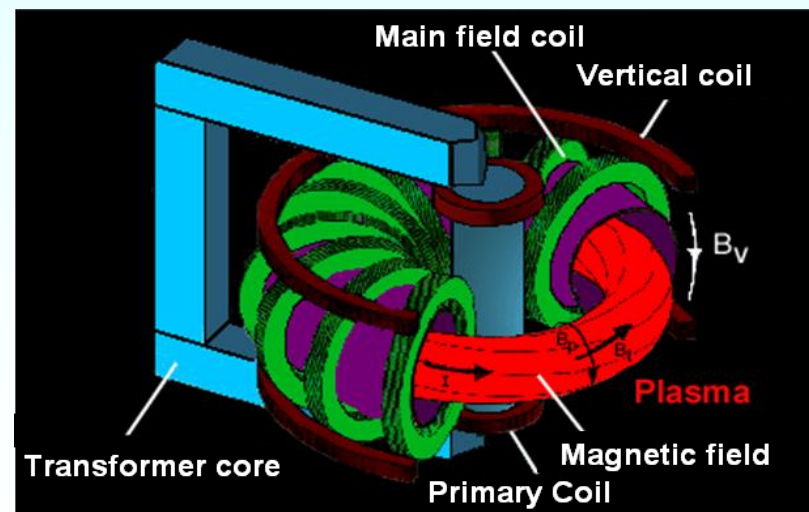


# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## Contents

1. Superconductors for power systems
2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters
3. Magnetic bearings („magnetic levitation“)
4. Magneto-hydrodynamic (MHD) energy conversion
5. Fusion research

Source: Internet



# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

### Used literature

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# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

- 2.1 Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology
- 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology



## 2.1 Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology

### **Applications** in systems, in which the use of superconducting windings is **indispensable**:

- Magnetohydrodynamic generators (**MHD**)
- Magnetic storage (superconducting magnetic energy storage, **SMES**)
- Fault current limiter, **FCL**
- Electrodynamic levitation (**EL**) (e.g. high-speed trains)
- **Fusion** reactor magnets
- **Highest-field** magnets for research and measuring purposes
- Particle **accelerator** (detector magnets, beam guidance magnets)
- **Synchrotron** radiation sources



## 2.1 Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology

**Applications** in systems, in which the use of superconductivity **competes** with conventional designs

- Inductive heating
- Electrical machines
- Transformers
- Power transmission cables
- Electro-magnetic levitation (ML)
- Computer NMR tomographs  
(Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, MRI)
- Magnetic separators



## 2.1 Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology

### Conventional inductive heating

An AC fed coil (frequency in the kHz-range; power electronics feeding) excites a magnetic **AC field**. Into the metallic (conductive) work piece via **eddy currents** a heat loss  $P_d$  is injected, which heats up the metal!

Source: VDI-nachrichten, 2008

#### Disadvantage:

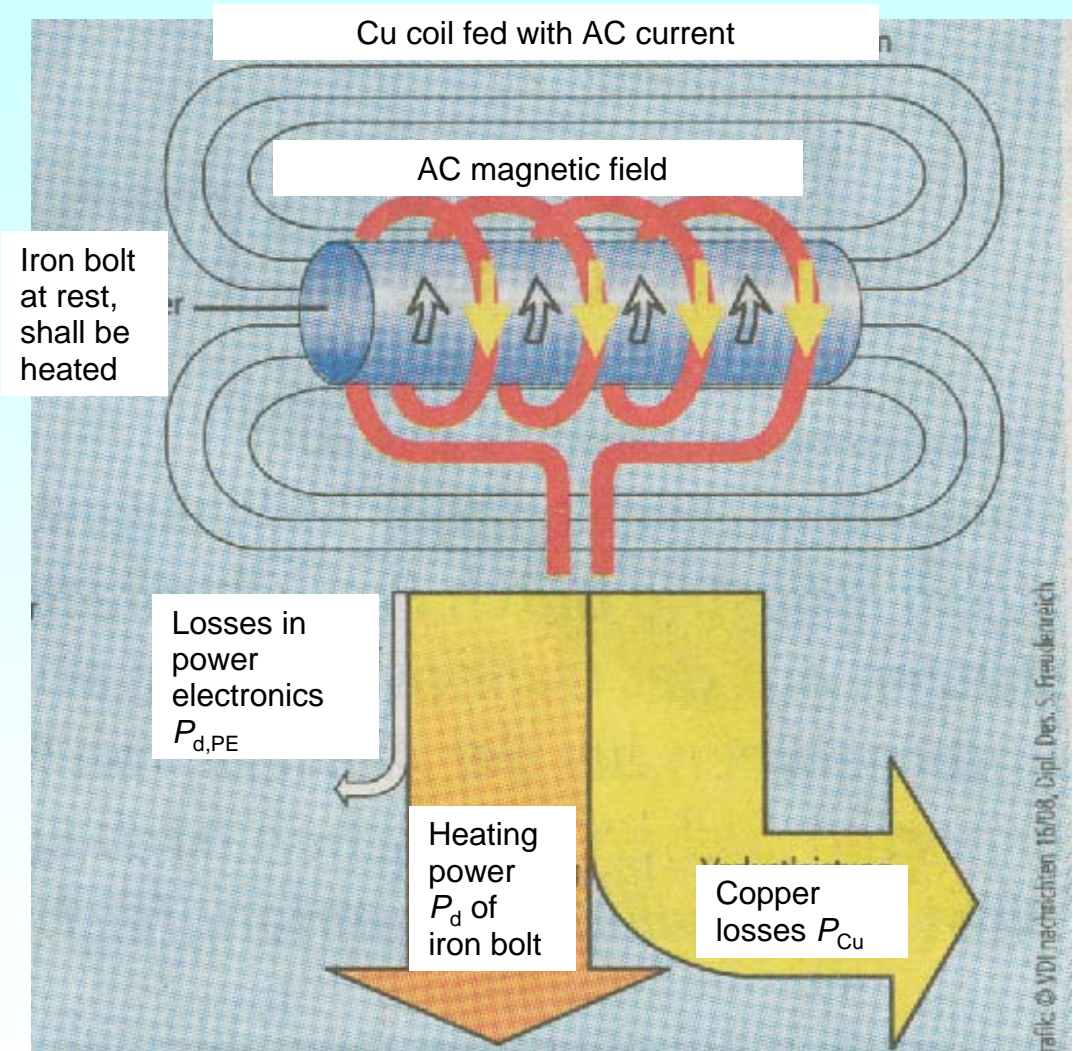
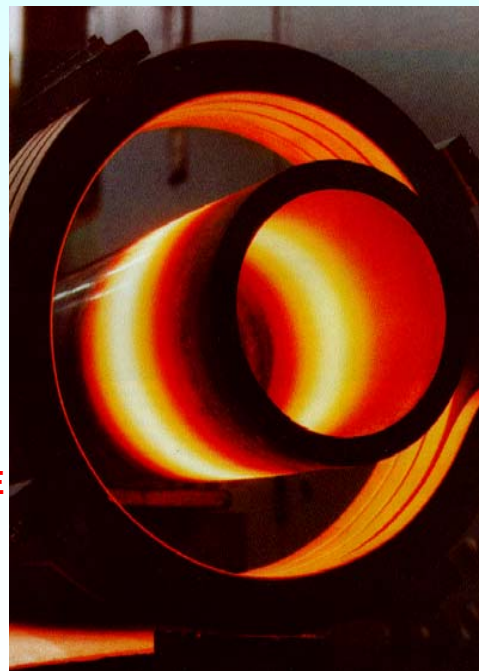
High losses  $P_{Cu}$  in the (water-cooled) AC coil and in the power electronics  $P_{d,PE}$

#### Input power:

$$P_{in} = P_d + P_{Cu} + P_{d,PE}$$

#### Efficiency:

$$P_d/P_{in} \approx 50\%$$



## 2.1 Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology

# Inductive heating with superconducting coils

- A DC-fed HTSC coil excites a magnetic DC field (Cooling power:  $P_c$ ).
- A motor drives the metallic (conductive) work piece in this DC field. Via induction of motion a voltage and hence eddy currents are induced in the work piece, causing the heat loss  $P_d$ , which heats up the metal.
- The motor must overcome the braking torque  $M$  of the eddy currents in the DC magnetic field as the necessary driving power  $P_d = 2\pi nM$  at rather low motor losses  $P_{d,m}$ .

**Advantage:** The DC magnetic field is excited at rather low excitation losses (cryogenic LN<sub>2</sub> cooling). The **efficiency  $P_d/P_{in}$  rises from 50% to 80%**.

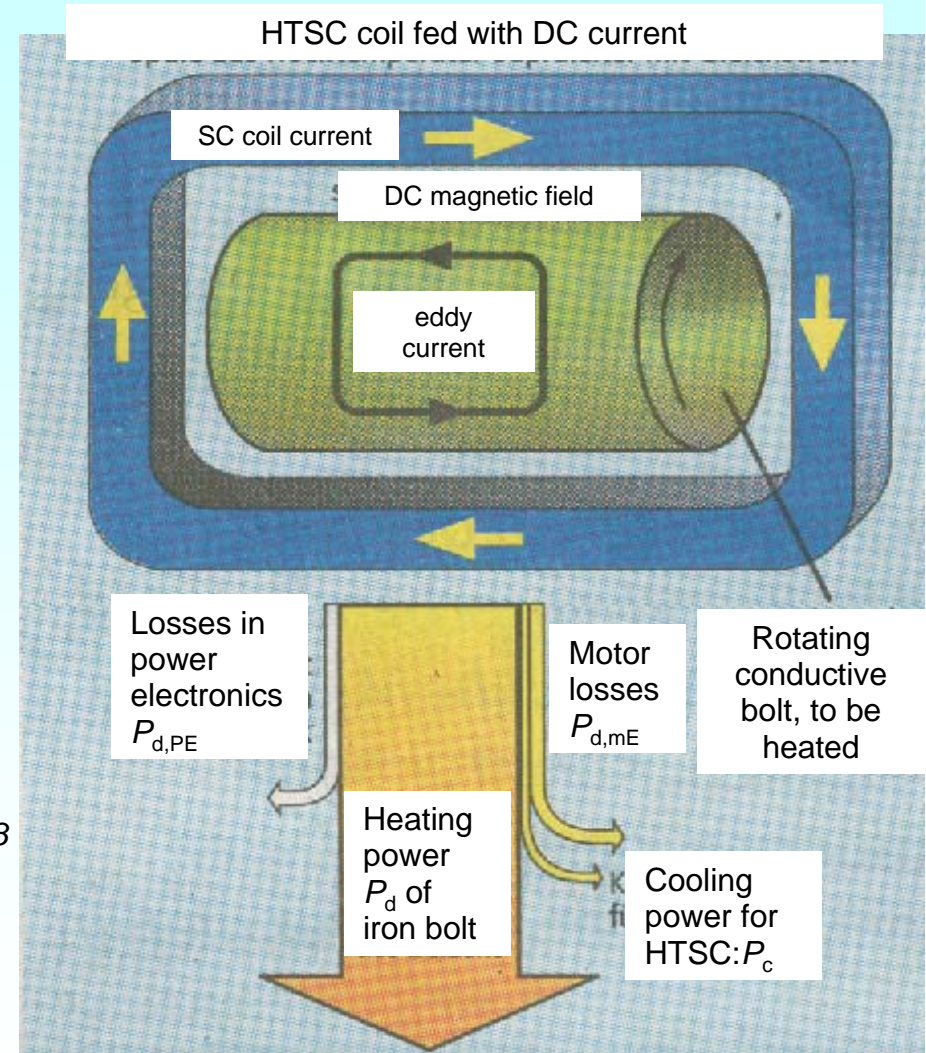
**Input power:**

$$P_{in} = P_d + P_{d,m} + P_c + P_{d,PE}$$

**Efficiency:**

$$P_d/P_{in} \approx 80\%$$

Source: VDI-nachrichten, 2008



# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## Summary:

### Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology

- Wide field of use of super-conductivity, also in electronics (e.g. *Josephson*-contact)
- Generation of ultra-high magnetic fields for physics experiments
- Wide commercial use of low temperature SC coils in MRI
- Slow, but steady progress for the use in power engineering





# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

- 2.1 Applications of technical superconductors in research and technology
- 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology



# 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### 2.2.1 Fault current limiter

### 2.2.2 Superconducting power cables

### 2.2.3 Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)

### 2.2.4 Superconducting power transformers

### 2.2.5 Rotating electrical machines with superconductor winding

### 2.2.6 Cryo-machines and rotating electrical machines with massive superconductors



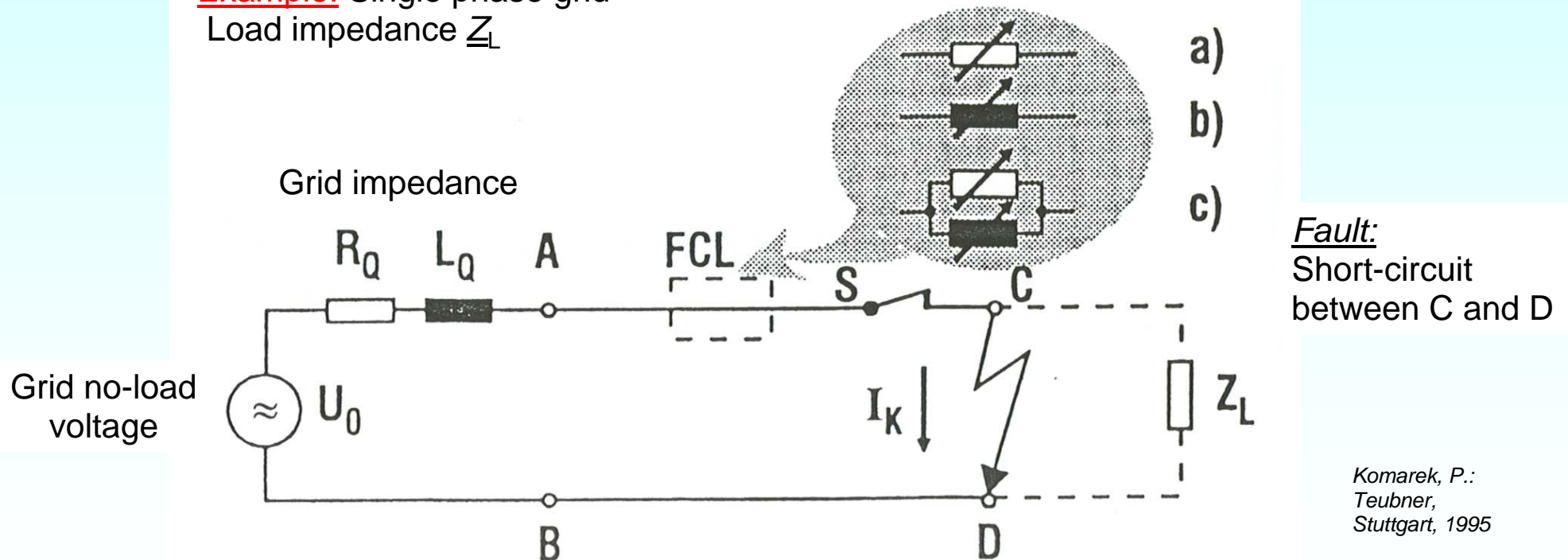
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### 2.2.1 Principle of fault current limiter (FCL)

Limitation of **fault current**  $I_k = \frac{U_0}{\sqrt{R_Q^2 + (\omega L_Q)^2}}$  by means of a FCL as a

a) *ohmic* resistance, b) inductance, c) combination of a) + b)

Example: Single phase grid  
Load impedance  $Z_L$



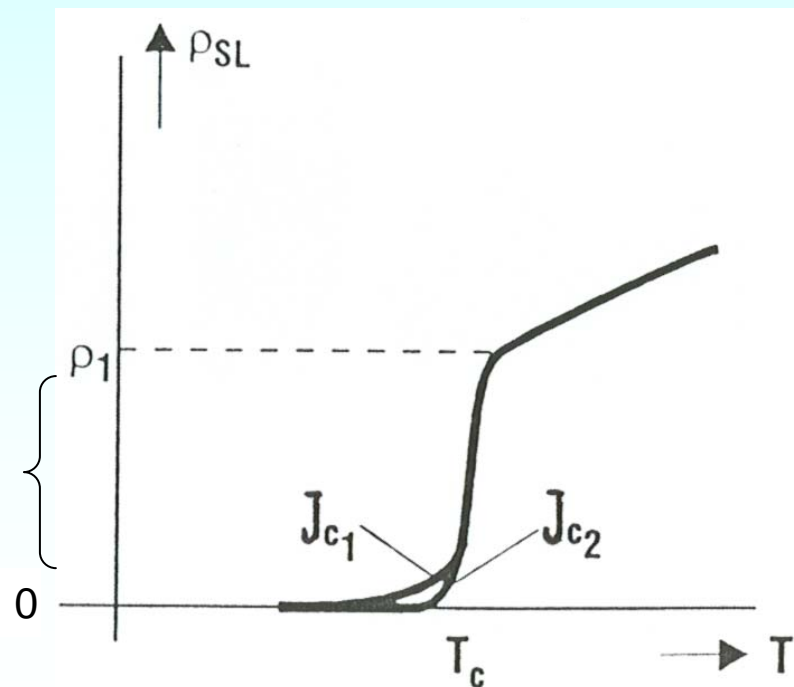
Fault:  
Short-circuit  
between C and D

Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Quench process: Increase of $\rho_{SL}$

- **Quenching:** Transition from superconducting to normal-conducting state at  $\rho_{SL} = \rho_1$
- Increase of specific electrical resistance  $\rho_{SL}(T)$  is "locally" continuous
- **Example:** HTSC Bi(2223) at 77 K: At a larger critical current density  $J_{c1} = 10^5 \text{ A/cm}^2 > J_{c2} = 10^4 \text{ A/cm}^2$  the quench occurs faster



Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

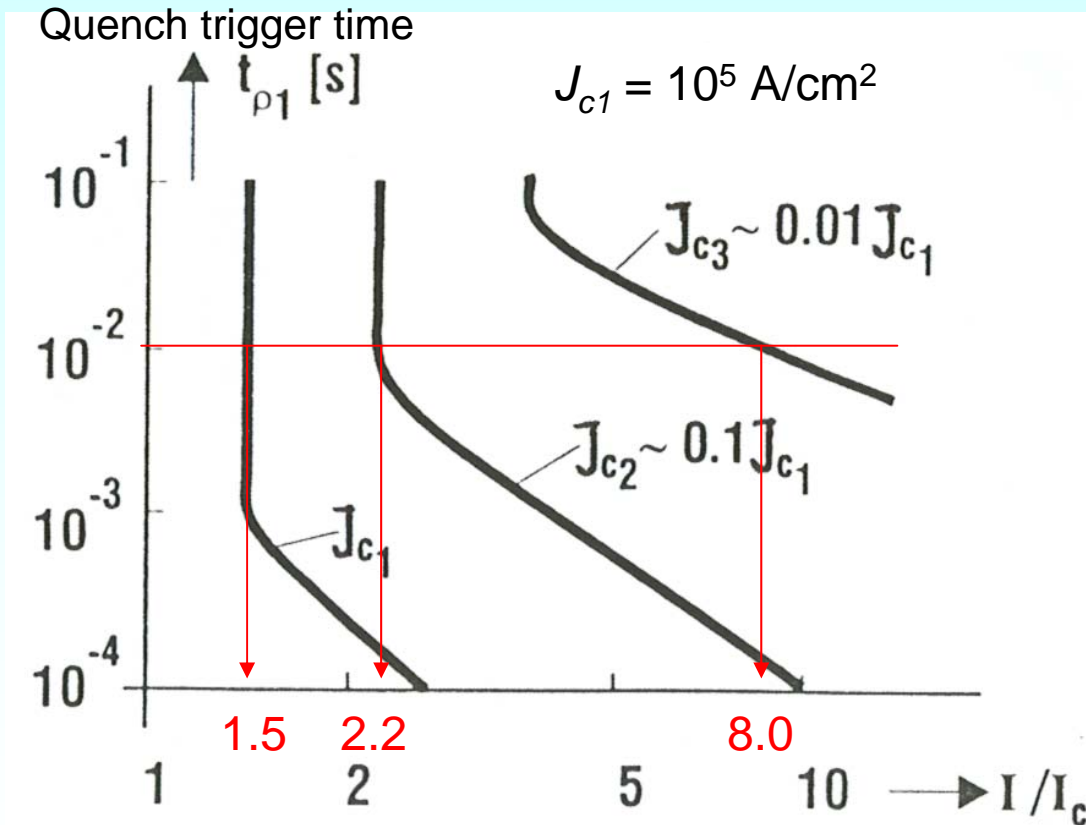
# Dynamics of the quench process

Example: HTSC Bi(2223) at 77 K

Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995

$I$ : Actual DC current

$I_c$ : Critical DC current



For a quench trigger time of 10 ms at critical current density of  $10^5 \text{ A/cm}^2$  a dynamic current overshoot of only 1.5-times the critical current is necessary.

With decreasing critical current density a much higher overshoot is necessary.

Facit:

For a fast quenching a high critical current density of at least  $10^5 \text{ A/cm}^2$  is required.



# Stationary voltage-current-characteristics at quench

Quench of HTSC:

„Autonomous switching“  
after surpassing the critical  
current

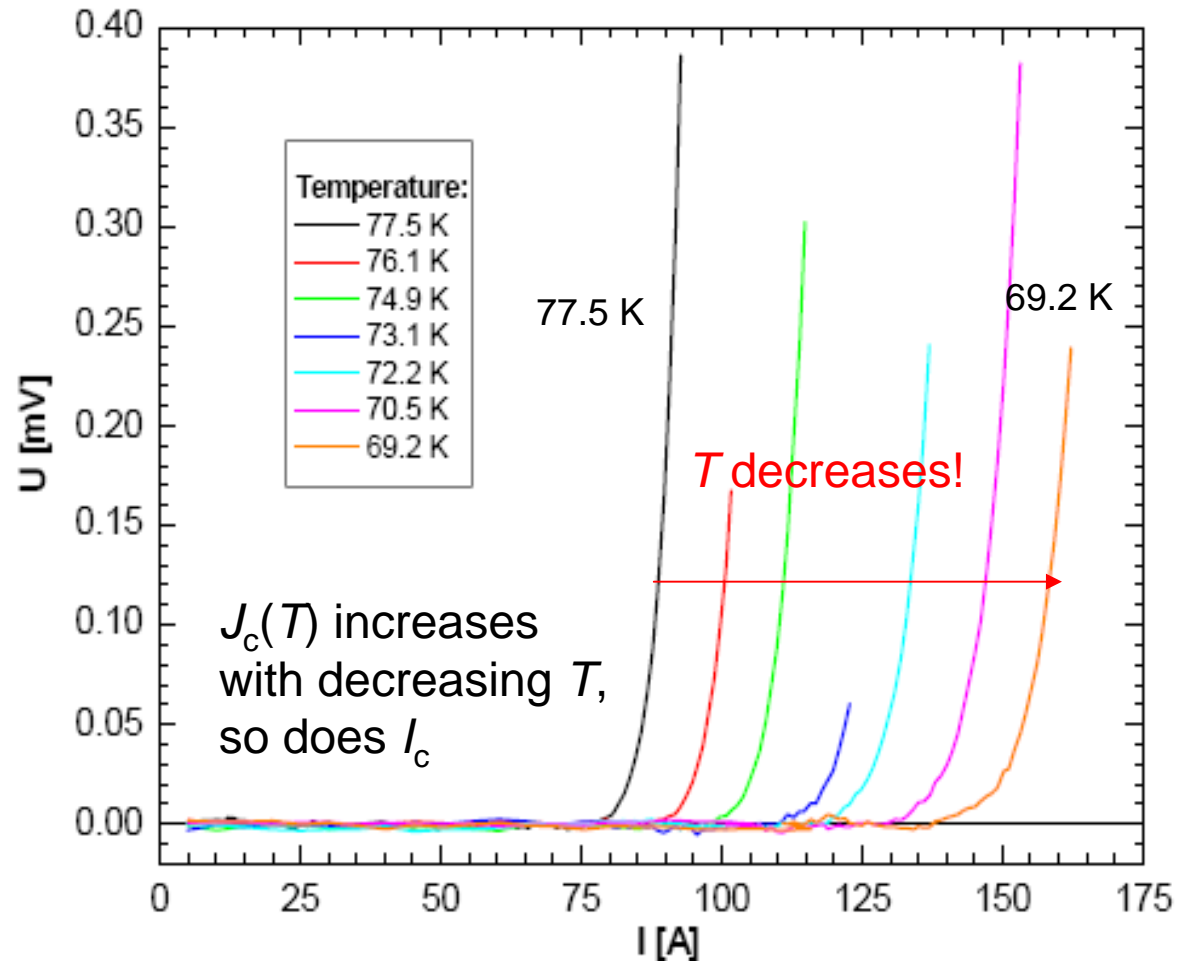
Very fast changing from SC  
to the resistive state needed

Heating of the FCL during the  
current limiting process

Therefore fast switch-off of  
FCL necessary

Cooling down to SC state  
necessary before putting FCL  
into grid operation again

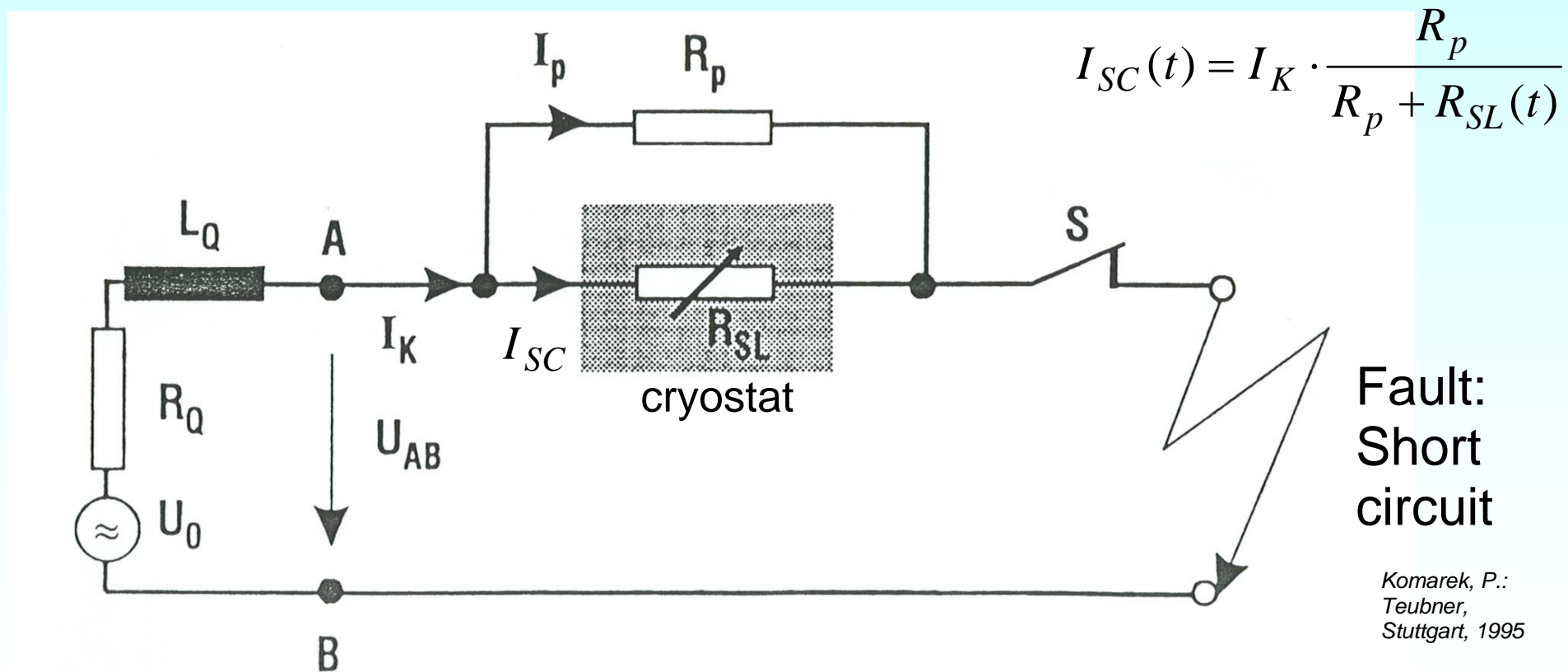
Source: Siemens AG,  
Erlangen



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Resistive fault current limiters

- Limitation of current  $I_{SC}$  in the superconductor paths by a normal-conducting parallel resistance  $R_p$  located outside the shaded cryostat



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Design directives for FCL

- **Passive self-triggering:** Short-circuit current density in SC exceeds  $J_c$ , so that normal conductivity appears along the **entire conductor's length  $L$**  in few ms to prevent local overheating.
  - Conductor must be **homogeneous** for that along the whole length  $L$ ,
  - Conductor needs a **high  $J_c$**  for a fast quench propagation rate inside the SC.
- **In SC operation: low 50 Hz AC current loss demanded:**
  - Twisting of very **thin composite conductors** (ca. 0.1 ... 0.3 mm).
  - **Bifilar wiring** of the conductors (coiled up as air-core inductor): low self flux density  $B$  (typically  $B < 0.3$  T)
- **Low voltage drop in SC operation = low series impedance:**  $R + j \cdot \omega \cdot L$ 

$R$  low due to SC,  $L$  low (ca. 0.1-0.2 mH) due to **bifilar** winding
- **Losses at SC operation** are caused mainly due to heat input via the power terminals, but also due to heat inflow via the cryostat walls and due to the AC losses in the SC:

**Sum loss typically 10 W to 20 W**



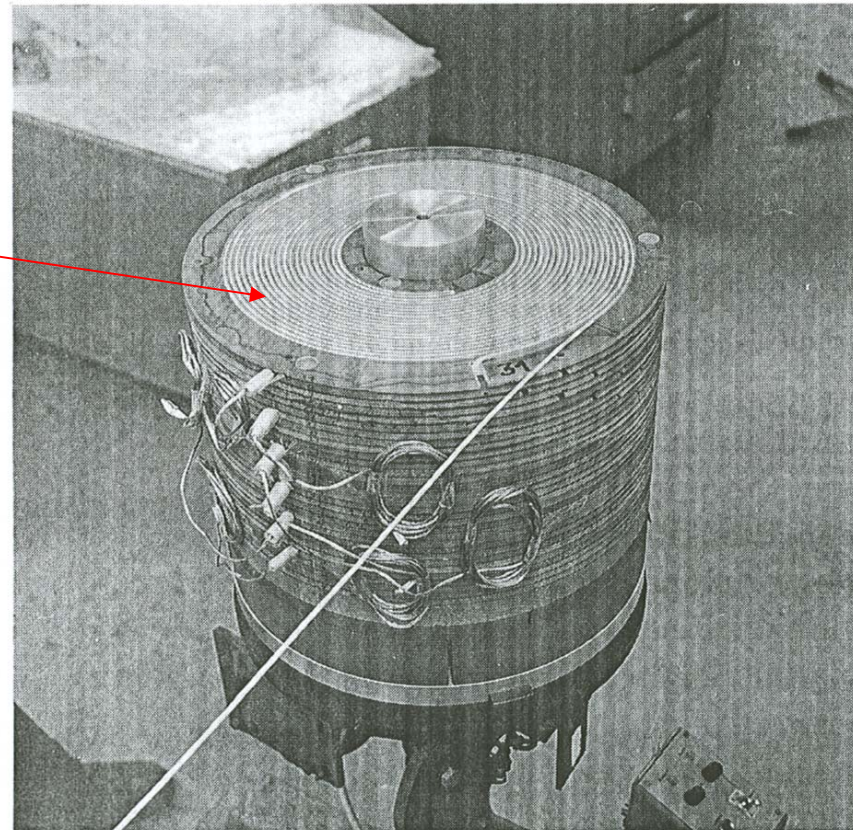


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# LTSC resistive fault current limiter

- Early prototype: 1000 m NbTi composite conductor in CuNi matrix triggered from a capacitor discharge, 47 kV operating voltage, 40 MVA,  $I_N = 900$  A,  $I_C = 2$  kA, resistance  $400 \Omega$  at normal-conducting state

Bifilar wiring of the coil



Source:

FSZ Karlsruhe, Germany



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC fault current limiter

- **At a total loss power of the FCL at SC operation of 10 W**, a LTSC-FCL with LHe cooling 4.2 K needs a cooling power of 7 kW, but a HTSC-FCL (LN<sub>2</sub> cooling 77K) only 0.3 kW → Significant economic advantage for HTSC-FCL.
- **Resistive FCL prototype Y(123) (= YBCO) – Thin-film HTSC (250 nm thick) on substrate (Siemens AG, 1997):**

$J_c = 20 \text{ kA/mm}^2$  (77 K) in self-field, with 100 nm gold film for smoothing the quench, spiral conductor arrangement:  $l = 800 \text{ mm/element}$ ,  $b = 7 \text{ mm}$  wide, 100 kV, 10 elements in series

### Single-phase prototype test:

735 V, 135 A nominal data, sudden short circuit current reduction from 666 A to 108 A.

- **Resistive FCL prototype with massive Bi(2212) conductor (Lockheed Martin):**

Put in series with a normal-conducting coil (solenoid), arranged within this coil ⇒ field  $B$  is inside homogenous ⇒ smooth quenching,  $B$  field triggers passively.

### Single-phase prototype test:

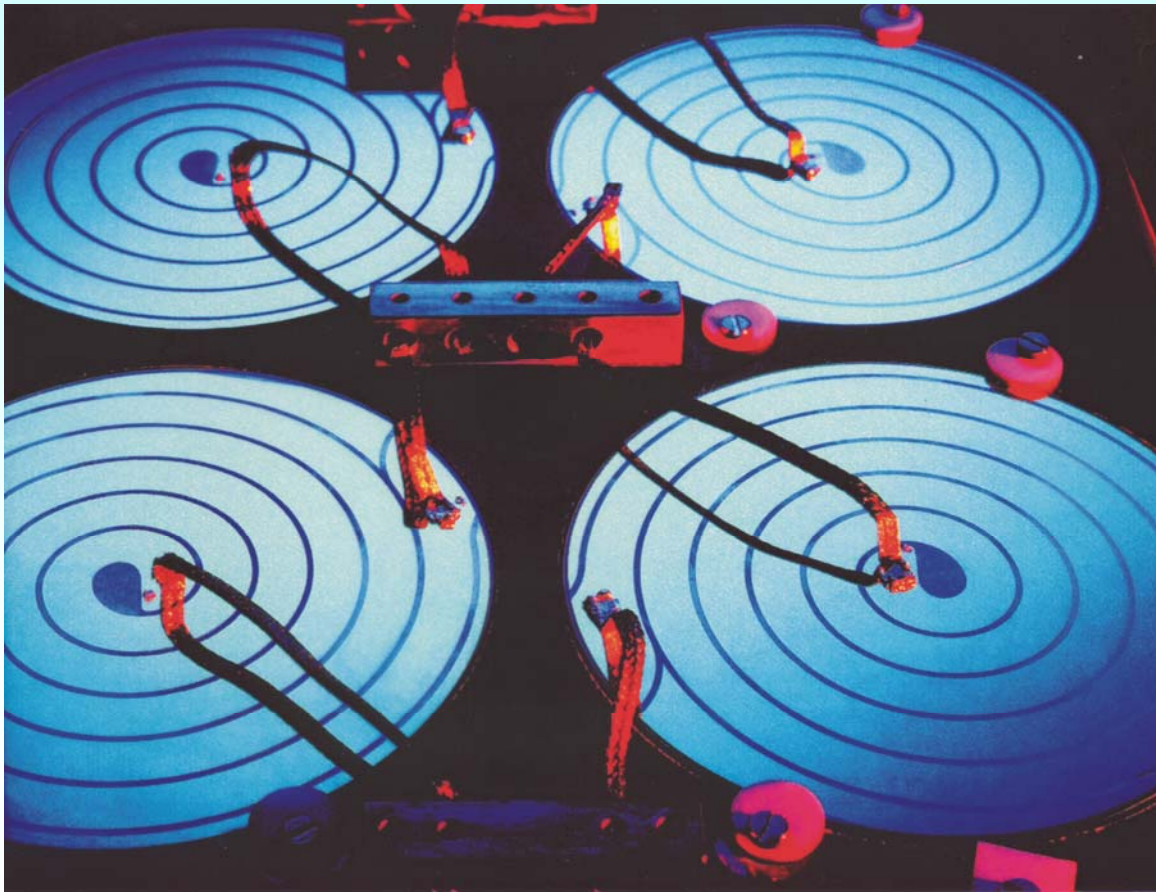
Nominal data: 11 kV, 400 A, limits the theoretically possible fault current 37 kA (peak) to 12 kA (peak).



