

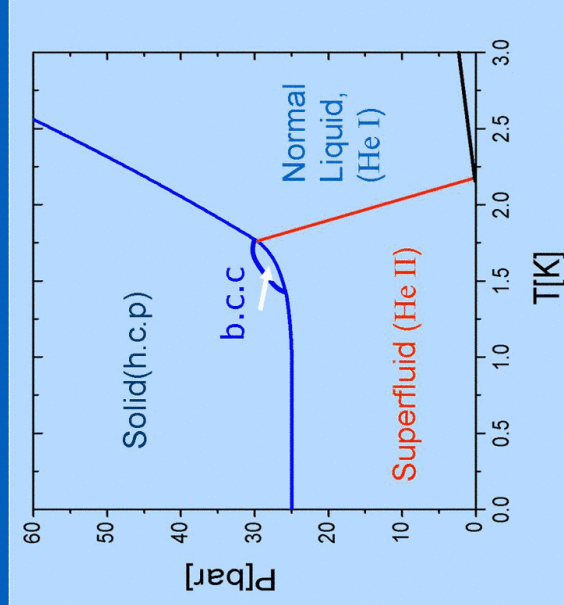
Summary of Penn State results on supersolids

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M. H. W. Chan

Penn State University

Supported by NSF

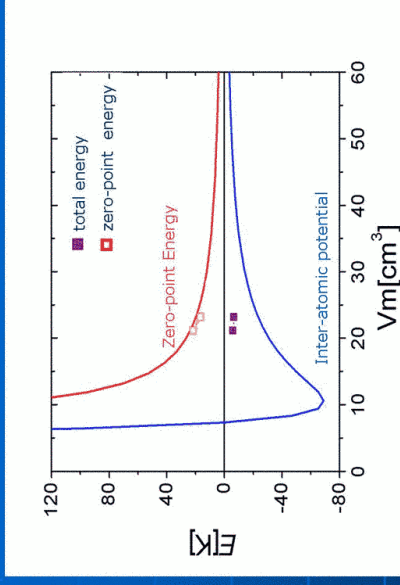
Phase diagram of ^4He



Fritz London is the first person to recognize that superfluidity in liquid ^4He is a BEC phenomenon. Condensation fraction was predicted and measured to be 10% near $T=0$. Superfluid fraction at $T=0$, however is 100%.

- Lindemann Parameter
the ratio of the root mean square of the displacement of atoms to the interatomic distance (d_a)

$$\gamma_L = \frac{\sqrt{\langle u^2 \rangle}}{d_a} = 0.26$$



- exceeding the critical value of Lindemann parameter for melting of a classical solid ($0.1 \sim 0.15$).
- Recently observed Xray measurement at $\sim 0.7\text{K}$ and near melting curve shows 26% (Burns et al. *Phys. Rev. B* **55**, 5767(1997))

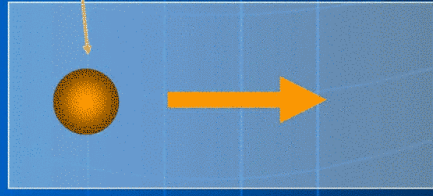
No experimental evidence of superfluidity in solid helium prior to 2004.

- Plastic flow measurement
Andreev et al. *Sov. Phys. JETP Lett* **9**,306(1969)
Suzuki J. *Phys. Soc. Jpn.* **35**, 1472(1973)
Tsymbalenko *Sov. Phys. JETP Lett.* **23**, 653(1976)
Dyumin et al. *Sov. J. Low Temp. Phys.* **15**,295(1989);
Bonfait, Godfrin and Castaing, *J. de Physique* **50**, 1997(1989)
- Torsional oscillator
Bishop et al. *Phys. Rev. B* **24**, 2844(1981)
- Mass flow
Greywall *Phys. Rev. B* **16**, 1291(1977)
- $P_V(T)$ measurement
Adams et al. *Bull. Am. Phys. Soc.* **35**, 1080(1990)
Haar et al. *J. Low Temp. Phys.* **86**,349(1992)
- However, interesting results are found in
Ultrasound Measurements at UCSD.
Goodkind *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **89**,095301(2002) and
references therein

Plastic flow

(most experiment carried out above 0.5K)

Measure the displacement of a ball frozen in solid helium



Andreev et al. Sov. Phys. JETP Lett **9**,306(1969)
 A polished ball
 (d=1.57mm, Alloy; 75%Pt +25% Co)

No motion detected at 0.5K

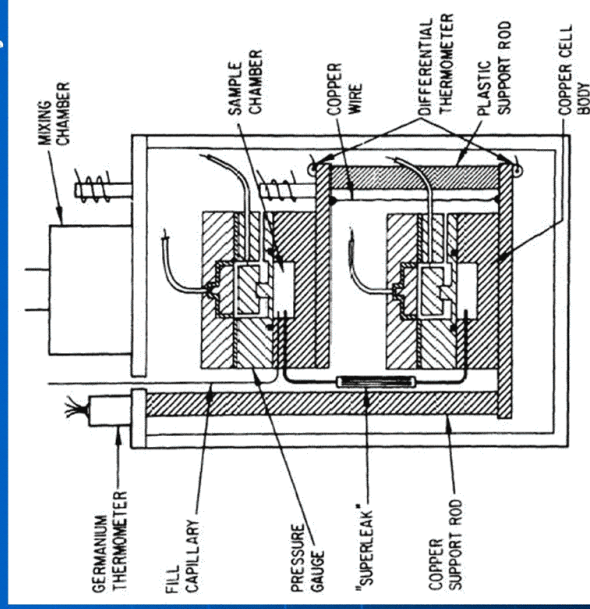
Solid helium

- Suzuki J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **35**, 1472 (1973)
 (T=1.77K P=32atm, $f_c = 6.5 \times 10^5$ dyne/cm²)
- Tsymbalenko Sov. Phys. JETP Lett. **23**,653 (1976)
 (T= 0.6~2.1K, P=25.7~40atm)
- Sanders et al, Phys. Rev. Lett., **39**, 815 (1977)

Mass flow

Search for superfluidity in solid ⁴He

D. S. Greywall, Phys. Rev. B **16**, 1291 (1977)



$\Delta P = 1 \sim 2$ bars

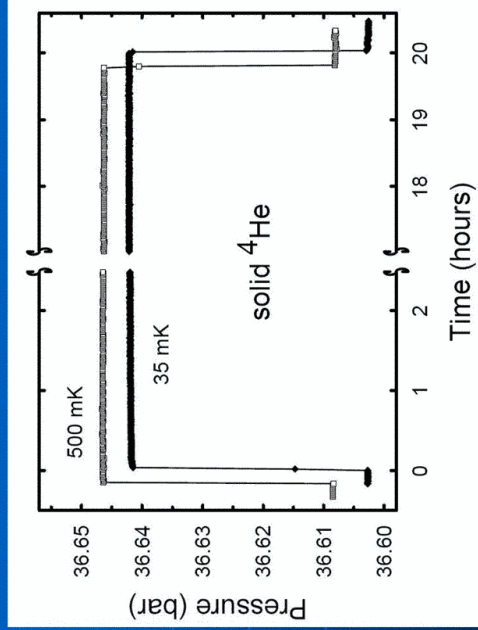
From 25 to 48 bars
 No change in the pressure
 In both sample chamber

$$\frac{\rho_s}{\rho} v \leq 2.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm/s}$$

Bonfait et.al. did not see any mass transfer in solid helium in a U-tube down to 4 mK

Pressure driven flow

1. J. Day et. al, Phys. Rev. Lett **95**, 035301 (2005)
2. J. Day and J. Beamish, condmat 0601149 (2006)



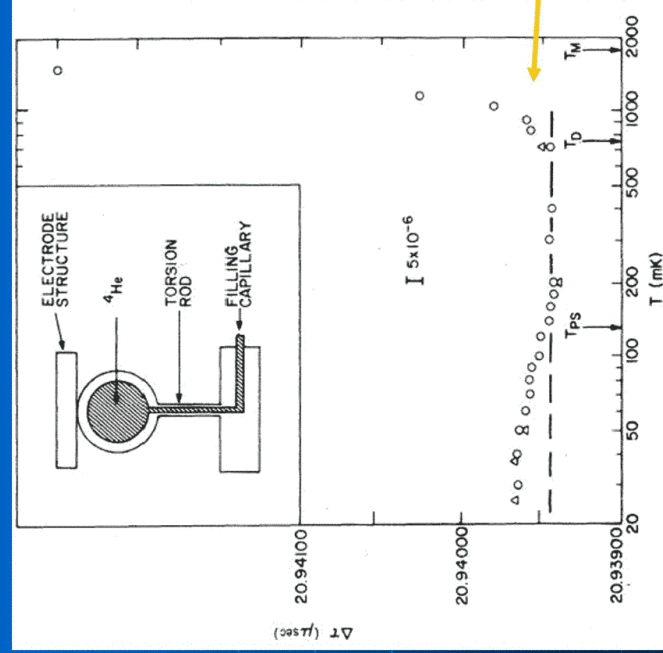
1. No evidence of mass flow from bulk into vycor
2. Analogous to Greywall

$$\frac{\rho_s}{\rho} |v| \leq 1.5 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm/s}$$

Diffusive flow of solid helium ($T=1.0-1.4\text{K}$, $D_s \sim 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$)
 Dyumin et al. Sov. J. Low Temp. Phys. **15**, 295 (1989)

Torsion oscillator measurements of bulk solid ^4He

Bishop, Paalanen and Reppy, Phys. Rev. B **24**, 2844 (1981)



No "NCRI"

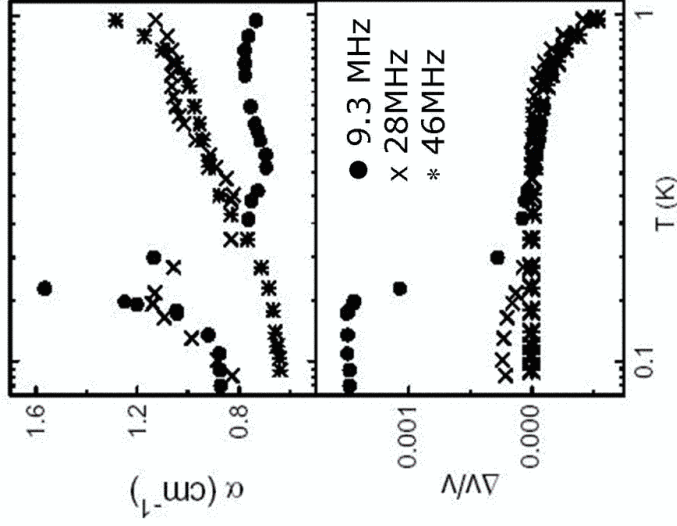
From 25-48 bars

$\rho_s < 5$ parts in 10^6

$V_c < 5 \mu\text{m}/\text{sec}$

^3He impurities
411 ppm

Ultrasound velocity and dissipation measurements in solid ^4He with 27.5ppm of ^3He



The results are interpreted by the authors as showing BEC of thermally activated vacancies **above** 200mK.

P.C. Ho, I.P. Bindloss and J. M. Goodkind, *J. Low Temp. Phys.* **109**, 409 (1997)

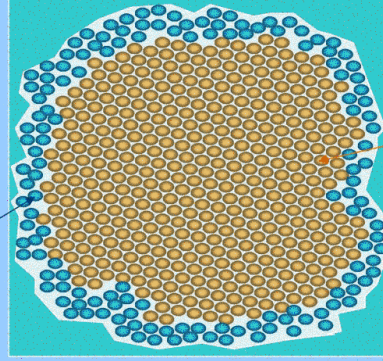
Goodkind Phys. Rev. Lett. **89**,095301(2002)

TEM of Vycor glass



Solid helium in a porous medium should have more disorder and defects, which may facilitate the appearance of superflow in solid?

Amorphous boundary layer



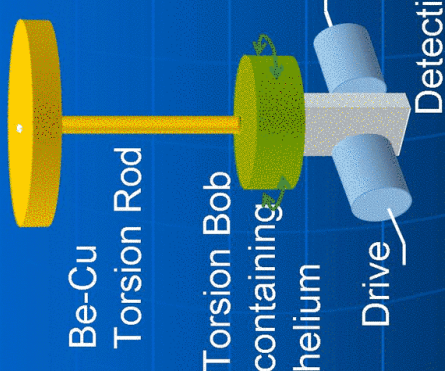
Crystalline solid

Solidification proceeds in two different directions:

- 1) In the center of the pore a solid cluster has crystalline order identical to bulk ^4He
- 2) On the wall of a pore amorphous solid layers are found due to the van der Waals force of the substrate

Elbaum et al. Adams et al. Brewer et al.

