



Superconducting Materials for High Field Applications

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Atomic Institute of Vienna Vienna, 6/9/2018

Outline

Introduction

 \circ History of high-field

○ High field for accelerator technology

O Superconductors

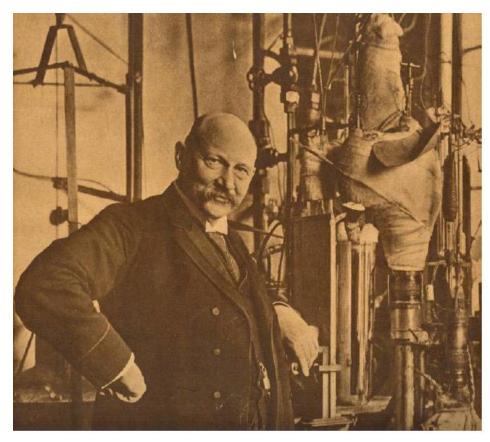
- Requirements for high-field applications
- Low Temperature Superconductors: Nb-Ti and Nb₃Sn
- High Temperature Superconductors: REBCO, Bi-2212 and Bi-2223
- $\circ~$ Superconducting cables: LTS and HTS

Future challenges

• Conductor development for future accelerators

• Conclusions

Liquefaction of helium gas

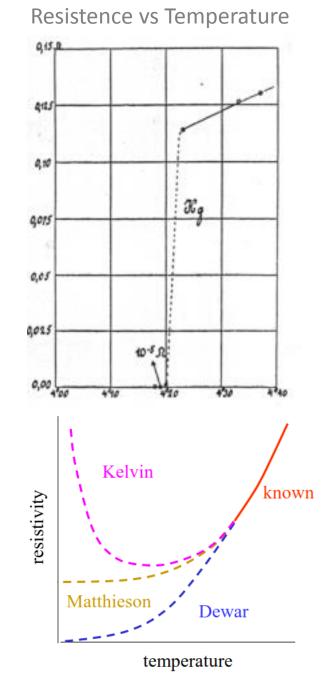


1908Leidenphysicslaboratory, The Netherlands

K. Onnes reached 4.2 K and lowered temperature down to 1.8 K

Liquefactionofheliumenableddiscoveryofsuperconductivityinmercury in 1911

Kamerlingh Onnes: **Nobel prize in Physics in 1913** "for his investigations on the properties of matter at low temperatures which led, inter alia, to the production of liquid helium"



Onnes: thoughts on 10 T magnet (Chicago, 1913 !)

H. Kamerlingh Onnes, Comm. Physical Lab., Univ. of Leiden, Suppl. 34b to 133– 144, 37 (1913).

First superconducting magnet 600 Gauss (0.06 T)



But: resistance developed at 0.8 A

More than 40 years were needed for experimental high-field magnets !

the projected contrivance succeeds and the current through the coil can be brought to 8 amperes . . . we shall approach to a field of 10 000 gauss. The solution of the problem of obtaining a field of 100 000 gauss could then be obtained by a coil of say 30 centimeters in diameter and the cooling with helium would require a plant which could be realized in Leiden with a relatively modest financial support. . When all outstanding questions will have been studied and all difficulties overcome, the miniature coil referred to may prove to be the prototype of magnetic coils without iron, by which in future much stronger and . . . more extensive fields may be realized than are at present reached in the interferrum of the strongest electromagnets. As we may trust in an accelerated development of experimental science this future ought not to be far away.

The problem which seems hopeless in this way enters a quite new phase when a superconductive wire can be used. Joule-heat comes not more into play, not even at very high current densities, and an exceedingly great number of ampere windings can be located in a very small space without in such a coil heat being developed. A current of 1000 amps/mm² density was sent through a mercury wire, and of 460 amps/mm² density through a lead wire, without appreciable heat being developed in either....

There remains of course the possibility that a resistance is developed in the superconductor by the magnetic field. If this were the case, the Joule heat ... would have to be withdrawn. One of the first things to be investigated ... at helium-temperatures ... will be this magnetic resistance. We shall see that it plays no role for fields below say 1000 gauss.

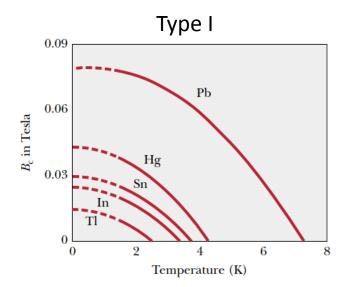
Superconducting elements

	IA 1		KN	οv	۷N :	SUF	PER	CO	ND	UC	TIV	Æ						0
1	Н	IA			E	LEN	Æ	NTS	3				IIIA	IVA	٧A	٧IA	VIIA	He
2	₃ Li	₄ Be	e BLUE = AT AMBIENT PRESSURE								ь В	°c	Ň	°	9 F	10 Ne		
3	11 Na	12 Mg					UNDE	ER HI(RESS			13 A I	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 CI	18 Ar
-	19	20	IIIB 21	1YB 22	ΥB 23	VIB 24	YIIB 25	26	— YII — [27	28	1B 29	IIB 30	AL 31	32	33	34	35	36
4	ĸ	Ĉa	Sc	Ti	Ŷ	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	Ås	Se	Br	Кr
5	37 Rb	³⁸ Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 	54 Xe
6	55 Cs	56 Ba	57 *La	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 ₩	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 TI	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
7	87 Fr	88 Ra	89 +Ac	104 Rf	105 Ha	106 106	107 107	108 108	109 109	110 110	111 111	112 112	st	IPER	CONL	лист	DRS.	ORG

*Lanthanide Series	58 Ce		60 Nd			63 Eu	64 Gd		66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
+ Actinide	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
Series	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

Type I and Type II Superconductors

- Type I (most of pure metals) superconductors lose their superconductivity at low magnetic fields lower than 0.1 T)
- Type II superconductors (metallic compounds and alloys) identified in 1936



Type II superconductors have wide applications in science and technology

History of Superconductivity

- 1908 Onnes liquefies He
- **1911** Onnes observe superconductivity in Hg (Type I) Nobel prize 1913

Superconducting era starts

- 1914 Persistent current experiments (Onnes)
- 1933 Meissner-Ochsenfeld effect observed
- □ 1936 Type II superconductors
- 1950 Ginsburg Landau theory Nobel price 2003
 - **1957** BCS Theory (Bardeen, Cooper, Schrieffer) Nobel Price 1972

Microscopic theory of Low Temperature Superconductivity --

- 1962 Josephson effect is observed
- **1986** First observation superconductivity at **35 K** (Bednorz, Muller)

High Temperature Superconducting era (HTS) starts

□ 1987 first superconductor at 92 K (above liquid Nitrogen at 77 K)

25 years

46 years

Theory

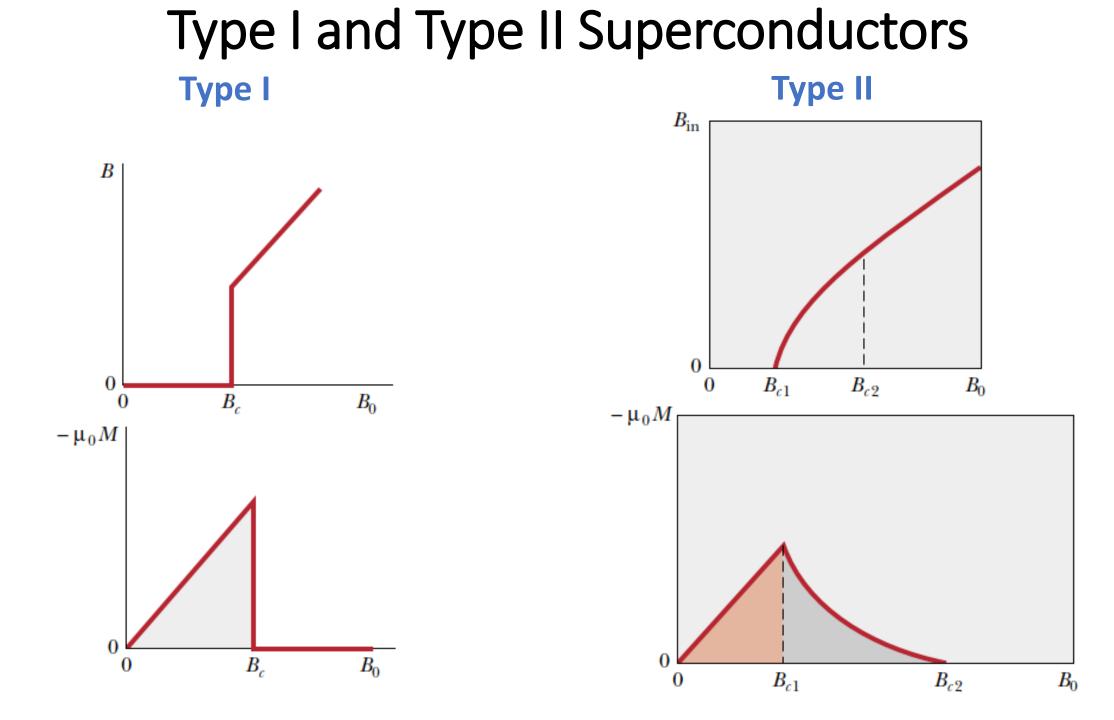
- Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) theory: microscopic theory that describes why materials are superconducting. It is derived bottom-up from quantum mechanics
- Ginzburg-Landau theory: it describes properties of superconductors in a magnetic field. It is derived top-down from thermodynamics. It predicted vortex lattice and Type II superconductors. It enables simulation of vortex dynamics – with multi-vortex systems

