

Superconducting Accelerators

Who needs superconductivity anyway?

Abolish Ohm's Law!

- no power consumption
(although do need refrigeration power)
- high current density \Rightarrow compact windings, high gradients
- ampere turns are cheap, so we don't need iron
(although often use it for shielding)

Consequences

- lower power bills
- higher magnetic fields mean reduced bend radius
 - \Rightarrow smaller rings
 - \Rightarrow reduced capital cost
 - \Rightarrow new technical possibilities (eg muon collider)
- higher quadrupole gradients
 - \Rightarrow higher luminosity
- higher rf electric fields (continuous)



Superconducting magnets for Accelerators

Plan of the Course

Martin N Wilson (Rutherford Lab \Rightarrow Oxford Instruments \Rightarrow consultant)

1 Introduction

- properties of superconductors, critical field, critical temperature & critical current density
- superconducting rf cavities
- high field 'type 2' superconductors
- high temperature superconductors HTS
- magnetic fields and how to create them
- engineering current density
- where to find more information

2 'Training', fine filaments & cables

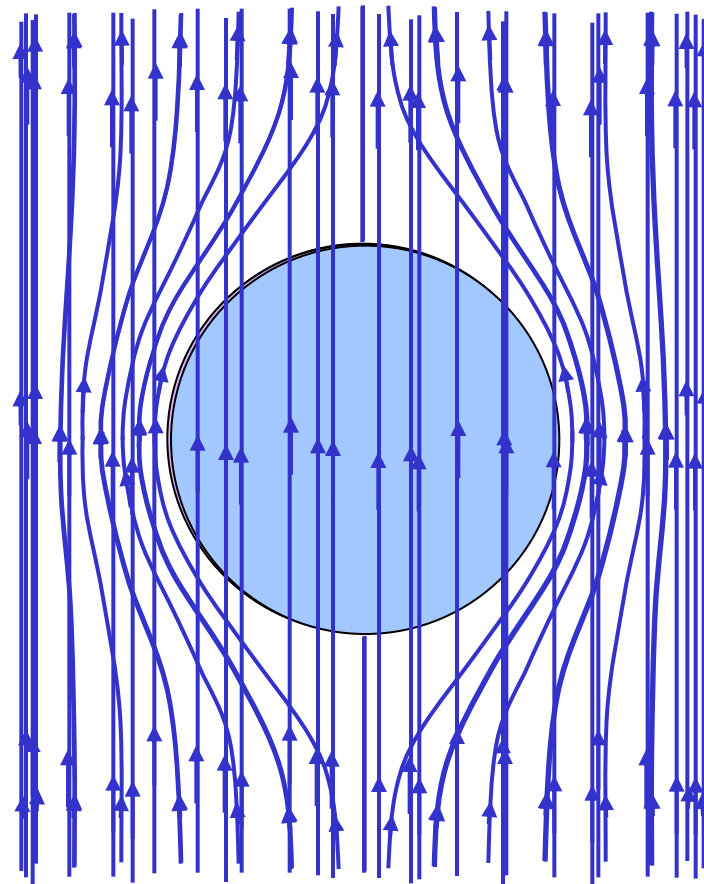
- load lines, quenching, degradation & training
- causes of training
- minimum propagating zones MPZ and minimum quench energy MQE
- screening currents and magnetization
- field errors and ac losses
- filamentary wires, coupling and cables

3 Quenching and hardware

- the quench process
- decay times and temperature rise
- quench protection schemes
- cryostats
- superconductor manufacture
- magnet manufacture
- some superconducting accelerators

Two kinds of superconductor: type 1

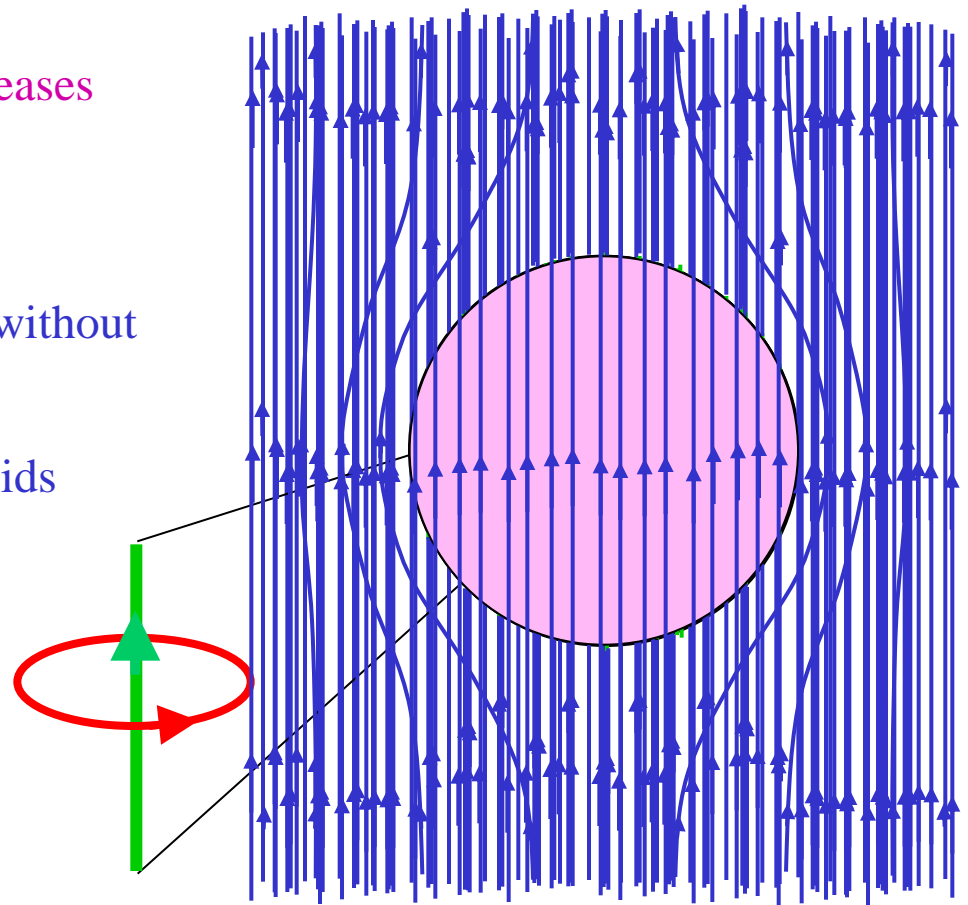
- the materials first discovered by Kammerlingh Onnes in 1911 - soft metals like lead, tin mercury
- sphere of metal at room temperature
- **apply magnetic field**
- **reduce the temperature - resistance decreases**
- **reduce the temperature some more - resistance decreases some more**
- at the critical temperature θ_c the field is pushed out - the **Meissner effect** - superconductivity!
- increase the field - field is kept out
 - by Maxwell there must be surface currents
- increase the field some more - superconductivity is extinguished and the field jumps in
- thermodynamic critical field B_c is trade off between **reducing** energy via condensation to superconductivity and **increasing** energy by pushing out field $\sim 0.1T$



useless for magnets!

Two kinds of superconductor: type 2

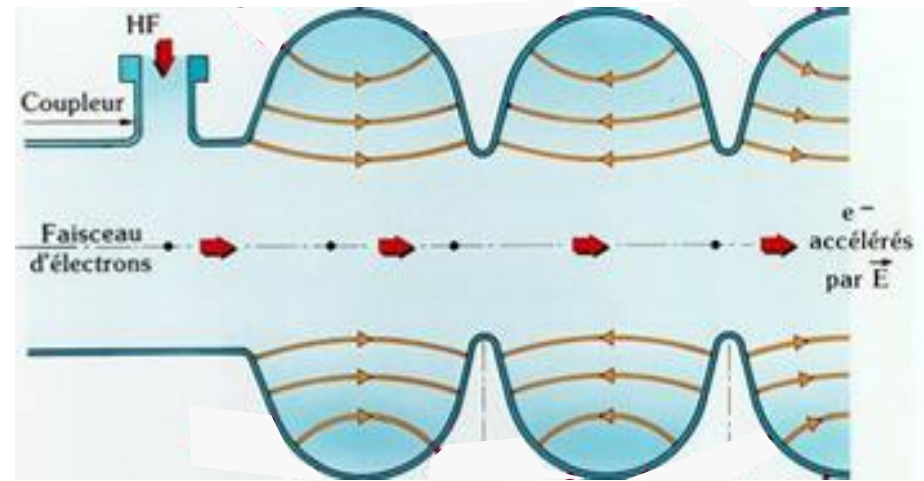
- apply magnetic field
- reduce the temperature - resistance decreases
- at the critical temperature θ_c the field is pushed out - surface currents again
- increase the field - field jumps back in without quenching superconductivity
- it does so in the form of quantized fluxoids
- lower critical field B_{c1}
- supercurrents encircle the resistive core of the fluxoid thereby screening field from the bulk material
- higher field \Rightarrow closer vortex spacing
- superconductivity is extinguished at the (much higher) upper critical field B_{c2}



OK for magnets!

Superconductors below B_{c1} make great rf cavities

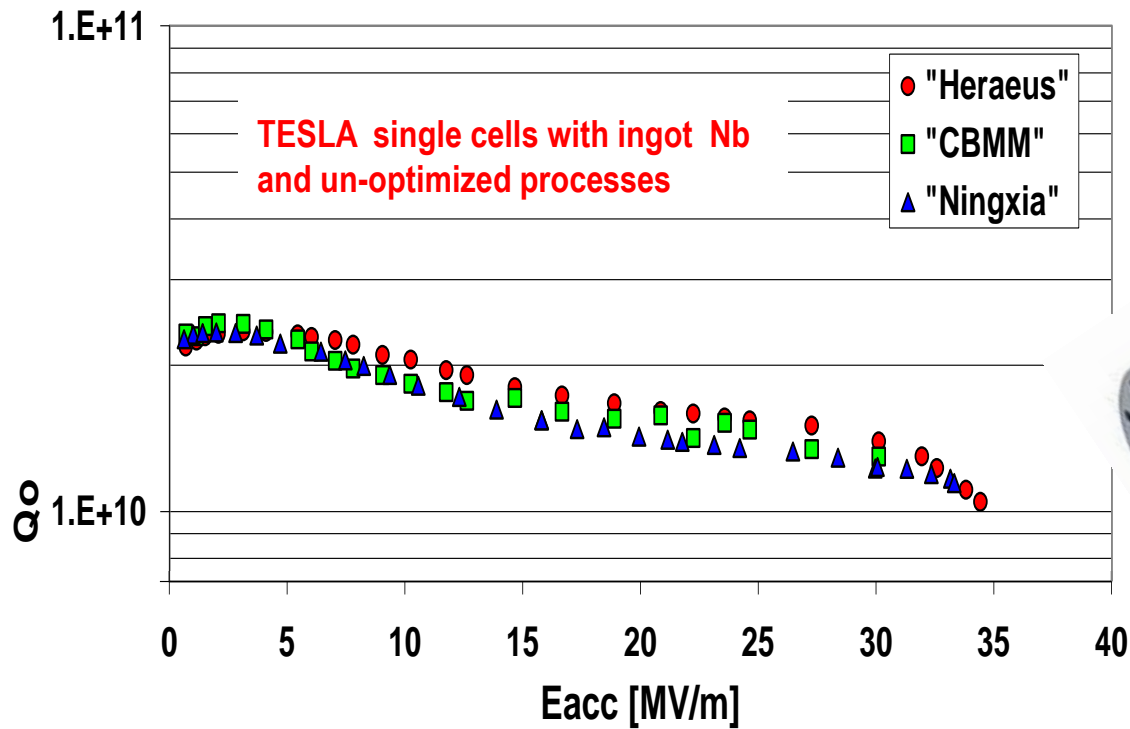
- particle acceleration needs electric field along direction of motion - rf cavity
- high Ohmic losses in copper make superconducting cavities attractive
- below B_{c1} the surface currents have very small ac loss (Type 1 or Type 2 at low field)



