

# Grenoble





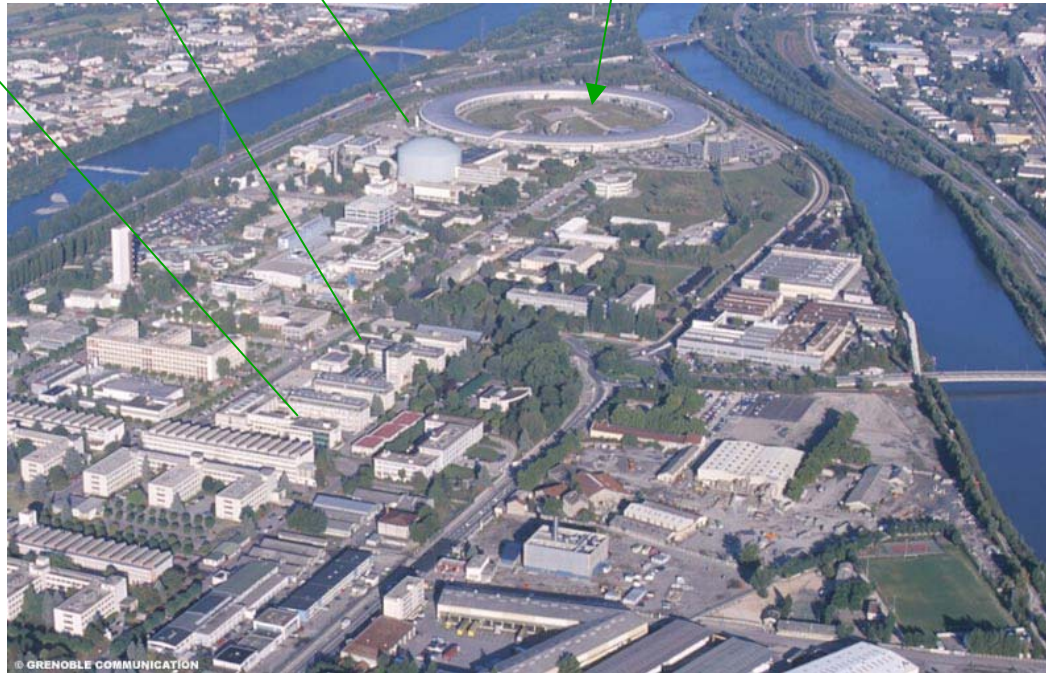
# Grenoble

I Néel  
Ghmfl (35T)

ILL

ESRF

CEA



## University Joseph Fourier

# Penetration depth

P. Rodière

H-NbSe<sub>2</sub>

Superconducting at T<sub>c</sub>=7K.

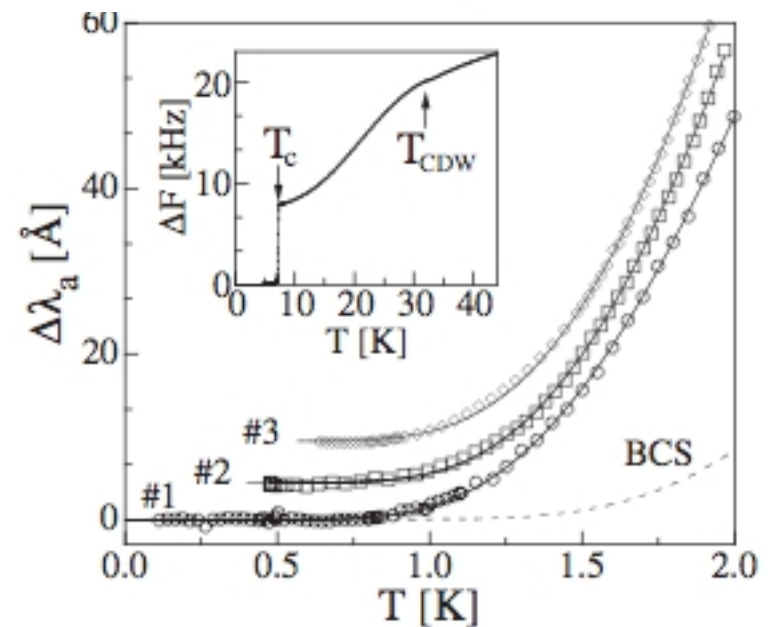
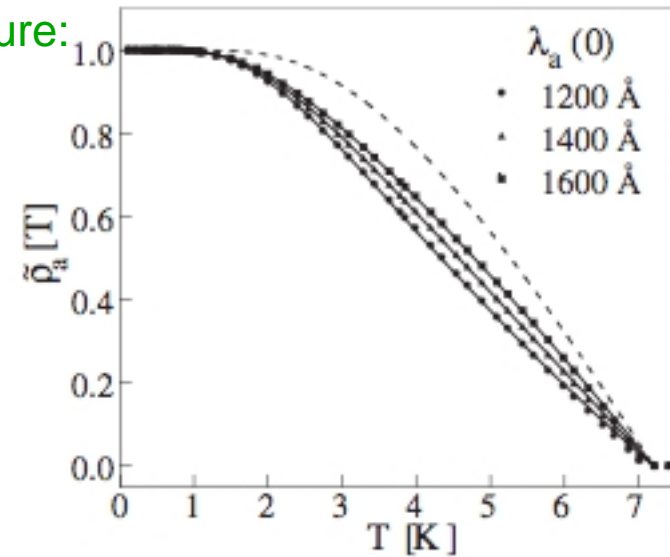


Charge density wave ordering at T=33K

One gap of two Nb sheets is reduced by CDW

High temperature:  
two gaps

## Superfluid density



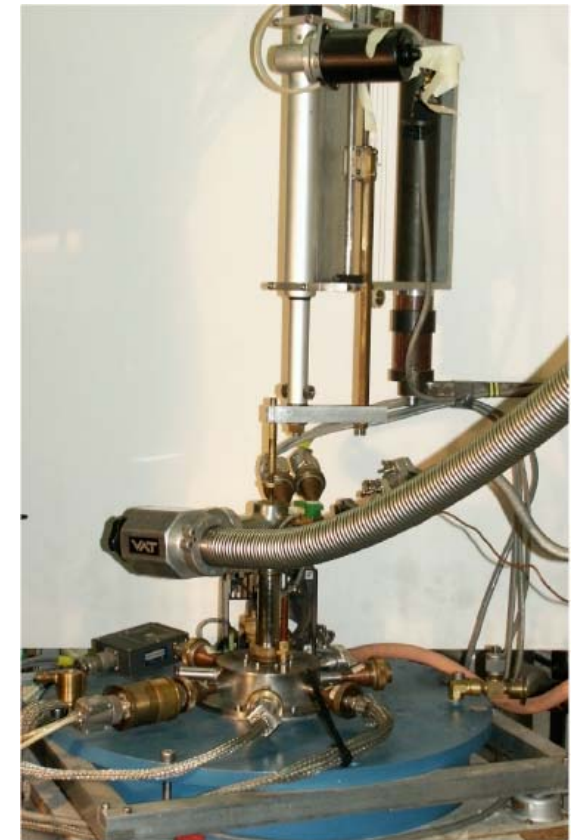
PRL 98, 057003 (2007)



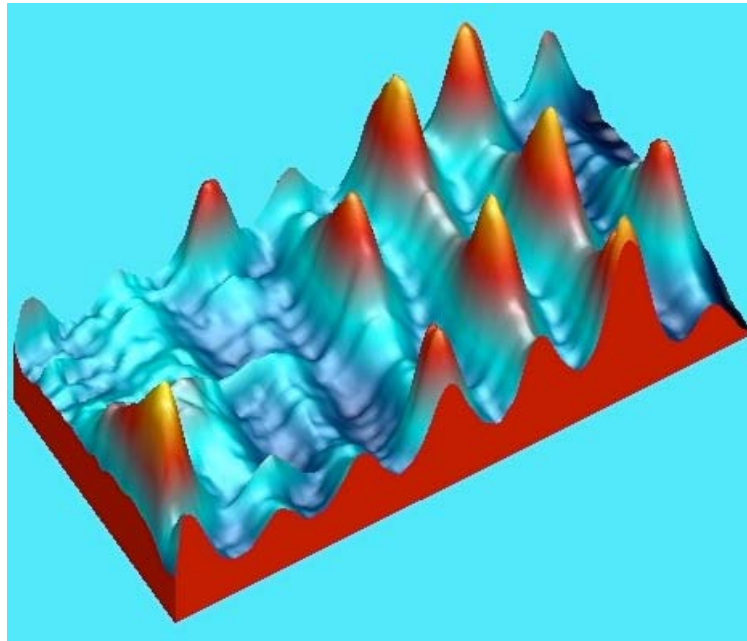


developed by C. Paulsen

- absolute Values of  $M$  and  $\chi$
- high sensitivity: ( $10^{-7}$  à  $10^{-9}$  emu)
- TBT ( $T_{\min} = 75$  mK), champ fort ( $\leq 8$  T)
- frequency range (1mHz à 15kHz)
- high stability



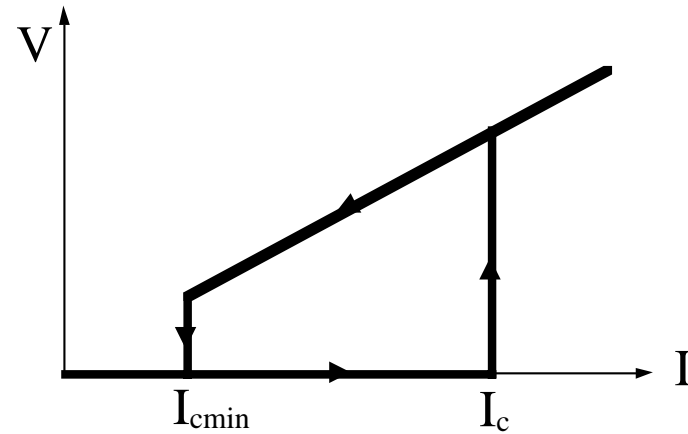
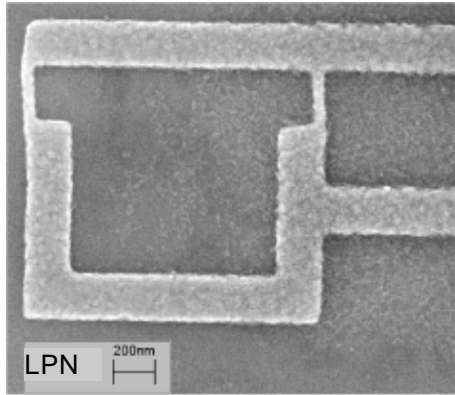
# Vortex coalescence, vortex chains and crossing vortices in the anisotropic spin-triplet superconductor $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$



