

Current-biased transition-edge sensors based on re-entrant superconductors

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Background

Transition-edge sensors are widely recognized as one of the most sensitive tools for the photon and particles detection in many areas – from astrophysics to quantum computing. Their application became practical after understanding that rather than being biased in a constant current mode, they should be biased in a constant voltage mode. Despite the methods of voltage biasing of these sensors are well developed since then, generally the current biasing is more convenient for superconducting circuits. Thus transition-edge sensors (TES) designed inherently to operate in the current-biased mode are desirable.

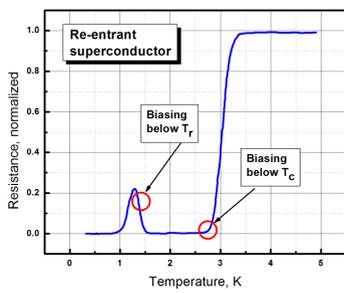
Objectives

- ❖ Develop a design for TES detectors based on the re-entrant superconductivity, so that following the absorption of a photon it does not yield a latching.
- ❖ Prototype this transition edge sensor and tested them operational in accordance with the outlined physics.
- ❖ Introduce newly discovered re-entrant superconductor.

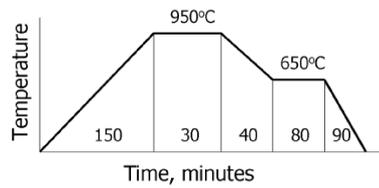
- ❖ A novel con...
- ❖ A newly-discovered re-entrant superconductor, fully described.
- ❖ The detector is a simple bolometric detector, constructed.
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- ❖ This instrument is a simple bolometric detector, constructed.

Methods

Preparation

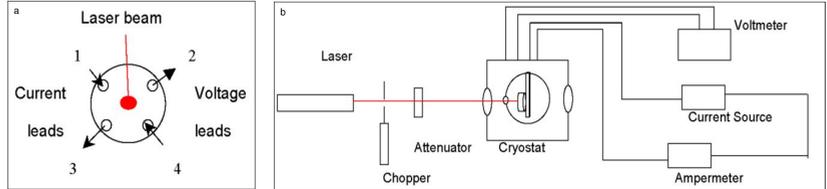


- Solid-state synthesis
- Mixing, calcinating, re-grinding, pelletizing
- 4mm in diameter x 1 mm in height
- Final baking in accordance with the temperature profile:



- Exemplary R(T) behavior of a re-entrant superconductor.
- Two biasing options are reasonable for the TES operation.

Experimental Procedures



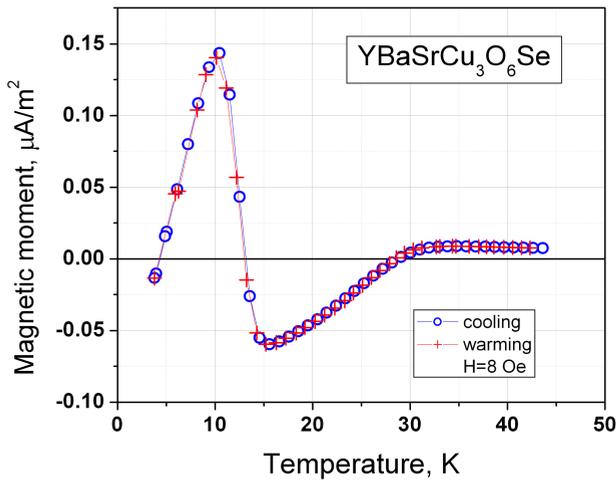
- Very simple bolometric detector: a ceramic button biased in a constant current mode.
- 2 indium contacts for current, 2 for voltage probe on the same face of the button.
- Mounted on a cold finger in the closed cycle optical cryostat (PT/ST 405, Cryomech Inc.).
- Laser beam was directed through the cryostat window onto the center of the pellet.
- Chopper was used to obtain the detector response in the AC-mode..
- He-Ne laser with $\lambda=630\text{nm}$, maximum power $\sim 0.5\text{mW}$, and beam diameter $\sim 1.5\text{mm}$.
- Sample holder was cooled down to 2.72K and held at that temperature.
- Attenuation using neutral filters.
- Direction of current was reverted to exclude thermoelectric pick-up.

Samples

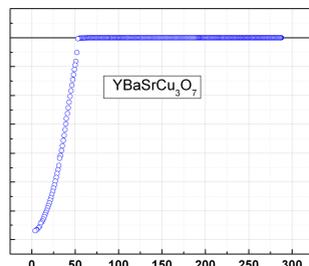
- At smaller voltage a...
- At larger $I \sim 0.6\text{mA}$ than with...
- Initial biasing re-entrant currents...
- Thus at low energy de... the detecto... increase... The laser elevating...

Results

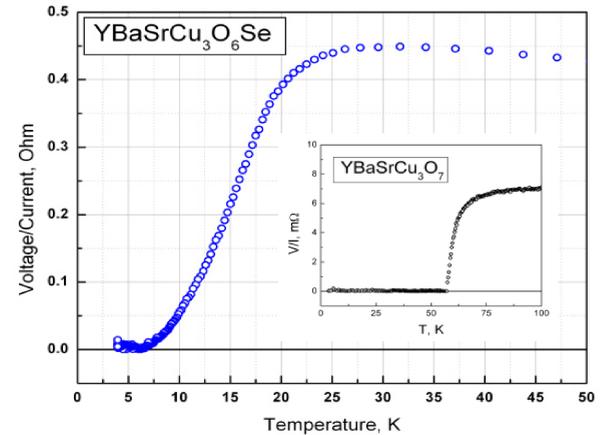
Magnetic and Resistivity Characteristics of New Material



Magnetic momentum is measured using commercial SQUID-magnetometer (S-700, Cryogenic Inc.).



Magnetization vs. temperature for these materials. Re-entrant superconductivity only when both Se and Sr are present.



Resistivity is measured with 4-probe technique, at 0.3 mA current, with periodic reversion of current direction to eliminate thermoelectric pick-up.

This measurement is in agreement with that of magnetization: re-entrant superconductivity occurs only when both Se and Sr are present.