

*International High School Teacher Programme*  
*13<sup>th</sup> July 2017*

# **Engineering at CERN**

Friedrich Lackner  
[Friedrich.Lackner@cern.ch](mailto:Friedrich.Lackner@cern.ch)

European Organization for Nuclear Research  
(CERN TE-MS-C-LMF)



# Contents

- Overview and history...
- Engineering core competencies available at CERN
- Example of superconductivity and superconducting magnets
- In preparation of your visit of bldg. 180
- Other large engineering projects
- Future scenarios and development work

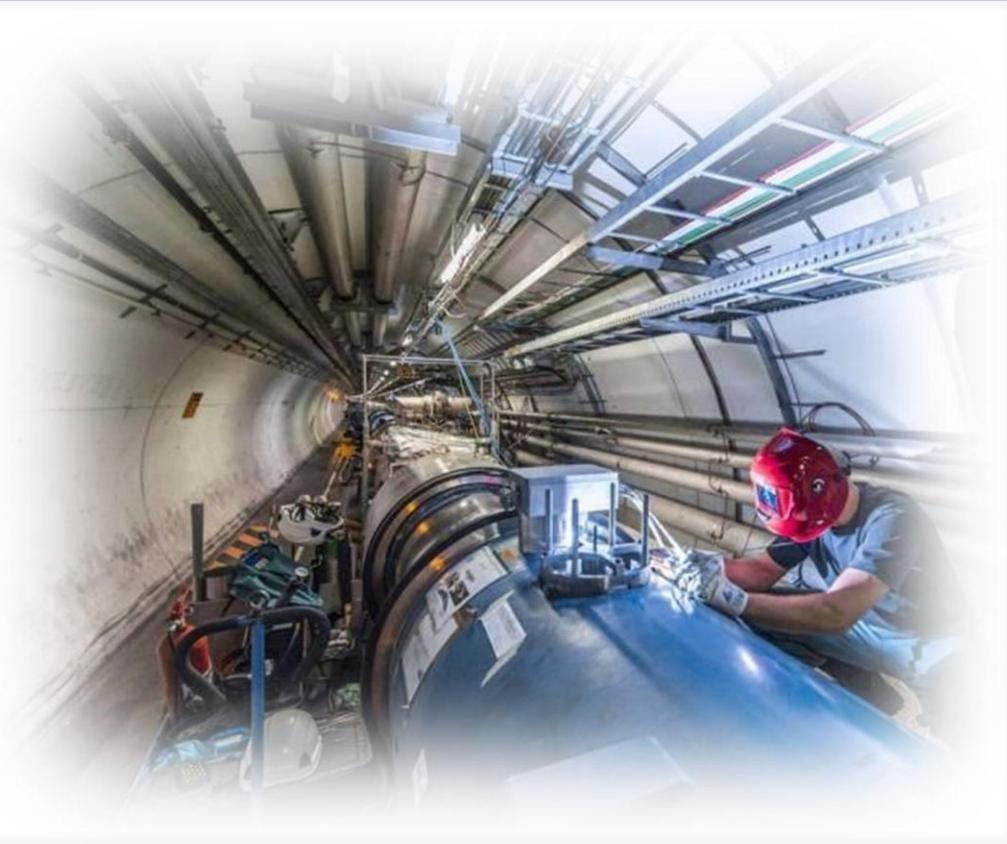
# Acknowledgements

- **Susana Izquierdo Bermudez** (TE-MS-C-MDT), *Many slides taken from the International High School Teacher Programme 2015, 2016*
- Christian Scheuerlein (TE-MS-C-LMF)
- Frédéric Savary (TE-MS-C-LMF)
- Said Athie (EN-MME)
- Colleagues from TE-MS-C and EN-MME

# The CERN structure

## CERN Departments structure 2017:

- Beams
- Engineering
- Experimental Physics
- Finance and Administrative Processes
- Human Resources
- Industry, Procurement and Knowledge Transfer
- Information Technology
- Site Management and Buildings
- Technology
- Theoretical Physics



# A large history: CERN Main workshop

The heart of CERN'S engineering:



George Konried (centre) with M. Petey (left) and  
Geiger 1961



# Cryogenics: Low temperatures, high performance

## Large Hadron Collider (LHC):

Largest cryogenic system in the world and one of the coldest places on Earth.

## Main magnets:

Operate at a temperature of 1.9 K (-271.3°C), colder than the 2.7 K (-270.5°C) of outer space.



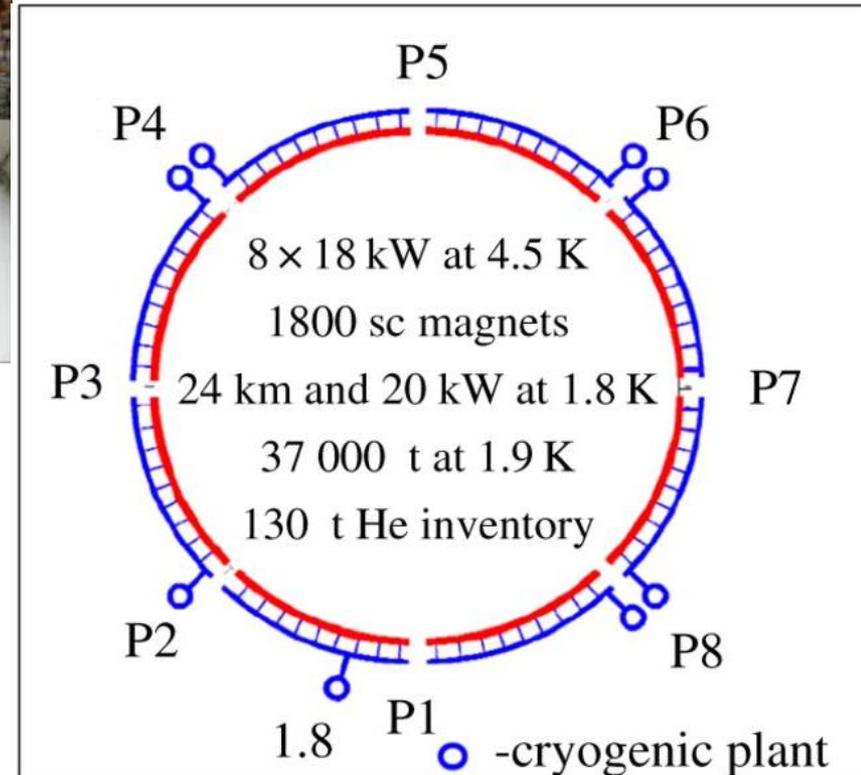
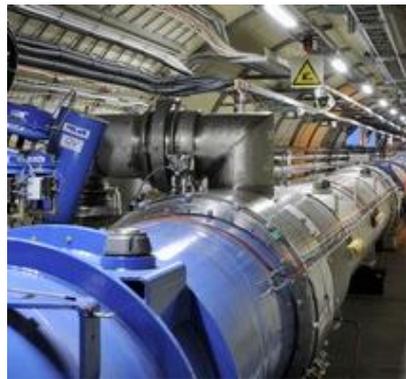
This requires 40,000 leak-tight pipe seals, 40 MW of electricity.  
120 tonnes of helium to keep the magnets at 1.9 K.

# Cryogenics: Sectoring and plants

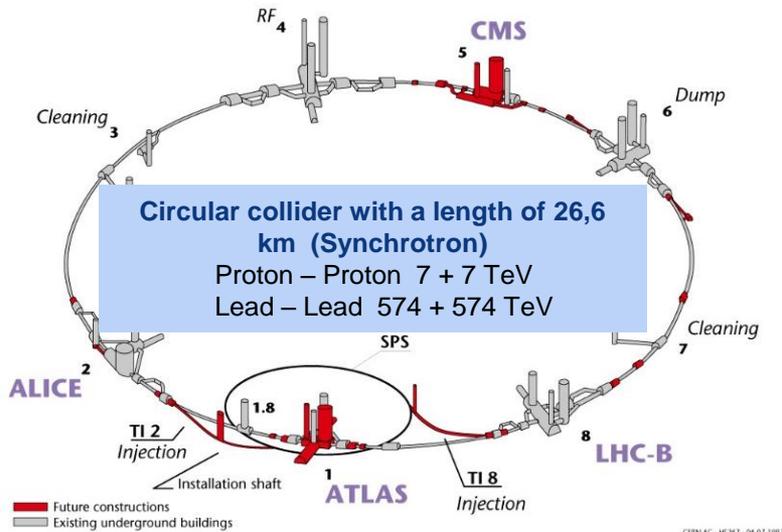
8 cryogenic plants (8 x 18kW @ 4.5 K)



24 km & 20 kW @ 1.8 K



# Superconducting electromagnets



The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is currently operating at the energy of 6.5 TeV per beam.

At this energy, the trillions of particles circle the collider's 27-kilometre tunnel 11,245 times per second.

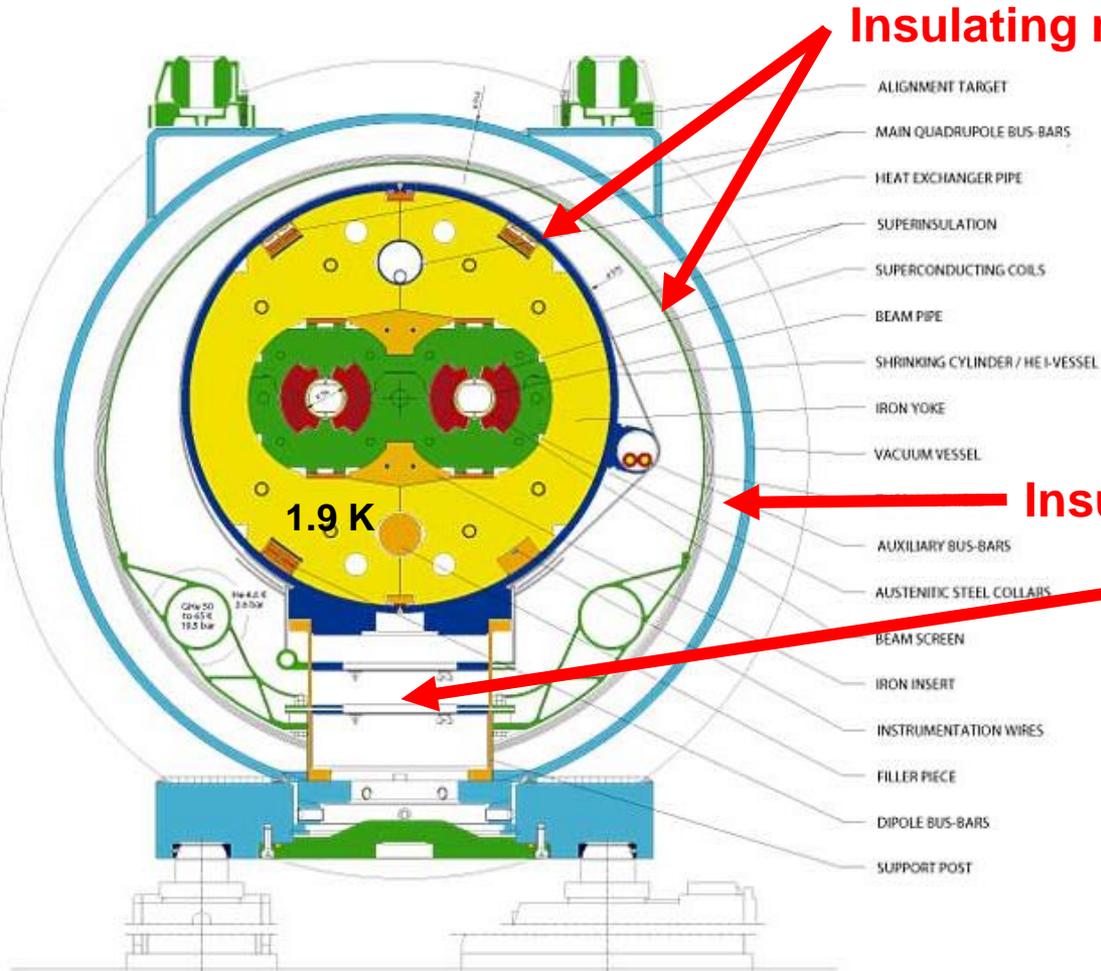
More than 50 types of magnets are needed to send them along complex paths without their losing speed.

All the magnets on the LHC are electromagnets. The 1232 main dipoles generate powerful 8.3 tesla magnetic fields (100,000 times more powerful than the Earth's magnetic field).

The electromagnets use a current of 11,080 amperes to produce the field, and a superconducting coil allows the high currents to flow without losing any energy to electrical resistance.