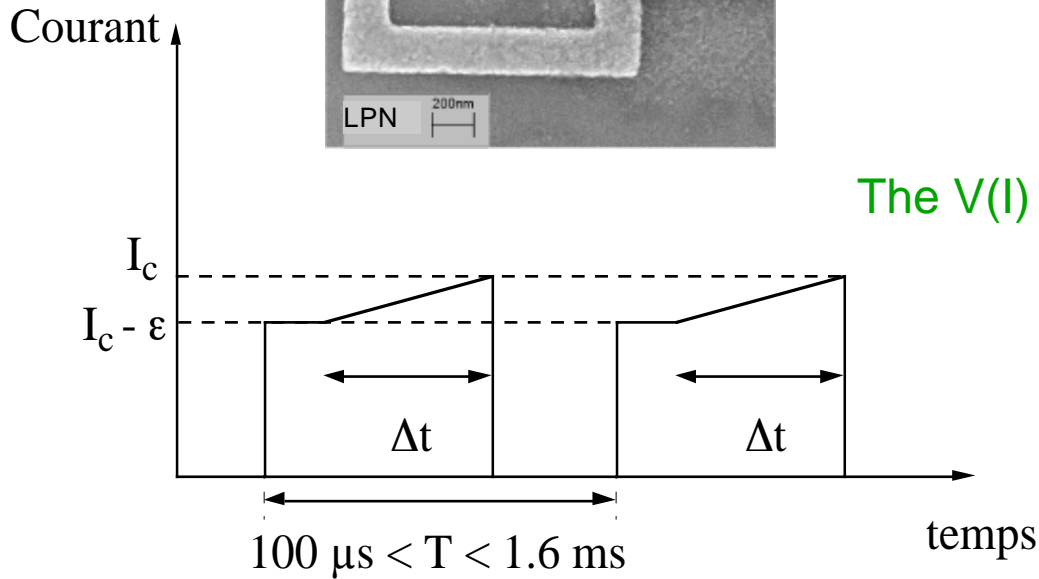
Klaus Hasselbach  
Voicu O. Dolocan

## outline

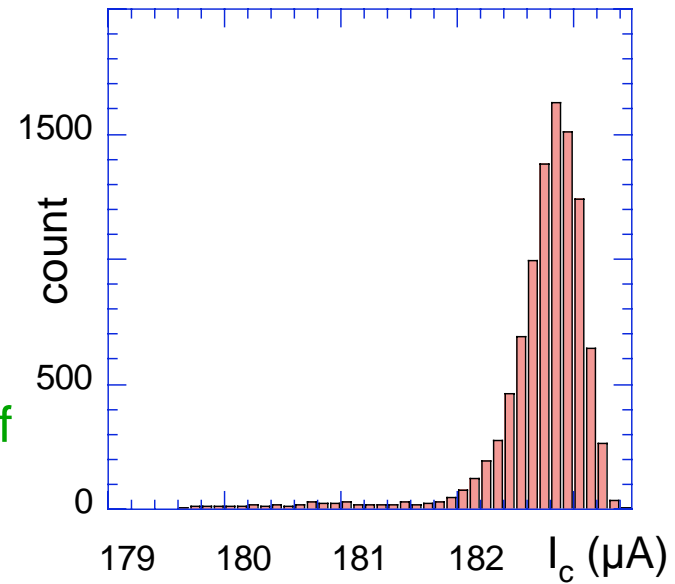
- Grenoble scanning  $\mu$ SQUID microscopy
- $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$  overview
- $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$  Vortex state
- Quantitative  $S\mu$ SM G2



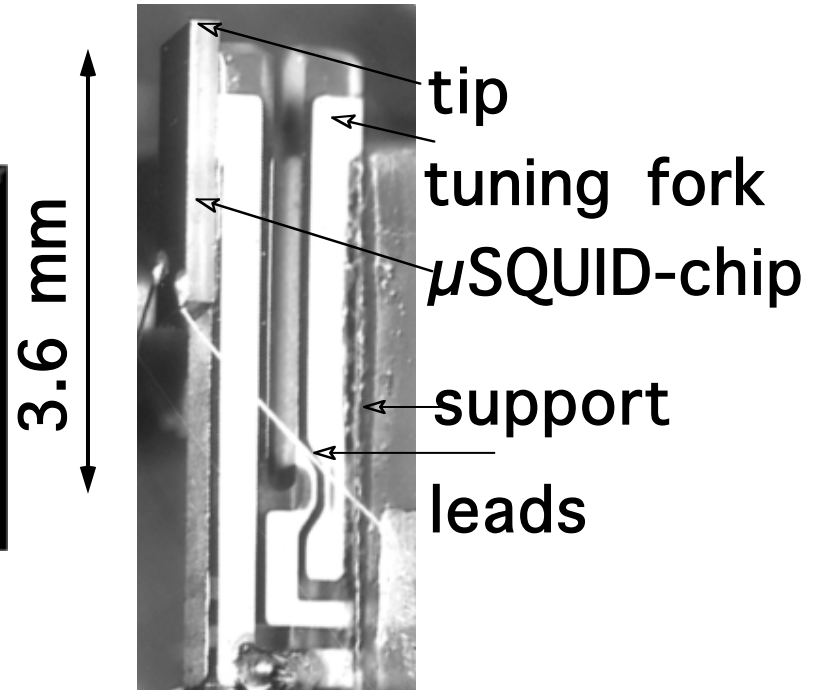
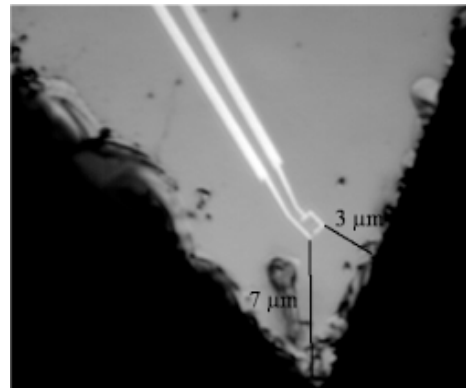
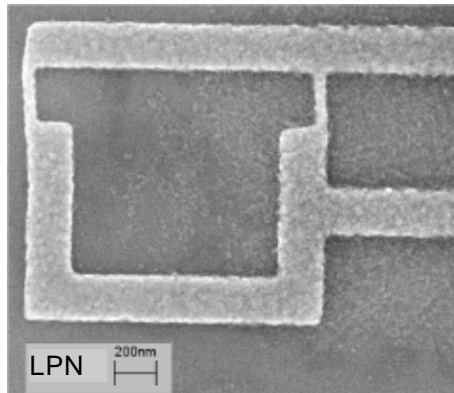
The  $V(I)$  characteristic of a  $\mu$ SQUID is hysteretic.



sampling frequency of 10 kHz, flux sensitivity of the  $\mu$ SQUID is:  $10^{-5} \Phi_0 / \sqrt{Hz}$



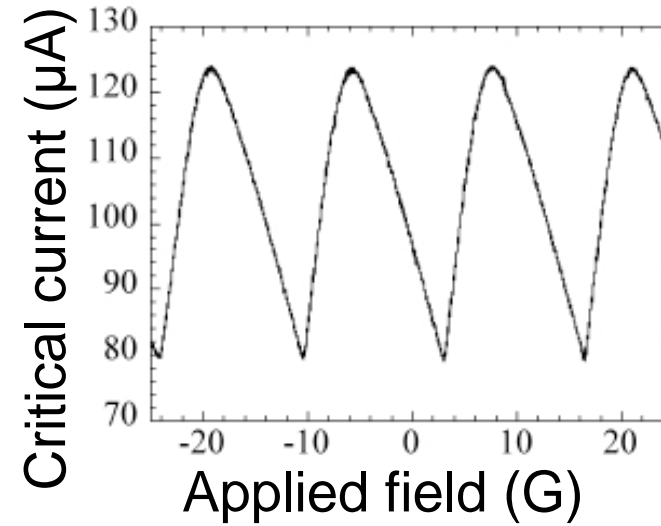
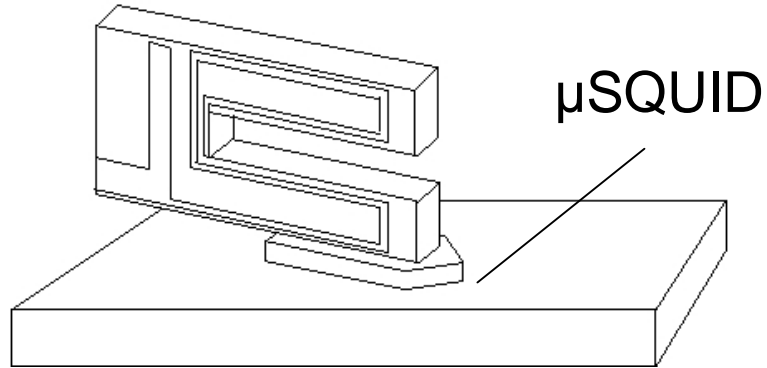
- Vortex imaging: penetration depth sets lower limit to spatial resolution
- AI SQUID loop of  $1.2\mu\text{m}$  diameter

