

# Growth of InSb and InI crystals on Earth and in Microgravity



Aleksandar Ostrogorsky,

Alexei V. Churilov, RMD  
Watertown, MA

Martin P. Volz  
NASA MSFC, Huntsville, AL

V. Riabov, IIT

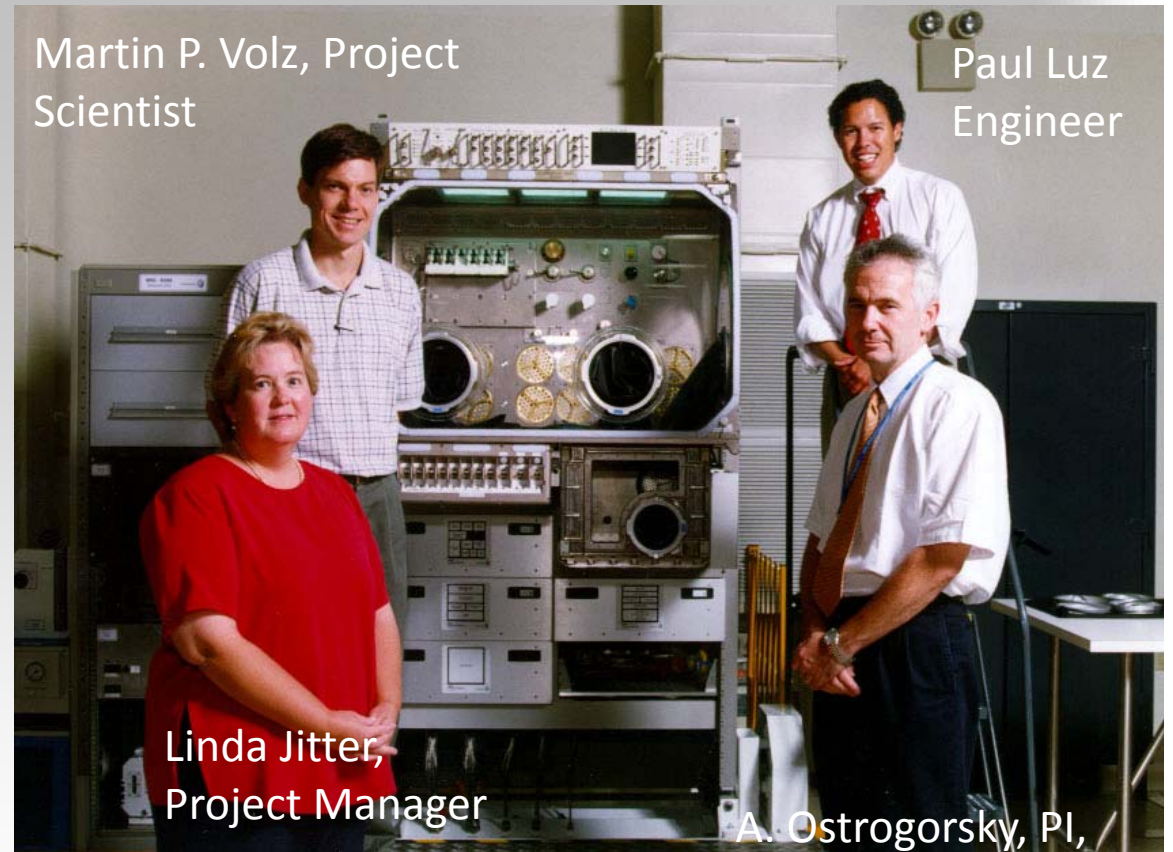
Dr. Lodewijk van den Berg,  
Constellation Technology Largo FL

1. *Te and Zn doped InSb: NASA (1995-2004)*
2. *InI DoE NNSA (2005-2015);  
CASIS/NASA (2015-2017)*



## *SUBSA: Solidification Using a Baffle in Sealed Ampoules*

- *1995-2004*
- SCR 1998
- Design review 2000
- Endeavour, Expedition 5, 2002.
- Seven Te- and Zn-doped InSb crystals were grown.



# SUBSA Design review 6/8/2000

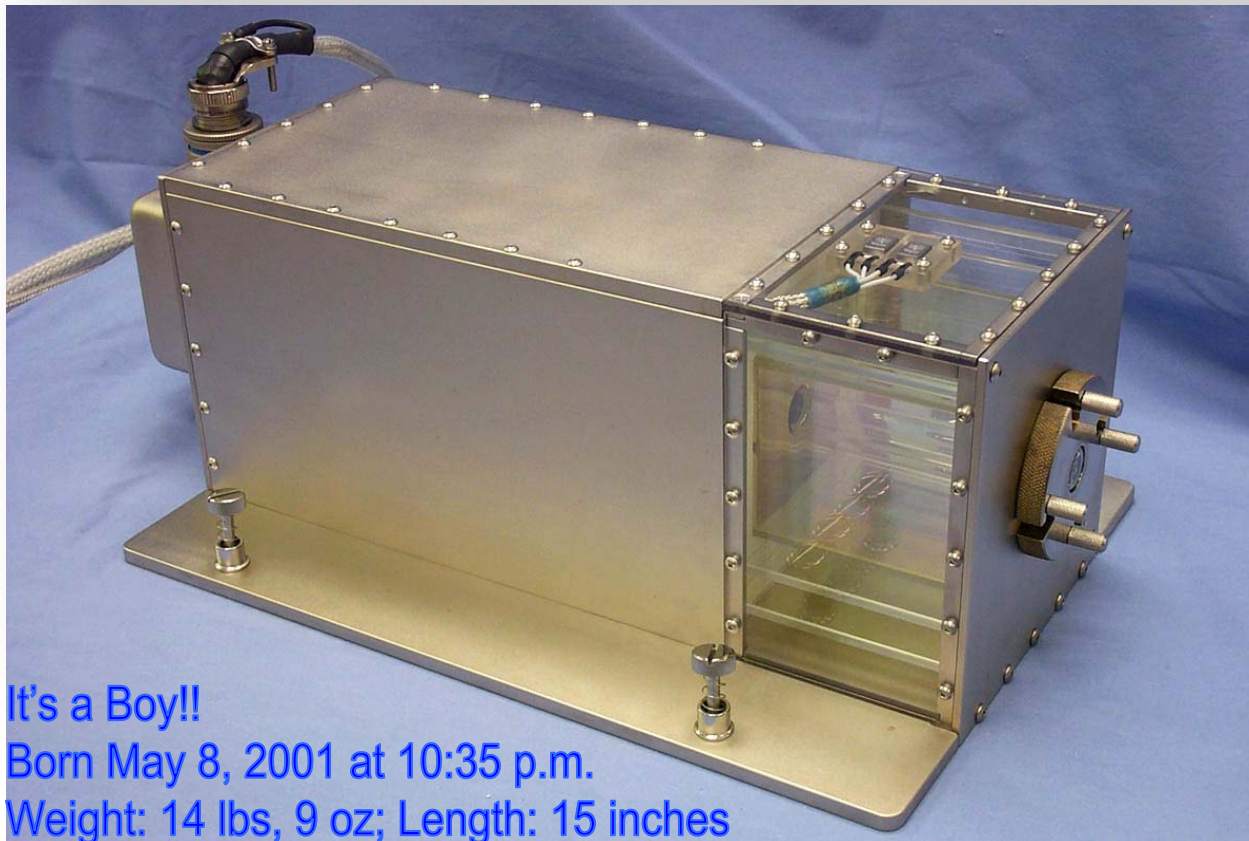


# SUBSA HARDWARE AT AT GLANCE

TecMasters Inc



Cartridge head and 4 TCs



It's a Boy!!  
Born May 8, 2001 at 10:35 p.m.  
Weight: 14 lbs, 9 oz; Length: 15 inches



