Superconducting Magnets "pour les nuls"

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CAS on Magnets

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Overview

- Why superconductors ? A motivation
- A superconductor physics primer
- Superconducting magnet design
  - Wires, tapes and cables
  - Operating margins
  - Cooling of superconducting magnets
  - Stability, quench and protection
  - AC loss
- The making of a superconducting magnet
- Examples of superconducting magnet systems

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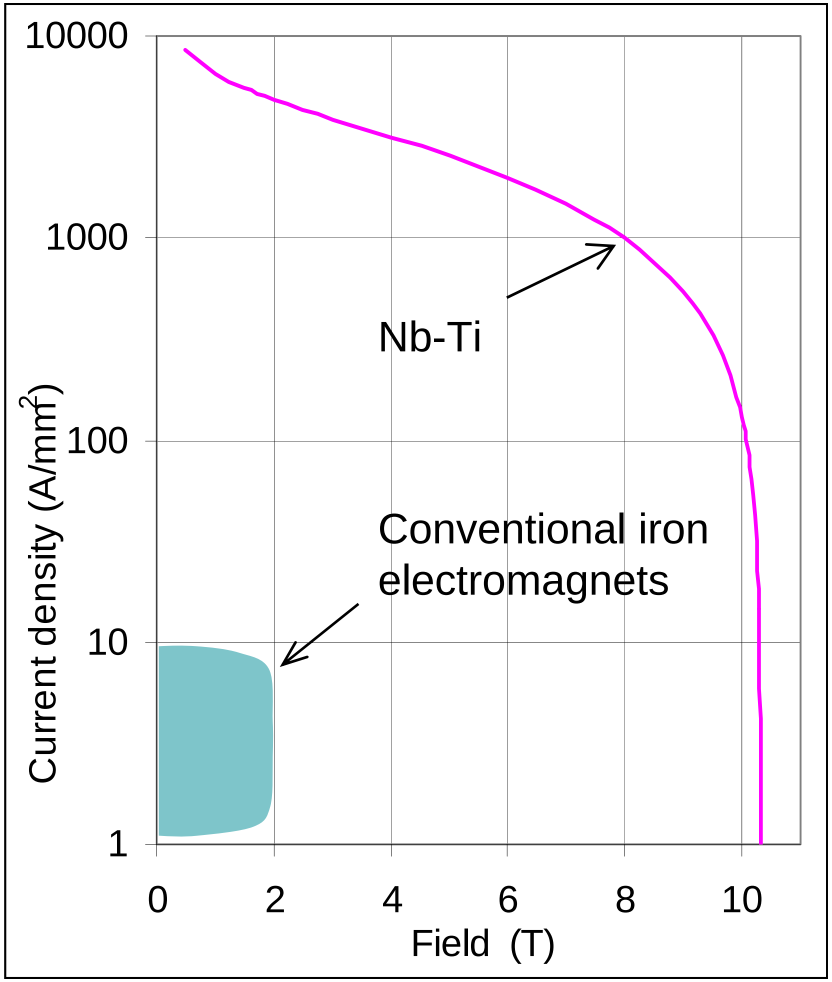
Graphics by courtesy of M.N. Wilson

Why superconductivity anyhow ?

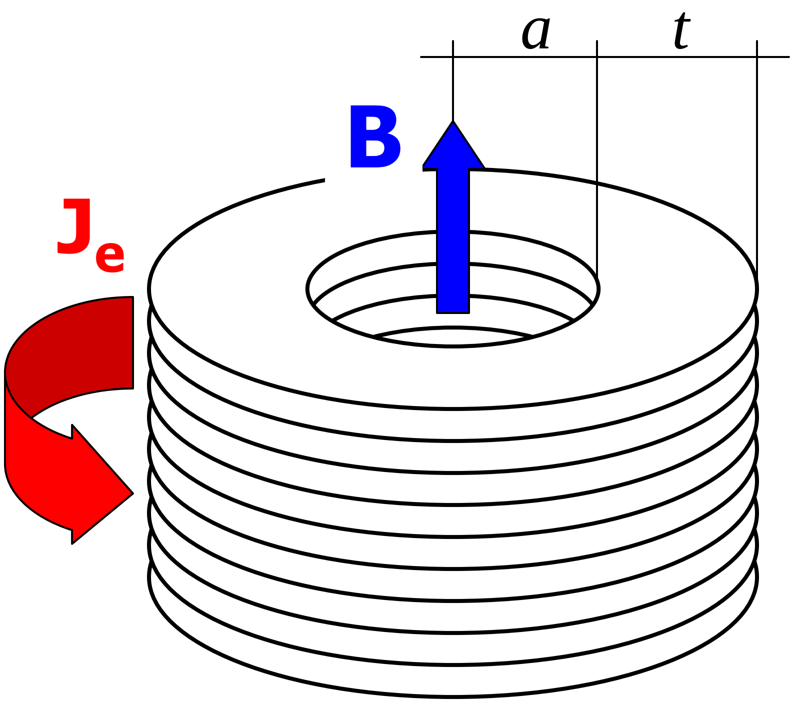
- **Abolish Ohm's law !**
  - no power consumption (although need refrigeration power)
  - high current density
  - ampere turns are cheap, so don't need iron (although often use it for shielding)
- Consequences
  - lower running cost ⇒ new commercial possibilities
  - energy savings
  - high current density ⇒ smaller, lighter, cheaper magnets ⇒ reduced capital cost
  - higher magnetic fields economically feasible ⇒ new research possibilities



High current density: solenoids

- The field produced by an infinitely long solenoid is:

$$B = \mu_o J_e t$$



- In solenoids of finite length the central field is:

$$B = \mu_o f J_e t$$

  where f is a factor less than 1, typically ~ 0.8

- The thickness (volume, cost) of a solenoid for a given field is inversely proportional to the engineering current density J_e

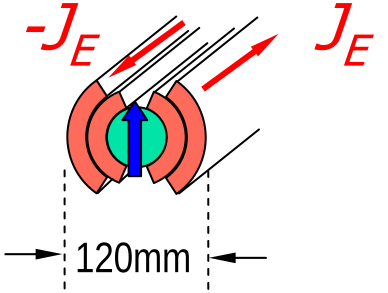
Graphics by courtesy of M.N. Wilson

High current density - dipoles

- The field produced by an ideal dipole is:

$$B = \mu_o J_e \frac{t}{2}$$

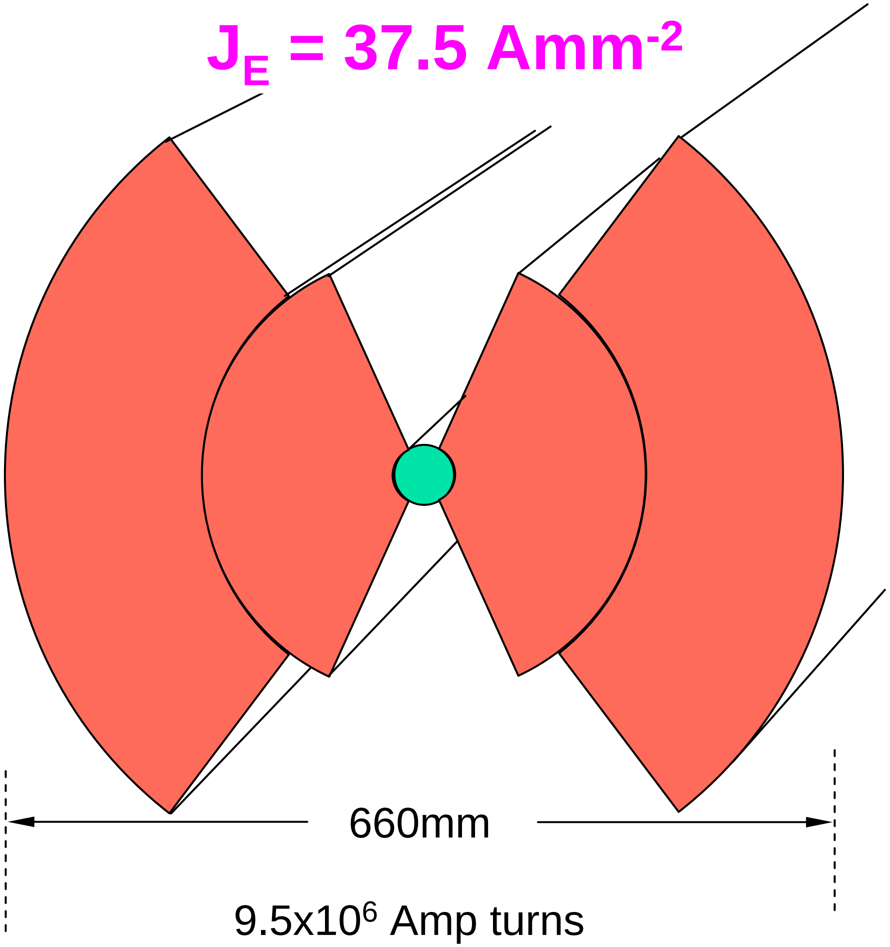
J_E = 375 Amm^{-2}



LHC dipole

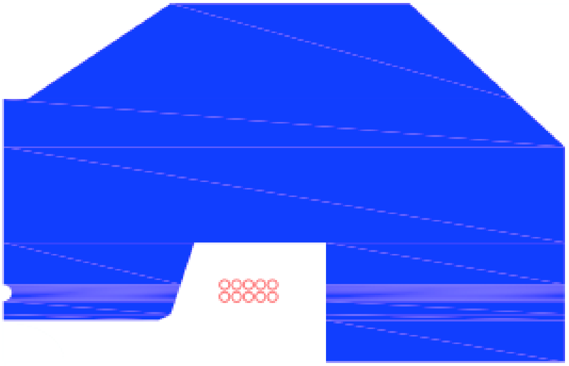
$9.5\mathrm{x}10^5$ Amp turns
$=1.9\mathrm{x}10^6$ A.m per m

J_E = 37.5 Amm^{-2}



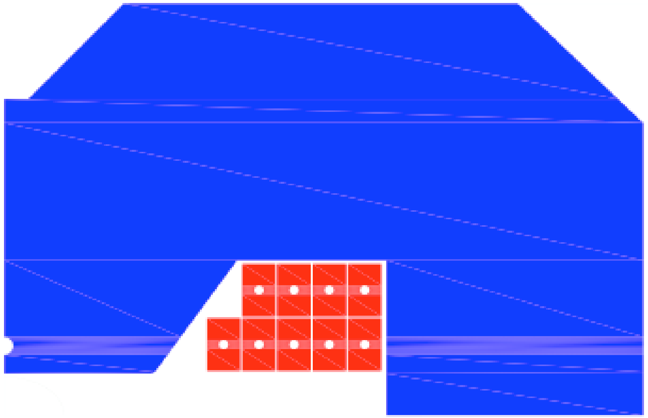
$9.5\mathrm{x}10^6$ Amp turns
$=1.9\mathrm{x}10^7$ A.m per m

Abolish Ohm’s law - The (f)lower-power dipole



Super-conducting dipole

Iron weight [tons]	10
Peak voltage [V]	34
Average AC loss power [W]	1.3

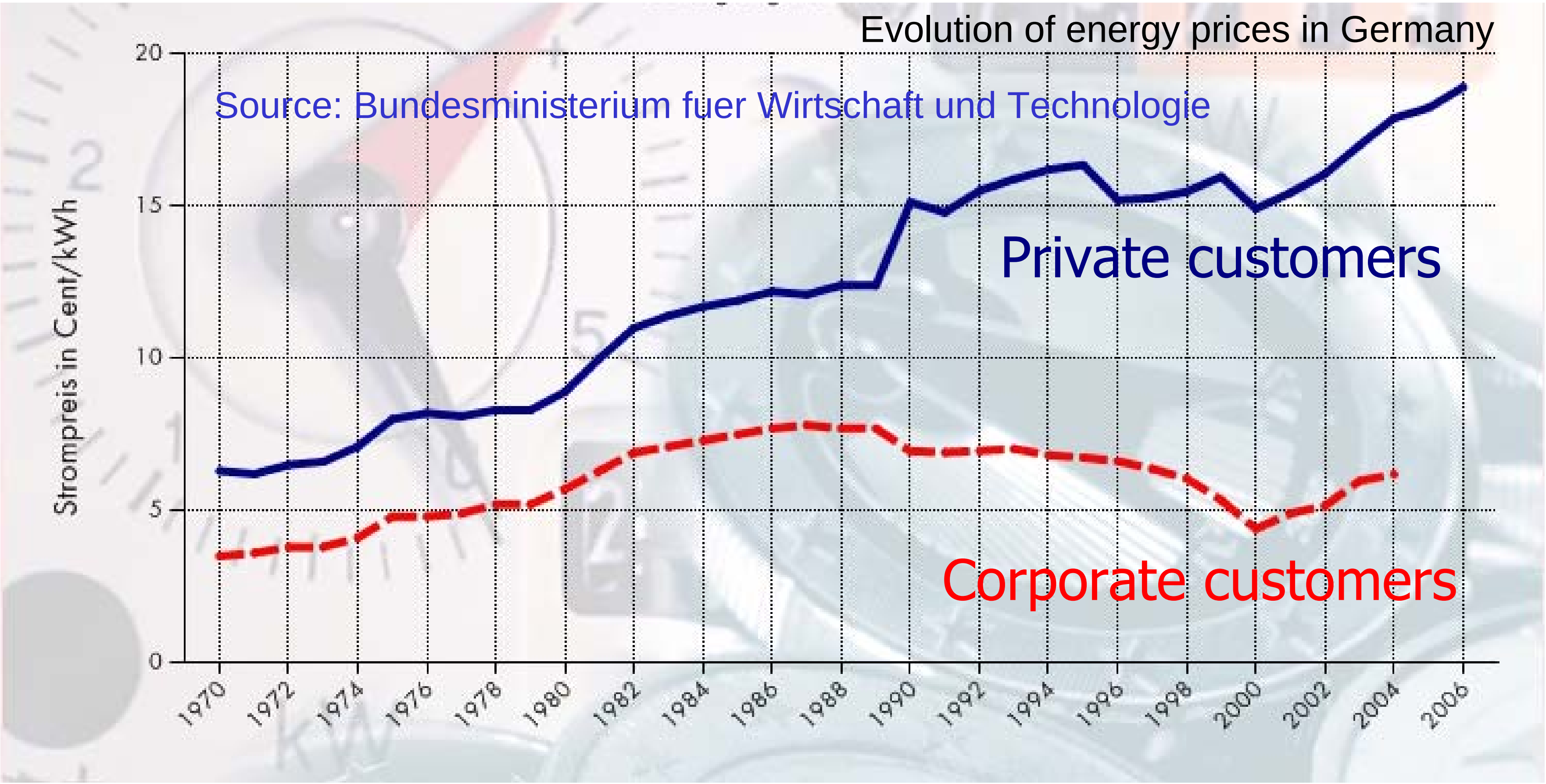


Normal-conducting dipole

Iron weight [tons]	15
Peak voltage [V]	41
Resistive power [W]	27000

Potential for saving **7 MW** of the **15 MW** estimated total power consumption of *an accelerator complex*

Cost of energy (electricity)

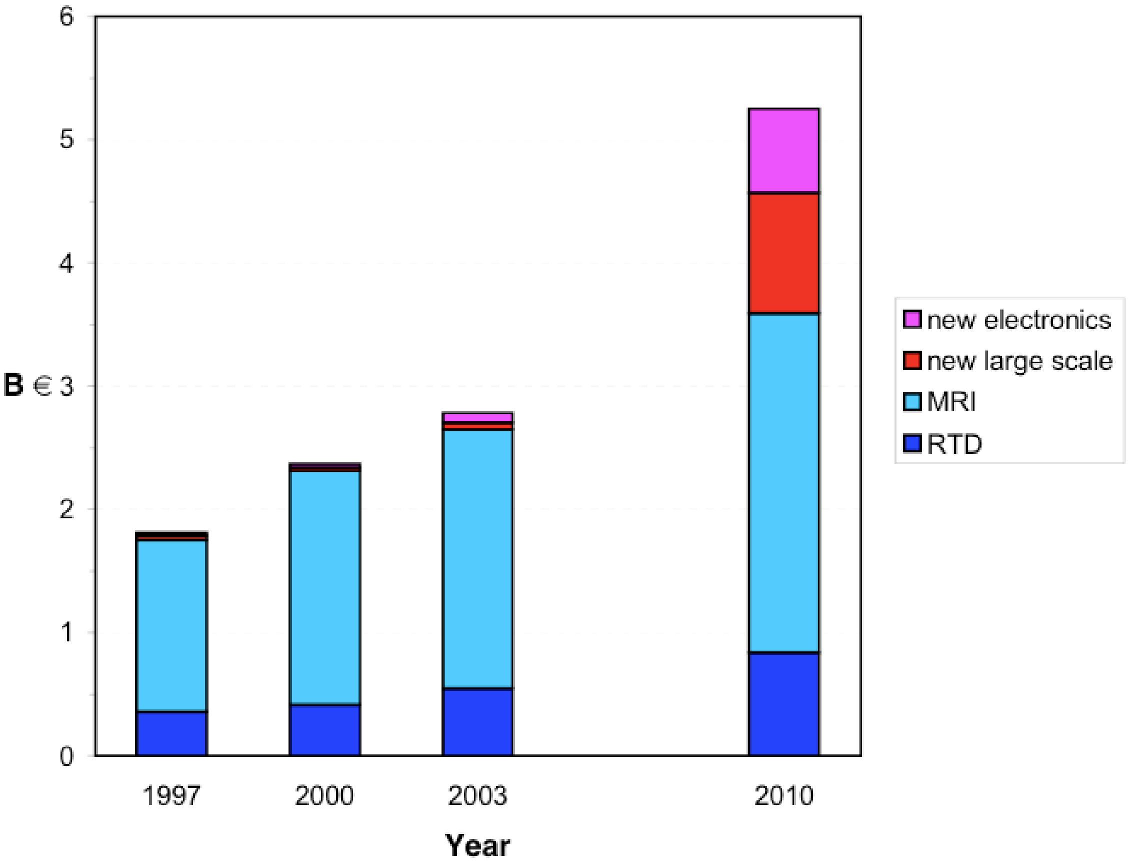

Evolution of energy prices in Germany

Source: Bundesministerium fuer Wirtschaft und Technologie

How large is the market volume ?

Worldwide Markets for Superconductivity

Conectus, December 2001



* ***CON**sortium of **E**uropean **C**ompanies (determined) **T**o **U**se **S**uperconductivity*

Motivation - Re-cap

- The main motivation to design magnets using superconductors is to abolish Ohm’s law
- This is used either to:
  - Decrease power consumption, and thus improve the performance and operation balance (cost + efficiency) replacing existing technology ⇒ *technology displacer*
  - Allow to reach higher magnetic field, over larger bore and for longer time, allowing new physics or technological opportunities ⇒ *technology enabler*

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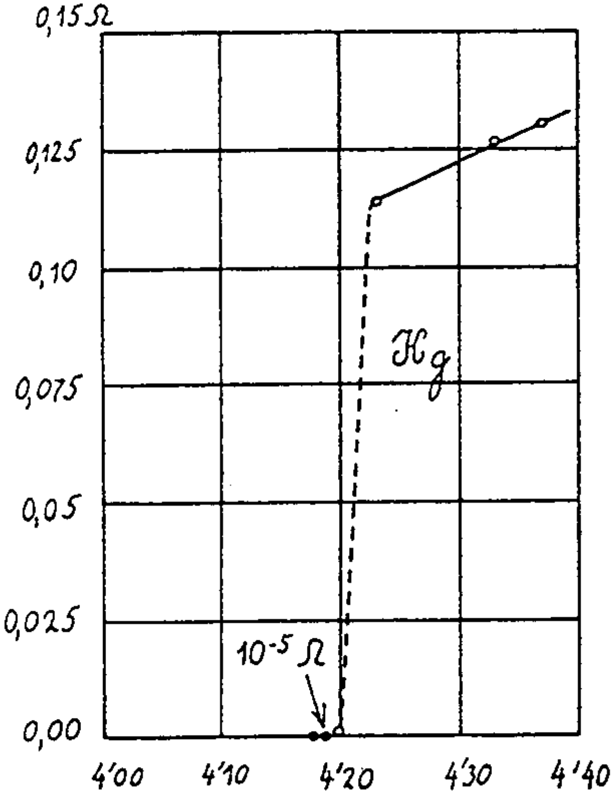
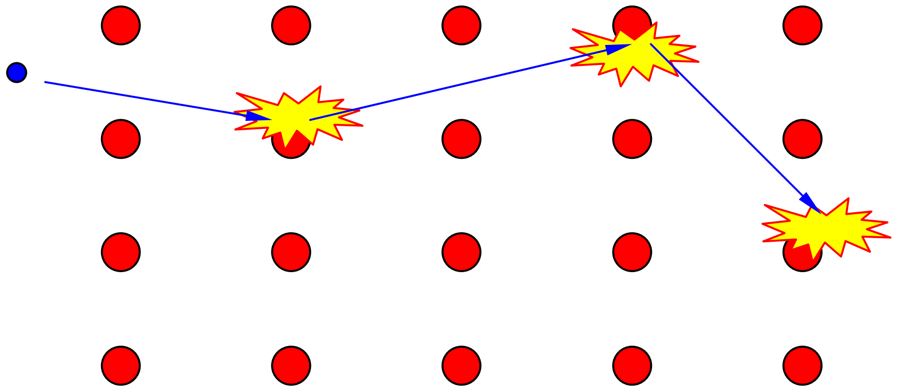
Superconductors Pre-history



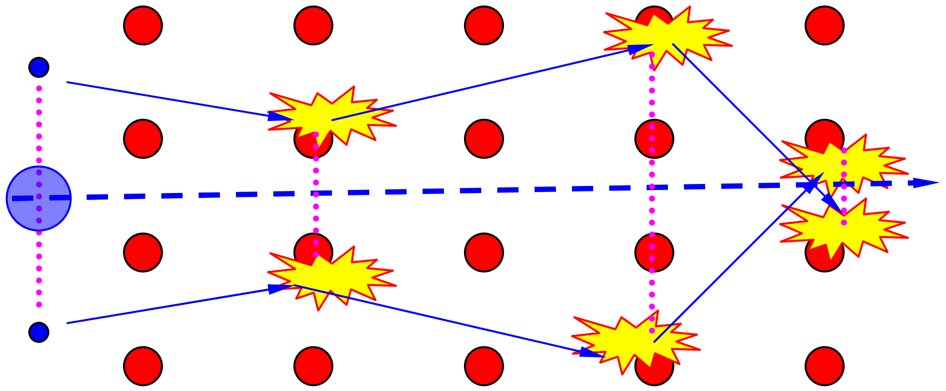
… thus the mercury at 4.2 K has entered a new state, which, owing to its particular electrical properties, can be called the state of *superconductivity*…

H. Kamerlingh-Onnes (1911)

Cooper Pairs



- Normal conductor
  - scattering of e^-
  - finite resistance



- Superconductor
  - paired electrons are bosons, a quasi particle in condensed state
  - zero resistance

Pairing mechanism

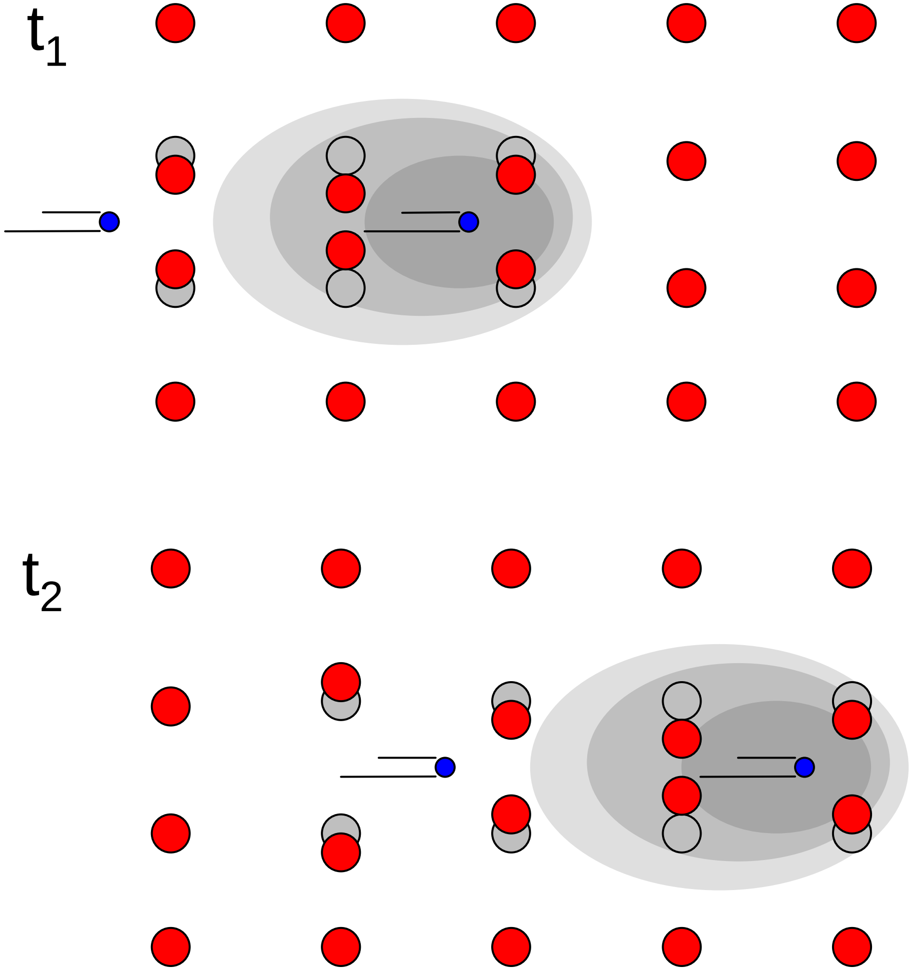
Lattice displacement

⇓

phonons (sound)

⇓

coupling of charge carriers



Bardeen, Cooper, Schrieffer (BCS) - 1950

First (not last) superconducting magnet project cancelled

A 100 kGauss magnet ! (H. K. Onnes)

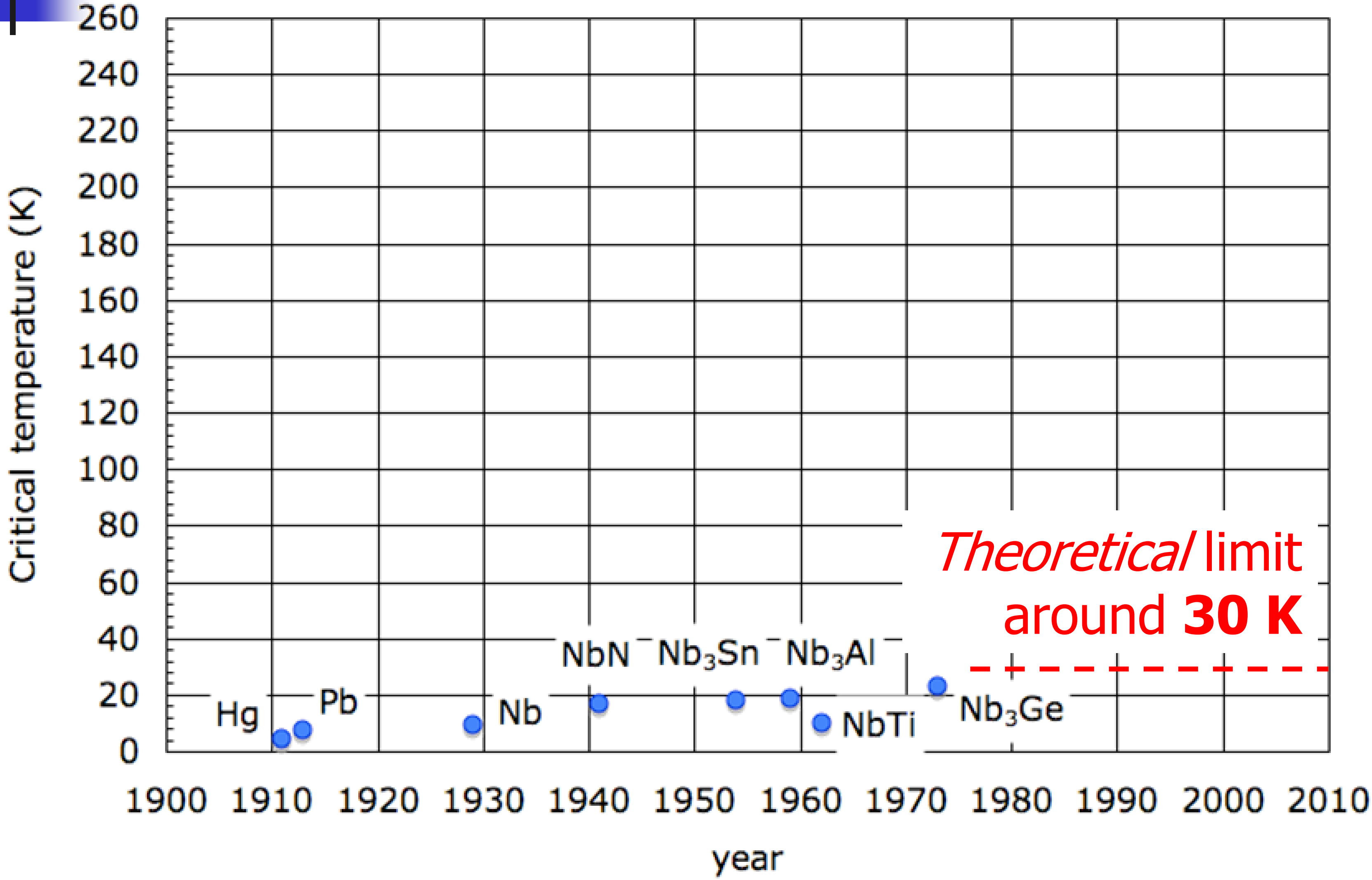
Third International Congress of Refrigeration, Chicago (1913)

Solvay conference (1914)

The 10 T magnet project was stopped when it was observed that superconductivity in Hg and Pb was destroyed by the presence of an external magnetic field as small as 500 Gauss (0.05 T)

Superconductivity languished for 40 years…

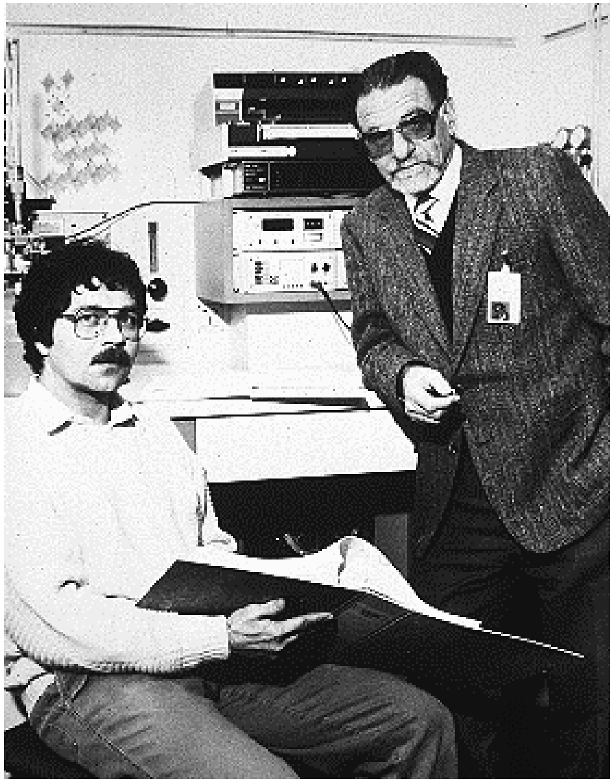
Low-Tc timeline - depressing…



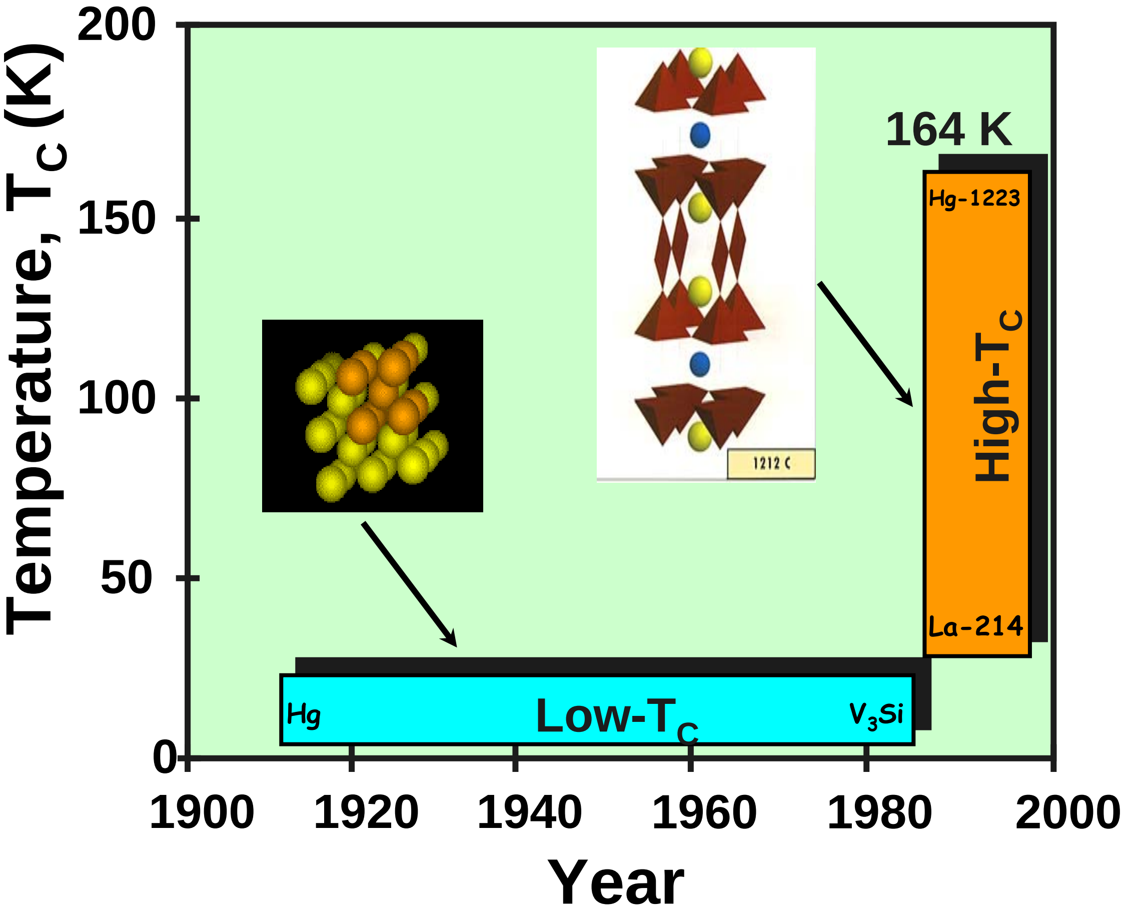
Theoretical limit
around **30 K**

Graphics by courtesy of P. Grant

1986 - A Big Surprise



Bednorz and Mueller
IBM Zuerich, 1986



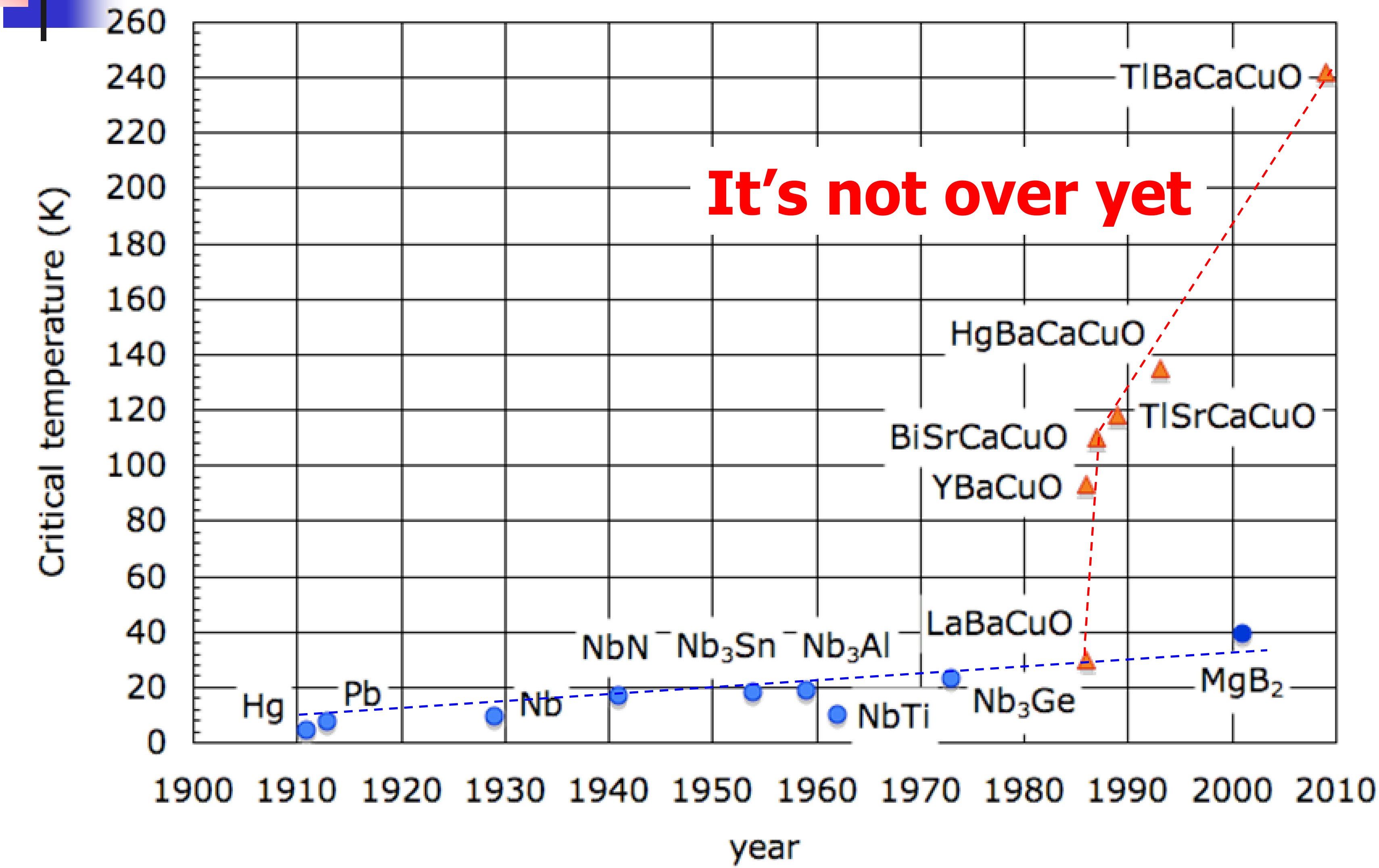
1987 - The prize !