# Cryostat

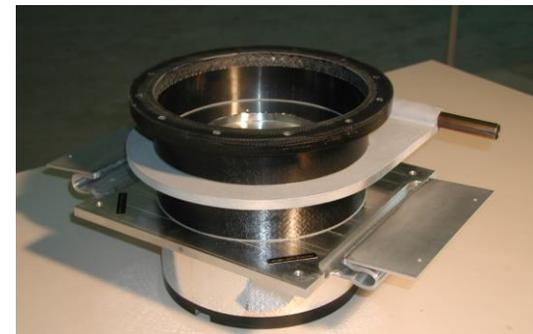


**Insulating material**



**Insulation vacuum**

**Support** made with a composite material to reduce heat conduction.



CERN AC/DI/MM — 2001/06

# Vacuum

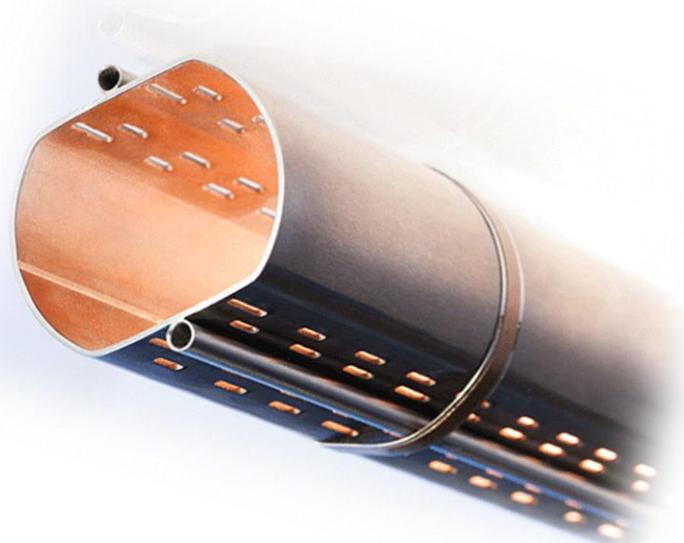
In the LHC, three different vacuum systems with different aims:

1. Cryo-magnets;
2. Helium distribution line (QRL);
3. Vacuum in the **beam** pipes.  
(54 km,  $10^{-10}$  to  $10^{-11}$  mbar)

Largest operational vacuum system in the world, **Total length of vacuum piping: 104 km**

*In the region where the beam circulates, vacuum almost as rarefied as that found on the surface of the Moon!*

} **Thermal insulator**  
50 km,  $10^{-6}$  mbar



LHC – beam screen

# Radiofrequency cavities

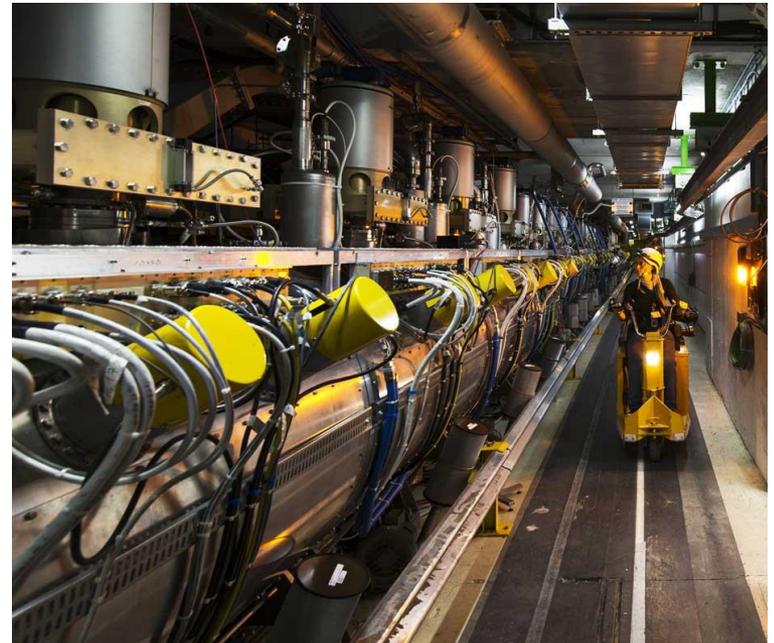
## Main function of the cavities:

- Keep the particles properly **grouped** to ensure high luminosity in the interaction region. Provide **energy** to the beam during the **ramp**.

## Technology: Niobium coated copper superconducting cavities:

- Low energy losses;
- Large stored energy;
- They can fulfil the radio-frequency conditions required in the LHC.

On the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), each RF cavity is tuned to oscillate at 400 MHz.

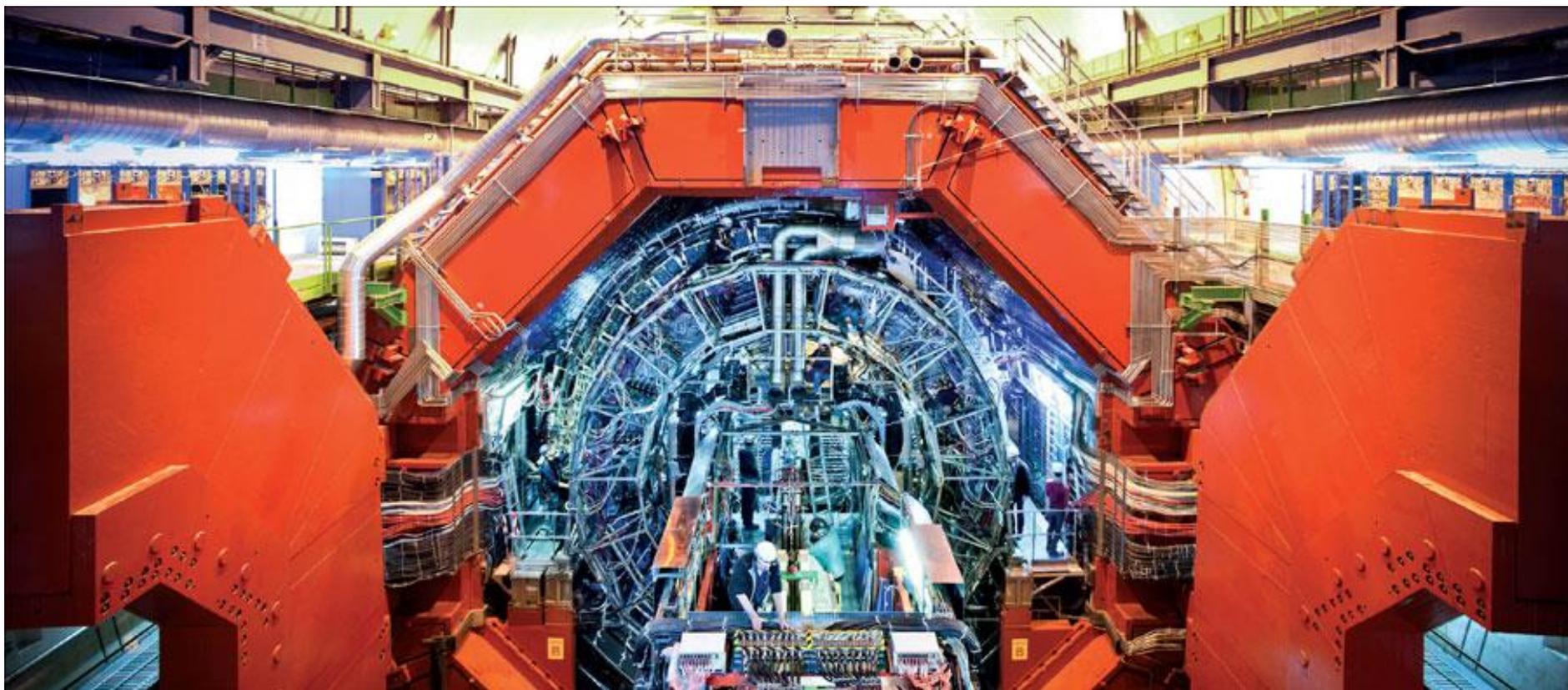


# Collimators

- The energy stored in the LHC beam is enough to melt almost 1 ton of copper.
- A small fraction of this energy is enough to provoke a quench in a superconducting magnet or even to destroy some parts of the accelerator.
- A fraction  $10^{-5}$  of the nominal beam energy will damage copper.
- The **function** of the collimators: **protect the accelerator** against unavoidable regular and irregular beam loss.



# Detectors



- Micro-electronics;
- Data acquisition and treatment;
- Normal and/or superconducting magnets;
- Cryogenics;
- Powering;
- Mechanical structures;
- Instrumentation/monitoring;
- Ultra high vacuum.

# Civil Engineering

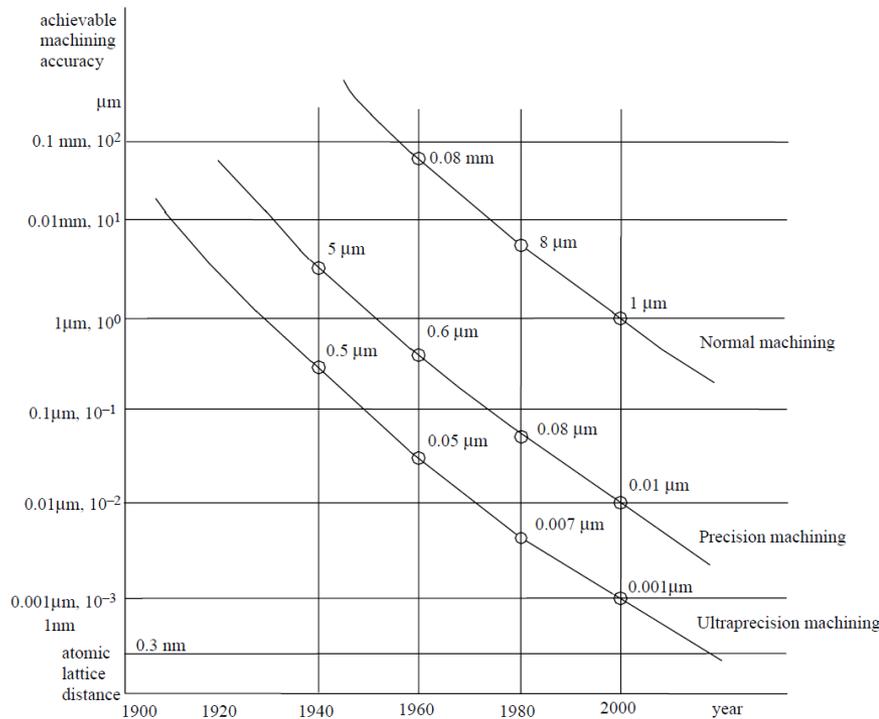
- The LHC is built 100 m below ground;
- Most of the tunnel was built at the time of LEP, only caverns for ATLAS and CMS had to be built for the LHC (width 35m, height 42m length 82m).



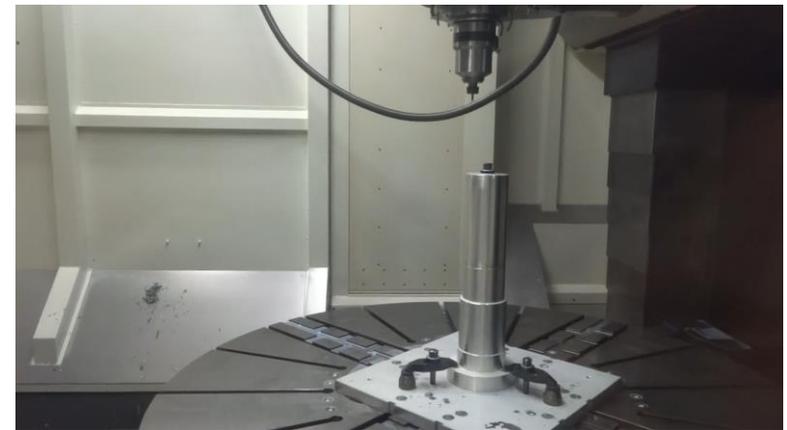
# Transport



# Manufacturing technics in EN-MME



◦ An interpretation of the Taniguchi curves, made in 1983, depicting the general improvement of machine accuracy capability with time during much of the twentieth century.

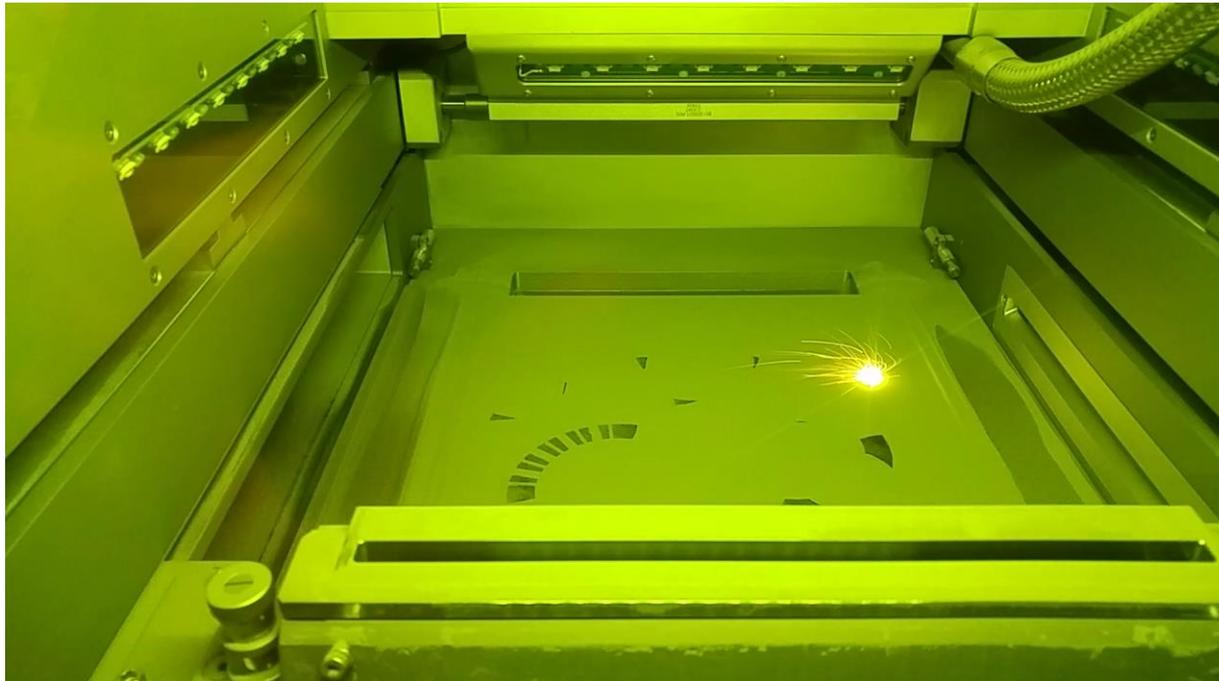


... Ceramic machining, vacuum brazing, electrohydraulic forming (EHF), laser welding ...

