

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE

FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES

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Electromechanical Properties of Technical Superconductors

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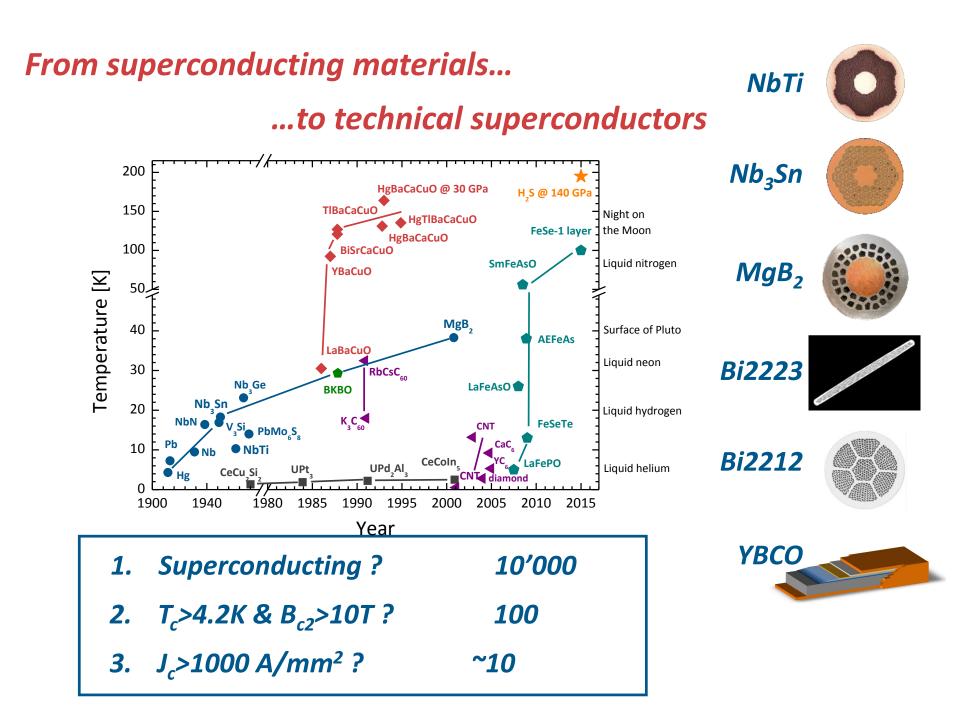
Outline

Forces, stress and strain in a magnet

Technical superconductors under mechanical loads

- Reversible vs. irreversible effects
- Mechanisms behind the irreversible degradation of the critical current
- Intrinsic vs. extrinsic effects

Focus on two materials: Nb₃Sn and YBCO



Operate at high current density is a necessary condition for applications, but it is not sufficient

Other crucial requirements:

- Have high tolerance to stress Magnetic forces
- Be safe in case of magnet quench Quench detection, NZPV
- Have low magnetization Applications to NMR, MRI, HEP magnets
- Have a persistent joint technology Applications to NMR, MRI

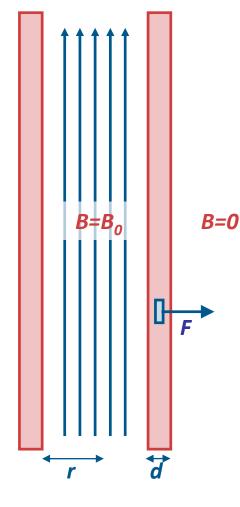
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Introduction to Forces and Stresses in a Magnet





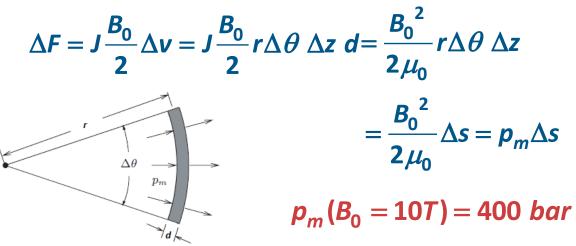
The magnetic field is $B_0 = \mu_0 J d$

The expression of the magnetic force density (per unit of volume) is

 $f = J \times B$

The average field in the winding is $\frac{B_0}{2}$

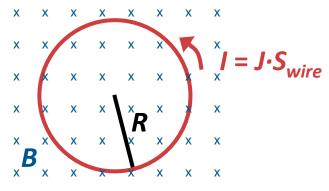
The (radial) force on a winding volume element is



Hoop stress in a ring

A ring carrying a current I in a field B

The total radial magnetic force on the ring is

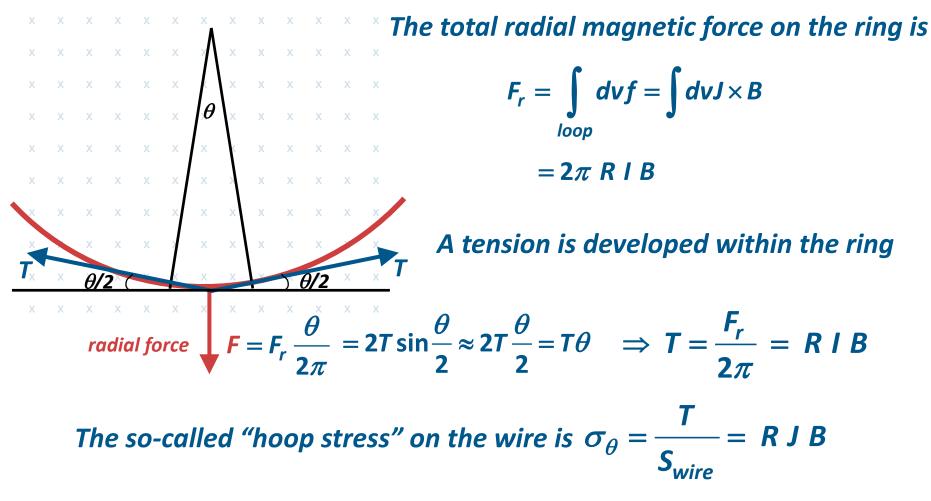


$$F_r = \int_{loop} dv f = \int dv J \times B$$

 $= 2\pi R I B$

Hoop stress in a ring

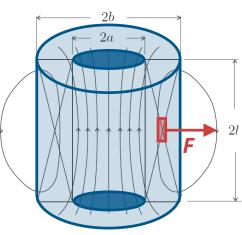
A ring carrying a current I in a field B



Hoop stress levels above 100 MPa are common, the NHMFL 32 T magnet operates at 400 MPa

Electromagnetic stresses in a finite solenoid

In a winding adjacent turns will press on each other and develop a radial stress σ_r which modifies the hoop stress σ_{θ}



Considering the solenoid as a continuous uniform medium, from the Hooke's law

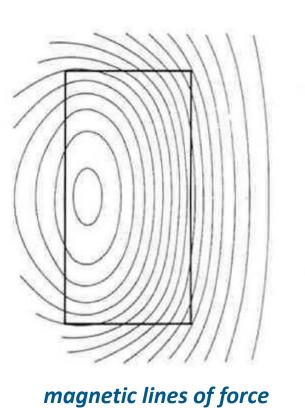
$$\sigma_r = \frac{E}{1 - v^2} \left(\frac{du}{dr} + v \frac{u}{r} \right) \quad and \quad \sigma_\theta = \frac{E}{1 - v^2} \left(\frac{u}{r} + v \frac{du}{dr} \right)$$

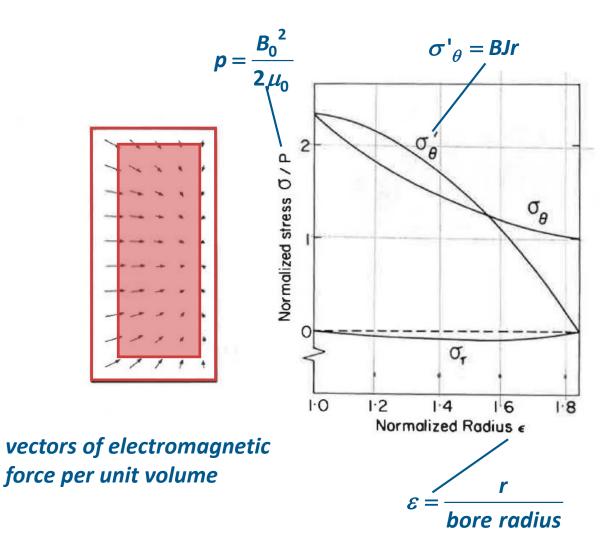
where u is the local displacement in the radial direction, E is the Young's modulus and v is the Poisson's ratio

The condition for equilibrium between radial stress σ_r , hoop stress σ_{θ} and body force BJr is given by the equation

$$\frac{1}{r}\frac{d}{dr}\left(r\frac{du}{dr}\right) - \frac{u}{r^2} = \frac{1 - v^2}{E}BJ$$

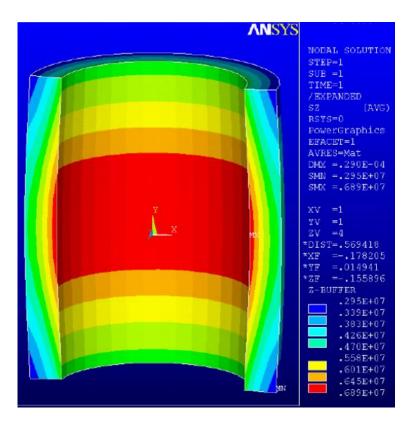
Electromagnetic stresses in a finite solenoid

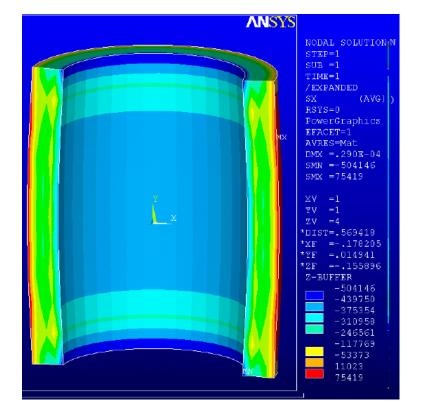




Example: for B_0 of the order of 10 T, on the winding σ_{θ} of > 200 MPa (> 2000 bar)

