

Escolas de Inverno do IFGW  
20 a 31 de Julho de 2015  
Instituto de Física "Gleb Wataghin"  
UNICAMP, Campinas-SP



# Vortices in Superconductors

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Grupo de Supercondutividade e Magnetismo  
Departamento de Física



Universidade Federal de São Carlos

Let's get started  
with this Tutorial on  
Vortices in  
Superconductors



1. Superconductivity
2. Vortices in SCs
3. Magneto-optical imaging (MOI)



Superconductivity, a macroscopic quantum phenomenon discovered more than one century ago, is a field including a huge variety of materials, many of which have encountered relevant practical applications.



The first part of this Tutorial will be devoted to briefly review the history of Superconductivity, followed by an introductory discussion of the main features of superconducting materials and their uses in real life.

In the second part we'll discuss  
vortices in superconductors:  
occurrence, dynamics,  
implications for applications.

Before finishing we'll devote  
some time to the MOI  
technique employed in our lab.

# I. Superconductivity

# A bit of history



## 1913 Nobel Prize in Physics



Front



Back

H. Kamerlingh Onnes (Leiden, NL)

1908 - Liquid Helium

1911 - Superconductivity in Hg,  $T_c \sim 4.2$  K

1913 - Superconductivity in Pb,  $T_c \sim 7.2$  K

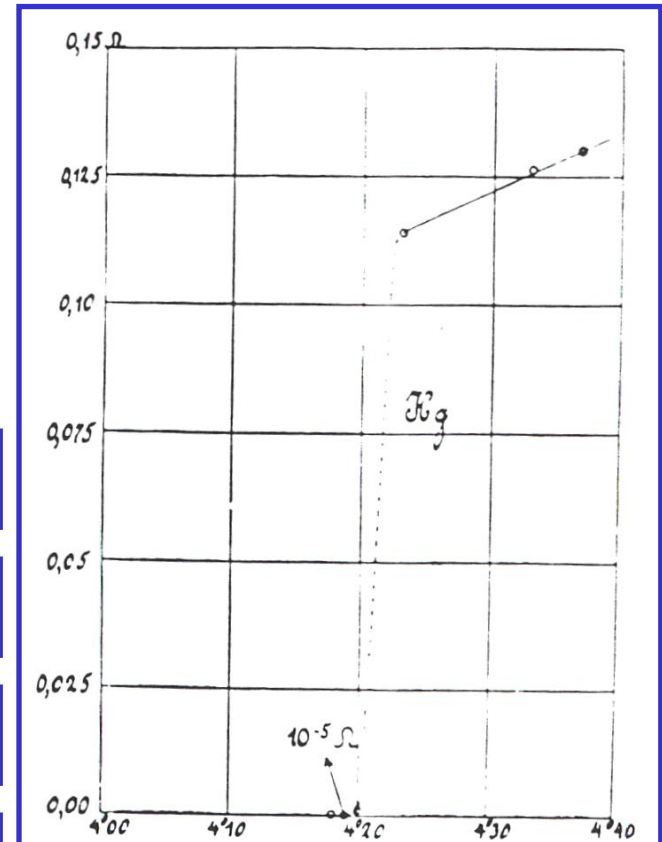


Figure 2.14 Resistivity-versus-temperature plot obtained by Kamerlingh Onnes when he discovered superconductivity in Leiden in 1911.

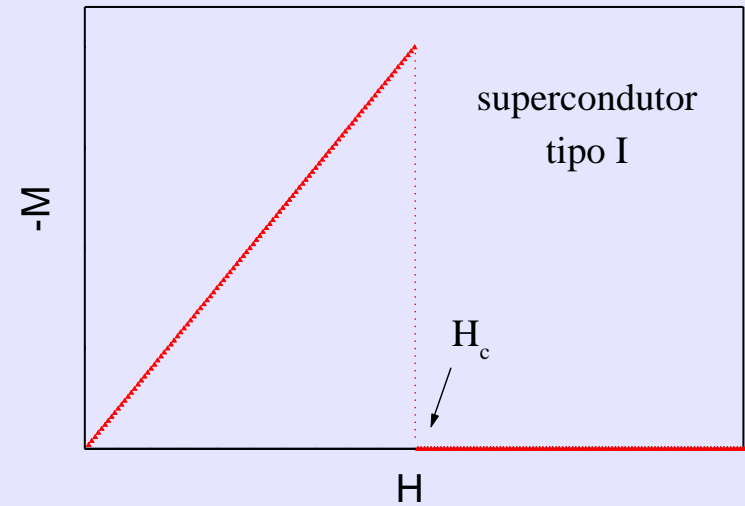
## A bit of history...



Walther  
Meissner

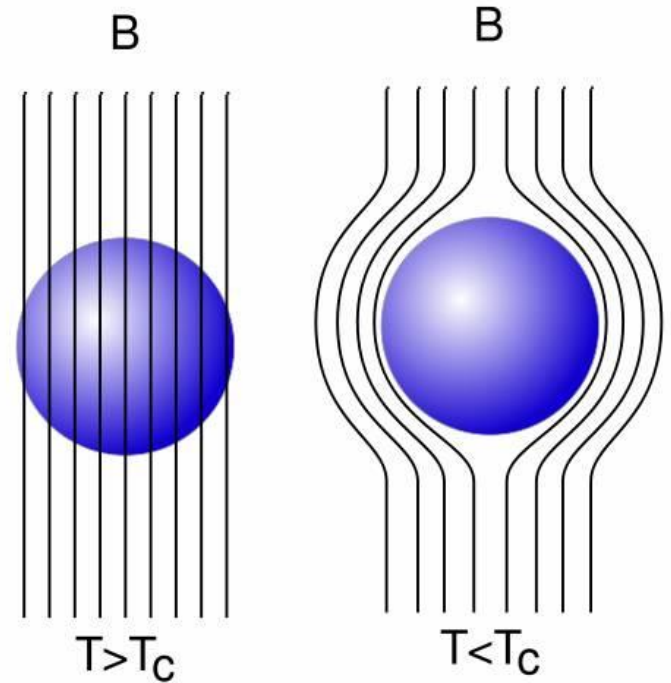


Robert  
Ochsenfeld

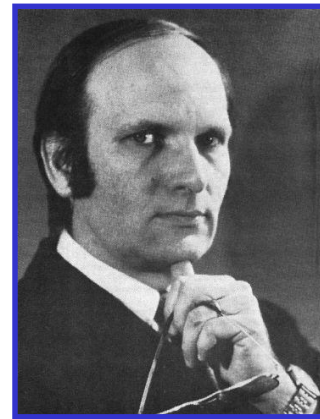
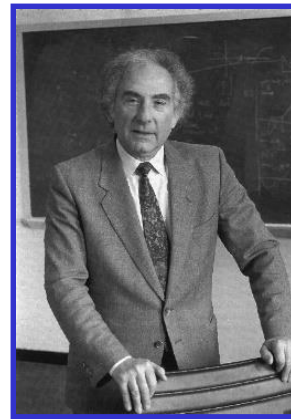
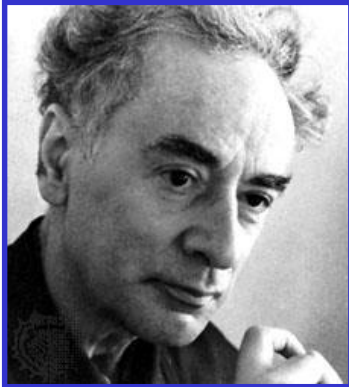
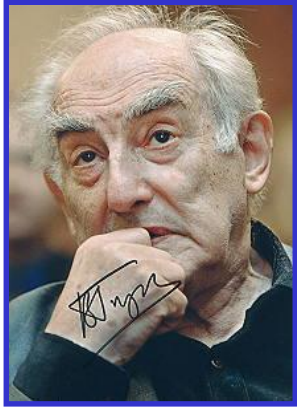


1933 - Meissner effect: perfect diamagnetism

$$B = \mu_0(H+M) = 0 \Rightarrow M = -H$$



A bit of history...



1972

1950's - Fritz e Heinz London ( $\lambda$ ); Pippard ( $\xi$ )

1950 - Phenomenological Theory proposed by Ginzburg and Landau

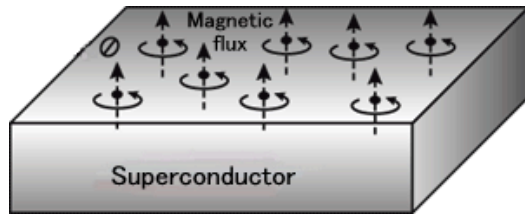
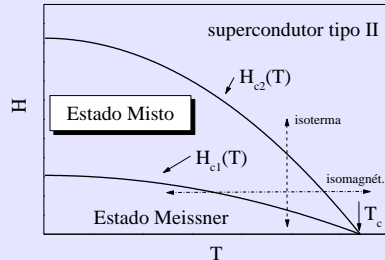
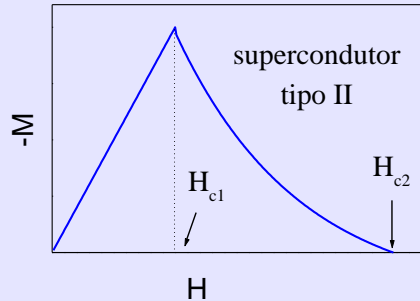
1957 - Microscopic Theory by Bardeen, Cooper and Schrieffer (BCS)

Cooper pairs (bosons) - Phys.Rev.104 (1956)

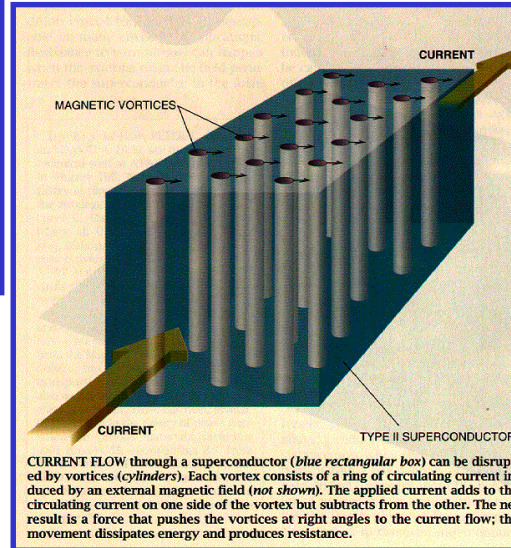
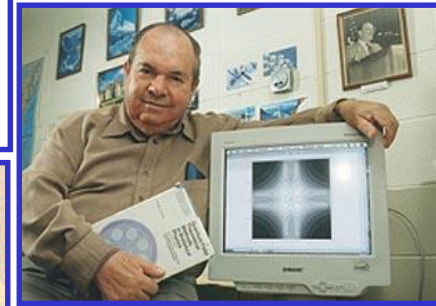
Boson condensate - Phys.Rev.108 (1957); Nobel Prize (1972)

1959 - Gor'kov: GL can be derived from BCS

## A bit of history...



2003



1957 - Abrikosov predicted the existence of another type of SC (type II)

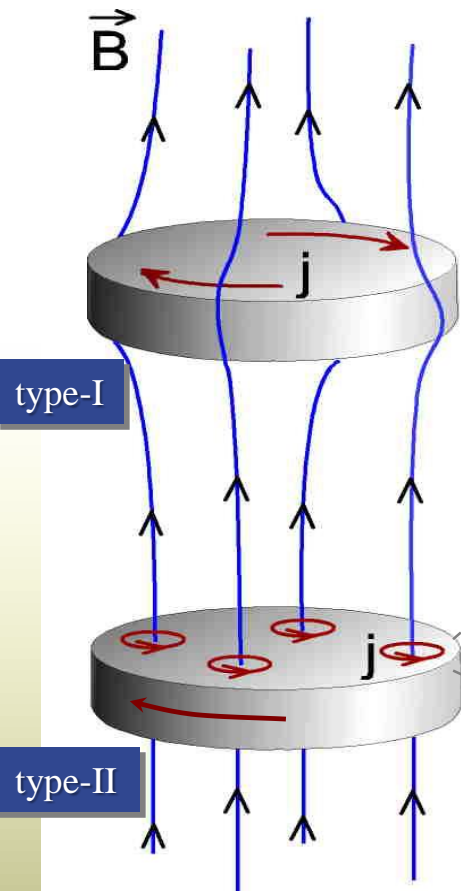
Surface energy can be negative in certain cases ( $\kappa = \lambda/\xi > 0.707$ )

→ creation of N/SC interfaces becomes energetically favorable

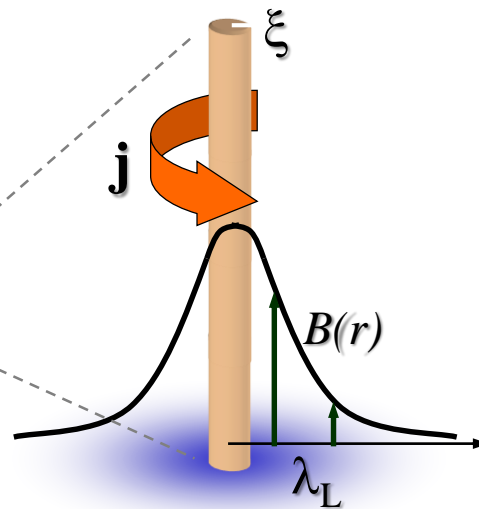
Fluxoides or Vortices: normal regions in the form of "tubes", penetrated by one quantum flux each,  $\phi_0 \sim 2 \times 10^{-15}$  SI, surrounded by superconducting screening currents.



# Vortex matter



vortex



$$\int B \, dA = h/2e = \Phi_0$$

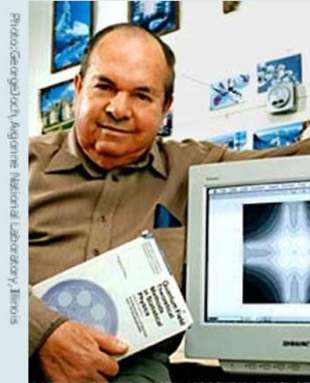
Flux quantum

## The Nobel Prize in Physics 2003

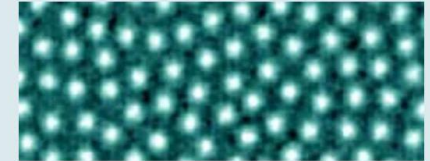


### Vortices give guidance

Landau's pupil, **Alexei Abrikosov**, realised almost immediately that Ginzburg and Landau's theory can also describe those superconductors (type II) that can coexist with strong magnetic fields. According to Abrikosov's theory this occurs because the superconductor allows the magnetic field to enter through vortices in the electron superfluid. These vortices can form regular structures, *Abrikosov lattices*, but disordered structures can also occur.

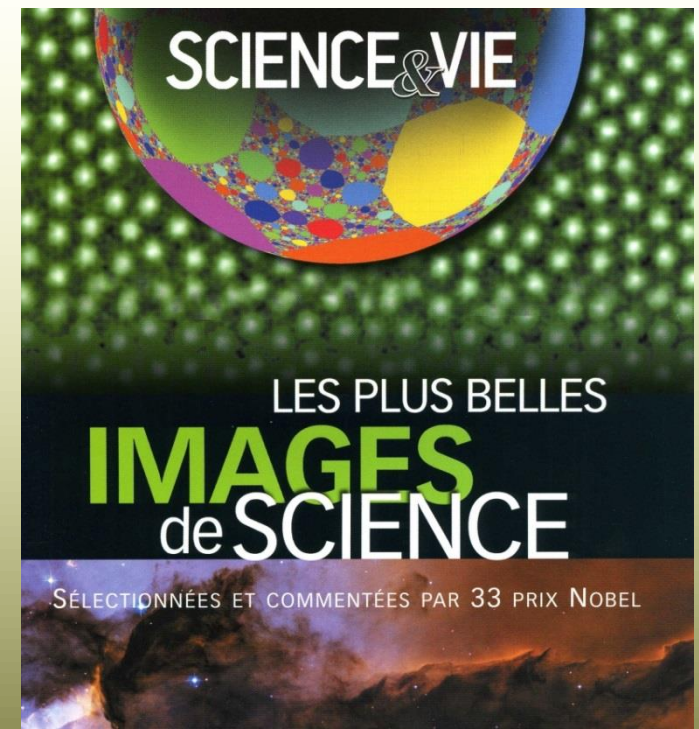


**Alexei A. Abrikosov**  
Argonne National Laboratory,  
Argonne, Illinois, USA



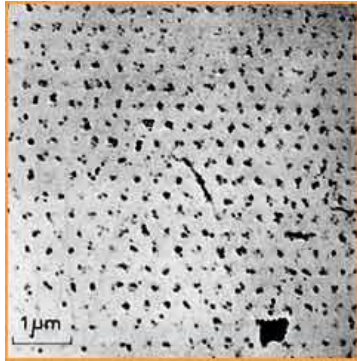
An Abrikosov lattice of vortices in a type-II superconductor. The magnetic field passes through the vortices.

PHOTO: TOM H. JOHANSEN ET AL., SUPERCONDUCTIVITY LABORATORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OSLO





## A bit of history...

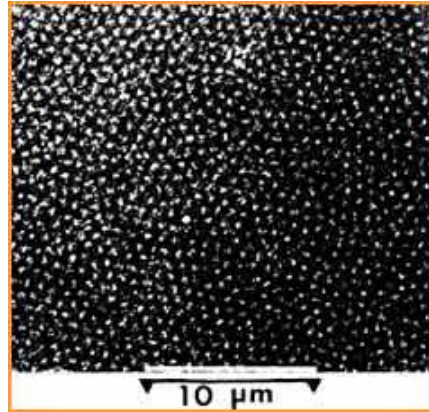


*Primeira Imagem*

*Bitter Decoration 1967*

*Pb-4at%In rod, 1.1K, 195G*

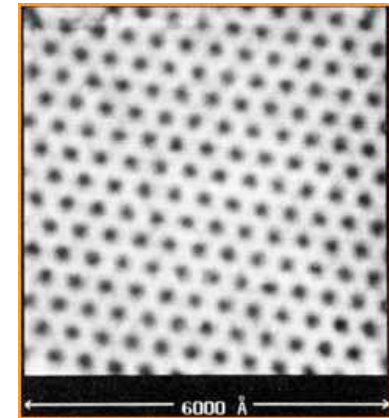
*U. Essmann and H. Trauble  
Max-Planck Institute, Stuttgart*



*Bitter Decoration*

*YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> crystal, 4.2K, 52G*

*P. L. Gammel et al., Bell Labs*



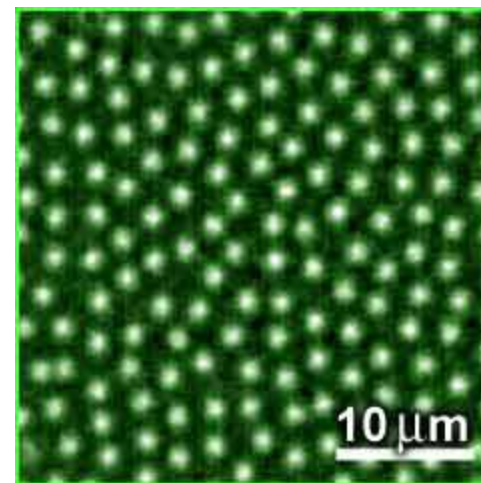
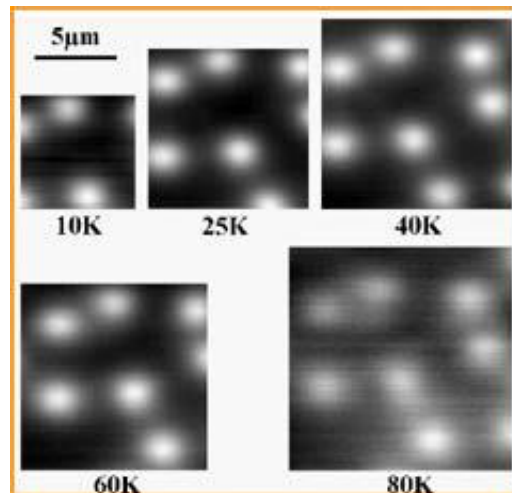
*Scanning Tunnel Microscopy*

*NbSe<sub>2</sub>, 1T, 1.8K*

*H. F. Hess et al., Bell Labs*

*Scanning Hall probes  
YBaCuO film, 1000G*

*A. Oral et al.  
University of Bath*



*Magneto-Optical Imaging  
NbSe<sub>2</sub> crystal, 4.3K, 3G*

*P.E. Goa et al.  
University of Oslo*

## A bit of history...



Front



Back

1987

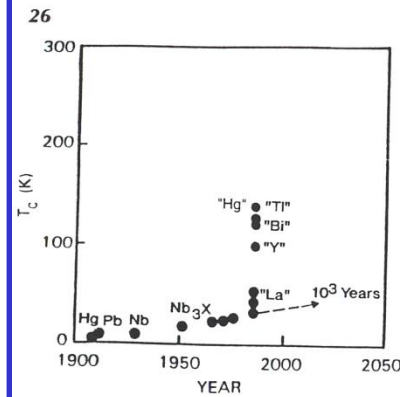


Figure 2.2 Increase in the superconducting transition temperature with time. A linear extrapolation of the data before 1986 predicts that room temperature would be reached in about 1000 years. From left to right  $X = \text{Sn}, \text{Al}_{0.75}\text{Ge}_{0.25}, \text{Ga}, \text{and Ge}$  for the data points of the  $\text{A15}$  compound  $\text{Nb}_3\text{X}$  (Adapted from Fig. 1-1. Poole *et al.*, 1988).