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# YBCO HTSC resistive fault current limiter

Y(123) thin-film spirals (1mm) at 77 K on ceramic carrier (10x20 cm<sup>2</sup>), e.g.:  
10 elements in series

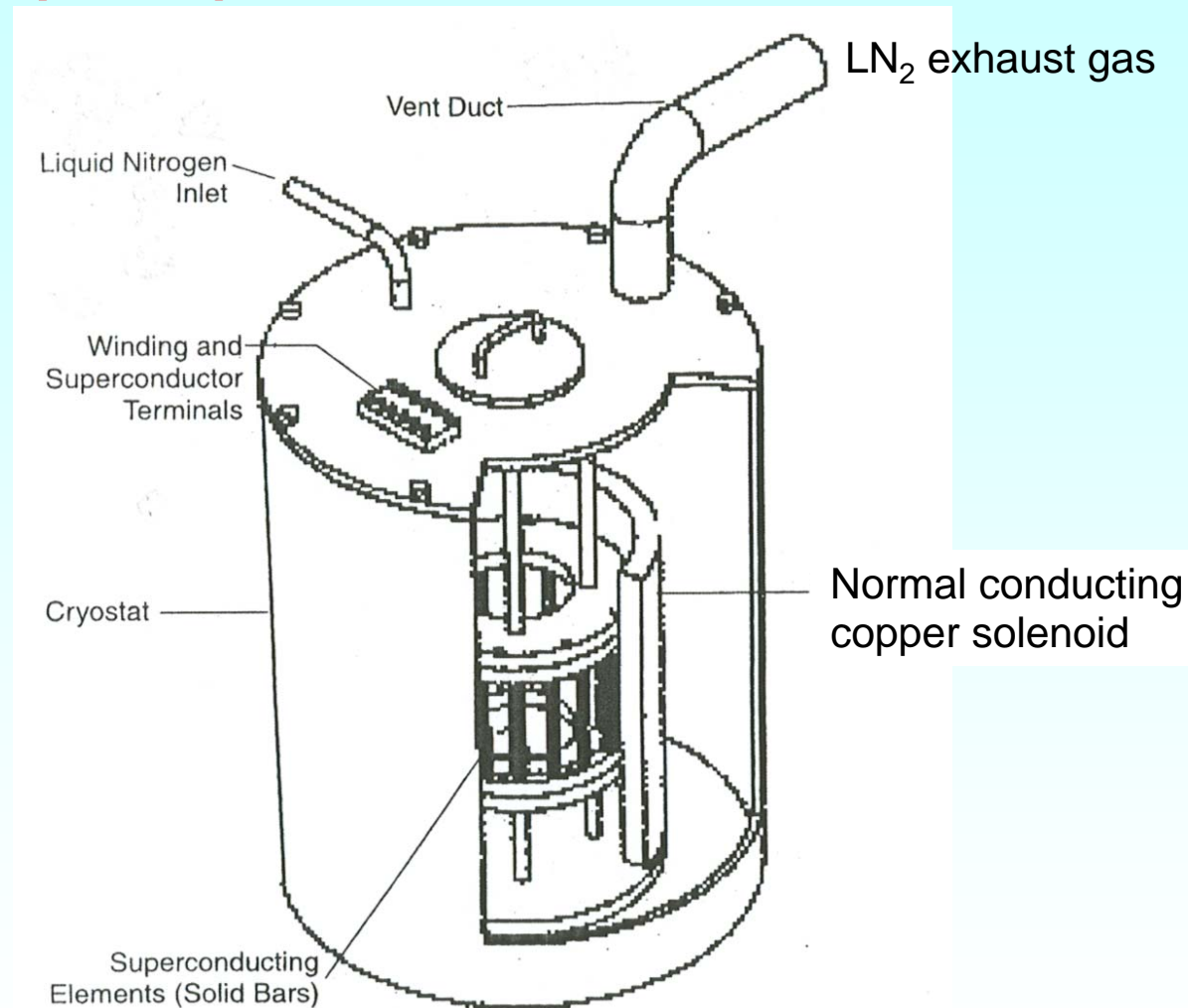


Source: Siemens AG



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

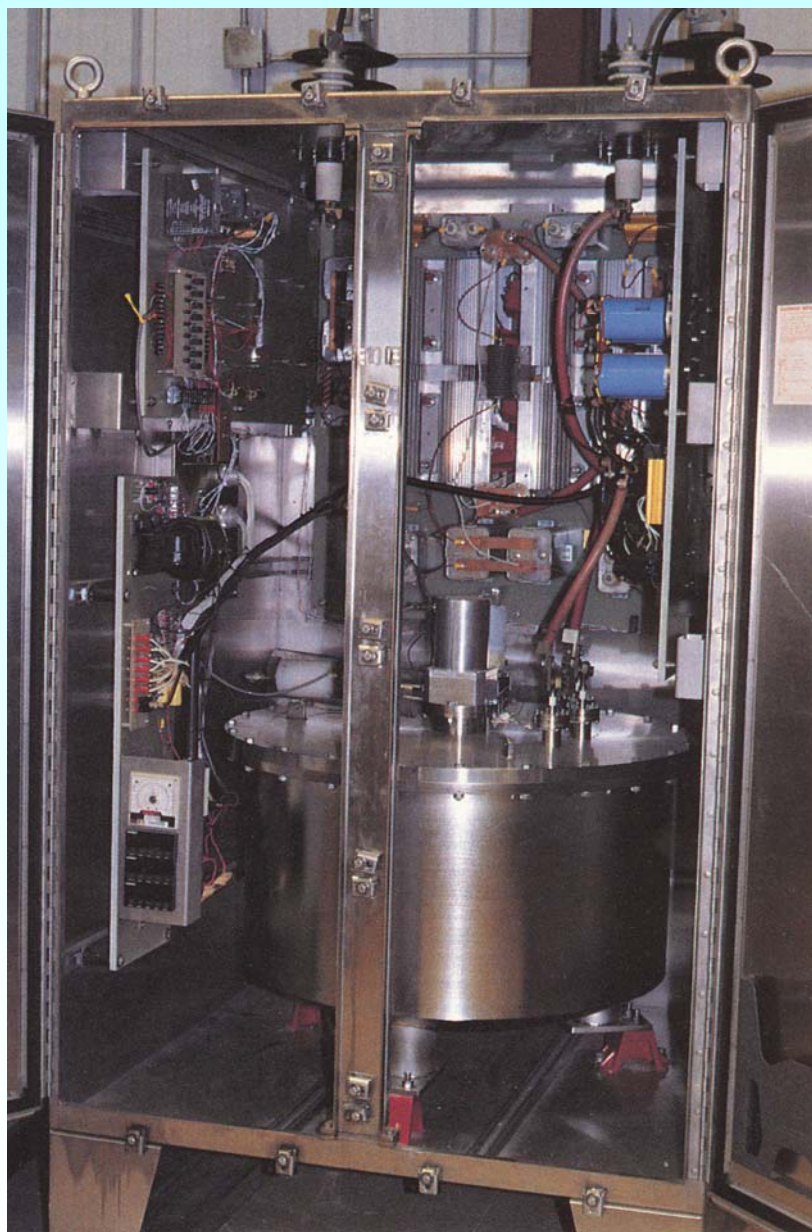
# BSCCO bar Bi(2212) resistive HTSC fault current limiter



Source:

Lockheed Martin





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# BSCCO Bi(2212) HTSC fault current limiter

2.4 kV, 3 kA

top: power electronics

bottom: cryostat with FCL coil

Test operation at Sub-station *Norwalk, Calif., USA*

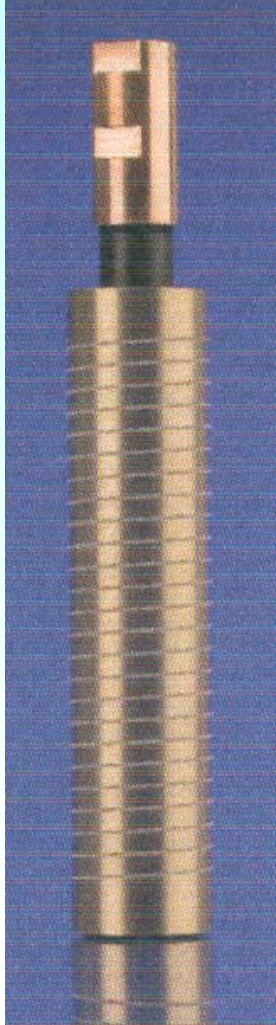
Source:

*Lockheed Martin*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# BSCCO-Bi(2212) resistive HTSC fault current limiter (1)



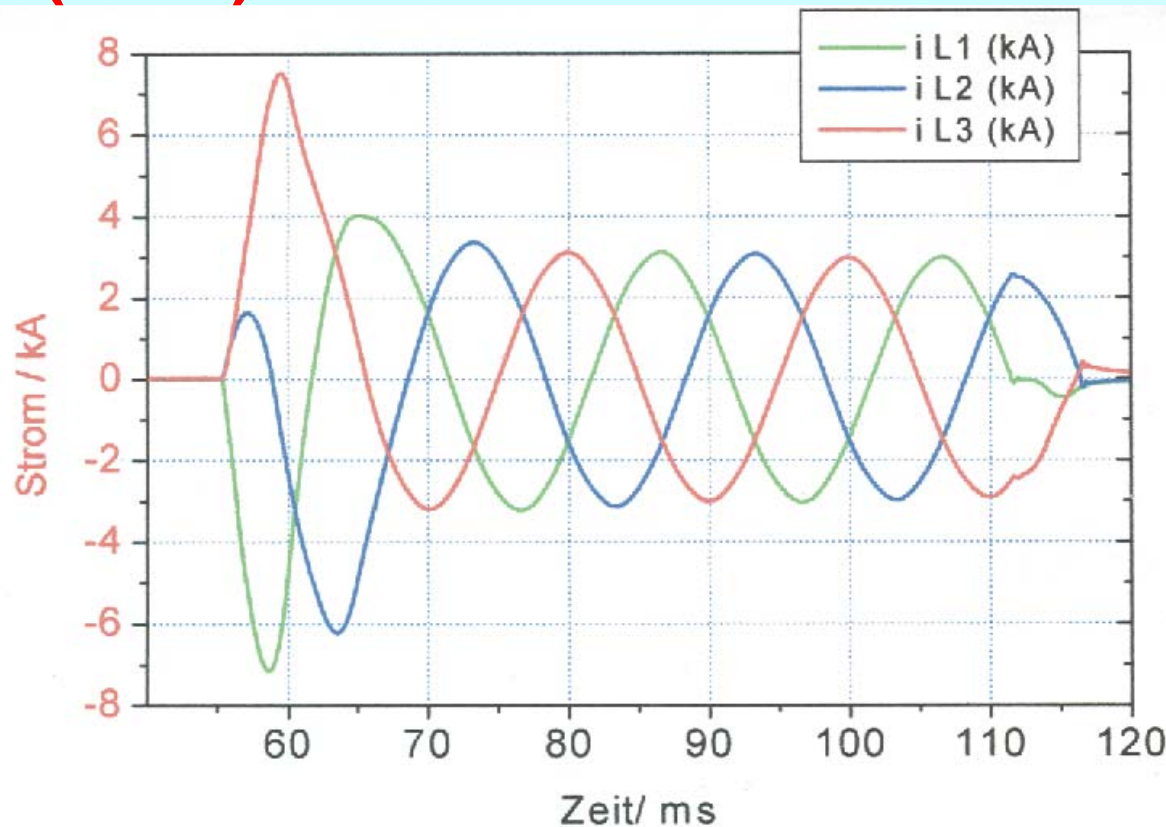
- Helical bifilar arranged and cut melt-textured massive BiSCCO-2212-layers on a copper cylinder as a current by-pass (Shunt)
- Operated at 66 K
- Self-triggering: Surpassing of the critical current density
- Prototype for 10 kV, 10 MVA, 600 A (r.m.s.)

*Source: Nexans, Germany*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# BSCCO-Bi(2212) resistive HTSC-fault current limiter (2)



Source:  
Nexans,  
Germany

### Prototype test:

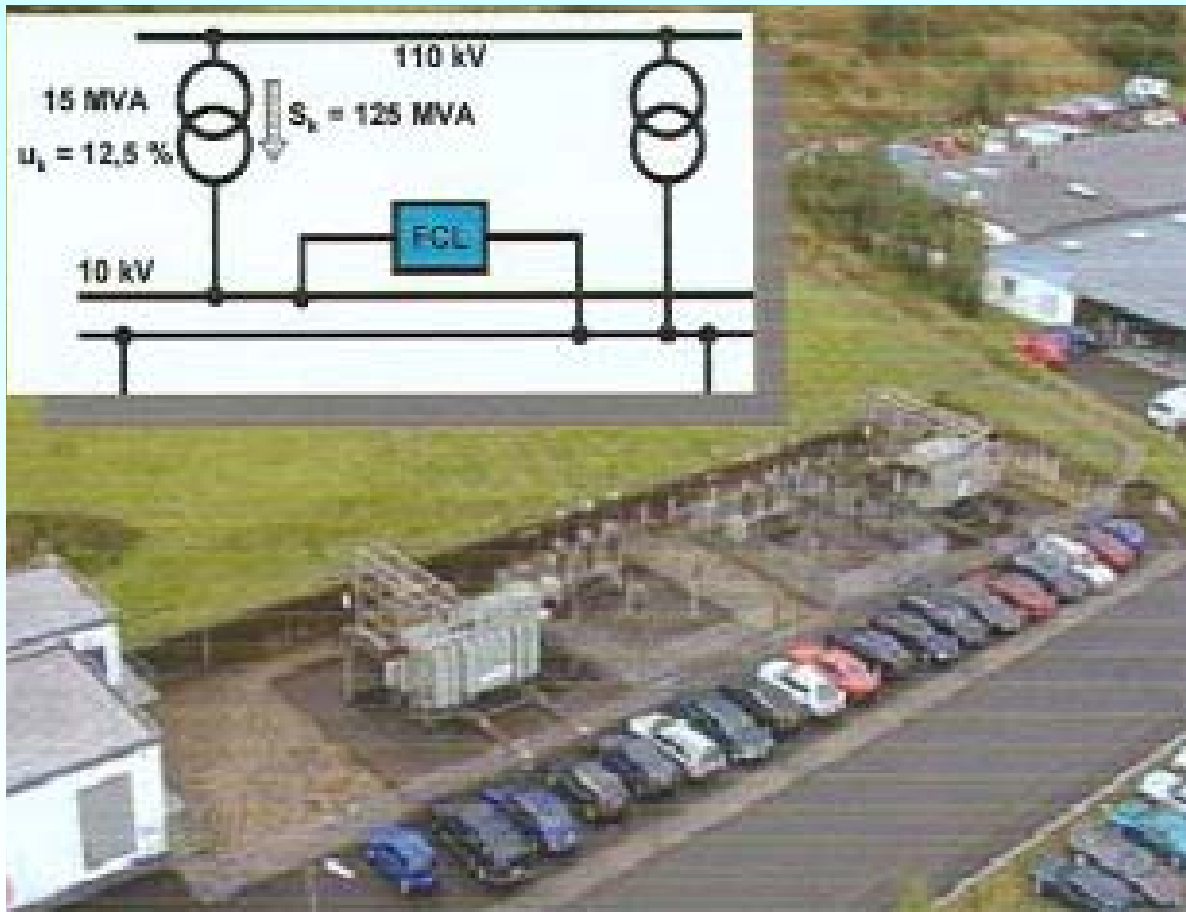
Sudden short circuit current: Maximum current value 7 kA (= 39% of the short circuit current peak value 18 kA without FCL)

- After 10 ms the current is limited to 3 kA (see Figure above!).
- Current commutes from high resistive normal conducting SC to the parallel shunt resistor (copper cylinder support)



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# BSCCO-Bi(2212) resistive HTSL fault current limiter (3)



- Field test
- Substation *Netphen* of *RWE*, *Germany*
- Duration of field test: 1 year
- Two transformers:  $S_r = 15 \text{ MVA}$
- 110 kV / 10 kV
- Transformer impedance voltage  $u_k = 12.5\%$
- Peak sudden short circuit current: 18 kA
- FCL would limit to only 7 kA.

$$I_N = S_N / (\sqrt{3} \cdot U_N) = 15 \text{ MVA} / (\sqrt{3} \cdot 10 \text{ kV}) = 866 \text{ A}$$

$$I_k = \frac{I_N}{u_k} = 866 \text{ A} / 0.125 = 6928 \text{ A}$$

$$\hat{I}_k = 2 \cdot \sqrt{2} \cdot I_k = 19596 \text{ A with DC component}$$

$$\hat{I}_k = 2 \cdot \sqrt{2} \cdot I_k = 18000 \text{ A with damping}$$

$$S_k = \sqrt{3} \cdot U_N \cdot I_k = \sqrt{3} \cdot 10 \text{ kV} \cdot 6928 \text{ A} = 120 \text{ MVA}$$

Source: Nexans, Germany





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC fault current limiter at *Siemens research CT*

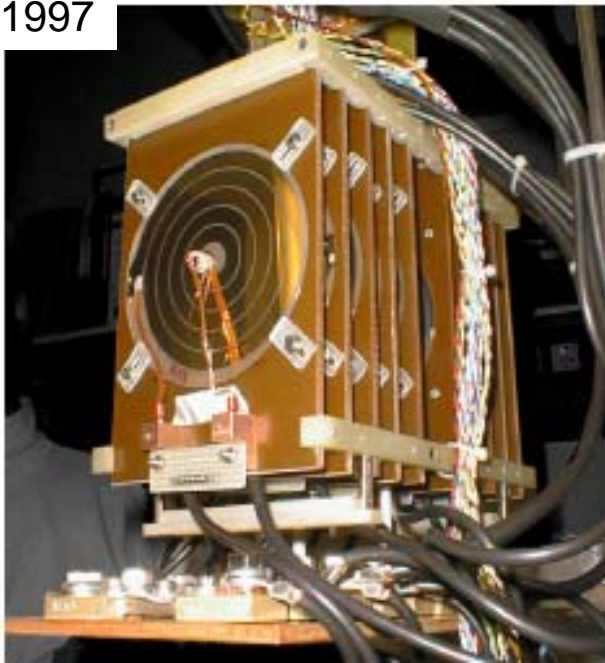
„1. Generation“

HTSC fault current limiters, based on YBCO-plates

- 1992: Begin of development with FCL based on YBCO thin films
- 1997: 100 kVA prototype, single phase, 135 A / 465 V, 10 plates, diameter 10 cm (Theva)
- 2001: 1.2 MVA prototype, 3-phase, 100 A / 7.2 kV, 63 plates in series, diameter 10 cm
- 2003: 900 kVA prototype, DC, 1000 A / 900 V, 14 plates in series 10 x 20 cm<sup>2</sup>

Source: Siemens AG

1997



2001

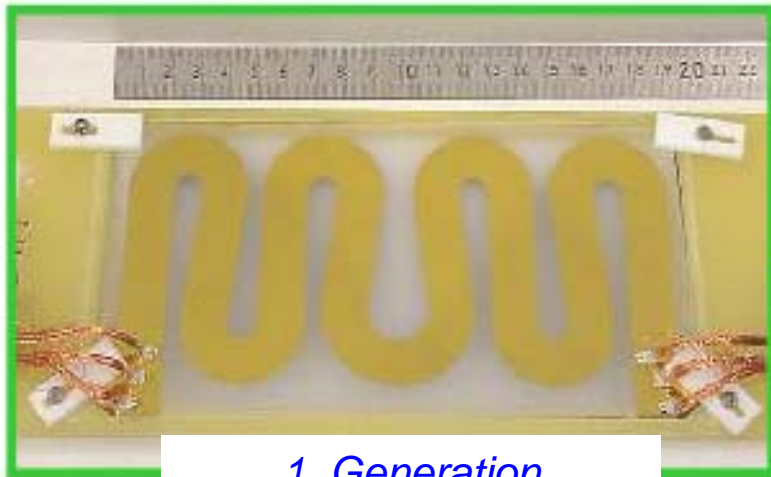


2003



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC-YBCO tape conductors as fault current limiters at Siemens research CT, „2. Generation“

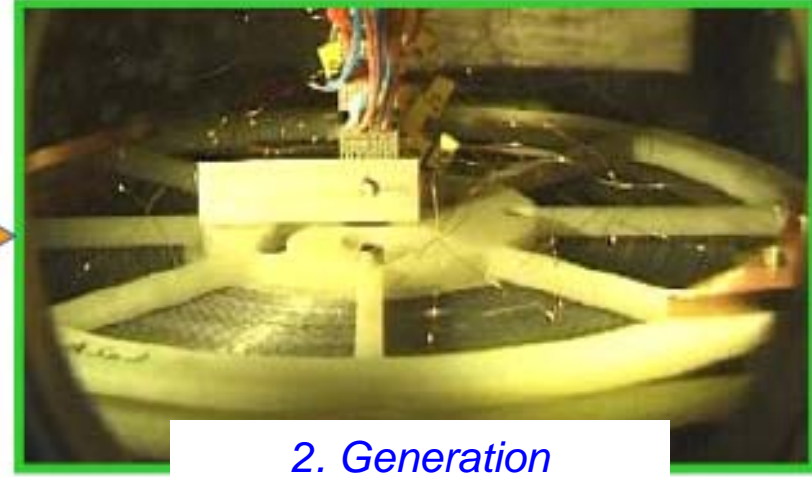


1. Generation

HTSC YBCO-film applied to expensive ceramic support plates

- Sensitive against mechanical cracks
- High cost of ca. **3 200 US\$/MVA**, also for series production
- Expensive vacuum depositing process for the YBCO layer

Source: Siemens AG



2. Generation

HTSC YBCO-tape conductors as robust and rather cheap series wound coils

- Robust coil design with patented spacers
- With a prospective tape conductor price of 20 US\$/(kA/m) the specific costs are reduced to **< 500 US\$/MVA**.
- YBCO layer is deposited chemically with a rather cheap process on the stainless steel tape with a high deposit rate

\*) 2006: 1000 US\$/(kA/m), 2017: 50 US\$/(kA/m) expected



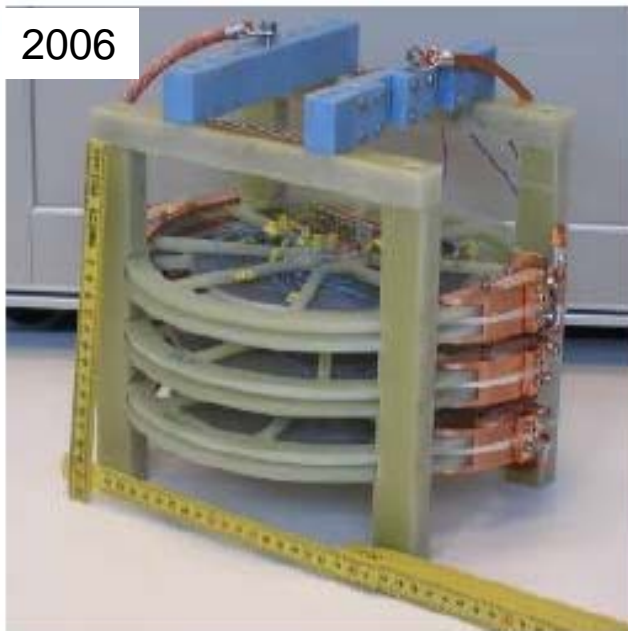
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC-YBCO tape conductors as fault current limiters at Siemens research CT, „2. Generation“

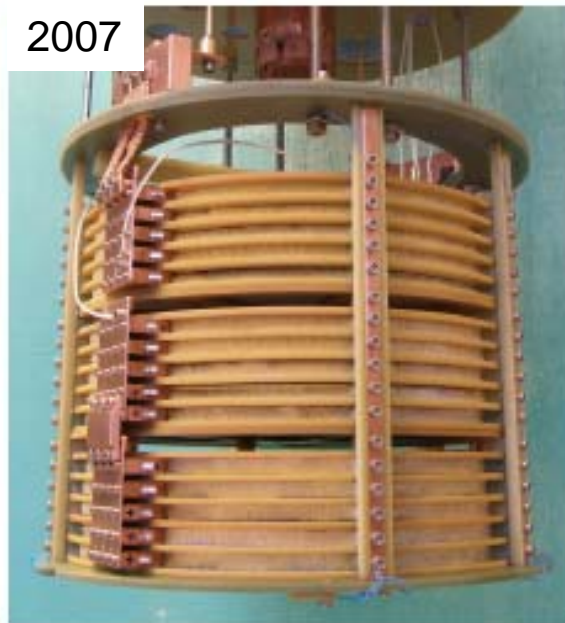
Source: Siemens AG

- 2006: 120 kVA prototype, single phase, 50 A / 2.4 kV, 3 coils with each 19 m tape conductor
- 2007: 2.2 MVA prototype, single phase, 300 A / 7.2 kV, 15 coils with each 50 m tape conductor
- 2008: 3.5 MVA prototype, single phase, 425 A / 8.4 kV, “sub-scale” module for HV-FCL of D.O.E./USA

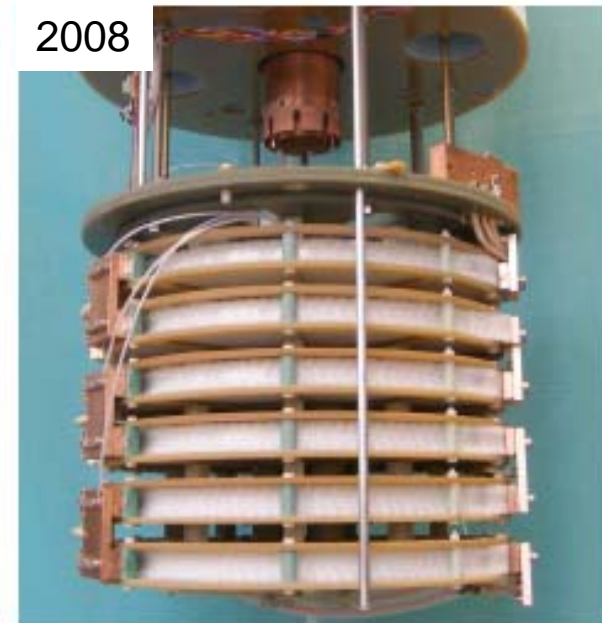
2006



2007



2008



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC-YBCO tape conductor: Fault current limiter for medium voltage up to 30 kV

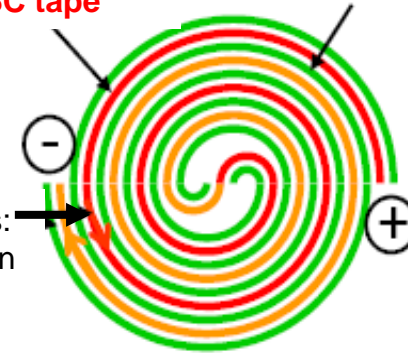
### SC elements

- Bi-filar wound disc coils of YBCO tape conductor with 50 m/coil, LN<sub>2</sub>-cooling, coil diameter 50 cm
- Bi-filar: Self-inductance is (nearly) zero, SC: AC-resistance is (nearly) zero, At SC state FCL is “invisible” for the grid!

2nd generation YBCO HTSC tape

Spacer between adjacent conductors

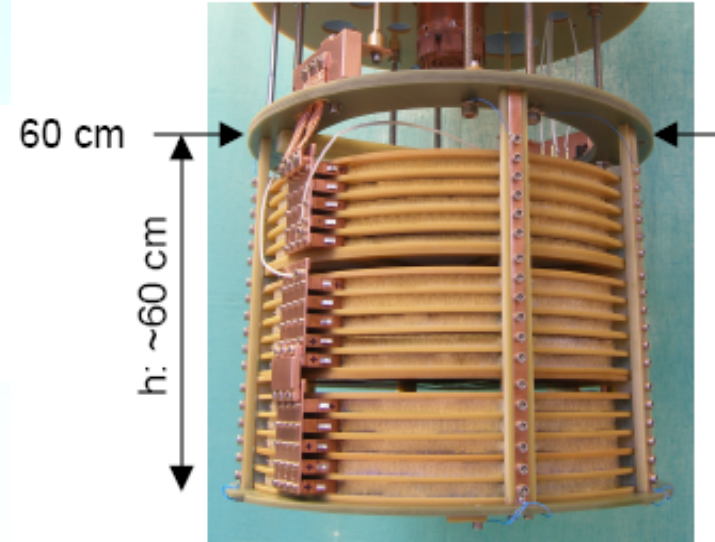
Bi-filar wound disc coils: Opposing current flow in adjacent conductors = resulting magnetic coil field is nearly zero:  $L \approx 0$



### FCL module

- One phase, 7.2 kV rms, 300 A rms, 15 disc coils: 5 coils in parallel each, 3 coil groups in series
- Normal conducting resistance  $R_{295\text{ K}} = 12\text{ Ohm}$

Source: Siemens AG



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### FCL: Power test at medium voltage up to 30 kV

#### Power test with highest current

Grid voltage before short circuit:

$$U_0 = 7.7 \text{ kV rms}$$

Prospective short circuit current without FCL:

$$I_{sc,prosp} = 28 \text{ kA rms}$$

Grid short circuit impedance:

$$u_k = 1 \%$$

Short circuit occurs at a phase angle  
 $\varphi = 75^\circ$

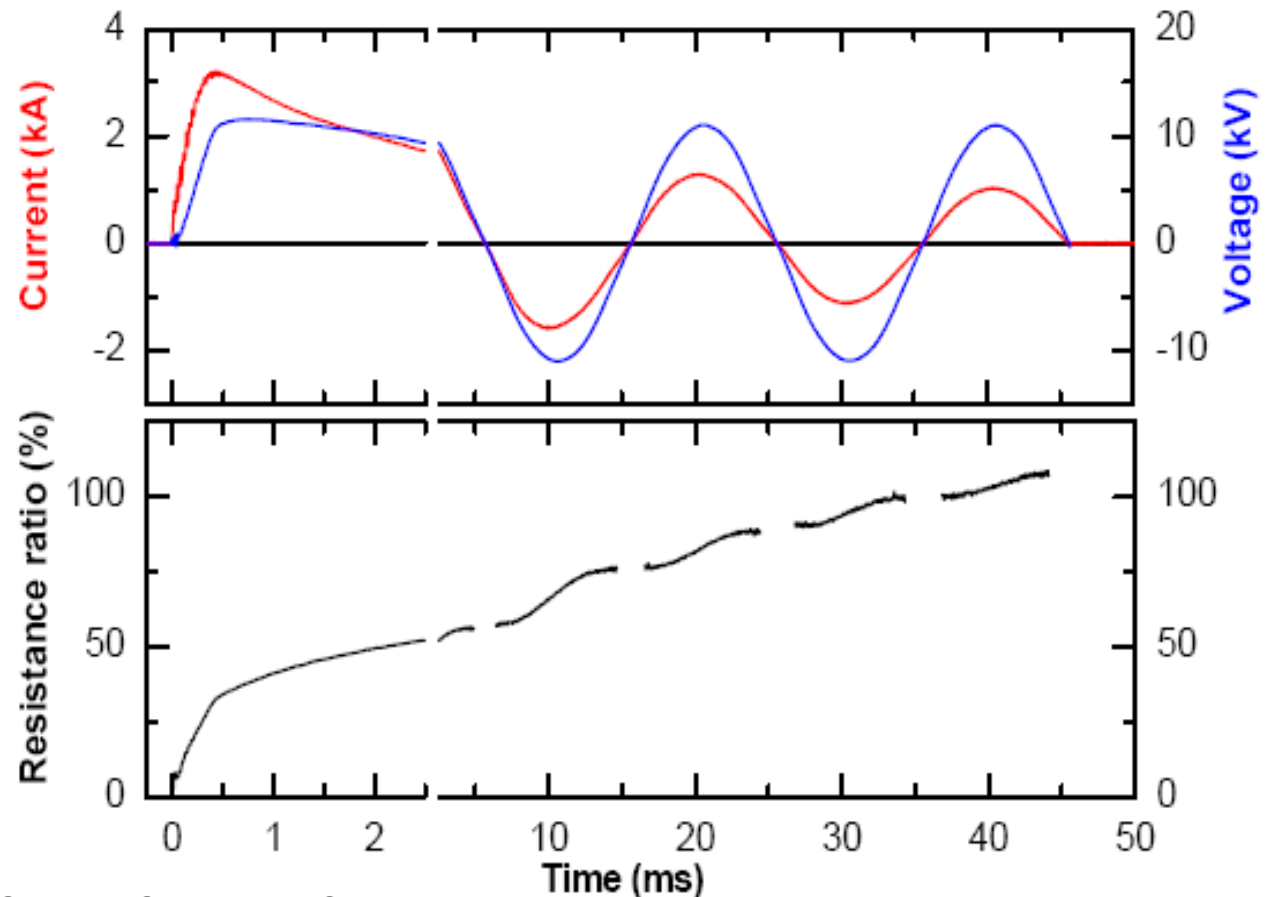
Peak short circuit current with FCL:

$$I_{peak} = 3.2 \text{ kA} = 7.3 \times I_c$$

Steady state limited current:

$$I_{lim} = 700 \text{ A rms} = 2.3 \times I_N$$

Maximum ratio  $R / R_{295 \text{ K}}$ : 110% due to  
70°C steady state temperature



Source: Siemens AG



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Resistive FCL project for *Devers* substation, *USA*

Project 2011:

*Devers Substation* 115 kV/500 kV, 60 Hz  
(desert location), *Palm Springs, USA*

FCL on the 115 kV-side, 1200 A nominal current,  
voltage across the FCL per phase after tripping: 31 kV

Trip current 160% rated current

Short-circuit current without FCL: 63 kA r.m.s.

FCL in a “dead tank” arrangement (tank is grounded)

Each FCL phase in a separate tank

Cooled at 72 K, 5 bar

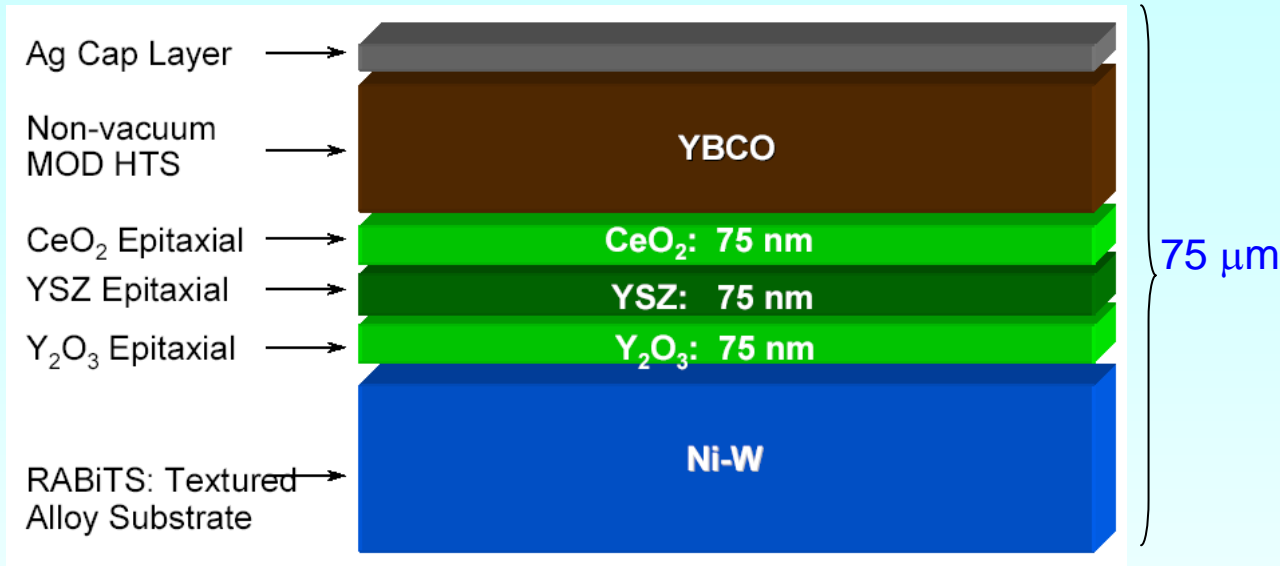
Prototype testing successfully completed for one phase  
2012: Project cancelled by DOE/USA, due to shift in  
funding

*Source: Siemens AG*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# YBCO tape for resistive FCL project *Devers, USA*



YBCO tape structure

YBCO tape: 12 x 0.28 mm<sup>2</sup>  
on stainless steel stabilizer



YBCO tape data:

Critical current 253 A at 77 K  
Resistance at 20°C: 0.114 Ohm/m  
Voltage 54.6V/m at 67 ms fault hold time

Source: ASC & Siemens AG

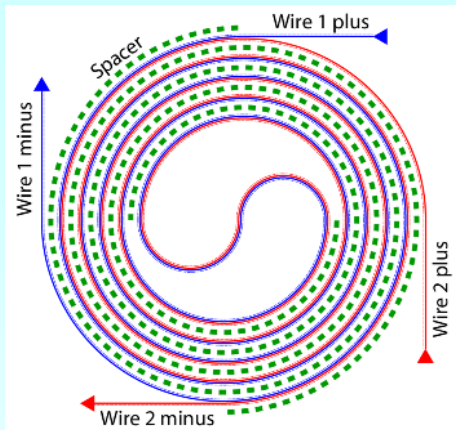


YBCO tape manufacturing

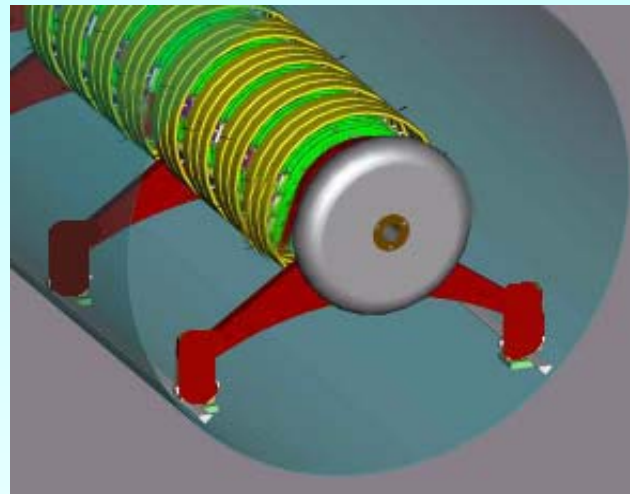


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

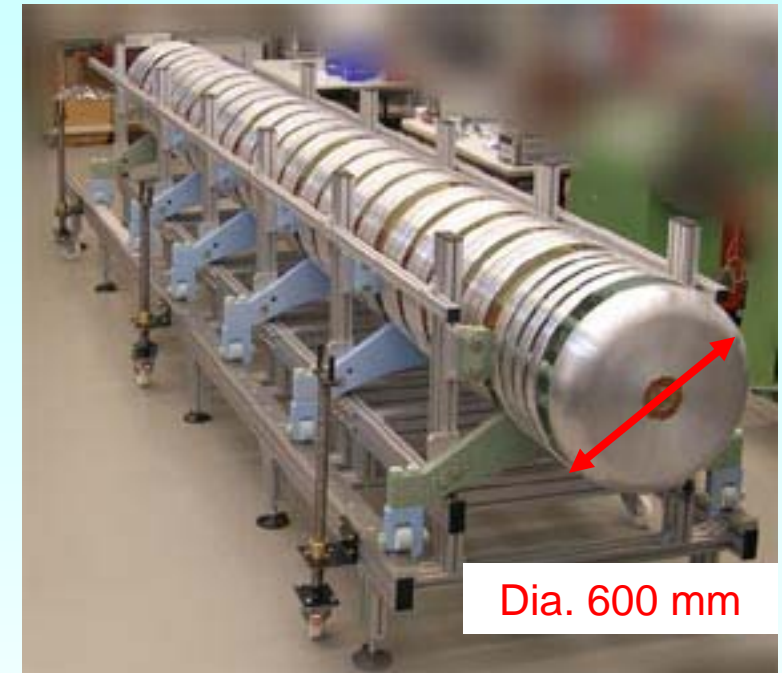
# Resistive FCL project for *Devers* substation, USA



Bifilar YBCO tape coil



63 bifilar coils form one module



FCL module

Dia. 600 mm

### Module data:

3 coils in parallel, 21 triplets in series = 63 coils in total

Length: 5 m, Diameter 0.6 m

Critical current 1900 A (rms) at 74 K

Rated current: 900 A, trip current 1350 A, module voltage after trip: 30.9 kV  
 $1350 \text{ A} \times 30.9 \text{ kV} = 42 \text{ MVA}$

Short circuit test: Instead of 60 kA peak only 10 kA peak occurred!

Source: Siemens AG



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Resistive FCL project ECCOFLOW (EU-project)

YBCO tapes:

- a) Stainless steel carrier tape: 12 mm x 0.1 mm
- b) YBCO layer: 12 mm x 0.001 mm

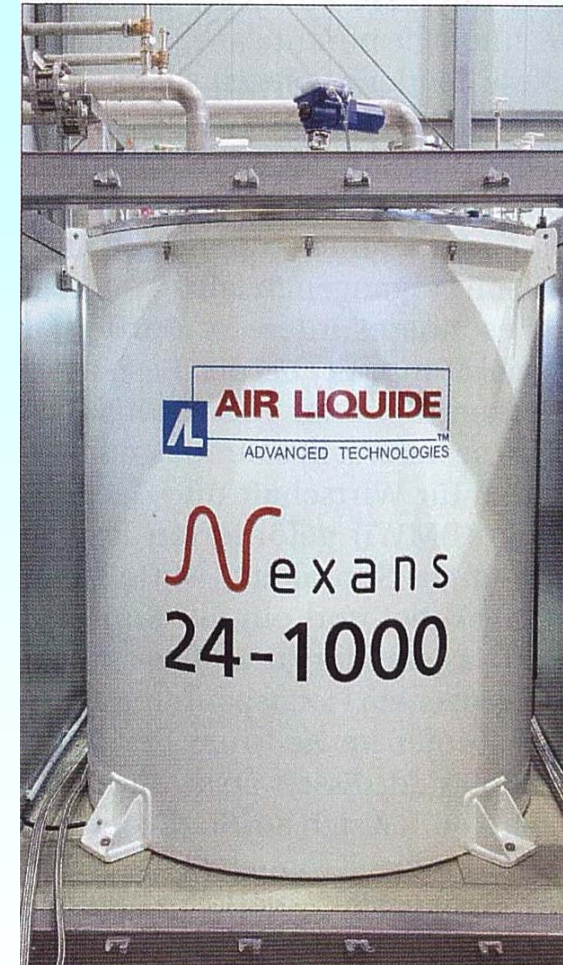
FCL-Rating: 1 kA, 24 kV, 50 Hz, -180°C, LN<sub>2</sub> cooling

A prospective sudden short circuit current peak of 26 kA is limited to 10.8 kA during the first half wave.

