

# Challenges and Opportunities to Assure Future Manufacturing of Magnet Conductors

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science



**APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY CENTER**  
NATIONAL HIGH MAGNETIC FIELD LABORATORY  
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY



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- The DOE-HEP General Accelerator R&D program, which supports:
  - The U.S. Magnet Development Program (MDP)
  - The Conductor Development Program (CDP, prior to 2015)
  - The Conductor Procurement and R&D Program (CPRD, after 2015)
  - University grants
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## Grateful acknowledgment of people

- The LARP + CDP conductor teams: A Ghosh, J D'Ambra, E Sperry, A Moodenbaugh (BNL); D Dieterich (LBNL)
- The AUP conductor and cable teams: V Lombardo, D Turrioni (FNAL); I Pong, H Higley, C Sanabria, A Lin, E Lee, M Naus (LBNL)
- The CERN conductor team: B Bordini, C Barth, A Ballarino, S Hopkins
- The AUP and CERN project management: G Apollinari, R Carcagno, G Ambrosio, J Blowers (AUP); E Todesco, A Devred (CERN)
- The Bruker-OST (BOST) manufacturing team: M Field, J Parrell, J Harnanto, J Reineck, M Skibo
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- Sponsoring agency input: K Marken, E Colby, B Carlsten, M White, B Strauss, LK Len, D Sutter
- *AND a long list of community stakeholders!*

# The story on one slide

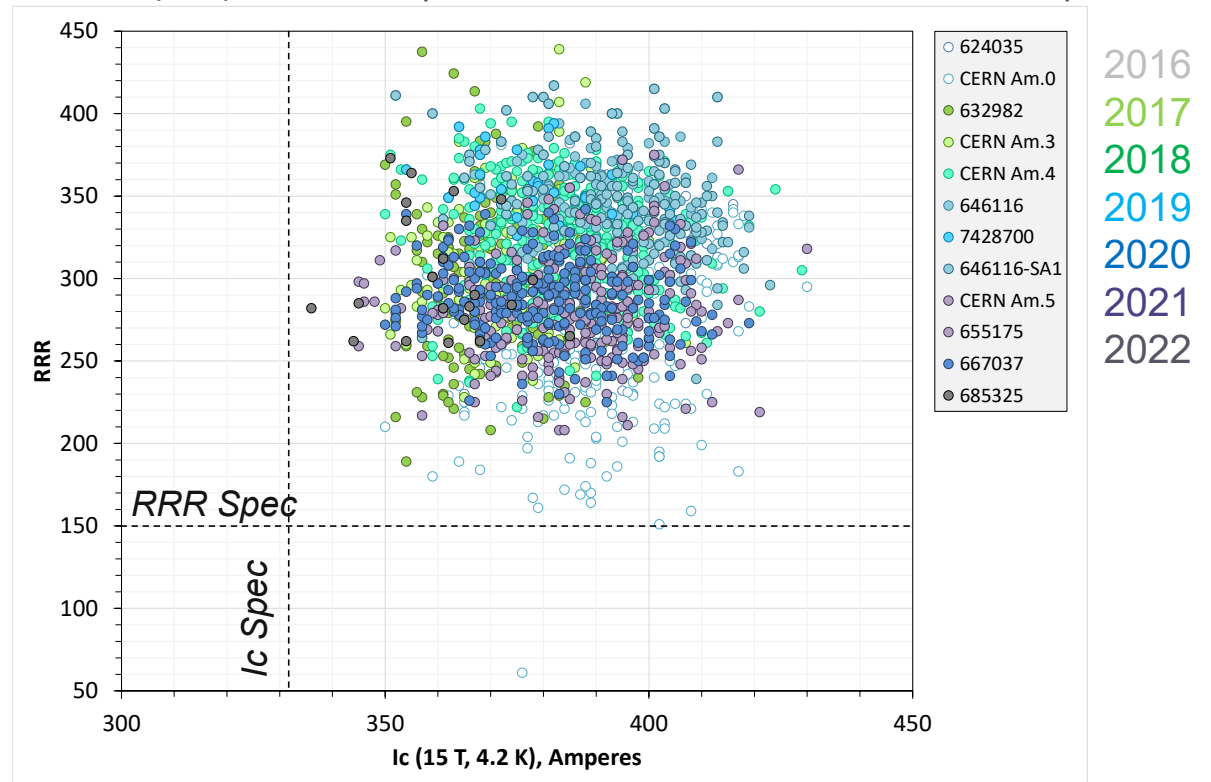
## Procurement of accelerator-quality $Nb_3Sn$ conductor for Hi-Lumi was a success!

MQXF incl. pre-production:  
CERN: 2,477 km, 12.2 tons  
AUP: 2,715 km, 13.3 tons

## How do we keep this manufacturing “warm” for a decade or more, until the next major facility starts a procurement run?

FCC-hh: 10,000 tons of accelerator grade  $Nb_3Sn$  by 2050?

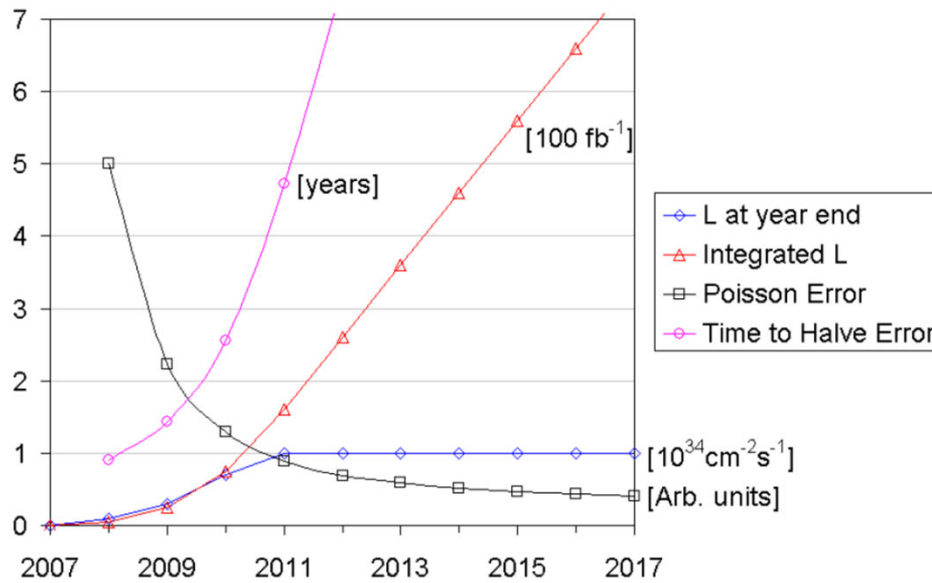
RRR vs  $I_c(15T)$  for the full production data from 1,760 conductor spools



## Table of Contents

- **Growing a conductor from an idea to pre-production under CDP and LARP**
- **Procurement readiness – *The procurement must not fail!***
- **The Hi-Lumi procurement: results and statistics, use of statistical process controls, problems encountered, lessons learned**
- **Meeting the potential future needs of the accelerator sector: Our ARDAP-funded workshop and report**
- **Discussion and Summary**

# A crisis for discovery science realized in 2003



**Fig. 3.1-1** Results of a simple model used to estimate the time from LHC start it takes to halve the statistical error in a measurement. Note that after a year of operating at full luminosity, it will take more than seven years to halve the error.

## The U.S. LHC Accelerator Research Program: A Proposal

R. Kephart, M.J. Lamm, P. Limon, J. Marriner, T. Sen, J. Strait, A.V. Zlobin  
 Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory  
 Batavia, IL 60510

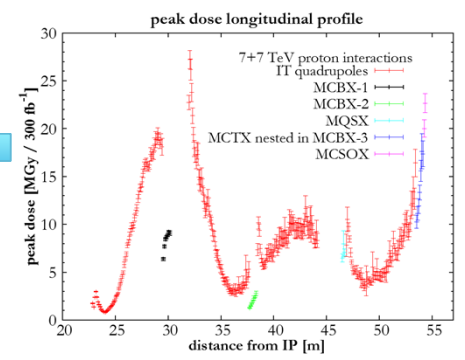
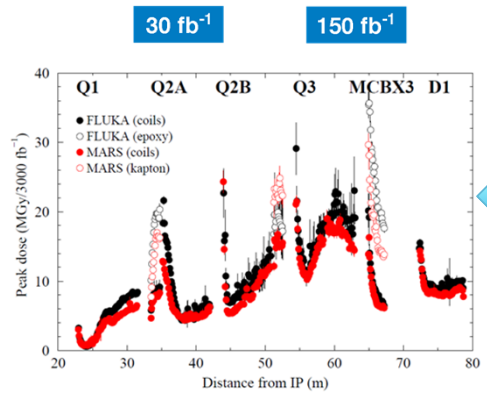
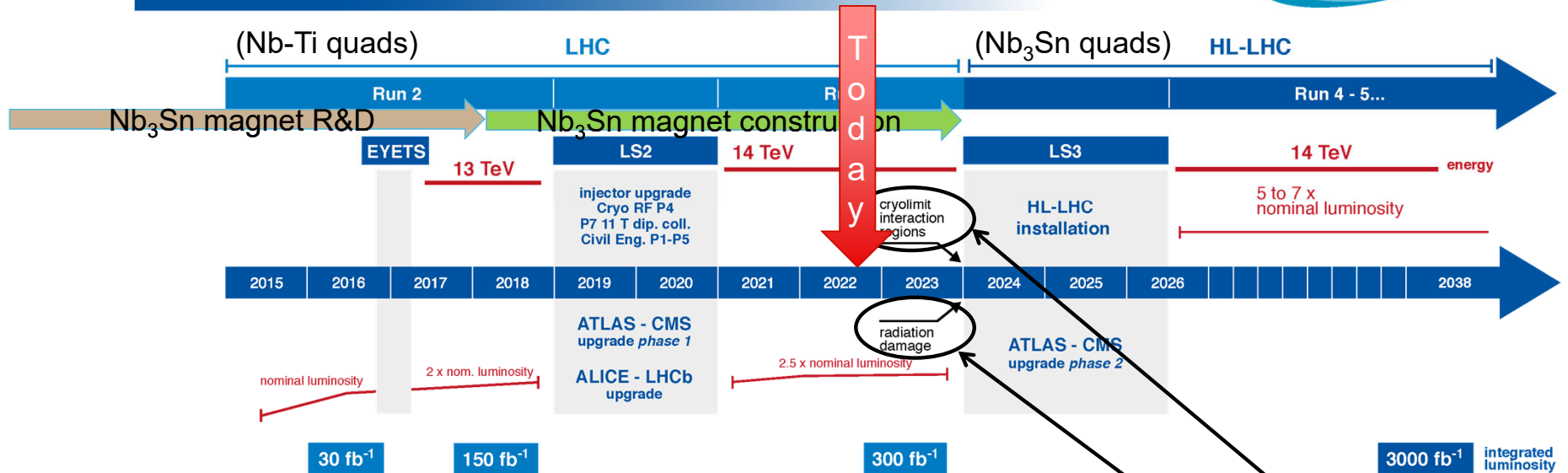
P. Cameron, A. Drees, W. Fischer, R. Gupta, M. Harrison, F. Pilat, S. Peggs  
 Brookhaven National Laboratory  
 Upton, NY 11973

W. Barletta, J. Byrd, P. Denes, M. Furman, S. Gourlay, A. Ratti, W. Turner  
 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
 Berkeley, CA 94720

May 2003

L Rossi & O. Brüning @ DOE HL-LHC Accelerator Upgrade Project CD-1 review – Fermilab 8 August 2017

# LHC / HL-LHC Plan

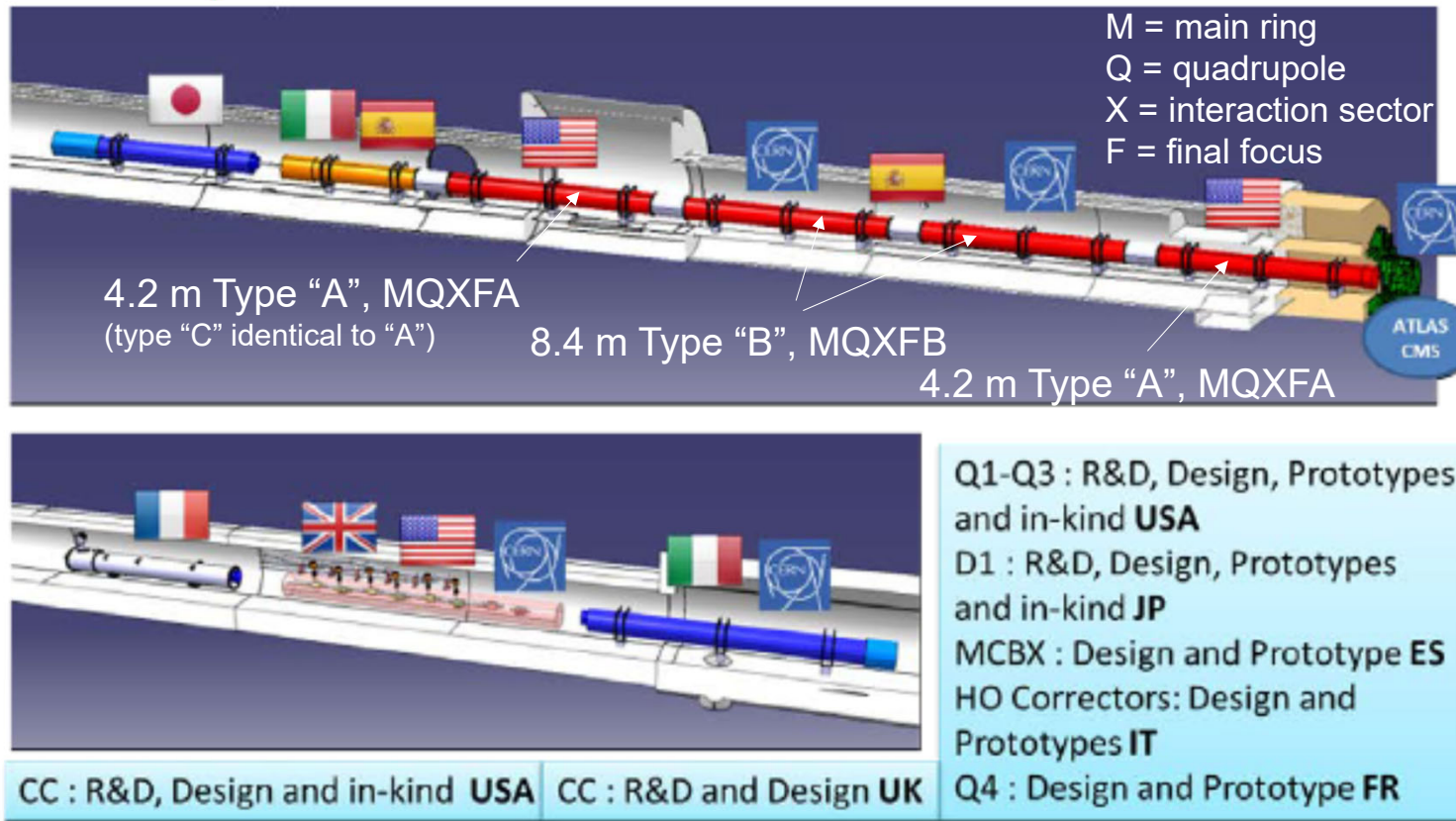


**Technical limits to lumi increase (Machine & Experiments)**



# HL-LHC Accelerator Upgrade Project — Scope

## The US is responsible for the outer quadrupole magnets + crab cavities



- 2 interaction regions IR (ATLAS and CMS)
- Q1 and Q3 (identical) cryomodules CM on each side of the IR
- 1 spare each IR
- 2 IR x 2 sides x 2 CM = 8 CM, plus 2 spares = **10 cryomodules**
- 2 magnets per cryomodule x 10 CM = **20 magnets**
- 20 magnets x 4 coils = **80 coils**

B. Alonzo et al., HL-LHC Technical Design Report



# Developing conductor for HEP: The Conductor Development Program (CDP)

- Port Jefferson workshop 1998:  
Push Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn to 3,000 A/mm<sup>2</sup> at  
12 T, 4.2 K
- MJR stuck at ~2200 A/mm<sup>2</sup>
- CDP forms in 1999

2150

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 11, NO. 1, MARCH 2001

## Conductor Development for High Energy Physics--Plans and Status of the U.S. Program

Ronald M. Scanlan

*Abstract*— In order to provide a cost effective high field magnet option for the next generation HEP accelerator, higher performance Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn superconductor is required. These requirements have been recognized by the DOE, and a conductor development program has been initiated. The goal is to produce a cost-effective conductor with a J<sub>c</sub>(noncopper,12T,4.2K) exceeding 3000 A/mm<sup>2</sup> and an effective filament size of less than 40 micrometers. Although the Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn conductors manufactured at present have produced J<sub>c</sub> values in excess of 2200 A/mm<sup>2</sup>, no conductor being manufactured at present can achieve both the aggressive J<sub>c</sub> and effective filament size goals. The first phase of the present program is underway, and is focused on improving the understanding of the factors that control J<sub>c</sub>. Samples are being manufactured by industry and are being characterized with respect to J<sub>c</sub> and magnetization as a function of composition and heat treatment condition. Using this new knowledge as a base, the program will move into a fabrication scale-up phase where the performance and cost-effectiveness can be demonstrated on production size quantities. The status and accomplishments of this program will be reviewed, and the plans

R&D magnets. However, in order to achieve a cost-effective high field dipole for a future high field hadron collider, the J<sub>c</sub> must be improved and at the same time, the conductor cost must be reduced. The Advanced Technology Development Program in DOE recognizes this, and is taking an active role in promoting cost-effective high field conductor development in industry. In this paper, we discuss the conductor development goals, the long-term program strategy, and the results of the program to date.

### II. CONDUCTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GOALS

The basic outline for this program was developed from discussions at HEP conductor workshops that were held in 1998 and 1999. These goals are derived from the needs presented by the magnet R&D community, the potential performance improvements presented by the wire development groups, and the cost improvements projected by

# Developing conductor for HEP: The Conductor Development Program (CDP)

- Port Jefferson workshop 1998:  
Push  $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$  to  $3,000 \text{ A/mm}^2$  at  
12 T, 4.2 K
- MJR stuck at  $\sim 2200 \text{ A/m}$
- CDP forms in 1999
- Maximize tin activity
- Avoid expensive Nb  
expanded metal
- Get good bonding for  
high yield

2150

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 11, NO. 1, MARCH 2001

## Conductor Development for High Energy Physics--Plans and Status of the U.S. Program

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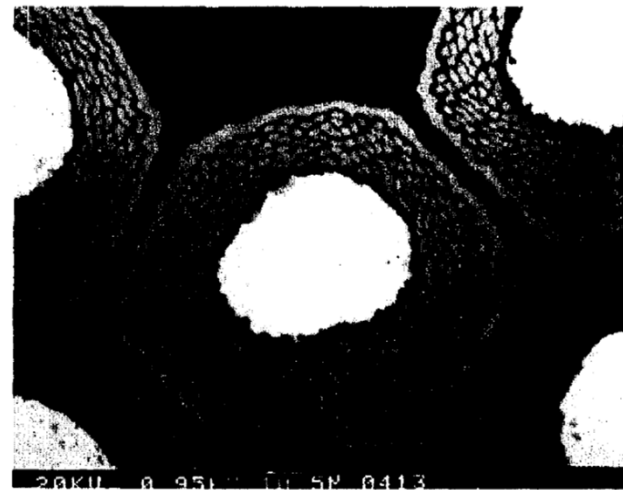


Fig. 1. MJR sub-element showing Sn core, Nb filaments, and Nb diffusion barrier. Sub-element width is 70 microns.

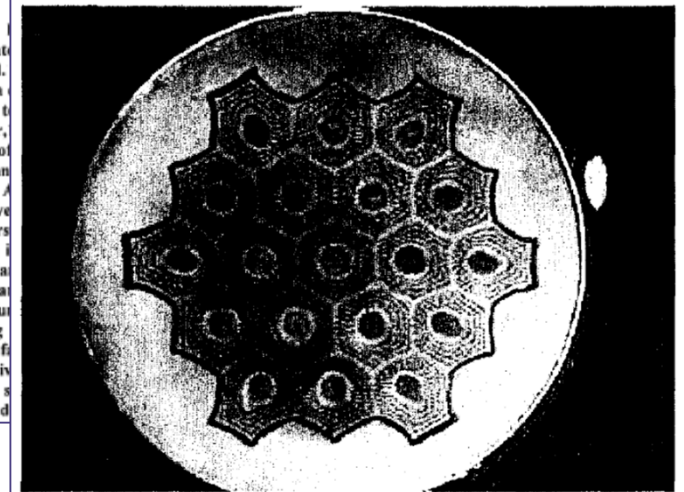


Fig. 2. Hot Extruded Rod Billet with salt packed into the hex-rod centers.

