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Bi-2212 high-field magnet technology at Fermilab: Prototype overpressure processing coil fabrication and quench protection studies

Tengming Shen, Fermilab, November 14, 2014

With inputs from Pei Li (Fermilab), Liyang Ye (Fermilab & NCSU), Gene Flanagan (Muons Inc.), Lance Cooley (Fermilab), members of BSCCo, and collaborations with Justin Schwartz (NCSU).

Work supported by U.S. DOE-OHEP through early career program, SBIR-STTR program and GARD program

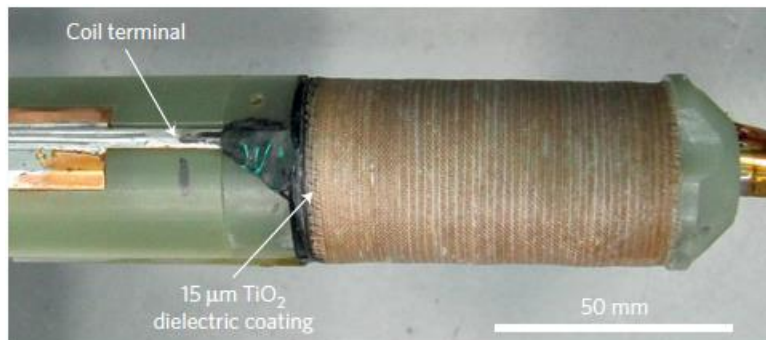


Big 2212 steps in 2004-2014

- **VHFSMC (ARRA, \$4 million, 2009-2011), and BSCCo**
 - Industry supplied over 7 km of strand
 - Good Rutherford cables were made
 - Cable-wound racetracks achieving 75% of short sample
 - Small solenoids operating at stresses of >100 MPa in fields up to 32 T were made.
- **Melt processing/wire design/ J_c relationships better understood**
 - Removing gas bubbles leads to high J_c .
 - Leakage caused by creep rupture of silver driven by internal gases
- **Better insulation technology available**
- **Breakthrough in J_c – 20 T (4.2 K) J_E exceeds 700 A/mm²**
 - New paradigm: overpressure processing – heat treat conductor in a high pressure external gas
 - used to be 300 A/mm² in short commercial wire
 - used to be 200 A/mm² in coils

Deploying OP 2212 for applications and some driving questions

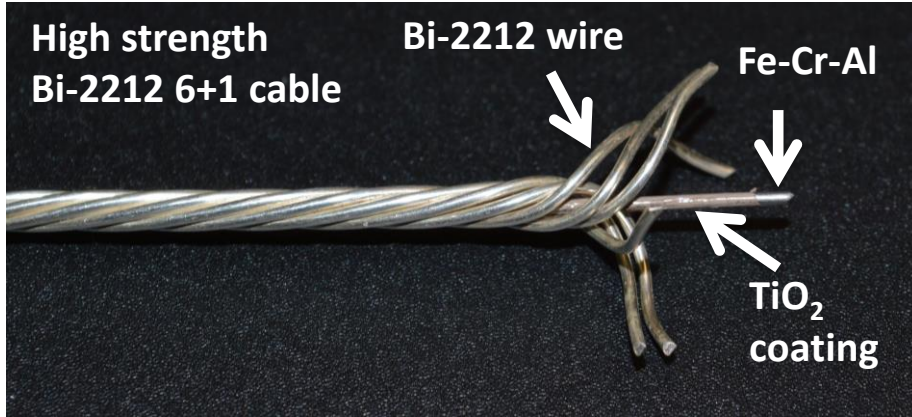
- **Coil fabrication common issues**
 - What insulation and structural materials to use?
 - How to heat treat a coil with +/-2C control?
- **Overpressure melt processing coil engineering**
 - Can the success of overpressure processing be replicated in coils?
 - Will OP work well with cables?
 - How easy is overpressure melt processing @100 bar with +/-2C control?



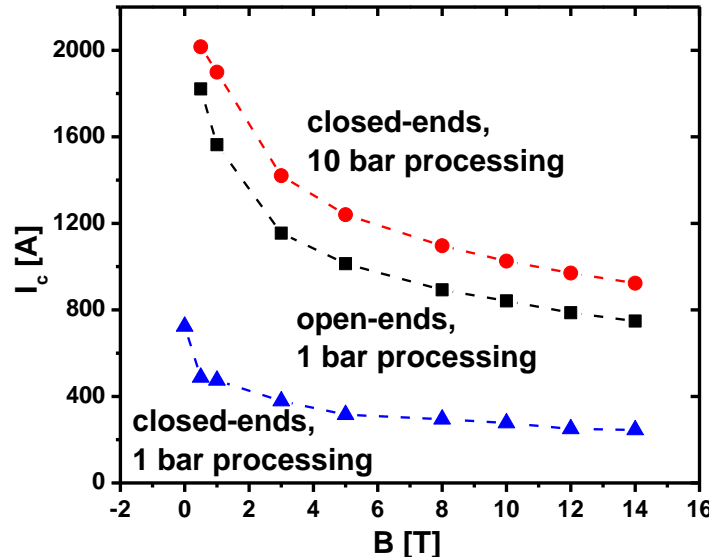
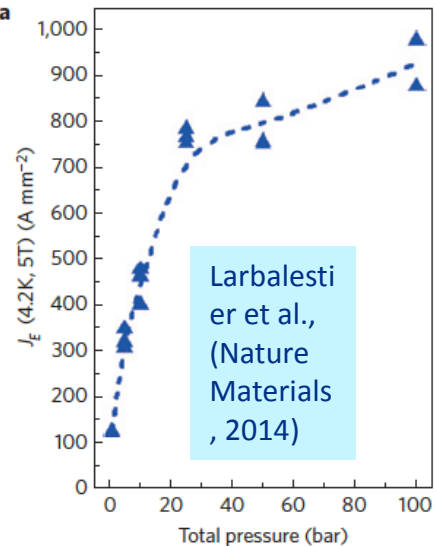
10 bar **OP**; $J_E=252 \text{ A/mm}^2$
at 33.8 T (coil **quenched**).
Add 2.6 T to 31.2 T
background.

Larbalestier et al.,
(Nature Materials, 2014)

How does OP work out on cables? – Still effective



Single-strand data



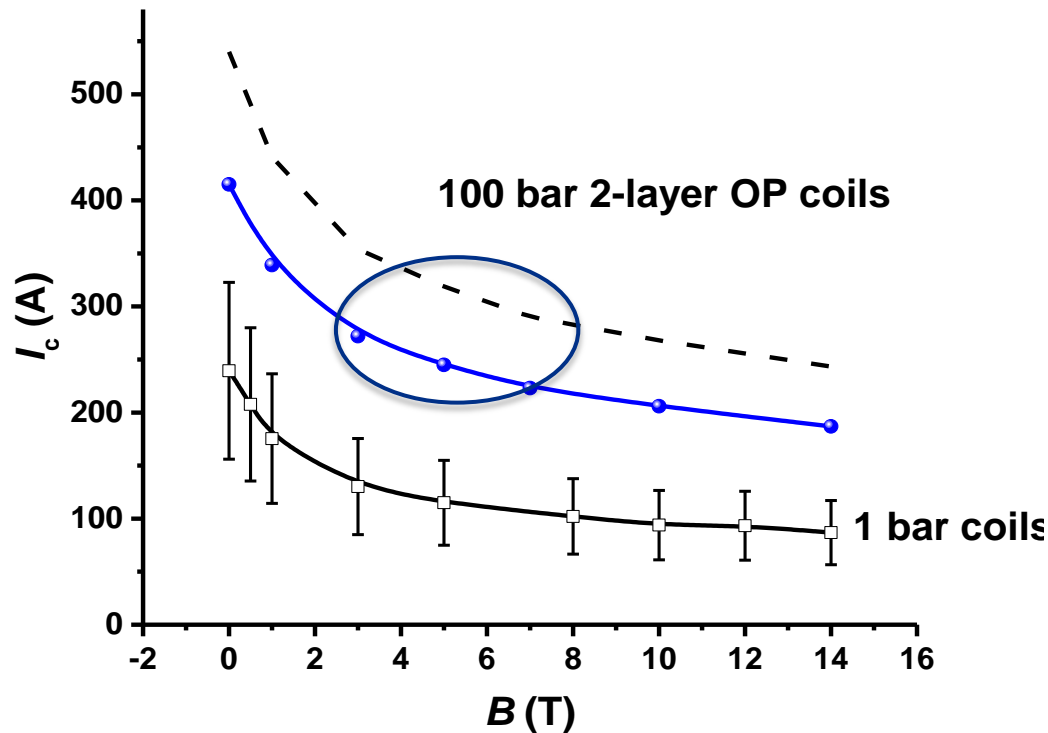
Shen, Jiang et al., to be submitted to SuST and to appear in ArXiv

Average J_e (strand in 10 bar OP cable) = 415 A/mm²

Though two 100 bar OP attempts produced $J_e=500$ A/mm²

Prototype OP solenoids yielded I_c that is 2-2.6 times that of 1 bar solenoids

- Muons Inc – Fermilab, U.S. DOE-OHEP STTR project
- OP coil $I_c(5\text{ T})=250\text{-}320\text{ A}$ vs. typical $120\pm 40\text{ A}$ in 1 bar coils (0.8 mm strand)
 - 400 A for the best witness sample ($J_E=900\text{ A/mm}^2$)



