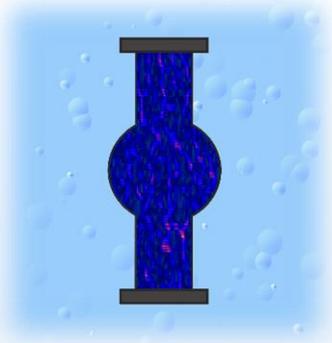




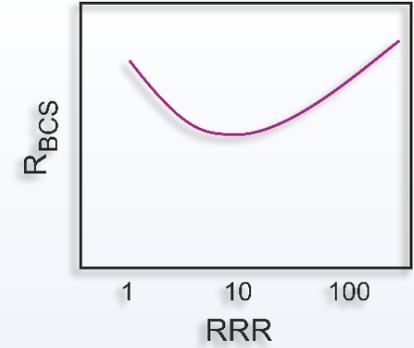
# On the Understanding of the Q-Slope of Niobium Thin Films

S. Aull, T. Junginger, J. Knobloch, A. Sublet,  
A.-M. Valente Feliciano, W. Venturini Delsolaro, P. Zhang

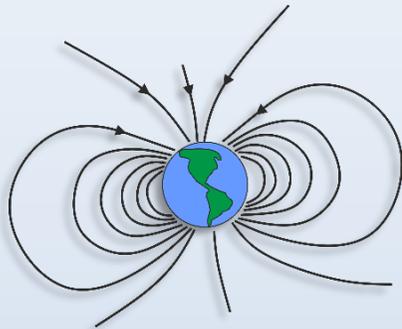




No thermal runaway



Minimize BCS losses

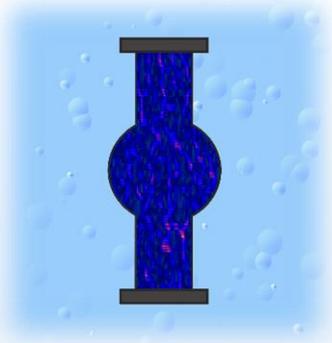


No magnetic shielding

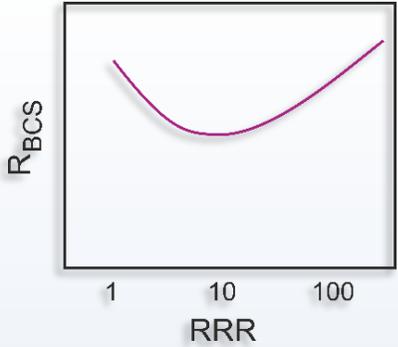
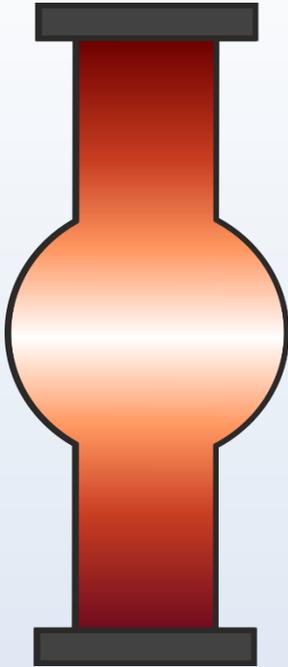


Save on raw material

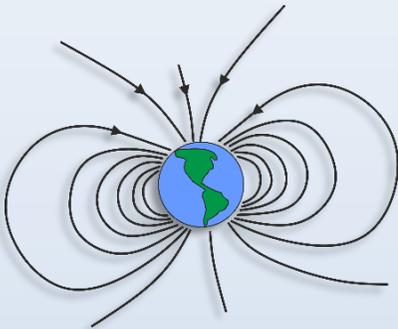
# Nb/Cu Technology



No thermal runaway



Minimize BCS losses

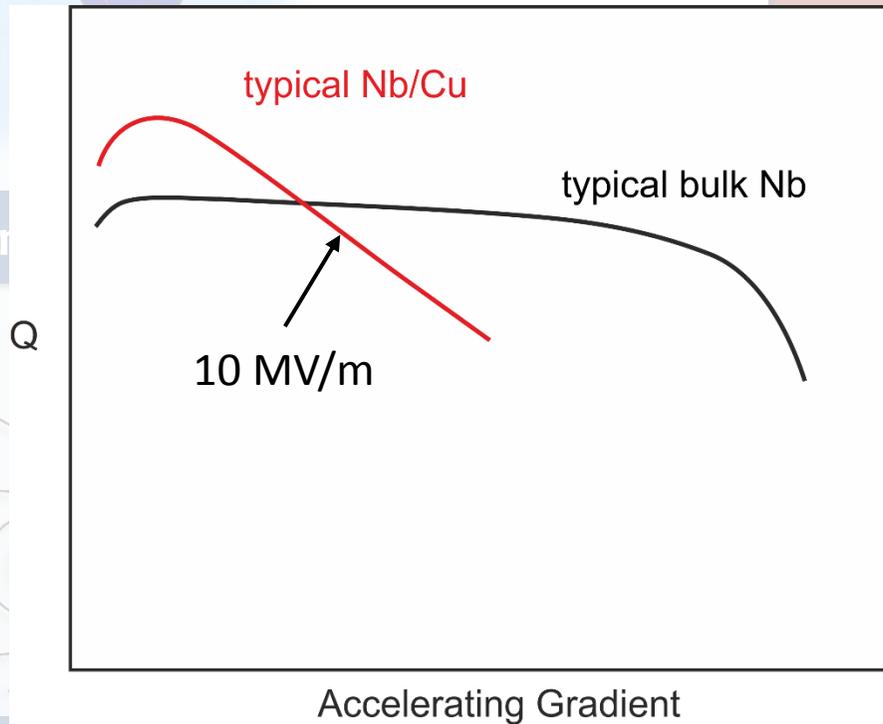


No magnetic shielding



Save on raw material

# Niobium Film Technology



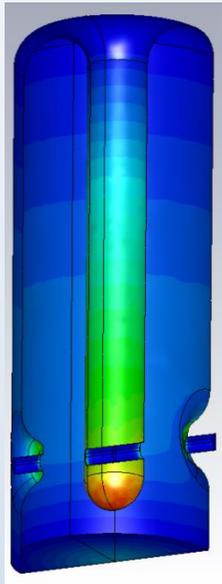
**Q-Slope limits Nb/Cu technology to low accelerating gradients**



**WHERE ARE WE TODAY?**

## Quarter-wave Resonator

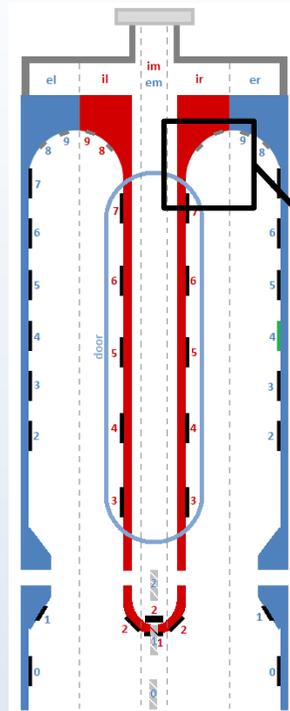
Frequency	101 MHz
$E_{\text{acc}}$	6 MV/m
G	30.7 $\Omega$