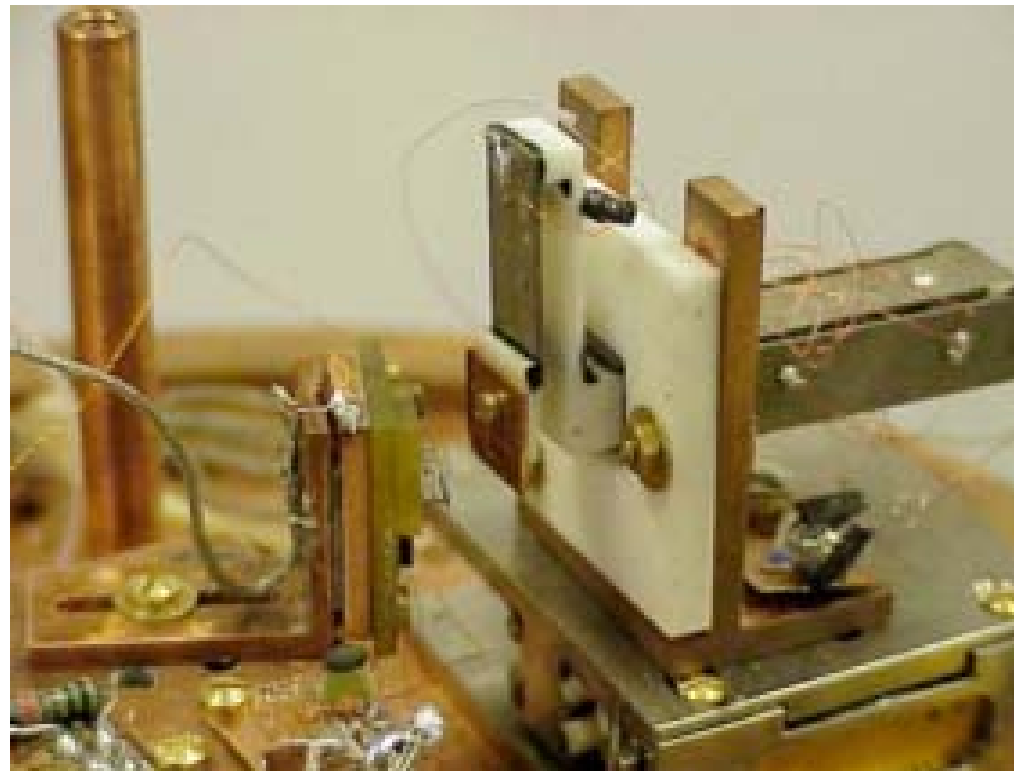


- High magnetic field sensitivity
- The tuning fork is used for distance control between the SQUID and the sample

C. Veauvy et al., RSI 73, 3825(2002)



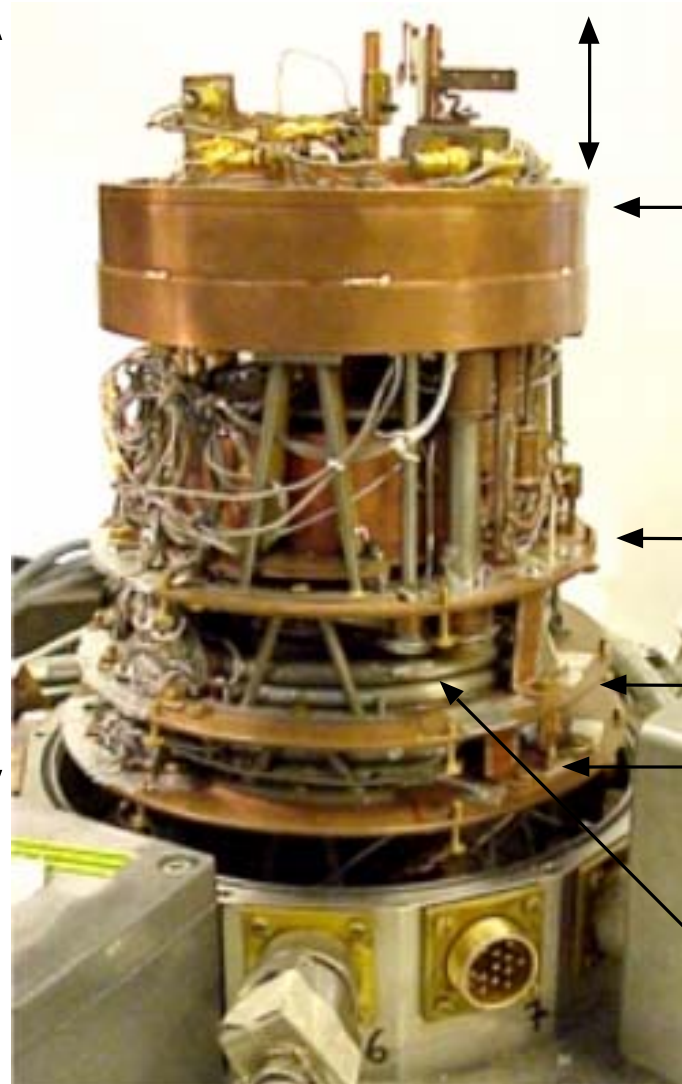




# Dilution refrigerator

inverted dilution  
refrigerator (“Sionludi”)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.025 \text{ K}$   
(A. Benoit  
and M. Caussignac  
I. Néel-CNRS  
Commercialized

35 cm



μSQUID microscope

800 mK stage

4 K stage

20 K stage

80 K stage

Heat exchanger

He<sup>4</sup>

H || c, FC

Low fields (< 4 Gauss) no correlation between vortices

Higher field (5 Gauss) vortices close together  
 → regular lattice appear

10μm

2.5G



5G

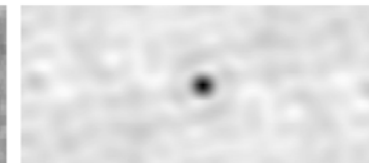


Intermediate region (3.8-5 Gauss)

real space image

autocorrelation

3.79 G



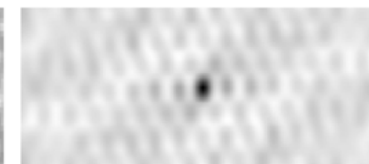
Increasing the field the vortex lattice changes orientation

4 G



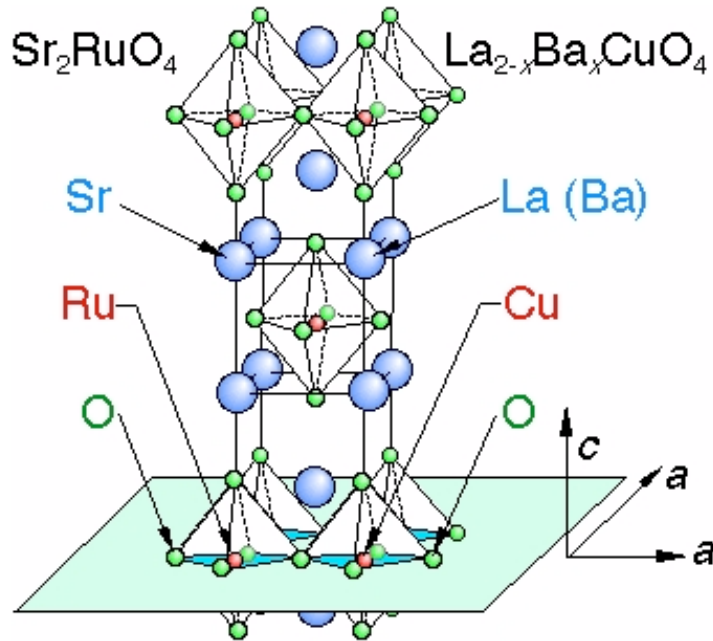
The lattice is not fixed by the crystallographic axes

4.5 G

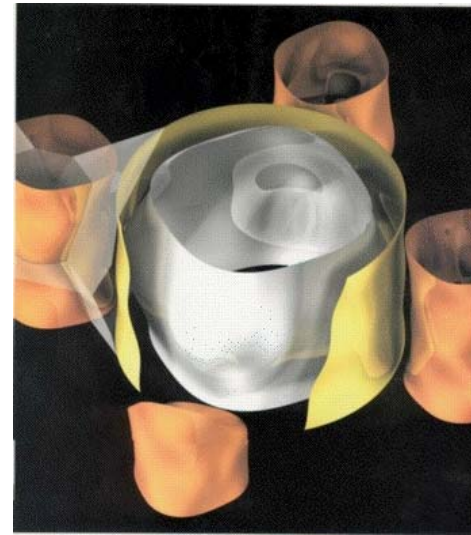


10μm





Perovskite structure with distance between ab planes  $c=12.5\text{\AA}$



2D Fermi cylindrical surface

	ab	c
$\xi$ (0) ( $\text{\AA}$ )	660	33
$\lambda$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1500	30000
$H_{c1}(0)$ (G)	10	50

Maeno, Sigrist, Rice Physics Today 54, 42, (2001)