Torsional oscillator is ideal for the detection of superfluidity



Resolution

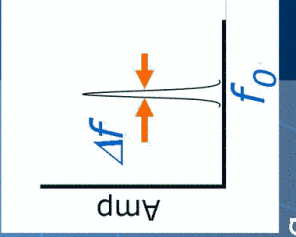
Resonant period (τ_0) ~ 1 ms

stability in τ is 0.1 ns

$\delta\tau/\tau_0 = 5 \times 10^{-7}$

Mass sensitivity $\sim 10^{-7}$ g

$$\tau_0 = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{I}{K}}$$



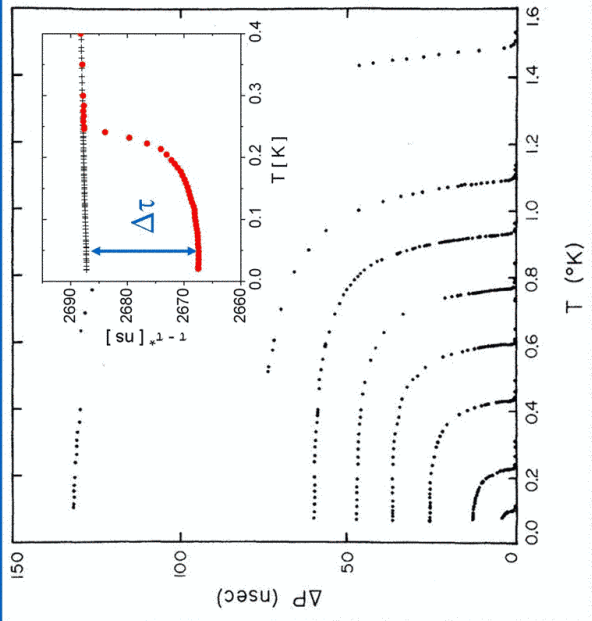
$$Q = f_0 / \Delta f \sim 2 \times 10^6$$

Torsional oscillator studies of superfluid films

Vycor

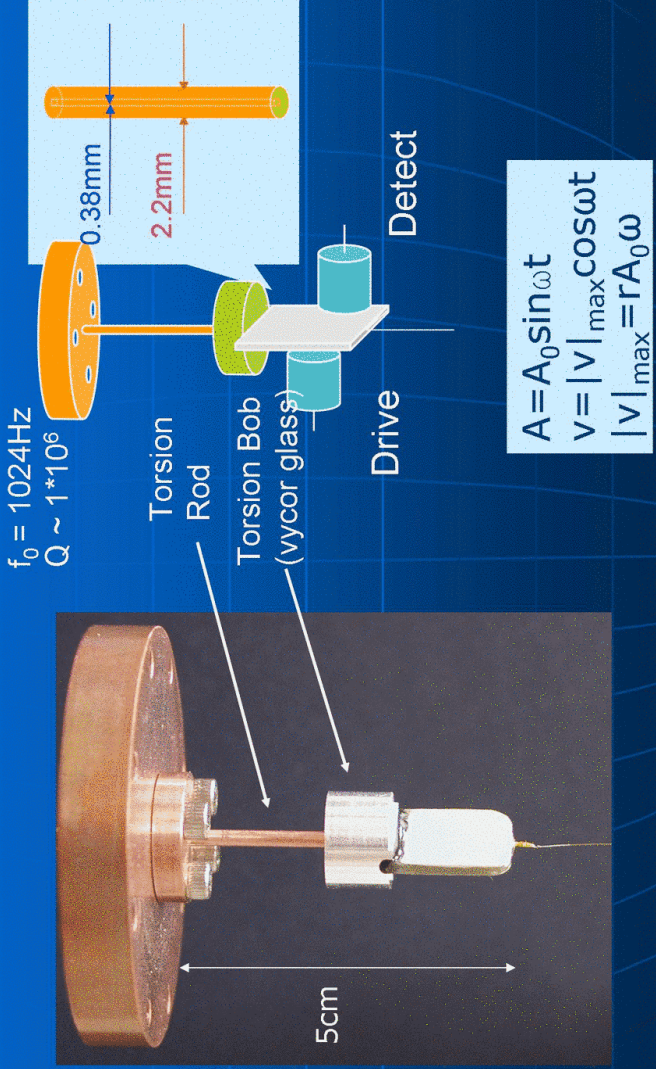


Above T_c the adsorbed normal liquid film behaves as solid and oscillates with the cell, since the viscous penetration depth at 1kHz is about $3 \mu\text{m}$.

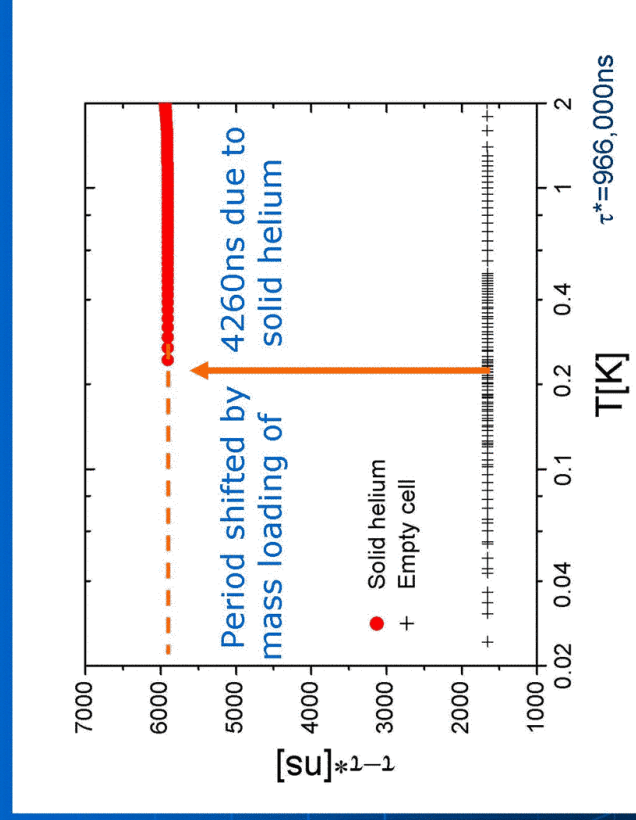


Berthold, Bishop, Reppy, PRL 39, 348 (1977)

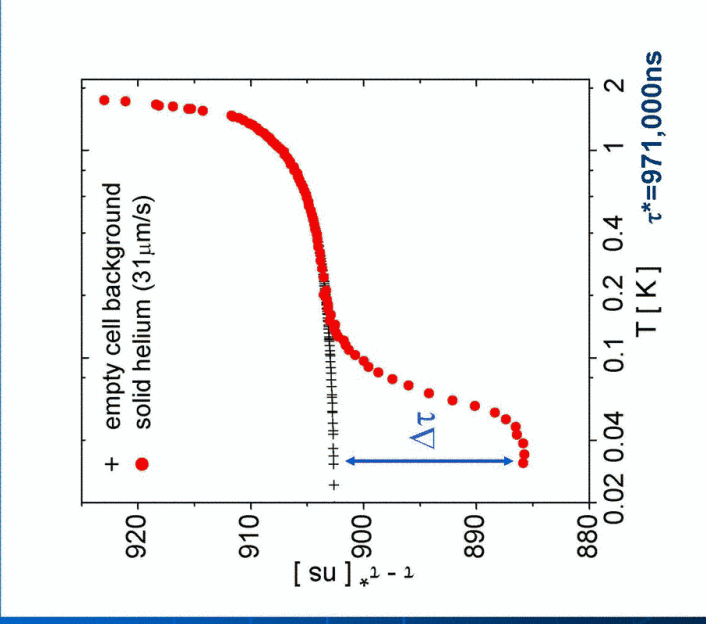
Solid helium in Vycor glass



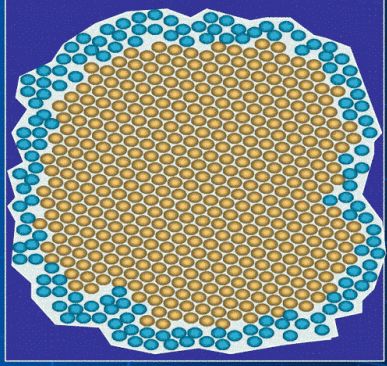
Solid ^4He at 62 bars in Vycor glass



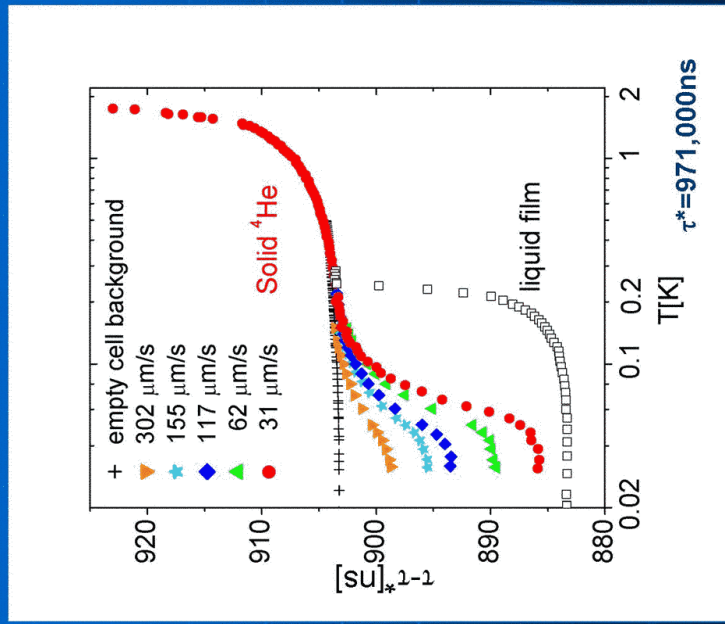
Supersolid response of helium in vycor glass



- Period drops at 175mK
→ appearance of NCRl
- size of period drop
- $\Delta\tau \sim 17\text{ns}$

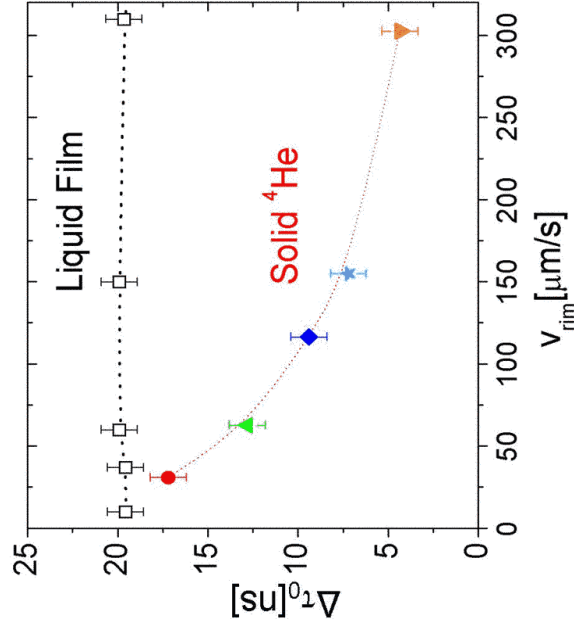


Superfluid response



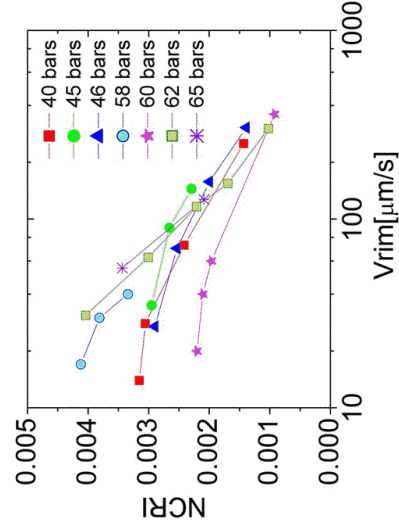
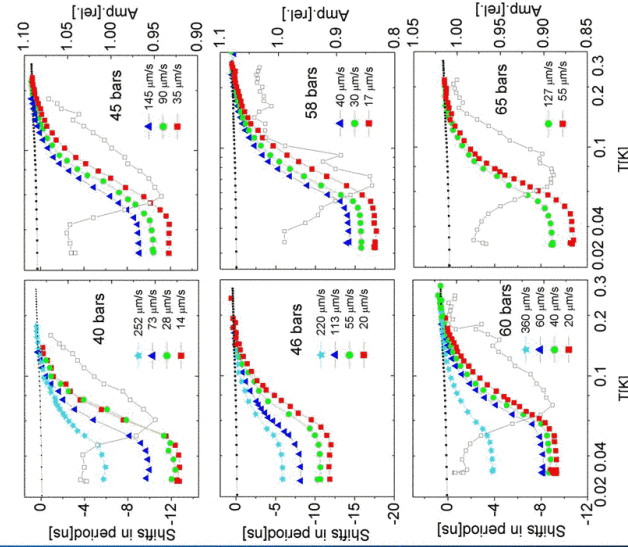
- Total mass loading = 4260ns
- Measured decoupling
- $\Delta\tau_0 = 17\text{ns}$
- “ Apparent supersolid fraction” =
0.4%
(with tortuosity correction $\rho_s/\rho = 2\%$)
- Weak pressure dependence

