# *Lecture 5: Cryogenics and Practical Matters*

#### **Plan**

- cryogenic working fluids
- refrigeration
- cryostat design principles
- current leads
- accelerator coil winding and curing
- forces and clamping
- magnet assembly, collars and iron
- installation
- some superconducting accelerators



# *Cryogenics: the working fluids*



\* enthalpy change of gas from boiling point to room temperature  $\Delta H =$  $\Delta H = \int C_p(\theta) d\theta$ *room boiling*

**represents the amount of 'cold' left in the gas after boiling - sometimes called 'sensible heat'** 





- the most basic refrigerator uses compressor power to extract heat from low temperature and reject a larger quantity of heat at room temperature
- Carnot says the **Coefficient of Performance CoP**

= cooling power / input power

$$
CoP = \frac{\theta_c}{\theta_h - \theta_c}
$$
 at 4.2K CoP



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# *Collins helium liquefier*



*from Helium Cryogenics SW Van Sciver pub Plenum 1986*

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### *Properties of Helium*



- helium has the lowest boiling point of all gases and is therefore used for cooling superconducting magnets
- below the **lamda point** a second liquid phase forms, known as **Helium 2 or superfluid**
- it has **zero viscosity** and very **high thermal conductivity**

Some numbers for helium



### *Subcooled Helium II*

- HeII is an excellent coolant because of its high thermal conductivity and specific heat
- NbTi works much better at the lower temperature
- but for practical engineering, it is inconvenient operate at pressures below atmospheric
- the 'lamda plate' allows us to produce HeII in a system operating at atmospheric pressure
- used in LHC and commercial NMR magnets





### *Accelerator magnet cryostat essentials*



*Cryogenic heat leaks*

#### 1) Gas conduction

at low pressures  $\left($  <10Pa or 10<sup>-4</sup> torr), that is when the mean free path  $\sim$  1m  $>$  distance between hot and cold surfaces

 $=\eta_g P_g \Delta \theta$ *A Q*

where  $\eta_{\rm g}$  depends on the accommodation coefficient; typical values for helium  $\Rightarrow$ 



not usually a significant problem, check that pressure is low enough and use a sorb

#### 2) Solid conduction

 $3)$ 



 $\Omega$ 

Stefan Boltzmann constant  $\sigma = 5.67 \times 10^{-8}$  Wm<sup>-2</sup>K<sup>-4</sup>

4) Current Leads optimization problem; trade off Ohmic heating against conducted heat – coming up

5) Other sources ac losses, resistive joints, particle heating etc

#### *Superinsulation*



Some typical values of effective emissivity  $\epsilon_{\rm r}$  for superinsulation

$$
\frac{Q}{A} = \varepsilon_r \sigma \left( \theta_h^4 - \theta_c^4 \right)
$$

- radiated power goes as  $\theta^4$
- can reduce it by subdividing the gap between hot and cold surface using alternating layers of shiny metal foil or aluminized Mylar and insulating mesh.
- structure must be open for vacuum pumping.





\* Jehier SA BP 29-49120 Chemille France

#### *Current Leads*

#### **Optimization**

- want low heat inleak, ie low ohmic heating *and* low heat conduction from room temperature.
- requires low  $\rho$  and  $k$  but Wiedemann Franz law says

 $k(\theta)\rho(\theta) = L_o\theta$ 

• so all metals are the same and the only variable we can optimize is the *shape*

#### Gas cooling helps *(recap helium properties above)*

•  $\Delta$ enthalpy gas / latent heat of boiling = 73.4 - lots more cold in the boil off gas

$$
\Delta H = \int_{4.2}^{293} C(\theta) d\theta
$$

- so use enthalpy of cold gas boiled off to cool the lead
- make the lead as a heat exchanger



*Current lead theory*

equation of heat conduction

$$
\frac{d}{dx}\left(k(\theta)A\frac{d\theta}{dx}\right) - f\dot{m}C_p\frac{d\theta}{dx} + \frac{I^2\rho(\theta)}{A} = 0
$$

where:

