



Roebel cable for accelerator magnet applications



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Context: Particle accelerator

In circular collider:

$$E_{beam} [\text{TeV}] \approx 0.3 B_0 [\text{T}] R_b [\text{km}]$$

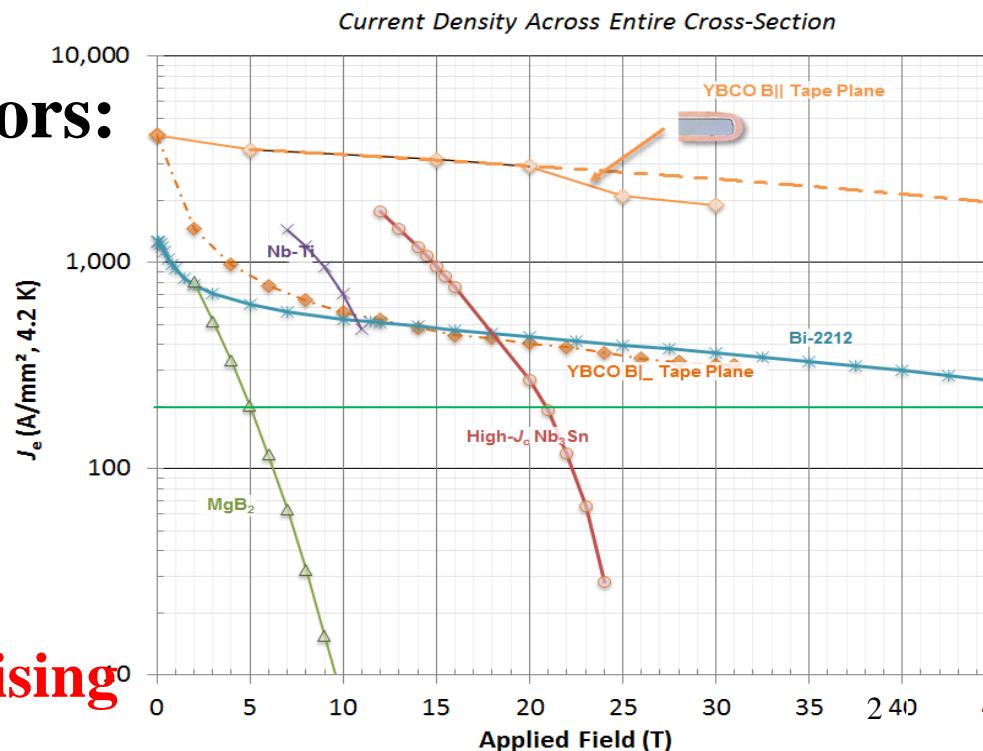
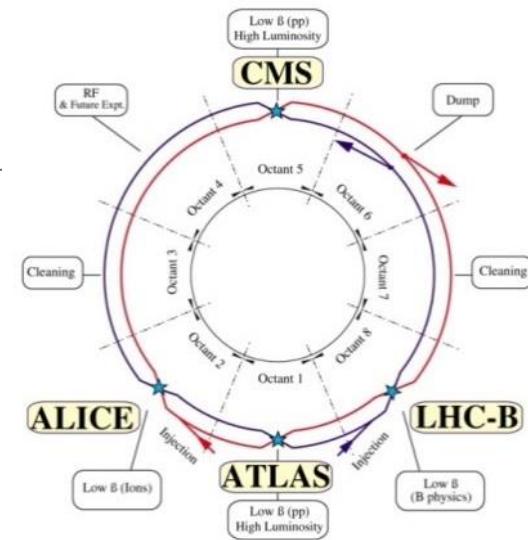
LHC: $E_{beam}=7 \text{ TeV}$ and $B_0=8.3 \text{ T}$

Further particle discovery => higher energy => higher dipolar field

Four practical superconductors:

- Nb-Ti wire: $B_{0,\max}=9 \text{ T}$
- Nb_3Sn wire: $B_{0,\max}=15 \text{ T}$
- Bi-2212 wire: $B_{0,\max}>30 \text{ T}$
- YBCO tape $B_{0,\max}>30 \text{ T}$

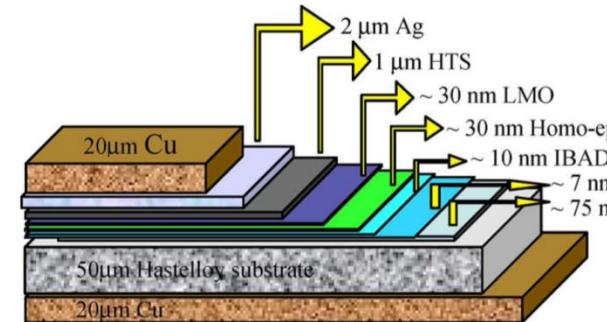
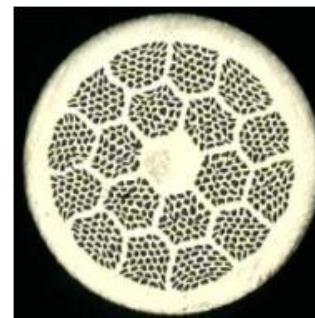
► **YBCO and Bi-2212 very promising**



Context: Practical HTS superconductors

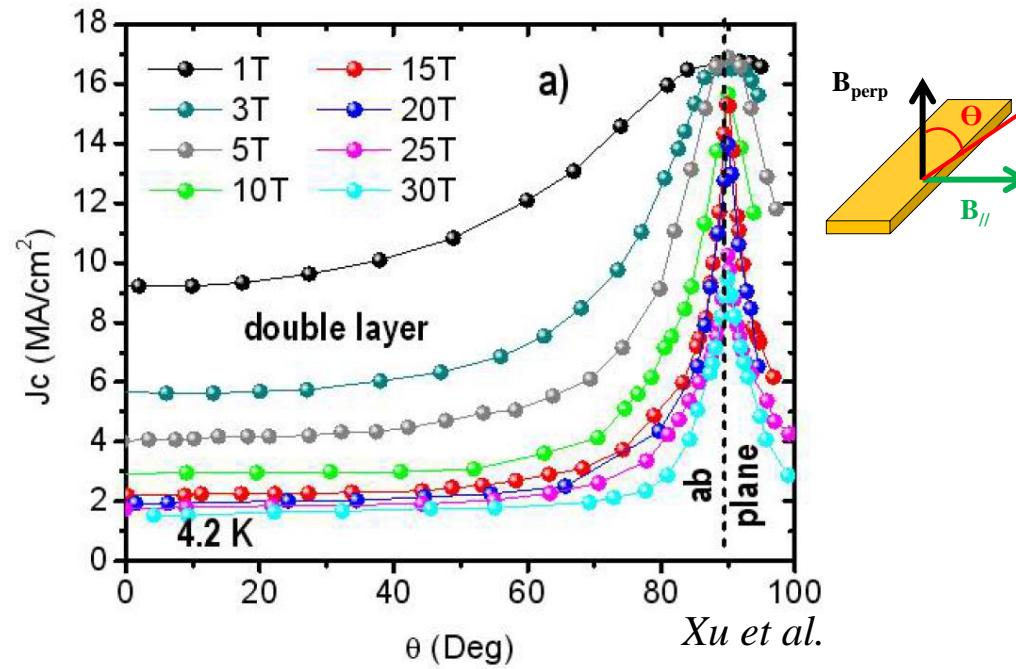
Bi₂Sr₂Ca₁Cu₂O₈ wire: $B_{0,\max} > 30\text{T}$

- Weak mechanical properties
- Medium (High) J_{ce} (HT @ 1(100) bar)
- Delicate heat treatment ($\text{O}_2/900^\circ\text{C}$)
- Isotropic J_c



YBa₂Cu₃O₇ tape $B_{0,\max} > 30\text{T}$

- Strong mechanical properties
- High J_{ce} in // field, medium in perp.
- No reaction after coil winding
- Anisotropic J_c



➤ Focus on YBCO

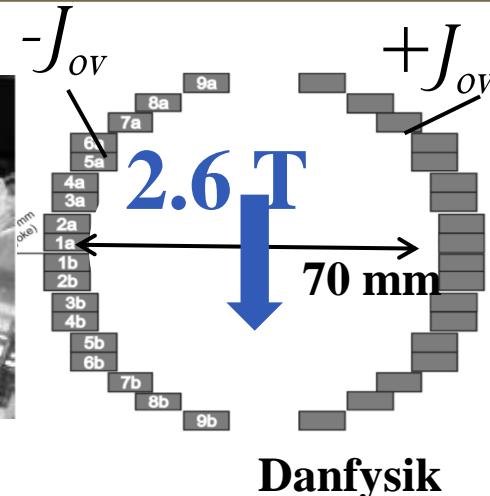
➤ Coil design => account for J_c anisotropy of YBCO

Context: from small scale to accelerator YBCO magnet



Small scale YBCO dipole tested:

- 2.6 T in 0 T background at 18 K
- J_{ov} : 50-100 A/mm²
- Small stored energy
=>**Single conductor (~100 A)**



Requirements for YBCO accelerator dipole:

- About 5-7 T in 10-15 T background
- $J_{ov} > 200$ A/mm²
- Large stored energy => **High current cable (~10-20 kA)**

Outline

- Context
- Ultimate field of HTS dipole
- Electromechanical properties of YBCO conductor
- Electromechanical properties of Roebel YBCO cable
 - I_c at 4.2 K
 - Current distribution among strands
 - Mechanical properties
 - Failure analysis
- Conclusion

Ultimate field of HTS dipole

In a single layer sector coil ($\phi=60^\circ$):

