

**EXPERIMENTS ON**

**NON-EQUILIBRIUM VORTEX STATES**

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2001 BOULDER SCHOOL  
ON NONEQUILIBRIUM STATISTICAL MECHANICS

## MOTIVATION

① APPLICATIONS - power lines, MRI, magnetoencephalography, magnets, microwave relays and switches, levitation, gyroscopes, motors, (<http://superconductors.org/Uses.htm>)

- ◆ without vortices - superconductivity limited to narrow range of  $H$ ,  $T$
- ◆ without pinning - superconductivity useless

② BASIC SCIENCE - systems of interacting particles in a random potential

(Wigner crystals, CDW, Colloids, Soft metals) - extra knob : particle density  $\cdot H$ .

Common phenomenology:

- ◆ Dynamic Phase transitions
- ◆ Metastability
- ◆ History effects, memory
- ◆ Critical slow down, Jamming
- ◆ Cyclic softening



## OUTLINE

### \* SINGLE VORTEX

- ✓ Vortex dynamics

### \* EFFECT OF BOUNDARIES

- ✓ Bean Critical State
- ✓ Surface barrier

### \* VORTEX LATTICE

- ✓ Phase diagram

### \* EFFECTS OF RANDOM POTENTIAL

- ✓ Collective Pinning
- ✓ Peak Effect
- ✓ Metastable states

### \* CURRENT DRIVEN ORGANIZATION

- ✓ Cyclic softening
- ✓ Jamming
- ✓ Memory
- ✓ Metastable to stable transition - a model

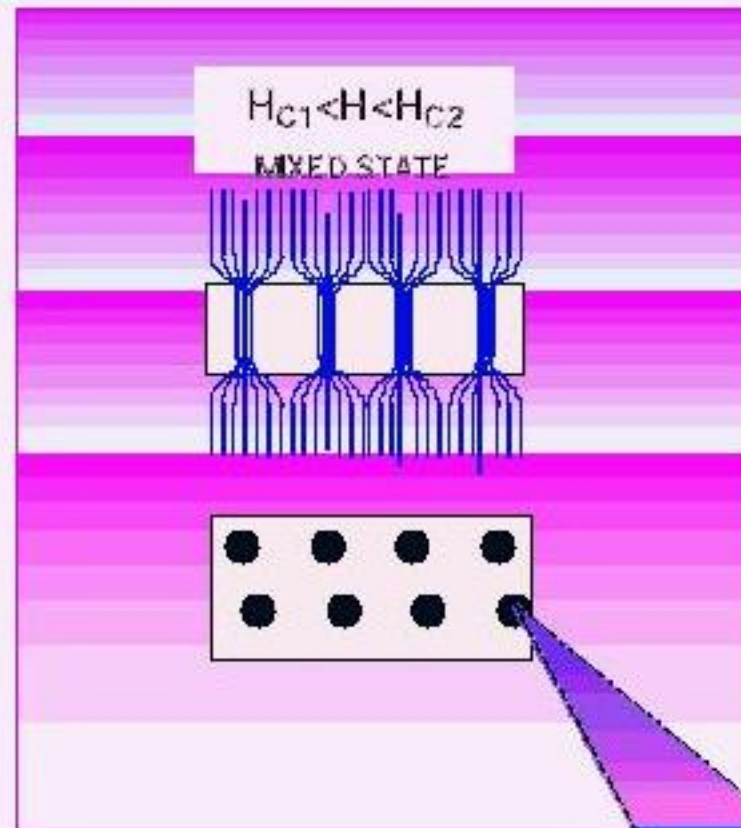
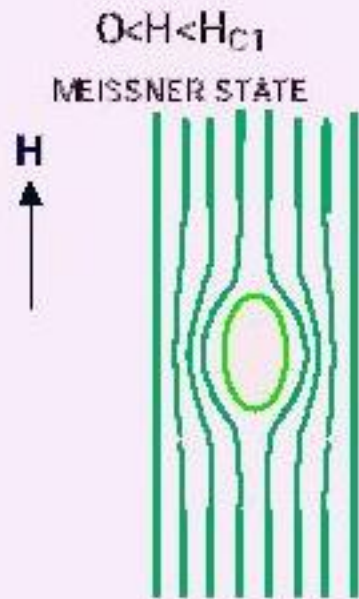
# \* DYNAMICS OF SINGLE VORTEX

➤ The magnetic vortex

➤ Vortex motion

➤ Pinning

# TYPE II SUPERCONDUCTOR



## REVIEWS

- Blatter et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. **66**, 1125 (1994)
- Tinkham "Superconductivity"

FILAMENT OF MAGNETIC FLUX  
= VORTEX

$$\Phi_0 = hc/2e = 2 \times 10^{-7} \text{ G cm}^2$$



# THE MAGNETIC VORTEX

## COHERENCE LENGTH

superconducting characteristic length

$$\xi_0^2 = \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e \alpha}$$

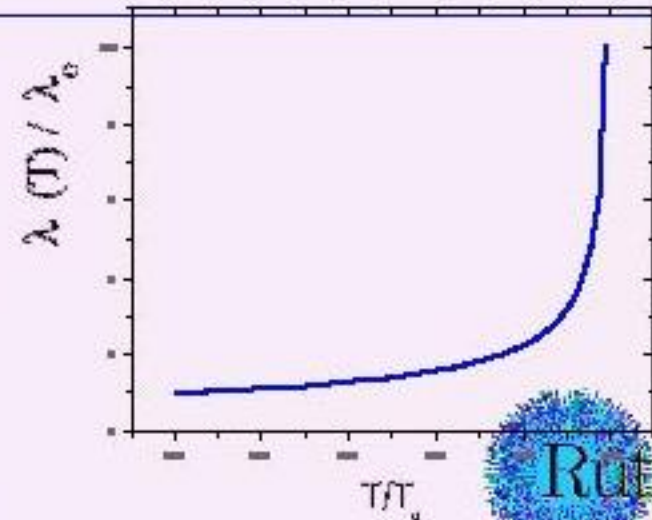
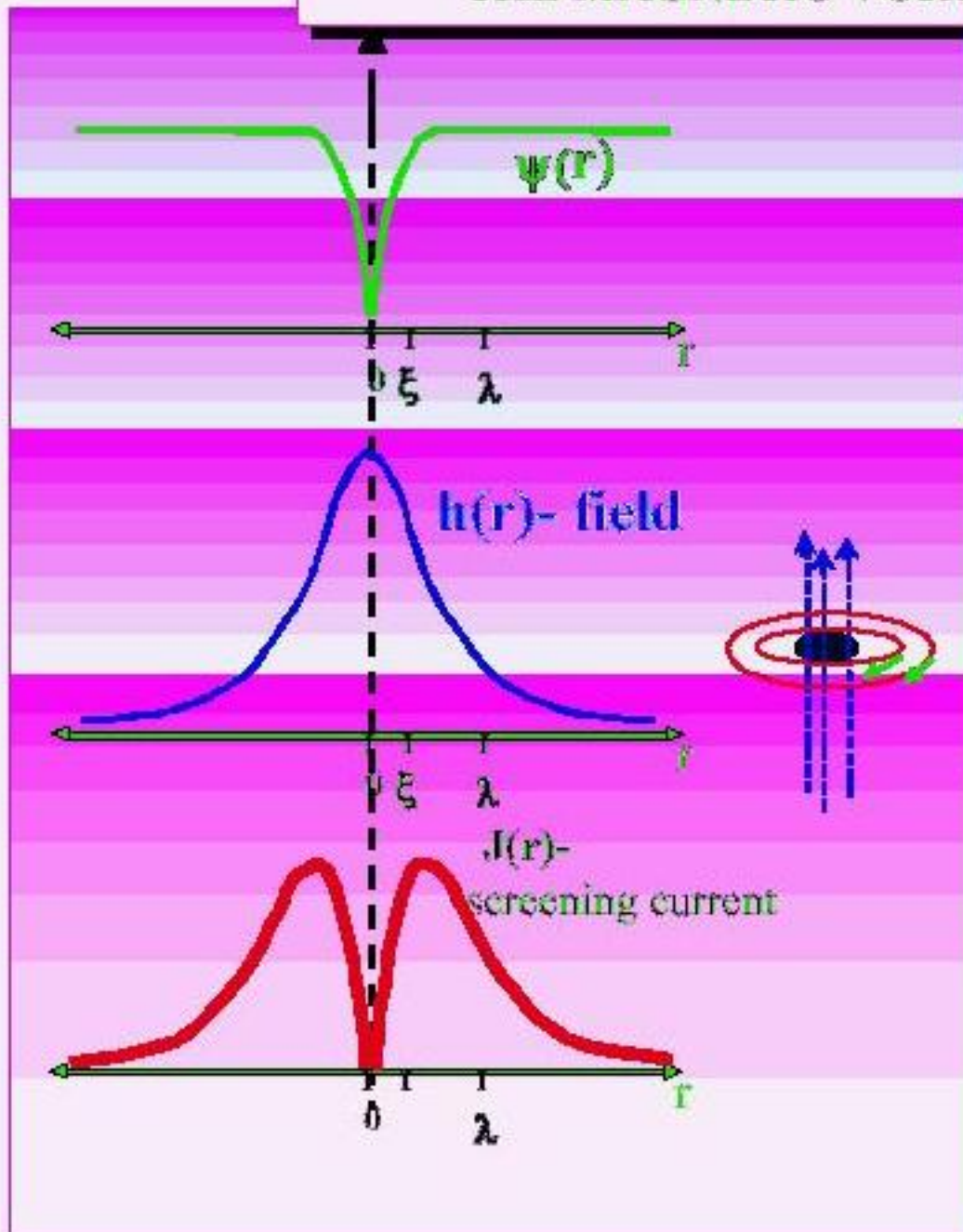
$$\xi(T) = \xi_0 / (1 - T/T_c)^{1/2}$$

## LONDON PENETRATION DEPTH-

magnetic field characteristic length

$$\lambda_0^2 = \frac{m_e c^2}{4\pi n_s e^2}$$

$$\lambda(T) = \lambda_0 / (1 - T/T_c)^{1/2}$$



## CRITICAL FIELD

Upper critical field

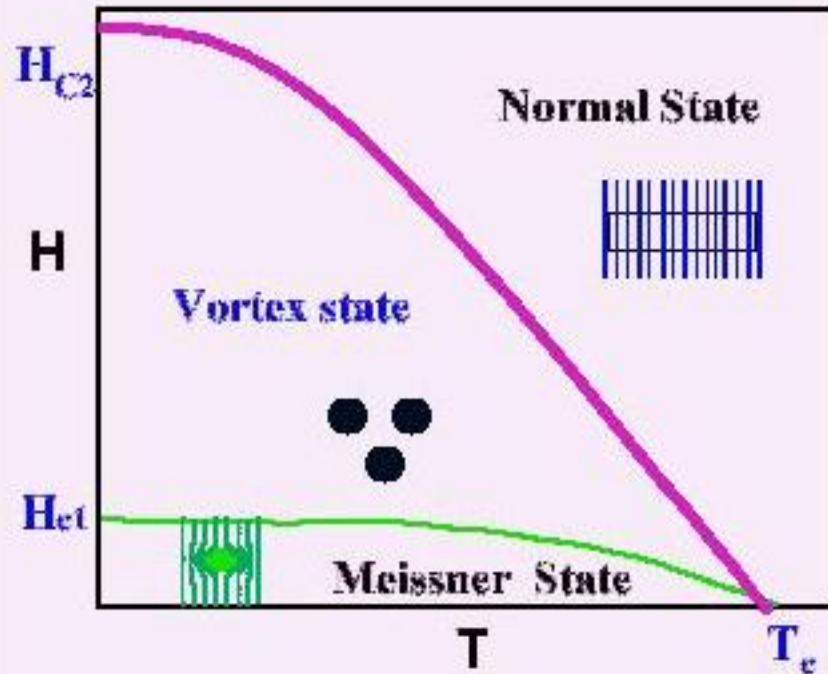
$$H_{c2} = \frac{\phi_0}{2\pi\xi^2}$$

Lower critical field

$$H_{c1} = \frac{\phi_0}{4\pi\lambda^2} \ln \kappa$$

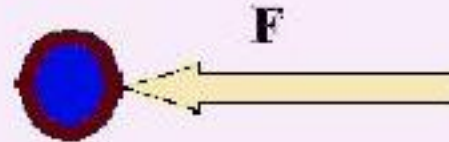
$\kappa = \lambda / \xi$  - Ginzburg parameter

Type II superconductor  $\kappa > 1.4$



## EQUATION OF MOTION- VORTEX MASS

$$\mathbf{F} = m \dot{\mathbf{v}} + \eta \mathbf{v}$$



Response time:

$$\tau = \frac{m}{\eta} \approx 10^{-15} \text{ sec}$$

Vortex mass per unit length  $\sim m_e k_f$

- De Gennes & Matricon 64
- H. Suhl 65
- J.M. Duan 94

Instantaneous response  $\mapsto$  no inertia  $\mapsto m \sim 0$

$$\mathbf{F} = \eta \mathbf{v}$$

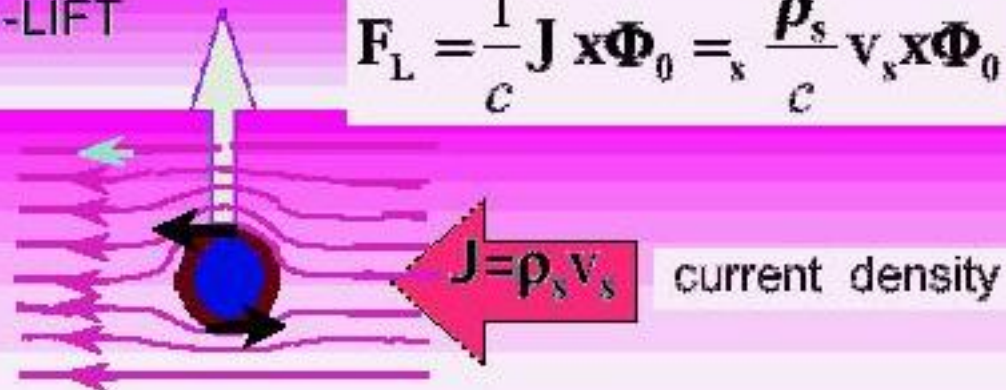


## VORTEX + CURRENT - STEADY STATE

### Stationary Vortex

Lorentz Force -LIFT

$$\mathbf{F}_L = \frac{1}{c} \mathbf{J} \times \Phi_0 = \rho_s \mathbf{v}_s \times \Phi_0$$



### Moving Vortex $\mathbf{v}_v$ - steady state-no dissipation

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\rho_s}{c} (\mathbf{v}_s - \mathbf{v}_v) \times \Phi_0 = 0$$

Galilean invariance

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_v = \mathbf{v}_s$$

Vortex is dragged with current - superfluid

## ADD DISSIPATION

$$\mathbf{F} = \frac{\rho_s}{c} (\mathbf{v}_s - \alpha_1 \mathbf{v}_v) \times \Phi_0 = \eta \mathbf{v}_v$$

$\therefore$

$$\mathbf{F}_L = \eta \mathbf{v}_v + \alpha_1 \mathbf{v}_v \times \hat{z}$$

Friction Force

$$\eta = \Phi_0 \rho_s \frac{\omega_o \tau}{1 + \omega_o^2 \tau^2}$$

Hall Force

$$\alpha_1 = \eta \omega_o \tau$$

$\tau$  – scattering relaxation time

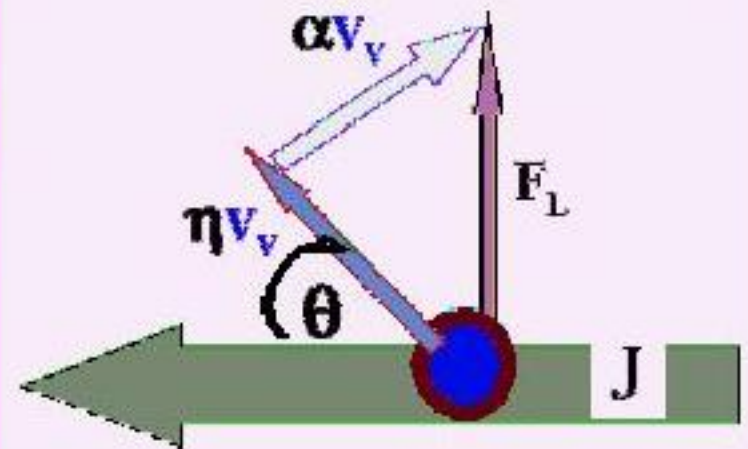
$\omega_o$  – level separation of q-particles in core

1. Kopnin & Kravtsov 1976

2. Kopnin & Salomaa 1991

3. Caroli, de Gennes, Matricon 1964

Hall angle :  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{\eta}{\alpha}$





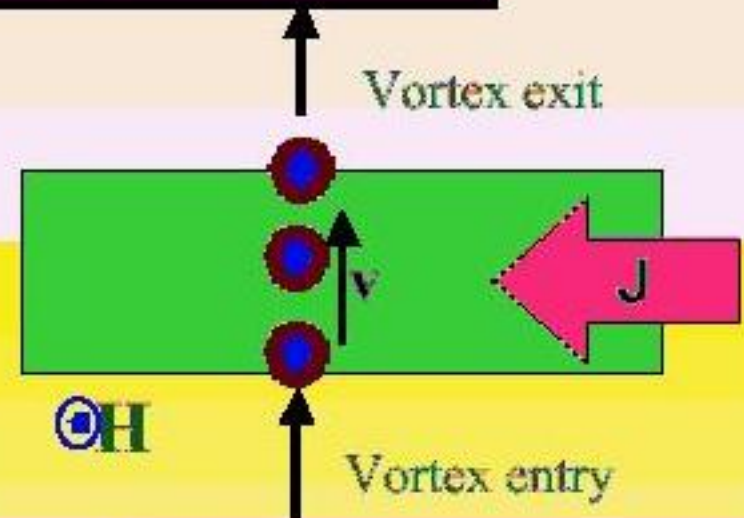
# Vortex Motion and Dissipation

For most superconductors

$$\omega_0 \tau \ll 1 \mapsto \alpha_r \ll \eta \mapsto$$

$$F = \eta v = \frac{1}{c} J \times \Phi_0$$

- vortex velocity  $\perp$  to the current
- no Hall voltage



Faraday  $\rightarrow$  Moving vortices = electric field

$$E = \frac{1}{c} n_m v \times \Phi_0 = \frac{n_m}{n} \frac{\Phi_0 B}{c^2 \eta} J$$

Density of moving vortices

Resistivity  $\rho$

Free Flux Flow regime- all vortices moving

$$\rho \equiv \rho_n \frac{H}{H_{c2}}$$

Bardeen Stephen - 1965

Moving vortex creates dissipation

$\rightarrow$  Superconductivity is destroyed



## PINNING

➤ If vortices are **PINNED** - Superconductivity restored

Pinning center=  
hole, impurity, etc.