FNAL 100 bar OP system
Hot zone – 16 cm x 50 mm diameter

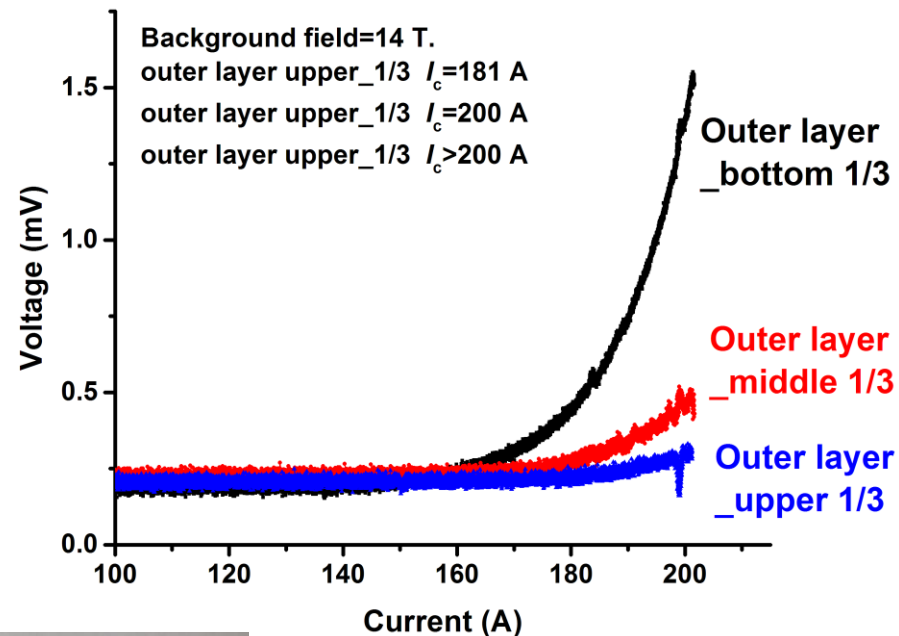
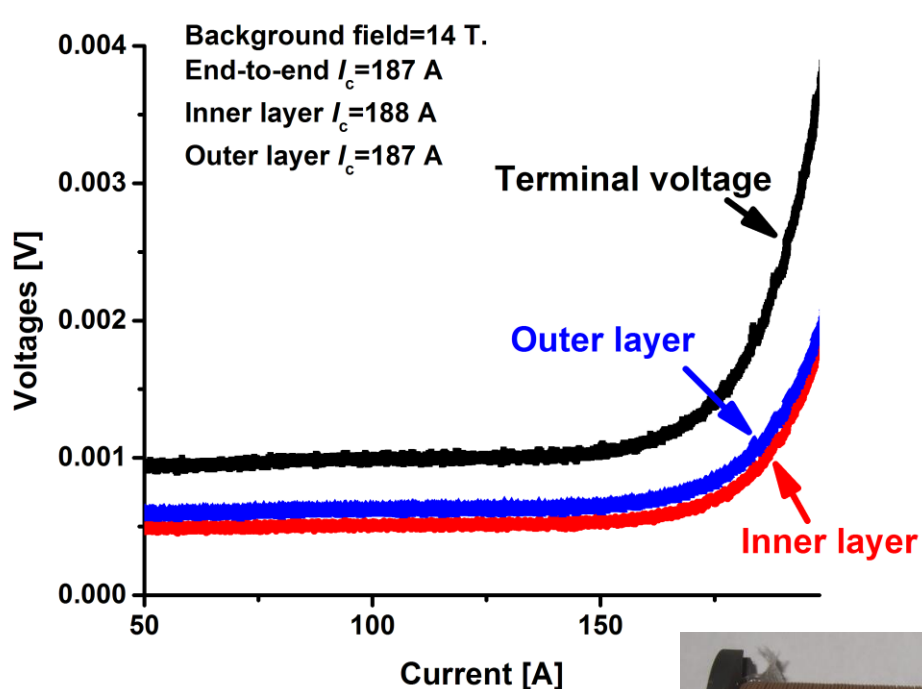


OP 2-layer coil; conductor length=11 m; nGimat insulation



Good superconducting transition seen, despite that coils were reacted in a temperature gradient; insulation is good as well

- Inner layer $I_c \approx$ Outer layer I_c
- No electrical shorts – nGimat TiO_2 insulation works well.
- Non-uniform Coil I_c – coil reacted in a temperature gradient

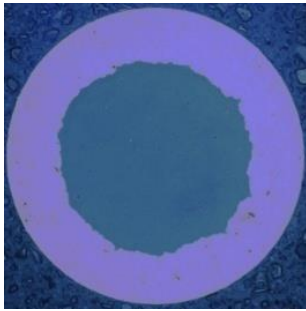


OP 2-layer coil; conductor length=11 m;

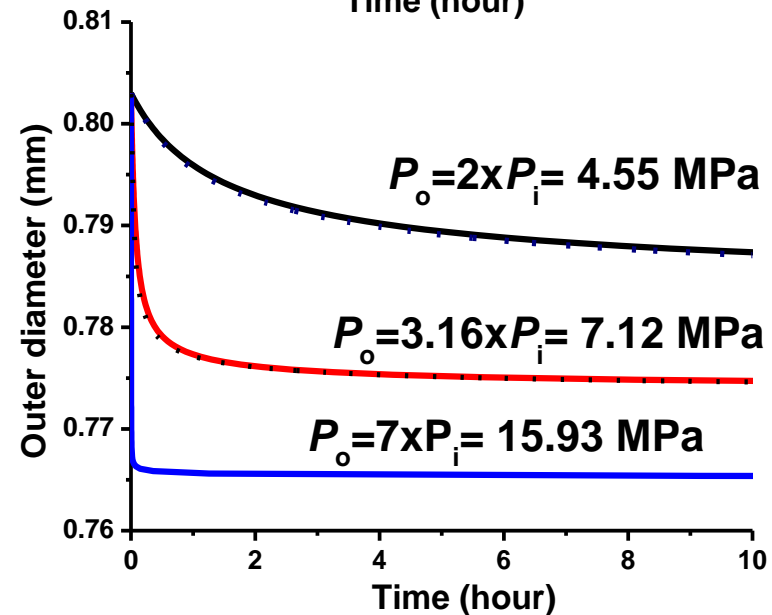
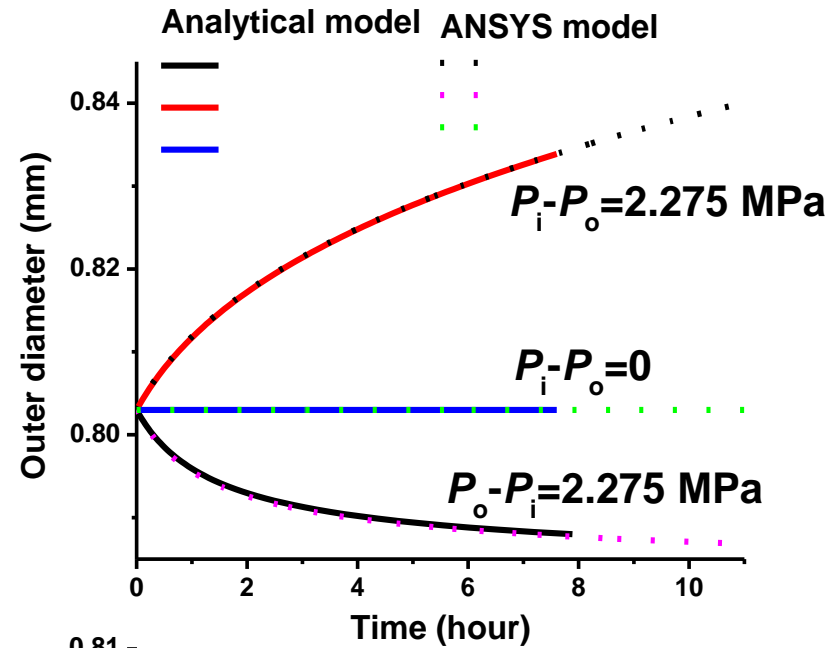
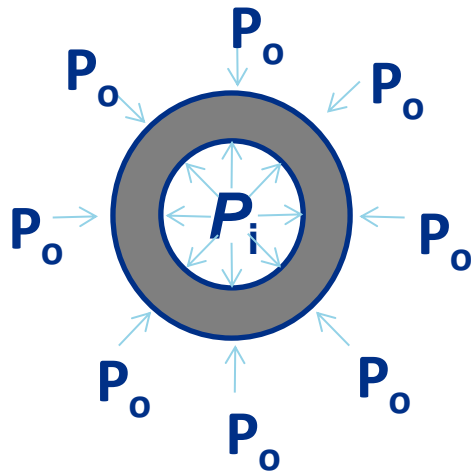
Coil survived >110 quenches and a hoop stress of 97 Mpa, and comments about OP

- **No degradation**
 - after 110 quenches (initiated by a heater) at 7 T, 9 T, and 12 T
 - Maximum temperature reached = 250 K.
 - Hoop stress reached 97 Mpa at 14 T
- **OP@100 bar with temperature control in +/- 2C is not easy**
 - High thermal conductivity of pressured gas messed up temperature homogeneity.
 - Not-so-easy temperature calibration
- **Sumitomo Bi-2223 300 bar OP furnace: +/- 1C in a sample space of 1 m diameter x 1.2 m height**
- **Can we reduce the OP pressure to 30-50 bar?**

Model of OP: Under external pressure, Ag creeps inward, producing denser Bi-2212 core and raising J_c



