

Cryogenic Engineering Conference & International Cryogenic Materials Conference

SPOKANE WASHINGTON JUNE 13-17, 2011

Superconductivity

Yesterday - Today - Tomorrow

Paul Michael Grant

Aging IBM Pensioner

(research supported under the IBM retirement fund)

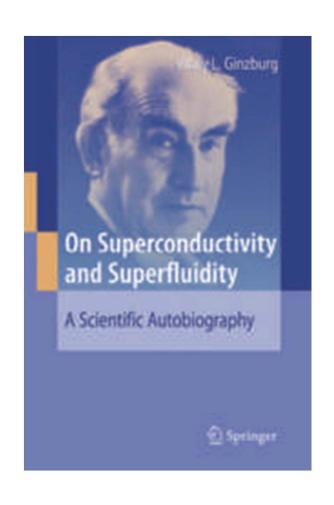
w2agz@w2agz.com www.w2agz.com

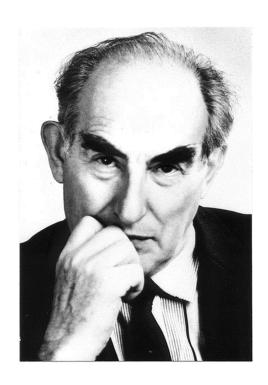
100 Years of Superconducting Materials, Machines, and Cryogenics

Wednesday, 15 June 2011

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM, PL@A-01, Bay 111 B-C, Spokane Convention Center

Grandfather of Us All





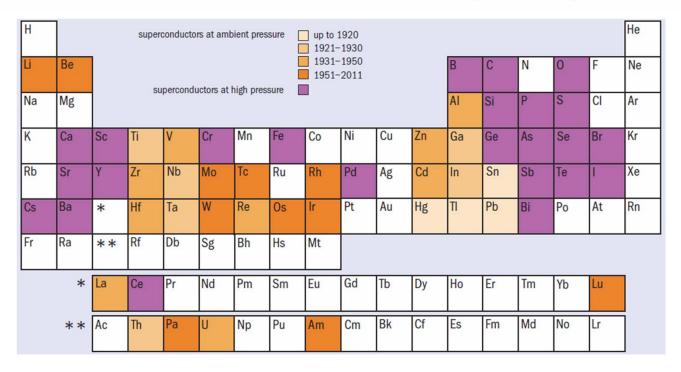
Vitaly Lazarevich "VL" Ginzburg

1916 – 2009

"A Man for All Seasons"

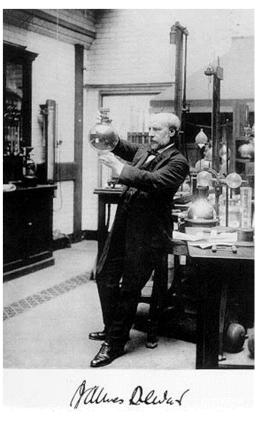
Down the path of least resistance

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



Yesterday

Fathers of Cryogenics



CH₄ 112 K O 90 N₂ 77 Ne 27 H₂ 20 He 4.2



Dewar

Kammerlingh-Onnes

Discovery Anniversaries 100 25

1911 (4.2 K)



Gilles Holst



H. Kammerlingh-Onnes

1986 (20-40 K)



Georg Bednorz



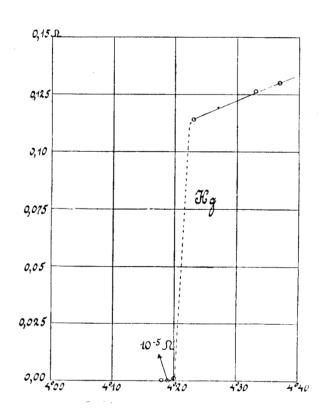
Alex Mueller

1911 A Big Surprise!



Thus the mercury at 4.2 K has entered a new state, which, owing to its particular electrical properties, can be called the state of *superconductivity*

H. Kamerlingh-Onnes (1911)



Interlude 1914 - 1986

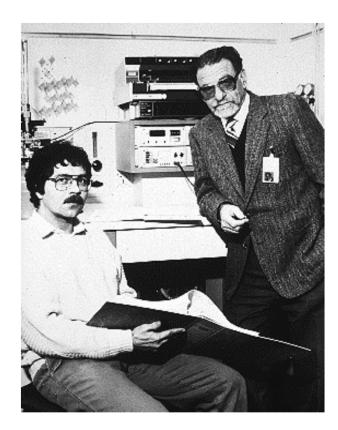
- 1914 Persistent Currents (*Ehrenfest*)
- 1933 Flux Expulsion (*Meissner/Ochsenfeld*)
- 1934 Specific Heat Jump (Keesom/Kok/Gorter/Casimir)
- 1935 "Super-Maxwell" (London Bros.)
- 1936 "Type II" (Schubnikov, et al.)
- 1950(-59) "GLAG" (Ginzburg, Landau, Abrikosov, Gorkov)
- 1950 Isotope Effect (Maxwell)
- 1950 "Electron-Phonon" (*Froehlich*)
- 1953 Coherence (*Pippard*)
- 1956(-7) "BCS" (Bardeen, Cooper, Schreiffer)
- 1958(-75) "How to Calculate T_c" (Migdal, Eliashberg, McMillan, Allen, Dynes)
- 1964(-76) "Room Temperature Superconductivity" (*Little, Gutfreund, Ginzburg*)

"Reading & Homework Assignment*"

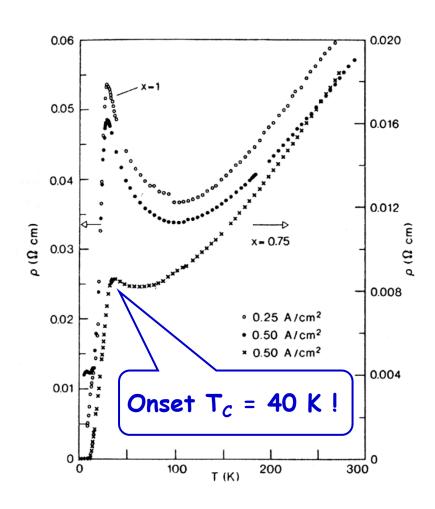
- "Type II Superconductivity: Quest for Understanding,"
 T. G. Berlincourt, IEEE Trans. Mag. MAG-23, 403 (1987).
- "The Critical Current of a Superconductor: An <u>Historical Review</u>," D. Dew-Hughes, Low Temperature Physics 27, 713 (2001).
- "The Discovery of Type II Superconductors (Shubnikov Phase)," A. G. Shepelev, www.intechopen.com (2010).