- Central field :

$$B_0 = \frac{B_p}{\lambda} = \frac{2\mu_0}{\pi} w_c J_w \sin(\phi)$$

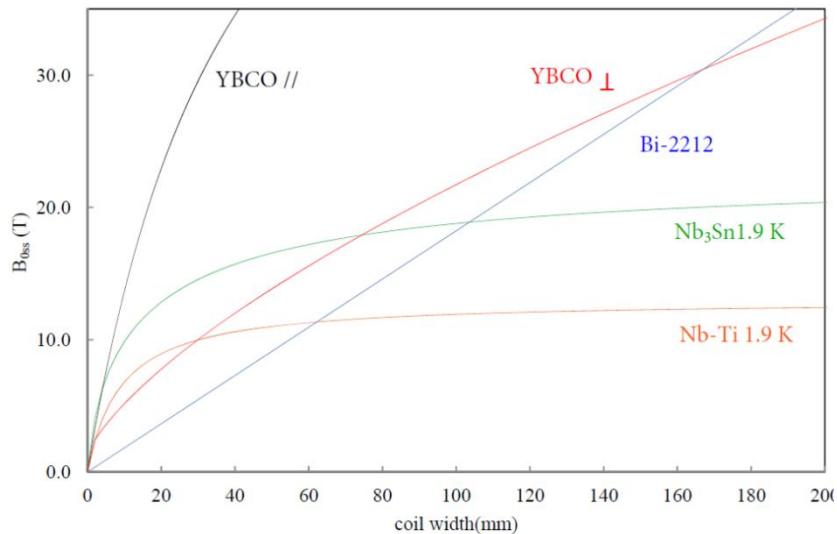
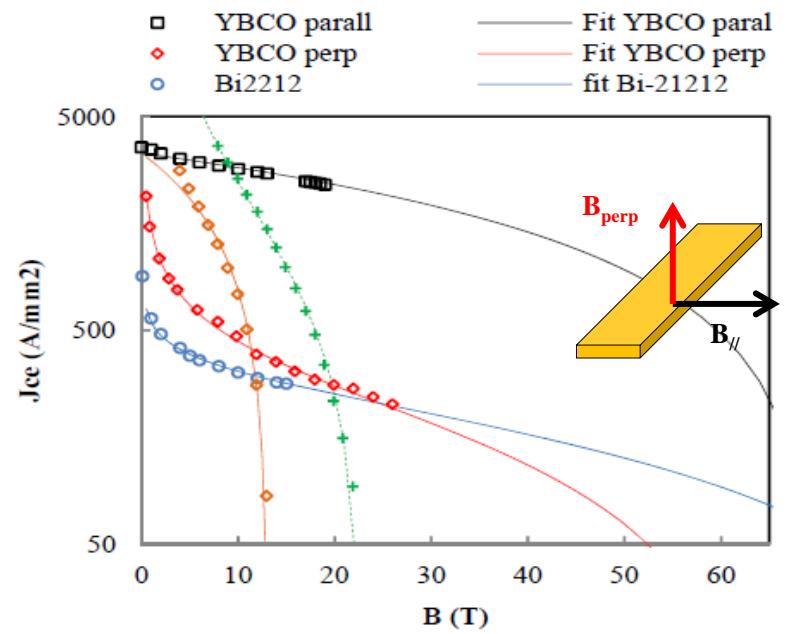
- J_{ce} of YBCO :

$$J_{ce}(B) = \frac{r_0}{B^s} - dB$$

- Ultimate field:

$$B_{0,ss} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left(\frac{\gamma_0 \lambda w_c K r_0}{1 + \gamma_0 w_c \lambda K d} \right)^{\frac{1}{s+1}}$$

- No $B_{0,ss}$ saturation for YBCO
- $B_0=20$ T: $w=80$ mm for perp field



Outline

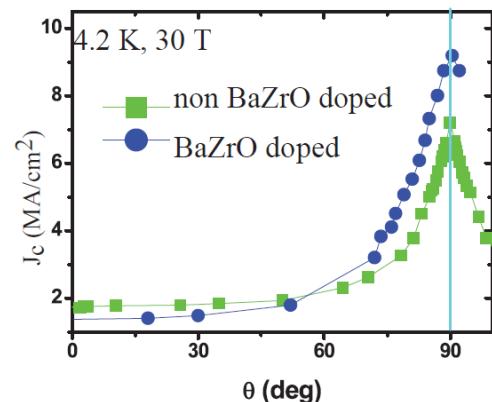
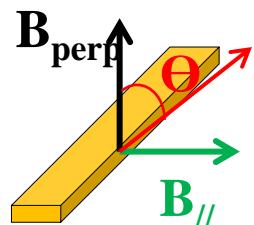
- Context
- Ultimate field of HTS dipole
- **Electromechanical properties of YBCO conductor**
- Electromechanical properties of Roebel YBCO cable
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 - Electromechanical properties of Roebel YBCO cable
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RE-BCO conductor characterization (1/2)

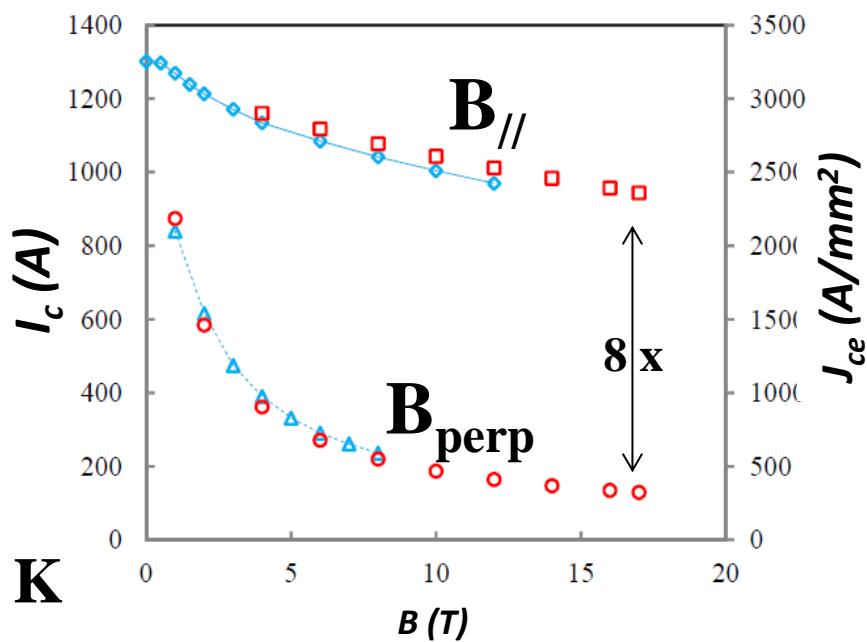
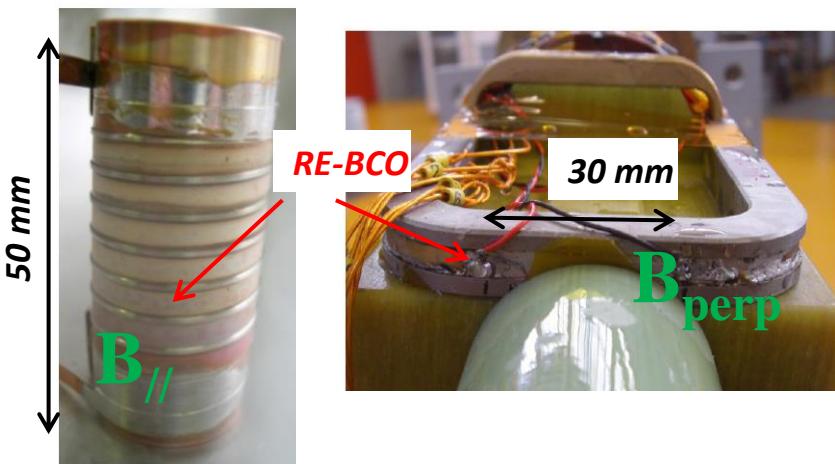


YBCO J_c anisotropic:

- Max in parallel field
- Min in perp field



Two samples holders (CERN):



No specific increase of I_c : 4.2 K=>1.9 K

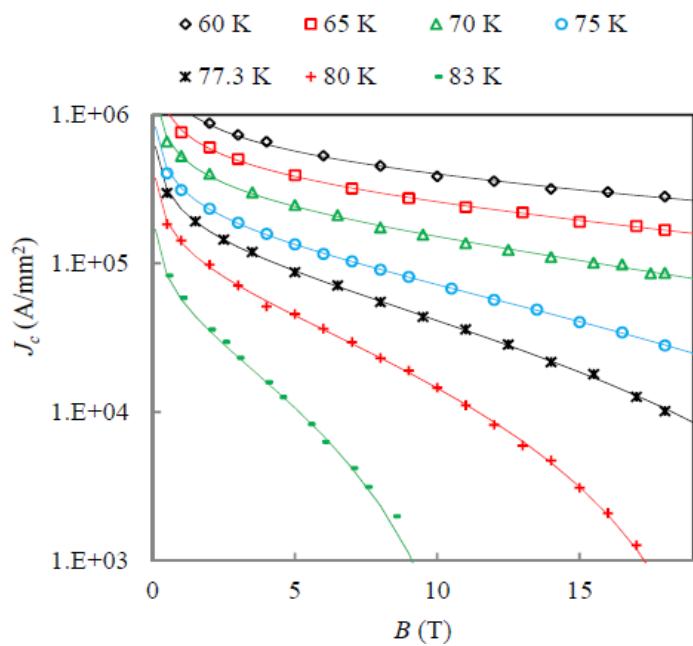
➤ J_{ce} parameterization needed for magnet/cable design

