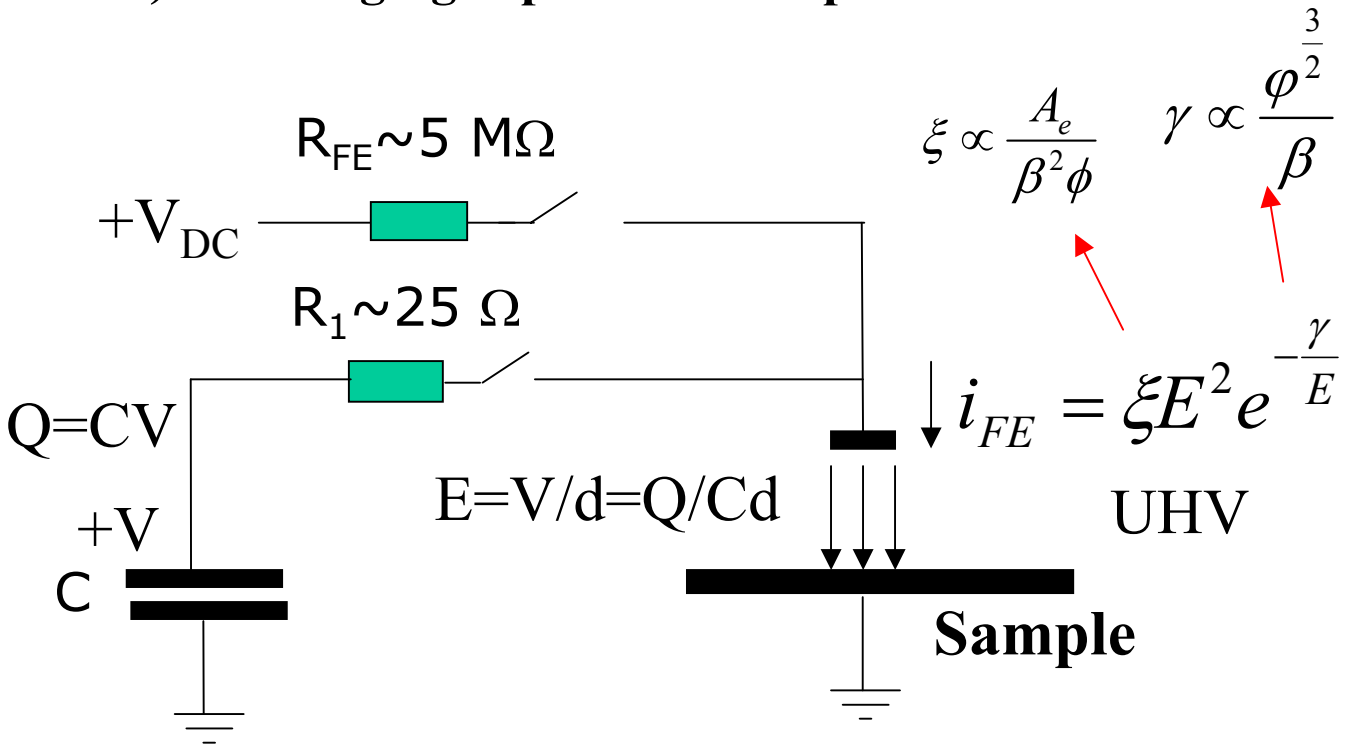


Spark-Test experiment :

1) Field emission current measurements
and

2) Discharging capacitor FE /Spark measurements



Procedure :

