

Considerations for Quenching HTS Coils

Matthieu Dalban-Canassy

U.P. Trociewitz, D.K. Hilton, Y. Viouchkov, P. Noyes, J. Jaroszynski, J.W. Sinclair, W.D. Markiewicz, H.W. Weijers, P. Chen, N. Craig, E.E. Hellstrom, J. Jiang, M. Matras, D.C. Larbalestier

**National High Magnetic Field Laboratory
Florida State University**



Outline

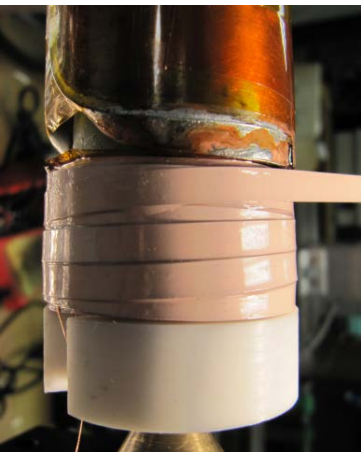
- Our experience in REBCO coils
 - The path to 35.4 T
 - 32 T user magnet
 - Food for thoughts on REBCO
- Our experience in Bi2212 coils
 - The path to 33.8 T
 - Food for thoughts on Bi2212
- Summary

OUR EXPERIENCE IN REBCO COILS

- Path to 35.4T => Layer wound (LW) coil for very high field – NMR demonstration coils
- 32T magnet => Double Pancake (DP) user magnet, LTS outsert, HTS insert

Mechanical Decoupling as a Solution to Delamination

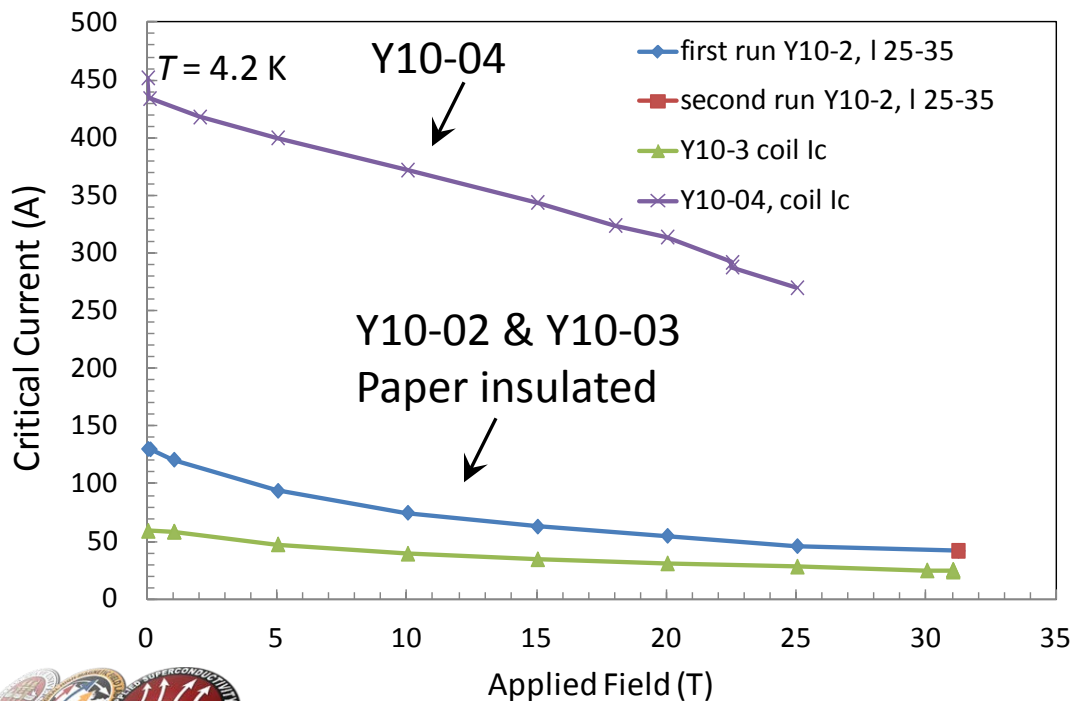
Test Coil Y10-04



- **Layer-wound coil**
- **Wet-wound coil**, i.e. impregnated
- **Conductor insulated** with Polyester heat shrink tubing from Advanced Polymers, Inc. (avoid delamination)

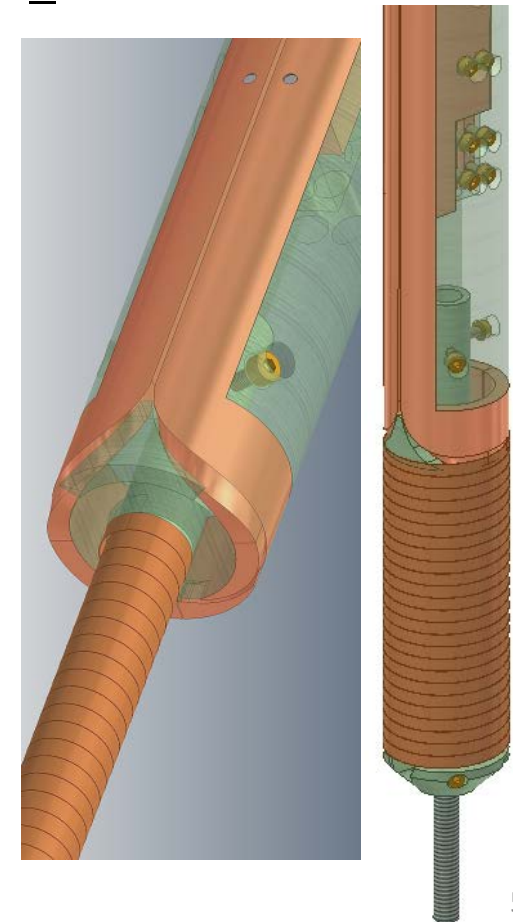
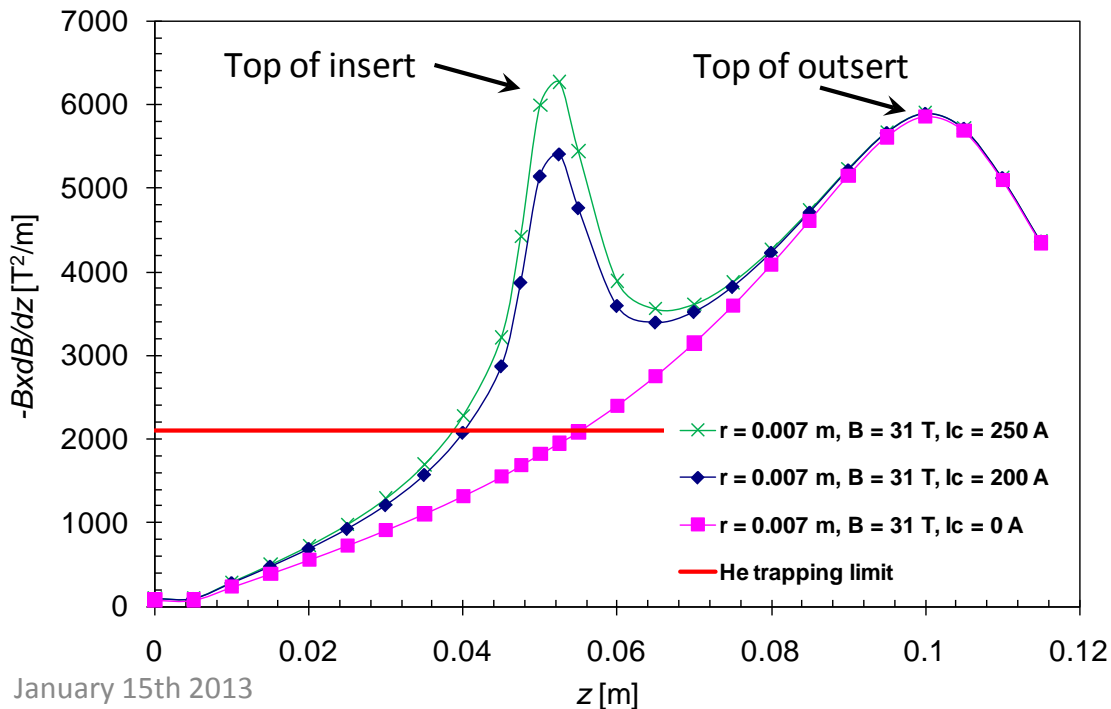
=> **NMR geared activities:** Avoid current redistribution seen in non-insulated dry-wound coils and its impact on field stability