## The RRP concept

- CDP contracts Oxford Superconducting Technology (OST)
- RRP c. 2002 at OST
- $J_c > 3,000 \text{ A/mm}^2$  achieved by mid 2003
  - Non-copper  $J_c$
- Challenge of  $D_{\text{eff}}$  also recognized

### A NEW GENERATION Nb<sub>3</sub>SN WIRE, AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ITS USE IN PARTICLE ACCELERATORS

R.M.Scanlan<sup>1</sup>, D.R. Dieterich<sup>1</sup>, and S.A.Gourlay<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory  
Berkeley, CA, 94720, USA

#### ABSTRACT

The US DOE has initiated a Conductor Development Program aimed at demonstrating a high current density, cost effective Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn conductor for use in accelerator magnets. The first goal, an increase in current density by 50 %, has been achieved in a practical conductor. The program is focused at present on achieving the second goal of reduced losses. The different approaches for achieving these goals will be discussed, and the status will be presented. Magnet technology R&D has been proceeding in parallel with the conductor development efforts, and these two technologies are reaching the level required for the next step--introduction into operating accelerator magnets. An obvious point for introducing this technology is the LHC interaction region magnets, which require large apertures and high fields (or high field gradients). By upgrading the interaction region magnets, machine performance can be enhanced significantly without replacing the arc magnets, which represent most of the cost of an accelerator. Design requirements generated by recent studies and workshops will be reviewed, and a roadmap for the development of the next-generation interaction region magnets will be presented.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC), under construction at CERN, will be the world's most powerful particle accelerator, with a luminosity of about  $2 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ , and a proton beam energy of 7 TeV. As construction of this phase is nearing completion, CERN has initiated a task force to study the feasibility of upgrades to the LHC [1]. Two possible upgrade scenarios for LHC are being evaluated--a luminosity upgrade and an energy upgrade. Both upgrades will require higher performance superconducting magnets, beyond the capability of the NbTi superconductor that was used in the LHC. Several luminosity upgrade options are being considered, with the most likely being a replacement

CP711, *Advances in Cryogenic Engineering: Transactions of the International Cryogenic Materials Conference - ICMC, Vol. 50*, edited by U. Balachandran  
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349

# The RRP concept

- CDP contracts Oxford Superconducting Technology (OST)

## A NEW GENERATION Nb<sub>3</sub>SN WIRE, AND THE PROSPECTS FOR ITS USE IN PARTICLE ACCELERATORS

R.M.Scanlan<sup>1</sup>, D.R. Dieterich<sup>1</sup>, and S.A.Gourlay<sup>1</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

The US DOE has initiated a Conductor Development Program aimed at developing a high current density, cost effective Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn conductor for use in accelerator magnets. The first goal, an increase in current density by 50 %, has been achieved in a new conductor. The program is focused at present on achieving the second goal, a 10% increase in current density. The technology R&D has been proceeding in parallel with the development of the RRP process, and these two technologies are reaching the level of technology required for use in operating accelerator magnets. An obvious

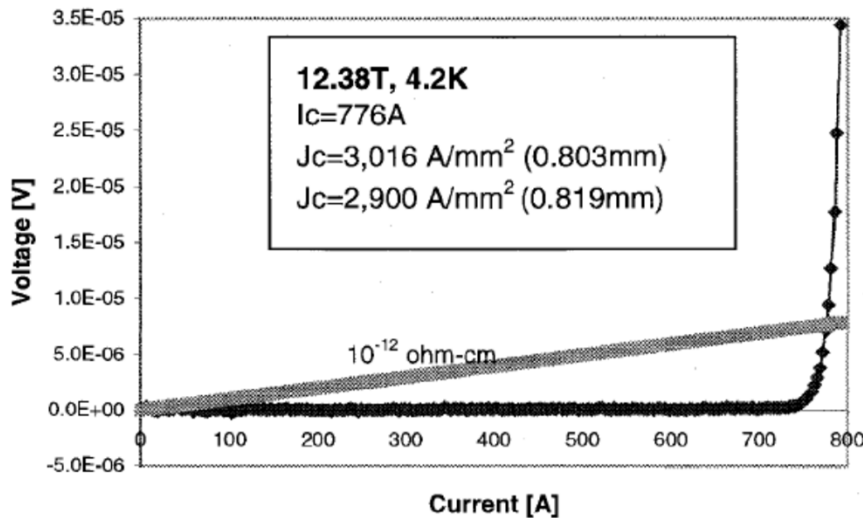
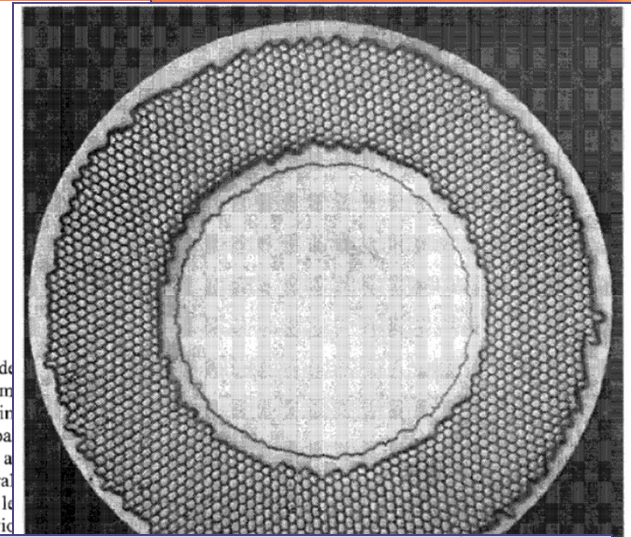


FIGURE 2. Short sample measurement of RRP process wire, showing a  $J_c$  value of 3016 A/mm<sup>2</sup> at a field (background + self field) of 12.38 T. The V vs. I curve is stable to a level of 60 microVolts/m.

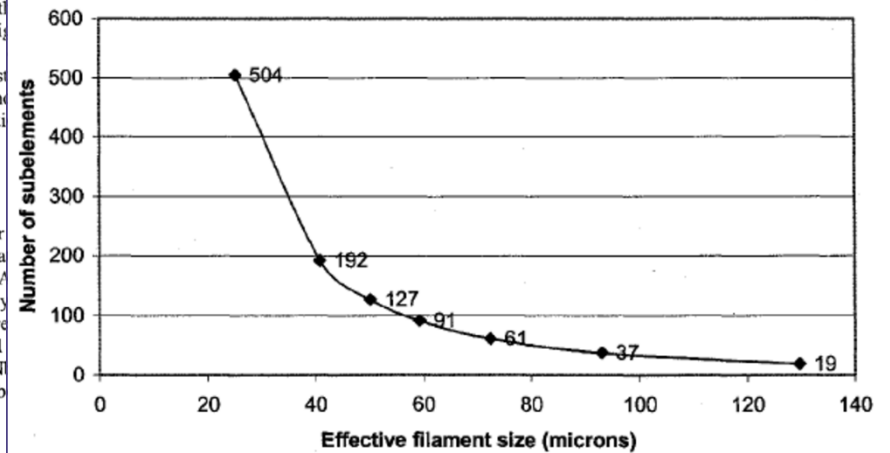
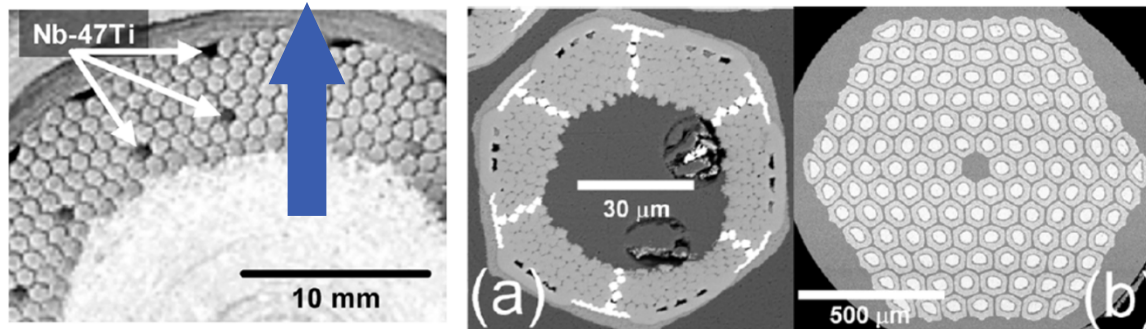
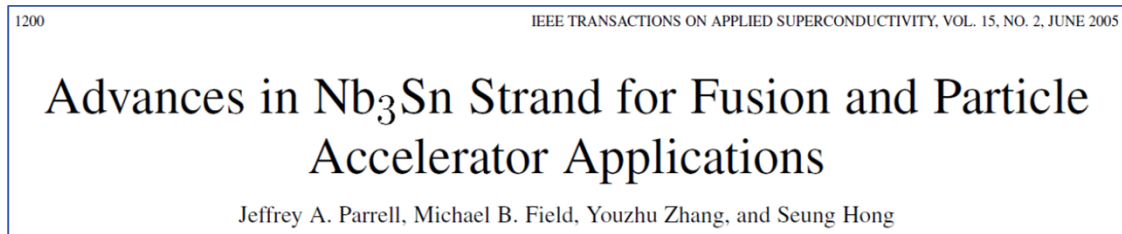


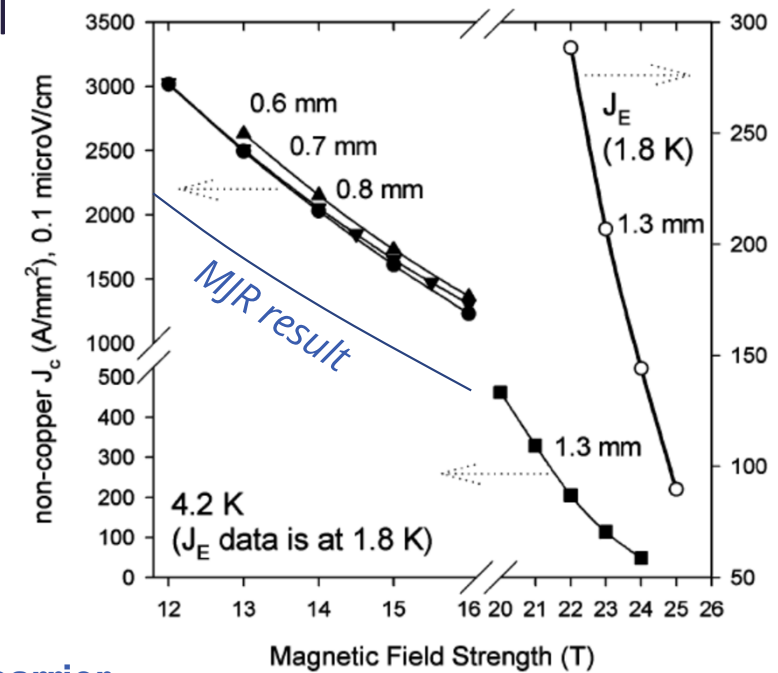
FIGURE 3. Number of subelements required to produce the effective filament size indicated by the abscissa.

# Immediately high $J_c$ was realized

- OST reported at ASC2004 many designs with  $J_c > 3000$  at 12 T
- Advances to decrease  $D_{eff}$  were demonstrated as well



Radial tin reaction from core to (and possibly through) diffusion barrier



## Flux jumps: Conductor requires a 2-parameter optimization ( $J_c$ & RRR)

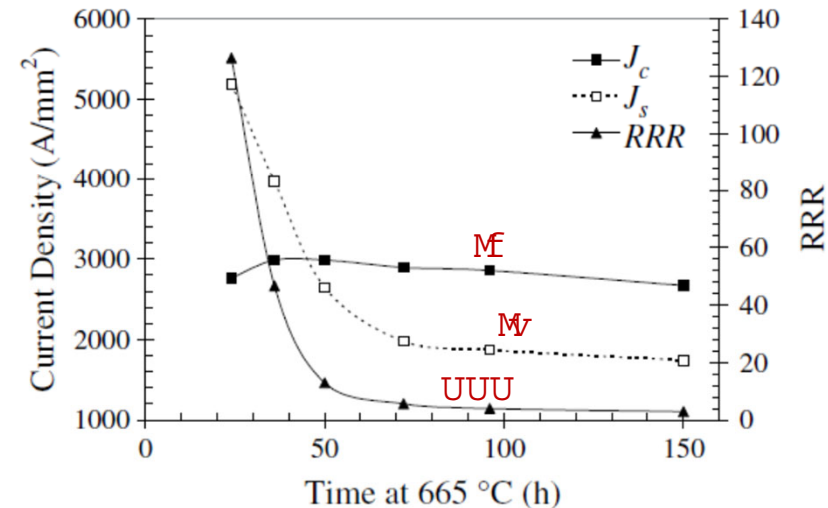
- Reactions that drive up  $J_c$  also possibly drive Sn through the diffusion barrier  $\rightarrow$  RRR loss
- The entire sub-element behaves like a single filament
  - LARP “baseline” at that time was a 54/61 conductor at 0.8 mm  $\rightarrow D_{\text{eff}} \sim 80 \mu\text{m}$
  - *Adiabatic* stability condition:  $J_c^2 D_{\text{eff}}^2 / C_p V (T_c - T_{\text{op}}) < 1$  is violated for  $J_c \sim 3000 \text{ A/mm}^2$  and  $80 \mu\text{m}$
  - *Dynamic* stability: energy released must not exceed heat conduction to LHe
- Flux jumps were causing quenches in test magnets
  - *Why? Heat treatments that maximized  $J_c$  also reduced RRR and took away dynamic stability*

Supercond. Sci. Technol. 18 (2005) L5–L8

RAPID COMMUNICATION

### Dynamic stability threshold in high-performance internal-tin $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ superconductors for high field magnets

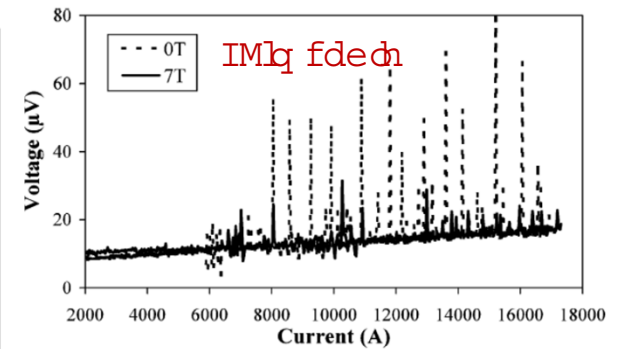
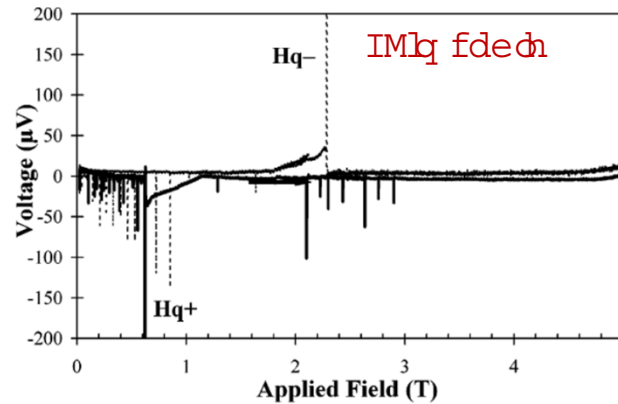
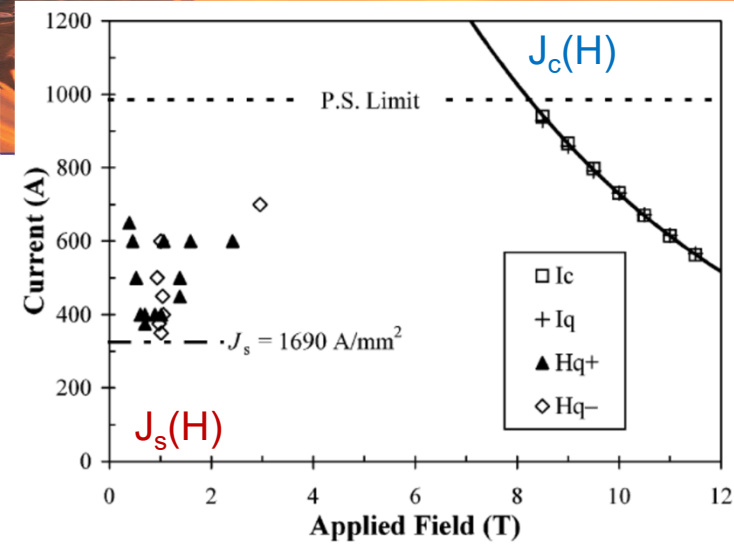
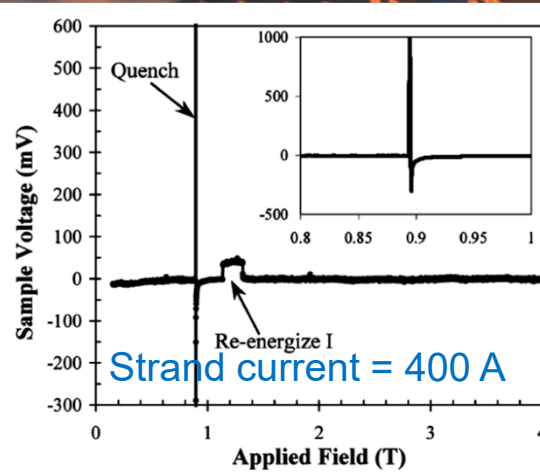
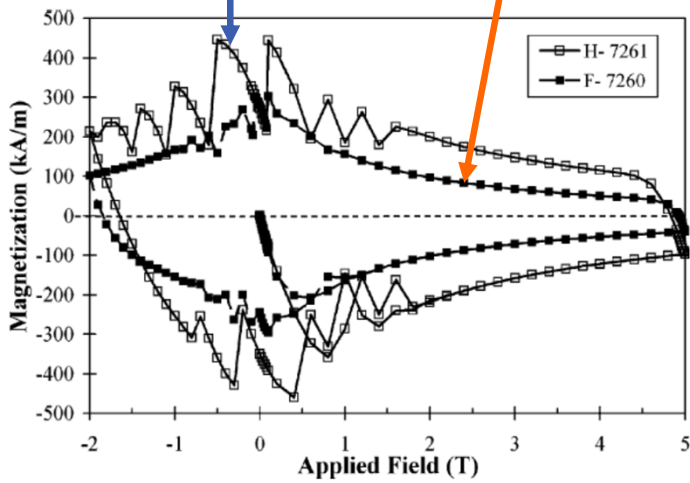
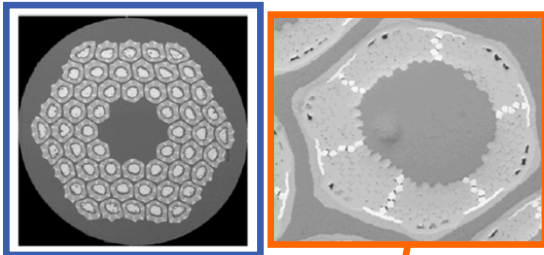
A K Ghosh<sup>1</sup>, E A Sperry<sup>1</sup>, L D Cooley<sup>2</sup>, A M Moodenbaugh<sup>2</sup>,  
 R L Sabatini<sup>2</sup> and J L Wright<sup>2</sup>



**Figure 3.** Critical current density, magnetic stability threshold current density, and RRR plotted as a function of final reaction time at 665 °C.

# Instabilities are a real challenge for magnets

2005

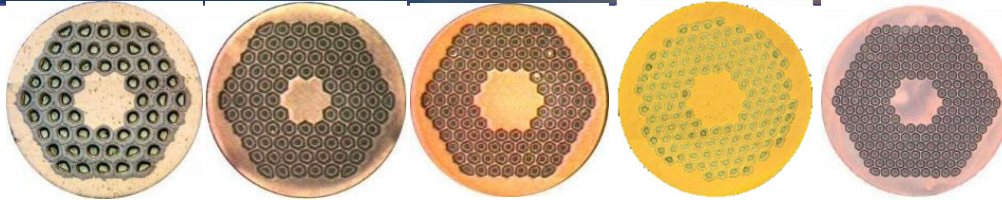


IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 15, NO. 2, JUNE 2005

# Pushing to small $D_{eff}$ and keeping $J_c$ high continues to be a challenge

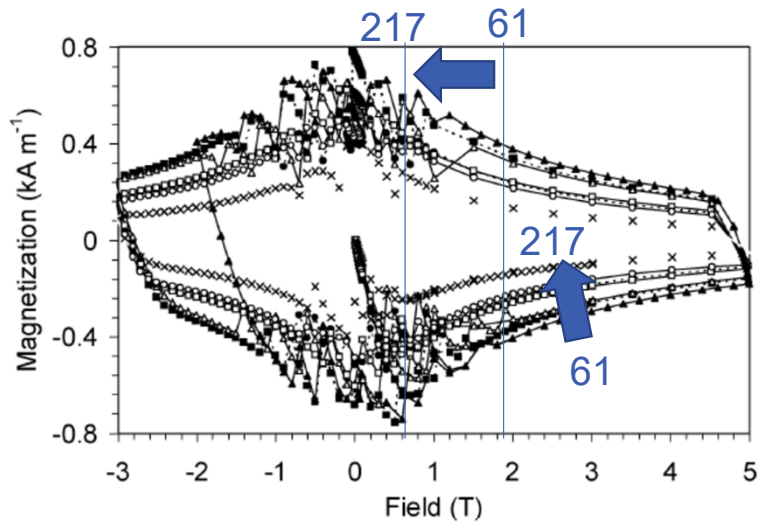
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IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 24, NO. 3, JUNE 2014

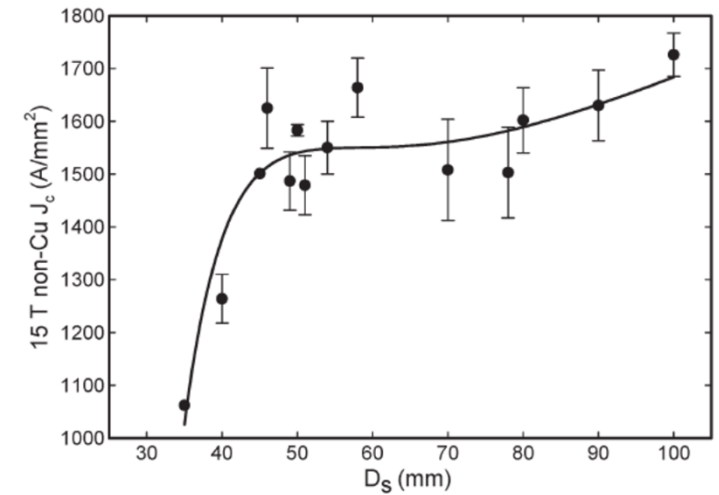


## Optimizing Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Conductors for High Field Applications

Michael B. Field, Youzhu Zhang, Hanping Miao, Michael Gerace, and Jeffery A. Parrell



