SuperCities, SuperSuburbs and SuperGrids Superconducting Materials Challenges Confronting the Energy Society of the Future







Paul M. Grant W2AGZ Technologies San Jose, CA USA

www.w2agz.com

AGING IBM PENSIONER

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Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned....



Grant, P.M., Superconductivity and Electric Power: Promises, Promises...Past, Present and Future, <u>IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercon.</u> (1997) <u>7</u> 112-133

Discovery Anniversaries 100 25



Gilles Holst

1986 (20-40 K)



Georg Bednorz



H. Kammerlingh-Onnes



Alex Mueller

Type II (1930s +)









"VL" Ginzburg



Aleksei Abrikosov

Lev Landau

Superconductivity:100 Years and Counting



First in a year-long series of editorial pieces celebrating the history and progress of superconductivity by Dr. Paul Michael Grant, W2AGZ Technologies, w2agz@w2agz.com, www.w2agz.com

The following invited article is based on a presentation by Dr. Paul Grant at the July 2010 ICEC/ICMC in Wroclaw, Poland. It is the first in a year-long series of articles in which Cold Facts will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the discovery of superconductivity.



Down the path of least resistance

Since its discovery 100 years ago, our understanding of superconductivity has developed in a far from smooth fashion. Paul Michael Grant explains exactly why this beautiful, elegant and profound phenomenon continues to confound and baffle condensed-matter physicists today

physicsworld.com

Superconductivity: Top five applications

Five of the best

Superconductivity may be a beautiful phenomenon, but materials that can conduct with zero resistance have not quite transformed the world in the way that many might have imagined. Presented here are the top five applications, ranked in terms of their impact on society today

- 1. Wires & Films2. Medical Imaging3. High Energy Physics
 - 4. Rotating Machinery 5. Dark Matter

Physics World, October 2009



From The Times October 3, 2009 Science: Stand by for the Supergrid

Why the world needs an 'extreme energy makeover'

Anjana Ahuja



...a future editor of Nature...?

Warning! Cuidado! Achtung!

This presentation will:

- 1. Be iconoclastic
- 2. Have little to do with materials science (however, see talk VV4.2 tomorrow morning!)



NbTi Nb₃Sn - The Workhorse Wires -



First HTSC "Wire"





Gen 1

11 JULY 1988

Orientation Dependence of Grain-Boundary Critical Currents in YBa₂Cu₃O_{7-δ} Bicrystals

D. Dimos, P. Chaudhari, J. Mannhart, and F. K. LeGoues Thomas J. Watson Research Center, IBM Research Division, Yorktown Heights, New York, 10598 (Received 4 May 1988)



Praveen Chaudhari, 1937 - 2010

Physics Today, p.64, April 2010

Gen II Coated Conductor



American Superconductor

SuperPower



Cable Design Anthology



Fig. 2

Superconducting thin-walled niobium core cooled internally by liquid He and protected externally by liquid H_2 and liquid N_2

Wilkinson, 1966



Garwin-Matisoo, 1967



Table 1 Characteristics of the 1000 MVA test system

Number of cables	2
Length of each cable (m)	115
Cable outer diameter (over armour) (cm)	5.84
Inner conductor diameter (cm)	2.95
Enclosure outer diameter (cm)	40
Maximum operating temperature (K)	9
Operating pressure (MPa)	1.55
Cooldown time (h)	100
Rated voltage (3-phase) (kV)	138
Rated impulse withstandability (kV)	650"
Maximum steady state power rating (MVA)	980
Emergency power level (MVA) (1 h) ^b	1430
Surge impedance load (MVA)	872
Surge impedance (Ω)	25
Current-dependent loss at rated power, 3-	
3-phase (7.5K) (Wm ⁻¹)	0.8
Voltage-dependent loss at rated power, 3-	
phase (7.5 K) (Wm ⁻¹)	0.15
Enclosure heat in-leak, 3-phase	0.110
(7.5 K) (Wm ⁻¹)	0.45
	AL. A.

