

Advances in Korea in UHF Solenoids

Jung Tae Lee¹, Seungyong Hahn^{1,2}, and PRISM Team^{1,2,3}

¹ Applied Superconductivity Center, Electric Power Research Institute of Seoul National University

² Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Seoul National University

³ Institutes, Universities, and Companies participating in
the Project for Research & Innovation in Superconducting Magnet (PRISM)

Workshop on Ultra-High-Field Solenoids, BE Auditorium Meyrin, Geneva, Switzerland

November 25, 2025

This work was supported in part by the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) grant funded by the Korea government(MSIT)(RS-2022-NR068574), in part by the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) grant funded by the Korea government(MSIT)(RS-2022-NR068569), and in part by the Applied Superconductivity Center, Electric Power Research Institute of Seoul National University.

Table of Contents

Part I. Introduction to R&D Direction of HTS Magnet in Korea

- NI REBCO Magnets Developed in Korea
- Overview of PRISM
- PRISM Alliance and Vision for Industrialization of HTS Magnet

Part2. PRISM's "Master Coil" Development and Its Recent Achievements

- Concept of Master Coil
- Potential of "Complete Reliability" of REBCO magnet
- Problems, Solutions and Results for Solenoid Master Coil

Part3. Ongoing PRISM Research on Selected Topics

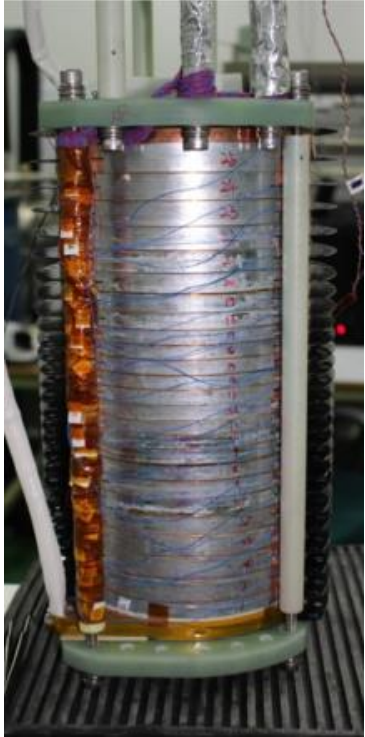
- Towards Accurate Estimation of Magnet Critical Current (feat. Lighthouse Project)
- Seeking Solutions for Robust Supporting Structure
- Unraveling the Mechanism of Magnet Degradation

Part I. Introduction to R&D Direction of HTS Magnet in Korea

- NI HTS Magnets Developed in Korea*
- Overview of PRISM*
- PRISM Alliance and Vision for Industrialization of HTS Magnet*

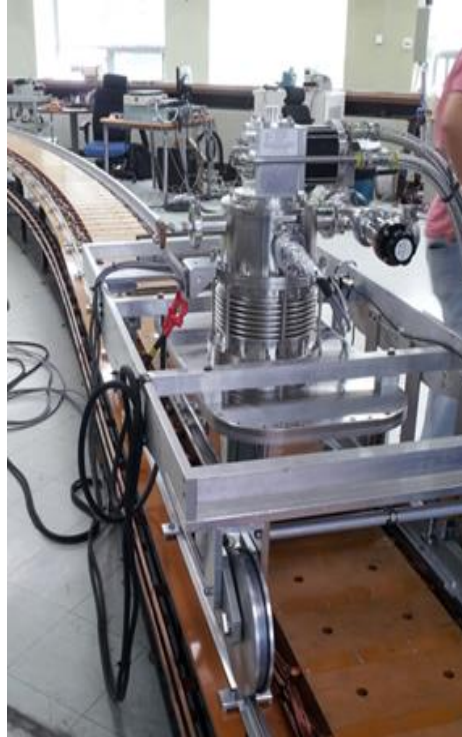
No-Insulation High Temperature Superconductor Magnets Developed in Korea

(2015) 26.4 T
All-REBCO Magnet



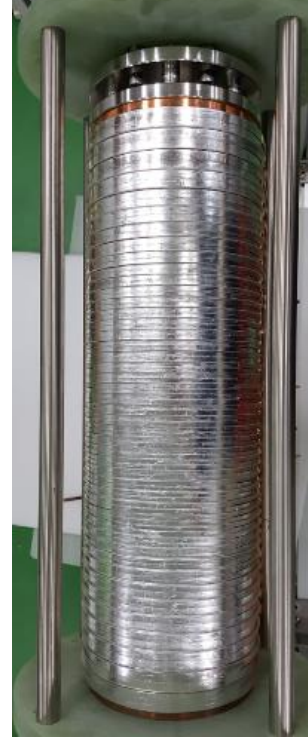
- Highest field achieved by all-REBCO magnet in 2015
- Initiation of a compact tokamak concept in fusion (presented by Prof. Dennis Whyte, MIT)

(2015) NI HTS Magnet
for Hyperloop



- First HTS magnet for rail transportation
- Development ongoing to apply the magnet to an actual Hyperloop system (Hypertube)

(2017) 18 T Magnet
for Axion Detection



- First commercial HTS magnet fabricated and sold in Korea
- Long-term continuous operations (>2 years)
- Still in operation

(2017) Sextupole Magnet (MI)
for Accelerator



- First HTS magnet for an actual accelerator
- Still in operation

(2018) 9.4T Magnet
for 400 MHz NMR



- State-of-the-art HTS Magnets selected by Continuum in 2018
- Still in operation

