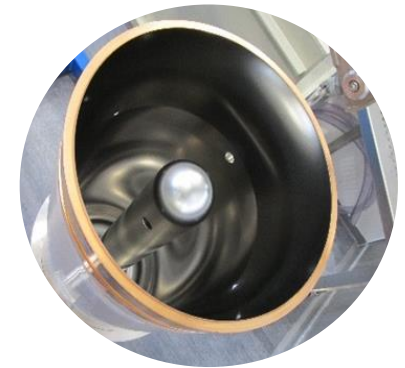
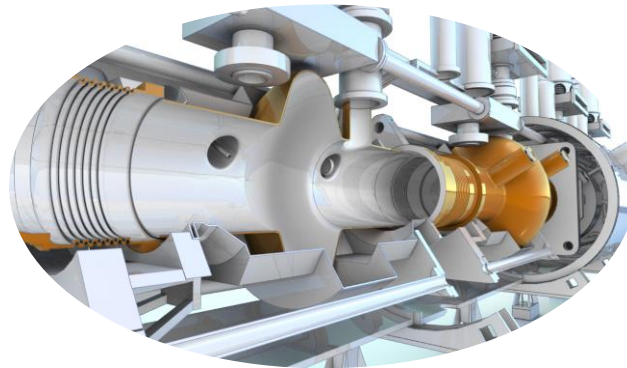




Superconducting Coatings for future RF Cavities

Guillaume ROSAZ
CERN: TE-VSC/SCC

On behalf of:
HIE-ISOLDE working group
LHC spare cavities working group
FCC WP3



OUTLINE

1. SRF Thin films : interest
2. Coating techniques
3. Past and on-going projects
4. Recent achievements
5. On-going R&D
6. Conclusion

1.

SRF Thin Films: Interest



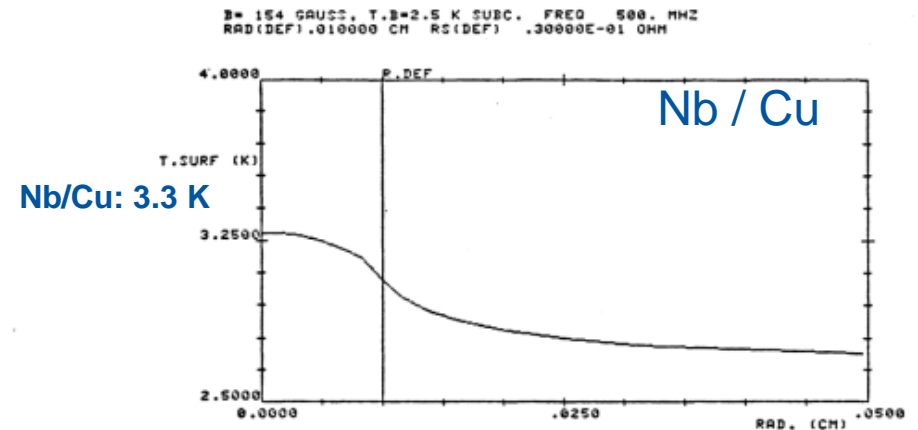
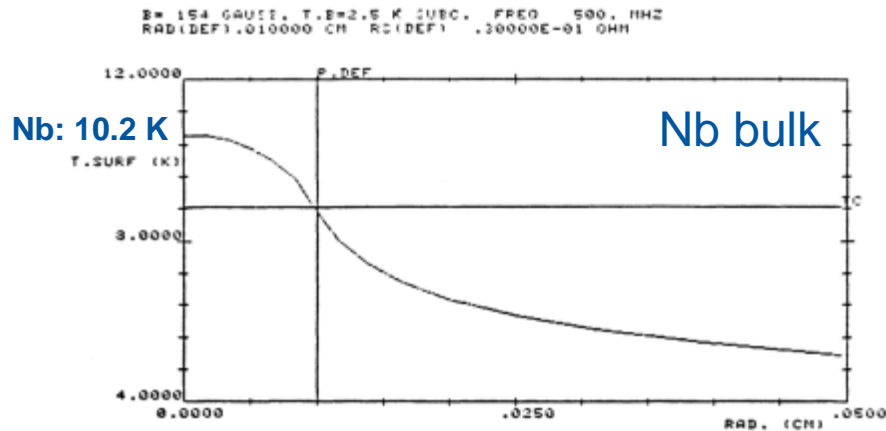
COST

Manufacturing: Cu OFE (10euros/kg) vs Nb RRR300 (800euros/kg)

Operation: Operation @ 4.2 K / Simpler cryostat (stainless steel vs Titanium)

Thermal Stability

Cu substrate ensures SC film stabilization wrt thermo-magnetic breakdown



Temperature distribution calculation for a 100 micron radius steel defect embedded either in niobium or in copper

Joachim Tuckmantel - Thermal effects in superconducting RF cavities: some new results from an improved program
CERN-EF-RF-84-6. - 1984.

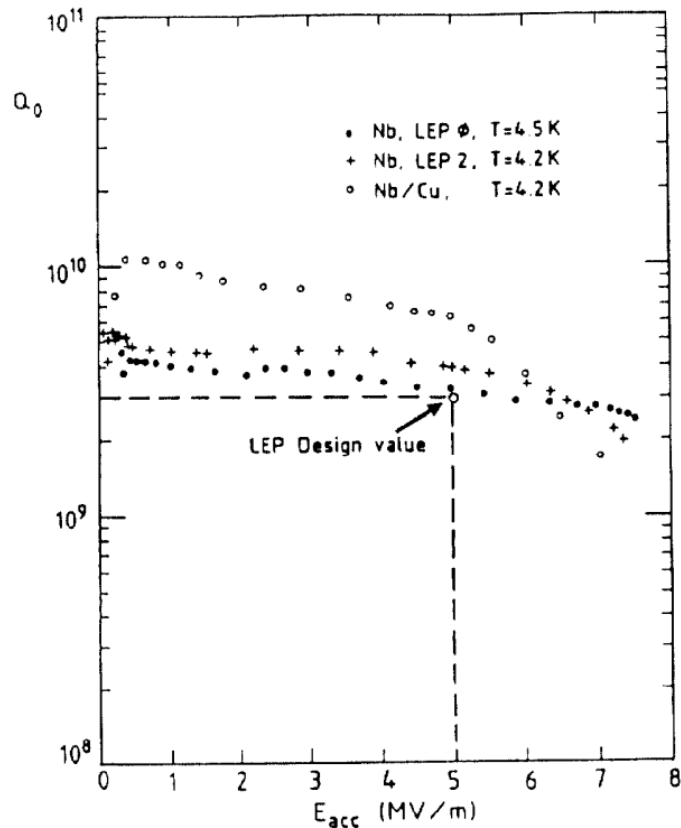


Fig. 1 Dependence of Q -values on E_{acc} . Final values for 4-cell Nb cavities LEP 0 and LEP 2 and for a 350 MHz 4-cell Cu cavity with a magnetron sputtered Nb layer.

P. Bernard et al, Superconducting cavities for LEP, Status report, https://accelconf.web.cern.ch/accelconf/e88/PDF/EPAC1988_0958.PDF

SRF: higher CW accelerating gradient wrt copper

Increase beam stability by increasing stored energy

1-MW klystrons for Cu@55GeV enough to obtain 90GeV with SC

Bulk Nb: Expensive and subject to quenching

@ 4.2K Nb/Cu more efficient

**Nb/Cu less sensitive to earth magnetic field
→ avoid expensive shielding**

Very satisfying from an operational point of view.

Decision taken to use the same technology toward the hadronic machine version: LHC

Magnetic field sensitivity

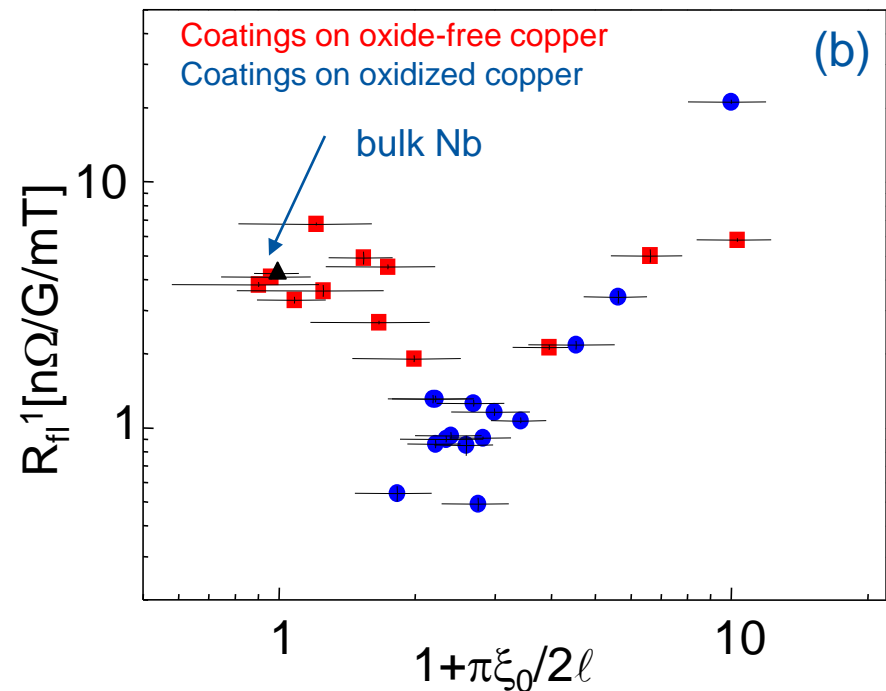
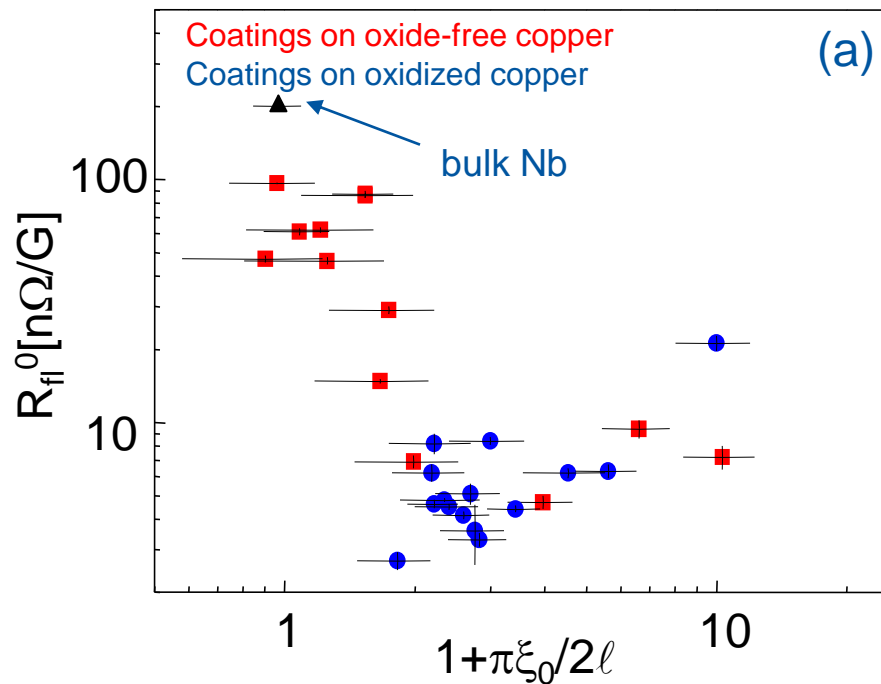
Losses due to trapped external magnetic field at 1.7 K are characterized as

$$R_{fl} = (R_{fl}^0 + R_{fl}^1 H_{RF}) H_{ext}$$

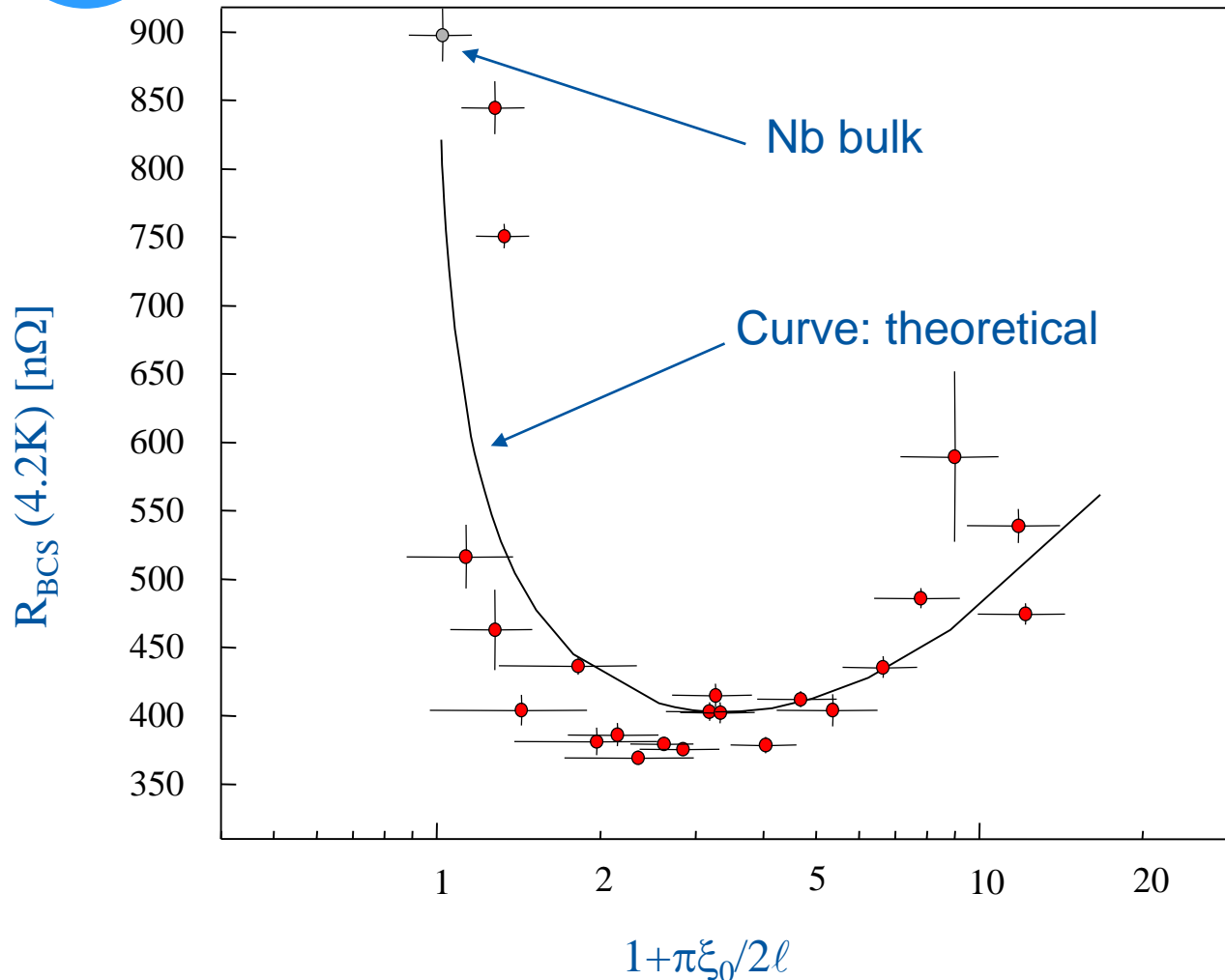
The minimum values are obtained using krypton as sputter gas:

$$R_{fl}^0 = 3 \text{ n}\Omega/\text{G}$$

$$R_{fl}^1 = 0.4 \text{ n}\Omega/\text{G/mT}$$



No need for magnetic shielding considerably simplifies cryostat design



R_{BCS} at 4.2 K
(1.5 GHz)

Nb bulk: $\sim 900 \text{ n}\Omega$

Nb films: $\sim 400 \text{ n}\Omega$

R_{BCS} at 1.7 K
(1.5 GHz)

Nb bulk: $\sim 2.5 \text{ n}\Omega$

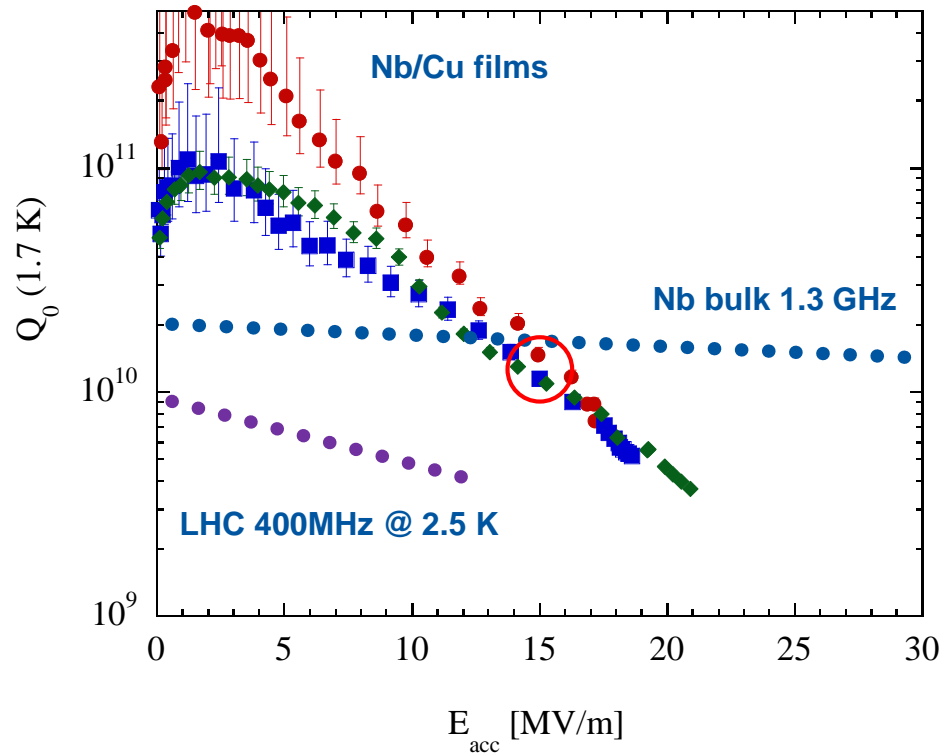
Nb films: $\sim 1.5 \text{ n}\Omega$

Lowest R_{BCS} allows achieving highest Q values even at 1.7 K

Strong efforts on optimizing Nb films using 1.5 GHz Cu cavities

- Easy to handle
- Both R_{BCS} and R_{res} accessible at 4.2K and 2K

1.5 GHz Nb/Cu cavities, sputtered with Kr @ 1.7 K ($Q_0=295/R_s$)

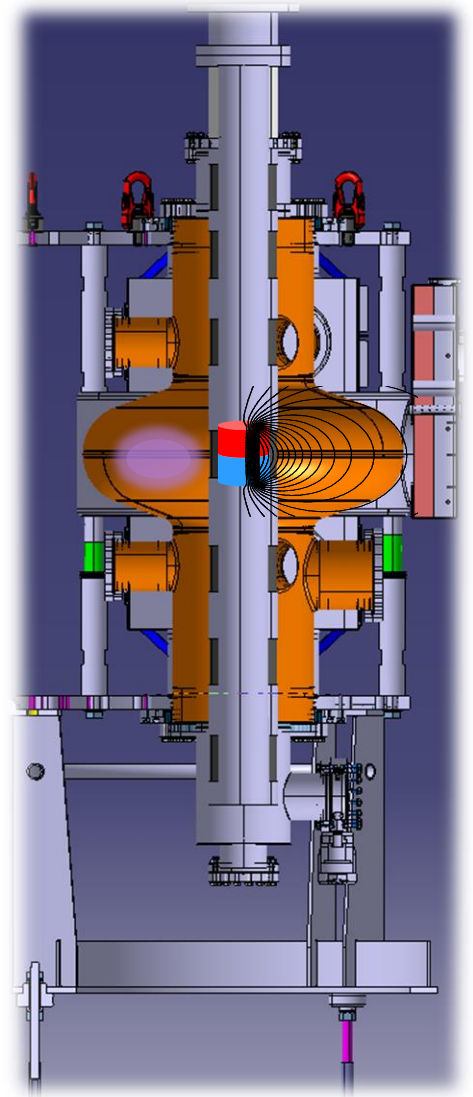
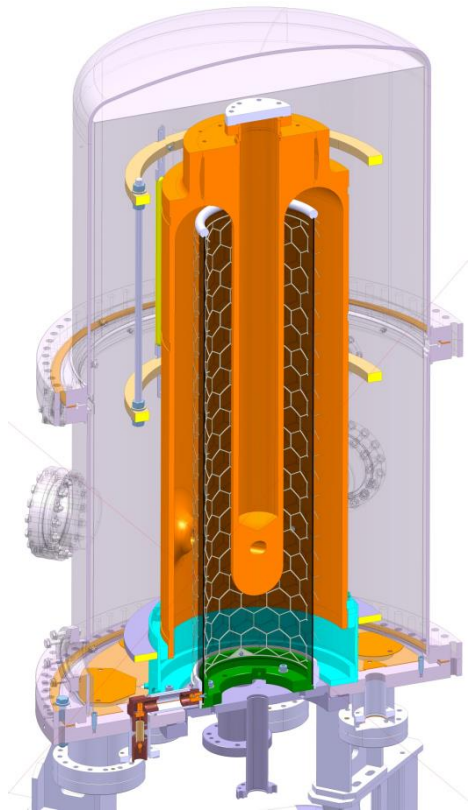


Courtesy of S. Calatroni

$Q = 1 \times 10^{10}$ @ 15 MV/m is a value that would make film cavities a competitive option for new high energy proton accelerators (high-beta)

2.

