



Sharif University of Technology  
School of Electrical Engineering

A new Method to Measure Critical Current Density of HTC  
Superconductor Bulk  
&  
Short Review of Ongoing Experimental Works on  
SQUID based NDE and VSM

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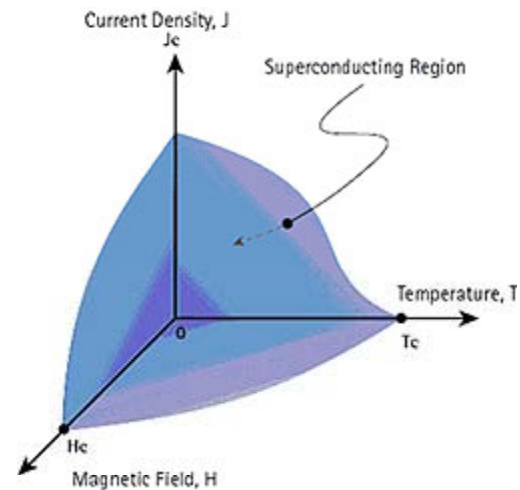
Feb. 2011

- Superconductivity
- A new method to measure critical current density of HTC superconductor Bulk
  - Current methods
  - New method
    - i. Theory
    - ii. Experimental
- Nondestructive evaluation system based on SQUID sensor (NDE)
  - A brief review on Josephson junction
  - A brief review on rf SQUID
  - SQUID NDE simulation and results
- Vibrating Sample Magnetometer system based on SQUIS sensor (VSM)

## Superconductivity

- Superconductor : below its critical temperature  $T_c$
- ✓ Perfect diamagnetism
- ✓ Zero DC electrical resistance

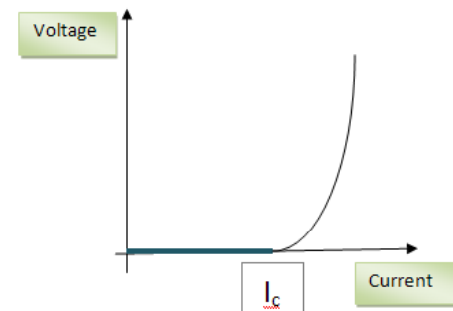
- Critical current  
Critical temperature  
Critical magnetic field



- Energy gap

## $J_c$ Measurement

- Critical current:  
The maximum current that a superconductor can carry at a particular temperature with zero resistivity
- $J_c$ : An important parameter for characterizing a superconductor
- ✓ DC transport method
  - Increasing current
  - Recording voltage
  - V-I characteristic
  - Critical current
  - Critical current density



## Current methods

- Lock- in

A DC. bias current is applied to the superconductor specimen

Low amplitude AC. Current

Lock-in amplifier measures the resulting voltage

- Pulse method

To reduce current contact heating

Current pulse is applied to the specimen while the voltage is monitored

- Magnetization

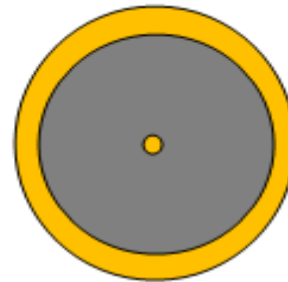
A convenient method

Based on the Bean critical state model

A mathematical relationship between a superconductor's magnetic behavior and its  $I_c$

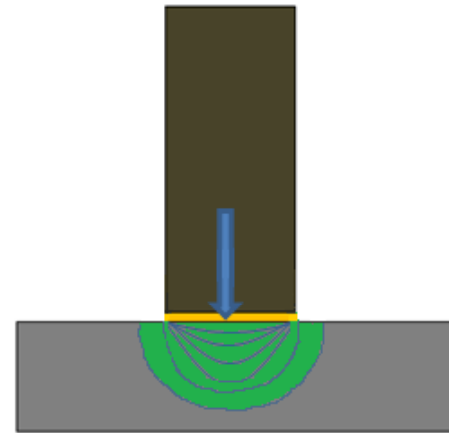
## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

- Based On V-I characterization
  - No magnetic field
- Applying current into small zone
  - Circular cross section
  - Au Sputtering for electrodes
- Pulse current source
  - To reduce heat generation



New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

- Current distribution
  - ✓ Lower current
    - Lower penetration
    - Elliptical distribution
  - ✓ Higher current
    - Higher penetration
    - Semispherical distribution



Normal zones development

New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

$$V = -\int E \cdot dl \quad J = \frac{E}{\rho} \quad \longrightarrow \quad V = -\int J \rho \cdot dl \quad J = \frac{I}{A}$$

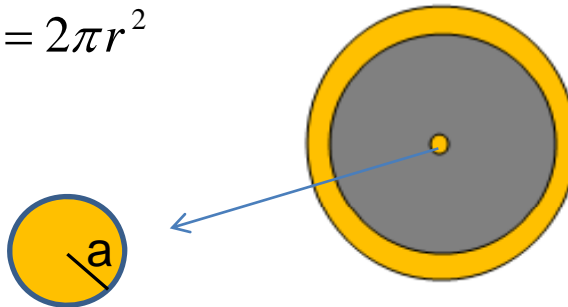
$$\longrightarrow \quad V = -\rho \int \frac{I}{A} \cdot dl$$

✓ Oblate spheroid surface area:  $A_{Oblate}(r) = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{a^2 - r^2}} \left[ 2a^2 \sqrt{a^2 - r^2} + ar^2 \ln \left( \frac{a + \sqrt{a^2 - r^2}}{a - \sqrt{a^2 - r^2}} \right) \right]$