Colour mapping of σ_{θ} and σ_{r} in a finite solenoid



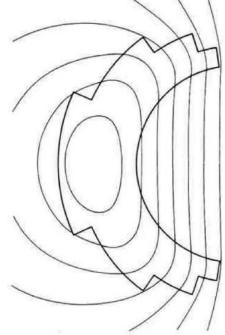


Radial stress

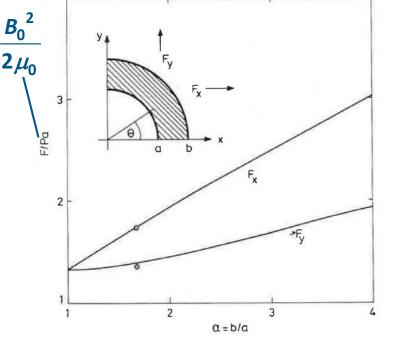
Hoop stress

Electromagnetic stresses in an accelerator dipole

B₀



vectors of electromagnetic force per unit volume



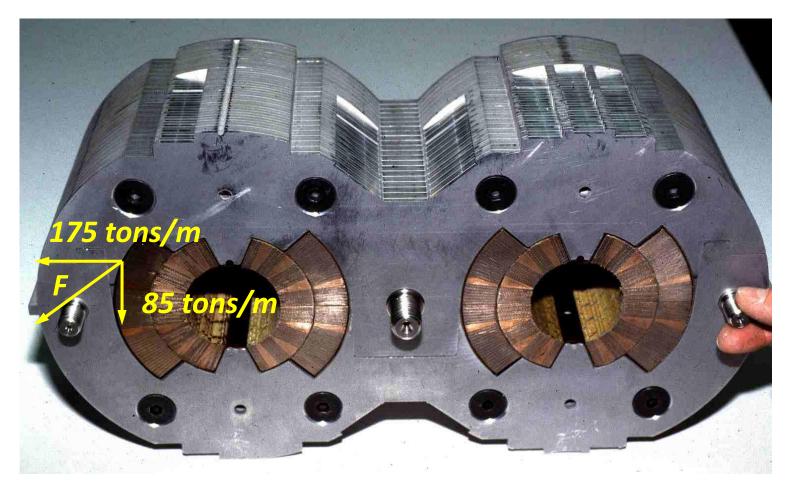
magnetic lines of force

For B₀=6T and (a+b)/2=100 mm

F_x=200 tons/m

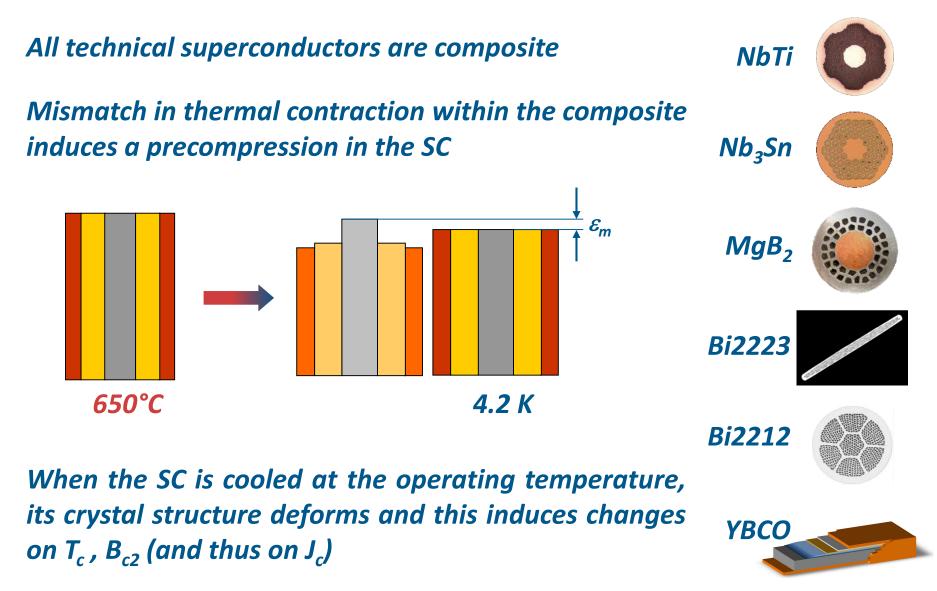
In straight-sided coils such as dipoles and quadrupoles the conductor is unable to support the magnetic forces in tension

Collaring and Pre-stress in accelerator magnets



The windings of accelerator magnets are clamped in a solid collar Collar provide pre-stressing to prevent the movement of the coil in the presence of electromagnetic forces

Thermal precompression of the superconductor



In the following, the focus will be on



 $Nb_3Sn \rightarrow Today high field superconductor, up to 23.5 T in solenoidal coils, the material for for and for and for the 16 T dipoles of (FILE)$

YBCO \rightarrow Tomorrow high field superconductor, more than 40 T demonstrated in solenoidal insert coils, the way to get 20 T dipoles and beyond $(EUCARD^2)$ ARIES

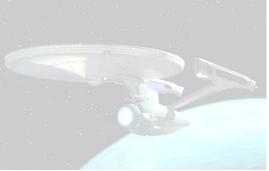


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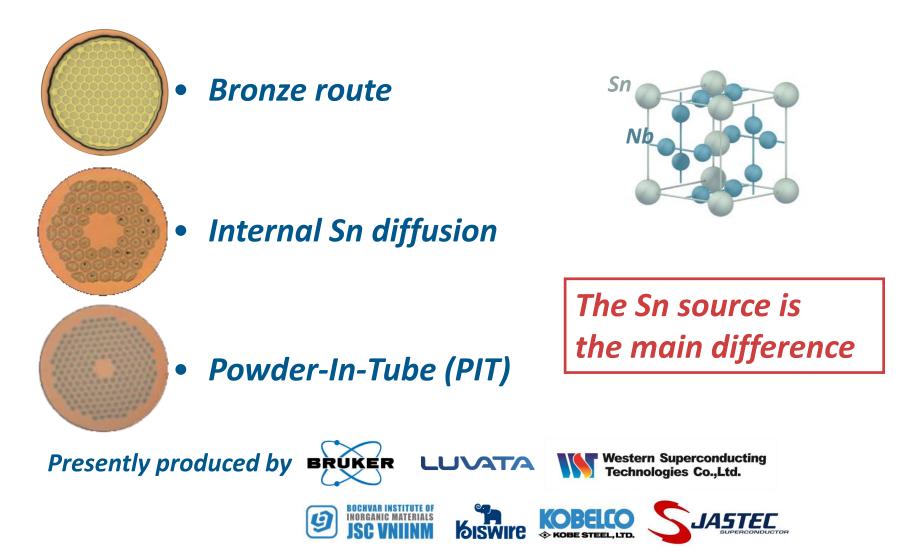
 $Nb_3Sn \rightarrow Today high field superconductor, up to 23.5 T in solenoidal coils, the material for free and free and free and free and free and only candidate material for the 16 T dipoles of free free soles.$

YBCO \rightarrow Tomorrow high field superconductor, more than 40 T demonstrated in solenoidal insert coils, the way to get 20 T dipoles and beyond $(\text{EUCARD}^2 \land \text{RES})$

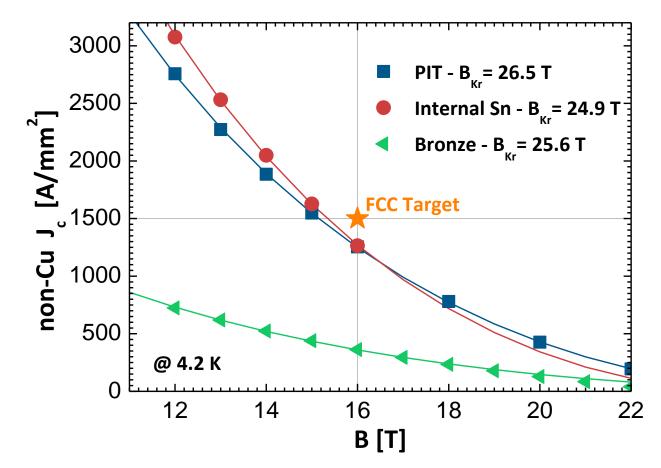


Industrial fabrication of Nb₃Sn wires

Three technologies have been developed at industrial scale



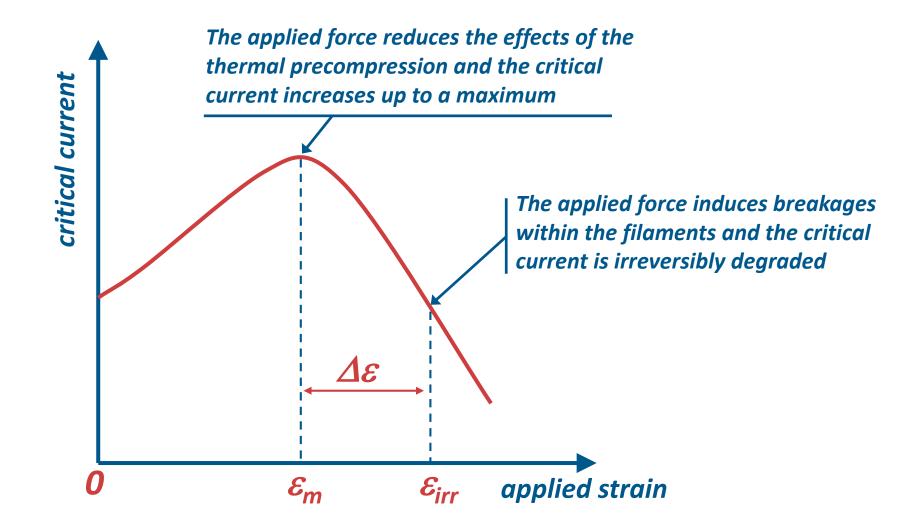
Critical current density vs. magnetic field Best performance achieved so far in industrial wires



T. Boutboul et al., IEEE TASC <u>19</u> (2009) 2564 J. Parrell et al., AIP Conf. Proc. <u>711</u> (2004) 369 V. Abächerli et al., IEEE TASC <u>17</u> (2007) 2564