- loss usually expressed in terms of quality factor $Q = \omega U_{stored} / P_{dissipation}$
- at 1.3GHz, Q factors $> 10^{10}$ achieved - a 'ringing time' of > 8 seconds!
- accelerating voltages - up to 35 MV/m - a copper cavity at 5 MV/m \Rightarrow several MW/m
- however, when pulsed, copper cavities can do better ~ 100 MV/m
- because don't need to conserve power, s/c cavities can have a better shape - bigger beam hole

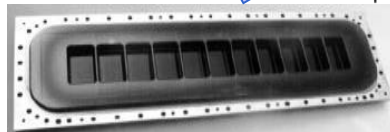
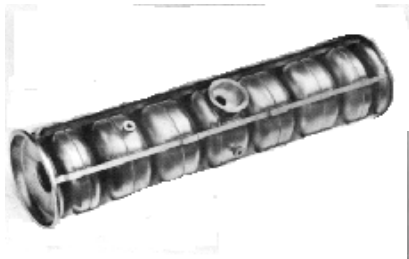
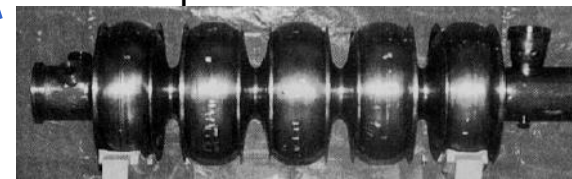
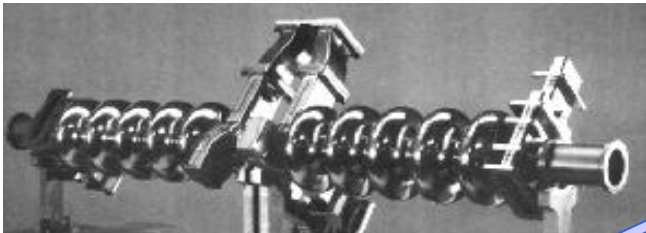
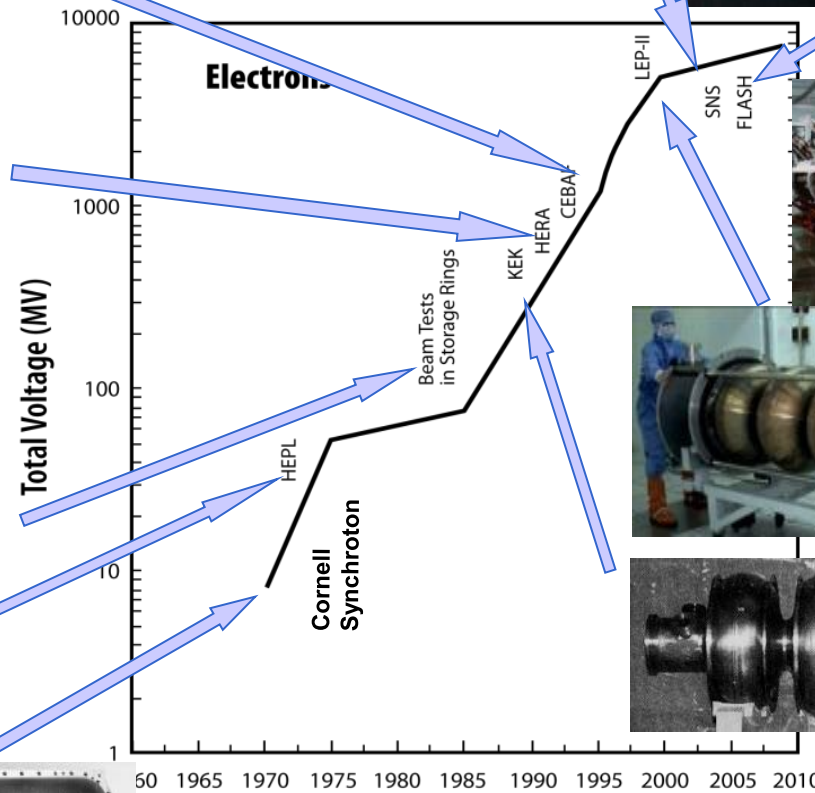
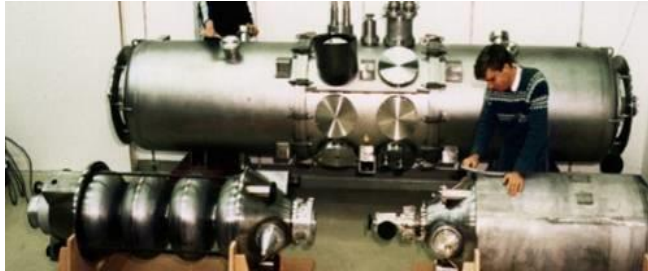
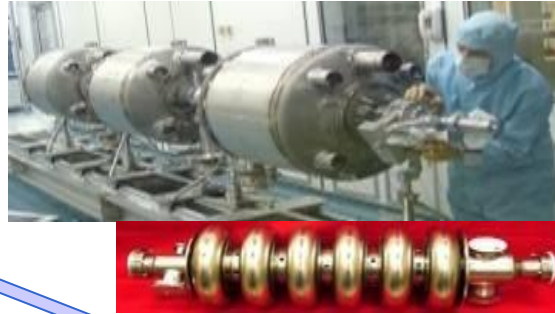
bell at middle C reverberates for 1 1/2 years

Accelerating voltage, quality factor Q_0 & surface quality



Myneni et al at Jefferson lab have shown that the key to performance is eliminating hydrogen from grain boundaries - regular Nb is then OK

Superconducting RF Cavities: 50 years of progress



from '50 Years of RF Superconductivity' by Hasan Padamsee
<https://indico.cern.ch/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=161849>

Accelerator driven fission?

Energy efficient superconducting accelerators

- ⇒ sub critical fission reactors driven by spallation neutron source - inherently safe
- ⇒ burn up the waste products

MYRRHA - project to build a subcritical research reactor at the Belgium nuclear research centre



