



The Research Program on Applied Superconductors in Geneva

R. Flükiger

Dépt. Phys. Matière Condensée,
Université de Genève
24, quai Ernst Ansermet
1211 Genève, Switzerland



Outline

- * **Research Goals and Facilities in Geneva**
- * **Bi,Pb(2223): Fundamental and Applied Research**
- * **MgB₂: Wires Produced by the *Ex Situ* Technique**
- * **Nb₃Sn: Multifilamentary Bronze Wires**
- * **Conclusions**



Research Goals and Facilities at GAP/DPMC

Mechanisms and Development of High Field Wires and Tapes

® **NMR, Laboratory Magnets, Accelerator Magnets**

Studies on Single Crystals: Bi₂Pb(2223), MgB₂

Tape and Wire Preparation: Bi₂Pb(2223), MgB₂, Nb₃Sn

Magnetization, Relaxation Effects

Strain Effects on J_c at Fields > 17 T (Walters Spiral)



Facilities at GAP in Geneva

Wire and tape preparation

- * Hot Isostatic Extrusion machine: 250 ton, 47 mm dia.
- * Deformation machines

Processing and analysis

- * HIP machine: 2 kbar, up to 400 bar O₂ pressure, 20 l.
- * DTA, up to 2 kbar



Walters Spiral (WASP)
for j_c (e) measurement

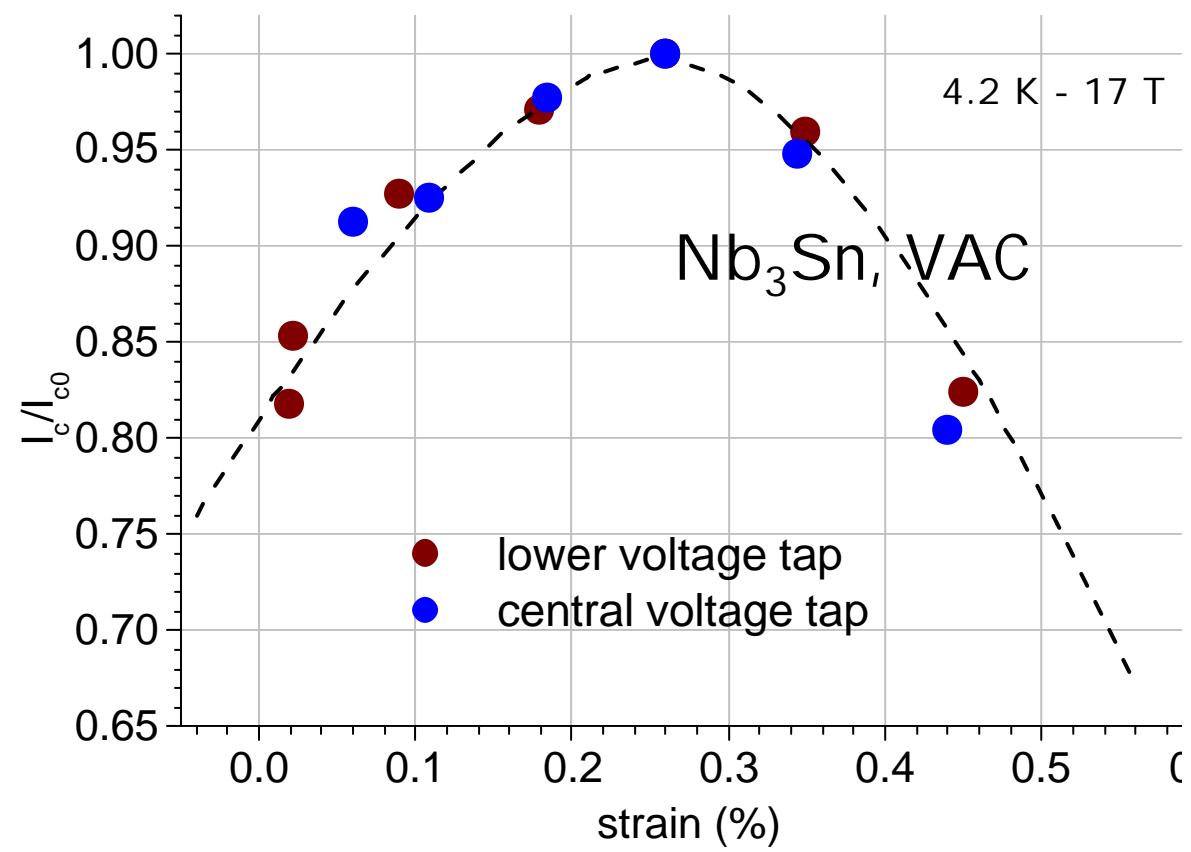
Strain rig at University Geneva:

£ 1'000 A

£ 17 T (actually)
£ 21 T (June 04)

£ 800 mm length

High field laboratory





The Bi,Pb(2223) System

E. Giannini

X.D. Su

G. Witz

N. Clayton

N. Musolino



The system Bi,Pb(2223)

Phase Formation by Nucleation and Growth

(J.C. Grivel et al., 1995)

Proof for « transient liquid » by neutron diffraction

(E. Giannini et al., 1997)

Growth of Bi(2223) and Bi,Pb(2223) single crystals

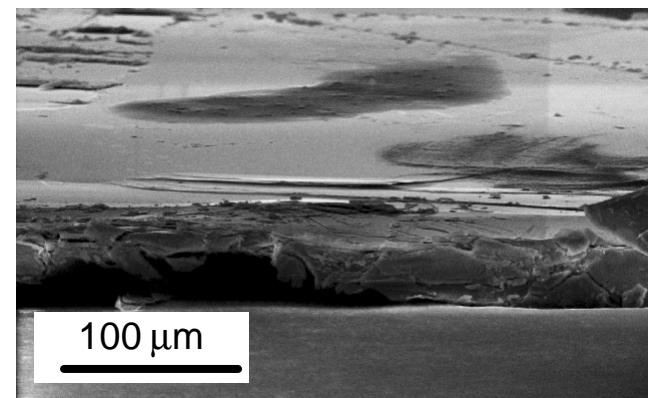
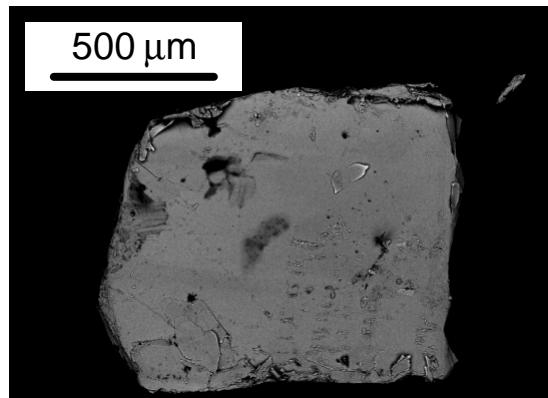
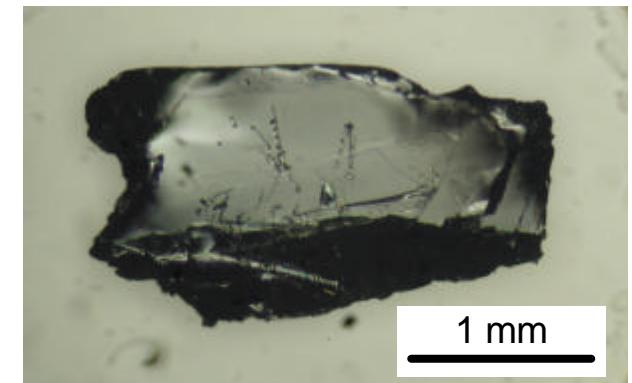
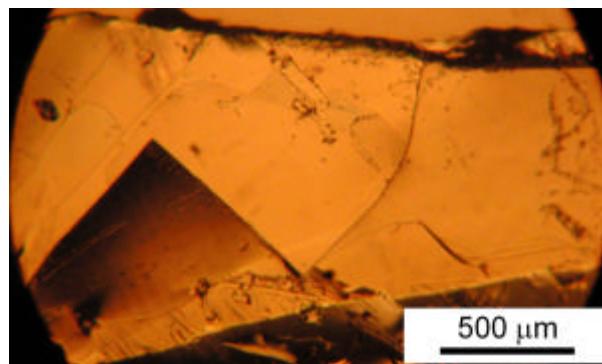
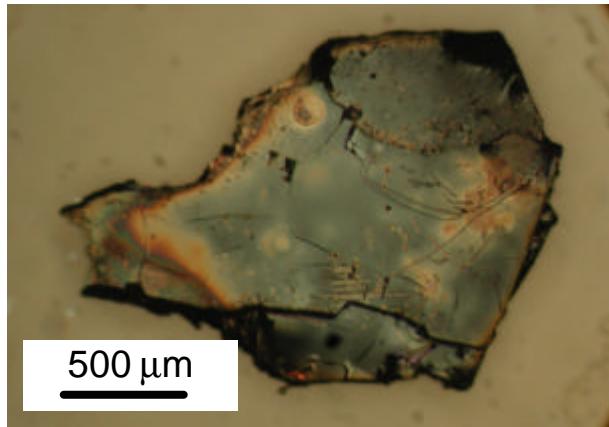
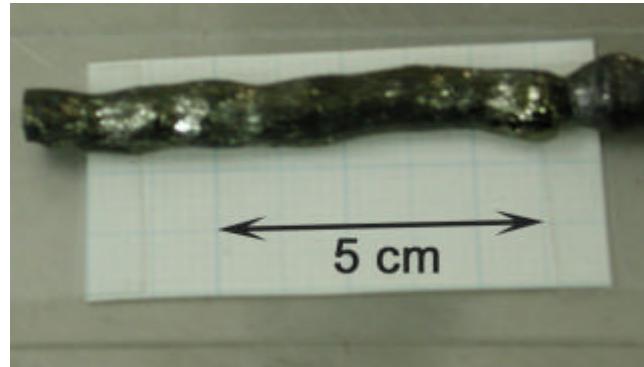
(E. Giannini et al., 2003)

Relaxation Rate on Bi(2223) and Bi(2212)

(N. Clayton et al., 2004)