^{*} All three can be found at & downloaded from www.w2agz.com/SuperWiki

1986 Another Big Surprise!

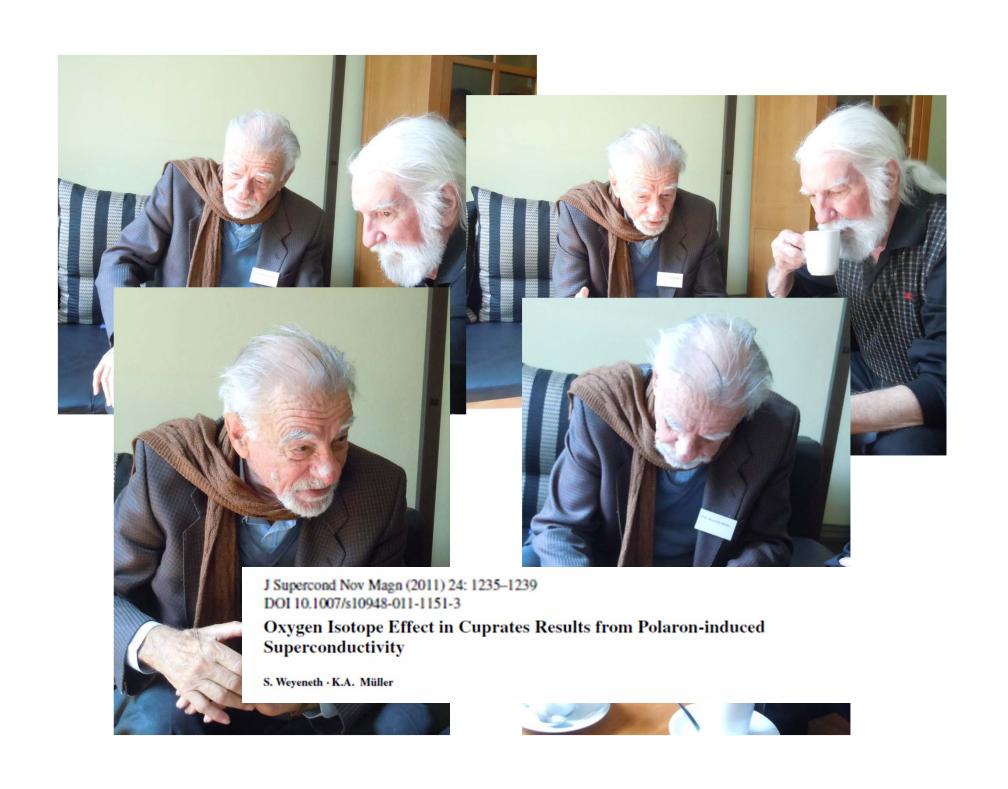


Bednorz and Mueller IBM Zuerich, 1986



1987 "The Prize!"





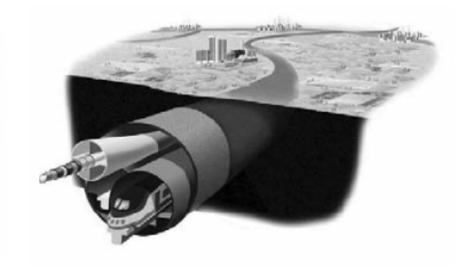
Superconductivity: 100 Years and Counting



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.



Out into the Cold: Early Experiences with Superconductivity

by Dr. Paul Michael Grant, W2AGZ Technologies, w2agz@w2agz.com, www.w2agz.com



The following article is part of a yearlong series celebratine 100th anniversary of the discovery of super-

conductivity. Contact CSA if you have ideas for submissions: theresa@cryogenicsociety.org.



One of my earliest memories was watching my parents ice skate frozen Wappingers Pond where they had taken me swimming for my first ime only a few months before. The mid-Hudson Valley was, and still is, notorious for its tempera-

ture extremes, the river itself usually completely freezing over between its banks. In mid-winter the outside temperature could approach -50°F (-46°C, 228K). I was reminded of the rigors and discomfort of my boyhood cold climate experiences this past July at ICEC-ICMC held in Wroclaw, Poland, as one of a group of attendees who underwent a "cryotherapy" session at a nearby spa, where "room temperature" was approximately -100°C. Thomas Wolfe was wrong... You can go home again!

Ice was the base cryogenics technology of my childhood years throughout the early 1940s, delivered daily, sawdust covered, in carts drawn by horses due to the wartime rationing of gasoline for automobiles and trucks [1]. Household refrigeration didn't really arrive for working class folks until after WWII. However, while I was in grammar school, although we didn't have formal science classes, we had occasional "science demonstrations," usually conducted by engineers from the nearby IBM plant. I remember two in particular, one on something called "dry ice," really cold to the touch, which just sat there and smoked and didn't melt; the other by a gentleman who brought what looked like a large thermos bottle containing "liquid air" into which was dunked a tomato, which was then withdrawn and struck with a hammer, shattering it as if it were glass. Pretty impressive to a seventh grade male (-1948).

My next encounter with cryogenics dream that didn't occur until I was 18. My high school grades were atrocious, to put it mildly, not good enough to get me into college, and I did not want to go anyway-I wanted a job so I could buy a car. So I did what Wappingers high (> 500K) Falls boys usually did: I went to work at IBM, first setting pins in the employee bowling ity, and in 1975 alley and then as a mail boy in the mail room of a new IBM lab in downtown Poughkeepsie. I really wanted to be a bench technician, so between delivery runs I hung out with the engineers. One day one of them called to me, "Hey, kid. Come over here and I'll show you something really cool." (He didn't actually say "cool.") His name was Jim Crowe [2].