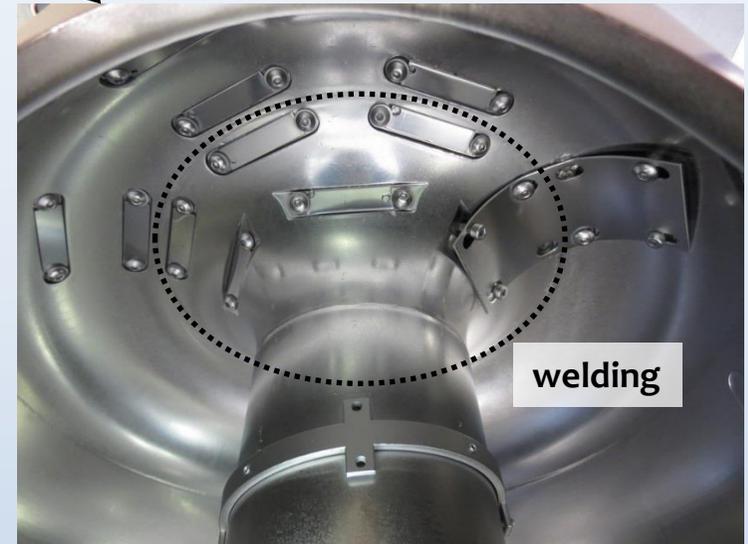
**|E| field**



**|H| field**



Mockup cavity for coating samples comparable to cavity coatings

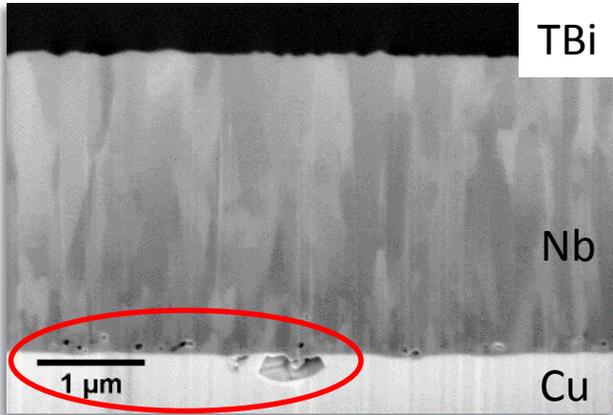


# Microstructure and RF Performance

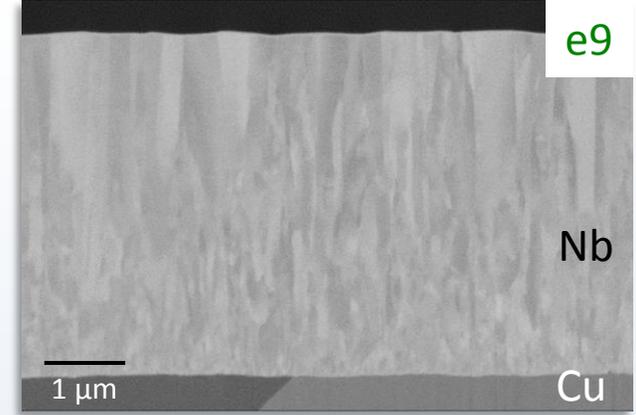
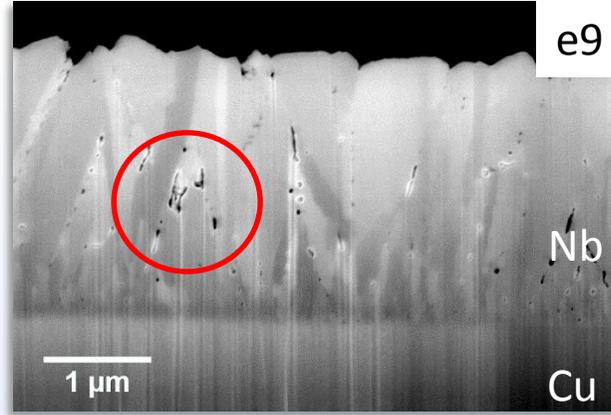
See also TUPB027



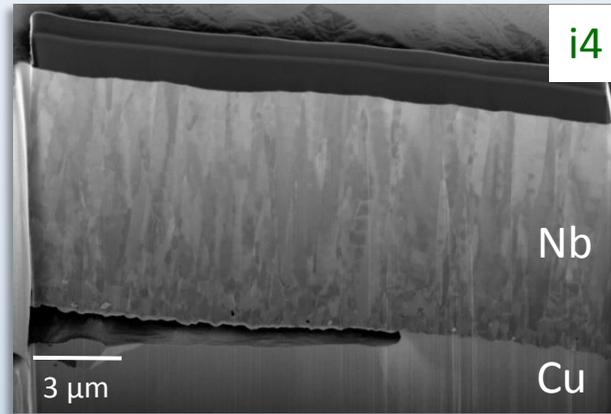
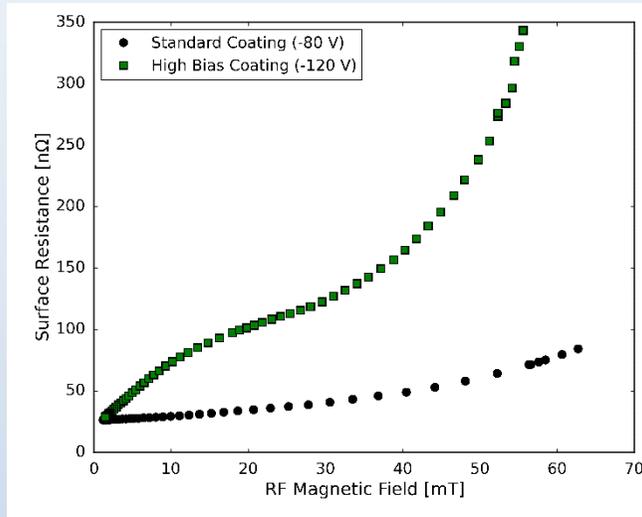
Courtesy B. Bartova (CERN)



Standard coating bias (-80 V)



High coating bias (-120 V)



High coating bias (-120 V)

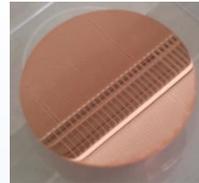
Very dense film but delamination due to high stress in the film