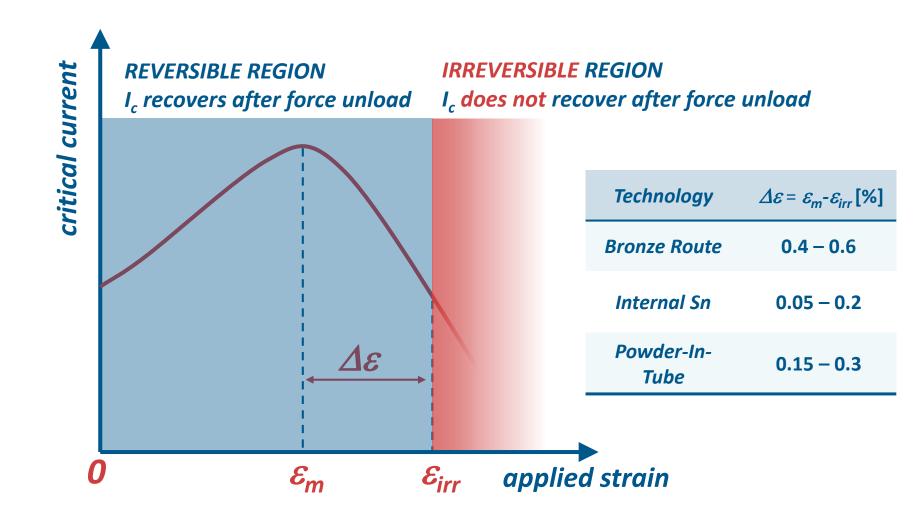
Strain-induced changes in the critical current

Effects of the longitudinal strain



Strain-induced changes in the critical current

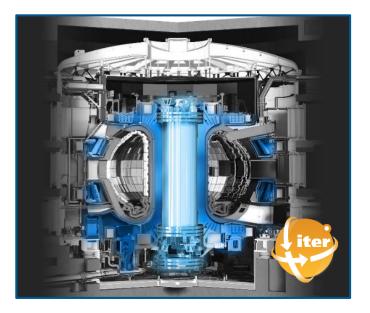
Effects of the longitudinal strain



Wire cabling for the ITER coils



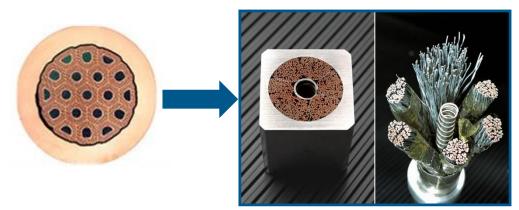
CICC = Cable-In-Conduit Conductor





Wire cabling for the ITER coils

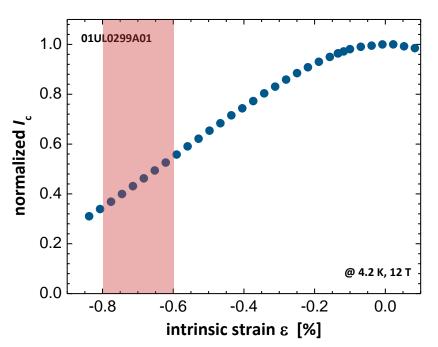
Reversible variation of I_c under strain matters

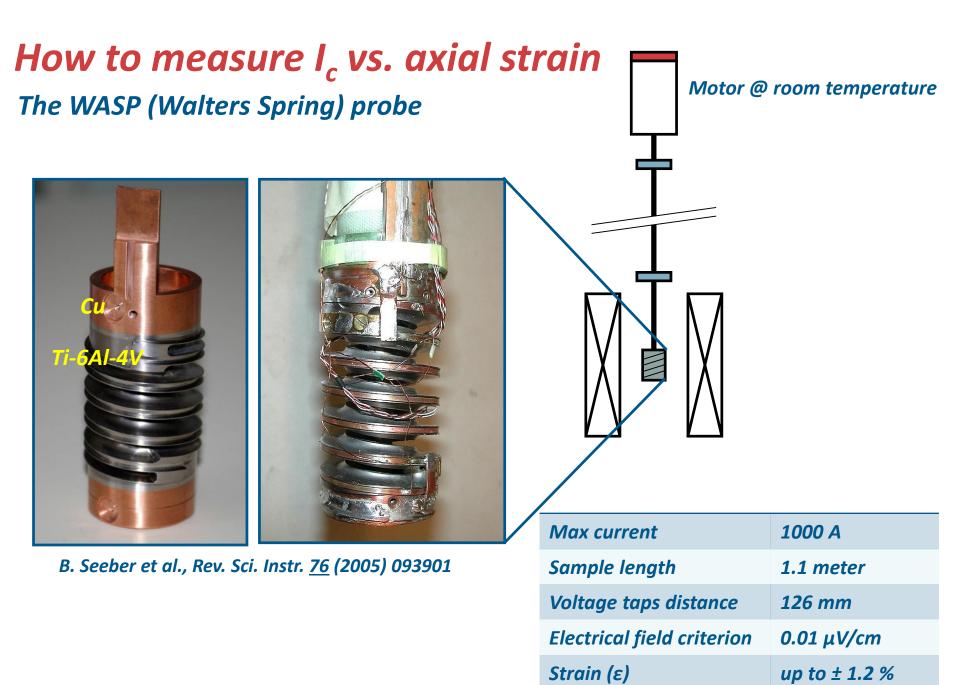


Because of the thermal precompression, wires in a CICC experience an effective axial compressive strain ranging between -0.6% and -0.8%

CICC = Cable-In-Conduit Conductor

The performance of the superconductor is limited to ~40% of the maximum achievable current



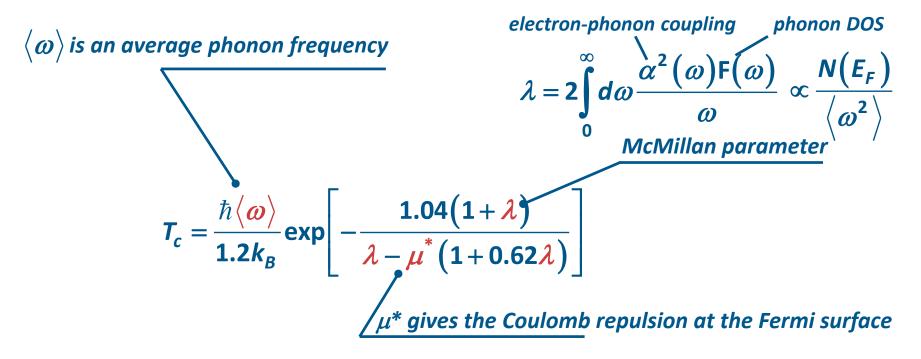


Why do superconducting properties depend on strain ?

1. Reversible effects of strain

Reversible effects of strain Why superconducting properties depend on strain

Nb₃Sn exhibits strong-coupling superconductivity



Strain induces change both in the phonon spectrum and the electronic bands

So far the question whether the strain sensitivity is due mainly to electrons or phonons has not been settled

Reversible effects of strain Why superconducting properties depend on strain

Some recent theoretical studies

D. Markiewicz, Cryogenics <u>44</u> (2004) 767

This work enphasizes the role of anharmonicity as a source of the strain dependence in Nb₃Sn

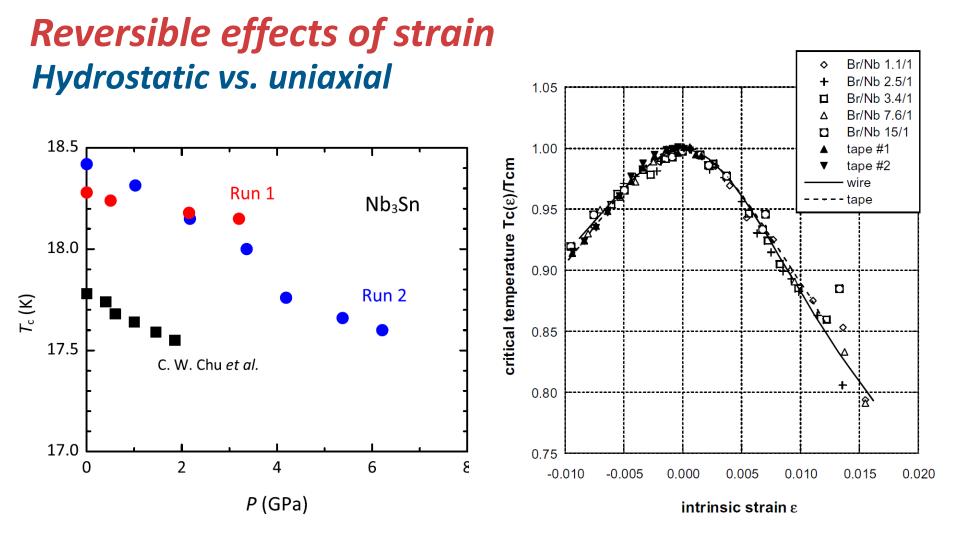
D. Taylor and D. Hampshire., Supercond. Sci. Technol. <u>18</u> (2005) S241 Microscopic theory analysis suggests that the uniaxial strain effects are predominantly due to changes in the average phonon frequencies

G. De Marzi et al., J. Phys.: Condens. Matter <u>25</u> (2013) 135702 Investigation of the strain sensitivity of Nb₃Sn from first principle calculations based on the density functional theory

M. Mentink, PhD thesis (2014), University of Twente

Ab-initio calculations used to evaluate electronic, and vibrational properties, as well as T_c and B_{c2} as a function of disorder, crystal orientation, and strain

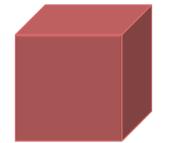
D. Valentinis et al., Supercond. Sci. Technol. <u>27</u> (2014) 025008 A theory of the strain-dependent critical field in Nb₃Sn based on anharmonic phonon generation



Critical temperature vs. hydrostatic compression S. Tanaka et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. <u>81</u> (2012) SB026 Reduced critical temperature vs. unaxial strain D. Markiewicz, Cryogenics <u>44</u> (2004) 767