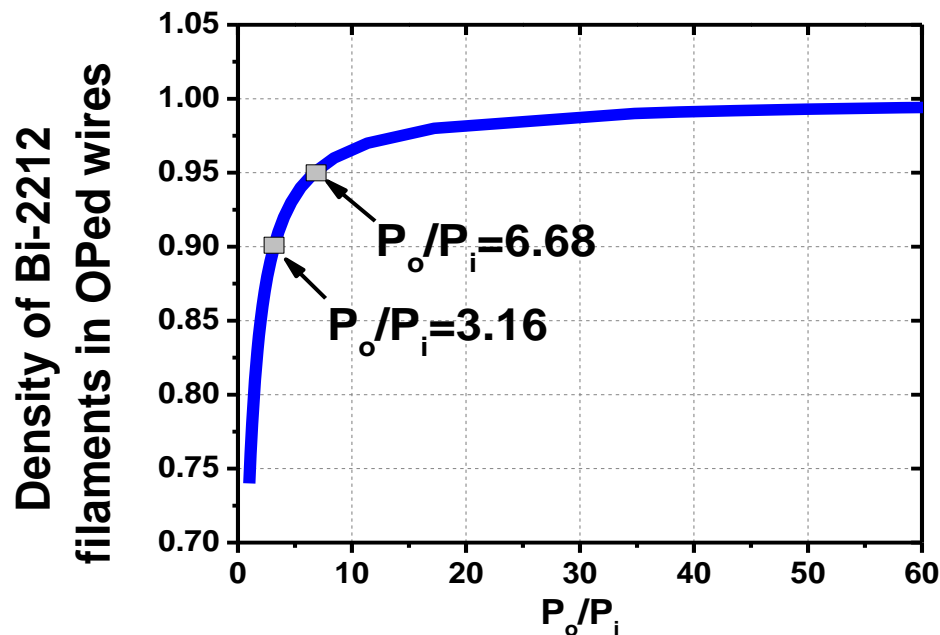
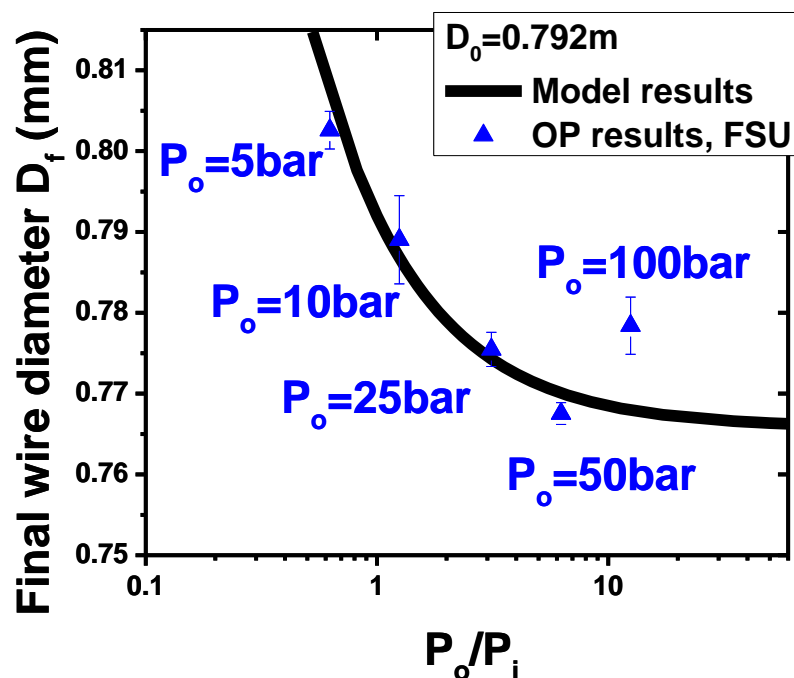
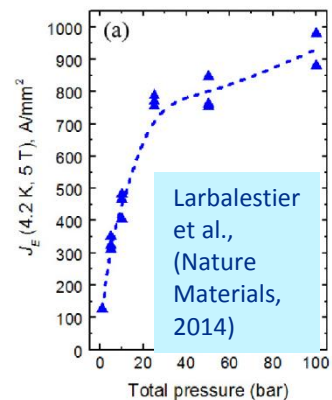
(courtesy of OST)



Model predicts that OP requirement decreases linearly with decreasing internal gas pressure

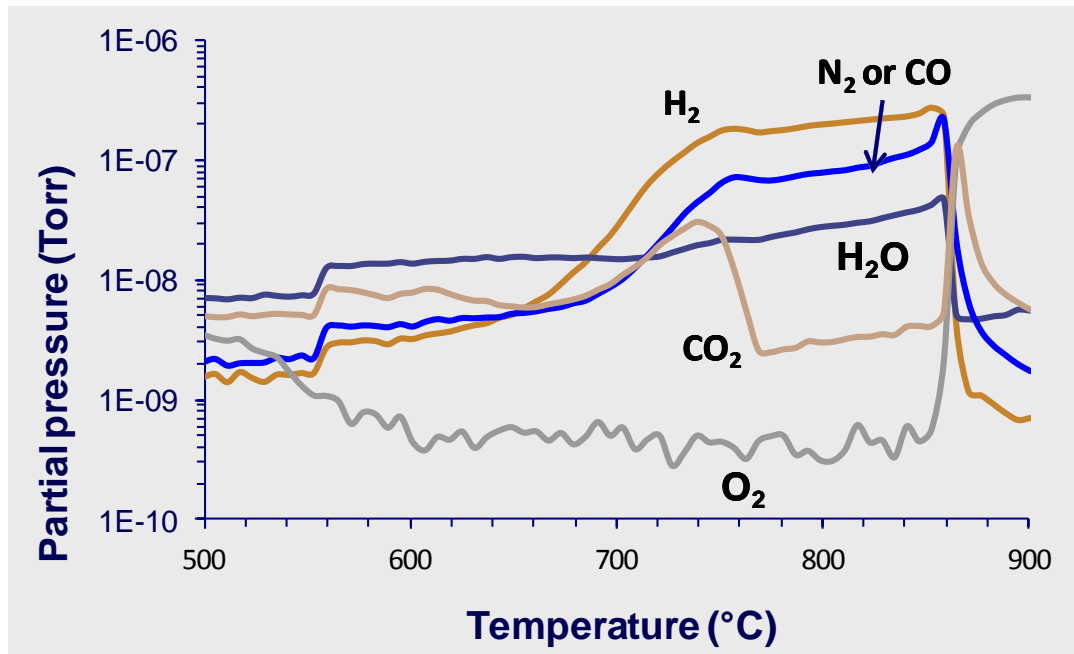
$P_i = 8$ bar now

J_c goes up with the filament density.



Challenges to take on: decreasing the OP requirement from 100 bar to 30-50 bar

- The model predicts that it is feasible.
- Mass spectroscopy indicates that wire releases plenty of gases while being heated up
- Need collaboration between powder manufacturer, wire manufacturer, and materials scientists.



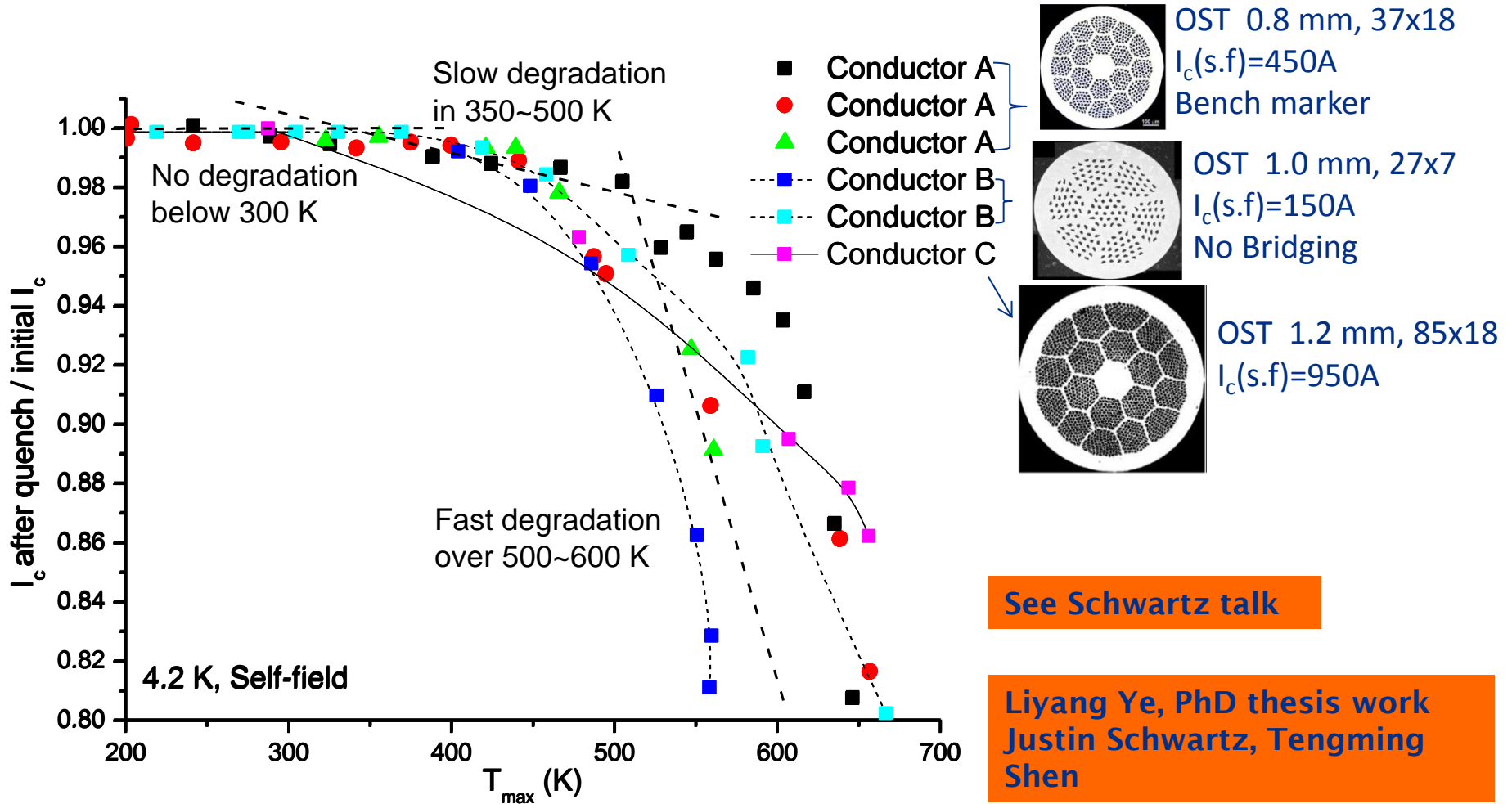
Gas species detected by a residual gas analyzer while heating Bi-2212 wires at 180 ° c/h in vacuum.