Strong velocity dependence

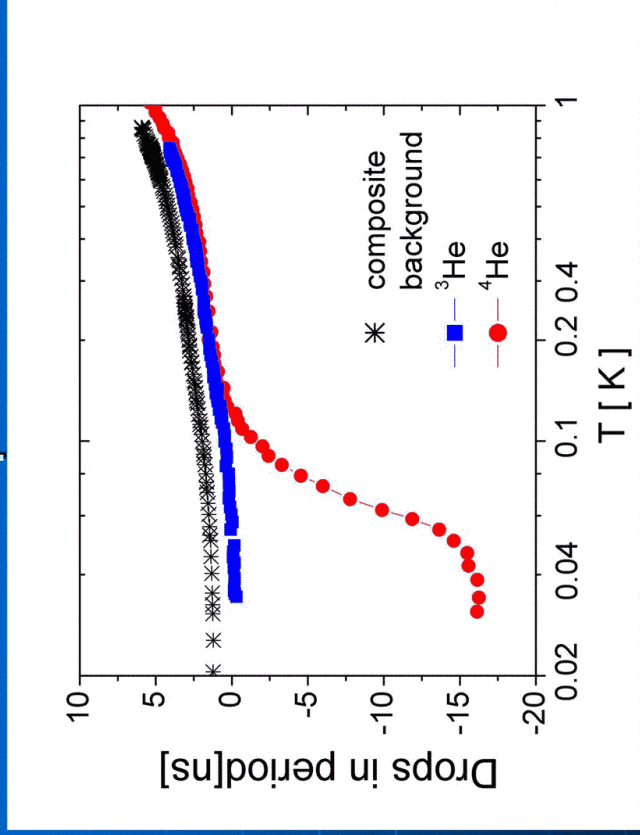


- For liquid film adsorbed on Vycor glass
 $V_c > 20\text{cm/s}$
 Chan et. al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **32**, 1347(1974).
- For superflow in solid ^4He
 $V_c < 30\ \mu\text{m/s}$

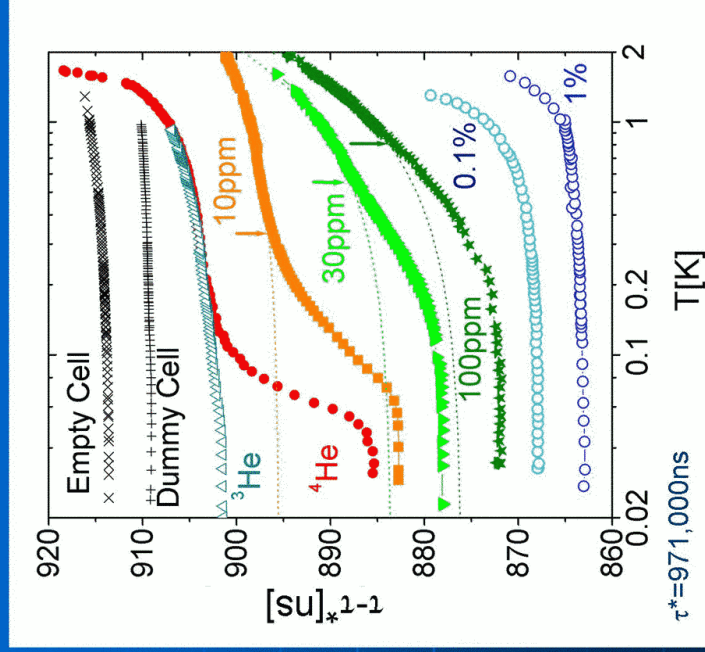
Vycor Results



Control experiment : Solid ^3He



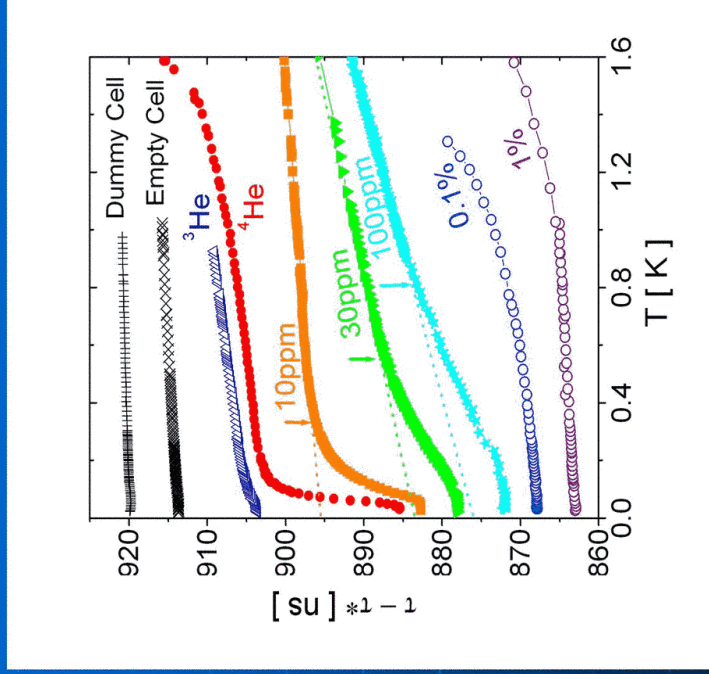
^4He solid diluted with a low concentration of ^3He



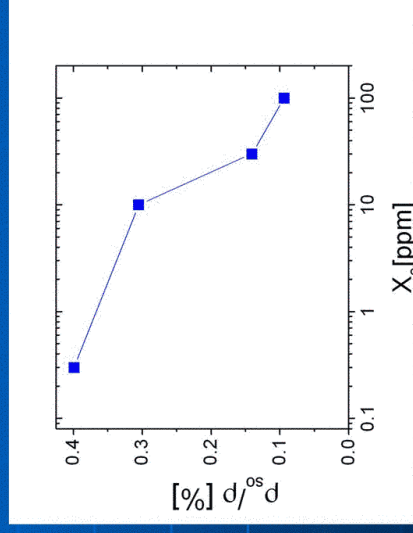
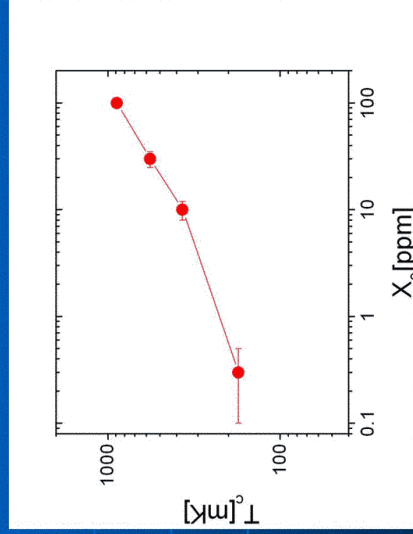
Data shifted vertically for easy comparison

$\tau^* = 971,000\text{ns}$

^4He solid diluted with a low concentration of ^3He

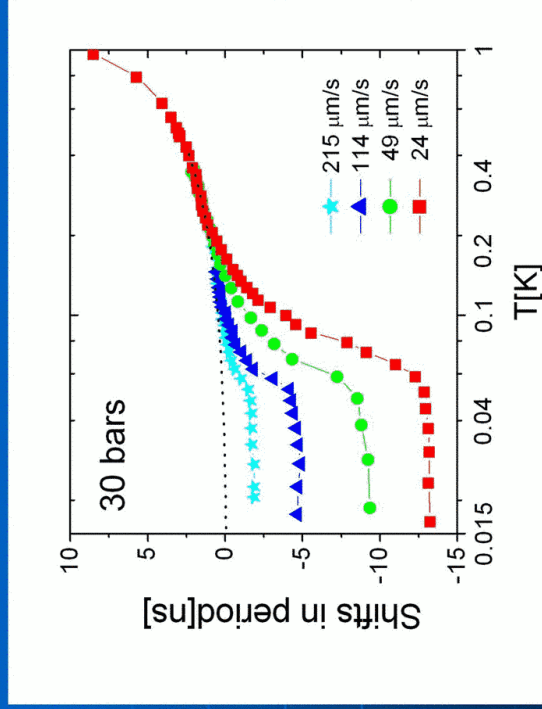


Effect of the addition of ^3He impurities



At 0.3ppm, the separation of the ^3He atoms is about 450\AA

Solid helium in porous gold



Porous Gold

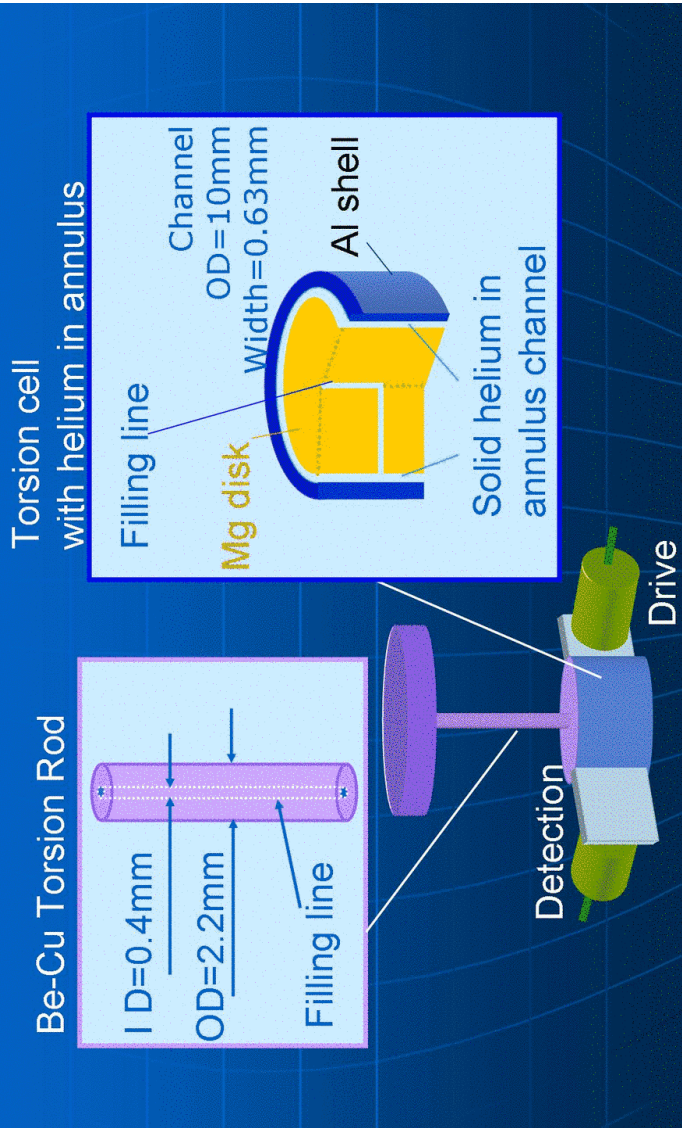
$$f_0 = 359\text{Hz}$$

J. Low Temp. Phys. **138**, 859(2005)

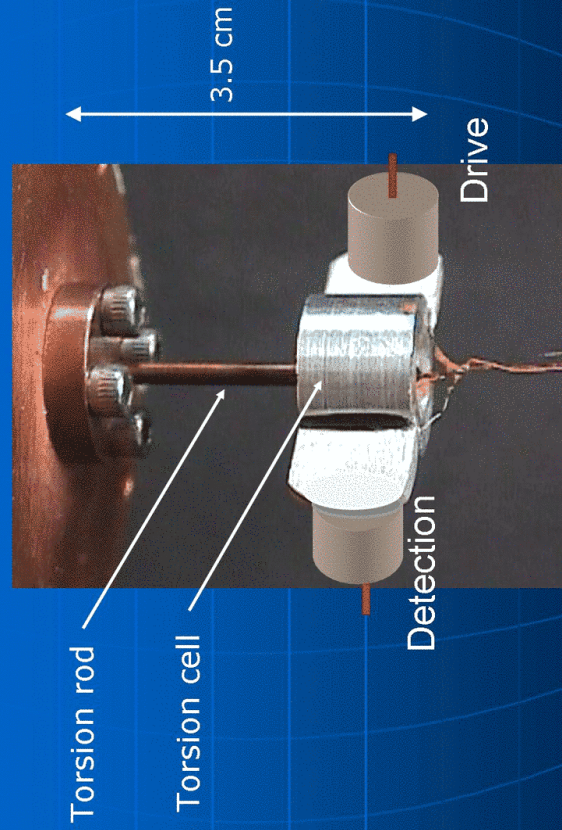
Is a porous matrix crucial for the appearance of the supersolid phase?

