

# Bi(2223) activity at INFN- LAMIA

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<http://www.lamia.infn.it>

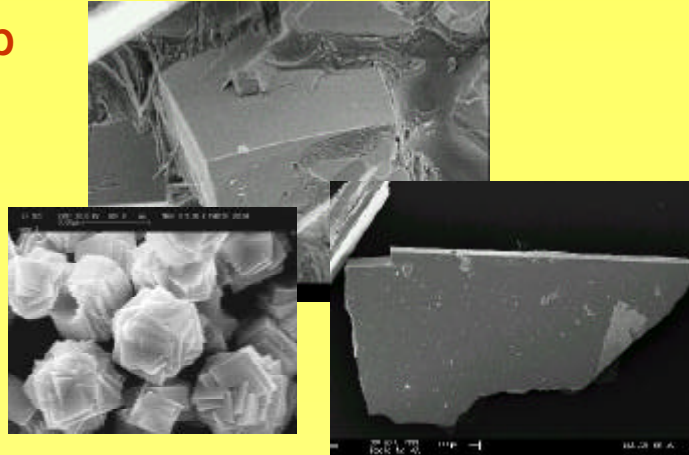
# Summary

- INFN-LAMI A research activities
- Fabrication of Bi(2223) multifilamentary wires & tapes
- Very high magnetic field behavior
- Partial replacement of silver sheath
- Example of application of modified Bi(2223) on a small superconducting device

# Instrumentation and Research Facilities

## Powder synthesis Lab

2000 Bar Isostatic press  
Uniaxial presses  
Ball milling  
Furnaces up to 1700°C



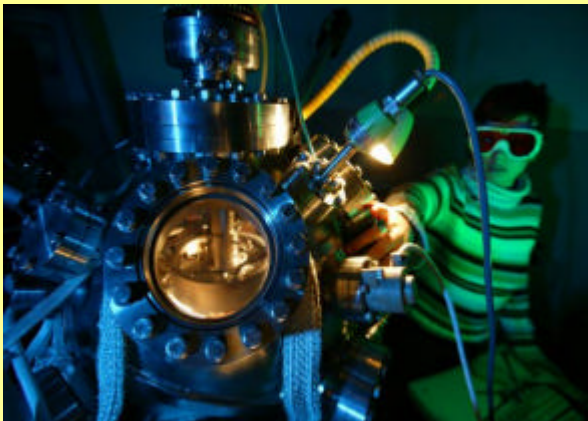
## Tapes & Wires Lab

Deformation  
(Groove and flat rolling,  
Drawing, swaging, twisting)



## Thin films Lab

2 high vacuum Pulsed Laser  
Deposition system  
In situ RHEED analysis

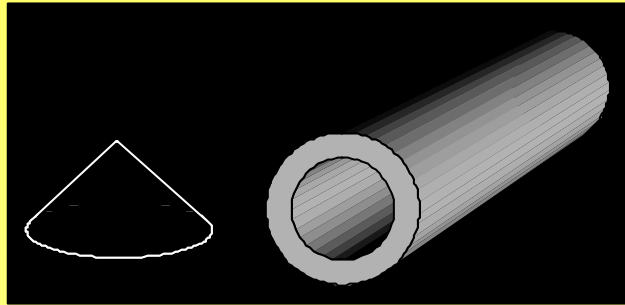


## Metallographic Lab

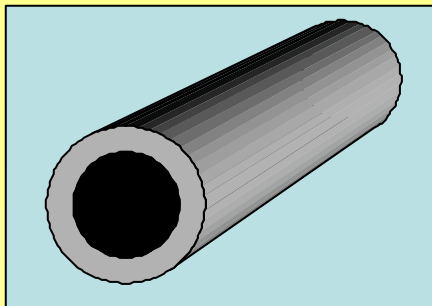
Polishing  
SEM & Optical microscopy  
4-circle x-ray diffractometer  
Atomic adsorption and UV-  
visible spectrophotometers  
 $\mu$ -hardness

# Fabrication of Bi(2223) tapes

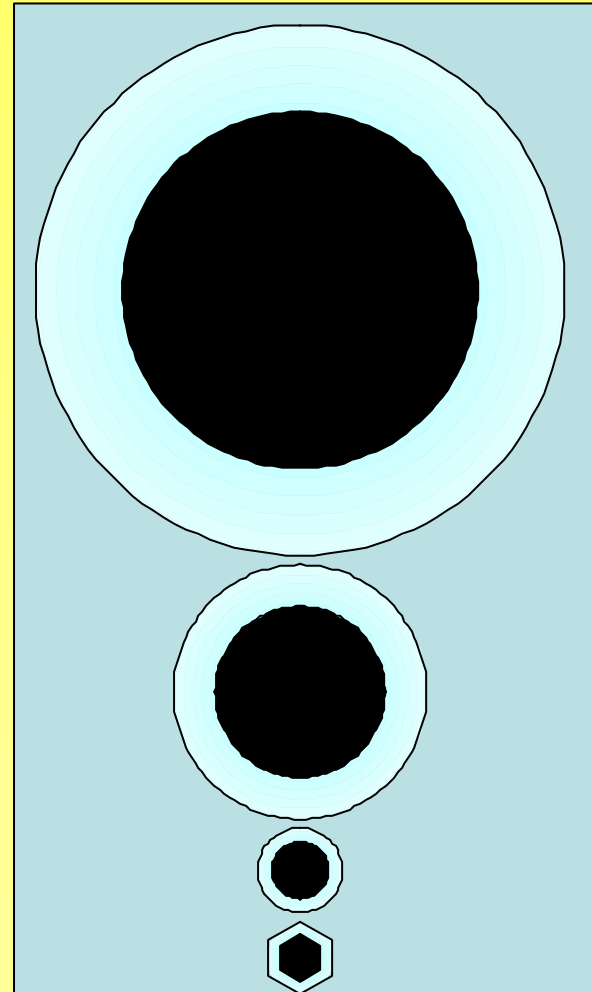
PRECURSOR POWDERS – Bi(2223)+...



PRESSING



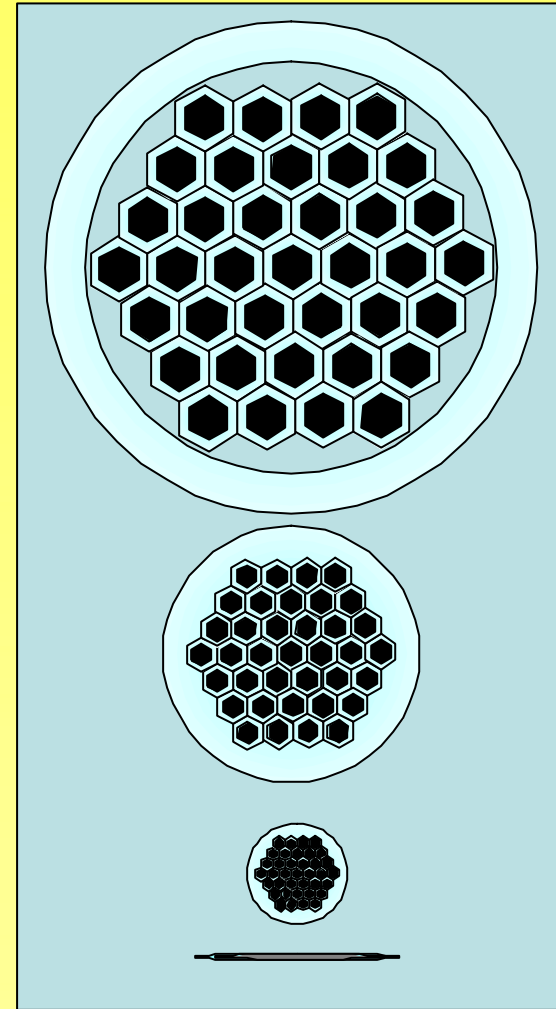
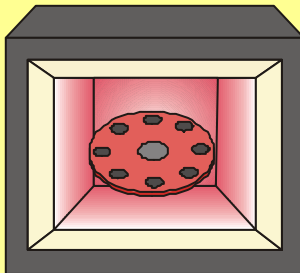
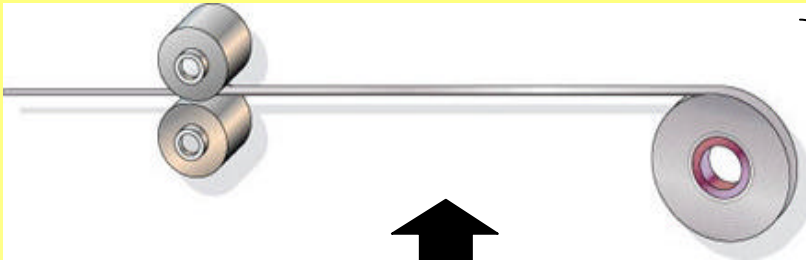
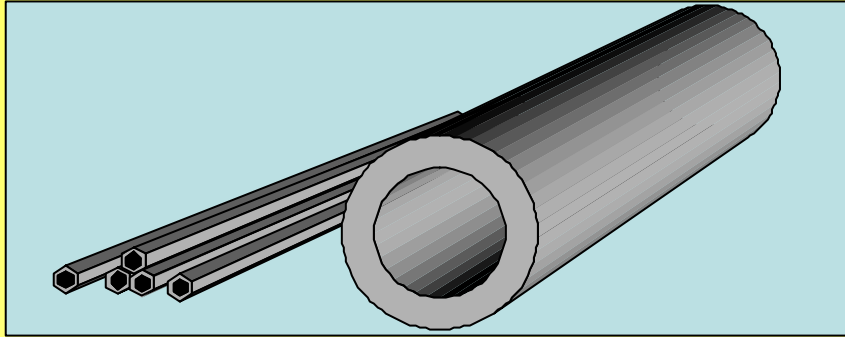
POWDERS ARE PACKED INTO Ag TUBES