 $f =$  efficiency of heat transfer to helium gas  $\dot{m}$  = helium mass flow

 $C_p$  = specific heat of gas

- solution to this equation in 'Superconducting Magnets p 257.
- there is an optimum shape (length/area) which gives the minimum heat leak
	- 'Watts per Amp per lead'
- heat leak is a strong function of the efficiency of heat transfer  $f$  to the cold gas



### *Heat leak of an optimised lead*



# *Optimum shape of lead*



- the optimum shape depends on temperature and material properties, particularly thermal conductivity.
- for a lead between 300K and 4.2K with perfect heat transfer the optimum shape is

- for a lead of annealed high purity copper

$$
\left\{\frac{L}{A}\right\}_{optimum} = \frac{2.6 \times 10^7}{I}
$$

$$
L =
$$
 length,  $A =$  area of cross section,  $A =$  area

– for a lead of impure phosphorous deoxised copper

$$
\left\{\frac{L}{A}\right\}_{optimum} = \frac{3.5 \times 10^6}{I}
$$

### *Impure materials make more stable leads*



- for an optimized lead, the maximum temperature is room temperature (at the top of the lead)
- when the lead is not optimized, the temperature of an intermediate region rises above room temperature
- the optimum for pure metals is more sensitive than for impure metals

*current lead burns out*  $\Rightarrow$  *magnet open circuit*  $\Rightarrow$  *large voltages*  $\Rightarrow$ 



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### *Health monitoring*



- all leads between the same temperatures and with the same cooling efficiency drop the same voltage at optimum
- for a lead between 300K and 4.2K with with 100% cooling efficiency, the voltage drop at optimum is **75mV**
- measure the volts across your lead to see if it is optimised
- monitor your lead and trip the power supply if it goes too high
- if a lead burns out, the resulting high voltage and arcing (magnet inductance) can be disastrous

### *HTS High Temperature Superconductor Current leads*

- at temperatures below 50 -70K can use HTS
- material has very low thermal conductivity
- no Ohmic heat generation
- but from room temperature to  $50 70$  K must have copper leads
- the  $50 70$  K junction must be cooled or its temperature will drift up and quench the HTS







### *HTS current leads for LHC*

- HTS materials have a low thermal conductivity
- make section of lead below  $\sim$  70K from HTS material
- heat leak down the upper lead is similar, but it is taken at a higher temperature

 $\Rightarrow$  less refrigeration power

- LHC uses HTS leads for all main ring magnets
- savings on capital cost of the refrigerator  $>$  cost of the leads
- reduced running cost is a continuing benefit

#### *13kA lead for LHC*

#### *600A lead for LHC*

*pictures from A Ballarino CERN*



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# *Winding the LHC dipoles*



# *End turns*



# *Spacers and insulation*

- copper wedges between blocks of winding
- beware of voltages at quench
- care needed with insulation, between turns and ground plane
- example: FAIR dipole quench voltage  $= 340V$ over 148 turns



# *Compacting and curing*

• After winding, the half coil, (still very 'floppy') is placed in an accurately machined tool

- Tool put into a curing press, compacted to the exact dimensions and heated to 'cure' the polyimide adhesive on the Kapton insulation.
- After curing, the half coil is quite rigid and easy to handle



# *Curing press*





#### *Finished coils*

after curing, the coil package is rigid and relatively easy to handle



## *Coils for correction magnets*



On a smaller scale, but in great number and variety, many different types of superconducting correction coils are needed at a large accelerator





total outward force

*per quadrant*



- forces in a dipole are horizontally outwards and vertically towards the median plane
- recap lecture 3 slide 11, for a *thin* winding

