

Superconducting accelerator magnets

Daniel Schoerling daniel.schoerling@cern.ch 28th of June 2018 CAS@EAS

Thanks to many colleagues, in particular Paolo Ferracin for the material they have given to me

Why colliders?



Accelerators are the finest microscopes: atto-scope or zepto-scope

λ = h/p; @LHC: p = 1 TeV $\Rightarrow λ ≈ 10^{-18}$ m λ: wavelength *h*: Planck constant *p*: momentum



Why SC accelerator magnets and where are they used?

COLLIDERS (LEP, Tevatron, Hera, RHIC, LHC, etc.)

• One of the most important parameter of colliders is the beam energy, as it determines the physics discovery potential.





Magnets in accelerators, why?



The energy *E* in GeV of particles in a circular accelerator is limited by the strength of the bending dipole magnets *B* in Tesla and the machine radius *r* in m: $E \approx 0.3 B r$



Dipoles

- The magnetic field *B* steers the particles in a circular orbit:
 F = qE + qv x B
- First term (qE) negligible: 300 MV/m corresponds to 1 T

NI: Ampere turns in A *J*: Current density in A/m² *B*: Magnetic flux density in T = N/Am *v*: velocity in m/s *F*: Force in N ρ : particle path radius in m





Why SC magnets?

Normal-conducting iron-dominated magnets:

- $B \approx \mu_0 NI / g$
- Limited by the iron saturation: $B \lesssim 2 \text{ T}$
- Ohmic losses, cooling, power converters, etc.
- g =100 mm (gap)
- *NI* =160 kA (Ampere turns)
- B =2 T (Magnetic flux density, limit)

Superconducting magnets:

- $B \approx \mu_0 NI / \pi r$
- Limited only by SC material properties and cost
- Cooling, power converters, busbars
- r = 1/2g = 45 mm (aperture radius)
- *NI* =1 MA (Ampere turns)
- B =8.84 T (magnetic flux density)







CERN's infrastructure



 LHC
 Large Hadron Collider
 SPS
 Super Proton Synchrotron
 PS
 Proton Synchrotron

 AD
 Antiproton Decelerator
 CTF3
 Clic Test Facility
 AWAKE
 Advanced WAKefield Experiment
 ISOLDE
 Isotope Separator OnLine DEvice

 LEIR
 Low Energy Ion Ring
 LINAC
 LINAC Celerator
 n-ToF
 Neutrons Time Of Flight
 HiRadMat
 High-Radiation to Materials

50 000 tons of normal conducting magnets 50 000 tons of superconducting magnets





In which domains do we need to work?

Multidisciplinary field:

- Chemistry and material science: superconducting materials
- Quantum physics: the key mechanisms of superconductivity
- Classical electrodynamics: magnet design
- Mechanical engineering: support structures
- Electrical engineering: powering of the magnets
- Cryogenics: keep them cool ...
- Industrialization & large and complex project management
- Cost modelling
- Impact on society

Very different fields and multi-disciplinary field not limited to physics and engineering





What do we need to do to get a good design?

Let's focus on the main (technical) points:

- Conductor and cable design, which superconducting material, strand and cable to choose?
- How to do the electromagnetic and structural design of the coil (field and field quality load line margin, quench)?

AIM OF LECTURE: Understand the main technical concepts relevant in superconducting accelerator magnets!





Superconducting material

- Superconductivity discovered in 1911 by Kammerlingh-Onnes: ZERO resistance of mercury wire at 4.2 K
- Temperature at which the transition takes place: critical temperature $T_{\rm c}$
- Observed in many materials: but not in the typical best conductors (Cu, Ag, Au)

Kammerlingh-Onnes proposed 1913 a 10 T solenoid, but it took 50 years (!) of hard work to make this dream come true





Superconductivity – Type I superconductors

Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect (1933):

- Perfect diamagnetism: With $T < T_c$ magnetic field is expelled
- No magnetic field inside the superconductor \rightarrow no transport current inside a round conductor