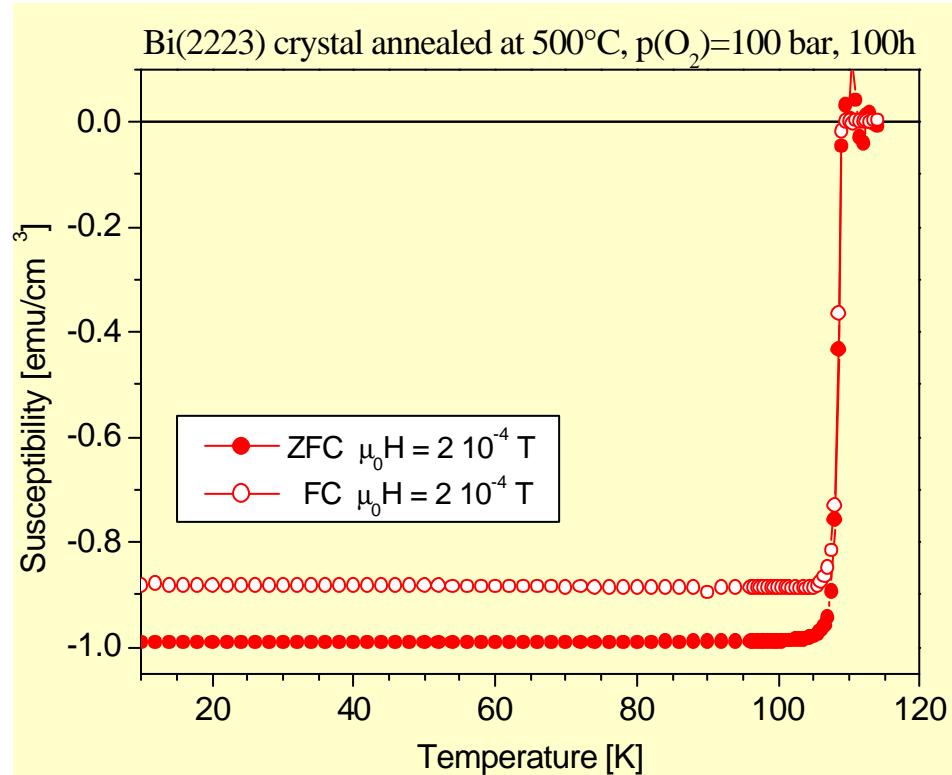
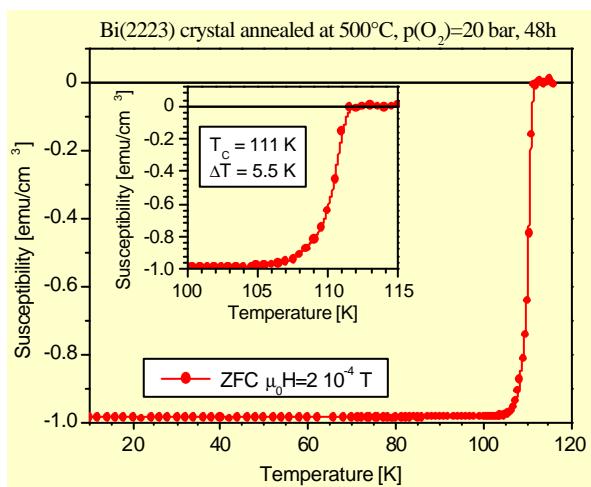
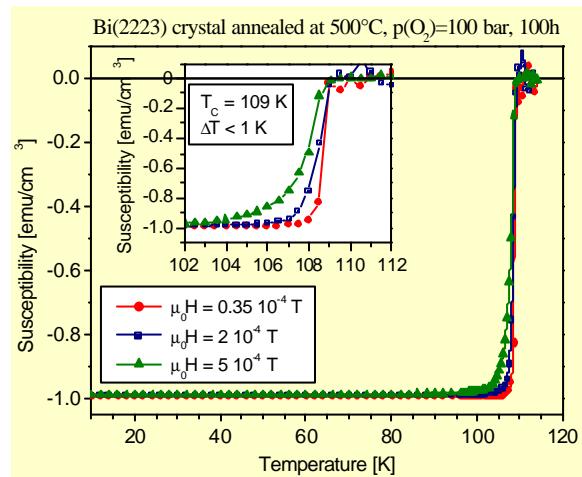
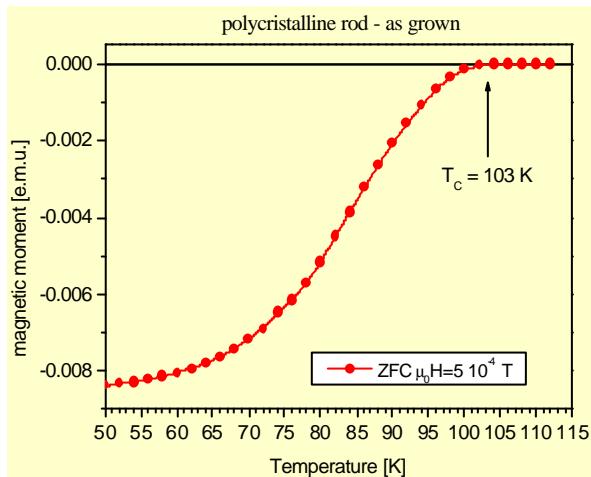
Travelling Solvent Floating Zone (TSFZ) in Image Furnace

Bi(2223)
Single
crystals



E. Giannini et al.
DPMC, Geneva

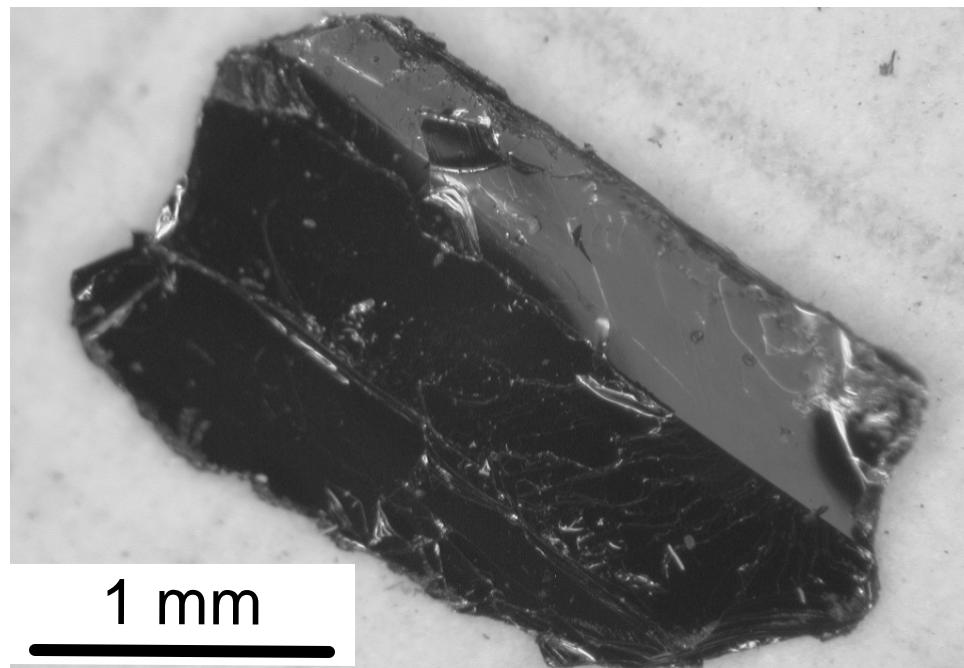
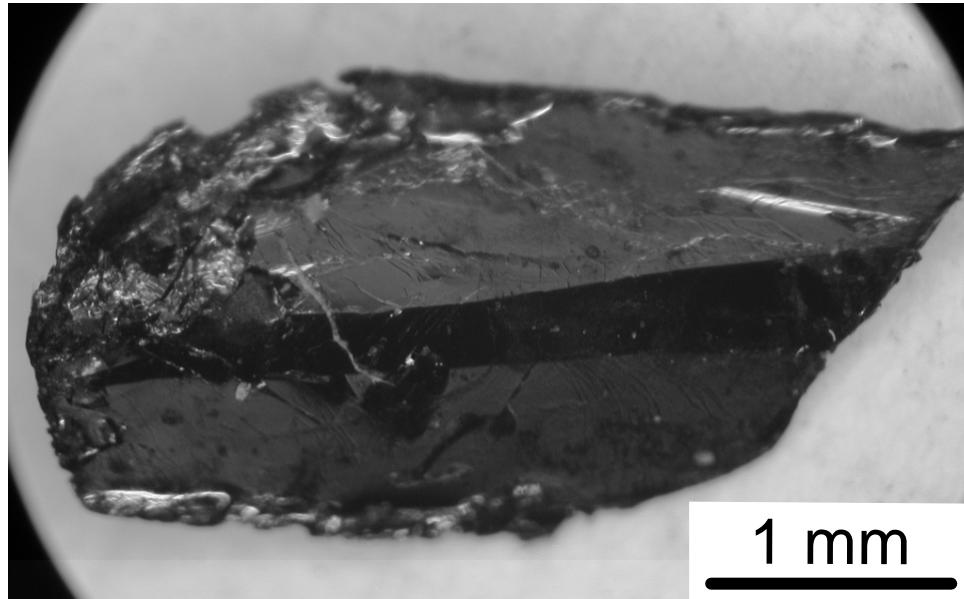
Magnetic characterisation



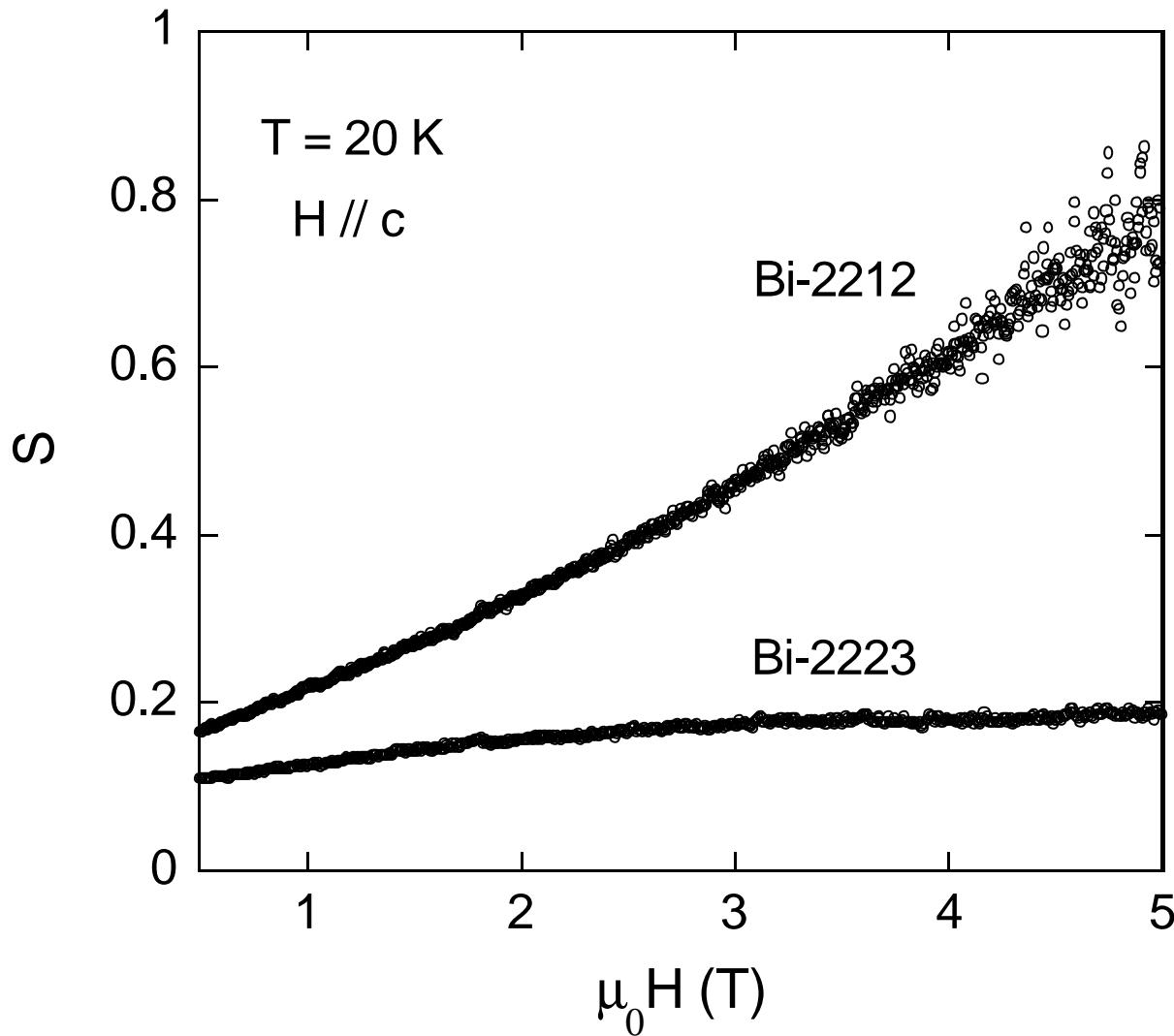
Bi₂Pb(2223)

Single Crystals

E. Giannini et al., SuST Jan. 04



Relaxation Rate



N. Clayton, N. Musolino, E. Giannini, R. Flükiger., ICMC 2004, Wollongong



Bi,Pb(2223): Problems to be solved

Density, Homogeneity (microscale):

High pressure experiments (Hellstrom et al.)

Texture:

Texture in the a,b plane: not obtained so far.