Associated Press

J. Georg Bednorz, left, and K. Alex Müller after learning they had won the Nobel Prize in physics.

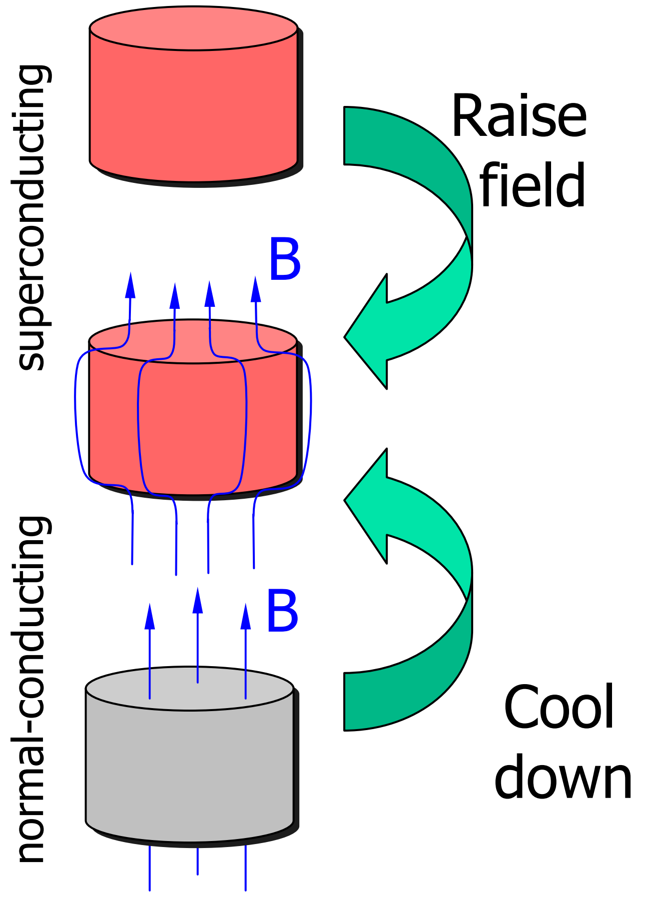
2 Get Nobel for Unlocking Superconductor Secret

High-Tc timeline - impressive !!!



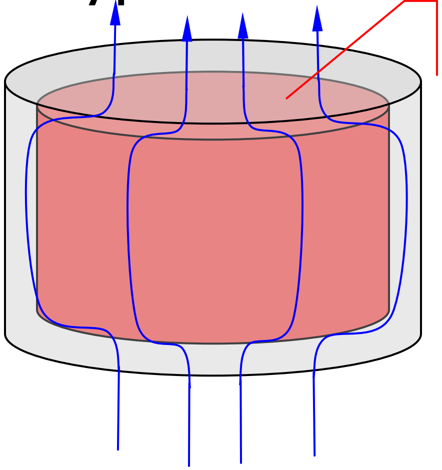
It’s not over yet

Hey, what about field ?



Meissner & Ochsenfeld, 1933

Type I ($\kappa < 1/\sqrt{2}$)



Complete field exclusion

Pure metals

$B_C \approx 10^{-3} \dots 10^{-2}$ T

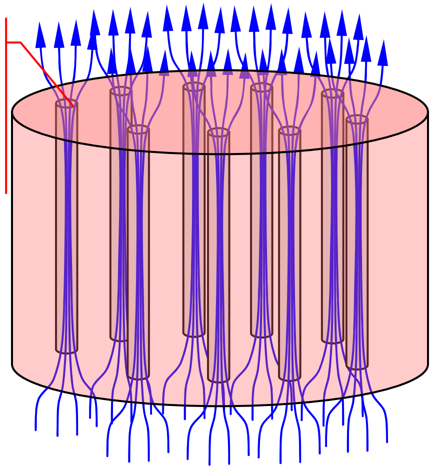
Type II ($\kappa > 1/\sqrt{2}$)

Partial field exclusion

Lattice of fluxons

Dirty materials: alloys intermetallic, ceramic

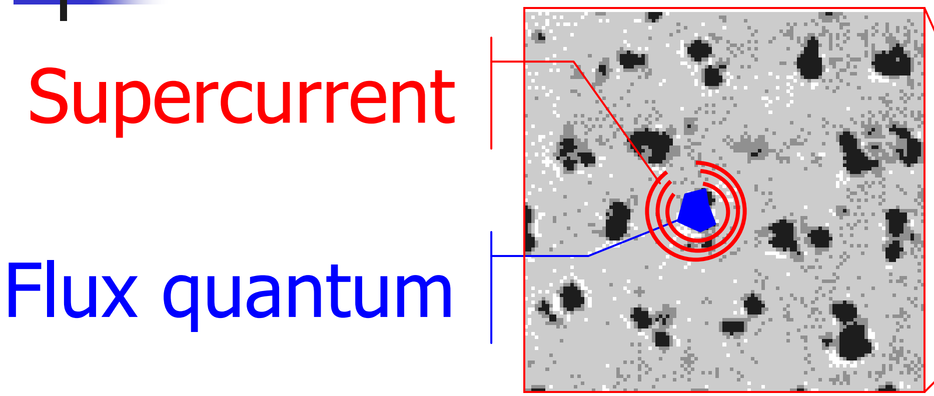
$B_C \approx 10 \dots 10^{2}$ T



Ginzburg, Landau, Abrikosov, Gor’kov, 1950…1957

Graphics by courtesy of Superconductor Lab, Oslo

Lattice of quantum flux lines


Supercurrent

Flux quantum

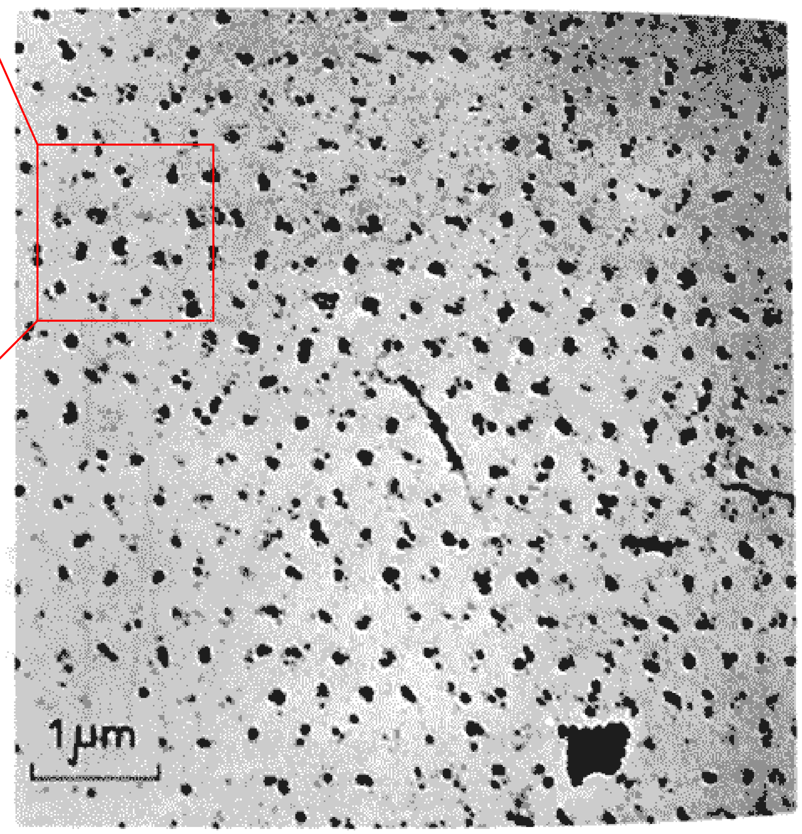


Fig. 1. "Perfect" triangular lattice of flux lines on the surface of a lead-4at% indium rod at 1.1°K. The black dots consist of small cobalt particles which have been stripped from the surface with a carbon replica.

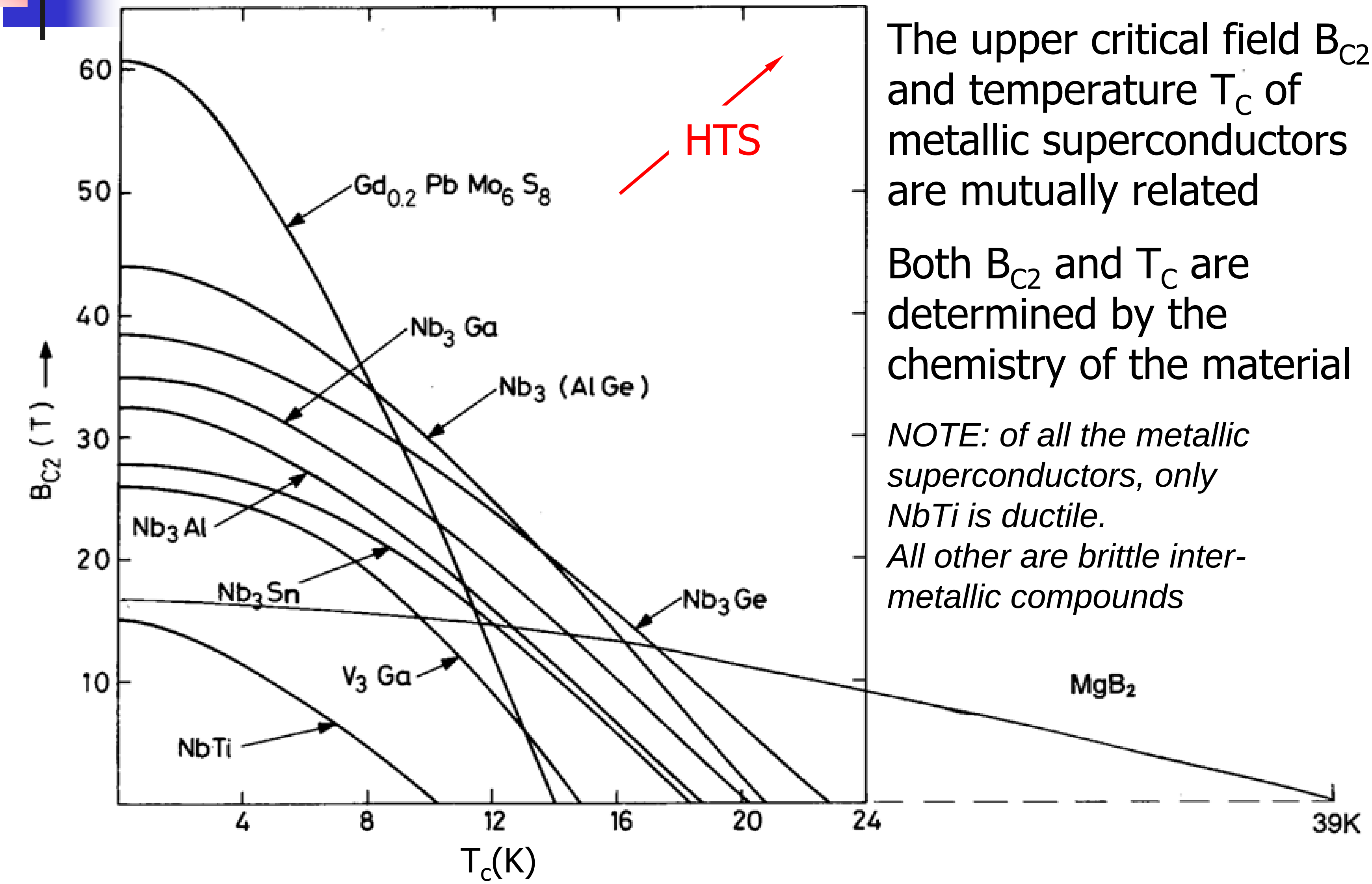
$$\Phi_0 = h/2e = 2.07 \text{ x } 10^{-15} \text{ Wb}$$

Observation on Pb-4at% In magnetised by a field of 3000 Oe and decorated by Co particles

Essmann & Träuble, 1967

Graphics by courtesy of M.N. Wilson

Critical temperature and field



The upper critical field B_{C2} and temperature T_C of metallic superconductors are mutually related

Both B_{C2} and T_C are determined by the chemistry of the material

NOTE: of all the metallic superconductors, only NbTi is ductile.
All other are brittle inter-metallic compounds

Hey, what about current ?

- A current flowing in a magnetic field is subject to the Lorentz force that deviates the charge carriers:

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}$$

- This translates into a *motion of the fluxoids* across the superconductor ⇒ energy dissipation ⇒ loss of superconductivity
- To carry a significant current we need to *lock the fluxoids* so to resist the Lorentz force. For this we mess-up the material and create **pinning centers** that exert a pinning force F_P

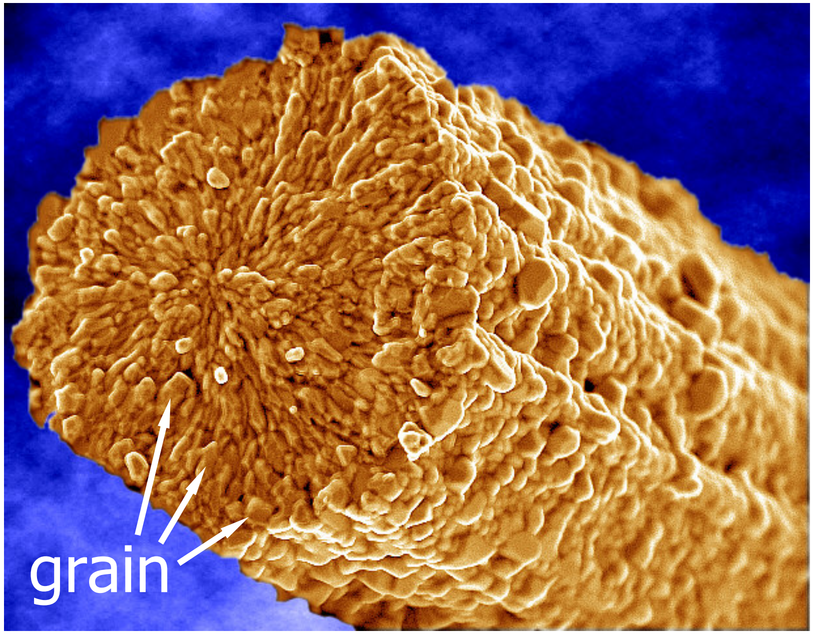
Graphics by courtesy of Applied Superconductivity Center at NHMFL

Pinning mechanisms

Precipitates in alloys

Microstructure of Nb-Ti

Grain boundaries in inter-metallic compounds



Microstructure of Nb_3Sn

Jc(B,T,…)

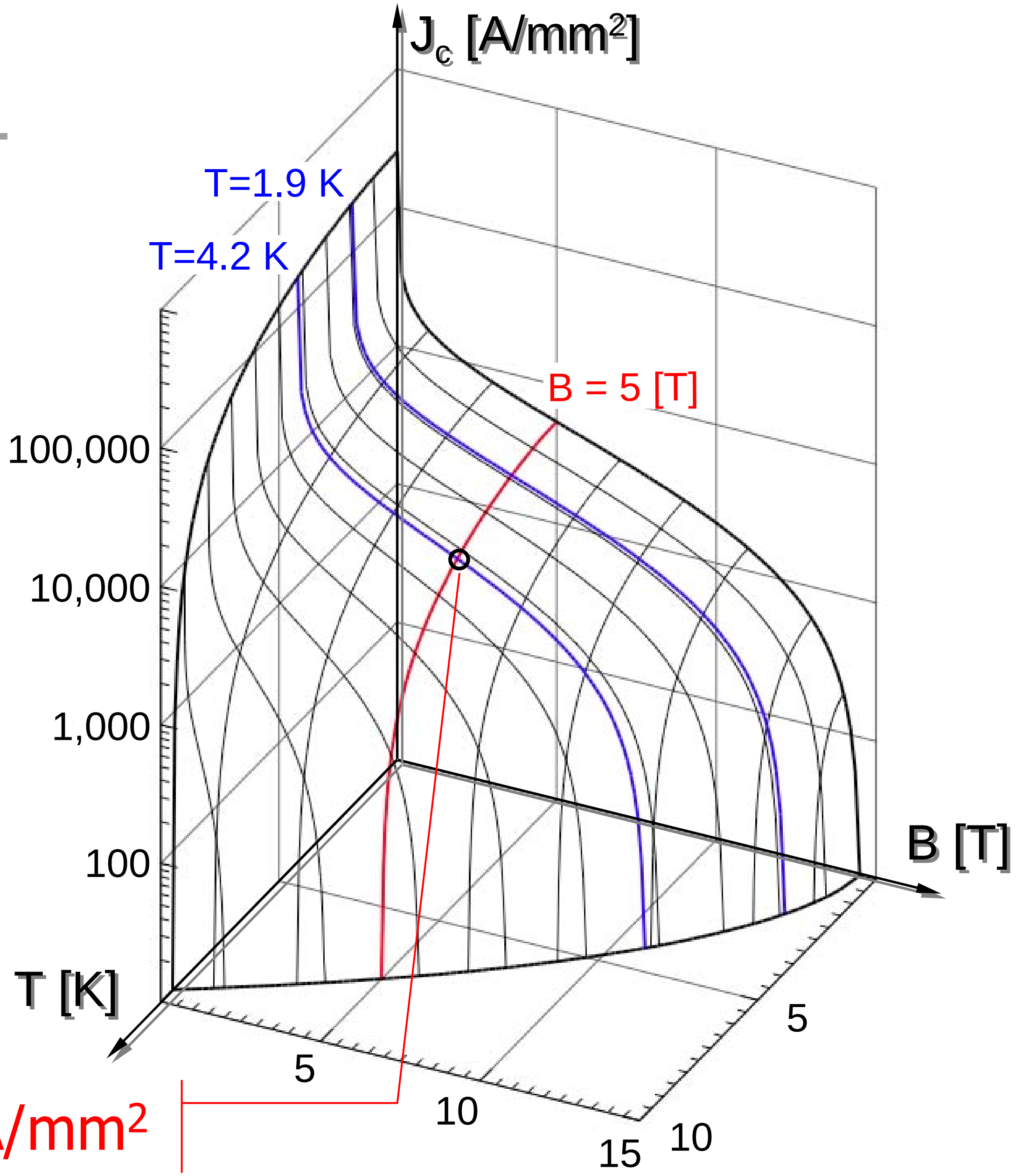
- The maximum current that can be carried by the superconductor is the current at which:

$$|\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}| = F_P$$

- The above expression defines a **critical surface**:

$$J_C(B,T,\ldots) = F_P / B$$

Critical surface of a LHC NbTi wire



Jc (5 T, 4.2 K) ≈ 3000 A/mm^2

Superconductors physics - Re-cap

- Superconducting materials are only useful if they are ***dirty*** (type II - high critical field) and ***messy*** (strong pinning centers)
- A superconductor is such only in conditions of temperature, field and current density within the critical surface, and it is a normal-conductor above these conditions. The transition is defined by a critical current density $J_C(B,T,\ldots)$
- The maximum current that can be carried is the $I_C = A_{SC} \times J_C$

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Superconducting magnet cook-book

- Devise the desired magnetic configuration for the specified field, bore homogeneity and duty cycle
- Analyze mechanically and thermally
- Design a cable to fit the winding, by choosing cross sections and cable configuration with:
  - Superconductor A_{SC} to carry the current with sufficient margin
  - Stabilizer A_{ST} sufficient for stability and protection
  - Sufficiently low AC loss
- Insulate cable, wind coils, mount in a supporting and magnetic structure, insert in a cryostat
- Top-off with current leads and instrumentation as desired
- Cool properly to cryogenic temperatures
- Power up, shake with quenches
- Enjoy the field according to your taste

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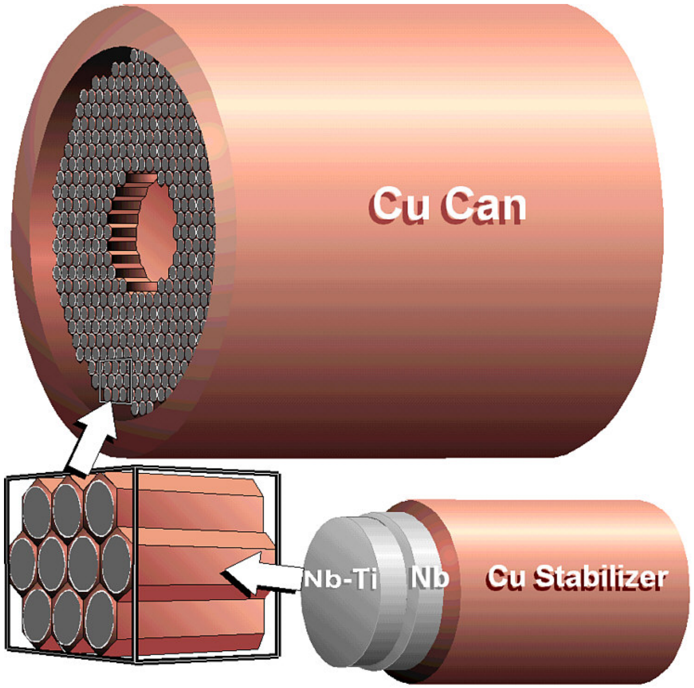
From materials to magnets

- Materials must be made in high-current wires, tapes and cables for use in magnets
- The manufacturing route depends, among others on:
  - The material (e.g. alloy or chemical compound),
  - The material synthesis (e.g. reaction conditions or a crystal growth method)
  - The material mechanical properties (e.g. ductile or fragile)
  - The compatibility with other materials involved (e.g. precursors or mechanical supports)

Graphics by courtesy of Applied Superconductivity Center at NHMFL

Nb-Ti manufacturing route

NbTi billet



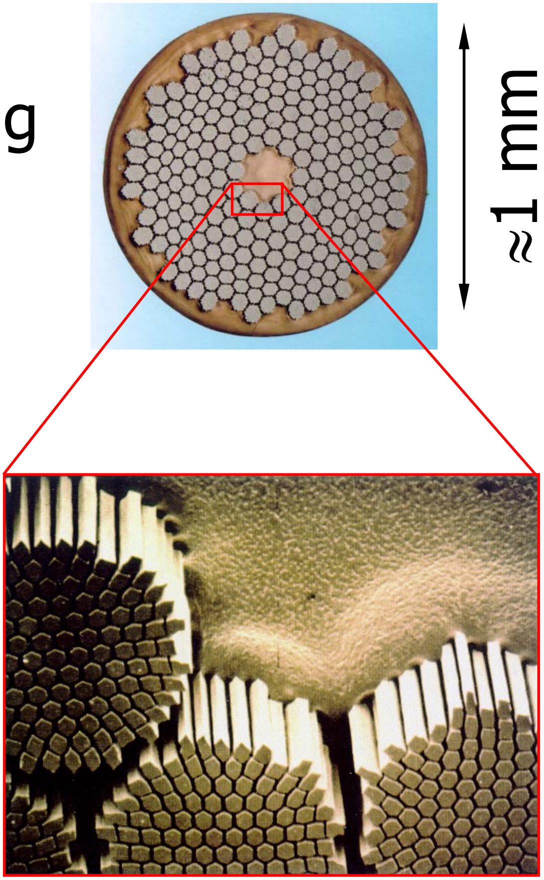
NbTi is a ductile alloy that can sustain large deformations

$I_C(5\ T, 4.2\ K) \approx 1\ kA$

extrusion
cold drawing

⇒

heat
treatments

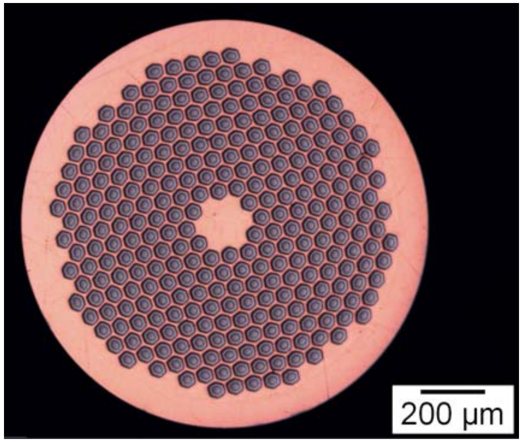


LHC wire

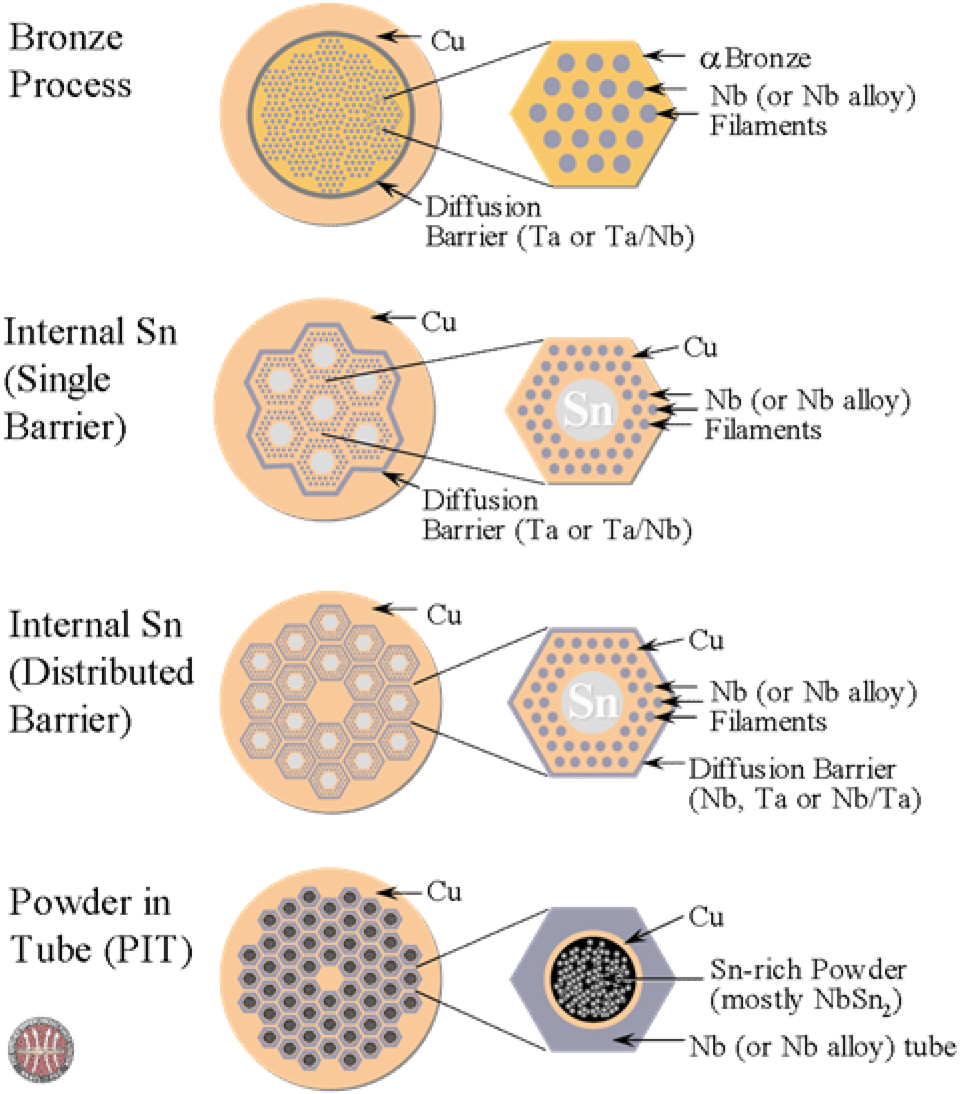
Graphics by courtesy of Applied Superconductivity Center at NHMFL

Nb_3Sn manufacturing routes

Nb_3Sn is brittle and cannot be drawn in final form. The precursors are drawn and only later the wire is heat-treated to ≈650 C for several hrs, to form the Nb_3Sn phase



$I_C(12\ T, 4.2\ K) \approx 1.5\ kA$

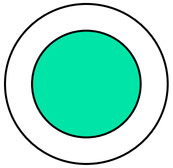


Graphics by courtesy of M.N. Wilson and Applied Superconductivity Center at NHMFL

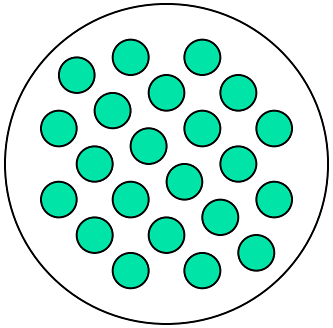
BSCCO manufacturing routes

Oxide powder in tube OPIT

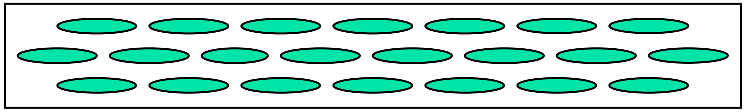
1) draw down BSCCO powder in a silver tube



2) stack many drawn wires in another silver tube and draw down again

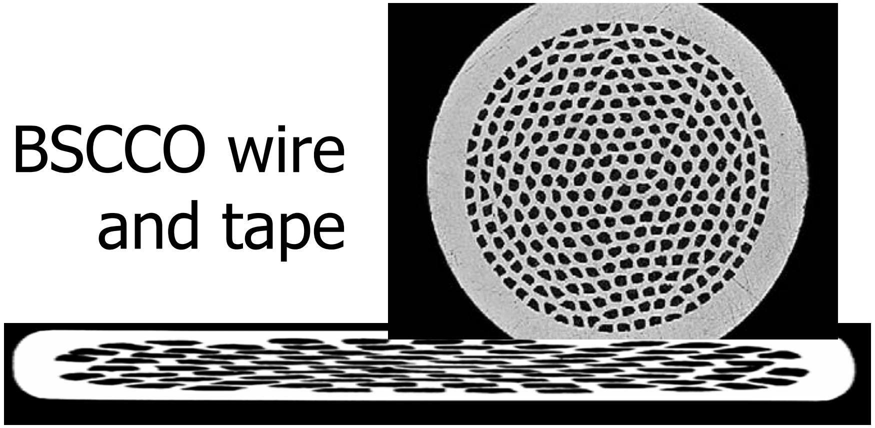


3) roll the final wire to tape and heat treat at 800 - 900C in oxygen to melt the B2212



BSCCO is also brittle: a special sequence of rolling and sintering heat treatments must used. Silver has the important feature that it is transparent to Oxygen at high temperature, but does not react with it

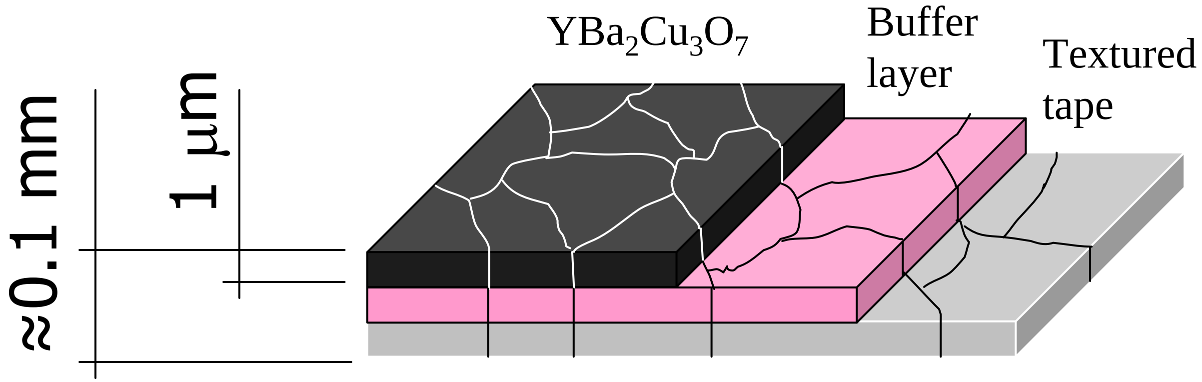
BSCCO wire and tape



YBCO tape (developmental)

YBCO has better critical properties than BSCCO but, unlike BSCCO, grains do not align during processing. If grains are not aligned the supercurrent cannot jump between the grains. The manufacturing processes are all forcing a certain degree of alignment in the microstructure

1) produce a tape with an aligned texture
2) coat the tape with a buffer layer
3) coat the buffer with a layer $YBa_2Cu_3O_7$ such that the texture of the YBCO follows that of the buffer and substrate

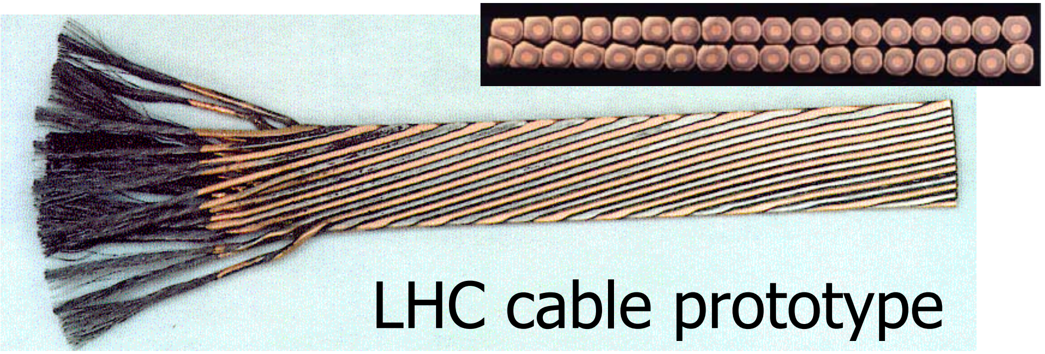


$J_E \approx 500\ \mathrm{A/mm^2}$

Practical conductors: high J_E

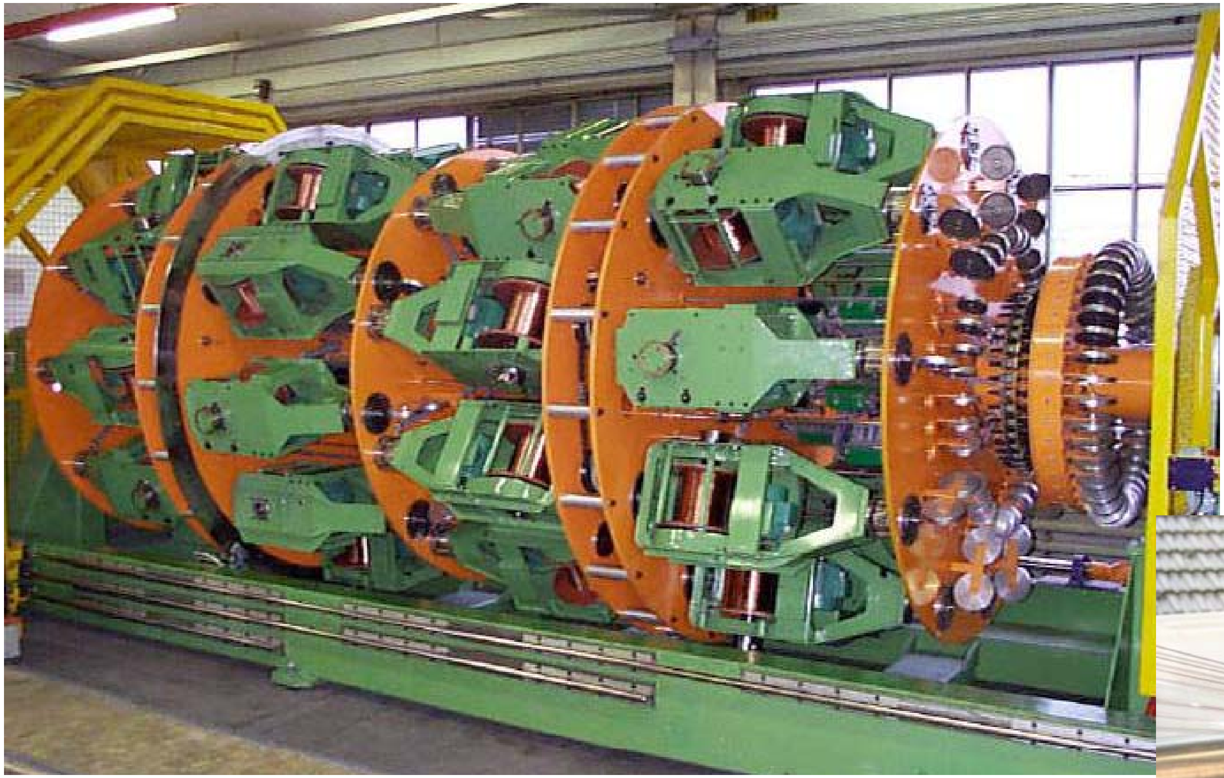
- Multifilamentary wires have current carrying capability of 100… 1000 A
- Insulated with varnish or glass-braids they can be used to make all kind of small size magnets