# Sample Preparation

See also TUPB029

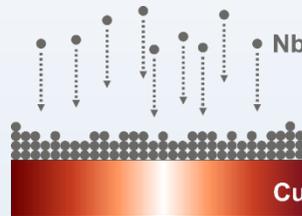


Mechanical polishing &  
12  $\mu\text{m}$  EP

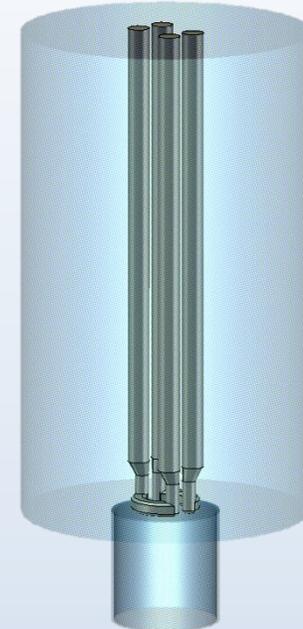


RF cold test in CERN's  
Quadrupole Resonator

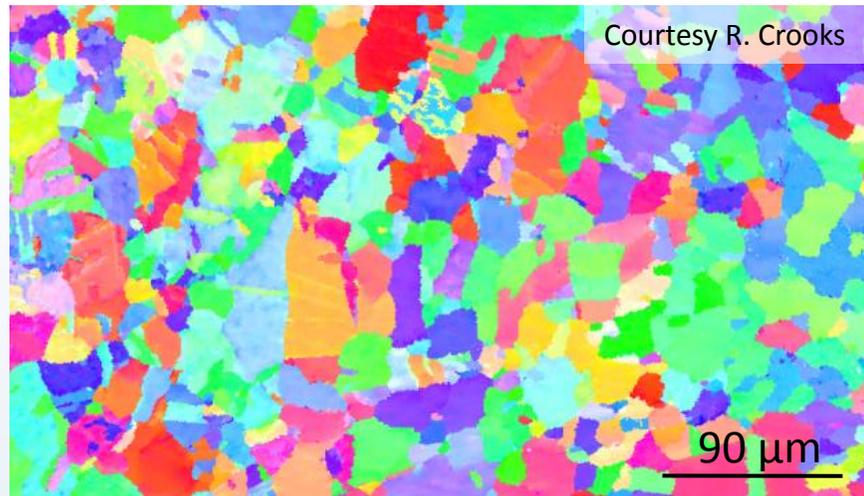
Nb coating at JLab



Electron beam welding &  
Ultra-pure water rinse

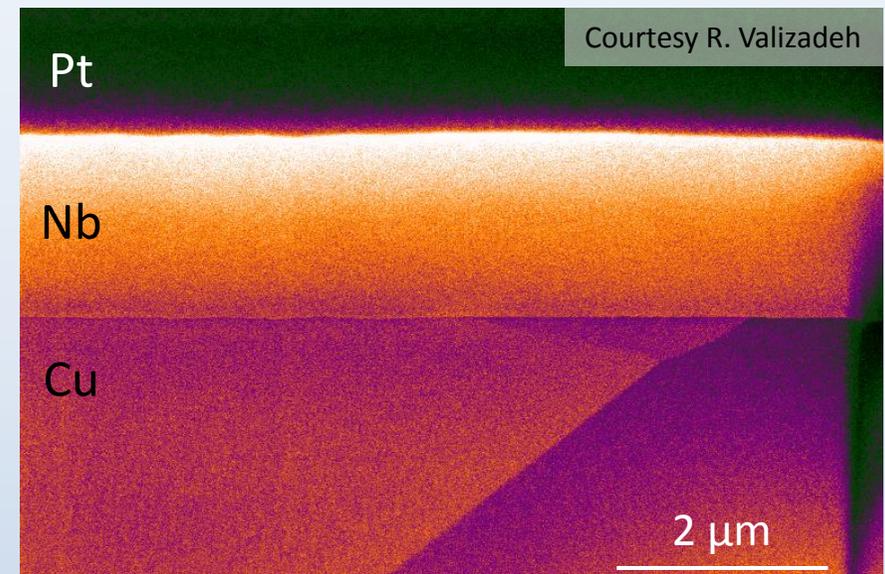
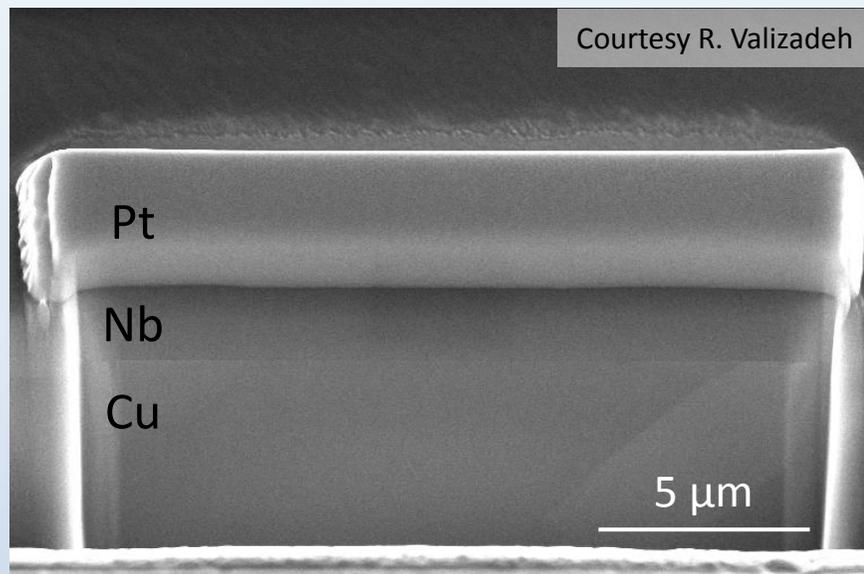


# Microstructure of the Nb/Cu Sample

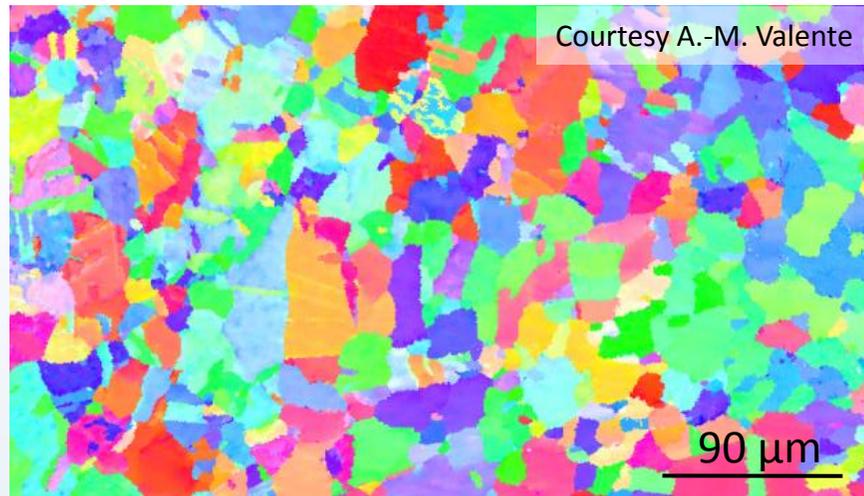


Grain size copied from Cu substrate ( $\sim 50 \mu\text{m}$ )