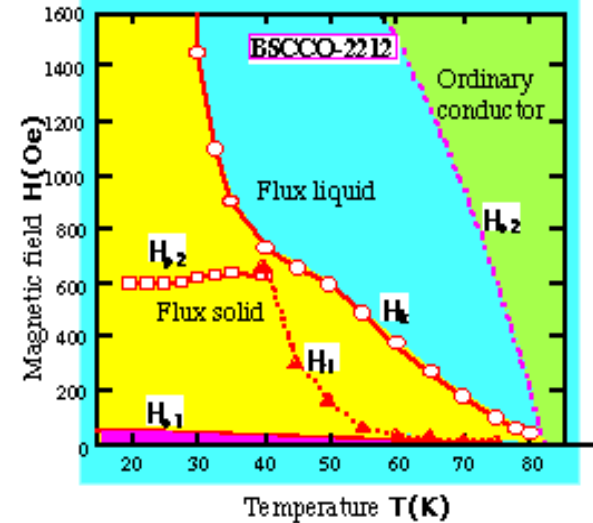


Fig. 27. Magnetism phase diagram showing domains of different flux states

1986 - Age of the "High Temperature Superconductors" - HTS (type II)

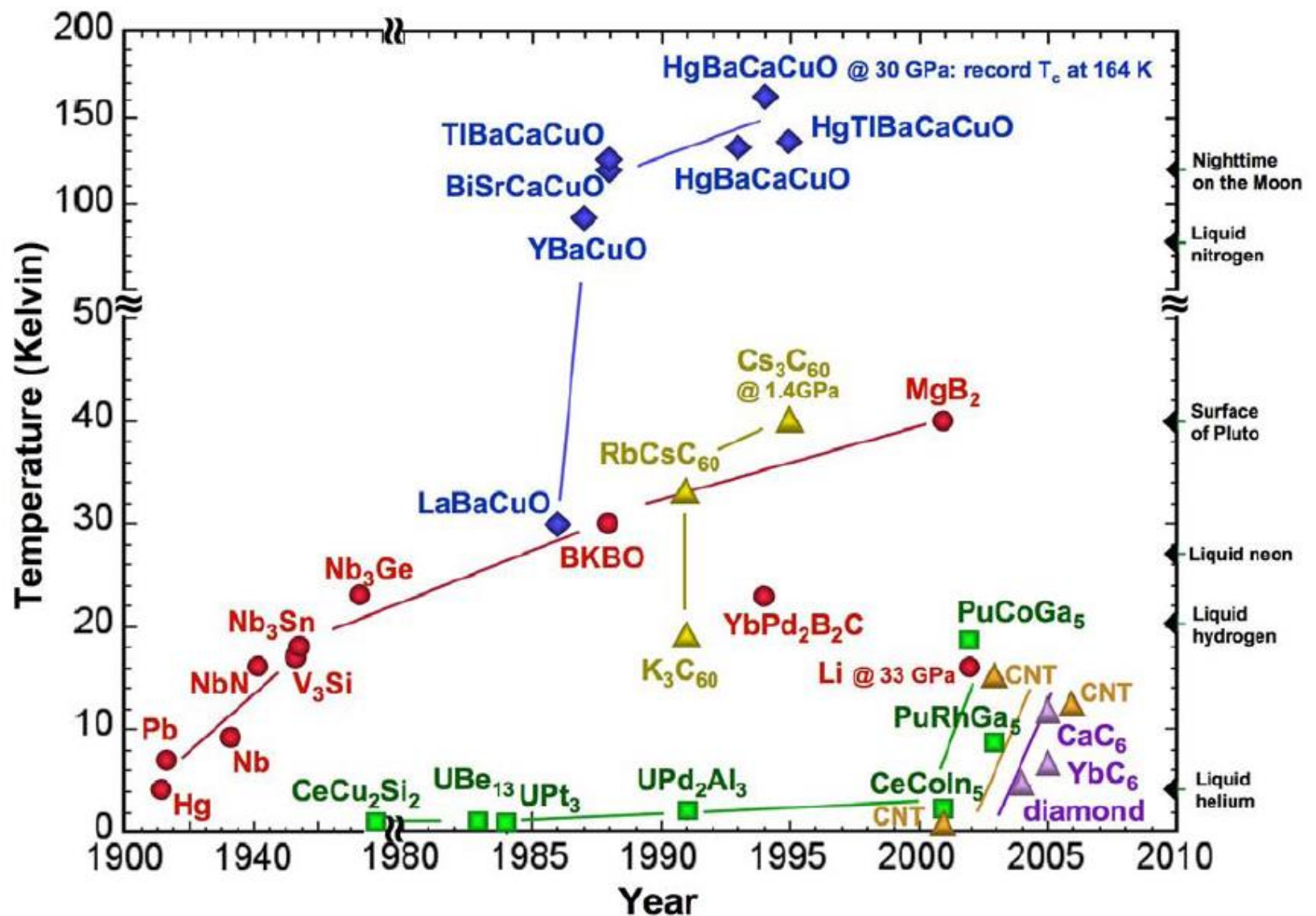
17/04/86 - Bednorz & Muller -  $\text{Ba}_x\text{La}_{5-x}\text{Cu}_5\text{O}_y$  -  $T_c \sim 30 - 35 \text{ K}$

1987 - Chu, Zhao -  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-\delta}$  (YBCO, YBaCuO, Y-123) -  $T_c \sim 92 \text{ K}$

1988 -  $\text{Bi}_2\text{Ba}_2\text{CaCu}_2\text{O}_y$  -  $T_c \sim 110 \text{ K}$

1993 -  $\text{Tl}_2\text{Ba}_2\text{Ca}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{10-x}$  -  $T_c \sim 132 \text{ K}$ ,  $\text{HgBa}_2\text{Ca}_n\text{Cu}_{n+1}\text{O}_{2n+4}$  -  $T_c > 130 \text{ K}$ ,

Great hopes for applications partially frustrated: ceramic materials are difficult to mold and, moreover, critical currents are limited by weak-links.



**Figure 24** The observed superconducting transition temperature ( $T_c$ ) of a variety of classes of superconductors is plotted as a function of time. Recent discoveries have increased the highest-observed  $T_c$  in a number of materials to unprecedented levels, such as in heavy fermion (PuCoGa<sub>5</sub>), carbon nanotubes (CNTs), and graphite intercalated compounds (CaC<sub>6</sub>).

## Wide list of applications:

Energy - production, storage & distribution;

Sensing magnetic fields;

Production of strong magnetic fields for:

- Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (research)
- NMR Imaging (medical use)
- Deflection, focusing and detection of charged particle beams (particle accelerators)
- Plasma confinement (fusion reactors)
- Levitation (transport of load and people)



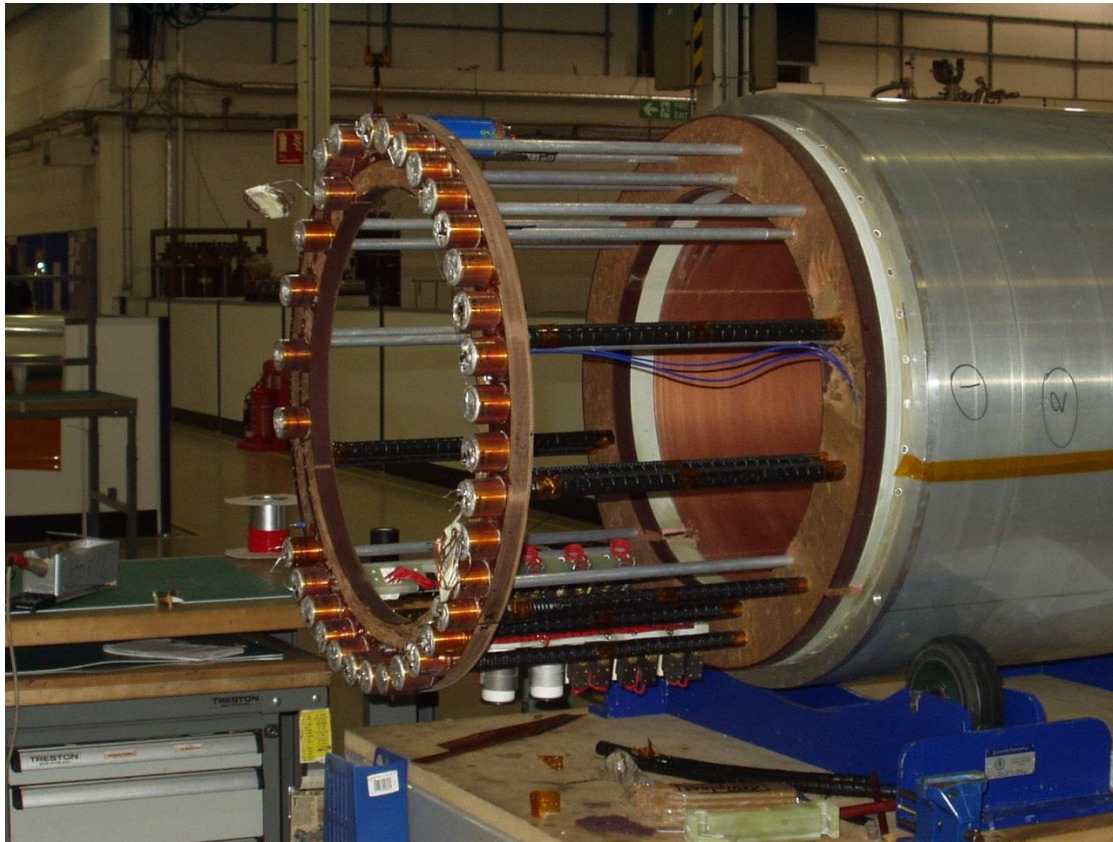


## Some applications

Current Limiters (transmission lines)

Qubits (quantum computing)

Wires for solenoids - generation of high magnetic fields (labs; NMRs)



## Some applications

**SQUIDs - flux detectors (labs; magnetographies: encephalo-, cardio-)**





## Some applications

Magnetic levitation:

Bearings for large rotors (fly wheels)

Maglev prototype (Japanese, Nb-Ti)

Test vehicle (Chinese, HTS)

HTS SC cables - Second Generation



Voltage regulating  
systems of Eolic  
Generators



# Superconductivity - Basic Concepts

Superconductivity is a Macroscopic Quantum State featuring two distinguishing properties:

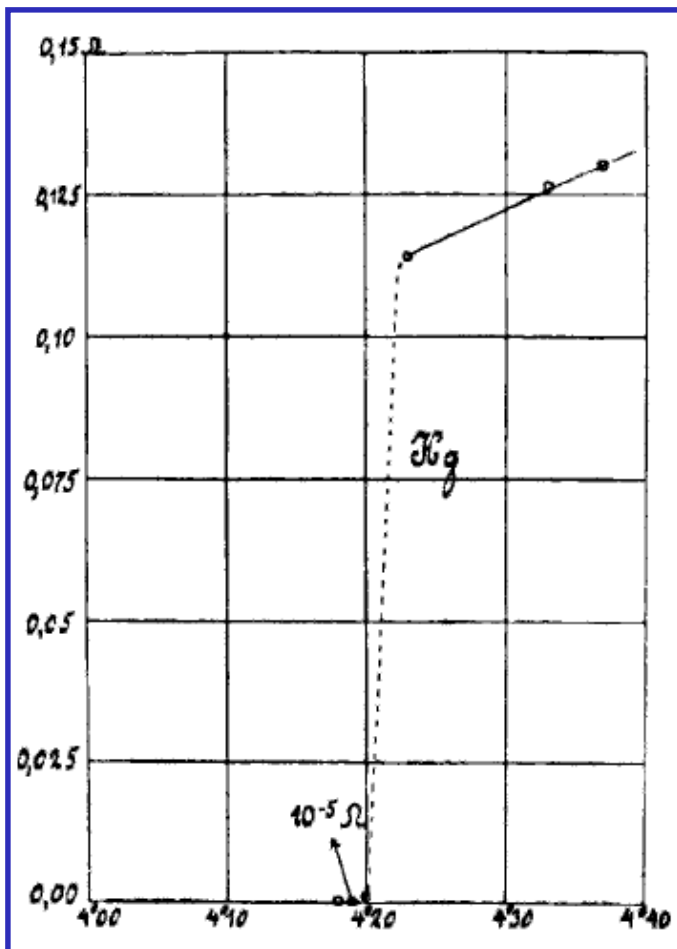
- . Supercurrents  
(dissipationless transport)
- . Screening of magnetic fields  
(Meissner effect)





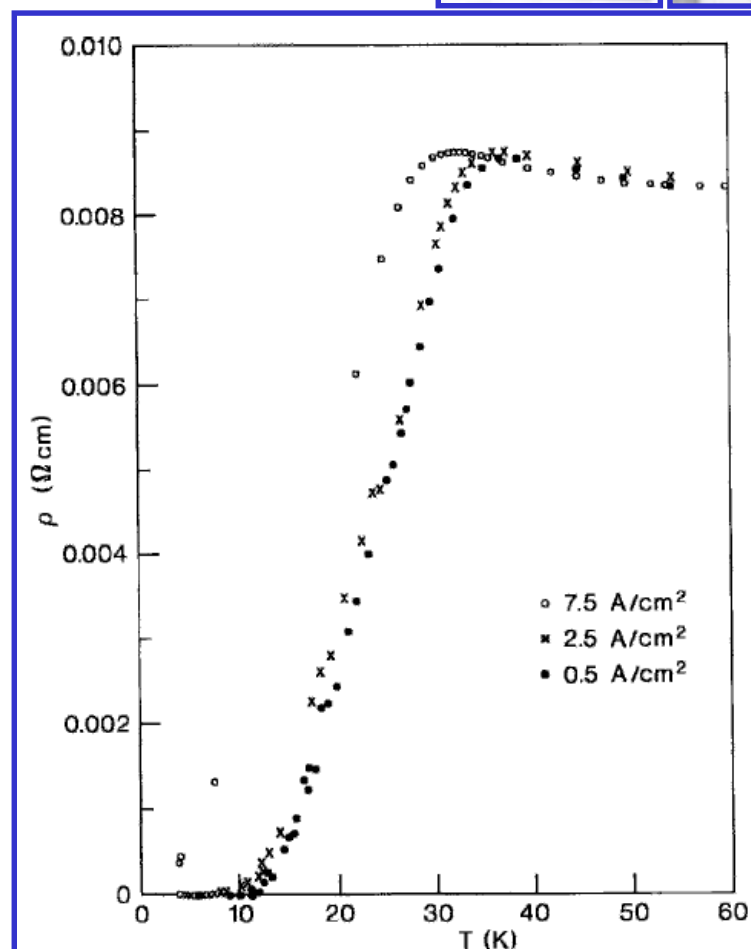
# Zero-voltage supercurrent

Two classics: H. K. Onnes and Bednorz & Müller



H. Kamerlingh Onnes

Hg - 1911



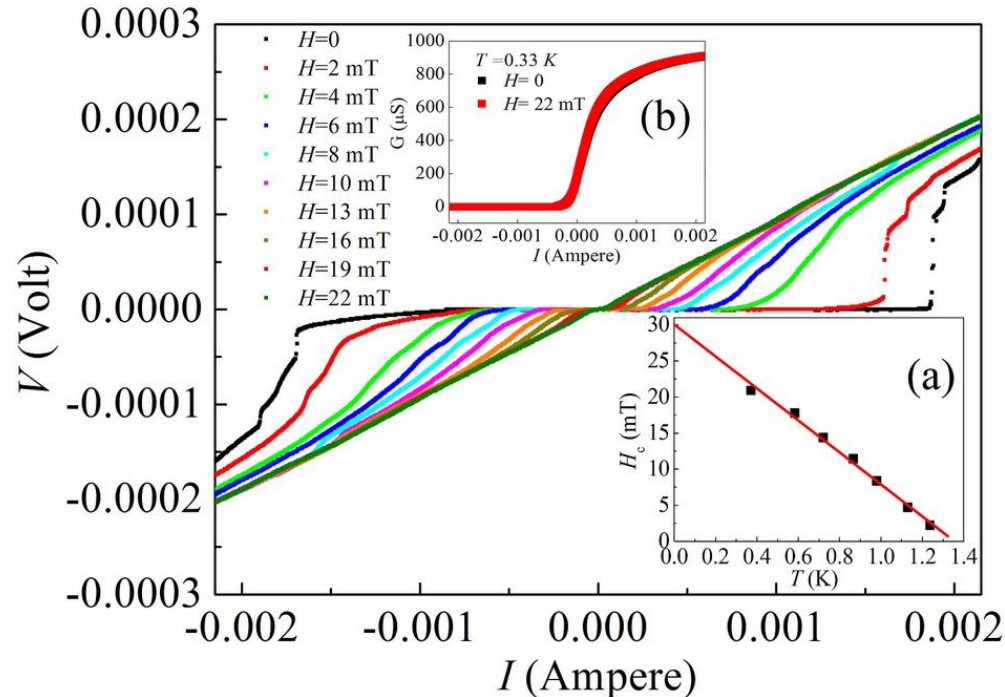
Bednorz & Müller

$\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Ba}_x\text{CuO}_4$  - 1986

At any given temperature ( $T$ ) and applied magnetic field ( $H$ ), a superconducting sample is able to carry a maximum supercurrent density,  $J_c$ , the Critical Current:

$$J_c = J_c(H, T)$$

**Figure 6: Four-terminal current-voltage characteristics of the Al film  $V(I)$  at various magnetic fields  $H$ .**

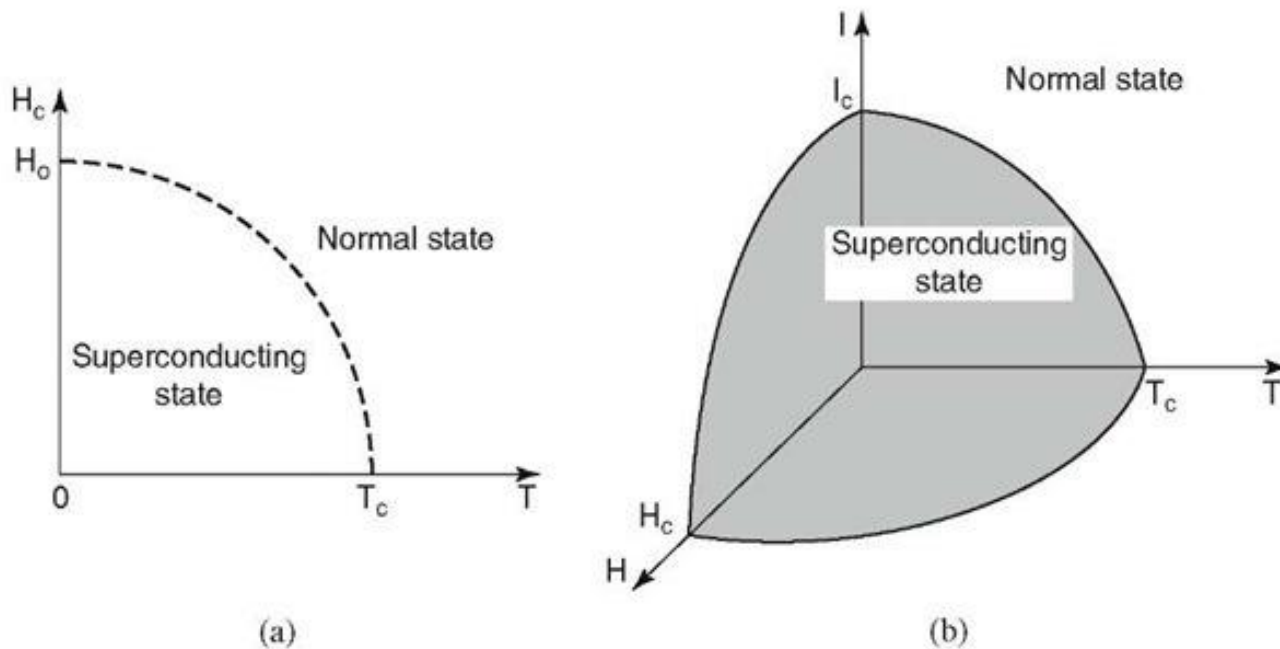


*Scientific Reports* **3**,  
Article number:2274  
doi:10.1038/srep02274



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# Superconductivity - Basic Concepts

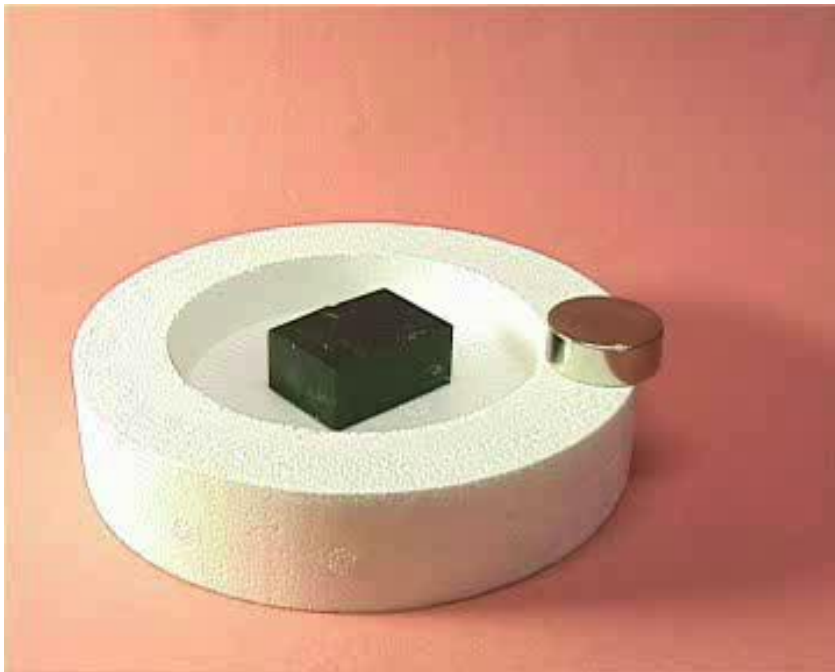
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- . Screening of magnetic fields  
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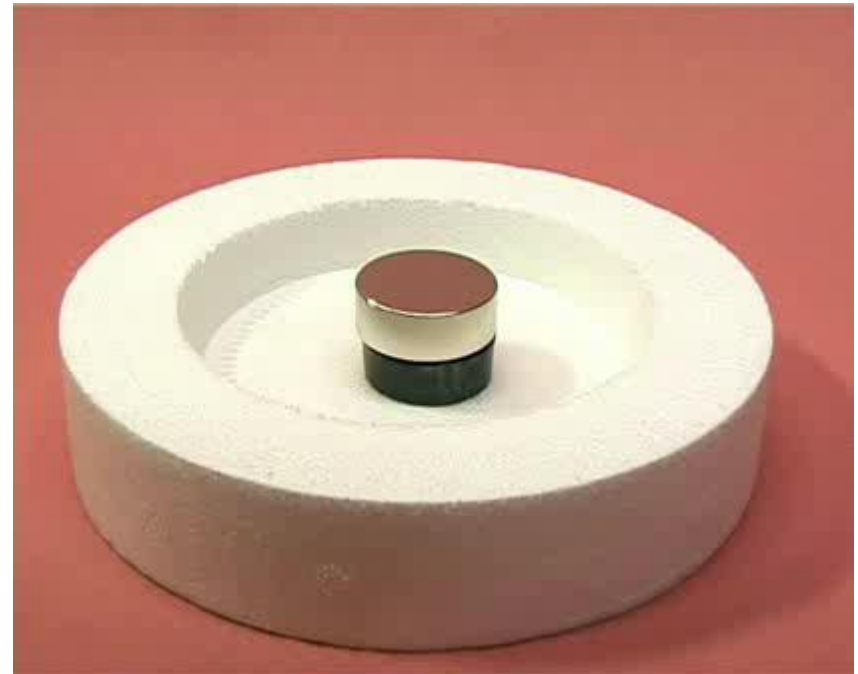


# Screening of magnetic fields - Meissner effect

Zero field cooling (ZFC)



