



Superconductivity for particle accelerators

Philippe Lebrun
CERN, Geneva (Switzerland)


CAS Course on Advanced Accelerator Physics
Warsaw, 27 September-9 October 2015




Contents

- Superconductivity in a nutshell
- Superconductivity and accelerators
- Superconducting magnets for accelerators
- Superconducting RF cavities for accelerators
- Superconducting current leads and powering links
- Some ongoing and future projects
- Selected bibliography

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- Superconductivity in a nutshell


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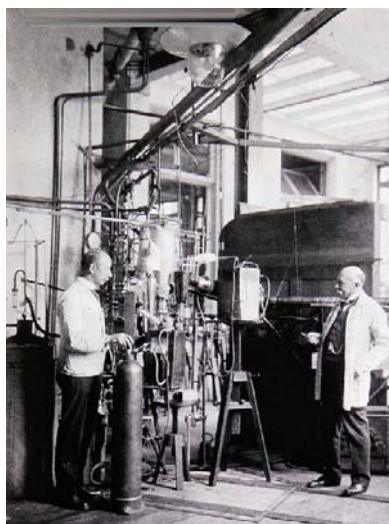
First liquefaction of helium at Leyden laboratory (1908)
allows to study matter close to absolute zero



Heike Kamerlingh Onnes



"Door meten tot weten"
Knowledge by measurement



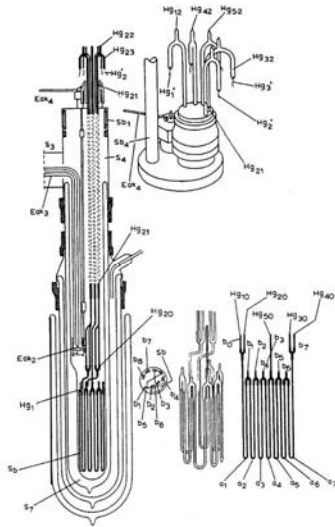
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Onnes' measurement of electrical resistivity of mercury at low temperature



At a time when the atomic theory was not established, measuring electrical resistivity vs temperature was a way to explore the scattering of charge carriers and thus the structure of metals

To study properly the effect of temperature, the sample must be free from impurities

Mercury, a metal in the liquid state at room temperature, could be easily purified by distillation (it boils at 357 °C)

H.K. Onnes produced « wires » of mercury by filling glass tubes with connection electrodes: the « wires » get solid upon cooling at -39 °C

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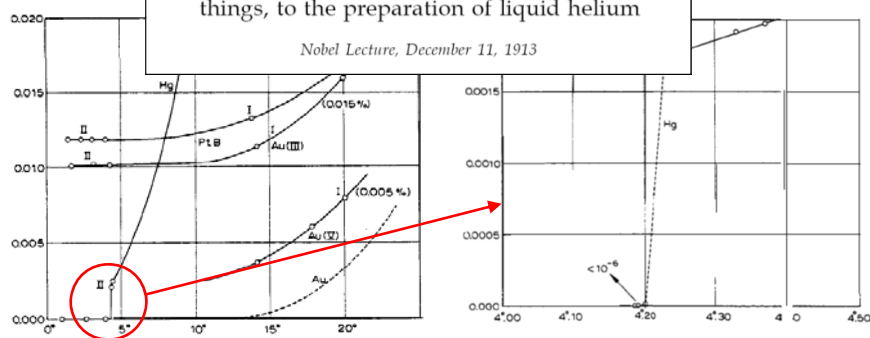
Discovery of superconductivity (1911)



HEIKE KAMERLINGH ONNES

Investigations into the properties of substances at low temperatures, which have led, amongst other things, to the preparation of liquid helium

Nobel Lecture, December 11, 1913




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.


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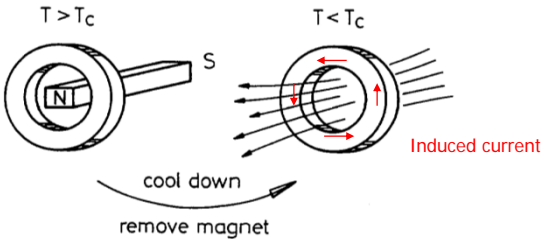
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A superconductor shows zero resistance






The current induced in a ring of superconducting material flows without losses almost indefinitely. Measurements showed a typical time constant for current decay of 100'000 years, i.e. a few billionths per hour!

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Onnes immediately tries to use superconductivity for building high-field magnets...



dendum 2.) There is also the question as to whether the absence of Joule heat makes feasible the production of strong magnetic fields using coils without iron. * for a current of very great density can be sent through very fine, closely wound wire spirals. Thus we were successful in sending a current of 0.8 amperes, i.e. of 56 amperes per square millimetre, through a coil, which contained 1,000 turns of a diameter of 1/70 square mm per square centimetre at right angles to the turns.

...but stumbles upon their « critical field »!

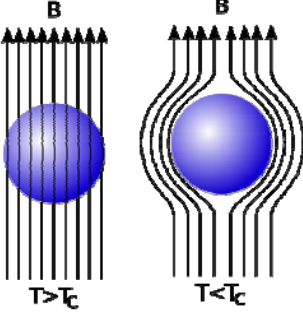
after this lecture was given and produced surprising results. In fields below a threshold value (for lead at the boiling point of helium 600 Gauss), which was not reached during the experiment with the small coil mentioned in the text, there is no magnetic resistance at all. In fields above this threshold value a relatively large resistance arises at once, and grows considerably with the field. Thus in an unexpected way a difficulty in the production of intensive magnetic fields with coils without iron faced us. The discovery of the

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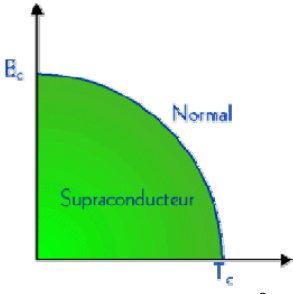
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Discovery of the Meissner effect (1933)

Walter Meissner



A superconductor excludes magnetic field from its interior (perfect diamagnet)



Application of a magnetic field above a limit value B_c destroys superconductivity

The superconducting state only exists in a limited domain of temperature and magnetic field

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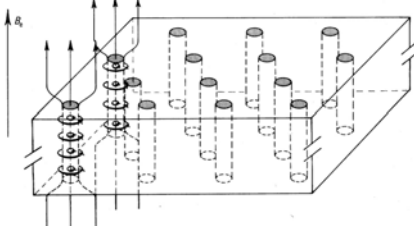
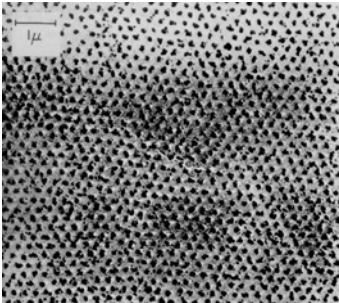
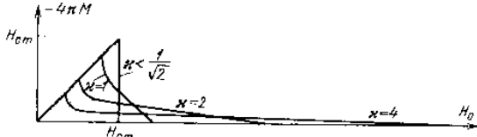
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Vortex lattice of type-II superconductors (1954)

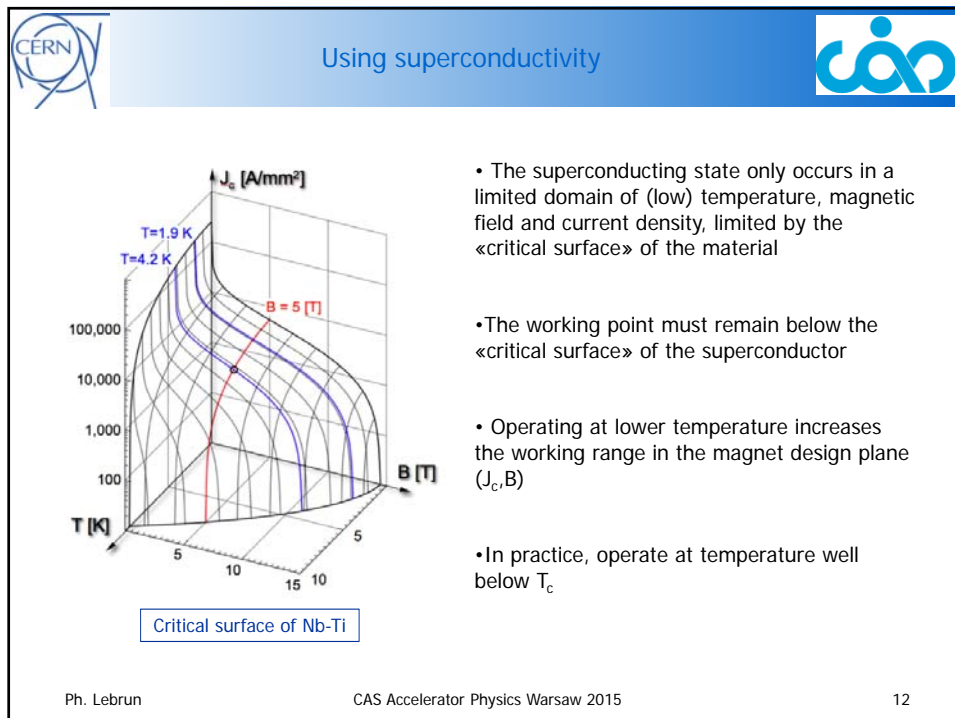
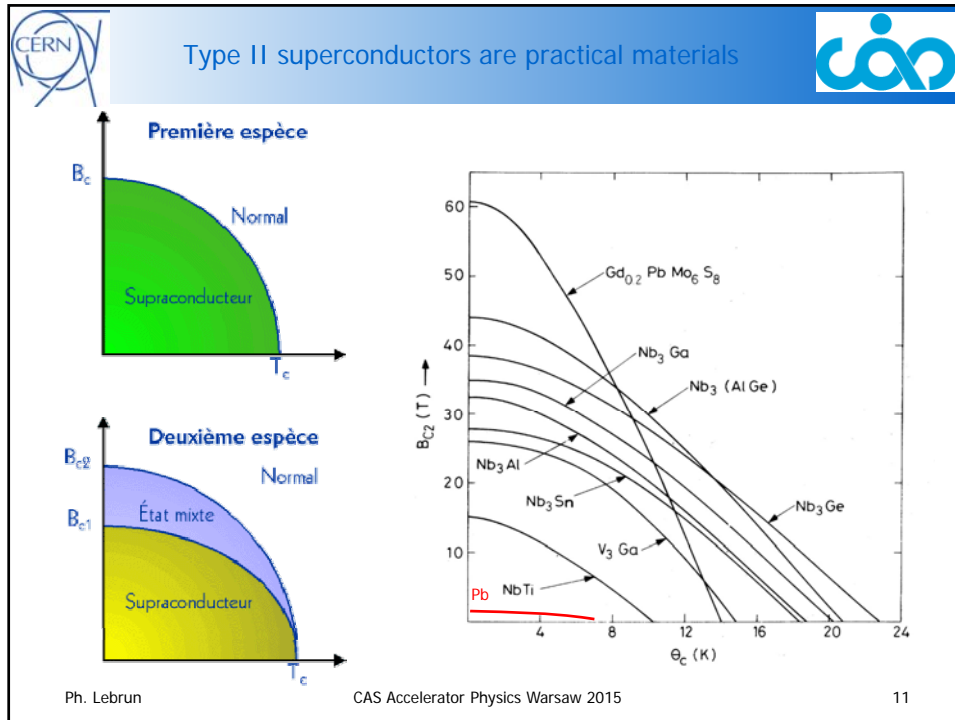
Field penetrates locally without destroying superconductivity


Lev Shubnikov

Alexei Abrikosov






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Microscopic theory of superconductivity (1957)




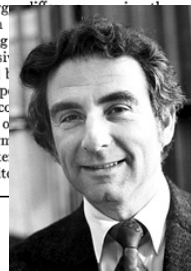
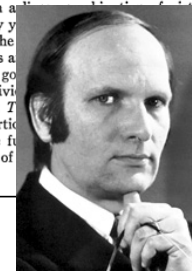
PHYSICAL REVIEW **VOLUME 108, NUMBER 5** **DECEMBER 1, 1957**

Theory of Superconductivity*

J. BARDEEN, L. N. COOPER,[†] AND J. R. SCHRIEFFER,[‡]
Department of Physics, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
 (Received July 8, 1957)


A theory of superconductivity is presented, based on the fact that the interaction between electrons resulting from virtual exchange of phonons is attractive when the energy is less than the energy of the lattice vibrations. This is called the "one-to-one correspondence" with those of the normal phase is obtained by specifying occupation of certain Bloch states and by

the theory of the normal phase is obtained by specifying occupation of certain Bloch states and by the theory of the normal phase is obtained by specifying occupation of certain Bloch states and by the theory of the normal phase is obtained by specifying occupation of certain Bloch states and by






John Bardeen
Leon Neil Cooper
John Robert Schrieffer

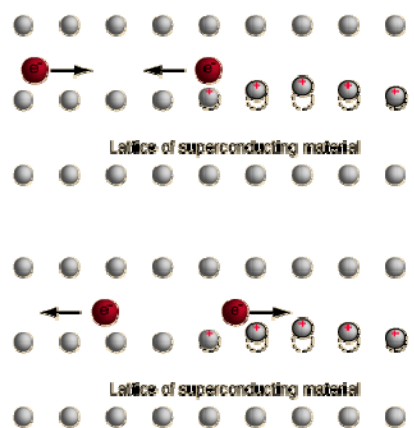
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BCS theory of superconductivity