# Spontaneous magnetization in zero field

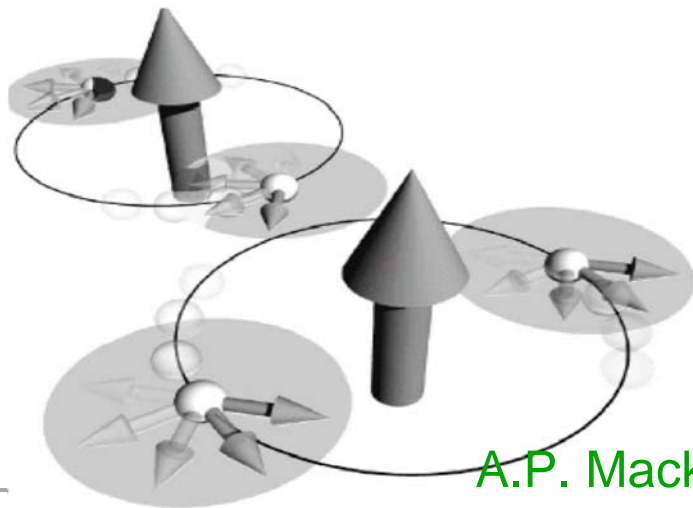
- $\mu$ SR technique Luke Nature
- magneto optical Kerr effect Kapitulnik PRL 2007

time-reversal symmetry is broken at  $T_c$



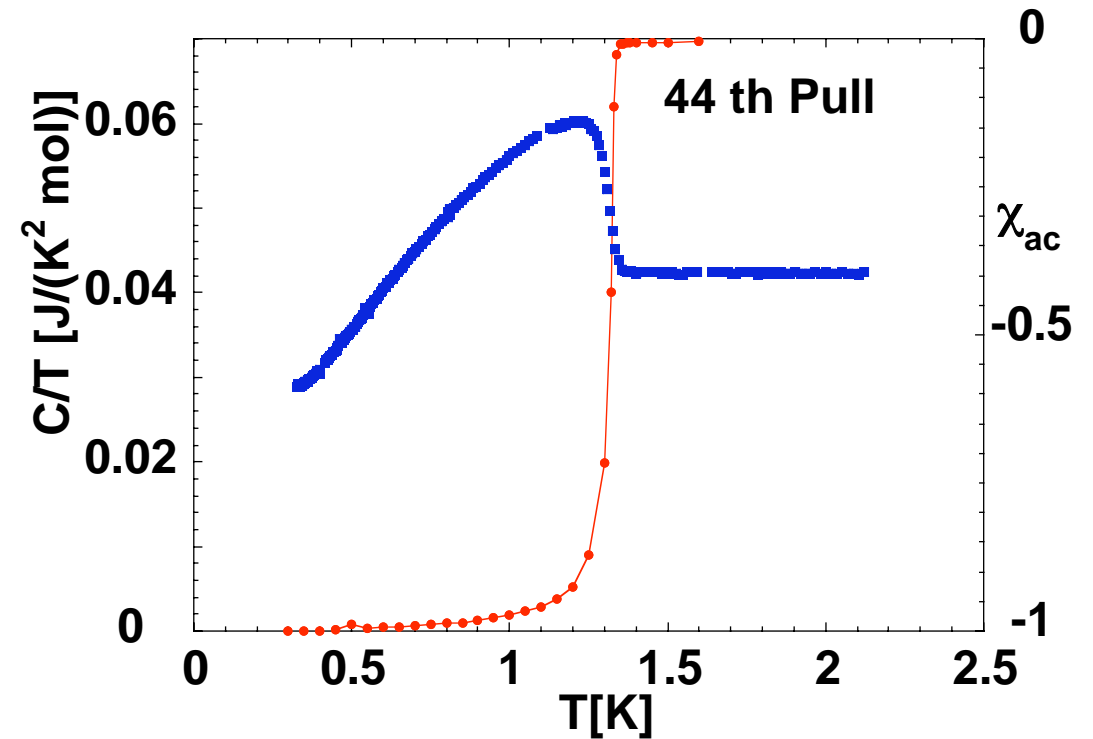
**multidimensional order parameter**

**Detection of domain walls in sc state  
(Moler and Kirtley)**



A.P. Mackenzie and Y. Maeno, Rev.Mod.Phys. 75, 657(2003)

# Crystal Growth of $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$



floating zone Image furnace

Institut Néel, Cybernetix, France

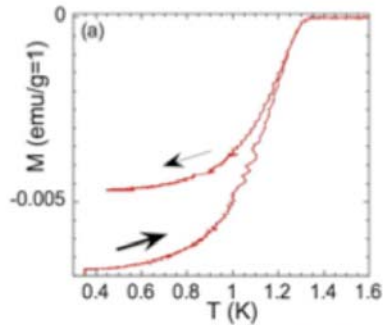
$\text{Sr}_3\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_7$

$\text{SrRuO}_3$  ferromagnetic  $T_c$  150 K (perovscite)

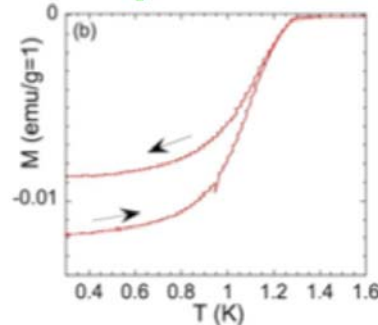
Soussine, Flouquet, Servant, Lejay

# Magnetic Properties: preliminary

ZFC 5G

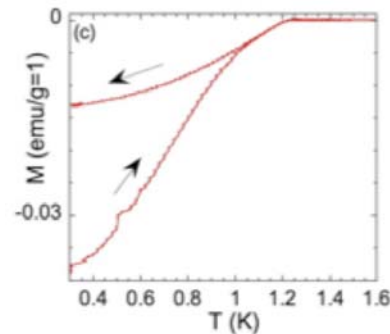


ZFC 10G

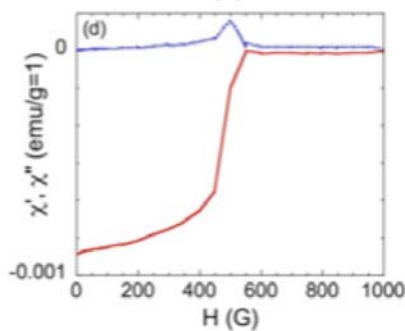


H//c

ZFC 50G



T=0.28K



Carley Paulsen et al. Strong Flux expulsion → Weak pinning

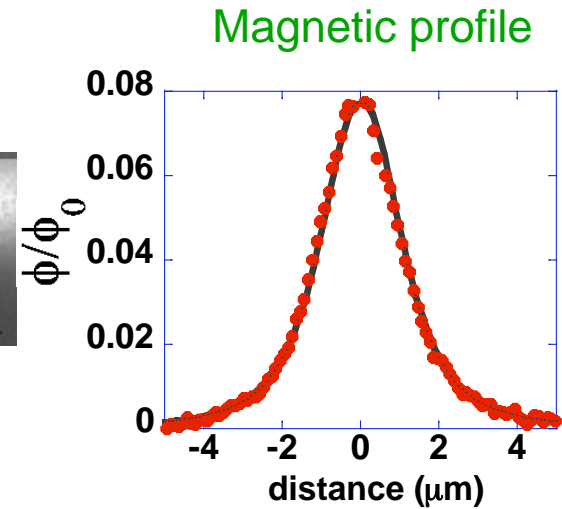
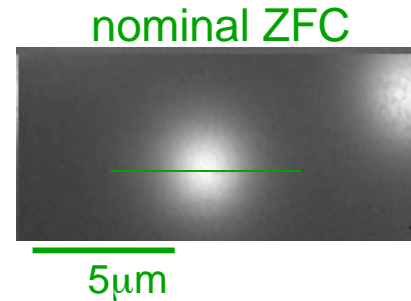
Unusual Magnetic Response in Superconducting Mixed State of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$   
 Kenichi TENYA, Shingo YASUDA, Makoto YOKOYAMA<sup>1</sup>, Hiroshi AMITSUKA, Kazuhiko DEGUCHI<sup>2</sup> and Yoshiteru MAENO<sup>3,4</sup>  
 LETTERS Journal of the Physical Society of Japan Vol. 75, No. 2, February, 2006, 023702 2006 The Physical Society of Japan



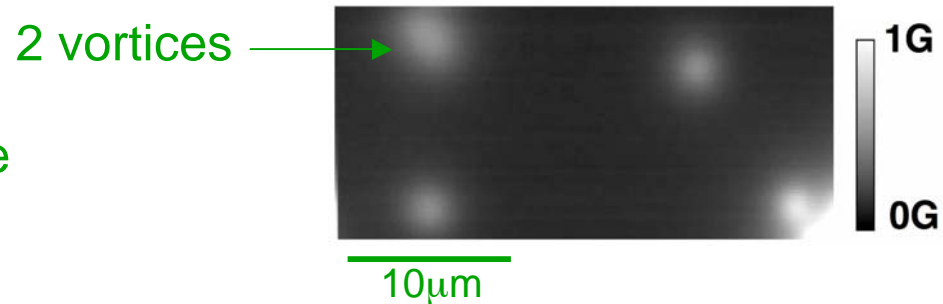
# Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> Vortex structure

Observation of individual vortices for magnetic field applied along the c-axis

$\lambda = 0.175 \pm 0.05 \mu\text{m}$  at 0.4 K considering a SQUID height of 1.15  $\mu\text{m}$

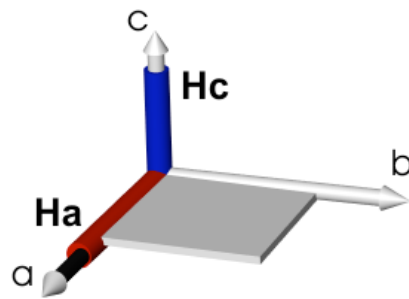
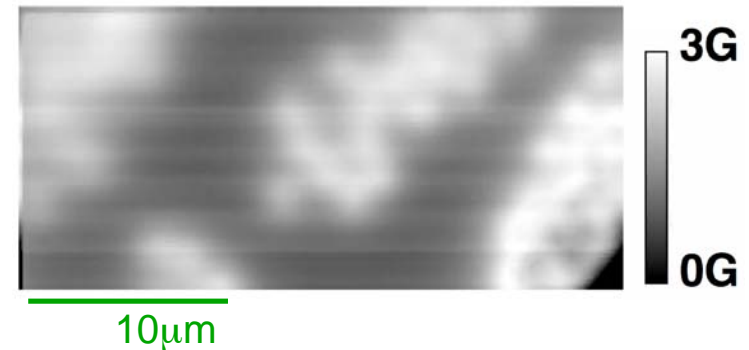