✓ Semispherical area:  $A_{spherical} = 2\pi r^2$

r : penetration depth

a : radius of central electrode





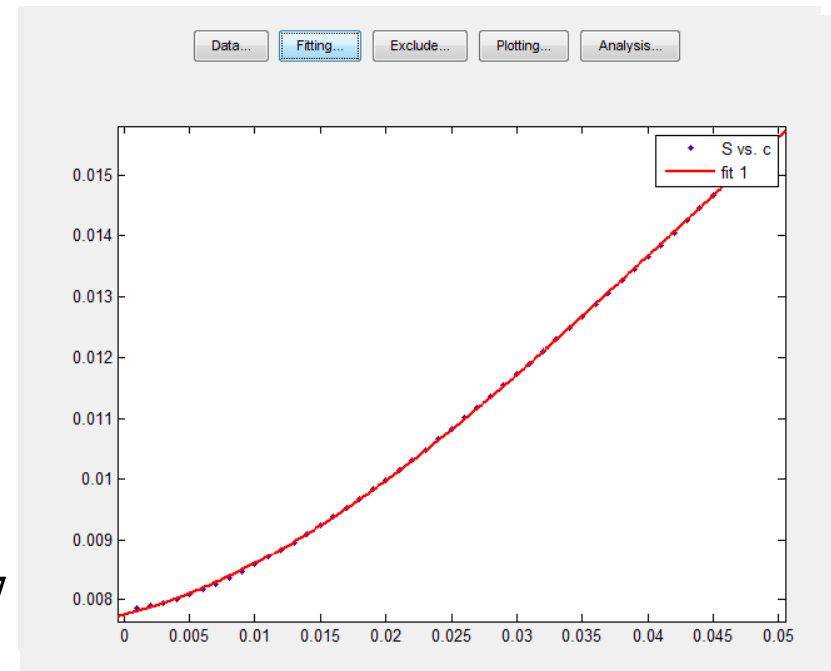
## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

- Elliptical zone (a=0.05 cm) :

$$S(r) = .5r^{1.38} + .0077$$

$$S(r) = \frac{I}{J} \quad \rightarrow \quad r = 2^{1.38} \sqrt{\frac{I}{J} - 0.0077}$$

$$S(r) = -26.83r^3 + 3.43r^2 + .053r + .0077$$



New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

- Elliptical zone:

$$V = \rho I \int_0^r \frac{dr}{S(r)}$$

$$V = \rho I [5.2 \arctan(0.3 + 24.4r) - 1.28 \ln(0.15 - r) + .64 \ln(r^2 + .025r + .0018) + 0.1008]$$

$$r = 21.38 \sqrt{\frac{I}{J_c} - 0.0077}$$

- By substituting penetration depth in voltage equation : V-I curve

## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

- Elliptical zone:

$$r = 2.138 \sqrt{\frac{I}{J_c} - 0.007}$$

$I > .0077J_c \longrightarrow$  Voltage

- ✓ There is a specific value for current

$$J_c = 400 \text{ A/cm}^2$$

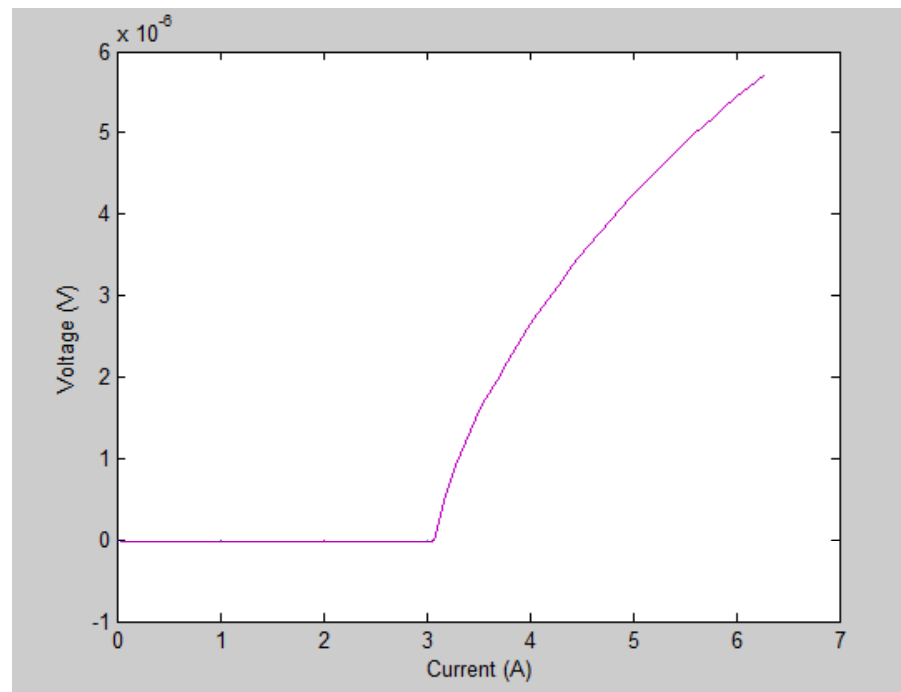
$$a = .05 \text{ cm}$$

$$\rho = 1.7 * 10^{-6} \text{ } \Omega\text{cm}$$

$$V = \rho I [5.2 \arctan(0.3 + 24.4r) - 1.28 \ln(0.15 - r)$$

$$+ .64 \ln(r^2 + .025r + .0018) + 0.1008]$$

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Current bounds=[3.08 - 6.28] (A)

New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

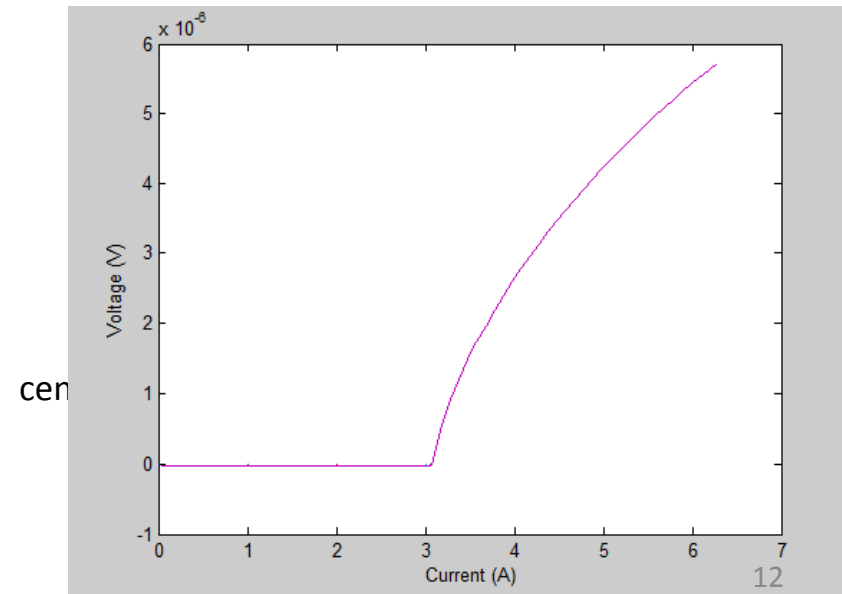
- Elliptical zone:

- ❖ J<sub>c</sub>=400 (A/cm<sup>2</sup>) , a=.05 cm :

$I > 0.0077 * J_c \rightarrow$  Voltage

$I > (\text{coefficient, depended to radius of central electrode}) * J_c$

- ✓ Increasing current
- ✓ First positive voltage
- ✓ Using the relationship
- ✓ Getting the critical current density



## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

- Semispherical zone:

$$J = \frac{I}{2\pi r^2} \quad V = \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \left( \sqrt{2\pi JI} - \frac{I}{a} \right)$$

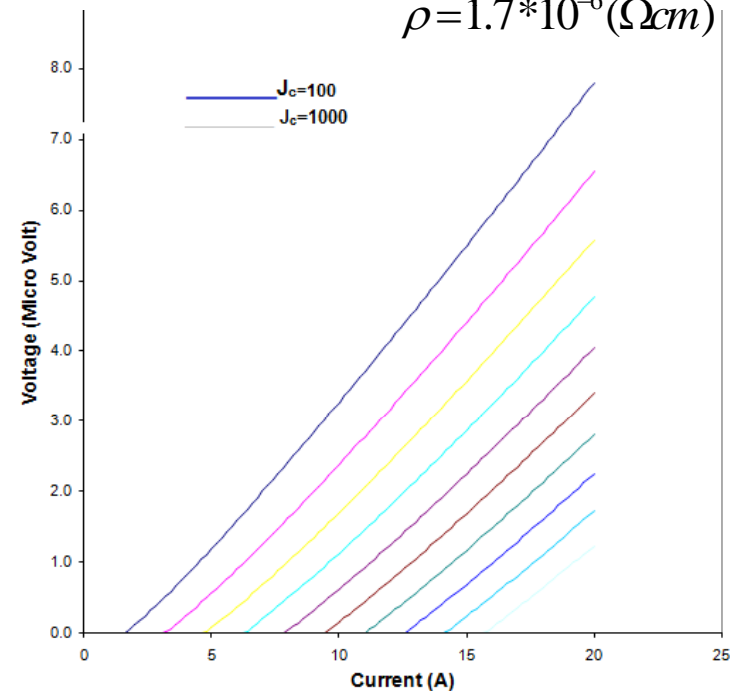
$$R = \frac{dV}{dI} = \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \left( \sqrt{\frac{\pi J}{2I}} - \frac{1}{a} \right)$$

$$R = \rho \int_a^r \frac{dr}{2\pi r^2} = \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \left( \frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{r} \right)$$

penetration depth:  $r = \frac{a\rho}{\rho - 2\pi aR}$

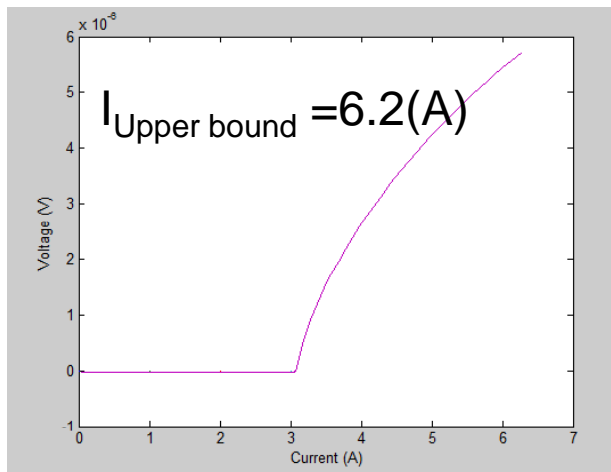
$$a = .05(\text{cm})$$

$$\rho = 1.7 * 10^{-6} (\Omega\text{cm})$$



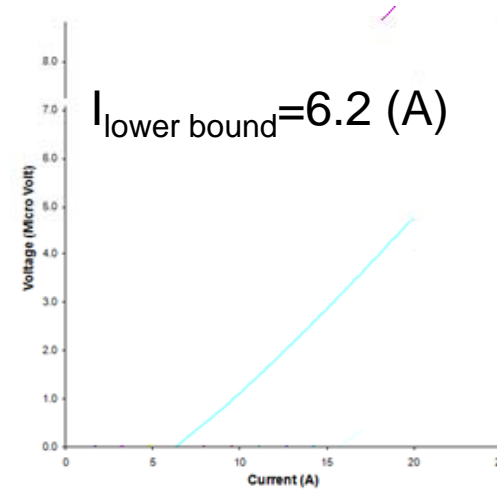
New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Theory)

Elliptical zone+ Semispherical zone : ( Assuming J<sub>c</sub>=400 (A/cm<sup>2</sup>) and a=0.05 (cm) )