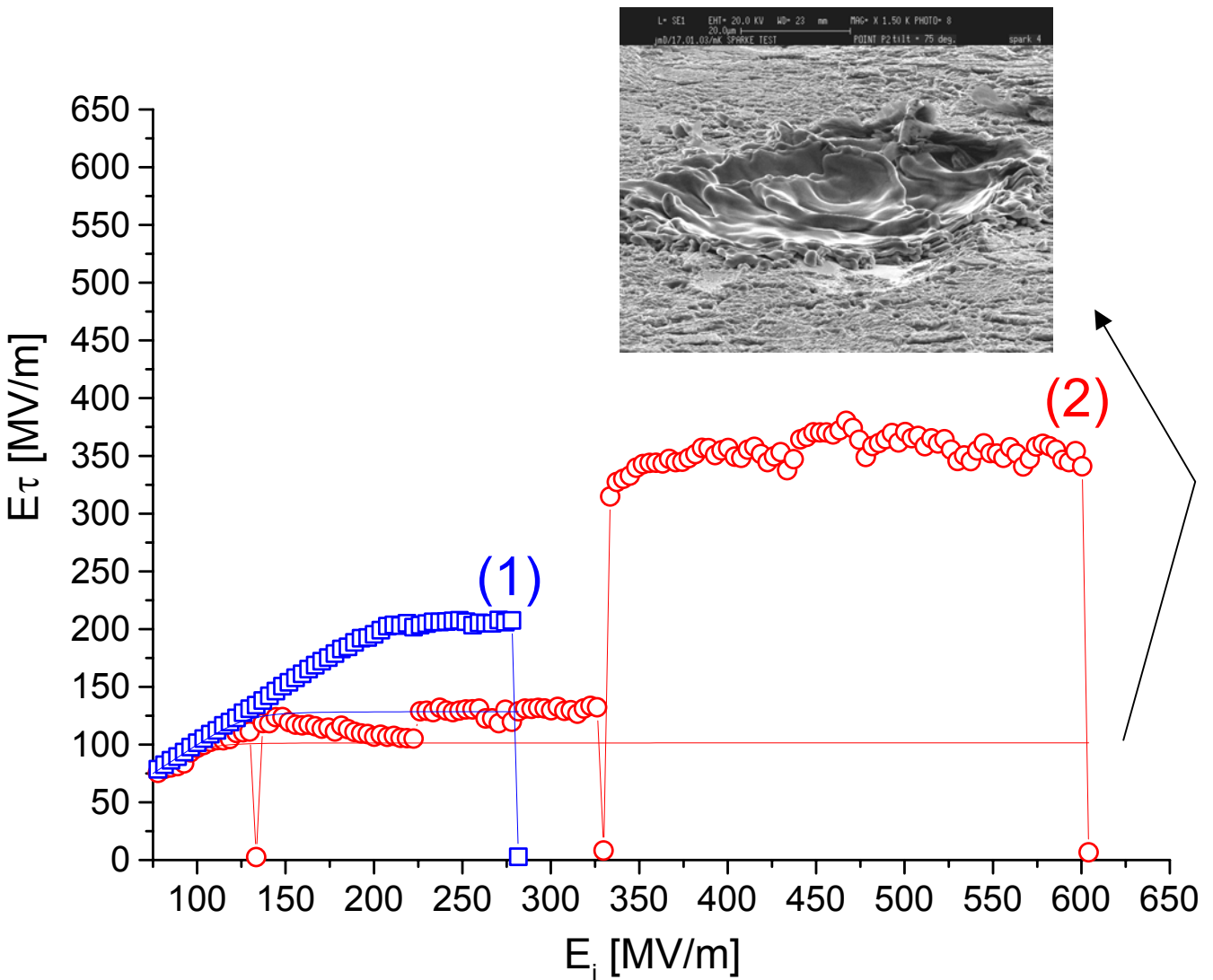
- * Charge capacitor (C) to V_i , expose gap to init. $E_i = V/d$,
- * The gap field will be described by :

$$\dot{E} = -\hat{\xi} E^2 \exp(-\gamma / E)$$

- * The capacitor is partly discharged by field emission, until field emission cuts off. [A spark is a total discharge]
- * For initial FE emission levels of $>100 \text{ nA}$, the remaining field (charge) is then calculated by (asymptotic solution):

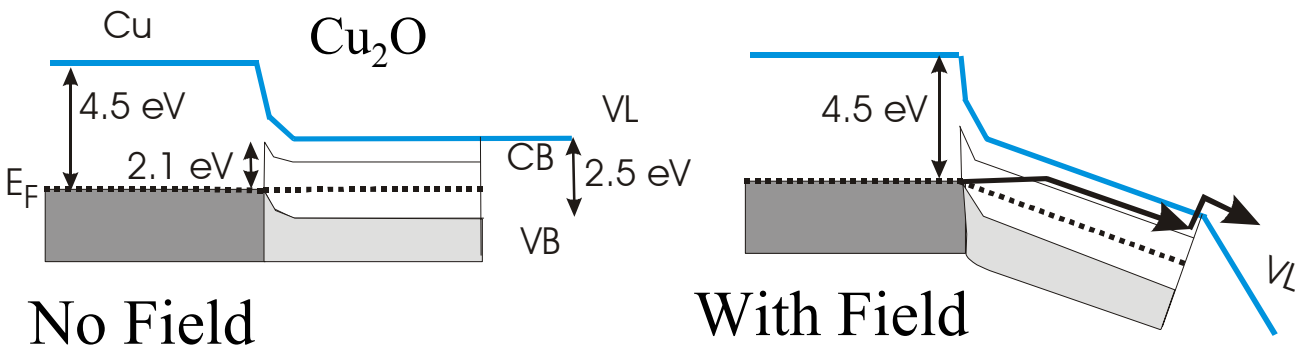
$$E(\tau = 2s) = \frac{\gamma}{\ln(\hat{\xi}\tau\gamma)} \approx \frac{\gamma_0}{\ln(\hat{\xi}_0\tau\gamma_0)} \left\{ 1 - a1 * \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_0} - a2 * \frac{\Delta A}{A_{e0}} + a3 * \frac{\Delta\phi}{\phi_0^{3/2}} + a4 \right\}$$