Coating Techniques



Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

Nb very sensitive to hydrogen and oxygen contamination

- Pure Nb starting material preferred (RRR 300)
 - Low coating pressure

UHV environment required to ensure low R_{BCS} and low R_{res}

- UHV class vacuum system
 - Bake Out

Diode Sputtering



Ar (10^{-1} mbar)



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

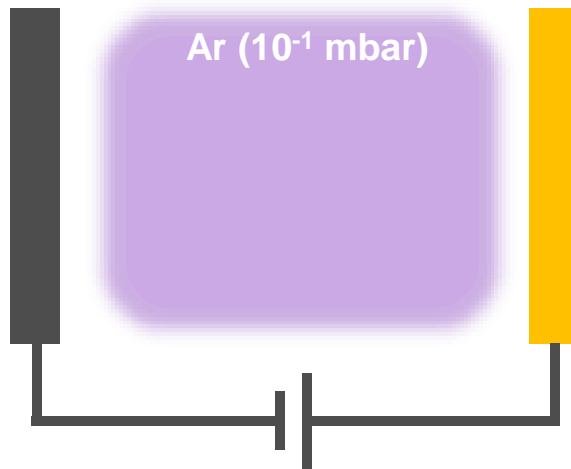
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Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

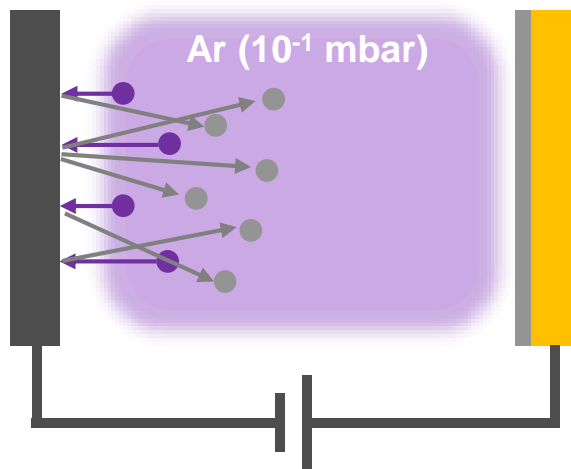
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Diode Sputtering



Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

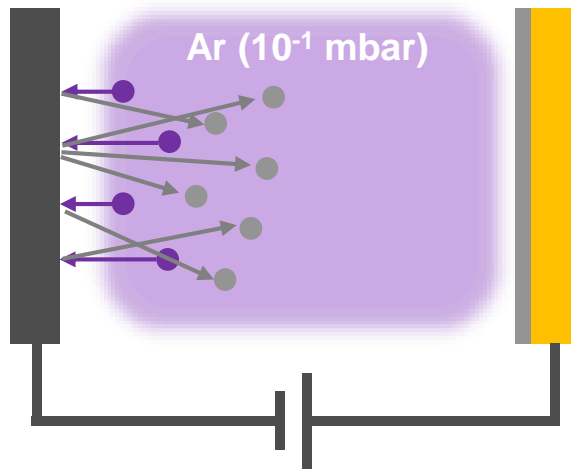
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Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

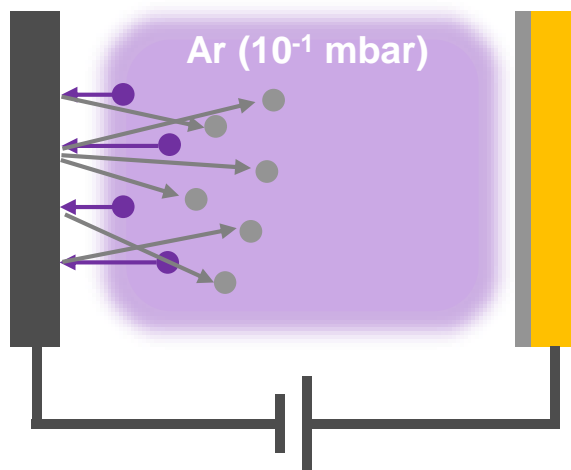
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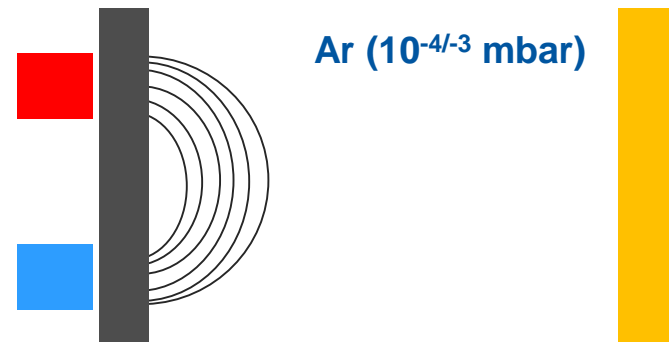
Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Magnetron Sputtering



Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

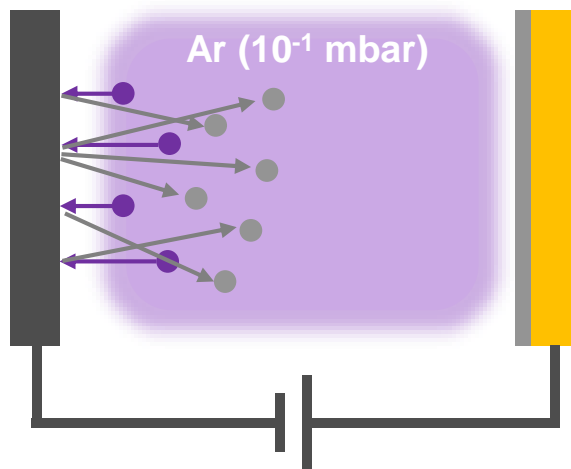
Nb very sensitive to hydrogen and oxygen contamination

- Pure Nb starting material preferred (RRR 300)
- Low coating pressure

UHV environment required to ensure low R_{BCS} and low R_{res}

- UHV class vacuum system
- Bake Out

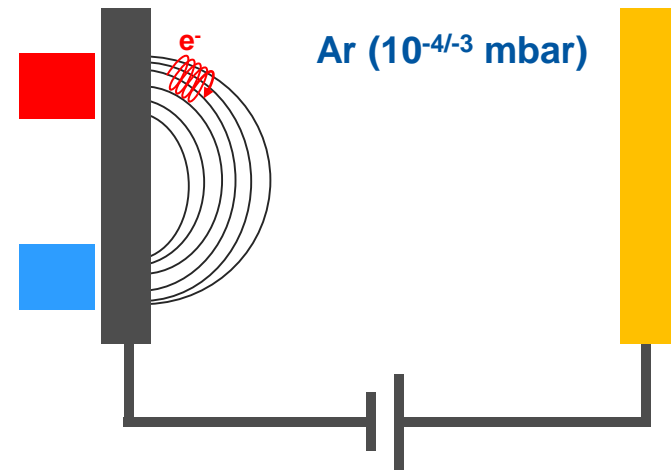
Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Magnetron Sputtering



Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

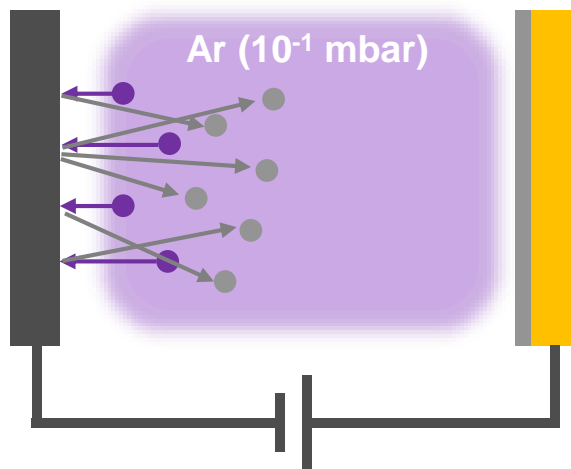
Nb very sensitive to hydrogen and oxygen contamination

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UHV environment required to ensure low R_{BCS} and low R_{res}

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- Bake Out

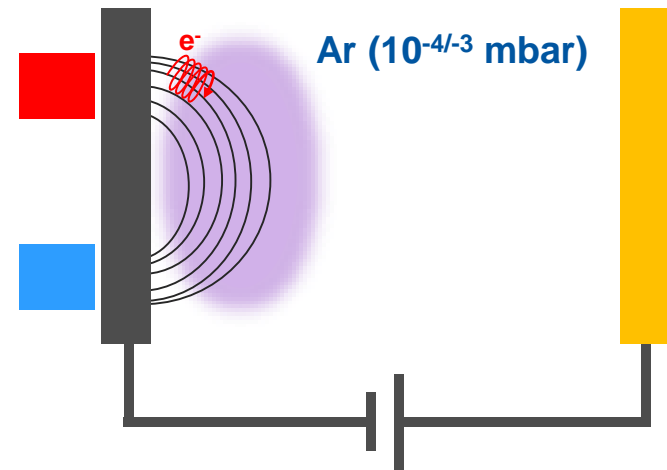
Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Magnetron Sputtering



Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

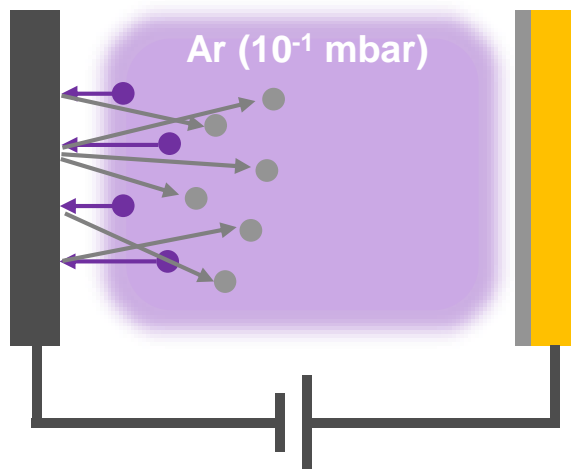
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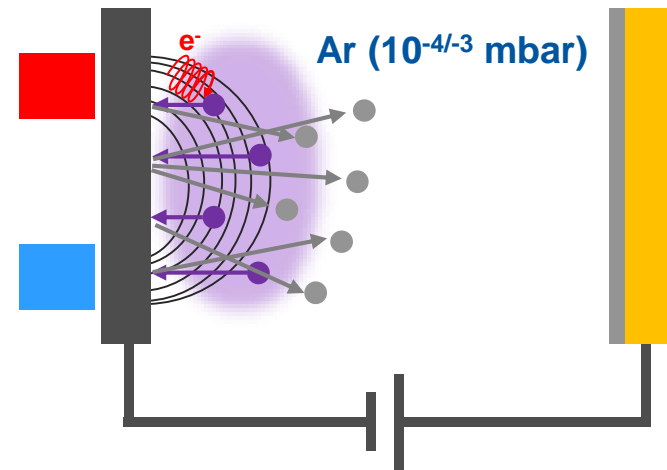
Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Magnetron Sputtering



Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD)

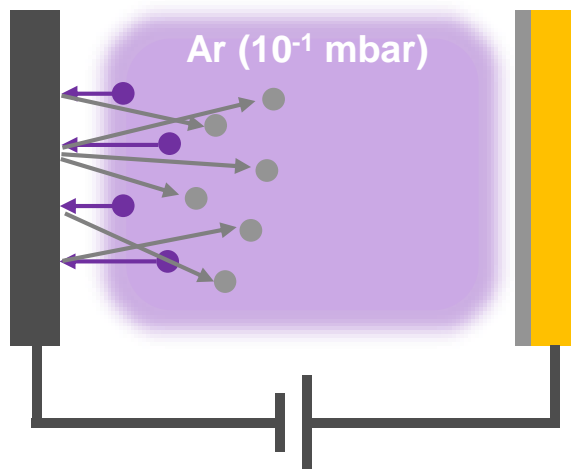
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- UHV class vacuum system
- Bake Out

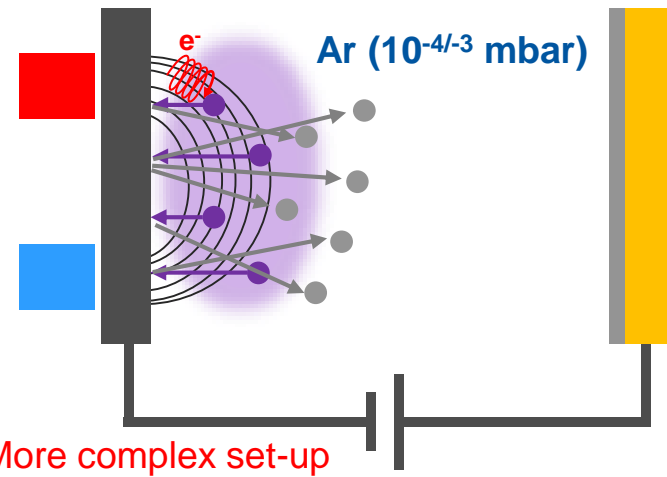
Diode Sputtering



Simple set-up

High working pressure

Magnetron Sputtering



More complex set-up

Temperature control required on cathode

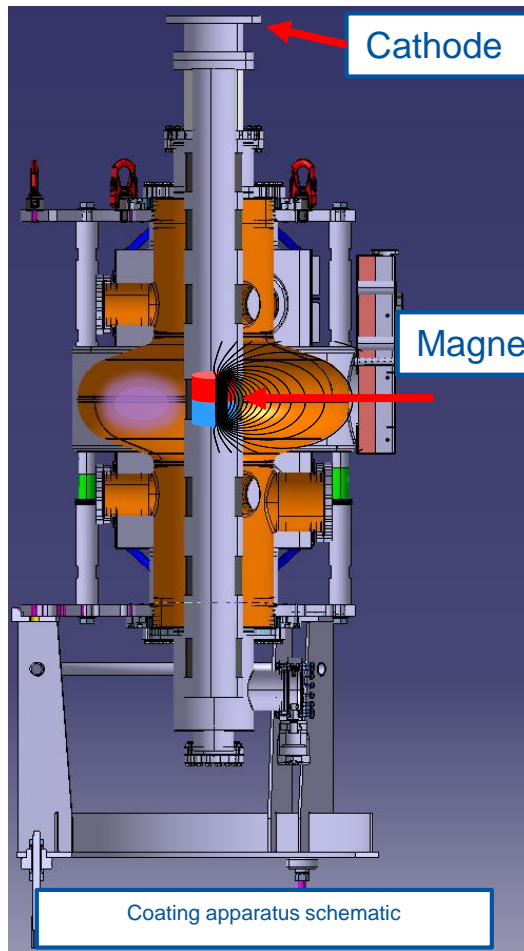
Higher coating rate

Lower contamination

Historically :
Magnetron sputtering for elliptical cavities
Diode trials on elliptical were not convincing
Diode sputtering for QWR (inspired from ALPI upgrade)

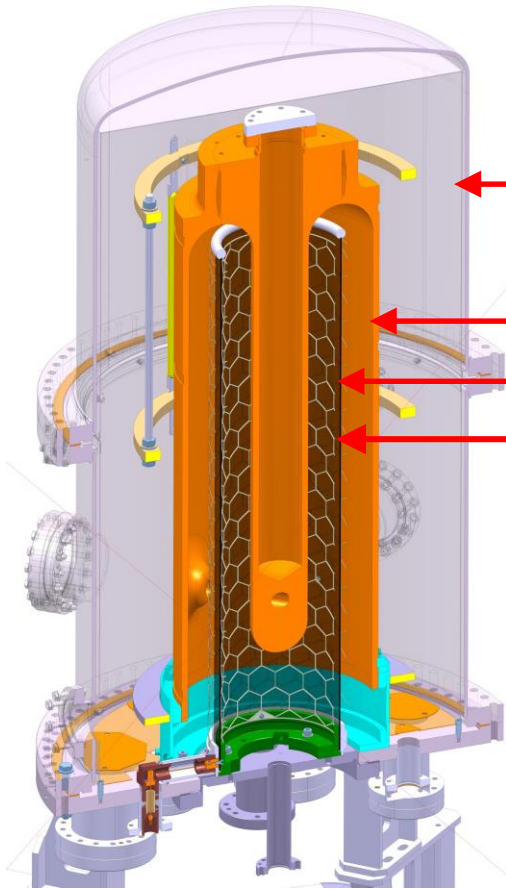
Main R&D efforts focus on
High Power Impulse Magnetron Sputtering (Jlab and CERN cf next chapter)
Electronic Cyclotronic Resonance (Jlab)
Atomic Layer Deposition (Argonne, Saclay, Old Dominion, STFC...)
UHV Cathodic Arc (alameda, NCBJ, INFN...)