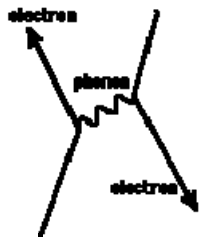


- Three major insights:
 - Effective forces between conduction electrons can sometimes become attractive in a solid rather than repulsive, due to electron-phonon coupling



Lattice of superconducting material

Lattice of superconducting material




electron


phonon

electron

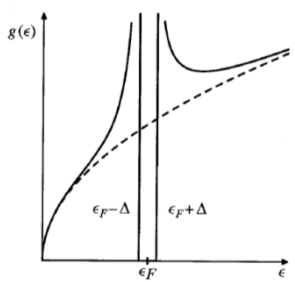
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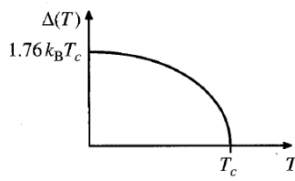
BCS theory of superconductivity




- Three major insights:
 - Effective forces between conduction electrons can sometimes become attractive in a solid rather than repulsive, due to electron-phonon coupling
 - This attractive interaction between two electrons outside an occupied Fermi surface can form a stable bound state («Cooper pair»), however weak the attractive force
 - The many-particle wave function describing the pairing of all electrons near the Fermi surface has the form of a coherent state. The density of states shows an energy gap 2Δ at the Fermi level, corresponding to the binding energy of a pair




The width of the gap depends on temperature; its value at zero temperature is proportional to the critical temperature



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BCS theory of superconductivity



- The BCS theory predicts the critical temperature from properties of the solid

$$k_B T_c = 1.13 \hbar \omega_D \exp(-1/U D(\epsilon_F))$$

Debye energy

↑

Electron-lattice interaction


↑

Electron density of states at Fermi level


↑

- Hence, critical temperature of BCS superconductor increases with
 - Energetic phonons (Debye energy)
 - Strong electron-lattice interaction (bad normal conductors)
 - High electron density of states at Fermi level

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First « high-field » superconducting magnet (1960)



April 14, 1964 J. E. KUNZLER 3,129,359
SUPERCONDUCTING MAGNET CONFIGURATION
Filed Sept. 18, 1960
FIG. 1

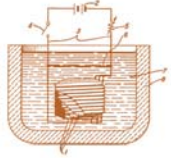
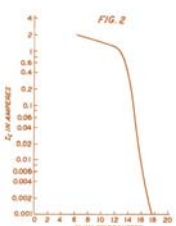


FIG. 2




INVENTOR
J. E. KUNZLER
BY *Boyd A. Butler*
ATTORNEY


Patent filed in 1960 by J. Kunzler, of Bell Laboratories (registered in 1964)

1.5 T reached with magnet wound from molybdenum-rhenium alloy wire

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Discovery of Nb-Ti alloys (1961)



PHYSICAL REVIEW VOLUME 123, NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER 1, 1961

Superconducting Solid Solution Alloys of the Transition Elements

J. K. HULM AND R. D. BLAUGHER
Westinghouse Research Laboratories, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
(Received April 19, 1961)

The solid solution alloys formed by tested for superconductivity down to row of the periodic table, two transi proximately equal to 4.7 and 6.4, resp upper maximum is absent. Similar max rows of the periodic table, thus confir normal density-of-states function, $N(0)$ these peaks lying at about the same com ent work. The relationship of T_c to $N(0)$ data are also presented for alloys comp In this case, the form of the relations

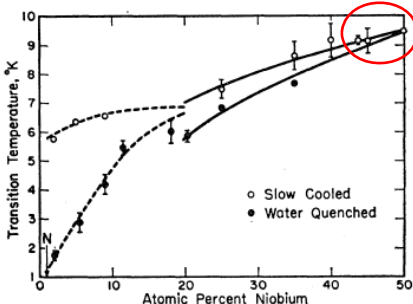
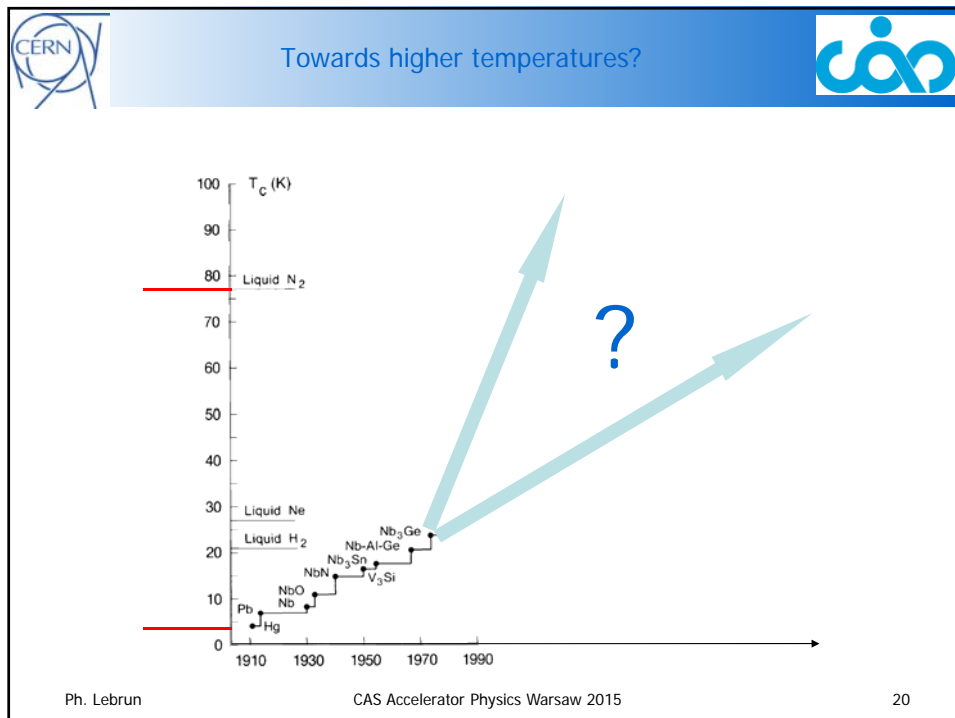
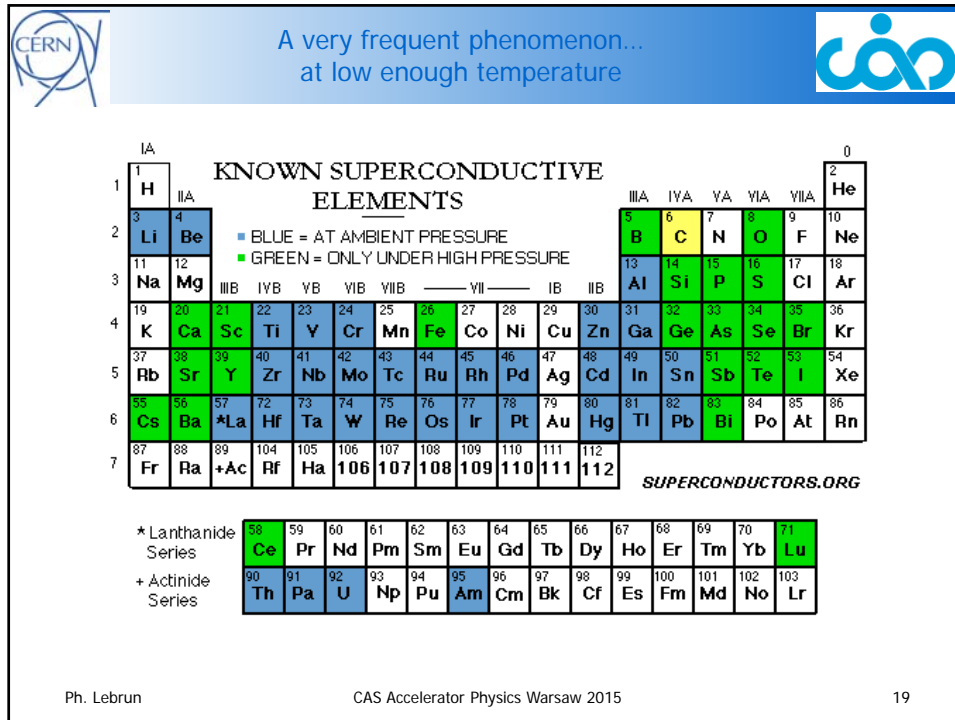




FIG. 6. Transition temperature versus composition for titanium-niobium alloys prepared by different types of heat treatment.

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Discovery of « high » temperature superconductors (1986)



Z. Phys. B – Condensed Matter 64, 189–193 (1986)



J. Georg Bednorz



K. Alexander Müller

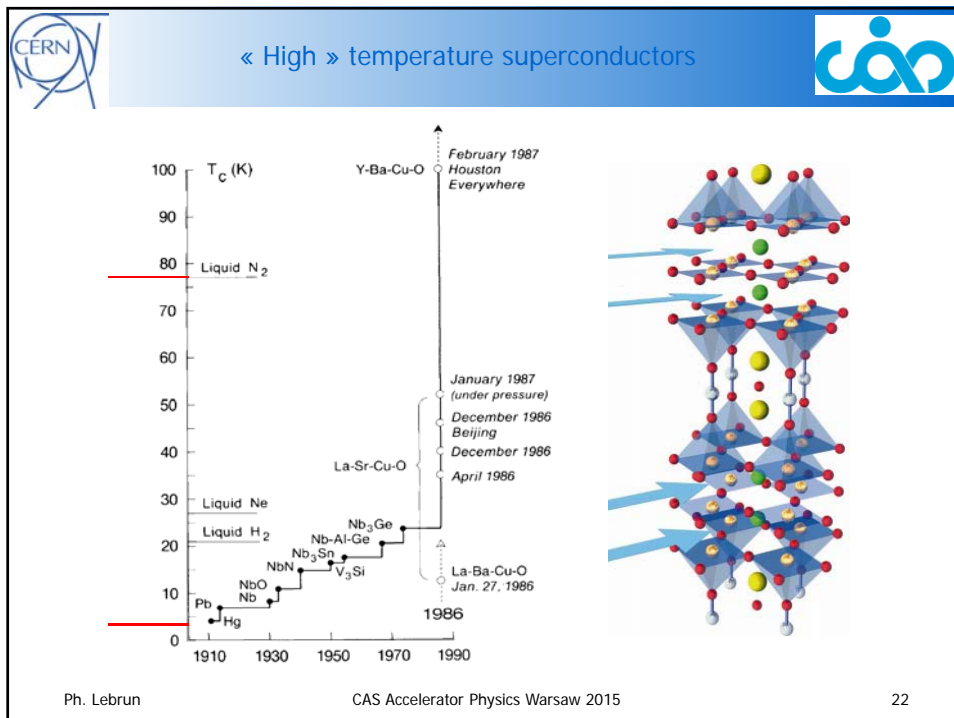
Possible High T_c Superconductivity in the Ba–La–Cu–O System



J.G. Bednorz and K.A. Müller
IBM Zürich Research Laboratory, Rüschlikon, Switzerland

Received April 17, 1986

Metallic, oxygen-deficient compounds in the Ba–La–Cu–O system, with the composition $\text{Ba}_x\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{5(1-y)}$ have been prepared in polycrystalline form. Samples with $x=1$ and $0.75, y>0$, annealed below 900°C under reducing conditions, consist of three phases, one of them a perovskite-like mixed-valent copper compound. Upon cooling, the samples show a linear decrease in resistivity, then an approximately logarithmic increase, interpreted as a beginning of localization. Finally an abrupt decrease by up to three orders of magnitude occurs, reminiscent of the onset of percolative superconductivity. The highest onset temperature is observed in the 30 K range. It is markedly reduced by high current densities. Thus, it results partially from the percolative nature, but possibly also from 2D superconducting fluctuations of double perovskite layers of one of the phases present.