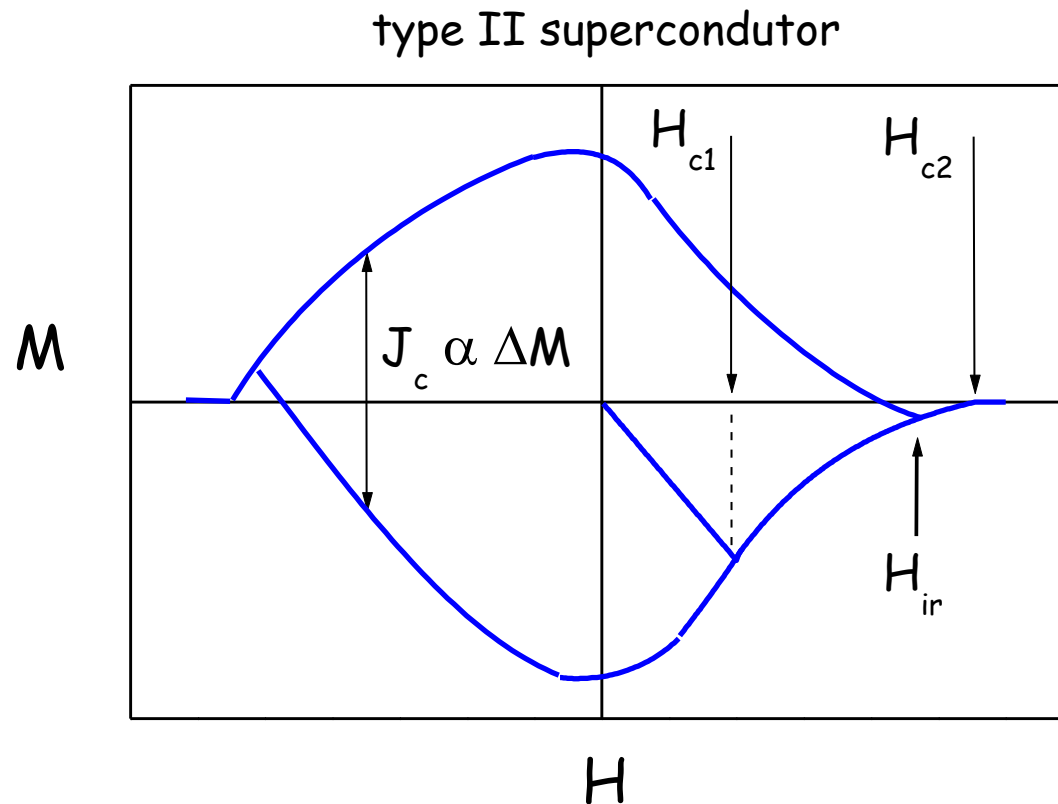
Field-cooling (FC)



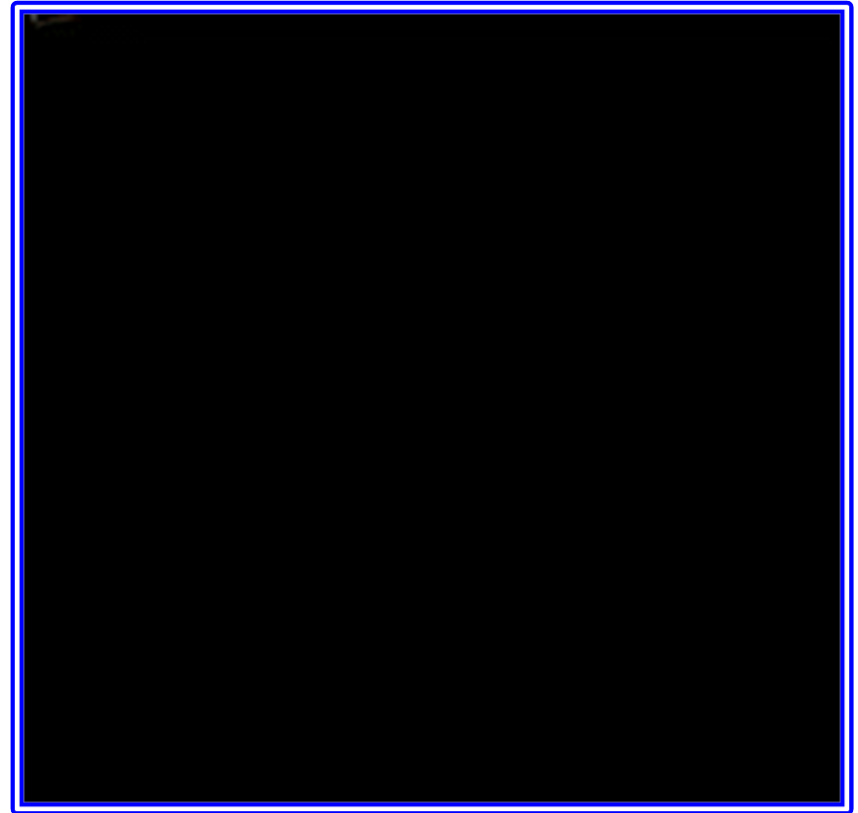
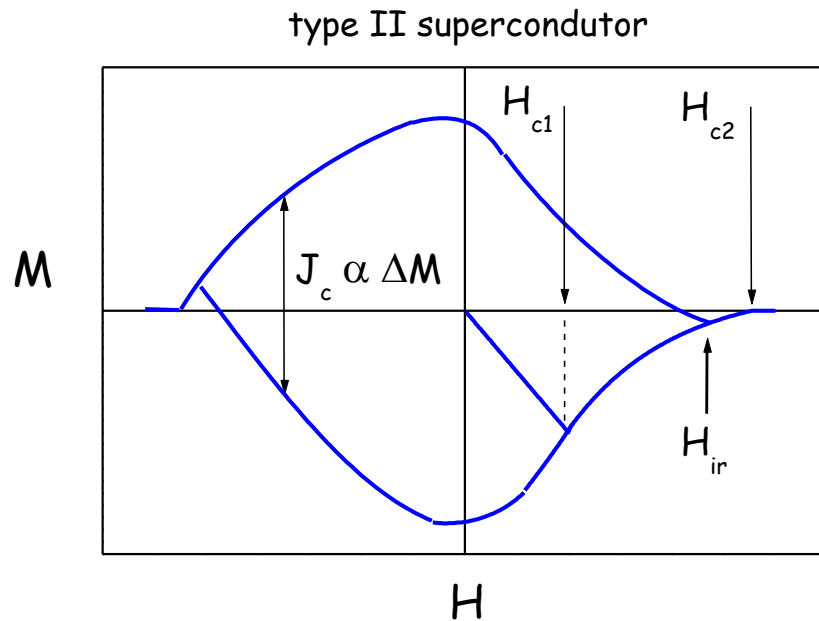
<http://www.fys.uio.no/super/>



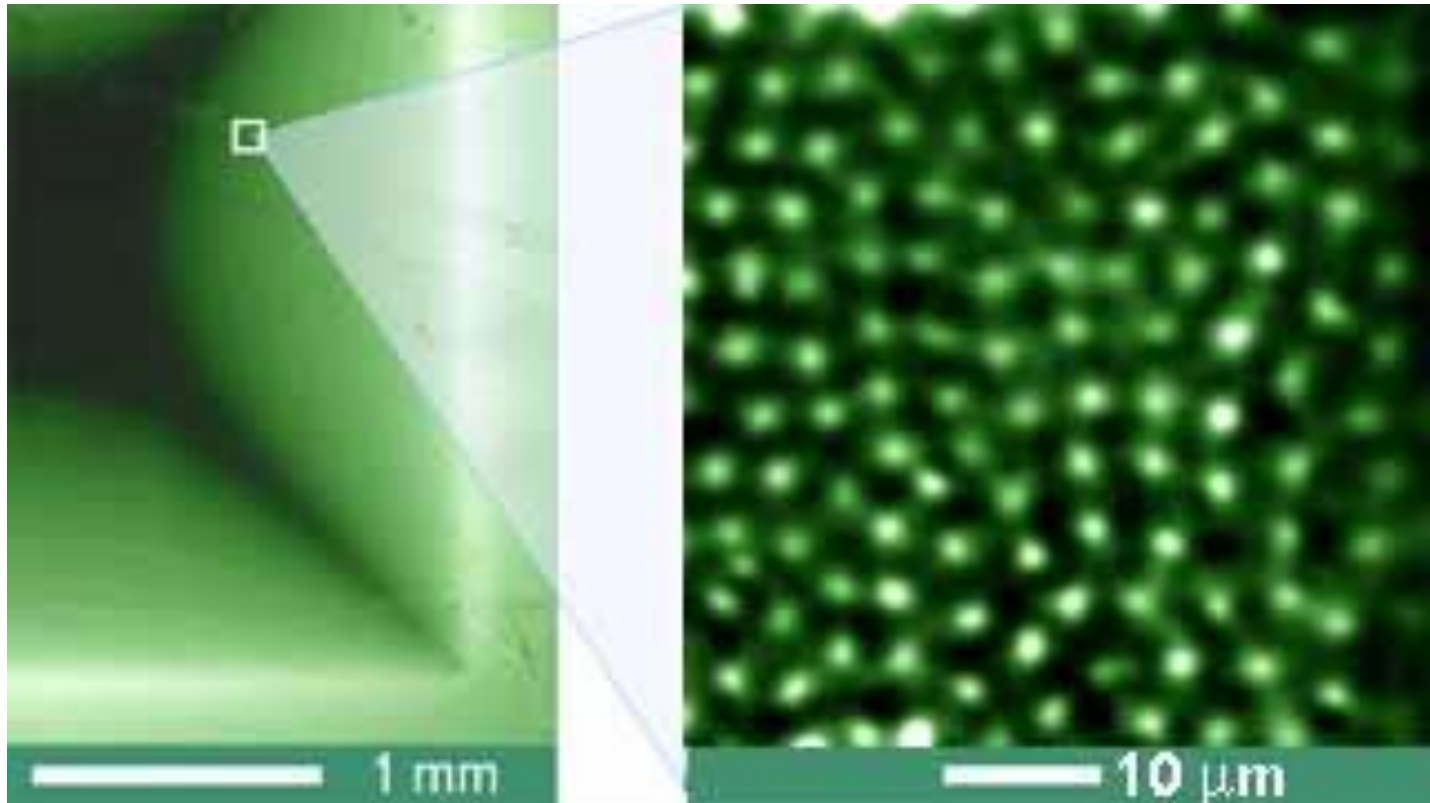
# Magnetic Field Screening



# Penetration Profile: Critical State



Flux distribution apparently continuous...  
in reality, quantized flux: vortices

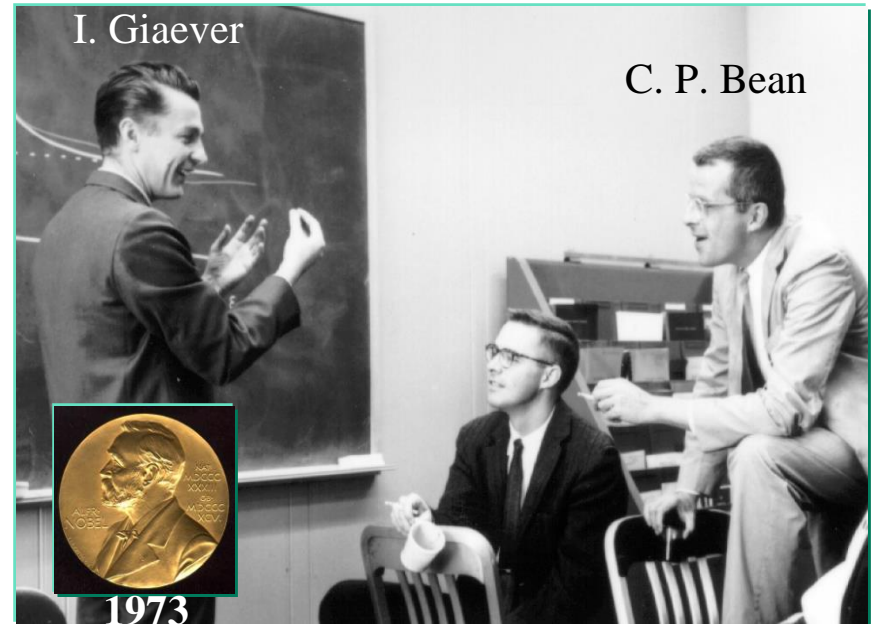
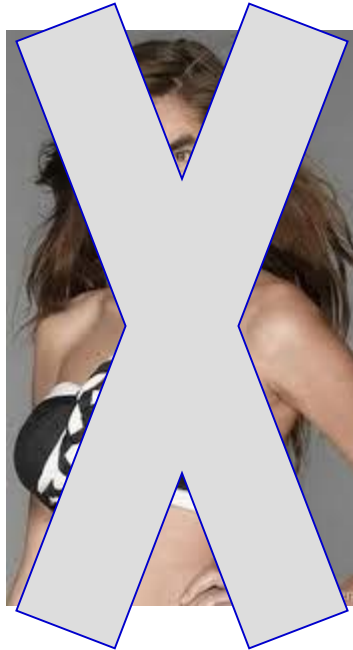


<http://www.fys.uio.no/super/>



Although quantized, flux is usually (conveniently) treated as "continuous"

## Bean Model



*Magnetization of Hard Superconductors*  
C.P. Bean, Phys. Rev. Lett. **8**, 250 (1962)

citations: 2785

The basic premise of this theory<sup>10,11</sup> is that there exists a limiting macroscopic superconducting current density  $J_c(H)$  that a hard superconductor can carry; and further, that any electromotive force, however small, will induce this full current to flow

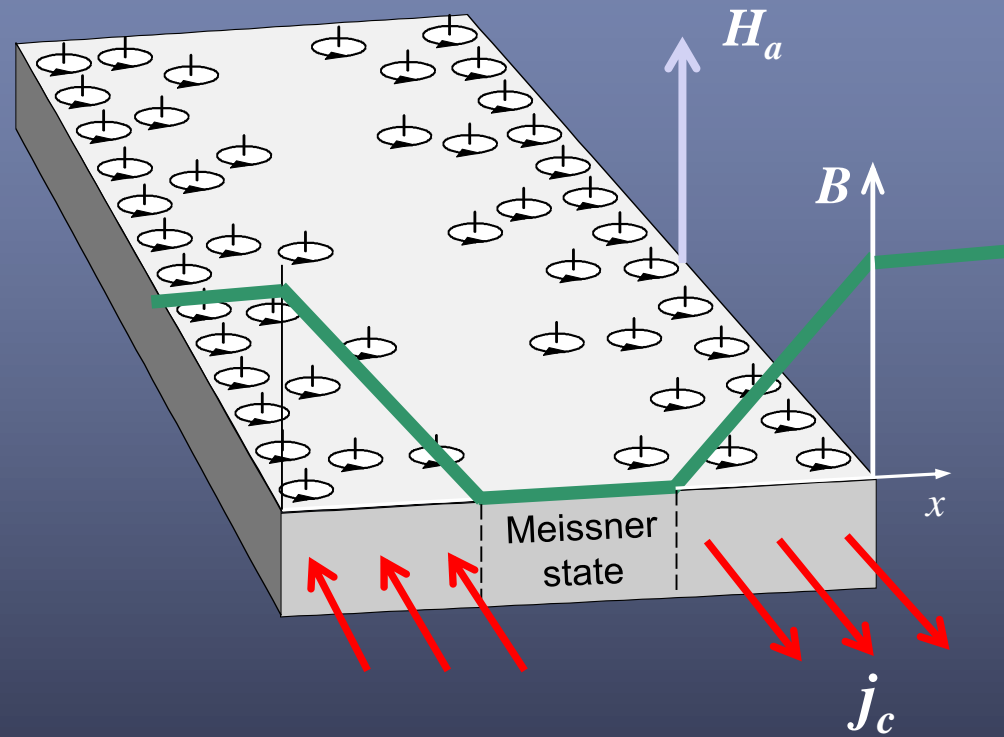
# The critical state > 50 years !



*Magnetization of Hard Superconductors*  
C.P. Bean, Phys. Rev. Lett. **8**, 250 (1962)

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critical current density  $\Leftrightarrow$  critical slope in  $B$

Ampere's law:  $\mu_0 \mathbf{j} = \nabla \times \mathbf{B}$

Critical State:  $J = J_c$

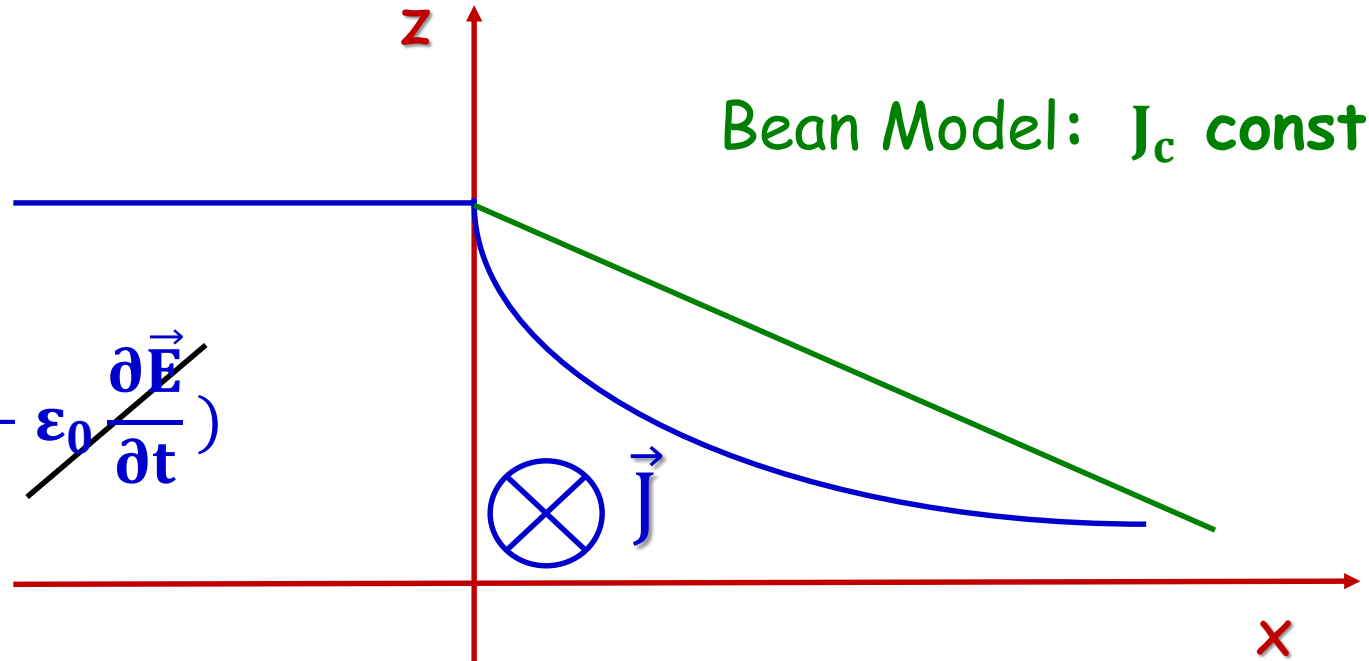
Bean Model:  $J_c$  const.

Faraday:

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu_0 \left( \vec{J} + \cancel{\varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}} \right)$$

$$\vec{B} = B_z(x) \hat{z}$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = -\frac{\partial B_z}{\partial x} \hat{y} = \mu_0 \vec{J}$$



Normal

Superconductor



Vortices are present in almost all applications of superconductors;

Vortices have a dynamics of their own;

This dynamics determines the superconducting properties which are relevant for applications.



## II. Vortices

# Vortices in Nature



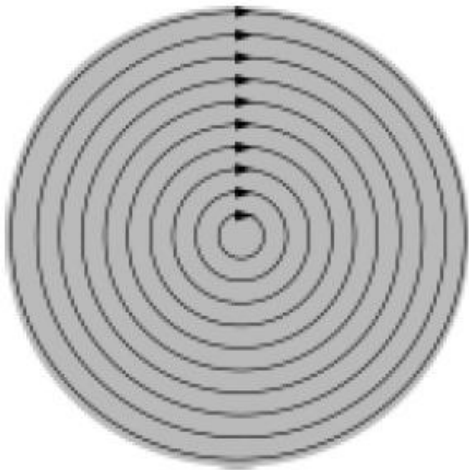




# Vortices in Nature

Normal fluids:

- viscosity
- "rigid body" rotation



Superfluids:

- no viscosity
- vortices



# Vortices in Nature

## Bose Condensate: superfluid He4

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 3

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

16 JULY 1979

### Observation of Stationary Vortex Arrays in Rotating Superfluid Helium

E. J. Yarmchuk and M. J. V. Gordon<sup>(a)</sup>

*Physics Department, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*

and

R. E. Packard<sup>(b)</sup>

*Physics Department, University of Sussex, Brighton, England*

(Received 29 May 1979)

The positions of quantized vortex lines in rotating superfluid helium have been recorded using a photographic technique. The photographs show stationary arrays of vortices. The observed patterns are in good agreement with theoretical predictions.

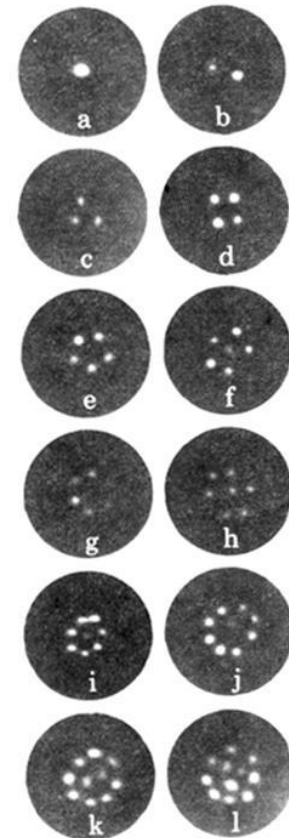
Since the work of London<sup>1</sup> it has become an accepted notion that superfluidity is a manifestation of quantum mechanics on a macroscopic scale. Pursuing this idea in a quite literal way, Onsager and Feynman<sup>2</sup> tried to deduce the qualitative features of a single macroscopic wave function,  $\psi(r)$ , which would describe the superfluid state. They concluded that the superfluid velocity  $v_s$  was proportional to the gradient of the wave function's phase and that the nodes in  $\psi(r)$  marked the position of vortex lines with circulation quantized in units of  $h/m$  ( $h$  is Planck's constant and  $m$  the mass of the helium atom).

This paper reports observation of stationary quantized-vortex-line patterns in rotating He II. These patterns display the nodal structure of the stationary states of  $\psi(r)$  and provide a vivid demonstration of the long-range coherence of the superfluid state.

The light emanating from this phosphor screen. The light is conveyed (via coherent fiber optics) to room temperature, amplified in a low-light-level television camera, and recorded on a single frame of a movie film. Figure 1 shows a block diagram of the apparatus and the caption describes the essential points.