61  
 Magnetization reduces  
 FJ onset at lower field  
 FJ magnitude reduces  
 217



2014 summary: Critical current always degraded  
 (and Charlie Sanabria + others identified why – see Sanabria 2018)

L. D. Cooley, P. S. Chang, and A. K. Ghosh

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 17, NO. 2, JUNE 2007



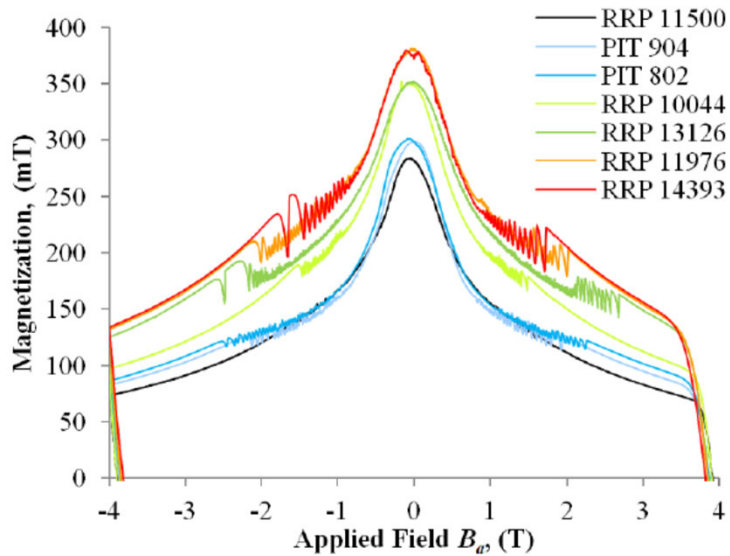
# Fortunately, flux-jumps are not as severe at 1.9 K

Magnets could be ramped and protected even with  $D_{eff} = 70 \mu\text{m}$  when RRR high

## Magnetization Measurements of High- $J_c$ $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ Strands

B. Bordini, D. Richter, P. Alknes, A. Ballarino, L. Bottura, and L. Oberli

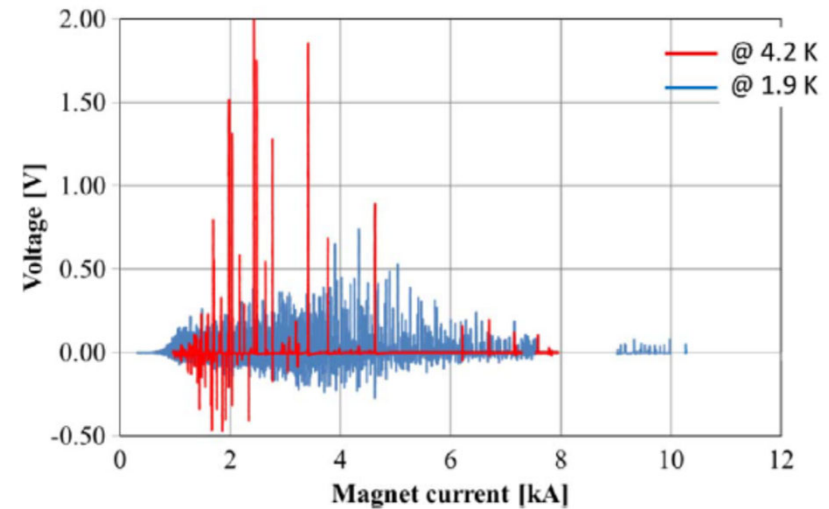
IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 23, NO. 3, JUNE 2013



## Cold Test Results of the LARP HQ $\text{Nb}_3\text{Sn}$ Quadrupole Magnet at 1.9 K

H. Bajas, G. Ambrosio, M. Anerella, M. Bajko, R. Bossert, S. Caspi, A. Chiuchiolo, G. Chlachidze, D. Dietderich, O. Dunkel, H. Felice, P. Ferracin, J. Feuvrier, L. Fiscarelli, A. Ghosh, C. Giloux, A. Godeke, A. R. Hafalia, M. Marchevsky, S. Russenschuck, G. L. Sabbi, T. Salmi, J. Schmalzle, E. Todesco, P. Wanderer, X. Wang, and M. Yu

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 23, NO. 3, JUNE 2013



# Ti alloying gives rapid reactions at 650-665°C where RRR could be kept high

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 19, NO. 3, JUNE 2009

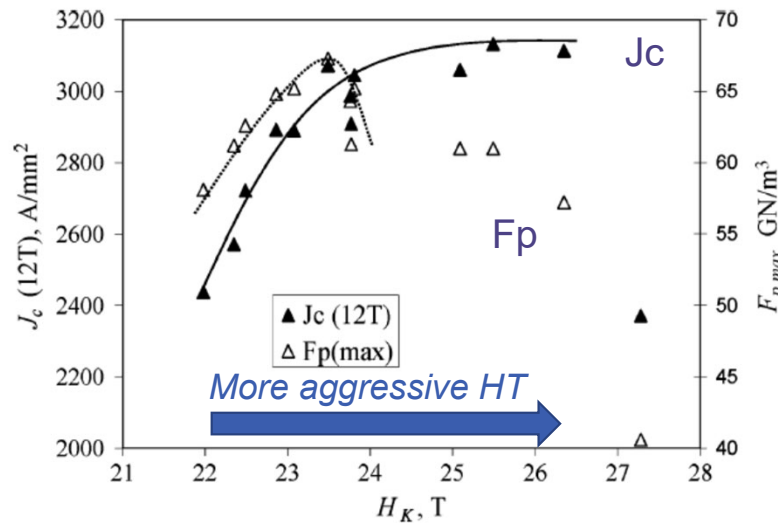
## Systematic Changes of the Nb-Sn Reaction With Time, Temperature, and Alloying in Restacked-Rod-Process (RRP) Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Strands

Arup K. Ghosh, Edward A. Sperry, Joseph D'Ambra, and Lance D. Cooley

TABLE I  
 SUMMARY OF REACTION PARAMETERS AND MEASUREMENTS FOR RRP 8220 STRANDS

Temp °C	Time h	J <sub>c</sub> (12T) A/mm <sup>2</sup>	RRR	H <sub>K</sub> T	T <sub>c</sub> K	ΔT <sub>c</sub>	F <sub>p,max</sub> GN/m <sup>3</sup>
605	150	2437	411	22.0	16.34	1.10	58.1
620	96	2722	450	22.5	16.53	1.20	62.6
620	192	2892	377	22.9	16.64	1.35	64.8
620	384	2909	74	23.8			61.3
635	48	2571	364	22.4	16.53	1.25	61.2
650	48	2890	305	23.1	16.77	1.03	65.2
650	96	3072	233	23.5	16.92	0.85	67.3
665	50	2987	171	23.8	16.92	0.85	64.3
680	48	3060	109	25.1	17.10	1.13	61.0
695	48	3114	56	26.4	17.32	1.00	57.2
750	96	2371	15	27.3	17.24	1.35	40.6

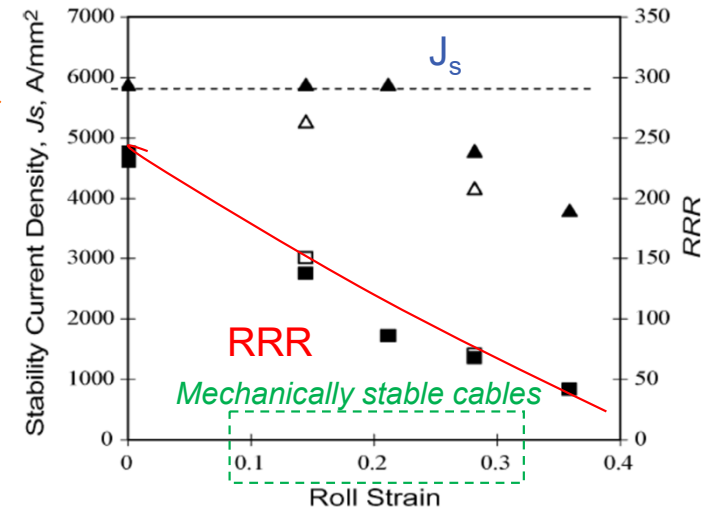
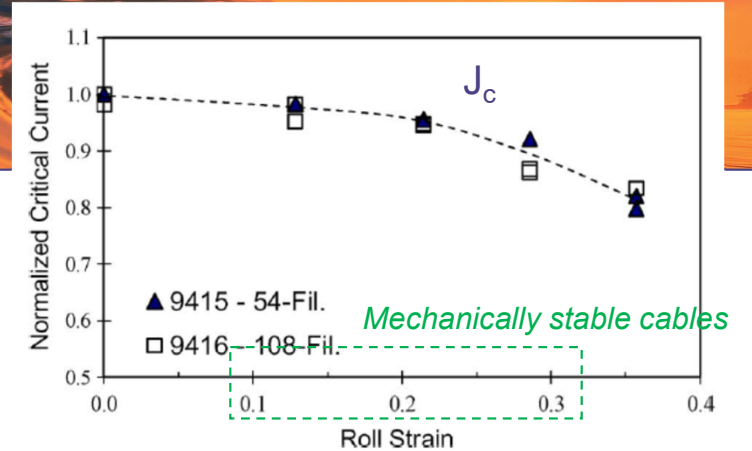
- Reaction rate depends on Nb:Sn, time, temperature, D<sub>sub</sub>, and dopants
- Lots of university work here – tremendous value of the university collaborations!



A sweet spot in parameter space was found

# The RRP design is surprisingly resilient to cabling degradation

- Magnets need cables for low inductance
  - AUP uses a 40-strand Rutherford cable
- Deformation produces reduction of  $J_c$  and especially
  - But the  $J_c$  loss was *modest* (not so for PIT)



ACCELERATORS | FEATURE

## Taming the superconductors of tomorrow

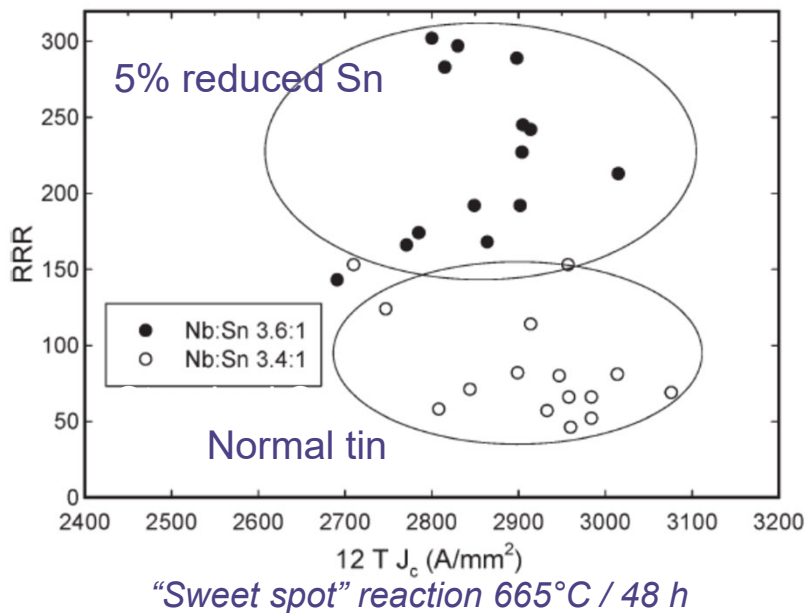
11 May 2020

A. K. Ghosh, L. D. Cooley, D. R. Dietderich, and L. Sun

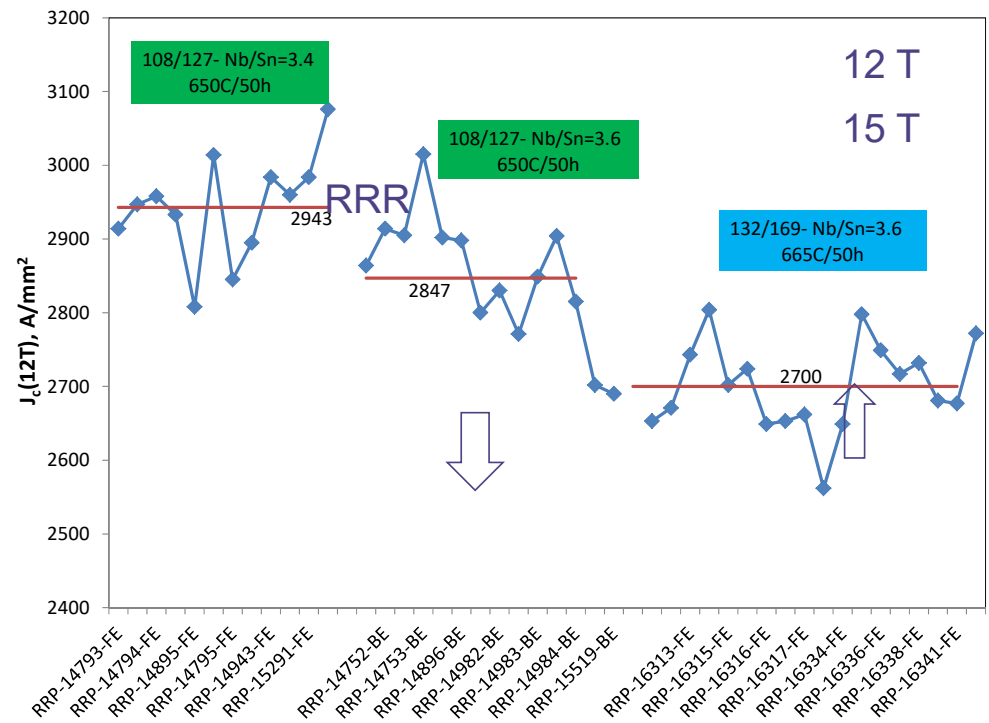
IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 18, NO. 2, JUNE 2008

# Production readiness: Go with the reduced Sn architecture

Field *et al.* 2014 summary: *Reducing* the amount of tin increases manufacturing margins! Lower tin can be offset by more aggressive reaction HT

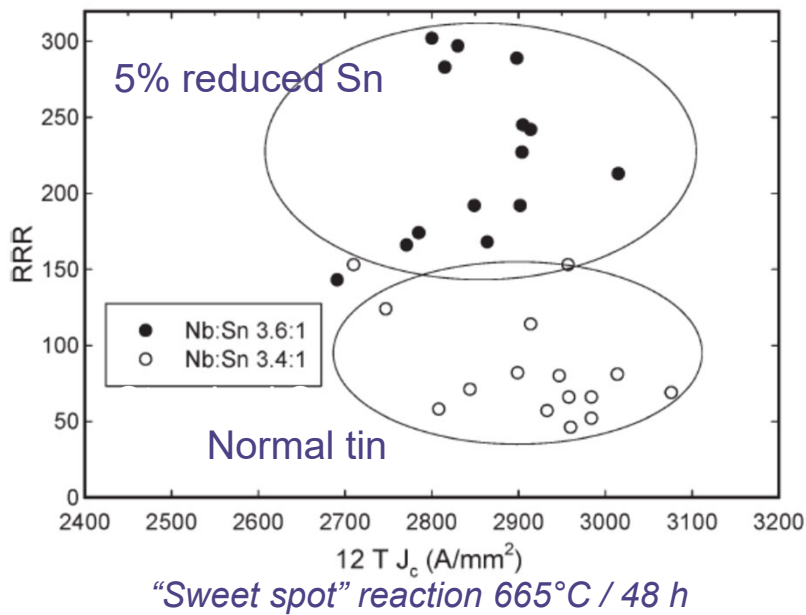


Arup Ghosh – 2015 Billet-to-billet variations

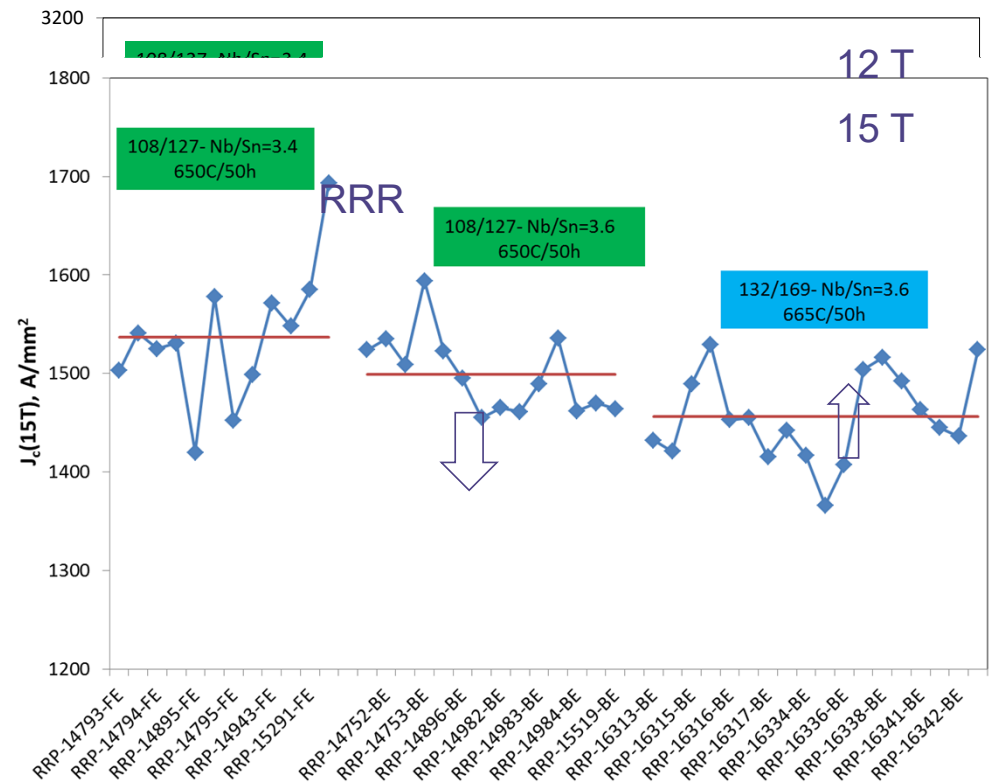


# Production readiness: Go with the reduced Sn architecture

Field *et al.* 2014 summary: *Reducing* the amount of tin increases manufacturing margins! Lower tin can be offset by more aggressive reaction HT

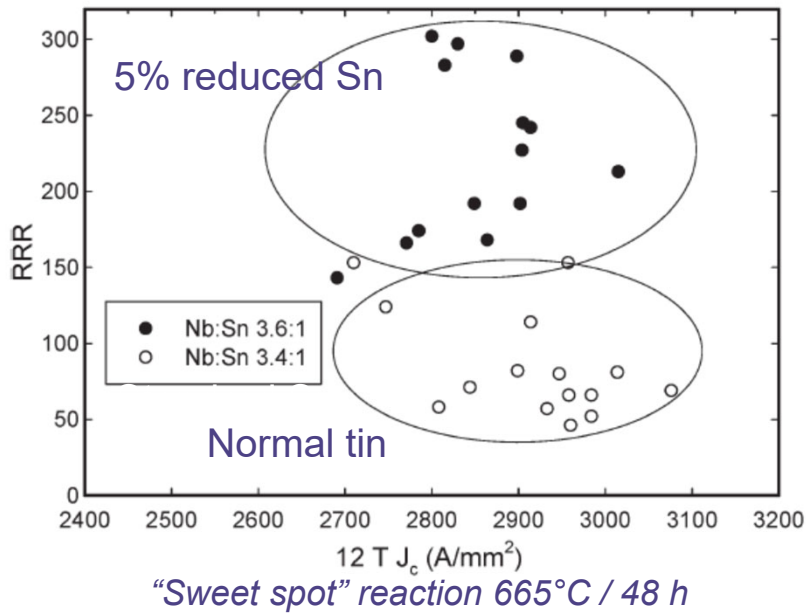


Arup Ghosh – 2015 Billet-to-billet variations

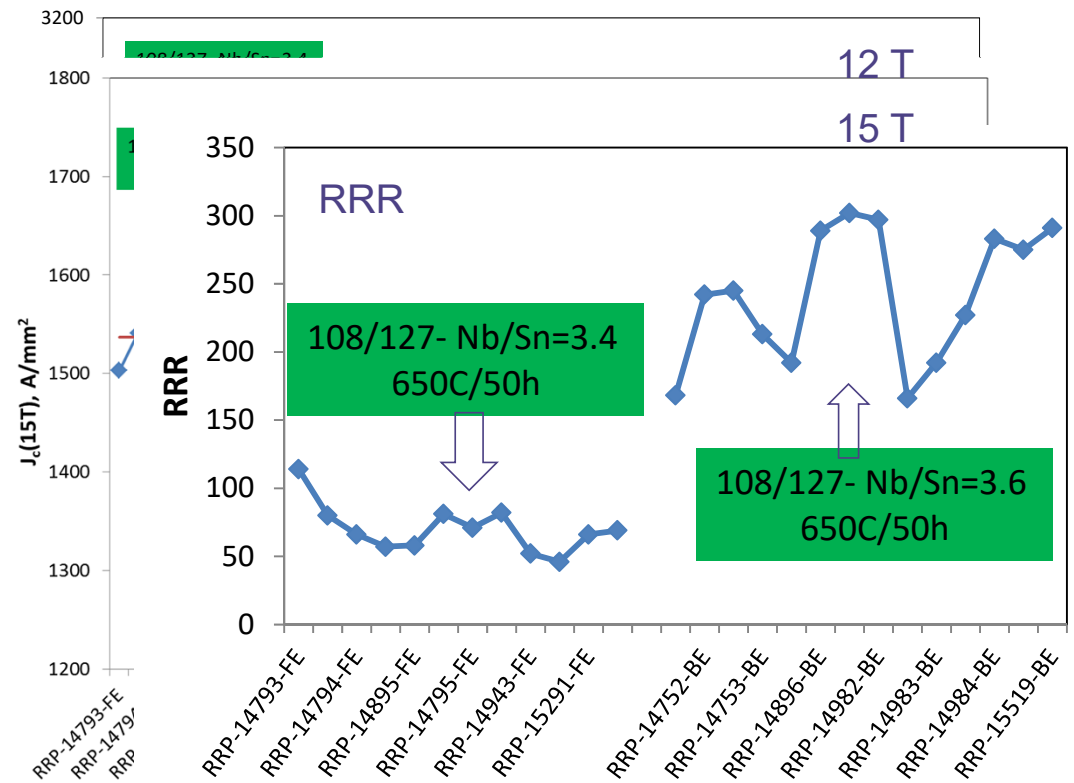


# Production readiness: Go with the reduced Sn architecture

Field *et al.* 2014 summary: *Reducing* the amount of tin increases manufacturing margins! Lower tin can be offset by more aggressive reaction HT