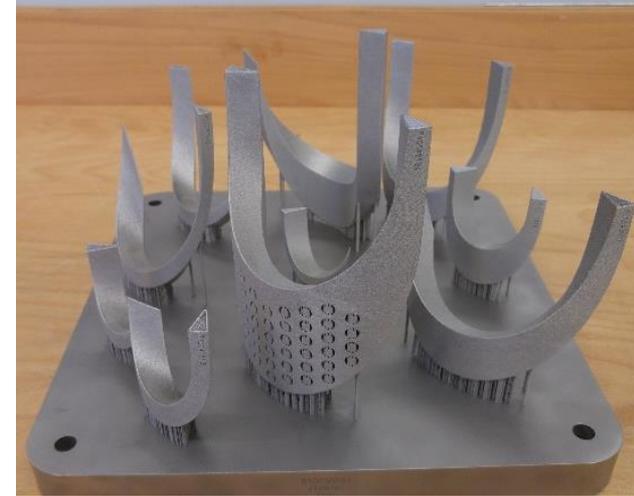
Courtesy S. Atieh, EN-MME

# Staying at the pulse...

## Additive Manufacturing SLM - Selective Laser Melting in EN-MME



Contact: Romain Gérard (EN/MME)



End-spacers for  
superconducting magnet  
Approx. height: 150 mm

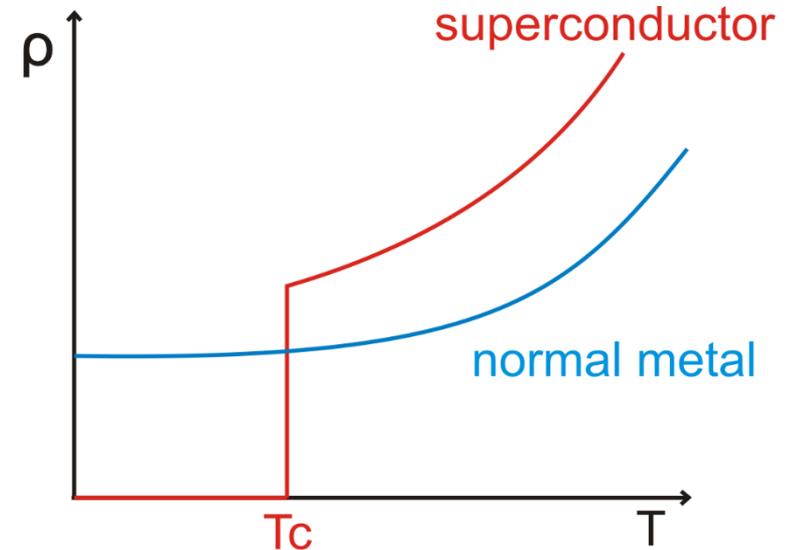
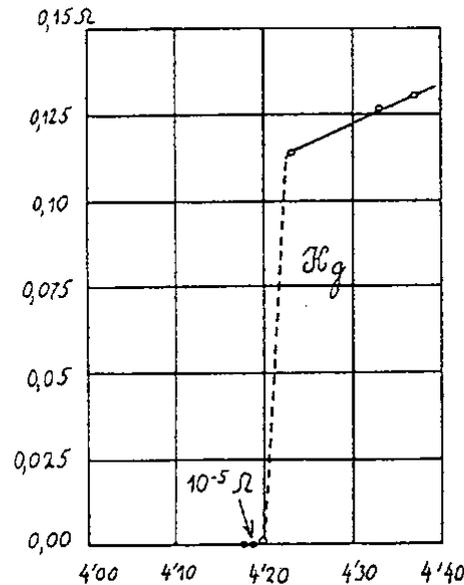


# Superconductivity

In 1911, Kammerling-Onnes, discovered superconductivity (ZERO resistance of mercury wire at 4.2 K)



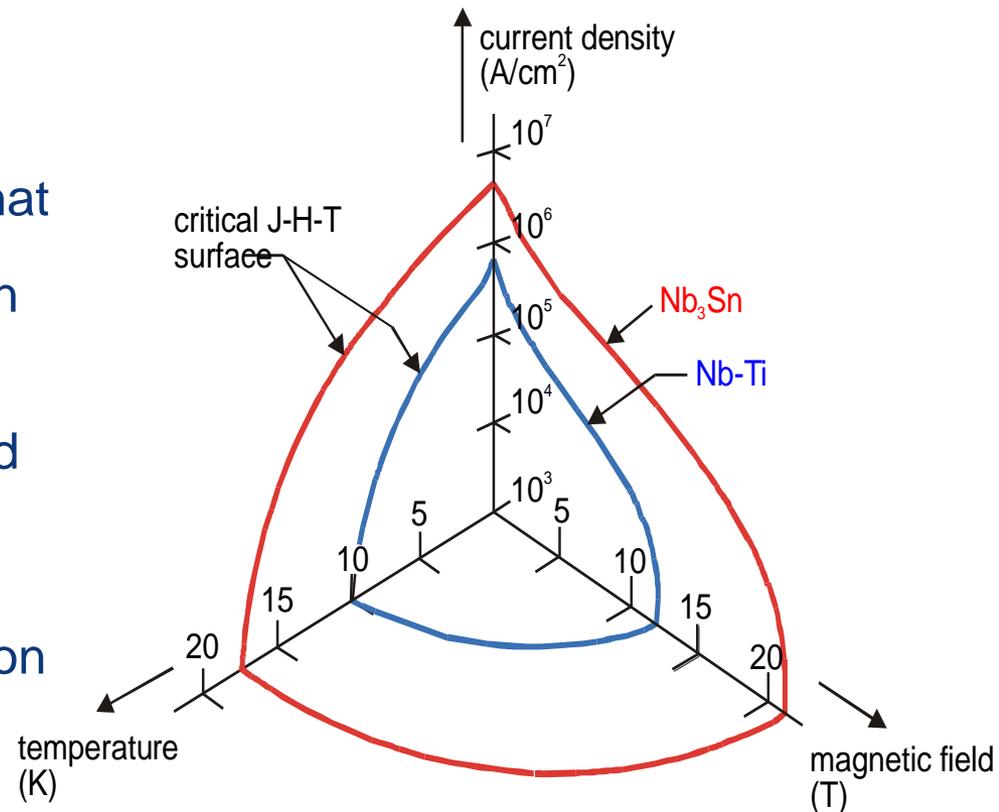
Source: © Rijksmuseum



- The temperature at which the transition takes place is called **critical temperature  $T_c$** ;
- Observed in many materials;
  - Not observed for normal conductors (Cu, Ag, Au);
- At  $T > T_c$ , superconductors show poor electrical performance.

# Critical limits of superconductivity

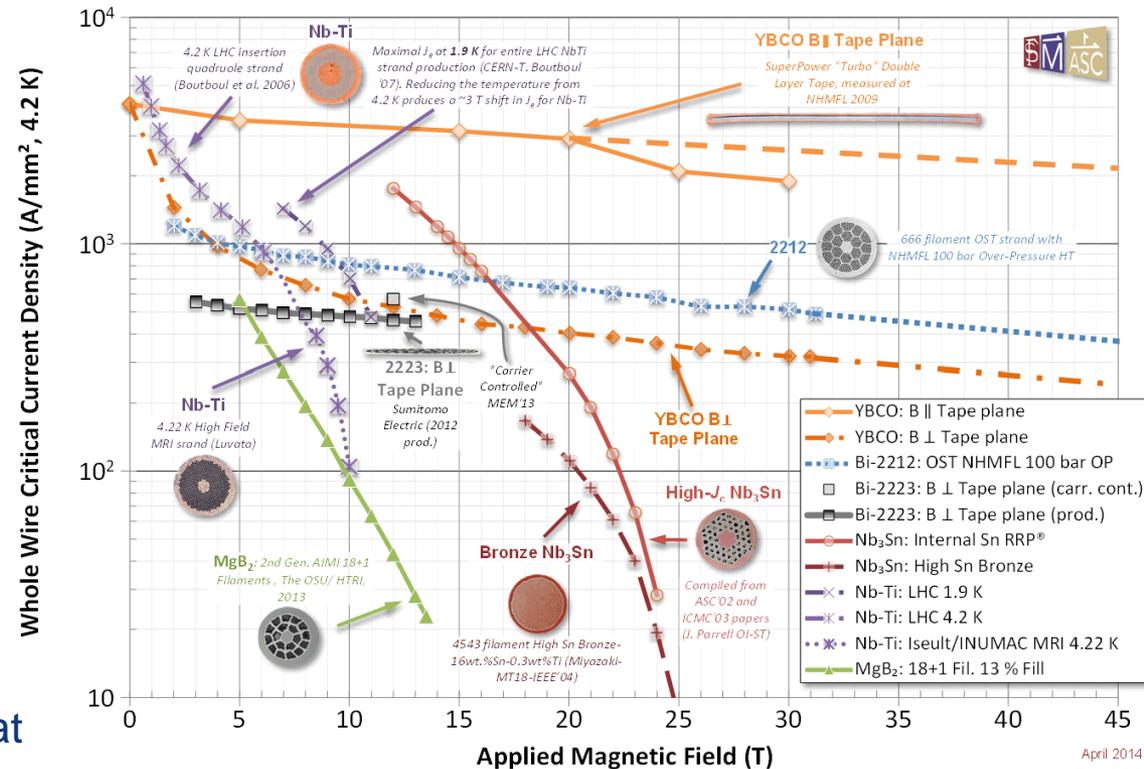
- Superconductors can be characterised by their critical temperature ( $T_c$ ), critical field ( $B_c$ ), and critical current density ( $J_c$ ).
- $T_c$  and  $B_c$  are materials properties that can be modified only slightly. By clever materials engineering  $J_c$  can be varied by many orders of magnitude.
- Very high  $J_c$  values can be achieved in type 2 superconductors by introducing defects that can pin the magnetic flux lines.
- Such defects can be for instance non superconducting phases or grain boundaries.
- For accelerator magnets high  $J_c$  values above  $1.5 \text{ kA/mm}^2$  at operating conditions are typically required.



Critical surface for Nb-Ti and Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn

# Overall current densities of composite conductors used for superconducting magnets

- Practical superconductors are composite materials. A good metallic conductor component (typically Cu or Ag) is needed for electromagnetic stability and protection.
- In some cases a mechanical reinforcement is added for improving electromechanical properties.
- The engineering current density ( $J_e$ ) gives a meaningful comparison between different conductors, taking into account the amount of superconductor that can be inserted in the composite conductors (typically 1 vol.% for coated conductors, 30 vol.% for Bi-2212 and up to 50% for Nb-Ti and  $Nb_3Sn$ ).



Critical current density of state-of-the-art superconductors as a function of applied field at 4.2 K.  
 From Peter Lee, NHMFL  
[\[http://fs.magnet.fsu.edu/~lee/plot/plot.htm\]](http://fs.magnet.fsu.edu/~lee/plot/plot.htm)

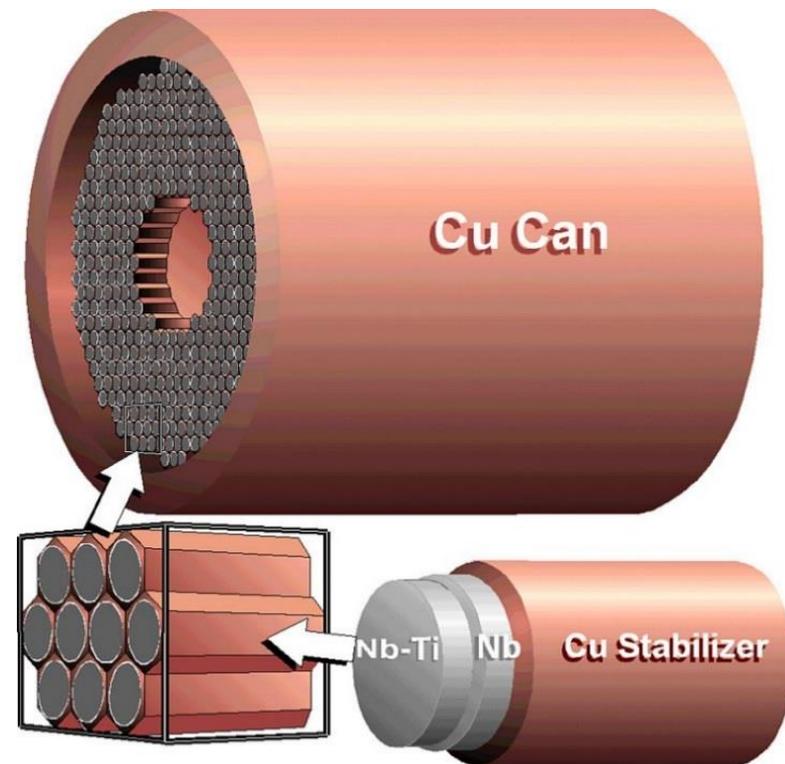
## Rutherford cable

One LHC  $15 \times 1.5 \text{ mm}^2$  Rutherford cable composed of 28 wires can transport a current of 13750 A at 1.9 K in a background field of 10 Tesla.