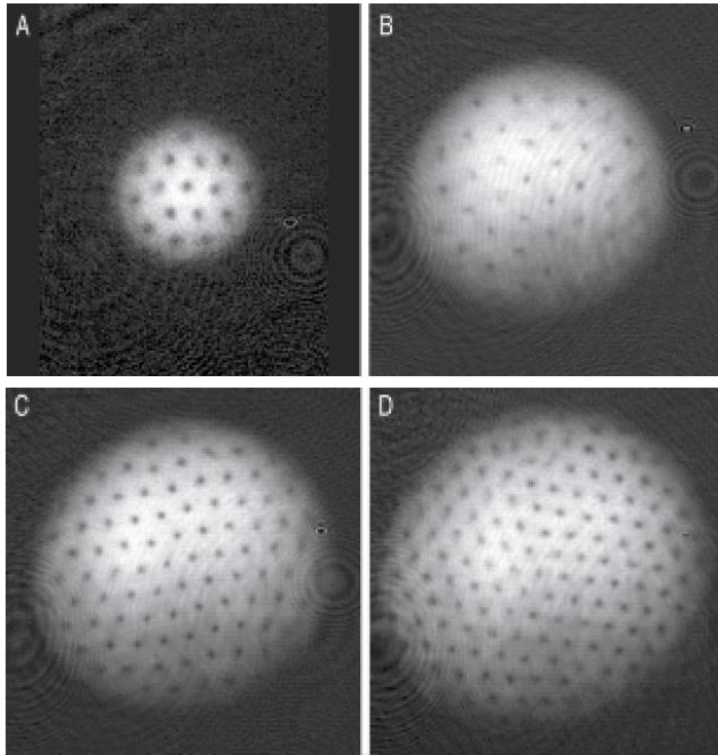
Since it takes about 10 sec to charge the vortex lines, we can record the vortex pattern about 6 times each minute. In a typical experiment the steady-state features of a pattern are enhanced by making a multiple exposure of many individual movie frames. This method of photographic signal averaging reduces the transient effects of noise due to the image intensifier's dark current. It also obscures random vortex motion caused by mechanical disturbances.

The sample of superfluid fills a cylindrical bucket of 2 mm diam and 25 mm depth. A small



# Vortices in Nature

## Bose Condensate: cold atoms



### WHEN ATOMS BEHAVE AS WAVES: BOSE-EINSTEIN CONDENSATION AND THE ATOM LASER

Nobel Lecture, December 8, 2001

by

WOLFGANG KETTERLE\*

Department of Physics, MIT-Harvard Center for Ultracold Atoms, and Research Laboratory of Electronics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139, USA.

Condensate of Na atoms

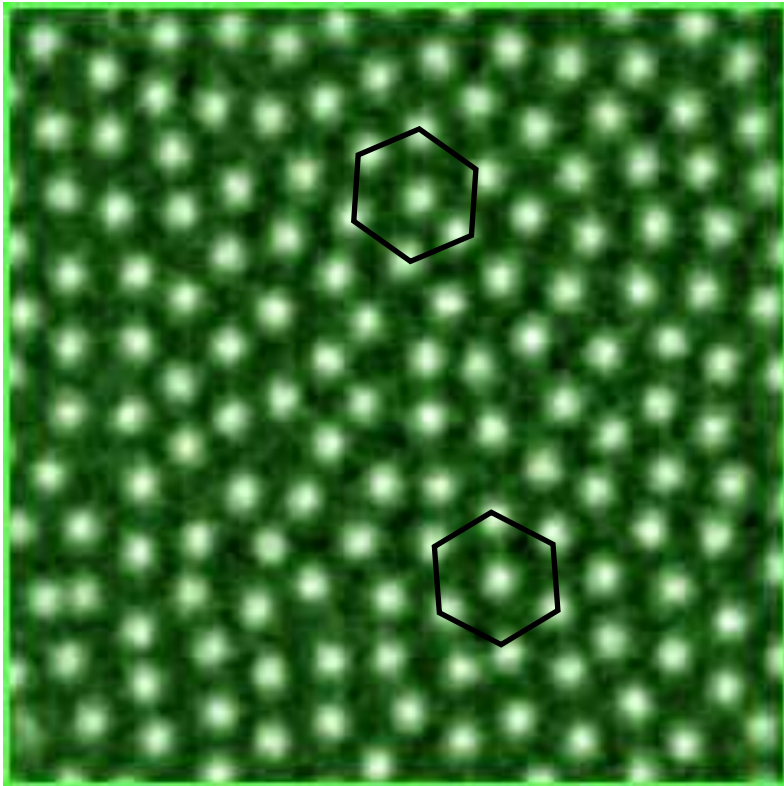
*Figure 20.* Observation of vortex lattices in rotating Bose-Einstein condensates. The examples shown contain (A) 16 (B) 32 (C) 80 and (D) 130 vortices as the speed of rotation was increased. The vortices have “crystallized” in a triangular pattern. The diameter of the cloud in (D) was 1 mm after ballistic expansion, which represents a magnification of twenty. (Reprinted with permission from ref. [112]. Copyright 2001 American Association for the Advancement of Science.)

# Vortices in Superconductors



# Vortices in Superconductors

## Abrikosov lattice



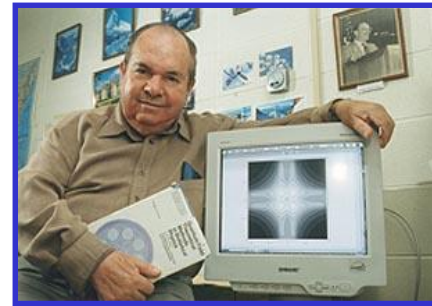
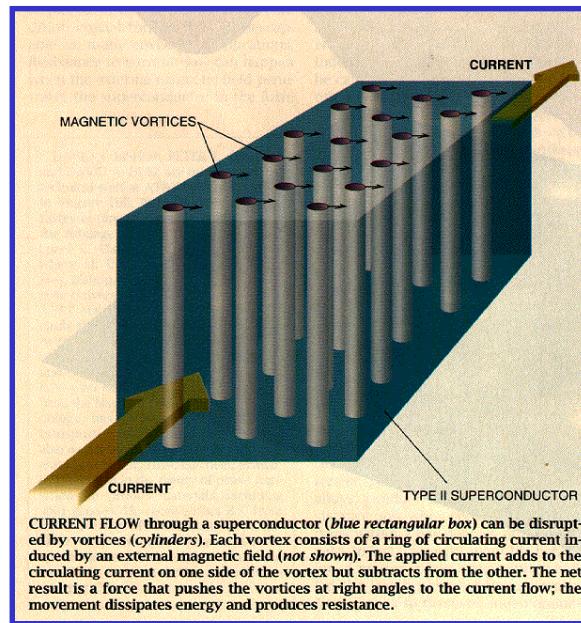
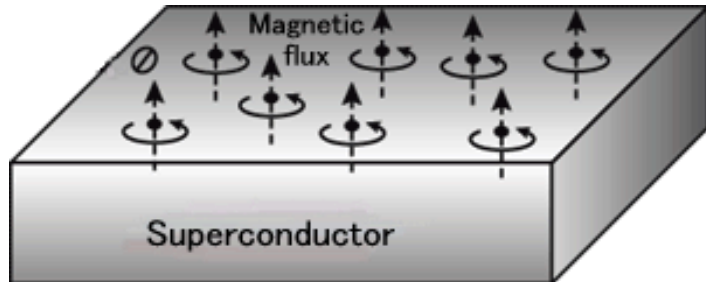
Magneto-optical Imaging

Tom H. Johansen

<http://www.fys.uio.no/super/>



## A bit of history...



**A. Abrikosov**  
**Nobel Prize in**  
**Physics in 2003,**  
**shared with**  
**V. Ginzburg and**  
**A. Leggett**

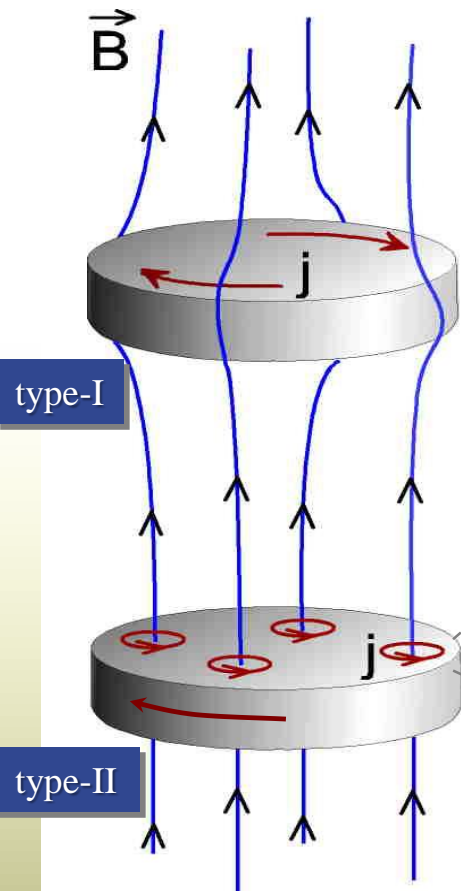
**1957 – Abrikosov predicted the existence of type II SCs (flux allowed)**

**Surface energy can be negative in certain cases ( $\kappa = \lambda/\xi > 0.707$ )**

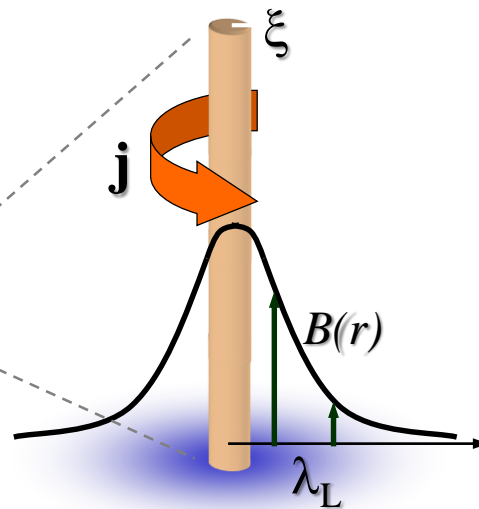
**→ creation of interfaces N/SC become energetically favorable**

**Fluxoids or Vortices: normal regions in the form of tubes carrying one flux quantum each,  $\phi_0 \sim 2 \times 10^{-15}$  SI, surrounded by screening currents**

# Vortex matter



vortex



$$\int B dA = h/2e = \Phi_0$$

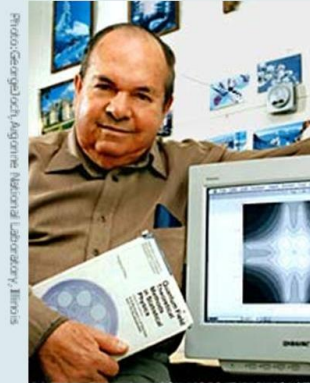
Flux quantum

## The Nobel Prize in Physics 2003

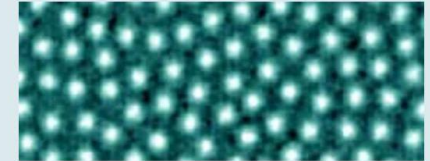


### Vortices give guidance

Landau's pupil, **Alexei Abrikosov**, realised almost immediately that Ginzburg and Landau's theory can also describe those superconductors (type II) that can coexist with strong magnetic fields. According to Abrikosov's theory this occurs because the superconductor allows the magnetic field to enter through vortices in the electron superfluid. These vortices can form regular structures, *Abrikosov lattices*, but disordered structures can also occur.

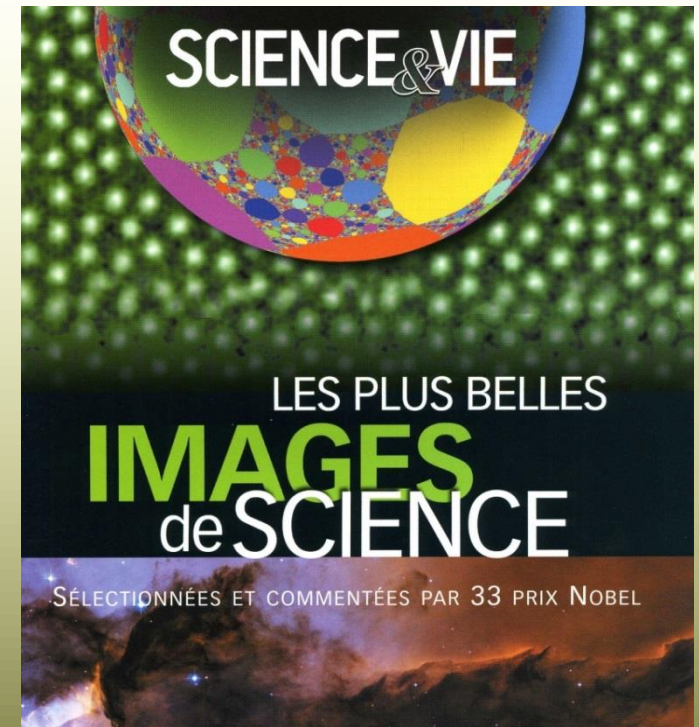


**Alexei A. Abrikosov**  
Argonne National Laboratory,  
Argonne, Illinois, USA



An Abrikosov lattice of vortices in a type-II superconductor. The magnetic field passes through the vortices.

PHOTO: TOM H. JOHANSEN ET AL., SUPERCONDUCTIVITY LABORATORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OSLO





### Ginzburg-Landau Theory:

$$\begin{aligned} G_s(\phi, \vec{A}) &= \\ &= G_n + \frac{1}{V} \int d^3\vec{r} \left[ \frac{1}{2m^*} \vec{p}^* \phi^* \cdot \vec{p} \phi + \frac{B^2(\vec{r})}{2\mu_0^2} - \mu_0 \vec{H}(\vec{r}) \cdot \vec{M}(\vec{r}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + a\phi\phi^* + \frac{b}{2} \phi\phi^*\phi\phi^* + \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

where  $\vec{p} = i\hbar\vec{\nabla} + e^*\vec{A}$  is the canonical moment and the coefficients are taken as

$$a(T) \sim a_0 \left[ \frac{T}{T_c} - 1 \right]; \quad b(T) \sim b_0; \quad T \sim T_c$$



### Ginzburg-Landau Theory:

$$G_s(\phi, \mathbf{A})$$

$$\delta_\phi G_s = 0 \text{ e } \delta_A G_s = 0 \rightarrow 2 \text{ GL equations}$$

Dimensionless GL equations  $\rightarrow$

$\lambda$  : space scale in equation arising from  $\delta_A G_s = 0$

$\xi$  : space scale in equation arising from  $\delta_\phi G_s = 0$

Energy associated to formation of N/S interface:

$$- \sigma_{NS} \propto (\xi - \sqrt{2} \lambda)$$

$$- \kappa = \lambda/\xi : \text{parâmetro de GL}$$



## Ginzburg-Landau Equations:

$$\frac{1}{2m^*}(\hbar^2 \nabla^2 \phi - 2i\hbar e^* \mathbf{A} \cdot \nabla \phi - e^{*2} \mathbf{A}^2 \phi) - a\phi - b|\phi|^2 \phi = 0. \quad (6.8)$$

$$\nabla \times (\nabla \times \mathbf{A}) + \frac{i\hbar e^*}{2m^*}(\phi^* \nabla \phi - \phi \nabla \phi^*) + \frac{e^{*2}}{m^*} \mathbf{A} |\phi|^2 = \mathbf{0}. \quad (6.10)$$

From Ampère's Law:

$$\mu_0 \mathbf{J} = -\frac{i\hbar e^*}{2m^*}(\phi^* \nabla \phi - \nabla \phi^* \phi) - \frac{e^{*2}}{m^*} \mathbf{A} |\phi|^2. \quad (6.12)$$



## Vortex Quantization

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}) = |\phi(\mathbf{r})|e^{i\Theta} \quad (6.2)$$

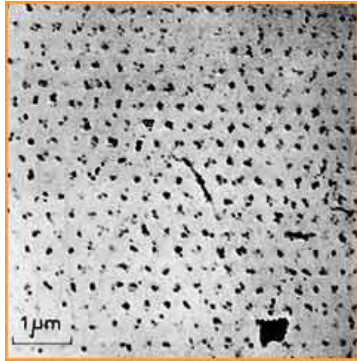
$$\nabla\phi = i\phi\nabla\Theta + e^{i\Theta}\nabla|\phi(\mathbf{r})|, \quad (6.31)$$

$$\frac{m^*}{e^{*2}} \oint \frac{\mu_0 \mathbf{J}}{|\phi|^2} \cdot d\mathbf{l} + \Phi = n\Phi_0. \quad (6.39)$$

$$\Phi_0 = \frac{h}{e^*}, \quad (6.36)$$



# Gallery

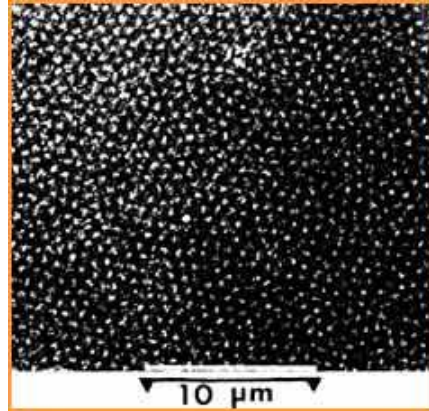


*First Image*

*Bitter Decoration 1967*

*Pb-4at%In rod, 1.1K, 195G*

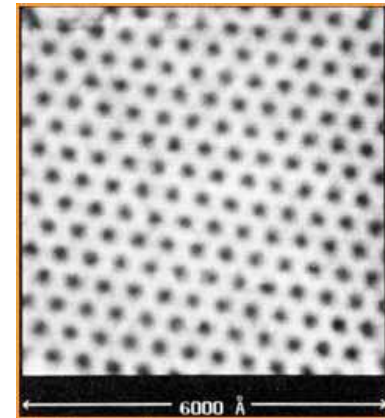
*U. Essmann and H. Trauble  
Max-Planck Institute, Stuttgart*



*Bitter Decoration*

*YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> crystal, 4.2K, 52G*

*P. L. Gammel et al., Bell Labs*



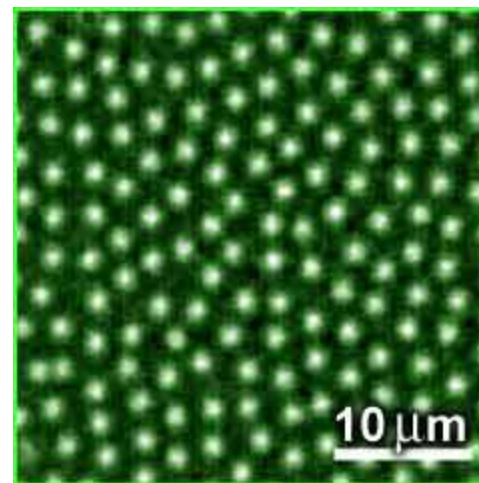
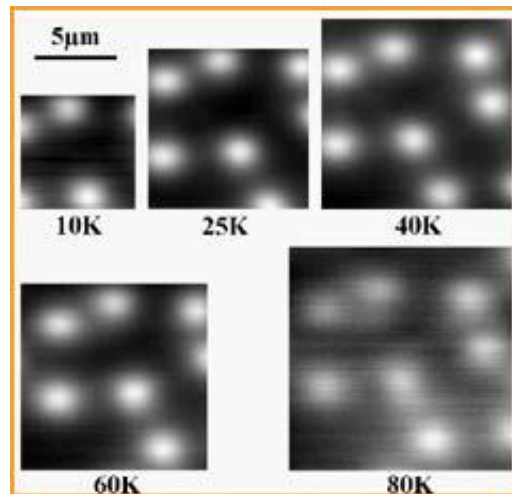
*Scanning Tunnel Microscopy*

*NbSe<sub>2</sub>, 1T, 1.8K*

*H. F. Hess et al., Bell Labs*

*Scanning Hall probes  
YBaCuO film, 1000G*

*A. Oral et al.  
University of Bath*



*Magneto-Optical Imaging  
NbSe<sub>2</sub> crystal, 4.3K, 3G*

*P.E. Goa et al.  
University of Oslo*

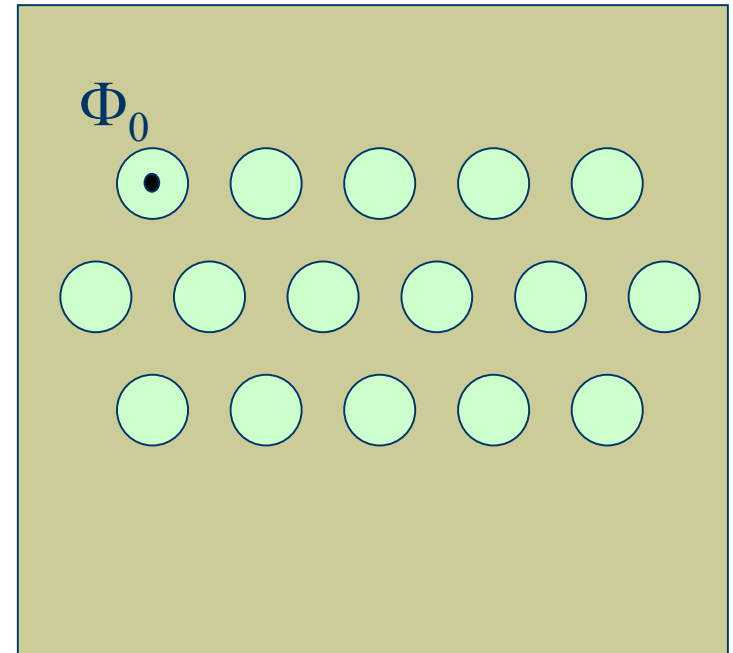
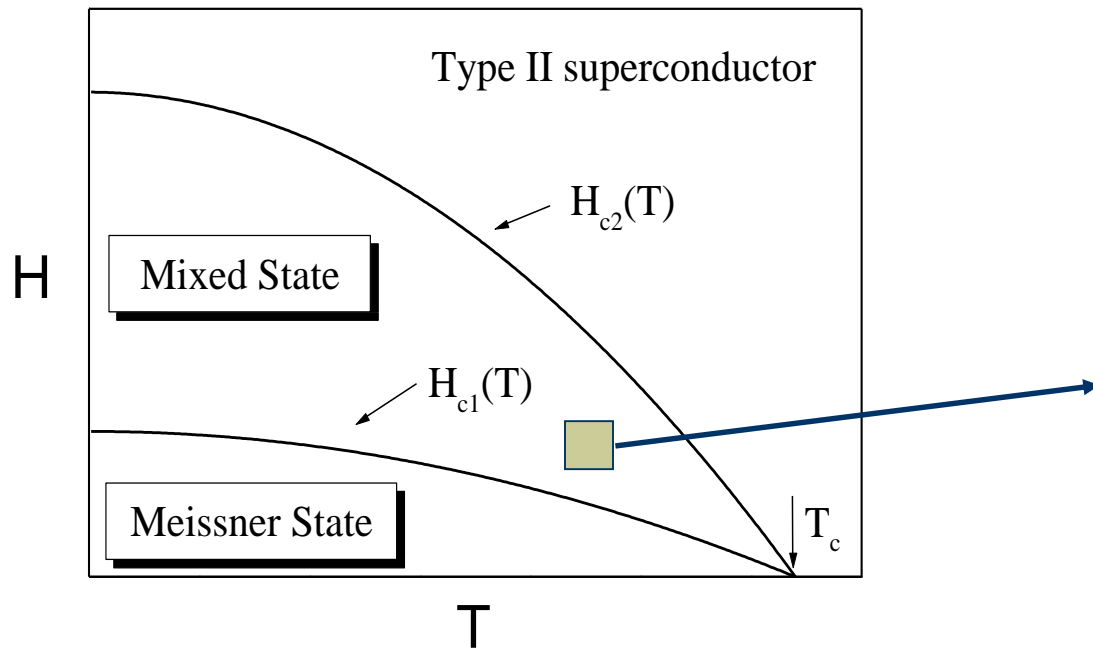
# Vortex Dynamics