LabVIEW 6i processes data  
on MSG Laptop Computer



1 DaqPad

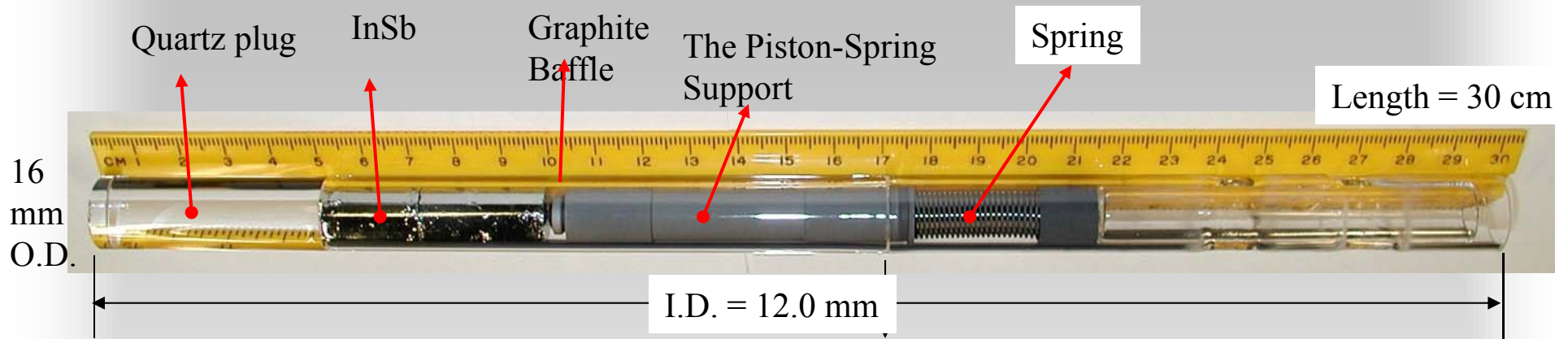


1 Process Control

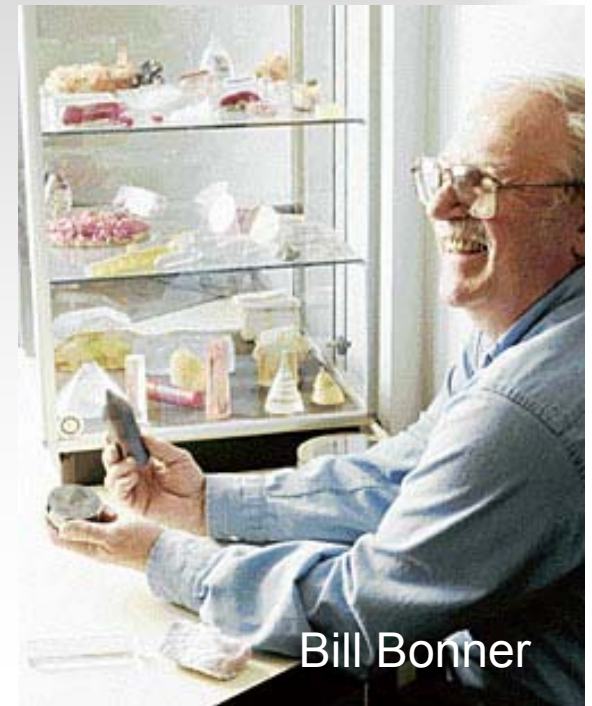


Video  
Camera

# SUBSA AMPOULE ASSEMBLY

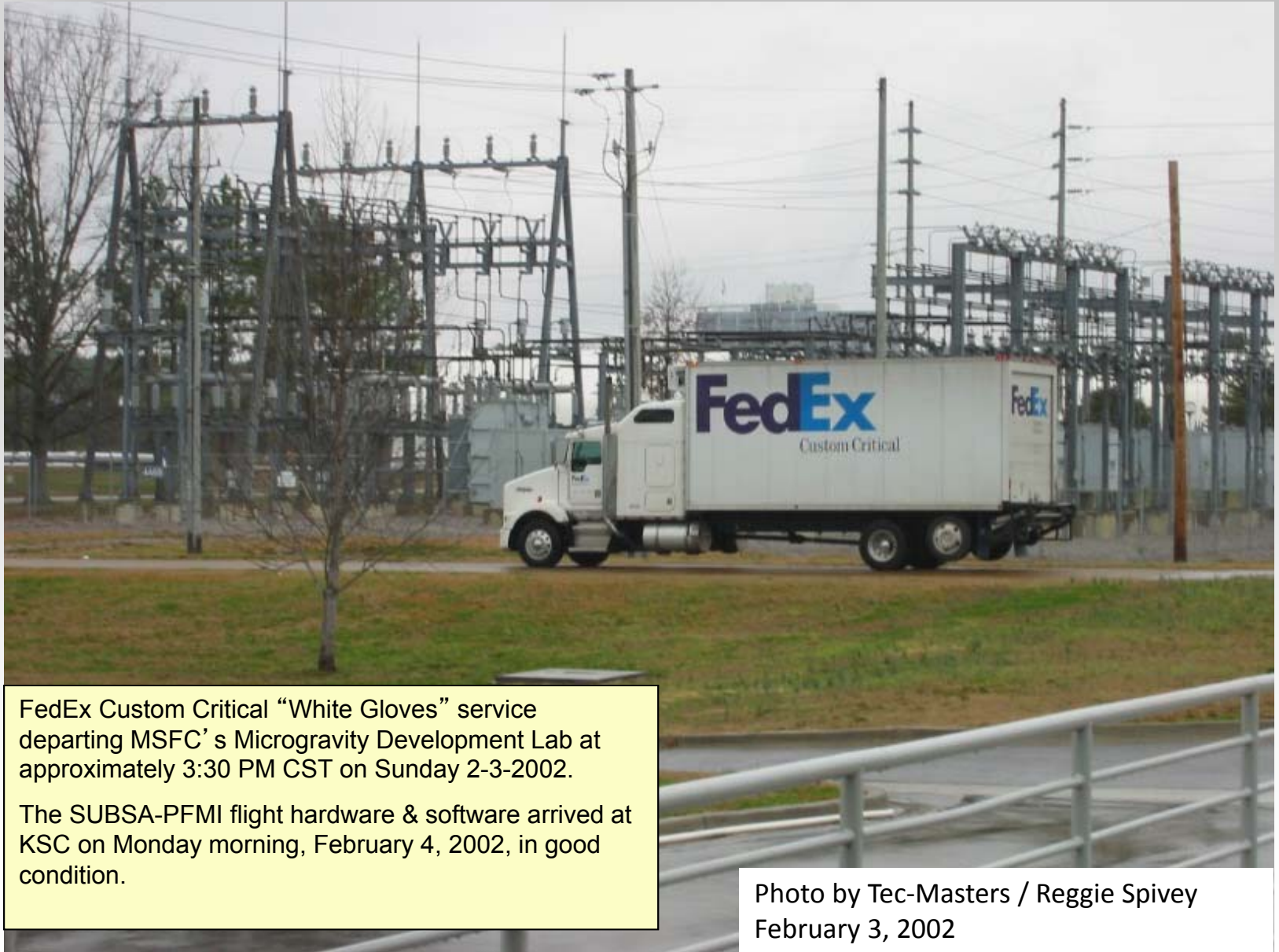


- InSb seed
- 50g InSb, doped with Te or Zn (**MP 512 C**)
- Sealed under vacuum.



Bill Bonner

## SUBSA Status on Sunday 2/3/2002



FedEx Custom Critical “White Gloves” service departing MSFC’s Microgravity Development Lab at approximately 3:30 PM CST on Sunday 2-3-2002.

The SUBSA-PFMI flight hardware & software arrived at KSC on Monday morning, February 4, 2002, in good condition.

