



# Transverse stress in Roebel cables: design parameter space

Jerome Fleiter and Amalia Ballarino, CERN  
TE/MSC/SCD



# Outline

- Electrical characterization of Roebel cable with enhanced stabilization
- Transverse stress in Roebel cables: design parameter space
  - Prints of Roebel cables
  - Effective section of KIT and GCS cables
  - Design parameter space



# Characterization of Roebel cable in FRESCA (1/4)

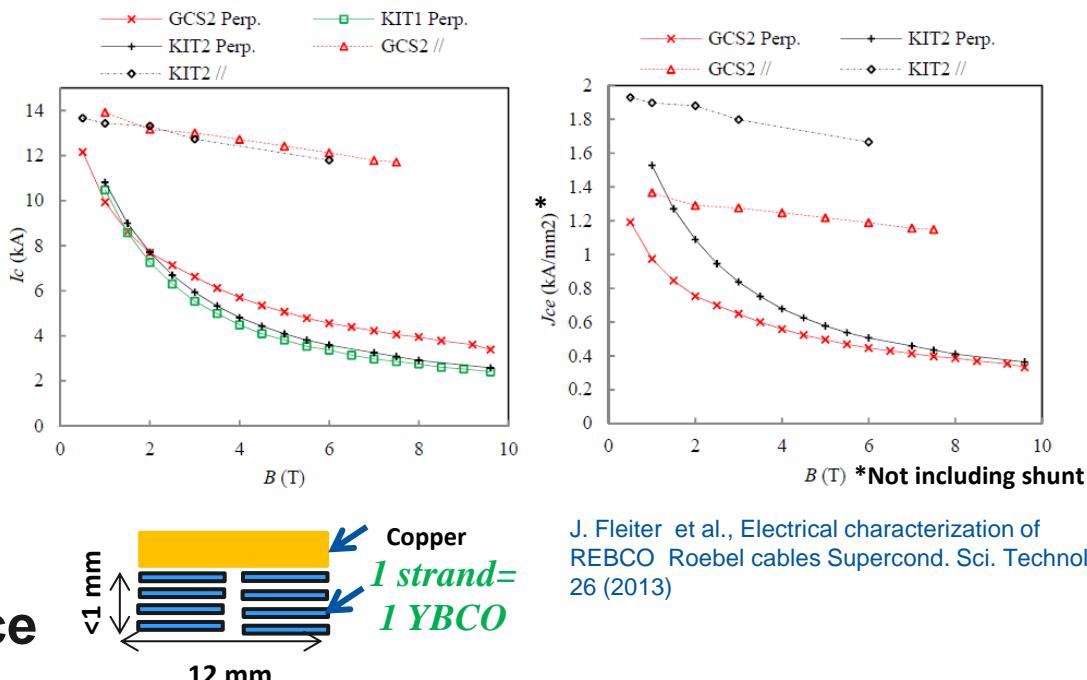
Measurements at 4.2 K in FRESCA in  $\perp$  and  $\parallel$  fields of up to 10T

No degradation of  $I_c$

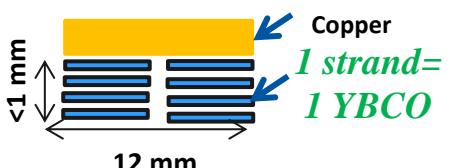
## Previous measurements:

- KIT 126mm pitch, 10 strands
- GCS 300 mm pitch 15 strands
- 12 mm<sup>2</sup> copper shunt
- No impregnation
- Vtaps on almost each strand
- Hall probes

$B \parallel : I_c > 11$  kA, low joint resistance



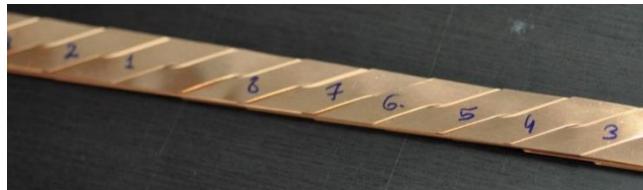
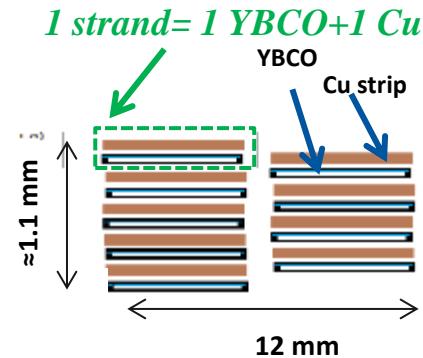
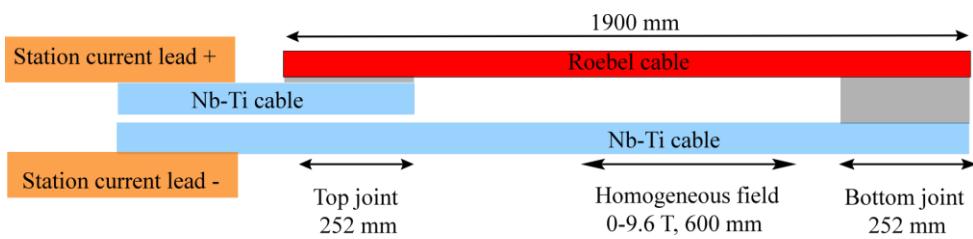
J. Fleiter et al., Electrical characterization of REBCO Roebel cables Supercond. Sci. Technol. 26 (2013)



