

Rice University

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- Expertise: Carbon Nanotube Fiber (CNTF) conductor technology, characterization and system modeling; Synthesis of raw CNTs and conversion to CNTF in high speed roll to roll processing
- Expectations:
 - Understand System Level design opportunities for CNTF to simplify Underground T&D power conductors installation – how may this **ENABLE?**
 - Reduce Total Cost of Ownership (install, upgrading capacity, repairs) and failure modes
 - Evaluate Degrees of Freedom increase for equipment and system design with new material set

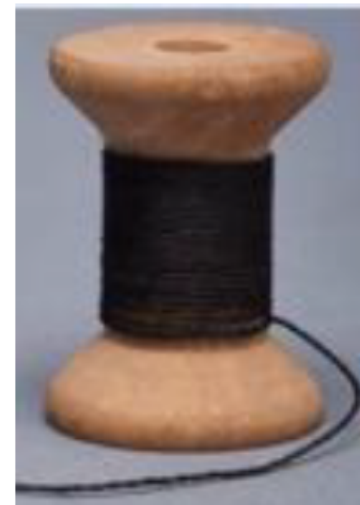


How may a new Power Conductor Material with highly different properties and improvement ongoing impact Underground T&D Design, Installation and Equipment Systems?

- ▶ Will tremendous weight difference enable longer cable runs with CNTF? Significantly REDUCE number of splices....Enable improved pulling machines....
- ▶ CNTF is **very strong and rugged** – how does a rethought system design and equipment use this effectively? Ultimate tensile strength (Pulling strength) is **order of magnitude beyond** current tech – Stronger pulls with LIGHTER cables
- ▶ CNTF Thermal conductivity is higher with potential to be multiples of Al or Cu – Improved ampacity, more resistant to overheating, temp spikes
- ▶ CNTF Processed like a textile – **HOW** do we **re-think** splicing processes and equipment to simplify, remove human error, decrease failures
- ▶ **Highly impervious to most chemicals including water – its all Carbon**
- ▶ Carbon surface may lend to unique chemistries for insulation methods

Comparison of Conductors for Undergrounding T&D

Performance Metric	Al Alloy 1350	Cu Alloy	CNTF (current)	CNTF (potential)
Density	2.7	8.9	1.9	1.5
Tensile Strength (Gpa)	0.115	0.21	4	20
Electrical Conductivity (MS/m) 25°C	35	58	11	75
Thermal Conductivity (W/m-K)	234	350	450	1000
CTE x 10 ⁻⁶ / °C	24	16.6	1	1
Linear Density @ 2000 A	4.6	10.6	6.8	1
Susceptibility to Chemicals/Corrosion/Oxidation	mid - high	mid - high	Little to none	Little to none
Young's Modulus (GPa)	62	110	260	500
				Potential significant Manufacturing/installation Advantages in UG

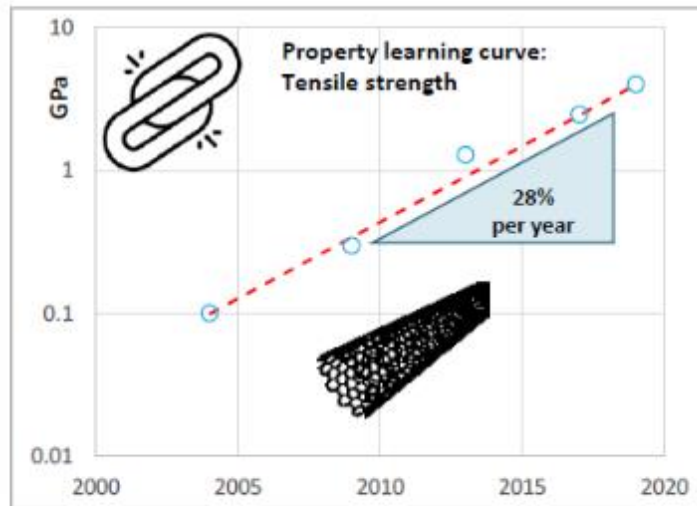


Multiple form Factors to enable New conductor and Neutral wire designs



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How do We Translate New Properties to Improved Install and Performance?

