



supratecs

Services of the University Performing Research and Applications  
in the Technology of materials : Electroceramics, Composite and  
Superconductors

Université  
de Liège



# Magnetic and electrical characterization of superconductors

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University of Liège, Belgium

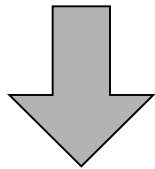
[Philippe.Vanderbemden@ulg.ac.be](mailto:Philippe.Vanderbemden@ulg.ac.be)

What kind of  
**measurements** can we make  
to characterize superconductors ?

What kind of  
**information** can we  
extract from measurements ?

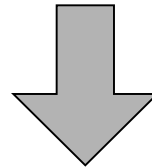
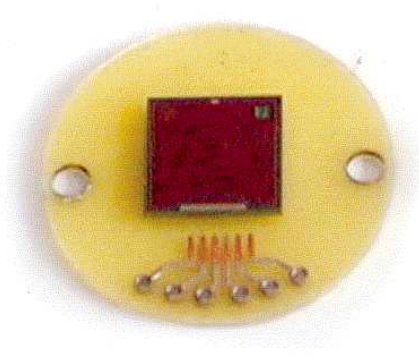
# Superconducting materials today

Wires  
& tapes



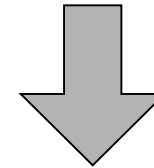
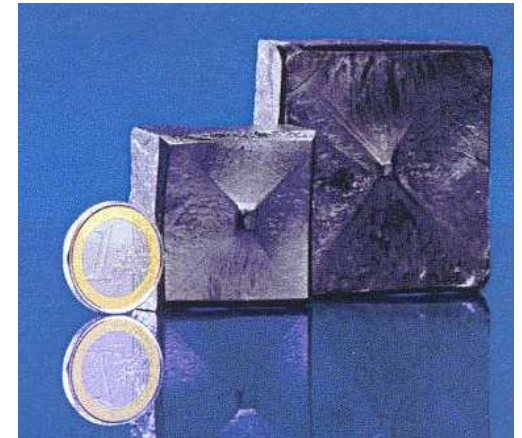
Transport  
of current

Thin  
films



Electronics  
&  $\mu$ -waves

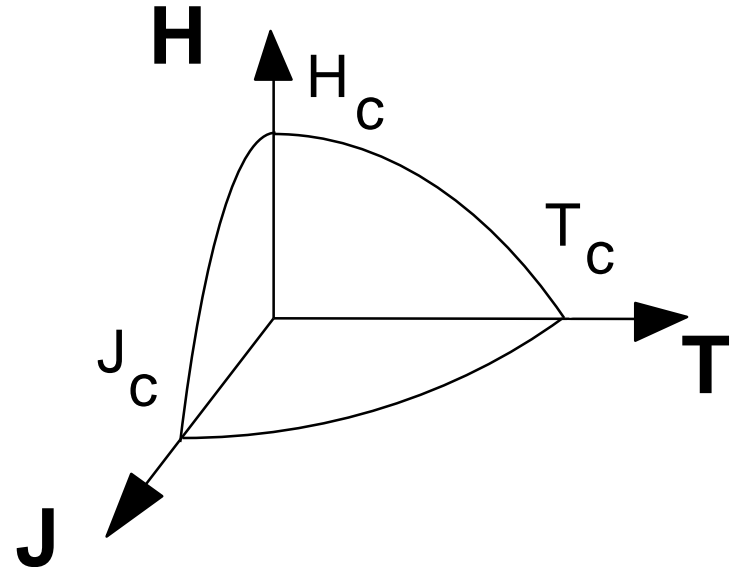
Bulk  
materials



Large  
magnetic fields

# Technological diagram (much simplified)

- $T_c \sim 10\text{-}120\text{ K}$
- $\mu_0 H_c \sim 1\text{-}100\text{ T}$
- $J_c \sim 10^2 - 10^5\text{ A/cm}^2$



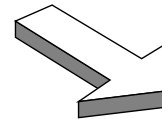
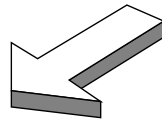
Many applications  
require  $J_c > 10^4\text{ A/cm}^2$

Aims of applied research :  
↑↑  $J_c$  for fixed T and  $\mu_0 H$  (ex. 77 K and 1 T)

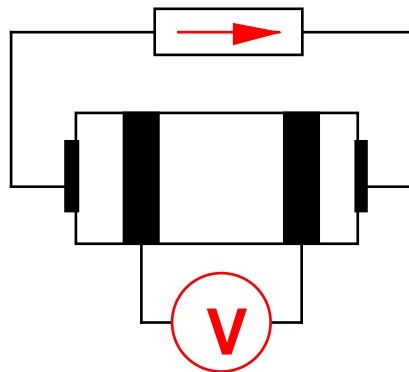
# Purpose of this lecture

To better understand how we can characterize the electrical and magnetic properties of materials through

**TRANSPORT** measurements and **MAGNETIC** measurements

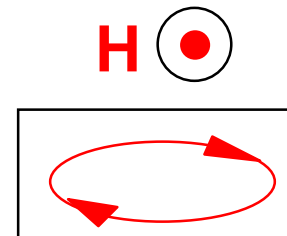


Current source



**Transport current**  
(applied externally)

Magnetic field  $H$



**Induced current**  
(by the applied magnetic field)

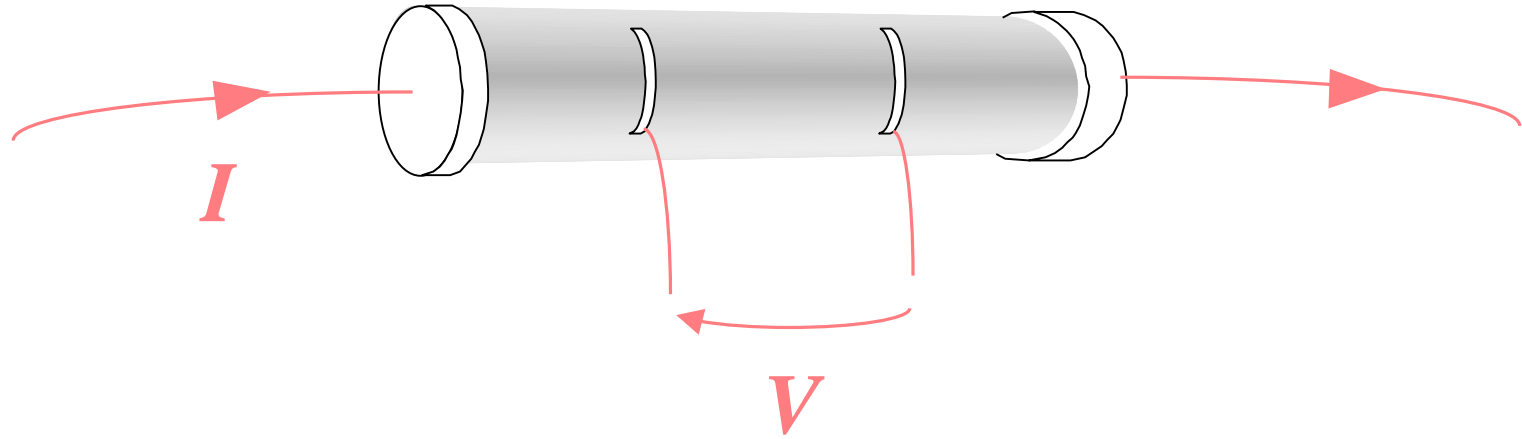
# Outline

- Transport measurements -  $R(T)$
- Transport measurements -  $E(J)$
  
- Magnetic measurements (general)
- Magnetic measurements -  $M(H)$

# Outline

- Transport measurements -  $R(T)$
- Transport measurements -  $E(J)$
- Magnetic measurements (general)
- Magnetic measurements -  $M(H)$

# The main difficulty for transport measurements on superconductors = ?

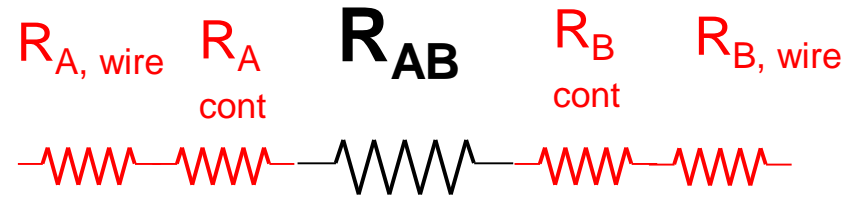
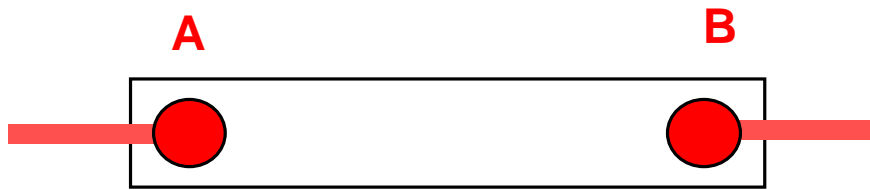


The finite resistance  
of electrical contacts

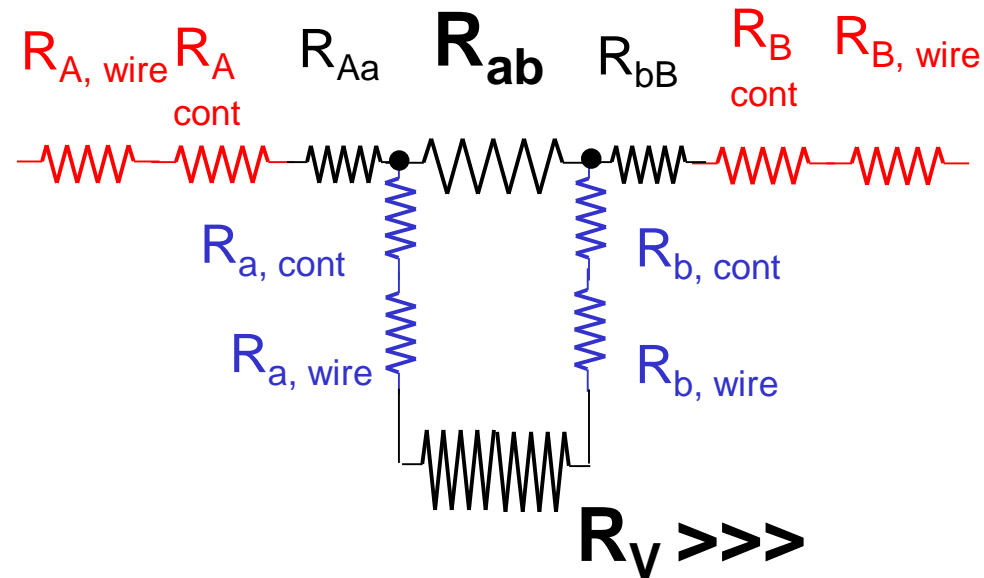
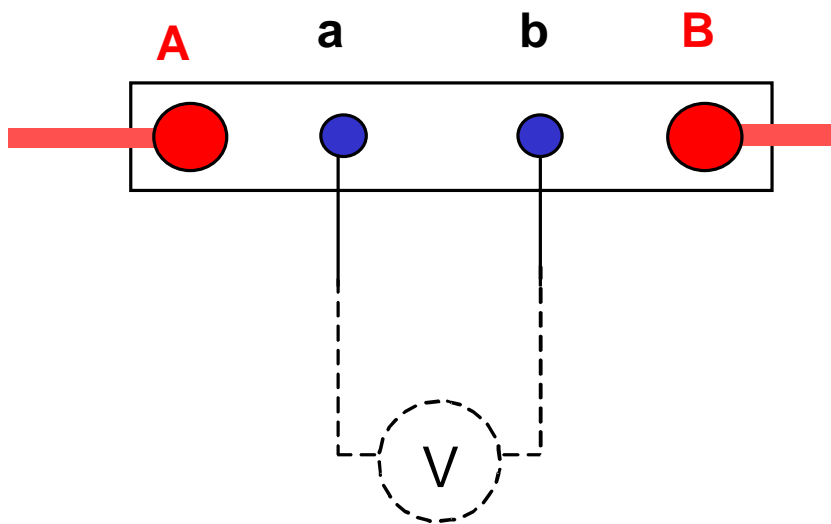


# Influence of contact resistance & wire resistance

## 2-wire connexions



## 4-wire connexions



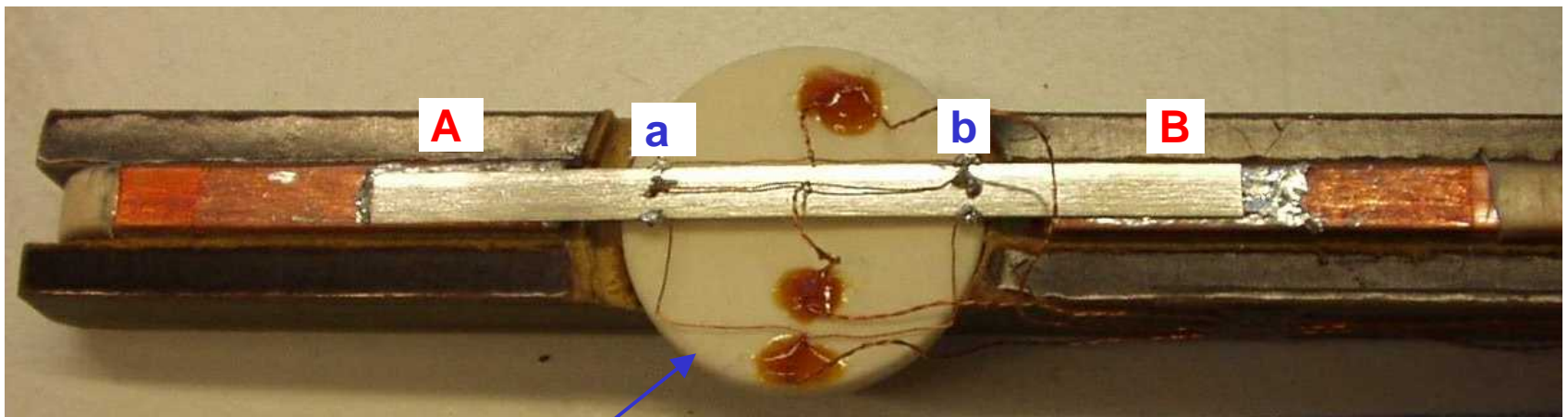
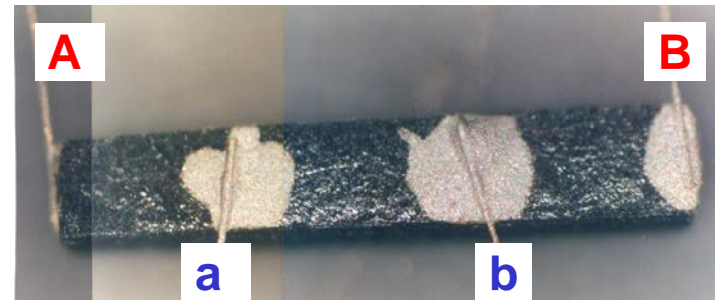
# 4-contact measurement (Kelvin connections)

4-wire connexions are used to eliminate contact resistances and wire resistances

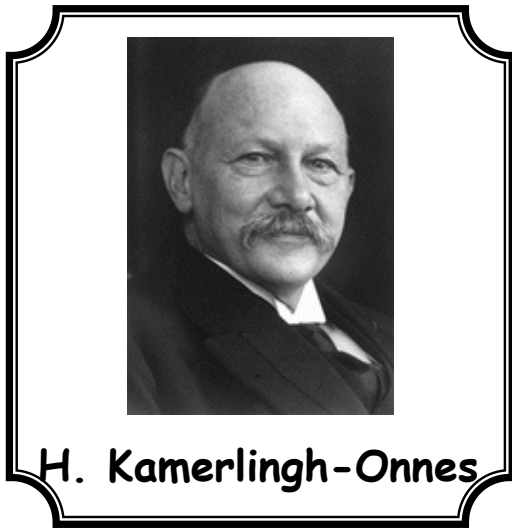
- (i) The **current** contact resistances and wire resistances are outside the measurement circuit
- (ii) The **voltage** contact resistances and wire resistances can be neglected with respect to the resistance of the voltmeter

*Examples :*

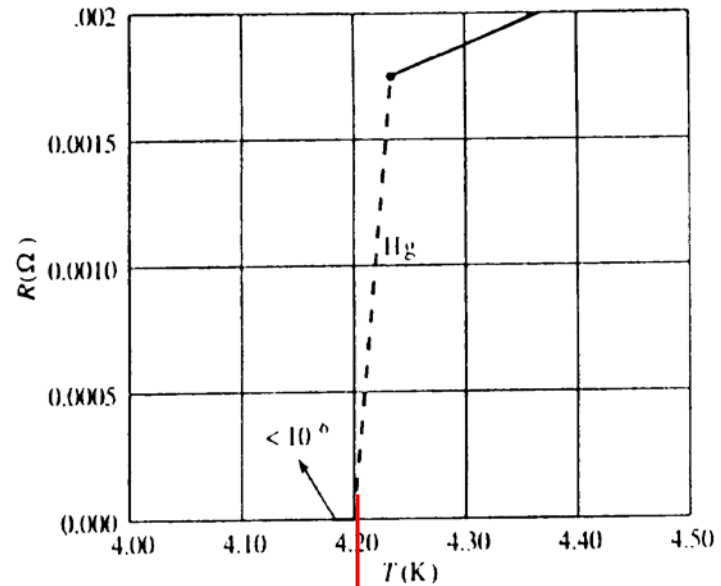
**A, B = current contacts**  
**a, b = voltage contacts**



**NB** : for AC measurements : **twisted wires** are required to avoid inductive pick-up loops !!!



Example for type-I superconductor (Hg)



$T_c$  critical temperature

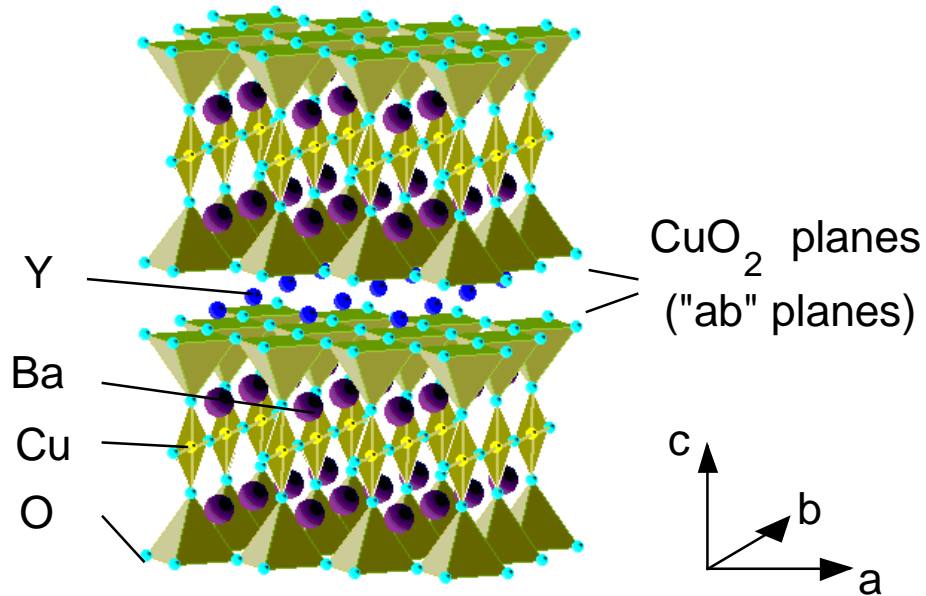
In addition to giving the critical temperature of the superconductor, a  $R(T)$  measurement in the presence of a magnetic field can be helpful in characterizing