This is the really **limiting factor** for Bi,Pb(2223) tapes



MgB₂ Tapes

« Ex Situ » Technique; Limitations

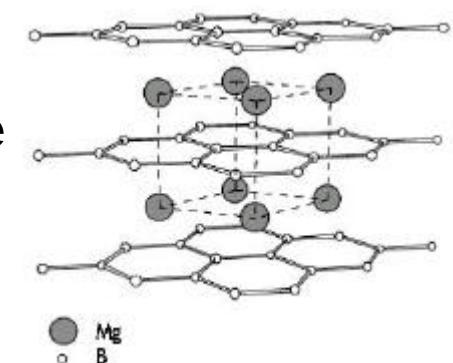
Paola Lezza

HongLi Suo

Roman Gladyshevskii

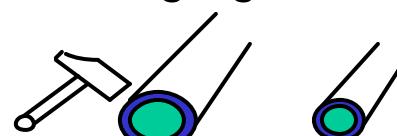
Sample preparation

- $T_c = 40 \text{ K}$
- Ex-situ technique → pre-reacted powder
- Powder milling

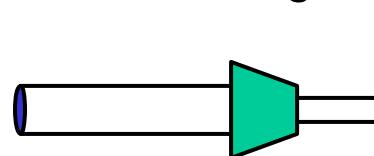


- Deformation steps:

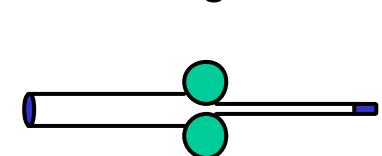
swaging



cold drawing



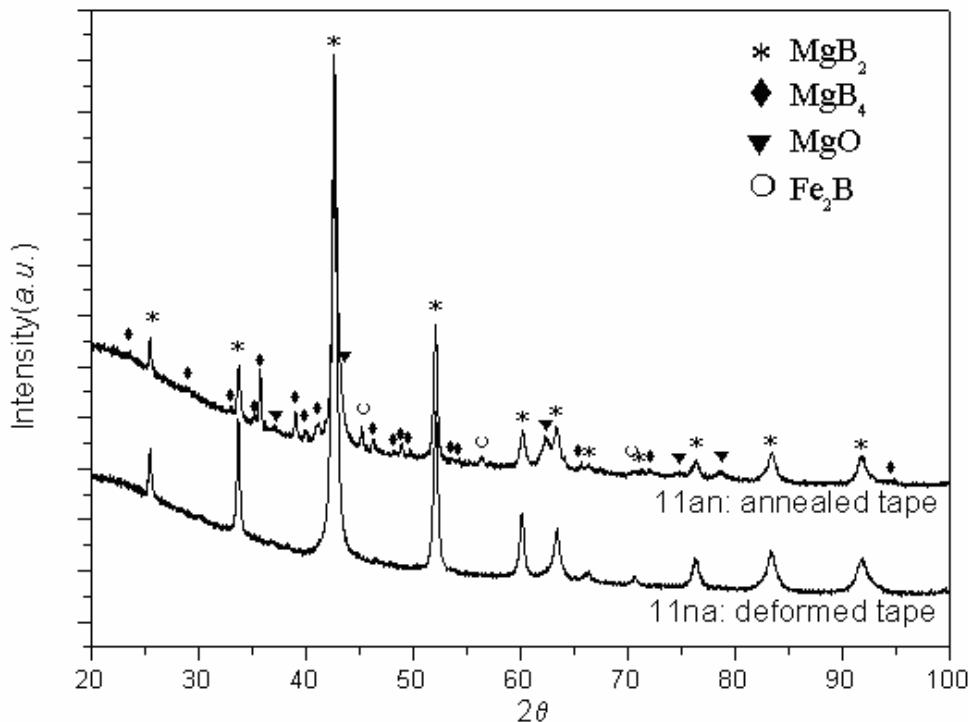
rolling



- Heat treatment at 920°C, 30 min

X-ray diffraction

MgB₂/Fe tape after deformation and annealing

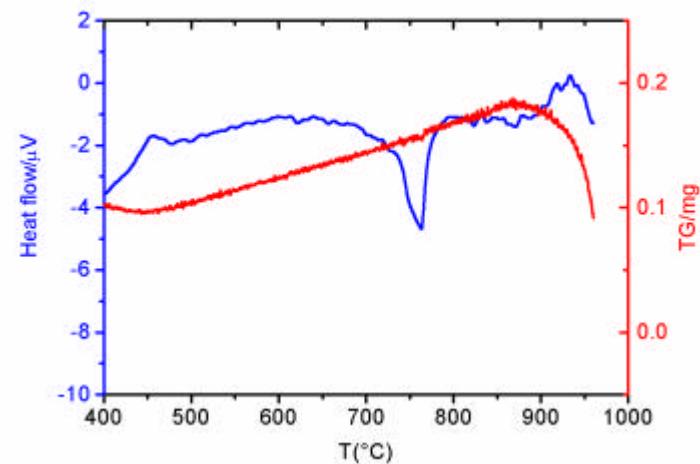


Differential thermal analysis

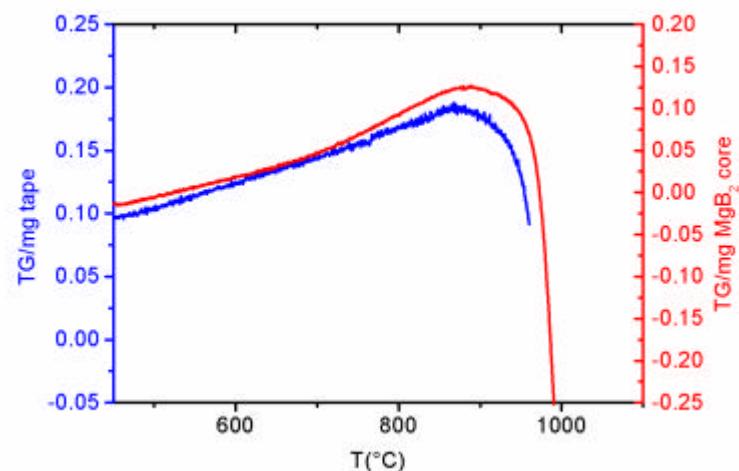
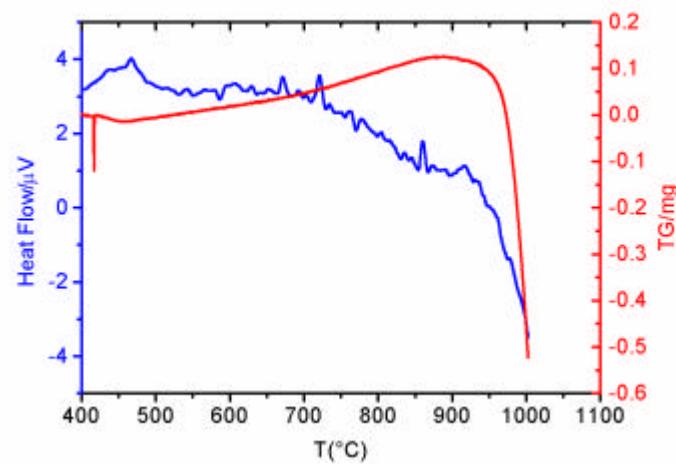


UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

● MgB₂/Fe



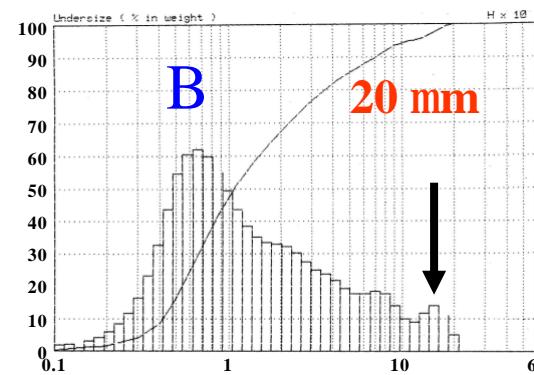
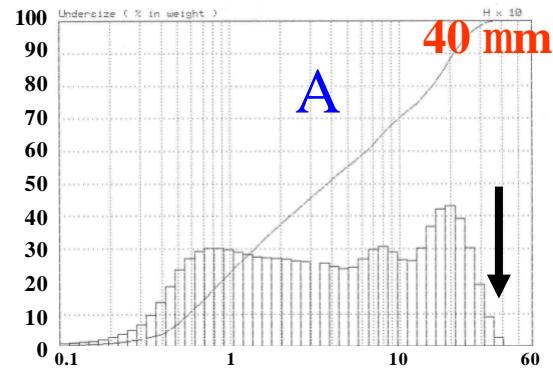
● MgB₂ core



● Onset of evaporation changes, due to the presence of Fe (sheath)

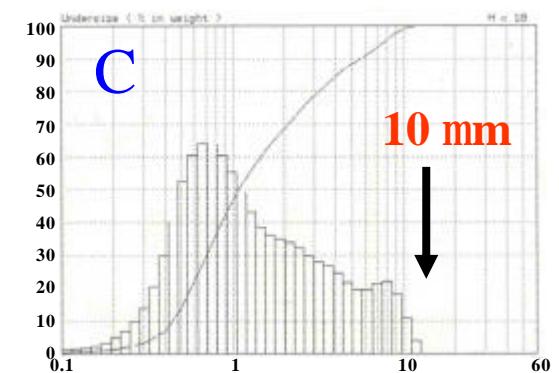


Initial Powder Size



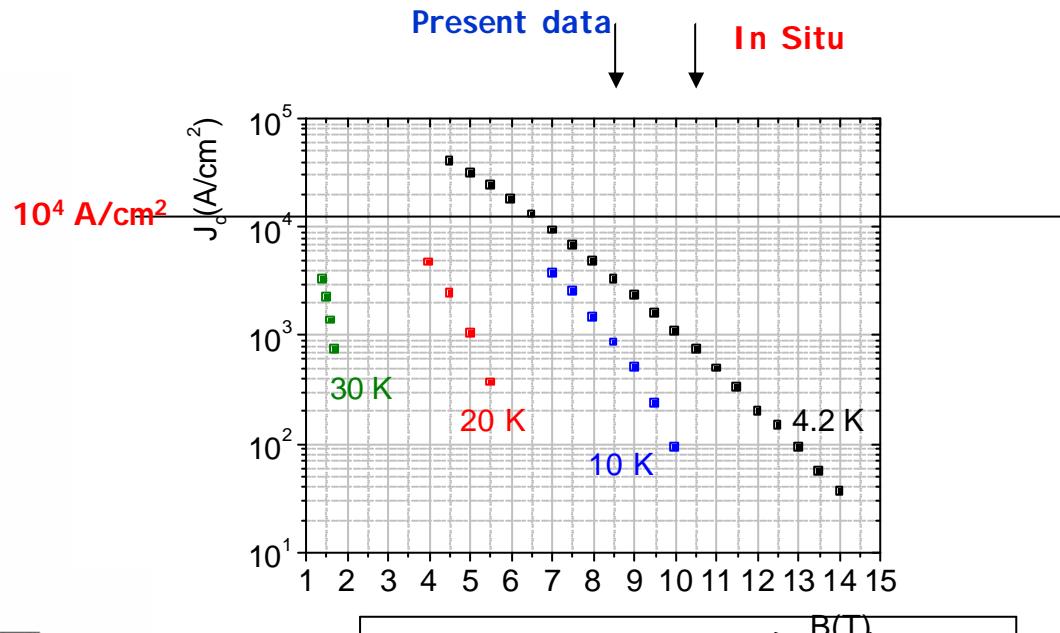
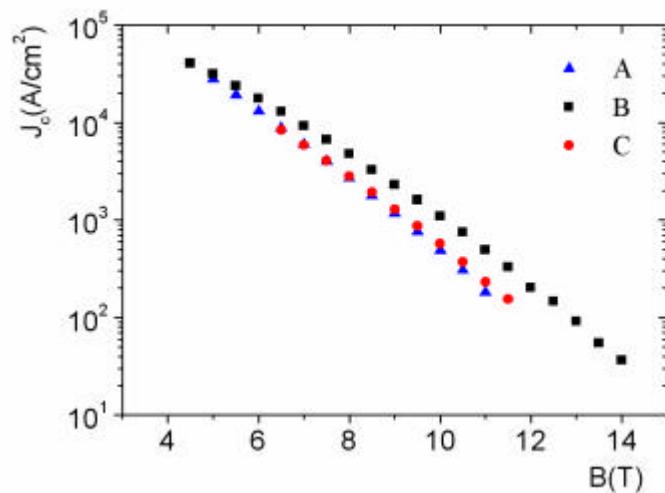
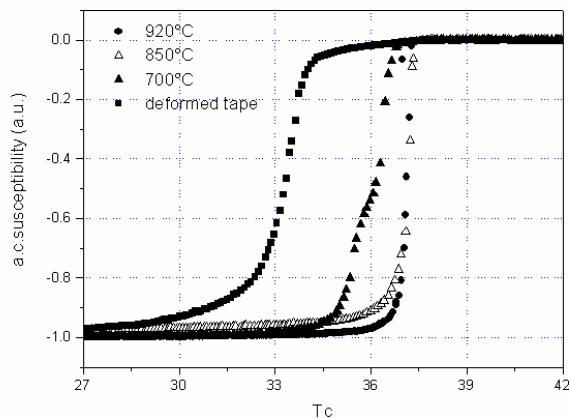
Impurities (wt.%)

