



Flying Balls in Superfluid Helium

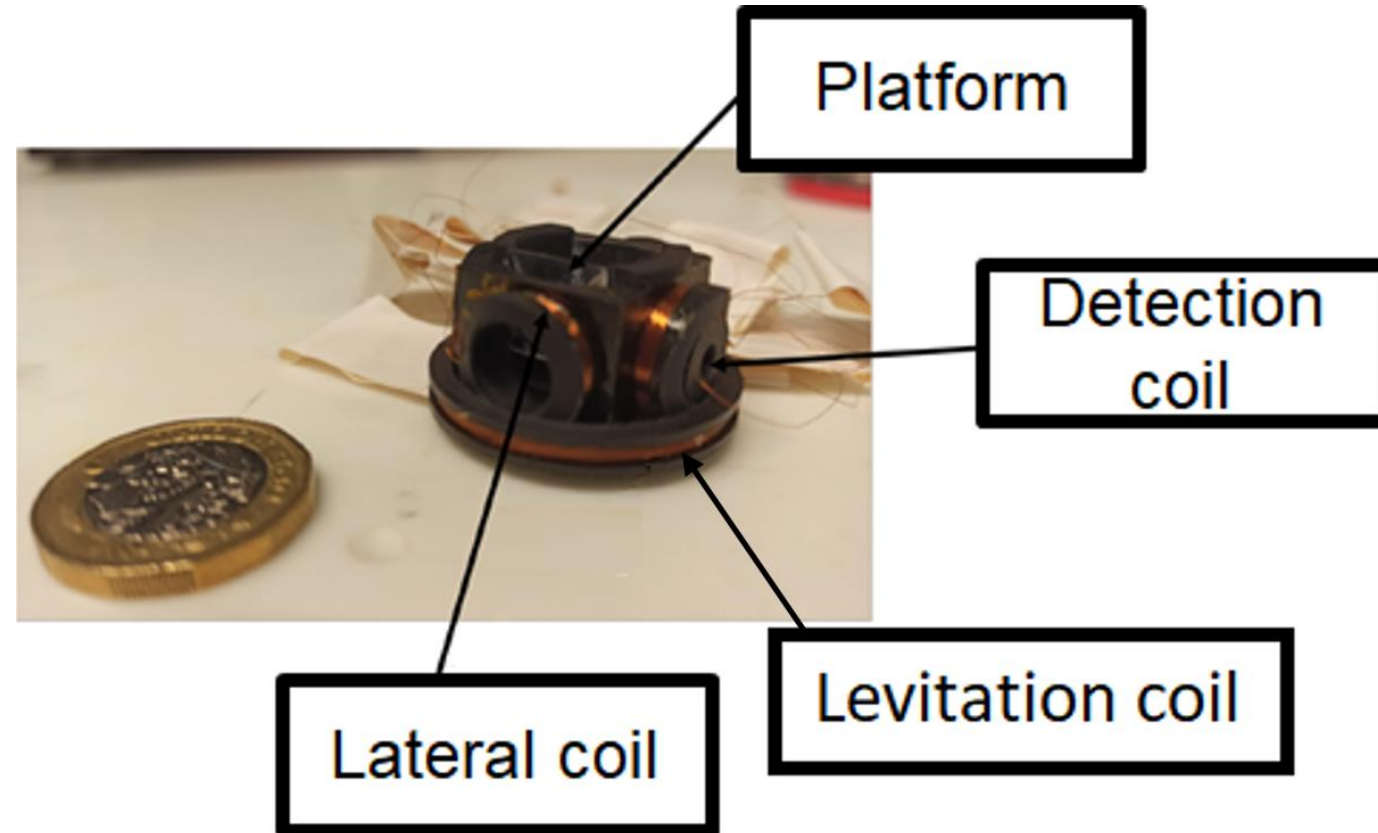
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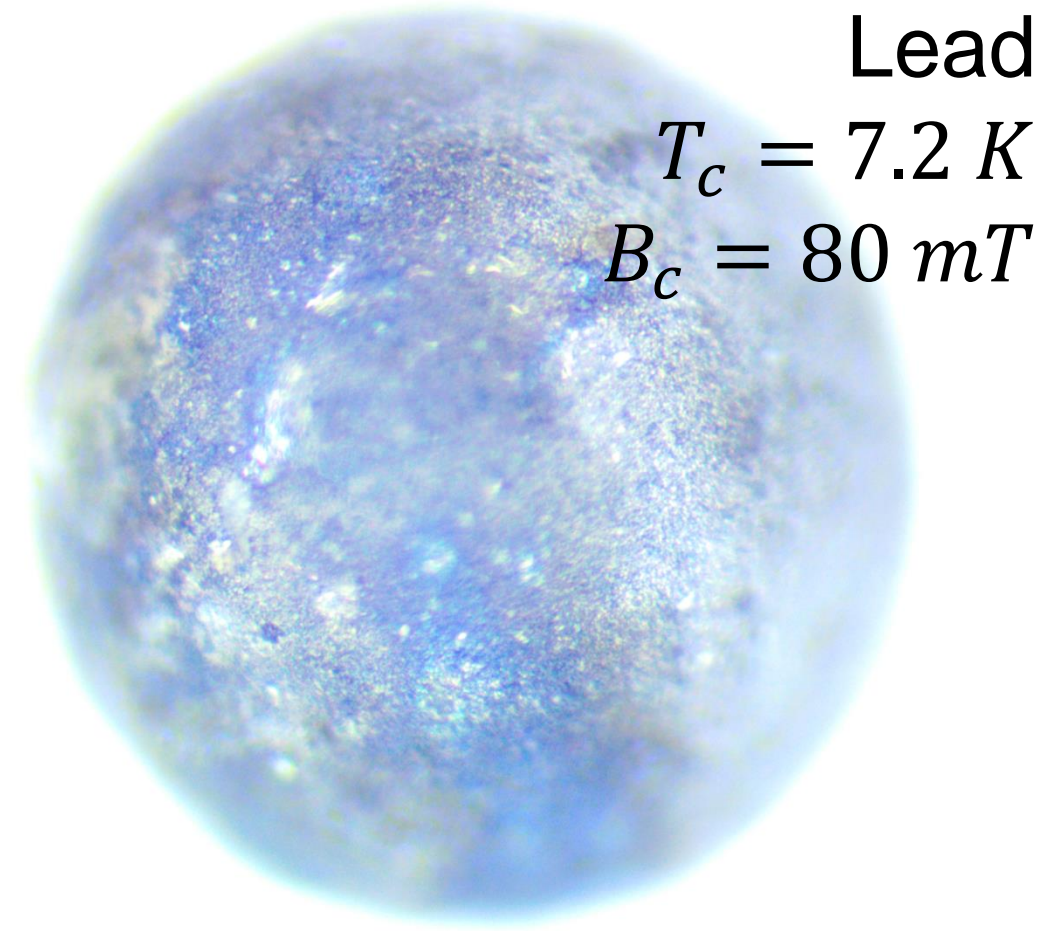
Context

