

MVCMP-1 Low Temperature Physics





Modul MVCMP-1 consists of two parts:

Tutorials

Thu 14:15 - 16:00, INF 227, SR 02.403

Fri 14:15 - 16:00, INF 227, SR 03.404

Coordinator/Tutor: [Andreas Fleischmann](#)

Kirchhoff Institute for Physik (KIP)

room: 0.309, phone 06221/549880

email: andreas.fleischmann@kip.uni-heidelberg.de



Lecture:

Mon and Wed 11:15 – 13:00, HS2 KIP

[Christian Enss](#)

Kirchhoff Institute for Physik (KIP)

room: 1.106, phone 06221/549861

email: enss@kip.uni-heidelberg.de

Office hour: mondays 14:00 – 15:00, in addition by appointment

Web: <https://uebungen.physik.uni-heidelberg.de/vorlesung/20241/1875>



Start: 2nd week, i.e. 25./26.04.2024

Exercise sheets: Published each Tuesday [on homepage of lecture](#)

The **active participation** in the tutorials will be realized by **presenting solutions** every week. The willingness to present a solution has to be **indicated** at the beginning of the tutorial **by signing up** on a list of all participants. To be permitted to the final exam you need to sign up for **at least 60 %** of all possible problems.

In addition, you may hand in written solutions, but they will not be included in the grading. However, they will be corrected and returned.

Exam: Takes place as **written exam** at the end of term – date will be announced later

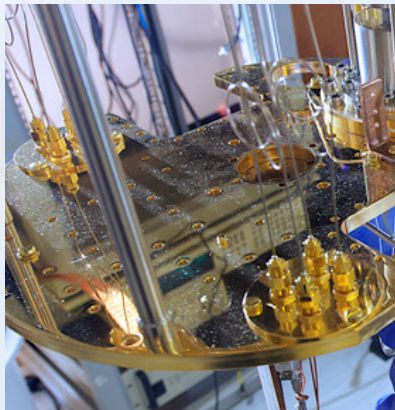
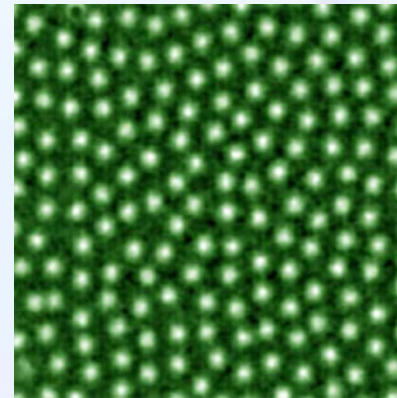


1. Quantum Fluids

- Superfluid ^4He
- Normalfluid ^3He
- Superfluid ^3He
- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ Mixtures

2. Solids at Low Temperatures

- Phonons
- Conduction Electrons
- Magnetic Moments
- Atomic Tunneling Systems
- Superconductivity



3. Refrigeration und Thermometry

- Gas Liquefaction
- Bath Cryostats
- Dilution Refrigerator
- Adiabatic Demagnetization
- Primary and Secondary thermometers

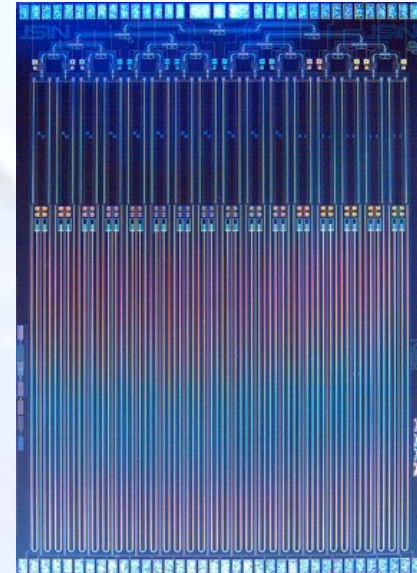


Why Low Temperatures?



J. Allen 1970

- ▶ selective freezing of degrees of freedom
- ▶ systems with small energies
- ▶ low noise measurements
- ▶ different time scales
- ▶ new phenomena and new technologies