Sample/ %	H	C	O
A	0.10	0.13	1.05
B	0.14	0.21	2.12
C	0.15	0.14	1.54



MgB₂/Fe wires

920°C/30 min., in vacuum



Sample/ PMS	MgB_2	MgB_4	MgO	Fe_2B
A/40 mm	75.8(6)	8.9(5)	12.7(3)	2.60(5)
B/20 mm	73.5(5)	8.4(4)	16.0(2)	2.10(4)
C/10mm	75.1(4)	10.8(3)	12.0(1)	1.10(3)

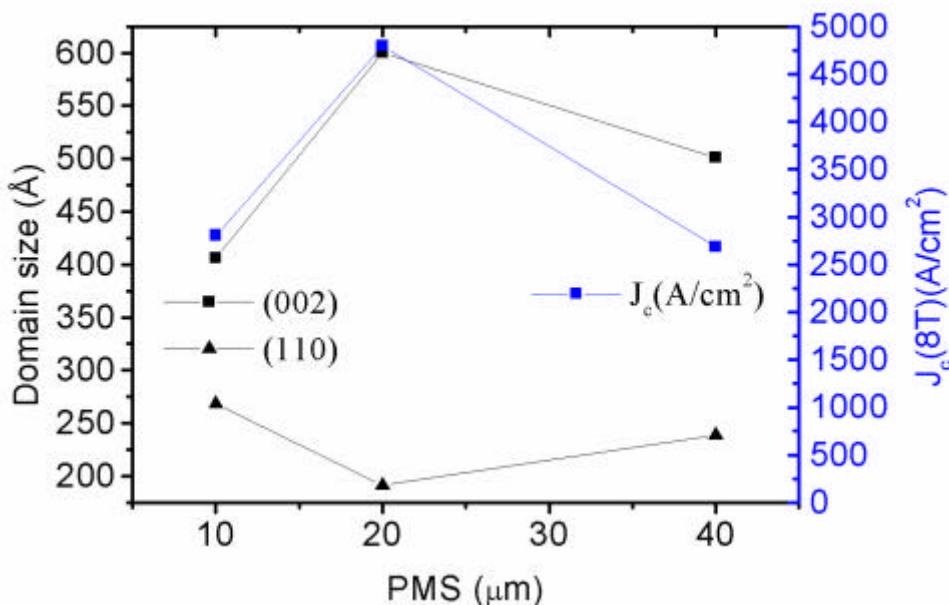
Domains and grain size



UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

hkl	Sample /PMS	Domain size (Å)
After deformation		
(002)	B/20 mm	219.84
	C/10 mm	338.32
(110)	B/20 mm	305.67
	C/10 mm	144.16

hkl	Sample /PMS	Domain size (Å)
After annealing 920 °C 30 min		
(002)	A/40 mm	501.04
	B/20 mm	600.23
	C/10 mm	405.83
(110)	A/40 mm	238.47
	B/20 mm	191.37
	C/10 mm	268.22



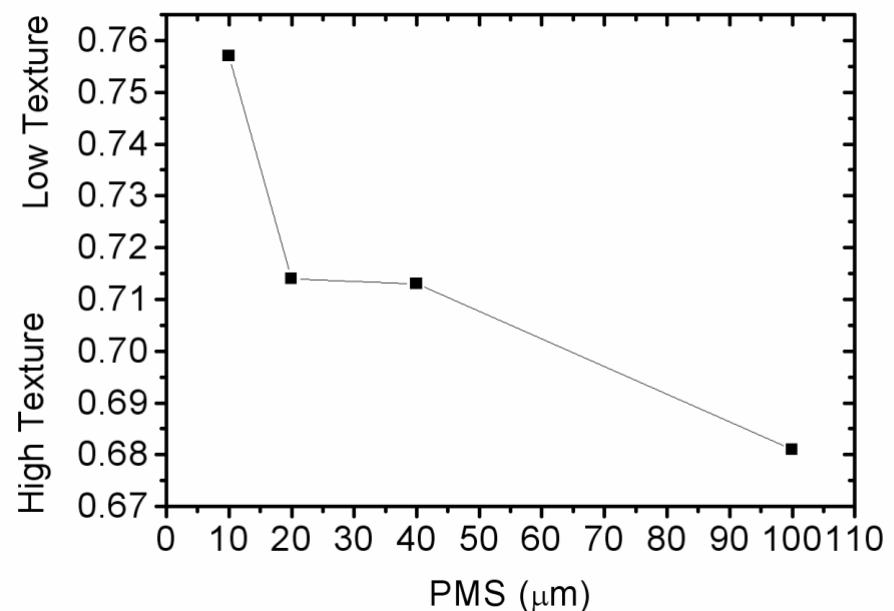
- Best sample: the one with the **larger domain size** on c-axis and medium particle size
- Particle size not dominant

Texture

Sample/ PMS	MgB ₂	MgB ₄	MgO	Texture
A/40 mm	75.8(6)	8.9(5)	12.7(3)	0.713
B/20 mm	73.5(5)	8.4(4)	16.0(2)	0.714
C/10mm	75.1(4)	10.8(3)	12.0(1)	0.757
N/100mm				0.681

Low degree of
texturing

Highest degree for
largest particle size





Residual Strain

hkl	Sample /PMS	2q(°)	Breadth (°2q)	FWMH (°2q)	Strain (e*10 ⁻³)
After deformation					
(002)	B/20 mm	52.0	0.602	0.436	2.40
	C/10 mm	52.0	0.551	0.436	3.09
(110)	B/20 mm	60.0	0.605	0.475	2.78
	C/10 mm	60.0	0.747	0.489	2.07

hkl	Sample /PMS	2q(°)	Breadth (°2q)	FWMH (°2q)	Strain (e*10 ⁻³)
After 920°C 30 min					
(002)	A/40 mm	52.06	0.392	0.314	2.28
	B/20 mm	52.12	0.400	0.331	2.56
	C/10 mm	52.03	0.413	0.320	2.15
(110)	A/40 mm	60.13	0.531	0.373	1.53
	B/20 mm	60.21	0.608	0.413	1.37
	C/10 mm	60.11	0.574	0.430	2.24

→ Residual strain is released after final annealing

MgB₂: Conclusions

- * MgB₂ domain sizes have been determined by means of X ray diffraction ® J_c is correlated to the domain size
- * A low degree of texturing has been found; highest for the largest particle sizes (analogy: Bi systems)

Study will be extended to:

- * “*in situ*” wires
- * C or SiC added wires



Future perspectives

MgB₂ is perfectly ordered: limitation of B_{irr}

Analogy to Nb₃Sn

⑧ Main research goal:

Find a way to slightly decrease the order parameter.

- * Additives: SiC, C,.... Dou et al.
- * Inclusions: MgO,... Only in thin films (?)
- * Innovative growth processes



Multifilamentary Nb₃Sn Wires

Bronze route

V. Abächerli

D. Uglietti

B. Seeber



Motivation for bronze route

Currently used for high field NMR magnets
(persistent mode)

Small filament diameter, $\leq 5 \mu\text{m}$

Small effective diameter, $\leq 20 \mu\text{m}$

Higher mechanical stability: ε_m (after many cycles)

No voids (compressive stresses)