Pinning Force per unit length

$$F_p < \mu_0 \xi^2$$

- Critical current density

$$F_L = F_p \quad \mapsto \quad J_c$$

- $J < J_c$  - Pinned - no dissipation
- $J > J_c$  - unpinned  $\Rightarrow$  Moving vortices  $\mapsto$  voltage drop

# \* EFFECTS OF BOUNDARIES

☛ Type I - no vortices

☛ Type II with Vortices

\* Bean Critical State

\* Surface Barrier

## TRANSPORT CURRENT DISTRIBUTION

Metal



Uniform

Type I Superconductor  
NO VORTICES



Edge current



# TRANSPORT CURRENT DISTRIBUTION WITH VORTICES

## . *Bean Model*

- Bean (62) and London (63) -The critical state

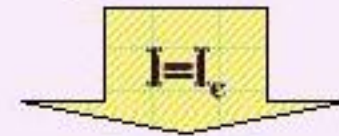
➔ Static balance between the magnetic driving force  $J \times B$  and the pinning force  $F_p$

$$|(B \times (\nabla \times H))| = B J_c(B)$$

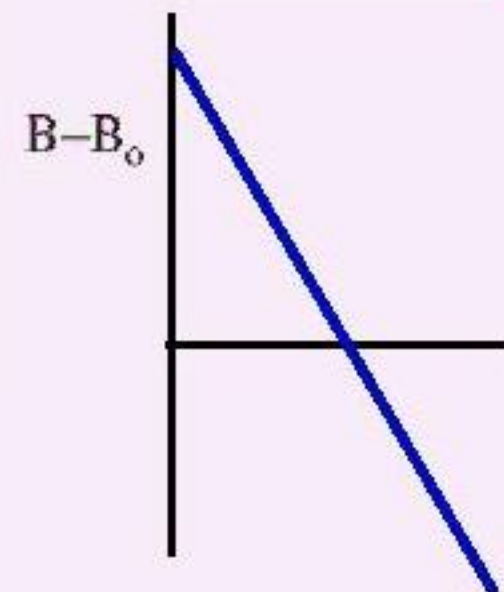
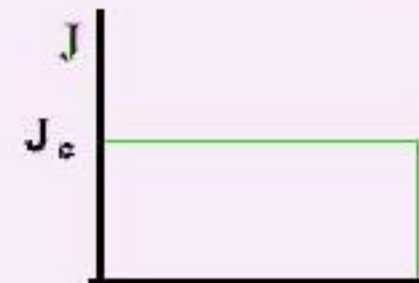
➔ In this state the bulk current density is either  $+J_c$ ,  $-J_c$  or zero.

➔ -Solutions define the macroscopic current patterns.

$I = I_c$  UNIFORM



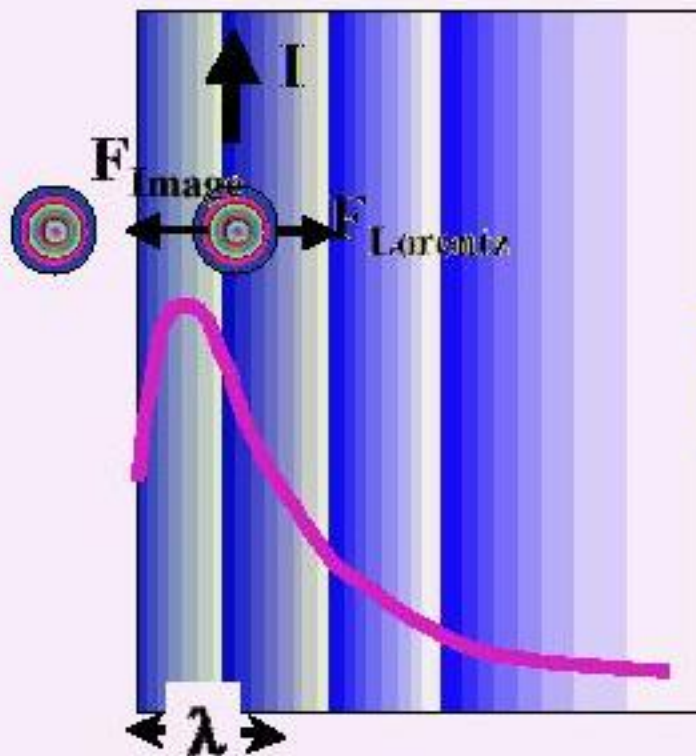
0 w



# THE SURFACE BARRIER

Vortex attraction to image in edge

→ Bean-Livingston barrier (PRB -64)



•  $I < I_s$  Vortex entry and exit inhibited

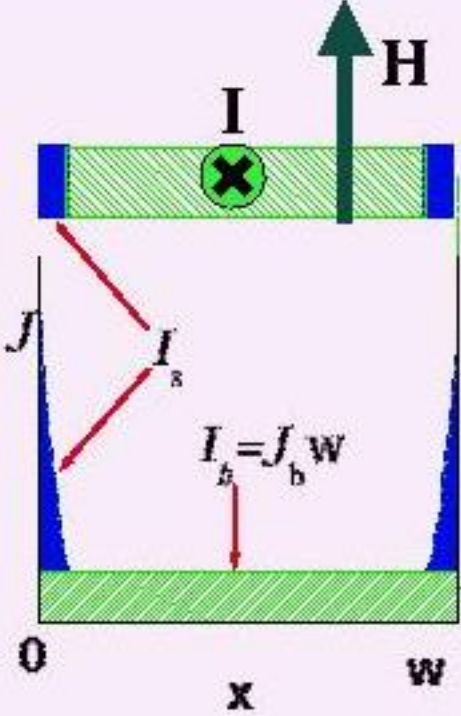
\* NO Vortex motion

# Vortex motion and Current distribution

- Vortex flow:  $I = I_s + I_B$



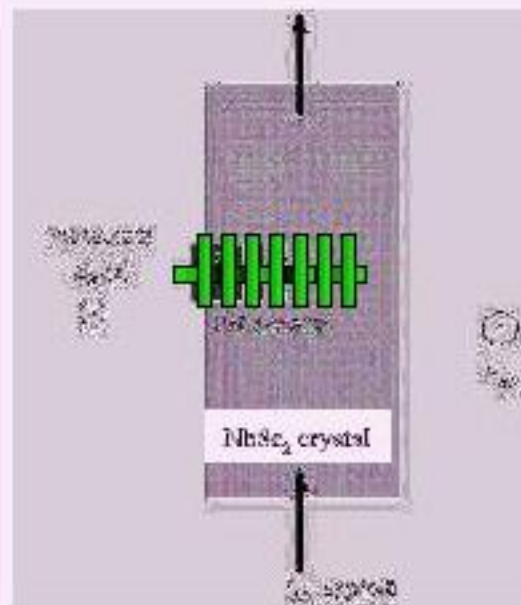
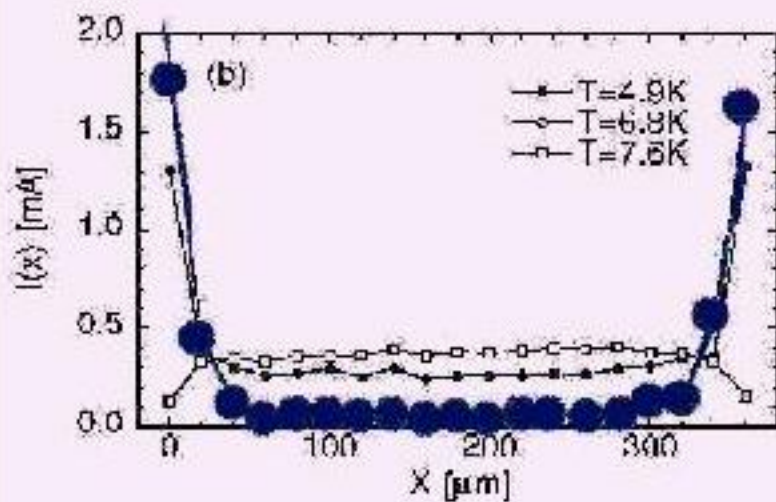
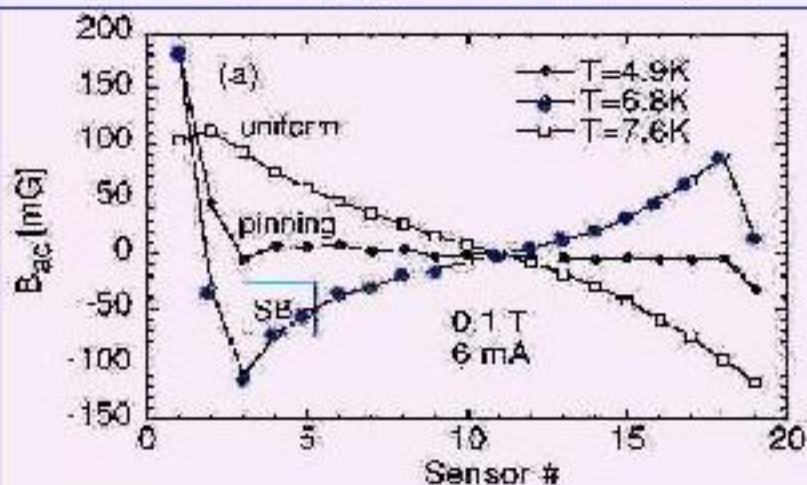
A 3D perspective diagram showing a rectangular block with a color gradient from yellow to blue. A vertical arrow points upwards from the center, and a horizontal arrow points to the right from the top surface. The text "Vortex state surface barrier" is written across the top surface.





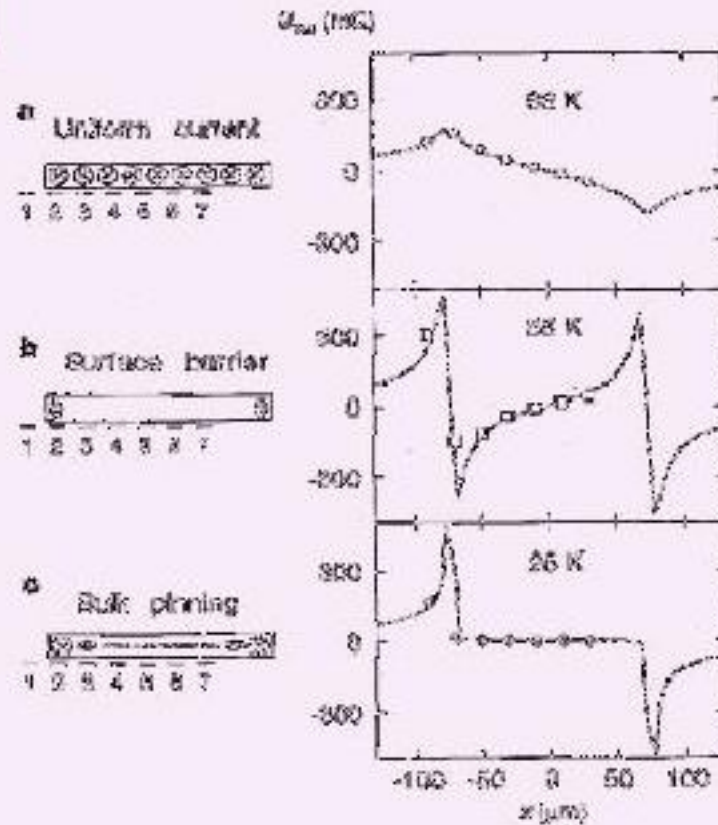
# Local Magnetization Measurements

Y. Paltiel et al., Phys. Rev. B 58, R14763 (1998)



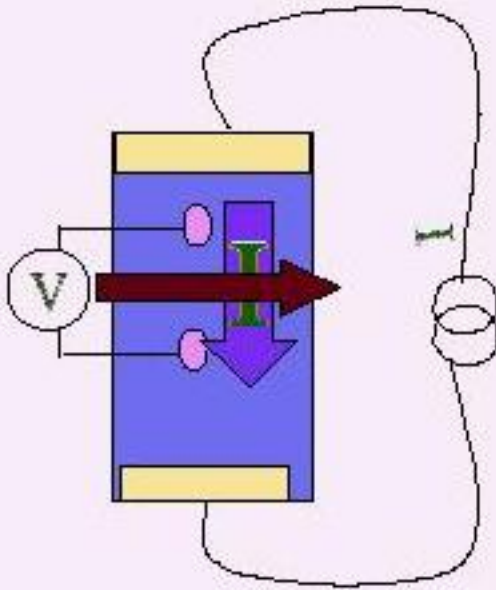
## Local Magnetization Measurements

- D. T. Fuchs et al., *Nature* **391**, 373 (1998) - BiSrCaCuO
- D. T. Fuchs et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **81**, 3944 (1998)
- Y. Paltiel et al., *Phys. Rev. B* **58**, R14763 (1998) - 2H-NbSe<sub>2</sub>



## EFFECT OF SAMPLE GEOMETRY

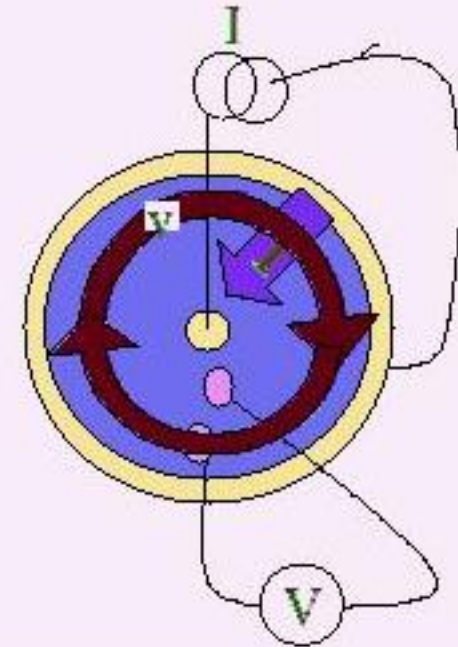
### Slab



- VORTICES ENTER AND EXIT AT EDGES, THROUGH SURFACE BARRIER
- NEW VORTICES ARE DISORDERED
- "OLD VORTICES" MOTIONALLY ORDERED
- COEXISTENCE