Elliptical cavities coatings



- **Cavity as UHV chamber**
(10^{-10} mbar base vacuum)
- Cavity = anode, grounded
- Nb cylindrical cathodes tubes
- **movable electromagnet inside**, liquid cooled
- **DC-magnetron sputtering, 6 kW, $1 \cdot 10^{-3}$ mbar Kr**
- Cavity bake-out (bake-out tent) to 180°C
- Coating 7 steps for the 7 different electromagnet positions
- Duration = 1h 20' at low temperature (150°C)
- **Nb layer thickness $\sim 2 \mu\text{m}$**





- Cavity in UHV chamber
(10^{-8} mbar base vacuum)
- Cu cavity substrate, **biased at -80 V**
- Nb cylindrical cathode **used on both sides**, not cooled
- Anode grids on both sides of cathode, grounded
- **DC-bias diode sputtering, 8 kW, 0.2 mbar Ar**

- Cavity bake-out to 650°C (IR lamps) prior to coating
- Coating at high temperature ($300 \rightarrow 620^{\circ}\text{C}$)
- 15 runs of 25' each, net coating duration = 6h
- Multi-layers due to coating run/cool-down cycles
- **Nb layer thickness ranging from $1.5 \mu\text{m}$ to $12 \mu\text{m}$**



3.

Past and on-going projects



LEP

216 elliptical cavities (352 MHz) coated in industry

LHC

21 elliptical cavities (400MHz) coated in industry
8 new spares to be manufactured

SOLEIL

2 elliptical cavities (352 MHz) coated at CERN

HIE-ISOLDE

23 quarter wave cavities (101 MHz) coated at CERN

R&D Programs

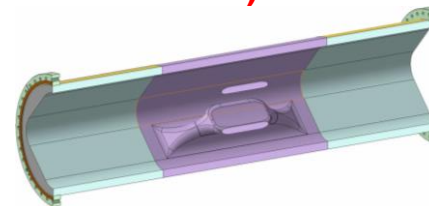
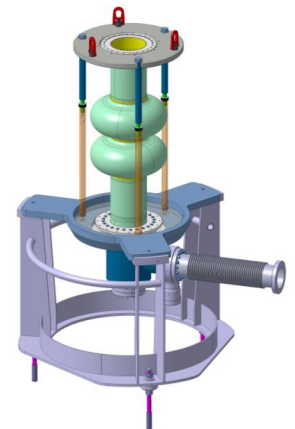
1.3 / 1.5 GHz / low beta 704MHz Cu cavities

Others

Cornell Cavity (200MHz), Super-3HC cavities (double cell 1.5 GHz)

FCC

400/800 MHz elliptical cavities
WOW (Nb/Cu crabbing cavities)



Superconducting booster for ISOLDE radioactive ion beam facility at CERN

39 MV needed to reach 10 MeV/u

for $A/q = 4.5$ (highest possible at ISOLDE)

25 Quarter Wave Resonators cavities

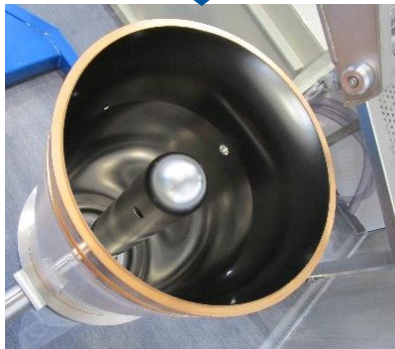
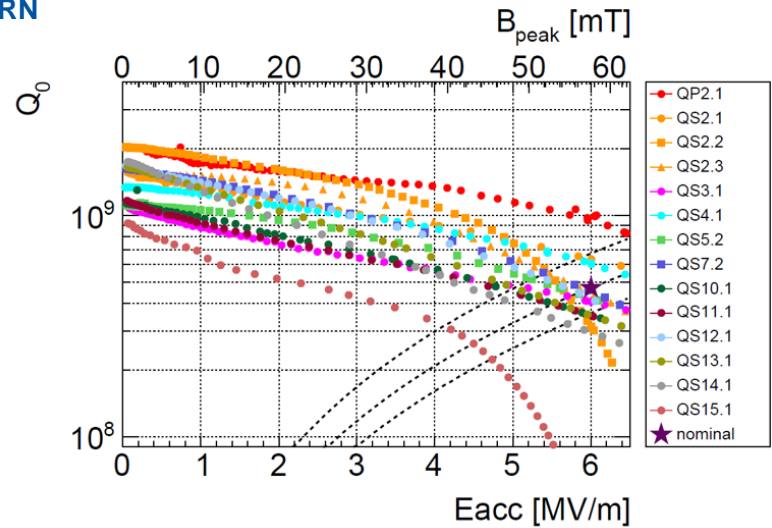
→ cavities production for phase 2 completed,

→ 4th cryomodule under commissioning,

→ + 3 spare cavities produced out of 5



Frequency	101.28 MHz
Specification	6 MV/m @ $Q_0 = 4.7 \times 10^8$



→ 8 Spare cavities to be manufactured, Nb coated and dressed with He-tank

Practice cavities (PC): 3 coatings

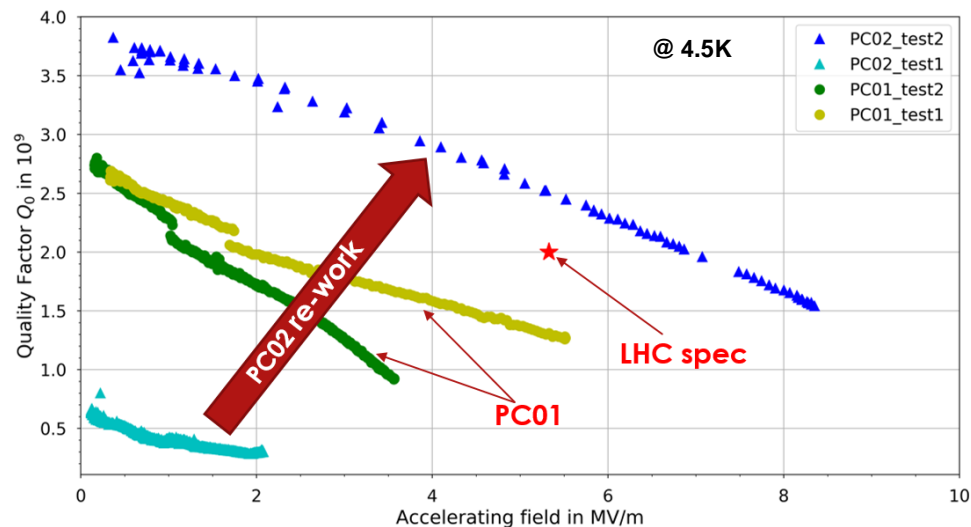
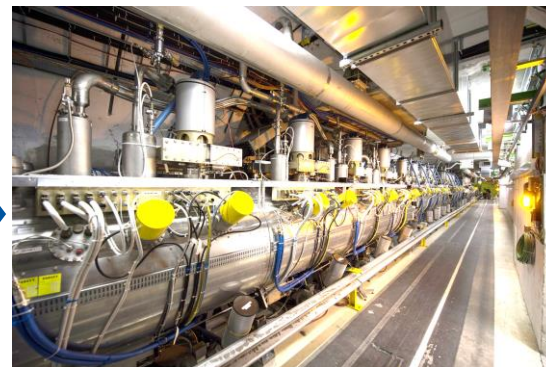
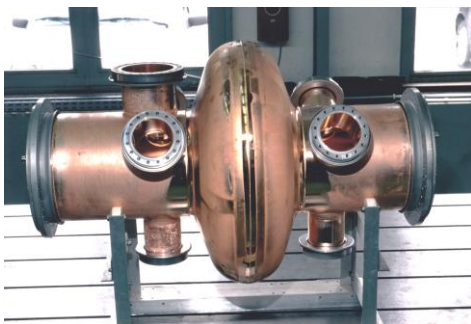
PC01 recoated: substrate structural defect

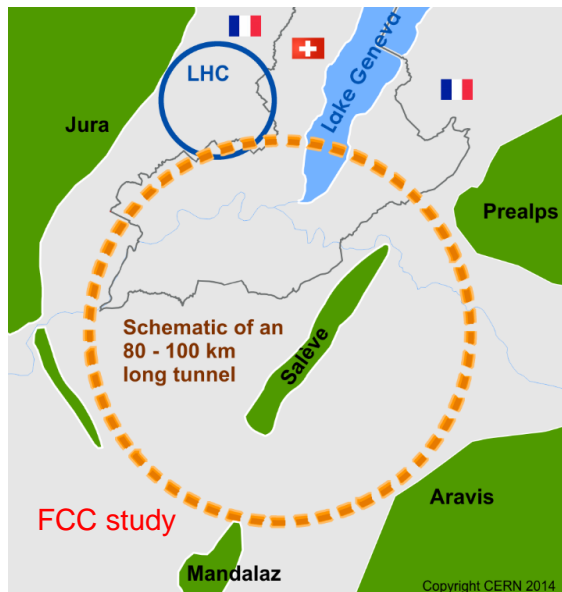
PC05: coated, RF test pending

PC02 recoated:

- Cavity at specs ($Q_0 = 2.2 \cdot 10^9$ at 6 MV/m)
- Coating recipe and assembly flow validated
- Ability to recover a heavily damaged cavity by surface machining

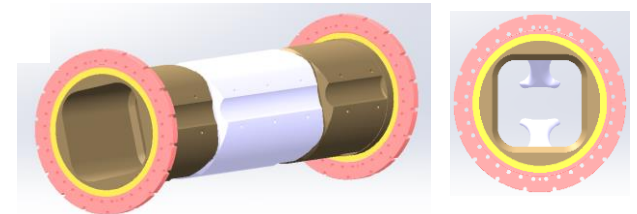
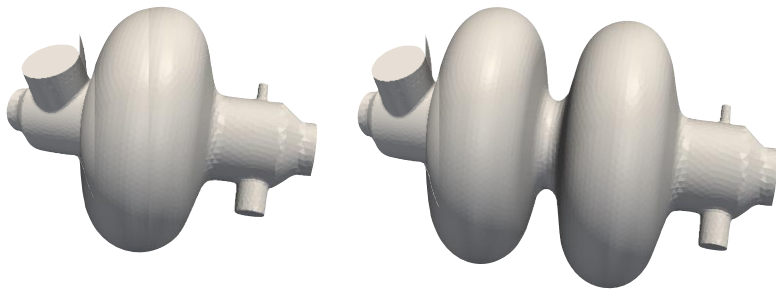
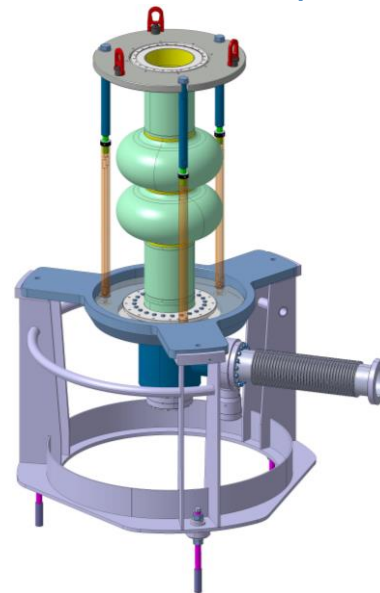
Frequency	400.8 MHz
Specification	5 MV/m @ $Q_0 = 2 \times 10^9$





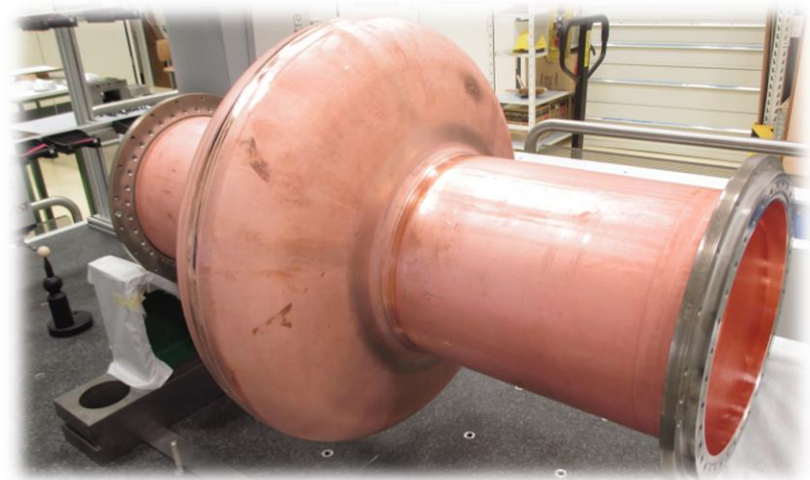
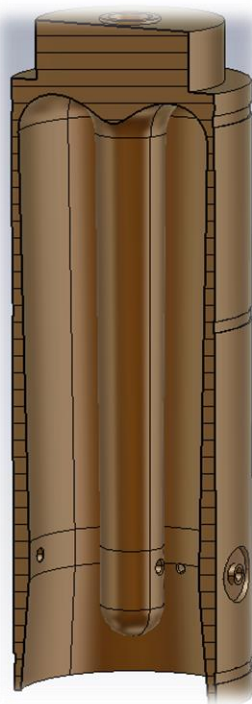
Future: FCC (Future Circular Collider) study

- 400 MHz elliptical single cell, **quantities ~ 300**
- 400/800 MHz elliptical multi-cells, **quantities > 1000**
- 400 MHz Wide Open Waveguide for “crabbing”

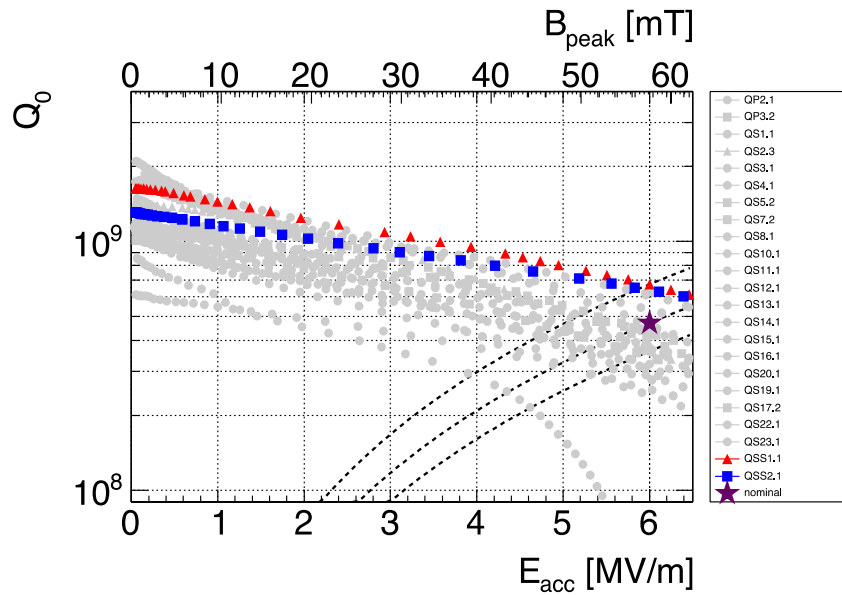


4.

Recent Achievements

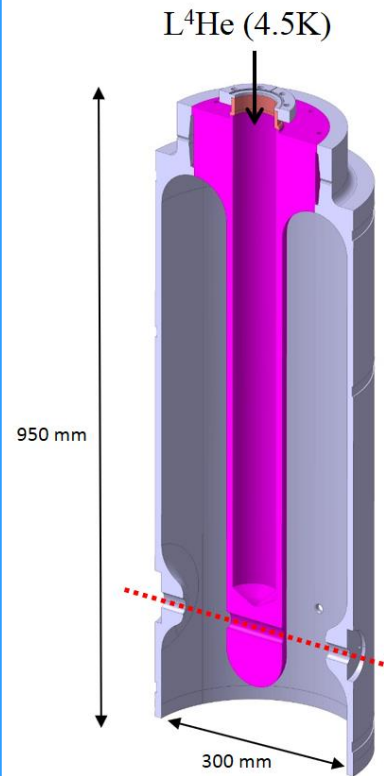


HIE-ISOLDE

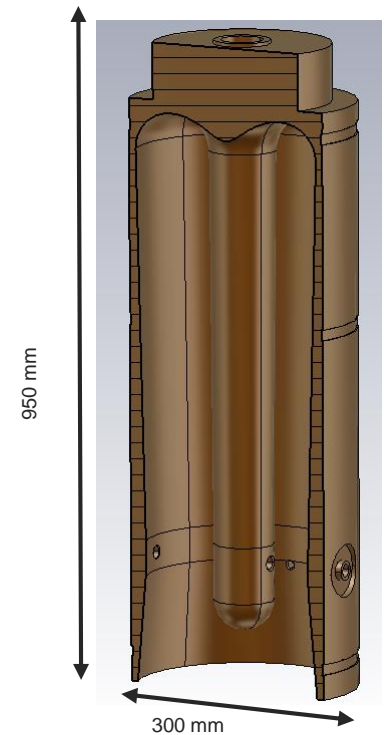


2 seamless cavities produced and coated
Best performances ever obtained

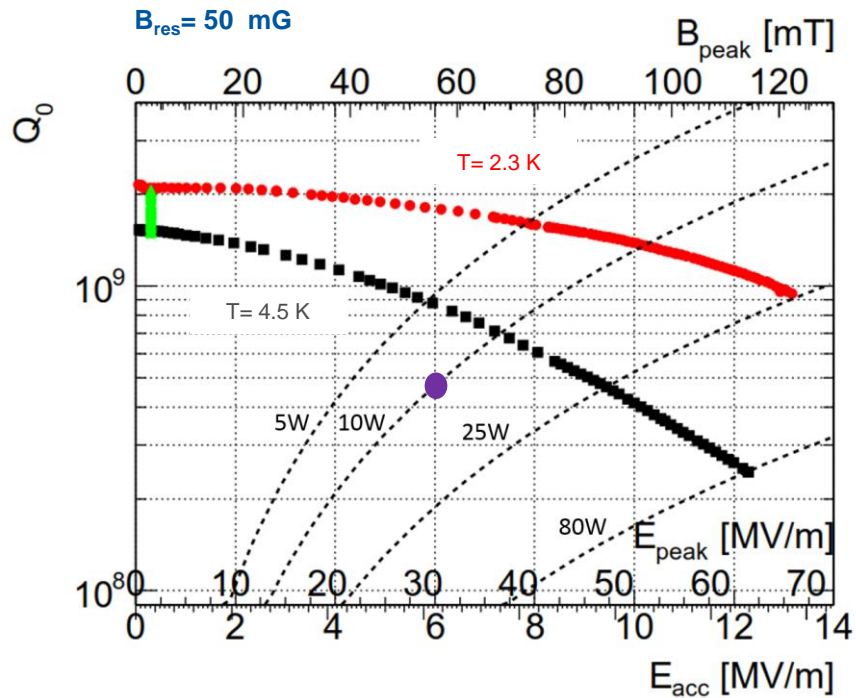
Original design



Seamless design

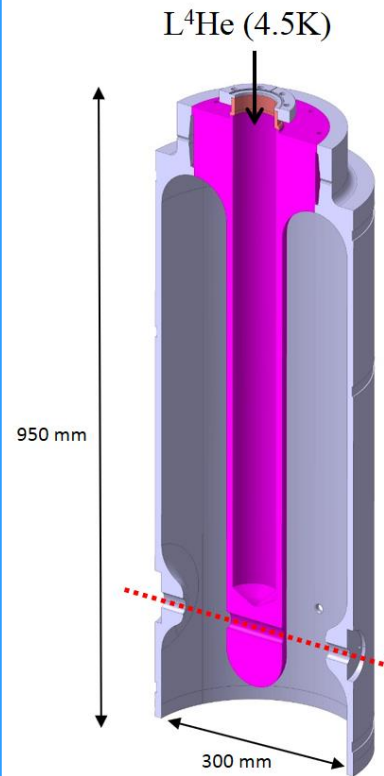


HIE-ISOLDE

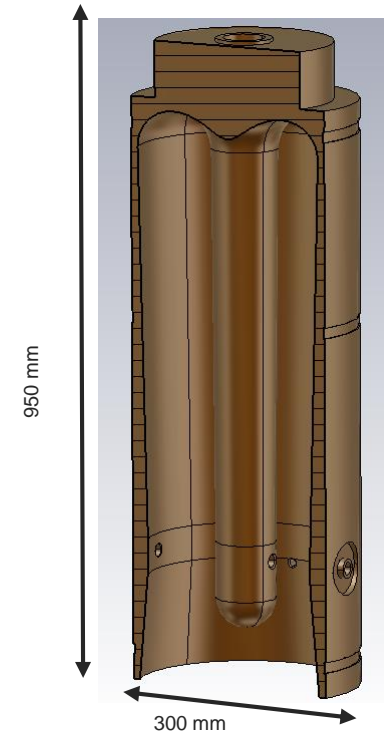


Highest field ever reached by a Nb/Cu cavity
(~30MV/m in elliptical shape)