- Large size magnets (e.g. LHC dipoles) require invariably large operating currents (10 to 100 kA) to:
  - Decrease inductance,
  - Lower the operating voltage,
  - Ease the *magnet protection*
- Rutherford cables are ideally suited for this task



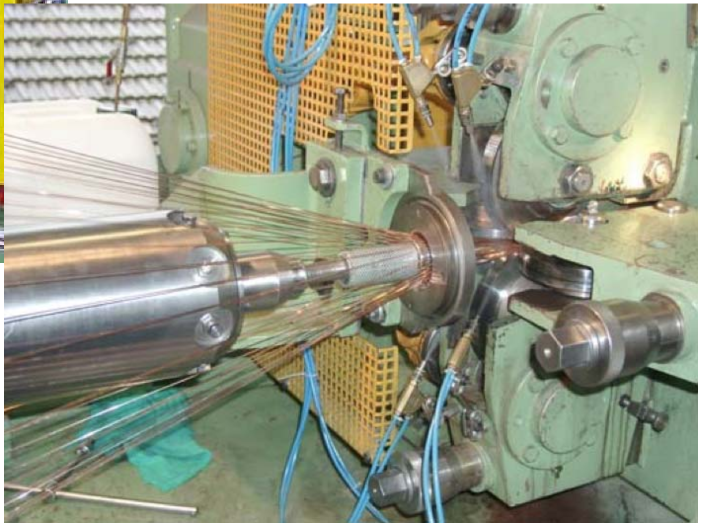
LHC cable prototype

Rutherford cable machine @ CERN



Strand spools on rotating tables

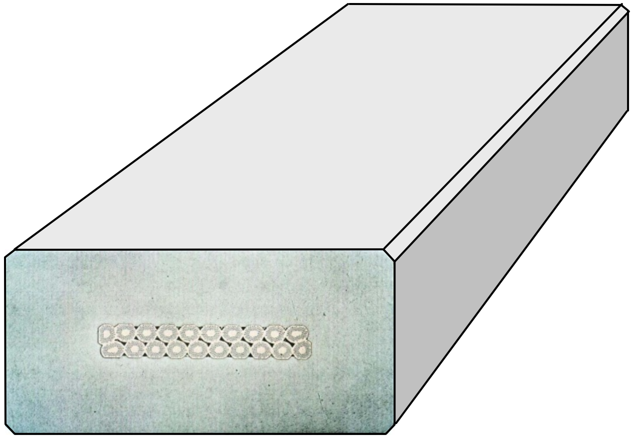
Strands fed through a cabling tongue to shaping rollers

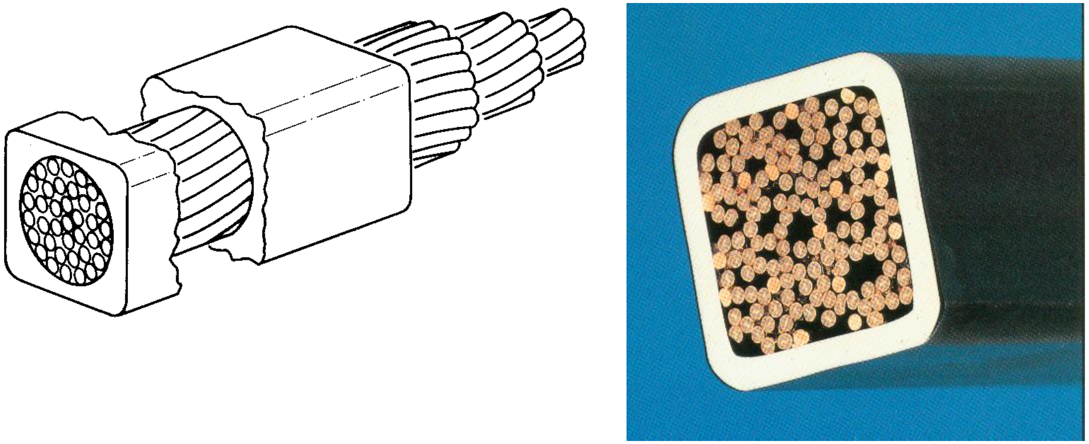


$J_E \approx 50$ A/mm^2

Practical conductors: low J_E

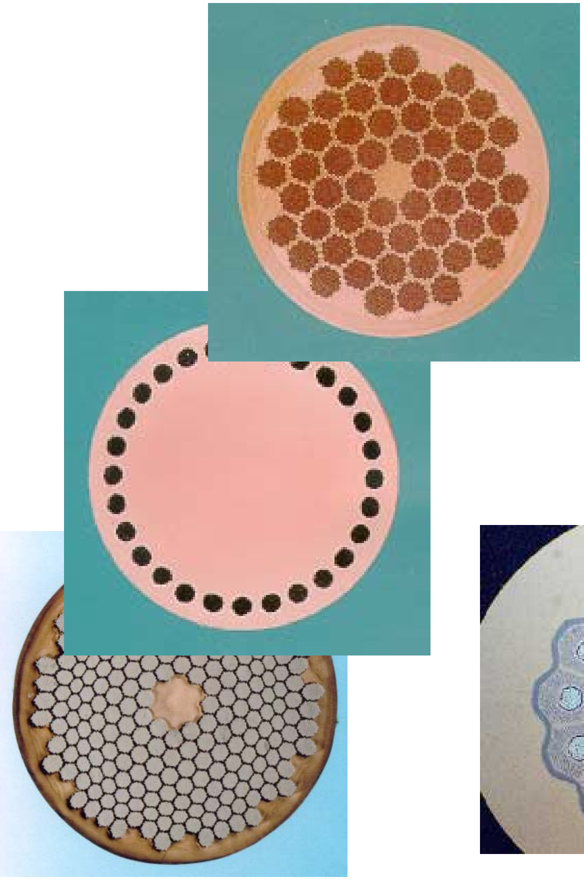
- Super-stabilized conductor, a superconducting cable (e.g. Rutherford) backed by a large amount of good normal conductor (e.g. Al)
- Internally-cooled conductor, e.g. Cable-In-Conduit Conductor (CICC), a rope of wires inserted in a robust conduit that provides a channel for cooling



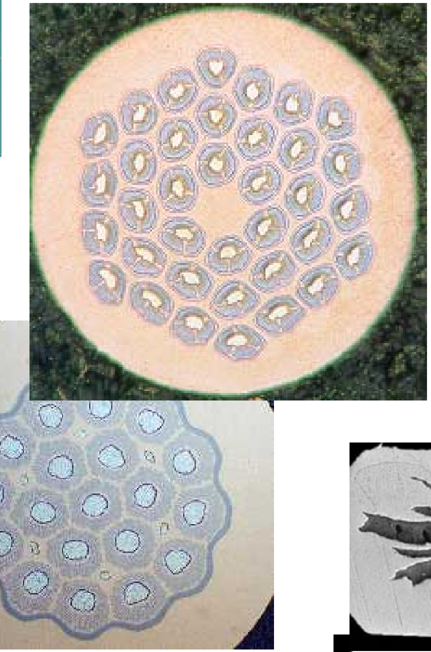


Superconducting wires and tapes for all taste…

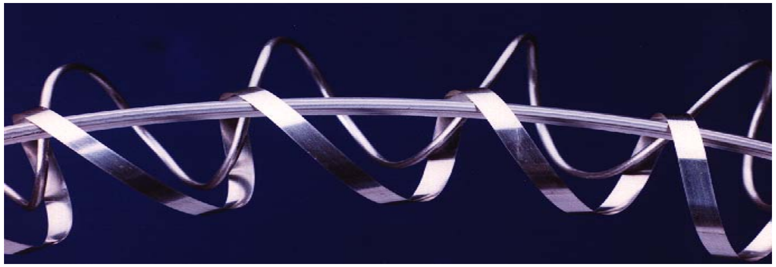
NbTi



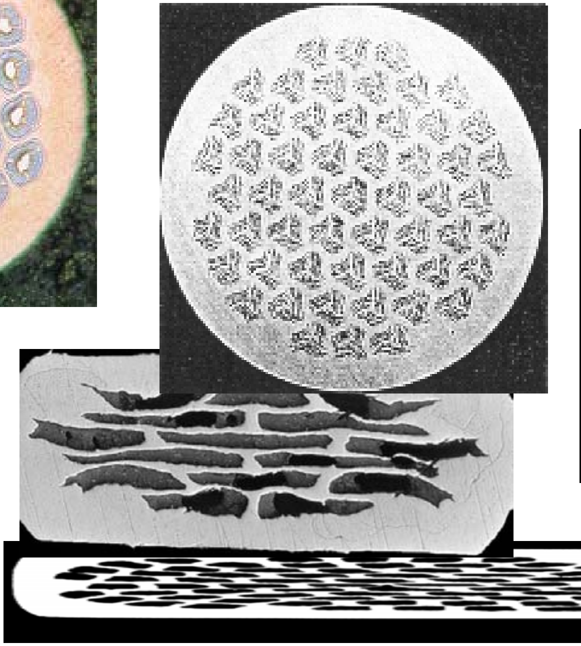
Nb_3Sn, Nb_3Al



YBCO



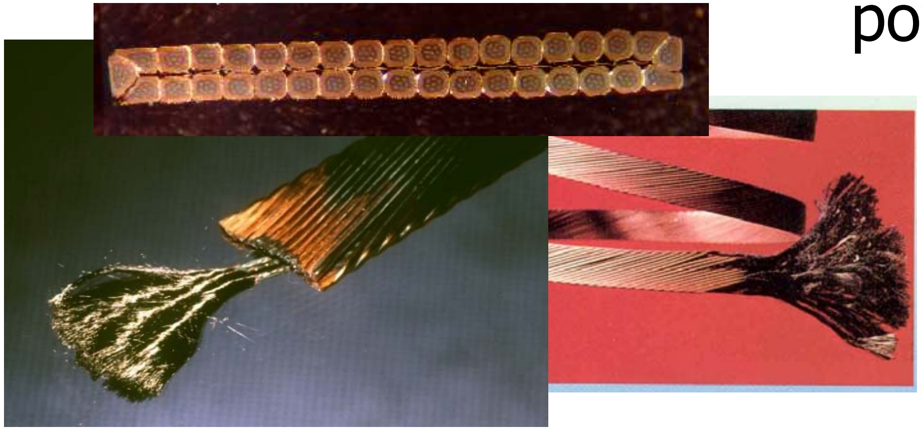
BSCCO



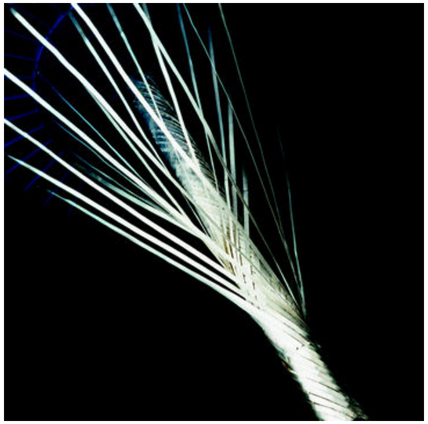
MgB_2

… and superconducting cables

Rutherford

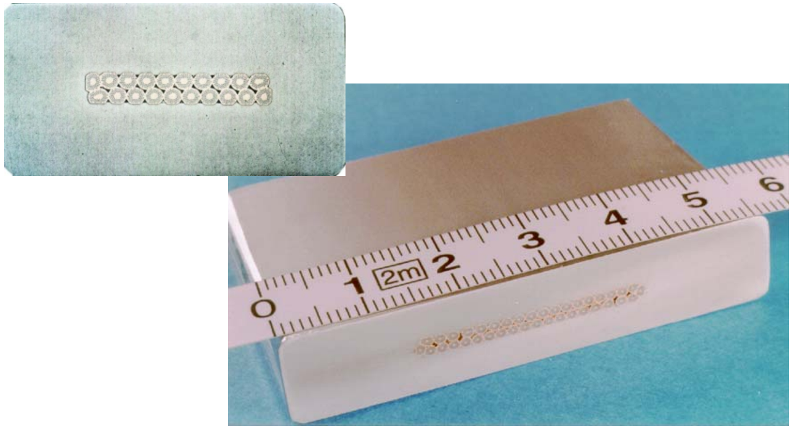


Braids for power transmission



CICC

Super-stabilized



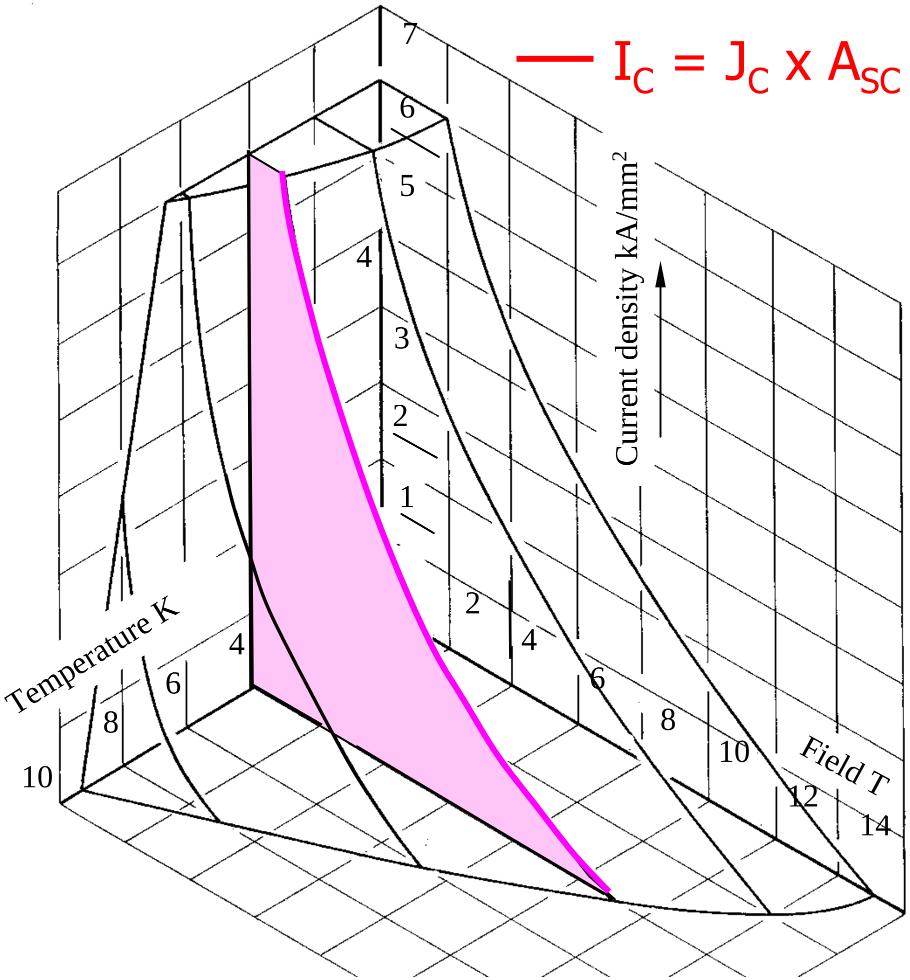
Internally cooled

Overview

- Why superconductors ? A motivation
- A superconductor physics primer
- Superconducting magnet design
  - Wires, tapes and cables
  - Operating margins
  - Cooling of superconducting magnets
  - Stability, quench and protection
  - AC loss
- The making of a superconducting magnet
- Examples of superconducting magnet systems

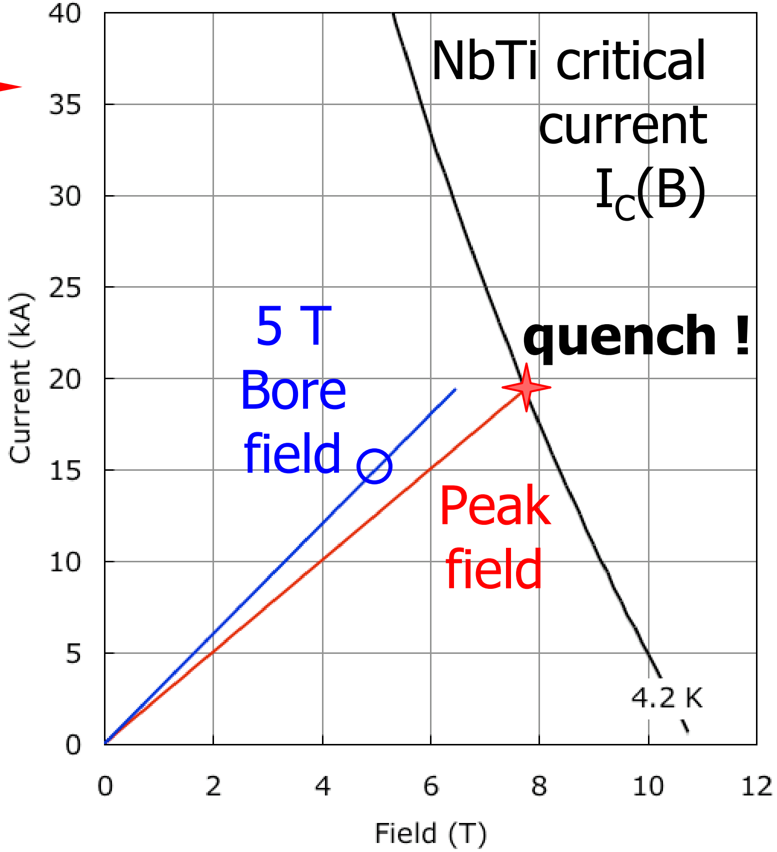
Critical line and magnet load lines

NbTi critical surface



$I_C = J_C \times A_{SC}$

e.g. a 5 T magnet design

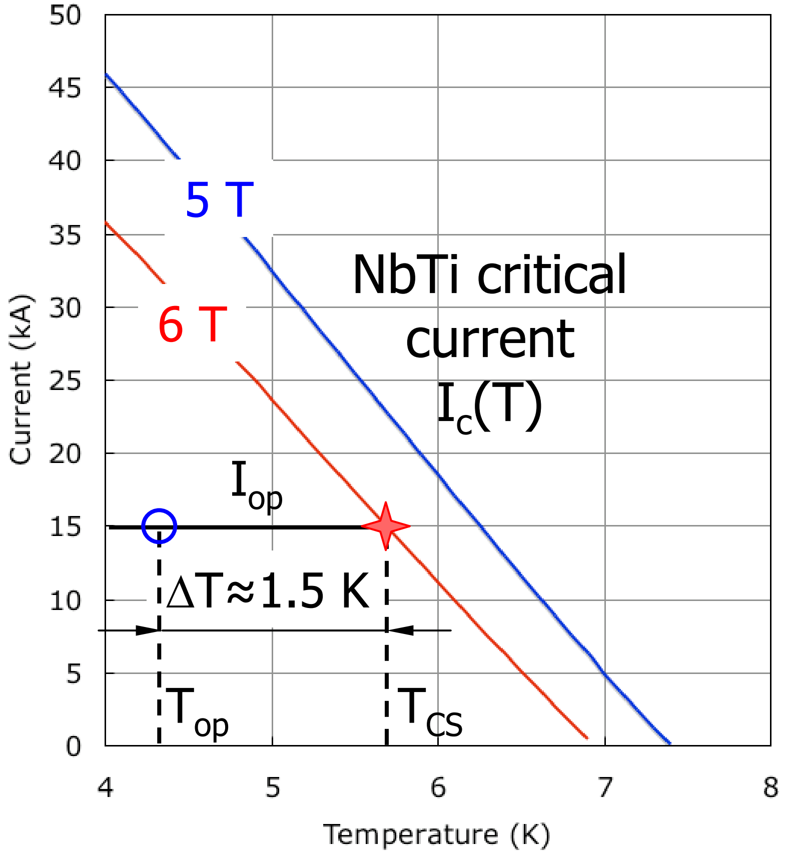


we expect the magnet to go resistive i.e. to **'quench'**, where the peak field load line crosses the critical current line

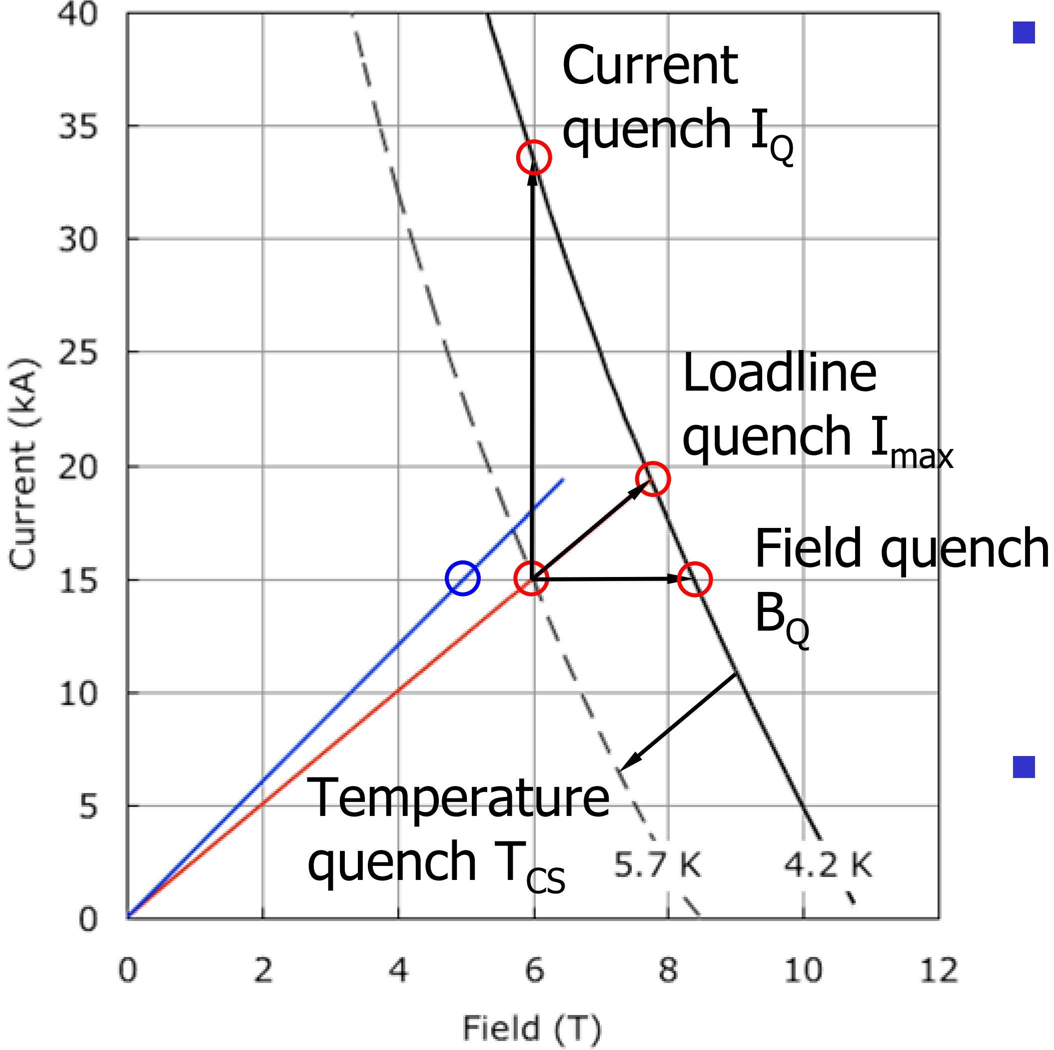
Temperature margin

- Temperature rise may be caused by
  - sudden mechanical energy release
  - AC losses
  - Resistive heat at joints
  - Beams, neutrons, etc.
- We should allow *temperature headroom* for all foreseeable and unforeseeable events, i.e. a temperature margin:

$$\Delta T = T_{CS} - T_{op}$$



Operating margins



- Practical operation always requires margins:
  - Critical current margin: $I_{op}/I_Q \approx 50\ \%$
  - Critical field margin: $B_{op/}B_Q \approx 75\ \%$
  - Margin along the loadline: $I_{op}/I_{max} \approx 85\ \%$
  - Temperature margin: $T_{CS} - T_{op} \approx 1 \ldots 2$ K
- The margin needed depends on the design and operating conditions (see later)

Engineering current density

- All wires, tapes and cables contain additional components:
  - Left-overs from the precursors of the SC formation
  - Barriers, texturing and buffering layers
  - Low resistance matrices
- The SC *material fraction* is hence always < 1:

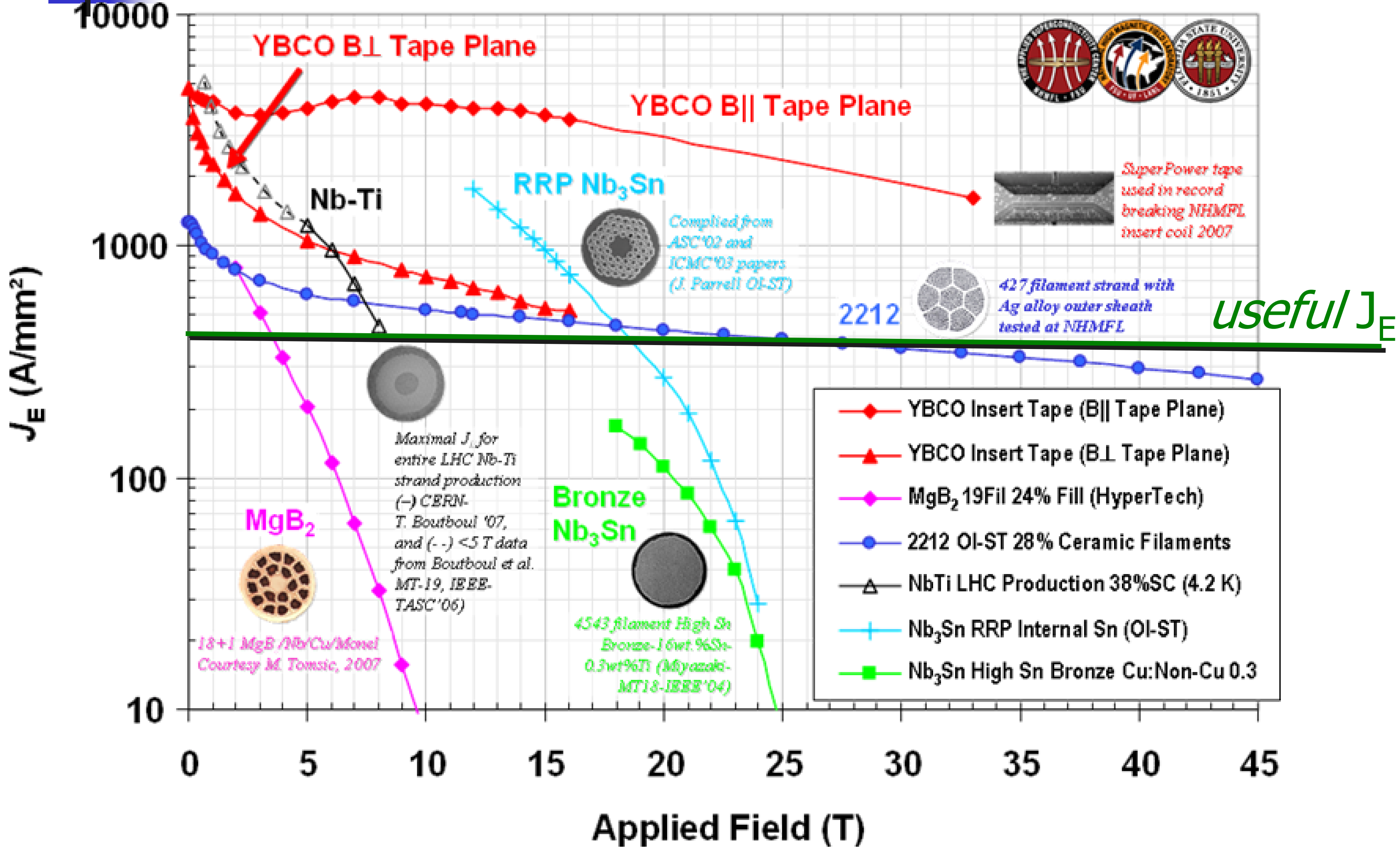
$$\lambda = A_{SC} / A_{total}$$

- To compare materials on the same basis, we use an *engineering current density*:

$$J_E = J_C \times \lambda$$

Graphics by courtesy of Applied Superconductivity Center at NHMFL

Best of Superconductors J_E



Operating margins - Re-cap

- To maximize design and operating margin:
  - Choose a material with high J_C for the desired field
- Logically, we would tend to:
  - Cool-down to the lowest practical temperature (J_C ⇑)
  - Use a lot of superconductor (J_E ⇑)
- However ! Superconductor is expensive, and cooling to low temperature is not always optimal. We shall find out:
  - How much margin is really necessary ? (energy spectrum vs. stability)
  - What is the best way to get it ? (AC loss, cooling)
  - What if all goes wrong ? (quench and protection)

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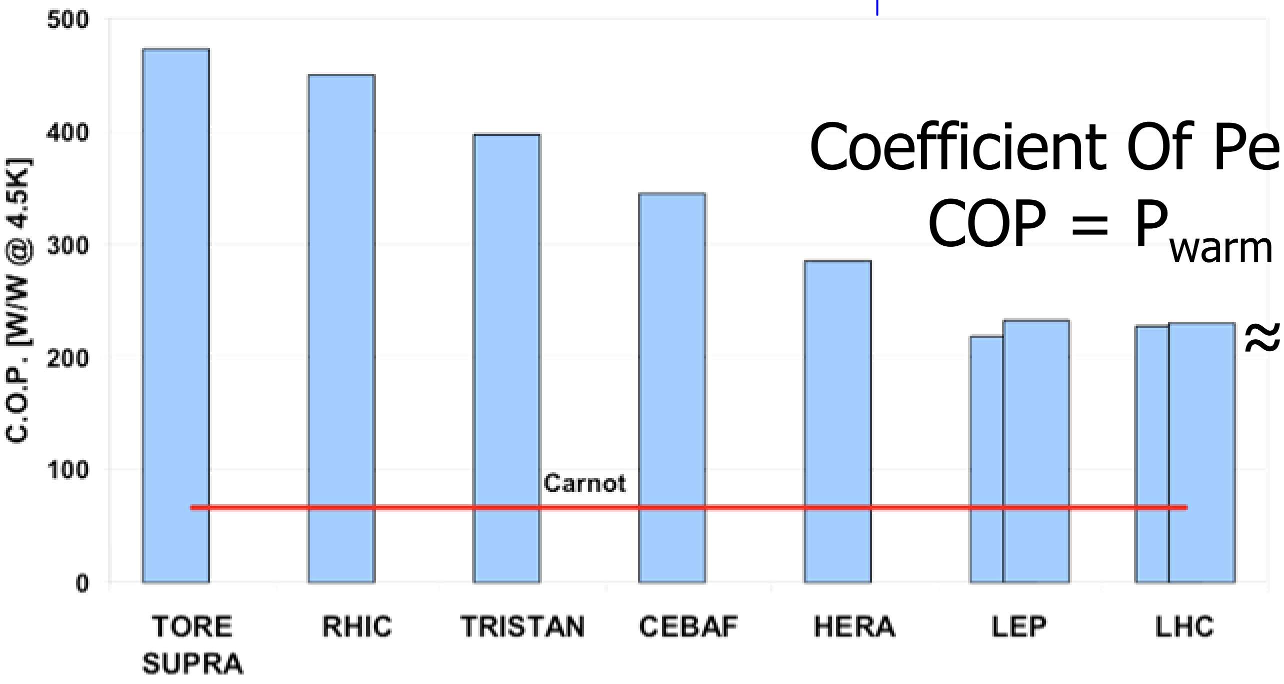
Basic thermodynamics

- The maximum efficiency that can be achieved by a heat machine is that of the Carnot cycle:

Work at the warm end

Heat at the cold end

$$W/Q = (T_{hot} - T_{cold}) / T_{cold}$$



Coefficient Of Performance

$$COP = P_{warm} / P_{cold}$$

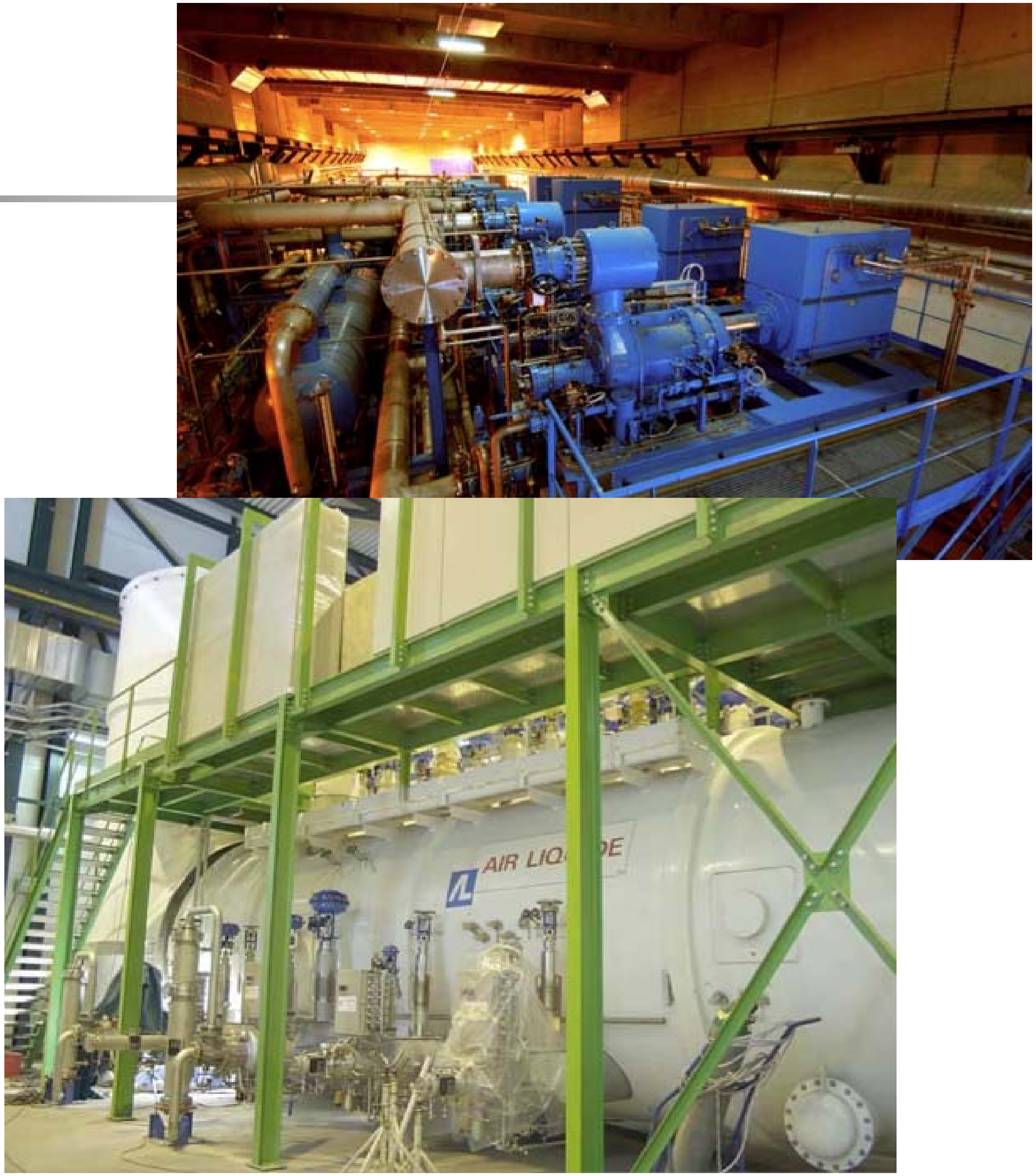
≈ 250

Cooling modes

- Indirect (*adiabatic* magnets)
    - contact to a heat sink through conduction (cryoplant, cryocooler)
    - in practice ≡ no cooling on the time scale of interest for stability and quench
- bath cooling (*pool boiling* magnets)
    - pool of liquid cryogen at atmospheric pressure and saturation temperature (e.g. helium at 4.2 K)
    - boiling heat transfer
- force-flow cooling
    - supercritical or two-phase flow, warm or cold circulation
- superfluid cooling
    - stagnant bath, heat removal through counter-flow heat exchange

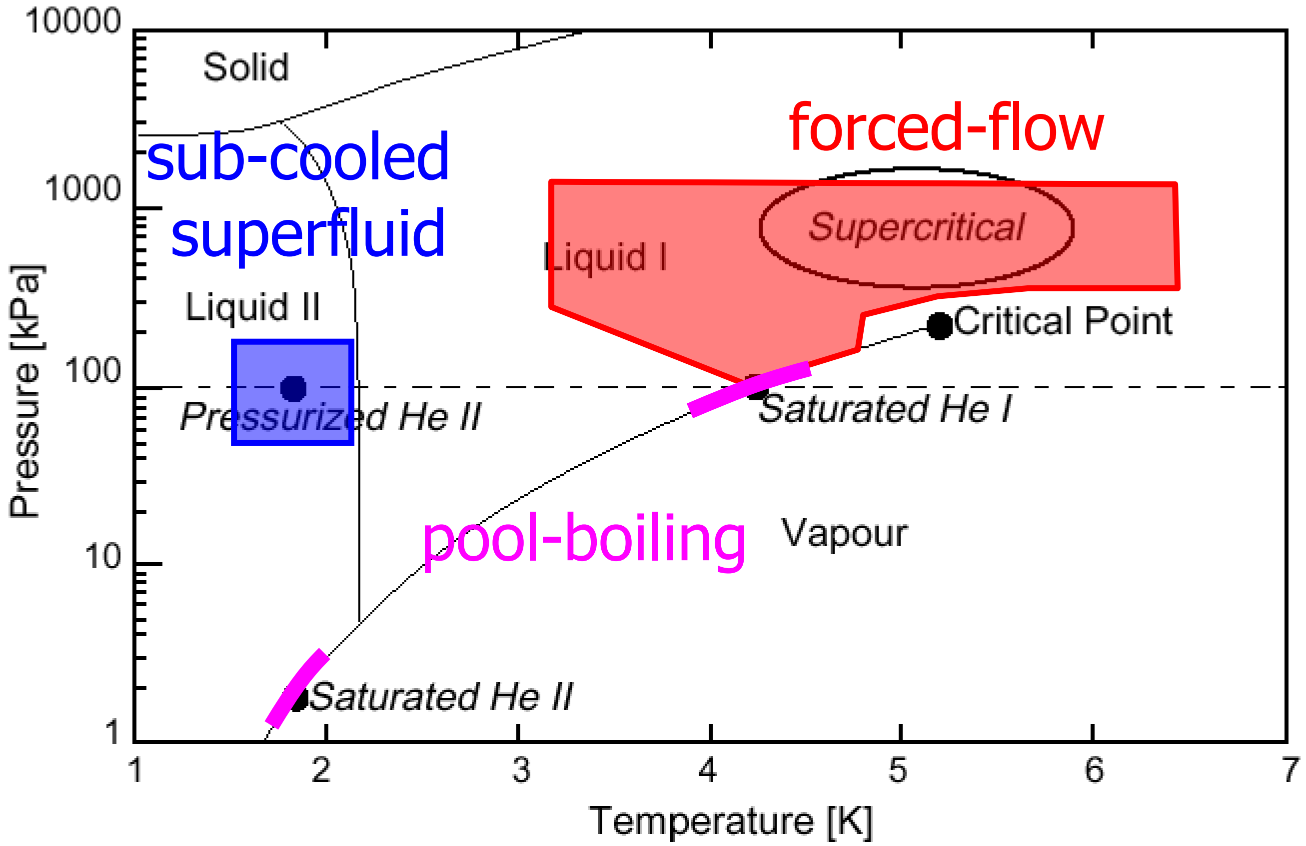
Fridge’s

Cryocooler: 0.1 W @ 4 K



LHC refrigerators: 140 kW @ 4.5 K

Helium as a coolant



Waiting for the room-temperature superconductor, the best is to take a course on cryogenics !