	Porous gold	Vycor glass
Pore diameter	490nm	7nm
A/V	9m ² /cc	500m ² /cc
T _C	~0.2K	~0.2K
ρ _s /ρ (tortuosity)	0.008 (0.012)	0.002~0.005 (0.01~0.025)

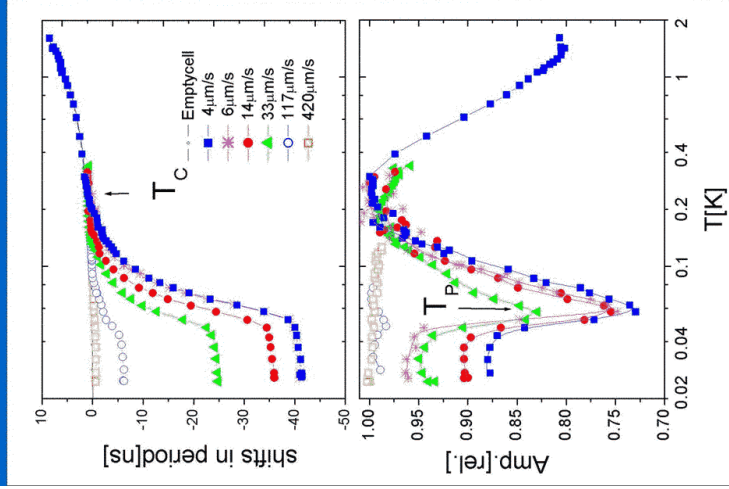
Search for the supersolid phase in the bulk solid ^4He .



Torsional Oscillator (bulk solid helium-4)



Porous media are not essential !



Solid ^4He at 51 bars
 $4\mu\text{m/s}$ corresponds to
 amplitude of oscillation of 7\AA

NCRI appears below 0.25K

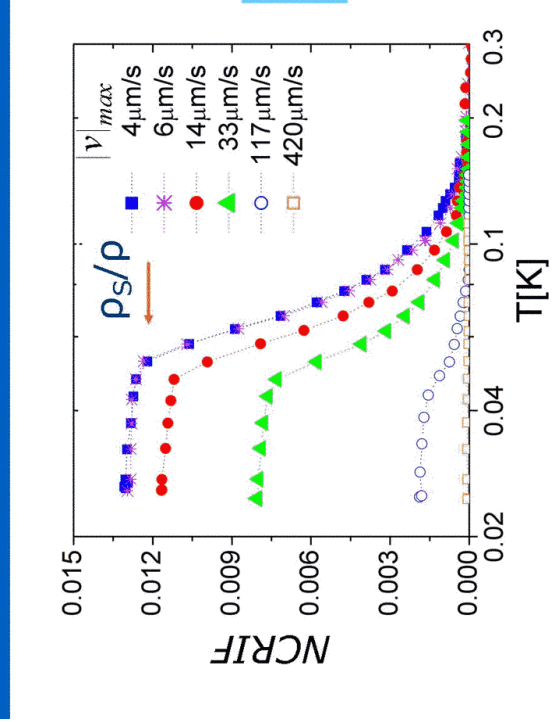
Strong $|\dot{v}|_{max}$ dependence
 (above $14\mu\text{m/s}$)

Amplitude minimum, T_P

$\tau_0 = 1,096,465\text{ns}$ at 0 bar
 $1,099,477\text{ns}$ at 51 bars
 (total mass loading = 3012ns
 due to filling with helium)

Science **305**, 1941 (2004)

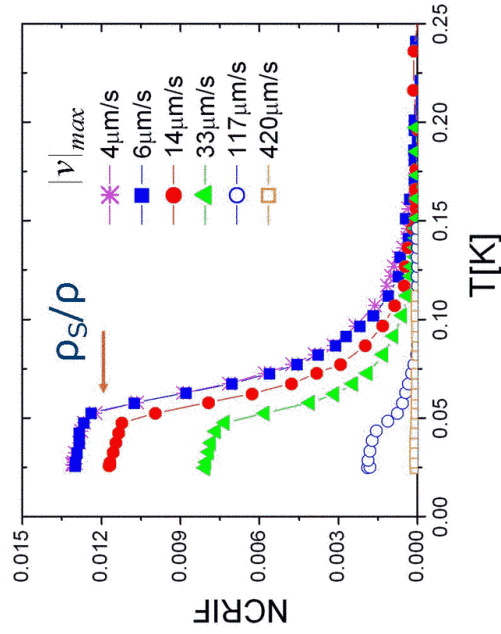
Non-Classical Rotational Inertia Fraction



$$NCRIF = \frac{\Delta\tau}{\text{total mass loading}}$$

Total mass loading
 = 3012ns at 51 bars

Non-Classical Rotational Inertia Fraction

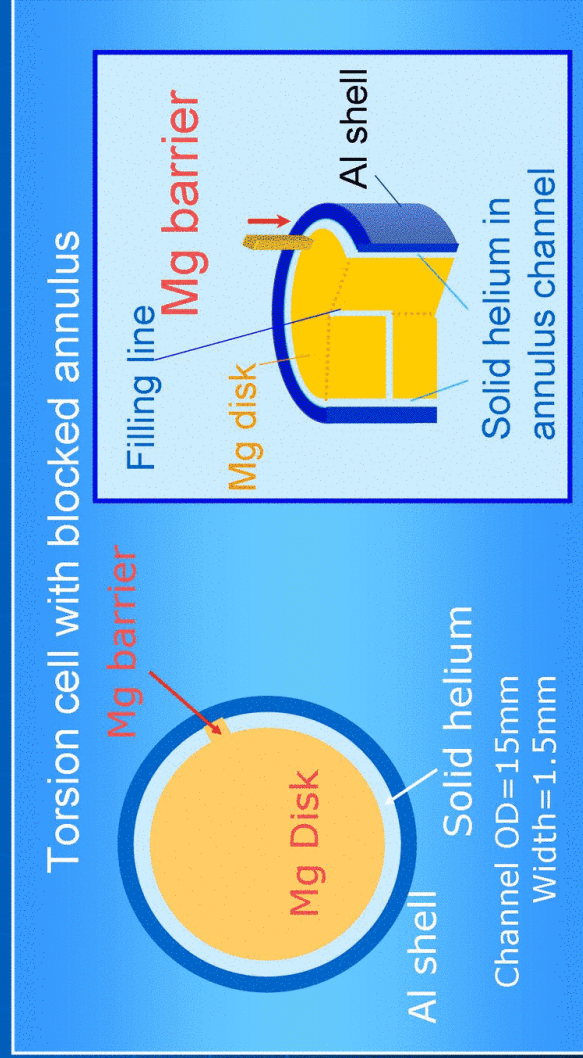


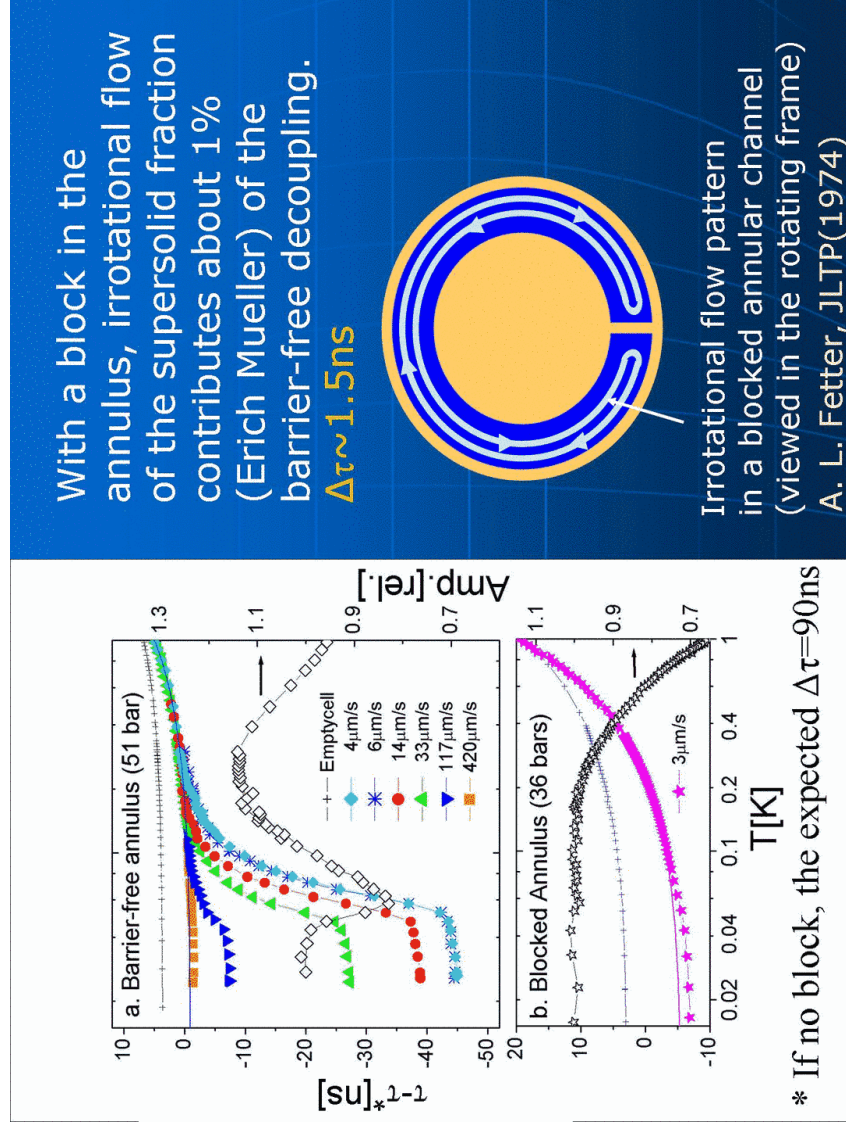
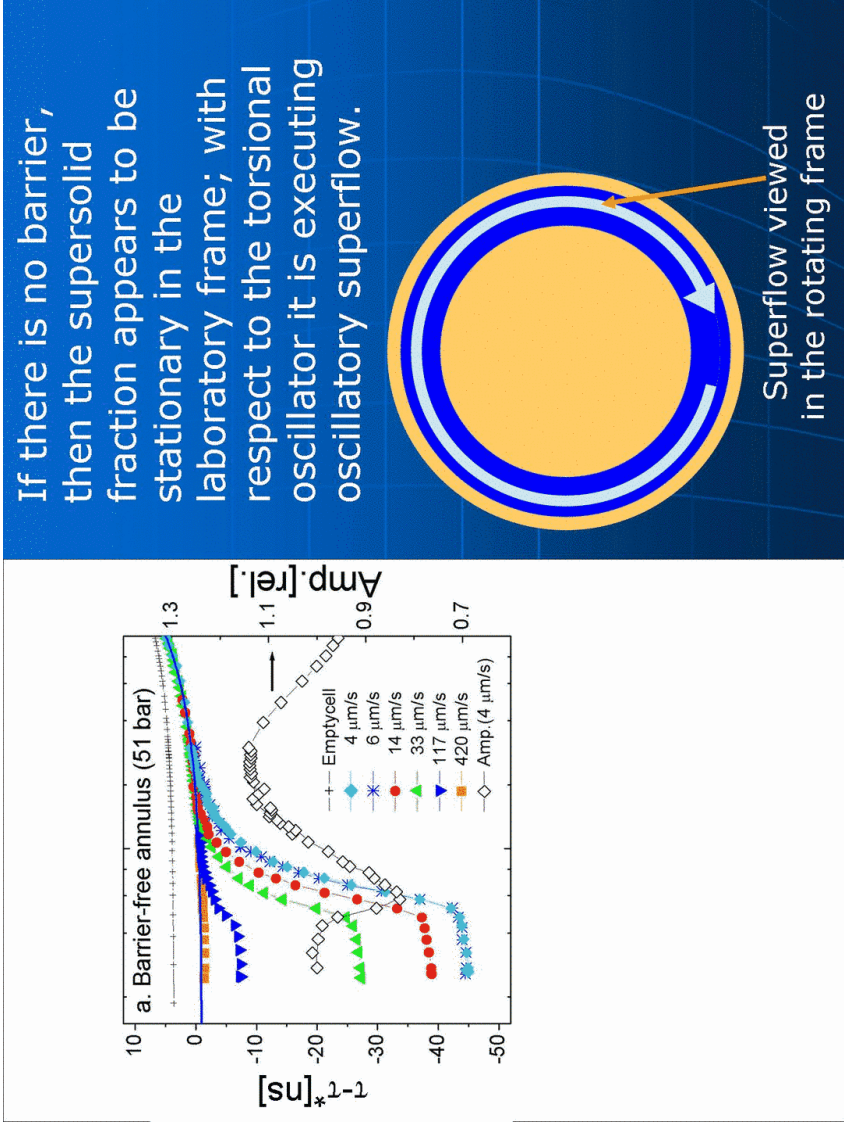
$$NCRIF = \frac{\Delta\tau}{\text{total mass loading}}$$

Total mass loading
= 301.2ns at 51 bars

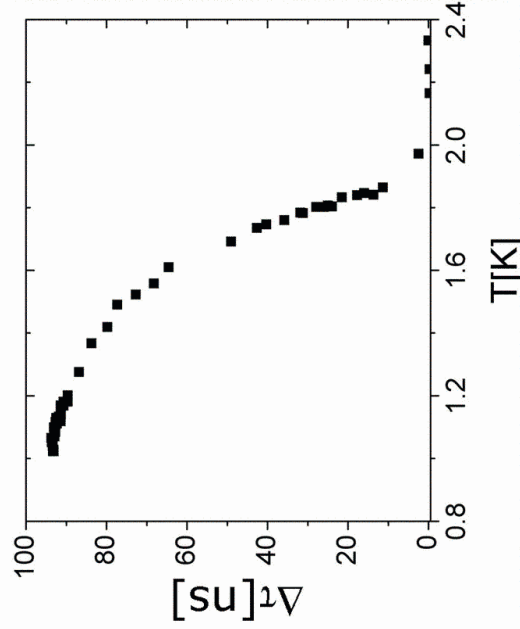
Control experiment

- With a barrier in the annulus, there should be **NO** simple superflow and the measured superfluid decoupling should be vastly reduced