SWAGING  
and/or  
DRAWING

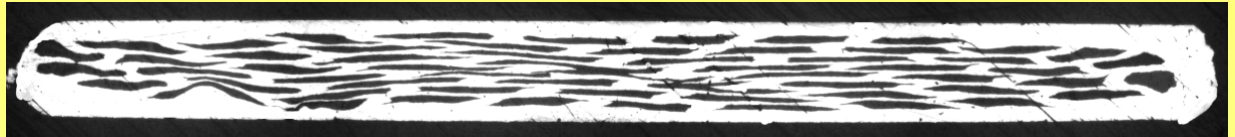
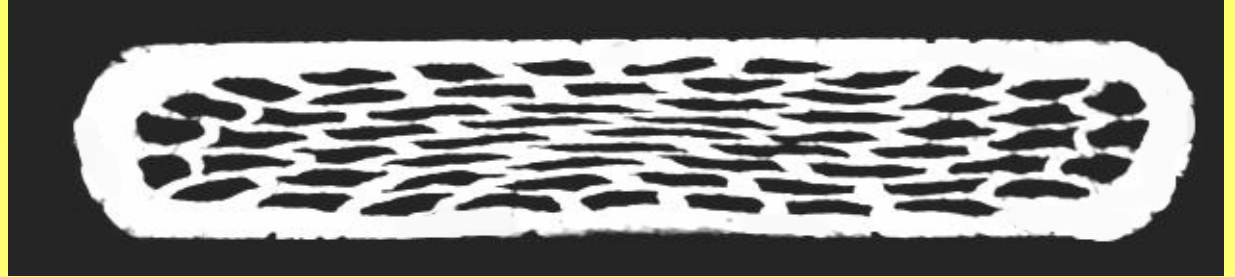
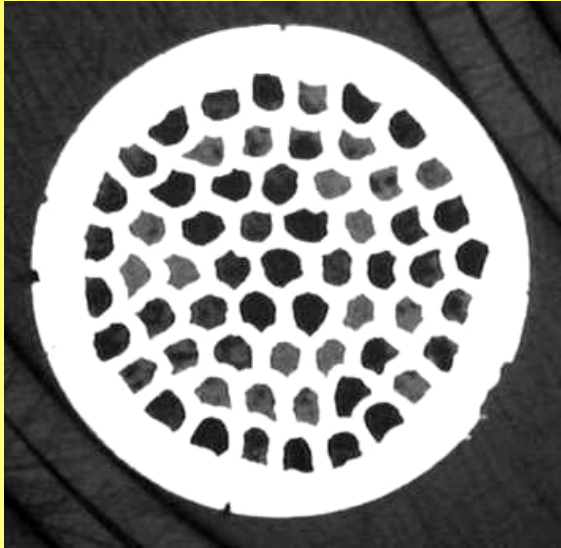
# Fabrication of Bi(2223) tapes

FILAMENTS ARE PACKED INSIDE ANOTHER Ag TUBE

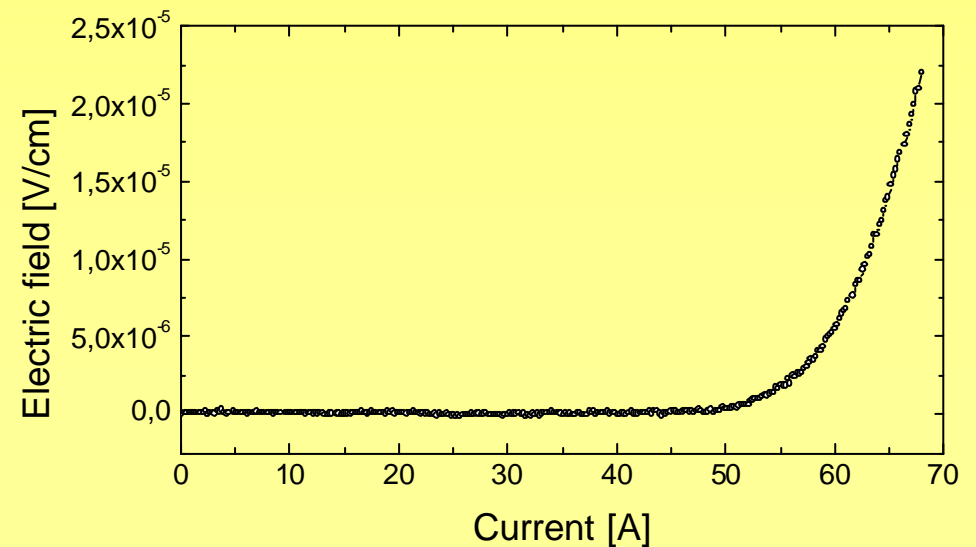
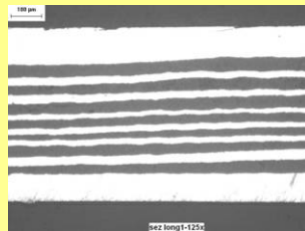
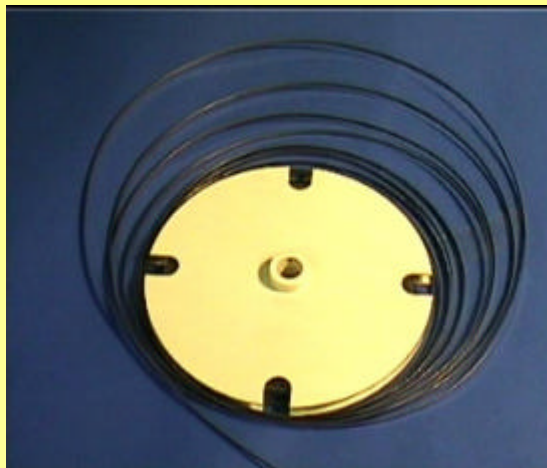


PACKED TUBES ARE COLD WORKED AGAIN AS THE MONOCORE WIRE

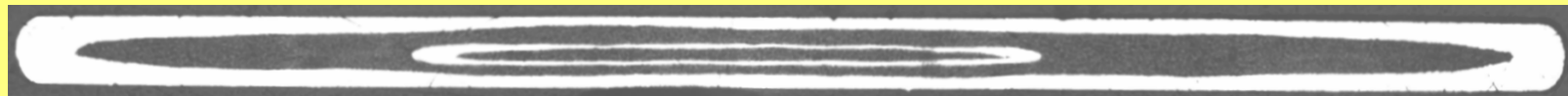
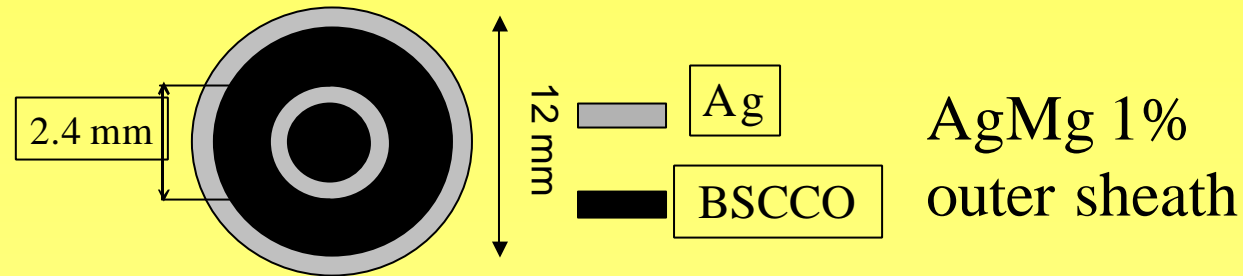
# Experimental achievements



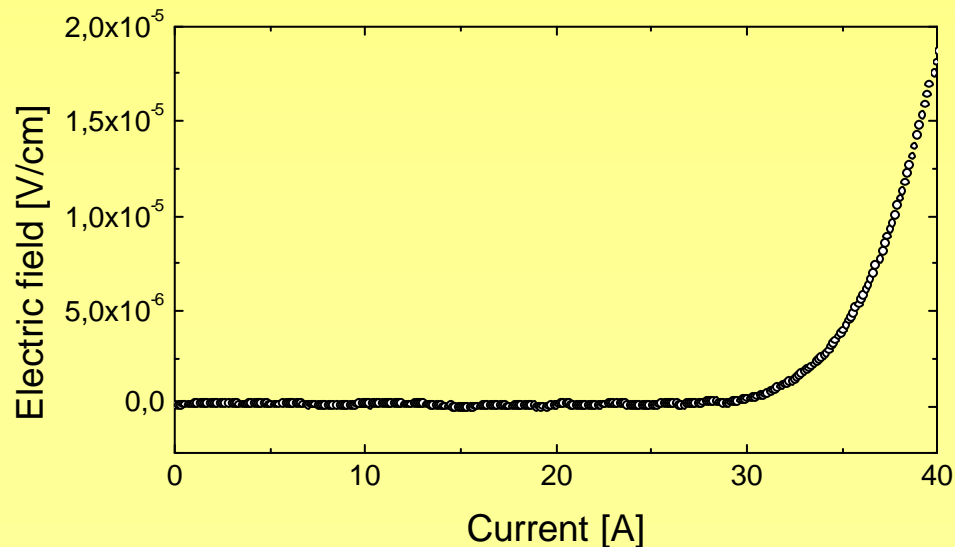
61 filaments – 100 meter long – 3.8 mm x 0.24 mm