Reversible strain effects in Nb₃Sn wires

HYDROSTATIC Change of the cell volume



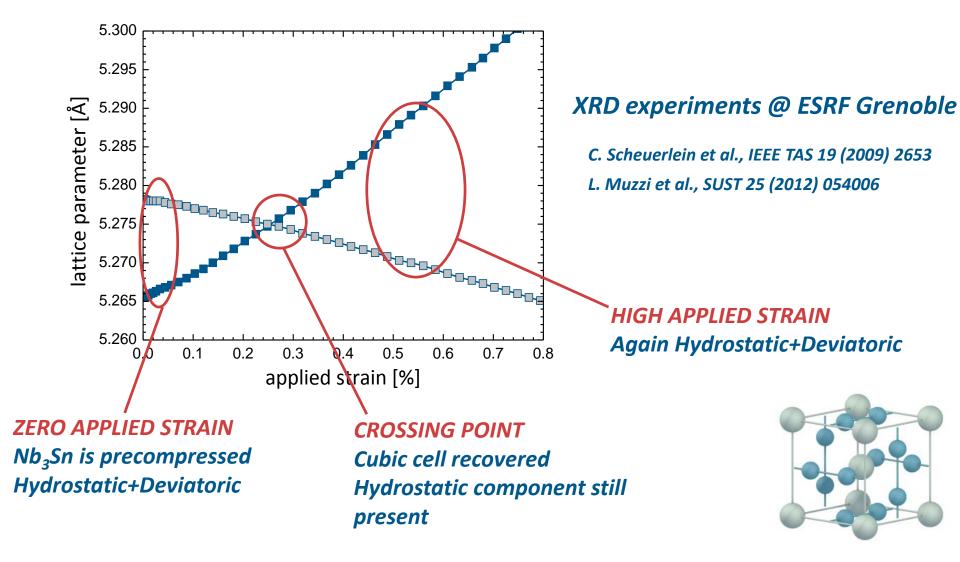
Precompression induced by cooling to low temperature has two components



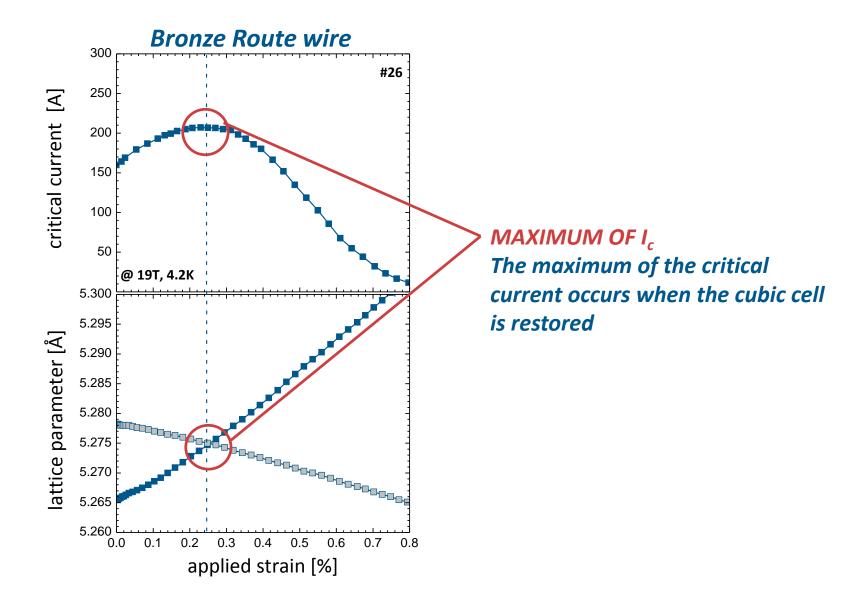
Cubic-shaped stress-free cell for Nb₃Sn



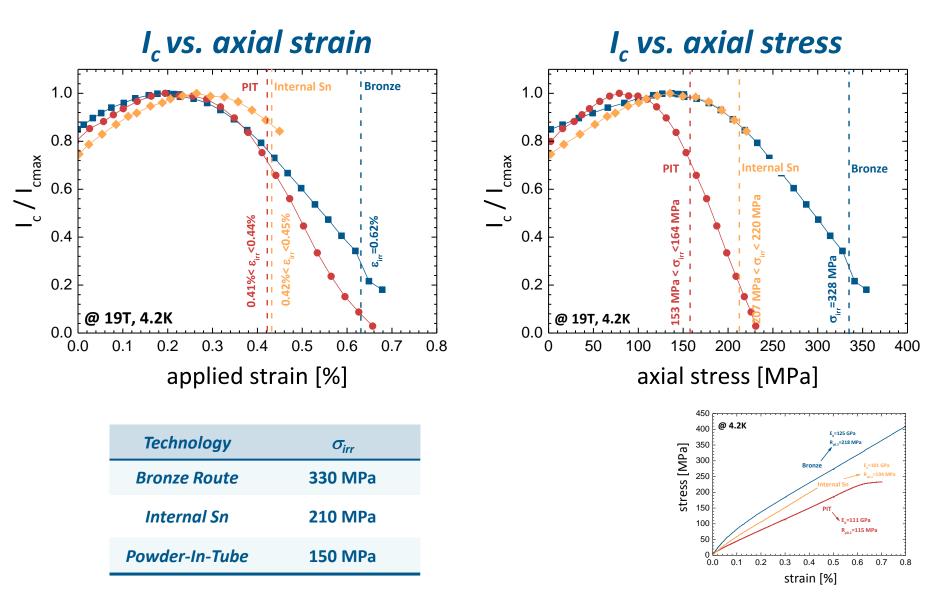
Reversible strain effects in Nb₃Sn wires: lattice parameters Bronze route wire: Nb₃Sn lattice parameters vs <u>uniaxial</u> strain @ 4.2 K



Lattice parameters and I_c under axial strain



Bronze Route, Internal Sn and PIT Reversible behaviour and irreversible limit



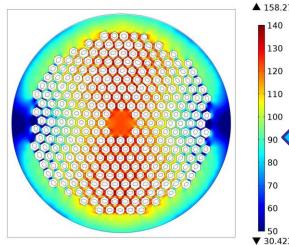
Why do superconducting properties depend on strain ?

2. Irreversible effects of strain

Irreversible degradation phenomena

Two irreversible phenomena play together

• Plastic deformation of the Cu matrix



PIT Nb₃Sn wire under transverse load Stress map of the Cu matrix

• Crack formation in Nb₃Sn

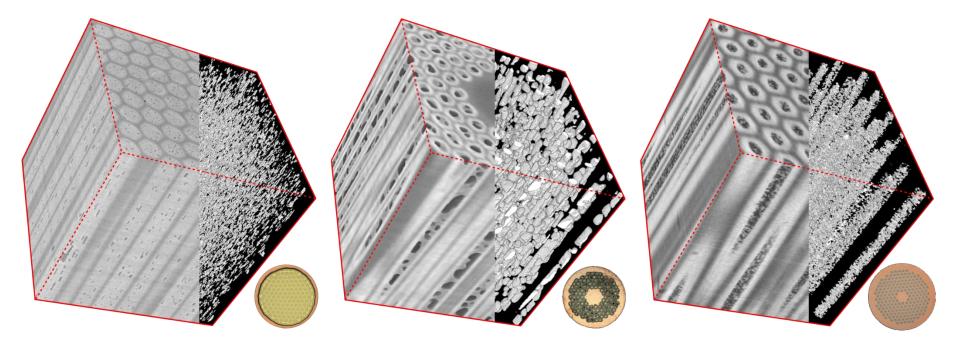
Nb₃Sn is a brittle material and is characterized by a strong propensity to fracture

Voids formed during the reaction cause localized stress concentrations where cracks nucleate

Yield strength of Cu $\sigma_y \sim 90$ MPa What is the residual stress on Cu after unload ? $\sigma_{res}^{Cu} = max(\sigma_{Mises}^{Cu} - \sigma_y, 0)$

Plastically deformed Cu imposes a stress on Nb₃Sn after force unload (= lattice deformation)

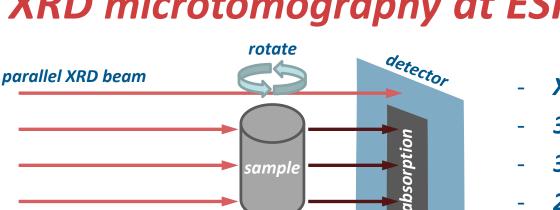
Voids in Nb₃Sn wires XRD microtomography reconstruction



Bronze Route 121 x 121 filaments Internal Sn 132/169 subelements **PIT** 192 filaments

Can we quantify the impact of voids on the electromechanical limits?

XRD microtomography at ESRF Grenoble





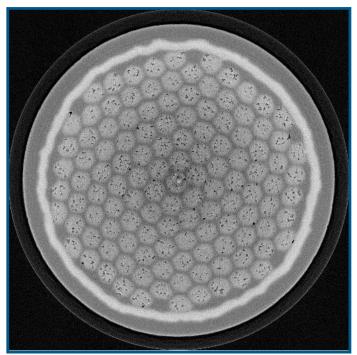
- XRD photon energy = 89 keV
- 360° rotation of the sample
- 30'000 projections
- 2560 x 2160 pixels
- 0.57 μm/pixel resolution



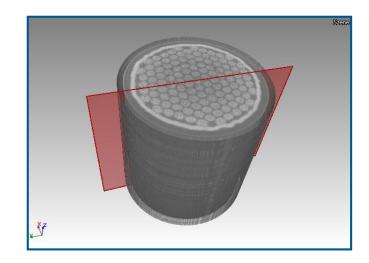
Non-destructive 3D volume reconstruction with separation of internal features

XRD microtomography at ESRF Grenoble

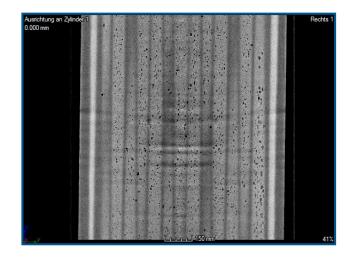




Bronze Route wire



Virtual longitudinal cut



A case study on Bronze Route Nb₃Sn wires

Why Bronze Route wires ?

Because by Hot Isostatic Pressing (HIP) treatment we can reduce the void fraction without degrading the critical current

Possibility to investigate the same wire type with and without voids

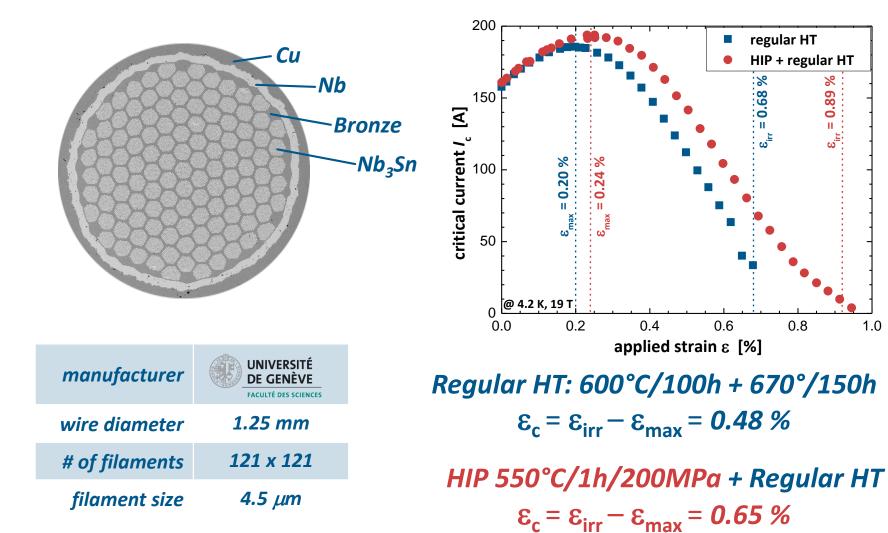
What did we do ?