YBCO $J_c(B, T, \Theta)$ parameterization

$J_c(B, T)$: Perpendicular and parallel field

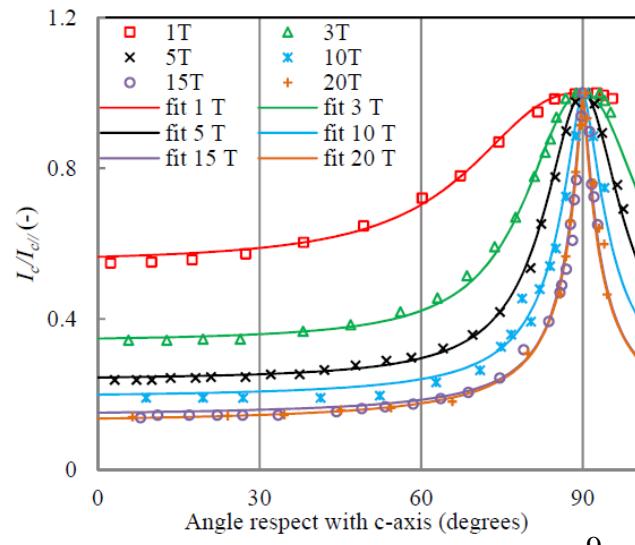
$$J_c(B, T) = \frac{C_0}{B} \cdot \left((1 - t^{m1})^{m2} \right)^{n1} \cdot \left(\frac{B}{B_{irr}} \right)^p \left(1 - \frac{B}{B_{irr}} \right)^q$$

$$B_{irr}(t) = B_{irr,0} (1 - t^{m1})^{m2} \quad t = \frac{T}{T_{cf}}$$



New $J_c(B, T, \Theta)$ parameterization:

$$J_c(B, T, \theta) = J_{c,perp}(B, T) + \frac{J_{c,/\!/}(B, T) - J_{c,perp}(B, T)}{1 + \left(\frac{|\theta - \pi/2|}{e(B, T)} \right)^{g(B, T)}}$$



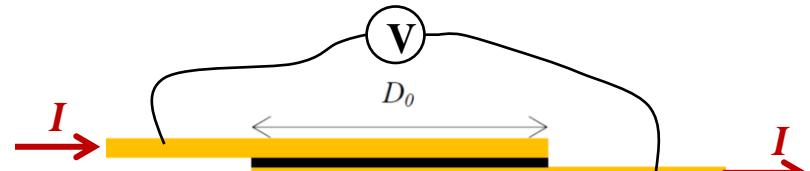
➤ Accurate $J_c(B, T, \Theta)$ description over large field and temperature range

YBCO splice resistance

Unit length of YBCO: 100-500 m

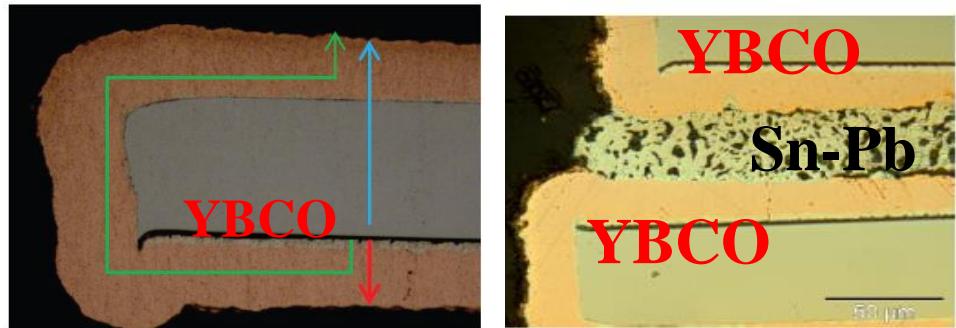
Splice requirement for magnets:

- Low electrical resistance ($\sim n\Omega$)
- High mechanical strength (~ 200 - 600 MPa)
- Splicing temperature < 250 °C



Anisotropic splice resistance:

- Face to Face (**33** $n\Omega \cdot cm^2$) *
- Back to Face (**851** $n\Omega \cdot cm^2$) *
- Back to back (**1186** $n\Omega \cdot cm^2$) *



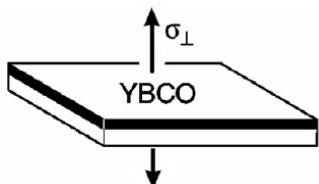
*at 77 K, self field, 4mm SP wide conductor

- **Factor 35 between best and worst configuration**
- **Splice resistance is conductor batch dependent**
- **Splice resistance dominated by conductor internal resistance**

YBCO stress sensitivity

Transverse compression:

- No significant J_c reduction up to 600 MPa
- Fatigue resilient

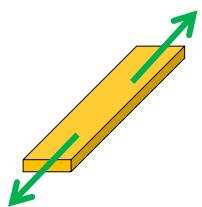


Transverse tension:

- Delamination strength of only 17-30 MPa
- Impregnation is an issue

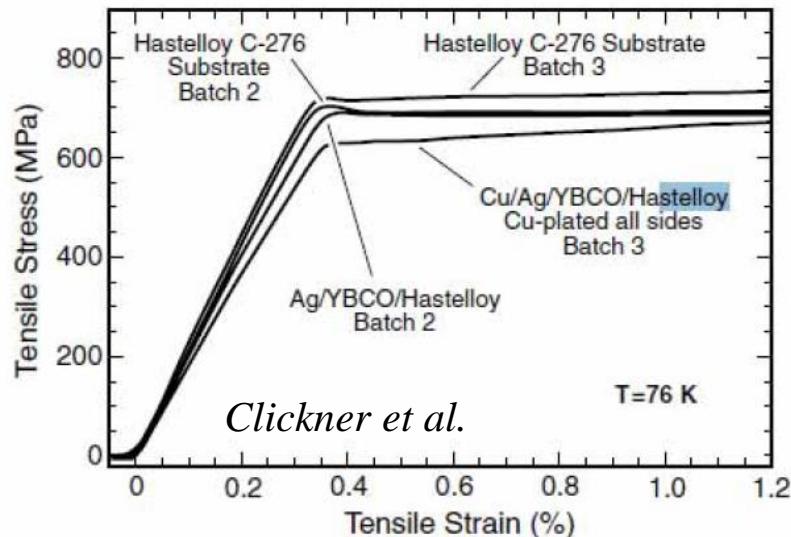
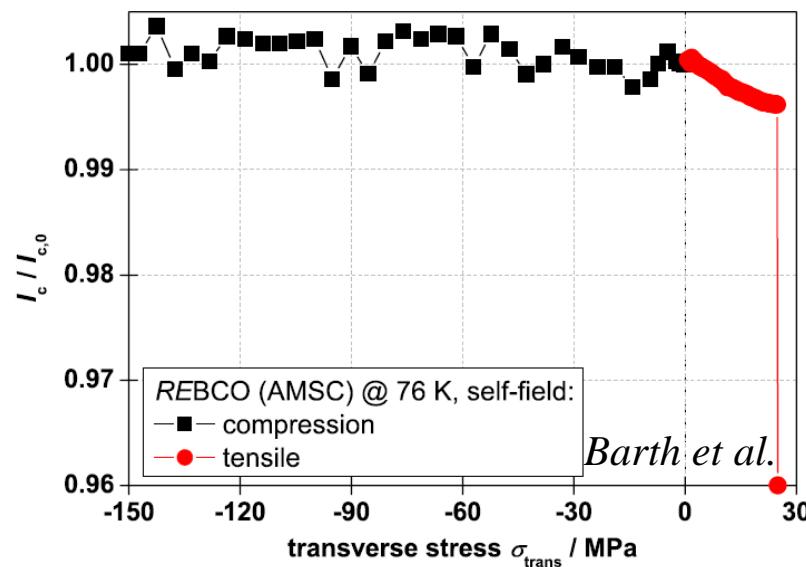
Axial tension:

- Yield stress ~650 MPa
- E modulus : 175 GPa

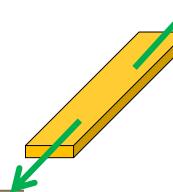


➤ YBCO subject to delamination

➤ Resilient to transverse compression and axial tension



YBCO axial strain sensitivity



YBCO J_c sensitive to axial strain:

- Reversible J_c reduction for $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_{irr}$

$$J_{c,s,f}(B, \varepsilon, T) \propto b(B, T)(1 - a(B, T)[\varepsilon - \varepsilon_m]^2)$$

- Irreversible J_c reduction for $\varepsilon > \varepsilon_{irr}$

$$J_{c,s,f}(\varepsilon, T) \approx 0$$

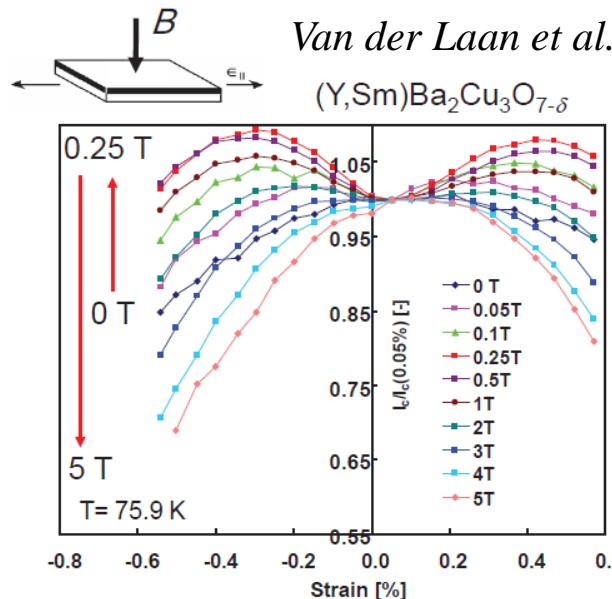
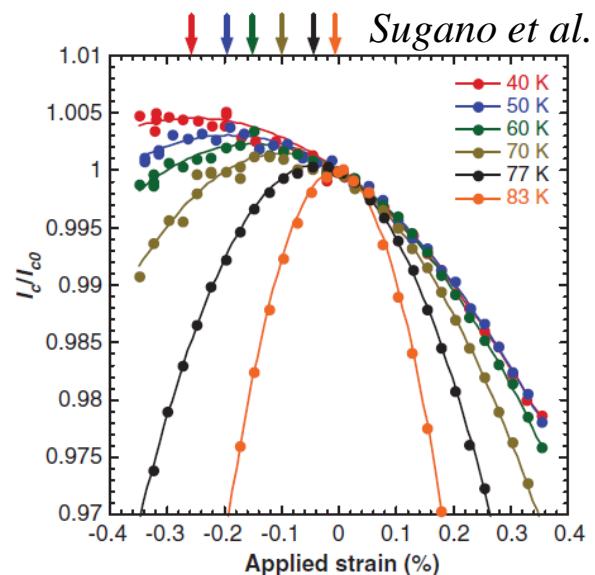
$$\varepsilon_{irr,t} = 0.6\% \quad \varepsilon_{irr,c} = -2\%$$