## Arup Ghosh – 2015 Billet-to-billet variations

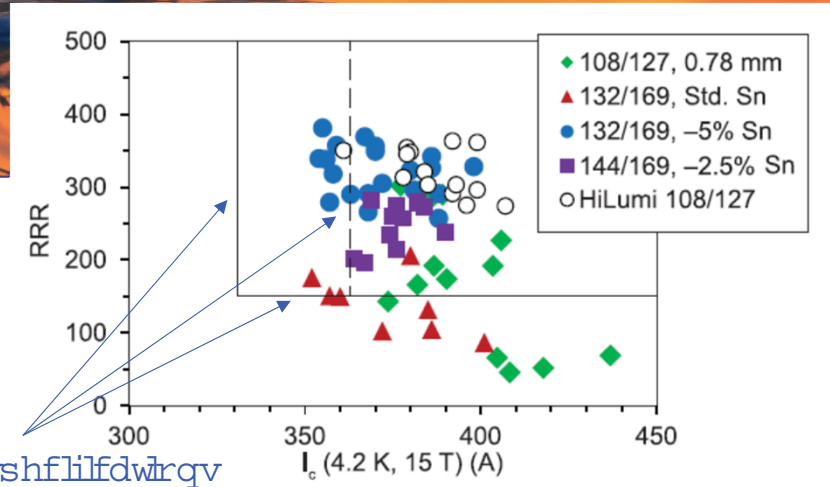


# Production readiness: High performance, high yield with 108/127

## Conductor Specification and Validation for High-Luminosity LHC Quadrupole Magnets

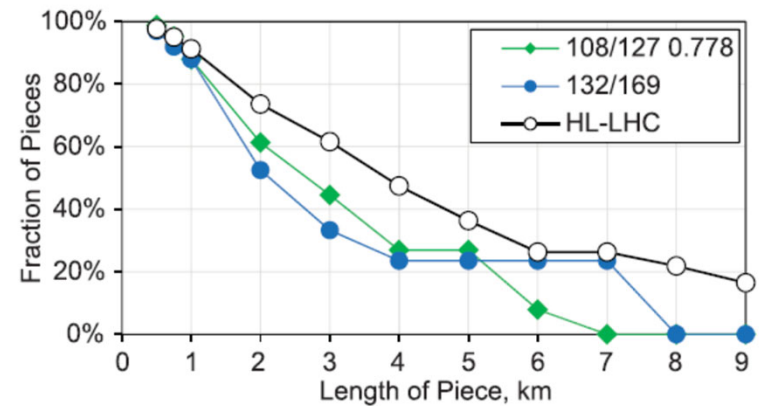
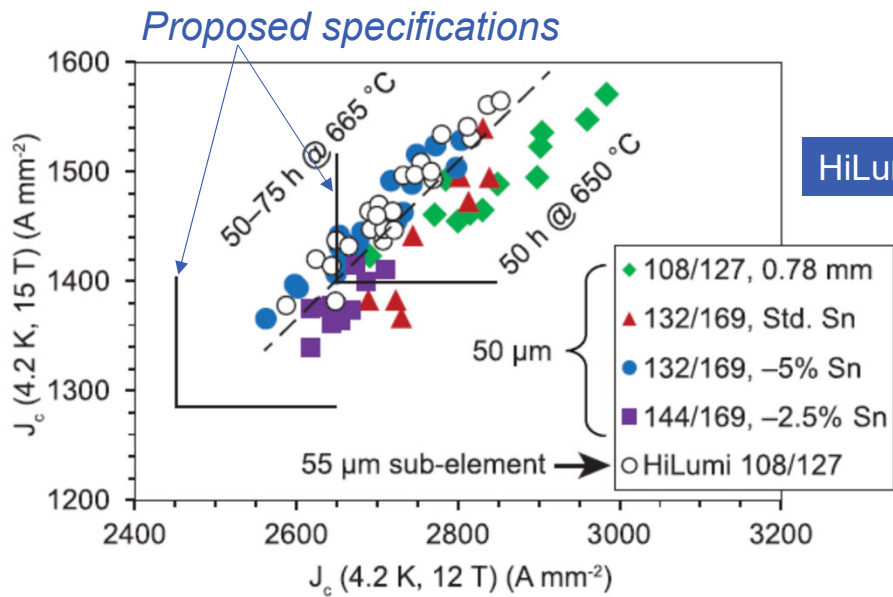
L. D. Cooley, Senior Member, IEEE, A. K Ghosh, D. R. Dietderich, and I. Pong

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 27, NO. 4, JUNE 2017



Sursrvhg vshflilfdwtrqv

HiLumi QXF strand is RRP 108/127 at 0.85 mm, -5% Sn



# An unknown that could have dealt the Hi-Lumi project a severe blow

**SCIENTIFIC REPORTS**  
 Corrected: Publisher Correction

**OPEN** Implications of the strain irreversibility cliff on the fabrication of particle-accelerator magnets made of restacked-rod-process Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn wires

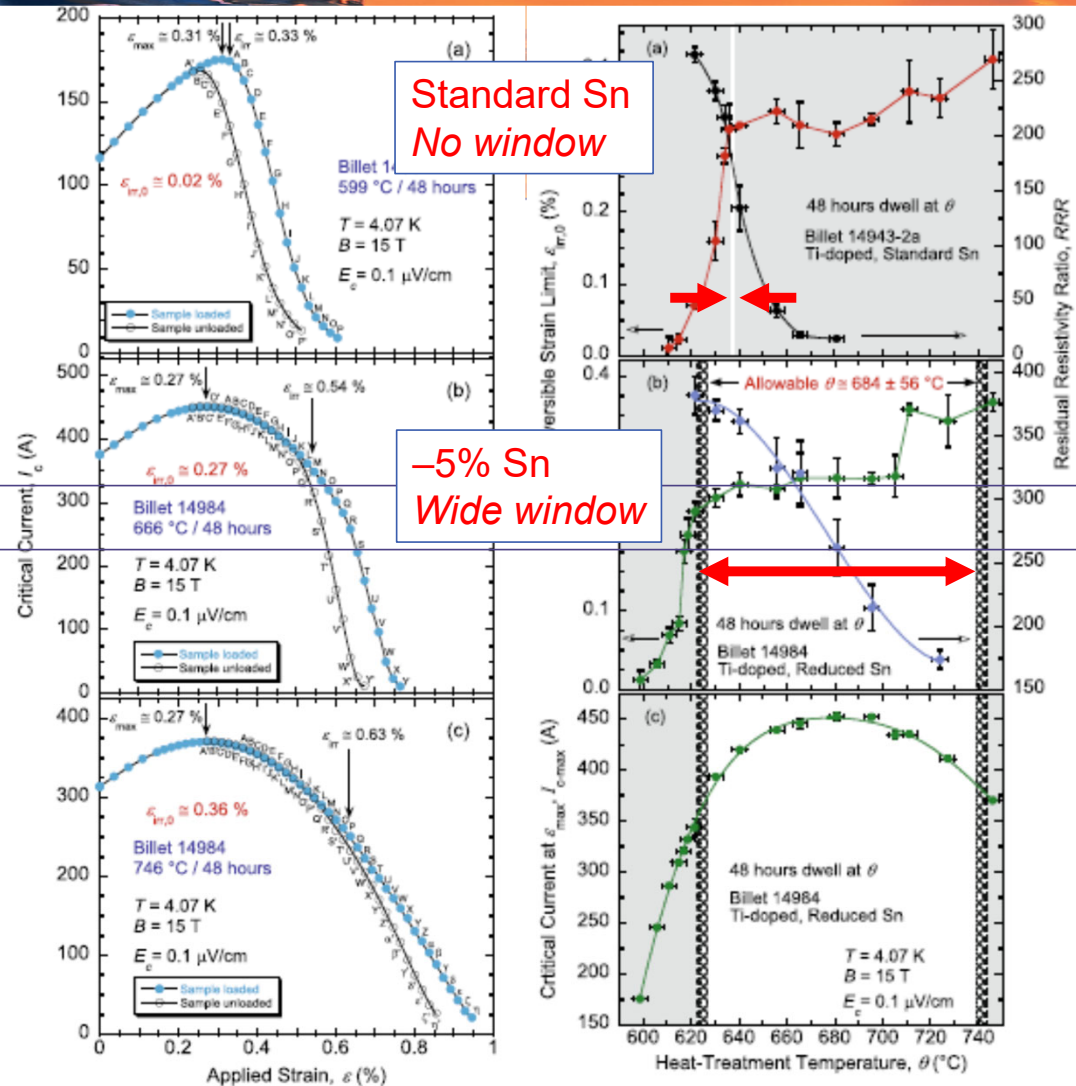
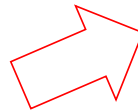
Received: 24 September 2018  
 Accepted: 18 March 2019  
 Published online: 2 April 2019

Najib Cheggour<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Theodore C. Stauffer<sup>2</sup>, William Starch<sup>3</sup>, Loren F. Goodrich<sup>1,2</sup> & Jolene D. Splett<sup>4</sup>

A threat imposed by the strain irreversibility cliff was not revealed until well into the Hi-Lumi procurement

A “window” of reaction temperature occurs between a point of vulnerability to strain at 620–640°C and loss of RRR for higher temp.

Fortunately, the reaction strategies to simultaneously optimize J<sub>c</sub> and RRR using –5% Sn architecture and the selection of Ti-alloyed material avoided this risk.





## 2017: CERN and AUP\* update the 2015 drafts to form a common specification and quality plan for QXF conductor

- Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn strand, Ti-alloyed, 5% reduced Sn, 108 sub-elements
- Diameter  $0.850 \pm 0.003$  mm
  - 2-axis laser micrometer
- Cu:NC  $1.2 \pm 0.1$  (52.3–56.5% Cu)
  - IEC 61788-12: *Copper to non-copper volume ratio of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn composite superconducting wires*
- Twist pitch  $16 \text{ mm} < p < 19 \text{ mm}$ , right-handed
- Pass 6 sharp bends, 720° springback
- Photomicrographs
- *“The strand surface at the final diameter shall be free of any surface defects, slivers, folds, laminations, or inclusions, and shall not have any component other than the copper stabilizer material visible.”*
- At 4.2K:  $I_c(12T) > 632 \text{ A}$ ,  $I_c(15T) > 331 \text{ A}$ 
  - $I_c(13T)$ ,  $I_c(14T)$  measured for information
  - FYI  $I_c(12T) > 2450 \text{ A/mm}^2$ ,  $I_c(15T) > 1284 \text{ A/mm}^2$
  - IEC 61788-2: *DC critical current of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn composite superconductors*
- 15% rolled:  $I_c(12T) > 600 \text{ A}$ ,  $I_c(15T) > 314 \text{ A}$
- RRR > 150, 15% rolled RRR > 100
  - IEC 61788-11: *Residual resistance ratio of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn composite superconductors*
- N-value at 15 T > 30
- Not specified: Magnetization at 3 T
  - Expensive QC test for little gain in assurance

\* AUP = High-Luminosity LHC Accelerator Upgrade Project in the US DOE

# Why specify critical current at two fields and 4.2 K instead of 1.9 K?

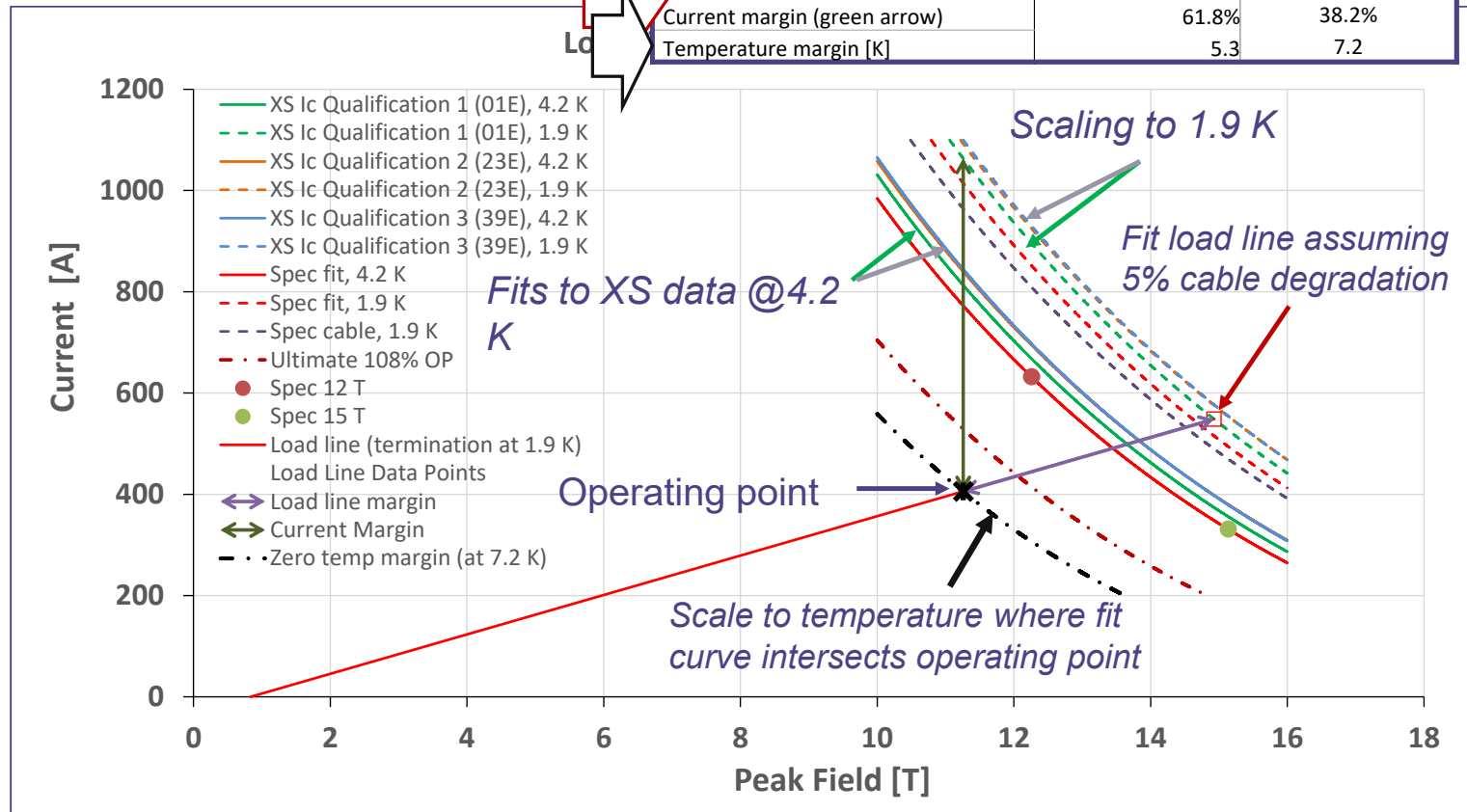
## Magnet margins must be determined by fitting and using scaling relationships

- Extracted strands (XS) from cables and a reference wire as witness make up plot data
- Measurements at 1.9 K would be very expensive to the project

## Much credit is owed to Jack Ekin for this "ESE" scaling workbook!

I Pong, B Bordini, A Ghosh, others have also contributed

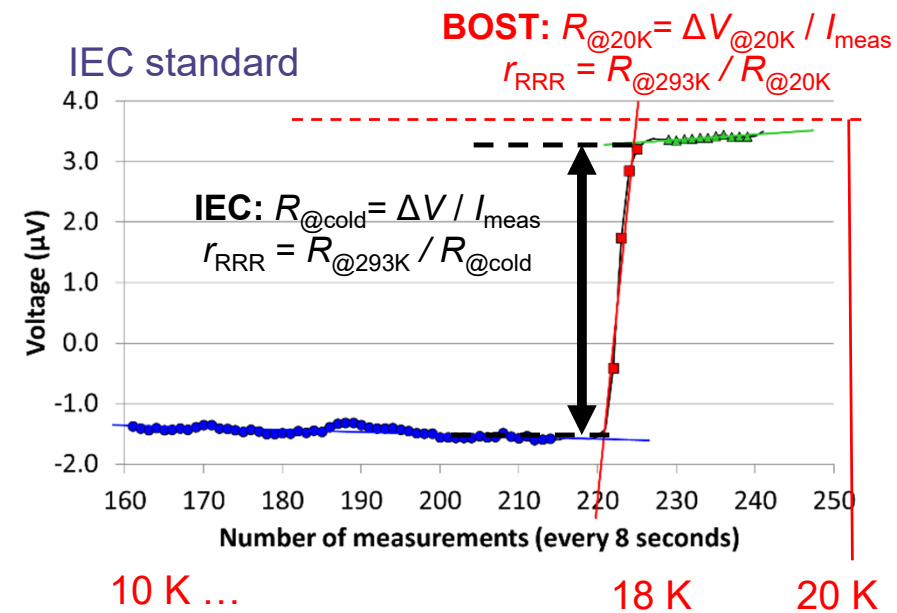
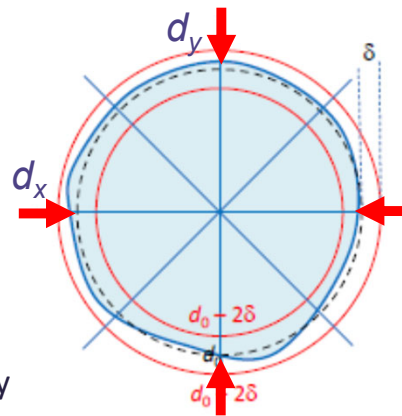
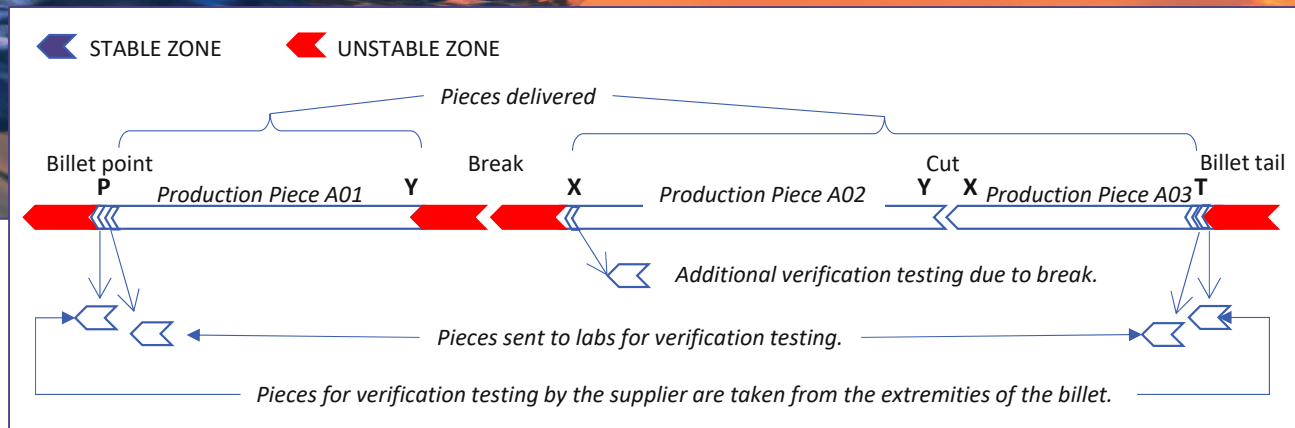
I [A] to calculate margin at	405.75	
Corresponding load line B [T]	11.26	
SS curve to calculate margin from	XS Ic Qualification 1 (01E), 1.9 K	
<b>Margins</b>	<b>Margin</b>	<b>Operating Point (X)</b>
Load line margin (purple arrow)	26.0%	74.0%
Current margin (green arrow)	61.8%	38.2%
Temperature margin [K]	5.3	7.2




# Quality plan

Generally:

- 3 measurements of  $I_c$ , RRR
  - Point, Tail, and first break or cut
  - Performance incentive: reduced QC test frequency if  $I_c(15) > 360$  and  $RRR > 200$
- Diameter measurements per meter: 1.3 (2016-2018), 13.4 (2018-2022)
- Exception: RRR uses  $R(20K)$  at supplier,  $R(IEC)$  at lab
  - Consistent 15% difference validated by inter-laboratory comparison
  - Supplier's method is *conservative*




# Benchmarking and inter-laboratory comparison

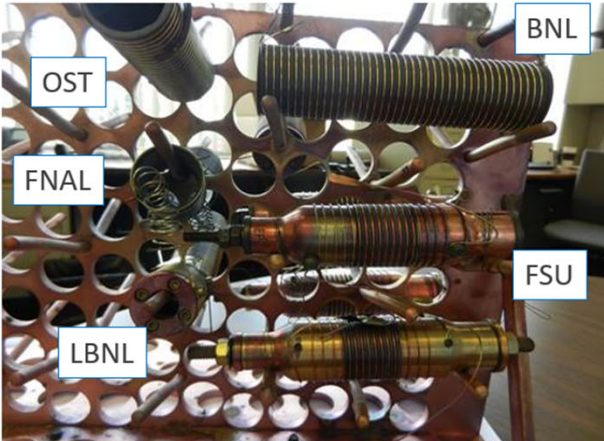


LARP

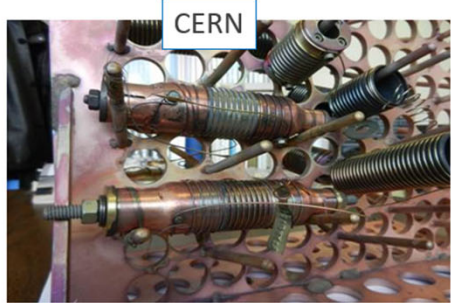
## Benchmarking Photos of the reaction barrels - OST