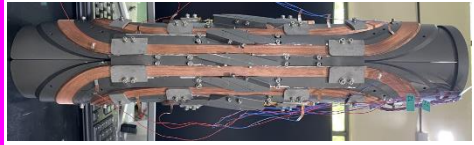
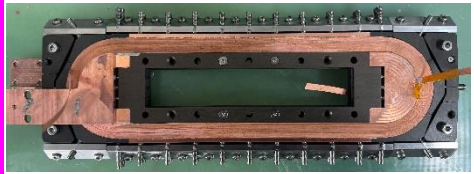
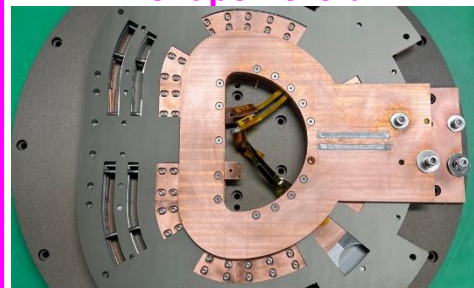
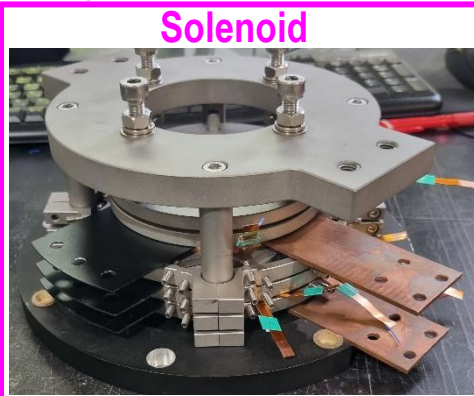
Need for more systematic, collective, and detailed R&D to achieve higher fields and make breakthroughs for various applications

"PRISM (Project for Research & Innovation in Superconducting Magnet)" in Korea (\$36M/2022-2026, MSIT)

Key Philosophies: 4 Major Types of Coils & 7 Core Component Technologies for Reliability and Mass Production

Manufacturing Industry based on High Magnetic Field and High Current Technology

Transportation & Mobility	Electric Vehicle
	Railway • Hyperloop
	Ship • Aircraft
Energy & Environment	Nuclear Fusion
	Magnetic Separation
	High Efficiency Industrial Machinery
Bio & Medical	Diagnostic MRI
	NMR for Drug Discovery
	Cancer Treatment Accelerator
Power System	Renewable Energy (Wind Power)
	Energy Storage
	High Power Cable
Defense & Weapons	Stealth Propulsion
	Railgun
	Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP)
Advanced Science	New Materials Development
	Particle Accelerator
	High Energy Physics



4 Major Types of HTS Magnet

PRISM: Core Technology Research Team dedicated to HTS Magnets
 Motto: **One nation, one laboratory, one university** (27 research groups, 220 researchers)
 Supported by the Korea Government MSIT 2022-2026 (46.9 bn. KRW/5years)

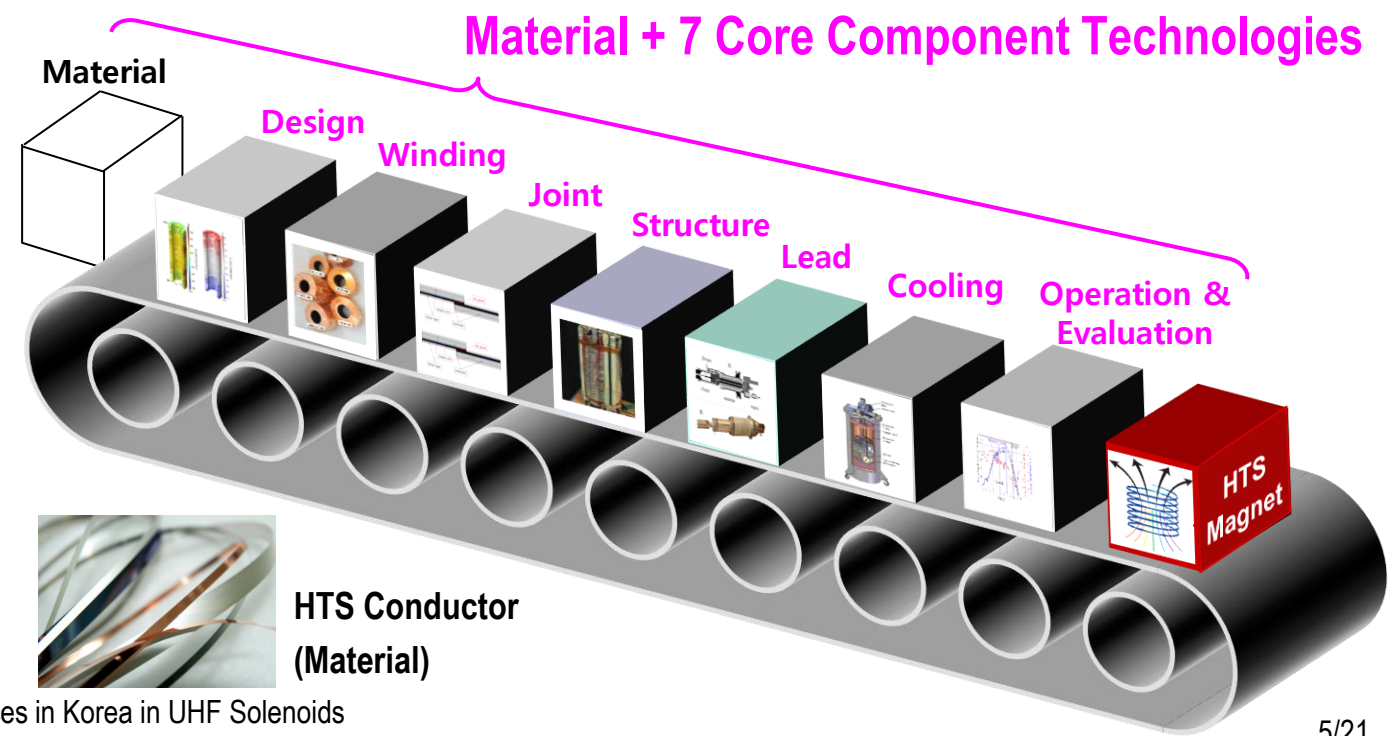
4 National Labs
(5 Research Groups)