Similar reduction in superfluid response is seen in liquid helium at 19 bars in the same blocked cell

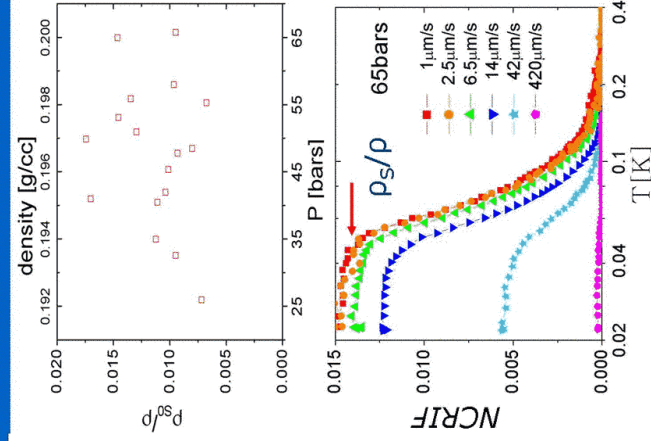
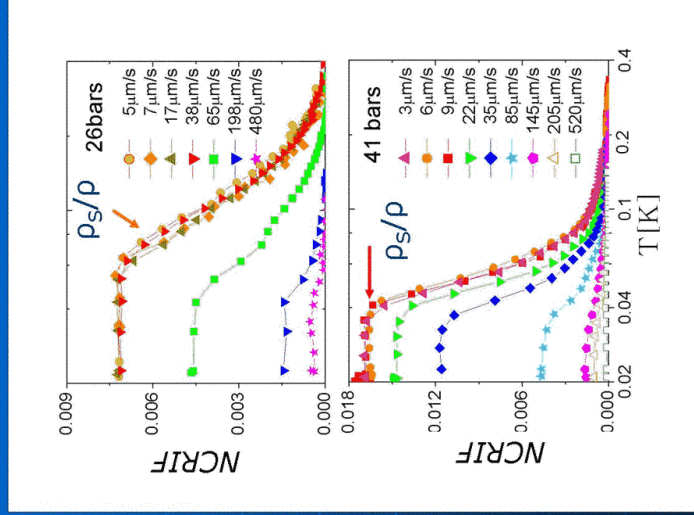


measured superfluid decoupling in the blocked cell $\Delta\tau(T=0) \approx 93\text{ns}$.

While the expected decoupling in unblocked cell is 5270ns. Hence the ratio is 1.7% similar to that for solid.

Conclusion : superflow in solid as in superfluid is irrotational.

Solid ^4He at various pressures show similar temperature dependence, but the measured supersolid fraction shows scatter with no obvious pressure dependence



What is the reason for the scatters in the supersolid fraction? Crystallinity of the solid sample?

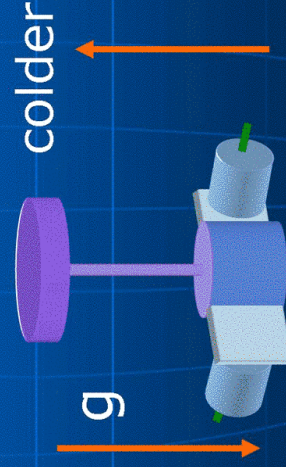
"...helium tends to solidify as a single crystal (or perhaps as a few single crystals) rather than in a polycrystalline form."

The properties of liquid and solid helium, J. Wilks p584 (Clarendon, London, 1967)

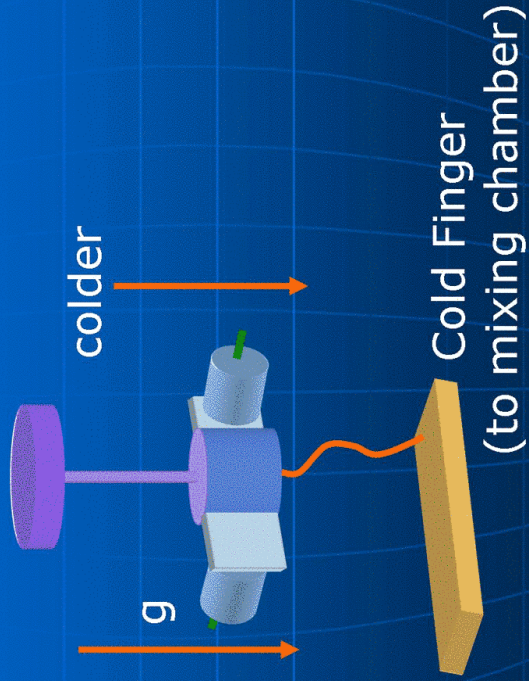
The ^4He crystallites inside the 'bulk' torsional cell probably have different orientations with dimensions limited by the channel width of the annulus $\sim 0.63\text{mm}$ or i.d. of torsion rod at 0.4 mm .

Another reason limiting the crystallinity of the solid helium samples is due to the temperature configuration of the cell during the growth of the samples.

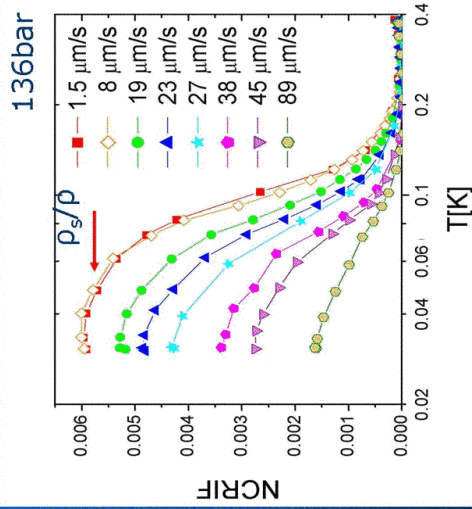
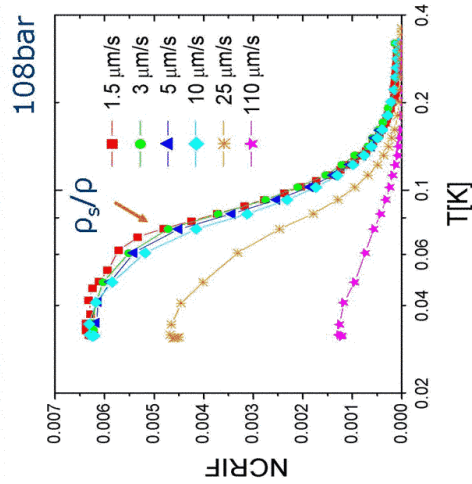
The crystallites were likely nucleated from the torsion rod with dimension of 0.4 mm .



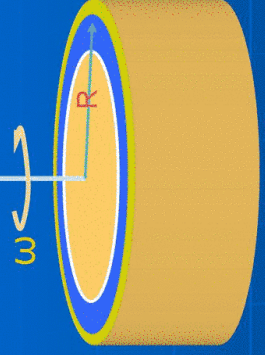
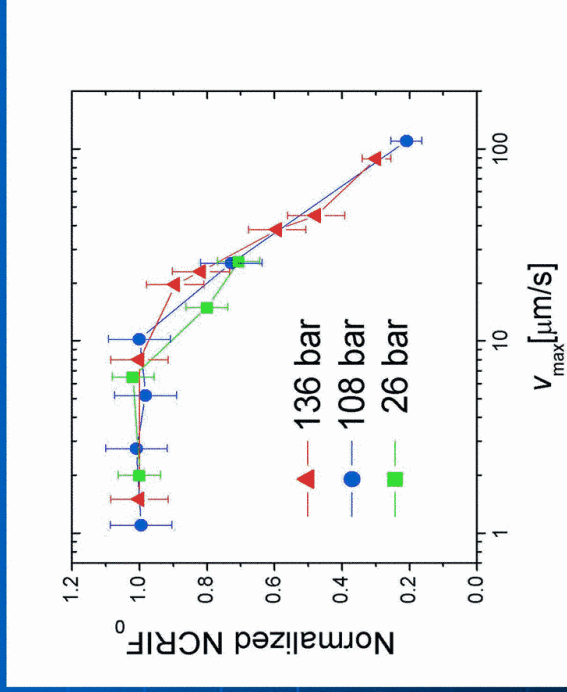
New configuration



Superflow persists up to at least 136 bars !