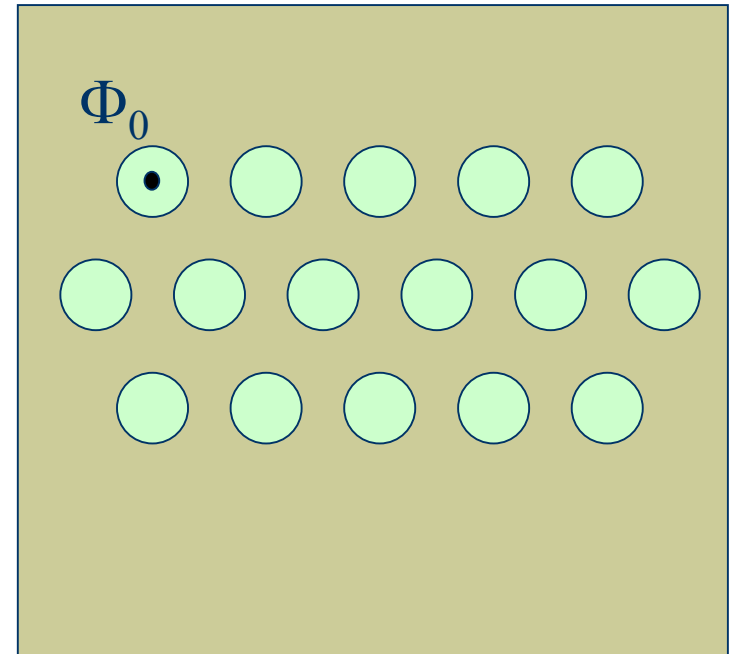
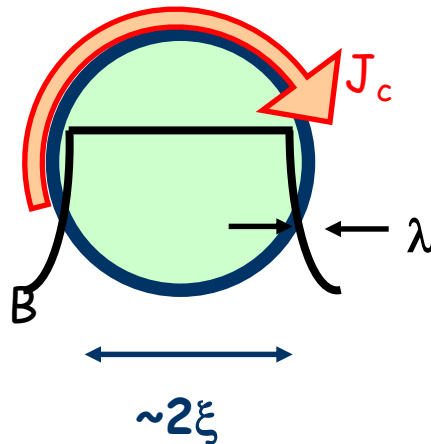
# VORTICES IN SCs: BASICS

Vortices in the presence of currents: viscous motion → dissipation



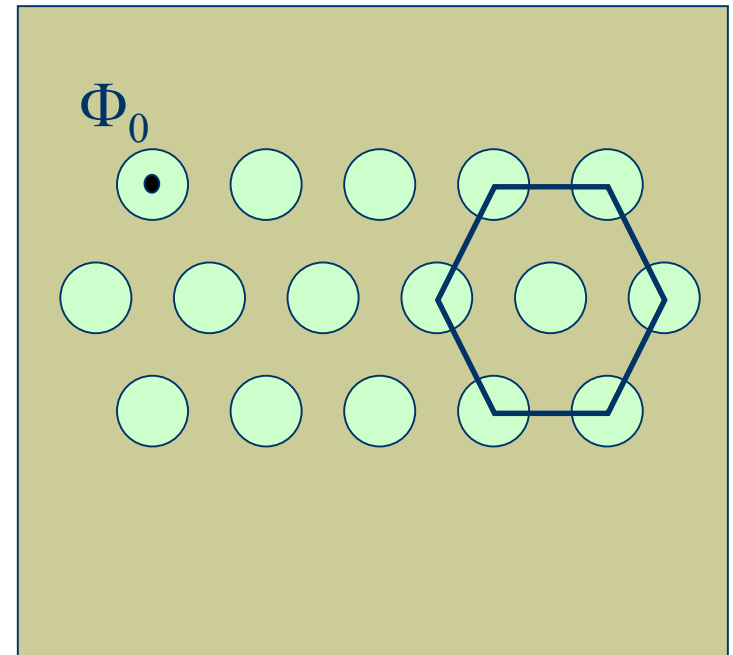
Vortices in the presence of currents: viscous motion → dissipation

- Vortices (fluxoids) carry quantized flux,  
 $\Phi = n \Phi_0$  (usually  $n = 1$ )



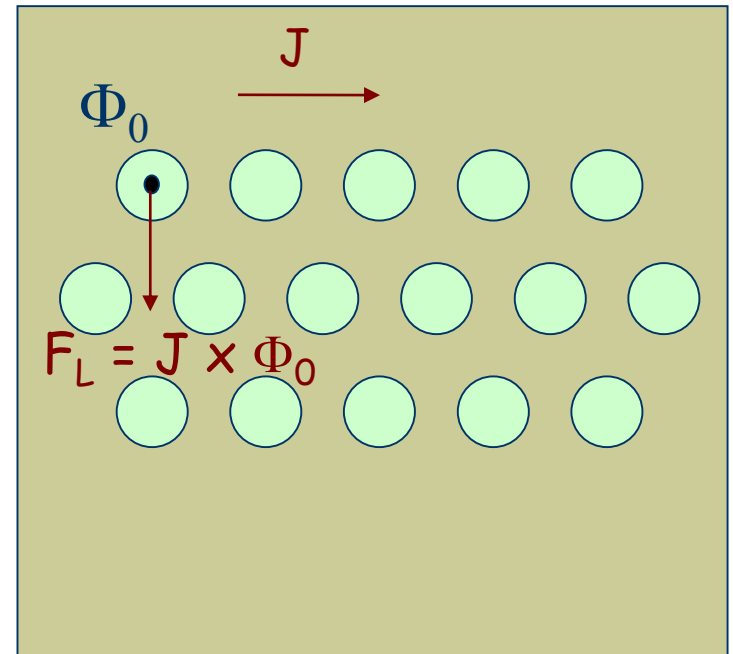
Vortices in the presence of currents: viscous motion → dissipation

- Vortices (fluxoids) carry quantized flux,  $\Phi = n \Phi_0$  (usually  $n = 1$ )
- Collection of vortices: typical elastic, electric, magnetic & thermal properties → Vortex Matter (VM)



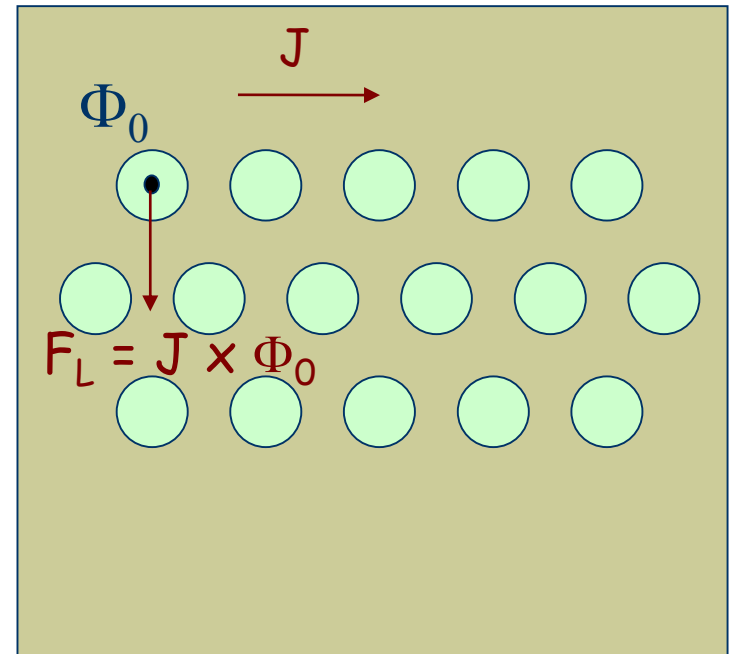
### Vortices in the presence of currents: viscous motion → dissipation

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- If  $J$  is present, VM experiences viscous movement which may lead the sample to its normal state



## Vortices in the presence of currents: viscous motion → dissipation

- Vortices (fluxoids) carry quantized flux,  $\Phi = n \Phi_0$  (usually  $n = 1$ )
- Collection of vortices: typical elastic, electric, magnetic & thermal properties → Vortex Matter (VM)
- If  $J$  is present, VM experiences viscous movement which may lead the sample to its normal state
- Pinning centers (PC) can prevent such movement, trapping vortices in potential wells
- PCs are crucial to enable  $J_c > 0$

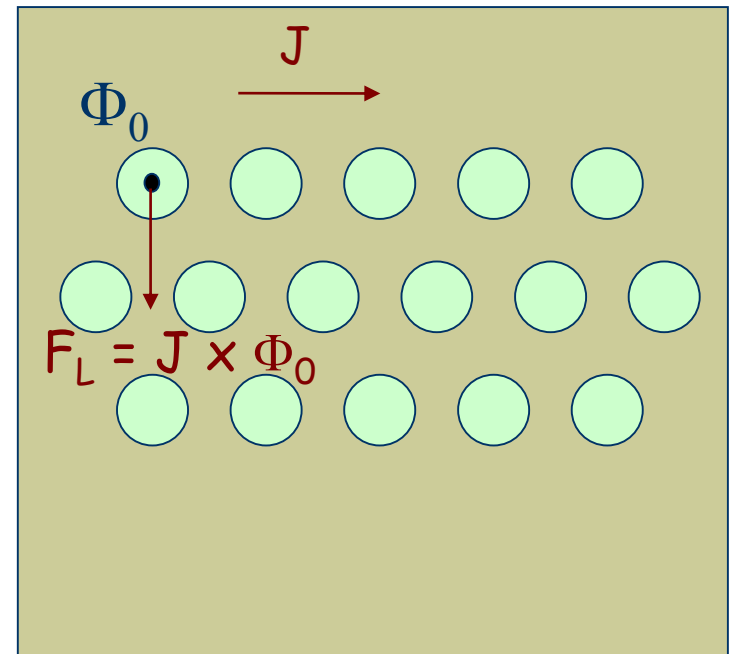
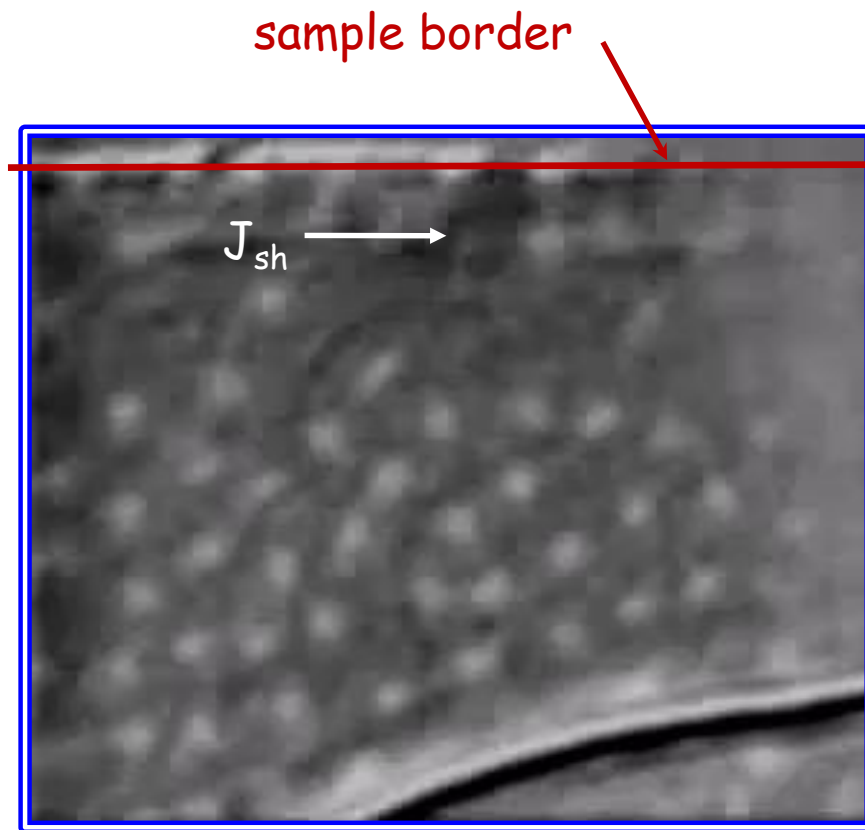




Alexei Abrikosov acting as a "pinning center" for his admirers  
Leuven, july 2006

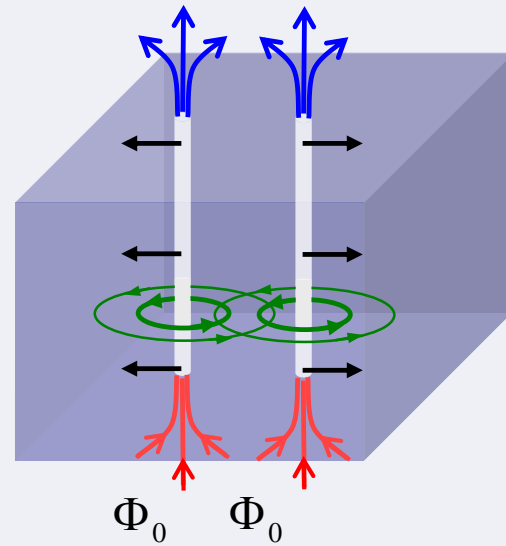


## - Vortex entry

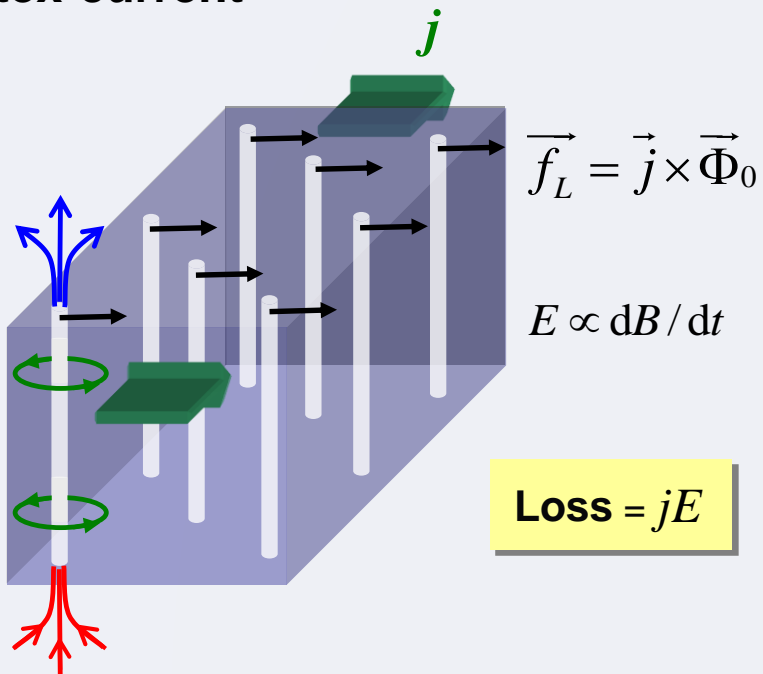


# Interactions

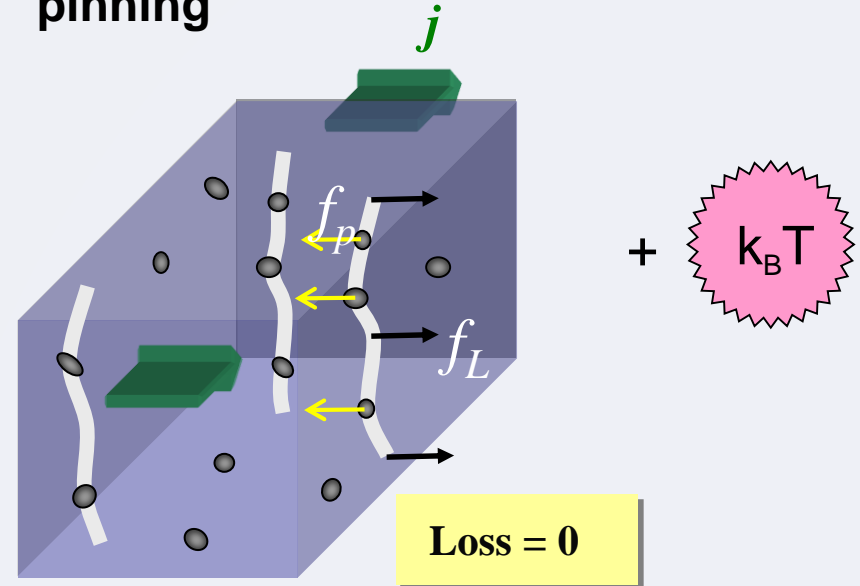
vortex-vortex



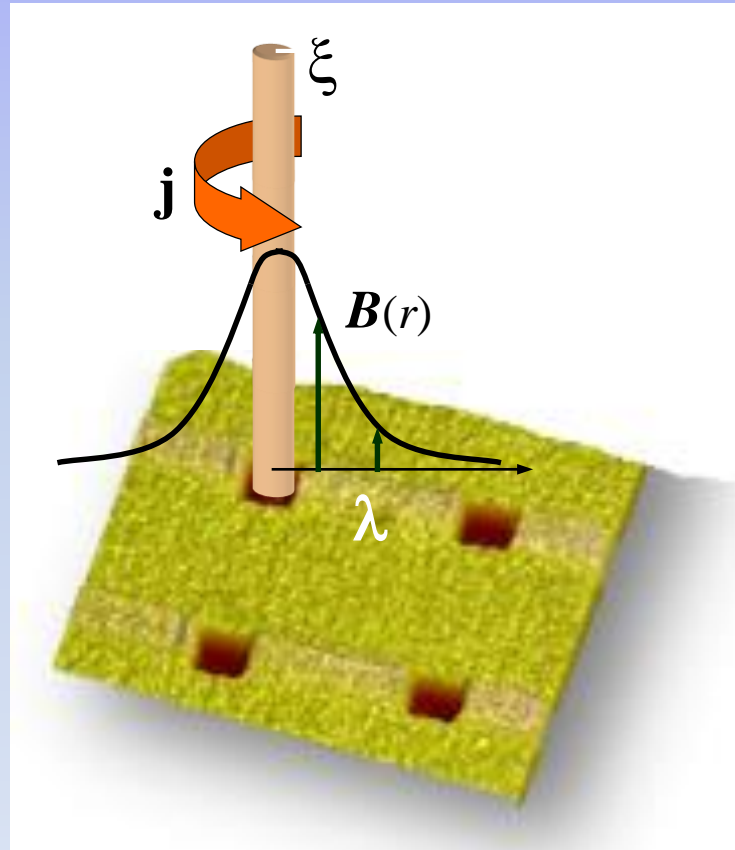
vortex-current



pinning



# defects: pinning centers

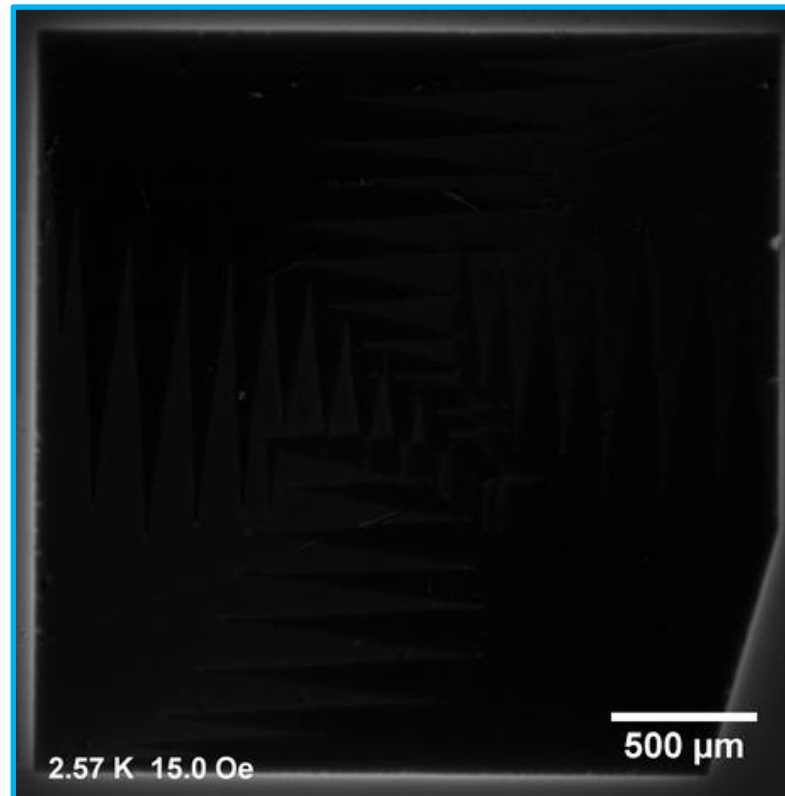


# Vortex Avalanches



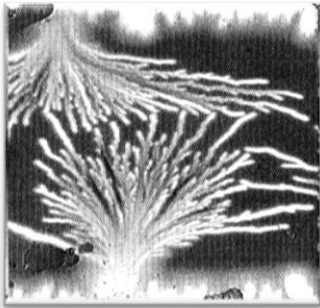
# Facts

Under certain conditions of temperature and magnetic field, flux avalanches of dendritic form develop into superconducting films, as a consequence of thermomagnetic instabilities (TMI);

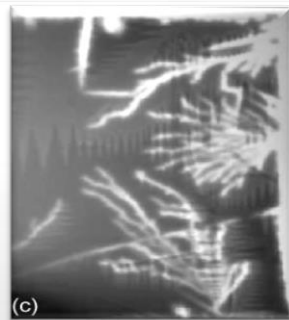


Nb film

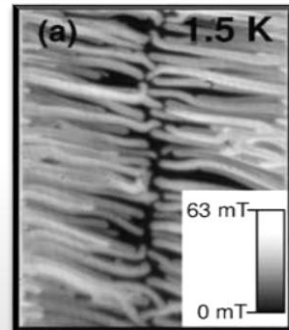
# Magneto optical images of avalanches in superconducting thin films



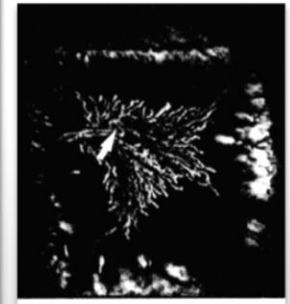
Nb  
5.97 K, 135 Oe  
Remanent state  
Durán *et al.* 1995



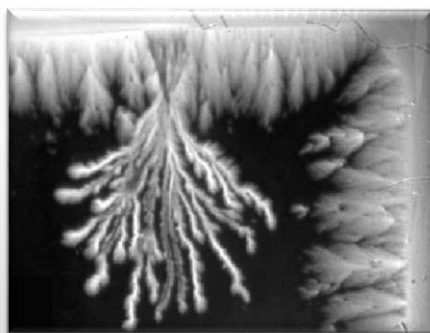
Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn  
3.5 K, 263 Oe  
Rudnev *et al.*  
2003