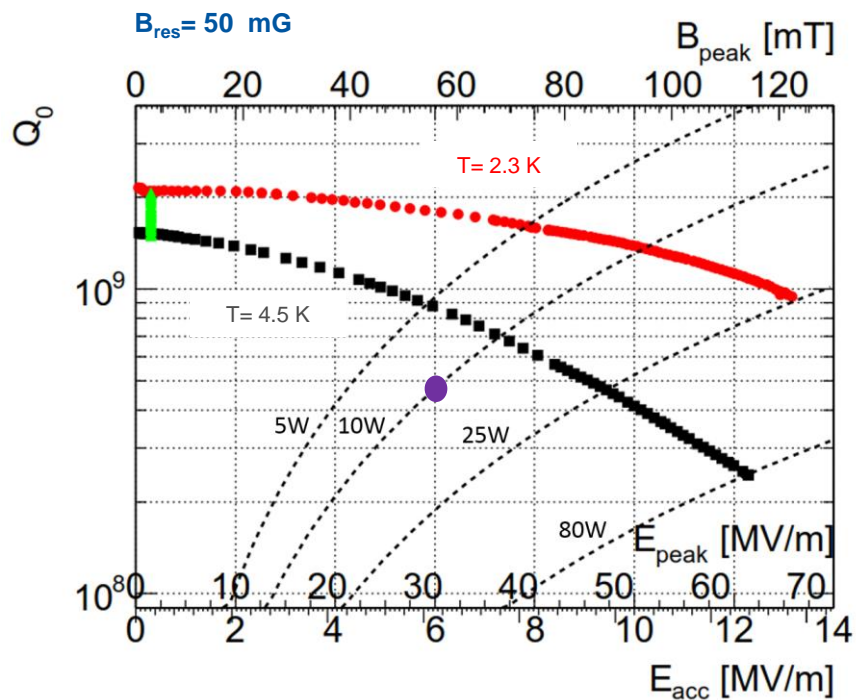
Original design



Seamless design

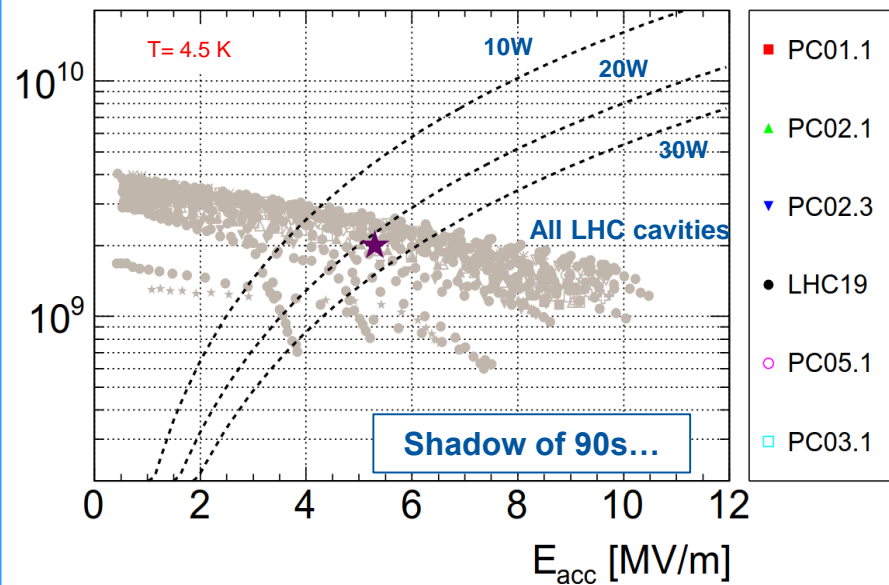


HIE-ISOLDE

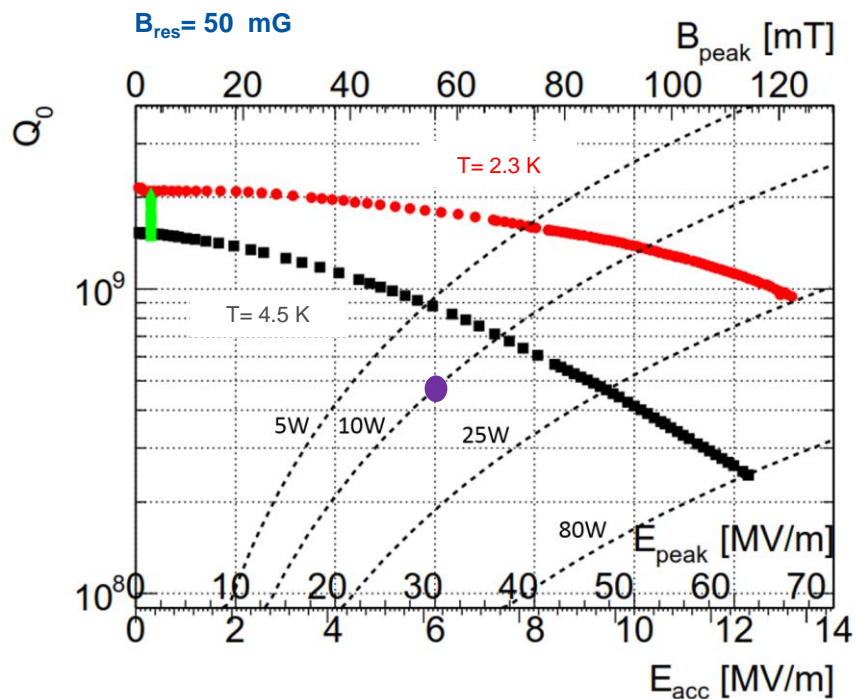


Highest field ever reached by a Nb/Cu cavity
(~30MV/m in elliptical shape)

LHC

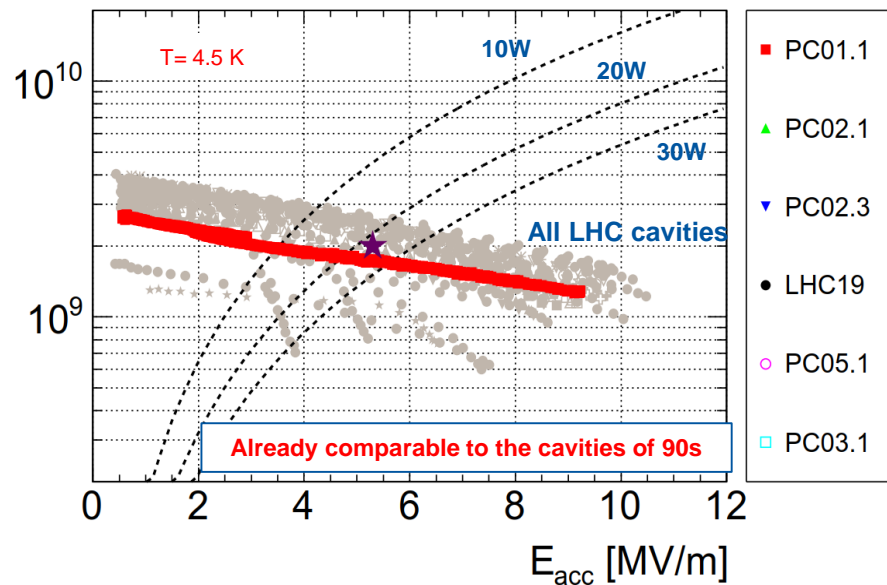


HIE-ISOLDE

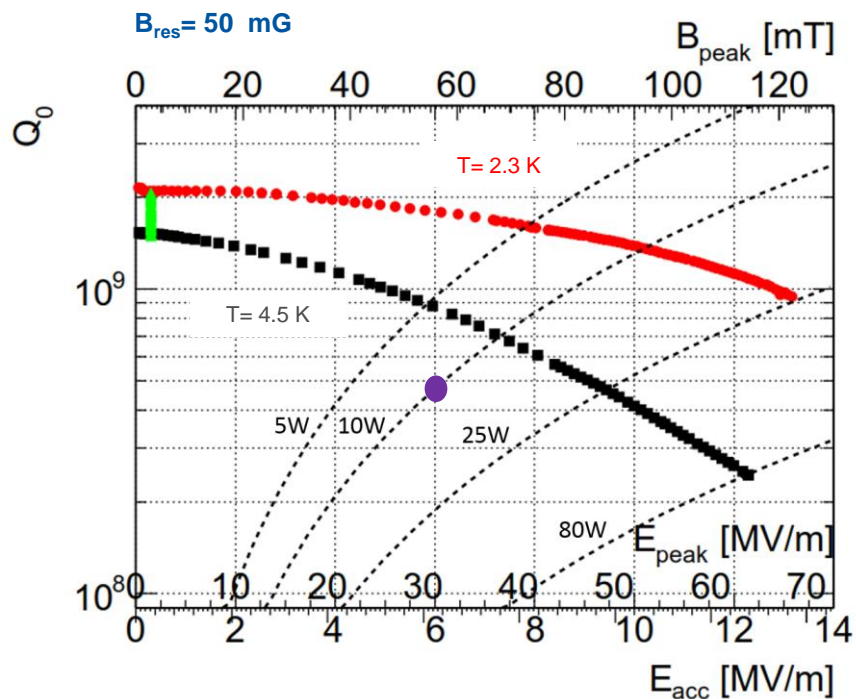


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LHC

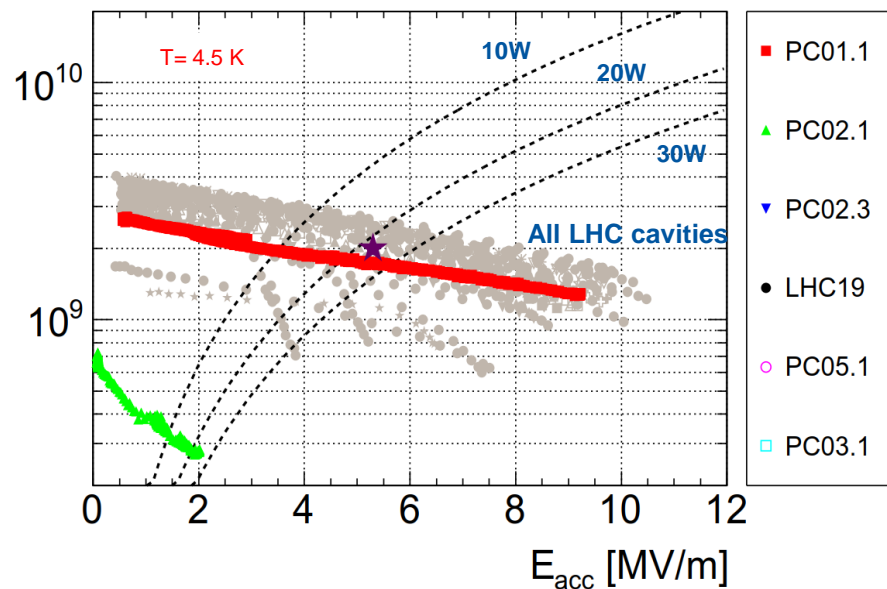


HIE-ISOLDE

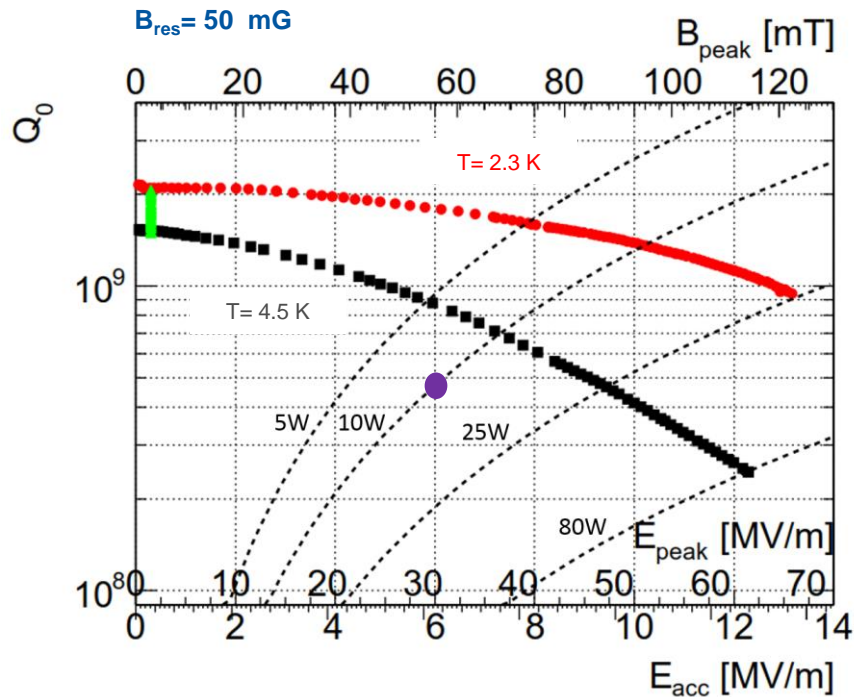


Highest field ever reached by a Nb/Cu cavity
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LHC

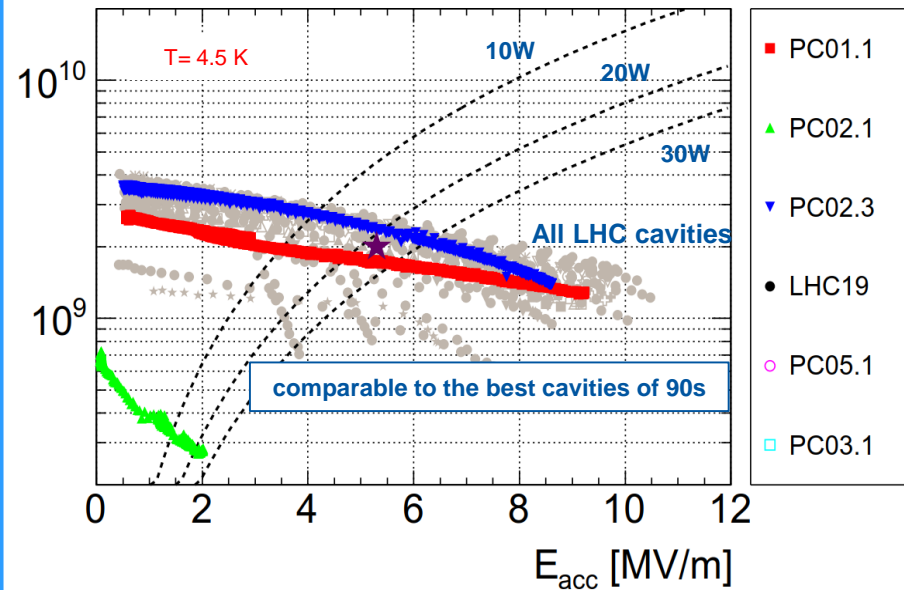


HIE-ISOLDE

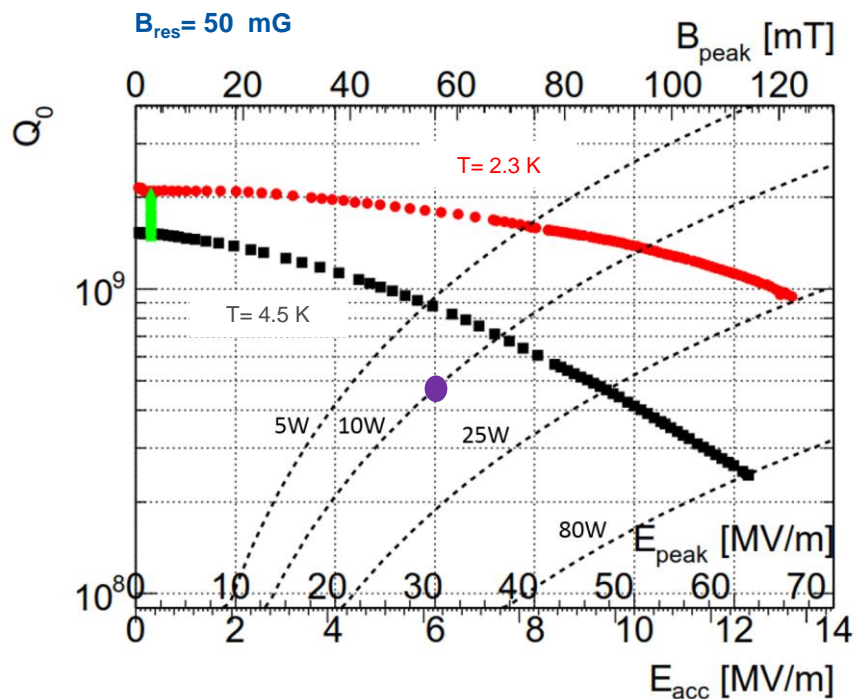


Highest field ever reached by a Nb/Cu cavity
cavity
 (~30MV/m in elliptical shape)