Fault current clearing time max. 30 s to let the FCL operate again in “normal” (=super-conducting) condition

Installation first at *Palma de Mallorca* (Endesa sub-station) for 6 months field test, then at *Kosice* (Kaschau), *Slovakia* in the VSE national grid behind a transformer

Source: Nexans Superconductors GmbH,  
published in: *energiewirtschaft* 112, 2013, no. 6



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

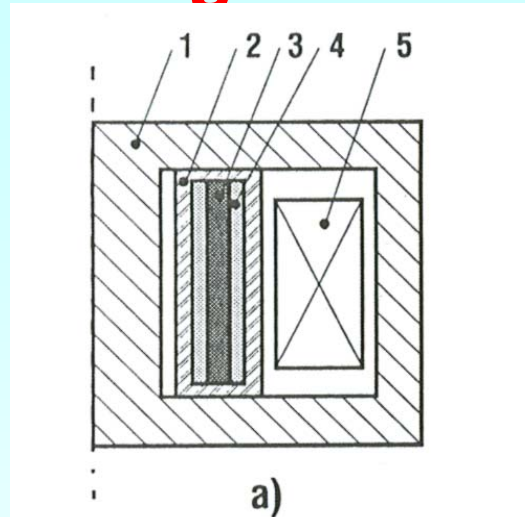
# Inductive superconducting fault current limiters (1)

a) Cross section:

- 1: iron core,
- 2: LN<sub>2</sub> cryostat,
- 3: secondary HTSC hollow cylinder,
- 4: LN<sub>2</sub> cooling
- 5: primary Cu coil L<sub>1</sub> (number of turns N)

b)  $B(r)$  field profile at nominal & fault current  $I_N$  &  $I_k$

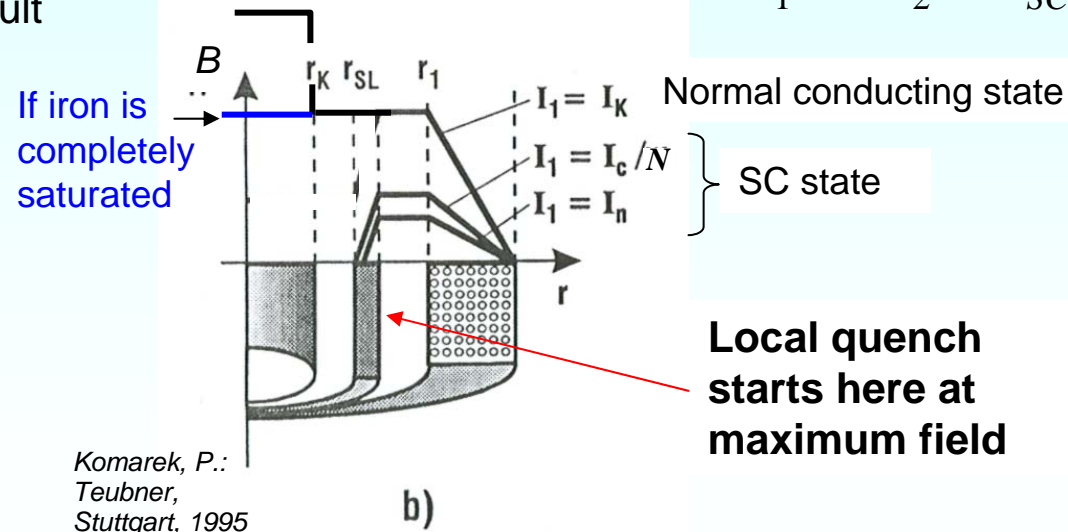
- $r_K$ : iron core outer radius
- $r_{SL}$ : SC cylinder inner radius
- $r_1$ : coil inner radius
- $I_1$ : primary coil current
- $I_c$ : critical coil current
- $I_k$ : short circuit current



Primary coil and secondary HTSC cylinder form a shell type transformer with the voltage transfer ratio:

$$\ddot{u} = N_1 / N_2 = N / 1 = N$$

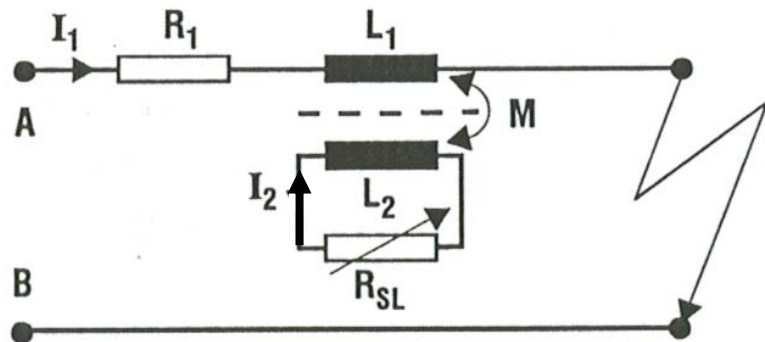
$$I_1 \ddot{u} = I_2 = I_{SC} = N \cdot I_1$$



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Inductive superconducting fault current limiters (2)

Transformer equivalent circuit diagram:



Primary Cu coil: inductance  $L_1$ , resistance  $R_1$ , leakage inductance:  $\sigma L_1$ , leakage coefficient  $\sigma \approx 0.1$

Secondary HTSC cylinder: inductance  $L_2$ , resistance  $R_{SL}$ , leakage inductance nearly zero!

Mutual inductance between primary Cu coil and secondary HTSC cylinder:  $M$

$$L_1 - \sigma \cdot L_1 = N \cdot M = N^2 \cdot L_2$$

$$L_1 \sim N_1^2 = N^2 \quad M \sim N_1 N_2 = N \quad L_2 \sim N_2^2 = 1$$

Komarek, P.: Teubner, Stuttgart, 1995



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Inductive superconducting fault current limiters (3)

Transformer equivalent circuit diagram:

$$u_1 = R_1 i_1 + L_1 \cdot di_1 / dt + M \cdot di_2 / dt$$

$$u_2 = 0 = R_{SL} i_2 + L_2 \cdot di_2 / dt + M \cdot di_1 / dt$$

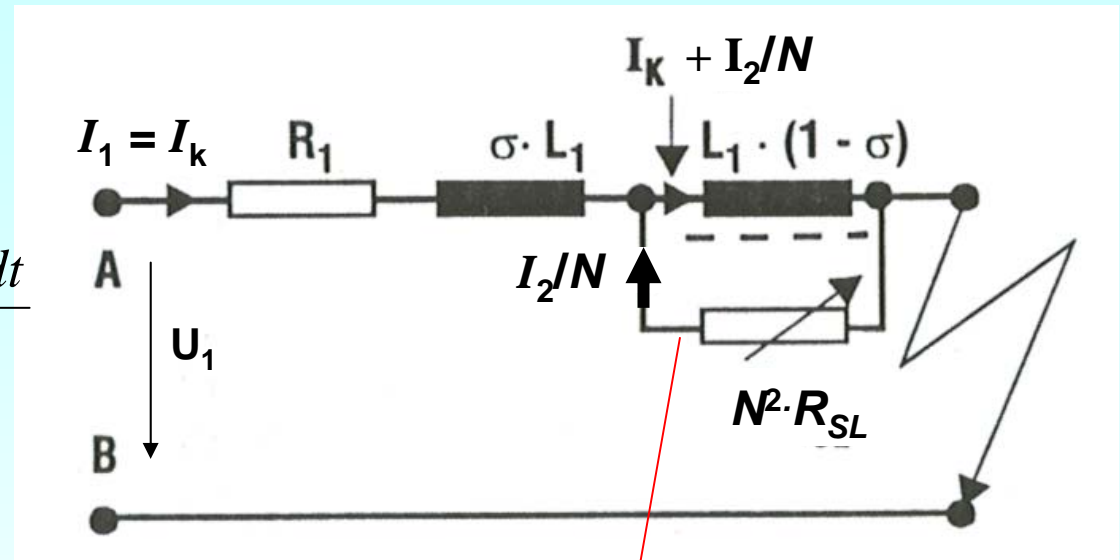
$$L_1 - \sigma \cdot L_1 = N \cdot M = N^2 \cdot L_2$$

$$u_1 = R_1 i_1 + L_1 \cdot di_1 / dt + N \cdot M \cdot d(i_2 / N) / dt$$

$$0 = N^2 R_{SL} \cdot (i_2 / N) + N^2 L_2 \cdot d(i_2 / N) / dt + N \cdot M \cdot di_1 / dt$$

$$u_1 = R_1 i_1 + \sigma L_1 \cdot di_1 / dt + (1 - \sigma) L_1 \cdot d(i_1 + i'_2) / dt$$

$$0 = N^2 R_{SL} \cdot i'_2 + (1 - \sigma) L_1 \cdot d(i_1 + i'_2) / dt$$



Resulting impedance:

$$\underline{Z} = \frac{N^2 R_{SL}}{1 + \frac{N^2 R_{SL}}{j\omega L_1 (1 - \sigma)}}$$

Komarek, P.: Teubner, Stuttgart, 1995



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Inductive superconducting fault current limiters (4)

$$\underline{Z} = \frac{N^2 R_{SL}}{1 + \frac{N^2 R_{SL}}{j\omega L_1 (1 - \sigma)}}$$

### Resulting impedance:

a) No fault, SC state:  $R_{SL} = 0$   $\underline{Z} = 0$

b) Fault, normal conducting state:  $R_{SL} \rightarrow \infty$   $\underline{Z} = j\omega \cdot (1 - \sigma) \cdot L_1$

a) Series impedance small:  $R_1 + j\omega \cdot \sigma \cdot L_1$

b) Series impedance big = limits fault current:  $R_1 + j\omega \cdot L_1$

Komarek, P.: Teubner, Stuttgart, 1995



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Inductive superconducting fault current limiters (5)

- Normal-conducting Cu primary coil  $L_1$  (number of turns  $N$ ), HTSC hollow cylinder = shorted secondary coil: **"ampere-turns balance"**:

$$R_{SL} = 0: \text{ SC current } I'_2 \approx -I_1 = -I_N \Rightarrow I_2 \approx -I_1 / \dot{i} = -I_1 \cdot N$$

- Magnetic field strength in iron core nearly zero:

$$0 = \oint_C \vec{H}_{Fe} \cdot d\vec{s} = (NI_1 + I_2)$$

- **Resulting inductance low:** Only stray field in annular gap  $\sigma \cdot L_1$ . Small stray field = Low AC loss, dissipated via LN<sub>2</sub> bath cooling.
- Fault current: HTSC cylinder becomes **normal-conducting**.
- $R_{SL} \gg 0$ : **High secondary resistance:**  $I'_{2,k} \approx 0 \Leftrightarrow$  "no-load":  $I_1$  excites high flux in the iron: high inductance  $L_1$ .
- **High current-limiting impedance:**  $R_1 + j\omega \cdot L_1$



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Inductive superconductive fault current limiters (6)

- **Cryostat** made of **non-conducting** material, otherwise it acts as short-circuit conductive turn, causing a temperature rise by eddy current losses.
- HTSC cylinder must be homogenous for simultaneous quenching at the entire perimeter. **Only local quenching bad**  $\Rightarrow$  locally high losses  $\Rightarrow$  local heating  $\Rightarrow$  **local increased mechanical stress**  $\Rightarrow$  brittle Bi(2212) cylinder breaks.
- **Advantage:** No conductor connections from HTSC to normal-conducting coils necessary: low **SC losses due to low heat inflow!**

### Single-phase prototype test:

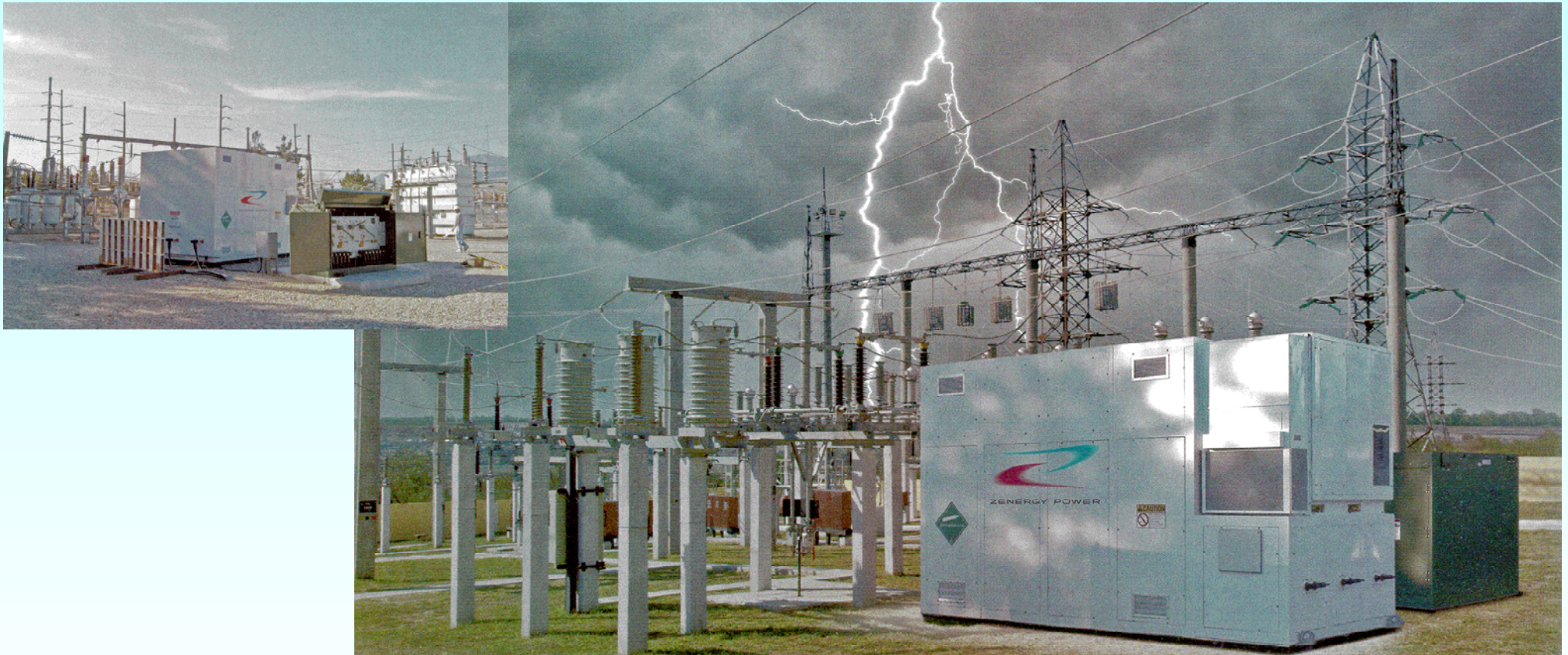
$I_N = 200$  A,  $U_N = 8.3$  kV,  $0.5$  m<sup>3</sup> volume of the device, fault current 13.2 kA (66 - times of rated current!).

Fault current limited to: 4.3 kA (peak) and after 20 ms to 1.4 kA (r.m.s.).



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Inductive superconducting fault current limiter



Use of an inductive HTSC-FCL **with a DC saturation principle** in the medium voltage grid of *Southern California Edison* near *Los Angeles, USA*, since spring 2009,

- Operation temperature:  $-240^{\circ}\text{C}$  (33 K!), 10 W loss of power in the FCL
- Necessary cooling power: 16 kW

Source: Zenergy Power GmbH, Rheinbach, D,  
BWK 62 (2010) no. 9, p. 58





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Perspectives for SC fault current limiters

- Fault current limiters only possible **with superconductor technology**.
- They allow saving of system resources due to smaller short circuit currents (= smaller overload of devices) and are therefore **economically very appealing**.
- They can be designed in such a way that the **AC loss in SC operation** remains **sufficiently small**.
- Hence their deployment has **high appeal**, justifying the effort for development and, during operation, for the required cooling.



# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## Summary:

### Fault current limiter

- Competing resistive and inductive SC fault current limiter systems
- Only high temperature superconductors used
- Several long term field tests in progress
- Reduction of short circuit current allows protection of power devices
- Wider use in near future expected



# 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

2.2.1 Fault current limiter

2.2.2 Superconducting power cables

2.2.3 Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)

2.2.4 Superconducting power transformers

2.2.5 Rotating electrical machines with superconductor winding

2.2.6 Cryo-machines and rotating electrical machines with massive superconductors



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### 2.2.2 Overhead line – cable – LTSC cable

- **Advantages of AC high voltage overhead lines**

- low construction and maintenance cost,
- low dielectric loss (air as insulation medium),
- high transmission capacity (up to ca. 6 GVA) due to high transmission voltages (up to typically 765 kV in USA/Canada), several parallel lines per steel tower

⇒ Usage for about 95% of electrical energy transmission

- **Cable:** Complicated construction, buried: 5 to 10 times as expensive

- Used, where overhead lines are not feasible (e.g. down-town)
- Smaller dimensions than overhead lines:

Big capacity  $C_{\text{cable}} = \text{ca. } 10C_{\text{overhead line}} \Rightarrow$  high charging current

- **LTSC cable:** market for AC cables significantly higher than for DC cables (HVDCT):

- AC loss and (thus increased) cooling losses with LHeI
- losses are proportional to cable length  $\Rightarrow$  expensive cooling system

Therefore, in spite of extensive technical trials and good technical results, for economical reasons the LTSC cable was not introduced at the market.

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### HTSC cable

- **HTSC cable: LN<sub>2</sub>: cheaper cooling:** The superconductor power cable is attractive for transmission capacities of ca. 1000 MVA, e.g. increasing the transmission capacity with unchanged transmission route
- **Magnetic advantage: Self-field  $B$  is low**  $\Rightarrow$  HTSC multifilament conductors with lower critical flux density  $B_{c2}$  ( $< 4$  T at 77 K) do not quench

Example: Current  $I = 6$  kA r.m.s., diameter of cylinder conductor:  $d = 4$  cm,  
self-field at the surface of the cylinder conductor: **85 mT amplitude**

$$\hat{B}_e = \mu_0 \sqrt{2} \frac{I}{d\pi} = 85 \text{ mT}$$

HTSC **Bi(2223)**:  $B_{c1}$  (77 K) ca. 20 ... 80 mT  $\Rightarrow$  *Shubnikov* phase:  
Field enters the superconductor.

- **Hysteresis loss  $P_{Hy}$**  in conductor volume  $V$  small, **must be checked by cooling technology:**

$$P_{Hy} \sim V \cdot f \cdot B_e^2 \cdot \frac{B_e}{J_c}$$



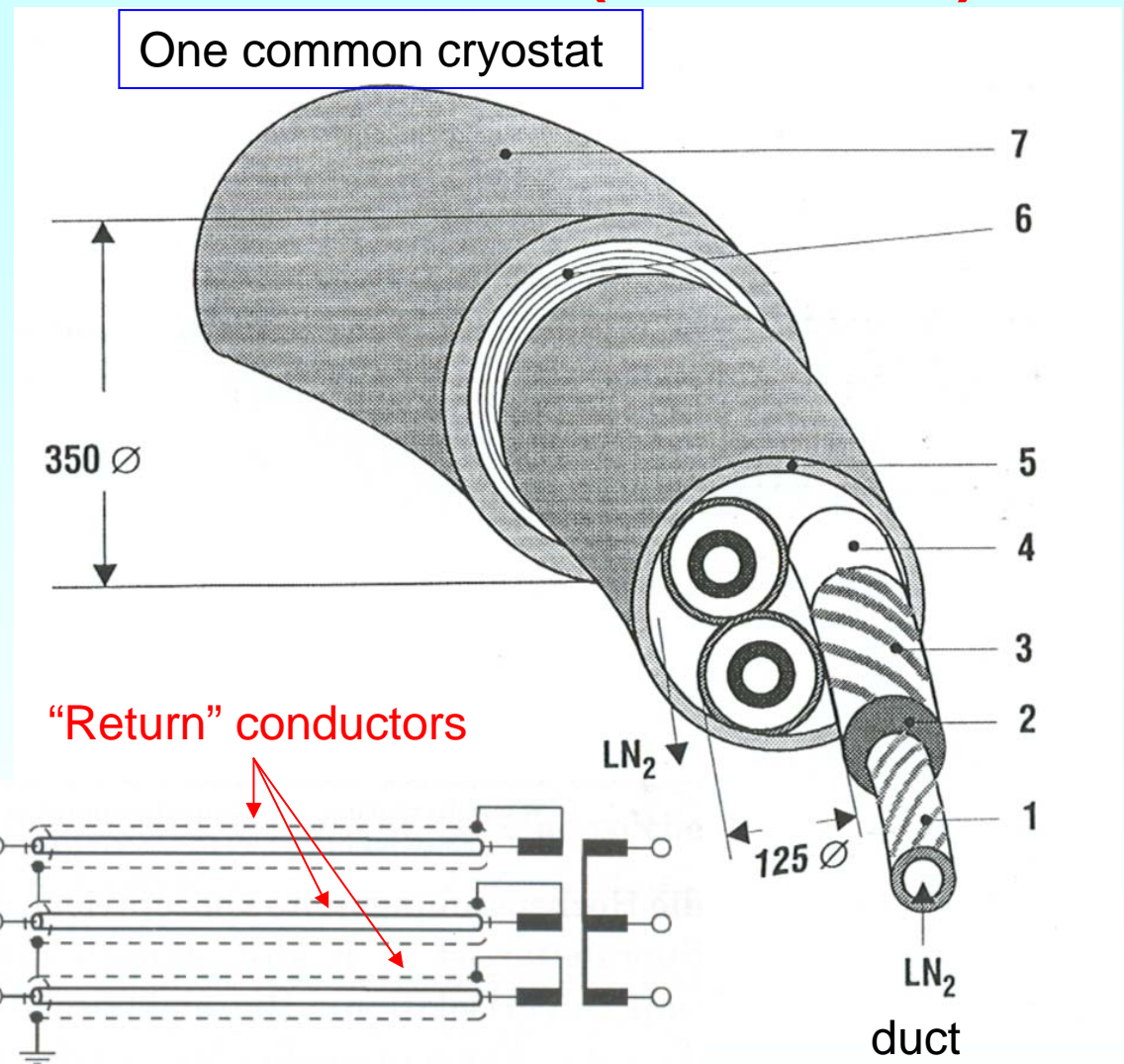
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC power cable with cold dielectric (insulation)

**Prototype:** 110 kV/ 1000 MVA, all three phases in one cryostat

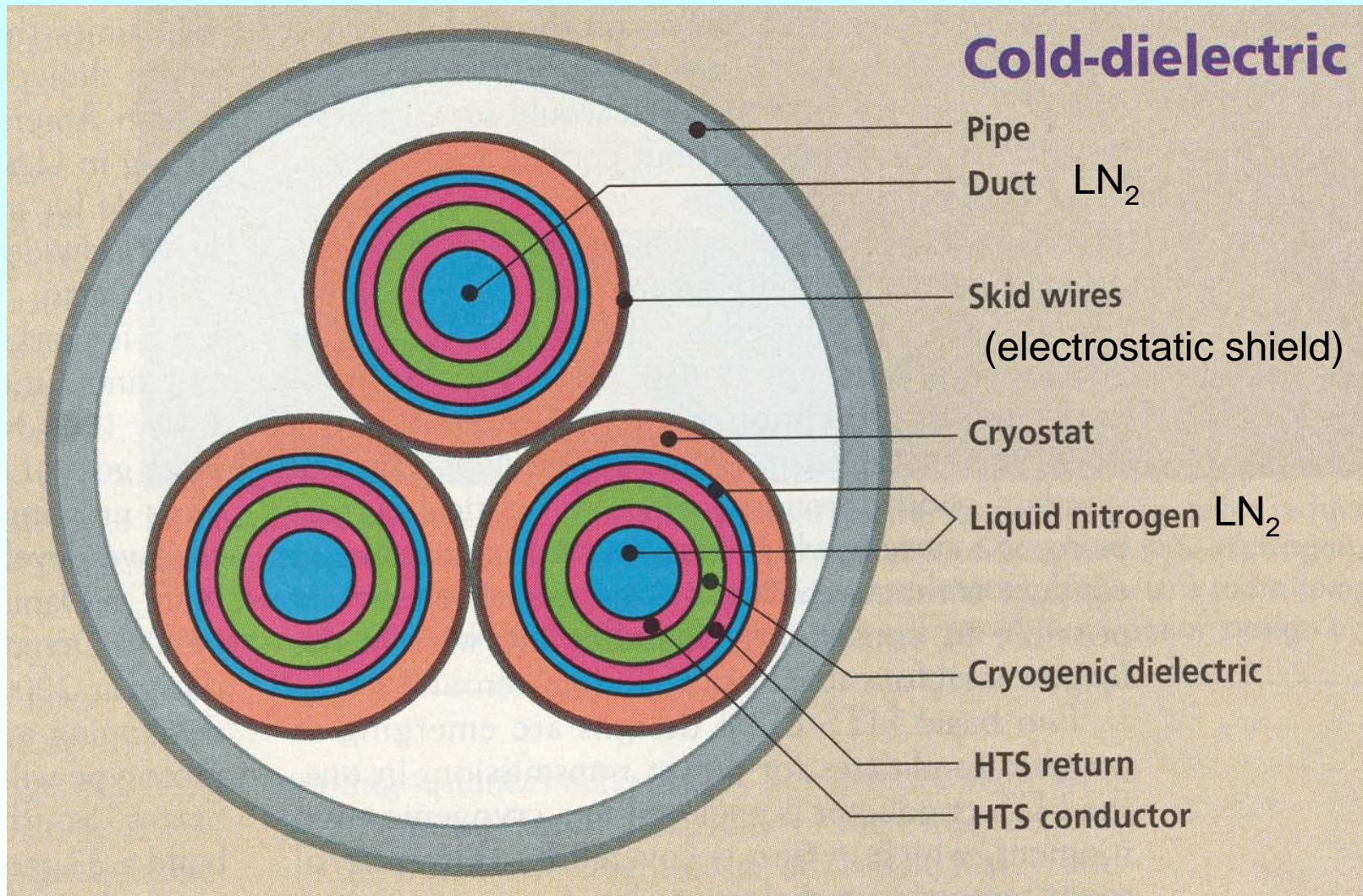
- 1: HTSC strip conductor, stranded on inner tube cooled by LN<sub>2</sub> (77 K)
- 2: LN<sub>2</sub> cooled HV insulation (e.g. PPP)
- 3: HTSC outer conductor (stranded tapes) for field shielding as “return”
- 4: electrostatic shield
- 5: LN<sub>2</sub> tube container
- 6: Super insulation in vacuum chamber
- 7: Outer pipe with corrosion protection

*Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC power cable with cold dielectric



Source:  
*IEEE/PES Journal*,  
1998

Variant with each phase in a separate cryostat

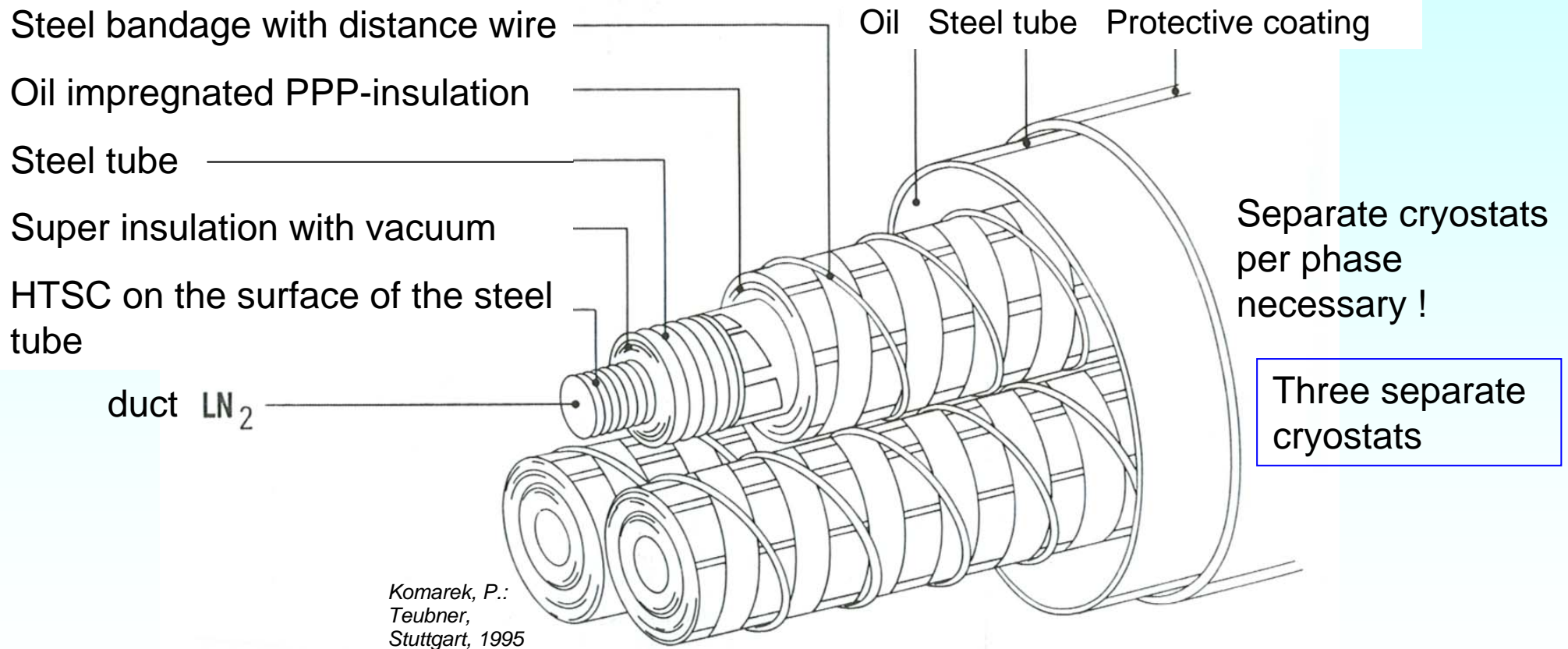
Three separate cryostats



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC power cable with warm dielectric (insulation)

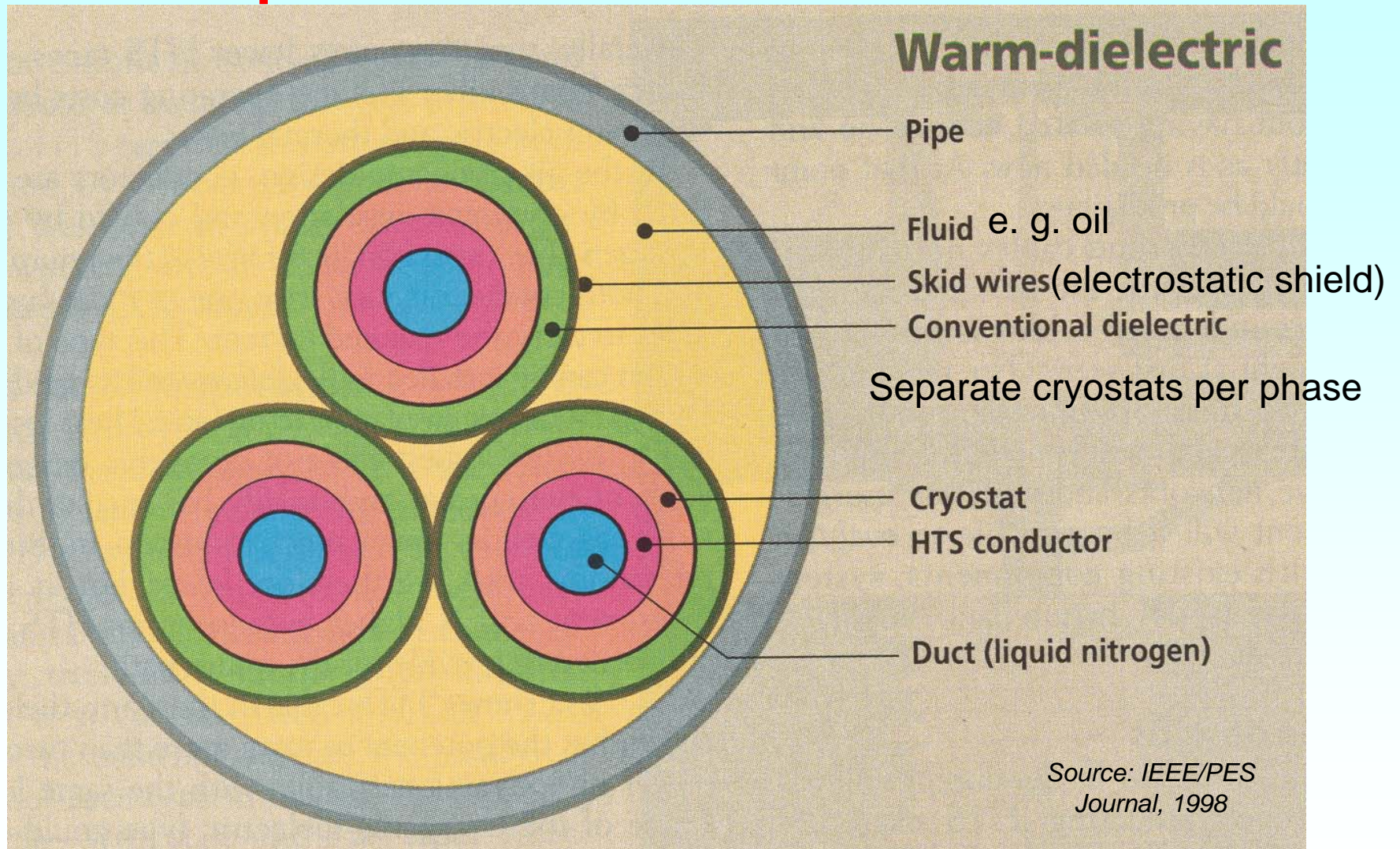
- HTSC (77 K), conventional high voltage insulation at ambient temperature





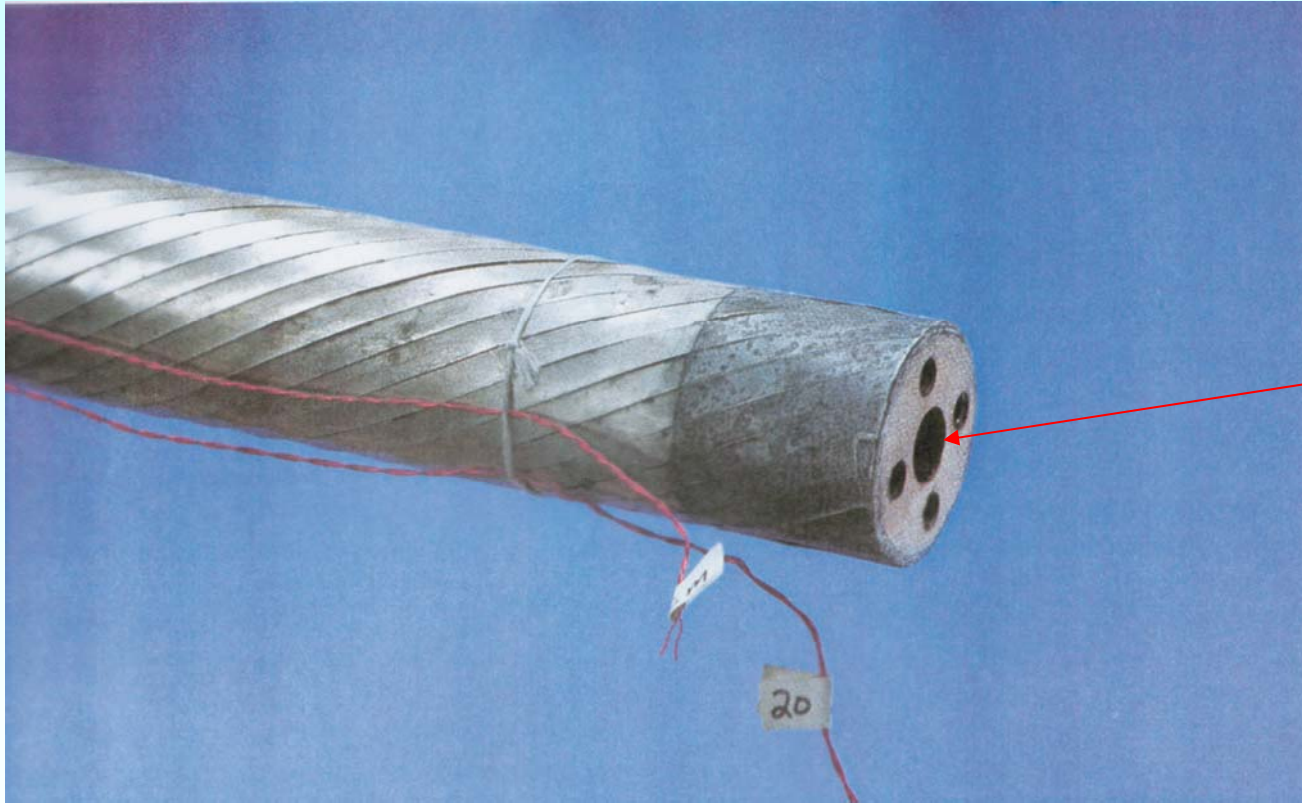
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# HTSC power cable with warm dielectric



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# One phase of an HTSC power cable with warm dielectric



Duct LN<sub>2</sub>

Source:

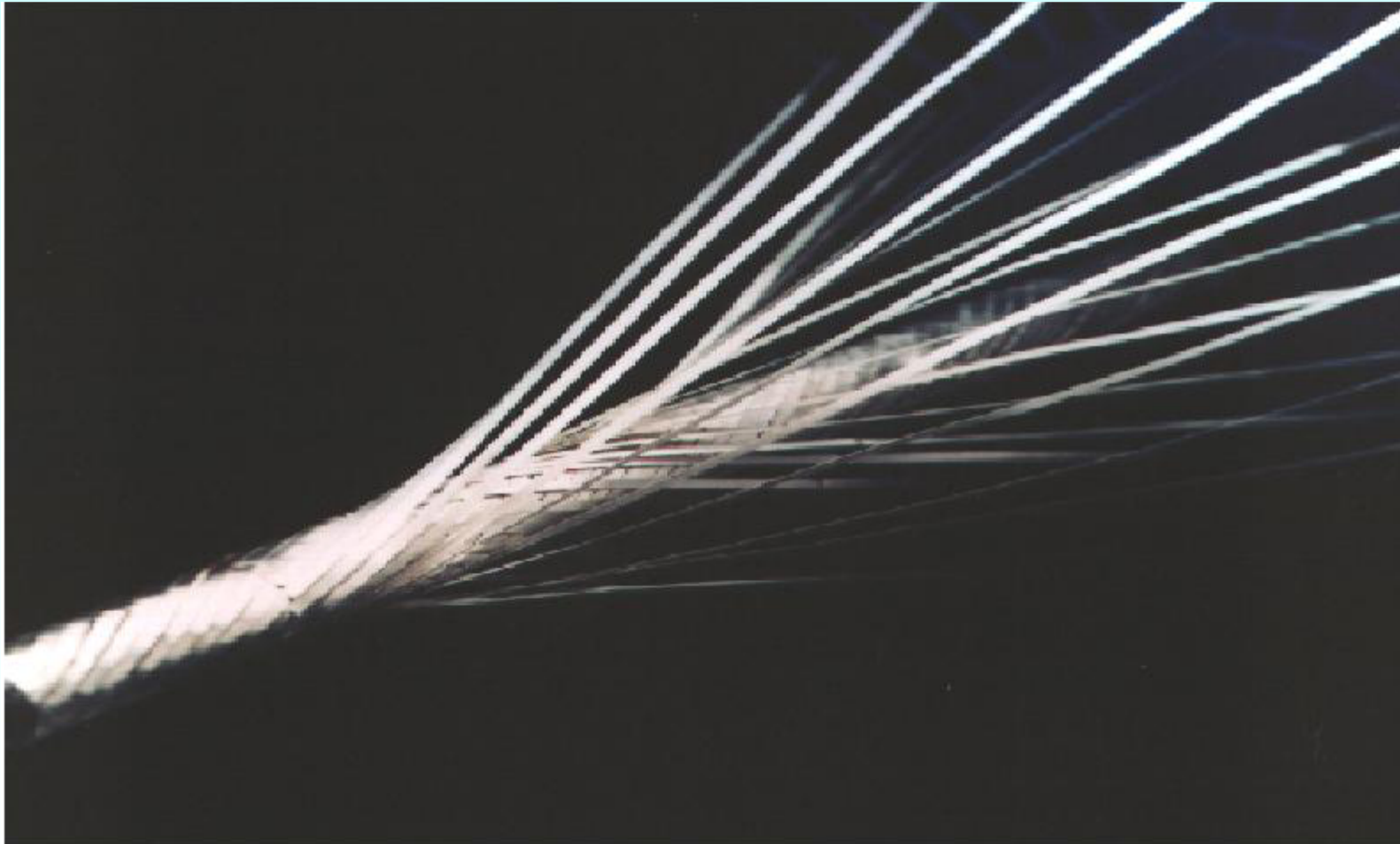
*Pirelli & American Superconductor*

**BSCCO 2223 HTSC strip conductor on rigid carrier, 90 kV, 50 m lang, LN<sub>2</sub> inner cooling in a central duct**



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

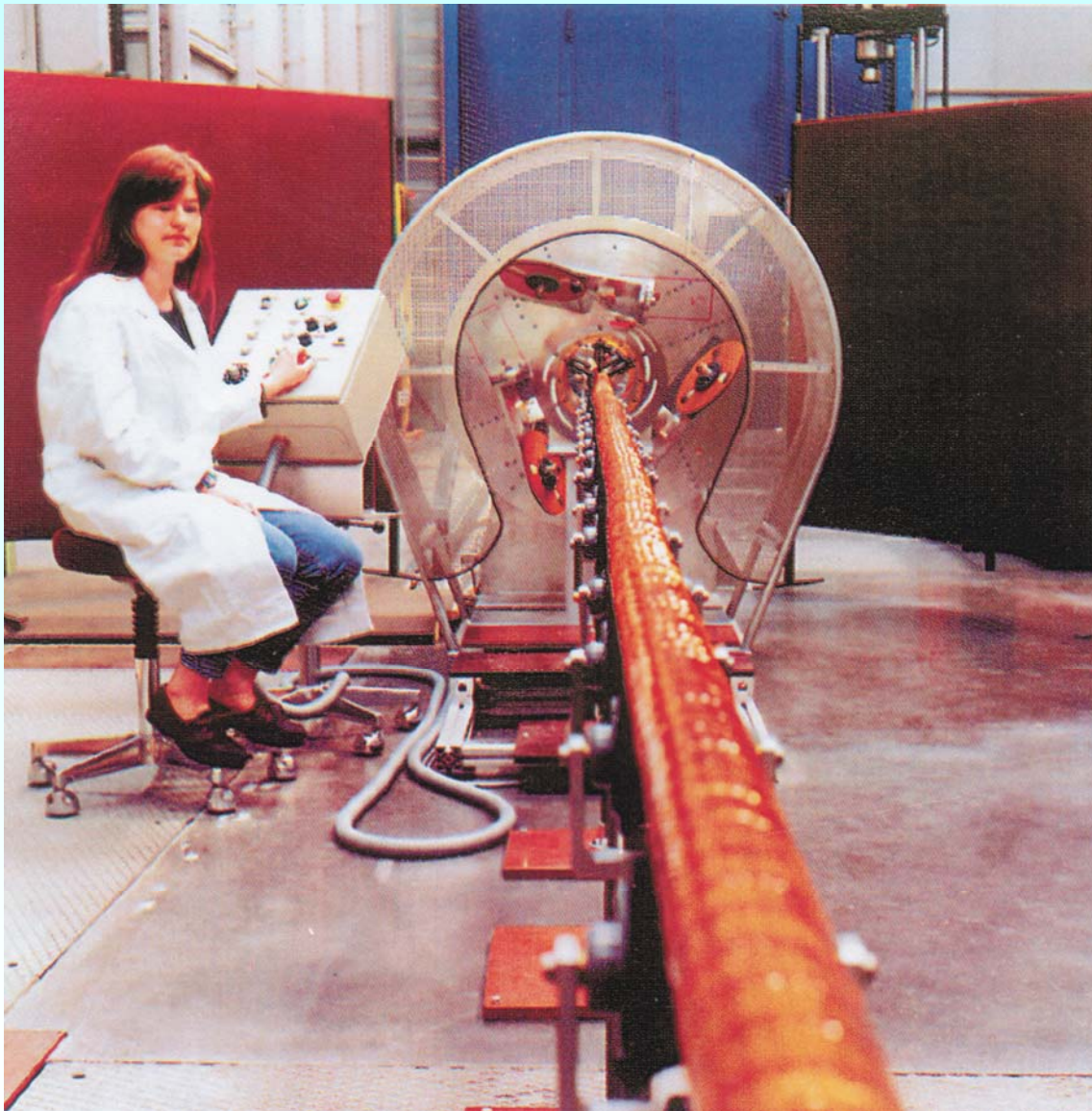
### Stranding of the HTSC-BSCCO conductors of one cable phase