Superconducting Proton Accelerator 600 MeV - 2.5mA = 1.8MW

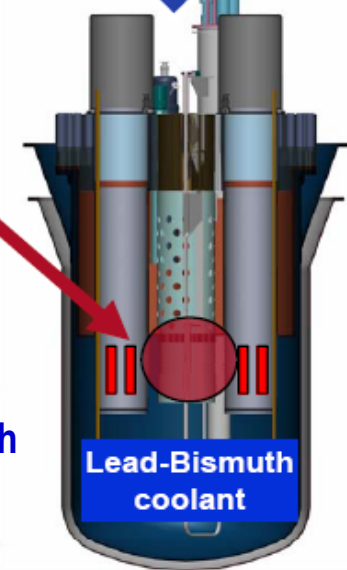


superconducting proton linac at ORNL

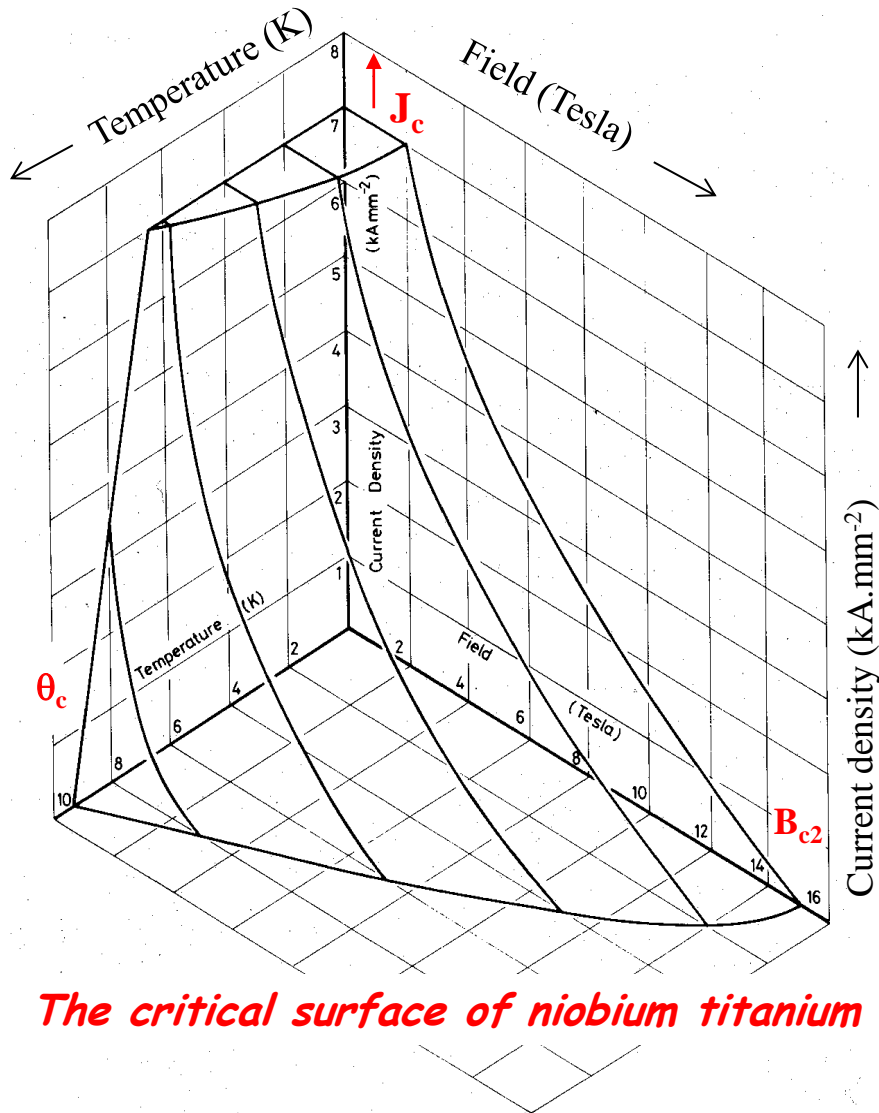
**Spallation target
⇒ fast neutrons**

Reactor 100MWth

Lead-Bismuth coolant



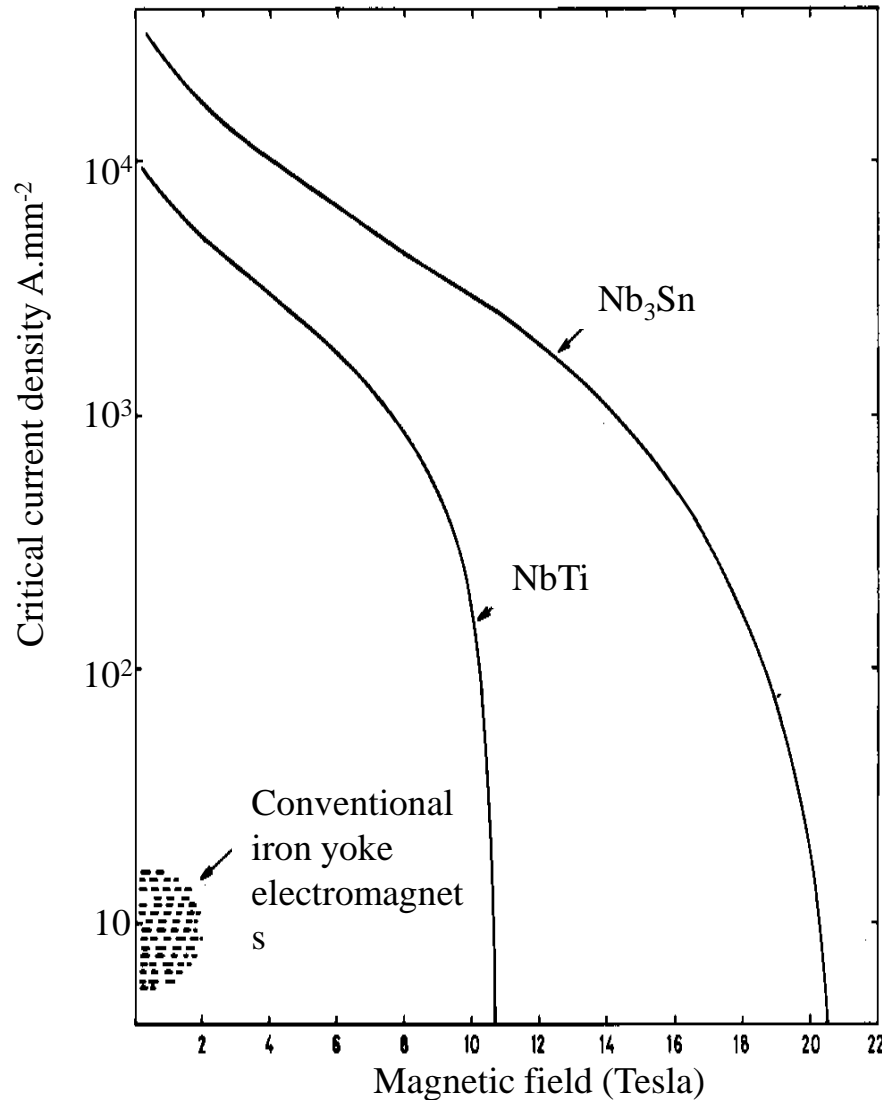
High field superconductors for magnets



The critical surface of niobium titanium

- Niobium titanium **NbTi** is the standard ‘work horse’ of the superconducting magnet business
- it is a ductile alloy
- picture shows the **critical surface**, which is the boundary between superconductivity and normal resistivity in 3 dimensional space
- superconductivity prevails everywhere below the surface, resistance everywhere above it
- we define an upper critical field B_{c2} (at zero temperature and current) and critical temperature θ_c (at zero field and current) which are characteristic of the alloy composition
- critical current density $J_c(B, \theta)$ depends on processing

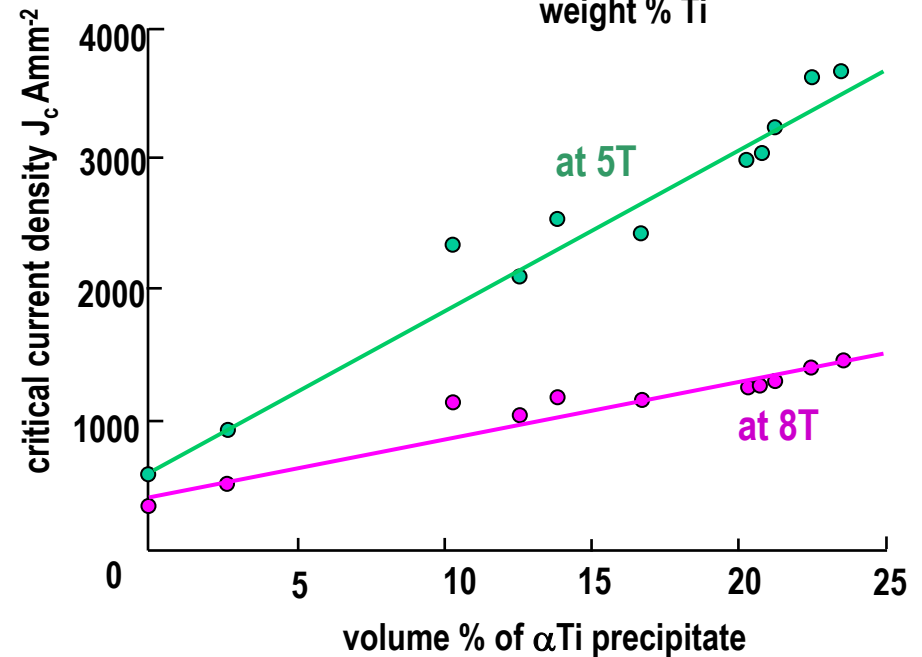
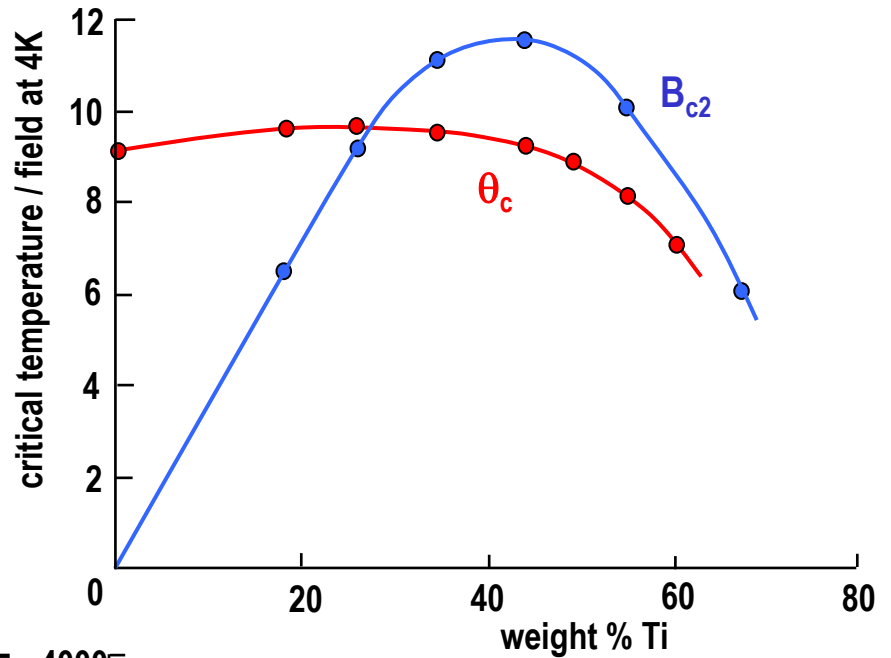
The critical line at 4.2K



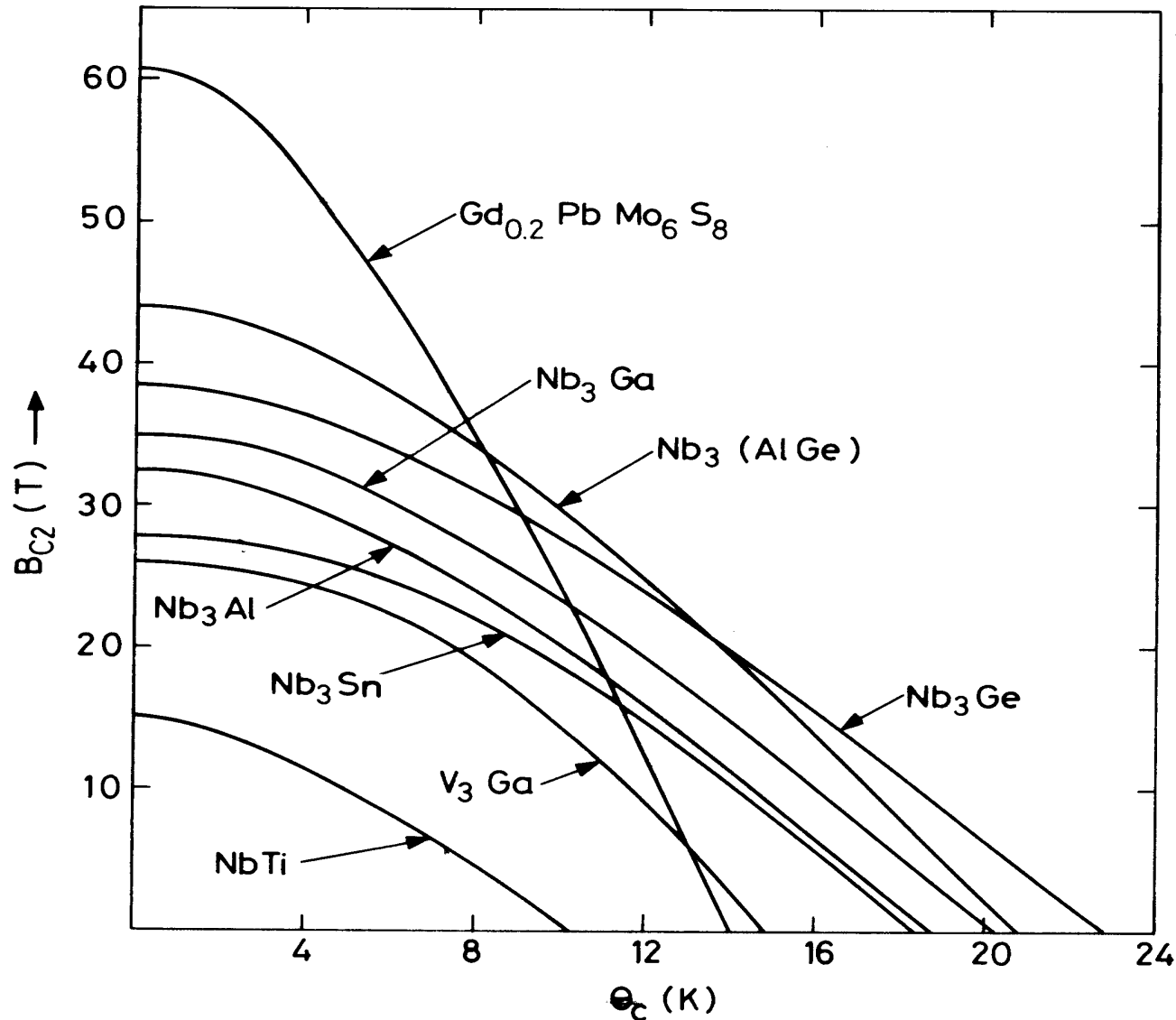
- because magnets usually work in boiling liquid helium, the critical surface is often represented by a curve of current versus field at 4.2K
- niobium tin Nb₃Sn has a much higher performance in terms of critical current field and temperature than NbTi
- but it is brittle intermetallic compound with poor mechanical properties
- note that both the field and current density of both superconductors are way above the capability of conventional electromagnets

Critical properties

- **Critical temperature θ_c** : choose the right material to have a large energy gap or 'depairing energy'
property of the material
- **Upper Critical field B_{c2}** : choose a Type 2 superconductor with a high critical temperature and a high normal state resistivity
property of the material
- **Critical current density J_c** : mess up the microstructure by cold working and precipitation heat treatments
hard work by the producer



Critical field & temperature of metallic superconductors

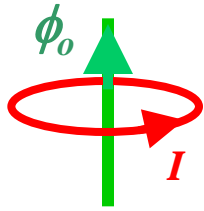


Note: of all the metallic superconductors, only NbTi is ductile.