Elliptical

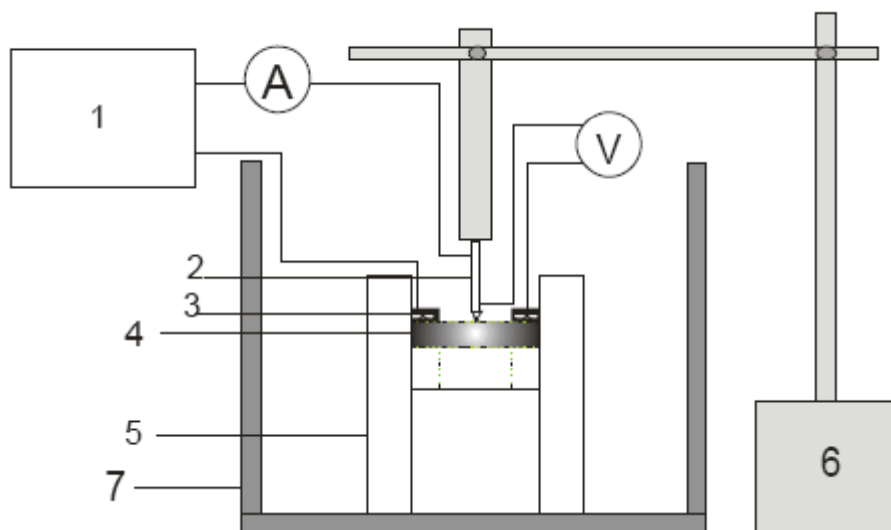
$$V = \rho I [5.2 \arctan(0.3 + 24.4r) - 1.28 \ln(0.15 - r) + .64 \ln(r^2 + .025r + .0018) + 0.1008]$$



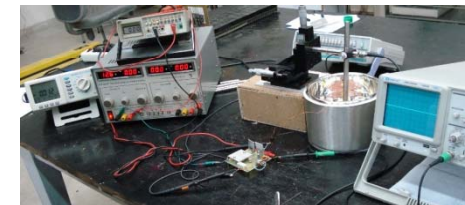
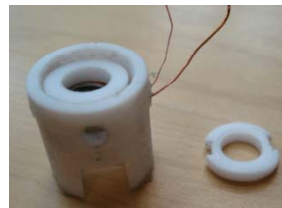
Semispherical

$$V = \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \left( \sqrt{2\pi JI} - \frac{I}{a} \right)$$

## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Experimental)



- 1- Electronic circuit
- 2- Needle
- 3- Electrode ( Au-silver paste-copper)
- 4- YBCO
- 5- Holder
- 6- Micrometer
- 7- Dewar for liquid Nitrogen



## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Experimental)

### ✓ **YBCO superconductor bulk** (Diffusion fabrication process)

Diameter of bulk = 1.4 (cm)

Thickness of bulk = 0.25 (cm)

$\rho = 1.7 * 10^{-6} (\Omega cm)$

T<sub>c</sub> = 92 (K)

### ✓ **Electronic circuits:**

- Current source (differential pair)

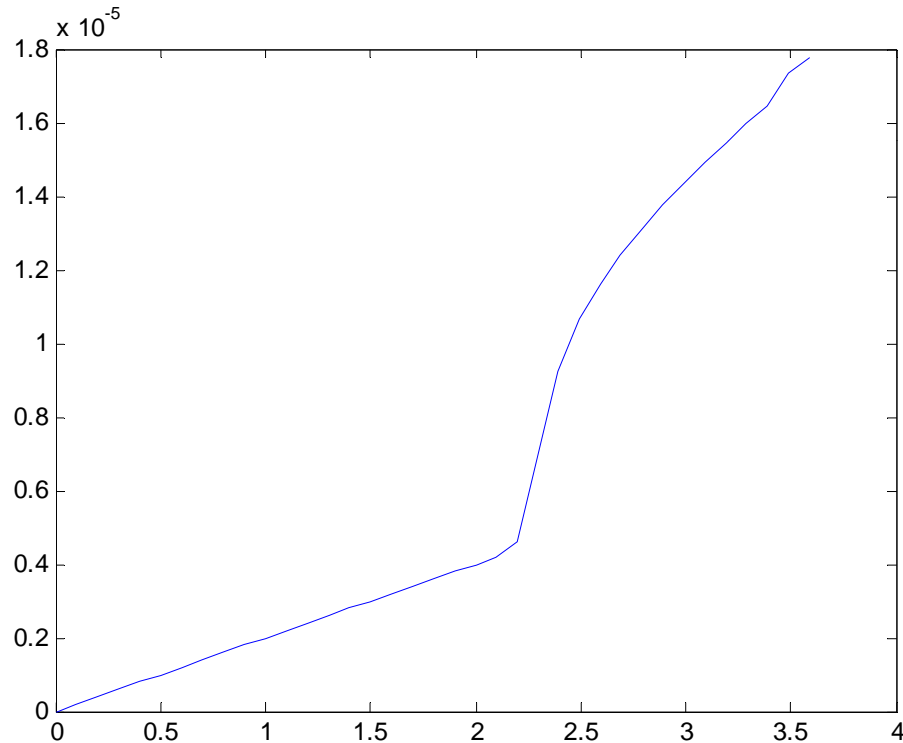
Pulsive current , T = 25 (ms) , t<sub>on</sub> = 5 (ms) ( considering heat generation and heat capacity of bulk)

- Other measuring equipments



New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Experimental)

*Voltage (V)*



There is a positive voltage at  $i > 0$

➤ Crack and flaw on the surface

$$J_c = 310(\text{Amp} / \text{cm}^2)$$

## New method to measure critical current density of SC. Bulk (Experimental)

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial I} = 1.7 \times 10^{-6} i \left( \frac{0.64 \left( \frac{0.00724638}{\left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.275362}} + \frac{5.7971 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.449275}}{j} \right)}{0.0018 + 0.01 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.724638} + 4 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{1.44928}} + \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{183.884}{\left(1 + \left(0.3 + 48.8 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.724638}\right)^2\right) \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.275362}} + \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{1.85507}{\left(0.15 - 2 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.724638}\right) \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.275362}} + \right)$$

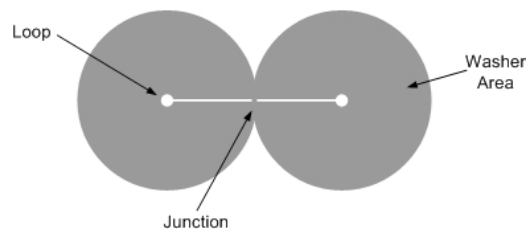
$$1.7 \times 10^{-6} \left( 0.1008 + 5.2 \operatorname{ArcTan} \left[ 0.3 + 48.8 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.724638} \right] - \right.$$

$$1.28 \operatorname{Log} \left[ 0.15 - 2 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.724638} \right] +$$