Material	$T_{c}(\mathbf{K})$	$\mu_0 H_0(\mathrm{mT})$
Aluminum	1.2	9.9
Cadmium	0.52	3.0
Gallium	1.1	5.1
Indium	3.4	27.6
Iridium	0.11	1.6
Lanthanum α	4.8	
β	4.9	
Lead	7.2	80.3
Lutecium	0.1	35.0
Mercury a	4.2	41.3
β	4.0	34.0
Molybdenum	0.9	
Osmium	0.7	~ 6.3
Rhenium	1.7	20.1
Rhodium	0.0003	4.9
Ruthenium	0.5	6.6
Tantalum	4.5	83.0
Thalium	2.4	17.1
Thorium	1.4	16.2
Tin	3.7	30.6
Titanium	0.4	
Tungsten	0.016	0.12
Uranium α	0.6	
β	1.8	
Zinc	0.9	5.3
Zirconium	0.8	4.7



Superconductivity – Type II superconductors

- So, for 40-50 years, superconductivity was a research activity
- Then, in the 50's, type II superconductors were discovered:
 - Between B_{c1} and B_{c2} : mixed phase
 - *B* penetrates as flux tubes: fluxoids with a flux of $\phi_0 = h/2e = 2 \cdot 10^{-15}$ Wb
- Much higher fields and link between T_c and B_{c2}







Superconductivity – Hard superconductors

- ...but, if a current passes through the tubes
 - Lorentz force on the fluxoids: $f = J \times B$
- The force causes a motion of tubes
 - Flux motion $(dB/dt) \rightarrow$ energy dissipation
- Fluxoids must be locked by pinning centres
 - <u>Defects</u> or <u>impurities</u> in the structure



• The pinning centres exert a pinning force as long as $f \leq J \times B$:

- No flux motions \rightarrow no dissipation
- J_c is the current density at which, for a given B and at a given T the pinning force is exceeded by the Lorentz force





Superconductivity – Critical surface

- A type II material is superconductor below the critical surface defined by
- Critical temperature $T_{\rm c}$ (property of the material)
- Upper critical field B_{c2} (property of the material)
- Critical current density J_c (property of the material but in practice hard work by the producer)





Technical superconductors: Nb-Ti (1961) and Nb₃Sn (1954)

- Nb and Ti: ductile alloy
 - Production route: Extrusion + drawing
 - T_c is ~9.2 K at 0 T
 - B_{c2} is ~14.5 T at 0 K
 - Firstly in Tevatron (80s), then in HERA, RHIC and LHC
 - ~50-200 US\$ per kg of wire (1 euro per m)
- Nb and Sn \rightarrow intermetallic compound
 - Brittle, strain sensitive, formed at ~650-700°C
 - *T*_c is ~18 K at 0 T
 - *B*_{c2} is ~28 T at 0 K
 - Used in NMR, ITER, HL-LHC and baseline for FCC
 - ~700-1500 US\$ per kg of wire (target price for FCC: 500 US\$ per kg of wire)





Conductors: from Cu to Nb₃Sn





Conductors: from Cu to Nb₃Sn





Why small filaments? Stability!

Simple model: SC carries either J_c or no current → If field is changed, eddy currents are resistively damped
 The conductor is stable as long as temperature stays below the critical temperature T_c









Why Cu? Stability & Protection!

Quench protection

- Superconductors have a very high normal state resistivity
- If quenched, could reach very high temperatures in few ms
- If embedded in a high-purity copper matrix, when a quench occurs, current redistributes in the low-resisitivity matrix yielding to a lower peak temperature





B_{c20}

¹² T

Stability?

Question: What is the cause of the instabilities seen in the plot below for field levels below ~10 T?



Critical current of a Nb₃Sn wire vs. magnetic field (measured)



What about AC losses? Twisting!

Twisting

- When a multi-filamentary wire is subjected to a time varying magnetic field, current loops are generated between filaments.
- If filaments are straight, large loops with large currents \rightarrow AC losses
- If the strands are magnetically coupled the effective filament size is larger \rightarrow flux jumps
- To reduce these effects, filaments are twisted, the twist pitch is of the order of 20-30 times of the wire diameter.