Discharging capacitor – spark scans on electrochemically roughened Cu

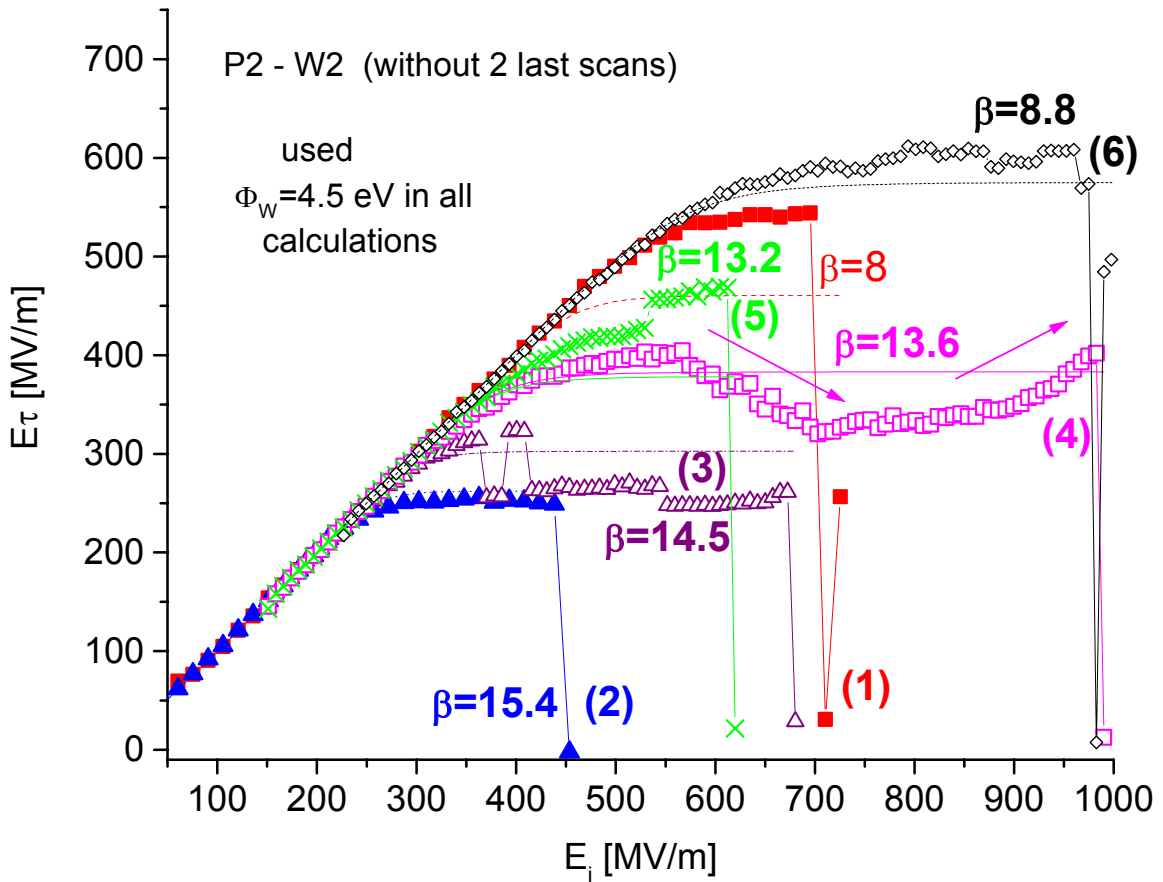


$$E(\tau = 2s) = \frac{\gamma}{\ln(\hat{\xi}\tau\gamma)} \approx \frac{\gamma_0}{\ln(\hat{\xi}_0\tau\gamma_0)} \left\{ 1 - a1 * \frac{\Delta\beta}{\beta_0} - a2 * \frac{\Delta A}{A_{e0}} + a3 * \frac{\Delta\phi}{\phi_0^{3/2}} + a4 \right\}$$

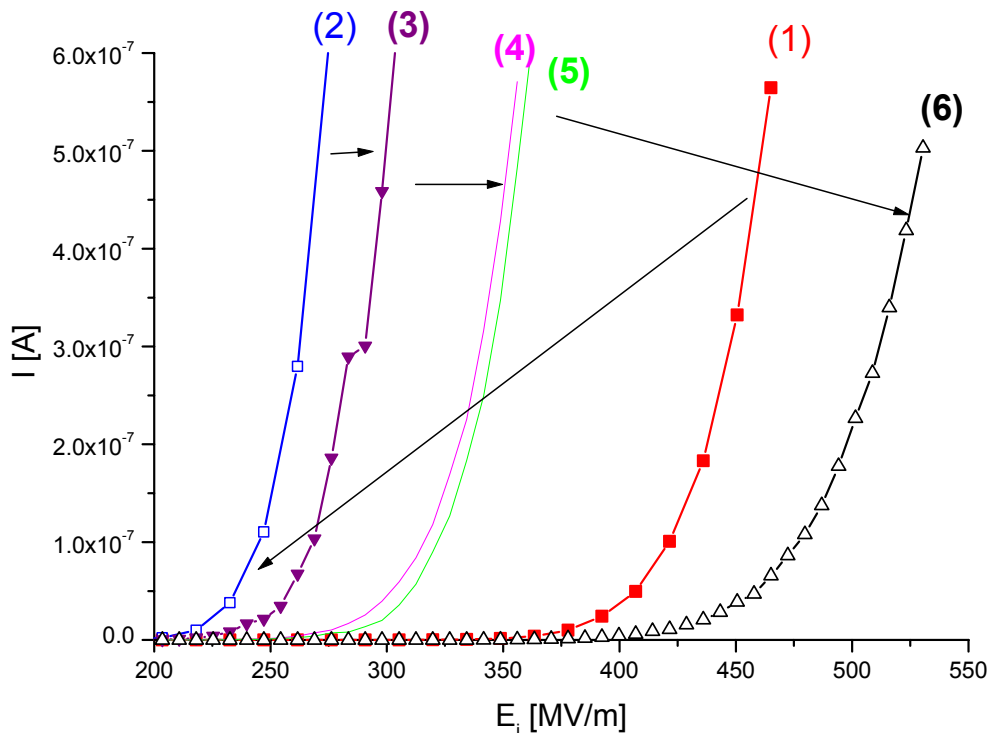
Oxide and adsorbate $\Delta\Phi$, different phenomenas (charge transfer vs band)