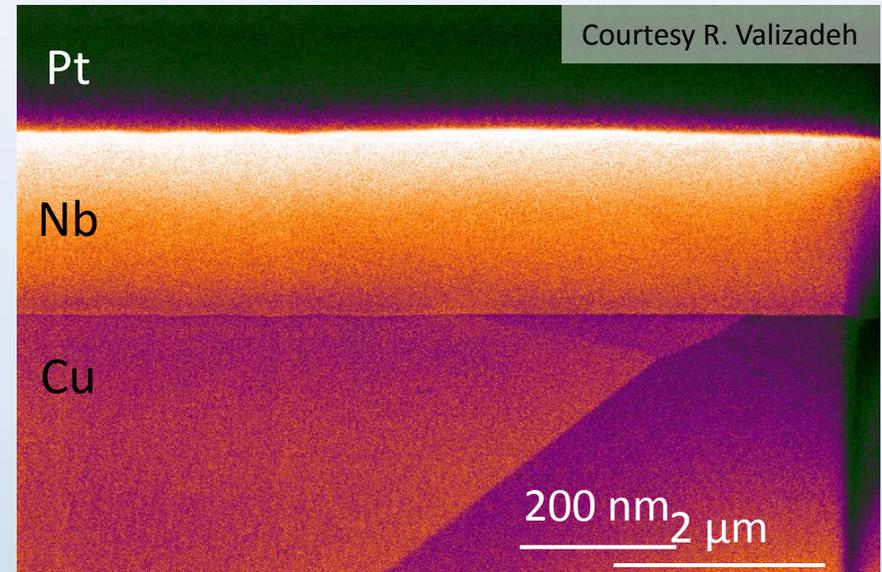
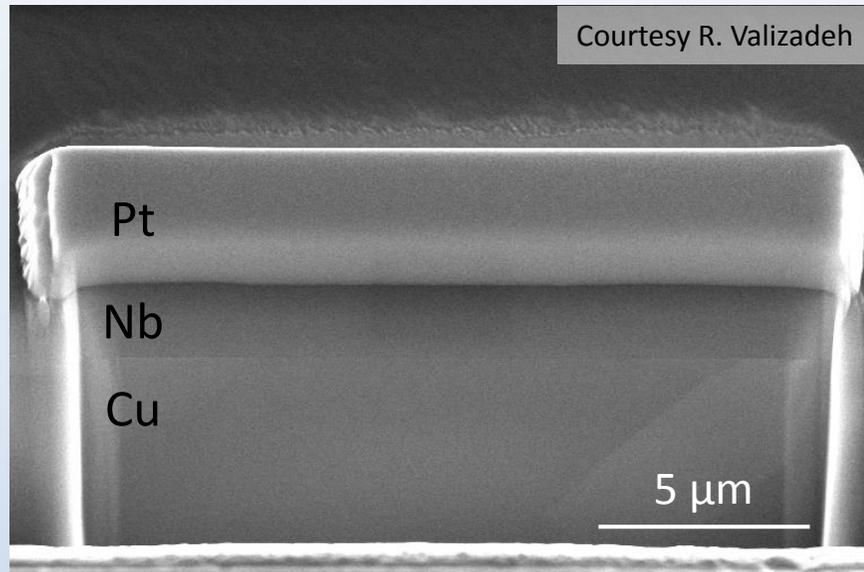
No visible porosity  
Smooth interface



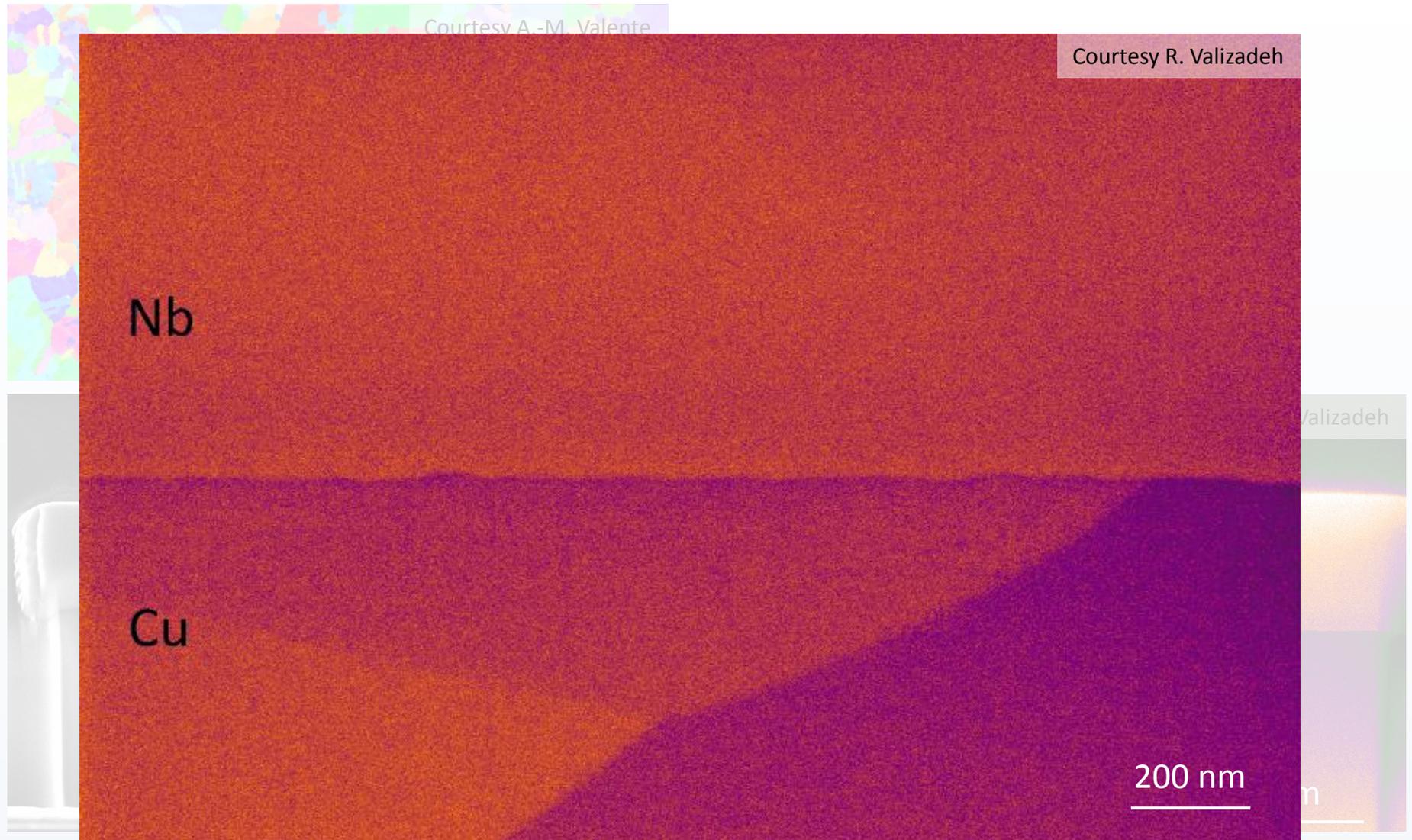
# Crystal Structure of the Nb/Cu Sample



- Grain size copied from substrate ( $\sim 50 \mu\text{m}$ )
- Dense film
- Smooth interface
- No visible porosity