14 Universities
(17 Research Groups)

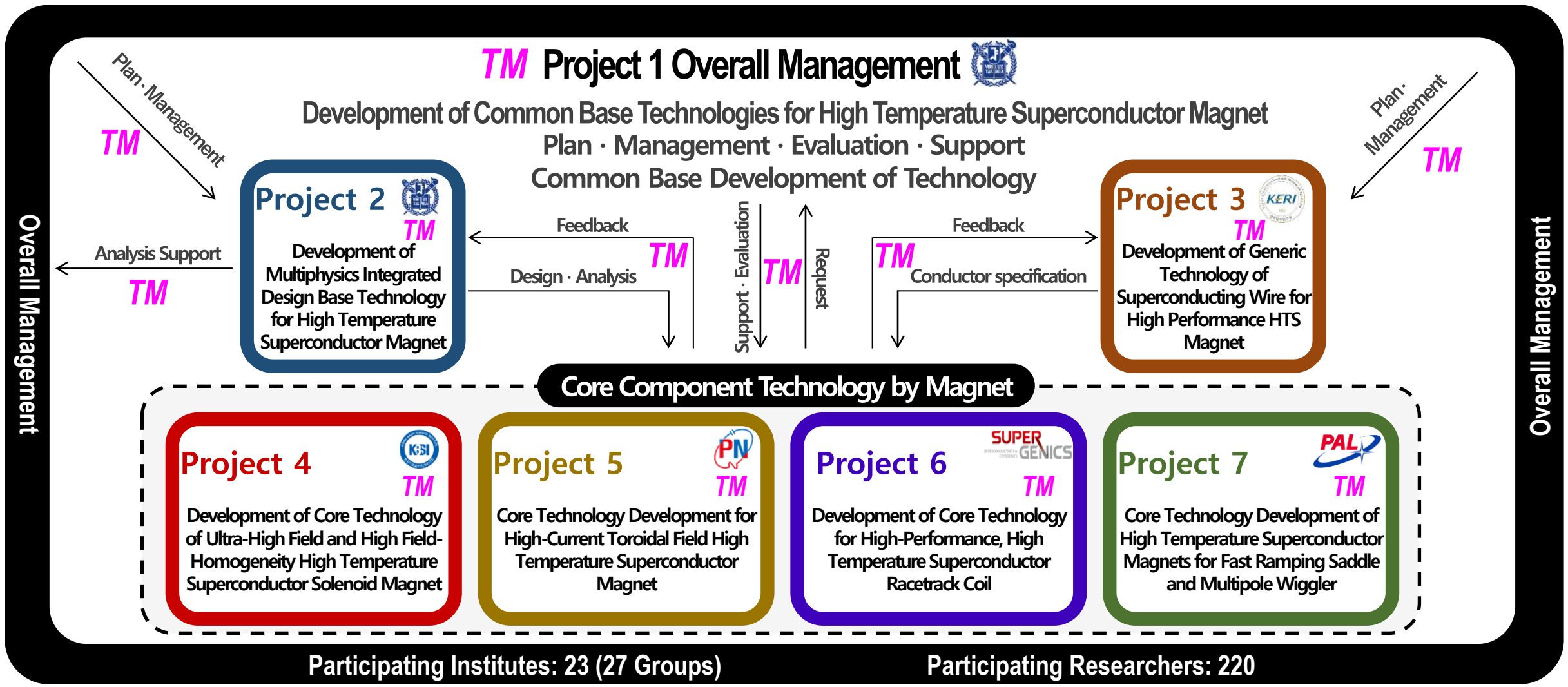
5 Companies

Director

Prof. S. Lee (SNU)



“PRISM (Project for Research & Innovation in Superconducting Magnet)” in Korea (\$36M/2022-2026, MSIT)
Technical Manager (TM) key operational lead in organizing, coordinating, and managing the PRISM team