# Characterization of Roebel cable in FRESCA (2/4)

## KIT cable with enhanced stabilization

- **9 YBCO strands**
- **Enhanced stabilization : 9 interleaved copper strands**
- $T_p = 126 \text{ mm}$ , Width=12 mm
- No impregnation
- Vtaps on each strand

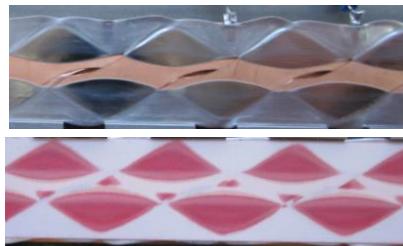


# Characterization of Roebel cable in FRESCA (3/4)

- 30 MPa transverse pre-stress for characterization
- Effective section ( $E_s$ ) found to be 2%

**Large peak stress (1.5 GPa) → plastic deformation and  $I_c$  reduction**

- Use of Sn-Pb shims =>  $E_s$  increases to ~35%



Red patches indicate  
stresses >10 MPa

Yield stress of  
Sn-Pb ~60 MPa

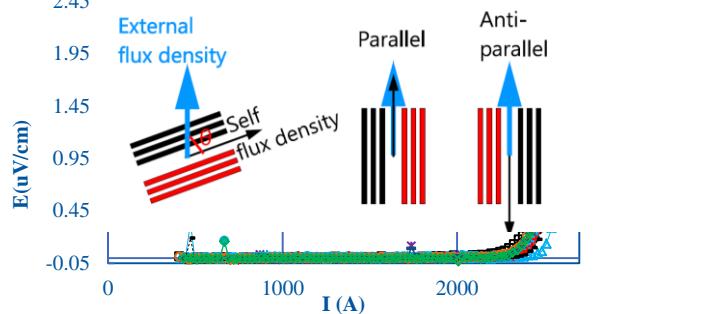
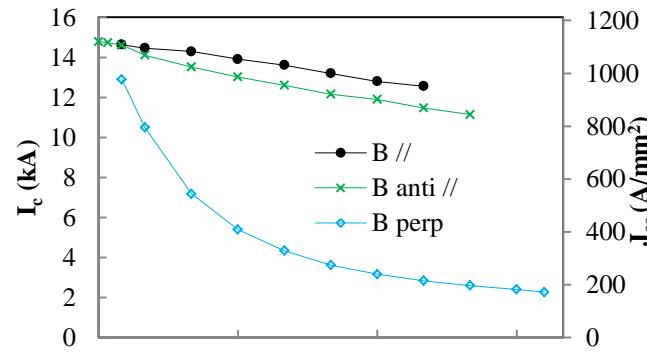
- **Shimming: possible method for managing  $E_s$**

# Characterization of Roebel cable in FRESCA (4/4)

- Measured  $I_c$  and  $J_{ce}$ 
  - **B (perp, 9.6 T): 2.3 kA - 190 A/mm<sup>2</sup>**
  - **B (//, 7 T) : 13 kA - 900 A/mm<sup>2</sup>**
- With respect to previous 10 strands cable:  
**-12% of  $I_c$  in perp field, +9% of  $I_c$  in // field**
- **8 quenches at 13 kA, 900A/mm<sup>2</sup>, 20 mV threshold**  
 **$I_c$  reduction < 3.5%**
- Low joint resistance = 1 nΩ, Homogeneous current distribution

➤ Good quench performances

➤ Next test : very high current Roebel cable ( $I_c \sim 20$  kA: 16 YBCO+8 copper)



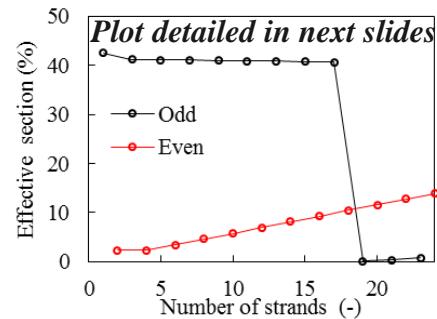
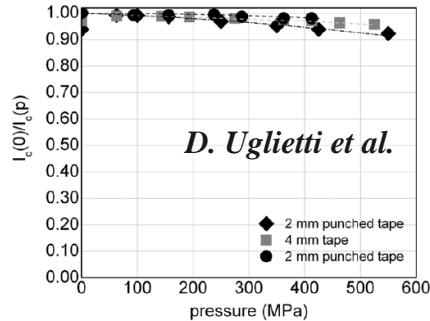
# Outline

- Characterization Roebel cable with enhanced stabilization
- Transverse stress in Roebel cables: design parameter space
  - Prints of Roebel cable
  - Effective section of KIT and GCS cables
  - Design parameter space



# Which is the transverse effective surface of a Roebel cable?

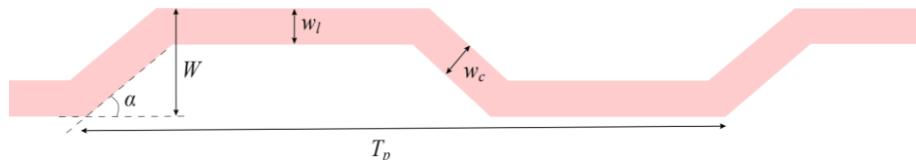
- Stress of **100-200 MPa** in high field magnet coils
- YBCO resilience  $\sim$  **600 MPa**
- **Effective section  $\geq 40\%$  to contain peak stress and control inter-strand resistance**
- **Impregnation helps to distribute stress but:**
  - Process of impregnation under **stress**
  - $E_{\text{epoxy}} \ll E_{\text{conductor}}$
  - **Issues with delamination**
  - **Do not reduce interstrand resistance**
- **Management of  $E_s$  in dry Roebel cables = > experimental and numerical tools**