# Crystal Structure of the Nb/Cu Sample

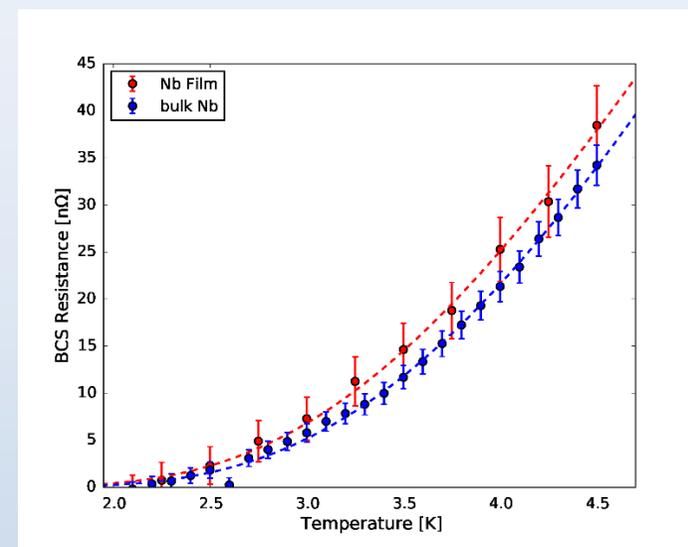
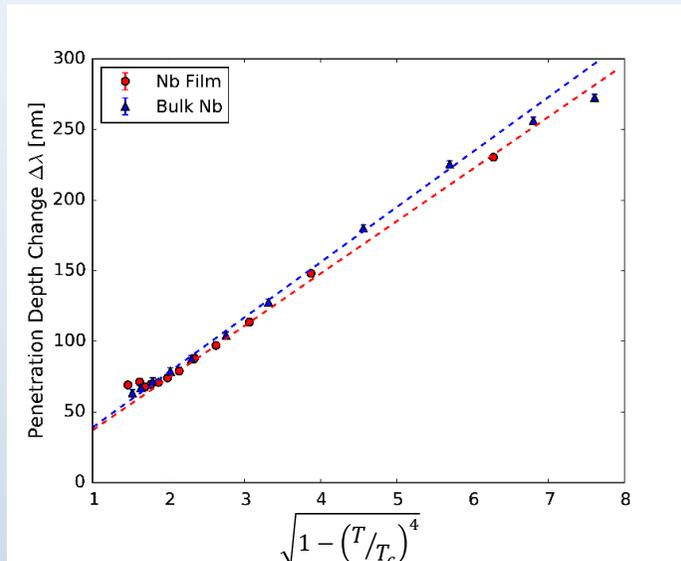


	Nb/Cu	bulk Nb
Penetration Depth $\lambda(0K)$ [nm]	$37 \pm 2$	$39 \pm 2$
Mean free path [nm]	$182 \pm 24$	$126 \pm 18$
RRR	$67 \pm 9$	$47 \pm 7$

$R_{res}(400 \text{ MHz})$  [n $\Omega$ ]