Experimental determination of the electromechanical limits

Statistical analysis of the voids size, shape and distribution

Finite Element Modelling (FEM) to quantify the impact of voids

A case study on Bronze Route Nb₃Sn wires



With HIP treatment ε_c increases by +0.17 %

Bronze route wire: Void detection

Without HIP treatment Void fraction = 2.1 %

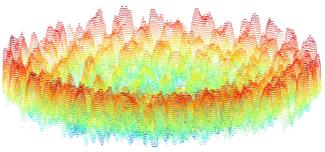
On P. P. OSTANA

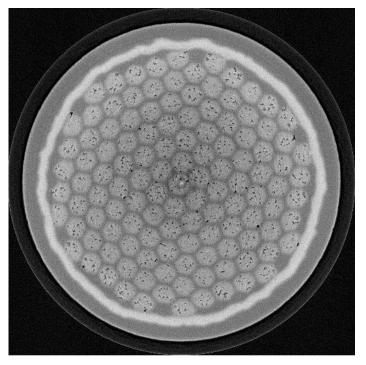
With HIP treatment Void fraction = 0.05 %

Void reduction by a factor 50 !!

Void detection and analysis

- A brightness distribution analysis is used to detect voids
- Position is recorded, including distance to the nearest neighbors and location (matrix, filament bundle, interface)
- Voids are approximated with ellipsoids
- Size and orientation are determined
 - Major axis length
 - Major axis angles φ and heta
 - Eccentricity (sphericity)



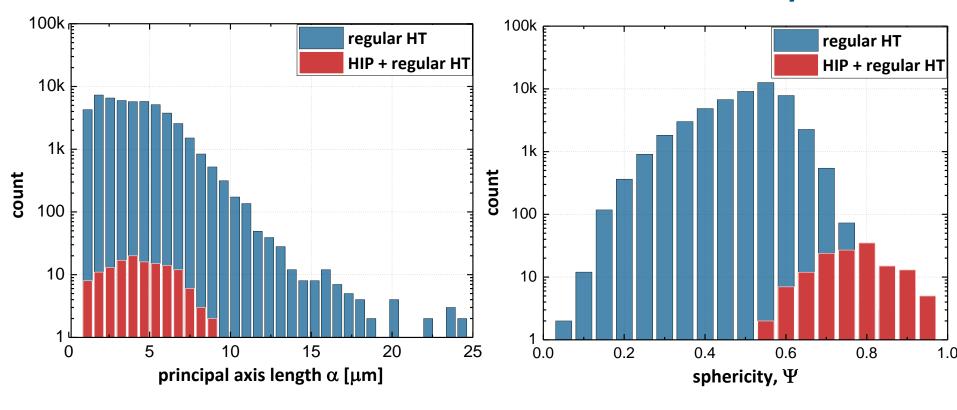


These data become input for FEM

Bronze route wire: Void analysis

Void size

Void shape



 $HIP \Rightarrow$ void size is reduced

HIP ⇒ voids are more spherical

Statistical FEM analysis

- 3D model, real dimensions, 0.1 mm long wire
- Bottom side is fixed, top side is displaced to apply a mechanical strain



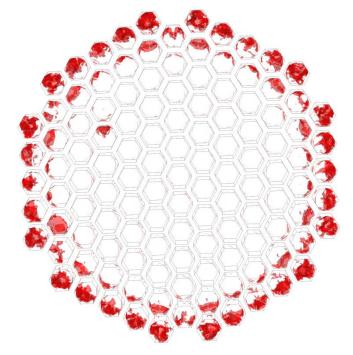
The output of the model is the von Mises stress distribution in the Nb₃Sn volume at a given strain

Statistical FEM analysis: 1) no voids

- The experimental ε_c corresponds to an irreversible reduction of I_c by 5%
- Working hypothesis: 5% of I_c degradation \equiv damage in 5% of the filaments

Wire with HIP treatment

SIMULATION done at $\varepsilon_c = 0.65\%$



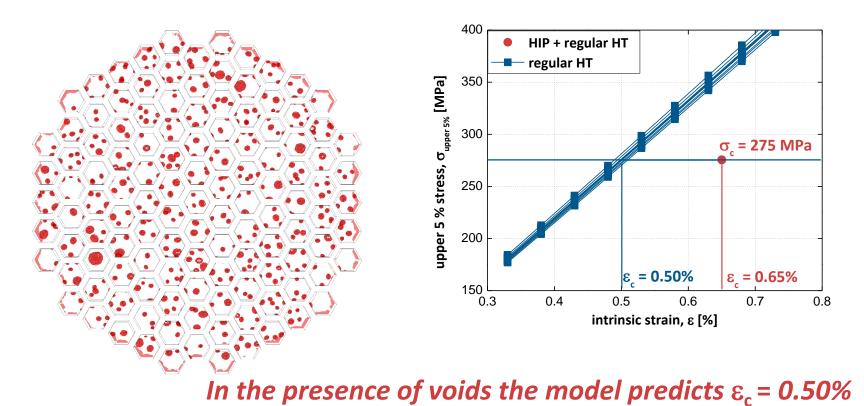
The 5% of the Nb₃Sn volume at the highest stress is highlighted in red

Here the red regions are at $\sigma \ge$ 275 MPa

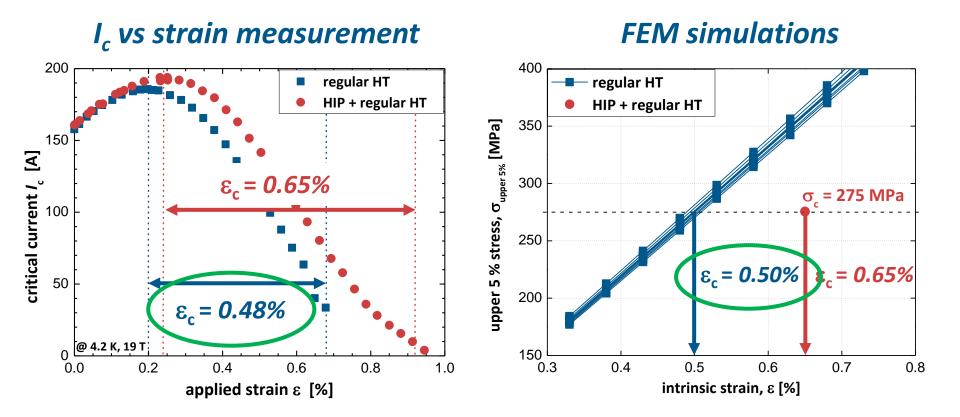
The critical stress is thus σ_c = 275 MPa

Statistical FEM analysis: 2) with voids

- Voids are generated from the statistical analysis until the void fraction of the wire is reached
- Simulation runs at increasing ϵ until $\sigma \ge \sigma_c$ in 5% of the filaments
- The goal is to predict the reduction of ε_c induced by the voids



Irreversible limit in the presence of voids Experiment vs Prediction



The simulations predict the correct value of ε_c when voids are introduced

What did we learn ?

Changes in the voids correlate quantitatively with the changes in the electromechanical limits

More details in SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN Quantitative correlation between the void morphology of niobium-tin wires and their irreversible critical current degradation upon mechanical loading C. Barth 1, B. Seeber², A. Rack ³, C. Calzolaio¹, Y. Zhai⁴, D. Matera¹ & C. Senatore ¹

¹Department of Quantum Matter Physics (DQMP), University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland. ²Department of Applied Physics (GAP), University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland. ³European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF), Grenoble, France. ⁴Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL), Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA. Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to C.B. (email: christian.barth@unige.ch)

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS | (2018) 8:6589 | DOI:10.1038/s41598-018-24966-z

Case study on Bronze Route, what about Internal Sn and PIT?

The same approach may lead to the prediction of how much $\epsilon_{\rm c}$ can be increased by reducing the void fraction

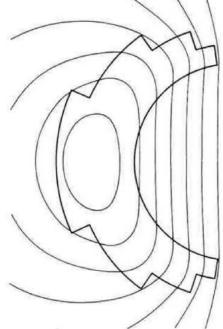
Strain-induced changes in Nb₃Sn wires

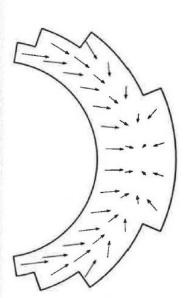
Reversible effects of strain \checkmark

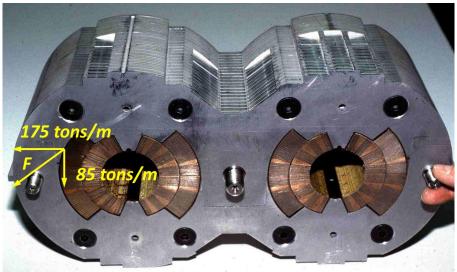
Intrinsic mechanisms behind the irreversible degradation of the critical current \checkmark