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### Corbino Geometry



- CIRCULAR MOTION
- NO CROSSING OF EDGES
- NO DISORDERED PHASE





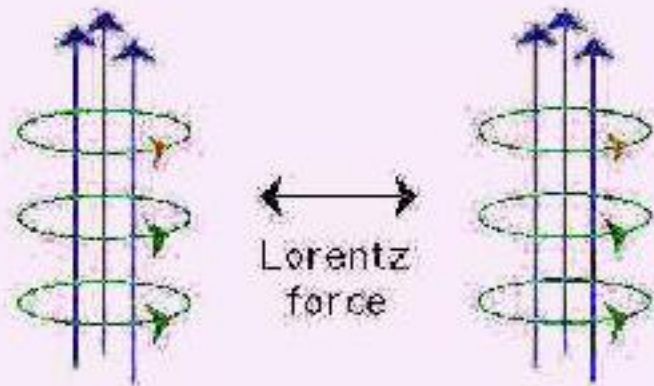
# \* THE PHASE DIAGRAM

▀ Vortex interactions

▀ Physical Parameters

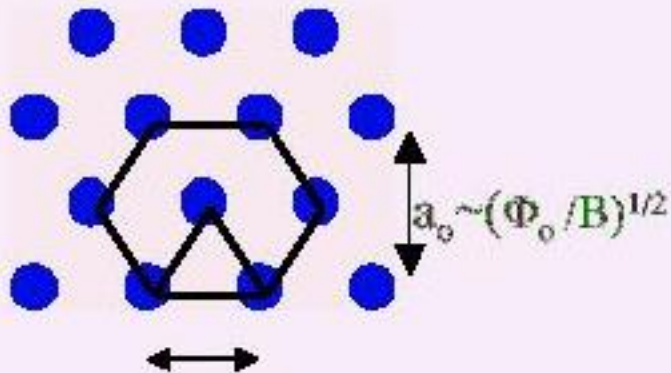
▀ NbSe<sub>2</sub>

# VORTEX-VORTEX INTERACTIONS



analogy: solenoid

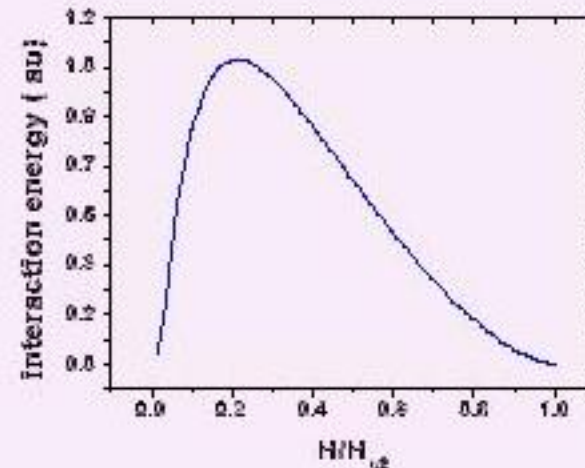
repulsive interaction = Abrikosov lattice



-Interaction Energy per unit volume  
SHEAR MODULUS

$$c_{55} a_0^{-2} = \left( \frac{\Phi_0}{4\pi\lambda} \right)^2 \quad H \gg H_{c1}$$

$$\approx \left( \frac{\Phi_0}{4\pi\lambda} \right)^2 \left( \frac{a_0}{\lambda} \right)^{3/2} e^{-a_0/\lambda} \quad H \cong H_{c1}$$



# VORTEX PHASE DIAGRAM

- Interactions (H)  $\mapsto$  crystal

$$\frac{c_{66} a^2}{H_c^2} = \left( \frac{\xi_{\parallel}}{\lambda} \right)^2$$

- Fluctuations

thermal (T)  $\mapsto$  liquid  $H_{C2}$

$$Gi = \frac{k_B T_c}{\epsilon H_c^2 \xi^3}$$

Random potential (pinning)  $\mapsto$  glass

$$\frac{J_p}{J_0} = \left( \frac{\xi_{\parallel}}{R_c} \right)^2$$

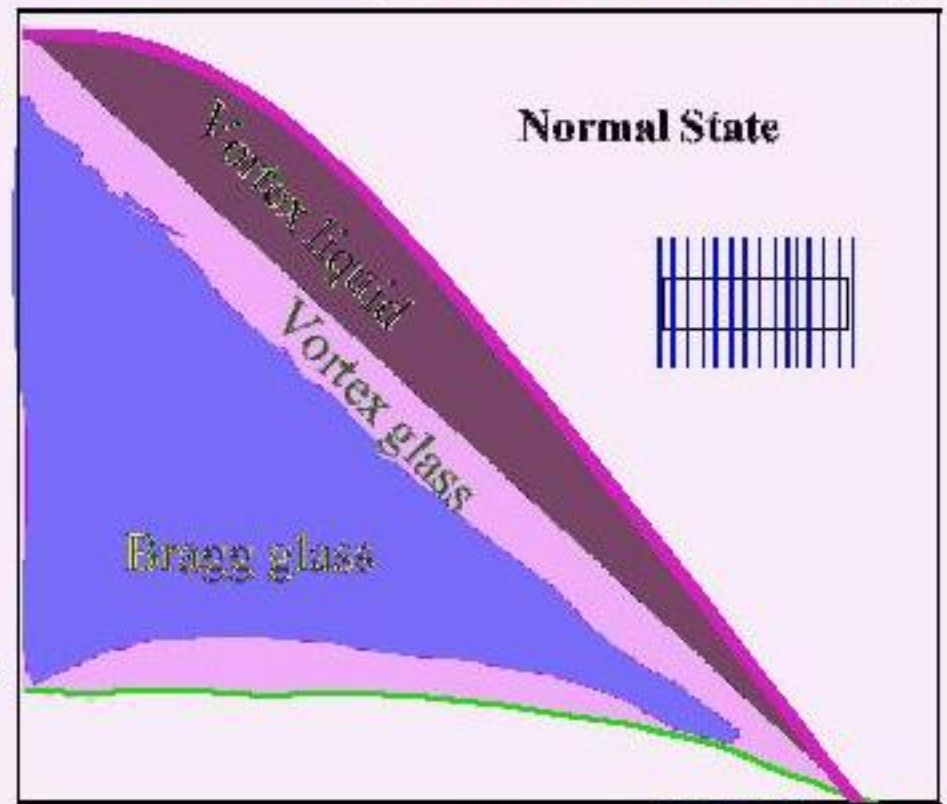
Coupling (anisotropy)  $\mapsto$  3D -line  $H_{c1}$

$$\epsilon = \frac{\xi_c}{\xi_{ab}}$$

- liquid  $\mapsto$  vortex glass

- Crystal  $\mapsto$  Bragg glass

[ Giamarchi and LeDoussal 96]

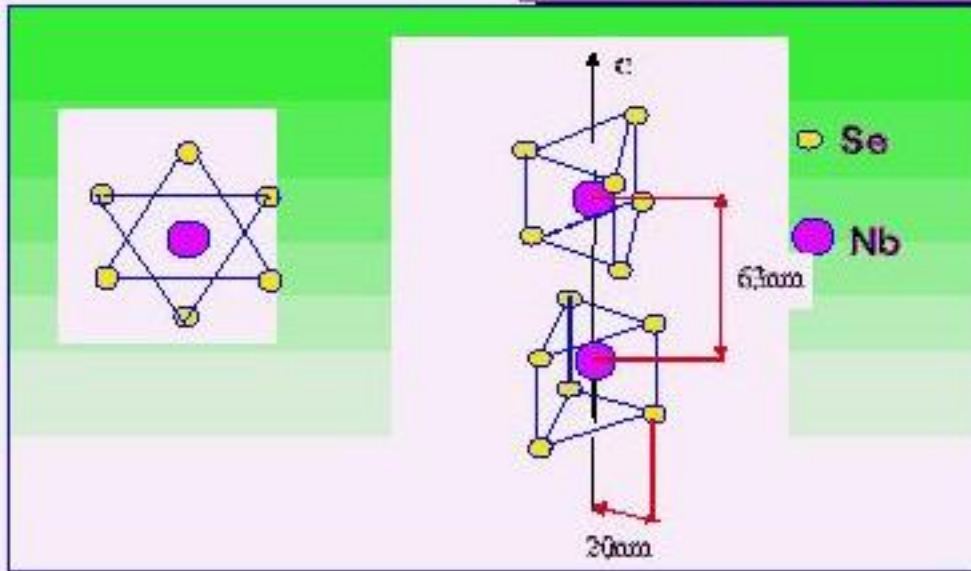




## Physical Parameters of Type II Superconductors

	NbSe <sub>2</sub>	(K,B)BiO <sub>3</sub>	YBCO	BiSCCO
T <sub>co</sub> [K]	7	30	90	80
$\epsilon = \frac{\xi}{\xi_0} = \sqrt{\frac{m_{*cb}^*}{m_c^*}}$	0.3	1	0.1-0.125	<0.02
ξ(A)	77	40-50	20	<10
λ(A)	1000	2500	1400	1800
H <sub>c20</sub> [T]	5	30	150	>500
$Gi = \frac{1}{(k_B T_c / \epsilon H_c^2 V_{coh})^2}$	10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup> -10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup>
$\frac{T_c - T_m \sim}{T_c (\kappa^2 T_c / \epsilon H_c^2)^{3/2}}$	10 <sup>-2</sup> -10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup> -1	1-10	10-50
j <sub>c</sub> /j <sub>0</sub>	10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup> -10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup> -10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup> -10 <sup>-2</sup>

# PROPERTIES of NbSe<sub>2</sub>



- ANISOTROPIC LAYERED MATERIAL
- LARGE SINGLE CRYSTALS (up to 0.05mm)
- $\rho_{11} \sim 30 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}$

		H    c	H ⊥ c
COHERENCE LENGTH	$\xi$	~7.7nm	~2.3nm
LONDON PENETRATION DEPTH	$\lambda$	~100nm	~230nm
CRITICAL FIELD	$H_{c2}(T=0)$	~5 T	~22T

## RELATIVE STRENGTH OF FLUCTUATIONS

		NbSe	HTC	LTC
THERMAL	$G_t = (k_B T_c / H_c^2 \epsilon \xi^2)^2 / 2$	$10^4$	$10^2$	$10^8$
QUANTUM	$Q_u = (c^2 / h) (\rho_n / \epsilon \xi)$	$10^3$	$10^1$	$10^3$
ORDER PARAMETER	$J_c / J_0$	$10^6$ 😊	$10^2$ 😞	$10^1$ 😞



# \* EFFECTS OF RANDOM POTENTIAL

- Collective Pinning

- Peak Effect

- Metastable states



## COLLECTIVE PINNING

Stiff Springs

→ Ordered lattice → Low



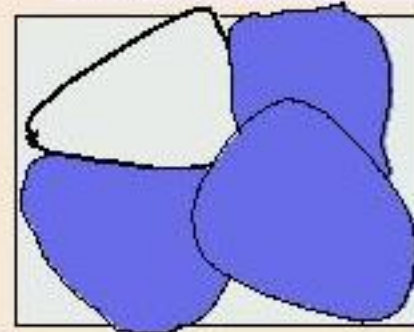
Soft Springs

→ Disordered → High  $J_c$



## Elastic Manifold in Random Potential

A. I. Larkin and Y. Ovchinnikov - 79  
U. Yaron et al - 94

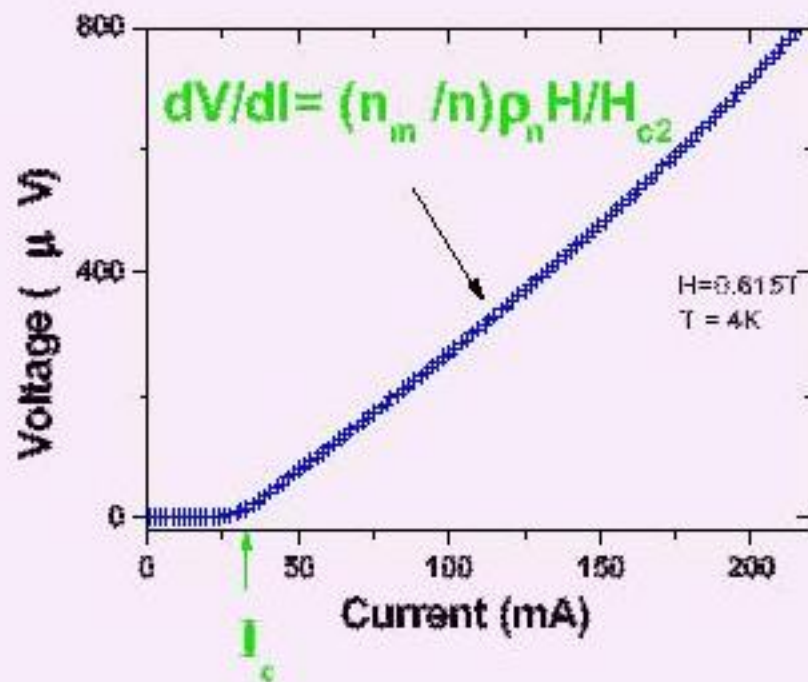
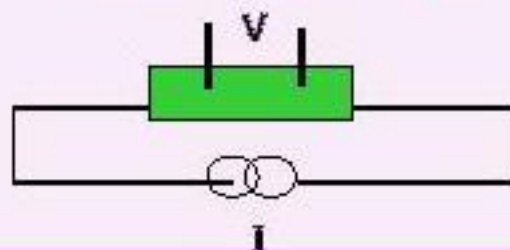


Size of coherent domain

$$R_c \sim \xi (J_0/J_c)^{1/2}$$

# Transport Measurements

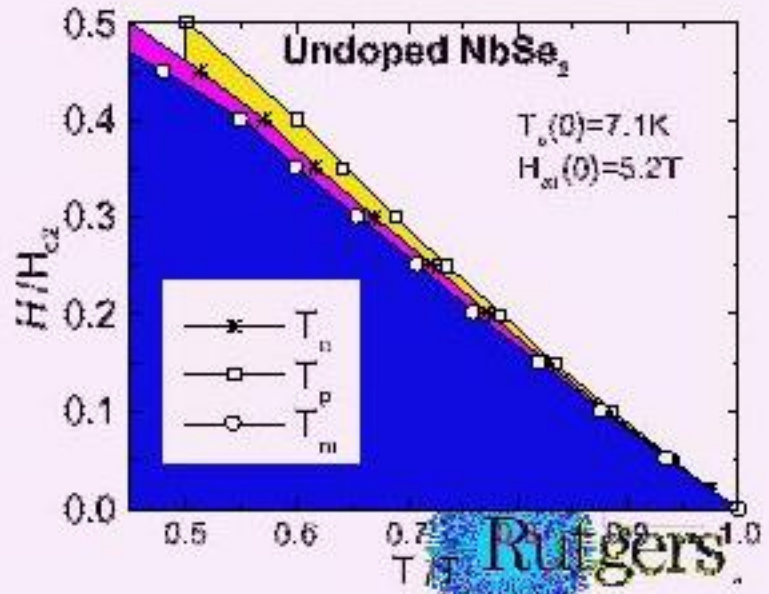
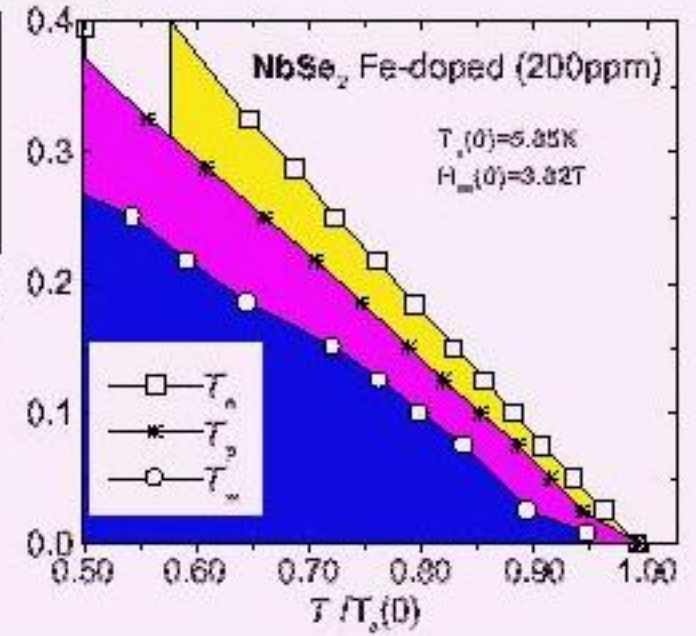
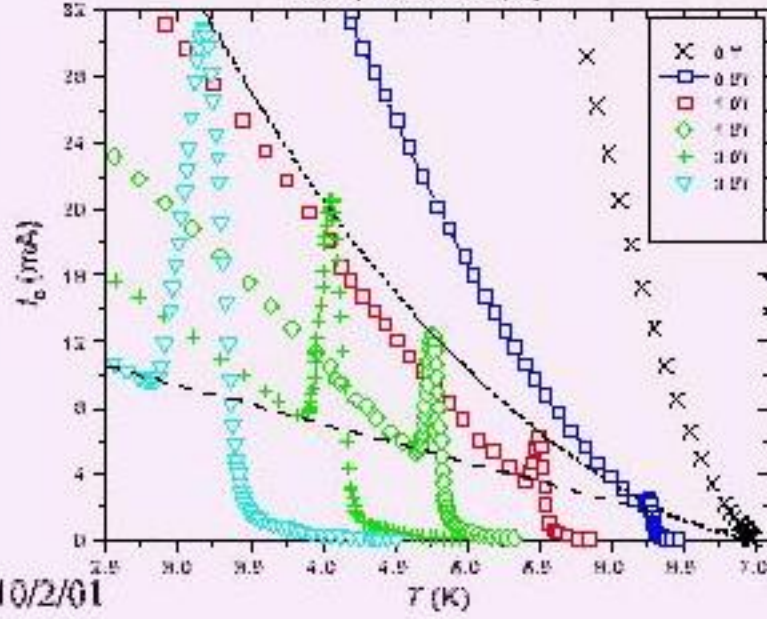
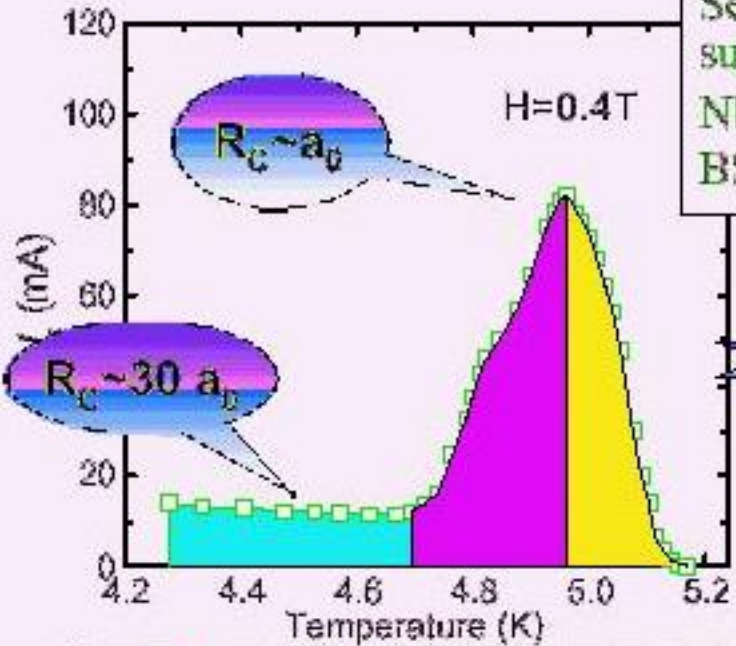
## 4 Lead Measurement