# Concentric tape geometry



120  $\mu\text{m}$  x 3 mm



Very thin Bi(2223) tape

Optimised for lower AC losses  
in transverse fields

Faster preparation process than  
multifilamentary tape

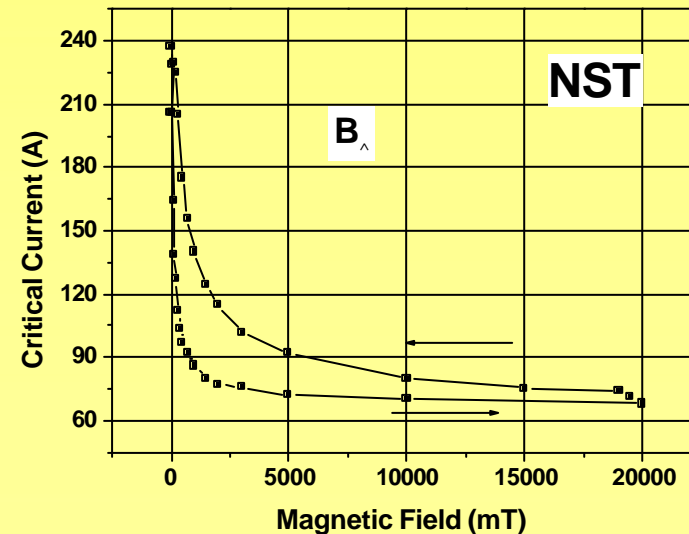
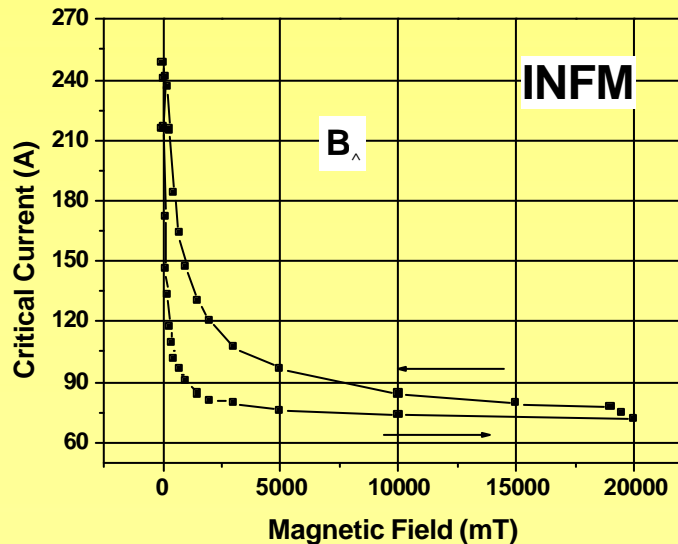
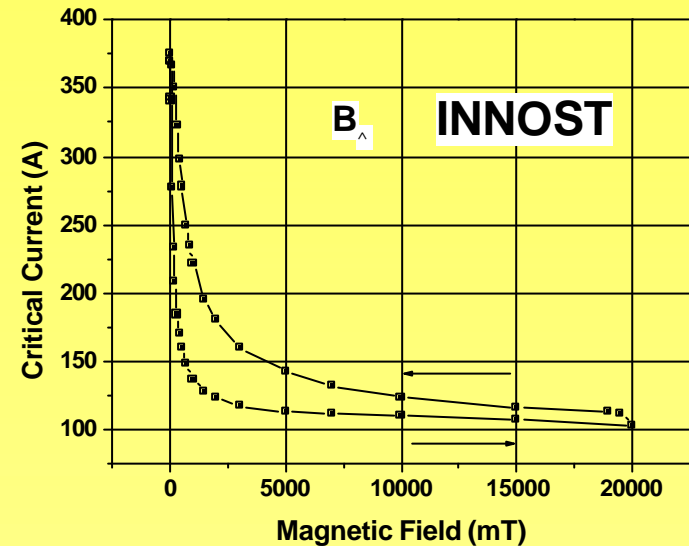
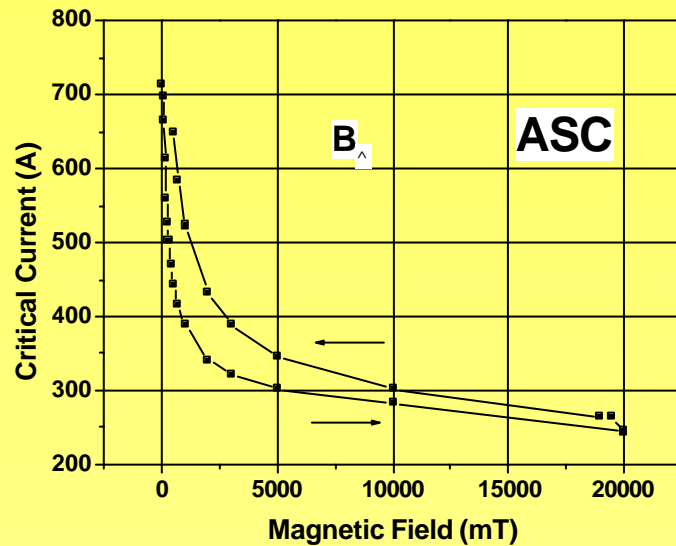
# High magnetic field behavior - I

Four tapes have been measured at 4.2K up to 20T

- American Superconductor Corp., USA with  $I_c^{77K} = 120 \text{ A}$
- INNOST, China, with  $I_c^{77K} = 65 \text{ A}$
- NST, Denmark, with  $I_c^{77K} = 40 \text{ A}$
- INFIM tape with  $I_c^{77K} = 50 \text{ A}$

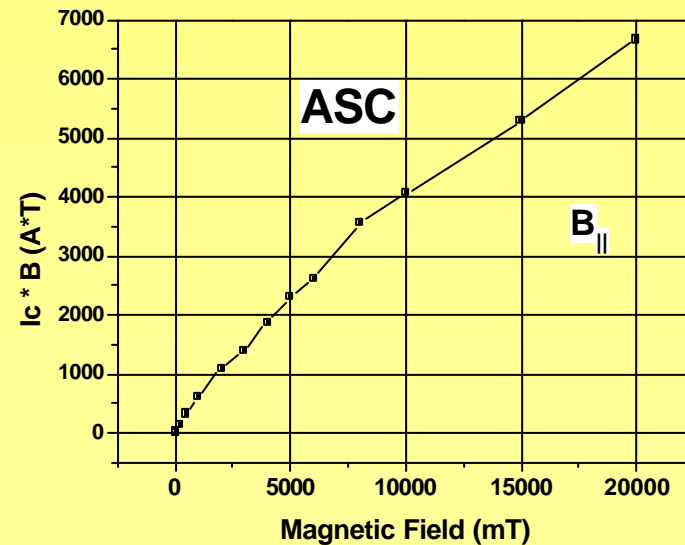
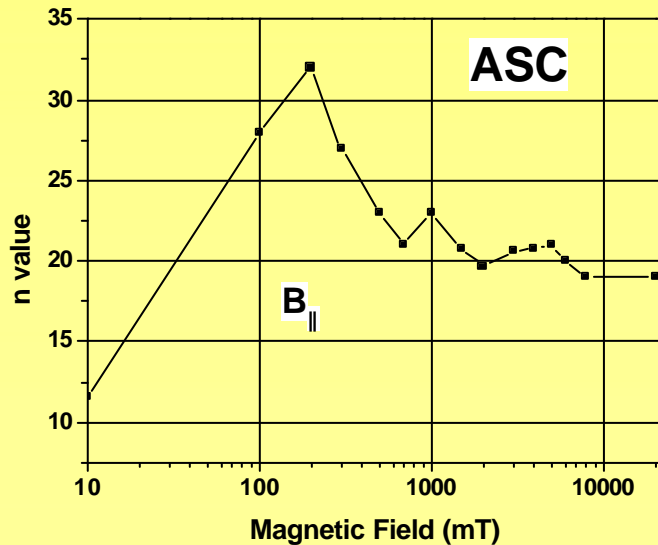
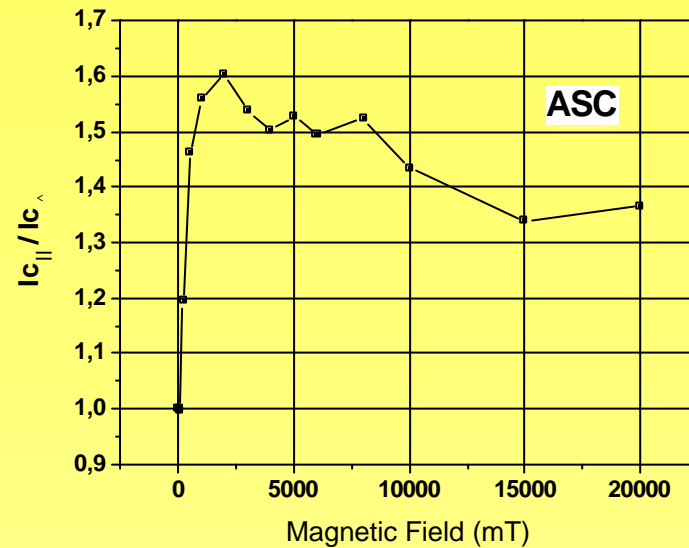
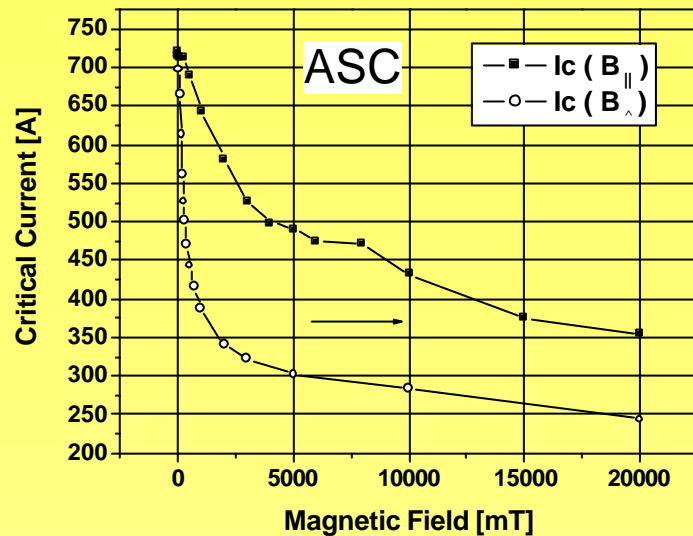
All of comparable cross section of approx. 4 x 0.25 mm

