

## Upcoming MSR Publication and Current Status

D. Fujimoto

2026-02-19



**TUCAN**  
TRIUMF Ultracold  
Advanced Neutron  
Collaboration

Discovery,  
accelerated

# Overview

- We finished the room... a while ago
- Paper scope:
  - Requirements, design, and construction
  - Shielding factor
  - Preliminary residual field and gradients
  - Use existing data only
- Email for comments sent after this meeting

“Review of Scientific Instruments (RSI) publishes novel advancements in scientific instrumentation, apparatuses, techniques of experimental measurement, and related mathematical analysis.”

# Requirements and Design

Central 1 m<sup>3</sup> performance requirements:

- $\geq 10^5$  shielding factor at 0.01 Hz
- Residual fields  $< 1$  nT
- Stable to the pT level over minutes
- Internal field gradients  $< 100$  pT/m

# Requirements and Design

Central 1 m<sup>3</sup> performance requirements:

- $\geq 10^5$  shielding factor at 0.01 Hz
- Residual fields  $< 1$  nT
- Stable to the pT level over minutes
- Internal field gradients  $< 100$  pT/m
- Spatial requirements

# Requirements and Design

Central 1 m<sup>3</sup> performance requirements:

- $\geq 10^5$  shielding factor at 0.01 Hz
- Residual fields  $< 1$  nT
- Stable to the pT level over minutes
- Internal field gradients  $< 100$  pT/m
- Spatial requirements

Design philosophy

- As many mu-metal layers as possible with the maximum inter-layer spacing
- Mirror all ports into the room
- Each layer individually degaussable
- Door robust against misalignment

# Requirements and Design

Central 1 m<sup>3</sup> performance requirements:

- $\geq 10^5$  shielding factor at 0.01 Hz
- Residual fields  $< 1$  nT
- Stable to the pT level over minutes
- Internal field gradients  $< 100$  pT/m
- Spatial requirements

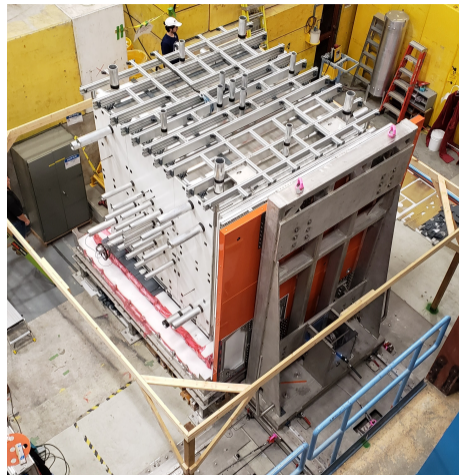
Design philosophy

- As many mu-metal layers as possible with the maximum inter-layer spacing
- Mirror all ports into the room
- Each layer individually degaussable
- Door robust against misalignment

Layer	Thickness		Material	Side Length
1-outer	4 mm	(2 × 2.0 mm)	mu-metal	3500 mm
2	3 mm	(2 × 1.5 mm)	mu-metal	3000 mm
3	3 mm	(2 × 1.5 mm)	mu-metal	2600 mm
4	6 – 12 mm	(1 – 2 × 6.0 mm)	copper	2550 mm
5	2 mm	(2 × 1.0 mm)	mu-metal	2400 mm
6-inner	2.4 mm	(2 × 1.2 mm)	mu-metal	2250 mm

# Construction

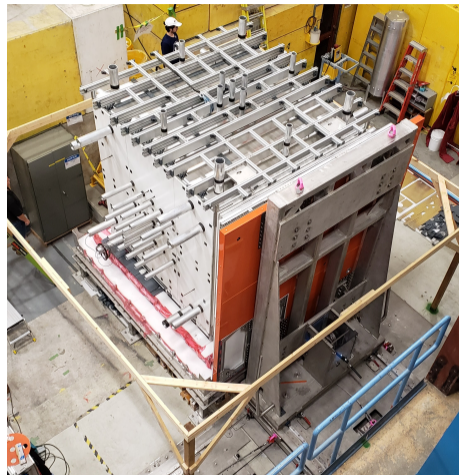
- Engineering and installation by Magnetic Shields Ltd.
- Jan 2023 - Aug 2024
  - Base frame
  - Floor (all layers)
  - Layer 4 (copper)
  - Door (all layers)
  - Layers 5, 3, 2, 1, 6
- Shielding factor measured after each layer installed
- For the most part, things went smoothly