$I_c$   $\rightarrow$  degree of order  
 $dV/dI$   $\rightarrow$  fraction of moving vortices

# THE PEAK EFFECT

Seen in weak pinning superconductors:  
Nb, NbGe, NbSe<sub>2</sub>,  
BSCO, YBCO,

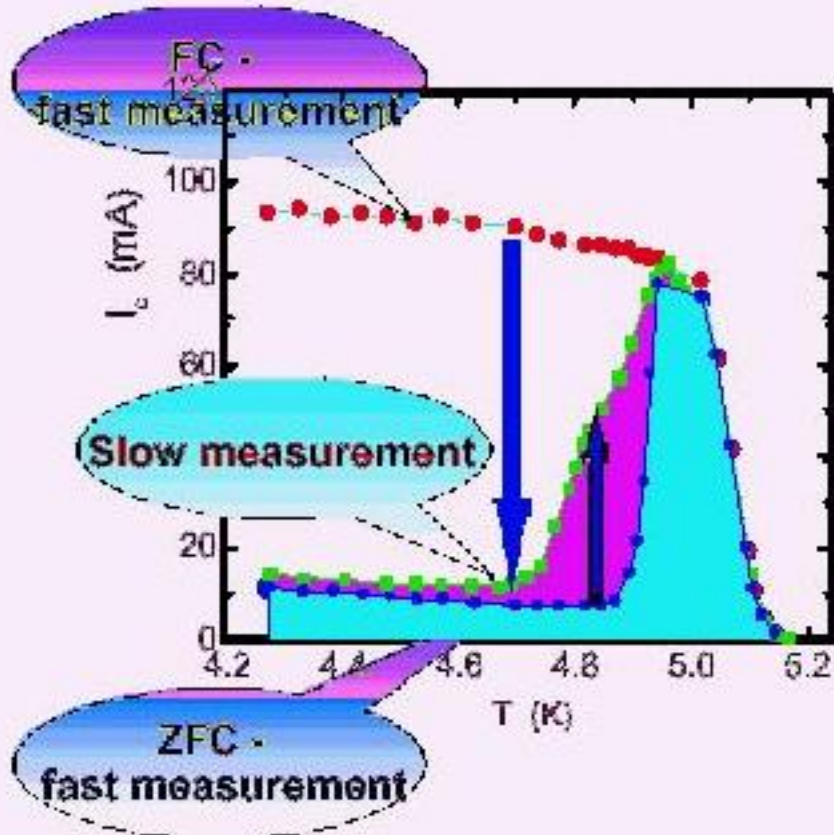
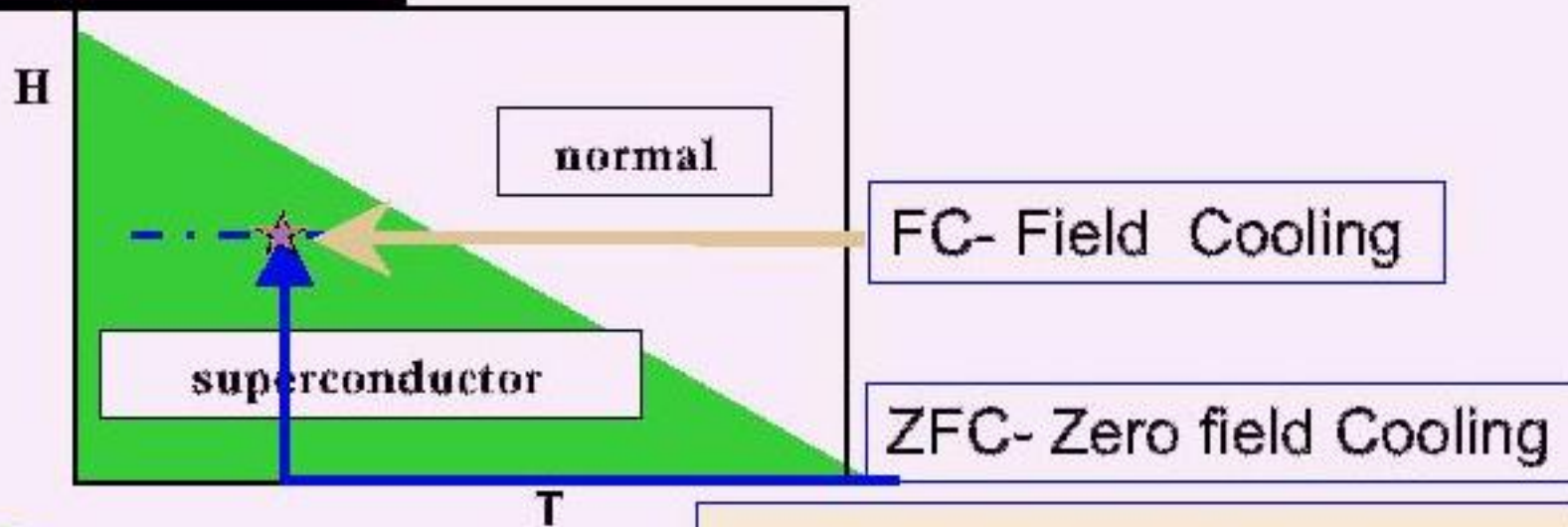


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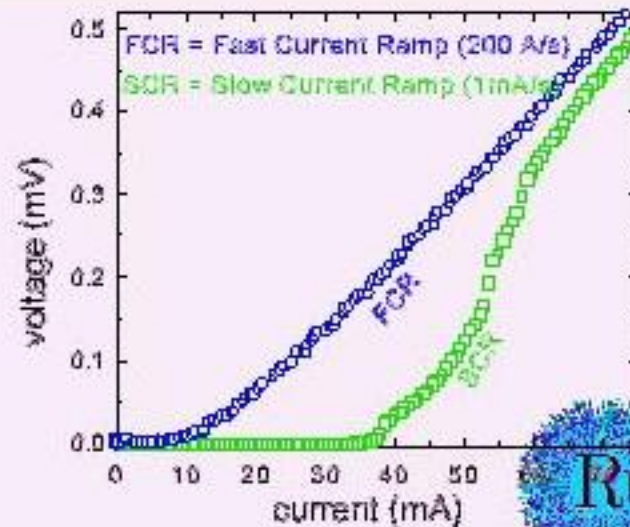




# METASTABILITY



Below the peak  $I_c$  depends on method of preparation and measurement speed

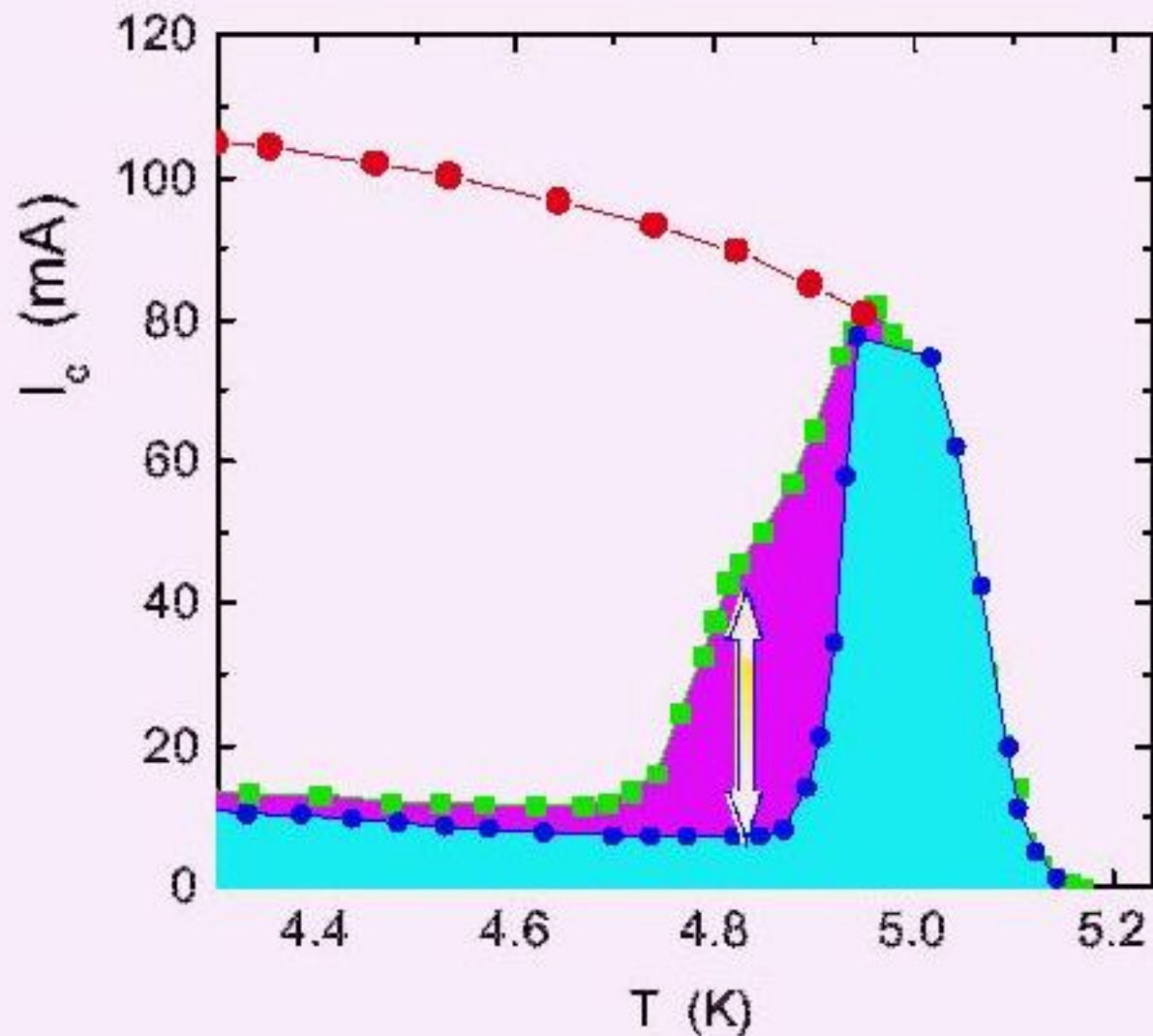


# \* CURRENT DRIVEN ORGANIZATION

- Cyclic softening
- Jamming
- Frequency Memory
- Effect of Boundaries
- Metastable to stable transition

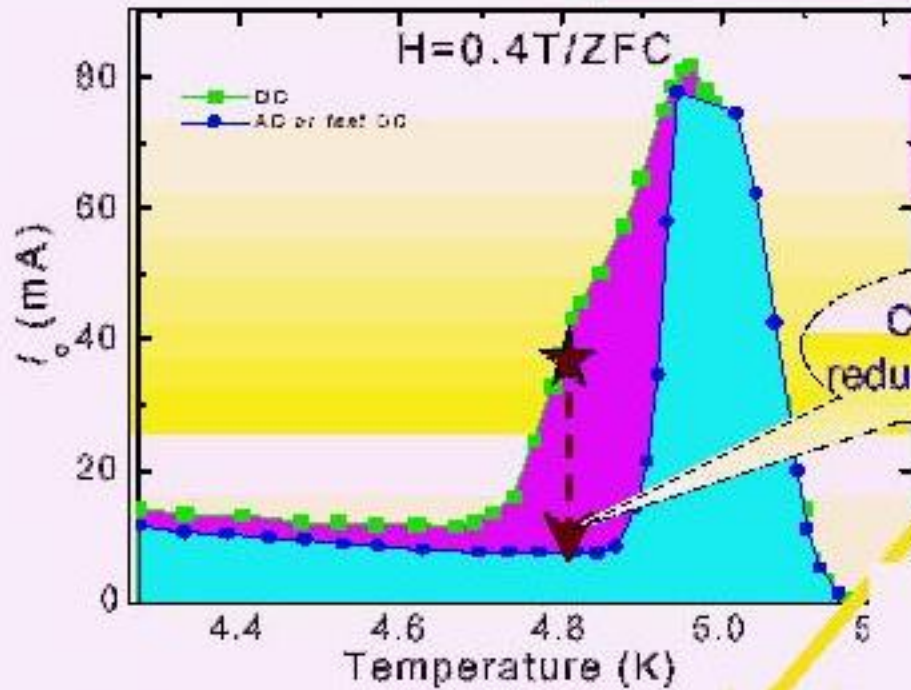
# Dynamics of non-equilibrium vortex states

## Current Induced Organization





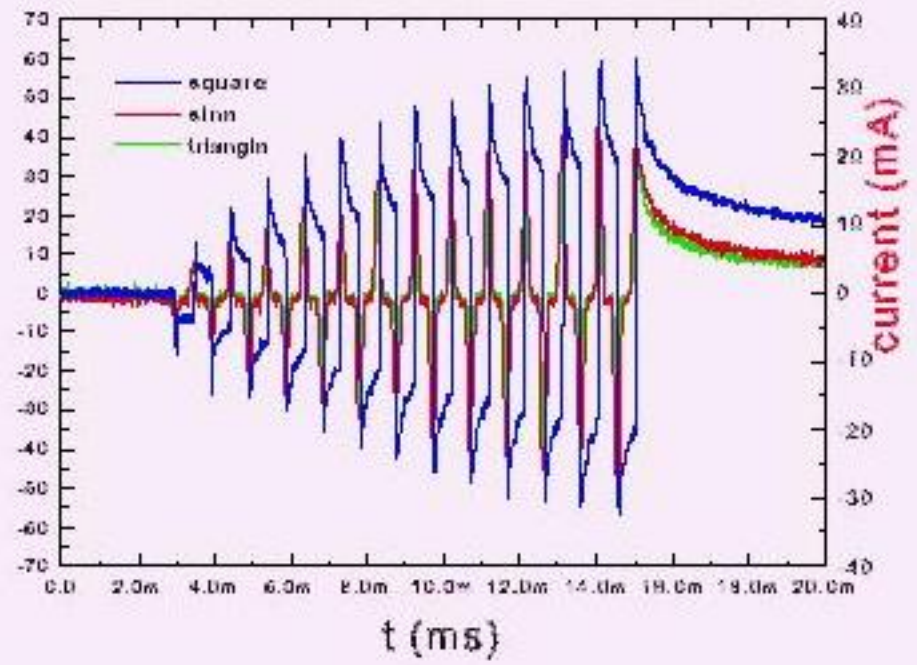
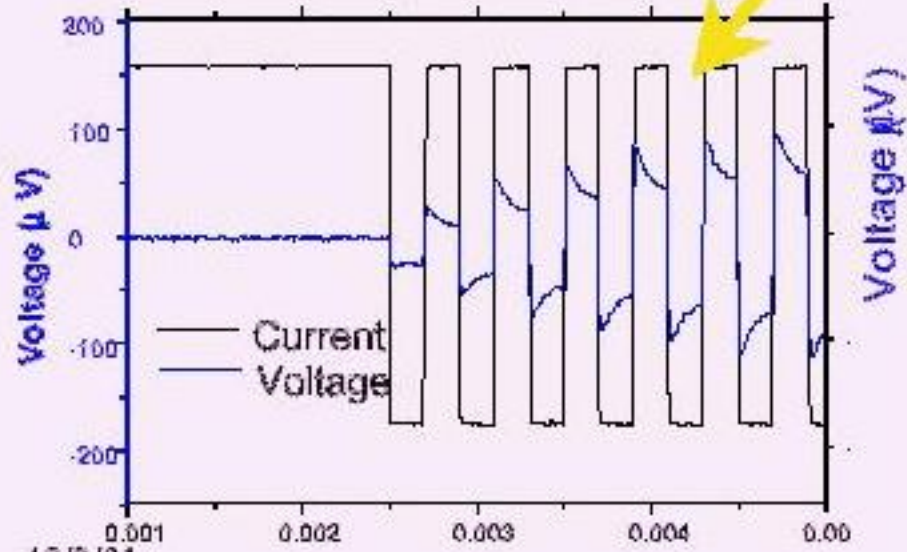
# CYCLIC SOFTENING