Shen et al., J. Appl. Phys., **113**, 213901 (2013)

Driving questions for the next section

- **Quench detection and protection of Bi-2212 magnets**
 - **What are quench degradation limits and mechanisms?**
 - **How high the hot spot temperature needs to be for the resistive voltage of a normal zone to be detectable?**
 - **At what speed a normal zone propagates and how does this speed depend on operating conditions and conductor processing?**
 - **How can we achieve a quench protection with a time constant <500 ms.**

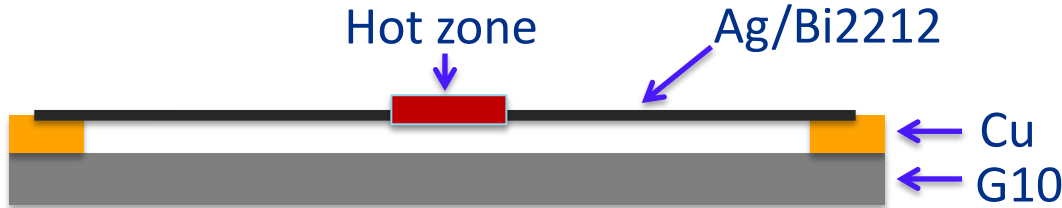
A large pool of wires, including OP wires, shows a consistent $I_c/I_{co}-T_{max}$ behavior



See Schwartz talk

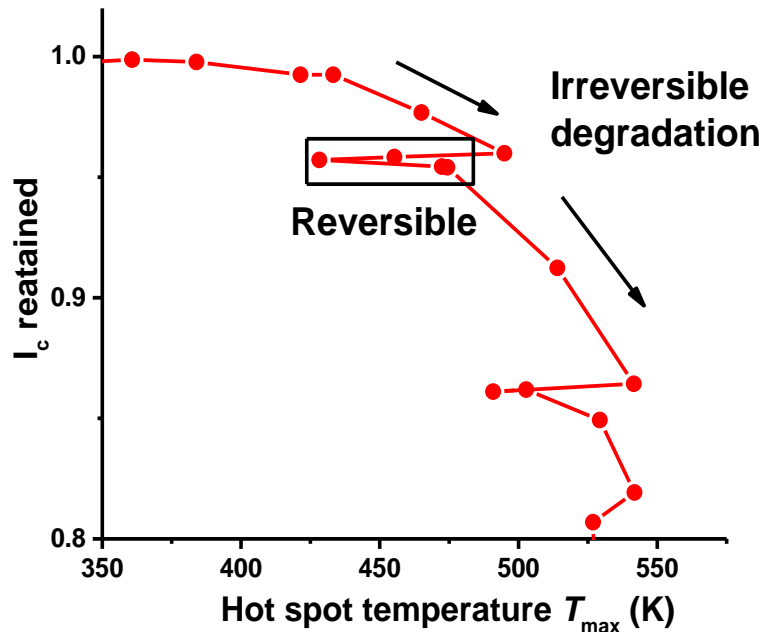
Liyang Ye, PhD thesis work
Justin Schwartz, Tengming Shen

The observed quench degradation is strain driven - first evidence: irreversible and reversible degradation behavior

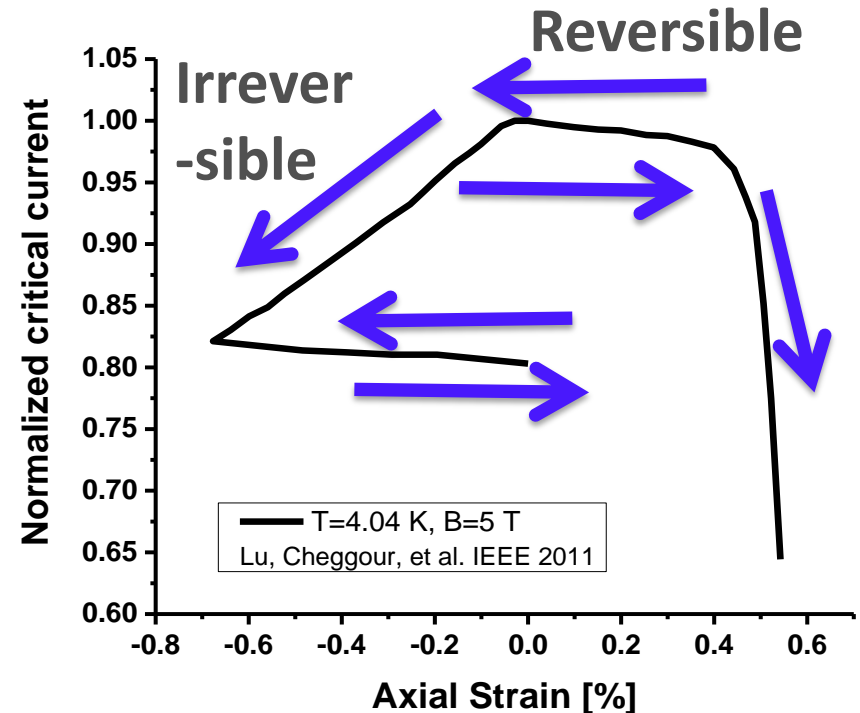


- Wires want to expand but couldn't.
 - Silver buckles under compressive stress.
- Silver and 2212 expand differently. at 4.2 K