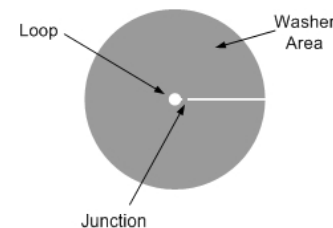
$$0.64 \operatorname{Log} \left[ 0.0018 + 0.01 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{0.724638} + 4 \left(-0.0077 + \frac{i}{j}\right)^{1.44928} \right] \Bigg)$$

NDE system :

- ✓ Nondestructive Evaluation for Finding flaws
  - ✓ Scanning surface → the place of hidden crack
  - ✓ Based on SQUID sensor
- SQUID: **S**uperconducting **Q**uantum **I**nterference **D**eVICES
  - SQUIDs are the most sensitive magnetic flux detectors introduced until now
  - Using SQUIDs it is possible to detect a change in flux typically as low as  $10^{-6} \Phi_0$  (sensitivities down to  $10^{-15}$  T)



RF SQUID gradiometer



RF SQUID magnetometer

## Brief review on Josephson junction

- Two superconductors separated by a barrier can experience tunneling of Cooper Pairs through the junction

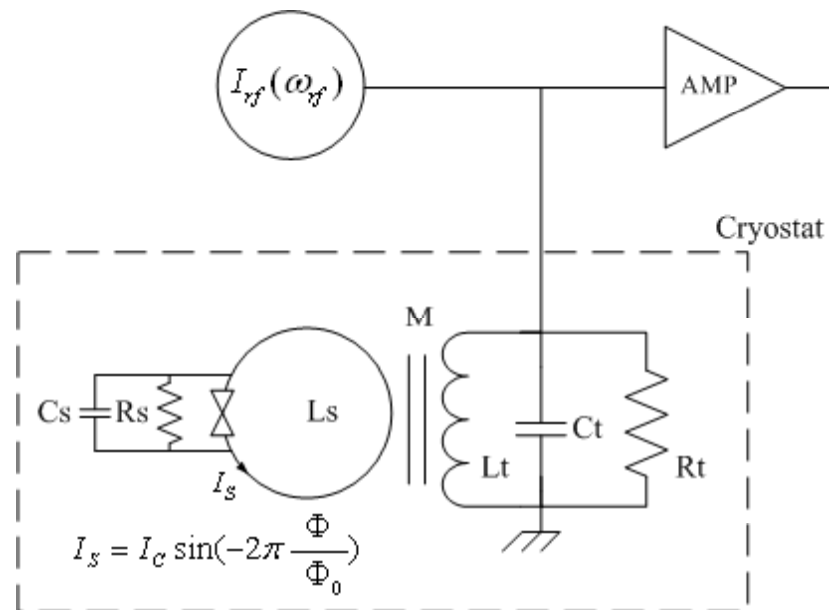
### Basic Josephson Junction Relations:

- ✓ DC Josephson effect : a current proportional to the phase difference of the wave functions
- ✓ AC Josephson effect : a Josephson junction will oscillate with a characteristic frequency which is proportional to the voltage across the junction

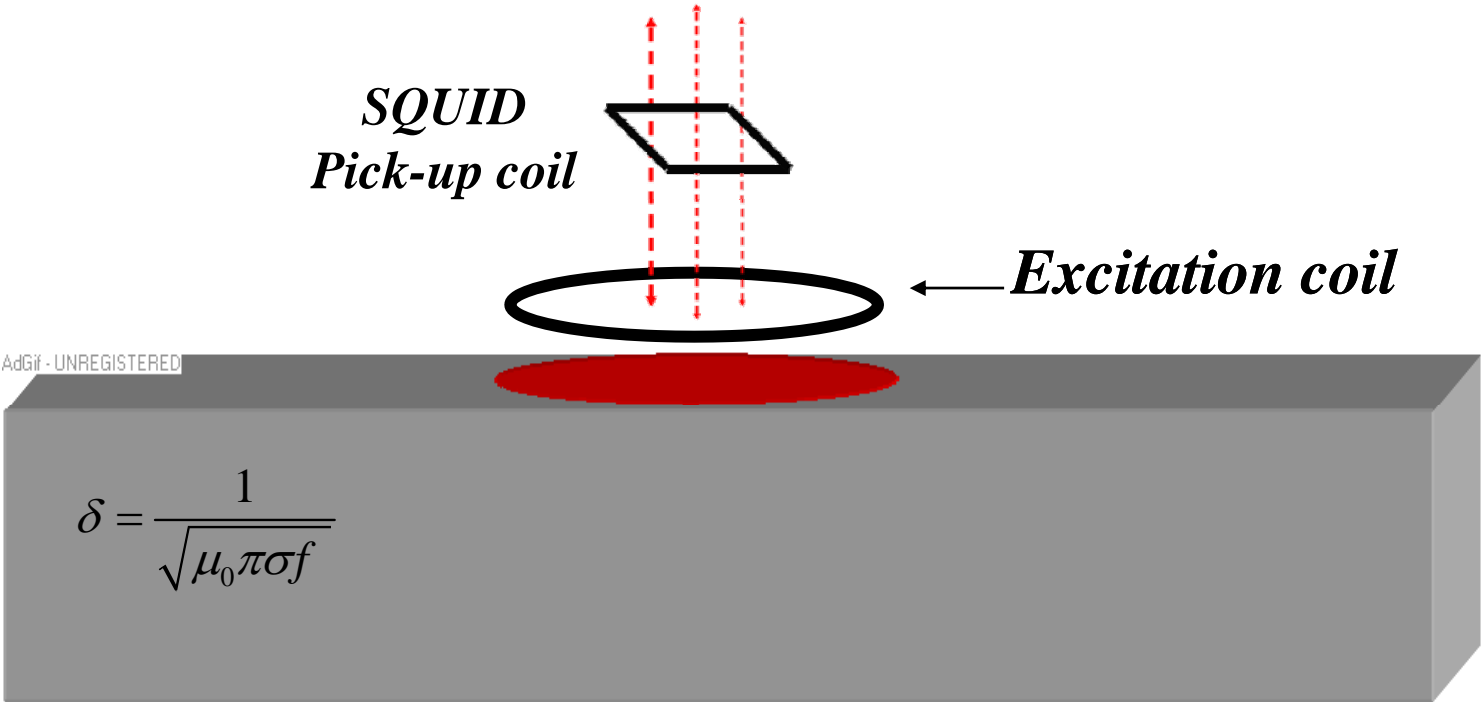
$$I = I_c \sin(\varphi) \qquad \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} = \frac{2e}{\hbar} V$$

