Test of Fermilab Built, Post-ASST, 50-mm-Aperture, Full Length SSC Dipole Magnets

Superconducting Super Collider Laboratory
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TEST OF FERMILAB BUILT, POST-ASST, 50-MM-APERTURE, FULL LENGTH
SSC DIPOLE MAGNETS

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INTRODUCTION

During 1992 at Fermilab, a series of nine 50-mm-aperture, 15-m-long, SSC superconducting
dipole magnets, designed jointly by Fermilab, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and the SSC
Laboratory, have been built and successfully cold tested. Seven of these dipole magnets, designated
for the Accelerator System String Test (ASST) carried out at SSCL in Dallas, were assembled at
Fermilab by General Dynamics personnel, and have achieved the nominal operating current level
without significant training¹,². In addition, a series of four R&D magnets (DCA320 323) were
manufactured at Fermilab to test an alternative insulation schemes. In this paper we present the
quench performance of these four R&D magnets, which were cold tested at the Fermilab Magnet
Test Facility at nominal temperatures of 4.35 K, 3.85 K, and 3.50 K. An extended characterization
test was performed on one of these magnets (DCA322). During this test the magnet was successfully
cooled down to superfluid He temperature (1.8 K) and reached a field B ≥ 9.5 T.

MAGNET CONSTRUCTION

The design of the full-length, 50-mm-aperture SSC dipole magnets has been previously
described³,⁴. Here we note only the main features. The magnetic field is generated by a two layer,
cos(q) type coil clamped by stainless steel collars. The collars serve to position the conductor as
specified by the magnetic design and to restrain conductor motion under excitation. The upper and
lower collars are locked together by tapered keys and left-right pairs of collars are spot welded to
provide greater horizontal stiffness. In the Fermilab design, a vertically split yoke is employed to

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provide mechanical support to the collars near the horizontal mid-plane and thus to limit deflections under Lorentz force. The 4.95 mm thick, 340 mm O.D. stainless steel shell, made from two half-cylinders welded at the vertical parting plane of the yoke, serves as a helium containment vessel and as a structure clamping together the two halves of the vertically split yoke. To provide axial restraint under excitation, a 38-mm thick end plate is welded to each end of the cold mass shell and the collared coil is preloaded axially against these plates by means of four set screws at each end.

The inner coil of each magnet is instrumented with 53 voltage taps located in the six turns nearest the poles. These voltage taps allow for a quench origin determination with a resolution of a few cm for quenches occurring in the instrumented turns.

All magnets are equipped with two collar packs instrumented with beam-type strain gauge transducers for azimuthal coil stress measurements. These packs are located at positions corresponding to the minimum and maximum of inner coil size. In addition, each magnet has one assembly of load cells, mounted on the non-lead end of the magnet, to measure the forces between the coil and the end plate during excitation, and gauges on the cold mass shell.

Table 1 presents the details of insulations and adhesives employed in various magnets. There are 5 mil shims in the outer coils of magnet DCA320-321 to account for change in the insulation thickness. Note that both sides of the insulation had adhesive coating in DCA322-323 to increase resistance to conductor motion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAGNET</th>
<th>INSULATION</th>
<th>ADHESIVE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DCA320</td>
<td>DuPont Kapton 2H+2LT</td>
<td>3M 2290 epoxy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>one side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCA321</td>
<td>DuPont Kapton 2H+2LT</td>
<td>3M 2290 epoxy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>one side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCA322</td>
<td>Allied Signal Apical 2NP+2NP</td>
<td>Allied Signal Cryorad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>both sides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCA323</td>
<td>Allied Signal Apical 2NP+2NP</td>
<td>Allied Signal Cryorad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>both sides</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

The magnet cold testing was carried out at nominal temperatures of 4.35 K, 3.85 K and 3.50 K. The mass flow of supercritical helium at 4 atm was ~50 g/s.

The generic test sequence was essentially the same used during testing of ASST magnets, with cool down without a restriction on the temperature difference between the helium inlet and outlet ends of the magnet, and includes two test cycles, separated by warm-up to room temperature. Both testing cycles started at T=4.35 K with a strain gauge run to quench with subsequent ramps followed to establish a quench current plateau. During the second testing cycle, after re-establishing a quench plateau at 4.35 K, additional tests at 3.85 K and 3.50 K were performed to determine quench performance at these temperatures. Strain gauge ramps to currents 100 A below I_{plateau} were taken at each test temperature.

TEST RESULTS

Figure 1(a) shows the spontaneous quench performance of the four magnets tested, ordered in the sequence they were tested. All quenches displayed in this plot occurred at a ramp rate ≤ 4 A/s. The horizontal dashed line shows the design SSC operating current of 6, 600 A (corresponding to 6.7 T). The overall quench performance of these magnets is slightly below that obtained in the DCA311-319 series. Among the four, DCA322 showed the poorest quench performance, reaching operating current after the second quench and plateau only on the fifth. As in the ASST series of magnets, no training was observed during the second Testing Cycle (TC).

Figure 1(b) shows quench performance of the magnets at low temperatures. Magnets DCA320 and 321 show little or no training and reach the short-sample limit at 3.85 K and 3.50 K. There is a one training quench at 3.85 K in DCA322, and DCA323 exhibits substantial training at all tested temperatures with several quenches originating in the upper outer coil.
Figure 1. Spontaneous quench performance at 4.35 K (a) on the first and second cooldown and at lower temperature (b) during the second cooldown.

An extended characterization test was performed on magnet DCA322. It consisted of cooling-down the magnet to 3.0 K, 2.3 K and then to the super fluid He temperature of 1.80 K. At each step a strain gauge run to quench was performed to check for possible coil unloading during the magnet excitation. Figure 2 shows an example of the azimuthal inner coil stress (a) and end forces (b) as a function of $I^2$. The average stress loss between 0 and 6, 500 A is about 20 MPa. The stress is linear with $I^2$, (i.e. with force during excitation) and the prestress is still positive even at the highest current at which strain gauge data were taken (8, 894 A or 8.8 T.) At this field the magnetic forces are almost twice as large as at the SSC operating field. In all the 50 mm magnets tested to date, there is no indication of coil unloading. After careful evaluation of strain gauges data, an attempt was made to establish a quench plateau at each temperature. Figure 1(b) illustrates magnet DCA322 quench performance; at 1.8 K the magnet reached a limit of 10, 000 A ($B \approx 9.5$ T) after several training quenches at 2.3 K.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Four 50-mm-aperture, full-length SSC R&D magnets, in addition to nine ASST magnet prototypes, have been built at Fermilab, following the baseline design but with a different cable insulation scheme. These magnets showed more training quenches than previously tested ASST magnets. However, a conclusive correlation between insulation material used and the spontaneous quench performance could not be established. One of these magnets (DCA322) was tested at 1.8 K and reached a quench plateau at nearly 10, 000 A ($B \geq 9.5$ T). This extended characterization test confirmed a confidence in the mechanical design of 50-mm aperture magnet prototype.
Figure 2. Azimuthal coil stress (a) and end-forces (b) as a function of $I^2$ for the magnet DCA322. Data taken at 1.8 K during the strain gauge run to quench.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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REFERENCES