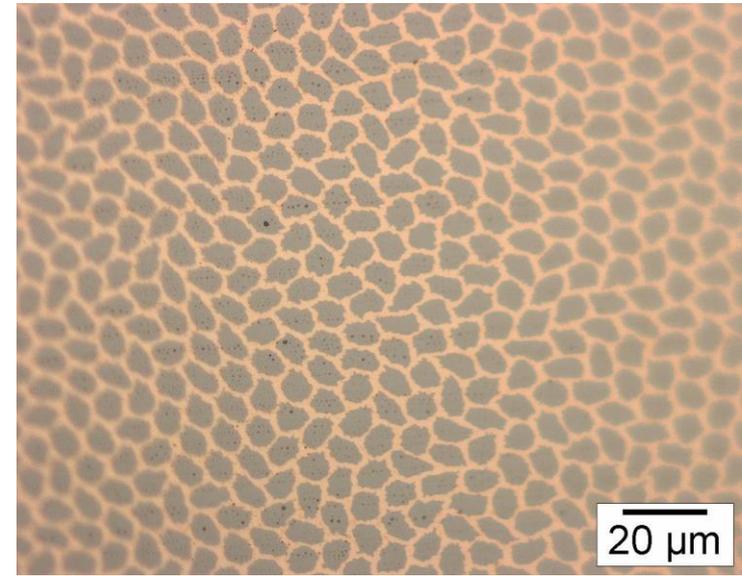
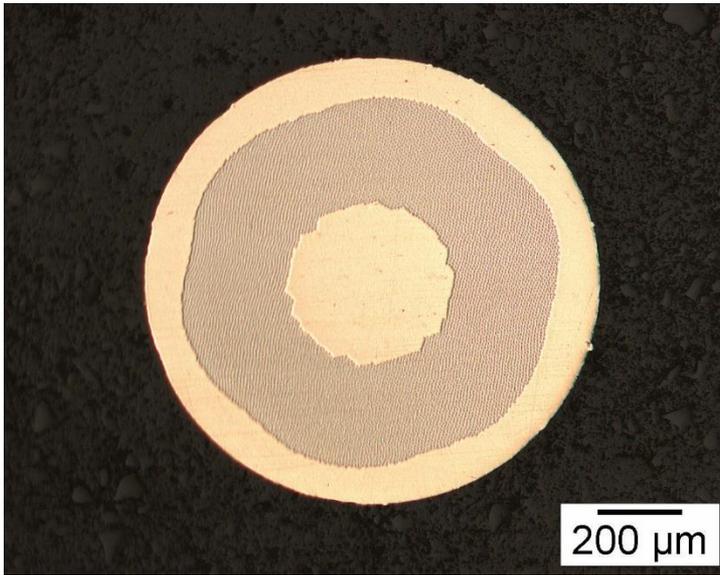
# Nb-Ti wire fabrication

- **Ductile alloy superconductor; the workhorse in applied superconductivity**
- The Nb-Ti/Cu composite wires are produced from Nb-Ti bars, which are inserted into a Cu can.
- In a sequence of several metallurgical processes, such as extrusion and drawing, the initial Nb-Ti bar diameter of typically 200 mm  $\varnothing$ , 750 mm long.
- Reduced by plastic deformation down to the final filament diameter of about 7  $\mu\text{m}$ .
- 490 tons of high homogeneity Nb-Ti alloy were needed to fabricate the LHC superconducting wires.



*Schematic illustration of Nb-Ti/Cu composite billet assembly starting from a Nb-Ti rod, a Nb diffusion barrier wrap and a Cu extrusion can. The hexagonal monofilament rods are re-stacked in a Cu can.*  
From P. J. Lee and D. C. Larbalestier, Wire Journal International, 36(2)

# Nb-Ti/Cu composite wires



*Metallographic cross sections of LHC Nb-Ti/Cu conductor made of about 8000 Nb-Ti  $\varnothing=7 \mu\text{m}$  filaments.*

## Why small filaments are needed?

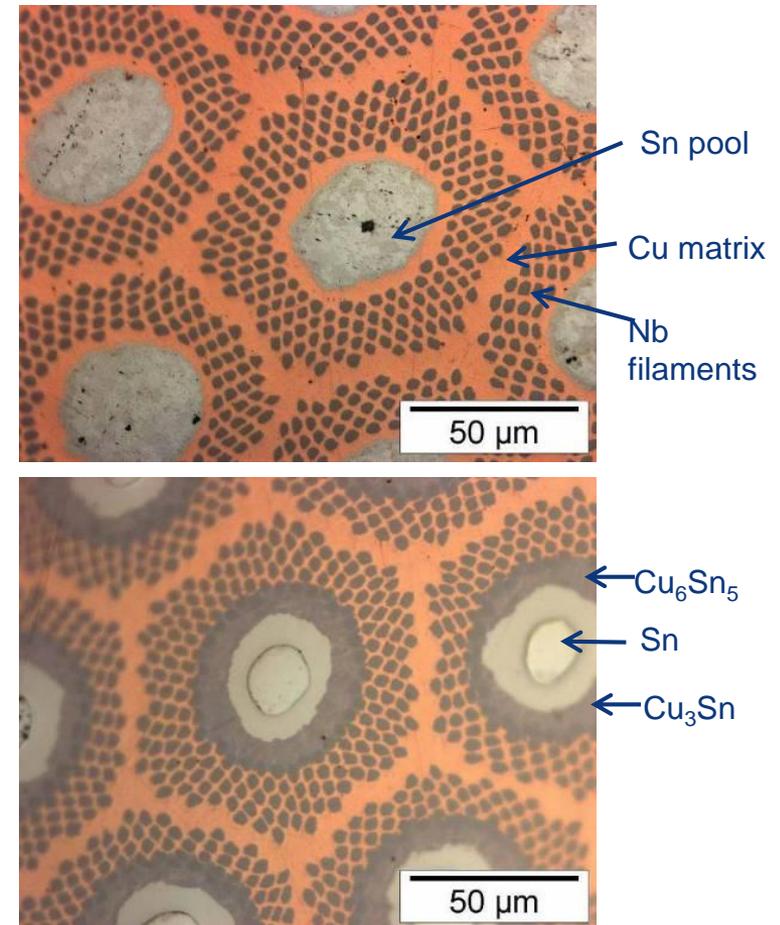
- Stability (flux jumps);
- Magnetic field quality;
- Persistent currents, Inter-filament coupling currents.

## Why they are embedded in a copper matrix?

- Protection, to redistribute the current in case of quench.

# Phase transformations during Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn processing

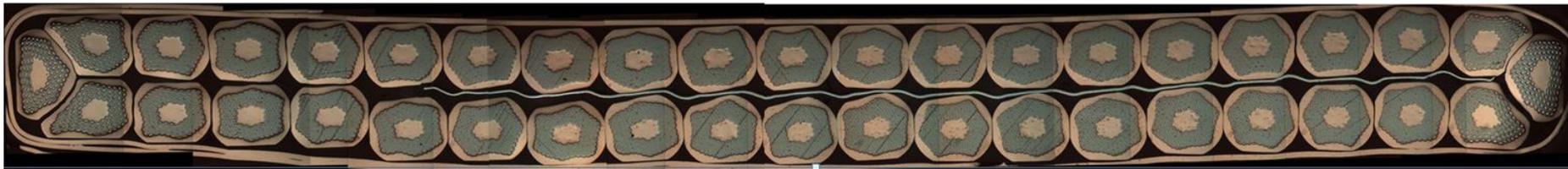
- **Intermetallic superconductor for the next generation of accelerator magnets beyond the ultimate performance limit of Nb-Ti.**
- Brittle superconductors like the Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn intermetallic are produced from the precursor materials by a processing heat treatment (HT) when the conductor is in its final size and shape.
- During the Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn HT the precursor elements Nb and Sn and the Cu matrix interdiffuse, forming various intermetallic phases and finally the superconducting Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn.
- The phase transformations occurring during the HT prior to the Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn formation can influence the performance of the fully processed wire.



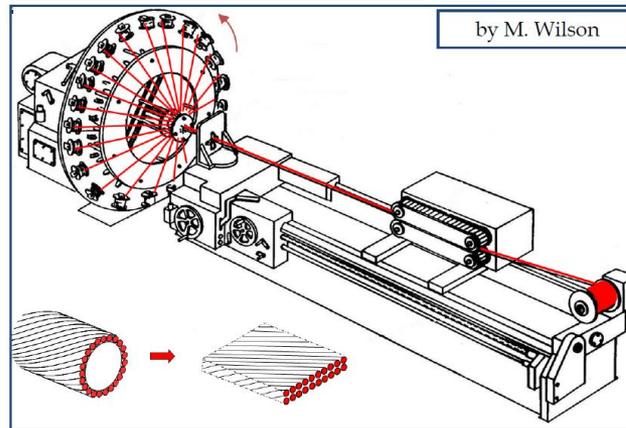
*Metallographic cross sections of an Internal Tin (IT) Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn wire as-drawn and after 9 days at 220 °C HT.*

# The cable

- Most of the superconducting coils for particle accelerators wound from a multi-strand cable (**Rutherford cable**);
- The strands are **twisted** to;
  - Reduce **inter-strand coupling currents**;
    - Losses and field distortions;
    - Provide more **mechanical stability**.



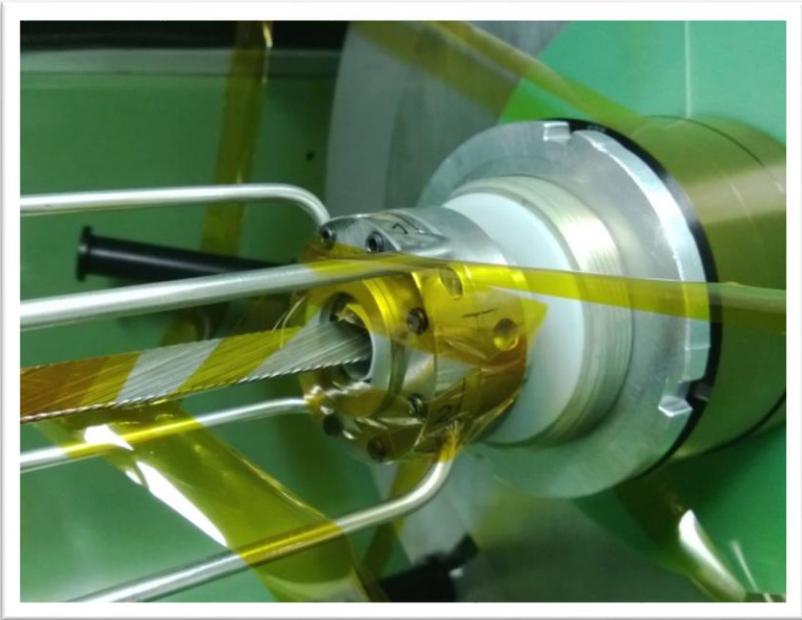
- Strands wound on spools mounted on a rotating drum;
- Strands twisted around a conical mandrel into rolls;
- The rolls compact the cable and provide the final shape.



# The cable insulation

The cable insulation must feature:

- Good **electrical properties** to withstand turn-to-turn  $V$  after a quench;
- Good **mechanical properties** to withstand high pressure conditions;
- **Porosity** to allow penetration of helium (or epoxy);
- **Radiation hardness.**



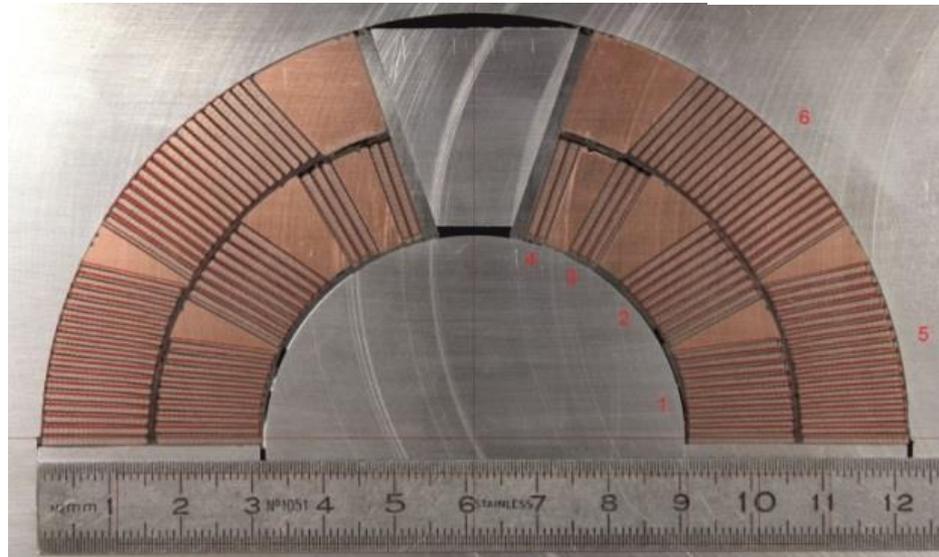
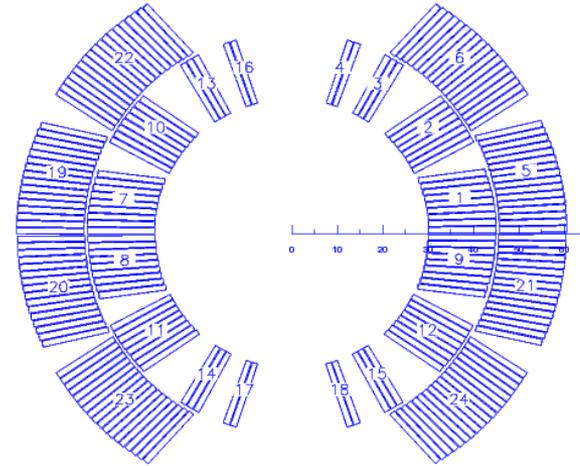
Polyimide insulation for Nb-Ti



Fiber glass insulation for Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn

# Coil fabrication

- The coil: most **critical component** of a superconducting magnet;
- **Cross-sectional accuracy** of few tens of micrometers over  $\sim 15$  m;
- Manufacturing tolerances ( $\sim 30$   $\mu\text{m}$  on blocks position) are accounted as random components for field quality.