- Coil reproduced short sample values taking effective field angle into account
- Rapid cool-down to 77 K (thermal shock) reproduced previous 77 K data and did not degrade coil
- **Decoupling works** but it comes at a cost: thermal conductivity (300 K)
 - Cu, Ag ~400 W/mK
 - Ceramics: ~ 1 W/mK
 - Plastics: ~ 0.1 – 0.4 W/mK



He Gas Bubble Trapping => New Terminal Design

- Early high field test coil failed at terminals
- Helium gas bubble** trapping above $\underline{B} \cdot \underline{B} > 21 \text{ T}^2/\text{cm}$
- New terminal concept: **Twist-bend junction**
 - Move terminal joint away from winding pack and high $\underline{B} \cdot \underline{B}$ area
 - Use copper conduction cooling
 - Compact design
 - Longer less resistive joints



REBCO LW High Field Coil



“Twist-bend”
coil termination

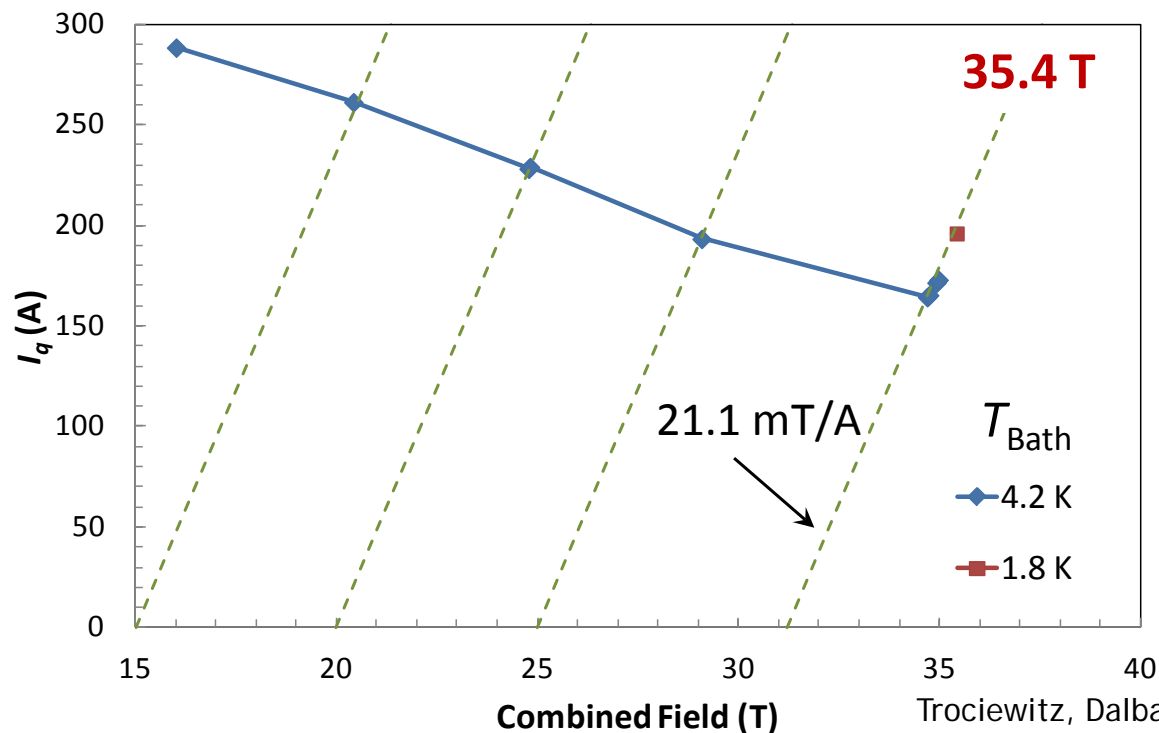
64.5 mm

- **Wet layer-wound, epoxy filled**
- **No splices**
- **Thin walled polyester heat- shrink tube insulated conductor**
- **Coil instrumented with array of voltage taps every 5 – 10 layers**

Conductor & Coil		EM Properties	
Cond. Width [mm]:	4.02	Operating Current [A]:	200
Cond. Thickness [mm]:	0.096	Je (Engineering) [A/mm ²]:	518.24
		Jw (Winding) [A/mm ²]:	308.93
Inner Radius [mm]:	7.16	B(0,0) [mT]:	4221.01
Outer Radius [mm]:	18.92	Coil Constant (0,0) [mT/A]:	21.11
Height [mm]:	64.52	L [mH]:	8.90
Layers [-]:	80	Total Field Energy [J]:	187.92
turns/Layer [-]:	14.65		
turns total [-]:	1172		
Cond. Length [m]:	96.03		