## Brief review on RF SQUID

- The relation between externally applied flux ( $\Phi_{ext}$ ) and actually passing flux through the SQUID loop ( $\Phi$ ) implies the basis of RF SQUID operation

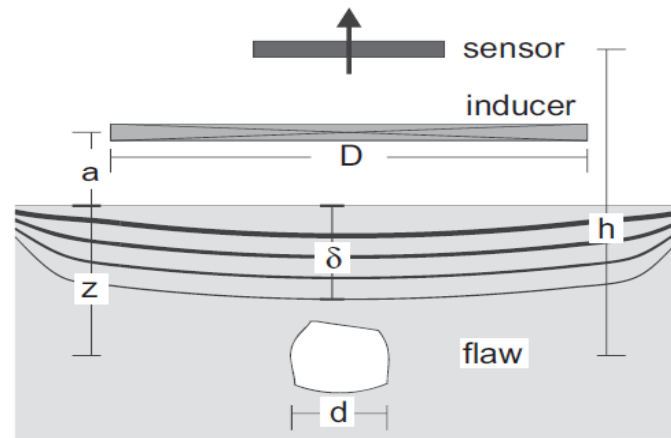


SQUID NDE

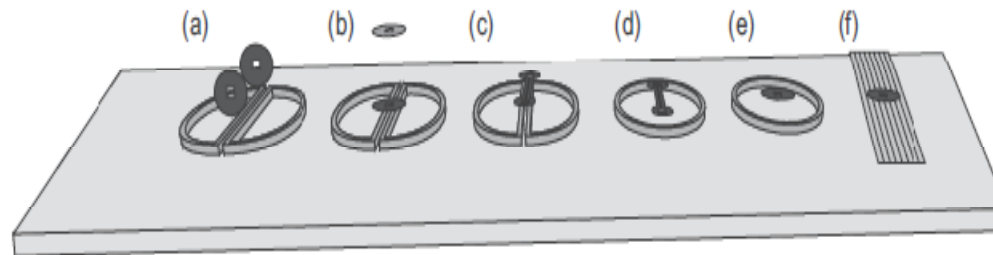


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- SQUID NDE Parameters

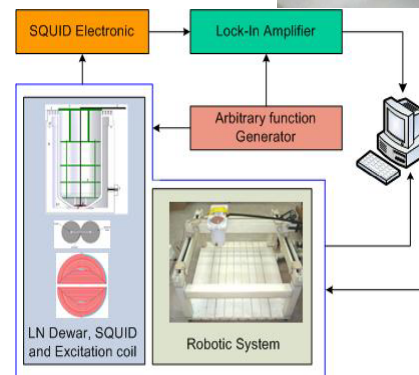
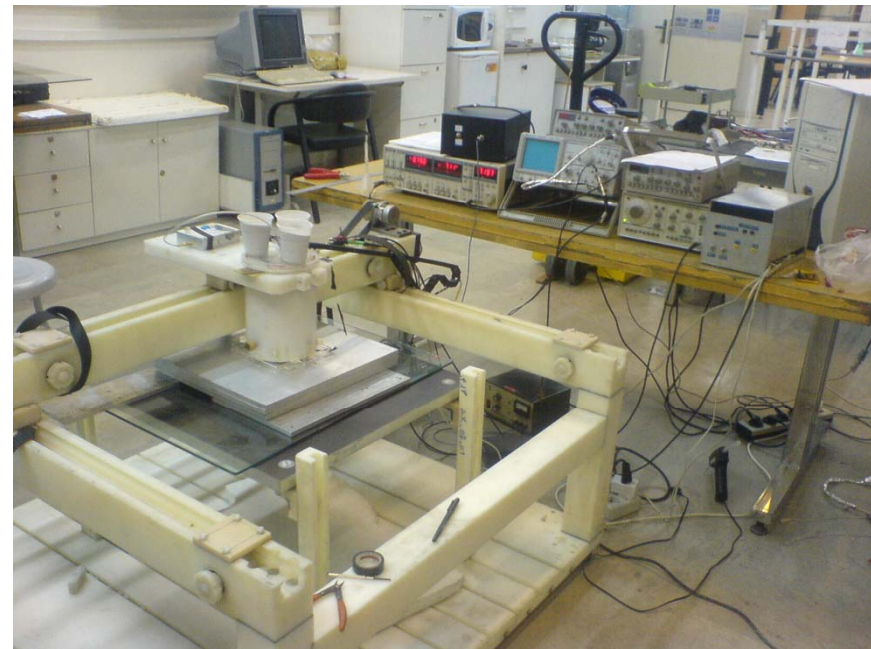


