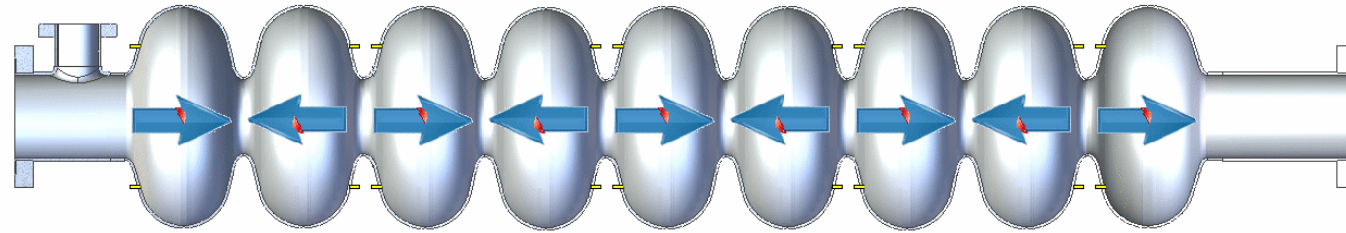


# Next-Generation Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Superconducting RF Cavities



Cornell Laboratory for  
Accelerator-based Sciences  
and Education (CLASSE)

Presented by Nicole Verboncoeur\*, Cornell University, NY, USA

Co-contributors:

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Uttar Pudasaini, Jefferson National Laboratory, VA, USA

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Background  
Upcoming Facilities  
R&D  
Applications

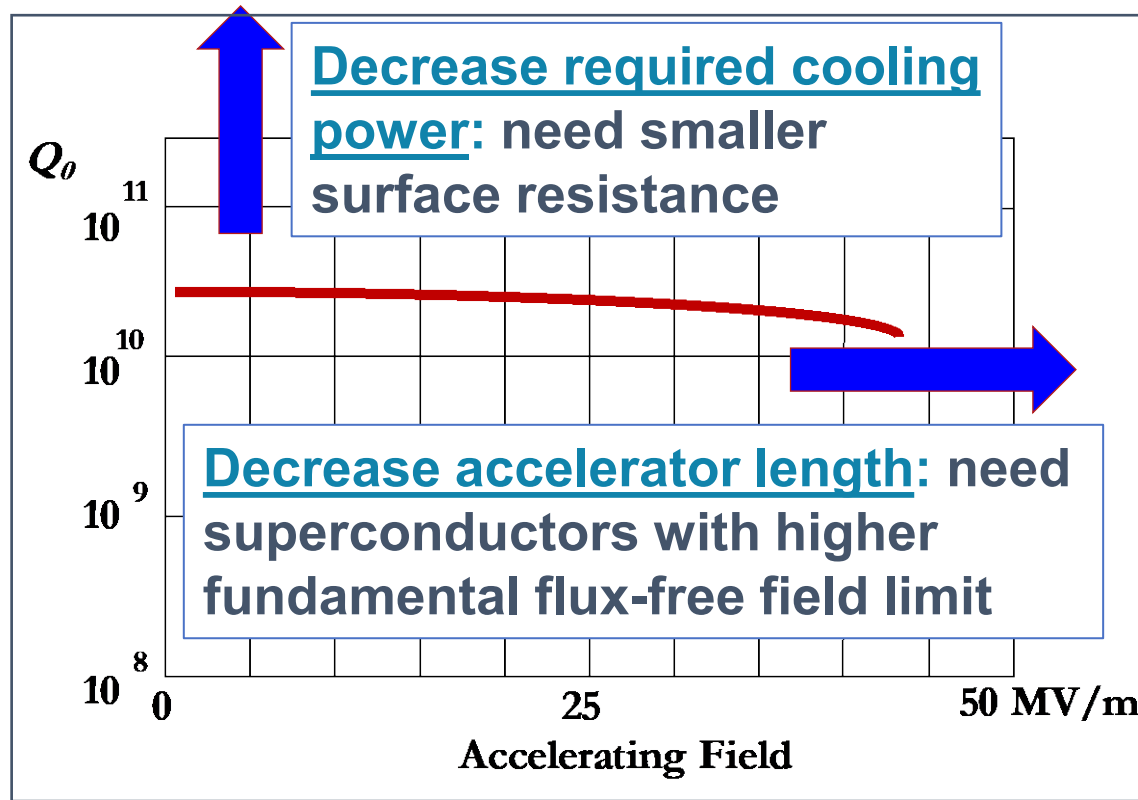


## Background

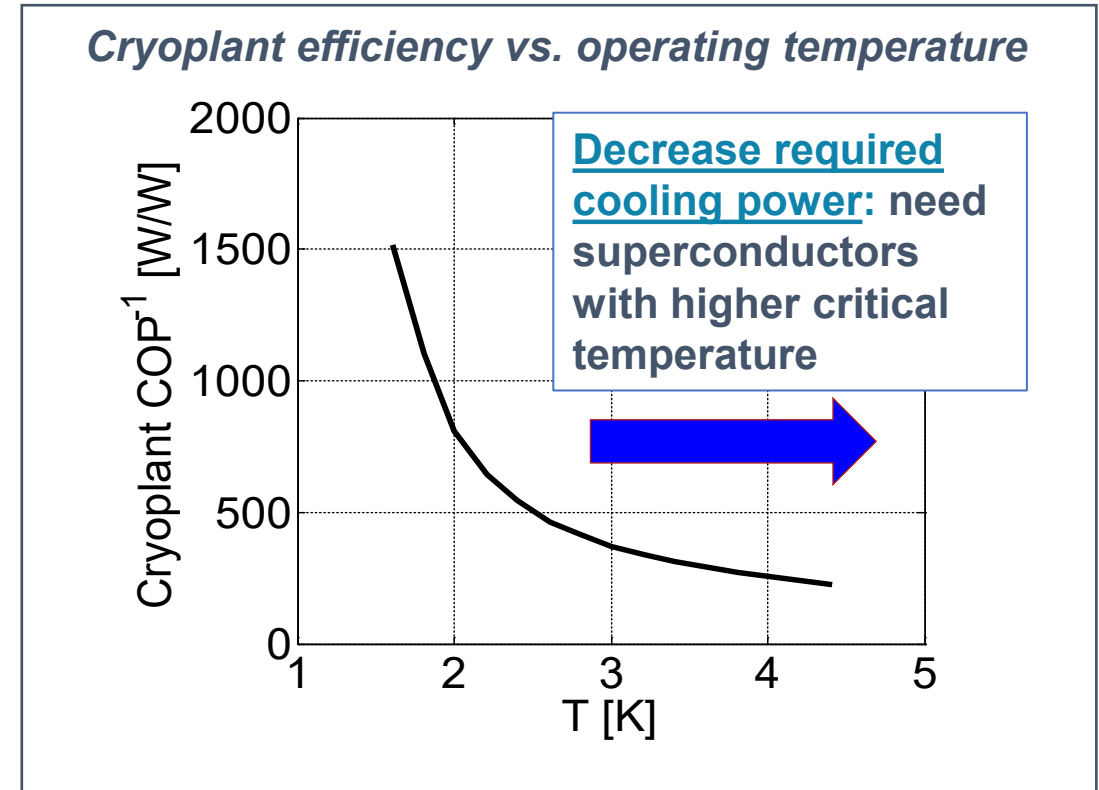
- > Why Do We Love Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn?
- > How Do We Make Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Cavities?



# Why Do We Love Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn?



$$Q_0 = \frac{f}{\text{bandwidth}} \propto \frac{1}{R_s}$$



$$P_{AC,cooling} \propto \frac{\text{COP}^{-1}(T)}{Q_0}$$

# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn is a Promising Material

Material	$\lambda(\text{nm})$	$\xi(\text{nm})$	$\kappa$	$T_c(\text{K})$	$H_{c1}(\text{T})$	$H_c(\text{T})$	$H_{sh}(\text{T})$
Nb	40	27	1.5	9	0.13	0.21	0.25
Nb <sub>3</sub> Sn	111	4.2	26.4	18	0.042	0.5	0.42
NbN	375	2.9	129.3	16	0.006	0.21	0.17
MgB <sub>2</sub>	40	6.9	5.8	40	0.051	0.34	0.33?

$$R_{BCS} \propto f^2 e^{(-const * T_c / T)}$$

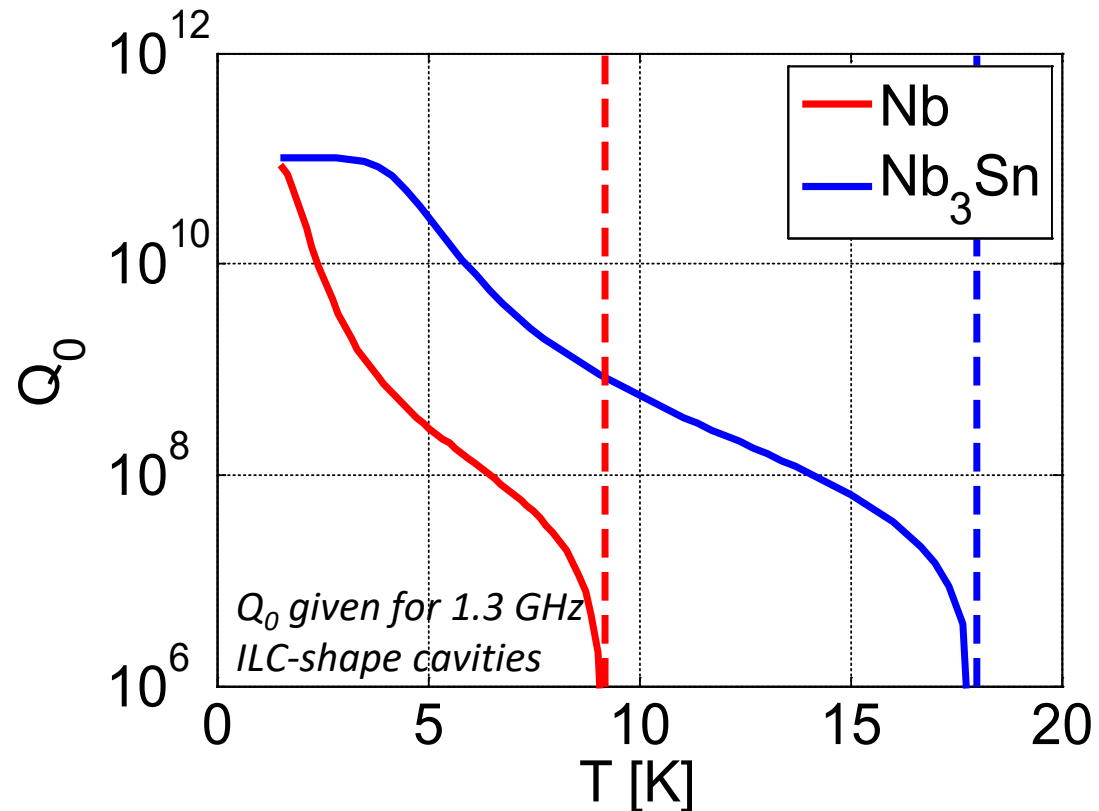
**Higher critical temperature** = **lower losses and/or higher operating temperature**

$$E_{acc,max} \propto H_{sh}$$

**Higher superheating field  $H_{sh}$**  = **higher accelerating fields**

## Increased Accelerating Field

	Niobium	Nb <sub>3</sub> Sn
Superheating field	240 mT	420 mT
Max. E <sub>acc</sub> (theoretical limit)	55 MV/m	<b>100 MV/m</b>