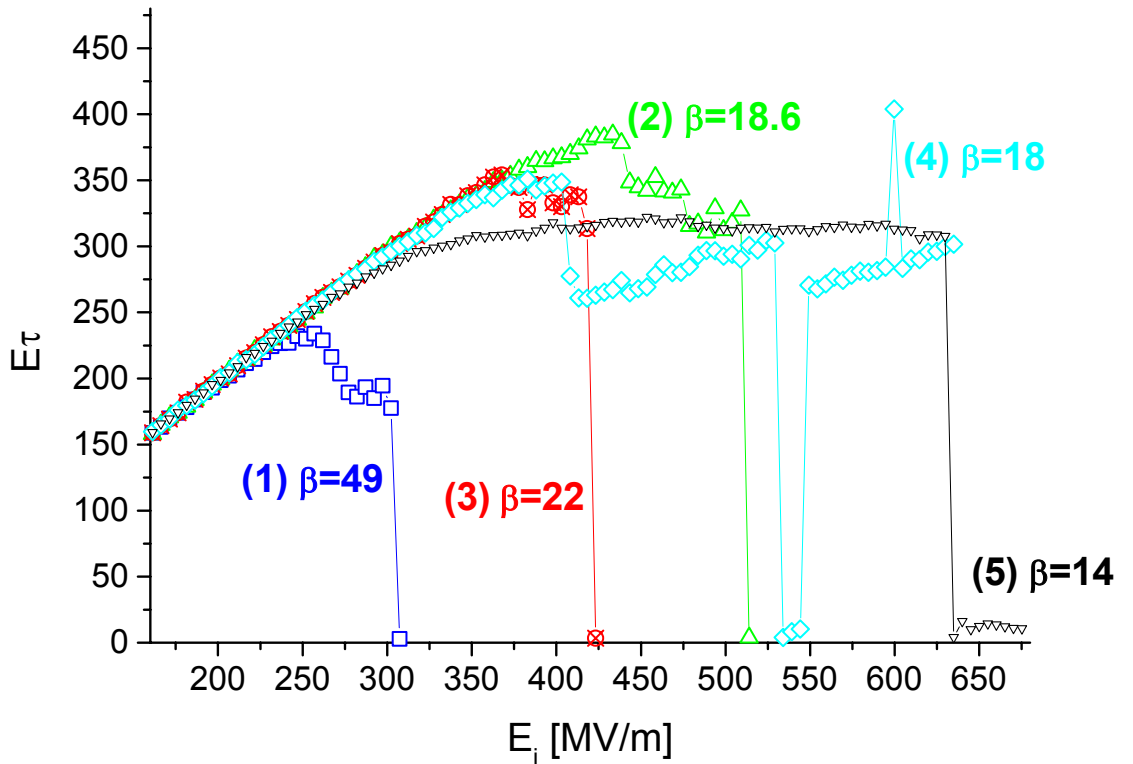
Discharging capacitor – spark scans on electro-chemically roughened W