All the rest are brittle intermetallic compounds

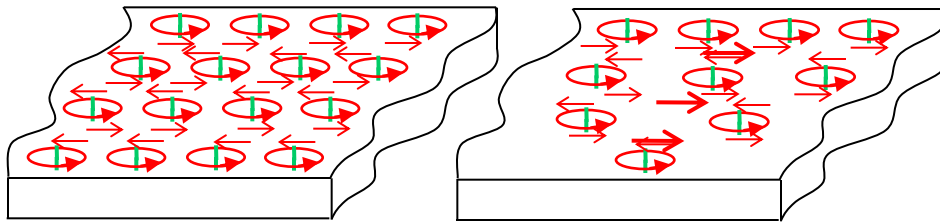
Critical current density in type 2 superconductors

- fluxoids consist of resistive cores with supercurrents circulating round them.
spacing between the fluxoids is:-



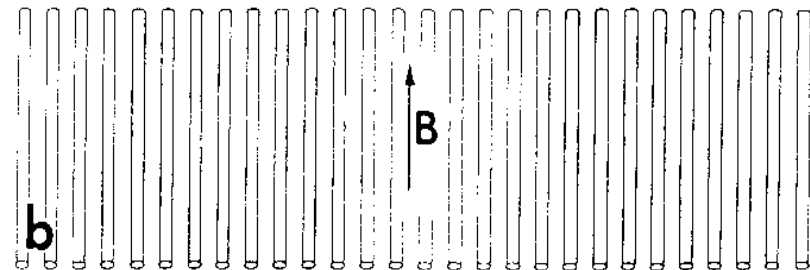
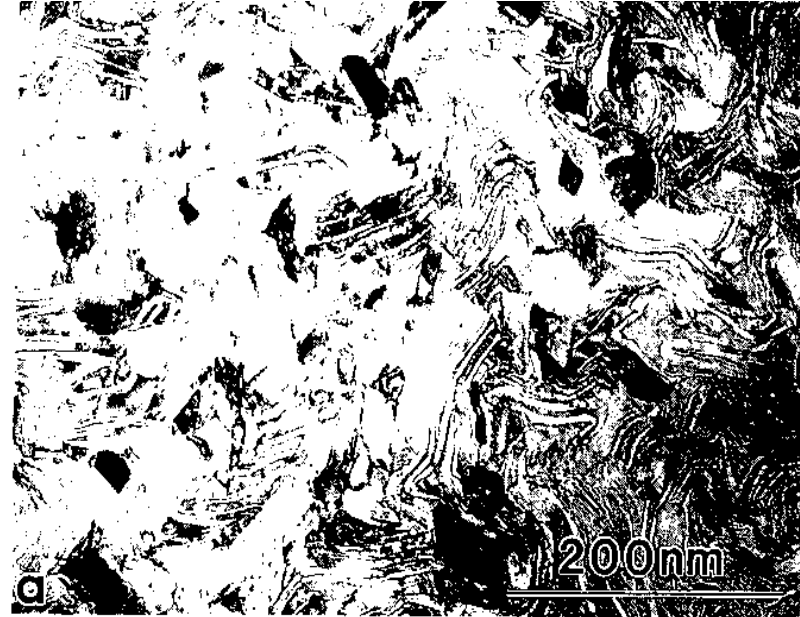
$$d = \left\{ \frac{2 \phi_0}{\sqrt{3} B} \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} = 22nm \quad \text{at } 5T$$

- each fluxoid carries one unit of flux,
so density of fluxoids = average field
uniform density \Rightarrow uniform field
 \Rightarrow zero J (because $Curl B = \mu_0 J$)
- to get a current density we must produce a **gradient**
in the density of fluxoids



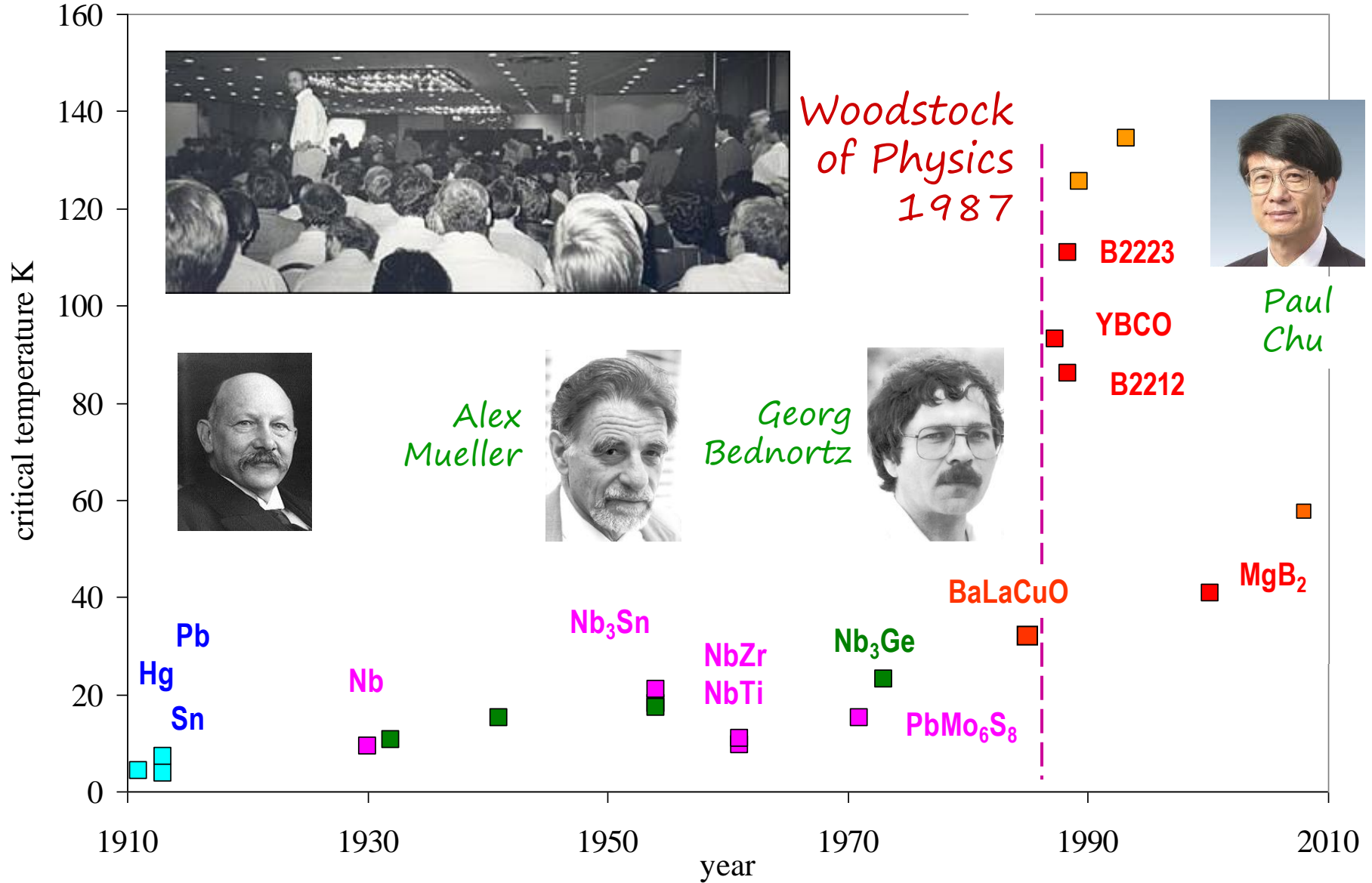
- fluxoids like to distribute uniformly
- so we must impose a gradient by inhomogeneities in the material, eg dislocations or precipitates