Brookhaven – Late 70s, Early 80s



Fig. 5. Fully Flexible Superconducting Cable for 1/3 GW / 110 kV (Design Klaudy-Kabelmetal). 1-Cooling helium 2-Corrugated copper tube with superconducting niobium layer as the phase conductor 3-Emoothing compound k-Helium impregnated paper tape insulation 5-Electrostatic screen 6-Cooling helium 7-Corrugated copper tube with niobium layer as the shield conductor 8-Inner corrugated tube of the cryogenic envelope 9-Superinsulation in vacuum 10-Outer corrugated tube of the cryogenic envelope 11-FVC-sheath.

Graz, Austria – Late 70s







Pirelli – Detroit Edison Demo: 1999-2001 Successful Superconductivity Performance!

Various ac HTSC Cable Designs



Cable configuration: 3 phases in 1 common cryostat

Sumitomo



Nexans-AMSC

3 Superconducting Phases



13.2kV, 69MVA

Ultera-ORNL



Pirelli

Various dc HTSC Cable Designs



BICC: Beales, et. al, (1995) 40 K, +/- 20 kV, 10 kA, 400 MW



EPRI: Schoenung, Hassenzahl, Grant (1997) +/- 50 kV, 50 kA, 5 GW



EPRI: Hassenzahl, Gregory, Eckroad, Nilsson, Daneshpooy, Grant (2009) +/- 50 kV, 100 kA, 10 GW

A Superconducting dc Cable EPRI Report 1020458 (2009)

Hassenzahl, Gregory, Eckroad, Nilsson, Daneshpooy, Grant



US HTSC Cable Demonstrations



HTSC Cable Demonstration Projects Worldwide Past, Present...Future?



HTSC Cables - Deployment Opportunities -

The US Transmission Grid(s)



NERC Interconnects



Source: DOE 2006 National Electric Transmission Study



Pacific Intertie

- HVDC, +/- 500 kV, 3.1 kA, 3.1 GW
- 1,362 km
- ~50% of LA Power Consumption
- Converter/Inverter Losses ~ 5%
- Ohmic Losses ~10%



Celilo I/C Station "A Mountain of Silicon"

North American HVDC



The "Green" Energy Economy





www.sunzia.net



Potential Beneficiaries in WECC





HTSC Cables - Deployment Realities -

The Tres Amigas SuperStation





US Department of Energy Budget of the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability: FY 2010-11 (10³ USD)

Current Appropriation 23,130 24,461 6,368 29,160	ARRA Appropriation	Current Appropriation ? 38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	Congressional Request ? 35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
23,130 24,461 6,368 29,160		? 38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	? 35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
23,130 24,461 6,368 29,160		? 38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	? 35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
24,461 6,368 29,160		38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
6,368 29,160 83,119		38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
29,160		38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
82 110		38,450 32,450 14,000 40,000	35,000 39,293 40,000 30,000
83 110		32,450 14,000 40,000	39,293 40,000 30,000
83 110		14,000 40,000	40,000 30,000
83 110		40,000	30,000
82 110			
05,115		124,900	144,293
5,271		6,400	6,400
6,180		6,187	6,188
21,180		21,420	29,049
19,648		13,075	
	4,495,712		
-769			
134,629	4,495,712	171,982	185,930
	5,271 6,180 21,180 19,648 -769 134,629	5,271 6,180 21,180 19,648 -769 134,629 4,495,712	5,271 6,400 6,180 6,187 21,180 21,420 19,648 13,075 -769 134,629 4,495,712 171,982

A Modest Proposal -"Upbraiding" the Utilities-

- More than a half-century of successful demonstrations/prototyping power applications of superconductivity (1950s - > "beyond" 2000, in Japan and US)...low- and high-Tc...now sitting "on the shelf."
- Why aren't they "in the field" today?
- Is their absence due to...
 - Cost?
 - Hassle?
 - or "lack of compelling" need?
 - or "all of the above?"

- US utilities have long claimed to "want"...
 - Efficient long-length cables
 - Oil-free transformers
 - Energy Storage
 - Fast fault current limiters at high voltage (FCLs)
 - Efficient rotating machinery (aka, motors and generators)
- Well, we got 'em. Utilities claim:
 - They're too high-cost, because,
 - The wire is too expensive.
 - They have to be kept too cold.
 - Electricity is cheap, and "in field" energy efficiency is not a "compelling" driver
 - Anyway, we can solve our needs by incrementally improving the "old" ways (don't ever underestimate the ingenuity of a utility engineer to improvise, adopt and adapt)

"Then...a modest proposal..."