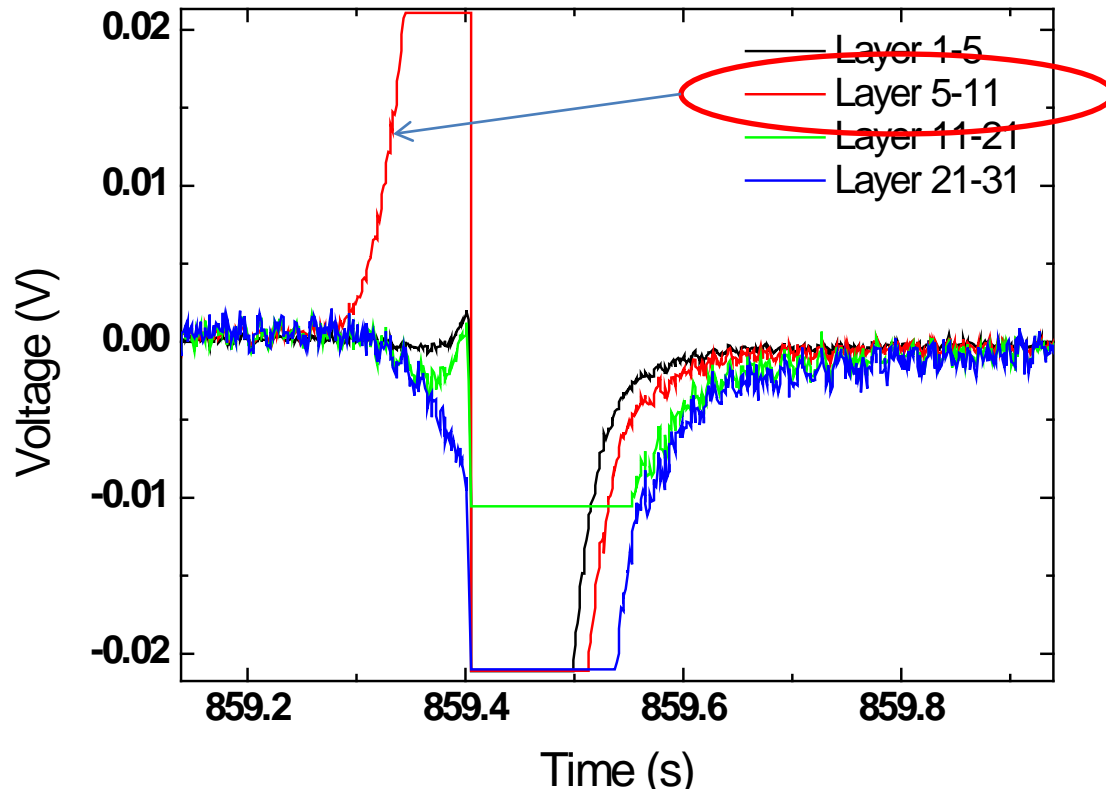
Field Generation and Coil Load Line

- **4.2 T field increment achieved in 31.2 T background field**
- **No coil degradation**
- **Introducing layer decoupling** during coil manufacturing, bypasses transverse stress weakness
- **Stress levels >340 MPa and conductor current density $J_e \sim 500 \text{ A/mm}^2$ are possible**



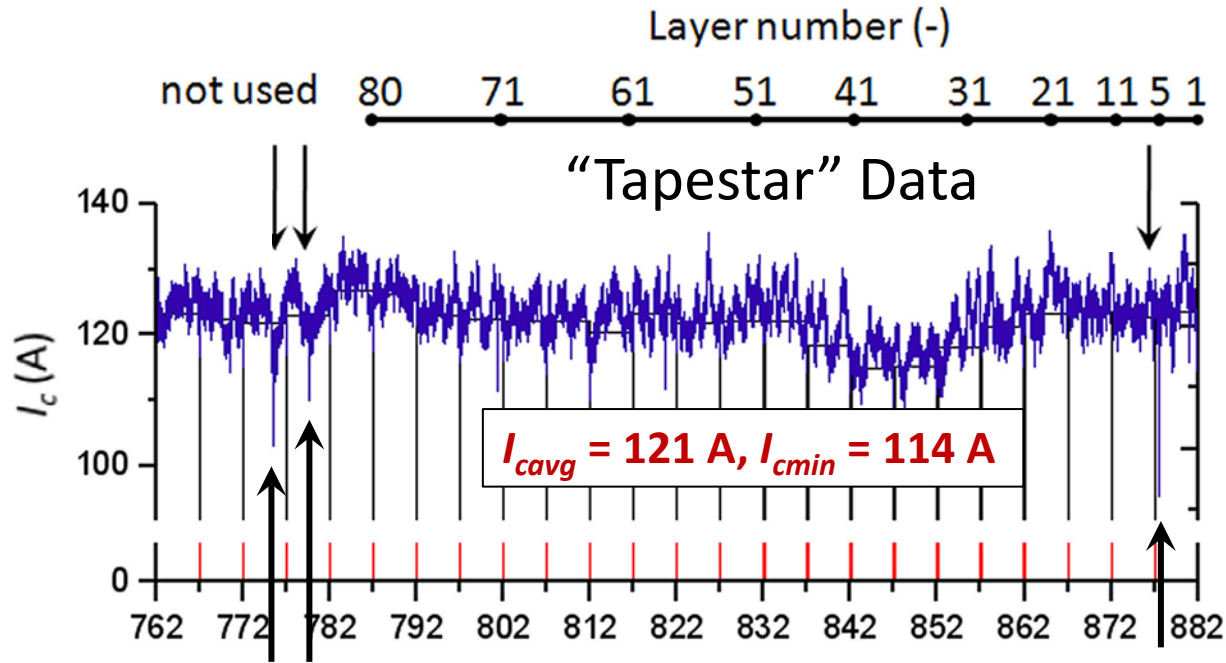
Trociewitz, Dalban-Canassy, Hilton et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. **99**, 2011

How Does the Coil Behave During Quench?



- **Layers 5-11 transition very early on (not theoretically the lowest I_c in the coil)**
- **Quench propagates into neighboring layers soon after**

How do Coil and Conductor Properties Compare?