High  
Luminosity  
LHC




Labels: OST, FNAL, LBNL, BNL, FSU



Label: CERN

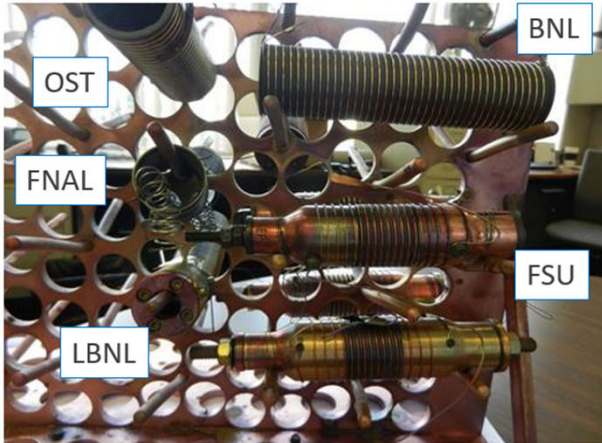
OST's reaction barrel and test probe  
(copied from BNL)



*One spool of wire was used to distribute test lengths to each lab. Reaction barrels were wound at labs and returned to OST for reaction at same time in same furnace. Reacted samples were returned to labs for individual tests. (True round-robin testing is not possible due to differences in probes and magnets.)*

# Benchmarking and inter-laboratory comparison

## Benchmarking Photos of the reaction barrels - OST



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## Critical current benchmarking results

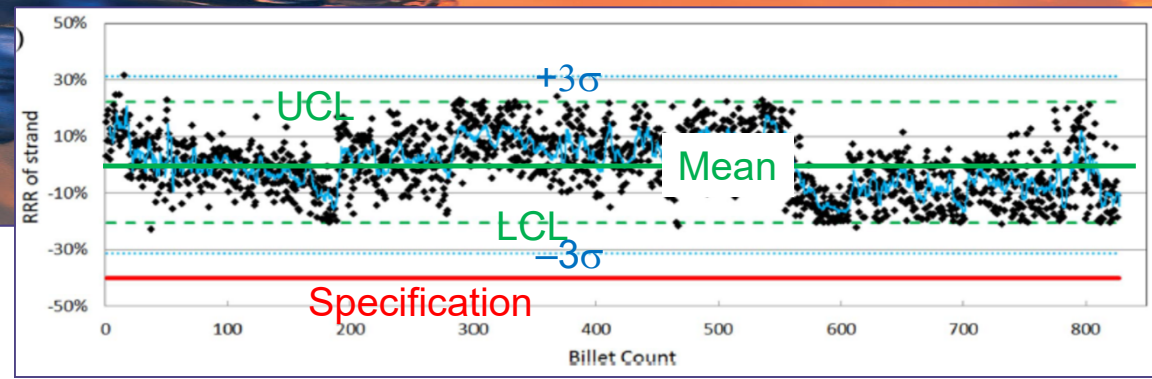


Lab / sample	$I_c(15T) - 331 A$	$I_c(14T)$	$I_c(13T)$	$I_c(12T) - 632 A$
BNL 1, 2	410, 413	501, 504	605, 609	722, 726
CERN 1, 2	395, 400, 406	487, 497	590, 600	708, 711, 723
FNAL 1, 2	401, 395*, 414†	493, 487*, 510†	598, 590*, 617†	717, 708*, 739†
FSU 1, 2	396, 399	487, 488	591, 591	709, 708
LBNL 1, 2	401, 404	492, 496	596, 599	714, 718
OST 1, 2	411, 402	502, 497	611, 604	728, 724
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>718</b>
<b>STDEV</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>COV</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>

5 test labs plus one supplier are qualified to perform this QC test

## Statistical process controls: A lesson from ITER

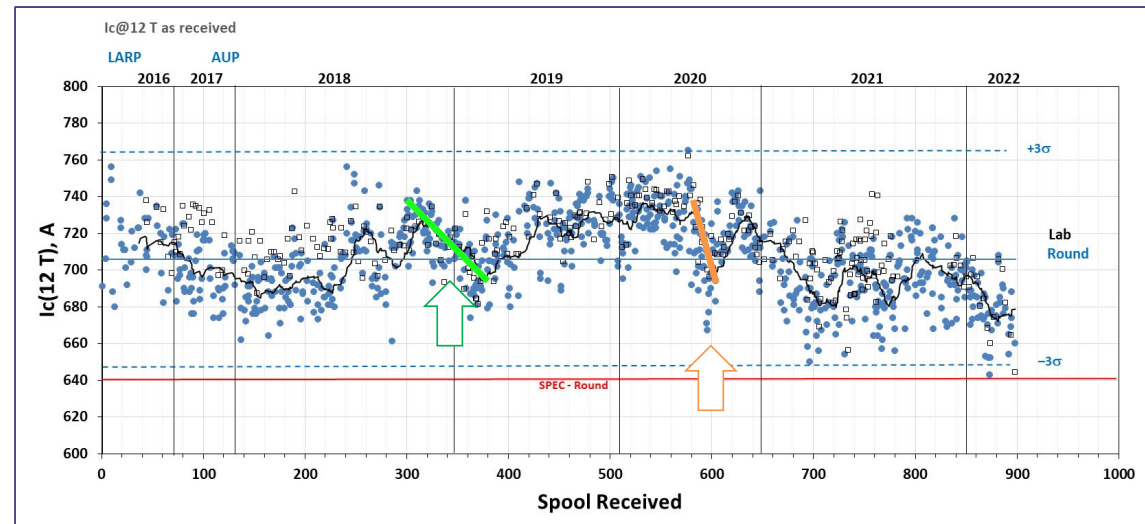
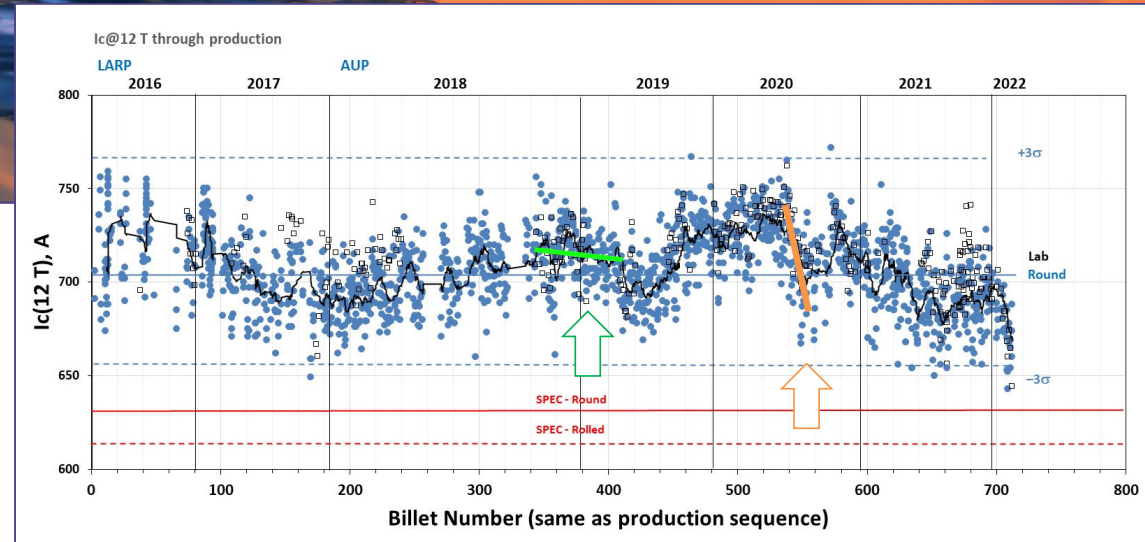
- We took the attitude that this procurement cannot fail!
  - It is the first large procurement of this type of wire
  - The magnets are beyond state of the art → unknowns are certain to be revealed
  - We wanted to develop a spirit of *trust*, instead of mistrust, with the suppliers
- We needed to be able to spot process shifts to work with suppliers to implement corrective and preventative actions (CAPAs) as soon as possible
  - Isolated deviations: individual inquiries without impact on overall production (common sources)
  - Process shift: Inquiry, possible production audit (special sources)
    - Nelson rules: 9+ points on one side of mean = bias, 6+ points up or down = trend, 14+ points alternate around mean = oscillation, 5+ points at  $\pm 2\sigma$  = control shift
  - Loss of process control: Possible audit and halt, with requalification on restart



Vostner et al., *Supercond. Sci. Technol.* **30** (2017) 045004

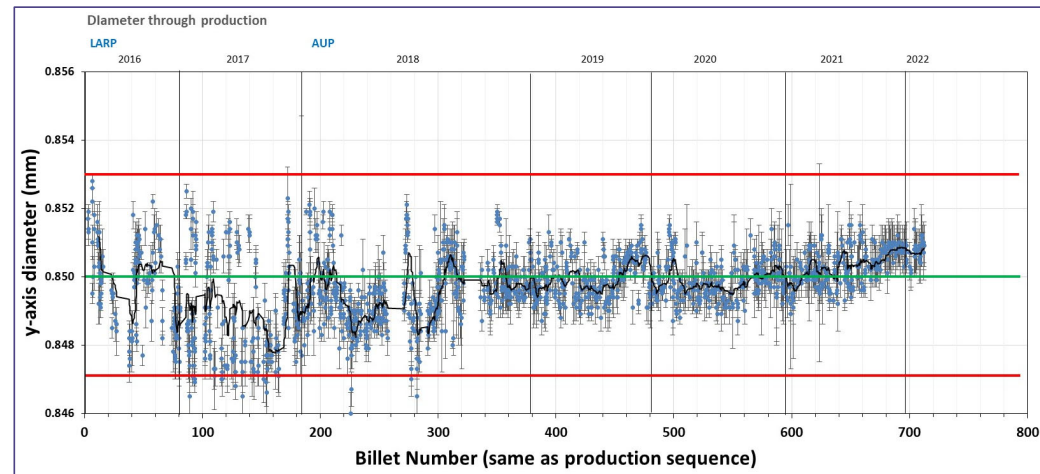
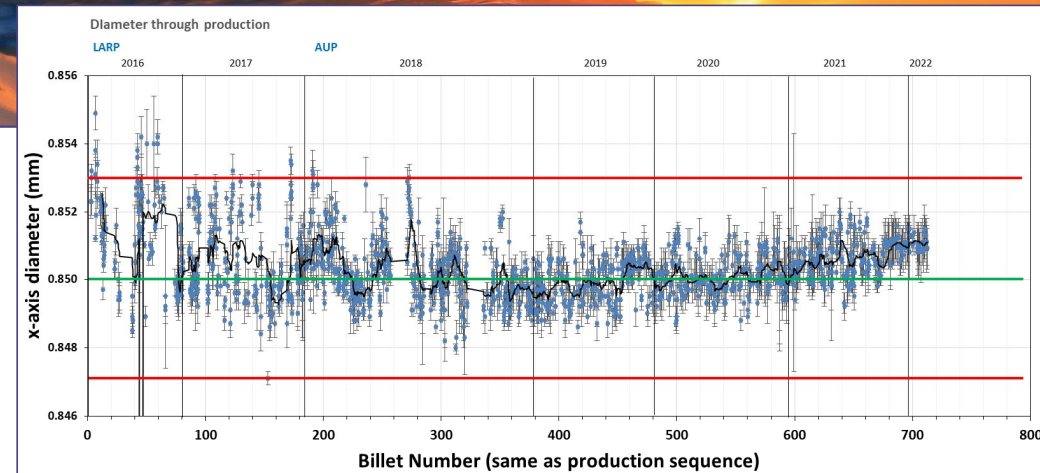
# SPC as production comes in

- Data came in batches, and did not include data that went elsewhere
- Communication was needed to signal problems
  - 2018-2019 event: AUP data indicated a downward trend, but overall data did not verify a trend.
  - Mid-2020 event: Both AUP data and overall data correlated to an event → production inquiry was called



# An early test of SPC was diameter control

- Prior to 2018, supplier's equipment reported a diameter and an ovality
  - While 2 axes were measured, the larger of the two was arbitrarily assigned to dx, with  $dy = dx - \text{ovality}$
  - This led to skew in monitoring diameter.
- CAPAs:
  - New 2-axis laser-mic same as labs
  - Prevent strand vibration at the laser-mic
  - Improved die cleaning and retiring
- After 2018, a 2  $\mu\text{m}$  tolerance was kept



IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 29, NO. 5, AUGUST 2019 6001505

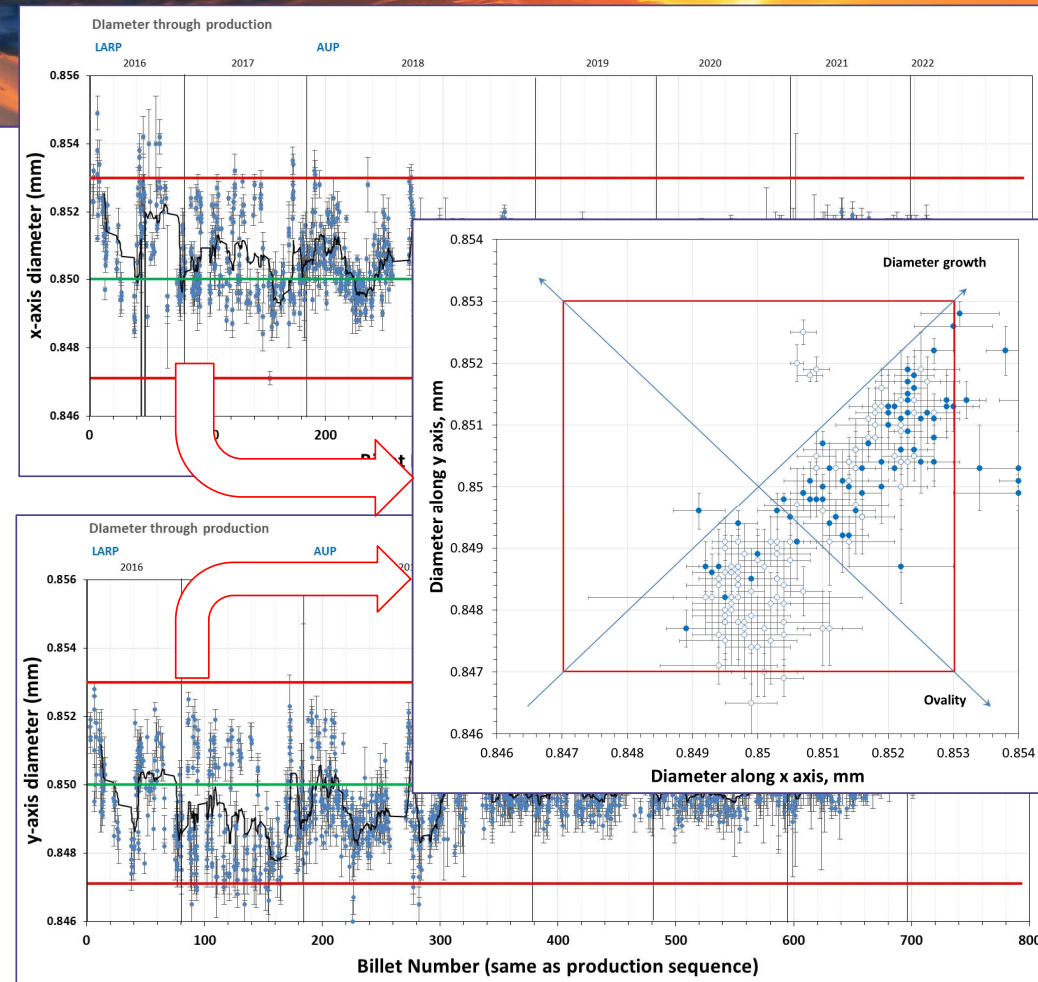
## Diameter Quality Control of Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn Wires for MQXF Cables in the USA

Ian Pong , Senior Member, IEEE, Lance D. Cooley, Senior Member, IEEE, Andy Lin, Hugh C. Higley, and Charlie Sanabria



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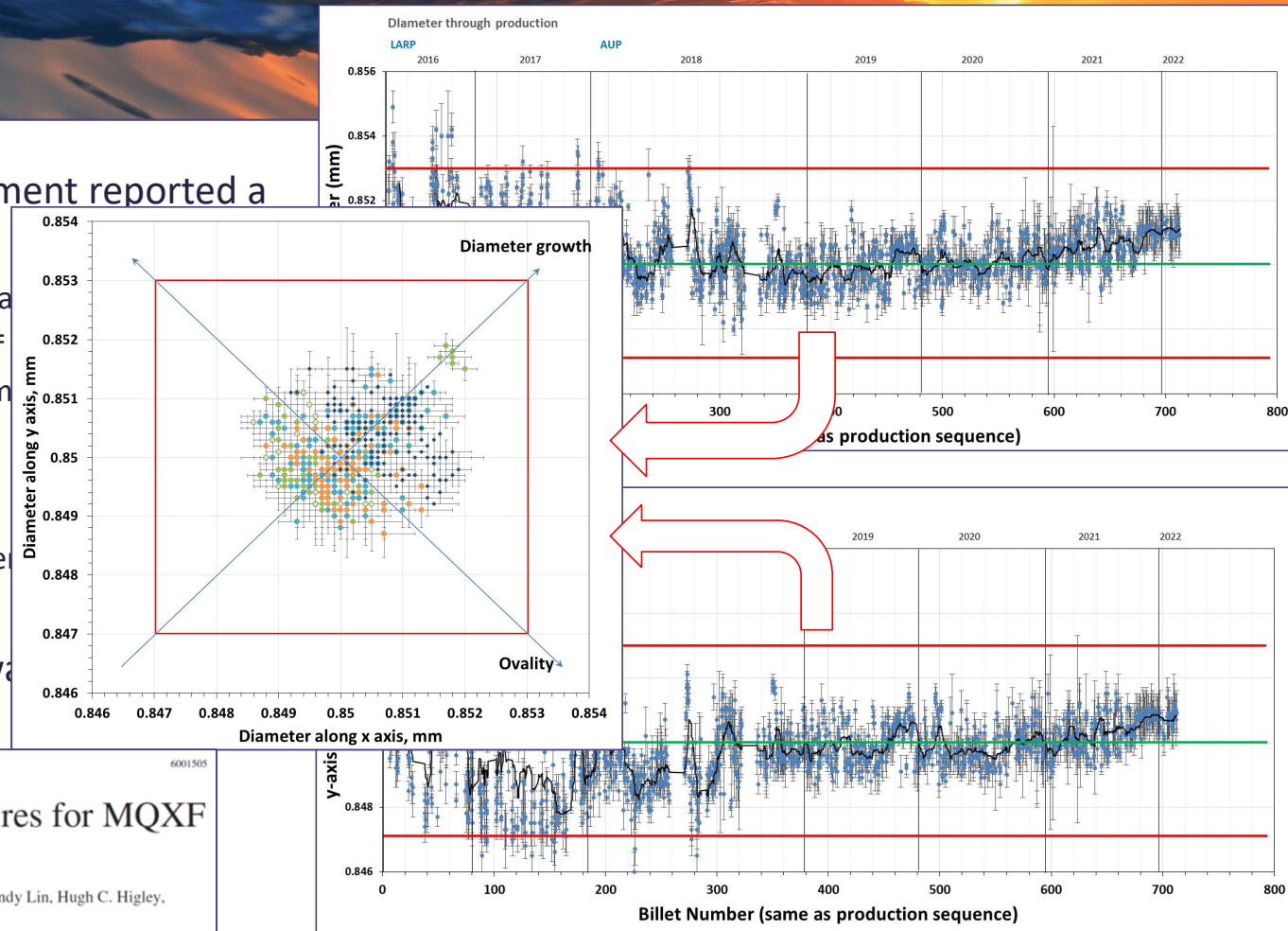
IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 29, NO. 5, AUGUST 2019 6001505

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  - While 2 axes were measured, the larger diameter was arbitrarily assigned to dx, with dy = 0.999 dx
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  - Prevent strand vibration at the laser
  - Improved die cleaning and retiring
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IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 29, NO. 5, AUGUST 2019 6001505