Irreversible and reversible degradation behaviors

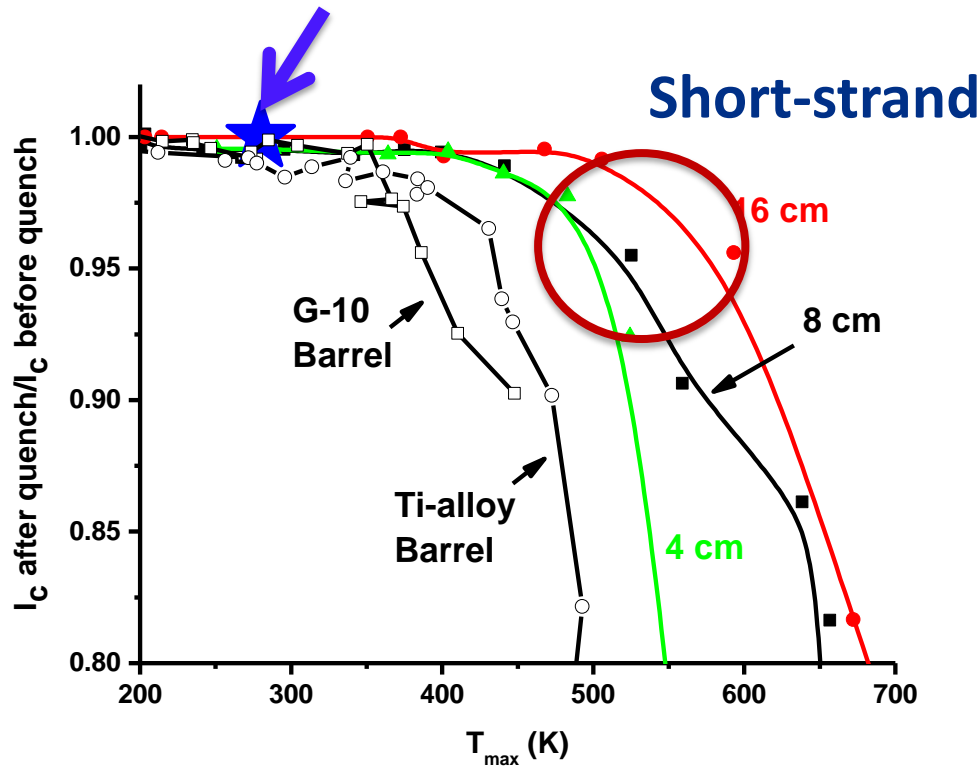


J_c-Strain for Ag/2212 wire



300 K seems safe – even for coils under good electromagnetic stresses

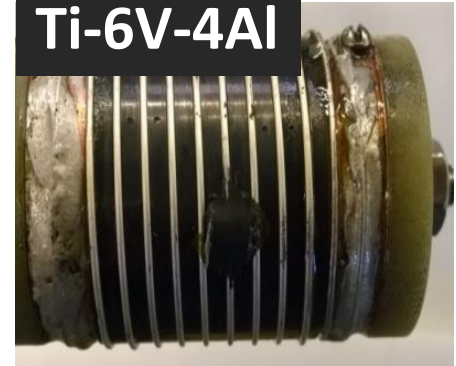
Coil 2 at 7 T, stress=60 MPa



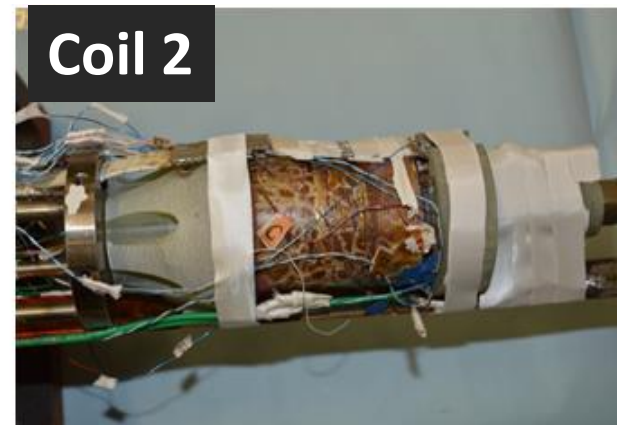
G-10



Ti-6V-4Al



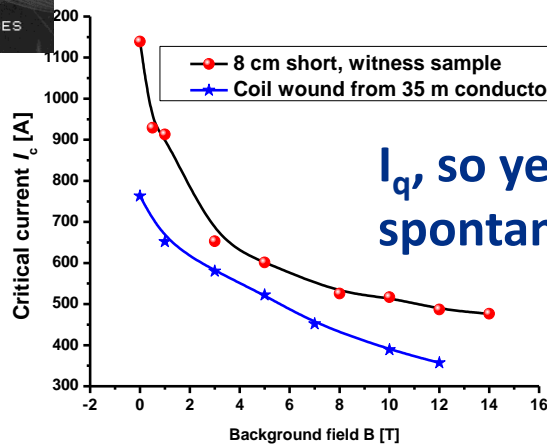
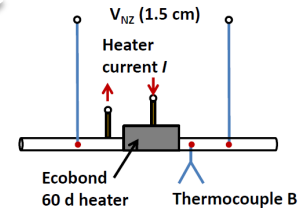
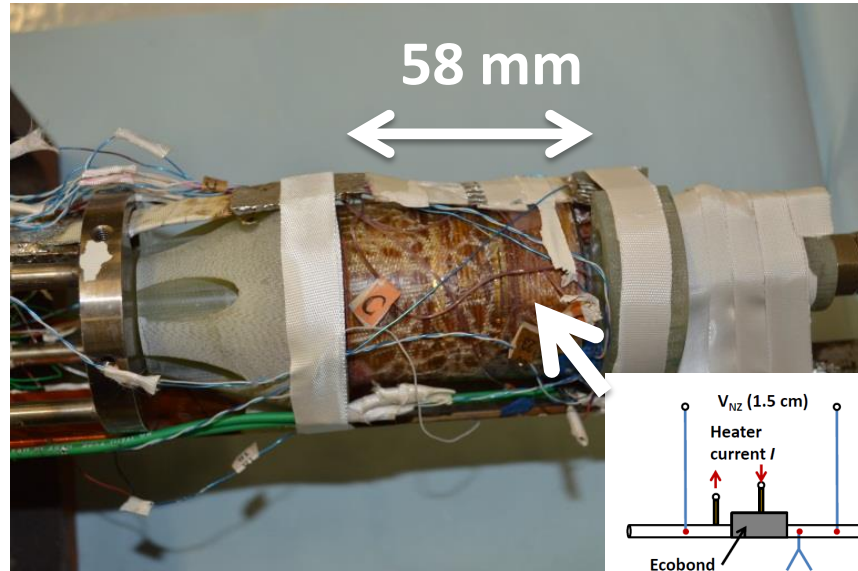
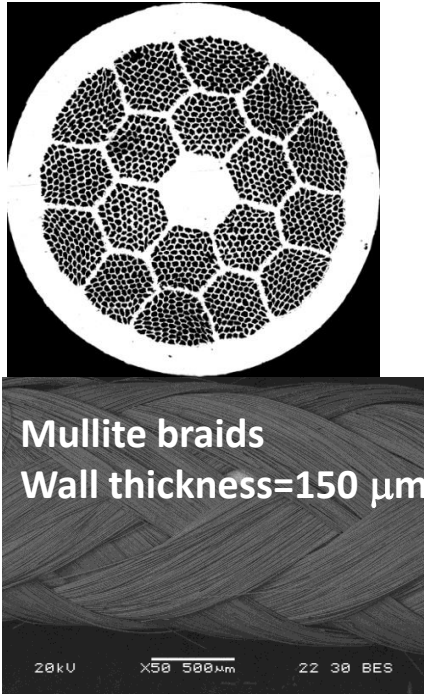
Coil 2



Liyang Ye, PhD thesis work
Justin Schwartz, Tengming Shen

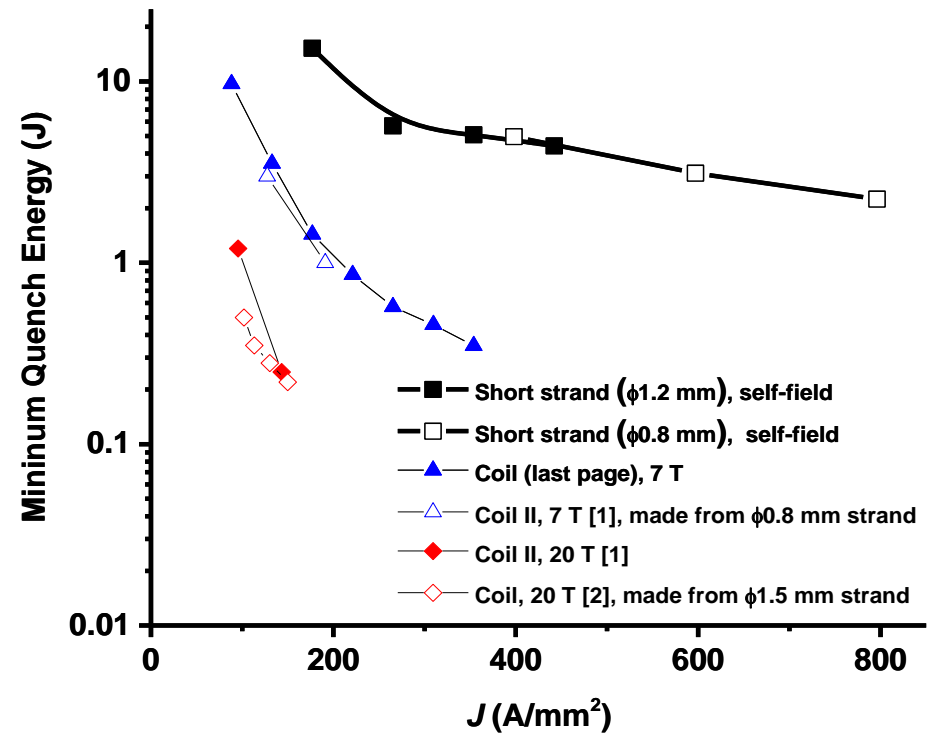
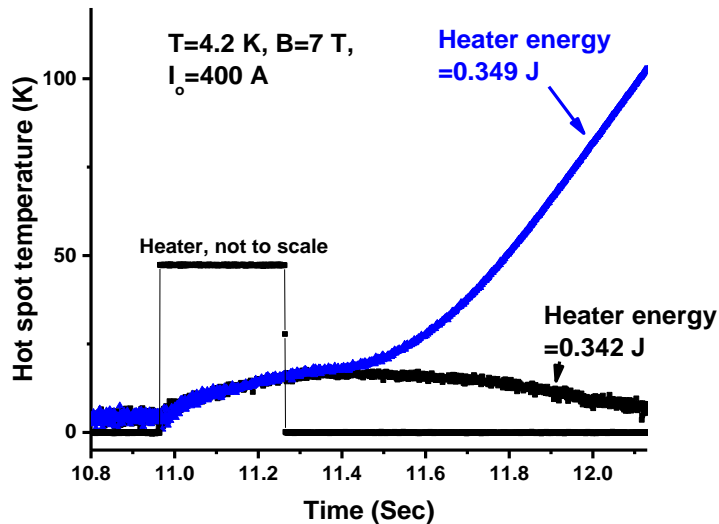
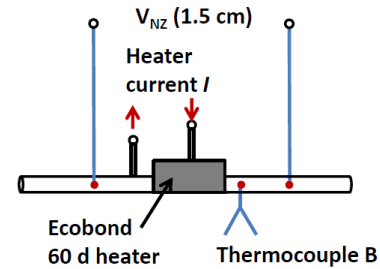
A 1 bar processed coil and heater-induced quench experiments

6-layer, 245 turns, epoxy impregnated
Bi-2212 solenoid



I_q , so yes, 2212 coil can quench spontaneously

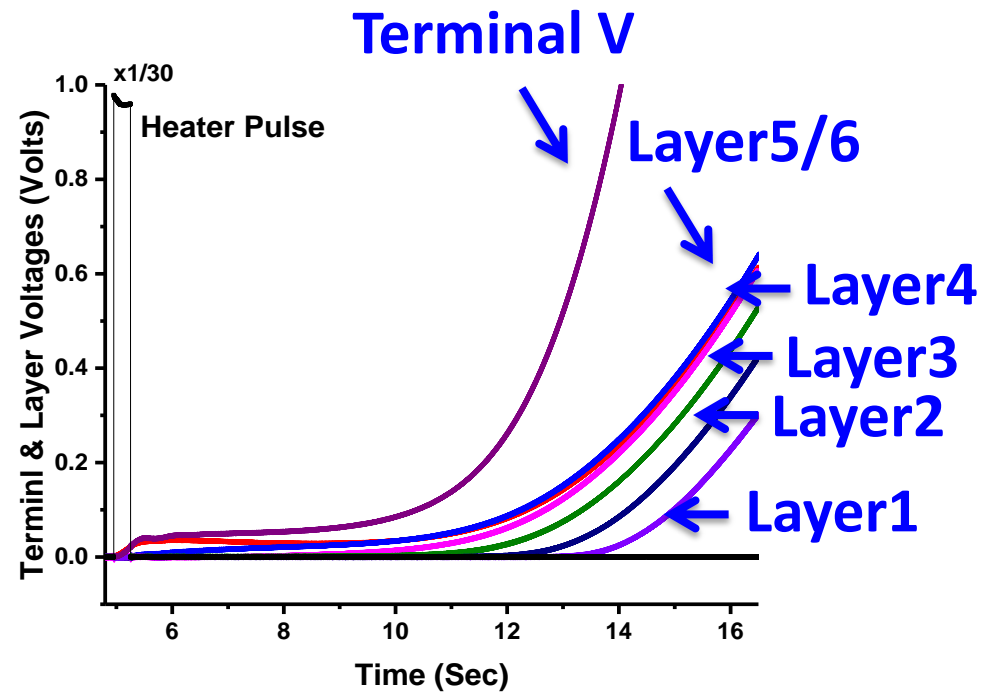
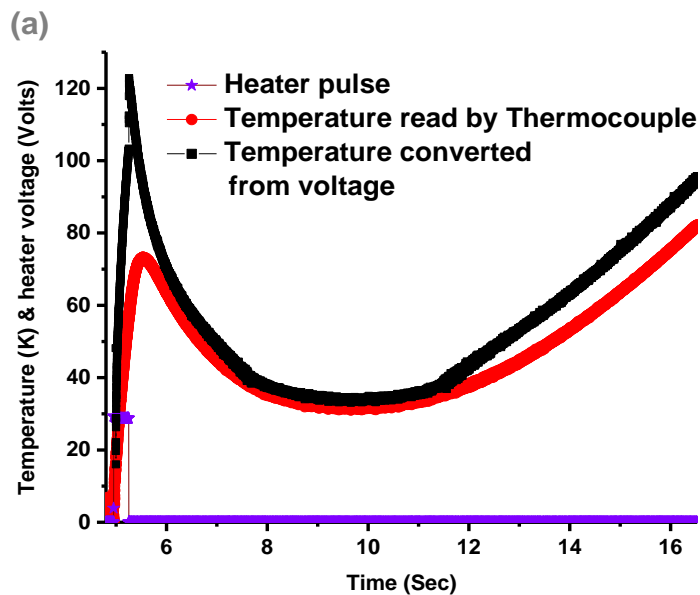
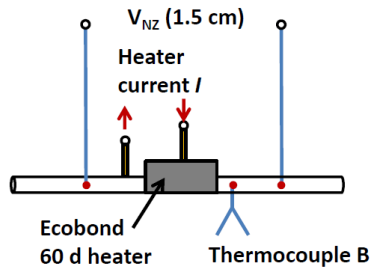
MQE determined from heater-induced quench experiments: a master plot