- (i) anisotropy effects
- (ii) granularity and connectivity between grains
- (iii) the phase diagram (irreversibility line of the material)

These characteristics of HTS materials are briefly recalled hereafter

## (i) Anisotropy

Ex : Y - 123 single crystal



The **flow of current density  $\mathbf{J}$**  is easier in the ab planes than along the c-axis :

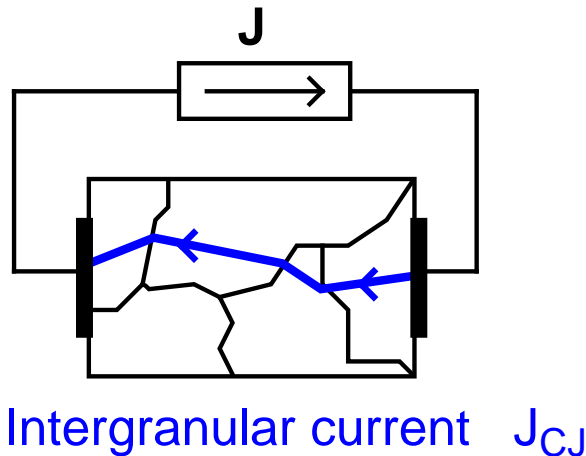
$$\mathbf{J}_c (\parallel \mathbf{ab}) > \mathbf{J}_c (\parallel \mathbf{c})$$

The pinning of **flux lines  $\mathbf{B}$**  is larger for  $\mathbf{B} \parallel \mathbf{ab}$  than for  $\mathbf{B} \parallel \mathbf{c}$

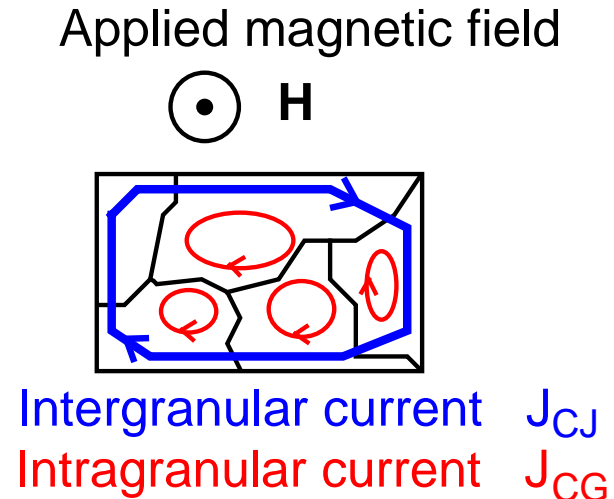
$$\left[ (\mathbf{J} \parallel \mathbf{B}) = \text{“force-free” configuration} \right]$$

## (ii) Granularity

Transport current



Shielding currents



$$J_{CJ} < J_{CG}$$

Grain alignment - or **texturation** - is a key ingredient to improve the **intergranular** critical current density

## Orientation Dependence of Grain-Boundary Critical Currents in $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-\delta}$ Bicrystals

D. Dimos, P. Chaudhari, J. Mannhart, and F. K. LeGoues

*Thomas J. Watson Research Center, IBM Research Division,  
Yorktown Heights, New York, 10598*

(Received 4 May 1988)

The critical current densities across grain boundaries have been measured as a function of misorientation angle in the basal plane of bicrystals of  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-\delta}$ . For small misorientation angles, the ratio of the grain-boundary critical current density to the bulk critical current density is roughly proportional to the inverse of the misorientation angle; for large angles, this ratio saturates to a value of about  $\frac{1}{50}$ . These results imply that achieving a high degree of texture both normal to and within the basal plane is important for the obtaining of very high critical currents in pure polycrystalline samples.

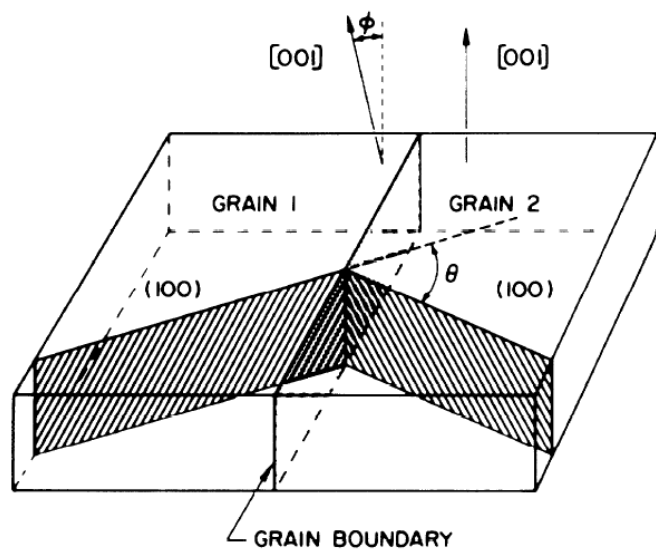
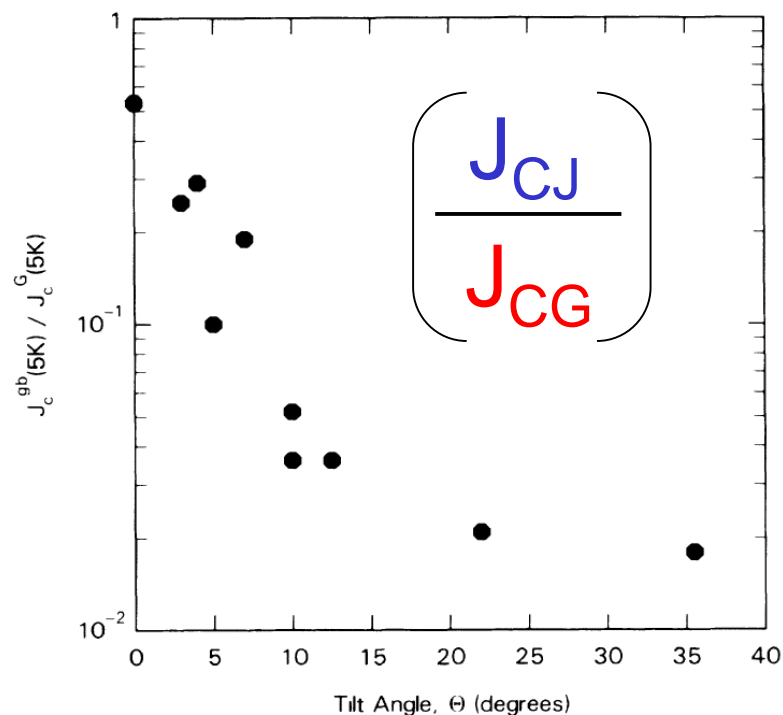


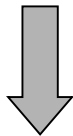
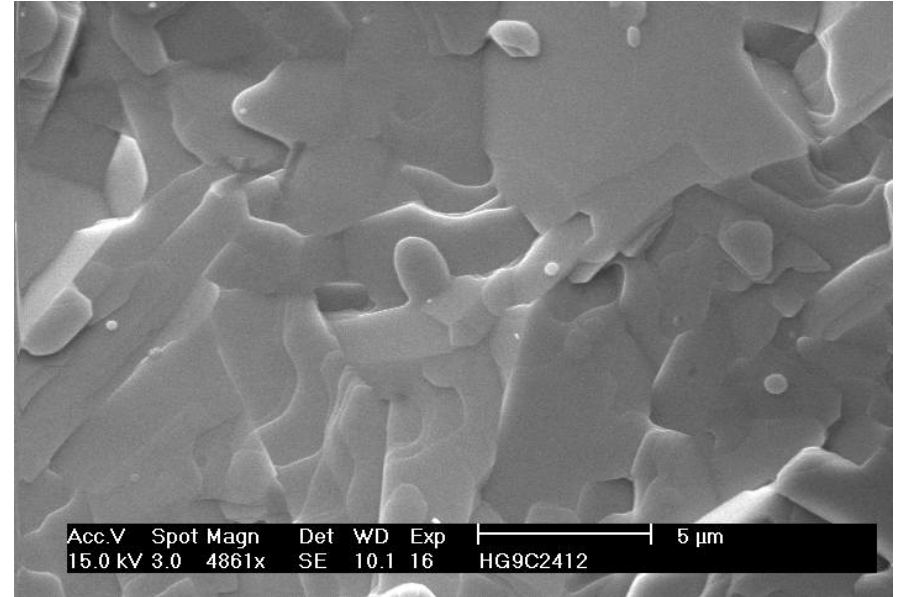
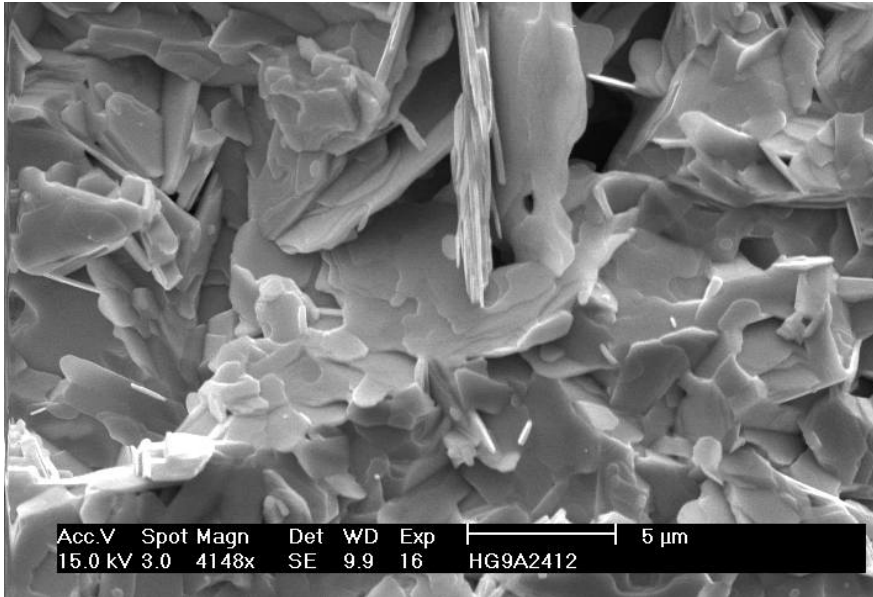
FIG. 1. Schematic diagram showing the important crystallography of the  $\text{SrTiO}_3$  bicrystals which were used as substrates for the thin-film deposition.



# Microstructure of HTS ceramics : an example with Bi-2212

Non-textured

Textured



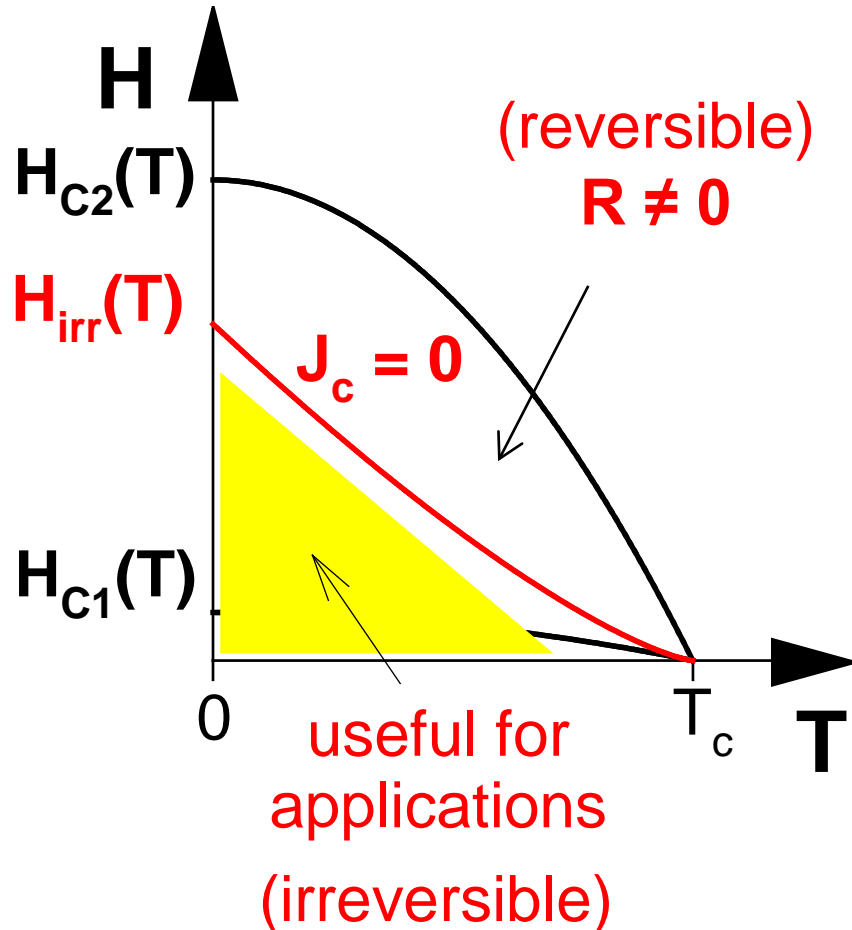
LOW  $J_c$



HIGH  $J_c$

### (iii) Irreversibility line

(relevant for high-temperature superconductors)



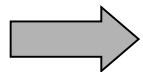
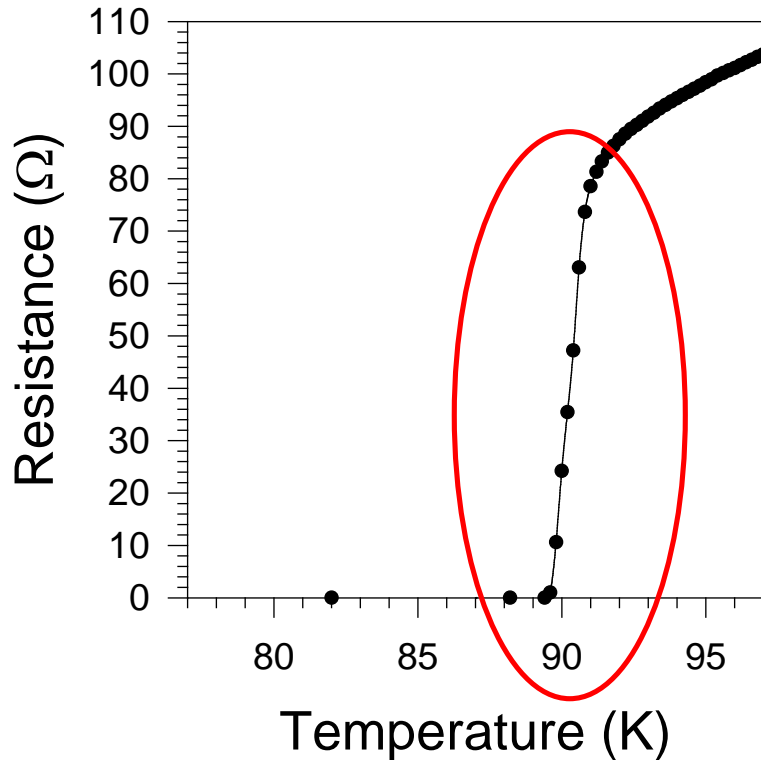
Irreversibility fields of some HTS materials at  $T = 77$  K

Bi-2212 :	$< 0.1$ T
Bi-2223 :	0.3 T
Y-123 :	7-10 T



# Typical R(T) curve

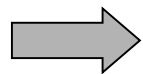
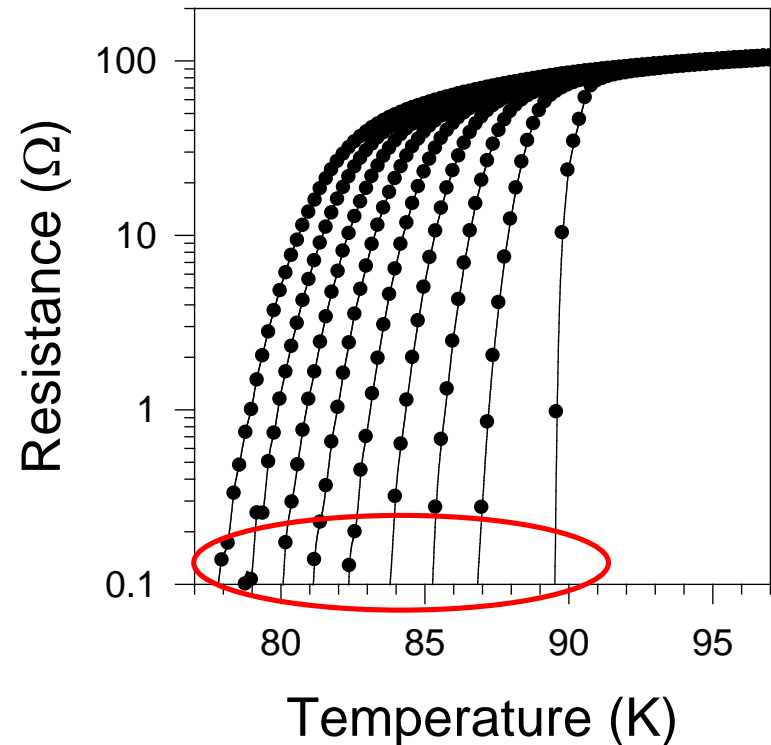
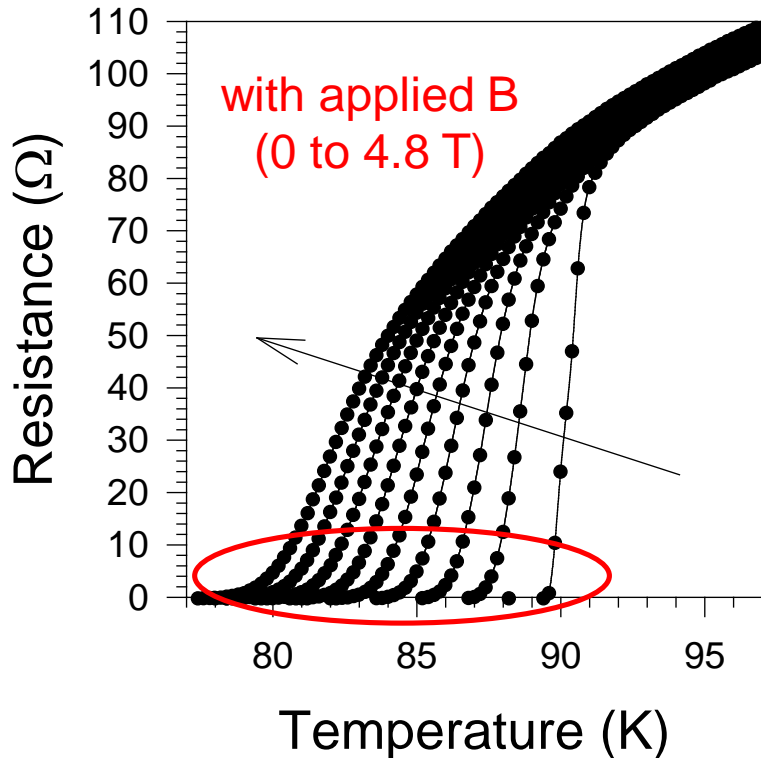
Ex:  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$



The width of the transition requires a **given criterion** to define  $T_c$  (usual criterion : inflexion point [change of curvature] but others are possible)

# Typical R(T) curve

Ex:  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$



The use of a log scale can be very useful the temperature above which electrical resistance merges from the noise level (= irreversibility line ?)

Vortex Lattice Melting in Untwinned and Twinned Single Crystals of  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-\delta}$

W. K. Kwok, S. Fleshler, U. Welp, V. M. Vinokur, J. Downey, and G. W. Crabtree  
 Science and Technology Center for Superconductivity and Materials Science Division,  
 Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois 60439

M. M. Miller

Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C. 20375  
 (Received 1 October 1992)

The melting transition in twinned and untwinned single crystals is measured resistively in fields up to 8 T as a function of the angle between the  $c$  axis and the  $a$ - $b$  plane. The angular dependence follows the Lindemann criterion with  $c_L = 0.15$ . The suppression of melting by strong pinning by twin boundaries is demonstrated.