Field emission recorded prior to the spark scans

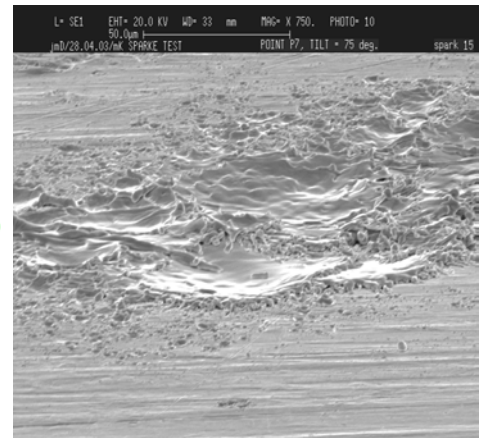
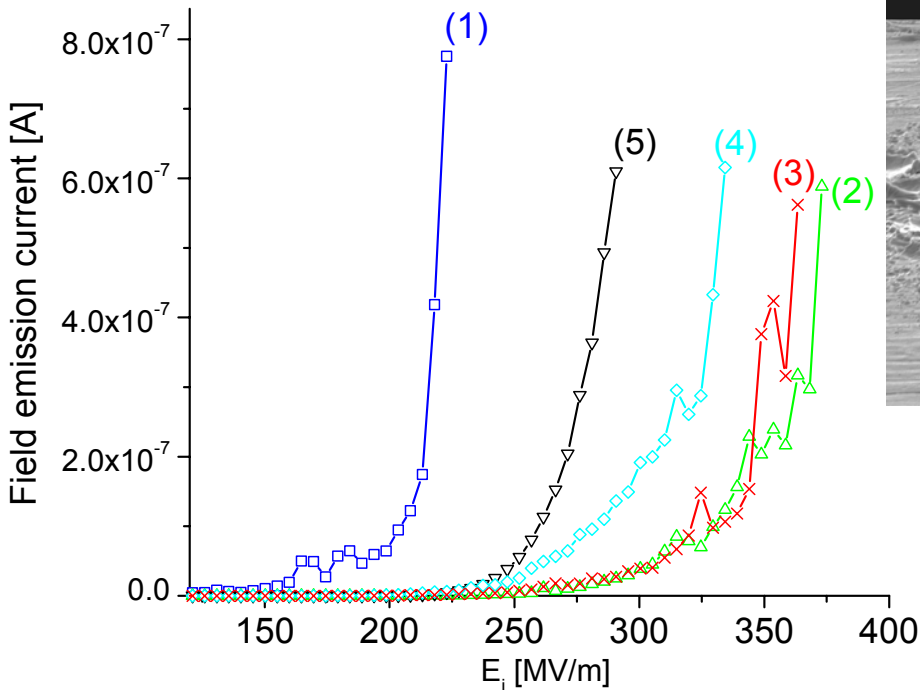