Limitation

Nb content is markedly lower than for other techniques

Re

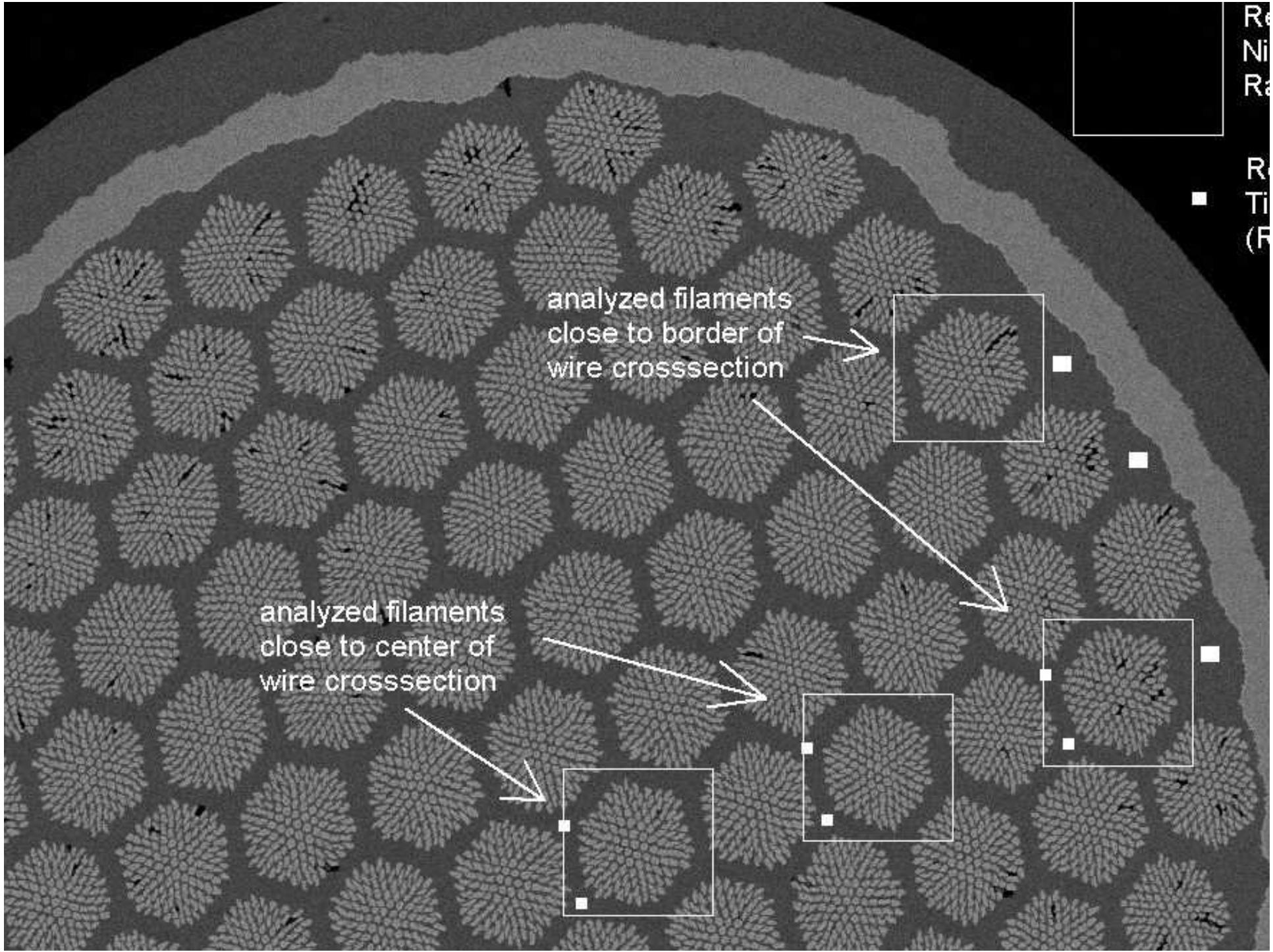
Ni

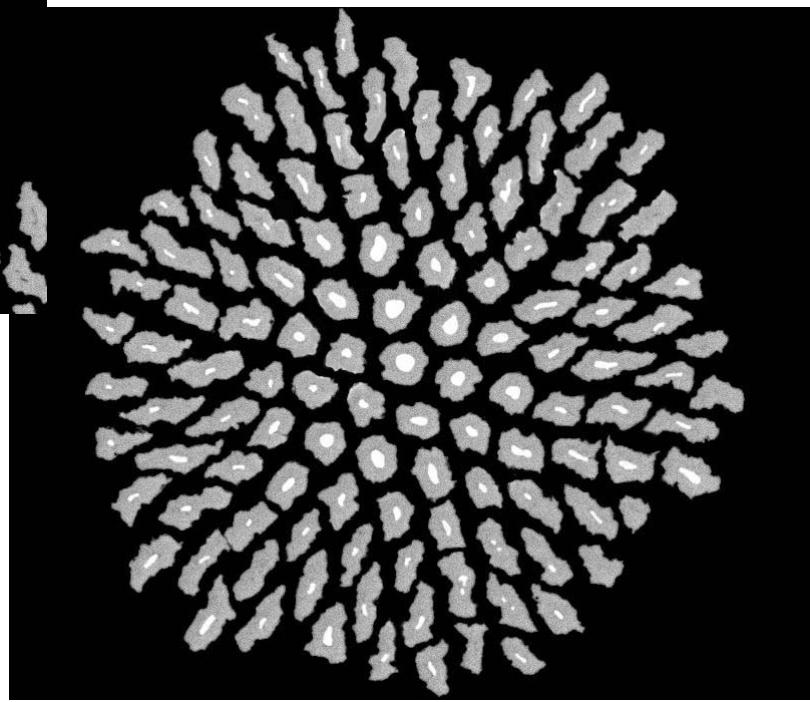
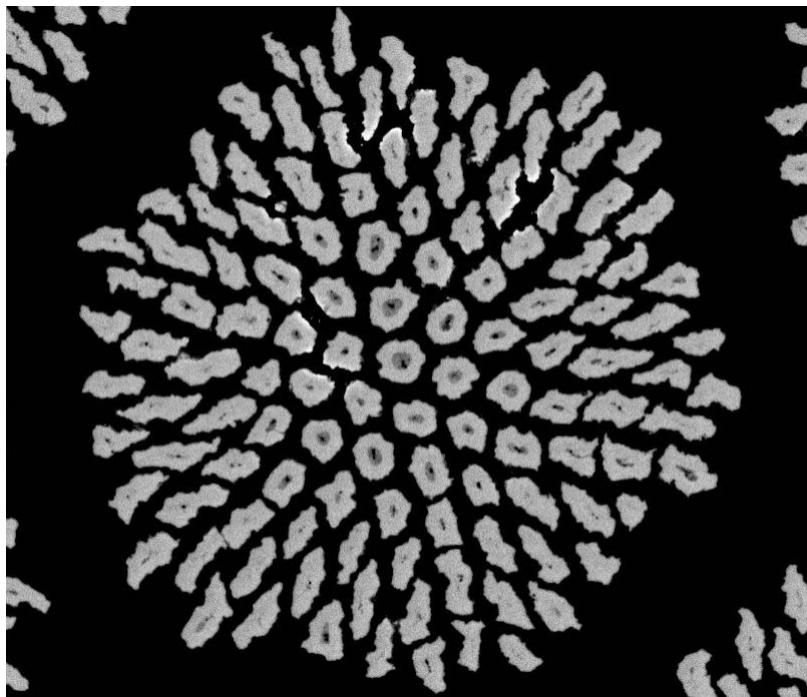
Ra