- SQUID-Excitation Coil Configuration



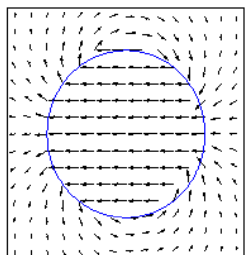
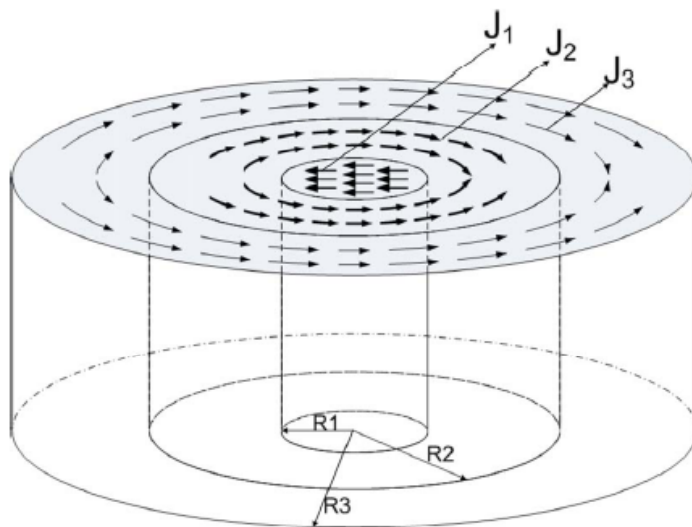
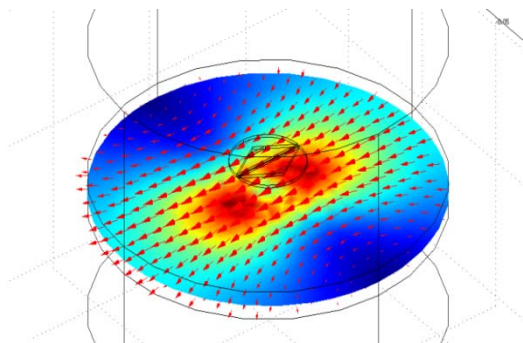
## SQUID NDE system

- ✓ SQUIDs
- ✓ Readout Electronics
- ✓ Cryogenics & Vacuum
- ✓ 2-D Scanning robot
- ✓ Excitation coils
- ✓ Micro-positioner
- ✓ Shielding



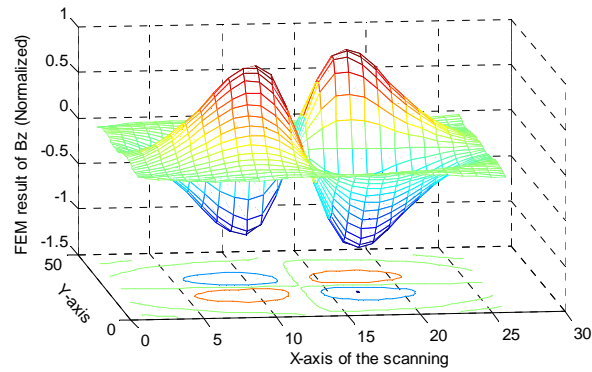
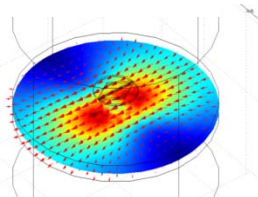
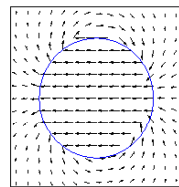
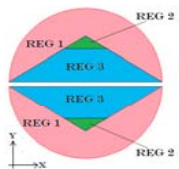


- FEM Simulation of SQUID NDE
- ✓ Flaw modeling

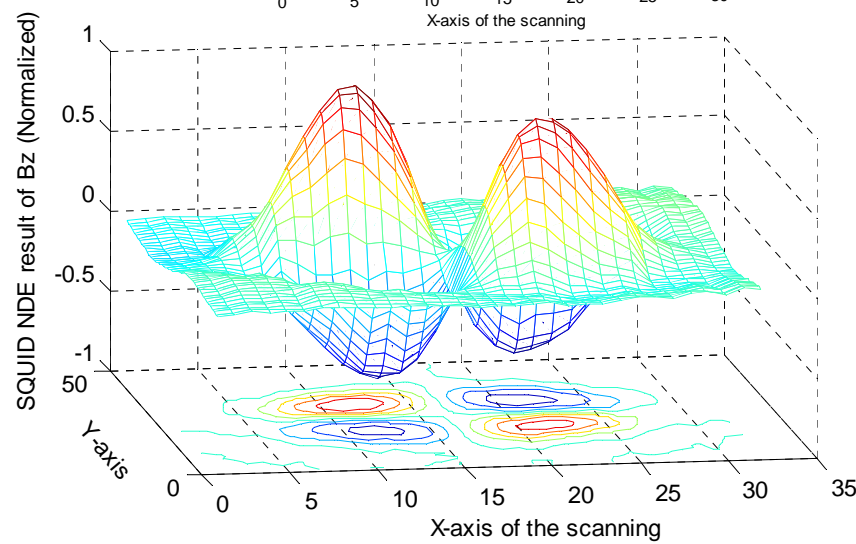


$$J_2 = \frac{1}{R_2 - R_1} \int_{R_1}^{R_2} J_{field} dr$$

- SQUID NDE result



Flaw: single hole  
 $f=40$  (Hz)  
 $h=2$  (cm)



## VSM...?

- Operates on Faraday's law:
- ✓ Change in magnetic field  $\rightarrow$  electric field

VSM : measuring magnetic behavior of magnetic materials

- How VSM works...?
- ✓ Sample in magnetic field
- ✓ Alignment of magnetic domain
- ✓ Magnetic dipole moment:

create magnetic field around sample  
(Magnetic Stray Field)

- ✓ Vibration of sample

Voltage

Sensing by set of pick-up coils  $\rightarrow$  SQUID sensor



...How VSM works

- The strength of the constant magnetic field is set
- The sample begins to vibrate
- The signal received from probe, translated into a value for the magnetic moment of the sample
- Change in magnetic field, no data during transition
- New magnetic field value, new translated data from probes
- The constant magnetic field varies over a given range
- Generation of a plot of magnetization (M) versus magnetic field strength (H)