precipitates of α Ti in Nb Ti

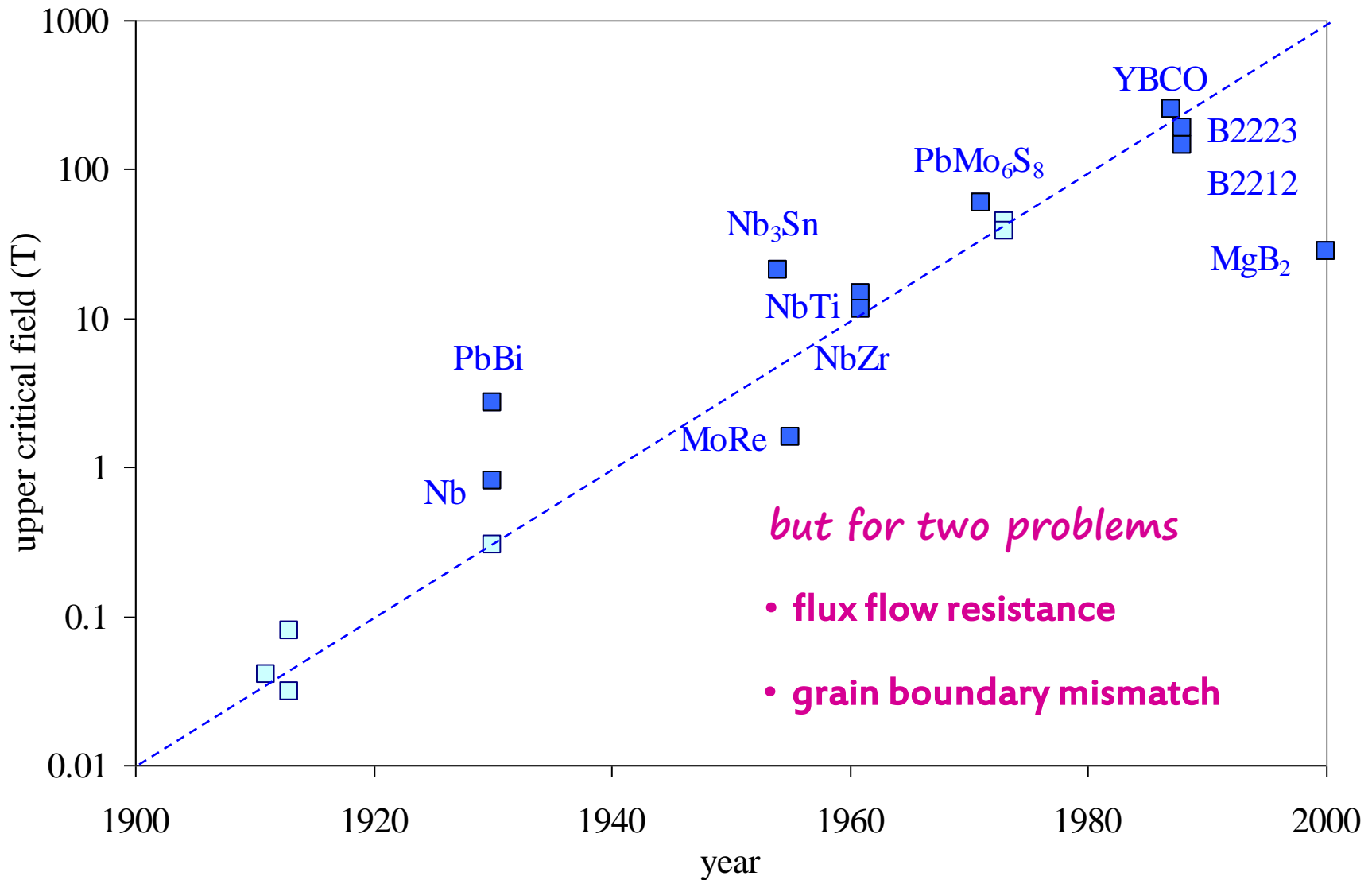


fluxoid lattice at 5T on the same scale

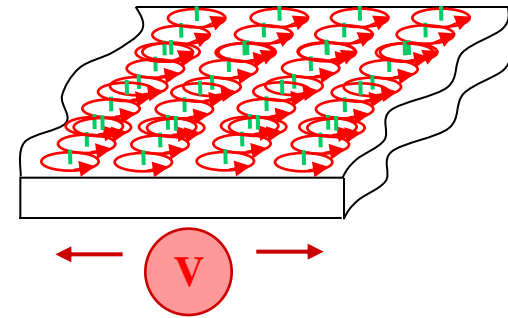
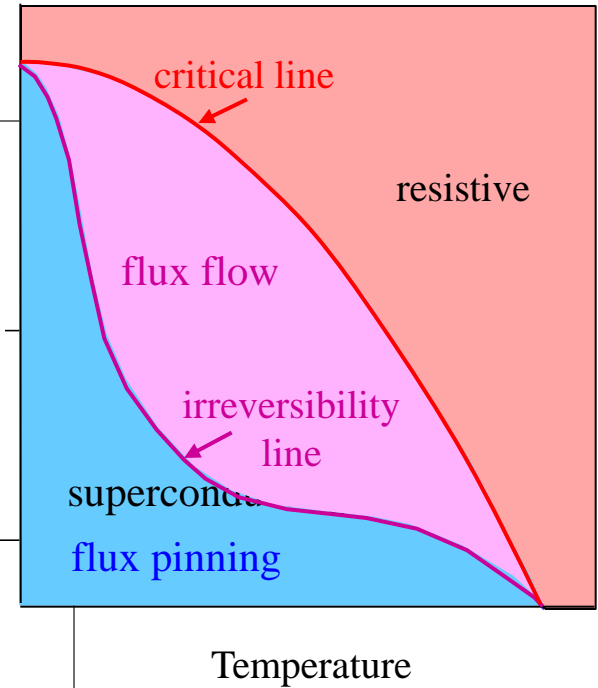
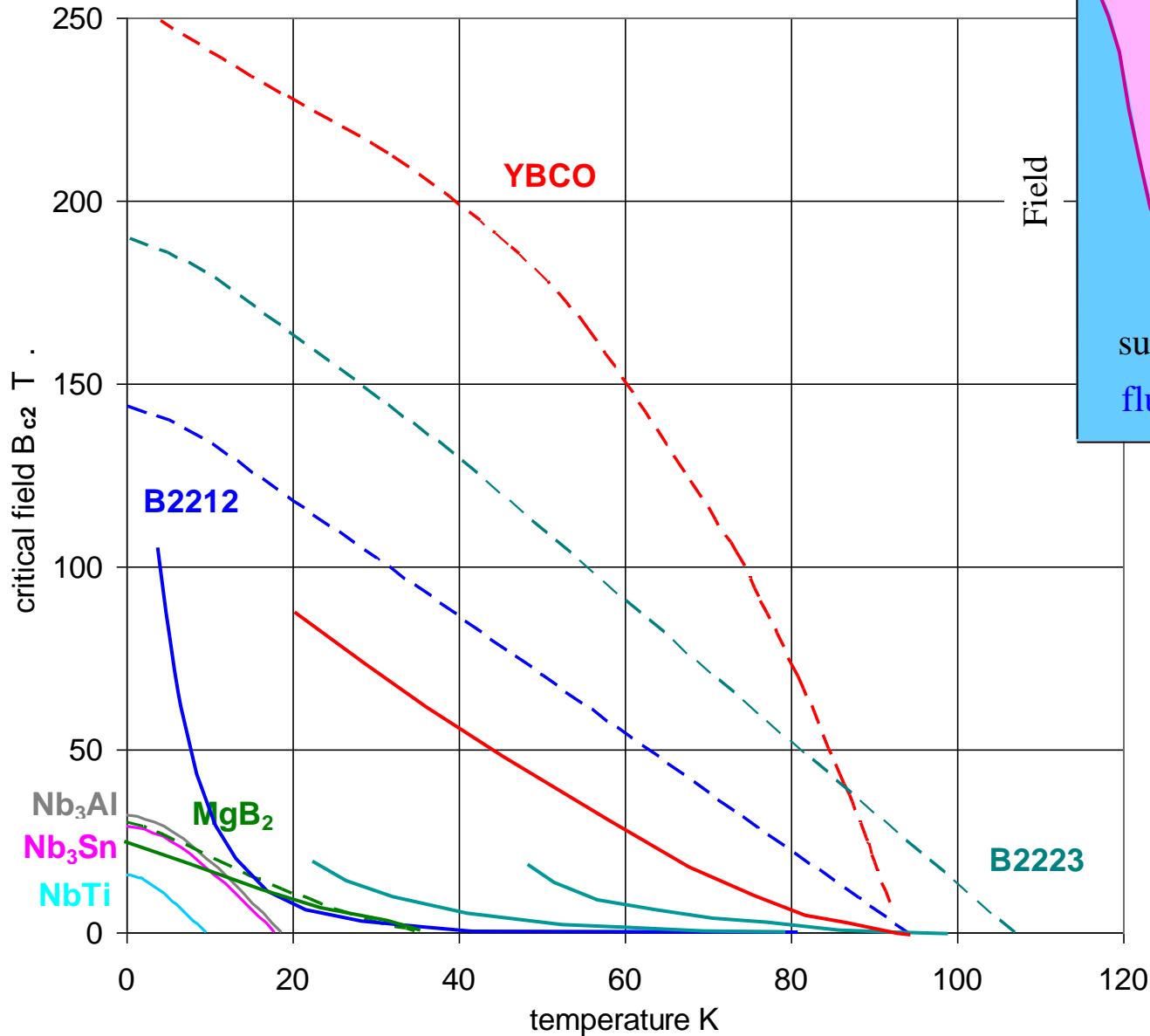
High temperature superconductors



Wonderful materials for magnets

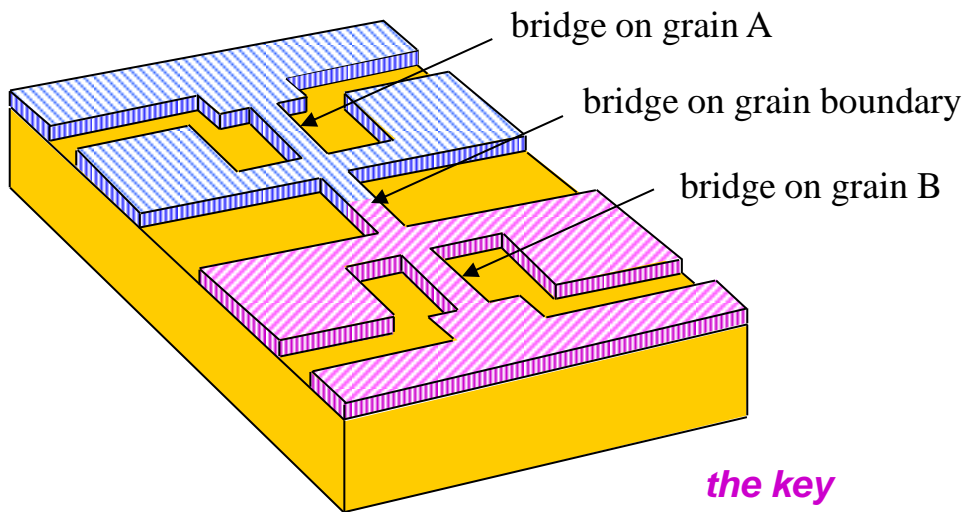
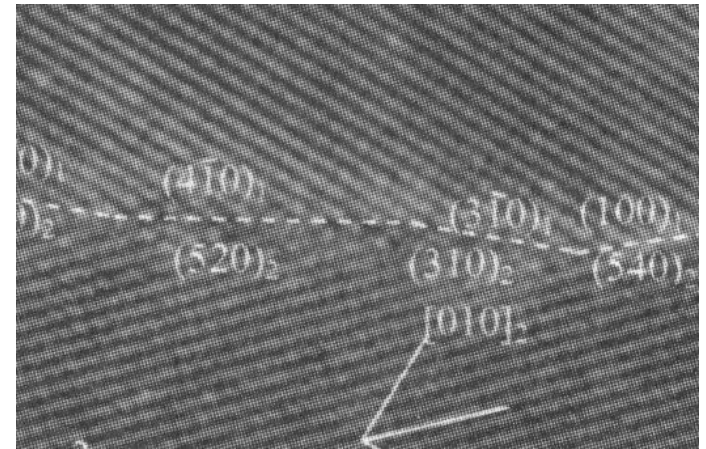


1) Flux flow resistance

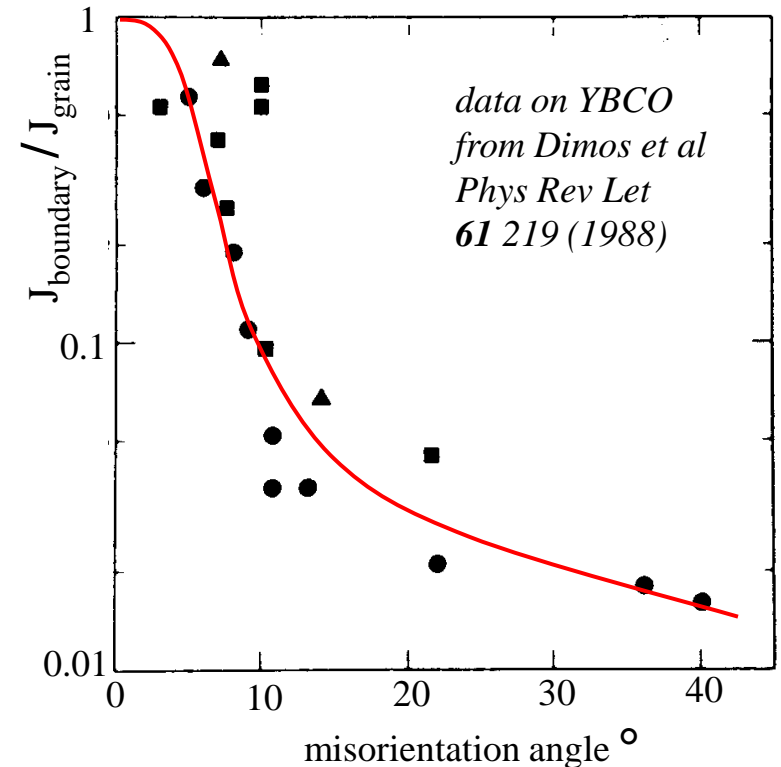


2) Grain boundary mismatch

- crystal planes in grains point in different directions
- critical currents are high within the grains
- J_c across the grain boundary depends on the misorientation angle
- For good J_c must align the grains to within a few degrees



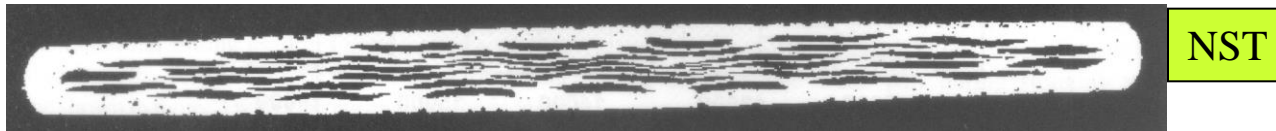
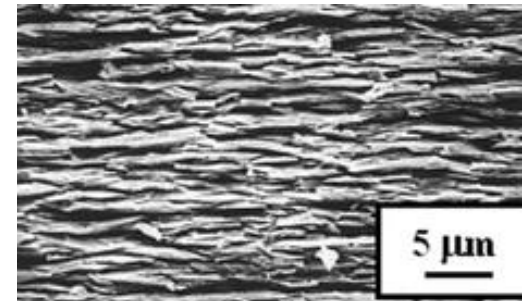
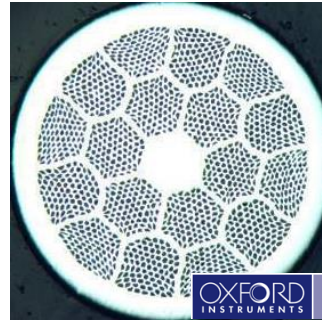
the key measurement of Dimos et al