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward
- Strongback base plate deformation
- Initial poor performance
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door
- Electrical short between L3 and L4
- Door crank cable fray



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward → UCN guide path adjusted
- Strongback base plate deformation
- Initial poor performance
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door
- Electrical short between L3 and L4
- Door crank cable fray



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward → UCN guide path adjusted
- Strongback base plate deformation → extra supports installed
- Initial poor performance
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door
- Electrical short between L3 and L4
- Door crank cable fray



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

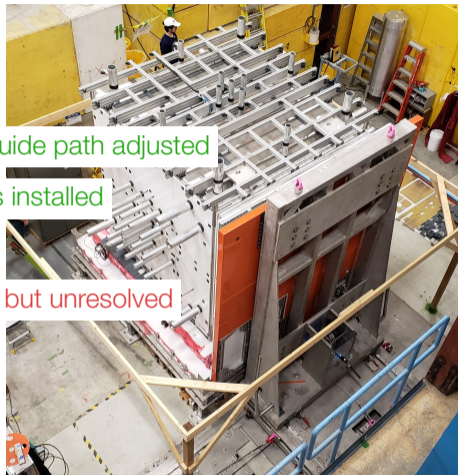
- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward → UCN guide path adjusted
- Strongback base plate deformation → extra supports installed
- Initial poor performance → retrofit layer 6
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door
- Electrical short between L3 and L4
- Door crank cable fray



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

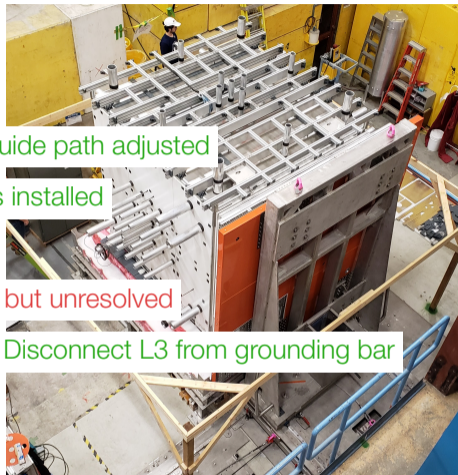
- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward → UCN guide path adjusted
- Strongback base plate deformation → extra supports installed
- Initial poor performance → retrofit layer 6
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door → Better, but unresolved
- Electrical short between L3 and L4
- Door crank cable fray



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

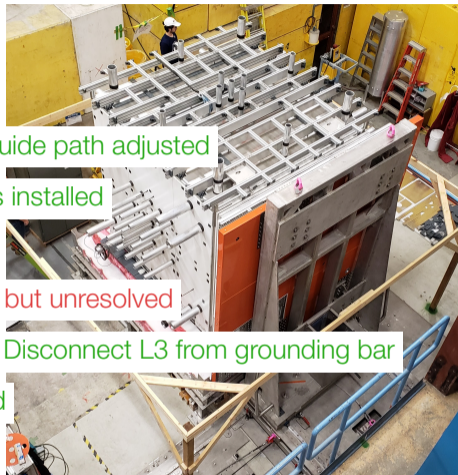
- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward → UCN guide path adjusted
- Strongback base plate deformation → extra supports installed
- Initial poor performance → retrofit layer 6
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door → Better, but unresolved
- Electrical short between L3 and L4 → Unresolvable? Disconnect L3 from grounding bar
- Door crank cable fray