Strain sensitivity reduced by:

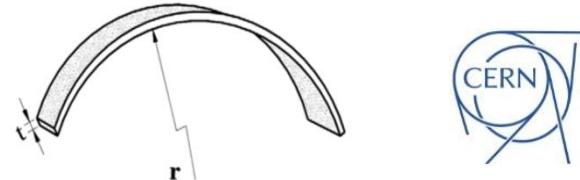
- Lowering temperature
- Reducing field

Strain sensitivity: field, strain orientation and composition dependent

➤ $J_c(B, 4.2 K, \varepsilon)$ not yet fully measured

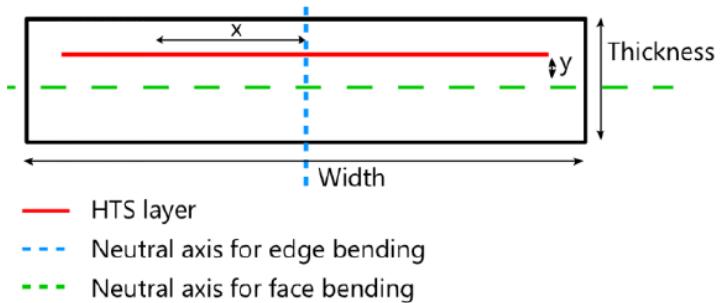


I_c reduction with easy bending



Axial strain state:

$$\varepsilon(R) = y/R$$



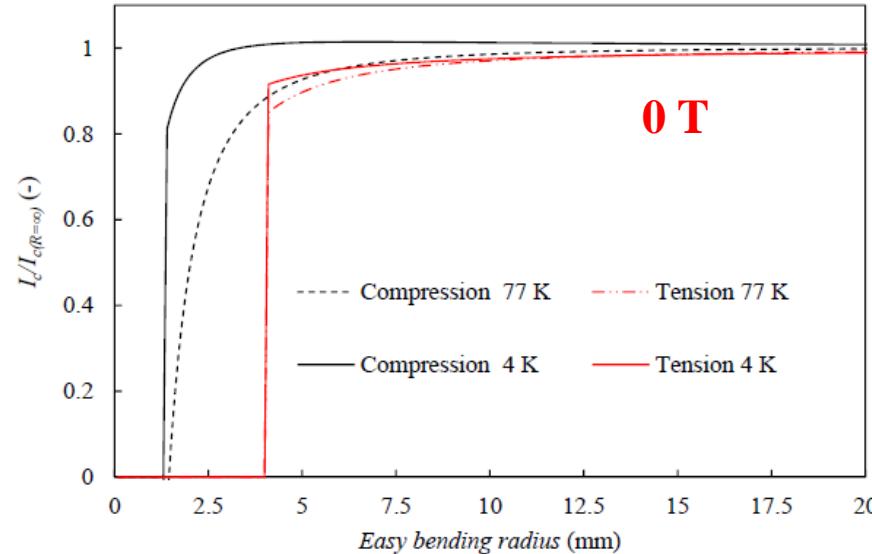
Integration of $J_c(\varepsilon)$ over film width (w):

- Large bending radius ($R > y/\varepsilon_{irr}$)

$$I_c(R, B, T) = \tau w J_{c0, \varepsilon_m} (1 - t)^k \left[\frac{1}{a(T)} \left(\frac{y}{R} + \varepsilon_m(T) \right)^2 \right]$$

- Small bending radius ($R < y/\varepsilon_{irr}$)

$$I_c(R, B, T) = 0$$



- Most of I_c reduction due to irreversible strain
- I_c more sensitive for YBCO in tension

I_c reduction with hard bending

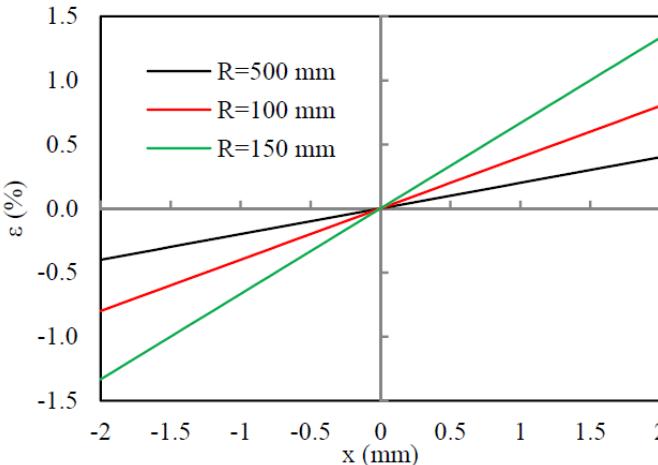


Axial strain state:

$$\varepsilon(R) = x/R$$

Integration:

- L



- M

 $I_c($

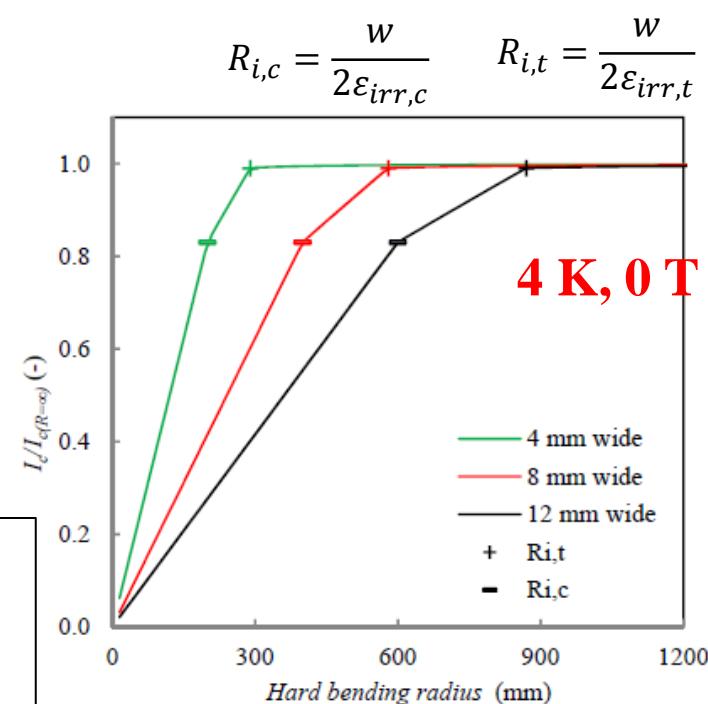
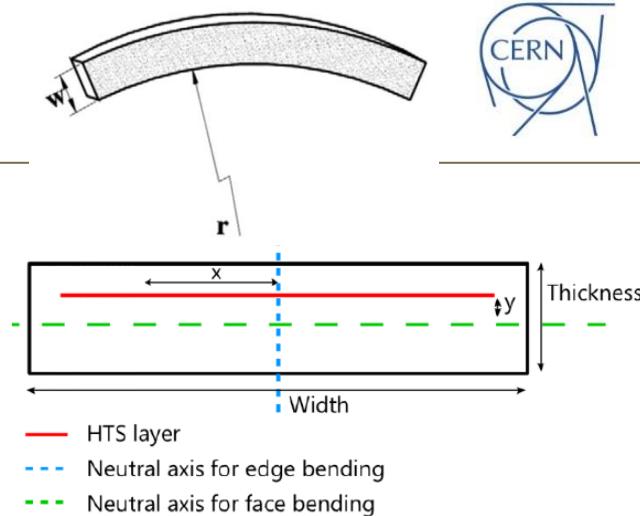
$$R_{i,t}) \left[\frac{w}{r^2} \right]$$

$$+ \frac{a\varepsilon_m w}{2R} \right]$$

$$+ R\varepsilon_{irr,t} \left[1 - \frac{a\varepsilon_{irr,t}^2}{3} + a\varepsilon_m\varepsilon_{irr,t} - a\varepsilon_m^2 \right] \right]$$

- Small bending radius ($R < R_{i,c}$)

$$I_c(R) = \tau w R J_{c0,\varepsilon_m} (1-t)^k \left[-\varepsilon_{irr,c} \left[1 - \frac{a\varepsilon_{irr,c}^2}{3} + a\varepsilon_m\varepsilon_{irr,c} - a\varepsilon_m^2 \right] \right. \\ \left. + \varepsilon_{irr,t} \left[1 - \frac{a\varepsilon_{irr,t}^2}{3} + a\varepsilon_m\varepsilon_{irr,t} - a\varepsilon_m^2 \right] \right]$$



I_c reduction with twisting



Axial strain:

$$\varepsilon_{tw}(T_p) = \frac{2\pi^2}{T_p^2} \left(x^2 - \frac{w^2}{12} \right)$$

Integration of $J_c(\varepsilon)$ over film width:

- **Large twist pitch ($T_{p,i,t} < T_p$)**

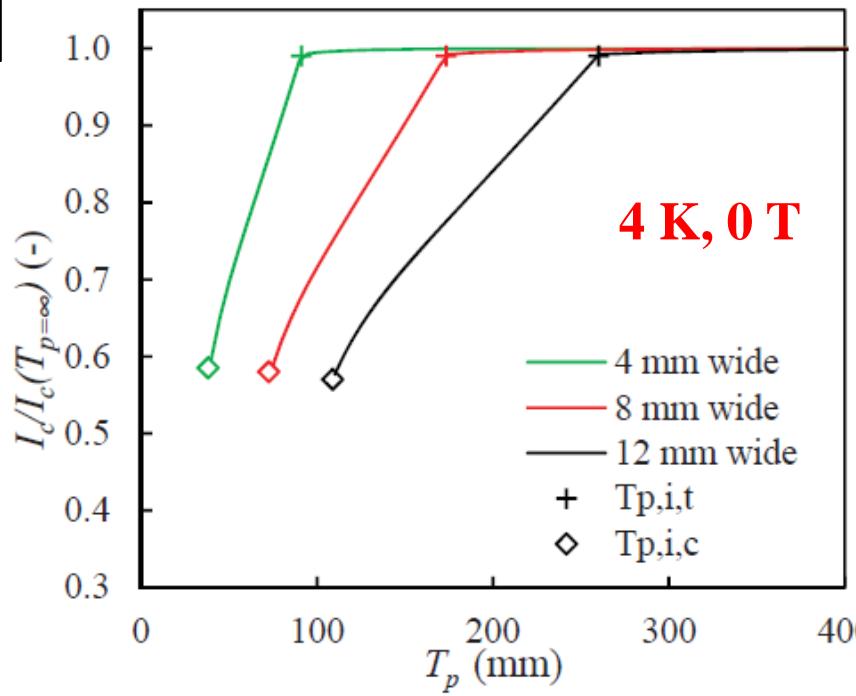
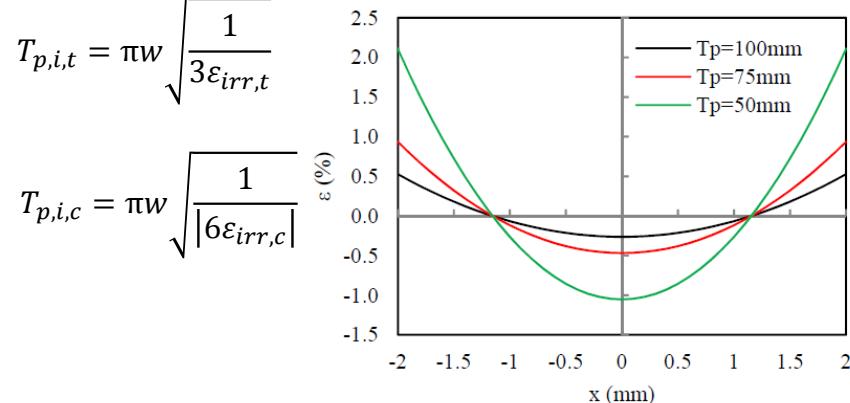
$$I_c(T_p) = \tau w J_{c0,\varepsilon_m} (1-t)^k \left[1 - \frac{a}{180} \left(\frac{2\pi^2 w^2}{T_p^2} \right)^2 - \frac{\varepsilon_m^2}{2} \right]$$

- **Medium twist pitch ($T_{p,i,c} < T_p < T_{p,i,t}$)**

$$I_c(T_p) = \tau w J_{c0,\varepsilon_m} (1-t)^k \sqrt{\frac{4\varepsilon_{irr,t}}{c_0} + \frac{w^2}{3}} * \left(1 - \frac{a}{270} \left(\begin{array}{l} 54\varepsilon_{irr,t}^2 + 270\varepsilon_m^2 \\ + 30c_0\varepsilon_m w^2 + c_0^2 w^4 \\ - 6\varepsilon_{irr,t} (30\varepsilon_m + c_0 w^2) \end{array} \right) \right)$$

$$T_{p,i,t} = \pi w \sqrt{\frac{1}{3\varepsilon_{irr,t}}}$$

$$T_{p,i,c} = \pi w \sqrt{\frac{1}{|6\varepsilon_{irr,c}|}}$$



➤ Wider conductor more sensitive

➤ Most of I_c reduction due to irreversible strain

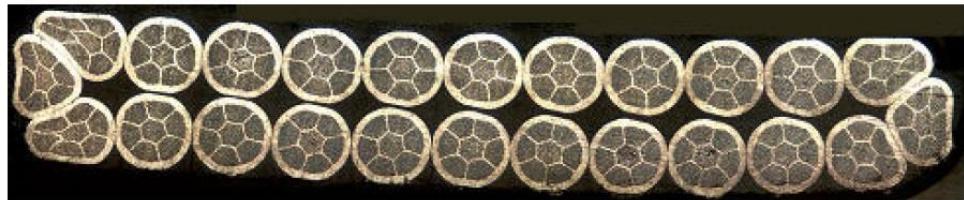
Outline

- Context
- Ultimate field of HTS dipole
- Electromechanical properties of YBCO conductor
- **Electromechanical properties of Roebel YBCO cable**
 - I_c at 4.2 K
 - Current distribution among strands
 - Mechanical properties
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Concepts of HTS high current cable

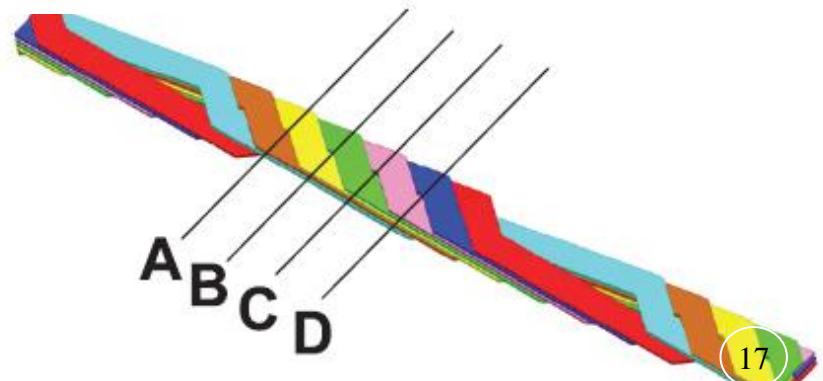
- Rutherford (Bi-2212)

- Wires arranged in two layers
- Transposed
- high Pack. Factor



- Roebel (YBCO)

- Tapes
- Transposed
- high high Pack. Factor

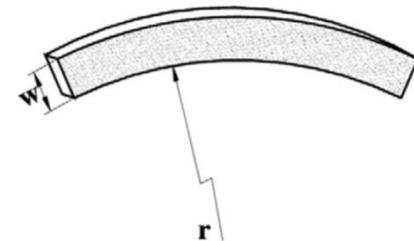


Manufacture of Roebel cable

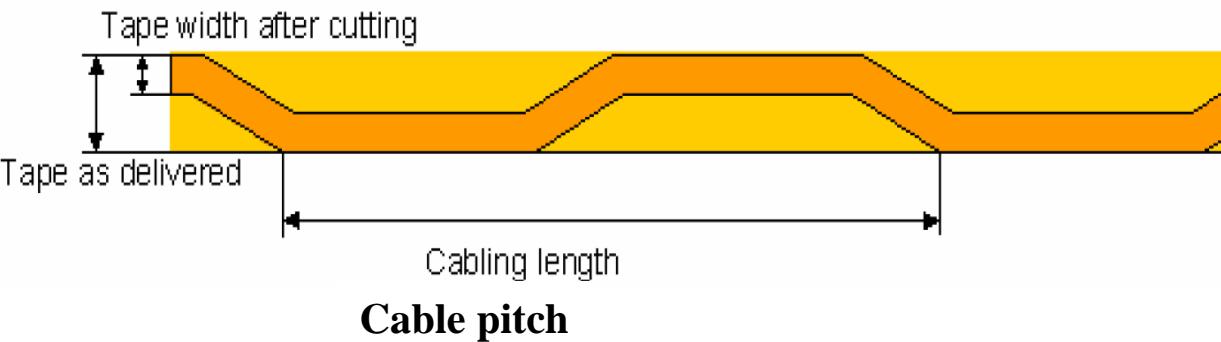
Roebel cable => hard bending of YBCO tapes

Hard bending not possible:

- Mechanical instability
- I_c reduction
- Too large transposition pitch



➤ **pre shaped YBCO tapes: punching process**



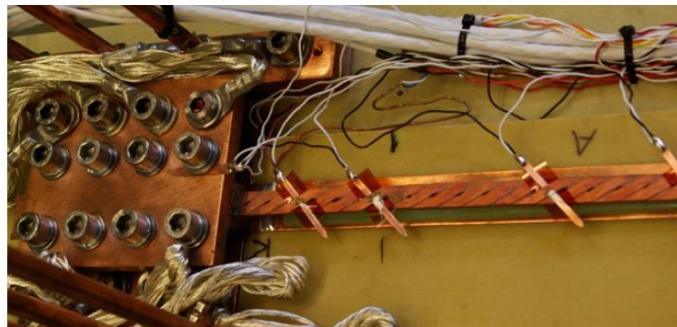
➤ **Roebel cable made of pre-shaped YBCO tapes**

Review of Roebel performances

Measurements performed only at 77 K, 0 T

Laboratory	KIT	KIT	GCS	GCS	GCS	FNAL
Cable width (mm)	12	12	12	5	5	12
Number of strands	16	45	15	9	5	15
Length (m)	0.45	1.1	5	0.5	0.7	2.6
Transposition pitch (mm)	190	188	-	-	300	300
Strand width (mm)	5	5	5	2	2	5
Cable I_c measured ($1\mu\text{V}/\text{cm}$) (kA)	1.02	2.29	1.10	0.31	0.20	1.01
Sum of individual strands I_c (kA)	1.47	6.73	1.95	0.43	0.25	1.62
I_c reduction due to self flux density (%)	30	66	44	28	19	38

- strong I_c reduction with self field
- Record of 2.29 kA in 45 strands cable



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Roebel characterization: experimental details

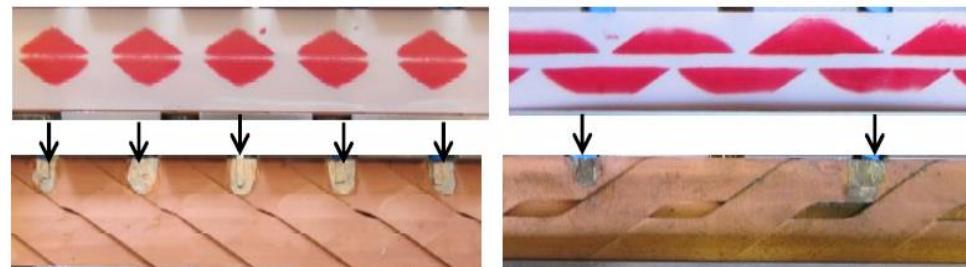
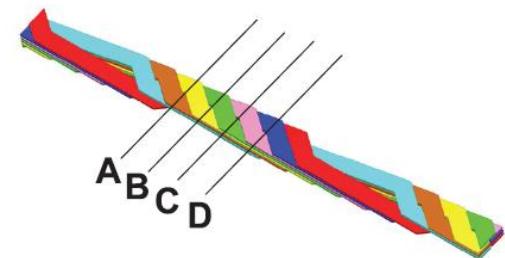
Two types of 12 mm wide Roebel cables