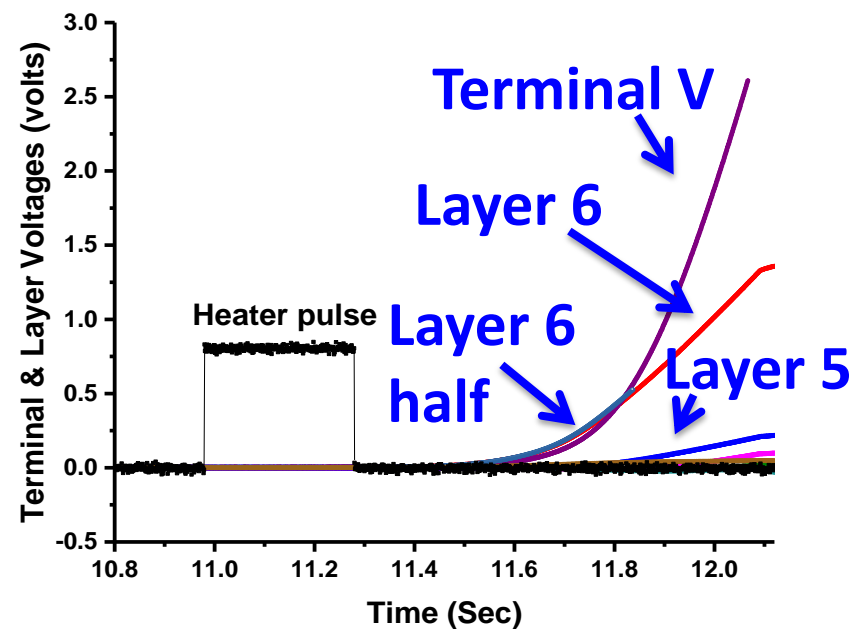
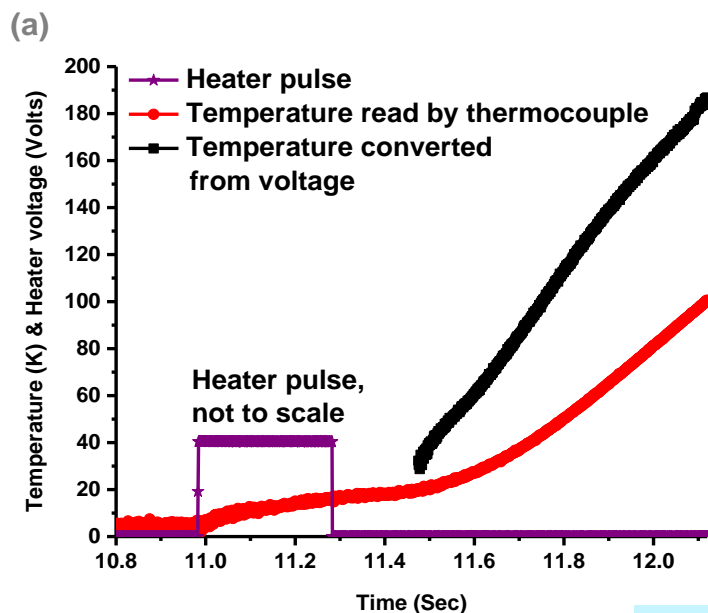
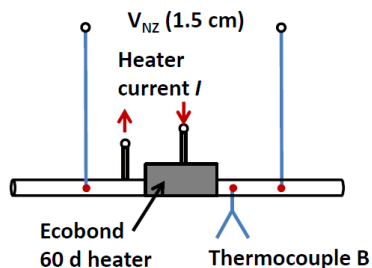
Shen, Ye et al., to be submitted and to appear in ArXiv

[1] Ye et al., SuST, 2013
 [2] Yang et al., IEEE, 2012

T=4.2 K, B=7 T, $I_0=100$ A – Quench propagation and temperature rise at $J=88$ A/mm²

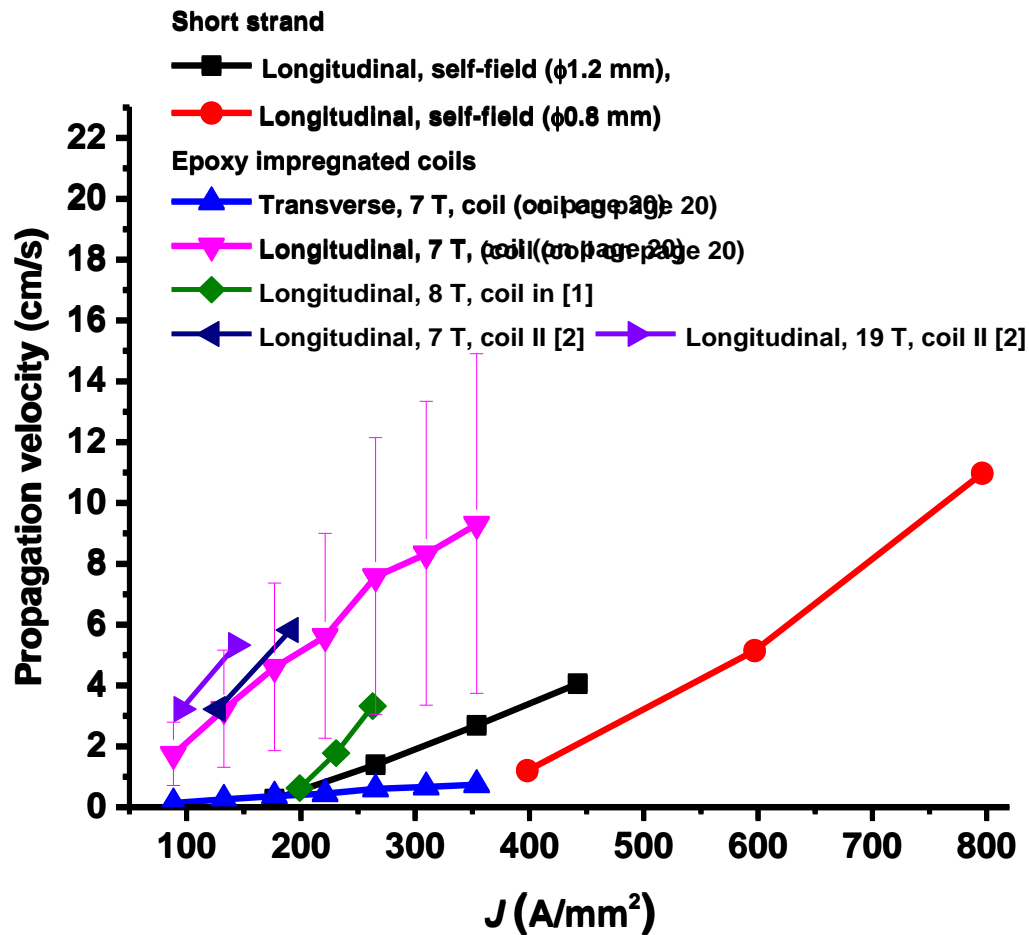


T=4.2 K, B=7 T, $I_0=400$ A – Quench propagation and temperature rise at $J=354$ A/mm²