Energy gap  $\Delta/kT_c$

**Nb film has bulk-like properties**

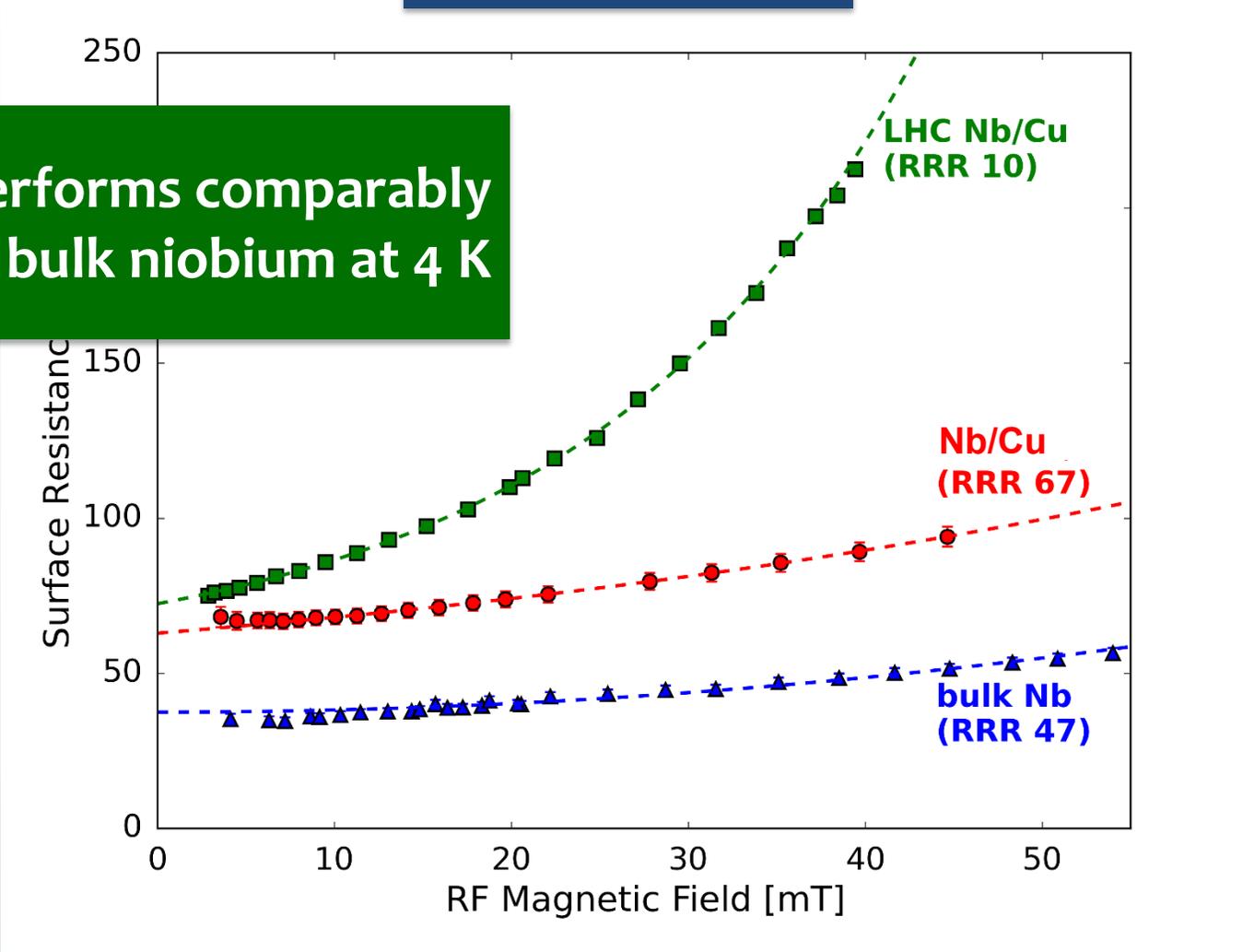


# Q-Slope: Film vs Bulk



400 MHz & 4 K

Nb film performs comparably to bulk niobium at 4 K

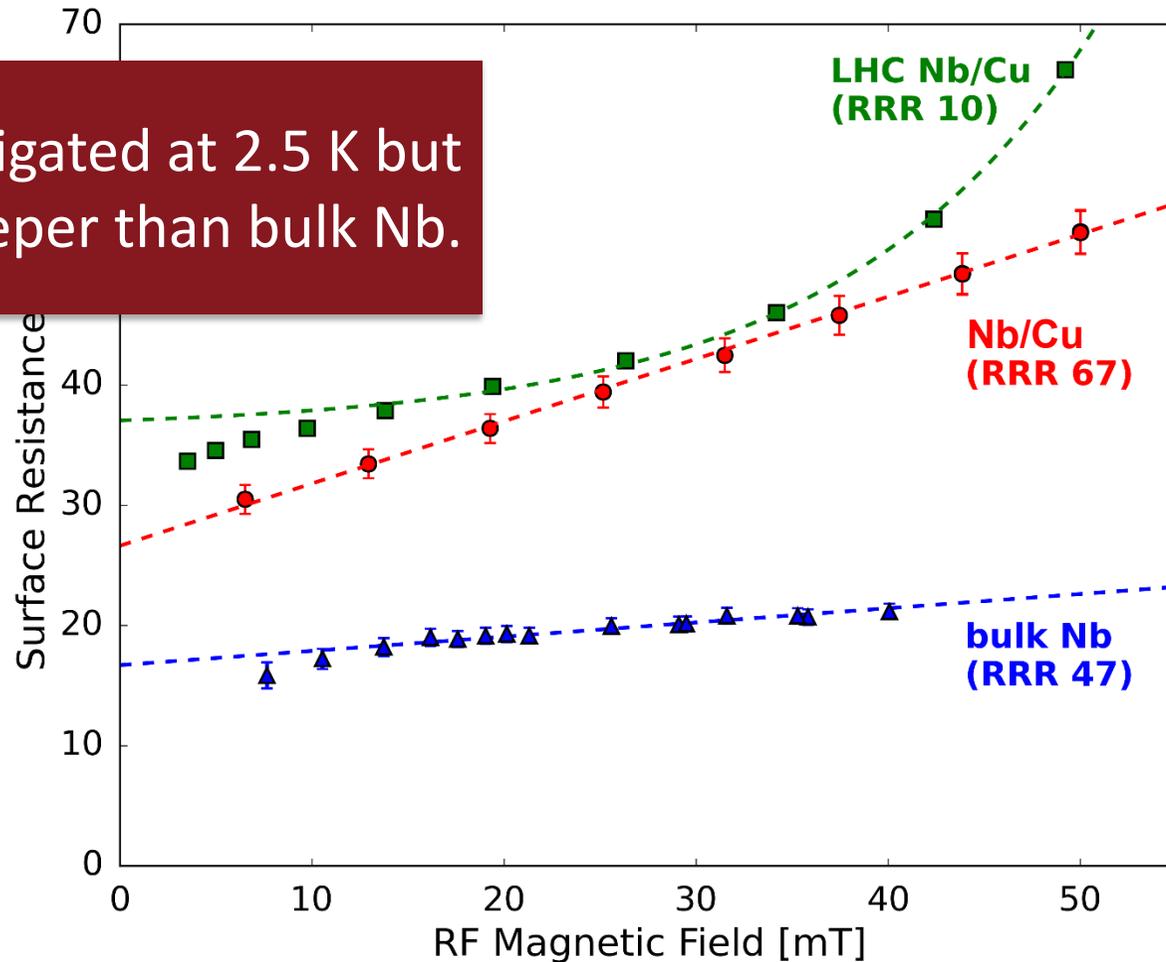


# Q-Slope: Film vs Bulk

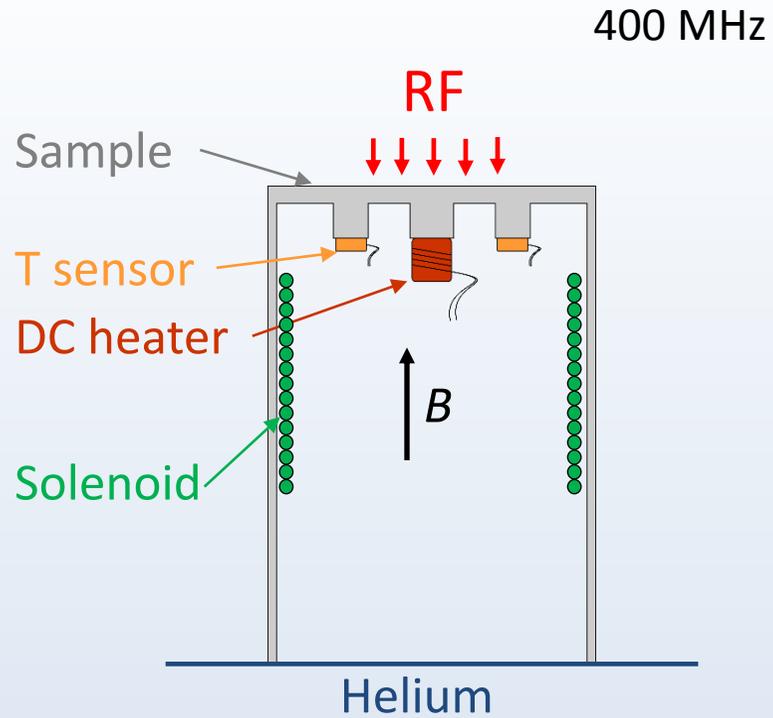


400 MHz & 2.5 K

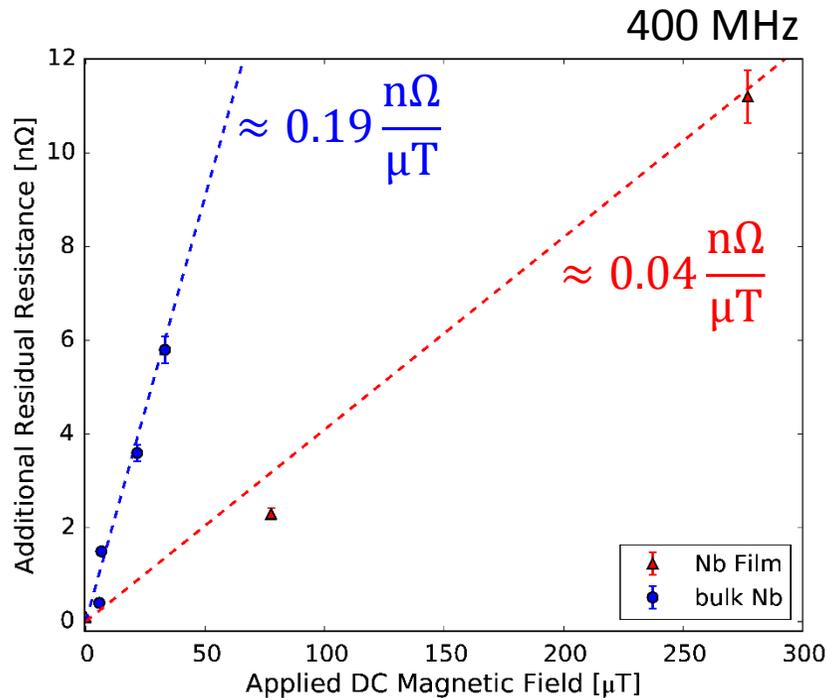
Q-Slope is mitigated at 2.5 K but still steeper than bulk Nb.



# Trapped Flux Sensitivity



# Trapped Flux Sensitivity



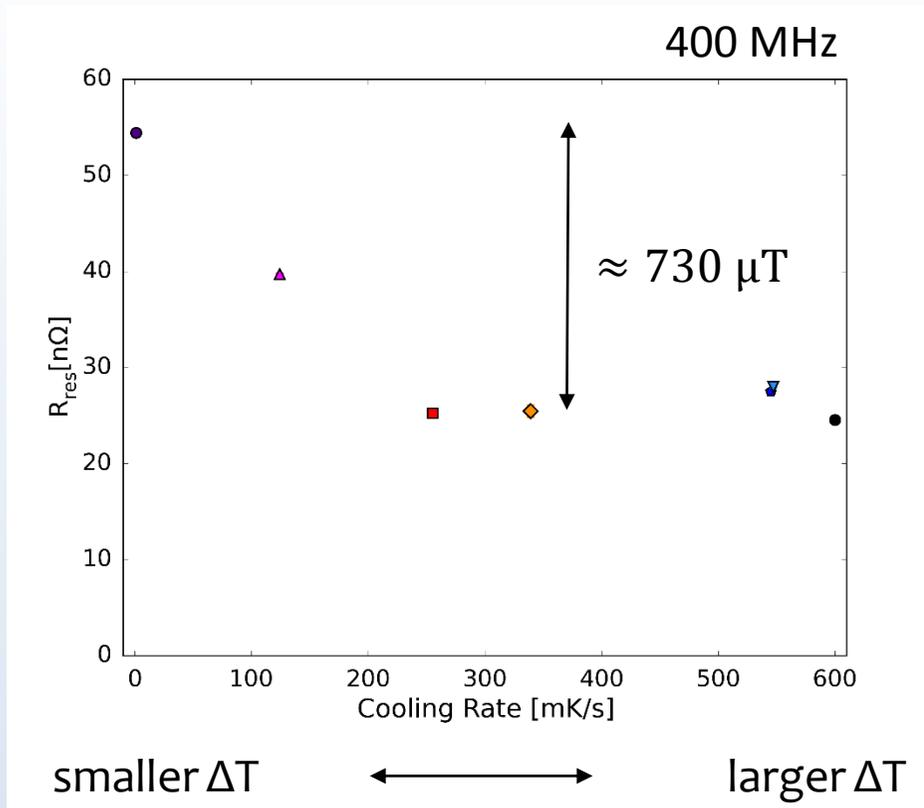
**Nb/Cu film is still less sensitive to trapped flux.**