LHC

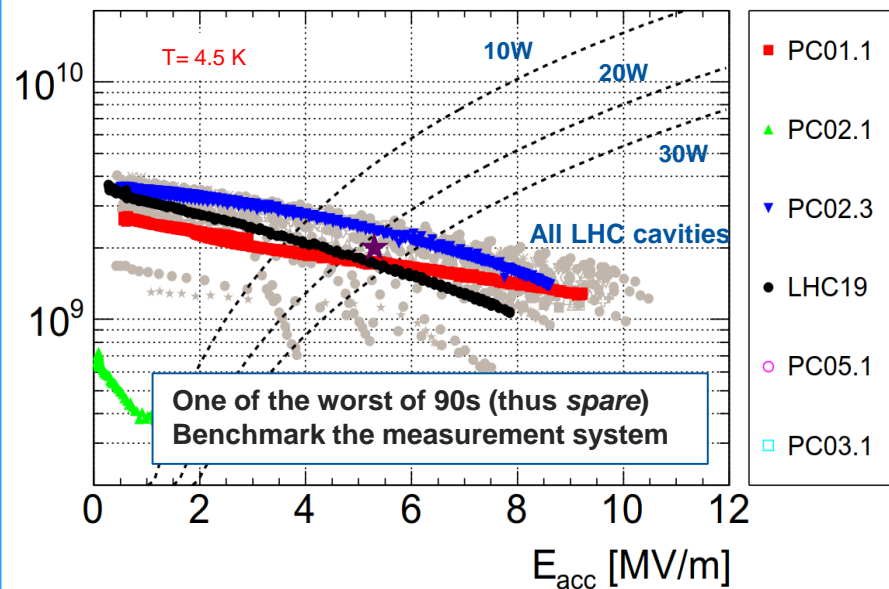


HIE-ISOLDE

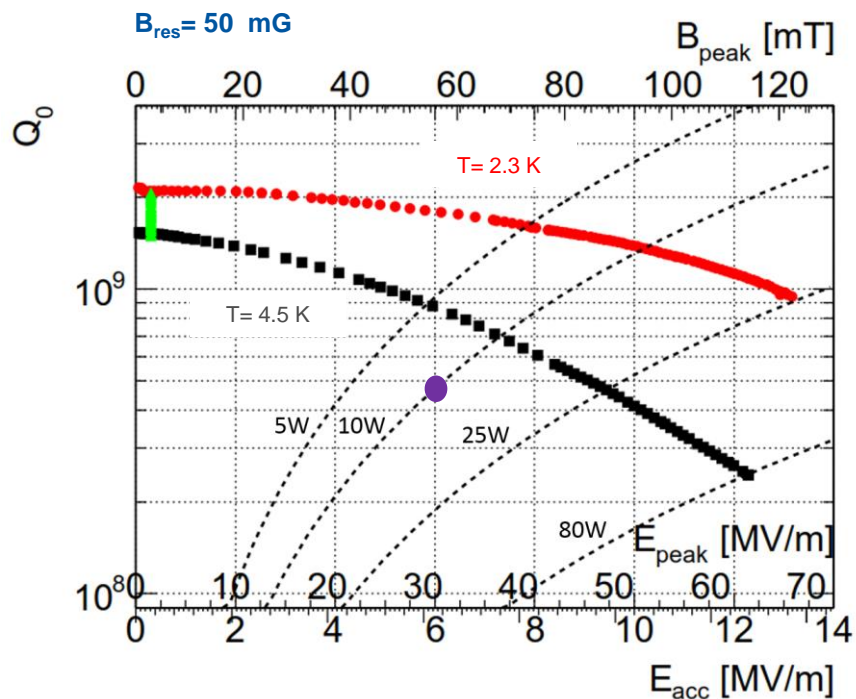


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LHC

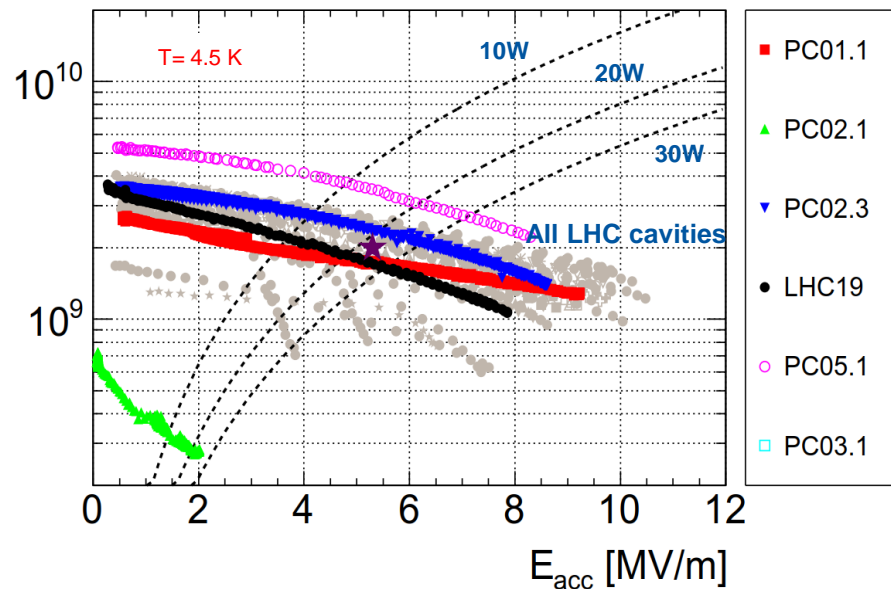


HIE-ISOLDE



Highest field ever reached by a Nb/Cu cavity
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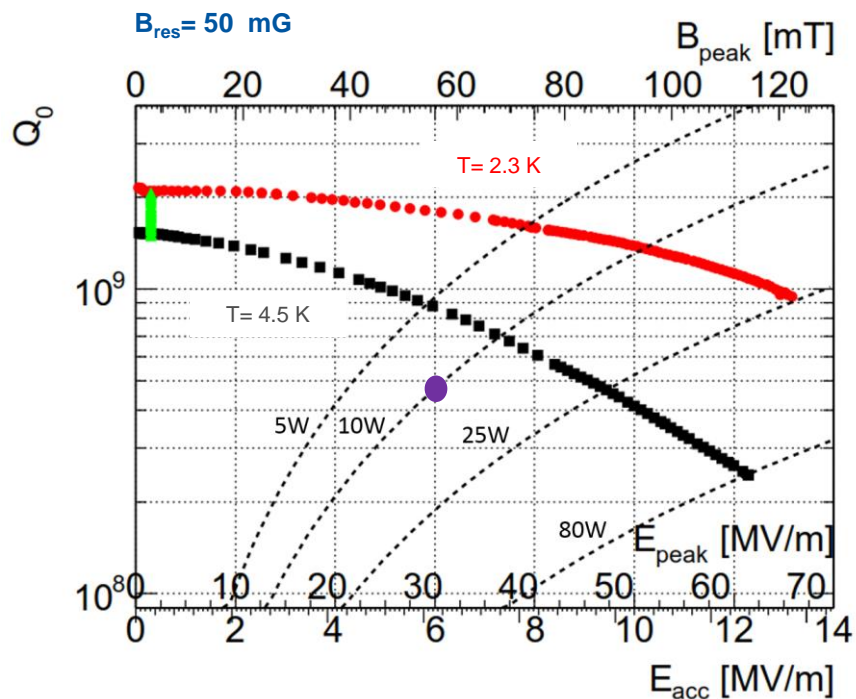
LHC



PC05: (spun half cells) shows the **best performances**
among all LHC cavities ever produced

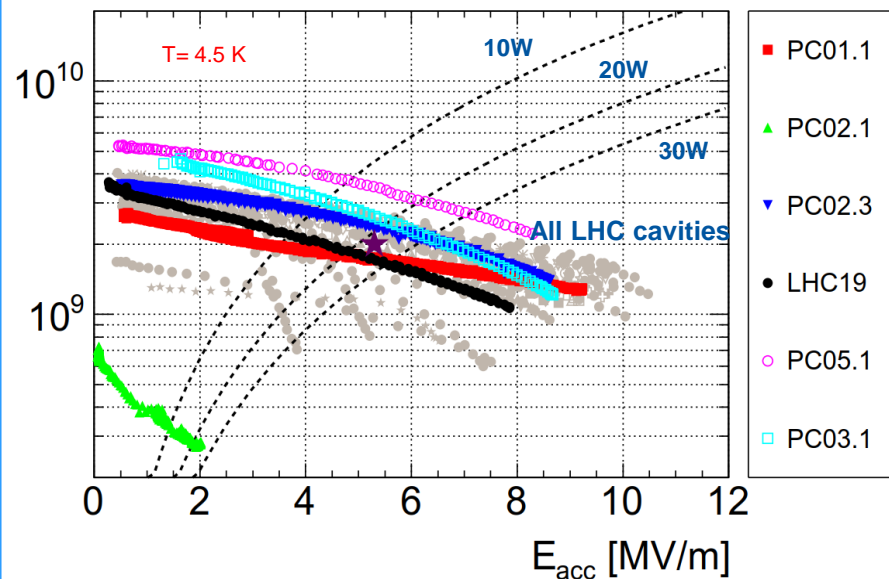
Root cause not fully identified. Investigations on-going

HIE-ISOLDE



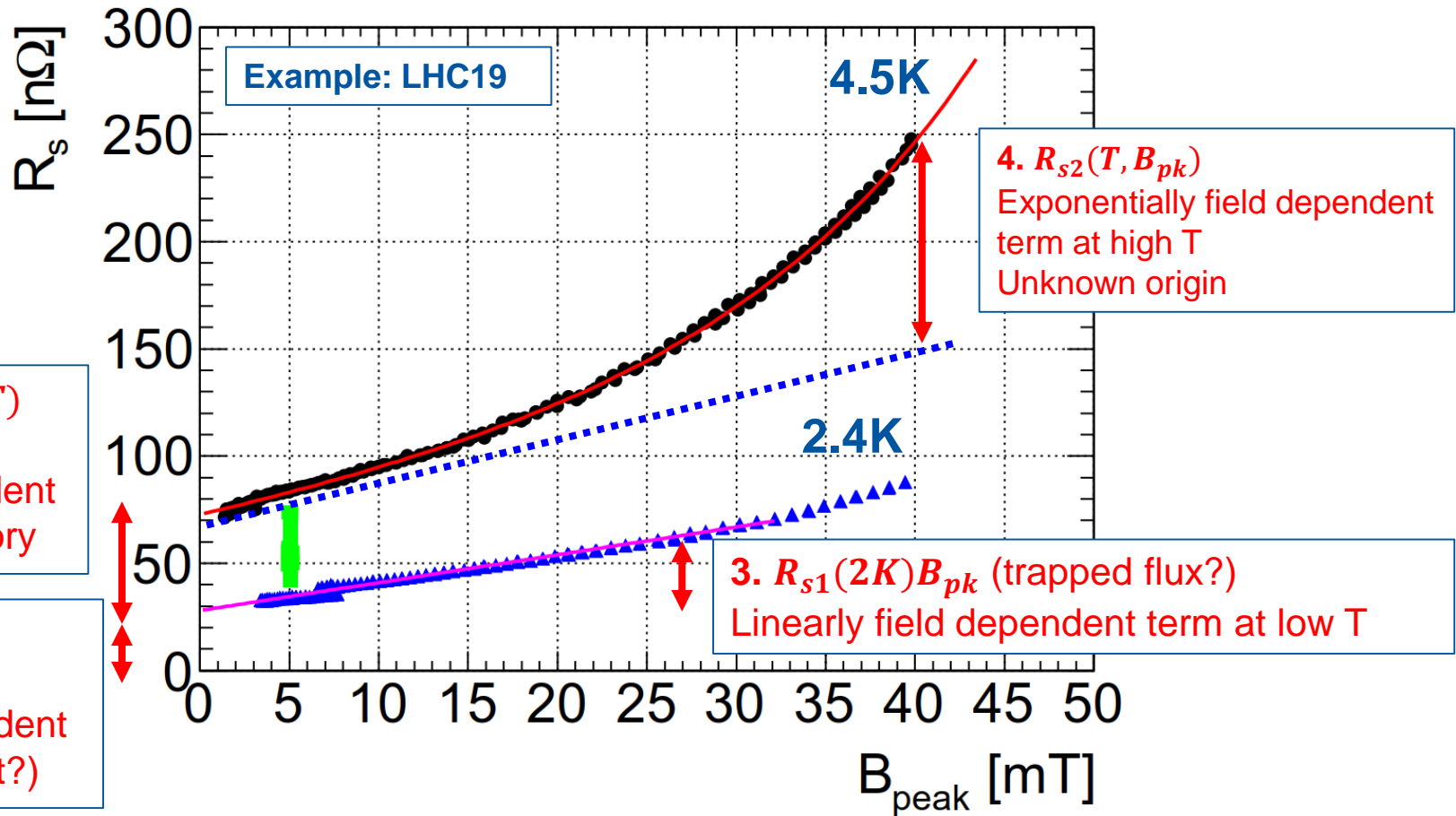
Highest field ever reached by a Nb/Cu cavity
(~30MV/m in elliptical shape)

LHC

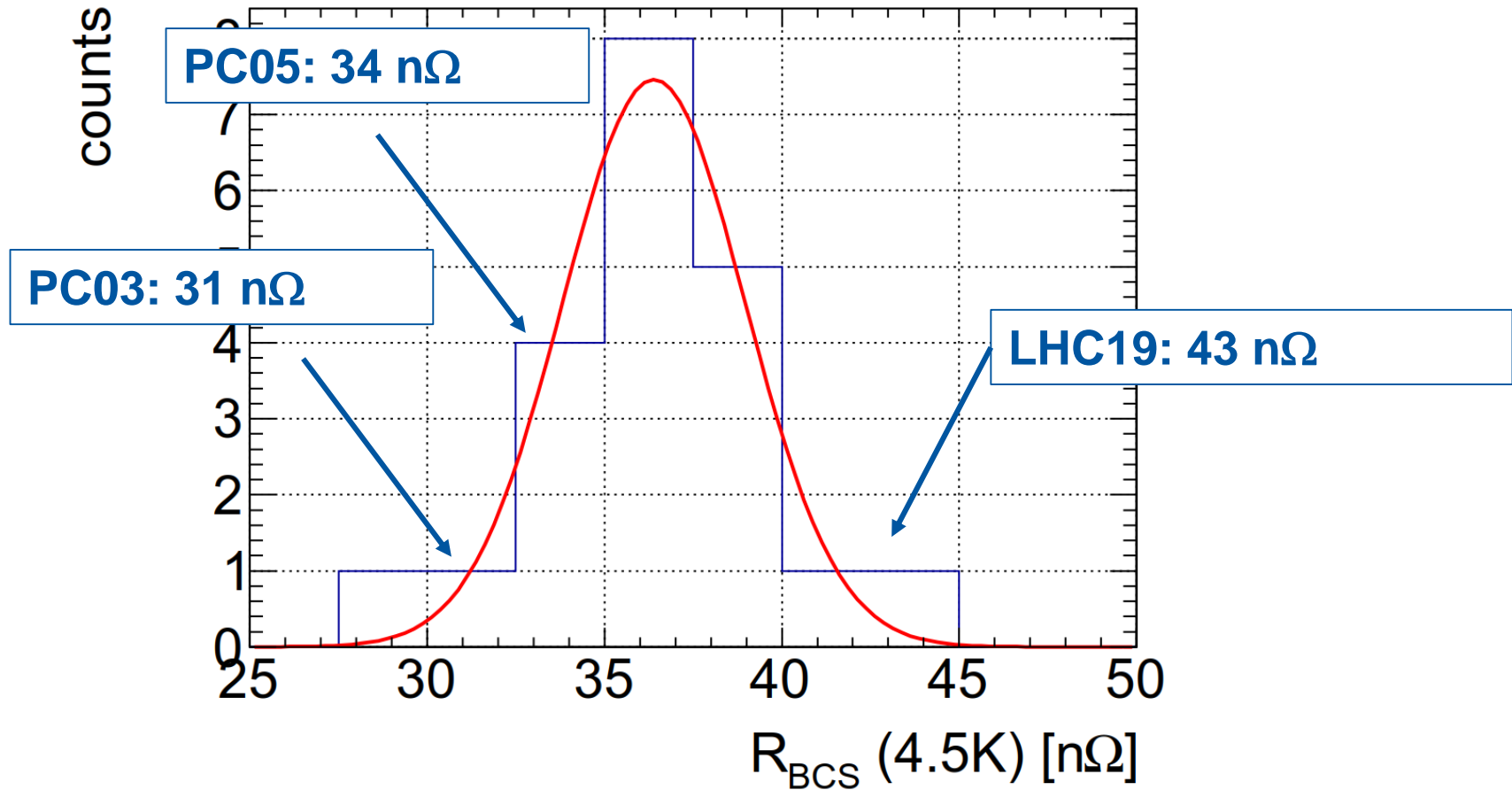


PC03: (EHF half cells) very good performances. Equatorial weld not polished

Root cause not fully identified. Investigations on-going



Courtesy of A. Miyazaki



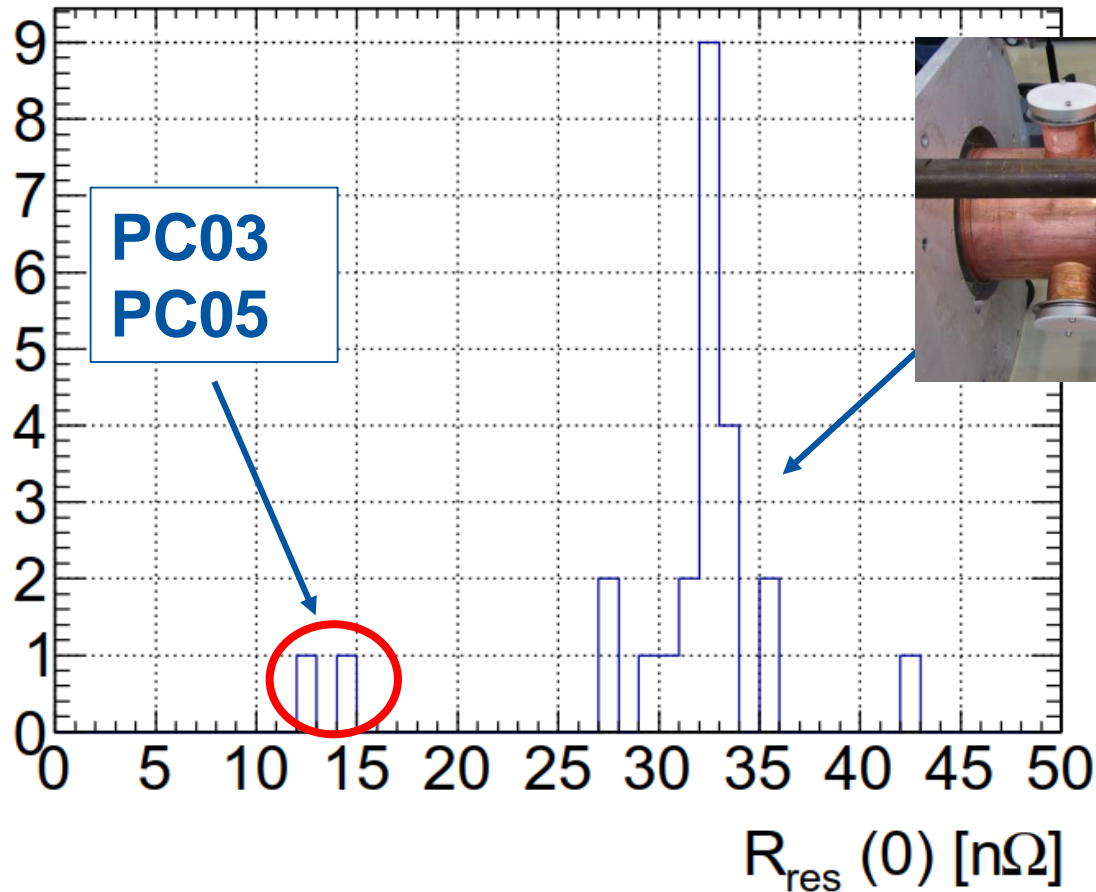
BCS resistance is consistently around 36 nΩ