Strong and 'universal' velocity dependence in all samples



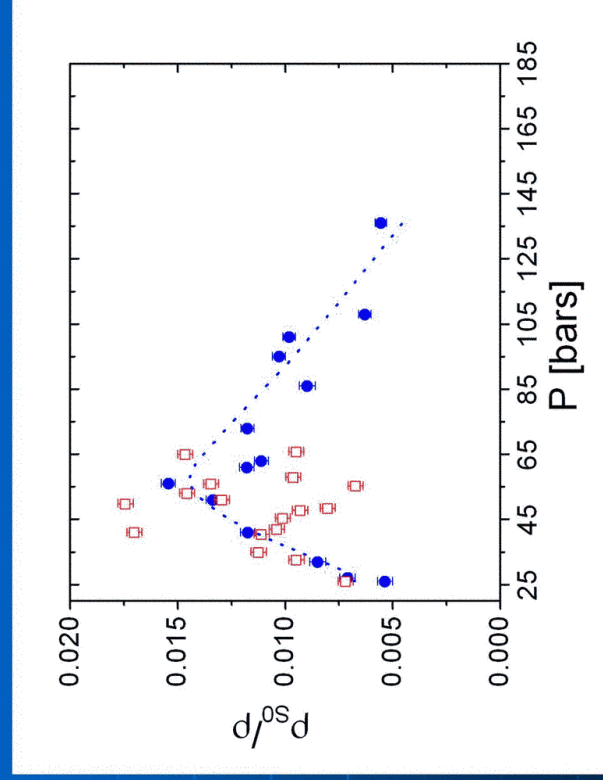
$$v_c \sim 10 \mu\text{m/s}$$

$$\oint v_s dl = \frac{h}{m} \cdot n$$

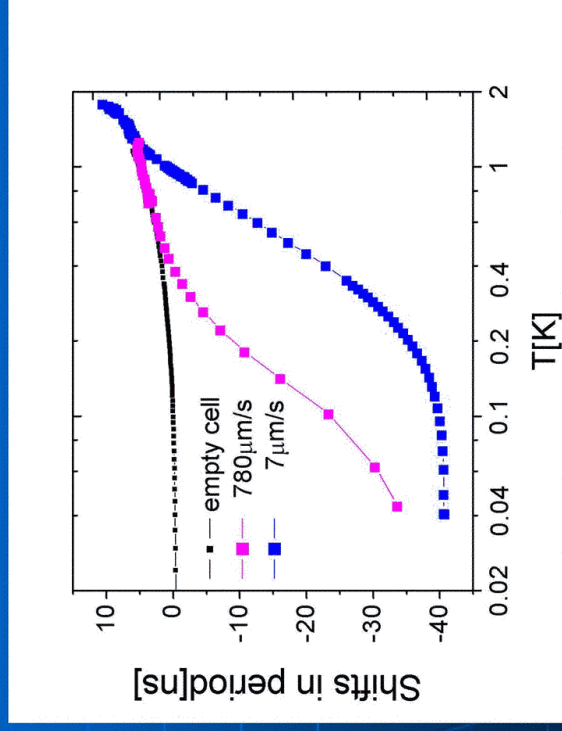
$$v_s = \frac{h}{2\pi R m} \cdot n$$

$$= 3.16 \mu\text{m/s} \text{ for } n=1$$

Pressure dependence of supersolid fraction

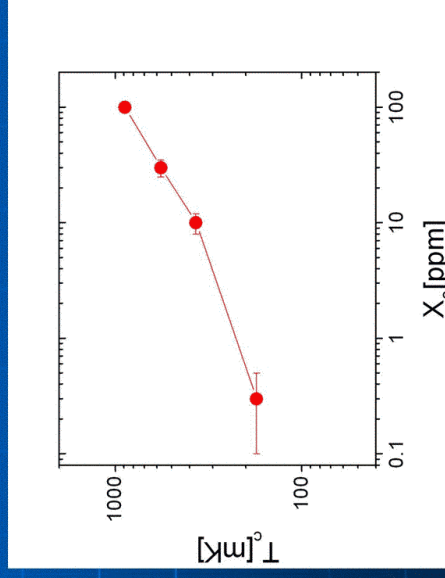


^4He solid diluted with a low concentration of ^3He (85ppm) at 60 bar



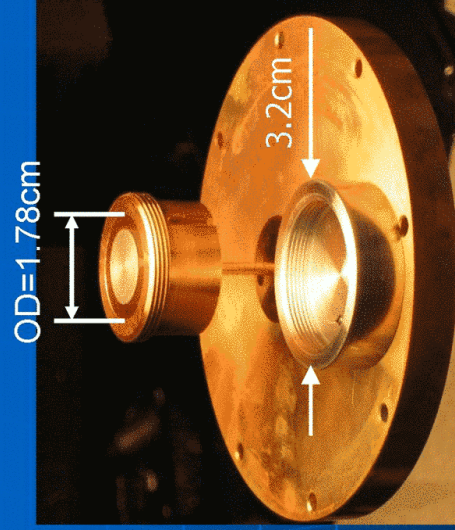
Experiments studying the effects of

- ^3He impurities
- Geometry
- Frequency
- Annealing



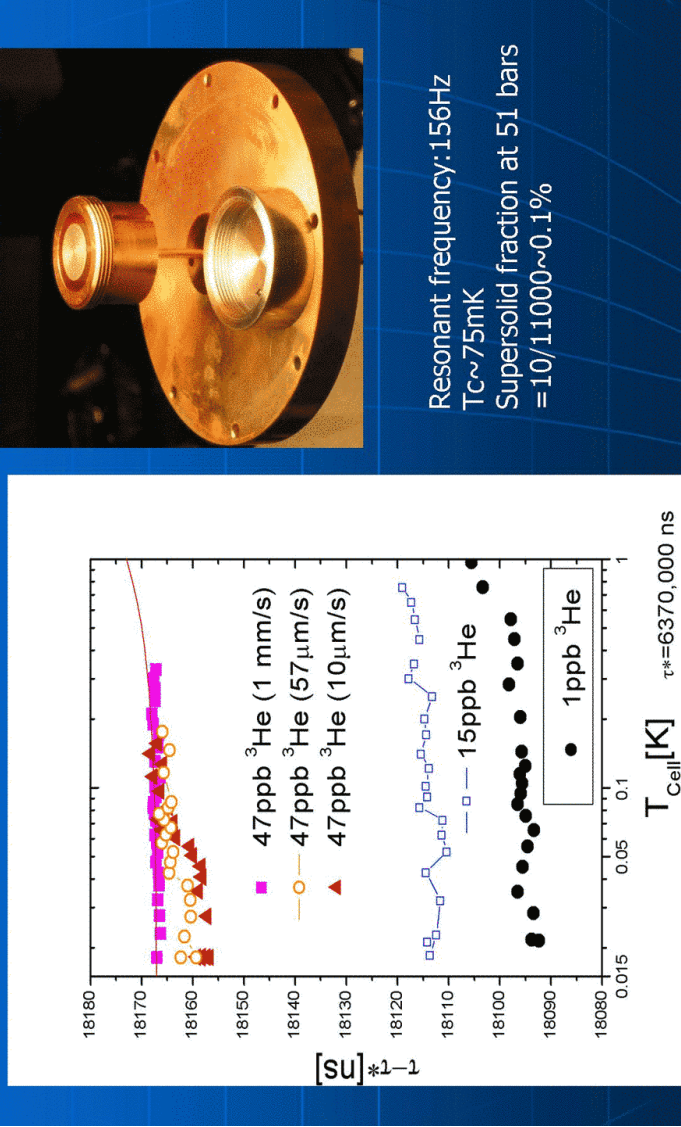
Bulk TO

f_0	Cell Dimension	$h/2\pi m$	$\rho s/p$	" T_c "
912Hz Annular Channel, 0.3ppm	OD=1cm w=0.63mm	3.16 $\mu\text{m/s}$	0.6%-1.5%	$\sim 200\text{mK}$
156 Hz Annular Channel, 47ppb	OD=1.78cm w=0.5cm	1.8 $\mu\text{m/s}$	0.1%	75mK
780 Hz Open Cylinder, 47ppb	OD=0.75cm	4.2 $\mu\text{m/s}$	0.2%	75mK

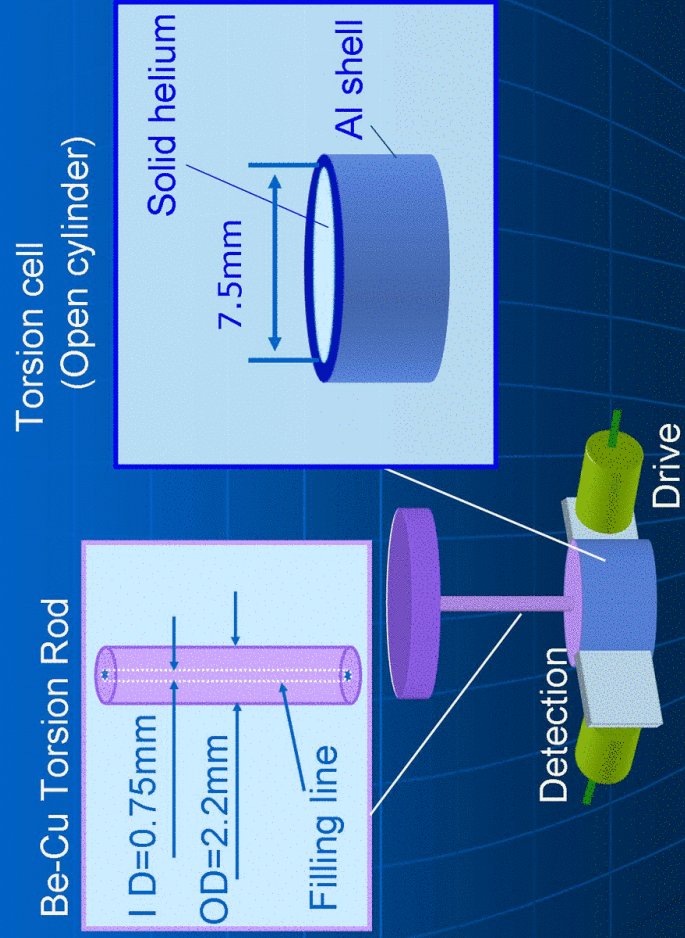
Low frequency (high pressure)
Torsional Oscillator

Resonant frequency
= 156Hz
 $Q \sim 5 \times 10^5$
OD = 1.78cm
W = 0.5cm

The effect of ^3He impurity in the ppb limit

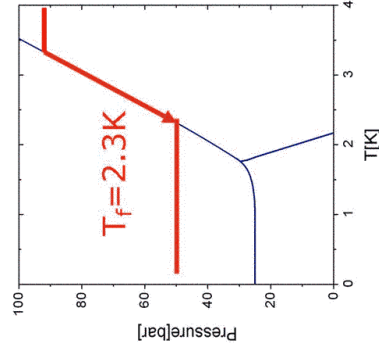


Torsional Oscillator (780Hz)

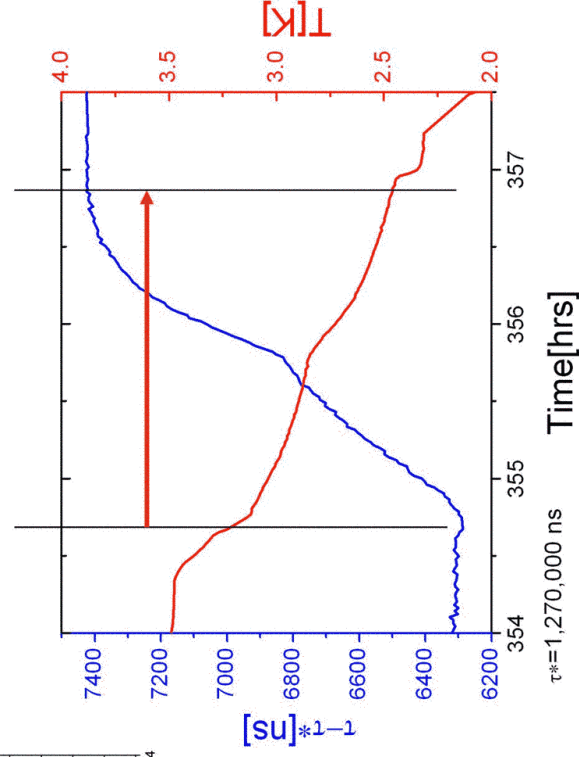


Open Cylinder TO (780Hz); annealing effects?

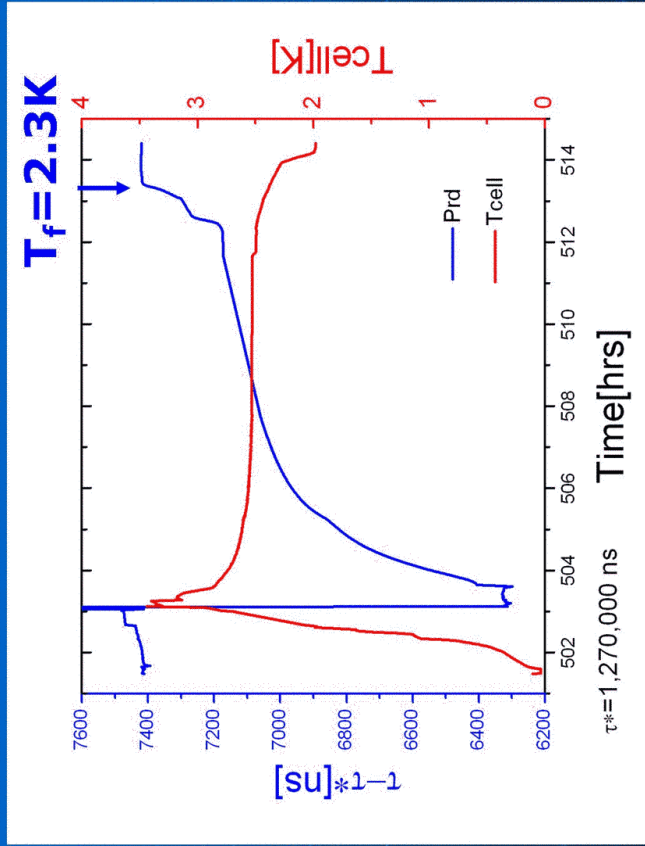
	Time through melting line	X_3	ρ_s/ρ	T_c
Sample A	2.3hrs	47ppb	2ns/1130ns =0.18%	75mK
Sample B	9hrs	47ppb	2.9ns/1130ns =0.25%	75mK
Sample C	20 hrs at less than 40mK below T_m + cooling with 40mK/hr to 1.6K	47ppb	2.2ns/1130ns =0.19%	100mK



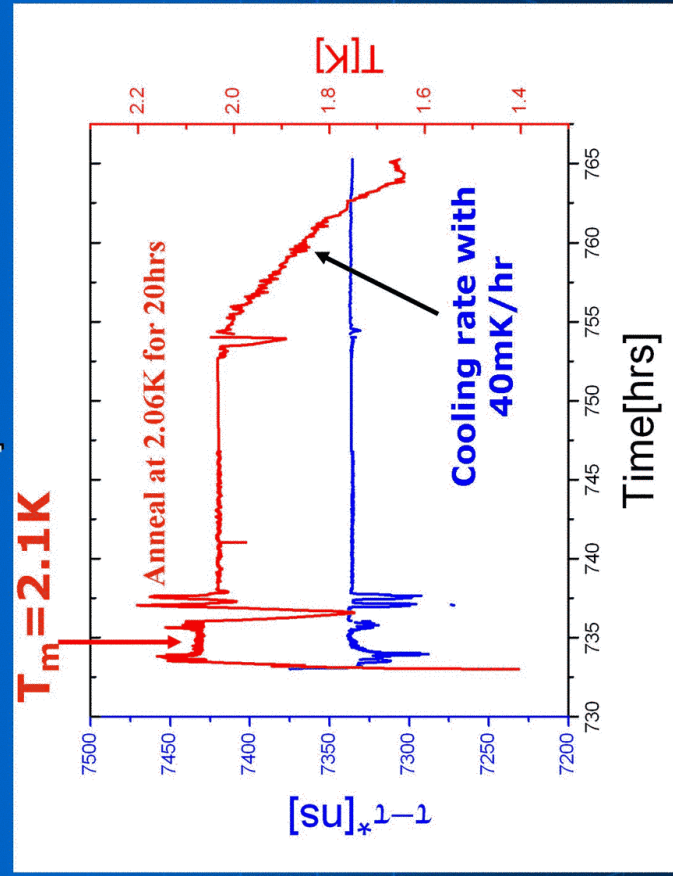
Sample A Growing solid helium for 2.3hrs