Even at low fields (0.1G FC) the vortices are close together

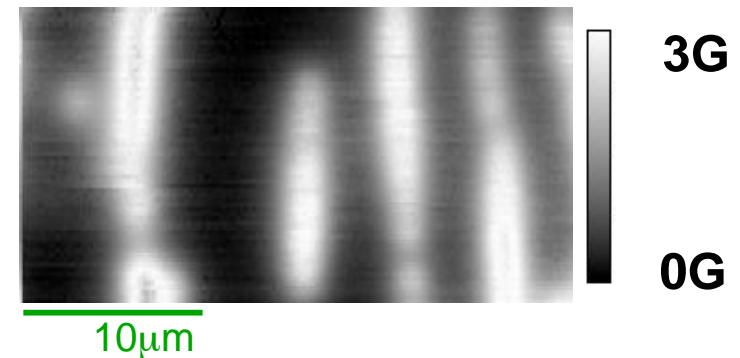


But no vortex lattice is observed increasing the magnetic field

At **2G FC** ( $\parallel c$ ) all the magnetic field is condensed in domains of flux



$H_c = 2G \text{ FC} + H_a = 10G \text{ FC}$



Applying an in-plane field the domains are easily stretch in the field direction

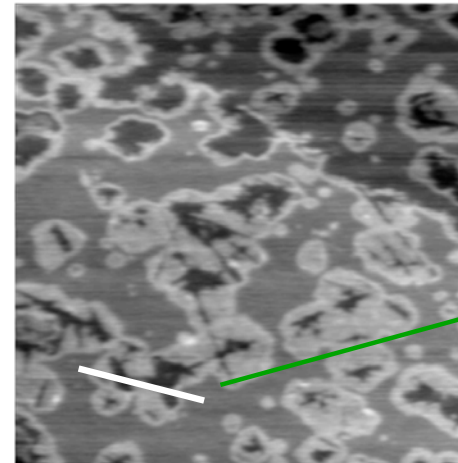


The domains are only weakly pinned by some barriers in the material

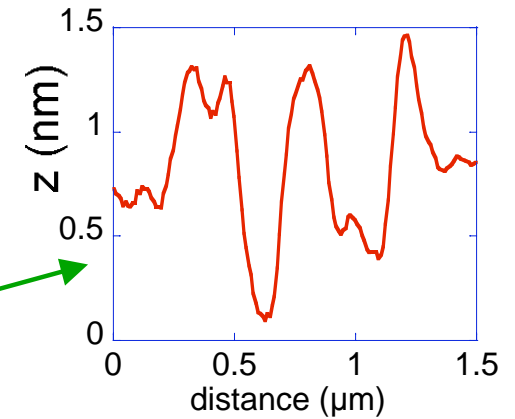
V. O. Dolocan et al., PRL 95, 097004(2005)

The surface corrugation is only 13 Å in Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> (c)

Lateral corrugation is 1 μm

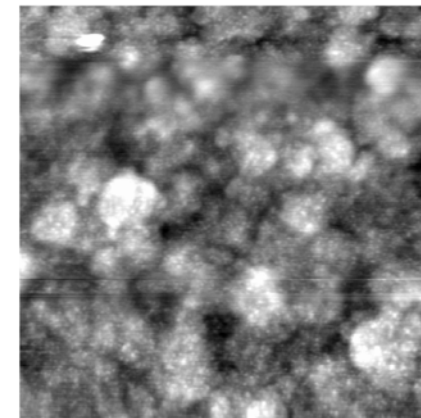


Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub>



AFM image 4μm x 4μm

The surface corrugation in NbSe<sub>2</sub> is 30 Å and a hexagonal vortex lattice is observed



O. Fruchart (IN) NbSe<sub>2</sub>

The whole ensemble of experiments suggests that the weak pinning in Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> is

## Scenario

2. Vortex-Vortex attraction is predicted for superconductors with  $\kappa$  close to  $1/\sqrt{2}$ . (1970-1980)

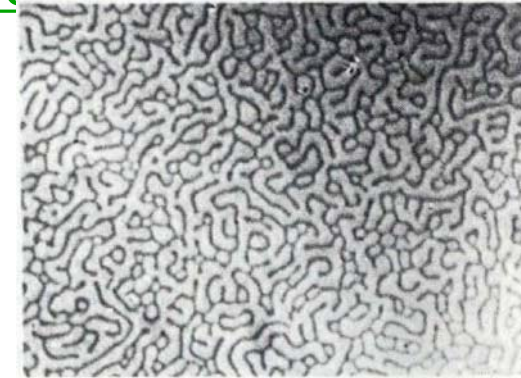
Type I superconductors form regions with lamellar flux structures and superconducting domains.

Nb is known to present a vortex lattice formed in bundles or stripes separated by flux free domains.  
« intermediate, mixed state »

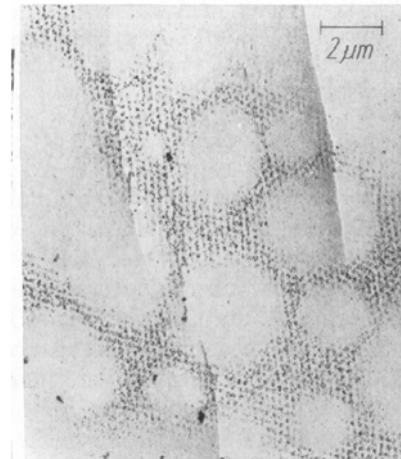
$\kappa \sim 2$ ,

Individual vortices are observed in conventional superconductors (Essmann).

- Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> is a type II superconductor
- We observe vortex cluster

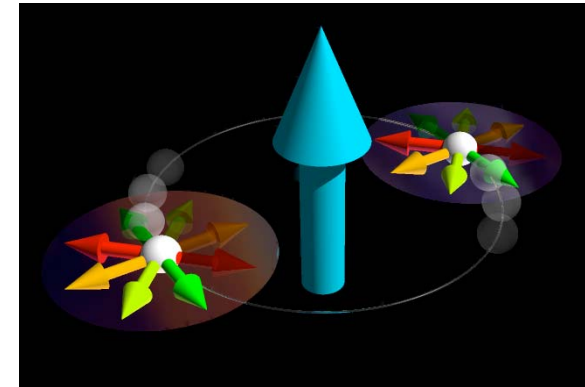


100μm





The multi-dimensional order parameter  $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{z}(k_x \pm ik_y)$  is compatible with most experiments

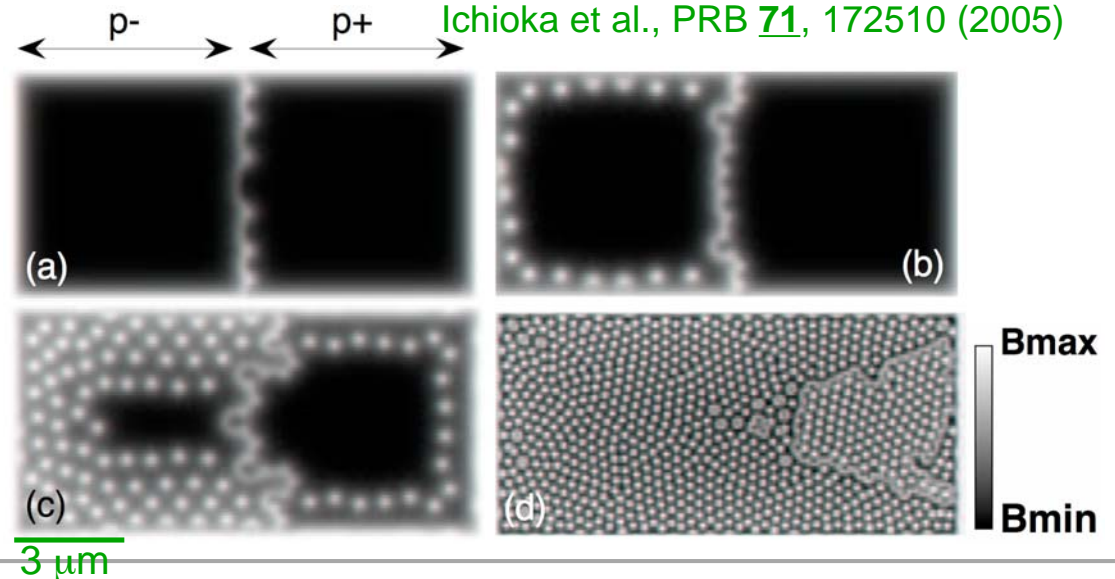


Domain walls between domains with a different order parameter  $k_x \pm ik_y$  ( $p\pm$ ) pin weakly the magnetic flux (M. Sigrist)

Ichioka et al., PRB **71**, 172510 (2005)

Numerical simulations that show the field penetration in the  $p+$  and  $p-$  domains