- Oscillating microspheres in helium-II (Schoepe, 1995-present)
- Oscillating Nb spheres in helium-II (Van Sciver, 2009)
- Microspheres levitated in an anharmonic potential (e.g. Wieczorek, 2023)
- Cryogenic wind tunnel (Sreenivasan and Donnelly, 2001)

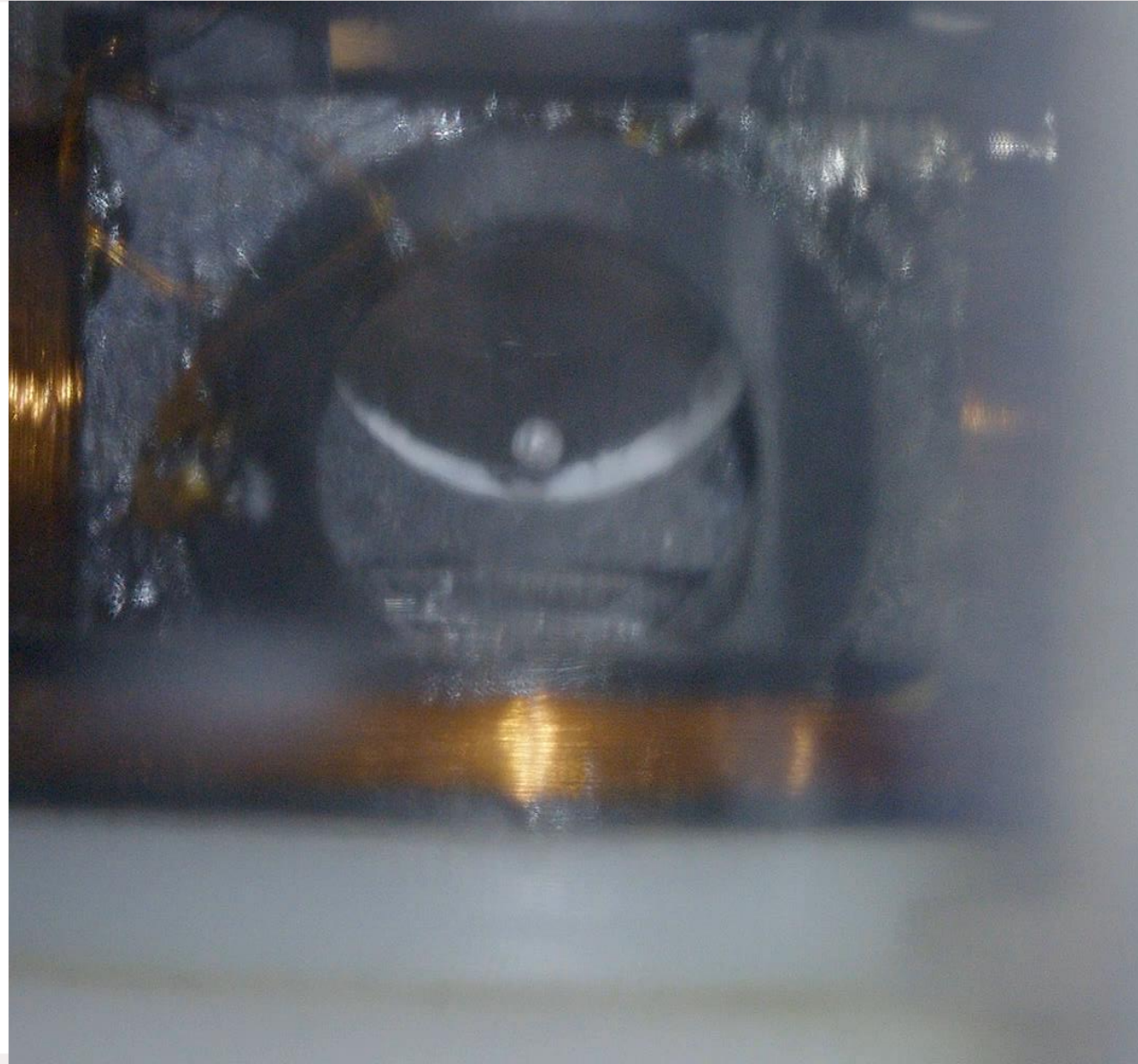




The Flying Balls



Uniform Linear Motion (In)