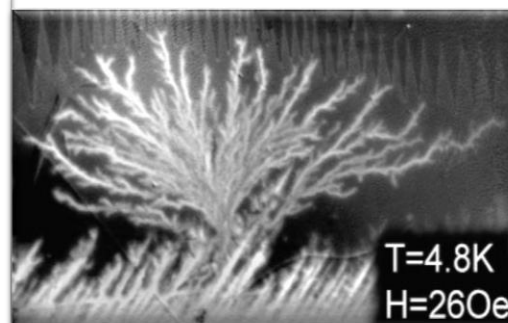
Nb  
5.97 K, 135 Oe  
Welling *et al.*  
2004



YBCO  
1.8 K, 600 Oe  
After laser pulse  
Leiderer *et al.*  
2004



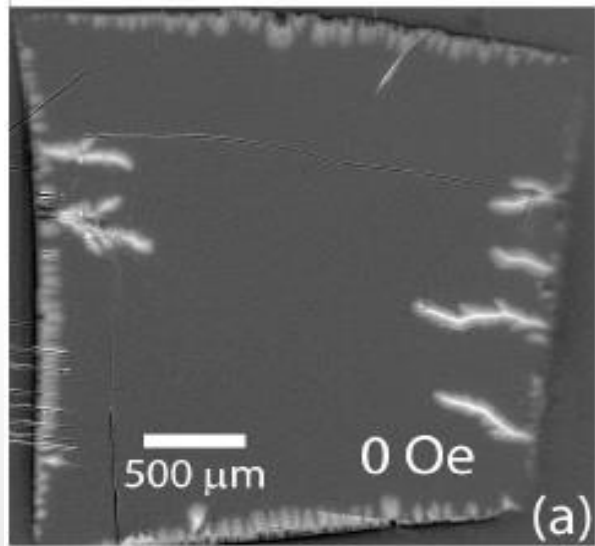
MgB<sub>2</sub>  
10 K, 170 Oe  
Johansen *et al.* 2004



NbN  
4.8 K, 26 Oe  
Rudnev *et al.* 2005



# Some images captured @ GSM/São Carlos

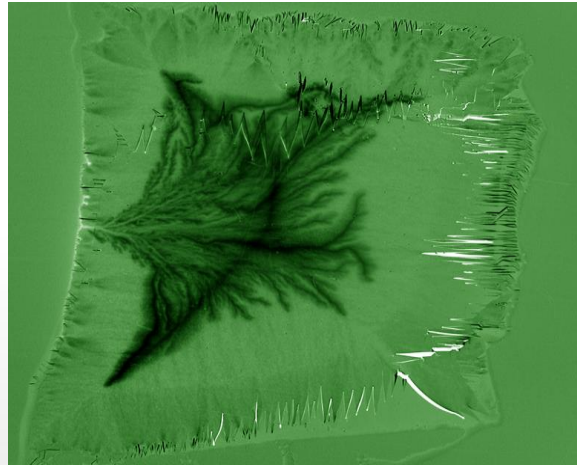


Nb (Plain)

Remanent state

3 K, after 4 Oe

GSM, 2011

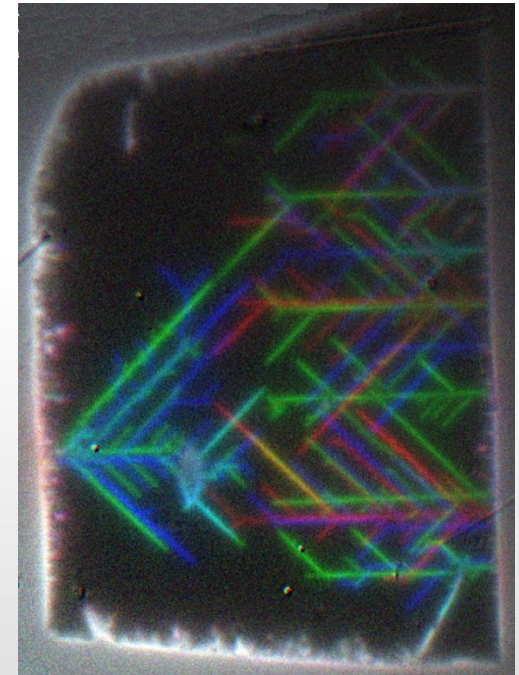


$\alpha$ -MoSi (Plain)

3 K

ZFC  $\rightarrow$  60 Oe  $\rightarrow$  10 Oe

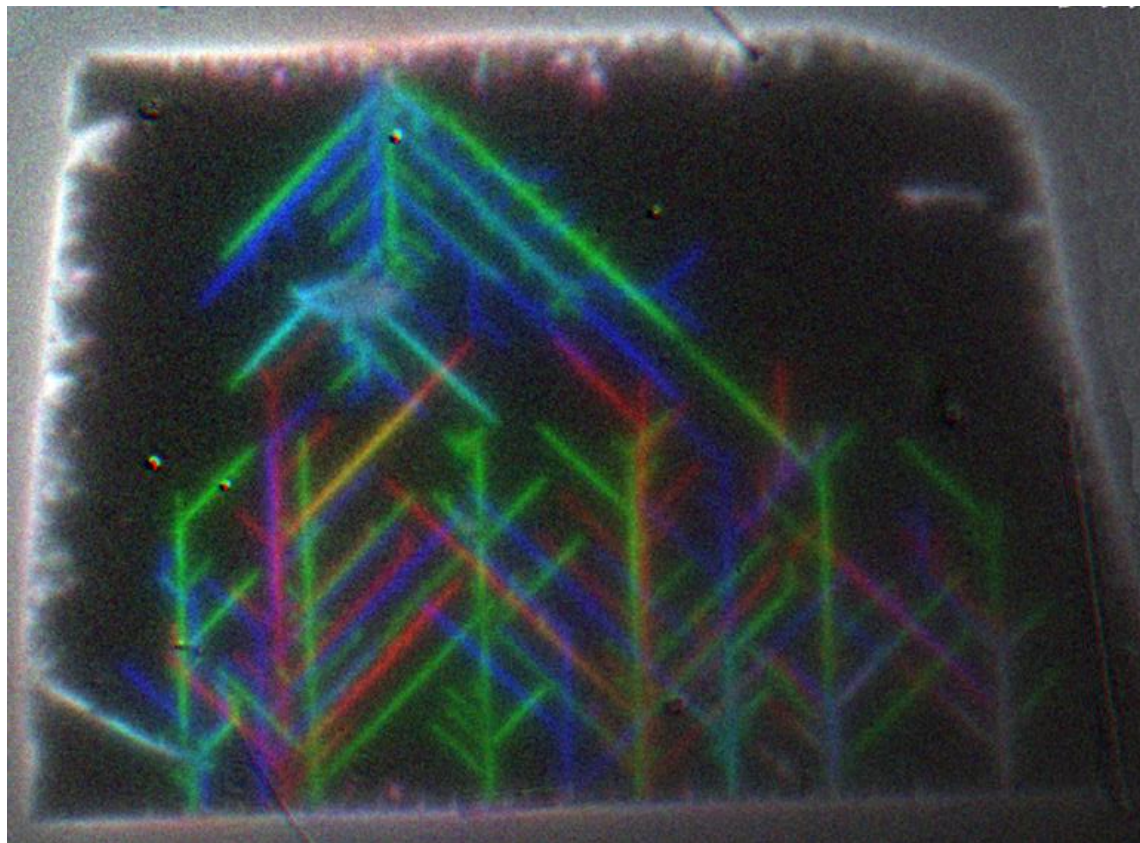
GSM, 2011



$\alpha$ -MoGe (AD04)

4.5 K, 1 Oe

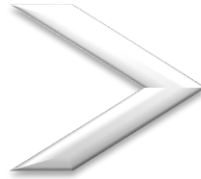
GSM, 2011



$\alpha$ -MoGe (AD04); 4.5 K, 1 Oe  
GSM, 2011

# Thermomagnetic Instabilities

Thermal diffusion

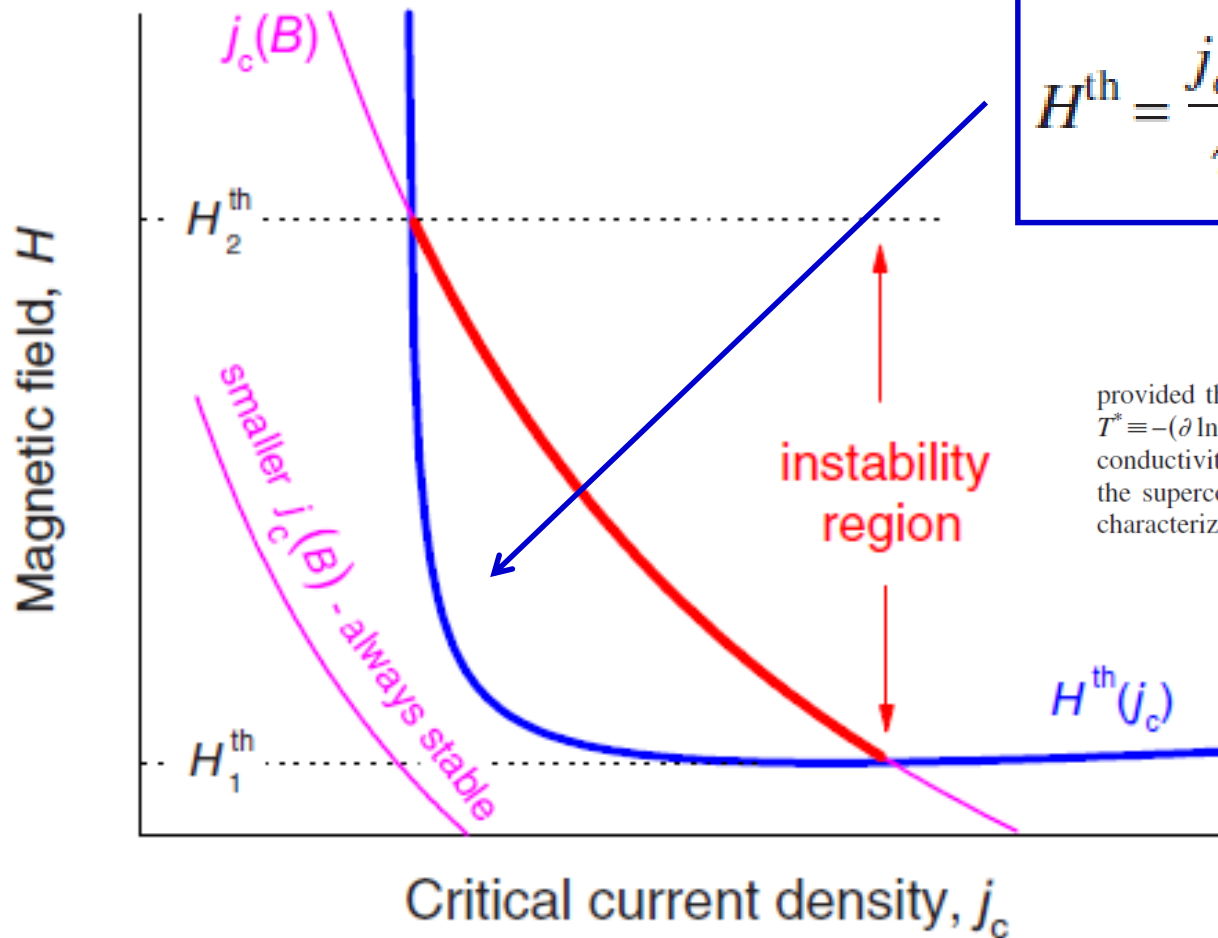


Magnetic diffusion

Magnetic field penetrates smoothly

# Reentrant stability of superconducting films and the vanishing of dendritic flux instability

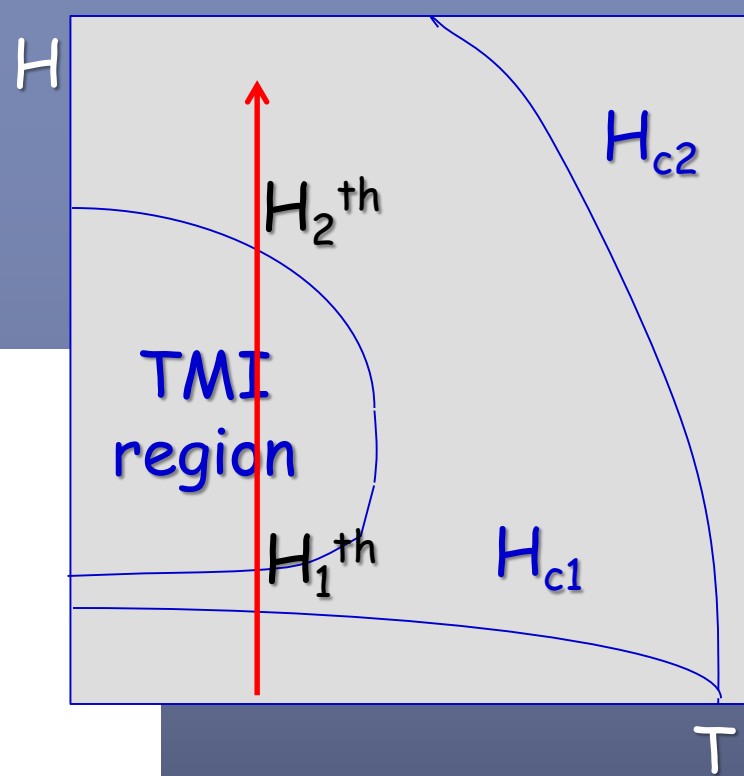
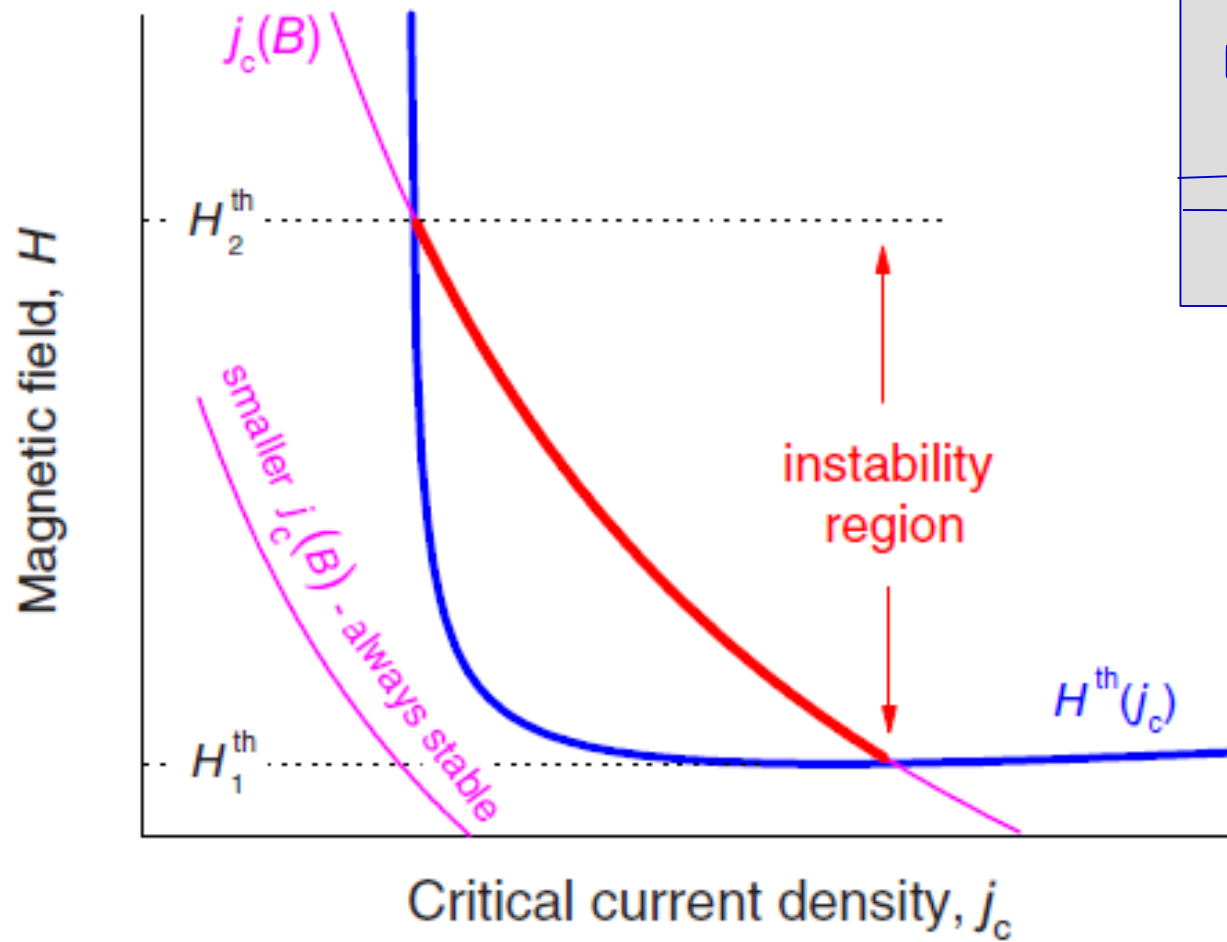
V. V. Yurchenko, D. V. Shantsev, and T. H. Johansen



$$H^{\text{th}} = \frac{j_c d}{\pi} \operatorname{arccosh} \left( \frac{w}{w - \ell^*} \right)$$

$$\ell^* = \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa T^*}{j_c E}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2h_0 T^*}{n d j_c E}} \right)^{-1}, \quad (1)$$

provided that  $\ell^* < w$ . Here,  $j_c$  is the critical current density,  $T^* \equiv -(\partial \ln j_c / \partial T)^{-1}$ ,  $E$  is the electric field,  $\kappa$  is the thermal conductivity, and  $h_0$  is the coefficient of heat transfer from the superconducting film to the substrate. The parameter  $n$  characterizes the nonlinearity of the current-voltage curve of





Granular matter  $\Rightarrow$  avalanches

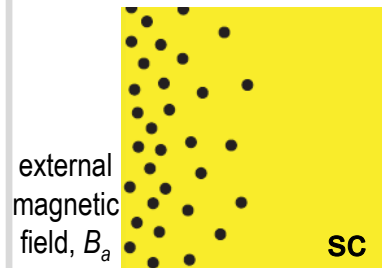
& destroy transport abilities



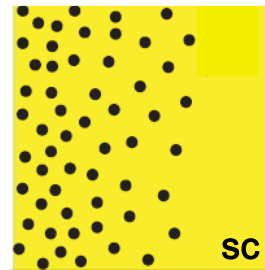


# Vortex matter ~ granular medium

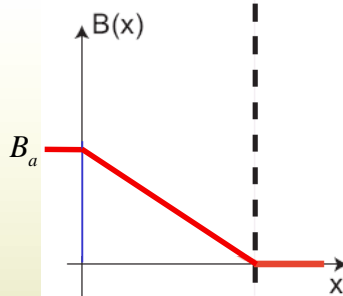
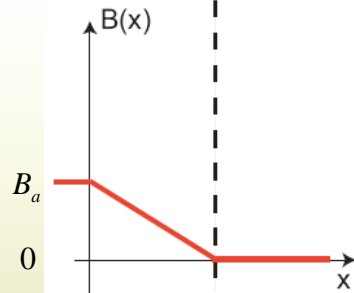
vortex  
penetration



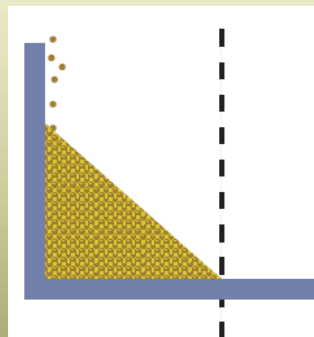
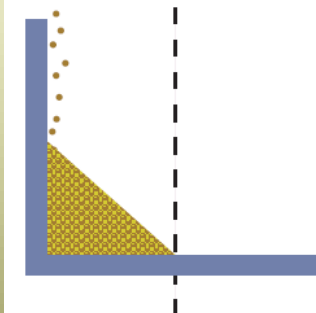
increased  
field



flux density



sand pile



SOFT MATTER

Nobel Lecture, December 9, 1991

by

PIERRE-GILLES DE GENNES

College de France, Paris, France

P. G. DeGennes:

*“We can get some physical feeling of this critical state by thinking of a sand hill”*

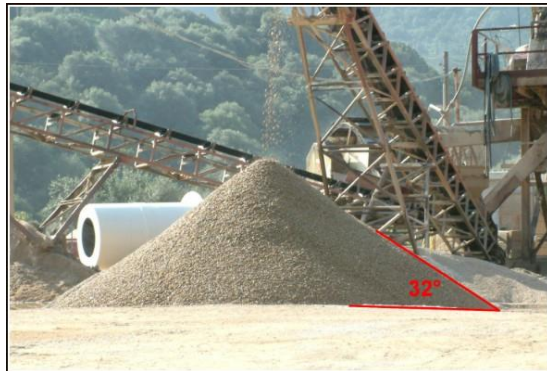
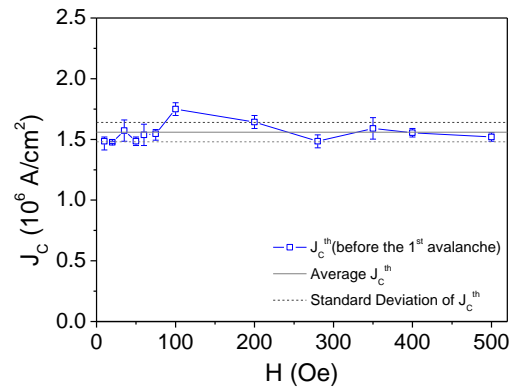
book on Superconductivity (1966)

**vortex pile ~ sand pile**

Expect:

**Complex dynamics**

# Critical Current Threshold



V BEAN MODEL

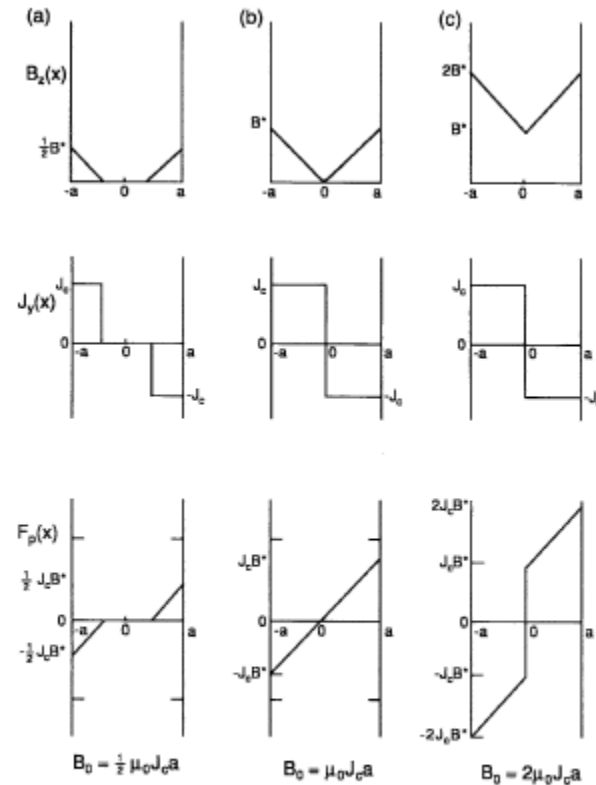


Figure 13.3 Dependence of the internal magnetic field  $B_z(x)$ , current density  $J_y(x)$ , and pinning force  $F_p(x)$  on the strength of the applied magnetic field  $B_0$  for normalized applied fields given by (a)  $B_0/\mu_0 J_c a = \frac{1}{2}$ , (b)  $B_0/\mu_0 J_c a = 1$ , and (c)  $B_0/\mu_0 J_c a = 2$ . This and subsequent figures are drawn for the Bean model. There is a field free region in the center for case (a), while case (b) represents the boundary between the presence versus the absence of such a region.

