



FIG. 7.16 Combination reaction-and-measurement mandrel for Nb_3Sn . The Nb_3Sn conductor is heat-treated on the same mandrel used for measurements (typically made of stainless steel or Ti-6%Al-4%V). The copper end pieces are replaced by Ti-6%Al-4%V or stainless-steel spacer rings during reaction to keep the sample from sticking. After heat treatment, the copper end pieces are reinstalled to serve as current contacts.