Superconducting Magnets “pour les nuls” – Part II

Luca.Bottura@cern.ch

CAS on Magnets

Novotel Brugge Centrum, Bruges, Belgium
16 - 25 June, 2009

Overview

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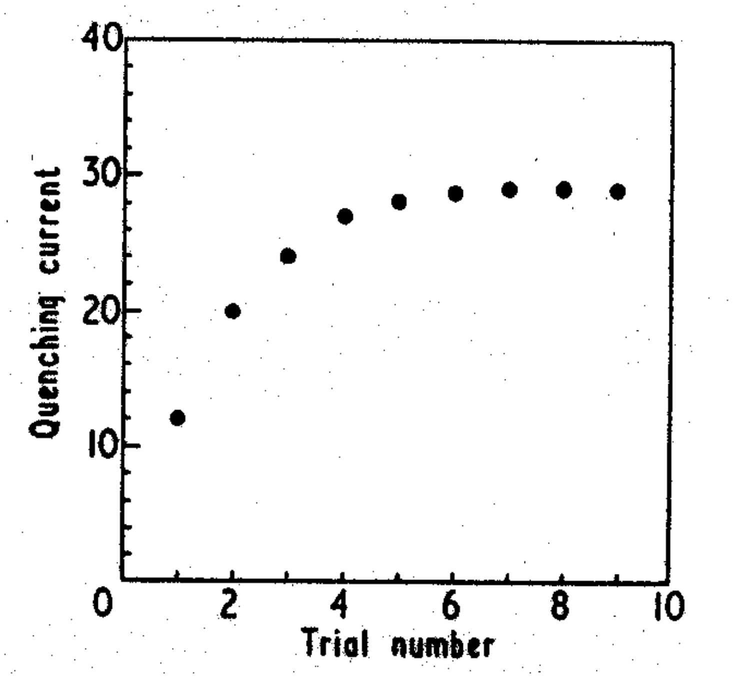
Training…

- Superconducting solenoids built from NbZr and Nb_3Sn in the early 60’s quenched much below the rated current …

- … the quench current increased gradually quench after quench: training

NbZr solenoid
Chester, 1967



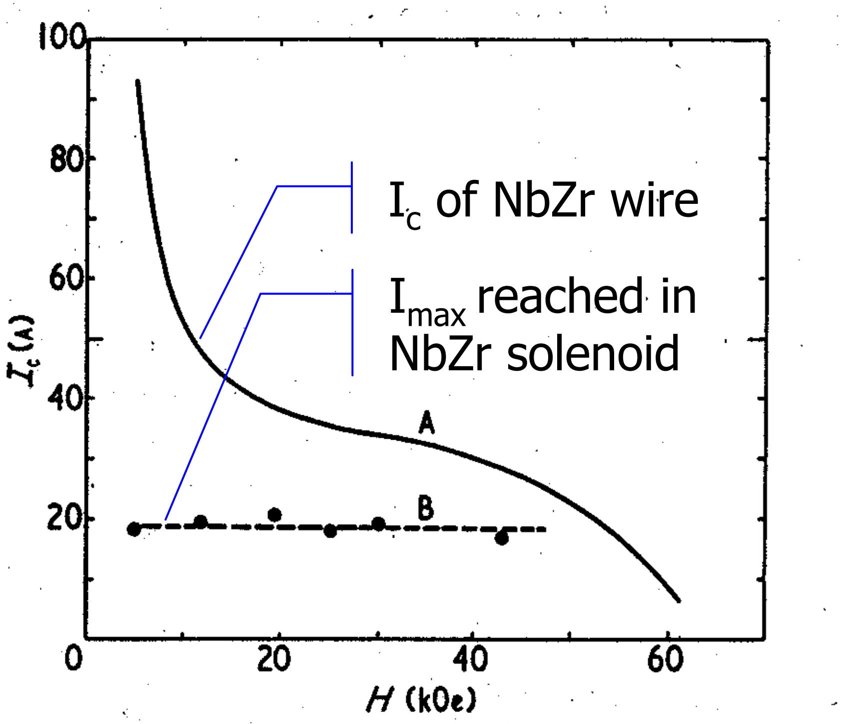
M.A.R. LeBlanc, Phys. Rev., **124**, 1423, 1961.

P.F. Chester, Rep. Prog. Phys., **XXX**, II, 561, 1967.

… and degradation

- … but did not quite reach the expected maximum current for the superconducting wire !
- This was initially explained as a local damage of the wire: *degradation*, a very misleading name.
- All this had to do with stability !

NbZr solenoid vs. wire
Chester, 1967

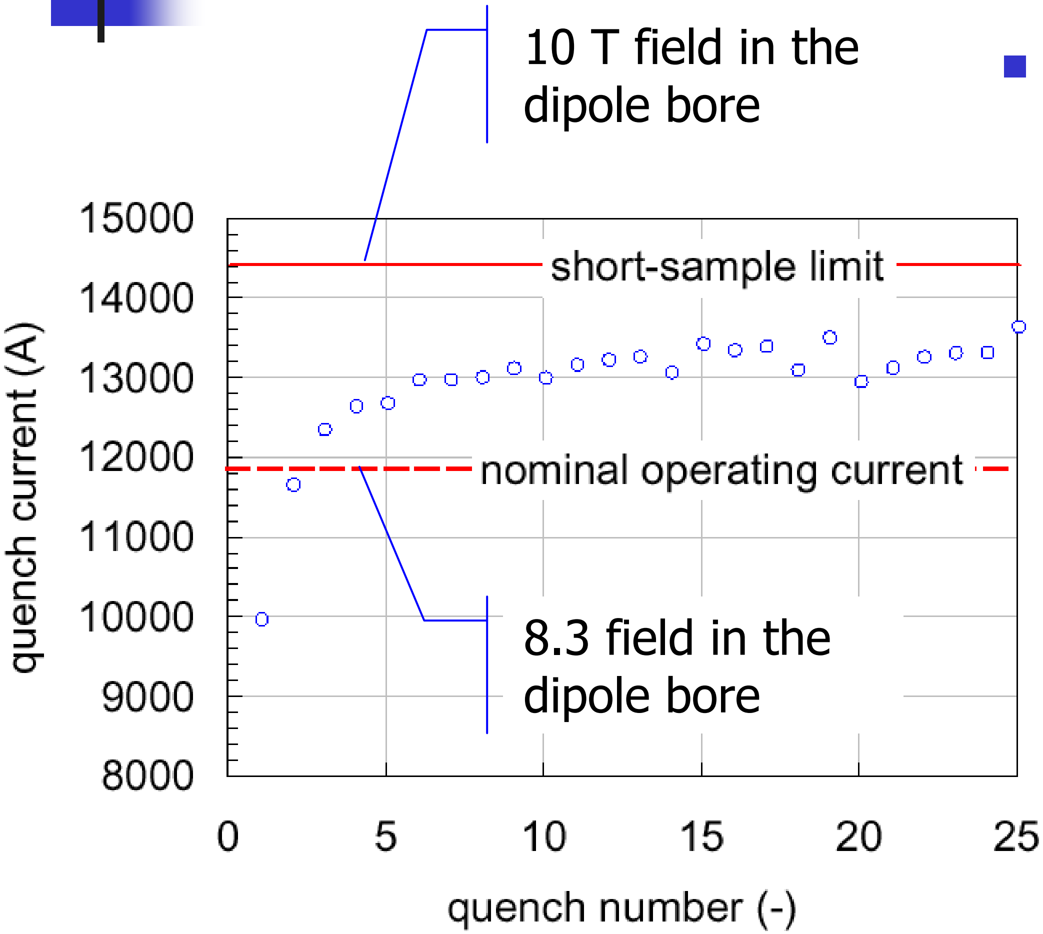


I_c of NbZr wire

I_{max} reached in NbZr solenoid

P.F. Chester, Rep. Prog. Phys., **XXX**, II, 561, 1967.

Training today



10 T field in the dipole bore

8.3 field in the dipole bore

Courtesy of A. Siemko, CERN, 2002

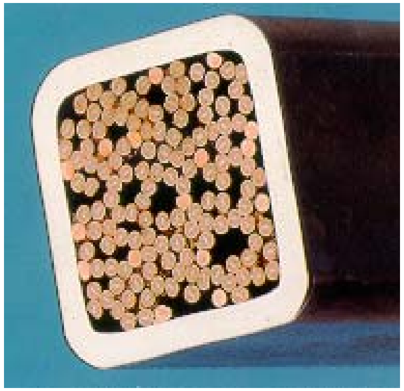
- training of an LHC short dipole model at superfluid helium
  - still (limited) training may be necessary to reach nominal operating current
  - short sample limit is not reached, even after a long training sequence

stability is (still) important !

Stability as a heat balance

perturbation

Joule heating



superconducting cable

heat capacity

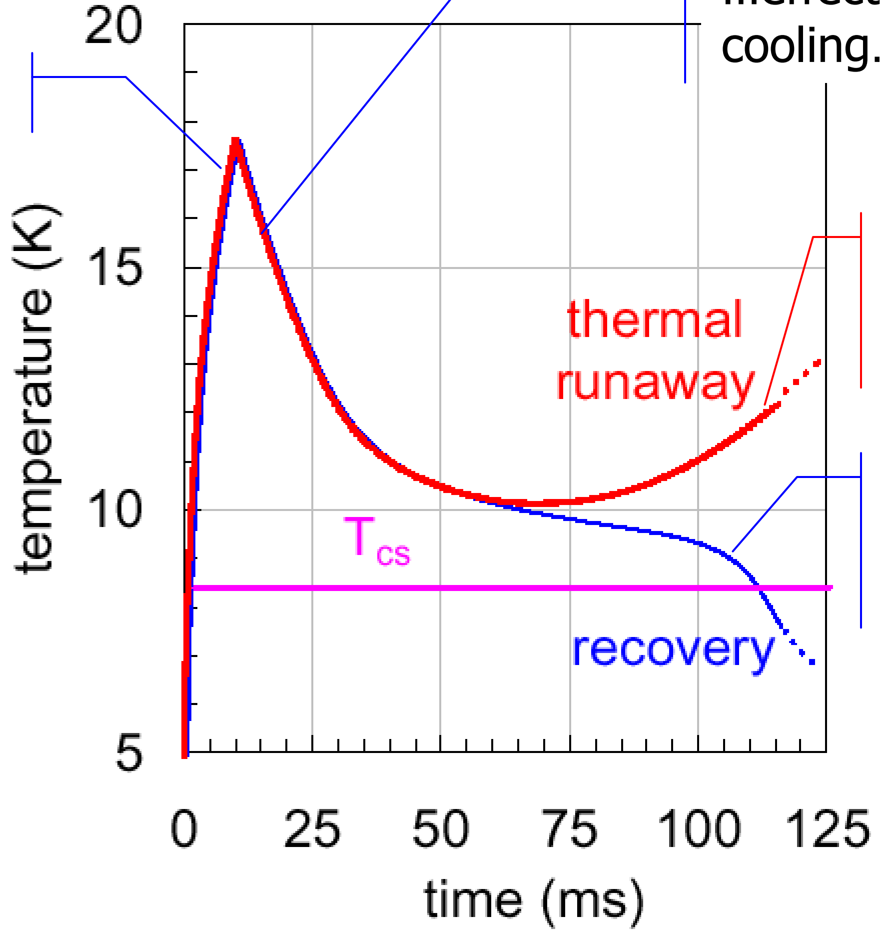
conduction

cooling

A prototype temperature transient

heat pulse…

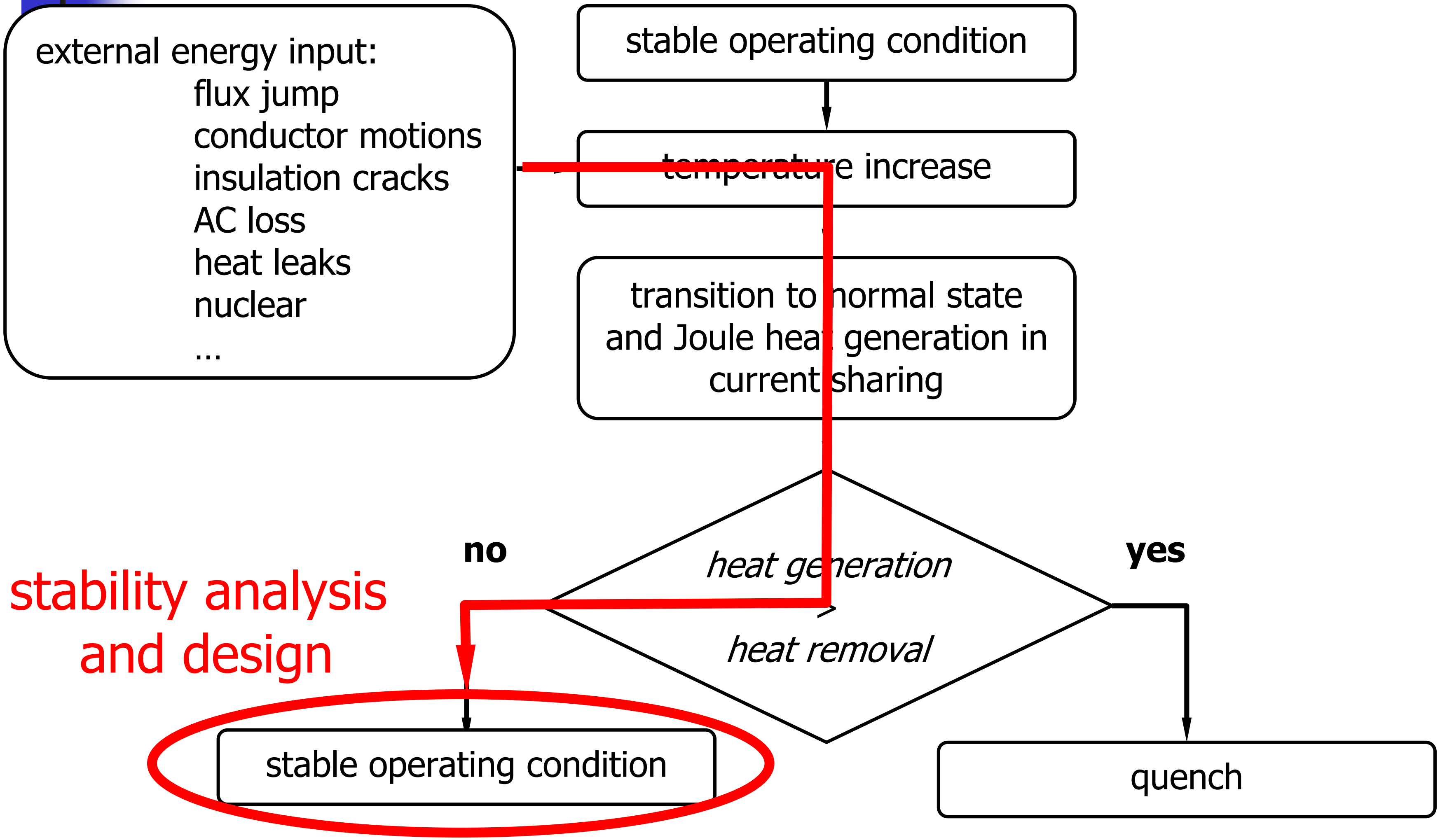
…effect of heat conduction and cooling…



generation>cooling
unstable

generation<cooling
stable

Why training ?



external energy input:
- flux jump
- conductor motions
- insulation cracks
- AC loss
- heat leaks
- nuclear
- …

stable operating condition

temperature increase

transition to normal state and Joule heat generation in current sharing

heat generation

\>

heat removal

no

yes

stable operating condition

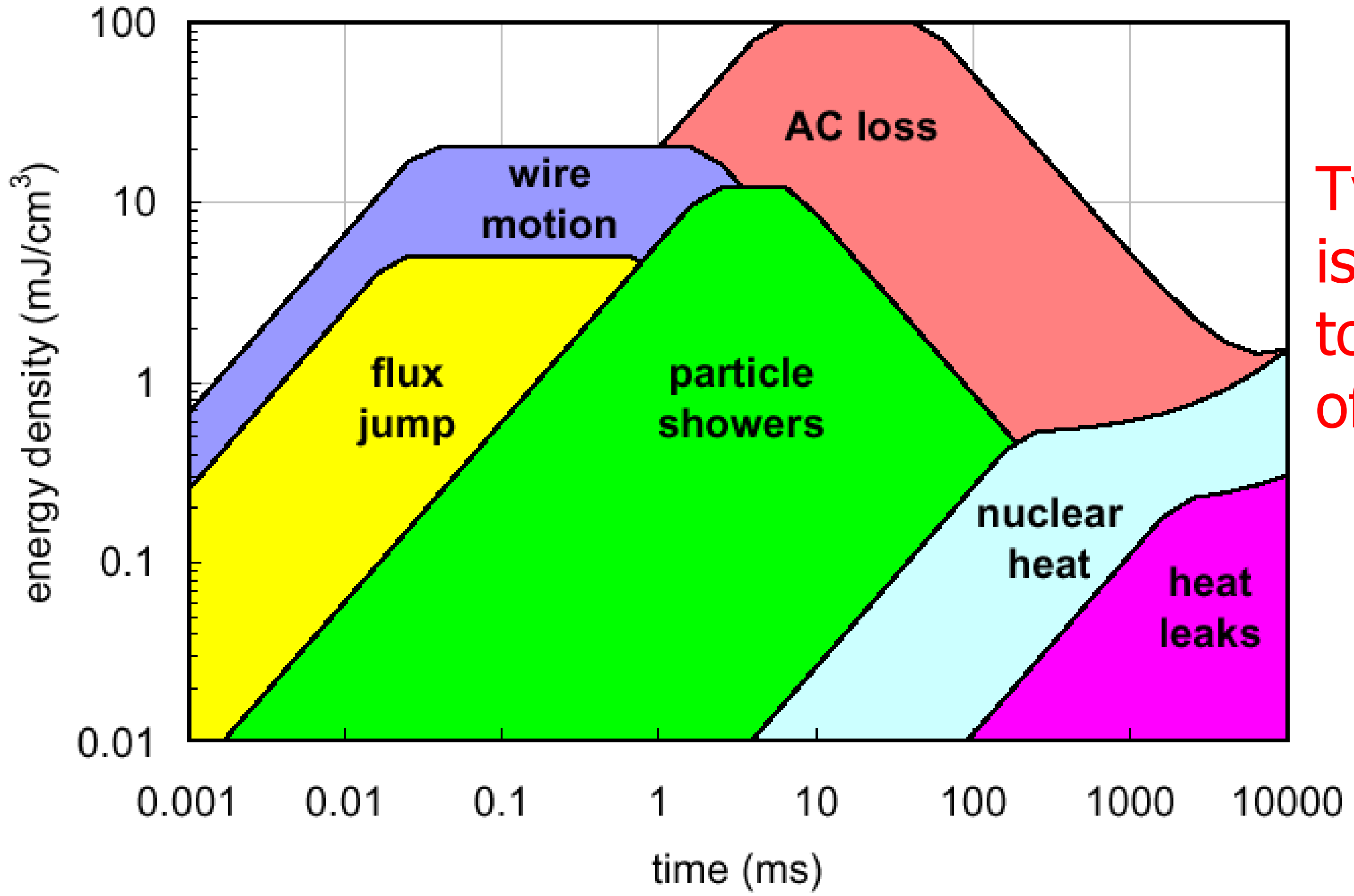
quench

stability analysis and design

Perturbation spectrum

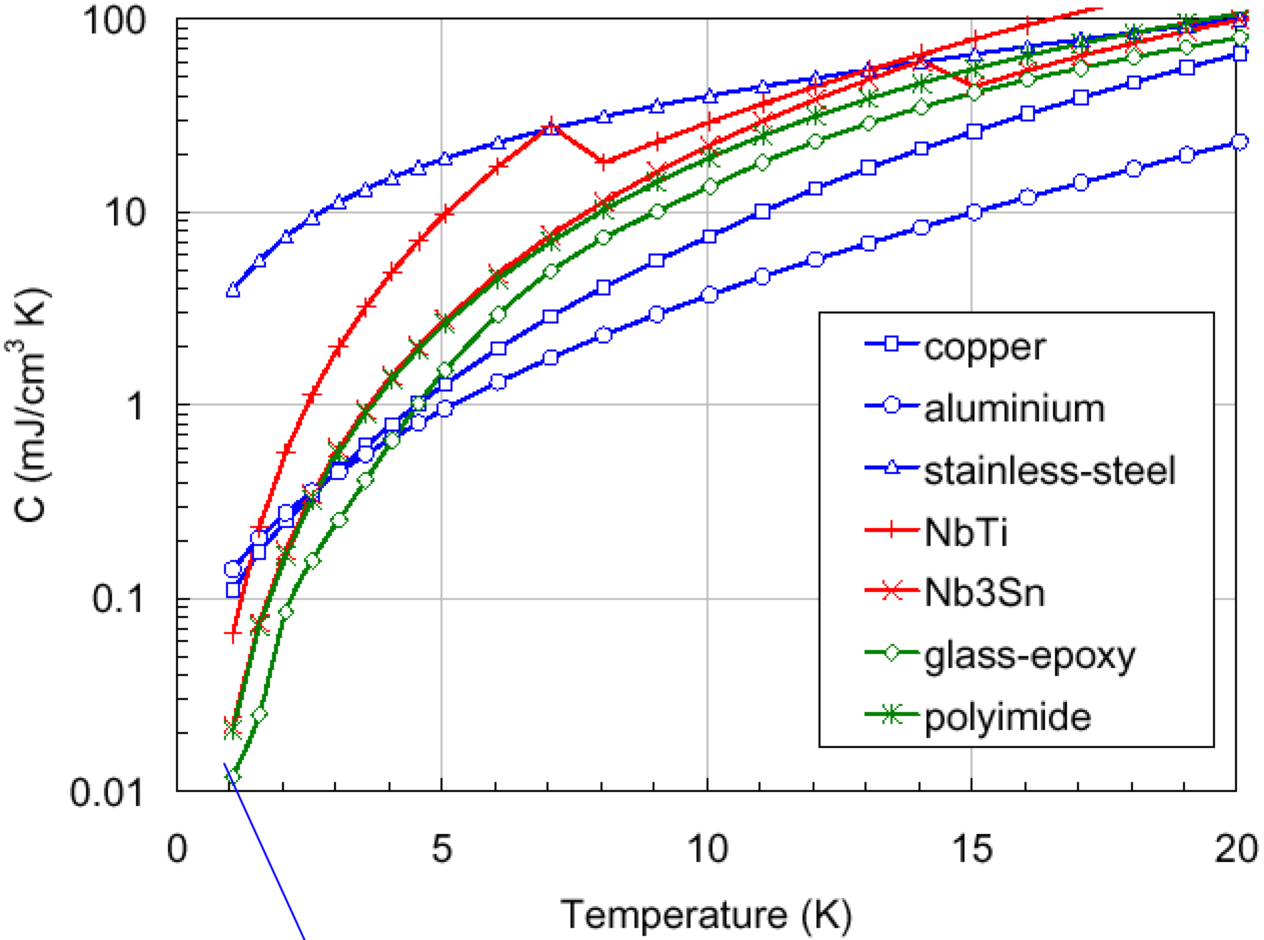
- mechanical *events*
  - wire motion under Lorentz force, micro-slips
  - winding deformations
  - failures (at insulation bonding, material yeld)
- electromagnetic *events*
  - flux-jumps (important for large filaments, old story !)
  - AC loss (most magnet types)
  - current sharing in cables through distribution/redistribution
- thermal *events*
  - current leads, instrumentation wires
  - heat leaks through thermal insulation, degraded cooling
- nuclear *events*
  - particle showers in particle accelerator magnets
  - neutron flux in fusion experiments

Perturbation overview



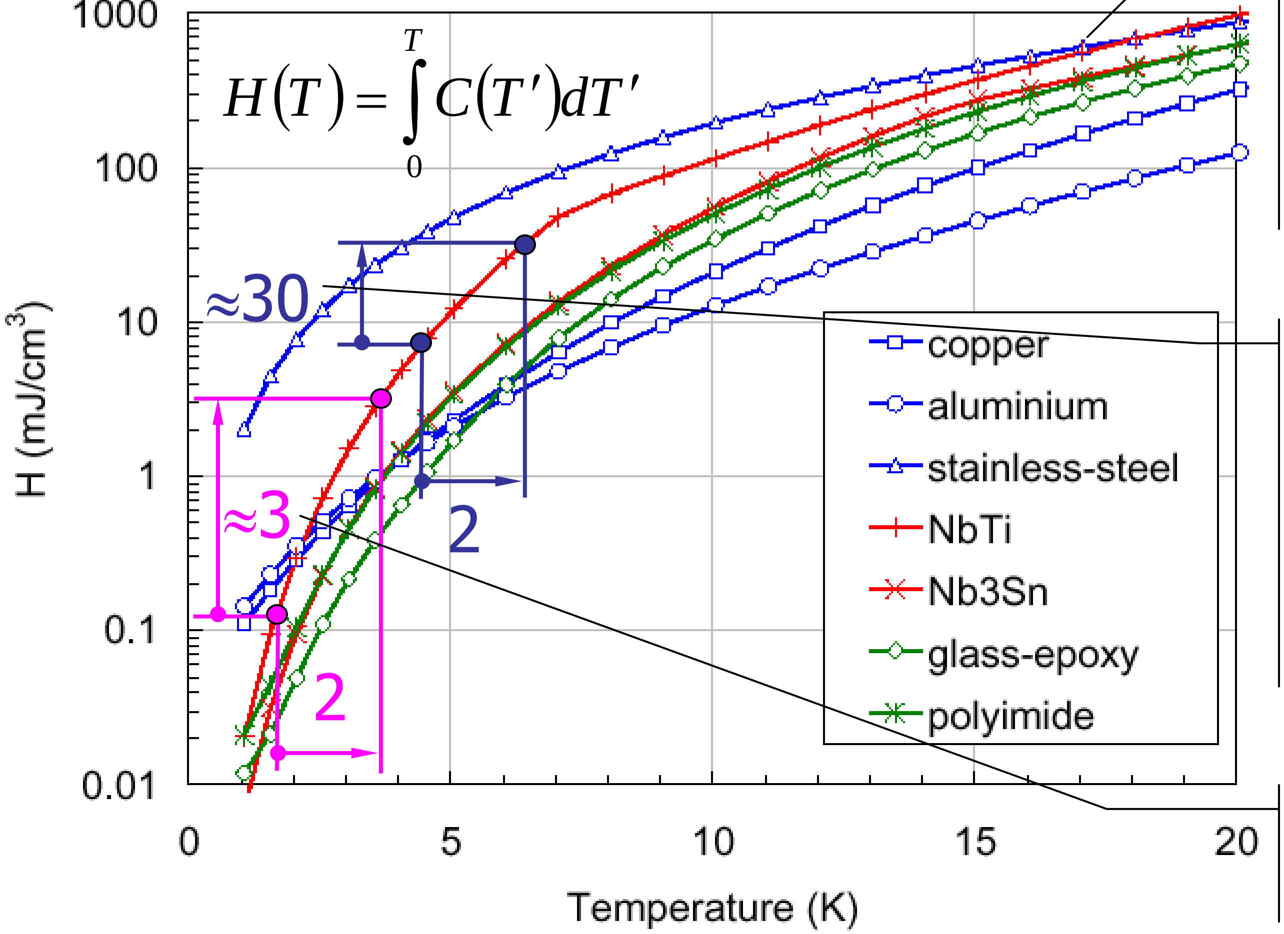
Typical range is from a few to a few tens of mJ/cm^3

Low temperature heat capacity



Note that C ⇒ 0 for T ⇒ 0 !

Enthalpy reserve

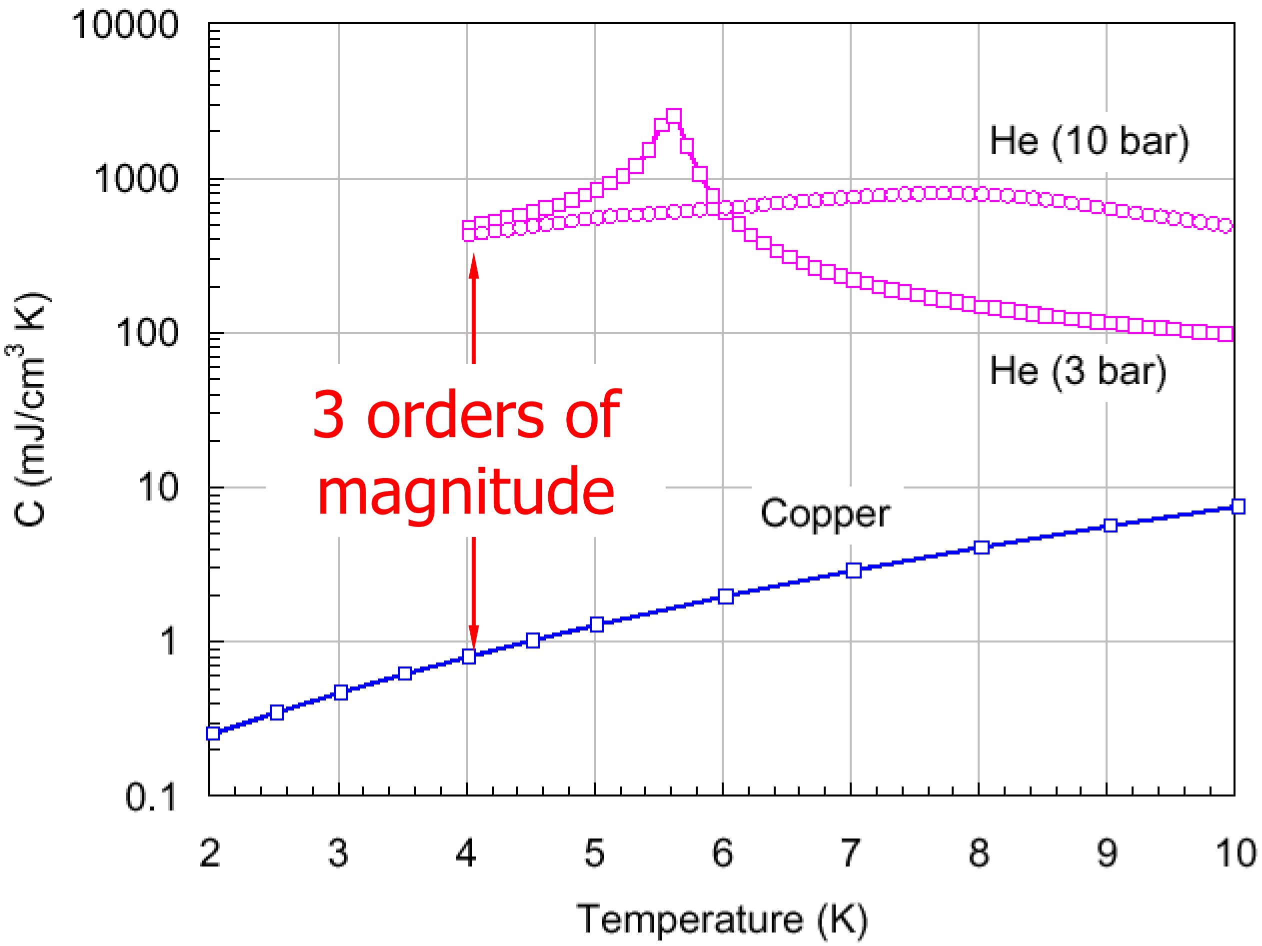


Enthalpy reserve increases massively at increasing T: stability is not an issue for HTS materials

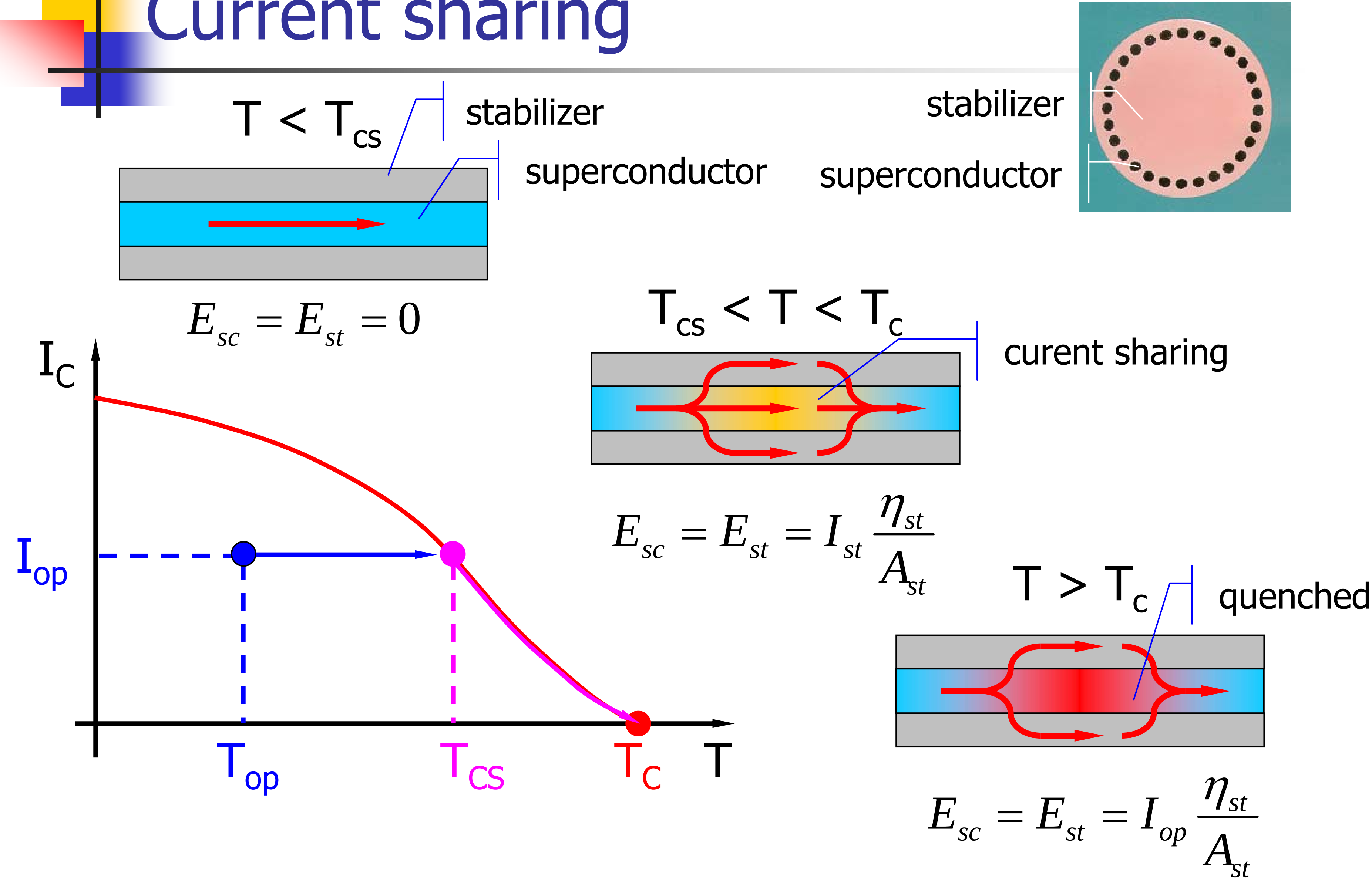
Enthalpy reserve is of the order of the expected perturbation spectrum: stability is an issue for LTS magnets

do not sub-cool if you can only avoid it !