Discharging capacitor –spark scans on Nb, only degreased and ultrasonic cleaned



Field emission traces prior to spark scans

SEM

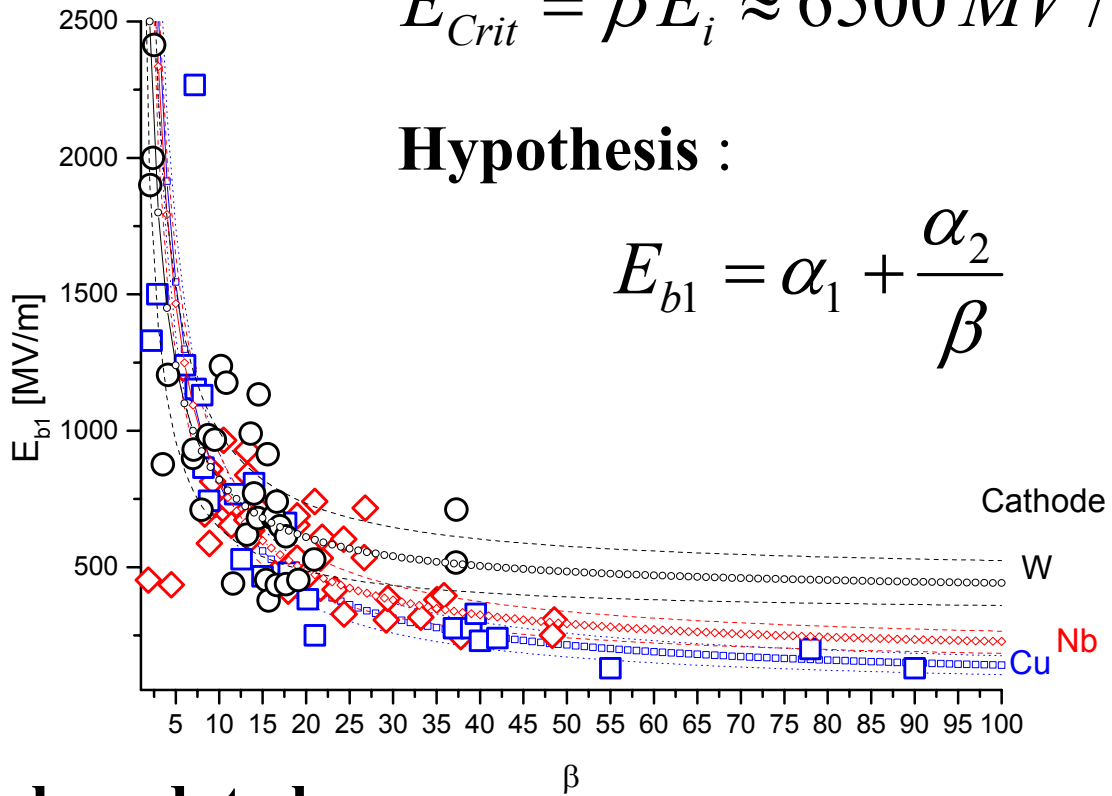


First break down field (E_{b1}) versus field enhancement factor β

$$E_{Crit} = \beta E_i \approx 6500 \text{ MV} / \text{m}$$

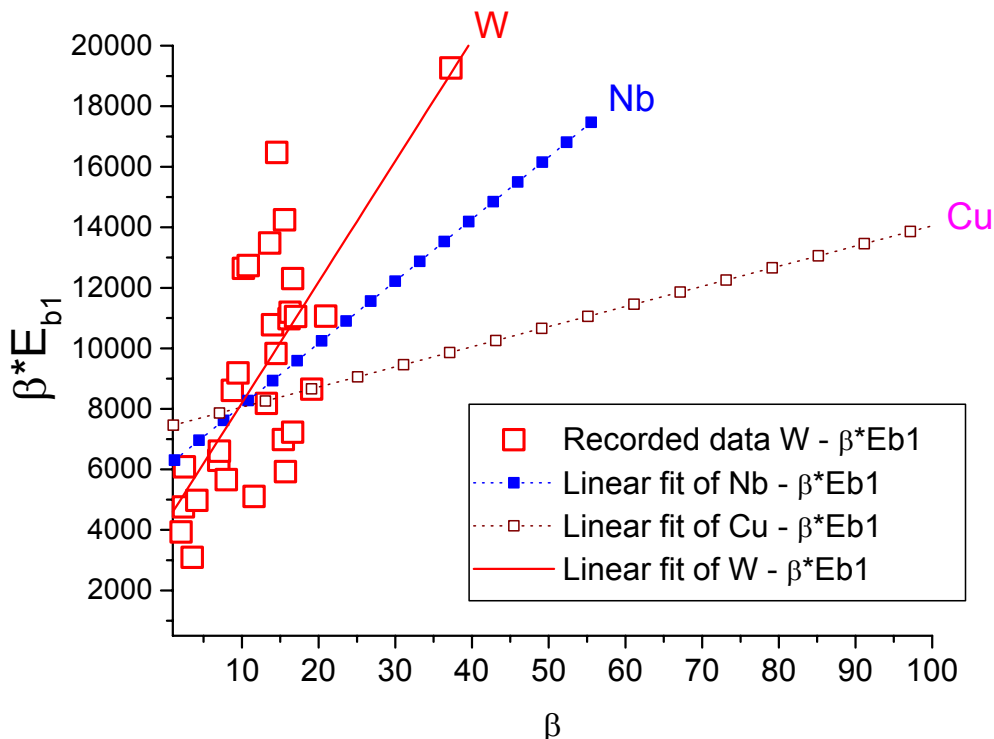
Hypothesis :