→ Basic material parameters ($\xi_0, \lambda_L, l, \Delta_0/k_B T_c$) may be very close

→ **Crystal structure of the film is comparable**

Courtesy of A. Miyazaki

counts

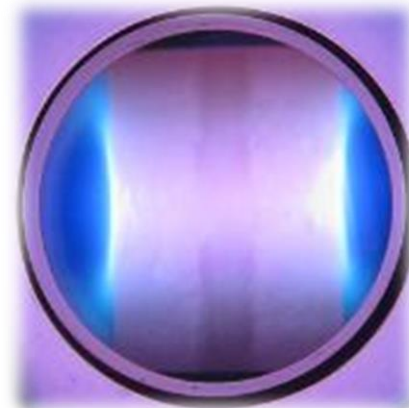


significance
17 s.t.d

Residual resistance was drastically improved in PC03 and PC05

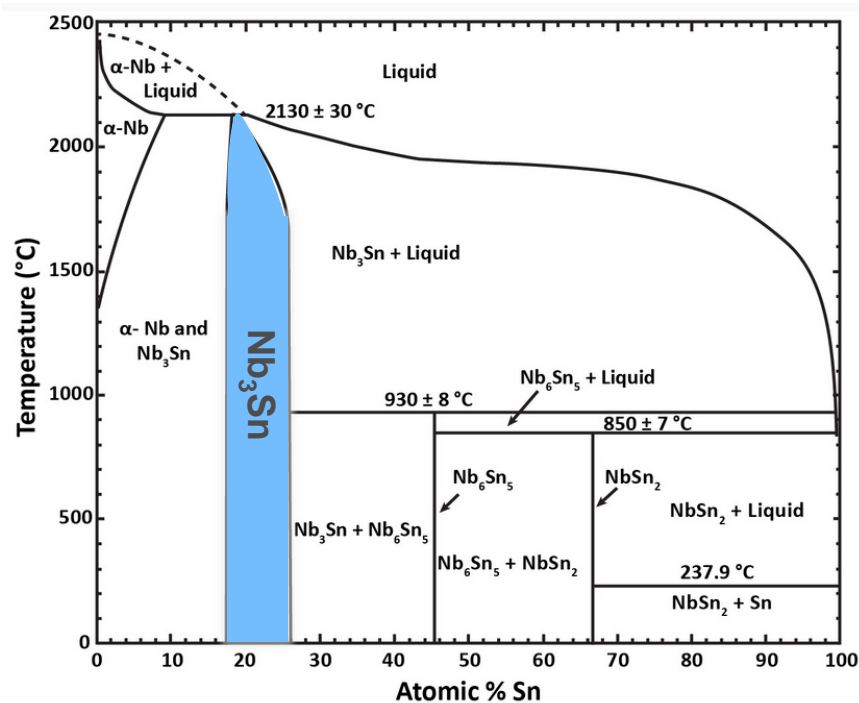
- Less normal conducting defect in the Nb film?
- The **simplified shape** without ports may result in better coating

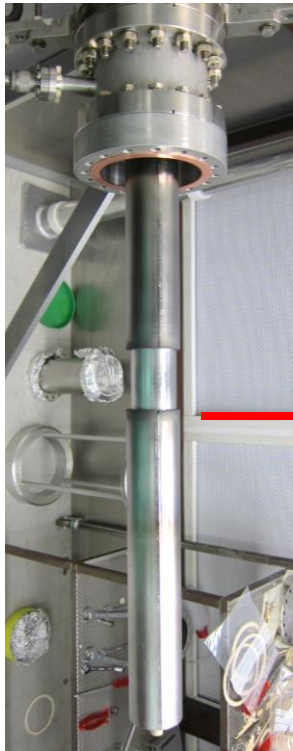
Courtesy of A. Miyazaki



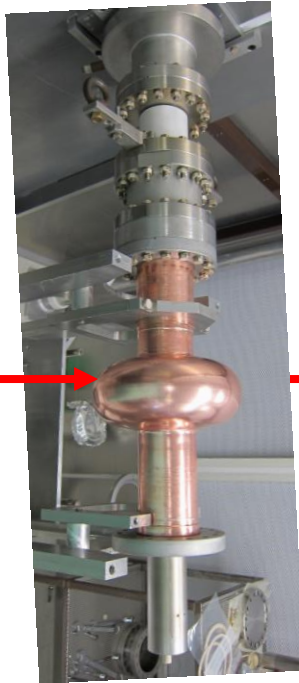
5.

On-going R&D

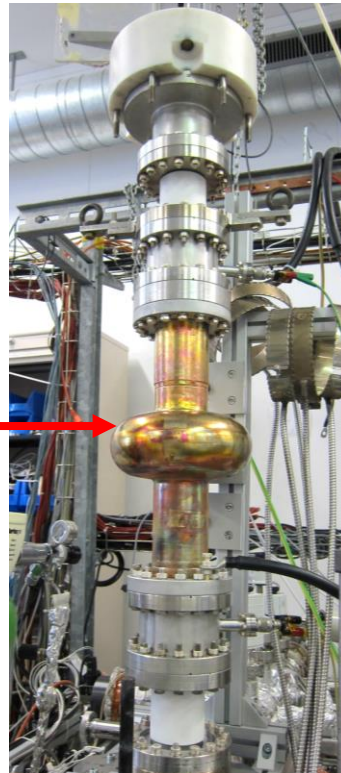




Nb cathode

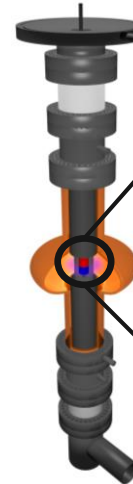


1.3 GHz cavity

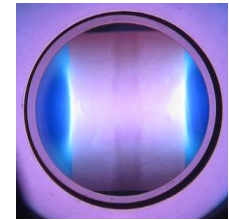


1.3 GHz cavity coating s

- Base pressure $\sim 6 \cdot 10^{-10}$ mbar
- Nb cathodes and anodes (cut-off coating)
- Cell coating by HiPIMS + Bias using Kr
- \rightarrow Process capabilities of 1 cavity/week



Nb cathode

HiPIMS
discharge

High Power Impulse Magnetron Sputtering

Same hardware as for DCMS

Pulsed Power supply

1% duty cycle

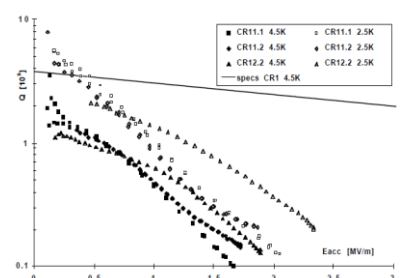
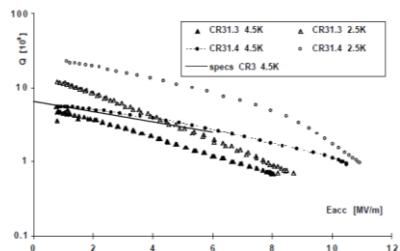
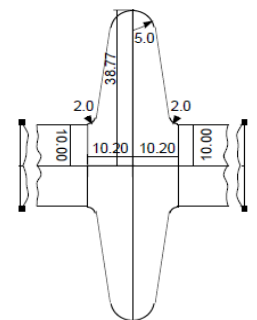
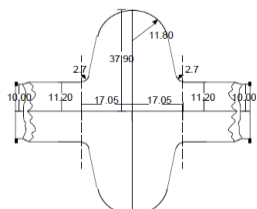
Short pulses: 200 μ s

High peak current (200 A vs 3 A DCMS)

High peak power (80 kW peak for 1kW avg)

Ionization of sputtered species

\rightarrow Lower coating rate

Q-slope vs β factor

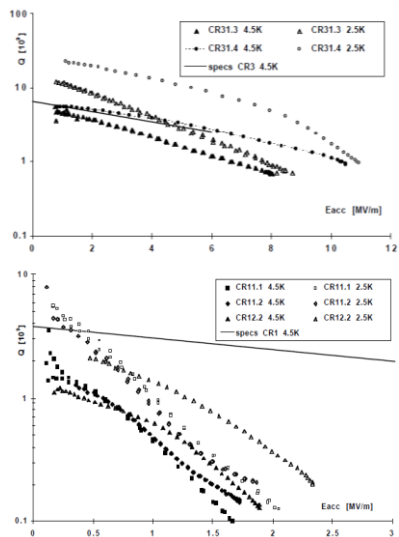
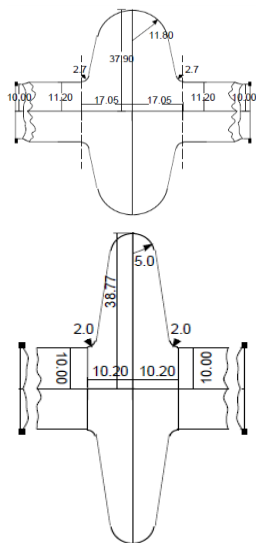
Low β

Nb atoms
impinge the
surface at
grazing angle

Low density layer

Higher Q-Slope

**Good
candidates to
validate HiPIMS**

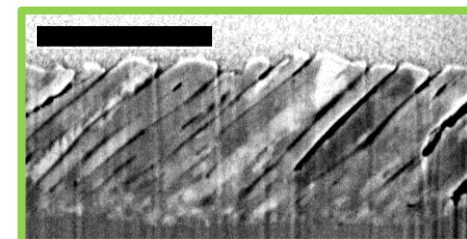
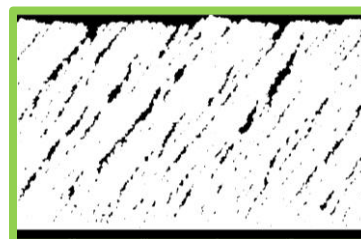
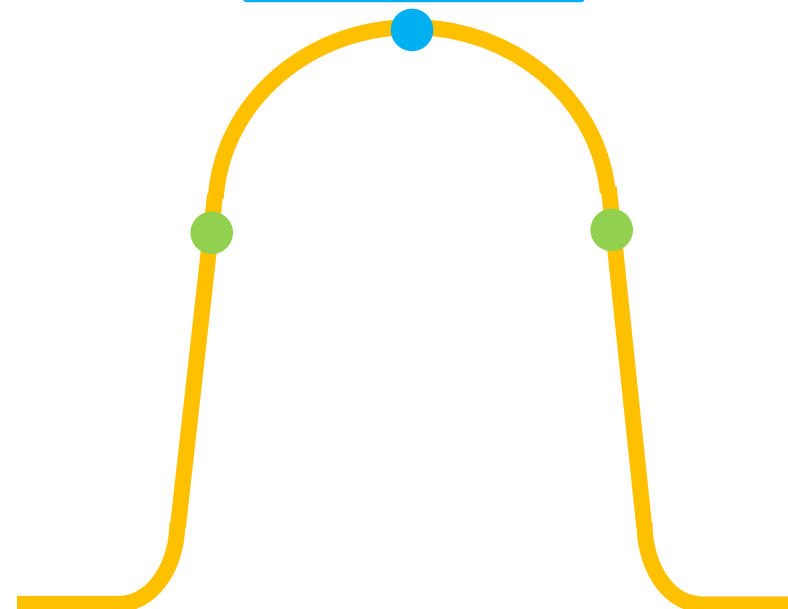
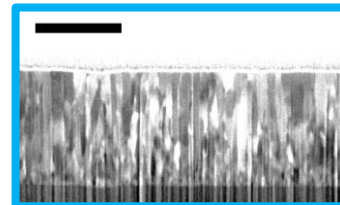
Q-slope vs β factorLow β Nb atoms
impinge the
surface at
grazing angle

Low density layer

Higher Q-Slope

Good
candidates to
validate HiPIMS704 MHz $\beta=0.65$ Single Cell Cavity profile

DCMS

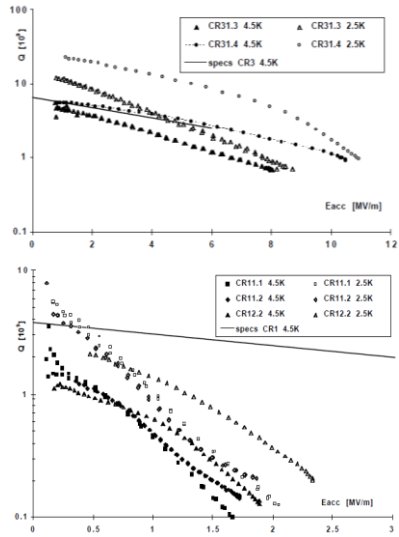
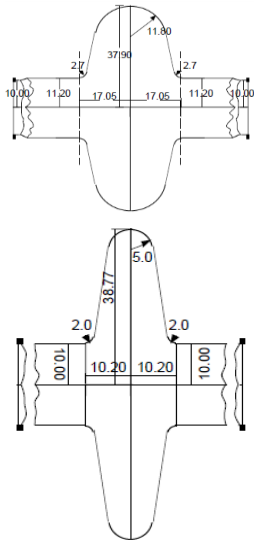


NASCAM simulation

S. Lucas, P. Moskovkin, *Thin Solids Films* (2010),
Volume 518, Issue 18, 1 July 2010, Pages 5355-5361.

Complex shapes and Q-Slope

Q-slope vs β factor



Low β

Nb atoms impinge the surface at grazing angle

Low density layer

Higher Q-Slope

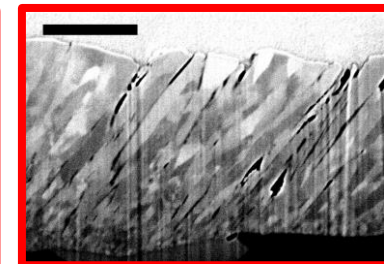
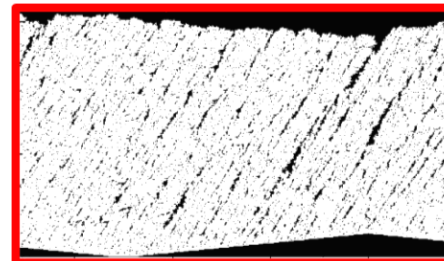
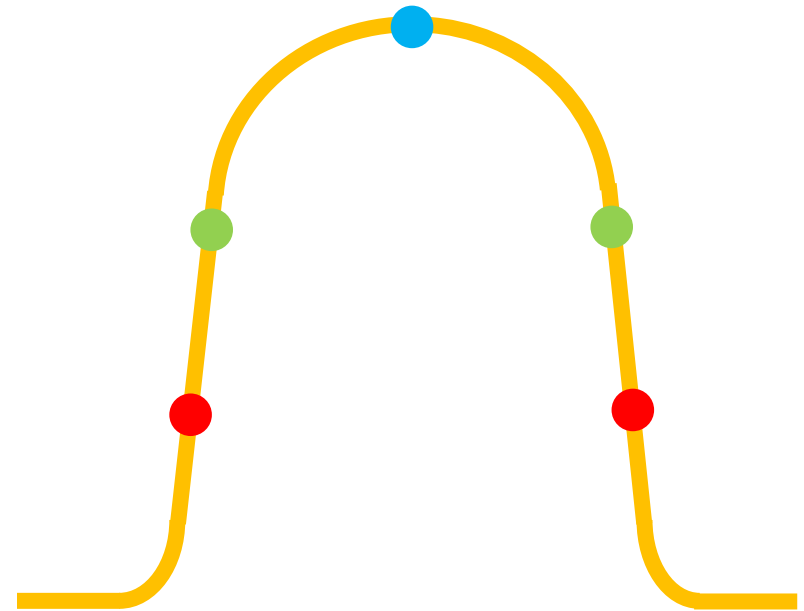
Good candidates to validate HiPIMS

Very porous structure in low beta cavities

Theoretically predictable and in agreement with experimental observations

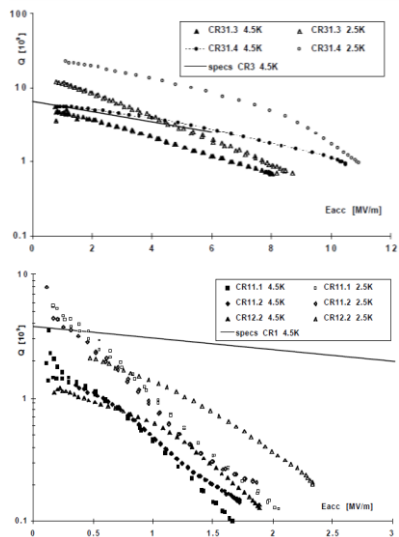
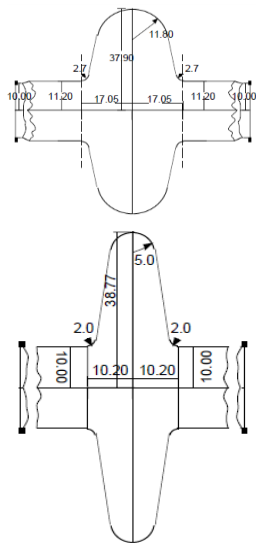
704 MHz $\beta=0.65$ Single Cell Cavity profile

DCMS



NASCAM simulation

S. Lucas, P. Moskovkin, *Thin Solids Films* (2010), Volume 518, Issue 18, 1 July 2010, Pages 5355-5361.

Q-slope vs β factorLow β Nb atoms
impinge the
surface at
grazing angle

Low density layer

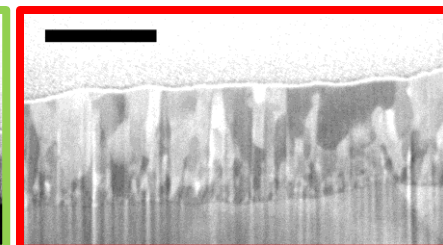
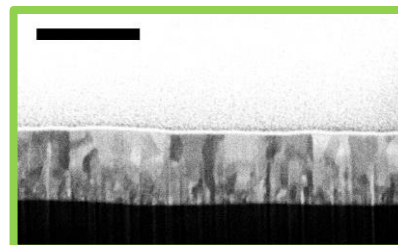
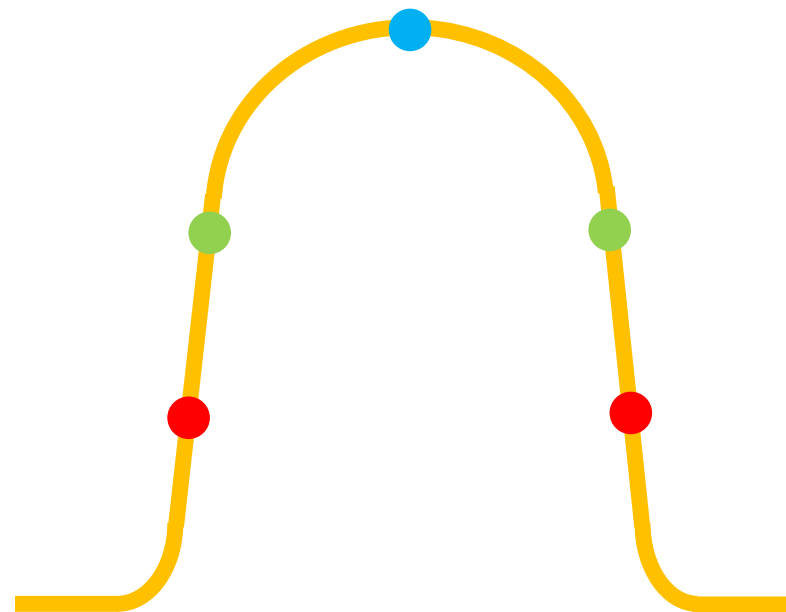
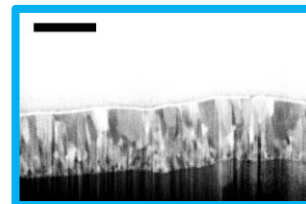
Higher Q-Slope