Helium is a great heat sink !



Current sharing



$T < T_{cs}$

stabilizer

superconductor

$$E_{sc} = E_{st} = 0$$

stabilizer

superconductor

$T_{cs} < T < T_c$

curent sharing

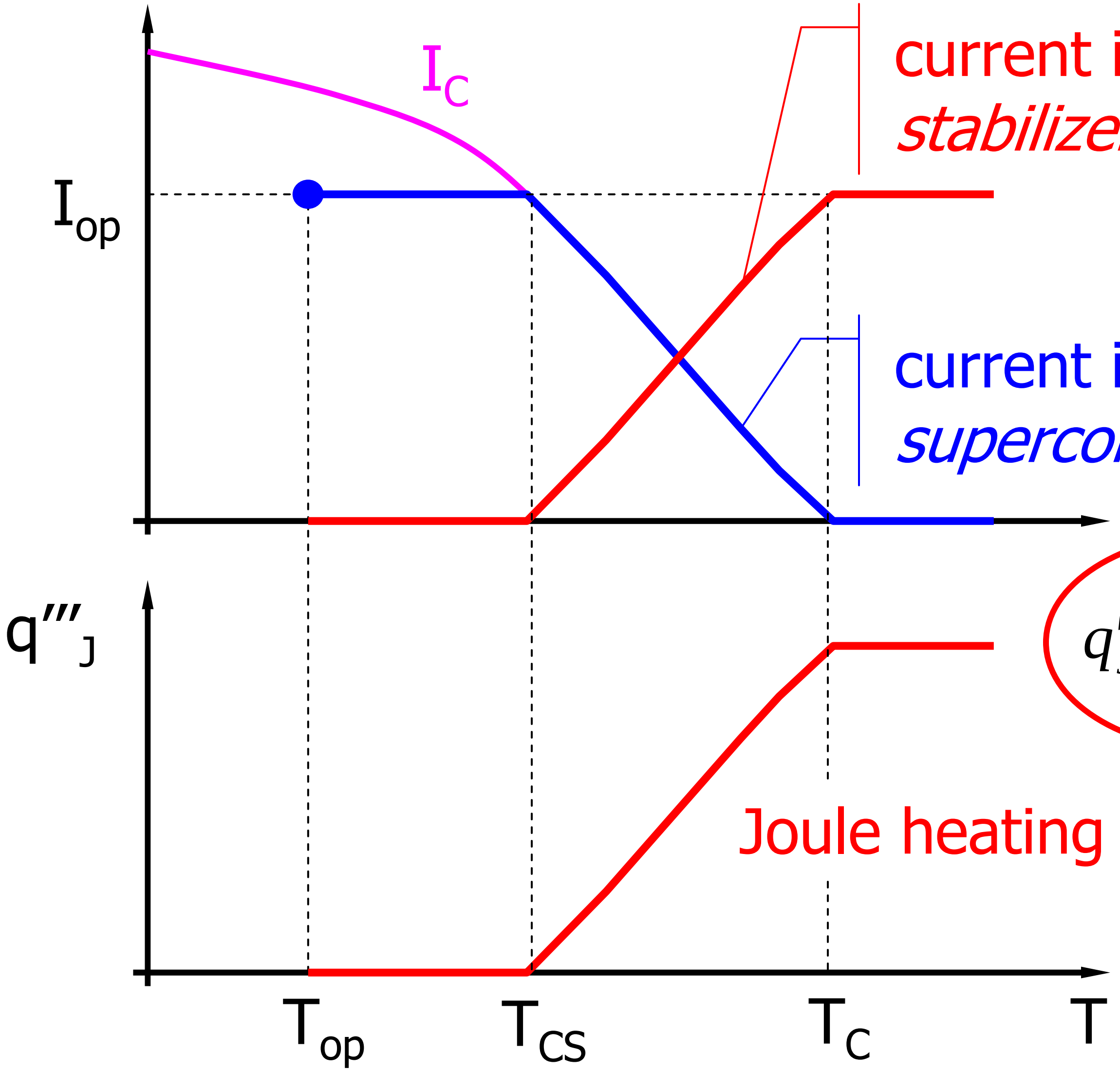
$$E_{sc} = E_{st} = I_{st} \frac{\eta_{st}}{A_{st}}$$

$T > T_c$

quenched

$$E_{sc} = E_{st} = I_{op} \frac{\eta_{st}}{A_{st}}$$

Joule heating



current in the *stabilizer* $I_{st} = I_{op} - I_c$

current in the *superconductor* $I_{sc} = I_c$

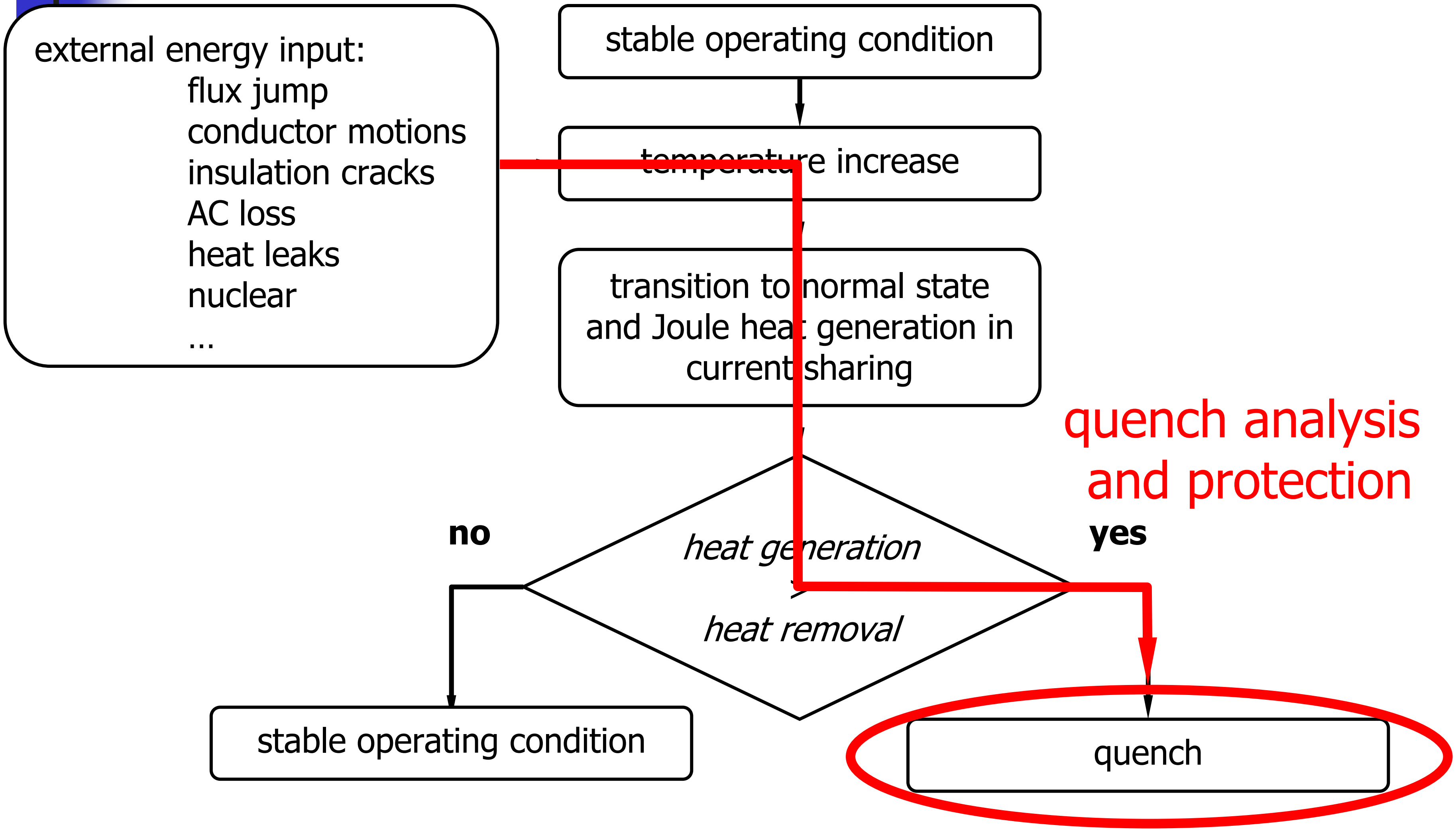
$$q'''_J = \frac{\eta_{st}}{A_{st}} \frac{I^2}{A}$$

Joule heating

Stability - Re-cap

- A sound design is such that **the expected energy spectrum is smaller than the expected stability margin**
- To increase stability:
  - Increase temperature margin
  - Increase heat removal (e.g. conduction or heat transfer)
  - Decrease Joule heating by using a stabilizer with low electrical conductance
  - Make best use of heat capacity
    - Avoid sub-cooling (heat capacity increases with T, this is why stability is not an issue for HTS materials)
    - Access to helium for low operating temperatures

What is a quench ?



external energy input:
- flux jump
- conductor motions
- insulation cracks
- AC loss
- heat leaks
- nuclear
- …

stable operating condition

temperature increase

transition to normal state and Joule heat generation in current sharing

heat generation > *heat removal*

no

stable operating condition

yes

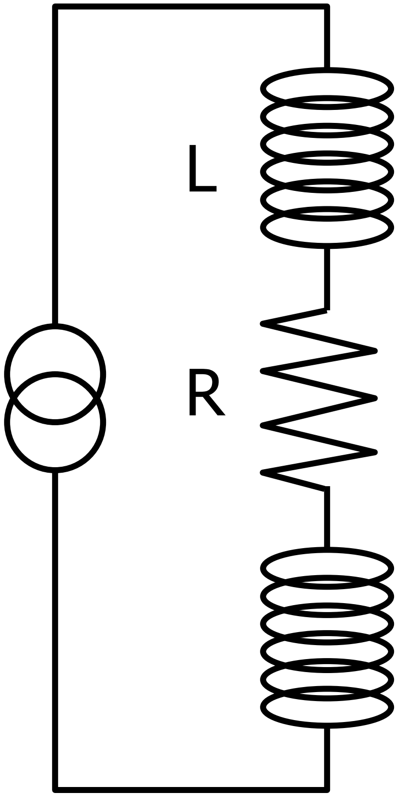
quench

quench analysis and protection

Why is it a problem ?

- the magnetic energy stored in the field:

$$E_m = \int_V \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} dv = \frac{1}{2} L I^2$$



is converted to heat through Joule heating RI^2. *If this process happened uniformly* in the winding pack:

  - Cu melting temperature 1356 K
  - corresponding E_m=5.2 10^9 J/m^3

limit would be $B_{max} \leq$ 115 T: NO PROBLEM !

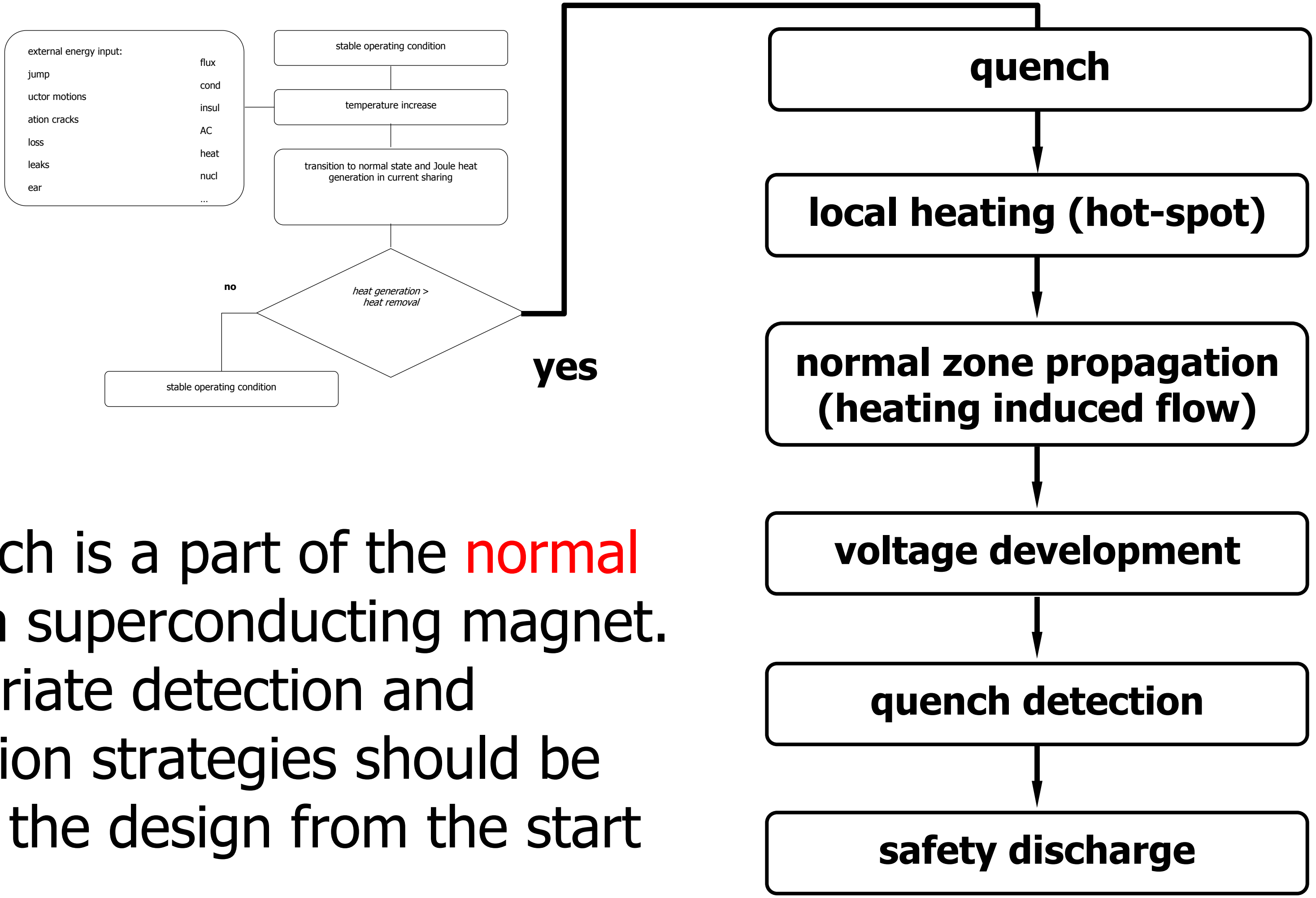
BUT

the process does not happen uniformly (as little as 1 % of mass can absorb total energy)

Courtesy of A. Siemko, CERN

This is why it is important !

Quench sequence



quench

local heating (hot-spot)

normal zone propagation (heating induced flow)

voltage development

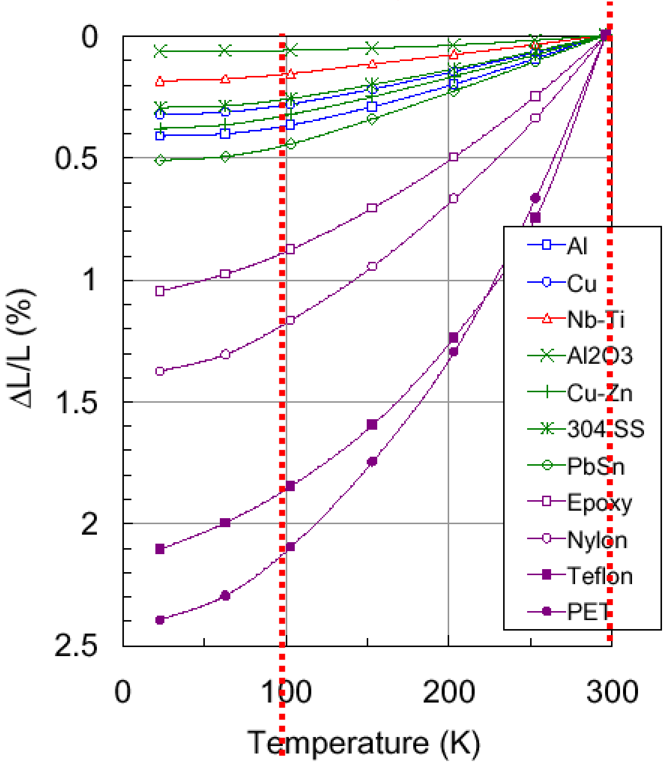
quench detection

safety discharge

A quench is a part of the normal life of a superconducting magnet. Appropriate detection and protection strategies should be built in the design from the start

Hot-spot limits

T_{max} < 300 K for highly supported coils (e.g. accelerator magnets)



T_{max} < 100 K for negligible effect

- the quench starts in a point and propagates with a *quench propagation velocity*
- the initial point will be the *hot spot* at temperature T_{max}
- T_{max} must be limited to:
  - limit thermal stresses (see graph)
  - avoid material damage (e.g. resins have typical T_{cure} 100…200 °C)

B.J. Maddock, G.B. James, Proc. IEE, **115** (4), 543, 1968

Adiabatic hot spot temperature

- adiabatic conditions at the hot spot :

$$C\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = q_J''' \qquad \text{where:} \qquad q_J''' = \frac{\eta_{st}}{A_{st}}\frac{I^2}{A}$$

- can be integrated:

$$\int_{T_{op}}^{T_{\max}} \frac{C}{\eta_{st}}\,dT = \frac{1}{f_{st}}\int_0^{\infty} J^2 dt$$

total volumetric heat capacity

stabilizer resistivity

stabilizer fraction

cable operating current density

$$Z(T_{\max}) = \int_{T_{op}}^{T_{\max}} \frac{C}{\eta_{st}}\,dT$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} J^2 dt \approx J_{op}^2\,\tau_{decay}$$

The function $Z(T_{max})$ is a *cable property*

How to limit T_{max}

stabilizer material property

electrical operation of the coil (energy, voltage)

$$Z(T_{\max}) \approx \frac{1}{f_{st}} J_{op}^{2} \tau_{decay}$$

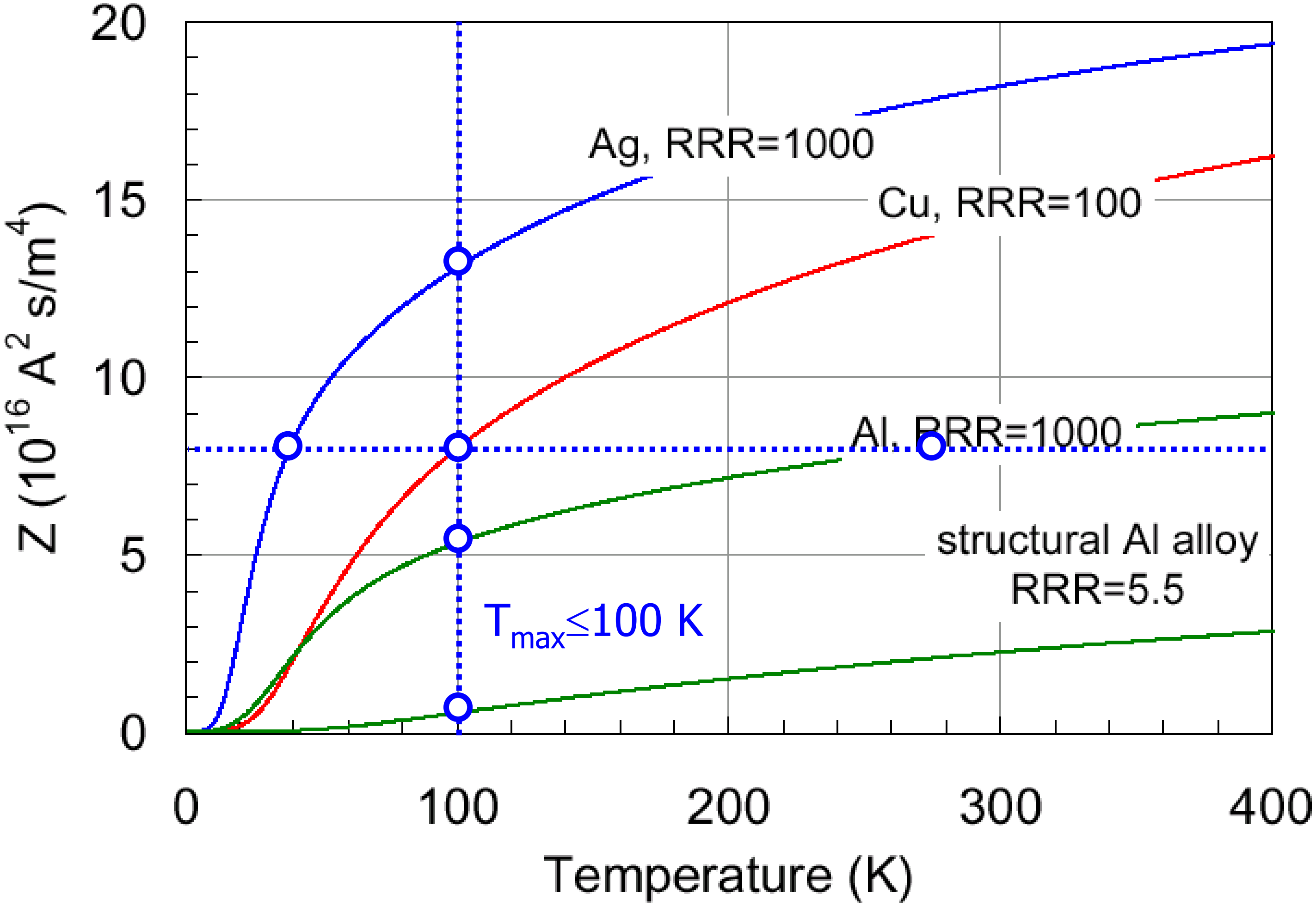
cable fractions design

implicit relation between T_{max} , f_{st} , J_{op} , τ_{decay}

- to decrease T_{max}
  - reduce operating current density ($J_{op} \Downarrow$)
  - discharge quickly ($\tau_{decay} \Downarrow$)
  - add stabilizer ($f_{st} \Uparrow$)
  - choose a material with large $Z(T_{max}) \Uparrow$

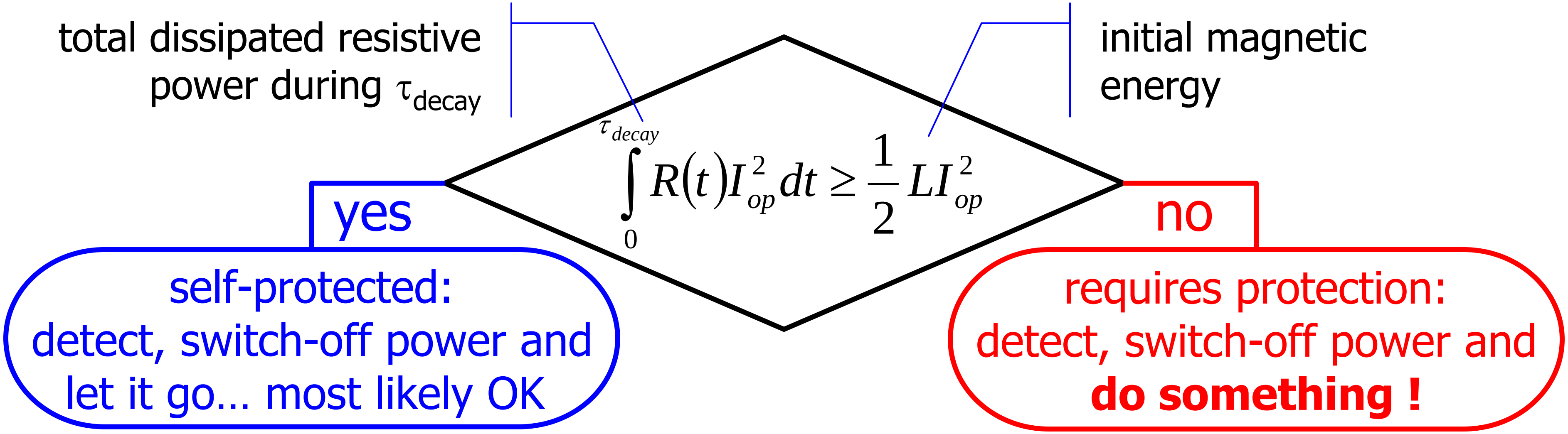
$$Z(T_{\max}) \approx \frac{1}{f_{st}} J_{op}^2 \tau_{decay}$$

$Z(T_{max})$ for typical stabilizers



Quench protection

- The magnet stores a magnetic energy 1/2 L I^2
- During a quench it dissipates a power R I^2 for a duration τ_{decay} characteristic of the powering circuit



total dissipated resistive power during τ_{decay}

initial magnetic energy

$$\int_0^{\tau_{decay}} R(t) I_{op}^2 \, dt \geq \frac{1}{2} L I_{op}^2$$

yes

self-protected:
detect, switch-off power and
let it go… most likely OK

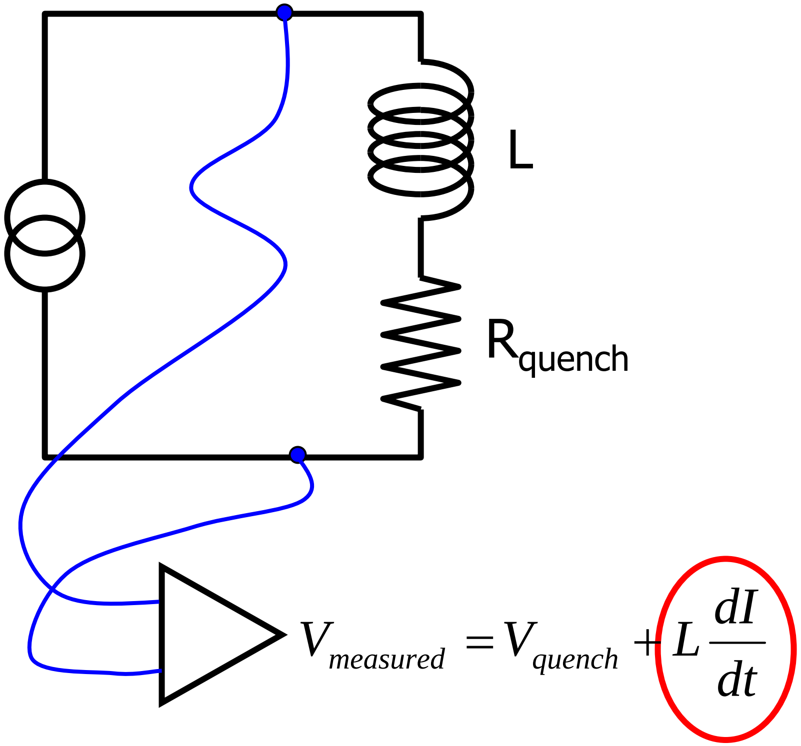
no

requires protection:
detect, switch-off power and
do something !

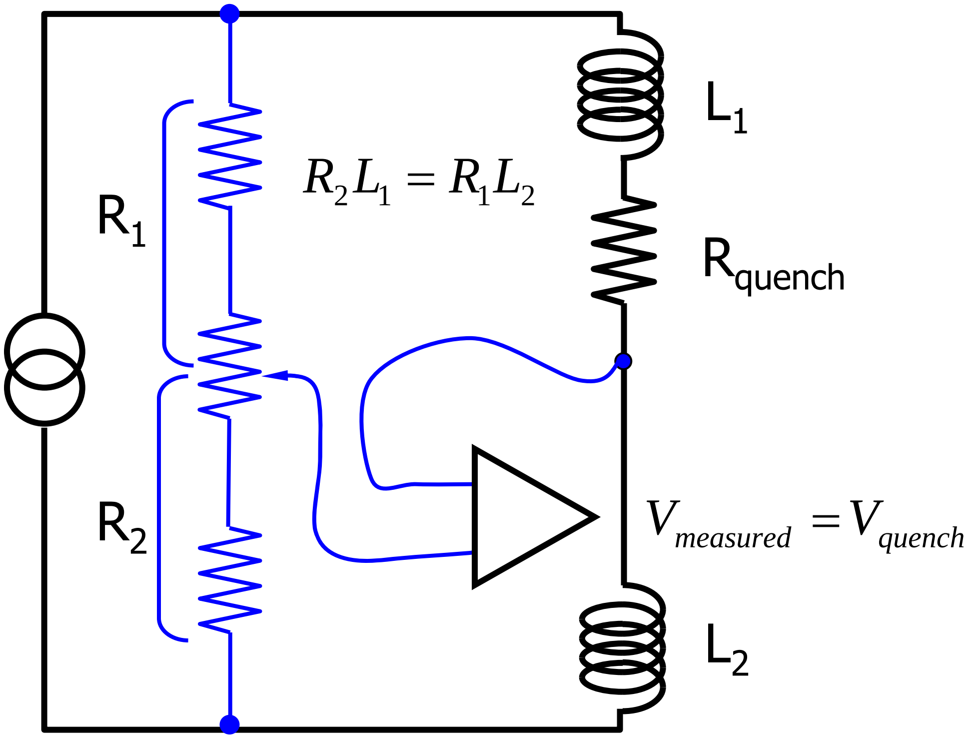
WARNING: the reasoning here is qualitative, conclusions require in any case detailed checking

Quench detection: voltage

- a direct quench voltage measurement is subject to inductive pick-up (ripple, ramps)

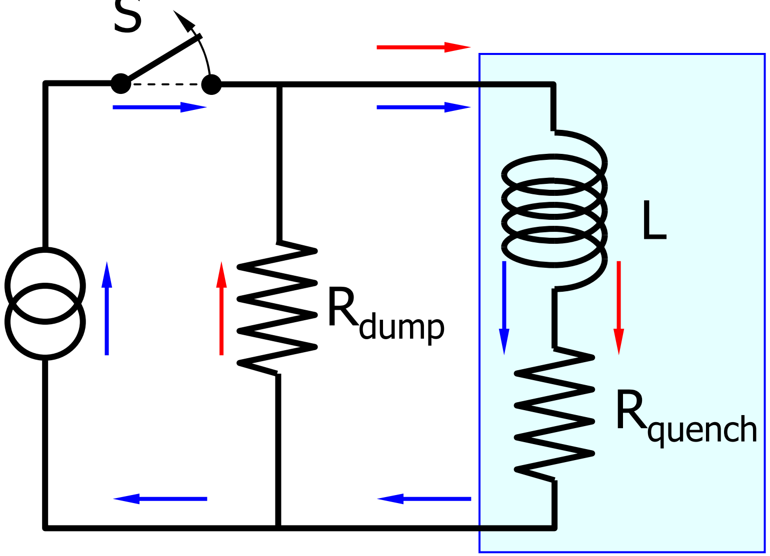


- immunity to inductive voltages (and noise rejection) is achieved by *compensation*



B.J. Maddock, G.B. James, Proc. Inst. Electr. Eng., **115**, 543, 1968

Strategy 1: energy dump



$$R_{dump} >> R_{quench}$$

← normal operation

← quench

- the magnetic energy is extracted from the magnet and dissipated in an external resistor:

$$I = I_{op} e^{-\frac{(t-\tau_{detection})}{\tau_{dump}}} \qquad \tau_{dump} = \frac{L}{R_{dump}}$$

- the integral of the current:

$$\int_0^\infty J^2 dt \approx J_{op}^2 \left(\tau_{detection} + \frac{\tau_{dump}}{2} \right)$$

- can be made small by:
  - fast detection
  - fast dump (large R_{dump})

Dump time constant

- magnetic energy:

$$E_m = \frac{1}{2} L I_{op}^2$$

- maximum terminal voltage:

$$V_{\max} = R_{dump} I_{op}$$

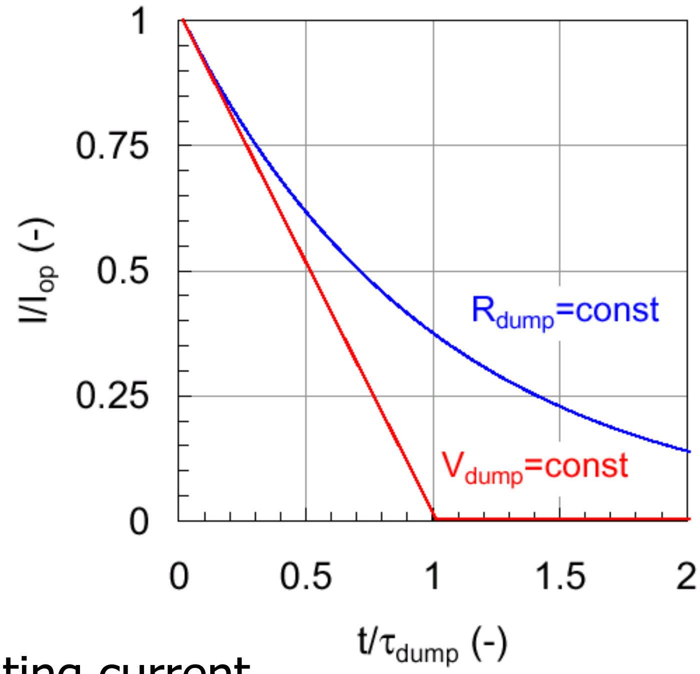
- dump time constant:

$$\tau_{dump} = \frac{L}{R_{dump}} = \frac{2E_m}{V_{\max} I_{op}}$$

maximum terminal voltage

operating current

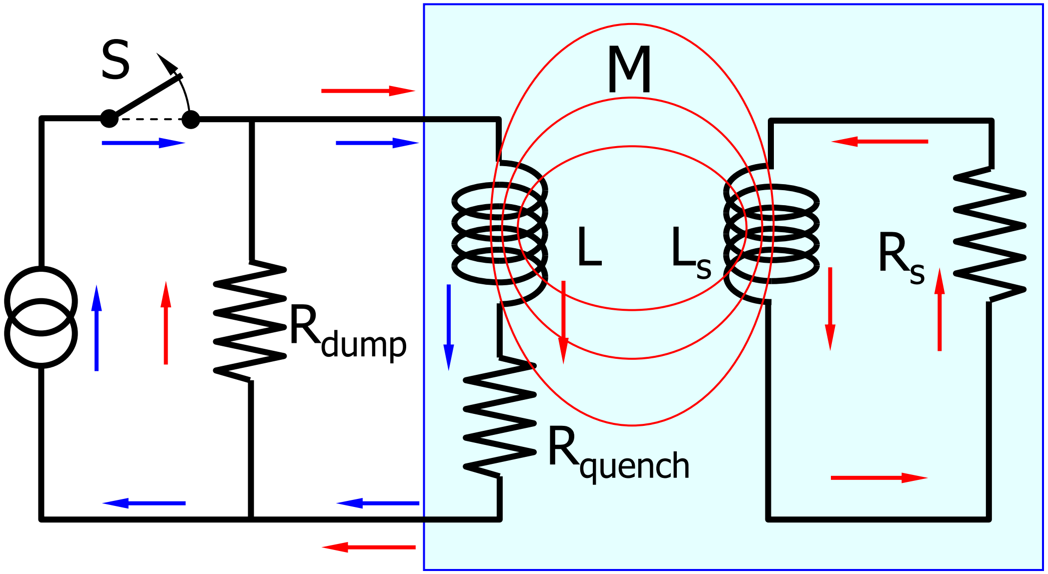
interesting alternative:
non-linear R_{dump} or voltage source



increase V_{max} and I_{op} to achieve fast dump time

Strategy 2: coupled secondary

- the magnet is coupled inductively to a secondary that absorbs and dissipates a part of the magnetic energy



- advantages:
  - magnetic energy partially dissipated in R_s (lower T_{max})
  - lower effective magnet inductance (lower voltage)
  - heating of R_s can be used to speed-up quench propagation (quench-back)
- disadvantages:
  - induced currents (and dissipation) during ramps

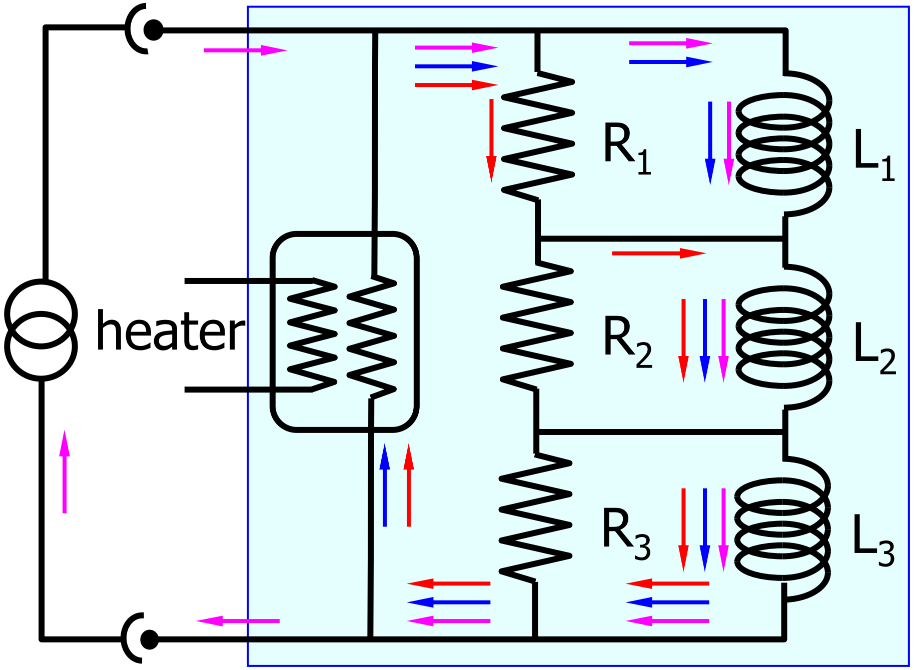
← normal operation

← quench

P.F. Smith, Rev. Sci. Instrum., **34** (4), 368, 1963.