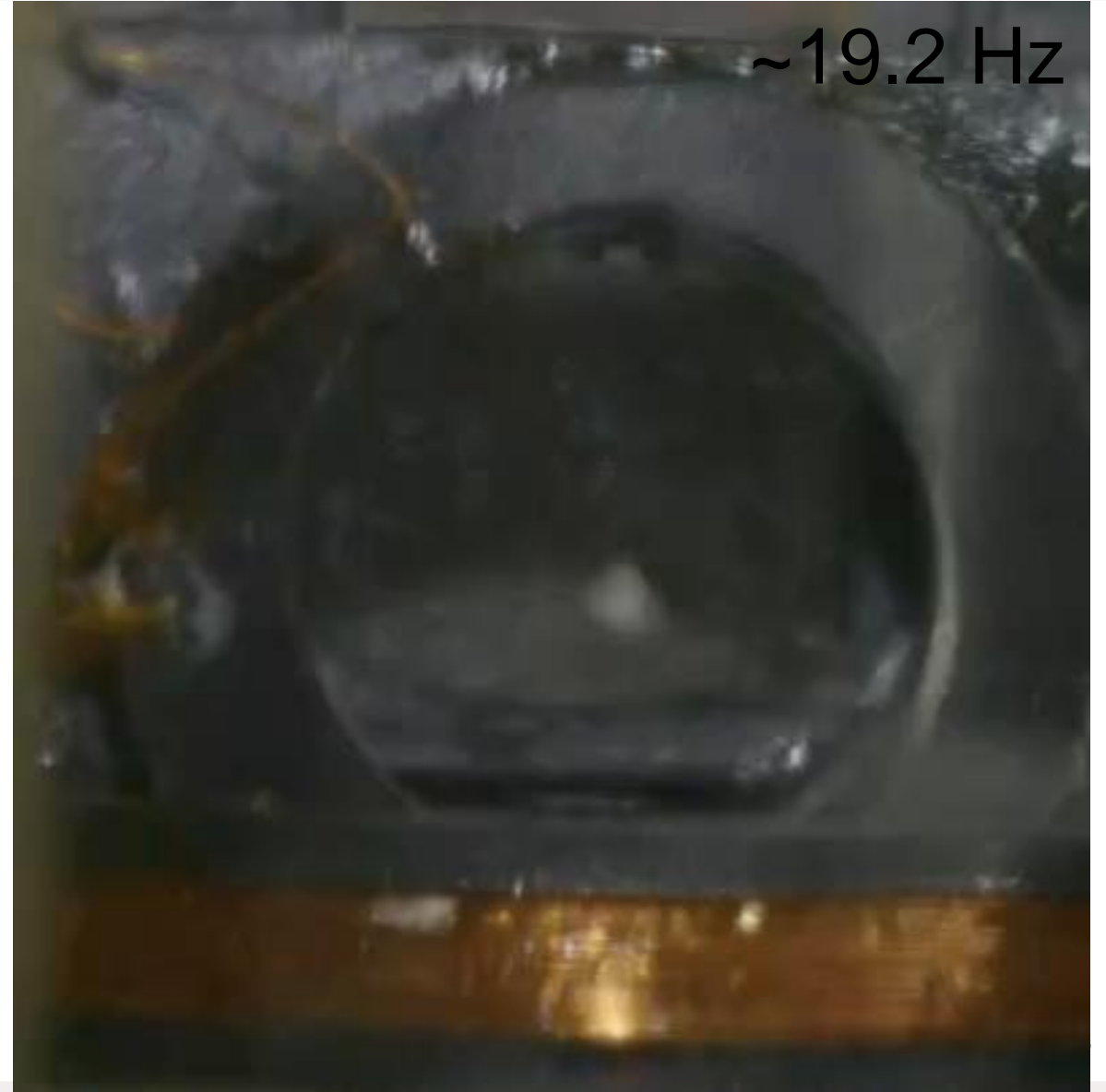


Damped Oscillatory Motion (In)