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Construction Issues

- MSR “mispositioned” by  $\sim 30$  cm eastward → UCN guide path adjusted
- Strongback base plate deformation → extra supports installed
- Initial poor performance → retrofit layer 6
- Unreliable degaussing connections at door → Better, but unresolved
- Electrical short between L3 and L4 → Unresolvable? Disconnect L3 from grounding bar
- Door crank cable fray → regular maintenance needed



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Shielding Factor

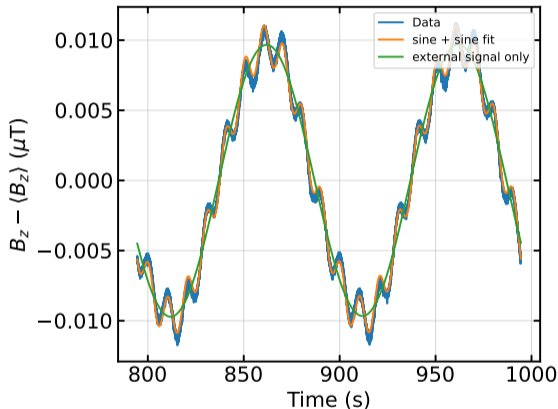
$$S = \left( \frac{B_{\text{ext}}^u}{B_{\text{ext}}^s} \right) \underbrace{\left( \frac{B_{\text{ref}}^s}{B_{\text{ref}}^u} \right) \left( \frac{I_{\text{ext}}^s}{I_{\text{ext}}^u} \right) \left( \frac{I_{\text{ref}}^u}{I_{\text{ref}}^s} \right)}_{\text{corrections}}$$



MSR prior to layer 3 installation

# Shielding Factor

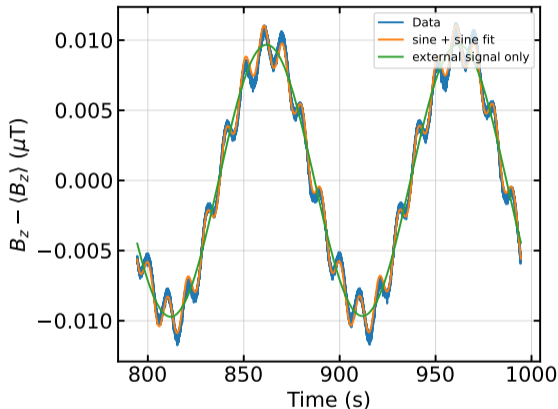
$$S = \left( \frac{B_{\text{ext}}^u}{B_{\text{ext}}^s} \right) \underbrace{\left( \frac{B_{\text{ref}}^s}{B_{\text{ref}}^u} \right) \left( \frac{I_{\text{ext}}^s}{I_{\text{ext}}^u} \right) \left( \frac{I_{\text{ref}}^u}{I_{\text{ref}}^s} \right)}_{\text{corrections}}$$



Raw data with fits at 0.01 Hz, measured with fluxgate

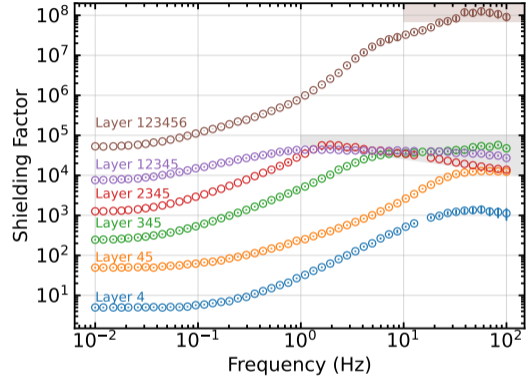
# Shielding Factor

- Measure with fluxgate (QuSpin for L6)
- Use least-squares fit (lock-in amplifier for L6)