*Cross section of a  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  practice coil*

# How to create a dipole field?

## Perfect dipole:

- Within a cylinder carrying  $j_0$ , the field is perpendicular to the radial direction and proportional to the distance to the centre  $r$ .

$$B = -\frac{\mu_0 j_0 r}{2}$$

- Combining the effect of two intersecting cylinders

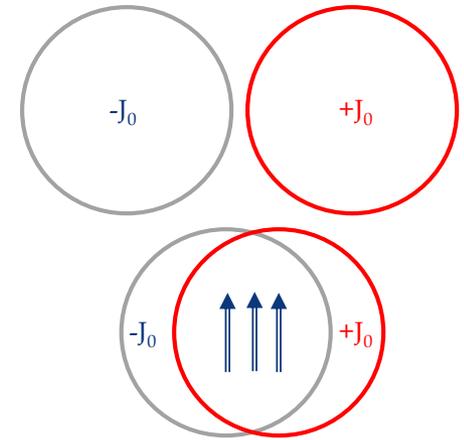
$$B_x = \frac{\mu_0 j_0 r}{2} \{-r_1 \sin \theta_1 + r_2 \sin \theta_2\} = 0$$

$$B_y = \frac{\mu_0 j_0 r}{2} \{-r_1 \cos \theta_1 + r_2 \cos \theta_2\} = -\frac{\mu_0 j_0}{2} s$$

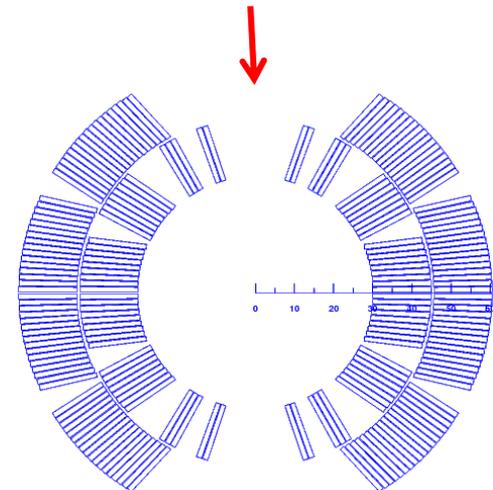
## Practical challenges:

- The aperture is not circular;
- Not easy to simulate with a flat cable.

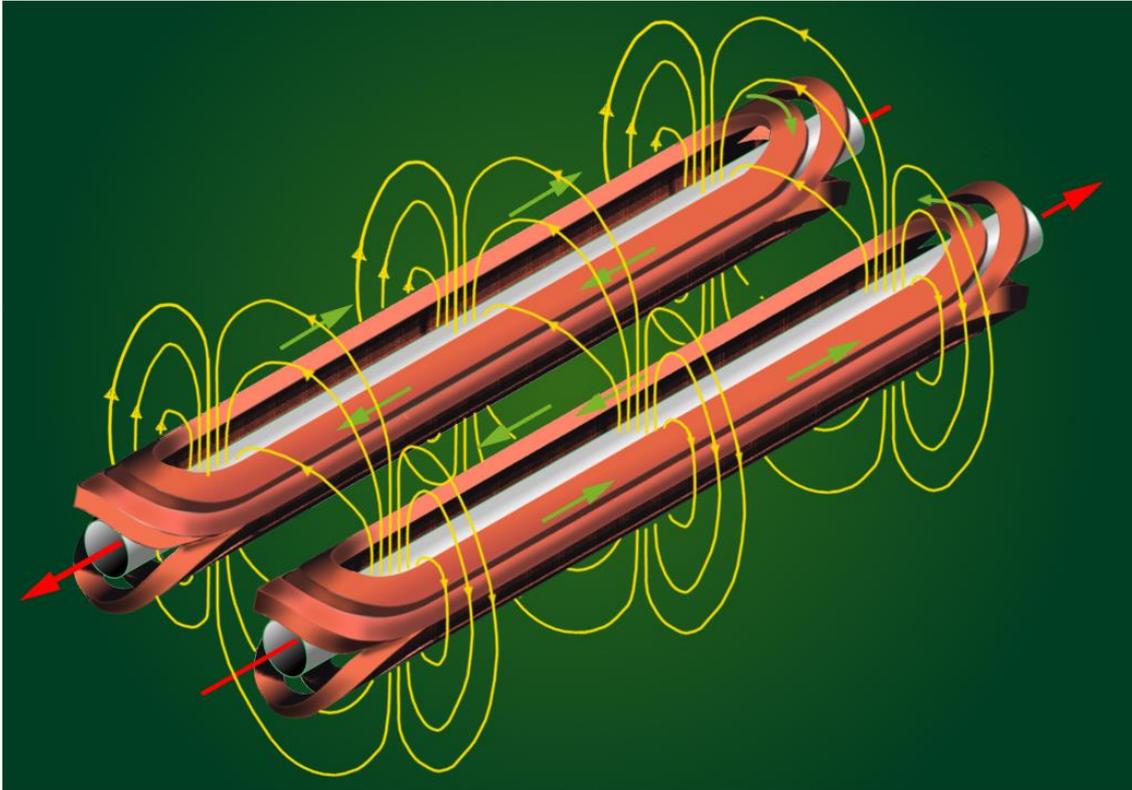
The idea: reproduce a  $\cos\theta$  current distribution with a cable (Rectangular cross-section and constant  $J$ ).



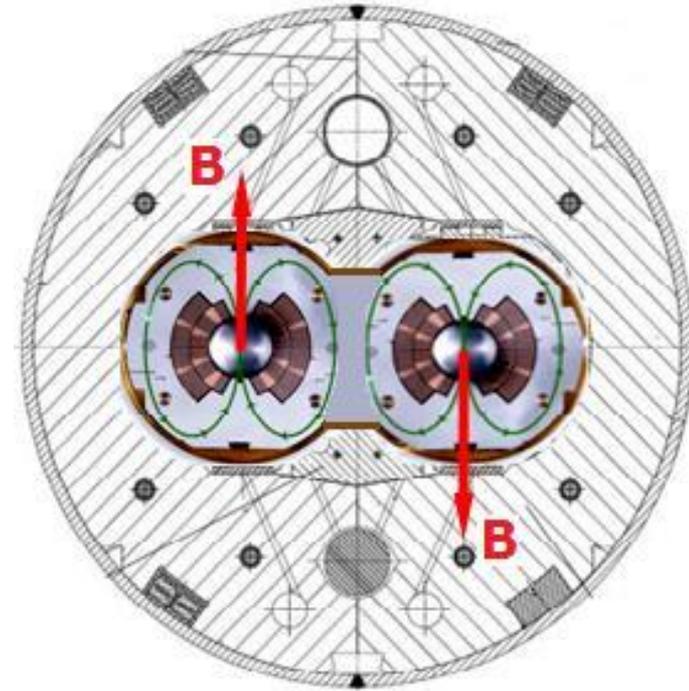
From ideal to practice configuration



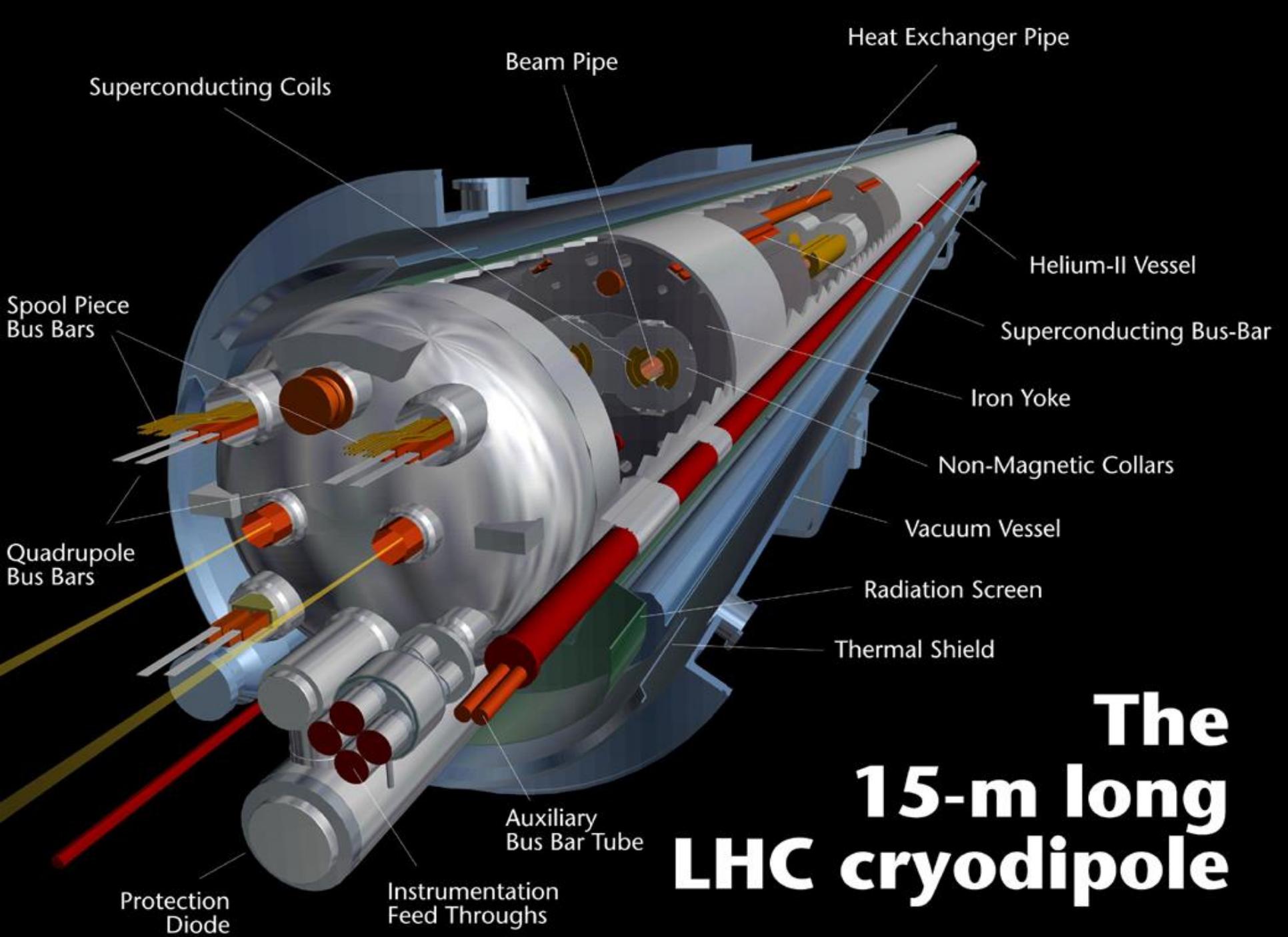
# How to create a dipole field?



*LHC main dipole, electromagnetic field in the two apertures...*



*Cross-sectional view on the LHC main dipole magnet...*



Superconducting Coils

Beam Pipe

Heat Exchanger Pipe

Helium-II Vessel

Superconducting Bus-Bar

Iron Yoke

Non-Magnetic Collars

Vacuum Vessel

Radiation Screen

Thermal Shield

Auxiliary Bus Bar Tube

Instrumentation Feed Throughs

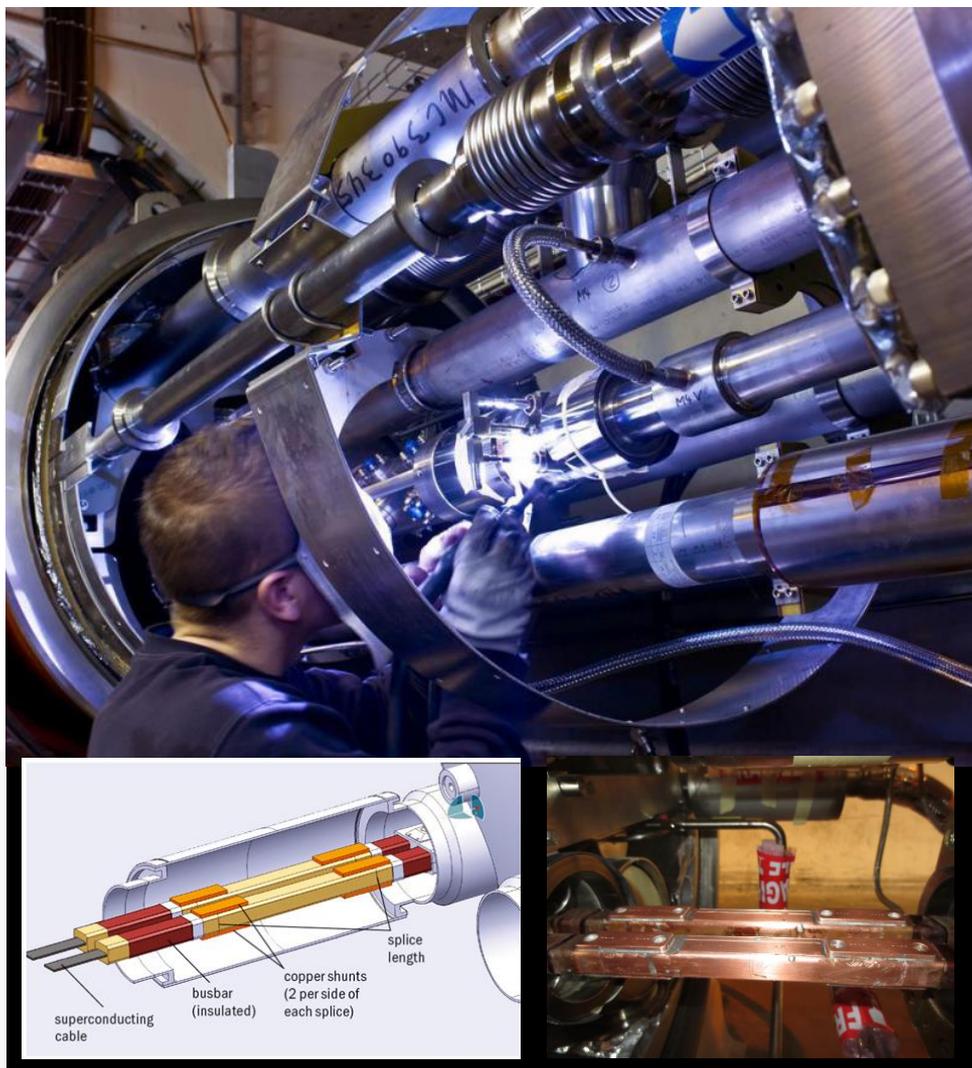
Protection Diode

Spool Piece Bus Bars

Quadrupole Bus Bars

# The 15-m long LHC cryodipole

# Interconnections



Some key aspects of the interconnections:

- Flexible components to compensate the thermal contraction required. ( $\sim 3\text{mm/m} \rightarrow 45\text{ mm/dipole}$ ). Challenging in terms of leak tightness
- It is very important to guarantee the electrical integrity of the 12 kA circuit
- Avoid stress in the splicing region due to electromagnetic forces
- Guarantee low resistance in the splice region to avoid quenching

# LS1 – SMACC project



## The main 2013-14 LHC consolidations

1695 Openings and final reclosures of the interconnections

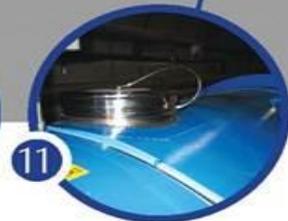
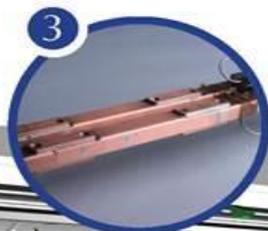
Complete reconstruction of 1500 of these splices

Consolidation of the 10170 13kA splices, installing 27 000 shunts

Installation of 5000 consolidated electrical insulation systems

300 000 electrical resistance measurements

10170 orbital welding of stainless steel lines



18 000 electrical Quality Assurance tests

10170 leak tightness tests

4 quadrupole magnets to be replaced

15 dipole magnets to be replaced

Installation of 612 pressure relief devices to bring the total to 1344

Consolidation of the 13 kA circuits in the 16 main electrical feed-boxes

# Coil fabrication ( $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ )

## Winding & Curing

The cable is wound around a pole on a mandrel.  
A ceramic binder is applied and cured ( $T \sim 150 \text{ C}$ ) to have a rigid body easy to manipulate.