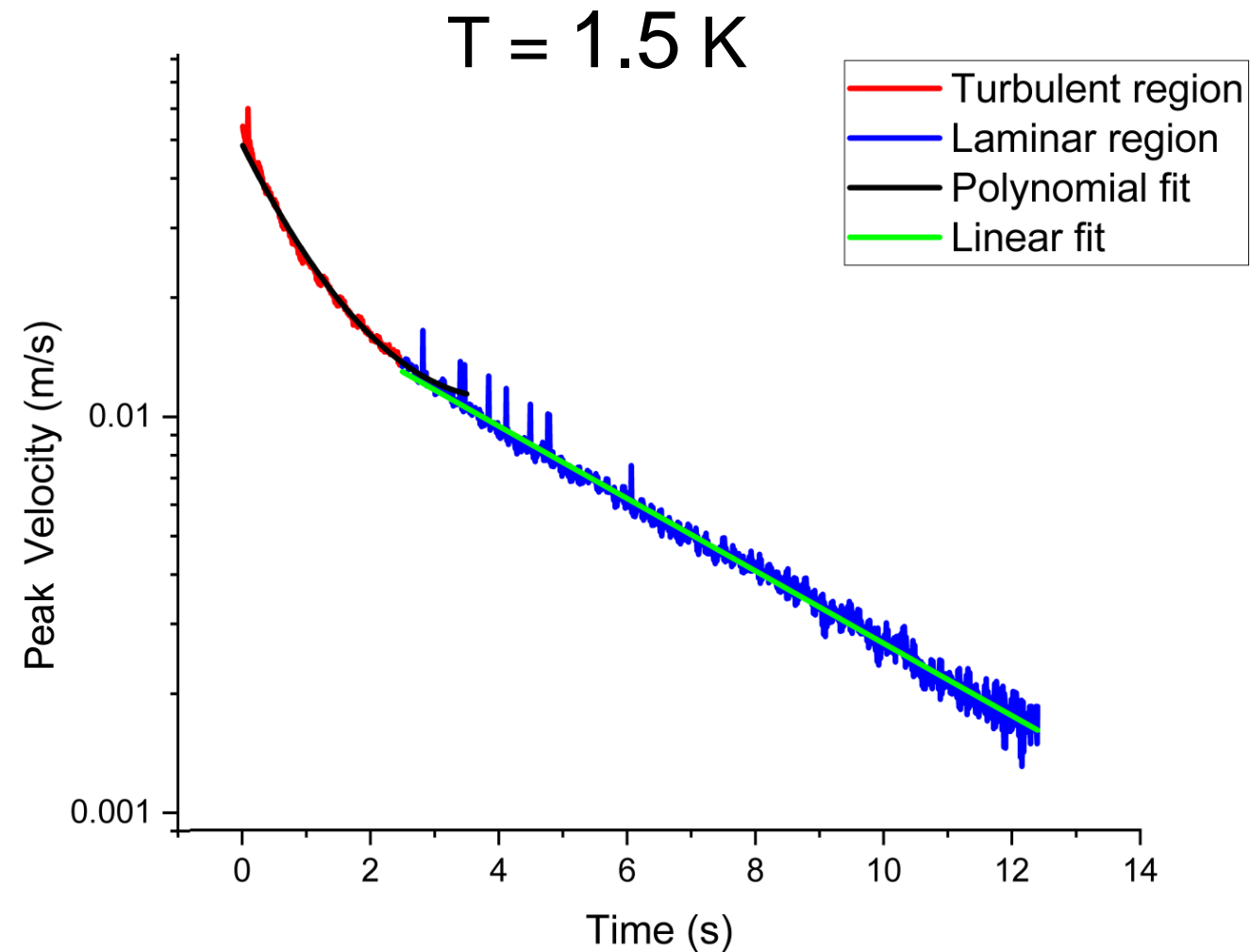
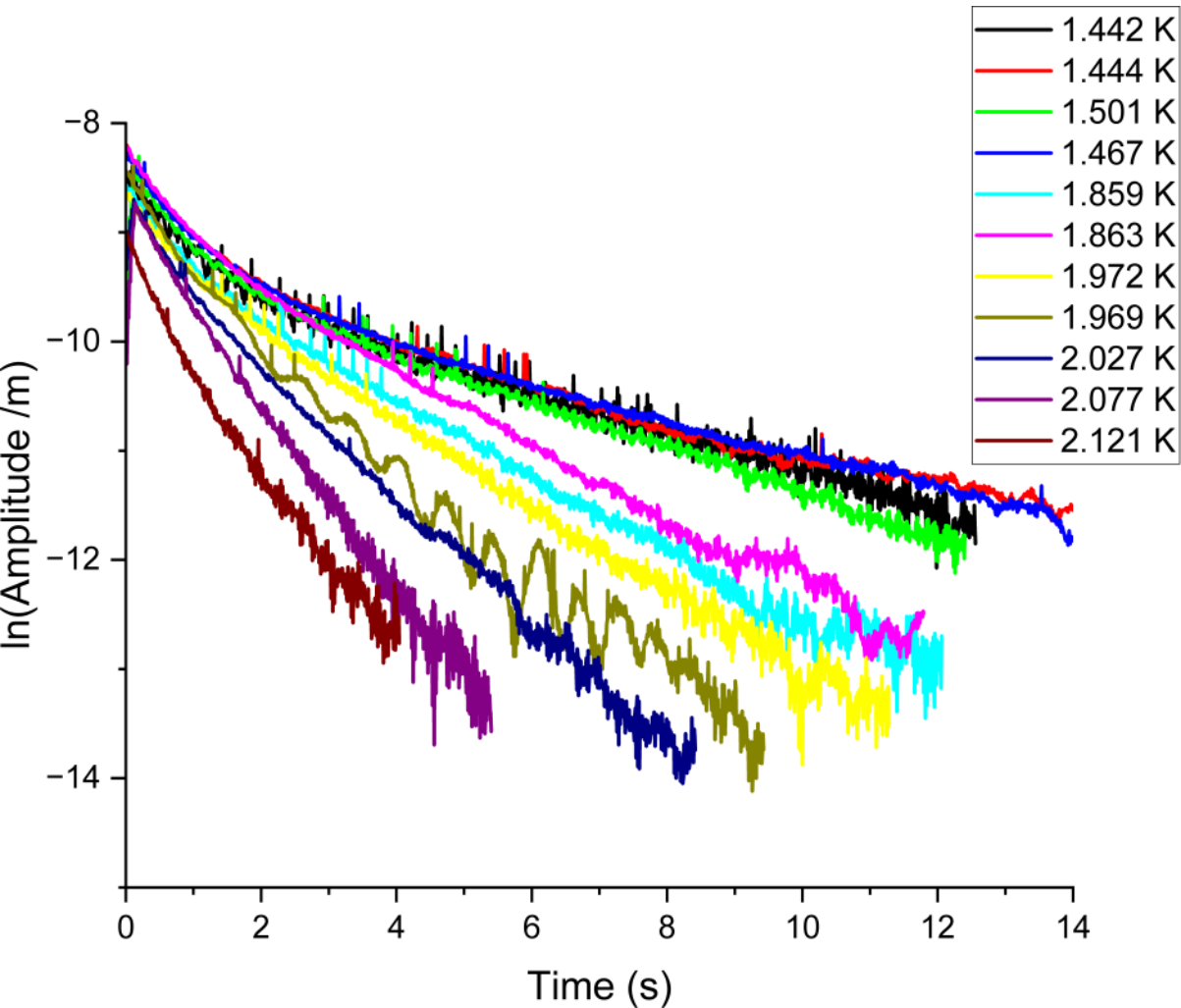
~1.2 Hz