$T = 0.5T_c$



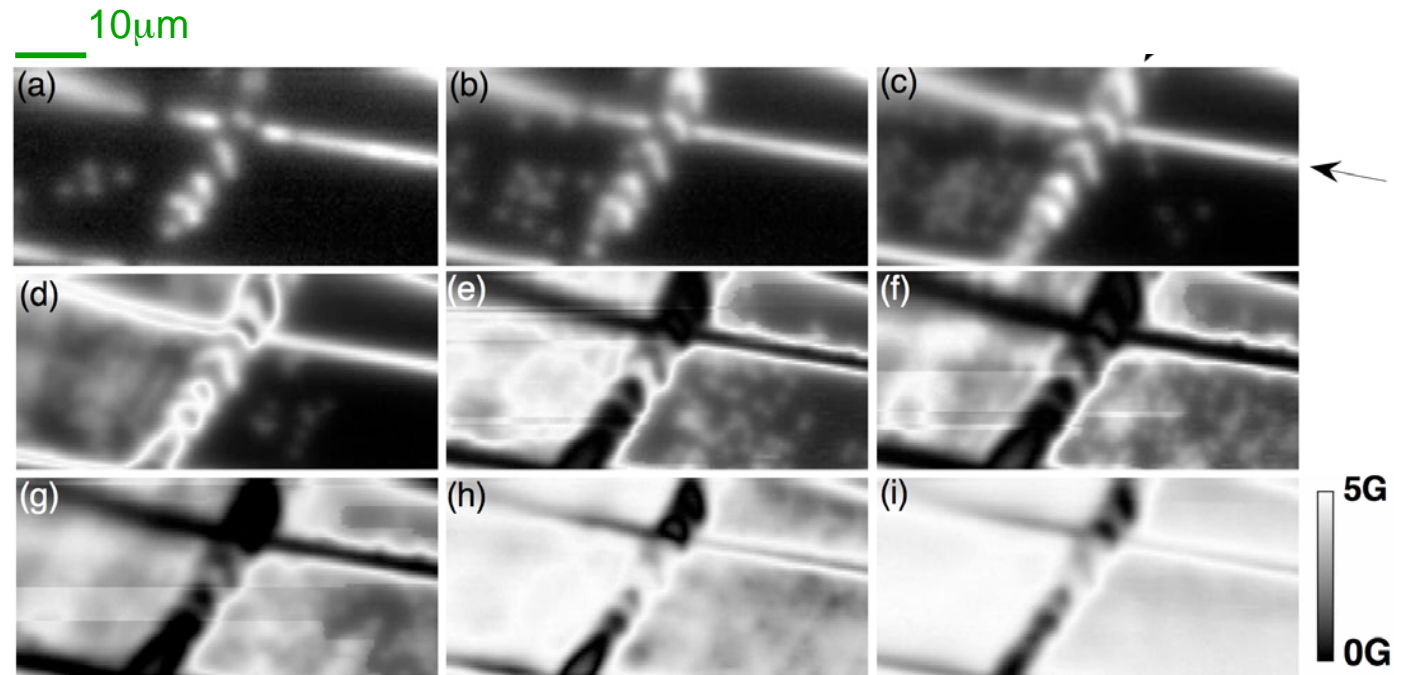
## FC images

$H \parallel c$   $T=0.4\text{K}$

Imaging above a zone with surface defects

V.O. Dolocan

Physica C 460 (2007) 277-280



(a)2G, (b)3G, (c)4G, (d)8G, (e)9G, (f)10G, (g)11G, (h)20G, (i)50G

One region is favored by the direction of applied field

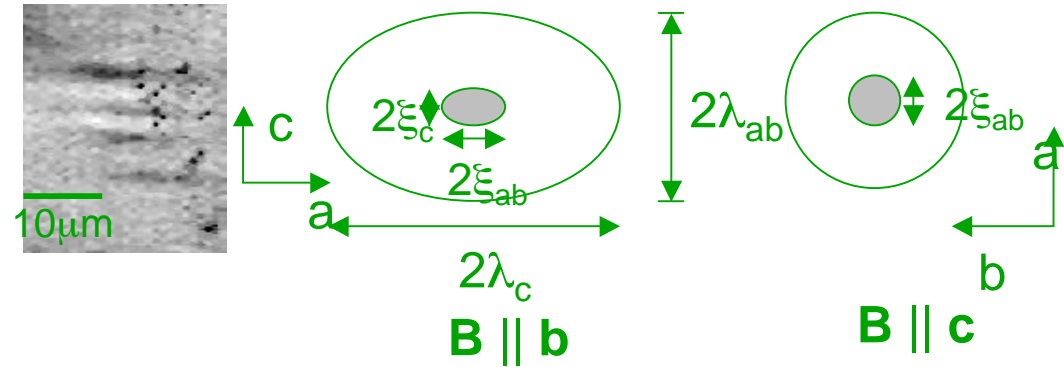
Would line defects pin the domain walls?

The observed domain formation due to the apparition of domain of different chirality?

# Anisotropic Superconducting Materials

GL theory  
Effective electron mass  
anisotropy

$$\gamma = \lambda_c / \lambda_{ab} = \xi_{ab} / \xi_c = (m_c / m_{ab})^{1/2}$$



Anisotropy  $\gamma$

Anisotropy $\gamma$	3.3	5-8	20	>55
	NbSe <sub>2</sub>	YBCO	Sr <sub>2</sub> RuO <sub>4</sub>	BSCCO
	3D	3D	3D-2D?	2D
	c=12.5Å ξ <sub>c</sub> =25Å	c=12Å ξ <sub>c</sub> =5Å	c=12.5Å ξ <sub>c</sub> =33Å	c=30.9Å ξ <sub>c</sub> =4Å



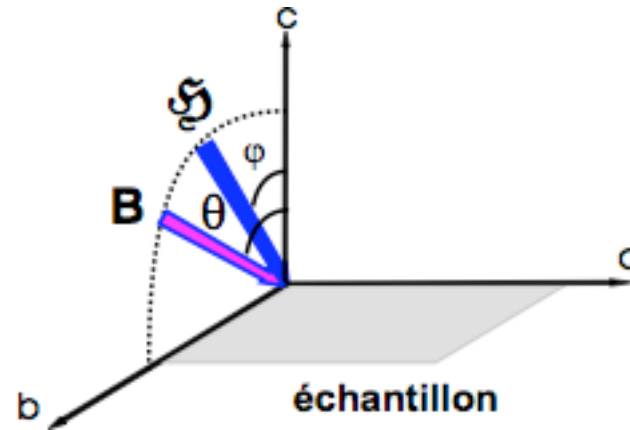
Bitter decoration and SEM micrograph  
of the vortex chains in YBaCuO

23.3 G //ab 8.5 G  $\perp$  ab

ab face is observed

Gammel et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. 68, 3343, (92)





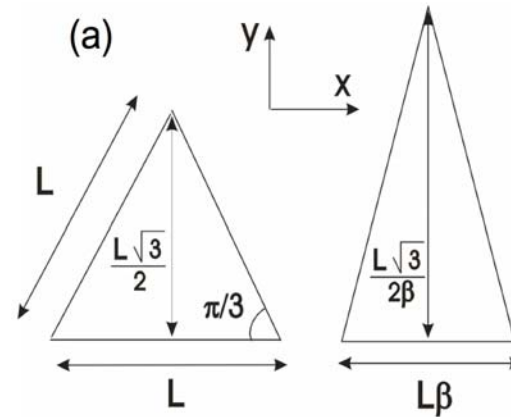
$$\tan\theta = \gamma^2 \tan\phi$$

$$\gamma^2 = 400 \text{ for } \text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$$

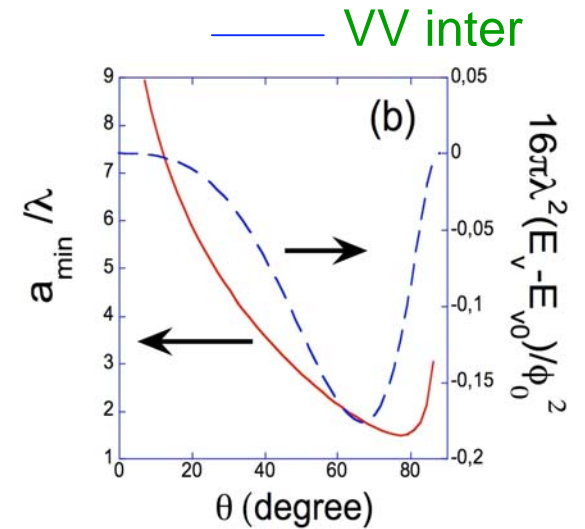
A. V. Balatskii, L. I. Burlachkov, and L. P. Gorkov, Magnetic properties of anisotropic type II superconductors, Sov. Phys. JETP 63 (1985), 866-871.

# Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> Formation of vortex chains

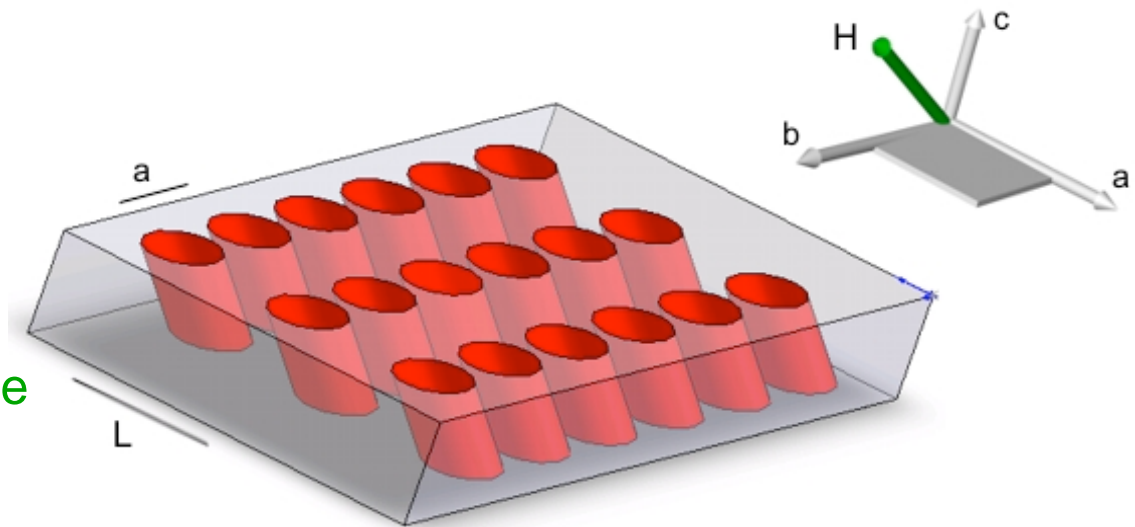
When the magnetic field is tilted from c-axis the regular triangular lattice distorts