## Lower Cooling Cost and Complexity

	Niobium	Nb <sub>3</sub> Sn
Critical Temperature T <sub>c</sub>	9 K	18 K
Q <sub>0</sub> at <b>4.2 K</b>	6 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	<b>6 x 10<sup>10</sup></b>
Q <sub>0</sub> at 2.0 K	3 x 10 <sup>10</sup>	>10 <sup>11</sup>

Q<sub>0</sub> given for 1.3 GHz ILC-shape cavities

$$Q_0 = \frac{f}{\text{bandwidth}} \propto \frac{1}{R_s}$$

Higher Q<sub>0</sub>

$$P_{AC,cooling} \propto \frac{\text{COP}^{-1}(T)}{Q_0}$$

7 kW → 1 kW

$$R_{BCS} \propto f^2 e^{(-\text{const} \cdot T_c / T)}$$

Higher operation frequency

$$E_{acc,max} \propto H_{sh}$$

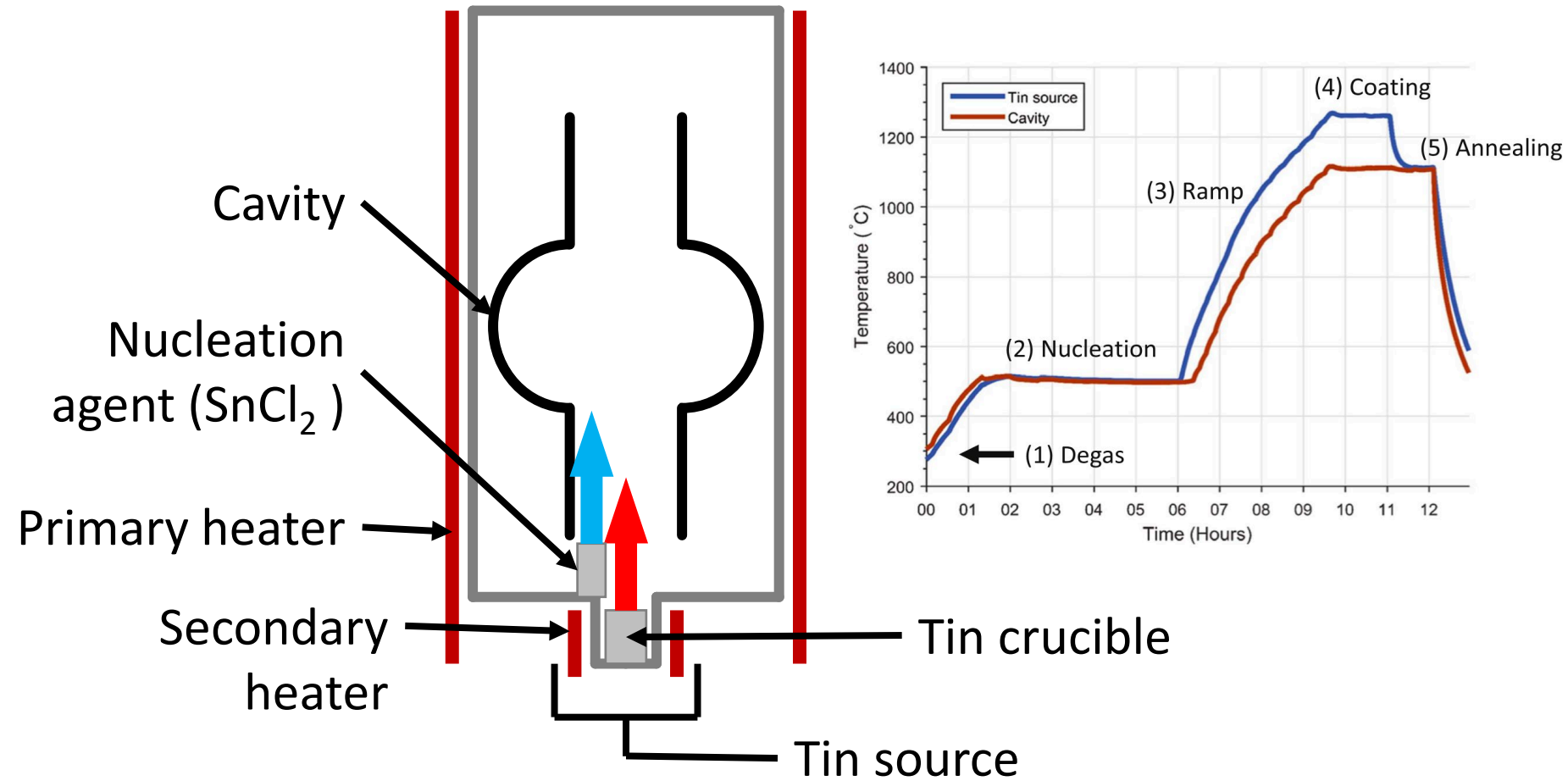
Higher accelerating gradient



# How Do We Make Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Cavities?



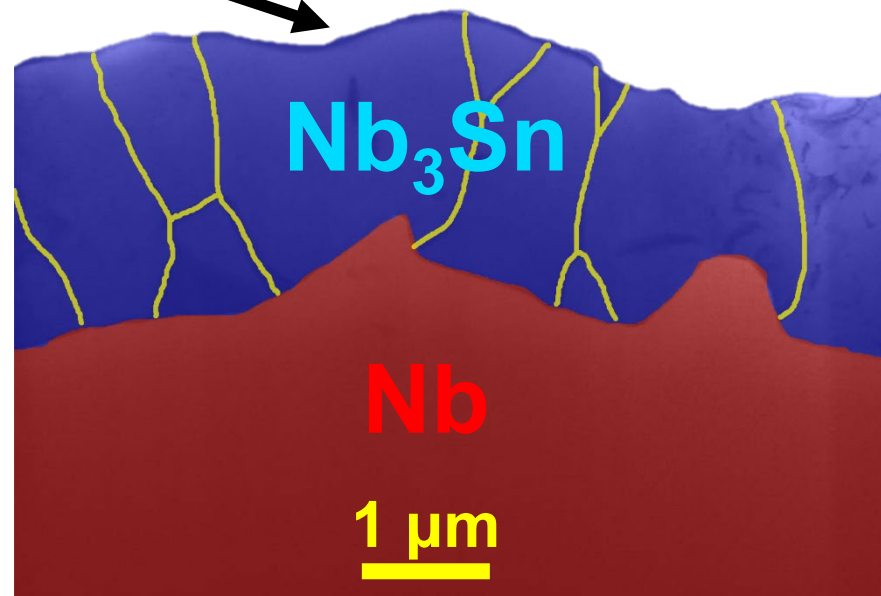
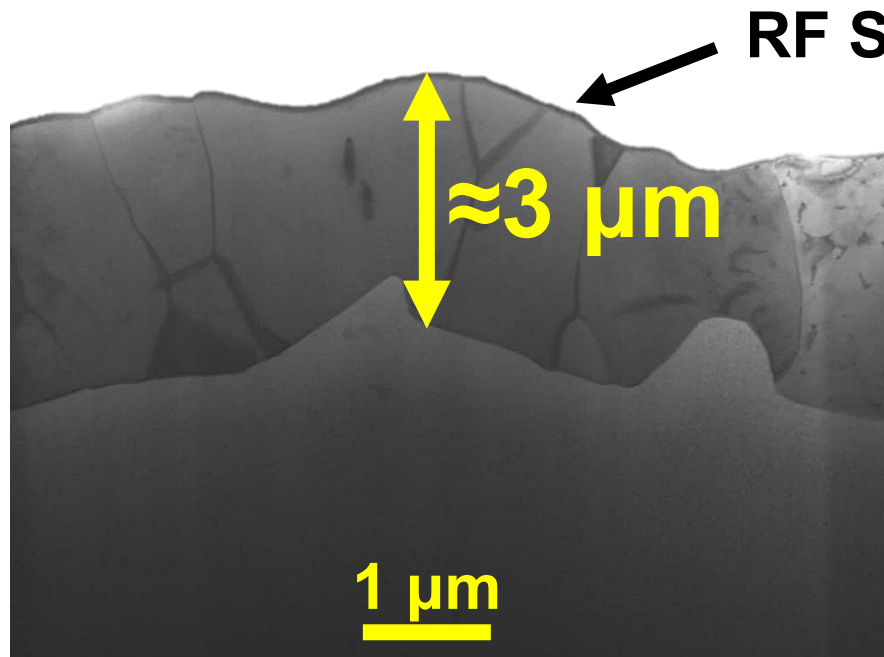
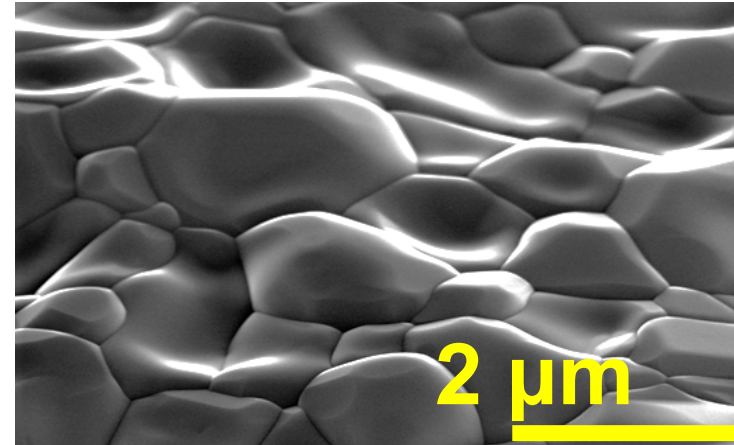
# Thermal Vapor Diffusion Furnace