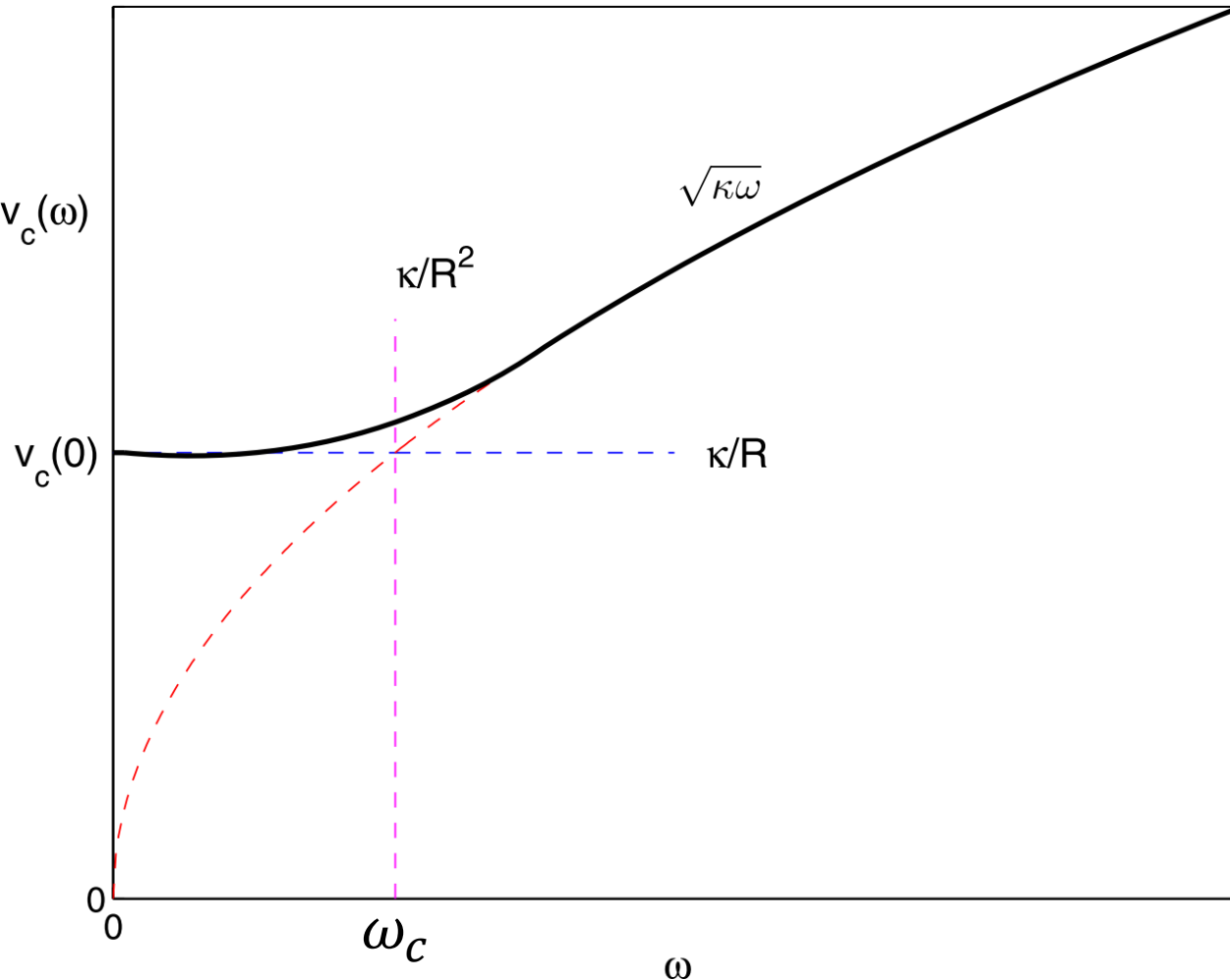
~19.2 Hz



Vertical Oscillations: Results at 20 Hz



Critical Velocity vs Frequency

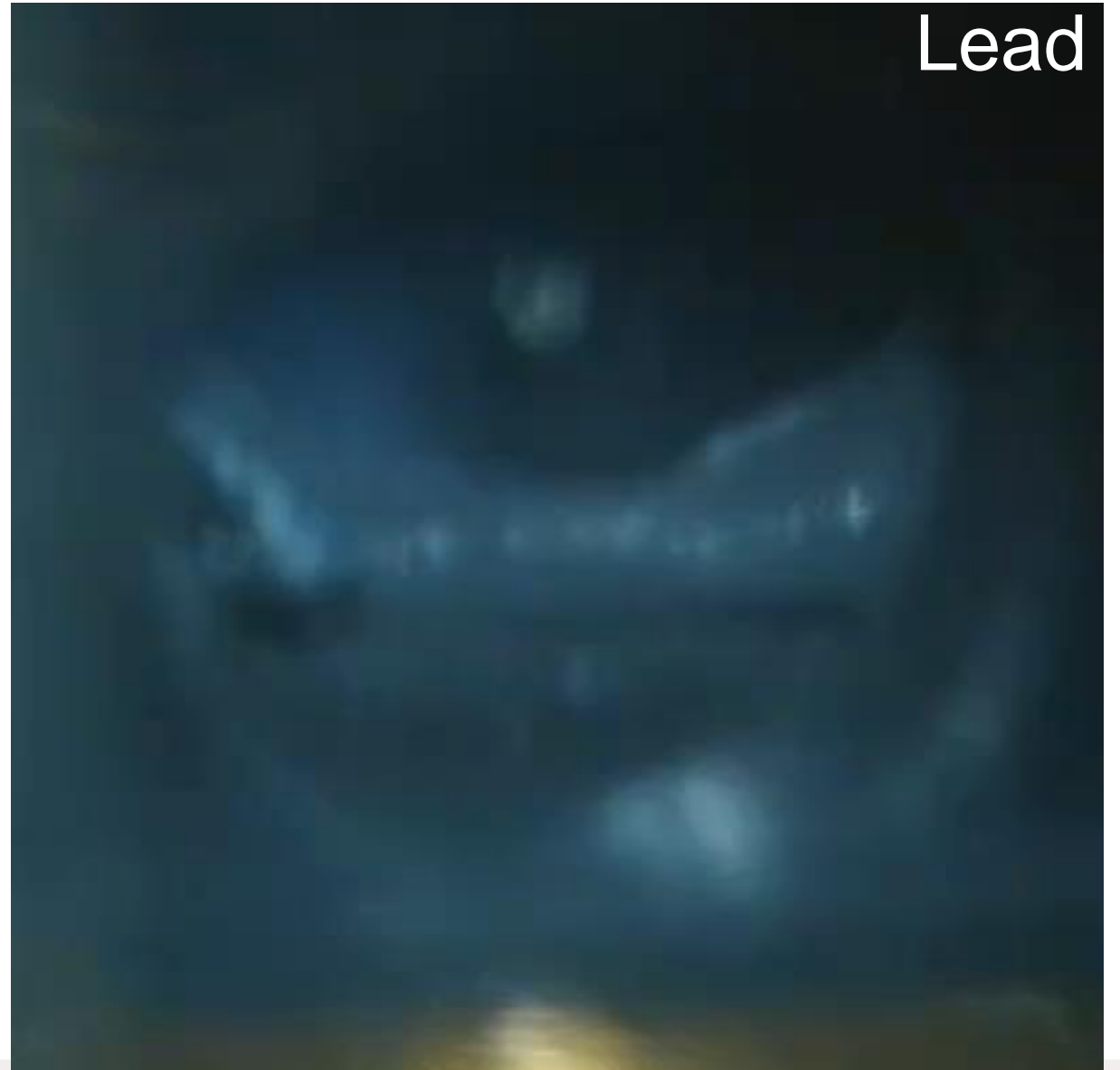


$$v_c(19.2 \text{ Hz}) \approx \sqrt{\frac{8\kappa\omega}{\beta}} = 11 \text{ mm/s}$$