# High magnetic field behavior - II



Measured at GHMFL in collaboration with L. Martini, Cesi SpA, Milan (I)

# High magnetic field behavior - III

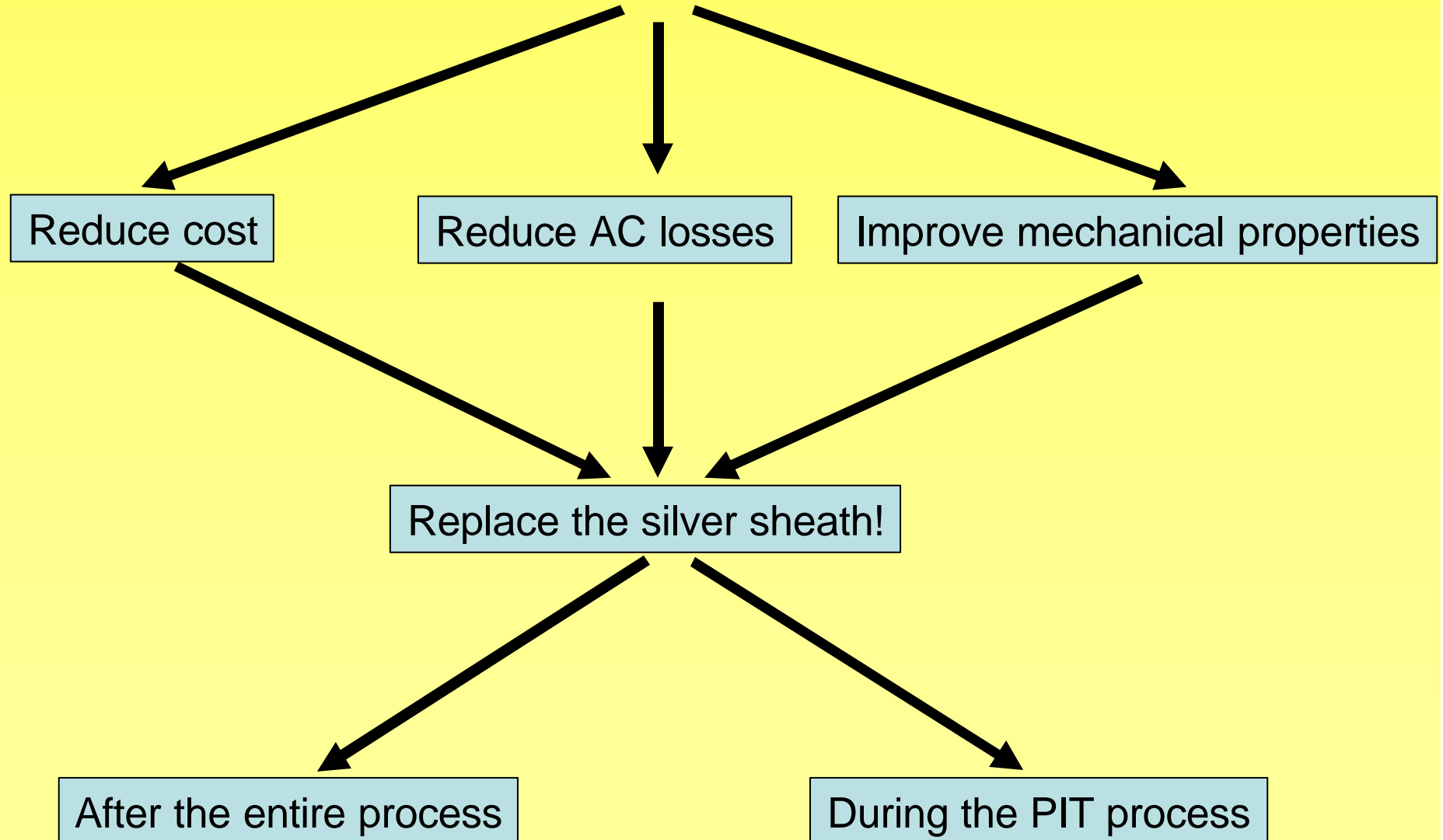


Measured at GHMFL in collaboration with L. Martini, Cesi SpA, Milan (I)

# High magnetic field behavior - IV

- ASC tapes are superior at all fields & temperatures
- Hysteretic behavior is reduced but still present in ASC tapes -> grain boundaries can be further improved
- Critical currents of  $\sim 300\text{A}$  ( $j_e=300\text{ A/mm}^2$ ) are carried at 20 T
- At 4.2K & 20T, cost of Bi(2223) is  $\sim 80\text{ \$}\cdot\text{kA/m}$

# To make Bi(2223) more attractive for users



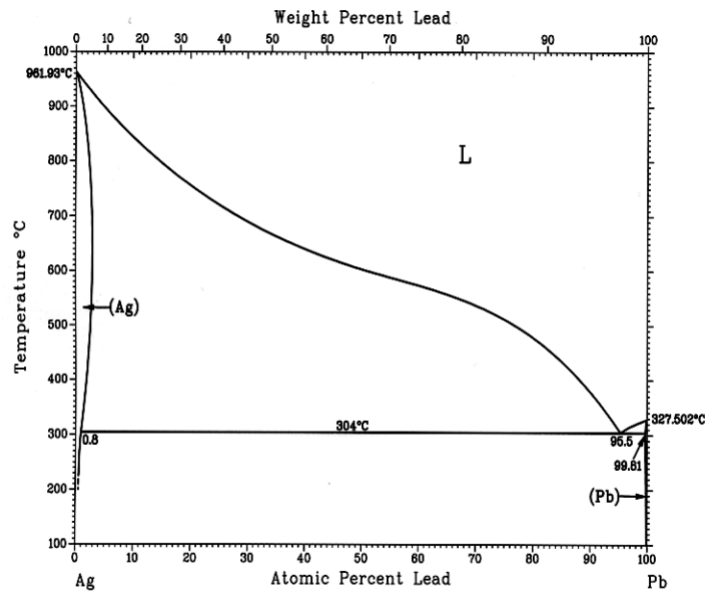
# Ag replacement on reacted tapes

- Long lengths of multifilamentary tapes have been made available by BICC, NST, Pirelli and INFN
- Conductors showed critical currents between 25A and 56A at 77K prior to the treatment
- Optimized alloy has been used for partial Ag replacement (Bi 40%, Sn 30%, Pb 20%, Cu 10%)
- Outer sheath material has to be reinforced AgMg alloy to avoid damage during the treatment

# Substitution of Ag by a low-melting temperature alloy

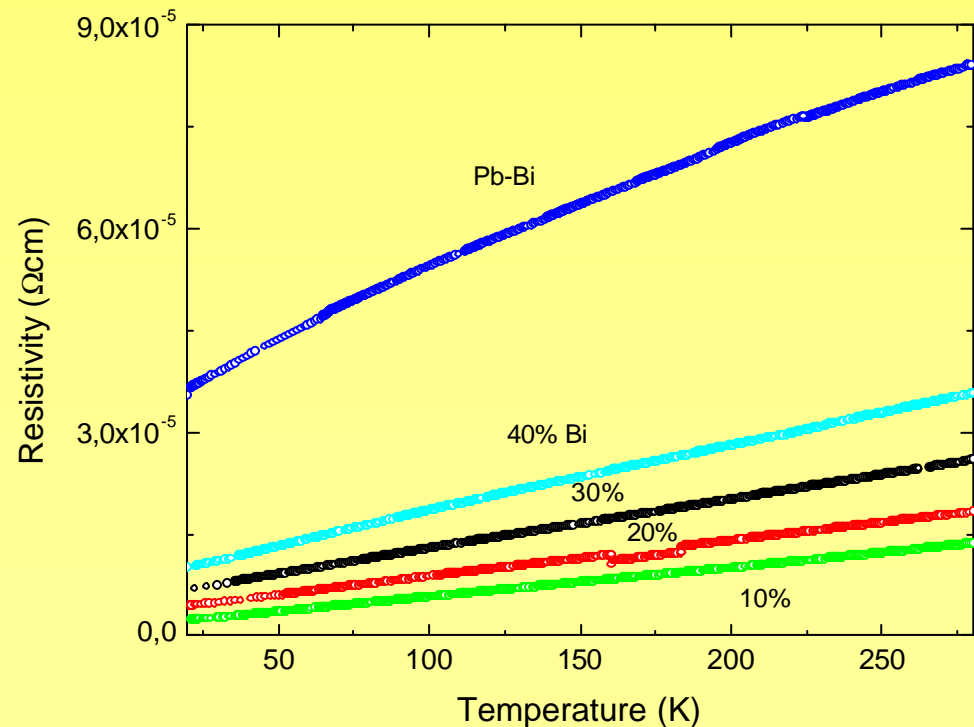
Metallic sheath:

Binary phase diagram of  
Ag-Bi



What type of alloy to be used?  
The cheapest one!  
Mixing of Bi to standard  
Sn-Pb soldering alloy