- **KIT:** 10 strands, 126 mm pitch, 0.6 mm thick
- **GCS:** 15 strands, 300 mm pitch, 0.85 mm thick

➤ Test at 4.2K => 40 MPa of pre -stress

Sensitivity of Roebel cable to transverse stress

- **GCS cable**
 - No I_c reduction up to 45 MPa
 - 36 % of section efficient => 125 MPa locally
- **KIT cable**
 - 24 % of section efficient => 188 MPa locally



Instrumentation

- **Voltage tapes**
 - cover 1(2) transposition pitch(es) for GCS(KIT) cables
 - Do not disturb the stress distribution
- **Hall probes**

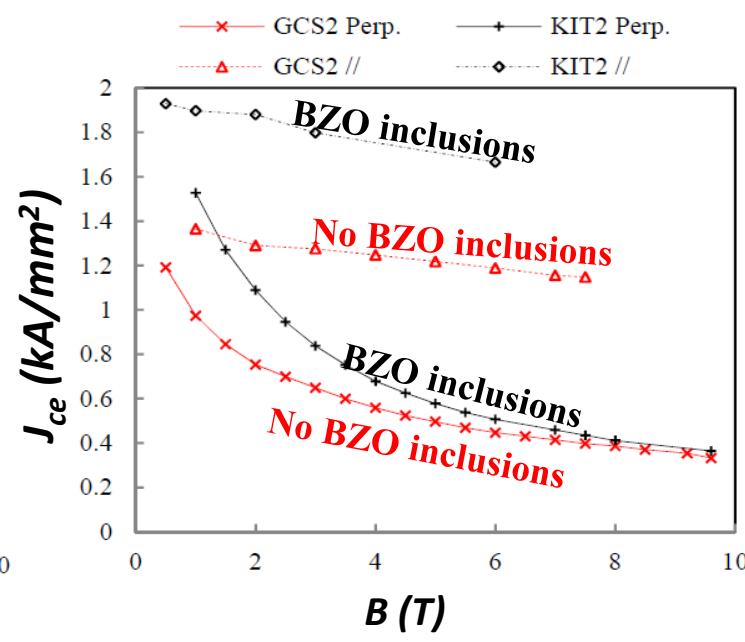
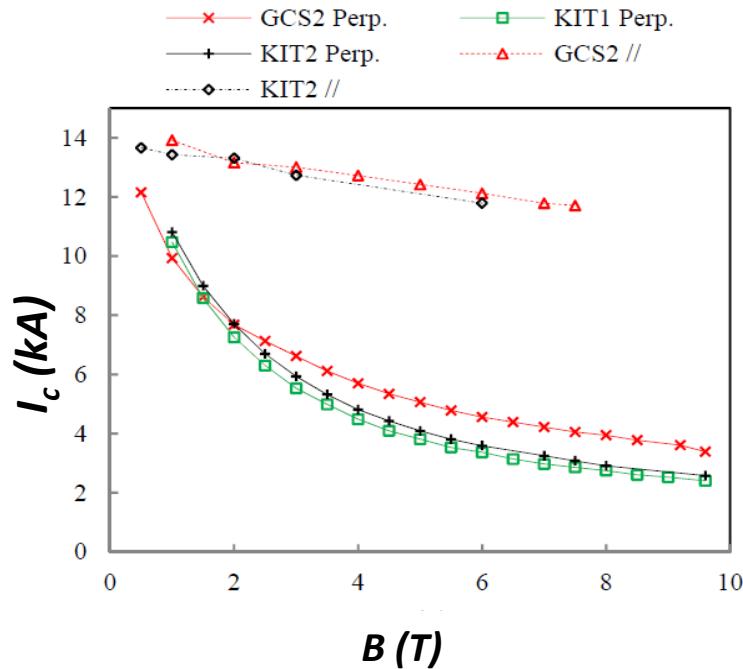


- **No I_c reduction with transverse local pre-stress of 125-188 MPa**
- **Specific voltage taps implementation**
- **No cable impregnation**

Roebel cable I_c

► World first successful measurements of Roebel cable at 4 K

- Cables reached their I_c up to 9.6 T
- BaZrO doping plays a role in cable I_c
- 1-3 n Ω splice resistance achieved ($\approx 36\text{-}94 \text{ n}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}^2$)

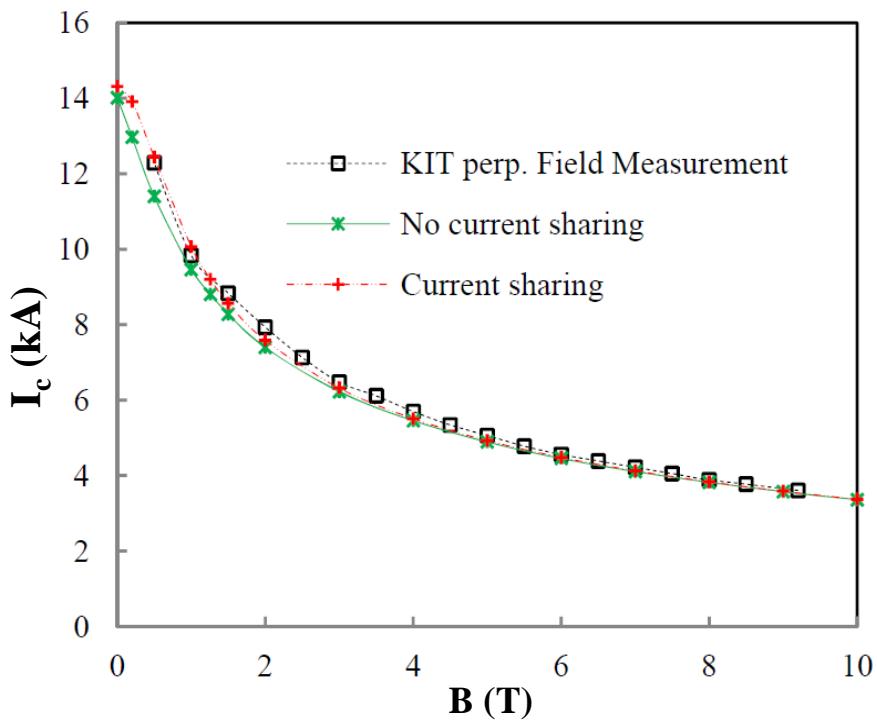


- $I_c > 12 \text{ kA}$, $J_{ce} > 1200 \text{ A/mm}^2$ obtained
- Cable I_c depends on the raw characteristics of YBCO tapes

