

Comprehensive Modelling Study of Quench Behaviour of the NHMFL 32 T All-Superconducting Magnet System. Input Data and Methodology Aspects.

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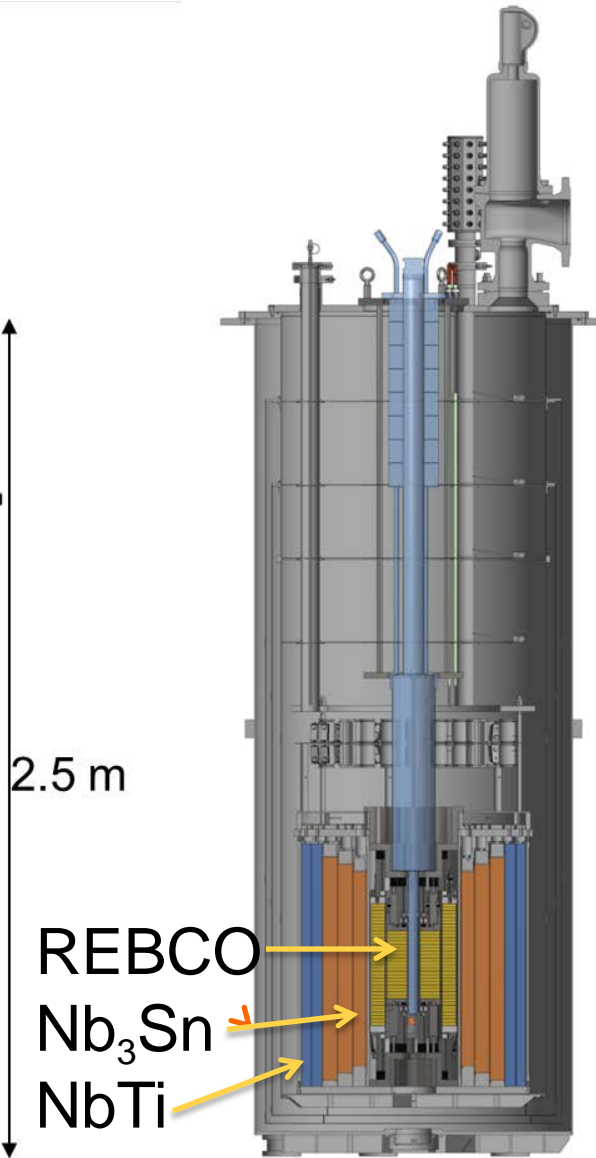
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The 32 T Magnet System



Key parameters:

Center field 32 T

Clear bore 34 mm

Ramp time 1 hour

Uniformity 1 cm DSV 5×10^{-4}

Stored energy 8.3 MJ

Expected cycles/20 years 50,000

Operating temperature 4.2 K

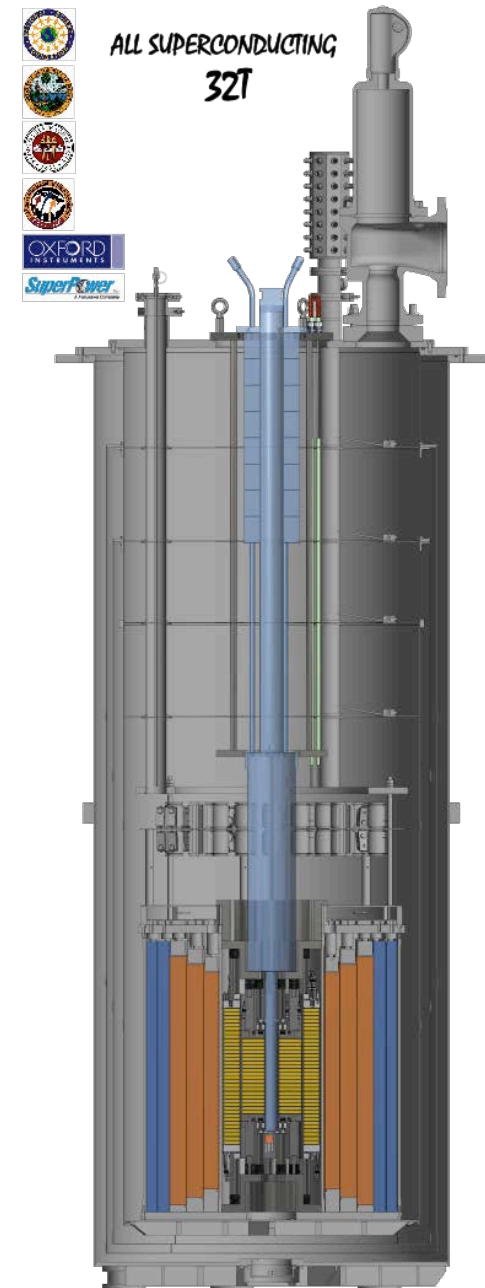
15 T / 250 mm bore LTS magnet

17 T / 34 mm bore REBCO coils

Separately powered, simultaneously
ramped

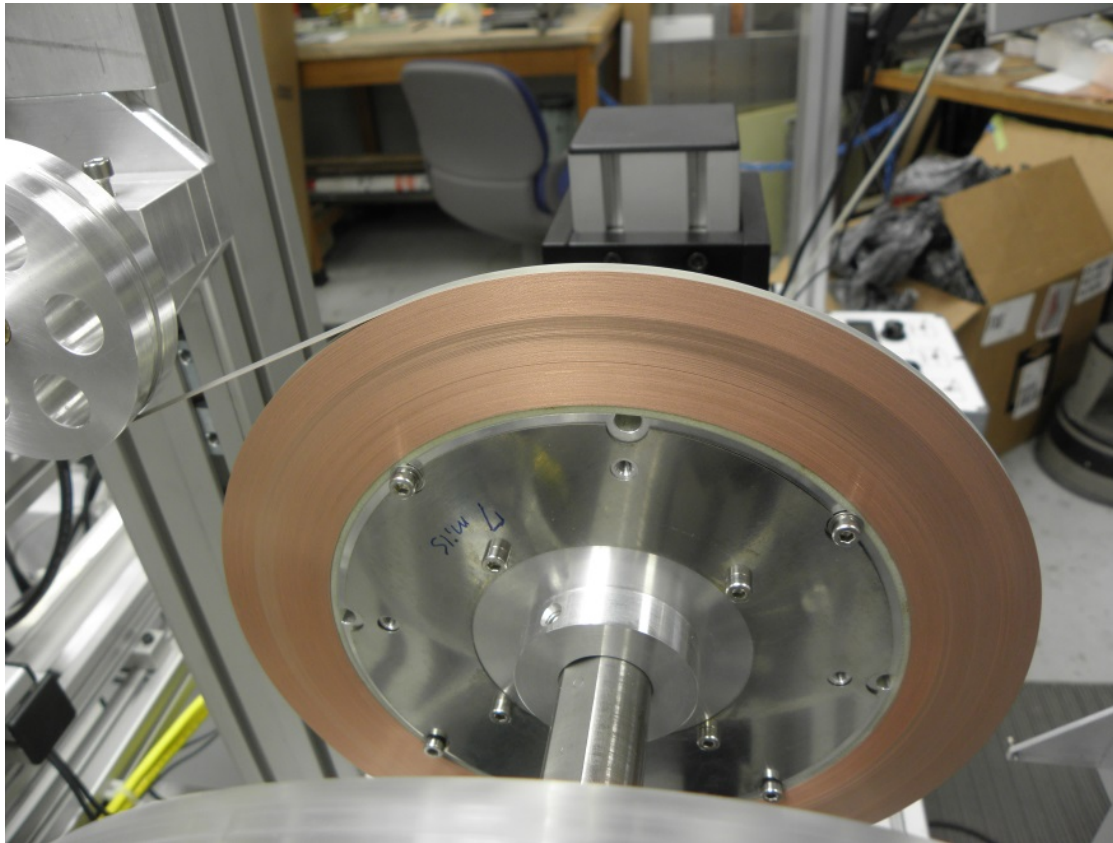
Outline

1. Details of a our approach to quench analysis.
2. Comparison with quench test results. What input parameters can affect the simulation results and to what extent?



The 32T magnet insert

Each coil of the HTS insert consists of double-pancakes (*modules*), co-wound with alumina plated stainless steel strips as the inter-turn insulation and reinforcement. The coils are connected in series.