Characteristic lengths

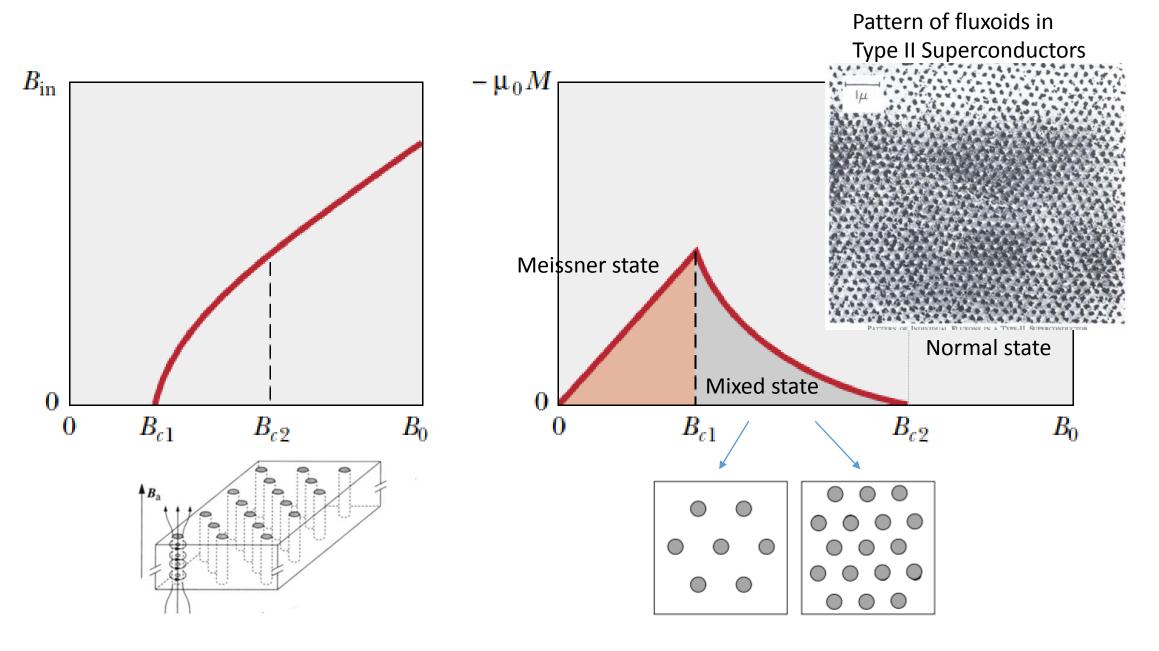
- Penetration depth $\lambda(T)$
 - Length over which an externally applied magnetic field is screened
- Ginzburg-Landau coherence length $\xi(T)$
 - Length over which superconducting order can be affected
- Ginzburg Landau parameter (almost independent on temperature):

$$k=\lambda/\xi$$

type I:	$\kappa < 1/\sqrt{2}$
type II:	$\kappa > 1/\sqrt{2}$



Type II Superconductors



Type II Superconductors

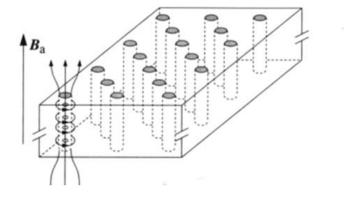
Magnetic flux penetration above Bc1 Bc1 < 100 mT for Nb-Ti, N₃Sn, MgB₂ and HTS (REBCO, BSCCO 2223 and BSCCO 2212)

Magnetic flux: array of flux quantized line vortices or fluxons
 Vortex: tube of radius of London penetration depth λ(T)
 Screening currents around a non-superconducting core of radius ξ(T)
 ξ(T) = coherence length

> Flux carried by screening currents for each vortex $\Phi_0 = 2 \times 10^{-15}$ Wb

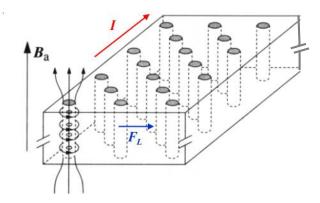
$$\Phi = \frac{nh}{2e} = n\Phi_0 \qquad \Phi_0 = \frac{h}{2e} = 2.0679 \times 10^{-15} \,\mathrm{T} \cdot \mathrm{m}^2$$

>Normal core overlap at Bc2(T) = $\Phi_0/2 \pi \mu_0 \xi(T)^2$



Type II Superconductors

When a superconductor carries a current I: F_L = I ×B



- > To avoid vortex motion, pinning of vortices at microstructural defects
- Process development is oriented to optimize "flux pinning".
 Pinning centres must match with the fluxons spacing. In a triangular lattice:

$$d = \left\{\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \frac{\phi_o}{B}\right\}^{1/2} \qquad \sim 20$$

 \sim 20 nm at 6 T

Maximum pinning strength is at absolute zero

Need to pin flux lines to avoid them moving under the Lorenz force (F_L)

Technical Superconductors

- Low Temperature Superconductors
 - Nb-Ti, Nb₃Sn
- High Temperature Superconductors
 - REBCO, BSCCO 2223, BSCCO 2212

High field applications Industrially available

- Medium Temperature Superconductors
 - MgB₂

Today for medium/low fields (< 5 T)

• Iron based materials

They have potential for high fields – but still a R&D material

Superconducting materials

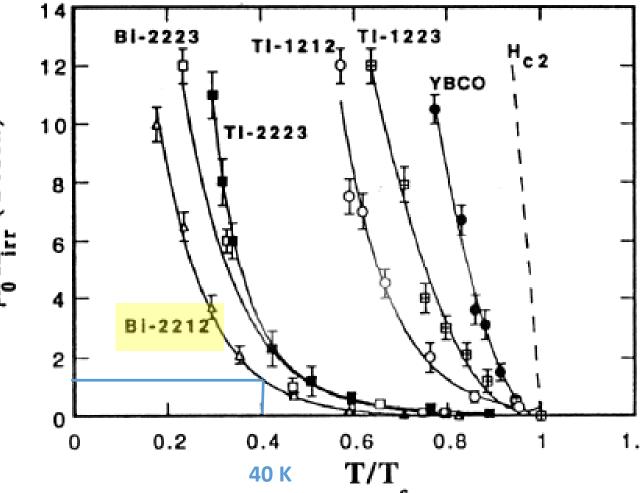
		Tc(0) [K]	Bc2(0 K) [T]	ξ (nm)
ITC	Nb-Ti	9.5	14.4	~ 6
LTS –	Nb ₃ Sn	18.3	28-30	~ 4
	REBCO	93	> 100	~ 2
HTS –	BSCCO 2212	95	> 100	~ 1
	BSCCO 2223	110	> 100	~ 1

Bc2(0 K) > 100 T

Bc2(0) = upper critical field at 0 K ξ = coherence length

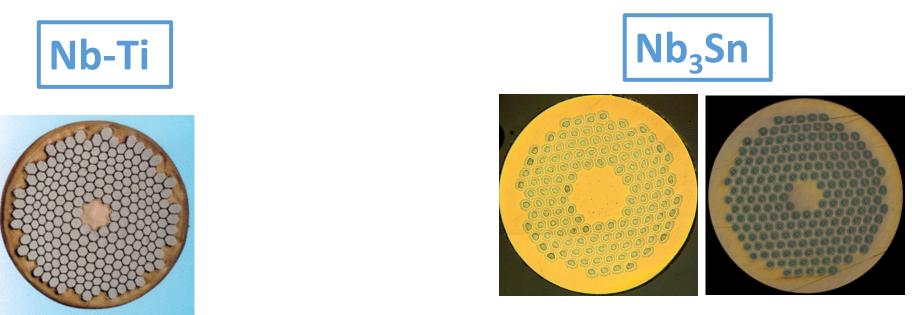
Irreversibility field of HTS

- Bc₂(T) much higher than for Nb-Ti and Nb₃Sn
- But, thermal fluctuation effects depress the irreversibility field (Birr(T)) at which Jc = 0 well below Bc2, except at low temperatures