## Reaction

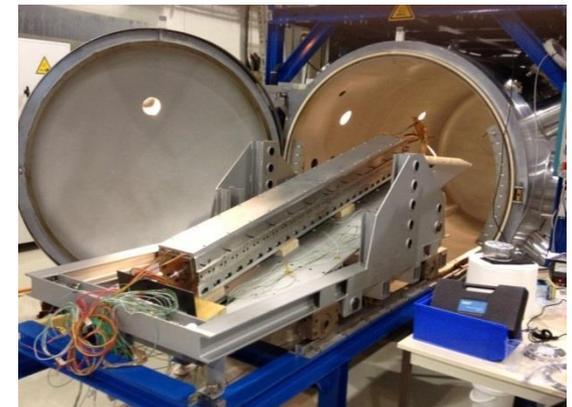
Sn and Nb are heated to  $650\text{-}700 \text{ C}$  in vacuum or inert gas (argon)  $\rightarrow \text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ .

**The cable becomes brittle**



## Impregnation

In order to have a **solid block**, the coil placed in a impregnation fixture  
The fixture is inserted in a vacuum tank, evacuated  $\rightarrow$  **epoxy injected.**



# Large Magnet Facility, a unique place...



Finishing benches  
Geometrical measurements



15m Welding press



15m Collaring press



Pressure/leak bench



Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn  
Reaction  
furnace



Yoke assembly  
bench



Welding press for 2m models

Half Yoke  
returning  
bench

Cold mass  
assembly  
bench

Collared coil  
returning  
bench

Collared coil insertion  
MQXFB

Impregnation  
chamber

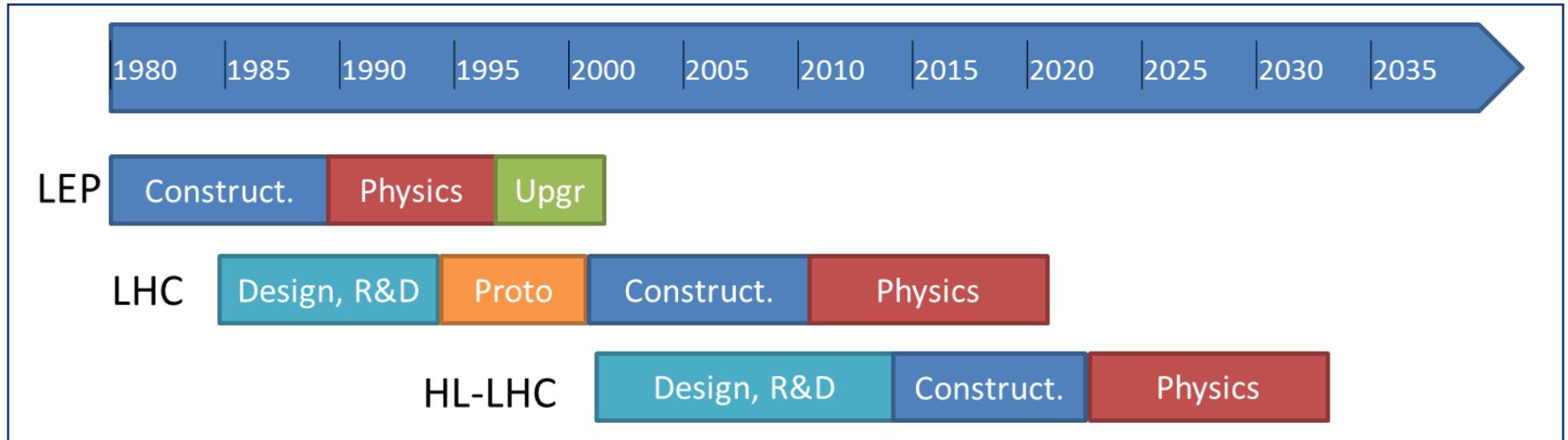
Imp. preparation  
bench

Cold mass magnetic  
measurement bench

"Winding house"



# Hi-Lumi LHC



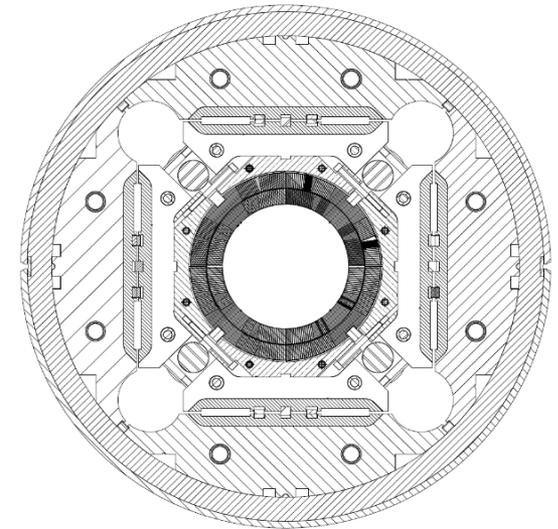
- From LHC to HiLumi LHC;
  - Integrated  $L$ :  $\sim 300 \rightarrow 3000\text{fb}^{-1}$
- Reduce beam size in Interaction regions (IR) by **factor 2**;
- Triplet quadrupole **aperture doubled** ( $70 \text{ mm} \rightarrow 150 \text{ mm}$ ).

# HiLumi LHC

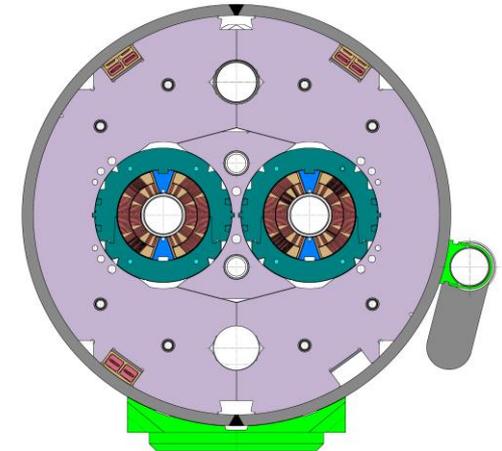
## 1.2 km of machine will be replaced

### The challenges:

- Produce **Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn** magnets “accelerator quality” (up to now only Nb-Ti).
  - Coil technology for 7 m based on Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn
- Electromagnetic forces:
  - ~4 times in straight section and ~6 times in the ends with respect to current triplets
- Quench protection
  - Large stored energy per unit volume
- **Crab cavities**
  - New concept
- **Civil engineering**
  - Run in parallel the LHC and the required engineering
- **Radiation** protection



MQXFB Quadrupole

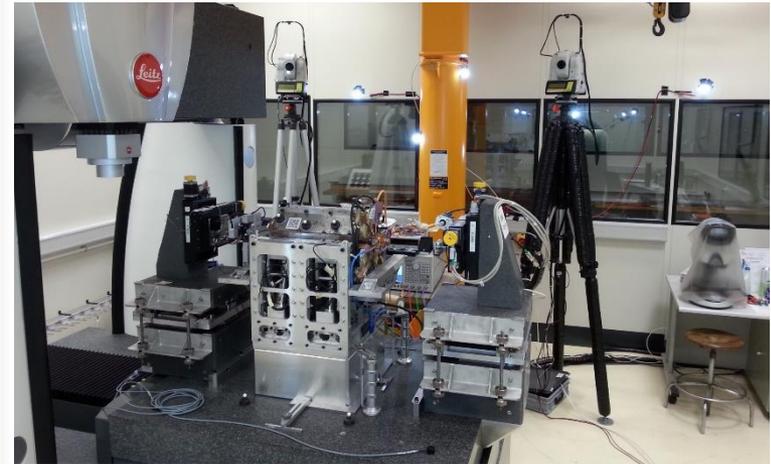


11 T dipole magnet

# The CLIC study

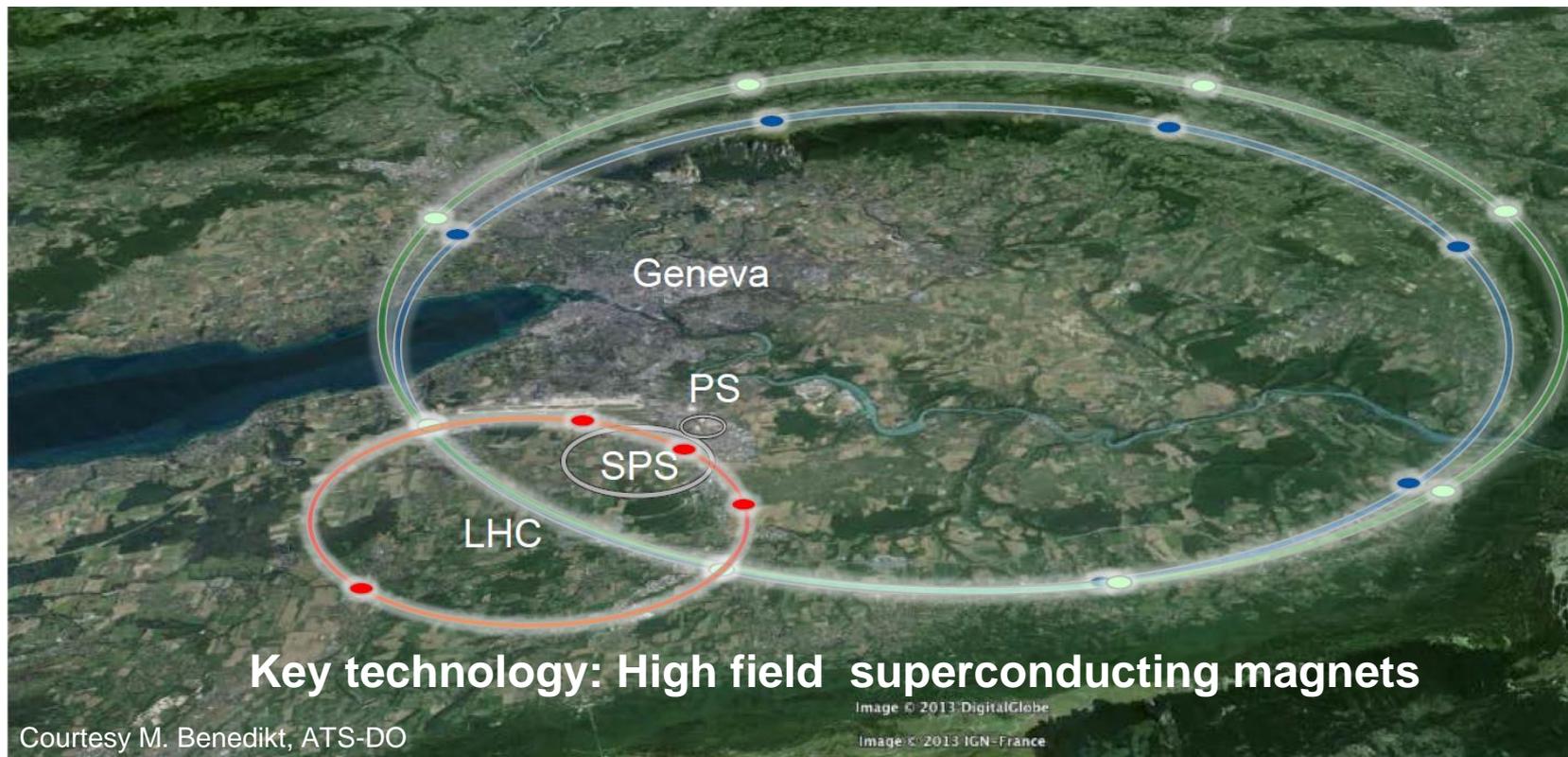


- **Electron-positron machine** (Linear machine, particles would otherwise lose an enormous amount of energy circulating in a circular structure as the LHC);
- Accelerating gradient: 360 GeV to 3 TeV;
- Very high precision on the components! For some parts, the mechanical tolerances are  $2\ \mu\text{m}$ , a big challenge from the manufacturing point of view;
- Key technology: High-gradient accelerating structures.
- CLIC aims at an acceleration of 100 MV/m, 20 higher than the LHC;
- Requires a nm stabilization system for quadrupole magnets.