3 4 2  $B_i^2$  4*a F o i x*  $\mu_{\text{}}$  $=$ 

LHC dipole  $F_x \sim 1.6 \times 10^6$  N/m = 160 tonne/m

total vertical force *per quadrant*

$$
F_y = -\frac{B_i^2}{2\mu_o} \frac{4a}{3}
$$

- the outward force must be supported by an external structure
- $F_x$  and  $F_y$  cause compressive stress in the conductor and insulation
- apart from the ends, there is no tension in the conductor

*for thick winding take ~ mean radius*

#### *Collars*

**Question:** how to make a force support structure that

- fits tightly round the coil
- presses it into an accurate shape
- has low ac losses laminated
- can be mass produced cheaply
- **Answer:** make collars by precision stamping of stainless steel or aluminium alloy plate a few mm thick
- inherited from conventional magnet laminations



*press collars over coil from above and below*





*invert alternate pairs so that they interlock push steel rods through holes to lock in position*

### *Collars*

#### LHC dipole collars support the twin aperture coils in a single unit



12 million produced for LHC





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### *LHC dipole collars*



sub-units of several alternating pairs are riveted together

stainless rods lock the subunits

# *Pre-loading the coil*



#### CERN data during manufacture and operation

#### *data from Modena et al*



# *Collars and end plate (LHC dipole)*





- sliding at the outer boundary  $\Rightarrow$  friction heating
- use kapton layers





- pushed into place using the collaring press
- **BUT** pure iron becomes brittle at low temperature
- tensile forces are therefore taken by a stainless steel shell which is welded around the iron, while still in the press
- stainless shell also serves as the helium vessel

# *Adding the iron*



# *Compressing and welding the outer shell*





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## *Dipole inside its stainless shell*



#### *Cryogenic supports*



'feet' used to support cold mass inside cryostat (LHC dipole)



the Heim column

- long path length in short distance
- mechanical stiffness of tubes
- by choosing different material contractions can achieve zero thermal movement



## *Make the interconnections - electrical*



### *Make interconnections - cryogenic*



# *Connect to the cryogenic feed and current leads*





- force supporting collars
- warm iron

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ERTICAL-PLANE COIL

INSULATING VACUUM

(SUPERINSULATION)

*photo Fermilab*

SINGLE-PHASE HELIUM

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#### *DESY Hera*

- Rutherford cable
- porous winding
- force supporting collars
- cold iron



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# *RHIC: Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider*





**IRON YOKE** 

**INSULATOR** 

COIL



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HELIUM CONTAINMENT SHELL-

ELECTRICAL BUS SLOT

HELIUM PASSAGE -

FIELD SATURATION -

**RETURN** 

**SHIELD** 







- Rutherford cable
- porous winding and He 2
- force supporting collars and cold iron
- two coils in one structure

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## *Facility for Antiproton and ion research FAIR*



#### *FAIR: two rings in one tunnel*



2x120 superconducting dipole magnets 132+162 SC quadrupole magnets

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### *Problem of the sagitta in SIS300*



can use single layer coil *Discorap curved dipole INFN Frascati / Ansaldo*









- bent around 180°
- rectangular block coil section
- totally clear gap on outer mid plane for emerging X-rays (12 kW)

# *Cryogenics & Practical Matters: concluding remarks*

- liquid helium for low temperature and liquid nitrogen for higher but a gap for HTS
- making cold takes a lot of energy  $-$  the colder you go the more it takes  $\Rightarrow$  so must minimize heat leaks to all cryogenic systems - conduction – convection - radiation
- current leads should be gas cooled and the optimum shape for minimum heat leak,
	- $\Rightarrow$  shape depends on the material used
	- $\Rightarrow$  impure material is less likely to burn out
	- $\Rightarrow$  use HTS to reduce heat leak at the bottom end
- making accelerator magnets is now a well established industrial process  $\Rightarrow$  wind  $\Rightarrow$  compact  $\Rightarrow$  collar  $\Rightarrow$  iron  $\Rightarrow$  cryostat  $\Rightarrow$  install  $\Rightarrow$  interconnect
- in recent years all the largest accelerators (and some small ones) have been superconducting



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