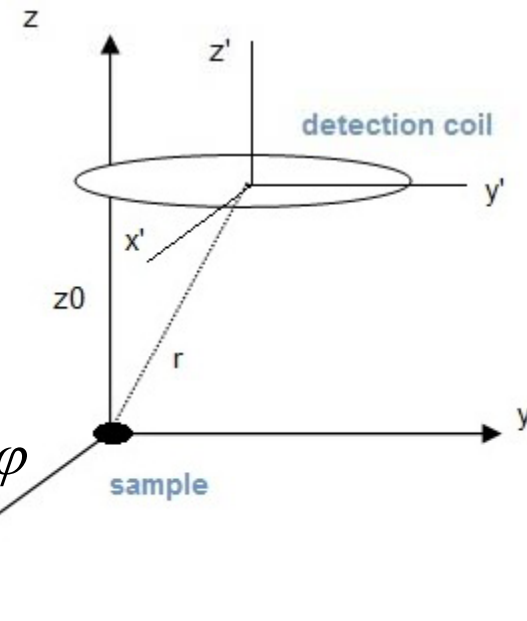
## Magnetic field of dipole

$$\vec{B} = \frac{\mu_0 m}{4\pi r^3} (\hat{r} 2 \cos \theta + \hat{\theta} \sin \theta)$$

$$\phi = \int \vec{B} \cdot d\vec{A}$$

$$\phi = \frac{\mu_0 m}{4\pi} \iint_A \frac{2z_0^2 - \rho^2 - \sigma^2 + 2\rho\sigma \cos \varphi}{(\rho^2 + z_0^2 + \sigma^2 - 2\rho\sigma \cos \varphi)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \cdot \rho d\rho d\varphi$$

$$V = -\frac{d\phi}{dt}$$



By solving integral  $\rightarrow$  Voltage

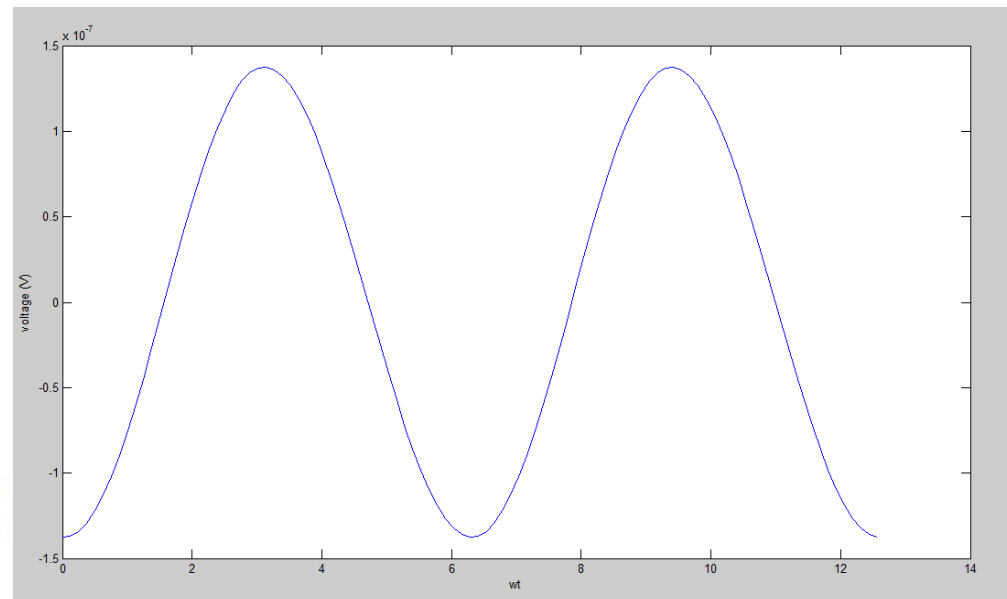
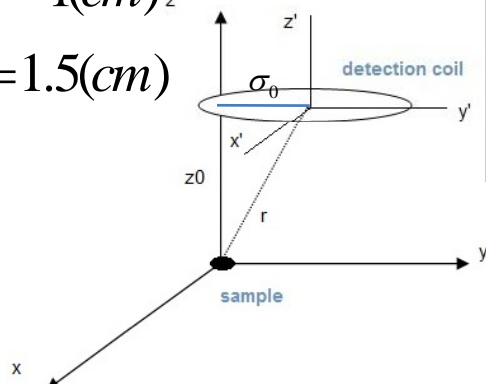
$$\sigma = \sigma_0 + \sigma_1 \sin \omega t$$

$$\sigma_0 = .9(\text{cm})$$

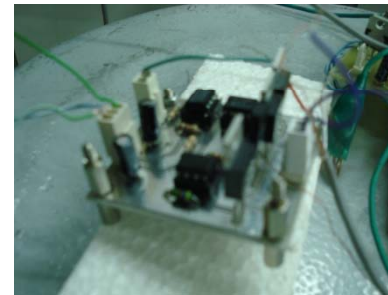
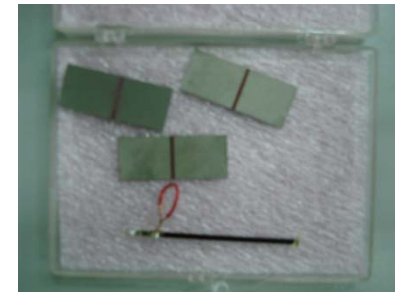
$$\sigma_1 = 250(\mu\text{m})$$

$$R_{\text{coil}} = 1(\text{cm})_z$$

$$Z_0 = 1.5(\text{cm})$$



- VSM experimental
  - ✓ Piezoelectric
  - ✓ Electromagnet(Up to 1.7 Tesla)
  - ✓ Detection coil
  - ✓ Band pass filter
  - ✓ Lock in amplifier
  - ✓ Function generator
  - ✓ Current amplifier
  - ✓ Other electronic instruments



## Summary



- A new method to measure critical current density of HTC superconductor Bulk has been introduced. Theoretical and experimental data surveyed.
- By SQUID sensor, Nondestructive Evaluation system(NDE) for finding hidden cracks is one of sensitive system.
- We could characterize magnetic property of materials by SQUID base VSM system



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Thank you!