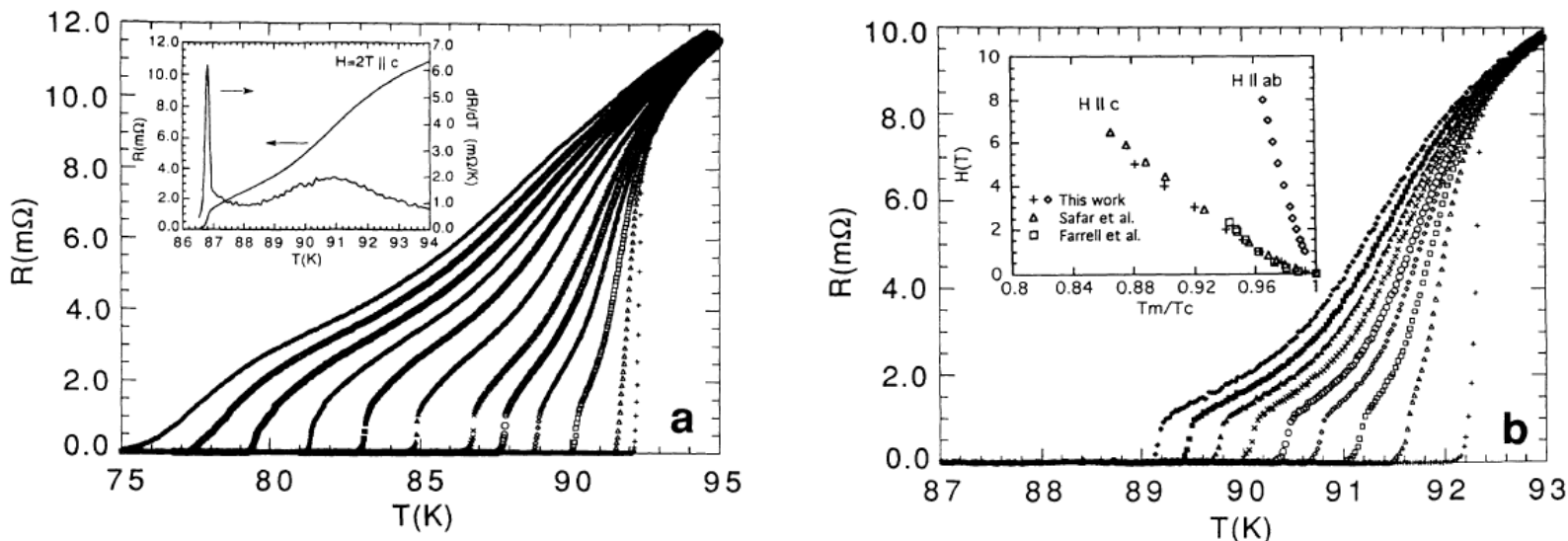
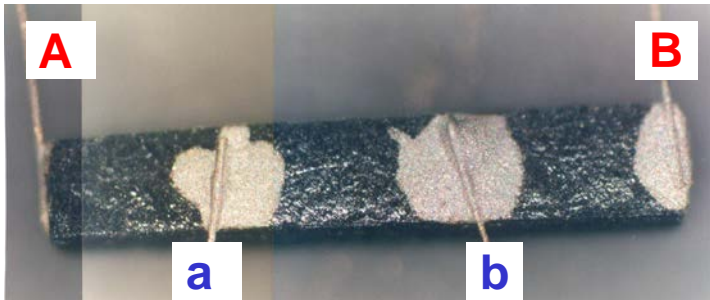
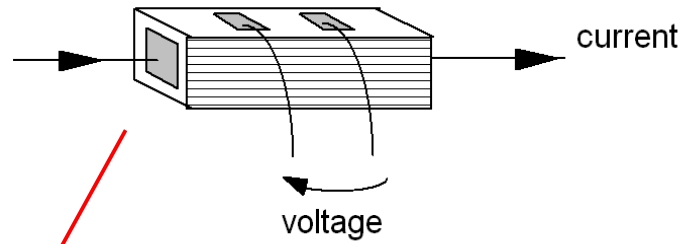


FIG. 1. (a) Resistive transition in magnetic fields of 0, 0.1, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 T for  $H \parallel c$  in an untwinned  $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-\delta}$  crystal. Inset: Determination of  $T_m$  from the inflection peak of  $dR/dT$  for  $H = 2$  T. (b) Resistive transition in magnetic fields of 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 T for  $H \parallel (a,b)$ . Inset: Phase diagram of the melting transition for  $H \parallel c$  and  $H \parallel (a,b)$ .

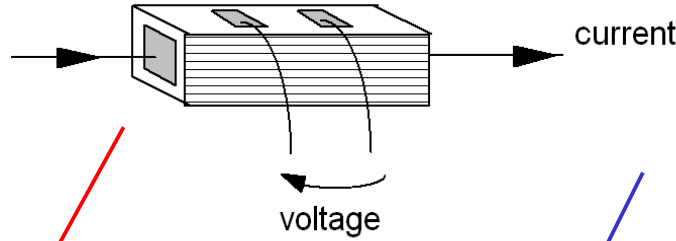
# Anisotropy

(a) *ab*-plane resistivity

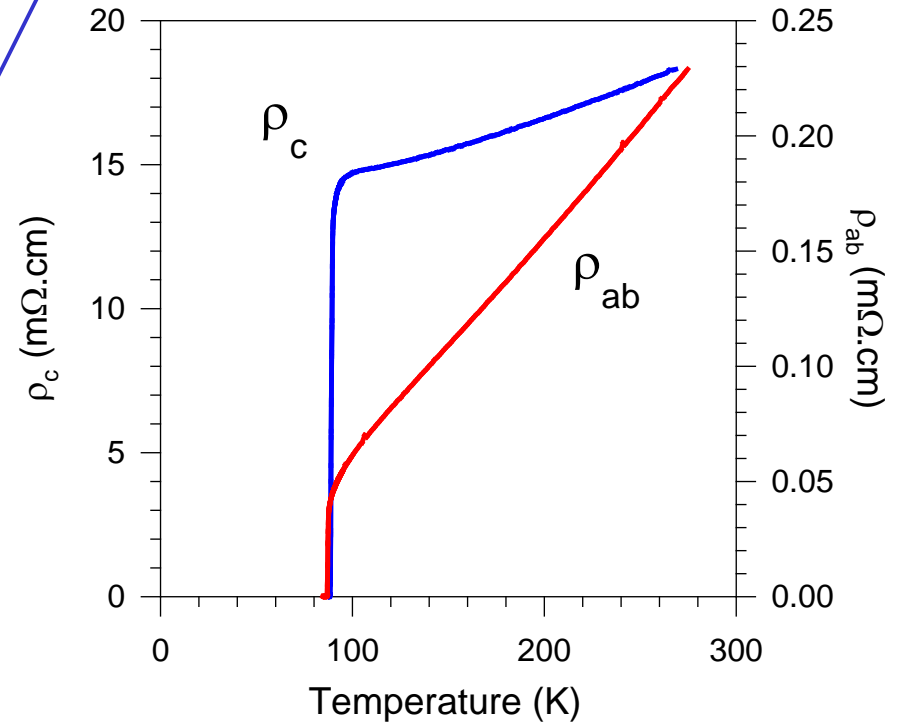
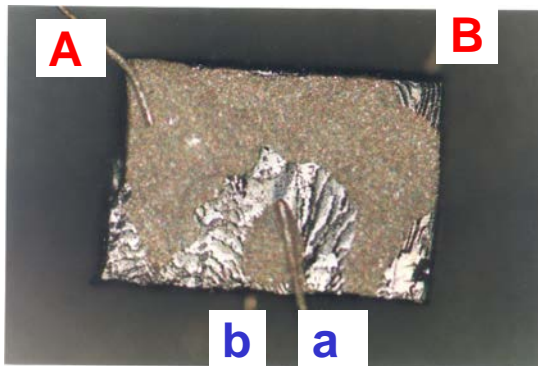
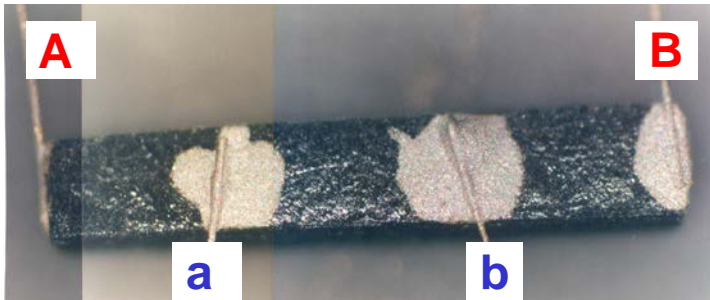
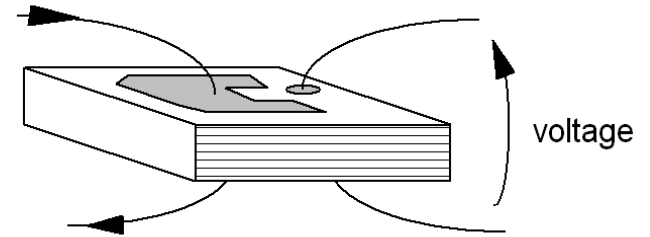


# Anisotropy

(a) *ab*-plane resistivity



(b) *c*-axis resistivity



# Granularity

Superconducting properties of natural and artificial grain boundaries in bulk melt-textured YBCO

PHYSICA C

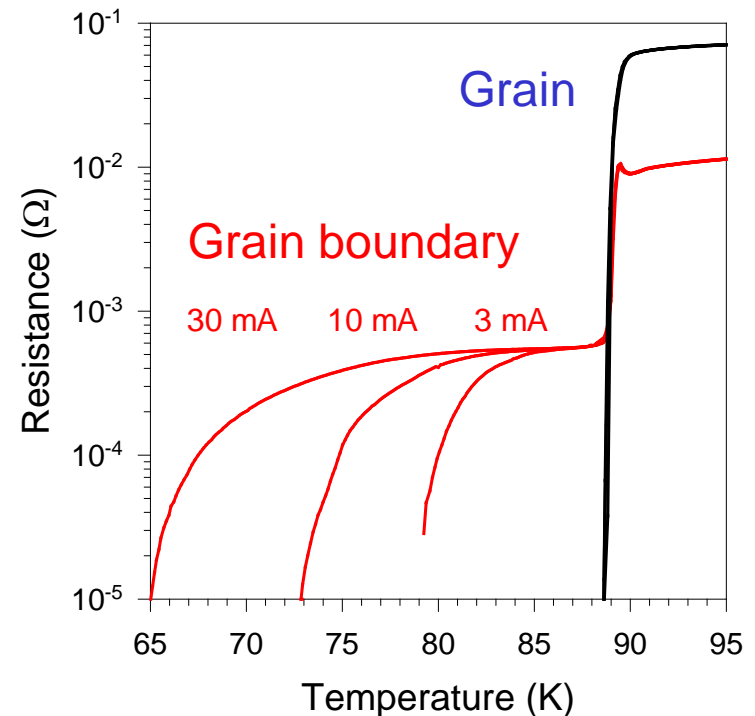
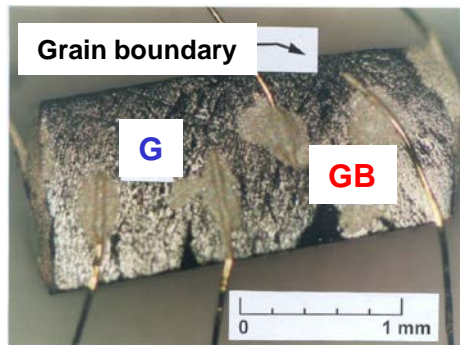
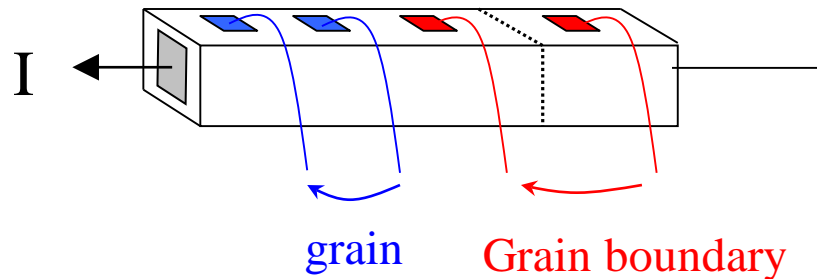
Ph. Vanderbemden<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, A.D. Bradley<sup>b</sup>, R.A. Doyle<sup>b</sup>, W. Lo<sup>b</sup>, D.M. Astill<sup>b</sup>,  
D.A. Cardwell<sup>b</sup>, A.M. Campbell<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> SUPRAS, Montefiore Electricity Institute B28, University of Liège, Sart-Tilman, B-4000 Liège, Belgium

<sup>b</sup> IRC in Superconductivity, University of Cambridge, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HE, UK

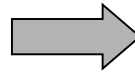
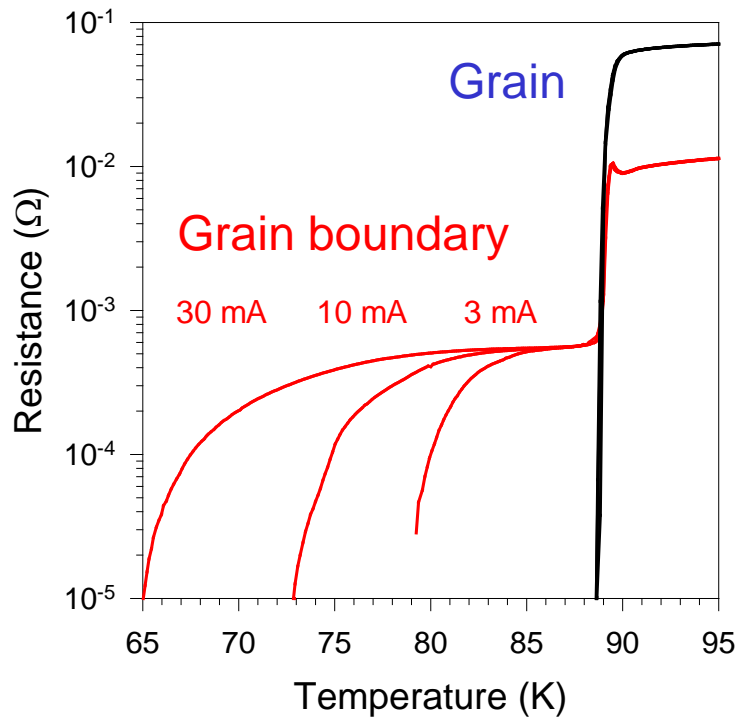
Physica C 302 (1998) 257–270

Received 29 December 1997; revised 7 March 1998; accepted 2 May 1998

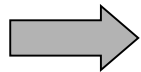
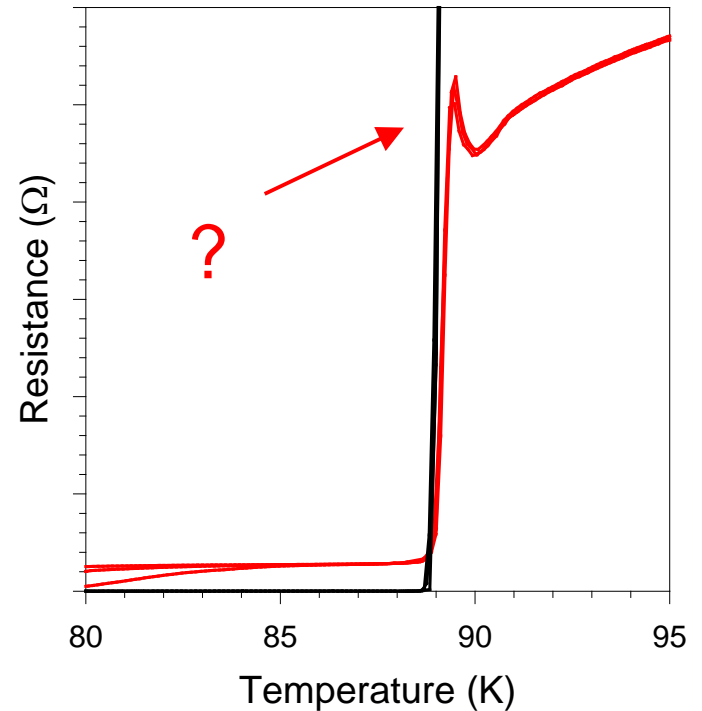


➔ A shoulder in  $R(T)$  – possibly using a log scale for  $R$   
is a clear signature of the presence of one or more grain boundaries

# Some artefacts or difficulties ...



Back to  
LINEAR  
SCALE



The peak in  $R(T)$  just above the superconducting transition is a (relatively) common feature usually attributed to inhomogeneities and current redistribution

Current redistributions in superconductors with non-uniformly distributed  $T_c$ -inhomogeneities

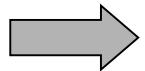
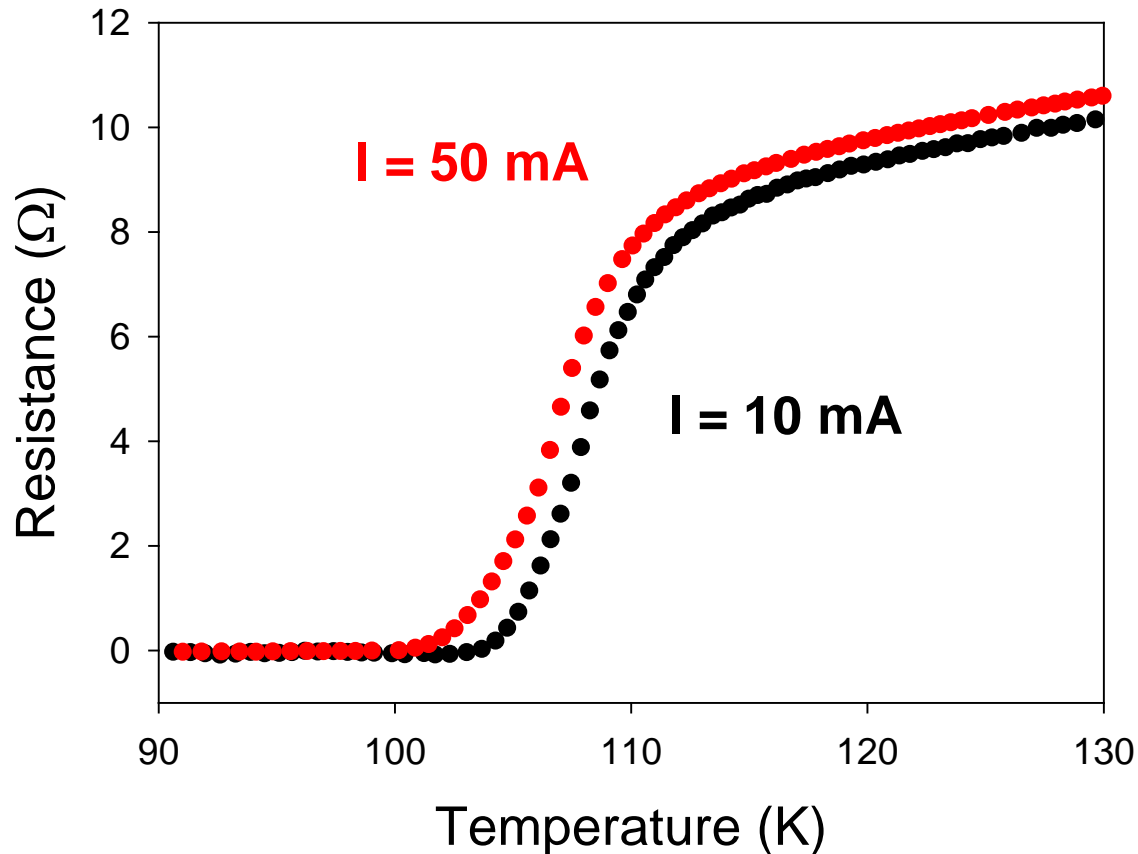
PHYSICA C