SuperPower
REBCO tape



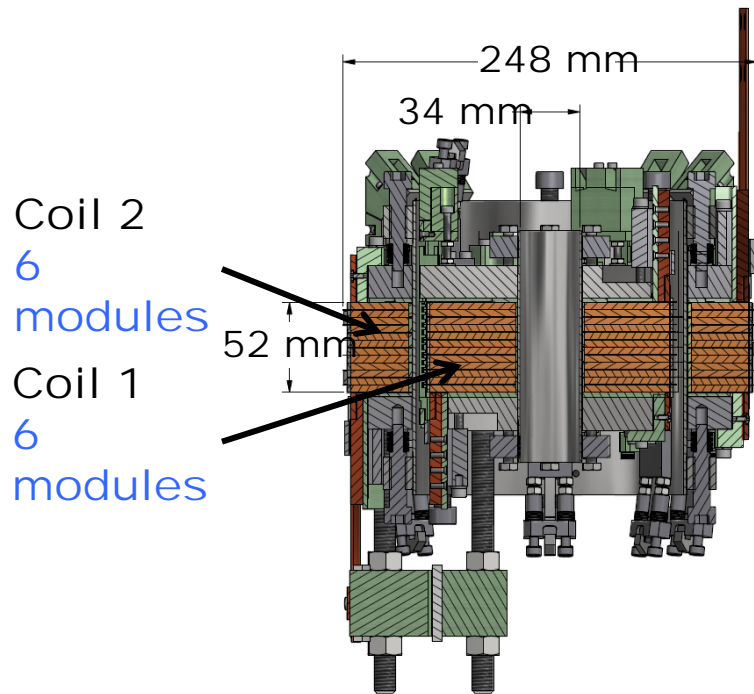
Prototypes versus 32 T

Parameter	Prototypes	32 T
Modules	6+6	20+36
Operating current (default)	200 A	180 A
Field constant	48 mT/A	94 mT/A
B radial max	3.6 / 3.3 T	3.9 / 4.8 T
L	1.6 H	16 H
M with outsert	4 H	22 H
L outsert	194 H	194 H
Max hoop stress	322 / 396 MPa	363 / 378 MPa
Mid-plane stress	-11 / -9 MPa	-21 / -49 MPa

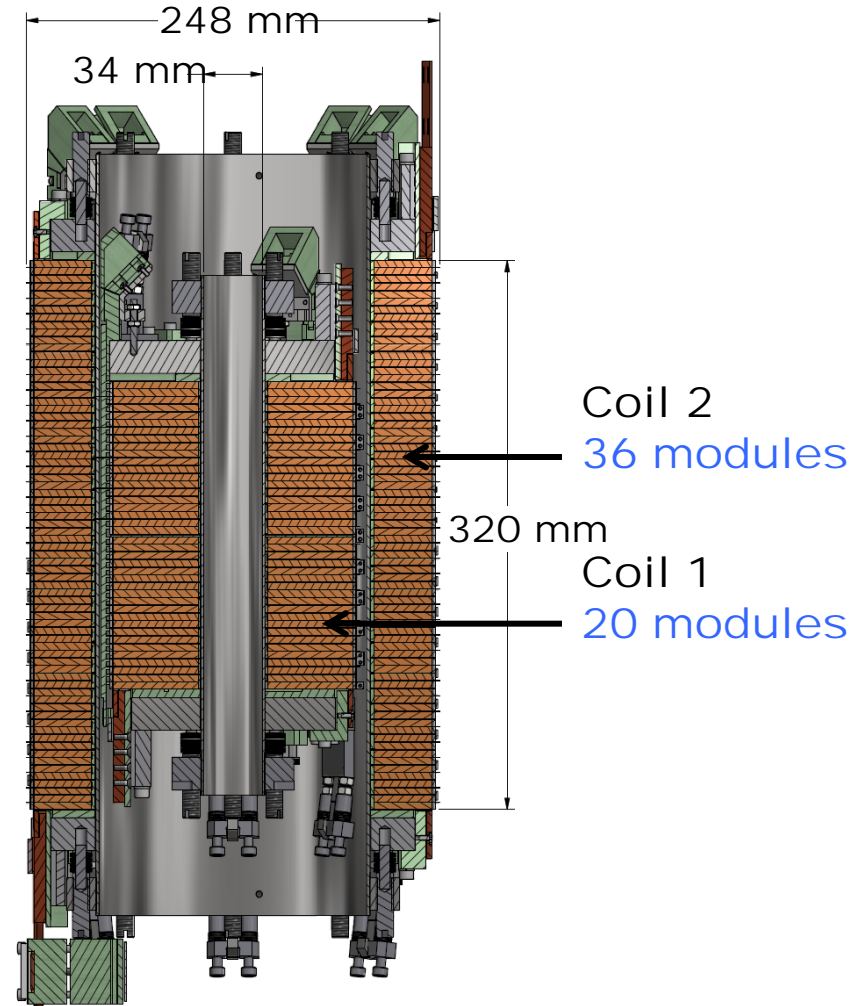
Coil 20/70 or Coil 1
 inner) &
 Coil 82/116 or Coil 2
 (outer)

REBCO Prototypes versus 32 T

Prototype Coils
(‘Dual Coil Prototype’)