High fields with HTS \rightarrow Low (liquid helium) temperature

HTS vs LTS for high field applications





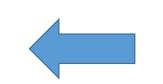
Up to ~ 15- 16 T

HTS at 4.2 K and for fields above 16 T

High-field applications of superconductors

- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Non-invasive imaging technology. Clinical systems operate at 1.5 T- 3 T. For higher resolution: 7 T - 10 T, an up to 15 T
- Nuclear Magnetic Imaging (NMR)
- Research magnets
- Fusion reactors

Particle accelerators



Pushed/push superconductors/magnets performance to exceed the frontier of high-energy particle physics

Superconductors for high-field applications

Needed:

- High Hirr(Top)
- High Jc(Bop,Top). Typically Jc > 10⁶ A/mm²
 - Strong vortex pinning
 - Transparent grain boundaries
- Good mechanical properties
 - High critical tensile stress
 - High tensile, compressive and bending strains
- High Je (over total cross section)
- Acceptable cost enabling large scale applications

Superconductors for accelerator magnets (1/5)

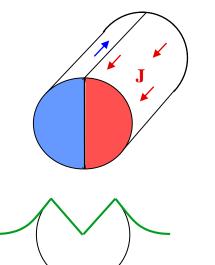
- Very high and uniform current density to produce a large field over a transverse aperture (J_E ~ 400 A/mm² at the operational field);
- > Multi-filamentary wire with:
 - Small filaments size to:
 - a) reduce magnetization and assure uniform field mainly at injection;
 - b) avoid flux jump (dynamic stability);
 - Filaments twisted to minimize coupling effects during ramping (eddy currents);
- Appropriate (Cu/non Cu) ratio minimum amount of copper needed for stability and protection, controlled within a strict tolerance (typically 1.5-2 ± 0.05 for accelerator magnets);
- High RRR (low resistivity) of the copper matrix/stabilizer

Accelerator magnets have always pushed the limits of superconductors performance to beyond state-of-the-art

Superconductors for accelerator magnets (2/5)

Small filaments size

Cylindrical filaments



Magnetization for fully penetrated filaments

$$M = \frac{2}{3\pi} \text{ Jc } \Phi f \checkmark \text{ small } \Phi f \text{ to reduce } M$$

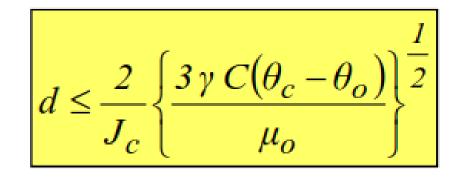
M=magnetic volume per unit volume Jc(B,T) = critical current density Φf = filament diameter

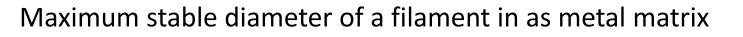
Beams are injected in a circular machine at low energy (0.45 TeV, i.e. 0.54 T for dipoles in LHC)

Persistent magnetization currents inside the individual filaments of a wire generate field distortions

Superconductors for accelerator magnets (3/5)

Small filaments size





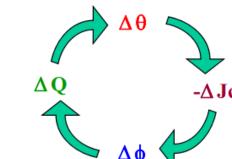
= density $\theta c = critical temperature$ C = specific heat

For Nb-Ti, d < 50 μm

Flux-jump: usually not a problem for HTS

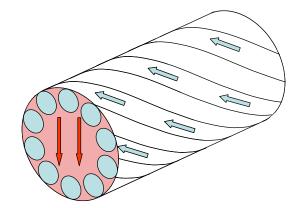
Small filaments to avoid flux jump

Flux-jump: magnetic-thermal instability Instability of persistent currents



Superconductors for accelerator magnets (4/5) ≻Filaments twisted

Coupling currents between filaments in a wire



$$M = \frac{2 \frac{dB}{dt} \tau}{\mu_0}$$

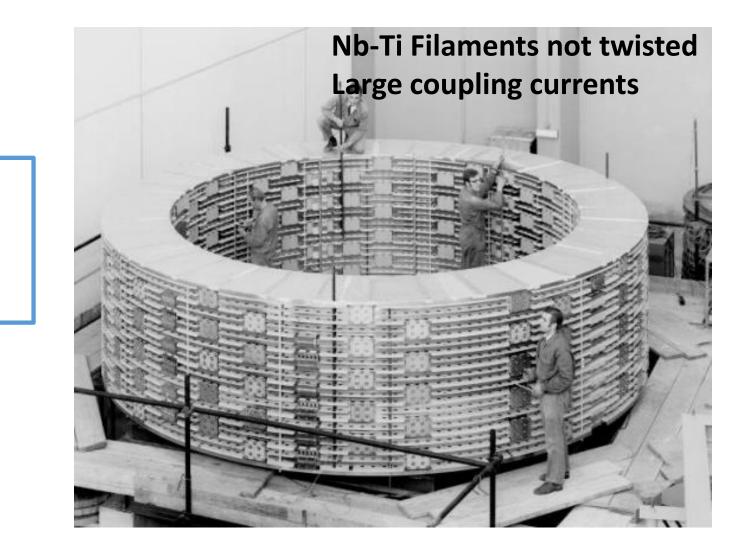
$$\tau = \frac{\mu_0}{2 \rho_m} \left(\frac{L_t}{2 \pi}\right)^2$$

 L_t = Twist pitch ρ_m = transverse resistivity of the matrix

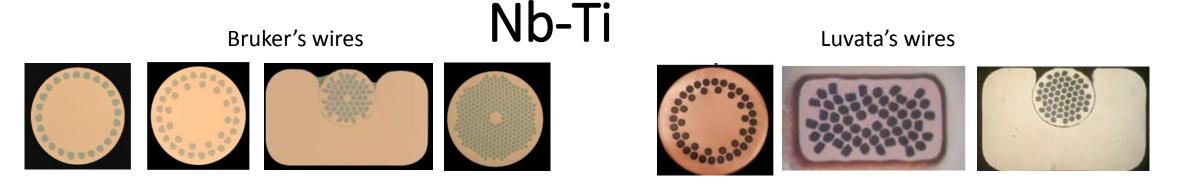
An un-twisted conductor is useless for magnets accelerator application

Superconductors for accelerator magnets (5/5)

Big European Bubble Chamber (BEBC) at CERN - 1971



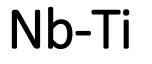
3.5 T solenoid 5.7 kA 800 MJ Φbore = 4.72 m

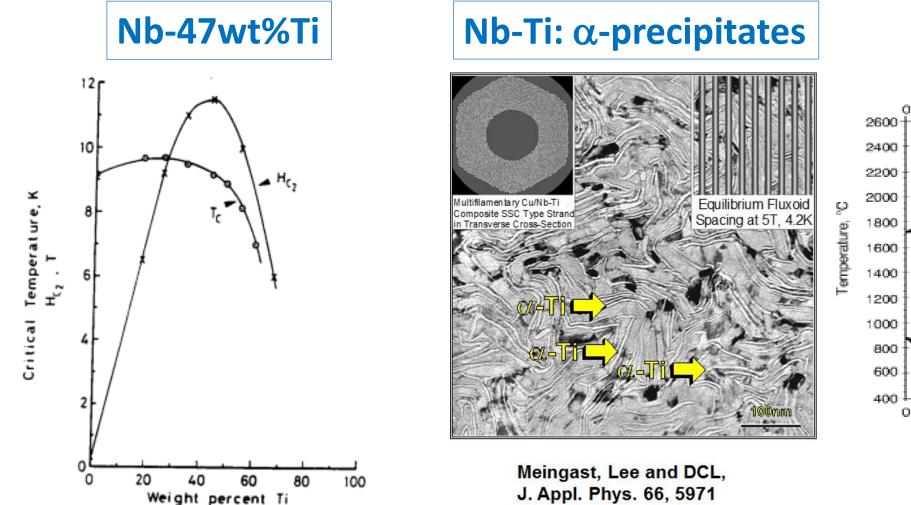


Industrially available in a large variety of architectures

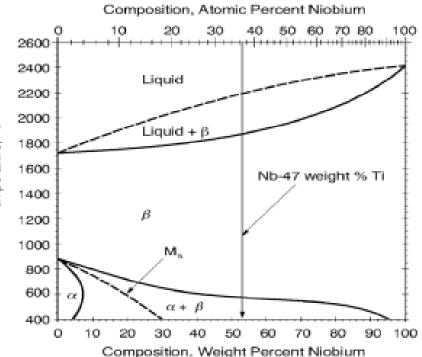
- > Fully optimized, with processing and properties well understood
- > Strong and dense engineered pinning thanks to α -Ti precipates
- The only material to date used in accelerator magnets and the material used in commercial MRI magnets
- Produced in large quantity (~ 600 tons/year, mainly for MRI) and long unit lengths at low cost. The LHC required about 1300 tons of high-quality Nb-Ti (300 tons/year peak production)