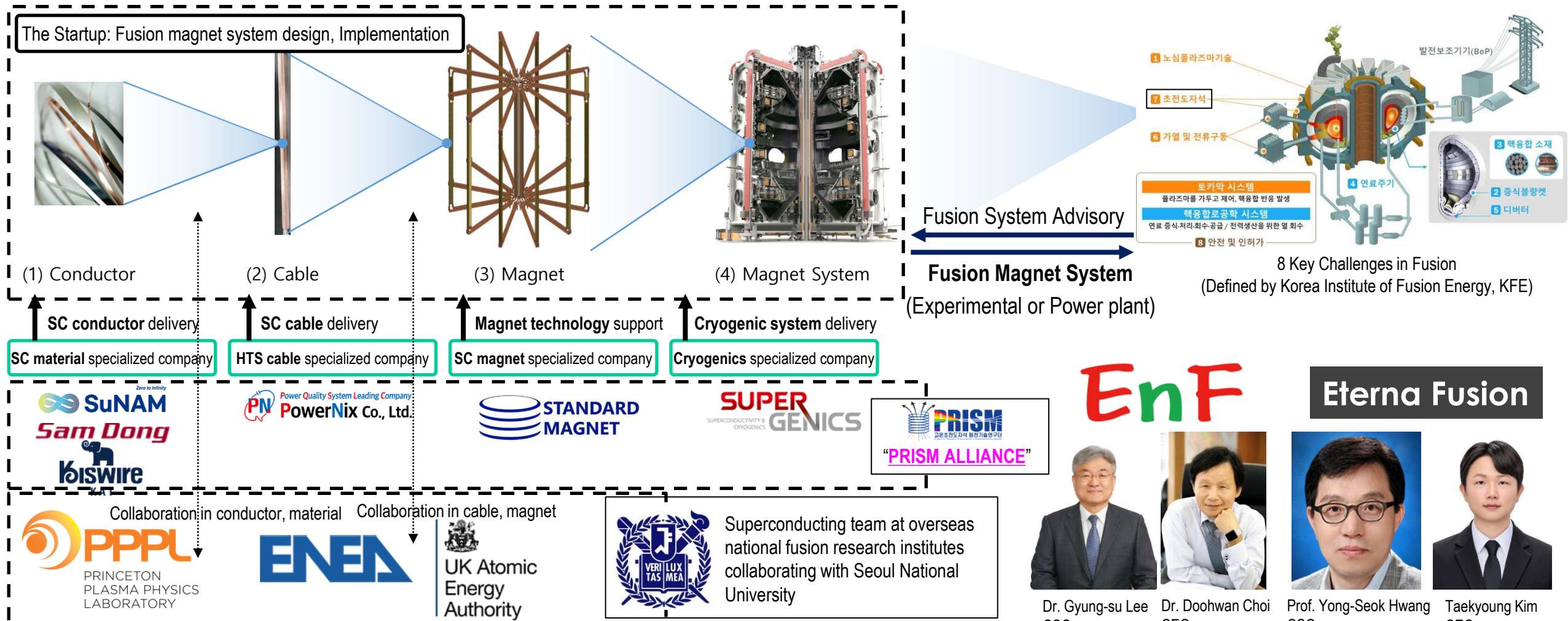
Research Group Objective: Develop fundamental HTS magnet technology

PRISM ALLIANCE: Industrial Partnership for Fusion and Beyond

Specialized Company for Compact Fusion HTS Magnet Systems → PRISM ALLIANCE

- Goal1: Develop fusion magnet systems based on the PRISM research program in collaboration with domestic SC* related companies
- Goal2: Establish supply chain for HTS magnets and respond to other future application markets

*SC: superconductor



Jung Tae Lee
<jtlee@snu.ac.kr>

Advances in Korea in UHF Solenoids
Workshop on Ultra-High-Field Solenoids, BE Auditorium Meyrin, Geneva, Switzerland (11/25/2025)

“3-Step Industrialization Strategy” to Build the HTS Magnet Industry Ecosystem

■ Cost Analysis Committee of PRISM

- Analyze and forecast prices according to the market size of key HTS application devices
- Analyze and forecast prices according to the production volume of high-temperature superconducting wires

<Cost Analysis Report>

<p>Cost Analysis Report</p> <p>BY</p> <p>Cost Analysis 위원회</p> <p>AUGUST 2024</p> <p>고온초전도원천기술연구원</p>	<p>1. 단기관과</p> <p>1.1 단기관과 분석 대상기기 선정</p> <p>1.1.1 분석 대상기기 선정 요건</p> <p>1.1.2 분석 항목 선정</p> <p>1.1.3 가정 및 제한점</p> <p>1.2 MRI</p> <p>1.2.1 MRI 시장 분석</p> <p>1.2.1.1 Global MRI 시장규모</p> <p>1.2.1.2 Global MRI 설치 대수</p> <p>1.2.2 HTS MRI 설계</p> <p>1.2.3 전신용 1.5T MRI</p> <p>1.2.3.1 초전도자석 시스템 가격 분석</p> <p>1.2.3.2 자석 이외 시스템 가격 분석</p> <p>1.2.3.3 초전도선재 가격 변화에 따른 선재사용량 변화 예측</p> <p>1.2.4 전신용 3T MRI</p> <p>1.2.4.1 초전도자석 시스템 가격 분석</p> <p>1.2.4.2 자석 이외 시스템 가격 분석</p> <p>1.2.4.3 초전도선재 가격 변화에 따른 선재사용량 변화 예측</p> <p>1.2.5 뇌전용 7T MRI</p> <p>1.3 NMR</p> <p>1.3.1 NMR 시장 분석</p> <p>1.3.2 HTS NMR 자석 설계</p> <p>1.3.3 1 GHz NMR</p> <p>1.3.4 1.4 GHz NMR</p>	<p>1.4 암치료용 가속기</p> <p>1.4.1 암치료용 가속기 시장 분석</p> <p>1.4.1.1 전세계 암치료 가속기 수요 대수 예측</p> <p>1.4.1.2 암치료용 가속기 가격 분석</p> <p>1.4.2 HTS 암치료용 가속기 자석 설계</p> <p>1.4.2.1 중입자치료용 가속기 자석 요구 사항</p> <p>1.4.2.2 4 T, 1 T/s 자석 설계</p> <p>1.4.3 암치료용 가속기 시스템 가격 분석</p> <p>1.4.3.1 운전 비용 분석</p> <p>1.4.3.2 제작 비용 분석</p> <p>1.5 융성축정용 자석시스템</p> <p>1.5.1 융성축정용 자석 시장 분석</p> <p>1.5.2 HTS 융성축정용 자석 설계</p>
---	--	--