Photo by Tec-Masters / Reggie Spivey  
February 3, 2002

# Crew of the Expedition Five



June 5, 2002. Shuttle [Endeavour](#), Flight [UF-2](#) -STS-111



Valery Korzun  
Expedition commander

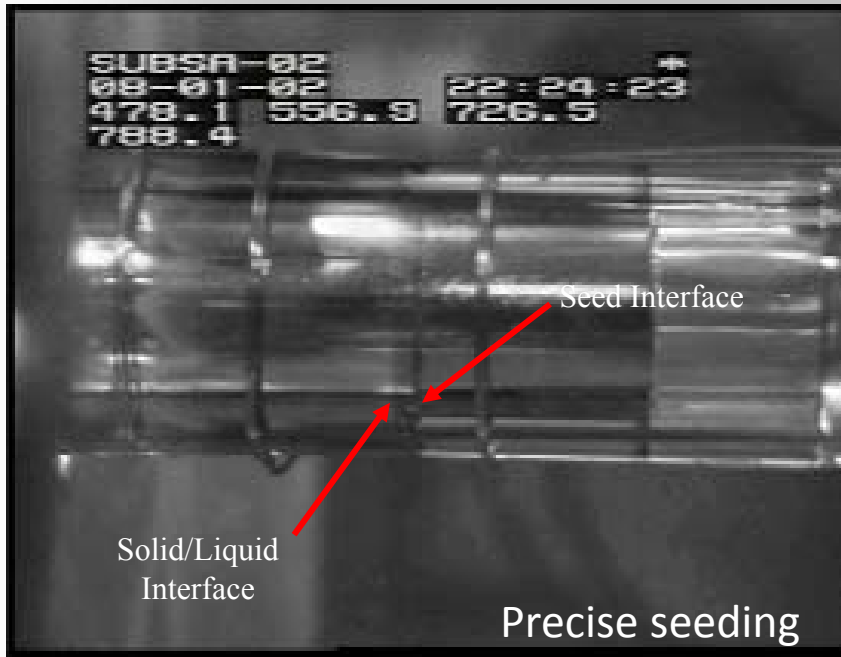


Dr. Peggy Whitson,  
flight engineer, USA,  
**payload specialist**



Sergei Treschev  
flight engineer

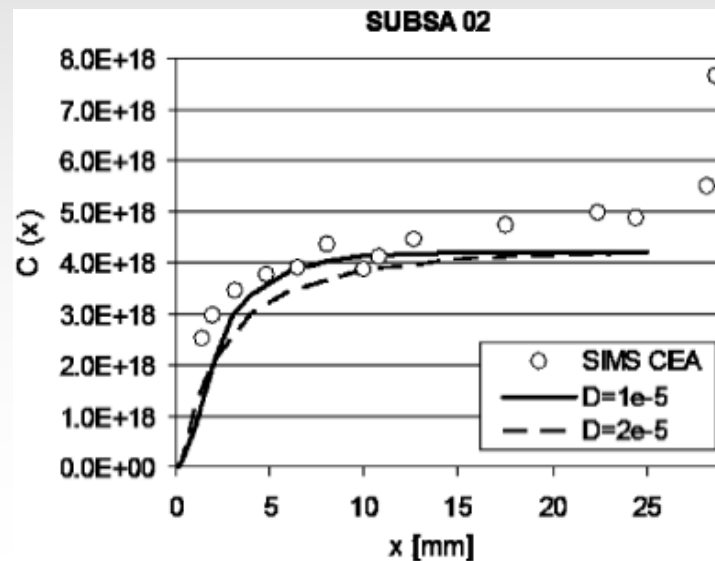
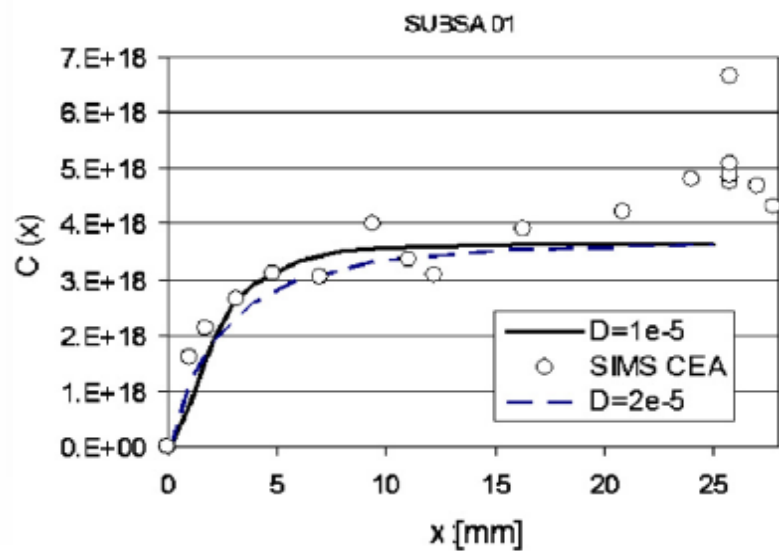
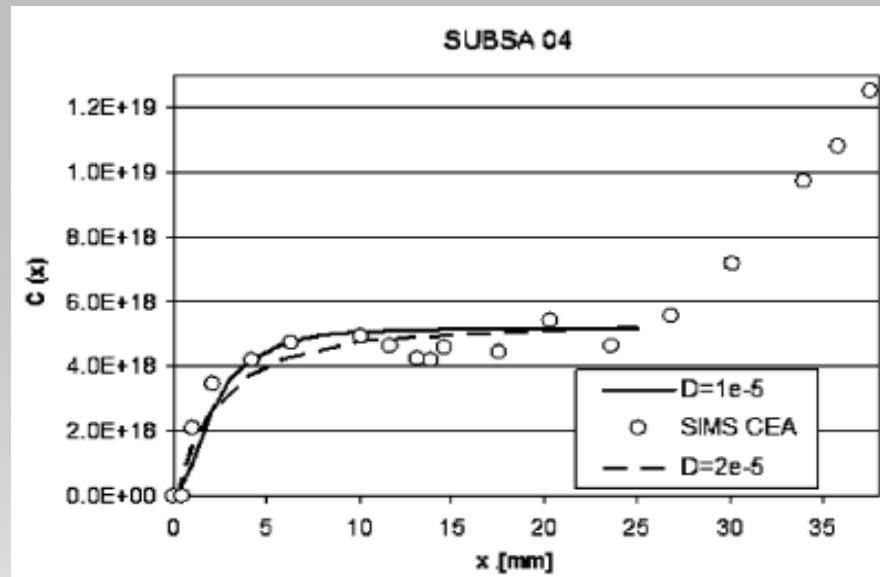
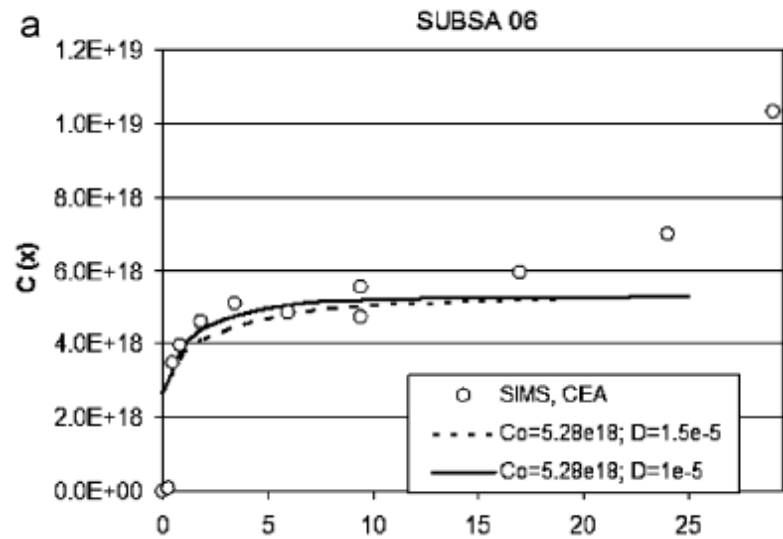
# CONTROL OF seeding and growth





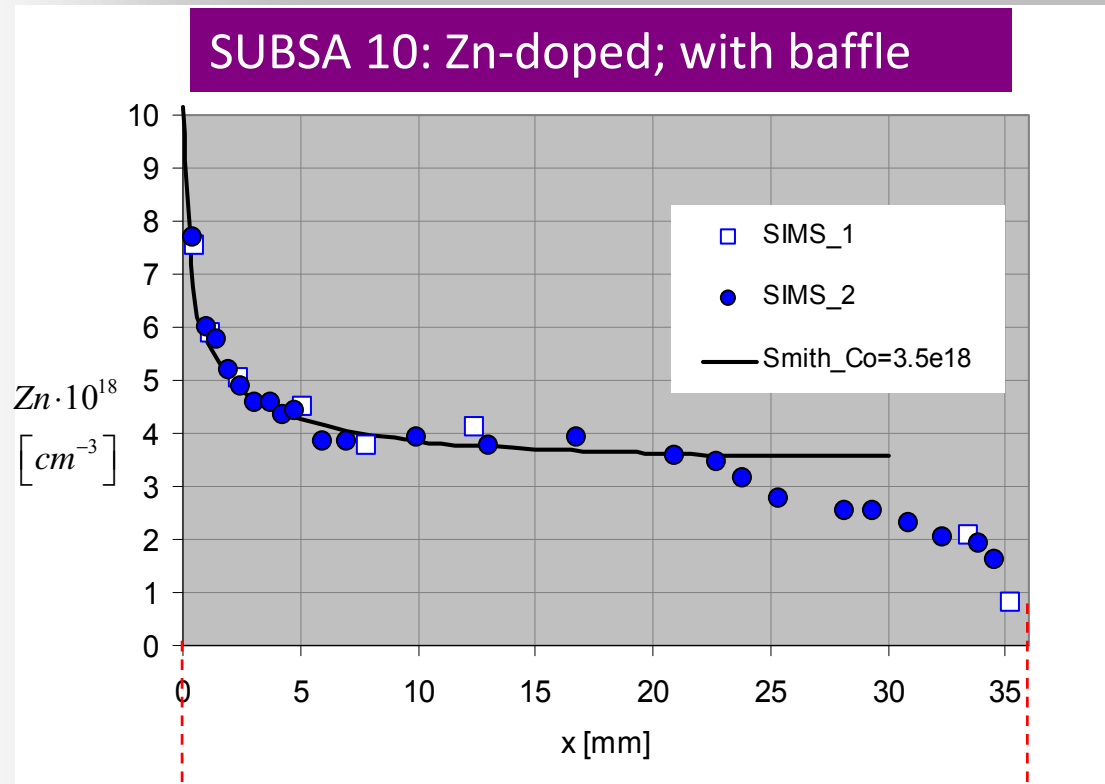
# Results SUBSA: Te-doped InSb

$k_0 = 0.5 < 1$



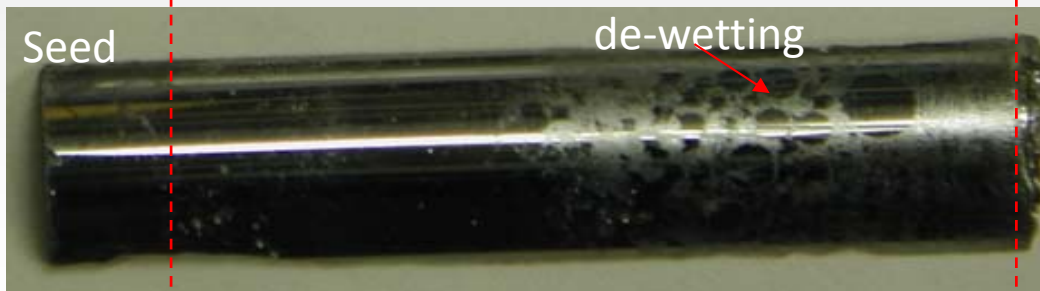
$D = 1 \cdot 10^{-5}$   
 $\left[ \frac{cm^2}{s} \right]$

# Results SUBSA #10: Zn-doped InSb



Zn-doped =>  $k_0=2.9 > 1$  !!

$k_0 > 1$  is proffered for growth in microgravity.



$D = 1.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s}$

# Results – $k_{\text{eff}}$ model

All previous equations are based on  $\delta$ :

1. BPS (1953) **FC only**.
2. Wilson (1978)-Garandet (2008) **FC only**.
3. Ostrogorsky-Muller, (OM, 1992, lateral convection, **NC**)
4. Yen and Tiller (1992, lateral convection considered).