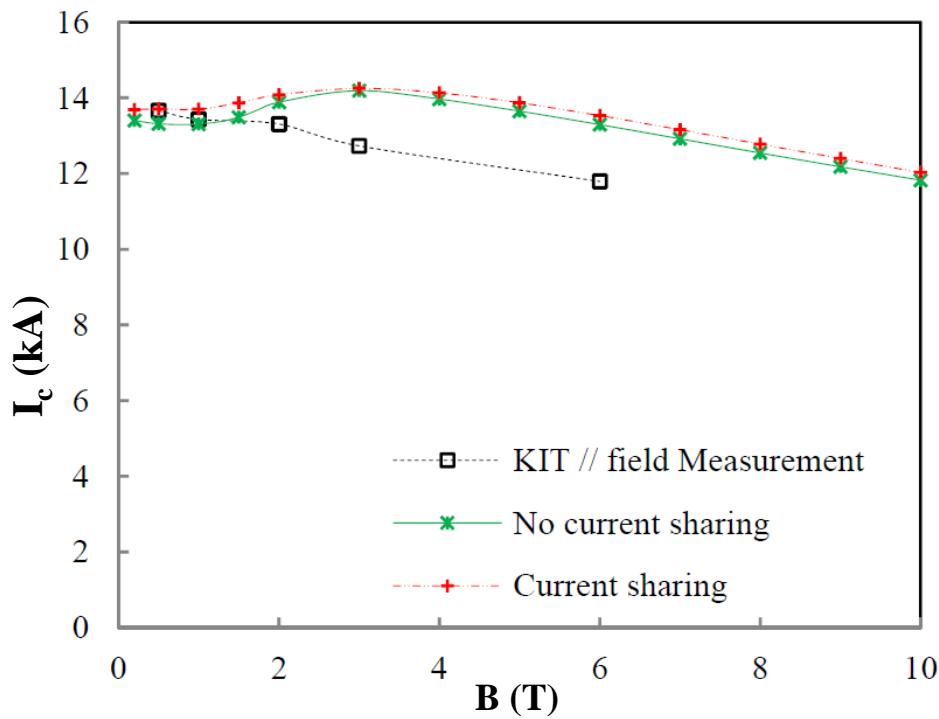
Roebel cable I_c measurements vs. model

Implementation of $J_c(B, T, \Theta)$ in 2D FEM model

- Perpendicular field



- Parallel field



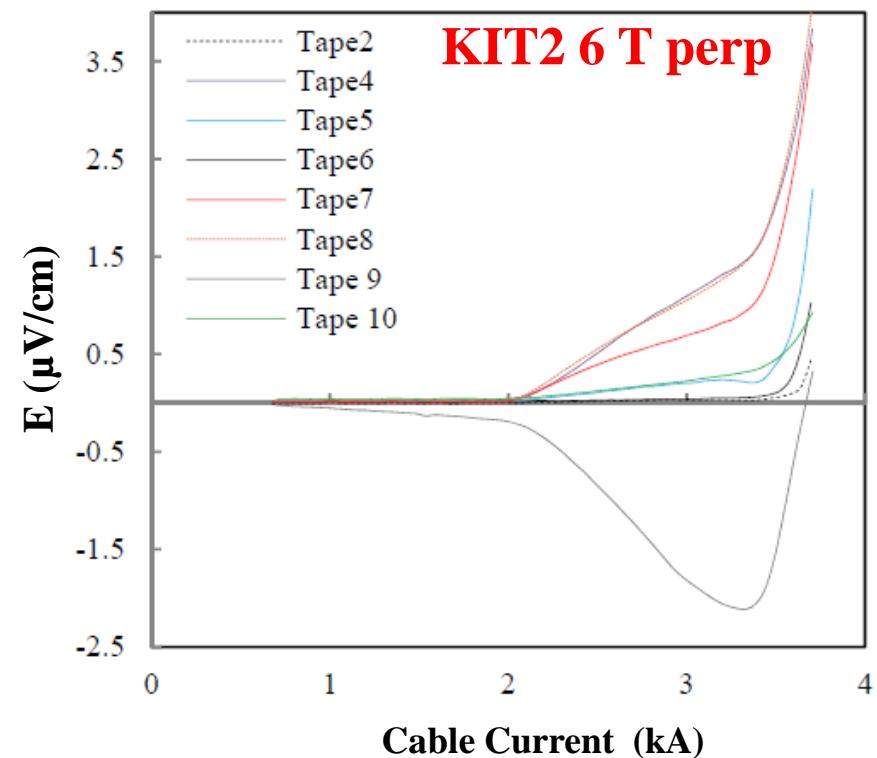
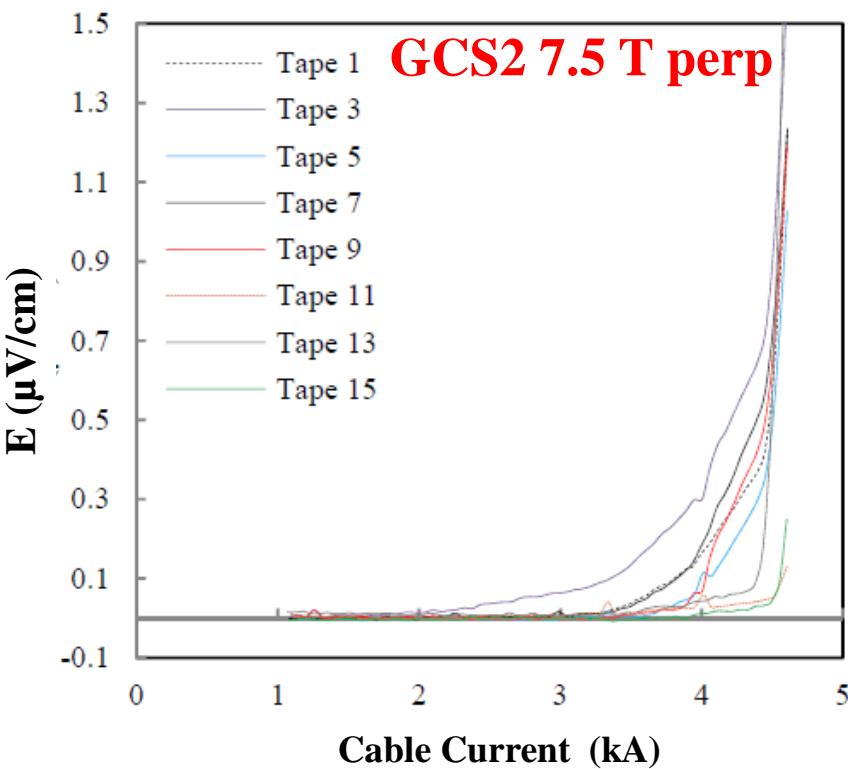
➤ I_c model in accordance with measurements

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Roebel cable: current distribution

- Uneven electric field above a certain current
- I_c defined at $0.2 \mu\text{V}/\text{cm}$ on strand 13 (GCS2 cable)
- Uneven current distribution from hall probes



➤ **Uneven current distribution in Roebel cable : model to understand**

Model of current distribution in YBCO cable

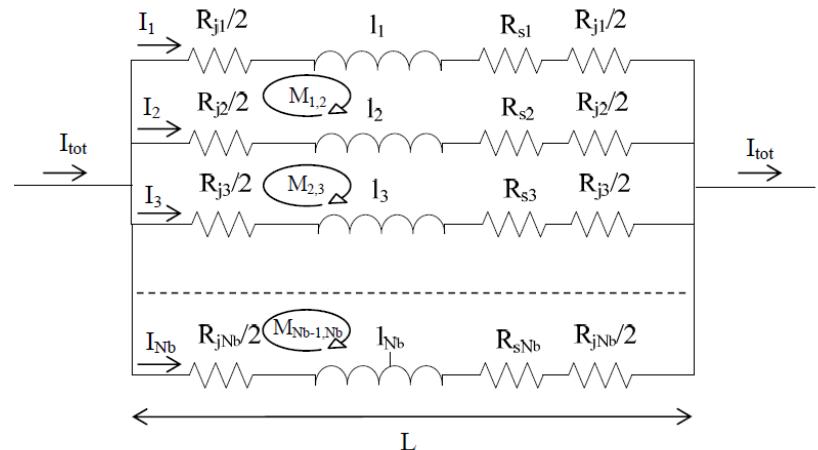
Reasons of uneven current distribution in HTS cables

- Differences in the strand inductances
- Uneven joint Resistances
- Uneven strands I_c

Cable made of insulated strands

- Measured $R_a = 24 \mu\Omega \gg 1-3 \text{ n}\Omega$
- Voltage in each branch (V_i)

$$\begin{pmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \\ V_3 \\ \dots \\ V_i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} l_1 & M_{12} & M_{13} & \dots & M_{1i} \\ M_{21} & l_2 & M_{23} & \dots & M_{2i} \\ M_{31} & M_{32} & l_3 & \dots & M_{3i} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ M_{i1} & M_{i2} & M_{i3} & \dots & l_i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \dot{I}_1 \\ \dot{I}_2 \\ \dot{I}_3 \\ \dots \\ \dot{I}_i \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} R_{s,1} + R_{j,1} \\ R_{s,2} + R_{j,2} \\ R_{s,3} + R_{j,3} \\ \dots \\ R_{s,i} + R_{j,i} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I_1 \\ I_2 \\ I_3 \\ \dots \\ I_i \end{pmatrix}$$



- Kirchhoff's laws
- Imposed current
- Superconductor resistance

$$\sum_h I_h = 0 \quad \sum_k V_k = -\frac{d\phi}{dt}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N_b} I_i = I_{source}$$

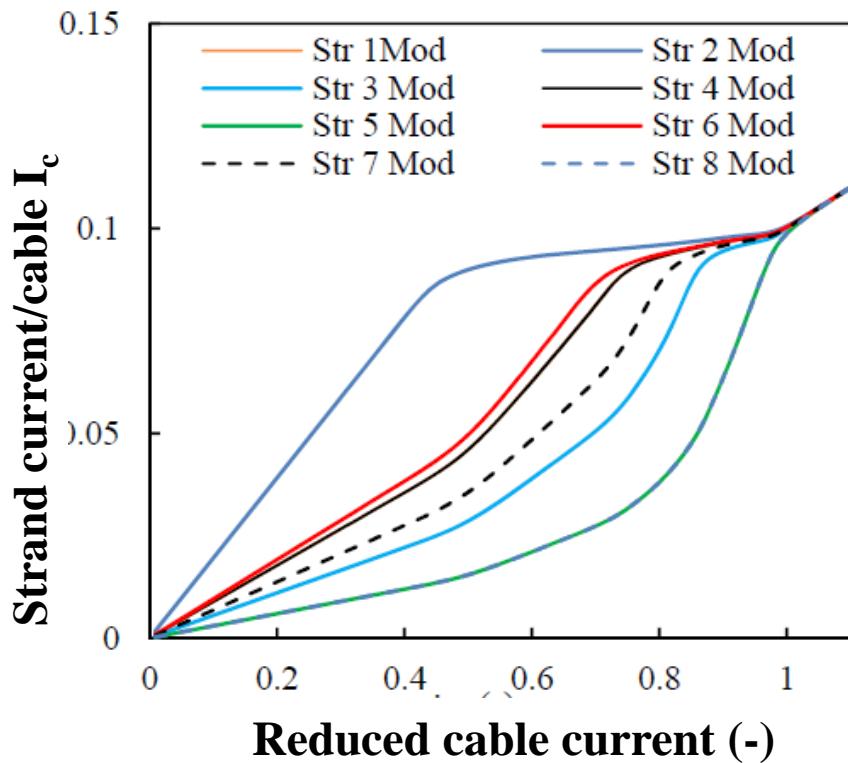
$$R_{s,i} = \frac{LE_c}{I_{c,i}} \left(\left| \frac{I_i}{I_{c,i}} \right| \right)^{n_i-1}$$

➤ A non linear system is set and resolved by the Newton method

Current distribution in Roebel cables

Roebel strands transposed:

- homogeneous strand I_c (on length scale $>$ pitch)
- homogeneous inductances
- Strand joint resistance: fitting parameters



Cable ID	Fitting parameters R_j	
	GCS2	R_j (nΩ)
Strand 1		50
Strand 2		37
Strand 3		77
Strand 4		110
Strand 5		150
Strand 6		60
Strand 7		66
Strand 8		116
Over the 10 and 15 strands of respectively F		
R_{eq} (nΩ)		3.5
Standard deviation of R_j (nΩ)		43

➤ Uneven strand contact resistance => uneven current distribution

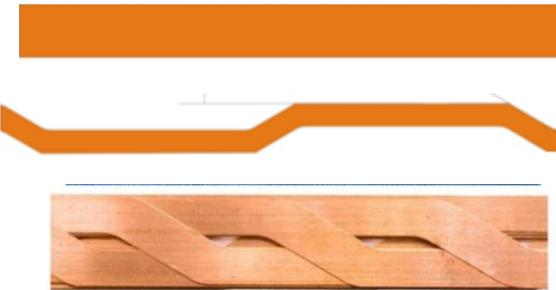
Outline

- Context
- Ultimate field of HTS dipole
- Electromechanical properties of YBCO conductor
- **Electromechanical properties of Roebel YBCO cable**
 - I_c at 4.2 K
 - Current distribution among strands
 - **Mechanical properties**
 - Failure analysis
- Conclusion