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Compactness through higher fields

- Circular Accelerators

$$p \simeq 0.3 \, B \, r$$

[GeV/c]
[T] [m]

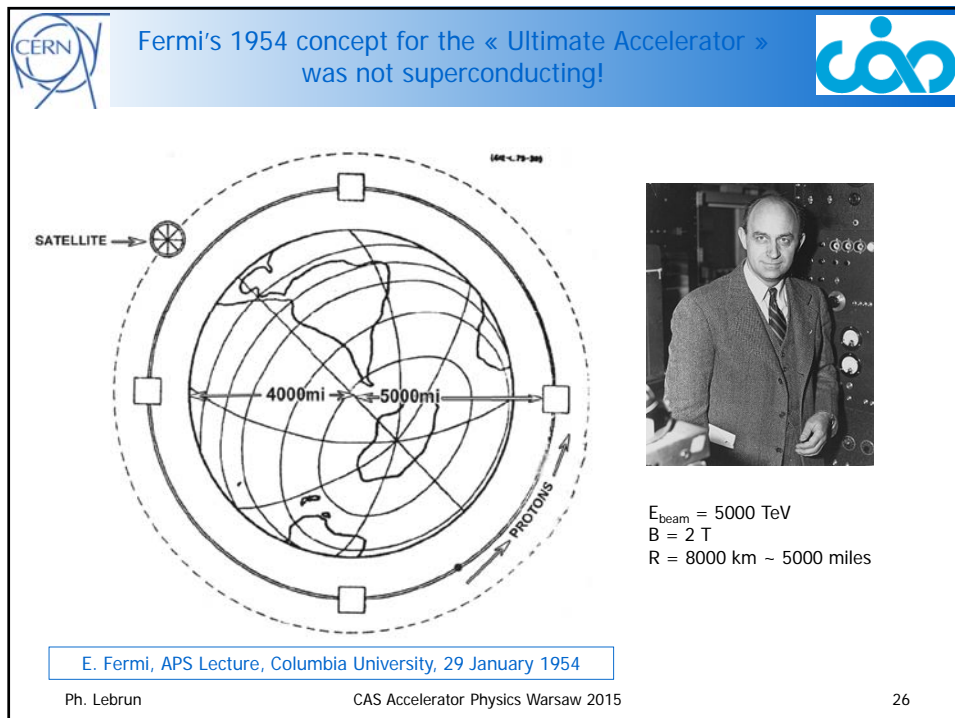
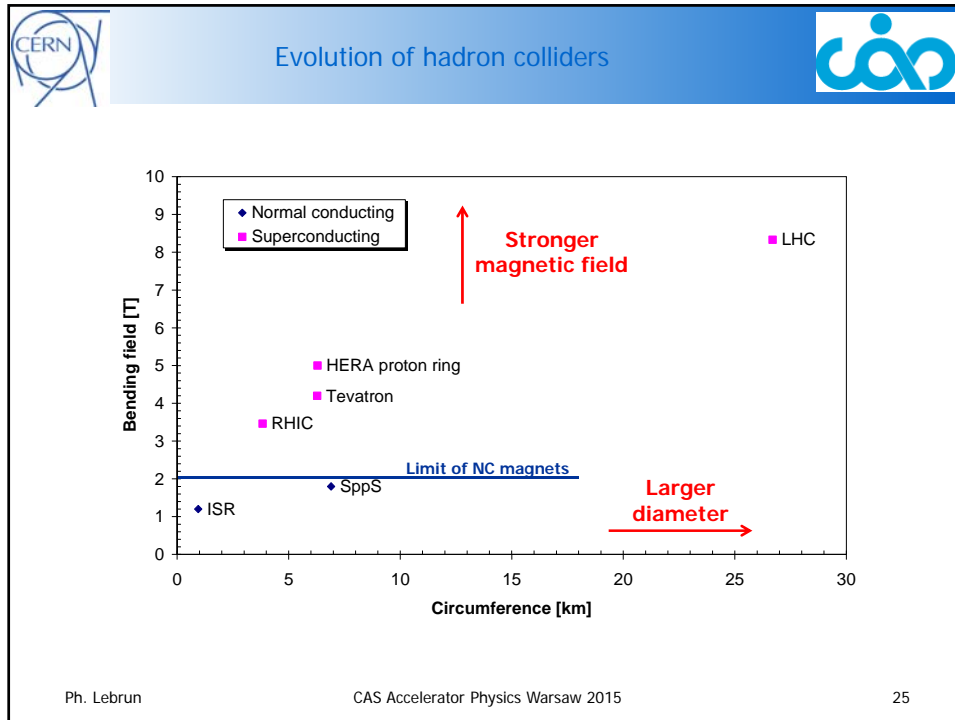
 - > superconducting bending and focussing magnets
 - high-energy hadron synchrotrons
 - compact electron synchrotrons
 - LHC ($r = 2.8 \text{ km}$), $B = 8.33 \text{ T}$ for $p = 7 \text{ TeV/c}$
- Linear Accelerators

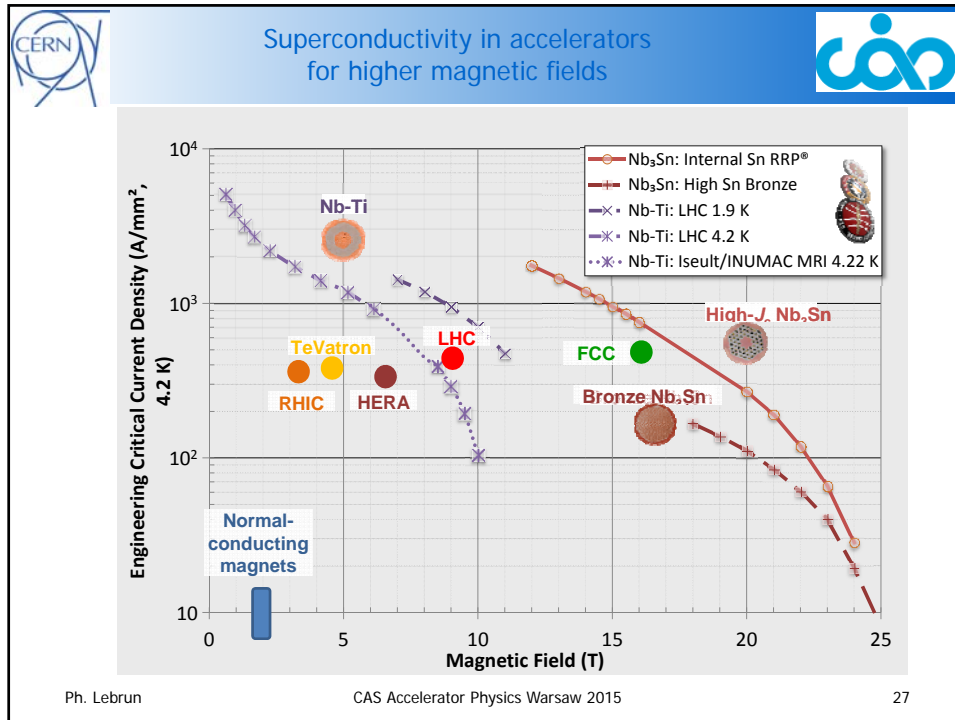
$$p = e \, E \, L$$

[MeV/c]
[MV/m] [m]

 - > superconducting acceleration cavities
 - high-energy linacs
 - E-XFEL ($L = 1.6 \text{ km}$), $E = 23.5 \text{ MV/m}$ for $p = 17.5 \text{ GeV/c}$

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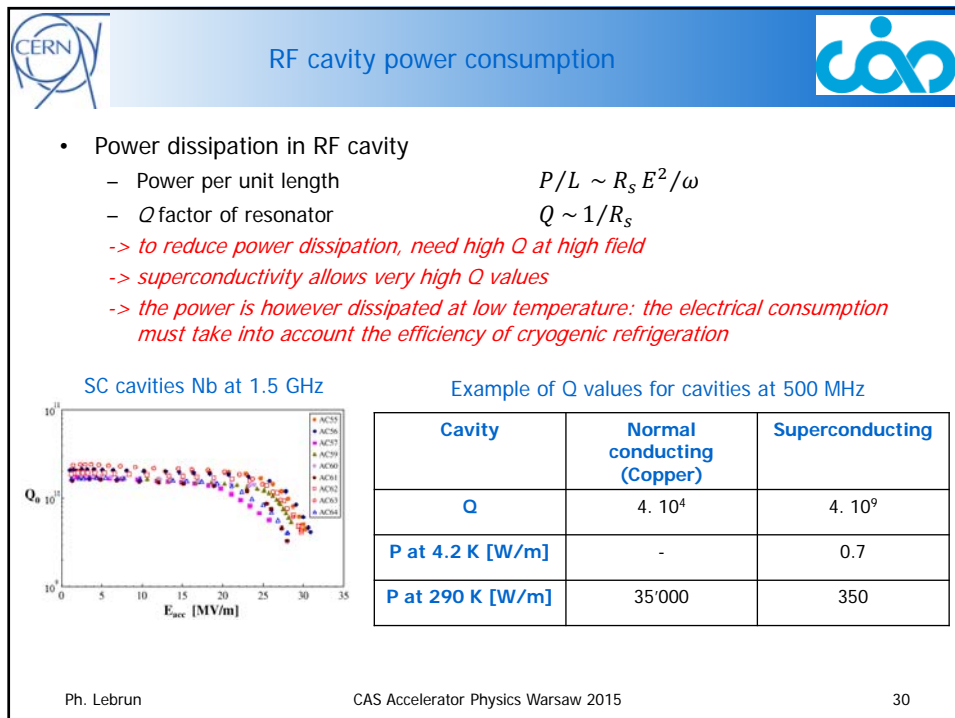
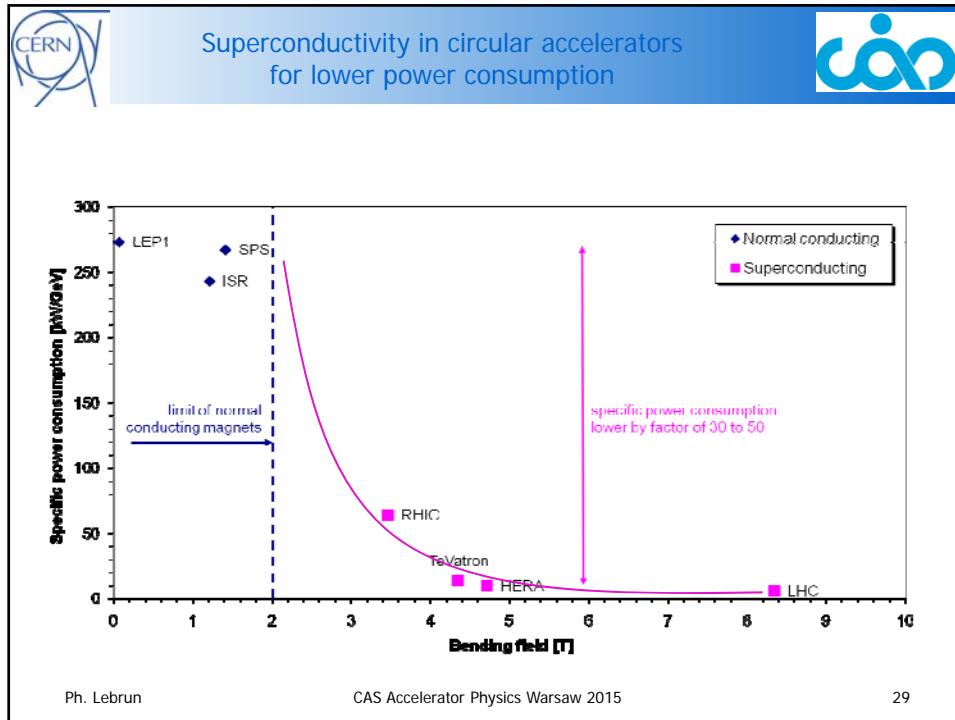



Magnet power consumption

- Normal conducting (copper)
 - Power dissipation per unit length $P/L \sim \rho_{Cu} jB$
 - Total power dissipation $P \sim \rho_{Cu} jBr \sim \rho_{Cu} jp$
- Superconducting
 - Total power (refrigeration) $P \sim C \sim r$
 - > independent of magnetic field


	Normal conducting	Superconducting (LHC)
Magnetic field	1.8 T (limited by iron saturation)	8.3 T (limited by critical surface of Nb-Ti)
Field geometry	Defined by pole pieces	Defined by windings
Current density in windings	10 A/mm^2	400 A/mm^2
Electromagnetic force	20 kN/m	3400 kN/m
Electrical power from grid	10 kW/m	2 kW/m

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Optimum operation temperature



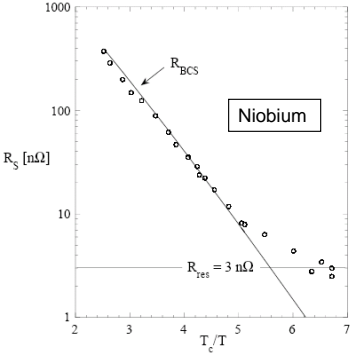
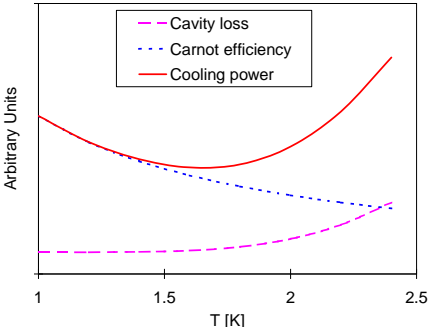
- Surface resistance of superconductor
 - BCS theory
 - For practical materials
 - Refrigeration (Carnot)

-> optimum operating temperature, depending upon ω and R_0


$$R_{BCS} = (A\omega^2/T) \exp(-BT_c/T)$$

$$R_S = R_{BCS} + R_0$$


$$P_a = P(T_a/T - 1)$$

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Limiting energy stored in beam



- Energy W stored in beam of circular accelerator of circumference C

$$W \approx 3.34 \, p \, I_{beam} \, C$$

[kJ]
[GeV/c]
[A]
[km]

⇒ For a given beam intensity, beam stored energy is lower for a smaller machine

Example: LHC

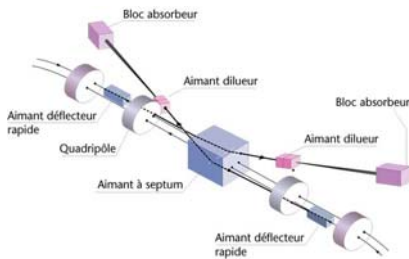
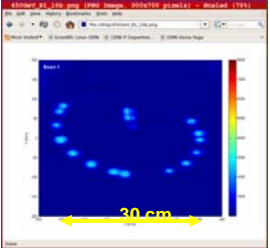
$p = 7000 \text{ GeV/c}$

$I_{beam} = 0.56 \text{ A}$


$C = 26.7 \text{ km}$

$W \approx 350 \text{ MJ}$


⇒ Enough to heat and melt ~500 kg of copper

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Low wall impedance for beam stability



- Interaction between the beam and the wall of the beam pipe can be characterized by a transverse impedance

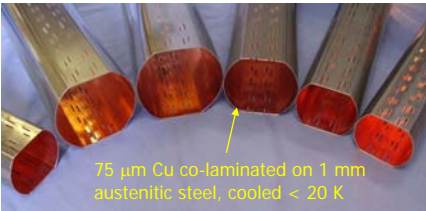
$$Z_T(\omega) \sim \rho C / \omega b^3$$