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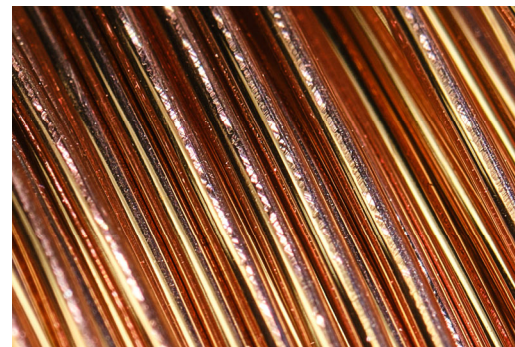
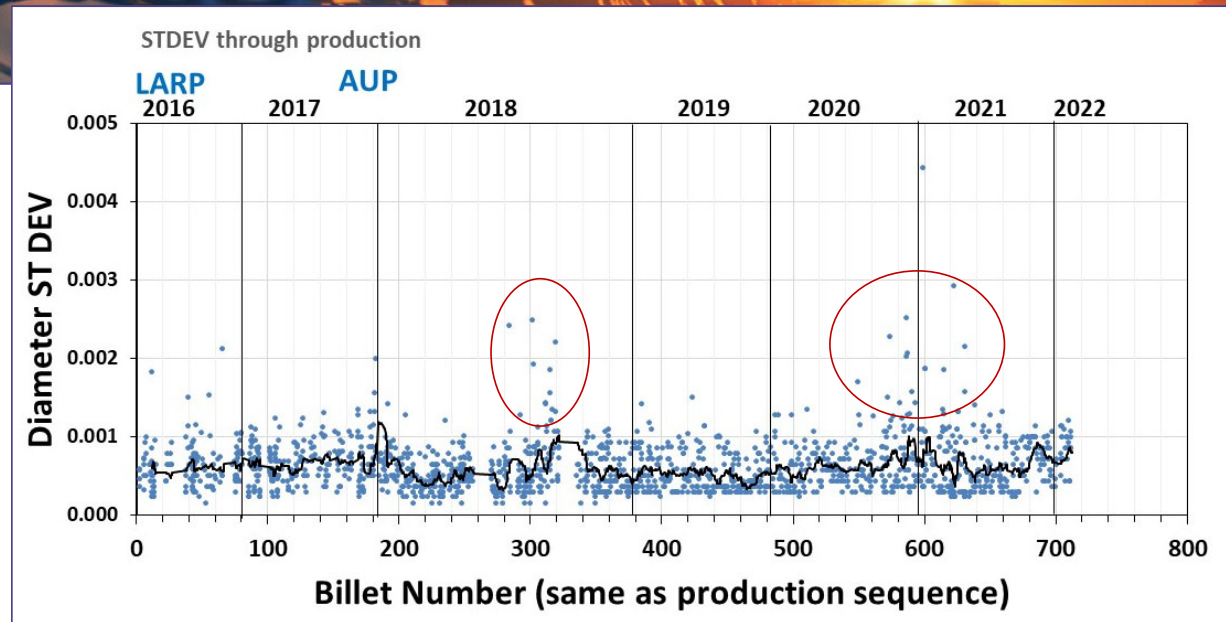
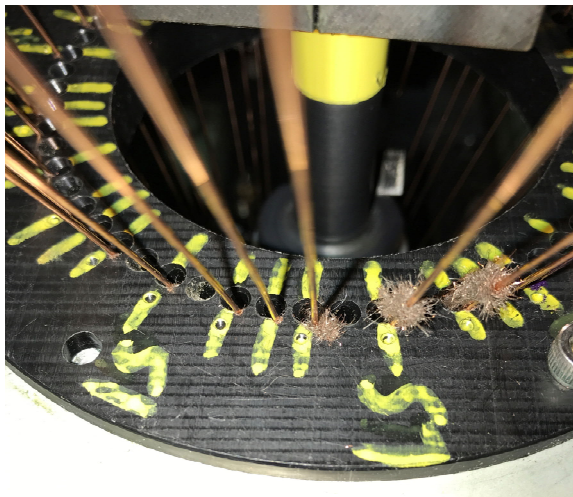
# Diameter statistics were sensitive enough to pick up surface quality issues

**Incident: Conductor with surface scratches cut into cable guides upstream of turkshead**

Threat: crossover and failed cable

**Causes: wire not following guides, leading to scrapes; final scan trigger points not sensitive to problem**

**CAPA: improved wire paths and pathway locks; revision to final scan settings**



# Critical current at 15 T is most sensitive to process variations

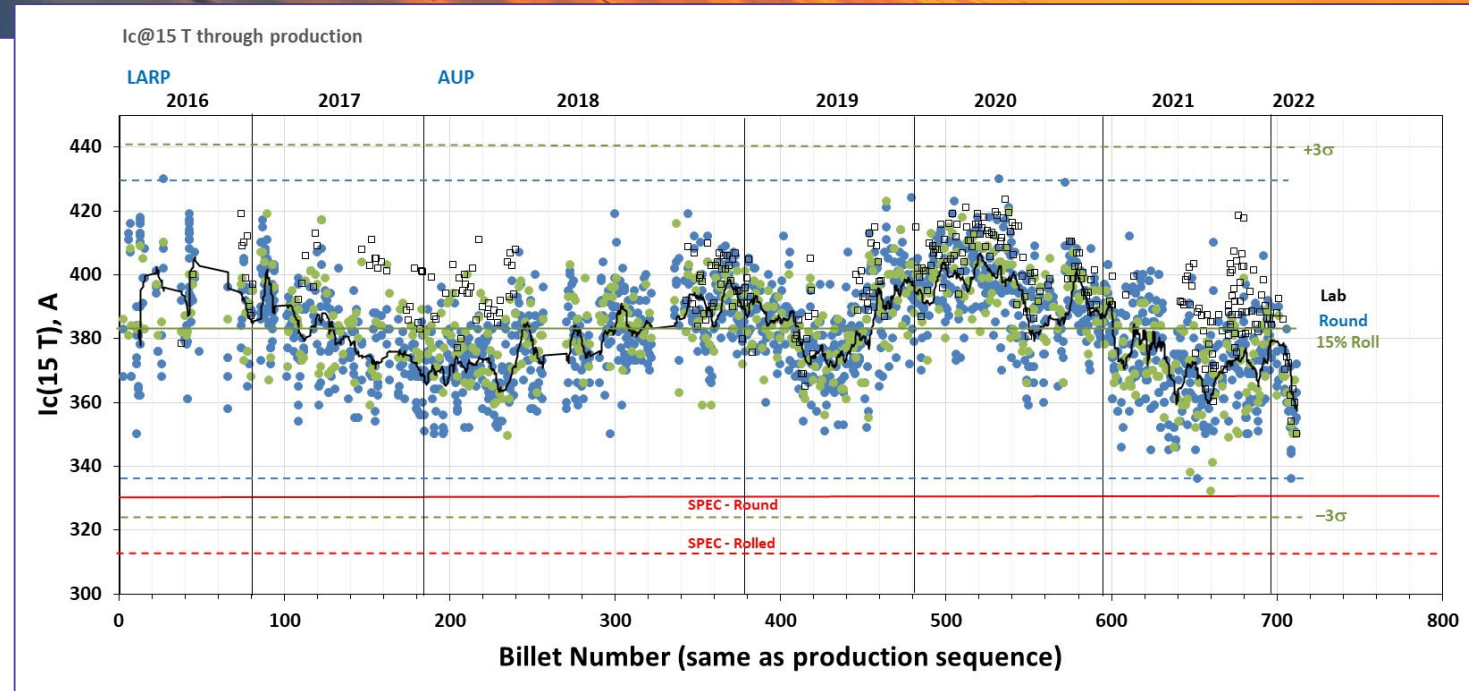
The robustness of the RRP strand after rolling is clearly demonstrated here

1,751 measurements  
Average = 381.7 A  
S.D. = 15.1 A (3.9% of mean)  
Process capability  $C_{pk} = 1.10$  (round)  
and 1.15 (rolled)

$$C_{pk} = (\text{mean} - \text{spec}) / 3\sigma$$

A value between 1.0 and 1.25 for a one-sided spec is “barely capable”

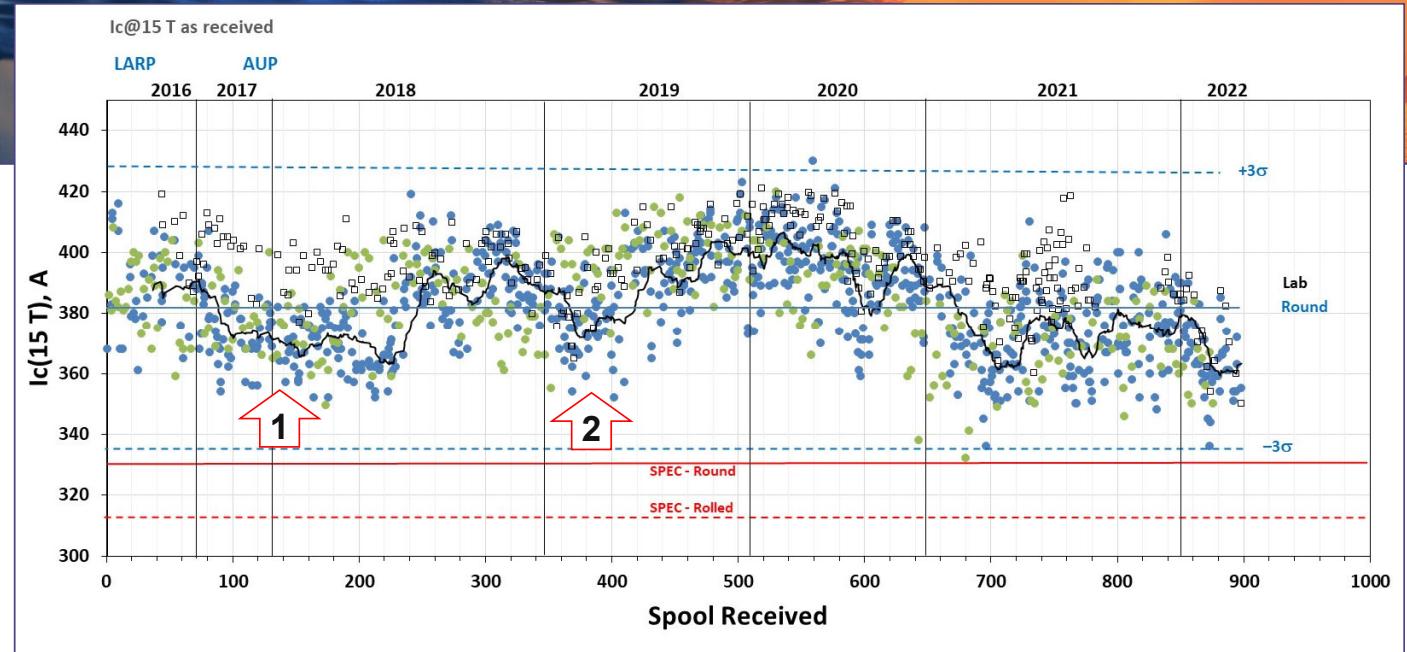
The process is “capable” for  $I_c(15T)$  specified at 324 A.



# Process tweaks from Ic(15T) data

1 – Verification lab did not implement new HT schedule (665°C/50h) in quality plan, kept old HT (665°C/75h)

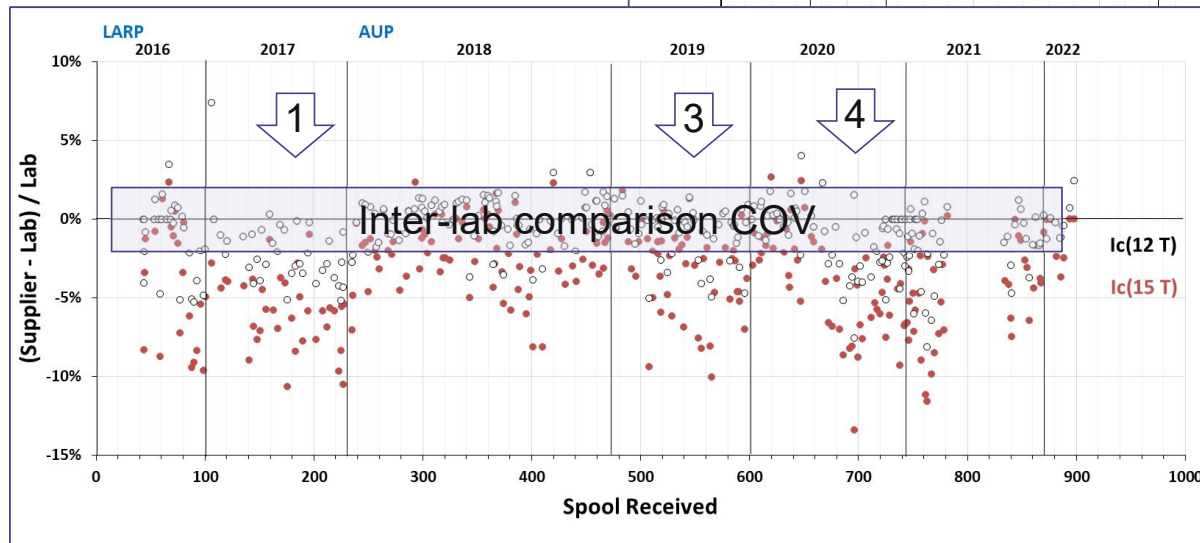
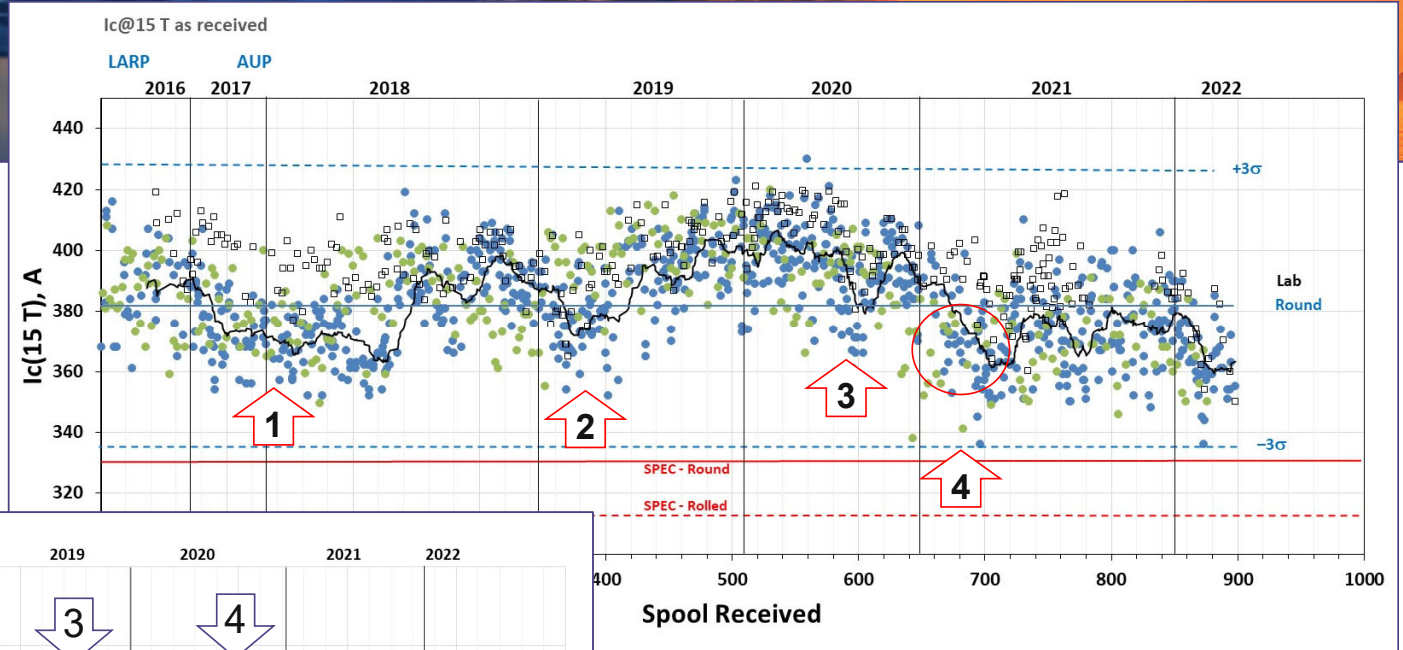
2 – Process inquiry related to performance drop. Possible natural variation due to raw material.



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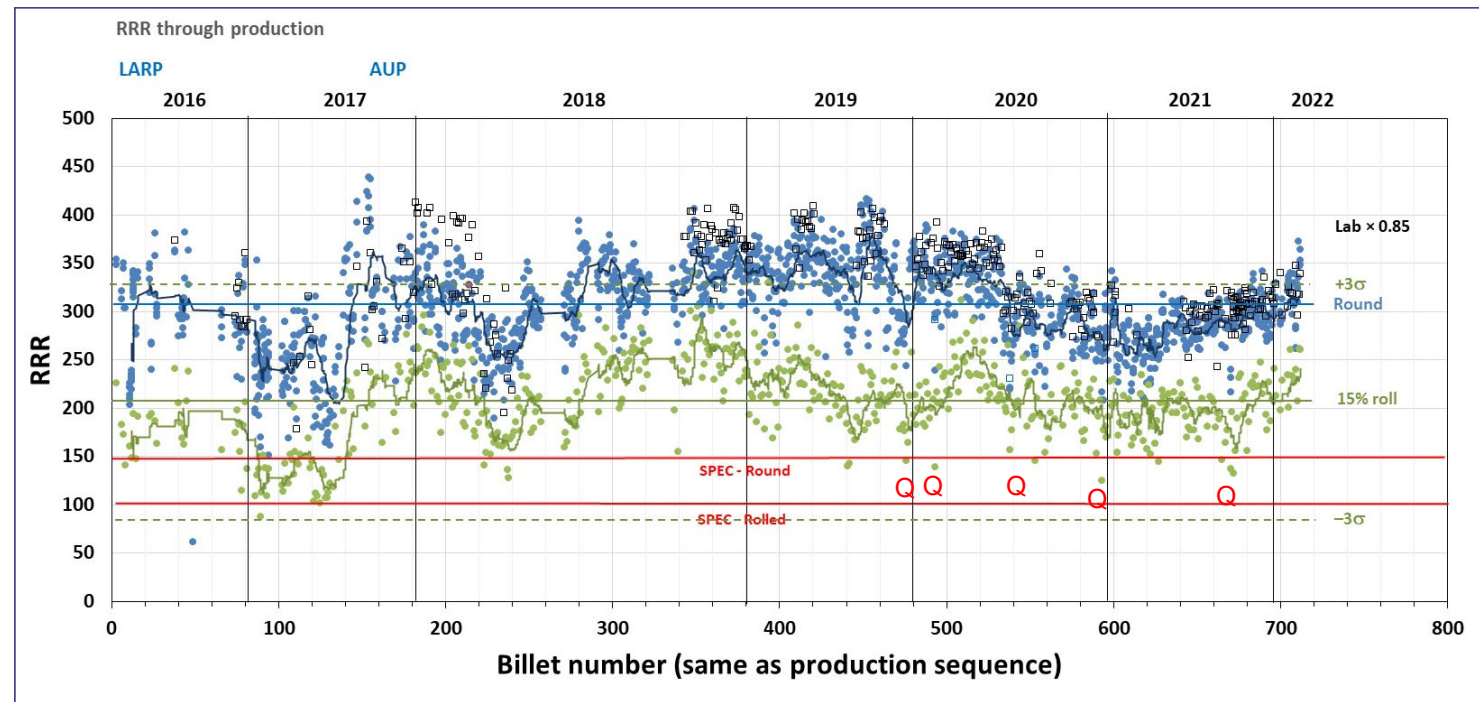
3,4 – Loss of reliability of QC measurement, supplier 5% low or more. Possible Covid-19 contribution.  
 Production audit – CAPA: (a) 100% lab testing until recovery; (b) review of procedure suggested higher strain from mounting procedure; (c) P/M of supplier furnaces, thermocouple recalibration, other steps.

# RRR: Rolled strand must withstand ~30% degradation

Rolling the strand simulates cabling degradation. Sub-elements shear, creating regions where tin can leak into the copper.