Sample B

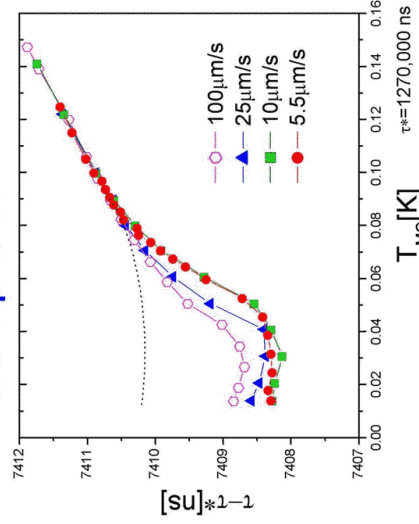


Sample C



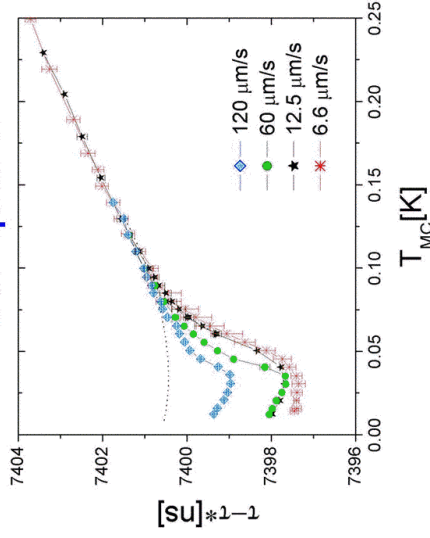
47ppb ^3He in solid ^4He at 50bars

Sample A



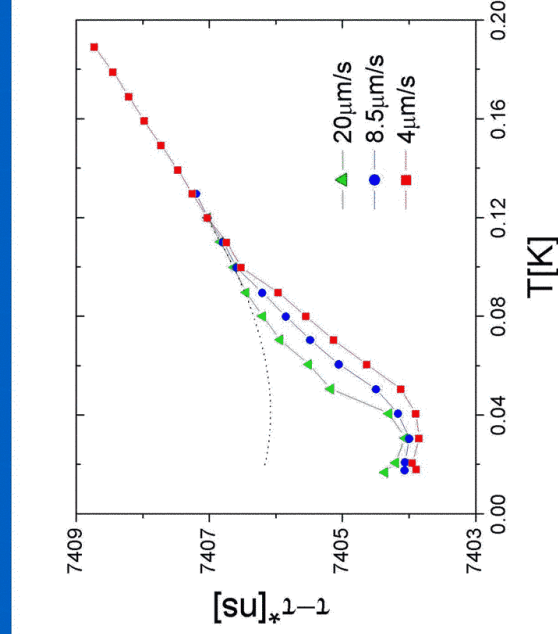
Supersolid fraction
2ns/1130ns = 0.18%

Sample B



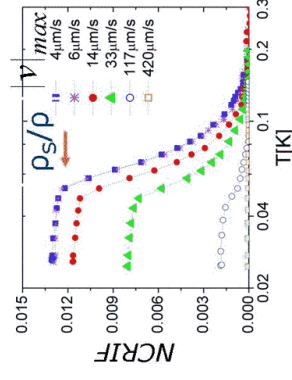
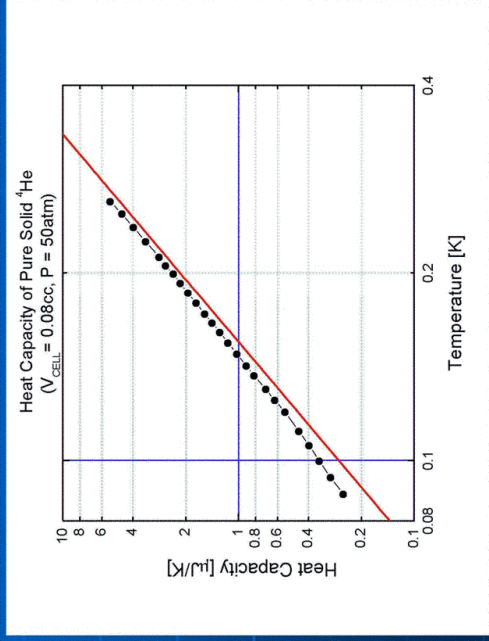
Supersolid fraction
2.9ns/1130ns = 0.25%

Sample C



Supersolid fraction
2.2ns/1130ns = 0.19%

Direct heat capacity measurements have not seen any peak or deviation from the Debye T^3 behavior



No anomaly in hcp ^4He ($V_m = 20.9\text{cc}$) down to 100mK in previous studies Hébral et. al., Castles and Adams, and others

Clark & Chan (2004)

Summary and questions:

- “Transition” to supersolid state is found near 200 mK for solid helium is found for solid helium with 0.3ppm He-3 in Vycor (7nm), in porous gold(490nm) and in bulk form. Supersolid fractions are found to be around 1 to 2%.
- Near T_c the supersolid density ‘fades’ away with positive slope. What kind of transition is it? Is the transition at lower temp. ~ 60 mK where the supersolid density begins to show a sharp drop?
- Besides the ultra-sound result of Goodkind, there is no signature with other techniques, so far. Are the results from these two techniques consistent?
- Why there is no signature of mass transport in the experiments of Greywall, Beamish and Bonfait?

Summary and questions, II

- When the He-3 concentration is increased from 0.3ppm, T_c appears to increase and the supersolid fraction decreases for both the Vycor and the bulk experiment.
- However, when the He-3 concentration is greatly reduced, both T_c and supersolid density drops. T_c is 75 mK (same shape!) for 47 ppb He-3. The supersolid phase for 1ppb and 10ppb sample either exists below 30 mK or does not exist at all. Experiments on very pure He-4 samples are in progress
- The supersolid fraction for the 47ppb sample is found to be 0.1 % in the cell oscillating at 158 Hz and near 0.2% in the open cell at 780 Hz.
- Why He-3 impurities play such important roles? and how?

Summary and questions, III

- In our cell with a narrow annulus (0.6mm) the scatter in the supersolid fraction ranges from 0.5 to 1.6%. When we are more careful in nucleating the solid from the bottom of the cell, rather from the torsion rod, the scatter is reduced by a factor of 4 or 5. Can we further reduce the scatter?
- If one can grow a perfect single crystal (how?) , what will happen to the supersolid fraction?
- What is the origin of the pressure dependence of the supersolid fraction that first increase and then decrease with pressure?
- What is the origin of the small critical velocity that correspond to a few units of quantum circulation?

Summary and questions, IV

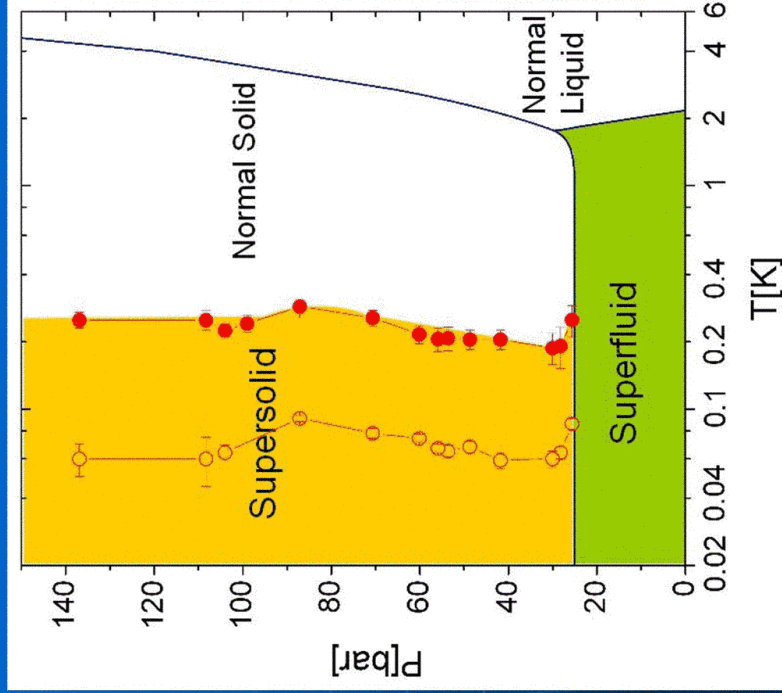
- Are there frequency and geometry effects? With the help of Reppy and Shirahama, we will know soon!
- At 0.3ppm He-3, the samples in a disk of porous gold (360 Hz, 490 nm); and in a disk of Vycor(1K Hz, 7nm) and in an annulus of 0.6mm (1KHz), the supersolid fraction of solids between 30 and values are well within a factor of 2.
- At 47ppb He-3, the solid sample in an annulus of 5mm (at 156 Hz) show a supersolid fraction of 0.1%, while in an open cylindrical cell of 7.5mm(780Hz) it is 0.2%. T_c are the same.

Summary and questions; V effect of annealing

The solid samples were grown from liquid through the liquid-solid coexistence region. The time it takes to cool down from liquid to around 1K is typically 4 to 5 hours.

When we took 20 hours, the supersolid fraction differs by 20 % for the 47ppb sample in a open cell.

Phase Diagram



Is the supersolid phase unique with ^4He ?

Apparently not!

Preliminary torsional oscillator data of Tony Clark and Xi Lin indicate similar supersolid-like decoupling in solid H_2 .

de Boer parameter

$$A^* = \frac{h}{\sigma \sqrt{m\varepsilon}} \Rightarrow$$

$^3\text{He} \rightarrow 3.09$

$^4\text{He} \rightarrow 2.68$

$\text{H}_2 \rightarrow 1.73$

HD $\rightarrow 1.41$

$\text{D}_2 \rightarrow 1.22$

More quantum mechanical



Experimental Details for Hydrogen

- Triple point, $T_t = 13.8\text{K}$
- $\rho_{\text{solid}}(T=0) = 0.85 * \rho_{\text{liquid}}(T=T_t)$
 - Pressure change of 100bar constitutes a 5% change in ρ_{solid}
- **Ortho-para conversion**
 - Equilibrium phase at low temperature is p-H₂
 - OP Conversion releases heat
 - Conversion rate in solid H₂ is slow:

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -k x_1^2$$

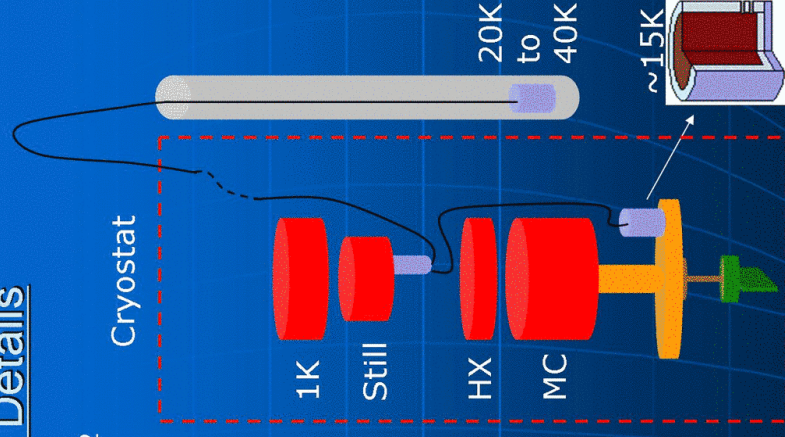
Where $k = 1.9\%$ of x_1 per hour

- **Nominal impurity concentration**
 - Natural abundance of HD is 310ppm in H₂

Experimental Details

- **Para- and ortho- species of H₂**
 - Conversion rate in solid H₂

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -k x_1^2$$
 - Catalyst: high surface area material containing magnetic impurities
- In most cases, samples were converted to the p-H₂ phase in a three step process
- Sample slowly cooled with exchange gas



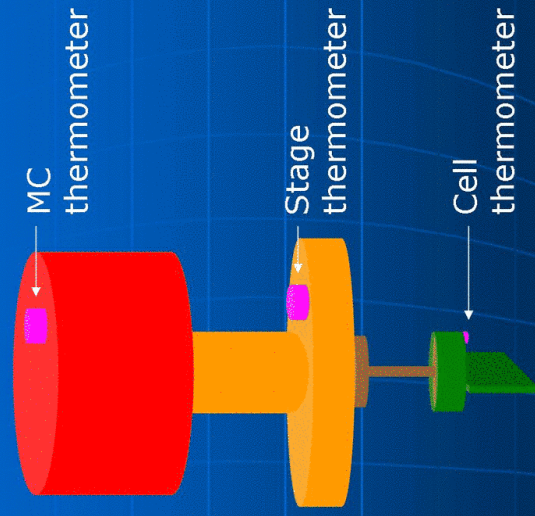
Experimental Details

➤ p-H₂ concentration determined from observed internal heat leak

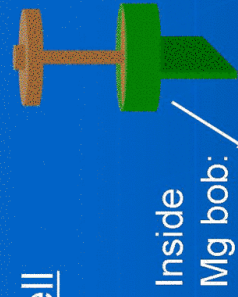
$$\dot{Q} = \frac{K_{BeCu} A}{l} (T_{cell} - T_{stage})$$