- If the "cost" of the wire in any given application were to be "zero,"...
- Would the utilities then "buy them?" And sign a "letter of intent" to purchase "x" number?
 - e.g., Fault Current Limiters, for which US utilities have long claimed a need
- "Zero cost" would be obtained as a Federal or State "tax credit" for the wire cost of the quantity purchased by the utility equipment vendor or the utility itself...
- Well?

Questions for US HTSC Wire Manufacturers

- AMSC
 - Estimated gross revenue from wire sales (and actual delivery) for FY2011?
 - Note: 3Q10 gross revenue from wire sales was 1.8% of total quarter
- SuperPower
 - Same as AMSC #1 above
 - Estimated employee/manpower growth in CY2011
- Ultera/Southwire
 - Is Carrolton plant cable (Gen 1) still in operation?
 - Plans to replace/extend?
- Nexans/AMSC/LIPA
 - Status of Gen II wire/cable upgrade
- AMSC/ConEd/DHS
 - Status/funding of Project Hydra

HTSC Cables - SuperCables -

"Hydricity" SuperCables: "Proton/Electron Power (PEP) to the People"



LH₂ SuperCable



Supercritical H₂ SuperCable



Design for eventual conversion to high pressure cold or liquid H₂

LNG SuperCable



Hg-1223 !

(12) United States Patent Chu et al.

(10) Patent No.:US 6,329,325 B1(45) Date of Patent:Dec. 11, 2001

(54) HIGH TEMPERATURE SUPERCONDUCTING TAPE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

(75) Inventors: Ching-Wu Chu; Ruling L. Meng; Yu-Yi Xue, all of Houston, TX (US)

(57) ABSTRACT

Highly oriented $HgBa_2Ca_2Cu_3O_{8+\delta}$ on Ni-tapes with a buffer layer of Cr/Ag or Cr/(Ag—Pd) have been described with a high transition temperature are described along with, one and two step methods of manufacture.

HTSC Cables - MegaProjects -

A Canadian's View of the World



The Mackenzie Valley Pipeline



2004 Natural Gas End Use

Schoenung, Hassenzahl and Grant, 1997 (5 GW on HTSC @ LN2, 1000 km)



Wellhead LNG + Electricity

<u>MVP Scenario</u>

Electricity Conversion Assumptions

Wellhead Power Capacity	18 GW (HHV)
Fraction Making Electricity	33%
Thermal Power Consumed	6 GW (HHV)
Left to Transmit as LNG	12 GW (HHV)
CCGT Efficiency	60%
Electricity Output	3.6 GW (+/- 18 kV, 100 kA)

SuperCable Parameters for LNG Transport

CH ₄ Mass Flow (12 GW (HHV))	230 kg/s @ 5.3 m/s
LNG Density (100 K)	440 kg/m ³
LNG Volume Flow	0.53 m ³ /s @ 5.3 m/s
Effective Pipe Cross-section	0.1 m ²
Effective Pipe Diameter	0.35 m (14 in)

It's 2030

- The Gas runs out!
- We have built the LNG SuperCable years before
- Put HTCGR Nukes on the now empty gas fields to make hydrogen and electricity (some of the electricity infrastructure, e.g., I/C stations, already in place)
- Enable the pre-engineered hydrogen capabilities of the LNG SuperCable to now transport protons and electrons.

SuperCities & SuperGrids



- Nuclear Power can generate both electricity and hydrogen – "Hydricity"
- Hydricity can be distributed in underground pipelines like natural gas
- The infrastructure can take the form of a SuperGrid
- ...or aSuperCity

SuperSuburb



Powering the Middle East - "The e-Pipe" - The Ultimate Vision!



Concept:

Wellhead generation by natural gas in Qatar
Transport power via HTSC cable to the Levant

Specifications:

- 1610 km
- 50 kA, +/- 50 kV
- 5 GW
- 1.3 x Pacific Intertie !

Caveat Emptor (wisdom from Garwin-Matisoo, 1967)

- "...for low power levels and sufficiently short distances...it will be more economical to use conventional ac EHV transmission."
- "...the use of superconducting power lines appears feasible. Whether it is necessary or desirable is another matter entirely."