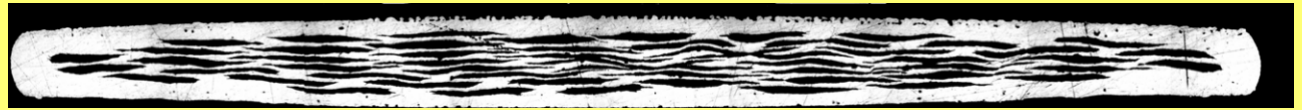
$$R^{77K}(\text{alloy}) > 100 R^{77K}(\text{Ag})$$



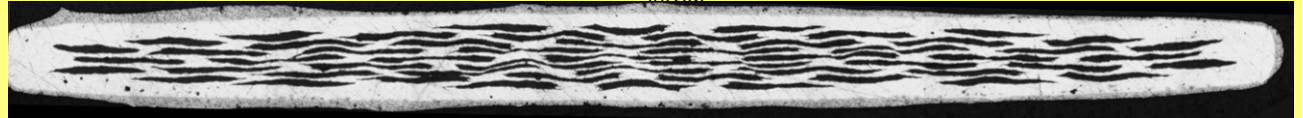
# Example of Ag replacement



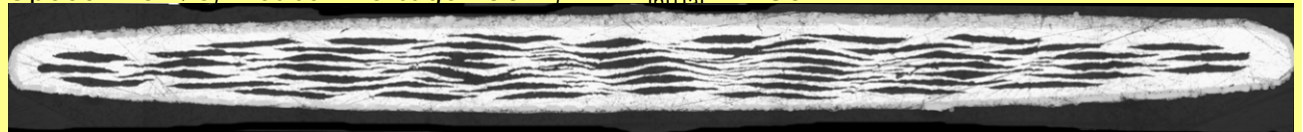
Starting tape ( no replacement )



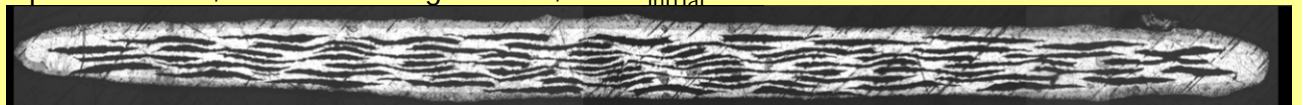
Speed 5 cm/s, Heater Voltage 100 V,  $R = R_{\text{initial}}$



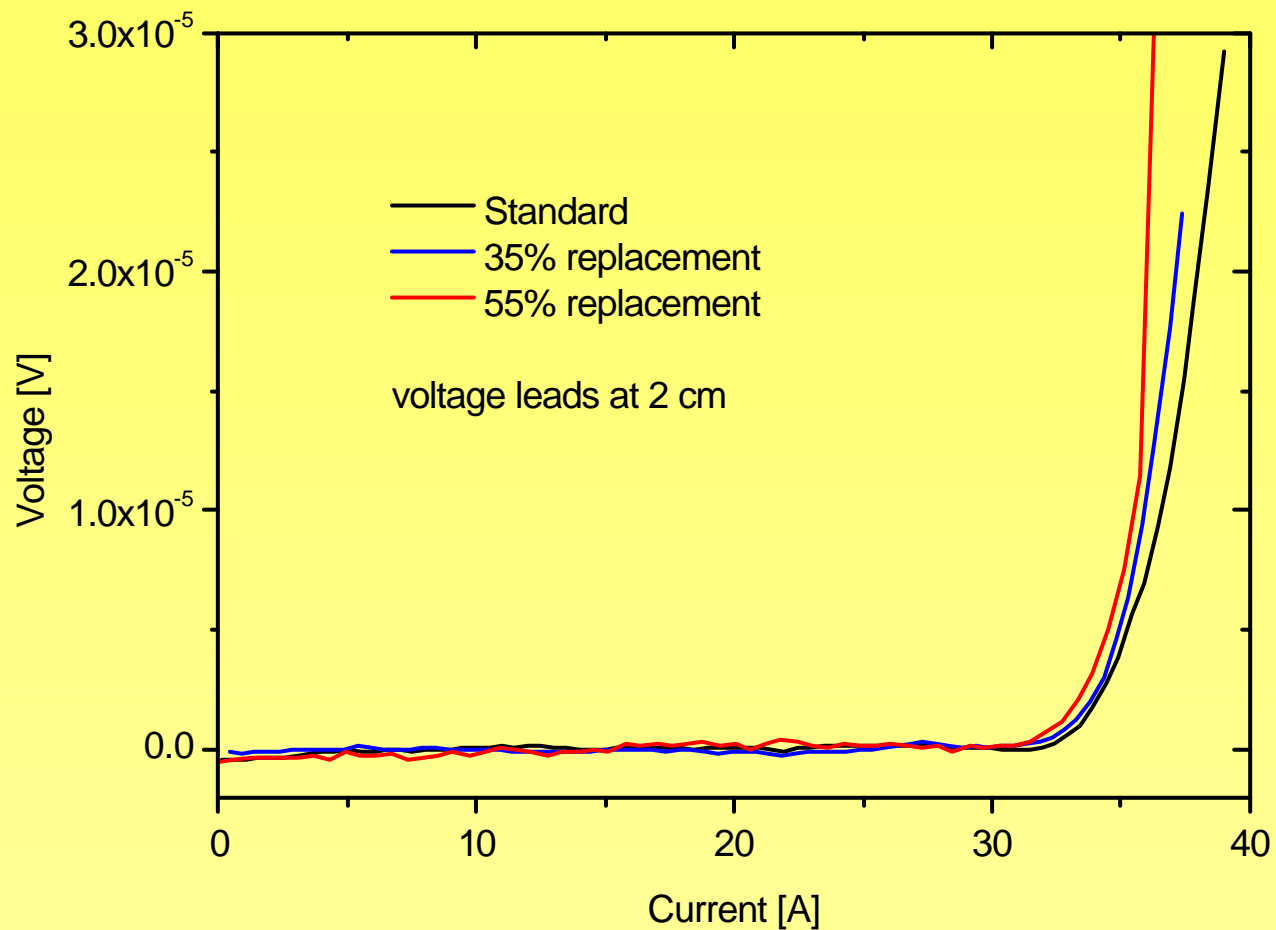
Speed 2 cm/s, Heater Voltage 100 V,  $R = R_{\text{initial}} \times 1.35$



Speed 2 cm/s, Heater Voltage 105 V,  $R = R_{\text{initial}} \times 2.2$

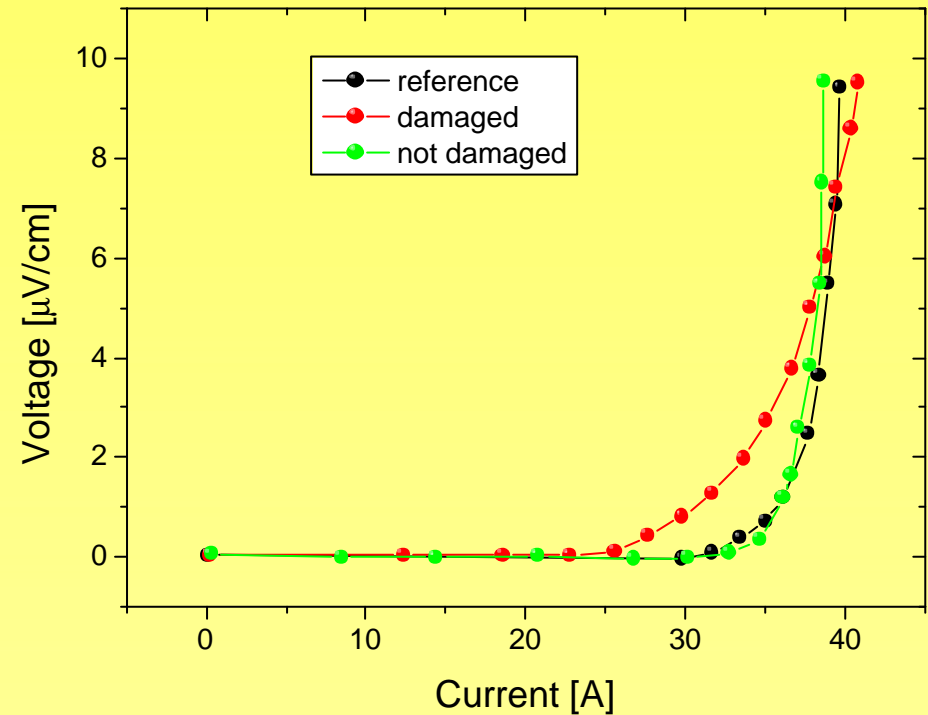
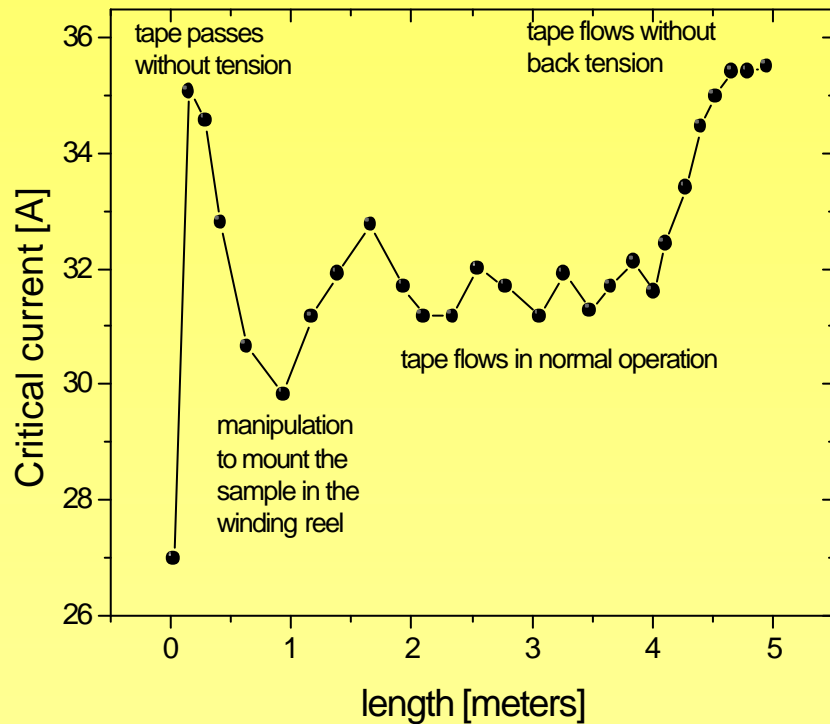