# Measurement of transverse effective section

## Various 12mm wide Roebel cables

- **KIT**  $T_p=126\text{mm}$ ,  $N_b=2-10$
- **GCS**  $T_p=300\text{ mm}$ ,  $N_b=15-24$



Manufacturer	KIT	GCS
Tape thickness (mm)	0.1	0.1
W (mm)	12	12
$w_l$ (mm)	5.5	5
$w_c$ (mm)	5.5	6
$T_p$ (mm)	126	300
$\alpha$ ( $^{\circ}$ )	30	30

## Mould and Fujifilm paper to make prints (300 K)

- 300 mm long stainless steel mould
- HS film (10-50 MPa)
- Average stress of 30 MPa



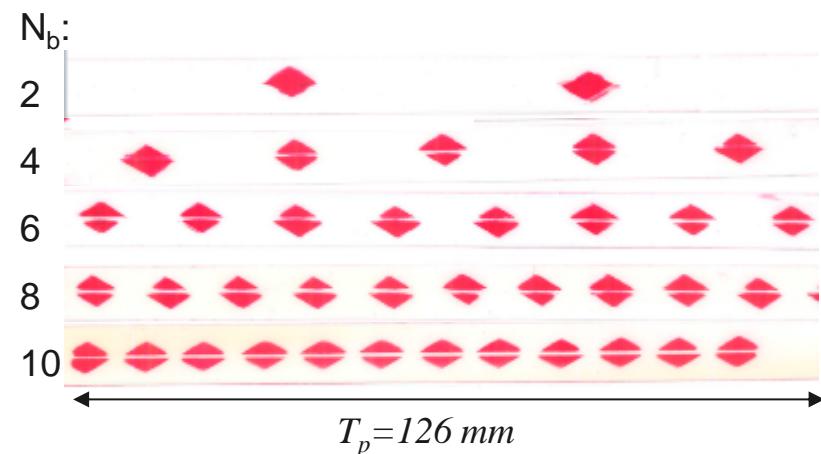
Red patches indicate  
stresses >10 MPa



## cables

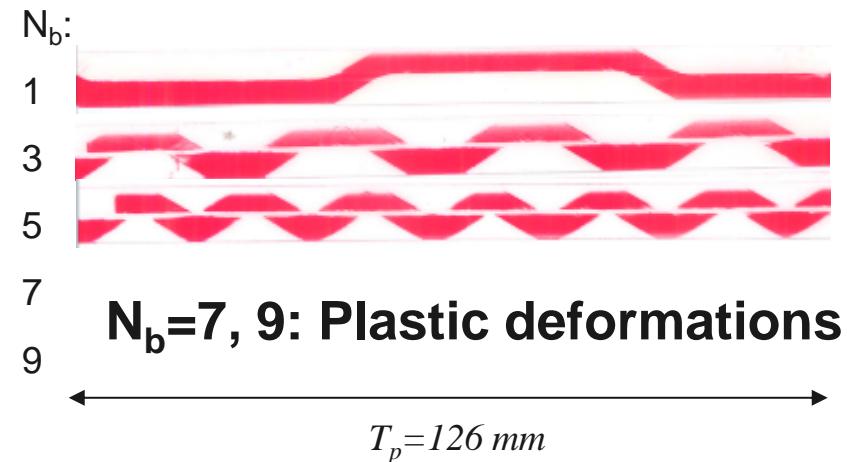
### Even number of strands:

- **Symmetric** distribution
- **Stress patches at crossings**
- **Low effective section**



### Odd number of strands:

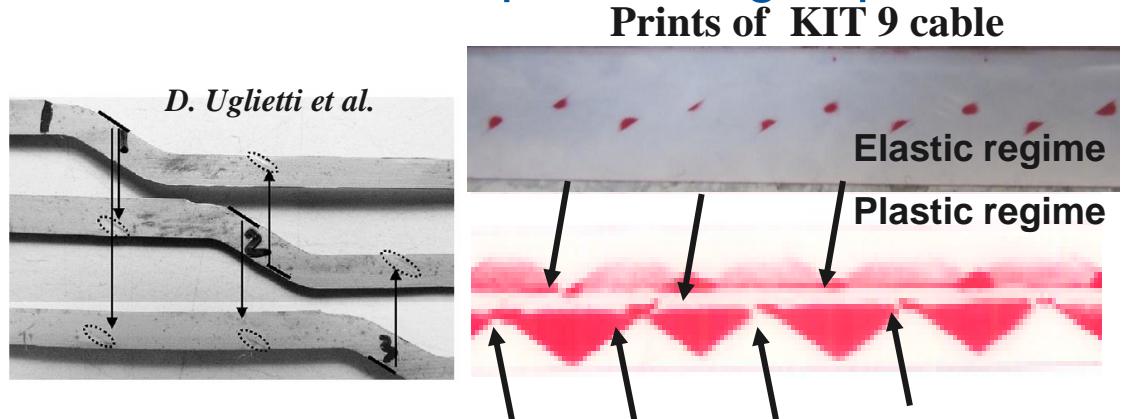
- **Asymmetric** distribution
- **Large effective section but interferences at large  $N_b$  ( $N_b=7$  and 9)**