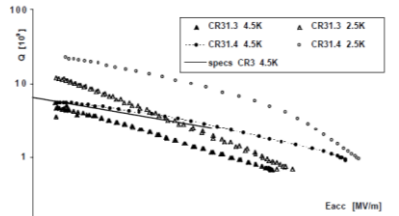
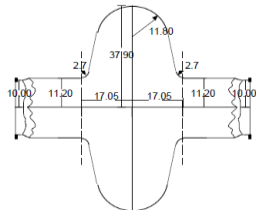
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HiPIMS Leads to a layer densification all over the surface

704 MHz $\beta=0.65$ Single Cell Cavity profileHiPIMS
+bias

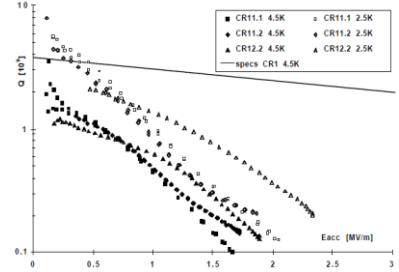
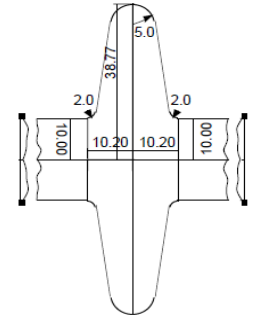
Q-slope vs β factorLow β

Nb atoms impinge the surface at grazing angle

Low density layer

Higher Q-Slope

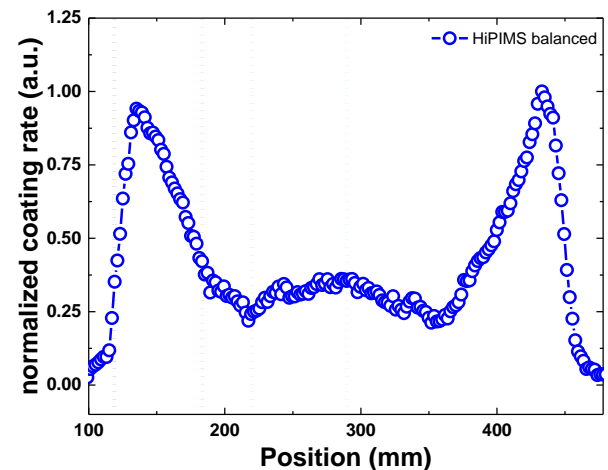
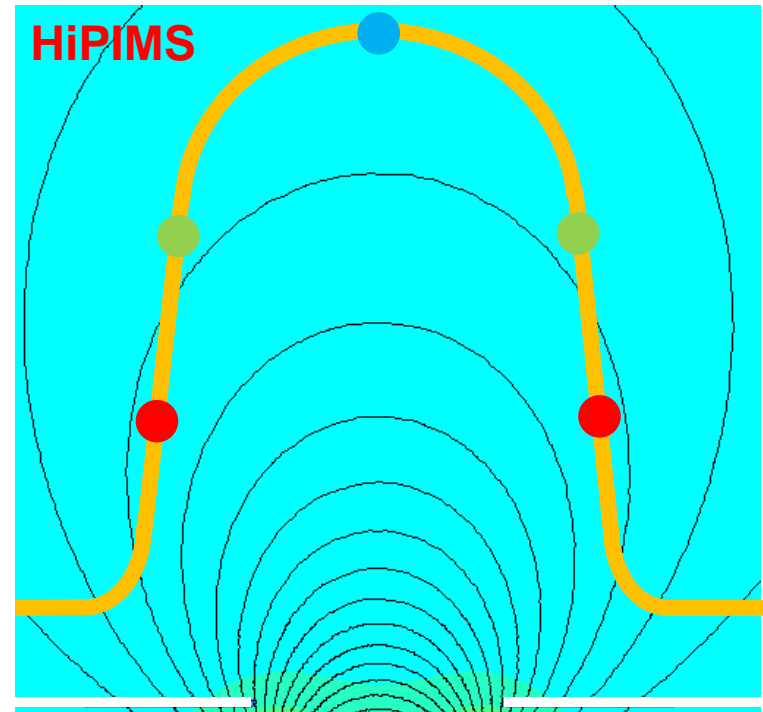
Good candidates to validate HiPIMS

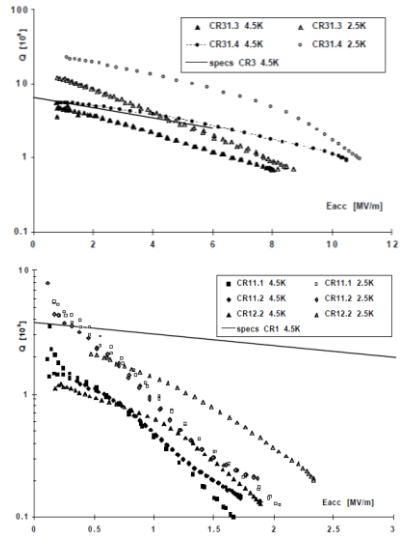
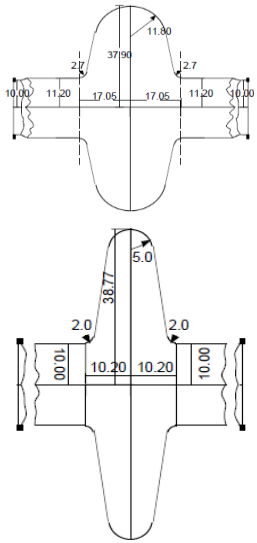


Very porous structure in low beta cavities

Theoretically predictable and in agreement with experimental observations

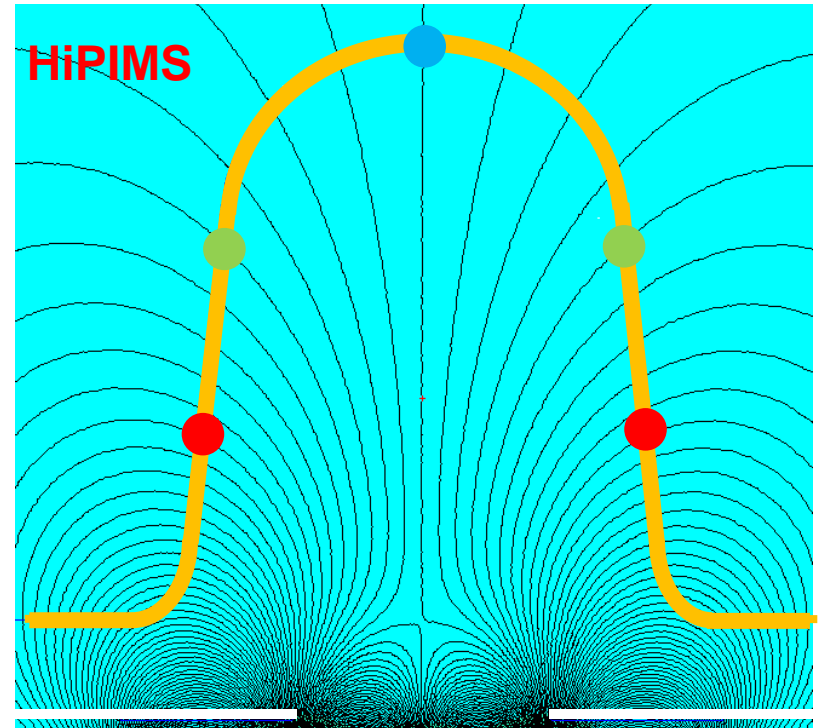
HiPIMS Leads to a layer densification all over the surface

Strong thickness difference \rightarrow to get enough Nb at equator we will necessarily have a very thick layer close to the iris : likely to peel-off704 MHz $\beta=0.65$ Single Cell Cavity profile

Q-slope vs β factorLow β Nb atoms
impinge the
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Low density layer

Higher Q-Slope

Good
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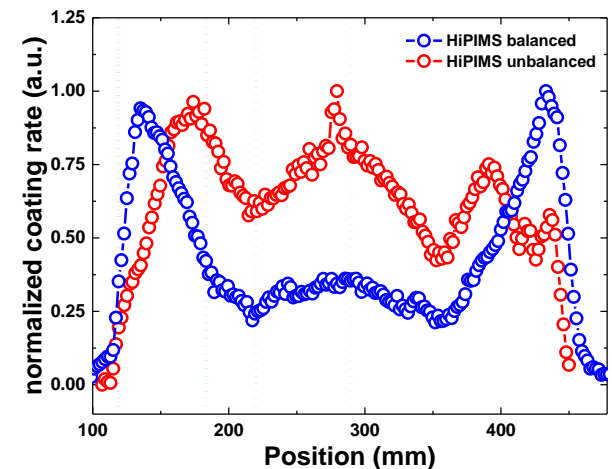
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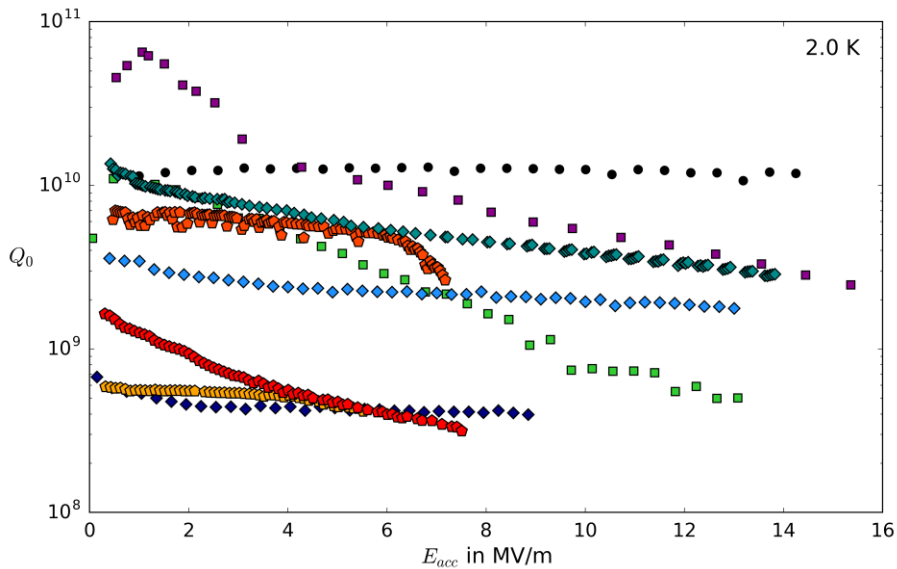
Strong thickness difference \rightarrow to get enough Nb at equator we will necessarily have a very thick layer close to the iris : likely to peel-off

Possibility to tune the coating profile by modifying the magnetic confinement profile (balanced vs unbalanced)



[1] D. Tonini et al, Morphology of niobium films sputtered at different target-substrate angle, 11th workshop on RF superconductivity, THP11

[2] C. Benvenuti et al, Production and test of 352 MHz Niobium Sputtered Reduced Beta cavities, 1997, SRF97D25

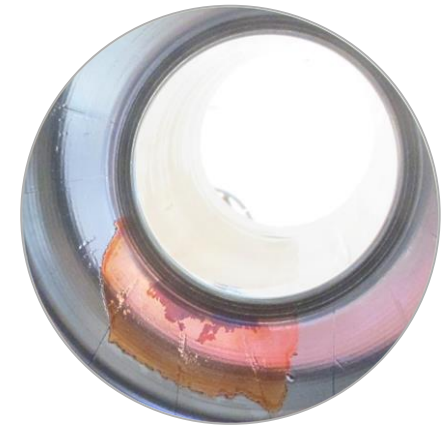


- Bulk Nb ($R_{res} = 20 \text{ n}\Omega$)
- M 2.9 (DCMS, 2015)
- ◆ M 5.1 (HiPIMS -100 V, 2016)
- ◆ M 5.2 (HiPIMS -50 V, 2016)
- ◆ M 1.5 (HiPIMS -50 V, 2016)
- ◆ M 5.3 (HiPIMS -25 V, 2017)
- ◆ M 2.3 (1.8 K) (HiPIMS unbiased, 2013)
- ◆ M 1.6 (HiPIMS -25 V, 2017)
- ◆ M 1.7 (HiPIMS floating, 2017)

Higher level of stress in HiPIMS wrt DCMS

→ Higher instantaneous coating rate

→ Peel-off is a recurrent issue



Study on going to qualify, quantify and mitigate residual stress

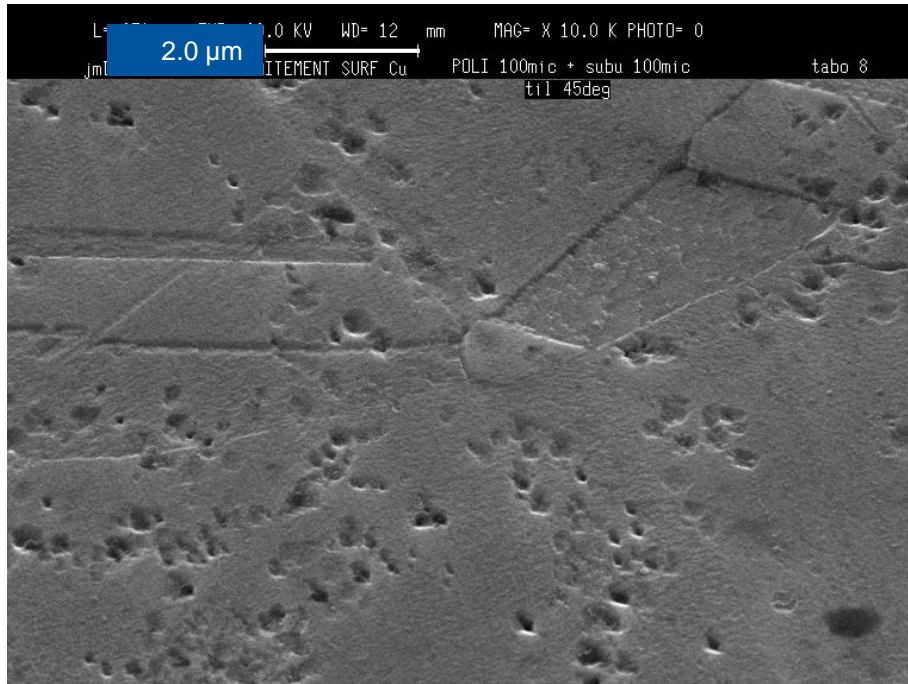
R_{res}

- down to 5 nOhms with Q-slope (unbiased)
- 20nOhm with mitigated Q-slope (biased)

At the level of the best DCMS ones but not yet better

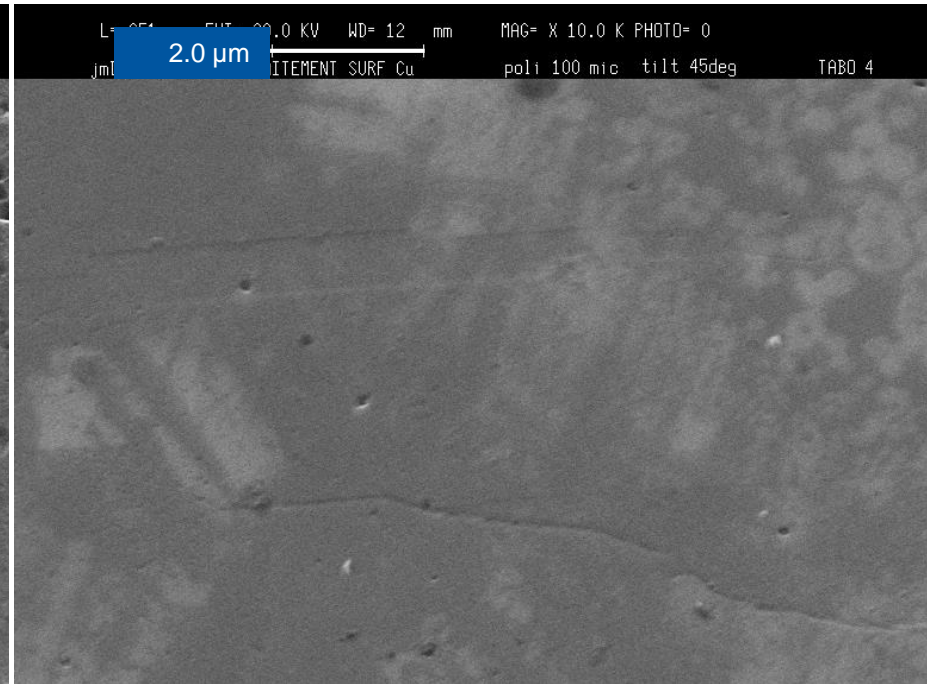
SUBSTRATE QUALITY IS CRITICAL

Importance of substrate quality



Chemically polished copper

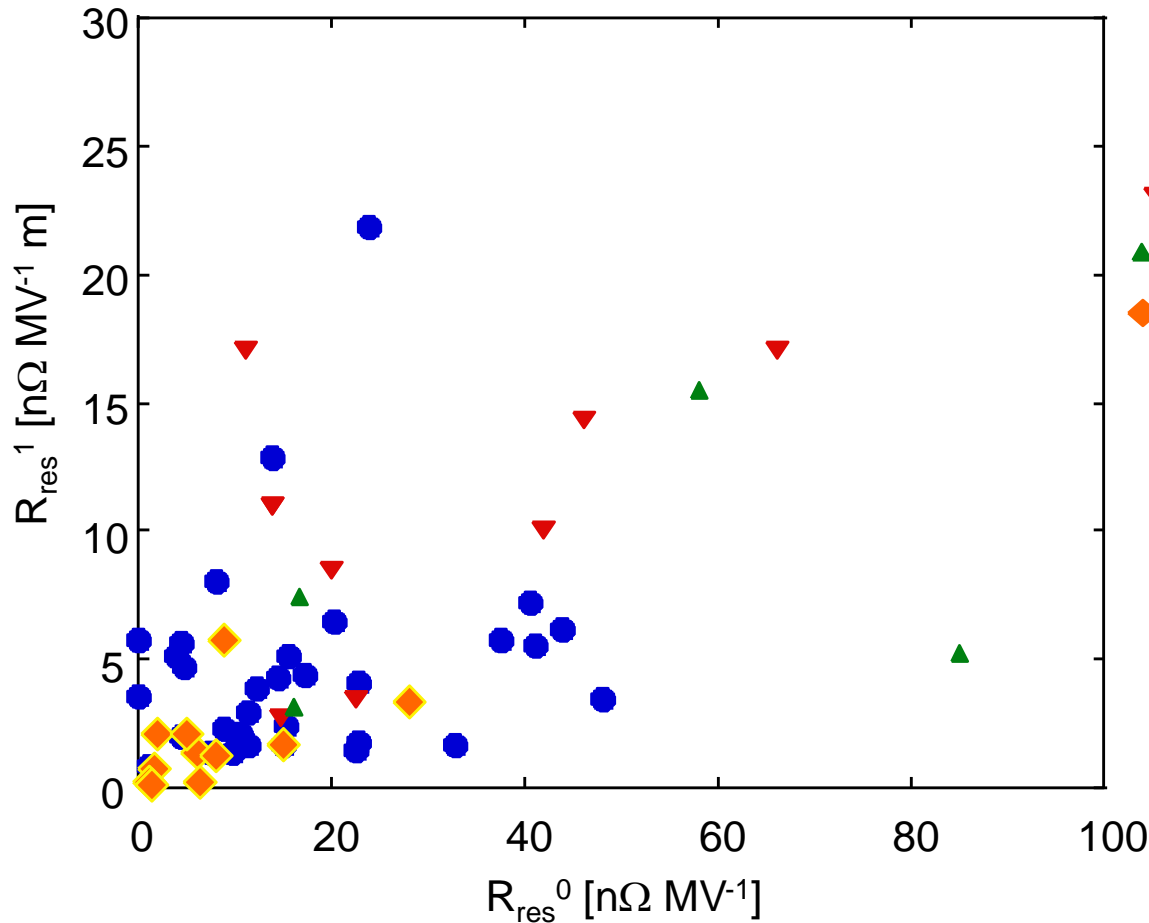
- average roughness: 0.2 μm
- pinholes of 0.3 μm