32 T Inner Coils

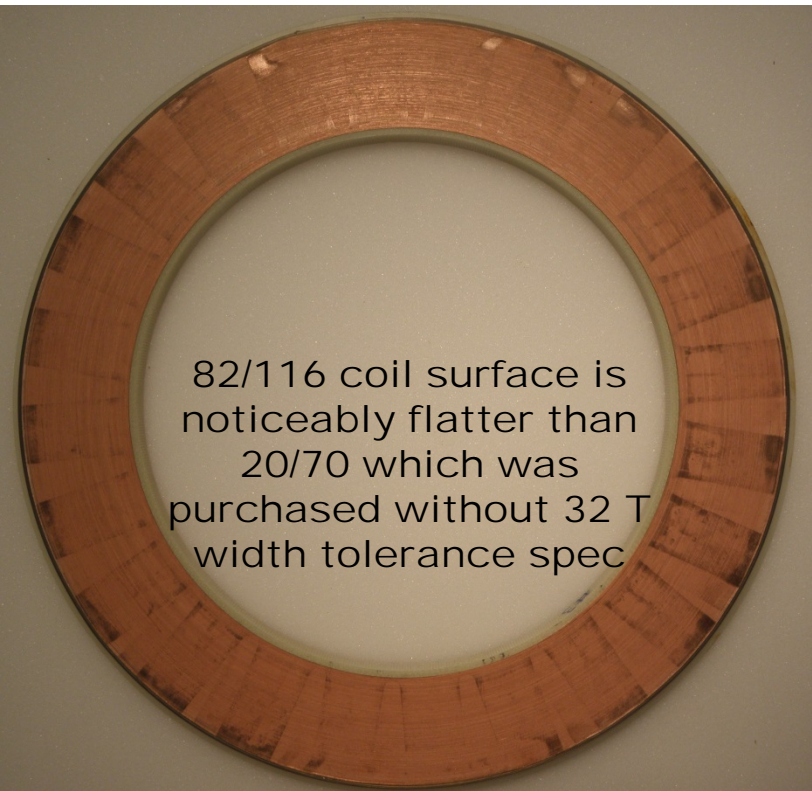


Module 1 disk 1

Facing Cooling spacer

Imprints of G-10 spacer are visible as
(edges of) dark radial bands

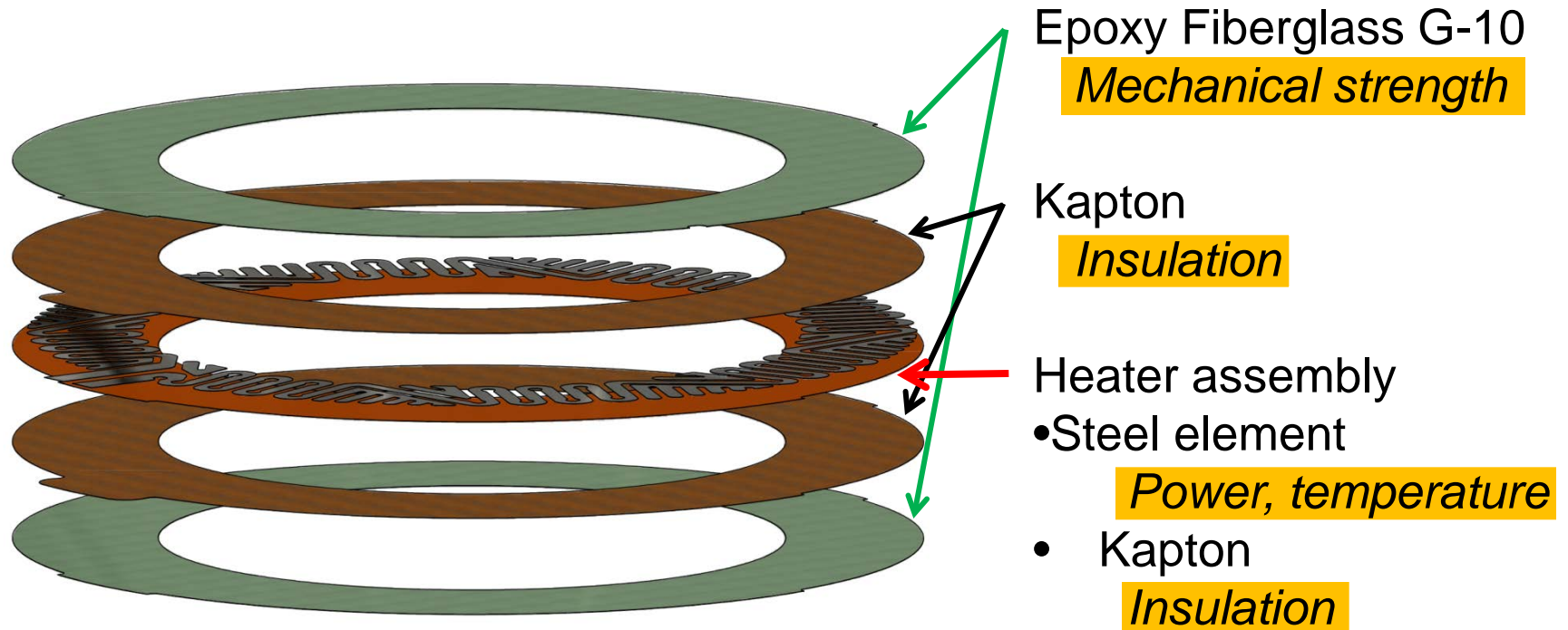
82/116 module



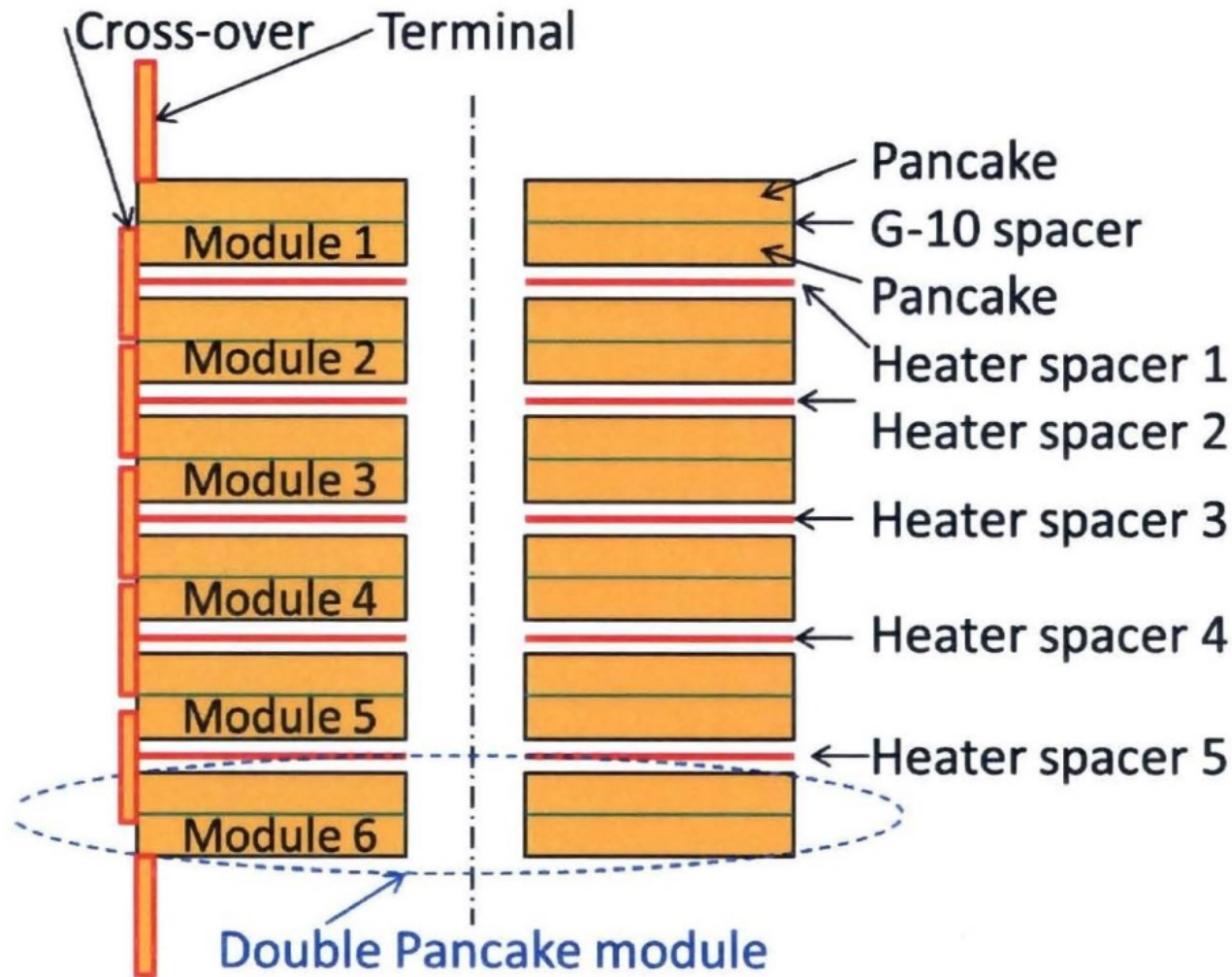
20/70 module 1



Protection Heater Design



Protection Heater Locations



A heater is fired by a current pulse ~ 1 s long.

Thermal problem. Model equation: heat conductance with a source term.

$$\left(A_{Cu} C_{Cu} + A_{SC} C_{SC} + A_{ins} (C_{ins} + f \gamma_p^{He} C_p^{He}) \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(A_t \kappa_t \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) + [A_t Q_J + A_t Q_{AC}] + \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{P_i}{\delta_i} \kappa_i^{(ins)} (\bar{T}_i) (T^{(i)} - T) + P_{1(2)} Q_{heater}, [W / m]$$

x - the coordinate along the spiral path of superconducting tape within a given pancake.

$T = T(x, t)$ - the tape temperature;

the tape cross - section area : $A_t = A_{Cu} + A_{SC}$

A_{Cu} - the tape copper matrix cross - section area;

A_{SC} - the cross - section area of other materials of the tape, incl. hastelloy substrate, etc.;

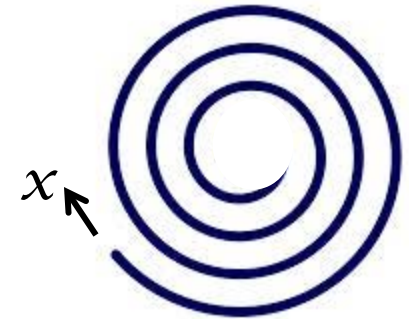
the insulated tape heat capacity :

$$A_{Cu} C_{Cu}(T) + A_{SC} C_{SC}(T) + A_{ins} (C_{ins}(T) + f \gamma_p^{He}(T) C_p^{He}(T)), [J / (m \ K)],$$

also includes the heat capacity of helium in the winding at constant pressure,

f is the helium proportion of the insulation in terms of volume.

The helium density $\gamma_p^{He}(T)$ is considered temperature dependent to mimic the helium vaporization process.