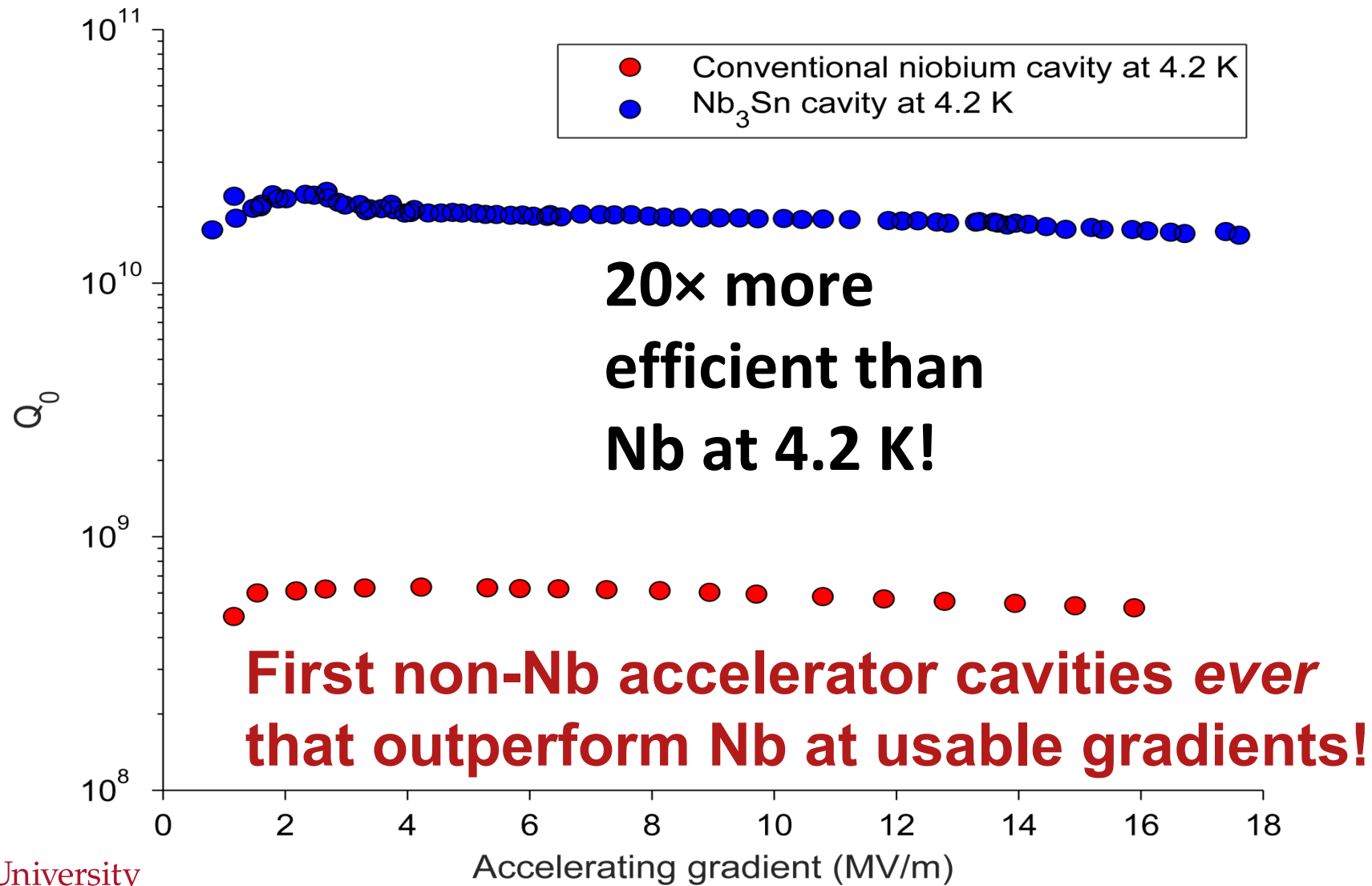


“Wuppertal” configuration, i.e., with secondary heater for the tin source  
Optimized nucleation and temperature profile

S. Posen and M. Liepe, Phys. Rev. ST Accel. Beams 15, 112001 (2014).

$\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  forms a **polycrystalline** layer on the surface of the niobium







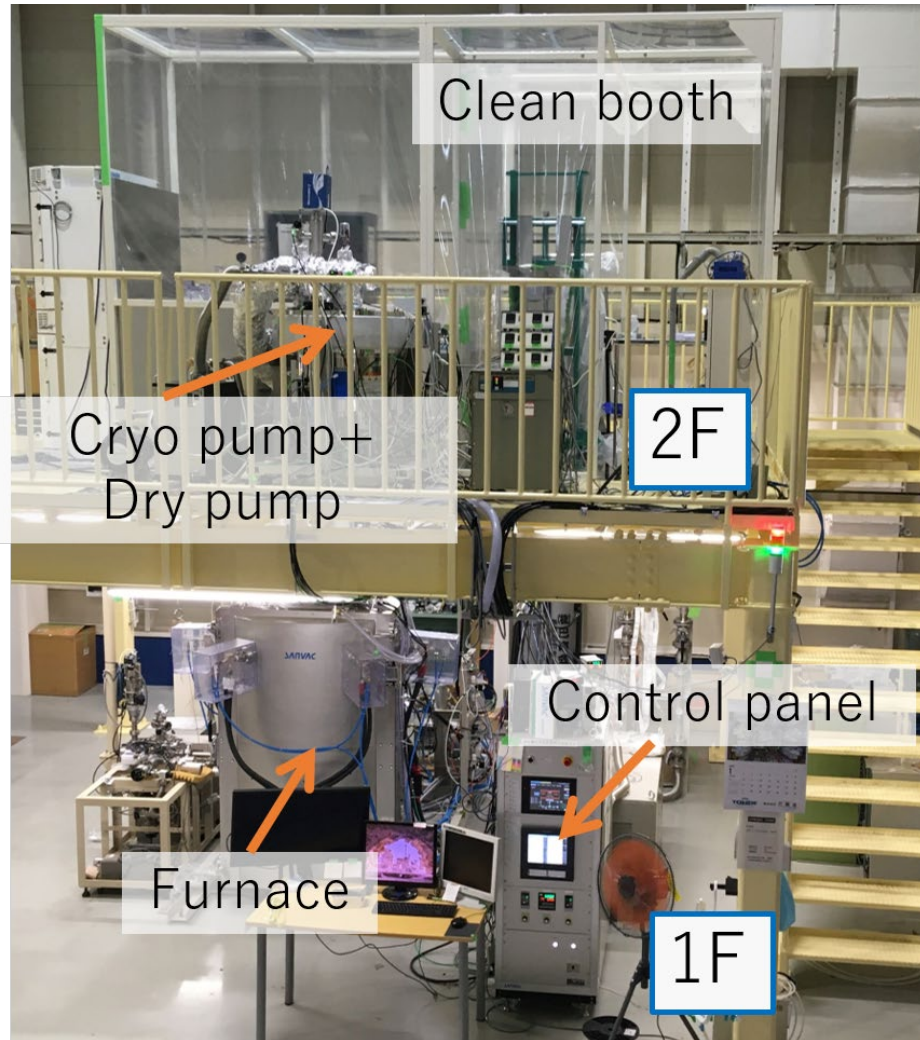
# Upcoming Facilities



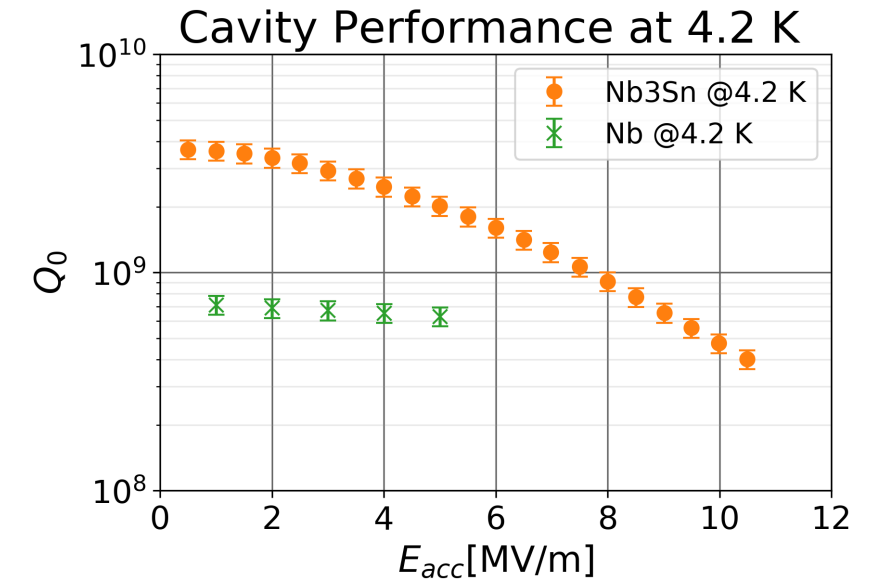
## $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ : Worldwide Effort



# Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn activity at KEK



Slide courtesy of Kensei Umemori and Hayato Ito, KEK



- After construction of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn coating system, first Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn results were obtained at FY2021. Q is not ideal.
- Clean environment were prepared, to eliminate contamination.
- Coating parameters are under investigation using coupon cavity.