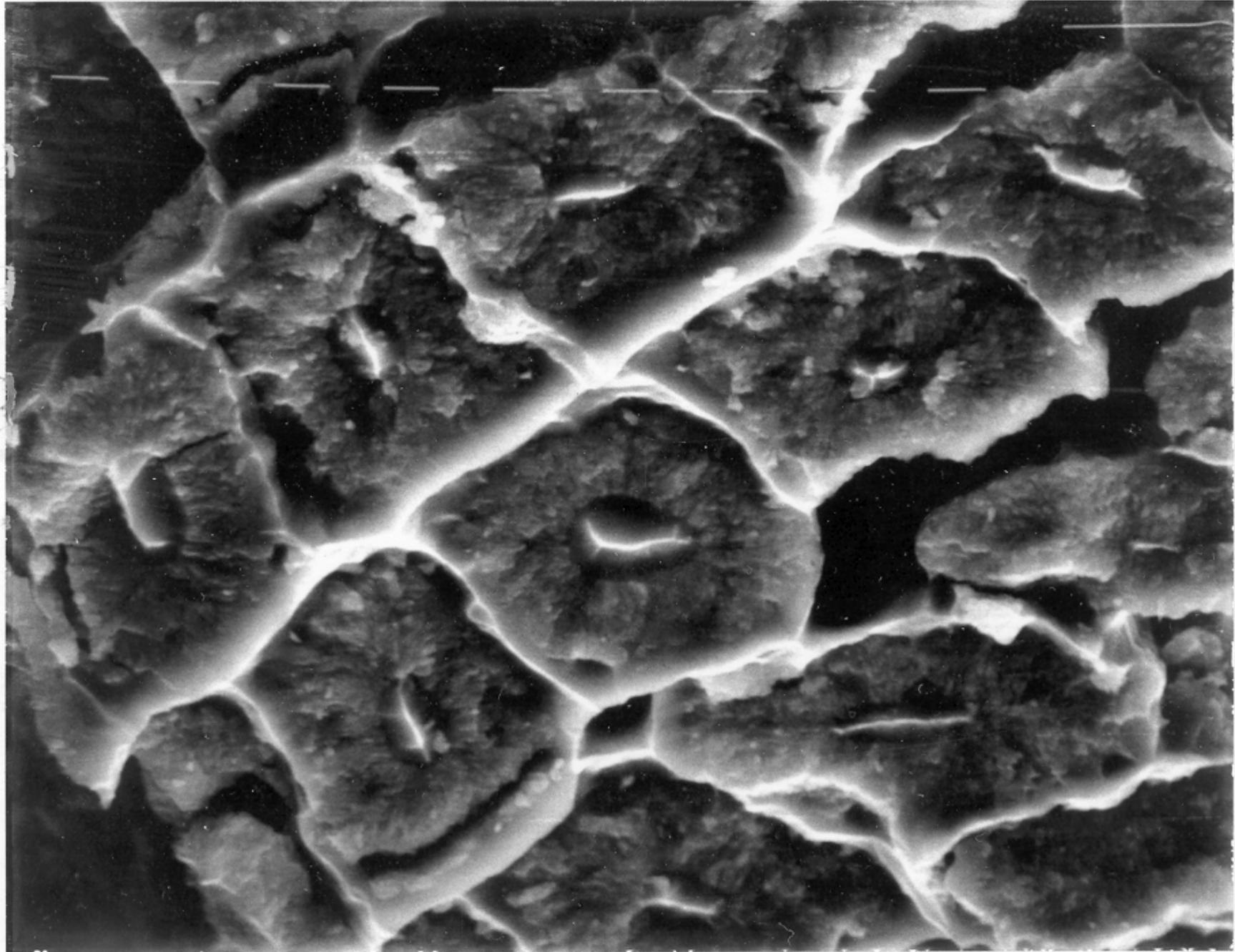
Re

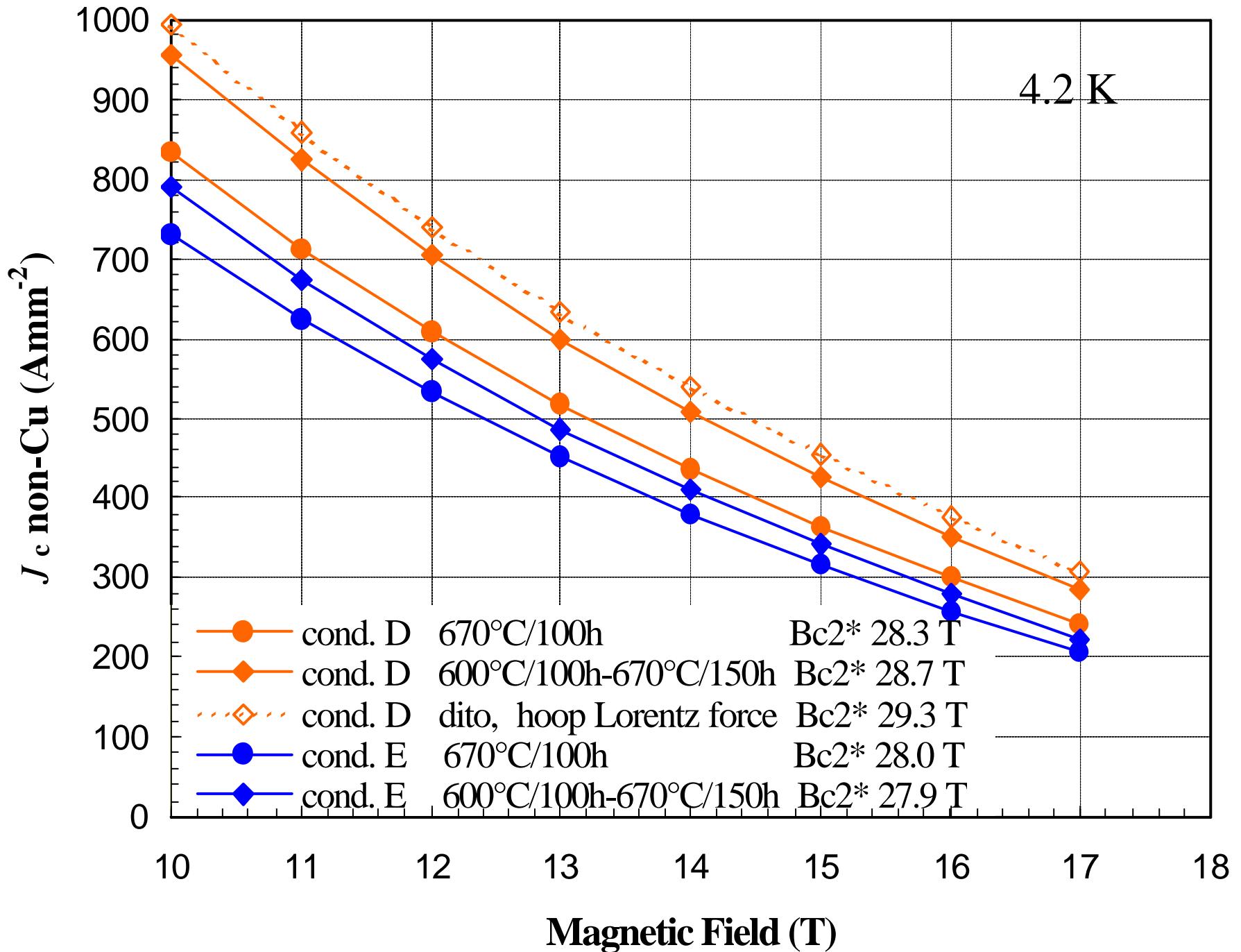
Ti

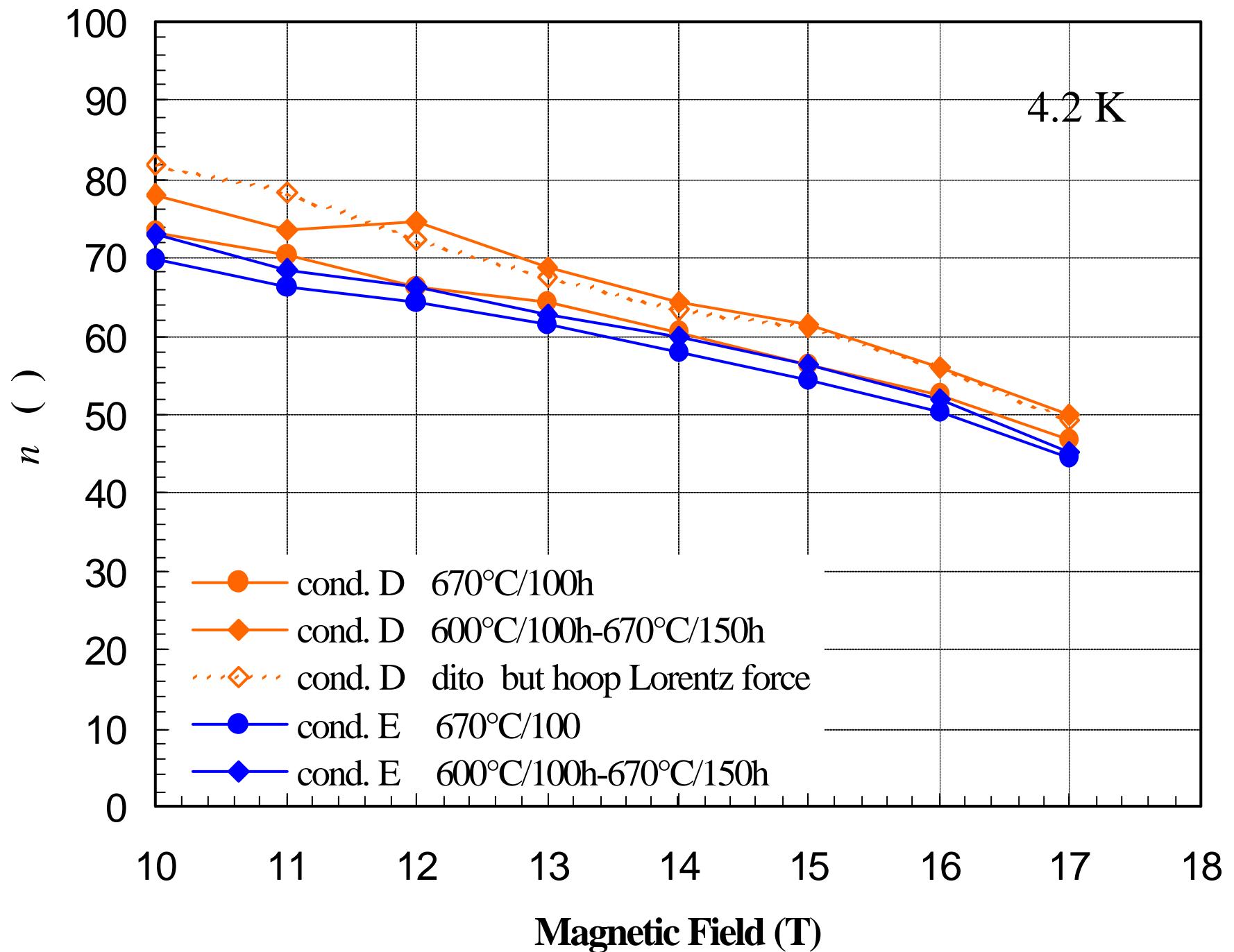
(R)











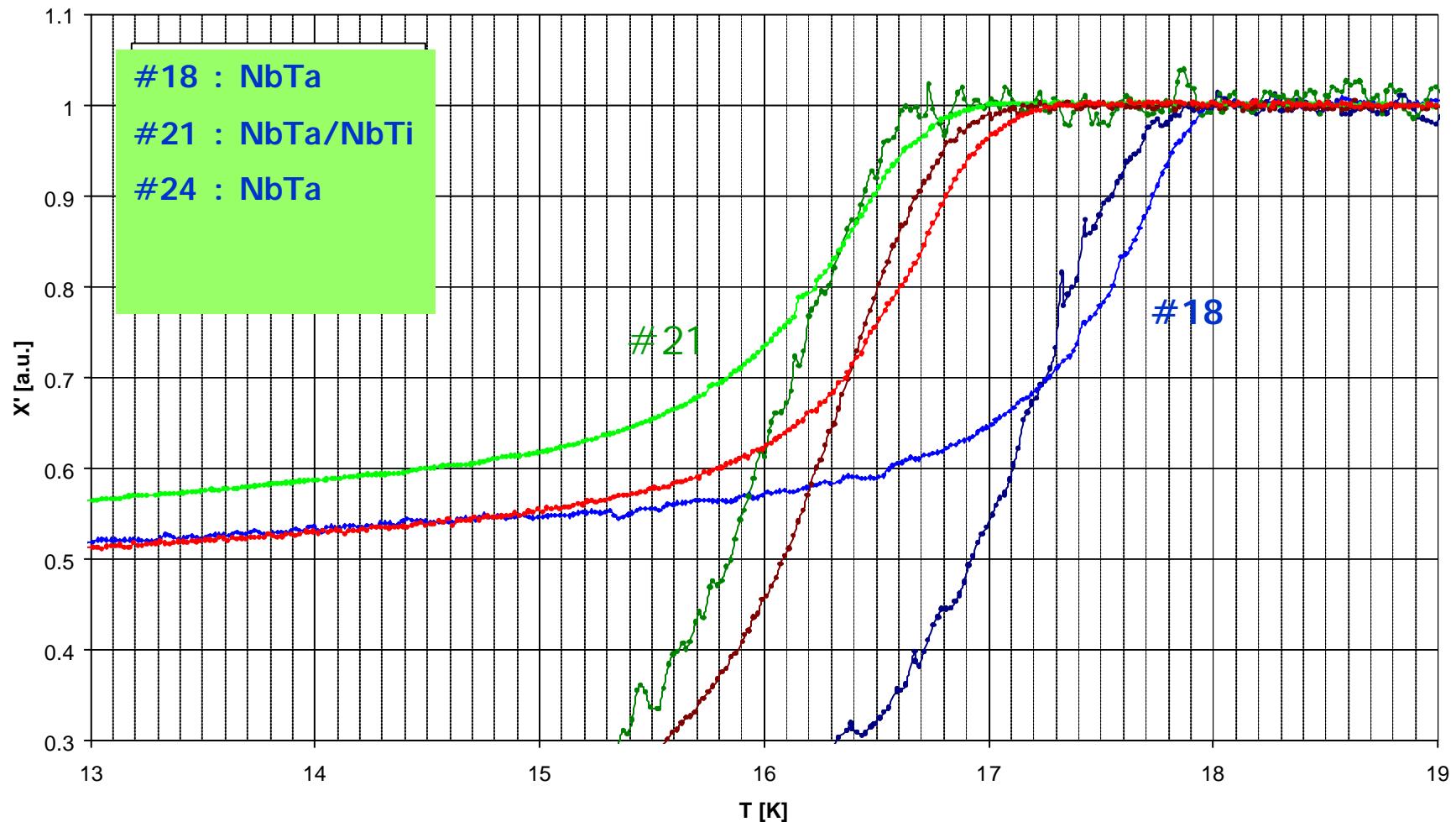
These results of J_c and n clearly reveal the Ti doping by the bronze as more performing

The analysis of the residual niobium ratio of the filaments and residual tin content in the bronze does not show a significant difference compared to the filament doping method.

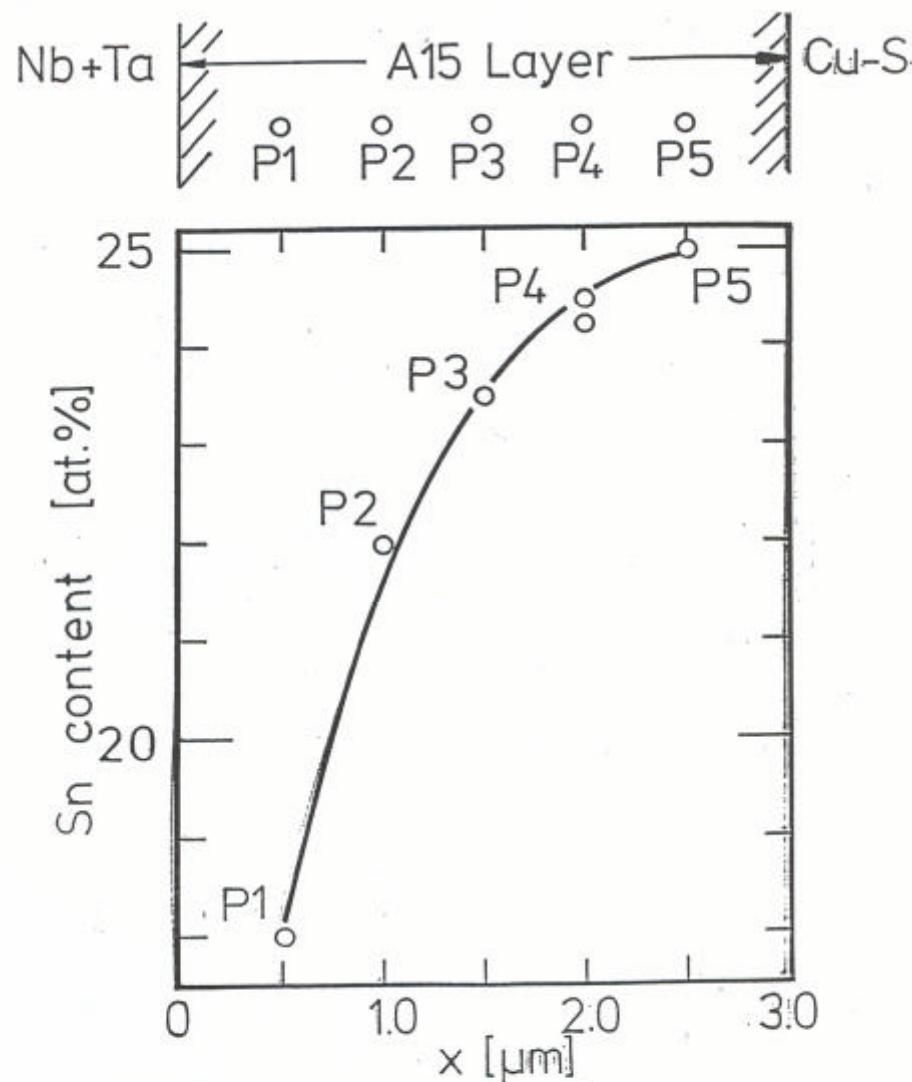
Further high resolution analysis has to be done on the nanostructure of the A15 phase (grains, grain boundaries).