*Source: American Superconductor, USA*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology



### Production of prototype HTSC cable

Stranding of the BSCCO strip conductors on a rigid carrier

Critical temperature of the SC cable at zero field: 110 K

LN<sub>2</sub> cooling

*Source: Siemens AG, Germany*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

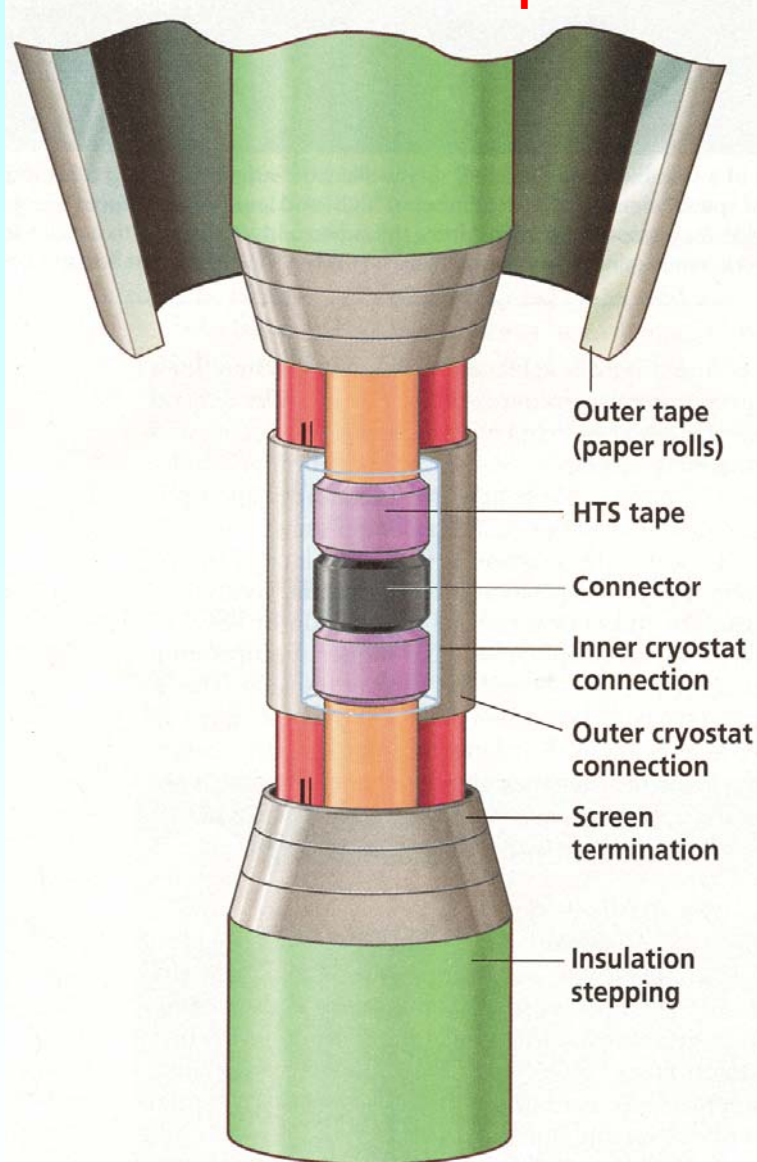
# Cooling of HTSC power cable

- Warm dielectric: Cryogenic area restricted to the high voltage side:
  - allows less SC material, **less cryogenic requirement**,
  - **but no** magnetic field compensation: AC field induces eddy current losses in cryostat, which load thermally the cryogenic coolant.
- At longer cable lengths: 5 W/m loss in cable: **coolant** has to be fed with **overpressure** (e.g. 5 bar, 2 l/s coolant flow) due to pressure drops in the tube track system. Arranged in cooling sections, if necessary!
- Production length of Bi HTSC stranded conductors ca. 1 km.
  - Cable sections connected by cable joints (point-to-point soldered wiring).
- Cable sealing ends:
  - controlled reduction of electric field strength,
  - with low loss and LN<sub>2</sub> waste-gas-cooled,
- **Fault treatment**: high fault current: danger of quenching: Combination of SC cable with FCL recommended.



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Cable joint (junction box) between two HTSC cables (per phase)



- nominal voltage 115 kV, 60 Hz
- warm dielectric
- LN<sub>2</sub> cooling
- insulation "stepping" for smoothed reduction of electric field strength = homogenization of the electric potential

Source: IEEE/PES  
Journal, 1998



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### HTSC cable for retrofit

- Cost for HTSC cables sufficiently low only, if amount of HTSC material is sufficiently low: Material with  $J_c > 1200 \text{ A/mm}^2$  (77 K) necessary.

At 2010: for BSCCO-wires: available:  $J_c$  ca.  $500 \text{ A/mm}^2$

- As losses in HTSC cable are only about 1/5 of the one for the conventional cable: At equal losses: 5 times the transmission capacity.
- Retrofit plants: Old cable route used in down-town: e.g. in case of space limitation. SC cable is in that case today already economically feasible
- Example: Detroit, Michigan, USA, "downtown": Field test

HTSC warm dielectric cable replaces conventional cable

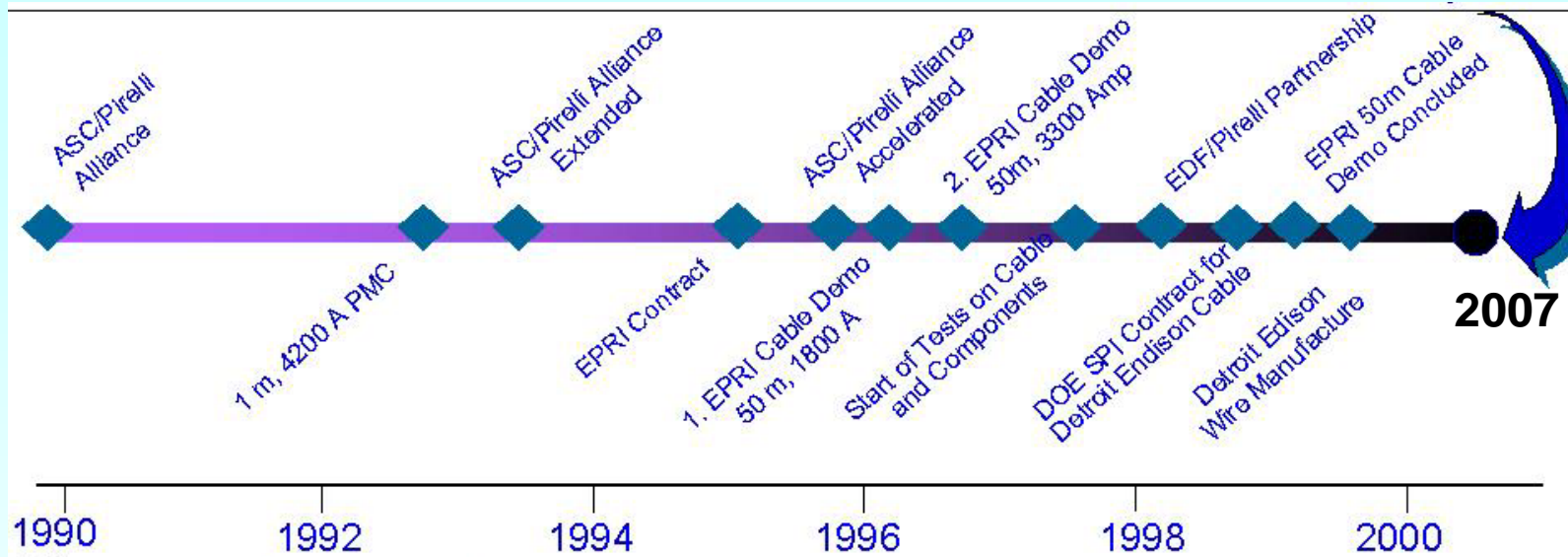
Data:  $S_N = \sqrt{3}U_N I_N = 100 \text{ MVA}$

$U_N = 24 \text{ kV}$ ,  $I_N = 2.4 \text{ kA}$  (eff.), Bi(2223); 120 m length: connection between 120kV/24 kV transformer and the 24 kV switching station



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### HTSC-cable for downtown retrofit use

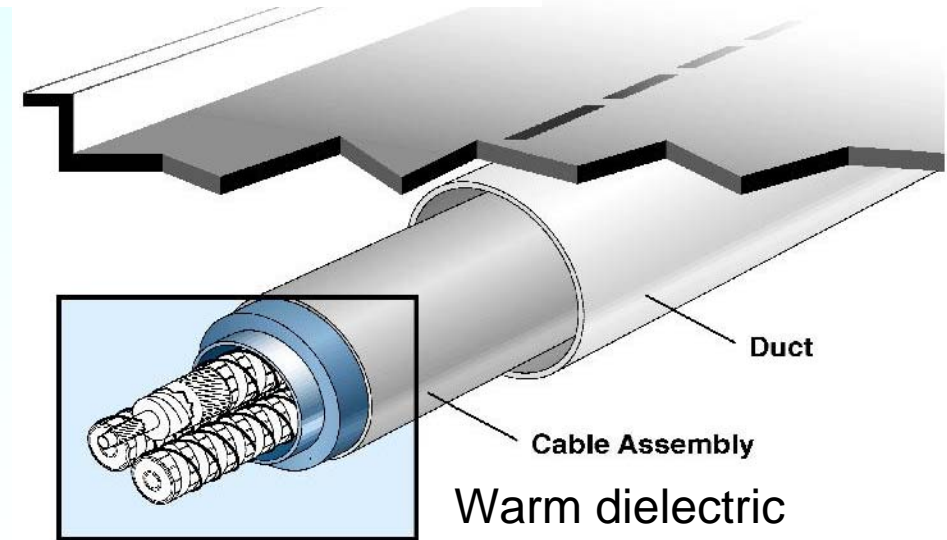


**Albany HTSC-Cable project:**

a) BSCCO-stranded flat conductors

b) YBCO-tape conductor

Source:  
ASC / Pirelli



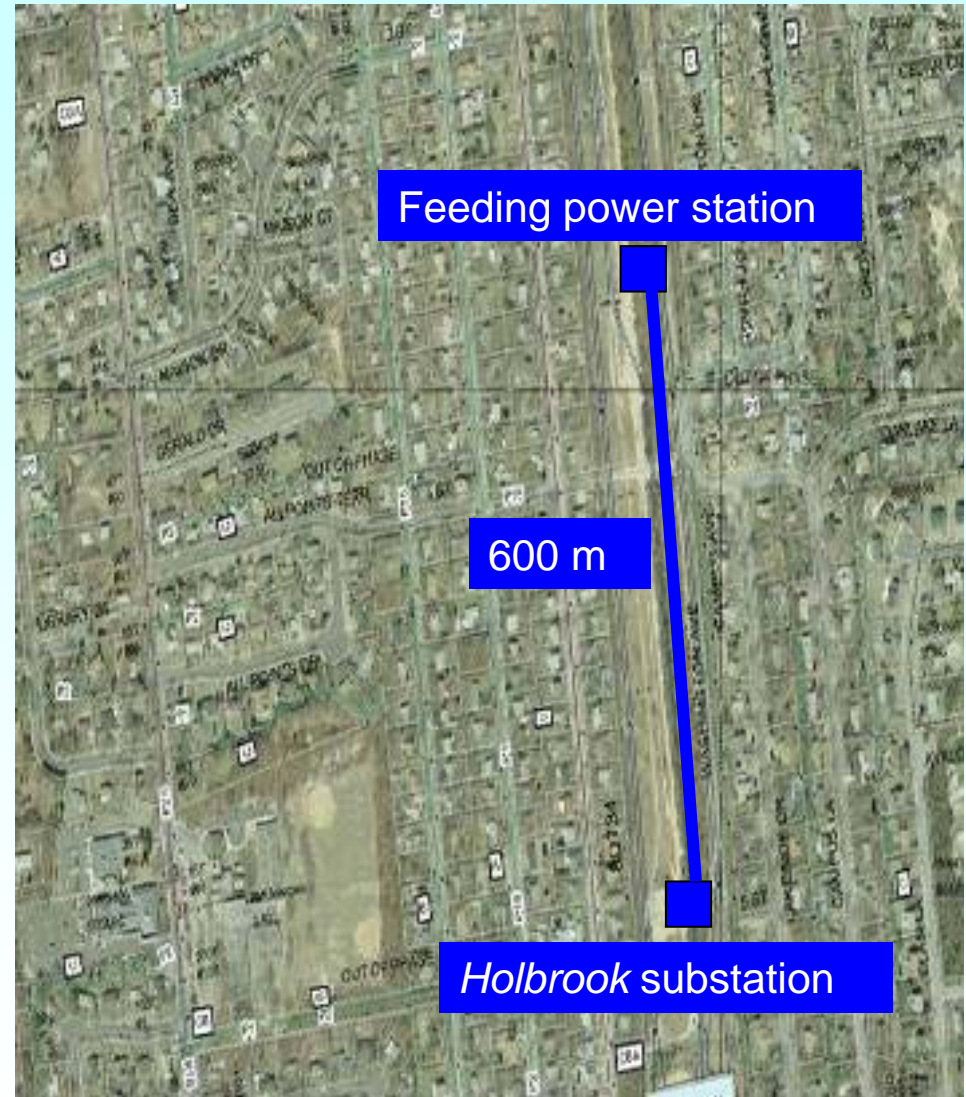


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Long Island HTSC cable application for retrofit

- High voltage cable connection between *Holbrook* substation and the feeding power station (600 m distance), *Long Island Power Authority, USA*, in 2008
- *Data*: 138 kV line-to-line voltage, 2400 A phase current, 574 MVA apparent transmission power, 60 Hz, short circuit current capability: 51 kA for 0.2 s
- Three single-phase cables with cold dielectric, one LN<sub>2</sub>-cooling system, 12 bar pressure, 65 K, 155 km of BSCCO tapes used
- 2 x 3 cable terminals at both ends for 138 kV into open air.

Source: Nexans, Germany



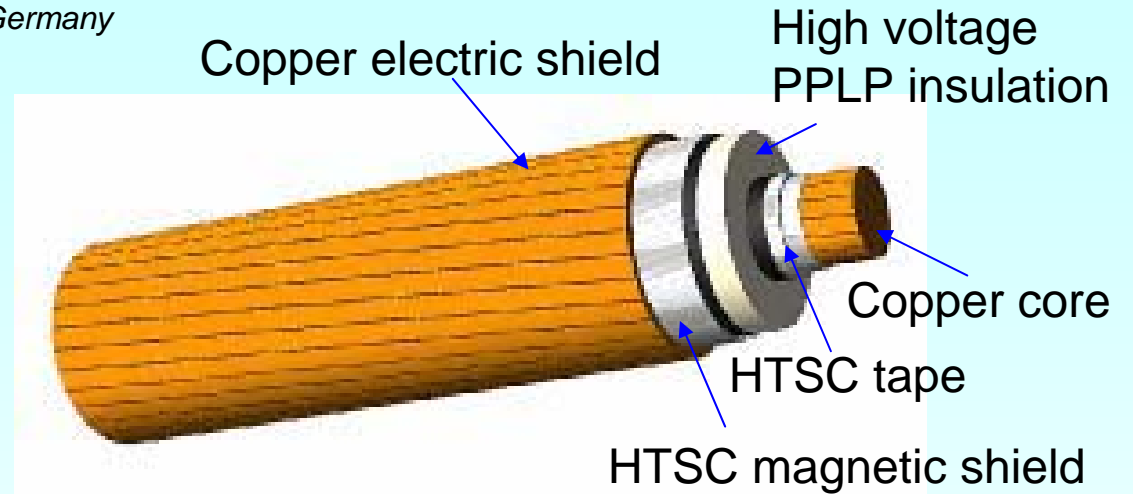
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Long Island HTSC cable application for retrofit

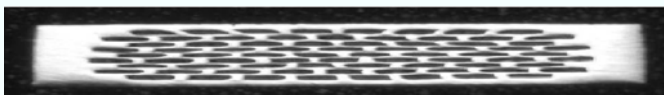


Cable manufacturing

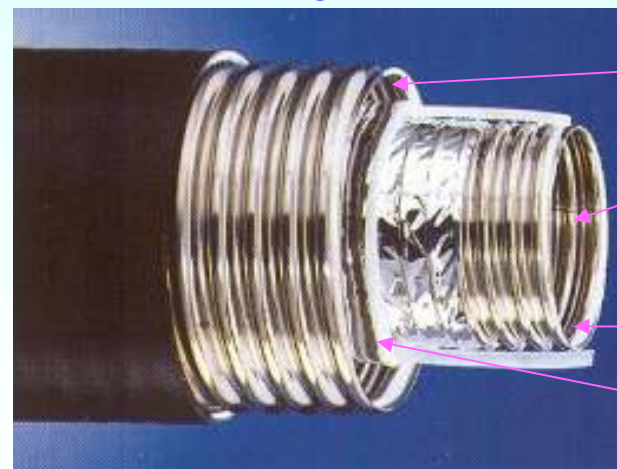
Source: Nexans, Germany



Cold side single phase cable at 65 K



BSCCO 2223 tape structure  
4.3 x 0.4 mm<sup>2</sup> for  $I_c = 200$  A



Outer tube  
Space for inserting the cable  
Inner tube  
Thermal super-insulation vacuum  $<10^{-5}$  mbar

Single phase cable cryostat



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Long Island HTSC cable terminal 136 kV



### Vertical part:

- a) HV insulator between 136 kV and ground
- b) Temperature gradient between 65 K and 300 K

### Horizontal part:

- a) Length equalization during cooling process
- b) Connection to HTSC cable

Source: Nexans, Germany



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

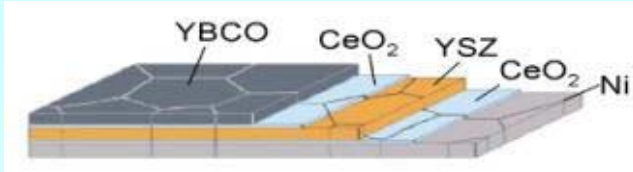
### German HTSC cable project “Ampacity” (Essen)

- **Essen downtown**, connecting two substations *Dellbrügge* and *Herkules* with HTSC-cable and resistive FCL as protection between HTSC-cable and transformer
- **Start:** May 2014; test duration: 2 years; project partners: *Nexans*, *RWE*, *KIT*
- **Retrofit:** 1 km = 2 x 0.5 km HTSC-cable 10 kV, 3 phases, 50 Hz, with a cable joint. It replaces an existing 110 kV normal conducting Cu-cable to increase transmission power without digging a new cable tunnel. The 110 kV/10 kV-substation is removed.
- **40 MVA power transmission:**  $S_N = \sqrt{3} \cdot U_N I_N = \sqrt{3} \cdot 10\text{kV} \cdot 2.31\text{kA} = 40\text{MVA}$   
New/old: 10 kV/110 kV = 0.1, hence 2310 A / 231 A: 10-times higher current rating of the HTSC-cable via reduced rated voltage
- 3-phase **concentric YBCO-tape HTSC cable**, 1 km LN<sub>2</sub> cooling-tube, -196°C (77 K), 4 kW cooling power
- **Costs** = 6-times of conventional cable; total 13.5 Mio. € (5.9 Mio. € public funding)

Source: VDI Nachrichten, no.19, 9. May 2014

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Concentric three-phase HTSC cables for medium voltage < 30 kV



YBCO 2223 tape structure  
4.4 x 0.4 mm<sup>2</sup> for  $I_c = 90$  A

Data: Essen down-town

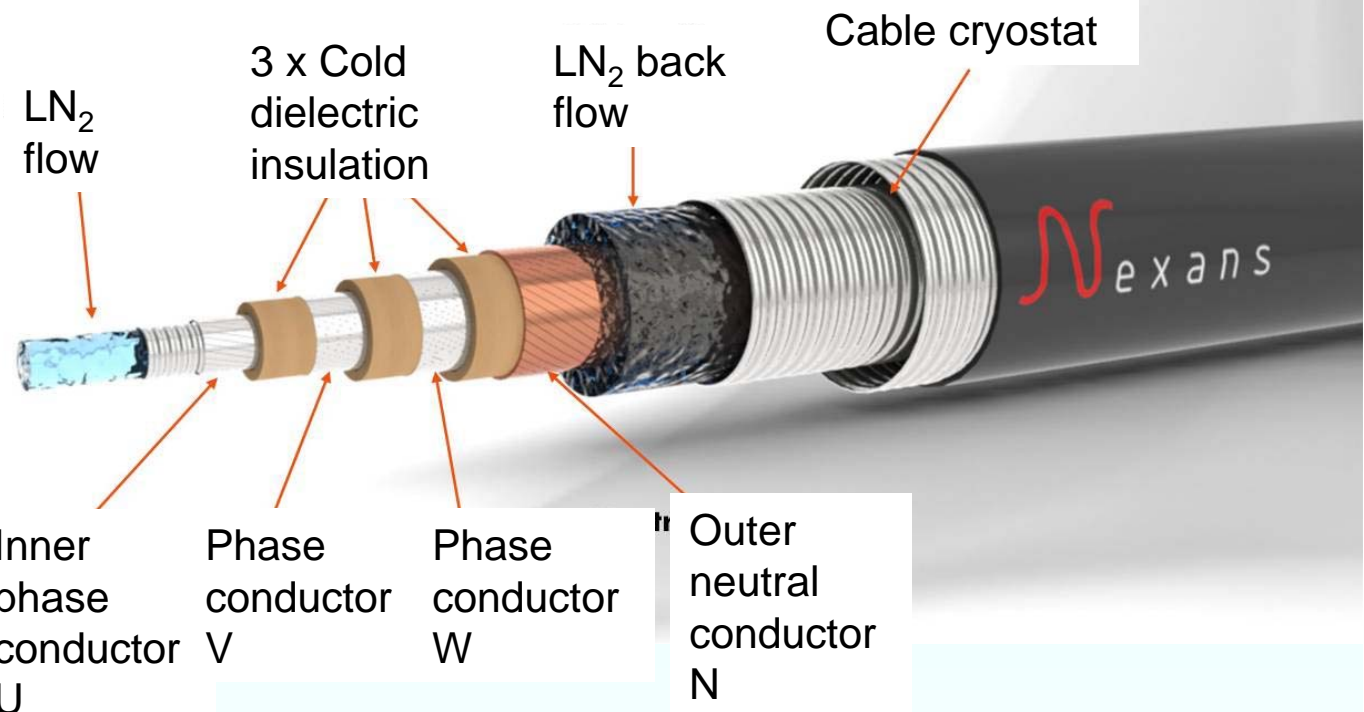
10 kV line-to-line voltage

2398 A phase current

40 MVA apparent transmitted power

2 x 0.5 km length  
(0.5 km transport limit)

Per 1 km: 184 km of YBCO tapes are needed.



Concentric 3-phase HTSC cable for 10 kV with YBCO tape conductors, cold dielectric, 65 K

Source: Nexans, Germany

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# German HTSC cable project “Ampacity”



Test of the 10 kV-HTSC-cable in the *Hannover* manufacturing plant of *Nexans*, *Germany*

- Impulse voltage test at 7-times rated voltage to withstand lightning strokes
- Steady state test at 3-times rated voltage 50 Hz, and rated current

Source: Nexans, Germany, published in: *energiewirtschaft* 112, 2013, no.6



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Perspectives for HTSC cables

- The **low self-fields** together with BSCCO-HTSC allow for 77 K operation. In the future: Only YBCO-tapes in use!
- **Progress of the HTSC development** (higher  $J_c$ , higher conductor lengths) decreases investment cost, but still expensive
- For **Retrofit plants** (conurbation, space limitation), HTSC cables are already economically feasible today due to the ca. **5 times higher transmission capacity**.
- The deployment of HTSC power cables competes with conventional high-power cables (e.g. oil-filled cables with water cooling), **therefore large-scale deployment in the near future is uncertain.**



# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

Summary:

Superconducting power cables

- Cold and hot dielectric systems developed
- Only high temperature superconductors used
- Only short cable distances feasible for short cryostats
- Retrofit applications for increased transmission power in crowded areas
- Up to now only prototype field testing





# 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

2.2.1 Fault current limiter

2.2.2 Superconducting power cables

2.2.3 Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)

2.2.4 Superconducting power transformers

2.2.5 Rotating electrical machines with superconductor winding

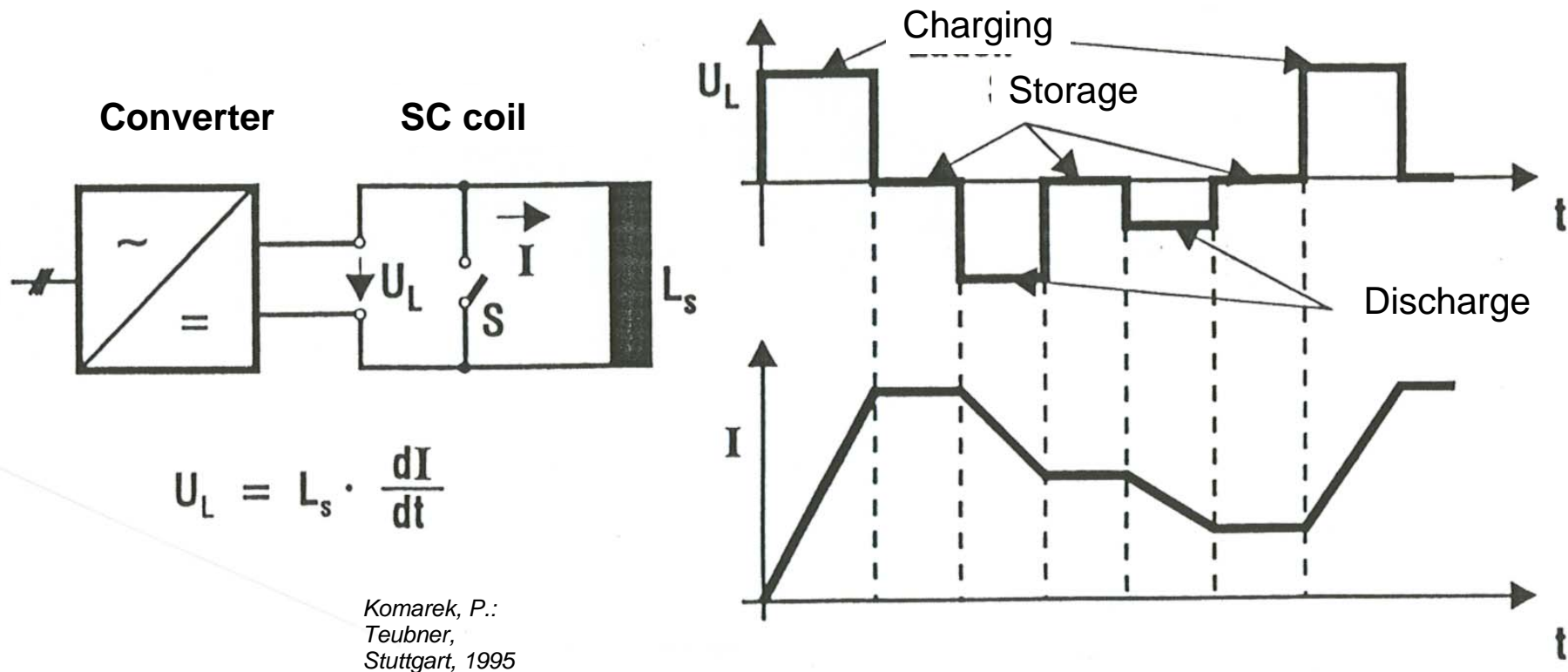
2.2.6 Cryo-machines and rotating electrical machines with massive superconductors



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### 2.2.3 Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)

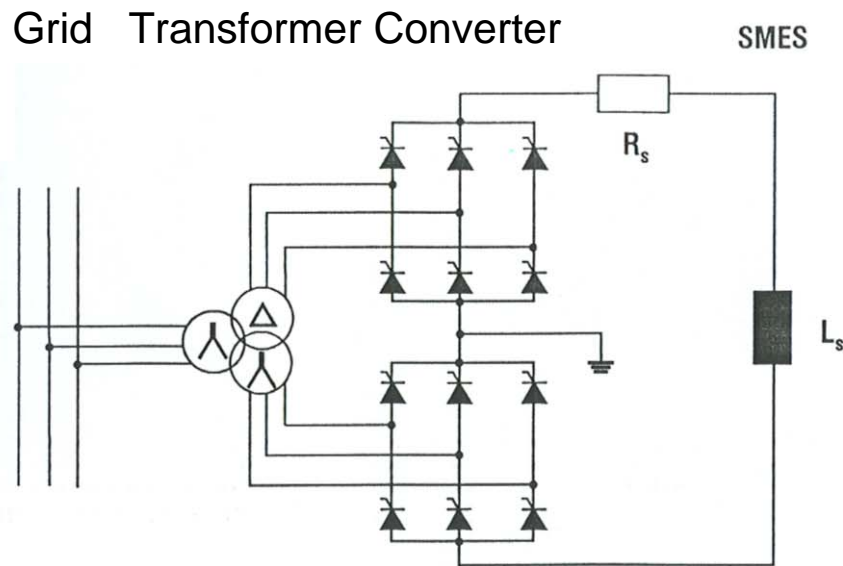
- At  $B = 8\text{T}$ : stored energy density  $W/V = \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} = \frac{8^2}{2 \cdot 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7}} = 25 \frac{\text{MJ}}{\text{m}^3}$
- $L_s$ : superconductor coil, S: short-circuit switch



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

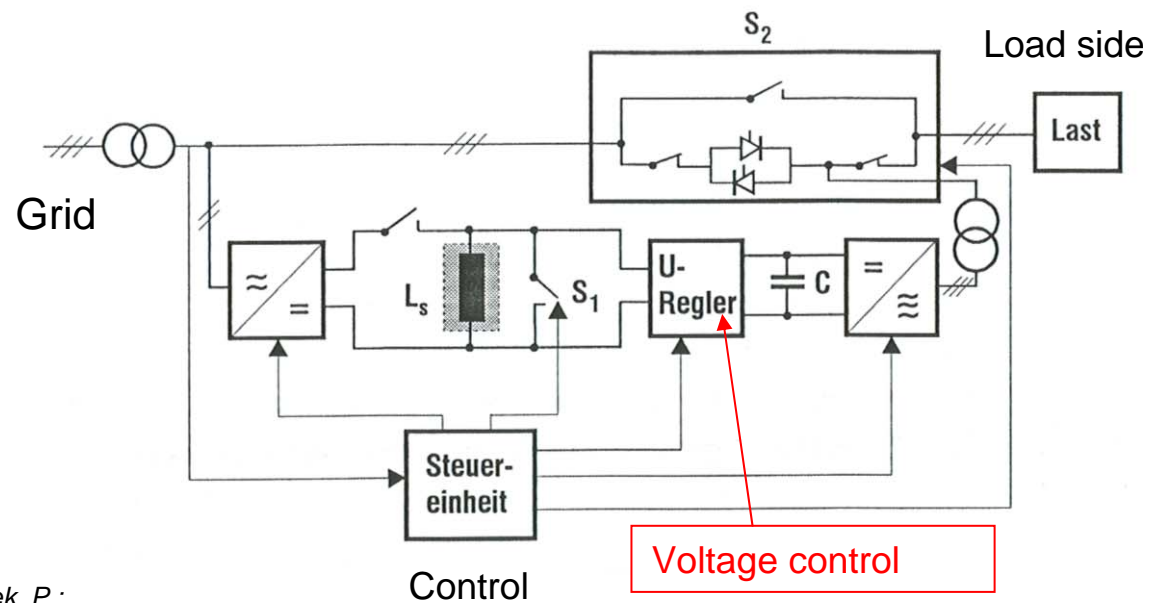
# Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)

- a) Connecting the SMES to the grid via a twelve-pulse converter and a 3-winding transformer
- b) Block diagram for an UPS



a)

Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995



b)



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Sequence of function of a SMES

- **System disturbance** is detected  $\Rightarrow$  input capacitor  $C$  at converter charged with current from the storage coil
- Desired value for voltage reached: Switch  $S_1$  closes, switch  $S_2$  disconnects load from system.  $C$  feeds the load via load side converter and step-up transformer.
- Voltage drops to defined minimum value at  $C$ ,  $S_1$  disconnects again: **Process is repeated.**
- **Recharging of  $C$  takes longer now**, because the current in the superconductor  $L_s$  has become lower due to energy withdrawal from the storage.
- When **the fault is cleared**, the grid-side converter is synchronised to the grid.  $S_2$  connects load to the system and disconnects from SMES.
- **SMES is recharged again.** The load takeover by the SMES is possible in 2..4 ms due to the fast power electronics.

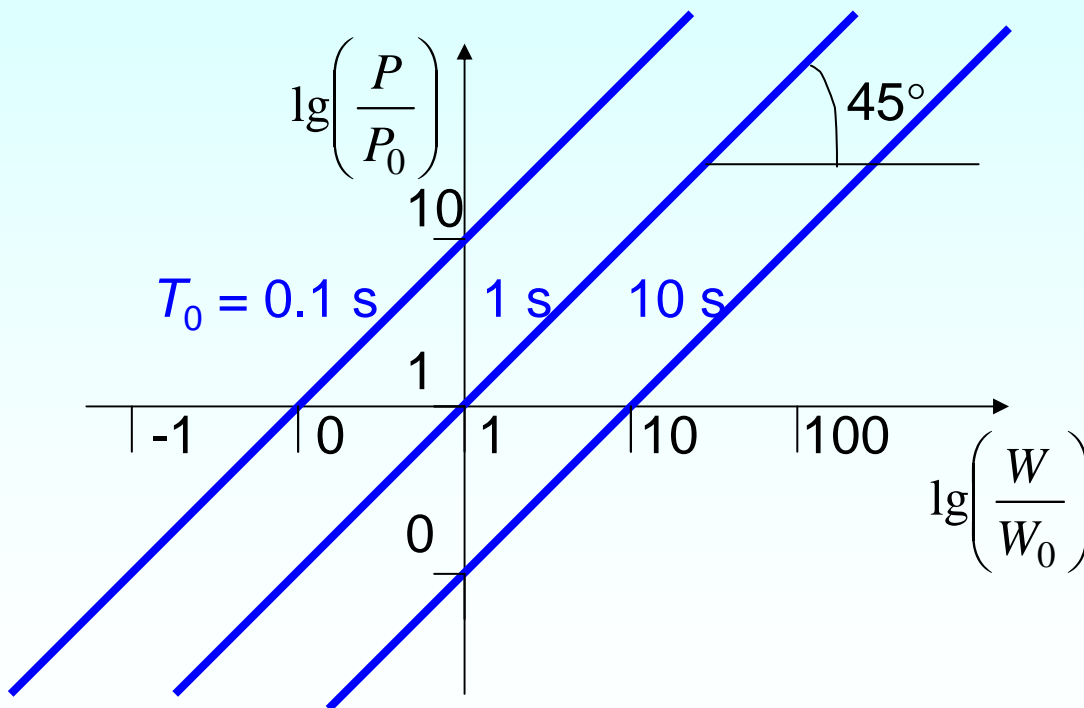


## 2.2 Superconductivity in electrical engineering

### RAGONE diagram

$$P = W / T \Rightarrow \frac{P}{P_0} = \frac{W}{W_0} \cdot \frac{T_0}{T} \Rightarrow \lg\left(\frac{P}{P_0}\right) = \lg\left(\frac{W}{W_0}\right) - \lg\left(\frac{T}{T_0}\right)$$

$P$ : Discharged power,  $W$ : Stored energy,  $T$ : Discharge time at constant power,  
Per-unit values:  $P_0 = 1 \text{ kW}$ ,  $W_0 = 1 \text{ kW s}$ ,  $T_0 = 1 \text{ s}$



Example for  
Discharge time scale:

scale	time
1	10 h
0.1	1 h
0.01	0.1 h = 6 min
0.001	0.01 h = 36 s
0.0001	0.001 h = 3.6 s

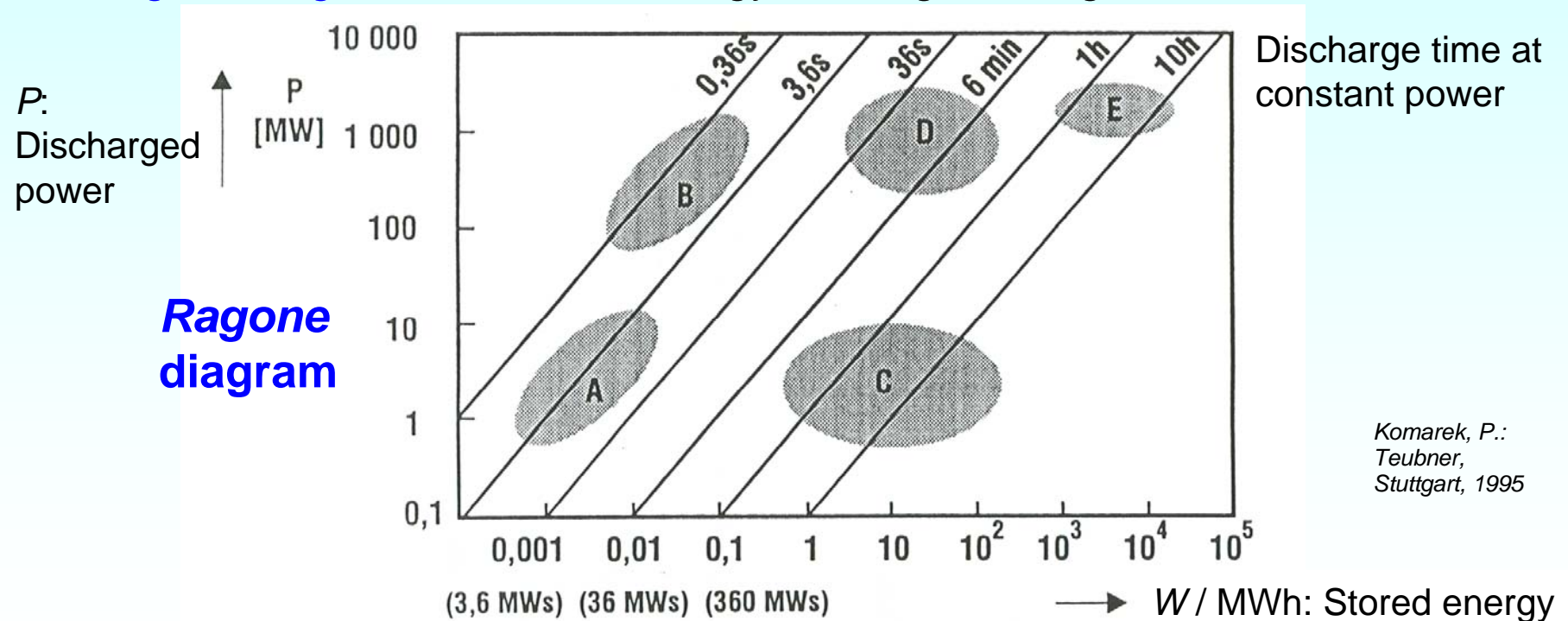
See next slide!