Jim splattered some solder on his beach top, scraped it off, cut out a small rectangle with his "dikes," wired it in series with a flashlight battery and a resistor of unknown (to me) size, and also hooked up in parallel with leads to a Hewlett-Packard vacuum tube voltmeter. Next to his bench was a huge stainless steel container which Jim told me held liquid helium, saying it was the coldest substance known to man. He dropped the wired up solder chip through a small opening in the top of the "dewar" and we watched the voltage across it slowly drop...and then suddenly disappear! At the time, I knew enough about electricity and Ohm's Law to complain, "The leads must have come off!" Jim said, "No, that's 'superconductivity'. The resistance of the lead-tin in the solder goes away under liquid helium." I thought to myself, "Yeah,

That evening I had dinner at home with another IBM engineer, my dad. I told him about my experience, and he replied, "Hmm. I've heard some talk about making a superconducting computer. But I don't know...you would have to fill up a whole building with liquid helium." This was 1953.

That was my first and last experience with superconductivity for some time to come. Shortly after turning 21, IBM decided I was worth educating and sent me (as an employee!) to college and graduate school for nine years, and I wound up with a physics doctorate from Harvard (superconductivity was not taught at Harvard in the early 60st). IBM assigned me to the San Jose, now Almaden, Research Lab, and in 1972, Rick Greene (now at UMD) and I teamed up to start working on organic metals as possible room temperature superconductors, both of us having become disciples of Bill Little's

properly prepared polymeric chains might exhibit really superconductivthe group indeed discovered the world's first 300 degree superconductor, the inorganic polymer polysulfur nitride...alas, the units were



Paul Grant at 17. This photo shows him about six months before he went to work for IBM.

millikelvin! In 1986, 25 years ago, Bednorz and Mueller taught us we should have been spending our time looking at layered copper oxide perovskites instead.

Nevertheless, I remain an ardent fan of the Little/Ginzburg exciton-mediated BCSpairing proposal to enable superconductivity well above 300K. In 1998, I wrote a "sci-fi" piece for Physics Today predicting its fulfillment by 2028 [3]. Maybe then I can finally come in from the cold.

References

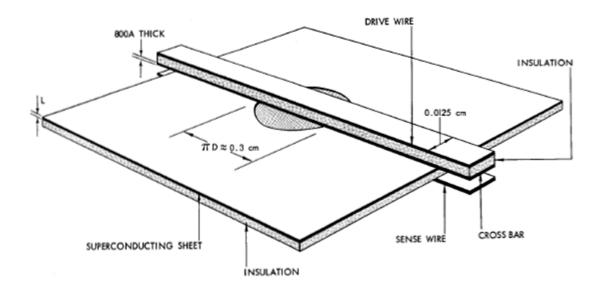
- 1. A fascinating tale of pre-industrial cryogenics technology can be found in Gavin Weightman's book, "The Frozen Water Trade," (ISBN 0-7868-6740-X), the story of two New England brothers who "farmed" almost every northeastern pond and lake each winter to cool the cocktails of Caribbean resorts in the 19th century.
- 2. Jim Crowe invented one of the very first superconducting memory elements, and arguably the first to employ trapped flux. See J. W. Crowe, "Trapped-Flux Superconducting Memory," IBM Journal, October 1957, p. 295. Jim Crowe became a good friend, mentor and my manager when I returned to work at IBM summers during my college years.
- 3. P. M. Grant, "Researchers Find Extraordinarily High Temperature Superconductivity in Bio-Inspired Nanopolymer," Physics Today, May 1998. Nineteen more years to go. http://www.w2agz.com/Publications/ Popular%20Science/Bio-Inspired% 20Superconductivity, % 20Physics % 20Today%2051,%2017%20(1998)a.pdf

<u>1953</u> Project Sage – IBM/MIT



Trapped-Flux Superconducting Memory*

Abstract: A memory cell based on trapped flux in superconductors has been built and tested. The cell is constructed entirely by vacuum evaporation of thin films and can be selected by coincident current or by other techniques, with drive-current requirements less than 150 ma. The short transition time of the trapped-flux cell indicates its possible use in high-speed memories. The superconductive film memory does not exhibit the problems of "delta noise" in core memories resulting from the difference in half-select pulse outputs.



Today

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

This article lists a top five selected by Paul Michael Grant from W2AGZ Technologies in San Jose, California. Superconducting wires top the list, followed by magnets for medical imaging and for particle colliders in second and third, respectively, with superconducting motors in fourth and a unique dark-matter experiment in fifth.