...

$$\frac{C_S}{C_L} = k_{\text{eff}}(\delta)$$

$$\delta = 1.6 D^{1/3} \nu^{1/6} \omega^{-1/2}$$

- *Laminar steady flow driven by a rotating disk*
- *$g$ -driven flow ignored.*

Equation based on empirical correlations for Nusselt (or *Sherwood*) Numbers (Ostrogorsky, 2012)

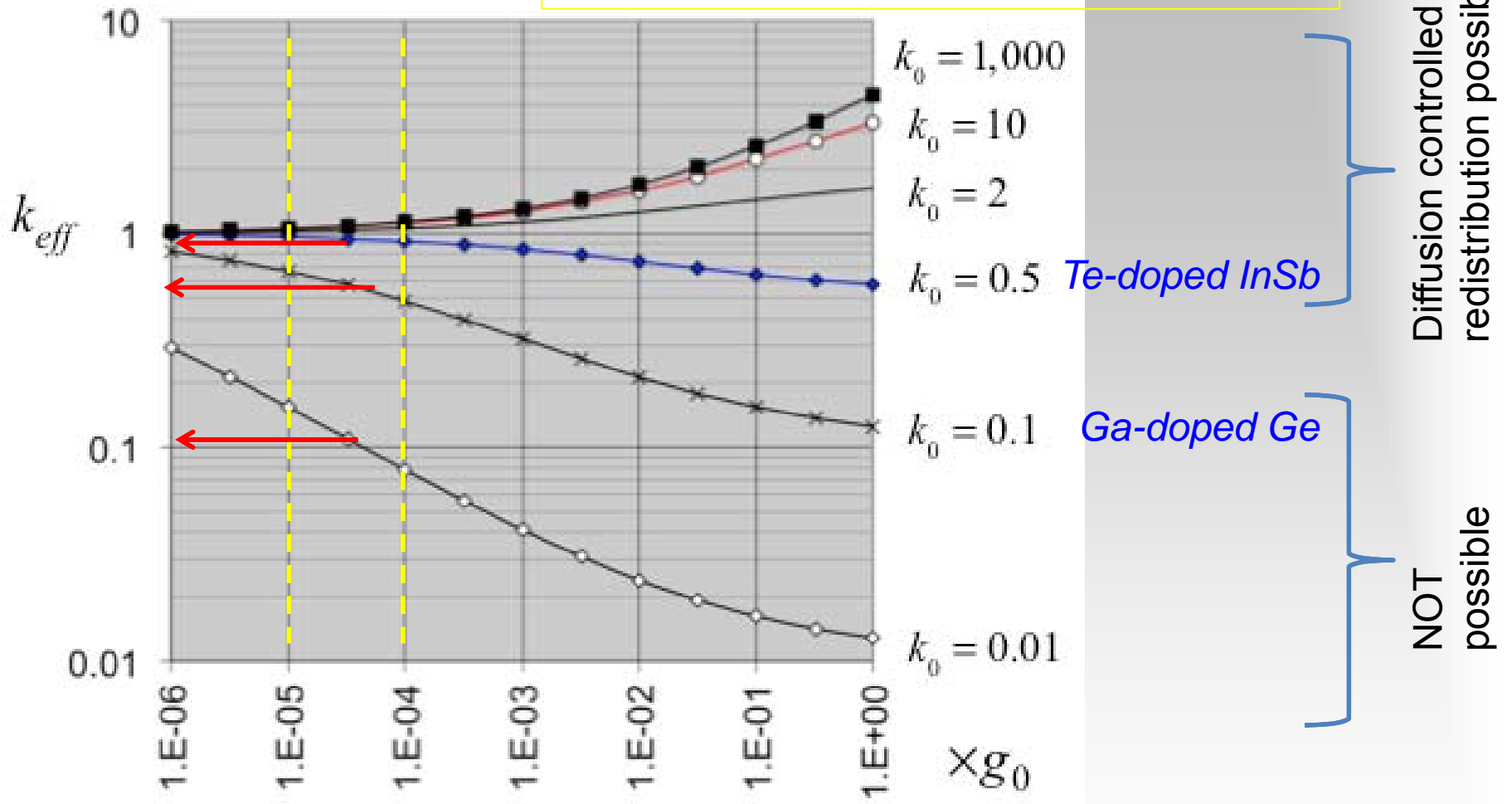
$$\frac{C_S}{C_L} = k_{\text{eff}}(k_0, Nu, Pe)$$

$$Nu \equiv \frac{h \cdot L}{D} = F(Gr, Pr, Sc)$$

$$Gr = \frac{g \beta \Delta T L^3}{\nu^2} = \frac{F_{\text{buoyancy}}}{F_{\text{viscous}}}$$

# $k_{eff}$ as a function of $k_0$ and $g$ -level

Ostrogorsky and Glicksman, Handbook of Crystal Growth (2014)



- Diffusion-controlled melt growth on orbital platforms is practical only with systems  $0.5 \leq k_0 \leq \infty$
- Not recognized in the 1970s and 1980s; attempts were made to grow Sb-doped Ge ( $k_0 = 0.003$ ) and Sn-doped InSb ( $k_0 = 0.057$ )



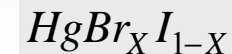
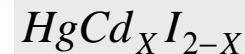
## HgI<sub>2</sub> (soft and grown from vapor phase)

- At in the vicinity of 130 ° C, tetragonal red  $\alpha$ -HgI<sub>2</sub> crystals undergo a destructive phase transition to an orthorhombic yellow  $\beta$ -HgI<sub>2</sub> phase

Material	CdTe	ZnTe	Cd <sub>0.9</sub> Zn <sub>0.1</sub> Te	HgI <sub>2</sub>	CdI <sub>2</sub>	HgBr <sub>2</sub>	InI
Av. Atomic Z <sub>eff</sub>	50.16	46.21	49.1	59.9	51.3	50	51
$\rho$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	5.85	6.34	5.78	6.4	5.640	6.05	5.31
Eg. (eV)	1.56	2.25	1.549	2.41	3.5	3.6	2.0
$\rho$ [ $\Omega$ cm]	$\sim 10^9$		$3 \times 10^9$	$10^{13}$			$\sim 10^{11}$



GOALS: Investigate the potential of high-Z number binary and ternary iodides that have not received sufficient attention.



# REQUIREMENTS FOR RT DETECTORS

Room Temperature (RT) operation requirements

energy gap:  $1.5 \text{ eV} < E_g < 2.5 \text{ eV}$

$Z > 50$

		II		III		IV		V		VI							
		Group 11		Group 12		Group 13		Group 14		Group 15		Group 16		Group 17		Helium	
						5 <b>B</b> Boron 10.811		6 <b>C</b> Carbon 12.0107		7 <b>N</b> Nitrogen 14.0067		8 <b>O</b> Oxygen 15.9994		9 <b>F</b> Fluorine 18.998 4032		10 <b>Ne</b> Neon 20.1797	
						13 <b>Al</b> Aluminum 26.981 5386		14 <b>Si</b> Silicon 28.0855		15 <b>P</b> Phosphorus 30.973 762		16 <b>S</b> Sulfur 32.065		17 <b>Cl</b> Chlorine 35.453		18 <b>Ar</b> Argon 39.948	
29 <b>Cu</b> Copper 63.546		30 <b>Zn</b> Zinc 65.409		31 <b>Ga</b> Gallium 69.723		32 <b>Ge</b> Germanium 72.64		33 <b>As</b> Arsenic 74.921 60		34 <b>Se</b> Selenium 78.96		35 <b>Br</b> Bromine 79.904		36 <b>Kr</b> Krypton 83.798			
47 <b>Ag</b> Silver 107.8682		48 <b>Cd</b> Cadmium 112.411		49 <b>In</b> Indium 114.818		50 <b>Sn</b> Tin 118.710		51 <b>Sb</b> Antimony 121.760		52 <b>Te</b> Tellurium 127.60		53 <b>I</b> Iodine 126.904 47		54 <b>Xe</b> Xenon 131.293			
79 <b>Au</b> Gold 196.966 569		80 <b>Hg</b> Mercury 200.59		81 <b>Tl</b> Thallium 204.3833		82 <b>Pb</b> Lead 207.2		83 <b>Bi</b> Bismuth 208.980 40		84 <b>Po</b> Polonium (209)		85 <b>At</b> Astatine (210)		86 <b>Rn</b> Radon (222)			
111 <b>Rg</b> Roentgenium (272)		112 <b>Uub*</b> Ununbium (285)				114 <b>Uuq*</b> Ununquadium (289)				116 <b>Uuh*</b> Ununhexium (292)							

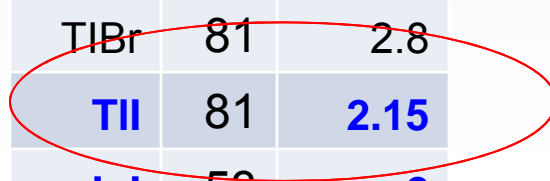
	Z	$E_g$ [eV]
Si	14	1.12
Ge	32	0.7
GaAs	33	1.43
InP	49	1.35
AlSb	51	1.6
CdTe	52	1.49
ZnTe	52	2.25
Hgl <sub>2</sub>	80	2.13
HgBr <sub>2</sub>	80	3.6
Pbl <sub>2</sub>	82	2.55
Bil <sub>3</sub>	83	1.75
TlBr	81	2.8
TlI	81	2.15
InI	53	2

III-V compounds

Cd<sub>0.8</sub>Zn<sub>0.2</sub>Te  
"CZT"

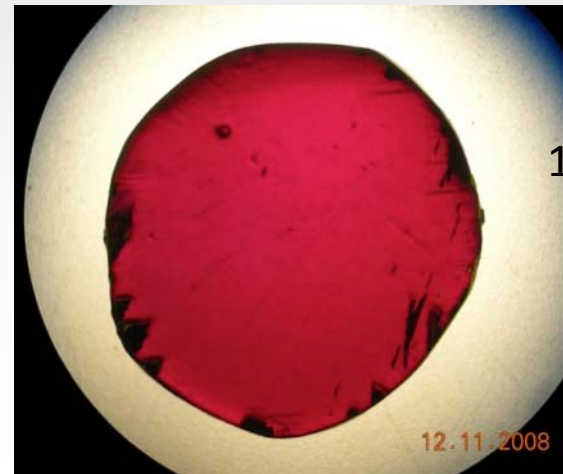
← Best

← Best



# WHY INDIUM IODIDE?

- Promising semiconductor RT detector material + not toxic; MP= 360 C (perfect for SUBSA furnace)
- Developed procedures for synthesis, ZR, melt growth, vapor growth
- RPI (2006-2009); IIT (2009-present), RMD (2015).
- DoE, NNSA



15 mm diameter

# Is CZ growth of InI possible ?



	Disassociation Energy , eV
I <sub>2</sub>	1.542
BiI	0.3
HgI	0.35
HgBr	0.71
CdTe	1.2
PbI	2.0
PbBr	2.5
TlI	2.76
TlBr	2.34
InI	3.43
InBr	3.9

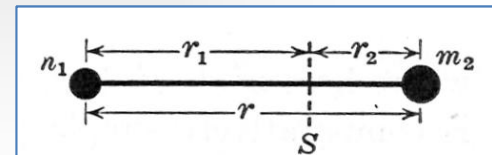


FIG. 38. Dumbbell Model of a Diatomic Molecule.