Practical HTS conductors

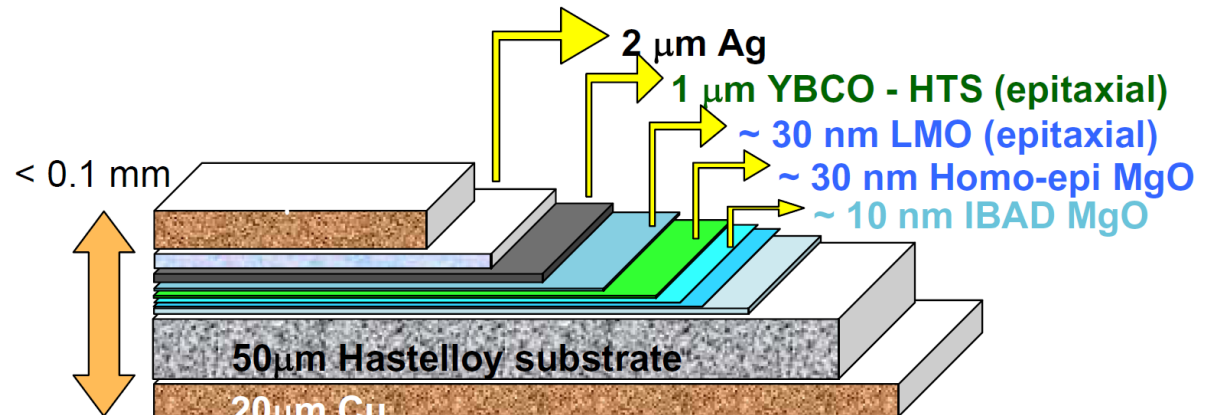
BSCCO wire and tapes

- processed in silver
- grains align during processing
- but low irreversibility field



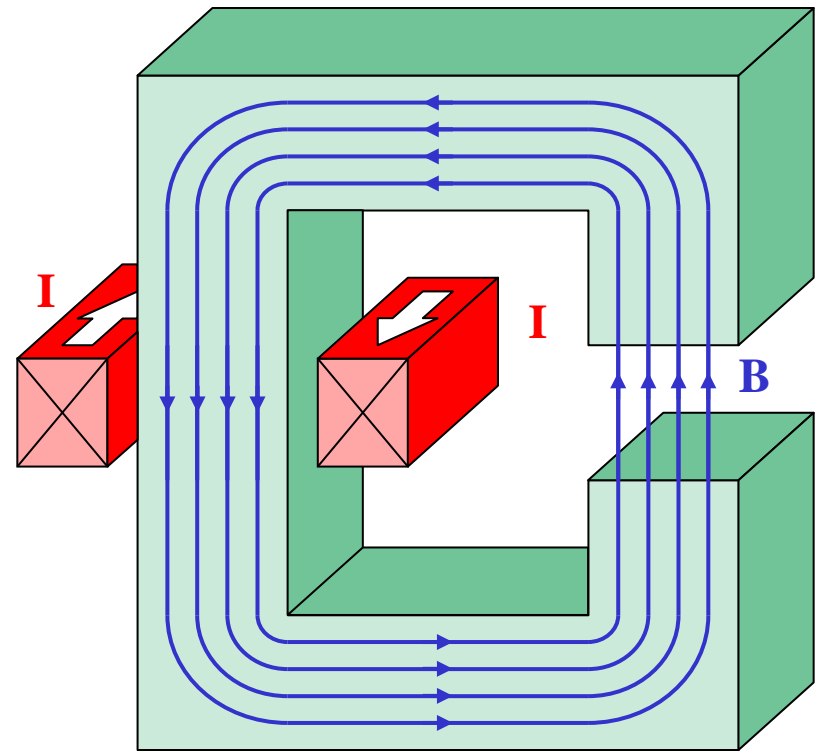
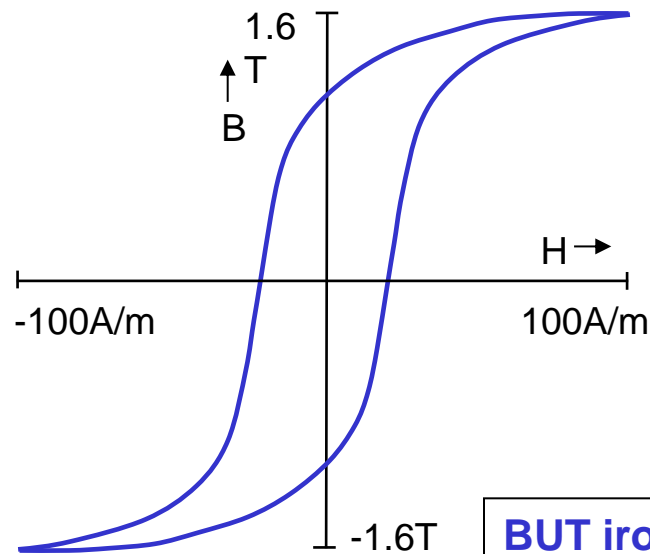
YBCO tapes

- high irreversibility field
- but complex processing needed to align the grain boundaries



Magnetic Fields and ways to create them: (1) Iron

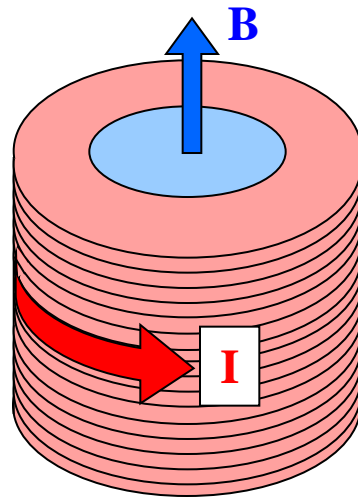
- Conventional electromagnets
- iron yoke reduces magnetic reluctance
 - ⇒ reduces ampere turns required
 - ⇒ reduces power consumption
- iron guides and shapes the field



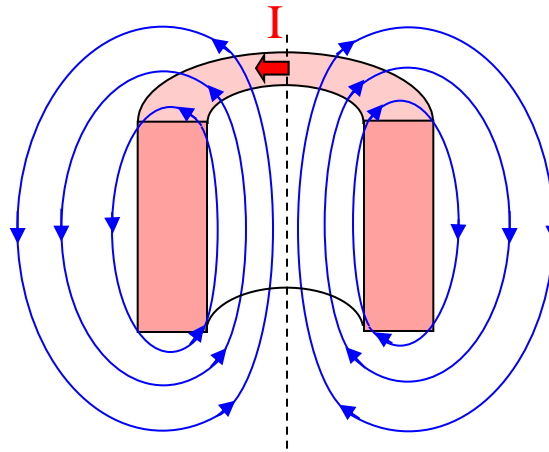
*Iron electromagnet
– for accelerator, HEP experiment
transformer, motor, generator, etc*

Magnetic Fields and ways to create them: (2) solenoids

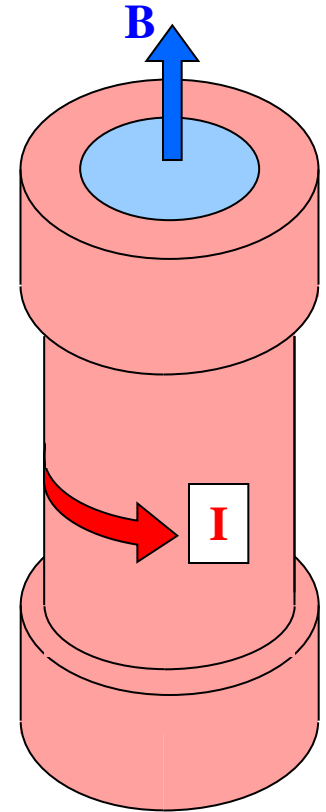
- no iron – field shape is set solely by the winding
- cylindrical winding
- azimuthal current flow
- eg wire wound on bobbin
- axial field



- field lines curve outwards at the ends
- this curvature produces non uniformity of field
- very long solenoids have less curvature and more uniform field



- can also reduce field curvature by making the winding thicker at the ends
- this makes the field more uniform



- more complicated winding shapes can be used to make very uniform fields

Superconducting solenoids



small
superconducting
solenoids for
research
applications



a large solenoid in routine
commercial operation for the
magnetic separation of Kaolin
(china clay)



(was the) World's largest: Delphi superconducting solenoid

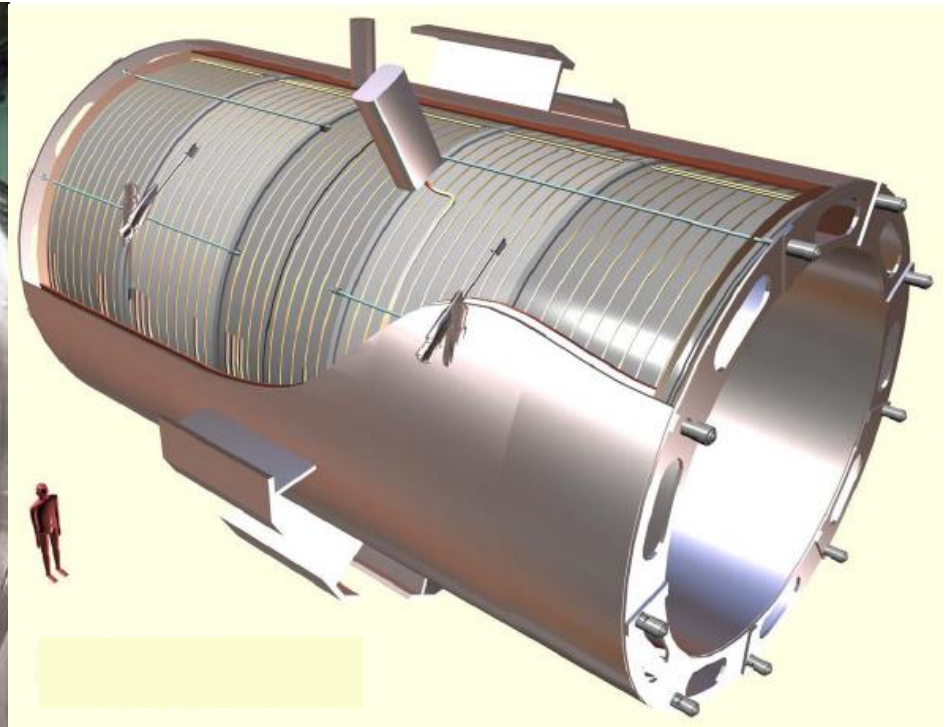


Solenoids are not much used in accelerators. They are however frequently used in detectors, where the magnet field provides momentum analysis of the reaction products.