1. Wires & Films

- 2. Medical Imaging
- 3. High Energy Physics

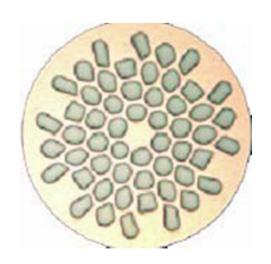
4. Rotating Machinery

5. Dark Matter

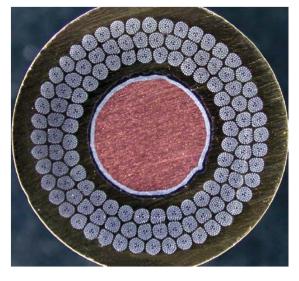
1. Wires & Films

LTSC

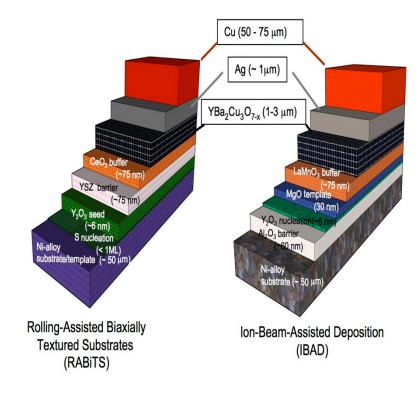
HTSC



NbTi/Cu Oxford



Nb₃Sn Supercon



American Superconductor

SuperPower

LTSC

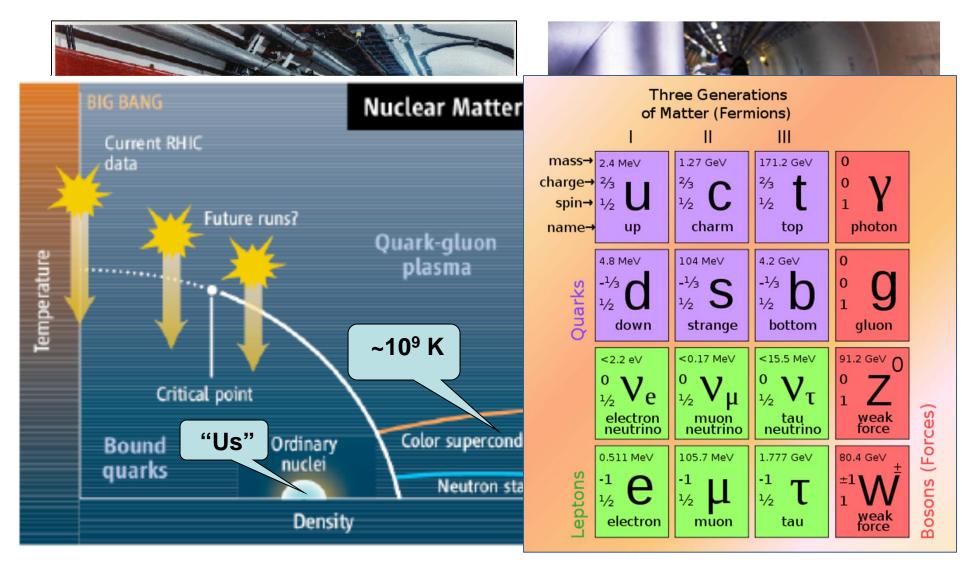
2. Medical Imaging



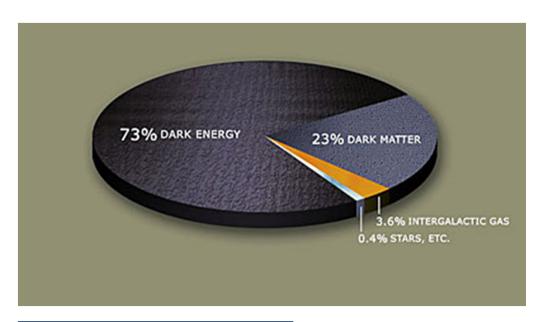


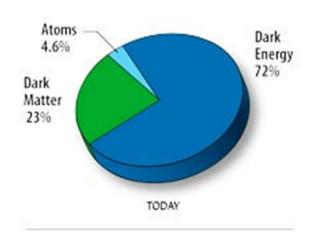


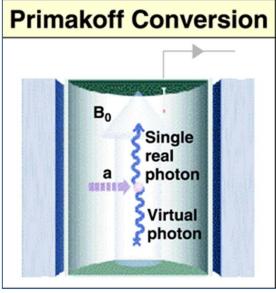
3. High Energy Physics

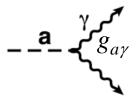


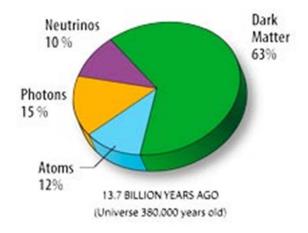
5. Dark Matter











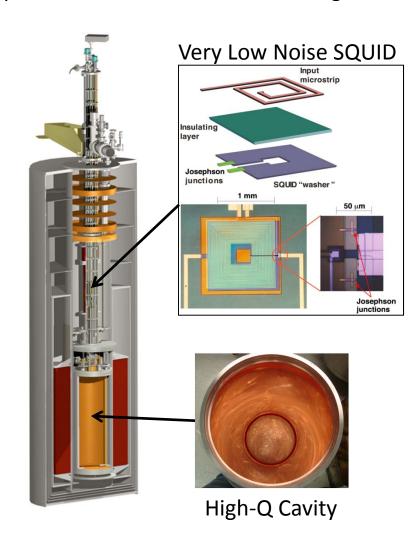
Primakov model predicts axion decay into a (presumably) detectable photon in a sufficiently large magnetic field contained in a superconducting solenoid and resonant cavity

5. Dark Matter, Cont'd (ADMX)

Axion Dark Matter experiment

Graphics Stolen from Leslie Rosenberg's U Florida Presentation, January, 2010

ADMX Team
LLNL
MIT
UW
UCB
U Florida
U Chicago
Fermilab



ADMX Phase II SQUID & Dilution Frig Upgrade Status (January 2010)

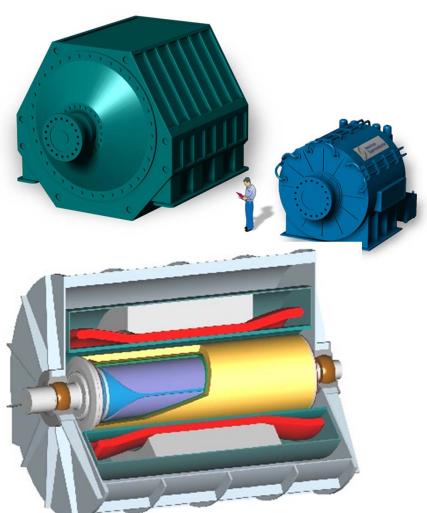
- Three years to construct
- Commissioning in year four (2014?)

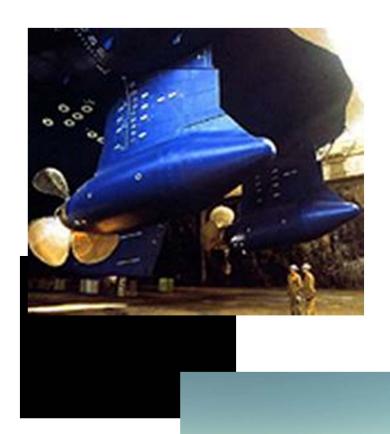
Happy Hunting!

HTSC

4. Rotating Machinery



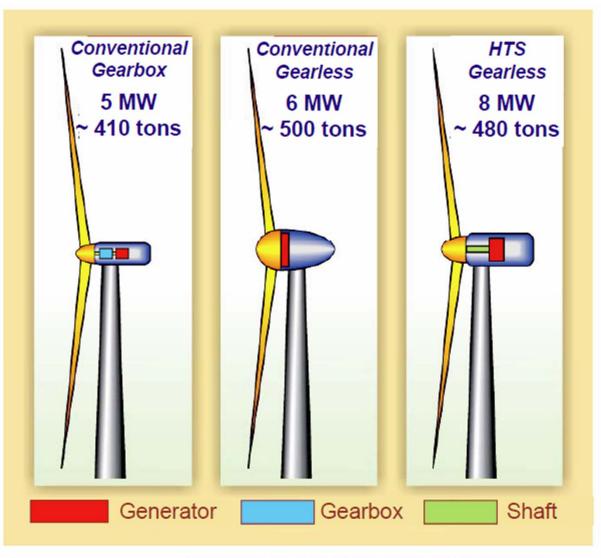




Major Players:

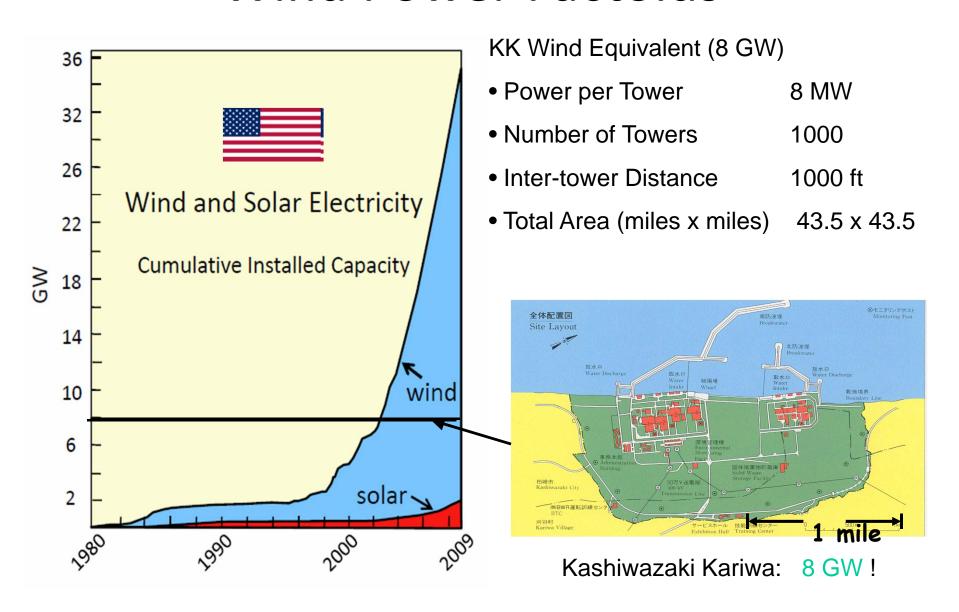
- AMSC
- SEI

Rotating Machinery - Wind Generators



Matthews, Physics Today 62(4), 25 (April 2009)

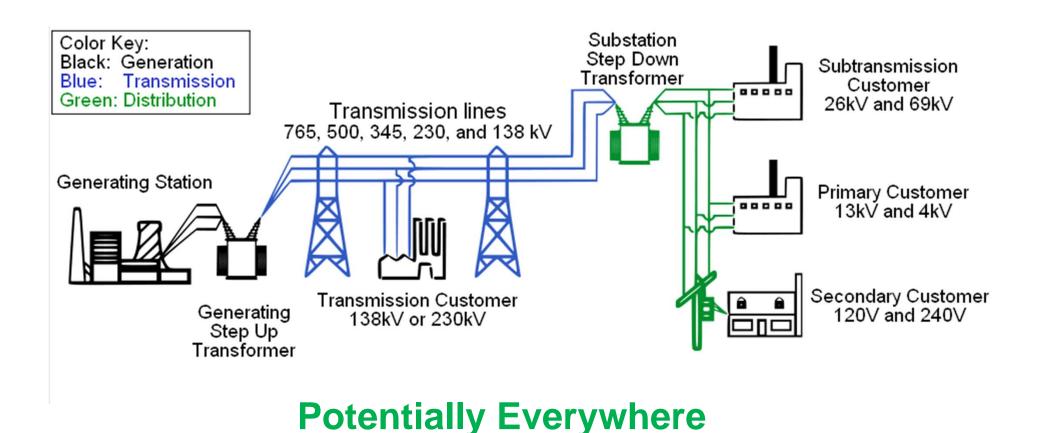
Wind Power Factoids



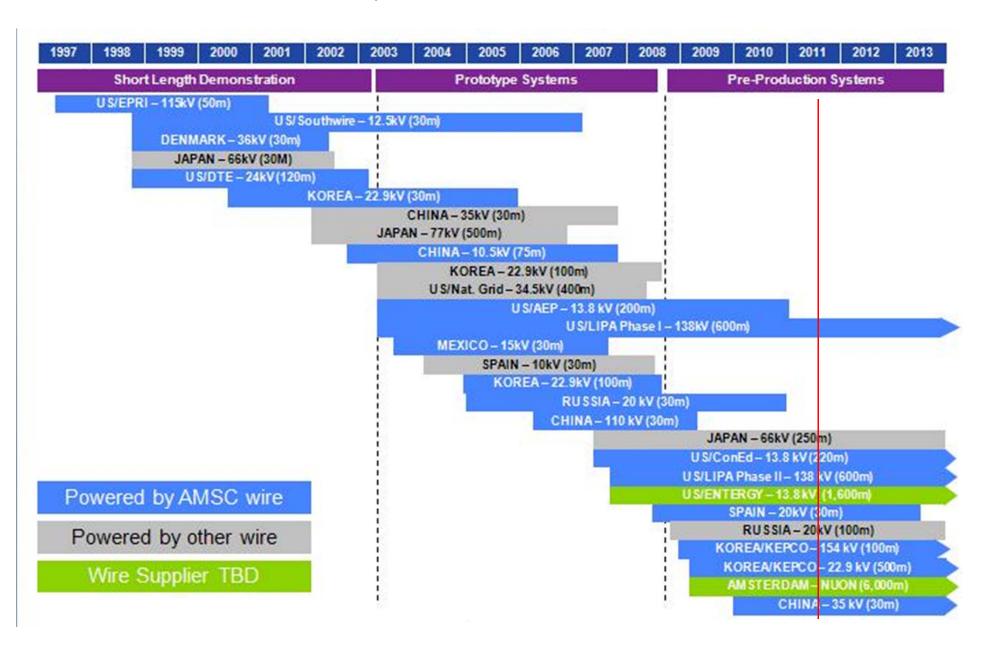
Diablo Canyon



Where Else Can We Apply Superconductivity to Electric Power?