Th. Siebold, C. Carballeira, J. Mosqueira, M.V. Ramallo and Félix Vidal

Physica C 282–287 (1997) 1181–1182

# Some artefacts or difficulties ...

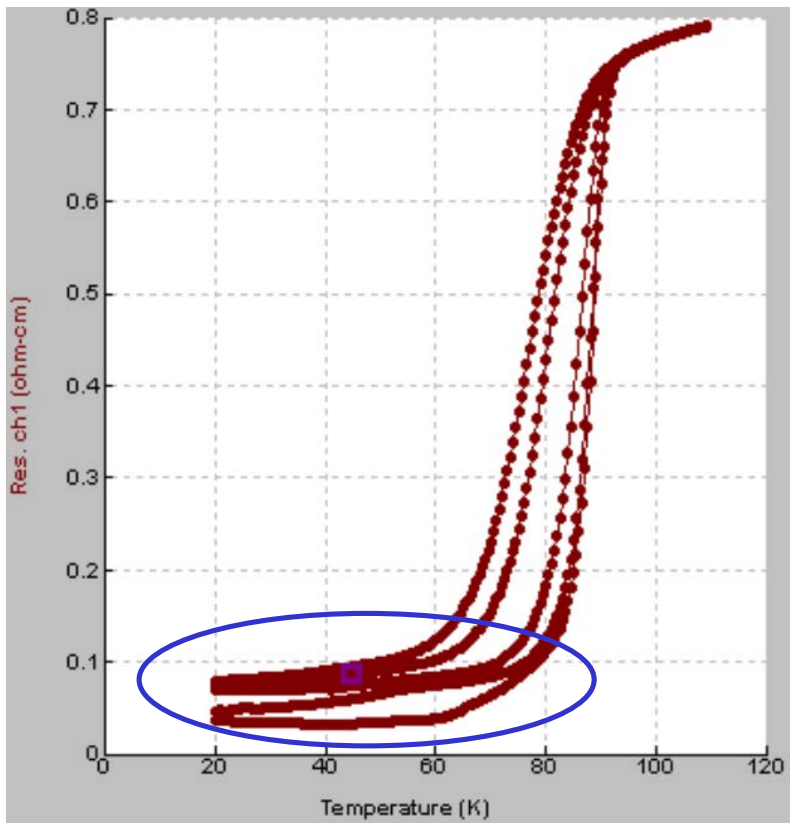
Ex: Bi-2223 ceramic



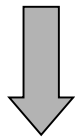
A larger current means also a much larger power dissipated in current contacts ( $P = R I^2$  !) and, possibly, sample heating and error in the temperature measurement



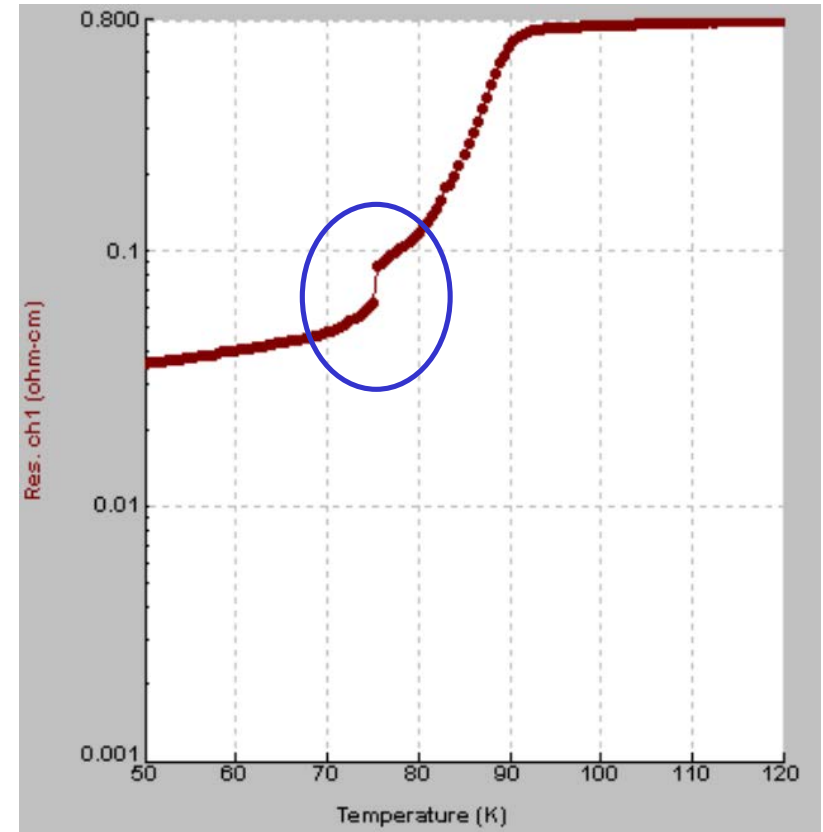
# Other errors ...



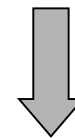
Bad sample or bad contact resistance



Try again with new contacts !

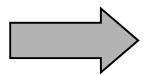
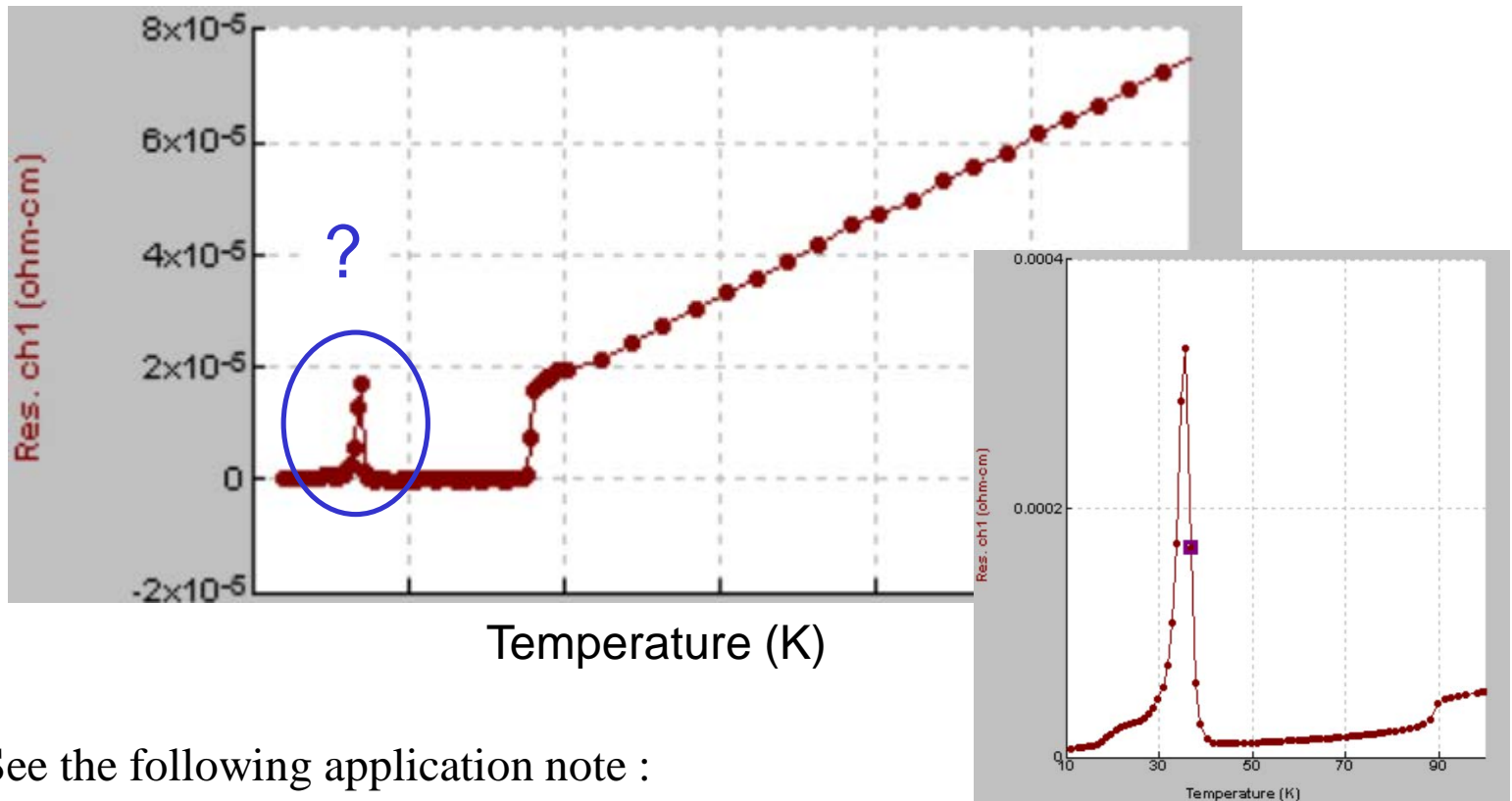


« Jumping » contact



Try again with new contacts !

# A well-known error from the QD Physical Property Measurement System (PPMS)



See the following application note :

Quantum Design

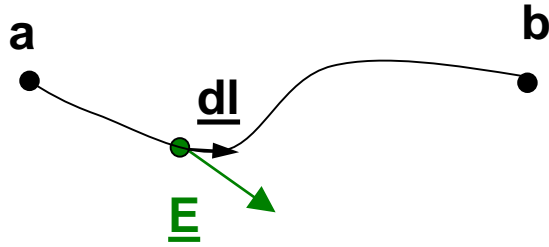


Distorted low-level signal readback of AC signals in the PPMS in the temperature range 25-35 K due to Inconel mitigation of inductive cross talk

# Outline

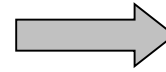
- Transport measurements -  $R(T)$
- **Transport measurements -  $E(J)$**
- Magnetic measurements (general)
- Magnetic measurements -  $M(H)$

# Electric field $\underline{E}$ (V/m)



(OK when no time-dependent magnetic flux density)

$\underline{E}$



$$V_a - V_b = \int_a^b \underline{E} \cdot d\underline{l}$$

Electric field

[V/m]

voltage difference  
voltage drop

[volts], [V]

Local quantity

Global quantity

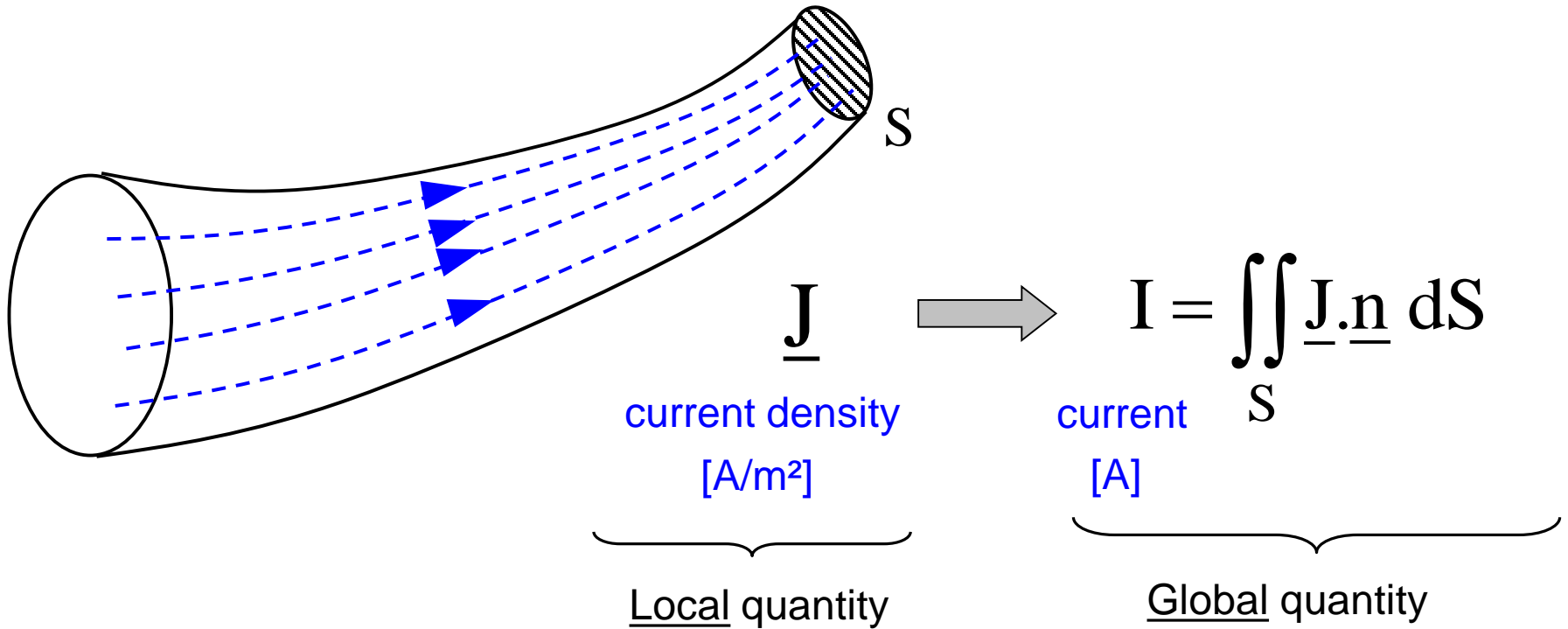
*Particular case :*



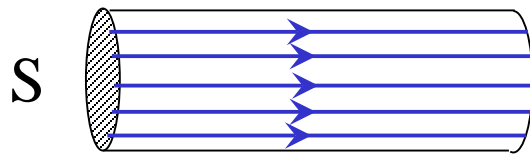
$\underline{E}$  uniform and parallel to the segment between a and b

$$\underline{E} = \frac{V_a - V_b}{l}$$

# Current density $\underline{J}$ ( $\text{A}/\text{m}^2$ )



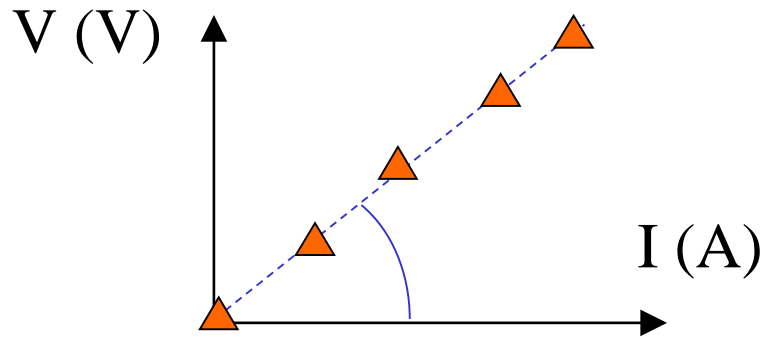
Particular case :



$\underline{J}$  uniform and  $\perp S$

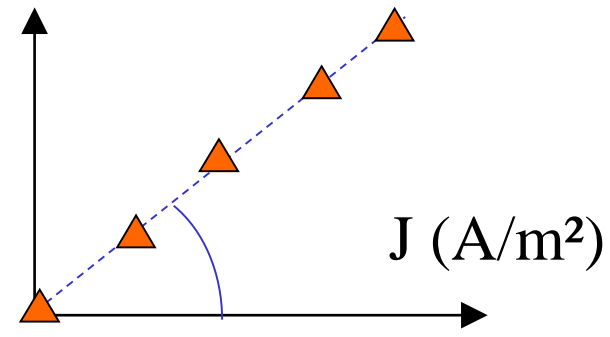
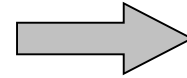
$$\underline{J} = \frac{I}{S}$$

## *Linear conductor*



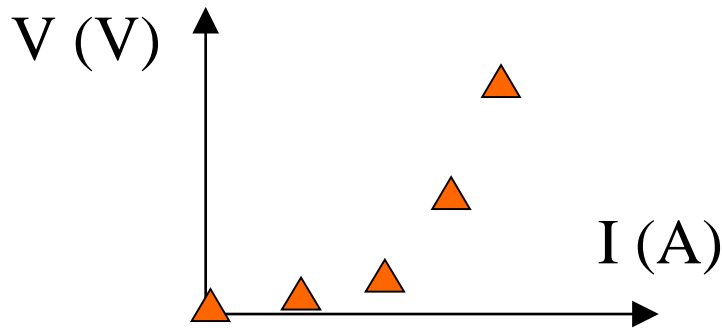
(slope)  $R$  = resistance ( $\Omega$ )

$E$  (V/m)



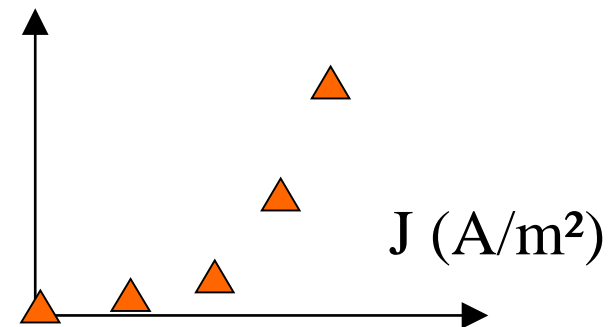
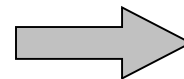
(slope)  $\rho$  = resistivity ( $\Omega.m$ )

## *Non-linear conductor*



(slope) = ???

$E$  (V/m)

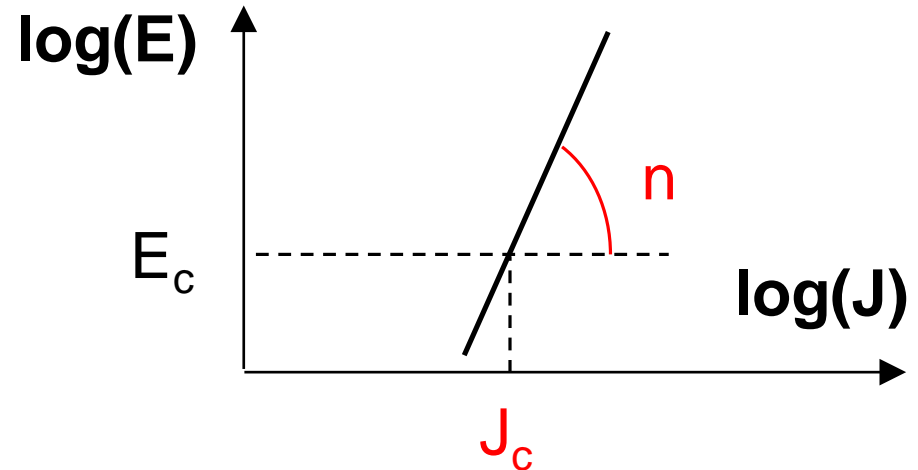
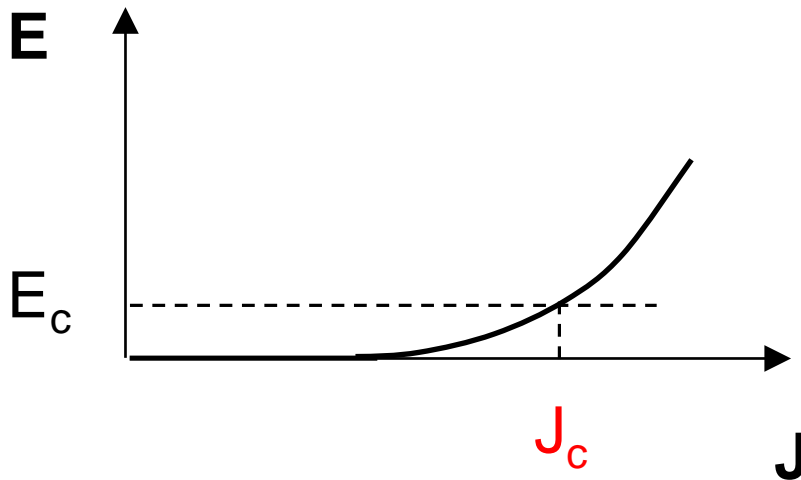


(slope) = ???