Round: average RRR = 308.2  
S.D. = 42.5 (13.8% of mean)  
 $C_{pk} = 1.24$  ("capable")

Rolled: average RRR = 211.0  
S.D. = 38.2 (18.1%)  
 $C_{pk} = 0.97$  ("barely capable")

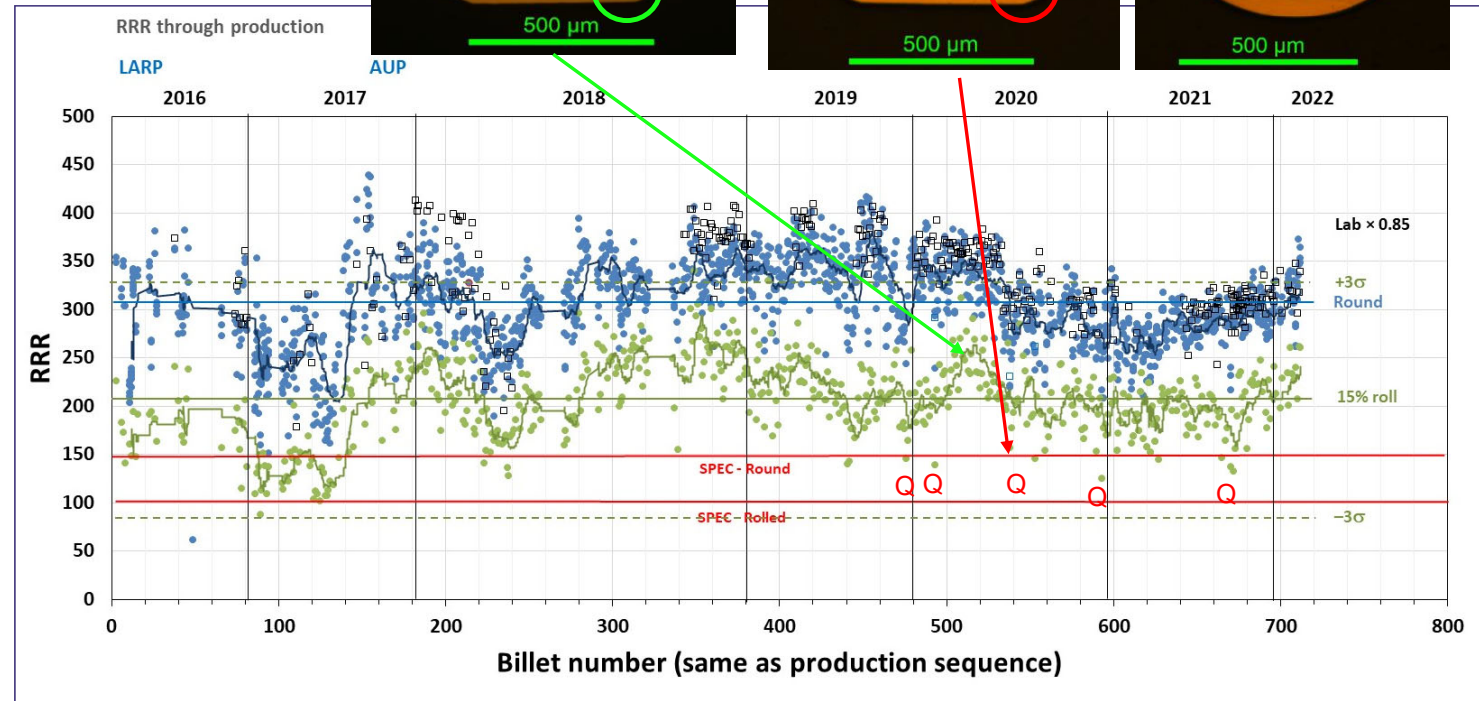
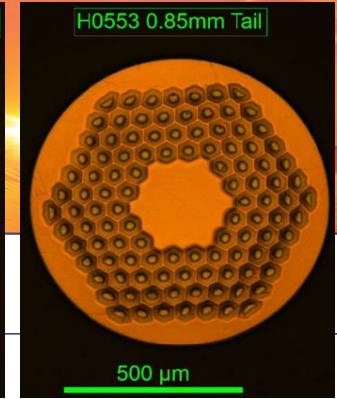
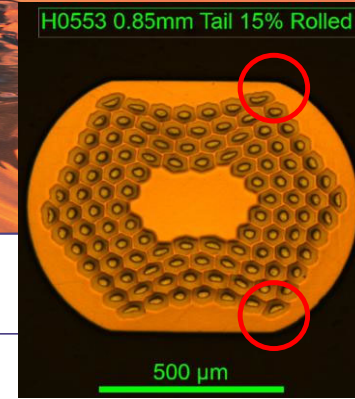
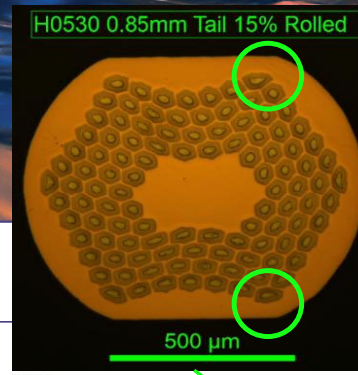


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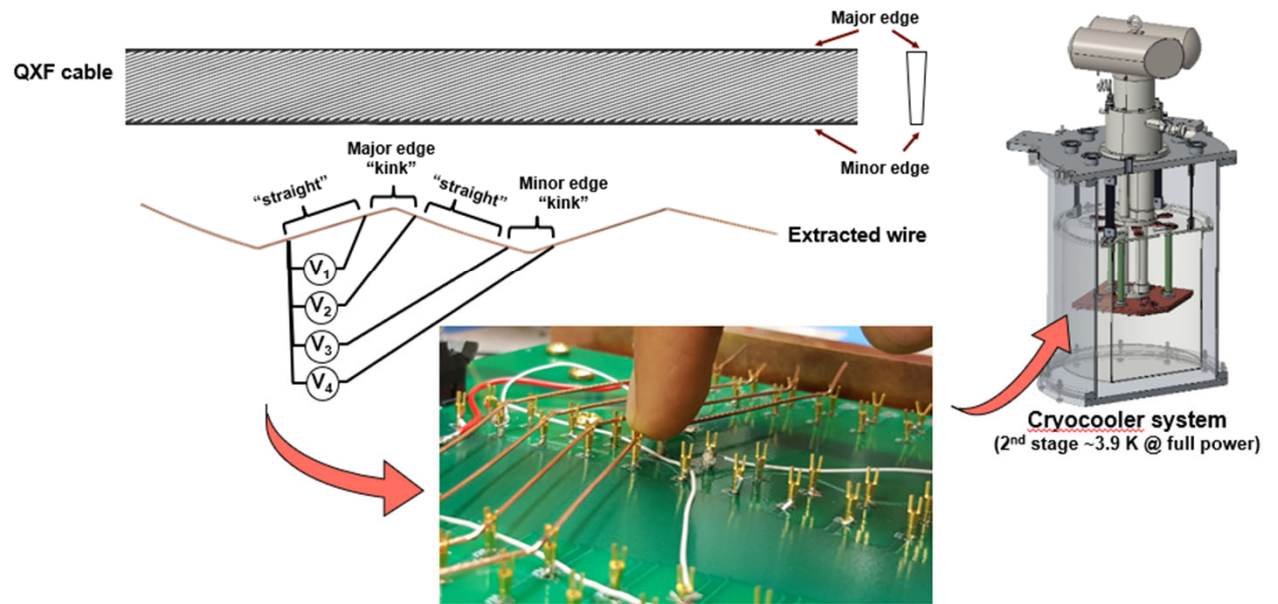


# Rolled strand is a good predictor of cable performance

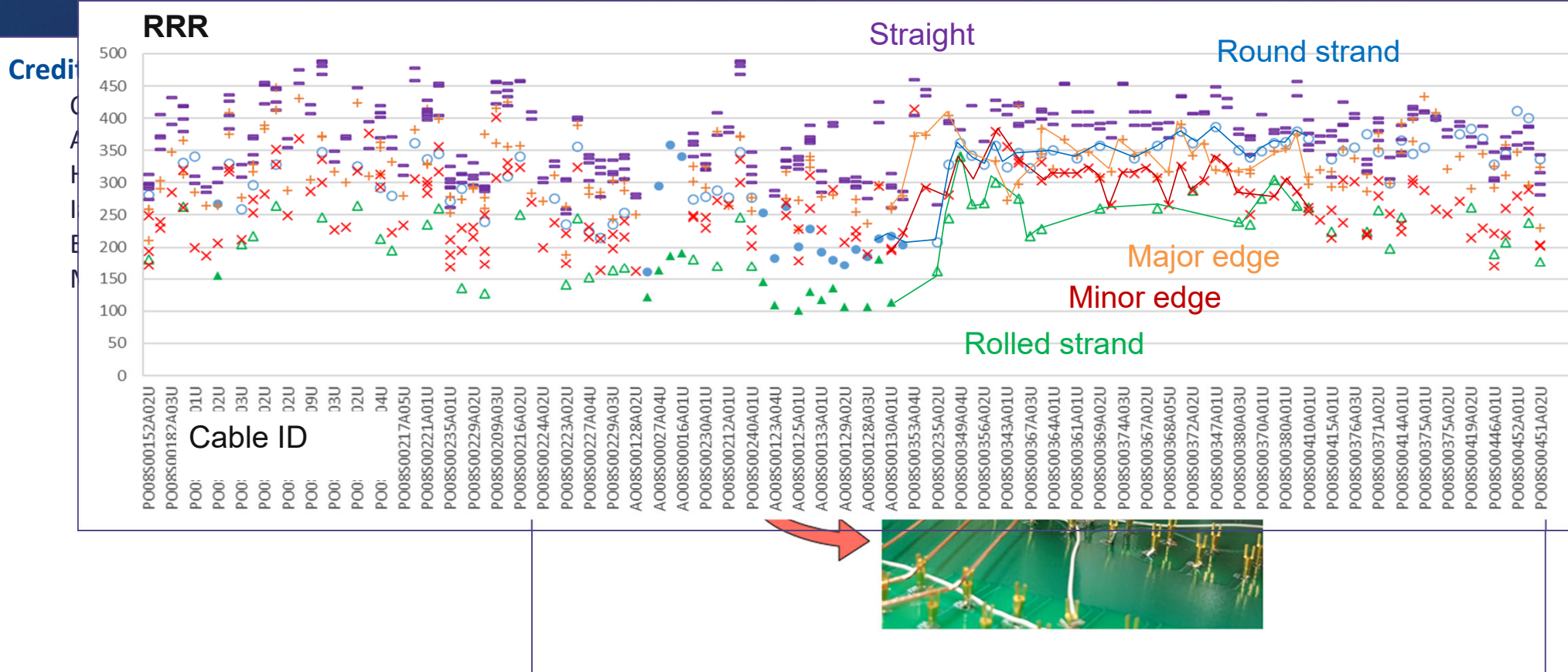
## Credit to the innovative team at LBNL:

Charlie Sanabria (then postdoc)  
Andy Lin  
Hugh Higley  
Ian Pong  
Elizabeth Lee  
Mike Naus

## Extracted strand RRR Measurement at LBNL

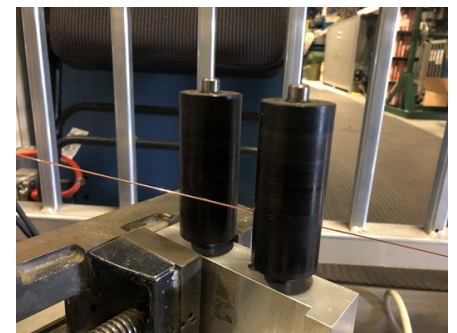


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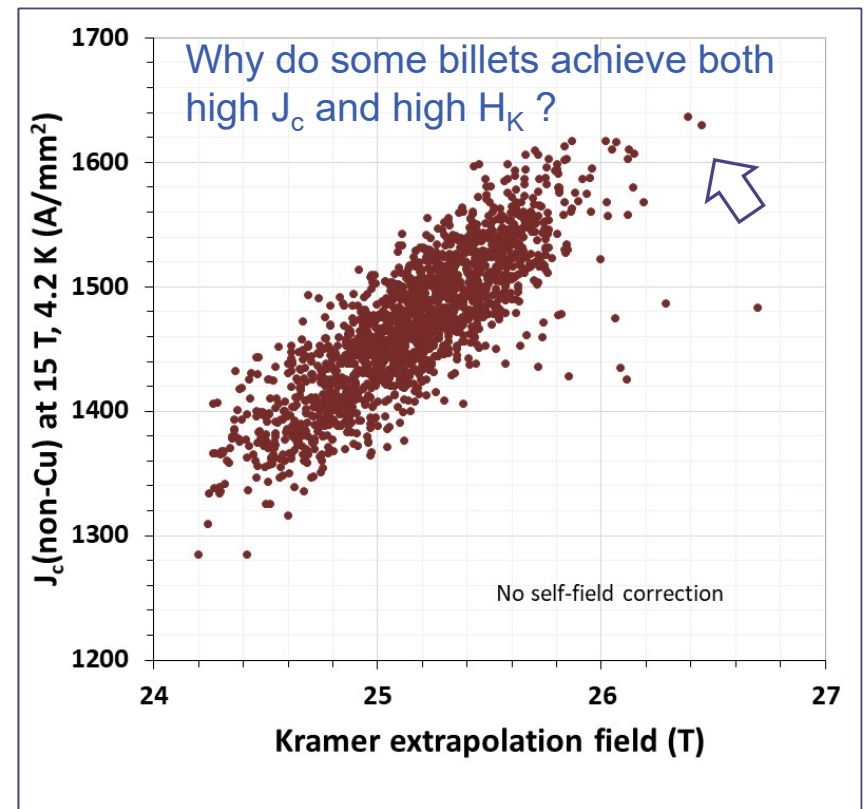
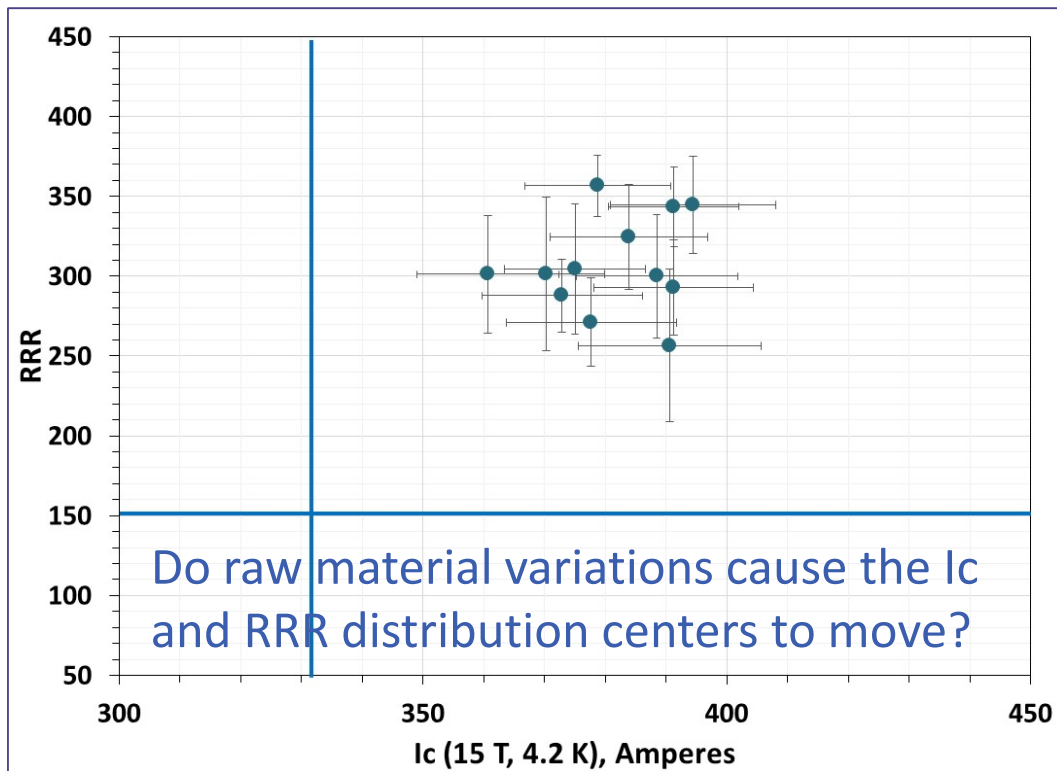


## Excess lubrication: a risk not known prior to the project

- Lubrication is necessary at all wire drawing steps, including final inspection
  - The final die size or a guide die is required to maintain tension and suppress vibration at the laser mic
- Residual lubrication is not captured in the specification
  - Too little → strand is not adequately protected from environmental effects
  - Too much → possible lost cables and coils
    - Strand slips along length counter upon respooling for cable run → mapping loss
    - Cables suffer more strand popping, possible crossovers and stress concentration in coils
- CAPA: (1) revised procedures at inspection; (2) wiping on respool line before cabling; (3) various cleaning steps were successful



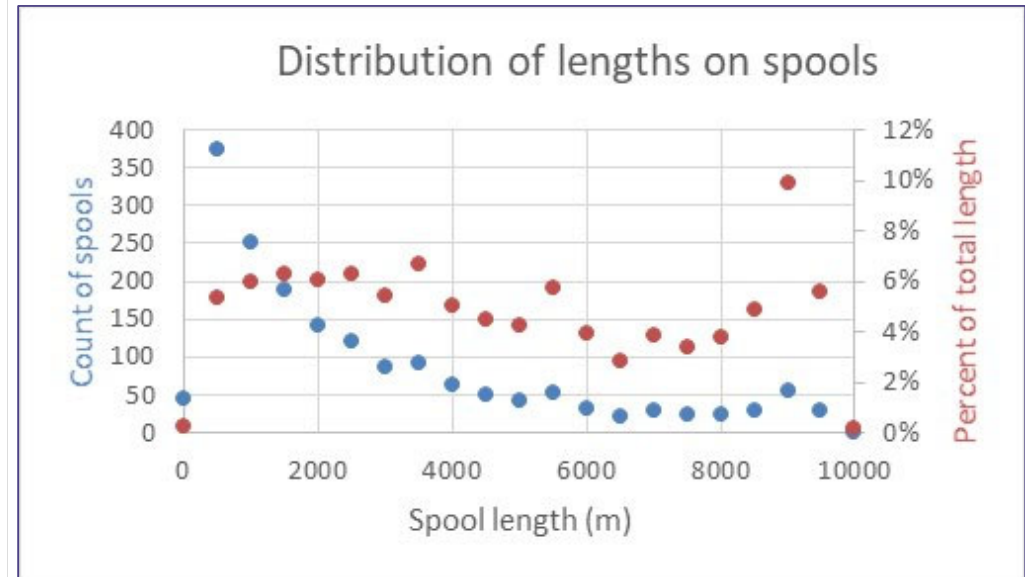
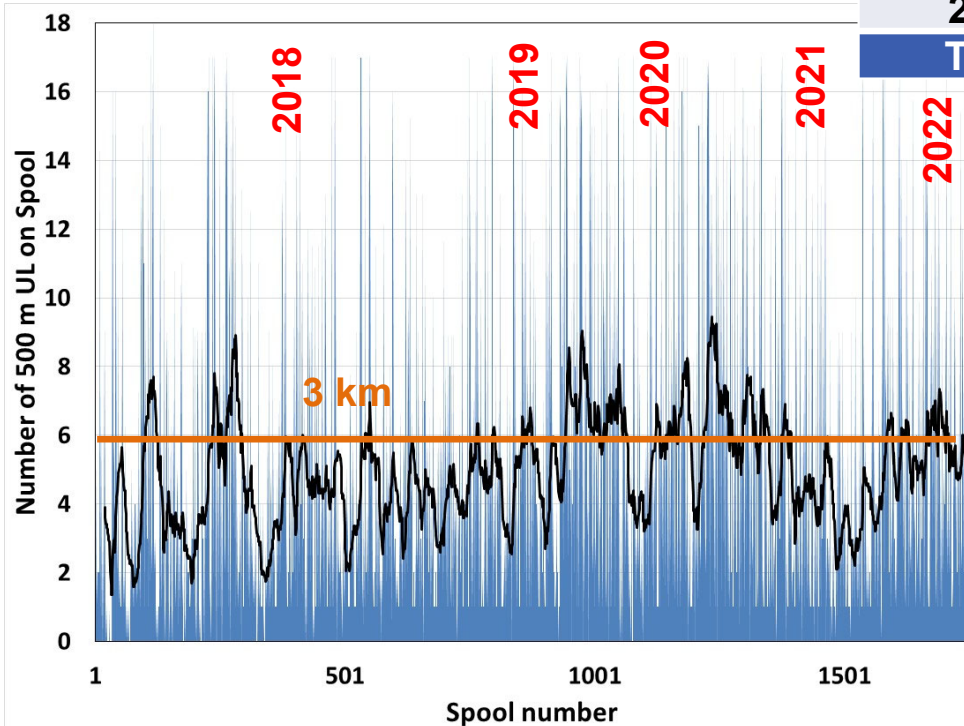
## Other characterizations now ripe for data mining



# Production length statistics

1 billet drawn in 1 piece = 9,250 m

Year	Spools	Length (m)	Invoiced	Max (m)	Avg (m)
2016	144	366,363	349,938	9,900	2,544
2017	270	742,394	702,030	9,570	2,750
2018	467	1,252,695	1,189,360	9,696	2,682
2019	265	913,683	878,560	9,783	3,448
2020	270	990,467	954,200	9,800	3,668
2021	284	772,098	733,460	9,717	2,719
2022	50	154,297	146,460	9,767	3,086
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>5,191,997</b>	<b>4,954,008</b>	<b>9,900</b>	<b>2,967</b>



# Production summary

## Overall manufacturing yield was 97%

Total length delivered / total possible length

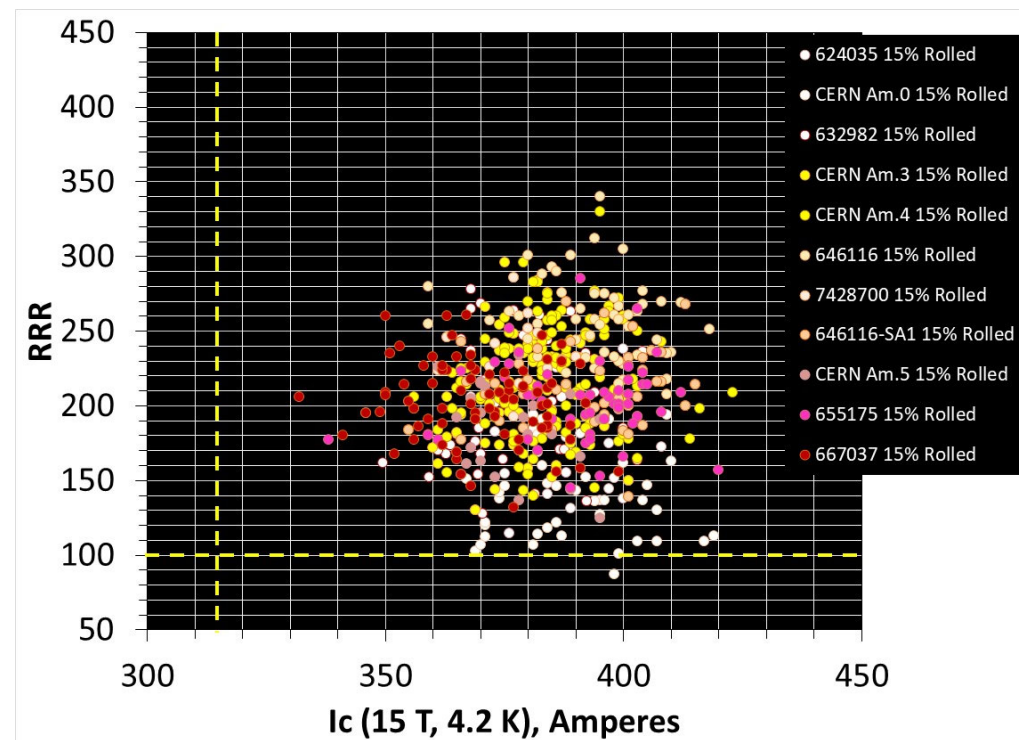
## High yield was due to complementary unit lengths for cables

AUP 500 m, CERN 840 m  
 Spool remnants were exchanged to minimize mapping loss

## Typical spool length was 3 km

Also seen for ITER manufacturing for some internal-tin suppliers

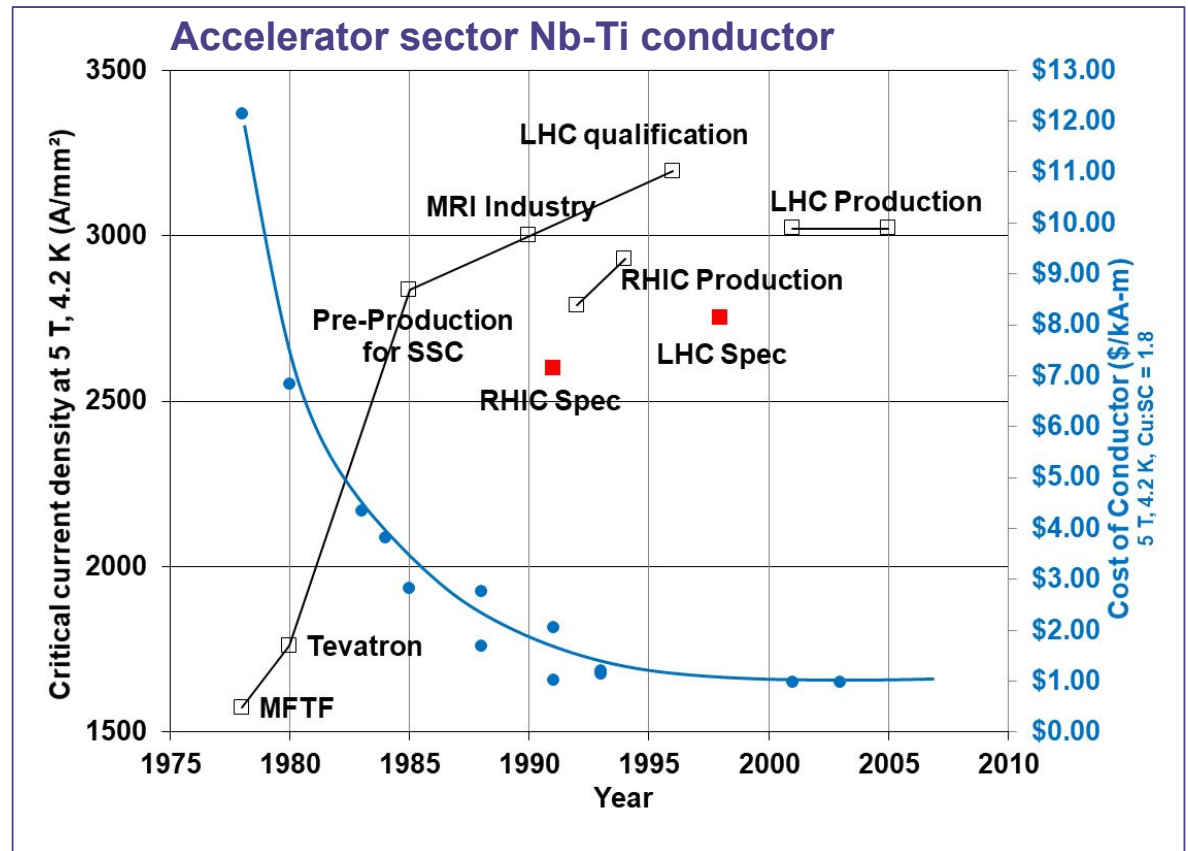
15% rolled strand data cloud



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# What happens now that the HL-LHC production run is over?