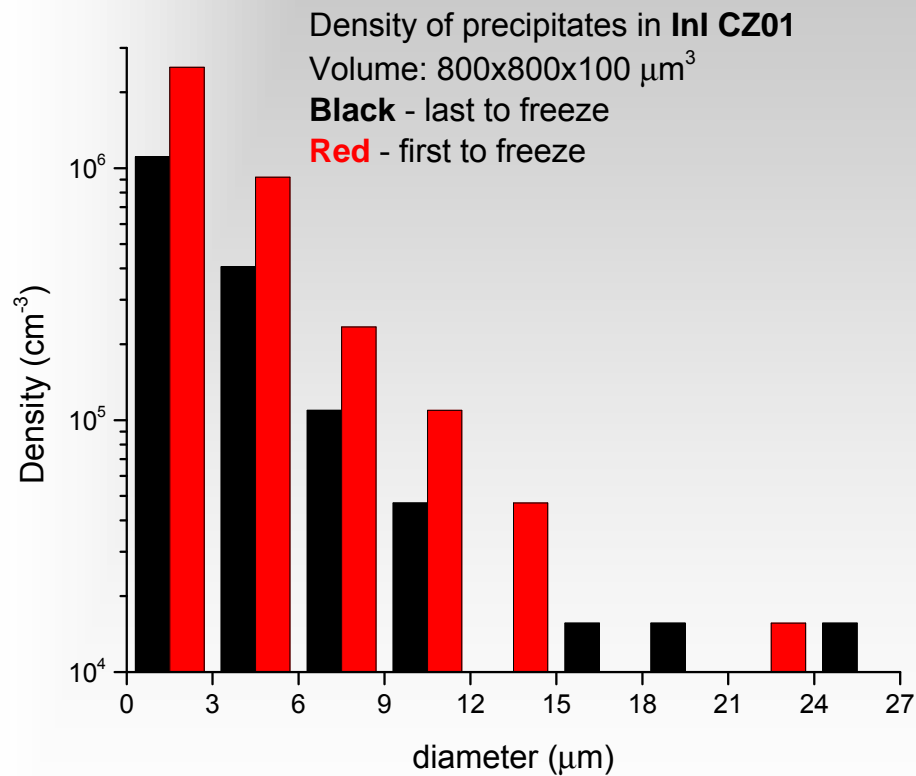
## CZOCHRALSKI GROWTH OF InI

- Detector materials have high vapor pressure; growth in sealed ampoules.
- **CZ** growth of a detector crystal demonstrated for the first time

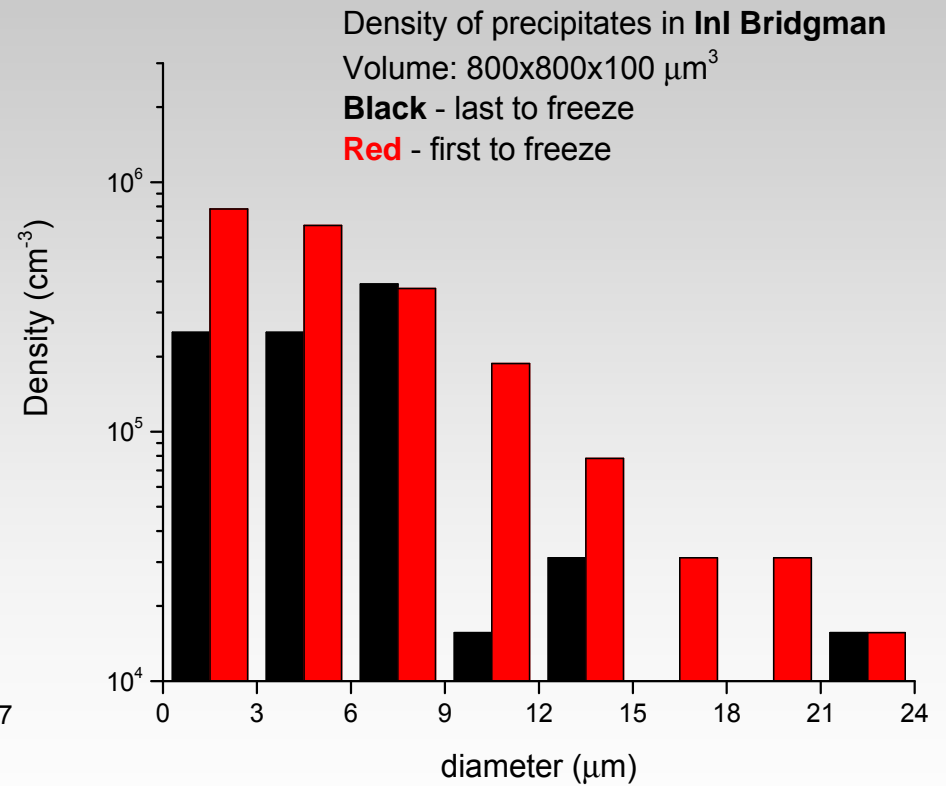


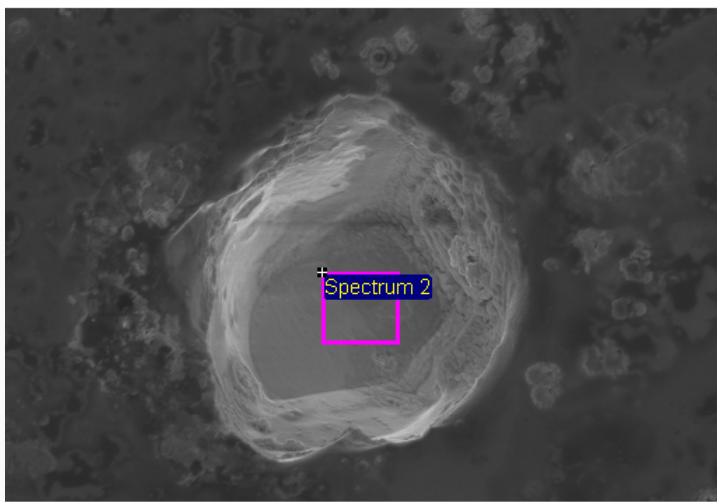
# DISTRIBUTION OF PRECIPITATES

## CZOCHRALSKI



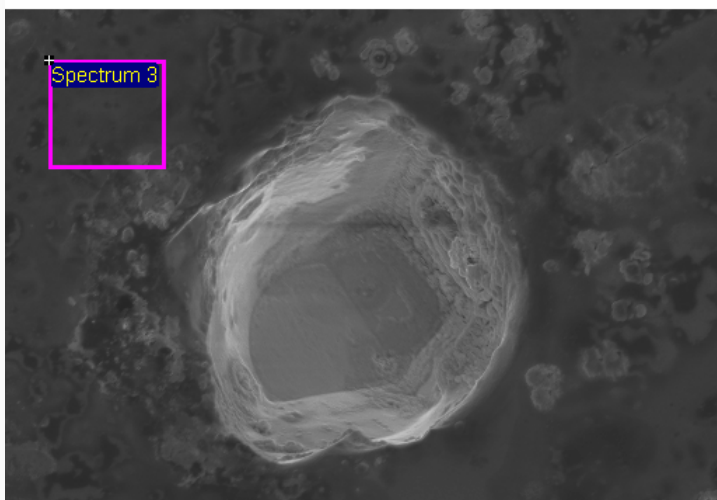
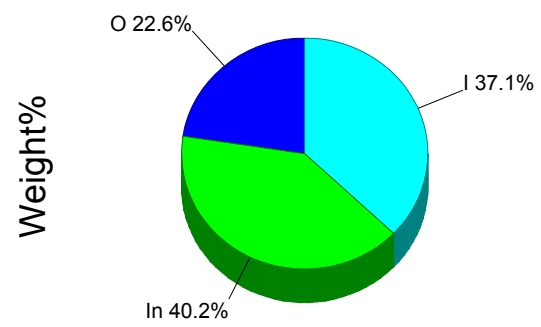
## BRIDGMAN





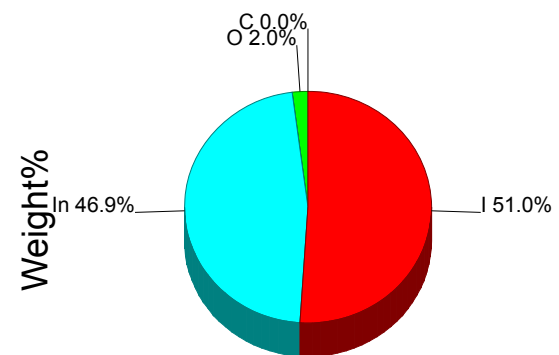
40µm

Electron Image 1



40µm

Electron Image 1



**High Purity Indium (In) Metal**  
Analysis by Glow Discharge Mass Spectrometry

<b>Tested by:</b>	Institute for National Measurement Standards, National Research Council
<b>Report Date:</b>	14-Jul-10
<b>Report NO:</b>	31810
<b>Lot Number:</b>	92

Element	Analytical Result in ppb(mass)
Mg	<0.1
Al	<0.2
Si	0.7
S	2.8
Fe	0.5
Ni	18.4
Cu	8.3
Zn	<1.7
Ga	<0.4
Ge	<0.6
Ag	<0.8
Cd	79.3
Sn	13.4
Tl	7.1
Pb	61.4
Bi	<0.9

<b>Total Detected Impurities:</b>	<b>191.9</b>
-----------------------------------	--------------

Certificate of analysis iodine 5N  
metal basis (Alfa Aesar Inc.).