Spikes not detected with LANLabs. length (m)
Continuous I_c testing (“YatesStar”)

Spike Occurs within
layers 5 - 11

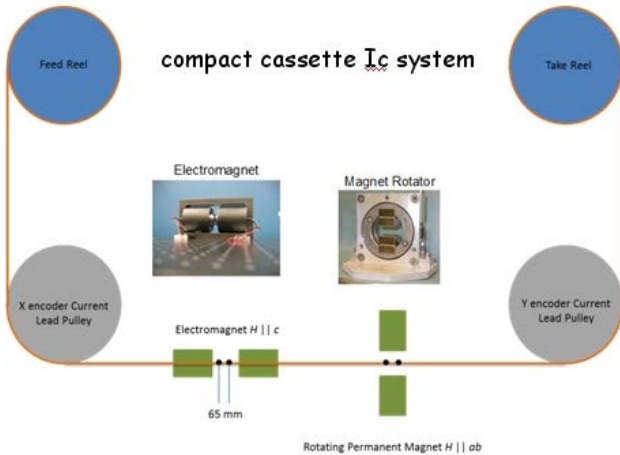
- Very high field magnets are possible -> NHMFL 32 T all s/c magnet project (uses ~10 km of conductor for 17 T REBCO section) => extensive testing needed
- Large long length inhomogeneities may cause sudden catastrophic coil failure during quench and need to be understood and best eliminated

Reel-to-reel I_c measurements @ 77 K

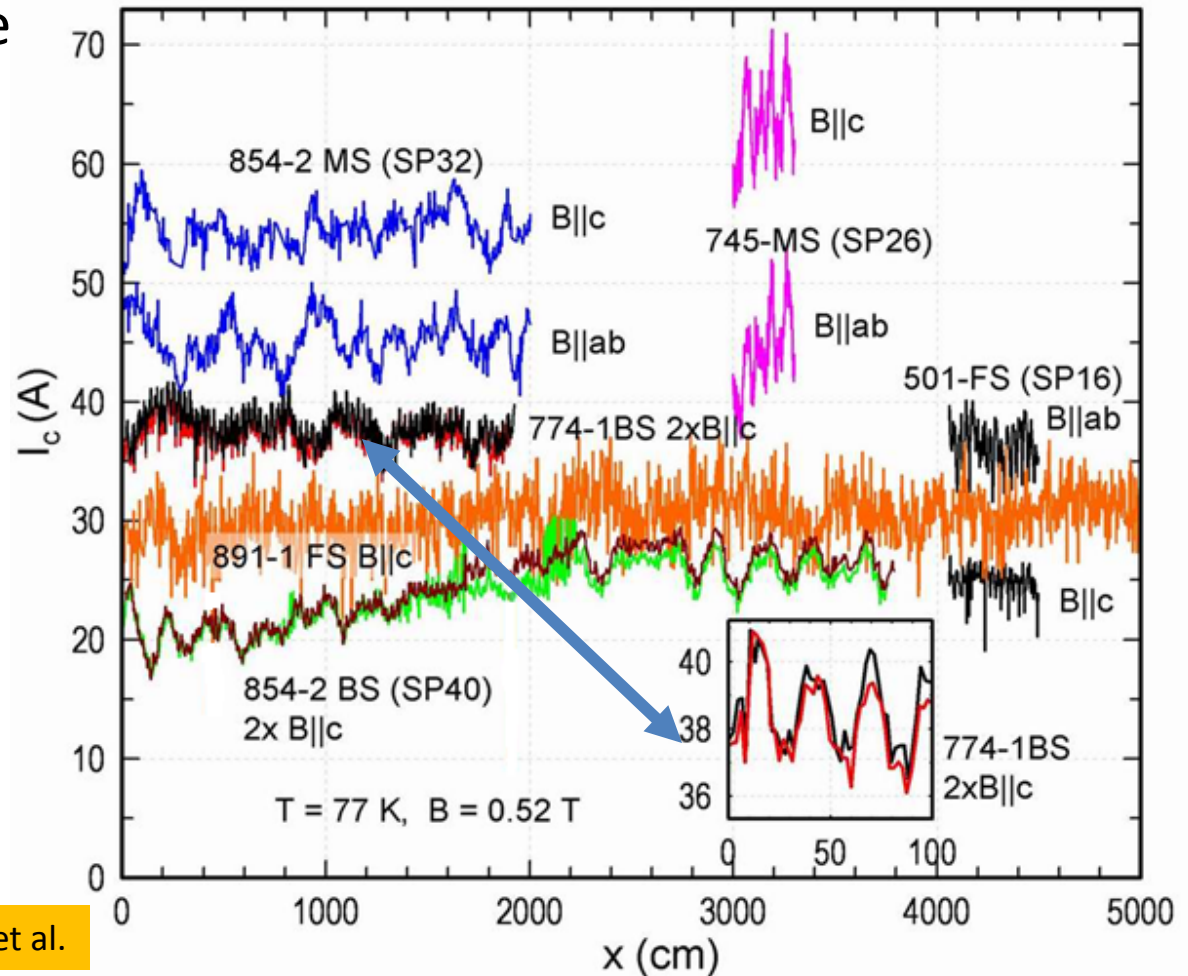
- Different tapes, rich “zoology”, **no defects!**
- Periodicity due to knife
- High reproducibility

YatesStar*

compact cassette I_c system



Sinclair, Jaroszynski et al.