Effect of axial stress on Roebel cable I_c

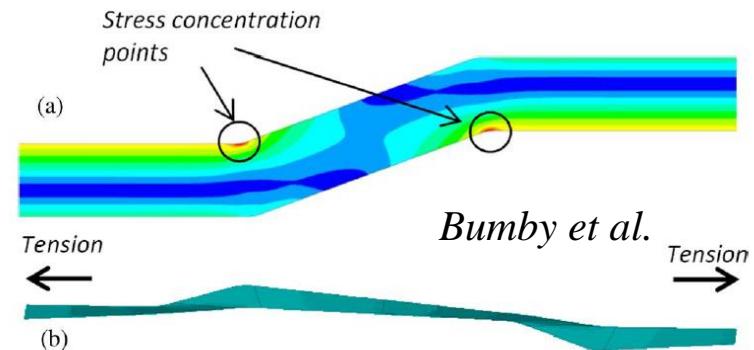
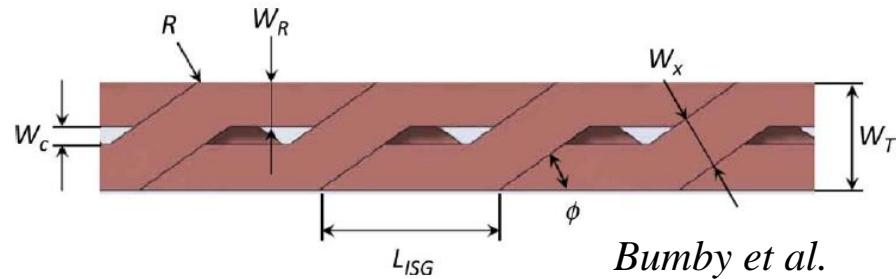
Failure axial tensile stress:

- Straight conductor : 625 MPa*
- Meander tape 146 MPa*
- Roebel cable 113 MPa*



*Bumby et al.

➤ **Meander structure strongly weaken the good properties of YBCO conductors**



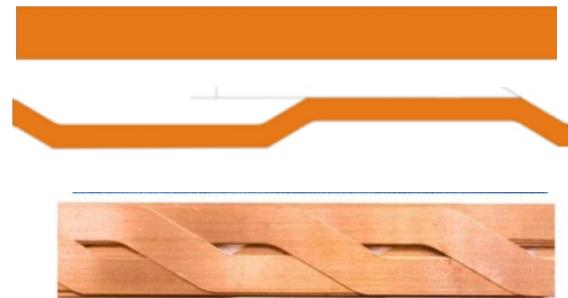
➤ **Tuning of cable parameters to reduce the stress sensitivity**

Effect of transverse stress on Roebel cable I_c



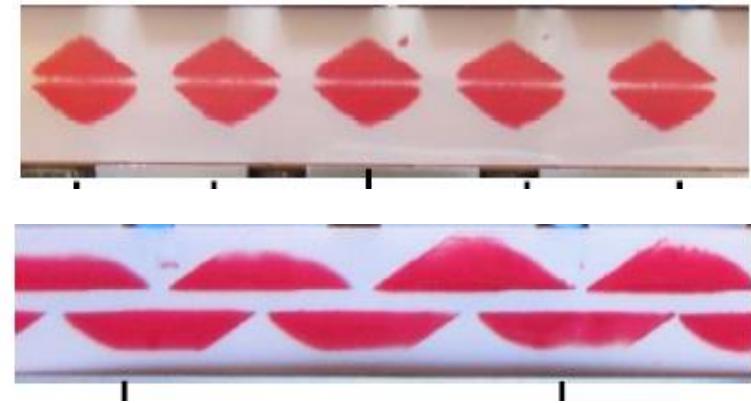
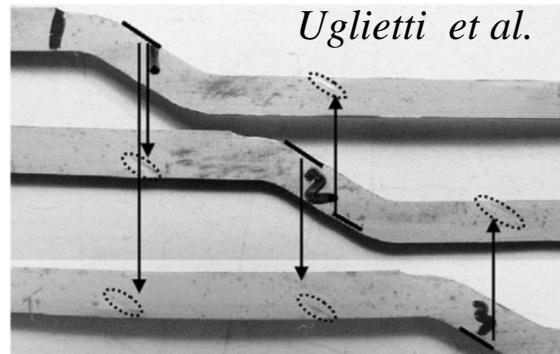
Failure transverse compressive stress:

- Straight conductor : >600 MPa*
- Meander tape >600 MPa*
- Roebel cable ≥ 45 MPa (CERN)



*Uglietti *et al.*

➤ **Roebel topology weaken the good properties of YBCO conductors**



➤ **Distribute transverse load by: Impregnation, management of topology and copper strips interleaved**

Outline

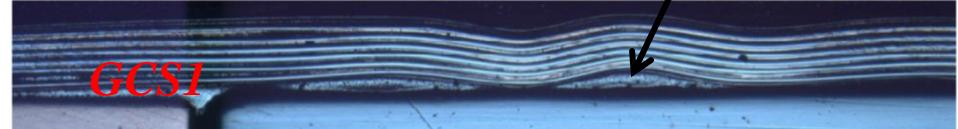
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Roebel cable failure at high J_{ce}

GCS Roebel cables irreversibly damaged at $B>6\text{T}$, $J_e>1200 \text{ A/mm}^2$.

- KIT Roebel cable not damaged (12 mm² copper shunt)

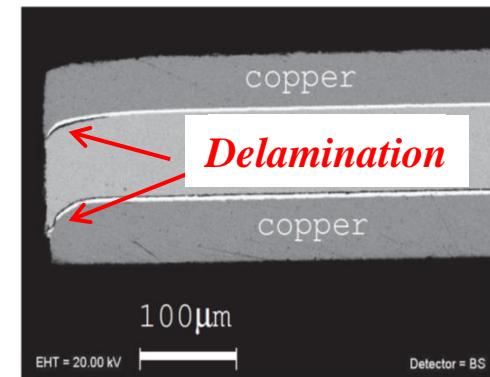
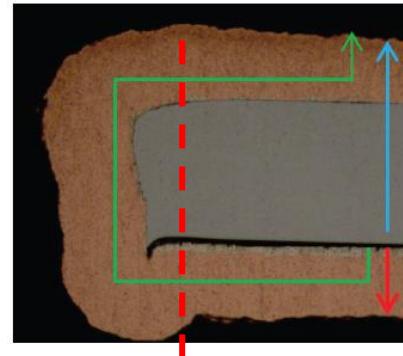
Damaged cable GCS1: 27% of I_c reduction



- $T > 500 \text{ K}$ during quench=> Cable buckling=> radius lower than critical one

Punching process of strands:

- initiate delamination
- Remove low resistivity current path
- Expose HTS to moisture



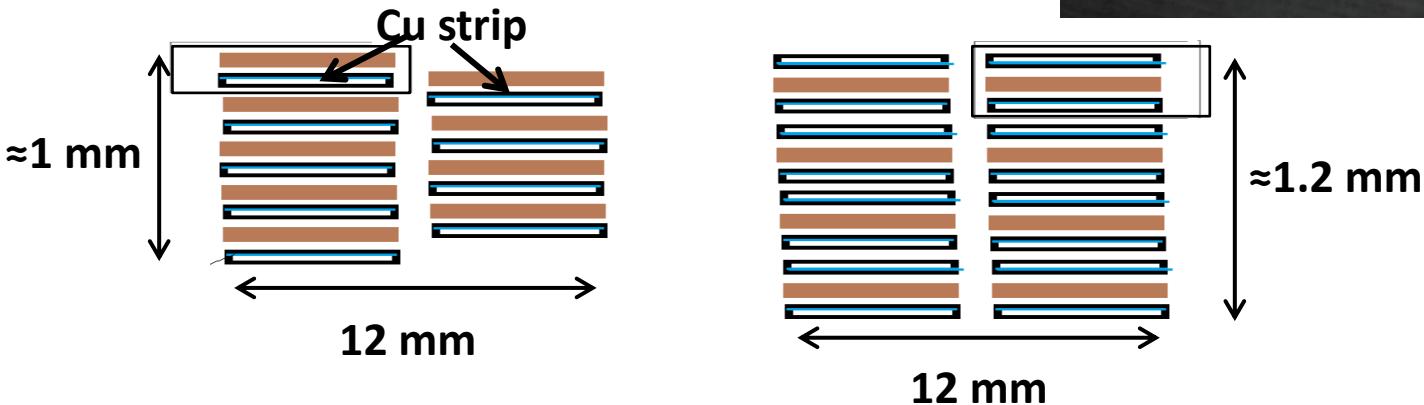
- Roebel strands: weak electrical protection
- Avoid buckling: cable impregnation

Roebel cable: improvements of protection

➤ Copper strips interleaved between strands

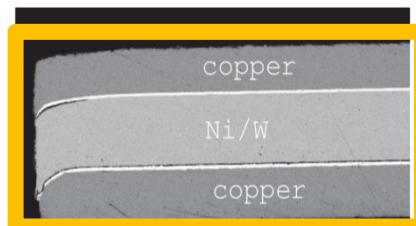
Soon tested at CERN:

- 9 *YBCO tapes + 9 Cu strips*
- 16 *YBCO tapes + 8 Cu strips*



➤ Plating of meander strands after punching

Proposed to manufacturer



Conclusion

- YBCO conductor: promising material to generate dipolar field >20 T
 - High J_c , B_{irr}
 - High mechanical strength: axial and trans compression
 - Delamination issues
- Electromechanical behaviour of YBCO fully understood
 - Characterisation and parameterization of $J_c(B, T, \Theta)$
 - I_c reduction with bending and twisting $R_{\min, \text{easy}} = 4 \text{ mm}$, $R_{\min, \text{hard}} = 900 \text{ mm}$
 - Splice resistance **$33 \text{ n}\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$**
- Roebel cable: a valid concept for high field magnets
 - Transposed
 - High I_c (12 kA @ 7 T), high J_{ce} (1200 A/mm² @ 7 T)
- Perspectives for Roebel cable:
 - More current (~20 kA)
 - Avoid strand delamination (protection/ uniform strand joint resistance)
 - Reduce strand I_c inhomogeneity
 - Improve protection