The choice for magnetic fields ≤ 10 T

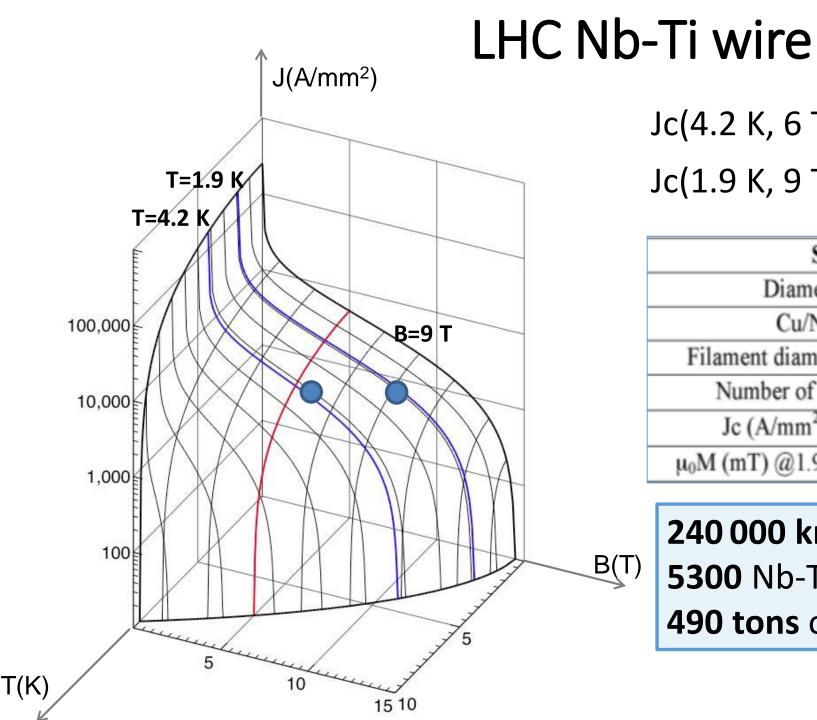




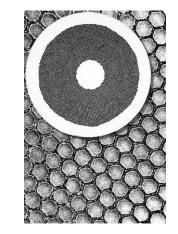
Phase diagram



Optimum Bc2: Nb 46.5-50 wt% Ti I rich phase precipitated as a result of heat treatments applied during manufacturing of the wire



Jc(4.2 K, 6 T)~2300 A/mm² Jc(1.9 K, 9 T)~2300 A/mm²



STRAND	Type 01	Type 02
Diameter (mm)	1.065	0.825
Cu/NbTi ratio	$1.6-1.7 \pm 0.03$	$1.9-2.0 \pm 0.03$
Filament diameter (µm)	7	6
Number of filaments	8800	6425
Jc (A/mm ²) @1.9 K	1530 @ 10 T	2100 @ 7 T
$\mu_0 M (mT) @1.9 K, 0.5 T$	30 ±4.5	23 ±4.5

240 000 km of Nb-Ti **wire 5300** Nb-Ti/Cu composite **490 tons** of **Nb-Ti** (47.0 ± 1.0 wt % Ti)

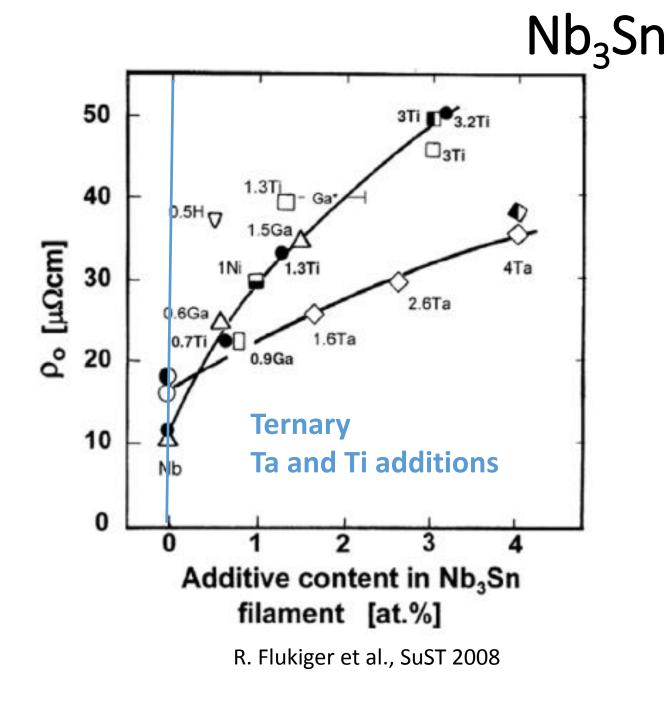
Nb-Ti is the choice for magnets

Unless we can't....

Nb_3Sn

- Bc2(2 K) ~ 30 T (Bc2(2 K) of Nb-Ti ~ 14 T)
- Brittle intermetallic
- ➤ Ternary (NbTi)₃Sn or (NbTa)₃Sn compounds
 → Bc2 enhanced by increasing ρ_n without sacrificing Tc and workability (1-2 % at Ti and 2-4 at % Ta)
- > Multi-filamentary wires, $\Phi \sim 1 \text{ mm}$, filaments/sub-elements size ~ 60 μm

The choice for magnetic fields up to 15 T – 16 T



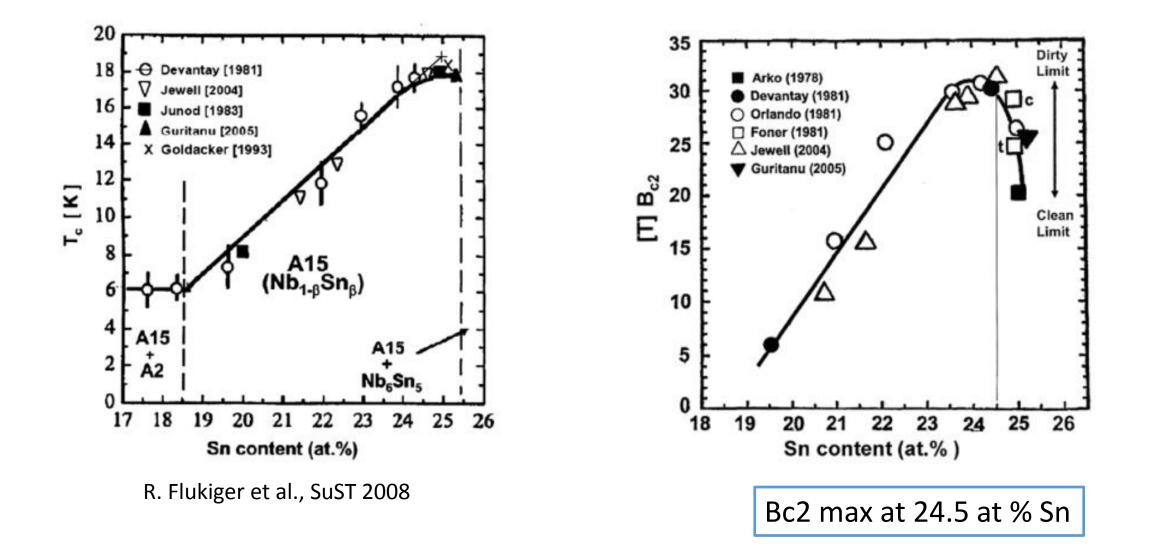
Enhancement of ρ_{0}



Enhancement of Bc2

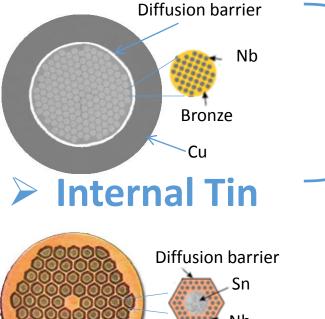
Bc2~ Tc
$$\gamma \rho_0$$

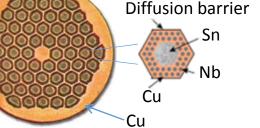
Nb₃Sn



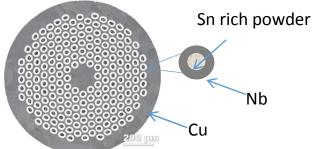
Nb₃Sn – Manufacturing Processes

Bronze Route





Powder In Tube



Small filaments (Φ < 5 μ m) Jc limited (~ 1-1.2 kA/mm² @ 12 T, 4.2 K) by the solubility of Sn in Cu (~15.5 wt %)