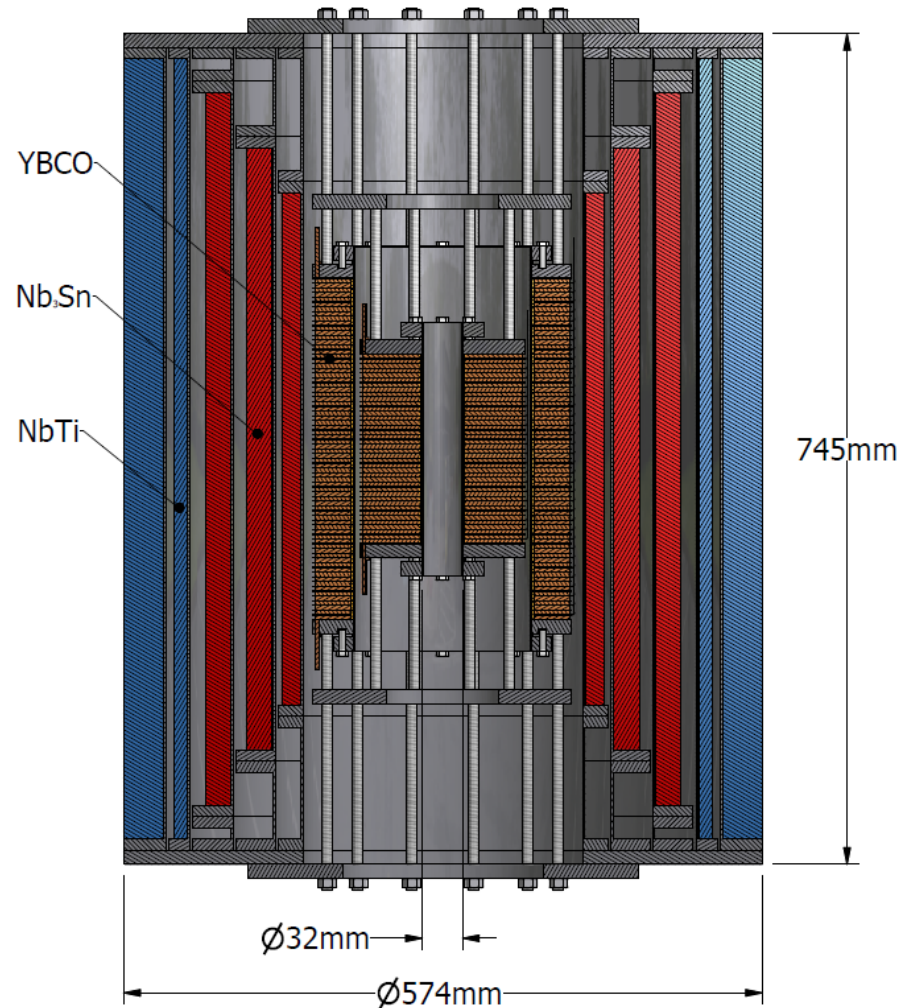


OUR EXPERIENCE IN REBCO COILS

- HTS R&D program => Layer wound (LW) coil for very high field – NMR demonstration
- 32T magnet => Double Pancake (DP) user magnet, LTS outsert, HTS insert

32 T All Superconducting User Magnet

- **Total Field** 32 T
- **Field inner YBCO coils** 17 T
- **Field outer LTS coils** 15 T
- **Cold inner bore** 32 mm
- **Current** 172 A
- **Inductance** 619 H
- **Stored energy** 9.15MJ
- **Uniformity (1 cm DSV)** 500 ppm
- **Dilution refrigerator** < 20 mK



Project Manager: Huub Weijers

Principal Investigator: Denis Markiewicz

Co-PI's: David Larbalestier, Steven Julian



32 T All Superconducting User Magnet

Outer magnet

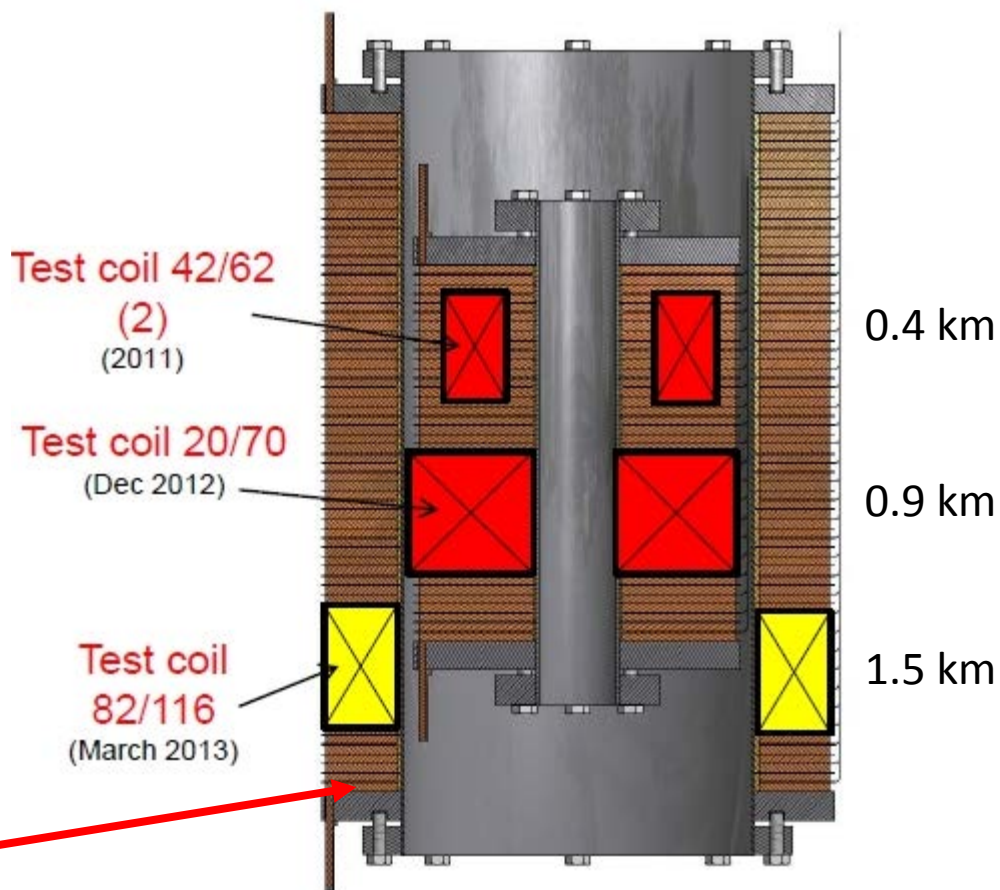
- 15 T, 250 mm bore, Nb₃Sn/NbTi
- Commercially supplied