## R&D

- > Better Films
- > Alternative growth methods



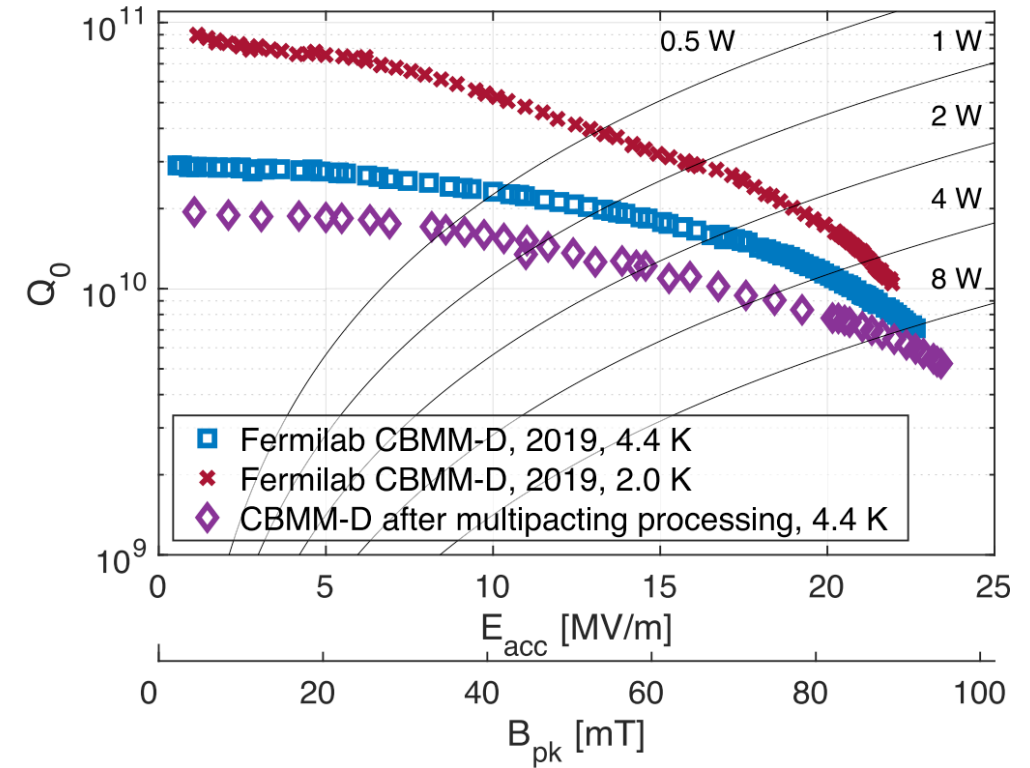
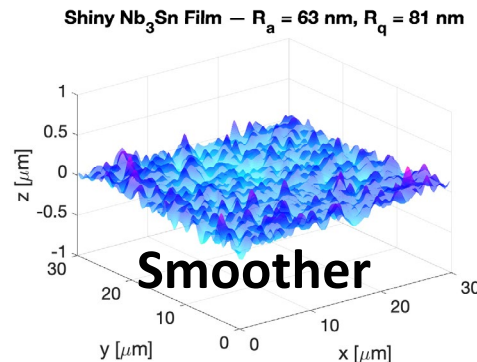
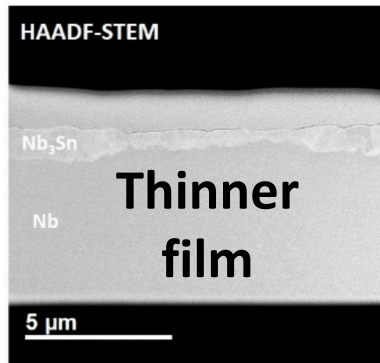
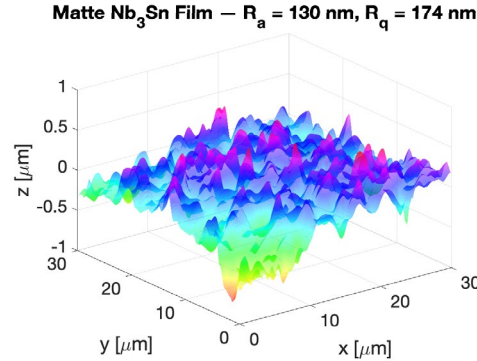
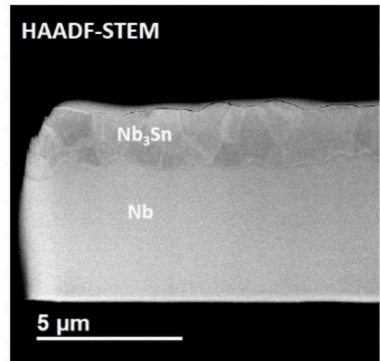
# Better Films



# Fermilab – Demonstration of >20 MV/m in 1-Cell Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Cavities



- Demonstration of gradients >20 MV/m (highest was 24 MV/m) on single cell Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn cavities
- Expected cause for increase is modified coating process that gives thinner films with lower surface roughness

Reproducibility is still tricky – not yet reliable to achieve >20 MV/m, but continued efforts are underway to refine process for uniform, thin, smooth films



PAPER • OPEN ACCESS

Advances in Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn superconducting radiofrequency cavities towards first practical accelerator applications

S Posen<sup>1</sup> , J Lee<sup>1,2</sup> , D N Seidman<sup>2,3</sup>, A Romanenko<sup>1</sup>, B Tennis<sup>1</sup>, O S Melnychuk<sup>1</sup> and D A Sergatskov<sup>1</sup>

Published 11 January 2021 • © 2021 The Author(s). Published by IOP Publishing Ltd

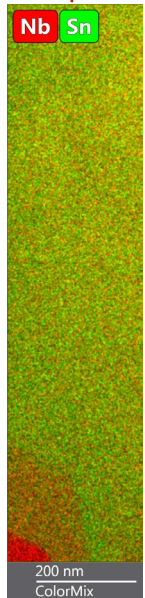
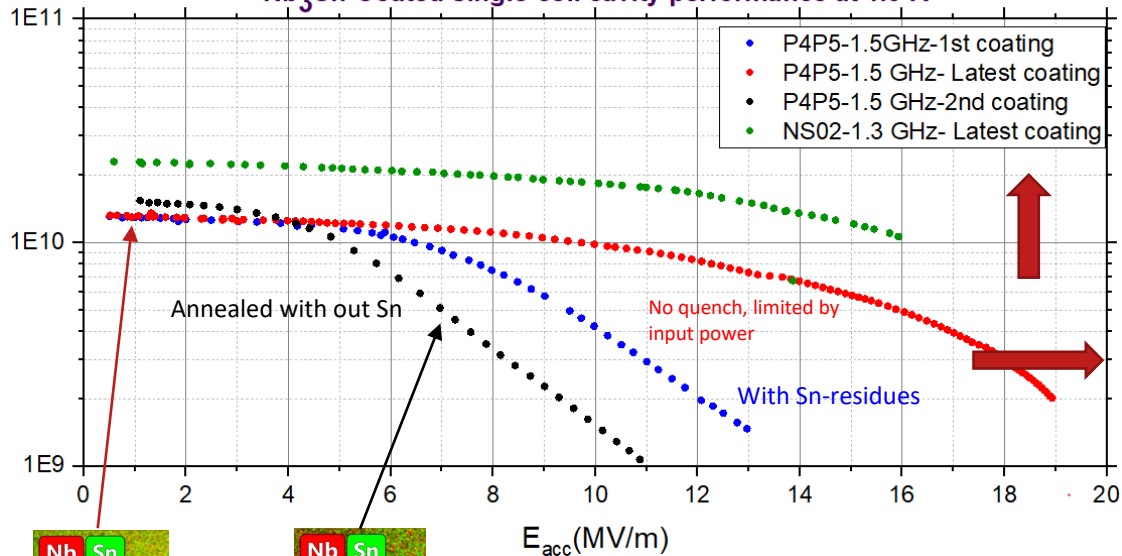
[Superconductor Science and Technology](#), Volume 34, Number 2

Citation S Posen et al 2021 *Supercond. Sci. Technol.* **34** 025007

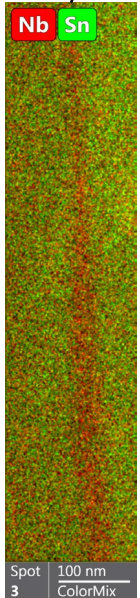
# Development of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn-coated cavities at JLab

Slide Courtesy of U. Pudasaini

Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn-Coated single-cell cavity performance at 4.3 K



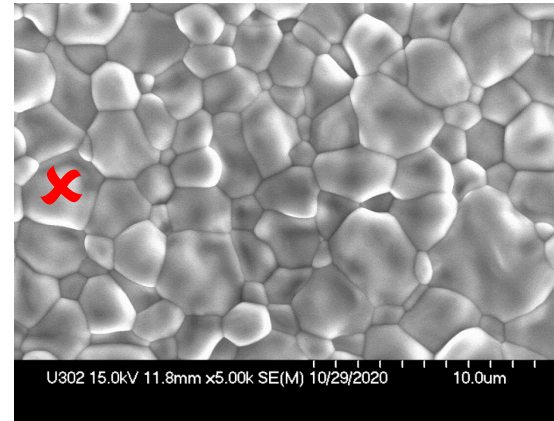
TEM analysis of grain boundaries with and without Q-slope



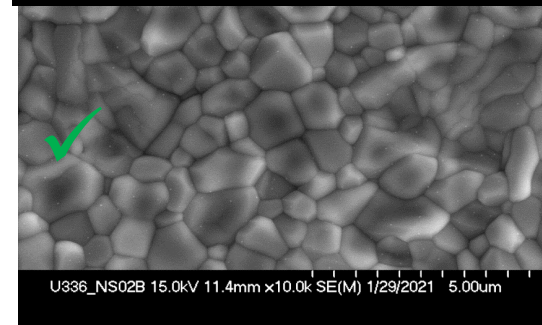
Coating with small grain sizes, smoother surfaces, and thinner (~ 1  $\mu\text{m}$ ) thinner coating with no Sn segregation or deficient grain boundary correlates with better performing cavities.

Further optimization of the coating process to enhance cavity performance is in progress.