Influence on the stress tolerance of the way the mechanical stresses are exerted

Electromagnetic stresses in an accelerator dipole

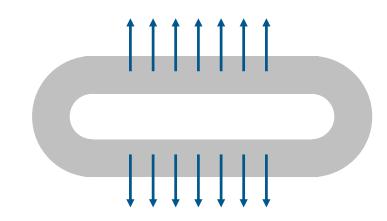






magnetic lines of force

vectors of electromagnetic force per unit volume

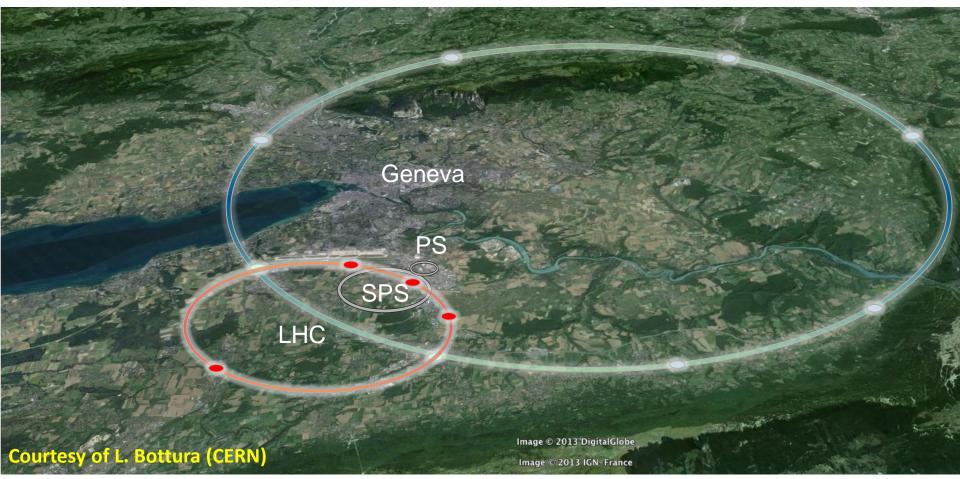


Accelerator magnets operate at ~10 kA to keep inductance low and ease magnet protection

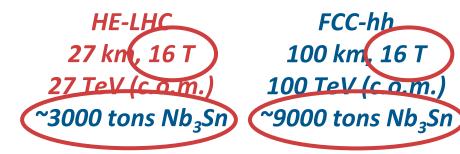
Rutherford cables are used to get these large operating currents

The Future Circular Collider Study





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



Degradation upon transverse loads

The 16 T FCC dipoles are being designed with a peak stress of 200 MPa at operation

Are the Nb₃Sn wires in the cable able to withstand such a high stress level? Which degradation is tolerable?



Nb₃Sn Rutherford cable for HL-LHC, 40 strands

- Nb₃Sn wires are deformed during cabling
- Cables are braided with glass fiber
- The winding is impregnated with resin

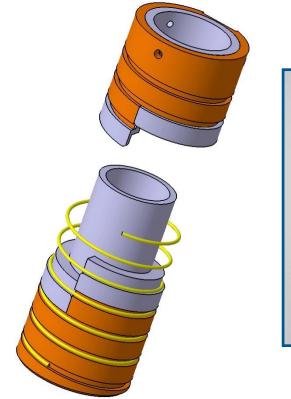
The irreversible limit under transverse stress is influenced by parameters <u>extrinsic to the wire</u>

- the type of impregnation (the elastic modulus of the resin) Tested Epoxy L, Glass fiber + Epoxy L, Stycast
- the redistribution of the applied stress on the wire *i.e.* the deformation of the wire during cabling



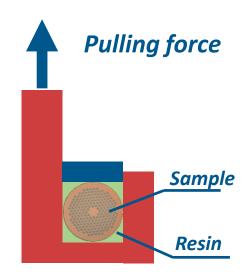


The WASP concept for I_c vs. transverse stress

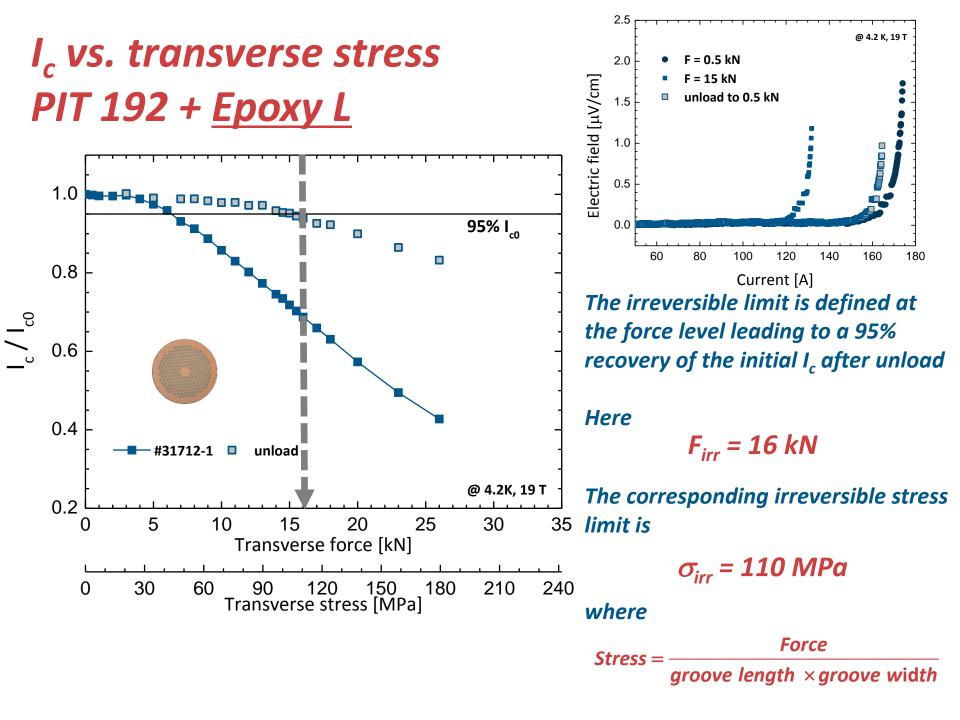




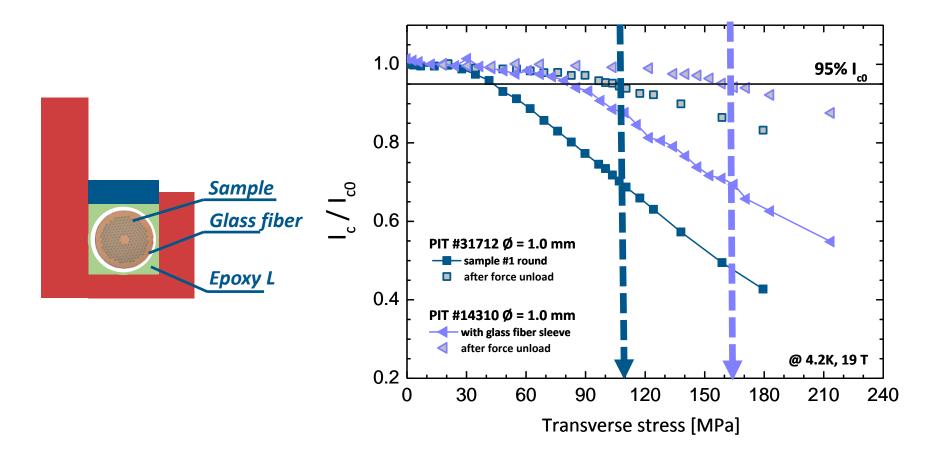






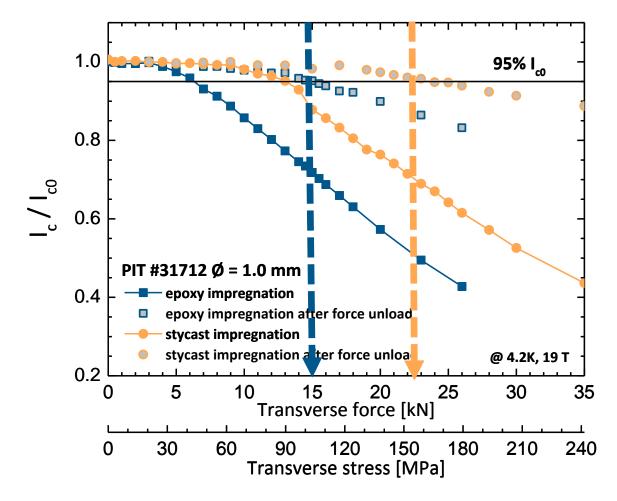


I_c vs. transverse stress: wire in a glass fiber sleeve



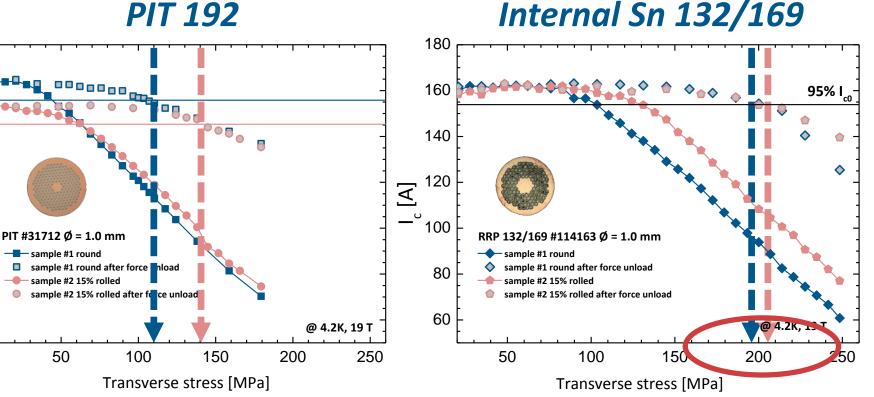
Glass fiber adds rigidity to the impregnation \Rightarrow Shift of σ_{irr} by > 50 MPa

I_c vs. transverse stress: Epoxy L vs. <u>Stycast</u>



The Young modulus of Stycast is 3 to 4 times higher compared to the value of Epoxy L

The change of resin, from epoxy to stycast, leads to an increase of σ_{irr} by > 50 MPa The result is comparable to the value found with epoxy + glass fiber sleeve



~7.5% I_c reduction by rolling Shift of σ_{irr} by ~ 40 MPa

180

160

140

120

80

60

0

_____100

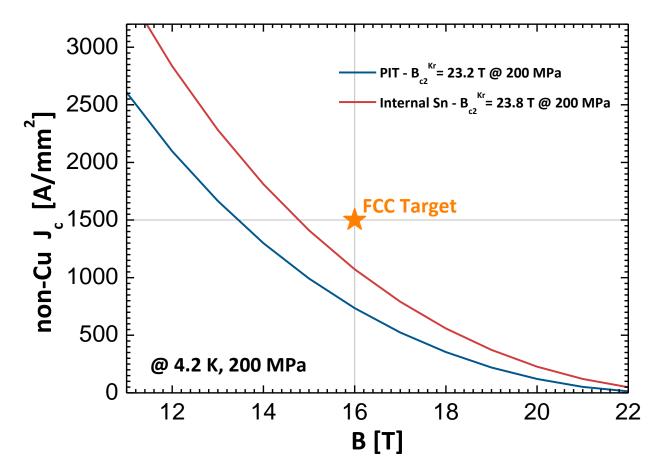
 $\overline{\triangleleft}$

NO I_c reduction by rolling Shift of σ_{irr} by ~ 15 MPa

This wire can withstand the peak stress of the FCC dipoles !!