ρ electrical resistivity of wall
 b half-aperture of beam pipe

- This interaction leads to power dissipation and to beam instabilities
 - Important in large accelerators
 - Must be compensated by feedback provided that characteristic time for development of the instability be long enough $\tau \sim 1/Z_T$

\Rightarrow In a large accelerator with small aperture, low transverse impedance is achieved by reducing ρ i.e. with a good electrical conductor (copper) at low temperature

LHC beam screens

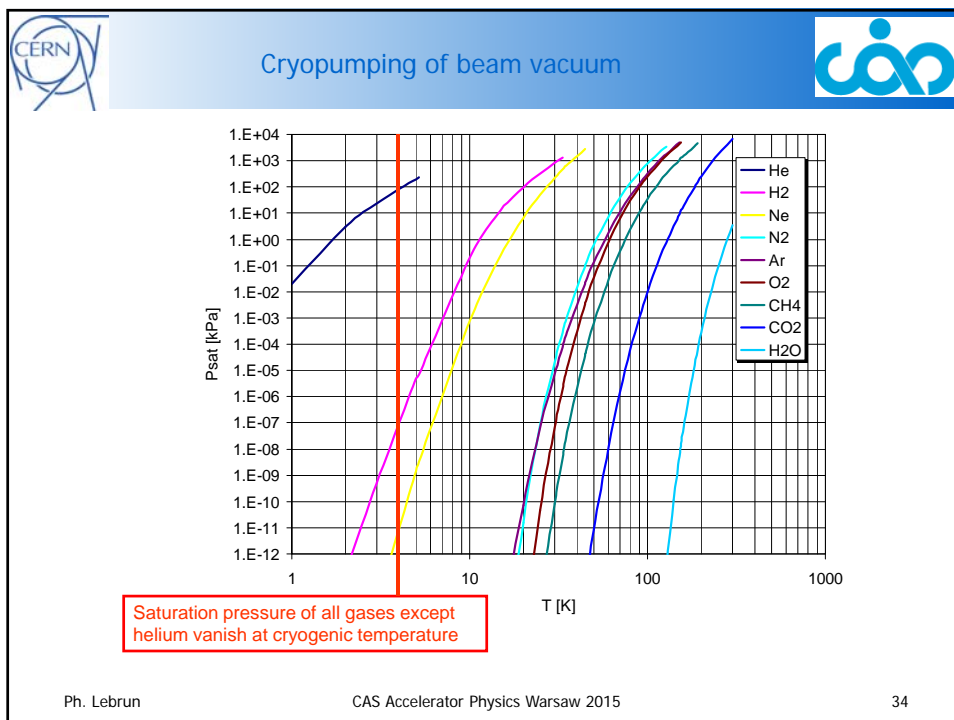


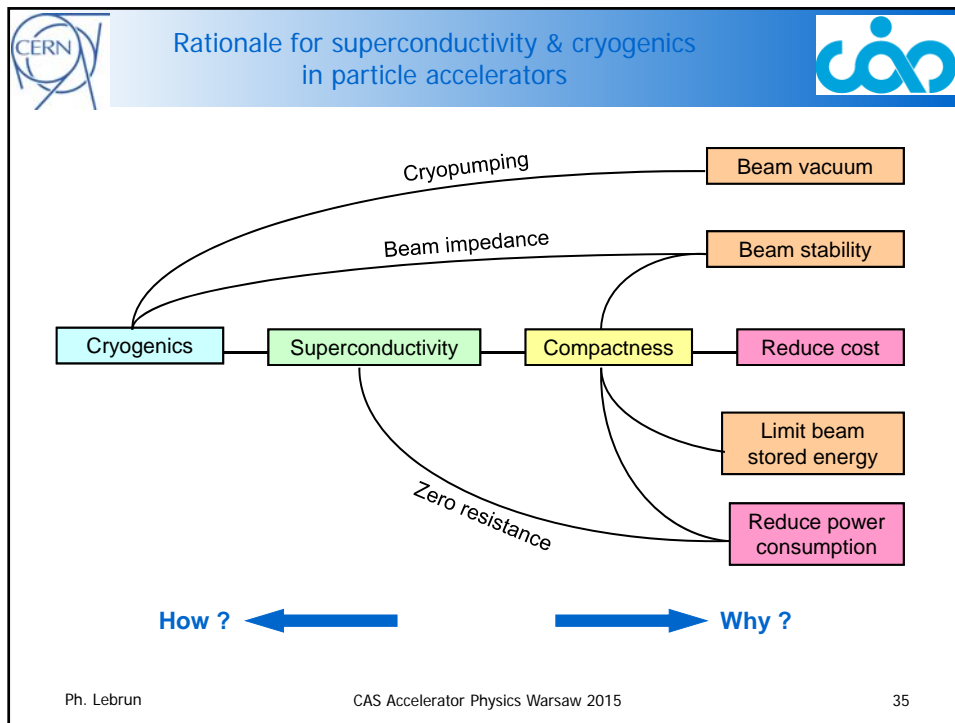
75 μ m Cu co-laminated on 1 mm austenitic steel, cooled < 20 K

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The Tevatron at Fermilab (Batavia, USA)
The first superconducting particle accelerator


Started operation in 1983 as synchrotron, upgraded as collider (1.8 TeV c.m.)
Circumference 6.3 km
Magnetic field 4.4 T
990 main superconducting magnets, cooled at 4.4 K by supercritical helium

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The LHC at CERN

The largest scientific instrument in the world





Started operation 2008

Circumference 26.7 km

Magnetic field 8.3 T

1706 main superconducting magnets, cooled at 1.9 K by superfluid helium






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CEBAF at the Jefferson Lab (Newport News, USA)

The first large-scale superconducting RF accelerator





Started operation 1995, upgraded 2014

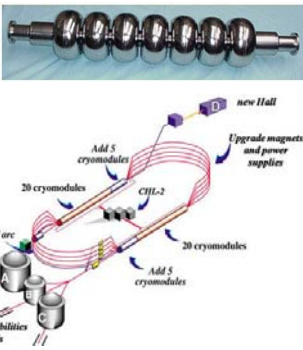
Two recirculating linacs producing 12 GeV electron beams

1.5 GHz Nb cavities

50 cryomodules cooled at 2 K in superfluid helium









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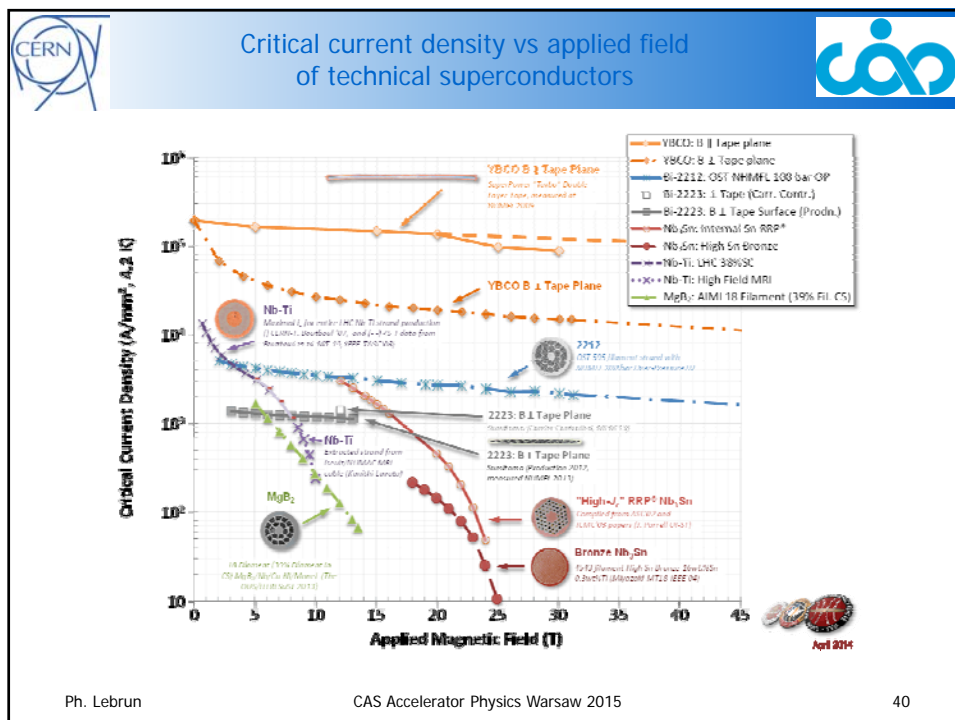


- Superconducting magnets for accelerators

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Engineering current density vs applied field of technical superconductors


Criterion	Number	Comments
Superconductor	20 000	SC is not a rare phenomenon
$T_c \geq 10$ K	2 000	Need factor 2 over LHe
$B_{c2} \geq 10$ T	200	Needs factor 2 over B_{op}
$J_c \geq 1 \text{ GA/m}^2$ @ $B \geq 5$	20	$J_{coll} \sim J_c/10$
Technical superconductor	2	Nb-Ti and Nb_3Sn

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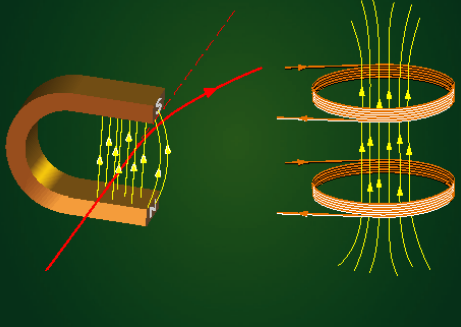
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Practical superconductors		
Type	Status	Comments
Nb-Zr	Dismissed	First SC magnet
Nb-Hf	Dismissed	Used in Homer (KIT)
V ₃ Ga	Dismissed	Small coil test
Nb-Ti	Mature	> 2000 tonnes/year
Nb ₃ Sn	Industry development	100 tonnes/year (50% ITER) Margin of improvement
Bi-2223	Industry R&D	500 kg/y? (1-2 manufacturers)
Bi-2212	Industry and Lab R&D	100 kg/y? (only one manufacturer)
YBCO /REBCO	Industry and Lab R&D	1 tonne/y? (> 5 manufacturers)
MgB ₂	Industry and Lab R&D	> 1 tonne/y (4-5 manufacturers)



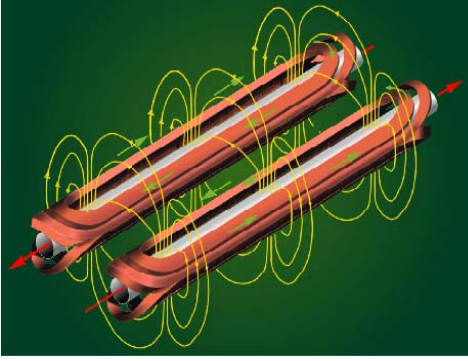
Superconducting accelerator magnets






To match the geometry of the beam tubes,
the coils are saddle-shaped & elongated


In the LHC, two sets of coils create opposite
fields in the neighbouring apertures



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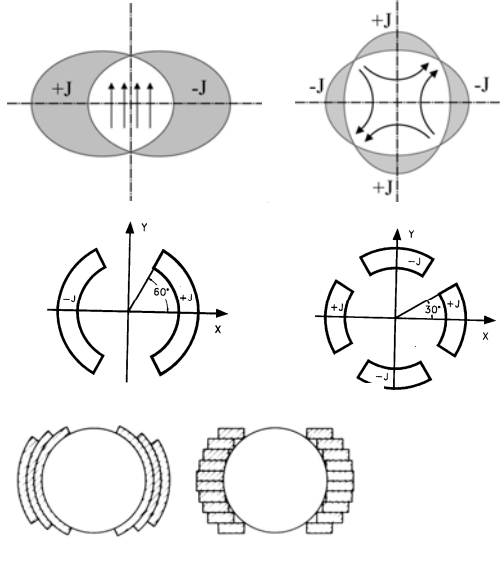


Producing the field: current distributions




Two intersecting ellipses
with uniform current
density generate uniform
dipole and quadrupole
fields \Rightarrow "**cos θ** " geometry


In practice, this can be
approximated by current
sheets, leading to "**block**" or
"**layer**" coil designs




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"Rutherford" superconducting cable




- Invented at the Rutherford Laboratory (UK) in the 1970s
- Challenge: produce a high-current ($> \text{kA}$) conductor for superconducting magnets
- Constraints
 - Small-diameter filaments for thermal stability and low remanent magnetization
 - Transposed wires for electromagnetic decoupling and low AC losses
 - Flat, keystoneed, high-precision geometry for winding $\cos \theta$ coils
 - Dielectrically rigid, mechanically resistant insulation with helium porosity



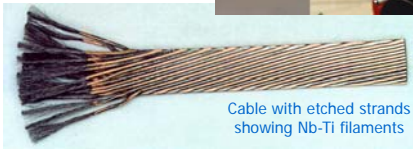
7 μm Nb-Ti filaments in Cu matrix



Cable insulation by double polyimide wrap



Keystoneed cable made of $\sim 1\text{mm}$ strands



Cable with etched strands showing Nb-Ti filaments

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Manufacturing of superconducting wires & cables