And magnetization

Superconductor magnetization

- A hard superconducting filament shows a magnetization curve, as the one shown on the right
- The magnetization stays constant (if no flux jumps occur) at constant field: persistent current
- Field persistent currents produce field errors proportional to J_c and filament diameter
 - HERA filament diameter 14 µm
 - LHC filament diameter 6-7 μm
 - HL-LHC filament diameter 50 µm
 - FCC target filament diameter 20 µm





Practical superconductors: Fabrication of Nb-Ti multifilament wires

- Nb-Ti ingots
- 200 mm Ø, 750 mm long
- Monofilament rods are stacked to form a multifilament billet, then extruded and drawn down
- Can be re-stacked: double-stacking process







Practical superconductors: Fabrication of Nb₃Sn multifilament wires

- Since Nb₃Sn is brittle it cannot be extruded and drawn like Nb-Ti.
- Process in several steps
 - Assembly multifilament billets from with Nb and Sn separated
 - Fabrication of the wire through extrusion-drawing
 - Fabrication of the cable
 - Fabrication of the coil
- Reaction
 - Sn and Nb are heated to 600-700°C
 - Sn diffuses in Nb and reacts to form Nb₃Sn





Conductors: Strand and cables

- Now, we know we need conductors composed out of small filaments and surrounded by a stabilizer (typically copper) to form a multi-filament wire or strand.
- To keep voltages reasonable small, the inductance of the magnet has to be small $\rightarrow L \propto 1/l^2 \rightarrow$ we need large currents!
- Large wires are excluded due to self-field instabilities yielding to flux jumps (same argument as for small filaments) → practical limit 1-2 mm
- **Solution**: Superconducting cable composed of several wires: multi-strand cable!







What else do we need? Insulation!

Rule in accelerator magnets: never sacrifice the insulation!





Typical insulation schemes for Nb-Ti and Nb₃Sn

- Typically the insulation thicknesses: 100 and 200 μ m
- The cable insulation must feature good electrical properties to withstand turn-to-turn V after a quench
- Good mechanical properties to withstand high pressure conditions
- Porosity to allow penetration of helium (or epoxy)
- Radiation hardness
- In Nb-Ti magnets overlapped layers of polyimide
- In Nb₃Sn magnets, fibre-glass braided or as tape/sleeve.







Let's take the cable and do an electromagnetic design!

- How do we express field and its "imperfections"?
- How do we create a perfect field?
- How do we design a coil to minimize field errors?
- How do we select the current density in the coil?





How do we generate a perfect dipole?

- How to generate a dipolar field:
 - Two infinite slabs
 - Two intersection cylinders
 - Cos-theta current distribution
- Many different winding schemes typically classified

as

- Block type magnets (block, common-coil)
- Cos-theta/shell type magnets (traditional costheta, canted cos-theta)



+/















Magnetic design: Harmonics

The field can be expressed as (simple) series of coefficients So, each coefficient corresponds to a "pure" multipolar field

$$B_{y}(x, y) + iB_{x}(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_{n}(x + iy)^{n-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_{n} + iA_{n})(x + iy)^{n-1}$$



by K.-H. Mess, et al.



Magnetic design: Harmonics

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Dipole

$$B_{1} = \frac{2\mu_{0}}{\pi} J(R_{out} - R_{in}) \sin \varphi = \frac{2\mu_{0}}{\pi} Jw \sin \varphi$$

$$B_{n} = \frac{2\mu_{0}}{\pi} J \frac{(R_{out}^{2-n} - R_{in}^{2-n})}{n(2-n)} r_{ref}^{n-1} \sin(n\varphi), n = 3, 5, 7, ...$$





Magnetic design: Optimization of one layer designs

0

- We compute the central field given by a sector dipole with 2 blocks
- Equations to set to zero B_3 , B_5 and B_7

$$\sin(3\alpha_3) - \sin(3\alpha_2) + \sin(3\alpha_1) = 0$$

$$\sin(5\alpha_3) - \sin(5\alpha_2) + \sin(5\alpha_1) = 0$$

- And with 3 blocks
- Equations to set to zero B_3 , B_5 , B_7 , B_9 and B_{11}

$$\sin(3\alpha_{5}) - \sin(3\alpha_{4}) + \sin(3\alpha_{3}) - \sin(3\alpha_{2}) + \sin(3\alpha_{1}) = 0$$

$$\sin(5\alpha_{5}) - \sin(5\alpha_{4}) + \sin(5\alpha_{3}) - \sin(5\alpha_{2}) + \sin(5\alpha_{1}) = 0$$

$$\sin(7\alpha_{5}) - \sin(7\alpha_{4}) + \sin(7\alpha_{3}) - \sin(7\alpha_{2}) + \sin(7\alpha_{1}) = 0$$

$$\sin(9\alpha_{5}) - \sin(9\alpha_{4}) + \sin(9\alpha_{3}) - \sin(9\alpha_{2}) + \sin(9\alpha_{1}) = 0$$

$$\sin(11\alpha_{5}) - \sin(11\alpha_{4}) + \sin(11\alpha_{3}) - \sin(11\alpha_{2}) + \sin(11\alpha_{1}) = 0$$