## *In practice ...*

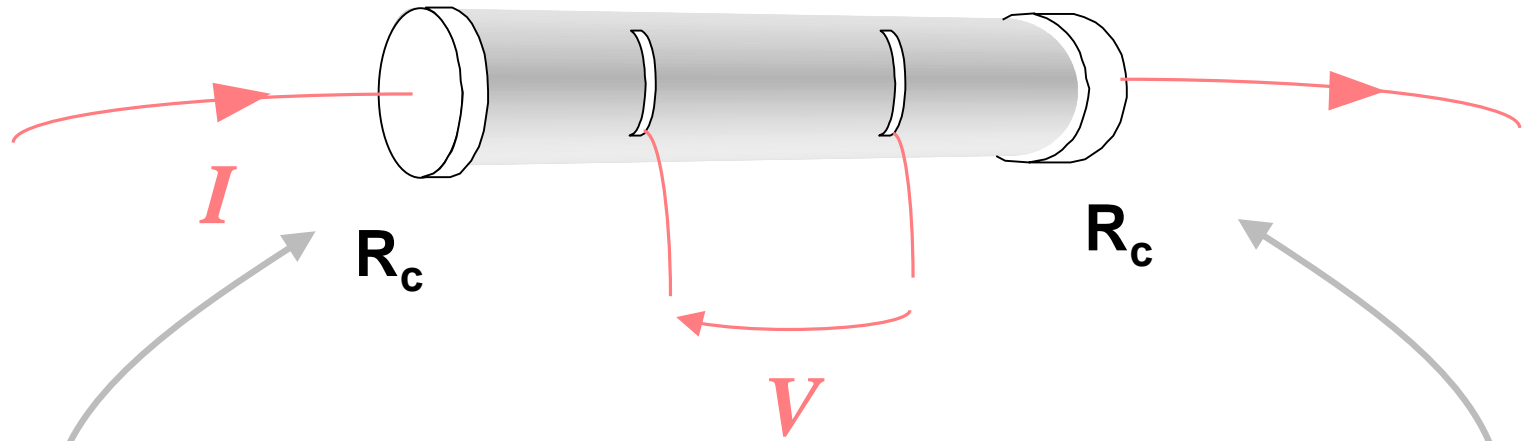
Most high-T<sub>c</sub> superconductors have a non-linear characteristic which can be described by a **power law**

$$E(J) = E_c \left( \frac{J}{J_c} \right)^n$$



The definition of  $J_c$  requires a electric field threshold often (by convention) referred as  $E_c = 1 \mu\text{V/cm}$ .

# The main difficulty for transport measurements on superconductors = ?

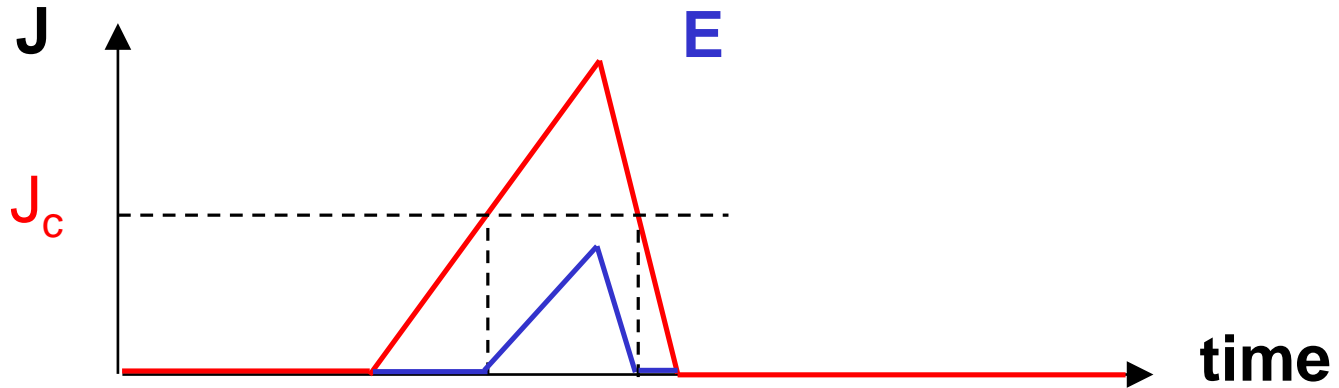


The finite resistance of electrical contacts

HEATING  $P = R_c I^2 (>>)$



# Solution : pulsed currents



Study of the superconducting transition at high pulsed current of bulk Bi-2223 sintered and textured by hot forging

J.G. Noudem <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, L. Porcar <sup>a,b</sup>, O. Belmont <sup>b,c</sup>, D. Bourgault <sup>a</sup>, J.M. Barbut <sup>b</sup>,  
J. Beille <sup>c</sup>, P. Tixador <sup>d</sup>, M. Barrault <sup>b</sup>, R. Tournier <sup>a</sup>

**PHYSICA** C

Physica C 281 (1997) 339–344

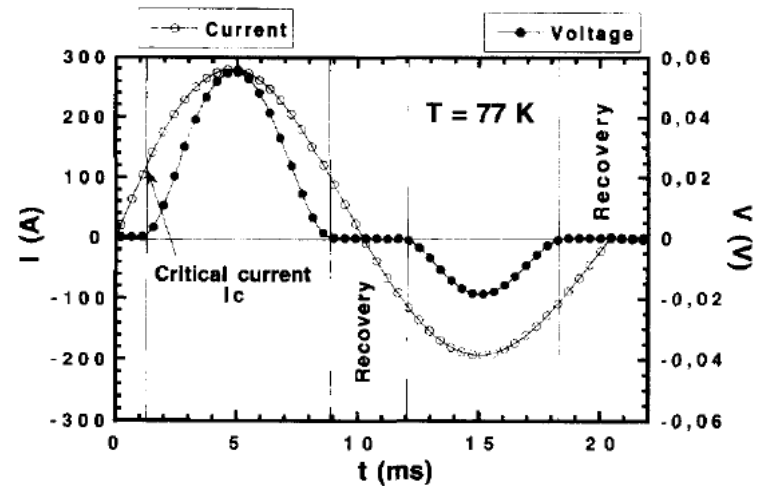
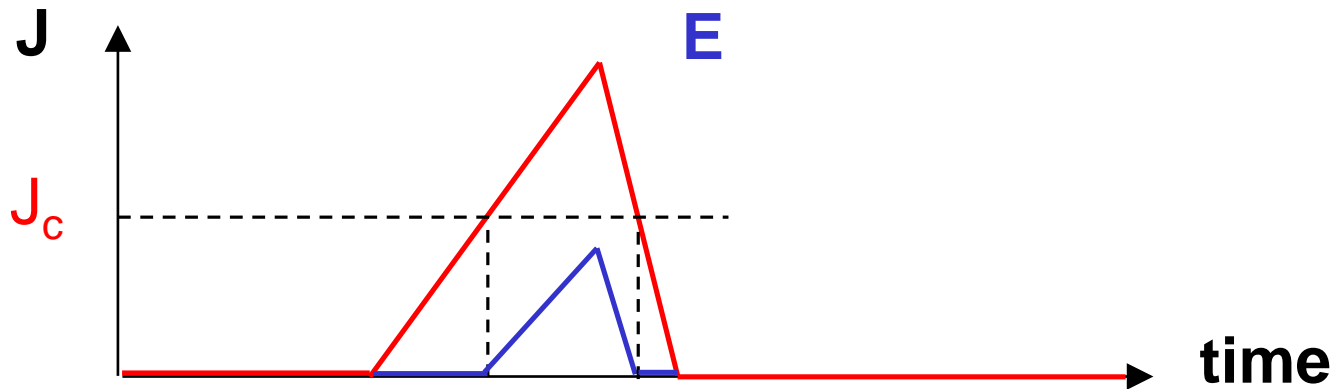
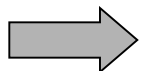
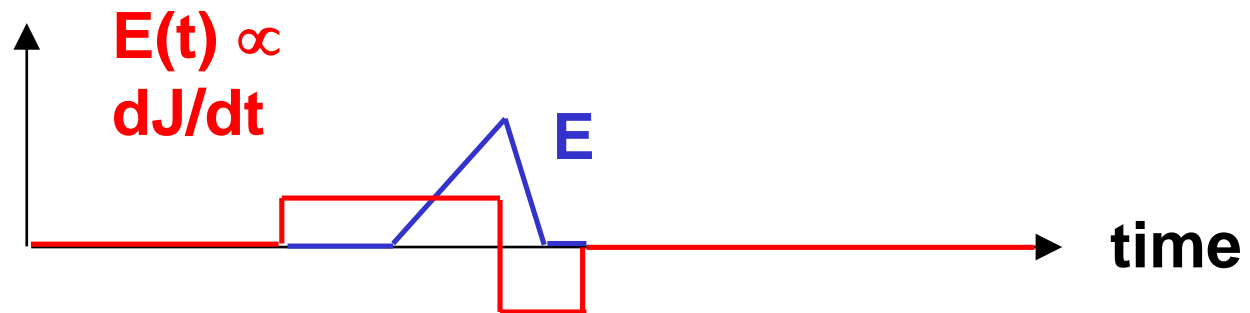


Fig. 4. Current and voltage waveforms given by a textured sample.

# Caution : inductive pick-up



$$J(t) \rightarrow B(t) \rightarrow E(t) \propto dJ(t)/dt !$$



In practice, some compensation circuit is needed (Rogowski coil, dummy loop...)

# Outline

- Transport measurements -  $R(T)$
- Transport measurements -  $E(J)$
- **Magnetic measurements (general)**
- Magnetic measurements -  $M(H)$

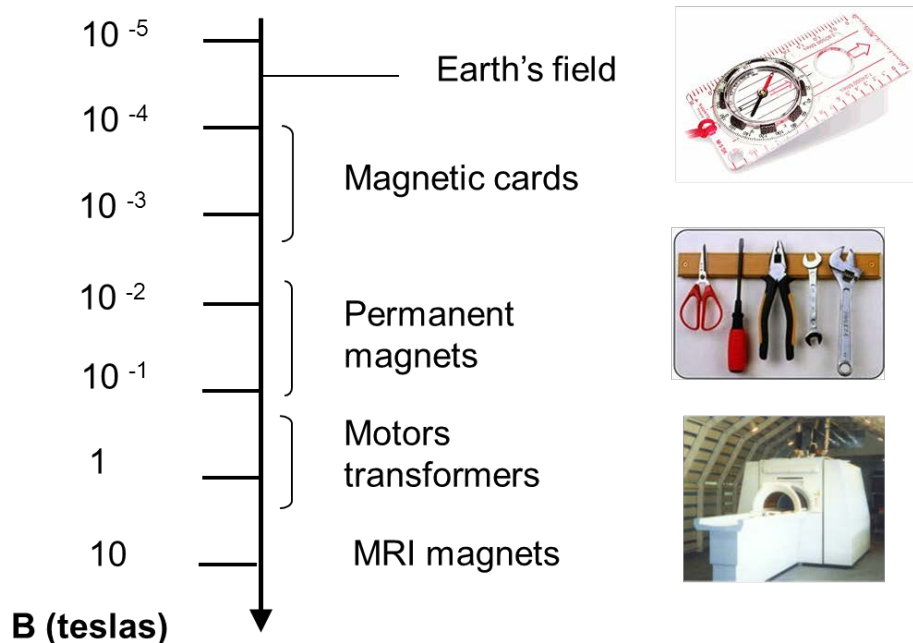
*« I often say that when you can measure what you are speaking about and can express it in numbers, you know something about it. But when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it numbers, your knowledge is of a meagre and unsatisfactory kind »*

Sir William J. THOMSON  
Lord KELVIN  
1824-1907

# What are we talking about ?

$$\underline{\mathbf{B}} = \mu_0 (\underline{\mathbf{H}} + \underline{\mathbf{M}})$$

**H** = magnetic field [A / m]  
**M** = magnetization [A / m]  
**B** = magnetic induction [T]



## And a little bit more ...

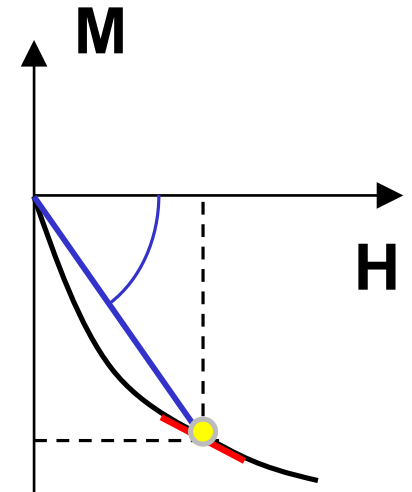
**m** = magnetic moment [A.m<sup>2</sup>]

**M** = magnetization [A / m]  
(= m / V)

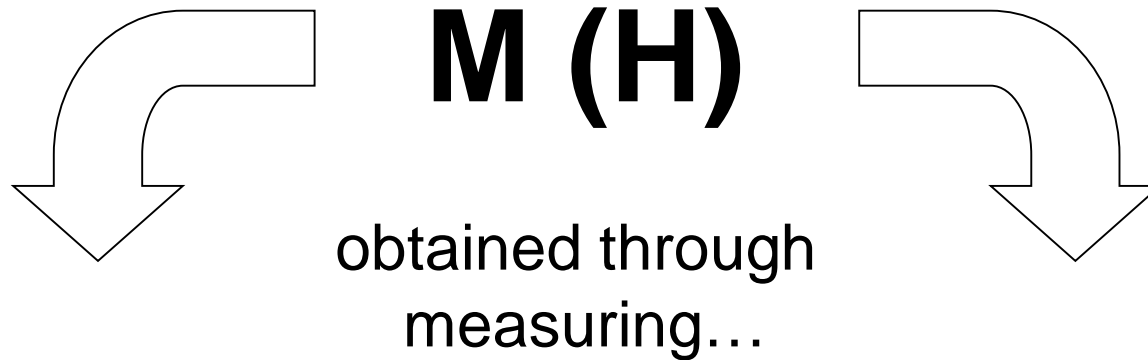
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**$\chi_{DC}$**  = magnetic susceptibility  
(= M / H) [DC]

**$\chi_{AC}$**  = magnetic susceptibility  
(= dM / dH) [AC]



# What do we need to measure ?



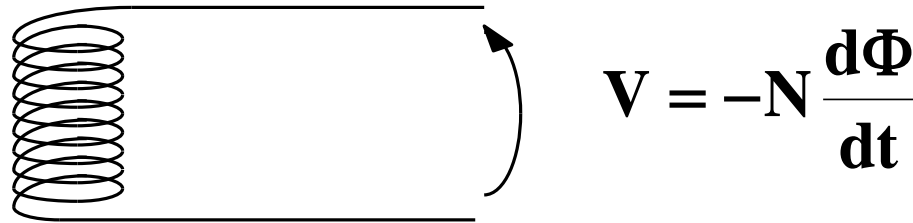
m = magnetic moment  
 $M = m / V$

B = magnetic induction  
without sample  $H = B/\mu_0$

i = magnet current  
 $H = k \cdot i$  (k ~ magnet)

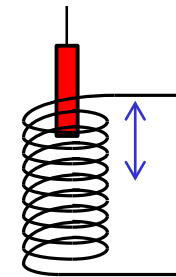
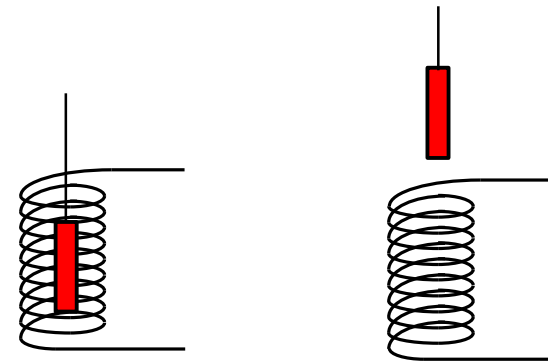
# How can we measure ?

A lot of magnetic measurements are carried out using Faraday's law



## Applications :

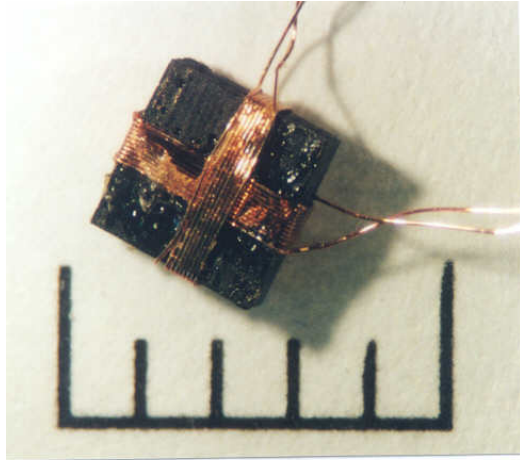
- Extraction method (cf. PPMS)
- Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (VSM)
- Measure of a flux variation with analog or digital integration



$$H(t) \rightarrow d\Phi(t)/dt \rightarrow \Delta\Phi$$

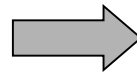


NB : Analog or digital integration using sensing coils wrapped around the sample enables the magnetic properties to be determined in various « exotic » configurations  
Note that, in this case, the measured quantity is  $B$  = the magnetic flux density

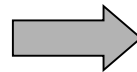
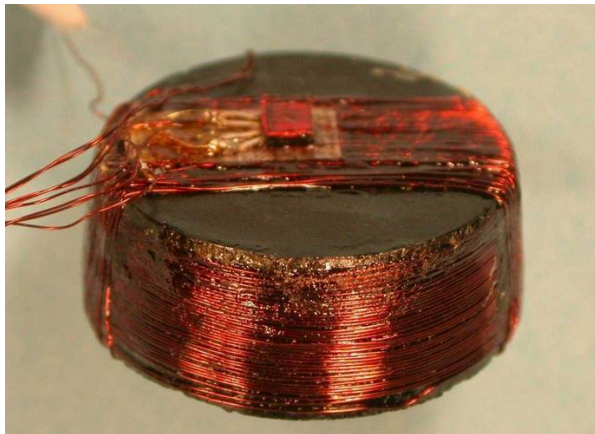


0

5 mm



To study anisotropy effects



To study the (so-called)  
« crossed-field » effects

Phys. Rev. B 75 (2007) 174515

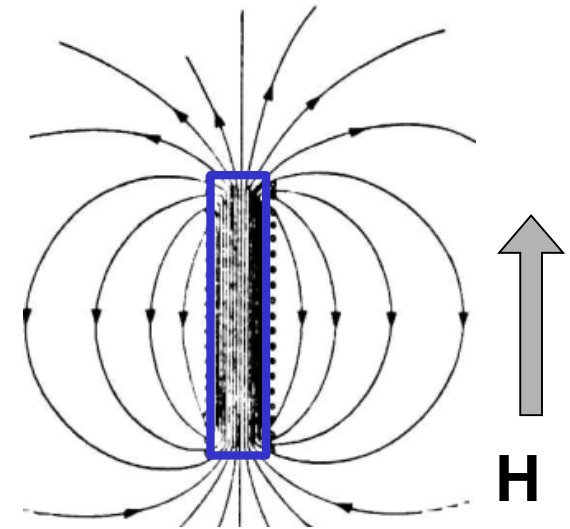
# Types of magnetic materials

	<i>Absolute value <math> \chi </math></i>	<i>sign</i>
<b>Superconductor</b> (perfect diamagnetic)	between 0 and 1	$< 0$
<b>Diamagnetic</b>	very small ( $\ll 1$ )	$< 0$
<b>Paramagnetic</b>	small ( $< 1$ )	$> 0$
<b>Ferromagnetic</b> (Fe, Co, Ni)	large ( $\gg 1$ )	$> 0$

# Demagnetizing effects

A magnetized sample (e.g.  $M > 0$ ) of *finite size* creates a field in the *surrounding space* and *within the sample* itself.