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



US Department of Energy

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

	FY 2009		FY 2010	FY 2011
	Current Appropriation	ARRA Appropriation	Current Appropriation	Congressional Request
Research and Development High Temperature Superconductivity Visualization and Controls Energy Storage and Power Electronics Renewable and Distributed Systems Integration	23,130 24,461 6,368 29,160		?	?
Clean Energy Transmission and Reliability			38,450	
Smart Grid Research and Development Energy Storage Cyber Security for Energy Delivery Systems			32,450 14,000 40,000	40,000
SUBTOTAL Research and Development	83,119		124,900	144,293
Permitting, Siting, and Analysis Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration Program Direction Congressionally Directed Activities American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, 2009 Use of prior year balances	5,271 6,180 21,180 19,648 -769	4,495,712		6,188 29,049
TOTAL	134,629	4,495,712	171,982	185,930

WOW! "Obama Cash"

A Modest Proposal - Upbraiding the Utilities-

- More than a half-century of successful demonstrations/prototyping power applications of superconductivity (1950s - >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?

Tomorrow

Superconducting Lines for the Transmission of Large Amounts of Electrical Power over Great Distances

R. L. GARWIN AND J. MATISOO



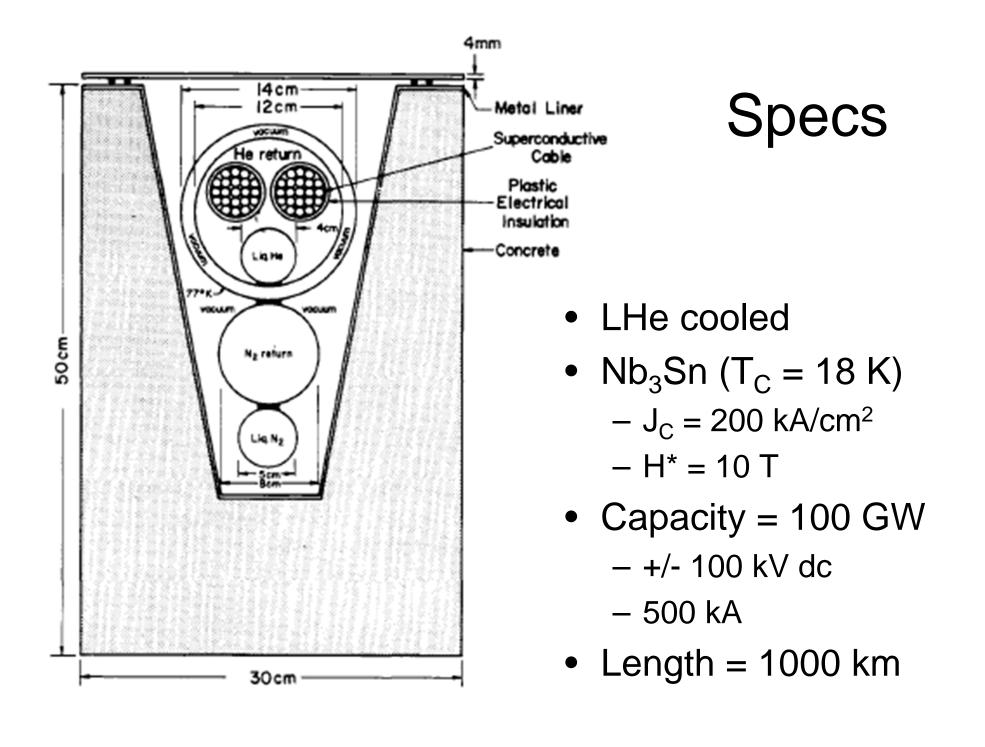
Submitted 24 June 1966

PROCEEDINGS OF THE IEEE, VOL. 55, NO. 4, APRIL 1967

"What's past is prologue" (Bill S.)

Rationale: Huge growth in generation and consumption in the 1950s; cost of transportation of coal; necessity to locate coal and nuke plants far from load centers.

Furthermore, the utilities have recently become aware of the advantages of power pooling. By tying together formerly independent power systems they can save in reserve capacity (particularly if the systems are in different regions of the country), because peak loads, for example, occur at different times of day, or in different seasons. To take advantage of these possible economies, facilities must exist for the transmission of very large blocks of electrical energy over long distances at reasonable cost.



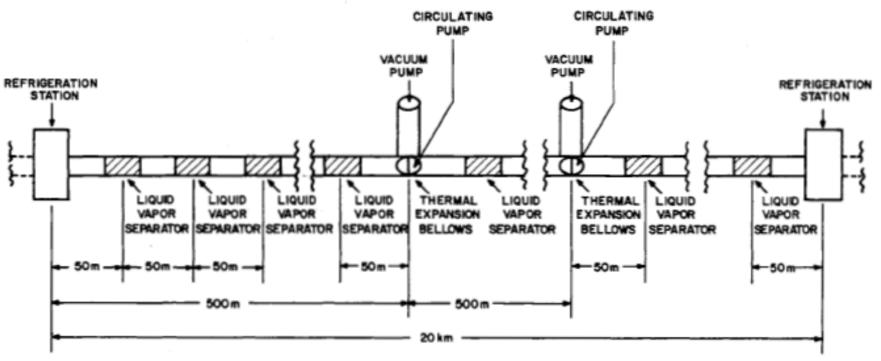


Fig. 2. A 20-km module of the 1000-km, 100-GW line.

•	Refrigeration Spacing	20 km
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- G-L Separator Distance
 50 m
- Booster Pump Intervals 500 m
- Vacuum Pump Spacing 500 m

G-M Engineering Economy - Yesterday & Today -

VARIOUS COMPONENT COSTS OF A 1000 KM, NB-SN CABLE IN 1966 AND NOW

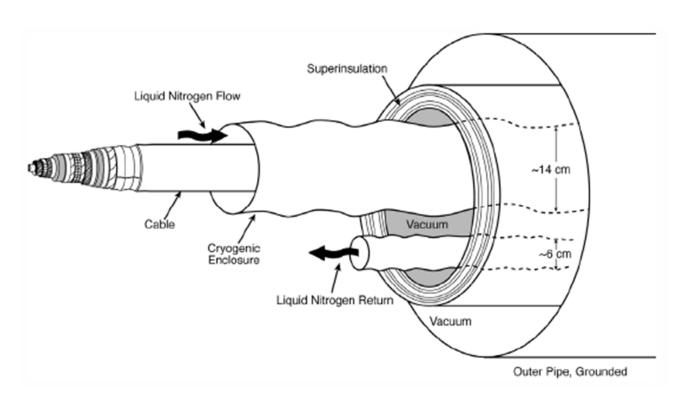
Item	Description/Quantity	1966 Cost (M\$)	2006 Cost (M\$)*
Superconductor	10 ⁴ Tons Nb ₃ Sn	550	3405
Line Refrigeration	0.5 M\$ for 1 kW LHe station every 20 km	25	155
End-Station Refrigeration	10 kW each	5	31
Vacuum Pumps	\$500 per station (2000)	1	6
Fabricated Metal	\$1/lb, linear line weight = 100 gm/cm	20	124
Concrete	\$10/yd ³ for a total volume of 0.5 yd ² times 1000 km	5	31
ac/dc Converters	Thyristors at \$1/kW	200	1238
Total:		806	4990 5390