Strategy 3: subdivision

- the magnet is divided in sections, with each section shunted by an alternative path (resistance) for the current in case of quench



← charge

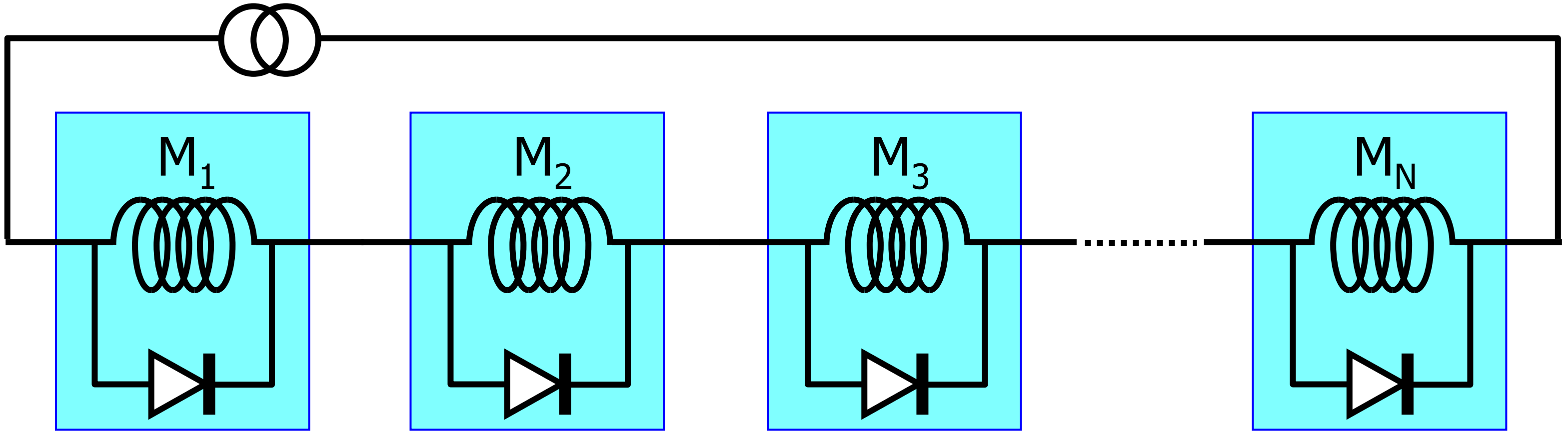
← normal operation

← quench

- advantages:
  - passive
  - only a fraction of the magnetic energy is dissipated in a module (lower T_{max})
  - transient current and dissipation can be used to speed-up quench propagation (quench-back)
- disadvantages:
  - induced currents (and dissipation) during ramps

Magnet strings

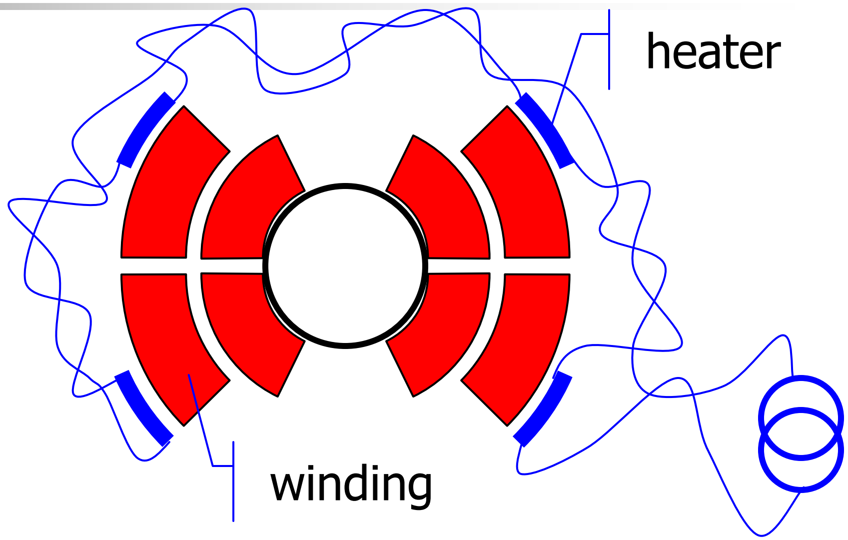
- magnet strings (e.g. accelerator magnets, fusion magnetic systems) have exceedingly large stored energy (10’s of GJ):
  - energy dump takes very long time (10…100 s)
  - the magnet string is *subdivided* and each magnet is by-passed by a diode (or thyristor)
  - the diode acts as a shunt during the discharge



Strategy 4: heaters

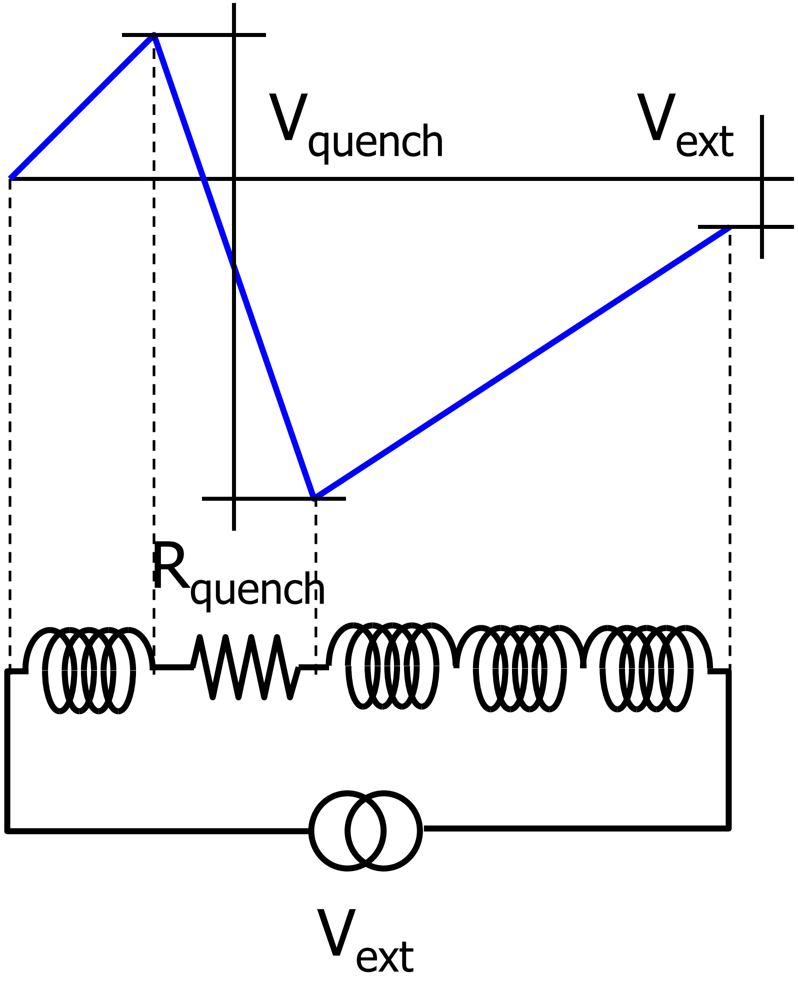
- the quench is spread actively by firing heaters embedded in the winding pack, in close vicinity to the conductor

- heaters are mandatory in:
  - high performance, aggressive, cost-effective and highly optimized magnet designs…
  - …when you are really desperate



- advantages:
  - homogeneous spread of the magnetic energy within the winding pack
- disadvantages:
  - active
  - high voltages at the heater

Quench voltage



- electrical stress can cause serious damage (arcing) to be avoided by proper design:
  - insulation material
  - insulation thickness
  - electric field concentration
- REMEMBER: in a quenching coil the maximum voltage is not necessarily at the terminals
- the situation in subdivided and inductively coupled systems is complex, may require extensive simulation

Quench and protection - Re-cap

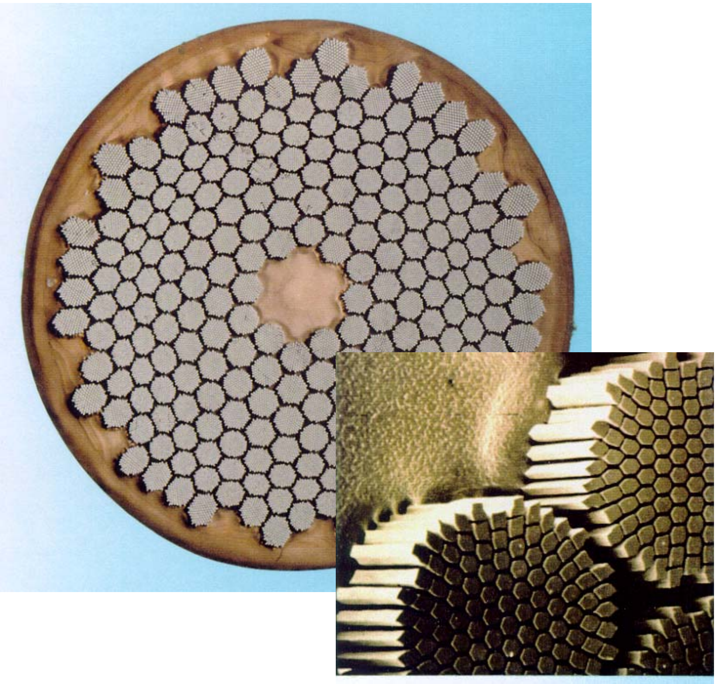
- A good conducting material (Ag, Al, Cu: large $Z(T_{max})$) must be added in parallel to the superconductor to limit the maximum temperature during a quench
- The effect of a quench can be mitigated by
  - Adding stabilizer (⇔ operating margin, stability)
  - Reducing operating current density (⇔ economics of the system)
  - Reducing the magnet inductance (large cable current) and increasing the discharge voltage to discharge the magnet as quickly as practical

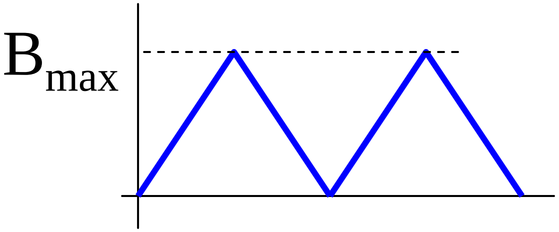
Overview

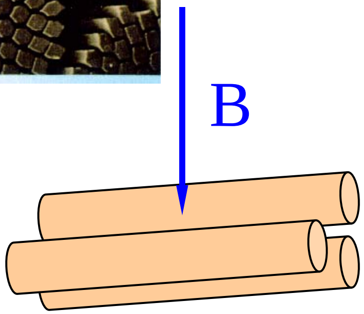
- Why superconductors ? A motivation
- A superconductor physics primer
- Superconducting magnet design
  - Wires, tapes and cables
  - Operating margins
  - Cooling of superconducting magnets
  - Stability, quench and protection
  - AC loss
- The making of a superconducting magnet
- Examples of superconducting magnet systems

A superconductor in varying field

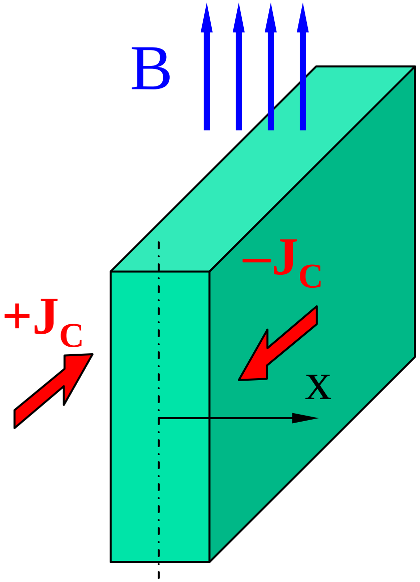
A simpler case: an infinite slab in a uniform, time-variable field







A filament in a time-variable field



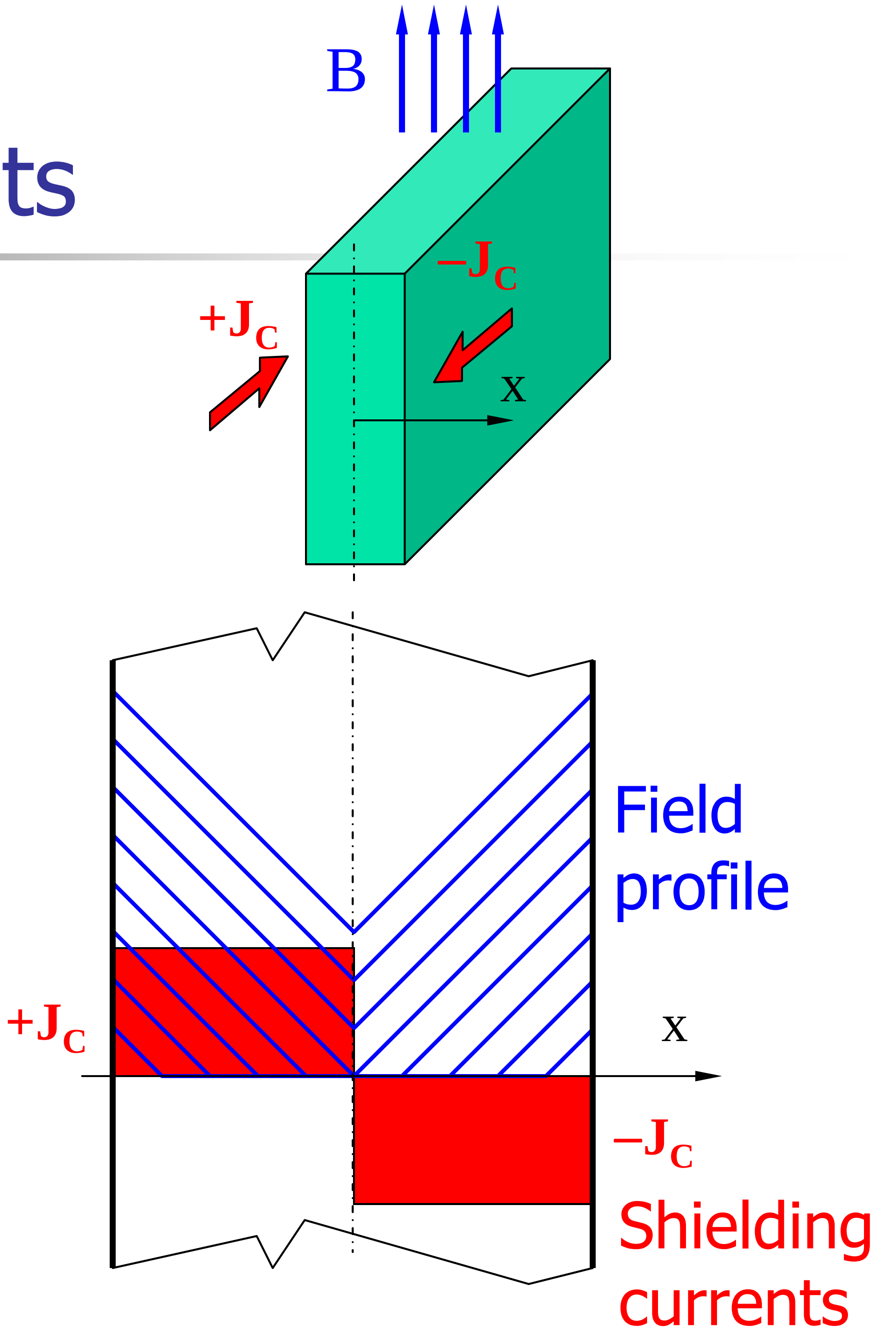
Shielding currents

Quiz: how much is J ?

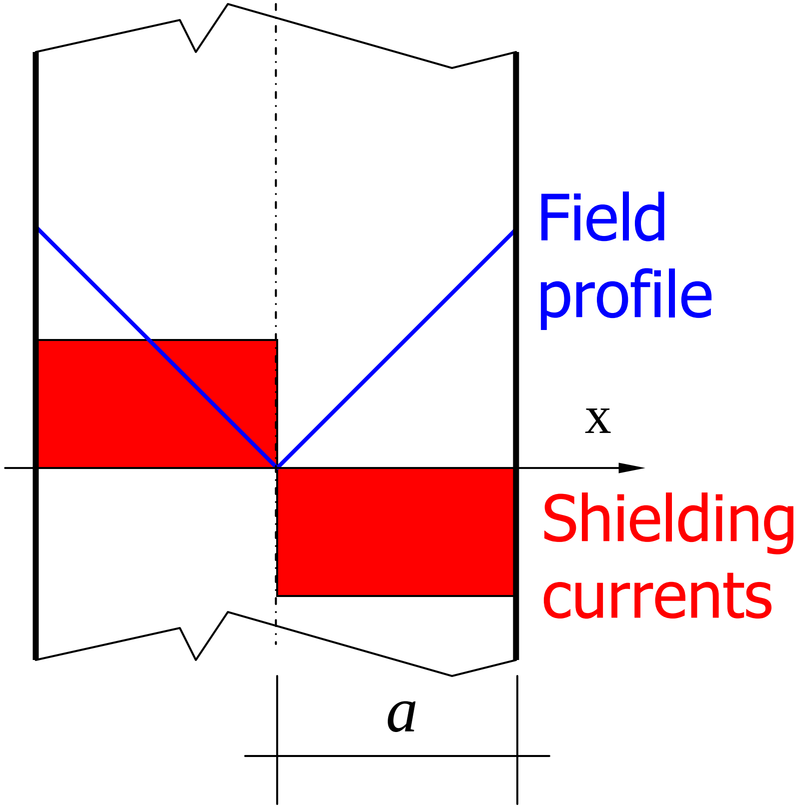
Persistent currents

- dB/dt produces an electric field E in the superconductor which drives it into the resistive state
- When the field sweep stops the electric field vanishes $E \Rightarrow 0$
- The superconductor goes back to J_C and then stays there
- This is the critical state (Bean) model: *within a superconductor, the current density is either* $+J_C$, $-J_C$ *or zero, there's nothing in between!*

$$J = \pm J_C$$



Magnetization



- Seen from outside the sample, the persistent currents produce a magnetic moment. We can define a *magnetization*:

$$M = \frac{1}{a}\int_0^a J_c\, x\, dx = \frac{J_c\, a}{2}$$

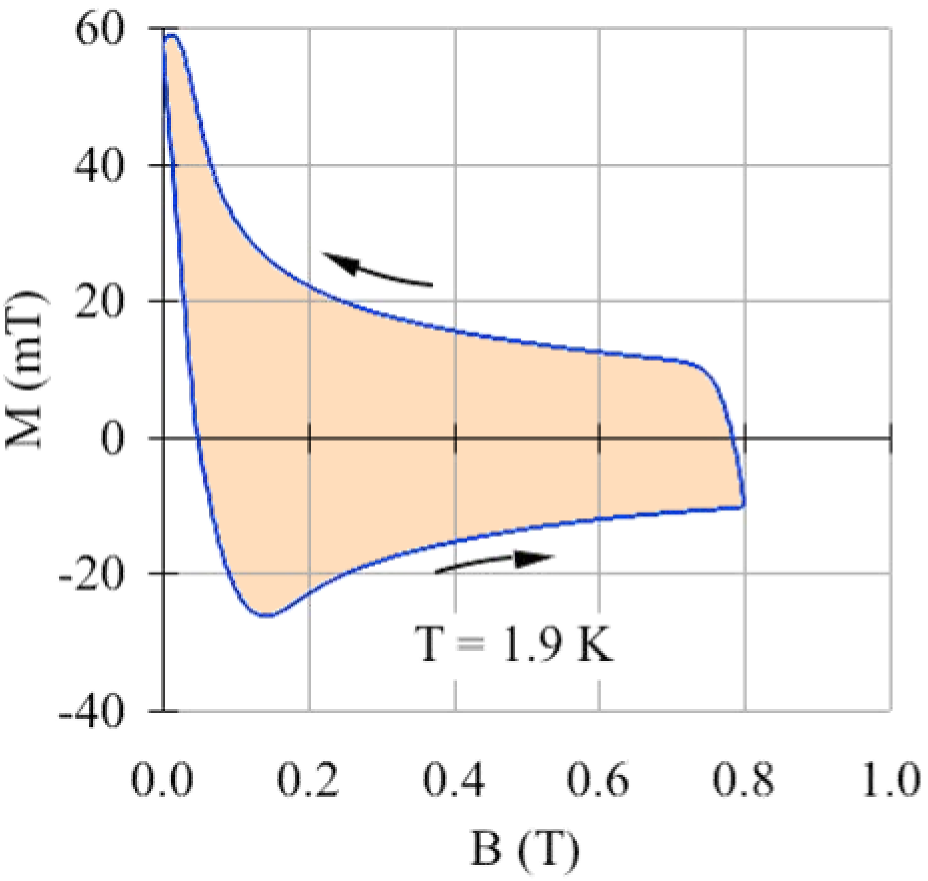
- The magnetization is proportional to the critical current density and to the size of the superconducting slab

Hysteresis loss

- The response of a superconducting wire in a changing field is a field-dependent magnetization (remember M ∝ $J_C(B)$)
- The work done by the external field is:

$$Q = \oint \mu_o M dH = \oint \mu_o H dM$$

i.e. the area of the magnetization loop



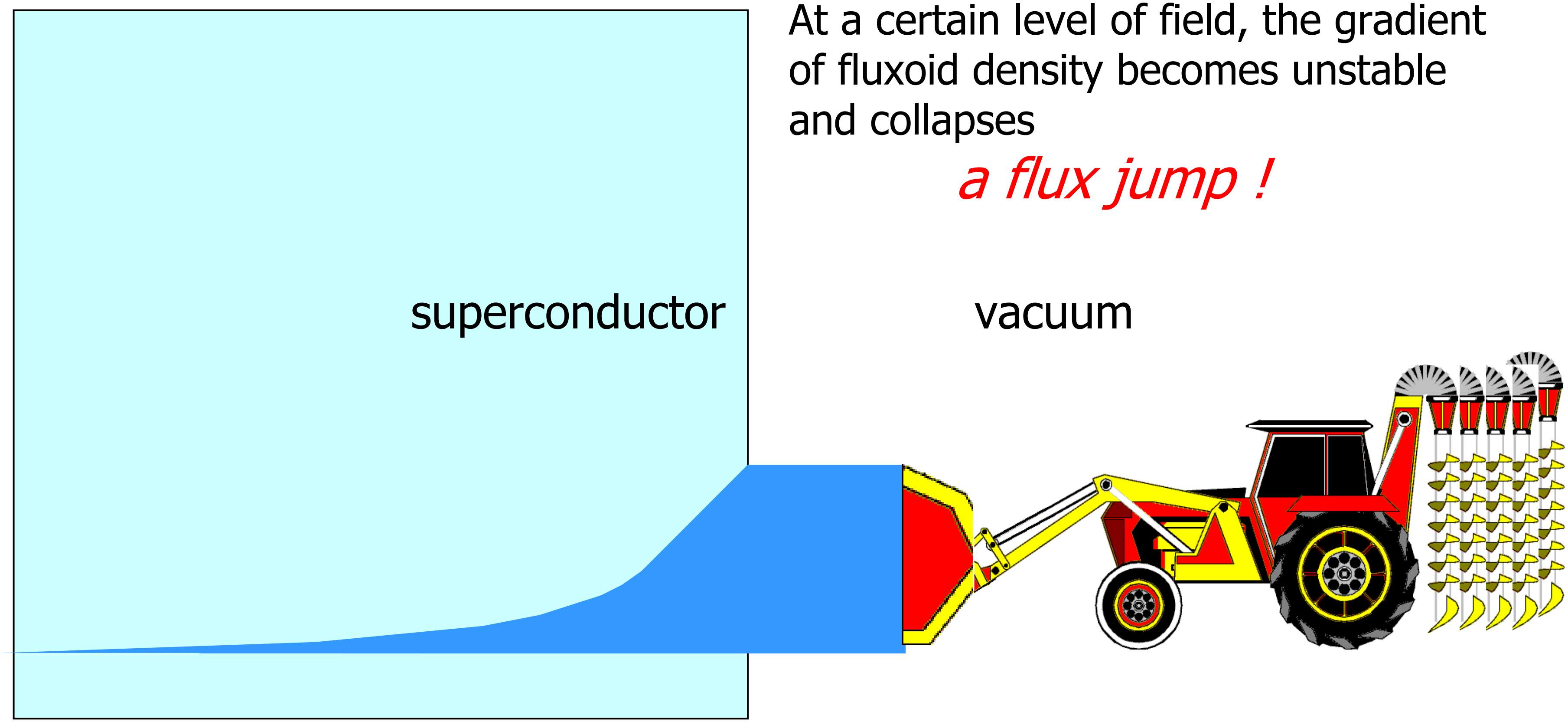
Graphics by courtesy of M.N. Wilson

A different view of flux penetration

The screening currents are a gradient in fluxoid density. The increasing external field exerts pressure on the fluxoids against the pinning force, and causes them to penetrate, with a characteristic gradient in fluxoid density (J_C)

At a certain level of field, the gradient of fluxoid density becomes unstable and collapses

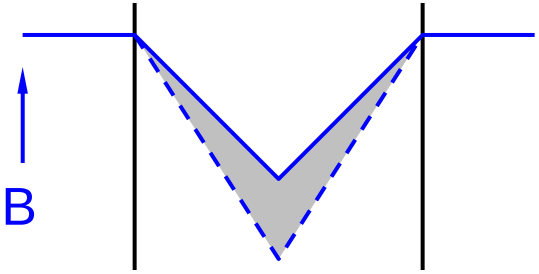
a flux jump !

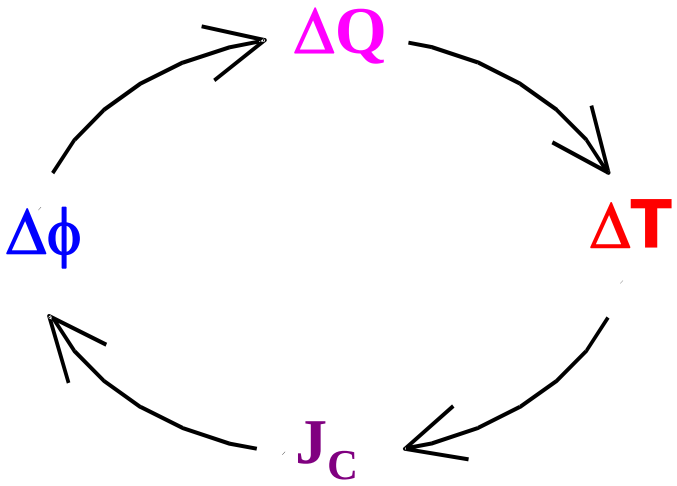


Graphics by courtesy of M.N. Wilson

Flux jumps

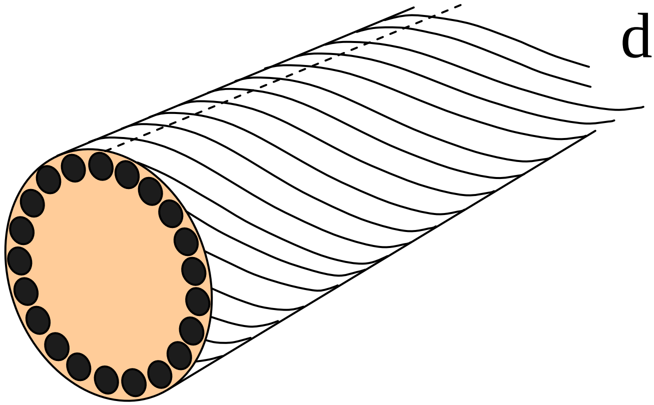
- Unstable behaviour is shown by all superconductors when subjected to a magnetic field:
  - B induces screening currents, flowing at critical density J_C
  - A change in screening currents allows flux to move into the superconductor
  - The flux motion dissipates energy
  - The energy dissipation causes local temperature rise
  - J_C density falls with increasing temperature



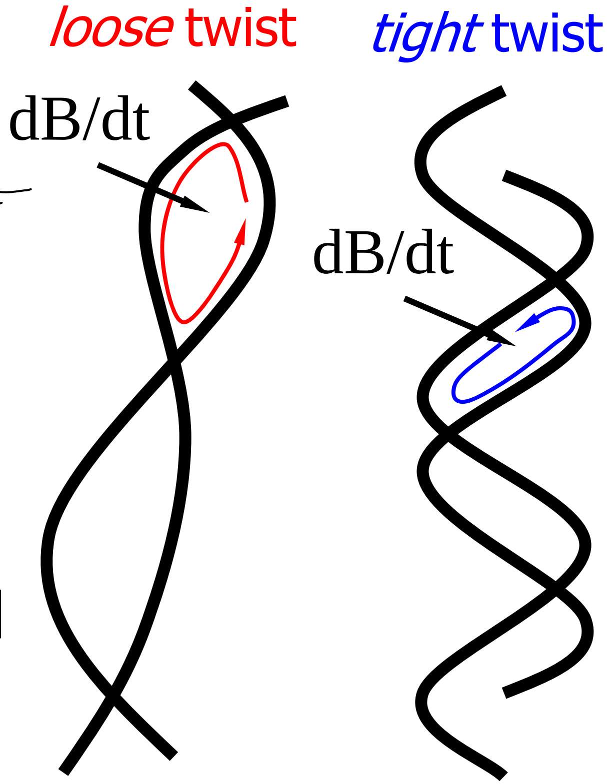


Flux jumping is cured by making superconductor in the form of fine filaments. This weakens the effect of $\Delta\phi$ on ΔQ

Filaments coupling



All superconducting wires and are twisted to decouple the filaments and reduce the magnitude of eddy currents and associated loss



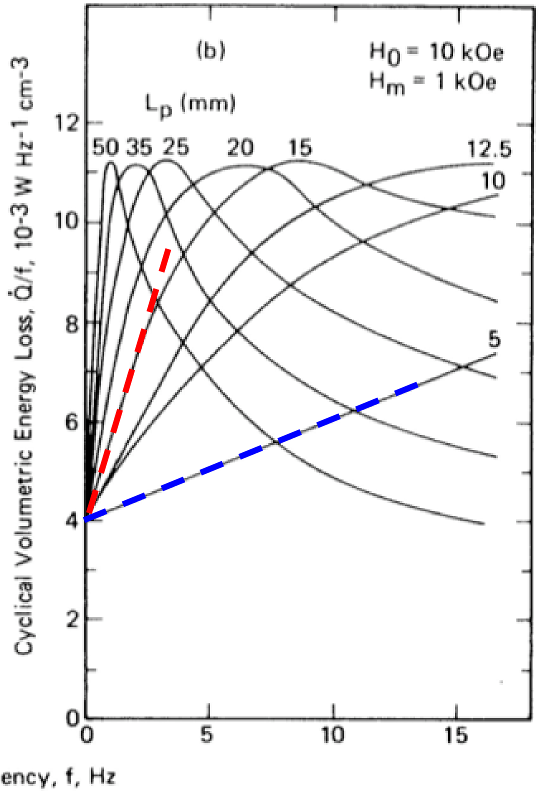
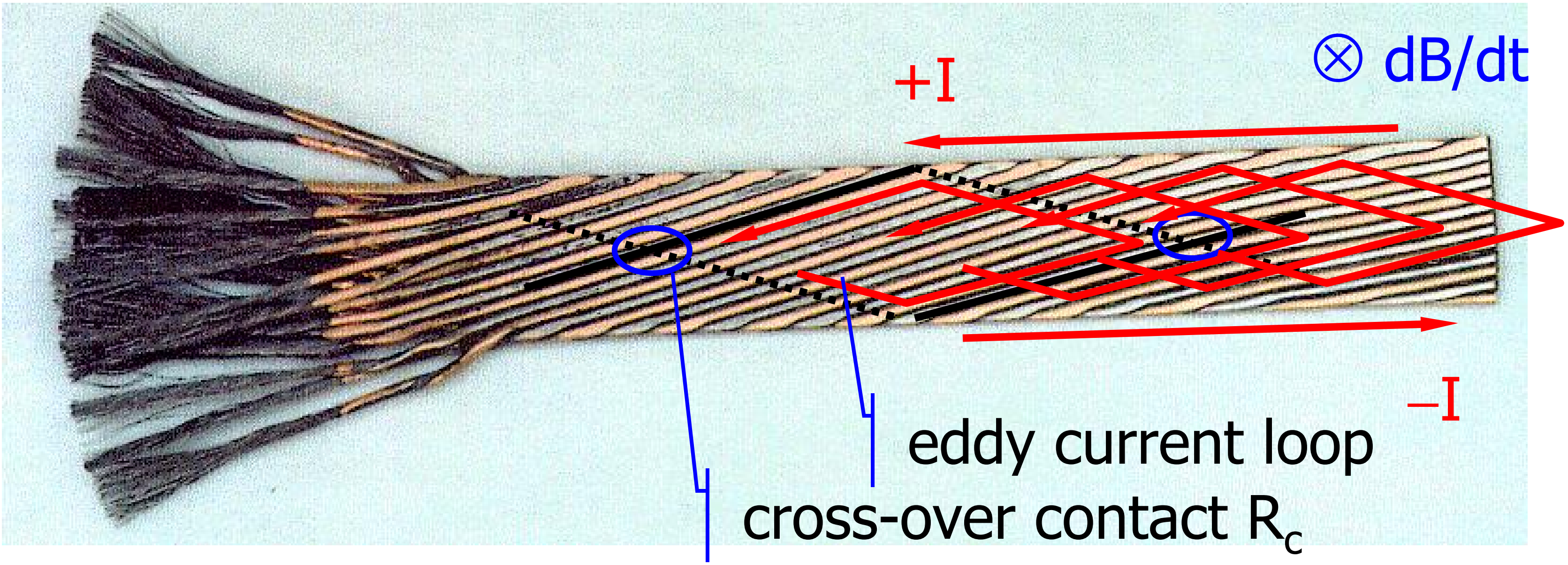


Figure 26-8. Energy loss per cycle (≡ $\dot{Q}/f$) plotted *versus* frequency of the alternating component of an applied field $H_a(\omega) = H_0 + H_m \sin \omega t$. (a) The per-cycle *coil* loss is plotted for six values of H_m between 0.25 and 1.25 kOe at $H_0 = 10$ kOe; (b) the per-cycle *volumetric* loss of the composite is plotted for eight values of the twist pitch, L_p, at $H_0 = 10$ kOe, $H_m = 1$ kOe—after KWASNITZA and HORVATH [KWA74, KWA76].