Trapped flux sensitivity depends on RRR, frequency and pinning centre size.

**Low trapped flux sensitivity is consistent with bigger pinning centres.**

# Trapped Flux & Thermal Cycling

See also TUPB077

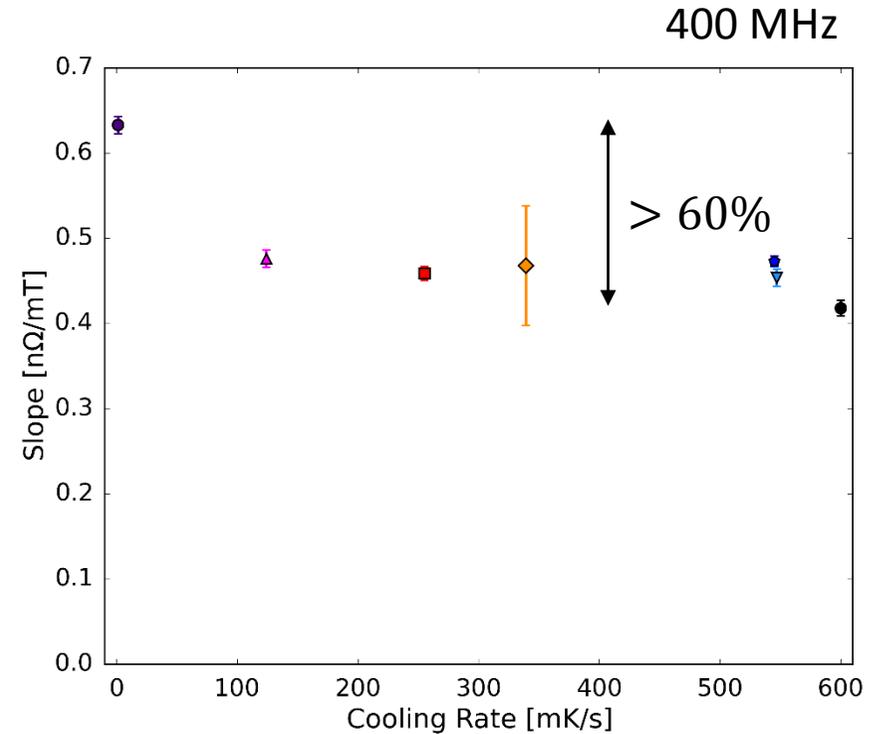
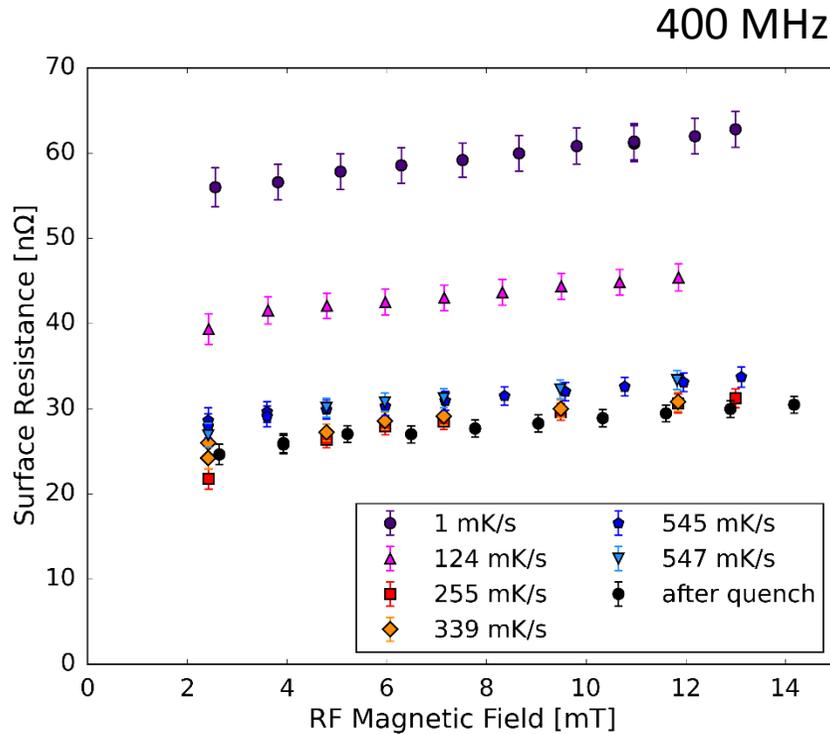


Residual resistance increase by 30 nΩ can not be explained with flux expulsion efficiency.

Nb/Cu seems to be much more sensitive to thermo-electric currents due to the bi-metal interface.

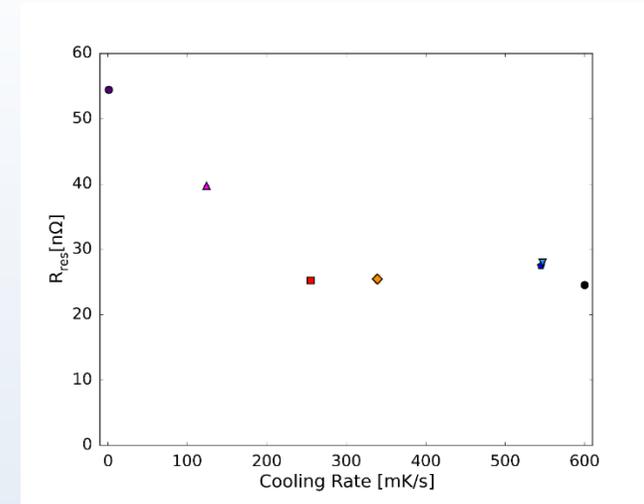
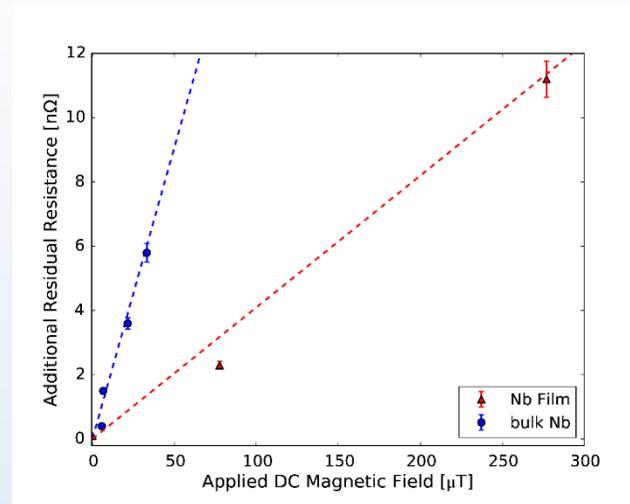
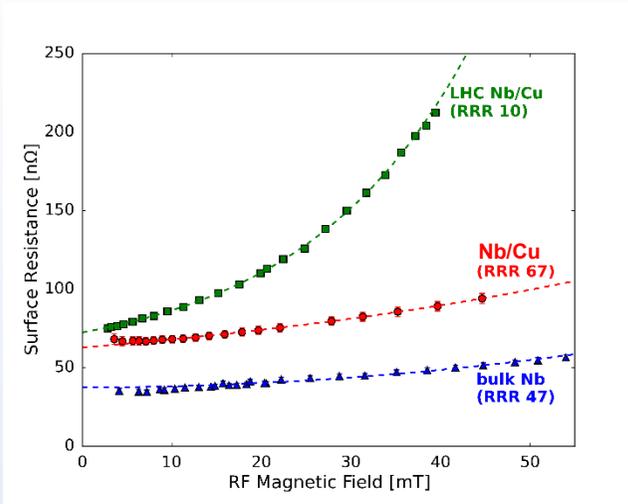
# Effect of Thermal Cycling on Q-Slope