This field – called *demagnetizing field*  $H_D$  – is always *opposite in direction to the sample magnetization*.



The *total* applied field,  $H_T$ , is the sum of the field generated by the magnet  $H$ , *and* the demagnetizing field  $H_D$ . In the simple case  $H \parallel H_D$ , one has

$$H_T = H + H_D$$

with

$$H_D = - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{M} = - \mathbf{D} \chi \mathbf{H}_T.$$

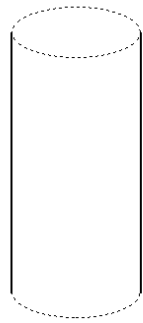
$\mathbf{D}$  represents the dimensionless *demagnetizing factor*

# The demagnetizing factor “D”

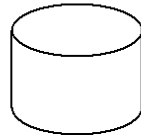
D is always contained between 0 et 1.

In first (and good) approximation, D only depends on the sample geometry.

For a cylinder (diameter d, length L parallel to H), one has



$$L \gg d \\ D \ll 1$$



$$L \sim d \\ D \sim 1/3$$



$$L \ll d \\ D \sim 1$$

The total field  $H_T$  is simply given by

$$H_T = \frac{H}{1 + D\chi}$$

Therefore ...

For ferromagnetic materials,  
 $H_T$  is smaller than  $H$  ("de-magnetizing")

while for superconductors,  
 $H_T$  is bigger than  $H$  ("re-magnetizing" ?).

Demagnetizing effects can be omitted if  $D \chi \ll 1$   
but should be always considered otherwise !

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NB : To understand magnetic flux penetration in  
Type-II superconductors of finite size, see...

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 58, NUMBER 10

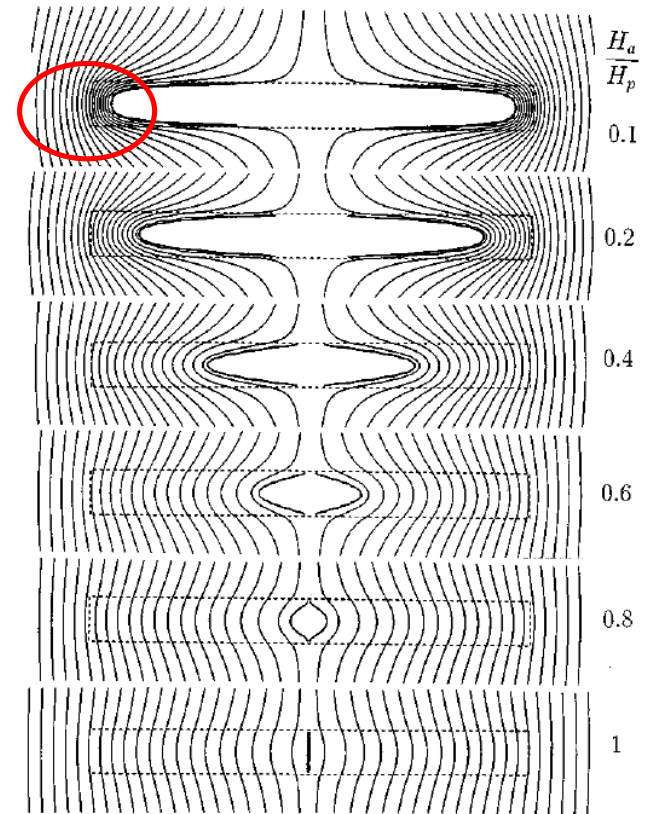
1 SEPTEMBER 1998-II

**Superconductor disks and cylinders in an axial magnetic field. I.  
Flux penetration and magnetization curves**

Ernst Helmut Brandt

*Max-Planck-Institut für Metallforschung, D-70506 Stuttgart, Germany*

(Received 14 November 1997)



.... as well as all Helmut Brandt's papers ☺

# How to estimate D ?

## 1. From the sample dimensions

Ellipses : analytical formulas

Cylinders : tables, see e.g.

---

Journal of Magnetism and Magnetic Materials 306 (2006) 135–146

Fluxmetric and magnetometric demagnetizing factors for cylinders

D.-X. Chen<sup>a,\*</sup>, E. Pardo<sup>b</sup>, A. Sanchez<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>ICREA and Grup d'Electromagnetisme, Departament de Física, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra, Spain

<sup>b</sup>Grup d'Electromagnetisme, Departament de Física, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra, Spain

Received 18 June 2005; received in revised form 17 February 2006

Available online 23 March 2006

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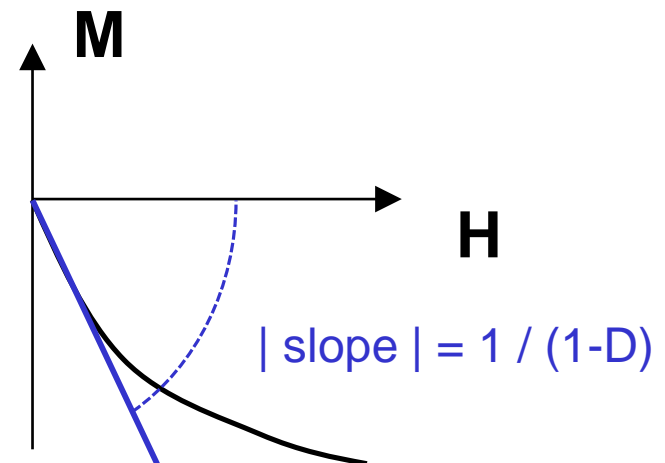
## 2. From measurements in superconductors

at  $H < H_{C1}$  ( $\rightarrow \chi = -1$ )

$$H_T = \frac{H}{1-D}$$

$$M = -H_T = \left( \frac{-1}{1-D} \right) H$$

apparent  
susceptibility !



Note however the important distinction :

Demagnetizing effects should always be taken into account when the sample cannot be considered infinitely long

BUT...

the conventional « demagnetizing factor » approach, strictly speaking, is valid for linear materials.

For type-II superconductors, only (semi-) analytical calculations and numerical modelling are appropriate !

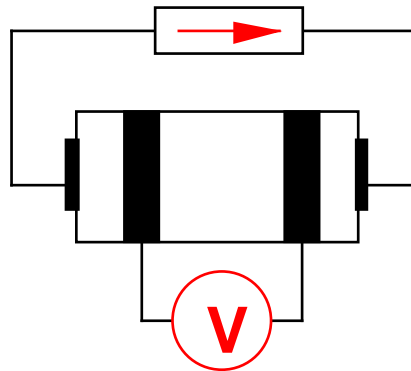
# Outline

- Transport measurements -  $R(T)$
- Transport measurements -  $E(J)$
- Magnetic measurements (general)
- **Magnetic measurements -  $M(H)$**



## Transport measurement

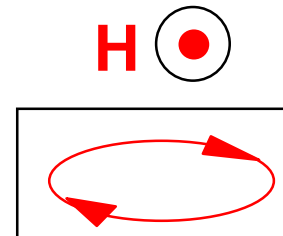
Current source



**Transport current**  
(applied externally)

## Magnetic measurement

Magnetic field  $H$



**Induced current**  
(by the applied magnetic field)

**ADVANTAGE** of  
magnetic measurements :

**No need  
of electrical contacts !**

**DRAWBACK** of  
magnetic measurements :

**Requires a suitable model  
( geometry-dependent! )**

# Bean model : relation $B \leftrightarrow J_c$

**Hypotheses :**

$$H_{C1} \rightarrow 0 \quad H_{C2} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{Very strong pinning}$$

**Model :**

$$\text{curl } B = \mu_0 J$$

$$J = +J_c, -J_c \text{ or } 0$$

**Critical state**

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 6

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

MARCH 15, 1962

MAGNETIZATION OF HARD SUPERCONDUCTORS

C. P. Bean

General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, New York

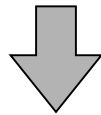
(Received October 26, 1961; revised manuscript received February 21, 1962)

# Bean model : relation $B \leftrightarrow J_c$

## 2 additional hypotheses

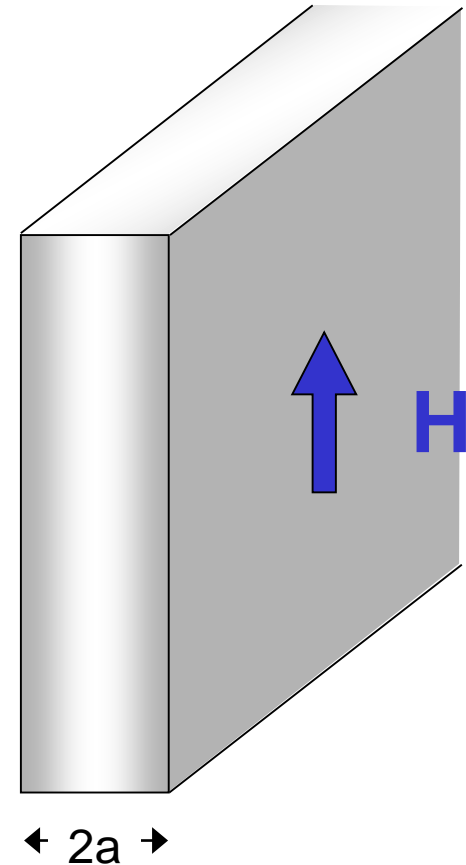
- (1) supercond.  $\infty$  || applied field  
(ex. infinite slab)

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{B} = \pm \mu_0 \mathbf{J}_c \text{ ou } 0$$

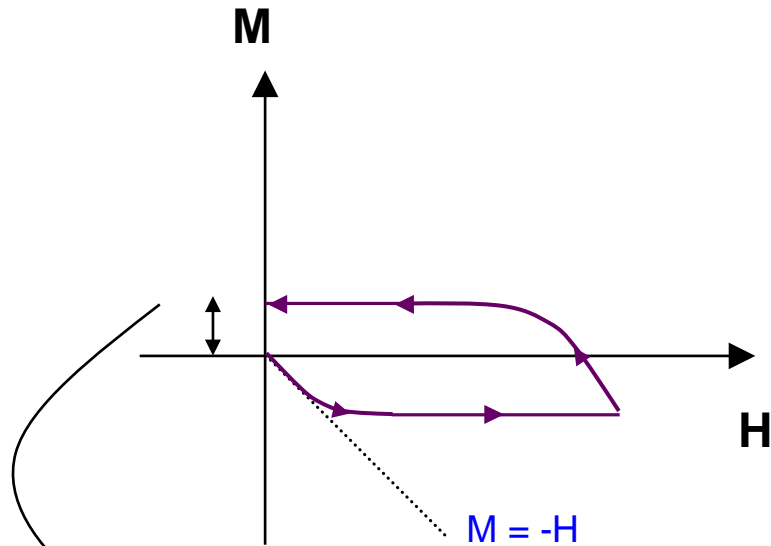


$$\left| \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial y} \right| = \mu_0 \mathbf{J}_c \text{ ou } 0$$

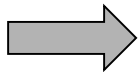
- (2)  $J_c = \text{constant}$  (indep. of  $B$ )



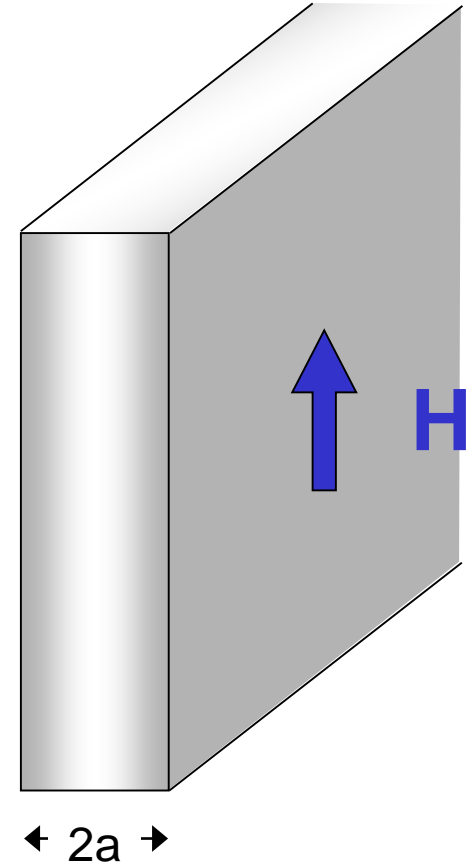
# Bean model : relation $B \leftrightarrow J_c$



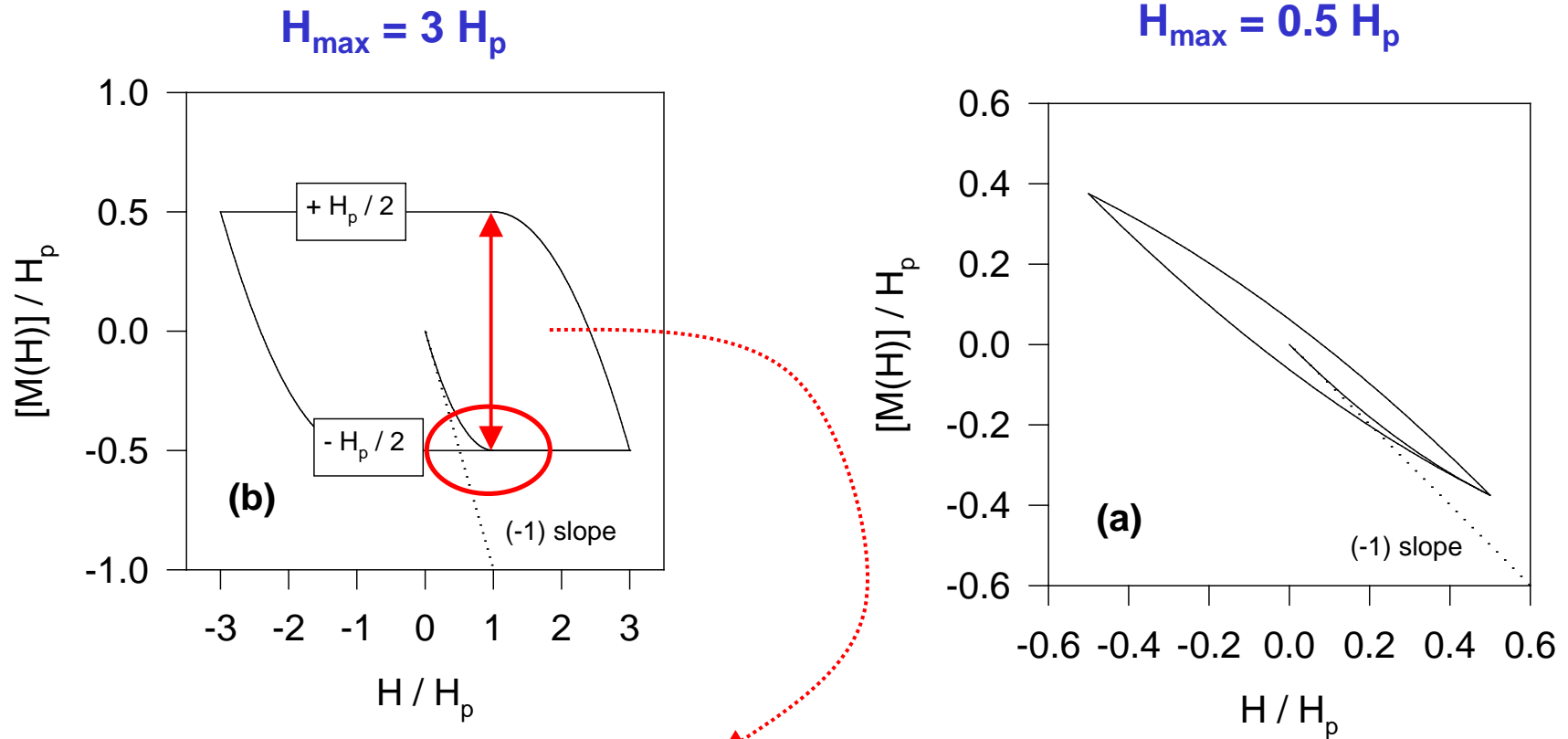
Remnant magnetization  
 $= (J_c a) / 2$



Indirect  
determination of  $J_c$



# Different “M(H)” curves for type II (hard) superconductor as a function of $H_{\max}$

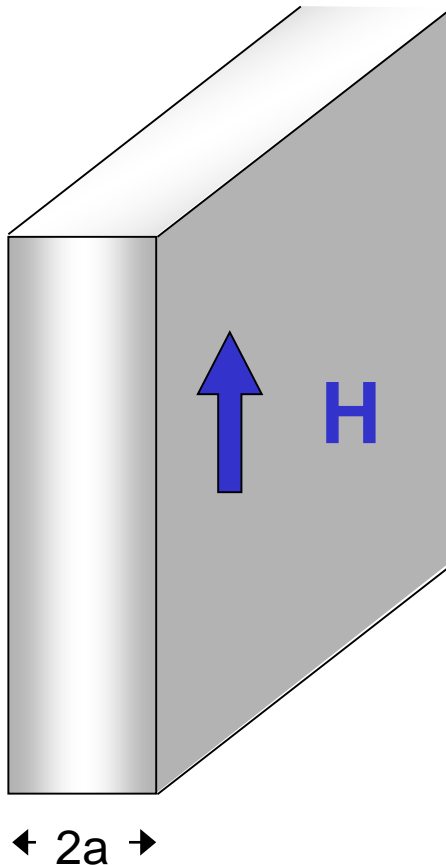


The difference betw.  $M_{\downarrow}$  and  $M_{\uparrow}$  is  $H_p$  ( $= J_c \cdot a$ ) in the case of an infinite slab

**BUT... this is only true when the maximum field  $H_{\max}$  is large enough !**

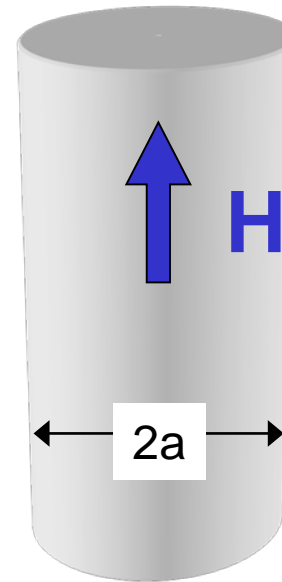
# The relation between $\Delta M$ and $J_c$ depends on the geometry of the sample

## Infinite slab



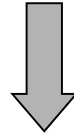
$$J_c = \frac{\Delta M}{a}$$

## Infinite cylinder



$$J_c = \frac{3\Delta M}{2a}$$

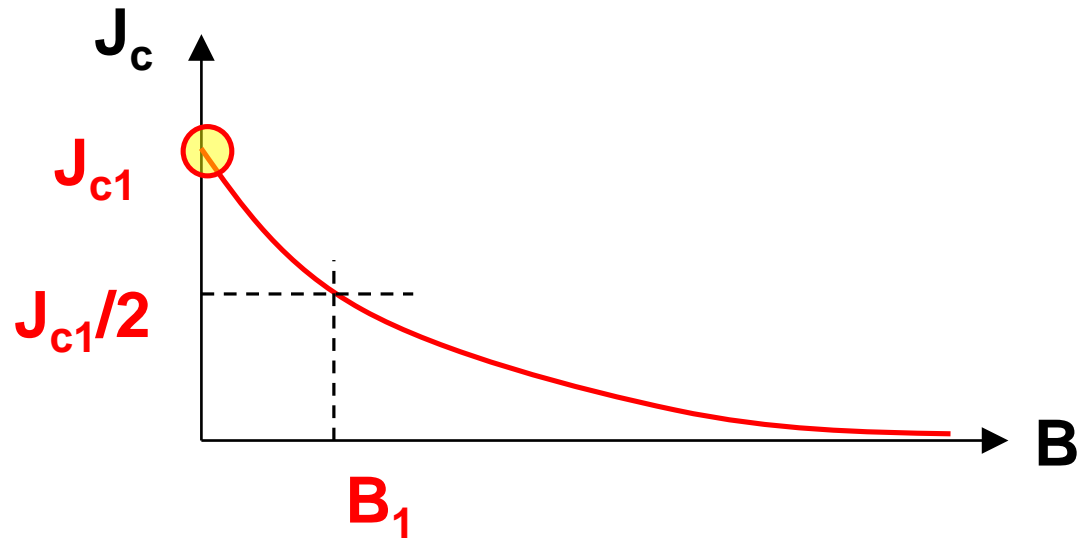
# And what happens in the case of $J_c(B)$ ?