$$E_{b1} = \alpha_1 + \frac{\alpha_2}{\beta}$$

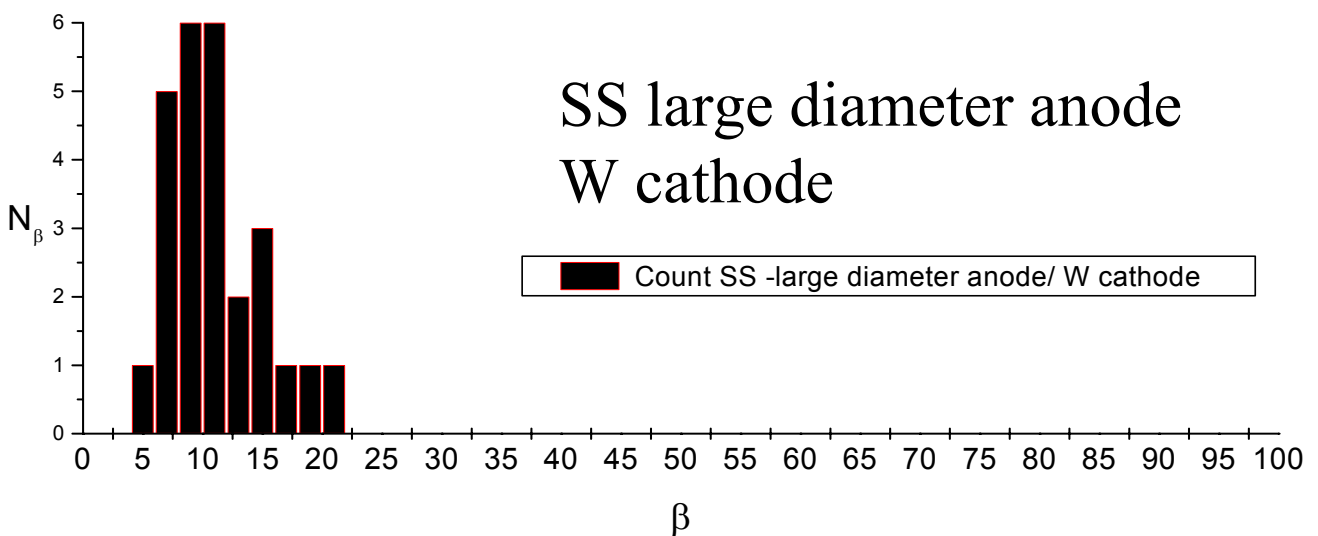
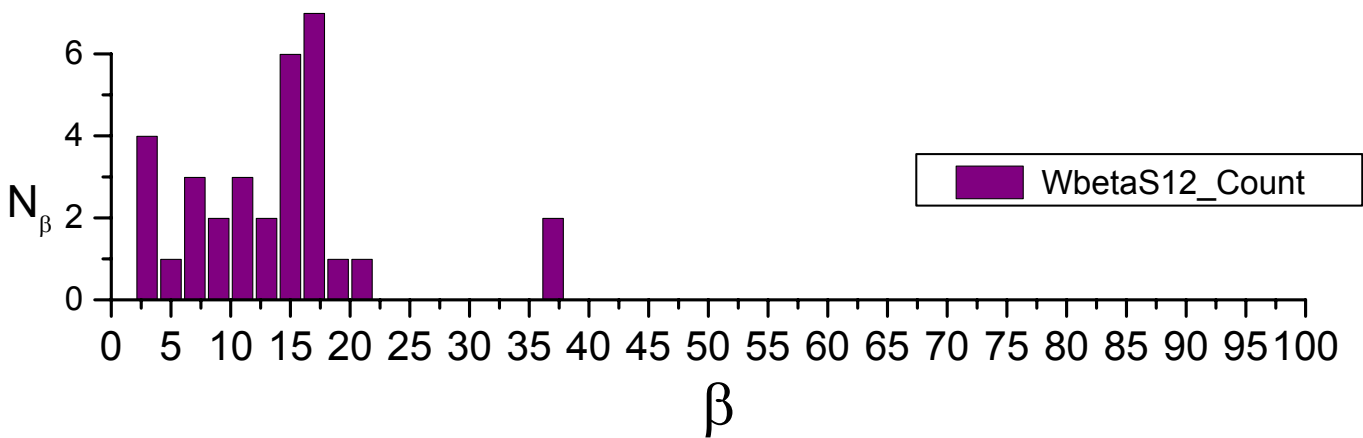
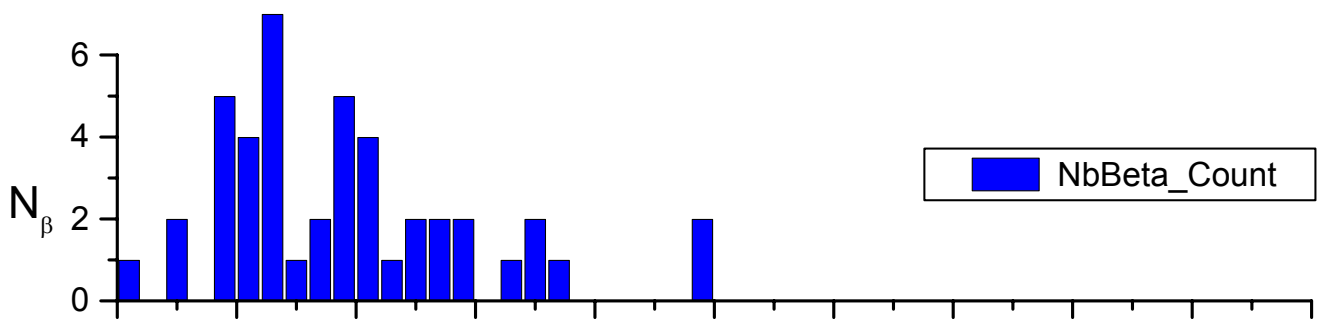
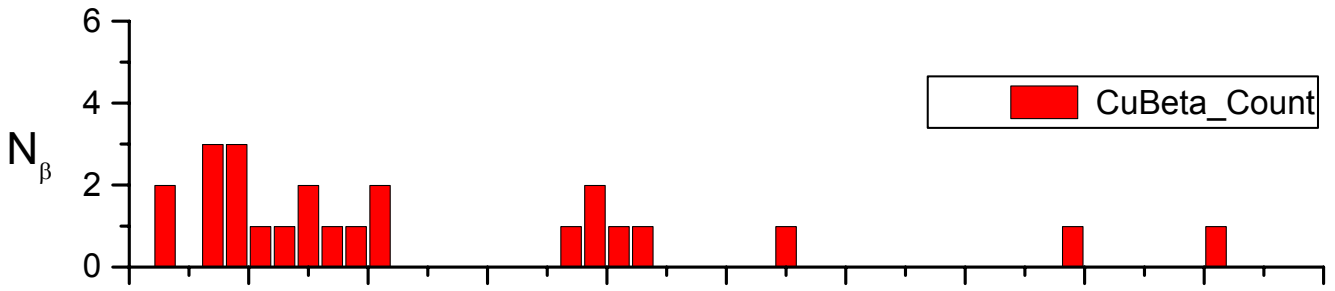