Courtesy H.M. Durand (EN-ACE), K. Artoos (EN-MME)

# The FCC study



**LHC**  
27 km, 8.33 T  
14 TeV (c.o.m.)  
1300 tons NbTi

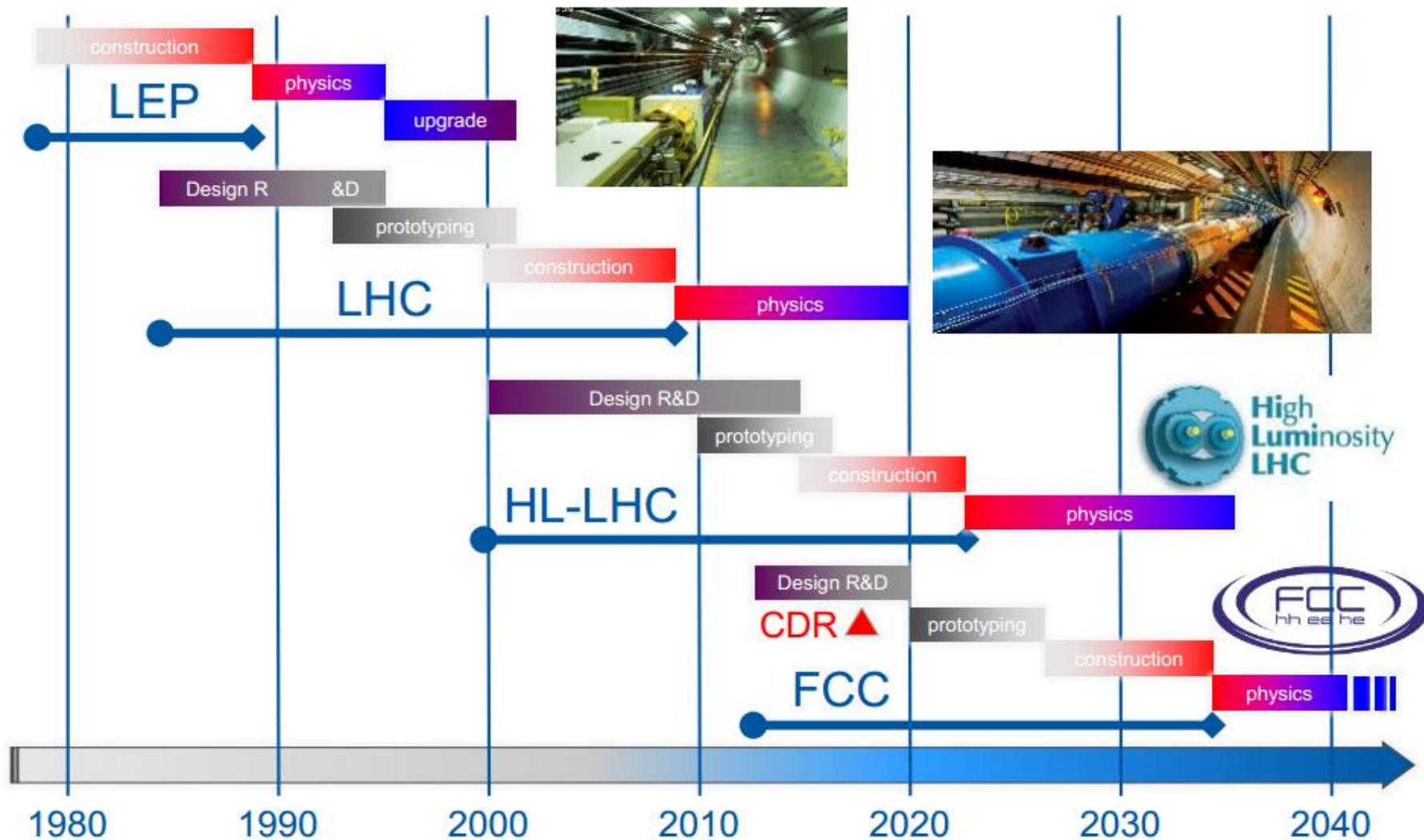
**HE-LHC**  
27 km, **20 T**  
**33 TeV (c.o.m.)**  
3000 tons LTS  
700 tons HTS

**FCC-hh**  
80 km, **20 T**  
100 TeV (c.o.m.)  
9000 tons LTS  
2000 tons HTS

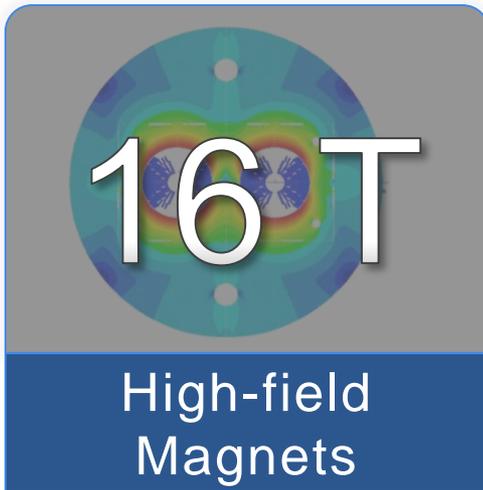
**FCC-hh**  
100 km, **16 T**  
100 TeV (c.o.m.)  
6000 tons Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn  
3000 tons NbTi



# Thoughts towards post LHC



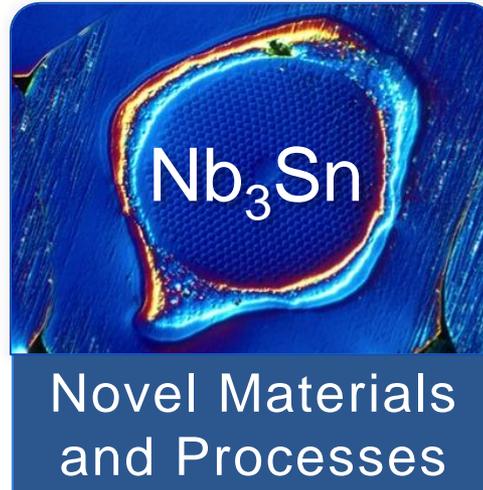
# Key technologies for future accelerators



16 T

High-field Magnets

A circular cross-section of a magnet with a central bore, showing a color-coded field distribution. The text '16 T' is overlaid in large white font.



Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn

Novel Materials and Processes

A microscopic image of a Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn superconductor surface, showing a textured, blue and yellow structure. The text 'Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn' is overlaid in white font.



Large-scale Cryogenics

A photograph of a large, orange, spherical cryogenic vessel with a metal frame, likely used for storing liquid helium. The text is overlaid in white font.



Repair & Maintenance

Reliability & Availability

An image of a blue and red adjustable wrench and a silver screwdriver crossed. The text 'Repair & Maintenance' is overlaid in white font.

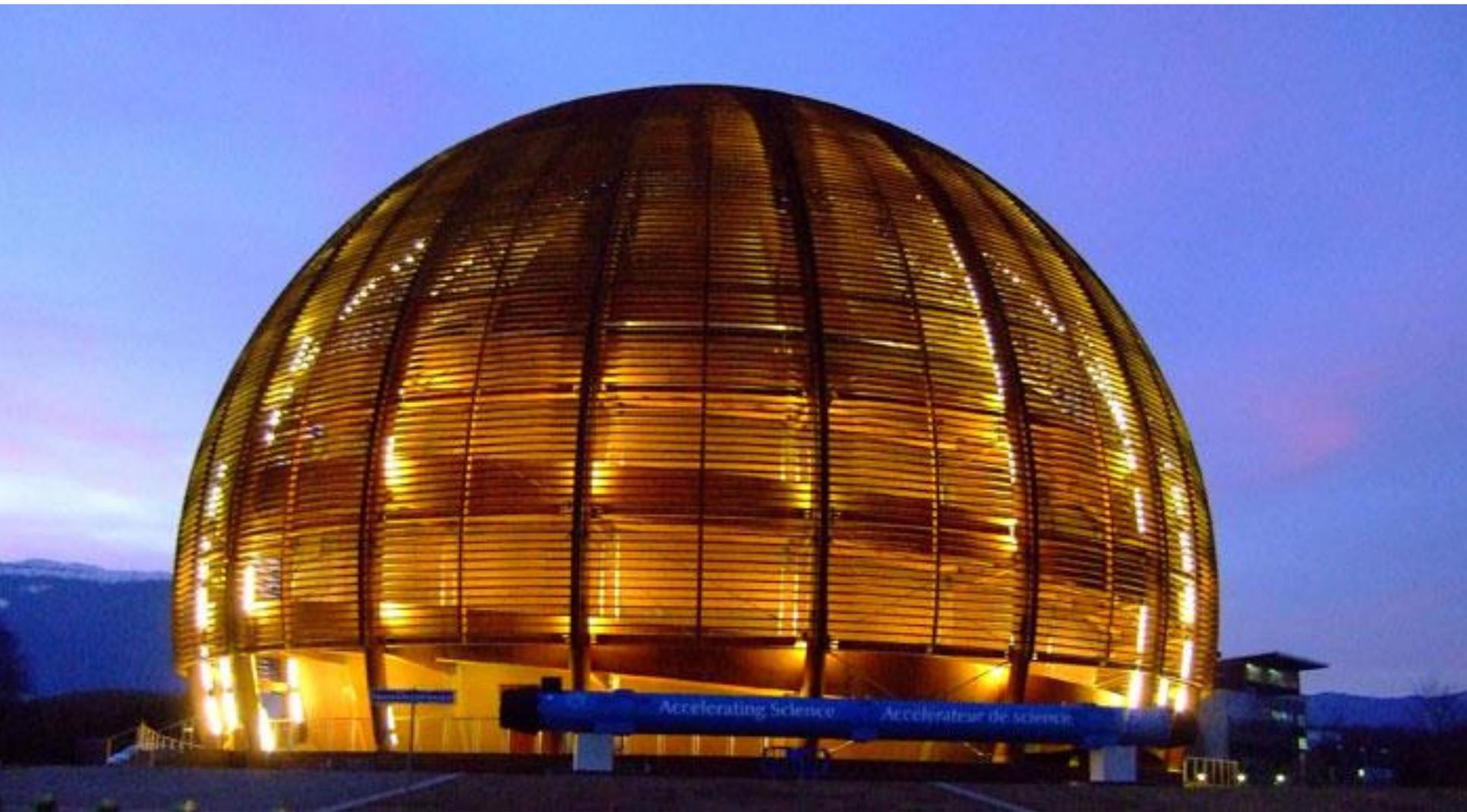


2.0

Global Scale Computing

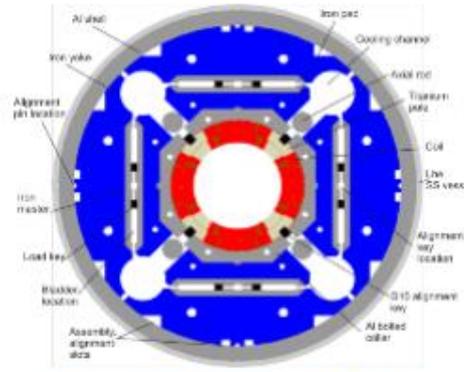
A blue cloud icon with a yellow and orange striped base. The text '2.0' is overlaid in large white font.

# Thank you for your attention

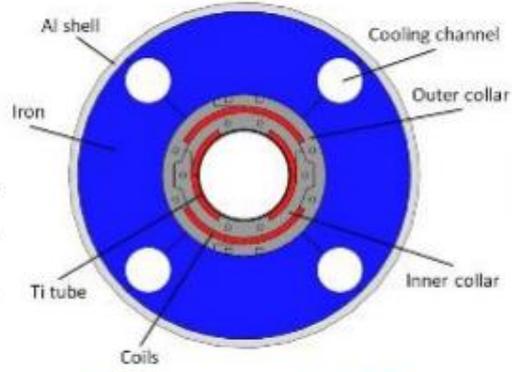


# Additional slides

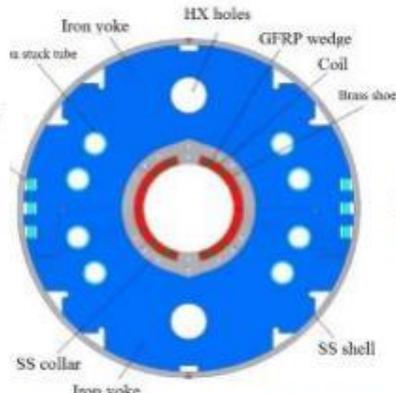
# HL-LHC magnet zoo



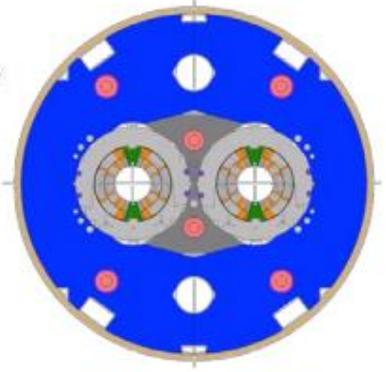
Triplet QXF (LARP and CERN)



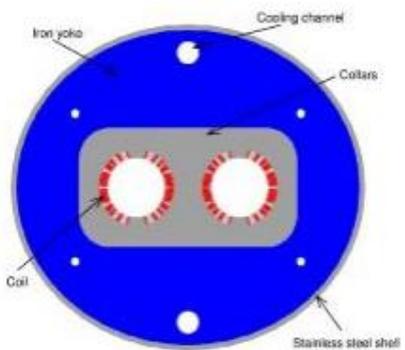
Orbit corrector (CIEMAT)



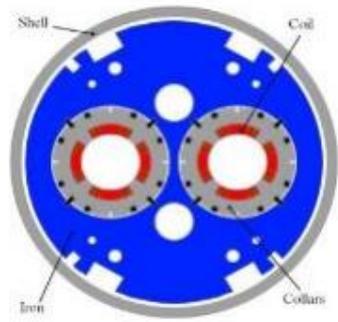
Separation dipole D1 (KEK)