$$= U \frac{kx_0^2}{(1+x_0 kt)^2}$$

where $U = 1.06 \text{kJ/mol H}_2$
and $x_0 = x_1(t=0)$

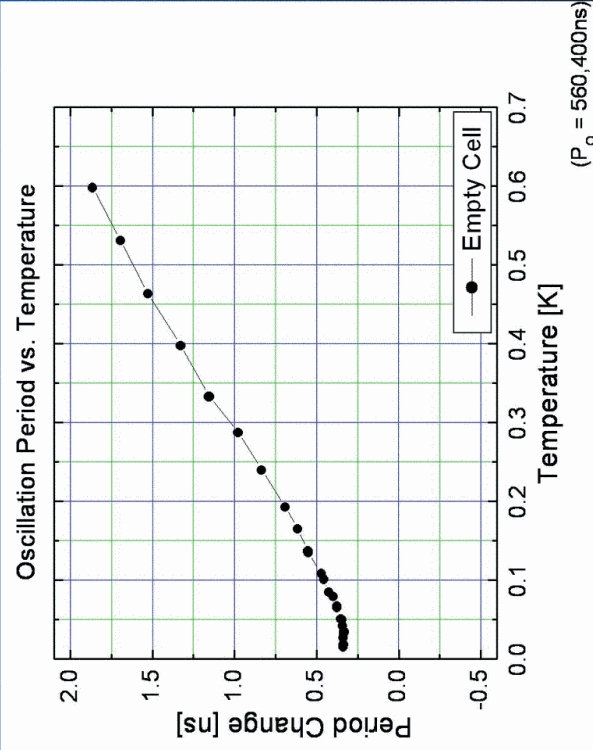


Hydrogen in a cylindrical cell

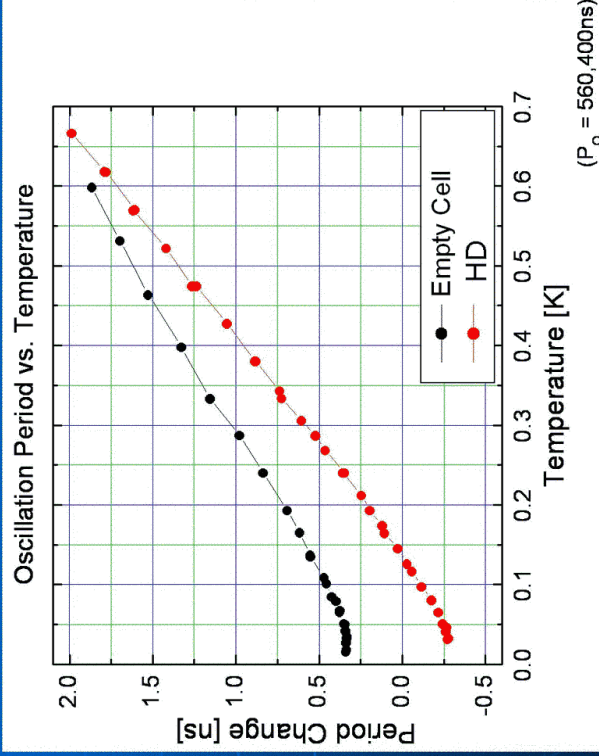
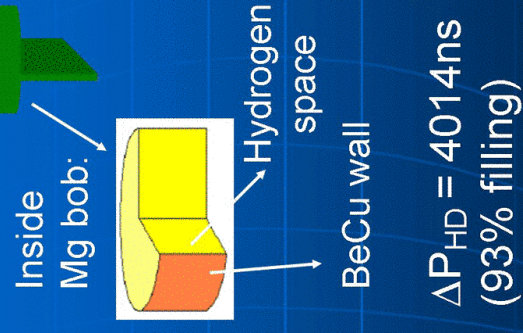


Inside Mg bob:
Hydrogen space
BeCu wall

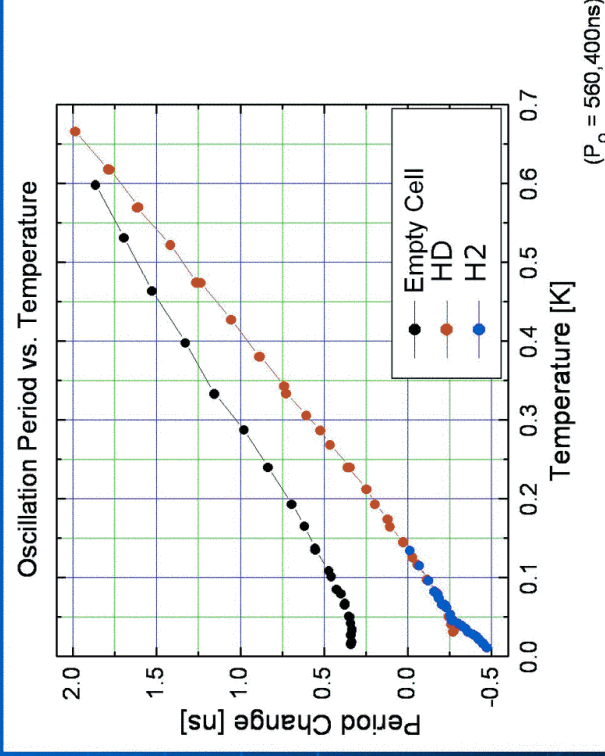
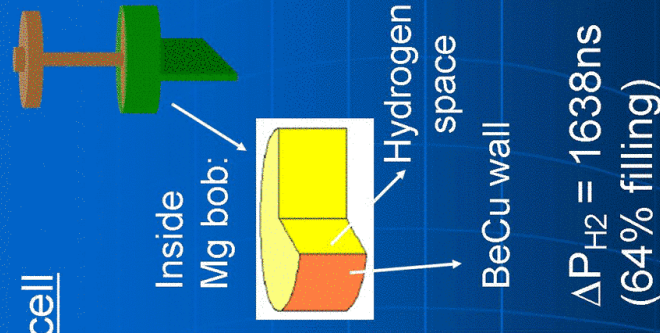
$Q = 1.6 \text{million}$
 $P_0 = 560,400 \text{ns}$
 $\delta P \sim 0.05 \text{ns}$



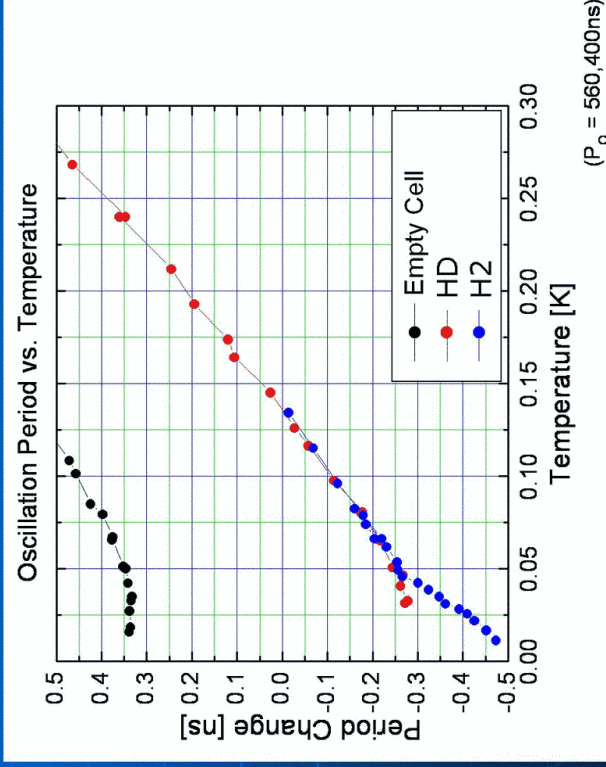
Hydrogen in a cylindrical cell



Hydrogen in a cylindrical cell



Hydrogen in a cylindrical cell



Temperature below 50mK uncertain, thermometer not on the torsional cell

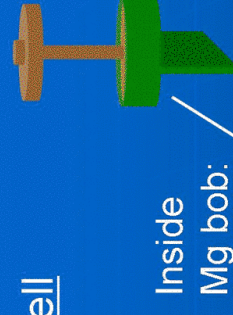
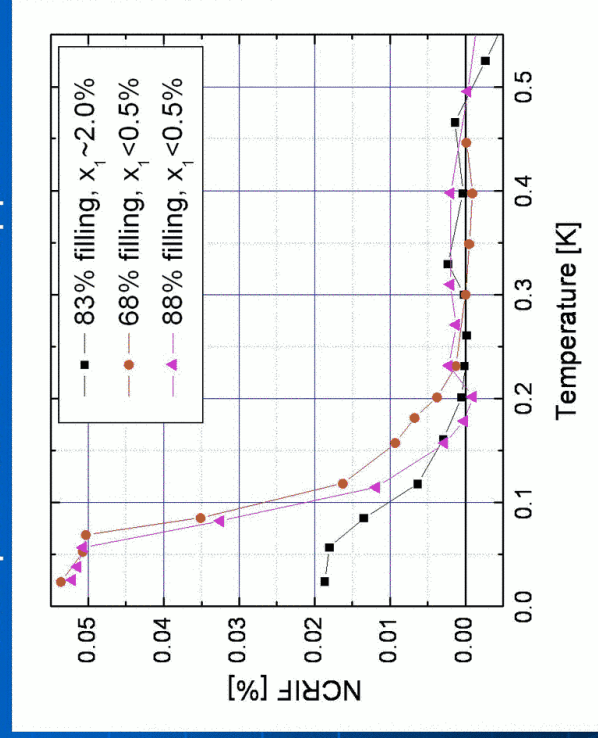
Ortho concentration is most likely less than 0.5%

HD concentration uncertain

NCRIF $\sim 0.015\%$

Hydrogen in an annular cell

Samples contain $< 50\text{ppm}$ HD

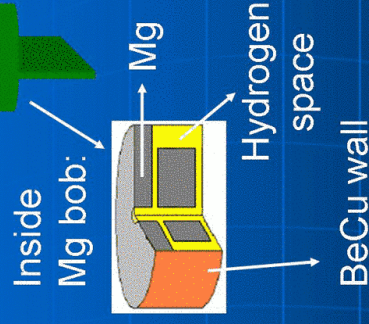
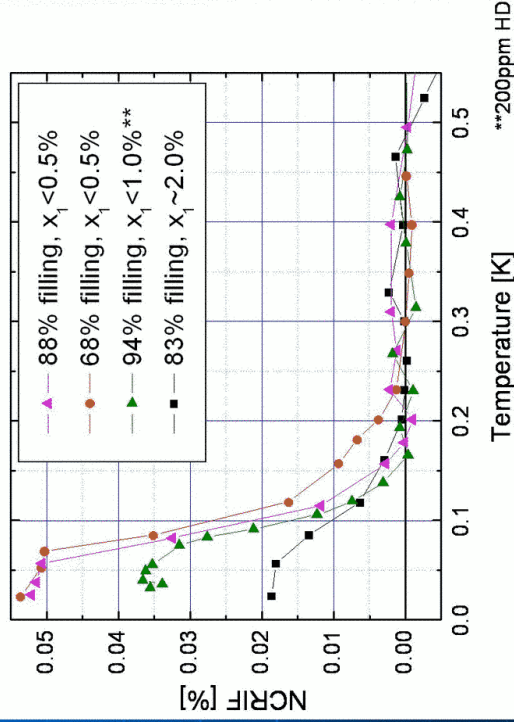


BeCu (h=3.5mm wall w=2.3mm)

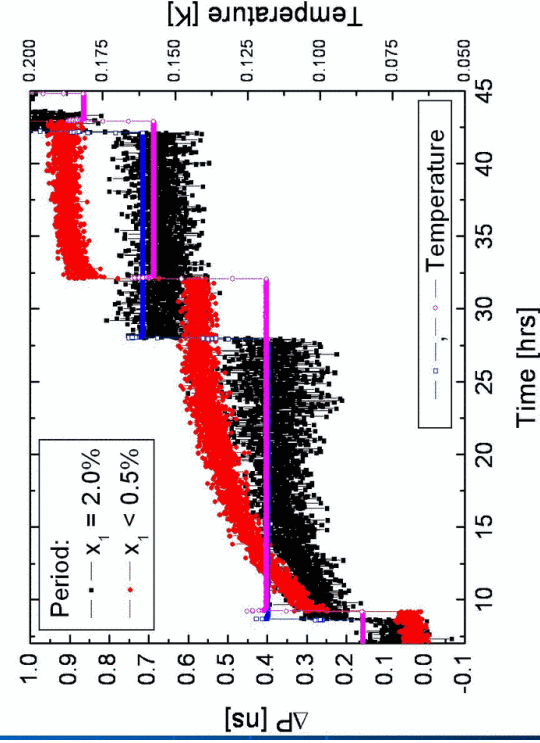
$Q = 350,000$
 $P_0 = 709,700\text{ns}$
 $\delta P < 0.1\text{ns}$

Hydrogen in an annular cell

Comparison of 50 and 200ppm HD



Hydrogen in an annular cell



Total "supersolid" decoupling is on the order of 1ns

Long equilibration times required for reproducible period readings, most likely due to redistribution of o-H₂ molecules via "resonant OP tunneling"

Equilibration times in the cylindrical sample are shorter by approximately 5 times

No long equilibration times for HD sample

Summary for Hydrogen

- No NCRI seen in HD
- NCRIF is larger for smaller o-H₂ concentrations, and scales with cell filling
- The o-H₂ impurities do not alter the transition temperature significantly
- The role of HD impurities is unclear
- The blocked cell control experiment is in progress
- The difference in NCRIF between cylindrical and annular samples is not understood (HD concentration in the cylindrical sample may be much higher than 200ppm)

We are grateful for many informative discussions with many colleagues, too numerous to acknowledge all of them.

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