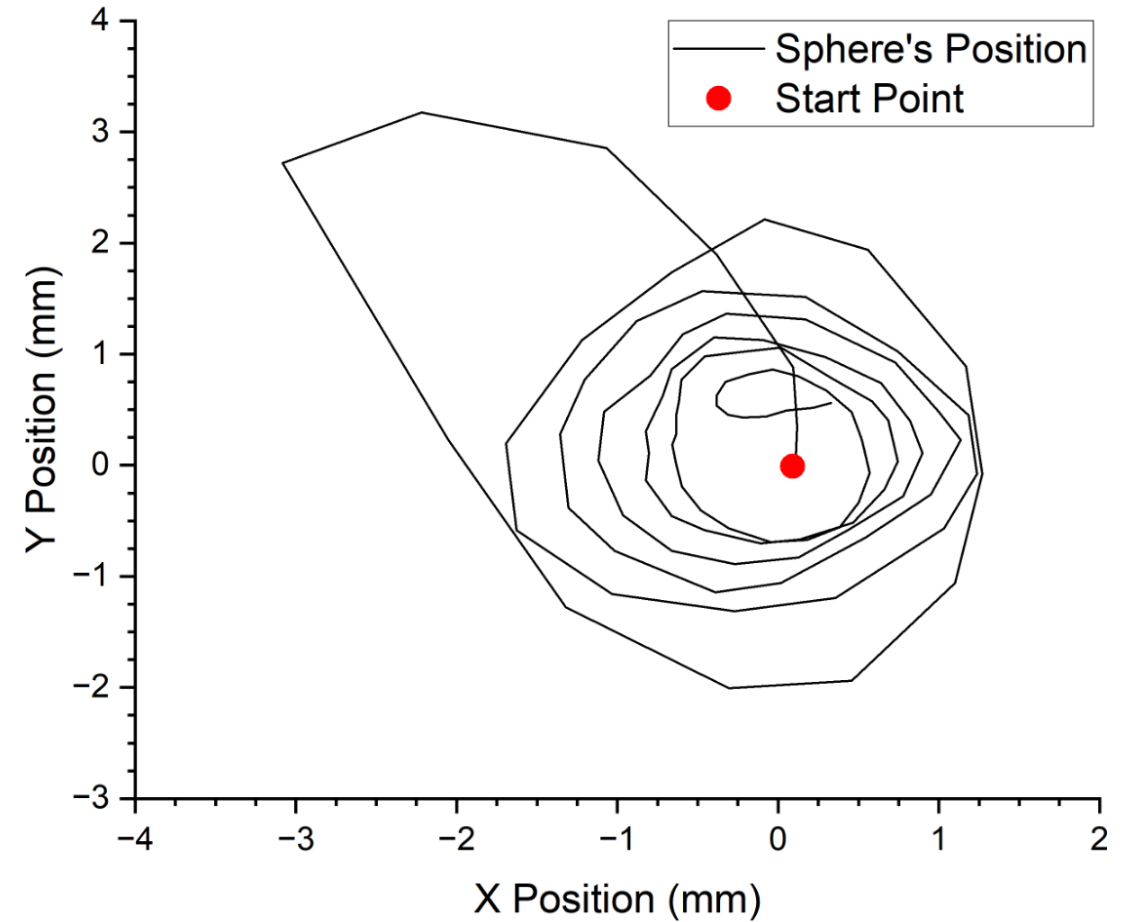
$$\frac{\omega_c}{2\pi} \sim \frac{\kappa}{2\pi R^2} = 16 \text{ mHz}$$