Two wedges, b₃=b₅=b₇=b₉=b₁₁=0 [0°-33.3°,37.1°-53.1°,63.4°-71.8°]



A review of coil layouts: Existing



RHIC USA, since 2000





Winding of Fresca2

Winding machine with dedicated tooling





The Winding House at CERN (bld. 180)





Reaction furnace(s)

Dedicated ovens with controlled atmosphere Ramp at 25°C/h, held during 72 h at 210°C Ramp at 50°C/h, held during 48 h at 400°C Ramp at 50°C/h, held during 50 h at 650°C





Impregnation tank

Dedicated autoclave for vacuum impregnation with epoxy





How much superconductor is in the cable?





How to select the *J* in the coil?



LHC

• LHC main dipole at nominal operation: $B_{op} = 8.33$ T, $I_{op} = 11$ 850 A, $J_{eng} = \sim 450$ A/mm²





How to select the *J* in the coil?

Why margins?

- Reach design field
- Limit number of training quenches
- Avoid quenches during operation

Margins:

- Load line margin
- Temperature margin
- Current margin

How to select the margins? Typically, designs are done for load line margin (LHC & FCC: 14%)

How is it selected? Empirically: long discussions and many prototypes!





Margin on the load line



LHC





Temperature margin



LHC





Circuit protection

- LHC MBs are powered in 8 sectors, each with 154 MBs
- The stored energy is 1.1 GJ:

 \rightarrow Corresponds to the kinetic energy of a fully loaded jumbo jet at start

$$E_m = \underset{V}{\diamond} \frac{B^2}{2m_0} dv = \frac{1}{2} LI^2$$





Magnet quench protection

In case a quench occurs, the stored energy does not allow to be extracted within the required time (few tens of ms): too large voltages (several kV-MV, depending on the circuit) would be required

> U = Ld I/dt (LHC MB: L = 98.7 mH/magnet, I = 11.85 kA) \rightarrow A discharge in 0.1 s would yields a voltage of ~12 kV

Alternative: stored energy is damped into the entire magnet by quenching it: upper theoretical limit can be calculated with adiabatic model









Quench heater

- In case a quench is detected, the magnet will be quenched (brought to normal conducting) within ~40 ms everywhere
- The final peak temperature for a given magnet depends on the time span to quench the magnet and the stored energy density







What is around the coils?

- How do keep the coils in place despite the large forces?
- How do we keep them cool?
- How we ensure that they perform well in the tunnel: testing!





Mechanical structure

The e.m. forces in a dipole/quadrupole magnet tend to push the coil

- Towards the mid plane in the vertical-azimuthal direction (F_y , $F_{\theta} < 0$)
- Outwards in the radial-horizontal direction (F_x , $F_r > 0$)





Mechanical structure: Examples

Nb-Ti LHC MB

Values for a central field of 8.33 T

- $F_x = 340$ t per meter: ~300 compact cars/m
- Precision of coil positioning: 20-50 μm
- $F_z = 27$ t: ~weight of the cold mass

Nb₃Sn dipole (Fresca-2)

Values for a central field of 13 T $F_x = 770$ t per meter and quadrant $F_z = 72$ t/octant These forces are applied to an objet with a cross-section of 150x100 mm and by the way, it is brittle













How to do to avoid movement and tensile stress?





How to do to avoid movement and tensile stress?



No pre-stress No e.m. force No pre-stress With e.m. force

Pre-stress No e.m. force Pre-stress with e.m. force



Mechanics of superconducting magnets: Collars

- Implemented for the first time in Tevatron, since then, almost always used
- Composed by stainless-steel or aluminium laminations few mm thick.
- By clamping the coils, the collars provide
 - coil pre-stressing;
 - rigid support against e.m. forces
 - precise cavity





Mechanics of superconducting magnets: Collars

Collaring of a dipole magnet



Collaring of a quadrupole magnet









Mechanics of superconducting magnets: Shell structure

Alternative structure, principle is based on different contraction coefficients:

- No large scale infrastructure required
- Only part of pre-stress is applied at ambient temperature





Ferromagnetic iron Pole (Ti6Al4V) 2.0

1.7

Mechanics of superconducting magnets: Iron yoke

- Iron yoke are also made in laminations (several mm thick)
- Magnetic function:
 - contains and enhances the magnetic field.
- Structural function
 - tight contact with the collar
 - it contributes to increase the rigidity of the coil support structure and limit radial displacement.
- Holes are included in the yoke design for
 - Correction of saturation effect
 - Cooling channel
 - Assembly features
 - Electrical bus





Cold mass

- The shell constitutes a containment structure for the liquid Helium.
- It is composed by two half shells of stainless steel welded around the yoke with high tension (about 150 MPa for the LHC dipole).
- With the iron yoke, it contributes to create a rigid boundary to the collared coil.
- If necessary, during the welding process, the welding press can impose the desired curvature on the cold mass
- In the LHC dipole the nominal sagitta is of 9.14 mm over ~14.3 m







Cold mass





An overview of the infrastructure (bldg. 180)...





Cryo-magnets!





	Tevatron	HERA	RHIC	LHC
Operation period	1983-2011	1991-2007	since 2000	since 2008
Aperture (mm)	76	75	80	56
Magnetic length (m)	6.1	8.8	9.45	14.3
Nominal bore field (T)	4.3	5.3	3.5	8.3
Nominal current (kA)	4.3	5.7	5.1	11.9
Stored energy at I _{nom} (MJ)	0.30	0.94	0.35	6.93
Operation temperature (K)	4.6	4.5	4.3-4.6	1.9







Testing

All magnets to be installed in a machine have to go through testing. A detailed test plan is elaborated. Main points:

- Electrical integrity (test voltage 1-2 kV)
- Performance (field, field quality): Reduce training!
- Memory after thermal cycle: Keep memory!





Training

Main causes

- Frictional motion
 - E.m. forces \rightarrow motion \rightarrow quench
 - Coil locked by friction in a secure state
- Epoxy failure
 - E.m. forces \rightarrow epoxy cracking \rightarrow quench
 - Once epoxy locally fractured, further cracking appears only when the e.m. stress is increased.
- Magnets operate with margin: Nominal current reached with few quenches.

In general, very emotional process!







Memory







LHC, what next? FCC!

International FCC collaboration (CERN as host lab) to study:

80-100 km tunnel infrastructure

- pp-collider (FCC-hh)
- e⁺e⁻ collider (FCC-ee) as potential first step
- p-e (FCC-he) option

HE-LHC with FCC-hh technology





FCC versus LHC dipole

Twice the magnetic field \rightarrow

- 2 x more Ampere turns
- 4 x higher forces/m
- ~6 x more stored energy/m
- 4 x more magnets

Prototypes will be built.



Magnet Design Options: Future Circular Collider



14.3 m
50 mm
204 mr
16 T
14 %

 $\label{eq:constraint} CCT \ (\text{PSI with LBNL and CERN})$



mm

High-Temperature Superconductors

- High-temperature superconductor promise much higher fields
- Technology is currently being developed
- Main challenge: Reduce cost!





Other superconducting magnets in accelerators

- Experimental magnets (large solenoids)
- Insertion devices for reducing the beam emittance and creating synchrotron radiation: Very active field of R&D for storage rings and FELs (ESRF, Soleil, etc.... and European XFEL, SwissFel,...)





David Attwood, Soft X-Rays and Extreme Ultraviolet Radiation: Principles and Applications



Concluding remarks

- Superconducting magnet design and manufacture is a very diverse field. It starts with superconductors (materials, wires, cables, and their electric and thermal properties), continues with electromagnetic design, thermal calculations, mechanics, protection, stability, etc...
- Cooling requires cryogenic, a field of applied science by its own
- The manufacture requires cost modelling, industrialization, complex project management, etc.
- We live in exciting times for superconducting accelerator magnets: First Nb₃Sn magnets to be installed in HL-LHC, new field record of 14.6 T achieved with Fresca-2, first 16 T magnets for FCC to be manufactured from now on, first HTS dipole to be tested in background field, HTS undulator to be built, ...



Literature





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Editors Daniel Schoerling and Alexander Zlobin

Nb₃Sn Accelerator Magnets Designs, Technologies, and Performance

Deringer

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