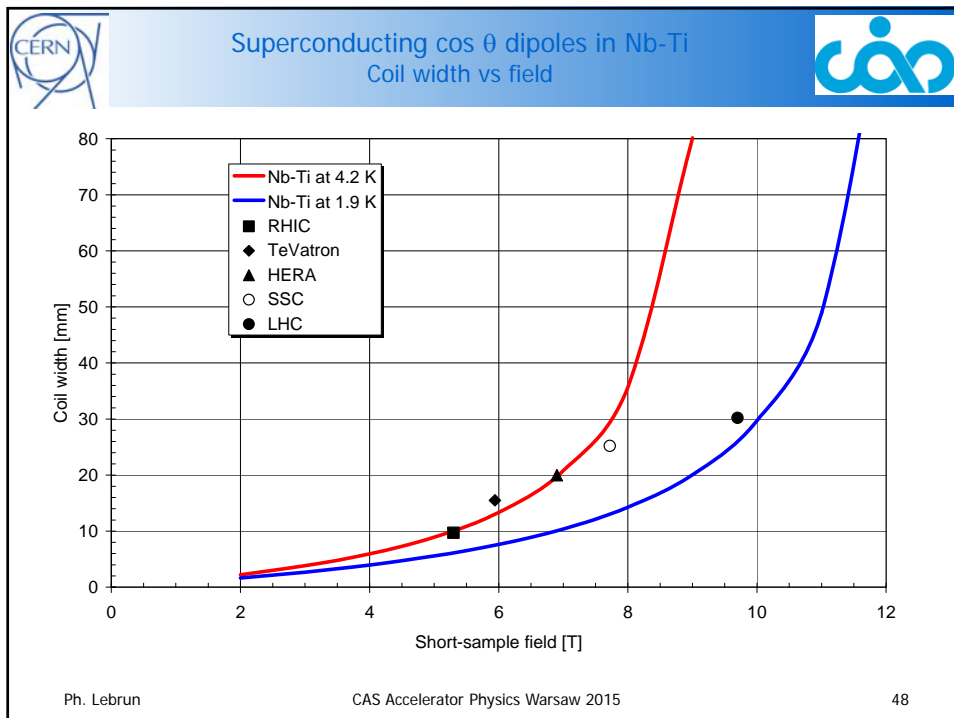
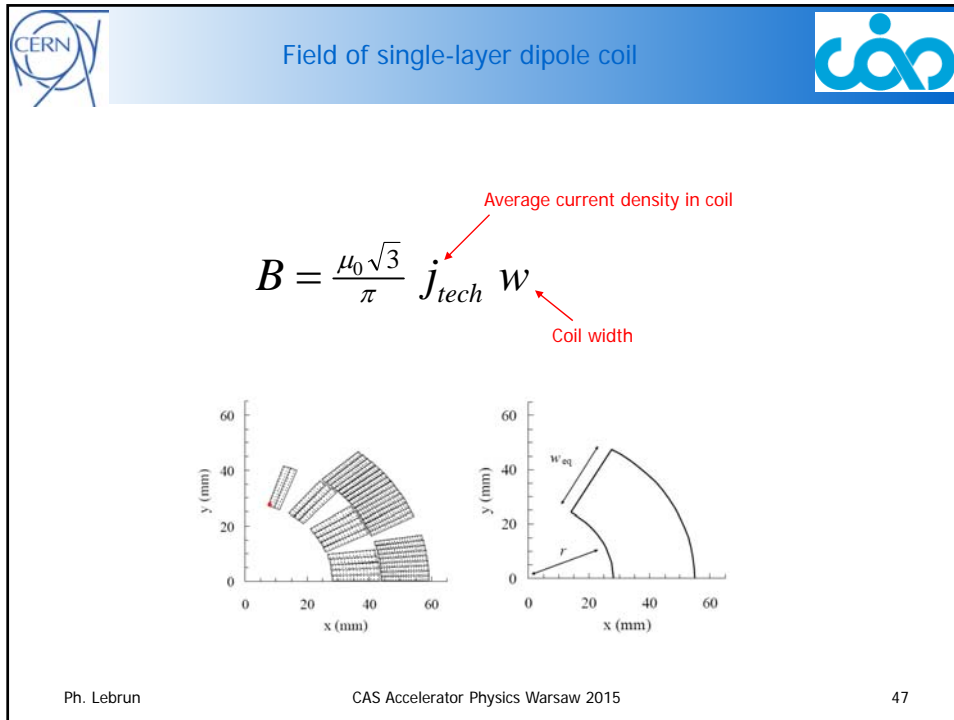


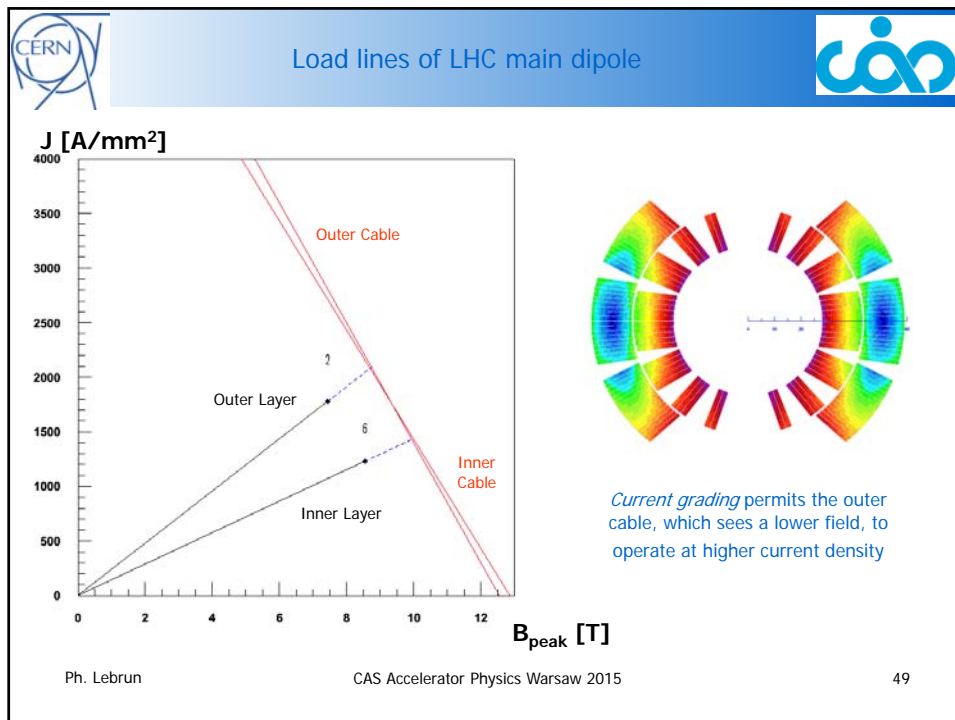






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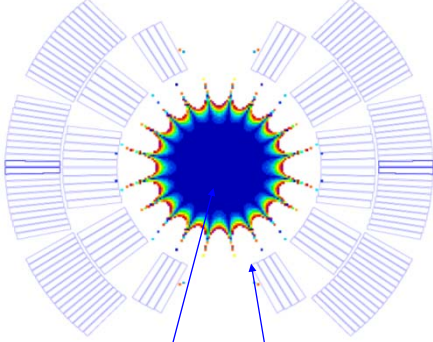




Field quality in superconducting magnets

Conductor placement





« Good field » region
 $\Delta B/B < 10^{-4}$

Magnet
« aperture »


- In superconducting magnets, the field quality is determined by the positioning precision of a finite number of conductors and not by the geometry of the iron yoke, so it can never be as good as in conventional "iron-dominated" magnets
- As a consequence, the « good field » region is substantially smaller than the magnet aperture
- **Dynamic aperture** = aperture inside which particle orbits are stable
- Dynamic aperture is estimated by computer « tracking » of particle orbits around virtual machines with distributed random and systematic imperfections
- Tracking results are used to define maximum systematic and random deviations of each field multipole

$$B_y + iB_x = B_1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n + ia_n) \left(\frac{x + iy}{r_{ref}} \right)^{n-1}$$

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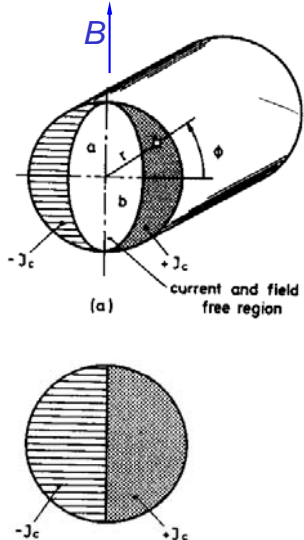
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Field quality in superconducting magnets

Persistent currents





(a) current and field free region

- Eddy currents flow in part of the superconductor filaments to shield the inside from outer field variations
- Quasi-infinite time constant \Rightarrow «persistent» currents
- Produce remanent magnetization in superconductor filament

- In case of full penetration in round filament, remanent magnetization is

$$M = \pm \frac{2}{3\pi} \mu_0 J_c D \lambda$$

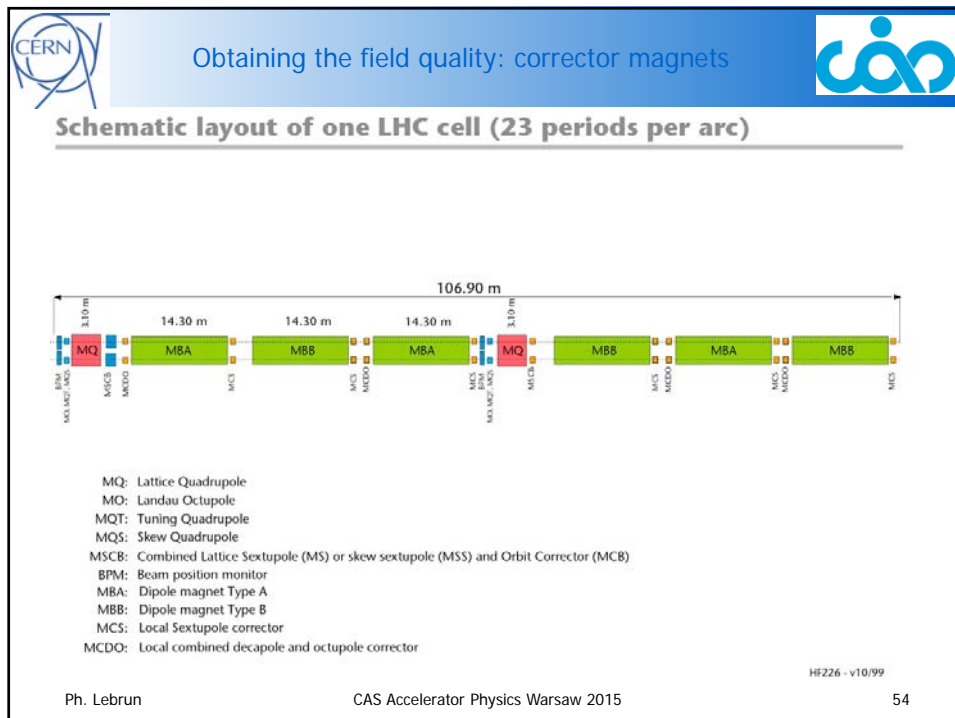
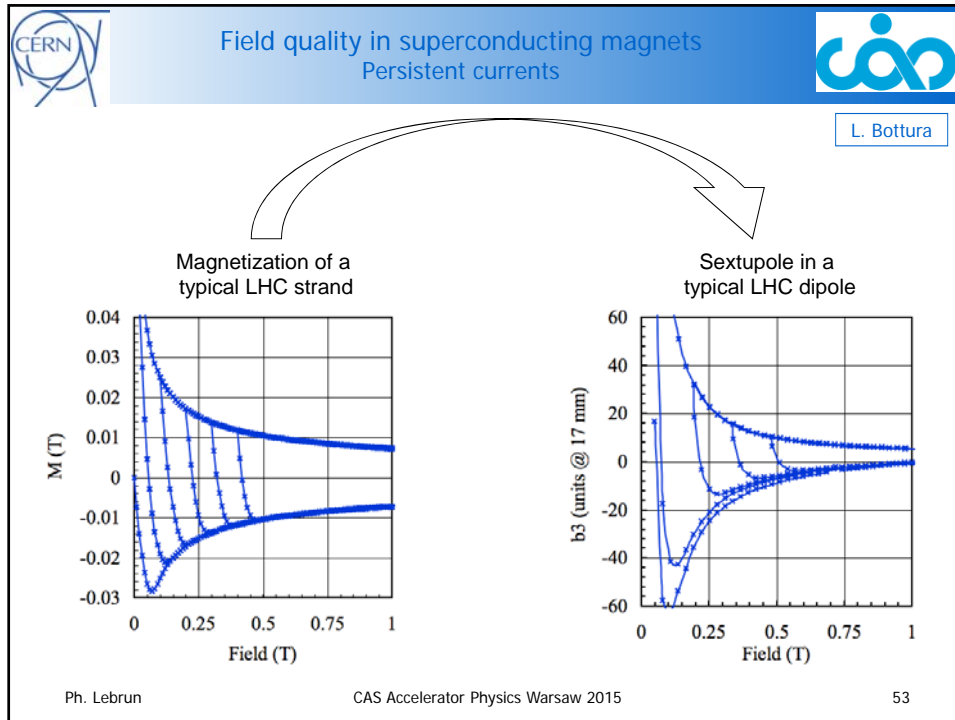
Ratio of SC to total cross-section


Filament diameter

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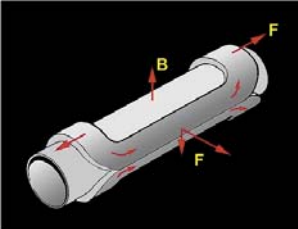
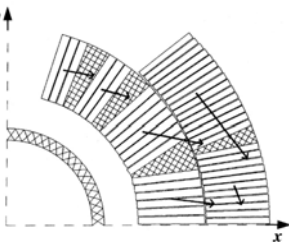
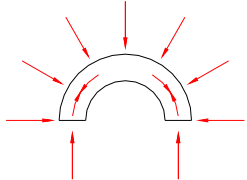
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Containing the electromagnetic forces