Ra (50  $\mu\text{m} \times 50 \mu\text{m}$ ) = 202  $\pm$  54 nm

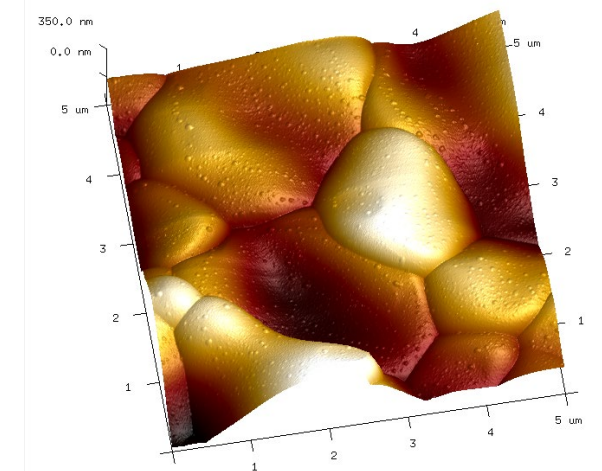
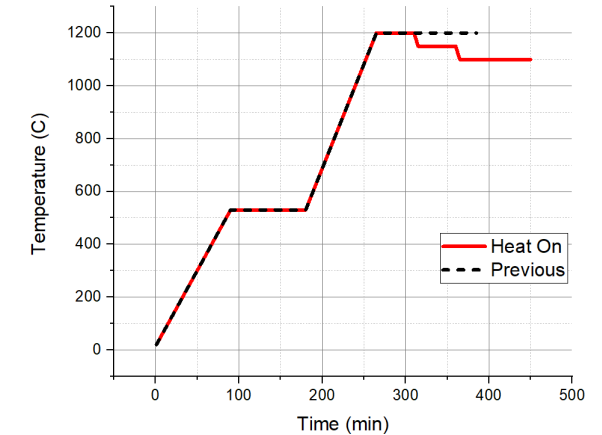


Ra (50  $\mu\text{m} \times 50 \mu\text{m}$ ) = 73  $\pm$  8 nm



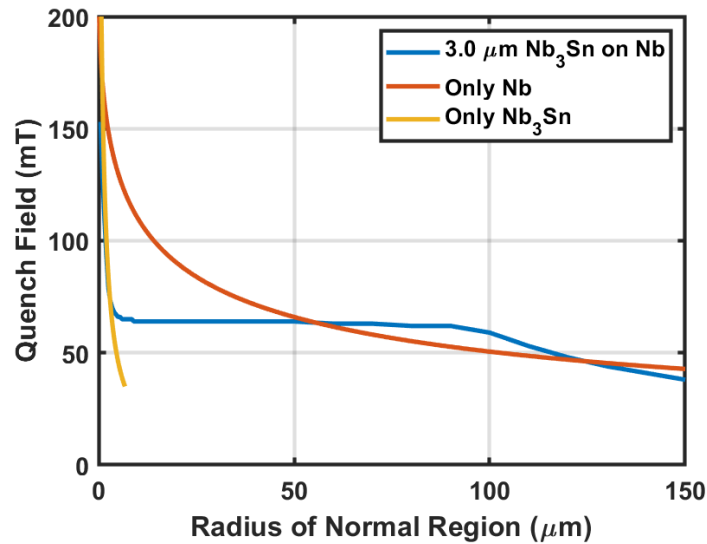
Grain size and roughness

## Witness sample analysis correlating RF performance and coating parameters



Recurrent Sn residues contributing to residual resistance

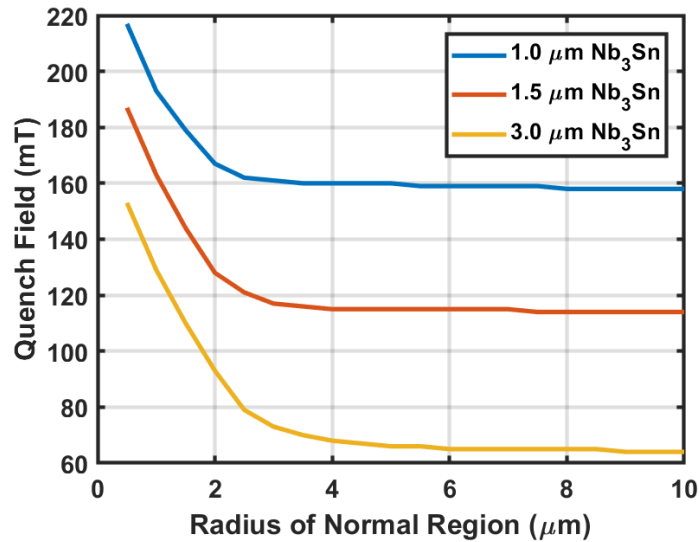
## Cornell Thin Film Cavity



Nb substrate thermally stabilizes  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  film



Higher quench fields possible

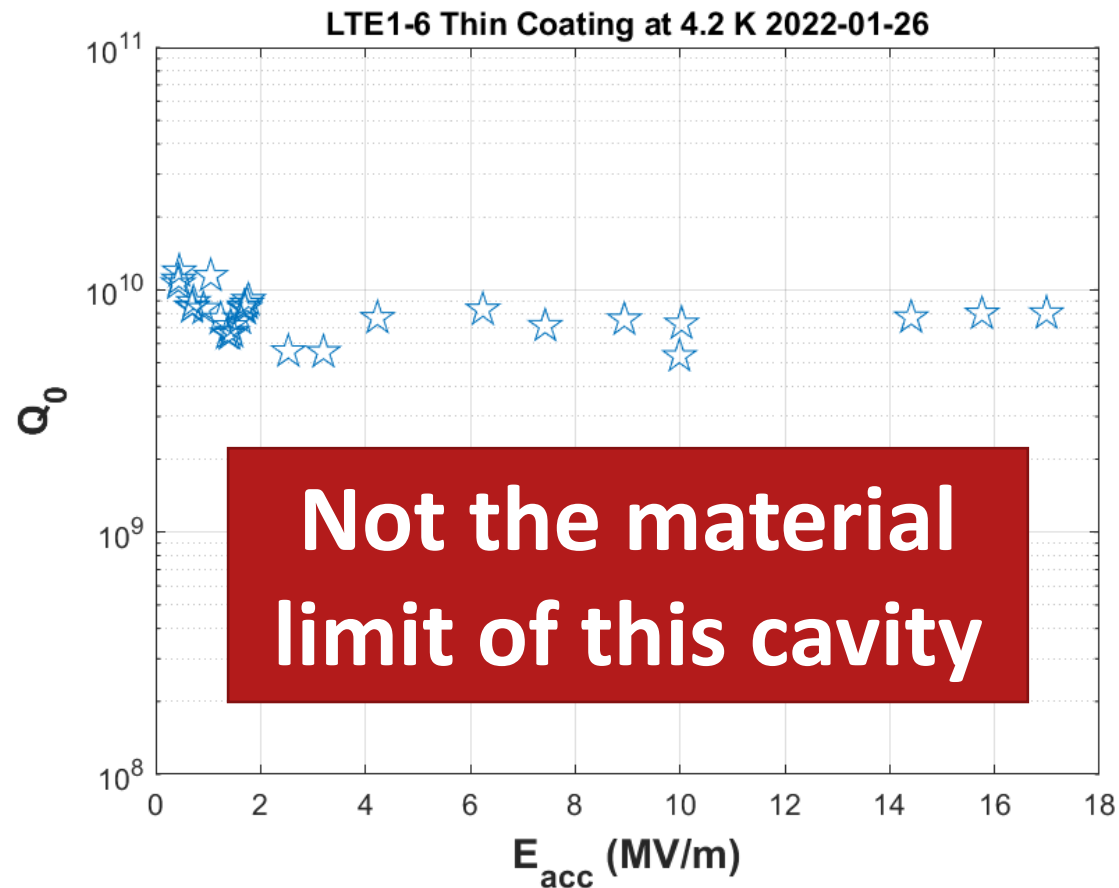


Thin Film Cavity

Typical  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  Cavity



## Thin Film Cavity

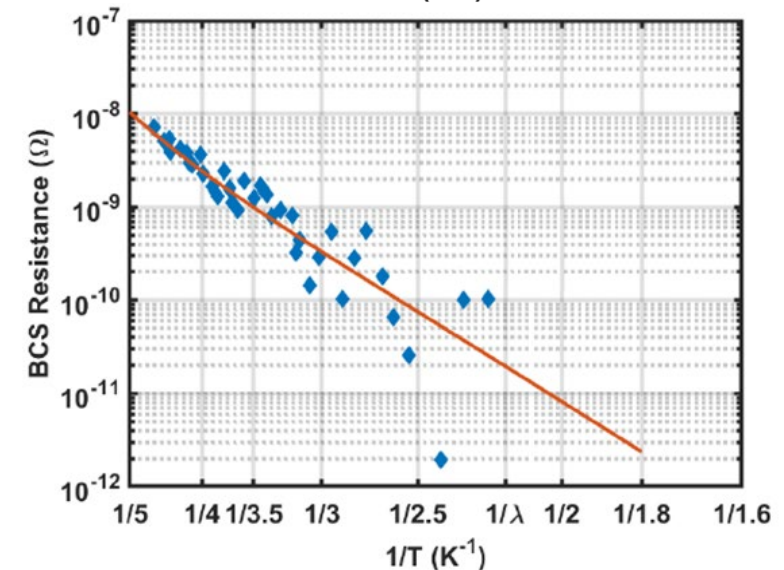
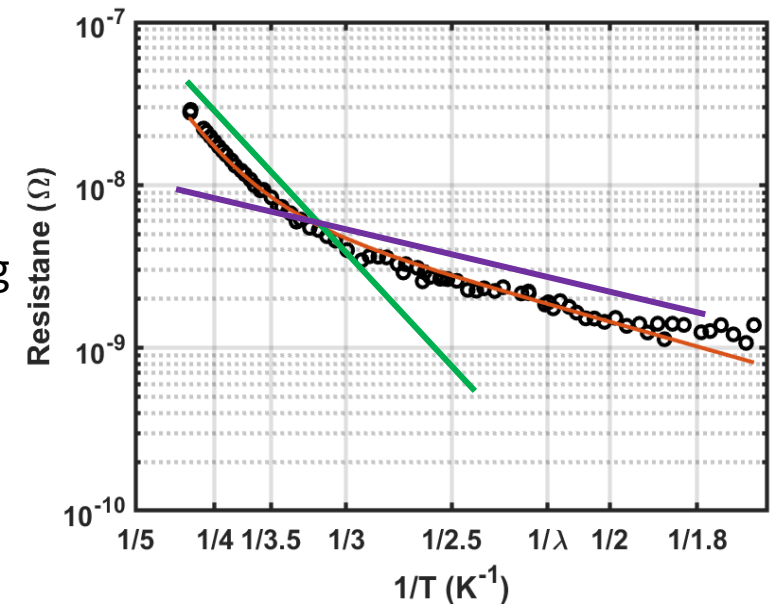