^{*2006} costs relative to 1966 are estimated from the Bureau of Labor Statistics table of annual Consumer Price Indices that can be found at ftp://ftp.bls.gov/pub/special.requests/cpi/cpiai.txt. The 2006/1966 ratio used above is 6.19. The YE2010 costs would be about **8%** higher that YE2006.

A Superconducting dc Cable

EPRI Report 1020458 (2009)

Hassenzahl, Gregory, Eckroad, Nilsson, Daneshpooy, Grant



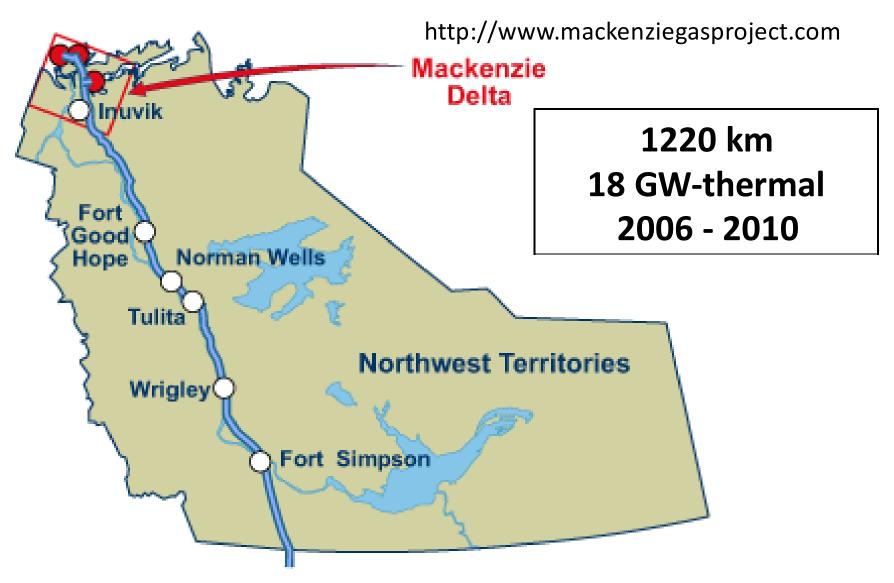
Monopole Specs

100-kV, 100-kA, 10-GW 66 K < T< 69 K

A Canadian's View of the World

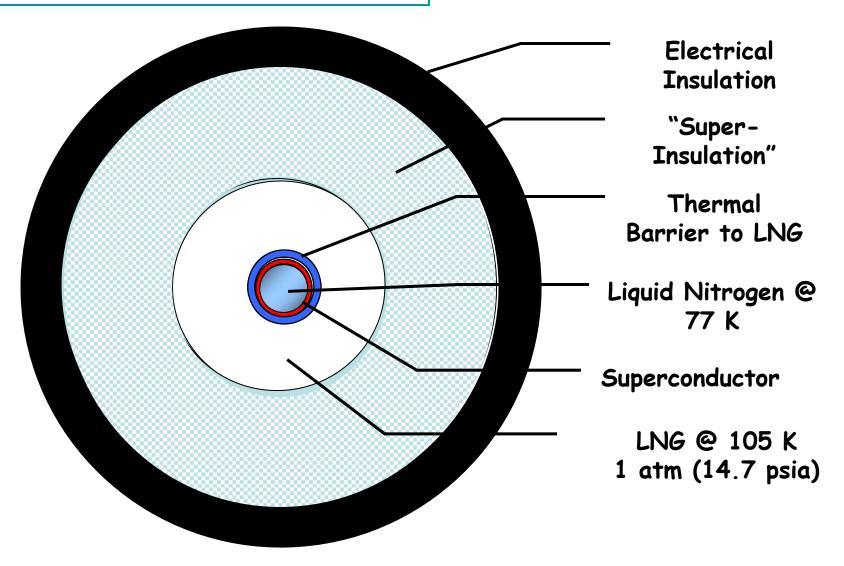


The Mackenzie Valley Pipeline



Design for eventual conversion to high pressure cold or liquid H₂

LNG SuperCable



Wellhead LNG + Electricity

MVP Scenario

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	$0.53 \text{ m}^3/\text{s} @ 5.3 \text{ m/s}$
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.

Transporting Tens of Gigawatts to the Green Market

12 – 13 May 2011 Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies Potsdam, Germany



An American Paradox!



The international Brainstorming Workshop on the future of long-distance high-power electric transmission (Superconducting DC lines) was held on May 12th-13th 2011 in Potsdam. Renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, geothermal and tidal power, are increasingly becoming more widely available in many parts of the world.

As renewable energy sources will be located where suitable conditions (solar radiation, wind) are available, the generated energy will have to be transported over long distances, up to several thousands of kilometres.