$L = 1/B^{0.5}$      $L = 1/B$

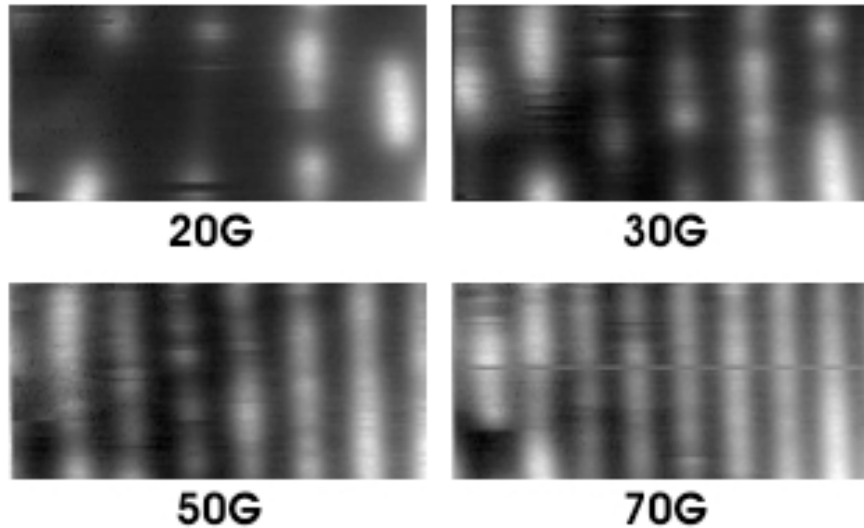


The vortex chains form due to a dipolar-like attraction between tilted vortices, in the (H,c-axis) plane

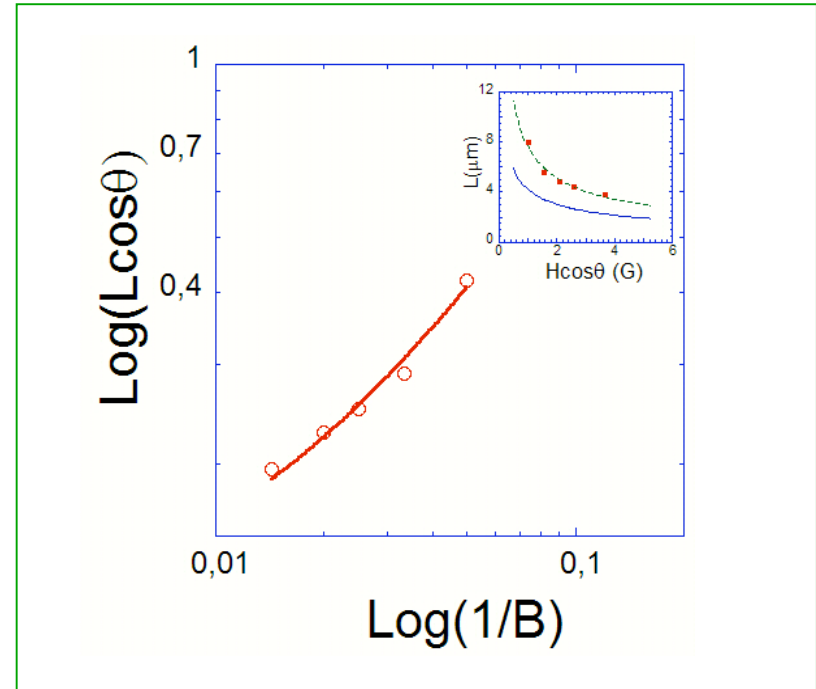


## Field dependence of vortex chains

In plane magnetic field increases field cooling

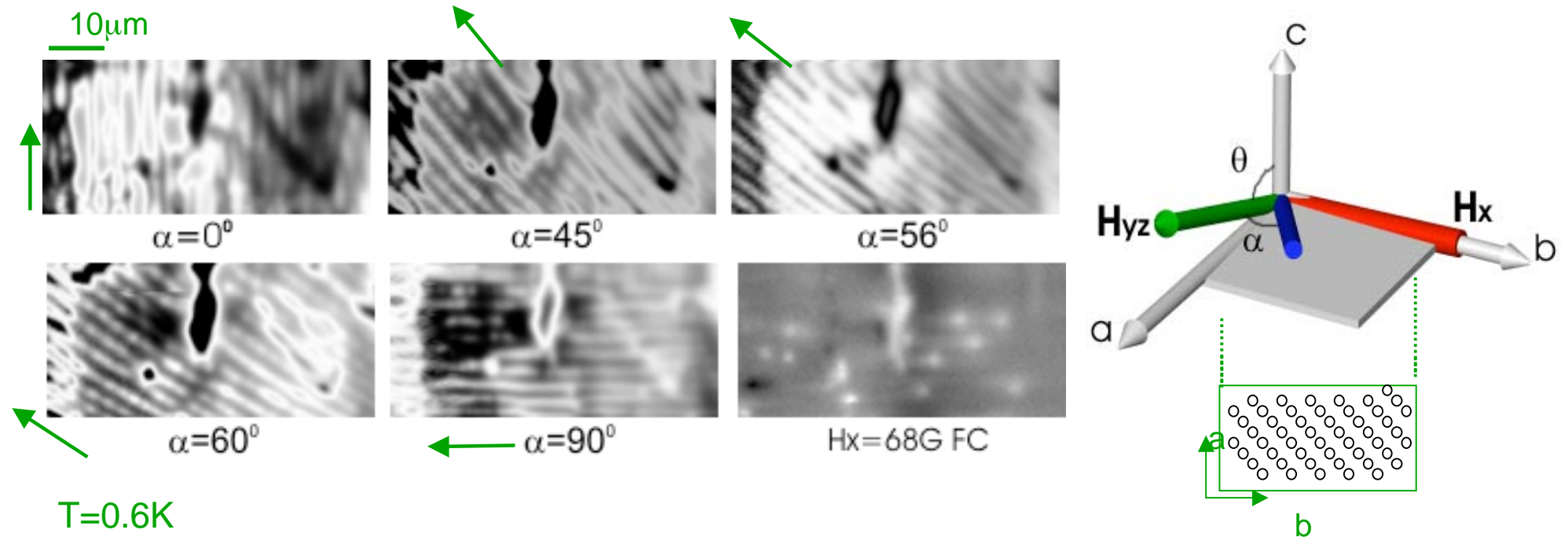


31μm x 15 μm T=0.35K θ=87°



At low fields anisotropic London theory -> Normal distance between chains varies as  $B^{-1}$

The interchain distance tends to the isotropic limit with increasing perpendicular field



The chains change easily their direction, which is fixed by the  $H_{rez}$  and the anisotropy axis

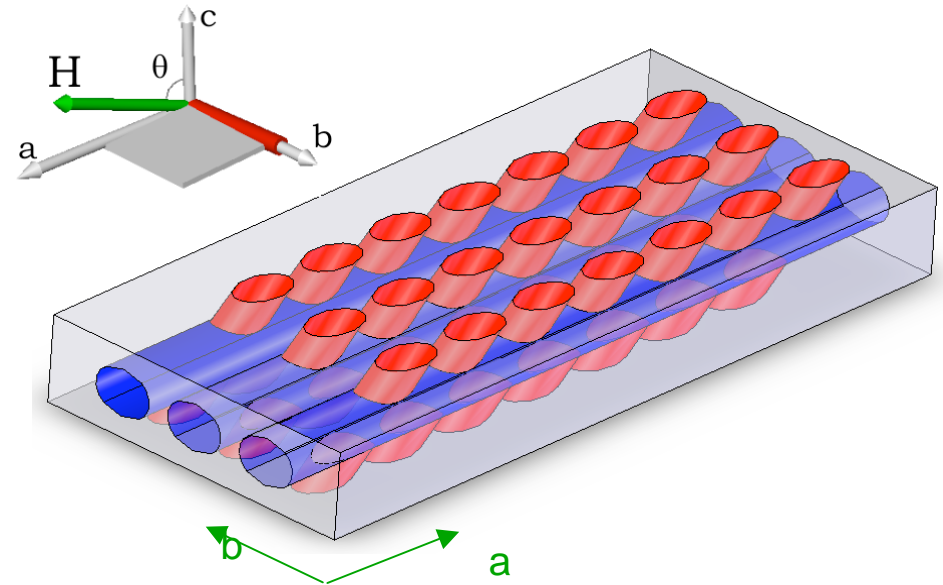
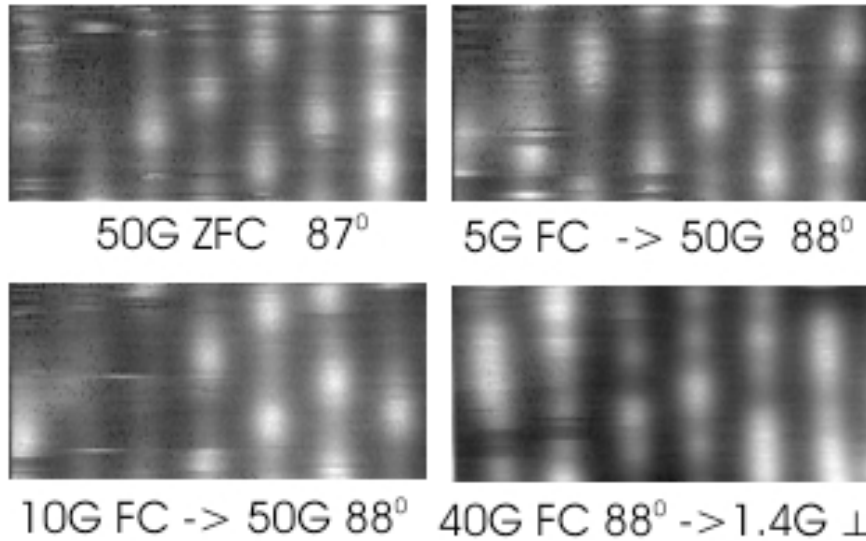
When only a field on the ab plane is applied a tail is present on individual vortices



Pinning on flux channels

# Sr<sub>2</sub>RuO<sub>4</sub> Two types of in plane vortices?

Possibility:



T=0.35K

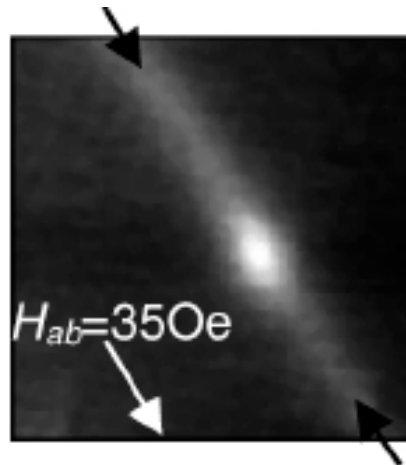
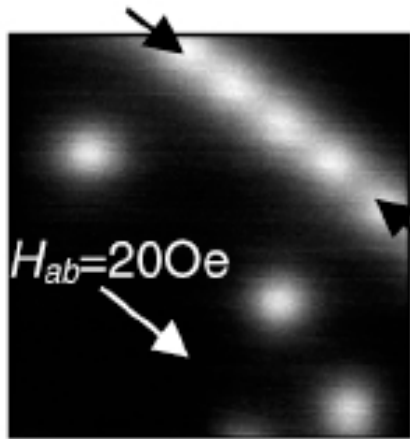
- Flux channels preferentially into ab plane
- Vortices nucleate on flux channels
- Tendency of anticorrelation between vortices in adjacent chains

Dolocan, V.O. et al.