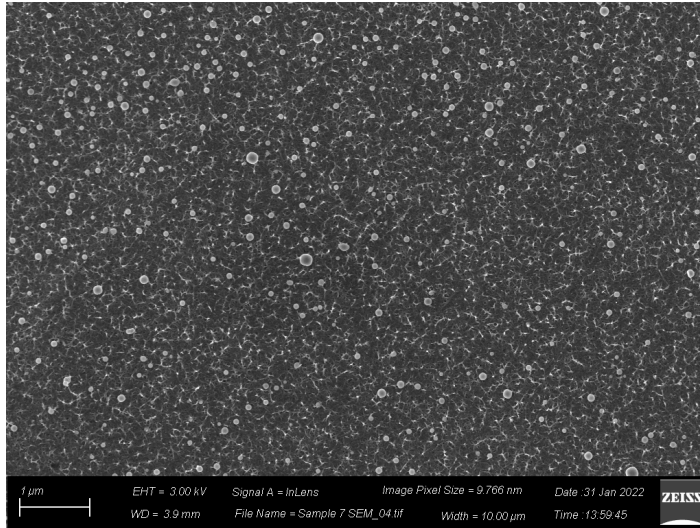
Quench at  $\sim 17$  MV/m due to field emission

Higher Sn availability during nucleation phase



Purer  $Nb_3Sn$ , Lower  $R_{BCS}$





Testing the effects of various chemical treatments of various pH on Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn nucleation

- Bake in Cornell Tin furnace stopping at nucleation stage
- Quantifying uniformity of nucleation site distribution through average nearest neighbor distance and density analysis using ImageJ for image processing
- Early results favor low pH solutions

## STUDY OF CHEMICAL TREATMENTS TO OPTIMIZE NIOBIUM-3 TIN GROWTH IN THE NUCLEATION PHASE \*

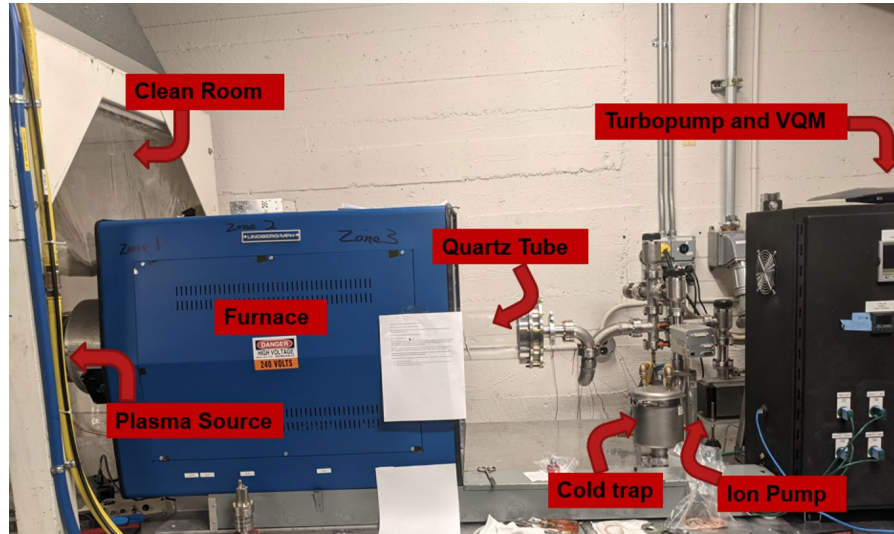
L. Shpani<sup>†</sup>, S. Arnold, G. Gaitan, M. Liepe, Z. Sun,  
Cornell Laboratory for Accelerator-Based ScienceS and Education (CLASSE), 14853 Ithaca, NY, USA  
T. Arias, M. Kelley, N. Sitaraman, Cornell University, 14850 Ithaca, NY, USA

See IPAC 2022 proceedings (above) and Liana Shpani at poster **THPOGE015**

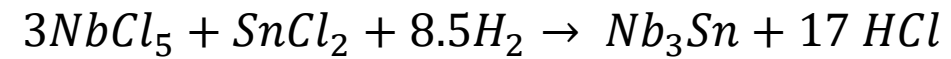
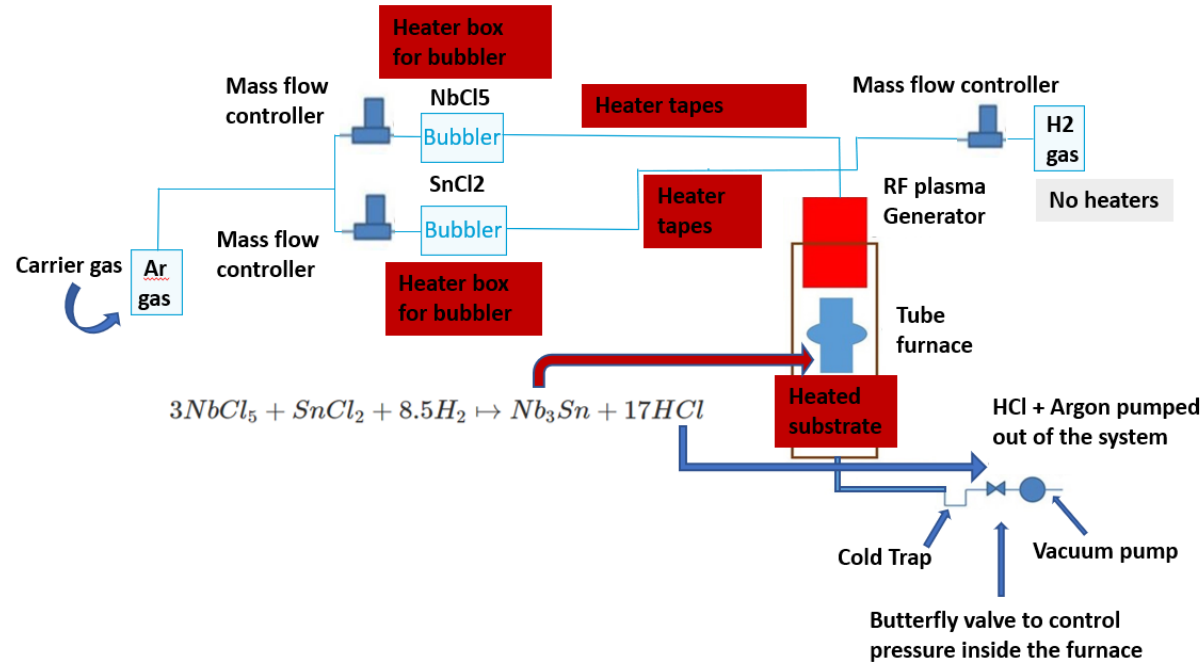


# Alternative Coating Methods

## CVD for Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn



- Significant progress on Chemical Vapor deposition furnace
- Main aspects of design have been finalized and parts ordered
  - GUI has been designed
  - Hoping to test this coming fall