Superfluidity

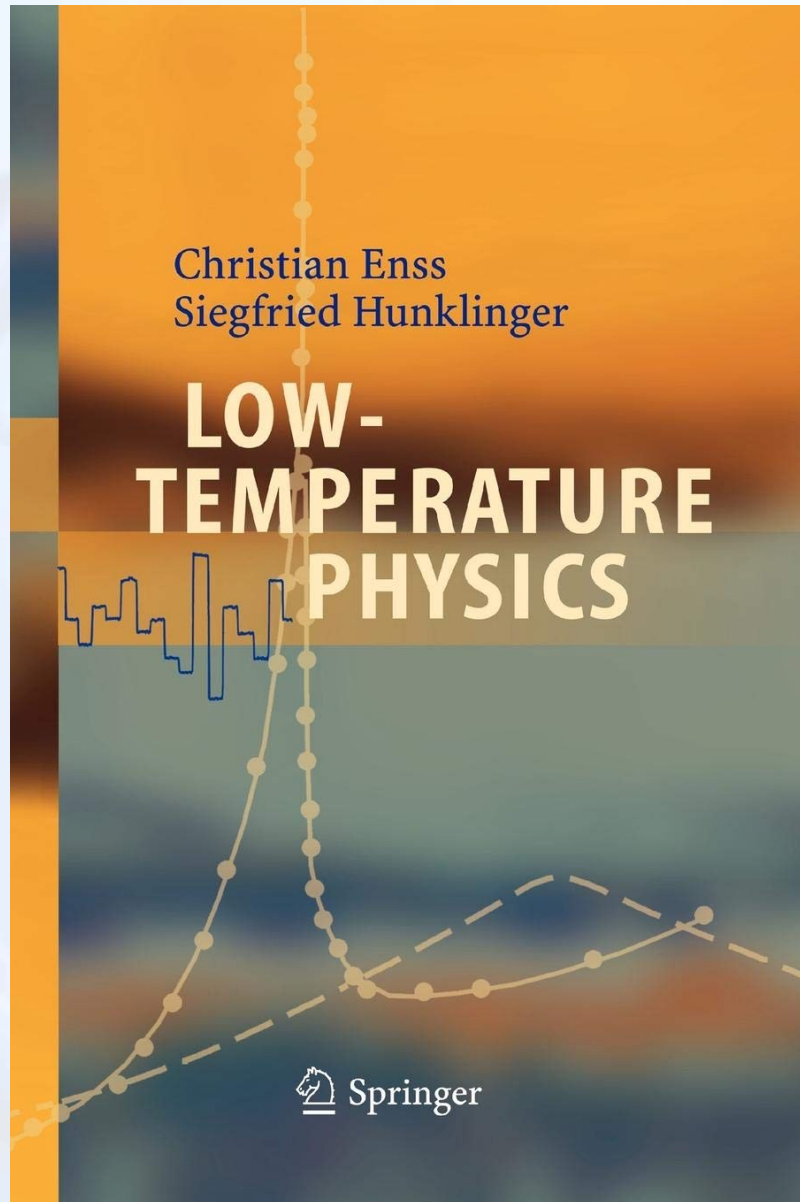
Superconductivity

Tunneling of atoms in solids

Quantum Metrology

Quantum Computing

Cryogenic Particle Detectors





Quantum Fluids

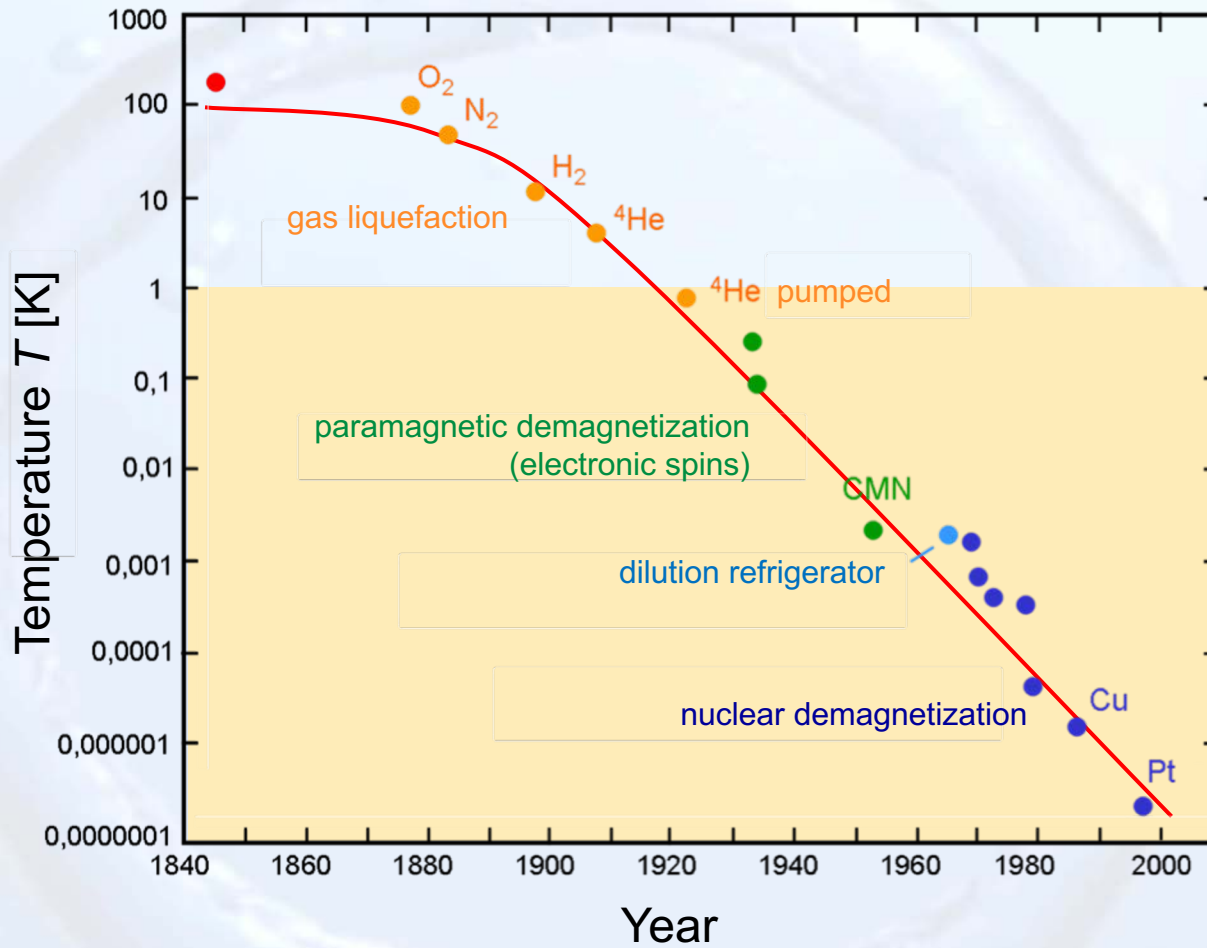
- C. Barenghi, N.G. Parker, A Primer on Quantum Fluids, Springer 2016
J. Wilks, D.S. Betts, Introduction to Liquid Helium, Oxford 1987
S.J. Putterman, Superfluid Hydrodynamics, North-Holland 1974
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D. Vollhardt, P. Wölfle, The Superfluid Phases of ^3He , Talyor&Francis 1990
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K.H. Bennemann, J. B. Ketterson (eds.), The Physics of Liquid and Solid Helium
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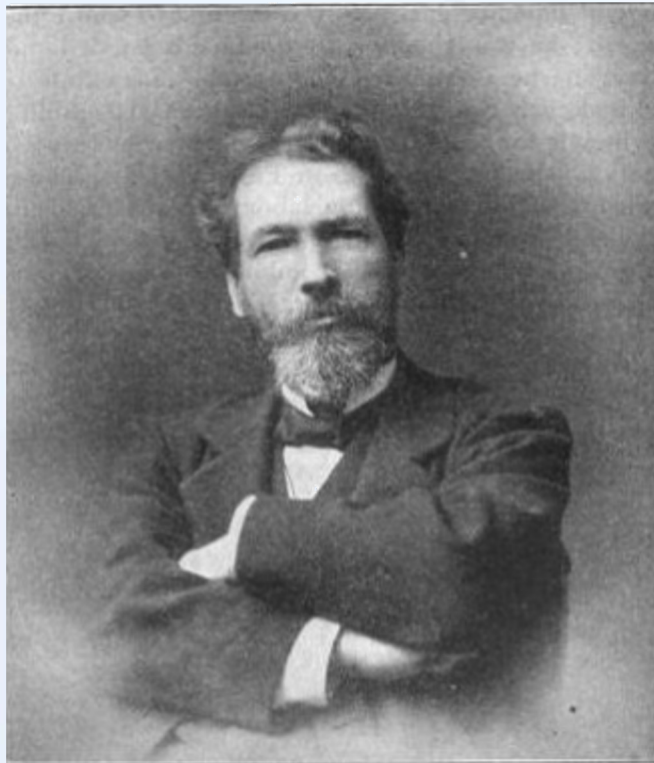
Solids

- S. Hunklinger, C. Enss, Solid State Physics, de Gruyter 2022
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Production of Low Temperatures

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Handbuch der Physik, Band XIV, Kältephysik I+II, Springer 1956
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D.S. Betts, Refrigeration and Thermometry Below One Kelvin, Sussex University Press 1986
O.V. Lounasmaa, Experimental Principles and Methods Below 1 K, Academic Press 1974
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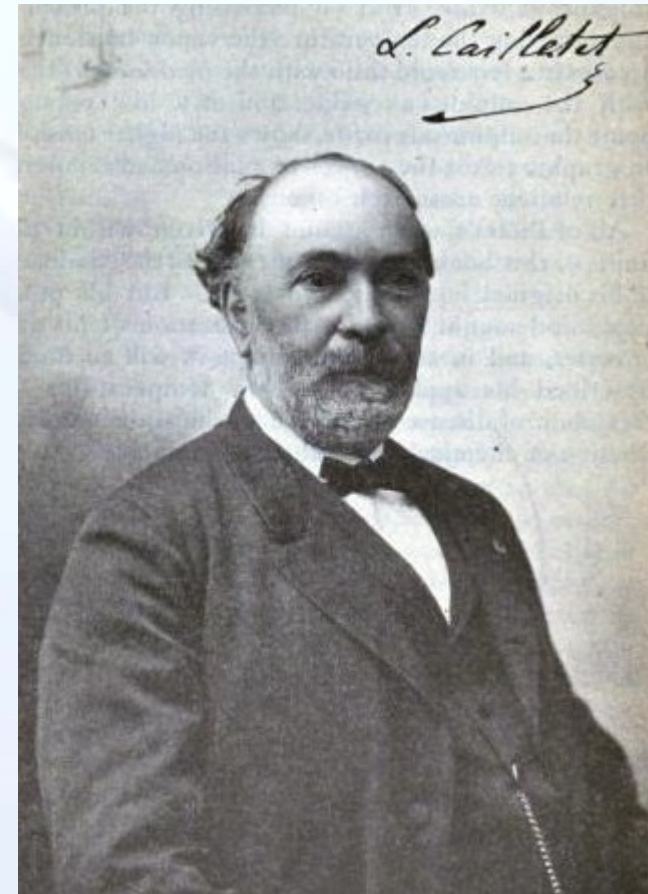