<3-Step Industrialization Strategy>



- Secure endorsement of the industrialization strategy from domestic and international HTS communities
- Formulate national R&D and private-sector business promotion strategies for HTS magnet based on the established industrialization roadmap

Part2. PRISM's "Master Coil" Development and Its Recent Achievements

- Concept of Master Coil*
- Potential of "Complete Reliability" of REBCO magnet*
- Problems, Solutions and Results for Solenoid Master Coil*


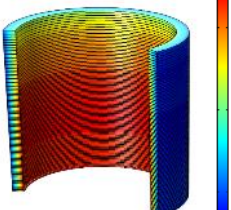
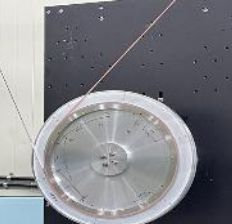
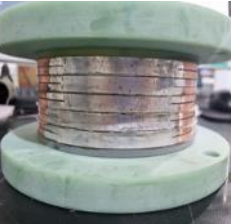
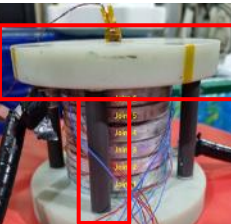


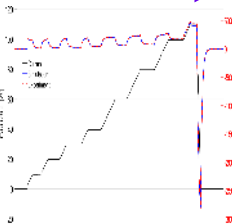

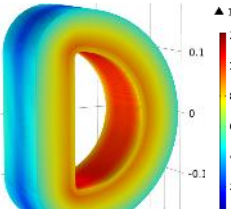
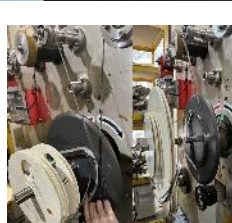
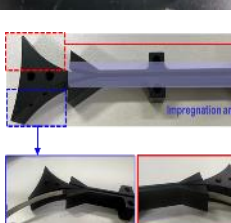



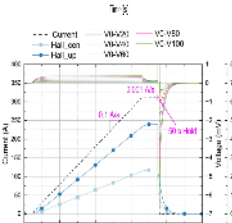
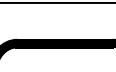
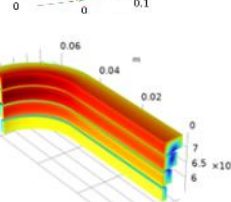


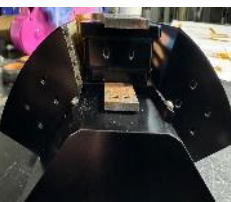
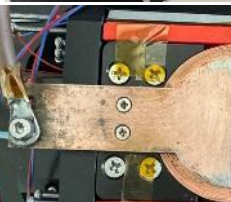

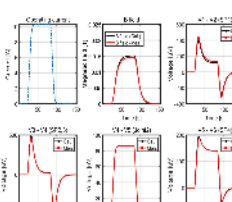
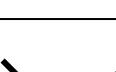
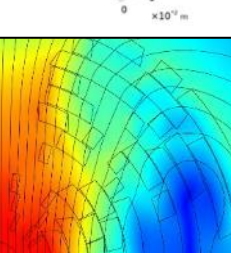



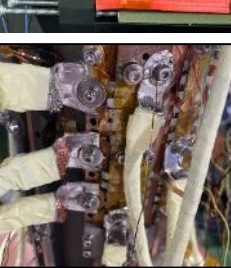

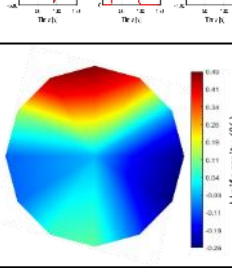
4 Types of "Master Coil" to Resolve Challenges in 7 Core Technologies

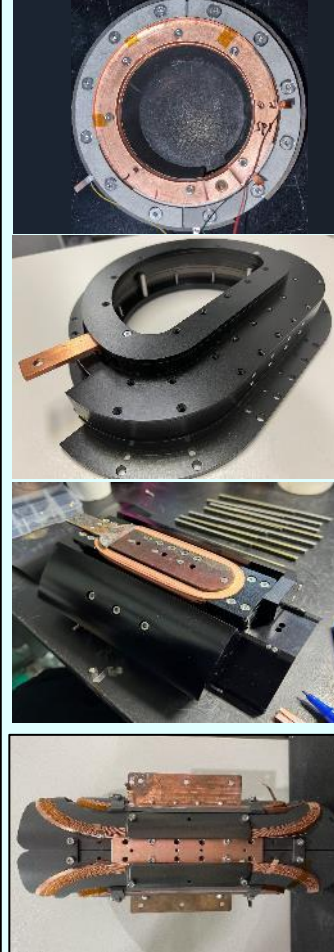
- Key R&D Philosophies: (1) Mass Production; (2) Reliability (Premium Quality)