Inner coils

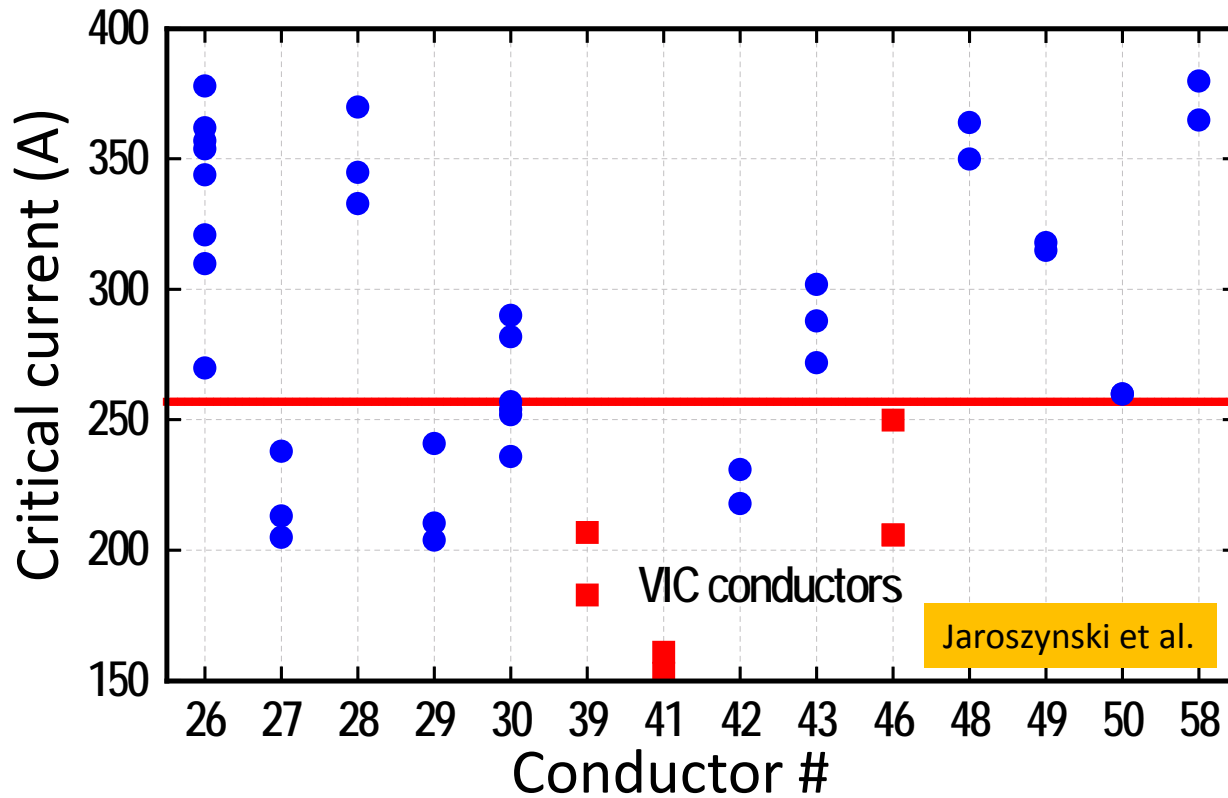
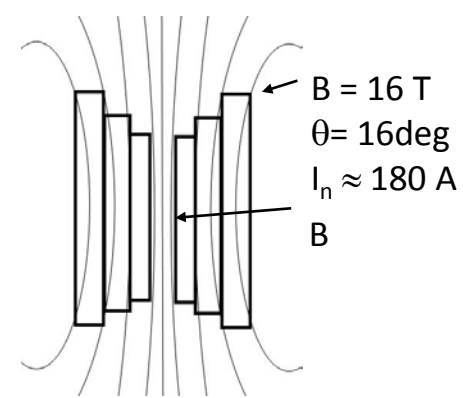
- 17 T, 34 mm bore YBCO coils
- In-house development
 - Coil winding technology
 - Joint technology
 - Insulation technology
 - Quench analysis and protection
 - Extensive component testing
 - YBCO characterization and quality check

CRITICAL POINT
16 T, 18 deg off
ab plane

YBCO Coils for 32 T
 Total ≈ 10 km conductor



Tests @ 18 deg off ab, 4.2 K, 16 T

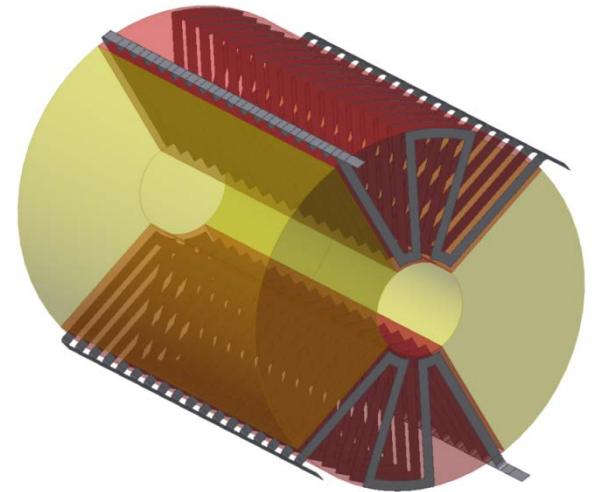


256 A = magnet current/0.7

- Again significant variations between conductors
- Some conductors do not meet criteria at 18 deg off !!! => grading envisioned

32 T Quench Protection Scheme

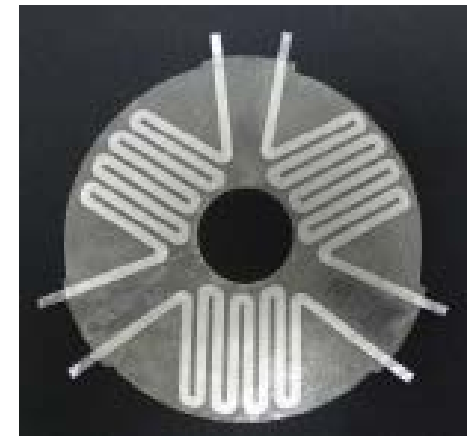
- Low quench propagation velocities, especially azimuthally and axially
- Passive protection methods are ineffective
- Active protection system with distributed heaters embedded in spacers between modules
- Performance of protection heaters being assessed: distribution, operation power, number of heaters in coil...



Distributed heater concept



Test coil heater spacer



32 T heater spacer



Food for Thoughts YBCO (1)

● Long length inhomogeneity may be/become an issue

● What is the most sensitive zone in the magnet?

● Where can a quench potentially occur?

- At the lowest I_c according to the design (B and T)
- At the lowest I_c driven by conductor defects (T and B)

● Screening currents may change the picture

● Potential to severely reduce coil I_c

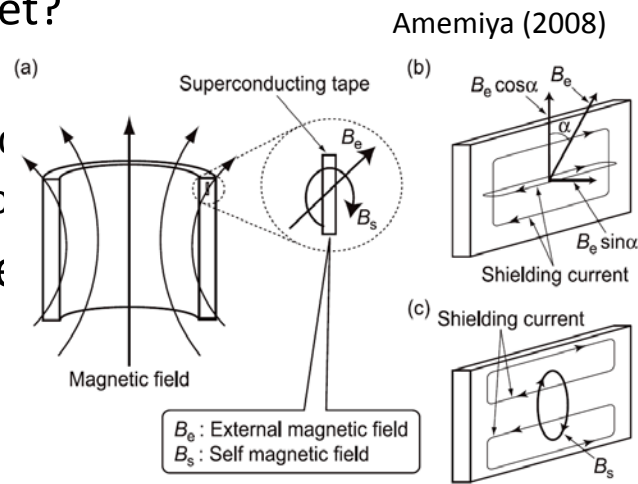
● Impact of coil stability (Yanagisawa)