## V-I characteristics



- almost no  $j_c$  degradation
- Visible effect on the n factor

# Problems faced with long-lengths operation



10%  $I_c$  drop is due to residual back tension and bath viscosity

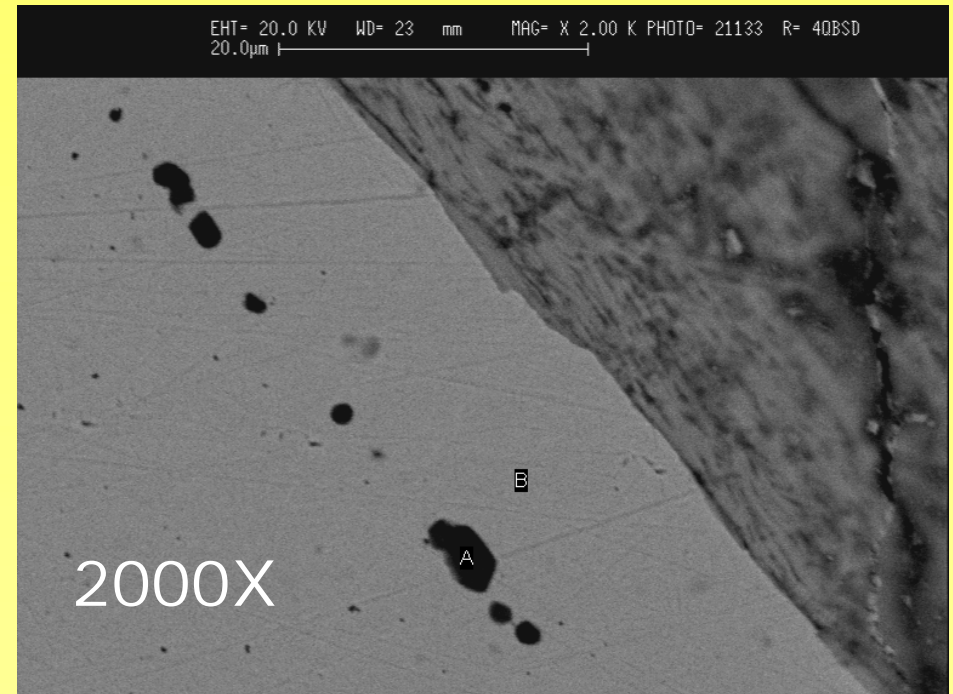
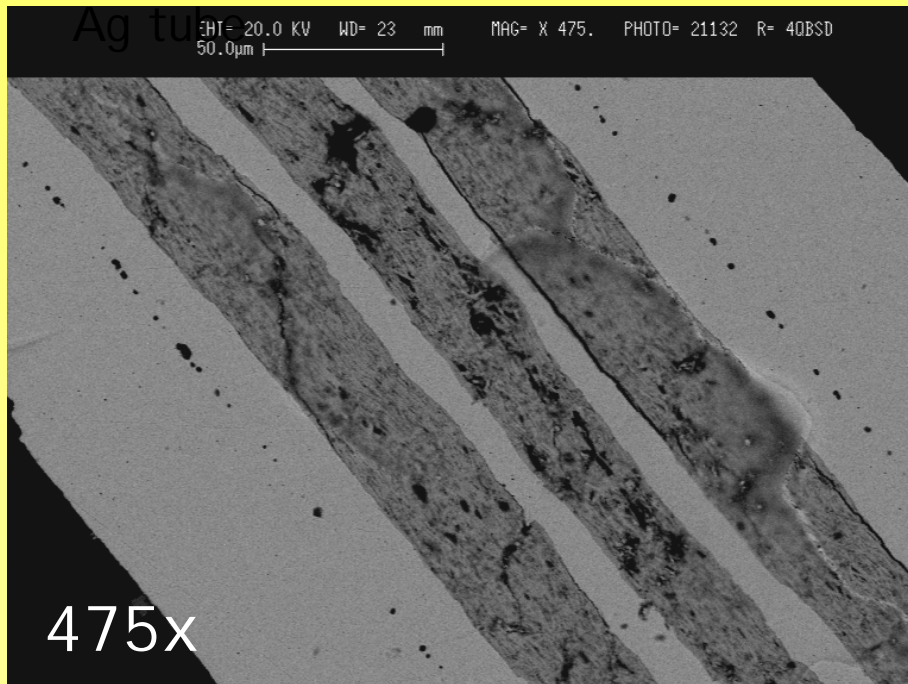
# Reproducibility of processing has been achieved

Manufacturer	Details	Critical current	% Ag replaced
BI CC	Multifilamentary f.f. 25%	32A -> 30A	30%
Pirelli	Multifilamentary f.f. 30%	35A -> 32A	55%
NST	Multifilamentary f.f. 30%	53A -> 30-50A	40-50%
I NFM (Merck pwd.)	Multifilamentary f.f. 25% Optimized with less Ag between filaments and more outside	28A -> 27A	70%

Substitution of the outer tube in a multifilamentary tape by different alloys:  
a diffusion barrier has to be introduced to avoid BSCCO contamination

## Electrodeposited metallic diffusion barrier

Cu,Ni,Fe layer deposited on the 19-filament pack before insertion in the outer



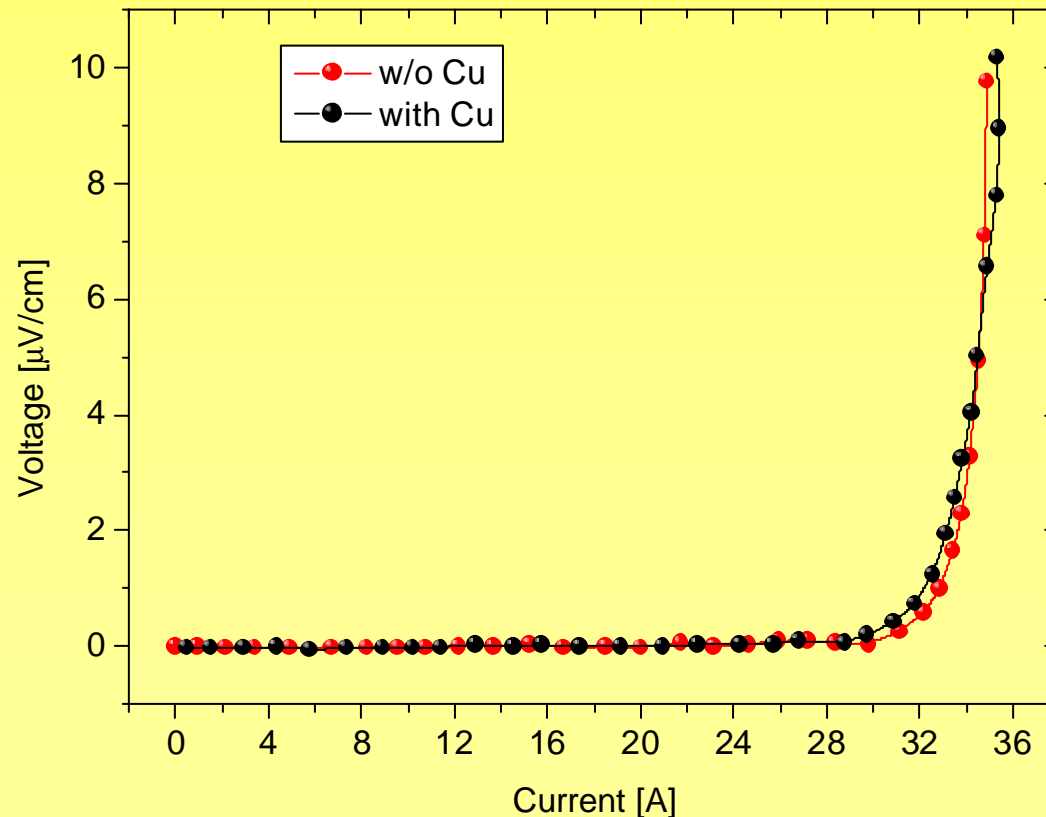
Copper does not diffuse to BSCCO as it happens in the resistive barrier case.

However, the barrier is not continuous as it was before heat treatment. CuO agglomerates in 1-5 µm particles.