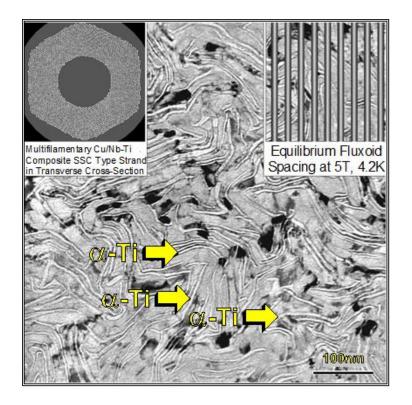
RRP ®

High Jc Nb₃Sn wires for accelerator magnets

PIT

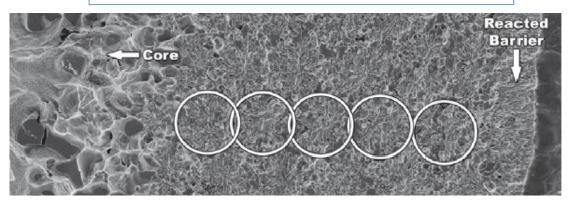
Nb₃Sn – Pinning mechanism

NbTi: α -precipitates



Meingast, Lee and DCL, J. Appl. Phys. 66, 5971

Nb₃Sn: grain boundaries



C. Tarantini et al, Supercond . Sci. Technol. 27 (2014)

Dominant pinning mechanism: grain boundaries (vortex pinning)

Finest grain size needed to maximise vortex pinning

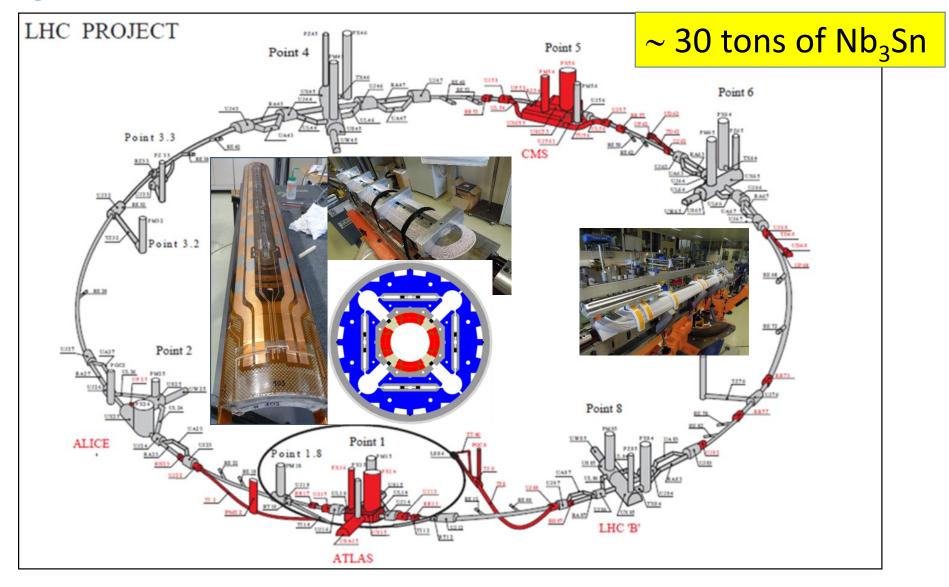
Nb₃Sn – High Performance

- Use all Nb and Sn in the to make Nb₃Sn
 - Maximize the amount of A15
- Make stoichiometric A15
 - Avoid composition gradients
- Make grains as small as possible
 - Assure strong pinning

Nb₃Sn – Grain Size Refinement

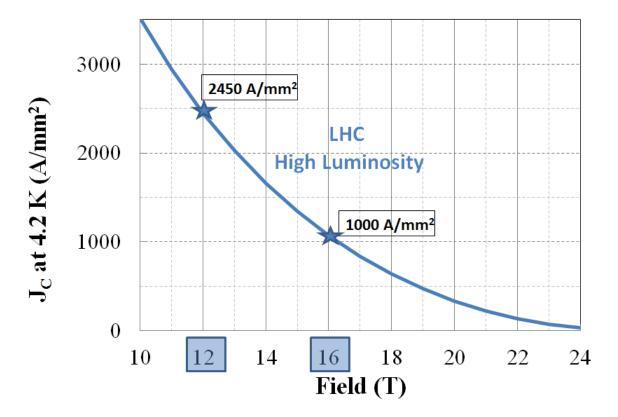
- ➢ Grain size at optimized heat treatments (Φ ~150 nm) vs vortex spacing at operational fields (~ 12 nm at 16 T). Needed matching of spacing of pinning sites to vortex spacing
- ➤ Grain refinement possible by lowering the reaction temperature. But this is in conflict with the need of reaching stoichiometric Sn composition in the A15 phase → delicate interplay between A15 gain boundary density and compositional homogeneity

High-Luminosity LHC Project Nb₃Sn for the first time in an operating accelerator

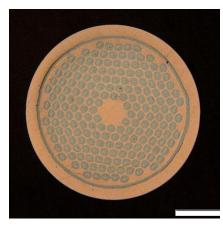


High Luminosity LHC Nb₃Sn wire

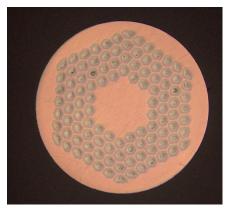
RRR > 150 $\Phi_{\rm wire}$ = 0.7 mm, 0.85 mm $\Phi_{\rm fil}$ = ~ 50 μ m



RRP



PIT



Superconducting Cables

Needed for high-current magnets

- Many wires in parallel
 - → High current capability (10 kA 20 kA)
 - Low inductance

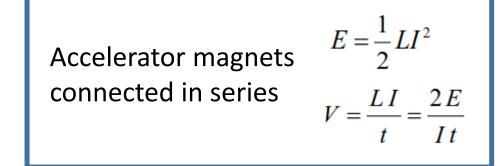
> For accelerator magnets, required:

- > High compaction factor \rightarrow high Je
- Twisting of wires
- Transposition of wires
- Precise dimensions
- Uniform current density
- Controlled inter-strand resistance
- High RRR of the strands also after cabling

> Types of fully transposed cables:

Rope, braid, Rutherford cables

Only Rutherford cables used – to date - in accelerator technology

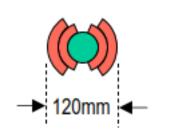


Engineering current density in dipoles

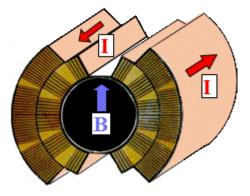
$$B = \mu_o J_e \frac{t}{2}$$

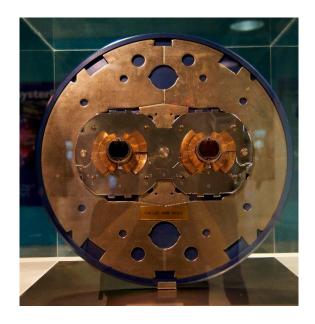
 $Je \sim 400 \text{ A/mm}^2$

LHC Dipoles



Perfect dipole field: overlapping of two cylinders with opposite currents

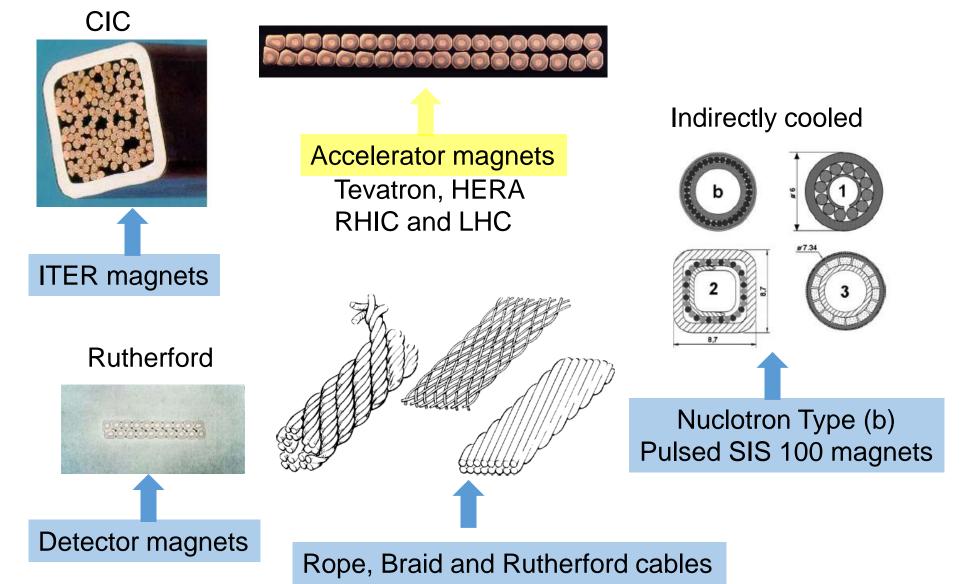




 $Je = 375 \text{ A/mm}^2$

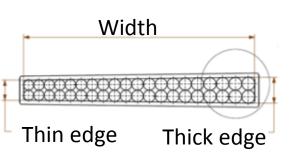
Superconducting cables

Rutherford



Rutherford cables

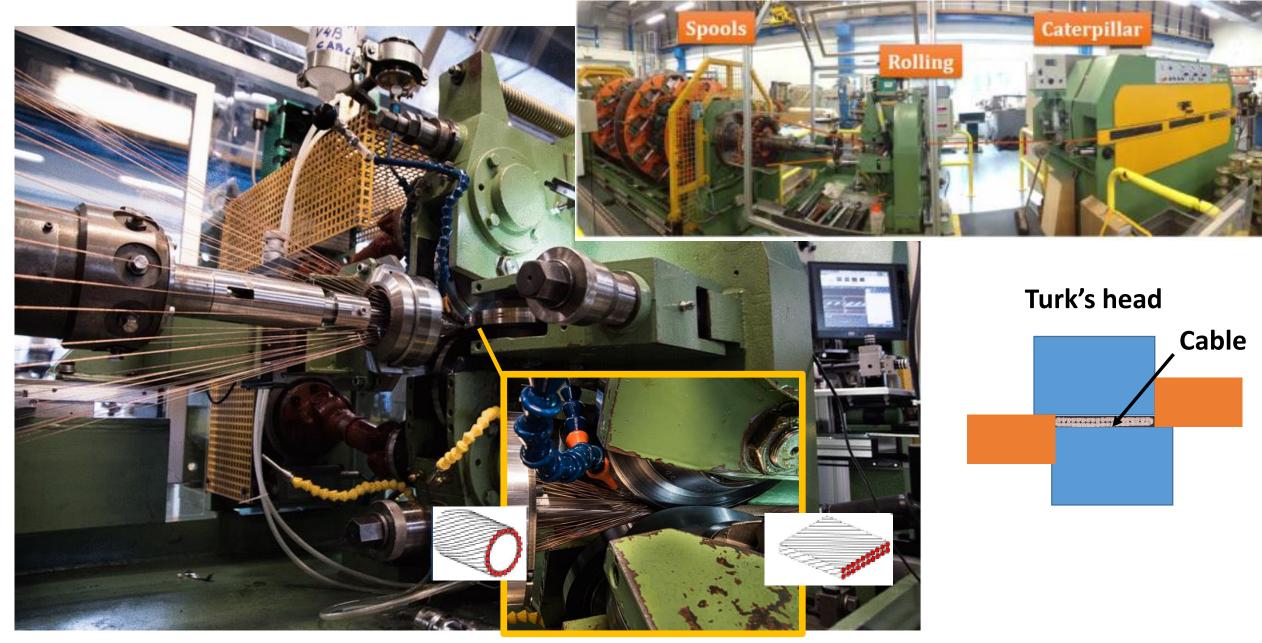
- Multi-strand cable (20 to 40 strands)
- Wires are twisted and compressed into a two-layer cable
 - Rectangular shape
 - Trapezoidal shape (for arc-shaped coil) with a trapezoidal/keystone angle < 1.5 deg



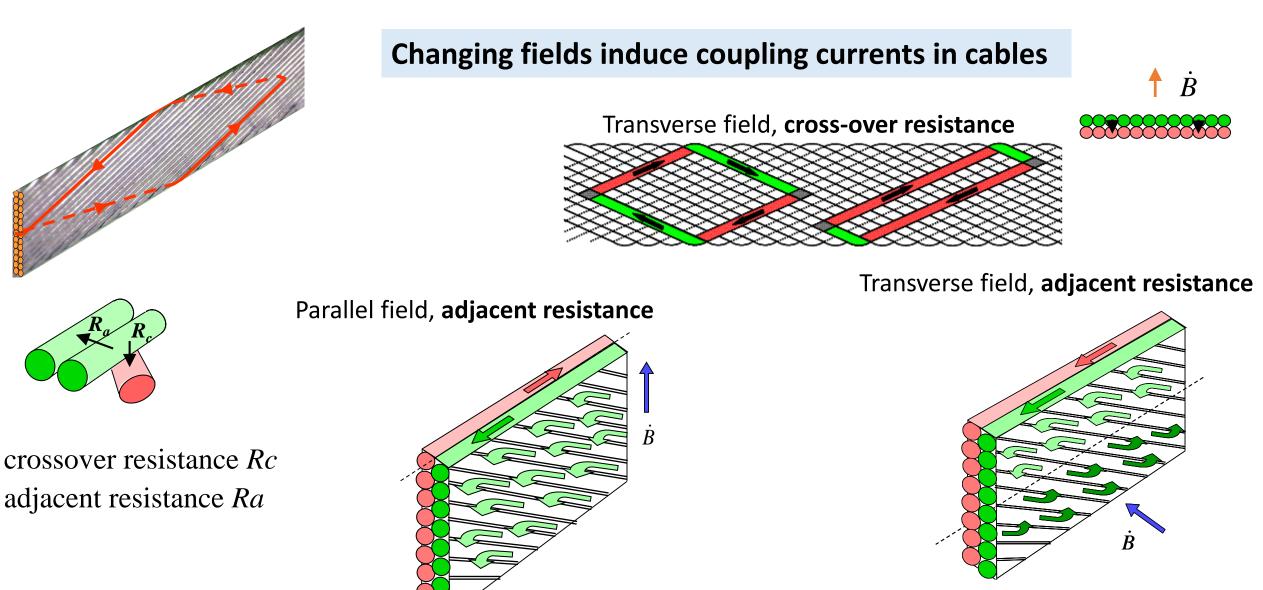
- Tight packing of the strands to:
 - Assure high Je
 - Prevent wire motion during magnets excitation
- Low degradation of wires' critical current after mechanical deformation during cabling



Rutherford cabling machine at CERN



Coupling currents in Rutherford cables



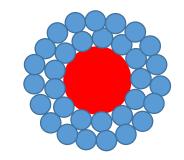
Twisting and transposition of wires in a cable

> **Twisting** of wires in a cable

➤To cope with external magnetic field

> Transposition of wires in cable

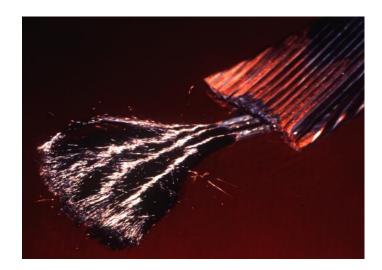
To cope with the cable self-field
Each wire changes position with every other wire in the cable



Two layer of SC wires around a central copper core Example of non-transposed cable

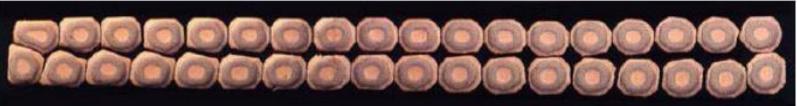
LHC Nb-Ti Rutherford Cables

CABLE	Type 01	Type 02
Number of strands	28	36
Width (mm)	15.1	15.1
Mid-thickness (mm)	1.900 ±0.006	1.480 ±0.006
Keystone angle (degrees)	1.25 ±0.05	0.90 ±0.05
Cable Ic (A) @ 1.9 K	13750 @ 10T	12960 @ 7T
Interstrand resistance $(\mu \Omega)$	10-50	20-80



Nb-Ti LHC Main Dipole Rutherford cable – 36 strands

Cable compaction ~ 91 % Wire Ic degradation \leq 3 %

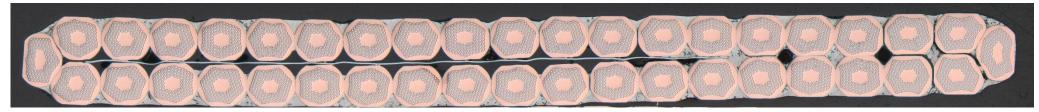


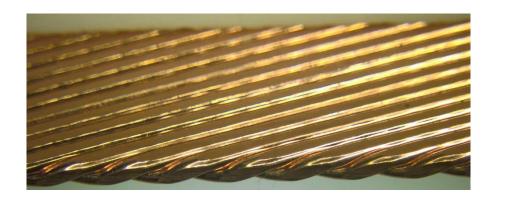
Large Hadron Collider: 7600 km (1200 tons) Nb-Ti Rutherford cables

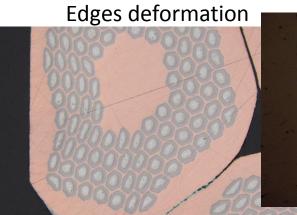


Nb₃Sn Cables

HL-LHC Cable – Forty strands





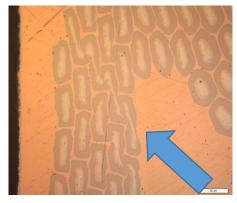






Reaction after cabling – and winding (Wind & React technology) Sn leakage out of the Nb barrier of the filaments must be avoided !