Schematic of a pancake ("disk")



Thermal problem. Model equation: heat conductance with a source term.

$$\left(A_{Cu} C_{Cu} + A_{SC} C_{SC} + A_{ins} (C_{ins} + f \gamma_p^{He} C_p^{He}) \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(A_t \kappa_t \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) +$$

$$+ [A_t Q_J + A_t Q_{AC}] + \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{P_i}{\delta_i} \kappa_i^{(ins)} (\bar{T}_i) (T^{(i)} - T) + P_{1(2)} Q_{heater}, [W / m]$$

The tape effective longitudinal thermal conductivity :

$$A_t \kappa_t = A_t \kappa_t(T, B); B = B(x, t);$$

The heating power density (index and Joule heating, and AC loss (in the superconducting areas) if any) :

$$A_t Q_J + A_t Q_{AC} =$$

$$= A_t Q_J(T(x, t), I(t), B(x, t)) + A_t Q_{AC}(T(x, t), B(x, t), \dot{B}(x, t), I(t))$$

Detailed time-varying distributions of the magnetic field components within the coils are required.

Thermal problem. Model equation.

$$\left(A_{Cu} C_{Cu} + A_{SC} C_{SC} + A_{ins} (C_{ins} + f \gamma_p^{He} C_p^{He}) \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(A_t \kappa_t \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) +$$

$$+ [A_t Q_J + A_t Q_{AC}] + \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{P_i}{\delta_i} \kappa_i^{(ins)} (\bar{T}_i) (T^{(i)} - T) + P_{1(2)} Q_{heater}, [W / m]$$

The transverse thermal axial (disk - to - disk) and radial (turn - to - turn, within a disk) links :

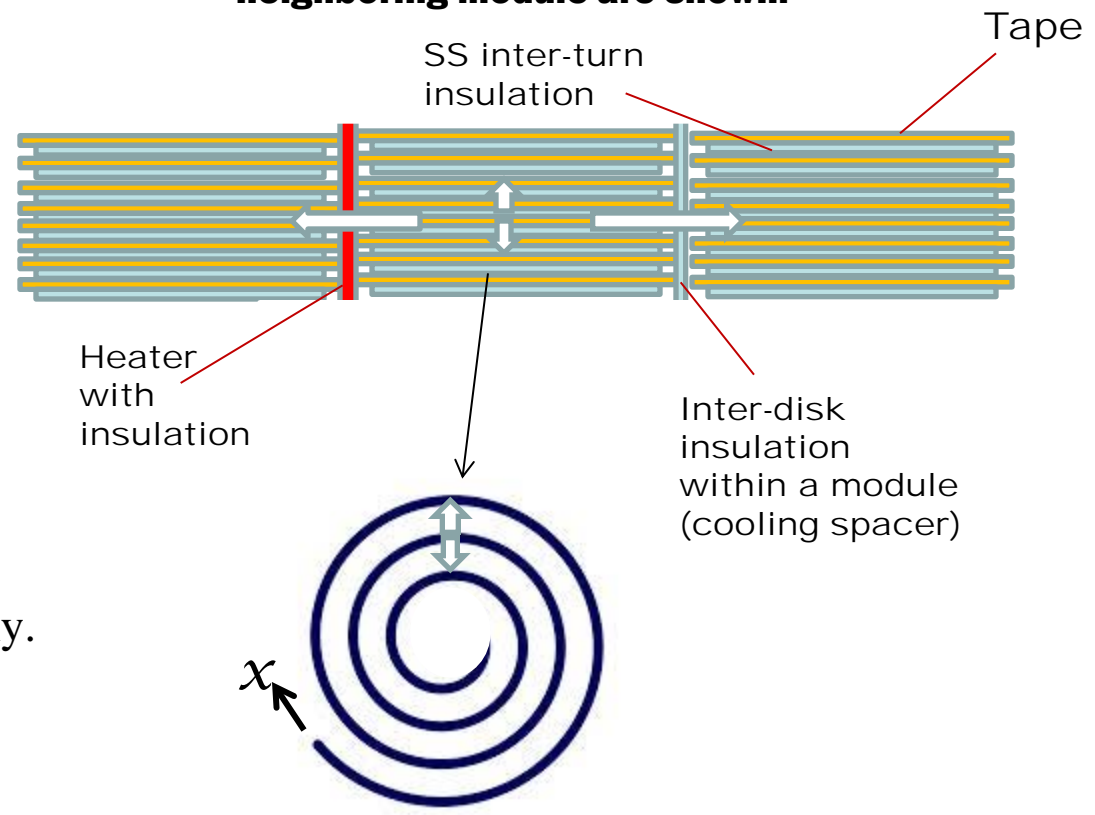
$$\sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{P_i}{\delta_i / \kappa_i^{(ins)} (\bar{T}_i) + R_C^{(i)}} (T^{(i)} - T)$$

$R_C^{(i)}$ is the thermal contact resistance characterizing the quality of contact between the superconducting tape copper matrix and the insulation.

$Q_{heater}(x, t)$ is the heat flux density from the quench protection heaters if any.

Finally, circuit equations are included.

Schematic of winding cross-section (fragment). One module and a half of neighboring module are shown.



Thermal problem. Model equation: heat conductance with a source term.

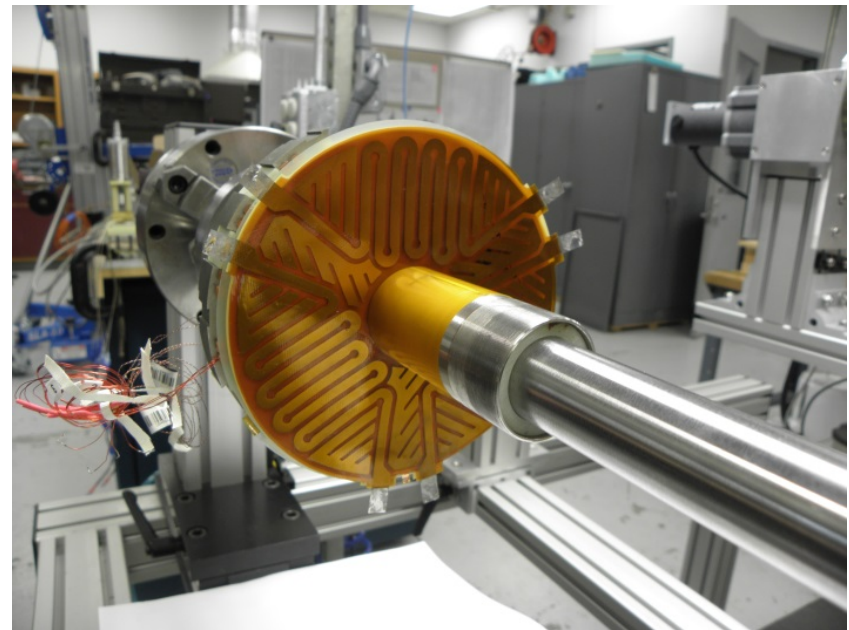
$$\left(A_{Cu} C_{Cu} + A_{SC} C_{SC} + A_{ins} (C_{ins} + f \gamma_p^{He} C_p^{He}) \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(A_t \kappa_t \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right) +$$

$$+ [A_t Q_J + A_t Q_{AC}] + \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{P_i}{\delta_i} \kappa_i^{(ins)} (\bar{T}_i) (T^{(i)} - T) + P_{1(2)} Q_{heater}, [W / m]$$

The tape effective longitudinal thermal conductivity :

$$A_t \kappa_t = A_t \kappa_t(T, B); B = B(x, t);$$

We may disregard the longitudinal heat conductance, if the distributed heaters are used.



A 3-element distributed protection heater is attached to a pancake of the insert coil 1 (the inner coil).