Raw data with fits at 0.01 Hz, measured with fluxgate

# Shielding Factor

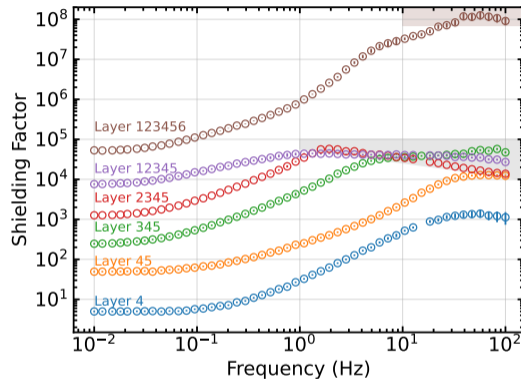


Shielding factor at end of each layer installation

# Shielding Factor

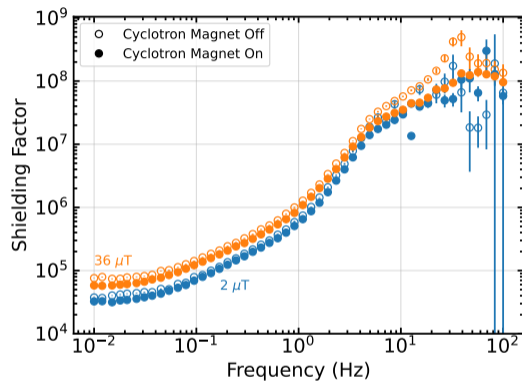
Shielding factor at 0.01 Hz, 36  $\mu$ T peak-peak,  
cyclotron on:

Layers completed	Shielding Factor	Improvement ( $S_i/S_{i-1}$ )
4	5	
45	49	9.8
345	245	5
2345	1263	5.2
12345	7592	6
123456	58 200	7



Shielding factor at end of each layer  
installation

# Shielding Factor

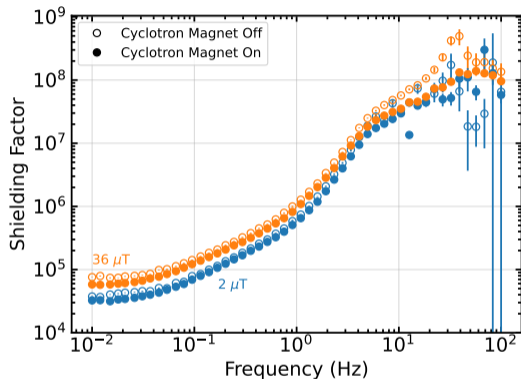


Shielding factor at peak-peak external fields of  
36  $\mu\text{T}$  and 2  $\mu\text{T}$

# Shielding Factor

Shielding factor at 0.01 Hz:

Cyclotron	$B_{pp} = 2 \mu\text{T}$	$B_{pp} = 36 \mu\text{T}$
On	$32\,500 \pm 200$	$58\,200 \pm 500$
Off	$37\,500 \pm 400$	$75\,900 \pm 500$

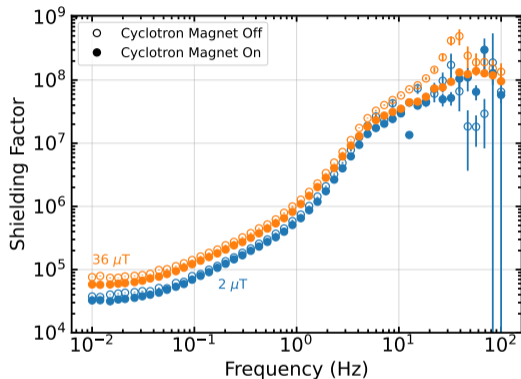


Shielding factor at peak-peak external fields of  $36 \mu\text{T}$  and  $2 \mu\text{T}$