Master Coils
Integration of Core
Technologies

4 Major Types of Superconductor Magnets

<p>Solenoid</p> 							
<p>Toroid</p> 							
<p>Racetrack</p> 							
<p>Saddle</p> 							



Mass Production & Premium Quality of
Superconductor Magnets

Part3. Ongoing PRISM Research on Selected Topics

- Towards Better Estimation of Magnet Critical Current (feat. Lighthouse Project)*
- Seeking Solutions for Robust Supporting Structure*
- Unraveling the Mechanism of Magnet Degradation*

Towards Better Estimation of Magnet Critical Current: “Lighthouse Project”

■ Lighthouse #3: Consistency Factor – A New Measure to Define “Consistency”

- To enhance consistency of REBCO tapes by commercial manufacturers
- Definition of ‘consistency factor (CF)’ (if perfectly consistent, CF equals 100):

$$CF_{T,B} = \frac{100}{1 + \frac{\sigma}{\mu}}$$

T : temperature
 B : magnetic field
 σ : standard deviation of measured $I_c(B, T)$
 μ : average of measured $I_c(B, T)$

Problem1: Inconsistency within Single REBCO Conductor

Problem2: Uncertainty in Current Distribution Under High Magnetic Fields

Problem3: Widthwisely Bent Conductor

Problem4: Critical Current Estimation from Limited Dataset

Problem5: Champion Sample v.s. Regular Sample

Problem6: $I_c(77\text{ K, self-field})$ -basis Lifting Factor

Problem7: I_c and n defined in Limited Operating Region

Problem8: Variations in Critical Electric Field (E_c)



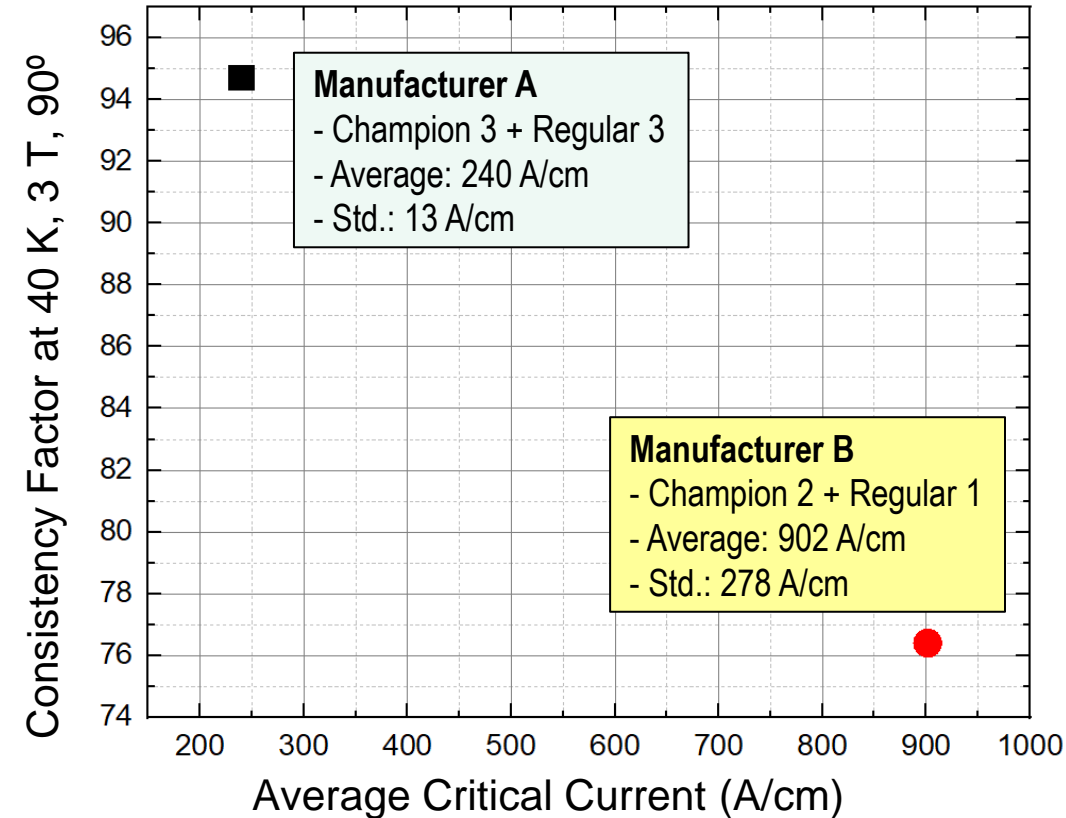
Lighthouse #1: Pinpointing “Representative” Magnetic Field Angles

Lighthouse #2: Redefining Lifting Factor to Reduce Uncertainty

Lighthouse #3: Consistency Factor – A New Measure to Define “Consistency”