Powering Europe with Sahara Solar

NEW DEAL EURO-MAGHREB

Tewfik HASNI APEQUE'S President and Energy's Consultant Postdam 12 may 2011

LES TENDANCES ENERGETIQUES

· Le modèle énergétique de l' UE

2009	2029
-Coal 7,7%	14 %
-Oil 32,2%	10%
-Gas 28,6%	25%
-Nuclear 12,4%	13%
-Hydro 2%	2 %
-Biomass 11,5%	11,5%
-Renewables 5,6%	10%+15% import

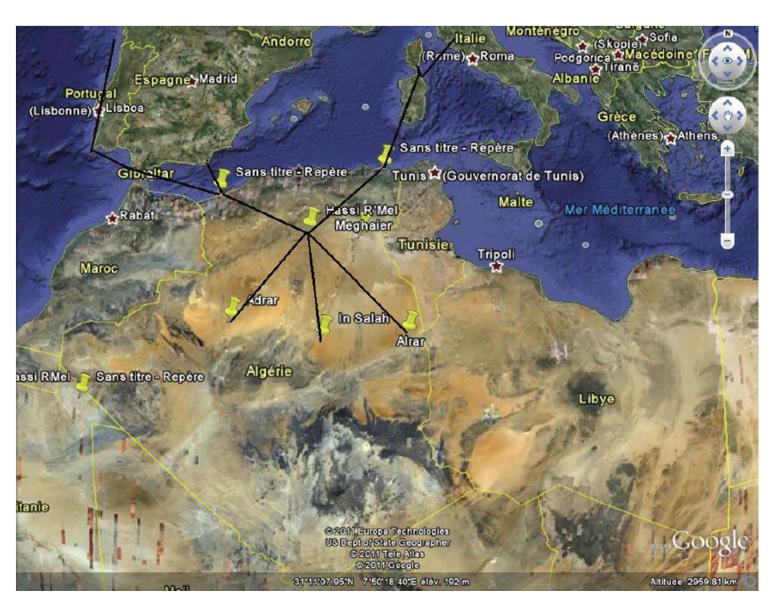
Go Where the Sun Shines



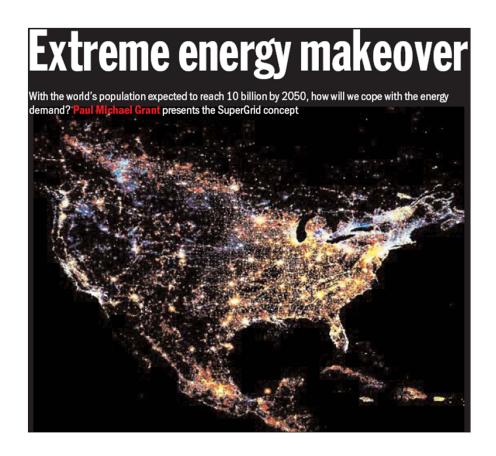
Solar - PV & Thermal



Superconducting SolarPipe



Physics World, October 2009



From The Times October 3, 2009

Science: Stand by for the Supergrid

Why the world needs an 'extreme energy makeover'

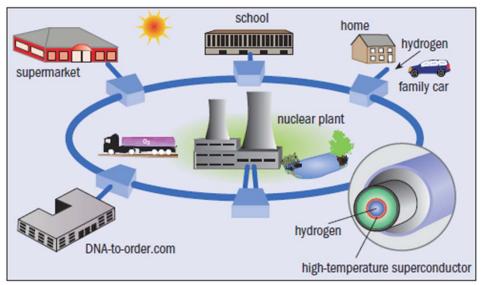
Anjana Ahuja

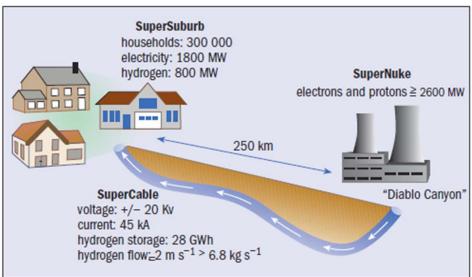


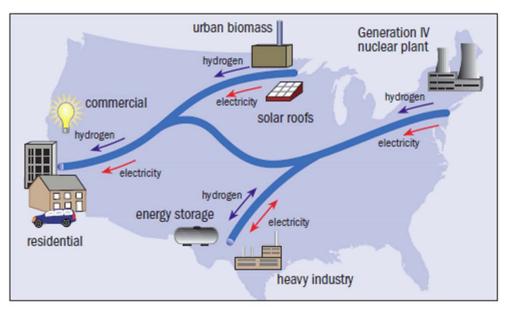
...a future editor of Nature...?

SuperCities - SuperSuburbs — SuperGrids

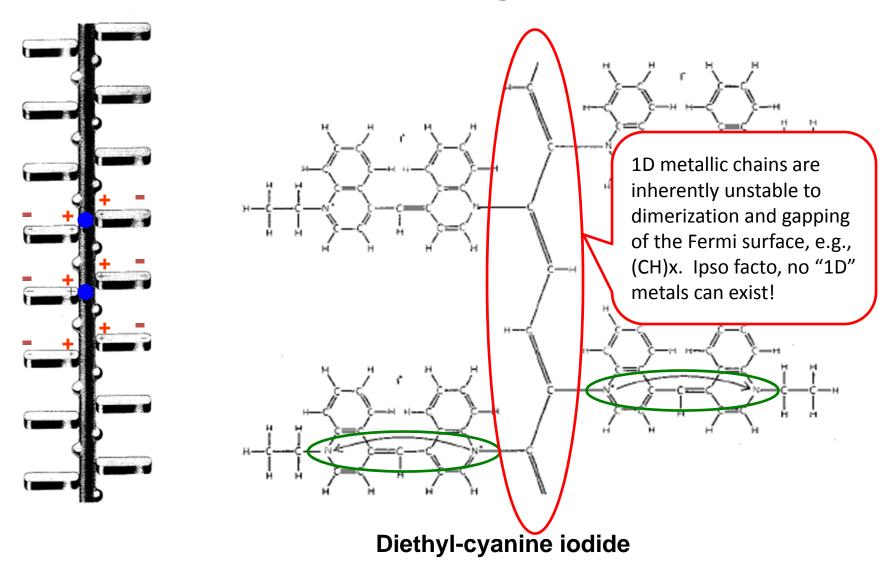
Grant, Overbye, Starr, SciAm 295, 76 (2006)







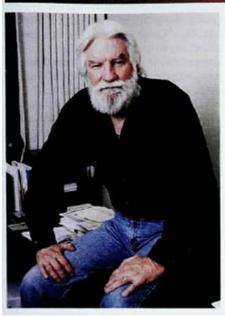
Room Temperature Superconductor Little, Ginzburg, 1963



Does the DAVINCI CODE

Hold the Key to Room Temperature Superconductivity?

PHYSICS TOMORROW: ESSAY CONTEST WINNER



RESEARCHERS FIND
EXTRAORDINARILY HIGH
TEMPERATURE
SUPERCONDUCTIVITY IN
BIO-INSPIRED NANOPOLYMER

Paul M. Grant May 2028

50th Anniversary of Physics Today, May 1998

"You can't always get what you want..."



"...you get what you need!"