Raoul Pictet

Raoul-Pierre Pictet
Genova

Apparatus of Cailletet



Louis P. Cailletet
Paris



Karol Stanislaw Olszewski
Krakow

Zygmunt Florenty
von Wróblewski
Krakow

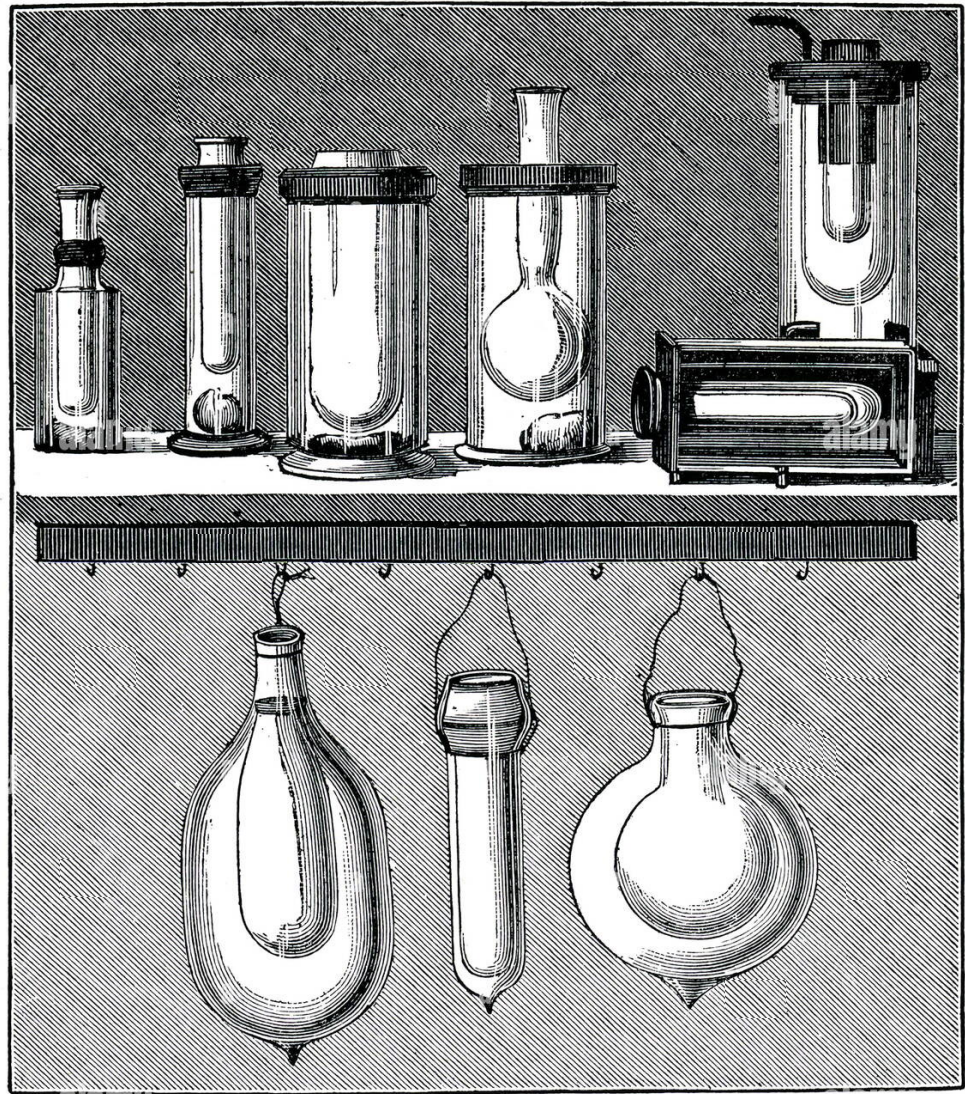


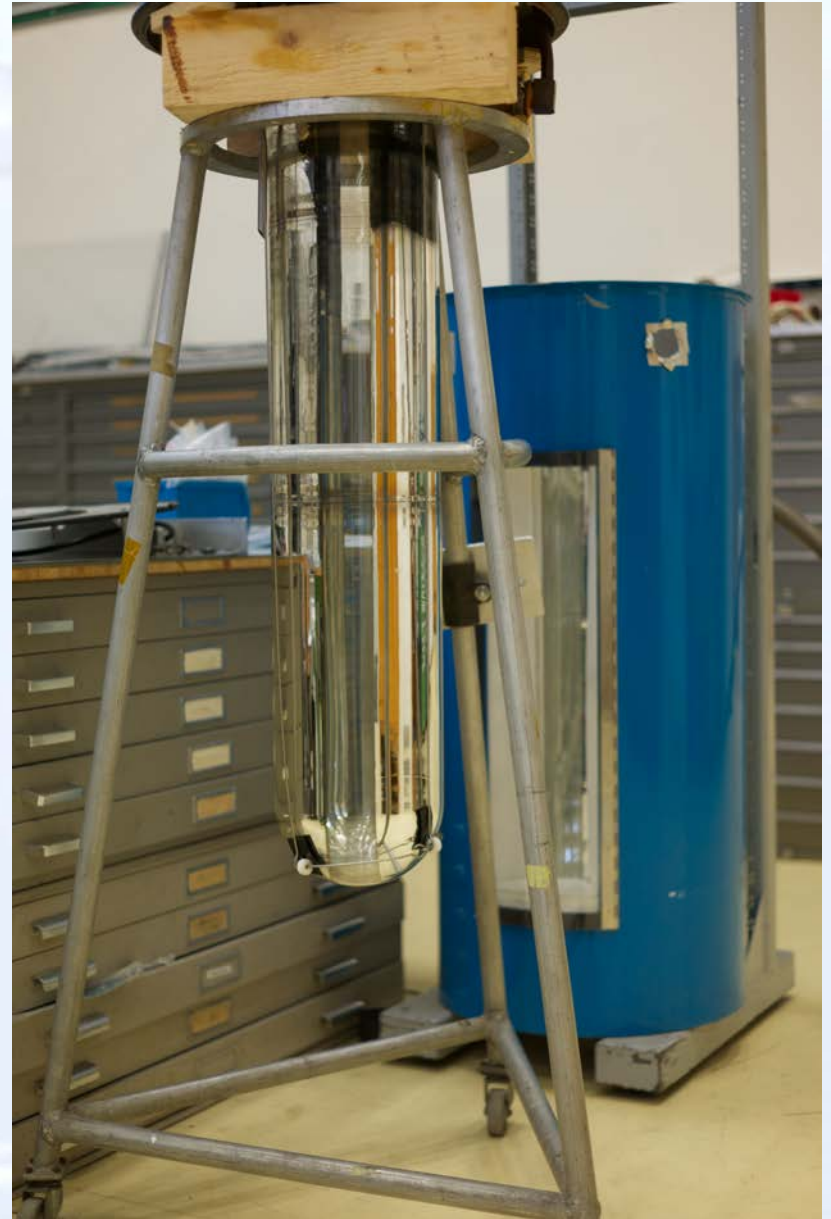
Zygmunt Wróblewski





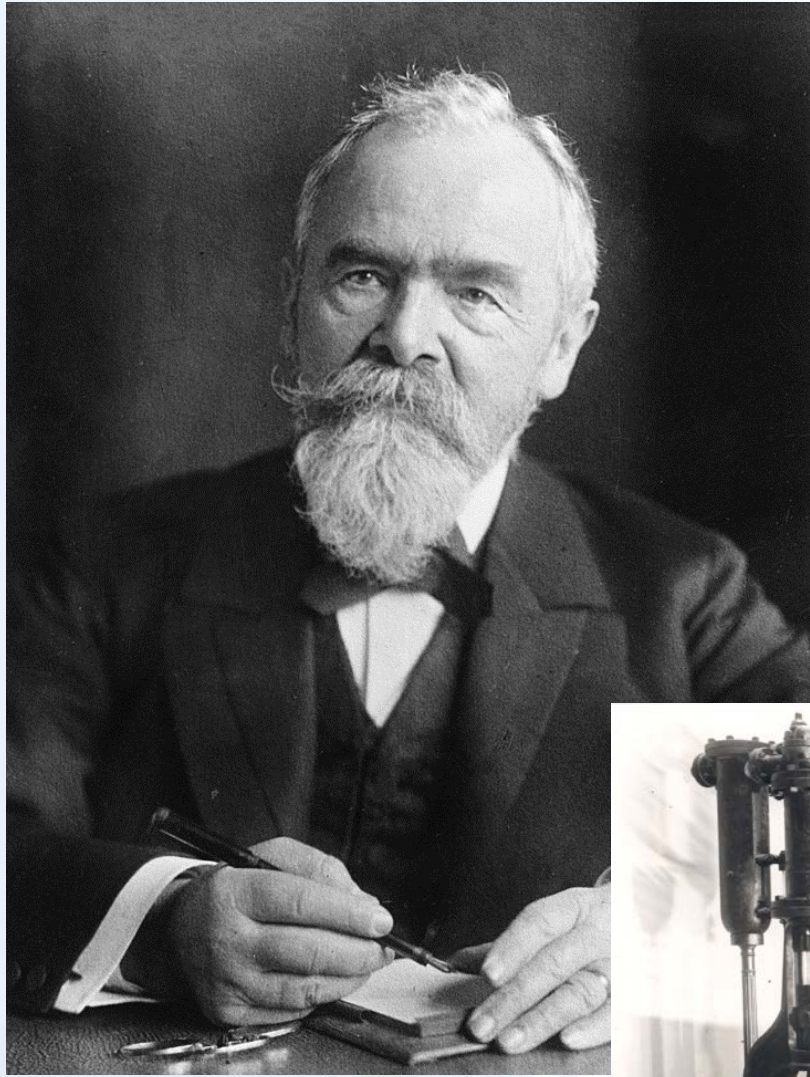
Development of Dewar Vessels in 1890



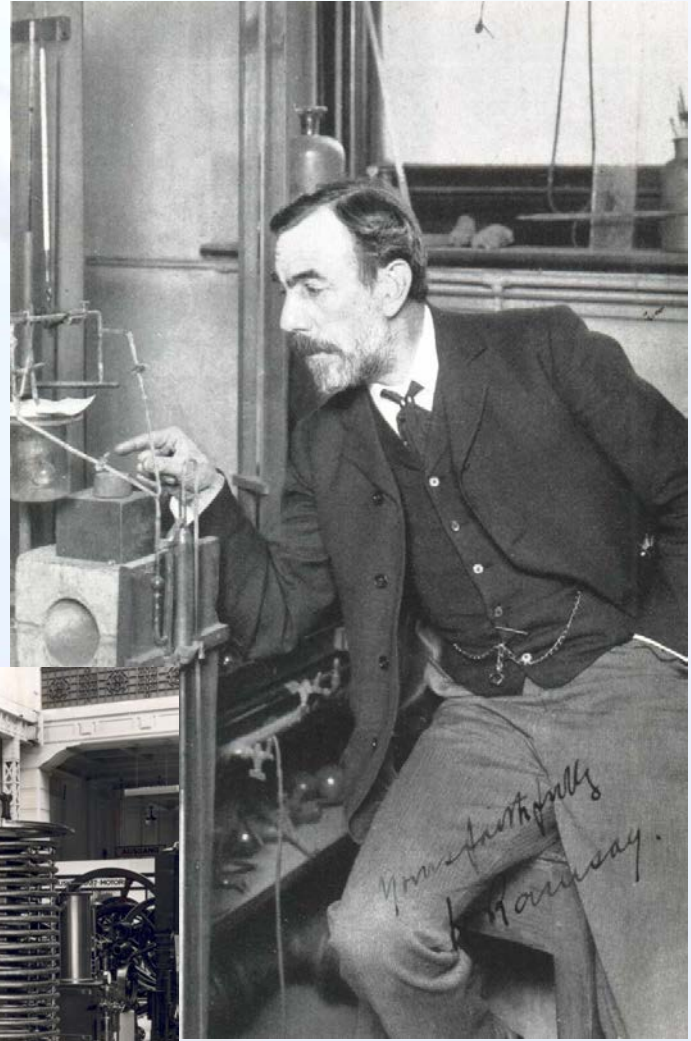




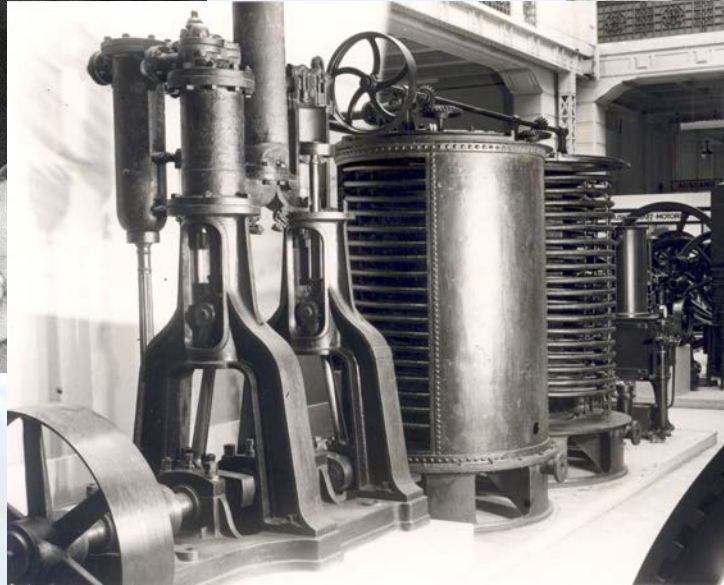
Liquefaction of Air in 1895