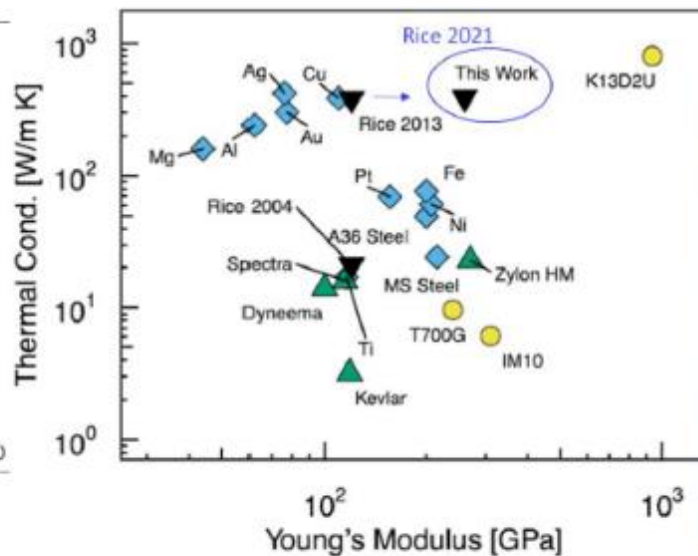
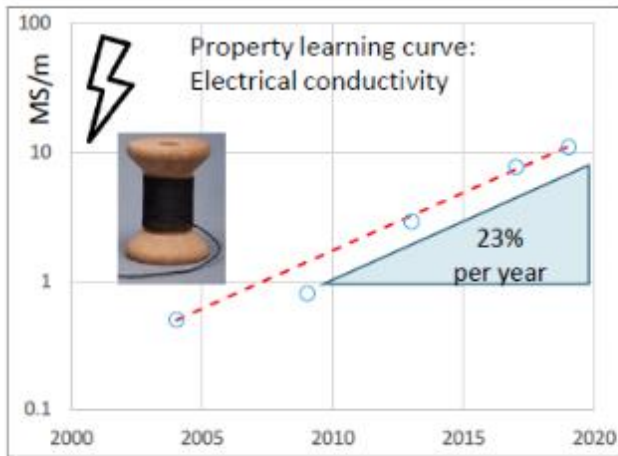
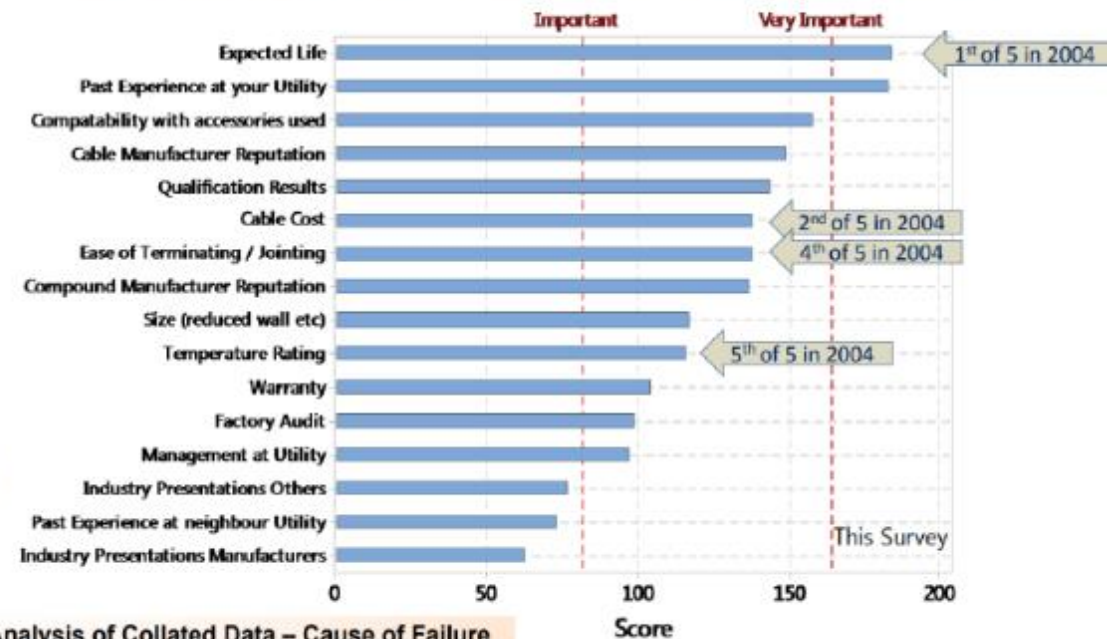


In 2004, Flexibility Was a Major Choice

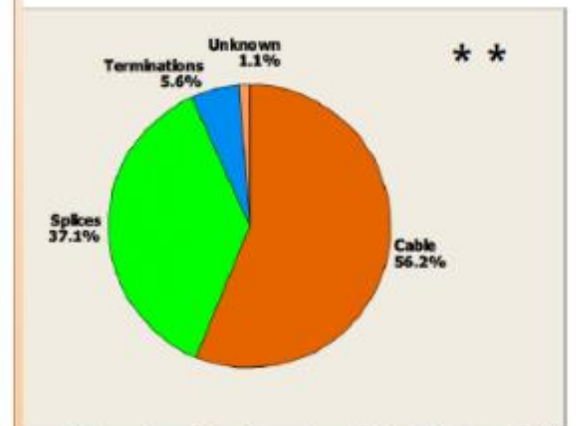
What is relationships Between Conductor Material Properties and Total Cost of Ownership?

Do we have a Pareto Analysis Of Install Cost Factors, Complexity To Conductor Material?

* Factors for Cable Choice - 2014



Analysis of Collated Data - Cause of Failure



Collated Dispersion of North American MV Cable System Failures by Equipment Type as Reported by Utilities