High magnetic field acting on high current generates large **electromagnetic forces** at right angle, which cannot be resisted by the mechanical strength of the conductor: saddle-shaped coils of accelerator magnets are not self-supporting

$B = 10 \text{ T}, I = 10 \text{ kA} \Rightarrow 10^5 \text{ N/m per turn !}$


\Rightarrow “**roman arch**” coil geometry to contain the azimuthal component

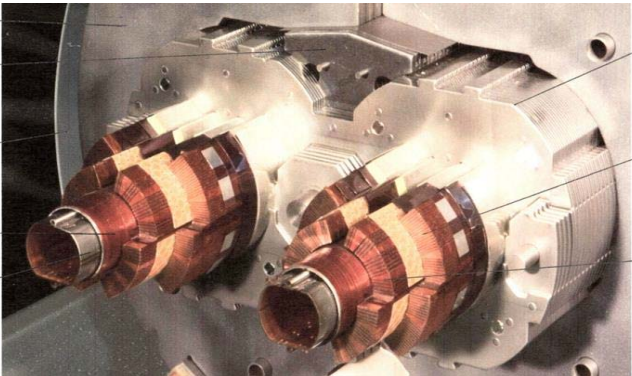
\Rightarrow external **support structure** against the radial component

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Mechanical structure of LHC dipole





iron yoke

yoke insert

shrinking cylinder

beam pipe

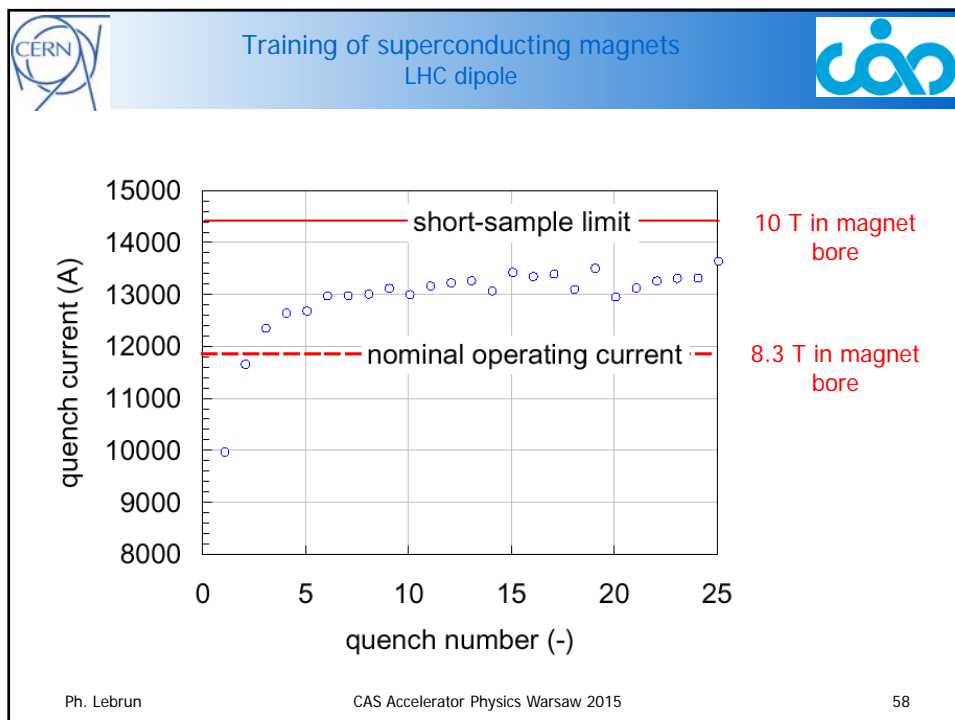
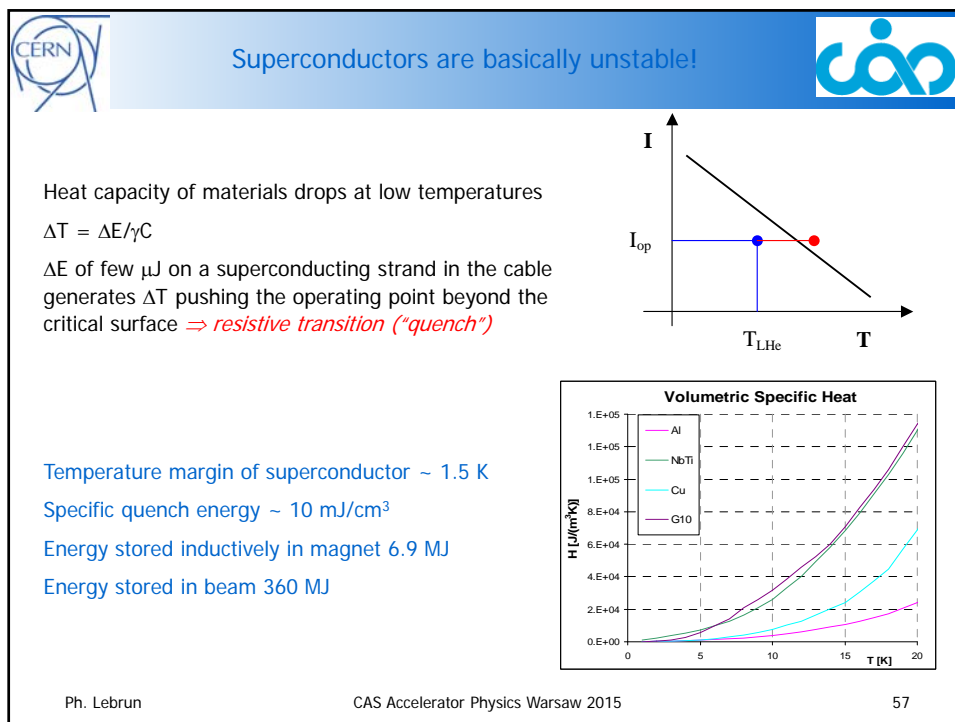
beam screen

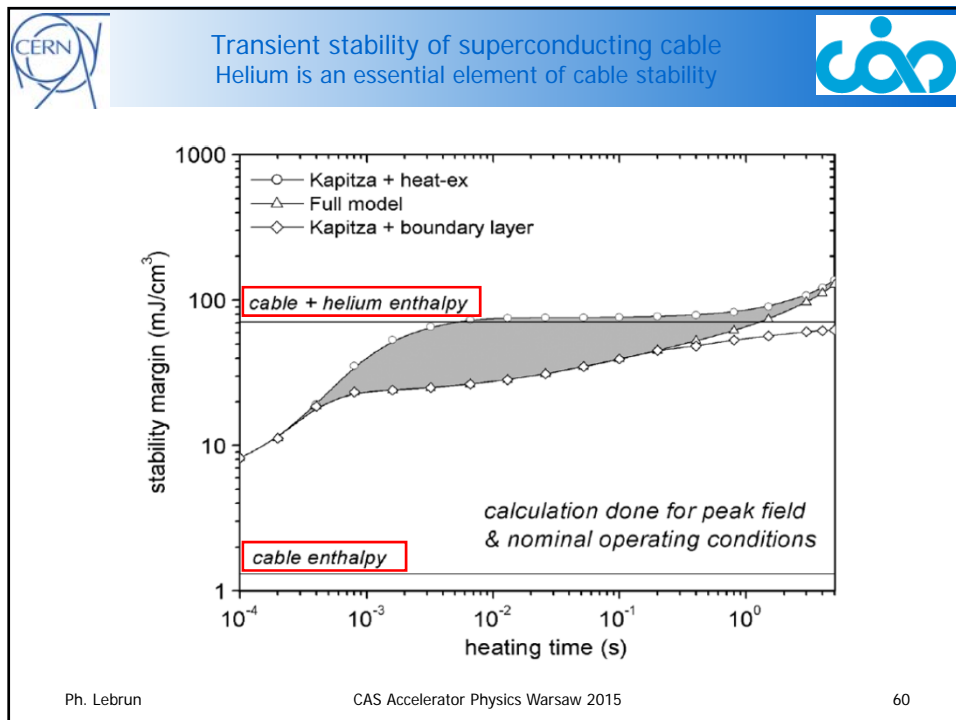
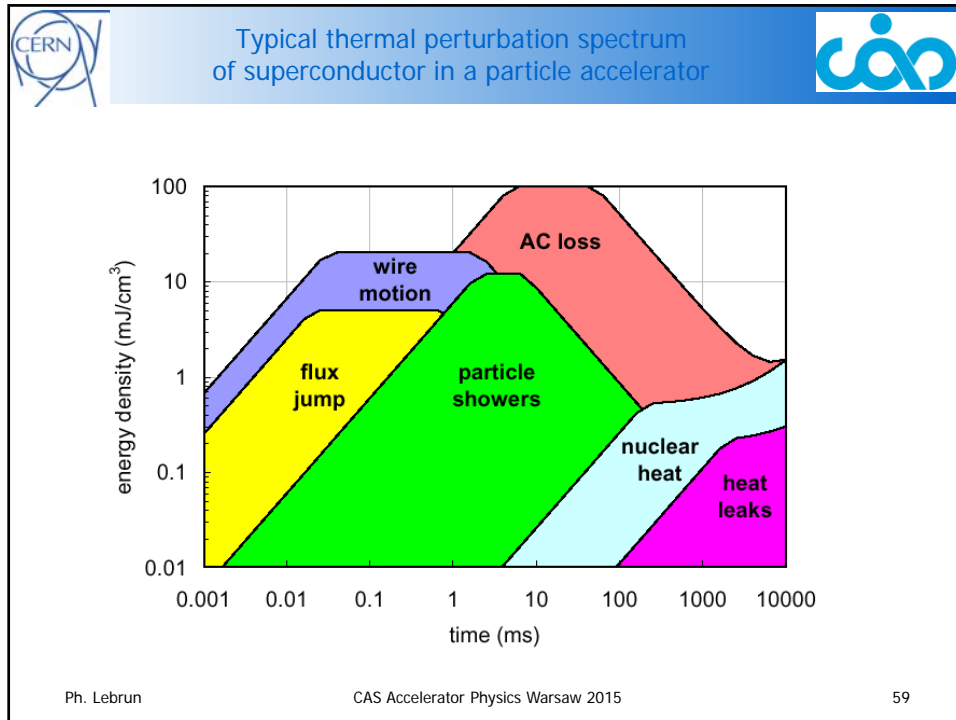
collars


coil outer layer

coil inner layer

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SC magnets must resist quench

Hot spot temperature after a quench



Assume that quenched section is heated only by Joule effect and adiabatic (no conduction)

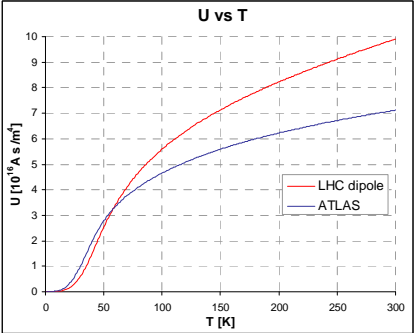
$$J^2(t) \rho(T) dt = \gamma C(T) dT \quad \int_0^\infty J^2(t) dt = \int_{T_{op}}^{T_m} \frac{\gamma C(T)}{\rho(T)} dT \quad J_0^2 T_d = U(T_m) \quad \text{MIITs}$$

To avoid too high hot spot temperature, speed up the quench propagation by any means

- 1) **Heater**: must be activated fast and reliably (20 ms)
- 2) **"Quench-back"** inductively propagated

This goes against having LHe in good contact with the conductor (i.e. against stability)!

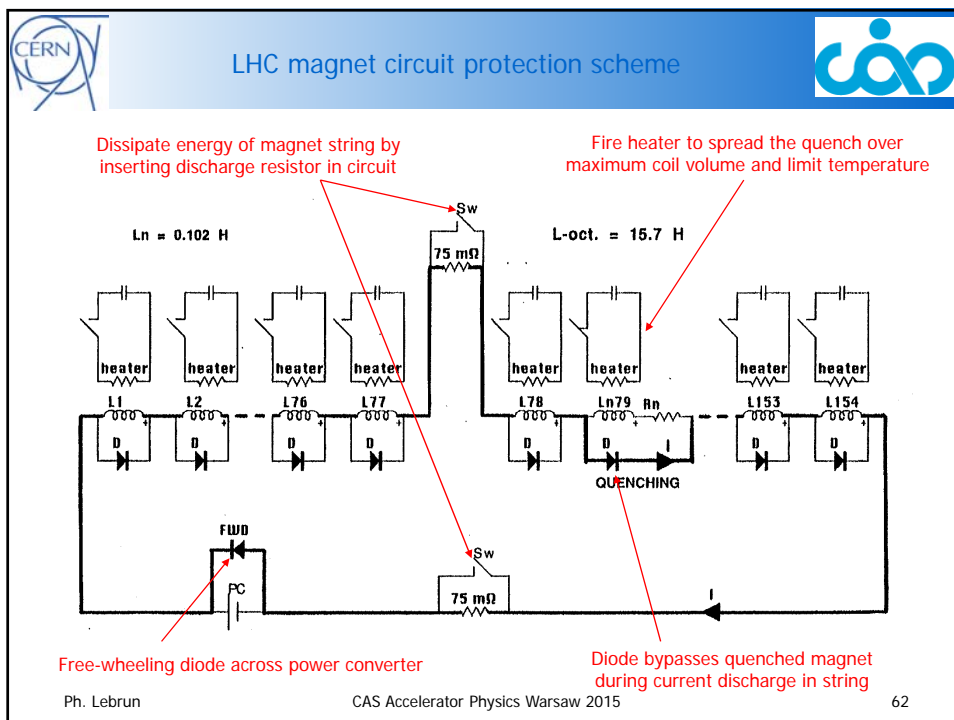
U vs T



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Manufacturing of LHC dipole superconducting coils