# Plastic deformations of Roebel cable

For specific configurations, strands were stamped during experiment

- **KIT 7,9 strands**
- **GCS 19,21,23 strands**



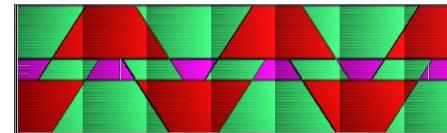
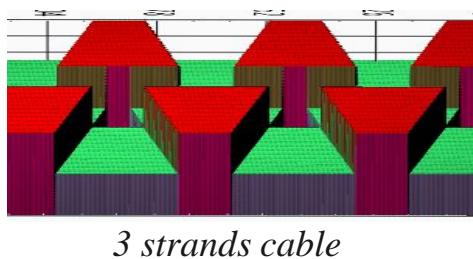
Stamped cables:

- tiny effective section in **elastic** regime (<2%)
- larger effective section in **plastic** regime (>30%) =>Irreversible reduction of  $I_c$

➤ **Stamped cables have degraded  $I_c$**

# Semi-analytical 2-D model

- Model compute **cable thickness** ( $\hat{\wedge} t_{\text{tape}}$ ) as function of  $T_p$ ,  $N_b$ ,  $W$ ,  $w_l$ ,  $d_i$ , and  $\alpha$
- **Elastic strain regime**, no impact of tape thickness
- **Transverse loads on thicker spots of the cable**
- Cable thickness post processed to Red&Grey image



3 strands cable top view

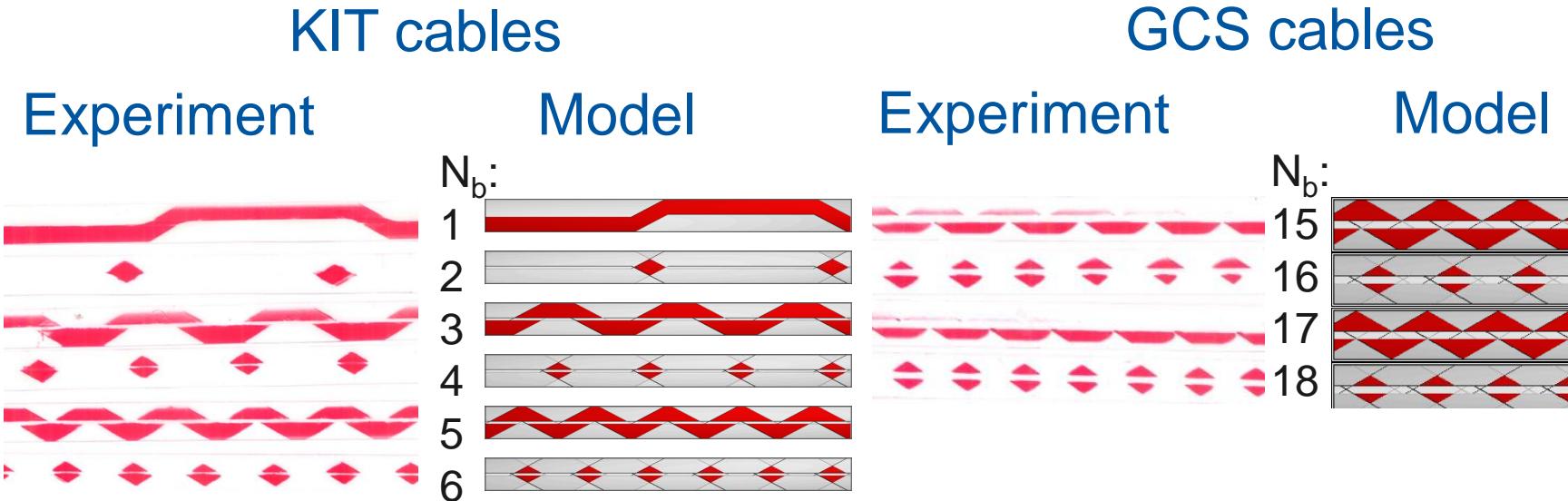


*Red=thicker spots ( $t=t_{\max}$ ) => stress  
Grey =thinner spots ( $t < t_{\max}$ ) => no stress*