Shen, Ye et al., to be submitted and to appear in ArXiv

NZPV determined from heater-induced quench experiments: a master plot



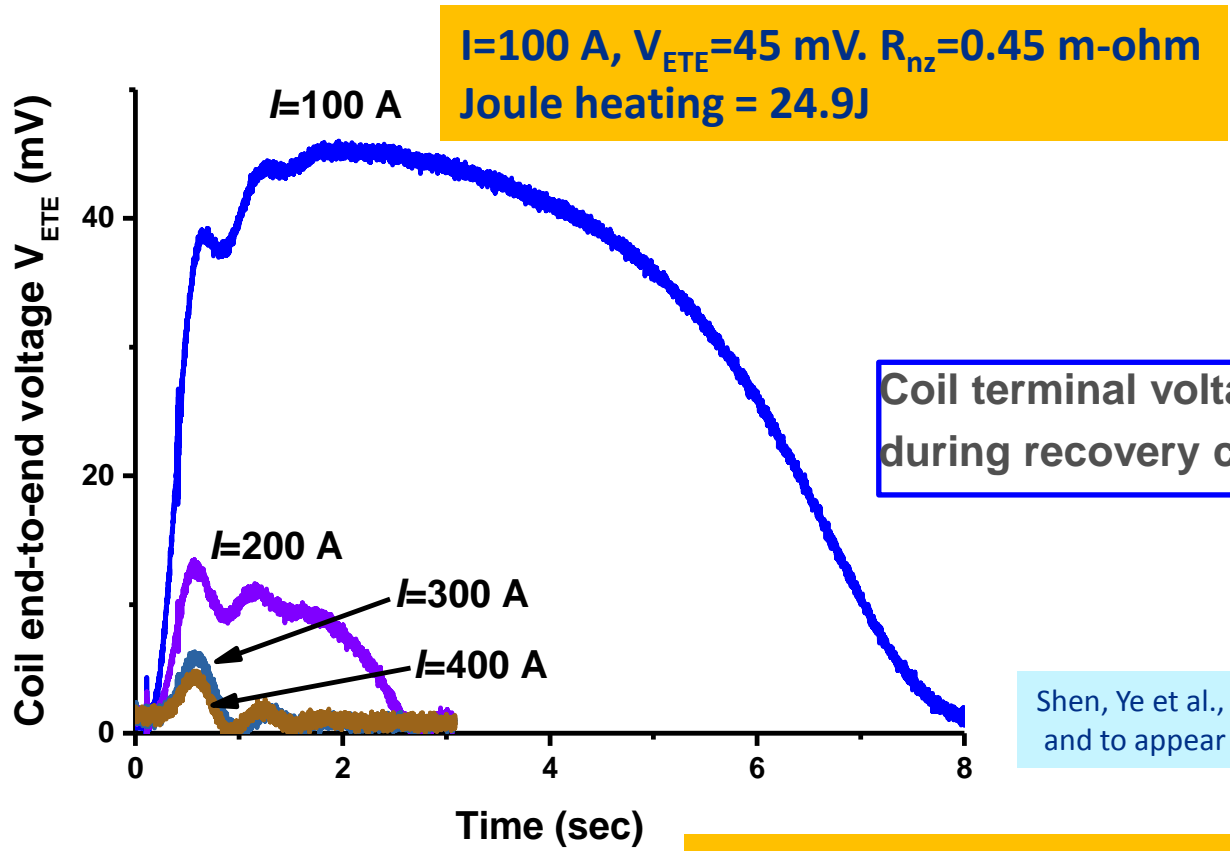
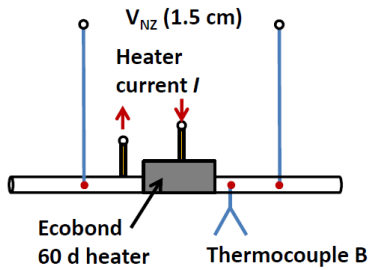
[1] Trociewitz, SuST, 2008

[2] Ye et al., SuST, 2013

Shen, Ye et al., to be submitted and to appear in ArXiv

Quench detection – Terminal voltage that coil sustains without a quench varies with transport current

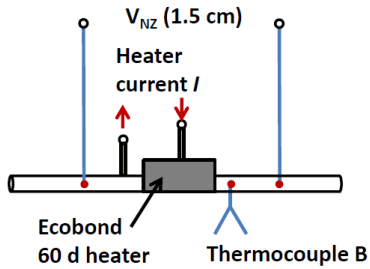
Should a dynamic quench detection threshold used?



4.2 K, 7 T, coil experiment

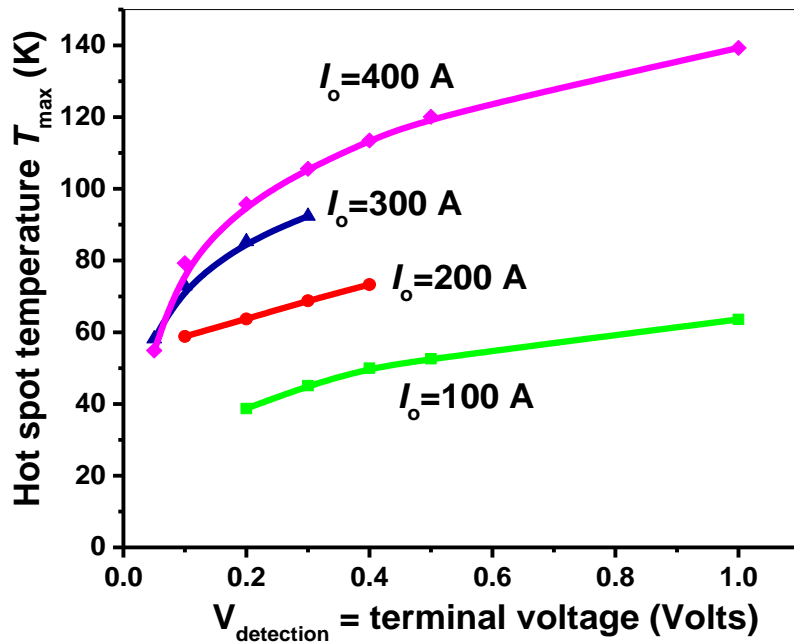
$I=400$ A, $V_{ETE}= 4.26$ mV. $R_{nz}=10.6 \mu$ -ohm
Joule heating = 1.18J

Hot spot temperature v.s. resistivity voltage across normal zone: quench detection is demanding; $V_d=50\text{-}200\text{ mV}$ is preferred



Note: Temperature from voltage measurement, not from TCs. TCs tend to underestimate T_{max} when $dT/dt > 10\text{ K/s}$.

Temperatures derived from voltages across the 1.5 cm hot zone:

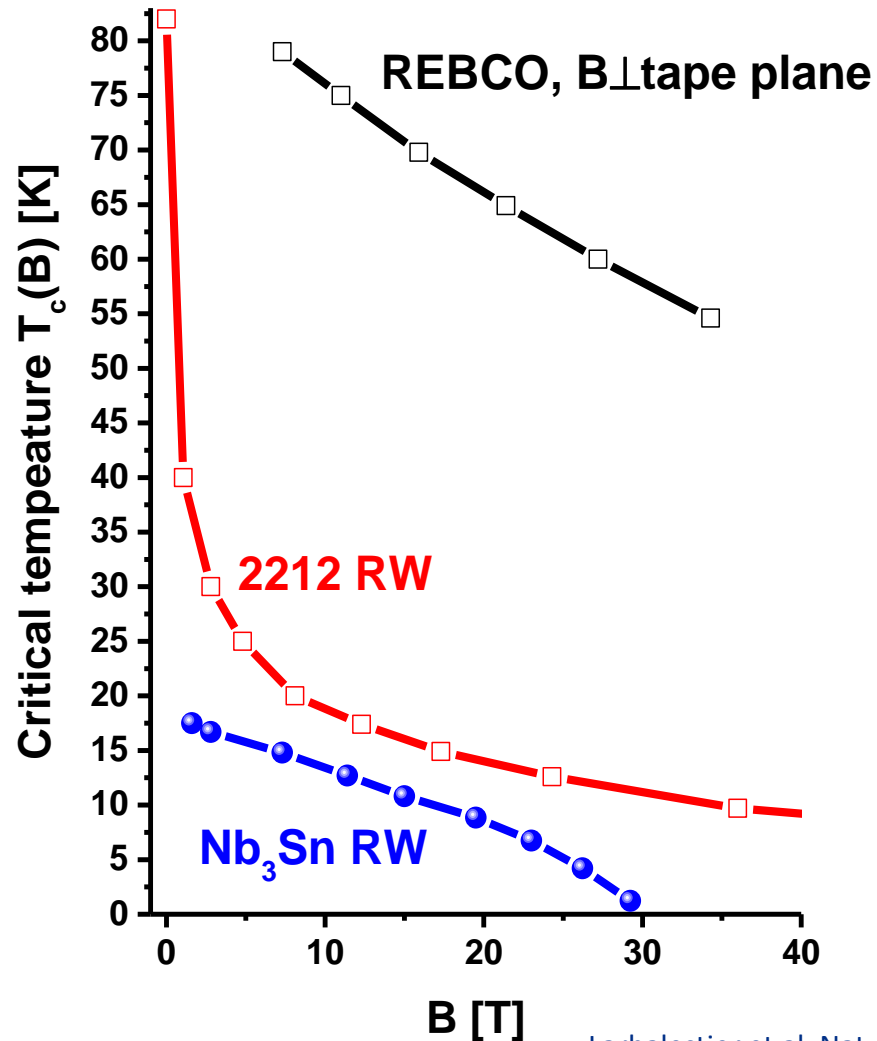


- 100 A \rightarrow 400 A, quench detection becomes more difficult.
- Beyond 400 A, quench detection should become easier (prediction)
- Not wise to increase $V_{detection}$ beyond 1 V

Shen, Ye et al., to be submitted and to appear in ArXiv

4.2 K, 7 T, coil experiment

When $B > 5$ T, NZPV of 2212 is still in cm/s – but it should be in tens of cm/s or even m/s considering its small temperature margin



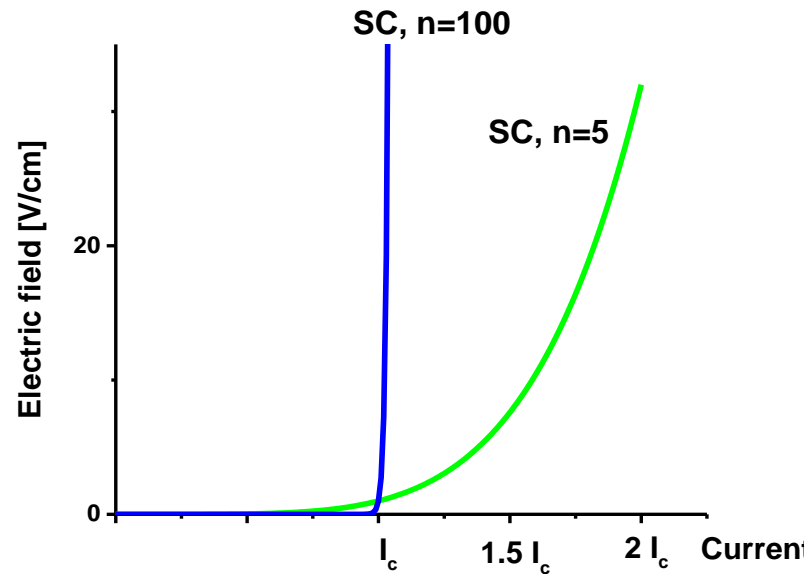
Larbalestier et al, Nature Materials, 2014

- T_c (2212) drops to 25 K when $B > 5$ T
 - $B=0$: typical HTS, NZPV in cm/s
 - $B > 5$ T: somewhat LTS, NZPV should be in m/s but actually in cm/s
- A big reason is low n-value in Bi-2212
 - Typical n-value for 1 bar coils: 5-12
 - Typical n-value for OP coils: 12-20