$$v_c(0) \sim \frac{\kappa}{R} = 0.1 \text{ mm/s}$$

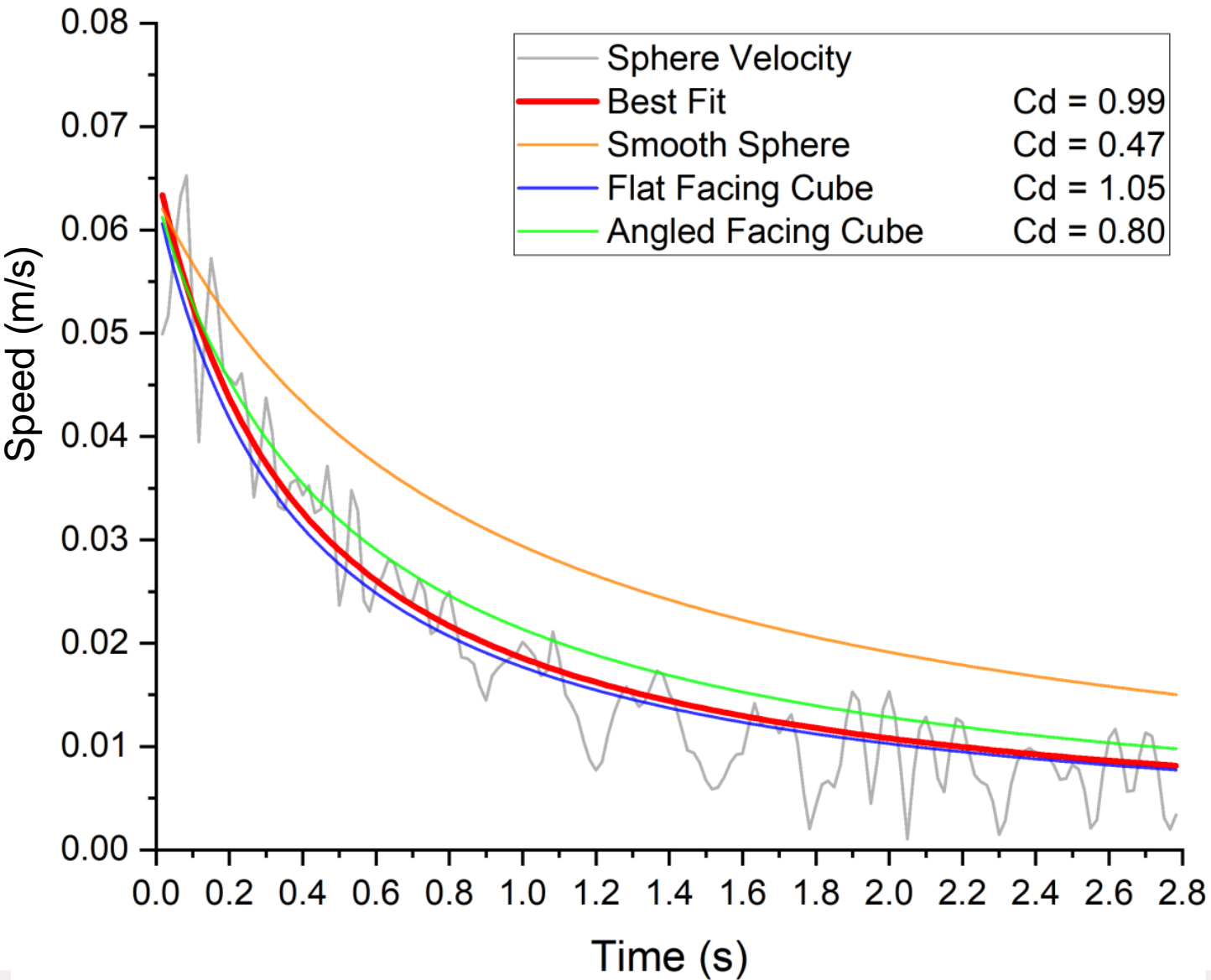
Circular Motion



Circular Motion: Results



Circular Motion: Results at 1.5 K

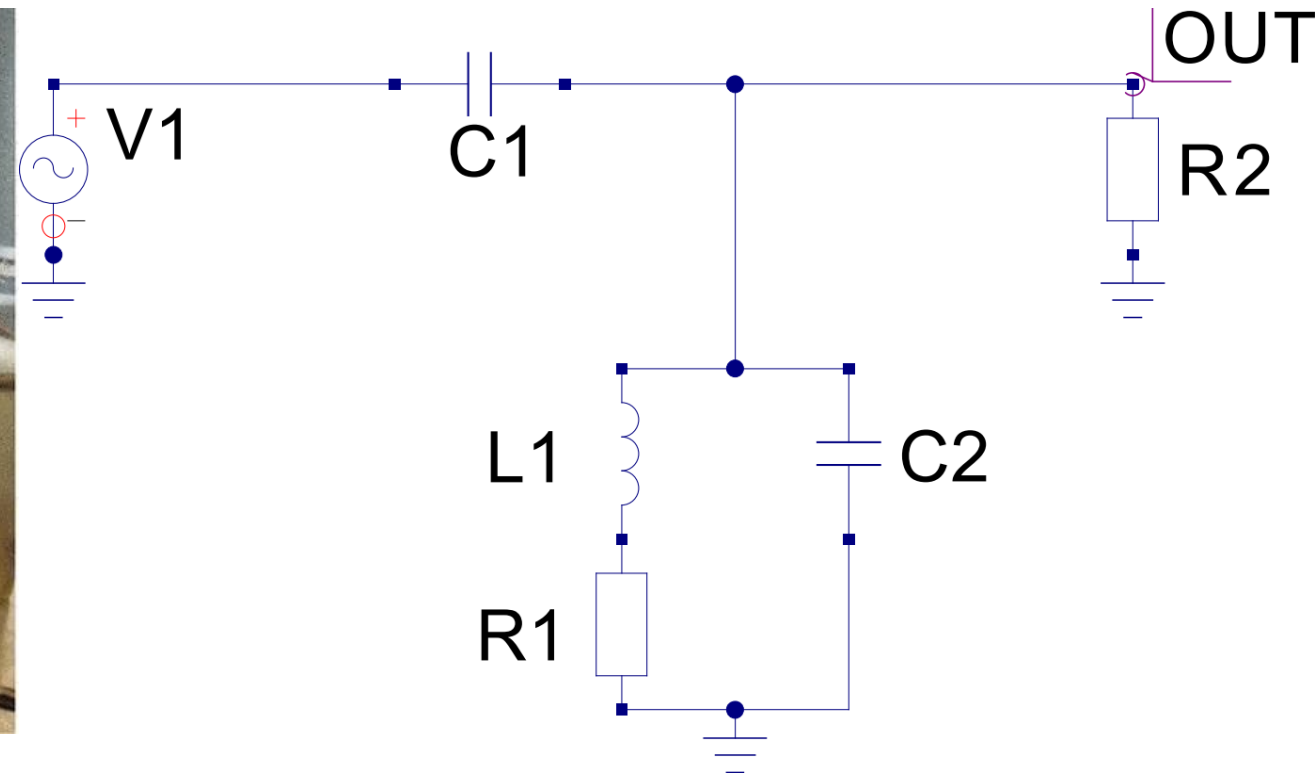
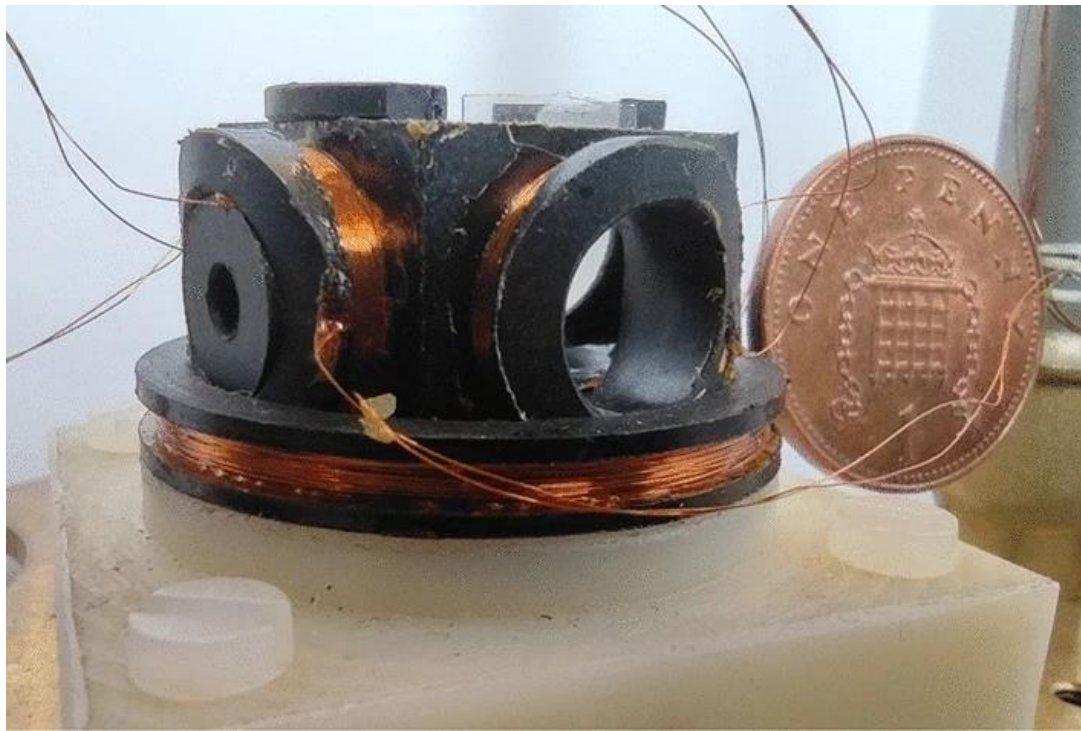