# Shielding Factor

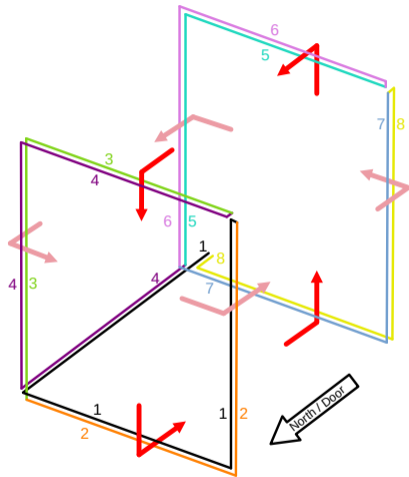
Shielding factor at 0.01 Hz:

Cyclotron	$B_{pp} = 2 \mu\text{T}$	$B_{pp} = 36 \mu\text{T}$
On	$32\,500 \pm 200$	$58\,200 \pm 500$
Off	$37\,500 \pm 400$	$75\,900 \pm 500$

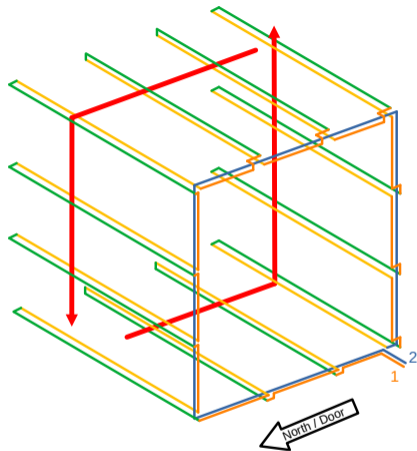


Shielding factor at peak-peak external fields of  $36 \mu\text{T}$  and  $2 \mu\text{T}$

# Degaussing Coils



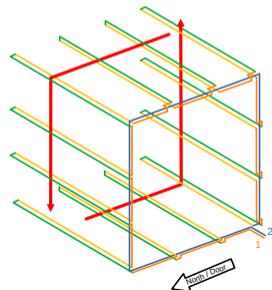
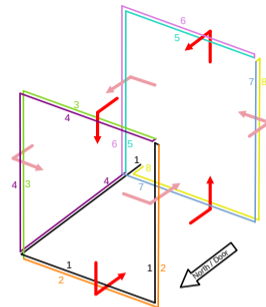
Edge "L" coils



Distributed toroidal coils

# Degaussing Coils

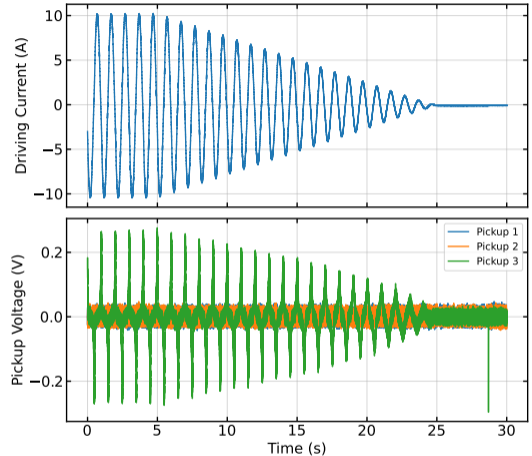
Layer	Primary Coil Set	Secondary Coil Set
1	Edge "L" (reconfigurable)	
2	Edge "L"	
3	Edge "L"	
5	Distributed "L"	Edge toroidal $\times 3$
6	Distributed toroidal $\times 2$	Edge toroidal $\times 3$



# Degaussing Procedure

At 1 Hz, maximum amplitude, timing structure for each layer:

- Ramp to max amp: 5 s
- Hold max amp: 10 s
- Linear amp ramp down: 60 s
- Hold zero amplitude: 2 s



Example driving sequence (different time structure)

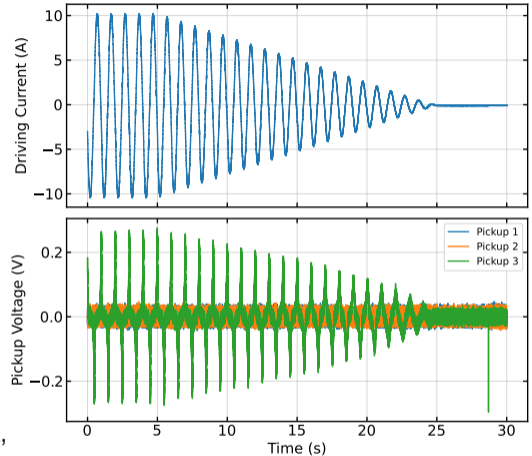
# Degaussing Procedure

At 1 Hz, maximum amplitude, timing structure for each layer:

- Ramp to max amp: 5 s
- Hold max amp: 10 s
- Linear amp ramp down: 60 s
- Hold zero amplitude: 2 s

Layer pattern:

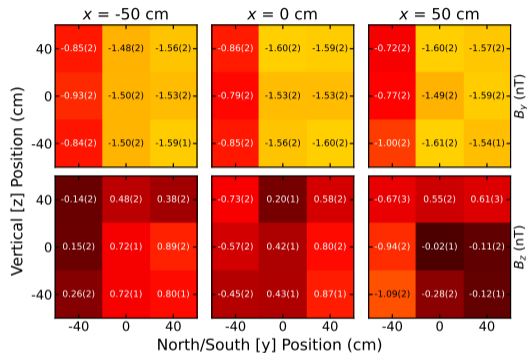
- Outwards: L6, L5, L3, L2, L1
- Inwards: L2, L3, L5
- Connect Isolation transformer, switch to 3 Hz, 120 s ramp down, half max amplitude
- L6



Example driving sequence (different time structure)

# Residual Fields

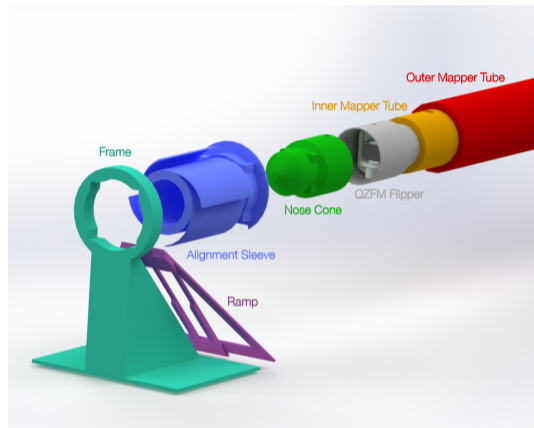
- Used QuSpin taped to a stick, flipping at each point
- Above requirement of 1 nT, but not by much
- With cyclotron on



Residual fields measurable through the west wall, with cyclotron field on and simple degaussing procedure

# Residual Fields

- Used QuSpin taped to a stick, flipping at each point
- Above requirement of 1 nT, but not by much
- With cyclotron on
- We have a better stick now, should repeat for future publication
- Repeat with cyclotron off



New mapper stick with 2 axis rotation and fixed positions / angles

# Field Gradient

Calculated only  $G_{0,m}$  for room center position:

- Above requirement of 0.1 nT/m
- Missing two points (incalculable from what we have)
- Higher order gradients, at more positions possible with better maps

	$\frac{dB_\alpha}{dx}$	$\frac{dB_\alpha}{dy}$	$\frac{dB_\alpha}{dz}$
$\frac{dB_x}{d\alpha}$	0.02(2)		
$\frac{dB_y}{d\alpha}$	0.01(3)	-0.92(4)	-0.06(4)
$\frac{dB_z}{d\alpha}$	-0.74(2)	1.72(3)	-0.28(2)

$G_{0,m}$  at room center in nT/m.

Most metrics don't meet requirement:

→ Shielding factor at 0.01 Hz, 2  $\mu$ T too low:

$$4 \times 10^4 < 10^5$$

→ Residual field max a little too high:

$$1.6 \text{ nT} > 1 \text{ nT}$$

→ Gradient max at room center much too high:

$$1.7 \text{ nT} > 0.1 \text{ nT}$$

Residual fields and gradients can likely be improved upon.

Draft to be sent out soon