Lighthouse #4: “Basis” $I_c(T, |\mathbf{B}|, \theta)$ Data

Lighthouse #5: “Prototype” Sample and Measurement “Standard”



Seeking Solutions for Reliable Mechanical Support: Large and Robust Supporting Structures

■ Marginal Effect of Screening Current-induced Stress calculated in Large/Well-supported Magnets

□ Toroidal field coil inner leg designed by SNU, D-shaped coil for a large toroid

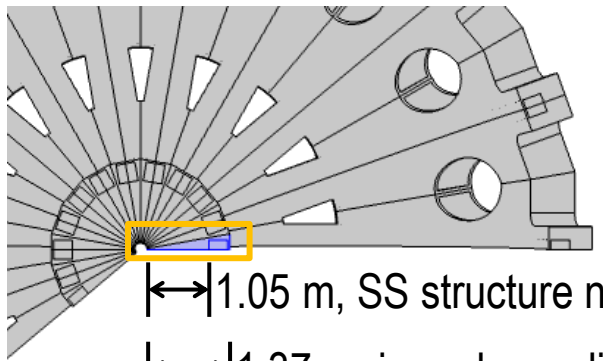
→ Large supporting structure

□ LBC3, a small solenoid

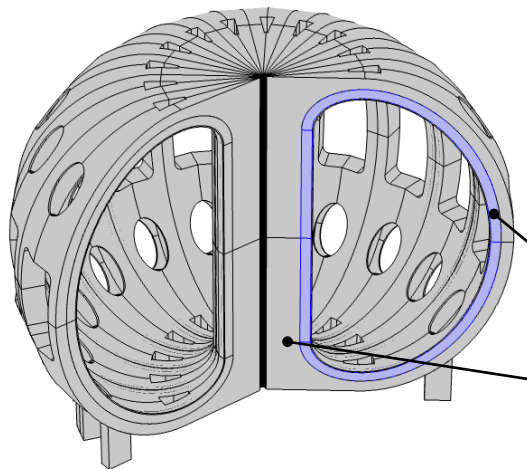
→ Small supporting structure

REF: J. T. Lee, PhD Thesis, Seoul National University, 2025.

Zoom 1) 3D model of toroid (midplane cross-section view)



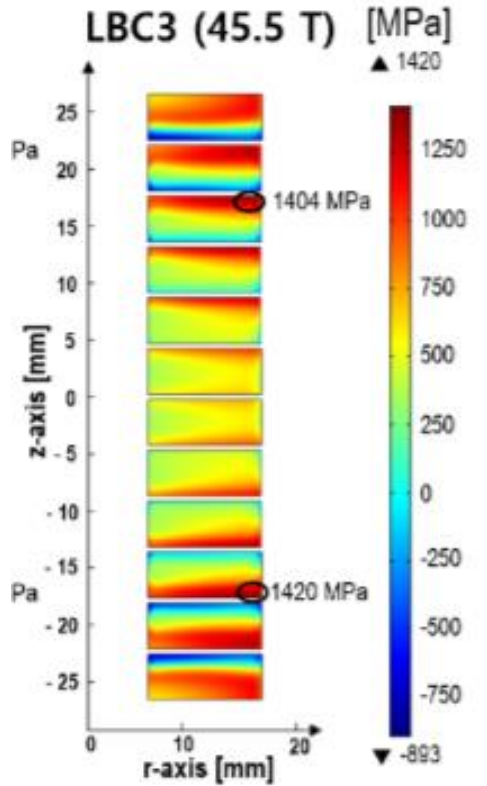
1.05 m, SS structure nose
 1.37 m, inner leg radial thickness
 6.95 m, torus radius



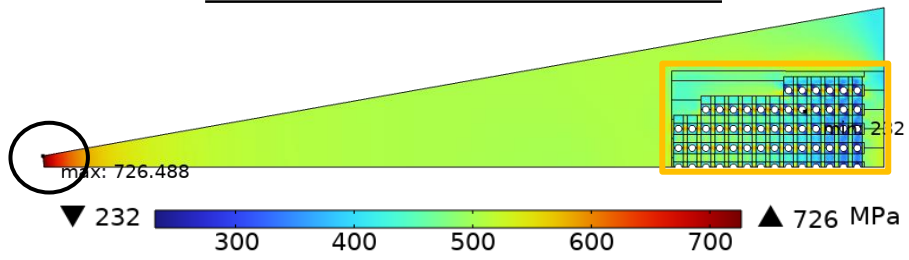
Major radius (R_0): 3.3 m
 Toroidal field @ R_0 : 9.2 T
 Peak field on coil: 24 T