The business model we want is not the one we have, unfortunately.

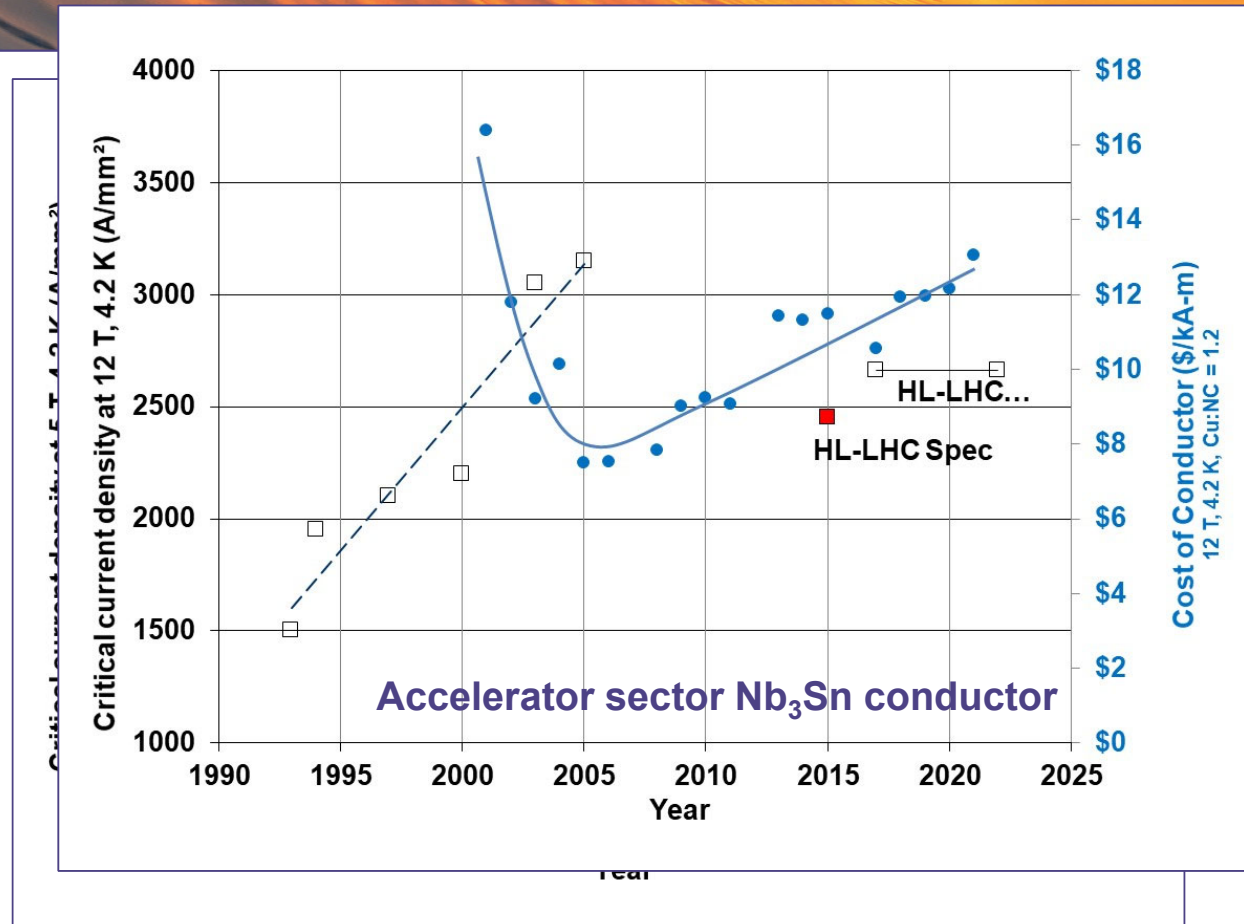


# What happens now that the HL-LHC production run is over?

The business model we want is not the one we have, unfortunately.

The accelerator sector cannot keep manufacturing “warm” by itself.

How might the accelerator sector engage more broadly with the commercial ecosystem to achieve scaling necessary for a large facility in the future?





# We know how to do this: A healthy public-private partnership advanced conductors and magnet technology for HL-LHC

2002–2014

Suppliers

Consumers

CDP+LARP:  
\$0.5M/yr

LARP: \$6-7 M / yr  
(Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn magnets)

Funds in

MRI margin

Bruker-EAS  
Hanau, Ger. – Secondary mfr. of  
accelerator-grade Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn

Bruker-OST  
Carteret, NJ –Primary mfr. of  
accelerator-grade Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn

Small businesses  
Developing accelerator-grade  
Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn at small scale

Non-Competing mfrs.

Competing NMR mfrs.

Bruker-Biospin  
Market-leading high-field NMR mfr.

The Accelerator Sector  
Requirements often exceed the  
state of the art

HF and UHF  
NMR

11 T dipoles

Magnets out

LTSW, MEM,  
other workshops

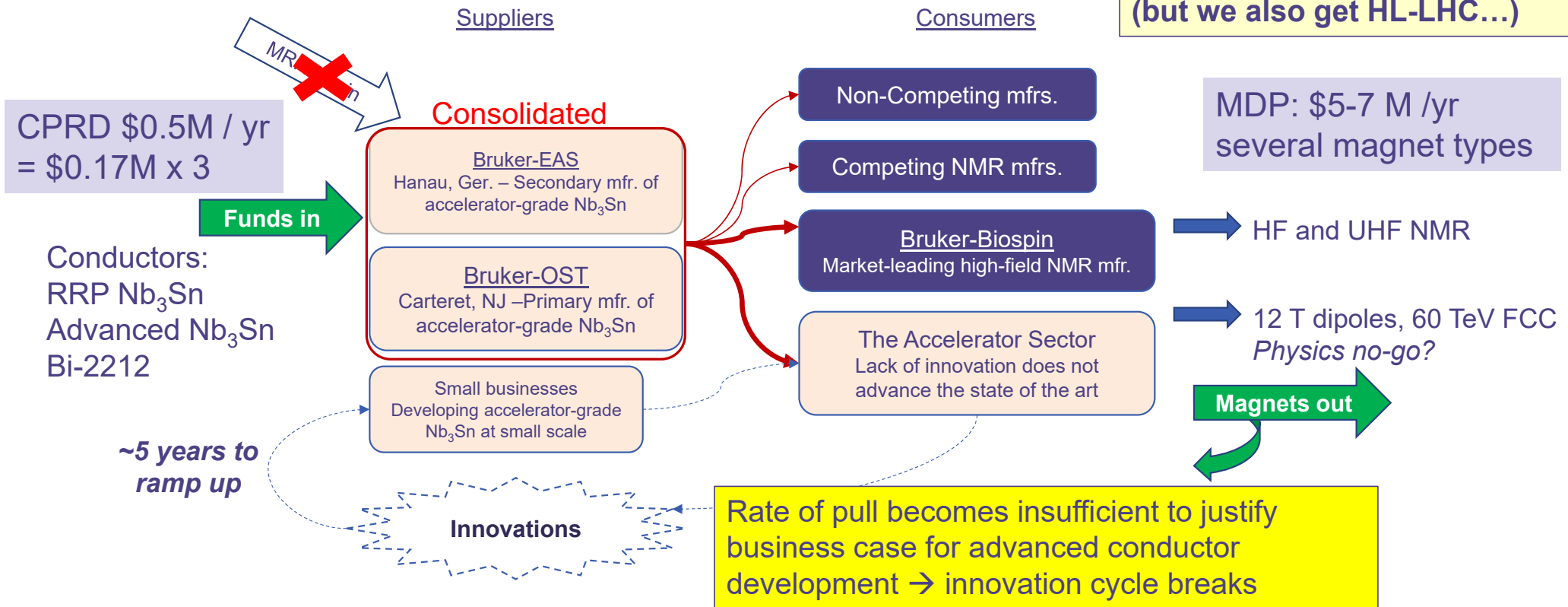
Innovations

Research magnets expose  
unknowns, advance the leading  
edge of technology

# Threat: Market forces compel consolidation by suppliers, innovation cycle breaks

P5 (2013): more projects, less  
 R&D → MDP, CPRD funded  
 below LARP and CPD

(but we also get HL-LHC...)



# Stewardship of the Accelerator Sector by the DOE Office of Accelerator R&D and Production (ARDAP)

## ARDAP Workshop on the Development of Business Models for Superconductors in the Accelerator Sector Supply Chain

13-14 March 2022  
Tufts University



US Army Col. (ret.) Steven Rotkoff  
Advisor to the Joint Chiefs  
Co-founder Red Teaming School



Prof. Whitney Hischier  
Haas School of Business  
Univ. California - Berkeley

### Themes from stakeholder interviews prior to workshop:

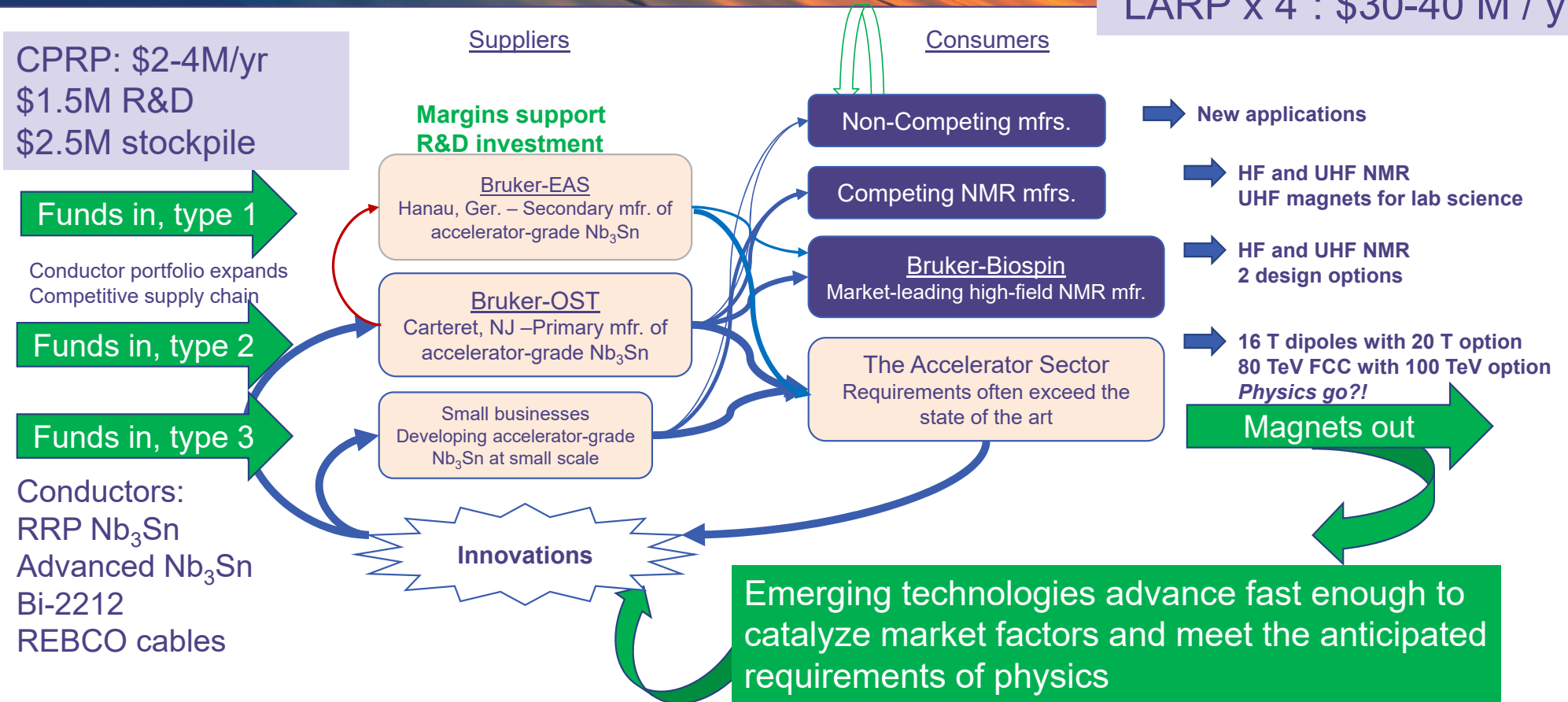
- Distinguish *products* from development *projects*. Workforce for production is different than workforce for development.
- Distinguish *systems* from *components*. A magnet is often a component of a larger system.
- Critical shortages in talent exist, as well as needs for re-training and retaining existing talent.
- Critical supply chain challenges exist in materials and manufacturing.
- Timeline to get out of the business is as short as 18 months for some businesses.
- There are no feasible near term new commercial applications (for accelerator-grade Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn conductor).
- Market forces are the single most important component to manage superconductor manufacturing.
- Must provide actionable items to DOE.

## Chief workshop outcomes

- The accelerator sector (AS) drives technology forward, more so than any other sector.
- The AS must embrace the fact that it is wedded to an industry ecosystem, and therefore the AS should take actions that also serve the ecosystem.
  - For example, improve industry access to facilities at national laboratories and universities
- Funds into a public-private partnership need to triple or more. Upcoming P5 and National Academies panels should be given justification for emphasizing this message.
  - Magnet pull is the single strongest driver to keep manufacturing warm. Invest in magnet R&D.
  - A conductor stockpile or repository could help sustain demand, ameliorate supply chain risk, and possibly facilitate valley-of-death bridges for emerging commercial applications.
- Universities, who supply the talent pipeline, should also take on traineeship roles and connect with trade schools.
- Communications and marketing are essential to make careers in the accelerator sector attractive. Make superconductors sexy again!

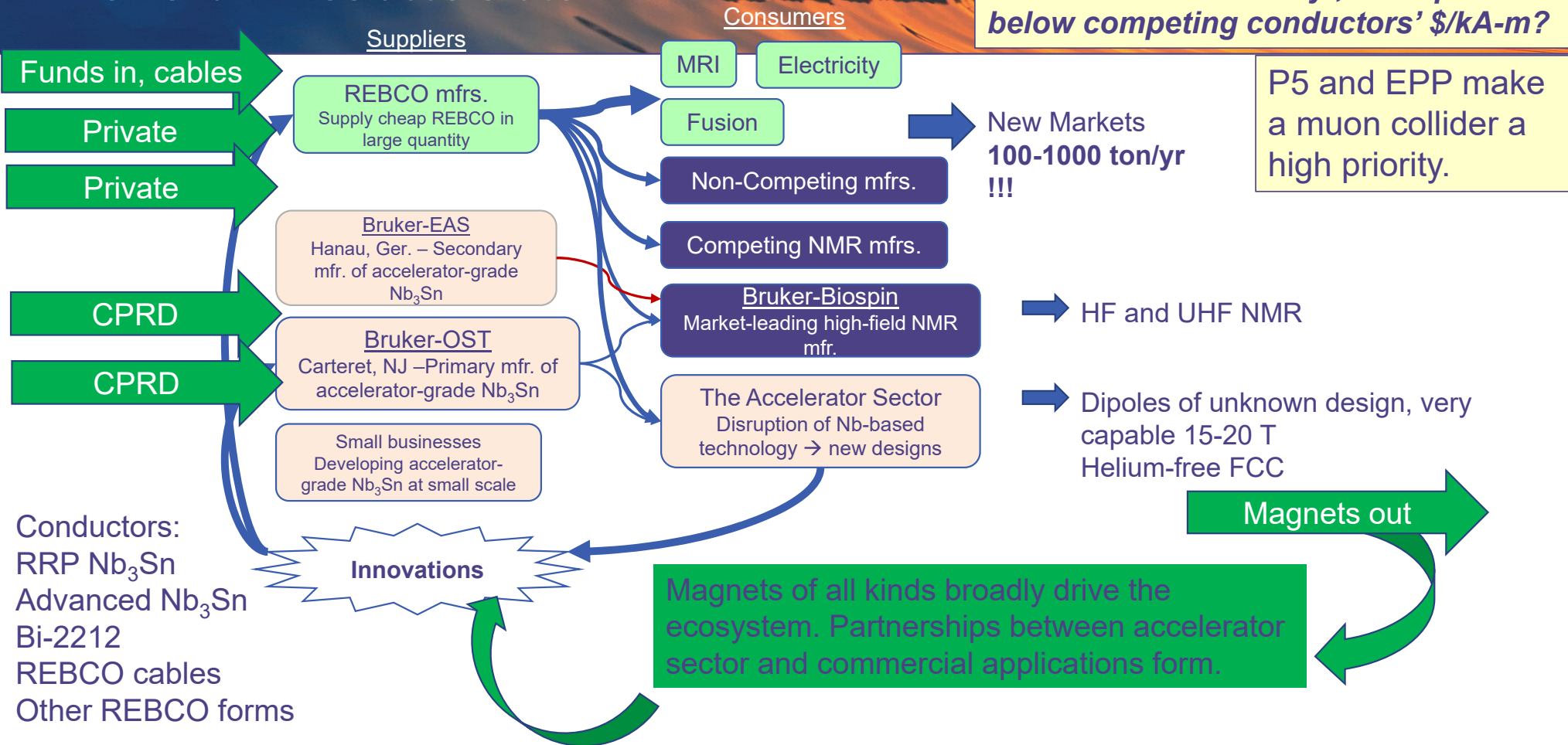
# A desired scenario for a public-private partnership that addresses many workshop recommendations

“LARP x 4”: \$30-40 M / yr



# How soon? The helium-free accelerator?

**What if fusion and sustainable energy (wind turbines, e.g.) drive REBCO demand above 50 ton/yr, drive price below competing conductors' \$/kA-m?**



## Discussion and Summary

- The ARDAP workshop motivated the stakeholders to think more broadly in terms of the return on investment to the nation (or the world) for enhancing public-private partnerships in the accelerator sector. **We need to keep improving the message!**
  - **The Accelerator Sector must embrace and improve its relationship with the commercial magnet sector.**
  - **Ziad Melhem and the SC Future consortium have picked this up in a big way!**
- Magnet builds are the currency unit of the technology advancement cycle.
- While a potential 10,000-ton Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn procurement for a future collider is not yet certain, Nb<sub>3</sub>Sn will continue to be the conductor of choice for at least the next decade. We must continue to be stewards of this vital resource for magnet technology.
- Accelerator magnets (and NMR magnets) need homogeneous fields. Round-wire multifilamentary conductors (e.g. Bi-2212) have advantages.
  - Much credit to Bruker Biospin for proving REBCO NMR magnets at 1.2 GHz and 28.3 T! Will REBCO work in accelerator magnets?
- 1,000-ton/yr production of REBCO is like printing newspaper. How are we going to do this?

# Thank you

White paper on conductors in the accelerator sector:  
**Challenges and opportunities to assure future manufacturing of magnet conductors for the accelerator sector**

Cooley, D Larbalestier, K Amm - arXiv preprint arXiv:2208.12379, 2022 - arxiv.org

The ARDAP workshop final report will be posted on OSTI.gov and ArXiv.org in ~1 month.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science



**APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY CENTER**  
NATIONAL HIGH MAGNETIC FIELD LABORATORY  
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