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Assembly of LHC dipole cold masses










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- Superconducting RF cavities for accelerators


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Superconducting RF cavities (elliptical)





4-cell, 352 MHz Nb on Cu cavity for LEP2



400 MHz Nb on Cu cavities in LHC tunnel

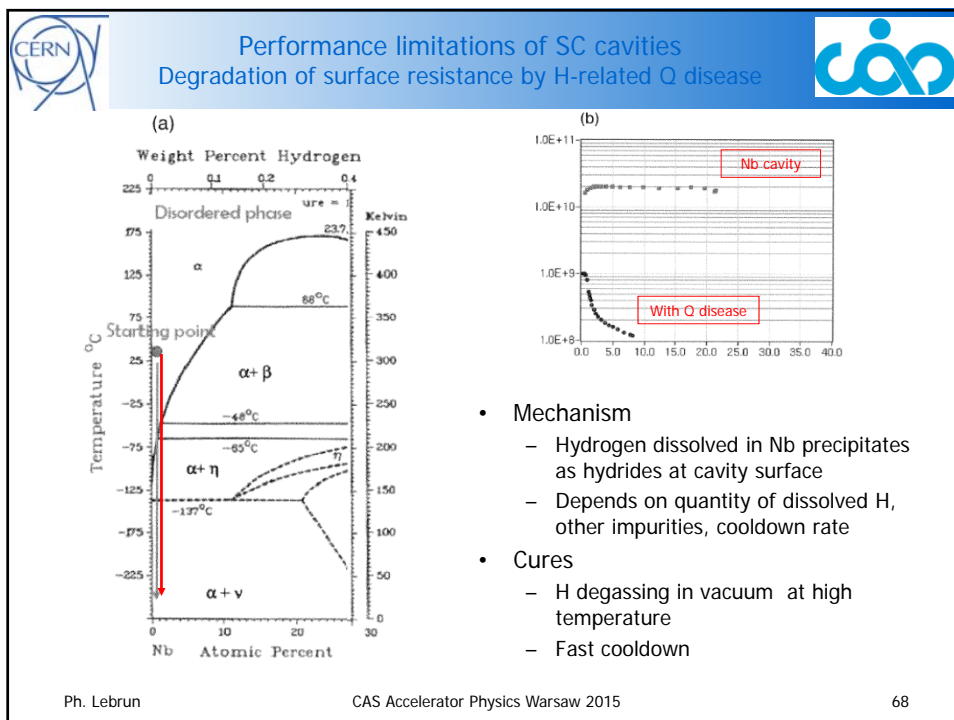
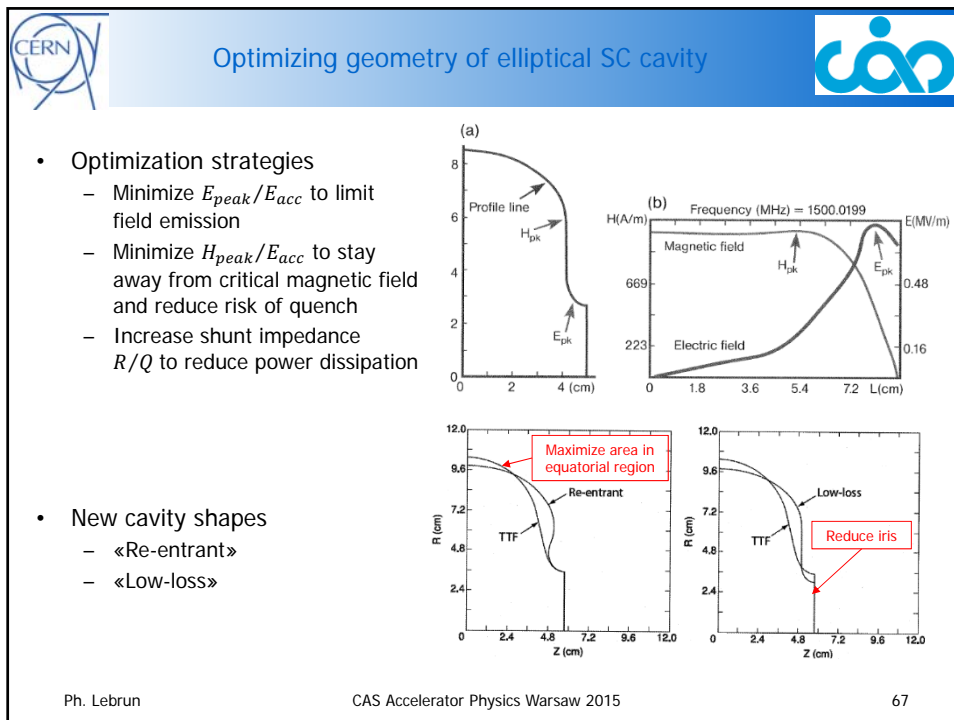


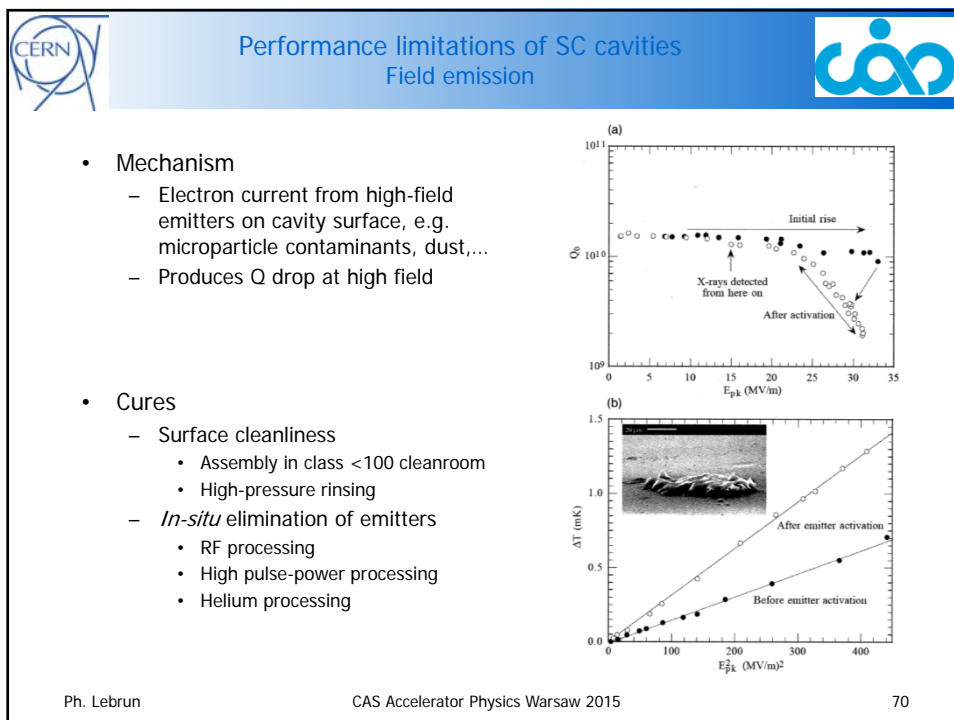
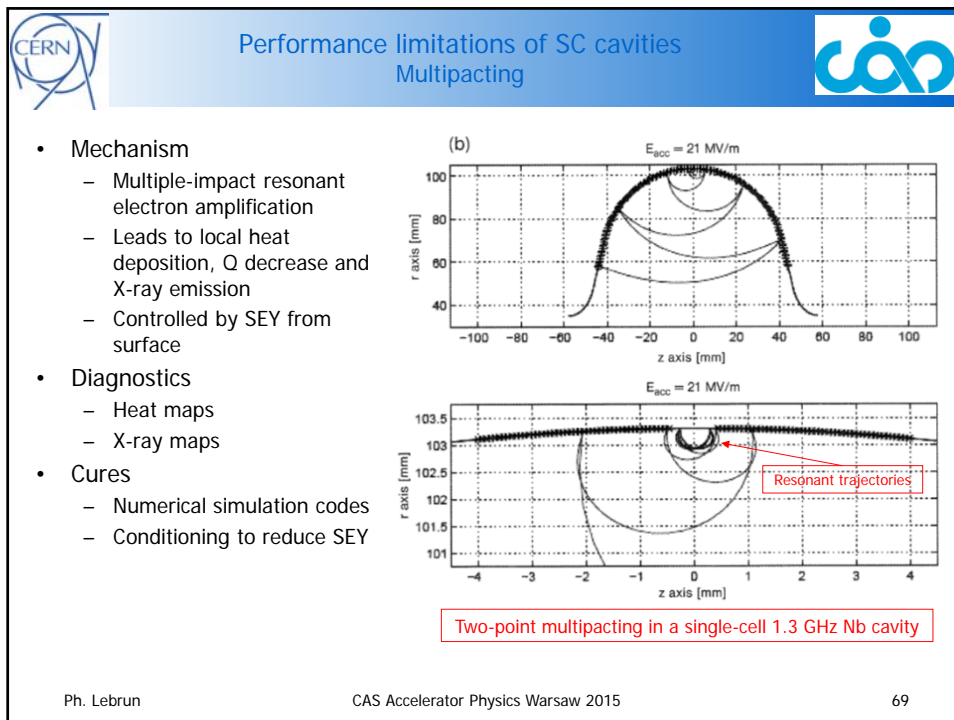
9-cell, 1.3 GHz Nb prototype cavity for the ILC

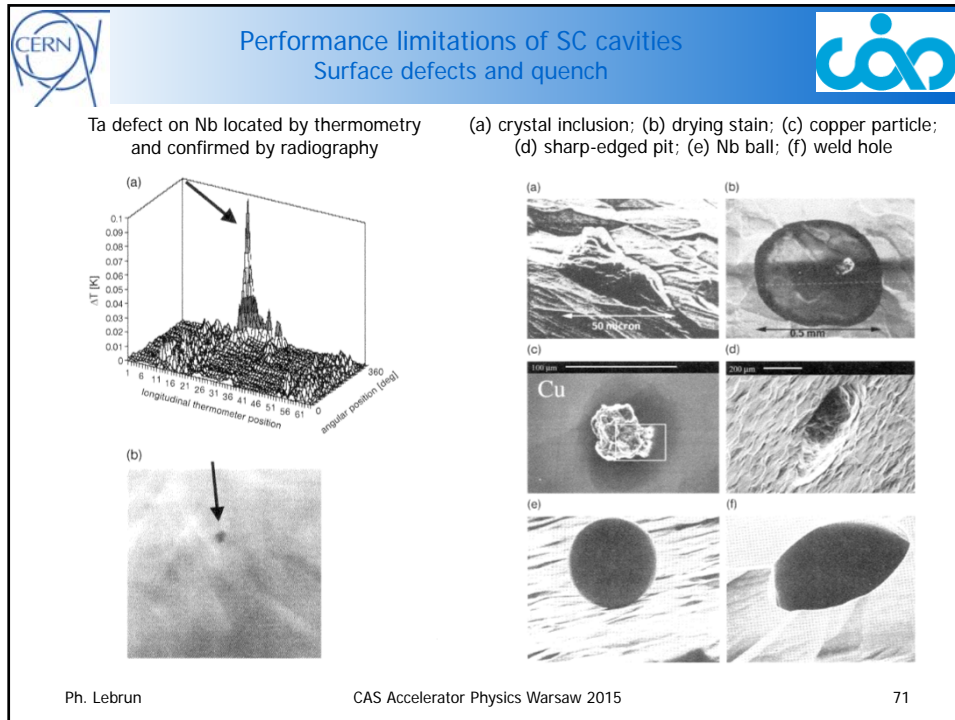
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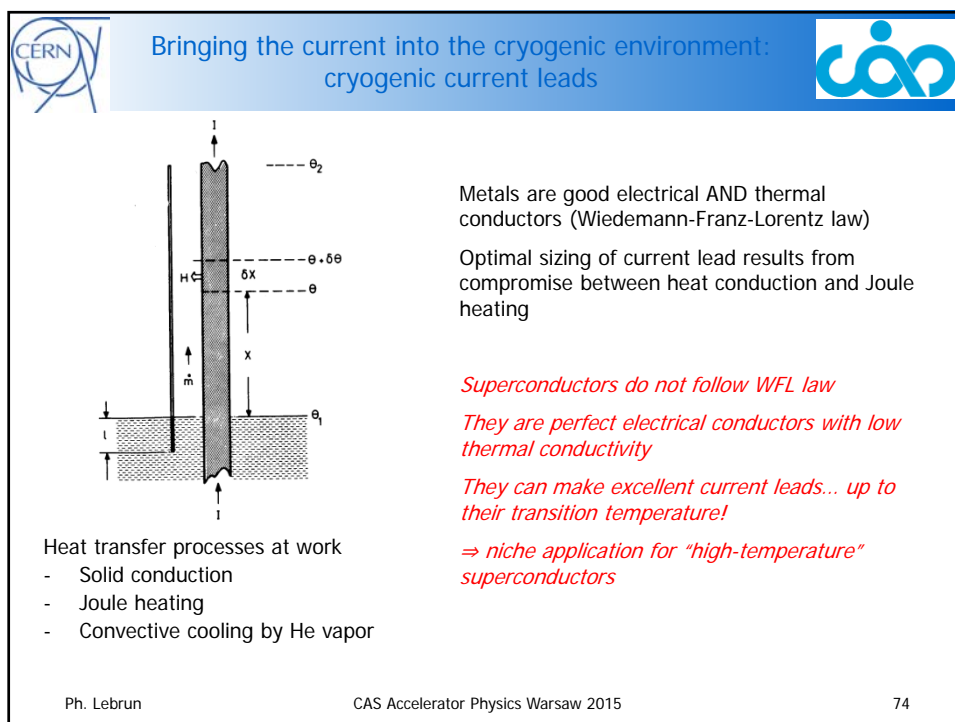
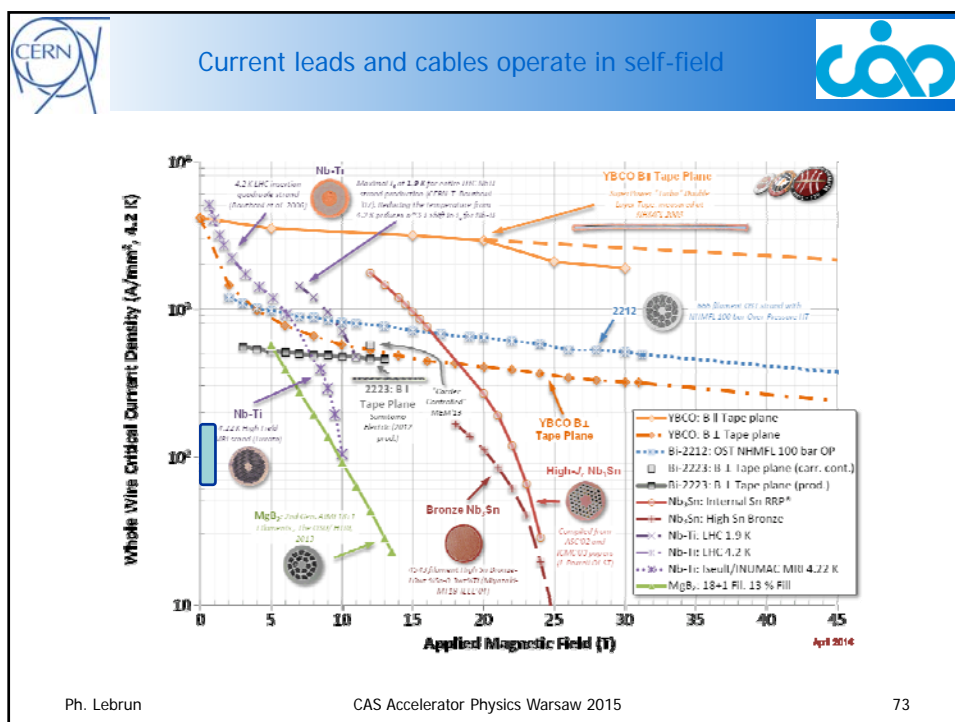