Precursors

Combines with Cl

Cavity Coating

Waste product

Gabriel Gaitan and Zeming Sun



## Towards Applications

- > Multicell Designs
- > Cryomodule Designs





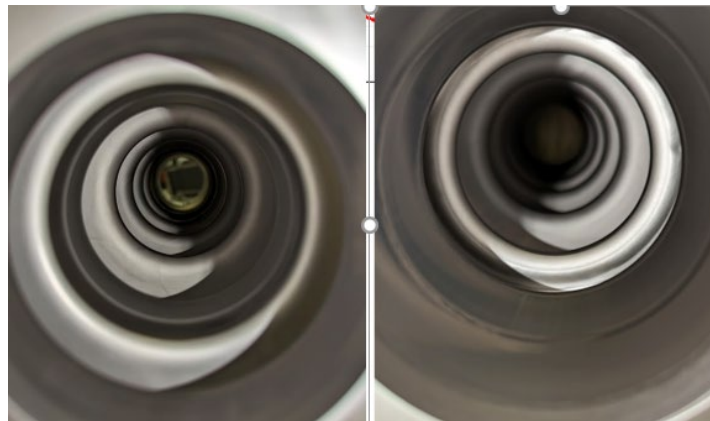
# Multicell Designs

# Development of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn-coated cavities at JLab

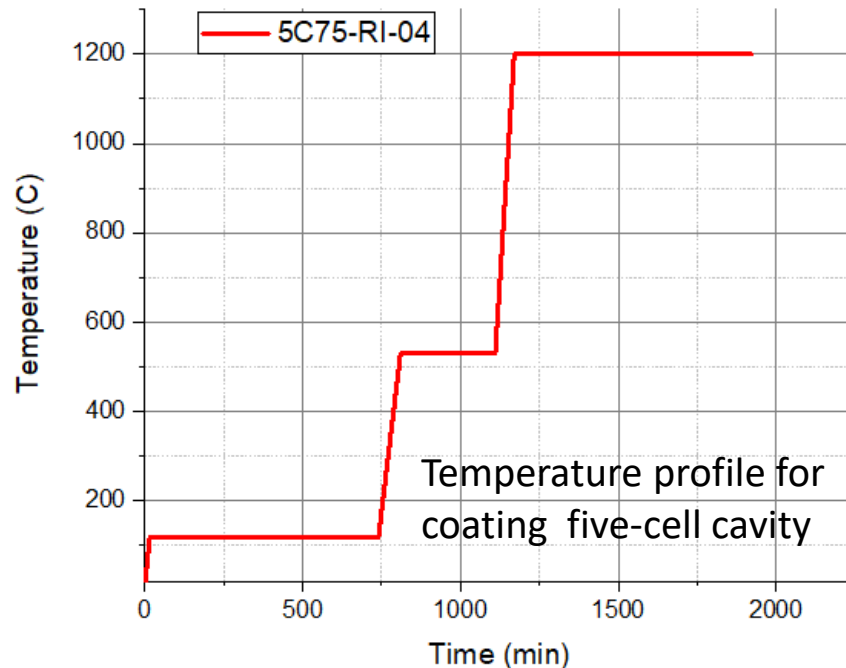
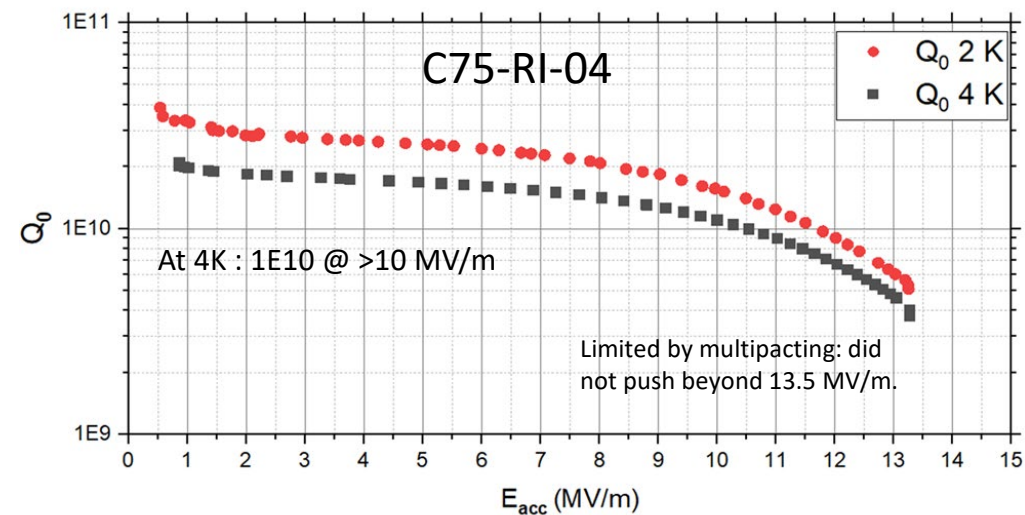
Slide Courtesy of U. Pudasaini



C75 cavity made from large grain Nb.  
Nicole Verboncoeur | LINAC 2022



Uniform coating.

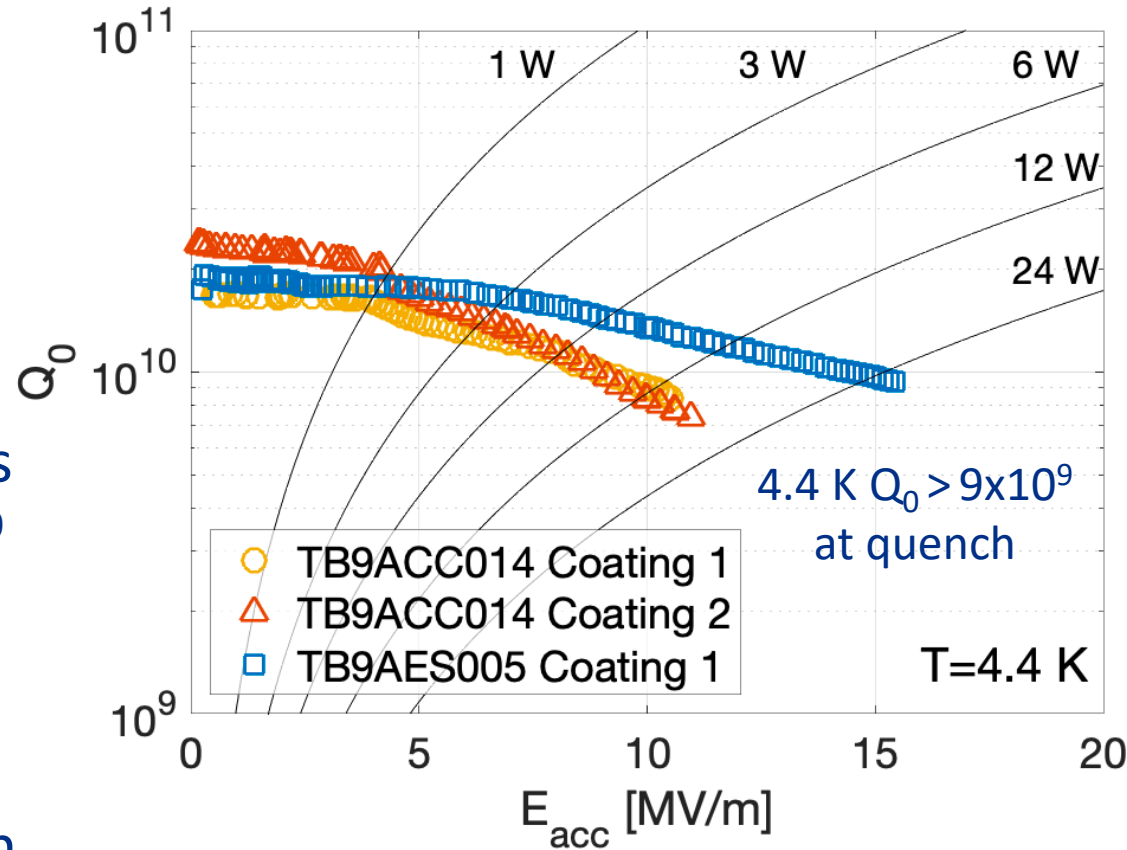


**Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn cavities are qualified to build a pair to install in a quarter cryomodule (G. Ereemeev's ECA).**

**The goal is to install the CM and install in JLab UITF next year.**

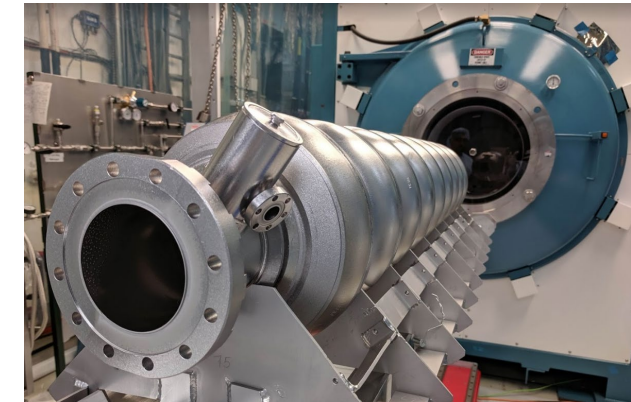
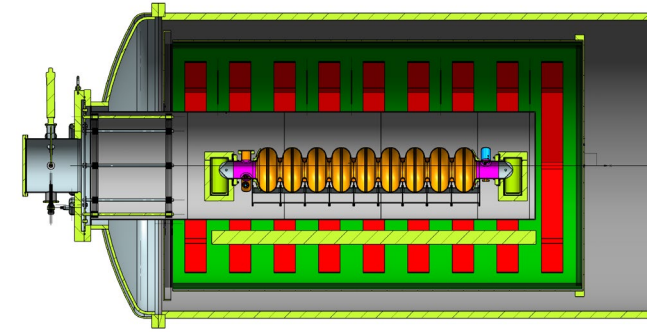
# Fermilab – First 9-cell Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Cavities

- Coated full ILC-style 9-cell cavities, including complex geometry HOM cans, standard NbTi flanges
- Promising performance in vertical test, as high as ~15 MV/m with  $Q \sim 9 \times 10^9$  at 4.4 K
- Performance in practical accelerator structure shows potential of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn for first industrial accelerator applications



**Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn-coated 9-cell cavities  
TB9ACC014 and TB9AES005**

*Includes correction  
for stainless steel  
flanges  $2 \times 0.8$  nΩ*



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Advances in Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn superconducting radiofrequency cavities towards first practical accelerator applications

S Posen<sup>1</sup>, J Lee<sup>1,2</sup>, D N Seidman<sup>2,3</sup>, A Romanenko<sup>1</sup>, B Tennis<sup>1</sup>, O S Melnychuk<sup>1</sup> and D A Sergatskov<sup>1</sup>

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[Superconductor Science and Technology, Volume 34, Number 2](#)

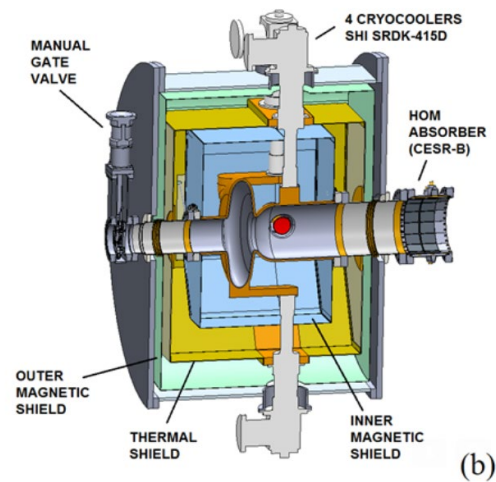
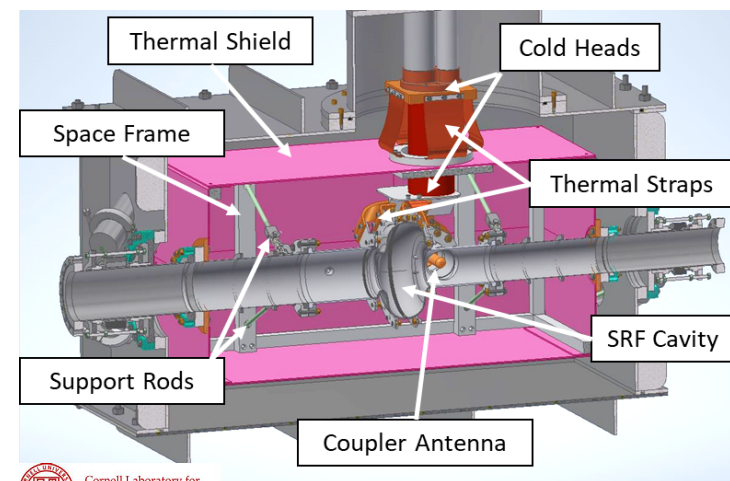
Citation S Posen et al 2021 *Supercond. Sci. Technol.* **34** 025007