Excessive shear of sub-elements



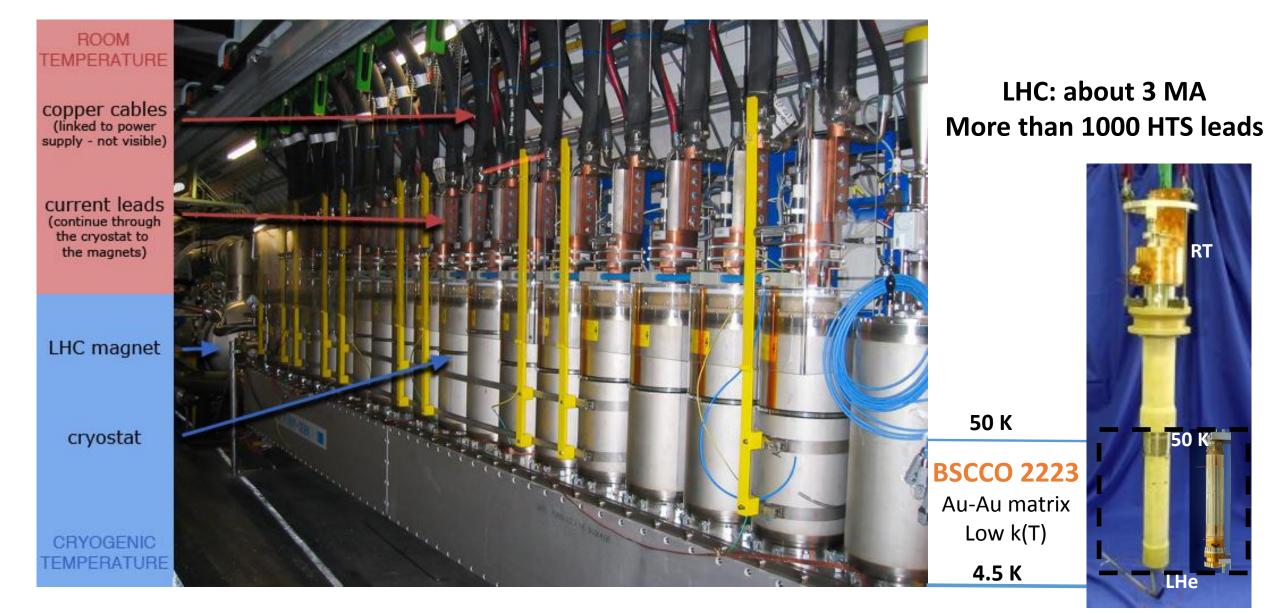
HTS Superconductors

The choice for magnetic fields > 15 T/16 T at LHe temperature

or

The choice for higher operating temperatures and lower fields

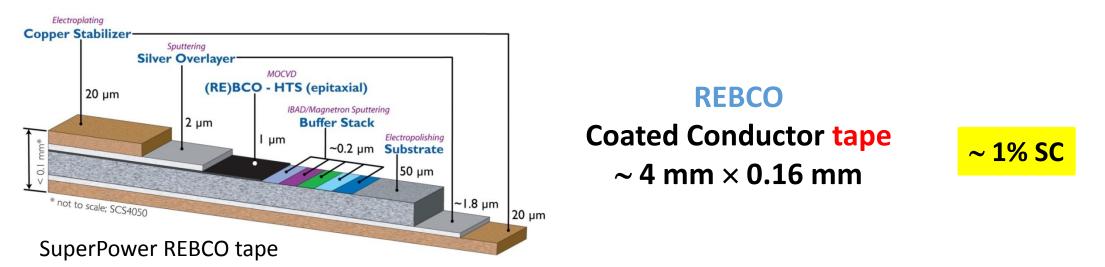
HTS in the LHC accelerator: HTS Current Leads

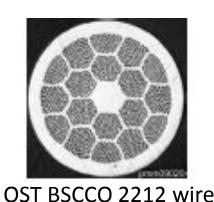


HTS Superconductors



Sumitomo DI-BSCCO tape





BSCCO 2212

BSCCO 2223

Multi-filamentary tape

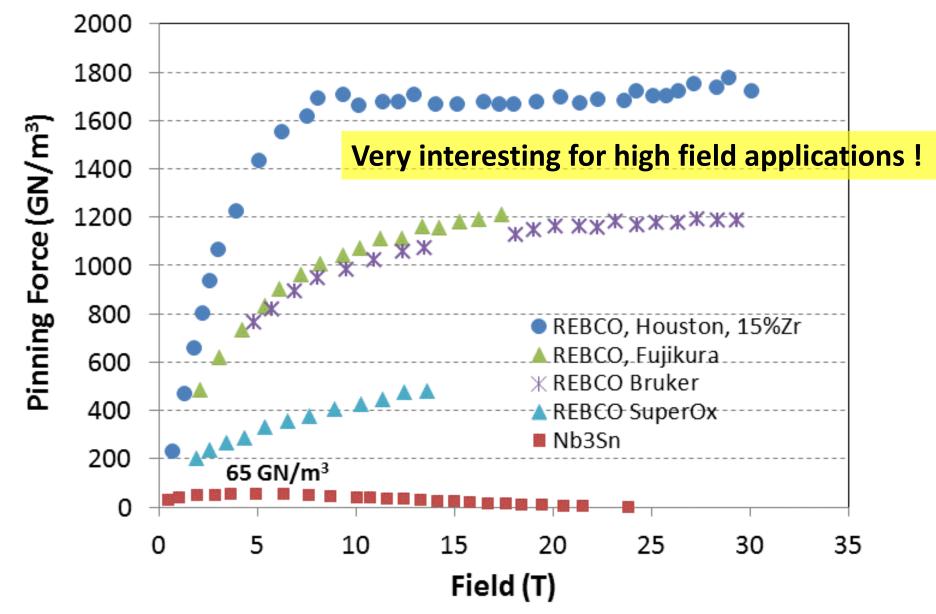
 \sim 4.3 mm \times 0.23 mm

Multi-filamentary wire Φ = 0.8-1.4 mm

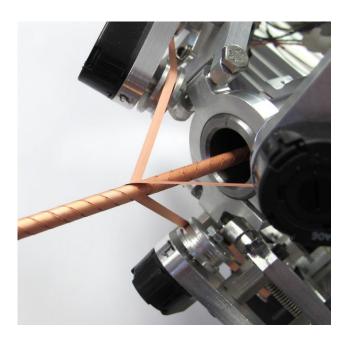
~ 30 % SC

~ 40 % SC

REBCO - Pinning



REBCO Cables



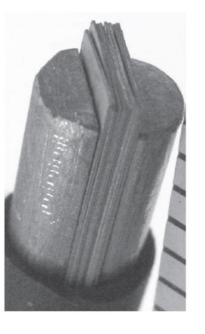
12 mm x 12 mm CICC (copper diameter 9.5 mm)



40 YBCO tapes in a copper diameter 9.5 mm.



20 YBCO tapes in each helical groove in a copper diameter 9.5 mm.

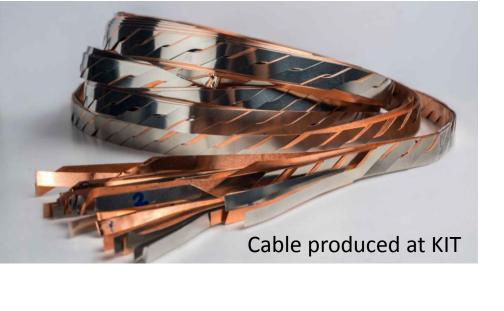


REBCO prototype **cables** studied for **fusion technology** The Je of these cables is insufficient for accelerator technology