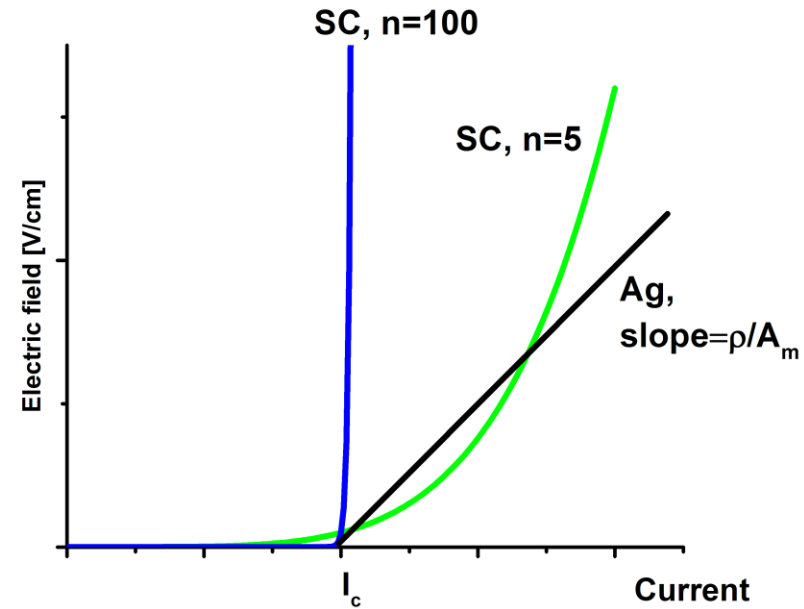
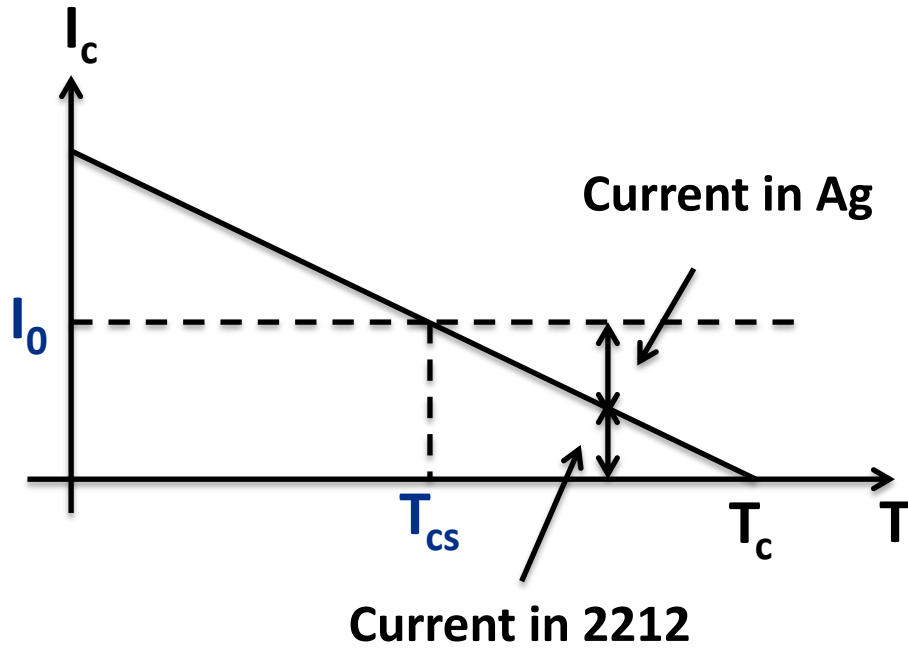
Summary

- **Overpressure processing, though not easy, is fundamentally sound**
 - **Good OP cables and coils made and tested**
- **Found a consistent quench degradation behavior in a large spool of wires**
- **Deeper understanding of quenches**
 - **Measure MQE vs. J and B, and NZPV vs. J and B**
 - **First careful measurement of T_{\max} v.s. V_d**
 - **Strong effects of n-values on quench propagation and detection revealed**
- **Project pull:**
 - **28-30 T all SC solenoid – NHMFL NMR and DOE SIBR/STTR**
 - **The world's first cosine-theta Bi-2212 dipole**
 - **The world's first canted-cosine-theta Bi-2212 dipole**

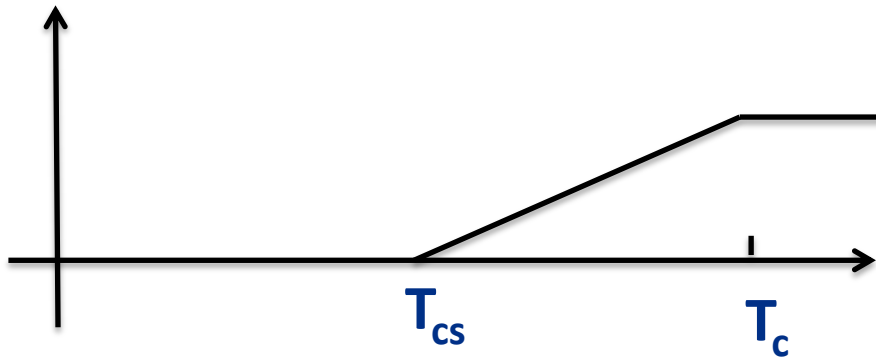
Slow propagation of normal zones in Bi-2212 magnets: Effects of conductor E-J characteristics



The joule power model that describes Nb-Ti and Nb₃Sn well is not suitable for 2212 because 2212 has a **small n-value (5-15 in fields)**

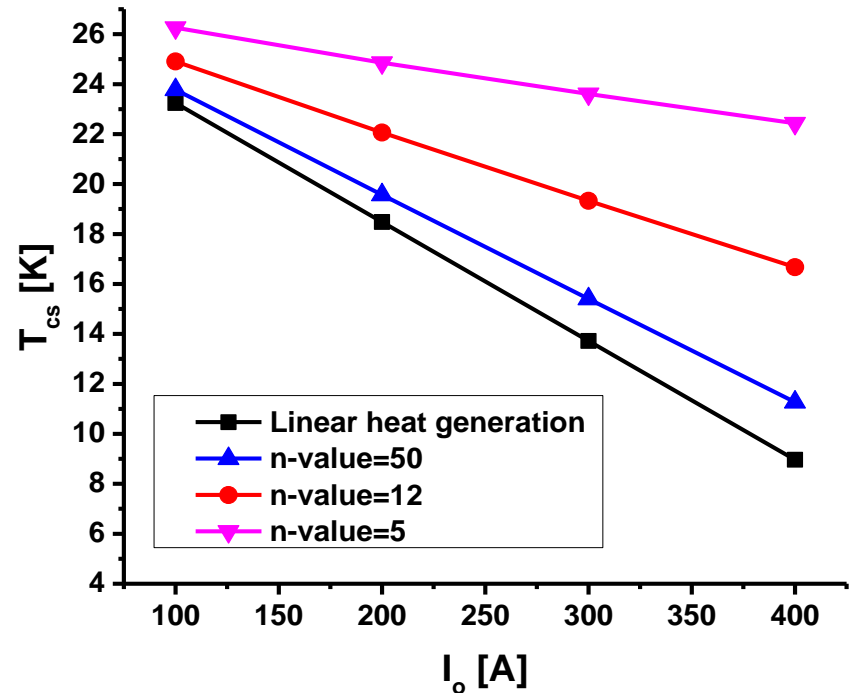
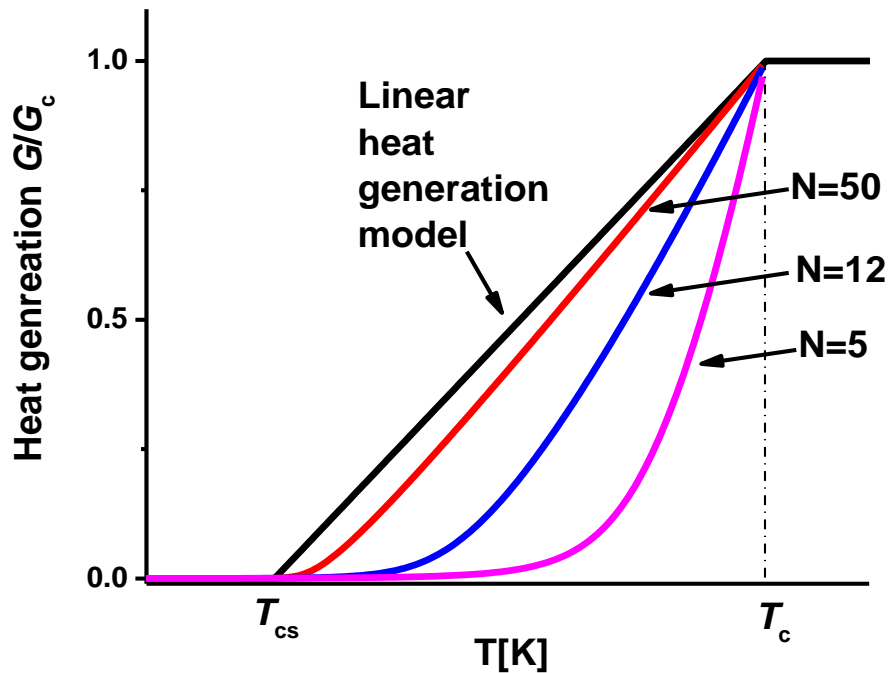


Joule heating



New nonlinear current-transfer model: Smaller N-value \rightarrow more difficult to drive formation of normal zones

- Low N-values, in combination with small RRR, increase T_{cs} .
 - More pronounced at high I_o/I_c and at high magnetic fields.



N-values ↓: conductor stability ↑, normal zone propagation speed ↓

- Low NZPV in 2212 at $B > 5$ T is largely caused by low n-values.
- Increase the N-value → In-field NZPV in m/s (though sacrificing some stability)