# Critical currents of tape with Cu layer

-Identical to those of the conductors not subjected to the Cu deposition

19-filament tapes of 0.24 x 3.0 mm and 24% BSCCO filling factor

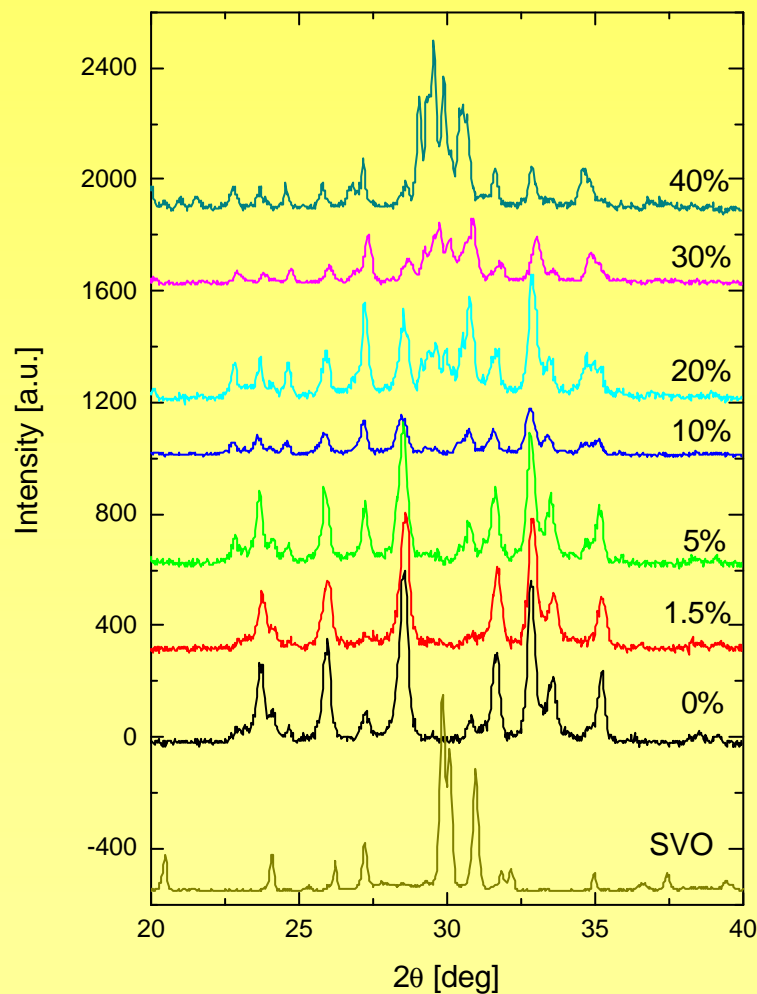
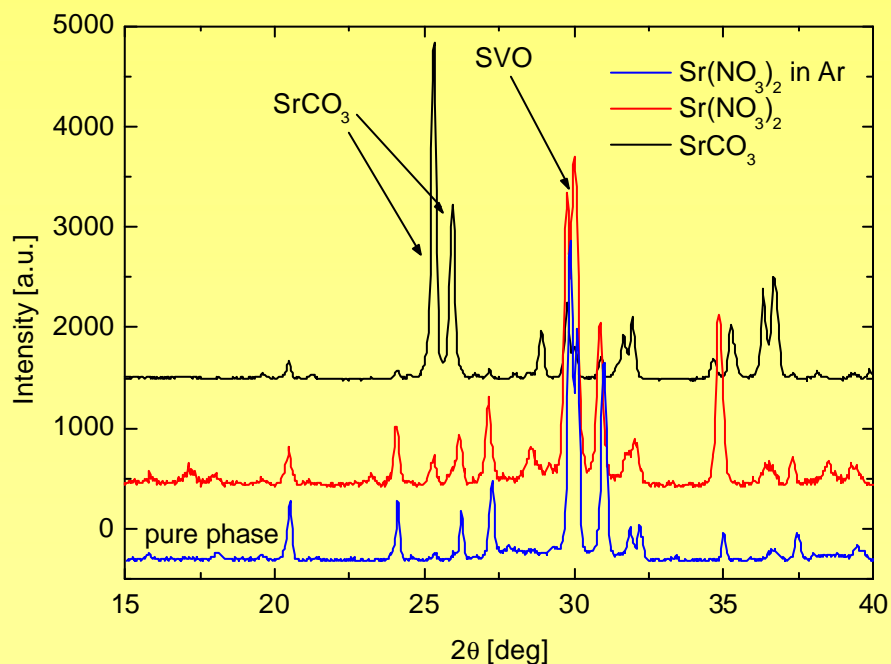


# Introduction of oxide diffusion barriers

- Different compounds have been studied for their compatibility with Bi-2223 phase formation

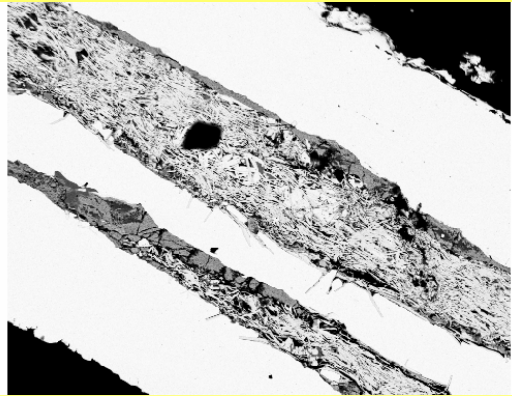
Maeda barrier compound  $\text{Sr}_6\text{V}_2\text{O}_{11}$

found optimal conditions for reaction (700C in Ar)

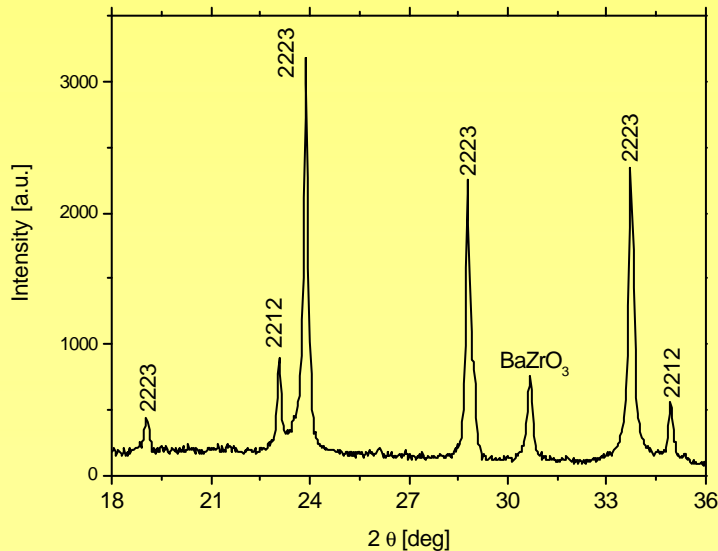


Bi-2223 does not form in presence of  $\text{SrVO}$ !

# Flukiger materials for barrier



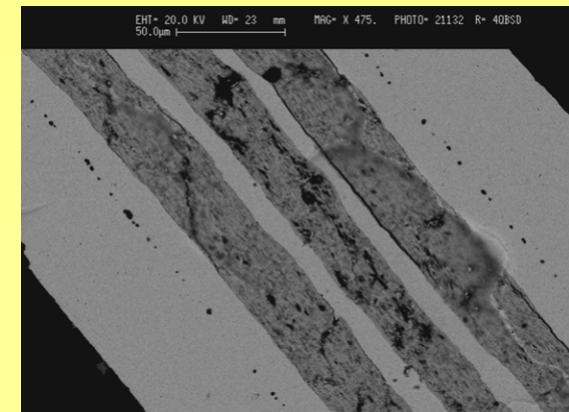
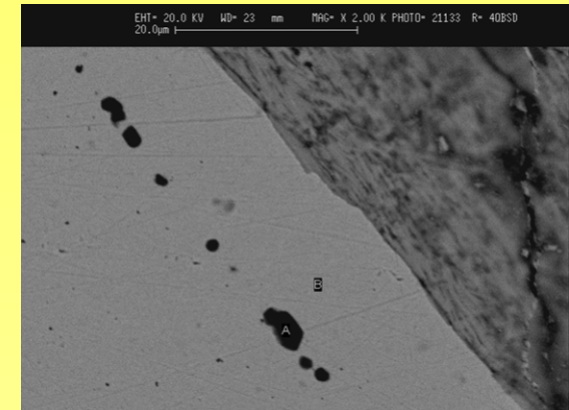
- The reaction with 2223 is modest
- Tapes have been made with the diffusion barrier in direct contact with 2223