- Henderson, Andrei, Higgins - PRL 81, 2352 (98)
- Andrei, Xiao, Henderson, Higgins, Shuk, Greenblatt - J. Phys. IV, Pr10, 5 (1999)

Critical current reduced by AC drive

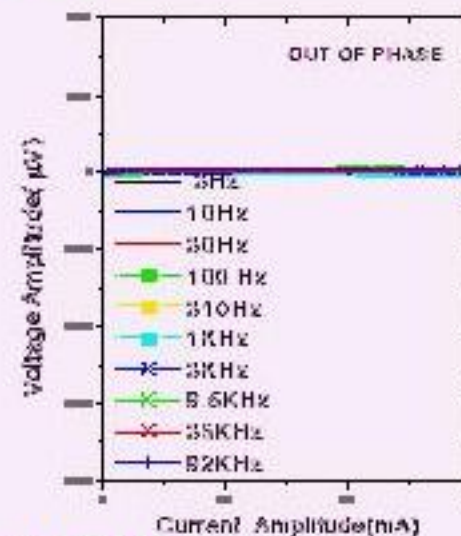
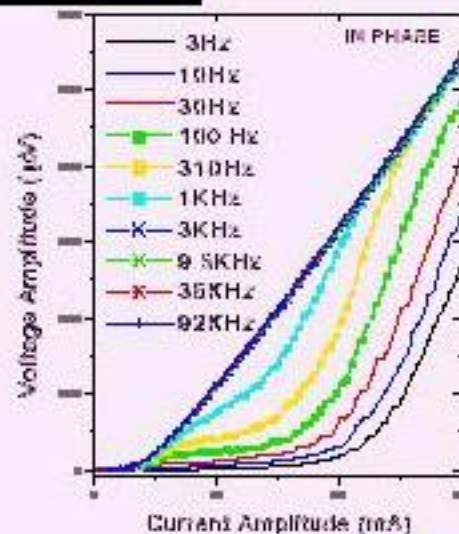
"shaking" causes vortices to order.



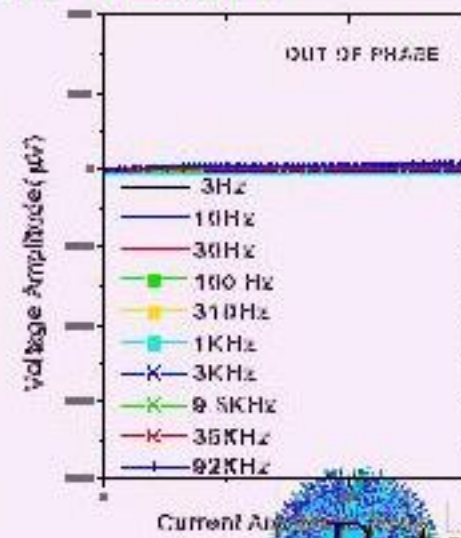
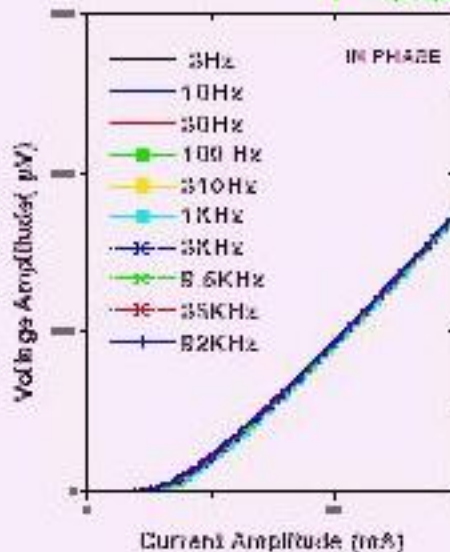
# FREQUENCY DEPENDENCE OF I-V CURVES

PEAK REGION  
 $T = 4.538 \text{ K}$   $H = 0.51 \text{ T}$

• Andrei et al J. Phys. IV, Pr10, 5 (1999)

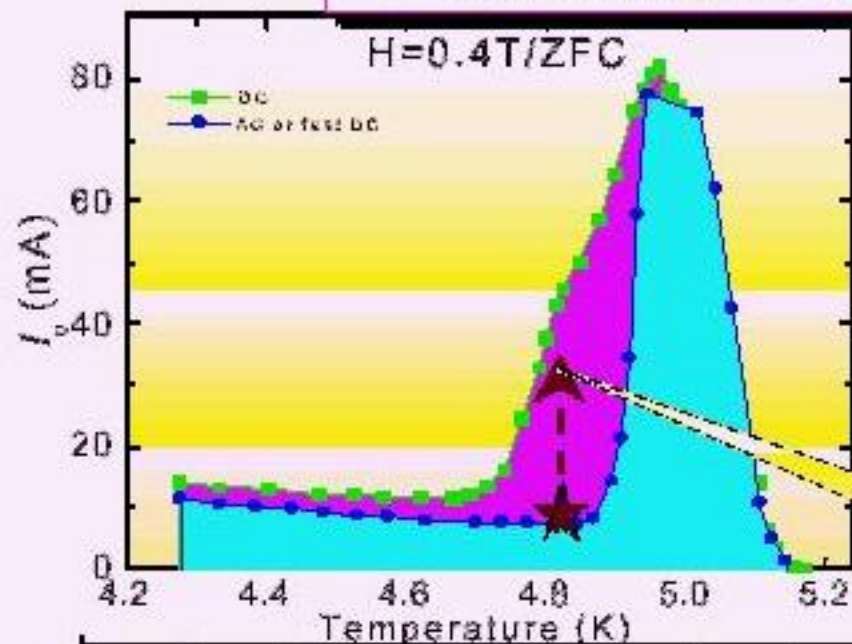


BELOW PEAK  
 $T = 3.996 \text{ K}$   $H = 0.51 \text{ T}$





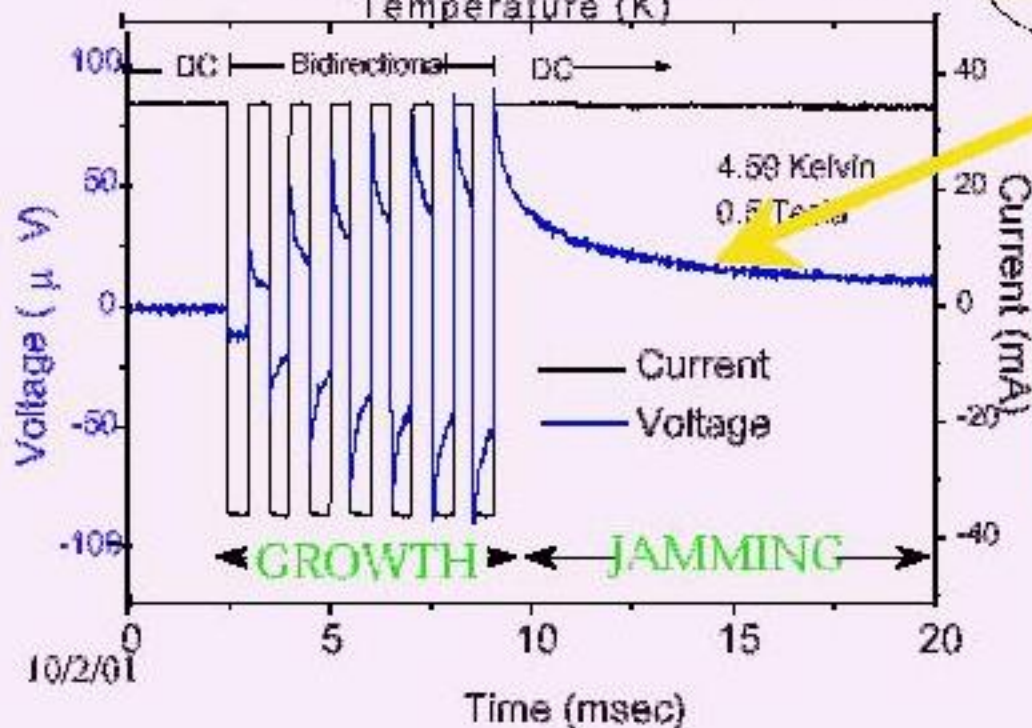
# JAMMING- current induced disorder



- Henderson, Andrei, Higgins - PRL 81, 2352 (98)
- Andrei, Xiao, Henderson, Higgins, Shuk, Greenblatt - J. Phys. IV, Pr10, 5 (1999)

DC current → disorder.

$I_c$  INCREASED by DC drive

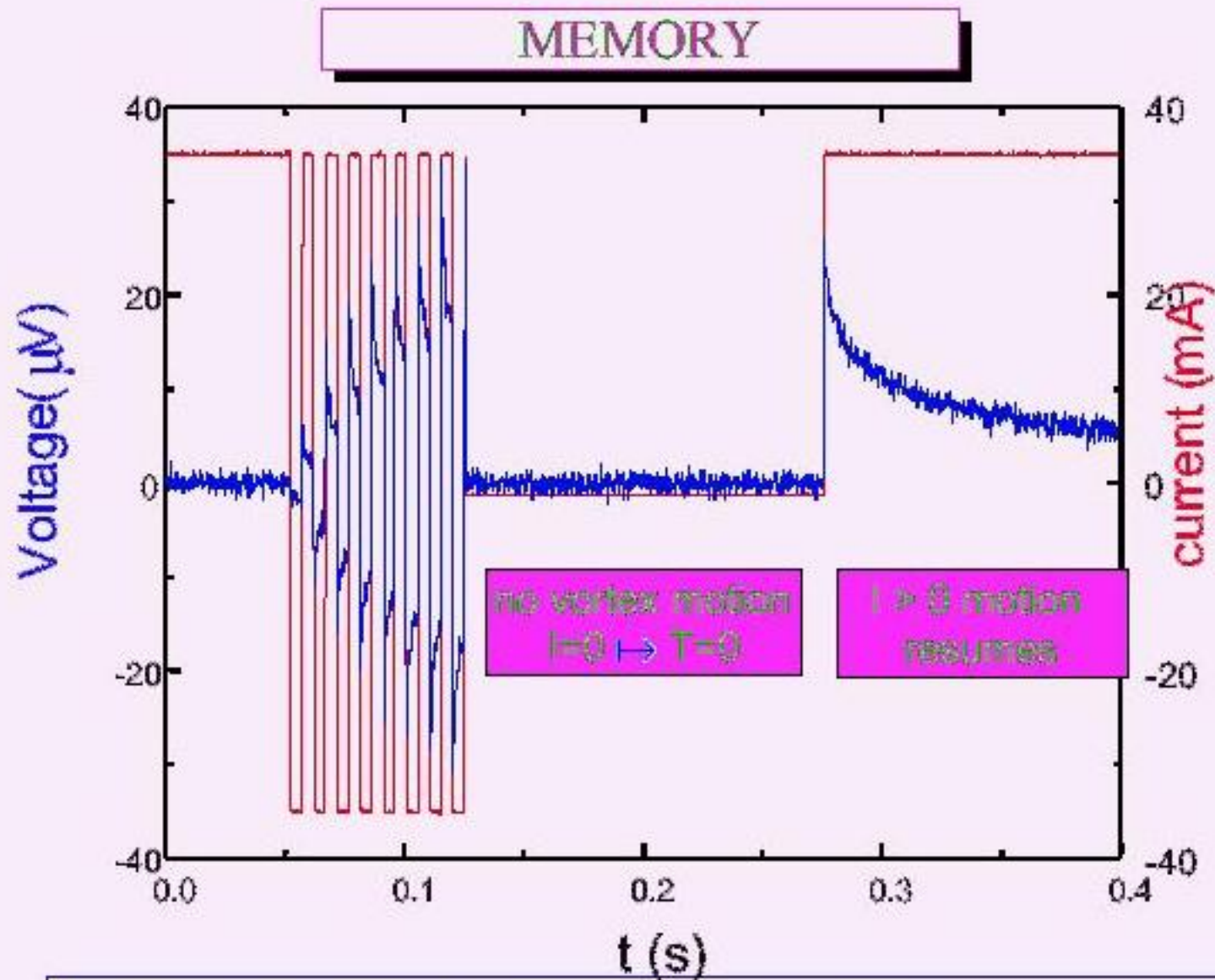


## Jamming in YBCO

- N. Gordeev, et al Nature, 385 324-326 (1997)
- S Kokkaliaris, PAJ deGroot, SN Gordeev, AA Zhukov, R Gagnon and L Taillefer, Phys. Rev. Lett. 82 (1999) 5116

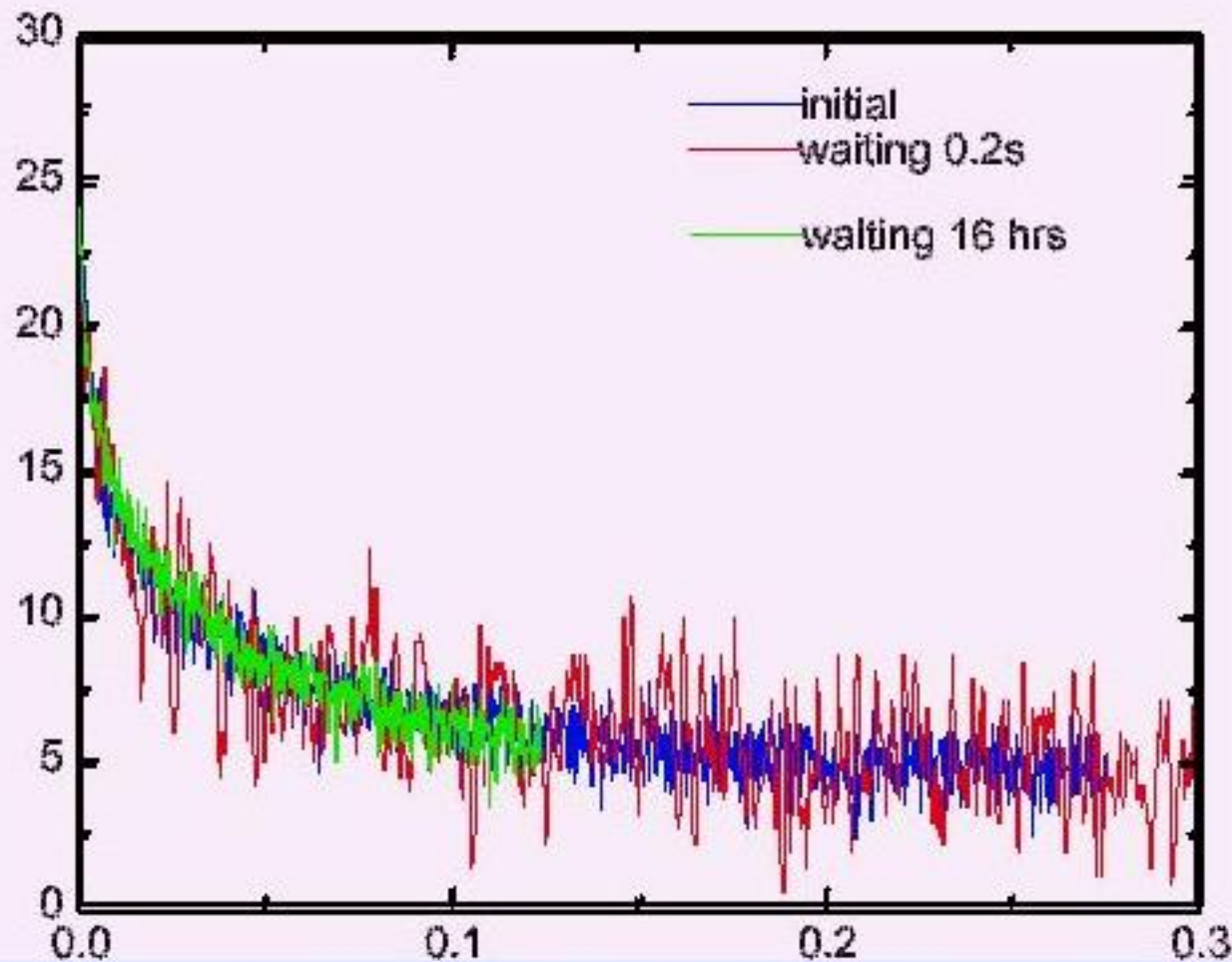






- Current removed  $\rightarrow$  vortex motion arrested
- Current restored  $\rightarrow$  motion resumes where it stopped
- $I=0 - T=0$