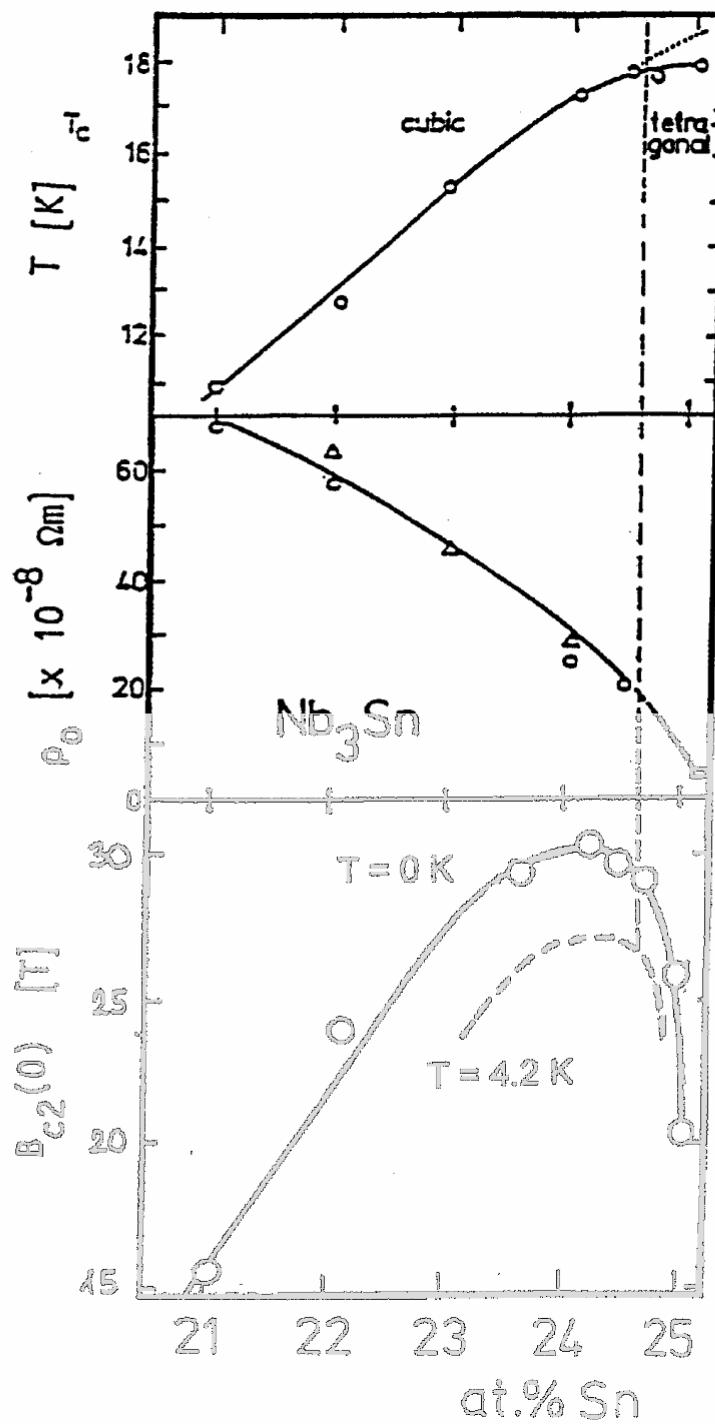
Nb_3Sn Wires: effect of Ti additives

600°C/100h-670°C/150h

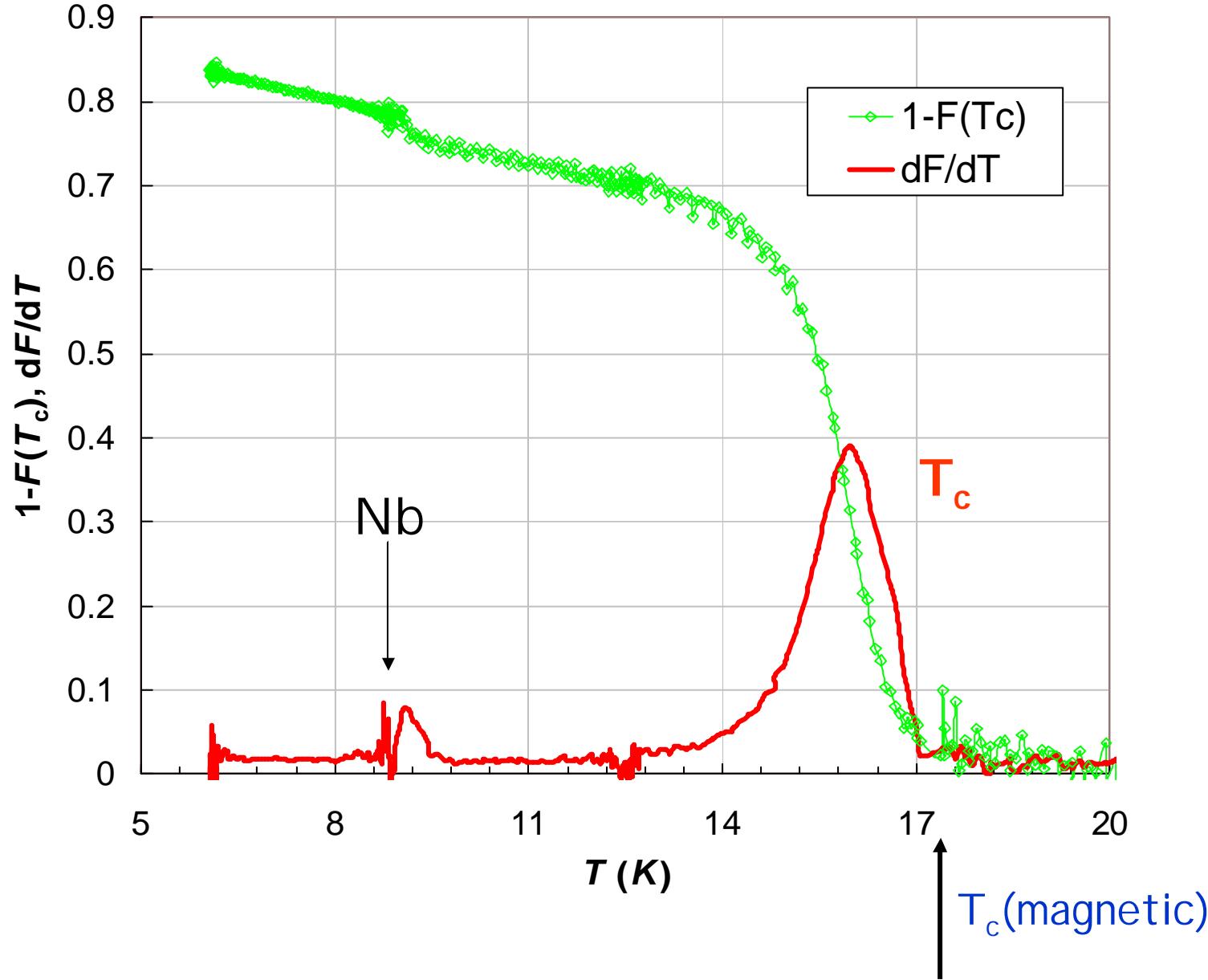


Bronze route wires: distribution of Sn in a filament

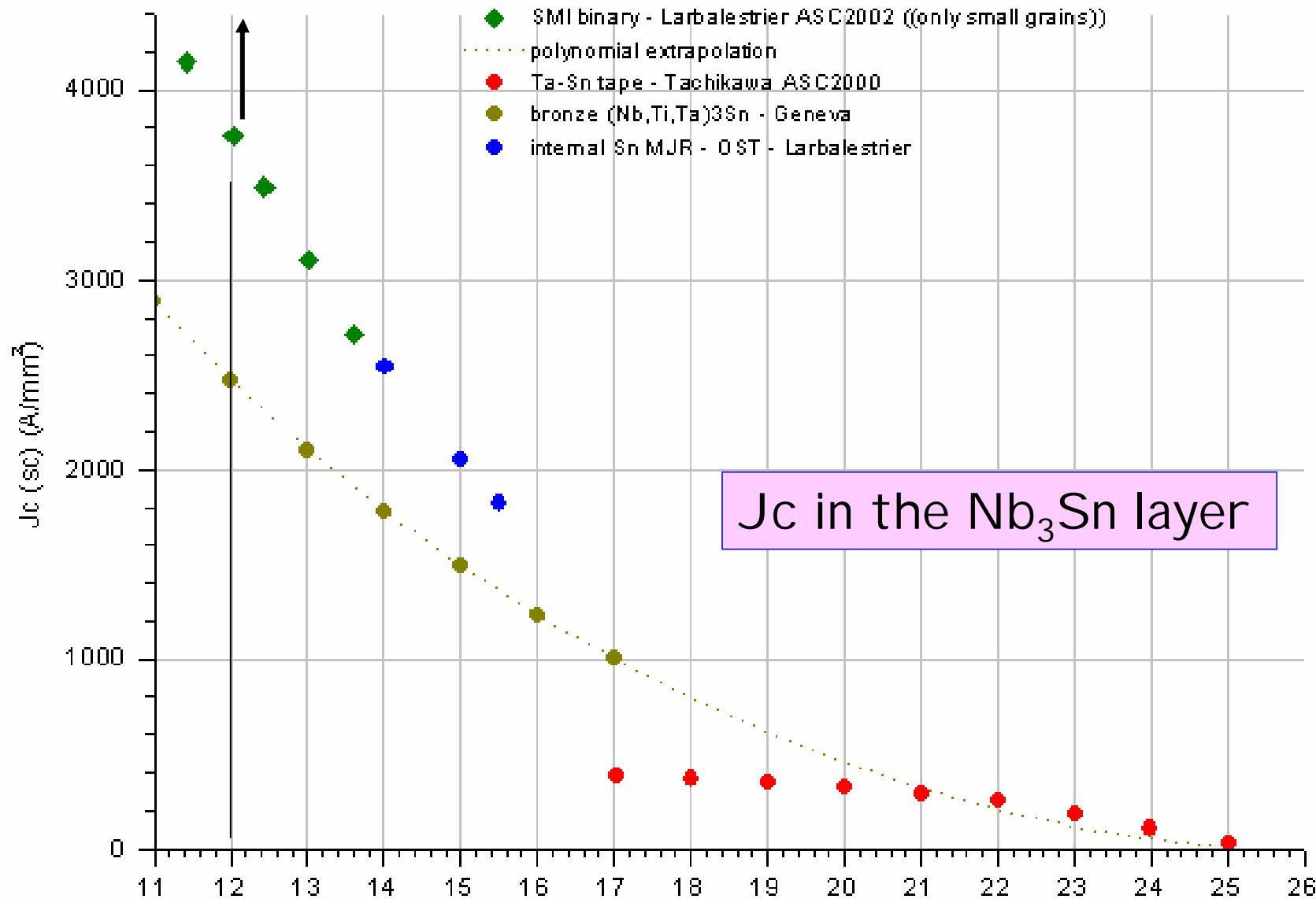


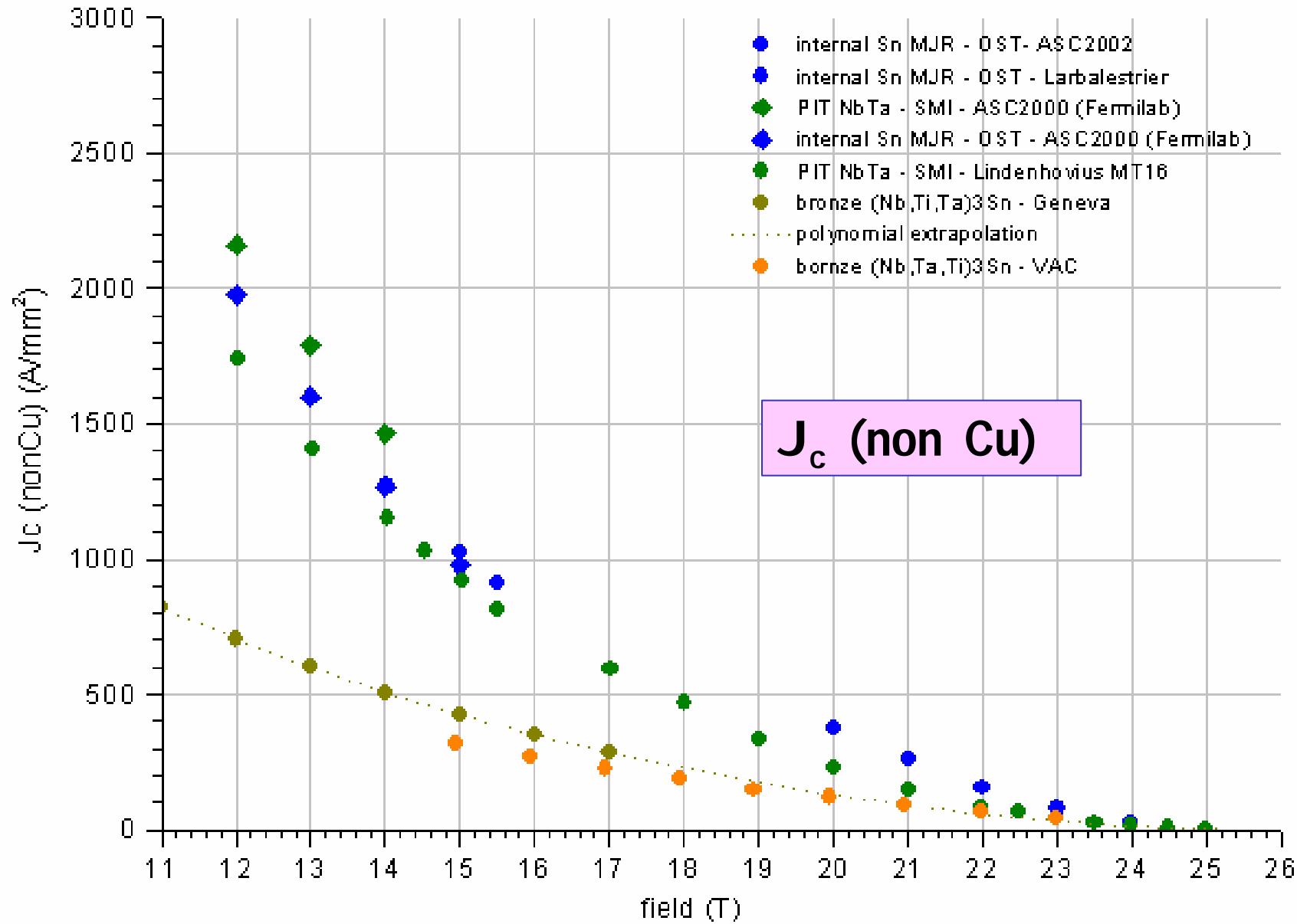


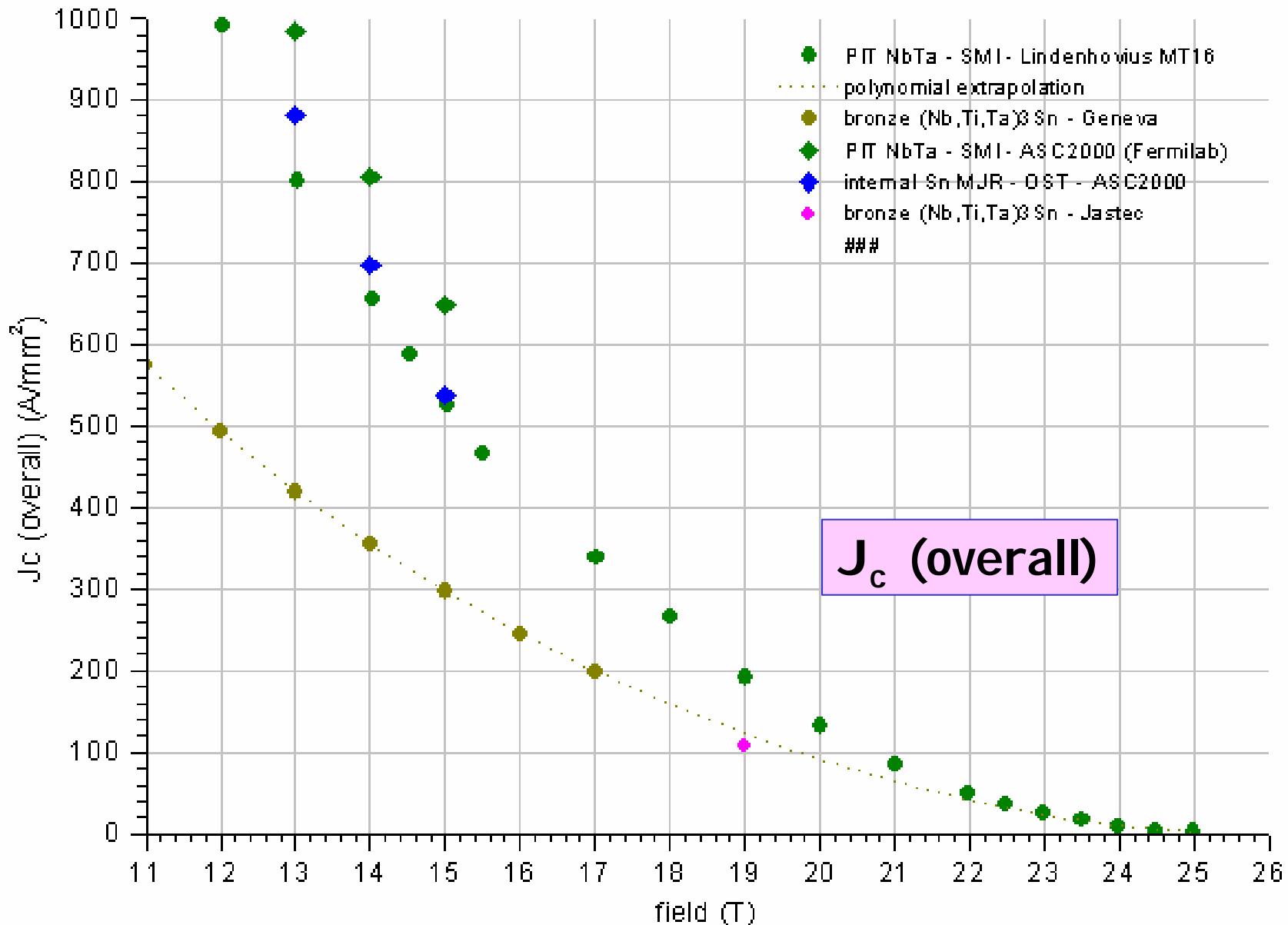
$$B_{c2} \sim T_c \gamma \rho_0$$



T_c distribution from specific heat in $(Nb, Ti)_3Sn$ multifilamentary wire
(Y. Wang, A. Junod, Geneva)









Actually, bronze route only competitive for very high fields (NMR applications: $B > 21$ T), where other factors are important:

Mechanical stability

(uniaxial and transverse stress)

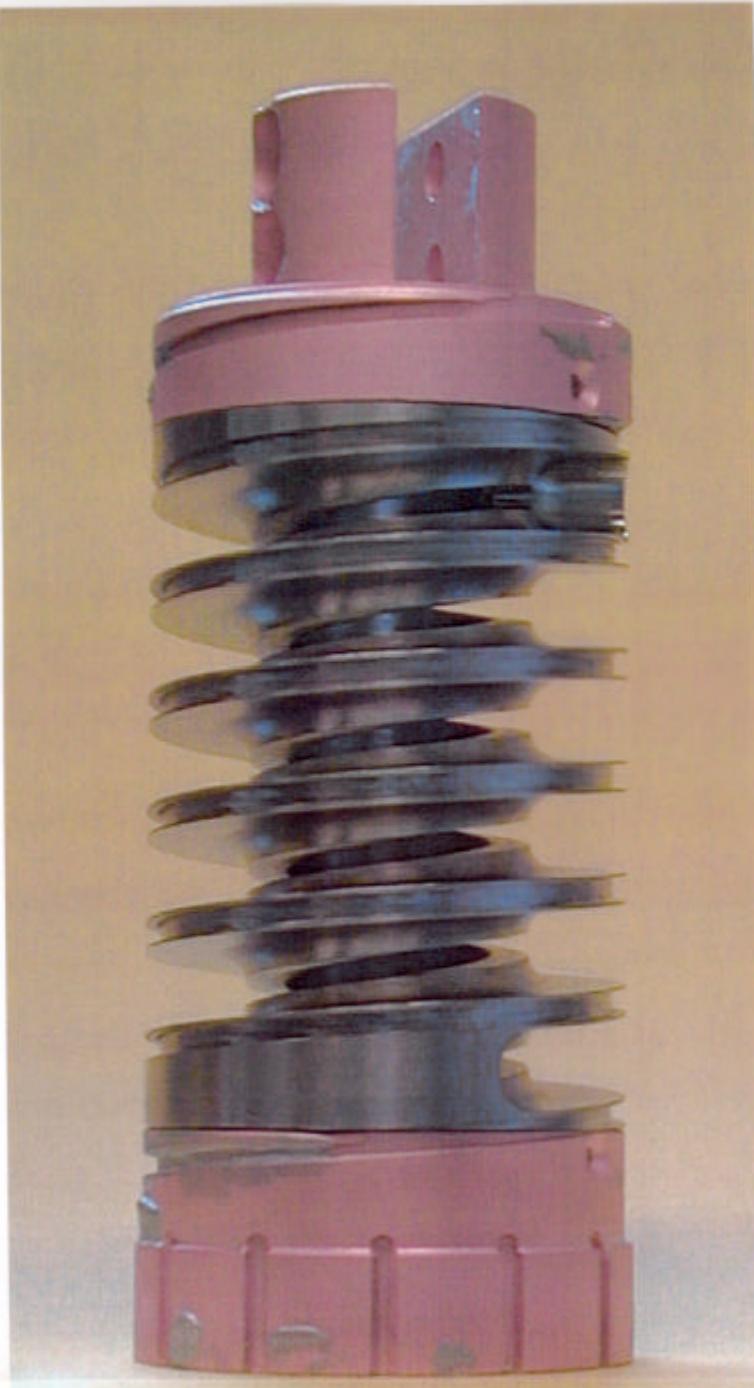
Joint techniques

Thermal stability

Small filament diameters: positive influence on all these properties

Next goals

New investigation by means of specific heat, in view of narrower T_c distributions ® higher J_c values



Walters Spiral (WASP) for j_c (e) measurement

Strain rig at University Geneva:

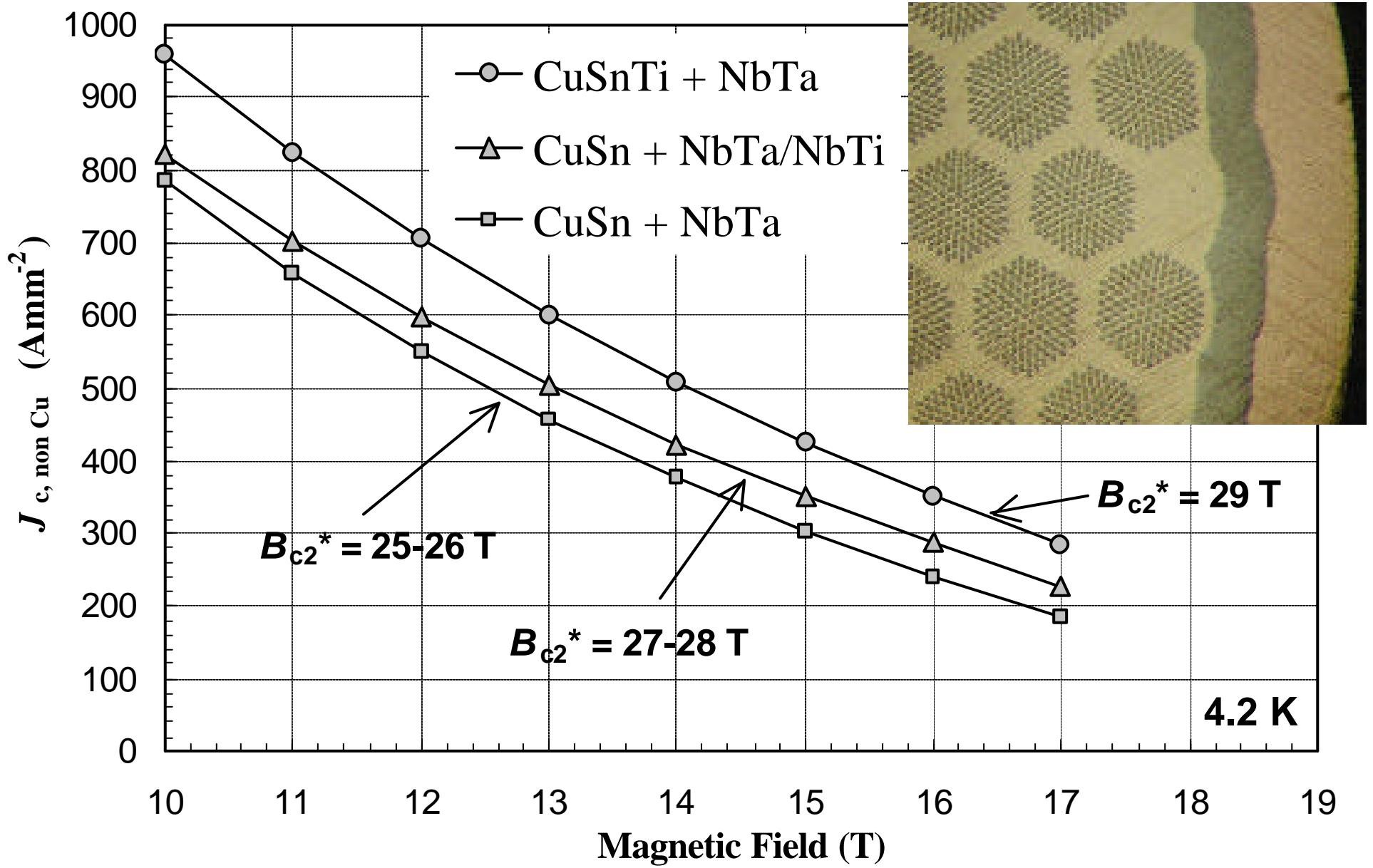
£ 1'000 A

£ 17 T (actually)

21 T (June 04)

£ 800 mm length

\approx 0.01 mV/cm



Nb₃Sn wires with Ta and Ta + Ti additives, GAP/Univ. Geneva