**Iodine lump, ultra dry, 99.999% (metals basis)**

**Stock Number: 44857**  
**Lot Number: J21W012**

**Analysis**

Purity > 99.999 % (metals basis)

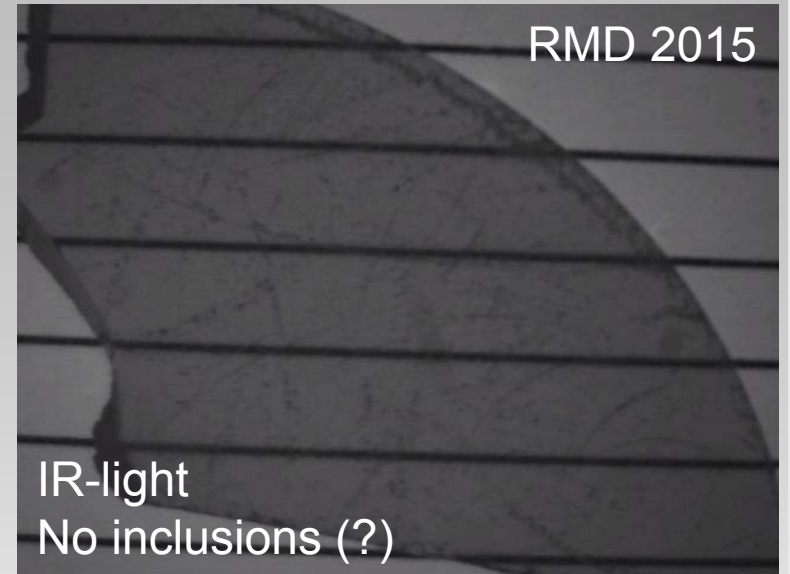
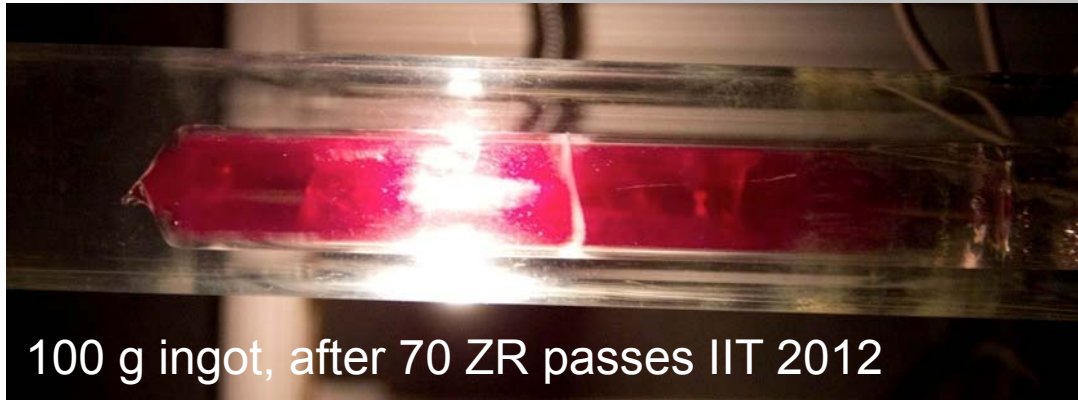
Mg	<0.5	Mn	<0.2
Al	<0.2	Fe	<0.2
P	<0.1	Ni	<0.1
K	<0.1	Cu	<0.1
Ca	<0.1	Zn	<0.1
Ti	<0.1	As	<0.1
V	<0.1	Sn	<0.1
Cr	<0.1	Pb	<0.1

Values given in ppm unless otherwise noted

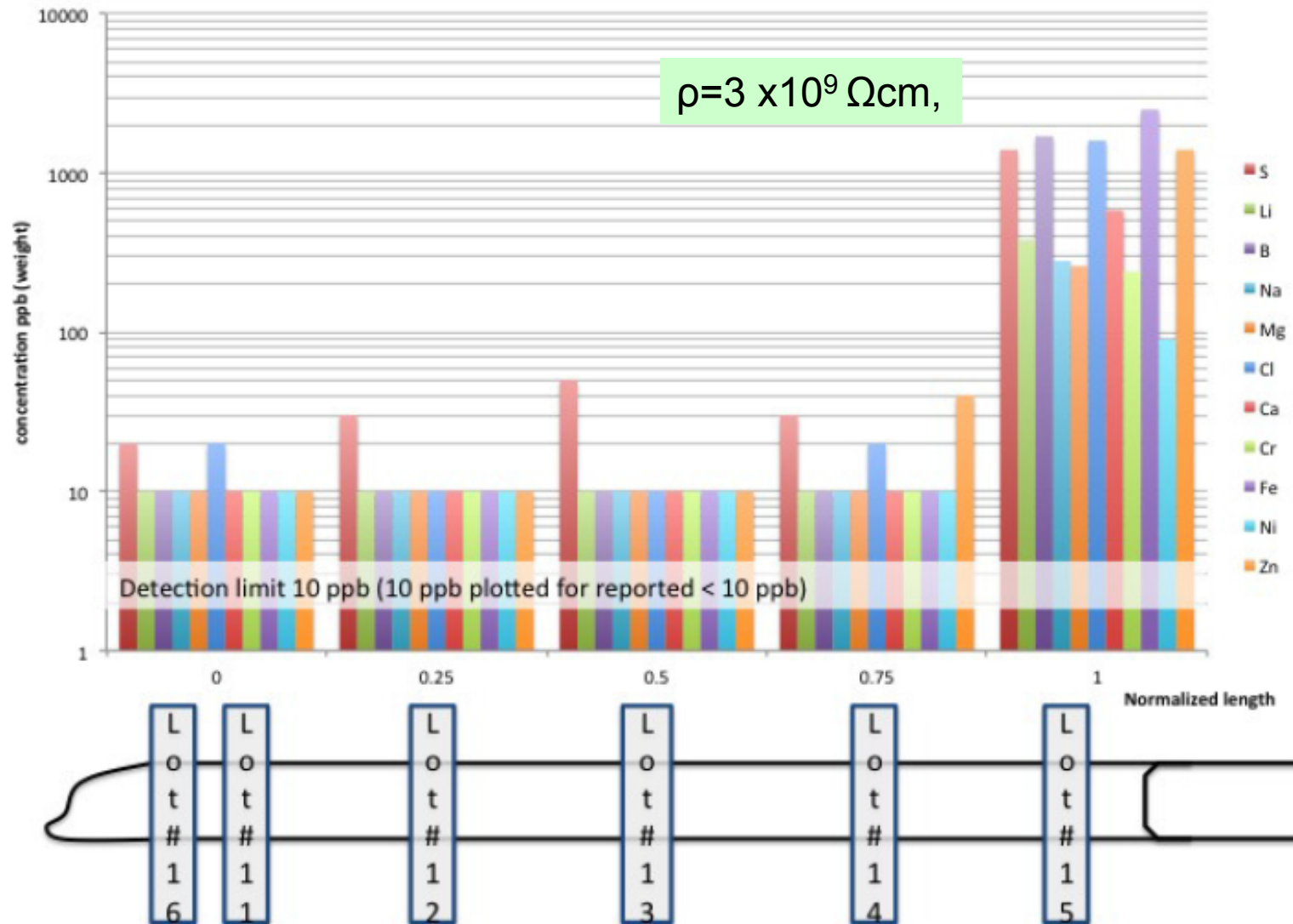
All other impurities are lower than detection limits (<0.01 ppm)