- Model allow to compute print and effective section of cable



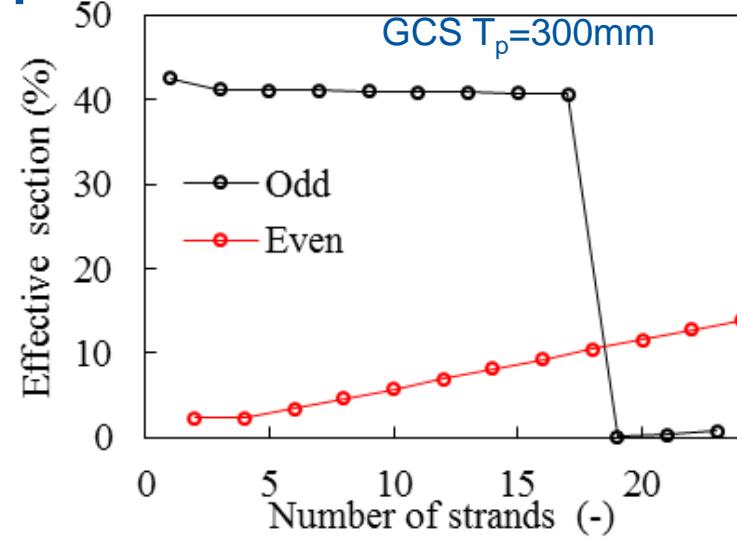
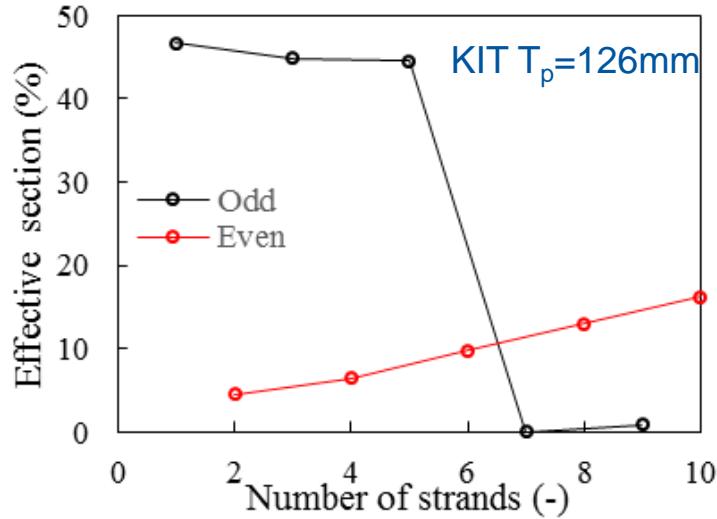
# Cable prints: model vs. measurements



➤ Perfect agreement between computed prints and measurements

# The effective section of Roebel cables

## Estimation of $E_s$ from the computed prints



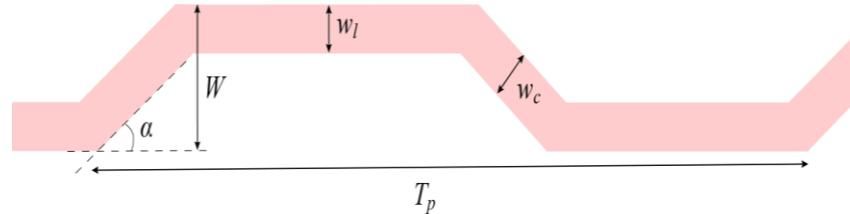
Even number of strands:  $E_s=4\text{-}16\%$

Odd number of strands :  $E_s = 40\text{-}50\%$   
for  $N_b < N_c$

# Transverse stress: design parameter space

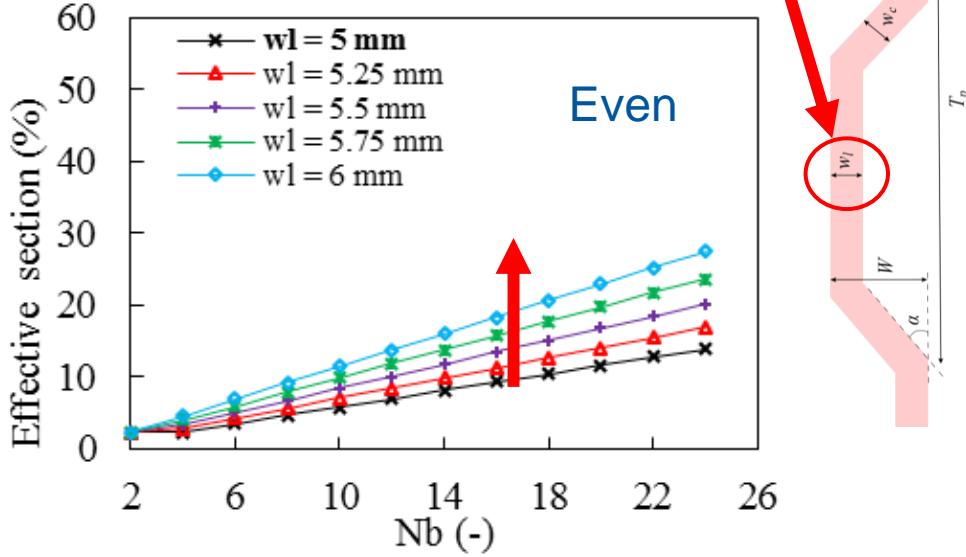
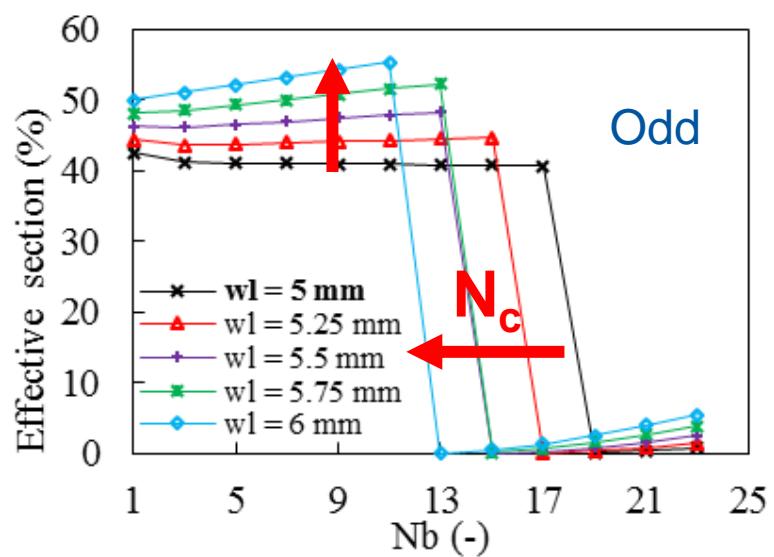
Illustrated with a case study:

- Meander tape
  - $T_p = 300$  mm,  $\text{Alpha}=30^\circ$
  - $W= 12$  mm,  $w_l= 5$  mm  $w_c=6$  mm
- Cable  $N_b=2-24$
- 2-D model in elastic strain regime
- Parametric analysis of  $E_s$  as function of  $w_l$ ,  $w_c$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $T_p$
- $N_c$ : critical odd number of strand before  $E_s$  drops to 0



# Design parameter space: longitudinal width ( $w_l$ )

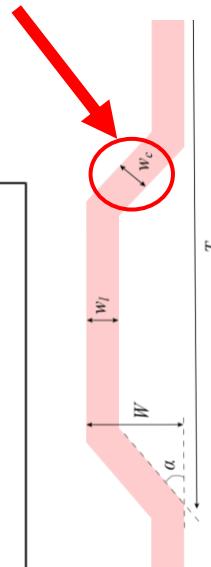
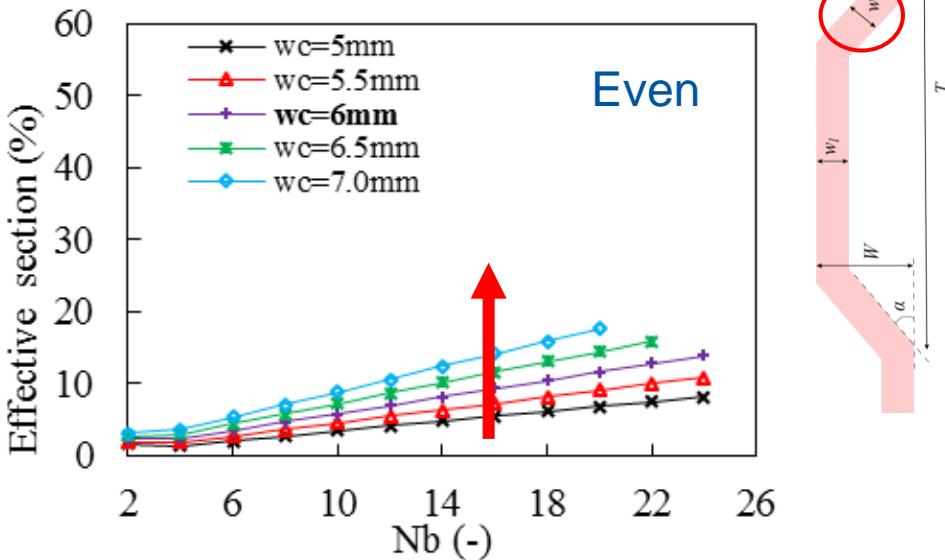
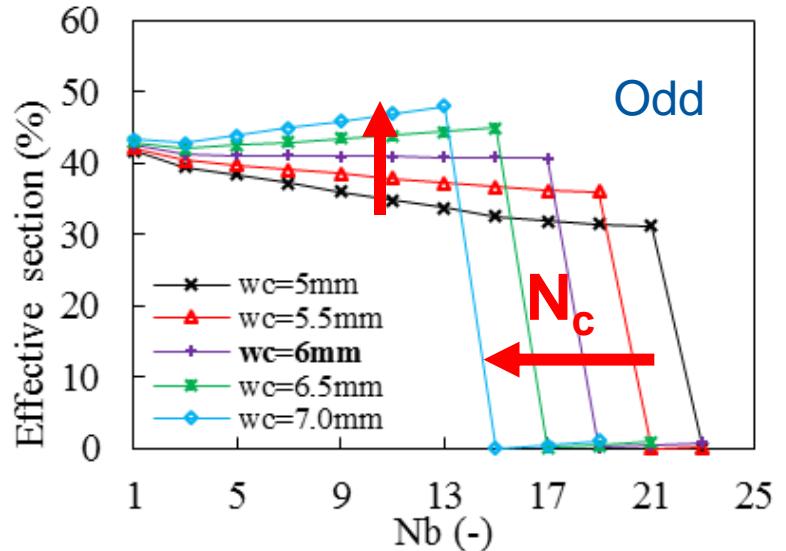
Increase of  $w_l \Rightarrow$  increase meander tape  $I_c$  and reduce lateral sponging



- Rise of  $w_l \Rightarrow$  increase of  $E_s$  (odd&even) but decrease of  $N_c$  (odd)