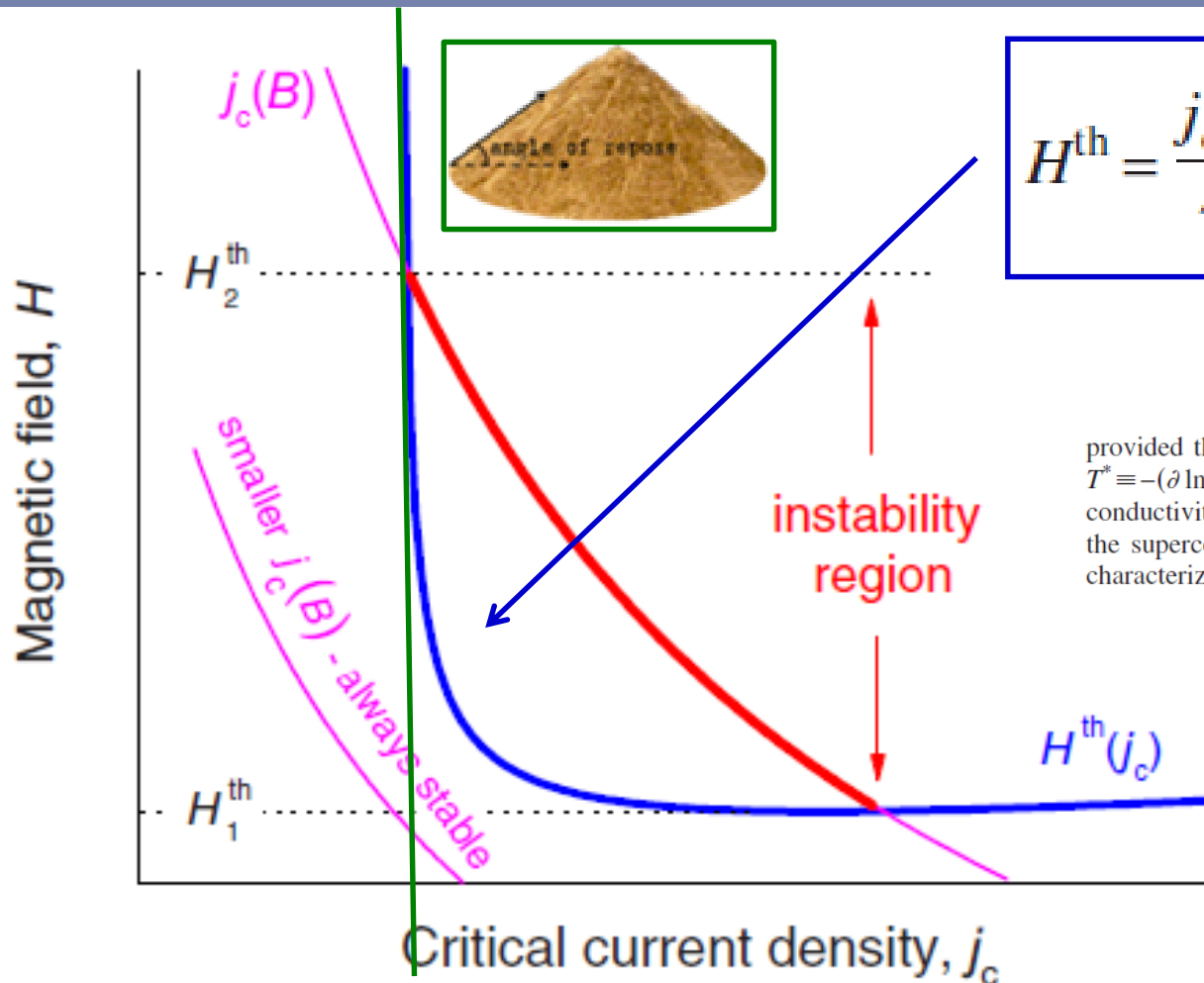
Second edition

## Superconductivity

Charles P. Poole Jr.  
Horacio A. Farach  
Richard J. Creswick  
Ruslan Prozorov

# Reentrant stability of superconducting films and the vanishing of dendritic flux instability

V. V. Yurchenko, D. V. Shantsev, and T. H. Johansen



$$H^{th} = \frac{j_c d}{\pi} \operatorname{arccosh} \left( \frac{w}{w - \ell^*} \right)$$

$$\ell^* = \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa T^*}{j_c E}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2h_0 T^*}{n d j_c E}} \right)^{-1}, \quad (1)$$

provided that  $\ell^* < w$ . Here,  $j_c$  is the critical current density,  $T^* \equiv -(\partial \ln j_c / \partial T)^{-1}$ ,  $E$  is the electric field,  $\kappa$  is the thermal conductivity, and  $h_0$  is the coefficient of heat transfer from the superconducting film to the substrate. The parameter  $n$  characterizes the nonlinearity of the current-voltage curve of

# Linearized theory predicts

PRL **97**, 077002 (2006)

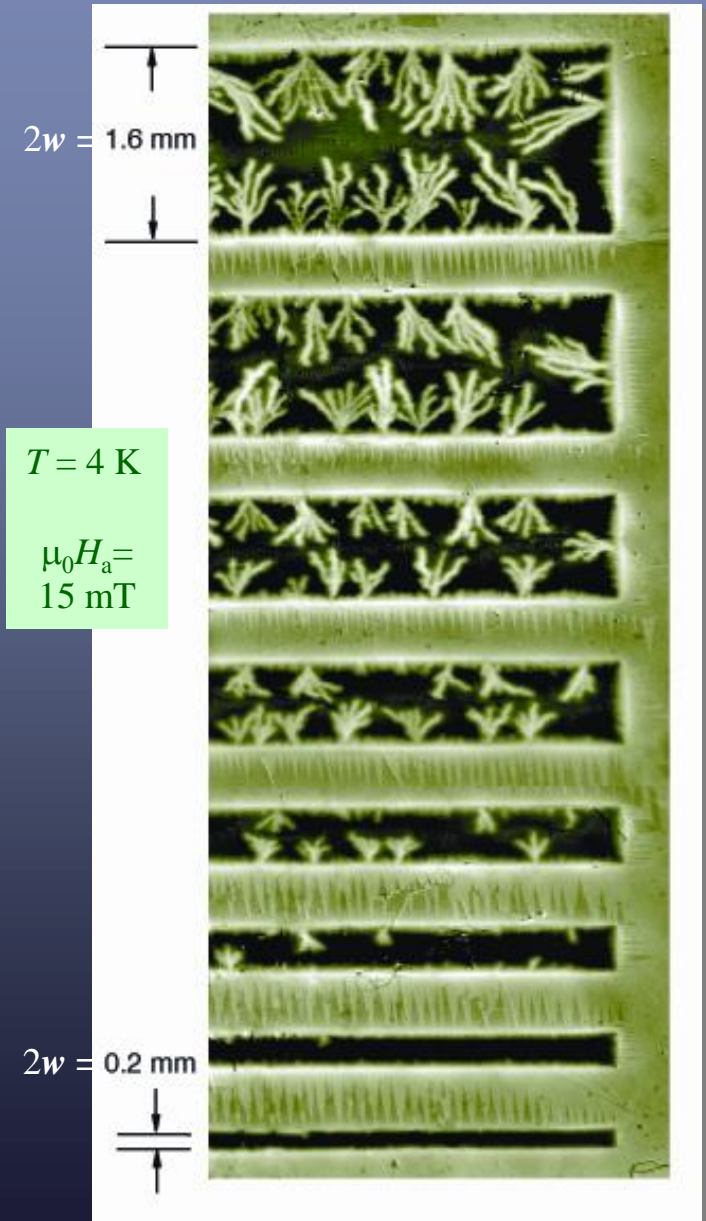
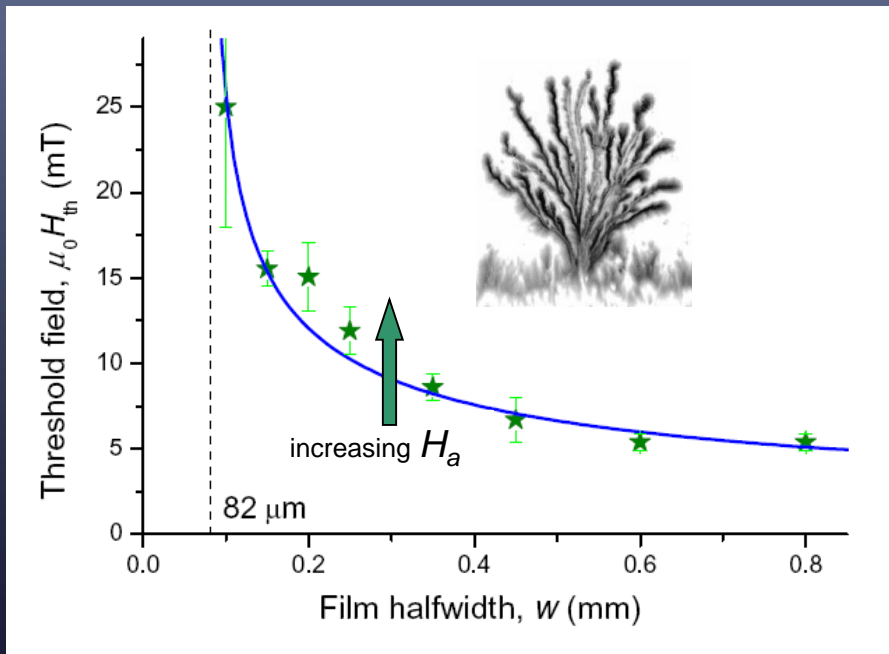
First finger forms at penetration depth:

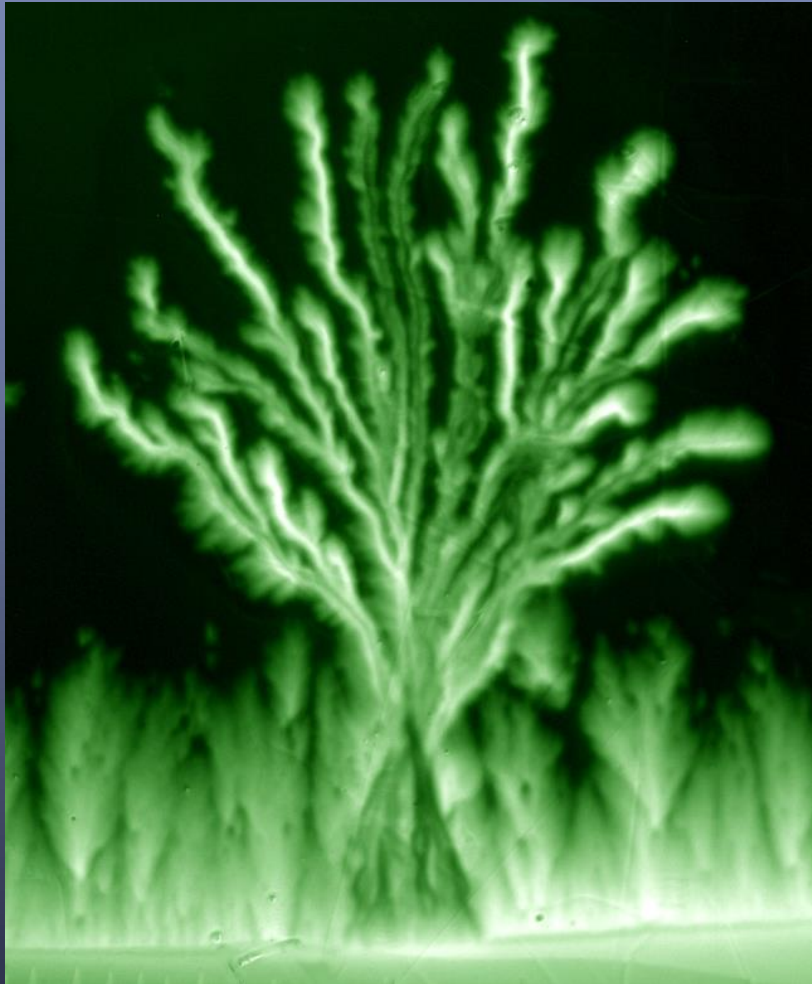
$$l_{\text{th}} = \frac{\pi}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa T^*}{j_c E}} \left( 1 - \sqrt{\frac{2h_0 T^*}{n d j_c E}} \right)^{-1}$$

...provided  $2l_{\text{th}} < 2w$

Threshold field:

$$H^{\text{th}} = \frac{j_c d}{\pi} \operatorname{arccosh} \left( \frac{w}{w - l_{\text{th}}} \right)$$





Experiment -  $\text{MgB}_2$



Parameters:  
( $\text{MgB}_2$ )

$$c = 34 \text{ kJ/Km}^3 \times (T/T_c)^3$$

$$\kappa = 172 \text{ W/Km} \times (T/T_c)^3$$

$$h = 46 \text{ kW/Km}^2 \times (T/T_c)^3$$

$$T_c = 39 \text{ K}$$

$$\rho_n = 6.8 \text{ } \mu\Omega\text{cm}$$

$$\dot{H} = 10^{-5} J_{c0} \rho_n / ad$$

$$J_{c0} = 54 \text{ kA/m}$$

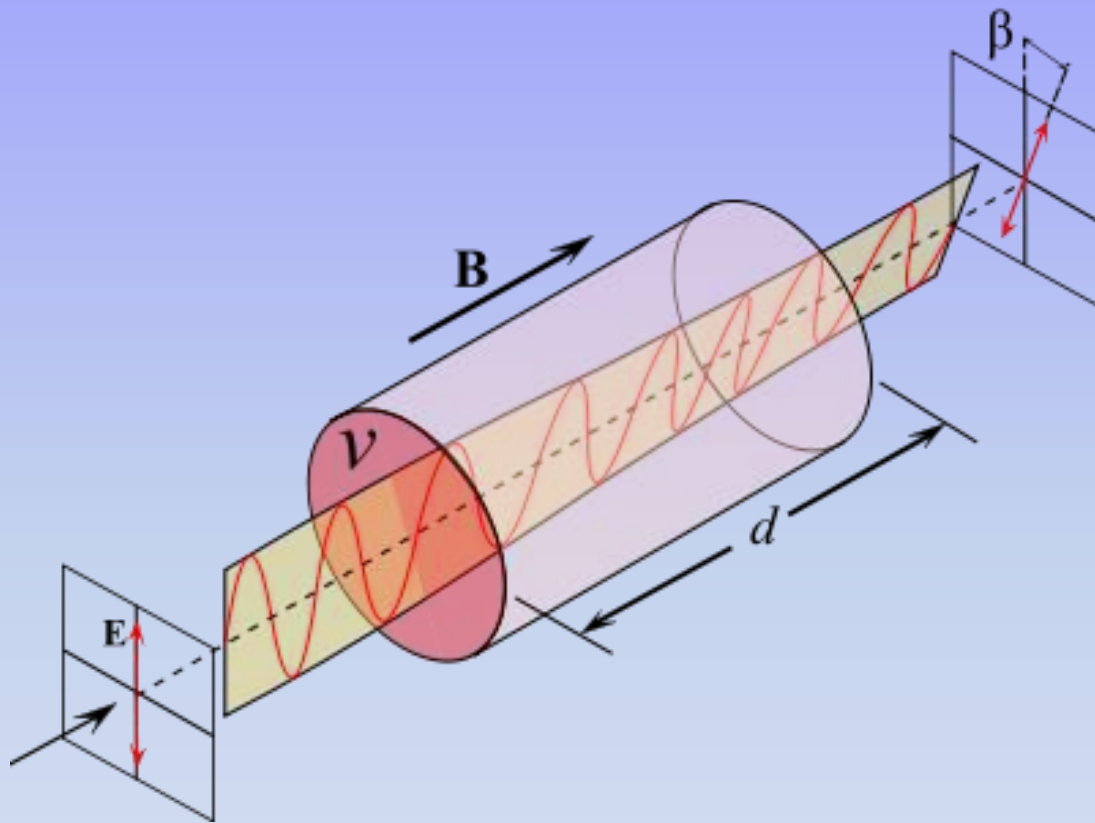
$$n = 19$$



# Magneto-optical Imaging (MOI)

A powerful tool to see magnetism and superconductivity in action

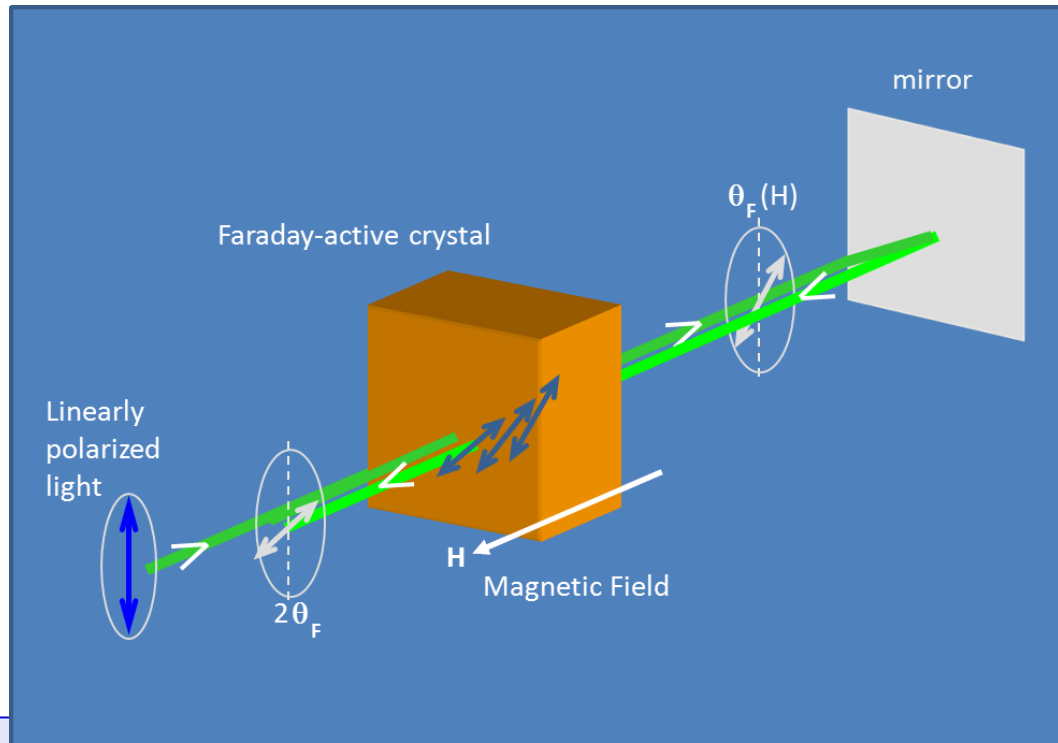


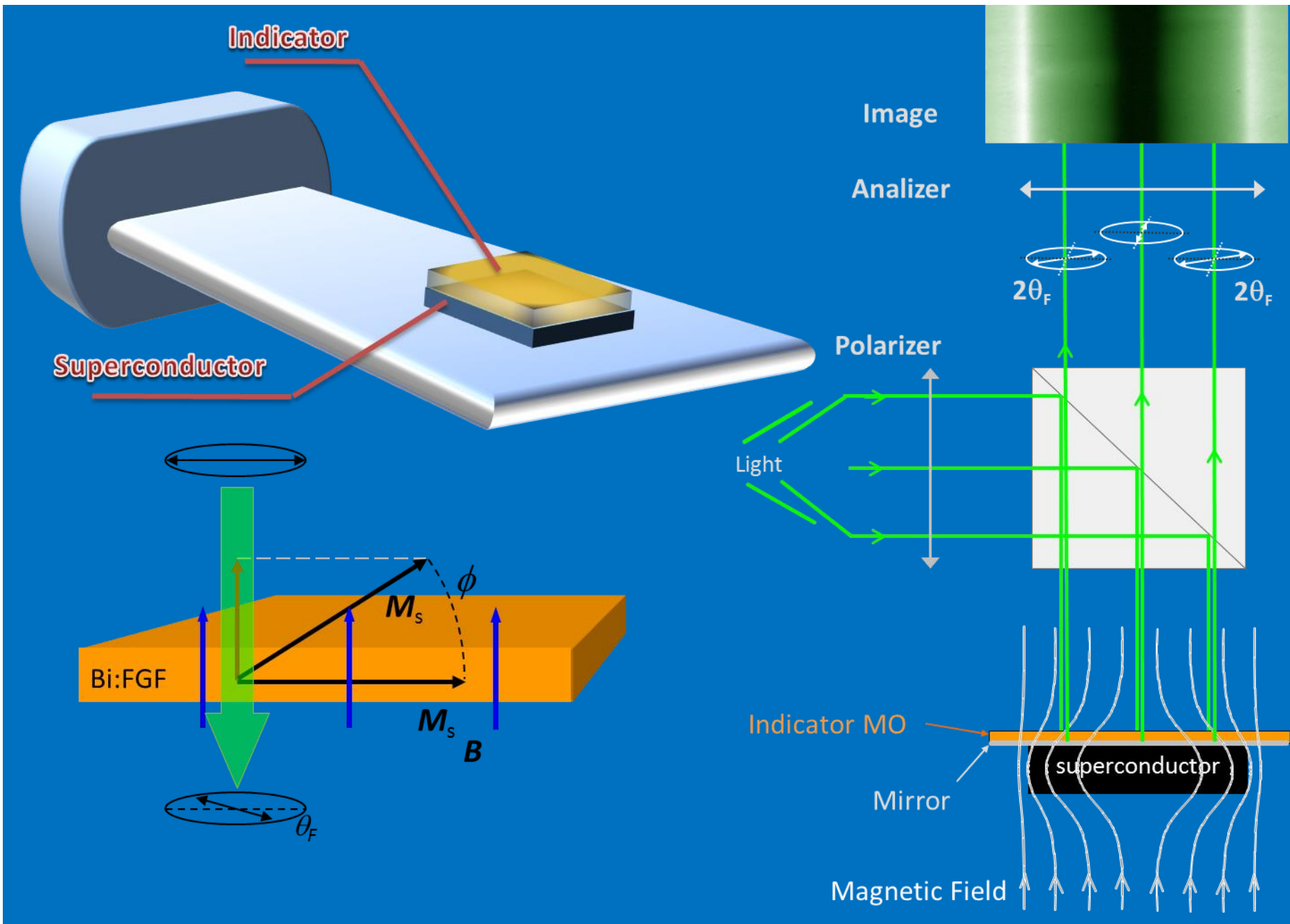


Faraday effect: rotation of the polarization plane

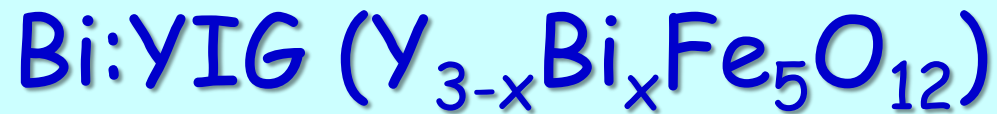
# Magneto-optical Imaging

- Faraday rotation of polarized light passing through an indicator (with in-plane magnetization), placed in close contact with the SC sample of interest
  - space distribution of magnetic flux