Electropolished copper

- average roughness: 0.02 μm
- nearly no defects

Importance of substrate quality : cavity forming

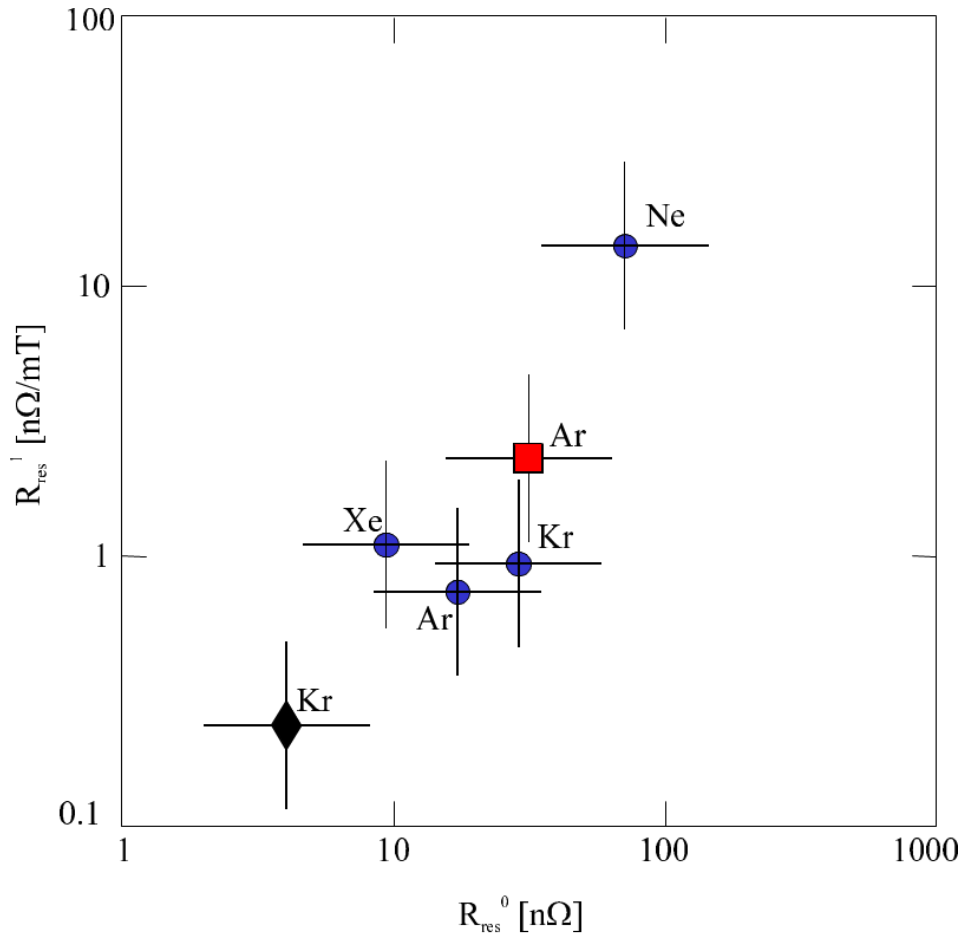


- Spun cavities: 0.2 μm
- ▼ Hydroformed cavities: 0.8 μm
- ▲ Electroformed cavities: 0.2 μm
- ◆ Spun electropolished: 0.04 μm

R_{res}^0
 17 ± 3 nΩ
 28 ± 6 nΩ
 6 ± 6 nΩ

R_{res}^1
 5 ± 1 nΩ m MV⁻¹
 10 ± 2 nΩ m MV⁻¹
 1.5 ± 1 nΩ m MV⁻¹

Importance of substrate quality: chemical preparation



Standard coatings using
Xe, Kr, Ar, Ne as sputter gas

Average roughness of
chemically polished spun
cavities: 0.2μm

Average roughness of
chemically polished hydroformed
cavities: 0.8μm

Average roughness of
electropolished spun
cavities: 0.04μm
Absence of defects (etching pits)

On going investigations

Welding impact on RF performances: PC03 (LHC) to be polished and re-measured to assess if the weld has an impact on the Q-slope.

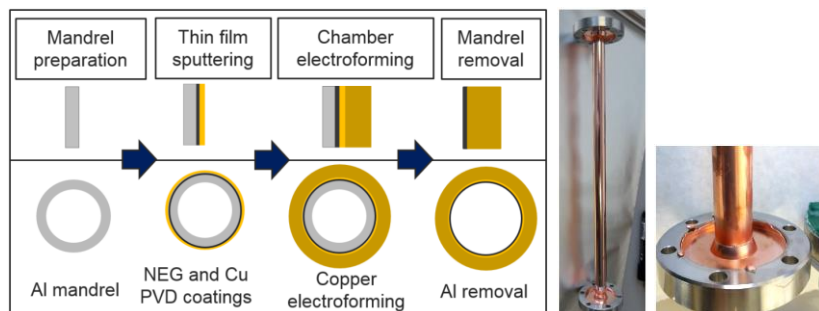
Substrate forming:

Could we build an electroformed cavity? (no welds and potentially no brazing)

Cost saving

Seamless

Possibly flawless



Inspired from the work of Lucia Lain Amador on small diameter vacuum chambers

Nb \rightarrow **Nb₃Sn**

Courtesy of K. Ilyina-Brunner

T_c

Nb₃Sn ~ 18.3 K

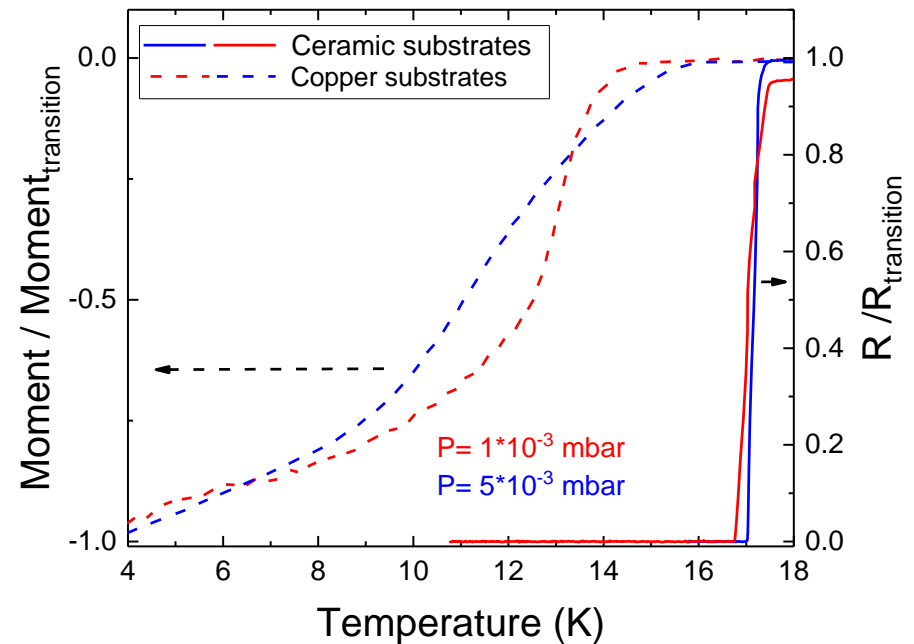
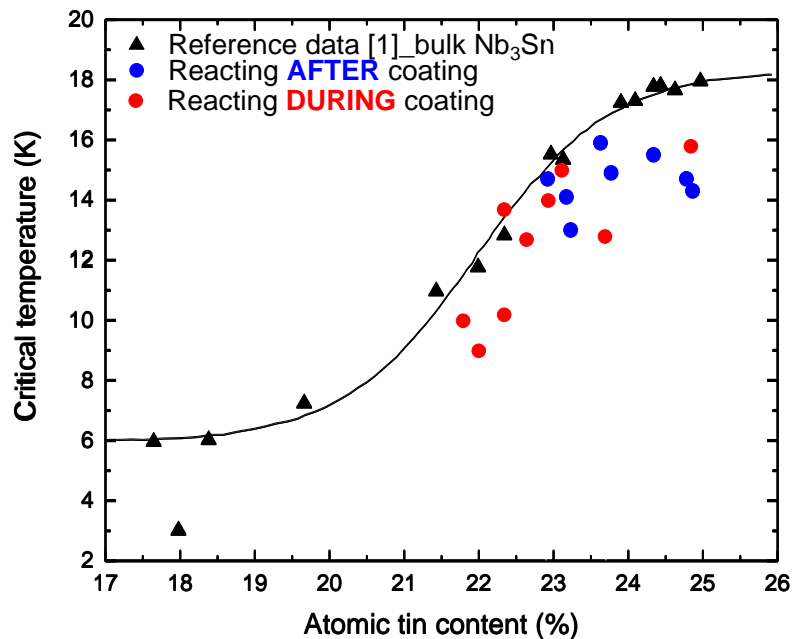
Nb ~ 9.3 K

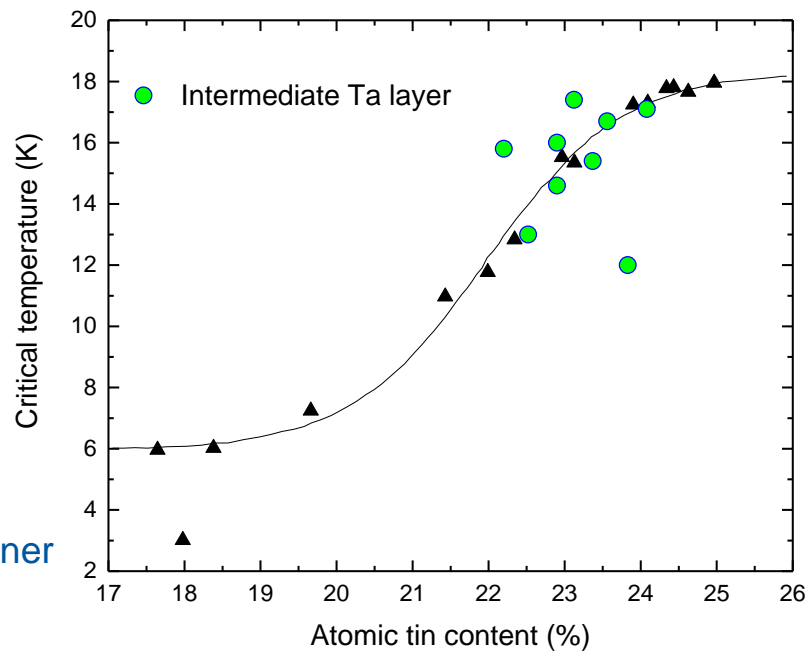
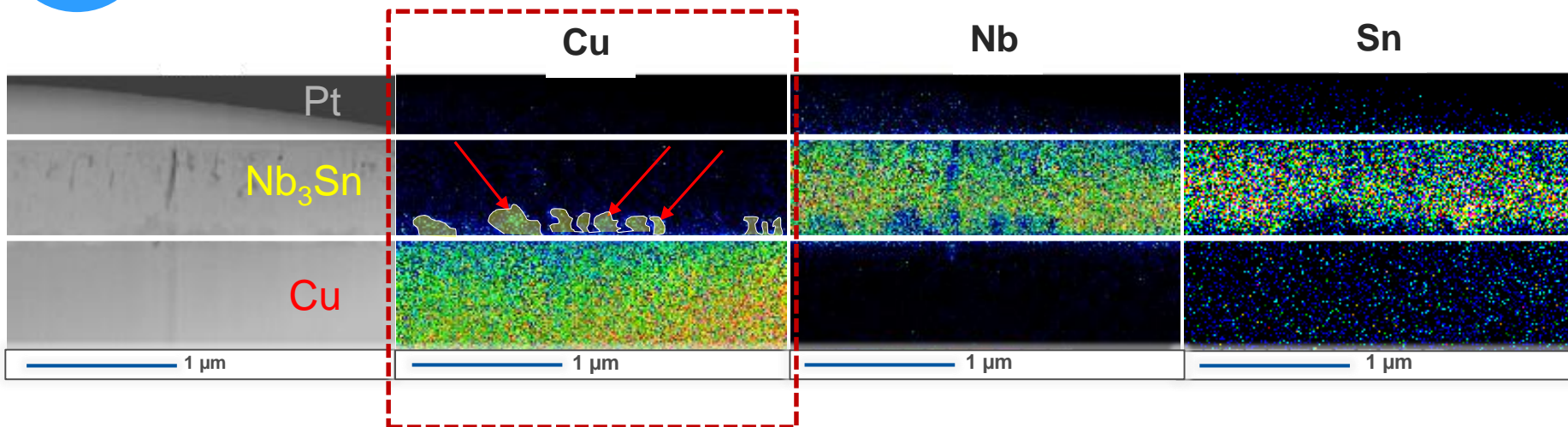
R_{BCS}

@ 4.2K and 500MHz

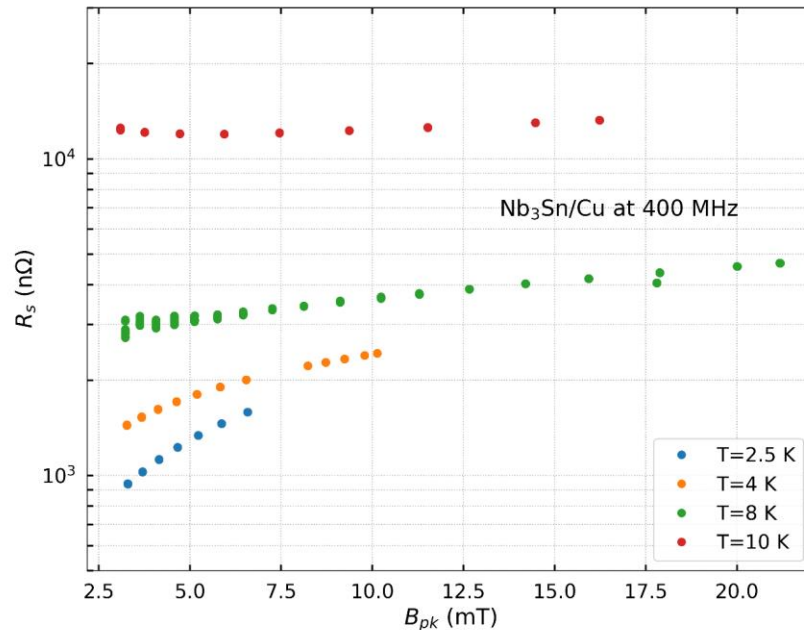
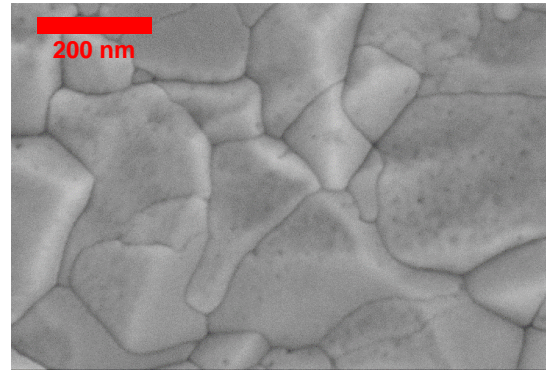
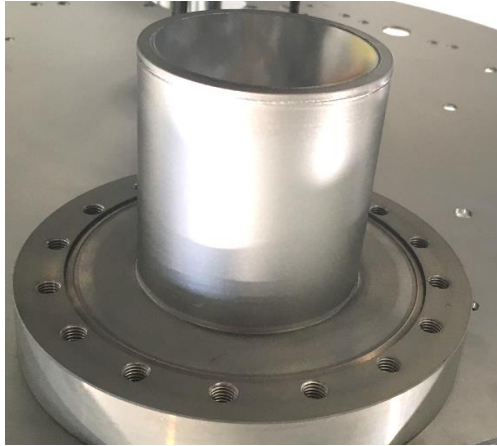
Nb₃Sn ~ 0.4 nΩ

Nb ~ 45 nΩ





Courtesy of K. Ilyina-Brunner



First RF measurement
performed on Nb₃Sn/Cu at
CERN

Very modest start but an issue
during the coating lead to non
optimum coating parameters.

To be reproduced this year

Courtesy of Marco Arzeo

6.

Conclusion / Perspectives

Strong know-how related to SRF thin films

- Surface treatment
- Coating techniques
- Vacuum expertise from TE-VSC

State of the art performances obtained on machine-type cavities

- HIE-ISOLDE
- LHC

Not only “lab” expertise but efficient transfer to production

Thin Films have a bright future

Substrate quality is 90% of the work : a good layer will never recover a bad substrate

Lot of efforts on-going to push toward higher gradient and higher Q

High gradient is reachable (cf HIE-ISOLDE) but needs to be demonstrated on elliptical devices

Low-Beta 704MHz cavities can be efficiently coated → RF test pending

Thank you for your attention

Many thanks to

Marco Arzeo

Sergio Calatroni

Katsiaryna Ilyina-Brunner

Akira Miyazaki

Alban Sublet