Don't forget the reversible effects of stress !! Critical current density vs. magnetic field <u>@ 200 MPa</u>

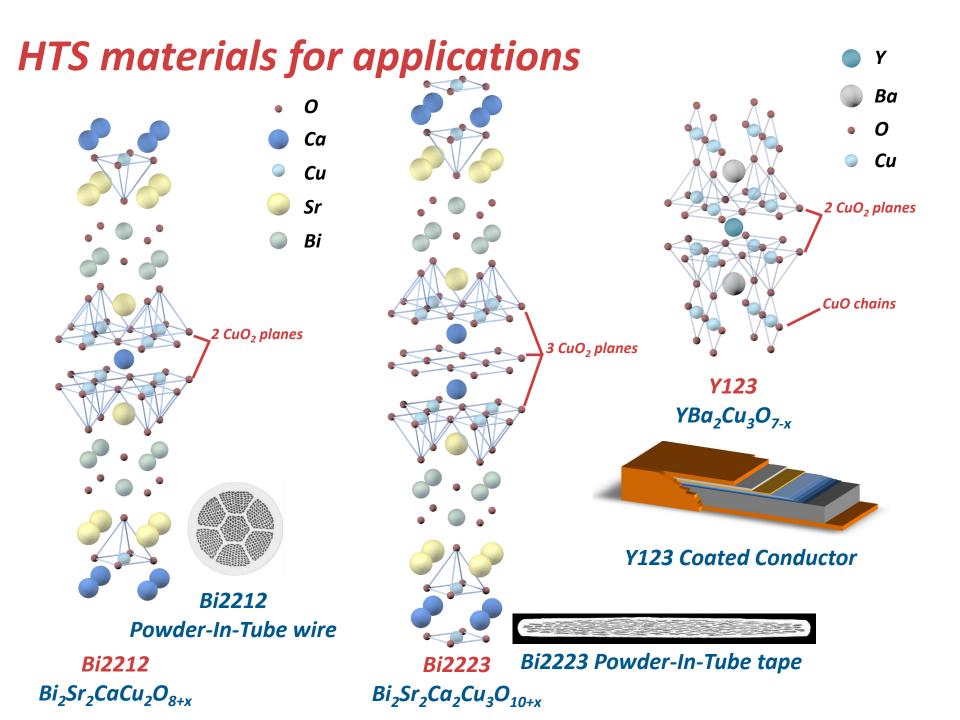
Best performance achieved so far in industrial wires

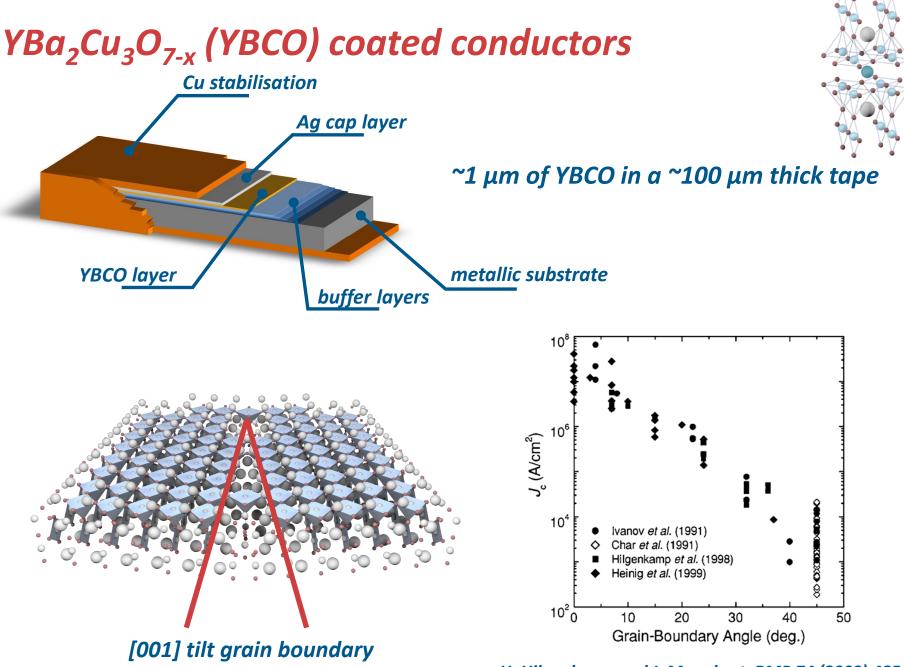


J. Parrell et al., AIP Conf. Proc. <u>711</u> (2004) 369 T. Boutboul et al., IEEE TASC <u>19</u> (2009) 2564

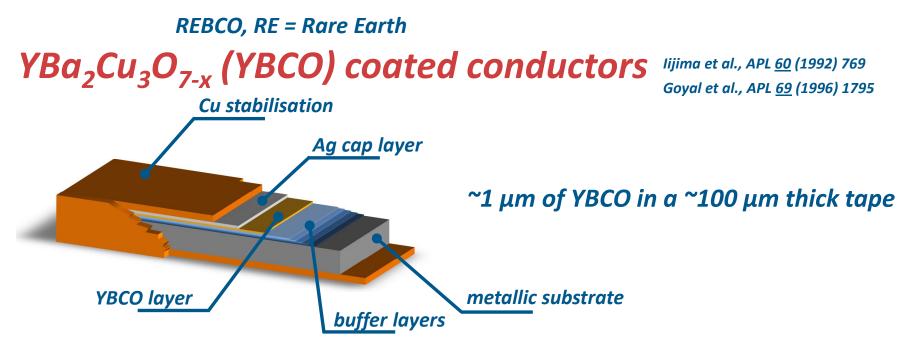
High Temperature Superconductors are different animals ...

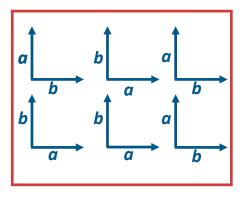






H. Hilgenkamp and J. Mannhart, RMP 74 (2002) 485





Top view

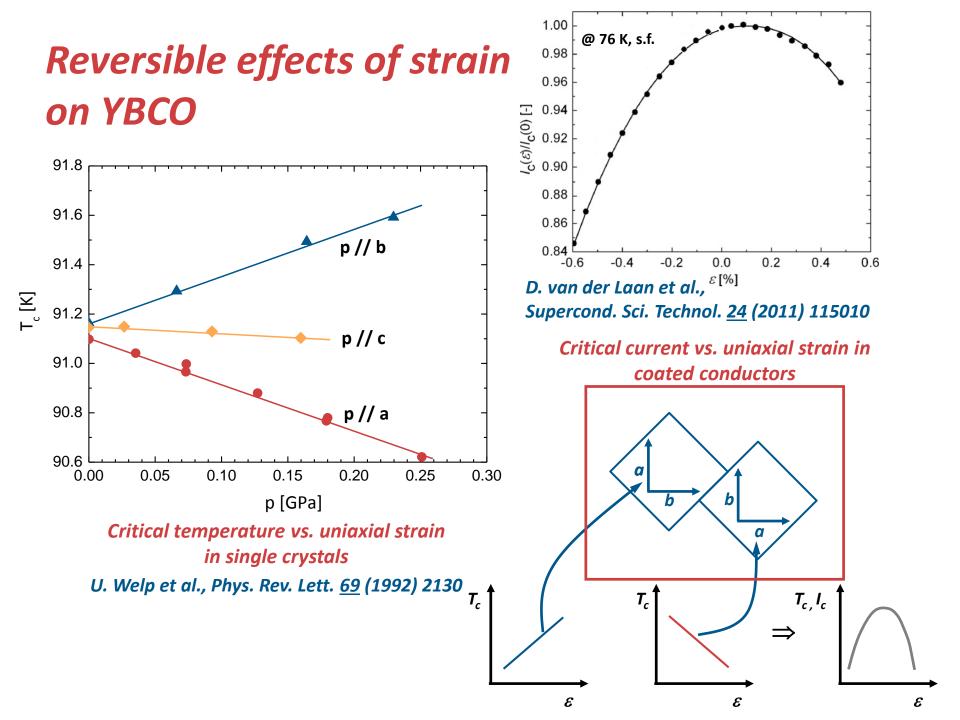
The template is a metallic substrate coated with a multifunctional oxide barrier

Biaxial texturing – within < 3° – is obtained

but with some also drawbacks:

- pronounced anisotropic behaviour
- complex and expensive manufacturing process

Presently produced by Sequerconductor Fujikura SUNAN SuperOx SuperOx Furker Company Autoria SuperConductor Standard MetOx



In the following, the focus will be on

 Nb_3Sn → Today high field superconductor, up to 23.5 T in solenoidal coils, the material for free and free

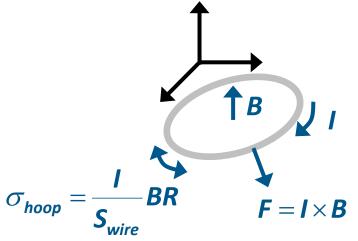
YBCO \rightarrow Tomorrow high field superconductor, more than 40 T demonstrated in solenoidal insert coils*, the way to get 20 T dipoles and beyond $\underbrace{\operatorname{EuCARD}^2}_{\operatorname{ARIES}}$

*tested in a resistive outsert

All superconducting magnets beyond LTS The World cup of high magnetic fields					
	Ма	ximum field [T]	HTS insert	HTS coil field [T]	Winding 😂 technology
M		32	REBCO	17	DP
R RIKEN		27.6	Bi2223 / REBCO	4.5 (Bi2223) 6 (REBCO)	LW
🥹 IEE CAS	*)	27.2	REBCO	12.2	DP
		26.4	REBCO	26.4	DP
iee cas	*)	25.7	REBCO	10	DP
UNIVERSITÉ DE GENÈVE FACULTÉ DES SCIENCES	R	25	REBCO	4	LW
		24.6	Bi2223	10.6	DP
NIMS		24.2	Bi2223	3.66	LW

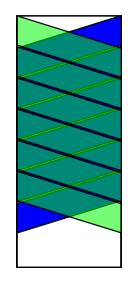
Stress management in Ultra High Field magnets