## HOW LONG DOES IT REMEMBER?



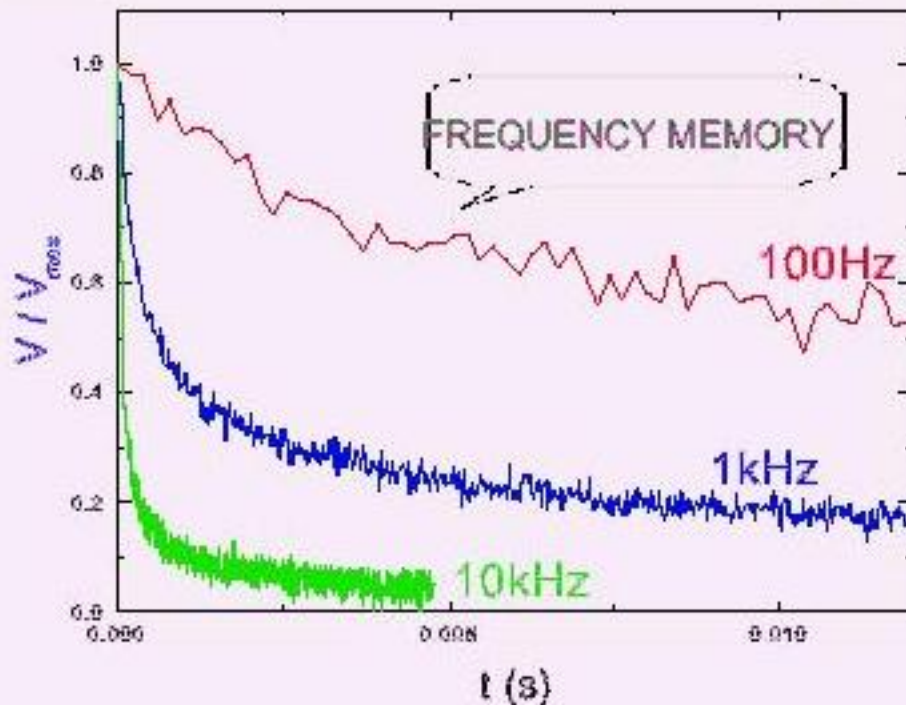
- ★ Experiment repeated by removing the current for various intervals : 0.2ms - 16 hrs.
- ★ In every case the decay was the same as if the drive was not interrupted.
- ★ The memory of the AC drive is encoded in the decay function.



## FREQUENCY MEMORY

- Henderson, Andrei, Higgins - PRL 81, 2352 (98)
- Andrei, Xiao, Henderson, Higgins, Shuk, Greenblatt - J. Phys. IV, Pr10, 5 (1999)

• The time scale of jamming depends on the frequency of the drive before it was turned back to dc.

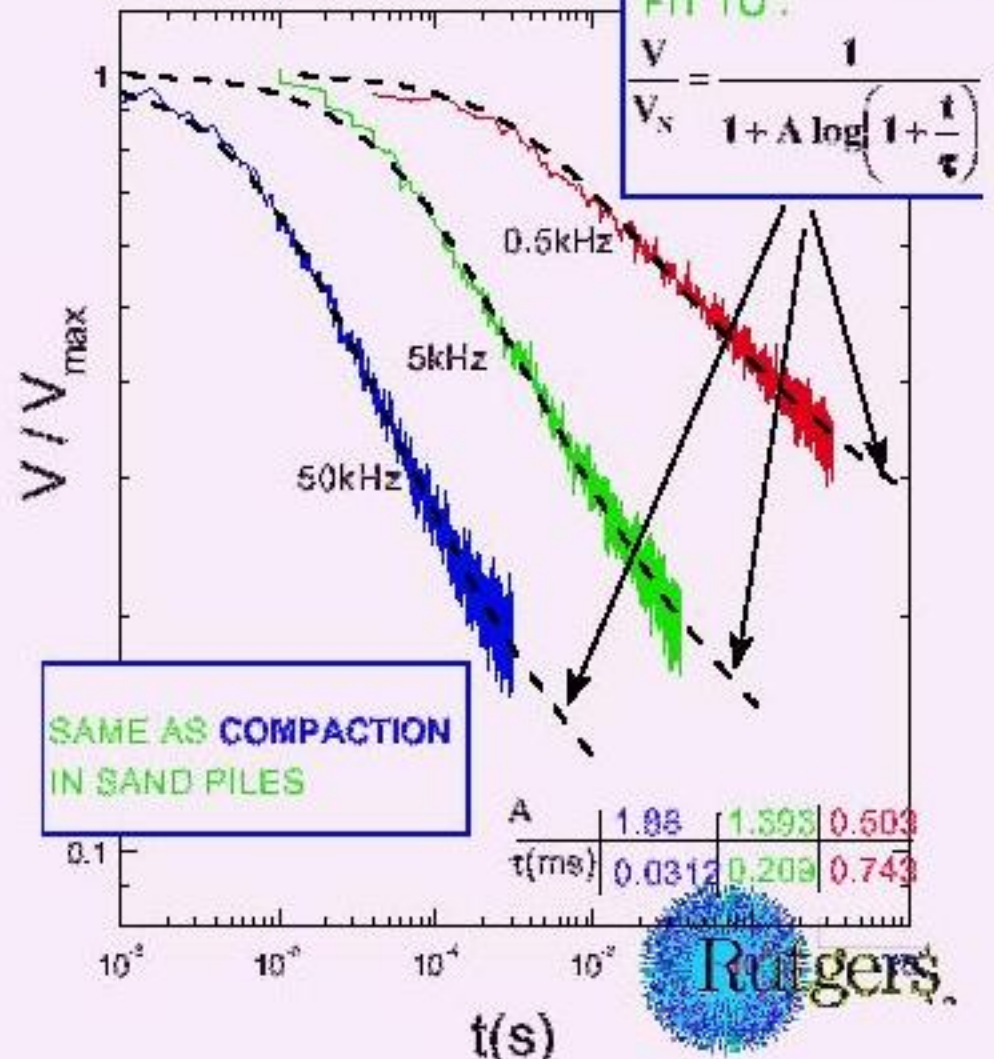


## LOGARITHMIC DECAY

• If Switching is stopped BEFORE response reaches saturation The decay is logarithmic in time.

FIT TO:

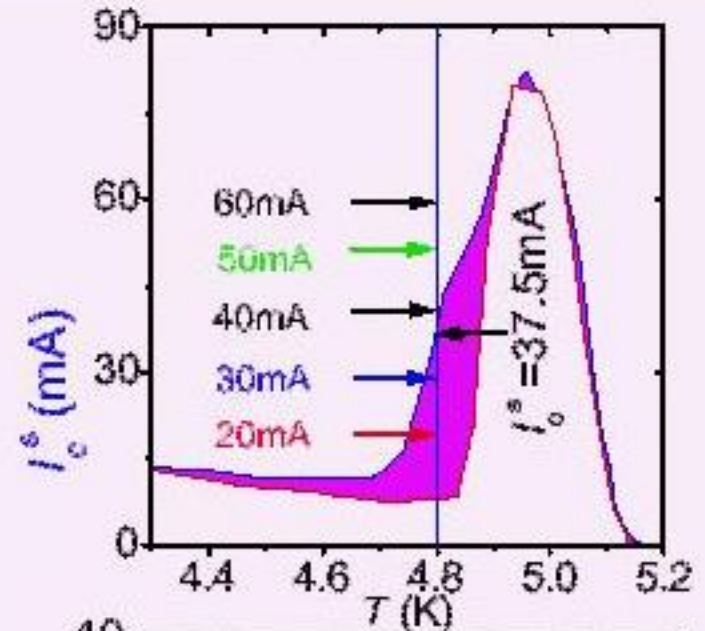
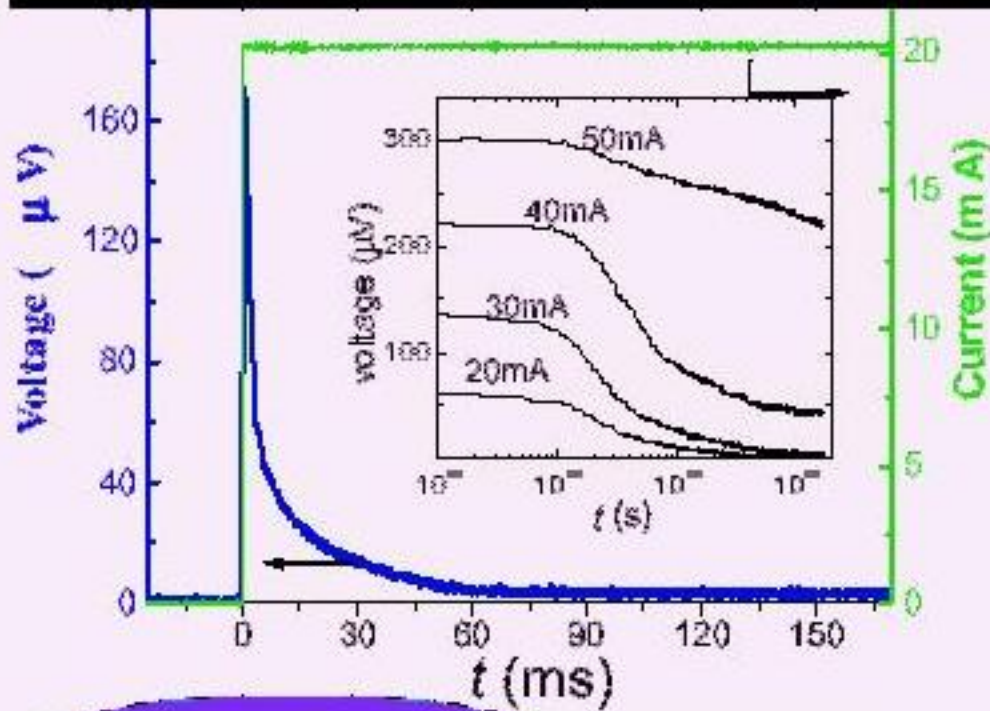
$$\frac{V}{V_s} = \frac{1}{1 + A \log\left(1 + \frac{t}{\tau}\right)}$$



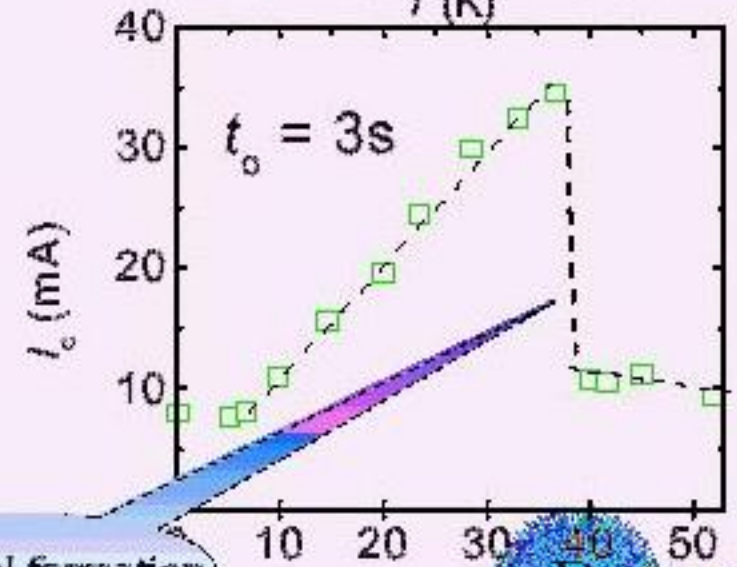
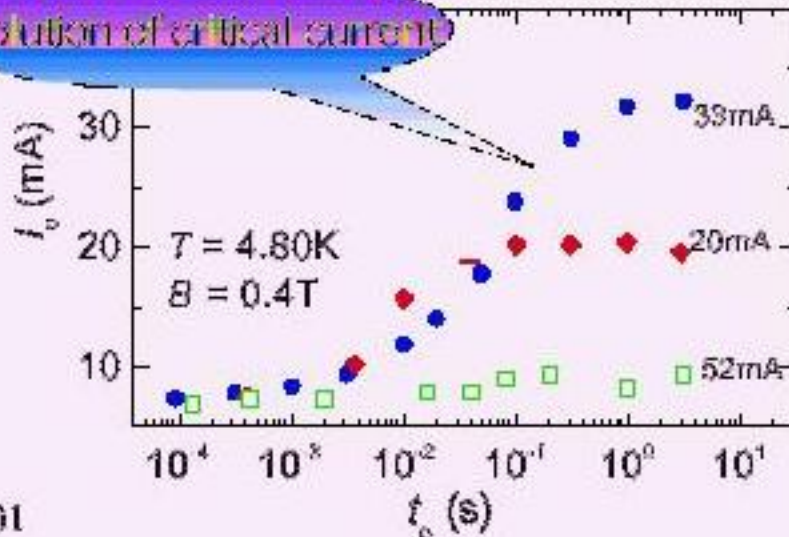


# RESPONSE OF ZFC STATE TO CURRENT STEP

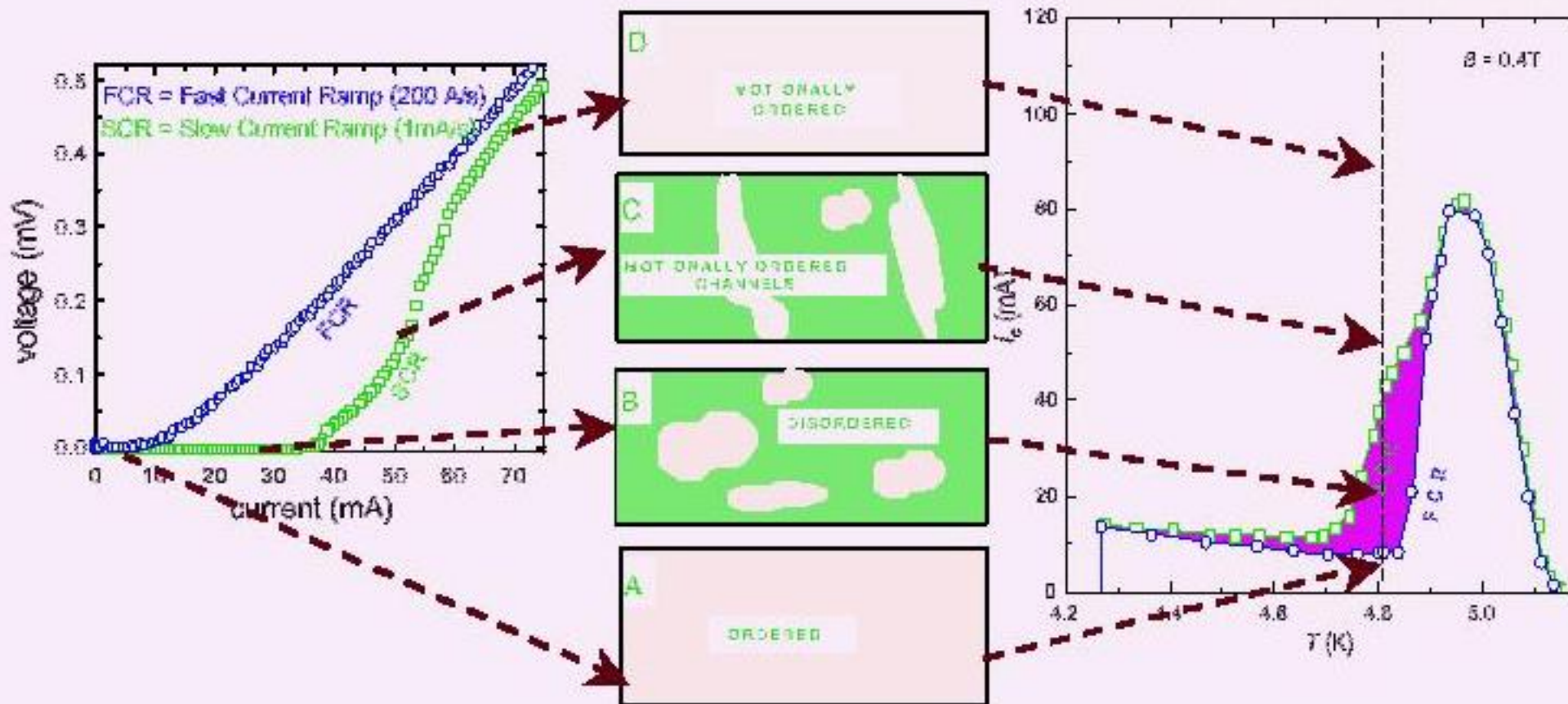
• Z.L. Xiao, E.Y. Andrai and M. Higgins  
 - Phys. Rev. Lett, 83, 1664, (1999)