Coupling in cables



The strands in a cable are coupled (as the filaments in a strand). To decouple them we require to twist (transpose) the cable and to control the contact resistances

AC loss - Re-cap

- AC loss is usually the major source of internal heat in pulsed and cycled superconducting magnets
- To reduce loss
  - Use fine superconducting filaments, and in any case < 50…10 μm to avoid flux-jump instability
  - Use tight twist pitch, and small cable dimensions
  - Include resistive barriers in the wires and cables
- The theory and calculation of AC loss is a **complicated matter !** Rely heavily on measurements

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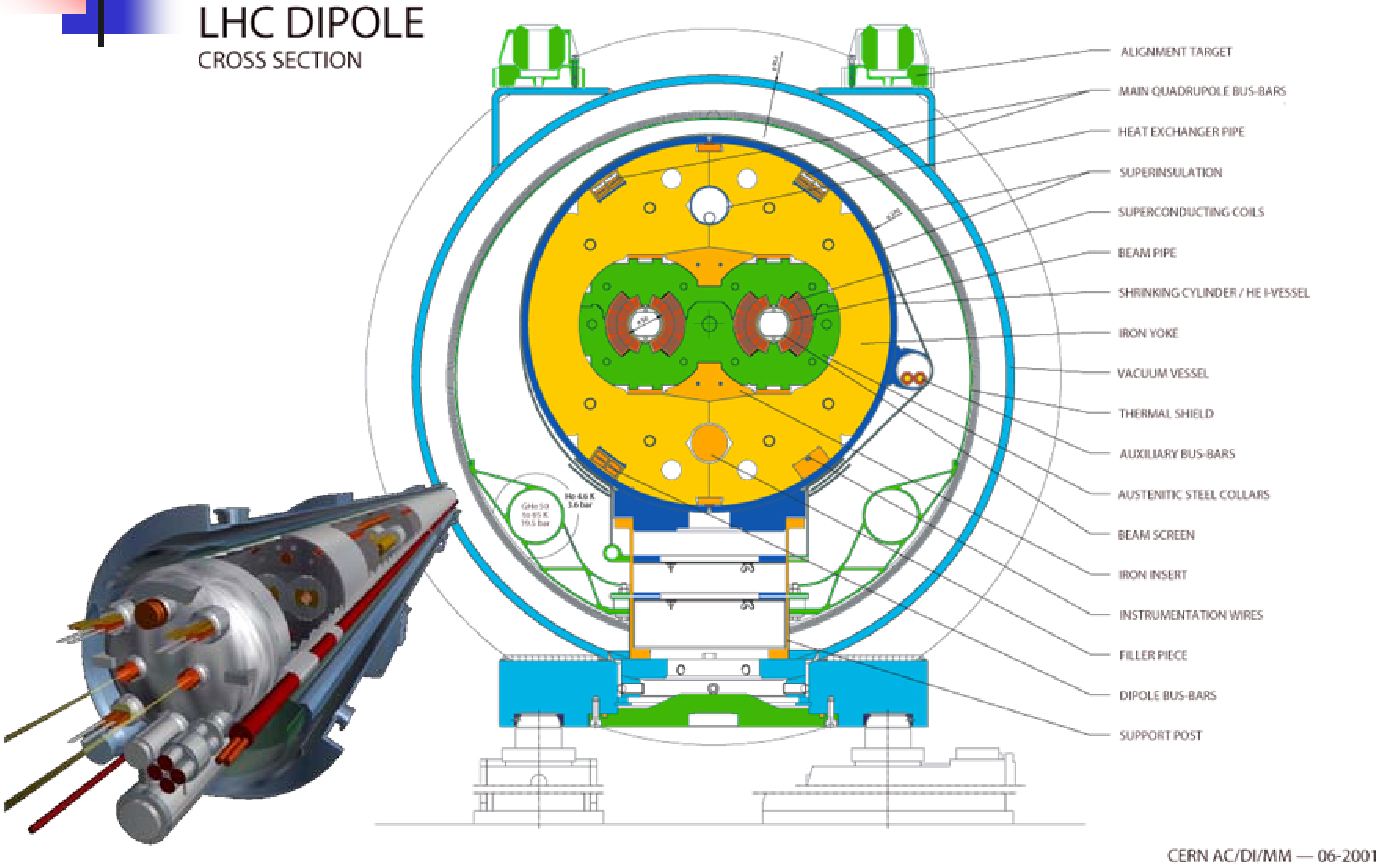
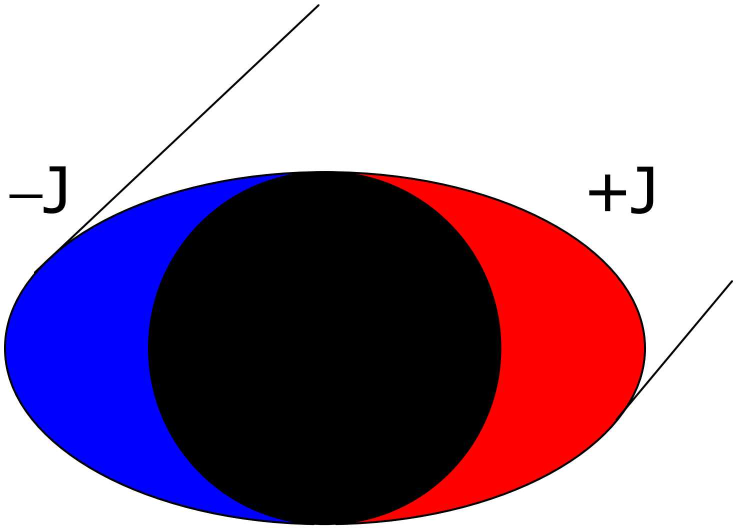
LHC dipole

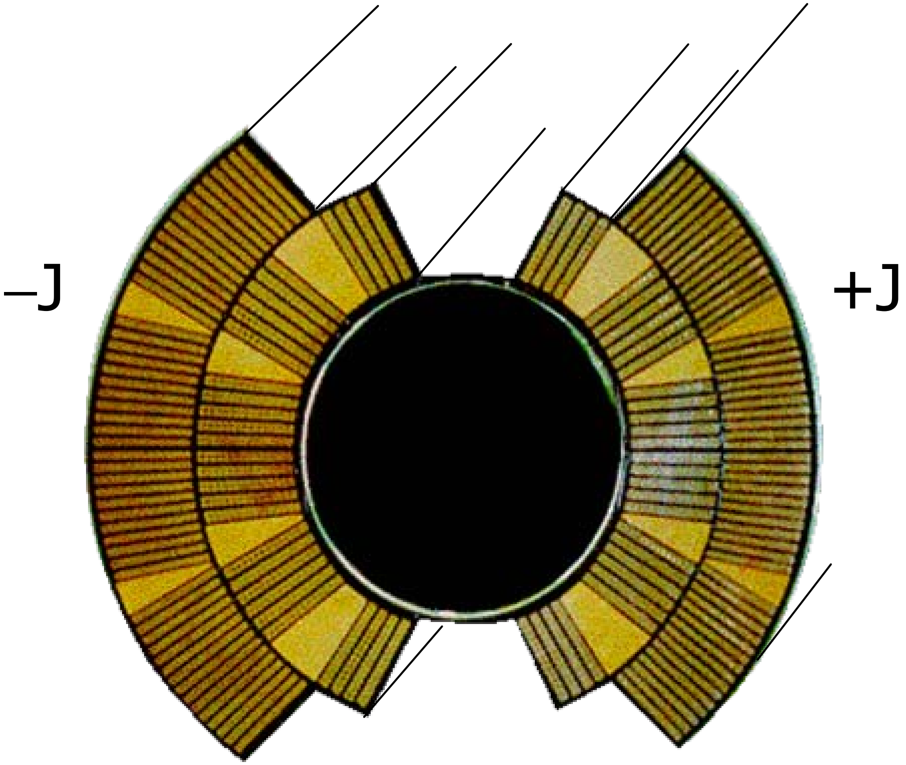
$B_{nominal}$	8.3	(T)
current	11850	(A)
stored energy	≈ 1	(MJ)
cold mass	≈ 35	(tonnes)



Superconducting dipole magnet coil

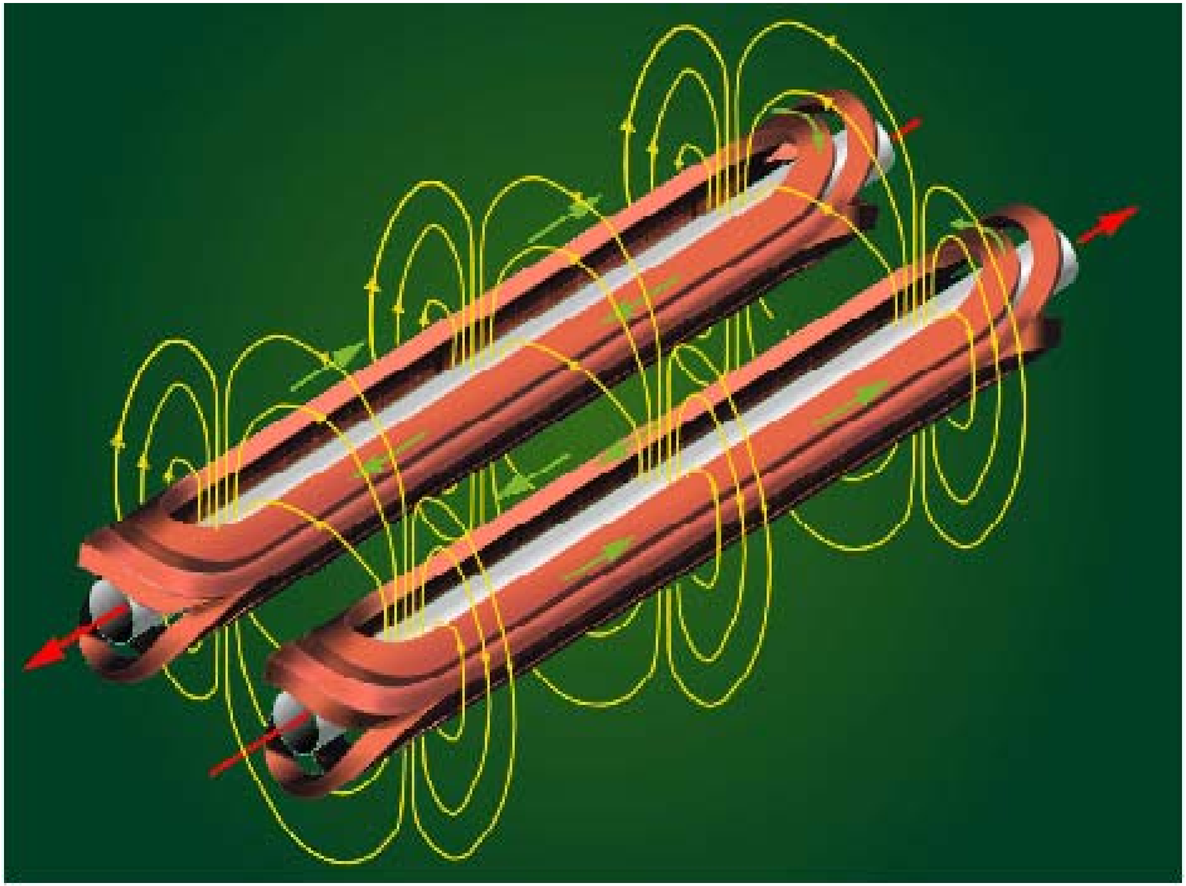


Ideal current distribution that generates a perfect dipole



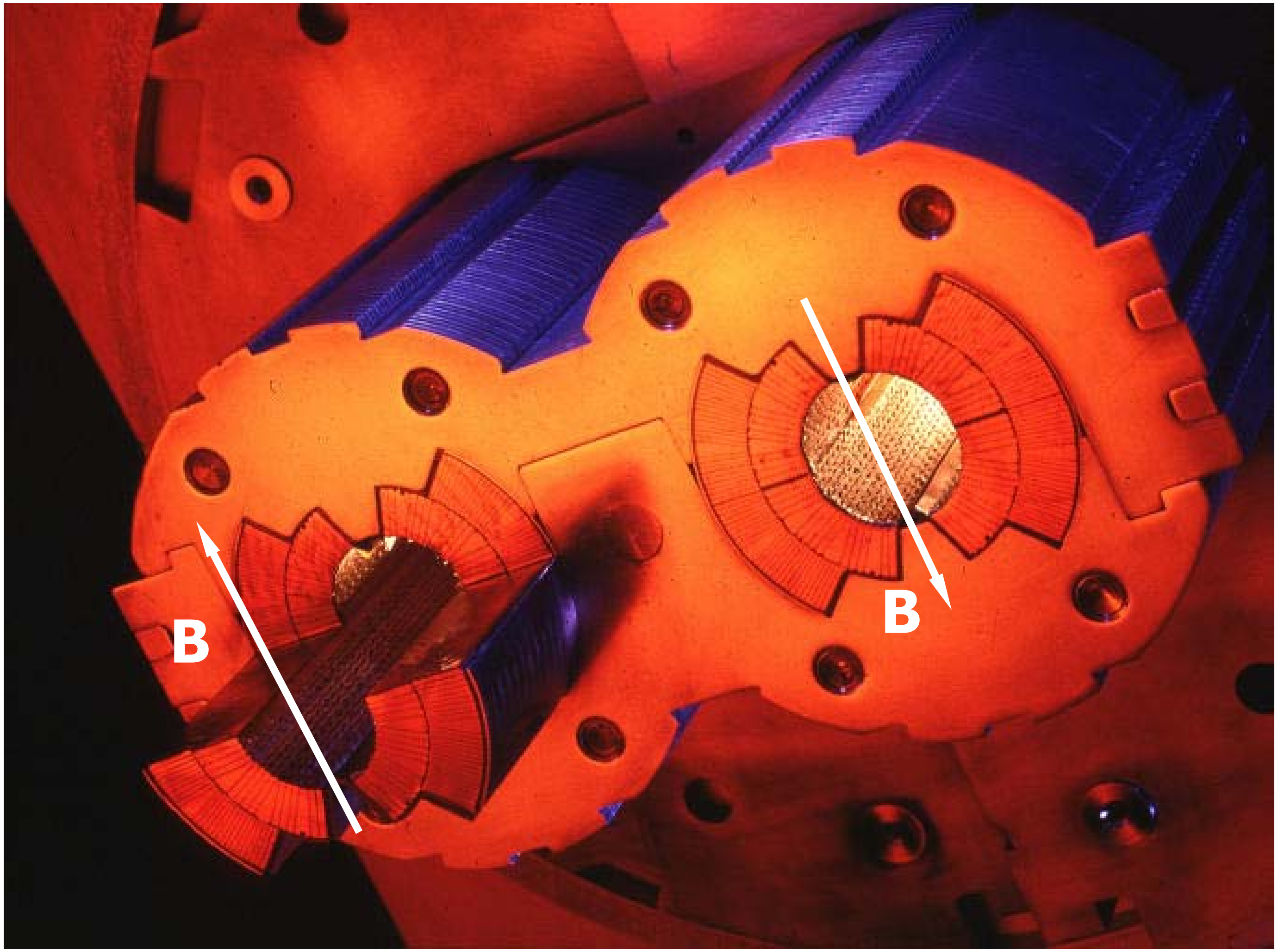
Practical approximation of the ideal distribution using Rutherford cables

Twin coil principle

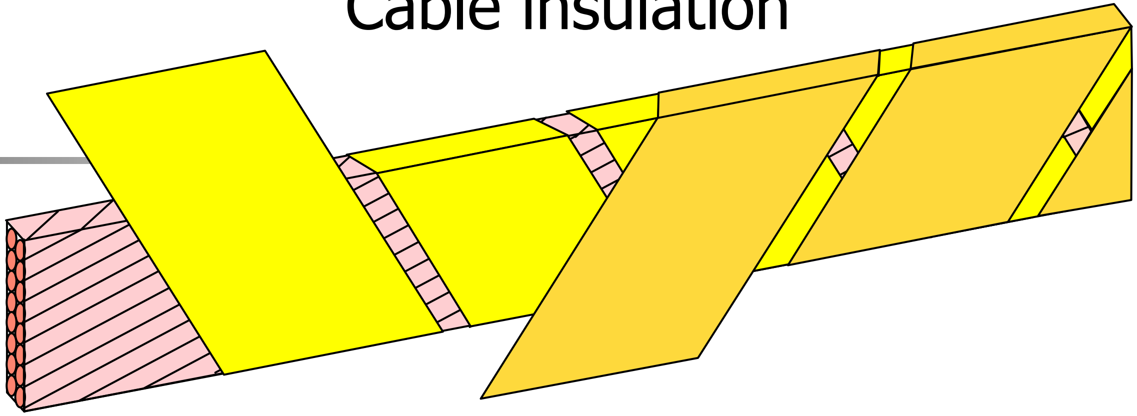


Combine two magnets in one
Save volume, material, cost

LHC dipole coils

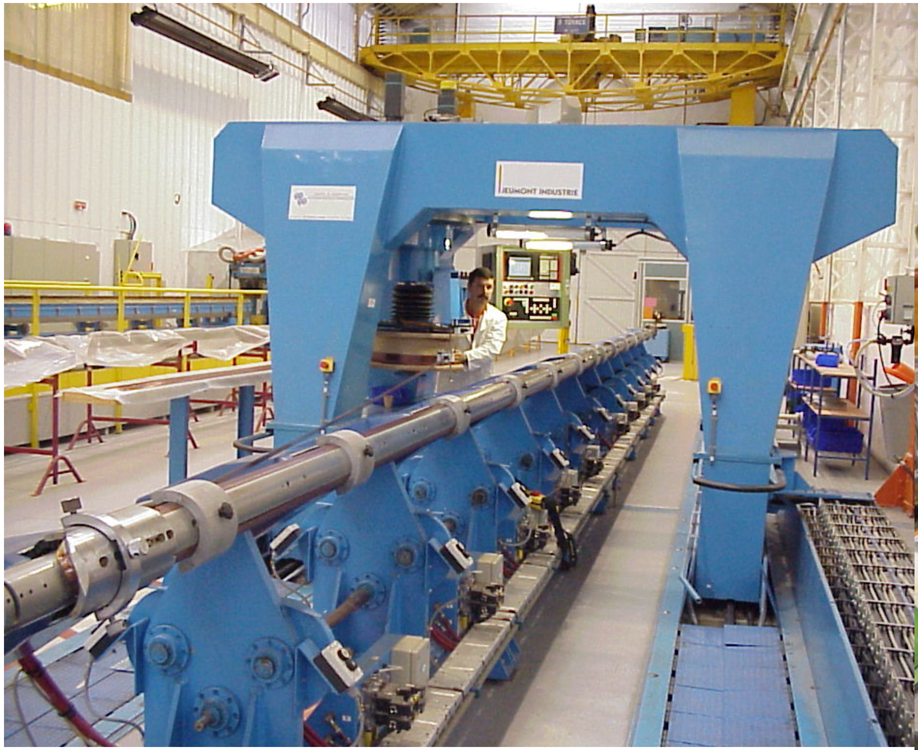


Coil winding



Cable insulation

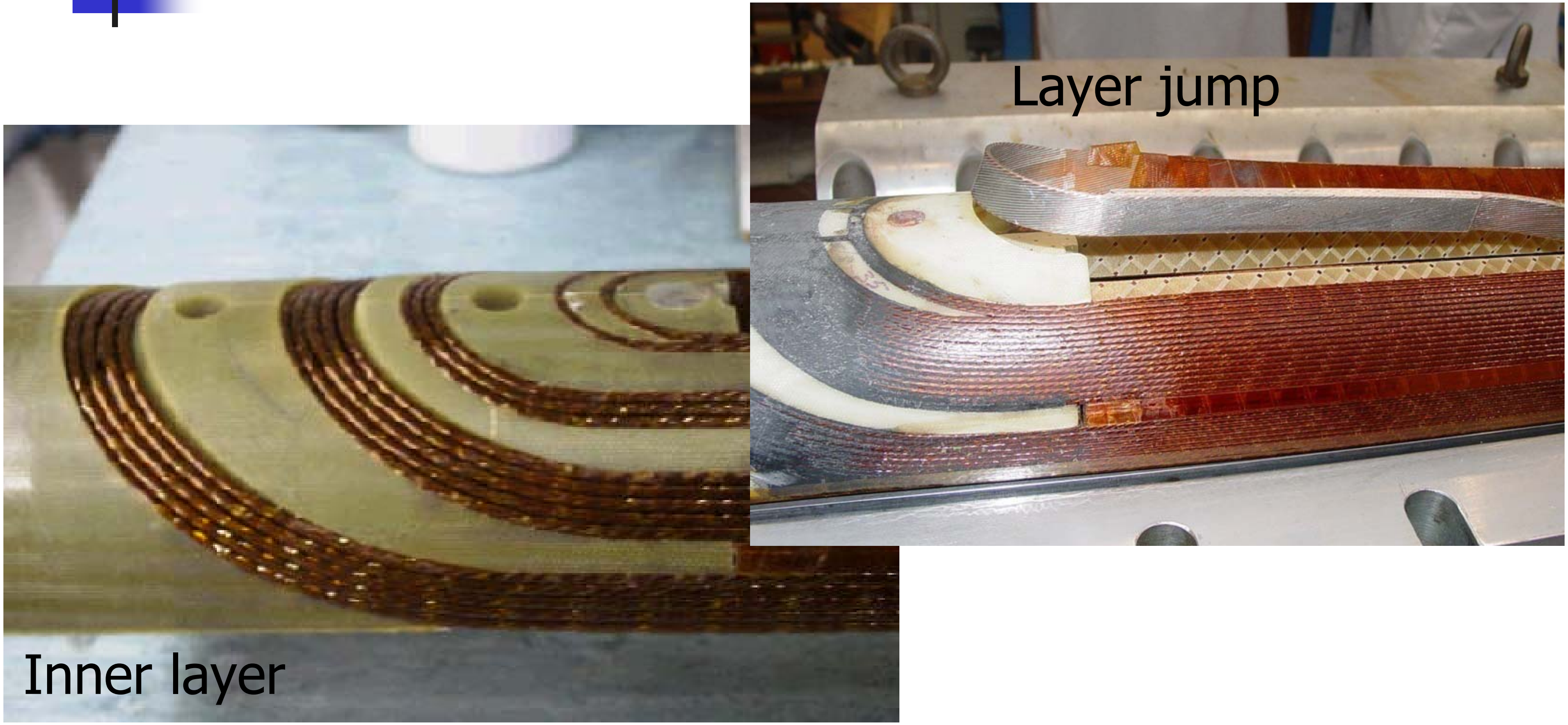
10 μm precision !



Coil winding machine

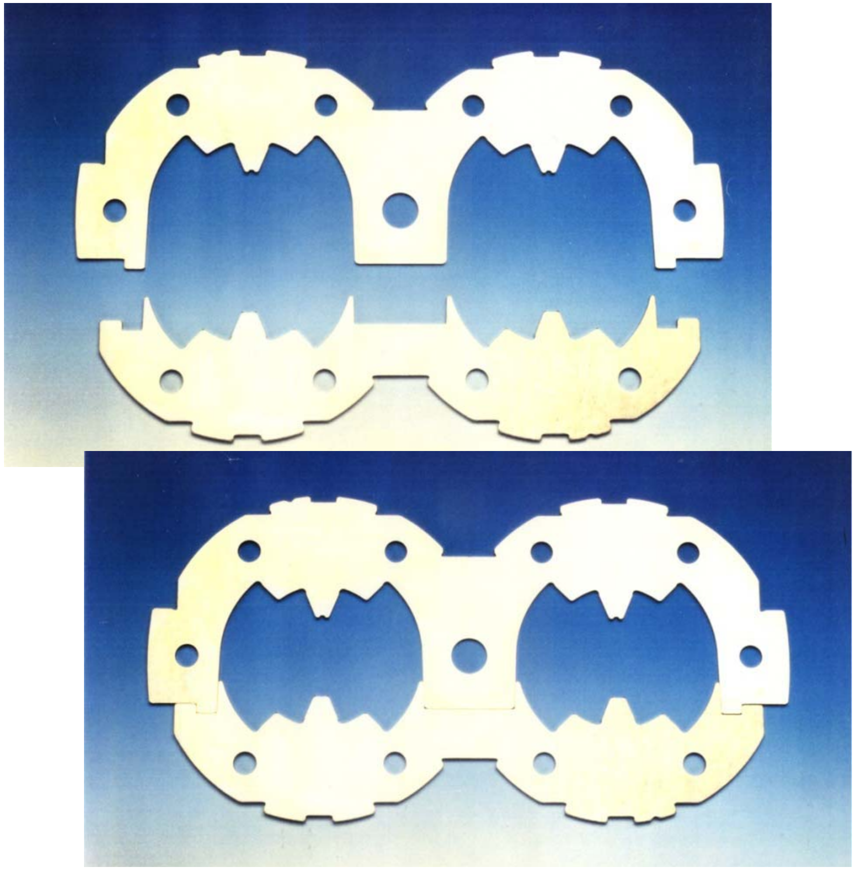
Stored coils

Ends

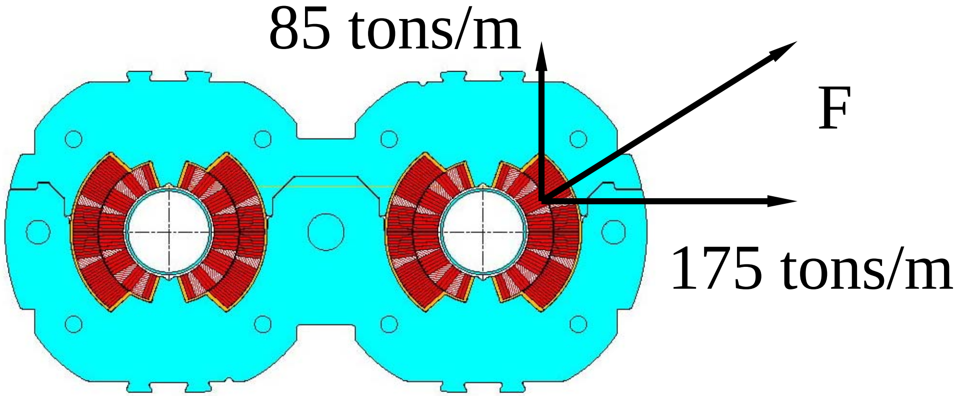


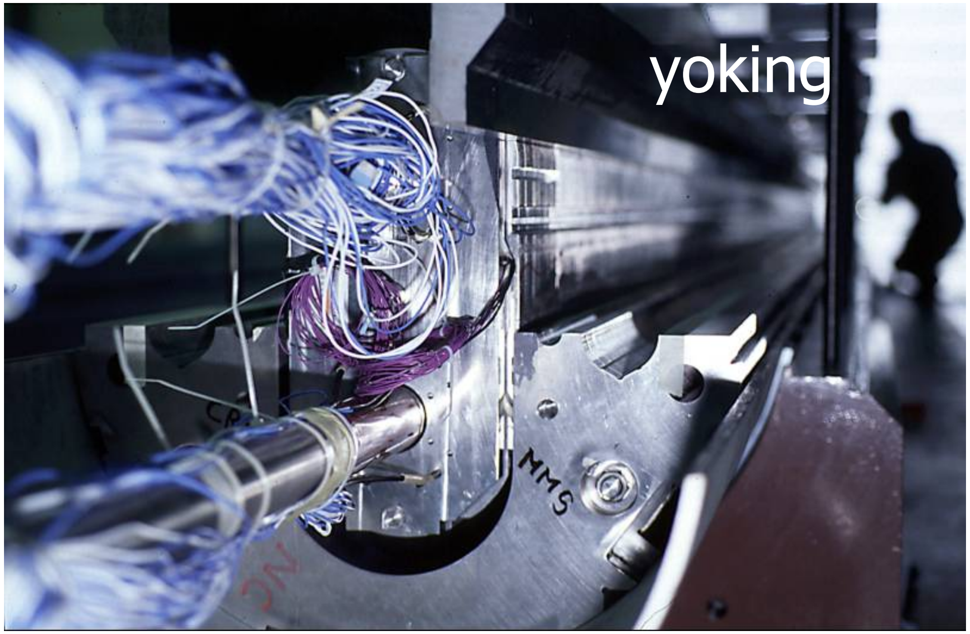
Ends, transitions, and any deviation from the regular structure are the most delicate part of the magnet

Collaring and yoking



collaring

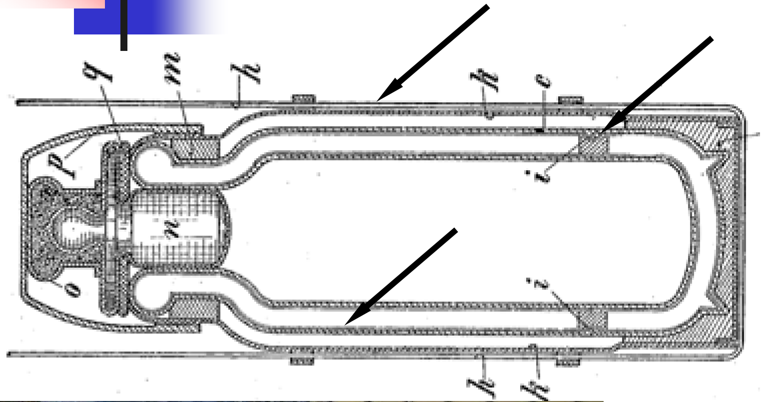




yoking

Cold mass

Cryostat




Vacuum enclosure


Thermal screens


Low conduction foot

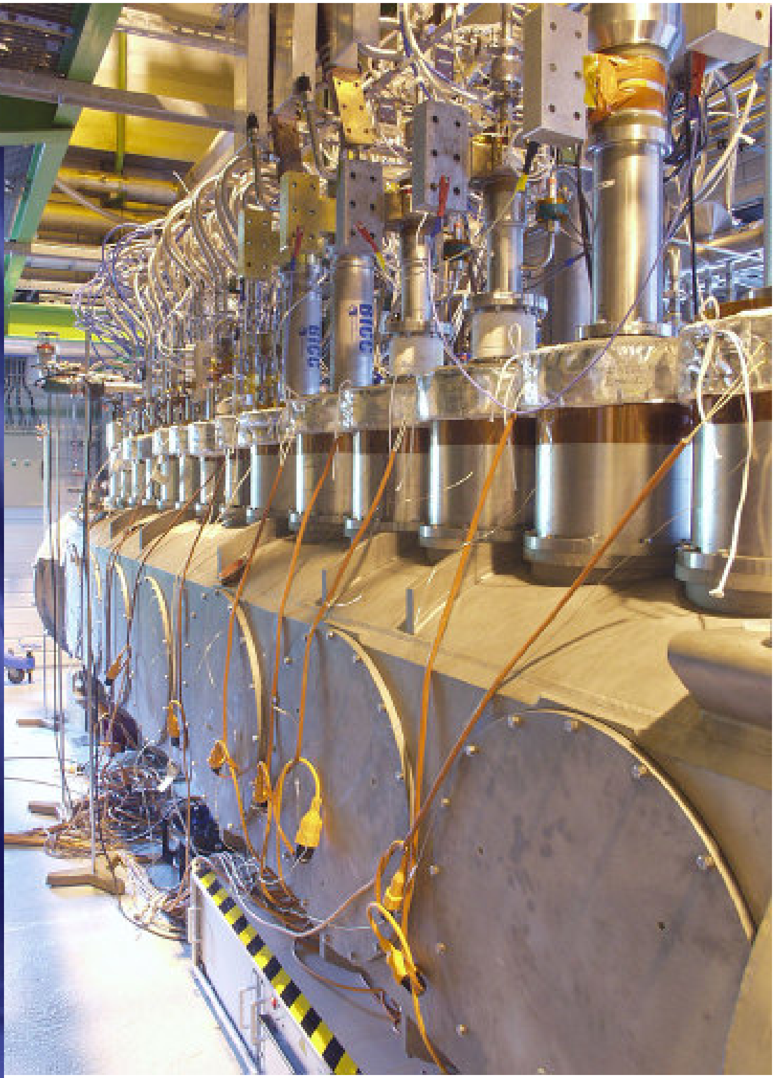
Current leads

Warm end (300K)

Intermediate temperature (50K)

HTS ↕

Cold end (4K)



Finally, in the tunnel !

