Contribution ID: 1034 Contribution code: THU-PO3-710-06

Type: Poster

Minimum Quench Energy of Nb3Sn Wires and Rutherford Cables with High Specific Heat

Thursday, 18 November 2021 10:00 (20 minutes)

A major problem of state-of-the-art Nb3Sn accelerator magnets is their long training due to thermo-mechanical perturbations. Increasing the specific heat, Cp, of the Rutherford cable would reduce and/or eliminate training by limiting its temperature rise. This paper studies feasibility of increasing the Cp of Nb3Sn Rutherford-type cables by using composite Cu/Gd2O3 and Cu/Gd2O2S tapes produced by Hyper Tech Research, Inc. Nb3Sn wire and cable samples outfitted with these high-Cp ribbons, or tapes, were prepared and tested at FNAL for the Minimum Quench Energy (MQE). The experiment was performed for both cases of localized and distributed disturbances.

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Session Classification: THU-PO3-710 Stability