## 2.2 Superconductivity in electrical engineering

### Sizes of energy storage systems and fields of application

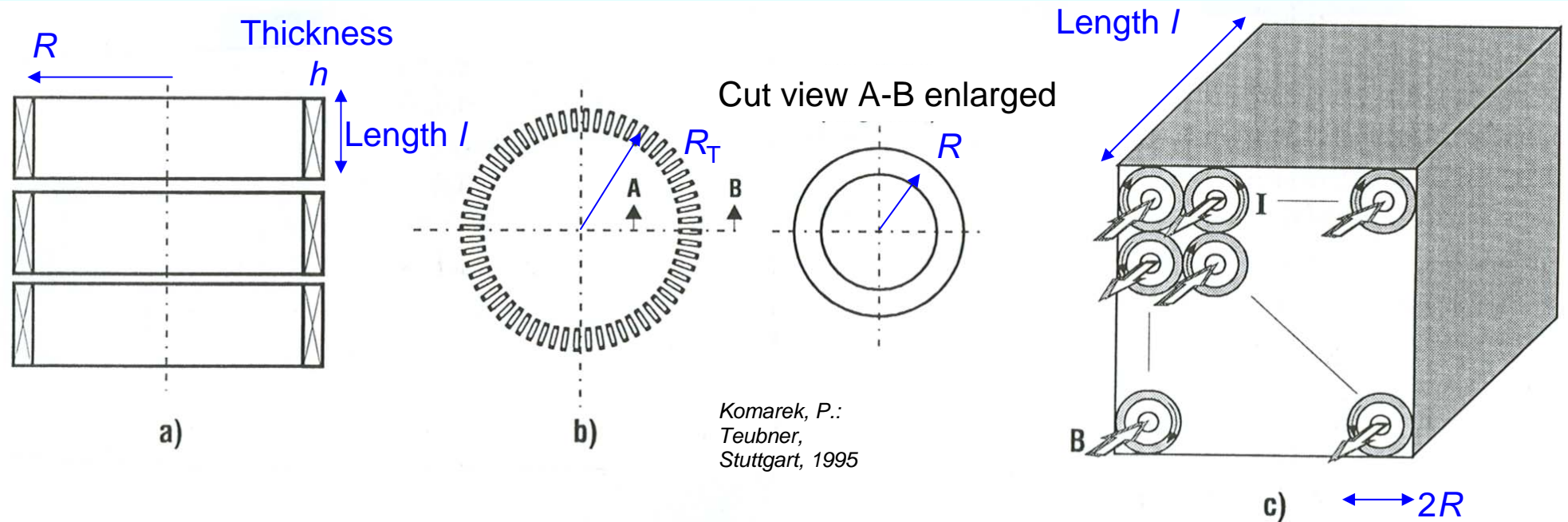
- A, B: **Smallest/small storages:** fast energy feeding for UPS ( $T$ : ms range)
- C, D: **Medium storages** for energy feeding in the seconds/minutes range  
(Used for primary grid control – “seconds reserve”)
- E: **Large storages** for 24-hour energy feeding to the grid



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

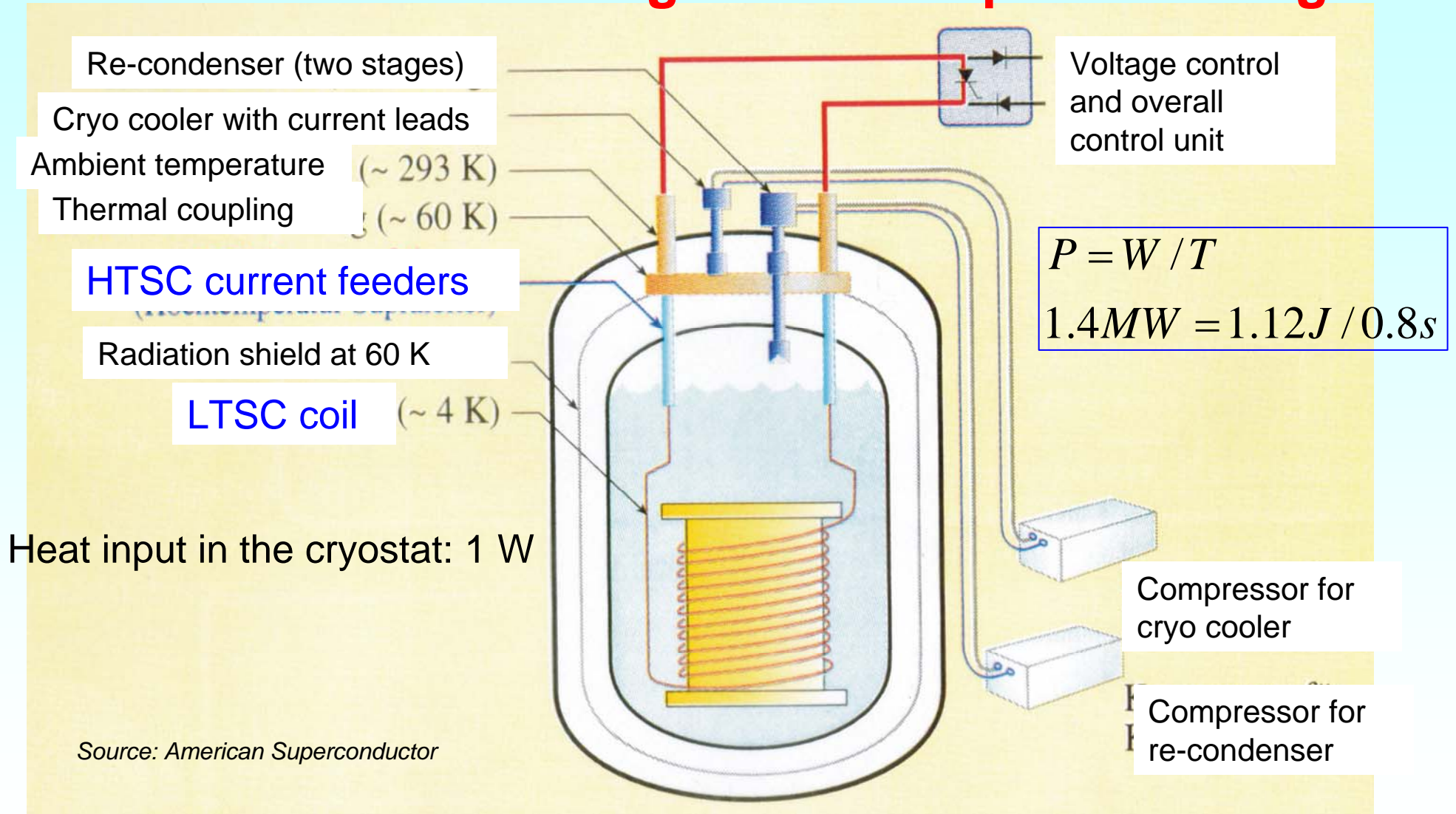
# Design principles for storage coils

- a) **Segmented solenoid:** large inner coil radius  $R$ , low coil thickness  $h$ , moderate coil height  $l$
- b) **Torus (ring coil)** of many separate coils, high ratio of mean torus radius/coil radius  $R_T/R$
- c) **Bundle of single solenoids** with high ratio  $l/R$  and alternating directions of current feed for minimising the outside stray field



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# SMES for 1.4 MW during 0.8 s as a "power storage"





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

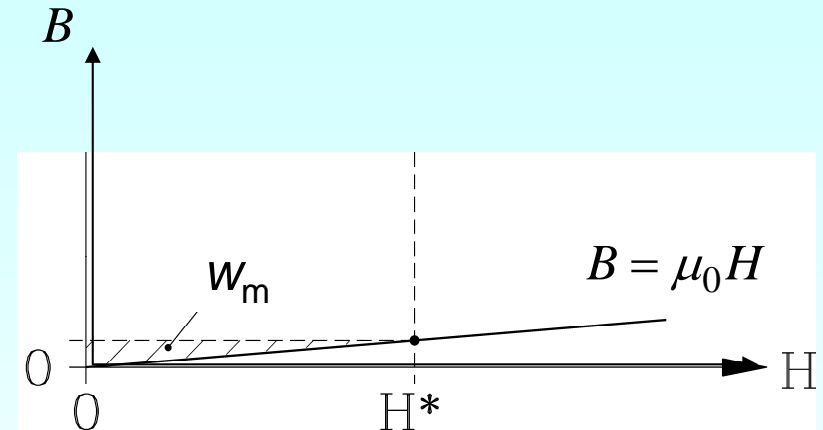
# Magnetic energy density $w_m$ in magnetic field in air

- Magnetic field in air:  $\vec{B} = \mu_0 \vec{H}$

- Magnetic energy density:  $w_m = \int_0^B \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{B} = \int_0^B H \cdot dB$

$$w_m = \int_0^B H \cdot dB = \int_0^B (B / \mu_0) \cdot dB = B^2 / (2\mu_0) = \mu_0 H^2 / 2$$

- Magnetic energy in a volume  $V$ :  $W_m = \int_V w_m \cdot dV$



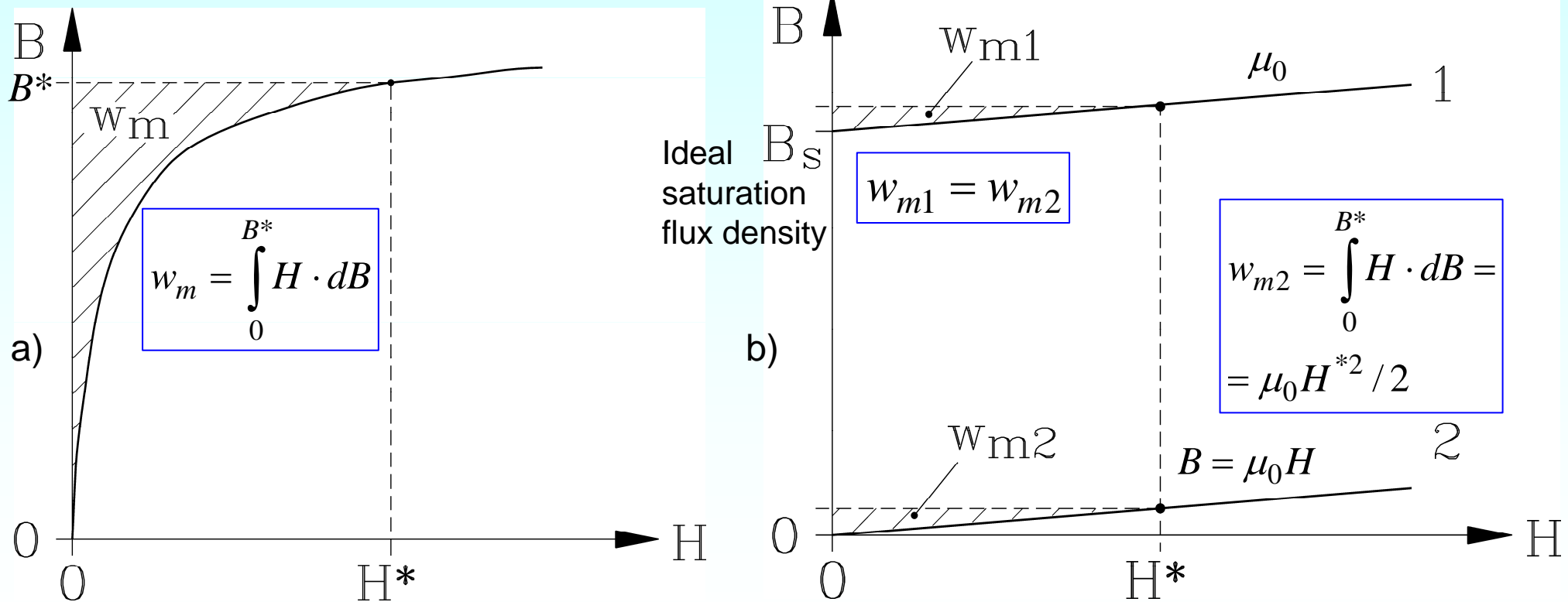
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Stored energy density $w_m$ in magnetic field $H^*$

a) Energy density  $w_m$  in magnetised iron,

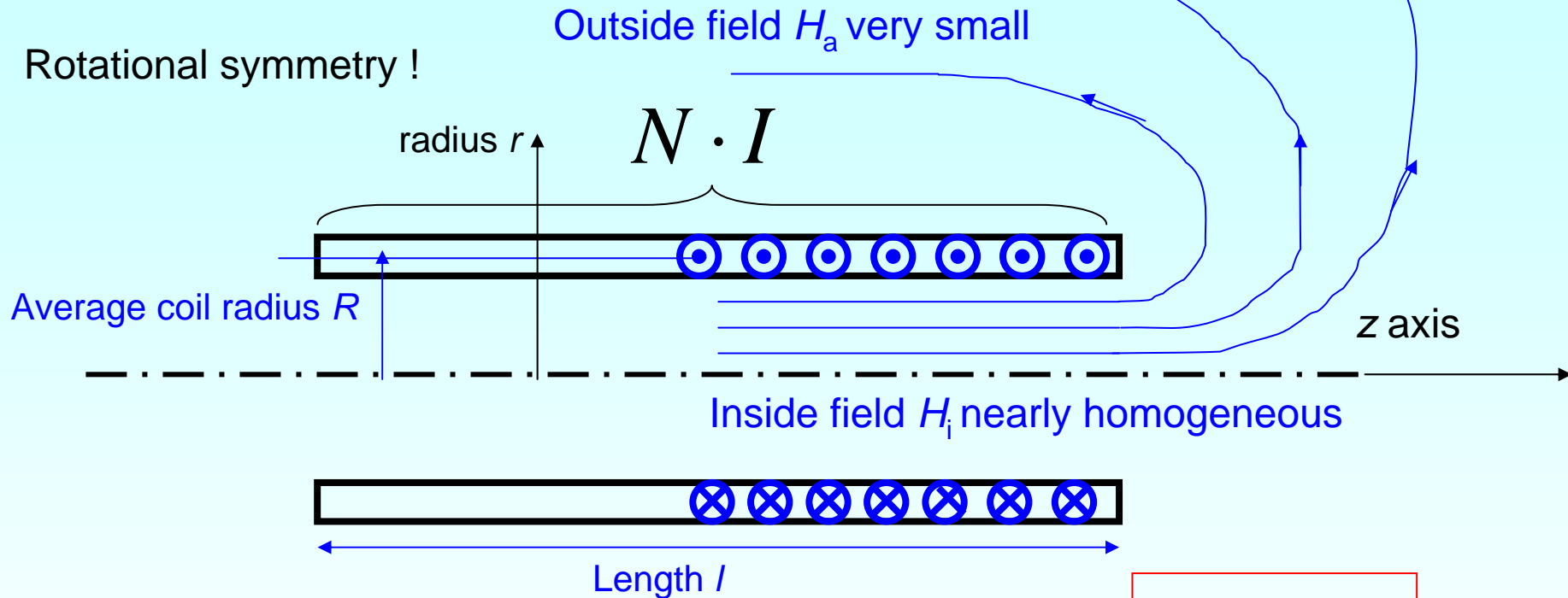
b) Energy density  $w_{m1}$ : 1: Coil with ideally magnetisable iron  
 2: Energy density  $w_{m2}$  for an air-core inductor

*Result:  
No iron  
is needed!*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Solenoid coil



Ampere's law:  $\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} \approx H_i \cdot l + \int_{C_a} \vec{H}_a \cdot d\vec{s} \approx H_i \cdot l = N \cdot I \Rightarrow H_i \approx \frac{N \cdot I}{l}$

Stored magnetic energy:

$$W_m = W_{m,i} + W_{m,a} \approx W_{m,i} \approx \frac{B_i^2}{2\mu_0} \cdot R^2 \pi \cdot l = \mu_0 \frac{(N \cdot I)^2}{2l} \cdot R^2 \pi$$

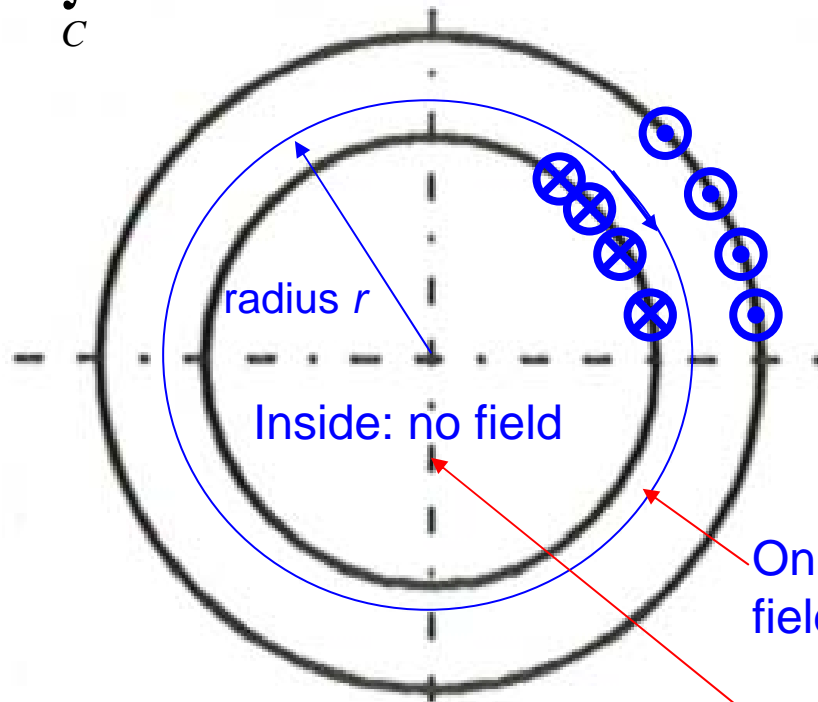


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Torus coil

Outside: no field

$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = \Theta - \Theta = 0 \Rightarrow H = 0$$



$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = H \cdot 2\pi \cdot r = \Theta = 0 \Rightarrow H = 0$$

Ampere's law: Only azimuth field component  $H_\phi$  exists!

$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} = H_\phi(r) \cdot 2\pi \cdot r = \Theta = N \cdot I$$

$$\Rightarrow H_\phi(r) = \frac{N \cdot I}{2\pi \cdot r}$$

Stored magnetic energy: Torus volume  $V$

$$V \approx 2\pi \cdot R_T \cdot R^2 \pi$$

$$W_m \approx \frac{B(R_T)^2}{2\mu_0} \cdot 2\pi R_T \cdot R^2 \pi$$

$$W_m \approx \mu_0 \frac{(N \cdot I)^2}{2 \cdot (2\pi R_T)^2} \cdot 2\pi R_T \cdot R^2 \pi$$

$$W_m \approx \mu_0 \frac{(N \cdot I)^2}{2 \cdot 2\pi R_T} \cdot R^2 \pi$$



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Coil geometry: Solenoid or torus coil?

- For equal “length dimensions“ ( $l = 2\pi R_T$ ), the stored magnetic energy is **higher in the solenoid**, because the field also fills the outer space around the coil (although with lower density).

$$W_{m,Solenoid} = \mu_0 \frac{(N \cdot I)^2}{2l} \cdot R^2 \pi + W_{m,a} > \mu_0 \frac{(N \cdot I)^2}{2 \cdot 2\pi R_T} \cdot R^2 \pi = W_{m,Torus}$$

- With an equal amount of SC material used, the **solenoid is cheaper**, because of higher amount of stored energy at same Ampere turns!
- **Disadvantage of solenoid: Stray field reaches far outside**  
Demand acc. to VDE 0848/A2: publicly accessible ranges:  $B < 1.25$  mT d.c.

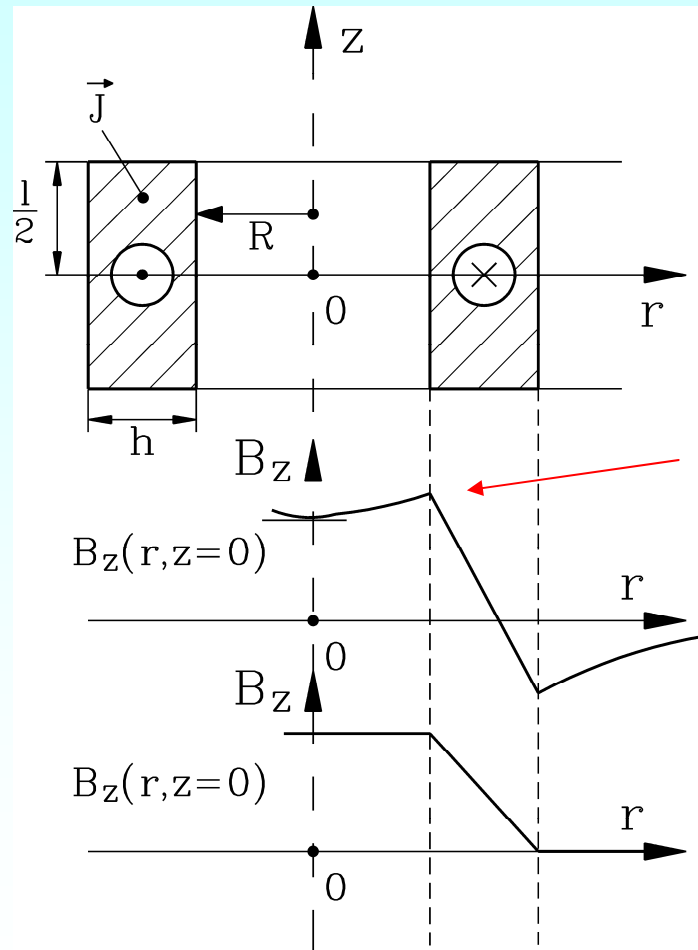
**Example: Solenoid storage for 5 GWh: 0.5mT limit at a radius 2.5 km**



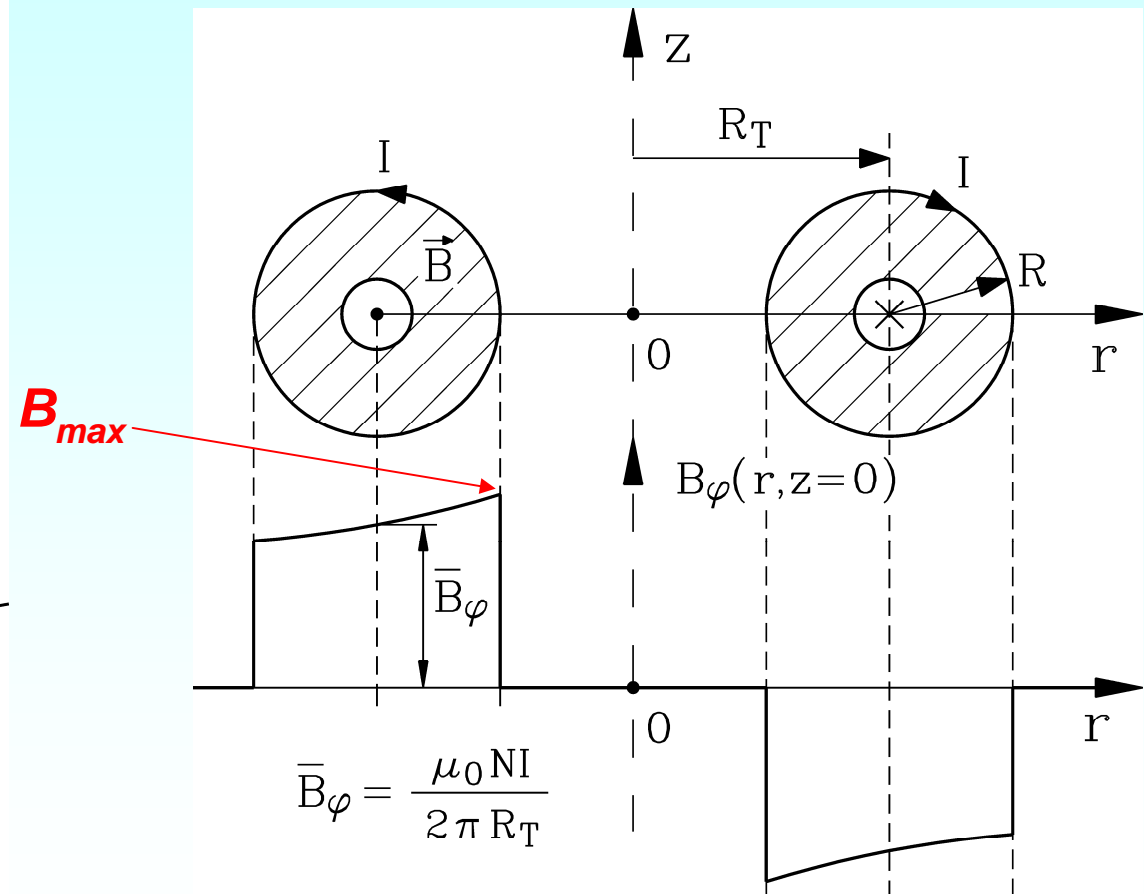
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Coil parameters

a) Solenoid



b) Torus



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Coil design to avoid quenching

- **Solenoid:** Coil thickness  $h$  is limited by  $B_{max}$  at the coils inner side:  
 $B_{max} < B_{c2}$  ( $J$ : current density)

$$B_{max} \approx \mu_0 \frac{NI}{l} = \mu_0 \frac{J \cdot h \cdot l}{l} = \mu_0 \cdot J \cdot h$$

- Solenoid: Coil thickness  $h$  must be dimensioned sufficiently low, the coil radius  $R$  must be for large  $W_m$  rather high.
- **Torus coils:** Flux density  $B_{max}$  at interior highest  $\Rightarrow$  big ratio between „mean torus radius/coil radius“  $R_T/R$  should be chosen to get  $B(R_T) \approx B_{max}$

$$B_\varphi(r) = \mu_0 \frac{NI}{2\pi r} \quad \text{mean value: } \bar{B}_\varphi = \mu_0 \frac{NI}{2\pi R_T}$$

- Design rule for torus coils: Make the "**aspect ratio**" "mean torus radius/coil radius"  $R_T/R$  sufficiently high.



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Aspect ratio $R_T/R$ of torus coils

- Minimum field at outer side of torus volume:  $B_{\min} \approx \mu_0 \frac{NI}{2\pi \cdot (R_T + R)}$

- Maximum field at inner side of torus volume:  $B_{\max} \approx \mu_0 \frac{NI}{2\pi \cdot (R_T - R)}$

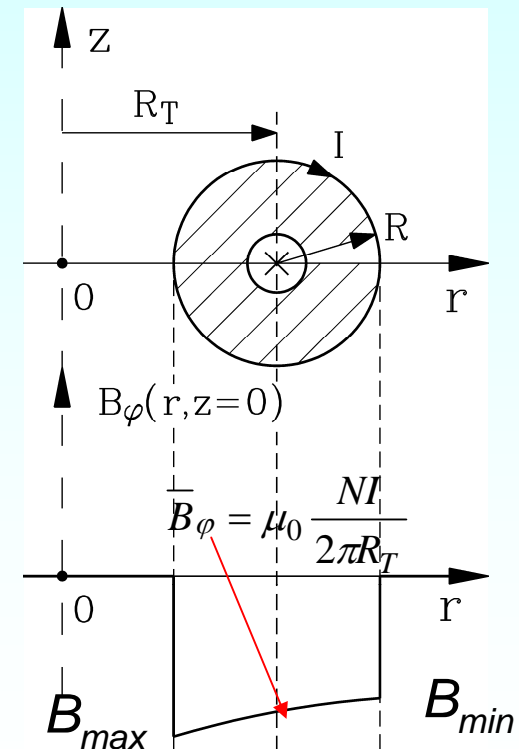
- Field at average radius of torus volume:

$$\bar{B}_\varphi(r) = B(R_T) = \mu_0 \frac{NI}{2\pi R_T}$$

- Condition for getting  $B(R_T) \approx B_{\max}$ :

$$\frac{(B_{\max} - B_{\min})/2}{B(R_T)} \approx \frac{(B_{\max} - B_{\min})/2}{(B_{\max} + B_{\min})/2} \rightarrow \textit{Minimum}$$

$$\frac{B_{\max} - B_{\min}}{B_{\max} + B_{\min}} = \frac{\frac{1}{R_T - R} - \frac{1}{R_T + R}}{\frac{1}{R_T - R} + \frac{1}{R_T + R}} = \frac{R}{R_T} \rightarrow \textit{Minimum}$$





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Use of solenoid and torus coils

- **Solenoids:** Higher ratio of stored magnetic energy vs. used SC material, but high stray fields  $\Rightarrow$  Solenoid coils used for small SMES (= Uninterruptible power supply UPS), where stray field limit radius is small.
- **Torus coils:** Lower ratio of stored magnetic energy vs. used SC material, but no stray fields  $\Rightarrow$  Torus coils may be used for large SMES (= big energy storage, in order to have no additional safety zone outside coils (waste land!))



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Large SMES projects with torus coils

Stored energy	5000 MWh	5.7 MWh
Torus radius $R_T$	260 m	26 m
Mean coil radius $R$	13 m	1.56 m
Number of coils	360	60
Max. flux density $B_{max}$	9 T	8.3 T
SC material	Nb <sub>3</sub> Sn (4.2 K)	NbTi (4.2 K)
Coil's nominal current	150 kA	50 kA

- **Disadvantages:** Large dimensions, large forces occurring between the individual coils  $\Rightarrow$  extensive supporting elements for the stores.
- **Usage of large SMES will be a long time coming.**

Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Built SMES for commercial use

**Solenoid SMES:** UPS, system support in grid nodes e .g. in USA

a) Example: 3 MJ, 2.5 MW (1.2 s support time). IGBT - 4Q converter: 2.8 MVA, LTSC-NbTi coil, LHeI bath cooling, 4.2 K, HTSC-Bi(2223) current feed (cooled at 60 K at intermediate radiation shield), *Gifford-McMahon*-He condenser.

LN<sub>2</sub>-cooled radiation shield reduces heat inflow via radiation. Hence the heat input into the cold area is only ca. 1 W.

b) Example: 1 MWs, 1MW, 1 s support time, NbTi coil, nominal current 1 kA, LHeI bath cooling in cryostat, 1 MVA converter, coil length  $l = 900$  mm, external diameter 450 mm,  $B = 5$  T.

**HTSC solenoids:** BiSCCO HTSC coils are more expensive than NbTi. They have a low critical flux density at 77 K, so due to low  $B$  the energy density is low. Construction of compact SMES not possible at 77 K (LN<sub>2</sub> cooling). Coils must be operated at lower temperatures, which needs higher amount of cooling .

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Example of a built SMES for commercial use

**Solenoid SMES:** 1 MWs, 1MW, 1 s support time, NbTi coil,  $I_N = 1$  kA, coil length  $l = 900$  mm, outer/inner coil diameter 450 mm / 380 mm,  $B = 5$  T.

$$W = \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} \cdot d_{ci}^2 \frac{\pi}{4} l = \frac{5^2}{2 \cdot 4\pi \cdot 10^{-7}} \cdot 0.38^2 \cdot \frac{\pi}{4} \cdot 0.9 = 1\text{MJ}$$

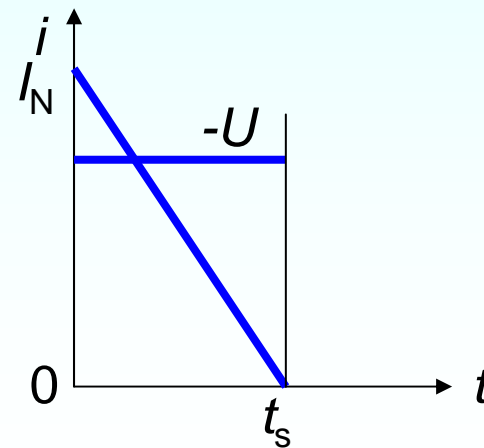
$$N = \frac{(B / \mu_0) \cdot l}{I_N} = \frac{(5 / (4\pi \cdot 10^{-7})) \cdot 0.9}{1000} = 3580$$

$$L = \frac{W}{I_N^2 / 2} = \frac{1000000}{1000^2 / 2} = 2\text{H}$$

$$J_N = \frac{N \cdot I_N}{k_{Fill} \cdot l \cdot (d_{ca} - d_{ci}) / 2} = \frac{3580 \cdot 1000}{0.6 \cdot 900 \cdot (450 - 380) / 2} = 190\text{A/mm}^2 \quad t_s = \frac{W}{P} = \frac{1\text{MWs}}{1\text{MW}} = 1\text{s}$$

$$U = L \cdot \frac{di}{dt} = -L \cdot \frac{I_N}{t_s} = -2 \cdot \frac{1000}{1} = -2000\text{V}$$

$$P = p_{av} = i_{av} \cdot U = 500 \cdot (-2000) = -1\text{MW}$$



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### SMES with solenoid coil



Cryostat with SC coil



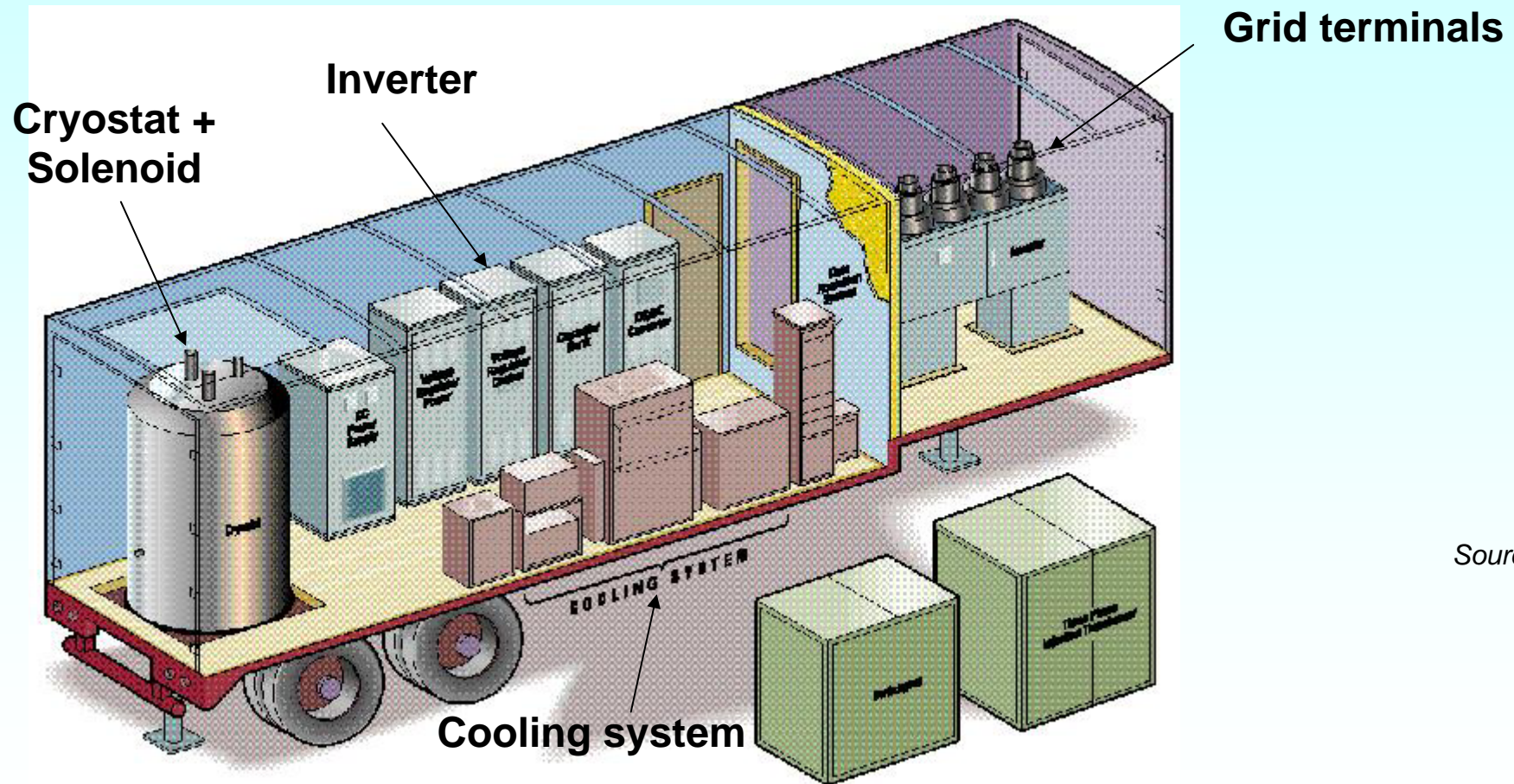
Installation of the complete SMES system  
(**S**uperconducting **m**agnetic **e**nergy **s**torage)  
built in a container

Source: ASC



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Container arrangement of a SMES for operation in the range of seconds



Source: ASC

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# SMES with solenoid coil at the grid

- Increasing the grid stability with a SMES with inverter connection to the grid – additional power for 1.3 s

