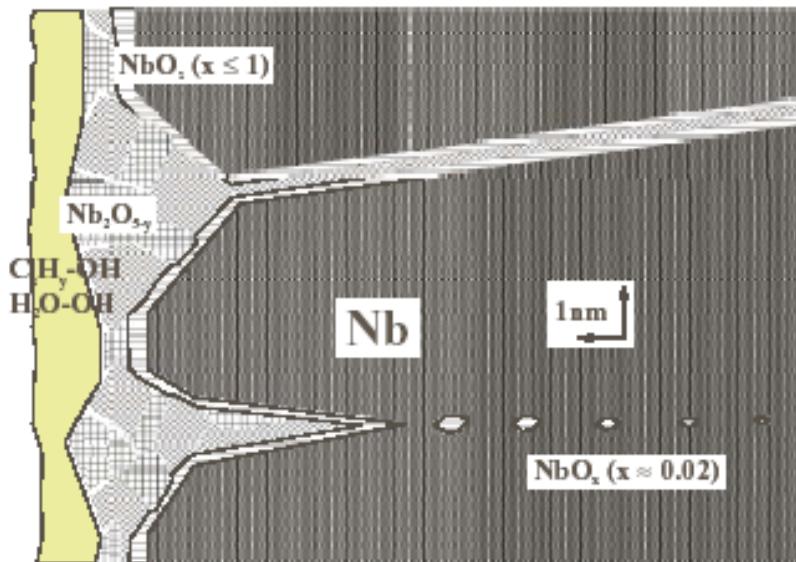


Fig. 1: Nb surface with crack corrosion by oxidation by Nb_2O_5 volume expansion (factor 3). $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_{5-y}\text{-NbO}_x$ weak links/segregates ($y, x < 1$) extend up to depths between $0.01 - 1/ 1-10 \mu\text{m}$ for good – bad Nb quality and weak - strong oxidation [8]. Embedded in the adsorbate layer of $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{C}_x\text{H}_y\text{OH} (\geq 2 \text{ nm})$ being chemisorbed by hydrogen bonds to $\text{NbO}_x(\text{OH})_y$, adsorbate covered dust is found. This dust yields enhanced field emission (EFE [7]) summarized in Sect. 3.1.

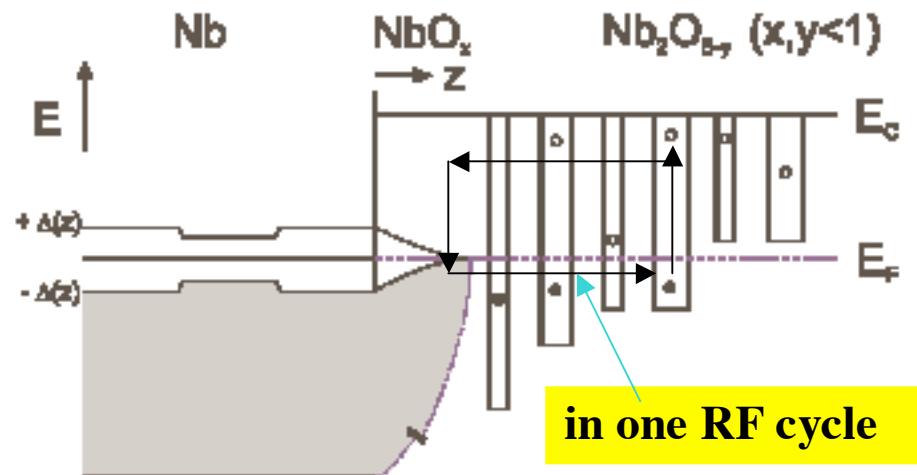


Fig. 3: Band structure at Nb- NbO_x - $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_{5-y}$ interfaces with $E_c - E_F = \phi \approx 0.1 - 1 \text{ eV}$ as barrier heights for tunneling along crystallographic shear planes ($\sim 0.1 \text{ eV}$) or of $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_{5-y}$ crystallites ($\sim 1 \text{ eV}$). Added is the superconducting energy gap $\Delta^*(z) < \Delta_o$ being reduced in NbO_x clusters or interfaces and being normal conducting Δ^* ($z_L \geq 0.5 \text{ nm}$) in localized states of $\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_{5-y}$. By their volume expansion those clusters locally enhance T^* and $\Delta^* > \Delta_o$ in adjacent Nb by the uniaxial strain yielding a smeared BCS DOS.

Disease	Phenomena	Cures
Thermal instability	Quench at bad spot	Mechanical grinding, Use high pure niobium material Sever material control
Multipacting	Q-drop at discrete field levels (Electron resonant loading), Heating around equator section X-ray	Make clean surface Use spherical shape
Field emission	Exponential Q-drop with gradient (Electron non resonant loading) Heating on meridian X-ray	Make clean and smooth surface Use ultrapure water Use clean room assembly High pressure water rinsing
Hydrogen Q-disease	Low Q from low field, Depends on cooling speed	Annealing
Q-slope	Exponential Q-degradation without / with x-ray	Baking