## A model of $J_c(B)$ is required !

Ex : Kim model

$$J_c = J_{c1} \left( \frac{B_1}{B + B_1} \right)$$



### Kim model for magnetization of type-II superconductors

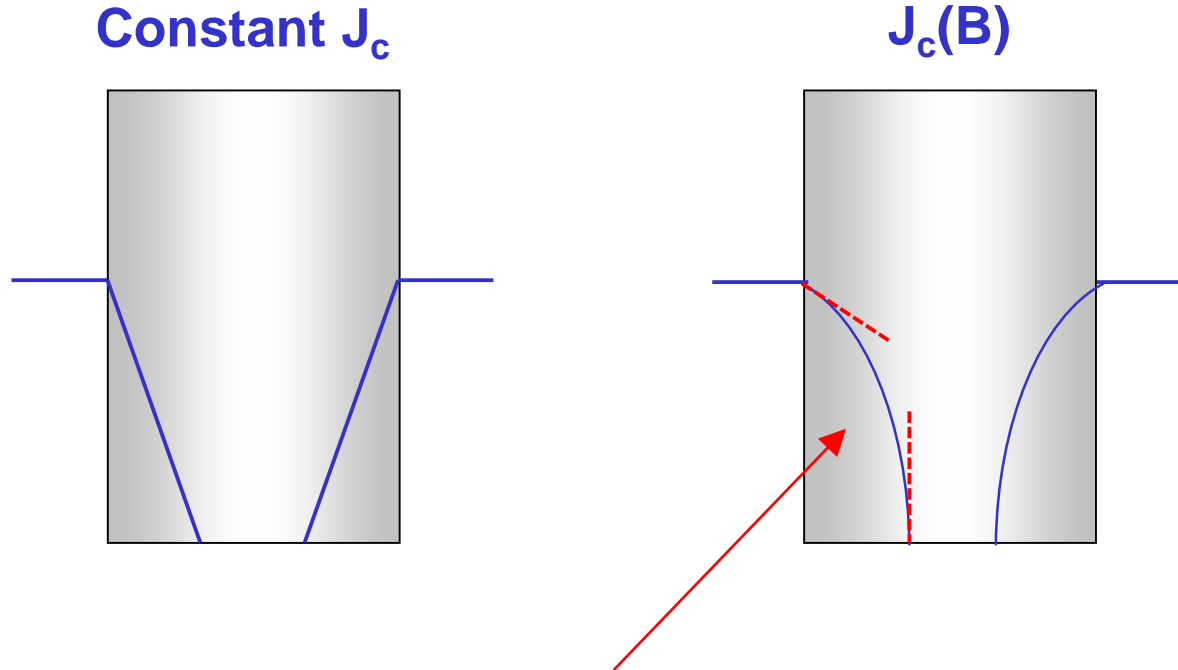
D.-X. Chen<sup>a)</sup> and R. B. Goldfarb

*Electromagnetic Technology Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology,<sup>b)</sup>  
Boulder, Colorado 80303*

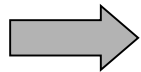
(Received 31 January 1989; accepted for publication 18 May 1989)

J. Appl. Phys. **66** (6) 15 September 1989

# Consequences on the magnetic field penetration



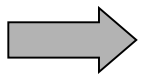
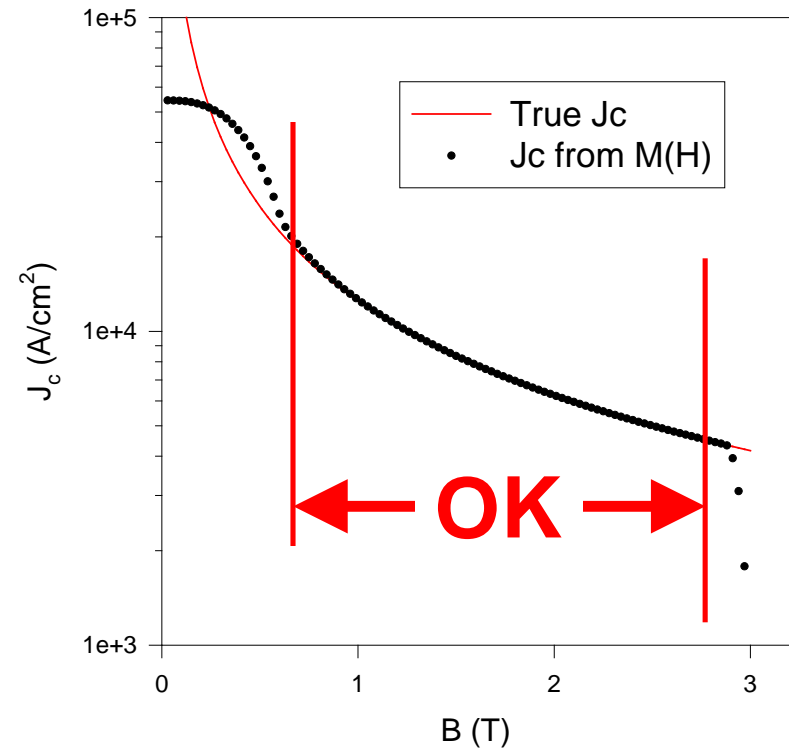
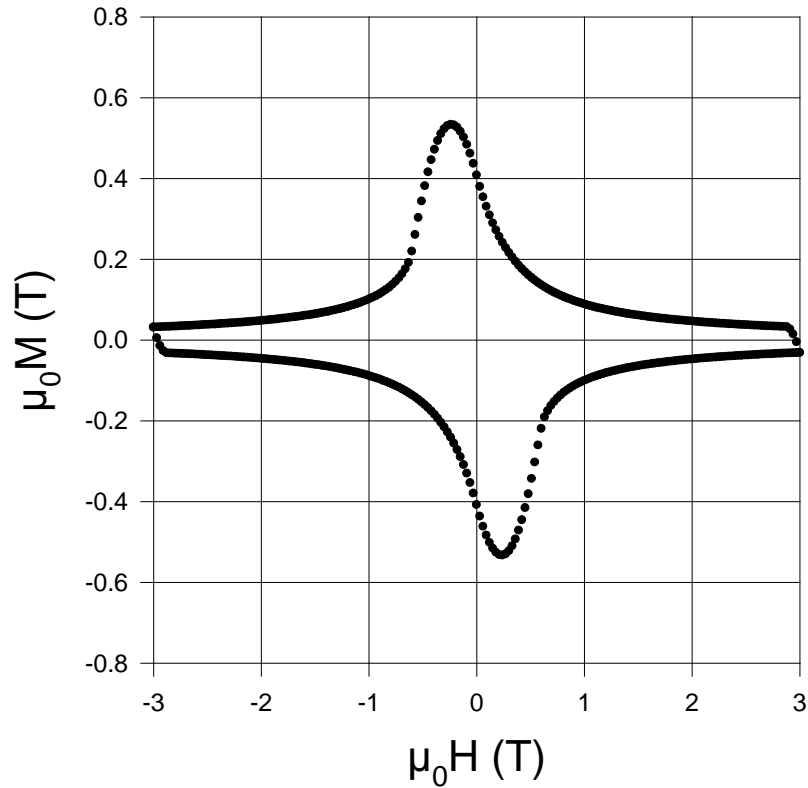
**Local slope =  $J_c$**



Completely different magnetization curves are expected !



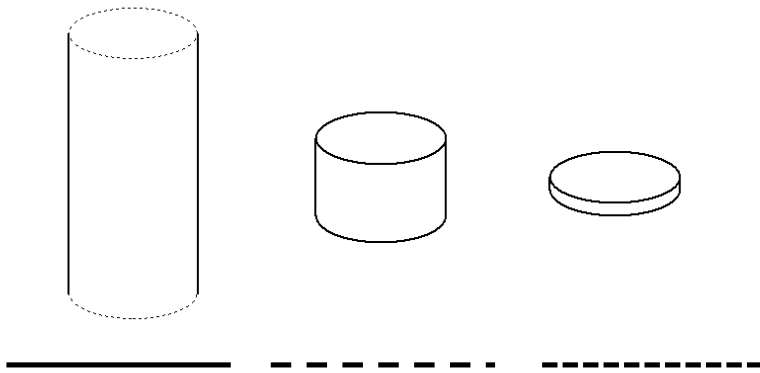
# Infinite slab with $J_c \propto (1/B)$



Remarkably, the  $J_c(B)$  can often (not always...) be determined from  $\Delta M$ , provided that the magnetic field range does not extend too close to 0 and to  $H_{max}$  !

# And what happens if the superconductor cannot be assumed to be infinite ?

Modelling needed !



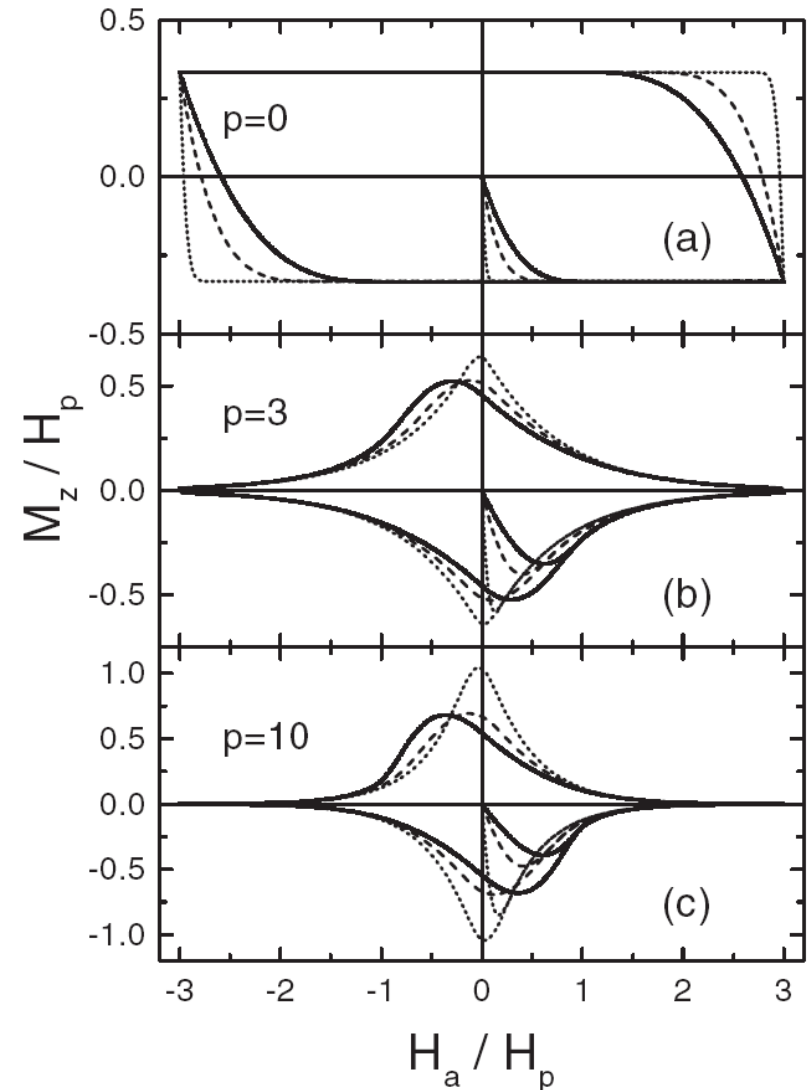
## Critical-current density from magnetization loops of finite high- $T_c$ superconductors

Alvaro Sanchez<sup>1</sup> and Carles Navau<sup>1,2</sup>

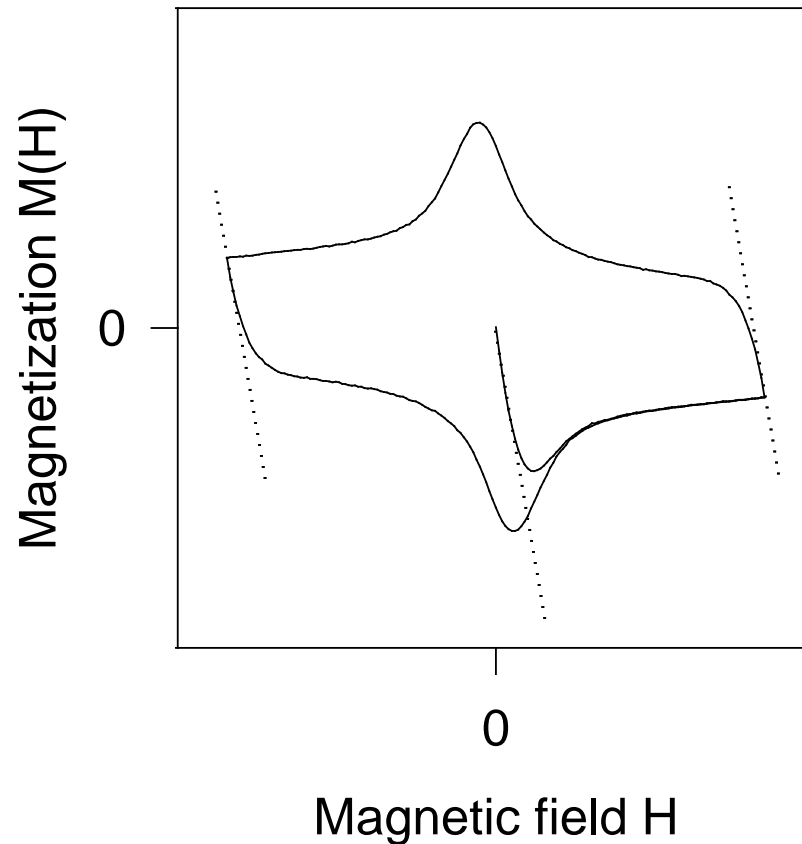
<sup>1</sup> Grup d'Electromagnetisme, Departament de Física, Universitat Autònoma Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra (Barcelona), Catalonia, Spain

<sup>2</sup> Escola Universitària Salesiana de Sarrià, Rafael Batlle 7, 08017 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain

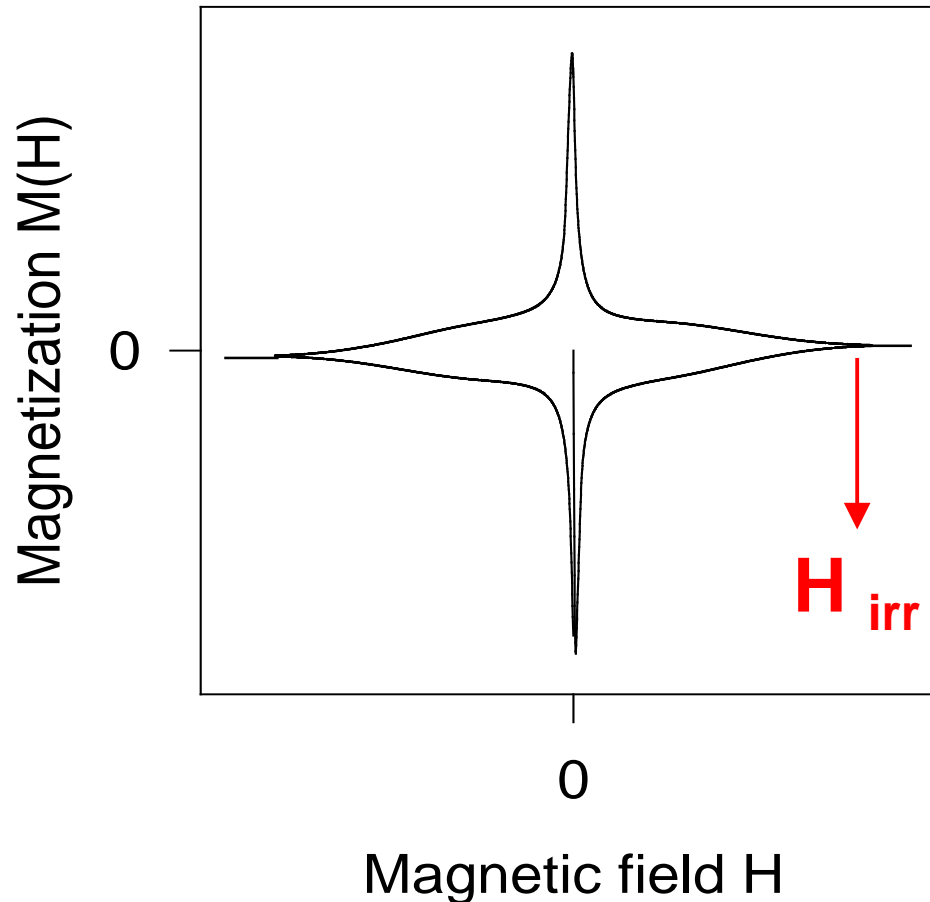
Supercond. Sci. Technol. **14** (2001) 444–447