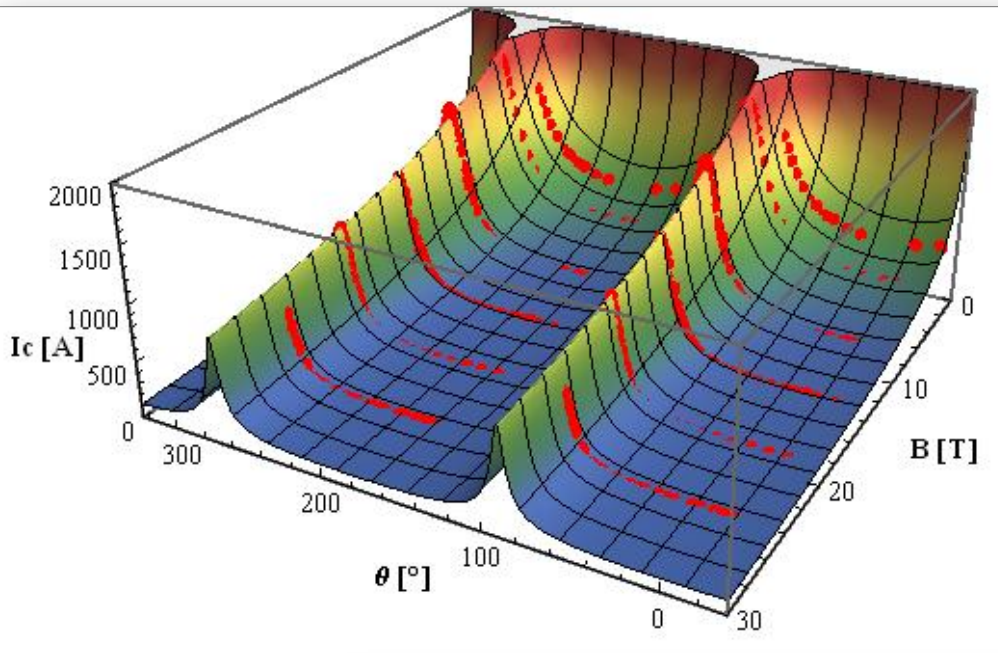
REBCO tape I_c -value.

The REBCO critical current dependence on the field and temperature is much more complicated; there exists the dependence on the field angle as well:

As can be inferred from the dependence, the critical current value is extremely sensitive to the field angle value in the vicinity of peak (90 deg. area).

The fit functions are obtained for a particular tape, SP-26. We apply this dependence to all the tapes, albeit using correction coefficients to match the measured values.

Numerous measurements of the critical current were made, and a practical fit function was suggested (@ 4.2K) (D.K. Hilton, A.V. Gavrillin and U.P. Trociewitz, "Practical fit functions for transport critical current versus field magnitude and angle data from (RE)BCO coated conductors at fixed low temperatures and in high magnetic fields", Superconductor Science and Technology, Volume 28 , Number 7, 2015):



$$I_c(B, \theta) = \frac{b_0}{(B + \beta_0)^{\alpha_0}} + \frac{b_1}{(B + \beta_1)^{\alpha_1}} [\omega_1^2(B) \cos^2(\theta - \varphi_1) + \sin^2(\theta - \varphi_1)]^{-1/2}$$

The process of superconducting-normal transition in a REBCO tape differs from that in a LTSuperconductor. A new model is required.

The index and Joule power density is calculated using the following model :

If $I < I_C(B, T, \theta)$, $A_t Q_J = I E$, where $E = E_0 \left[\frac{I}{I_C} \right]^{n(T, I)}$, $n(T)$ is measured.

the critical current criterion is $1 \mu V / cm$ ($E_0 = 1 \mu V / cm$).

If $I \geq I_C(B, T, \theta)$ and $\frac{\partial E}{\partial I} \approx \frac{E - E_0}{I - I_C} < \rho_{Cu} / A_{Cu}$, then $A_t Q_J = I E$;

else (i.e., $\frac{\partial E}{\partial I} \geq \rho_{Cu} / A_{Cu}$):

$A_t Q_J = I (I - I_C) \rho_{Cu} / A_{Cu}$, if $I_C > 0$, and $A_t Q_J = I^2 \rho_{Cu} / A_{Cu}$, if $I_C = 0$.

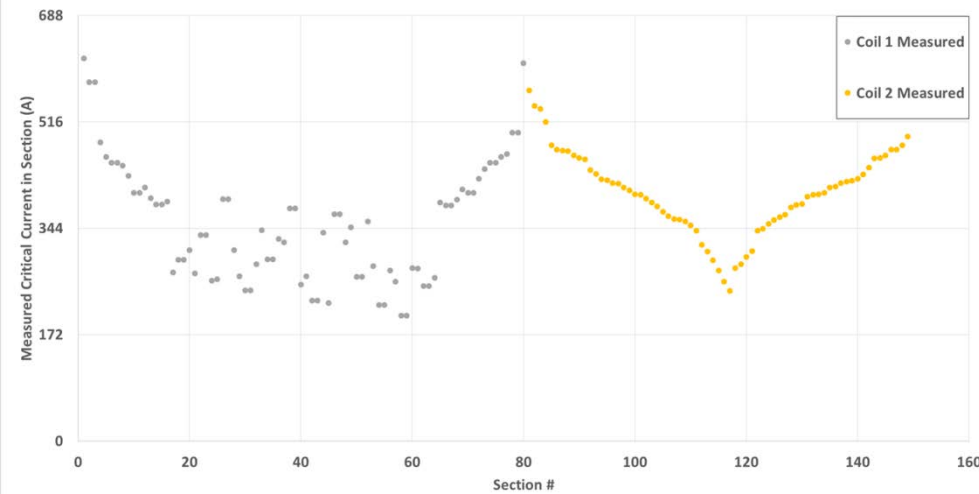
The resistive voltage of a pancake (disk) $V_D(t) = \int_0^l E(t, x) dx$,

where l is the tape length within a given disk;

the coil resistance $V_C(t) = \sum_{k=1}^N V_D^{(k)}(t)$, where N is the total number of disks in the coil.

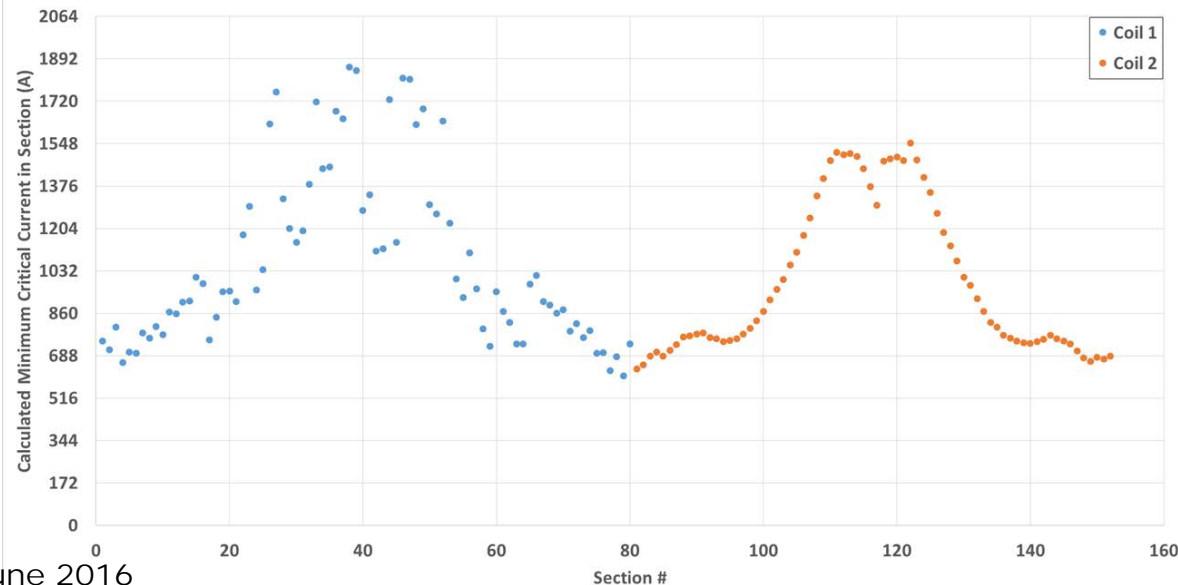
Insert Coils Layout. Example.

32T Measured Critical Current per Coil Section
 Measurements Made at 4.2K with $B = 17T$ & 18° to AB plane



Different conductors are used to wind pancakes (with rather different I_c -values).
 Despite the fact that the least-quality tapes are used for the internal modules, to quench them by the heaters will not be easy.

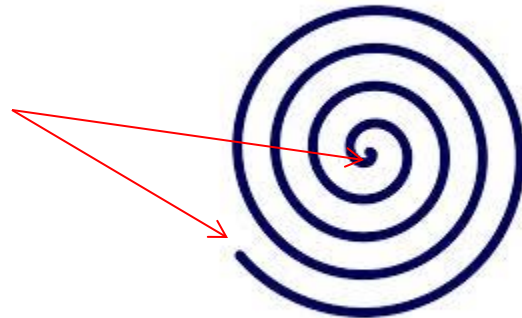
32T Minimum Calculated Critical Current per Coil Section
 Calculated for Accurate In-Situ I_c



Insert Coils Layout.