$$m\dot{v} = -\gamma v(t)^2$$

$$\gamma(T) = \frac{C_d \rho_s(T) \pi R^2}{2}$$

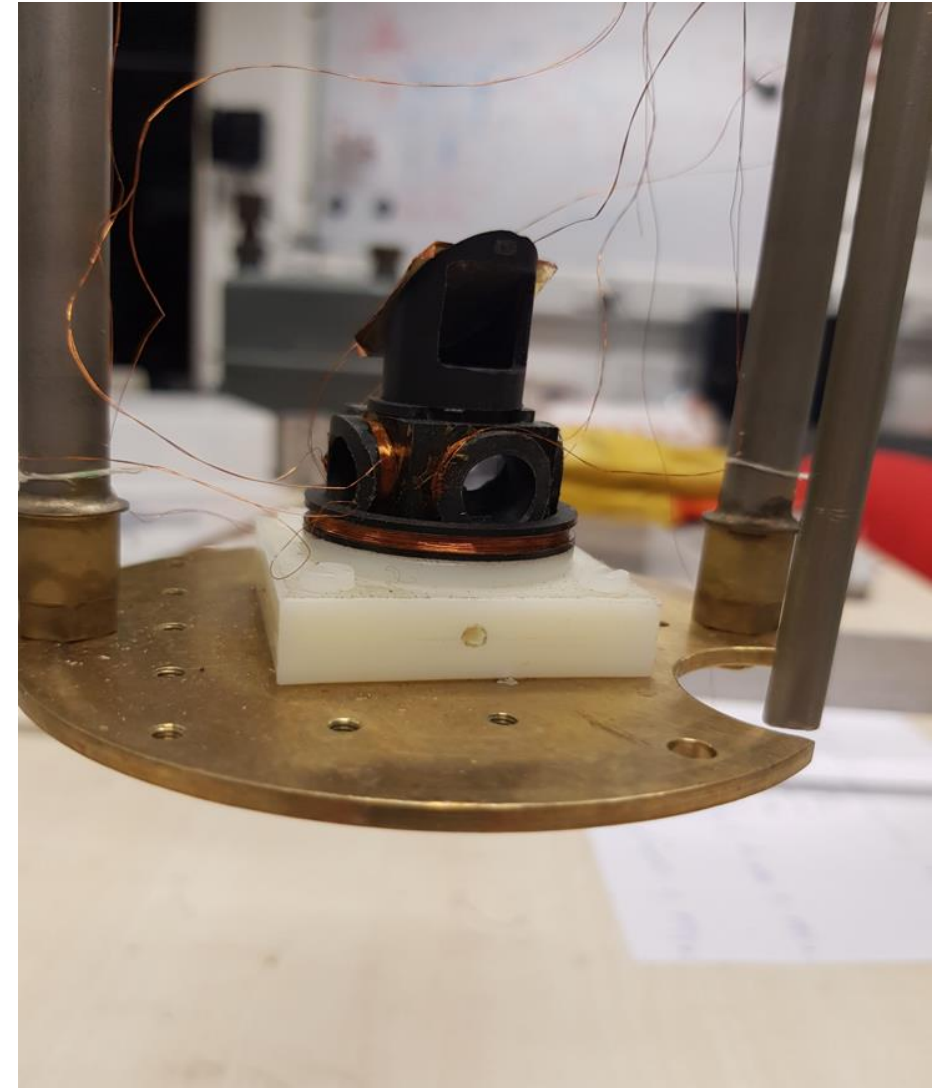
$$v_c(0) \sim \frac{\kappa}{R} = 0.1 \text{ mm/s}$$

LC Detection System



Future Work

- Flying in cryogenic gas
- Aerofoils in superfluid
- Cryogenic wind tunnel
- LC detection system
- Repeat experiments using superfluid ^3He
- Lapping



Acknowledgements

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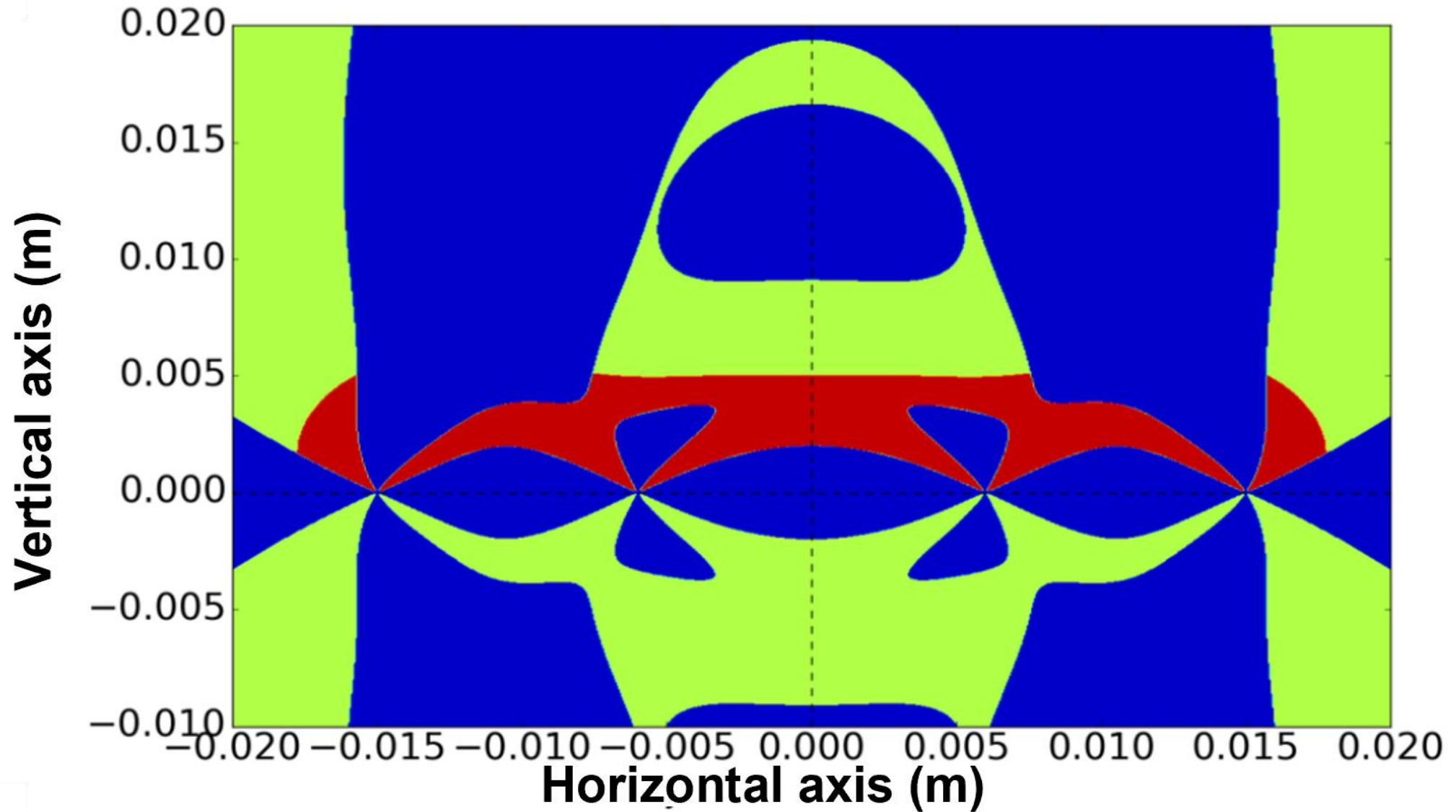
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Appendix I: Stability



Appendix II: Circular Motion Currents