● Conductor geometry

● Anisotropic: much lower I_{op}/I_c where B along ab plane => harder to protect against quench

● Physical geometry (layering, single filament) may lead to harder current redistribution in case of quench

● 77 K tests cannot be used to **predict 4.2 K performance**, but systematic LHe tests may become a show stopper in large systems





Food for Thoughts YBCO (2)

- Coated conductors in impregnated coils require an insulation
 - High mechanical and thermal integrity
 - Faster ramping than non insulated coils
 - Necessity of a thin highly thermally conductive insulation
 - High sensitivity to defects (single strand)
- He bubble trapping in large $\underline{B} \cdot \underline{B}$ regions = special terminal:
 - Regular right angle = resistive section in bubble region
 - Pig tails do not work physically with YBCO
 - Twist bent may limit the I_c , due to the conductor-field orientation in the twist
- Cabling technology is still fairly limited => limiting large magnet capabilities

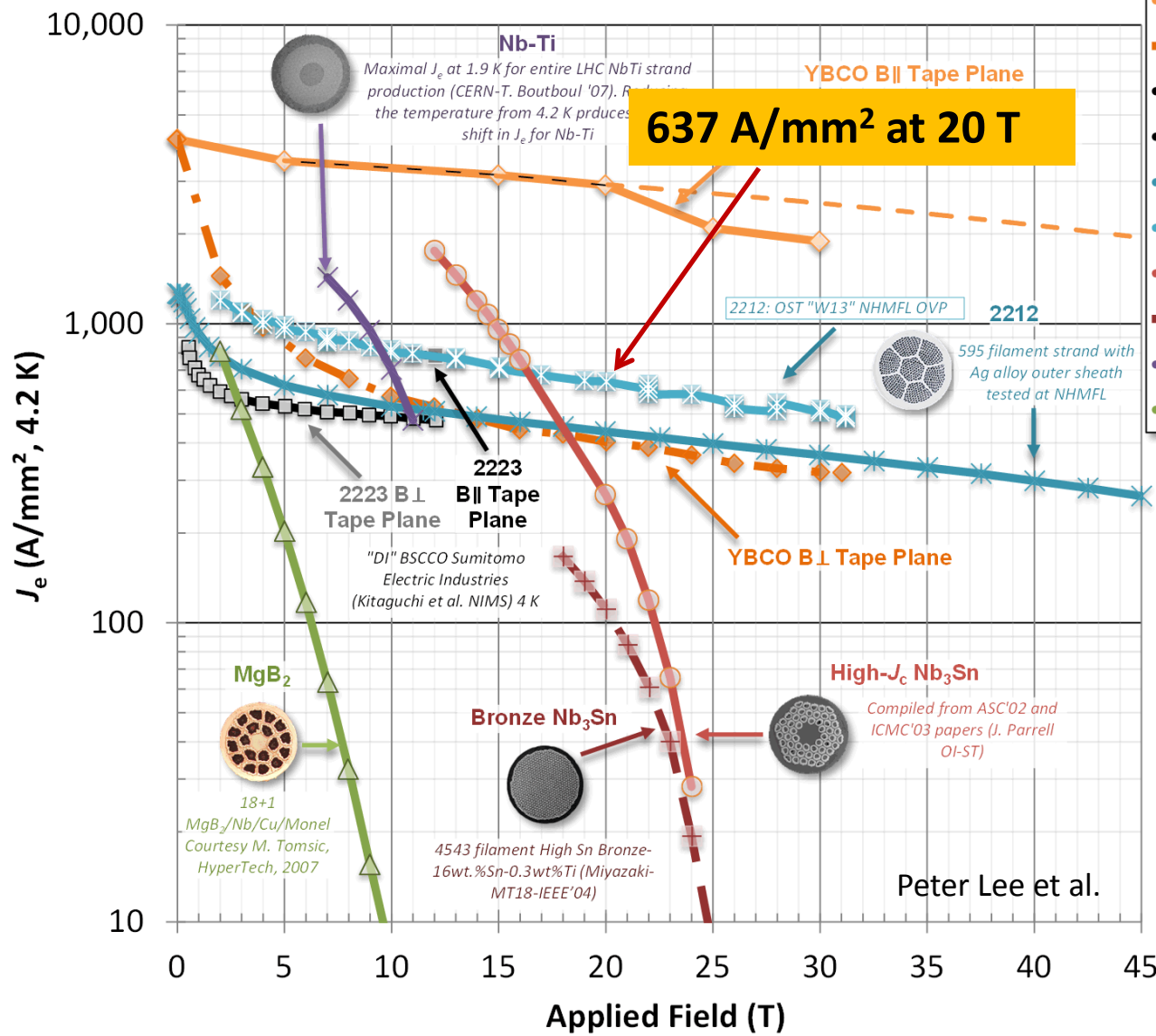
OUR EXPERIENCE IN BI2212 COILS

- Old coils showed overall low transport properties
- OP process => Current Bi2212 J_e comparable to YBCO J_e with B // c-axis
- Recent test: 2.6 T increment in 31.2 T background

Increasing J_w for Bi2212 Coils?

- New densification process yielding J_e similar to YBCO along c-axis direction
- Development of thin insulation => nGimat, in-house development: 10 x thinner than conventional
- Densification of coils => changes the geometry => importance of epoxy for integrity
- Long length homogeneity still under question but expected to be much better than before densification