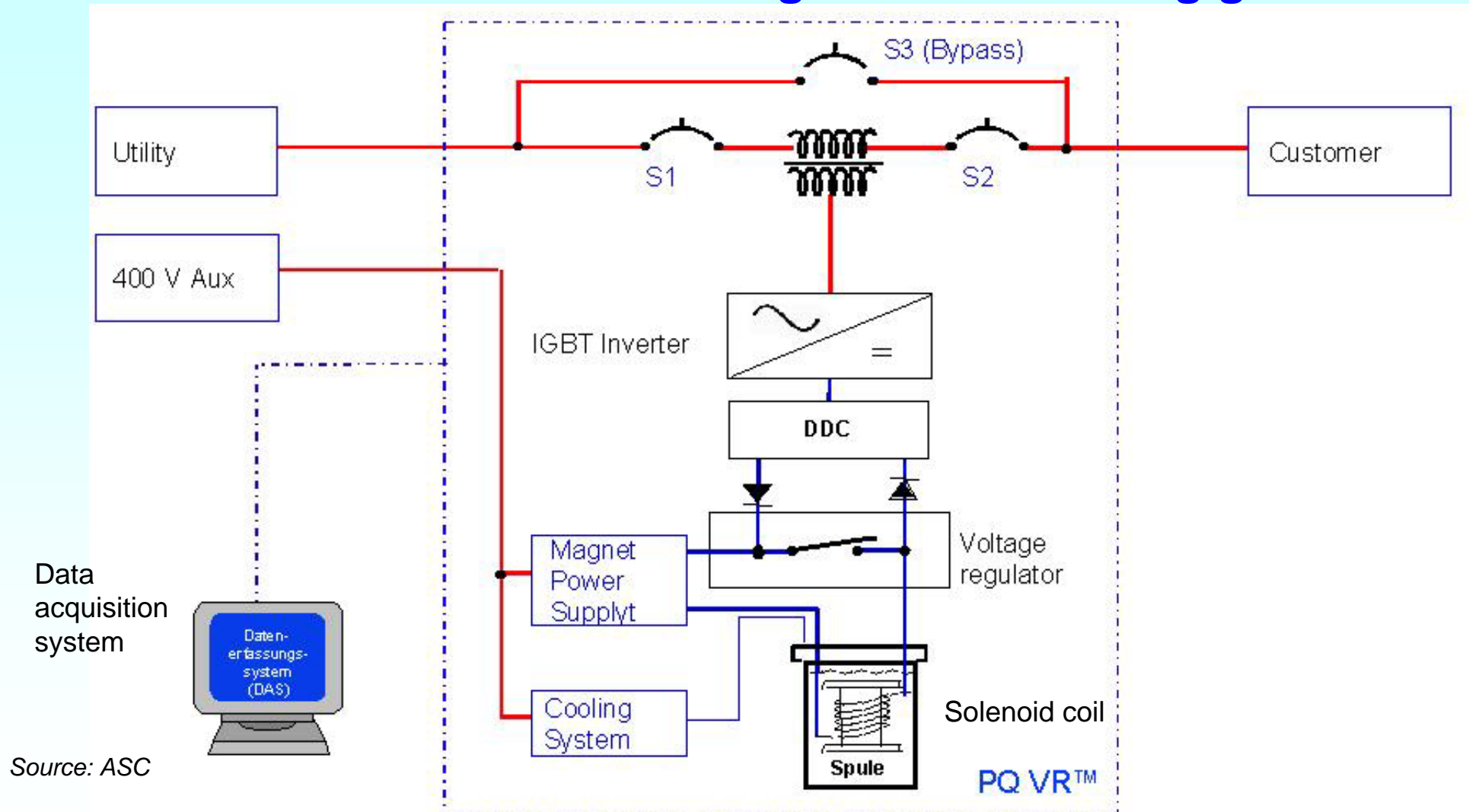
■ Energy	2,7 MJ Minimum	
■ Available Energy	2,4 MJ	} $1.8MW \cdot 1.3s \cong 2.4MJ$
■ Power	1,8 MW	
■ Charge Time	140 s Maximum	
■ Power Consumption	approx. 17 kW	$17kW = 2.4MWs / 140s$
■ Footprint	e.g., 2,4 m x 12 m (approx. 30 m <sup>2</sup> )	
■ Parallizing for Larger Loads		

Source: ASC



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Serial connection of a SMES to the grid for enhancing grid stability



Source: ASC





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# SMES with solenoid coil at the grid

**PQ VR™ 1 MVA 75 %  
SAPPI Stanger, Republic South Africa**



Source: ASC



DARMSTADT  
UNIVERSITY OF  
TECHNOLOGY

Prof. A. Binder : New technologies for electrical energy converters  
and actuators  
2\_1/89

Institute of Electrical  
Energy Conversion



# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## Summary:

### Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)

- Commercial use as very fast small uninterruptible power supply units
- Low temperature superconductors used to get high field amplitudes
- Ironless solenoids at 4 K operation with inverter to the grid
- Large SC toroid stores for grid stability basically possible, but:  
too expensive



# 2. Application of superconductors for electrical energy converters

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

2.2.1 Fault current limiter

2.2.2 Superconducting power cables

2.2.3 Superconducting magnetic energy storage (SMES)

2.2.4 Superconducting power transformers

2.2.5 Rotating electrical machines with superconductor winding

2.2.6 Cryo-machines and rotating electrical machines with massive superconductors



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### 2.2.4 Superconducting transformers

- **SC windings**: Current density dramatically increased  $\Rightarrow$  coil height & thickness decrease strongly  $\Rightarrow$  shrinking iron core (leg height, yoke length) possible
- **Iron cross-section remains unchanged**, so that flux density  $< 1.8$  T, otherwise iron saturation.
- **Lower iron masses** (decreased iron volume  $V_K$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
  - **reduced mass of transformer** (typically 50% weight saving, advantage for locomotive transformers) and
  - **lower iron losses**  $P_{Fe}$

Source: Meinert, M., Siemens AG

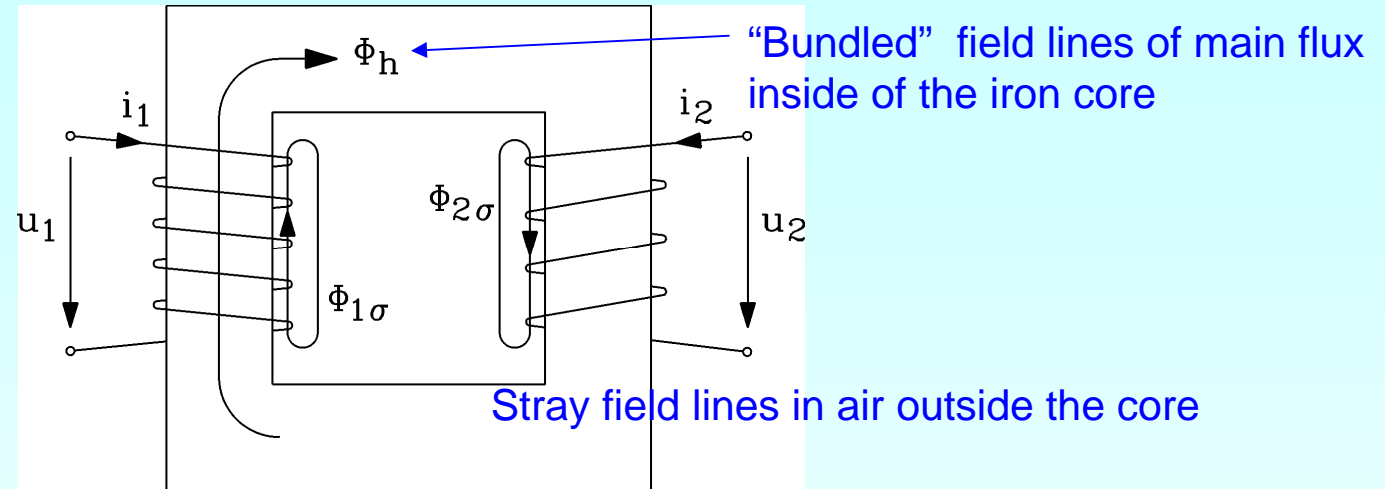
<b>Transformer mass</b>	<i>Conventional oil loco transformer</i>	<i>HTSC loco transformer</i>
Regional train	4.8 tons	2.5 tons
ICE3	9.3 tons	5.4 tons
Locomotive BR152	14.5 tons	8.7 tons



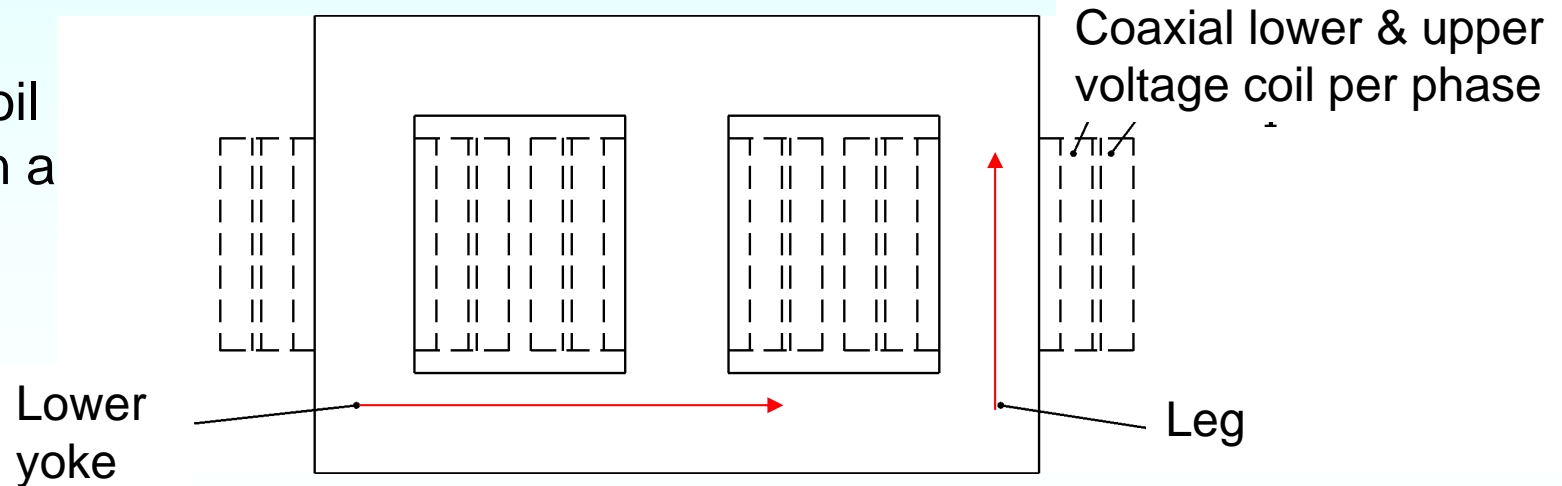
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Transformer principle

Single phase transformer in principle



Real coaxial coil arrangement in a three-phase transformer

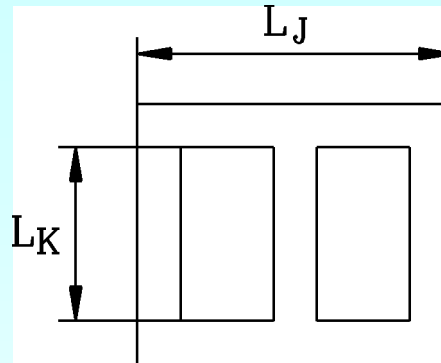


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Main core dimensions of a transformer

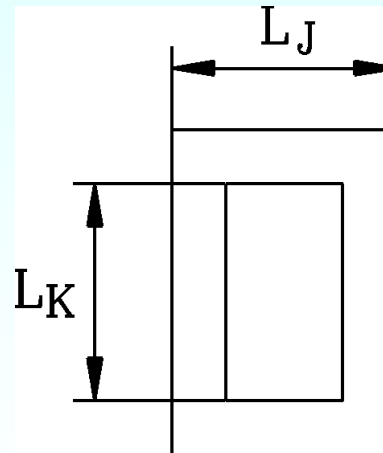
### Three-phase

transformer core with  
three legs



### Single-phase

transformer core with  
two legs





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Losses in SC transformers

- **Losses in SC winding** (AC losses) are significantly **smaller** than the ohmic and eddy current losses in conventional copper coils.
- The entire savings are partially wasted by the power of the cooling unit  
⇒ **for LHe transformers with LTSC, the efficiency advantage is only low.**
- **HTSC transformers** are more economical than LTSC transformers, since the power for cooling is reduced by a factor 40.
- *Only the HTSC transformer stands the change to be economically competitive to the conventional oil-immersed transformer, because the efficiencies of conventional transformers with oil cooling are typically at 99.4% (1..10MVA) ... 99.8% (>100MVA) and are already very high.*





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Warm or cold iron-core ?

- **Warm iron-core:** Only the winding is in the cryostat; low cooling cost. Cryostat must be non-conductive (glass fibre composite materials, ...)
- **Cold iron-core:** Entire transformer is inside the cryostat's steel plate tank. Long cooling duration (days), but "cooling storage" helps in case of disturbance of the cooling system to reduce the rate of temperature rise.

Iron losses: Iron resistance  $R_{Fe} \sim \rho_{Fe}$  drops with reduced temperature  $T$ :

$$P_{Fe,Ft} \sim \frac{\omega^2 B_K^2}{\rho_{Fe}} V_K \quad P_{Fe,Ft} \text{ increases at constant } V_K \text{ (Volume of the iron core)}$$

Eddy-current part of iron losses increases with reduced iron core temperature!

Choice of core induction  $B_K < \text{ca. } 1.8 \text{ T}$  to avoid significant iron saturation!

The SC is subjected only to the rather low transformer stray field – Hence BSCCO wires can be used!



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Iron-core or ironless transformer?

- **Ironless transformer:**

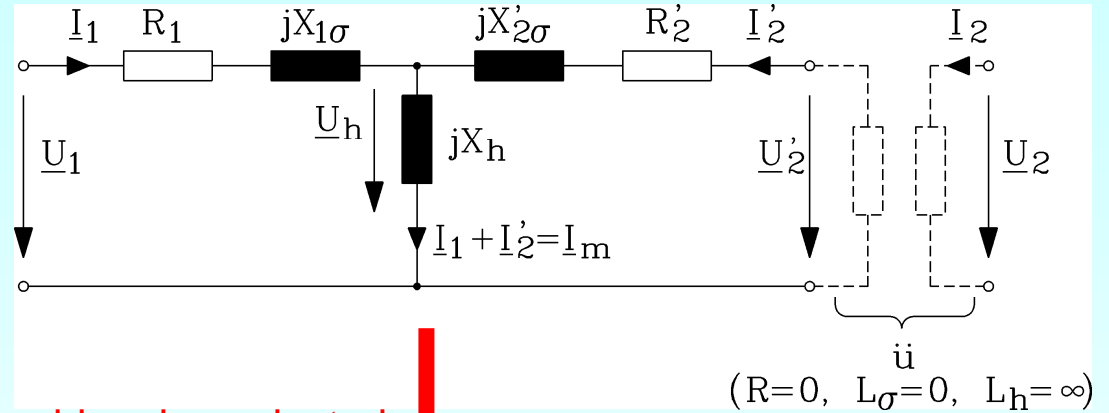
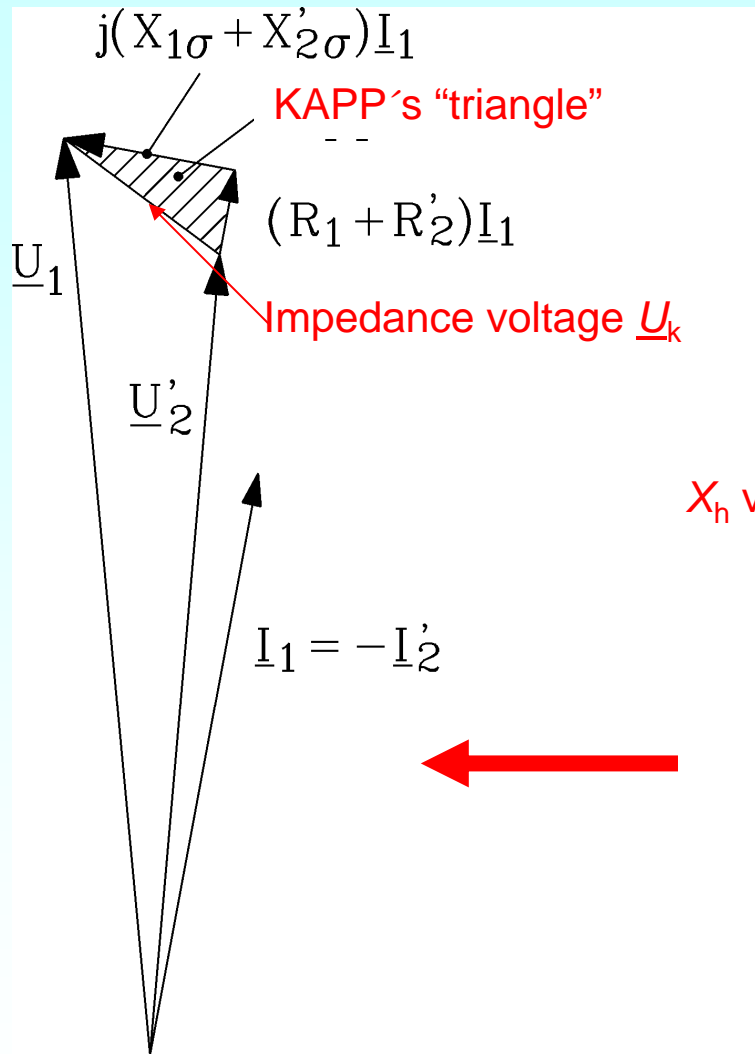
$B_K > \text{ca. } 1.8 \text{ T}$  possible, because no saturation limit, BUT then a high magnetising current is necessary. This is possible, because the low loss SC windings are used.

- **But** flux lines are not bundled, as there is no iron core!
- So the condition  $B < B_{c2}$  **within SC is more difficult to be obeyed, as the magnetic flux lines are more difficult to** be guided in air.
- Hence the **AC losses**, which increase with  $B^2$ , will be higher in air cored transformers!
- So **ironless transformers are only in an experimental stage.**

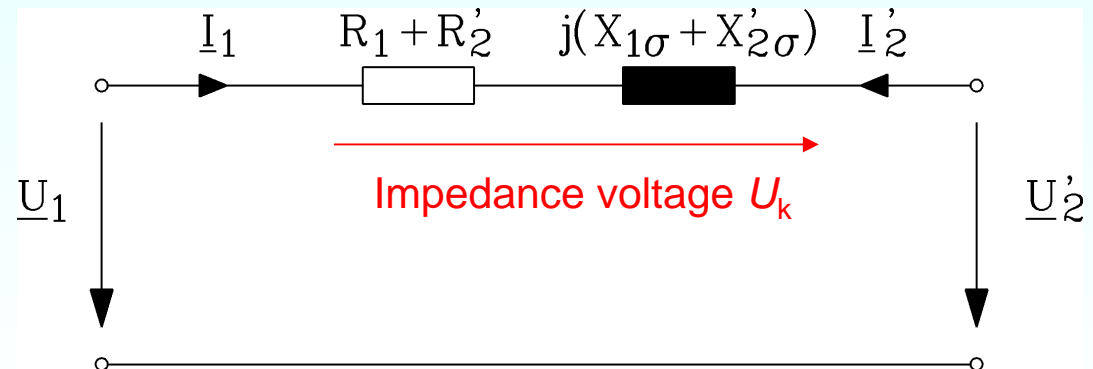


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Impedance voltage $u_k = U_k / U_N$

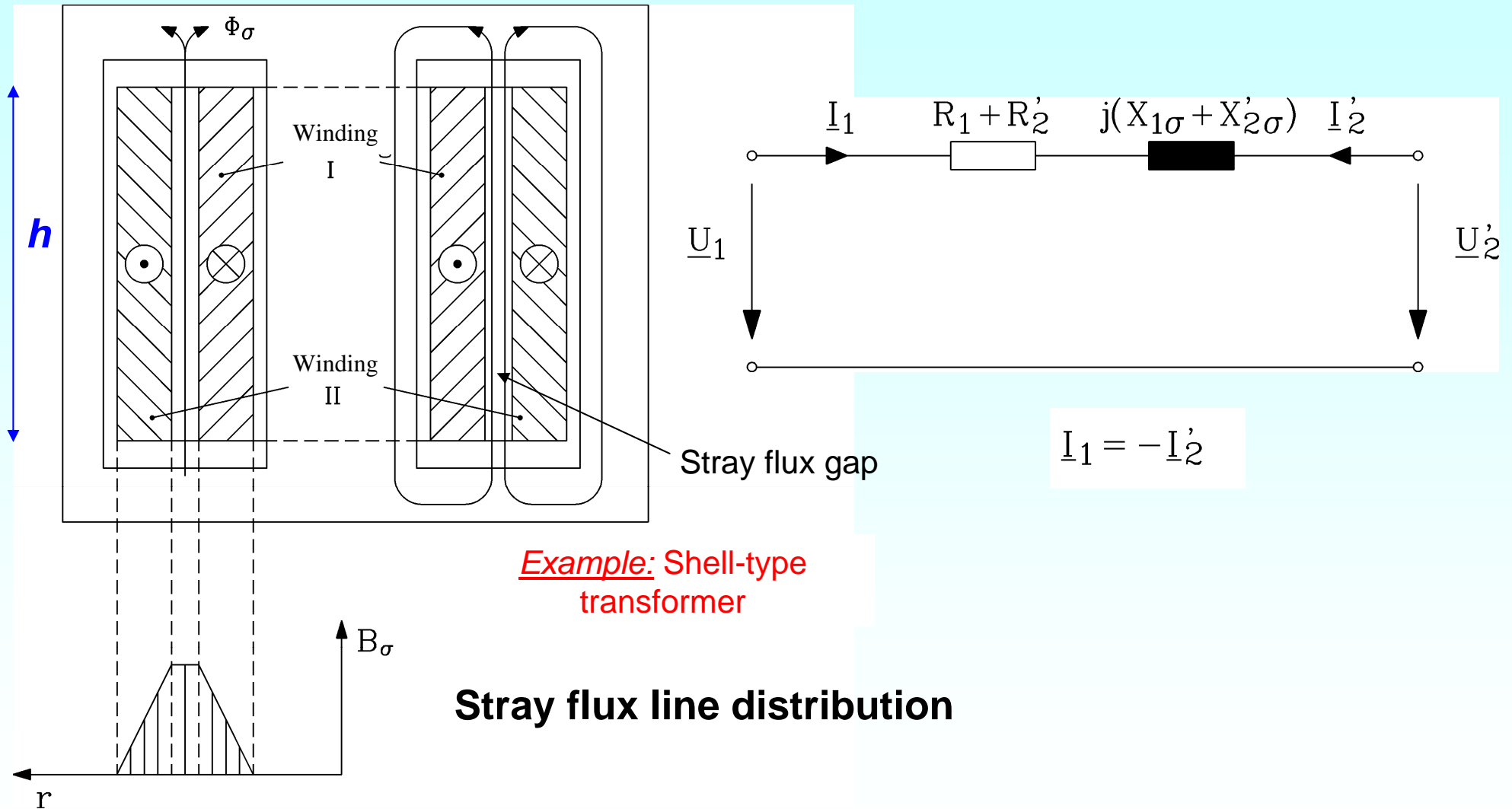


$X_h$  very big = is neglected



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Stray flux in transformers



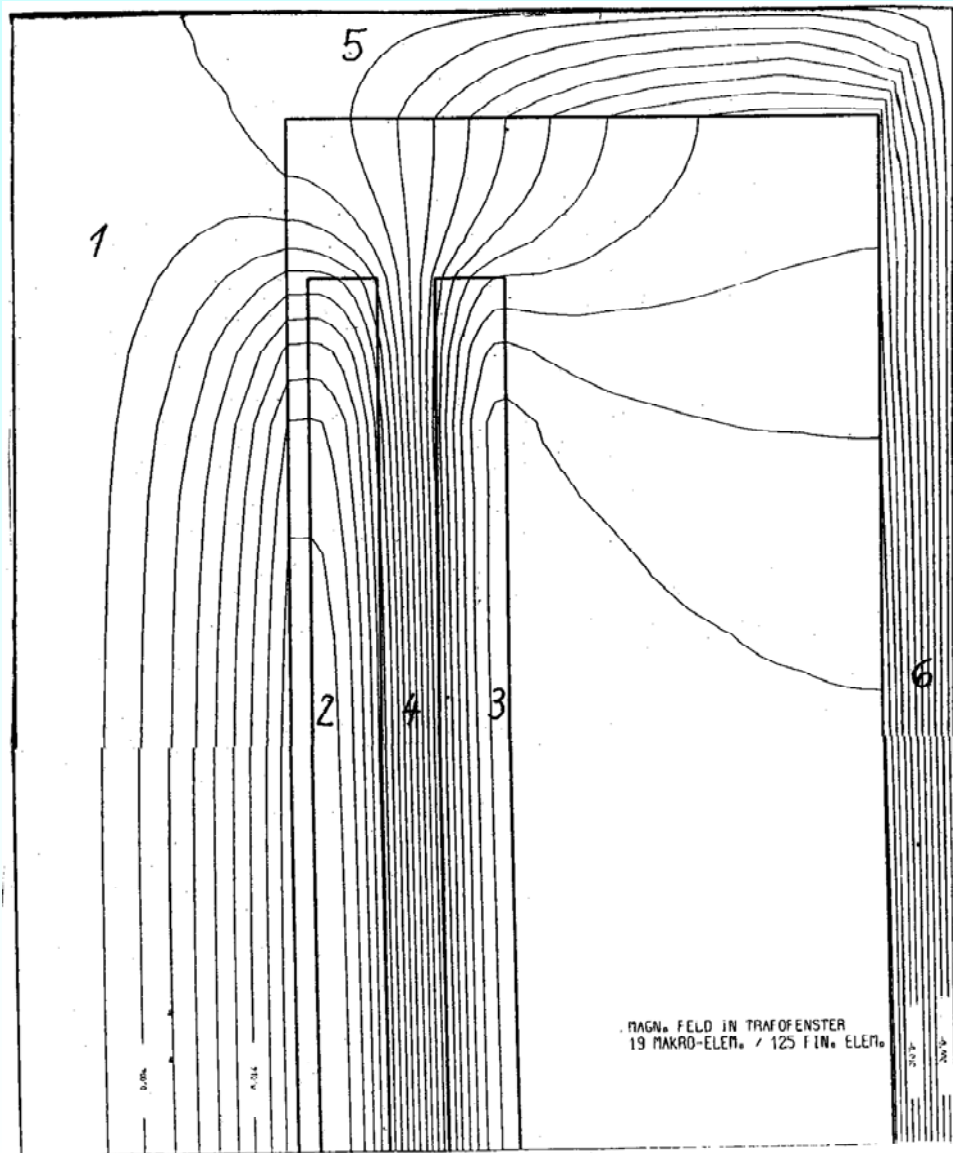
*Example: Shell-type transformer*

**Stray flux line distribution**



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Calculated flux line distribution in shell type transformer with rotational symmetry



1: iron core

2: LV winding

3: HV winding

4: Stray flux gap

5: Yoke

6: Outer core shell

$$\underline{I}_1 = -\underline{I}'_2$$

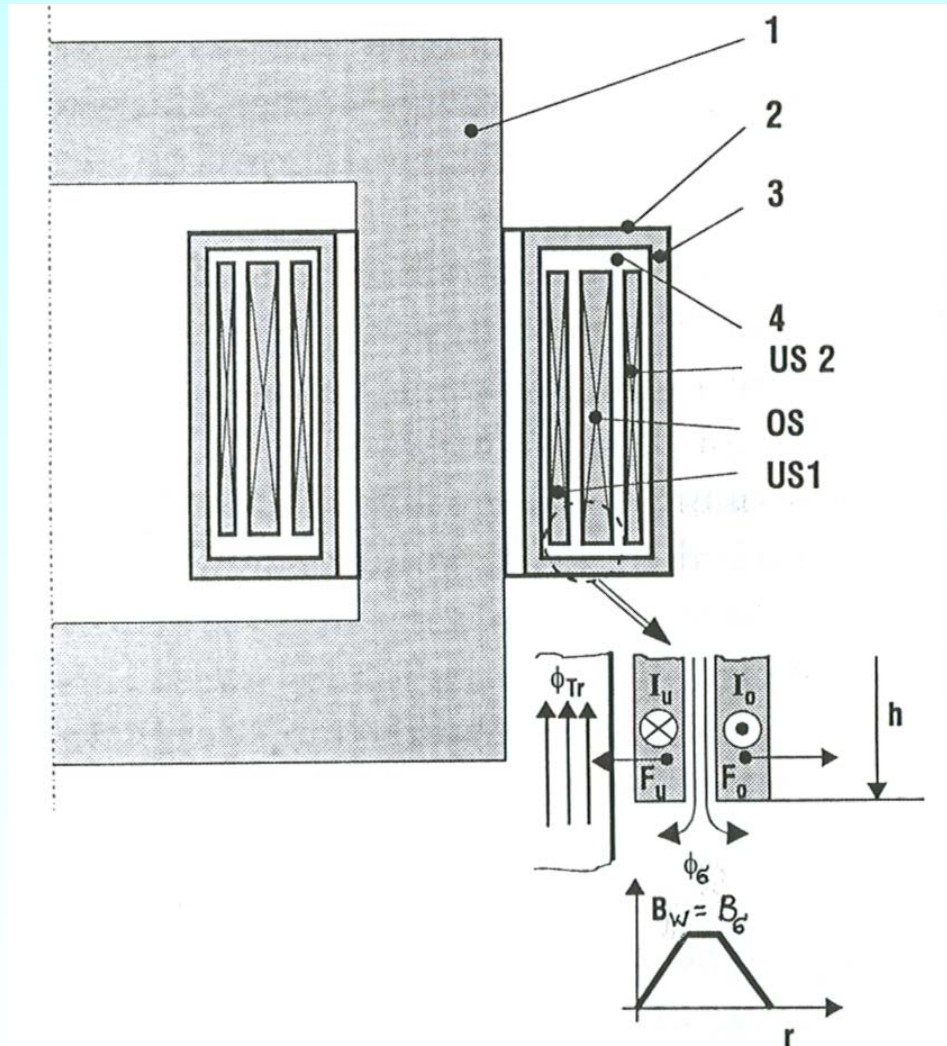
Primary and secondary current are nearly in phase opposition! Here: Assumed exact 180° phase shift!

Source: J. Hipfl, ELIN-UNION, Austria, 1981



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Design of the SC transformer with **warm** iron-core



1: Iron-core (laminated),

2: Cryostat container (non-conductive)

3: Vacuum chamber,

4: LHe or LN<sub>2</sub> container (non-conductive),

OS/US: High-/Low-voltage winding

US1/US2: Split low-voltage winding

$\Phi_{Tr}$ : transformer core flux

$\Phi_{\sigma}$ : transformer resulting stray flux

$B_w = B_{\sigma}$ : maximum flux density in the winding is stray flux density!

$h$ : winding height

$I_o / I_u$ : r.m.s. current in HV /LV winding

$F_o / F_u$ : LORENTZ forces in HV /LV winding

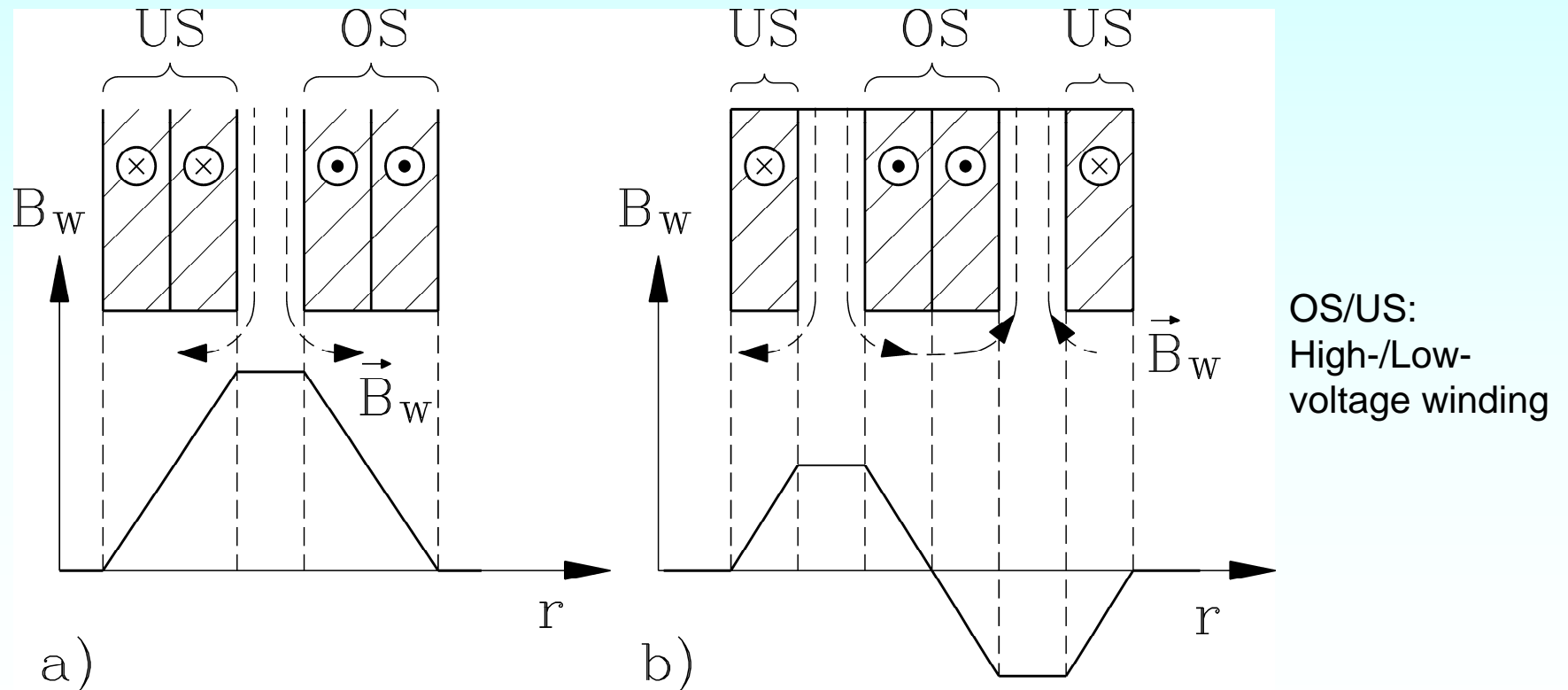
*Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Design of the transformer winding

- a) Single concentric coils (**unfavourable** due to high stray flux),
- b) Double concentric coils (**favourable**, as maximum alternating flux density in the winding  $B_w = B_\sigma$  is reduced by 50%)



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# SC conductor material for transformers

- Low AC losses  $< 0.1 \text{ mW}/(\text{A}\cdot\text{m})$ :  $B$  within the SC winding must be max. 0.15 T.
- Only stray field  $B_\sigma$  within the SC winding:

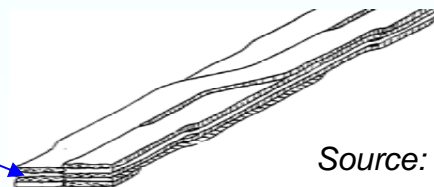
$$\oint_C \vec{H} \cdot d\vec{s} \cong \int_0^h H_\sigma ds = H_\sigma h = \Theta = N_u I_u = N_o I_o \quad \Rightarrow \quad B_\sigma = \mu_0 \frac{N_u I_u}{h}$$

- Multi-filamentary conductor built up with low litz wire diameter, stranded litz wires, high-resistance matrix: e.g. LTSC with CuNi matrix or Bi(2223)-HTSC in Ag matrix with Mg additive

Flat litz wire with twisted filaments



Transposed flat litz wires (ROEBEL-bar)



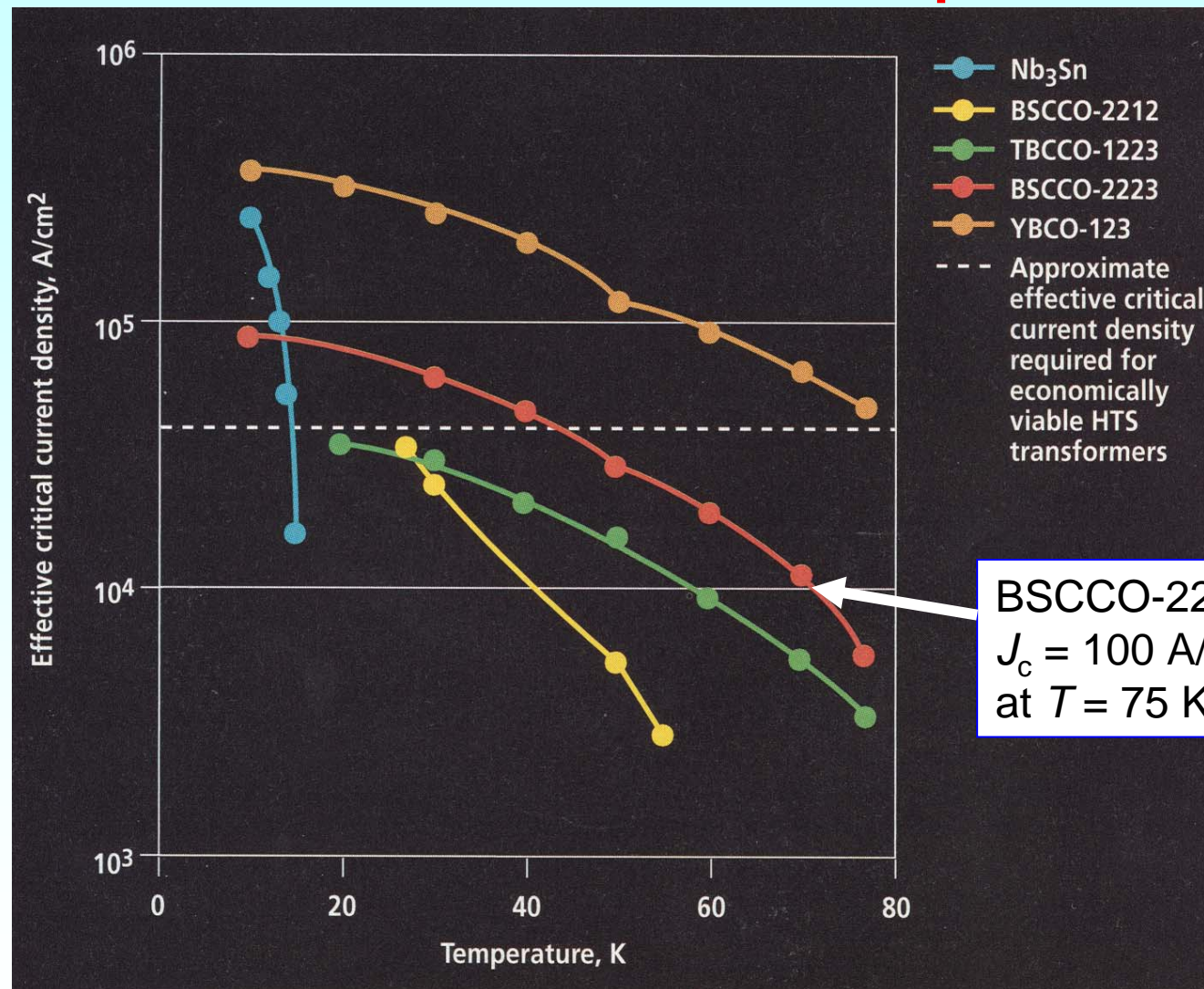
Source: American Superconductor, Inc.