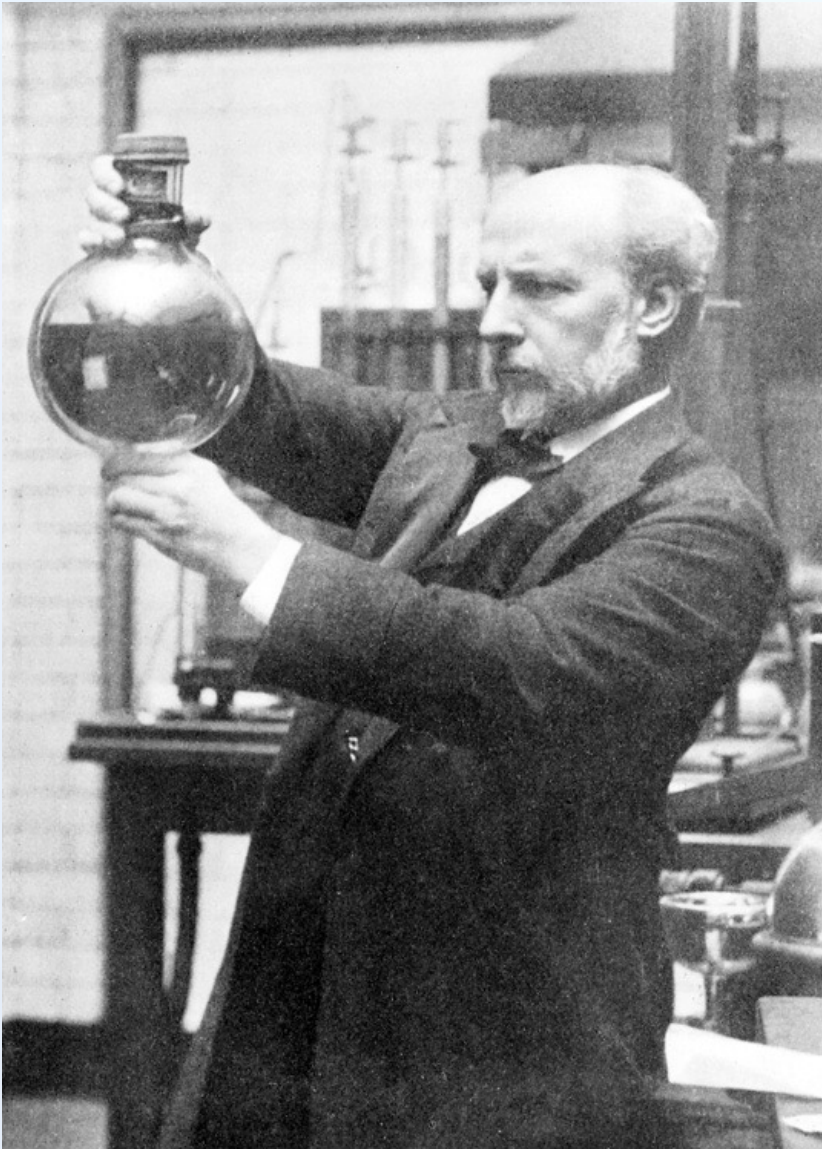


Carl v. Linde
Munich

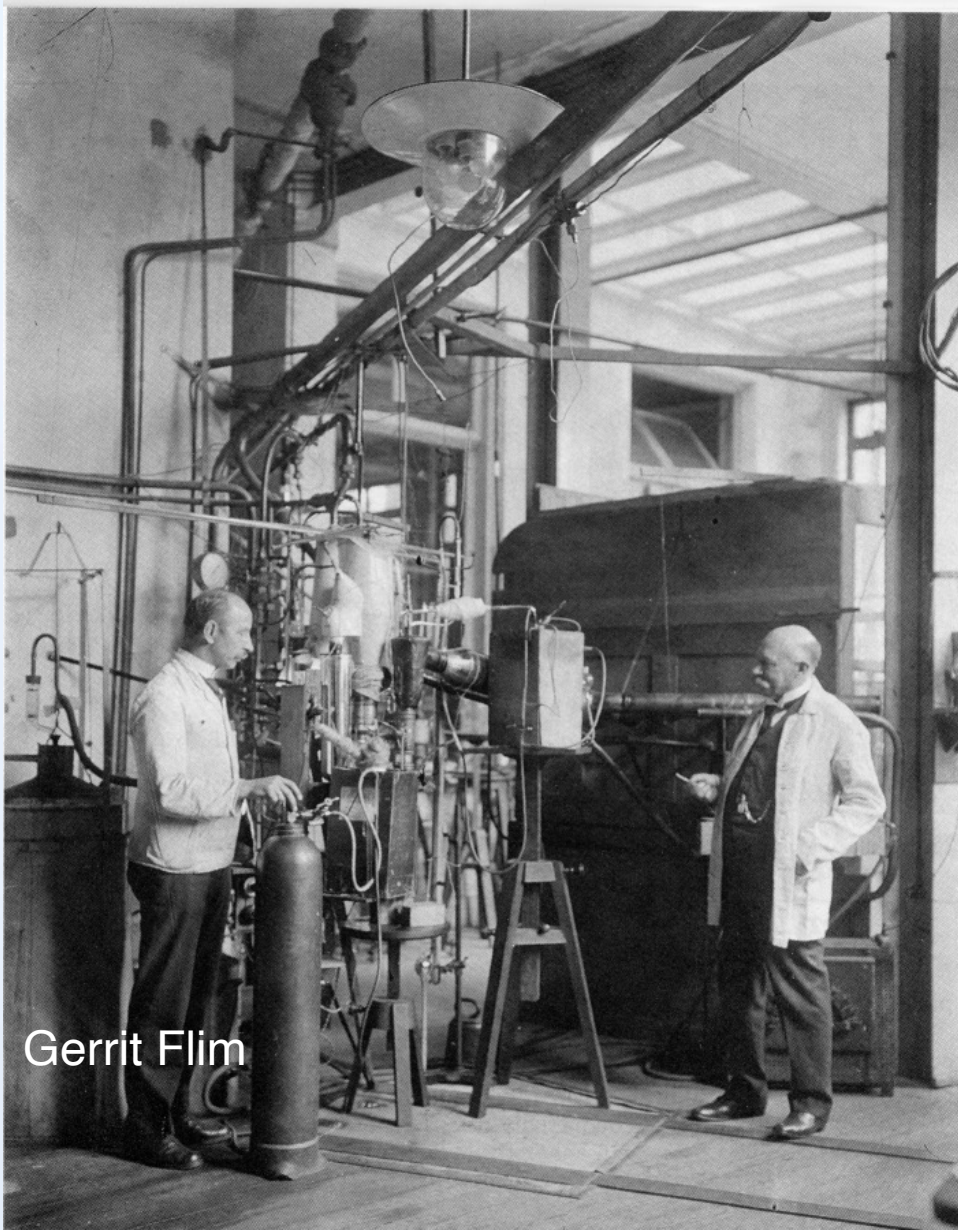


William Hampson
London





London 1916

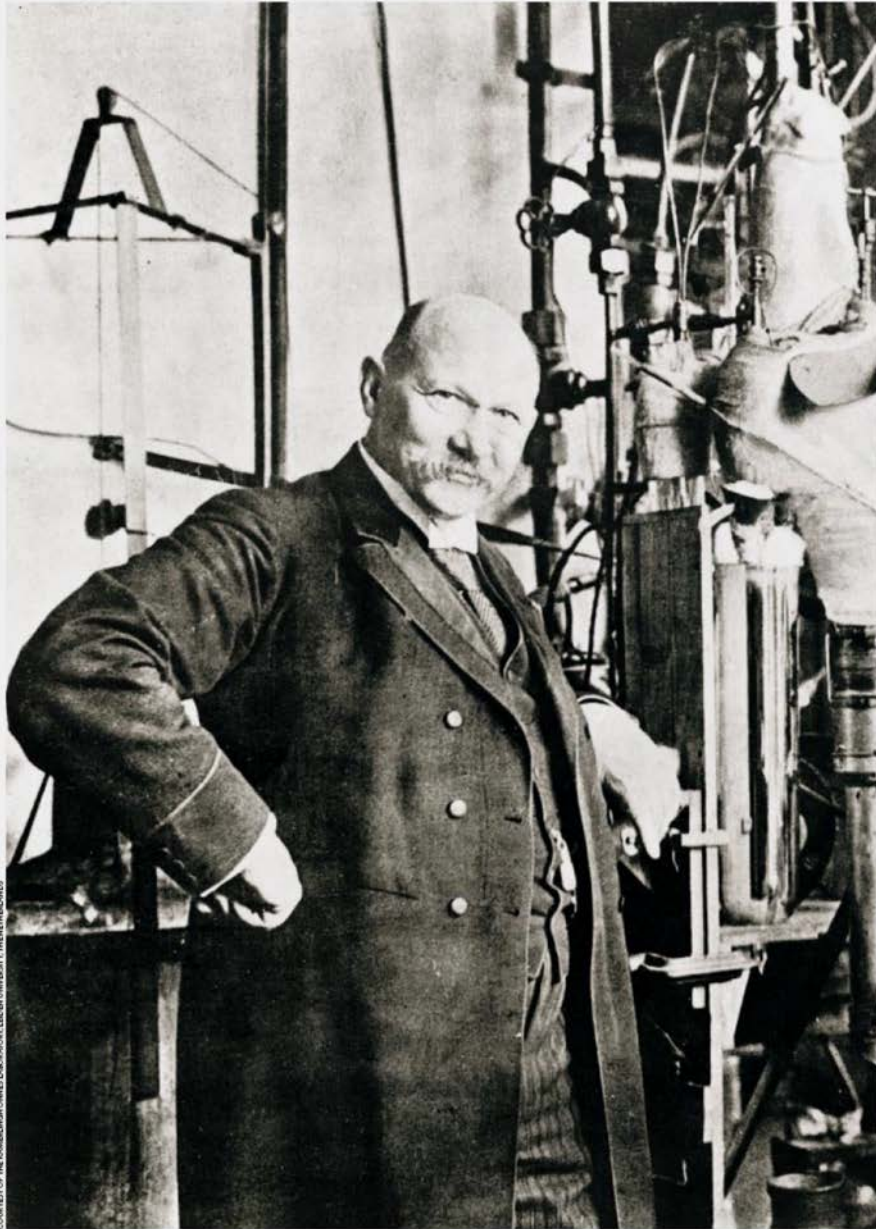


Gerrit Flim

Heike Kamerlingh Onnes
Leiden



Liquefaction of He in 1908





Walter B. Ford IX-28
 E. Bloch IX.29
 Max Planck
 Ch. Falery
 Chas. E. St. John
 E. Fermi 11/1/1932
 W. Heisenberg 12.12.35
 Paul Erdős 25. oct 1940
 F. J. Morrell 25. Nov 1949
 H. Ehrenfest 31 May 1949
 L. Nordheim 4 X. 29
 R. Peierls 20. II. 30
 M. Polanyi 22.5.1933
 23 Mai 1928
 Albert Denjoy 25 Dec 1928
 4 July 1928
 Tibor Tarkenton 18. June 1929
 W.B. Pritikin 30. Sept. 1930
 R. H. Fowler 2 X 46
 Hans Bethe 23.11.32
 G. E. Uhlenhuth 2. March 1942
 Oskar L. Christman 1911
 Heinrich Behmke 50
 Leon W. G. Bend 29-6-22
 V. PAULI 25. II
 J. J. Pali 18 II 1928
 O. Veit 18 II 1929
 R. Ladenburg 27
 P. Debye 14
 W. L. Bragg 6
 Rayleigh
 E. Borel
 Pierre Curie
 Franco Ruffini
 Harold C. Urey
 F. Simon
 R. R. A. Kerr 1949