See also TUPB077



Thermal cycling also acts on the Q-Slope.

## We have a bulk-like Nb/Cu film...

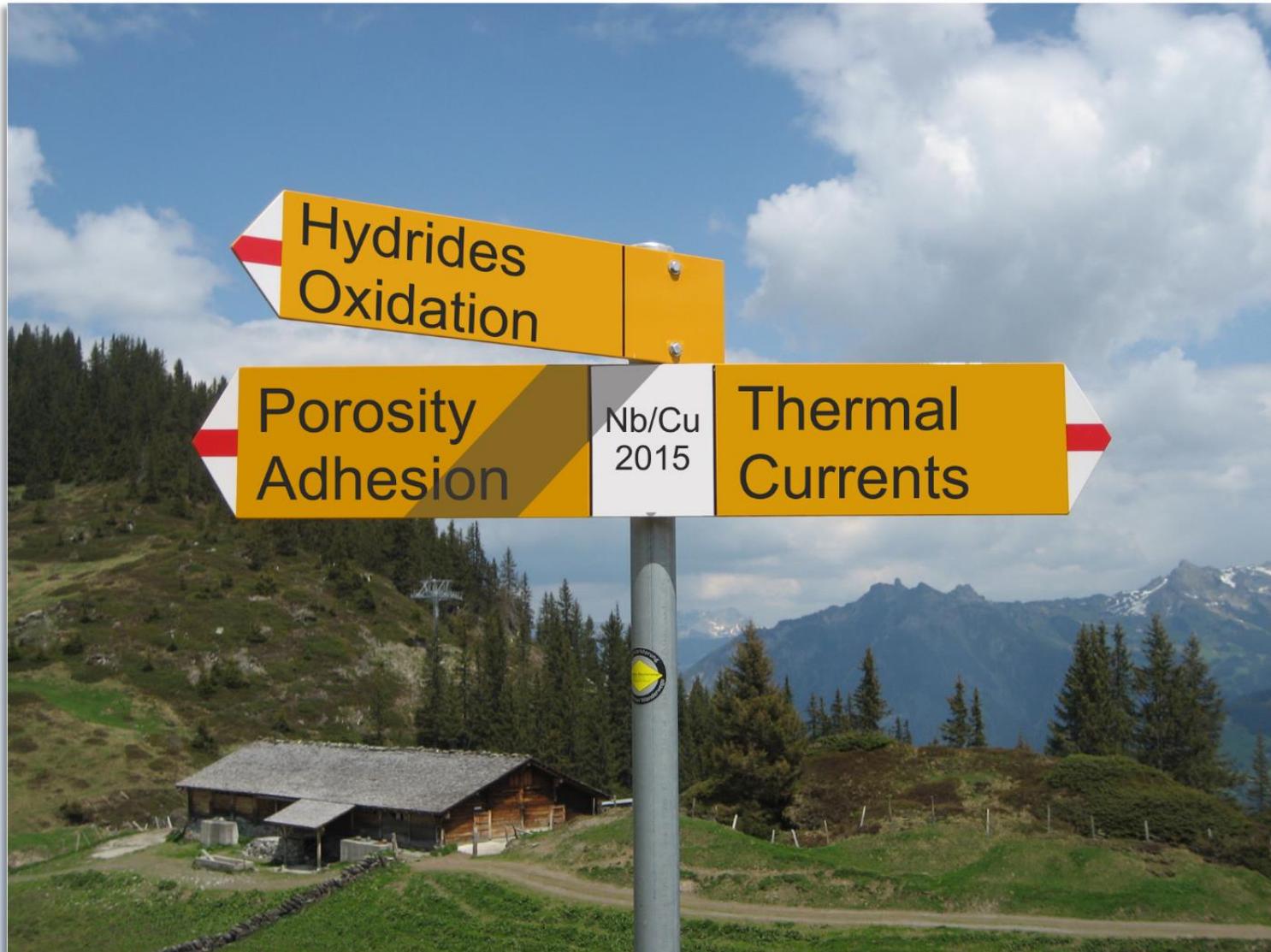


with a Q-Slope comparable to bulk niobium at 4 K

still less sensitive to trapped flux

severely affected by thermal currents?

# Where next?



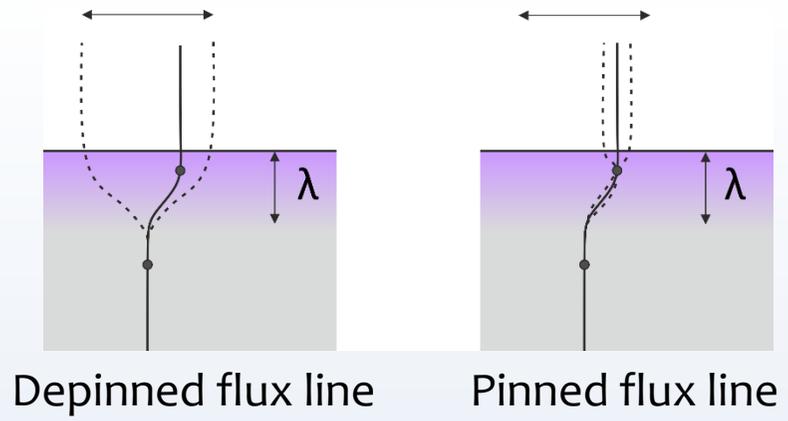


[sarah.aull@cern.ch](mailto:sarah.aull@cern.ch)

# Trapped Flux Sensitivity



The trapped flux sensitivity depends on operation frequency, RRR and flux trapping efficiency.



$$S_{TF} = 3.6 \frac{n\Omega}{\mu T} \sqrt{\frac{f}{1.5\text{GHz}} \frac{300}{RRR}} \cdot \frac{f^2}{f^2 + \left( p \cdot 673\text{MHz} \frac{110}{RRR} \right)^2} \cdot \epsilon_{trap}$$

Normal conducting area of the flux tube
Depinning efficiency
Trapping efficiency (depending on treatment)