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Current densities in HTSC transformers – comparison with LTSC



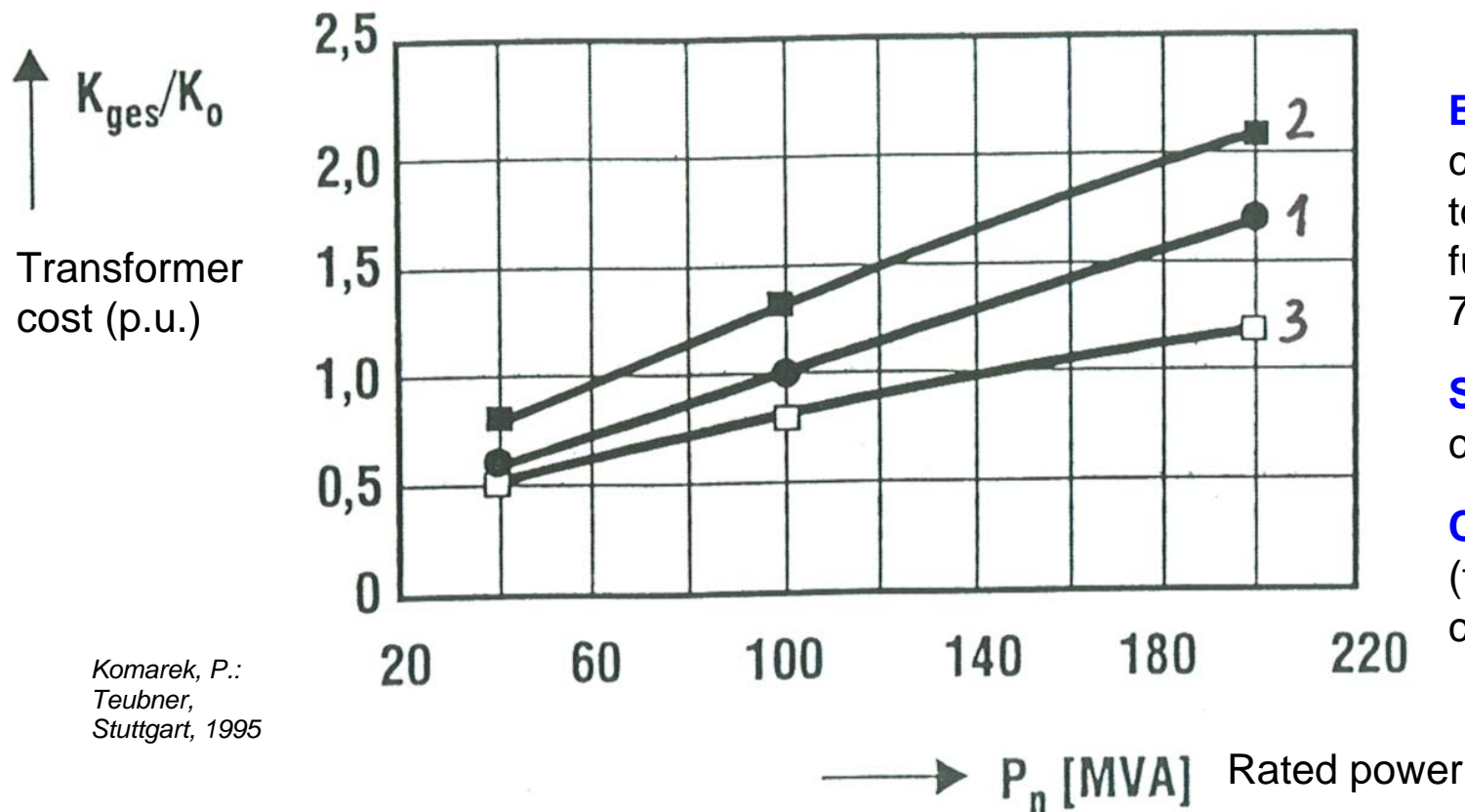
Source: IEEE/PES  
Journal, 1998



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Total cost $K_{ges}$ : HTSC transformers comparison

- Oil-filled transformer (1) : Reference value: Cost  $K_0$  of a 100 MVA grid transformer
- HTSC transformer: expensive/cheap HTSC acquisition price: (2 / 3)



**Bi(2223) strip conductor:**  
ca. 3000 Euro/kg (2002):  
too expensive),  
future (expected):  
700 Euro/kg

**Silver matrix:**  
ca. 250 Euro/kg

**Cu:** 10 Euro/kg  
(typical value for **crude**  
copper)

Komarek, P.:  
Teubner,  
Stuttgart, 1995

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Prospects for superconductive transformers

- **Cost:** Power transformers with 40 ... 200 MVA nominal apparent power: Investment cost + cost for power losses, capitalised during lifespan
- **LTSC transformers:** high cooling power needed  $\Rightarrow$  high capitalised cost for losses
- Only **HTSC transformers** have the prospect of being economically competitive to the conventional oil-cooled transformers.
- **HTSC loco transformers** have additional **advantages**, compared to **HTSC power transformers**: Conventional loco transformers have **bad** efficiency and are heavier
- **Ecological aspect:** Lower total losses of the **HTSC power transformer**:

### Example: Switzerland:

All conventional transformers replaced by HTSC: **mean power loss saving 170 MW.**

**Transformers 24 h online: annual energy saving:**

**170 MW x 8760 h = 1500 GWh: This corresponds to 750 (!) 1-MW-wind turbines with 2000 h full load hours p.a.**

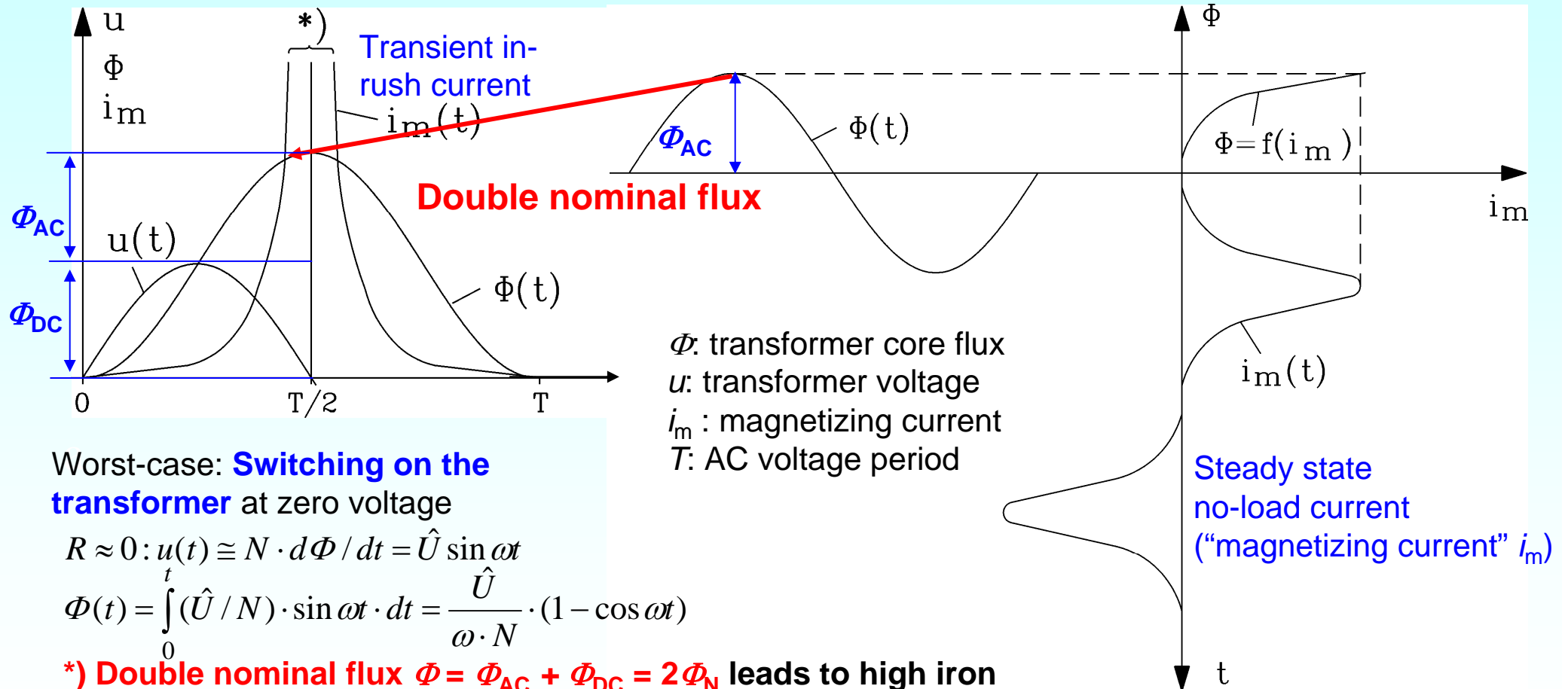
*Komarek, P.: Teubner, Stuttgart, 1995*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# In-rush current of transformers

Peak current: 10 to 15 times nominal current



$\Phi$ : transformer core flux  
 $u$ : transformer voltage  
 $i_m$ : magnetizing current  
 $T$ : AC voltage period

Worst-case: **Switching on the transformer** at zero voltage

$$R \approx 0: u(t) \cong N \cdot d\Phi / dt = \hat{U} \sin \omega t$$

$$\Phi(t) = \int_0^t (\hat{U} / N) \cdot \sin \omega t \cdot dt = \frac{\hat{U}}{\omega \cdot N} \cdot (1 - \cos \omega t)$$

**\*) Double nominal flux  $\Phi = \Phi_{AC} + \Phi_{DC} = 2\Phi_N$  leads to high iron saturation:  $i_{m,peak}$  is very big: up to  $15xI_N$**

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

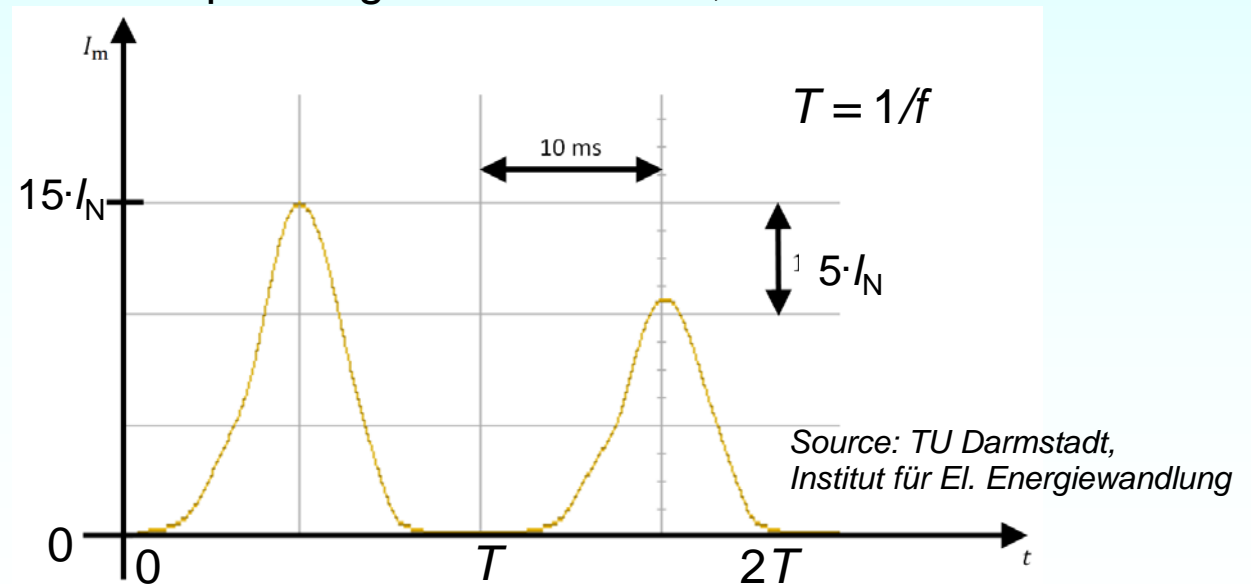
# Transient behaviour of HTSC transformers (1)

- **Switching on the transformer (worst-case: at zero voltage crossing):**  
High starting current in-rush occurs: 10 to 15 times nominal current  $\Rightarrow$  high current density  $J > J_c \Rightarrow$  HTSC is normal-conducting  $\Rightarrow$  **limits the in-rush**  $\Rightarrow$  decaying current  $\Rightarrow$  falls below “quench” limit  $J < J_c \Rightarrow$  superconductive again.
- **In-rush current has** DC and AC part  $\Rightarrow$  residual DC part flows on without losses in the SC winding  $\Rightarrow$  BUT it pre-magnetises the iron, which is **not desired**.

**Potential remedy:**  
Damping resistors.

### Example:

Measured in-rush current during the first two periods (40 ms) of a conventional air-cooled transformer with copper winding



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Transient behaviour of HTSC transformers (2)

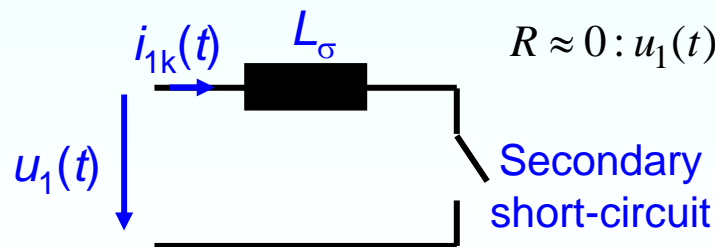
- **Sudden short circuit current:** Maximum short circuit current occurs, when the sudden short circuit happens at zero voltage crossing.

The short circuit current is limited by the stray inductance and by the resistance, if the SC winding is quenching.

The big forces on the coils are limited by the quench, but they need a strong mechanical support. The **support of the windings can be minimised**, if the HTSC transformer is operated in combination with a FCL.

- The **short –circuit current has** DC and AC part  $\Rightarrow$  residual DC part flows on without losses in the SC winding  $\Rightarrow$  BUT it pre-magnetises the iron, which is **not desired**.

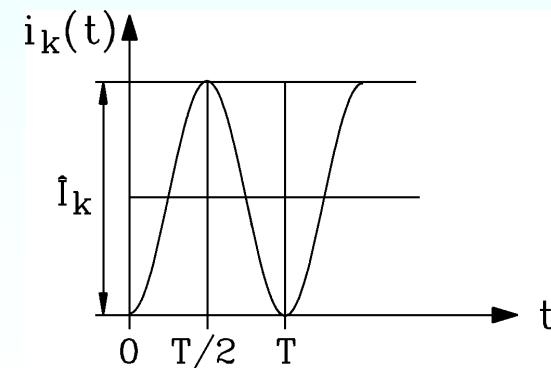
**Potential remedy:** Damping resistors.



$$R \approx 0 : u_1(t) = \hat{U}_1 \sin \omega t \cong L_\sigma \cdot di_{1k} / dt$$

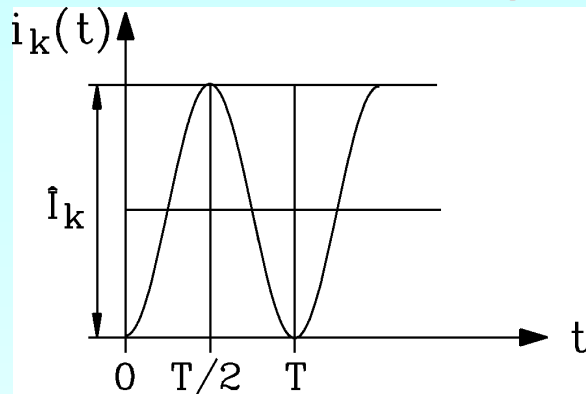
$$i_{1k}(t) = \frac{\hat{U}}{\omega \cdot L_\sigma} \cdot (1 - \cos \omega t)$$

$$L_\sigma = L_{1\sigma} + L'_{2\sigma}$$



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Short circuit LORENTZ forces

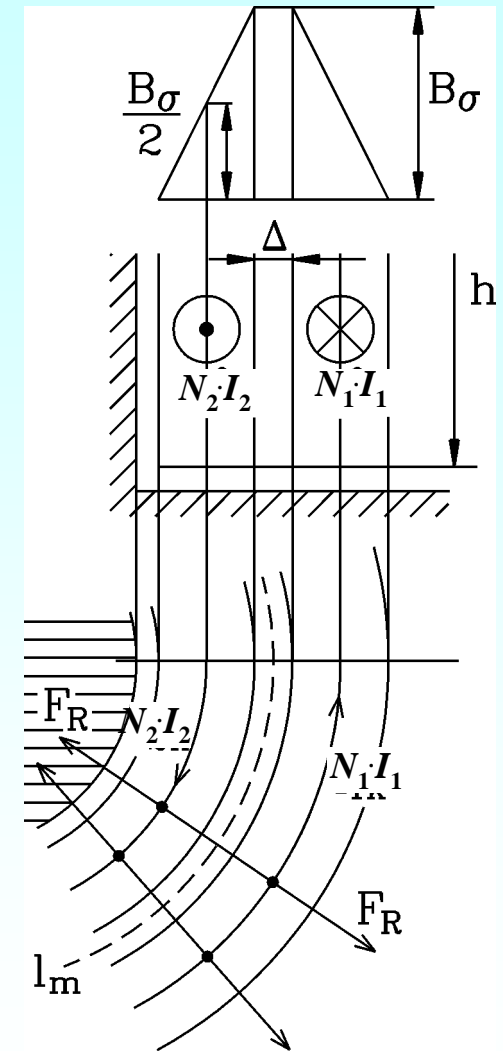


$i_k$ : short circuit current  
 $B_\sigma$ : stray flux density  
 $I_{1k}, I_{2k}$ : AC HV/LV short circuit current  
 $\Delta$ : stray channel width  
 $h$ : winding height  
 $N_1, N_2$ : number of turns of HV/LV winding  
 $l_m$ : average circumference length  
 $F_R$ : radial LORENTZ force  
 $T$ : AC current period  
 $U_1$ : HV winding phase voltage  
 $X_{1\sigma}, X'_{2\sigma}$ : HV/LV winding stray reactances per phase

HV peak short circuit current :  
(resistive damping neglected)

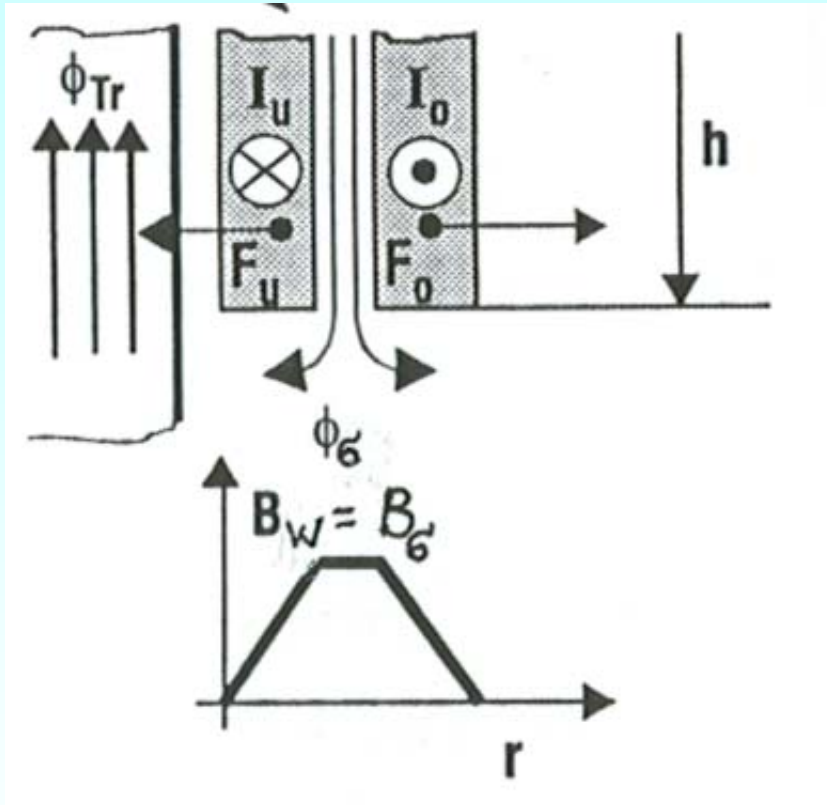
$$\hat{I}_k \approx 2 \frac{\hat{U}_1}{X_{1\sigma} + X'_{2\sigma}}$$

- Sudden short circuit: resistance neglected, stray inductances limit the short circuit current  $i_k$
- Worst-case: Short-circuit at zero voltage:  $i_k$  contains AC and DC component of same amplitude
- Opposite currents in LV and HV winding: “Exploding” force on HV winding
- Strong mechanical support needed for the windings



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Forces on SC windings



$\Phi_{Tr}$ : transformer core flux

$\Phi_\sigma$ : transformer resulting stray flux

$B_w = B_\sigma$ : maximum flux density in the winding is stray flux density!

$h$ : winding height

$I_o / I_u$ : r.m.s. current in HV /LV winding

$F_o / F_u$ : LORENTZ forces in HV /LV winding

$$\hat{F}_u = N_u \hat{I}_u \cdot \frac{\hat{B}_{\sigma,u}}{2} \cdot d_u \pi \quad d_u = d_{av} - \Delta - b_2$$

$$B_{\sigma,u} = \mu_0 \frac{N_u I_u}{h}$$

$$\hat{F}_u = \mu_0 (N_u \hat{I}_u)^2 \cdot \frac{d_u \pi}{2h} = -\hat{F}_o$$

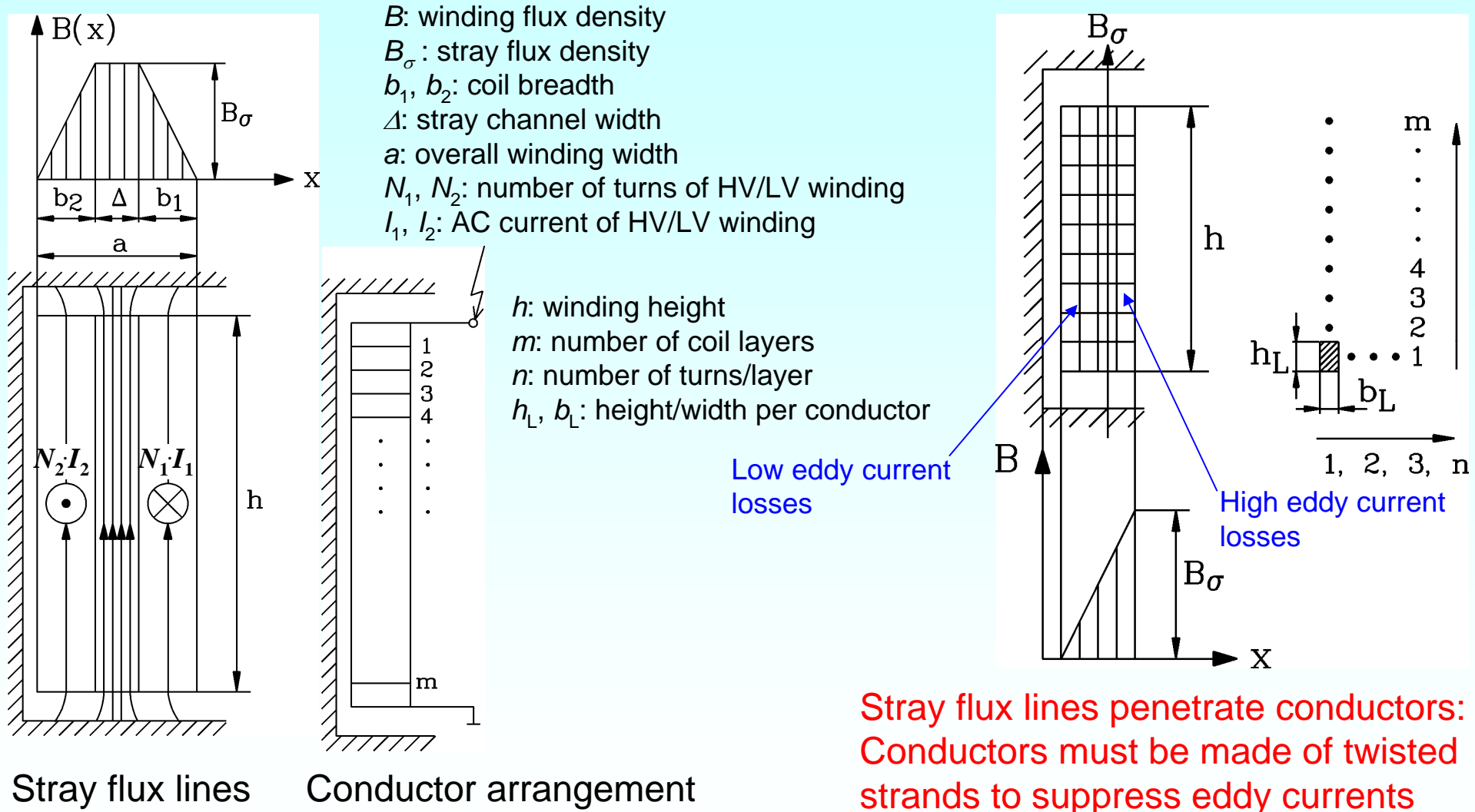
Komarek, P.: Teubner, Stuttgart, 1995





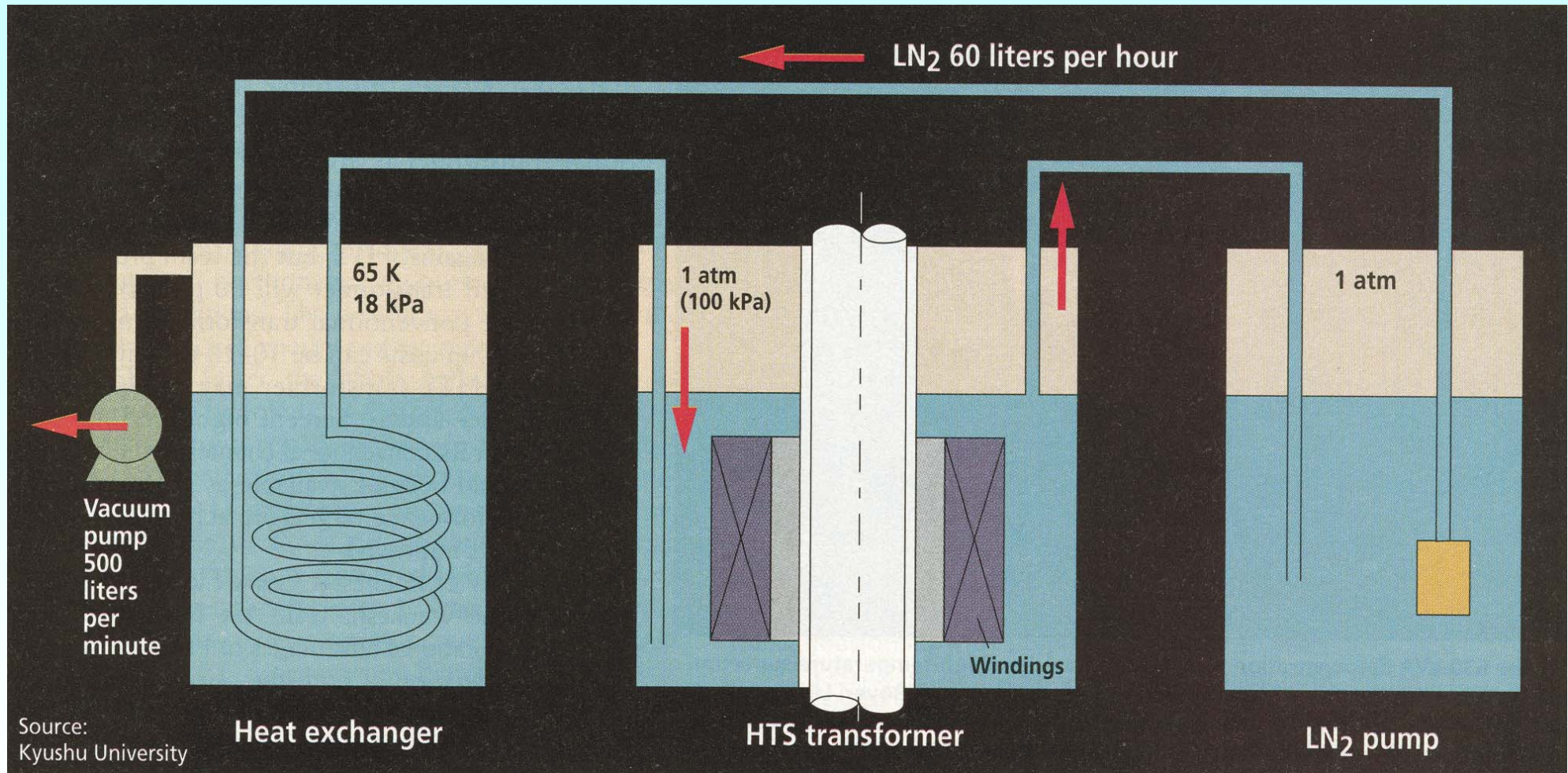
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Eddy currents in LV conductors due to stray flux in transformers



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Single-phase HTSC transformer (prototype, warm core)



## 500 kVA prototype with LN<sub>2</sub> cooling circuit

(Source: Sumitomo / Kyushu Univ., Japan)



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# 60 Hz-single phase-loco-HTSC-transformer (*Japan, 2006*)

Primary winding 60 Hz	3.5 MVA, 25 kV, 1 x 140 A, $a_a = 2$ -fold parallel
Secondary winding 60 Hz	4x875 kW = 3.5 MVA, 1.2 kV, 4 x 730 A, $a_a = 1$
Third winding 60 Hz	0.4 MVA, 440 V, 909 A, $a_a = 2$ -fold parallel
Impedance voltage Mass / Dimensions (without cooling system)	16.2% 1.7 t / $h \times b \times t = 1.9 \times 1.2 \times 0.7$ m
Cooling Cryostat	LN <sub>2</sub> 66 K, warm iron core glass fiber composite
Losses at Sinus: Total / No-load	6200 W *) / 710 W
High Voltage Test	a) 42 kV AC, 10 min. b) 150 kV impulse voltage

**\*) 6200 W: too high losses, because the secondary parallel strands were not twisted (no ROEBEL bar technology used!)**

(Source: Railway Research Center, Japan)



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Conductors for 60 Hz-single phase-LoCo-HTSC-Transformer

- Bi-2223-Multi-filamentary wire, Ag-Matrix,  $4.5 \times 0.27 \text{ mm}^2$ ,  $q = 1.215 \text{ mm}^2$
- Technical critical current density  $J_{C2} = 90 \text{ A/mm}^2$  at 77 K
- Spilt secondary winding for reduction of stray field amplitude by 50%
- Voltage per turn 12.5 V
- Number of turns: primary  $N_1 = 2000$ , 16 layers =  $16 \times 125$  (Source: Railway Research Center, Japan)  
No parallel wires per turn:  $a_i = 1$ , but two parallel branches:  $a_a = 2$   
Current density:  $J_1 = I_1 / (a_a \cdot a_i \cdot q) = 140 / (2 \times 1 \times 1.215) = 57.6 \text{ A/mm}^2$
- Secondary:  $a_i = 8$ ,  $J_2 = 75.6 \text{ A/mm}^2$ , third winding:  $a_i = 6$ ,  $J_2 = 62.3 \text{ A/mm}^2$

#### Result:

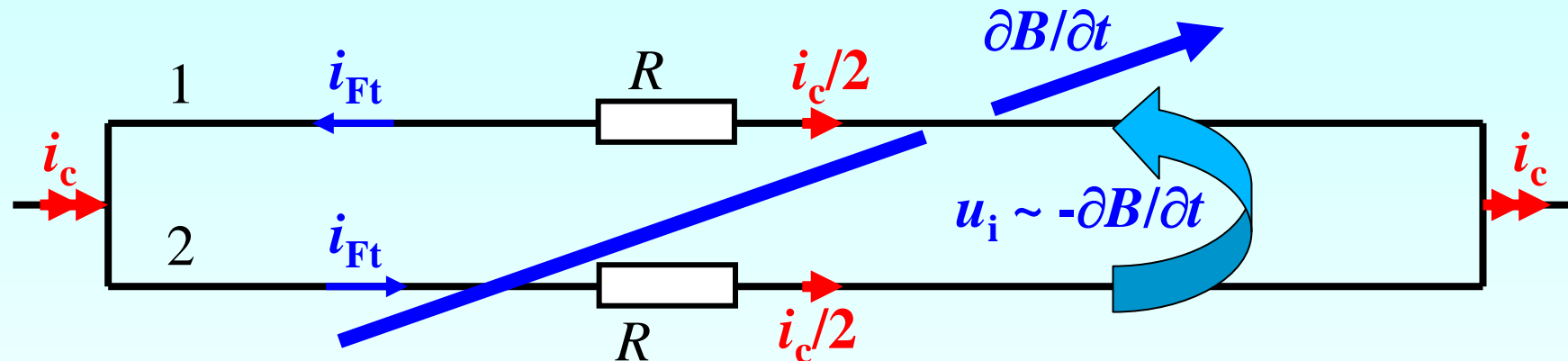
*As no twisting of the strands at the low voltage side (secondary and third winding) was done, the additional losses in the winding due to non-uniform current distribution on parallel strands (8 resp. 6 strands) is already at sine wave operation much too high!*

*The impedance voltage is too low for inverter operation (Aim is: 50%).*

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Uneven current distribution in parallel strands leads to increased losses

Example:  $a_i = 2$  parallel strands per conductor, exposed to changing magnetic field



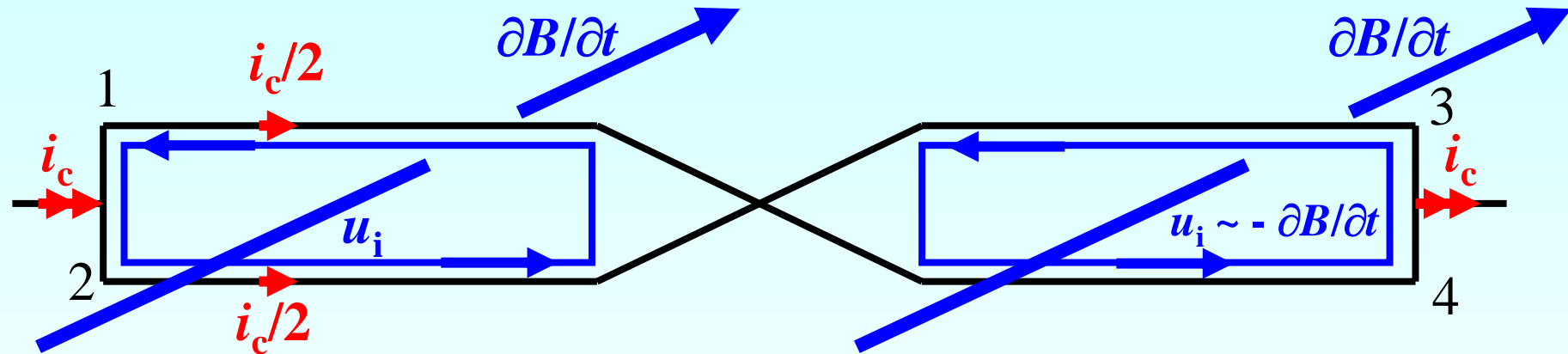
- Conductor current  $i_c$  flows as  $i_c/2$  in each of the two parallel strands
- Changing flux density  $\partial B/\partial t$  induces voltage  $u_i$ , which causes eddy current  $i_{Ft}$
- **Uneven current share per strand:**  $i_1 = i_c/2 - i_{Ft}$ ,  $i_2 = i_c/2 + i_{Ft}$  !
- Losses without eddy current:  $i_1 = i_2 = i_c/2$ :  $P_{d0} = 2R \cdot (i_c/2)^2 = R \cdot i_c^2/2$
- Losses with eddy current:  $P_d = R \cdot (i_1^2 + i_2^2) = R \cdot i_c^2/2 + 2R \cdot i_{Ft}^2 > P_{d0}$



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Twisting of strands to equalize current share in parallel strands

Example:  $a_i = 2$  parallel strands per conductor, exposed to changing magnetic field



- The two strands are crossed (“twisted”): The induced voltage differences between points 1-4 and 2-3 **are each zero** = **no eddy current may flow:  $i_{Ft} = 0$ .**
- No unequal current share:  $i_1 = i_c/2 = i_2$  !
- No increased losses!  $i_1 = i_2 = i_c / 2 : P_d = P_{d0} = R \cdot i_c^2 / 2$

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

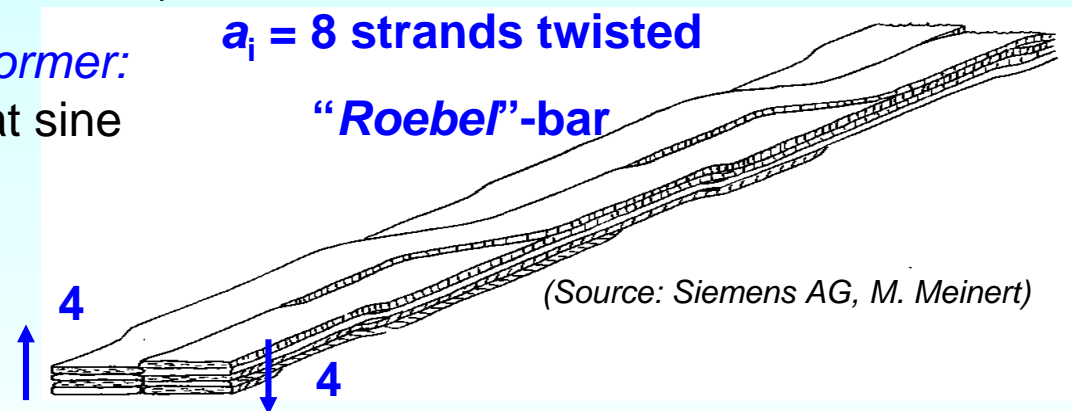
# Twisted strands at big total conductor cross section

- **Low voltage winding:** Low voltage leads to high current = big conductor cross section = many parallel strands ( $a_i > 1$ )
- **Twisting of strands necessary** to get a uniform current sharing in the parallel strands (= no circulating current component!)