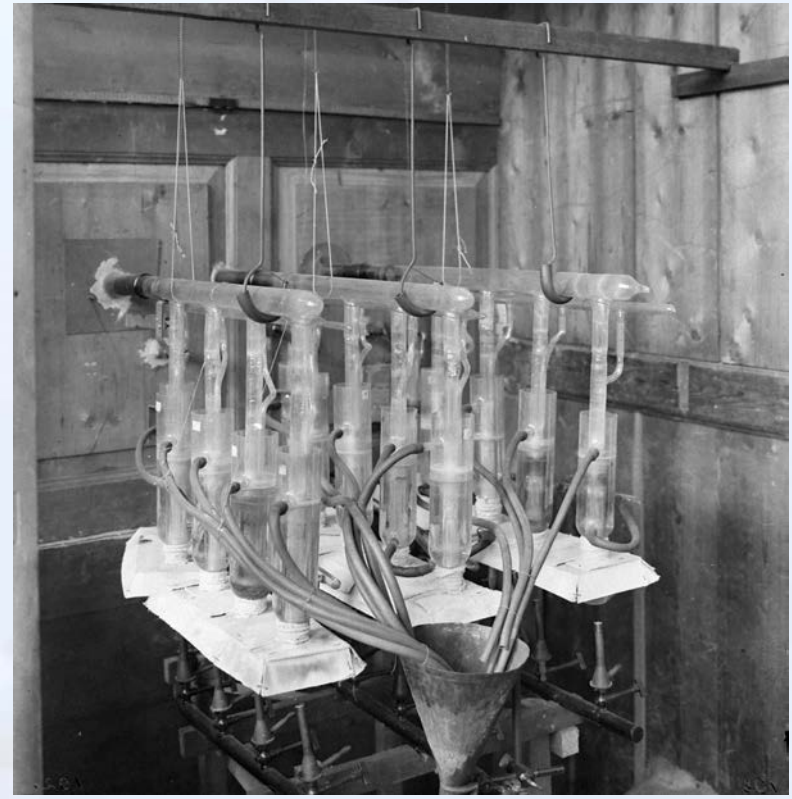


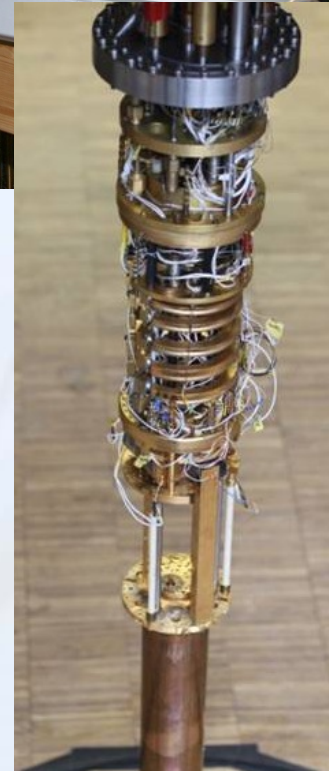
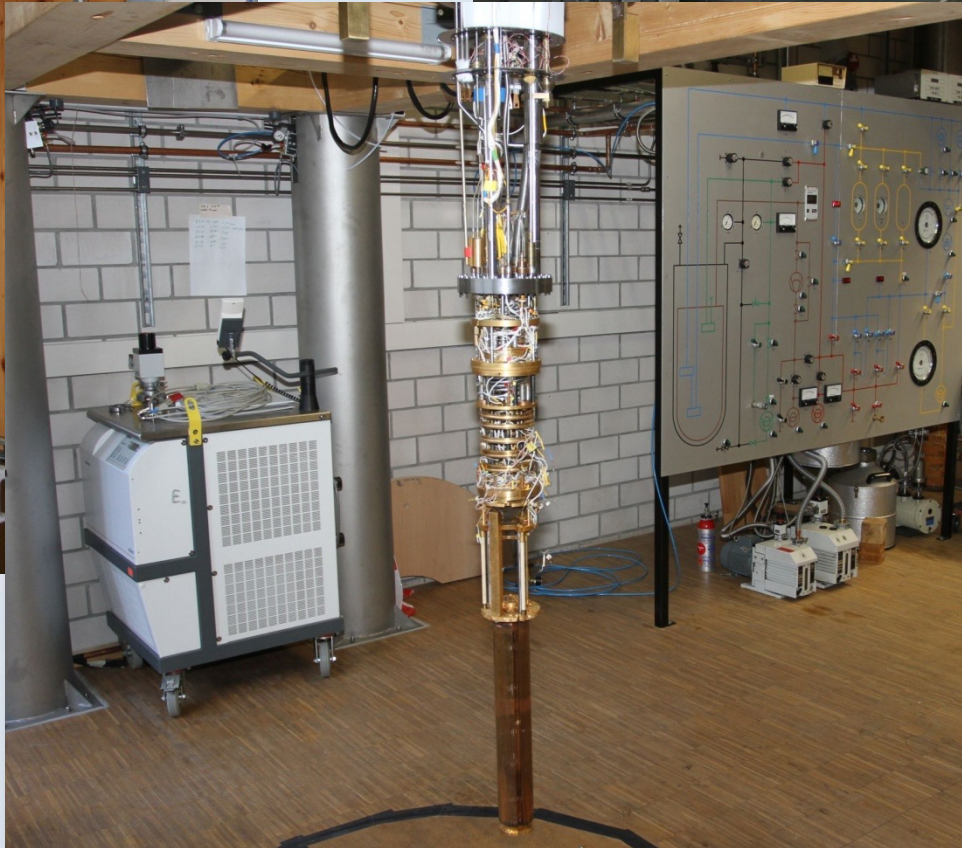
L. P. Kof...
 X. F. ...
 Meghnad Saha 25 VI 27
 Bergen Davis VII 27 Ur. Mann II-28 A
 Robert Oppenheimer VII 27 N Bohr 5-3-28 H
 M. L. Leuveninghous July 1927 R. de L. Kron
 R. C. Tolman August 22, 1927 O. Klein
 Max Born October 1927 M. Nuyens
 A. Einstein Feb. 23 E. Schrödinger
 Jean Becquerel mai 1928 F. W. ...
 H. Feitel 24 Apr. 1935 H. Spencer ...
 H. L. ... 20 Oct 1931 E. Wigner ...
 R. B. Luty May 12, 1937 J. Franck ...
 H. Hopf 8. 8. 48. U. Rosenfeld ...
 L. B. Branning



- 1922 ^4He pumping, Kamerlingh Onnes (Leiden) \rightarrow 0.82 K
- 1933 adiabatic demagnetisation paramagnetic salts, de Haas (Leiden), Giauque (Berkeley) \rightarrow 0.25 K
- 1965 dilution refrigeration, Das, DeBruyn, Taconis (Leiden) \rightarrow 0.22 K
- 1996 adiabatic demagnetisation of nuclei Pobell & coworkers (Bayreuth) \rightarrow 1.5 μK

Battery of mercury diffusion pumps used 1921 to obtain 0.82 K in Leiden







Heidelberg University
CNRS Grenoble
Aalto University
Slovak Academy
Basel University
Royal Holloway UL
Lancaster University
TU Vienna

8 EMP Institutions
3 Technology Partners
6 Industrial Partners



Main goals:

- ▶ provide **access** to **unique** European **infrastructures**
- ▶ **improve** infrastructure
- ▶ exploit **new technologies**





Quantum Fluids

Def: fluids for which **quantum effects** are **important**



Not a clear definition, because all matter consist of atoms and hence quantum effects are important

However, for **light elements** (H_2), He \rightarrow **spectacular macroscopic effects**



1.1 Basic Facts

- ▶ discovery in corona of the sun during eclipse 1868 in India by [J. Janssen](#)



- ▶ confirmed independently in regular daylight by [J. Janssen](#) and [N. Lockyer](#)
- ▶ name coined by [N. Lockyer](#) from the Greek word for sun [helios](#) (ἥλιος)
- ▶ discovery on earth 1895 in Norwegian rock by [W. Ramsay](#)

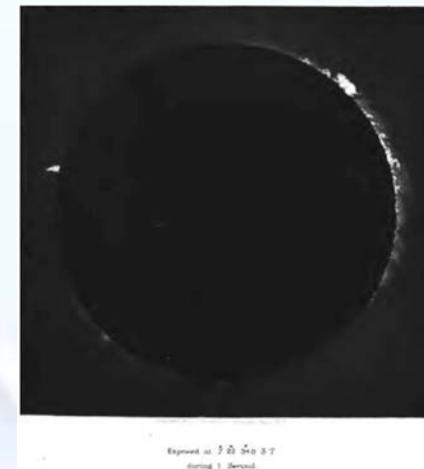
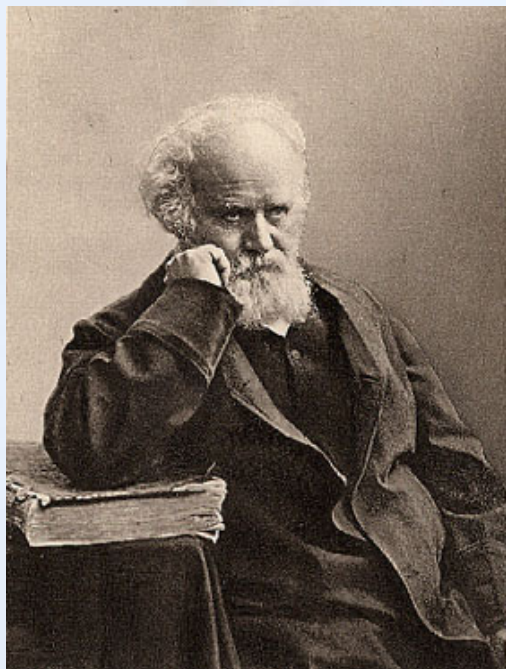


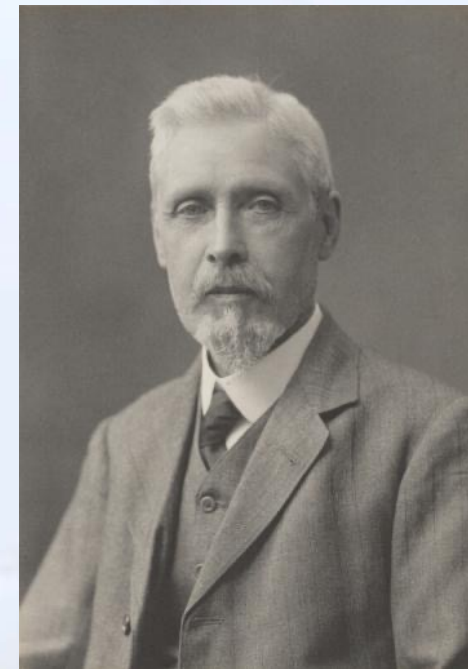
photo of eclipse 1868



Pierre Jules César Janssen





Joseph Norman Lockyer

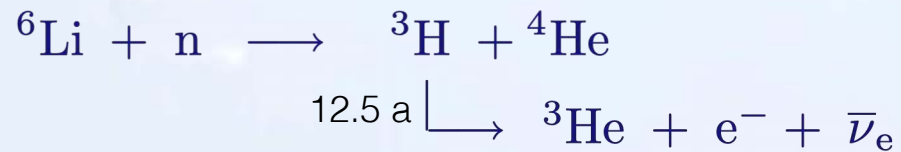



Sir William Ramsay




^4He  air (5.2 ppm)
gas wells (a few percent) USA, Russia, Qatar, Algeria

^3He  Natural abundance ~ 0.14 ppm
nuclear reactions, reactors, H-bomb



^6He  not stable: $\tau_{1/2} = 0.85 \text{ s}$ ($l = 3/2$)

^8He  not stable: $\tau_{1/2} = 0.10 \text{ s}$ ($l = 3/2$)



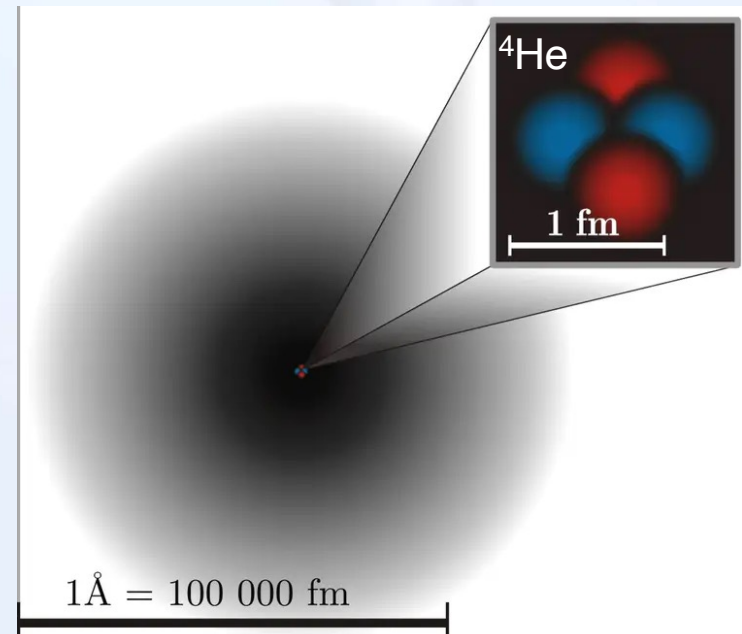
atom:

- ▶ closed shell → simple spherical structure / shape
- ▶ smallest atom
- ▶ $\epsilon \sim 1$, $n \sim 1$, colorless

nuclear spin:

^3He $I = \frac{1}{2}$ Fermions

^4He $I = 0$ Bosons



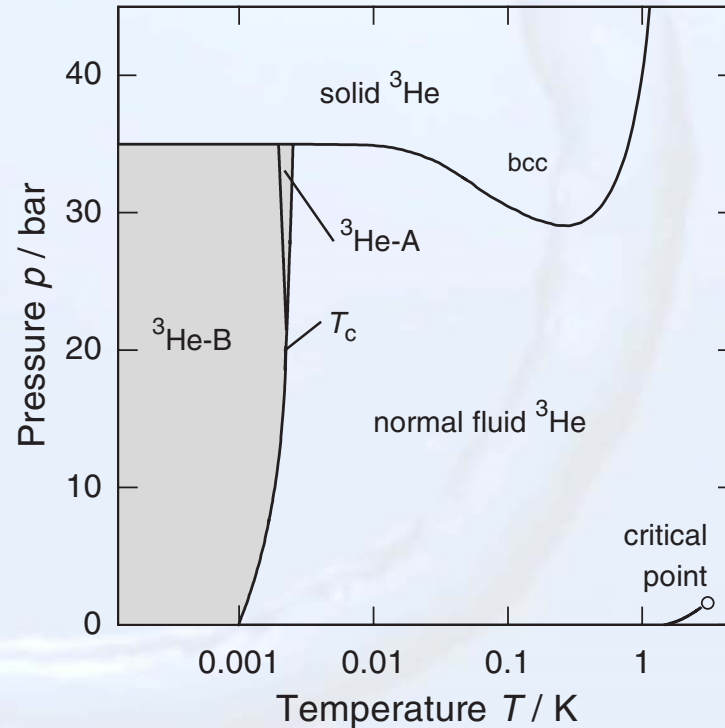
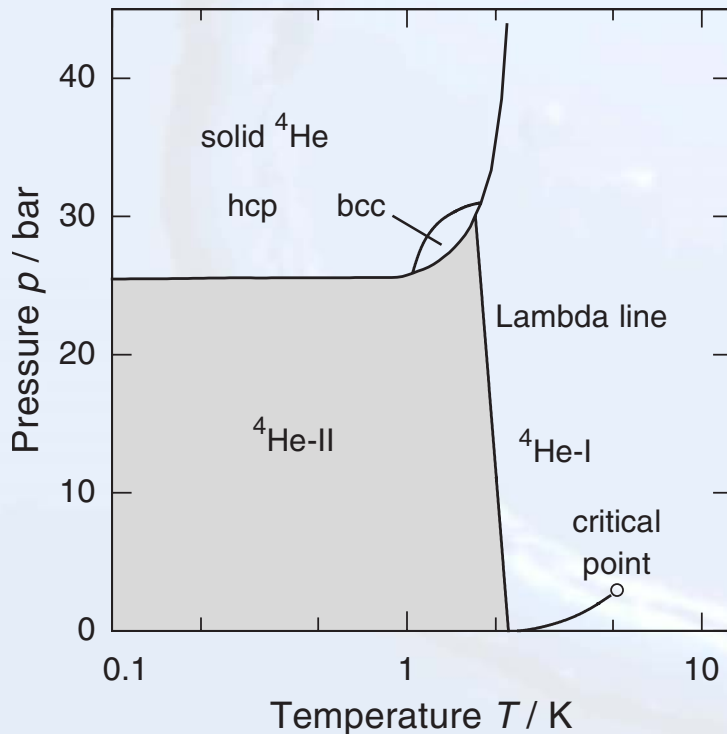


Does helium fit the usual solid-liquid-gas scheme?

➔ no, it remains liquid even for $T \rightarrow 0$ K

Reason: small binding forces and large zero-point energy \rightarrow more later

Solidification under pressure (> 25 bar for ^4He , > 33 bar for ^3He)





^4He has **two** liquid phases



He-I, normalfluid

He-II, superfluid

^3He has **four** liquid phases

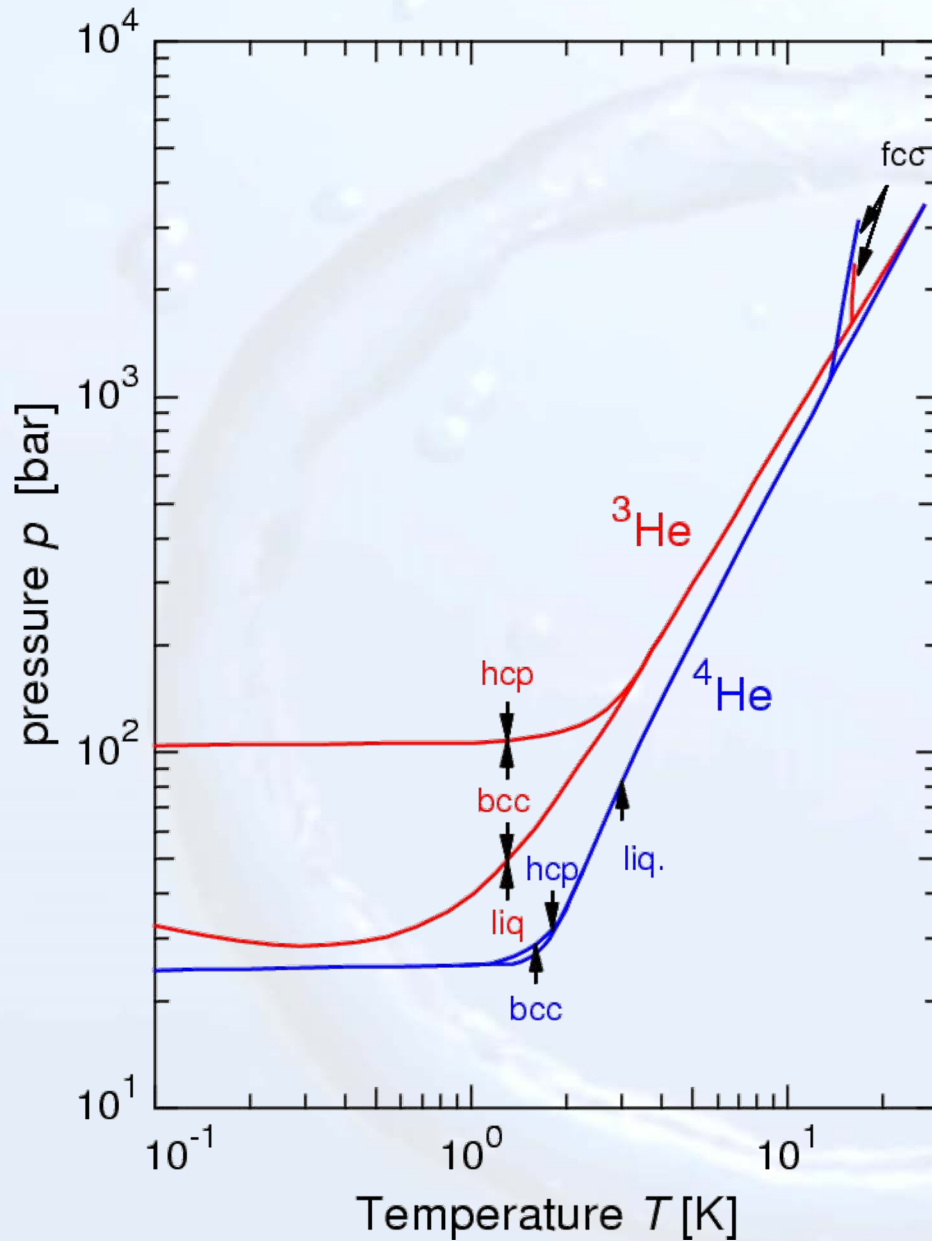


$^3\text{He-N}$, normalfluid

$^3\text{He-A}$, $^3\text{He-A}_1$, $^3\text{He-B}$, superfluid

some numbers:

	^3He	^4He
boiling temperature at normal pressure T_b (K)	3.19	4.21
critical temperature T_c (K)	3.32	5.19
critical pressure p_c (bar)	1.16	2.29
density for $T \rightarrow 0$ ρ_0 (g cm^{-3})	0.076	0.145
density at boiling point ρ_b (g cm^{-3})	0.055	0.125



^3He and ^4He both have three solid phases: hcp, bcc, fcc



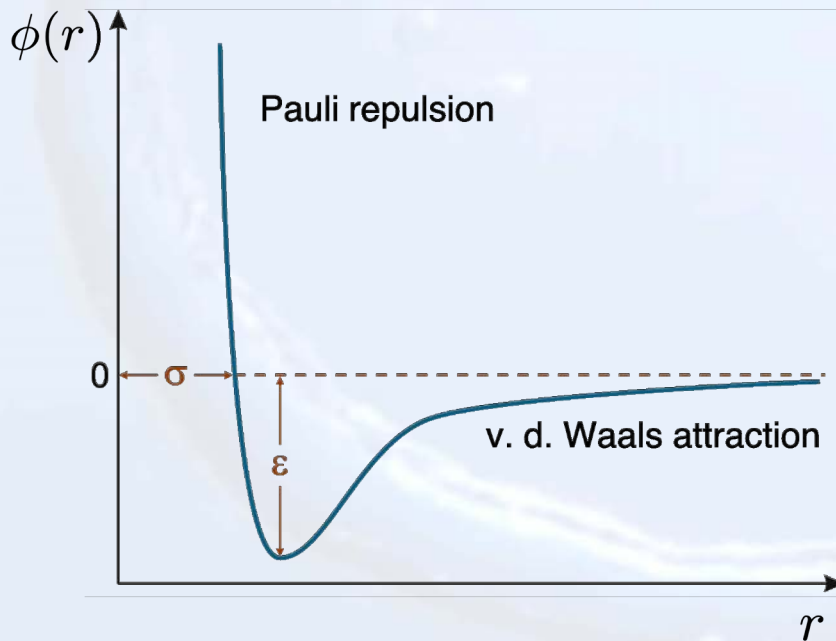
Why does helium remain liquid under normal pressure?

binding energy \longleftrightarrow zero-point energy

Binding between **two** He atoms: v. d. Waals interaction

\longrightarrow Lennard Jones Potential: $\phi(r) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right]$

\uparrow repulsion \uparrow attraction



For both He isotopes:

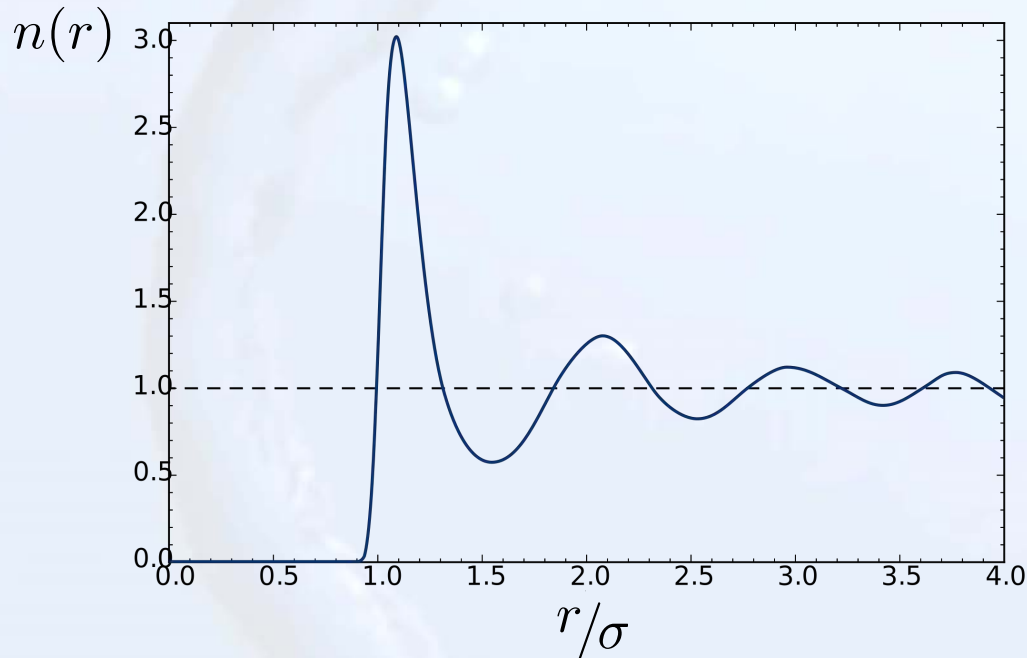
$$\sigma = 2.56 \text{ \AA}$$

$$\epsilon/k_B = 10.2 \text{ K}$$



total potential energy for liquid He:

$$\rightarrow E_{\text{pot}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} \phi(r) 4\pi r^2 n(r) dr$$



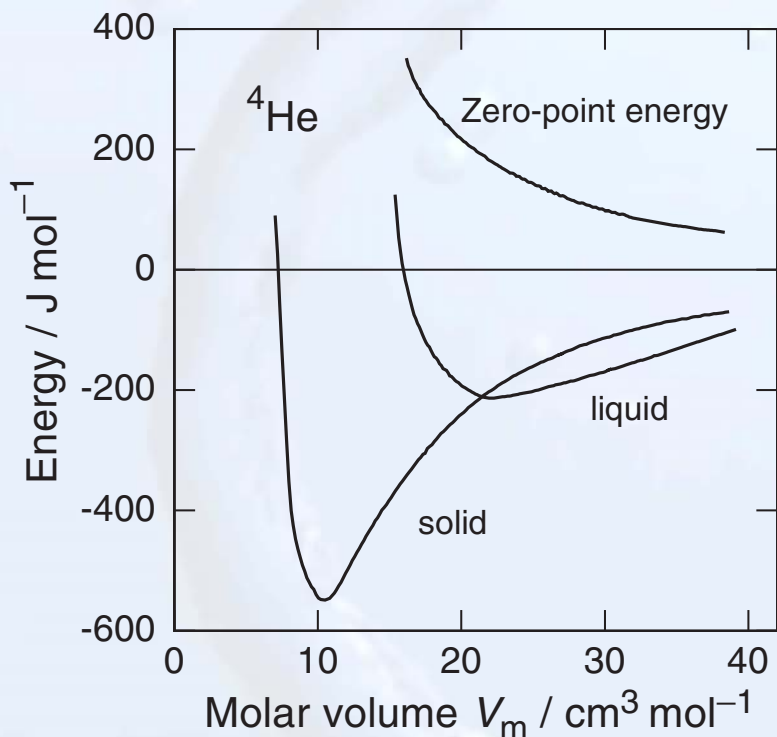
↑
radial density function
can be determined by neutron
or X-ray scattering

zero-point energy in a simple approximation:
(assumption: 3-d box potential)

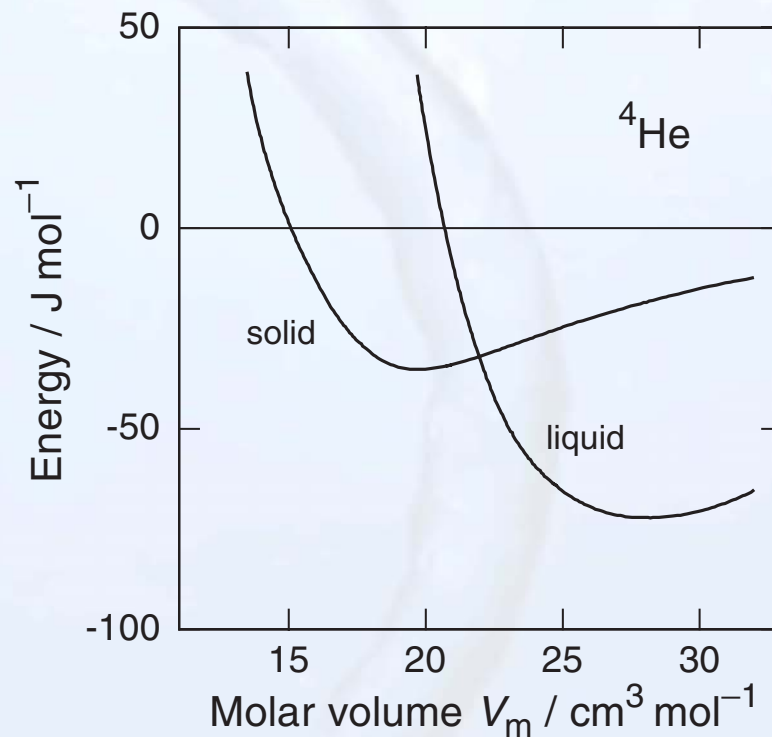
$$E_0 = \frac{3\hbar^2 \pi^2}{2mV^{2/3}} \propto \frac{1}{m}$$



Potential energy for **solid** and **liquid** He and **zero-point energy**



Total binding energy for **solid** and **liquid** He



liquid phase is energetically more **favorable**