What I_c -values are used?

The superconductor comes in spools. Typically the I_c -value is measured at the ends of each spool in a high field at different angles. We pick the minimal value. Is it a conservative approach?



We tested the dual coil prototype in the actual outsert.

The insert module voltages and the insert current were measured.

Quench test.

Insert current: 222 A (23T in the insert)

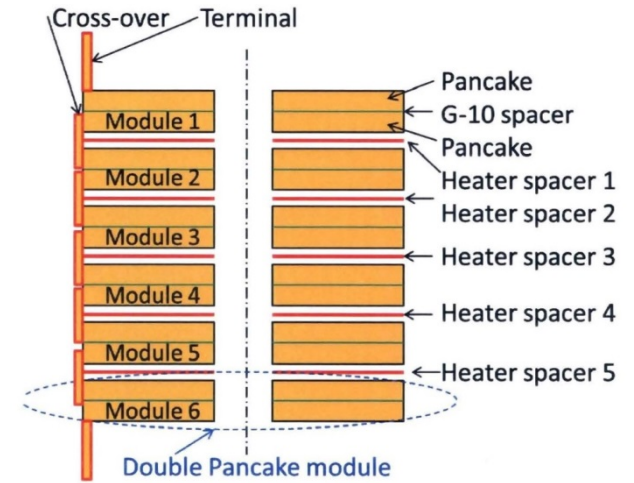
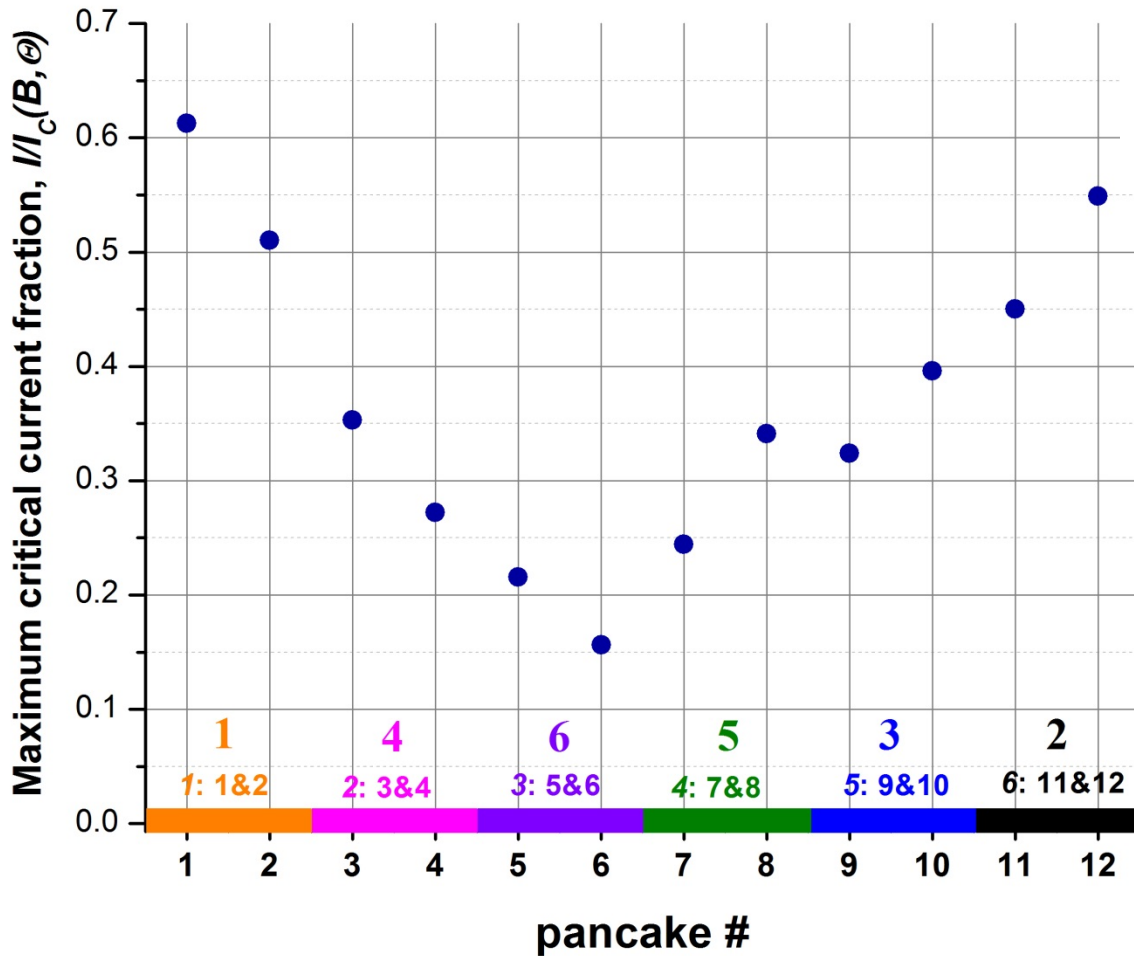
Outsert current: 214 A (12T in the outsert)

The outsert is actively and passively protected (false positive in detection).

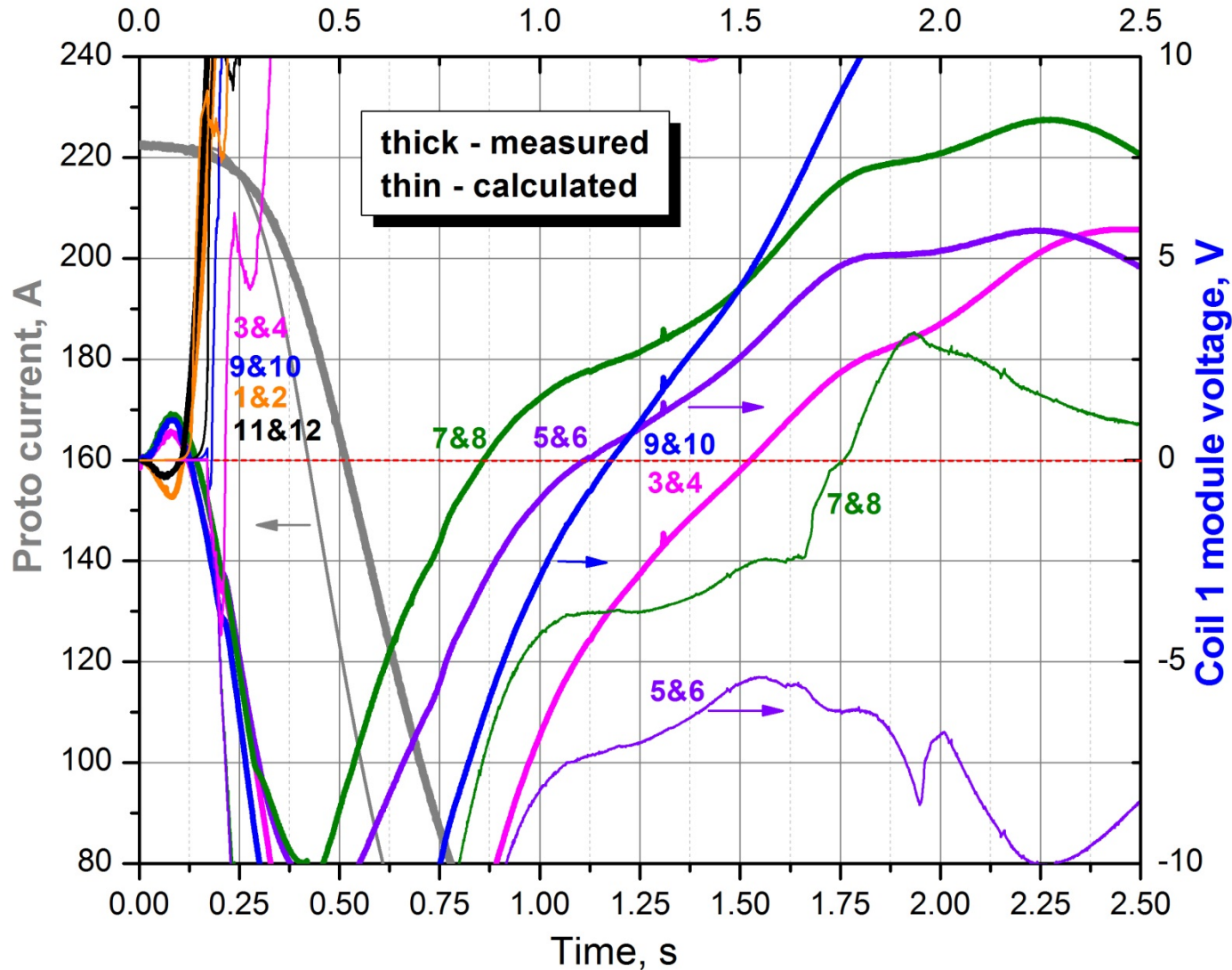
Quench initiation: all the insert heaters are fired simultaneously. ~ 1.2 s long pulse.