# Turn-Key Compact Cryomodules



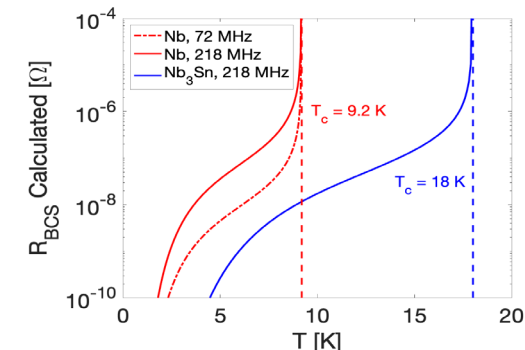
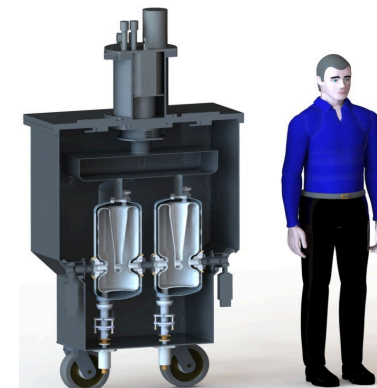
# Cryostats and Industry Applications



(b)

Jefferson Lab

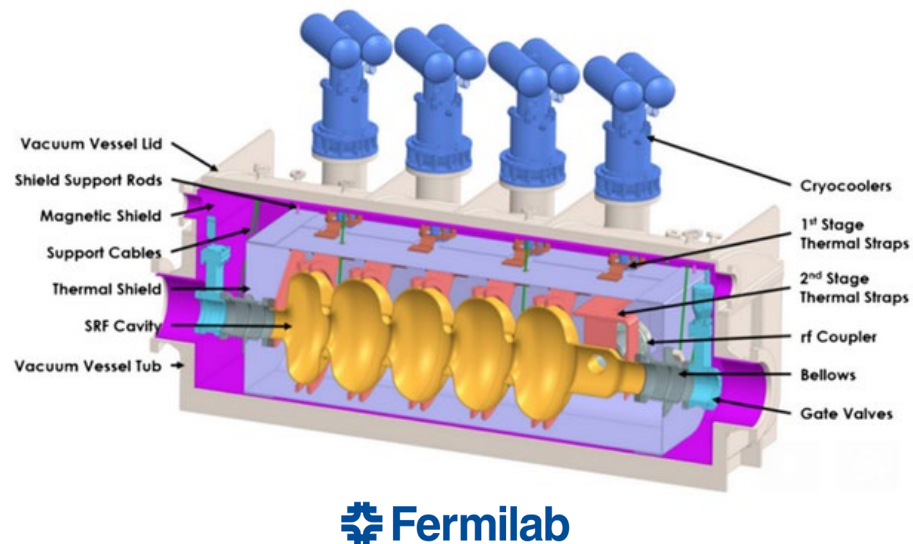
Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn for Nuclear Physics (Collaboration ANL/FNAL/Radiabeam)



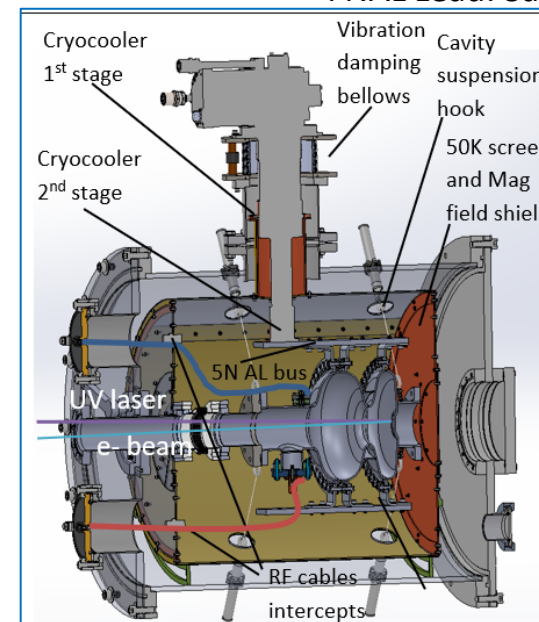
**Fermilab**  
FNAL Lead: Sam Posen

**Argonne**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Lead lab; PI: Mike Kelly  
**RadiaBeam**  
RB Lead: Sergey Kutsaev



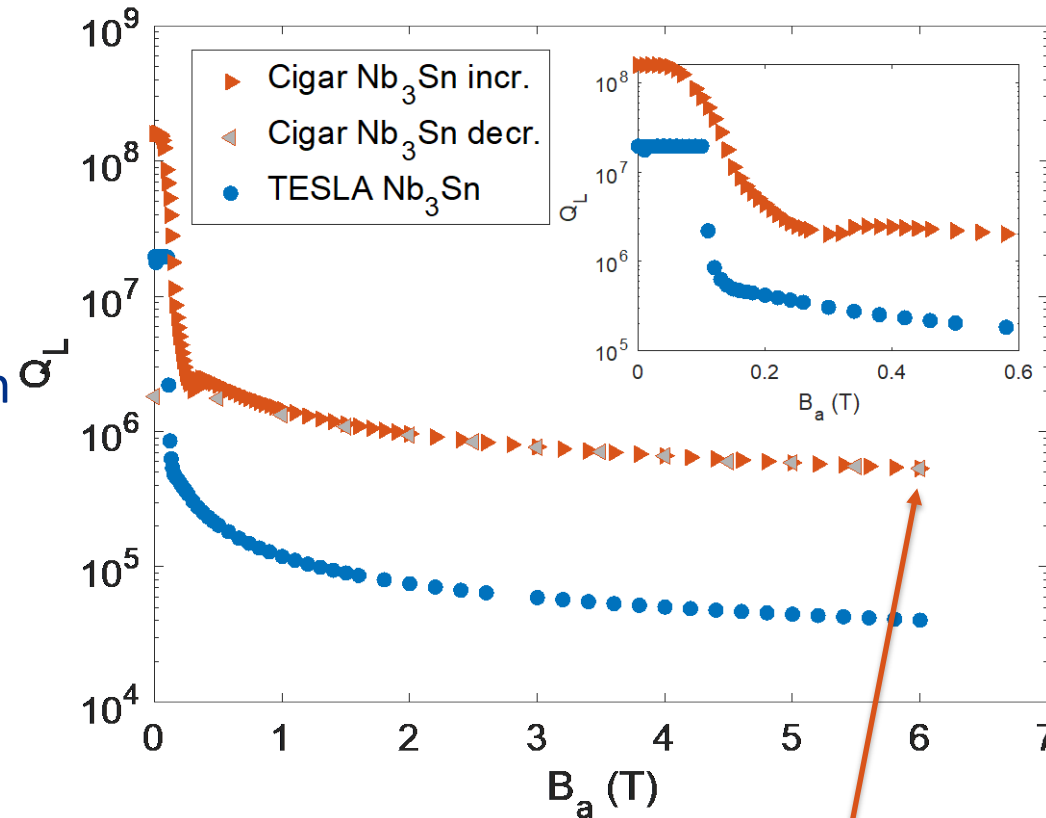
**Fermilab**



Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn for Industrial Accelerators  
(Collab. Euclid/FNAL/BNL)

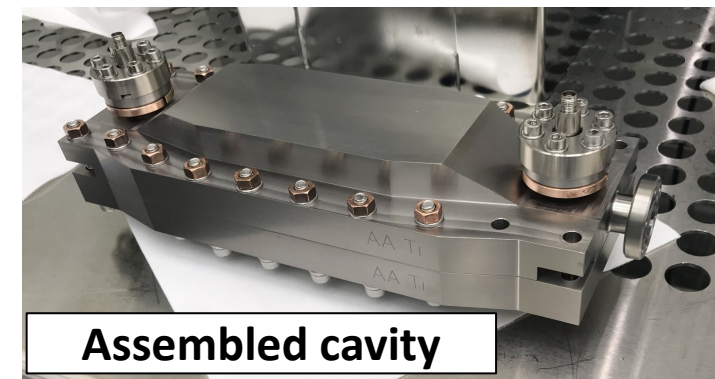
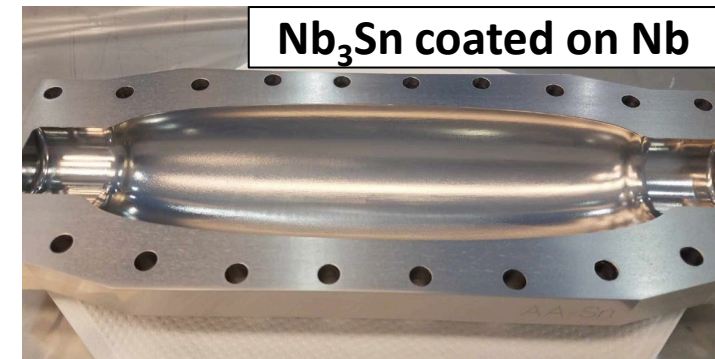
# Fermilab – Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Cavity for Axion Dark Matter Search

- For dark matter axion search based on haloscopes, sensitivity depends on cavity Q<sub>0</sub> in multi-tesla applied field
- Very different regime than SRF accelerators! Need high B<sub>c2</sub> material and special geometry
- Achieved Q<sub>0</sub> of 5x10<sup>5</sup>, significantly higher than typical material (copper)
- Now working on tunable version that could be used in an experiment



Q<sub>0</sub> of **5x10<sup>5</sup>** at 6 T, 4.2 K, 3.9 GHz

Posen et al., "Measurement of high quality factor superconducting cavities in tesla-scale magnetic fields for dark matter searches" arxiv:2201.10733, 2022



## Progress on Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Marches Forward

- > More and more Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn coating facilities can be found all around the world
- > R&D pushes to further improve Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn performance
- > Practical applications are in early stages at facilities



## Co-contributors:

Zeming Sun, Gabriel Gaitan, Liana Shpani, Sophia Arnold, Carly Allen, *Cornell University*

Sam Posen and Grigory Ereameev, *Fermi National Laboratory*

Kensei Umemori and Hayato Ito, *KEK*

Uttar Pudasaini, *Thomas Jefferson National Laboratory*

## Further Thanks:

Ryan Porter

Matthias Liepe

Adam Holic

James Sears

Greg Kulina

Terri Gruber-Hine

Holly Conklin



Cornell Laboratory for  
Accelerator-based Sciences  
and Education (CLASSE)



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