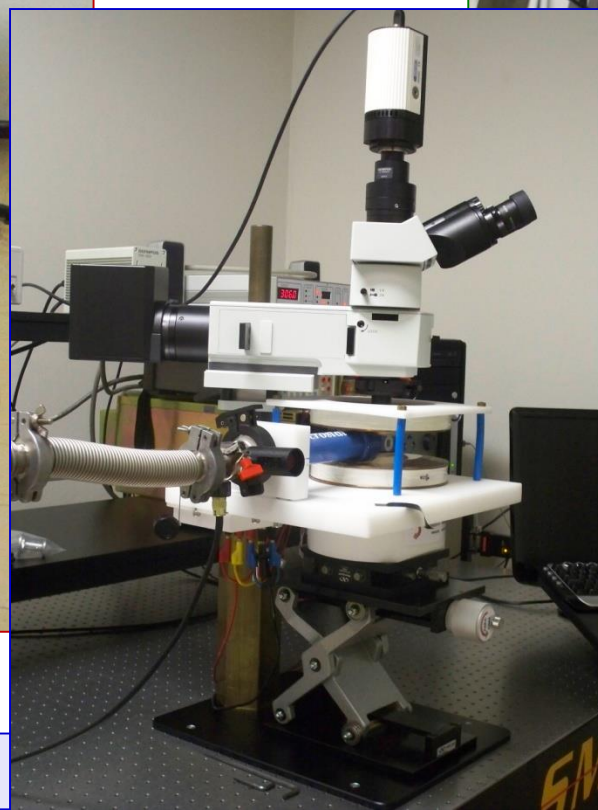
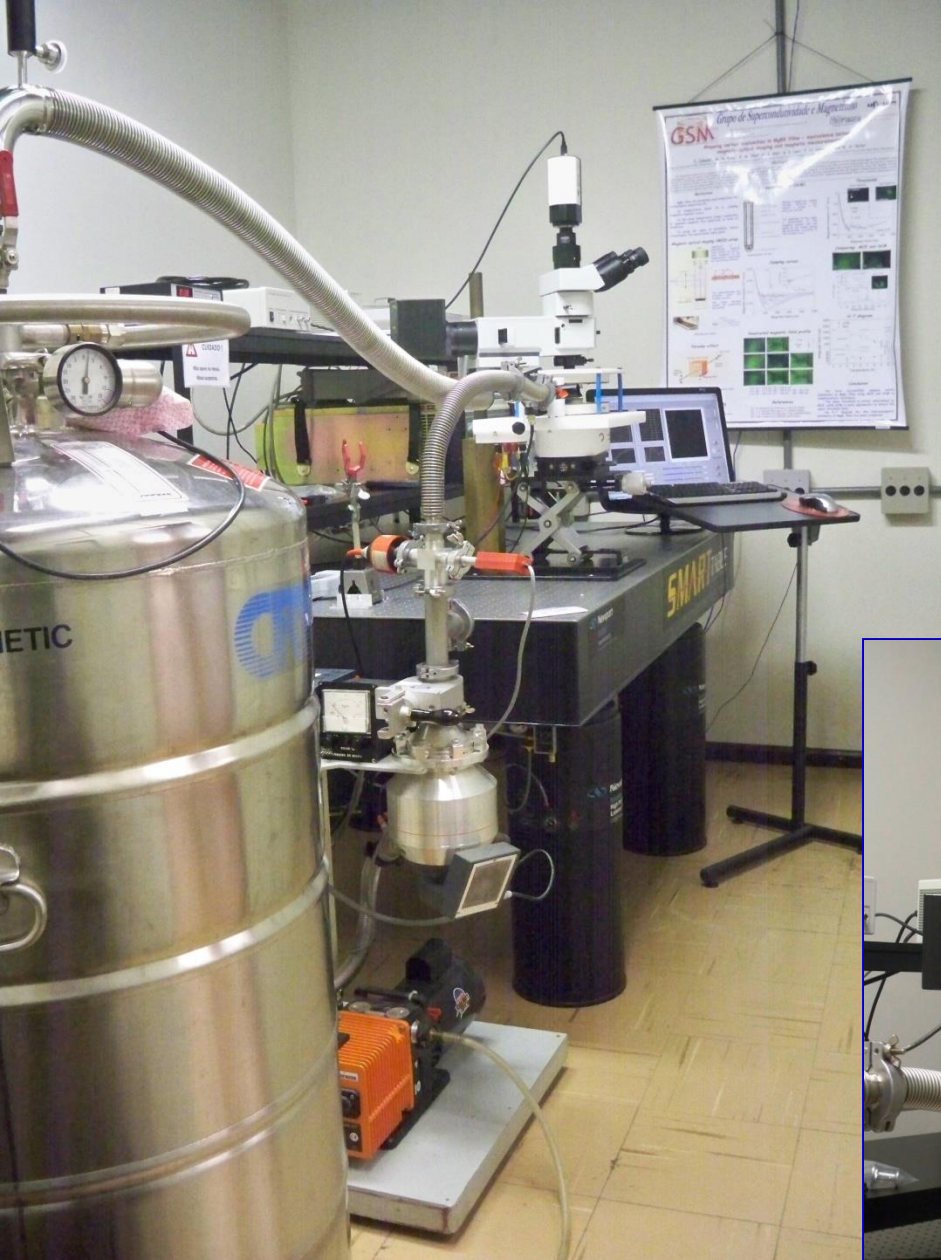


Bismuth-substituted  
Yttrium-Iron garnet



on (100) substrate of  $\text{Gd}_3\text{Ga}_5\text{O}_{12}$  (GGG)

Gadolinium-Galium  
garnet

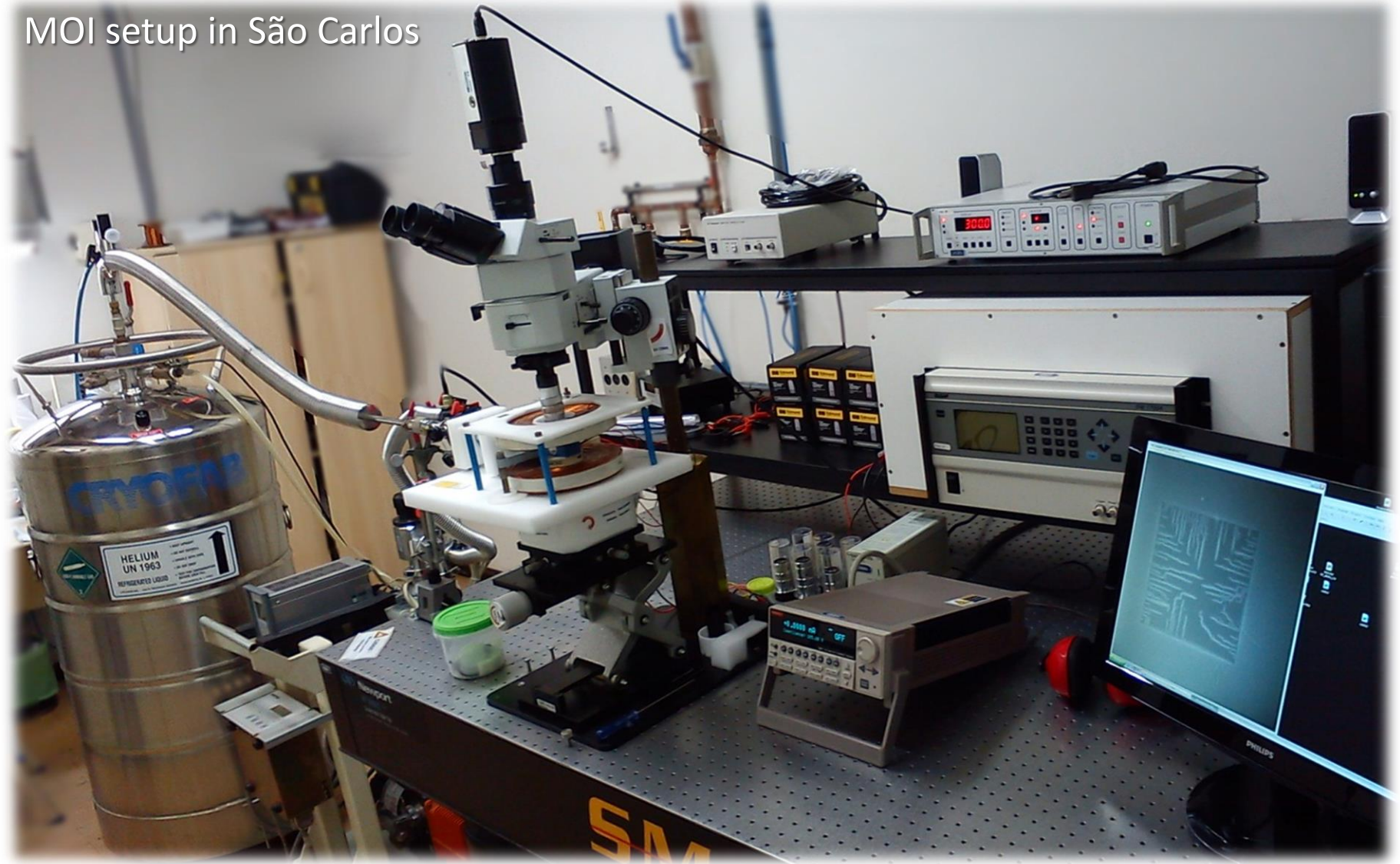


**MOI setup  
GSM/UFSCar**



# MOI setup

MOI setup in São Carlos





# Revealing the intrinsic beauty of the problem



Visualizing Magnetic Fields in Superconductors

# Intrinsic beauty of the problem

**1º Prêmio**  
**Fotografia-Ciência & Arte**  
**2011**



**AGRACIADOS**

 **CNPq**  
60 ANOS



<http://www.premiofotografia.cnpq.br/>

 **CNPq**  
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**1º Prêmio**  
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**CATEGORIA 1 – Ambiente externo e paisagem humana**

**1º LUGAR**  
Bruno Defiane Borges – UNESP  
Influência da distribuição espacial e atributos de atratividade de áreas verdes sobre a visitação das populações urbanas de Rio Claro, SP

**CATEGORIA 2 – Ambiente externo e paisagem natural**

**1º LUGAR**  
Cassius Vinícius Stevani – USP  
'Bioluminescência de fungos: prospecção e ensaios toxicológicos'

**2º LUGAR**  
João Luis F. Carrara – UFPA  
'Espumas Marinhas do Sul do Brasil: Comportamento e Distribuição, Santa Catarina, Brasil'

**3º LUGAR**  
Ricardo Lopes de Melo – UFPA  
'Fungos Entomopatogênicos'

**CATEGORIA 3 – Ambiente interno e estúdio**

**1º LUGAR**  
Fernando da Silva Carvalho Filho – UFPA  
'Vida de Entomólogo'

**2º LUGAR**  
Riessio D. da Silva – USP  
'Molologia cefálica de Characiformes com ênfase em Characodon (Teleostei: Ostariophysi)'

**Macro – CATEGORIA 4**

**1º LUGAR**  
Wilson Aires Ortiz – UFSCar  
'Visualizando o campo magnético em supercondutores'

**2º LUGAR**  
Camilla Moura Santos – IF/SP  
'Grânulos de amido'

**3º LUGAR**  
Bruno Cossermelli Vellutini – USP  
'Jovem bolacha-do-mar'

**Macro – CATEGORIA 5**

Não houve premiação nesta categoria

**Ilustração científica ou imagem conceitual – CATEGORIA 6**

**1º LUGAR**  
Fábio José M. de Lima – UFJF  
Urbanismo em Minas Gerais: Ochores de engenheiros, arquitetos, geógrafos e outros planejadores. Repercussões sobre a formação das cidades (1960-1996)

**2º LUGAR**  
Rafaela de M. Jemene – UNICAMP  
'Espaço Diminuto: o espaço como potência'

**3º LUGAR**  
Ailton Cattani – UFPA  
'Por onde anda o Rio Grande do Sul: calçadas gólicas'

I Prêmio Fotografia - Ciência & Arte - CNPq 2011



# 1st Prize: “Photography – Science and Arts”

Brazilian National Research Council (CNPq)

**Category:** Photomicrography –  
special lenses, microscopes

## **Title:**

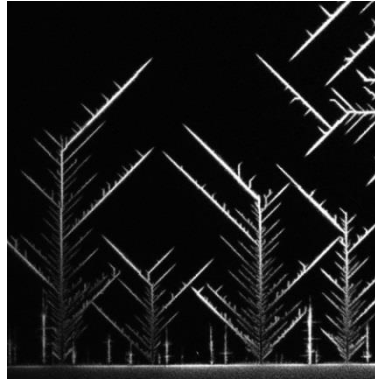
Visualizing Magnetic Fields  
in Superconductors


Image recorded by  
*W. A. Ortiz and coworkers*  
*Univ. Federal de São Carlos,*  
*SP, Brazil.*

**Shows:** Magneto-optical image  
of magnetic flux penetrating into  
a superconducting film patterned  
with a square lattice of antidots  
(nanosized holes not directly visible)



Prize awarded at  
the opening ceremony of the  
“National Week on Science and  
Technology”,  
in Brasília, Oct. 18, 2011.



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**Fotografia-Ciência & Arte**  
**2011**


Pague-se por este cheque a quantia de R\$ 8.000,00

Pague-se por este cheque a quantia de Oito mil reais

A Wilson Aires Ortiz

Brasília 21 de setembro de 2011

**1º Lugar**  
**Lupas, microscópio**

 **CNPq**  
**60 ANOS**

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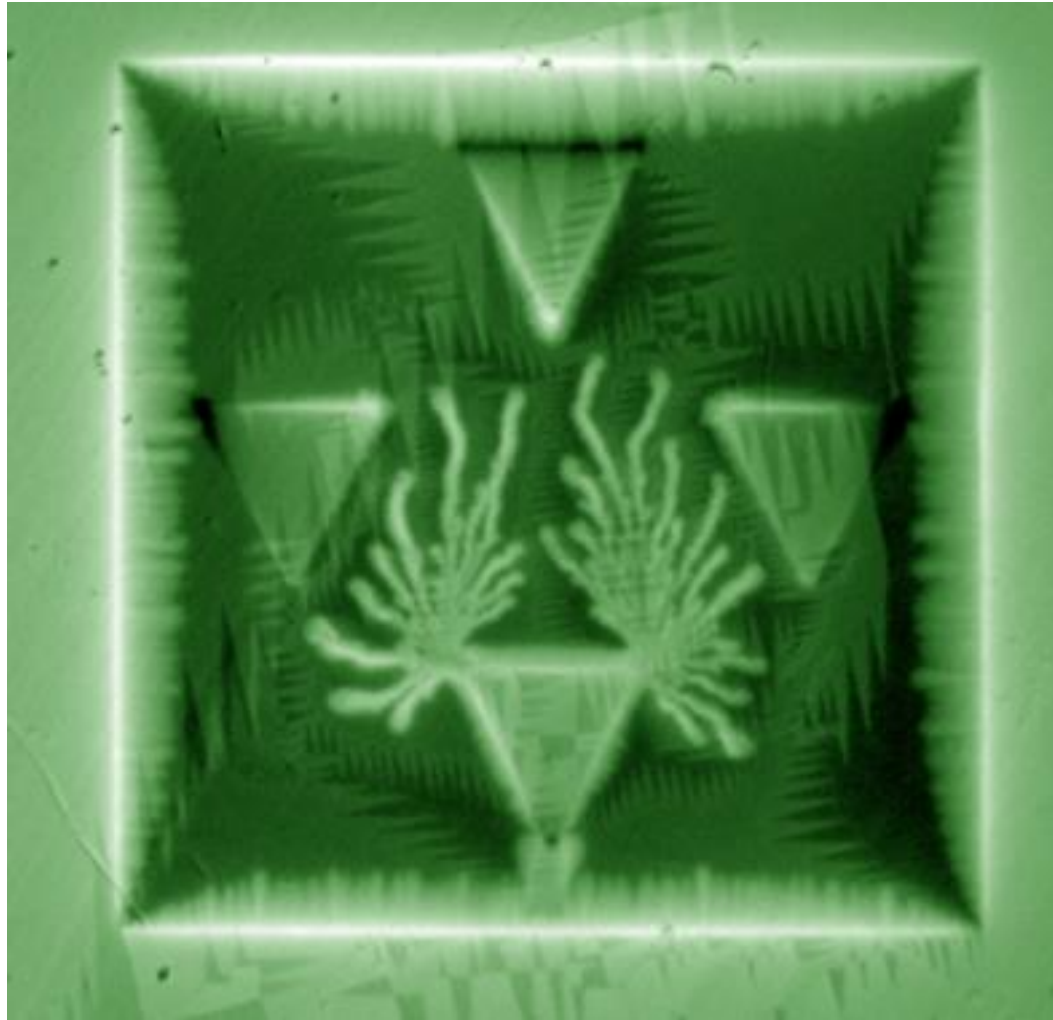
Visualizando o Campo Magnético em Supercondutores  
Primeiro Lugar - Categoria Micro



Centre for Advanced Study - Norwegian Academy of Science



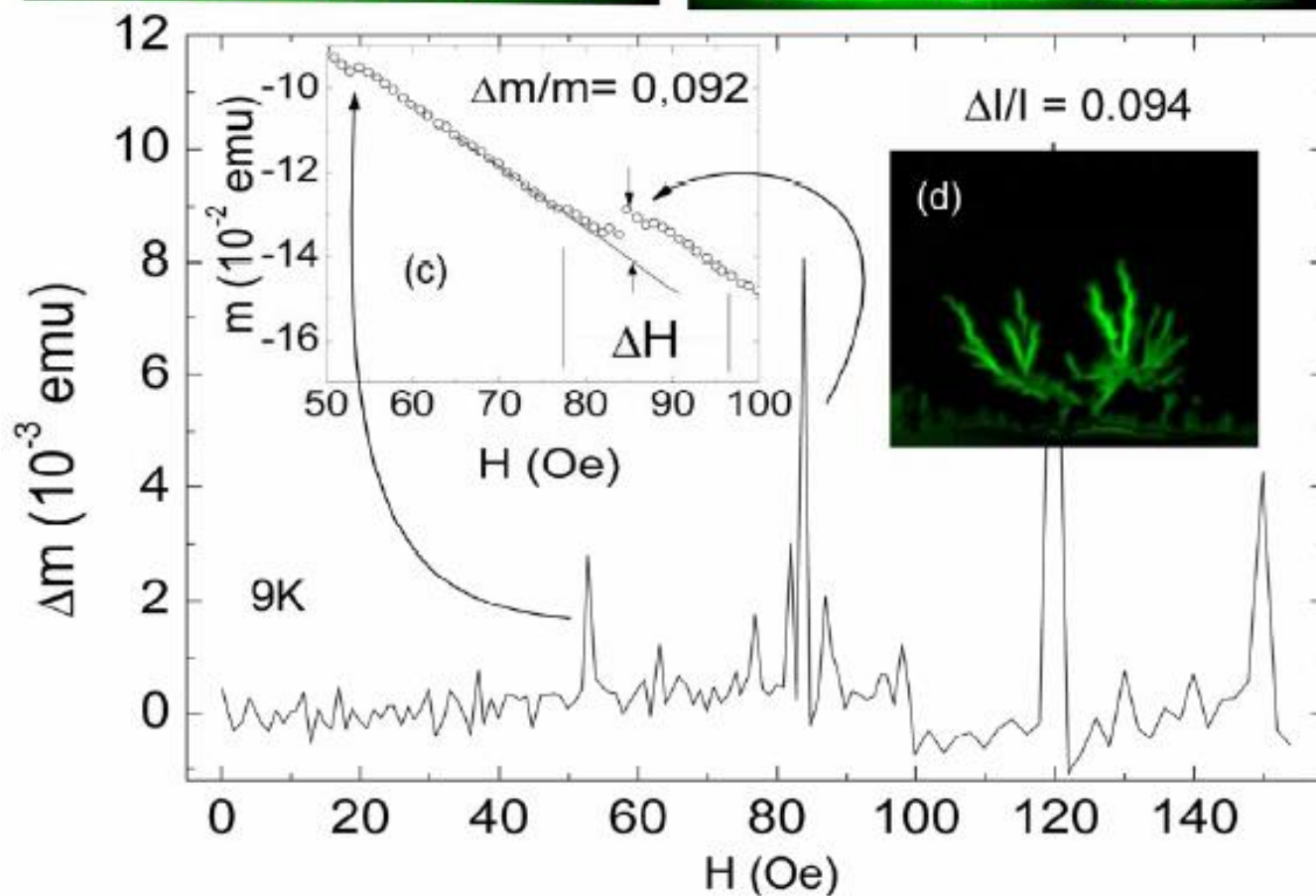
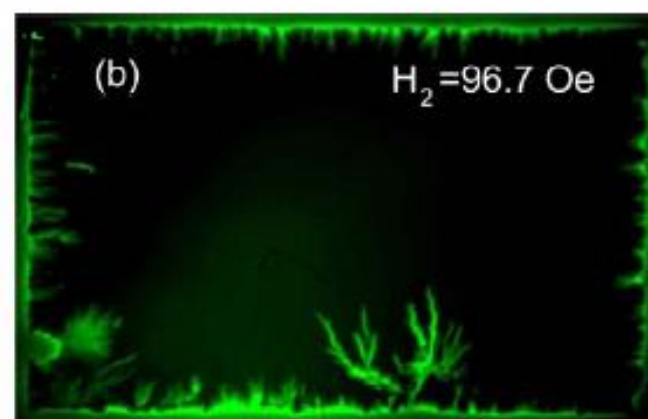
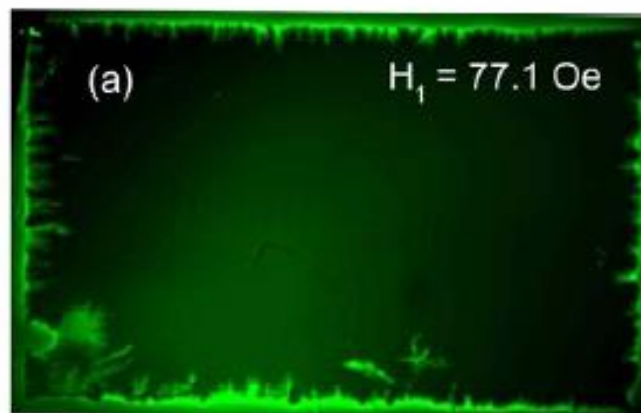
CNPq – 2013 – 3<sup>rd</sup> place





$\text{MgB}_2$

$T = 9 \text{ K}$



Lunch

Break!!!

Average Attention

Time