Current Density Across Entire Cross-Section



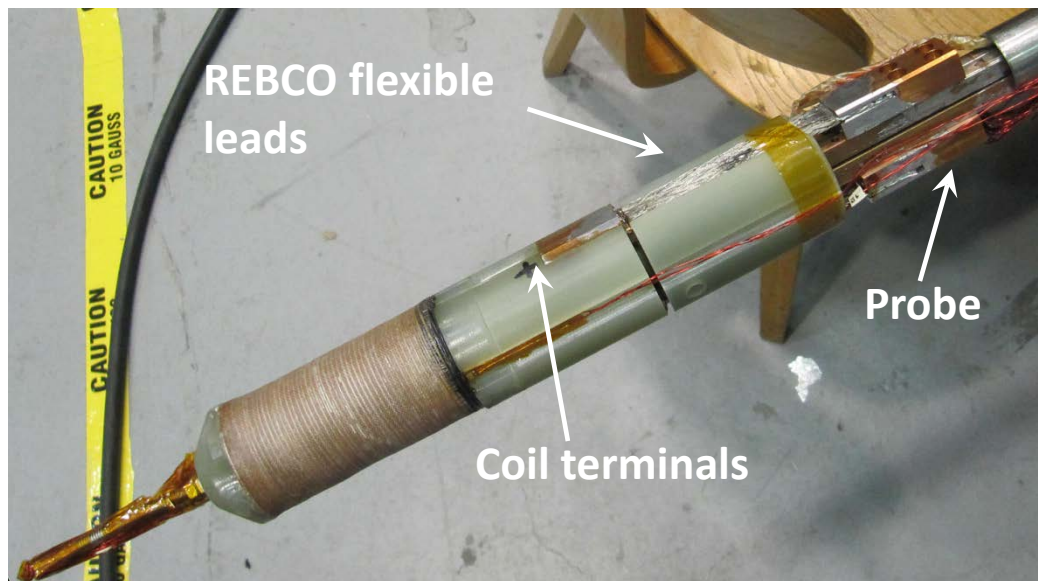
- ◆ YBCO: Tape || Tape plane
- ◇ YBCO: Tape ⊥ Tape plane
- Bi2223: B || Tape plane
- Bi2223: B ⊥ Tape plane
- * 2212: Round Wire 28% SC
- * 2212: OI-ST + NHMFL-OVP
- Nb₃Sn: Internal Sn RRP[®]
- ⊕ Nb₃Sn: High Sn Bronze
- × Nb-Ti: LHC 1.9 K
- △ MgB₂: 19Fil 24% Fill



Bi2212 Coil for OPHT and 31 T Test

- Coil as built (as designed): 47 (50) turns, 8 (8) layers, 36.35 (37.38) mm OD
- 2 innovations to drive $J_w \gg 100$ A/mm²
 - OP process
 - Thin insulation (15 μ m)
- Insulation (TiO₂-PPC) requires a preliminary heat treatment to burn out the organics
- Then “standard” HT in 10 bar OP O₂-Ar gas mixture (1 bar O₂ partial pressure)

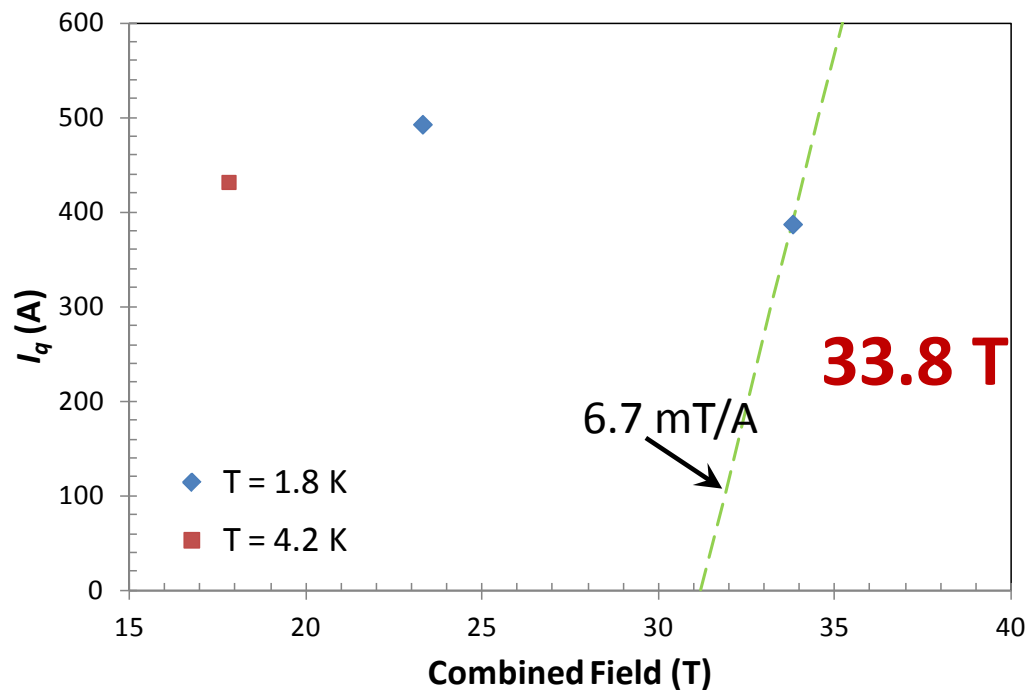
Configuration for 31 T test:



Wire dia. (mm):	1.40
nGimat Insulation (mm):	0.015
Turn-turn non-tightness (mm):	0.085
layer-layer tightness (mm):	-0.065
Inner Radius (a1) (mm):	7.25
Outer Radius (a2) (mm):	18.17
Height (2b) (mm):	71.21
Radial Layers (-):	8
Turnss/Layer (-):	47
Total turns (-):	376
Conductor Length (m):	30.03

Field Generation and Coil Load Line

- 2.6 T Field increment achieved in 31.2 T background field ($I_q = 388$ A, $J_w = 187$ A/mm²)
- Slight degradation on inner terminal after 4.2 K runs
- Lower I_c on terminal due to space restriction in reaction furnace + He bubble
- Total of about 20 in-field runs at ramp rates varying from 2.5 – 50 A/s
- Potential for much higher I_c in coils: $J_e = 252$ A/mm² vs. 637 A/mm² in short sample





Food for Thoughts Bi2212

- Bi2212 is back in the game!
- Multi-filamentary round wire conductor
 - Provides “easy” current path around defects
 - Filaments surrounded by Ag: better current transfer compared to YBCO
 - Isotropic conductor
 - No or less screening currents
- Conductor mechanically fragile
- OP Wind and React process rather cumbersome
- Long length inhomogeneity still unknown with new processes though expected to be decreased
- Conductor not useable above 20-30 K or so



No quench issues so far !

- Small coils
 - Highly instrumented
 - Slow transition of HTS
- => Controlled quenches with external dump resistor
- Won't be the same for larger magnets !

Summary

REBCO

- Insulation crucial in single strand => avoid delamination
- I_c non-uniformity problematic => What is the I_c of the coil?
- Conductor geometry => single filament and anisotropic
- Screening currents in high radial field regions => Influence on coil I_c map and field quality
- Limited cabling capability

Bi2212

- New Over-Pressure process allows unprecedented J_e very close to values observed in REBCO
- Insulation instrumental to increase J_w
- Multi-filamentary with all-around Ag matrix: good current transfer around defects, better longitudinal and potentially transverse quench propagation
- Mechanically weak conductor
- Rutherford cabling capability potentially applicable

THANK YOU !