Quench test. The expected sequence of quenching of the modules. Coil 1.

@full currents



Quench test. The real picture (the measured sequence of quenching) & the first-cut simulation. Coil 1.



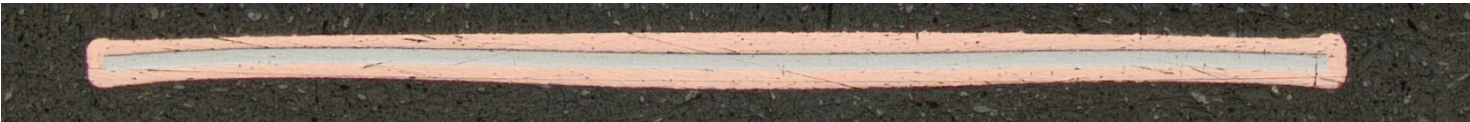
No agreement...

? !

Quench test. The real picture (measurements) & the first-cut simulation. Coil 1.

What is a reason for so huge discrepancy?

1. The turns in the coils are not fully horizontally oriented (tilting, dishing, etc.) due to the fact that the tapes are not flat, and so the tilt angle is not zero (may be ~1 deg. and even larger).

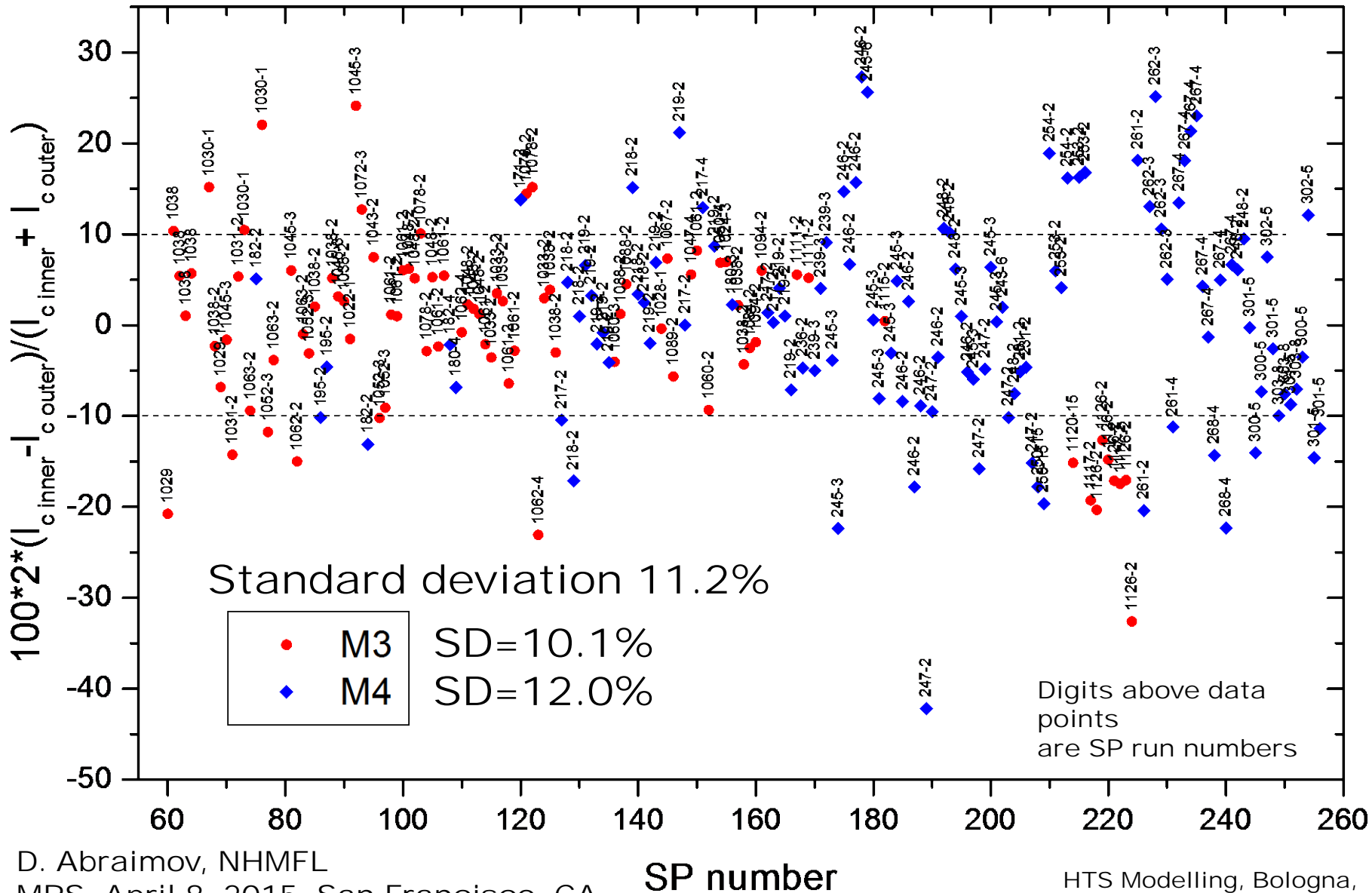


2. The I_c -values we picked are not representative.

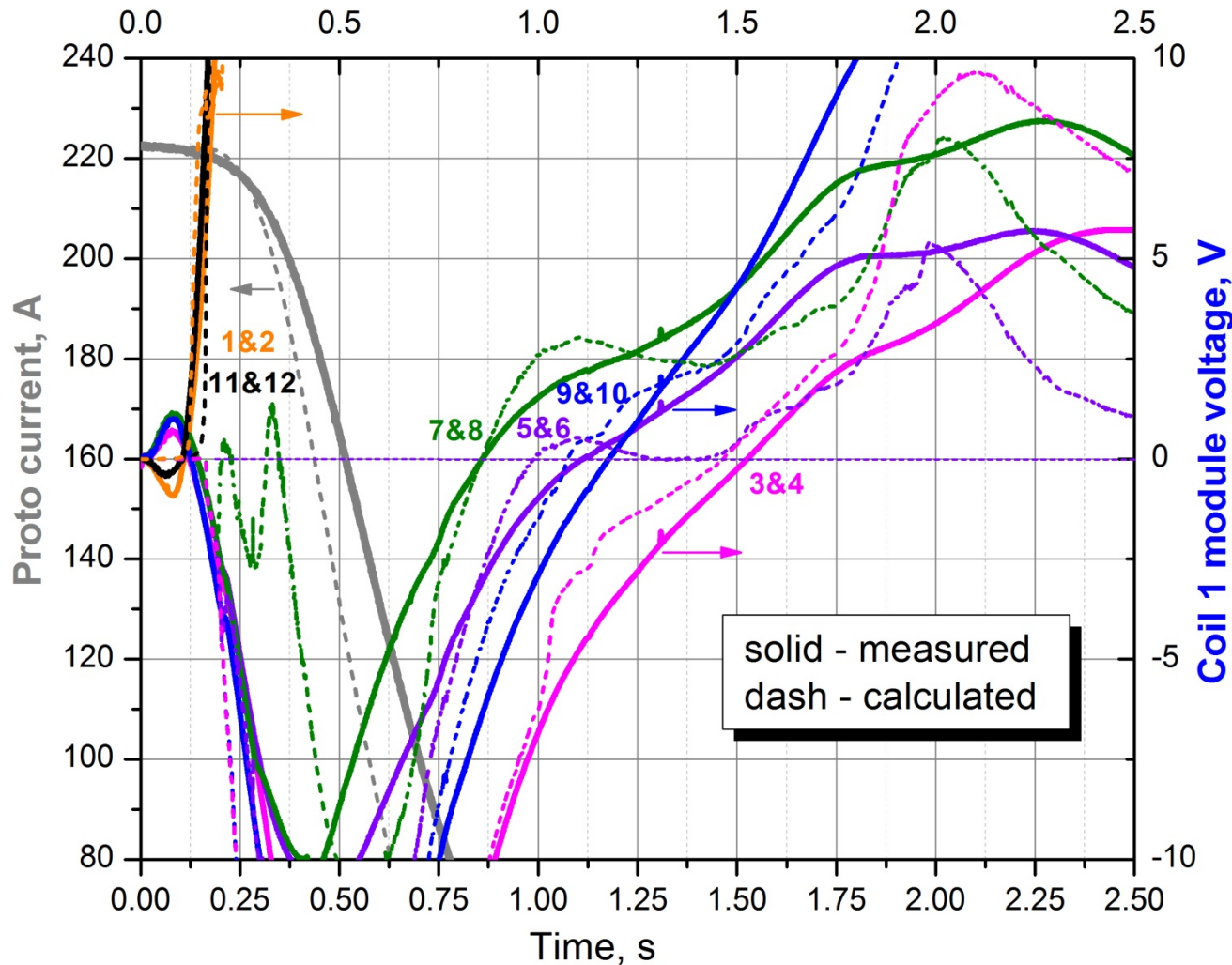
Corrections are needed.