- **Twisting of strands in the Japanese transformer:**  
Reduction of losses from 6.2 kW to 1 kW at sine wave operation:

- **AC losses in the conductor:**  $P_{Fe} = 710 \text{ W}$   
 $6200 - 710 = 5490 \text{ W} \Rightarrow$  reduced to:  
ca. 1000 W (total: 1710 W)

- **Cooling system** for 1 kW dissipated power:  
Mass of cooling system: ca. 600 kg  
**Electrical power: ca. 20 kW**



**Result: Total mass:  $1700 + 600 = 2300 \text{ kg}$**   $\cos \varphi = 1: \eta = 3.5 / (3.5 + 0.0217) = 0.9938$   
**Total losses (at sine wave):  $1.71 + 20 = 21.7 \text{ kW}$ ; efficiency: 99.4%**

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Mass: 60 Hz-single phase-Loco-HTSC-Transformer

Iron core (warm)	830 kg
Cooling system (Compressor & Refrigerator)	600 kg
Cryostat (Glass fiber composite)	210 kg
Coil and terminal wires (BSCCO)	250 kg
Liquid nitrogen	180 kg
Coolant pump, pipes, bushings	230 kg
<b>Sum</b>	<b>2300 kg</b>

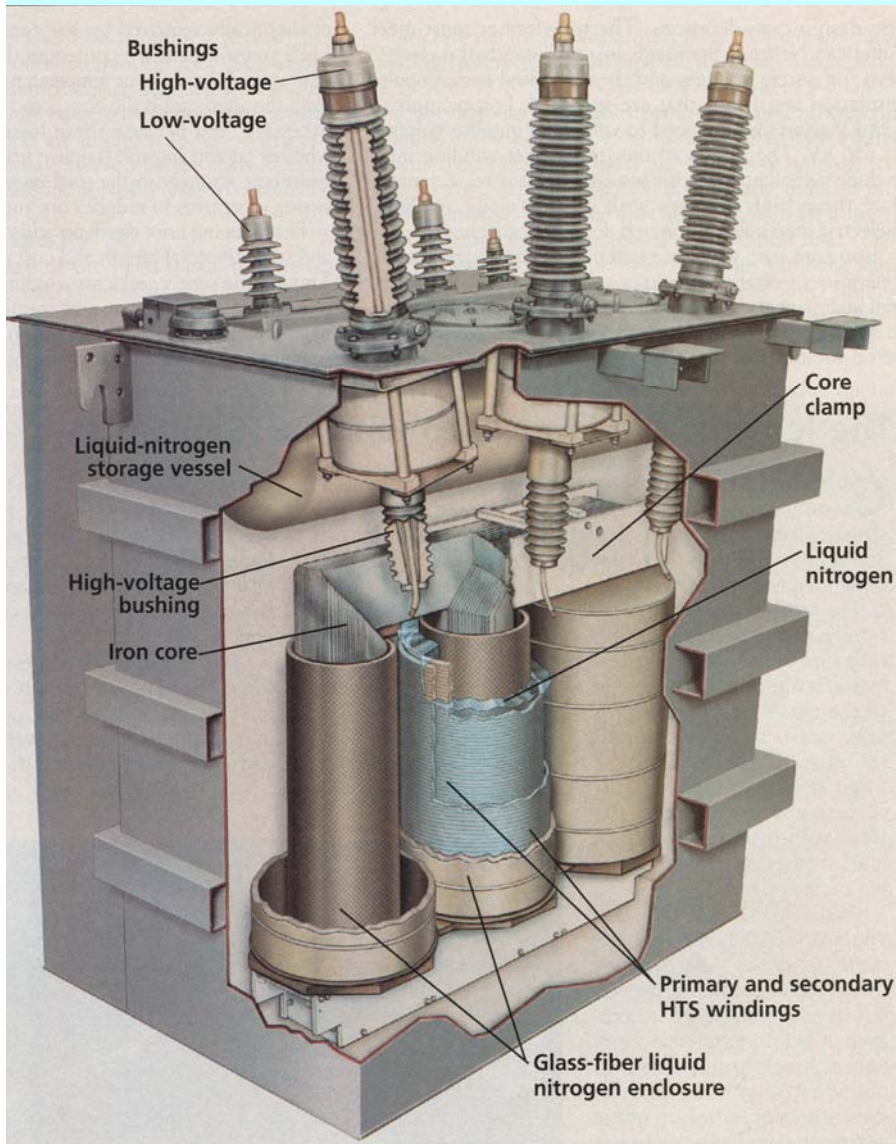
(Source: Railway Research Center, Japan)





## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Three-phase HTSC power transformer



- Warm iron-core, LN<sub>2</sub> cooling

For grid operation: **Tested: One single-phase unit: 1 MVA, 60 Hz, 1.8 kV/ 6.9 kV,**

Warm iron-core: heated up to 350 K = 80°C by the core losses

- HTSC is operated at 25 K
- LN<sub>2</sub> tank: aluminised Mylar fabric,
- Strip conductor: Bi(2212)
- Lab test operation:  
pure reactive power 0.64 MVA

Source: IEEE/PES Journal, 1998, Waukesha/USA



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Three-phase HTSC power transformer in field test



630 kVA

20 kV/400 V

Distribution  
transformer

Warm core

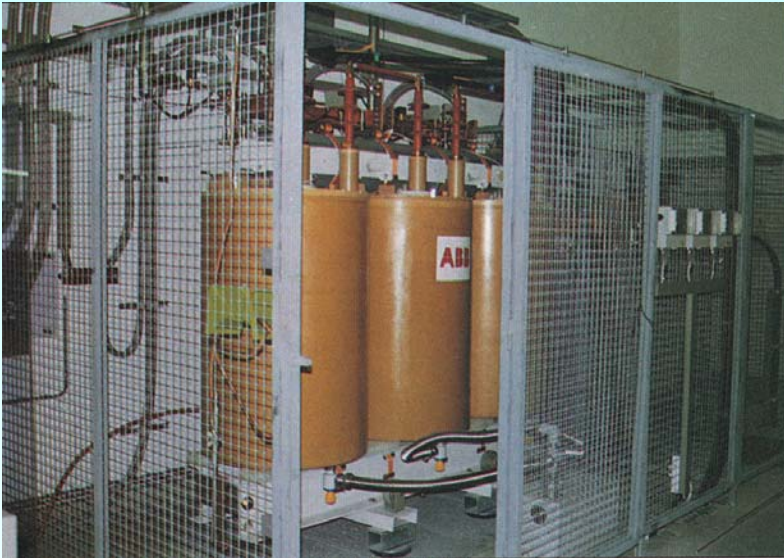
Field test in a  
substation in  
*Geneva/Switzerland*

Source: ABB/EDF



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Three-phase HTSC power transformer in field test



Source: ABB/EDF

630 kVA, 20 kV/400 V, distribution transformer  
warm iron core

Field test in a substation in *Geneva/Switzerland*

For grid operation:

**Three-phase:** 630 kVA, 50 Hz, 18.7 kV/420 V,  
Bi(2223) strip conductor, LN<sub>2</sub> cooling, 77 K, per  
phase: non-conductive composite cryostat,  
warm iron core

system test operation in *Geneva/Switzerland*

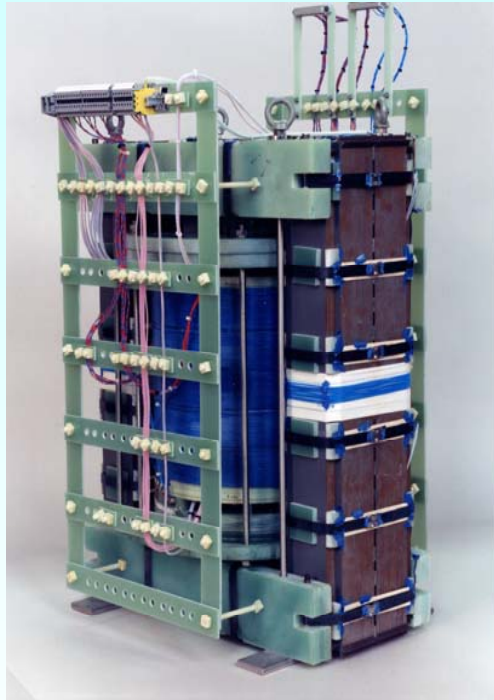
**(ABB Switzerland / EDF, France)**



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

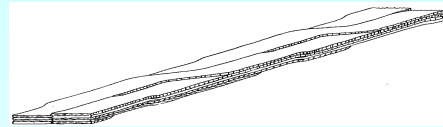
# Stages of development for an HTSC railway transformer

100 kVA model transformer  
(shell type)



(Source: Siemens AG, M. Meinert)

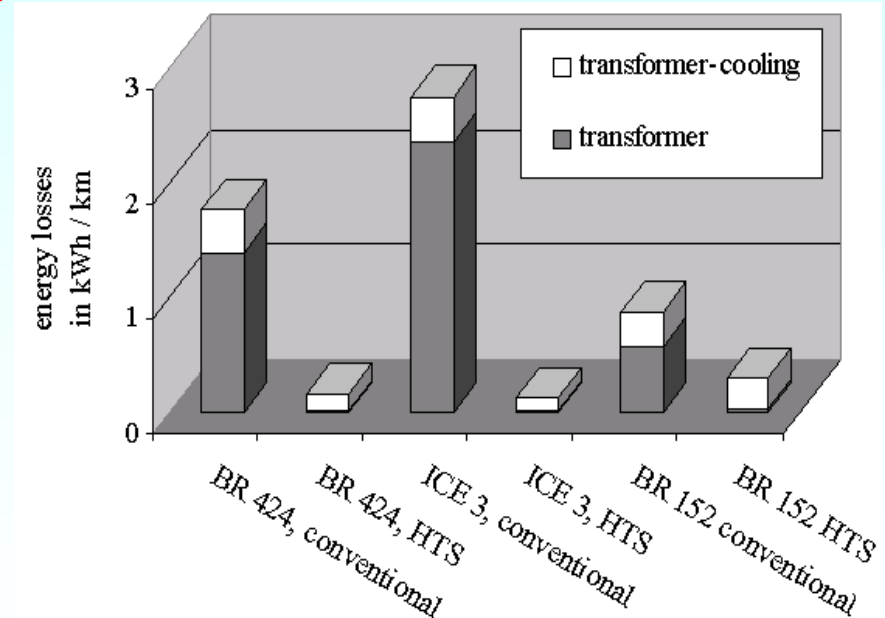
AC ROEBEL-bar  
conductor



On-board  
prototype?



Potential energy saving

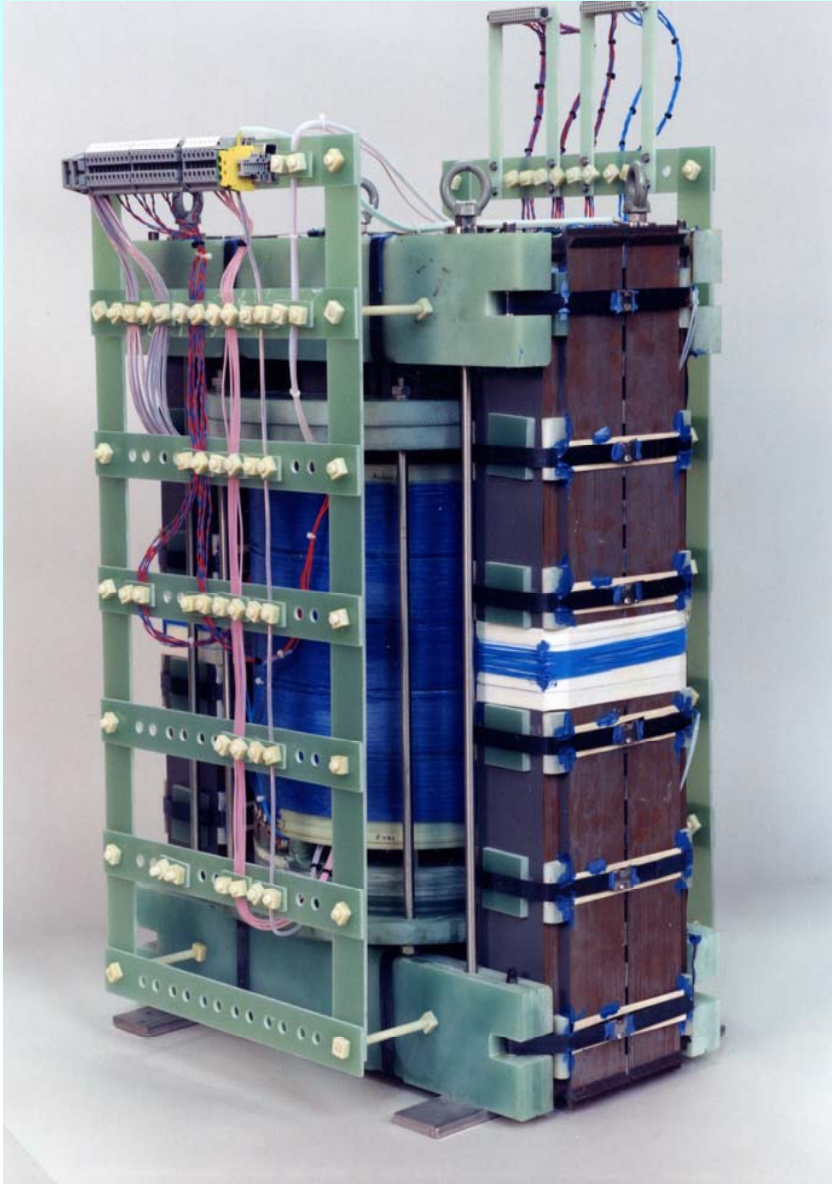


1 MVA demonstrator (leg type)

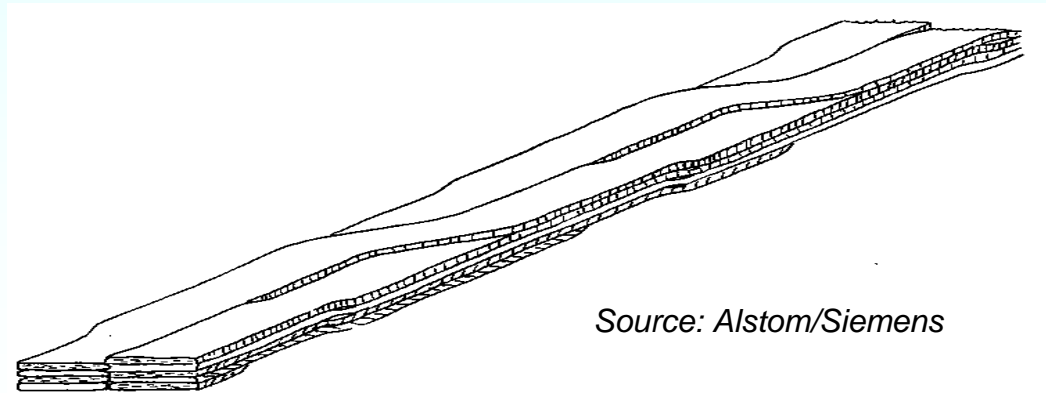


## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# 100 kVA prototype HTSC railway transformer



- Cold iron-core, LN<sub>2</sub> bath cooling 77 K
- Shell-type transformer
- Low-voltage side: high current = high conductor cross-section: Conductors twisted BSCCO sub-conductors to reduce eddy currents (ROEBEL bar)
- Critical current density 80 A/mm<sup>2</sup>



Source: Alstom/Siemens



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Locomotive transformer, prototype 1 MVA

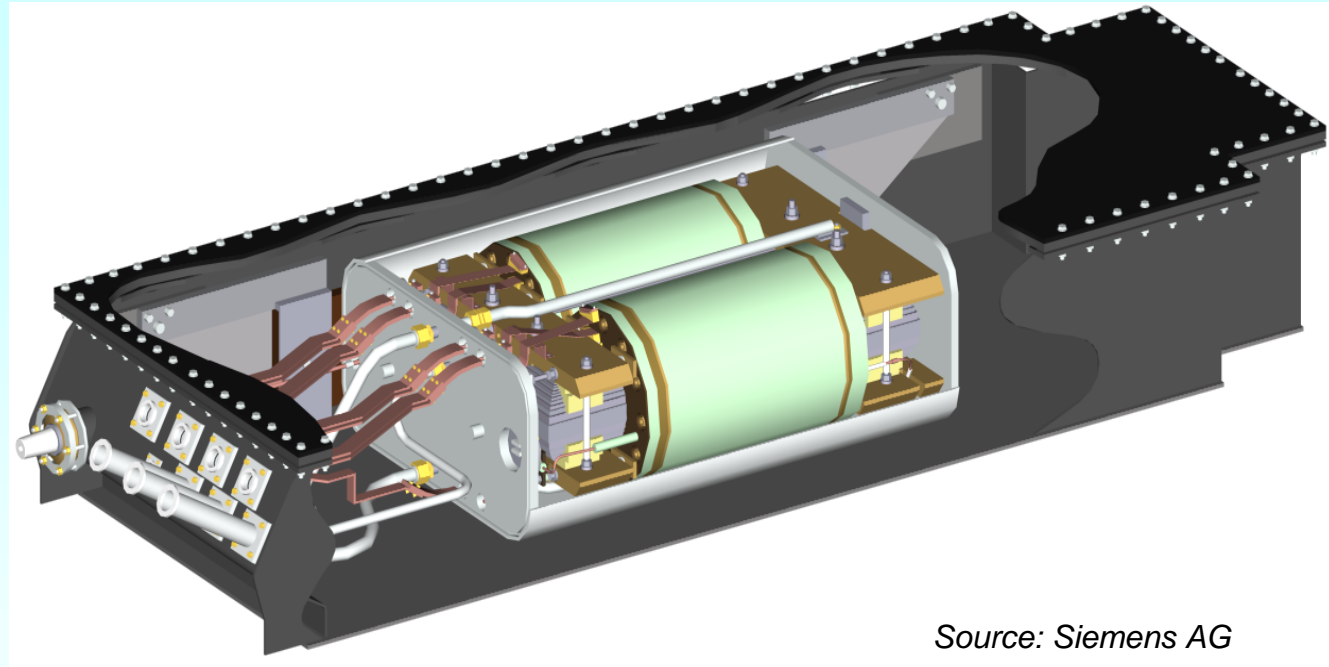
- Loco transformer: **Single-phase: 1 MVA**,  
16.7 Hz, 25 kV / 2x1.4 kV, 40 A / 2x360 A,  
 $u_k = 25 \%$ , Bi(2223) strip conductor, LN<sub>2</sub> cooling, forced circulation flow,  
67 K, cold iron-core, core induction 1.7 T, iron core: 1080 mm,  
Coils diameters: split LV: Ø 228mm / Ø 382mm, HV: Ø 304mm, height: 500mm  
Conductors: LV: solenoid with 13 ROEBEL bars, HV: 9 disc coils,  
**Cryostat** in vacuum-tight tank: L x B x H = 1140 x 832 x 420 mm
- Conductor Bi(2223)-HTSC, LV: Big cross section needed: Multi-filament conductor (3.2x0.3 mm<sup>2</sup>), 55 filaments in silver matrix with magnesium additive.  
HTSC share of strip conductor cross-section: 25%.
  - Nominal current density 30 A/mm<sup>2</sup> in strip conductor  
current density in HTSC: 120 A/mm<sup>2</sup> (at DC operation 250 A/mm<sup>2</sup> are possible).
  - $J_c$  (77 K) = 60 A/mm<sup>2</sup> for AC operation (1998). State in 2002: 100 A/mm<sup>2</sup>

**(Source: Siemens AG, Germany)**



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# 1 MW prototype of a railway transformer



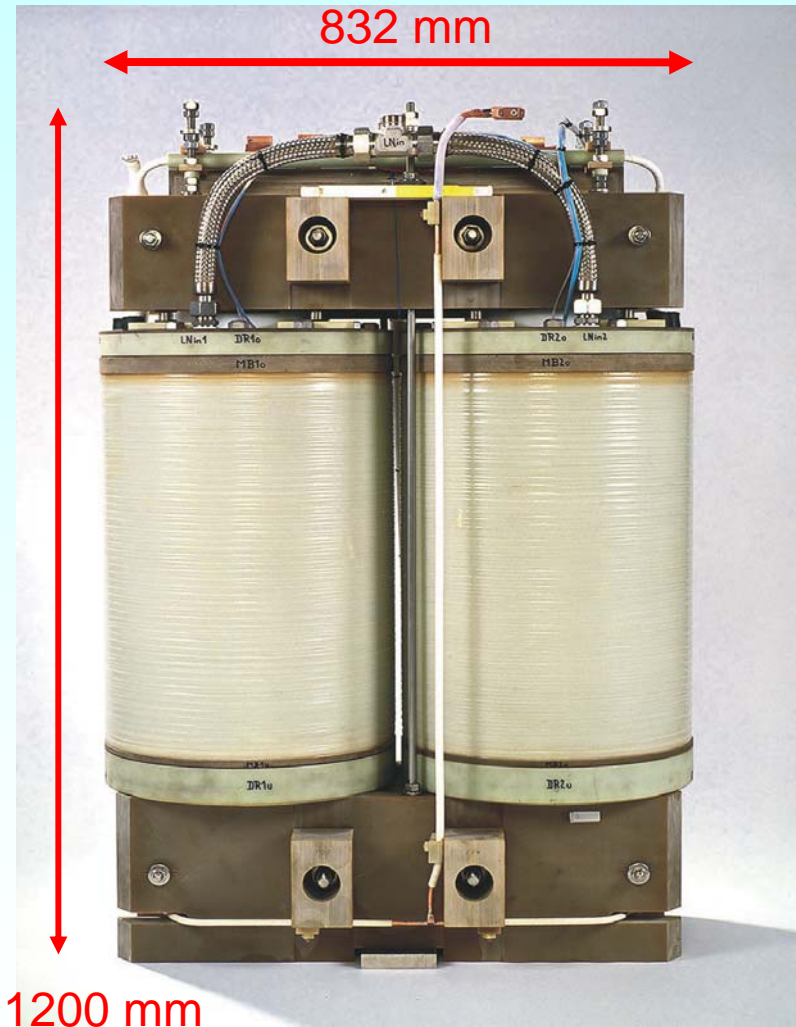
Source: Siemens AG

- Single-phase leg transformer, cold iron core, LN<sub>2</sub> forced circulation cooling
- Installation of the active part (in cold container) into a vacuum-tight tank of the transformer of the type series BR 424/425. Together with the stainless-steel container for the LN<sub>2</sub> it serves as cryostat.

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Data of the 1 MW HTSC railway transformer

**Siemens AG, Germany**



- 1 MVA, 50 Hz, 25 kV / 1389 V
- Currents: 40 A / 2 x 360 A (= two low-voltage windings for two converters)
- Impedance voltage 25%
- Core induction 1.7 T
- Current density 30 A/mm<sup>2</sup> at 67 K = -206°C
- Total conductor length HTSC: 8.2 km, 66 kg
- Stainless-steel cryostat (thus eddy current losses occur due to the AC stray field)

Source: Siemens AG

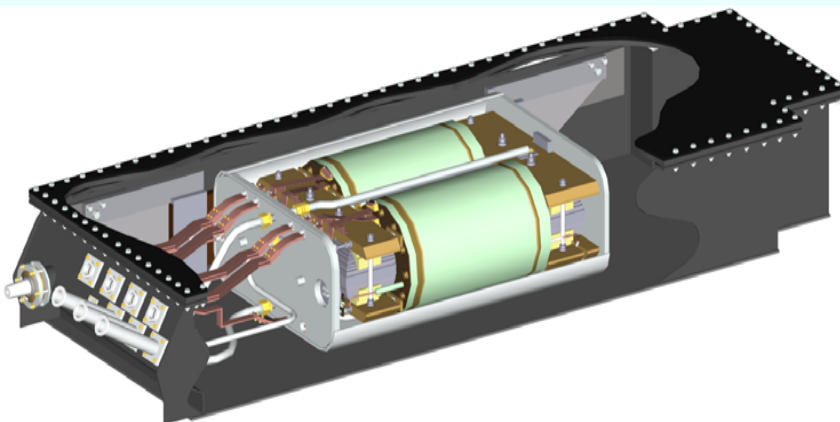




## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# Comparison: 1 MVA HTSC single-phase railway transformer

16.7 Hz	1.1 MVA: Copper winding, oil-cooled	1.0 MVA: HTSC winding, LN <sub>2</sub> -cooled
	15 kV/ 816 V, $u_k = 50 \%$	25 kV/2 x 1.4 kV, $u_k = 25\%$
Total losses	92 kW, inverter operation	7.8 kW, sine operation *)
Mass / efficiency	4800 kg / 92.28%	2200 kg / 99.23%
Volume (core + coils)	690 dm <sup>3</sup>	360 dm <sup>3</sup>



Source: Siemens AG, M. Meinert

### Losses during sine operation:

AC loss in the HTSC material,

Specific total losses in the iron core \*): 550 W

Cooling power: 7250 W

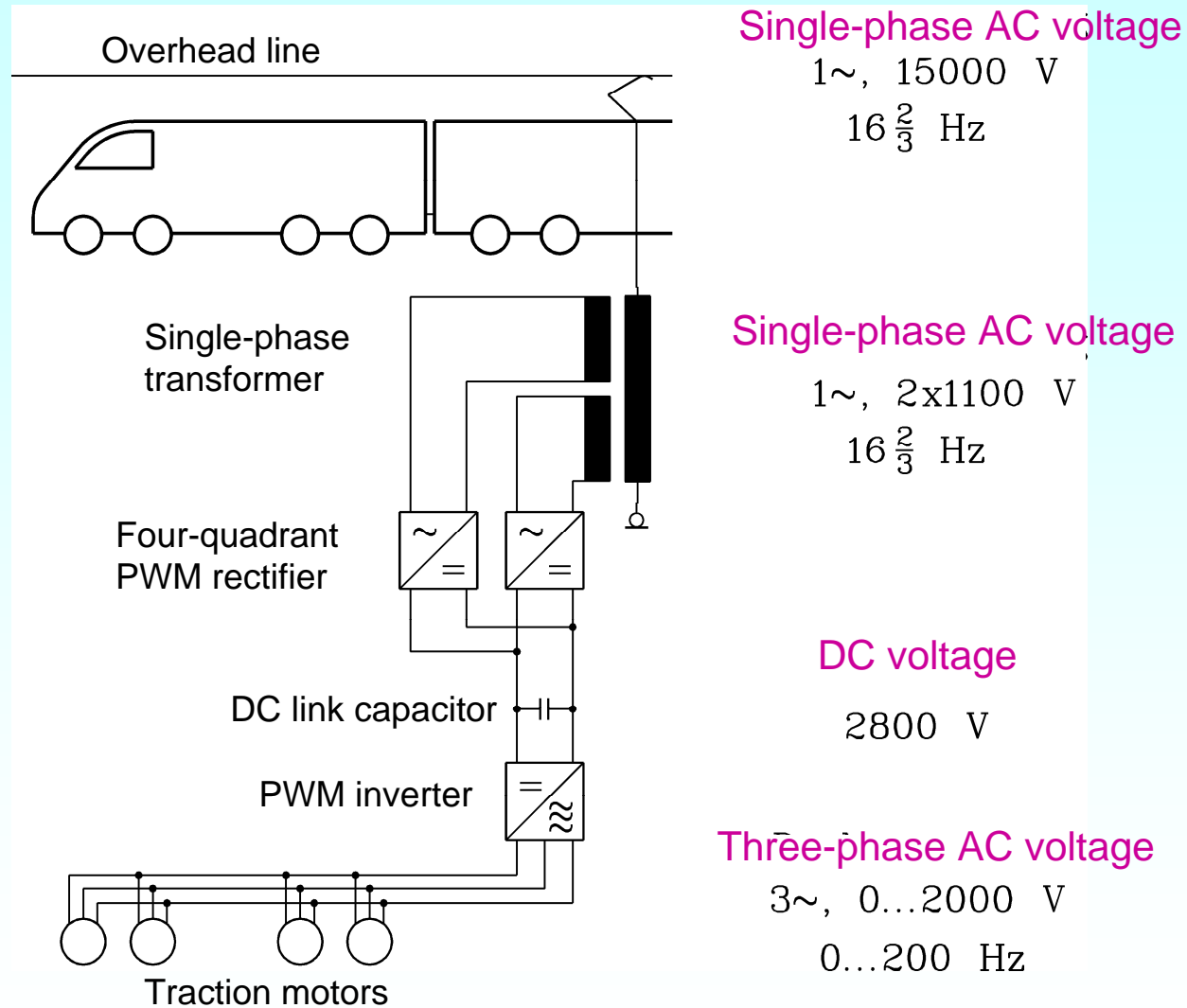
**Total loss: 7800 W**

\*) *small losses*



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

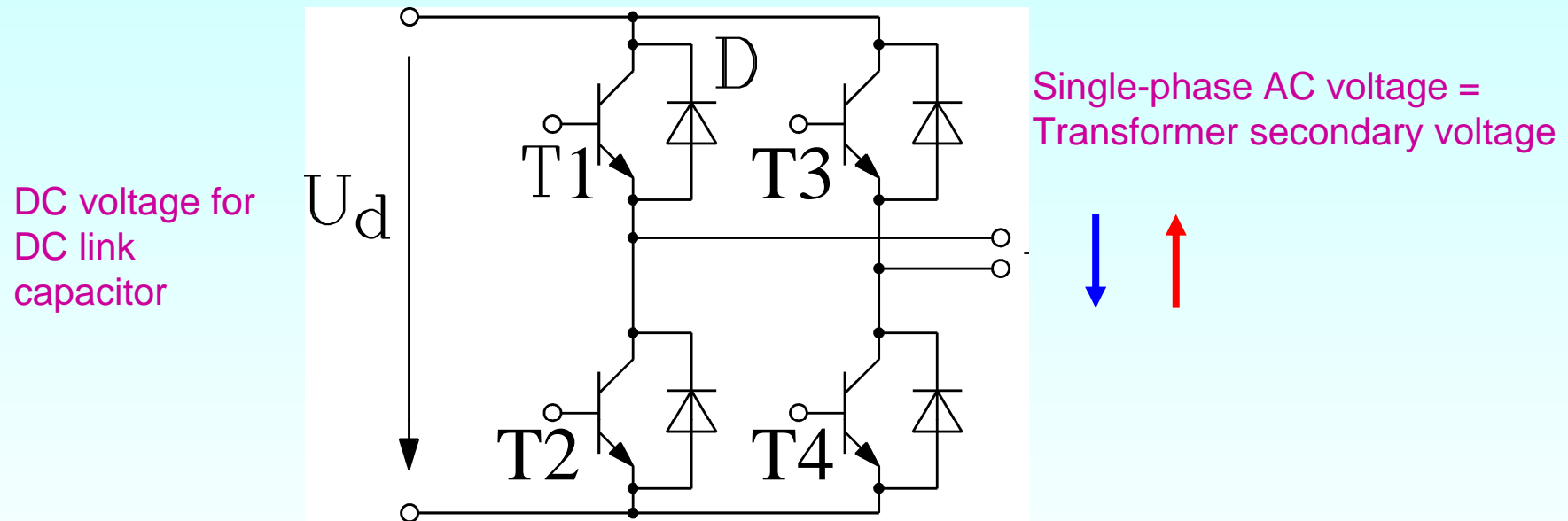
# Loco transformer for inverter-fed induction motors



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Four-quadrant PWM rectifier

D: Free-wheeling diodes, T: Insulated Gate Bipolar Transistor IGBT



↓ T1 & T4 are conducting

↑ T2 & T3 are conducting

PWM: e.g. T1 is opened and closed acc. to sinusoidally varying switching times

## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# System test of the inverter-operated HTSC-loco transformer



**System test with IGBT-voltage source inverter**

*(Source: Siemens AG, Nuremberg)*



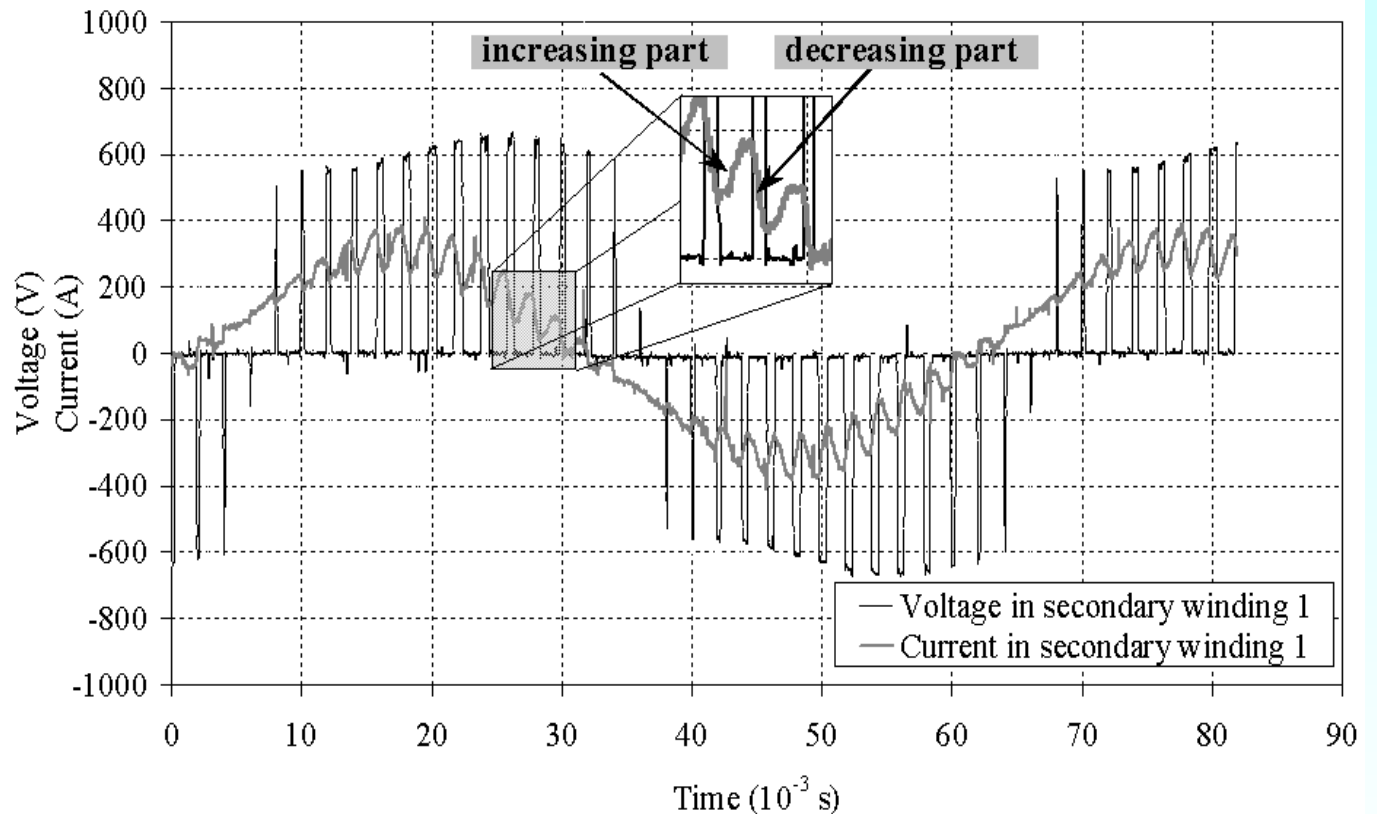
## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

# System test of the converter-fed HTSC railway transformer

Test-bay Nuremberg, Siemens AG



System test with IGBT inverter



Operation of the 1-MVA-HTS transformer with an IGBT railway converter, synchronous PWM switching  $f_T = 15f_s$ , DC link voltage 600 V

Source: Siemens AG, M. Meinert

Losses 1400 W (inverter operation) instead of 550 W (sine operation)!



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

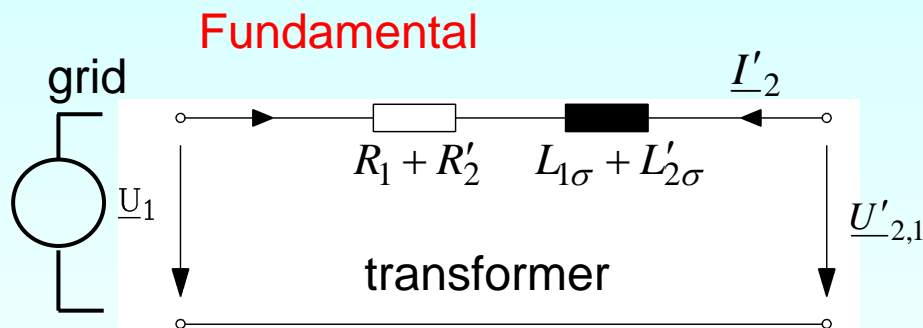
### Limitation of current ripple by increased impedance voltage

- Inverter PWM output voltage = transformer secondary voltage:**

expanded as FOURIER series:  $u(t) \approx \hat{U}_{2,1} \cdot \sin(2\pi f \cdot t) + \hat{U}_{2,T} \cdot \sin(2\pi f_T \cdot t)$

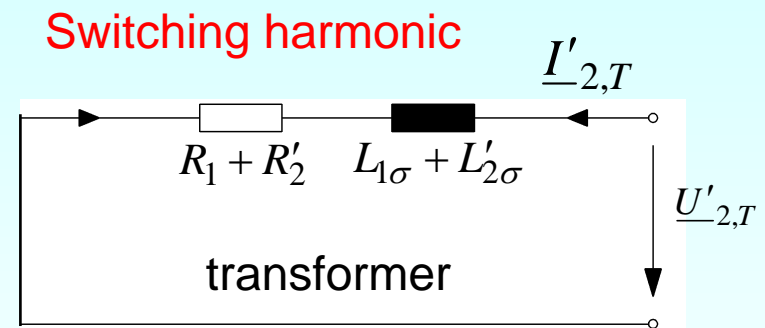
Fundamental

Switching harmonic



$$R_1 + R'_2 \ll \omega \cdot (L_{1\sigma} + L'_{2\sigma}) \quad :$$

$$I'_2 \approx \frac{U'_{2,1} - U_1}{j\omega \cdot (L_{1\sigma} + L'_{2\sigma})}$$



$$I'_{2,T} \approx \frac{U'_{2,T}}{j\omega_T \cdot (L_{1\sigma} + L'_{2\sigma})}$$

For the high frequency switching harmonic the grid has no voltage component. As the (ideal) grid has no internal impedance, only the transformer leakage inductance limits the current ripple  $I_{2,T}$ . **Hence a high impedance voltage  $u_k$  is needed.**



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

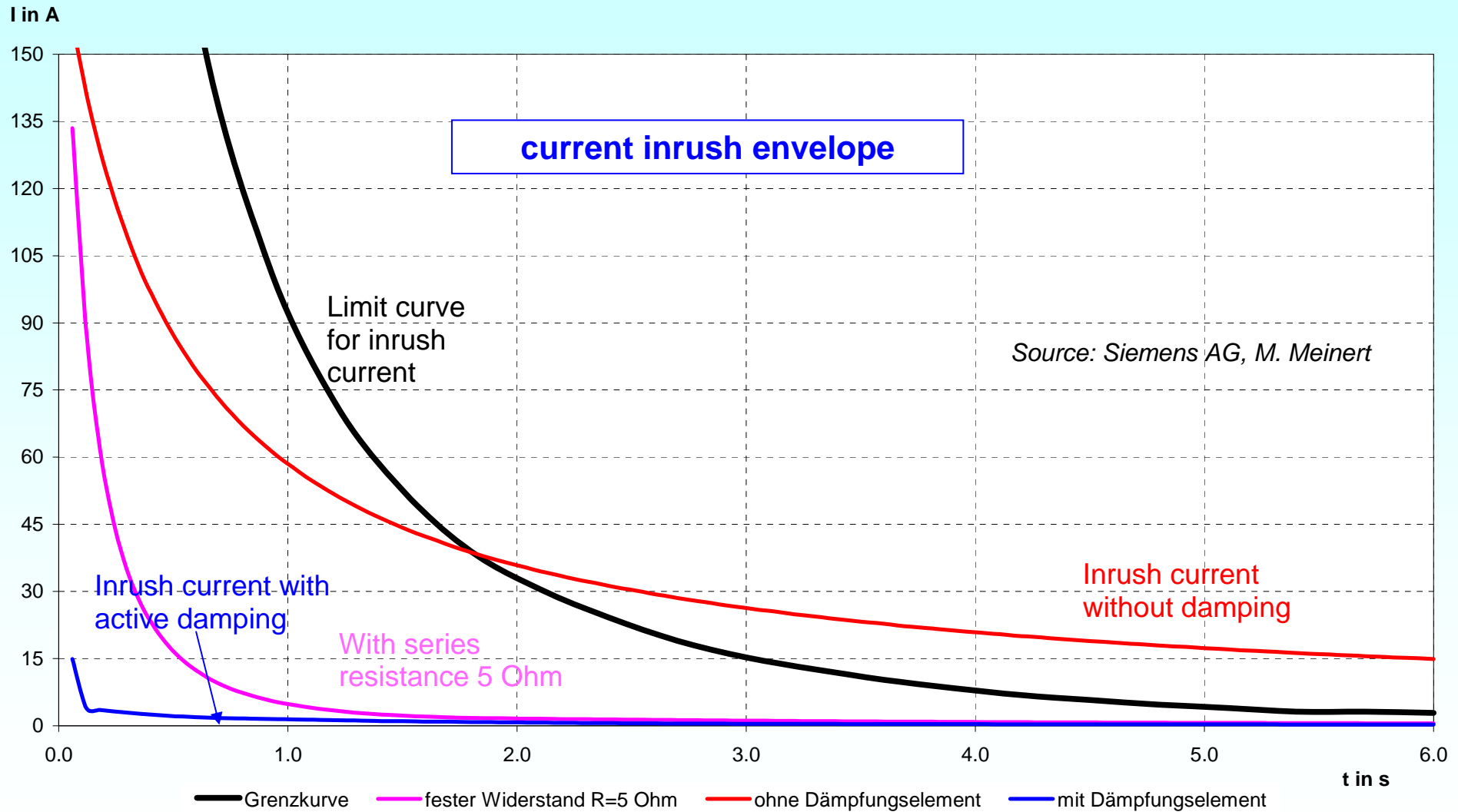
# Cooling concept of the 1 MVA HTSC single-phase railway transformer

- **Cooling:** Circulation pump: 75 W, four-cylinder *Stirling machine* (10 % efficiency), it cools (at 20 °C) 2 kW transformer losses at 67 K;  
23 kW electric connected load (maximum value).  
Above 20°C: Additional *re-cooling unit* used up to max. 50°C ambient temperature with 33% efficiency.
- *Failure of the overhead catenary voltage* ⇒ cooling unit is turned off ⇒ LN<sub>2</sub> circulation pump fed from on-board battery.
- Cold iron-core: During 6 h until the winding heats up from 67 K to 77 K. In case of failure of the pump this heat-up takes only 3 h. So the “limp-home” time is limited to between 3 ... 6 hours.



## 2.2 Superconductivity for electrical energy technology

### Inrush-current of tested 1 MVA HTSC-transformer





# New technologies of electric energy converters and actuators

## Summary:

### Superconducting power transformers

- No commercial use until now, only prototypes for (field) tests
- High temperature superconductors at 77 K possible due to low stray field
- Reduction of mass and increase of efficiency possible
- Especially interesting for electric traction
- Reliability issue of on-board cryostat system for traction is crucial
- Transformer dynamics (e.g. inrush) badly damped with SC windings