Analyze data by
linear fit to :

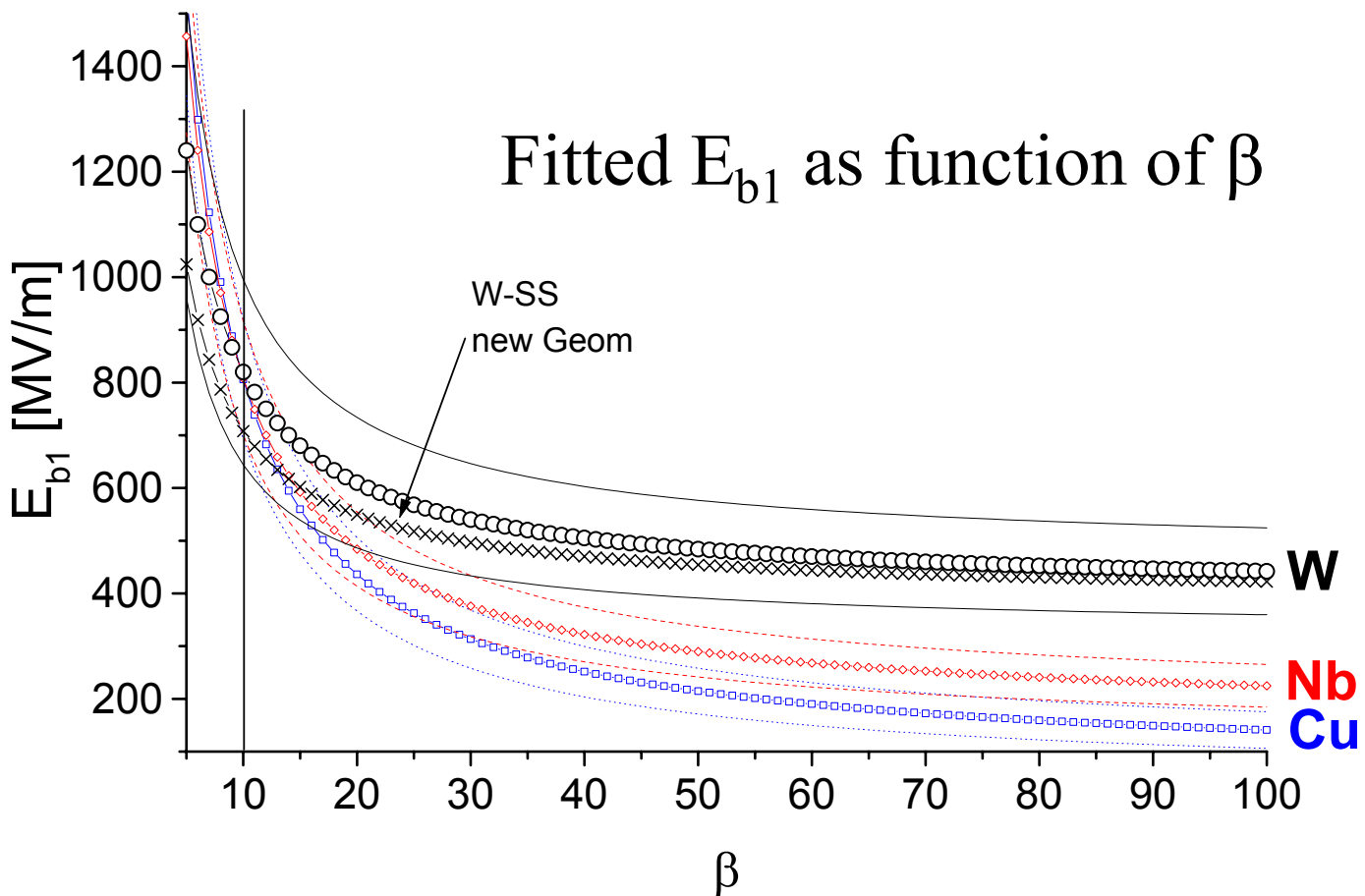
$$y(\beta) = E_{b1}\beta = \alpha_2 + \alpha_1\beta$$



Accumulate all breakdown data and analyze distribution of β values for Cu, Nb and W



Speculative conclusion I :



Cu behaves better than W for lower β
- higher thermal conductivity of Cu ?

For higher β , W behaves better than Cu
- heat conduction is limited by the protrusion ?
- The lower vapor pressure of W dominate the first breakdown field ?

- but what about Nb
(poor thermal conductivity ?)

Speculative conclusion II

Extrapolation to/application to irises :

Higher (E_{b1}) breakdown values for Cu (than W) could in principle be reached for lower β values

However,.....

- * breakdown of a defect, cause larger erosion for Cu than W => **larger β values** (recall, specific erosion 10 times higher for Cu compared to W).
- * At higher β values W have more acceptable E_b , after conditioning of initial adsorbate effects.
- * Oxide appears to degrade breakdown performance of Cu and Nb, while improve W.