End to end relative variation of $I_c(4K; 17T; 18^\circ)$

*At 4.2K in-field more tapes have relative spread above 10%
 M4 tapes have larger relative spread*



Quench test. The real picture (measurements) & the simulation result after the corrections are made. Coil 1.

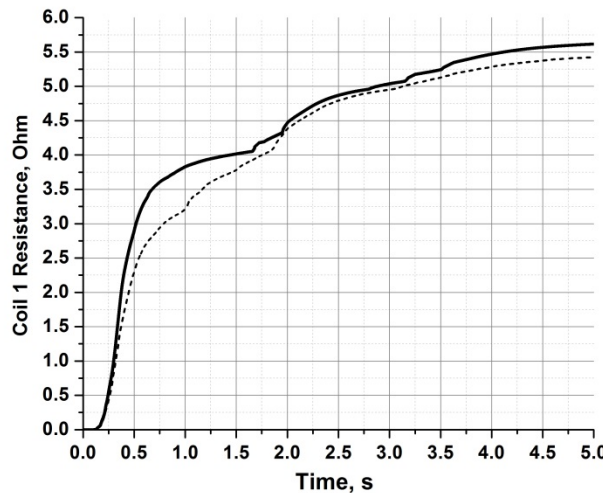
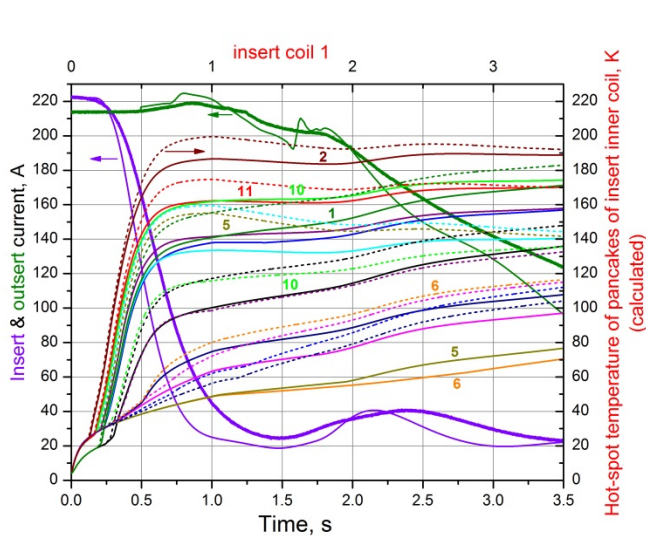
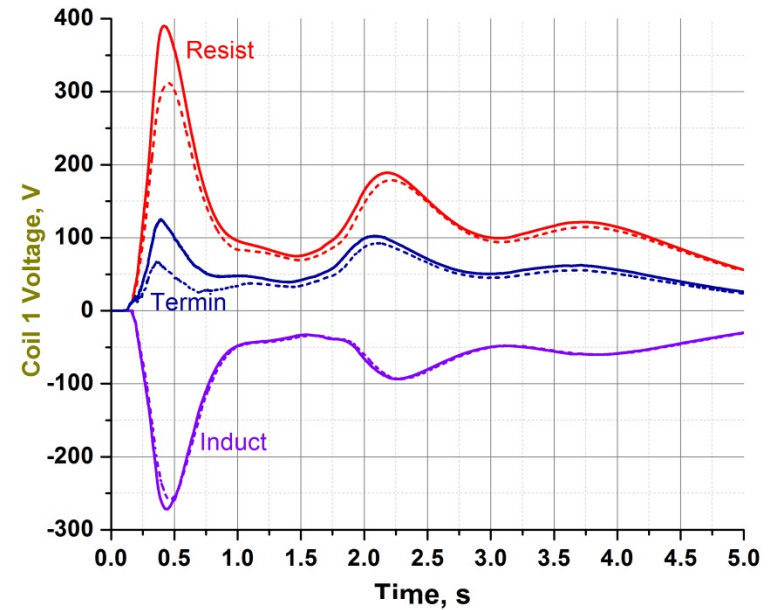
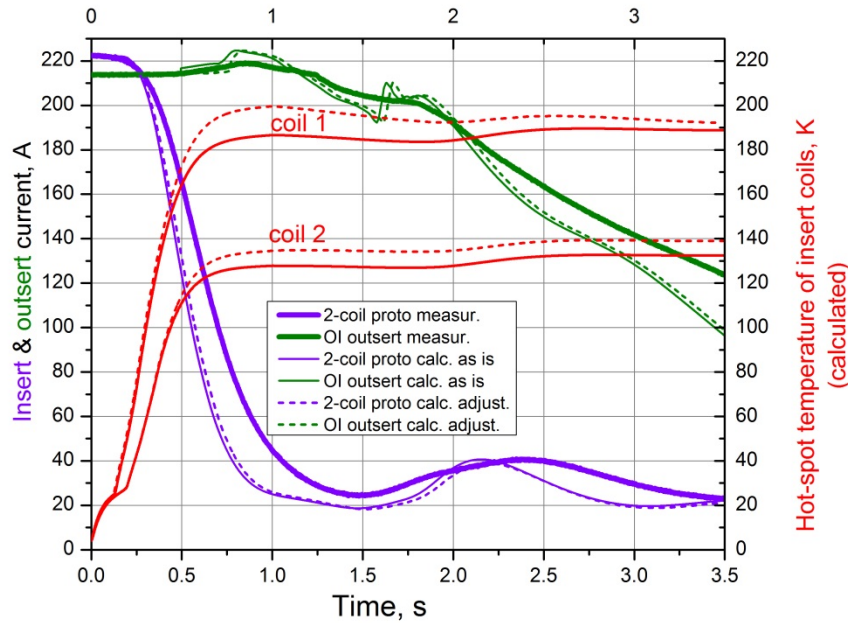


The minor corrections within the limits can change the picture dramatically.

The fitting is not perfect yet, but it shows the phenomenon "in all its glory".

What the corrections change in terms of hot-spot temperature and voltage, which are of primary importance and interest to us?

Quench test. The real picture (measurements) & the simulation result after the corrections are made. Coil 1.



The corrections do not result in changes in the over-all protected-quench behavior in terms of the key characteristics of quench, if the protection is effective.



Conclusive remarks:

1. The REBCO tape I_c fit functions are rather helpful and practical. They describe the I_c -dependencies on the field and field angle adequately.
2. The I_c -values should be measured at several values of high field and field angle and in several locations to have an opportunity to choose correct “effective” values of I_c .
3. Nonetheless, if the active protection is effective, the integral characteristics of quench are not so sensitive to the I_c -values and tilt angles of tapes in the winding (if reasonable measured I_c -values are used and the tilt angles are kept within a realistic range).
4. We are actively using this approach for quench simulation of the 32T magnet, as the approach looks effective.

It seems to be very much it, for now.

Thank you !