Evolution of critical current



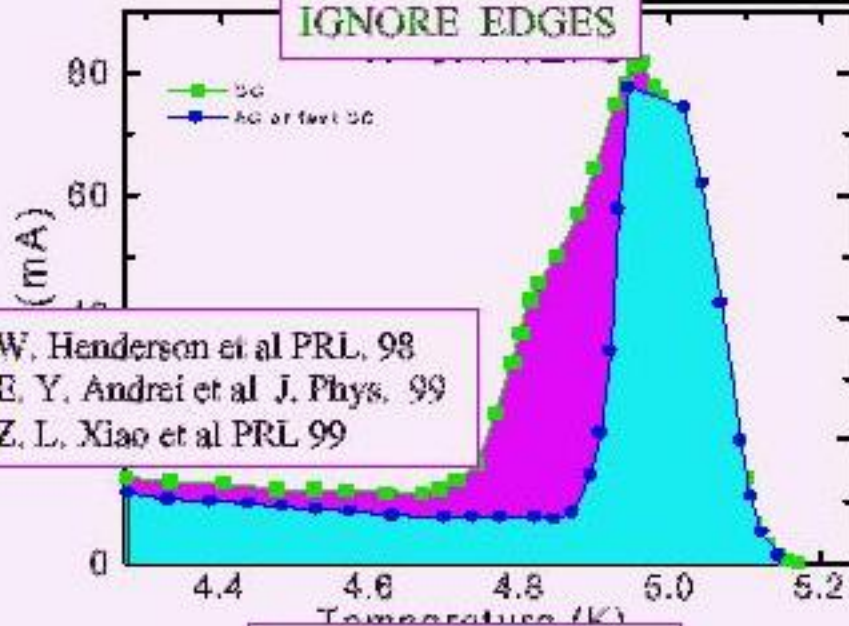
Channel formation



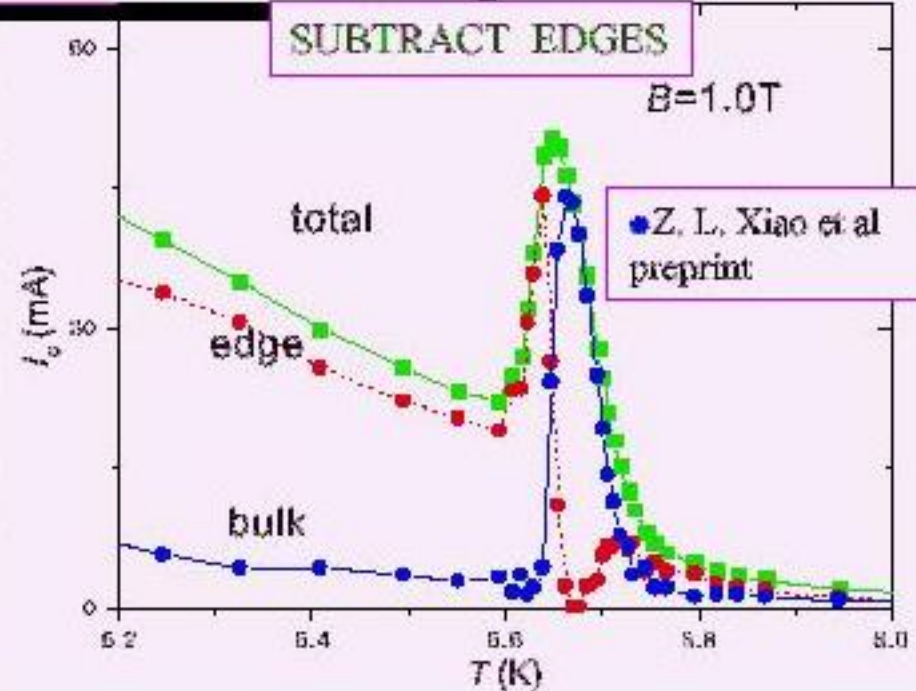


# EFFECT OF BOUNDARIES

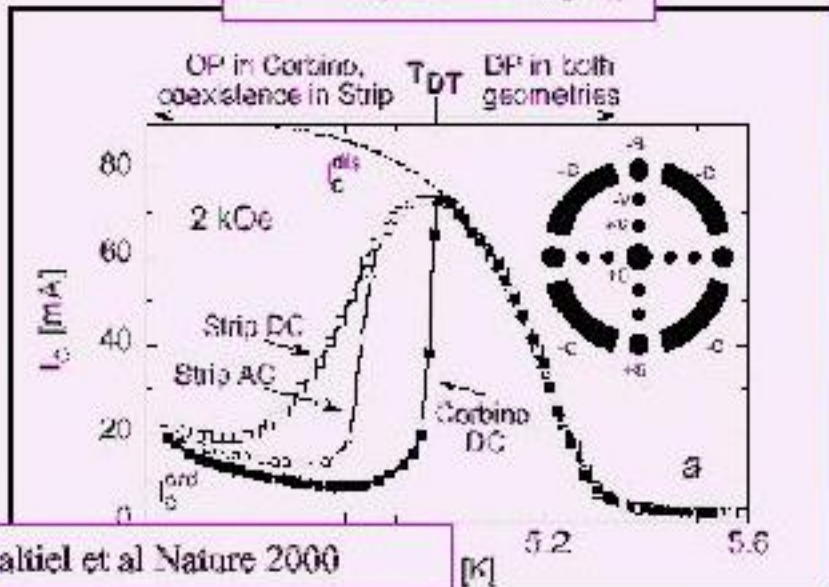
## IGNORE EDGES



## SUBTRACT EDGES



## ELIMINATE EDGES



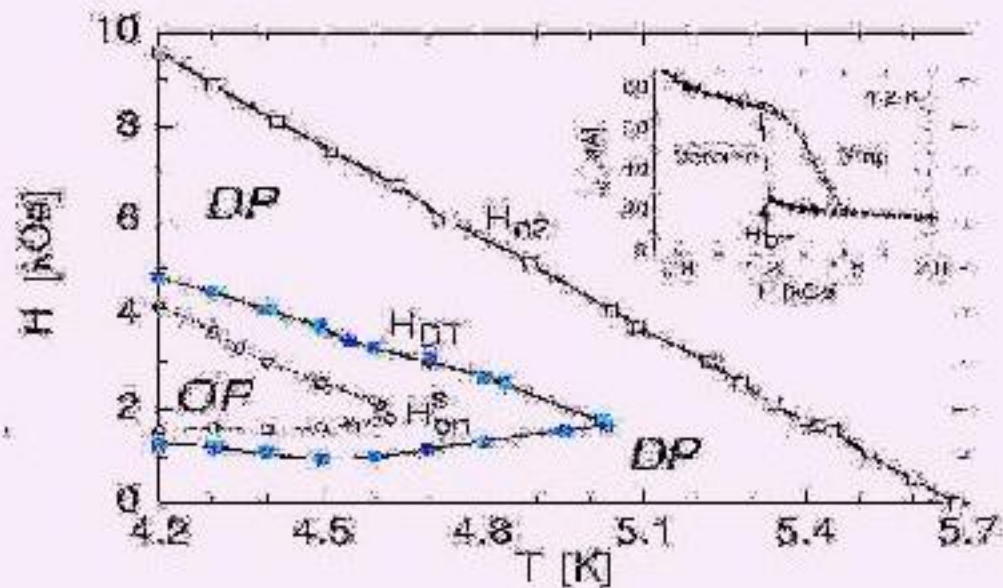
In the absence of edges

● PEAK EFFECT SHARPENS INTO A JUMP

Consistent with phase transition  
(Paltiel et al. PRL 2000)



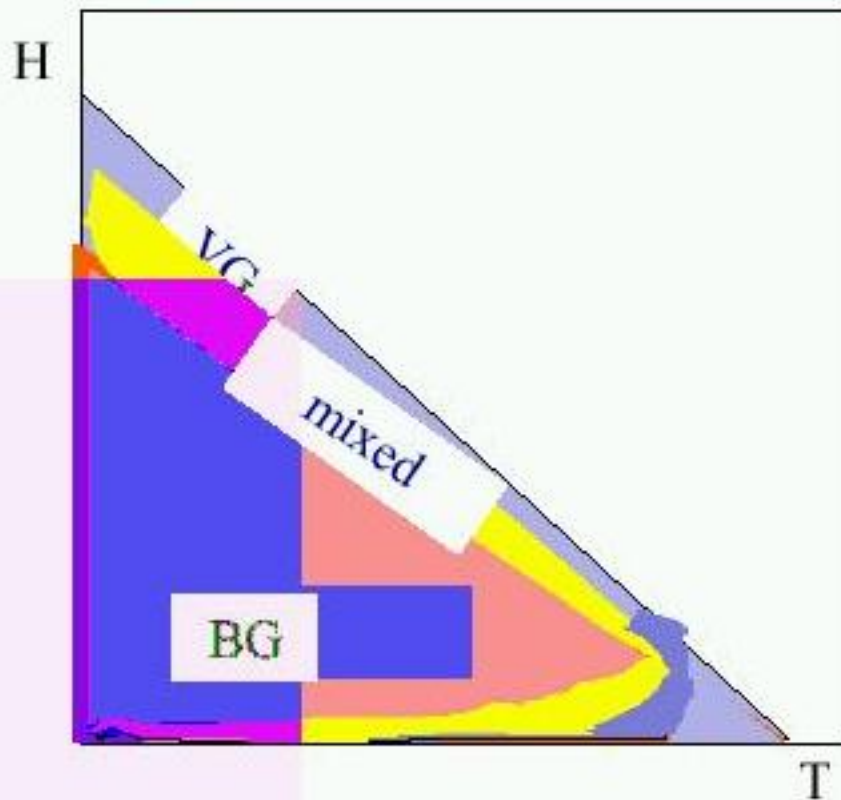
# PHASE DIAGRAM



Paltiel et al, PRL 00

## DEFECTS+BOUNDARIES = New physics

- ◆ Liquid; crystal → Vortex Glass; Bragg Glass
- ◆ VG-BG transition → coexistence → Broad Peak effect

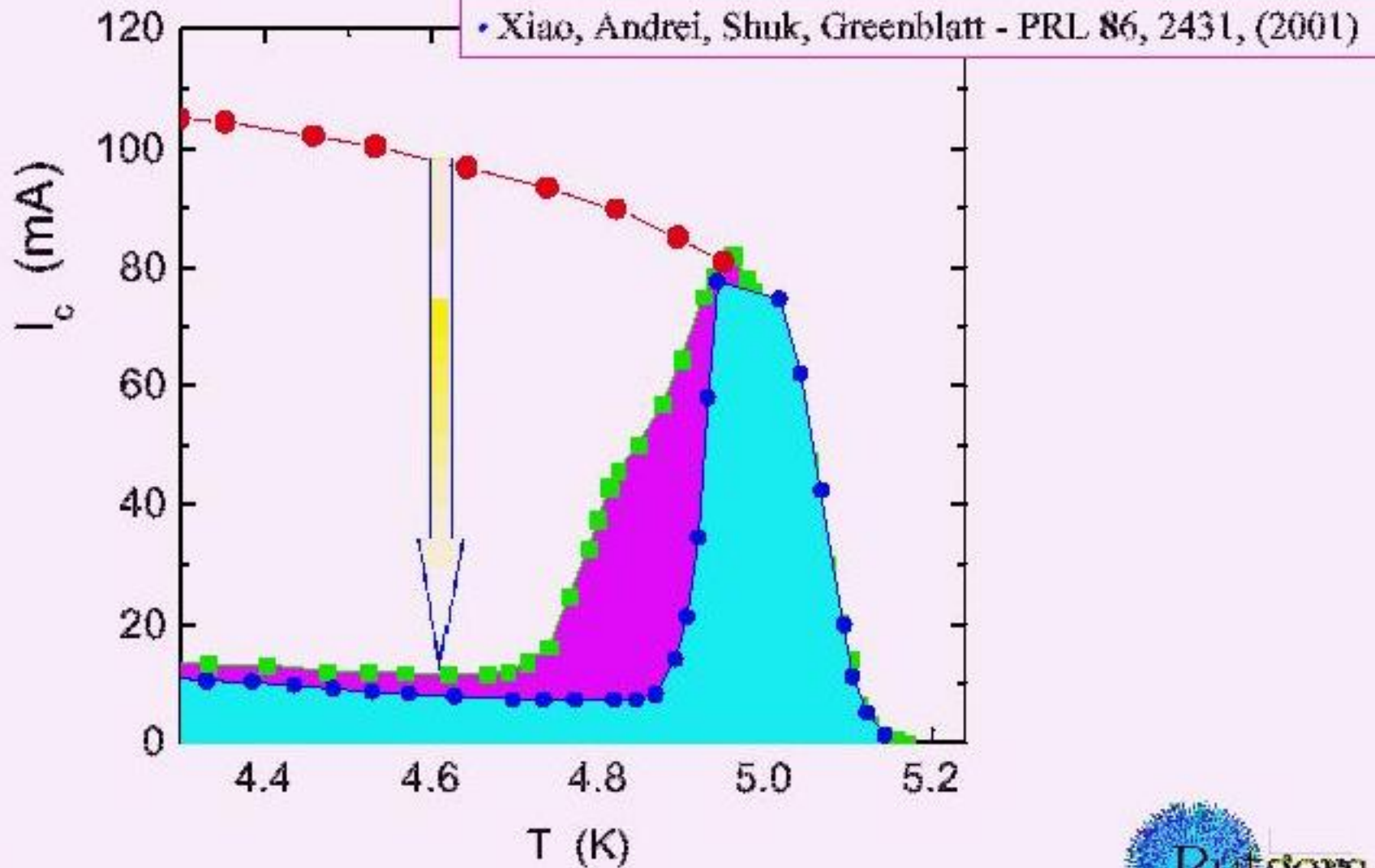


### Dynamics of Mixed Phase

- ☞ Current driven organization
- ☞ Tunable critical currents
- ☞ Cyclic softening
- ☞ Jamming
- ☞ Frequency Memory