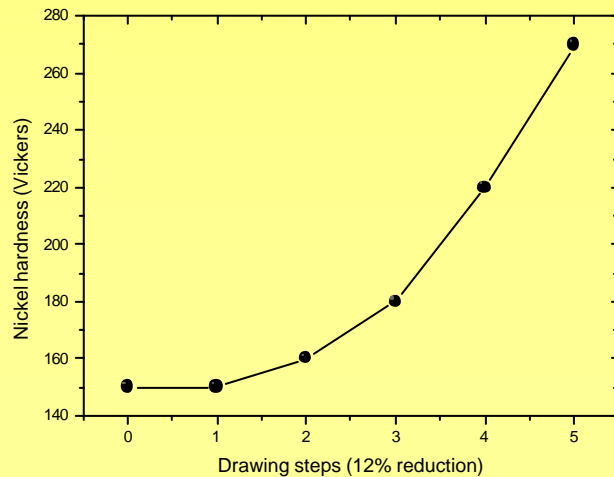
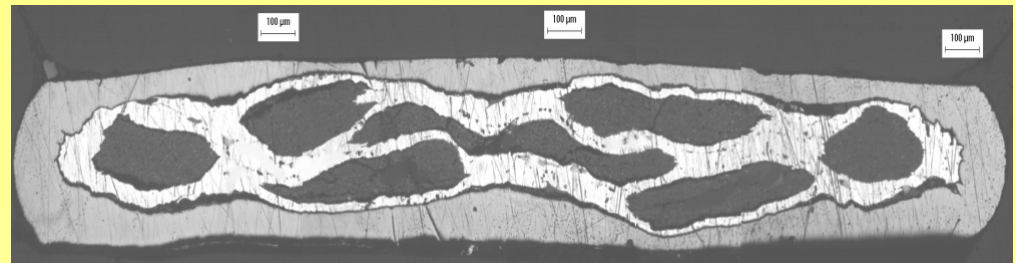
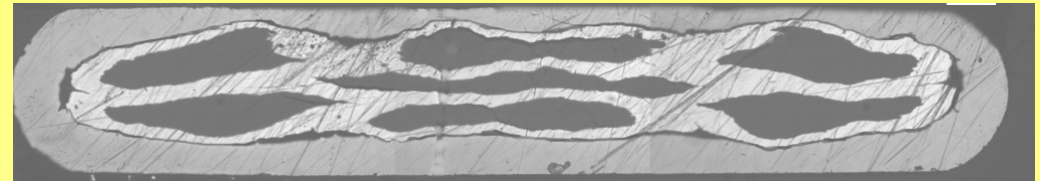
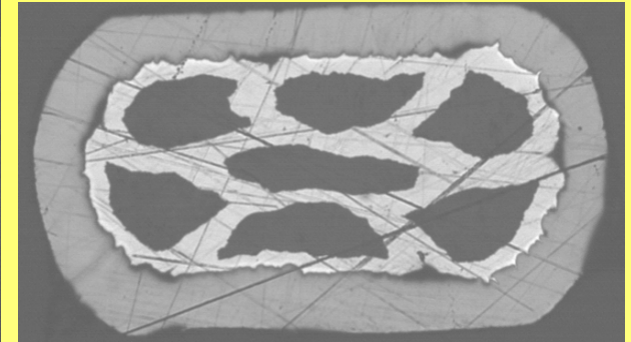
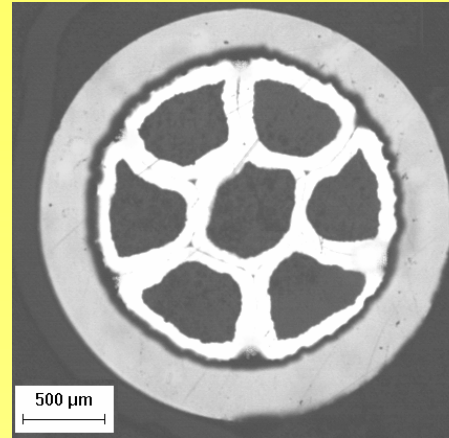
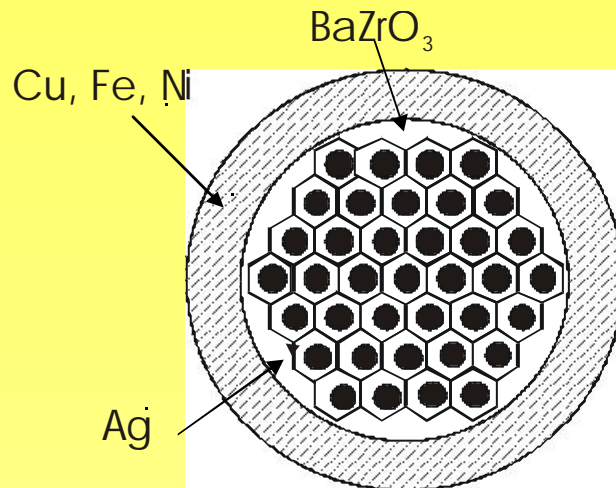
2% AgO has been added to BSCCO

$J_c$  decreases from 15 kA/cm<sup>2</sup> to 12 kA/cm<sup>2</sup> measuring from the tape end to the tape center ( 40 cm long sample )

Metallic barriers are not effective



# Multifilamentary tapes with outer Ni-sheath



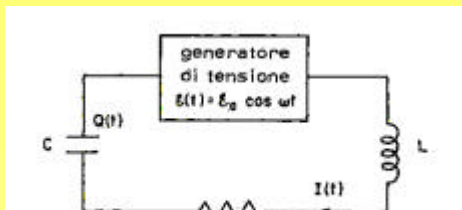
Cold working to be controlled to limit Ni-hardening

No reaction between Bi-2223 and Ni.  
Difficult to measure transport properties  
XRD reveals about 60% 2223 phase with AgO addition

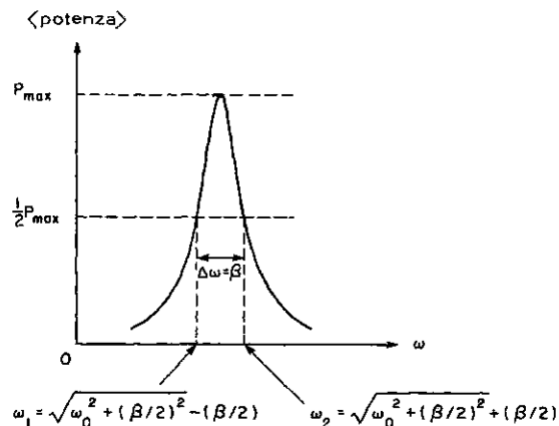
# High frequency application of modified Bi-2223 tapes

The resistance of an antenna is given by two terms:  
Ohmic Resistance  $R_\Omega$  and Radiation Resistance  $R_R$

If antenna size  $\ll \lambda$  then  $R_\Omega \gg R_R$



$$\omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

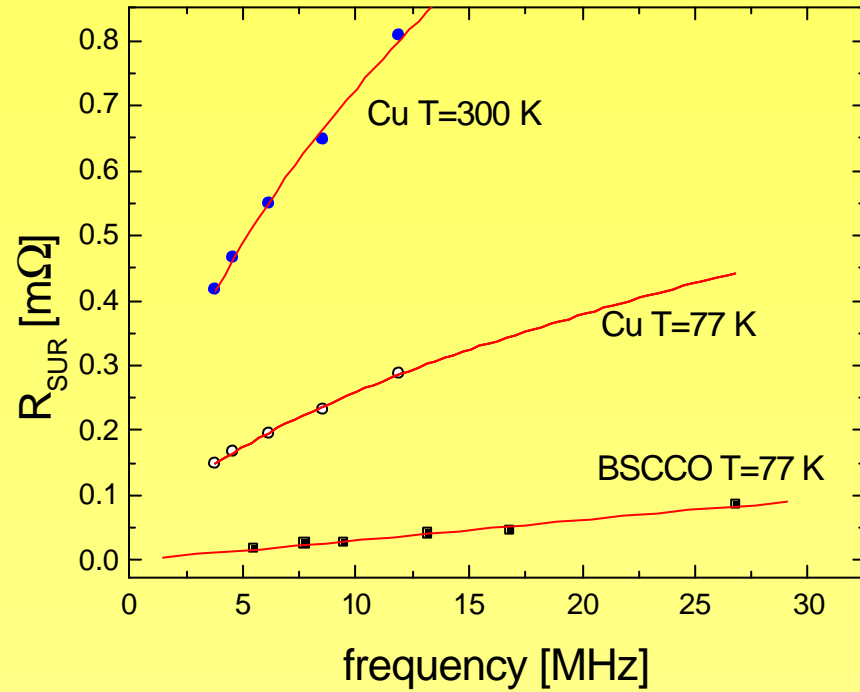
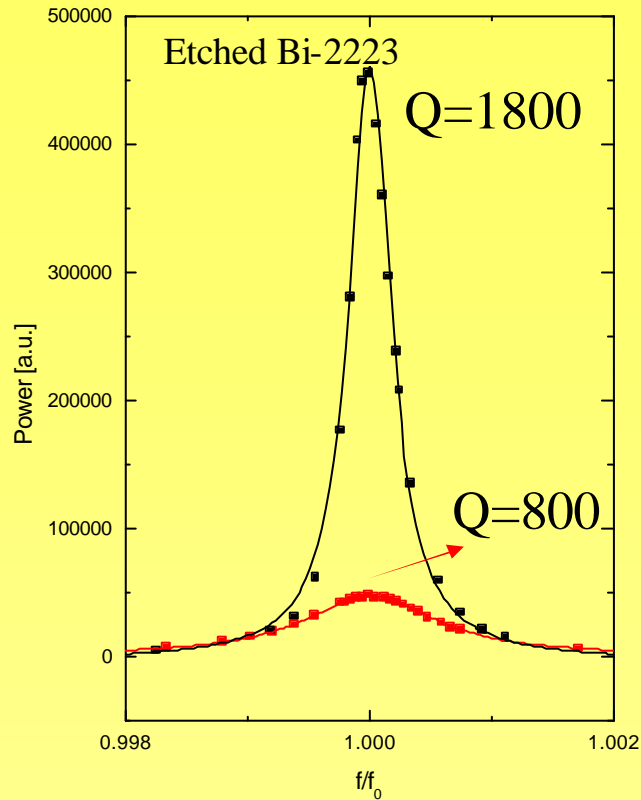


$$Q = \frac{\omega_0 L}{R} = \frac{\omega_0}{\Delta\omega}$$



$$\frac{S}{N} \propto \sqrt{Q} \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{S}{N} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{R}}$$



$$R_{SUR}(8\text{MHz}) \begin{cases} 20\mu\text{O} & \text{BSCCO at 77K} \\ 220\mu\text{O} & \text{Cu at 77K} \\ 570\mu\text{O} & \text{Cu at 300K} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{S}{N} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{R_{SUR}}}$$

improves by

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{3} & \text{compared to Cu at 77 K} \\ \mathbf{5} & \text{compared to Cu at 300 K} \end{cases}$$

# Conclusions

- The  $I_c$  performance level of industrial Bi-2223 tapes is already outstanding
- Cost of the conductor, AC losses, and mechanical properties still need strong improvements
- Replacement of the silver sheath can be solved in different ways
- Application of silver replaced conductors can be envisaged as low-loss RF wires