REBCO winding pack
 SS supporting structure

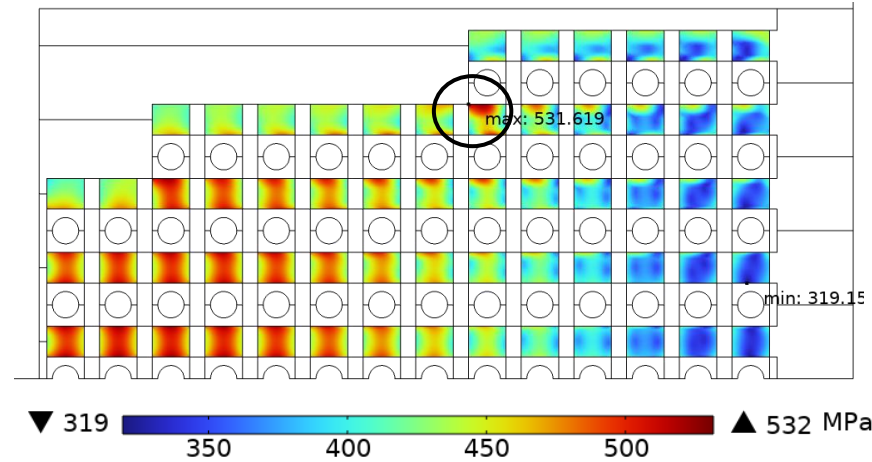
Peak hoop stress: **1420 MPa**



Zoom 2) Inner leg (midplane cross-section), Peak Tresca stress: **726 MPa**



Zoom 3) REBCO, Peak Tresca stress: **532 MPa**

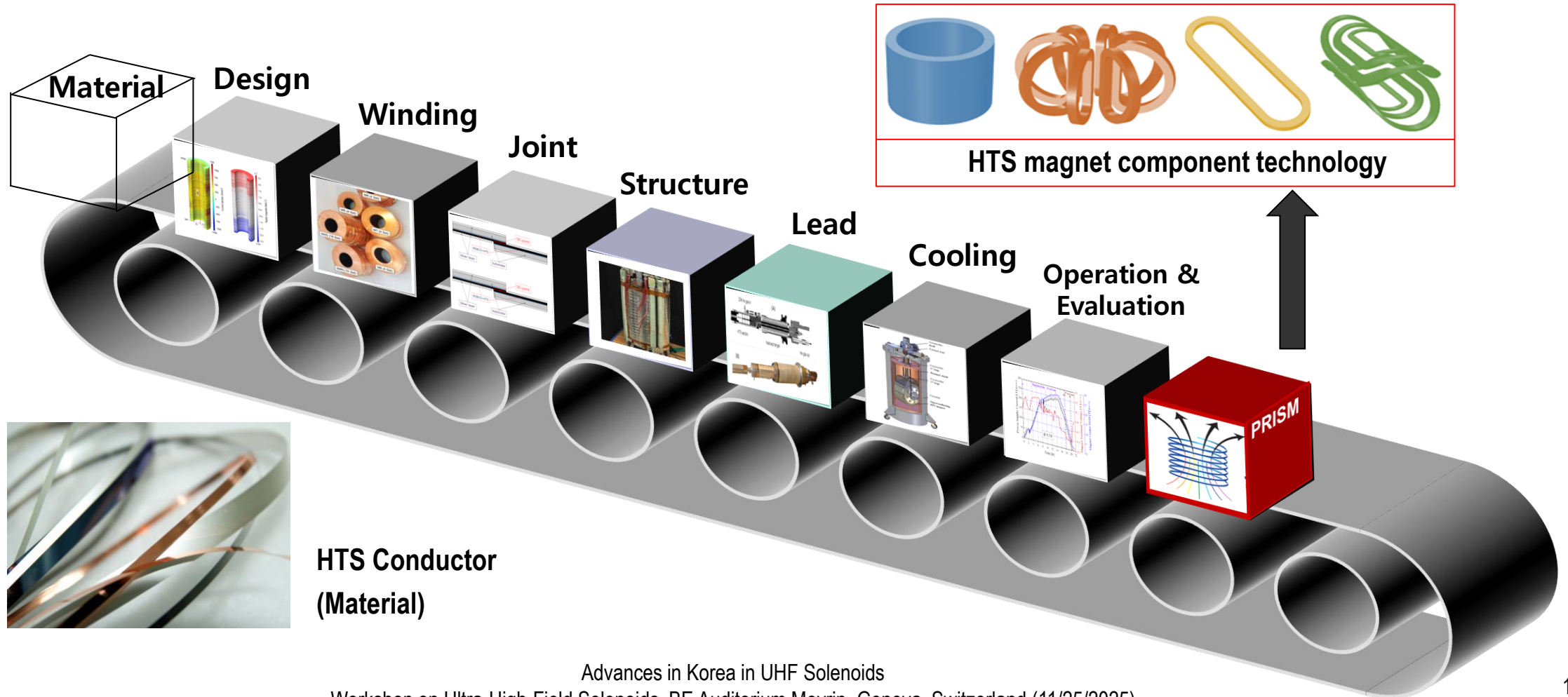


REF: Hu, Xinbo, *et al.* "Analyses of the plastic deformation of coated conductors deconstructed from ultra-high field test coils." *Supercond. Sci. Technol.*, vol. 33, no. 9, 2020.

Summary and Conclusion

- **PRISM (Project for Research & Innovation in Superconducting Magnet)** is leading the HTS magnet R&D in Korea in collaborations with domestic and international partners

- **Systematic, collective, and detailed R&D** required, such as **Master Coil** development, to tackle the problems HTS magnet is facing to achieve **reliable operation of UHF solenoids**





Thank you for your attention

Q&A

This work was supported in part by the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) grant funded by the Korea government(MSIT)(RS-2022-NR068574), in part by the National Research Foundation of Korea(NRF) grant funded by the Korea government(MSIT)(RS-2022-NR068569), and in part by the Applied Superconductivity Center, Electric Power Research Institute of Seoul National University.

Contact Info: Jung Tae Lee (jtlee@snu.ac.kr), Seungyong Hahn (hahnsy@snu.ac.kr)