Analysis method: Mass spectrometry

# PURIFICATION BY ZONE REFINING (ZR)

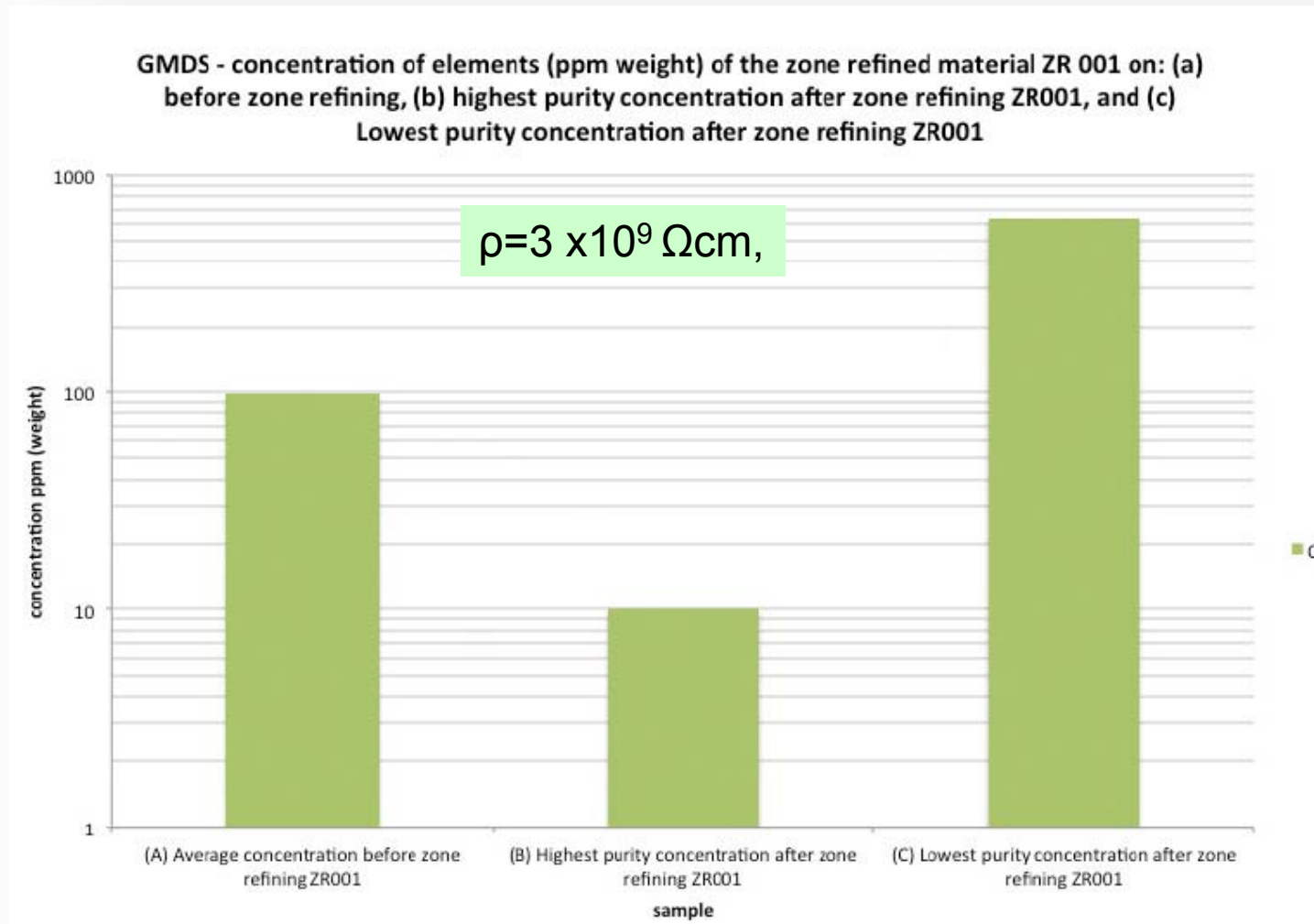


Concentration of elements (ppb weight) vs normalized length of the zone refined material ZR001 - Glow Discharge Mass Spectrometry (GMDS)



IIT 2012: Final concentration of S, Li, B, Na, Mg, Cl, Ca, Cr, Fe, Ni and Zn (ppb by weight) vs normalized length of the zone refined material ZR001 - Glow Discharge Mass Spectrometry (GMDS) by Evans Analytical Group.

# Instrumental Gas Analysis (IGA) by Evans Analytical Group.



Comparison of concentrations of oxygen (ppm by weight) of the zone refined (ZR) material ZR 001 on: (a) before zone refining, (b) highest purity concentration after ZR, and (c) Lowest purity concentration after ZR.

## 2012, IIT:

Concentration of oxygen and selected elements in ZR 001

Oxygen: Instrumental Gas Analysis (IGA)

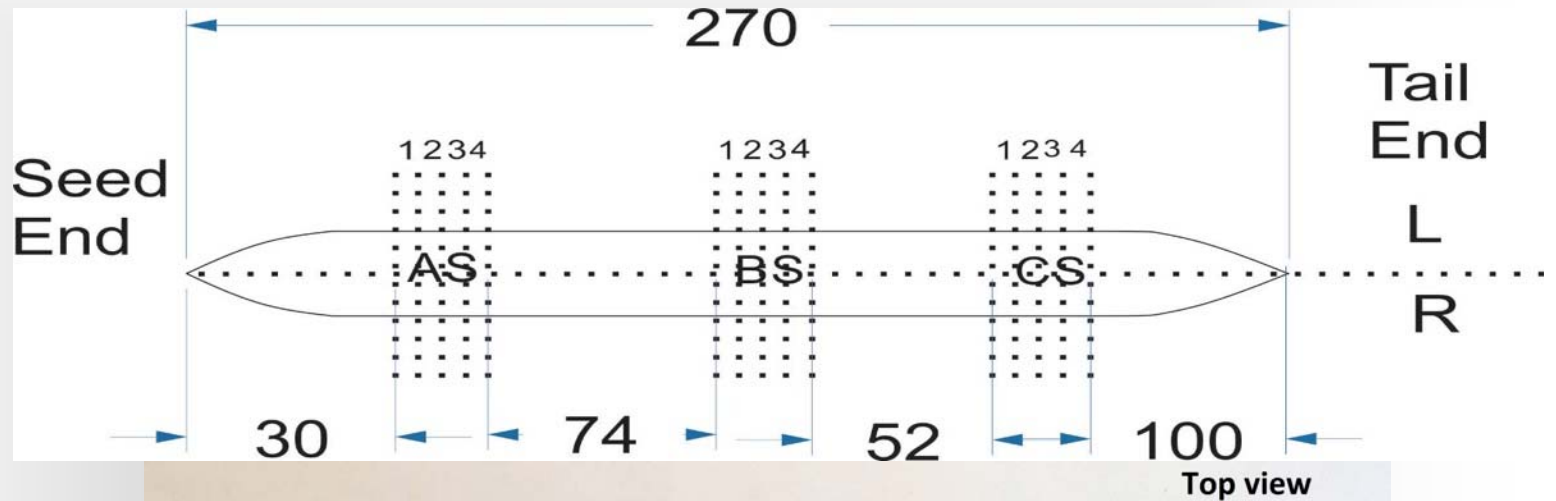
All others elements: GDMS

	Before		After
	Sample 1	Sample 2	
<i>O<sub>2</sub></i>	16 ppm	180 ppm	< 10 ppm
<i>Li</i>	< 10 ppb	< 10 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>B</i>	< 10 ppb	11 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Na</i>	30 ppb	20 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Mg</i>	30 ppb	20 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Al</i>	30 ppb	180 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Si</i>	230 ppb	620 ppb	530 ppb
<i>S</i>	220 ppb	240 ppb	20 ppb
<i>Cl</i>	50 ppb	130 ppb	20 ppb
<i>Ca</i>	60 ppb	50 ppb	20 ppb
<i>Ti</i>	120 ppb	10 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Cr</i>	10 ppb	< 10 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Fe</i>	40 ppb	80 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Ni</i>	< 10 ppb	10 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Cu</i>	20 ppb	10 ppb	< 10 ppb
<i>Zn</i>	50 ppb	80 ppb	< 10 ppb



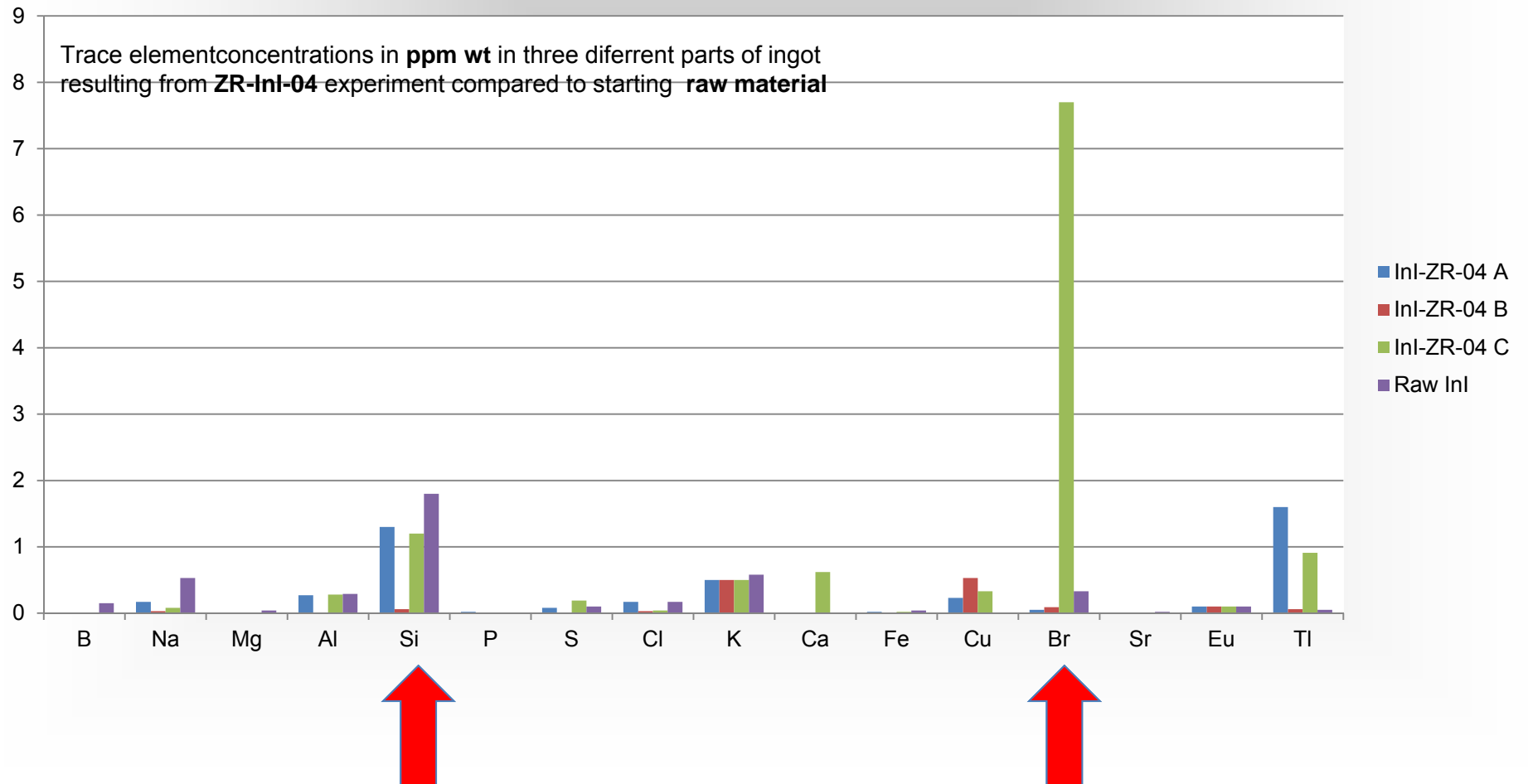
## RMD 2015

- Zone Refining (ZR)
- Bubbling  $\text{Ar}+5\% \text{H}_2$  through the melt



# RMD 2015: Zone Refining (ZR)

Charge: InI (Sigma Aldrich, 99.999 %)