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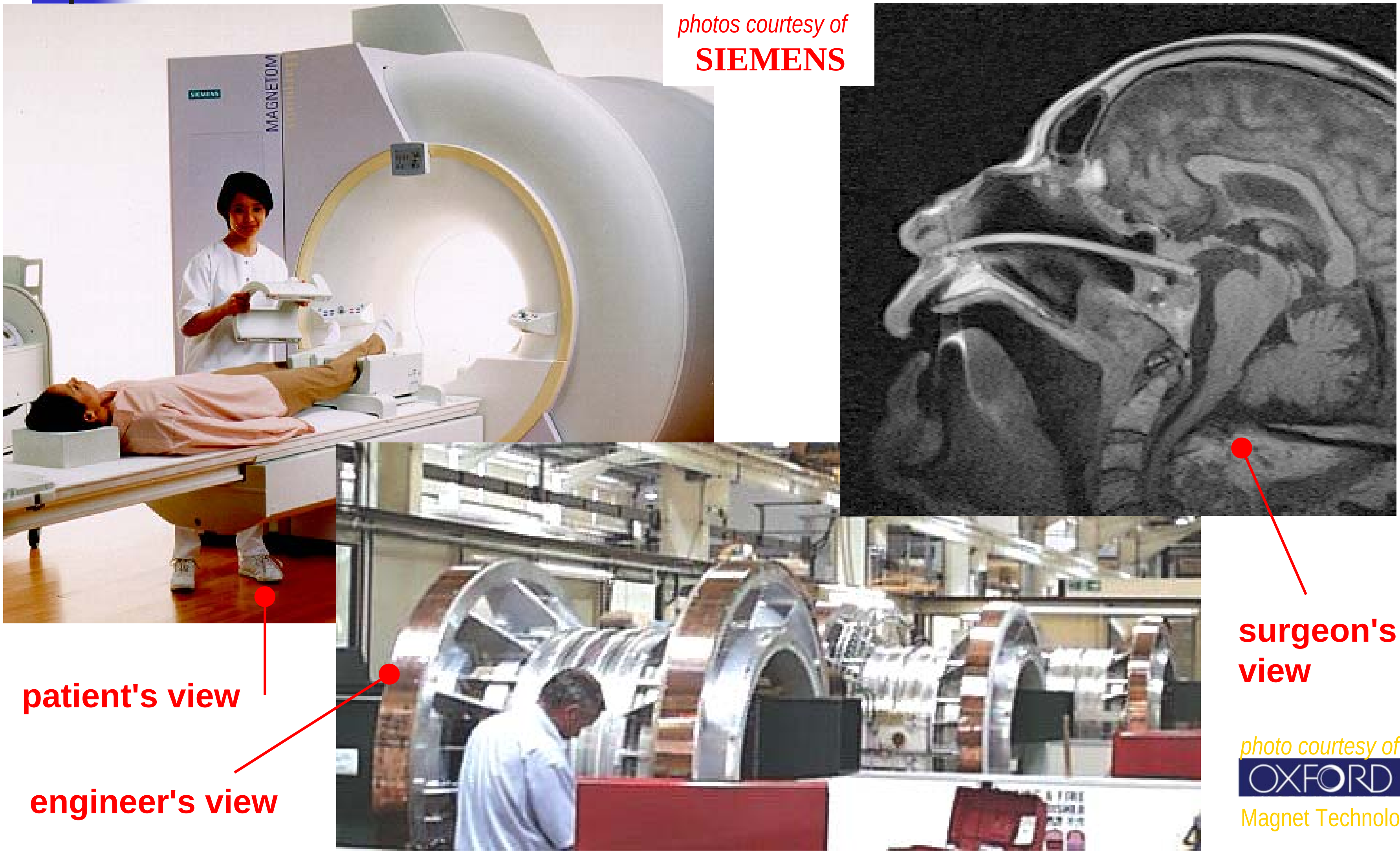
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)



photos courtesy of
SIEMENS

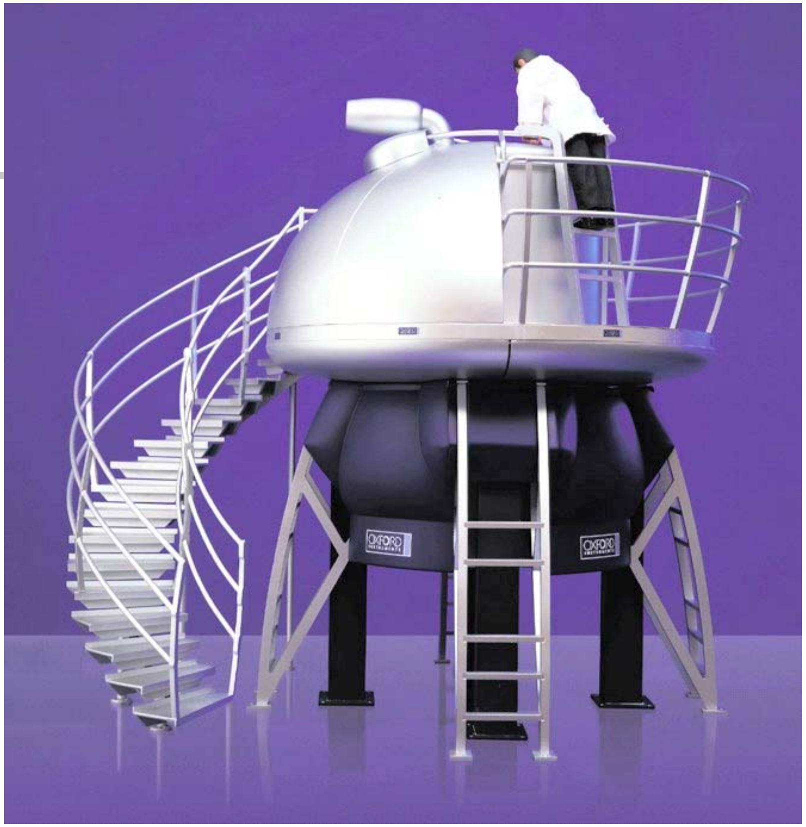
patient's view

engineer's view

surgeon's view

photo courtesy of
OXFORD
Magnet Technology

NMR spectroscopy



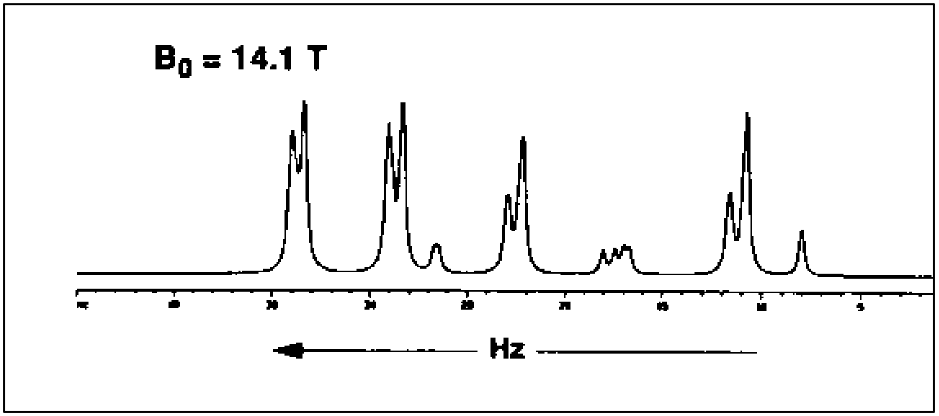
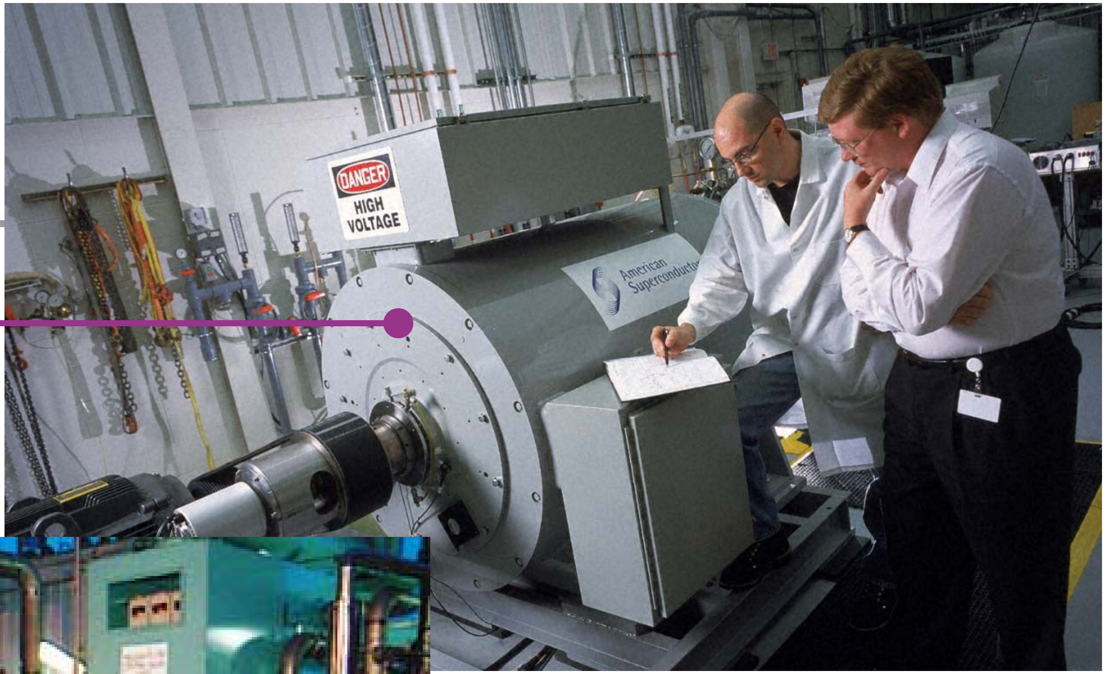


photo courtesy of
OXFORD
Magnet Technology

Motors & generators



Motor with HTS rotor

American Superconductor and Reliance

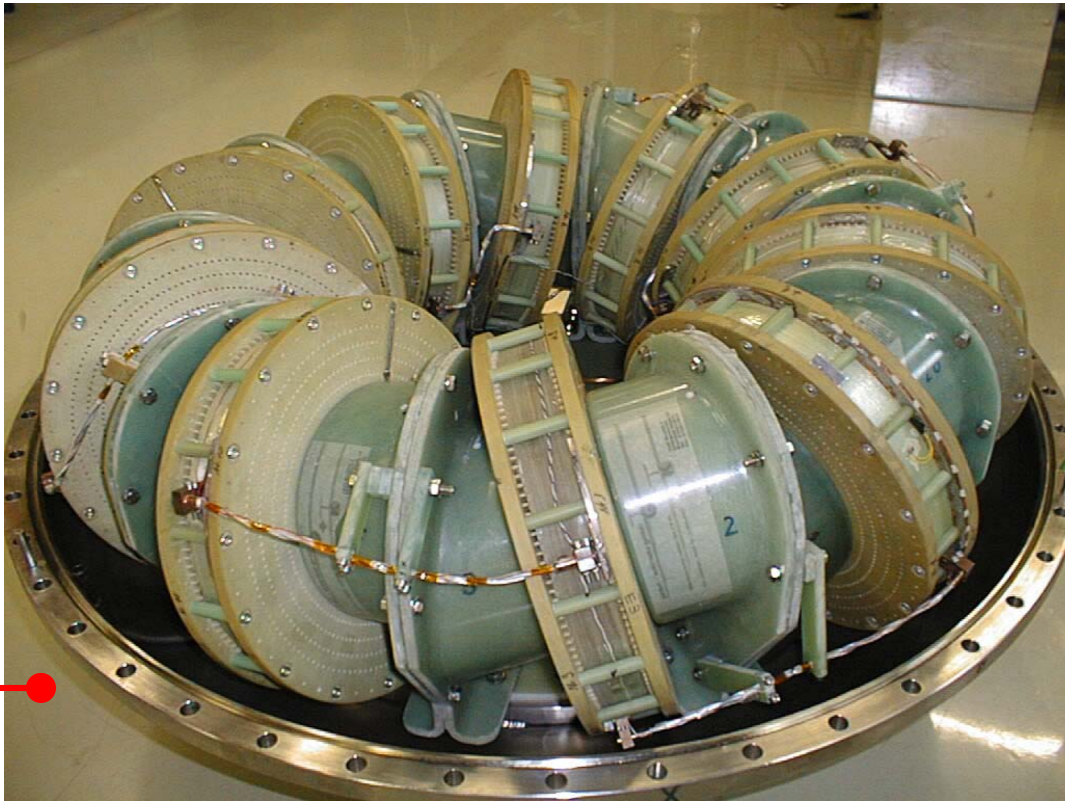
700 MW generator

NbTi rotor

Hitachi, Toshiba, Mitsubishi

Transformers & energy storage

HTS Transformer
630 kVA, 18.7kV to 0.42 kV



Toroidal magnet of 200 kJ / 160 kW
energy store
(B = 4 T, dia. = 1.1 m)

KfZ Karlsruhe

Magnetic separation

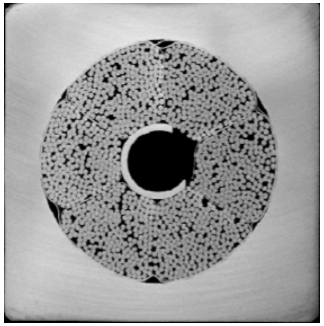
photo courtesy of
Carpco

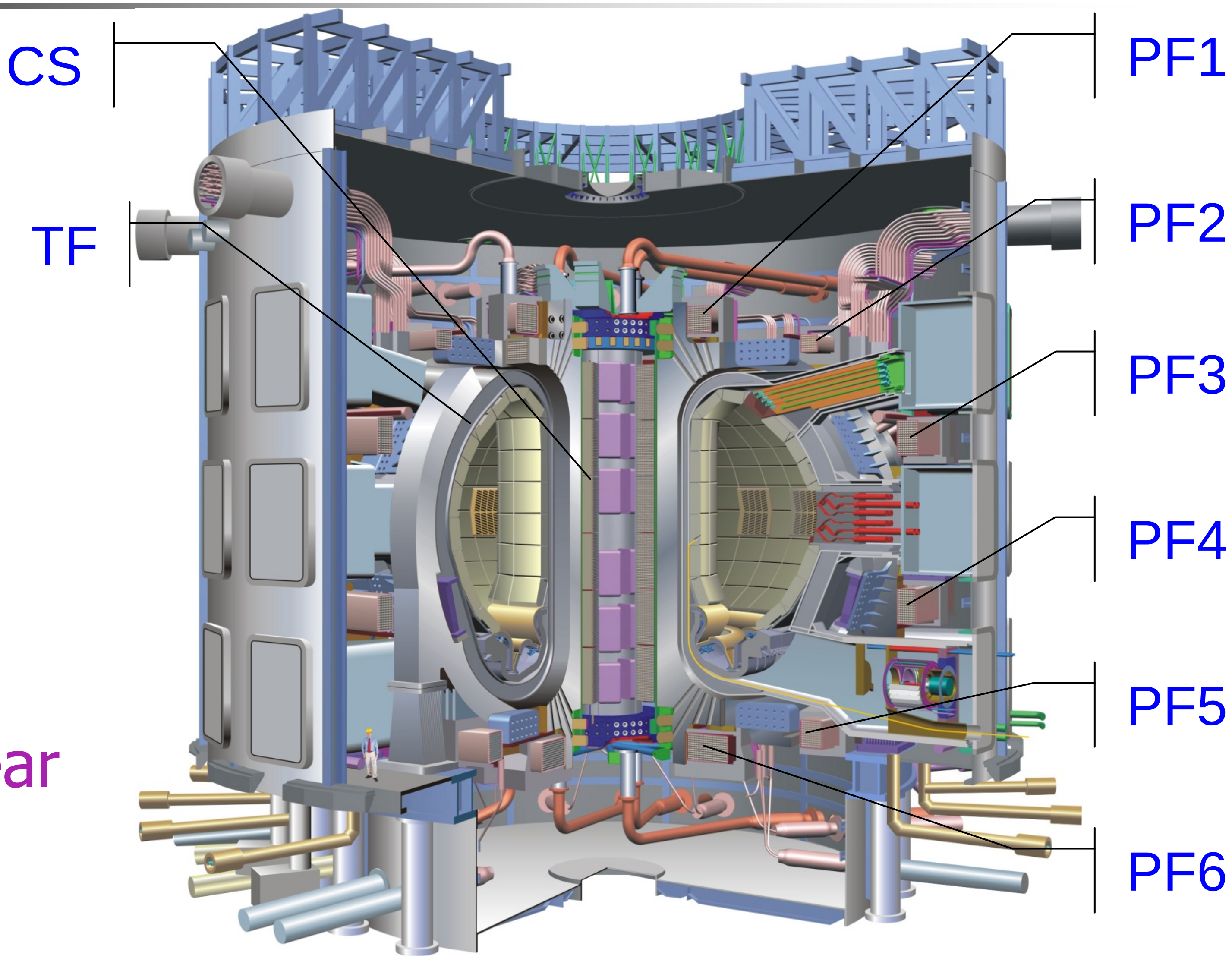
superconducting solenoid, enclosed within iron shield

stainless steel canister containing ferromagnetic mesh

pipes feeding the kaolin slurry for separation

Thermonuclear fusion



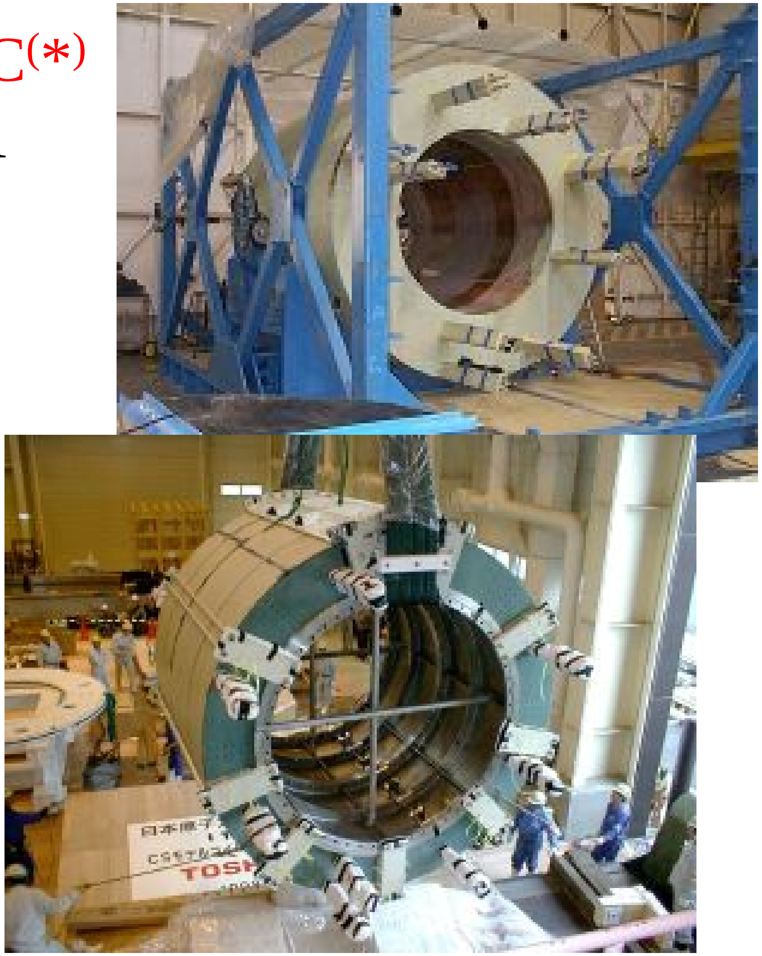


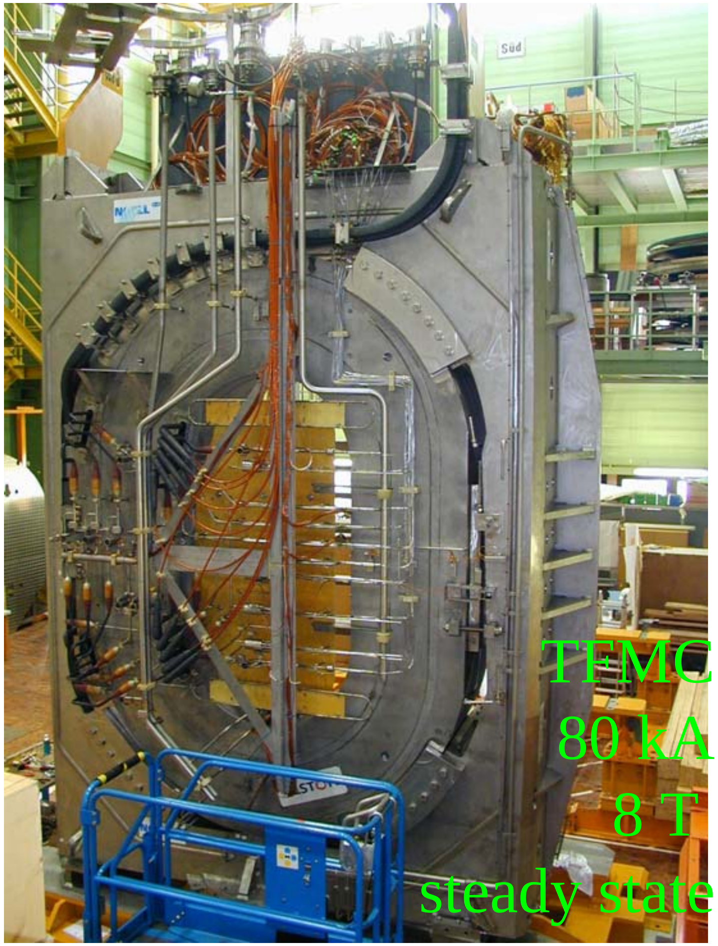
ITER

International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor

Fusion model magnets

CSMC$^{(*)}$
46 kA
13 T
2 T/s

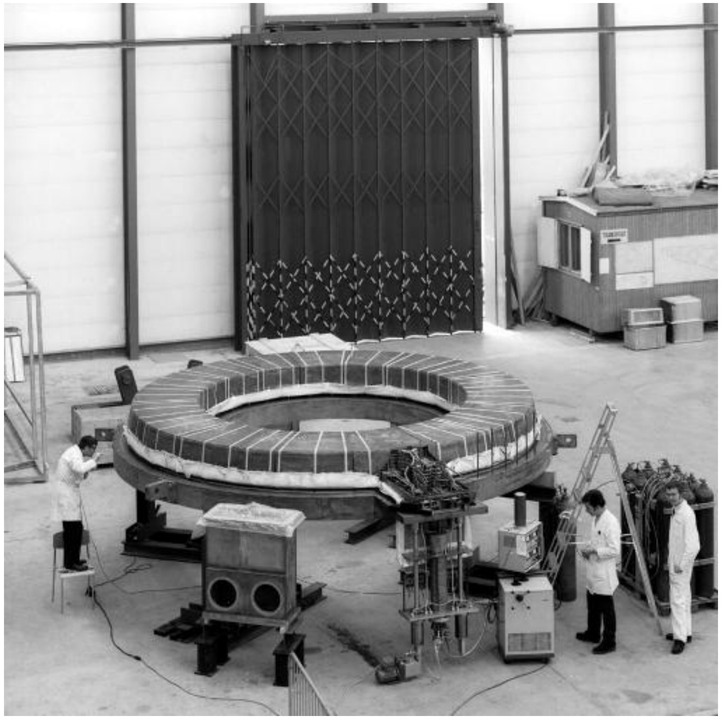




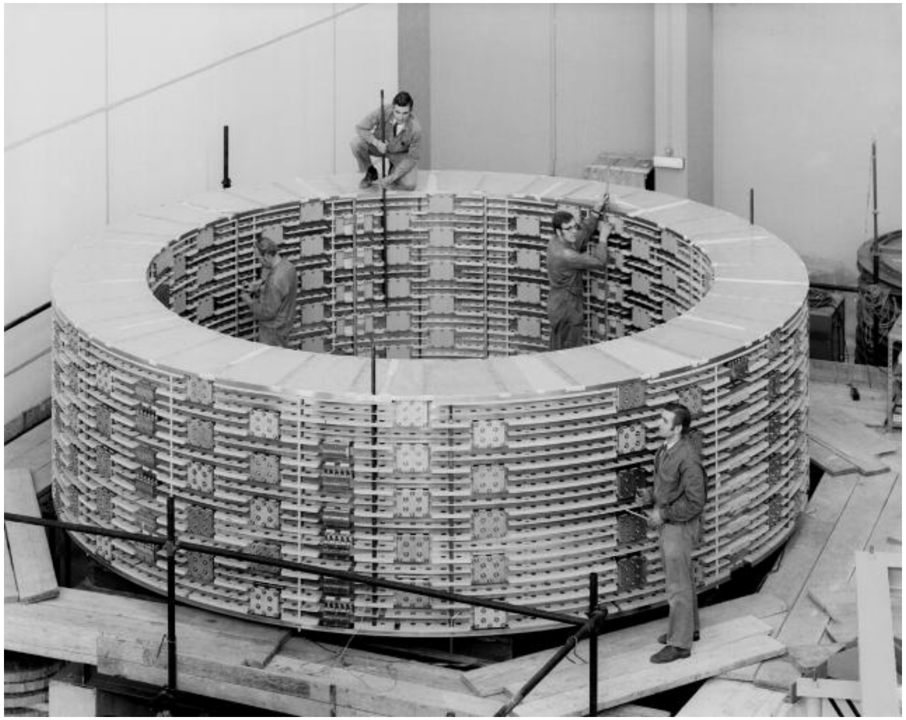
TFMC
80 kA
8 T
steady state

$^{(*)}$ *largest pulsed magnet in the world*

HEP detectors of the past...

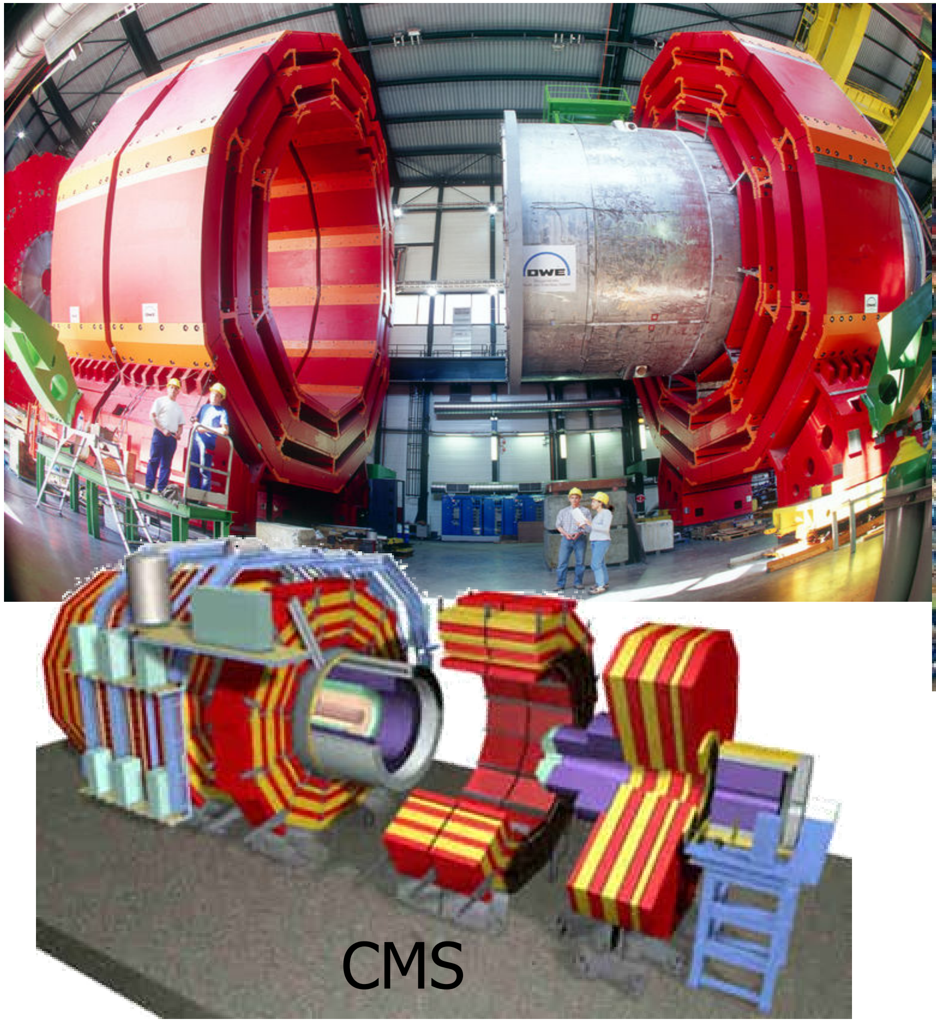


Omega

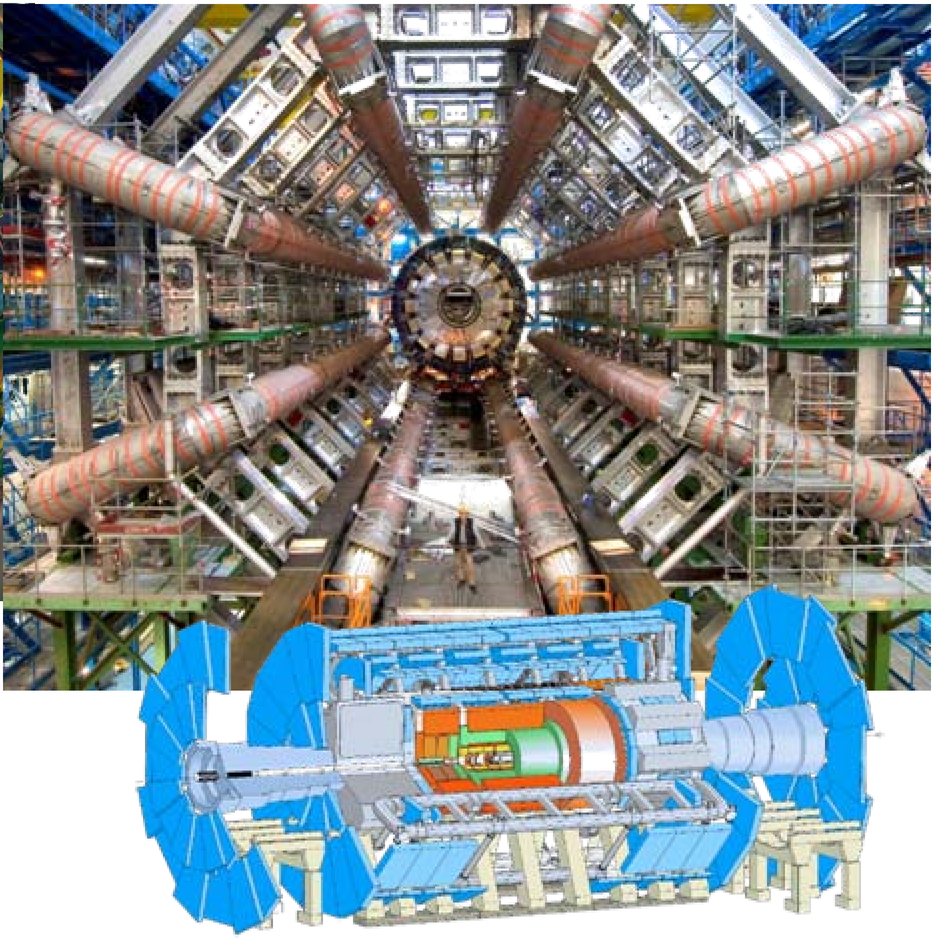


BEBC

… and HEP of the future (CMS and ATLAS)



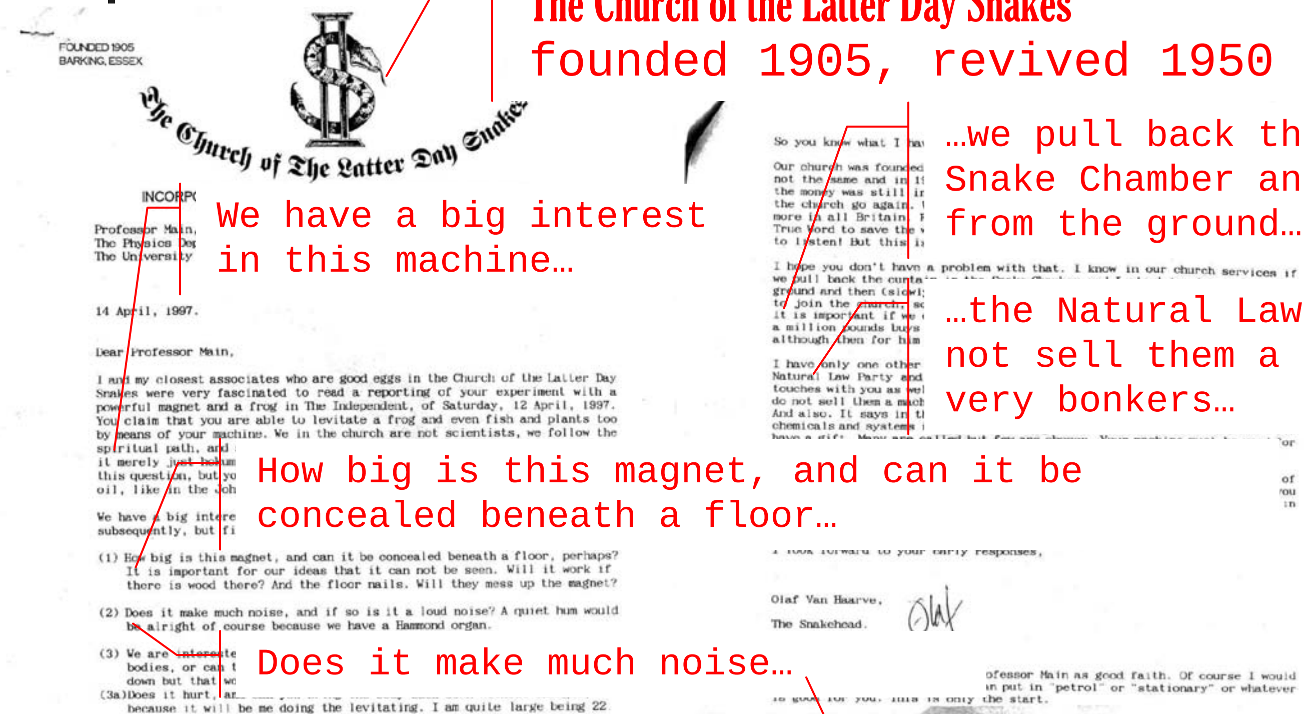
CMS



ATLAS

Other uses of superconductivity

The Church of the Latter Day Snakes
founded 1905, revived 1950



FOUNDED 1905
BARKING, ESSEX

The Church of The Latter Day Snakes

INCORP

Professor Main,
The Physics Dep
The University

14 April, 1997.

Dear Professor Main,

I and my closest associates who are good eggs in the Church of the Latter Day Snakes were very fascinated to read a reporting of your experiment with a powerful magnet and a frog in The Independent, of Saturday, 12 April, 1997. You claim that you are able to levitate a frog and even fish and plants too by means of your machine. We in the church are not scientists, we follow the spiritual path, and
it merely just hokum
this question, but yo
oil, like in the Joh

We have a big intere
subsequently, but fi

(1) How big is this magnet, and can it be concealed beneath a floor, perhaps? It is important for our ideas that it can not be seen. Will it work if there is wood there? And the floor nails. Will they mess up the magnet?

(2) Does it make much noise, and if so is it a loud noise? A quiet hum would be alright of course because we have a Hammond organ.

(3) We are intereste
bodies, or can t
down but that wo

(3a) Does it hurt, an
because it will be me doing the levitating. I am quite large being 22 stone weight, but my mother says I have heavy bones! No, jokings put aside, most of me is liquid I think and I am not very dense so maybe that is good for your machine.

Please answer me first these questions and then you are my friend. I must trust you first before we do business. For you, you must be interested to know that our church is very rich. We have nearly twenty five million pounds in gilt edge securities and properties in Essex and Kent, so if everything is good we want to buy your machine for one million pounds, which would be a good price.

we intenti

So you know what I hav

Our church was founded
not the same and in 1
the money was still in
the church go again.
more in all Britain
True Word to save the
to listen! But this is

I hope you don't have a problem with that. I know in our church services if we pull back the curta
ground and then (slowl
to join the church, so
it is important if we
a million pounds buys
although then for him

I have only one other
Natural Law Party and
touches with you as wel
do not sell them a mach
And also. It says in th
chemicals and systems

I look forward to your early responses,

Olaf Van Haarve,

The Snakehead.

ofessor Main as good faith. Of course I would
n put in "petrol" or "stationary" or whatever
is good for you. This is only the start.

We have a big interest in this machine…

…we pull back the curtain in the Snake Chamber and I start to rise up from the ground…

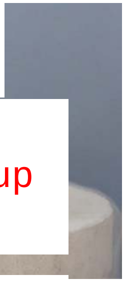
…the Natural Law Party… please do not sell them a machine… **they** are very bonkers…

How big is this magnet, and can it be concealed beneath a floor…

Does it make much noise…

Does it hurt… because it will be me doing the levitating.

I put in five pounds for you… This is only the start.



Letter to Prof. Main, University of Nottingham, 14 April 1997

Conclusions

- Superconducting magnet design is a lot about superconductors (materials, wires, cables, and their electric and thermal properties)…
- … but not only !
  - High field & forces bear mechanical problems that are tough to solve ($B=10$ T $\Rightarrow p_{mag}=1600$ bar !)
  - Materials at low temperature are not what we are used to (mechanical and magnetic properties, thermal expansion, electrical insulation)
  - Cooling is an applied science by itself

Thank you for your attention

Where to find out more - 1/3

- Superconducting magnets:
  - Case Studies in Superconducting Magnets: Y Iwasa, pub Plenum Press, New York (1994), ISBN 0-306-44881-5.
  - Superconducting Magnets: MN Wilson, pub Oxford University Press (1983) ISBN 0-019-854805-2
  - High Field Superconducting Magnets: FM Asner, pub Oxford University Press (1999) ISBN 0 19 851764 5
  - Superconducting Accelerator Magnets: KH Mess, P Schmuser, S Wolf., pub World Scientific, (1996) ISBN 981-02-2790-6
  - Stability of Superconductors: L. Dresner, pub Plenum Press, New York (1994), ISBN 0-306-45030-5
  - Handbook of Applied Superconductivity ed B Seeber, pub UK Institute Physics 1998
  - Proc Applied Superconductivity Conference: pub as IEEE Trans Applied Superconductivity, Mar 93 to 99, and as IEEE Trans Magnetics Mar 75 to 91
  - Proc European Conference on Applied Superconductivity EUCAS, pub UK Institute Physics
  - Proc International Conference on Magnet Technology; MT-1 to MT-20 (2007) pub mainly as IEEE Trans Applied Superconductivity and IEEE Trans Magnetics

Where to find out more - 2/3

- Cryogenics
  - Helium Cryogenics Van Sciver SW, pub Plenum 86 ISBN 0-0306-42335-9
  - Cryogenic Engineering, Hands BA, pub Academic Press 86 ISBN 0-012-322991-X
  - Cryogenics: published monthly by Elsevier
- Materials - Superconducting properties
  - Superconductor Science and Technology, published monthly by Institute of Physics (UK).
  - IEEE Trans Applied Superconductivity, pub quarterly
  - Superconductivity of metals and Cuprates, JR Waldram, Institute of Physics Publishing (1996) ISBN 0 85274 337 8
  - High Temperature Superconductors: Processing and Science, A Bourdillon and NX Tan Bourdillon, Academic Press, ISBN 0 12 117680 0

Where to find out more - 3/3

- Materials - Mechanical properties
  - Materials at Low Temperature: Ed RP Reed & AF Clark, pub Am. Soc. Metals 1983. ISBN 0-87170-146-4
  - Handbook on Materials for Superconducting Machinery pub Batelle Columbus Laboratories 1977.
  - Nonmetallic materials and composites at low temperatures: Ed AF Clark, RP Reed, G Hartwig pub Plenum
  - Nonmetallic materials and composites at low temperatures 2, Ed G Hartwig, D Evans, pub Plenum 1982