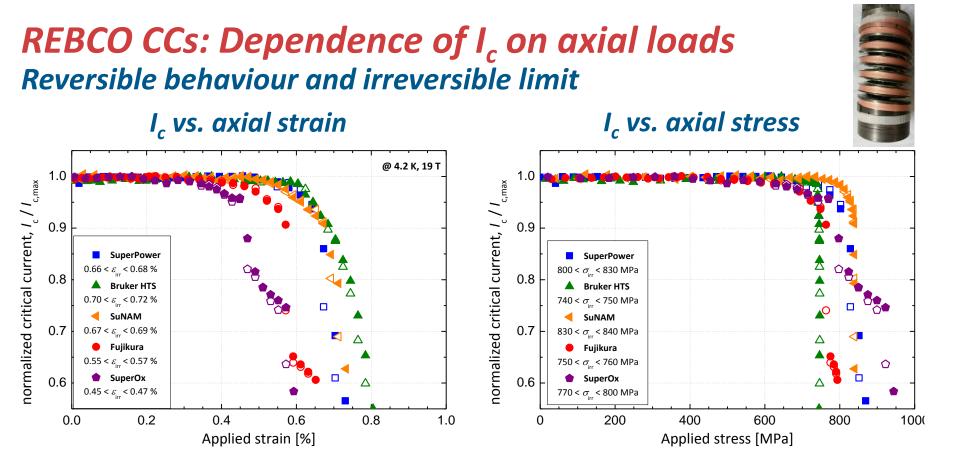
Hoop stress levels above 100 MPa are common, the NHMFL 32 T magnet operates at 400 MPa



Other constrains to the winding come from the tape geometry of the conductor

In the case of layer winding the direction changes going from one layer to the next impose in-plane hard bending of the tape



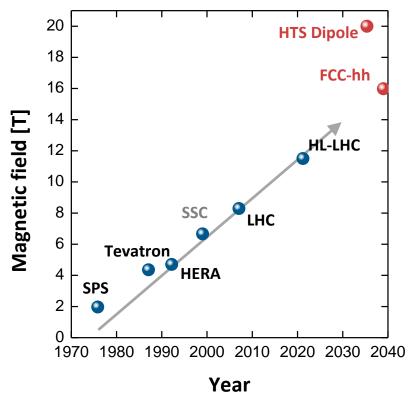


- **REBCO CCs are inherently strong**, ~50% is a high strength alloy
- Very low stress effect \rightarrow curves are flat in rev. region
- Irreversible stress limits above 500 MPa
- The only weakness is delamination...

C. Barth, G. Mondonico and CS, Supercond. Sci. Technol. 28 (2015) 045011

HTS for accelerator magnets

The goal of 20 T in an accelerator quality dipole calls for HTS

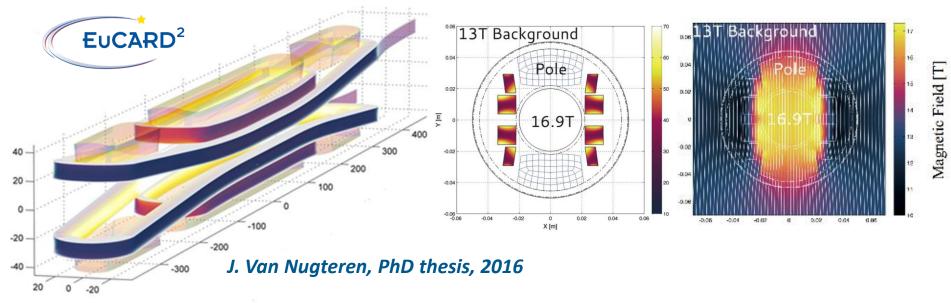


Accelerator magnets operate at ~10 kA to keep inductance low and ease magnet protection

The most promising HTS CONDUCTOR for accelerator magnets is the Roebel Cable (10 kA-class cable)



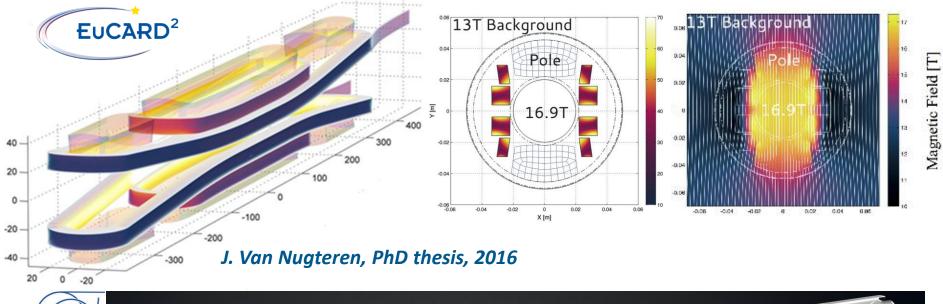
A coil of Roebel cable: a Short Dipole Demonstrator

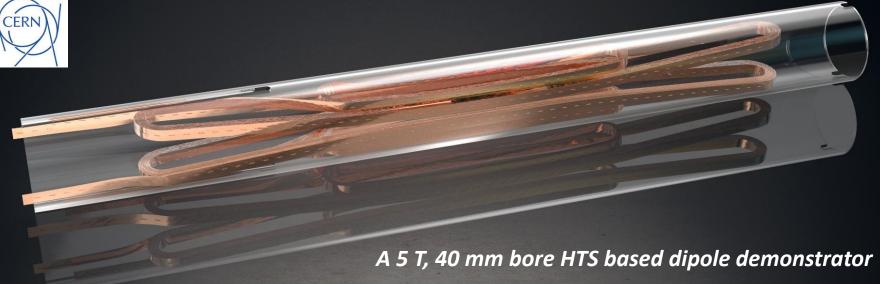




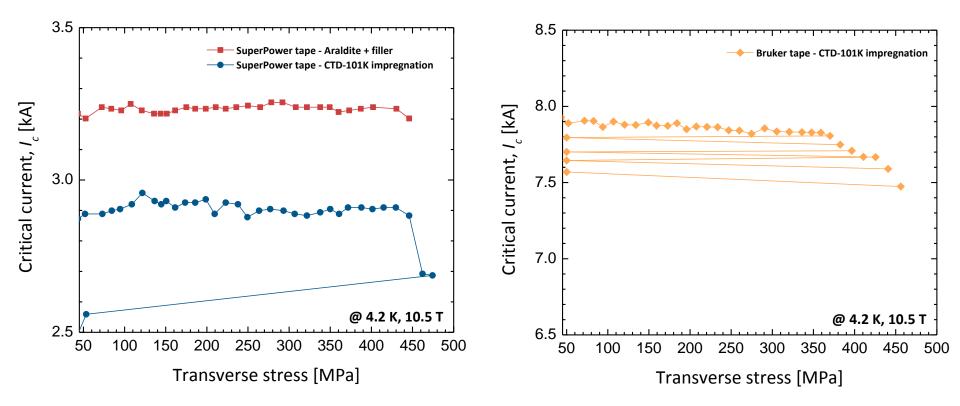
~1000 m of REBCO tape
~70 m of Roebel cable
5 T in standalone configuration
40 mm aperture

A coil of Roebel cable: a Short Dipole Demonstrator





Are Roebel cables able to withstand large transverse loads?



The answer is YES: Irreversible stress limit ≥ 400 MPa



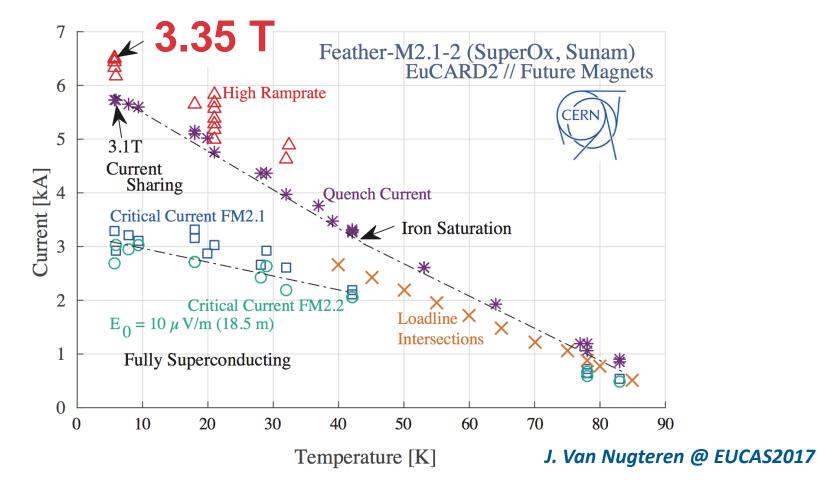


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Short Dipole Demonstrator results

1st coil wound with moderate I_c SuNAM cable (~40% of the Bruker cable)



New coil with ultra-high I_c cable from Bruker already wound Expected field in stand-alone test ~7T

What we have learned...

- Why we care about mechanical loads Electromagnetic forces in solenoids and accelerator magnets
- What hides behind the reversible degradation of I_c Deviatoric strain, intrinsic anisotropy,...
- Which are the intrinsic mechanisms that lead to the irreversible degradation of I_c Detailed study of the stress concentration at the voids in Nb₃Sn
- How the stress tolerance depends also on factors extrinsic to the wire Load geometry, impregnation...
- An overview of the electromechanical properties of Nb₃Sn and YBCO

Thank you for the attention !

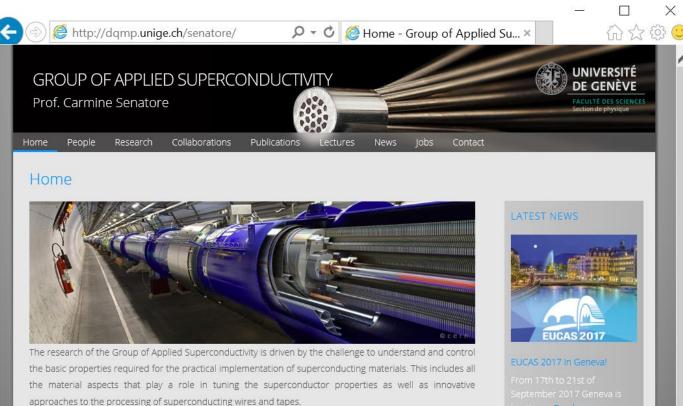
...time for questions...

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If you want to know more about applied superconductivity in Geneva, visit http://supra.unige.ch



Our activities focus on the development of both low- and high-T_c superconductors for applications in various fields, from the high field magnets for NMR/MRI systems and particle accelerators to the emerging applications in the electric power infrastructure.

The activities of the laboratory are supported by the following institutions:







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