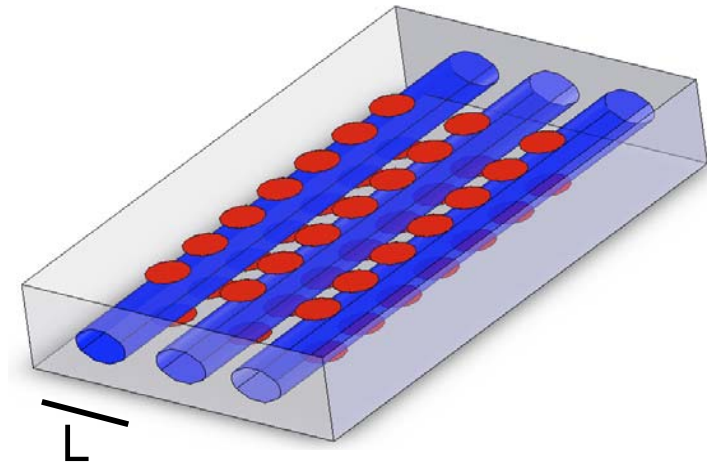
Phys. Rev. B **74**, 144505, 2006

Distorted hexagonal lattice on the flux channels?

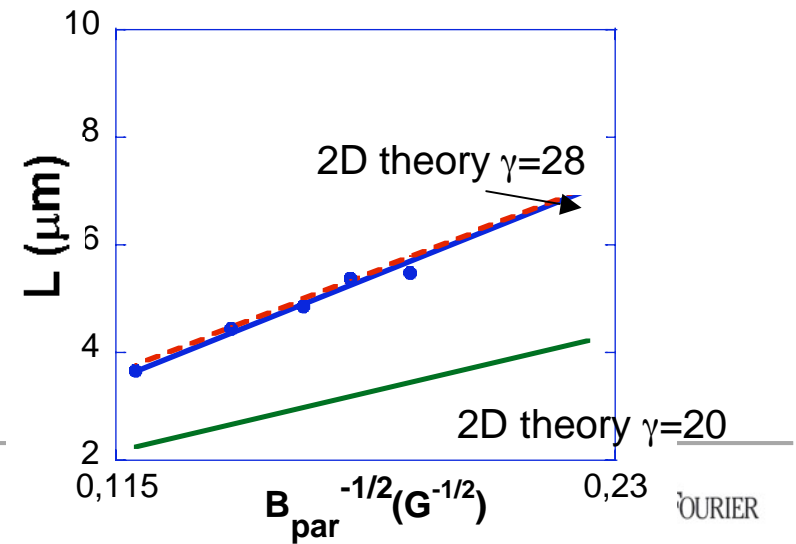




2D limit:

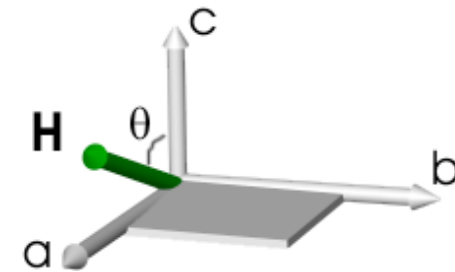


$$L = \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{3}\gamma\Phi_0}{2B_{inplane}}}$$

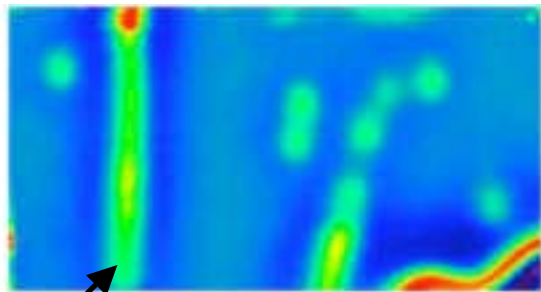


Biscco SHPM Bending PRL 94 67001

H=10G FC T=0.3K

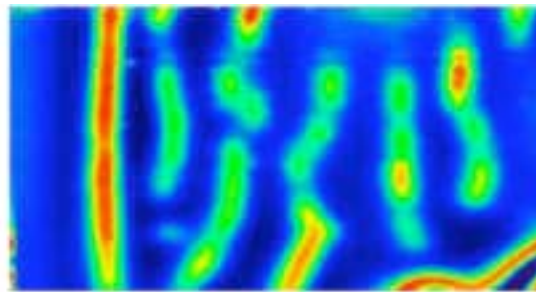


10μm

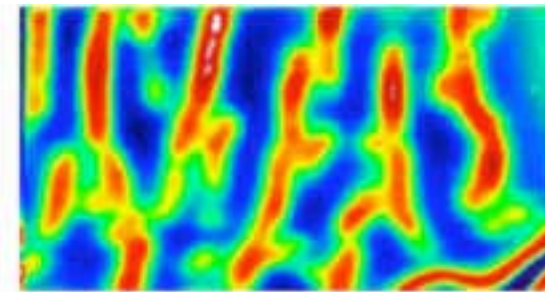


chain

θ=70°



θ=60°



θ=50°

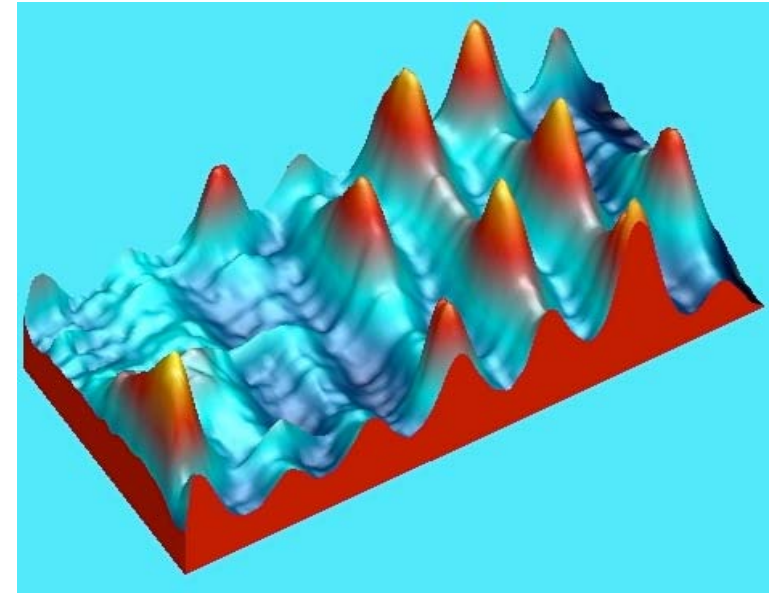
domains

When the direction of magnetic field is approaching the c-axis more field is penetrating the sample  $\implies$  the chains bend

Competition between  
the anisotropy  $\rightarrow$  the vortex chain structure  
and coalescence  $\rightarrow$  domains

- Vortex coalescence-domains

Björnsson PRB **72**,012504 (2005)

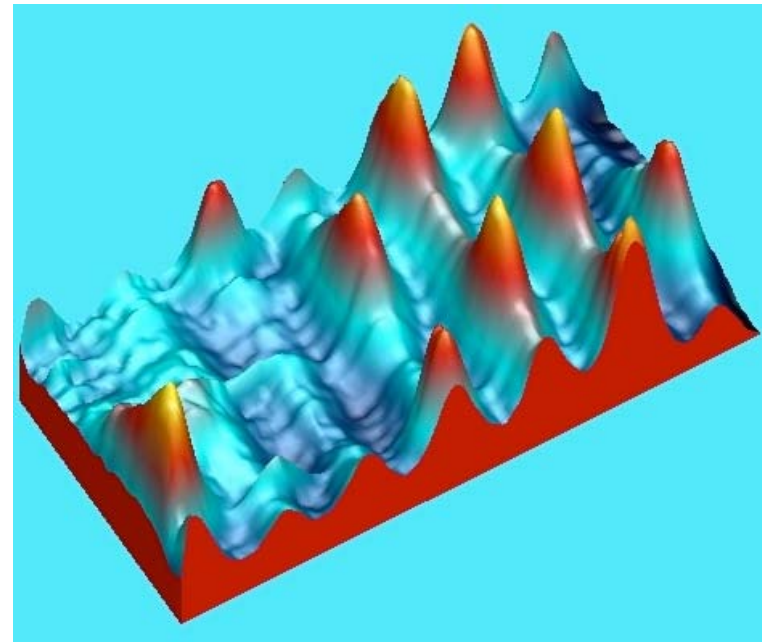


- Vortex chains are present at low fields
- Vortex channels are decorated by Abrikosov vortices

⇒  $\text{Sr}_2\text{RuO}_4$  opens also a new field in vortex physics

# Acknowledgments

V.O. Dolocan (I.Néel)  
C. Veauvy (I.Néel)  
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D. Hykel (I.Néel)  
P. Laczkowski (I.Néel)  
D. Mailly (LPN CNRS Marcoussis)  
K. Schuster (IRAM Grenoble)  
P. Lejay (I.Néel)  
T. Crozes (I.Néel)  
Y. Liu (Penn State)  
J. Kirtley (emeritus IBM)



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