# A typical $M(H)$ curve at “medium” applied fields...

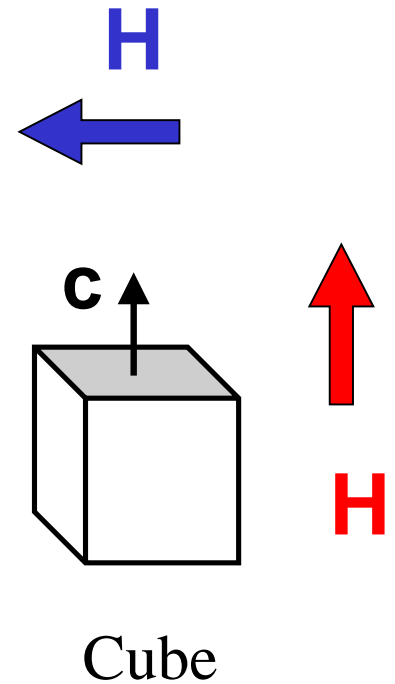
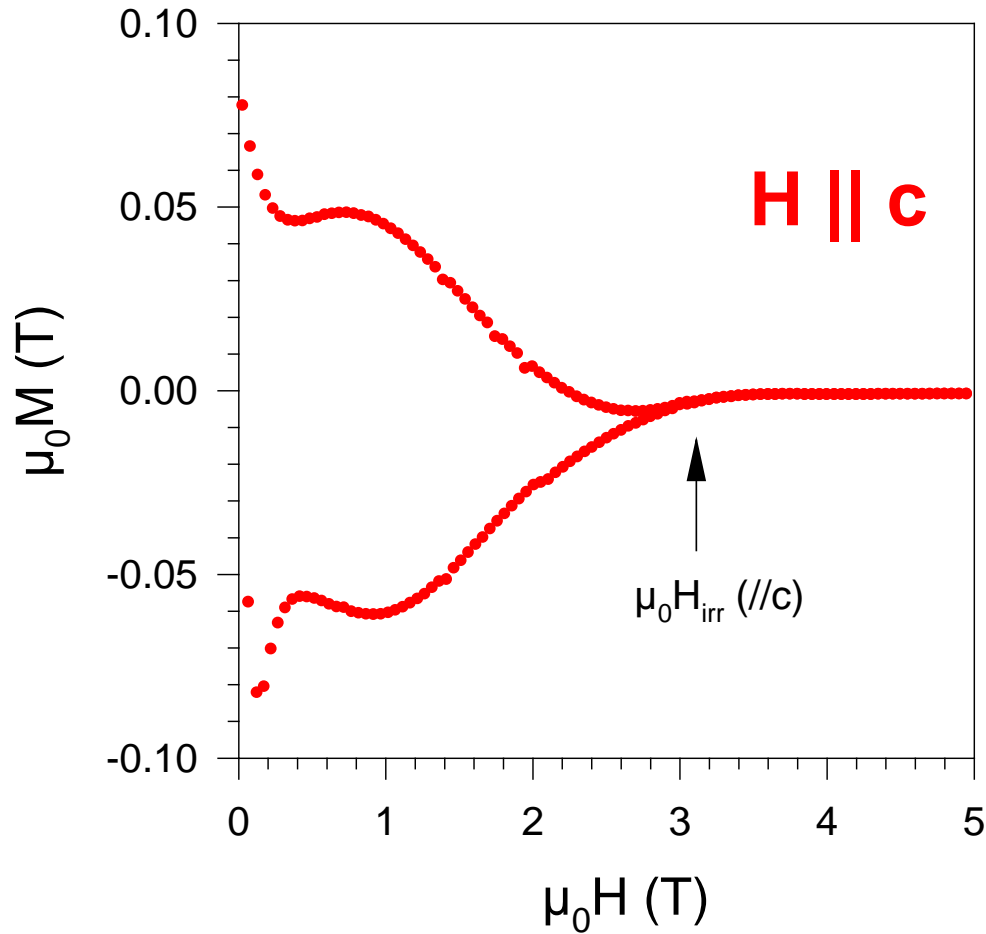


**And when the applied field is very large ...**

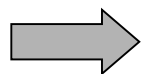
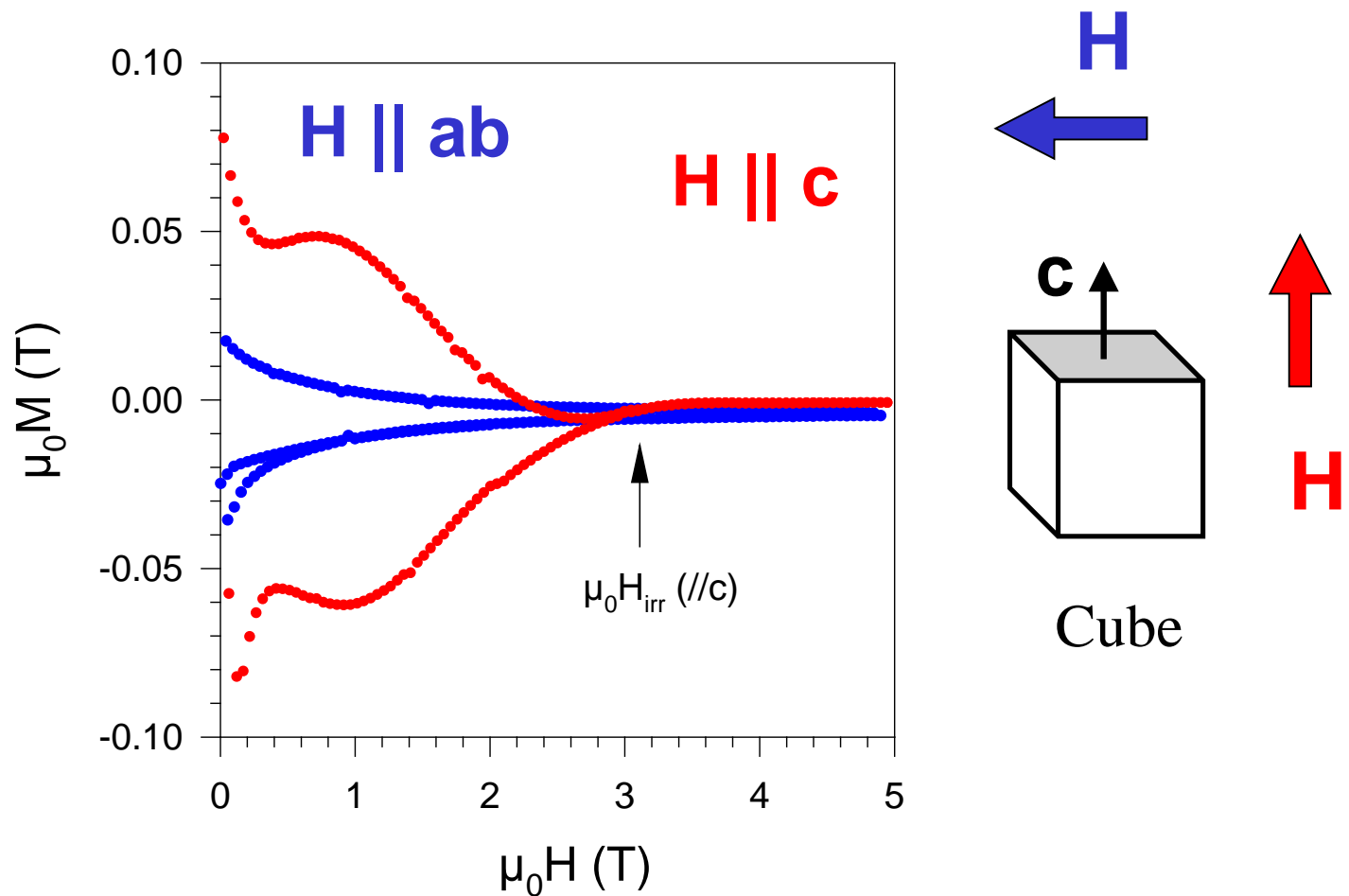


The irreversibility field can be determined from the point where the upper and lower branches of the magnetization loop merge into one

# A typical curve for $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$



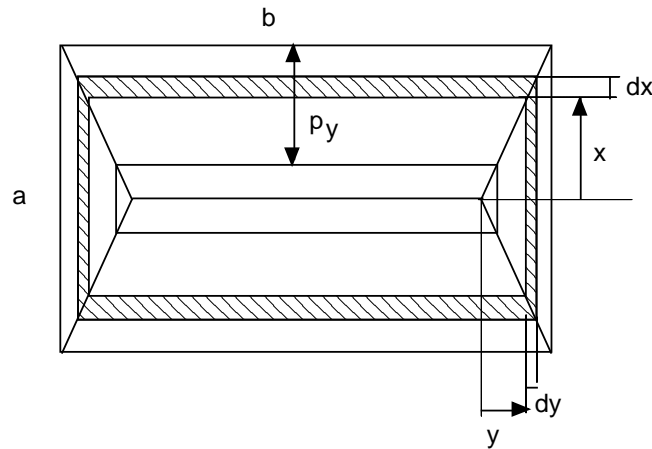
# A typical curve for $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$



Anisotropy of the current loops should be taken into account to determine the critical current density  $J_c$

# Anisotropic Bean model

Analytical calculations can be made in simple geometries (ex. rectangle)



But some results have been published for quite a long time now !

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## Anisotropic critical currents in $\text{Ba}_2\text{YCu}_3\text{O}_7$ analyzed using an extended Bean model

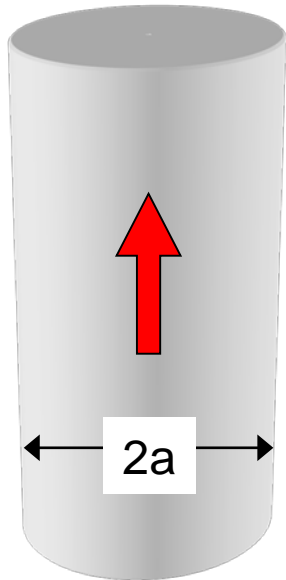
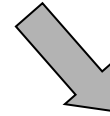
E. M. Gyorgy, R. B. van Dover, K. A. Jackson, L. F. Schneemeyer, and J. V. Waszczak  
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(Received 20 March 1989; accepted for publication 12 May 1989)

We have extended Bean's critical state model to explicitly include anisotropic critical currents.

Appl. Phys. Lett. 55 (3), 17 July, 1989

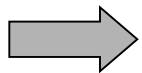
# And what happens if we consider an E-J curve instead of the Bean model ?



$$H(t) \rightarrow B(t)$$

**Do NOT forget  
Faraday's law**

$$E = \left( \frac{a}{2} \right) \frac{dB}{dt}$$



There always an **electric field** in magnetic experiments !

The amplitude of this field is **much smaller than in transport experiments**



**Do not forget to consider these 3 quantities...**

**Current density :** **J (A/m<sup>2</sup>)**

**Magnetic flux density :** **B (T)**

**Electric field :** **E (V/m)**

Supercond. Sci. Technol. 7 (1994) 412–422. Printed in the UK

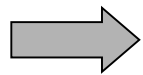
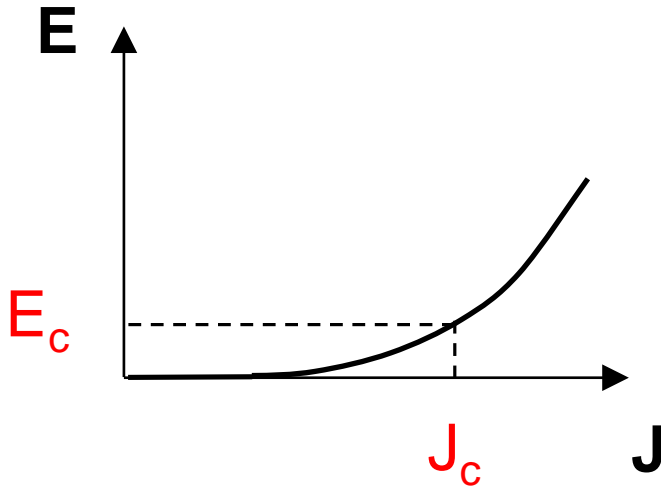
**The electric field within high-temperature superconductors:  
mapping the  $E$ – $J$ – $B$  surface**

**A D Caplin, L F Cohen, G K Perkins and A A Zhukov†**

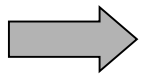
Centre for High Temperature Superconductivity, Blackett Laboratory, Imperial College, London SW7 2BZ, UK

Received 13 January 1994

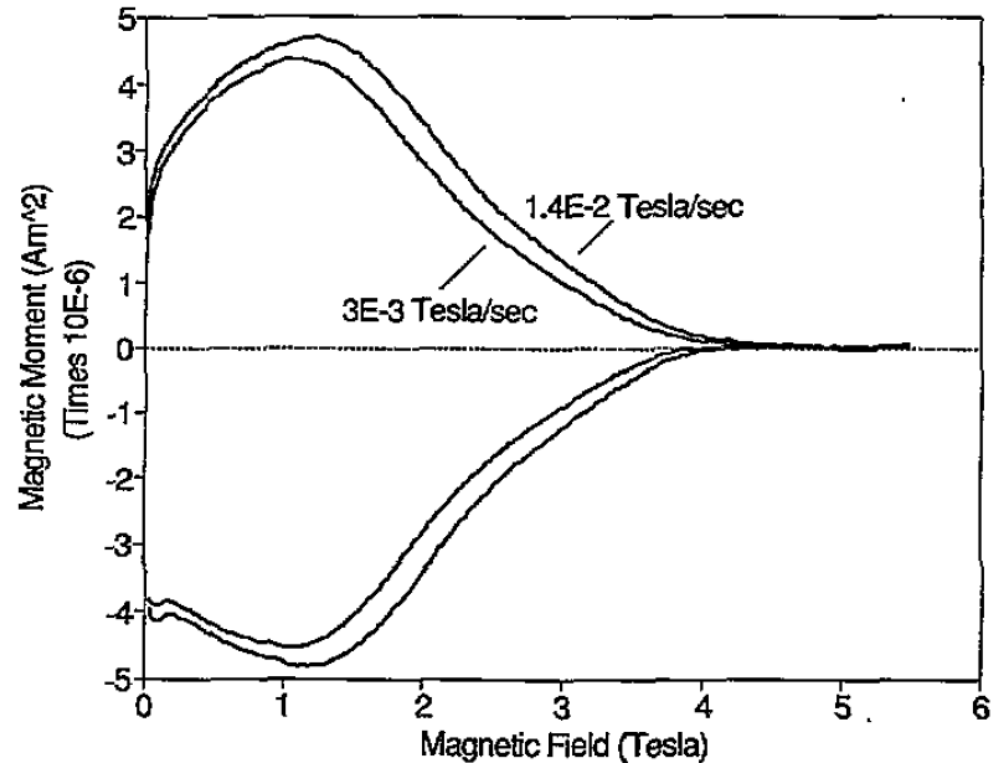
# Consequence ...



The amplitude of induced currents increases for large  $dB/dt$  !

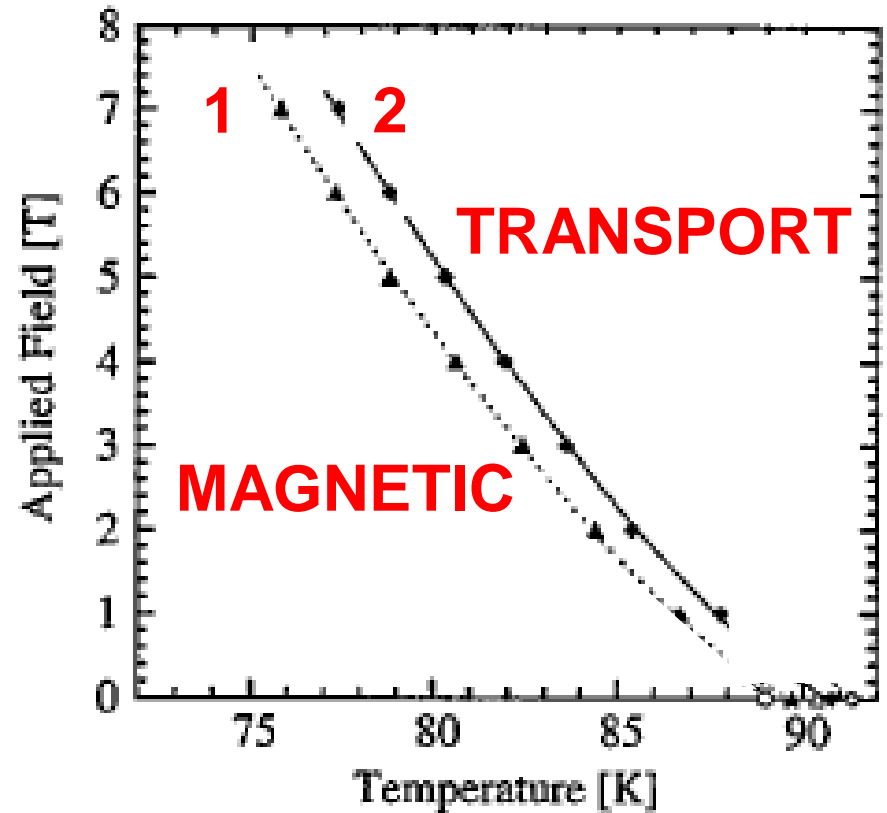
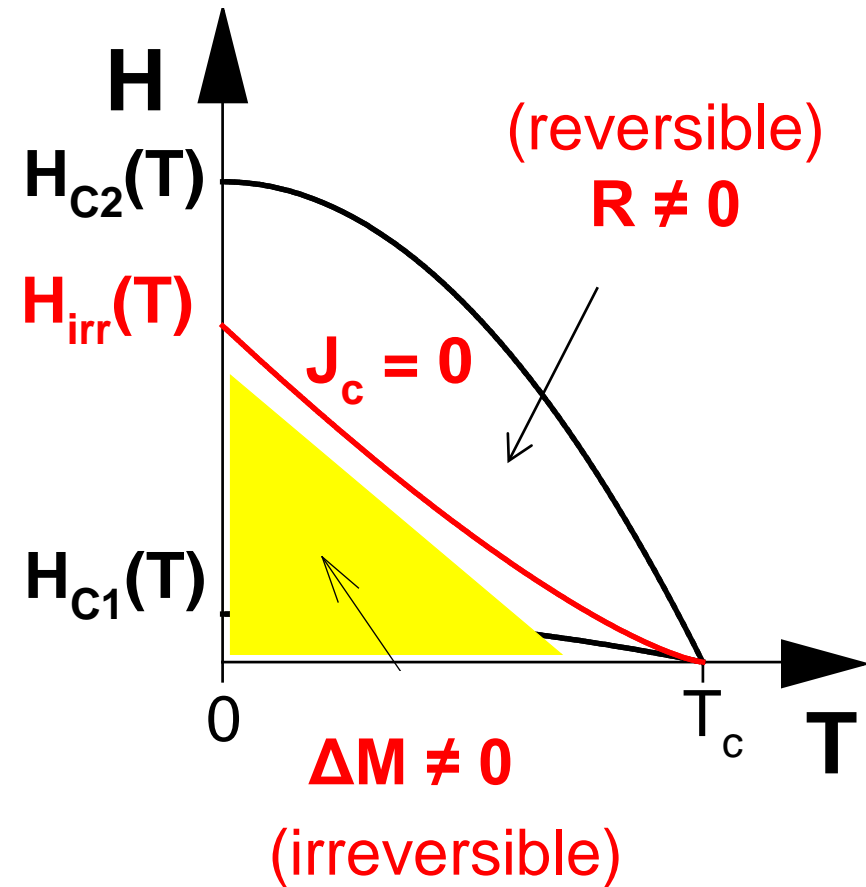


Always specify  $dB/dt$  !



**Figure 1.** Typical magnetization loops of a high-quality  $YBa_2Cu_3O_7$  single crystal at 84 K. Two loops are shown, the outer one having a field sweep rate  $\dot{H}_{app}$  of about five times the inner one.  $H_{app}$  is parallel to the  $c$ -axis. Note the maximum (the 'fishtail' feature) in the magnetic moment at about 1.2 T.

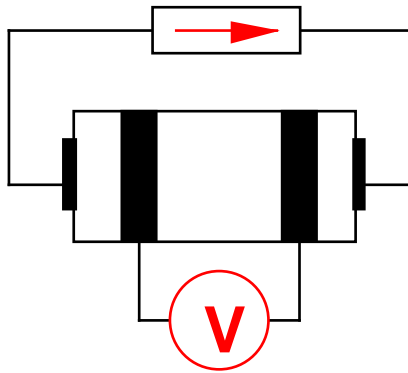
# Irreversibility field from TRANSPORT and MAGNETIC



Doyle et al., APL 73, 117 (1998)

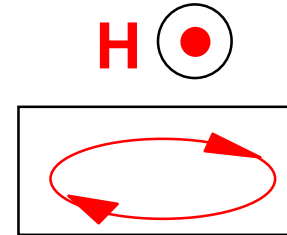
# Conclusion

Current source



**Transport current**  
(applied externally)

Magnetic field H



**Induced current**  
(by the applied magnetic field)

**Both kind of measurements are very useful  
and can provide invaluable information on the material properties**

**BUT ... Be always careful when interpreting the results !**

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