# Design parameter space: longitudinal width ( $w_c$ )

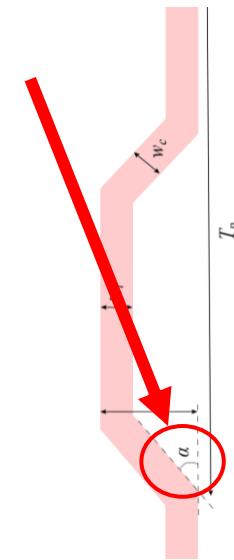
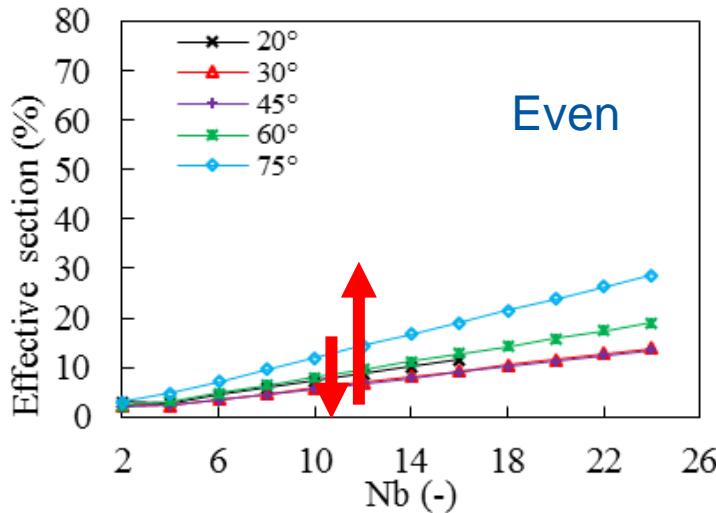
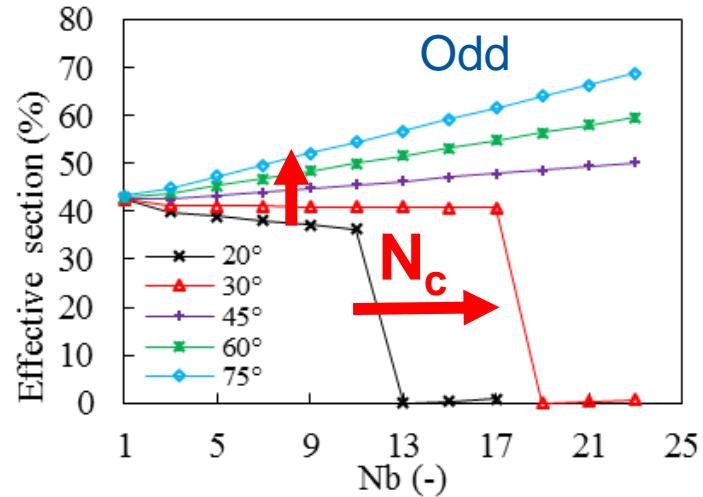
Increase of  $w_c \Rightarrow$  increase meander tape  $I_c$



- Rise of  $w_c \Rightarrow$  increase of  $E_s$  (odd&even) but reduce  $N_c$  (odd)

# Design parameter space: crossing angle ( $\alpha$ )

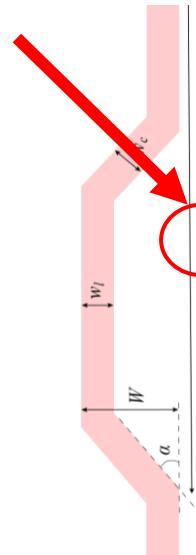
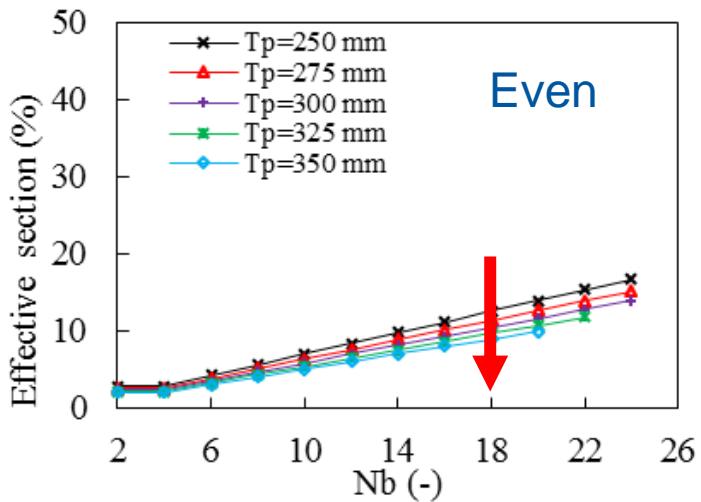
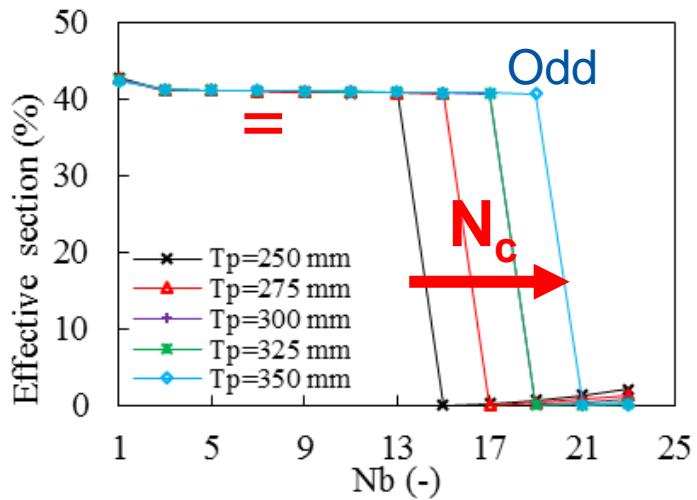
Increase of  $\alpha \Rightarrow$  increase  $N_{b\max}$ , longitudinal mechanical properties?