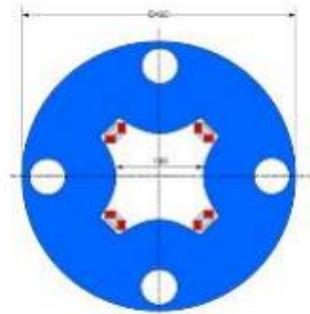
11 T dipole (CERN)



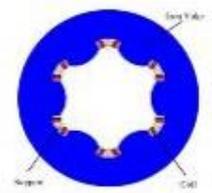
Recombination dipole D2 (INFN design)



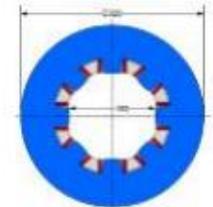
Q4 (CEA)



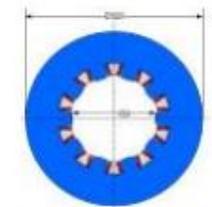
Skew quadrupole (INFN)



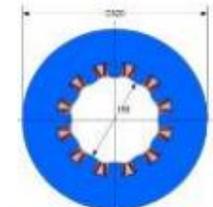
Sextupole (INFN)



Octupole (INFN)



Decapole (INFN)



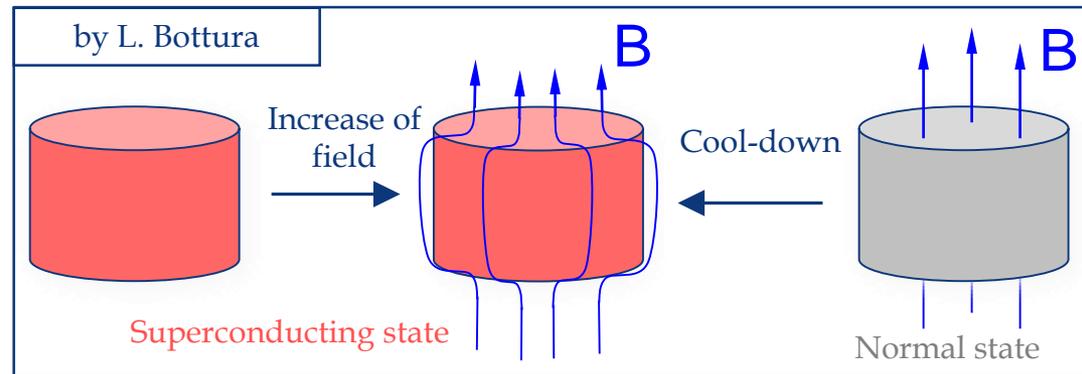
Dodecapole (INFN)

Approximately 200 magnets for HL-LHC

# Superconductivity

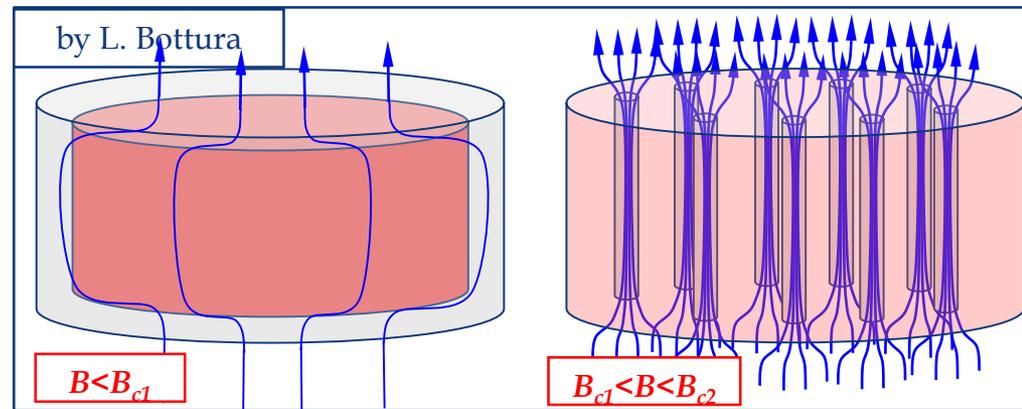
- For 40-50 years, only “**Type I**” superconductors were known.

- Perfect diamagnetism. With  $T < T_c$  magnetic field is expelled
- But, the  $B$  must be  $<$  **critical field  $B_c$** . Otherwise, superconductivity is lost
- Unfortunately,  $B_c$  *very low* ( $\leq 0.1$  T), not practical for electromagnets



- Then, in the 50's, “**Type II**” superconductors

- Between  $B_{c1}$  and  $B_{c2}$ : mixed phase
  - $B$  penetrates as flux tubes: *fluxoids*
- Much higher fields and link between  $T_c$  and  $B_{c2}$



# The strand: multifilament wire

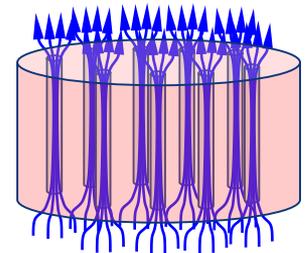
## WHY a multi-filament wire?

### 1. Flux jumps

Thermal disturbance  $\rightarrow$  the local change in  $J_c \rightarrow$  motion or “**flux jump**”  $\rightarrow$  power dissipation  
Stability criteria for a slab (adiabatic condition)

$$a \leq \sqrt{\frac{3\gamma C(\theta_c - \theta_0)}{\mu_0 j_c^2}}$$

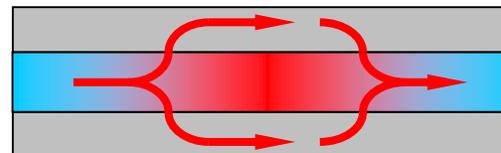
$a$  is the half-thickness of the slab  
 $j_c$  is the critical current density [ $\text{A m}^{-2}$ ]  
 $\gamma$  is the density [ $\text{kg m}^{-3}$ ]  
 $C$  is the specific heat [ $\text{J kg}^{-1}$ ]  
 $\theta_c$  is the critical temperature.



$$B_{c1} < B < B_{c2}$$

### 2. Quench protection

- Superconductors have a very high normal state resistivity.  
*If quenched, could reach very high temperatures in few ms.*
- If embedded in a **copper matrix**, when a quench occurs, current redistributes in the low-resistivity matrix  $\rightarrow$  **lower peak temperature**

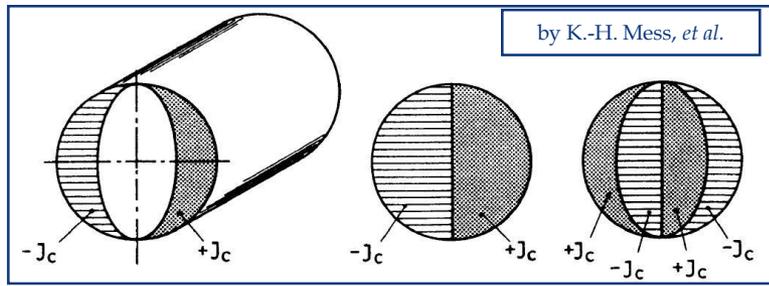


# The strand: multifilament wire

## 3. Persistent currents

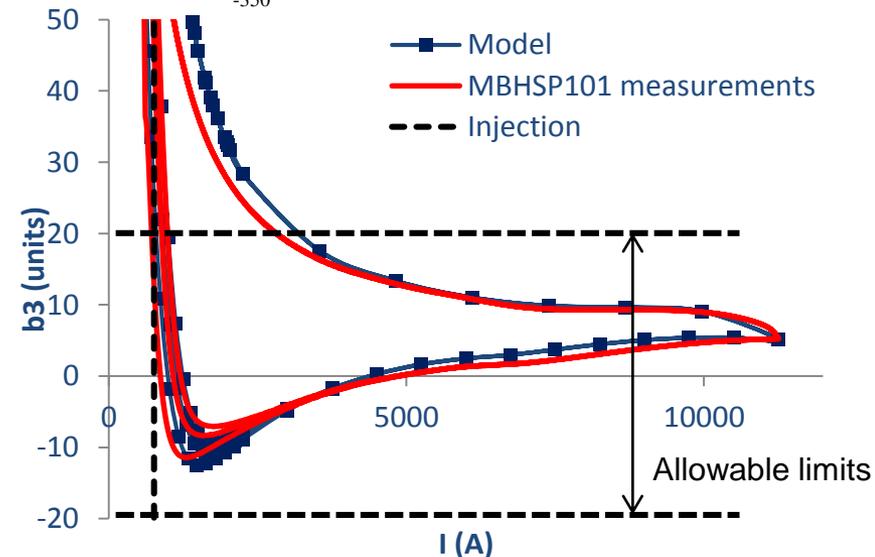
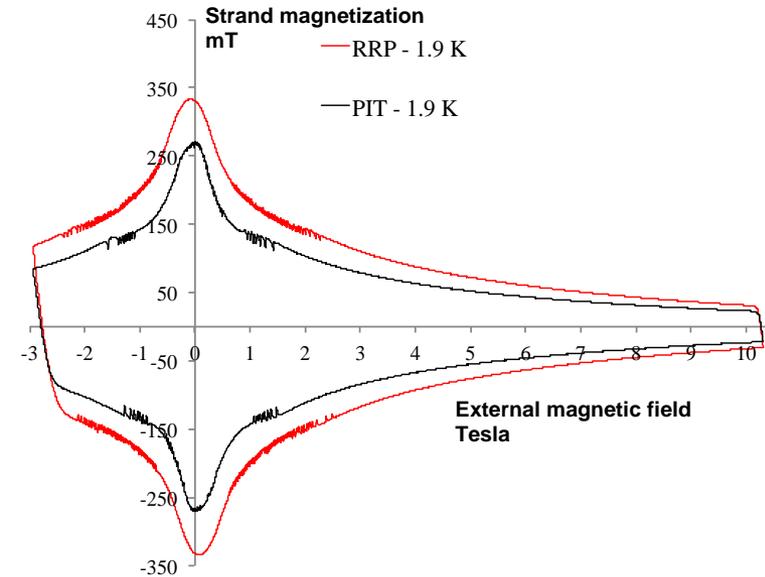
When a filament is in a varying  $B_{ext}$ , its inner part is shielded by currents distribution in the filament periphery

They **do not decay** when  $B_{ex}$  is held constant  $\rightarrow$  **persistent currents**



These currents produce **field errors** that are particularly important at low energy (**when the beam is injected**), which are proportional to the filament diameter ( $d_{sub}$ ) and the current density.

$$M(B) \propto d_{sub} \cdot J_c(B)$$



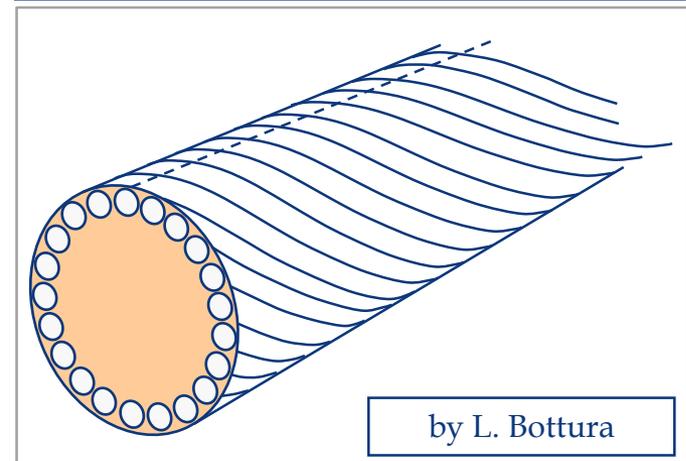
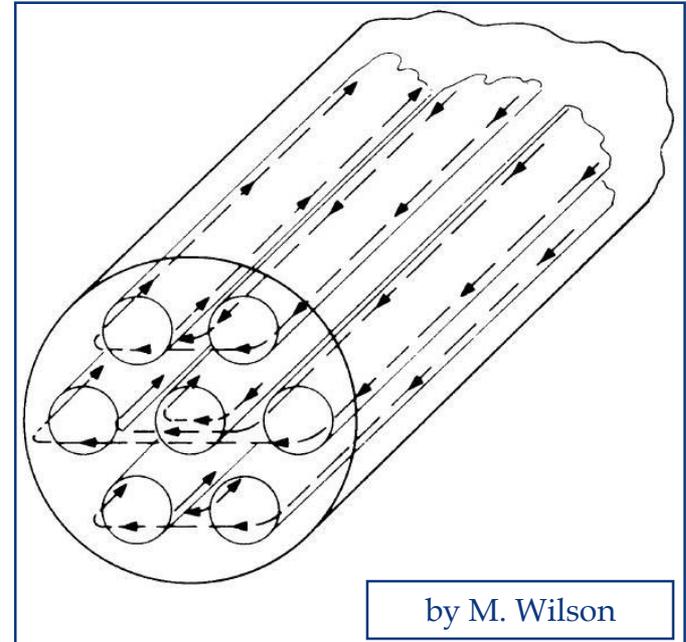
# The strand: multifilament wire

## 4. Inter-filament coupling

- When a multi-filamentary wire is subjected to a time varying magnetic field, **current loops** are generated between filaments.
- If filaments are straight, large loops with large currents → **ac losses**
- If the strands are magnetically coupled the effective filament size is larger → **flux jumps**

To reduce these effects, filaments are **twisted**

- twist pitch of the order of 20-30 times of the wire diameter.



# Iron yoke

An **iron yoke** usually surrounds the collared coil – it has several functions:

- Keep the return magnetic flux close to the coils, thus avoiding **fringe fields**
- In some cases the iron is partially or totally contributing to the **mechanical structure**
- Considerably **enhance the field** for a given current density
  - The increase is relevant (10-30%), getting higher for thin coils
  - This allows using lower currents, easing the protection

When the iron **saturates** ( $\sim 2\text{T}$ ):

- The main field is not  $\propto$  current  $\rightarrow$  transfer function  **$B/i$  drops** of several (tens) of units
- Since the field in the iron has an azimuthal dependence, some parts of the iron can be saturated and others not  $\rightarrow$  **variation of low order harmonics**