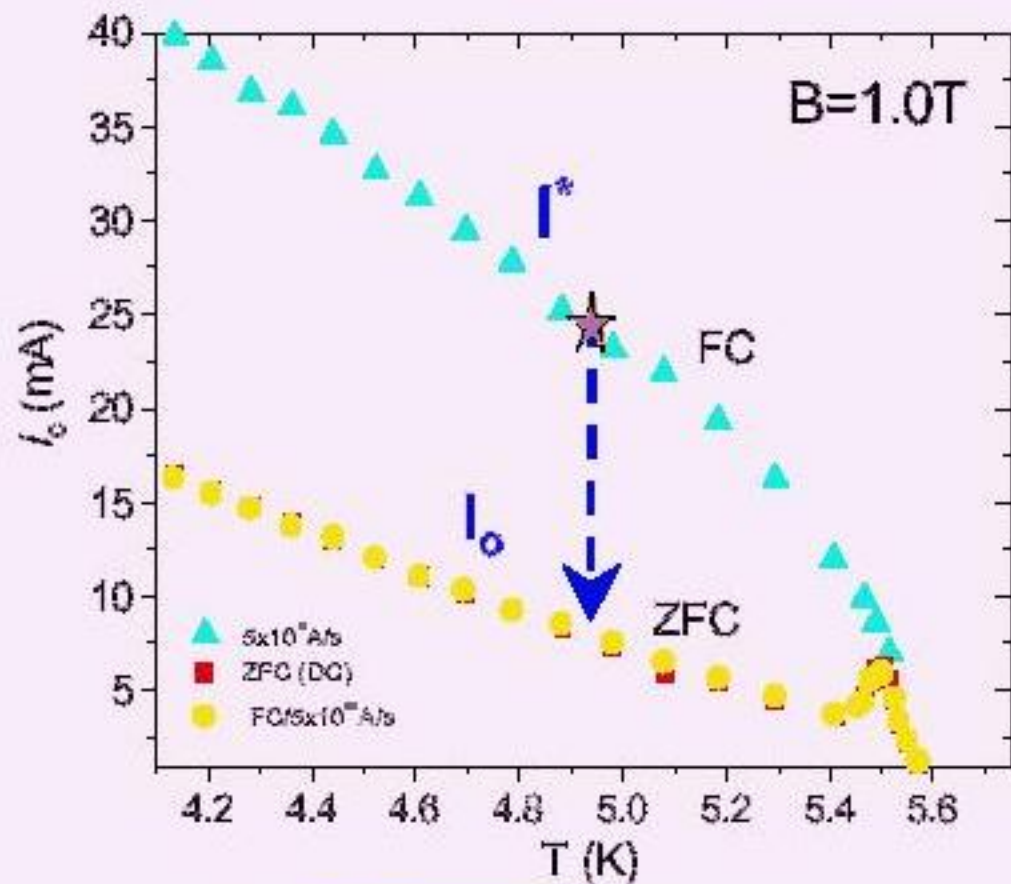
# METASTABLE - STABLE TRANSITION

## Current Induced Ordering

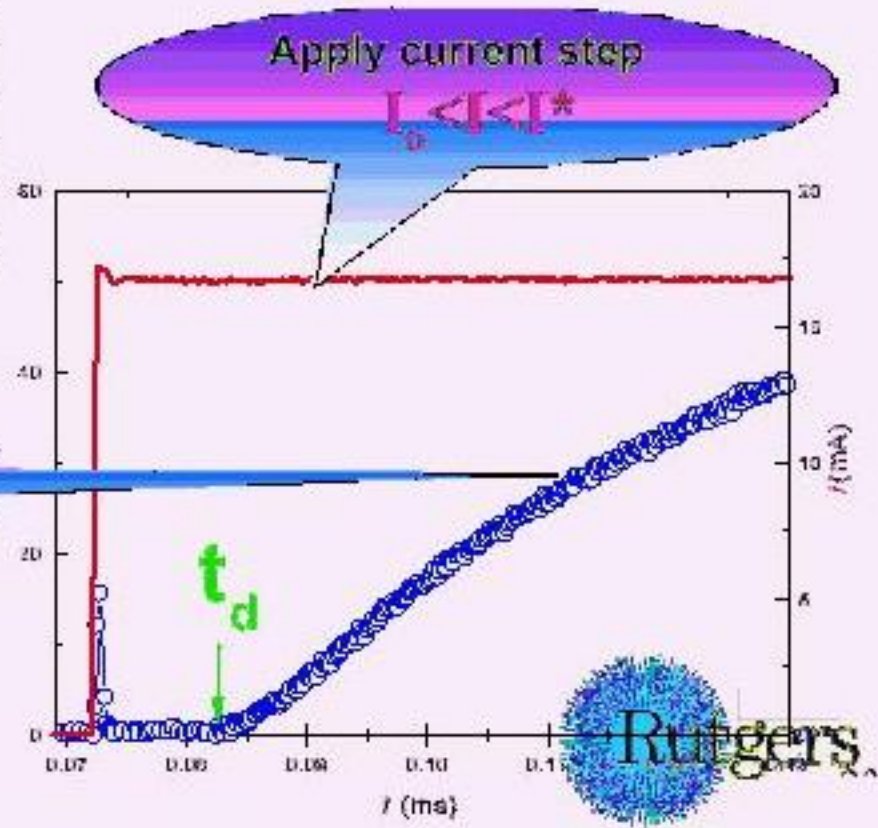




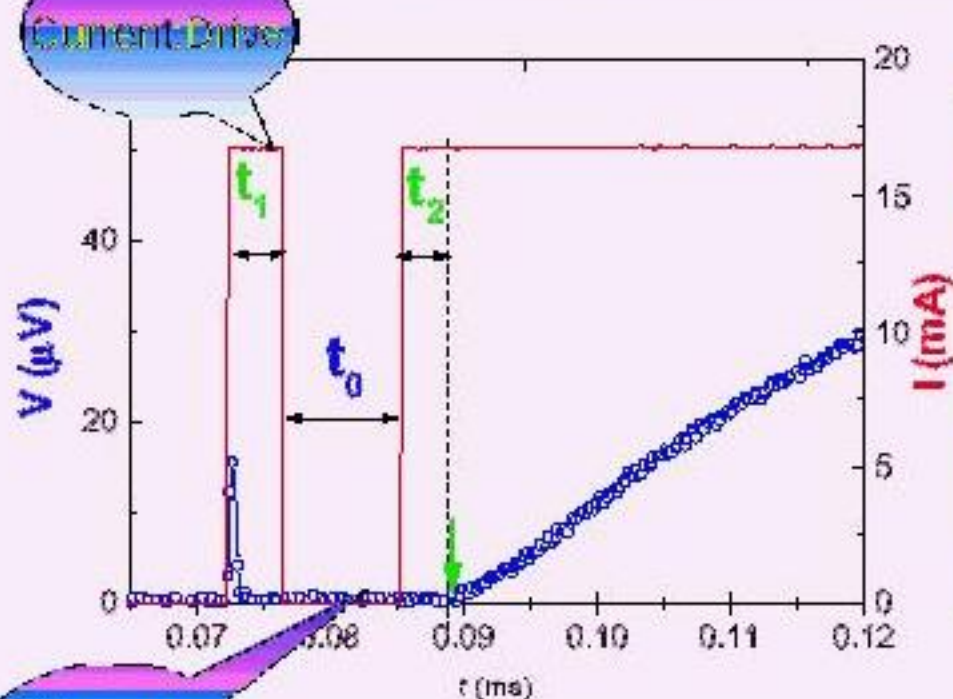
# Current Induced Ordering



vortices order



## What Happens During $t_d$ ?



●  $t_1 + t_2 = t_d \rightarrow$  evolution of vortex state during  $t_d$ .

● independent of  $t_0 \rightarrow$  no evolution for  $I=0$ .

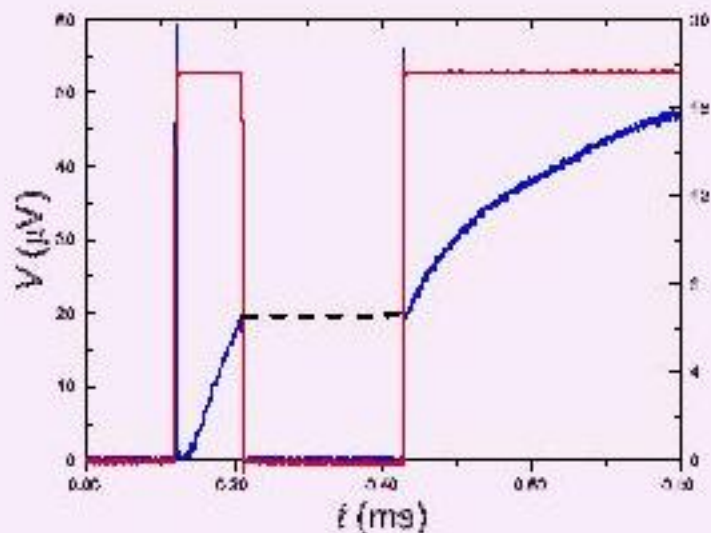
●  $t_1 + (-t_2) = t_d \rightarrow$  not reversed by reversing current.

Current Interrupted

- System evolves during  $t_d$
- Evolution stops in the absence of current
- Irreversible process

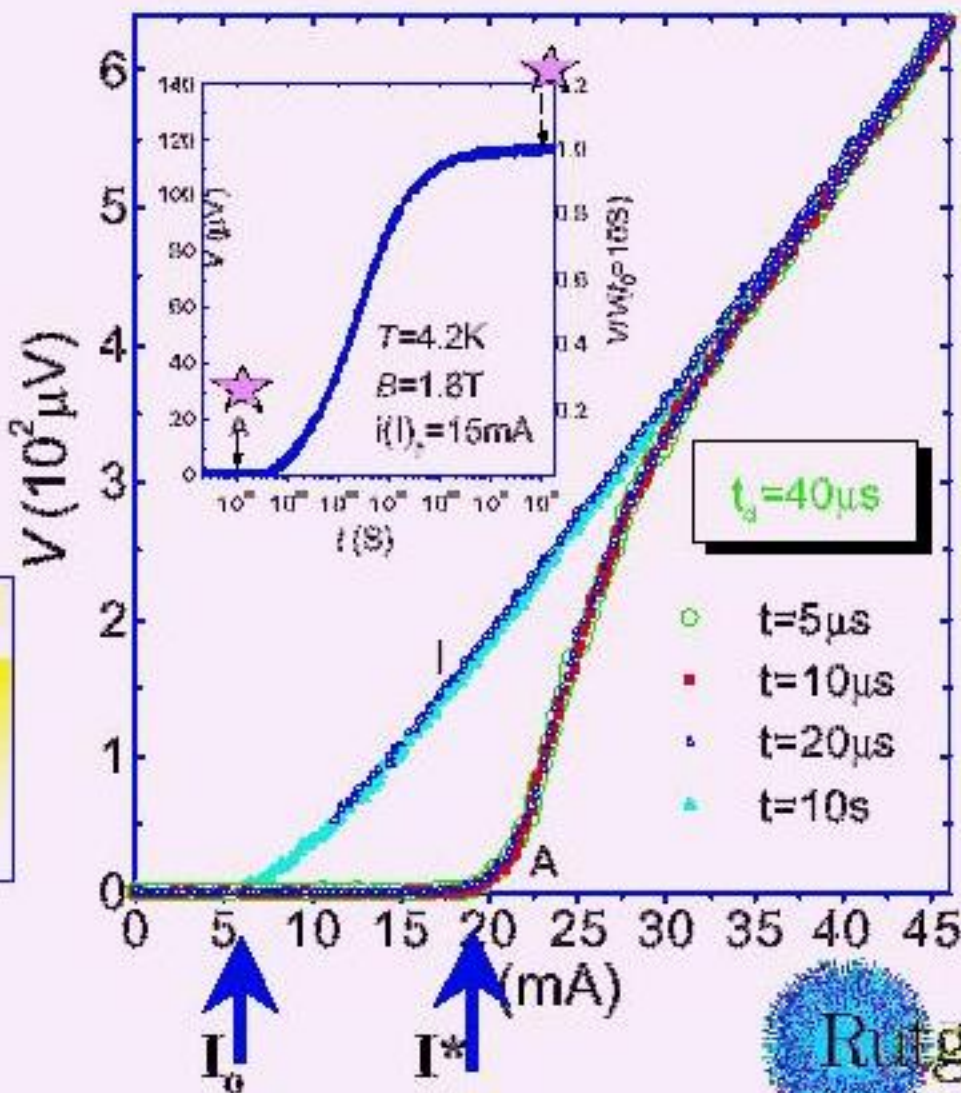


# Probing the vortex state during current driven evolution



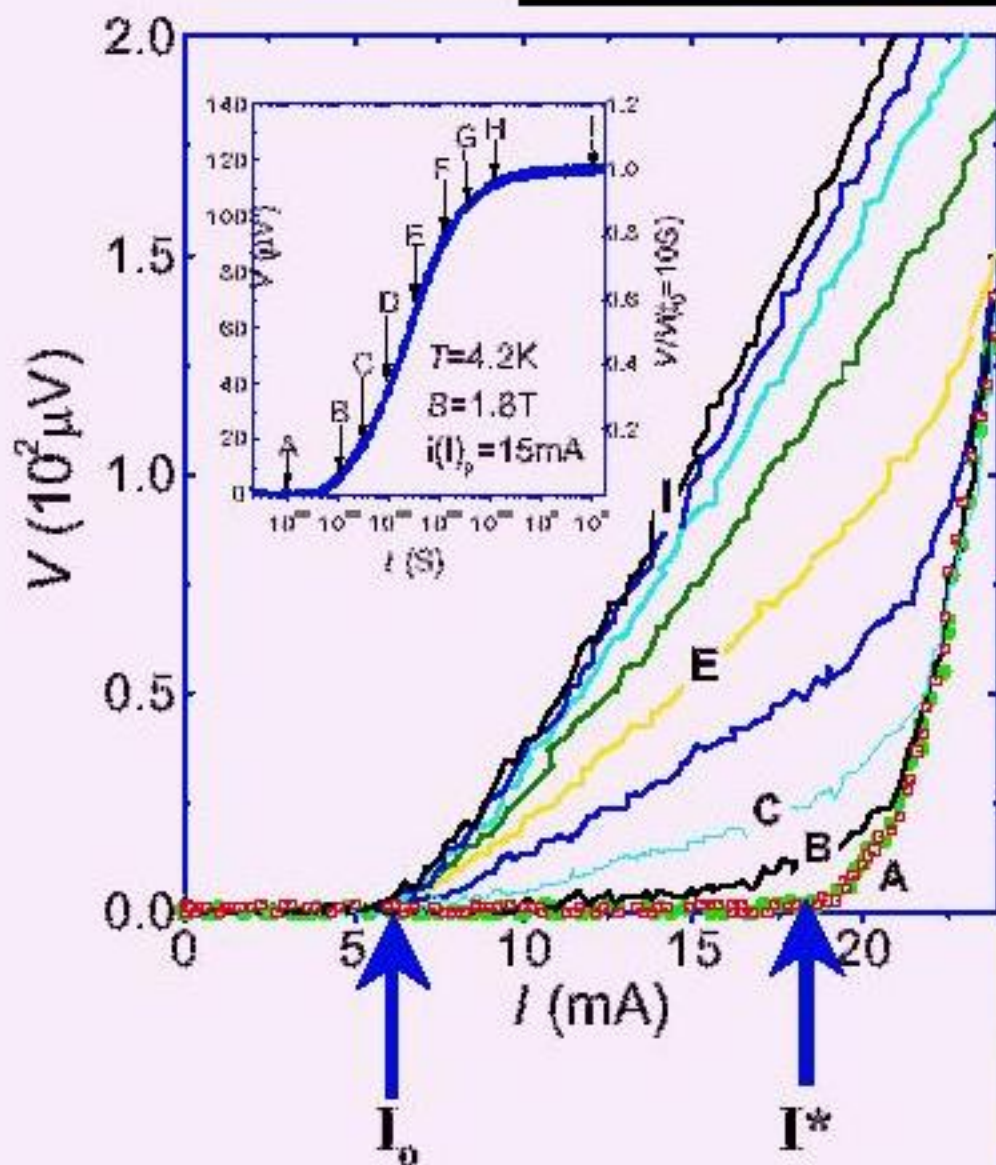
Current removed  $\rightarrow$  no evolution  
 Measure fast I-V to determine vortex state

$t < t_d \rightarrow$  response identical to that of disordered state.  
 $t \gg t_d \rightarrow$  response identical to that of ordered state





## Formation of a channel



**A-**  $t < t_d = 40 \mu\text{s}$   $I_c = I^*$ ,  $I$ - $V$  unchanged  $\rightarrow$  no vortex motion

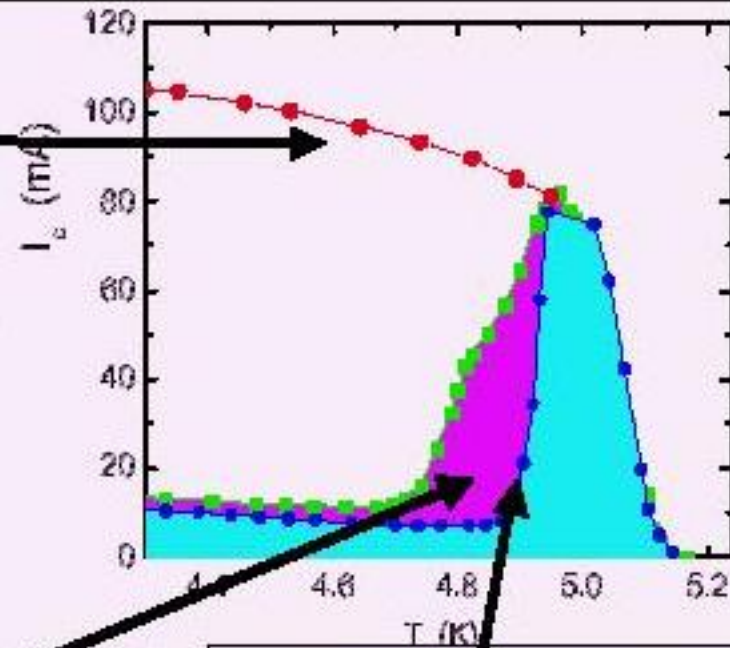
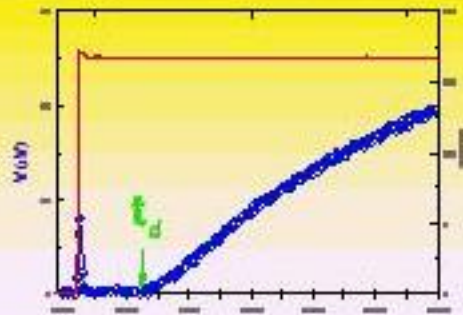
**B-**  $t = 40 \mu\text{s} < t_d < 200 \mu\text{s}$   $I_0 < I_c < I^*$   
 $\rightarrow$  channel of mobile vortices.

**C-**  $t = 200 \mu\text{s}$   $I_c = I_0$  channel of ordered vortices.

**D-I**  $t > 200 \mu\text{s}$   $I_c = I_0$  slope increases  
 $\rightarrow$  ordered channel expands engulfing whole sample

# SUMMARY- DYNAMICS OF VORTICES +RANDOM POTENTIAL+BOUNDARIES

Metastable to stable transition



Dynamics of Mixed State

- Cyclic softening
- Jamming
- Frequency Memory

sharp transition when boundaries removed