Contents

- Superconducting current leads and powering links


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Current leads using HTS superconductor

The LHC case



	Resistive (WFL)	HTS (4 to 50 K) Resistive (> 50 K)
Heat inleak to liquid helium	1.1 W/kA	0.1 W/kA
Exergy loss	430 W/kA	150 W/kA
Electrical power of refrigerator	1430 W/kA	500 W/kA

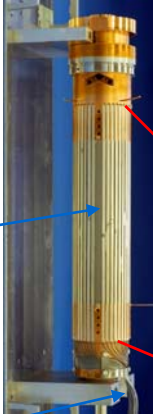

Sum of currents into LHC ~ 1.7 MA,
i.e. need current leads for 3.4 MA
total rating (in and out)

Economy ~ 3400 W in liquid helium
~ 5000 l/h liquid helium

⇒ *capital: save extra cryoplant*

⇒ *operation: save ~ 3.2 MW*

13 kA HTS current lead for LHC


BSCCO 2223 tapes

Nb-Ti wires


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HTS current leads in the LHC tunnel





6 & 13 kA leads on electrical feed-box




Water-cooled cables on current lead lugs


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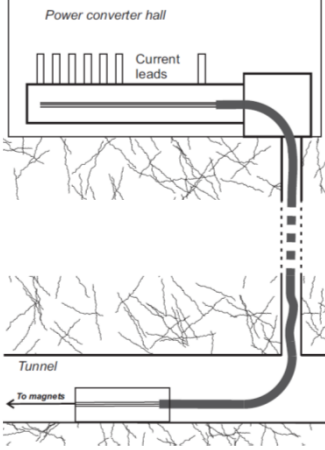
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SC links using MgB_2 wires for HL-LHC



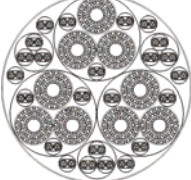




Power converter hall

Current leads

Tunnel

To magnets




Record current of 20 kA transported at 24 K in MgB_2 cable

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A. Ballarino

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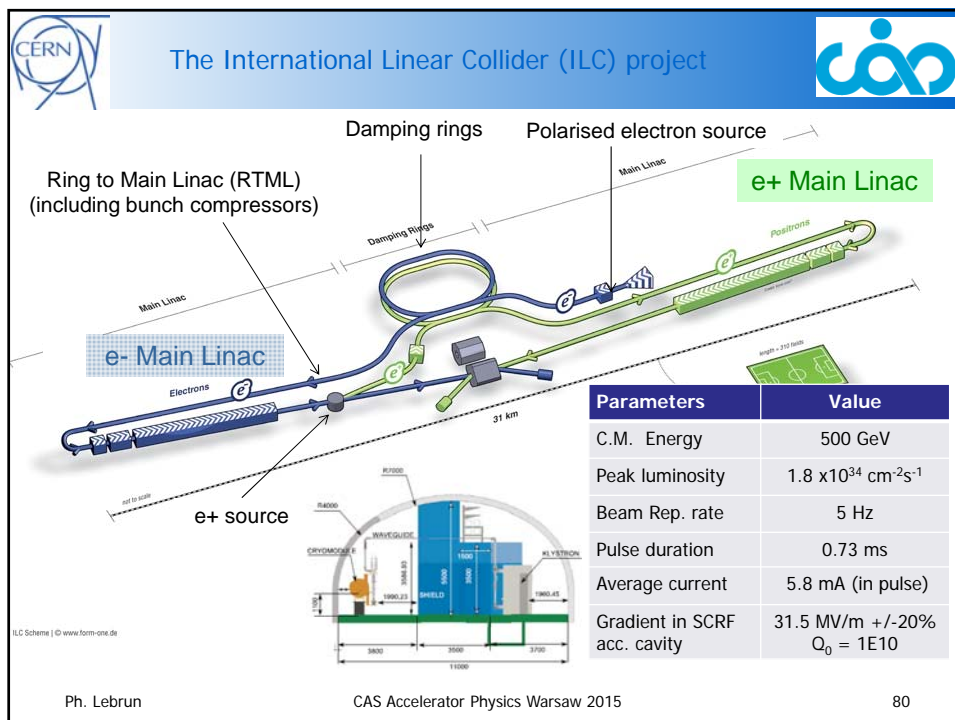
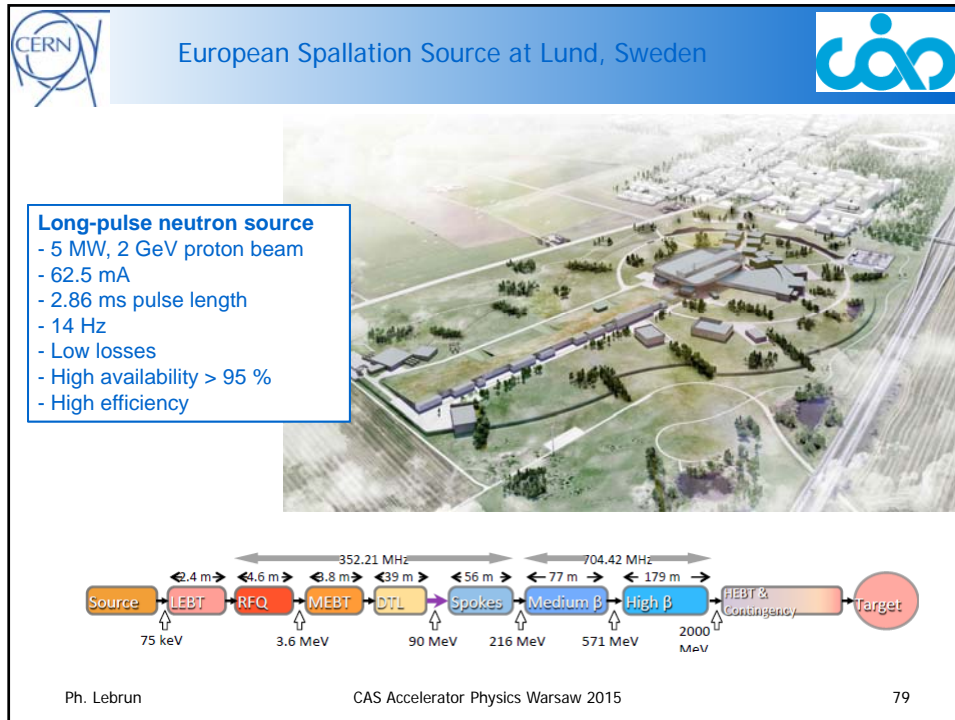


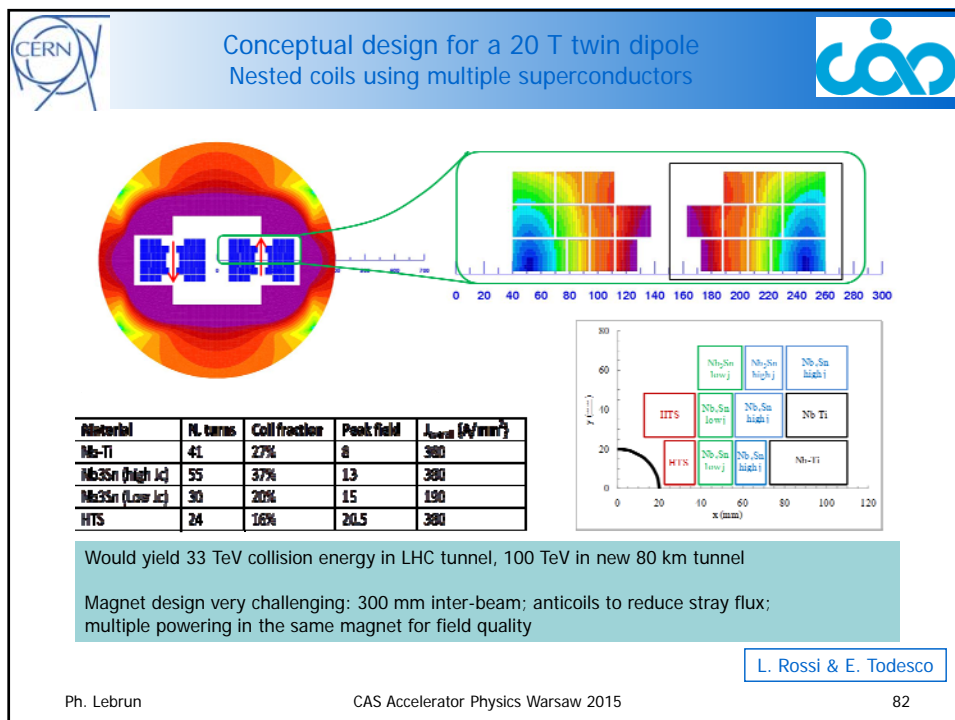
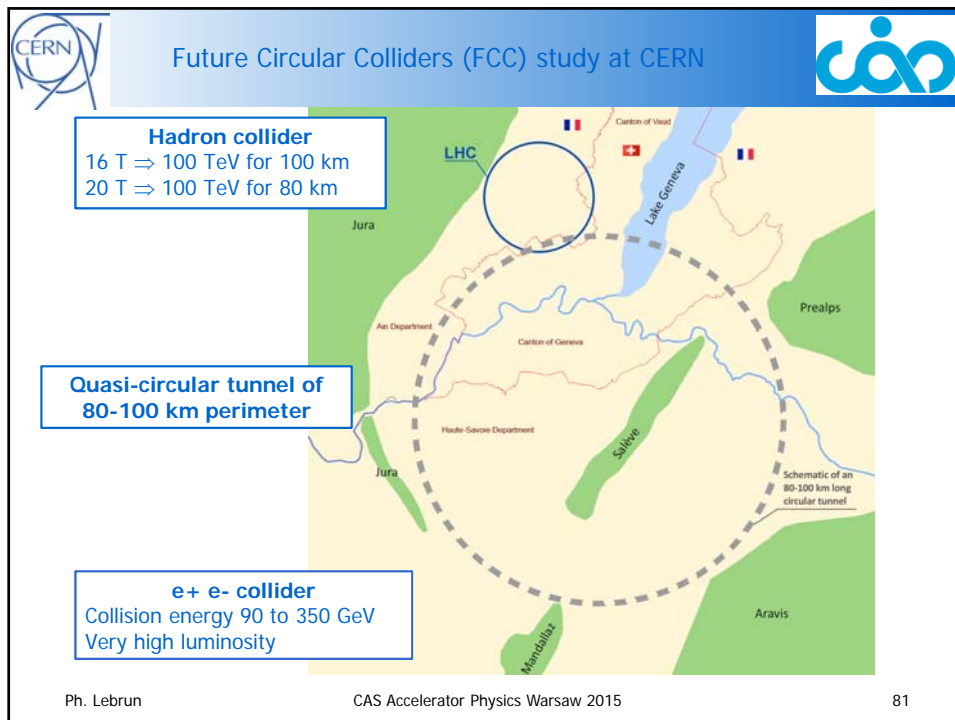
- Some ongoing and future projects


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Compact SC synchrocyclotron for hadrontherapy (Still River Systems)



- Provides 250 MeV protons
- 20 t mass allowing integration in gantry
- Cryocoolers at 4.5 K (no liquid helium)



Gantry manufacturing




Synchrocyclotron


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