- Rise of  $w_c \Rightarrow$  increase of  $E_s$  (odd&even) and  $N_c$  (odd)

# Design parameter space: transposition pitch ( $T_p$ )

Increase of  $T_p \Rightarrow$  less flexibility for bending



- Rise of  $T_p \Rightarrow$  increase  $N_c$  (odd) and reduce  $E_s$  (even)

# Conclusions

- Successful characterization in LHe of high-current Roebel cables about 2 m long  
Handling and understanding of mechanical stress, development of low-resistance joints
- Roebel cable with enhanced stabilization
  - High performances:  $I_c$  @ 10 T=2.3-10 kA ,  $J_{ce}=190-900$  A /mm<sup>2</sup>
  - Good quench performances at high current
  - Homogeneous current distribution
- Roebel cable transverse effective section
  - 2D- model to compute prints and  $E_s$
  - Typical  $E_s$  values: 50% (odd) and 20% (even)
  - Avoid numerous odd number of strands (plastic deformations)
  - Room for optimization: increase  $\alpha$ , manage  $N_b$
- After having decided the operating current and field, we can elaborate the optimised cable configuration



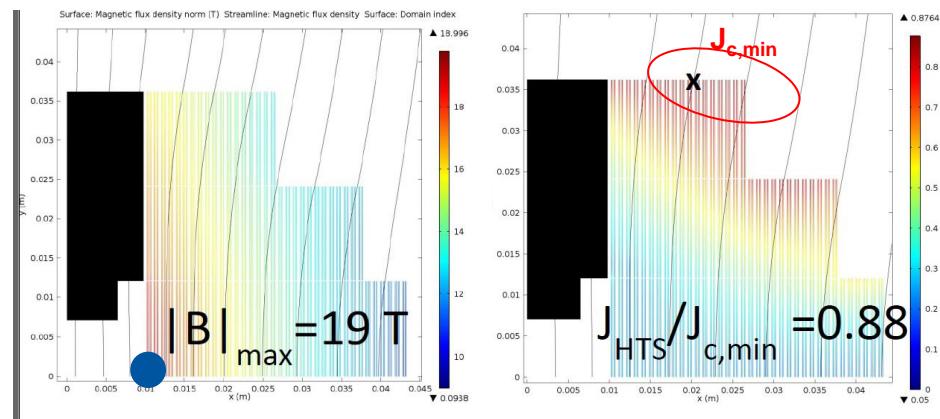
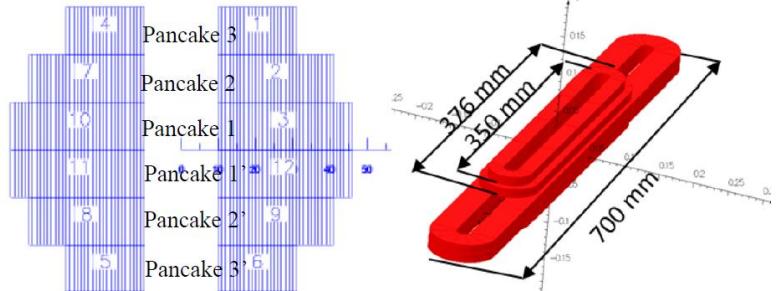
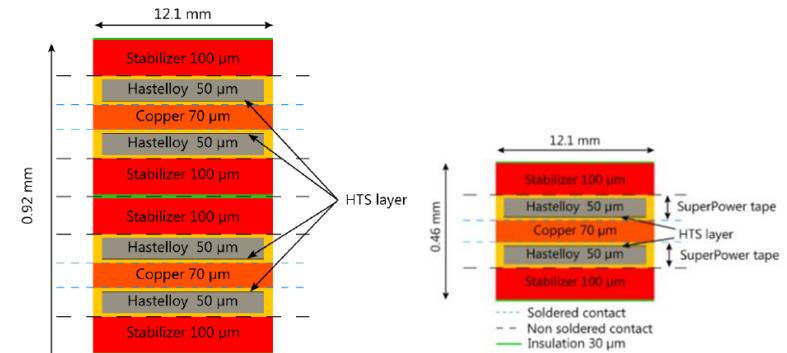


[www.cern.ch](http://www.cern.ch)

# EuCARD1 the HTS insert

EuCARD1 dipole: 6 T from HTS, 13 T from  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$

- Cable=2 sub-cables (each 2 YBCO tapes+ Cu)
- $I_{\text{nom,cable}} = 2.8 \text{ kA} @ (B_0=19 \text{ T})$ ,
- $R_{\min} = 10 \text{ mm}$
- Critical spot of coil: 15 T, 77° (@ $B_0=19 \text{ T}$ )



# EuCARD1 HTS sub cable qualification

- Critical spot of coil: 15 T, 77° (@ $B_0=19$  T)
- $J_c$  (15 T, 77°) >  $J_c$  (10 T, 0°) => **qualification in FRESCA**

## Characterization at CERN of sub cable

- 4 K,  $B \Leftarrow$ :  $I_c$  (9.6 T)=1.8 kA,  $n= 40\text{-}50$ ,  $R_j=76$  n $\omega$  (intrinsic)
- 77 K, 0T,  $I_c = 734$  A, No damage at  $R_b=10$  mm