Delphi

1.2T
5.5m dia
6.8m long
110MJ

World's largest: CMS superconducting solenoid



CMS solenoid

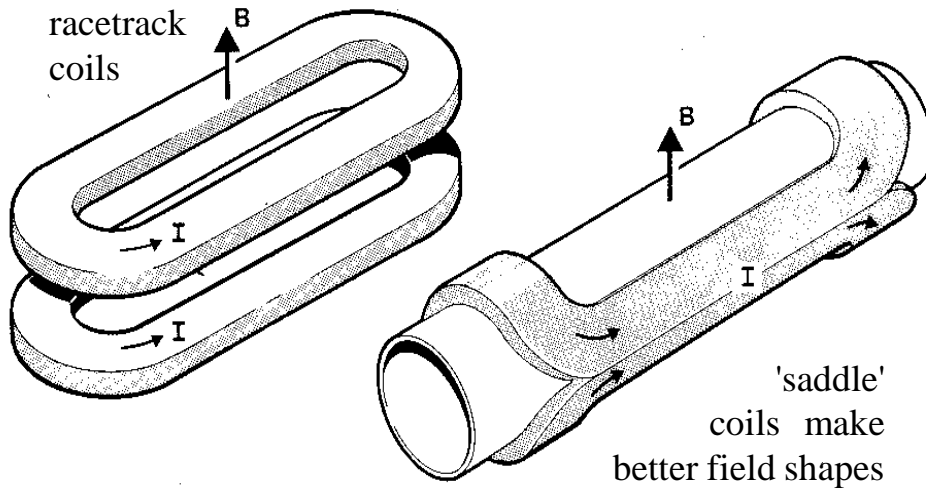
4T at 20,000A

6 m diameter 12.5m long

stored energy 27000MJ

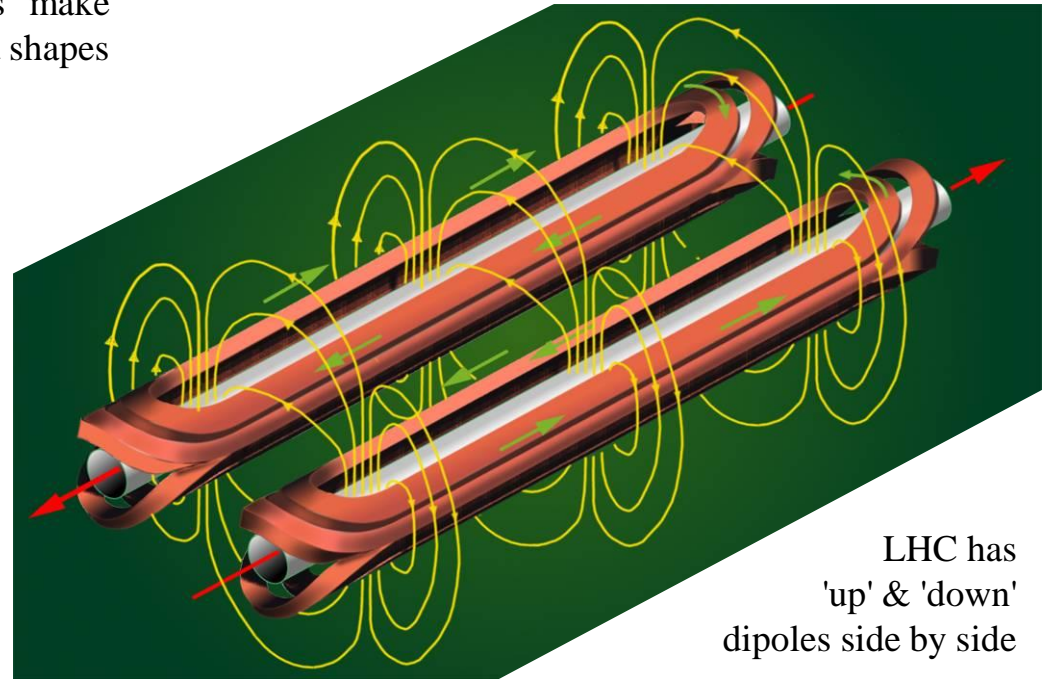
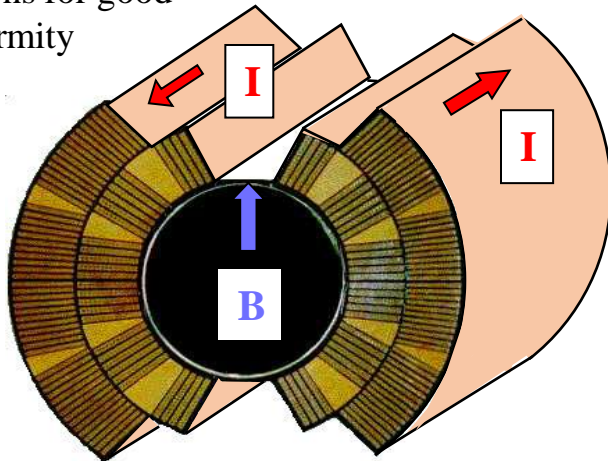
Magnetic Fields and ways to create them: (3)

transverse uniform fields



- some iron - but field shape is set mainly by the winding
- used when the long dimension is transverse to the field, eg accelerator magnets
- known as *dipole* magnets (because the iron version has 2 poles)

special winding cross sections for good uniformity



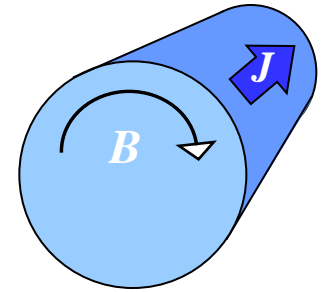
LHC has 'up' & 'down' dipoles side by side

Dipole field from overlapping cylinders

Ampere's law for the field inside a cylinder carrying uniform current density

$$\oint B \cdot ds = 2\pi r B = \mu_0 I = \mu_0 \pi r^2 J$$

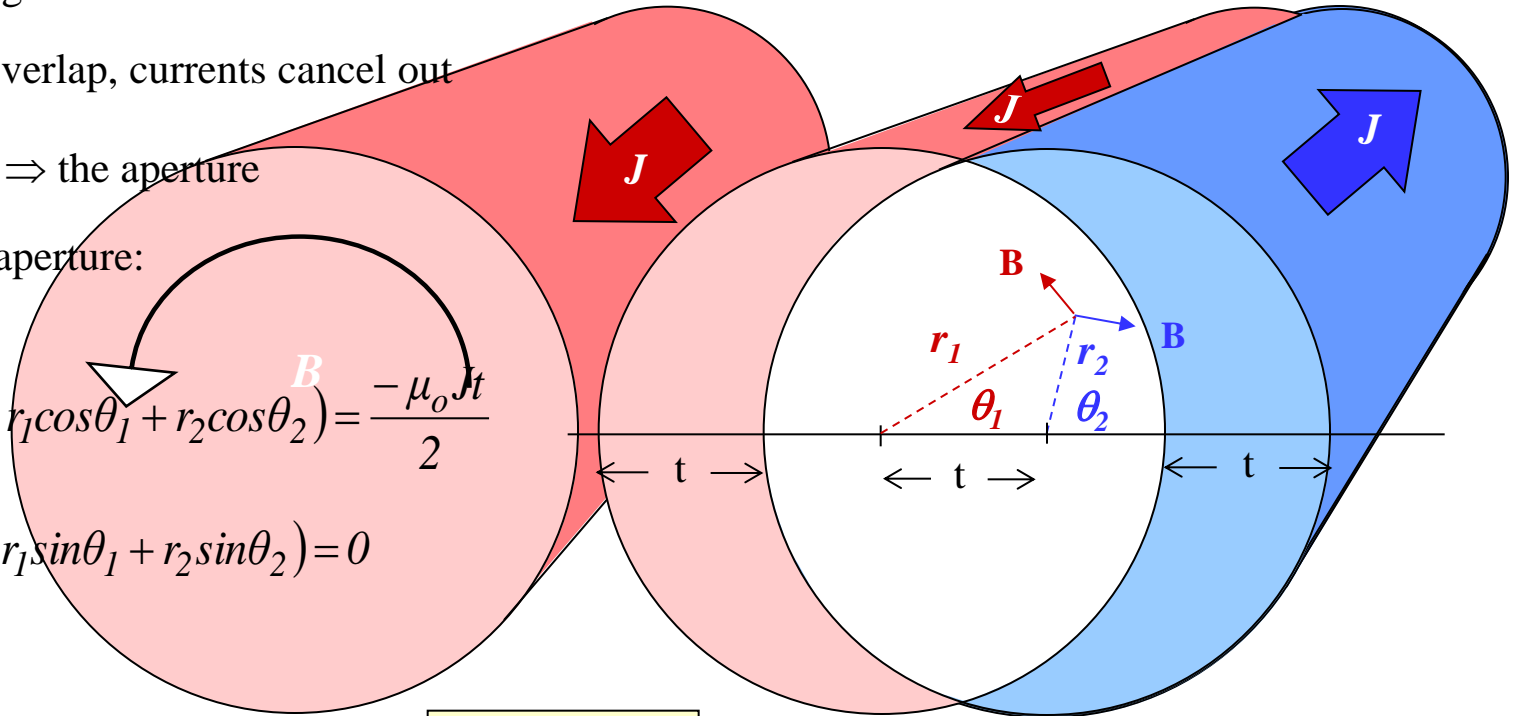
$$B = \frac{\mu_0 J r}{2}$$



- two cylinders with opposite currents
- push them together
- where they overlap, currents cancel out
- zero current \Rightarrow the aperture
- fields in the aperture:

$$B_y = \frac{\mu_0 J}{2} (-r_1 \cos \theta_1 + r_2 \cos \theta_2) = \frac{-\mu_0 J t}{2}$$

$$B_x = \frac{\mu_0 J}{2} (-r_1 \sin \theta_1 + r_2 \sin \theta_2) = 0$$



- thus the two overlapping cylinders give a perfect dipole field

$$B_y = \frac{-\mu_0 J_e t}{2}$$

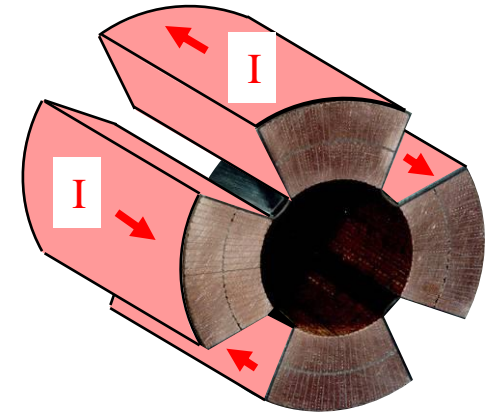
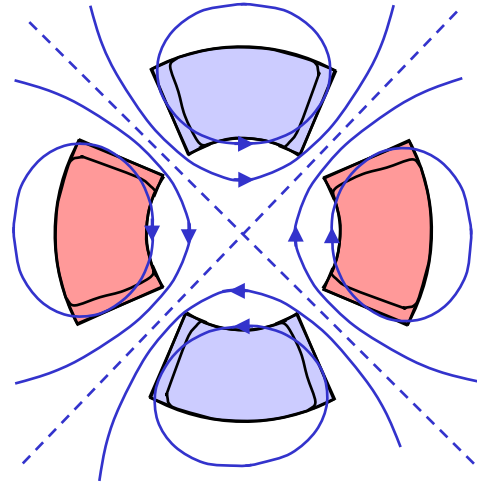
Dipole Magnets

- made from superconducting cable
- winding must have the right cross section
- also need to shape the end turns



Fields and ways to create them: (4) transverse gradient fields

- gradient fields produce focussing
- quadrupole windings



$$B_x = ky$$

$$B_y = kx$$



Engineering current density

In designing a magnet, what really matters is the overall 'engineering' current density J_{eng}

$$J_{eng} = \frac{\text{current}}{\text{unit cell area}} = J_{supercon} \times \lambda_{metal} \times \lambda_{winding}$$

fill factor in the wire $\lambda_{metal} = \frac{1}{(1 + mat)}$

where mat = matrix : superconductor ratio

typically:

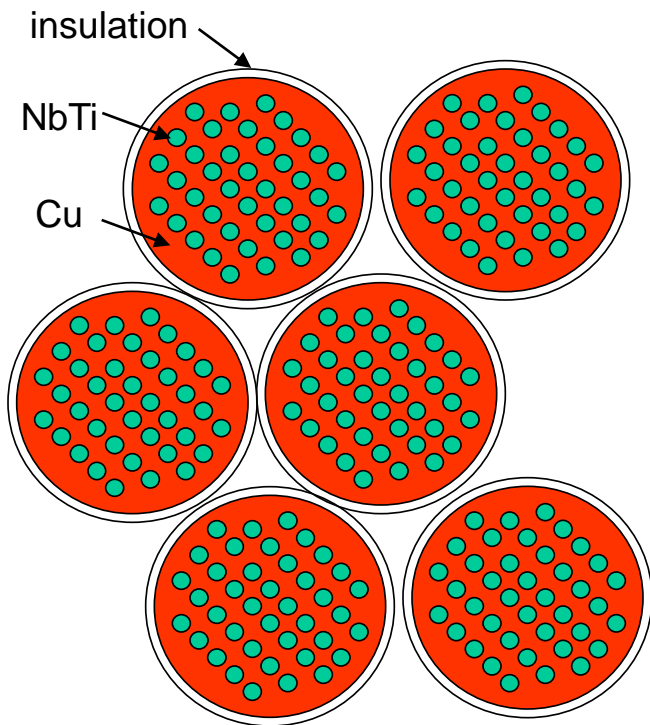
for NbTi $mat = 1.5$ to 3.0 ie $\lambda_{metal} = 0.4$ to 0.25

for Nb₃Sn $mat \sim 3.0$ ie $\lambda_{metal} \sim 0.25$

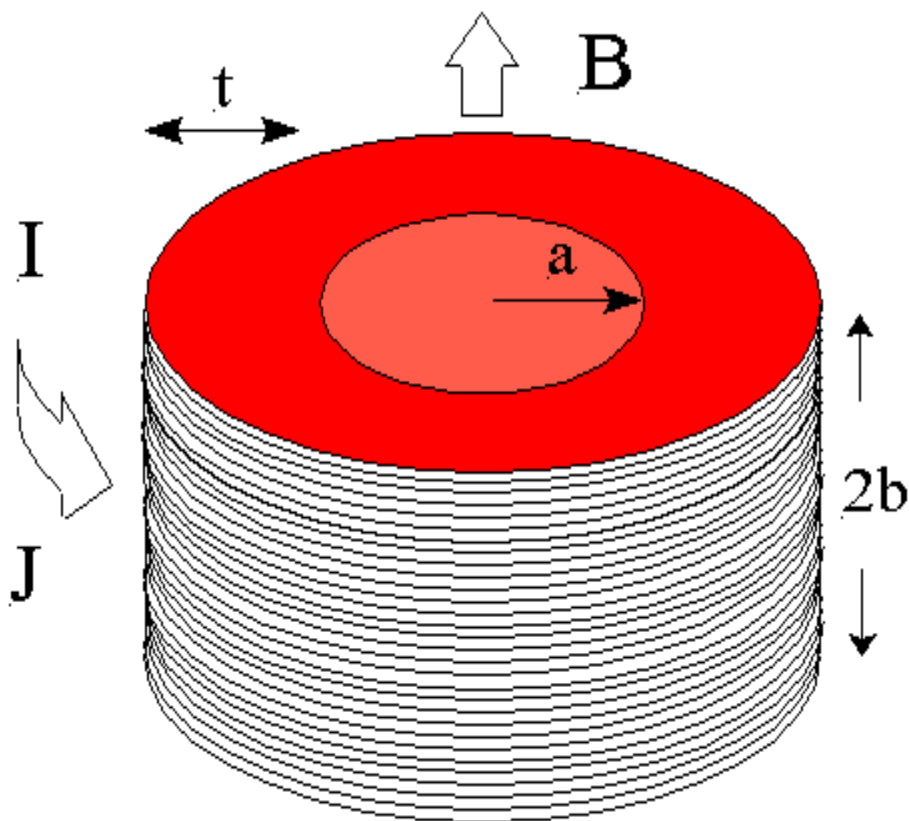
for B2212 $mat = 3.0$ to 4.0 ie $\lambda_{metal} = 0.25$ to 0.2

$\lambda_{winding}$ takes account of space occupied by insulation, cooling channels, mechanical reinforcement etc and is typically 0.7 to 0.8

So typically J_{eng} is only 15% to 30% of $J_{supercon}$



Importance of (engineering) current density: (1) solenoids



- the field produced by an infinitely long solenoid is

$$B = \mu_0 J_e t$$

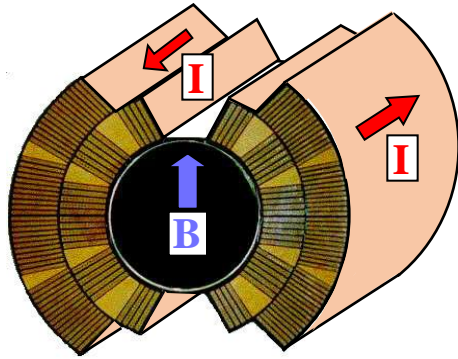
- in solenoids of finite length the central field is

$$B = \mu_0 f J_e t$$

where f is a factor less than 1, typically ~ 0.8

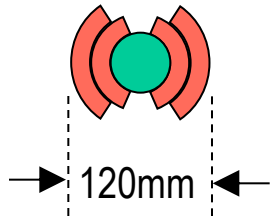
- so the thickness (volume, cost) of a solenoid to produce a given field is inversely proportional to the engineering current density J_e

Importance of (engineering) current density: (2) dipoles



LHC dipole

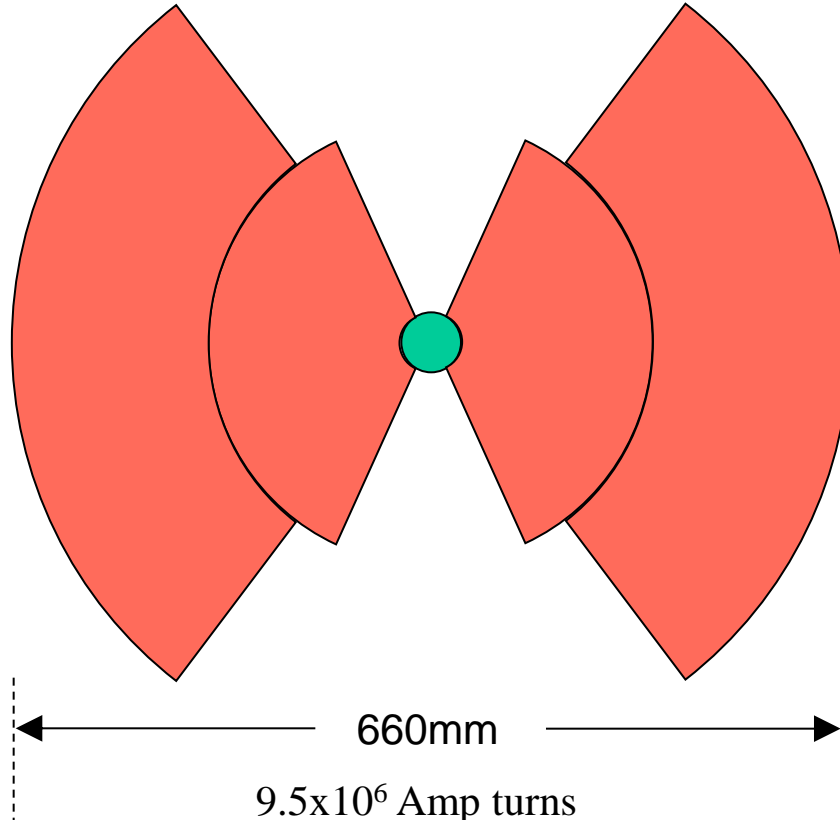
$$J_e = 375 \text{ Amm}^{-2}$$



$$9.5 \times 10^5 \text{ Amp turns}$$

$$= 1.9 \times 10^6 \text{ A.m per m}$$

$$J_e = 37.5 \text{ Amm}^{-2}$$



$$9.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Amp turns}$$

$$= 1.9 \times 10^7 \text{ A.m per m}$$

field produced
by a perfect
dipole is

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

Lecture 1: concluding remarks

- superconductors allow us to build magnets which burn no power (except refrigeration)
- ampere turns are cheap, so don't need iron
 - ⇒ fields higher than iron saturation (but still use iron for shielding)
- performance of all superconductors described by the critical surface in **$B J \theta$** space,
- three kinds of superconductor
 - **type 1**: unsuitable for high field
 - **type 2**: good for high field - but must work hard to get current density
 - **HTS**: good for high field & temperature - but current density still a problem in field
- superconducting rf cavities use type 1 superconductors or type 2 below B_{c1}
- superconducting magnets use Type 2 or HTS conductors
- all superconducting accelerators to date use **NbTi** (45 years after its discovery)
- field shape of superconducting magnets is set by the winding shape (unlike iron yoke magnets)
- different field shapes need different windings
 - simplest is the solenoid,
 - transverse field for accelerators
- engineering current density is a crucial factor in magnet design and economy

Some useful references

Superconducting Magnets

- Superconducting Accelerator Magnets: KH Mess, P Schmuser, S Wolf., pub World Scientific, (1996) ISBN 981-02-2790-6
- High Field Superconducting Magnets: FM Asner, pub Oxford University Press (1999) ISBN 0 19 851764 5
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Cryogenics

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- Cryogenics: published monthly by Butterworths
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- Superconductivity: A Very Short Introduction by Stephen J. Blundell: Oxford University Press (2009) ISBN 978-0-19-954090-7

on the Web

- **Lectures on Superconductivity** <http://www.msm.cam.ac.uk/ascg/lectures>.
A series of lectures produced for SCENET by Cambridge University: fundamentals, materials, electronics, applications. Also available as a DVD
- **Superconducting Accelerator Magnets** <http://www.mjb-plus.com>.
A course developed from SSC experience, available from website for \$20
- www.superconductors.org website run by an enthusiast; gives some basic info and links
- **Superconductivity Course** at the (UK) Open University.
<http://openlearn.open.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=2397> Good coverage of basics.
- **Wikipedia** on Superconductivity <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Superconductivity>
Good on basics with lots of references and links.
- **European Society for Applied Superconductivity** <http://www.esas.org/>
News, events and people in the area of applied superconductivity
- **CONNECTUS** Consortium of European Companies determined to use Superconductivity
<http://www.conectus.org/>
- **IEEE Council on Superconductivity** <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/tc/csc/>
News, events and people in the area of applied superconductivity (US based)

Materials data on the Web

- Cryogenic properties (1-300 K) of many solids, including thermal conductivity, specific heat, and thermal expansion, have been empirically fitted and the equation parameters are available free on the web at www.cryogenics.nist.gov.
- Plots and automated data-look-up using the NIST equations are available on the web for a fee from www.cpia.jhu.edu.
- Other fee web sites that use their own fitting equations for a number of cryogenic material properties include: www.cryodata.com (cryogenic properties of about 100 materials), and www.jahm.com (temperature dependent properties of about 1000 materials, many at cryogenic temperatures).
- Commercially supplied room-temperature data are available free online for about 10 to 20 properties of about 24,000 materials at www.matweb.com.

Cryodata Software Products

[GASPAK](#)

properties of pure fluids from the triple point to high temperatures.

[HEPAK](#)

properties of helium including superfluid above 0.8 K, up to 1500 K.

[STEAMPAK](#)

properties of water from the triple point to 2000 K and 200 MPa.

[METALPAK](#), [CPPACK](#), [EXPAK](#)

reference properties of metals and other solids, 1 - 300 K.

[CRYOCOMP](#)

properties and thermal design calculations for solid materials, 1 - 300 K.

[SUPERMAGNET](#)

four unique engineering design codes for superconducting magnet systems.

[KRYOM](#)

numerical modelling calculations on radiation-shielded cryogenic enclosures.

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