HTS Roebel cable

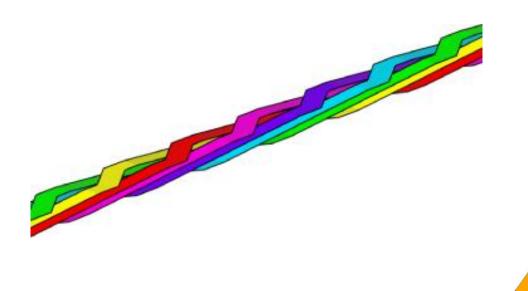


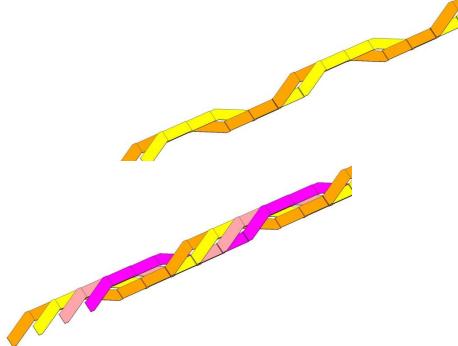




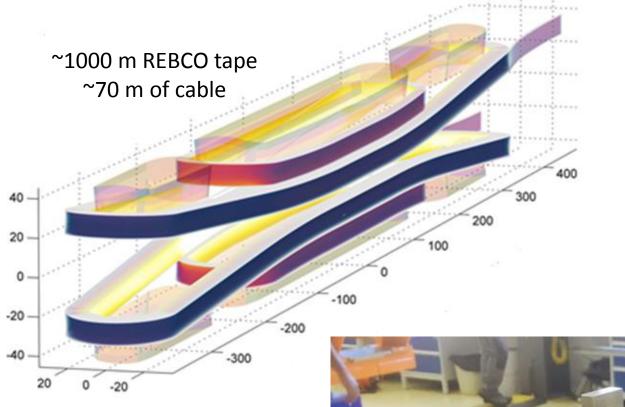






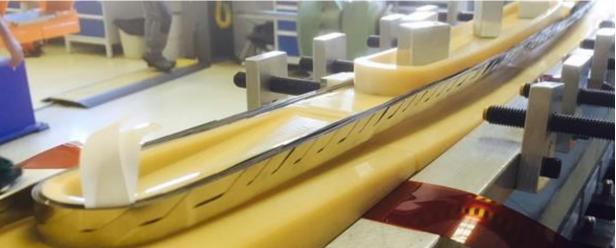


Model magnets

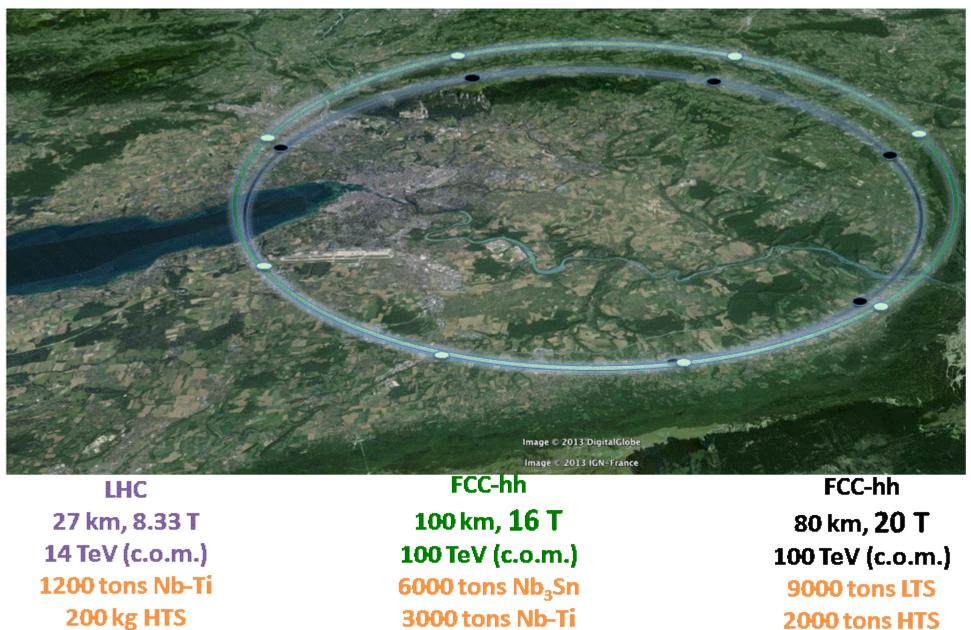


Aperture = 40 mm

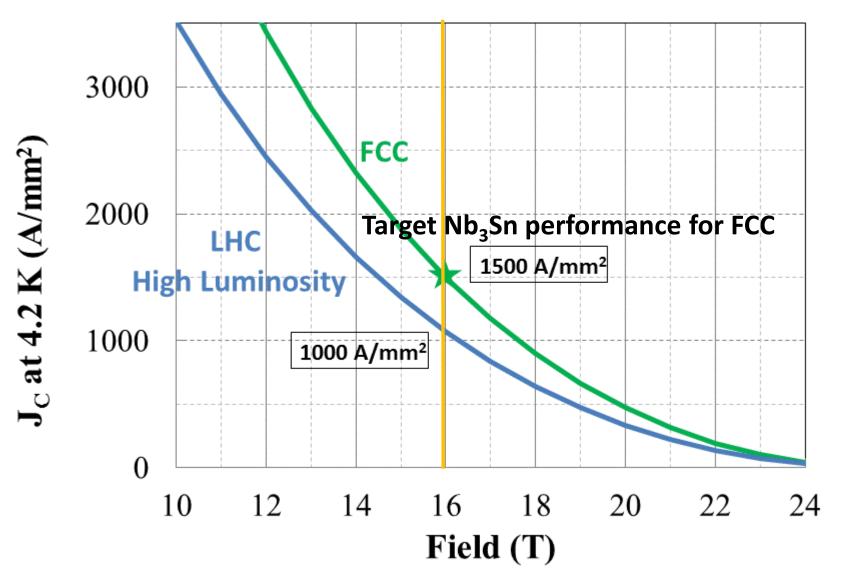
5 T in a background field of 15 T



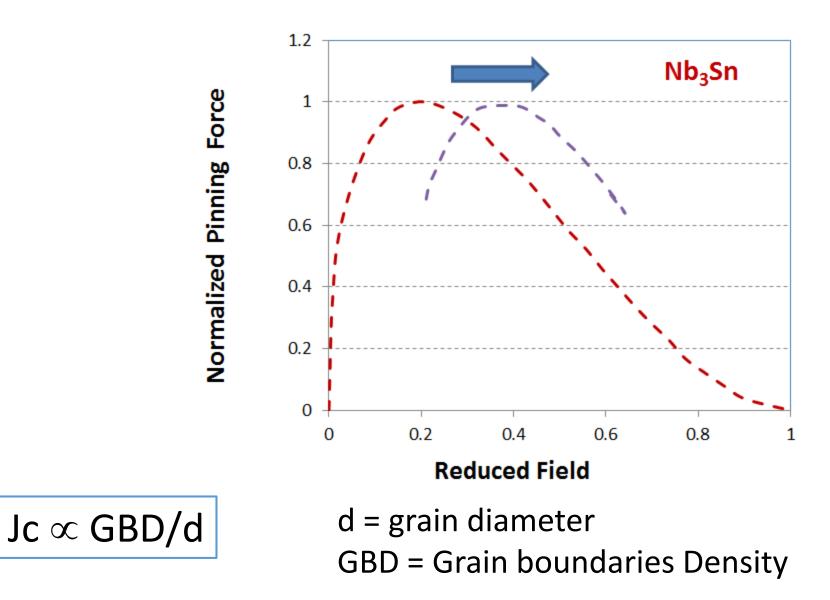
Conductor for future circular colliders



Conductor performance for the FCC Collider



The FCC Collider



Conclusions

We reviewed the properties of superconductors for high field applications: Nb-Ti, Nb₃Sn and REBCO

Nb-Ti is the workhorse material

Nb₃Sn is used in fusion technology. It will be used for the first time in accelerator technology for HL-LHC. It is complex, and it replaces Nb-Ti for fields above 10 T **REBCO** is extremely interesting and promising, but high field magnet technology is still at a development stage

MgB₂ and iron based materials are intriguing

The FCC study re-launched an exiting development for Nb₃Sn superconductor, waiting for HTS technology be mature

A magnet will never perform better than its conductor