Inl  
#4 InI-ZR-05 A

Sample ID:

20-Jul-15

Job #

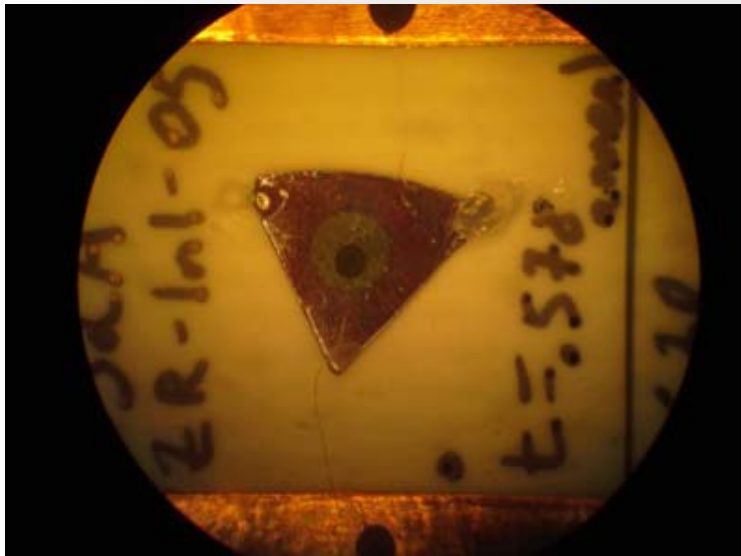
Inl  
#2 InI-ZR-04 B

Sample ID:

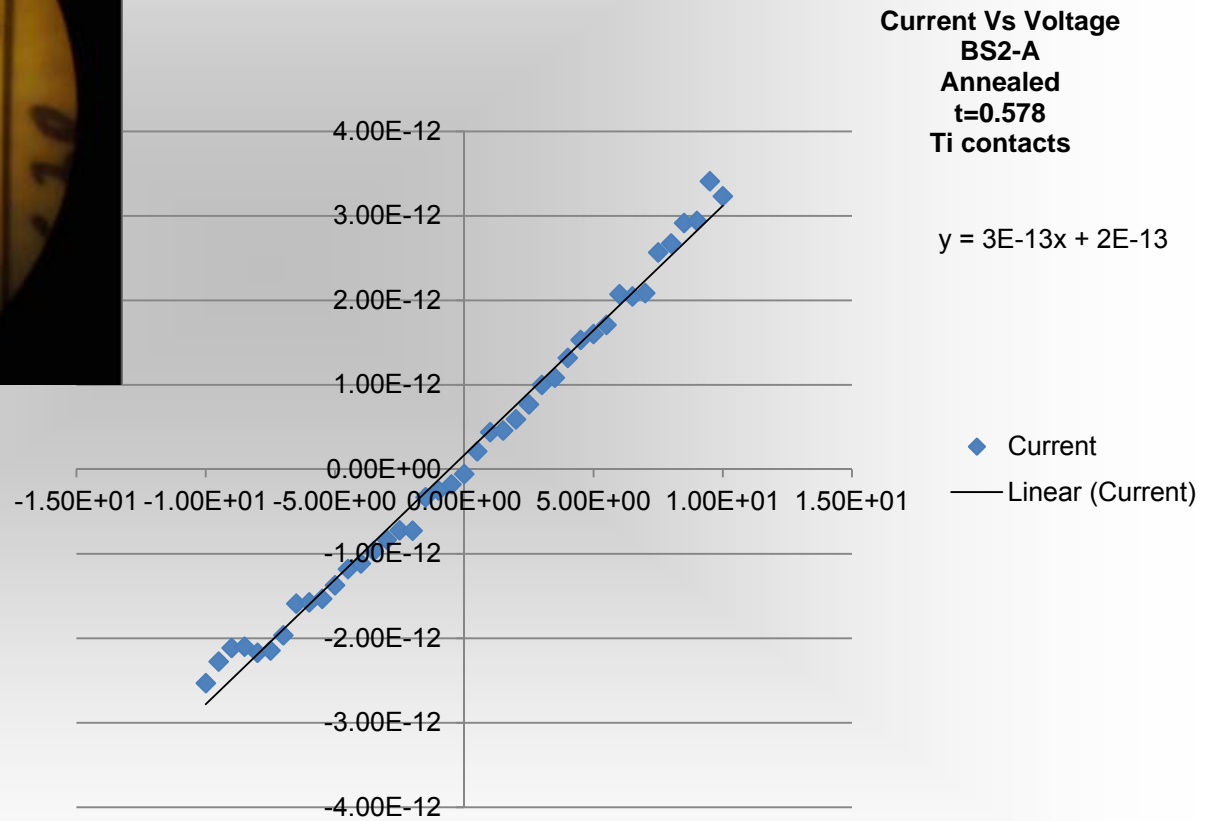
Element	Concentration [ ppm wt ]	Element	Concentration [ ppm wt ]
Li	< 0.01	Ag	< 0.05
Be	< 0.01	Cd	< 1
B	< 0.01	In	Matrix
F	< 0.5	Sn	< 0.5
Na	0.02	Sb	< 0.1
Mg	0.04	Te	< 0.5
Al	1.1	I	Matrix
Si	1.8	Cs	< 1
P	< 0.01	Ba	< 0.1
S	0.24	La	< 0.05
Cl	0.02	Ce	< 0.05
K	< 0.5	Pr	< 0.05
Ca	< 0.01	Nd	< 0.01
Sc	< 0.01	Sm	< 0.01
Ti	< 0.01	Eu	0.16
V	< 0.01	Gd	< 0.01
Cr	< 0.01	Tb	< 0.01
Mn	< 0.01	Dy	< 0.01
Fe	0.03	Ho	< 0.01
Co	< 0.01	Er	< 0.01
Ni	< 0.01	Tm	< 0.01
Cu	< 0.01	Yb	< 0.01
Zn	< 0.01	Lu	< 0.05
Ga	< 0.05	Hf	< 0.01
Ge	< 0.05	Ta	Source
As	< 0.05	W	< 0.01
Se	< 0.1	Re	< 0.01
Br	1.3	Os	< 0.01
Rb	< 0.01	Ir	< 0.05
Sr	< 0.01	Pt	< 0.1
Y	< 0.01	Au	< 0.1
Zr	< 0.01	Hg	< 0.05
Nb	< 0.01	Tl	0.91
Mo	< 0.01	Pb	< 0.05
Ru	< 0.01	Bi	< 0.05
Rh	< 0.01	Th	< 0.01
Pd	< 0.05	U	< 0.01

Element	Concentration [ ppm wt ]	Element	Concentration [ ppm wt ]
Li	< 0.01	Ag	< 0.05
Be	< 0.01	Cd	< 1
B	< 0.01	In	Matrix
F	< 0.5	Sn	< 0.5
Na	0.03	Sb	< 0.1
Mg	< 0.01	Te	< 0.5
Al	< 0.01	I	Matrix
Si	0.06	Cs	< 1
P	< 0.01	Ba	< 0.1
S	< 0.01	La	< 0.05
Cl	0.03	Ce	< 0.05
K	< 0.5	Pr	< 0.05
Ca	< 0.01	Nd	< 0.01
Sc	< 0.01	Sm	< 0.01
Ti	< 0.01	Eu	< 0.1
V	< 0.01	Gd	< 0.01
Cr	< 0.01	Tb	< 0.01
Mn	< 0.01	Dy	< 0.01
Fe	< 0.01	Ho	< 0.01
Co	< 0.01	Er	< 0.01
Ni	< 0.01	Tm	< 0.01
Cu	0.53	Yb	< 0.01
Zn	< 0.01	Lu	< 0.05
Ga	< 0.05	Hf	< 0.01
Ge	< 0.05	Ta	Source
As	< 0.05	W	< 0.01
Se	< 0.1	Re	< 0.01
Br	0.09	Os	< 0.01
Rb	< 0.01	Ir	< 0.05
Sr	< 0.01	Pt	< 0.1
Y	< 0.01	Au	< 0.1
Zr	< 0.01	Hg	< 0.05
Nb	< 0.01	Tl	0.06
Mo	< 0.01	Pb	< 0.05
Ru	< 0.01	Bi	< 0.05
Rh	< 0.01	Th	< 0.01
Pd	< 0.05	U	< 0.01

# I-V curve of detector *BS2-A* (annealed):



$d_{\text{contact}} = 3\text{mm}$



$\rho_{\text{BS2-A}} = 4.07 \times 10^{12} \Omega \text{ cm}$

Material	Cd <sub>0.9</sub> Zn <sub>0.1</sub> Te (CZT)	Hgl <sub>2</sub>	InI
Average atomic number, Z	49.1	62	51
Density, g/cm <sup>3</sup>	5.78	6.4	5.31
Band gap, eV	1.55	2.14	2.0
Melting point, °C	~1100	259	351
Structure	Zinblendende	Tetrahedral-layered	Orthorhombic
Knoop Hardness, kg/mm <sup>2</sup>	92	10	27
Molecule Disassoc. Energy eV Herzberg's tables [19]	1.2	0.35	3.43
Electrical Resistivity, Ohm-cm	3 x 10 <sup>10</sup>	10 <sup>13</sup> to 10 <sup>14</sup>	1x10 <sup>11</sup>



$\rho \approx 4 \times 10^{12}$

---

CASIS/NASA, 2015: “Detached Melt and Vapor Growth of InI in SUBSA Hardware”

**(a) Detached directional solidification: 3 crystals**

*Improve crystalline perfection*

*Observe the dewetting process in microgravity*

**(b) Physical vapor transport growth: 3 crystals.**